Software Design and Analysis CS-3004 Lecture#10

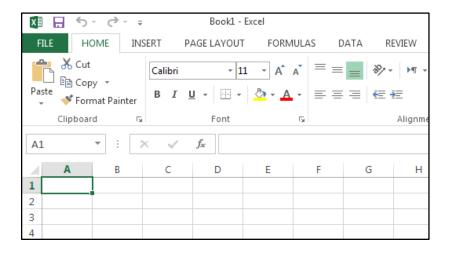
Dr. Javaria Imtiaz, Mr. Basharat Hussain, Mr. Majid Hussain



What is GUI in Java?

- GUI (Graphical User Interface) in Java is an easy-to-use visual experience builder for Java applications.
- It is mainly made of graphical components like buttons, labels, windows, etc. through which the user can interact with an application.
- GUI plays an important role to build easy interfaces for Java applications.

Graphical User Interface



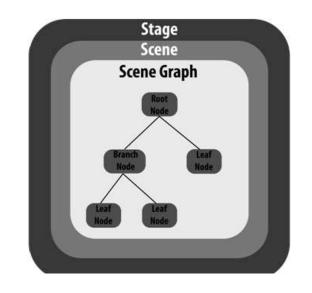


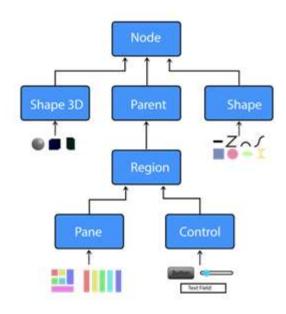




JavaFX

- JavaFX is the latest graphical user interface framework. It is a platform for making a really amazing looking GUI application.
- JavaFX is a Java library used to build Rich Internet Applications.
- The applications written using this library can run consistently across multiple platforms.
- The applications developed using JavaFX can run on various devices such as Desktop Computers, Mobile Phones, TVs, Tablets, etc..



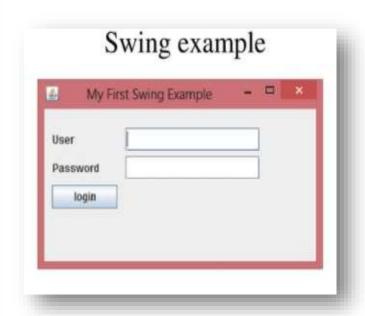


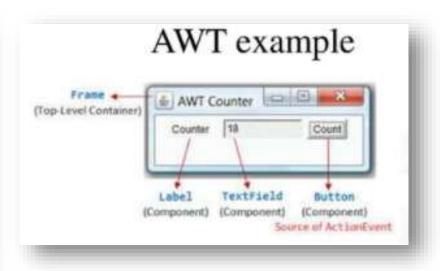
GUI Programming

- To develop GUI Applications using Java programming language, the programmers rely on libraries such as Advanced Windowing Tool kit and Swing.
- After the advent of JavaFX, these Java programmers can now develop GUI applications effectively with rich content.

