

Programmieren II

Graphical Users Interfaces with Swing

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(slides based on material from Richard McKenna, Stonybrook and David Matuszek, U Penn)

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Outline

- Recap
 - Javadocs
 - Jar files
 - Ant
- GUI motivation
- GUIs with Swing
- Anonymous classes

Javadoc

Doc comment – Example 1

```
/**
 * Returns an Image object that can be painted on the screen.
 * The url argument must specify an absolute {@link URL}.
 * The name is a specifier that is relative to the url.
 * <p>
 * This method always returns immediately, whether or not the
 * image exists. When this applet attempts to draw the image on
 * the screen, the data will be loaded. The graphics primitives
 * that draw the image will incrementally paint on the screen.
 *
 * @param url an absolute URL: the location of the image
 * @param name the location of the image, relative to the url
 * @return the image at the specified URL
 * @see Image
 */
public Image getImage(URL url, String name) {
    try {
        return getImage(new URL(url, name));
    } catch (MalformedURLException e) {
```

Jar files

Using JAR Files: Basics

- JAR files are packaged with ZIP file format
- This allows for compression, archiving, decompression and unpacking
- JAR files can be created with the *Java Archive Tool* (in the JDK)

Common operations

Operation	Command
Creating a jar file	<code>jar cfe jar-file MainClass input-file(s)</code>
Viewing the contents of a JAR file	<code>jar tf jar-file</code>
Extracting the contents of a JAR file	<code>jar xf jar-file</code>
Extracting specific files from a JAR file	<code>jar xf jar-file archived-file(s)</code>
Running application (JAR file) ^a	<code>java -jar app.jar</code>

^aUses MainClass

Apache Ant

Basic build file

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<project name="MyTask" basedir="." default="jar">

  <target name="clean" description="Delete all generated
    files">
    <delete dir="classes"/>
    <delete file="MyTasks.jar"/>
  </target>

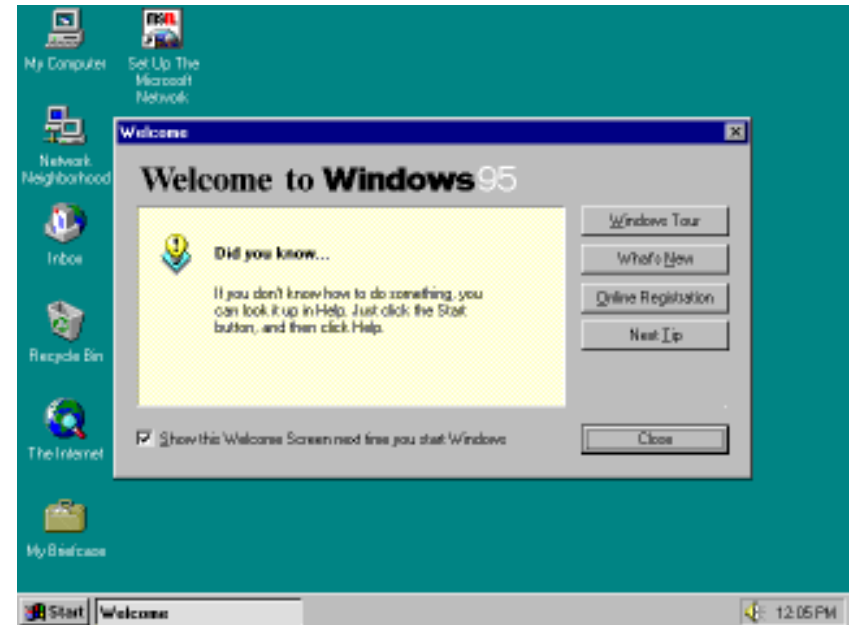
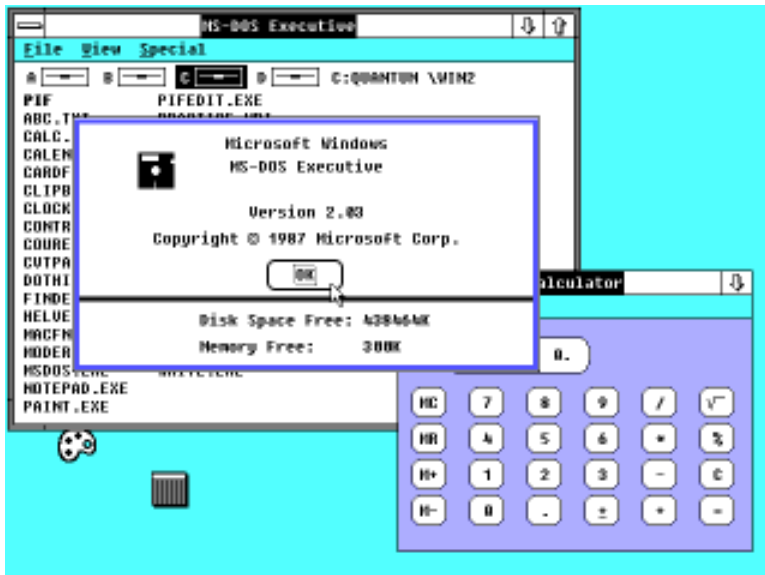
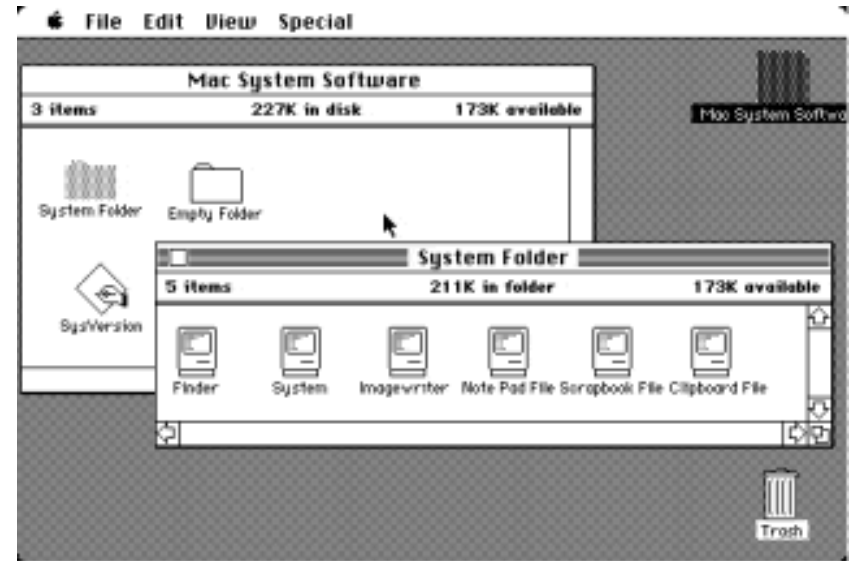
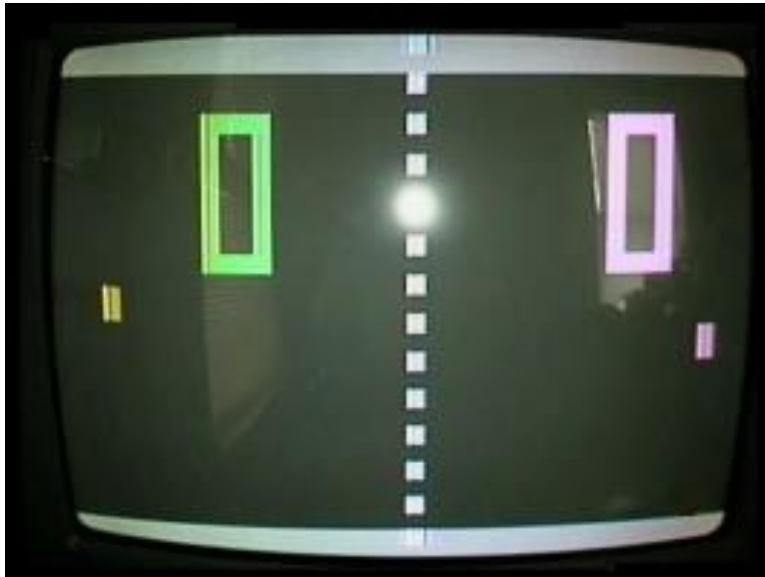
  <target name="compile" description="Compiles the Task">
    <javac srcdir="src" destdir="classes"/>
  </target>

