



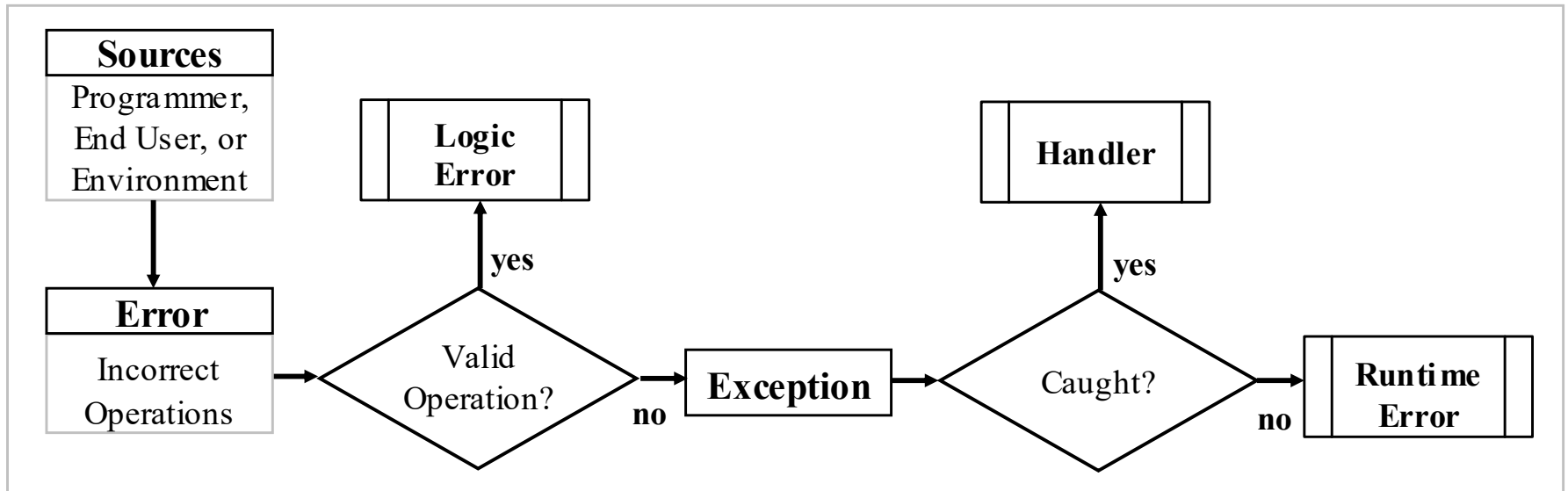
EECS 1720

Building Interactive Systems

Lecture 15 :: Event Handling [1]

Introduction to Events and Event Handling

Recap: Exception Handling



- An error source can lead to an **incorrect** operation
- An **incorrect** operations may be **valid** or **invalid**
- An invalid operation throws an **exception**
- An **exception** becomes a **runtime error** unless caught
- Caught exceptions can be **handled** gracefully

What is an Event?

- Change in state of an Object
- Generated as a result of:
 - User interaction with an input Peripheral
 - Entering a character through the keyboard
 - Clicking a mouse button or moving the mouse
 - User Interaction with a GUI component
 - Typing into a text field
 - Clicking on a button in the GUI
 - Moving the mouse onto, or off a GUI element
 - Selecting an item from a list
 - Checking a checkbox/radiobutton item
 - Scrolling

Events

- **Foreground Events**

- **Require direct interaction of user**
- **e.g. with graphical component in the GUI**
 - **(button click, mouse click, mouse move, entering character through keyboard, select item from list, menu or radio button)**

- **Background Events**

- **May/may not require interaction of an end user**
- **E.g. OS interruptions, hardware/software failure, timer expiry, operation completion**

Event handling

- Event: carries details of the event type
- Event Source: generates event objects
- Event Listener: listens for event objects
- Response: processes event