JavaFX vs Swing vs AWT

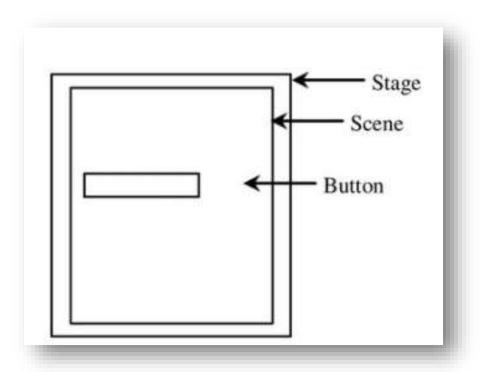




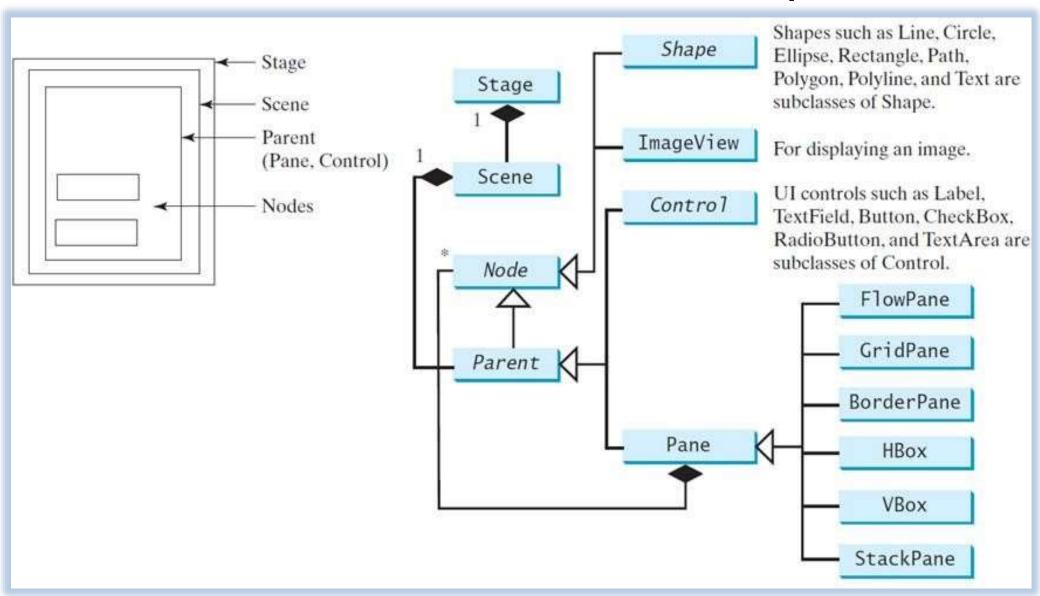


Steps to create a JavaFX Program

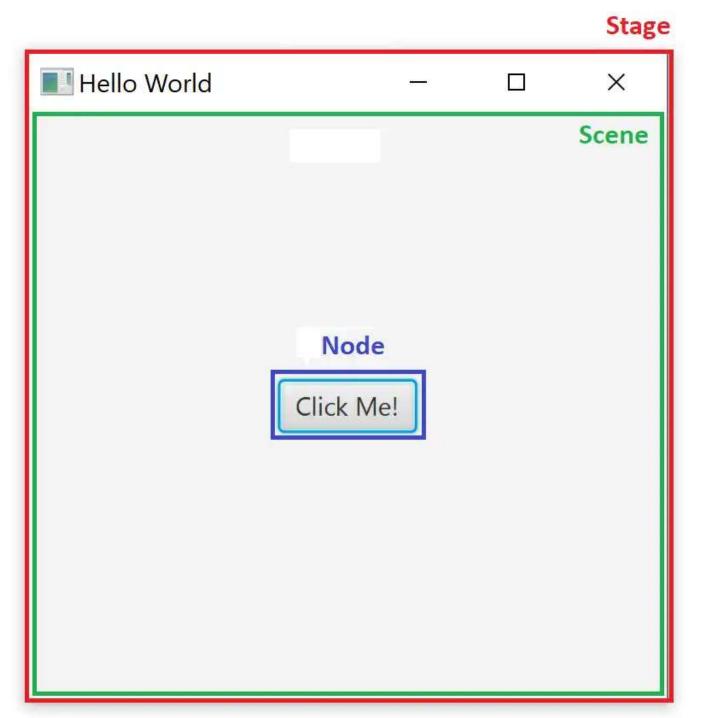
- 1. Extend **Application**
- 2. Override **start** (Stage)
- 3. Create **Nodes** (e.g., Button)
- 4. Place the Nodes in the **Scene**
- 5. Place the Scene on **Stage**
- 6. Show Stage