  <target name="jar" description="JARs the Task">
    <jar destfile="MyTask.jar" basedir="classes"/>
  </target>

</project>
```

- Next 9 slides motivating GUIs from Richard McKenna

GUI Examples

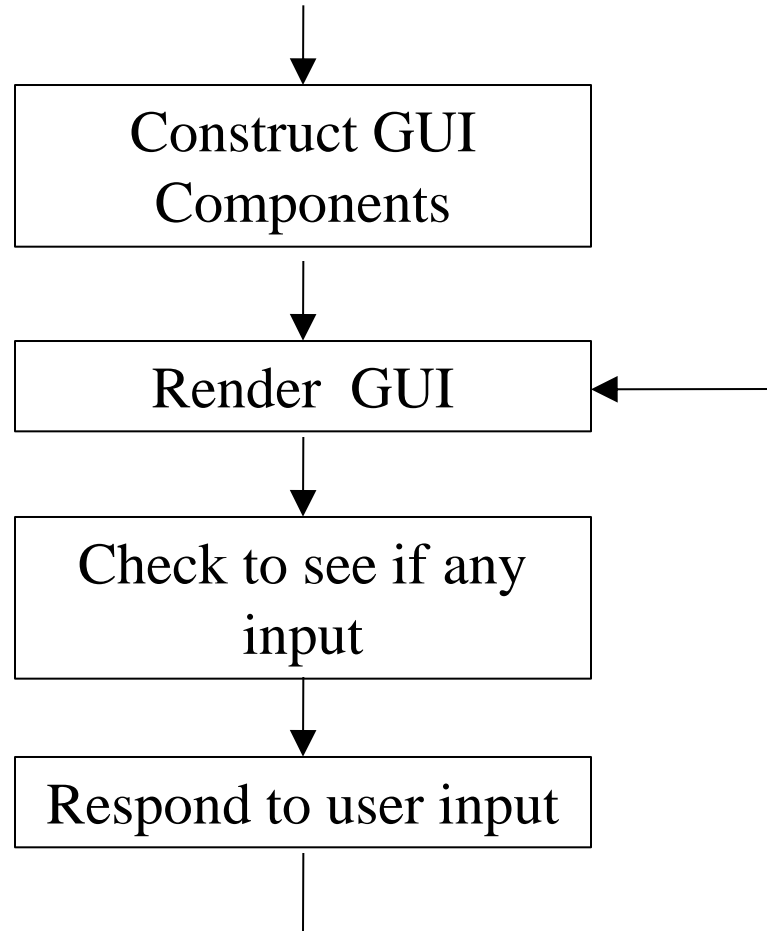


GUI

- Graphical User Interface (GUI)
 - provides user-friendly human interaction
- Building Java GUIs require use of multiple frameworks:
 - Java's GUI component Libraries
 - `javax.swing.*`
 - Java's Event Programming Libraries
 - `java.awt.event.*`
 - `javax.swing.event.*`
 - Java's Graphics Programming Libraries
 - `java.awt.*`
 - `java.awt.geom.*`

How do GUIs work?

- A giant loop



Example, a mouse click on a button

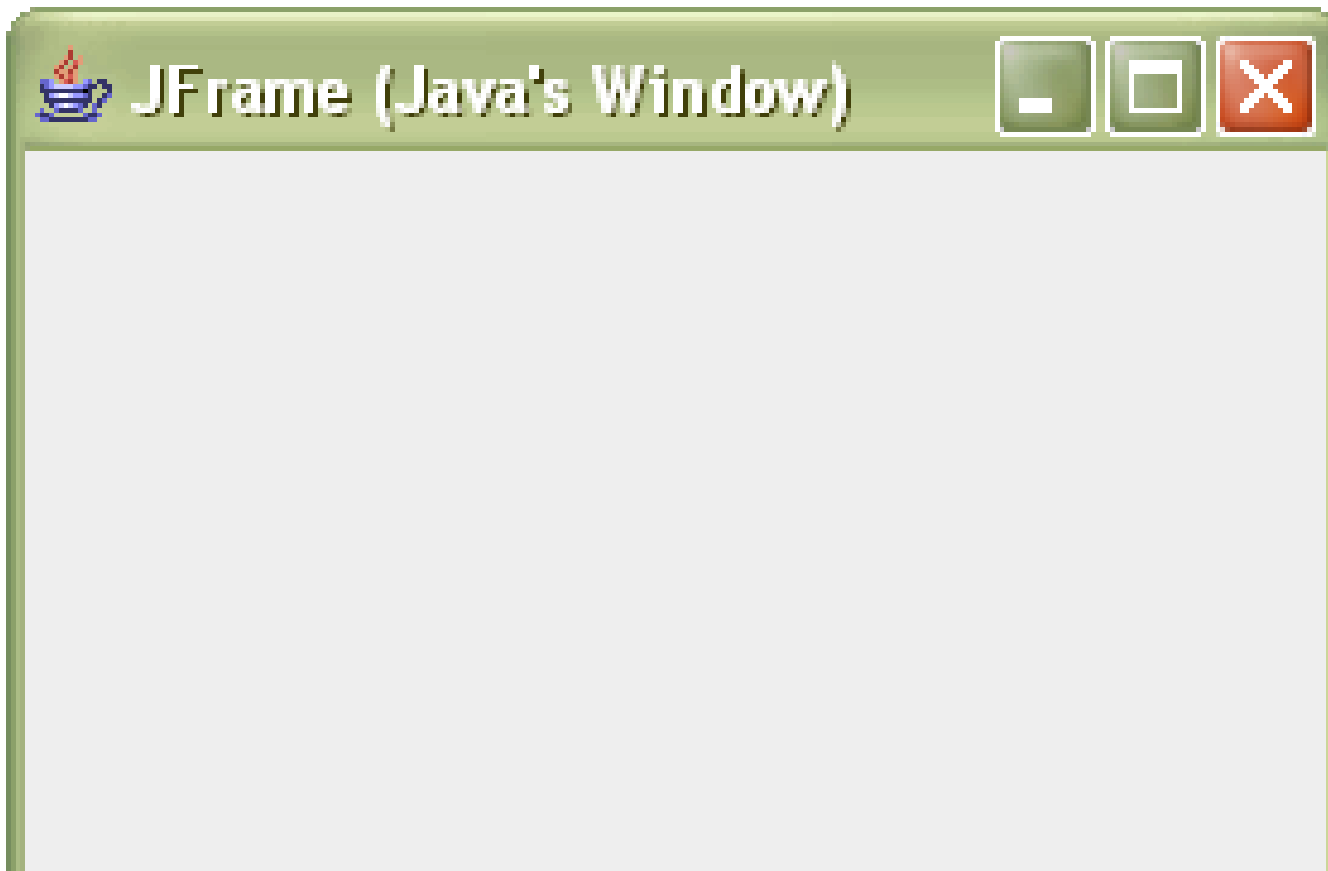
- Operating System recognizes mouse click
 - determines which window it was inside
 - notifies that program
- Program runs in loop
 - checks input buffer filled by OS
 - if it finds a mouse click:
 - determines which component in the program
 - if the click was on a relevant component
 - respond appropriately according to handler

GUI Look vs. Behavior


- Look
 - physical appearance
 - custom component design
 - containment
 - layout management
- Behavior
 - interactivity
 - event programmed response

What does a GUI framework do for you?

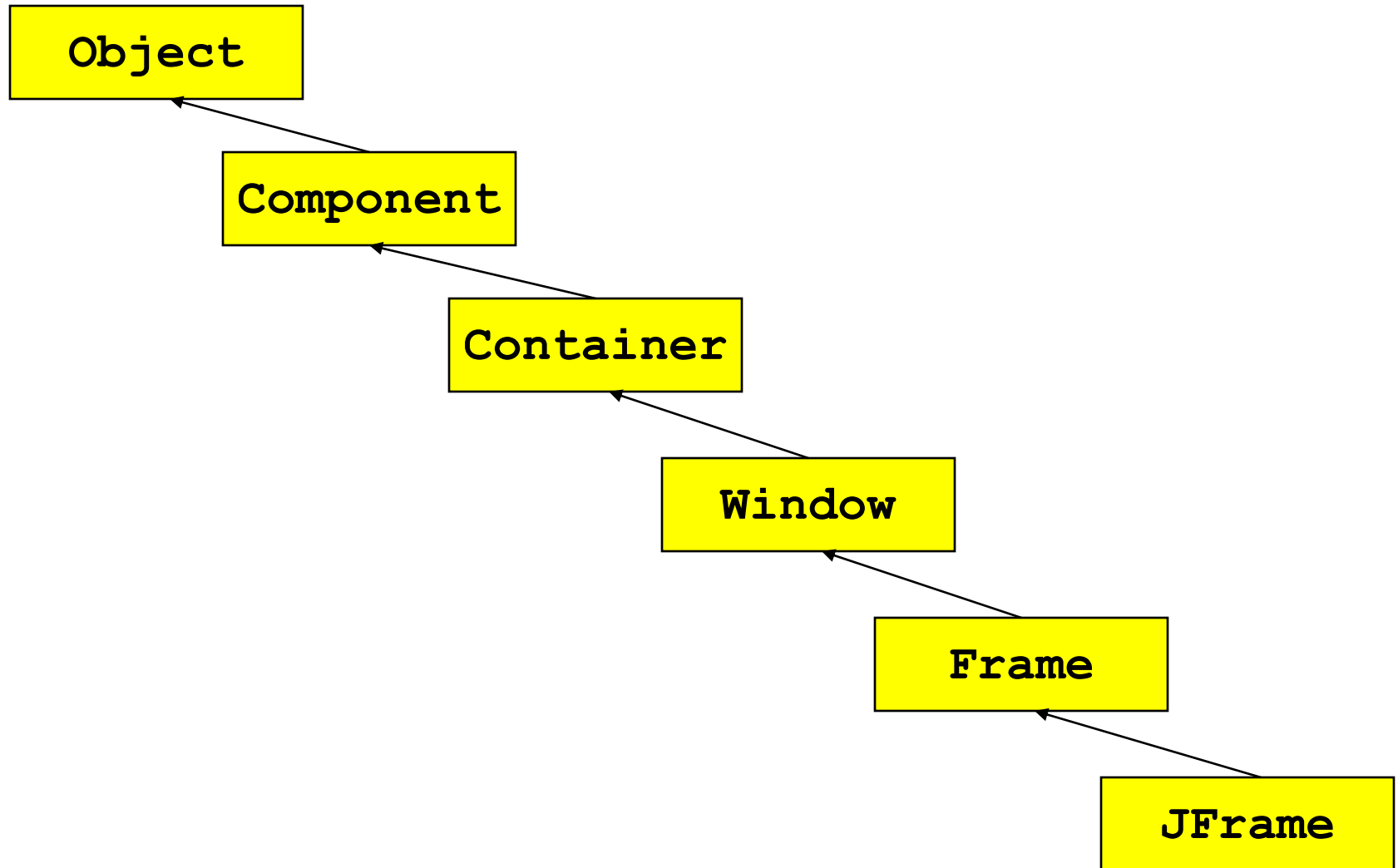
- Provides ready made visible, interactive, customizable components
 - you wouldn't want to have to code your own window



The JFrame

- Java's top-level window
 - a window that is not contained inside another window
- Has methods for:
 - used to specify window to fit screen
 - **setExtendedState** 
 - specifying a response to clicking window's 'X'
 - **setDefaultCloseOperation**
 - specifying size and location (top-left corner)
 - **setSize, setLocation** (inherited from **Component**)
- Many other useful methods *inherited* from ancestors

javax.swing.JFrame Class Hierarchy



Useful Inherited Methods for JFrames

- **Frame**



- setting window's icon

- `setIconImage(Image image)`

- images can be loaded via:

- `Toolkit.getDefaultToolkit().getImage(String fileName)`

- **Window**

- for hiding window

- `hide()`

- for tightly packing all components inside frame

- `pack()`

- **Component**

- for displaying window

- `setVisible(boolean b)`

GUI Frameworks

- Java supports many GUI frameworks
 - AWT is an older GUI toolkit
 - Swing is a "lightweight" layer on top of AWT
 - Sometimes have to mix Swing and AWT code
 - JavaFX is a new lightweight toolkit from Oracle
 - Not widely adopted yet
 - For web development, see the Google Web Toolkit, this compiles your java code to javascript
 - Example: the Gmail interface
 - For Android, user interface controlled through XML
 - Today we will discuss Swing
 - This is just a light introduction, could spend many weeks on GUI programming!