Events vs. Exceptions

- An event is “routed” much like an “exception” is routed
- An **Exception** is routed back through the calling chain (call stack) until it is handled
 - if it does not get captured by methods in the call stack, then handled by the JVM
- An **Event** is typically routed to one or more **registered** listener classes
 - An event will not get routed anywhere if no listener is registered!
 - The listener class is any class that implements the “ActionListener” interface (or extends from a class that implements this interface)

Event delegation

1. The user interacts with a GUI component and the event is generated.
2. Now an object of the concerned **event class** is created automatically and information about the source and the event get initialized into that event object.
 - event types are in ActionEvent hierarchy
3. The event object is forwarded (delegated) to the method of registered listener class
4. the method is now executed and returns

ActionListener Interface

public interface **ActionListener** extends `EventListener`

Method Summary

All Methods

Instance Methods

Abstract Methods

Modifier and Type

Method and Description

void

actionPerformed(`ActionEvent` e)

Invoked when an action occurs.

Method Detail

actionPerformed

void actionPerformed(`ActionEvent` e)

Invoked when an action occurs.

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/awt/event/ActionListener.html>

Dealing with a generic ActionEvent (e)

- Much like dealing with an Exception object
- Methods to access state, and use state to decide what action to take
 - e.getActionCommand();** // access the state of the object
 // for many GUI components this is
 // a string value
 - e.getSource();** // access source object – the
 // object that dispatched (“fired”)
 // the event

Example 1:

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent extends JFrame {

    public HelloEvent(String name) {
        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());

        JLabel heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        JButton button = new JButton("Click Me");

        this.add(heading);
        this.add(button);
        this.setSize(480,400);
        this.setResizable(false);
        this.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        this.setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

Example 1:

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent extends JFrame implements ActionListener {

    public HelloEvent(String name) {
        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());

        JLabel heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        JButton button = new JButton("Click Me");

        button.addActionListener(this);

        this.add(heading);
        this.add(button);
        this.setSize(480,400);
        this.setResizable(false);
        this.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        this.setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

addActionListener

```
public void addActionListener(ActionListener l)
```

Adds an ActionListener to the button.

Parameters:

l - the ActionListener to be added

Example 1:

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent extends JFrame implements ActionListener {

    public HelloEvent(String name) {

        // (previous slide)

    }

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {

        System.out.println(e.getActionCommand()); // get the command string
        System.out.println(e.getSource());        // what generated e ?

        System.out.println("Clicked on button");

    }

}
```

- Previous example:
 - Our application (HelloEvent class) implemented ActionListener **directly**
 - Could also create a separate class and register to an instance of that class
 - Completely independent class
 - OR.. as a nested class
 - Nested: class defined within another class

Example 2 (external listener class):

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent2Listener implements ActionListener {

    // default constructor not defined (but implicit)

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {

        System.out.println(e.getActionCommand()); // get the command string
        System.out.println(e.getSource());        // what generated e ?

        System.out.println("Clicked on button");

    }

}
```

Example 2 (external listener class):

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent2 extends JFrame {

    public HelloEvent2(String name) {

        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        button = new JButton("Click Me");

        button.addActionListener(new HelloEvent2Listener());

        this.add(heading);
        this.add(button);
        this.setSize(480,400);
        this.setResizable(false);
        this.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        this.setVisible(true);

    }
}
```


Example 3 (nested listener class):

```
import java.awt.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;

public class HelloEvent3 extends JFrame {

    public HelloEvent3(String name) {

        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        button = new JButton("Click Me");

        button.addActionListener(new HelloEvent3Listener());

        // setup not shown (add to content pane, etc)
    }

    class HelloEvent3Listener implements ActionListener {
        @Override
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            // ...
            System.out.println("HelloEvent3: Clicked on button");
        }
    }
}
```

Implications?

- Why nest?
 - Listener might only be relevant to GUI controls defined within a given class (i.e. never used by other classes)
 - Nested class can automatically see all class fields of top level class
- Why implement as a separate class vs direct?
 - Can instantiate once, and re-use (same actionPerformed)
 - Can define different actionPerformed methods..
 - Can have separate instances that behave differently..

Instantiate once, and re-use