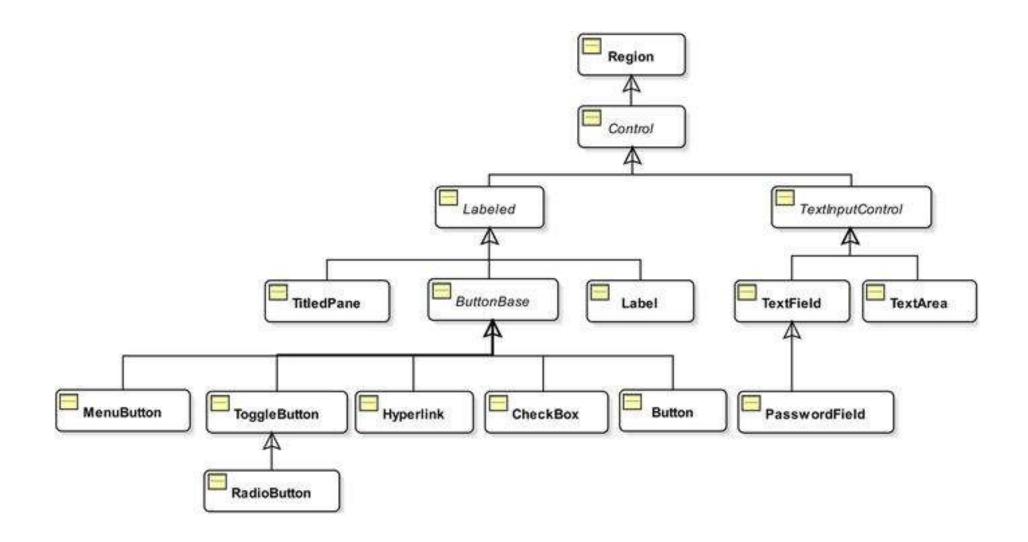
Panes, UI Controls, and Shapes



Example



UI Component



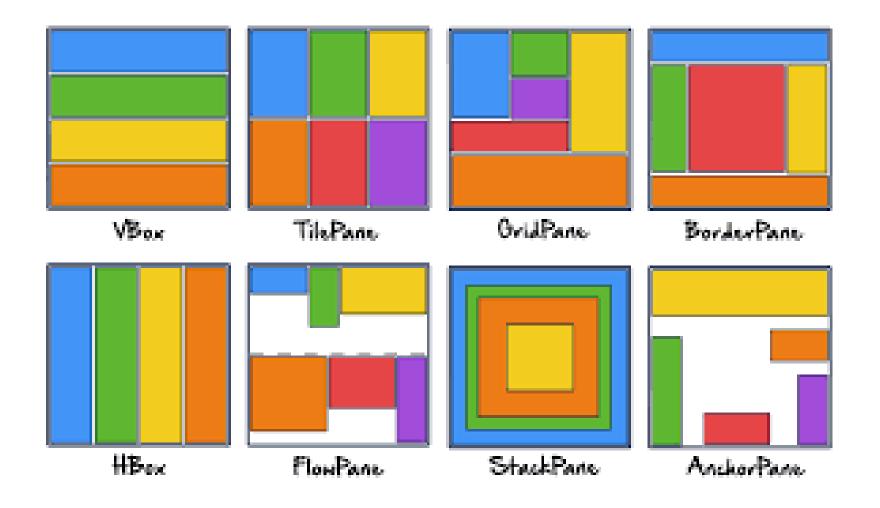
Main Building Blocks

- 1. Stage
- 2. Scene
- 3. Nodes
- 4. Event Handlers
- 5. Timelines and transitions for animation purposes

Layout Panes

Class	Description	
Pane	Base class for layout panes. It contains the getChildren() method for returning a list of nodes in the pane.	
StackPane	Places the nodes on top of each other in the center of the pane.	
FlowPane	Places the nodes row-by-row horizontally or column-by-column vertically.	
GridPane	Places the nodes in the cells in a two-dimensional grid.	
BorderPane	Places the nodes in the top, right, bottom, left, and center regions.	
HBox	Places the nodes in a single row.	
VBox	Places the nodes in a single column.	

