

61FIT3JSD

Fall 2023

Lecture 8

GUI programming (3)

Advanced issues

Lecture outline

- GUI application development
- Multi-tasking GUI
- Dialog
- Scroll bar: JScrollBar

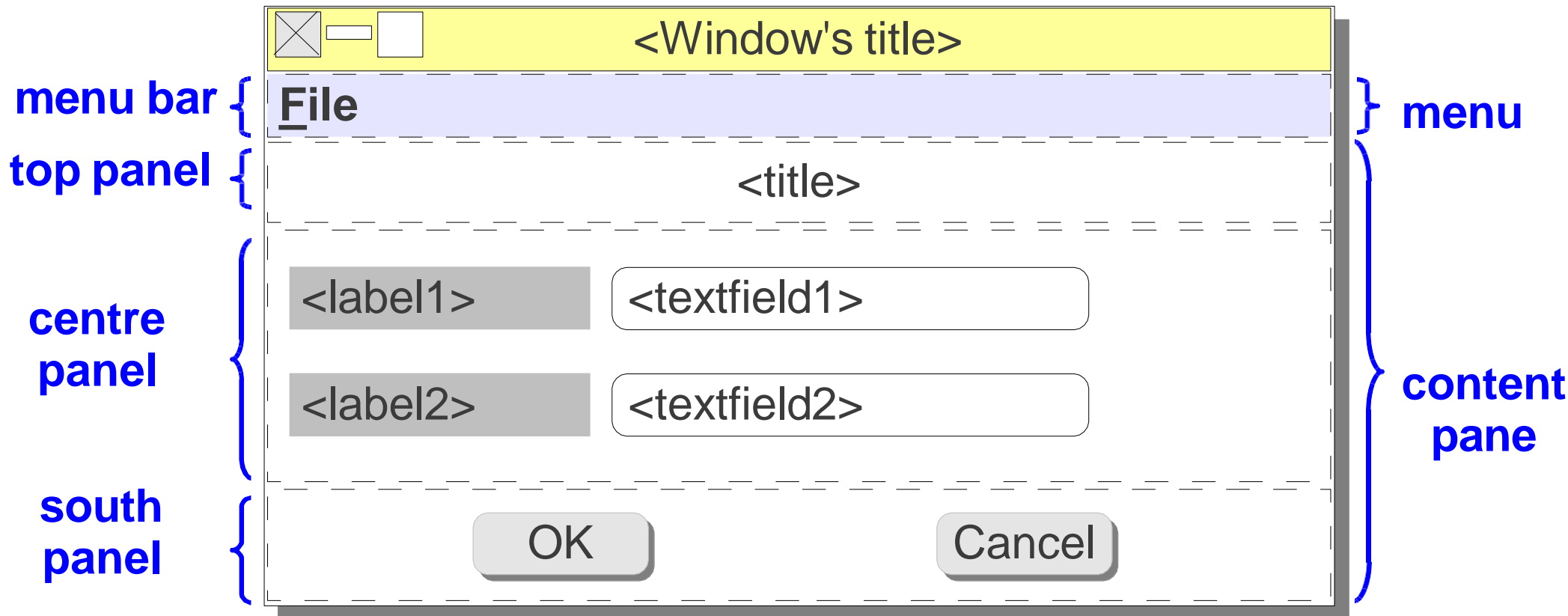
GUI application development

- Design
- Implementation

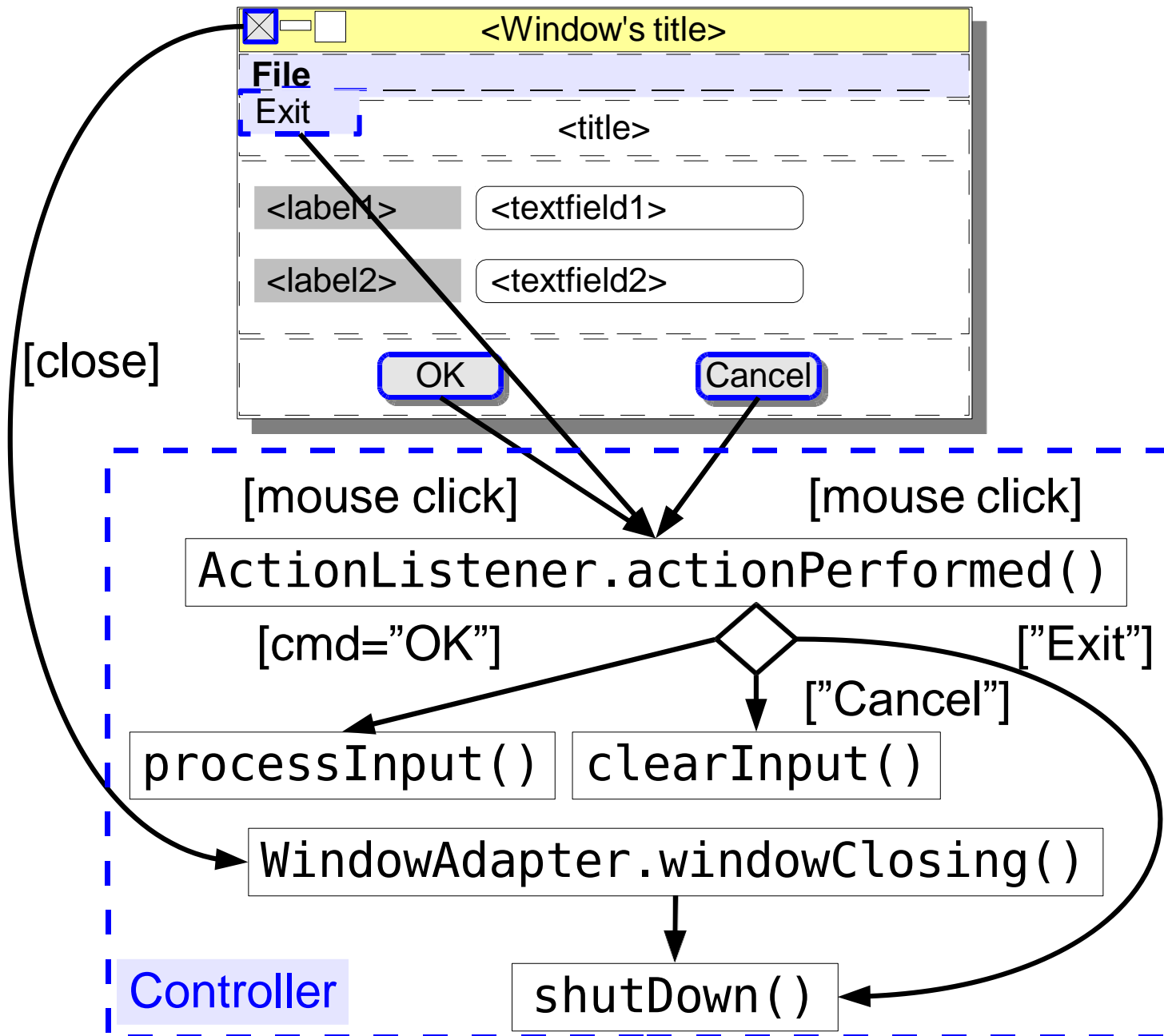
Design

- **Model:**
 - Create domain-specific classes (e.g. Customer)
- **View:**
 - Create window and display components
- **Controller:**
 - Define event handlers (user interaction)
 - Start up: initialise view & model
 - Display the view

