

The Art of Morph - (DRAFT)

Craft your own Morph

The screen is a window through which one sees a virtual world. The challenge is to make that world look real, act real, sound real, feel real.

—*Ivan Sutherland*

Hilaire Fernandes

“The Art of Morph - (DRAFT)” booklet is for Cuis-Smalltalk (7.0 or later), a free and modern implementation of the Smalltalk language and environment.

Copyright © 2025 Hilaire Fernandes

Thanks to Mark Volkmann to share his examples.

Thanks to ... for the reviews of the booklet, suggestions and borrowed texts. Your help is very valuable.

Compilation : 4 August 2025

Documentation source: <https://github.com/DrCuis/TheArtOfMorph>

The contents of this booklet are protected under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International.

You are free to:

Share – copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format

Adapt – remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.

Under the following terms:

Attribution. You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

Share Alike. If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original.

Complete license: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	A First Glimpse	1
1.2	Mouse Event	3
1.2.1	Mouse Click	3
1.2.2	Mouse Hovering	3
1.2.3	Grow on user request	4
1.3	Keyboard Event	5
2	Design by Reuse	8
2.1	From Where to Start?	8
2.2	Layout	9
2.2.1	Arrange Visually	9
2.2.2	Be Notified	10
2.3	Scroll Pane	11
2.4	File Selector	12
2.4.1	Poor Man Implementation	12
2.4.2	First Morph Design by Reuse	13
2.4.3	Beyond String Request Morph	15
3	Design from Scratch	18
3.1	A Bit of Introspection	18
3.2	Red to Medic Cross	19
3.3	Ruler	22
3.4	Composing	25
Appendix A	Documents Copyright	29
Appendix B	The Exercises	30
Appendix C	Solutions to the Exercises	31
	Design from scratch	31
Appendix D	The Examples	33
Appendix E	The Figures	34
Appendix F	Art of Morph package	35
Appendix G	Conceptual index	42

1 Introduction

The computer is simply an instrument whose music is ideas.

—*Alan Kay*

Cuis-Smalltalk offers the possibility to easily design your own Morphs – widgets you can interact with and later integrate in your GUI application. There are three ways to design a custom Morph: an aggregate of existing Morphs, a design from scratch or a combination of the two former approaches.

Building a new Morph with an aggregate of existing Morphs is mainly about laying out Morphs together and letting the aggregated Morphs manage the low-level drawings and input event operations. When there is a need for a custom Morph, this is the path to investigate first. If there is no way to do so, then consider designing a Morph from scratch.

Designing a Morph from scratch requires dealing with its appearance and the handling of input events. For the former, Cuis offers a vector graphics anti-aliased canvas; the latter is done with a mechanism to filter and handle mouse and keyboard events occurring in the scope of the custom Morph.

Let's start right away with a design from scratch.

1.1 A First Glimpse

It's easy to create custom morphs. Just create a subclass of an existing morph class. Then implement the `drawOn:` method or add and layout sub-morphs.

Let's make an example that draws an ellipse. Making it a subclass of `BoxMorph` gives it an extent instance variable which specifies its width and height.

```
BoxMorph subclass: #EllipseDemo
  instanceVariableNames: ''
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'
```

We adjust its default extent¹:

```
defaultExtent
  ↑ '200@200'
```

In our `EllipseDemo`, the `extent` represents the lengths of the `ox` and `oy` axes of the ellipse. We use it to draw it accordingly:

¹ Observe the backticks to improve performance at execution.

```

drawOn: aCanvas
  | radius |
  radius := extent / 2.0.
  aCanvas fillColor: Color purple do: [
    aCanvas ellipseCenter: radius radius: radius]

```

Finally, we instruct Cuis-Smalltalk that we want to use the Vector Graphic engine:

```

requiresVectorCanvas
  ↑ true

```

To display an instance of `EllipseDemo`, open a Workspace and execute `EllipseDemo new openInWorld`.

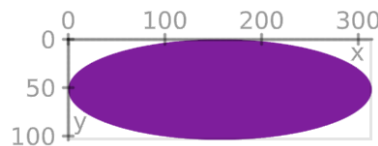


Figure 1.1: Ellipse with axes, resized to an extent approximately equals to 300@100



The drawing always operates in the morph's own coordinates system, and we have to ensure our drawing operations remain within the bounds defined by the morph origin, in the top-left corner, and its bottom-right corner delimited by its `extent` attribute, a point.

Before proceeding with events, we may want to add semantics to our protocol with `#center` and `#semiAxes` messages to use within the `drawOn:` method:

```

center
  ↑ extent / 2.0

semiAxes
  " the semi minor and major axes of the ellipse"
  ↑ extent / 2.0

```

```

drawOn: aCanvas
  aCanvas fillColor: Color purple do: [
    aCanvas ellipseCenter: self center radius: self semiAxes ]

```

1.2 Mouse Event

Let's explore how custom morphs can react to mouse clicks, mouse hovers, and keystrokes.

1.2.1 Mouse Click

Here is a modification of our previous example whose color toggles between red and green each time it is clicked.

As we need a color, we first modify our `EllipseDemo` to be a subclass of `ColoredBoxMorph`:

```
ColoredBoxMorph subclass: #EllipseDemo
  instanceVariableNames: "
  classVariableNames: "
  poolDictionaries: "
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'
```

Then we initialize it with the red color:

```
initialize
  super initialize.
  color := Color red
```

First, we request that we want to handle the mouse click down event:

```
handlesMouseDown: aMouseEvent
  "This enables the morph to handle mouse events such as button presses."
  ↑ true
```

Then, at each mouse click, we toggle the color attribute between red and green:

```
mouseButton1Down: aMouseEvent localPosition: aPosition
  color := (color = 'Color red') ifTrue: ['Color green'] ifFalse: ['Color red'].
  self redrawNeeded
```

Of course, we adjust the drawing method to use the color attribute:

```
drawOn: aCanvas
  aCanvas fillColor: color do: [
    aCanvas ellipseCenter: self center radius: self semiAxes ]
```

To render this, open a Workspace and evaluate `EllipseDemo new openInWorld`. Click the circle several times to toggle its color.

1.2.2 Mouse Hovering

Now let's modify our `EllipseDemo` to toggle its color based on whether the mouse cursor is hovering over it.

This time, we want to handle events when the mouse pointer is hovering over our `EllipseMorph`:

handlesMouseOver: aMouseEvent

"This enables the morph to handle mouse enter and leave events."

↑ true

Of course, we remove the `handlesMouseDown:` method, or alternatively, we edit it so it returns `false`, to let Cuis-Smalltalk handle this event:

handlesMouseDown: aMouseEvent

"This enables the morph to handle mouse events such as button presses."

↑ false

There are two event handlers associated with handling mouse over: when entering and when leaving a morph. We edit the methods accordingly to toggle the morph color:

mouseEnter: aMouseEvent

color := 'Color green'.

self redrawNeeded

mouseLeave: aMouseEvent

color := 'Color red'.

self redrawNeeded

Create an instance as seen previously, then hover onto and off the ellipse to toggle its color.

Observe how the frontier between inside and outside of the ellipse is a rectangle. This is because our `EllipseDemo` is a kind of `BoxMorph` optimized for rectangular shapes. To have exact pixel detection, including shapes drawn with holes, our `EllipseDemo` would require being a direct subclass of `PlacedMorph`. In the process, we will lose the `extent` and `color` attributes and will have to define our own.

1.2.3 Grow on user request

Now let's combine the mouse hover and mouse click events: at button 1 click, the ellipse shrinks slightly; at button 2 click, it grows greatly.

To do so, we introduce a `shrink` attribute initialized to 0:

initialize

super initialize.

color := Color red.

shrink := 0

Then it changes depending on user actions; its value increases slightly at button 1 click:

```

mouseButton1Down: aMouseEvent localPosition: aPosition
    shrink := (shrink + 0.5) min: (extent x min: extent y) // 2.
    self redrawNeeded

```

and decreases quickly at button 2 click:

```

mouseButton2Down: aMouseEvent localPosition: aPosition
    shrink := (shrink - 5) max: 0.
    self redrawNeeded

```

Of course, we have to bound the `shrink` attribute between 0 and the smaller extent axis of the whole morph.

Then we adjust our `semiAxes` method used to draw the ellipse:

```

semiAxes
    ↑ (extent / 2.0) - shrink

```

1.3 Keyboard Event

So far, we have explored how a morph interacts with the mouse pointer. It may also respond to keyboard events. In this section, we modify our `EllipseDemo` to adjust its color at keyboard interaction.