Example

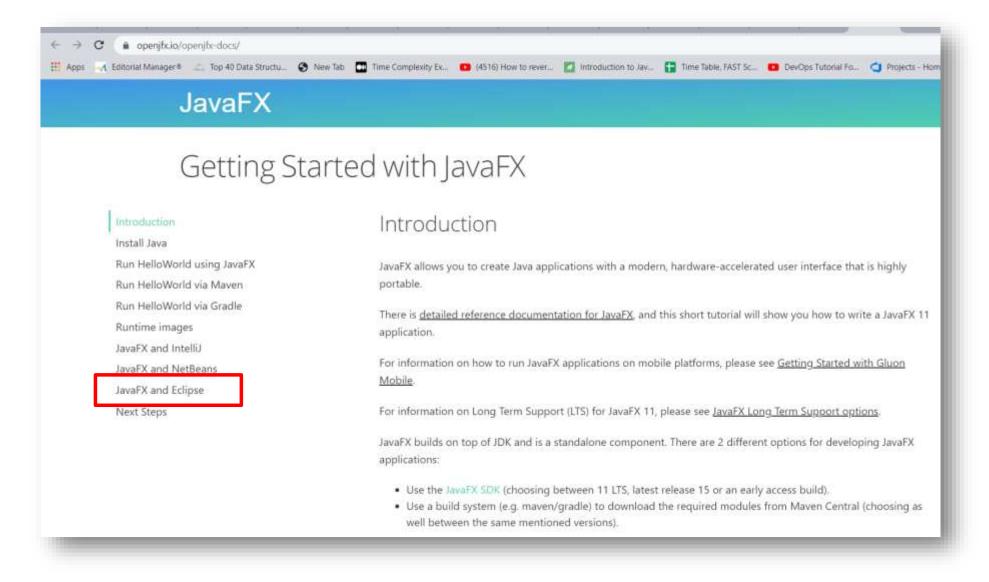


User Interface Code

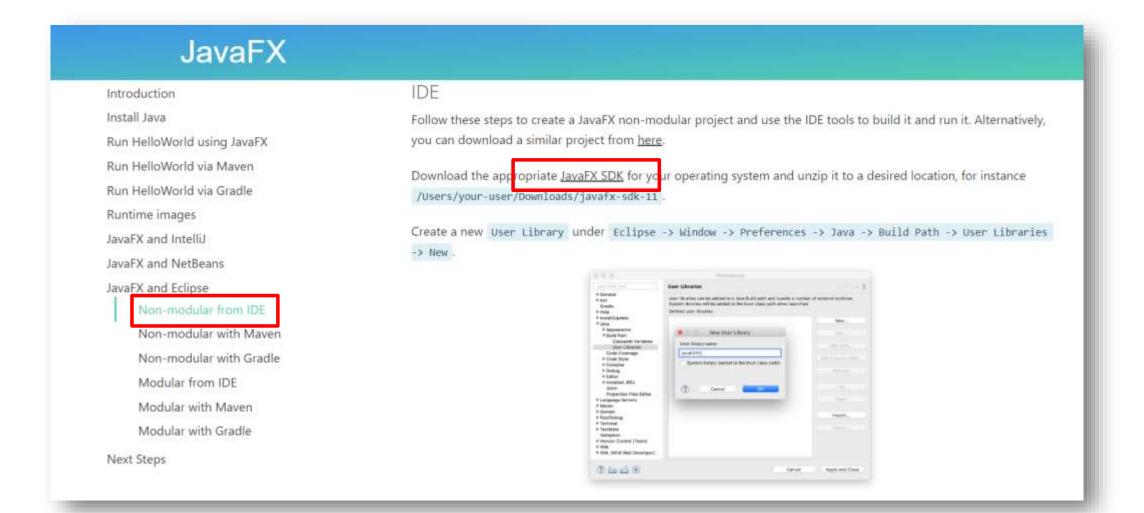
File->new->other->JavaFX project

```
import javafx.application.Application;
import javafx.stage.Stage;
import javafx.scene.Scene;
import javafx.scene.control.Button;
import javafx.scene.layout.BorderPane;
import javafx.scene.layout.StackPane;
public class Main extends Application {
   //Inside the main() method, we can launch our application using Application.launch().
   public static void main(String[] args) {
        Launch(args)
                         Main Frame
                                             GUI Widgets
   @Override
    public void start(Stage primarySta
        primaryStage.setTitle("My First JavaFX GUI"); //add some nice caption to our window.
        Button btnHello= new Button("Hello"); //Create GUI Elements
                                                     Select Layout
        StackPane layout= new StackPane();
        layout.getChildren().add(btnHello);
                                                                Container
        Scene scene1= new Scene(layout, 300, 250); //create
        primaryStage.setScene(scene1);
                                                Add scene in a primary stage
        primaryStage.show(); // It is hidden b, usualis.
```

Step#1: Download JavaFX SDK



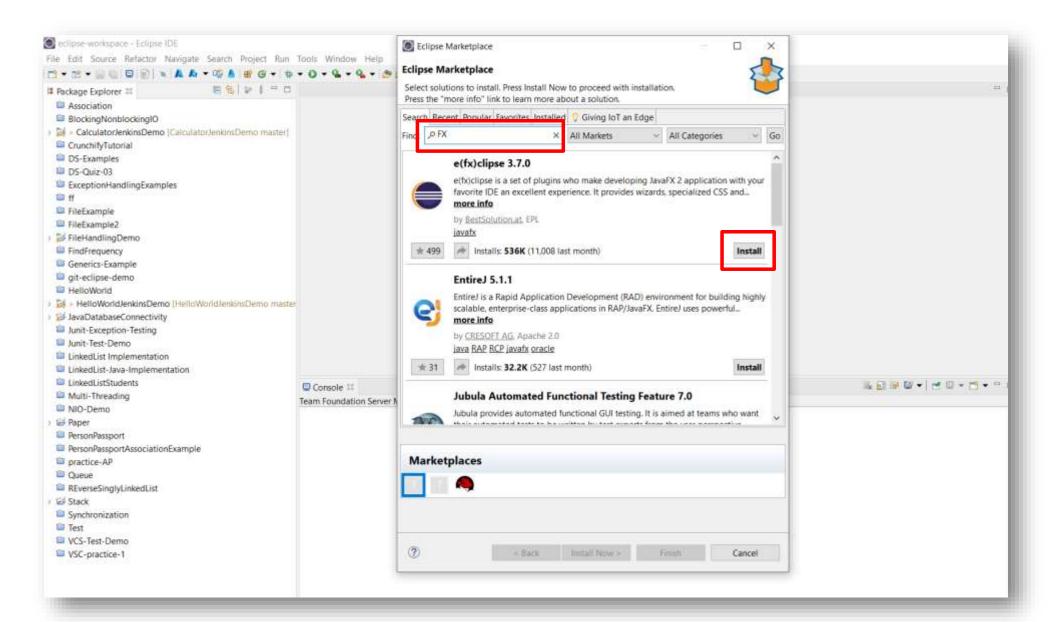
Cont..



