

Introduction to Java (part 2)



Jules White

**Bradley Dept. of Electrical and
Computer Engineering
Virginia Tech
Jules.white@vt.edu**

www.dre.vanderbilt.edu/~jules



Exception Handling

- If an error condition occurs, a method can throw an “Exception” to notify the caller of the error
- An Exception causes the normal program execution to stop and for the Exception handler currently in scope to get called

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class MyApplication{

    public void catchAnException(){
        //try is used to mark a block of code that
        //you would like to catch exceptions from
        try {
            //do something bad to throw an exception
            MyApplication app = null;
            app.catchAnException();
        }
        //every try block has a catch block that handles the exceptions
        catch (Exception e){
            //do something with the exception
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

Exception Handling

- A method can declare an exception that any caller MUST provide an exception handler for

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class MyApplication{

    //to call this method, you will have to surround the
    //call with a try/catch block
    public String catchAnException() throws Exception{
        if(someBadSituationOccurs){
            throw new Exception("Yikes!");
        }

        return "maybe you got lucky";
    }
}
```

Exception Handling

- Exception handlers can be specified for different types of exceptions
- If you don't specify an Exception handler for the type of exception that gets thrown, the next exception handler up the chain will get called

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class MyApplication{

    public void catchAnException(){
        try {
            ...
        }
        catch (IOException io){
            ...
        }
        catch (FooException e){
            //do something with the exception
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

Exception Handling

- If you want to catch every possible Exception type, use “Exception”
- To catch every possible type of error, use “Throwable”:

```
...
try{
    File f = new File("foo");
}
catch(Throwable e){
    //every possible recoverable runtime error will be caught
}
```

Exception Handling

- You can throw a RuntimeException without declaring it in a “throws” clause
- A RuntimeException can be constructed to wrap another exception:

```
...
try{
    File f = new File("foo");
}
catch(Exception e){
    throw new RuntimeException(e);
}
```

Exercise

//What is wrong with this code?

```
public class MyApplication{

    public String getFullName() {
        return getName()+" Foo";
    }

    public String getName() throws Exception {
        ...
    }
}
```

Exercise

```
//Rewrite the getFullName() method so that you can eliminate
//the "throws Exception" declaration
//If an exception is thrown, your version of the method should pre
//fix the name with "Exception" and print a stack trace
```

```
public class MyApplication{

    public String getFullName() throws Exception{
        return getName()+" Foo";
    }

    public String getName() throws Exception {
        ...
    }
}
```


Exercise

```
//Rewrite the getFullName() method so that you can eliminate
//the "throws Exception" declaration
//If an exception is thrown, your version of the method should
//rethrow the exception as a RuntimeException

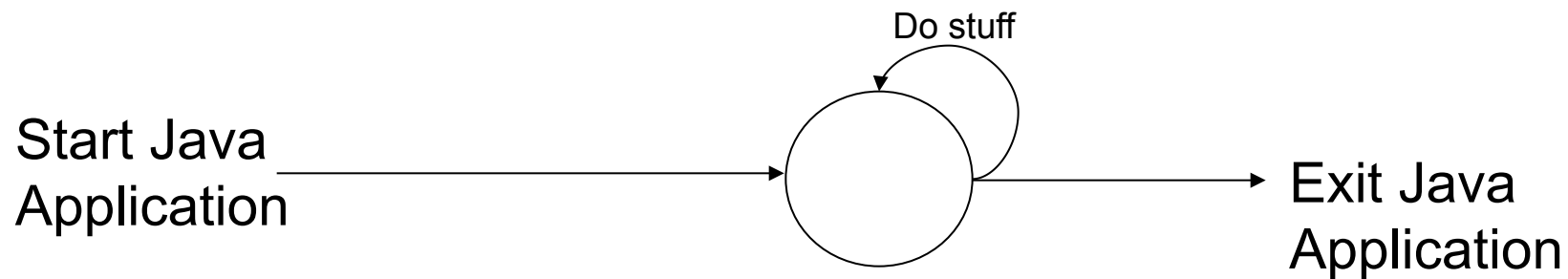
public class MyApplication{

    public String getFullName() throws Exception{
        return getName()+" Foo";
    }