View design



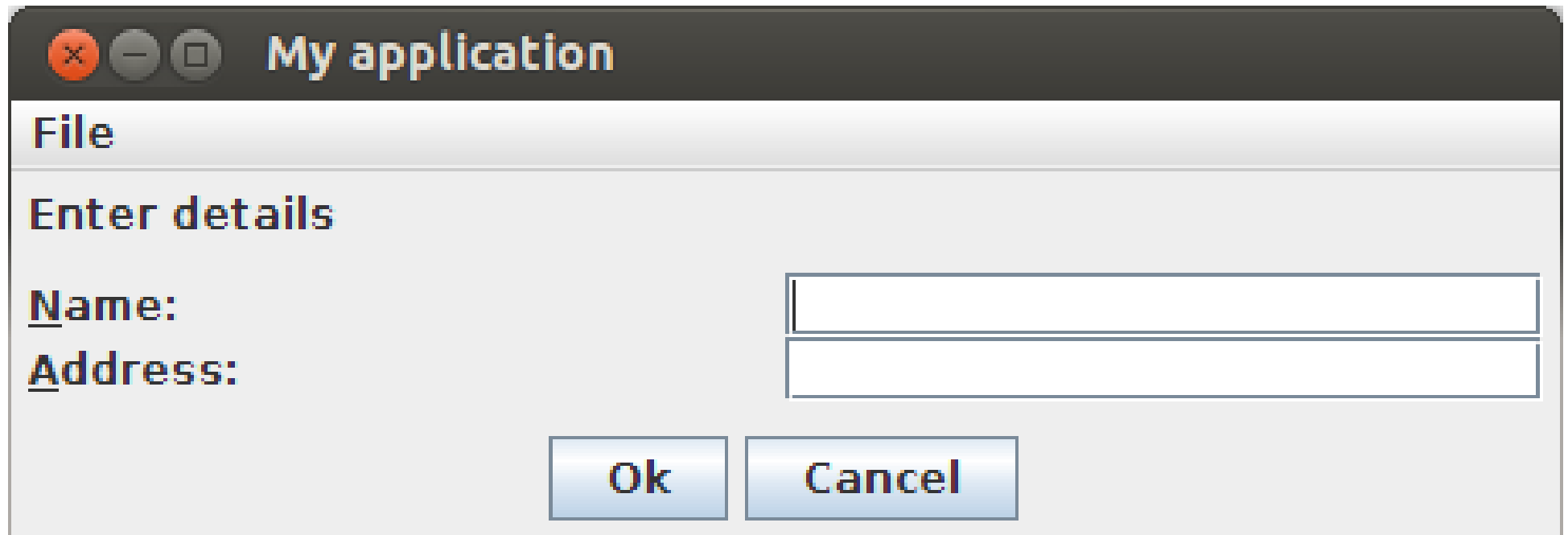
Controller design



Design #1: all-in-one

- Model, View and Controller are combined into one class
- Used for small applications:
 - **model**: primitive data values
 - **view**: simple interface
 - **controller**: simple user actions
- **Pros**: less code to write
- **Cons**: longer class → more difficult to maintain; not suitable for larger applications

Example: MyApp



The image shows a standard Java Swing window titled "My application". The window has a dark gray title bar with standard OS window controls (close, maximize, and minimize buttons). Below the title bar is a light gray menu bar with a single menu item labeled "File". The main content area of the window is white and contains the text "Enter details" in a bold, black font. Below this text are two labels, "Name:" and "Address:", each followed by a rectangular text input field. The input fields are empty. At the bottom of the window, there are two buttons: "Ok" and "Cancel", both with a light blue gradient and a thin black border.