```
public class HelloEvent4 extends JFrame {

    public HelloEvent4(String name) {

        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        JLabel heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        JButton button1 = new JButton("B1: Click Me");
        JButton button2 = new JButton("B2: Click Me 2");

        MyListener myListener = new MyListener("B* clicked");

        button1.addActionListener(myListener);
        button2.addActionListener(myListener);

        this.add(heading);
        this.add(button1);
        this.add(button2);

        // add to JFrame etc
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HelloEvent4 frame = new HelloEvent4("Hello Swing");
    }
}
```

Instantiate separately

```
public class HelloEvent4 extends JFrame {

    public HelloEvent4(String name) {

        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        JLabel heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        JButton button1 = new JButton("B1: Click Me");
        JButton button2 = new JButton("B2: Click Me 2");

        button1.addActionListener(new MyListener("B1 clicked"));
        button2.addActionListener(new MyListener("B2 clicked"));

        this.add(heading);
        this.add(button1);
        this.add(button2);

        // add to JFrame etc
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HelloEvent4 frame = new HelloEvent4("Hello Swing");
    }
}
```

Action Command

- `setActionCommand(String str)`
- `getActionCommand()`
- set & get a string that has been associated with the GUI control
 - Buttons & Labels by default use the text associated with the control (can set this independently)

```
public class HelloEvent5 extends JFrame implements ActionListener {

    JLabel heading;
    JButton button;

    public HelloEvent5(String name) {
        super(name);
        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());

        heading = new JLabel("HelloEvent:");
        button = new JButton("Click Me", new ImageIcon("images/3d_file.png"));

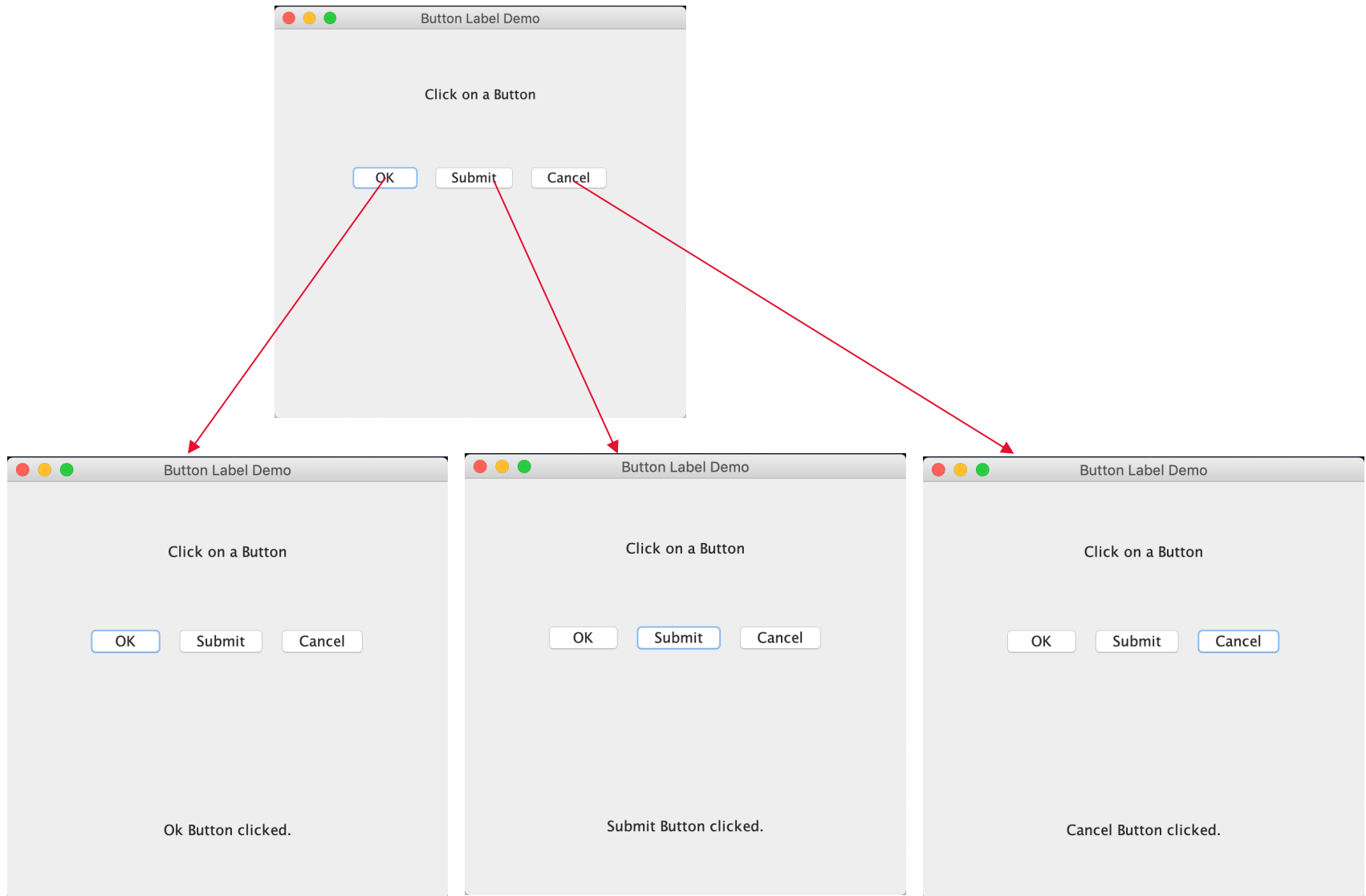
        button.setActionCommand("Action click!");
        button.addActionListener(this);