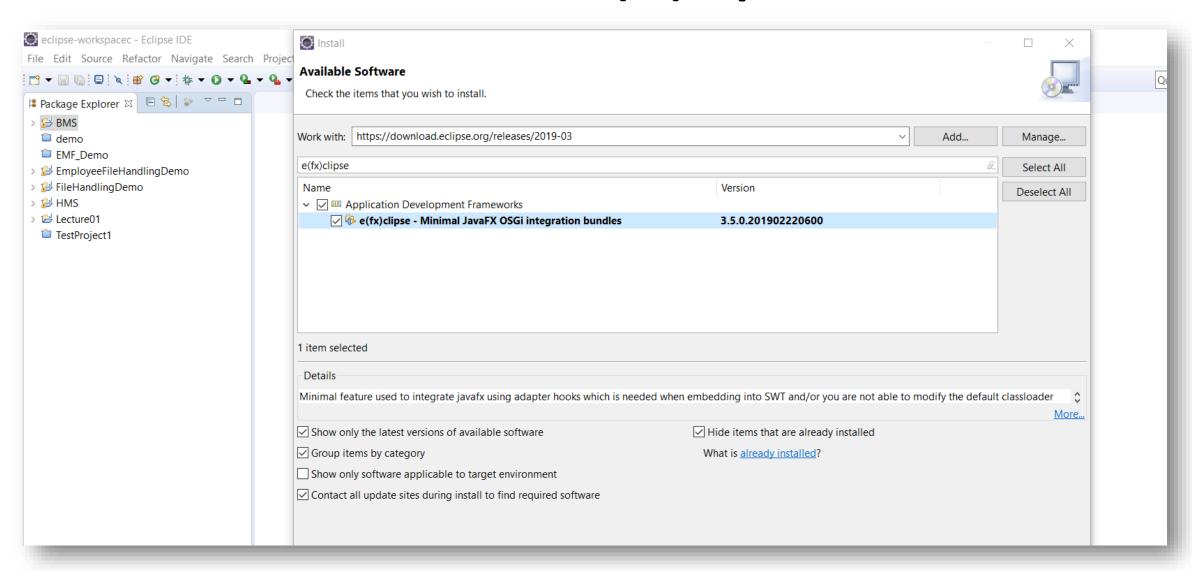
Cont..

Linux	17.0.1	arm32	SDK	Download [SRAZ56]
Linux	17.0.1	x64	SDK	Download [SRA356]
Linux	17.0.1	x64	jmods	Download (BIRA256)
Linux	17.0.1	x64	Monocle SDK	Downland ISR0256
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macOS	17.0.1	x64	Monocle SDK	Download [SEA256]
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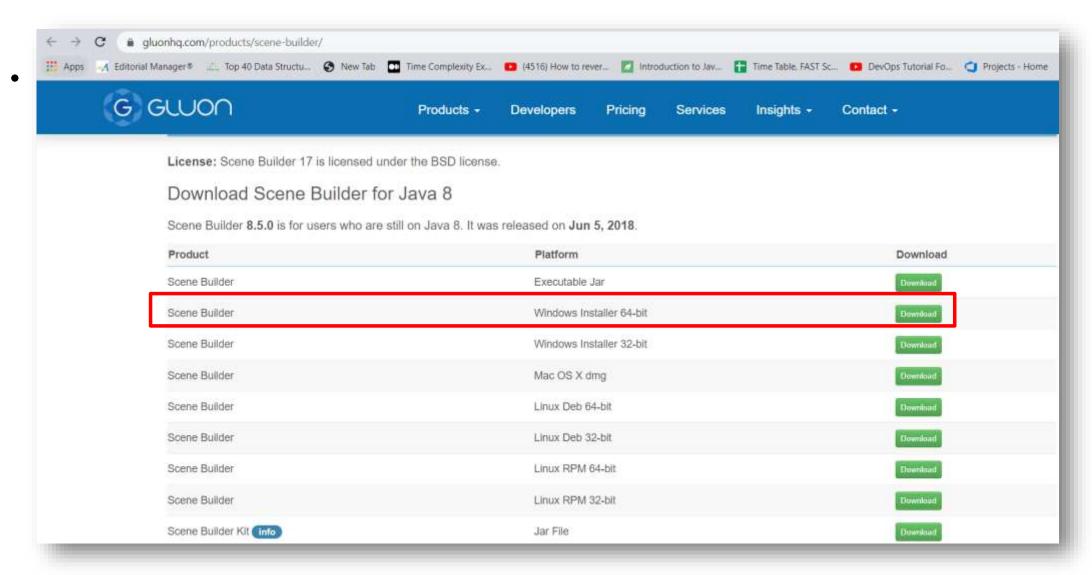
Install JavaFX