My application

File

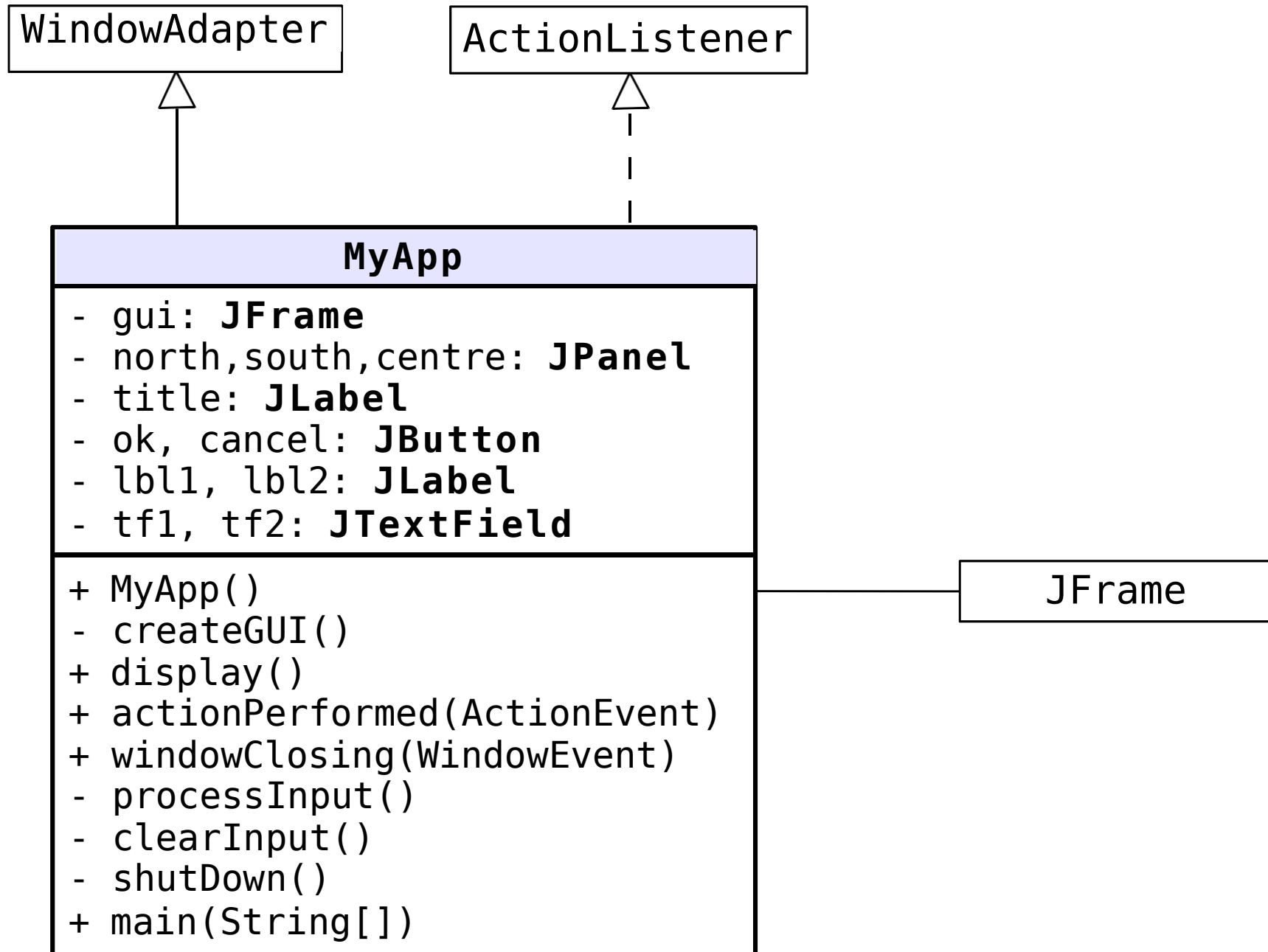
Enter details

Name:

Address:

Ok Cancel

MyApp design #1



Implementation

- GUI development tasks:
 - set up the window: layout, menu
 - create & set up the container objects
 - add display components to the containers
 - add the containers to the window

DEMO

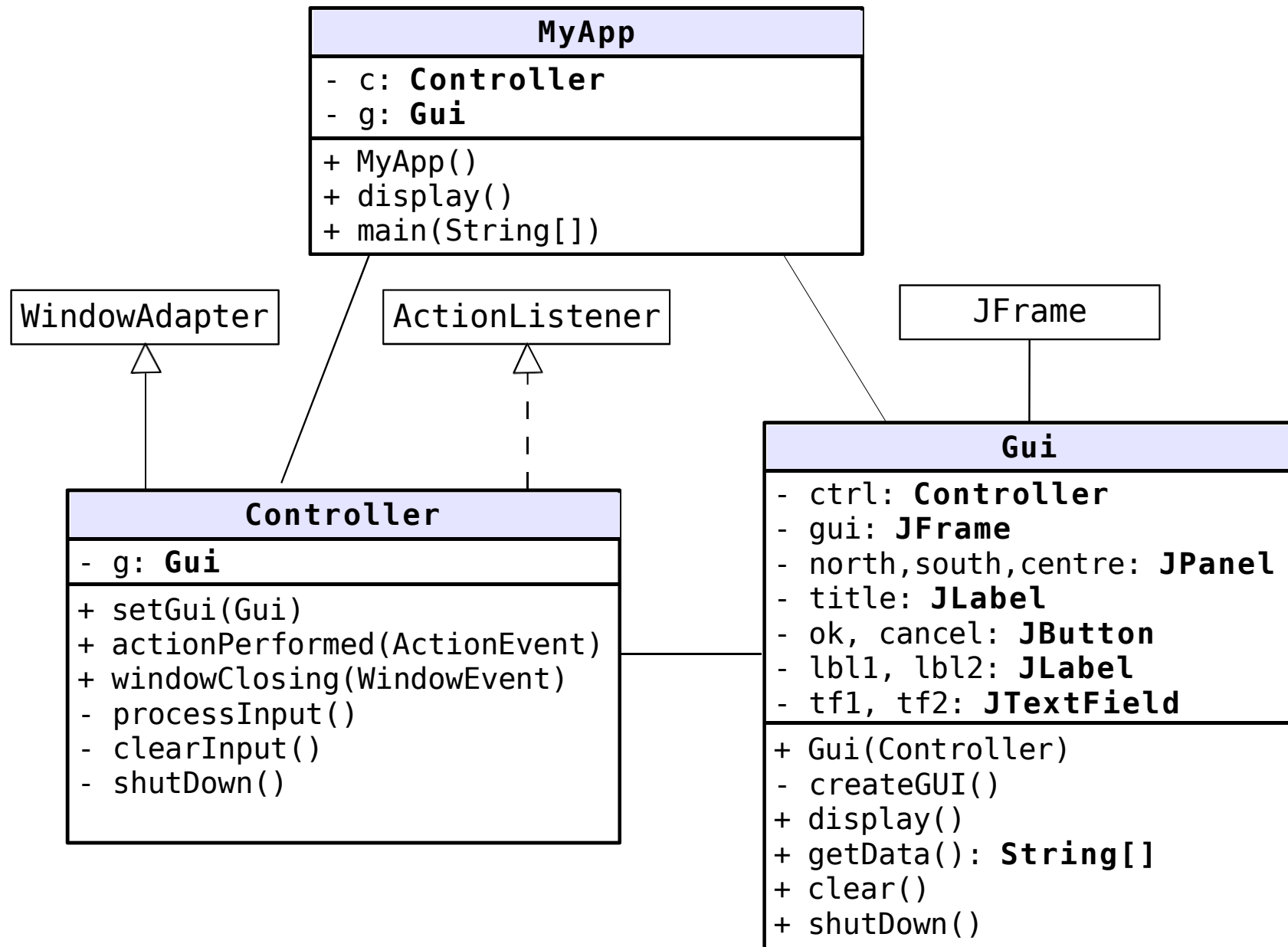
Example: MyApp #1

`lect08.allinone.MyApp`

Design #2: independent controller

- Model, View may be combined into one class
- Controller is a separate class
- Used for medium-large applications:
 - **model**: domain-specific classes (e.g. Customer, Order, etc) that may not require separate classes
 - **view**: simple view, specific to each domain class
 - **controller**: data handling is likely to change
- **Pros**: easier to maintain (e.g. when data handling logics or view specifications are changed)
- **Cons**: more complex to design and code

Example: MyApp design #2



DEMO

MyApp #2

lect08.independent.MyApp



Multi-tasking GUI

- A multi-tasking GUI application can handle multiple events at the same time
- Examples:
 - store program data to a database
 - view a report
 - print data

