



CMPS 251

Read Chapter 12
and 13



Graphical User Interfaces (GUI)



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Outline

- Commonly used JavaFX UI Components
- Properties and Bindings

Commonly used JavaFX UI Components

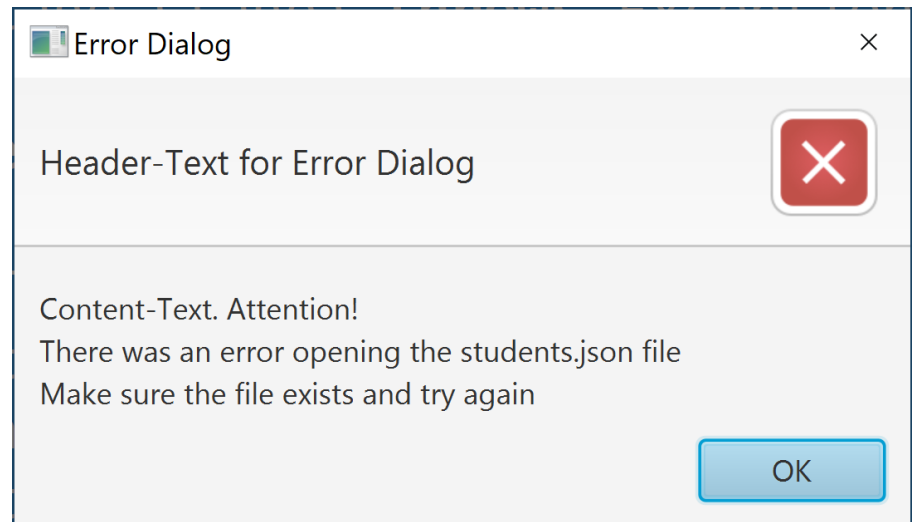


Commonly used JavaFX UI Components

- Label, Button, RadioButton, ToggleButton
- CheckBox, ChoiceBox
- TextField, PasswordField, TextArea, Hyperlink
- ListView, TableView
- MenuBar, MenuButton, ContextMenu, ToolBar
- ImageView, Audio Player, Video Player
- ... see posted examples ...

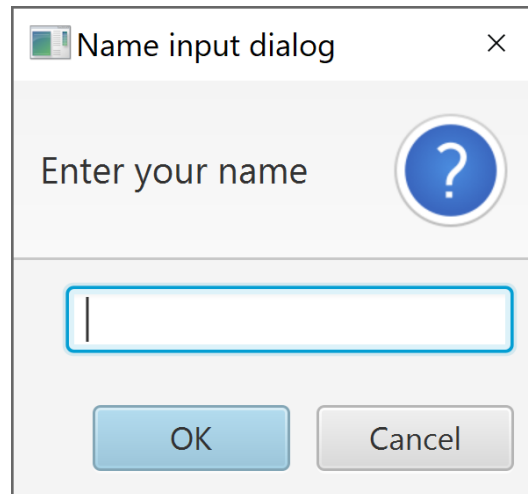
Info/Warn/Error Dialog

```
public void start(Stage stage) throws Exception
{
    Alert alert = new Alert(AlertType.ERROR);
    alert.setTitle("Error Dialog");
    alert.setHeaderText("Header-Text for Error Dialog");
    alert.setContentText("Content-Text. Attention!\n" +
        "There was an error opening the students.json file\n" +
        "Make sure the file exists and try again");
    alert.showAndWait();
}
```



