

Using Qt with pyside6:

At minimum:

Core run time:

- QApplication
- Qt event loop

Windowing:

- QWidget
- QLayout (QVBoxLayout, QHBoxLayout)

Widgets:

- QPushButton
- QComboBox
- QTextEdit
- QLabel
- QMessageBox

Events:

- Signals & slots

Threads:

- Threads.

Loop system:

This is python and not C so the main loop isn't declared explicitly, but written in the code as sys.exit(app.exec())

Internally Qt makes it run:

```
while (application running) {  
    wait_for_event();  
    dispatch_event();  
}
```

This loop: (If blocked OS freezes)

- Waits for mouse clicks
- waits for Key presses
- Waits for timers
- Waits for OS events

Creating a GUI step by step with inputs and outputs for embedded applications

This is a guide in python 8to easily create a interface which can operate in a Linux OS given the open source drivers are installed. This is a powerful set of tools to use since it allows to make a interface to robotics or instrumentation interface.

GUI_BUTTONS.py – L.S.D

<pre>import sys from PySide6.QtWidgets import QApplication, QWidget, QPushButton class MyWindow(QWidget): def __init__(self): super().__init__() self.setWindowTitle("Qt Geometry Learning") self.setFixedSize(600, 600) self.btn1 = QPushButton("Button 1\npos=(20,20)\nsize=(120x50)", self) self.btn1.move(20, 20) # x, y self.btn1.resize(120, 50) # width, height self.btn1.clicked.connect(self.on_btn1) def on_btn1(self): print("Button 1 pressed") if __name__ == "__main__": app = QApplication(sys.argv) window = MyWindow() window.show() sys.exit(app.exec())</pre>	<pre># import Qt # define class # initiate self -> class Mywindow #super() init # self.setWindowTitle("text") # self.setFixedSize(600,600) # self.btn1 = QPushButton("text", self) # self.btn1.move(x, y) # self.btn1.resize(w, h) # self.btn1.clicked.connect(FUNC) If __name__ == "__main__": (makes sure the code runs only when the file is executed directly not when imported). App = QApplication(sys.argv) Window = MyWindow() Window.show Sys.exit(app.exec())</pre>
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Using the code described above a simple GUI can be made which is rather limited, this GUI has button inputs which link them to a `print()` statement, this click can be linked to any operation such as a subprocess output which executes a bash file or a compiled C script as can commonly be seen using higher level languages to have access to lower level compiled machine code executions.

Key:

- `super().__init__()` → “initialize the QWidget part of my object”
- `__name__ == "__main__"` → “only run this when I launch this file”

GUI_BUTTONS_IN_OUT.py - L.S.D

<pre>import sys from PySide6.QtWidgets import QApplication, QWidget, QPushButton, QLineEdit, QLabel class MyWindow(QWidget): def __init__(self): super().__init__() self.setWindowTitle("Qt Input → Output Example") self.setFixedSize(600, 600) self.input_box = QLineEdit(self) self.input_box.setPlaceholderText("Enter a number") self.input_box.move(20, 20) self.input_box.resize(200, 20) self.btn1 = QPushButton("Submit", self) self.btn1.move(240, 20) self.btn1.resize(120, 40) self.btn1.clicked.connect(self.on_btn1) self.output_label = QLabel("Output will appear here", self) self.output_label.move(20, 80) self.output_label.resize(340, 40) def on_btn1(self): text = self.input_box.text() # read input self.output_label.setText(text) # display output print(f"Input received: {text}") if __name__ == "__main__": app = QApplication(sys.argv) window = MyWindow() window.show() sys.exit(app.exec())</pre>	<pre># import Qt # define class # initiate self -> class Mywindow #super() init # self.setWindowTitle("text") # self.setFixedSize(600,600) # self.input_box = QLineEdit(self) # self.input_box.setPlaceholderText("Enter a number") # self.btn1 = QPushButton("text", self) If __name__ == "__main__": (makes sure the code runs only when the file is executed directly not when imported). // so in a more practical sense for single action user inputs it can be defined only using these and can be expanded to multiple inputs with no interrupt handling: Key points: - Define input & format QLineEdit - Link action to function connect(self.on_btn1) - Link function to output QLabel So the button is defined and input box is defined and both are visible in the UI, the function on_btn1 to link the value n the input to a output executed by the btn1.</pre>
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So as can be seen this code is similar to the previous only with extra buttons, this can be used as a guideline to setting the buttons for the inputs. Its recommended to try moving around buttons and changing the widget size to get the hang of it. Its rather simple doesn't require much understanding to get working reliably.

