





COMP2059 Developing Maintainable Software

LECTURE 07 - MAINTAINABLE GUI DEVELOPMENT (2/2)

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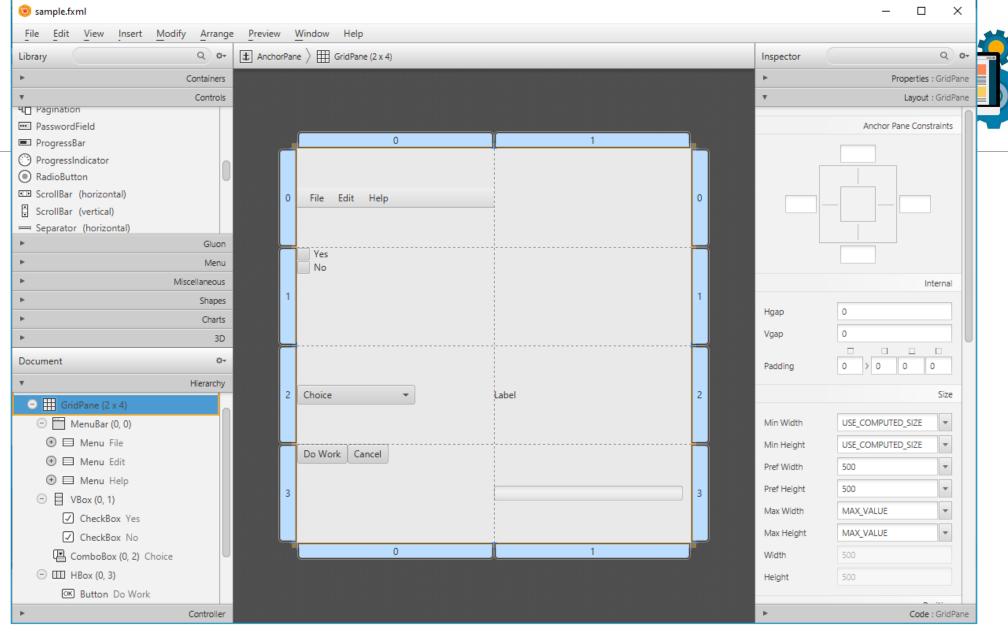




JavaFX Advanced Topics

PREPARATION

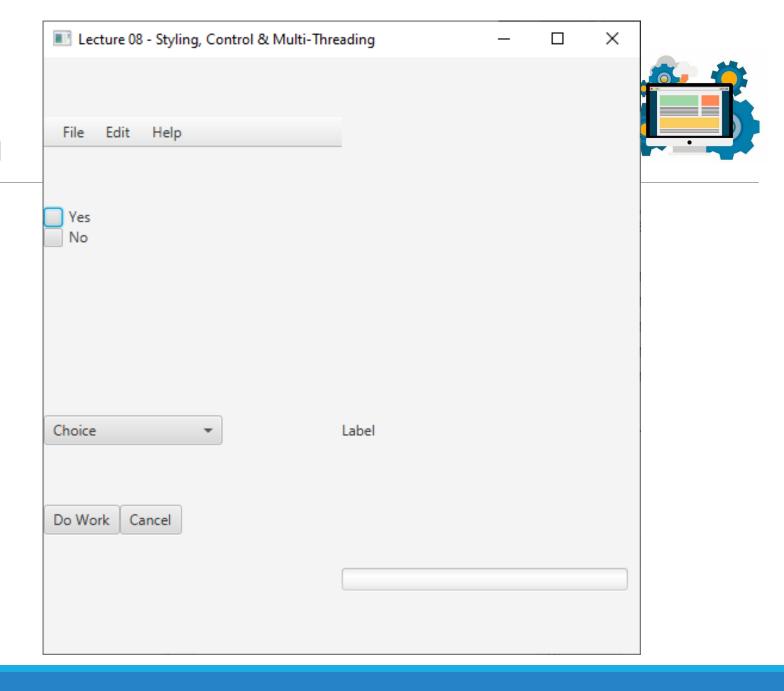






Preparation

• The result.







JavaFX Advanced Topics

CONTROLS





Hierarchy

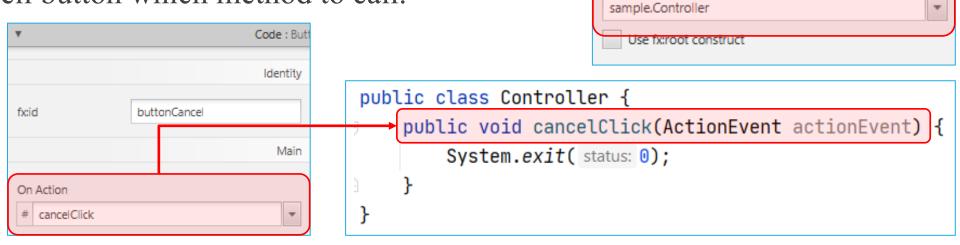
Controller

Work with FXML (Reminder)

- Define controller class in FXML file (if not done automatically)
- Write controller code.

This is basic FXML event handling.

Tell button which method to call.



Document

Controller class





Work with FXML

• Use "fx:id" in SceneBuilder to couple with a variable in Controller

class.



```
public class PhoneControl {
    @FXML
    private ImageView ivPhoneImage;

public void initialize() {
    Image image = new Image(s: "phone.png");
    ivPhoneImage.setImage(image);
}
}
```



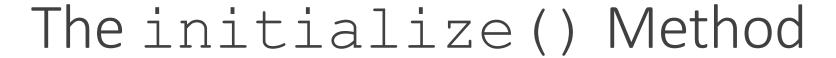




- CheckBox
- ComboBox
- MenuBar
- ImageView

o NOTE: These are all Node subclasses.







- Why do we need the initialize() method?
 - The FXMLLoader creates an instance of the corresponding controller by invoking first the default constructor and then the initialize () method.
 - What is the difference between using the constructor of initialize () method to initialize the controller?
- The constructor is called first, then any @FXML annotated fields are populated, then the initialize() method is called.
 - This means the constructor does NOT have access to @FXML fields referring to components defined in the .fxml file, while initialize() does have access to them.







- Check boxes have a boolean state, depending whether checked or not.
- Steps.
 - Add "checkBoxYesOnClick()" method to the corresponding Controller class.
 - Give it an fx:id and listen for the action.