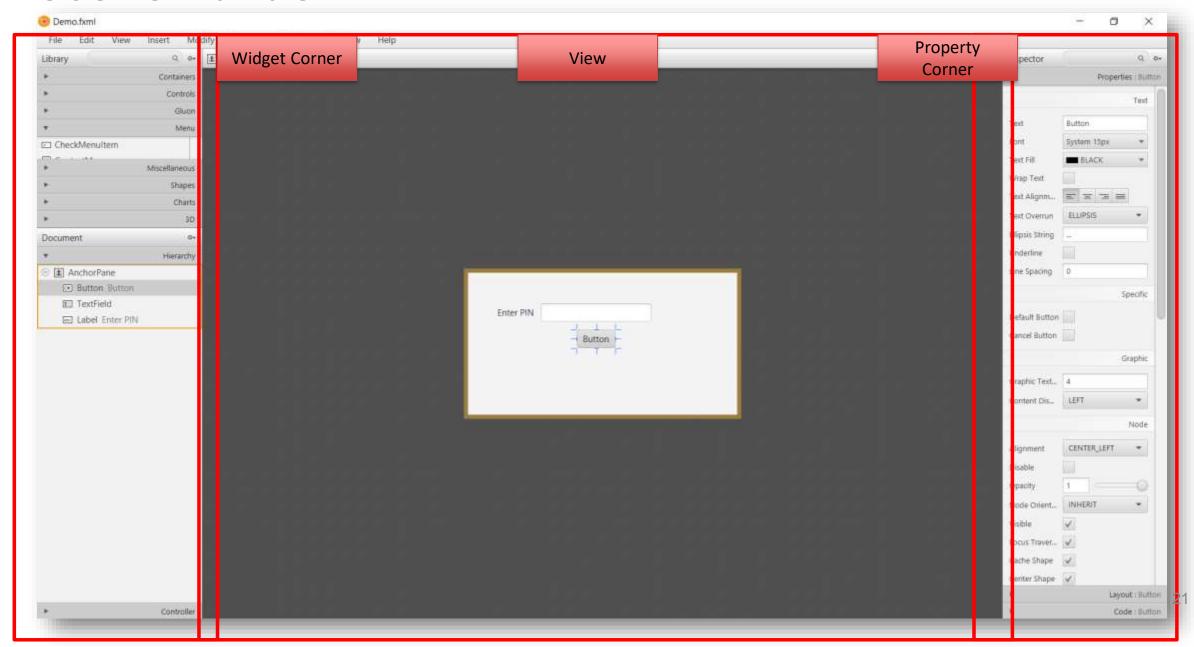
Search for e(fx)clipse



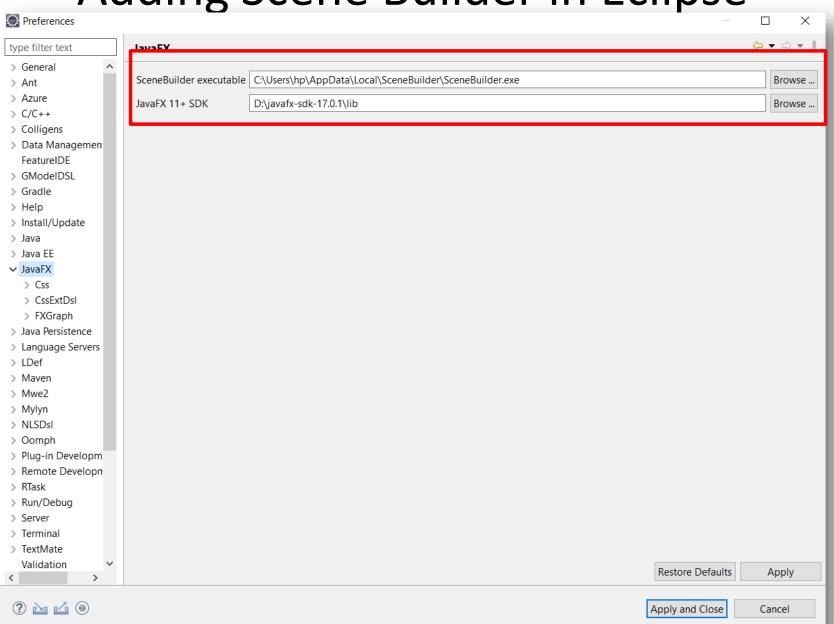
Scene Builder



Scene Builder



Adding Scene Builder in Eclipse

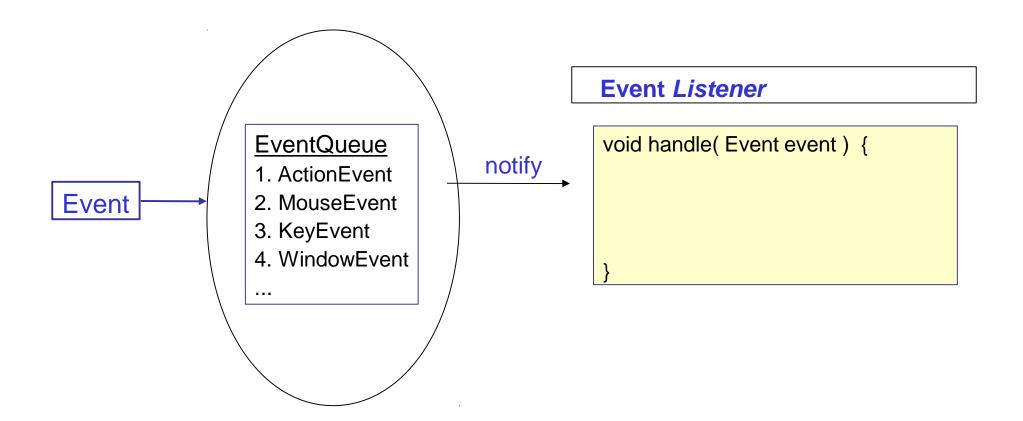


Event Handling in JavaFX

- Writing GUI applications requires that program control be driven by the user's interaction with the GUI.
- When the user moves the mouse, clicks on a button, or selects an item from a menu an "event" occurs.
- The javafx.event package provides the basic framework for FX events.
 - The Event class serves as the base class for JavaFX events.
 - Associated with each event is an event source, an event target, and an event type.

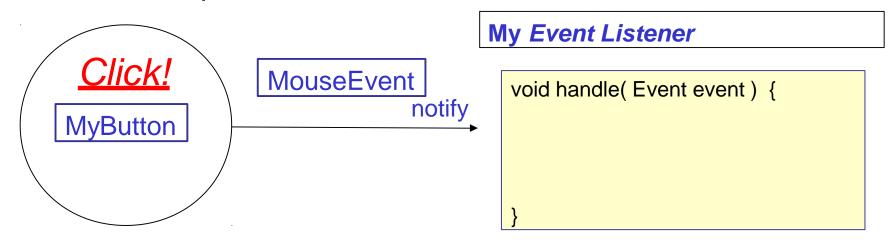
Event Driven Programming

- Graphics applications use events.
- An event dispatcher receives events and notifies interested objects.



Example

- 1. User clicks mouse on a button -- that's an *Event*.
- 2. JavaFX creates a MouseEvent object.
 - the MouseEvent describes what happened (which mouse button was presses, which field it was in).
- 3. JavaFX looks for a registered "*Event Listener*", and calls it using the MouseEvent as parameter.



JavaFX user interface

Responding to Behavior

Your application must *do something* when an event occurs.

Things you need to know

- what <u>kinds</u> of events are there?
- what user (or software) <u>action</u> causes <u>what</u> event? <u>how</u> do you write an event handler?
- how do you <u>add</u> event handler to a component?

Check the Event class API

All Events are subclasses of Event.

Event

- ActionEvent
- InputEvent

KeyEvent

MouseEvent

- WebEvent
- WindowEvent

Source of Events

- A component or node can be "source" of many kinds of events. Some event types are different for each node or component.
- Its not complicated! Mostly you can guess event types.

Button	ActionEvent (button press)
TextField	ActionEvent KeyEvent (Key Press, Key Release, Key Typed).
Any kind of Node	MouseEvent: MousePress, MouseReleased, MouseClicked, MouseDragged, etc. Rotation events, Touch events

What is an EventHandler?

JavaFX has just *one interface* for <u>all</u> kinds of Event Handlers. This is a lot simpler than Swing and AWT.

You have to write code to implement this interface.

