PIC 20A GUI with swing

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Let's create a JFrame.

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class Test {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      //JFrame is javax.swing.JFrame
      JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
      //intput is the frame's title
   }
}
```

Nothing happened since JFrame isn't visible.

Since JFrame is an object, we change its state with a member function.

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class Test {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
      frame.setVisible(true);
   }
}
```

We now see a window.

Roughly speaking, the face of the window is called the *content pane*.

The content pane is an object of type java.awt.Container.

Let's add a JLabel to the content pane.

```
import javax.swing.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
    frame.setVisible(true);
    java.awt.Container contPane
                       = frame.getContentPane();
    JLabel label = new JLabel("Hello World");
    contPane.add(label);
```

The add method, inherited from java.awt.Container, takes in java.awt.Component as its input.

JLabel inherits Component.

You don't have to keep references to the content pane and the JLabel.

It's good preactice to not display a GUI until you're done building it.

If the time it takes to build the GUI is perceivable, the user can see the GUI components popping into existence.

Use setSize to set window size.

JFrame inherits setSize from its parent class java.awt.Component.

Make the program exit when you close the JFrame.

```
import javax.swing.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
    frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(
                       JFrame.DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE);
    //DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE is a constant of JFrame
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JLabel("Hello World") );
    frame.setSize(300, 200);
    frame.setVisible(true);
```

We'll talk about setDefaultCloseOperation more later.

Instead of adding a JLabel, we can add a JButton.

```
import javax.swing.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
    frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(
                       JFrame.DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE);
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JButton("Do nothing") );
    frame.setSize(300, 200);
    frame.setVisible(true);
```

Again, this works because the add method requires a Component as its input, and JButton is a (inherits) Component.

Let's add a JLabel and a JButton.

```
import javax.swing.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    JFrame frame = new JFrame("Hello Swing");
    frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(
                       JFrame.DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE);
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JLabel("Label name") );
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JButton("Do nothing") );
    frame.setSize(300, 200);
    frame.setVisible(true);
```

This doesn't work because the JButton is overlaid on top of the JLabel.

We should place Components in different locations.

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JLabel("Label name"),
                    BorderLayout.CENTER);
    frame.getContentPane().add(
                    new JButton("Do nothing"),
                    BorderLayout.SOUTH);
```

We'll talk about java.awt.BorderLayout later.

Let's make the JButton do something.

```
import java.awt.event.*;
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    JButton button = new JButton("Click me");
    frame.getContentPane().add(button,
                    BorderLayout.SOUTH);
    button.addActionListener(new ActionClass()):
    . . .
```

Let's make the JButton do something.

```
class ActionClass implements ActionListener {
  public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event){
    System.out.println("Button clicked");
  }
}
```

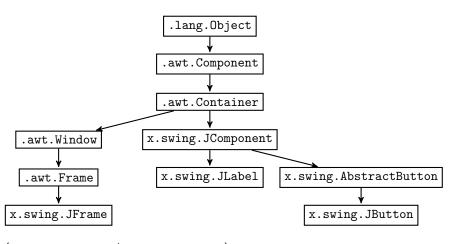
We'll talk about the interface java.awt.event.ActionListener later.

swing inheritance hierarchy

The swing and awt libraries are organized around inheritance.

Getting used to this inheritance hierarchy is key.

swing inheritance hierarchy



(. means java. and x. means javax.)

How to write a GUI

To build a graphical user interface (GUI), you need to

- create components,
- ▶ lay out the components, and
- make the components do useful things.

These lectures will proceed in this rough order.

Outline

Basic JComponents

Event listeners

Layout manager

JLabel

Use JLabel to display a text and/or an image. The text and image are unselectable.

JLabel

setIcon takes in Icon, which ImageIcon implements.

```
Icon icon = new ImageIcon("ucla.jpg");
label.setIcon(icon);
```

These set the text position with respect to the icon

