

View in MVC

Dr. Youna Jung

Northeastern University

yo.jung@northeastern.edu

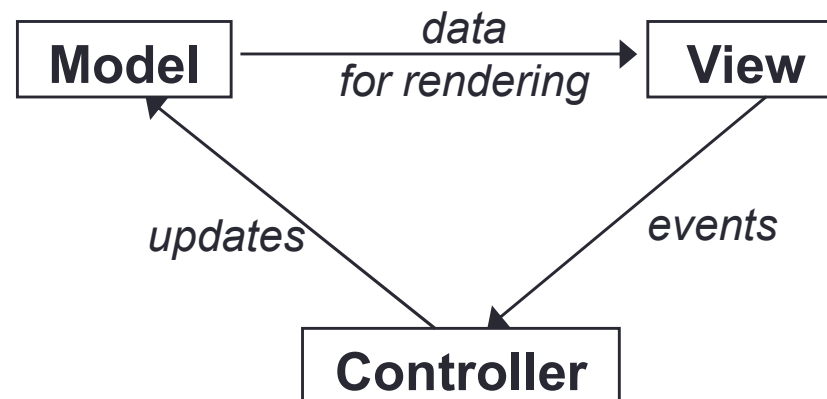


MVC PATTERNS

Model-View-Controller Pattern

□ Model

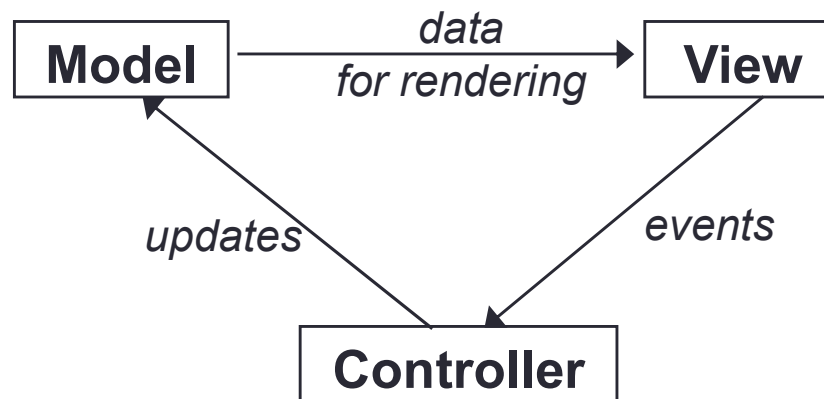
- ✓ **Classes** in your system that are **related** to the internal **representation** of **data** and **state** of the **system**
 - often part of the model is connected to **file(s)** or **database(s)**
 - Ex) **Card** game - **Card**, **Deck**, **Player**
 - EX) **Bank** system - **Account**, **User**, **UserList**
- ✓ **What it does**
 - **implements** all the **functionality**
- ✓ **Does not do**
 - does **not care about which functionality** is used **when**, **how results** are **shown** to the user



MVC Pattern

❑ Controller

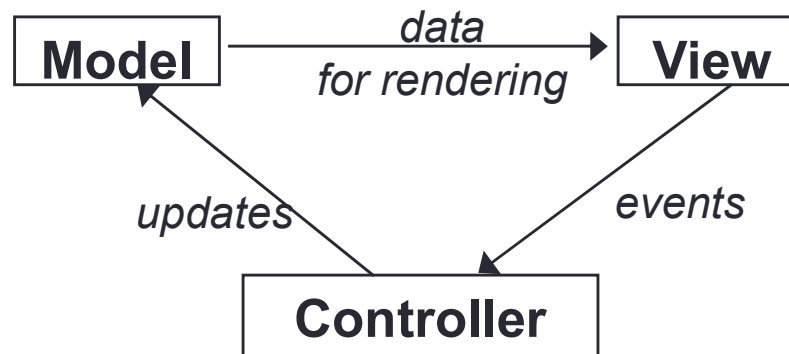
- ✓ **Classes** that **connect model** and **view**
 - defines **how user interface reacts** to user **input** (events)
 - **receives messages** from **view** (where events come from)
 - sends **messages** to **model** (tells what data to display)
- ✓ **What it does**
 - **Takes** user **inputs**, **tells model** what to **do** and **view** what to **display**
- ✓ **Does not do**
 - **does not care how model implements** functionality, screen layout to **display results**