        // add to content pane etc
    }

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {

        if (e.getSource()==this.button) {
            System.out.println(this.button.getText());
            System.out.println(e.getActionCommand());
        }
        else {
            System.out.println("something other event");
        }
    }
}
```

ButtonLabelDemo



Using ActionCommands:

```
public class ButtonClickListener implements ActionListener{

    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {


        String command = e.getActionCommand();

        if( command.equals( "OK" )) {
            statusLabel.setText("Ok Button clicked.");
        }
        else if( command.equals( "Submit" ) ) {
            statusLabel.setText("Submit Button clicked.");
        }
        else {
            statusLabel.setText("Cancel Button clicked.");
        }
    }
}
```



```
public class ButtonLabelDemo extends JFrame {  
  
    private Label statusLabel;  
  
    public ButtonLabelDemo() {  
        super("Button Label Demo");  
        this.setLayout(new GridLayout(3, 1));  
  
        JLabel headerLabel = new JLabel();  
        headerLabel.setText("Click on a Button");  
        this.statusLabel = new Label();  
  
        Panel controlPanel = new Panel();  
        controlPanel.setLayout(new FlowLayout());  
        Button okButton = new Button("OK");  
        Button submitButton = new Button("Submit");  
        Button cancelButton = new Button("Cancel");  
  
        okButton.setActionCommand("OK");  
        submitButton.setActionCommand("Submit");  
        cancelButton.setActionCommand("Cancel");  
  
        okButton.addActionListener(new ButtonClickListener());  
        submitButton.addActionListener(new ButtonClickListener());  
        cancelButton.addActionListener(new ButtonClickListener());  
  
        controlPanel.add(okButton);  
        controlPanel.add(submitButton);  
        controlPanel.add(cancelButton);  
  
        this.add(headerLabel);  
        this.add(controlPanel);  
        this.add(statusLabel);  
        this.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);  
        this.setVisible(true);  
    }  
    public static void main(String[] args){  
        ButtonLabelDemo demo = new ButtonLabelDemo();  
    }  
  