    public String getName() throws Exception {
        ...
    }
}
```

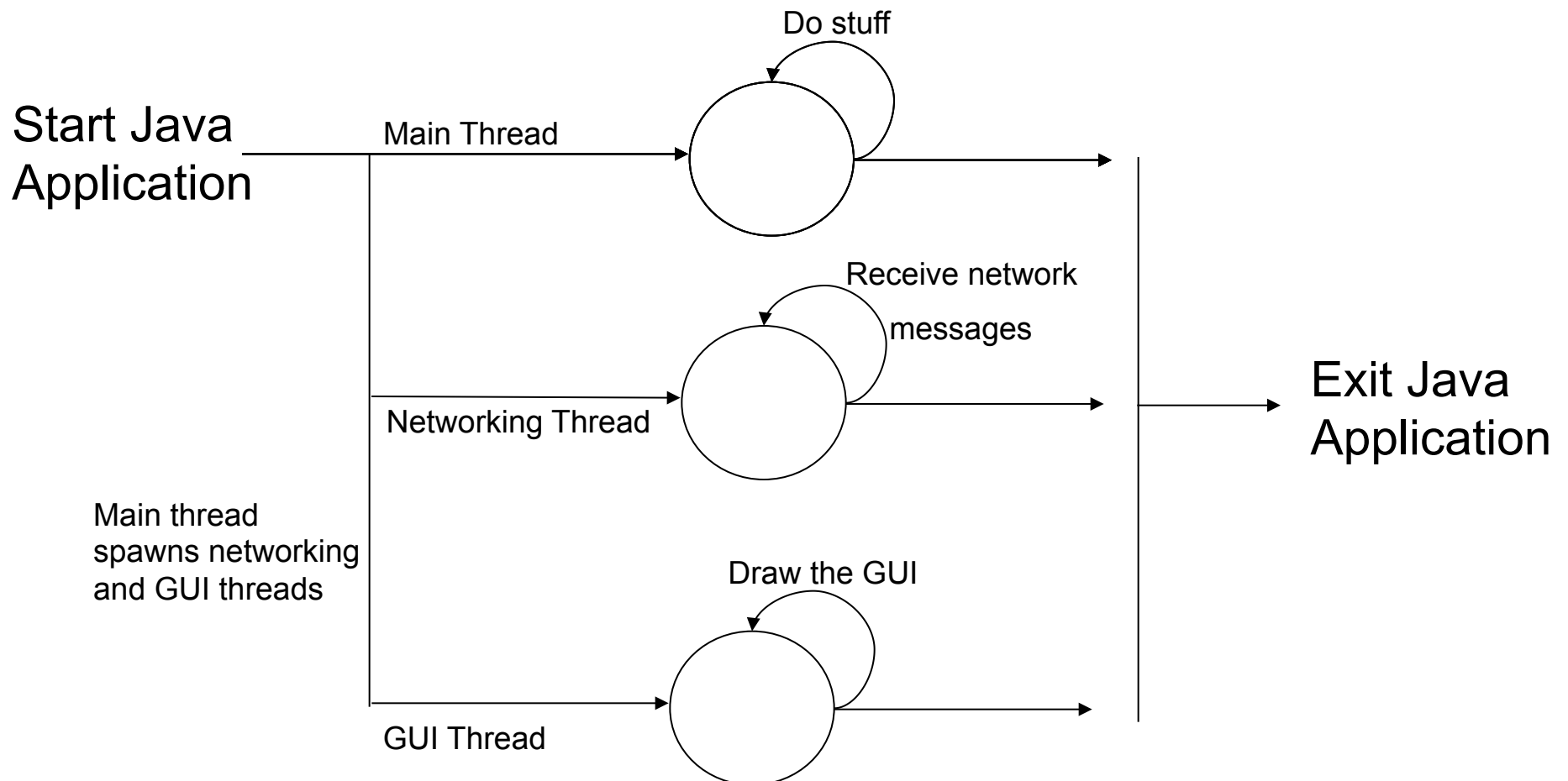
Threads

- Every application can have one or more threads of execution
- Each thread is a line of execution through the application
- Multiple threads in an application run in parallel
- Every Java application has one thread that serves as the main thread of execution
- A Java application will not exit as long as there is one active thread



Threads

- Most applications that include network communication or graphics involve multiple threads
- Example: The application can't stop updating the GUI just because it is waiting for a network message



Main Java Thread of Control

- In a standard application, your code owns the main thread of control
- Your application defines a static method (meaning it can be accessed without creating an instance of the containing class) called “main”
- The parameters to the method are the arguments to the program from the command line

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class MyApplication{

    public static void main(String[] args){
        while(somecondition){
            //do stuff
        }

        //exit the application
    }

}
```