 - You can learn more about how to work with Swing (or other frameworks) by doing the tutorials

GUI Programming

- GUI programming is fundamentally strange
 - The program is centered around the interaction loop
- Suppose you have a complex syntactic parser with 1000s of lines of code
 - Then you add a simple interactive form
 - Suddenly the program is conceptually based around the form!
- The reason for this is that things are happening asynchronously!

- Next slides: crash course in Swing from David Matuszek



How to build a GUI with Swing

- Create a window in which to display things—usually a **JFrame** (for an application), or a **JApplet**
- Use the **setLayout(LayoutManager *manager*)** method to specify a **layout manager**
- Create some **Components**, such as buttons, panels, etc.
- Add your components to your display area, according to your chosen layout manager
- Write some **Listeners** and attach them to your **Components**
 - Interacting with a Component causes an **Event** to occur
 - A Listener gets a message when an interesting event occurs, and executes some code to deal with it
- Display your window



Import the necessary packages

- The Swing components are in `javax.swing.*`, so you always need to import that for a Swing application
- Swing is built on top of AWT and uses a number of AWT packages, including most of the layout managers, so you need to import `java.awt.*`
- Most listeners also come from the AWT, so you also need to import `java.awt.event.*`
- A few listeners, such as `DocumentListener` and `ListSelectionListener`, are specific to Swing, so you may need to import `javax.swing.event.*`
- For more complex GUIs, there are additional `java.awt.something` and `javax.swing.something` packages that you may need to import



Make a Container

- For an application, your container is typically a **JFrame**
 - `JFrame frame = new JFrame();`
 - `JFrame frame = new JFrame("Text to put in title bar");`
- You can create a **JFrame** in your “main class”
- It’s often more convenient to have your “main class” *extend* **JFrame**
- For an applet, your “main class” must extend **JApplet**
- Once your application or applet is up and running, it can create and display various dialogs



Add a layout manager

- The most important layout managers are:
 - **BorderLayout**
 - Provides five areas into which you can put components
 - This is the default layout manager for both **JFrame** and **JApplet**
 - **FlowLayout**
 - Components are added left to right, top to bottom
 - **GridLayout**
 - Components are put in a rectangular grid
 - All areas are the same size and shape
 - **BoxLayout**
 - Creates a horizontal row or a vertical stack
 - This can be a little weird to use
 - **GridBagLayout**
 - Too complex and a danger to your sanity—*avoid*
