

Chapter 4

Using Common Dialogs

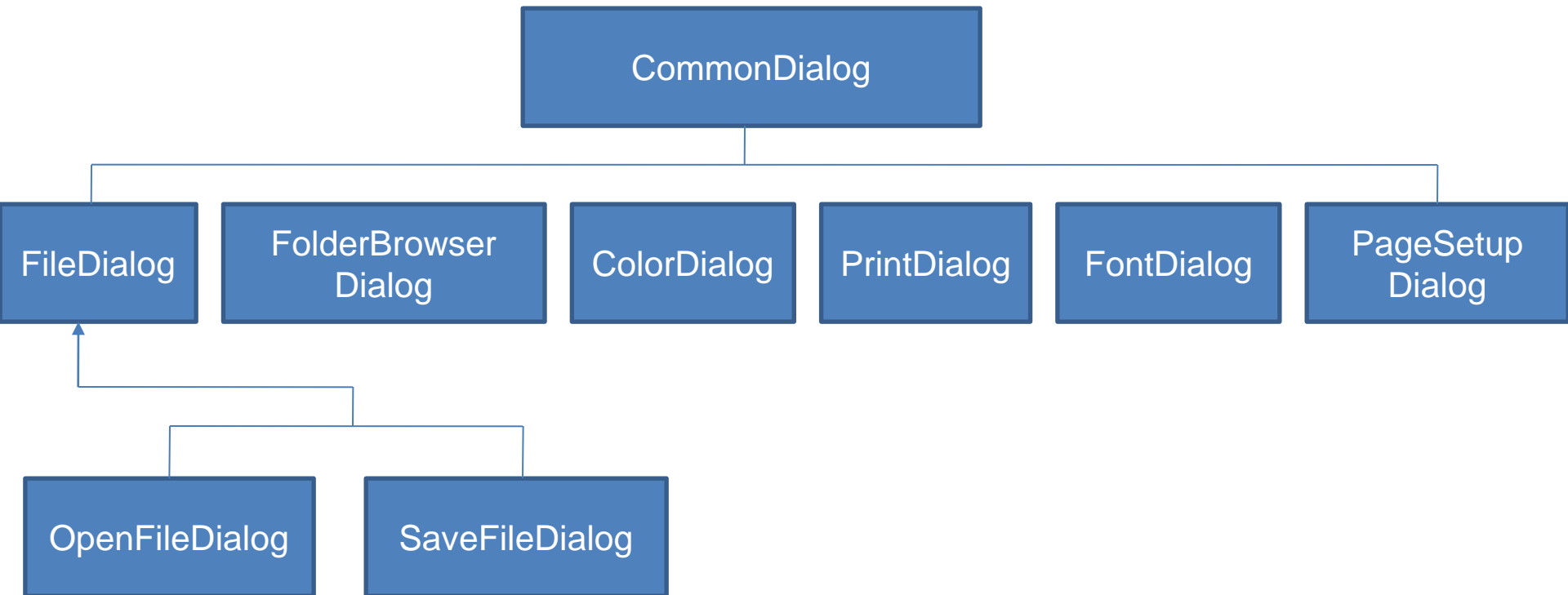
Objective

- To learn how to use standard dialog classes
 - OpenFileDialog and SaveFileDialog classes
 - Learning .NET Printing class hierarchy and PrintDialog
 - Using FolderBrowserDialog class

Common Dialogs

- Its a dialog which is used to get information from the user that most applications will typically require.

Common Dialogs



All these dialog classes internally wrap up a common dialog to make the dialog available for .NET application.

