Developing Rich Clients with Eclipse 4.x RCP

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Who is Kai?

- Software Architect/Engineer at Siemens
 Corporate Technology
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Who is Tom?

- CEO BestSolution Systemhaus GmbH
- Committer
 - **e**4
 - Platform UI
 - EMF
- Project Lead
 - Nebula
 - UFaceKit



Outline

- Eclipse 4.x RCP Overview
- Creating a "Hello, World" RCP 4.0 application
- Workbench model
- Toolbar, menu, parts, commands, and handlers
- Dependency injection
- Services



e4 Objectives

- Make it easier to write plug-ins
- Allow better control over the look of Eclipse based products
- Provide a uniform, pervasive platform across computing environments (Web / RIA, Desktop, Server, Cloud, Embedded)
- Increase diversity of contributors to the platform
- Maintain backward compatibility for API-clean clients

What's new in Eclipse 4.0?

- Workbench Model (based on EMF)
- Workbench objects are mostly POJOs
- Dependency Injection
- CSS Styling
- Rendering Engine
- Services (aka "the 20 things")
- ...

Eclipse RCP 4.x Architecture

Additional **Platform JDT** PDE Bundles 3.x Compatibility Layer 4.0 Workbench Workbench Model, Rendering Engine, CSS Styling, Dependency Injection, Services Runtime (Equinox, OSGi) **EMF** Core UI Core (Jface, SWT) Java Virtual Machine **Operating System**

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- Dependency injection
- Services
- Look & Feel customization with CSS
- Rendering Engine

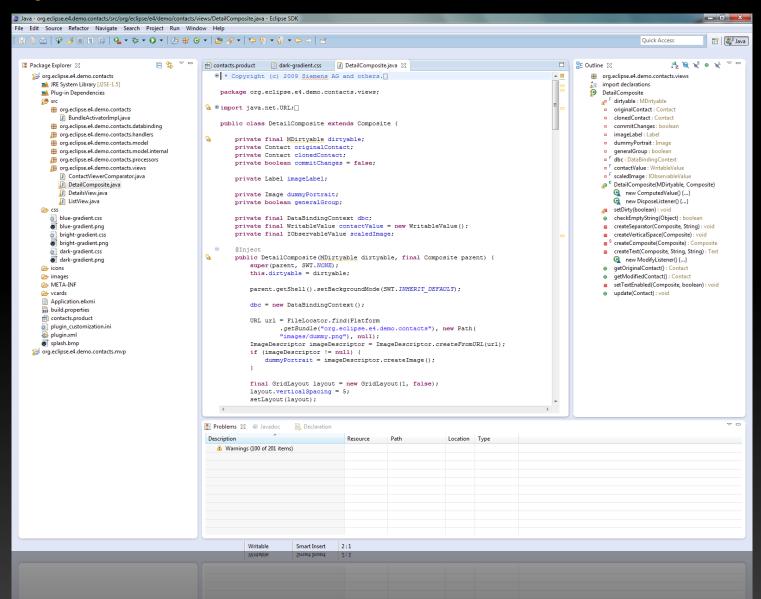
Starting Eclipse 4.x Development

There are two options:

- Eclipse 4.x SDK +
 - Eclipse 4.x tooling
- Eclipse 3.x SDK +
 - Eclipse 4.x tooling
 - Eclipse 4.x RCP target platform

For this tutorial we choose Eclipse 4.x SDK + Eclipse 4.x tooling

Eclipse 4.x SDK



Install the e4 Tooling

- Select Help/Install new Software...
- Work with: e4 0.11 | Build Updates
- Install E4 Tools/Eclipse e4 Tools (Incubation)



Getting Started

- Eclipse 4.0 tooling provides a new wizard to generate an e4 based RCP application
- We start with generation such a "Hello, e4" application
- Later we will create our tutorial application
 e4 Contacts manually

Lab: Generate "Hello, e4"

- Start the SDK
- Select New/Other.../e4/e4 Application Project
- Name the project org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello
- Click "Next"
- Change property Name to Hello e4
- Change property Provider to your name
- Click "Finish"

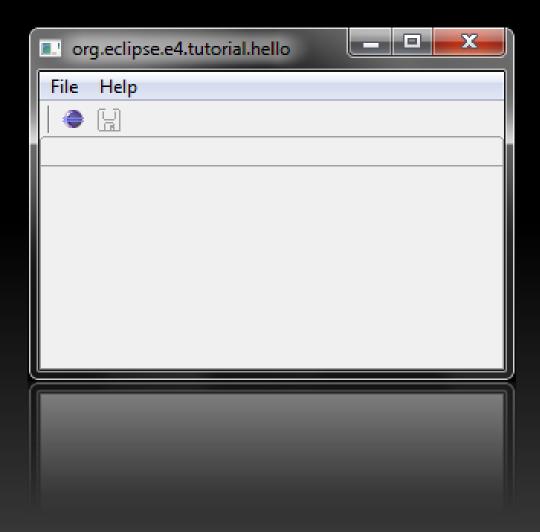
Lab: Launch "Hello, e4"