 - See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuLaxbFKAcc> (Flash, with audio)



Add components to containers

- The usual command is
container.add(component);
 - For **FlowLayout**, **GridLayout**, and **BoxLayout**, this adds the component to the next available location
 - For **BorderLayout**, this puts the component in the **CENTER** by default
- For **BorderLayout**, it's usually better to use
container.add(component, BorderLayout.position);
 - *position* is one of **NORTH**, **SOUTH**, **EAST**, **WEST**, or **CENTER**

Some types of components

The image shows a Java Swing window titled "Applet started." with the following components and their corresponding labels:

- JLabel**: "Let's use components!"
- JButton**: "Click me!"
- JCheckbox**: "Single Checkbox" (unchecked)
- JChoice**: "Clubs" (dropdown menu)
- JList**: "English", "Chinese", "Japanese" (list box)
- JScrollbar**: Vertical scrollbar for the list box
- JTextArea**: "TextArea", "One", "Two", "Three" (text area)
- JTextField**: "This is a TextField" (text field)
- JButton**: "Change things" (button)
- JCheckboxGroup**: "North", "South", "East", "West" (radio buttons)
- JCheckbox**: "North" (selected radio button)

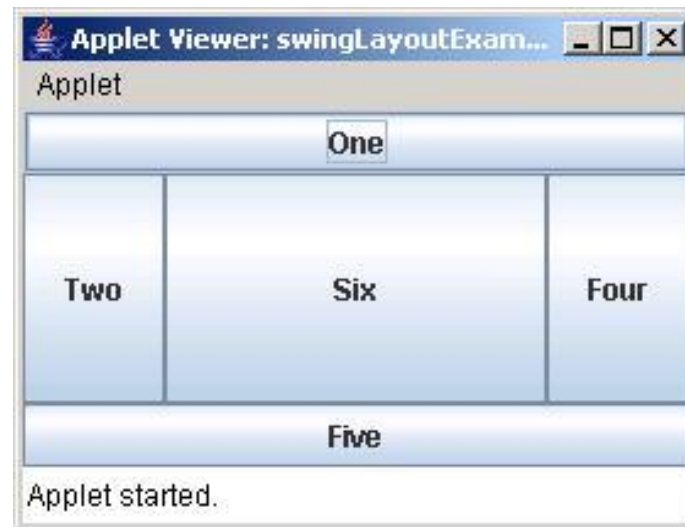


Create components

- `JButton button = new JButton("Click me!");`
- `JLabel label = new JLabel("This is a JLabel");`
- `JTextField textField1 = new JTextField("This is the initial text");`
- `JTextField textField2 = new JTextField("Initial text", columns);`
- `JTextArea textArea1 = new JTextArea("Initial text");`
- `JTextArea textArea2 = new JTextArea(rows, columns);`
- `JTextArea textArea3 = new JTextArea("Initial text", rows, columns);`
- `JCheckBox checkbox = new JCheckBox("Label for checkbox");`
- `JRadioButton radioButton1 = new JRadioButton("Label for button");`
- `ButtonGroup group = new ButtonGroup();`
`group.add(radioButton1); group.add(radioButton2); etc.`
- This is just a sampling of the available constructors; see the [javax.swing](#) API for all the rest

BorderLayout

- public class BorderLayoutExample extends JApplet {
 public void init () {
 setLayout(new BorderLayout ());
 add(new JButton("One"), BorderLayout.NORTH);
 add(new JButton("Two"), BorderLayout.WEST);
 add(new JButton("Three"), BorderLayout.CENTER);
 add(new JButton("Four"), BorderLayout.EAST);
 add(new JButton("Five"), BorderLayout.SOUTH);
 add(new JButton("Six"));
 }
}



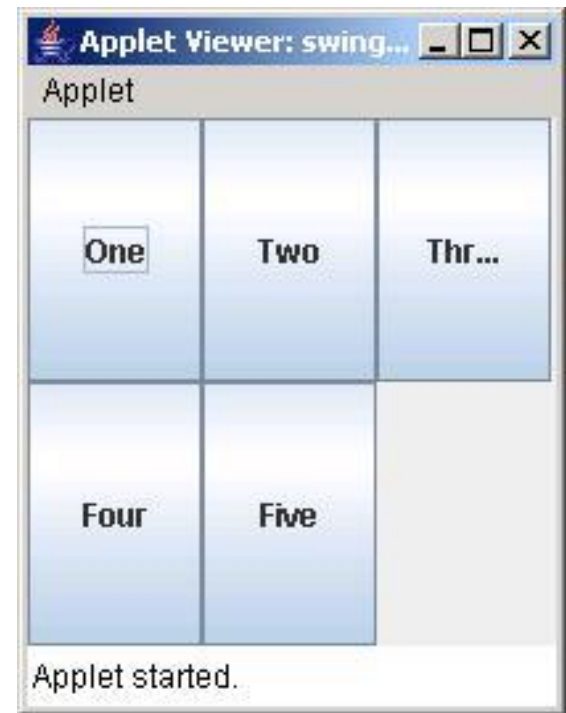
FlowLayout

- public class FlowLayoutExample extends JApplet {
 public void init () {
 setLayout(new FlowLayout ());
 add(new JButton("One"));
 add(new JButton("Two"));
 add(new JButton("Three"));
 add(new JButton("Four"));
 add(new JButton("Five"));
 add(new JButton("Six"));
 }
}



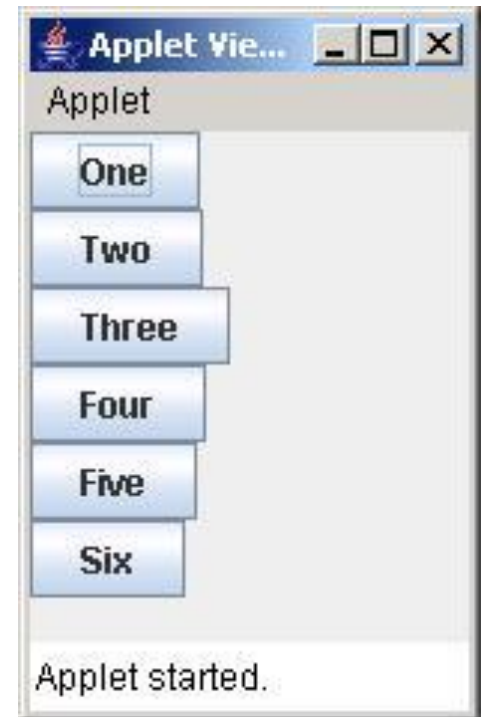
GridLayout