Multi-tasking in Swing

- Wrap the task in a Runnable object
- Start the task object using a Thread object
- Task thread is run concurrently with the GUI's thread:
 - user interaction is not blocked

DEMO

Multi tasking

lect08.multitask.MyApp

Timer task
running on a
separate
thread

My application

File

14: 9:14

Enter details

Name:

Address:

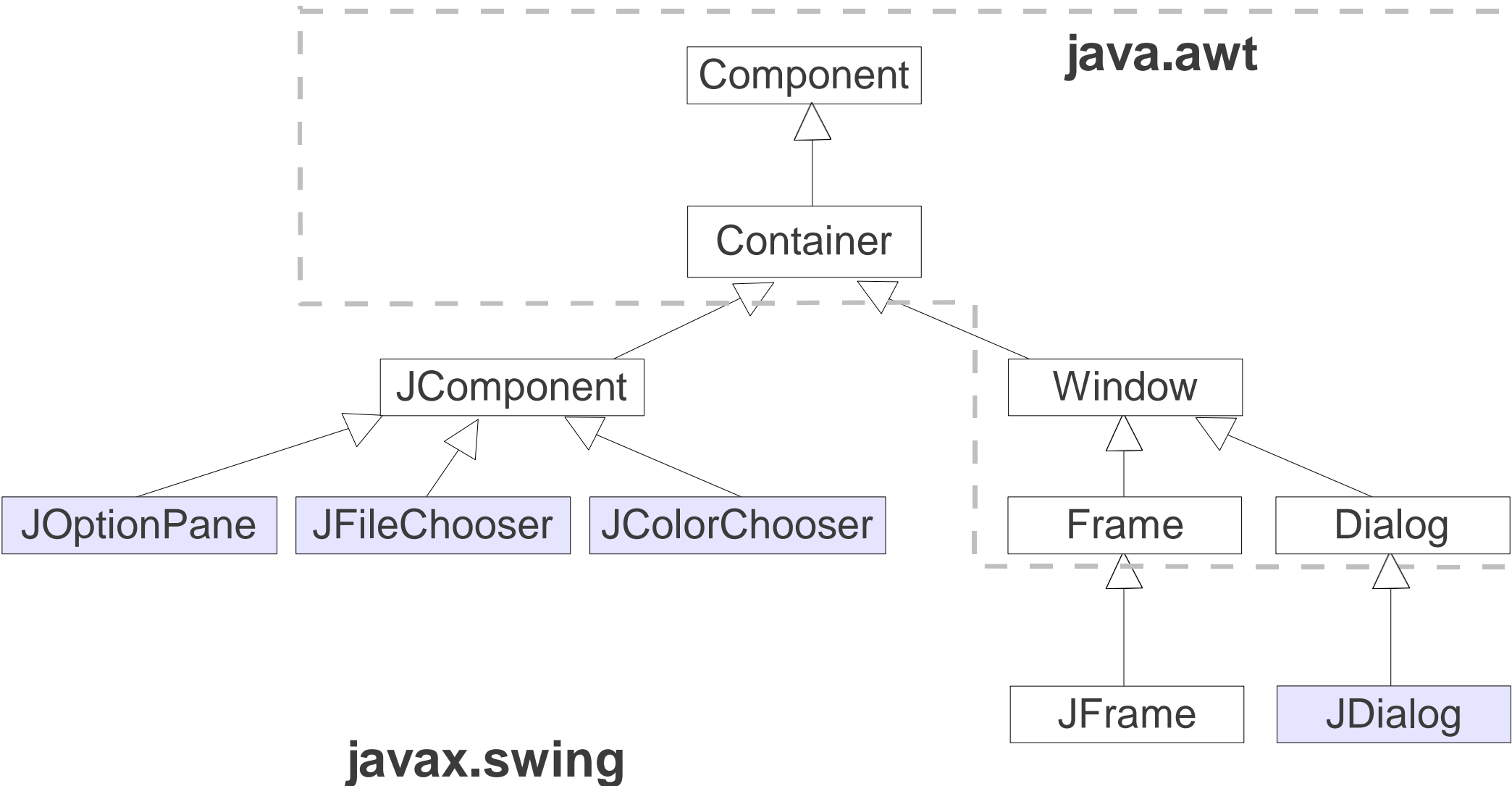
Ok Cancel

- Separate sub-window that:
 - displays temporary notice or
 - obtains basic, context-dependent input
- Examples:
 - program message (informational, error)
 - progress status
 - browse a file or choose a colour
- Attached to a window (its parent)
- Can be modal or non-modal

Swing dialogs

- `JOptionPane`: simple, standard dialog
- `JFileChooser`: browse a file
- `JColorChooser`: choose a color
- `JDialog`: custom dialog

Dialog component hierarchy



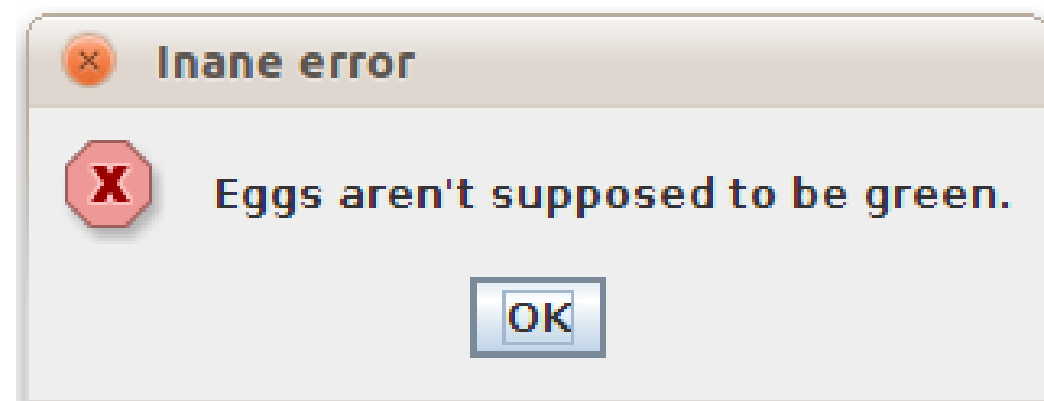
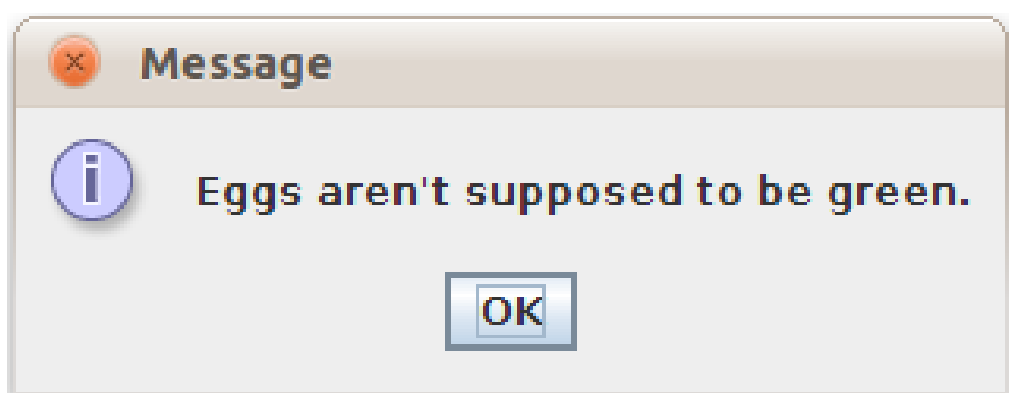
Class JOptionPane