- Double-Click org.e4-tutorial.hello.product
- Click on "Launch an Eclipse Application" in the Testing section
 - If the launch fails, don't worry...
 - Open your org.e4-tutorial.hello.product launch configuration, select the Plug-ins tab and add all required plug-ins
 - Launch again, this should work!
- Play around with the application

The generated Project

a sed org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello JRE System Library [JavaSE-1.6] <table-of-contents> Plug-in Dependencies org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello.handlers AboutHandler.java OpenHandler.java QuitHandler.java SaveHandler.java 🗸 🗁 CSS default.css 🗁 icons META-INF MANIFEST.MF Application.e4xmi build.properties org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello.product 🙀 plugin.xml

The generated "Hello, e4" Application



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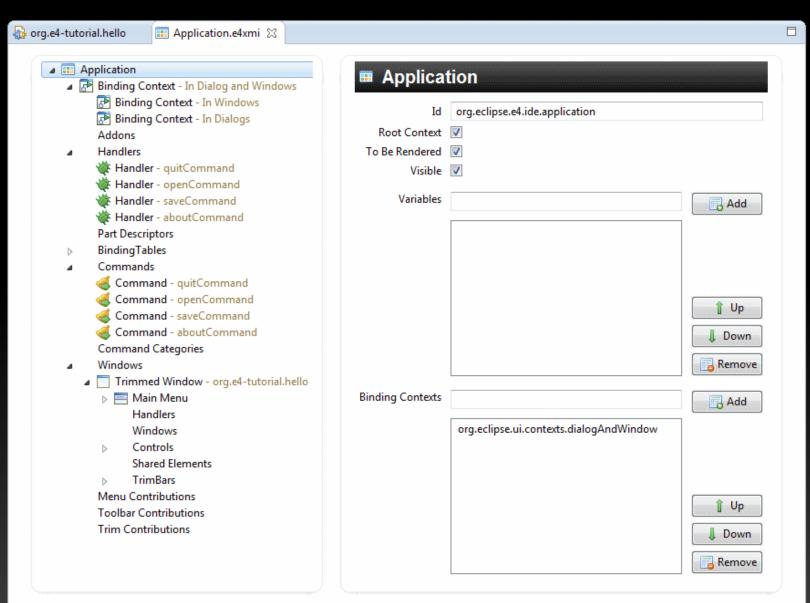
Workbench Model

- Is using EMF (Eclipse Modeling Framework)
- Contains graphical elements, like
 - part stacks, parts, menu bar and toolbar
- Contains non-graphical element, like
 - commands, handlers, key bindings
- Can be modified at runtime
- Can be edited using tools like the e4 WorkbenchModel Editor

Differences with Eclipse 3.x

- No distinction between views and editors
 - => Everything is a part
- No need of perspectives
 - => Can be used if desired

The e4 WorkbenchModel Editor



Workbench Model

- The model is stored in an XMI file
 - Best practice is to name it Application.e4xmi
- The model is contributed through the extension point org.eclipse.core.runtime.products
- In the product tag there is a property
 - with name applicationXMI
 - And value org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.hello/Application.e4xmi

NLS / Externalized Texts

- Similar to 3.x
 - Use %<yourkey> in the model as a placeholder
 - Add "yourkey" to the bundle's resource properties file (default OSGI-INF/I10n/bundle.properties)
- Translation is a pure decoration process that happens at rendering time
 - In future it will be possible to switch the UI language dynamically on the fly
- Use the model tooling to externalize Strings

Addons

- Allow to bring in code that needs access to the DI container e.g. to register code or register with the event bus
- Used to plug in into the event bus to modify the application model on certain events (e.g. double click on a TabItem)
- A standard e4 app needs at least 6 addons
 - CommandServiceAddon, CommandProcessingAddon
 - ContextServiceAddon, ContextProcessingAddon
 - BindingServiceAddon, BindingProcessingAddon

Lab: Manual Application Creation

- Create a Plug-in Project org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts
- Add a Product Extension
- Create a minimal Workbench Model
- Create a Product Configuration
- Launch the application