- ```
public class GridLayoutExample extends JApplet {
 public void init() {
 setLayout(new GridLayout(2, 4));
 add(new JButton("One"));
 add(new JButton("Two"));
 add(new JButton("Three"));
 add(new JButton("Four"));
 add(new JButton("Five"));
 }
}
```



# BoxLayout

- ```
public class BoxLayoutExample extends JApplet {  
    public void init () {  
        Box box = new Box(BoxLayout.Y_AXIS);  
        add(box);  
        box.add(new JButton("One"));  
        box.add(new JButton("Two"));  
        box.add(new JButton("Three"));  
        box.add(new JButton("Four"));  
        box.add(new JButton("Five"));  
        box.add(new JButton("Six"));  
    }  
}
```





Nested layouts

- A **JPanel** is both a **JContainer** and a **Component**
 - Because it's a container, you can put other components into it
 - Because it's a component, you can put it into other containers
- All but the very simplest GUIs are built by creating several **JPanels**, arranging them, and putting components (possibly other **JPanels**) into them
- A good approach is to draw (on paper) the arrangement you want, then finding an arrangement of **JPanels** and their layout managers that accomplishes this

An example nested layout

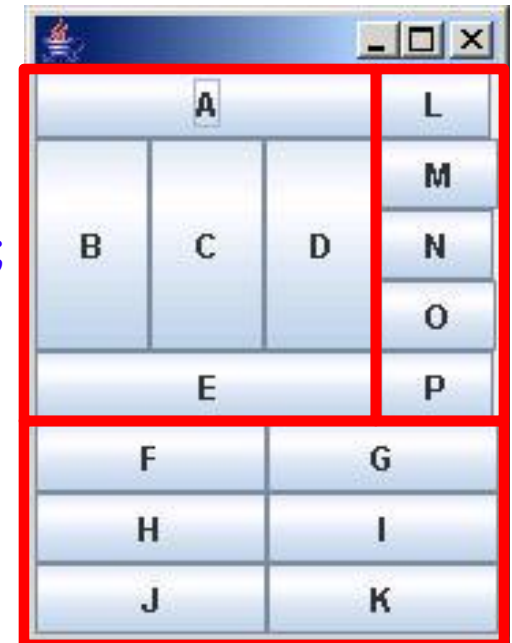
- Container container = new *JFrame()* or *JApplet()*;