Common Dialogs

Methods and Events

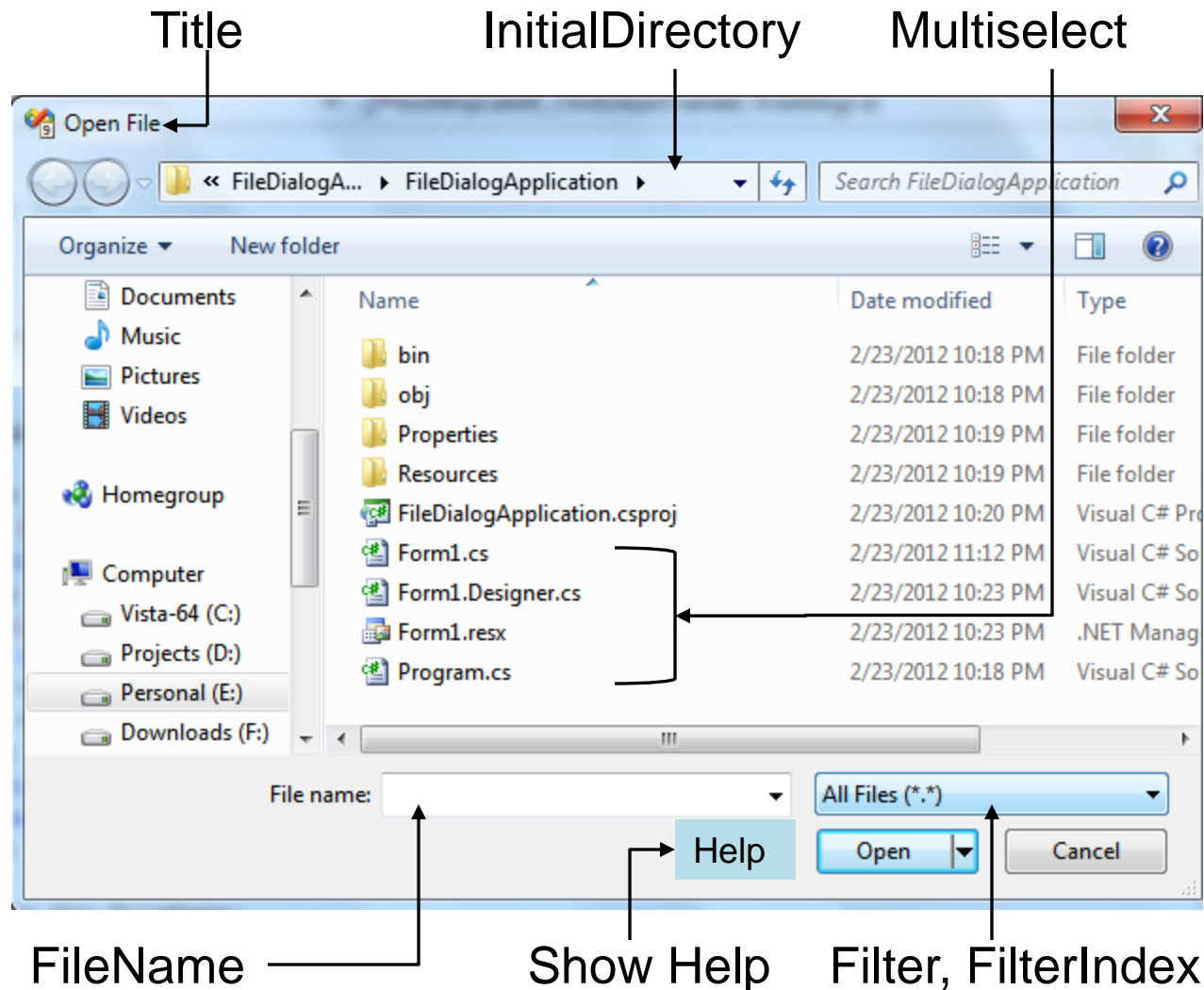
Name	Description
ShowDialog()	Derived class implements this to display a common dialog.
Reset()	Derived class implements this Reset method() to set all properties of the dialog class to their defaults.
HelpRequest	This event is thrown User clicks on Help button.

File Dialogs

Using File Dialog, one can browse a file from drive.
File name is the expected output.

- OpenFileDialog
- SaveFileDialog

OpenFileDialog - Properties



OpenFileDialog - Properties

- InitialDirectory
 - Default directory will be the last browsed directory. OpenFileDialog uses registry to locate the name of previously opened file.
 - Never use hardcoded directory string in your application.
- Filter
 - Filter defines the file types the user can select.
 - Can specify multiple values separated by pipe (|)
 - Two string are required to represent single entry
 - 1st specified the text presented in the list box
 - 2nd specifies the extension.
e.g. Rich text format (*.rtf) | *.rtf
- FilterIndex
 - Specifies default selection from the specified filters list box.