Lab: Create a Plug-in Project

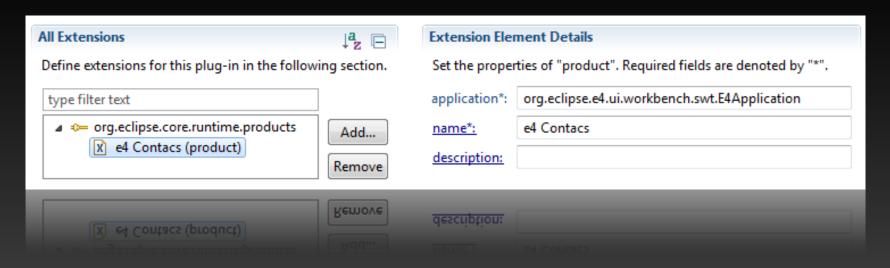
- On the first wizard page
 - Name the project org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts
 - Select Equinox as target platform
- On the second wizard page
 - Change the Name property to e4 Contacts
 - Put your name as Provider
 - Uncheck Generate an Activator
- Click Finish
- Now your project is created

Lab: Create a Product Definition (1)

- Open the file META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
- Click on Extensions in the Overview tab
 - This makes the Extensions tab visible if hidden
- Add a dependency to org.eclipse.equinox.app
- Save (Press CTRL s)
- Select the Extensions tab and add the extension point org.eclipse.core.runtime.products
- Make sure to put product in the ID field

Lab: Create a Product Definition (2)

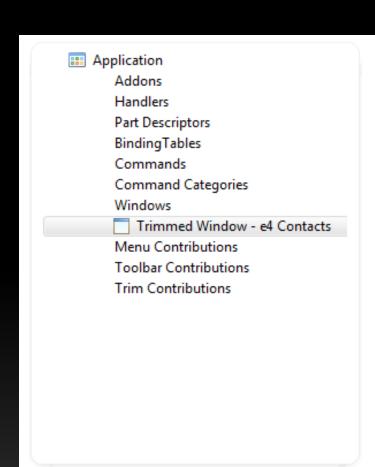
- Add a product to the ...products extension
- In the application field, put org.eclipse.e4.ui.workbench.swt.E4Application
- Use e4 Contacts as product name

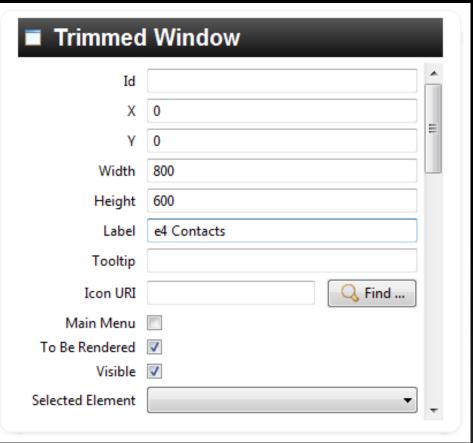


Lab: Minimal Workbench Model

- Select menu New/Other.../e4/Model/New Application Model
- Put /org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts as Container
- Click Finish, then the Application.e4xmi will be opened in the e4 WorkbenchModel editor
- In the editor, click Window in the left area and select Trimmed Window in the right area
- Click on the icon next to Trimmed Window
- Set Width to 800 ,Height to 600 and Label to e4 Contacts

Lab: Workbench Model Editor







Lab: Resulting Application.e4xmi

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ASCII"?>
<application:Application xmi:version= "2.0"
  xmlns:xmi= "http://www.omg.org/XMI"
 xmlns:xsi= "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns:application= "http://www.eclipse.org/ui/2010/UIModel/application"
 xmlns:basic= "http://www.eclipse.org/ui/2010/UIModel/application/ui/basic"
  xmi:id= "_PXE0EJ-qEd-iBNJWVQ-d9Q"
  elementId= "org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.application" >
  <children
    xsi:type= "basic:TrimmedWindow"
    xmi:id= "_eB6zsJ-xEd-iBNJWVQ-d9Q"
    label= "e4 Contacts"
    width= "800"
    height= "600" />
</application:Application>
```

Lab: Create a Product Configuration (1)

- Create a product configuration
 - Name it contacts
 - Choose Use an existing product: org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.product
 - Click Finish
- Add dependencies
 - org.eclipse.equinox.ds
 - org.eclipse.equinox.event
 - org.eclipse.e4.ui.workbench.renderers.swt
- Click Add Required Plug-ins and save

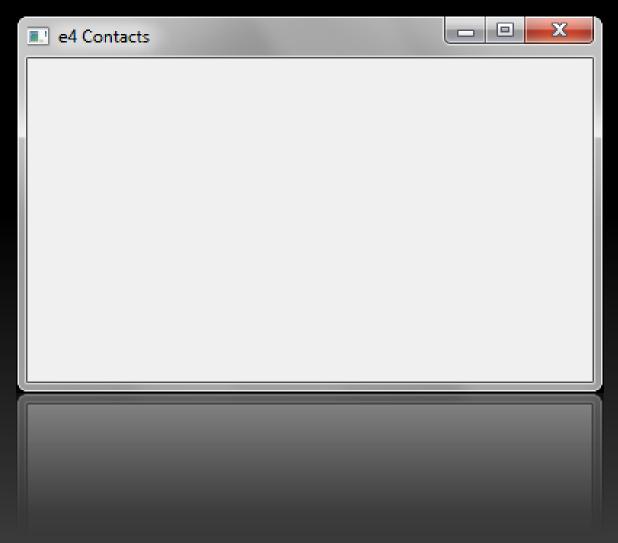
Lab: Create a Product Configuration (2)

- Open plugin.xml in the manifest editor
- Add property to the e4 Contacts product
 - name appName
 - Value e4 Contacts
- Add property to the e4 Contacts product
 - name applicationXMI
 - value org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts/Application.e4xmi

Lab: Resulting plugin.xml