```
JPanel p1 = new JPanel();  
p1.setLayout(new BorderLayout());  
p1.add(new JButton("A"), BorderLayout.NORTH);  
// also add buttons B, C, D, E
```

```
JPanel p2 = new JPanel();  
p2.setLayout(new GridLayout(3, 2));  
p2.add(new JButton("F"));  
// also add buttons G, H, I, J, K
```

```
JPanel p3 = new JPanel();  
p3.setLayout(new BoxLayout(p3, BoxLayout.Y_AXIS));  
p3.add(new JButton("L"));  
// also add buttons M, N, O, P
```

```
container.setLayout(new BorderLayout());  
container.add(p1, BorderLayout.CENTER);  
container.add(p2, BorderLayout.SOUTH);  
container.add(p3, BorderLayout.EAST);
```





Create and attach listeners

- `JButton okButton = new JButton("OK");`
- `okButton.addActionListener(new MyOkListener());`
- `class MyOkListener implements ActionListener {
 public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {
 // code to handle okButton click
 }
}`
- A small class like this is often best implemented as an anonymous inner class



Anonymous inner classes

- Anonymous inner classes are convenient for short code (typically a single method)
 - `b.addActionListener(anonymous inner class);`
- The *anonymous inner class* can be either:
 - `new Superclass(args) { body }`
 - or
 - `new Interface() { body }`
- Notice that no class name is given--only the name of the superclass or interface
 - If it had a name, it wouldn't be anonymous, now would it?
- The *args* are arguments to the superclass's constructor (interfaces don't have constructors)



Using an anonymous inner class

- Instead of:

- `okButton.addActionListener(new MyOkListener());`