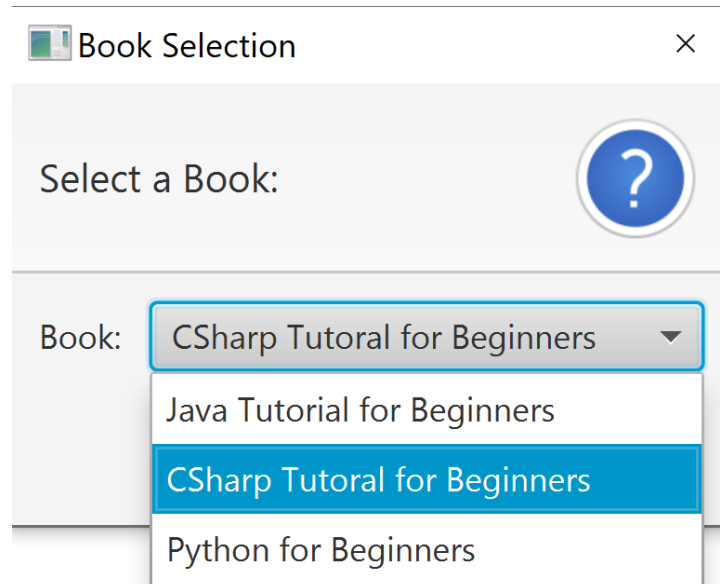
Input Dialog

```
public void start(Stage stage) throws Exception
{
    TextInputDialog dialog = new TextInputDialog();
    dialog.setTitle("Name input dialog");
    dialog.setHeaderText("Enter your name");
    Optional<String> result = dialog.showAndWait();
    result.ifPresent(name ->
        System.out.println("Your name: " + name));
}
```



Choice Dialog

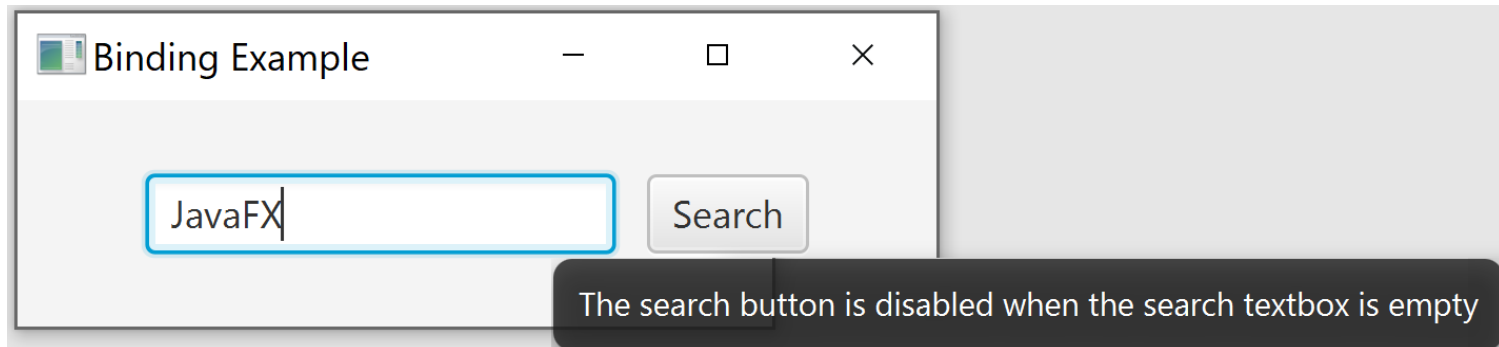
```
List<Book> books = List.of(java, csharp, python);  
Book defaultBook = csharp;  
ChoiceDialog<Book> dialog = new ChoiceDialog<Book>(defaultBook, books);  
dialog.setTitle("Book Selection");  
dialog.setHeaderText("Select a Book:");  
dialog.setContentText("Book:");  
Optional<Book> result = dialog.showAndWait();  
result.ifPresent(book -> System.out.println(book.getName())) );
```