```
<plugin>
 <extension
  id="product"
  point="org.eclipse.core.runtime.products" >
  oduct
   application="org.eclipse.e4.ui.workbench.swt.E4Application"
   name="e4 Contacts" >
   cproperty
     name="appName"
     value="e4 Contacts" >
   </property>
   cproperty
     name="applicationXMI"
     value="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts/Application.e4xmi" >
   </property>
  </product>
 </extension>
</plugin>
```

Lab: Launch empty e4 Contacts App



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Commands and Handlers



Command

- Is an abstraction for a generic action
 - Like save, open, etc.
- Has no implementation of a behavior
 - This is done by handlers
- Can be used in toolbars or menus
 - The same command can be customized with specific UI elements, like icon, text, etc.
- Have properties: id, name, description, category and tag
- Can have a key binding

Handler

- Provides an implementation of a behavior
- Can be bound to a Command
- Is a POJO!
- Uses Annotations
 - to declare methods to be executed: @Execute
 - to check, if it can be executed: @CanExecute
- Gets its dependencies injected (DI)

A simple Exit Handler

```
public class ExitHandler {
    @Execute
    public void execute(IWorkbench workbench) {
        workbench.close();
    }
}
```

Lab: Create a Handler

- Add two new dependencies in your project
 - org.eclipse.e4.ui.workbench
 - org.eclipse.e4.core.di
- Create the class ExitHandler in the package org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.handlers
- Use the @Execute annotation
- Use the interface IWorkbench in the execute method, it will be injected automatically

Lab: Add a Menu

- In the e4 WorkbenchModel editor add a Main Menu to the Trimmed Window
- Give it the id menu:org.eclipse.ui.main.menu
- Expand the Main Menu and select Children
- Add a Menu with Label File
- Add a Direct MenuItem to the Menu
- Choose your ExitHandler the for the Class URI and put Exit (Direct) in the Label field
- Save and launch the e4 contacts product

e4 Contacts with Menu



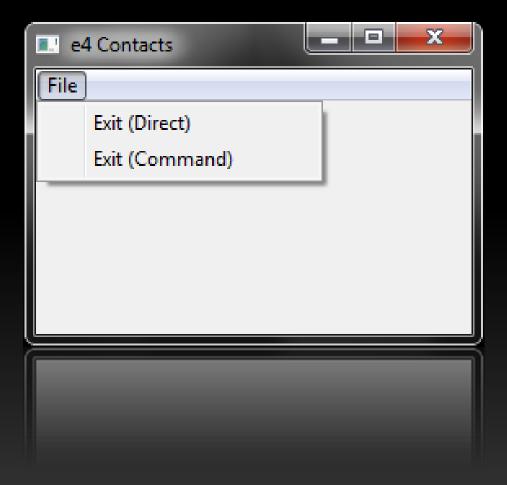
Lab: Use a Command (1)

- In the e4 WorkbenchModel editor select Application/Commands
- Add a Command with
 - Id contacts.exit
 - Name Exit (Command)
- In the e4 WorkbenchModel editor select Application/Handlers
- Add a Handler and use contacts.exit as Command

Lab: Use a Command (2)

- In the e4 WorkbenchModel editor select Trimmed Window/Main Menu/ Children/Menu/Children
- Add a HandledMenuItem to the Menu
- Use contacts.exit as Command
- Save and launch the e4 contacts product

e4 Contacts with two Menu Items



The Domain Model (1)

- We use two domain model interfaces
- An IContact
 - Has attributes like firstName, lastName, email
- An IContactsRepository
 - Provides methods for getting all contacts, adding and removing a contact
- We use OSGi Declarative Services (DS)
 - Loose coupling
 - Implementation can be changed at runtime
 - DI in Workbench Model objects works out of the box

The Domain Model (2)

- Bundle org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model contains the two interfaces
- Bundle
 org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model.simple
 contains a simple implementation and the
 OSGi declarative service

IContact