First, identically to mouse events, we indicate our morph wants to handle keyboard events:

```

handlesKeyboard
    "This enables the morph to handle key events if it has focus."
    ↑ self visible

```

We handle the keyboard event only when our morph is visible.

Keyboard events are associated with the concept of keyboard focus. In the world of morphs, one or zero morph own the keyboard focus at a time, meaning this morph will receive the keyboard event.

Moreover, in Cuis-Smalltalk there is a preference `#focusFollowsMouse`. When true, the keyboard focus is automatically changed to the morph the mouse pointer is hovering over. When false, the keyboard focus is only changed to a morph at a user mouse click on this specific morph.

To know what the preference is in your Cuis-Smalltalk system, execute the code:

```

Preferences at: #focusFollowsMouse
⇒ true

```

I personally prefer to explicitly inform the Cuis-Smalltalk system where the keyboard focus should go. Indeed, my mouse tends to slip on my desk, resulting in the keyboard focus changing annoyingly:

Preferences at: `#focusFollowsMouse` put: `false`

Our `EllipseDemo` honors this preference when the mouse pointer enters the morph:

```
mouseEnter: aMouseEvent
  color := 'Color green'.
  "If the user opted for focus to automatically
  move focus to the morph under the cursor then tell
  the cursor (event hand) to give focus to this morph."
  (Preferences at: #focusFollowsMouse) ifTrue: [aMouseEvent hand newKeyboardFocus: self].
  self redrawNeeded
```

The *hand* is the mouse pointer object in the Cuis-Smalltalk terminology. It manages the keyboard focus and is informed when the focus should be affected to another morph.

When the mouse pointer leaves our morph, we let its parent morph manage the focus:

```
mouseLeave: aMouseEvent
  super mouseLeave: aMouseEvent.
  color := 'Color red'.
  self redrawNeeded
```

according to the `#focusFollowsMouse` system preference:

```
Morph>>mouseLeave: evt
  (Preferences at: #focusFollowsMouse)
    ifTrue: [evt hand releaseKeyboardFocus: self].
  ../..
```

To handle the keyboard strokes, we override the dedicated method `keyStroke:`. We first ensure the key stroke was not handled by the parent² then we do the handling specific to our `EllipseDemo` morph:

```
keyStroke: aKeyEvent
  | character |
  super keyStroke: aKeyEvent.
  aKeyEvent wasHandled ifTrue: [↑ self].
  character := Character codePoint: aKeyEvent keyValue.
  color := character
    caseOf: {
      [ $r ] -> [ 'Color red' ].
      [ $g ] -> [ 'Color green' ].
      [ $b ] -> [ 'Color blue' ] }
    otherwise: [color].
  self redrawNeeded
```

² For example, to manage keyboard shortcuts or tabulation.

The event object is interrogated with dedicated messages to detect modifier keys (i.e. `#controlKeyPressed`). Browse the `UserInputEvent` class to discover them all.

To have more flexibility on the color used in our ellipse demo, let's implement the following features:

- Pressing `h`, `s`, or `v` increases, respectively, the hue, the saturation, and the brightness of the ellipse color.
- Pressing `Ctrl-h`, `Ctrl-s`, or `Ctrl-v` decreases these same values.

keyStroke: aKeyEvent

```
| character increment h s v |
../..
h := color hue.
s := color saturation.
v := color brightness .
increment := aKeyEvent controlKeyPressed ifTrue: [-0.1] ifFalse: [0.1].
character
  caseOf: {
    [ $h ] -> [ h := h + (increment * 13) ].
    [ $s ] -> [ s := s + increment ].
    [ $v ] -> [ v := v + increment ] }
  otherwise: [].
color setHue: h saturation: s brightness: v.
self redrawNeeded
```

Our gentle introduction ends here. We have exposed several facets of the Morph system to build your own morph from scratch: drawing of the morph and handling of the mouse and keyboard input. In the following chapters, we explore in more detail the design from scratch of your own morphs and how to combine them with existing morphs.

2 Design by Reuse

In this chapter you will learn how to design new morph – in the idea of a new widget – by assembling existing ones. We first illustrate the topic with existing morphs from the Cuis-Smalltalk system and the Cuis-Smalltalk-UI repository. Then, we dive into the design of a new morph – a file selector – gradually improving it from a quick design in a *Workspace* to a class of its own. Finally, its design is rigorously tested by reusing it in an end-user GUI.

2.1 From Where to Start?

Design by reuse indeed, but from where to start? Which classes should we make reuse from? As often, the Cuis-Smalltalk system may be our best guide, let's interrogate it to learn which morph has more subclasses.

We collect, for each existing morph in the Cuis-Smalltalk system, the quantity of subclasses, then we sort the result.

```
| hallOfFame |
hallOfFame ← Morph allSubclasses collect: [:each |
    Array with: each with: each subclasses size].
hallOfFame ← hallOfFame sort: [:array1 :array2 | array1 second > array2 second]
```

```
▼ root: an OrderedCollection({PlacedMorph . 16})
▶ 1: {PlacedMorph . 16}
▶ 2: {BorderedBoxMorph . 15}
▶ 3: {LinearLayoutMorph . 11}
▶ 4: {ColoredBoxMorph . 10}
▶ 5: {SystemWindow . 9}
▶ 6: {ValueEntryPanel . 7}
▶ 7: {MethodSetWindow . 6}
▶ 8: {CodeWindow . 6}
▶ 9: {PluggableMorph . 5}
▶ 10: {LabelMorph . 5}
▶ 11: {BoxMorph . 5}
▶ 12: {DialogPanel . 4}
▶ 13: {PluggableListMorph . 4}
▶ 14: {PluggableScrollPane . 4}
▶ 15: {PluggableButtonMorph . 3}
▶ 16: {InnerPluggableMorph . 3}
▶ 17: {InlineMethodWizardStepWindow . 2}
▶ 18: {ChangeSelectorWizardStepWindow . 2}
▶ 19: {BrowserWindow . 2}
▶ 20: {CheckGroup . 2}
▶ 21: {PreviewMorph . 2}
▶ 22: {StringRequestMorph . 2}
▶ 23: {MenuItemMorph . 2}
▶ 24: {LayoutMorph . 2}
▶ 25: {Dialog . 2}
▶ 26: {MenuMorph . 2}
```

Figure 2.1: The hall of fame of morph subclasses count

Let's analyze some top-ranked morphs:

1. **PlacedMorph**. Its subclasses need to override the `drawOn:` method, so it's not a candidate for designing morphs by reuse.

2. **BorderedMorph**, **ColoredBoxMorph**, and **BoxMorph**. These classes are **PlacedMorph** with a few additional characteristics. Subclassing these classes will most of the time require overriding the `drawOn:` method.
3. **LinearLayoutMorph**. It has 11 subclasses. It is designed to assemble morphs in a new morph. Using this class for reuse makes perfect sense, and we already know how to use it.
4. **SystemWindow**. As a view representing a whole application, subclassing it makes sense to implement specific behaviors of a GUI application, but not as a morph you can reuse as a widget.
5. **PluggableMorph**. It seems very generic and may be a good candidate. It represents a view of an associated model. However, its subclasses need to implement a specific `drawOn:` method. We may want to use it when designing a morph from scratch.
6. **PluggableScrollPane**. This morph encapsulates an arbitrary morph – called a *scroller* – in a pane with optional scrollbars when the scroller extent is too large. It is very handy, and in some circumstances it makes sense to subclass it.

All in all, we have two candidates to subclass when conceiving a morph by reuse: **LinearLayoutMorph** and **PluggableScrollPane**.

2.2 Layout

This section will be very familiar with the booklet *Design GUI with Morph*, and it is a good idea to read its <https://DrCuis.github.io/DesignGUI/Layout-components.html> (**Layout components**) chapter beforehand.

Arranging a set of morphs is what the **LinearLayoutMorph** class does. Therefore, it makes sense to define a new morph based on layout and then install a set of morphs into it. This is exactly what the **LabelGroup** class of the **Cuis-Smalltalk-UI** package does.

2.2.1 Arrange Visually

This subclass of **LinearLayoutMorph** takes a collection of textual descriptions and morphs to arrange them in two columns of labels and morphs. The idea is to give a label to widgets presented in a view.

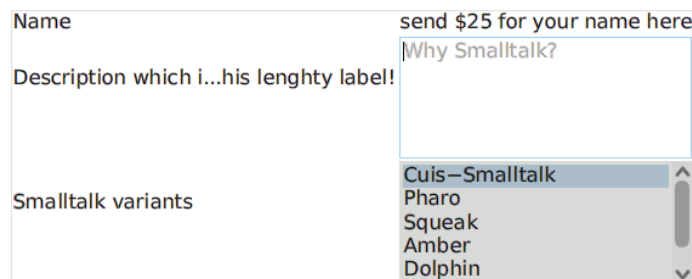


Figure 2.2: A group of three morphs, each with its own label

In one layout column, the label group arranges each label and widget pair in a row so that all the label cells are of the same width. What it takes is a collection of label and morph associations. The returned layout is to be added to a higher-level view.