- A container that uses `JDialog` as the window
- Creates modal dialogs
- Customisable features:
 - title
 - message or a collection of components
 - icons
 - buttons
 - button texts

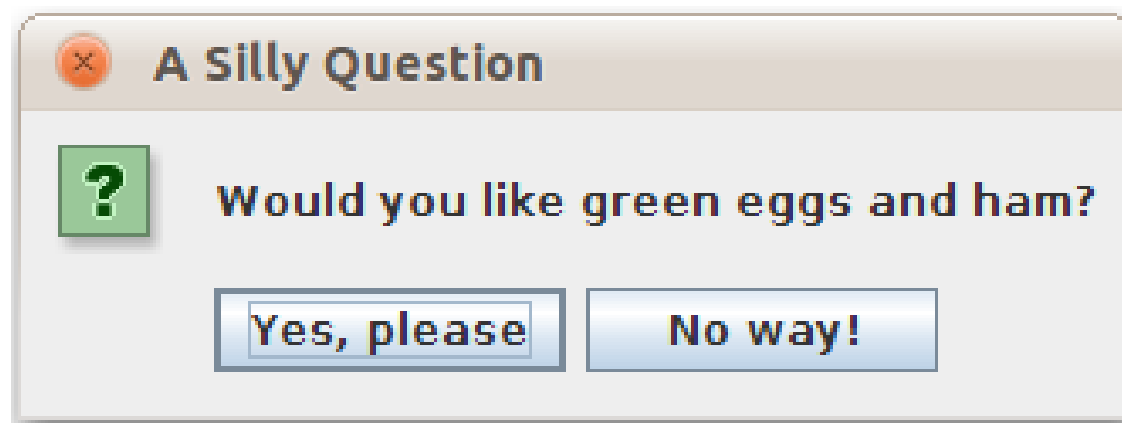
Types of dialog

- Message dialog:
 - one-button dialog
- Option dialog:
 - like a message but has a variety of buttons
- Input dialog:
 - to obtain a text input

Example (1)

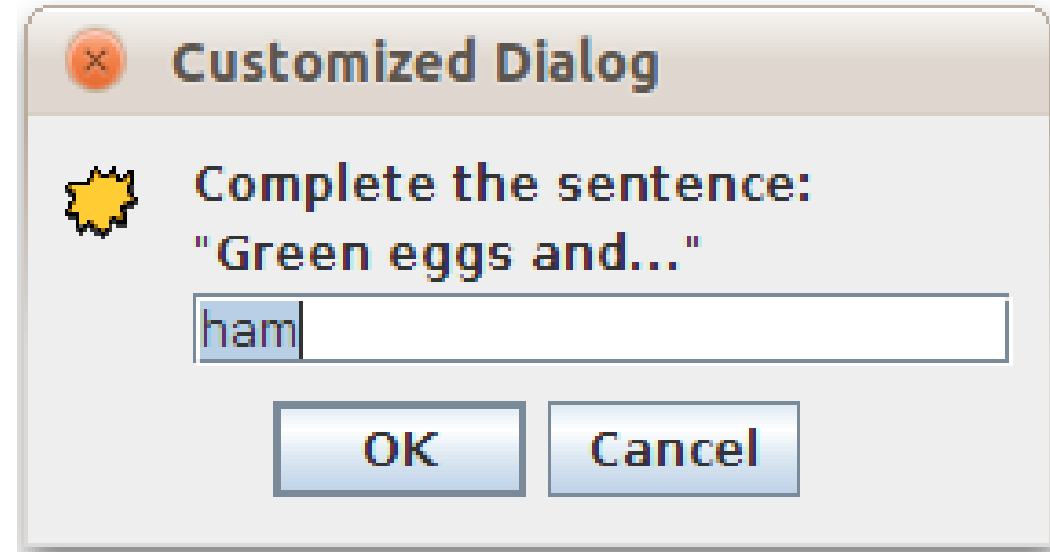
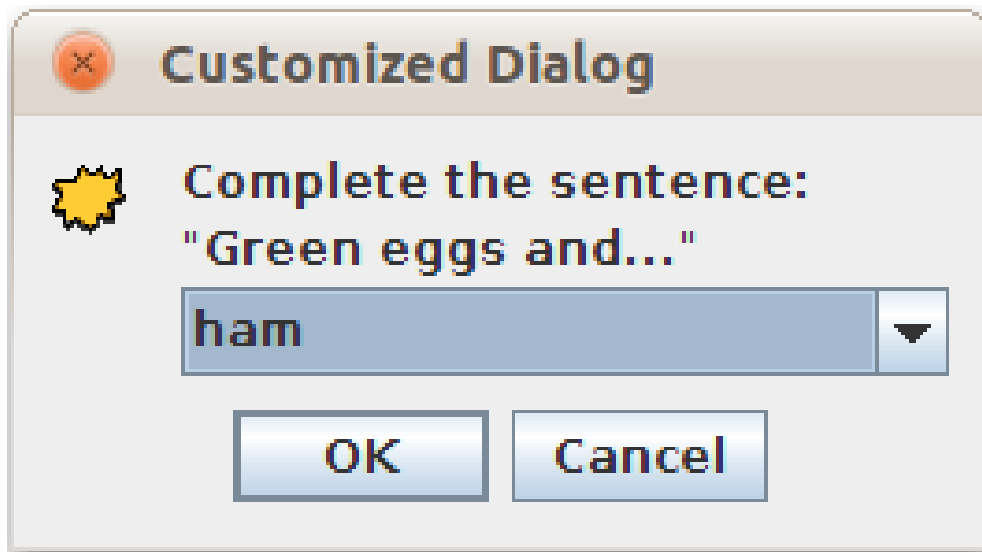