		Identity
fx:id	checkBoxYes	
		Main
On Action		
# checkBoxYesOnCli	ck	▼





CheckBox

```
@FXML private CheckBox checkBoxYes;
@FXML private CheckBox checkBoxNo;
@FXML
private void initialize() {
    checkBoxYes.setSelected(true);
public void checkBoxYesOnClick(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
    if(checkBoxYes.isSelected())
        checkBoxNo.setSelected(false);
    else
        checkBoxNo.setSelected(true);
public void checkBoxYesOnClick(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
   checkBoxNo.setSelected(!checkBoxYes.isSelected());
```

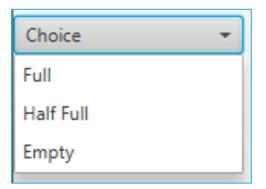
```
Lecture 08 - Styling, Control & Multi-Threading
  File Edit Help
Yes
✓ No
 Choice
                                      Label
Do Work Cancel
```







- This is the "drop down box" style of control.
- o It presents the user with a list of items, and the user can select one.
- Slightly different to other controls so far.
 - Need to get items into the list.
 - Need to check when an item had been selected.









```
@FXML private CheckBox checkBoxNo;
@FXML private ComboBox comboBox;

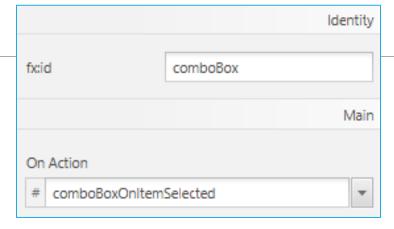
@FXML
private void initialize() {
    checkBoxYes.setSelected(true);

    ObservableList<String> comboBoxOptions =
        FXCollections.observableArrayList( ...es: "Full", "Half Full", "Empty");
}
```





- o How do you get selections?
 - Uses SceneBuilder and @FXML.
 - Choose OnAction event in SceneBuilder.
 - Then write a handler method.



```
public void comboBoxOnItemSelected(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
   String s = (String) comboBox.getSelectionModel().getSelectedItem();
   System.out.println("Selected choice is \"" + s + "\"");
}
```

• Can also do it the other way around ...

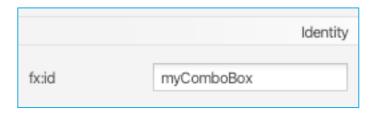






- o How do you get selections?
 - Coding directly.
 - Using an EventHandler<>.

```
comboBox.setOnAction(new EventHandler<ActionEvent>() {
    @Override
    public void handle(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
        String s = (String) comboBox.getSelectionModel().getSelectedItem();
        System.out.println("Selected choice is \"" + s + "\"");
    }
});
```



Using a lambda expression.

```
comboBox.setOnAction(event -> {
    String s = (String) comboBox.getSelectionModel().getSelectedItem();
    System.out.println("Selected choice is \"" + s + "\"");
});
```







There is another way to get the choice from a combo box, and in fact to link other kinds of controls with variables: Binding.

```
@FXML private ComboBox<String> comboBox;
@FXML private Label label;

@FXML
private void initialize() {
    checkBoxYes.setSelected(true);

    ObservableList<String> comboBoxOptions =
        FXCollections.observableArrayList( ...es: "Full", "Half Full", "Empty");
    comboBox.setItems(comboBoxOptions);

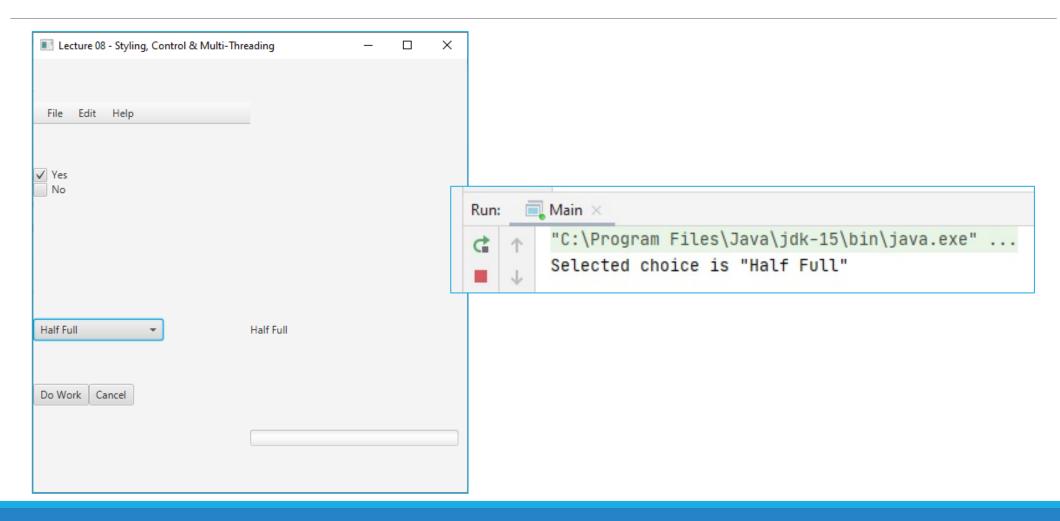
label.textProperty().bind(comboBox.getSelectionModel().selectedItemProperty());
}
```

• Whenever the value of the ComboBox property changes, the Label text changes automatically.



ComboBox





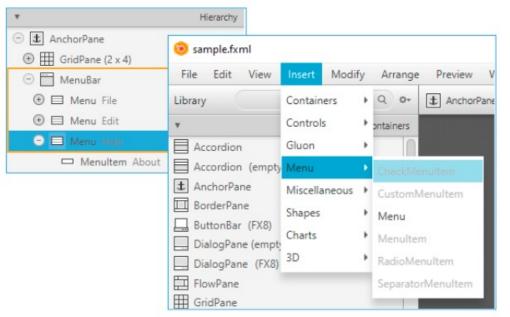


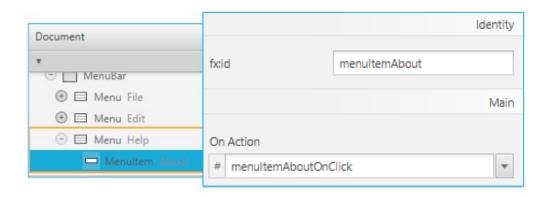


MenuBar

To add another "Menu' element to the "MenuBar', need to be on a "Menu"

element, not the "MenuBar" element.





```
public void menuItemAboutOnClick(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
   Alert alert = new Alert(Alert.AlertType.INFORMATION);
   alert.setTitle("About Maintainable GUI");
   alert.setContentText("This is to demonstrate the menu GUI");
   alert.show();
}
```