LabelGroup class>>example1

```

↑ self with: {
  'Name' -> (LabelMorph contents: 'send $25 for your name here').
  'Description which is very long...' -> (
    TextModelMorph withText: " :: emptyTextDisplayMessage: 'Why Smalltalk?').
  'Smalltalk variants' -> (
    PluggableListMorph
      withModel: (ListModel with: #('Cuis-Smalltalk' 'Pharo' 'Squeak' 'Amber'))
      listGetter: #list
      indexGetter: #listIndex
      indexSetter: #listIndex: )} ::
    color: Color white paler ;
  yourself

```

The `LabelGroup` is a passive object; its only purpose is to arrange morphs visually. All user interactions are managed by the widgets. However, in some circumstances, we want both to arrange widgets and be notified about specific user interactions. This is what the `CheckGroup` and `RadioGroup` classes do.

2.2.2 Be Notified

Once morphs are arranged in a layout, it makes sense to be notified through events when the user interacts with some of the arranged morphs. From this perspective, the `LabelGroup` class is absolutely passive, contrary to the `CheckGroup` class, which we will present now.

As a `LabelGroup`, a `CheckGroup` presents a collection of labels with associated widgets, here `CheckButtonMorph`. In a `CheckGroup`, zero or more `CheckButtonMorph` can be selected at once. In a `RadioGroup`, a subclass, only one `RadioButtonMorph` is selected at once.

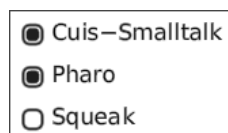


Figure 2.3: A check group to select among the baby squeaks

Creating a check group only requires a collection of labels¹:

CheckGroup class>>example1

```

| group |
group := self fromList: #('Cuis-Smalltalk' 'Pharo' 'Squeak').
group buttons do: [:each |
  each when: #checkSelection send: #show: to: Transcript].
↑ group

```

In the example, the `#checkSelection` event emitted by each check button is captured for reporting purposes. The attentive reader will observe that this event is not specific to the

¹ As an alternative to textual labels, arbitrary morphs can be used instead.

check group. Indeed, the check group itself emits another specific event, `#informCheckSelection`, when a button is selected:

```
CheckGroup>>newSelection: radioButton  
    " Inform we have a new selection "  
    self triggerEvent: #informCheckSelection with: (self symbolForButton: radioButton)
```

The event is triggered with the button label as an attribute. To observe its use, experiment with the method `CheckGroup class>>example2`.

2.3 Scroll Pane

Compared to the `LinearLayoutMorph` class, the `PluggableScrollPane` class doesn't have many subclasses. We found ones for all sorts of lists of items or text editors with the need to scroll contents.

This class doesn't need to be subclassed to be useful. Each time you want to present a morph with a large extent, embed it in a scroll pane:

```
PluggableScrollPane new ::  
    scroller: Sample02Bezier new;  
    color: Color white;  
    openInWorld
```

Example 2.1: Bezier curves on a scroller

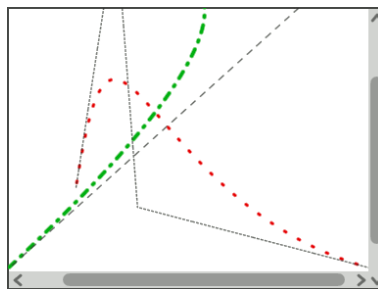


Figure 2.4: A scroll pane encapsulating Bézier curves with scroll bars

Among its few subclasses, `FlowLayoutMorph` extends the behavior of the layout morph but doesn't inherit from it. It presents a collection of morphs in a strip spanning several rows. It is flanked with a vertical scroll bar if needed, inherited from the behavior of the `PluggableScrollPane`.

Its use is simple:

FlowLayoutMorph class>>example1

```

| flow cells |
flow := self new openInWorld.
cells := OrderedCollection new.
50 timesRepeat: [ cells add: (
    ColoredBoxMorph new ::
        morphExtent: (5 to: 80) atRandom asPoint;
        color: Color random)].
flow cells: cells

```

When resizing the morph, particularly its width, the flow of morphs is updated simultaneously.

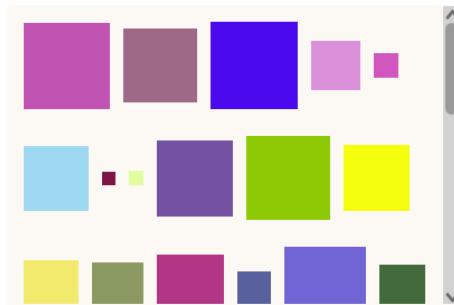


Figure 2.5: Flow of boxes of various sizes

2.4 File Selector

So far, we have observed existing morphs. Let's now build our own new morph.

2.4.1 Poor Man Implementation

First, let's do something quick and fun: a poor man's file selector. All it takes is to get the entries of a given directory, collect them as previews, and add them all in a flow layout:

```

| directories |
directories := DirectoryEntry userBaseDirectory children collect: [:anEntry |
    FilePreviewMorph
        object: anEntry
        image: ((anEntry isFileEntry ifTrue: [Theme current genericTextIcon] ifFalse: [Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'places' 'folder' )]) magnifyTo: 64@64)
        buttons: nil
        label: anEntry baseName ::
        borderColor: Color transparent;
        color: Color transparent].
FlowLayoutMorph new ::
    openInWorld;
    cells: directories

```

Of course, at this stage, we can't browse the directories tree:

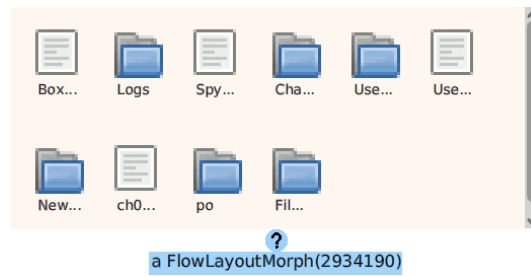


Figure 2.6: A basic tool to list the files in a folder

To add more behavior to our poor man's file selector, we want to make our first morph by reusing existing components.

2.4.2 First Morph Design by Reuse

Our morph visually presents files and directories at a given location on the disk of the host. As we want this morph to be reused by other GUI designers, it doesn't present itself in a window but in a simple surface, a pane. Therefore, we name it `FileSelectorPane`. It emits events when the user selects a file and updates itself with new contents when the user double-clicks on a folder.

Because we may have numerous files and directories to present, we create our `FileSelectorPane` as a subclass of `FlowLayoutMorph`:

```
FlowLayoutMorph subclass: #FileSelectorPane
  instanceVariableNames: ""
  classVariableNames: ""
  poolDictionaries: ""
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'
```

In its parent's hierarchy, our `FileSelectorPane` has the `PluggableMorph` ancestor, which observes a `model`. In the present context, the `model` represents the currently observed `DirectoryEntry`. It is set by default to the user base directory:

```
initialize
  super initialize.
  self open: DirectoryEntry userBaseDirectory
```

When opening a new location, directories and files are collected and sorted separately into two groups to build meaningful previews:

open: aDirectoryEntry

```

| entryViews |
model := aDirectoryEntry.
entryViews := OrderedCollection new.
model isRoot ifFalse: [ | parentView |
    parentView := self entryPreviewFor: model parent.
    parentView relabel: '..' bold.
    entryViews add: parentView].
entryViews
    addAll: (self previewsFor: model directories);
    addAll: (self previewsFor: model files ).
self cells: entryViews

```

The directory and file entries are sorted appropriately, and each one is flanked with a preview:

previewsFor: entries

```

↑ (entries sort: [:a :b | a baseName asUppercase < b baseName asUppercase ])
    collect: [:anEntry | self entryPreviewFor: anEntry]

```

The special directory “..” above is inserted first for the user to browse to the parent directory of the model.

Observe below how each directory preview is listening to the double-click event. In that circumstance, the related directory is opened.

entryPreviewFor: fileEntry

```

| fileView |
fileView := FilePreviewMorph
    object: fileEntry
    image: ((fileEntry isFileEntry
        ifTrue: [Theme current genericTextIcon]
        ifFalse: [Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'places' 'folder' )]) magnifyTo: 48@48)
    buttons: nil
    label: fileEntry baseName ::
    borderColor: Color transparent;
    color: Color transparent.
fileEntry isDirectoryEntry ifTrue: [
    fileView when: #doubleClick send: #open: to: self with: fileEntry].
↑ fileView

```

We are relying on FilePreviewMorph, a composition of several morphs, itself emitting events to notify about user activities.