Tool Tips

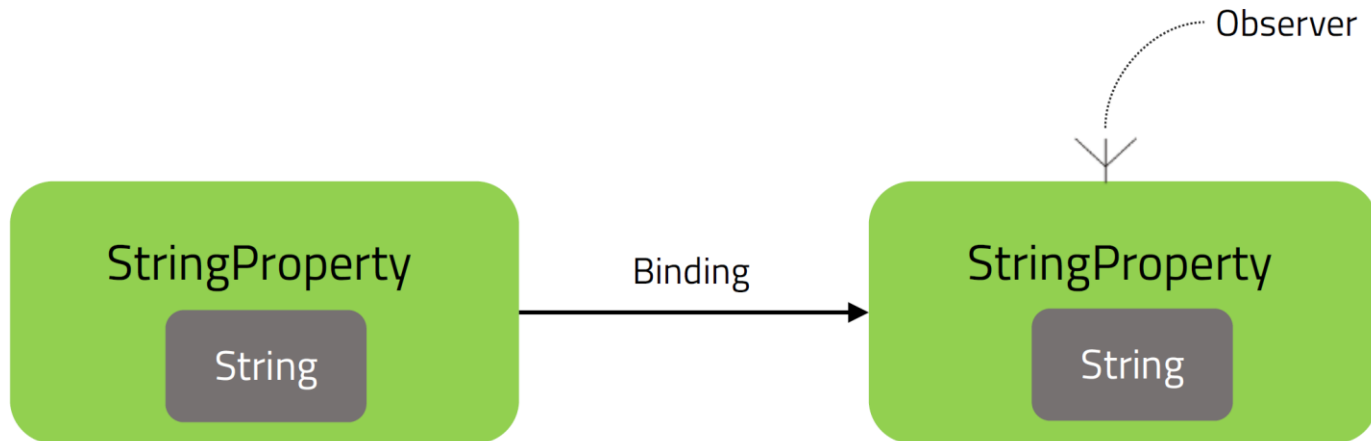
- A *tool tip* provides a short pop-up description when the mouse cursor rests momentarily on a component
- A tool tip is assigned using the `setTooltip` method of a JavaFX control

```
Tooltip tip = new Tooltip("The search button is  
disabled when the search textbox is empty");  
searchButton.setTooltip(tip);
```





Properties and Bindings



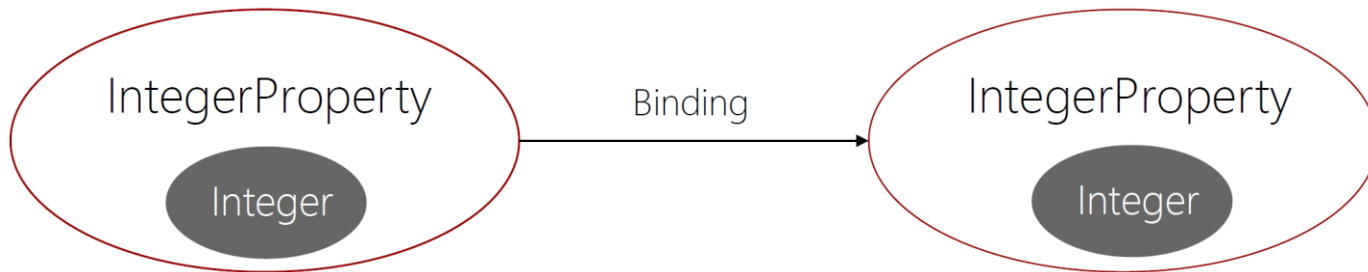
Excel is an excellent example ...

Properties

- A JavaFX *property* is an object that holds a value
- A property is **observable**: when a property's value changes, other objects can respond accordingly
- So, instead of holding an `int` value in integer primitive type, make it a **property** and store in `IntegerProperty` object
- Most values of JavaFX classes, such as the width of a `TextField`, are stored as properties
- A key benefit of properties is **property binding**

Property Binding

- Property binding enables propagating changes
 - The target listens for changes in the source and updates itself when the source changes
 - Binding syntax: `target.bind(source);`



```
IntegerProperty num1 = new SimpleIntegerProperty(1);
IntegerProperty num2 = new SimpleIntegerProperty(2);
num1.bind(num2);
System.out.println("num1 is " + num1.getValue()
    + " and num2 is " + num2.getValue());

num2.setValue(15); //Changing num2 will auto-update num1

System.out.println("num1 is " + num1.getValue()
    + " and num2 is " + num2.getValue());
```

Property Binding

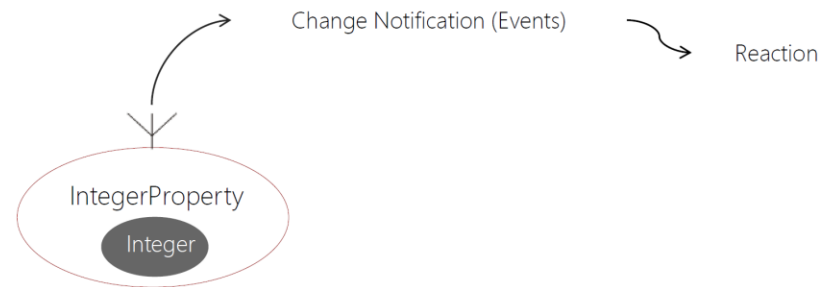


- A pair of simple integer property objects (not int values) are created with different values. Then one is **bound** to the other
 - If the value of one is changed then the other will also be changed.