MenuBar



■ Lecture 08 - Styling, Control & Multi-Threading					
File Edit H	Help				
	About Maintainable GUI		×		
✓ Yes No	Message		(i)		
	This is to demonstrate the menu GUI				
		(OK		
Choice	•				
Do Work Cand	cel				



Add Images

- Can be done with ImageView control.
 - Give it an fx:id.
 - In the code:

```
@FXML
private void initialize() {
    checkBoxYes.setSelected(true);

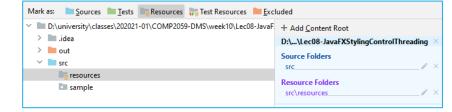
    ObservableList<String> comboBoxOptions =
        FXCollections.observableArrayList(...es: "Full", "Half Full", "Empty");
    comboBox.setItems(comboBoxOptions);

label.textProperty().bind(comboBox.getSelectionModel().selectedItemProperty());

Image image = new Image(s: "javafx.png");
    imageView.setImage(image);
```

fx:id

Watch for working directories when loading files.



imageView

Identity







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JavaFX Advanced Topics

STYLING



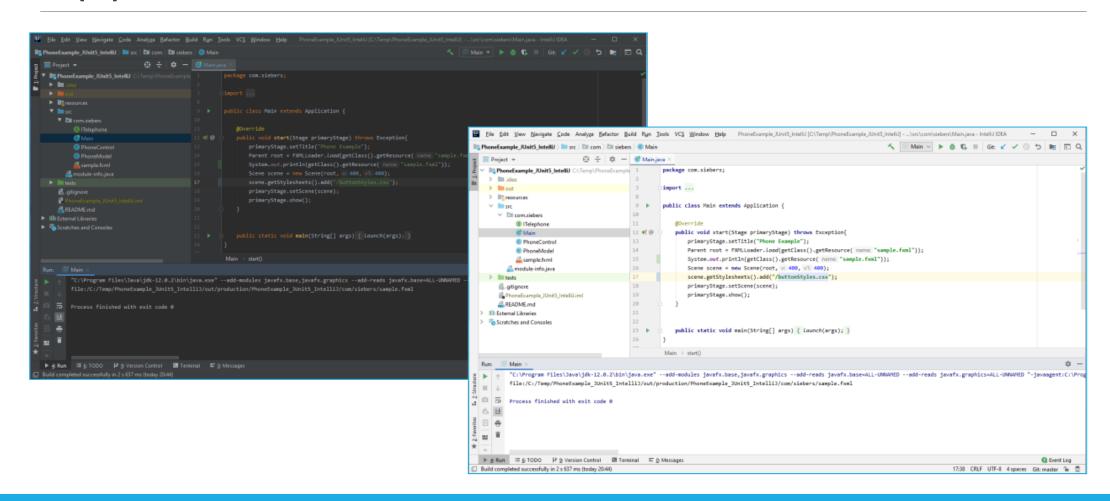


Customising GUI Appearance

- In addition to laying out the elements on the screen, also want to specify how they look.
- Remember appearance, design and code should be kept separated.
- Here, will change the appearance without adjusting anything else.
 - Suppose the company acquires a software package.
 - First thing might want to do is to bring the appearance in line with the rest of the product range.



Applications with Distinctive Themes









- A Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) is a means to define the look (visual properties) of UI elements in a GUI application.
 - Primary developed for use in web pages.
 - Allows separation of presentation and content/behaviour.
- CSS provides the syntax to define rules.
 - A rule consists of selector and property/value pair(s).

```
.button {
    -fx-background-color: red;
    -fx-text-size: 22;
}
```



User Defined Style Sheets

- Create *.css style sheet in "resources" folder.
 - Remember to add the resources folder to the "build-path".
 - JavaFX CSS naming conventions.
 - All style class names are lowercase node names.
 - If node name consists of multiple words, style class names use hyphen.
 - Property names start with "-fx-" followed by instance variables (lowercase + hyphenated).

```
.button {
    -fx-background-color: red;
    -fx-font-size: 22;
}
```

```
Group root = new Group();
Scene scene = new Scene(root, v: 300, v1: 275);
scene.getStylesheets().add(getClass().getResource( name: "styles.css").toString());
Button button = new Button( s: "JavaFX");
root.getChildren().add(button);
```





Default Style Sheets

Default look for JavaFX application is "modena.css".

```
Scene scene = new Scene(root, v: 300, v1: 275);
Application.setUserAgentStylesheet(Application.STYLESHEET_CASPIAN);
// scene.getStylesheets().add(getClass().getResource("styles.css").toString());
                             Lecture 08 - Styling, Co... —
                            JavaFX
```



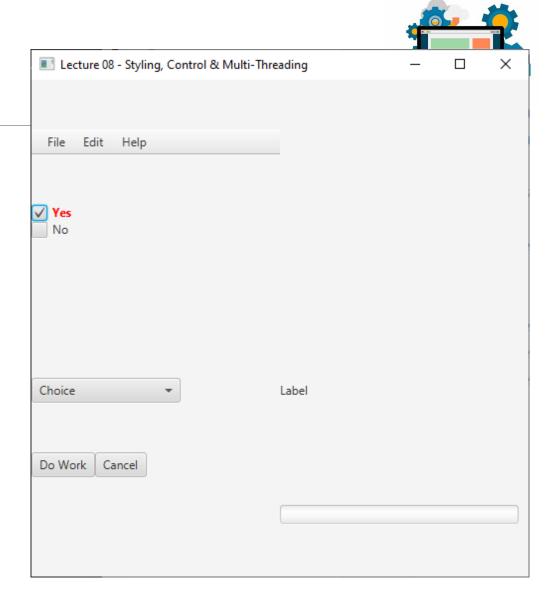
Adding Inline Styles



- Can add styles to individual nodes.
 - Use: setStyle (String inlineStyle) to set the style and getStyle () to get the style of a node.



Adding Inline Styles









- Ranking order (highest to lowest).
 - Inline style.
 - Parent style sheet (parent class).
 - Scene style sheet. (CSS)
 - Values set in the code using JavaFX API (e.g. using "setFont()").
 - User agent style sheet (JavaFX runtime).