```
public interface | Contact {
  String getFirstName();
  void setFirstName(String firstName);
  String getLastName();
  void setLastName(String lastName);
  String getEmail();
                                             Needed for
  void setEmail(String email);
                                         Beans Databinding
  void addPropertyChangeListener(
              PropertyChangeListener listener);
  void removePropertyChangeListener(
              PropertyChangeListener listener);
```

IContactsRepository

```
public interface IContactsRepository {
    IObservableList getAllContacts();
    void addContact(IContact contact);
    void removeContact(IContact contact);
}
```

IObservableList can be used with databinding

OSGi Declarative Service

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<scr:component
xmlns:scr="http://www.osgi.org/xmlns/scr/v1.1.0"
name="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model.simple.contactsrepository">
 <implementation</pre>
   class="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model.simple.ContactsRepository"/>
 <service>
  cprovide
   interface="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model.IContactsRepository"/>
</service>
</scr:component>
```



Part

- A Part is a POJO!
- There is no distinction between ViewPart and EditorPart like in Eclipse 3.x
- A Part gets his depended objects through DI
- A Part can use life cycle annotations for its methods
- The UI within a part is implemented with SWT and JFace

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Dependency Injection (DI)

e4 Dependency Injection (1)

- JSR 330 compatible injection implementation
 - @javax.inject.Inject
 - Field, Constructor and Method injection
 - @javax.inject.Named
 - A named qualifier to the context object
 - Default is fully qualified class name of the injected type

e4 Dependency Injection (2)

e4 specific annotations

@Optional

 Marks a parameter or attribute as optional. If there is no object to be injected at runtime, null is injected instead but the workflow continues

@PostConstruct

Is invoked after all injections are done and the object is created

@PreDestroy

Is invoked before the object will be destroyed by the DI container. This is good for cleaning up...

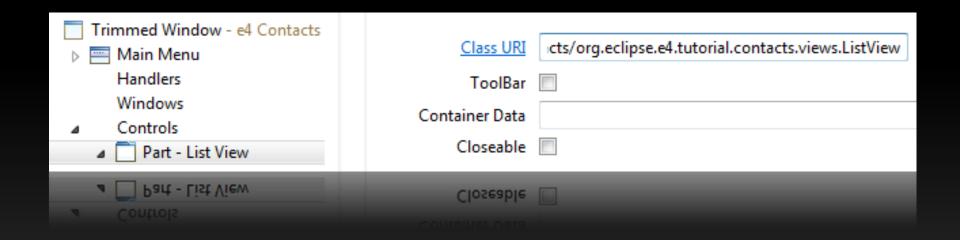
The List View Part

public class ListView {

```
@Inject
public ListView(
 Composite parent,
 | IContactsRepository contactsRepository |
   // create UI ...
```

Add a Part to the Workbench Model

- Add a Part to the Controls section
- Use a POJO like the List View as Class URI



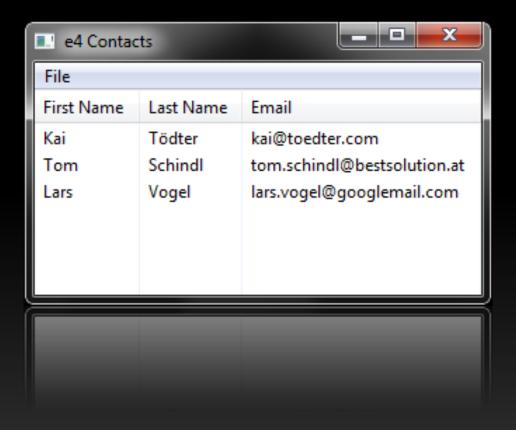
Lab: Add a List View (1)

- Import the projects
 - org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model
 - org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model.simple
- In your project org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts
 - Add dependencies
 - org.eclipse.swt
 - org.eclipse.jface
 - org.eclipse.jface.databinding
 - javax.inject
 - org.eclipse.core.databinding
 - org.eclipse.core.databinding.beans
 - org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model
 - Create a class org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.ListView

Lab: Add a List View (2)

- Copy the snippet "ListView.txt" into the body of your List View class
- Add your List View as Part to the Workbench Model
- Save all, then open your product configuration and add all required plug-ins in the dependencies
- Launch the application