```
label.setVerticalTextPosition(JLabel.BOTTOM);
label.setHorizontalTextPosition(JLabel.CENTER);
```

JLabel inherits the static fields from interface SwingConstants.

JLabel

The constructors and "setter" methods tells us a lot about what we can do with the class. Use the "getter" methods to retrieve information.

Let's look at

- ▶ the constructors,
- ▶ setText,
- setVerticalAlignment, and
- setHorizontalAlignment.

Icon

The iterface javax.swing.Icon represents a small fixed size picture, typically used to decorate components.

ImageIcon is the most (and probably the only) useful class that implements Icon within the Java API.

Imagelcon

class javax.swing.ImageIcon represents icons from images.

ImageIcon's constructors support a few ways of loading an image.

- ▶ What is the "description"?
- What does equals do? It's inherited but not overridden.
- Can you add an ImageIcon directly to a content pane?

Imagelcon

class javax.swing.ImageIcon represents icons from images.

ImageIcon's constructors support a few ways of loading an image.

- ► What is the "description"?
- What does equals do? It's inherited but not overridden.
- Can you add an ImageIcon directly to a content pane? No, because ImageIcon doesn't inherit from Component.

Custom Icon

There's only 1 useful class that implements Icon, but that doesn't mean the interface Icon is useless. We can create our own custon Icons.

To implement Icon we must implement the (implicitly) abstract method

```
paintIcon(Component c, Graphics g, int x, int y)
```

We need to learn about java.awt.Component and java.awt.Graphics.

JPanel

javax.swing.JPanel is a general purpose lightweight container.

JPanel

JPanel inherits javax.swing.JComponent and, in particular, inherits setBackground.

```
JPanel panel1 = new JPanel();
//pass in a Color object with RGB code
panel1.setBackground(new Color(50,132,191));

JPanel panel2 = new JPanel();
//Color.YELLOW is a constant of class Color
panel2.setBackground(Color.YELLOW);
```

We'll skip the discussion of java.awt.Color.

Nested JPanels

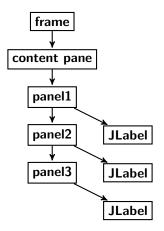
JPanels can be nested.

```
JPanel panel1 = new JPanel();
JPanel panel2 = new JPanel();
JPanel panel3 = new JPanel();
panel1.setBackground(Color.BLUE);
panel2.setBackground(Color.YELLOW);
panel3.setBackground(Color.RED);
panel1.add(new JLabel("Label in panel1"),
                           BorderLayout.SOUTH);
panel2.add(new JLabel("Label in panel2"),
                           BorderLayout.SOUTH);
panel3.add(new JLabel("Label in panel3"));
```

Nested JPanels

```
frame.getContentPane().add(panel1);
panel1.add(panel2, BorderLayout.CENTER);
panel2.add(panel3, BorderLayout.CENTER);
```

Nested JPanels



GUI's naturally have a nested and hierarchical structure. This makes inheritance and polymorphism the right tool for this job.

Basic JComponents 29

Custom JPanel

From JComponent, JPanel inherits paintComponent.

```
protected void paintComponent(Graphics g);
```

It's protected and not final. It's meant to be overriden.

Java calls paintComponent when it renders the GUI on the screen.

Custom JPanel

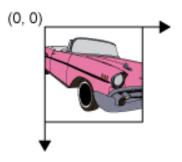
```
class MyPanel extends JPanel {
  public void paintComponent(Graphics g) {
    g.setColor(Color.ORANGE);
    g.fillRect(20,50,100,100);

    g.setColor(Color.RED);
    g.drawOval(30,30,10,10);
  }
}
```

Graphics

Use java.awt.Graphics to draw onto components.

- Set the color and the properties of the draw, and then draw.
- ▶ "Draw" draws the border. "Fill" fills the interior of the shape.
- ► The x-coordinate goes from left to right. The y-coordinate goes from top to bottom.



Custom Icon

```
public class MissingIcon implements Icon {
  private int w = 32, h = 32;
  Olverride
  public void paintIcon(Component c, Graphics g,
                        int x, int v) {
    g.setColor(Color.BLACK);
    g.drawRect(x, y, w-1, h-1);
   g.setColor(Color.WHITE);
    g.fillRect(x+1, y+1, w-2, h-2);
   g.setColor(Color.RED);
    g.drawLine(x+10, y+10, x+w-10, y+h-10);
    g.drawLine(x+10, y+h-10, x+w-10, y+10);
```

Graphics2D

java.awt.Graphics2D is a subclass of java.awt.Graphics with additional functionality.

```
public class MissingIcon implements Icon {
  @Override
  public void paintIcon(Component c, Graphics g,
                        int x, int y) {
    g.setColor(Color.RED);
    ((Graphics2D) g).setStroke(
                           new BasicStroke(4)):
    g.drawLine(x+10, y+10, x+w-10, y+h-10);
    g.drawLine(x+10, y+h-10, x+w-10, y+10);
 }
```

Graphics2D

Since Java 1.2, all Graphics objects provided by the Java API are actually Graphics2D objects.

java.awt.Graphics maintained for backward compatibility.

Using MissingIcon

Here's how you might use this custom Icon.