MVC Pattern

□ View

- ✓ **Classes** in your system that **display** the **state** of the **model** to the user
 - generally, this is **your GUI** (could also be a **text UI**)
 - **should not contain** crucial **application data**
 - **Different views** can **represent** the **same data** in **different ways**
 - Ex) Bar chart vs. pie chart
- ✓ **What it does**
 - **display results** to **user**
- ✓ **Does not do**
 - **does not care how the results were produced, when to respond** to user action



VIEW

MVC Pattern

VIEW

- ❑ The **primary responsibility** is to **display information** to the user
 - ✓ ← **View** gets the **data** from the **model** (directly or indirectly) but **does not have** the **ability** to directly ~~change the data~~ inside the **model**.
 - ✓ **2 Ways** to display
 - **Console-based** output
 - **Graphical** outputs using a GUI
- ❑ **Design** of View
 - ✓ **(Traditionally) Controller** acts as the **client** for **both** the **model** and the **view** → **View** should **offer** an **interface** that **lets** the **controller** **call operations** on the **view**.
 - **Determine what** the **controller** needs to be able to **tell** the **view to do**. This may include providing it with relevant **data** to **display**, telling the **view** to take specific **actions** at **specific times**, etc.

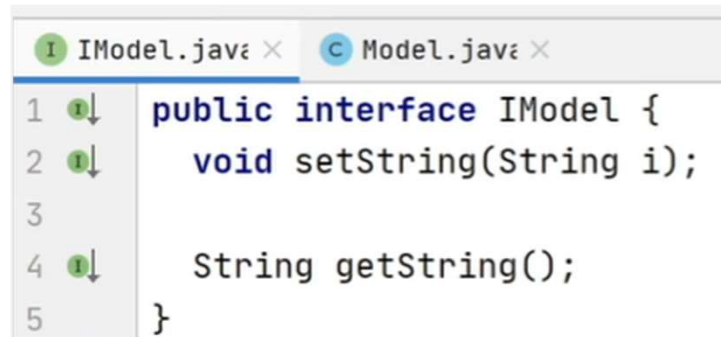
VIEW

- ❑ **Complication** on GUI-based View
 - ✓ **GUI** as being able to **both**
 - **display** information to the **user** **AND**
 - **offer** ways for the **user** to specify **input**
 - Taking inputs is the **Controller's responsibility**



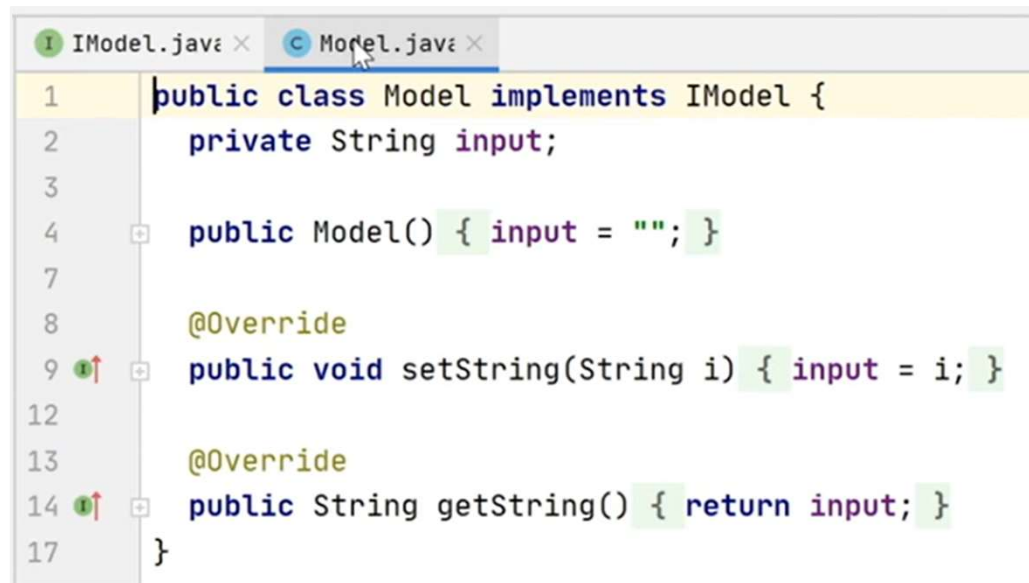
The **challenge** is to implement the **view** and **its communication** with the **controller** so that **responsibilities** are divided appropriately.