- Can also listen to value change events

```
intProp.addListener((prop, oldVal, newVal) ->  
    System.out.println(oldVal+ " "+ newVal));
```

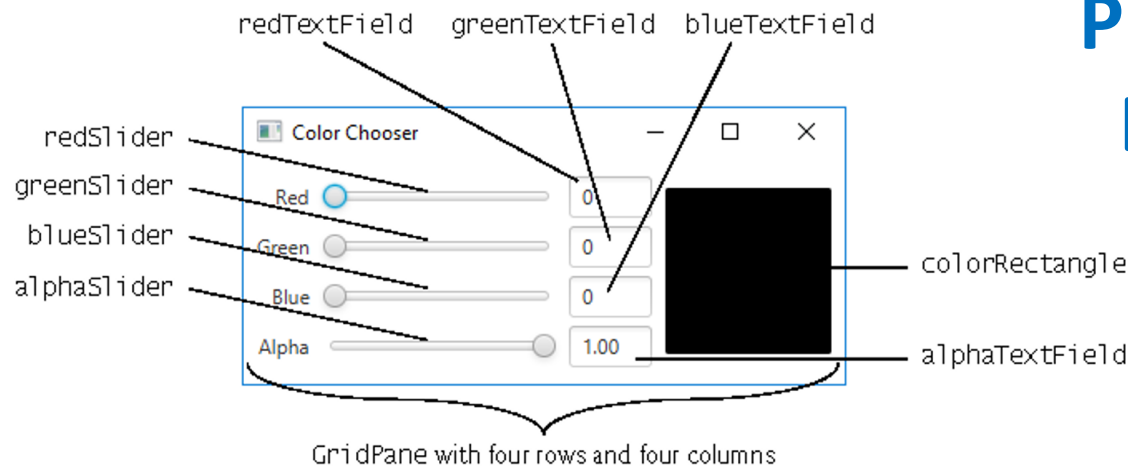
- Property Binding is used to **synchronize** the UI and the associated objects



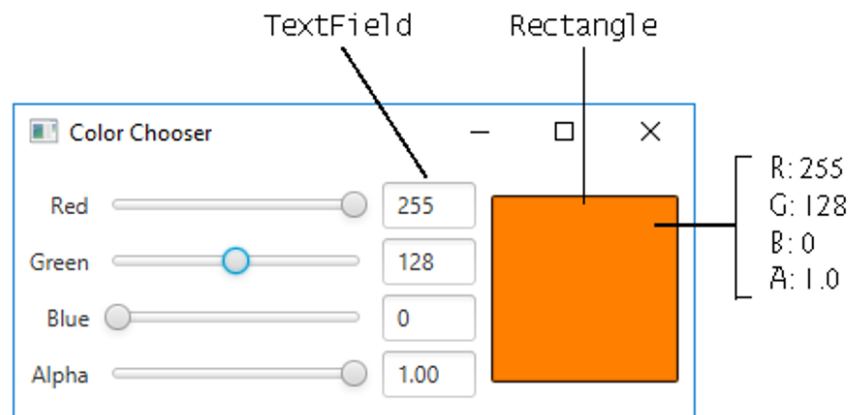
Unidirectional vs. Bidirectional Binding

- Property-to-Property Bindings can be Unidirectional vs. Bidirectional
- For example the text field value and slider value **binded bidirectionaly** which means if text field value changes or slider value changes it will affect another one.
- In the other hand, progress indicator field and slider value **binded unidirectionaly** means that only changes in slider value will affect Progress Indicator.