<pre>PlotWidget.py L.S.D</pre> <pre># PlotWidget.py BY Lorenzo Daidone - MIT import sys from PySide6.QtWidgets import (QApplication, QWidget, QPushButton, QLineEdit, QLabel) from PySide6.QtCharts import QChart, QChartView, QScatterSeries from PySide6.QtCore import Qt class MyWindow(QWidget): def __init__(self): super().__init__() # ---- Window setup ---- self.setWindowTitle("XY Plot Example") self.setFixedSize(600, 600) # ---- X input ---- self.input_x = QLineEdit(self) self.input_x.setPlaceholderText("X value") self.input_x.move(20, 20) self.input_x.resize(100, 30) # ---- Y input ---- self.input_y = QLineEdit(self) self.input_y.setPlaceholderText("Y value") self.input_y.move(140, 20) self.input_y.resize(100, 30) # ---- Button ---- self.btn1 = QPushButton("Plot", self) self.btn1.move(260, 20) self.btn1.resize(100, 30) self.btn1.clicked.connect(self.on_btn1) # ---- Status label ---- self.output_label = QLabel("Enter X and Y, then press Plot", self) self.output_label.move(20, 60) self.output_label.resize(340, 30) # ---- Plot setup ---- self.series = QScatterSeries() self.series.setMarkerSize(10.0) self.chart = QChart() self.chart.addSeries(self.series) self.chart.createDefaultAxes() self.chart.setTitle("XY Plot") self.chart_view = QChartView(self.chart, self) self.chart_view.setRenderHint(self.chart_view.renderHints()) self.chart_view.move(20, 100) self.chart_view.resize(560, 480) # ---- Button callback ---- def on_btn1(self): try: x = float(self.input_x.text()) y = float(self.input_y.text()) self.series.append(x, y) self.output_label.setText(f"Plotted point: ({x}, {y})") print(f"Plotted: x={x}, y={y}") except ValueError: self.output_label.setText("Invalid input (enter numbers)") if __name__ == "__main__": app = QApplication(sys.argv) window = MyWindow() window.show() sys.exit(app.exec_())</pre>	<p>For a more useful system in this code the values get plotted, for a simpler work flow and less variables there will be a 2 inputs one defined as Y and one defined as X when the button is pressed the values are passed to a function which takes those values as a input for Qt widget display function. In this case its Qcharts functions.</p> <pre>#defenitions (as before + Qtcharts) # define class # initiate self -> class Mywindow #super() init # self.setWindowTitle("text") # self.setFixedSize(600,600) # X input only definition in code changes for maintainability</pre> <p># Y input same as X but location is different</p> <pre># status label</pre> <pre># Plot setup # self is the object used to define the scatter dots QscatterSeries # here we set a Qt function to the object for the scatter</pre> <pre># chart object from class self, Qchart Qt knows now it's a chart. # self.chart.addSeries(self.series) <- adds the values in the scatter to the chart</pre> <pre>#self.chart.setTitle() here the title is set.</pre> <pre># QchartView() <- here is how its viewed</pre> <pre># use .move() move the chart # resize to set the sizing</pre>
<p>This code is a good example for using inputs & outputs in the GUI, the main issue is everything is within the Qt thread meaning functions like input() which take a terminal input cannot be used in the QT thread like used in this code input since this code inputs are within the thread of the QT widget.</p>	