EX) Read a string and display: Model



A screenshot of a code editor showing the `IModel.java` file. The editor has two tabs: `IModel.java` and `Model.java`. The `IModel.java` tab is active, displaying the following code:

```
1 public interface IModel {  
2     void setString(String i);  
3  
4     String getString();  
5 }
```



A screenshot of a code editor showing the `Model.java` file. The editor has two tabs: `IModel.java` and `Model.java`. The `Model.java` tab is active, displaying the following code:

```
1 public class Model implements IModel {  
2     private String input;  
3  
4     public Model() { input = ""; }  
7  
8     @Override  
9     public void setString(String i) { input = i; }  
12  
13     @Override  
14     public String getString() { return input; }  
17 }
```

Controller

- 1) Tells the **View** to **show** the **currently** entered string
- 2) Tells the **View** to **show** the **options** to the user
- 3) Asks the **user** to **enter** an **option**
- 4) The **user** entered an **option**
 - 1) If a user select to **quit**, **terminate** the program
- 5) Tells the **View** to **show** a **message** to **input** a string
- 6) Takes the **string** as an input from the user
- 7) **Gives** the **string** to **Model**
- 8) Repeat

```
import java.io.InputStream;
import java.util.Scanner;

public class TextController implements IController{
    private Scanner in;
    private IView view;
    private IModel model;

    public TextController(IModel model,InputStream in,IView view) {
        this.model = model;
        this.view = view;
        this.in = new Scanner(in);
    }

    public void go() {
        boolean quit = false;
        while (!quit) {
            //tell view to show the string so far.
            view.showString(this.model.getString());
            //tell view to show options
            view.showOptions();
            //accept user input
            String option = in.next();
            switch (option) {
                case "E":
                    //ask for string input
                    view.showStringEntry();
                    in.nextLine();
                    String input = in.nextLine();
                    //give to model
                    model.setString(input);
                    break;
                case "Q":
                    quit = true;
                    break;
                default:
                    view.showOptionError();
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Text-based View

```
public interface IView {  
    void showString(String s);  
    void showOptions();  
    void showStringEntry();  
    void showOptionError();  
}
```

```
public class MVCExampleTextUI {  
    public static void main(String []args) {  
        IModel model = new Model();  
        IView view = new TextView(System.out);  
        IController controller = new TextController(model, System.in, view);  
        controller.go();  
    }  
}
```



```
import java.io.PrintStream;  
  
public class TextView implements IView {  
    private PrintStream out;  
  
    public TextView(PrintStream out) { this.out = out; }  
  
    public void showString(String s) { out.println("String: "+s); }  
  
    public void showOptions() {  
        //print the UI  
        out.println("Menu: ");  
        out.println("E: Enter a string");  
        out.println("Q: Quit the program");  
        out.print("Enter your choice: ");  
    }  
  
    public void showStringEntry() {  
        out.print("\nEnter the string to be echoed: ");  
    }  
  
    public void showOptionError() { out.print("\nInvalid opt  
}
```

```
"C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-11.0.7\bin\java.exe" "-javaagent:C:  
String:  
Menu:  
E: Enter a string  
Q: Quit the program  
Enter your choice: E  
  