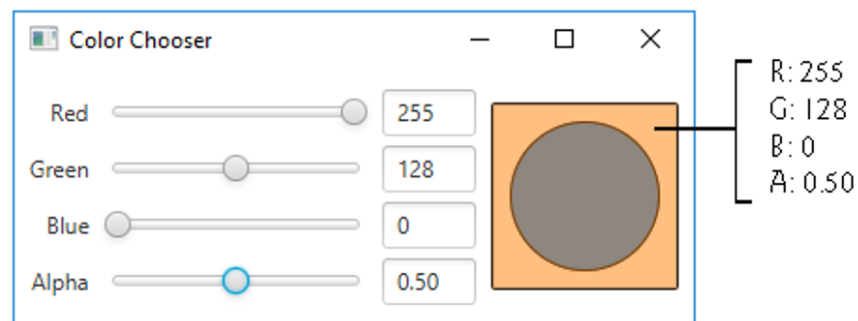
Property-to-Property Bindings - Example



a) Using the **Red** and **Green** Sliders to create an opaque orange color



b) Using the **Red**, **Green** and **Alpha** Sliders to create a semitransparent orange color—notice that the semitransparent orange mixes with the color of the circle behind the colored square



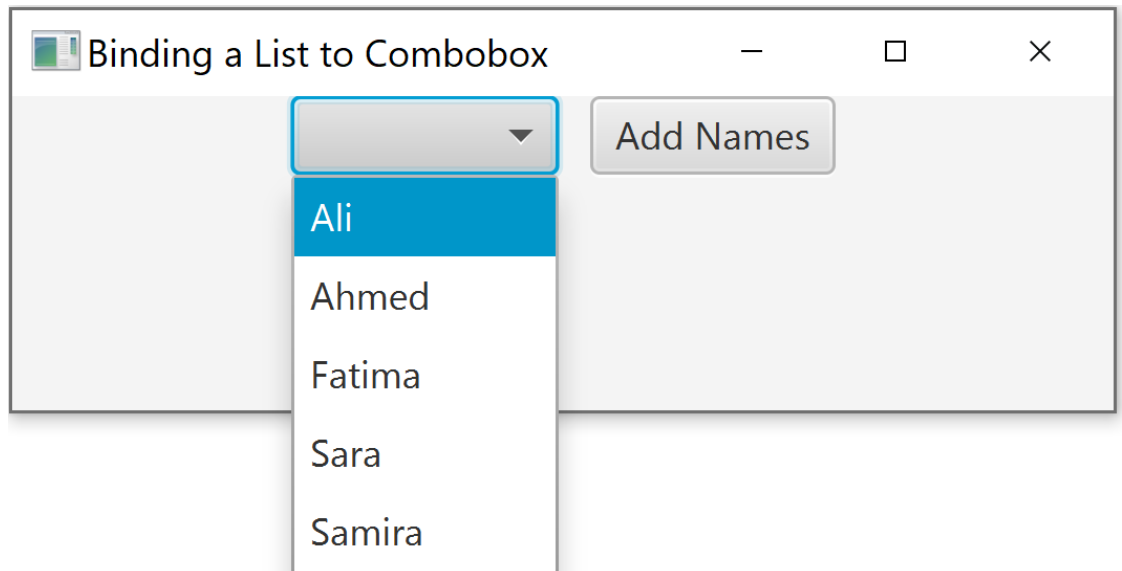
Binding to Class Properties

```
public class Conference {  
    private StringProperty name = new SimpleStringProperty();  
    public StringProperty nameProperty() { return this.name; }  
    public String getName() { return this.name.get( ); }  
    public void setName(String name) { this.name.set(name); }  
}  
  
final Conference conf = new Conference();  
nameTf.textProperty().bindBidirectional(conf.nameProperty());
```

ObservableList + ComboBox

```
final String[] names = { "Ali", "Ahmed", "Fatima", "Sara", "Samira" };  
final ObservableList<String> entries =  
    FXCollections.observableArrayList(names);  
final ComboBox<String> namesCombo = new ComboBox<>(entries);  
final Button addNameBtn = new Button("Add Names");  
  
addNameBtn.setOnAction(event -> {  
    entries.addAll("Abbas", "Farid");  
    namesCombo.show();  
});
```

Observable =
receive
notification of
changes



ObservableList

- The previous example uses a ComboBox control to display a list of names
- Though you can individually add items to a ComboBox, it is better to **bind** an ObservableList object to the ComboBox
 - If you make changes to an ObservableList, its **observer** (the ComboBox in this app) will automatically be notified of those changes
- Package javafx.collections contains **FXCollections** class, which provides static methods for creating and manipulating observable collections