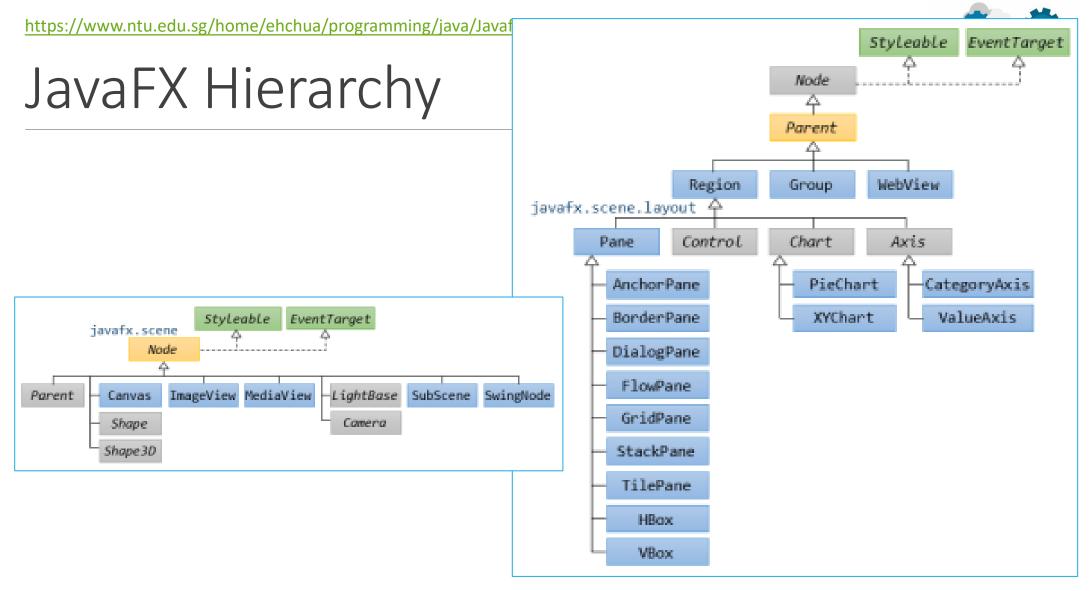




- There are two categories
 - Inheritance of CSS property types
 - All CSS properties declared in a JavaFX class are inherited by all its subclasses (e.g. if declare a property in the Node class, it will be available for all node types, as they are subclasses of Node).

```
// using FXML and CSS
Parent root = FXMLLoader.load(getClass().getResource( name: "sample.fxml"));
// parent style sheet
root.setStyle("-fx-font-size: 20;");
Scene scene = new Scene(root, v: 500, v1: 500);
```



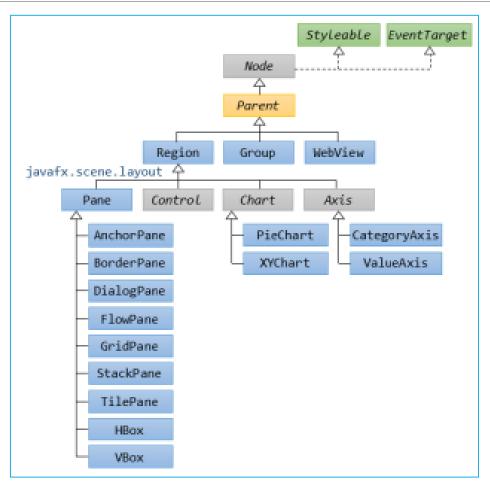


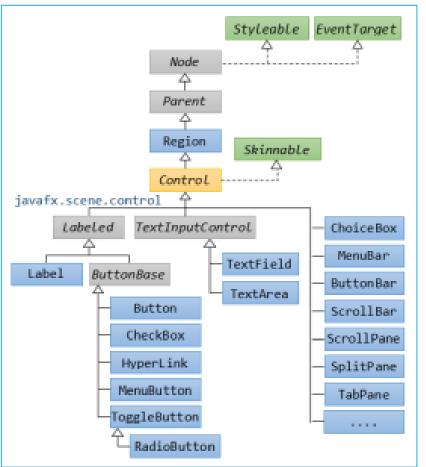


https://www.ntu.edu.sg/home/ehchua/programming/java/Javafx1_intro.html

JavaFX Hierarchy











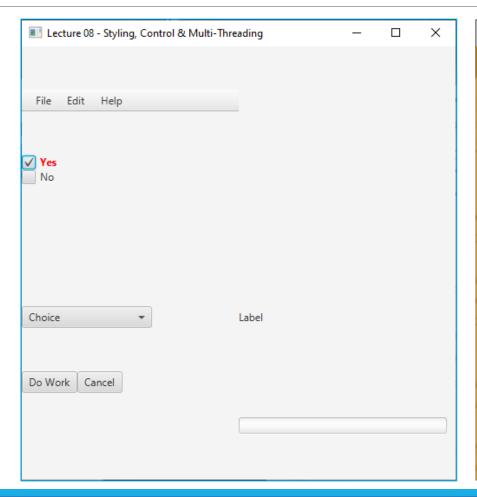


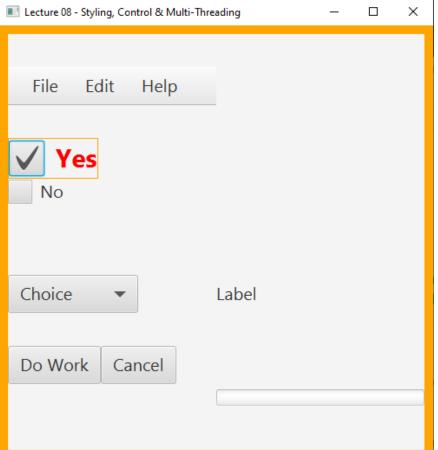
- There are two categories
 - Inheritance of CSS property values
 - A CSS property for a node (e.g. CheckBox) may inherit its value from its parent (e.g. GridPane).





Inherit CSS Properties



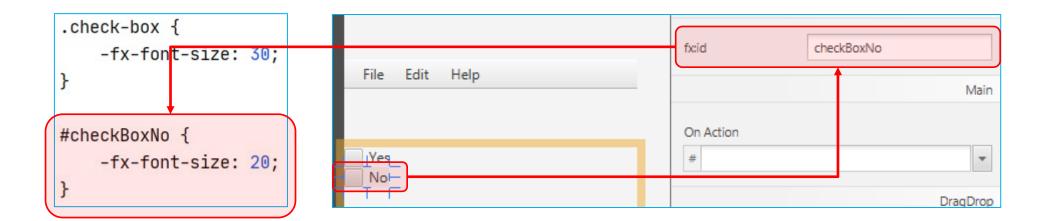






Use ID Selectors

• Can also use the ID's created in SceneBuilder to set styles for individual nodes in the CSS style sheet.