Enter the string to be echoed: This is a text based view  
String: This is a text based view  
Menu:  
E: Enter a string  
Q: Quit the program  
Enter your choice:
```

Event-driven programming

□ How it works

- ✓ When a program is started → setup procedures and then **waits**
- ✓ When the user interacts with the program (**Event**) → the program springs into action → **performs** certain **tasks**
- ✓ Then goes back to **waiting**

□ Event

- ✓ Each **action** by the **user**
 - E.g.) clicking a button, selecting a menu item, typing text, etc
- ✓ could be generated **without any user actions** as well
 - E.g.) the program **auto-saves a file** after a fixed time interval, the program **auto-checks email** periodically, etc.

Event-driven programming

□ Design and Implementation

- 1) **STEP 1 - Identifying which events** the program should **react** to, and **what** that **reaction** should be
 - In GUIs, create the GUI layout and determine which user interaction the program should react to
- 2) **STEP 2 - Write** the **reactions** as code
 - Reactions can be **written** as **functions**
 - In **GUIs**, provide **callbacks** for the button clicks, menu item selections, etc.
 - **Callback** function – *“When the program is run, and you generate an event, call this function”*

□ Programs with a GUI are all **event-driven** (Reactive)

GUI Terms

❑ Frame

- ✓ A "window". It comes with a title bar along with the three buttons to minimize, maximize and close the window respectively.

❑ Pane

- ✓ The area inside the borders of the frame. The pane usually contains all the components of the GUI.

❑ Panel

- ✓ The pane may be divided into smaller regions, referred to as panels.

❑ Container

- ✓ A general-purpose entity that is capable of containing other things within it
 - Ex) A button can contain text or an icon
 - EX) A menu contains menu items

❑ Component

- ✓ General-purpose entity that provides some functionality (and usually fires events).
 - The same item (e.g. button) can function as both a container and a component).

STEP 1: GUI Design

- ❑ To create a window with a frame in Java Swing, we use the **JFrame** class.
 - ✓ to customize the frame → A subclass of **JFrame** → **JFrameView**
- ❑ **JFrameView()** constructs the visual layout of the window
 - Always call the constructor of **JFrame** → **super()**
 - ✓ **setSize()** → **setSize(600,300)**
 - creates a frame with a specific size
 - ✓ **setDefaultCloseOperation()**
 - determines the behavior when the "close-window" button is clicked
 - → **setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE)**
 - ✓ **setLayout()**
 - Determines the layout of the window → **setLayout(new FlowLayout())**
 - **FlowLayout()** arranges components in a directional flow
 - ✓ LEFT_TO_RIGHT or RIGHT_TO_LEFT
 - ✓ **setVisible()**
 - sets the window to be visible.
 - ✓ **Pack()**
 - packs the window to tightly enclose its contents

STEP 1



```
public class JFrameView extends JFrame implements IView {
    private final JLabel display;
    .....
    public JFrameView(String caption) {
        super(caption);

        setSize(600, 300);
        setLocation(400, 200);
        setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        // this.setResizable(false);
        this.setMinimumSize(new Dimension(300,300));

        this.setLayout(new FlowLayout());

        display = new JLabel("Write anything here");
        this.add(display);

        //the textfield
        input = new JTextField(10);
        this.add(input);

        //echobutton
        echoButton = new JButton("Echo");
        echoButton.setActionCommand("Echo Button");
        this.add(echoButton);
        //exit button
        exitButton = new JButton("Exit");
        exitButton.setActionCommand("Exit Button");
        this.add(exitButton);

        pack();
        setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

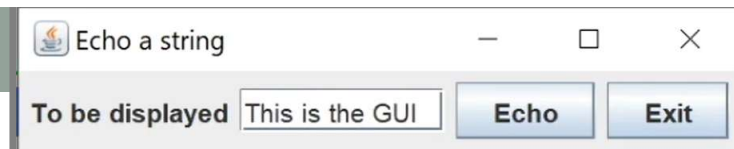

STEP 2: Implementation of Reactions

- ❑ To represent a **text-label**, **text field**, and **button** for input respectively

✓ Use the **JLabel** , **TextField** and **Button** classes

❑ **Button** Class

- ✓ Each **button** a unique **name** (called an **action command**)
- ✓ **When** a button is **clicked**
 - **Button** object **generates** an **ActionEvent**-type **event**
 - The corresponding **callback** is **in** the form of an **object** that **implements** the **ActionListener** interface
 - The actual **callback** function is **implemented** in **actionPerformed()**



1) View class with one **ActionListener**

```
class JFrameView extends JFrame implements ActionListener {
    public JFrameView(String caption, IModel model) {
        ...
        echoButton = new JButton("Echo");           // Create a button,
        echoButton.setActionCommand("Echo Button"); // set its command,
        echoButton.addActionListener(this);         // set the callback,
        this.add(echoButton);                       // and add it to the UI

        exitButton = new JButton("Exit");           // ditto, for another button
        exitButton.setActionCommand("Exit Button");
        exitButton.addActionListener(this);
        this.add(exitButton);
        ...
    }

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
        switch (e.getActionCommand()) {
            case "Echo Button": ...
            case "Exit Button": ...
        }
    }
    ...
}
```