To integrate this widget with other morphs, particularly to behave as a file selector, we want it to trigger events when the user selects a file. A FilePreviewMorph emits a #selected event each time the user clicks it. Let’s capture this event to manage it internally:

entryPreviewFor: fileEntry

```

../..
fileView when: #selected send: #toggleSelection: to: self with: fileView.
↑ fileView

```

Then, we define the behavior for the `#toggleSelection:` message:

toggleSelection: fileView

```

| selectedView |
selectedView := cells detect: [:aFileView | aFileView isSelected] ifNone: [nil].
selectedView = fileView
  ifTrue: [ " unselect view, no view selected anymore "
    fileView toggleSelection.
    selectedView := nil]
  ifFalse: [
    selectedView ifNotNil: [selectedView toggleSelection].
    fileView selected: true.
    selectedView := fileView].
selectedView
  ifNil: [self triggerEvent: #noSelection]
  ifNotNil: [self triggerEvent: #selectedFile with: selectedView fileEntry]

```

To visualize in the **Transcript** window the events propagation, instantiate a new file selector and capture its events:

```

| selector |
selector := FileSelectorPane new openInWorld.
selector when: #noSelection send: #print to: 'no entry'.
selector when: #selectedFile send: #show: to: Transcript

```

To stop listening to events, just send the `#removeAllActions` message to the listener: `selector removeAllActions`.

Morphs are both listeners and emitters of events. Doing so is important for decoupling objects from each other and improving object reuse.

We designed the `FileSelectorPane` to be itself reusable in other morphs. In the next section, we illustrate its use to improve the usability of the `StringRequestMorph`, a morph used—among other things—to ask the user to key in a file name; we want to improve it to make it more user-friendly.

2.4.3 Beyond String Request Morph

As illustrated by the sketch below, the idea is to have a file pane that expands on user request. The user then selects a file or a directory directly by pointing to it on the pane.

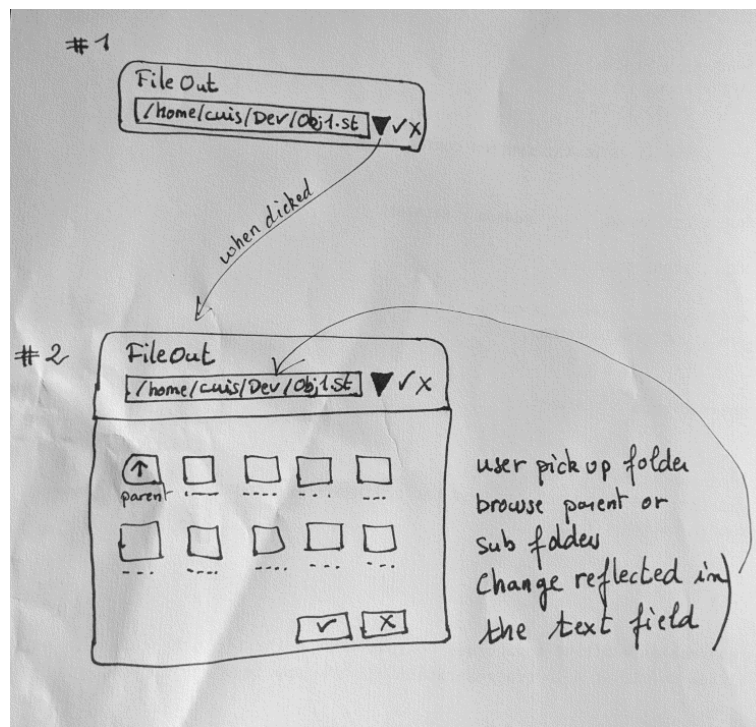


Figure 2.7: A sketch depicting a file selector and its behavior

Let's extend the behavior of `StringRequestMorph`:

```
StringRequestMorph subclass: #FileRequestMorph
  instanceVariableNames: 'fileBrowser'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'
```

We add an the instance variable `fileBrowser` to hold our file selector when it is unfolded. We override a few methods from `StringRequestMorph`. We add a button to unfold/fold the file browser:

```
addTextPane
  super addTextPane.
  submorphs first addMorph:
    ((PluggableButtonMorph model: self action: #toggleFileBrowser)
     setBalloonText: 'Browse the file system to select a file or directory';
     icon: (Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'places' 'folder' )) )
```

When unfolding the file browser, we check its current status. If absent, we instantiate a new one just below the text entry; otherwise, we just delete it from the screen:

toggleFileBrowser

```

fileBrowser ifNotNil: [
    fileBrowser delete.
    fileBrowser := nil.
    ^ self].
fileBrowser := FileSelectorPane new open: self directoryEntry.
fileBrowser when: #selectedFile send: #entry: to: self.
fileBrowser
    color: (Color white alpha: 0.8);
    morphPosition: self morphPosition + (0 (self morphHeight + 5));
    morphExtent: self morphExtent * (1@5);
    openInWorld

```

In this method, two important points: the `directoryEntry` method answers the current directory as edited by the user, and the `#selectedFile` event emitted by the `FileSelectorPane` is observed and dispatched to the `entry:` method. Each time the user selects a file, the message `#entry:` is sent to the `FileRequestMorph` instance:

entry: anEntry

```

textMorph hasUnacceptedEdits: false.
response := anEntry asString.
self changed: #response.
textMorph hasUnacceptedEdits: true

```

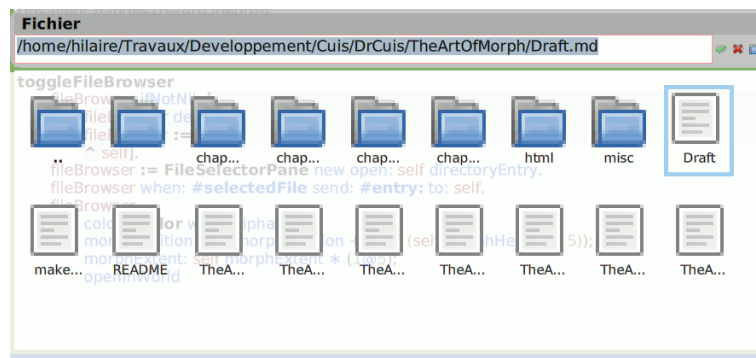


Figure 2.8: File request morph and its file browser unfolded

We end here our chapter on designing morphs by reusing existing ones. From the usability perspective, our `FileRequestMorph` example is far from complete; user interfaces grow on small details. There is a lot of room for improvements: the printed filenames below the icons are ridiculously short, a distinction between file and folder selection when the tool is invoked will allow for more precise usability behavior, and the button to unfold and fold the file browser could have a selected state. These improvements are good exercises to strengthen your skills.

3 Design from Scratch

Simple things should be simple, complex things should be possible.

—*Alan Kay*

When you imagine an unconventional way to interact with the computer, it may indicate that you are on the verge of designing new morphs from scratch: a new way to present information and/or to interact with it. This chapter will help you in those circumstances. As we did in the previous chapter, we will take a look at existing morphs to learn from them, and then we will create our own morph.

3.1 A Bit of Introspection

Morphs implemented from scratch come with a **drawOn:** method to produce their visual representation. We already encountered this method in the Chapter 1 [Introduction], page 1. Let's interrogate our running Cuis-Smalltalk system to analyze which morphs are involved:

```
Morph allSubclasses size.
```

```
⇒ 155.
```

```
(Morph allSubclasses select: [:each | each selectors includes: #drawOn:]) size.
```

```
⇒ 69.
```

Example 3.1: How many morphs implement drawing operations?

We observe that the majority of morphs are implemented by composing existing morphs, which was the topic of the previous chapter. We want to interrogate the Cuis-Smalltalk system a bit further by considering the line count of the **drawOn:** method of each morph.

```
| morphs |
```

```
morphs := Morph allSubclasses select: [:each | each selectors includes: #drawOn:].
```

```
morphs sort: [:classA :classB |
```

```
  (classA sourceCodeAt: #drawOn:) lineCount >
```

```
  (classB sourceCodeAt: #drawOn:) lineCount]
```

Example 3.2: Line count of each **drawOn:**


This script should be executed to open an object explorer, *Alt-Shift-I*. Sadly, this result is not representative of the complexity of the drawing operations. Indeed, well-written Smalltalk code tends to span over small and well-factored methods. Nevertheless, the object explorer lets us quickly jump from one method to another.