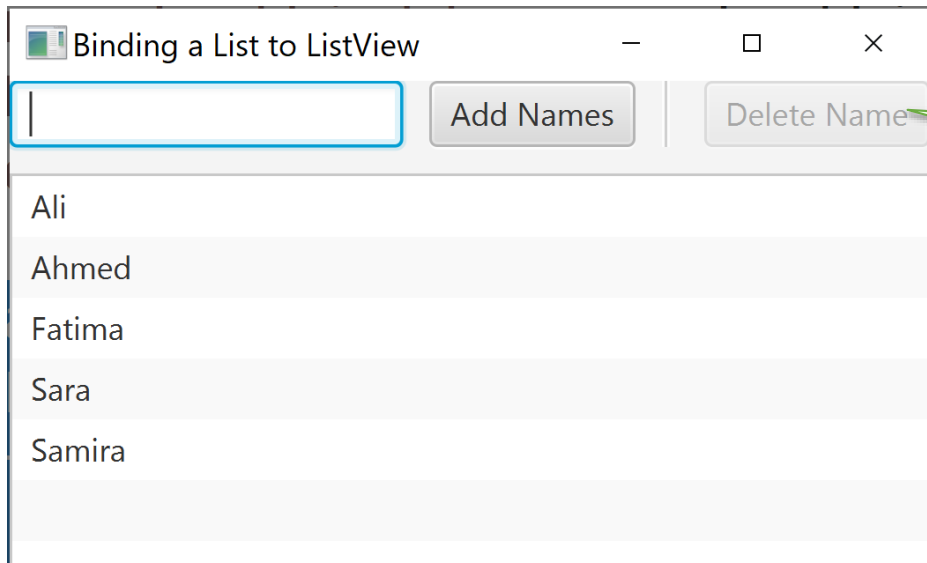
ObservableList + EditableListView

```
String[] names = { "Ali", "Ahmed", "Fatima", "Sara", "Samira" };
```

```
ObservableList<String> entries =  
    FXCollections.observableArrayList(names);
```

```
ListView<String> listView = new ListView<>(entries);
```

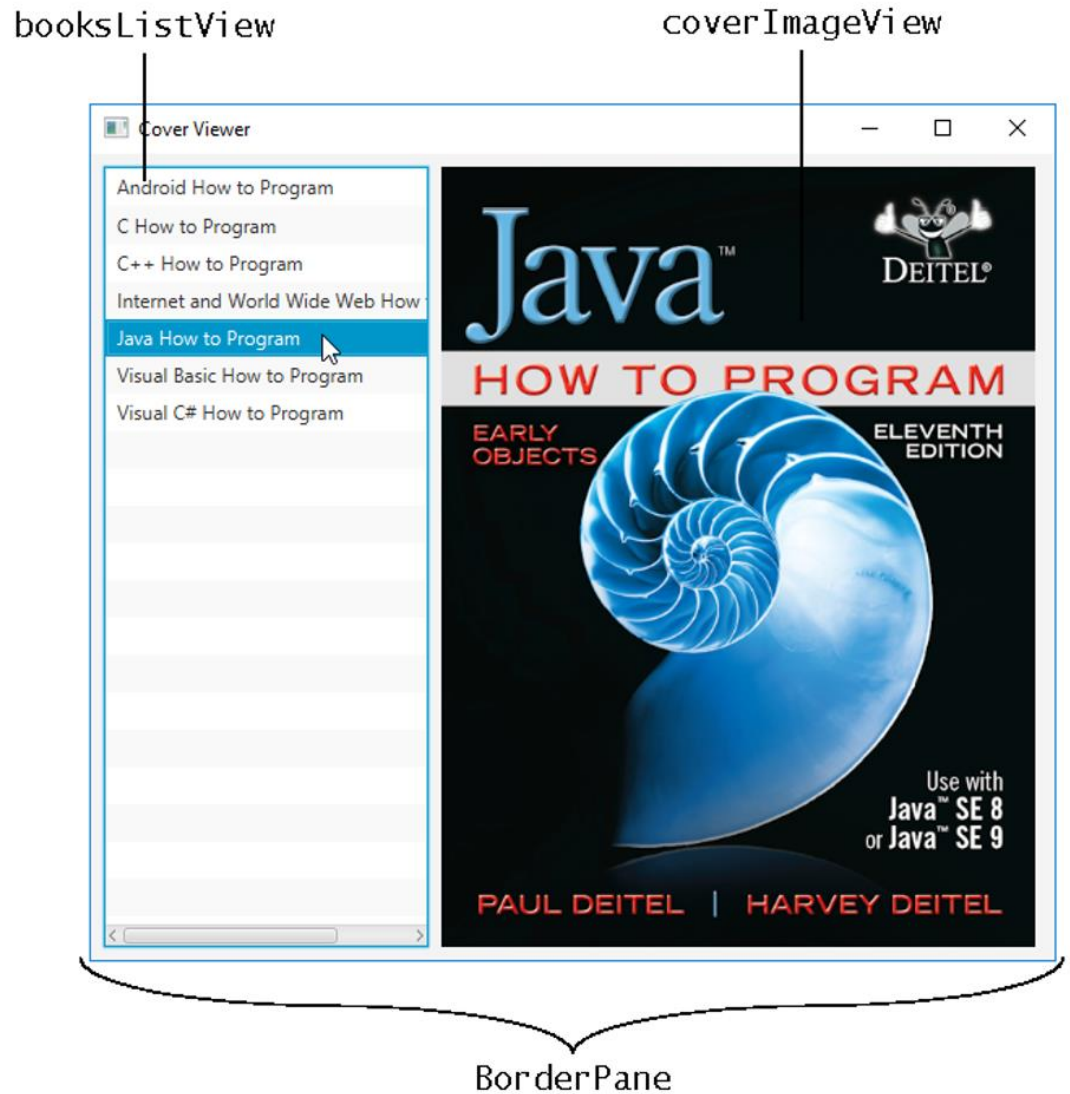
```
deleteBtn.disableProperty().bind(Bindings.isNull(  
    listView.getSelectionModel().selectedItemProperty()));
```