2) View class with two ActionListener objects

```
class JFrameView extends JFrame {
    public JFrameView(String caption, IModel model) {
        ...
        echoButton = new JButton("Echo");           // Create a button,
        echoButton.setActionCommand("Echo Button"); // set its command,
        echoButton.addActionListener(new EchoButtonListener()); // set the callback,
        this.add(echoButton);                        // and add it to the UI

        exitButton = new JButton("Exit");           // ditto, for another button
        exitButton.setActionCommand("Exit Button");
        exitButton.addActionListener(new ExitButtonListener());
        this.add(exitButton);
        ...
    }

    private class EchoButtonListener implements ActionListener {
        @Override
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            //action for the echo button
        }
    }

    private class ExitButtonListener implements ActionListener {
        @Override
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            //action for the exit button
        }
    }
    ...
}
```

MVC-Compliant Design

- ❑ **refactors** the application to **follow MVC** design
 - ✓ contains a **controller** that effectively acts as the **callback** for the **buttons** in the **view**.
 - ✓ **main()** **creates** the **model**, **view** and **controller** → **passes M & V** to **C** (V no longer has direct access to the model)
 - ✓ During **initialization**, **C passes** itself as the **listener** for all the **V's buttons**
 - When the **button** is **clicked** → A **method inside** the **controller** is called → **C gets control over what to do next**

```

public class JFrameView extends JFrame implements IView {
    public JFrameView(String caption) { // NOTE: No model!
        ...
        echoButton = new JButton("Echo"); // NOTE: No action listener
        echoButton.setActionCommand("Echo Button");
        this.add(echoButton);

        exitButton = new JButton("Exit");
        exitButton.setActionCommand("Exit Button");
        this.add(exitButton);
        ...
    }

```

```

    public void setListener(ActionListener listener) {
        echoButton.addActionListener(listener); // Rather adding *this* as a listener.
        exitButton.addActionListener(listener); // add the provided one instead.
    }

```

```

    ...
}

```

```

public class Controller implements ActionListener {
    public Controller(IModel m, IView v) {
        this.model = m; //the controller has the model
        this.view = v;
        view.setListener(this); //controller tells view which listeners to use
        view.display();
    }

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
        switch (e.getActionCommand()) {
            case "Echo Button": ... // same code as before, but now
            case "Exit Button": ... // it's extracted out of the view
        }
    }
}

```

Adding Keyboard Inputs

- ❑ Let us **enhance** our application by **adding** the following features
 - 1) **Pressing** the **'D' key** toggles the color of the **echoed text** between **black** and **red**.
 - 2) **Holding down** the **'C' key** makes the echoed text **upper-case**, and **releasing** it **reverts** back to **the original case**.



- ❑ Need to **make** our **GUI** to **respond** to **keyboard events**
 - ✓ **Identify** an **object** that **listens** to **key events**.
 - ✓ **Add** it to the **GUI** somewhere so that it **always listens** for key events
Implement the above **functionality for** the **specific key presses**.

Adding keyboard inputs

□ KeyEvent

- ✓ Ex) **KEY_PRESSED**, **KEY_RELEASED**, **KEY_TYPED** (Pressed + Released)
- ✓ Need **callbacks** for **these events** in the **KeyListener** interface
 - Must implement a **KeyListener** object → **Connect** it **to** a part of the **GUI** so that it listens to these events

```
/**
 * The interface for our view class
 */
public interface IView {
    void setListeners(ActionListener clicks, KeyListener keys); //NOTE: the second listener

    /**
     * Toggle the color of the displayed text. This is an explicit view operation because this is
     * something that only the view can control
     */
    void toggleColor();
}
```

```
public class Controller implements ActionListener, KeyListener {
    private IModel model;
    private IView view;

    public Controller(IModel m, IView v) {
        model = m;
        view = v;
        v.setListeners(this, this); // This controller can handle both kinds of events directly
    }
}
```

...