    // ActionListener (nested)  
}
```

```
private class ButtonClickListener implements ActionListener{  
  
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {  
        String command = e.getActionCommand();  
        if( command.equals( "OK" )) {  
            statusLabel.setText("Ok Button clicked.");  
        }  
        else if( command.equals( "Submit" ) ) {  
            statusLabel.setText("Submit Button clicked.");  
        }  
        else {  
            statusLabel.setText("Cancel Button clicked.");  
        }  
    }  
}
```



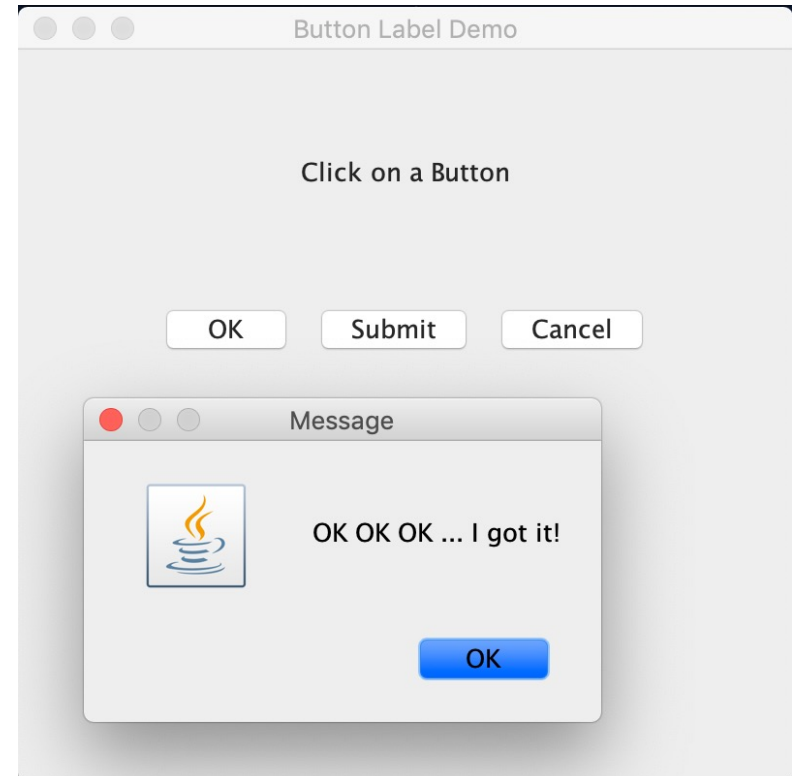
```