```
public class MissingIcon implements Icon {
    ...
    public static Icon iconFact(String dir) {
        ...
        if (fileExists)
            return new ImageIcon(dir);
        else
            return new MissingIcon();
    }
    ...
}
```

JTextArea

Use javax.swing.JTextArea to display multiple lines of text that the user can edit.

JTextArea inherits javax.swing.text.JTextComponent and is one of the several components that can hold text.

```
JTextArea textArea = new JTextArea();
textArea.setBackground(Color.YELLOW);
frame.getContentPane().add(textArea);
```

Outline

Basic JComponents

Event listeners

Layout manager

Events

Various GUI components fire *events*. By default these events are ignored, but you can choose to listen to them.

When you attach a EventListener to an event, the EventListener is run when the event is fired.

There are several types of events. (It's possible to create and fire custom events, but we won't.)

When a Component has the method

```
public void addXListener(XListener 1)
```

you can tell that it fire an XEvent.

Buttons and clickable components can fire java.awt.event.ActionEvents.

A java.awt.event.ActionListener listens to an ActionEvent.

The interface ActionListener has one method

```
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e)
```

which is called when the ActionEvent the ActionListener is listening to is fired.

A JButton (and any AbstractButton) can fire an ActionEvent. Use addActionListener(ActionListener 1)

to attach an ActionListener to the JButton's ActionEvent.

Let's separate the main function from the GUI.

```
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    MyGUI gui = new MyGUI();
  }
}
...
```

```
class MyGUI implements ActionListener {
  public MyGUI() {
    JButton button = new JButton("Click me");
    button.addActionListener(this);
  Olverride
 public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
    System.out.println("Say something");
```

We can make actionPerformed access other GUI components.

```
class MyGUI implements ActionListener {
  private JTextArea text;
  public MyGUI() {
    JButton button = new JButton("Click me");
    button.addActionListener(this);
    text = new JTextArea();
    . . .
  @Override
  public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
    System.out.println(text.getText());
```

If you think about it, it's weird that the class MyGUI is an ActionListener.

What listens to Jbutton's ActionEvent should belong to the GUI. It should not be the GUI itself.

If you have 2 JComponents that fire ActionEvents, what do you do? Here's a not-so-nice ad-hoc solution.

```
class MyGUI implements ActionListener {
  private final JButton button1, button2;
  . . .
    button1 = new JButton("button1"):
    button2 = new JButton("button2");
    button1.addActionListener(this);
    button2.addActionListener(this);
    . . .
  }
```

If you have 2 JComponents that fire ActionEvents, what do you do? Here's a not-so-nice ad-hoc solution.

```
coloreride
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
   if (e.getSource() == button1)
       System.out.println("Button1 clicked");
   else if (e.getSource() == button2)
       System.out.println("Button2 clicked");
}
```

Using ActionEvent is fine. That actionPerformed becomes complicated with many buttons and components is the problem.

It's better to use inner classes as EventListeners.

```
class MyGUI {
  private JTextArea text;
  private final JButton button1, button2;
  private class B1L implements ActionListener {
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
      System.out.println("button1 clicked");
  private class B2L implements ActionListener {
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
      System.out.println(text.getText());
  }
```

Use inner classes

```
...
{
    ...
    button1 = new JButton("button1");
    button2 = new JButton("button2");
    button1.addActionListener(new B1L());
    button2.addActionListener(new B2L());
    ...
}
```

Note that if B2L were a top-level class, it couldn't access MyGUI's private member text.

```
class MyGUI {
  private JTextArea text;
  private final JButton button1, button2;

private class B2L implements ActionListener {
   public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
      //only inner classes can do this
      System.out.println(text.getText());
   }
}
...
```

You want to use inner classes as EventListeners, so that they have access to the GUI components.

A java.awt.Component can fire a java.awt.event.MouseEvent. A java.awt.event.MouseListener listens to a MouseEvent.

```
class MyGUI {
    {
          JPanel panel = new JPanel();
          panel.addMouseListener(new ML());
          ...
}
...
```

```
private class ML implements MouseListener {
  public void mouseClicked(MouseEvent e) {
    System.out.println("clicked");
    String xy = "("+e.getX()+","+e.getY()+")";
    System.out.println(xy);
}
...
```

```
public void mouseEntered(MouseEvent e) {
  System.out.println("entered");
public void mouseExited(MouseEvent e) {
  System.out.println("exited");
public void mousePressed(MouseEvent e) {
  System.out.println("pressed");
public void mouseReleased(MouseEvent e) {
  System.out.println("released");
```

Even if you don't use all 5 MouseEvents, you must provide an implementation of the (implicitly abstract) methods.