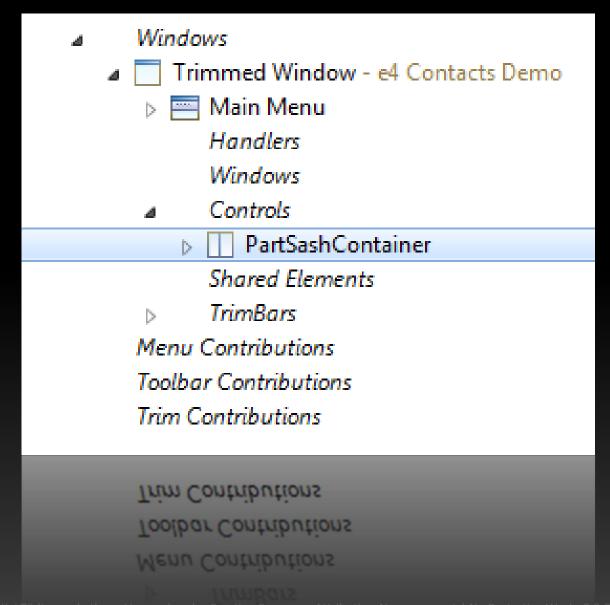
e4 Contacts with List View



Part Stacks and Sashes (1)

- A typical RCP application has more than one Part
- To use a Sash and a Part Stack, just add a PartSashContainer to the Trimmed Window and a Part Stack to the PartSashContainer
- You can use Drag & Drop to move your part into the Part Stack

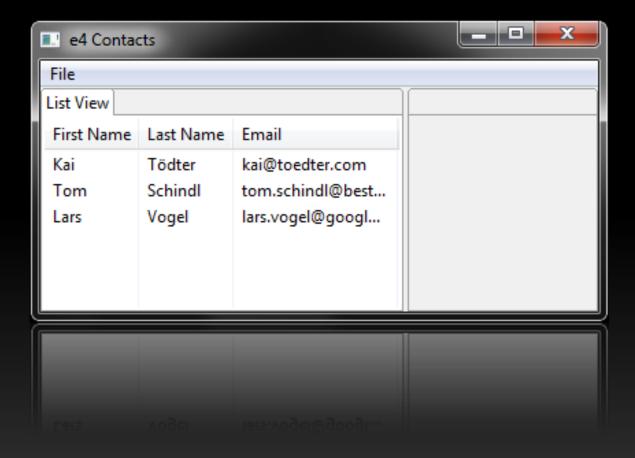
Part Stacks and Sashes in the Editor



Lab: Add Sash and Part Stacks

- Add a PartSashContainer to the Trimmed Window
 - Use Horizontal orientation
- Add two Part Stacks to the Sash
- Move your List View Part to the first Part Stack
- Give the second Part Stack the id org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.partstacks.second
 - We need that later in the tutorial

e4 Contacts with Part Stacks and Sash



Workbench Model Contributions

- The Workbench Model is dynamic
- Other bundles can make all kinds of contributions
- Contributors just need to know the id of the element they want to contribute to
- There are two kind of contributions
 - Static fragments
 - Dynamic processors

Model Fragments

- In this tutorial, a new bundle wants to contribute a part to the second part stack
- This bundle has to contribute to the extension point org.eclipse.e4.workbench.model
- The extension refers to a new XMI model fragment, stored in the file xmi/fragment.e4xmi

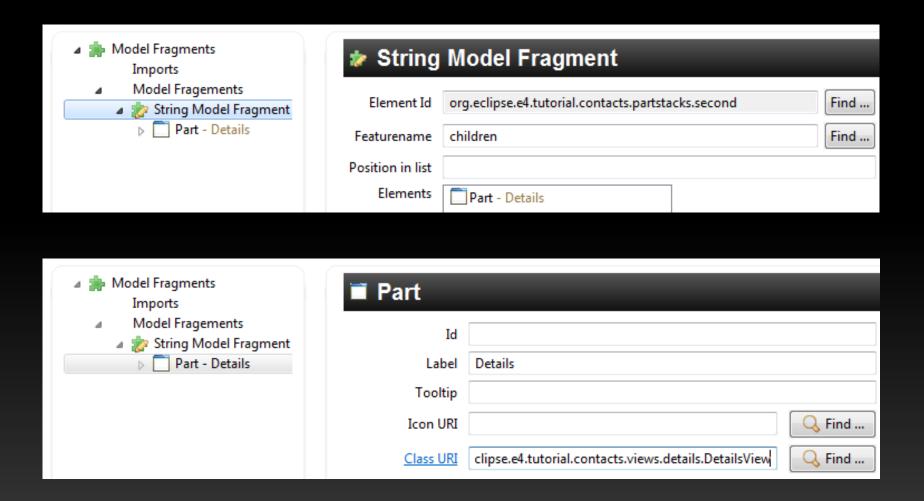
Model Fragment Extension

```
<extension
   id="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.details.fragment"
   point="org.eclipse.e4.workbench.model">
        <fragment
        uri="xmi/fragment.e4xmi">
        </fragment>
        </extension>
```