@Override

```
public void keyTyped(KeyEvent e) {
    switch (e.getKeyChar()) {
        case 'd': //toggle color
            view.toggleColor(); //NOTE: method added in view interface
            break;
    }
}
```

@Override

```
public void keyPressed(KeyEvent e) {
    switch (e.getKeyCode()) {
        case KeyEvent.VK_C: //caps
            String text = model.getString();
            text = text.toUpperCase();
            view.setEchoOutput(text);
            break;
    }
}
```

@Override

```
public void keyReleased(KeyEvent e) {
    switch (e.getKeyCode()) {
        case KeyEvent.VK_C: //caps
            String text = model.getString();
            view.setEchoOutput(text);
            break;
    }
}
```


focusable

- ❑ **KeyEvents** are **captured only when** the UI part that the key listener is added to **is in focus**
 - ✓ → **Need** to **make** it **focusable** and calling its **requestFocus()** method.
 - ✓ → To **restore focus** from the controller, add a new method in the V
→ call it whenever a button is pressed.



```

public interface IView {
    ...

    /**
     * Reset the focus on the appropriate part of the view that has the keyboard listener attached to
     * it, so that keyboard events will still flow through.
     */
    void resetFocus();

    ...
}

public class JFrameView extends JFrame implements IView {
    ...
    @Override
    public void resetFocus() {
        this.setFocusable(true);
        this.requestFocus();
    }
    ...
}

public class Controller implements ActionListener, KeyListener {
    ...

    @Override
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
        switch (e.getActionCommand()) {
            //read from the input text field
            case "Echo Button":
                ...

                //NOTE: set focus back to main frame so that keyboard events work
                view.resetFocus();

                break;
            case "Exit Button":
                System.exit(0);
                //NOTE: no need to set focus, as the program is ending
                break;
        }
    }
    ...
}

```

Configuring Keyboard Shortcuts

❑ Drawbacks

- ✓ As **more key** shortcuts are supported, **Callback methods grow quickly**
- ✓ There is **no easy way to change** the **keyboard shortcuts** while still offering



Use **Map** object

- ✓ **Unify all** such **methods** as **Map objects** of **Runnable** interface
- ✓ **1 Map object** for **each** type of **key event** with corresponding **runnable-to-be-executed method**
 - **keyPressedMap, keyReleasedMap, keyTypedMap**

```

public class KeyboardListener implements KeyListener {
    private Map<Character, Runnable> keyTypedMap;
    private Map<Integer, Runnable> keyPressedMap, keyReleasedMap;

    /**
     * Set the map for key typed events. Key typed events in Java Swing are characters
     */

    public void setKeyTypedMap(Map<Character, Runnable> map) {
        keyTypedMap = map;
    }

    ...

    /**
     * This is called when the view detects that a key has been typed. Find if anything has been
     * mapped to this key character and if so, execute it
     */

    @Override
    public void keyTyped(KeyEvent e) {
        if (keyTypedMap.containsKey(e.getKeyChar()))
            keyTypedMap.get(e.getKeyChar()).run();
    }

    ...
}

```

```

public class Controller {
    private IModel model;
    private IView view;

    public Controller(IModel m, IView v) {
        this.model = m;
        this.view = v;
        configureKeyBoardListener();
        ...
    }

    /**
     * Creates and sets a keyboard listener for the view. In effect it creates snippets of
     * code as a Runnable object, one for each time a key is typed, pressed and released, only
     * for those that the program needs.
     *
     * Last we create our KeyboardListener object, set all its maps and then give it to the view.
     */
    private void configureKeyBoardListener() {
        Map<Character, Runnable> keyTypes = new HashMap<>();
        Map<Integer, Runnable> keyPresses = new HashMap<>();
        Map<Integer, Runnable> keyReleases = new HashMap<>();

        keyPresses.put(KeyEvent.VK_C, new MakeCaps()); //NOTE: see below
        keyReleases.put(KeyEvent.VK_C, new MakeOriginalCase()); //NOTE: see below
        ...

        KeyboardListener kbd = new KeyboardListener();
        kbd.setKeyTypedMap(keyTypes);
        kbd.setKeyPressedMap(keyPresses);
        kbd.setKeyReleasedMap(keyReleases);

        view.addKeyListener(kbd); //NOTE: view takes each type of listener separately
    }