private class ButtonClickListener implements ActionListener{

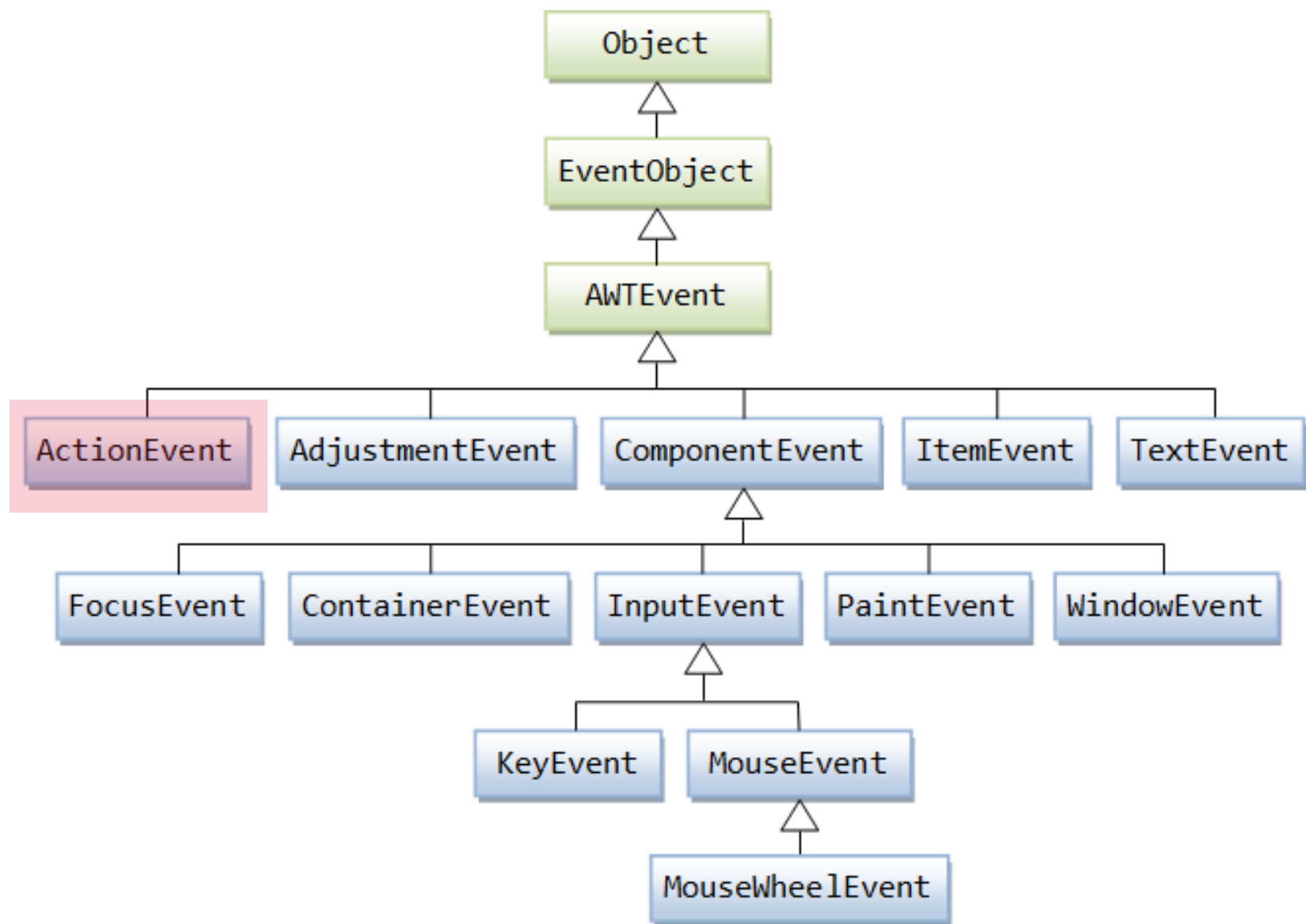
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
        String command = e.getActionCommand();

        if( command.equals( "OK" ) ) {
            statusLabel.setText("Ok Button clicked.");
            // open a dialog window
            JOptionPane.showMessageDialog((Component) e.getSource(),
                                         "OK OK OK ... I got it!");
        }
        else if( command.equals( "Submit" ) ) {
            statusLabel.setText("Submit Button clicked.");
        }
        else {
            statusLabel.setText("Cancel Button clicked.");
        }
    }
}