To improve the exploring experience, we can go a bit further in our previous script to present both the classes and the source codes of the **drawOn:** methods:

It produces a cross by drawing two red rectangles with an orange border. The `polyLine:` method accepts an arbitrary number of points to designate the summits of the polygon. We can improve how it is rendered.



Figure 3.2: Sample01Cross shape with two rectangles

 Edit the `drawOn:` method to render a cross as shown in the image below (Figure 3.3).




Figure 3.3: A better looking cross

Exercise 3.1: Better looking shape

The method names involved in the code above will look familiar to users acquainted with SVG (Scalable Vector Graphic)¹. It is indeed inspired by its specifications, and it may serve as a loose reference². Nevertheless, your first reference to look at regarding the available drawing operations is the `AbstractVectorCanvas` class, then some bits of its parent class, `MorphicCanvas`.

In this class, the methods are divided into two important categories: the helper methods of the `drawing` – categories and the fundamental Vector Graphics protocol in the `paths` & `strokes` categories.

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SVG>

² <https://www.w3.org/TR/SVG11/>

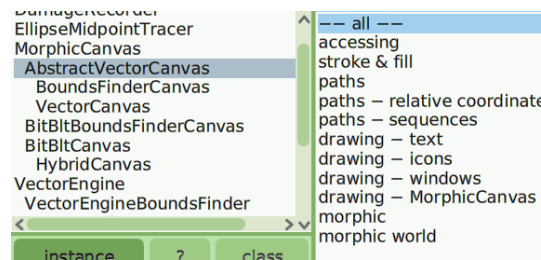


Figure 3.4: Method categories of the AbstractVectorCanvas

In its **drawing - MorphicCanvas** category, observe how its helper method, to draw a straight line, relates to the Vector Graphics engine:

```

line: pt1 to: pt2 width: morphStrokeWidth color: aStrokeColor
  self strokeWidth: morphStrokeWidth color: aStrokeColor do: [
    self moveTo: pt1.
    self lineTo: pt2 ]

```

In the **strokeWidth:color:do:** method above, the argument of the **do:** keyword is the path followed by the sketch; it describes the outline of the shape to construct. It blends very nicely into the Smalltalk syntax as a block of code. Your drawing operations should always be presented in such a block. Of course, it can be factored into several smaller methods or iterative processes, making it a very powerful means for drawing.

The **stroke & fill** method category shows the methods to adjust the style of the path stroke. All in all, there are four categories of parameters to play with:

- **width.** A floating-point number representing the width of the line.
- **color.** The color of the stroke; it's a Cuis-Smalltalk Color instance.
- **fill color.** The filling color, a Color instance.
- **dash style.** There are three different parameters to play with to represent the style of the line.

To be able to use floating-point numbers instead of integers helps to obtain smoother visual rendering. To illustrate it, let's turn our simple cross into a flashing medical cross as seen above the drugstore.

Let's copy the class as **MedicCross** and add a **width** attribute:

```

PlacedMorph subclass: #MedicCross
  instanceVariableNames: 'width'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'

```

We initialize it properly:


```
initialize
  super initialize.
  width := 0
```

To pulse the cross, we use the morphic's step mechanism, generally involving 3 methods: in our `MedicCross` the `step` method is continuously executed at a period in milliseconds indicated by its `stepTime` method,

```
CrossMedic >> stepTime
  ↑ 10
```

then, to indicate we want the stepping to occur, its `wantsSteps` method must return `true`,

```
CrossMedic >> wantsSteps
  ↑ true
```



Implement the `step` method in `MedicCross` so that its width increments by 0.2 until 30, then it is zeroed.

Exercise 3.2: `step` method makes it pulse



Figure 3.5: A flashing medic cross

In the next section, we go a bit further by representing a real-world object, a simple ruler.

3.3 Ruler

Rulers come with different lengths; our morph ruler is a `PlacedMorph`³ with a `length` attribute:

³ It can be grabbed and moved around.

```

PlacedMorph subclass: #Ruler
  instanceVariableNames: 'length'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'

```

Our ruler is to be graduated with metric units, so we define our scale between pixels and centimeters:

```

ppcm
  " pixels per cm "
  ~ 50.0

```

To both ease reading of the graduations and to reveal as much as possible the visuals underneath the ruler, it is painted in plain color under the sticks and with transparency elsewhere.

```

drawOn: canvas
  | font extent |
  font := FontFamily familyName: FontFamily defaultFamilyName pointSize: 8.
  extent := length * self ppcm + (self ppcm / 2) @ 60.

  canvas fillRectangle: (-5 @ 0 corner: extent x @ 25) color: Color yellow.
  canvas fillRectangle: (-5 @ 25 corner: extent) color: (Color yellow alpha: 0.5).
  canvas frameRectangle: (-5 @ 0 corner: extent) borderWidth: 0.5
  color: Color yellow muchDarker.
  canvas strokeWidth: 0.8 color: Color black do: [
    0 to: length do: [:posX |
      canvas moveTo: posX * self ppcm 0.5; lineToY: 10.
      canvas moveTo: posX * self ppcm + (self ppcm / 2) @ 0.5; lineToY: 6]].
    0 to: length do: [:posX |
      canvas drawString: posX asString
      atCenterX: posX * self ppcm @ 12 font: font color: Color black]

```

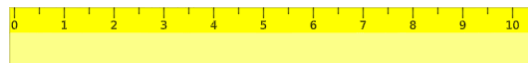


Figure 3.6: Ruler with a centimeter graduation

When drawing, the coordinates we are using are always considered as part of a coordinate system local to the morph we are drawing into. This makes the task both simple and powerful; we will be able to benefit from this feature to implement smart user interactions. In the method above, the zero on the ruler coincides with the origin in the morph coordinate system.



The `drawOn:` method above is written to be compact and easy to read; however the method `ppcm` is used extensively to convert between centimeters and pixels, which implies numerous multiplications and some divisions. These operations are more expensive than additions. Rewrite `drawOn:` to avoid multiplication and division, particularly in loops.

Exercise 3.3: Avoid expensive calculus



Our ruler should be graduated each millimeter as shown in the figure below – Figure 3.7. Extend the `drawOn:` to do so.

Exercise 3.4: Millimeter graduation

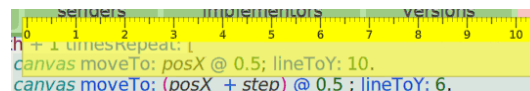


Figure 3.7: Ruler with a millimeter graduation

Very likely, you have already noticed the ruler can be dragged around. When activating its halo of handles – *Alt-click* or *middle-click* – it rotates with the blue handle at its left bottom position.

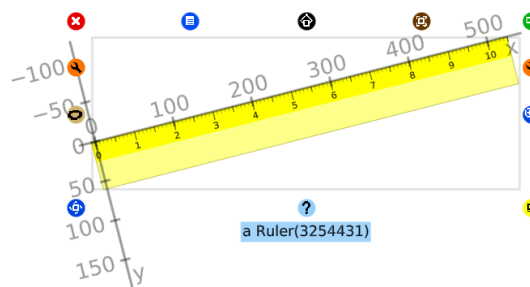


Figure 3.8: Rotating the ruler with its handle

As you experience it, it is rotated around the center of its bounding box. From the ruler inspector, interrogate the ruler about its center:

```

self rotationCenter
⇒ 260.9997510912408 @ 29.999971389797793
  
```

These coordinates are relative – as always in the Cuis-Smalltalk system – to the ruler’s own coordinate system. When pivoting the ruler, it will be more practical if it rotates around its origin; this will ease doing measurements on the screen. Fortunately, it is easy to adjust it:

```
Ruler >> rotationCenter  
  ↑ '0@0'
```

It now rotates around this point!

Using the halo handle to rotate the ruler is not very practical; we need a direct handle on the ruler to do so. In the next section, you will learn how to compose our morph designed from scratch with additional morphs.

3.4 Composing

What we want is a direct handle on the ruler to rotate it. It is just a morph button to be inserted somewhere in the ruler, that’s all we need to do.

```
insertButtons  
  | btn |  
  btn := ButtonMorph model: self action: #rotateRuler ::  
    actWhen: #buttonStillDown;  
    icon: Theme current refreshIcon;  
    color: Color transparent;  
    selectedColor: Color yellow darker;  
    morphExtent: Theme current refreshIcon extent * 1.5.  
  self addMorph: btn.  
  btn morphPosition: length * self ppcm @ 30
```

The button morph added to the ruler is positioned according to the coordinate system of the ruler – its *owner*. Whenever it is scaled or rotated later with its halo handles, its sub-morphs – here the buttons – are positioned accordingly. We decide to place the button at the end of the ruler; it is more practical when pivoting the ruler. The button acts when the user keeps pressing the mouse button down; the method `rotateRuler` is then called.