Framework

- A framework is a set of code that controls the main thread of execution for you
- You provide code that plugs into the framework
- A framework uses “inversion of control”, meaning “don’t call me, I will call you”
- The framework orchestrates and coordinates the parts of the application

```
public class MyApplication{
    //the framework decides when to call your code to do stuff
    public void doStuff(){...}

    public static void main(String[] args){
        Framework someFramework = new Framework(new MyApplication());

        //no while loop, the framework orchestrates the application
        someFramework.start();

        //exit the application when the framework decides to stop
        the application
    }
}
```

Framework

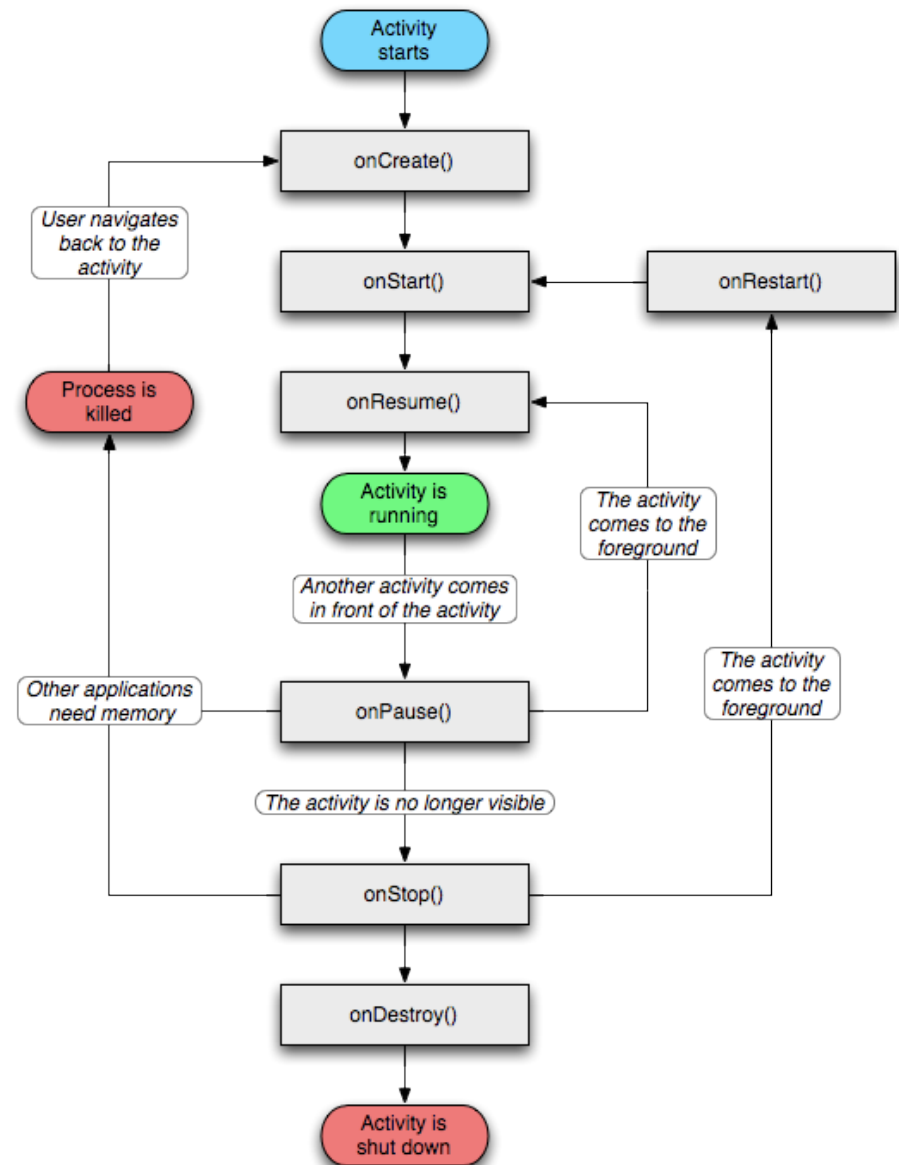
- A framework is incomplete, you must provide some code
- Frameworks are designed to capture common code that is used across a broad class of applications and make it easily reusable
- Frameworks provide structure for your application, they typically dictate the architecture of the application and the software patterns used
- Frameworks always provide mechanisms for extension
 - e.g. Abstract classes / interfaces for your to implement
- Frameworks are common in networked, web, and GUI applications
 - Java Spring Framework
 - Enterprise Java Beans Framework
 - Google App Engine Framework
 - Android Framework
 - .Net Framework