```
class MyOkListener implements ActionListener {  
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {  
        // code to handle OK button click  
    }  
}
```

- You can do this:

- `okButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
 public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {
 // code to handle OK button click
 }
});`

- Keep anonymous inner classes very short (typically just a call to one of your methods), as they can really clutter up the code



Suggested program arrangement 1

- `class SomeClass {`
- `// Declare components as instance variables`
`JFrame frame; // Can also define them here if you prefer`
`JButton button;`
- `public static void main(String[] args) {`
`new SomeClass().createGui();`
`}`
- `// Define components and attach listeners in a method`
`void createGui() {`
`frame = new JFrame();`
`button = new JButton("OK");`
`frame.add(button); // (uses default BorderLayout)`
`button.addActionListener(new MyOkListener());`
`}`
- `// Use an inner class as your listener`
`class MyOkButtonListener implements ActionListener {`
`public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {`
`// Code to handle button click goes here`
`}`
`}`
`}`



Suggested program arrangement 2

- `class SomeClass extends JFrame {`
- `// Declare components as instance variables`
`// JFrame frame; // Don't need this`
`JButton button;`
- `public static void main(String[] args) {`
`new SomeClass().createGui();`
`}`
- `// Define components and attach listeners in a method`
`void createGui() {`
`// frame = new JFrame(); // Don't need this`
`button = new JButton("OK");`
`add(button); // Was: frame.add(button);`
`button.addActionListener(new MyOkListener());`
`}`
- `// Use an inner class as your listener`
`class MyOkButtonListener implements ActionListener {`
`public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {`
`// Code to handle button click goes here`
`}`
`}`
`}`



Components use various listeners

- JButton, JMenuItem, JComboBox, JTextField:
 - addActionListener(ActionListener)
 - public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event)
- JCheckBox, JRadioButton:
 - addItemListener(ItemListener)
 - public void itemStateChanged(ItemEvent event)
- JSlider
 - addChangeListener(ChangeListener)
 - public void stateChanged(ChangeEvent event)
- JTextArea
 - **getDocument().addDocumentListener(DocumentListener)**
 - public void insertUpdate(DocumentEvent event)
 - public void removeUpdate(DocumentEvent event)
 - public void changedUpdate(DocumentEvent event)



Getting values

- Some user actions normally cause the program to *do* something: clicking a button, or selecting from a menu
- Some user actions set values to be used *later*: entering text, setting a checkbox or a radio button
 - You *can* listen for events from these, but it's not usually a good idea
 - Instead, *read* their values when you need them
 - `String myText = myJTextField.getText();`
 - `String myText = myJTextArea.getText();`
 - `boolean checked = myJCheckBox.isSelected();`
 - `boolean selected1 = myJRadioButton1.isSelected();`



Enabling and disabling components

- It is poor style to remove components you don't want the user to be able to use
 - “Where did it go? It was here a minute ago!”
- It's better to *enable* and *disable* controls
 - Disabled controls appear “grayed out”
 - The user may wonder *why?*, but it's still less confusing
- *anyComponent.setEnabled(enabled);*
 - Parameter should be **true** to enable, **false** to disable



Dialogs

- A **dialog** (small accessory window) can be **modal** or **nonmodal**
 - When your code opens a modal dialog, it waits for a result from the dialog before continuing
 - When your code opens a nonmodal dialog, it does so in a separate thread, and your code just keeps going
- Sun supplies a few simple (but useful) *modal* dialogs for your use
- You can create your own dialogs (with **JDialog**), but they are *nonmodal* by default

Message dialogs

- `JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(parentJFrame, "This is a JOptionPane \"message\" dialog.");`
- Notice that `showMessageDialog` is a static method of `JOptionPane`
- The “`parentJFrame`” is typically your main GUI window (but it’s OK to use `null` if you don’t have a main GUI window)



Confirm dialogs

- `int yesNo = JOptionPane.showConfirmDialog(parentJFrame, "Is this what you wanted to see?");`
- `if (yesNo == JOptionPane.YES_OPTION) { ... }`



Input dialogs

- `String userName =
JOptionPane.showInputDialog(parentJFrame,
"What is your name?")`



Option dialogs

- Object[] options =