In this method, we calculate the angle between two consecutive vectors going from the ruler rotation center to the mouse positions. As the mouse positions are in world coordinates, we ask for the ruler rotation center – also its origin – to be converted into the world coordinate system – `self externalizeToWorld: self rotationCenter`.

As we want both the angle and the direction of the user gesture – upward or downward – we want a signed angle. Therefore, we use the vector product⁴ to deduce the angle between these two consecutive vectors. This angle is then used to rotate the ruler accordingly.

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_product#Definition

rotateRuler

```

| event p1 v1 v2|
"anything new to do?"
event := self activeHand lastMouseEvent.
event isMove ifTrue: [
  p1 := self externalizeToWorld: self rotationCenter.
  v1 := lastHandPosition - p1.
  lastHandPosition := event eventPosition.
  v2 := lastHandPosition - p1.
  (v1 isZero or: [v2 isZero]) ifTrue: [↑ self].
  self rotateBy: ((v1 crossProduct: v2) / (v1 r * v2 r)) arcSin ]
ifFalse: [lastHandPosition := event eventPosition]

```

You may want to take a second look at this method; it is a bit complex at first, but it also exposes the wonderful design of Cuis-Smalltalk's Morph 3 to manage quite easily that kind of user interaction.

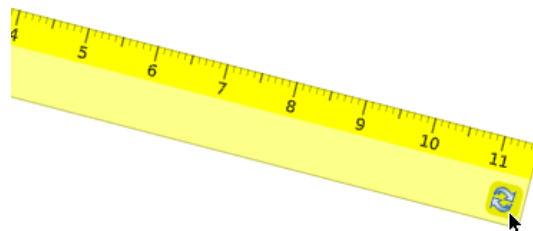


Figure 3.9: A handy button to rotate the ruler

Our next move is to give the ability to the user to change the length of their ruler, the `length` attribute. Therefore, we insert a second button to do so and in the process refactor the method:

insertButtons

```

| btn buttonExtent |
buttonExtent := Theme current refreshIcon extent * 1.5.
btn := ButtonMorph model: self action: #rotateRuler ::
    actWhen: #buttonStillDown;
    icon: Theme current refreshIcon;
    color: Color transparent;
    selectedColor: Color yellow darker;
    morphExtent: buttonExtent.
self addMorph: btn.
btn := ButtonMorph model: self action: #resizeRuler ::
    actWhen: #buttonStillDown;
    icon: (Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'actions' 'go-last' ));
    color: Color transparent;
    selectedColor: Color yellow darker;
    morphExtent: buttonExtent.
self addMorph: btn.
self positioningButtons

```

As the length varies, so does the morph width; therefore it makes perfect sense to have a distinct method to move the buttons at the right place:

positioningButtons

```

| buttonWidth position |
buttonWidth := submorphs first morphWidth.
position := length rounded * self ppcm -4 @ 30.
submorphs do: [:btn |
    btn morphPosition: position.
    position := position translatedBy: -4 - buttonWidth @ 0 ]

```

Now the `resizeRuler` method to effectively change the length of the ruler looks a bit similar to `rotateRuler` in its general shape. But there are subtle differences to benefit from the Morph 3 design.

resizeRuler

```

| event prev |
"anything new to do?"
event := self activeHand lastMouseEvent.
event isMove ifTrue: [
    prev := lastHandPosition.
    lastHandPosition := self internalizeFromWorld: event eventPosition.
    self length: length + (lastHandPosition x - prev x / self ppcm)]
ifFalse: [lastHandPosition := self internalizeFromWorld: event eventPosition]

```

When the user keeps pressing the `resize` button, the ruler should shrink when the mouse pointer moves in direction of the smallest value of the ruler x-axis and its length should increase when the mouse pointer moves in direction of the greatest value of its x-axis.

To be able to determine these behaviors of the mouse pointer, the pointer coordinates – expressed in the world coordinates system – must be converted in the local coordinates system of the ruler. This is exactly what is done by internalizing the mouse position `self internalizeFromWorld: event eventPosition`. Then, the abscissa delta between the two last mouse positions is calculated to determine the change to the ruler length. And because we are doing this calculus in the ruler coordinates system, it works whatever its pivoted state.



Figure 3.10: A handy button to resize the ruler

Of course, when the length is adjusted, the positions of the buttons is recomputed and the ruler is flagged to be redrawn:

```
length: newLength
  length := newLength max: 1.
  self positioningButtons.
  self redrawNeeded
```

Because the `drawOn:` expects an integer value for the length, a method variable `roundedLength` is set to its rounded value and used instead in the remaining of the method:

```
drawOn: canvas
  | font grad posX extent step roundedLength |
  font := FontFamily familyName: FontFamily defaultFamilyName pointSize: 8.
  roundedLength := length rounded.
  extent := roundedLength * self ppcm + (self ppcm / 2) @ 60.
  ../..
```

We end here our journey in the world of Morph. We hope this booklet gives you enough insight and know-how to deepen your understanding and start your own project. Developing small or large projects with the Cuis-Smalltalk system and its Morph 3 framework is very gratifying, have fun in your project!

Appendix A Documents Copyright

Cuis-Smalltalk mascot



The southern mountain cavy (*Microcavia australis*) is a species of South American rodent in the family Caviidae.

Copyright © Euan Mee

Appendix B The Exercises

Exercise 3.1: Better looking shape.....	20
Exercise 3.2: step method makes it pulse	22
Exercise 3.3: Avoid expensive calculus.....	24
Exercise 3.4: Millimeter graduation.....	24

Appendix C Solutions to the Exercises

Design from scratch

Exercise 3.1

To avoid the unpleasant overlapping of the two rectangles, all the drawing operations are to be conducted in an unique stroke. The polyline summit is then extended to follow the outline of the cross.

drawOn: aCanvas

```
aCanvas strokeWidth: 8 color: Color lightOrange fillColor: Color red do: [
  aCanvas polyline: {
    100@0 . 140@0 . 140@100 . 240@100 . 240@140 . 140@140 .
    140@240 . 100@240 . 100@140 . 0@140 . 0@100 . 100@100 .
    100@0 } ]
```

Exercise 3.2

To enjoy the update, the `#redrawNeeded` is to be sent to self.

step

```
width := width + 0.2.
width > 30 ifTrue: [width := 0].
self redrawNeeded
```

Exercise 3.3

The principle is to handle *manually* the indexes and to use the `timesRepeat:` method on integer. It reflects to how it will be coded with lower level languages.

drawOn: canvas

```
| font grad posX extent step |
../..
step := self ppcm / 2. " half centimeter step "
canvas strokeWidth: 0.8 color: Color black do: [
  posX := 0.
  length + 1 timesRepeat: [
    canvas moveTo: posX @ 0.5; lineToY: 10.
    canvas moveTo: (posX + step) @ 0.5 ; lineToY: 6.
    posX := posX + self ppcm] ].

grad := posX := 0.
length + 1 timesRepeat: [
  canvas drawString: grad asString
  atCenterX: posX @12 font: font color: Color black.
  grad := grad + 1.
  posX := posX + self ppcm]
```

Exercise 3.4

We add the following code at the end of the method and make the stick thinner to 0.3 pixel.

```
drawOn: canvas  
  step := self ppcm / 10. "millimeter step "  
  canvas strokeWidth: 0.3 color: Color black do: [  
    posX := step.  
    length * 2 + 1 timesRepeat: [  
      4 timesRepeat: [  
        canvas moveTo: posX 0.2; lineToY: 4.  
        posX := posX + step].  
      posX := posX + step] ]
```

Appendix D The Examples

Example 2.1: Bezier curves on a scroller	11
Example 3.1: How many morphs implement drawing operations?.....	18
Example 3.2: Line count of each <code>drawOn</code> :	18
Example 3.3: Tooling to review each <code>drawOn</code> :	19

Appendix E The Figures

Figure 1.1: Ellipse with axes, resized to an extent approximately equals to 300@100 .	2
Figure 2.1: The hall of fame of morph subclasses count	8
Figure 2.2: A group of three morphs, each with its own label.....	9
Figure 2.3: A check group to select among the baby squeaks	10
Figure 2.4: A scroll pane encapsulating Bézier curves with scroll bars	11
Figure 2.5: Flow of boxes of various sizes	12
Figure 2.6: A basic tool to list the files in a folder	13
Figure 2.7: A sketch depicting a file selector and its behavior	16
Figure 2.8: File request morph and its file browser unfolded.....	17
Figure 3.1: Explorer of the draw methods	19
Figure 3.2: Sample01Cross shape with two rectangles.....	20
Figure 3.3: A better looking cross	20
Figure 3.4: Method categories of the AbstractVectorCanvas	21
Figure 3.5: A flashing medic cross	22
Figure 3.6: Ruler with a centimeter graduation	23
Figure 3.7: Ruler with a millimeter graduation	24
Figure 3.8: Rotating the ruler with its handle	24
Figure 3.9: A handy button to rotate the ruler	26
Figure 3.10: A handy button to resize the ruler.....	28