<<interface>>

EventHandler<**Textends Event>**

+handle(event: T): void

Example: ENTER or Button click

1. User types his name and clicks a button (or ENTER)

Event type is: ActionEvent

```
class ButtonHandler
      implements EventHandler<ActionEvent>
  public void handle(ActionEvent evt) {
     String text = nameField.getText();
     // greet user using Alert dialog box
     alert("Hello, "+text);
     nameField.setText(""); // clear input
```

How to Add Event Handler

There are two ways.

- 1) addEventHandler the general way
- 2) setOnXxxxx convenience methods for specific event type, such as:

```
setOnAction( EventHandler<ActionEvent> e )
setOnKeyTyped( EventHandler<KeyEvent> e )
setOnMouseClicked( EventHander<MouseEvent> e )
setOnMouseMoved( EventHander<MouseEvent> e )
```

- - -

2 Ways to Add Event Handler (demo)

```
// 1. use addEventHandler:
```

button.addEventHandler(ActionEvent.ALL,new ButtonHandler())

// 2. use setOnAction
button.setOnAction(new ButtonHandler())

- Notice that the EventHandler is the same. The result will be the same, too.
- Both add Event Handler for ActionEvents.

You can re-use event handlers

- For clarity, or to <u>reuse</u> the same event handler on many components, assign new event handler to a reference variable first.
- Then use the variable in **setOnAction(...)**.

```
ButtonHandler greetHandler = new ButtonHandler();
// Now apply handler to components
button.setOnAction( greetHandler );
nameField.setOnAction( greetHandler );
```

Don't Create Duplicate Handlers

```
It is bad programming to create two objects to
do the same thing (greet the user).

// don't do this
button.setOnAction( new ButtonHandler() );
nameField.setOnAction( new ButtonHandler() );
```

4 Ways to Define an EventHandler

- 1. Define an (inner) class that implements EventHandler. We just did that.
- 2. Write it as anonymous class.
- 3. Write it as a *method* and use a *method reference*. Method reference is new in Java 8.
 - Works because Event Handler has only 1 method.
- 4. Write it as a *lambda expression* and use a reference variable to add it.

Event Handler as Anonymous Class

You must specify what interface you are implementing, including type parameter.

```
EventHandler<ActionEvent> buttonHandler =
 new EventHandler<ActionEvent>() {
    // anonymous class definition:
   public void handle(ActionEvent evt) {
      String text = nameField.getText();
      //TODO greet user using Alert box
      nameField.setText(""); // clear input
button.setOnAction( buttonHandler );
```

Avoid inline definition & use

This is hard to understand and hard to maintain.

Avoid it. Define the anonymous class *first*, then use it.

```
// This is harder to understand, especially
// when the anonymous class is long.
button.setOnAction(
 new EventHandler<ActionEvent>() {
    public void handle(ActionEvent evt) {
      String text = nameField.getText();
      //TODO greet user using Alert box
      nameField.setText(""); // clear input
```

Method as Event Handler?

Using SceneBuilder to assign event handlers we did not write inner classes or anonymous classes. We just wrote a method, like this:

```
@FXML
public void greetTheUser(ActionEvent evt) {
    String text = nameField.getText();
    //TODO greet user using Alert box
    nameField.setText(""); // clear input
}
```

SceneBuilder let us use a <u>method</u> as Event Handler, instead of <u>object</u>. **How?**

Method Reference as EventHandler

Write a method with the required method signature, but any name you like.

```
// Assign event handler using method reference
 button.setOnAction( this::greetAction );
 // this method signature "looks like" an
 // EventHandler, but the name is different
 public void greetAction(ActionEvent evt) {
   String text = nameField.getText();
   //TODO greet user using Alert box
   nameField.setText(""); // clear input
```

Lambda Expressions

Lambda Expression is an inline method definition, without a method name.

```
EventHandler<ActionEvent> buttonHandler =
    (event) -> {
        String text = nameField.getText();
        //TODO greet user using Alert box
        nameField.setText("");
    } ;
button.setOnAction( buttonHandler );
```

5th Way to Define Event Handler

You can define the controller itself as "implements EventHandler<T>" and use "setOnAction(this)".

```
class GreetController
      implements EventHandler<ActionEvent> {
    @FXML
    public void initialize() {
       button.setOnAction( this );
    public void handle(ActionEvent event) {
       // handle it.
```

This technique is not usually the best choice. You usually have many components which need custom event handlers.

Code for alert()

```
/**
* Display a dialog box with a string message.
* @param message the message to show.
public void alert(String message) {
  Alert alert = new Alert(AlertType.INFORMATION);
  alert.setContentText( message );
  alert.show();
```