```

```
class MakeCaps implements Runnable {  
    public void run() {  
        String text = model.getString();  
        text = text.toUpperCase();  
        view.setEchoOutput(text);  
    }  
}  
  
class MakeOriginalCase implements Runnable {  
    public void run() {  
        String text = model.getString();  
        view.setEchoOutput(text);  
    }  
}  
  
class ExitButtonAction implements Runnable {  
    public void run() {  
        System.exit(0);  
    }  
}  
}
```


Same Idea to Action Listeners (Buttons)

```
public class Controller {
    private IModel model;
    private IView view;

    public Controller(IModel m, IView v) {
        this.model = m;
        this.view = v;
        configureKeyBoardListener();
        configureButtonListener();
    }

    private void configureButtonListener() {
        Map<String,Runnable> buttonClickedMap = new HashMap<String,Runnable>();
        ButtonListener buttonListener = new ButtonListener();

        buttonClickedMap.put("Echo Button",new EchoButtonAction());
        buttonClickedMap.put("Exit Button",new ExitButtonAction());

        buttonListener.setButtonClickedActionMap(buttonClickedMap);
        view.addActionListener(buttonListener); //NOTE: view takes each type of listener separately
    }
}
```

Same Idea to Action Listeners (Buttons)

```
class EchoButtonAction implements Runnable {  
    public void run() {  
        String text = view.getInputString();  
        //send text to the model  
        model.setString(text);  
  
        //clear input textfield  
        view.clearInputString();  
        //finally echo the string in view  
        text = model.getString();  
        view.setEchoOutput(text);  
  
        //set focus back to main frame so that keyboard events work  
        view.resetFocus();  
    }  
}  
  
class ExitButtonAction implements Runnable {  
    public void run() {  
        System.exit(0);  
    }  
}  
}
```


Decoupling of Controller and View

❑ Limitations

```
public class Controller implements ActionListener, KeyListener {
```

- ✓ **Controller depends on View-specific interfaces, `ActionListener` or `KeyListener`**
 - ➔ **View-specific details leak out**
 - ➔ **Changing the `view` implementation may cause changes in the `Controller`**

❑ High-level **capabilities** of **View**

- ✓ **Echo** on (some part of) the view a string
- ✓ **Toggle** the **color** of the text shown by (some part of) the view
- ✓ **Display** the **text** shown by (some part of) the view in upper case
- ✓ **Restore** the **case** of the text displayed by (some part of) the view
- ✓ **Exit** the program



Encapsulate each as a **callback function in a **common interface****

```
public interface Features {
    void echoOutput(String typed);
    void toggleColor();
    void makeUppercase();
    void restoreLowercase();
    void exitProgram();
}
```

```
public class Controller implements Features {
    private IModel model;
    private IView view;

    public Controller(IModel m) {
        model = m;
    }

    public void setView(IView v) {
        view = v;
        //provide view with all the callbacks
        view.addFeatures(this);
    }
    ...
}

/**
 * The interface for our view class
 */
public interface IView {
    ...

    void addFeatures(Features features); //NOTE: this replaces addListeners(..)
}
```

```

@Override
public void addFeatures(Features features) {
    //connect echoOutput callback to the clicking of the echo button
    echoButton.addActionListener(l->features.echoOutput(input.getText()));

    //NOTE: connect exitProgram to the clicking of the exit button
    exitButton.addActionListener(l->features.exitProgram());
    this.addKeyListener(
        new KeyListener() {

            @Override
            public void keyTyped(KeyEvent e) {
                if (e.getKeyChar()=='d') {
                    //NOTE: connect toggleColor callback to typing 'd'

                    features.toggleColor();
                }
            }

            @Override
            public void keyPressed(KeyEvent e) {
                if (e.getKeyCode()==KeyEvent.VK_C) {
                    //NOTE: connect makeUppercase callback to pressing 'c'

                    features.makeUppercase();
                }
            }

            @Override
            public void keyReleased(KeyEvent e) {
                if (e.getKeyCode()==KeyEvent.VK_C) {
                    //NOTE: connect restoreLowercase callback to releasing 'c'

                    features.restoreLowercase();
                }
            }
        }
    );
}

```