Appendix F Art of Morph package

Download Art of Morph package (<https://github.com/DrCuis/TheArtOfMorph/blob/main/misc/ArtOfMorph.pck.st>)

```
'From Cuis7.5 [latest update: #7387] on 4 August 2025 at 5:02:29 pm'!
'Description '
!provides: 'ArtOfMorph' 1 13!
!requires: 'UI-Widgets' 1 54 nil!
!requires: 'UI-Panel' 1 130 nil!
SystemOrganization addCategory: #ArtOfMorph!
```

```
!classDefinition: #MedicCross category: #ArtOfMorph!
PlacedMorph subclass: #MedicCross
  instanceVariableNames: 'width'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'!
!classDefinition: 'MedicCross class' category: #ArtOfMorph!
MedicCross class
  instanceVariableNames: ''!
```

```
!classDefinition: #Ruler category: #ArtOfMorph!
PlacedMorph subclass: #Ruler
  instanceVariableNames: 'length lastHandPosition font'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'!
!classDefinition: 'Ruler class' category: #ArtOfMorph!
Ruler class
  instanceVariableNames: ''!
```

```
!classDefinition: #EllipseDemo category: #ArtOfMorph!
ColoredBoxMorph subclass: #EllipseDemo
  instanceVariableNames: 'shrink'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'!
!classDefinition: 'EllipseDemo class' category: #ArtOfMorph!
EllipseDemo class
  instanceVariableNames: ''!
```

```
!classDefinition: #FileRequestMorph category: #ArtOfMorph!
StringRequestMorph subclass: #FileRequestMorph
  instanceVariableNames: 'fileBrowser'
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'!
!classDefinition: 'FileRequestMorph class' category: #ArtOfMorph!
FileRequestMorph class
  instanceVariableNames: ''!
```

```
!classDefinition: #FileSelectorPane category: #ArtOfMorph!
FlowLayoutMorph subclass: #FileSelectorPane
  instanceVariableNames: ''
  classVariableNames: ''
  poolDictionaries: ''
  category: 'ArtOfMorph'!
!classDefinition: 'FileSelectorPane class' category: #ArtOfMorph!
FileSelectorPane class
  instanceVariableNames: ''!
```

```

!MedicCross commentStamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 15:53:25' prior: 0!
A flashing medical cross

    MedicCross new openInHand

!

!MedicCross methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 15:52:21'!
initialize
    super initialize.
    width := 0! !

!MedicCross methodsFor: 'drawing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 15:53:09'!
drawOn: aCanvas
    aCanvas strokeWidth: width color: Color green lighter fillColor: Color green do: [
        aCanvas polyLine: {
            100@0 . 140@0 . 140@100 . 240@100 . 240@140 .140@140 .
            140@240 . 100@240 . 100@140 . 0@140 . 0@100 . 100@100.
            100@0 } ].! !

!MedicCross methodsFor: 'stepping' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 22:42:13'!
step
    width := width + 0.2.
    width > 30 ifTrue: [width := 0].
    self redrawNeeded.! !

!MedicCross methodsFor: 'stepping' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 15:46:34'!
stepTime
    ^ 10 ! !

!MedicCross methodsFor: 'stepping' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 15:52:40'!
wantsSteps
    ^ true ! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'drawing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 23:59:02'!
drawOn: canvas
    | grad posX extent step roundedLength |
    roundedLength := length rounded.
    extent := roundedLength * self ppcm + (self ppcm / 2) @ 60.

    canvas fillRectangle: (-5@0 corner: extent x @ 25) color: Color yellow.
    canvas fillRectangle: (-5@25 corner: extent ) color: (Color yellow alpha: 0.5).
    canvas frameRectangle: (-5@0 corner: extent) borderWidth: 0.5 color: Color yellow muchDarker .

    step := self ppcm / 2. " half centimeter step "
    canvas strokeWidth: 0.8 color: Color black do: [
        posX := 0.
        roundedLength + 1 timesRepeat: [
            canvas moveTo: posX @ 0.5; lineToY: 10.
            canvas moveTo: (posX + step) @ 0.5 ; lineToY: 6.
            posX := posX + self ppcm] ].

    step := self ppcm / 10. "millimeter step "
    canvas strokeWidth: 0.3 color: Color black do: [
        posX := step.
        roundedLength * 2 + 1 timesRepeat: [
            4 timesRepeat: [
                canvas moveTo: posX @ 0.2; lineToY: 4.
                posX := posX + step].
            posX := posX + step] ].

    grad := posX := 0.
    roundedLength + 1 timesRepeat: [
        canvas drawString: grad asString atCenterX: posX @12 font: font color: Color black.
        grad := grad + 1.

```

```

        posX := posX + self ppcm]..! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 23:53:55'!
length: newLength
    length := newLength max: 1.
    self positioningButtons.
    self redrawNeeded ! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 18:34:21'!
ppcm
    " pixels per cm "
    ^ 50.0! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 23:57:21'!
initialize
    super initialize.
    font := FontFamily familyName: FontFamily defaultFamilyName pointSize: 8.
    length := 10 "cm".
    self insertButtons ! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 20:28:28'!
insertButtons
| btn buttonExtent |
    buttonExtent := Theme current refreshIcon extent * 1.5.
    btn := ButtonMorph model: self action: #rotateRuler ::
        actWhen: #buttonStillDown;
        icon: Theme current refreshIcon;
        color: Color transparent;
        selectedColor: Color yellow darker;
        morphExtent: buttonExtent.
    self addMorph: btn.
    btn := ButtonMorph model: self action: #resizeRuler ::
        actWhen: #buttonStillDown;
        icon: (Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'actions' 'go-last' ));
        color: Color transparent;
        selectedColor: Color yellow darker;
        morphExtent: buttonExtent.
    self addMorph: btn.
    self positioningButtons
    ! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 20:28:28'!
positioningButtons
| buttonWidth position |
    buttonWidth := submorphs first morphWidth.
    position := length rounded * self ppcm -4 @ 30.
    submorphs do: [:btn |
        btn morphPosition: position.
        position := position translatedBy: - 4 - buttonWidth @ 0 ]
    ! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'geometry' stamp: 'hlsf 7/31/2025 14:36:31'!
rotationCenter
    ^ `0@0`! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'as yet unclassified' stamp: 'hlsf 8/1/2025 00:04:38'!
resizeRuler
| event prev |
    "any thing new to do?"
    event := self activeHand lastMouseEvent.
    event isMove
        ifTrue: [
            prev := lastHandPosition.
            lastHandPosition := self internalizeFromWorld: event eventPosition.
            self length: length + (lastHandPosition x - prev x / self ppcm)]

```



```

        ifFalse: [lastHandPosition := self internalizeFromWorld: event eventPosition].! !

!Ruler methodsFor: 'as yet unclassified' stamp: 'hlsf 8/1/2025 10:35:11'!
rotateRuler
    | event p1 v1 v2|
    "any thing new to do?"
    event := self activeHand lastMouseEvent.
    event isMove
        ifTrue: [
            p1 := self externalizeToWorld: self rotationCenter.
            v1 := lastHandPosition - p1.
            lastHandPosition := event eventPosition.
            v2 := lastHandPosition - p1.
            (v1 isZero or: [v2 isZero]) ifTrue: [^self].
            self rotateBy: ((v1 crossProduct: v2) / (v1 r * v2 r)) arcSin ]
        ifFalse: [lastHandPosition := event eventPosition].! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 12:17:51'!
center
    ^ extent / 2.0! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 13:32:35'!
semiAxes
    " the semi minor and major axis of the ellipse"
    ^ (extent / 2.0) - shrink! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 6/11/2025 18:54:04'!
defaultExtent
    ^ 200@200! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 6/19/2025 23:45:40'!
initialize
    super initialize.
    color := Color yellow.
    shrink := 0.
    'Hover over the circle to change its color and unhover to change it back.' print.
    'Click it with left or right button to shrink or to grow the ellipse.' print.
    'Move mouse over the circle and press r, g, or b to change its color.' print.! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'drawing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 12:56:07'!
drawOn: aCanvas
    aCanvas fillColor: color do: [
        aCanvas ellipseCenter: self center radius: self semiAxes ]! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'event handling testing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/19/2025 23:48:44'!
handlesKeyboard
    "This enables the morph to handle key events if it has focus."
    ^ self visible! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'event handling testing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 13:31:52'!
handlesMouseDown: aMouseEvent
    "This enables the morph to handle mouse events such as button presses."
    ^ true! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'event handling testing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 12:53:26'!
handlesMouseOver: aMouseEvent
    "This enables the morph to handle mouse enter and leave events."
    ^ true! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/29/2025 12:10:49'!
keyStroke: aKeyEvent
    | character increment h s v |
    super keyStroke: aKeyEvent.
    aKeyEvent wasHandled ifTrue: [^ self].
    character := Character codePoint: aKeyEvent keyValue.