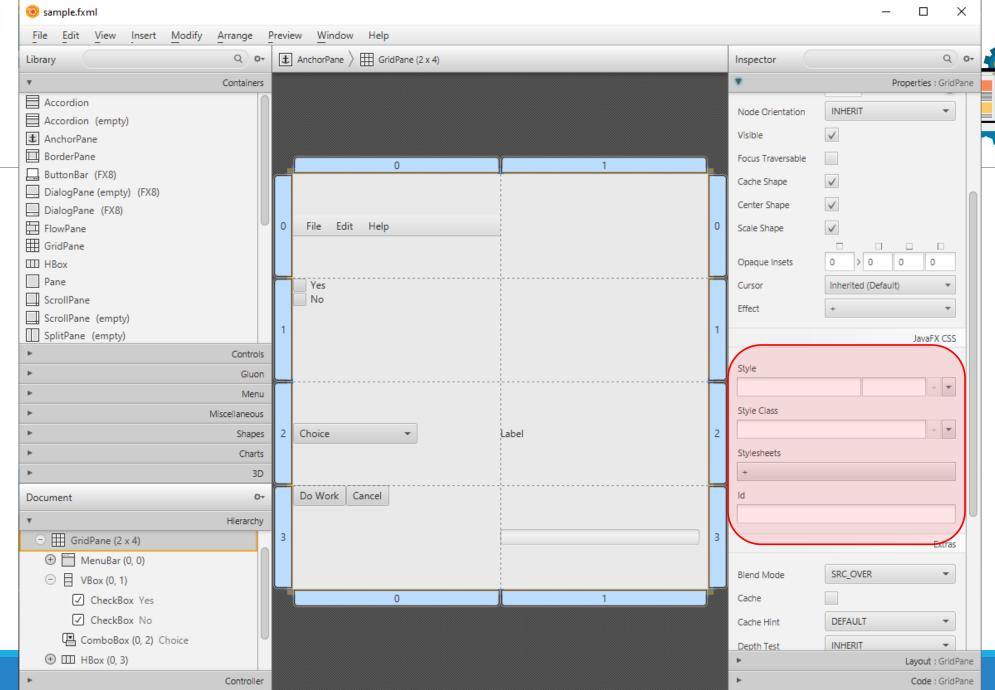


Use ID Selectors



■ Lecture 08 - Styling, Control & Multi-Threading	_	×
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✓ Yes		
No		
Choice ▼ Label		
Do Work Cancel		









Add StyleSheet with FXML

stylesgridpane.css ×		
1 #gridPa	ne {	
2 -f x	-border-width:	10;
3 -fx	-border-color:	orange;
4 🕒}		
		JavaFX CSS
Style		+
Style Class		
		+ 🔻
Stylesheets © stylesgridpane.	CSS	+
ld		

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JavaFX Advanced Topics

MULTI-THREADING: DEALING WITH UNRESPONSIVE GUIS





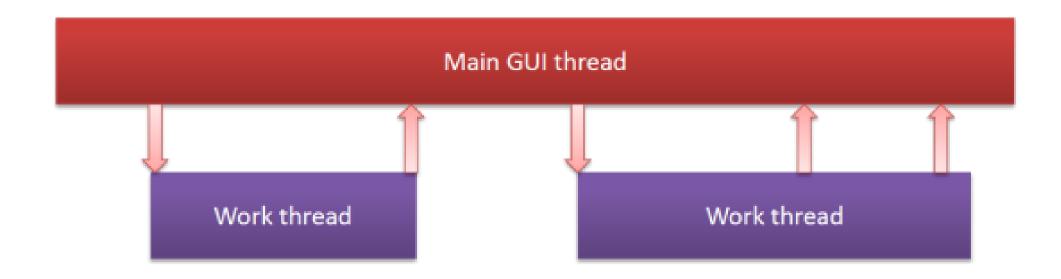
- The facts:
 - JavaFX launches the UI on a JavaFX Application thread.
 - This thread should be left handling the UI interaction.
 - Heavy computation should be done elsewhere to prevent freezing!

- JavaFX provides a solution:
 - Package "javafx.concurrent".
 - A way for JavaFX to create and communicate with other threads.





JavaFX provides some helper classes.

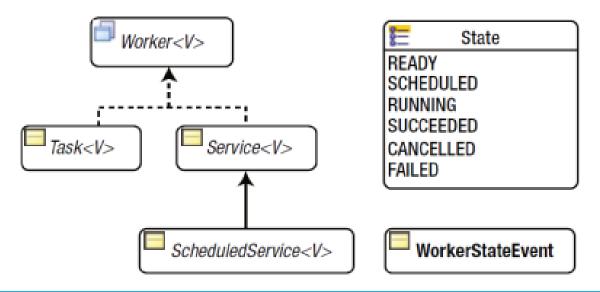








- o Concurrency.
 - The ability of different parts of a program to be executed out-of-order or in partial order, without affecting the outcome.
- Classes in the JavaFX Concurrency Framework.









- Framework consists of one interface + four classes + one enumerator.
 - Instance of a Task class represents a one-shot task.
 - Instance of a Service class represents a reusable task.
 - Instance of a ScheduledService class represents a reusable task that runs repeatedly after a specific interval.
 - Instance of WorkerStateEvent class represents an event that occurs as state of a Worker changes; can add event handlers to all three types of tasks to listen to the changes in their states.
 - Constants in the Worker. State enum represents different states of a worker.







- Worker interface.
 - Specifies the methods available to background threads when working with JavaFX.
 - Various useful methods such as isRunning(), getProgress(), cancel() ...
- Task class.
 - Abstract class which implements the Worker interface.
 - Program the actual work that needs to be done on a separate thread.
 - 1. Extends the Task class.
 - 2. Implements call() to do the work.
 - 1. Don't directly touch UI components from here.
 - 2. Can update the UI with updateProgress(), updateMessage(), updateTitle() methods.
 - 3. Starts a new thread, passing "Worker" as a parameter.