fragment.e4xmi

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ASCII"?>
<fragment:ModelFragments xmi:version="2.0"</pre>
   xmlns:xmi="http://www.omg.org/XMI"
   xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
   xmlns:basic="http://www.eclipse.org/ui/2010/UIModel/application/ui/basic"
   xmlns:fragment="http://www.eclipse.org/ui/2010/UIModel/fragment"
   xmi:id="_glJTgHijEd-QLpUkCzu7EA">
 <fragments xsi:type="fragment:StringModelFragment" xmi:id="188321c0-f6a1-</pre>
   4502-8073-f8d9c746dfd8" featurename="children"
   parentElementId="org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.partstacks.second">
  <elements xsi:type="basic:Part"</pre>
   xmi:id="89a10afd-b11c-497e-b89f-956997b74293"
   contributionURI="platform:/plugin/org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.detail
   ls/org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.details.DetailsView" label="Details"/>
</fragments>
</fragment:ModelFragments>
```

fragment.e4xmi in Model Editor



Lab: New Part as Model Fragment (1)

- Create a new bundle org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.details
- Add the following dependencies:
 - javax.inject
 - org.eclipse.swt
 - org.eclipse.core.databinding
 - org.eclipse.core.databinding.beans
 - org.eclipse.jface.databinding
 - org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.model
 - org.eclipse.e4.core.di
 - org.eclipse.e4.ui.services

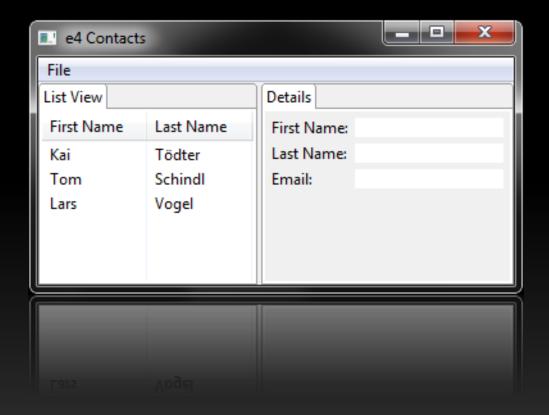
Lab: New Part as Model Fragment (2)

- Copy the file DetailsView.java into the src folder of the new project
- Create a new folder xmi in the new project
- Create a New Model Fragment in the xmi folder
- Add the DetailsView as Part to a new String Model Fragment with id org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.partstacks.second

Lab: New Part as Model Fragment (3)

- Create the extension for org.eclipse.e4.workbench.model
 - Tip: Uncheck "Show only extensions..."
- Remove email from your List View
- Add the bundle org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.views.details to your run configuration
- Save and launch

e4 Contacts with new Model Fragment



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e4 Services (aka "The 20 Things")

e4 provides access to many services.

These services are divided in sections:

- Core
- User Interface
- Advanced
- Domain-Specific

Most of these services are injected using DI, see also: http://wiki.eclipse.org/E4/Eclipse Application Services

e4 Services

- Editor lifecycle
- Receiving input
- Selection
- Standard dialogs
- Persisting UI state
- Logging
- Interface to help system
- Menu contributions
- Authentication
- Authorization

- Long-running operations
- Progress reporting
- Error handling
- Navigation model
- Resource management
- Status line
- Drag and drop
- Undo/Redo
- Accessing preferences

The above list is not complete...

Example: Selection Provider

```
@Inject
private ESelectionService selectionService;
tableViewer
 .addSelectionChangedListener(new ISelectionChangedListener() {
  public void selectionChanged(SelectionChangedEvent event) {
   | IStructuredSelection selection =
     (IStructuredSelection) event.getSelection();
     selectionService.setSelection(selection.getFirstElement());
```

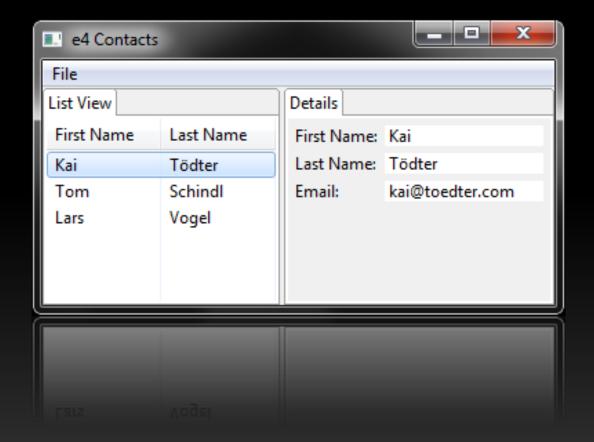
Example: Selection User