```

```

color := character
  caseOf: {
    [ $r ] -> [ `Color red` ].
    [ $g ] -> [ `Color green` ].
    [ $b ] -> [ `Color blue` ] }
    otherwise: [color].

h := color hue.
s := color saturation.
v := color brightness .
increment := aKeyEvent controlKeyPressed ifTrue: [-0.1] ifFalse: [0.1].
character
  caseOf: {
    [ $h ] -> [ h := h + (increment * 13) ].
    [ $s ] -> [ s := s + increment ].
    [ $v ] -> [ v := v + increment ]
  }
  otherwise: [].
color setHue: h saturation: s brightness: v.
self redrawNeeded! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/19/2025 23:52:50'!
mouseButton1Down: aMouseEvent localPosition: aPosition
  shrink := (shrink + 0.5) min: (extent x min: extent y) // 2.
  (Preferences at: #focusFollowsMouse) ifFalse: [aMouseEvent hand newKeyboardFocus: self].
  self redrawNeeded! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 13:33:22'!
mouseButton2Down: aMouseEvent localPosition: aPosition
  shrink := (shrink - 5) max: 0.
  self redrawNeeded! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/19/2025 23:52:35'!
mouseEnter: aMouseEvent
  color := `Color green`.
  "If the user opted for focus to automatically
  move focus to the morph under the cursor then tell
  the cursor (event hand) to give focus to this morph."
  (Preferences at: #focusFollowsMouse) ifTrue: [aMouseEvent hand newKeyboardFocus: self].
  self redrawNeeded.! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/28/2025 09:36:28'!
mouseLeave: aMouseEvent
  super mouseLeave: aMouseEvent.
  color := `Color red`.
  self redrawNeeded.! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 6/14/2025 13:09:40'!
wantsContour
  ^ true! !

!EllipseDemo methodsFor: 'geometry testing' stamp: 'hlsf 6/11/2025 19:05:04'!
requiresVectorCanvas
  ^ true ! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 14:46:09'!
addTextPane
  super addTextPane.
  submorphs first addMorph:
    ((PluggableButtonMorph model: self action: #toggleFileBrowser)
      setBalloonText: 'Browse the file system to select a file or directory';
      icon: (Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'places' 'folder' )) )! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 15:10:38'!
directoryEntry

```

```

| editedContents |
editedContents := textMorph scroller contents asPlainString.
^ editedContents asFileEntry exists
  ifTrue: [editedContents asFileEntry parent]
  ifFalse: [editedContents asDirectoryEntry exists
    ifTrue: [editedContents asDirectoryEntry ] ifFalse: [editedContents asDirectoryEntry parent] ]! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 14:33:32'!
response: aText
| answer |
answer := super response: aText.
(answer and: [fileBrowser notNil]) ifTrue: [fileBrowser delete].
^ answer! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 12:59:21'!
toggleFileBrowser
  fileBrowser ifNotNil: [
    fileBrowser delete.
    fileBrowser := nil.
    ^ self].
  fileBrowser := FileSelectorPane new    open: self directoryEntry.
  fileBrowser when: #selectedFile send: #entry: to: self.
  fileBrowser
    color: (Color white alpha: 0.8);
    morphPosition: self morphPosition + (0 @ (self morphHeight + 5));
    morphExtent: self morphExtent * (1@5);
    openInWorld

! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 10:48:13'!
entry: anEntry
  textMorph hasUnacceptedEdits: false.
  response := anEntry asString.
  self changed: #response.
  textMorph hasUnacceptedEdits: true.! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'private' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 12:50:16'!
cancel
  super cancel.
  fileBrowser ifNotNil: [fileBrowser delete]! !

!FileRequestMorph methodsFor: 'private' stamp: 'jmv 7/28/2025 14:40:16'!
ok
  self delete.
  fileBrowser ifNotNil: [fileBrowser delete]! !

!FileRequestMorph class methodsFor: 'as yet unclassified' stamp: 'hlsf 7/27/2025 18:09:49'!
example
"
  FileRequestMorph example
"
  ^ FileRequestMorph
    request: 'Select a file or directory'
    initialAnswer: DirectoryEntry userBaseDirectory asString
    orCancel: nil.
! !

!FileRequestMorph class methodsFor: 'instance creation' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 10:54:20'!
request: queryString
  ^ self request: queryString initialAnswer: DirectoryEntry userBaseDirectory asString! !

!FileSelectorPane methodsFor: 'initialization' stamp: 'hlsf 7/19/2025 13:26:16'!
initialize
  super initialize.

```

```

self open: DirectoryEntry userBaseDirectory
!!

!FileSelectorPane methodsFor: 'private' stamp: 'hlsf 7/28/2025 23:53:42'!
entryPreviewFor: fileEntry
| fileView |
fileView := FilePreviewMorph
    object: fileEntry
    image: ((fileEntry isFileEntry
        ifTrue: [Theme current genericTextIcon]
        ifFalse: [Theme current fetch: #( '16x16' 'places' 'folder' )]) magnifyTo: 64@64)
    buttons: nil
    label: (fileEntry isRoot ifTrue:['/'] ifFalse: [fileEntry baseName]) ::
    borderColor: Color transparent;
    color: Color transparent.
fileEntry isDirectoryEntry ifTrue: [
    fileView when: #doubleClick send: #open: to: self with: fileEntry].
fileView when: #selected send: #toggleSelection: to: self with: fileView.
^ fileView !!

!FileSelectorPane methodsFor: 'private' stamp: 'hlsf 7/19/2025 11:57:59'!
previewsFor: entries
^ (entries sort: [:a :b | a baseName asUppercase < b baseName asUppercase ]) collect: [:anEntry |
    self entryPreviewFor: anEntry]!!

!FileSelectorPane methodsFor: 'accessing' stamp: 'hlsf 7/29/2025 10:48:53'!
open: aDirectoryEntry
| entryViews |
model := aDirectoryEntry.
entryViews := OrderedCollection new.
model isRoot ifFalse: [ | parentView |
    parentView := self entryPreviewFor: model parent.
    parentView relabel: '..' bold.
    entryViews add: parentView].
entryViews
    addAll: (self previewsFor: model directories);
    addAll: (self previewsFor: model files ).
self cells: entryViews.
self updateLayout !!

!FileSelectorPane methodsFor: 'events' stamp: 'hlsf 7/25/2025 19:22:15'!
toggleSelection: fileView
| selectedView |
selectedView := cells detect: [:aFileView | aFileView isSelected] ifNone: [nil].
selectedView = fileView
    ifTrue: [
        fileView toggleSelection. " unselect view, no view selected anymore "
        selectedView := nil]
    ifFalse: [
        selectedView ifNotNil: [selectedView toggleSelection].
        fileView selected: true.
        selectedView := fileView].
selectedView
    ifNil: [self triggerEvent: #noSelection]
    ifNotNil: [self triggerEvent: #selectedFile with: selectedView fileEntry]!!

```

Appendix G Conceptual index

E

event,	
emitter	15
keyboard	5
key stroke	6
modifier keys	6
keyboard focus	5
listener	14
mouse	2
click	3
hovering	3
remove	15
#removeAllActions	15
#triggerEvent:	15
#triggerEvent:with:	15
#when:send:to:with:	14

L

layout,	
group of morphs	9
LabelGroup	9

M

morph,	
animation	22
CheckGroup	10
coordinates system	23
conversion	25, 27
drawOn:	18
event	10
FilePreviewMorph	14

FileSelectorPane	13
FlowLayoutMorph	11
handle,	
rotation	24
label	9
layout	9
owner	25
PlacedMorph	22
PluggableMorph	9
PluggableScrollPane	9, 11
RadioGroup	10
step	22
StringRequestMorph	15
subclasses	8

P

preference,	
keyboard focus	5

T

tools,	
object explorer	18
transformation,	
rotation center	24

V

vector graphics	19
AbstractVectorCanvas	20
API	20
MorphicCanvas	20
SVG	20