GUI_TERMINAL_INPUT.py – L.S.D <pre># GUI_TERMINAL_INPUT.py import sys from PySide6.QtWidgets import QApplication, QWidget, QPushButton, QLabel from PySide6.QtCore import QThread, Signal # ---- Thread that waits for terminal input ---- class TerminalInputThread(QThread): text_received = Signal(str) def run(self): text = input("Enter something in terminal: ") self.text_received.emit(text) class MyWindow(QWidget): def __init__(self): super().__init__() # ---- Window setup ---- self.setWindowTitle("Terminal Input (Threaded)") self.setFixedSize(400, 200) # ---- Button ---- self.btn = QPushButton("Get input from terminal", self) self.btn.move(20, 20) self.btn.resize(200, 40) self.btn.clicked.connect(self.on_button_pressed) # ---- Output label ---- self.label = QLabel("Waiting for input...", self) self.label.move(20, 80) self.label.resize(360, 40) self.input_thread = None def on_button_pressed(self): print("Button pressed → waiting for terminal input") self.label.setText("Check terminal and type input...") self.input_thread = TerminalInputThread() self.input_thread.text_received.connect(self.update_label) self.input_thread.start() def update_label(self, text): self.label.setText(f"Received: {text}") print(f"Received from terminal: {text}") if __name__ == "__main__": app = QApplication(sys.argv) window = MyWindow() window.show() sys.exit(app.exec())</pre>	# import QThread and previous modules # New thread define as class Terminal Input Text received = signal from terminal # define the functions linked to this thread # set up visuals as before # function once button pressed # get value
MAIN POINT: GUI thread → buttons, display Worker thread → blocking I/O Signal → safe communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuous terminal input • stopping threads cleanly • replacing input() with serial/socket • adding a queue instead of single values 	

Threads_continous.py

```
import sys
import time
from PySide6.QtWidgets import QApplication, QWidget, QPushButton, QLabel
from PySide6.QtCore import QThread, Signal

class Worker(QThread):
    value = Signal(int)

    def run(self):
        i = 0
        while True:
            time.sleep(0.5) # blocking here is OK
            self.value.emit(i) # send data to GUI
            i += 1

class MyWindow(QWidget):
    def __init__(self):
        super().__init__()

        self.setWindowTitle("Continuous Data Demo")
        self.setFixedSize(300, 150)

        self.label = QLabel("Value: 0", self)
        self.label.move(20, 20)
        self.label.resize(200, 30)

        self.button = QPushButton("Click me", self)
        self.button.move(20, 60)
        self.button.resize(120, 30)
        self.button.clicked.connect(self.on_click)

        self.worker = Worker()
        self.worker.value.connect(self.update_label)
        self.worker.start()

    def update_label(self, v):
        self.label.setText(f"Value: {v}")

    def on_click(self):
        print("Button still works!")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app = QApplication(sys.argv)
    window = MyWindow()
    window.show()
    sys.exit(app.exec())
```

import as before

define a new Qthread as work class, this will the continuous loop
define the object (value)

here the function is made
continuous adder

a sleep in this thread only affects this scope
here the value updates the interface

defined class as window

link value to object of class worker to my window(self)

This code demonstrates how to keep a constant thread running while having the GUI functional, this can be used in many cases such as streaming in data from a microcontroller or running other scripts which link to this one via a terminal input.

Main points:

- define a Qthread as a class
- link object through emit
- define class in window class
- update via function in window class

MCU serial communication: (Serial Module)

SERIAL_SIMPLEST.py	
<pre>import serial ser = serial.Serial(port="/dev/cu.usbmodem111401", baudrate=115200, timeout=1) print("Connected") while True: line = ser.readline().decode(errors="ignore").strip() if line: print(line)</pre>	<pre># import serial <- used to get serial data (USB) #define the port baud.. etc While(1) line = data on serial line (UTF-8) # 3 operations chained together to read bytes from serial port <- IMPORTANT</pre>
<pre>- Ser.readline() # reads from port stops for new lines (MCU -> \n) - .decode(errors = "ignore") # turns UTF-8 into python Unicode strings, ignore in case of corrupted data - .strip() # removes trailing spaces for cleaner prints</pre>	

SERIAL_SELECT_IN_SIMPLE	
<pre>import serial import serial.tools.list_ports # ---- List available ports ---- ports = list(serial.tools.list_ports.comports()) if not ports: print("No serial ports found") exit(1) print("Available serial ports:") for i, p in enumerate(ports): print(f"[{i}]: {p.device}") # ---- Select port ---- idx = int(input("Select port number: ")) port = ports[idx].device # ---- Open serial ---- ser = serial.Serial(port, 115200, timeout=1) print(f"Connected to {port}") # ---- Read loop ---- while True: line = ser.readline().decode(errors="ignore").strip() if line: print(line)</pre>	<pre># Serial + serial tools import # define the list not the port # debug print statement # print avail ports statement # actual ports # input() have a input port # ports[idx].device <- here it connects # setup dig parameters #Read loop</pre>
	This is rather important since it allows to use a usb as a input to be used in any python program, this!!! is very useful and I will have a specified file to also describe the drivers used.