When no name is selected
the delete button is disabled

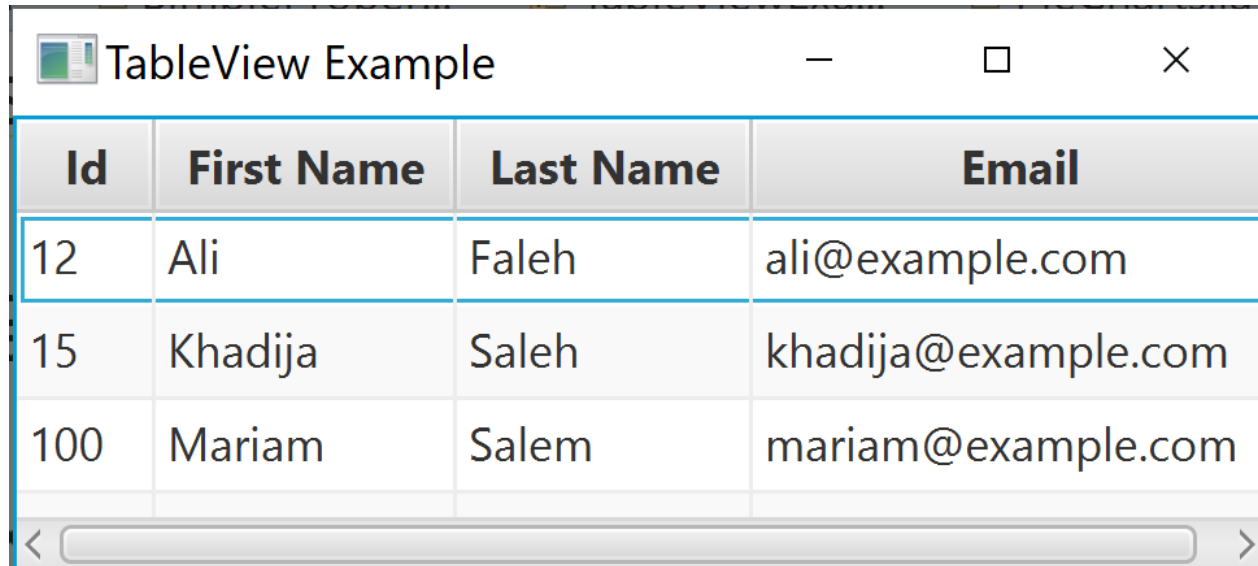
Cover Viewer App

- Binds a list of Book objects to a ListView
- When the user selects an item in the ListView, the corresponding Book's cover image is displayed in an ImageView.
 - **Property listener** is used to display the correct image when the user selects an item from the ListView