message dialogs



option dialog

Example (2)



input dialogs

Methods to create dialogs

- showMessageDialog
- showOptionDialog
- showInputDialog

showMessageDialog

- `parentComponent`: the parent window (frame)
- `mesg`: the message to show
- `title`: the dialog title
- `messageType`:
 - `INFORMATION_MESSAGE`
 - `ERROR_MESSAGE`
 - `WARNING_MESSAGE`
 - `PLAIN_MESSAGE`

showOptionDialog

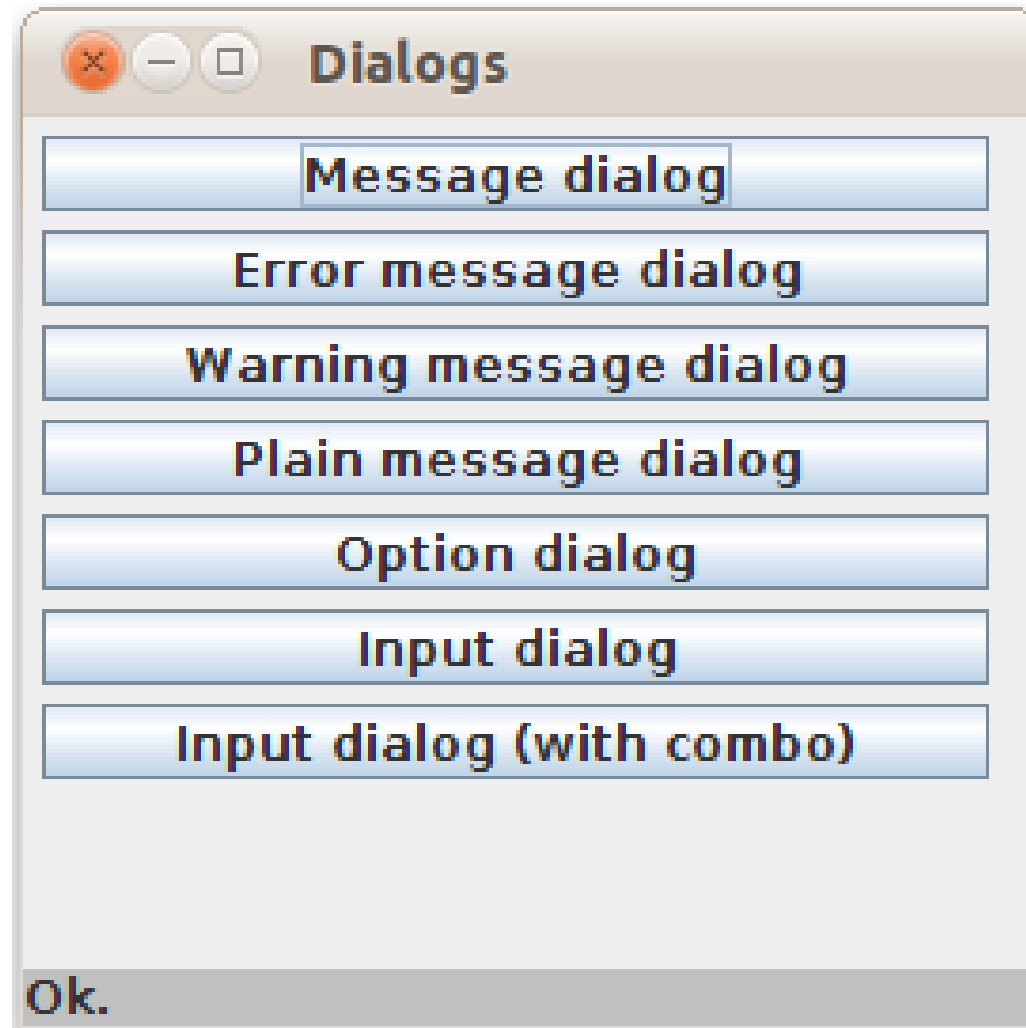
- `parentComponent`
- `msg`
- `title`
- `optionType`: a combination of Yes/No/Cancel
- `messageType`
- `icon`: an Icon object
- `options` (optional): list of button texts (matches with `optionType`)
- `initialValue`: initial (selected) button

showInputDialog

- `parentComponent`
- `msg`
- `title`
- `messageType`
- `icon`: an `Icon` object
- `options` (optional): list of allowed values to select
- `initialValue`: initially (selected) value