```
new String[] {"English", "Chinese", "French", "German" };
```

```
int option =
```

```
JOptionPane.showOptionDialog(parentJFrame,
```

```
"Choose an option:",
```

```
"Option Dialog",
```

```
JOptionPane.YES_NO_OPTION,
```

```
JOptionPane.QUESTION_MESSAGE,
```

```
null,
```

```
options,
```

```
options[0]); // use as default
```

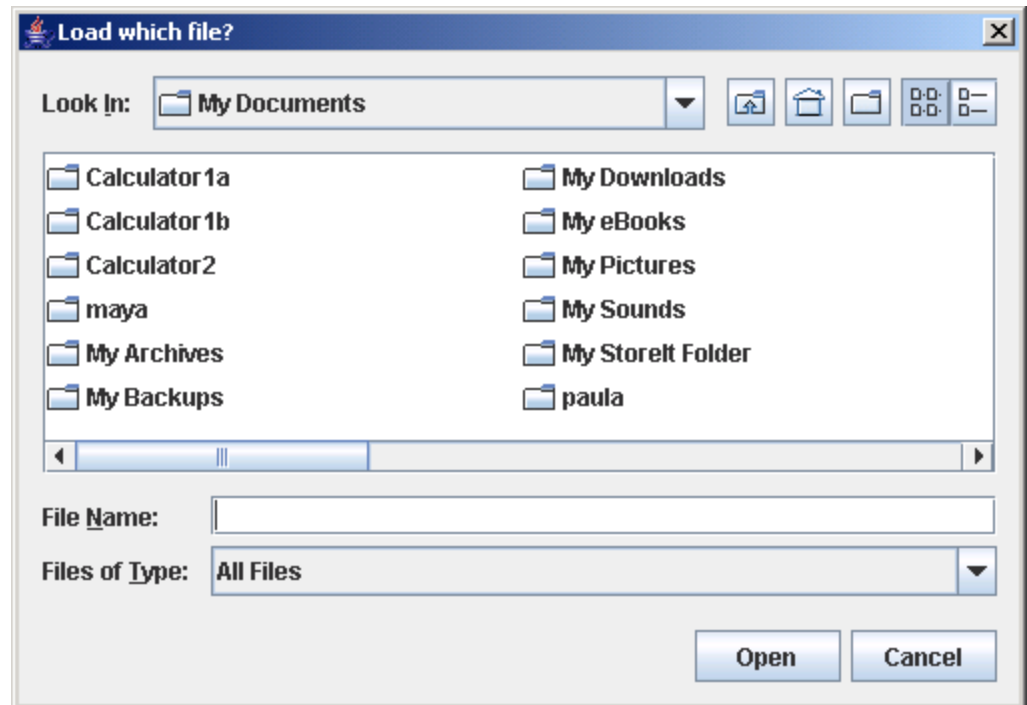


- Fourth argument could be `JOptionPane.YES_NO_CANCEL_OPTION`
- Fifth argument specifies which icon to use in the dialog; it could be one of `ERROR_MESSAGE`, `INFORMATION_MESSAGE`, `WARNING_MESSAGE`, or `PLAIN_MESSAGE`
- Sixth argument (`null` above) can specify a custom icon

Load file dialogs

- `JFileChooser chooser = new JFileChooser();`
`chooser.setDialogTitle("Load which file?");`
- `int result = chooser.showOpenDialog(enclosingJFrame);`
`if (result == JFileChooser.APPROVE_OPTION) {`
 `File file = chooser.getSelectedFile();`
 `// use file`
`}`

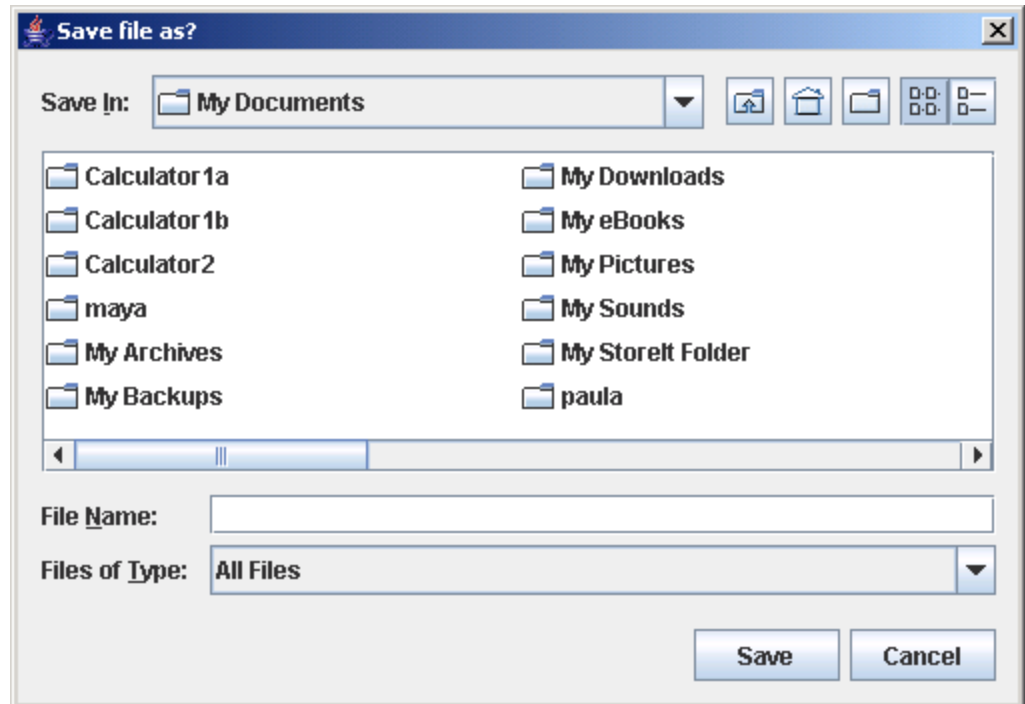
- You could also test for **CANCEL_OPTION** or **ERROR_OPTION**
- You will get back a **File** object; to use it, you must know how to do file I/O



Save file dialogs

- `JFileChooser chooser = new JFileChooser();`
`chooser.setDialogTitle("Save file as?");`
- `int result = chooser.showSaveDialog(enclosingJFrame);`
`if (result == JFileChooser.APPROVE_OPTION) {`
 `File file = chooser.getSelectedFile();`
 `// use file`
`}`

- You could also test for **CANCEL_OPTION** or **ERROR_OPTION**
- You will get back a **File** object; to use it, you must know how to do file I/O





Quitting the program

- `gui.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);`
- Other options are `DO_NOTHING_ON_CLOSE`, `HIDE_ON_CLOSE`, and `DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE`



Summary I: Building a GUI

- Create a container, such as **JFrame** or **JApplet**
- Choose a layout manager
- Create more complex layouts by adding **JPanels**; each **JPanel** can have its own layout manager
- Create other components and add them to whichever **JPanels** you like



Summary II: Building a GUI

- For each active component, look up what kind of **Listeners** it can have
- Create (implement) the **Listeners**
 - often there is one **Listener** for each active component
 - Active components can share the same **Listener**
- For each **Listener** you implement, supply the methods that it requires
- For Applets, write the necessary HTML

Literature

- Java Swing Tutorial

<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/uiswing/>

- Ullenboom, Ch.

Java ist auch eine Insel (Chapter 19)

Galileo Computing, 2012