TableView

```
TableView tableView = new TableView();
TableColumn colId = new TableColumn("Id");
colId.setCellValueFactory(new PropertyValueFactory<>("id"));
TableColumn colEmail = new TableColumn("Email");
colEmail.setCellValueFactory(new PropertyValueFactory<>("email"));
...
tableView.getColumns().addAll(colId, colEmail);
tableView.setItems(getStudentsList());
```



The screenshot shows a JavaFX window titled "TableView Example" with standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). Inside the window is a TableView with four columns: "Id", "First Name", "Last Name", and "Email". The table contains three rows of student data. A horizontal scrollbar is visible at the bottom of the table.

Id	First Name	Last Name	Email
12	Ali	Faleh	ali@example.com
15	Khadija	Saleh	khadija@example.com
100	Mariam	Salem	mariam@example.com

TableColumn Cell Value Factory

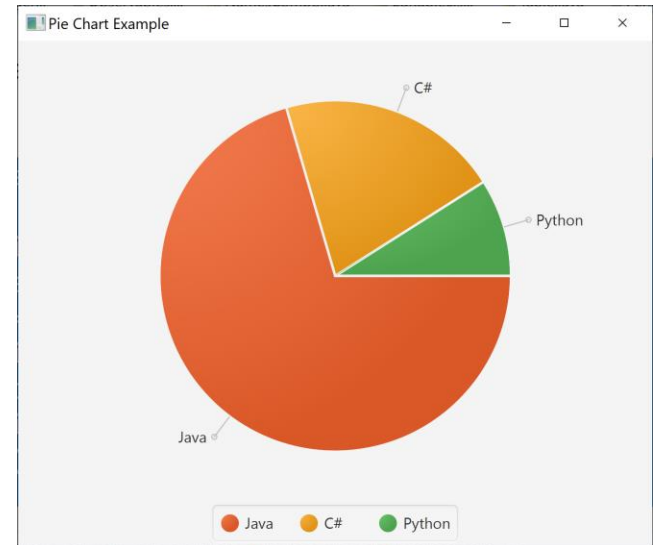
- A TableColumn must have a *cell value factory* to extracts from the object the value to be displayed in each cell (on each row) in the column.
- The PropertyValueFactory factory can extract a property value from a Java object.
 - The name of the property is passed as a parameter to the PropertyValueFactory constructor:

PropertyValueFactory factory = new
PropertyValueFactory<>("firstName");

- The property name firstName will match the getter method getFirstName() of the Person objects to get the values to display on each row.

Pie Chart

```
public void start(Stage stage) throws Exception
{
    PieChart pieChart = new PieChart();
    pieChart.setData(createChartData());
    VBox root = new VBox();
    root.getChildren().add(pieChart);
    stage.setScene(new Scene(root));
    stage.setTitle("Pie Chart Example");
    stage.show();
}
```



```
private ObservableList<Data> createChartData() {
    ObservableList<Data> data = FXCollections.observableArrayList();
    data.add(new Data("Java", 70.5));
    data.add(new Data("C#", 20.5));
    data.add(new Data("Python", 9));
    return data;
}
```

Summary

- JavaFX provides a set of UI components to ease building GUI applications.
- The key expected learning outcome is gaining a good understanding and some hands on experience with:
 - UI components
 - Layout panes
 - UI event handlers
 - Building GUI Applications using the Model-view-controller (MVC) Pattern
 - Properties and Bindings

Resources

- JavaFX Tutorial

<https://code.makery.ch/library/javafx-tutorial/>

- Scene Builder Guide

https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/scenebuilder/1/user_guide/jsbpub-user_guide.htm

- A curated list of awesome JavaFX libraries, books, frameworks, etc...

<https://github.com/mhrimaz/AwesomeJavaFX>