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474 Project Rationale Writeup

**About**

Our frontend application for the project was designed using Java Swing to be a similar experience to the IMDB website, as it runs off a similar database. It is a cut and dry program as far as functionality is concerned, and will offer a user a straight forward approach to finding information from queries corresponding to the IMDB database.

**Setup**

An executable JAR is provided at <https://github.com/maxswagger/474SQLProgram/releases> if you choose to go around setting up the provided source code. The Source code is in the uploaded ZIP file. If you choose to build and run from source the following procedure worked for us using Eclipse.

1. Drag the source code(Backend folder, UI folder, Main.java) from: *…\474SQLProgram-1.0.0\program\src* into the Eclipse “src” folder and the Assets folder: *…* *\474SQLProgram-1.0.0* into the Eclipse project folder.
2. Right click on your Project -> Build Path -> Edit Build Path, then click on the Libraries tab if not already there, click on Classpath then “Add External JARs…” and select both the mysql-connector jar and material-ui-swing jar from the Assets folder.

If you choose to not use the skin or because the material-ui-swing.jar file gives you issues you can remove the try/catch block in Main.java that begins on line 18 and ends on line 20. **Server/Connection settings can be changed through the Settings button in the program, or line 27 in Main.java (Line 24 or 25 if you deleted the previously mentioned try/catch block).**

**How To Use**

Upon launching the program, the user is presented with a windowed interface that allows them to enter in a query into a search bar. The search can either be executed by hitting the search button or by tapping “enter” on your keyboard. Additionally, you can adjust a few settings prior to searching; one such feature in the settings is a filter for weeding out all the adult content in the database.

After searching for your query, a list of results is posted for you to select from. Selecting a search result from the list will bring up another window with information pertaining to that selected results containing information ranging from fellow cast members to episodes from a television series. From this point in the program you can either go down a “rabbit hole” of internal searching, being able to infinitely click on some of the displayed information within that pane to go to another pane with new information displayed about what you had selected, or you can click the back button from anywhere within a search progress to return to the prior pane.