```
private class ML implements MouseListener {
  public void mouseClicked(MouseEvent e) {
    ...
  }
  public void mouseEntered(MouseEvent e) { }
  public void mouseExited(MouseEvent e) { }
  public void mousePressed(MouseEvent e) { }
  public void mouseReleased(MouseEvent e) { }
}
```

For the ones you don't use, a blank implementation is just fine.

setDefaultCloseOperation

When you close a JFrame, a WindowEvent is fired and, by default, the JFrame is hidden.

When a java.awt.Window (a superclass of JFrame) exists, Java does not exit, even if the end of main is reached.

You can add a WindowListener to the JFrame and have it dispose the JFrame when it's closed. You can do the same with

Once all JFrames are disposed, Java can exit the program.

setDefaultCloseOperation

You can forcefully exit the program upon closing the JFrame.

DISPOSE_ON_CLOSE and EXIT_ON_CLOSE are actually different when you have 2 or more JFrames.

Outline

Basic JComponents

Event listeners

Layout manager

Layout manager

JPanels use layout managers to lay out its components.

By default, JPanels use FlowLayout.

By default, content panes use BorderLayout.

Setting the layout manager

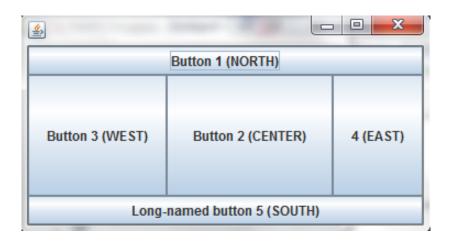
Set a JPanel's layout manager in its constructor.

```
JPanel panel = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
```

You can later set a Container's layout manager using setLayout.

```
Container contentPane = frame.getContentPane();
contentPane.setLayout(new FlowLayout());
```

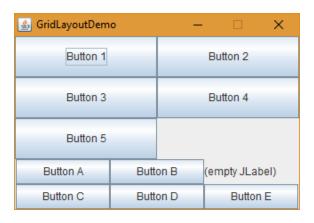
BorderLayout



BorderLayout

CENTER gets as much of the available space as possible. Other areas get the minimum space to fit their Components.

When no position is specified, add places a Component in CENTER.



Components are placed in a grid of cells. The cells have same size.

Specify the number of rows and columns of the grid in GridLayout's constructor.

- 0 rows means the number of rows is unspecified.
- 0 columns means the number of columns is unspecified.

```
Container pane = frame.getContentPane();
JPanel panel1 = new JPanel();
JPanel panel2 = new JPanel();

pane.add(panel1, BorderLayout.NORTH);
pane.add(panel2, BorderLayout.SOUTH);
```

```
panel1.setLayout(new GridLayout(0,2));
panel1.add(new JButton("Button 1"));
panel1.add(new JButton("Button 2"));
panel1.add(new JButton("Button 3"));
panel1.add(new JButton("Button 4"));
panel1.add(new JButton("Button 5"));
panel2.setLayout(new GridLayout(2,3));
panel2.add(new JButton("Button A"));
panel2.add(new JButton("Button B"));
panel2.add(new JLabel("(empty JLabel)"));
panel2.add(new JButton("Button C"));
panel2.add(new JButton("Button D"));
panel2.add(new JButton("Button E"));
```

Putting space between Components

Here are 3 simple ways to insert empty space in your GUI: layout manager, invisible components, and empty borders.

- Some layout managers give you some control over empty space.
- Empty JPanels or JLabels can take up space.
- ▶ You can add invisible borders around JPanels and JLabels.

Borders

JPanels and JLabels can have Borders.

```
JPanel panel1 = new JPanel();
panel1.setBorder(
    BorderFactory.createLineBorder(Color.BLACK));
JPanel panel2 = new JPanel();
panel2.setBorder(
    BorderFactory.createEmptyBorder(3,3,3,3));
```

Use the factory class javax.swing.BorderFactory to create a javax.swing.border.Border object.

Absolute positioning

You can manually specify the size and position of Components with absolute positioning. This is usually a bad idea.

A GUI using absolute positioning does not adjust well to resizing and to differences between systems.