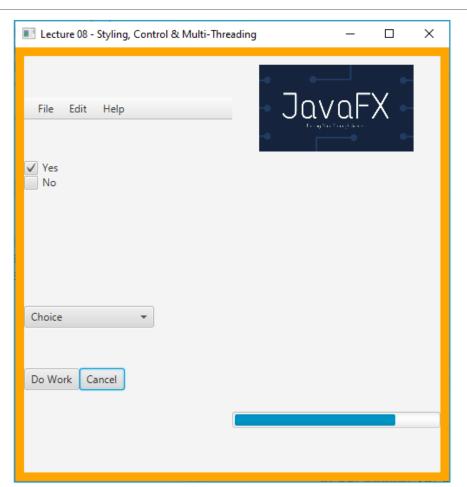


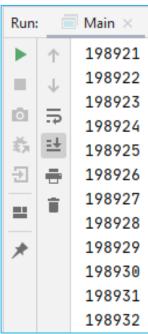
Example: Build a progress bar to show some works done in another thread.

```
public class ProgressWorker extends Task {
    @Override
    protected Object call() throws Exception {
        int n = 250000;
                                         @FXML private ProgressBar progressBar;
        for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
                                         private ProgressWorker progressWorker = new ProgressWorker();
            System.out.println(<u>i</u>);
            updateProgress(i, n);
                                         public void doWorkOnClicked(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
                                             new Thread(progressWorker).start();
            if(isCancelled())
                                             progressBar.progressProperty().bind(progressWorker.progressProperty());
                break:
                                         public void cancelOnClicked(ActionEvent actionEvent) {
        return null;
                                             progressWorker.cancel();
```













JavaFX Advanced Topics

MULTIPLE WINDOWS



Multiple Window

```
public class Main extends Application {
   private static Scene scene;
   @Override
   public void start(Stage primaryStage) throws Exception {
       scene = new Scene(loαdFXML("primary"));
       primaryStage.setScene(scene);
       primaryStage.show();
   public static void setRoot(String fxml) throws IOException {
        scene.setRoot(loadFXML(fxml));
   private static Parent loadFXML(String fxml) throws IOException {
        FXMLLoader fxmlLoader = new FXMLLoader(Main.class.getResource( name: fxml + ".fxml"));
        return fxmlLoader.load();
   public static void main(String[] args) { lαunch(args); }
```

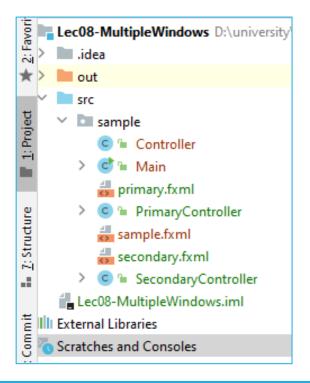
```
public class PrimaryController {
    public void switchOnClicked(ActionEvent actionEvent) throws IOException {
        Main.setRoot("secondary");
public class SecondaryController {
    public void switchOnClicked(ActionEvent actionEvent) throws IOException {
        Main.setRoot("primary");
```

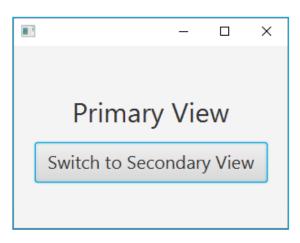


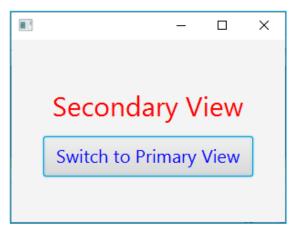




• Creating packages within the resource folder allowed for an IDE independent implementation.











JavaFX Advanced Topics

ANIMATIONS



Key Concepts for Timeline Animation

Timeline.

• Denotes the progression of time during animation with an associated key frame at a given instance.

Key Frame.

Represents the state of the node being animated at a specific instant on the timeline.

Key Value.

Represents the value of a property of a node along with an interpolator to be used.

Transition.

• Denotes the built-in transition animation (the Transition class) to perform common animated effects.





Key Values

• Code snippet below defines a KeyValue instance that targets a rectangle node's opacity property starting at 1 and ending the value with 0.

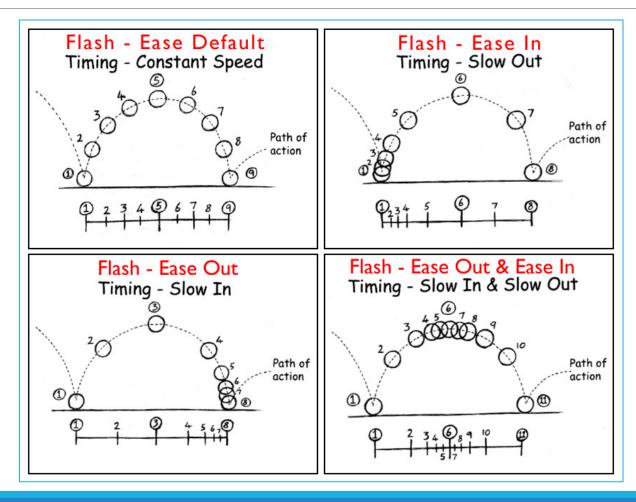
```
Rectangle rectangle = new Rectangle(0, 0, 50, 50);
KeyValue keyValue = new KeyValue(rectangle.opacityProperty(), 0);
```

- The KeyValue object doesn't interpolate the value, but simply defines the start and end values of a property to interpolate between.
- Also, the KeyValue can be defined with different types of interpolators such as linear, ease in or ease out.















The code below defines a key value that will animate a rectangle from left to right by 100 pixels having an Interpolator. EASE_OUT interpolator.

```
Rectangle rectangle = new Rectangle(0, 0, 50, 50);
KeyValue keyValue = new KeyValue(rectangle.xProperty(), 100, Interpolator.EASE_OUT);
```

• Easing out will slow down the fade before the end key value.





Key Frames

- When an animation (Timeline) occurs, each timed event, called a keyframe (a KeyFrame object), is responsible for interpolating key values (KeyValue objects) over a period of time (javafx.util.Duration).
- A constructor requires a timed duration (Duration) to interpolate over key values when creating a KeyFrame object.
- The KeyFrame constructors all accept one or more key values by using a variable containing an argument list or a collection of KeyValue objects.





Key Frames

Code snippet below defines a keyframe that has a duration of 1000 milliseconds and two key values that represent the rectangle's x and y properties to demonstrate moving a rectangle in a diagonal direction from upper left to lower right.

```
Rectangle rectangle = new Rectangle(0, 0, 50, 50);
KeyValue xValue = new KeyValue(rectangle.xProperty(), 100);
KeyValue yValue = new KeyValue(rectangle.yProperty(), 100);
KeyFrame keyFrame = new KeyFrame(Duration.millis(1000), xValue, yValue);
```

- A KeyFrame object is defined to interpolate over the x and y properties.
- The code animates the rectangle to move in a southeast direction for one second.