Connecting Pyside6 with serial:

<pre>GUI_MCU_PRINT.py pt1 import sys import serial import serial.tools.list_ports from PySide6.QtWidgets import (QApplication, QWidget, QVBoxLayout, QHBoxLayout, QPushButton, QTextEdit, QComboBox, QLabel, QMessageBox) from PySide6.QtCore import QThread, Signal # ----- Serial Thread ----- class SerialReader(QThread): data_received = Signal(str) error = Signal(str) def __init__(self, port, baudrate=115200): super().__init__() self.port = port self.baudrate = baudrate self.running = True self.ser = None def run(self): try: self.ser = serial.Serial(self.port, self.baudrate, timeout=1) while self.running: line = self.ser.readline().decode(errors="ignore").strip() if line: self.data_received.emit(line) except Exception as e: self.error.emit(str(e)) finally: if self.ser and self.ser.is_open: self.ser.close() def stop(self): self.running = False self.wait()</pre>	<pre># import QT and Serial # create the signal thread # define port baud # sine the port changes</pre>
--	---

<pre># ----- GUI ----- class SerialMonitor(QWidget): def __init__(self): super().__init__() self.setWindowTitle("Simple MCU Serial Monitor") self.setFixedSize(600, 400) self.reader = None self.init_ui() self.refresh_ports() def init_ui(self): layout = QVBoxLayout(self) # ---- Port row ---- port_row = QHBoxLayout() port_row.addWidget(QLabel("Serial Port:")) self.port_combo = QComboBox() port_row.addWidget(self.port_combo) self.refresh_btn = QPushButton("Refresh") self.refresh_btn.clicked.connect(self.refresh_ports) port_row.addWidget(self.refresh_btn) layout.addLayout(port_row) # ---- Connect buttons ---- btn_row = QHBoxLayout() self.connect_btn = QPushButton("Connect") self.connect_btn.clicked.connect(self.connect_serial) btn_row.addWidget(self.connect_btn) self.disconnect_btn = QPushButton("Disconnect") self.disconnect_btn.clicked.connect(self.disconnect_serial) self.disconnect_btn.setEnabled(False) btn_row.addWidget(self.disconnect_btn) layout.addLayout(btn_row) # ---- Output ---- self.output = QTextEdit() self.output.setReadOnly(True) layout.addWidget(self.output)</pre>	
---	--

GUI MCU PRINT.py pt3

```
# ----- Logic -----
def refresh_ports(self):
    self.port_combo.clear()
    for p in serial.tools.list_ports.comports():
        self.port_combo.addItem(p.device)

def connect_serial(self):
    if self.reader:
        return

    port = self.port_combo.currentText()
    if not port:
        QMessageBox.warning(self, "No port", "Select a serial port")
        return

    self.reader = SerialReader(port)
    self.reader.data_received.connect(self.output.append)
    self.reader.error.connect(self.on_error)
    self.reader.start()

    self.output.append(f"Connected to {port}")
    self.connect_btn.setEnabled(False)
    self.disconnect_btn.setEnabled(True)

def disconnect_serial(self):
    if self.reader:
        self.reader.stop()
        self.reader = None
        self.output.append("Disconnected")

    self.connect_btn.setEnabled(True)
    self.disconnect_btn.setEnabled(False)

def on_error(self, msg):
    self.output.append(f"[ERROR] {msg}")
    self.disconnect_serial()

def closeEvent(self, event):
    self.disconnect_serial()
    event.accept()

# ----- Main -----
if __name__ == "__main__":
    app = QApplication(sys.argv)
    win = SerialMonitor()
    win.show()
    sys.exit(app.exec())
```