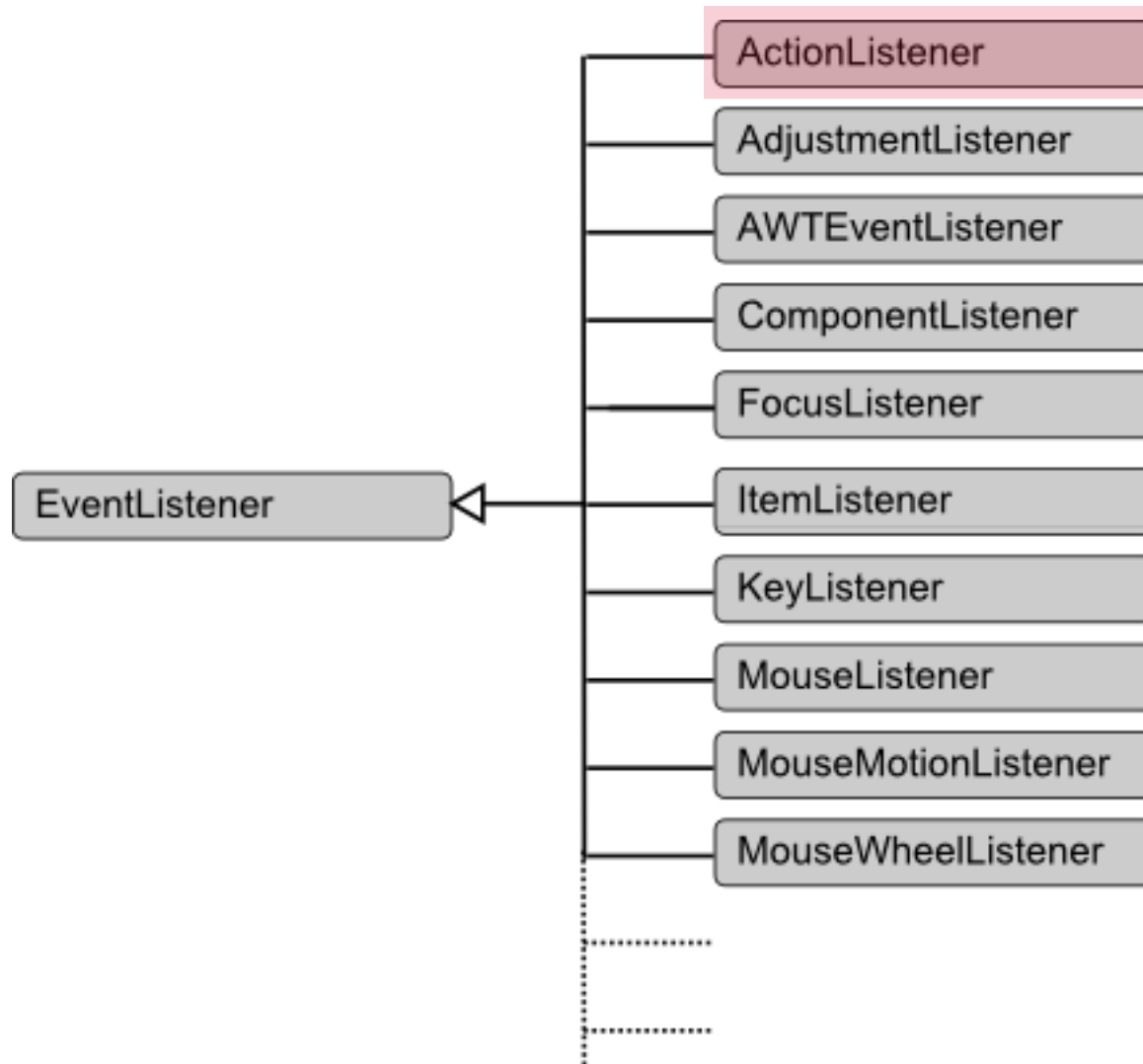
```



Events



Event Listeners (interfaces)



Event Listeners

User Action	Event Triggered	Event Listener interface
Click a Button, JButton	ActionEvent	ActionListener
Open, iconify, close Frame, JFrame	WindowEvent	WindowListener
Click a Component, JComponent	MouseEvent	MouseListener
Change texts in a TextField, JPasswordField	TextEvent	TextListener
Type a key	KeyEvent	KeyListener
Click/Select an item in a Choice, JCheckbox, JRadioButton, JComboBox	ItemEvent, ActionEvent	ItemListener, ActionListener

- Java Tutorials on Event Listeners:
 - <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/uiswing/events/index.html>
- More next lecture!