A Timeline is one animation sequence consisting of many KeyFrame objects that run sequentially.

```
Timeline timeline = new Timeline();
timeline.setCycleCount(Timeline.INDEFINITE);
timeline.setAutoReverse(true);
timeline.getKeyFrames().addAll(keyFrame1, keyFrame2);
timeline.play();
```

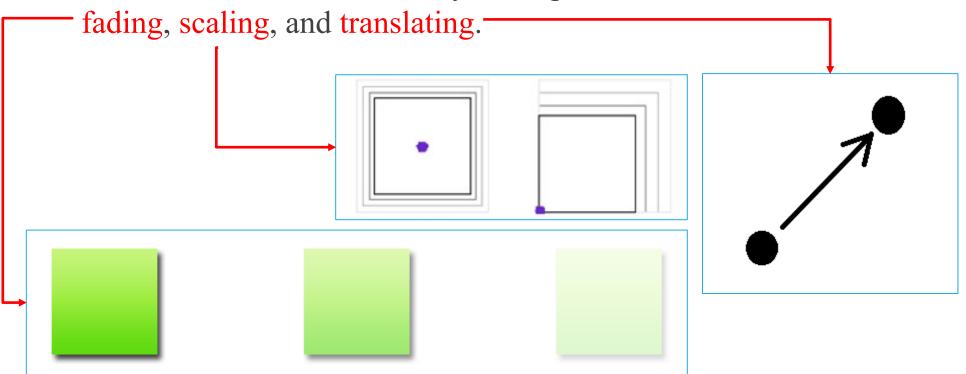
- The cycle count is the number of times the timeline to play animation; use Timeline. INDEFINITE to play the animation indefinitely.
- The auto-reverse property is a Boolean flag to indicate that the animation can play the timeline backward (the keyframes in reverse order).
- o By default, the cycle count is set to 1, and auto-reverse is set to false.





Timeline

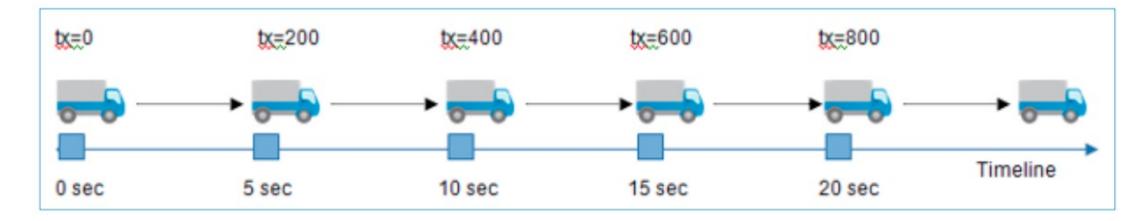
• However, there are easier ways to express common animation effects such as





Key Concepts for Timeline Animation

- Lorries represent key frames at specific instants of the timeline.
- The key values (here the value for the translateX property) associated with key frames are shown at the top.
- By default, linear interpolation is used between the key frames.





Key Concepts for Timeline Animation

- Using timeline animation involves the following steps.
 - Constructor key frames.
 - Create timeline object with key frames.
 - Set the animation properties.
 - Use the play () method to run the animation.
- The timeline keeps all key frames in the ObservableList<KeyFrame>
 object.
- The getKeyFrames () method returns the list.





Sample Animation

```
Rectangle rectangle = new Rectangle( v: 0, v1: 0, v2: 100, v3: 50);
KeyValue keyValueX = new KeyValue(rectangle.xProperty(), t: 100, Interpolator.EASE_OUT);
KeyValue keyValueY = new KeyValue(rectangle.yProperty(), t: 100, Interpolator.EASE_OUT);
KeyValue keyValueOpacity = new KeyValue(rectangle.opacityProperty(), t 0);
KeyFrame keyFrame = new KeyFrame(Duration.millis(1000), keyValueX, keyValueY, keyValueOpacity);
Timeline timeline = new Timeline();
timeline.setCycleCount(Timeline.INDEFINITE);
timeline.setAutoReverse(true);
timeline.getKeyFrames().addAll(keyFrame);
timeline.play();
Group root = new Group();
root.getChildren().add(rectangle);
primaryStage.setTitle("Lecture 08 - Animation");
primaryStage.setScene(new Scene(root, v: 300, v1: 300));
primaryStage.show();
```







- o javafx.animation.FadeTransition
 - Targets the node's opacity property for a fading animation effect.
- o javafx.animation.PathTransition
 - Enables a node to follow a generated path.
- o javafx.animation.ScaleTransition
 - Targets a node's scaleX, scaleY, and scaleZ properties to resize a node.
- o javafx.animation.TranslateTransition
 - Targets a node's translateX, translateY, and translateZ properties to move a node across the screen.

See more details at https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/2/animations/basics.htm#CJAJJAGI