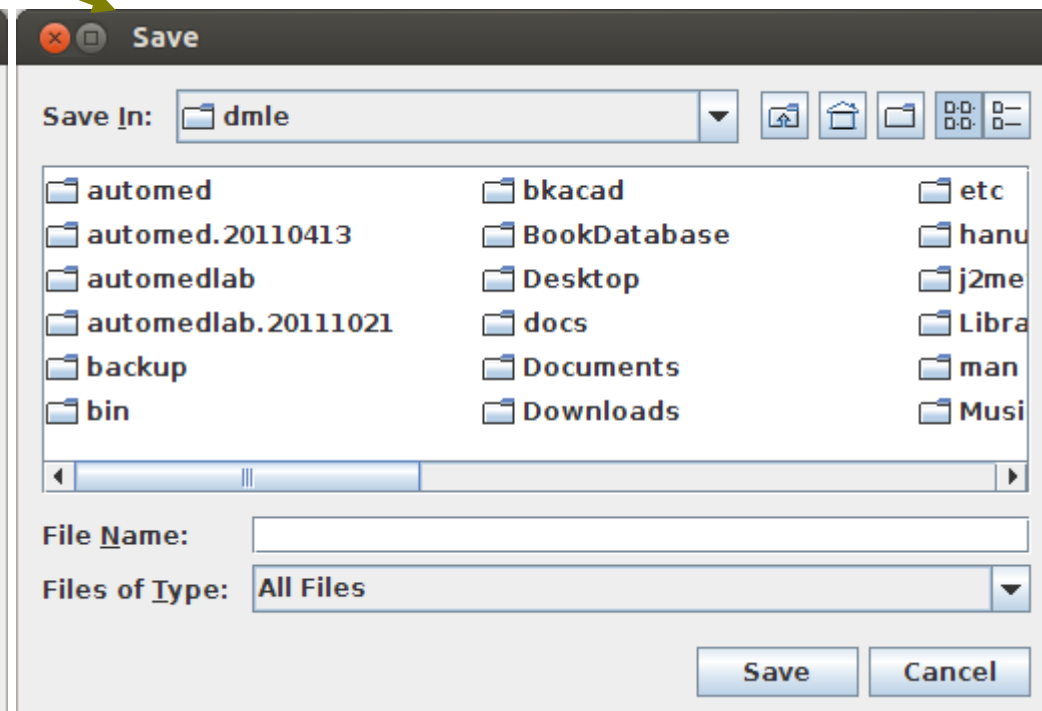
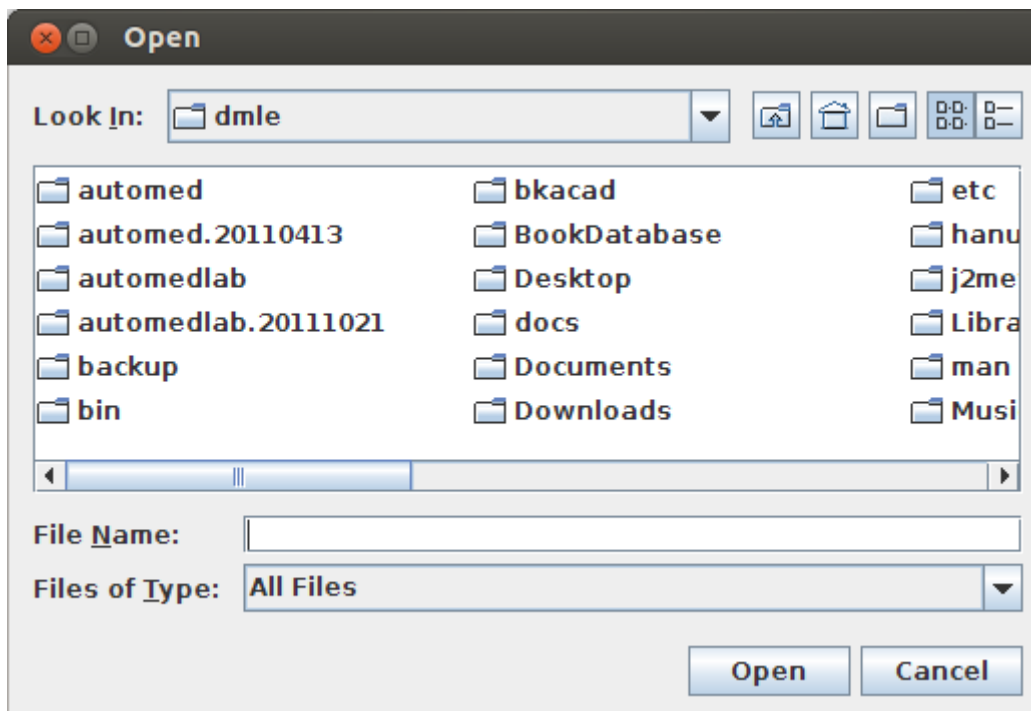
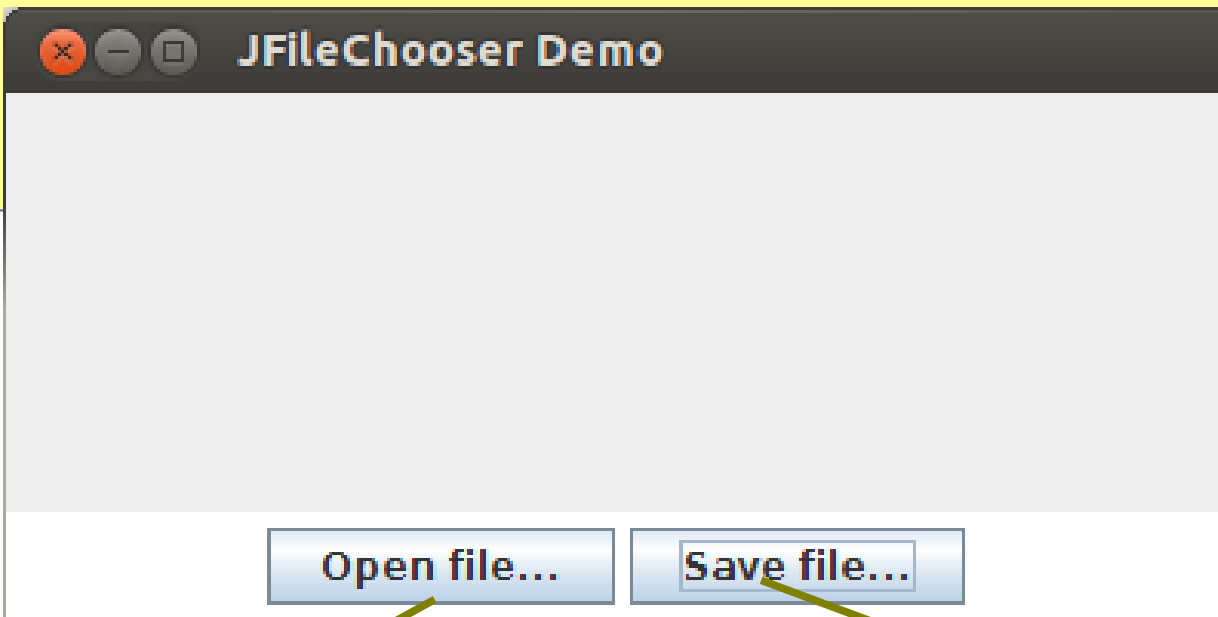
JOptionPane