Framework

- Most (if not all) of the code you write in this class will use a framework
- Some of your code may implement your own framework
- All Android or iPhone apps run inside of a framework

Activity Life-cycle

- The Android framework controls the main thread of control
- Your code is invoked in the onCreate(), onStart(), onResume(), and other life-cycle methods
- The framework decides when your application should stop, start, pause, etc.



Abstract Class / Interface Extension

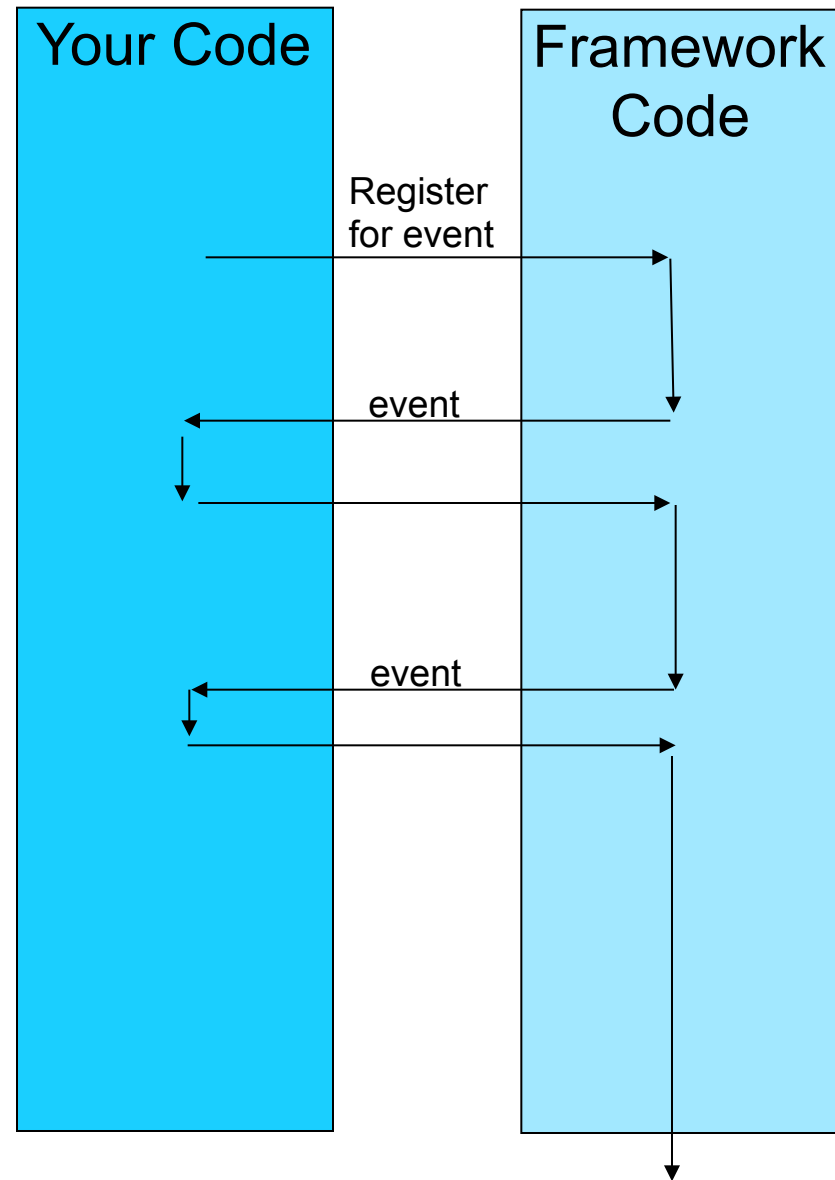
- Some frameworks use abstract classes or interfaces that you must extend to integrate your code
- You construct an instance of the framework and pass in your concrete implementations of the abstract classes
- Your code implements incomplete methods
- The main thread of control calls out to your code to fill in the holes

```
public abstract class MessageProcessor {  
    public abstract void process(Message m);  
}
```

```
public class NetworkFramework {  
    private MessageProcessor processor_;  
    public NetworkFramework(MessageProcessor m){ processor_ = m;}  
    public void start() {  
        while(running){  
            Message m = receiveNetworkMessage();  
            processor_.process(m);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Event-driven Frameworks

- Many frameworks use an event-driven programming model to allow your code to plug into them
- Your code registers itself as a listener for specific types of events that can occur within the framework
 - Arrival of network messages
 - Clicks on GUI elements
- When an event you are registered for occurs, the framework temporarily turns the thread of execution over to your code
- When your code exits, the main thread of control returns to the framework



Event Listeners in Java

- Problem: I want to be notified whenever an event occurs but I don't want the execution of the program to wait on that event. Example, I want to be notified when a button is clicked but I want to do other stuff until the click happens.
- Solution: Event Listeners
- How it works:
 - A listener interface is created that contains methods for sending events to an interested party
 - The class that supports listeners provides methods to add and remove listener objects that implement the interface
 - Classes that want to listen to the other class implement the listener interface and add themselves as listeners to instances of the subject class

Event Listeners in Java

- Example:

```
//The listener interface
public interface ClickListener {
    public void onClick(ClickEvent evt);
}
```

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class Button{
    private ClickListener listener_;
    public void setClickListener(ClickListener l){listener_ = l;}

    //this method is controlled by the framework
    public void theButtonWasClicked(ClickEvent ce){
        //do some stuff inside the button

        //now tell the listener about the click
        listener_.onClick(ce);
    }
}
```

