

Intro to Qt Human Computer Interface

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2012-2013



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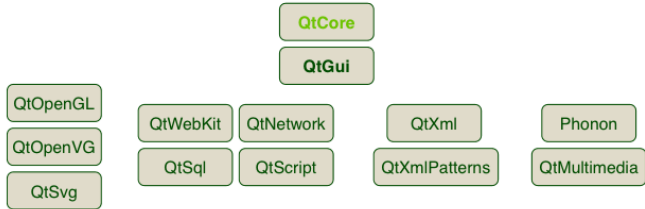
Qt a dev framework

- ▶ Qt is a cross platform development framework written in C++.
- ▶ C++ framework ? bindings for other languages Python, Ruby, C #, etc.
- ▶ Originally for user interfaces ? now for everything
- ▶ Databases, XML, WebKit, multimedia, networking, OpenGL, scripting, non-GUI, etc.

Qt is made up of modules



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Modules

All modules have a common scheme and are built from the same API design ideas figure modules

```
1 foreach (int value, intList) { ... }  
2 QObject *o = new QPushButton;  
3 o->metaObject()->className(); // returns "QPushButton"  
4 connect(button, SIGNAL(clicked()), window, SLOT(close  
    ()));
```

- ▶ All code is still plain C++
- ▶ Cross platform applications built from one source
- ▶ Builds native applications with native look and feel
- ▶ Easy to (re)use API, high developer productivity, openness, fun to use

Desktop target platforms

- ▶ Windows
- ▶ MacOSX
- ▶ Linux/Unix X11

Embedded target platforms

- ▶ Windows CE Symbian Maemo
- ▶ Embedded Linux Direct framebuffer access

```
1 #include <QApplication>
2 #include <QLabel>
3 int main( int argc, char **argv )
4 {
5     QApplication app( argc, argv );
6     QLabel l( "Hello World!" );
7     l.show();
8     return app.exec();
9 }
```

LGPL : free

- ▶ Your application can be open or closed
- ▶ Changes to Qt must be fed back to the community

GPL : free

- ▶ Your application must be open
- ▶ Changes to Qt must be fed back to the community

Commercial : costs money

- ▶ Your application can be closed
- ▶ Changes to Qt can be kept closed

History

- ▶ 1991 : Haavard Nord and Eirik Chambe-Eng, X11 and windows
- ▶ 1994 : The company Trolltech
- ▶ 1996 : The KDE project
- ▶ 2008 : Nokia acquires Trolltech

Qt today

- ▶ 840 classes
- ▶ 180 developers working on Qt
- ▶ Qt community
- ▶ KDE built on Qt (KDE community)

Connect both ways

```
1 connect(dial1, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)), dial2,  
        SLOT(setValue(int)));  
2 connect(dial2, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)), dial1,  
        SLOT(setValue(int)));
```

Infinite loop

- ▶ An infinite loop must be stopped.
- ▶ no signal is emitted unless an actual change takes place.

```
1 void QDial::setValue(int v) {  
2     if(v==m_value) return;  
3     ...  
4 }
```

- ▶ A notify signal
- ▶ Setters make natural slot
- ▶ Signals match the setters
- ▶ Q_PROPERTY: special macro that add field with getter, setter, and notifier

```
1 class AngleObject : public QObject {
2     Q_OBJECT
3     Q_PROPERTY(qreal angle READ angle WRITE
4                 setAngle NOTIFY angleChanged)
5 public:
6     AngleObject(qreal angle, QObject *parent = 0);
7     qreal angle() const;
8 public slots:
9     void setAngle(qreal);
10 signals:
11     void angleChanged(qreal);
12 private:
13     qreal m_angle;
14 };
15
```

- ▶ Signals are "protected" so you can emit them from derived classes.
- ▶ Protection against infinite loops.
- ▶ Update the internal state, then emit the signal.

```
1 void AngleObject::setAngle(qreal angle)
2 {
3     if(m_angle == angle)
4         return;
5     m_angle = angle;
6     emit angleChanged(m_angle);
7 }
```

- ▶ `Q_PROPERTY(bool enabled READ isEnabled WRITE setEnabled)`
- ▶ With
 - ▶ enabled is boolean field.
 - ▶ Accessible by the function `isEnabled()`.
 - ▶ Modified by the function `setEnabled()`.

```
1  class MyClass : public QObject
2  {  Q_OBJECT
3      Q_PROPERTY(Priority priority READ priority WRITE
4                  setPriority NOTIFY priorityChanged)
5      Q_ENUMS(Priority)
6  public:
7      MyClass(QObject *parent = 0);
8      ~MyClass();
9
10     enum Priority { High, Low, VeryHigh, VeryLow };
11
12     void setPriority(Priority priority)
13     {  m_priority = priority;
14         emit priorityChanged(priority);
15     }
16     Priority priority() const { return m_priority; }
17 signals:
18     void priorityChanged(Priority);
19 private:
20     Priority m_priority;
21 };
```

Properties

- ▶ Uses the TempConverter class to convert between Celsius and Fahrenheit
- ▶ Emits signals when temperature changes

dialog window

contains the following objects

- ▶ A TempConverter instance
- ▶ Two QGroupBox widgets, each containing
 - ▶ A QDial widget
 - ▶ A QLCDNumber widget

The Temperature Converter : code1



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```
1  class TempConverter : public QObject //QObject as
    parent
2  {
3      Q_OBJECT //macro first
4      public:
5          TempConverter(int tempCelsius,
6                          QObject *parent = 0); //parent
                                   pointer
7          //Read and write methods
8          int tempCelsius() const;
9          int tempFahrenheit() const;
10     public slots:
11         void setTempCelsius(int);
12         void setTempFahrenheit(int);
13     signals: //Emitted on changes of the temperature
14         void tempCelsiusChanged(int);
15         void tempFahrenheitChanged(int);
16     private:
17         //Internal representation in integer Celsius.
18         int m_tempCelsius;
19 };
```


The setTempCelsius slot:

```
1 void TempConverter::setTempCelsius(int tempCelsius)
2 {
3     //Test for change to break recursion
4     if(m_tempCelsius == tempCelsius)
5         return;
6     m_tempCelsius = tempCelsius; //Update object state
7     //Emit signal(s) reflecting changes
8     emit tempCelsiusChanged(m_tempCelsius);
9     emit tempFahrenheitChanged(tempFahrenheit());
10 }
```

The setTempFahrenheit slot:

```
1 //Convert and pass on as Celsius is the internal
   representation
2 void TempConverter::setTempFahrenheit(int
   tempFahrenheit)
3 {
4     int tempCelsius = (5.0/9.0)*(tempFahrenheit-32);
5     setTempCelsius(tempCelsius);
6 }
```

The Temperature Converter : connections



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- ▶ Uses the TempConverter class to convert between Celsius and Fahrenheit;
- ▶ Emits signals when temperature changes.

```
1 connect(celsiusDial, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)),
2         tempConverter, SLOT(setTempCelsius(int)));
3 connect(celsiusDial, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)),
4         celsiusLcd, SLOT(display(int)));
5 connect(tempConverter, SIGNAL(tempCelsiusChanged(int)),
6         celsiusDial, SLOT(setValue(int)));
7 connect(fahrenheitDial, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)),
8         tempConverter, SLOT(setTempFahrenheit(int)));
9 connect(fahrenheitDial, SIGNAL(valueChanged(int)),
10        fahrenheitLcd, SLOT(display(int)));
11 connect(tempConverter,
12        SIGNAL(tempFahrenheitChanged(int)),
13        fahrenheitDial,
14        SLOT(setValue(int)));
```