```
@Inject
public void setSelection(
   @Optional
   @Named(IServiceConstants.ACTIVE_SELECTION)
   IContact contact) {
     if (contact != null) {
        ...
```

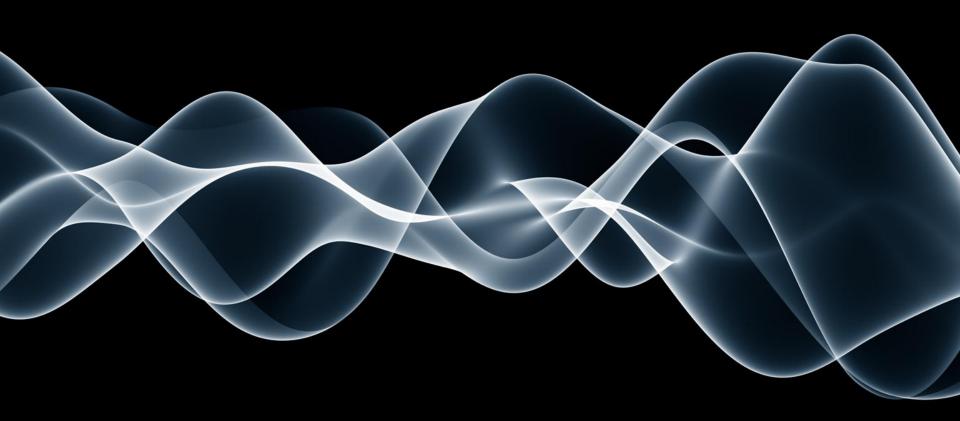
Lab: Add Selection

- React on selections in the ListView and propagate them to the selection service
- Make the DetailsView reacting on the active selection
- Launch and check if the selection mechanism is working properly

e4 Contacts with Selection



Rendering



Workbench Model and Rendering

- The Workbench model has no dependencies to a specific UI toolkit
- During startup, the app context is asks for an IPresentationEngine service
- The default is an SWT based presentation engine
- The presentation engine asks a registered RendererFactory for Renderers

 => As a proof of concept, It would be possible to implement a Swing based presentation engine

Tasks of the Renderer

- Manages lifecycle of the UI element
 - Creation
 - Model to widget binding
 - Rendering
 - Disposal

RendererFactory Example

public class WorkbenchRendererFactory implements IRendererFactory { public AbstractPartRenderer getRenderer (MUIElement uiElement, Object parent) { if (uiElement instanceof MPart) { if (contributedPartRenderer == null) { contributedPartRenderer = new ContributedPartRenderer(); initRenderer(contributedPartRenderer); return contributedPartRenderer; //...

Multiple Renderers

One model element (e.g. a Part Stack) could have different renderers



CTabRenderer

PShelfRenderer

• • •

ClabRenderei

PShelfRenderer

Custom Renderer Factories

public class RendererFactory extends WorkbenchRendererFactory { @Override public AbstractPartRenderer getRenderer (MUIElement uiElement, Object parent) { if (uiElement instanceof MPartStack && usePShelfRenderer()) { if(stackRenderer == null) { stackRenderer = new PShelfStackRenderer(); initRenderer(stackRenderer); return stackRenderer; return super.getRenderer(uiElement, parent);

RendererFactory Registration

- Add a property to your product extension
- name = "rendererFactoryUri"
- value = "<URI to your class>"
 - E.g.
 "platform:/plugin/org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.
 renderer/org.eclipse.e4.tutorial.contacts.renderer.
 RendererFactory"

Lab: Use a custom RendererFactory

- Create a new class RendererFactory that extends WorkbenchRendererFactory
- Implement getRenderer(MUIElement uiElement, Object parent)
- Print out the class of the MUIElement
- Return super.getRenderer()...
- Register the RendererFactory as property in your product
- Save and launch



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 - See http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/de/deed.en_US
- Parts of the material are based on work of Tom Schindl (http://www.bestsolution.at) and Lars Vogel (www.vogella.de)

Picture Index

Many thanks to the authors of the following pictures:

- Slide "e4 Objectives": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1081630
- Slide "Install the e4 Tooling": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1009690
- Slide "Workbench Model": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1168590
- Slide "Commands and Handlers: http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1005737
- Slide "Parts": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1269461
- Slide "Dependency Injection (DI)": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/948813
- Slide "Services": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/157966
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- Slide "Dynamic Theme Switching": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/823108
- Slide "Rendering": http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1263022
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