Event Listeners in Java

- Example:

```
//the class we are going to listen to
public class MyGui implements ClickListener{
    public void onClick(ClickEvent evt){
        //respond to the click event
    }

    public void createSubmitButton(){
        Button b = new Button("submit");

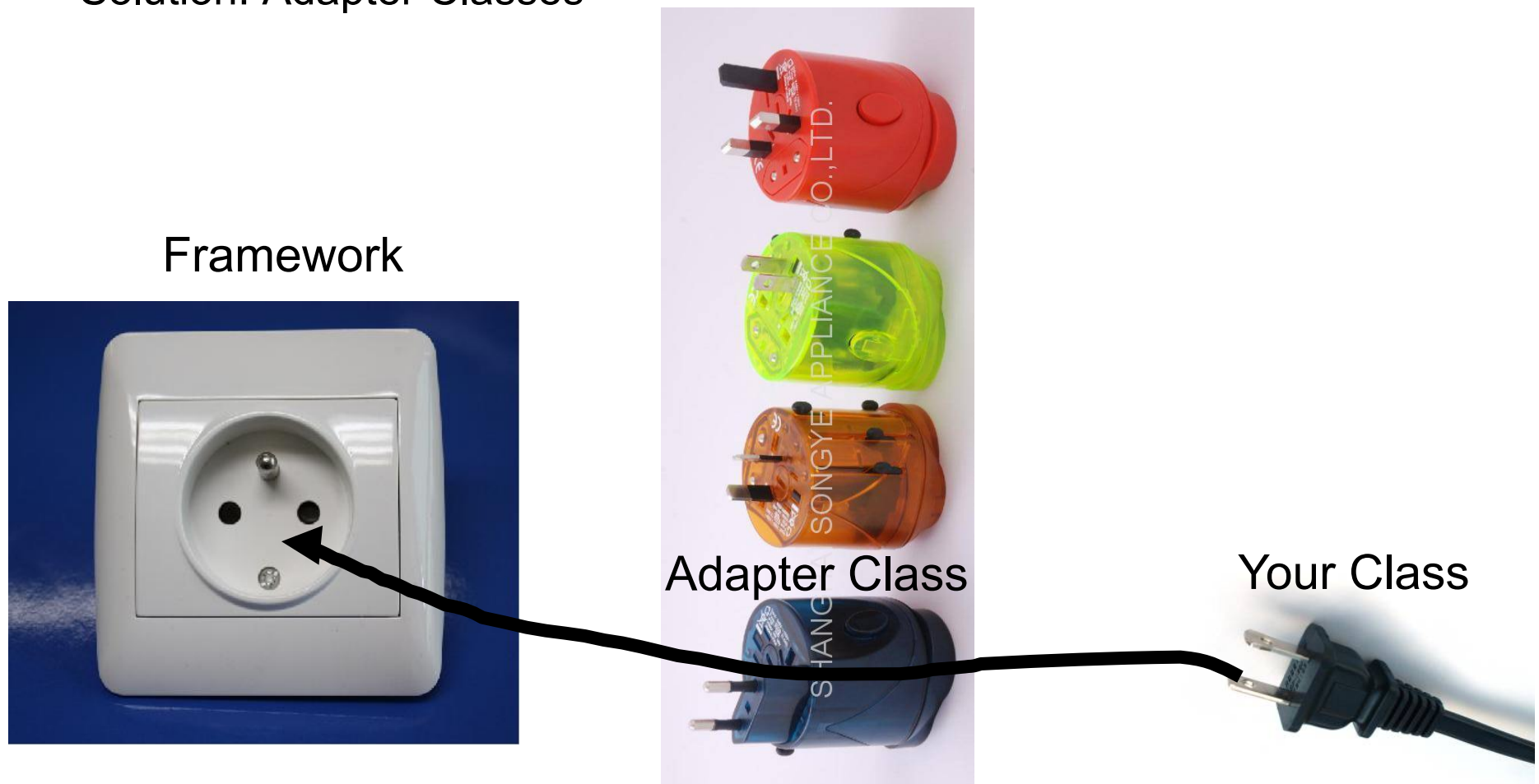
        //register to receive events from the button
        b.setClickListener(this);
    }
}
```

Exercise

- Write a an interface for a LocationManager. The LocationManager should allow clients to add listeners that can receive callbacks notifying them as the phone's position changes.
- You must provide a way for clients to specify the granularity of updates that they want (e.g. 1m, 10m, 100m, etc.)
- The listener interface that you create should have methods for being notified when the GPS signal is lost
- The client should have a mechanism for determining the current accuracy of any location fix returned to it