`lect08.dialogs.SimpleDialogDemo`



JFileChooser

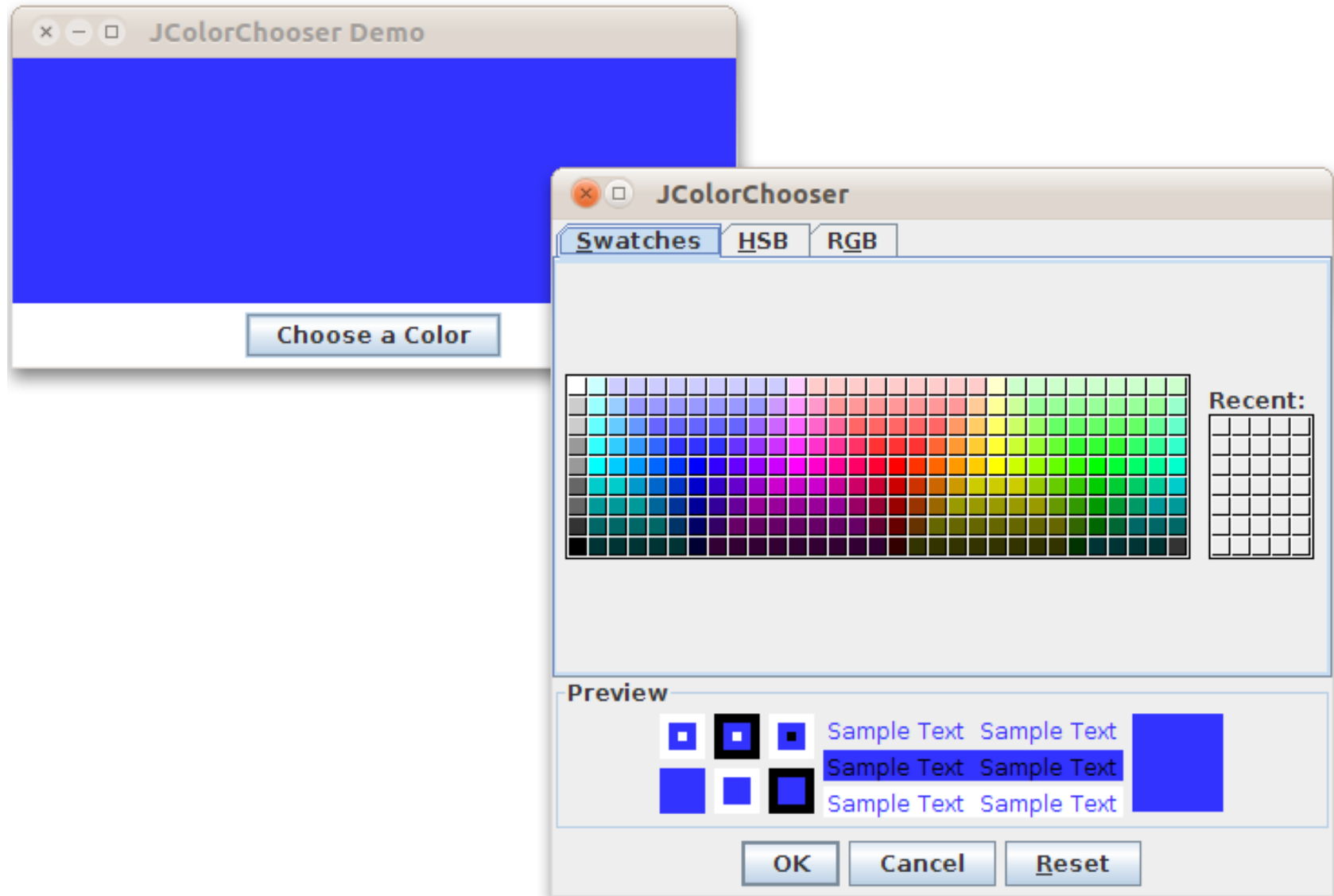
lect08.dialogs.
JFileChooserDemo



DEMO

JColorChooser

lect08.dialogs.JColorChooserDemo

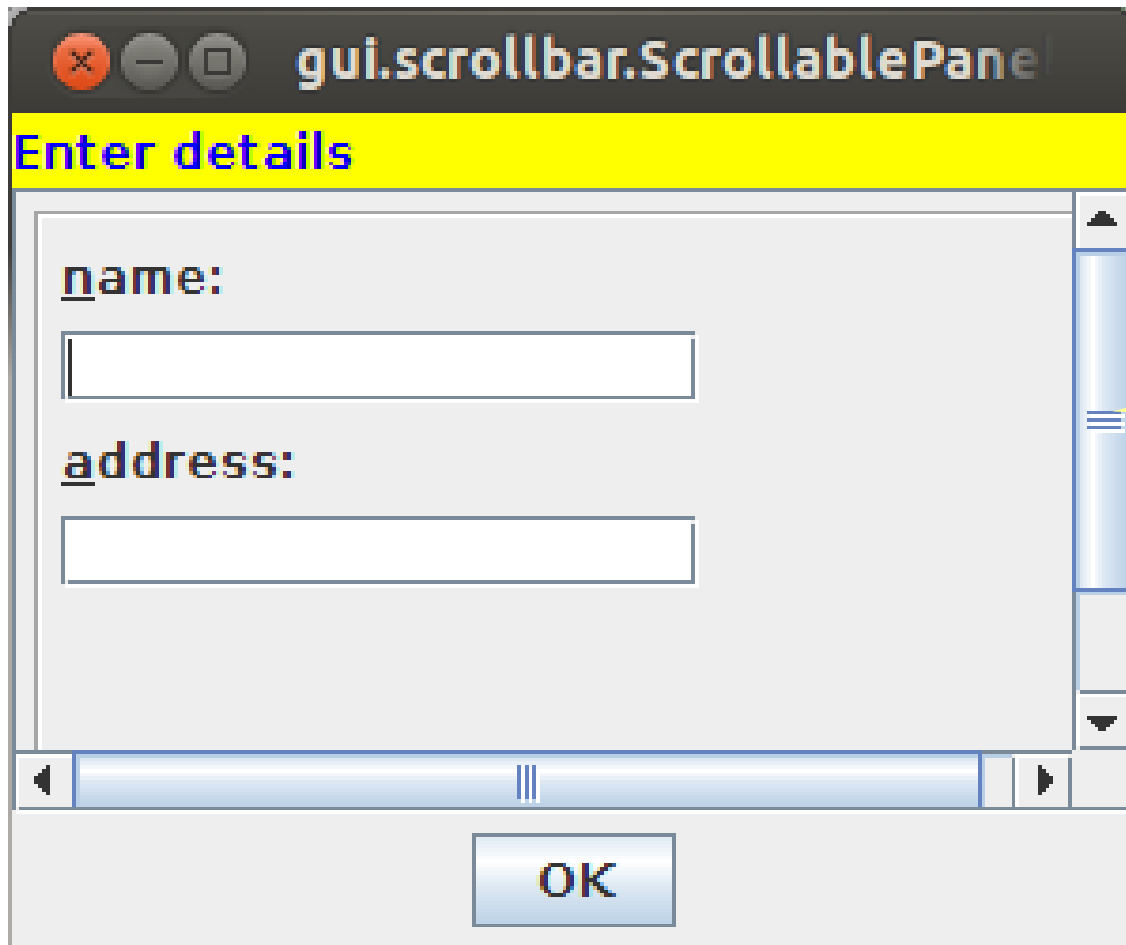


- Class: `JScrollPane`
- Represents a fixed, sliding view of a display component
- Create a `JScrollPane` object using the component as input
- Add the `JScrollPane` object to the window
- Examples:
 - scrollable panel
 - scrollable text field
 - scrollable table (later)

DEMO

Scrollable panel

lect08.scrollbar.ScrollablePanelDemo



Scroll bar
for a panel