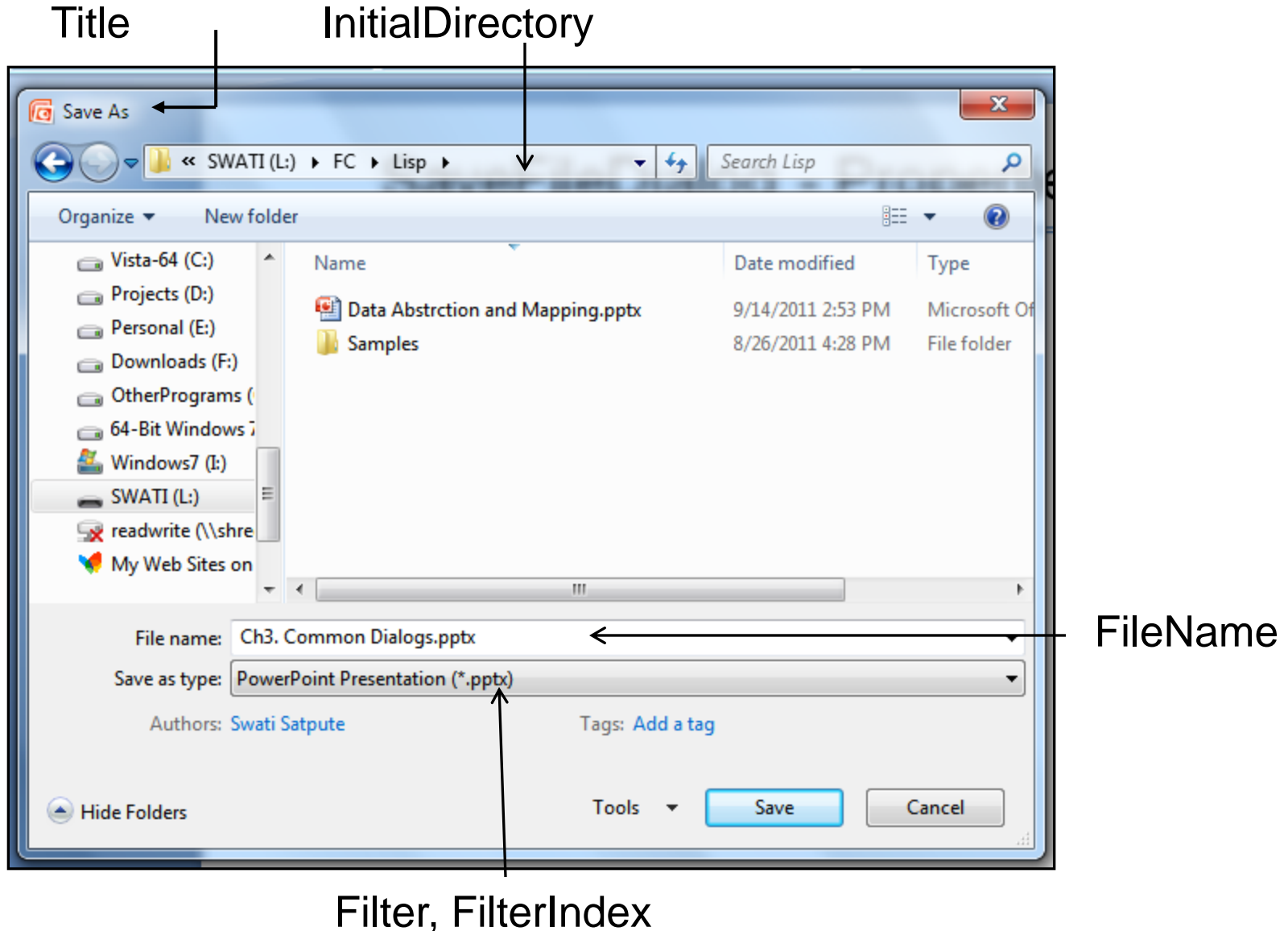
OpenFileDialog - Properties

- **ValidateNames**
 - Checks if the user given file name follows windows file naming convention. E.g. Checks for invalid characters like `\\`, `/`
- **CheckPathExists**
 - Verifies the path entered exists or not.
- **CheckFileExists**
 - Verifies the file specified exists or not.
- **ShowHelp**
 - Shows Help button on dialog. By default it is invisible.

OpenFileDialog - Properties

- DialogResult
 - It's an enumeration used to return dialog values.
 - Possible values are
 - a) Abort b) Cancel c) Ignore
 - d) No e) None
 - f) OK g) Retry h) Yes
 - OpenFileDialog uses only DialogResult.OK and DialogResult.Cancel
- FileNames
 - Collection of selected files
 - Last one selected will appear first in the collection.
- Multiselect
 - Specifies whether to allow multiple selection of files.

SaveFileDialog - Properties



SaveFileDialog - Properties

- **AddExtesion**
 - If true, automatically appends the extension to file name.
- **DefaultExt**
 - This value will be used if user doesn't specify extension.
 - If blank, then current selected filter will be used.
- **Overwriting Existing Files**
 - **CreatePrompt**, user will be asked if new file is to be created.
 - **OverwritePrompt**, user will be asked to overwrite an existing file.

File Dialogs - Demo

Summary

References

- Book referred “Beginning Visual C# 2010” by Wrox publication