Adapters

- Problem: You need a way to plug your code into a framework
- Your top-level classes don't inherit from abstract framework classes or implement any framework classes
- Solution: Adapter Classes



Java Inner Classes

- Problem: Sometimes you need a specialized class or data structure to simplify the implementation of one specific class. You don't want to create a new top-level class. Moreover, you need the helper class to have direct access to the other class' private variables.
- Java Solution: Inner Classes
- An inner class is a class defined within another class
- An inner class can access all of its parent class' private variables and methods
- An inner class instance can typically only exist inside an instance of the enclosing class
- Inner classes make great adapters

Java Inner Class Adapters

- Example:

```
public class MyGui{
    //An inner class used as an adapter class
    private class ButtonListener implements ClickListener{

        public void onClick(ClickEvent evt){
            submit();
        }
    }

    private void createSubmitButton(){
        Button b = new Button("submit");
        b.addClickListener(new ButtonListener());
    }

    private void submit(){...}
}
```

Exercise

- Modify the inner class to only call submit the first time the button is clicked:

```
public class MyGui{
    //An inner class used as an adapter class
    private class ButtonListener implements ClickListener{

        public void onClick(ClickEvent evt){
            submit();
        }
    }

    private void createSubmitButton(){
        Button b = new Button("submit");
        b.addClickListener(new ButtonListener());
    }

    private void submit(){...}
}
```

Java Inner Class Adapters

- Example:

```
public class MyGui{
    //An inner class used as an adapter class
    private class ButtonListener implements ClickListener{
        private boolean submitted_ = false;
        public void onClick(ClickEvent evt){
            if(!submitted_){
                submit();
                submitted_ = true;
            }
        }
    }

    private void createSubmitButton(){
        Button b = new Button("submit");
        b.addClickListener(new ButtonListener());
    }

    private void submit(){...}
}
```

Java Anonymous Inner Classes

- Problem: Sometimes you need to create a class that implements an interface in order to connect to another object.
- Example:

```
public class Button{  
    private void addClickListener(ClickListener l){...}  
}
```

```
public interface ClickListener{  
    public void onClick(ClickEvent evt);  
}
```

```
public class MyGui{  
    private void createSubmitButton(){  
        Button b = new Button();  
        //how do I connect the button to my submit method  
        //without requiring MyGui to implement ClickListener?  
    }  
    private void submit(){...}  
}
```

Java Anonymous Inner Classes Adapters

- Solution: Java Anonymous Inner Classes
- An anonymous inner class is an unnamed class that is declared inline in a method
- Example:

```
public class MyGui{
    private void createSubmitButton(){
        Button b = new Button();

        //Anonymous inner class that creates a new implementation
        //of ClickListener in this method that serves as an adapter
        ClickListener l = new ClickListener(){
            public void onClick(ClickEvent evt){
                submit();
            }
        };
        b.setOnClickListener(l);
    }
    private void submit(){...}
}
```

Exercise

- Solution: Java Anonymous Inner Classes
- An anonymous inner class is an unnamed class that is declared inline in a method
- Example:

```
public class MyGui{

    private Button createButton(SomeListener l){
        Button b = new Button();
        ButtonListener l = //your code

        //SomeListener has a "fired()" method that we would like
        //called when the ButtonListener's "clicked()" method is called.
        //The ButtonListener defines a single "clicked()" method.
        //Define an inner class and instantiate an instance of it
        //to connect the ButtonListener to the fired() method of
        //SomeListener. You cannot use the final key word.
        return b;
    }
}
```

Exercise

- Solution: Java Anonymous Inner Classes
- An anonymous inner class is an unnamed class that is declared inline in a method
- Example:

```
public class MyGui{

    private Button createButton(SomeListener l){
        Button b = new Button();
        ButtonListener l = //your code

        //Connect clicked() to fired() as in the last example but use
        //an anonymous inner class instead
        return b;
    }
}
```