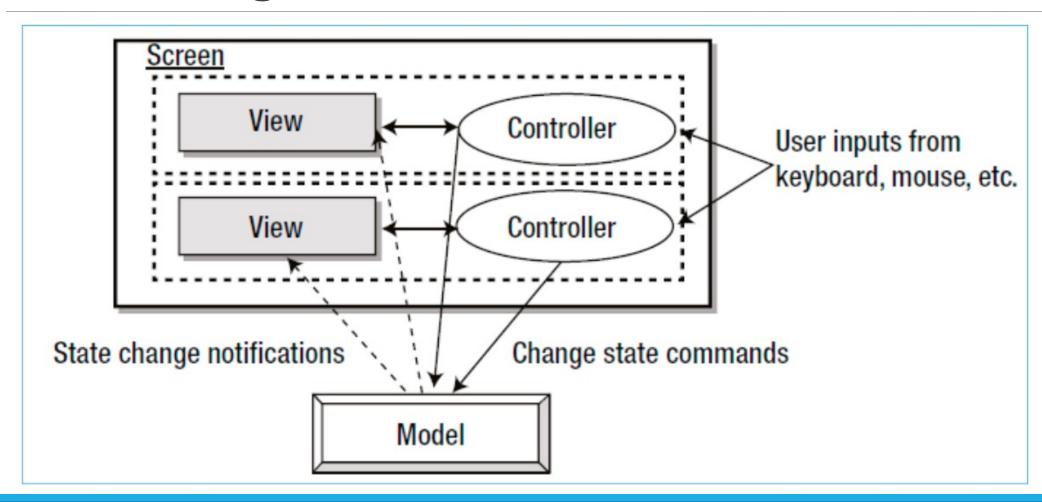
Employee Management System

GUI MVC PATTERN





MVC Design Pattern







EmployeeController class

```
package com.comp2059.lec06mvc;
import javafx.fxml.FXML;
import javafx.scene.control.Alert;
import javafx.scene.control.Label;
import javafx.scene.control.TextField;
public class EmployeeController {
    private Employee model;
                                           continue
    @FXMI.
    private Label labelId;
    @FXML
    private TextField textFieldName;
    @FXML
    private TextField textFieldDepartment;
    @FXML
    private TextField textFieldSalary;
```

```
// Initialize with employee data
public void setEmployee(Employee employee) {
    this.model = employee;
   labelId.setText(String.valueOf(employee.getId()));
    textFieldName.setText(employee.getName());
    textFieldDepartment.setText(employee.getDepartment());
    textFieldSalary.setText(String.valueOf(employee.getSalary()));
@FXMI.
public void updateEmployee() {
   model.setName(textFieldName.getText());
   model.setDepartment(textFieldDepartment.getText());
   model.setSalary(Double.parseDouble(textFieldSalary.getText()));
   Alert alert = new Alert(Alert.AlertType.INFORMATION);
    alert.setTitle("Update Employee");
    alert.setContentText("Employee information is updated!");
    alert.show();
```



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<?import javafx.scene.control.Button?>
<?import javafx.scene.control.Label?>
<?import javafx.scene.control.TextField?>
<?import javafx.scene.layout.ColumnConstraints?>
<?import javafx.scene.layout.GridPane?>
<?import javafx.scene.layout.RowConstraints?>

EmployeeView fxml
```

<?import javafx.scene.layout.VBox?>



```
<VBox alignment="CENTER" spacing="10" xmlns="http://javafx.com/javafx/23" xmlns:fx="http://javafx.com/fxml/1"</pre>
fx:controller="com.comp2059.lec06mvc.EmployeeController">
    <Label style="-fx-font-size: 18px;" text="Employee Management System" />
    <Button onAction="#updateEmployee" text="Update Employee" />
       <ColumnConstraints hgrow="SOMETIMES" minWidth="10.0" prefWidth="100.0" />
       <ColumnConstraints hgrow="SOMETIMES" minWidth="10.0" prefWidth="100.0" />
       <RowConstraints minHeight="10.0" prefHeight="30.0" vgrow="SOMETIMES" />
       <RowConstraints minHeight="10.0" prefHeight="30.0" vgrow="SOMETIMES" />
       <RowConstraints minHeight="10.0" prefHeight="30.0" vgrow="SOMETIMES" />
         <RowConstraints minHeight="10.0" prefHeight="30.0" vgrow="SOMETIMES" />
           <Label text="Employee ID:" GridPane.columnSpan="2" />
           <Label fx:id="labelId" GridPane.columnIndex="1" />
           <Label text="Name:" GridPane.rowIndex="1" />
           <TextField fx:id="textFieldName" GridPane.columnIndex="1" GridPane.rowIndex="1" />
           <Label text="Department:" GridPane.rowIndex="2" />
           <TextField fx:id="textFieldDepartment" GridPane.columnIndex="1" GridPane.rowIndex="2" />
           <Label text="Salary:" GridPane.rowIndex="3" />
           <TextField fx:id="textFieldSalary" GridPane.columnIndex="1" GridPane.rowIndex="3" />
```



```
Nottingham
            package com.comp2059.lec06mvc;
```

import javafx.application.Application;

import javafx.fxml.FXMLLoader; import javafx.scene.Scene;

import javafx.stage.Stage; import java.io.IOException;

import javafx.scene.layout.VBox;

EmployeeApplication class

```
public class EmployeeApplication extends Application {
   @Override
   public void start(Stage stage) throws IOException {
       // Load FXML and set up the scene
       FXMLLoader loader = new FXMLLoader(getClass().getResource("EmployeeView.fxml"));
       VBox root = loader.load();
       // Create a sample employee model
        Employee employee = new Employee(1, "John Doe", "Engineering", 75000);
       // Set the model in the controller
        EmployeeController controller = loader.getController();
       // Set up the scene and stage
       Scene scene = new Scene (root, 400, 300);
        stage.setTitle("Employee Management System");
        stage.show();
   public static void main(String[] args) {
```





Summary

- o Model (Employee.java): Represents the data structure for an employee.
- View (EmployeeView.fxml): A simple form with labels and text fields for viewing and editing employee details.
- Controller (EmployeeController.java): The controller that connects the view and the model. It handles user inputs (e.g., updating the employee's details) and updates the model accordingly.
- Main Application (EmployeeApplication.java): Sets up the model, loads the view (FXML), and connects the controller with the model.





Useful Resources

FOR GUI SKILLS IN MORE DEPTH







CSS

- JavaFX CSS Tutorial: https://examples.javacodegeeks.com/desktop-java/javafx/javafx-css-tutorial/.
- JavaFX CSS Reference Guide: https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/2/api/javafx/scene/doc-files/cssref.html.
- Styling FX Buttons with CSS: http://fxexperience.com/2011/12/styling-fx-buttons-with-css/.

JavaFX

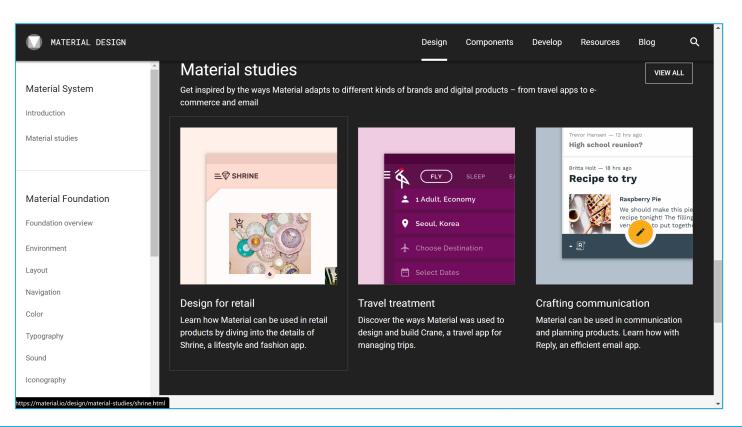
JavaFX Tutorial: http://tutorials.jenkov.com/javafx/index.html







- Excellent material design guide.
 - https://material.io/design









- Multithreading & Concurrent Programming.
 - https://www.ntu.edu.sg/home/ehchua/programming/java/J5e_multithreading.html.

- JavaFX Animation Example.
 - https://examples.javacodegeeks.com/desktop-java/javafx/javafx-animation-example-2/.



Put Your Mind in Maintenance Mode



