Computer Science 210: Data Structures

Intro to Java Graphics

Summary

- Today
 - GUIs in Java using Swing
 - in-class: a Scribbler program

- READING:
 - browse Java online Docs, Swing tutorials

GUIs in Java

- We'll be using Swing
 - toolkit for designing GUIs
 - implemented on top of AWT (another toolkit)
 - provides uniform look across platforms, customized looks, etc
- Swing provides definition of standard classes used in GUIs
 - panels, labels, frames, buttons, scroll bars, text labels etc
 - all classes in Swing start with J
 - JButton, JComboBox, JDesktopIcon, JSeparator, JSlider, JScrollPane, JLabel, JProgressBar, JTable etc
 - called components

GUIs in Java

- Components
 - JButton, JComboBox, JDesktopIcon, JSeparator, JSlider, JScrollPane, JLabel, JProgressBar, JTable etc
- Components are organized in a hierarchy
 - at the top level, a component that handles windows
 - top-level containers: JFrame, JDialog, JApplet
 - we'll use JFrame
 - the window may contain panels that contain buttons and labels and so on
 - components that are not top-level containers must be attached to some other component

Example

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;
```

```
//a class that handles a window
public class MyClass extends JFrame {
```

```
// instance variables
```

```
• • • •
```

```
public MyClass() {
    super("My window");
    setSize(400, 400);
```

//exit when closing the window
setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

```
setVisible(true);
```

};

}

Handling the mouse

- Mouse events are sent to the objects that "registered" to "listen" to the mouse
 - timer events are sent to objects that registered to listen to the timer,
 - etc
- The events are sent by calling a set of methods with predefined names
- To handle the mouse
 - 1. the class must implement one or both of these interfaces
 - MouseMotionListener
 - MouseListener
 - 2. the object must register itself as a mouse "listener"
 - the mouse events will be sent to all objects that are registered as "listeners"
 - mouse motion events --> register as a mouse motion listener, etc
 - timer events --> register as a time listener
 - for each type of event, there exists a corresponding method to register as a listener
 - Note: if the registration is in the constructor of the class, then every instance of the class will "listen" to the mouse



Drawing in a window

To draw you need a canvas

Graphics g ;

Need to grab the canvas of the JFrame

Graphics g = this.getGraphics();

- Methods supported by class Graphics
 - drawLine(Point p1, Point p2)
 - drawImage(..)
 - drawOval..
 - drawPolygon..
 - drawRect..
 - getColor, setColor..
 - getFont, setFont..
- · Java coordinate system:
 - (0,0) upper left corner

In-class work

- Test mouse functionality
 - write code in the various mouse methods and check when they get called

- Develop a program that lets the user scribble on the window
 - record the mouse clicks
 - when pressing the mouse you want to start drawing; if you keep the mouse pressed and drag it around, you want the movement to be shown on screen, until the mouse is released.
 - in addition to the skeleton above, you need some instance variables to record position
 - you can use integers, or class Point provided by Java

The painting mechanism in Swing

- Problem: render/paint the right things at the right time
- Swing: any component has (inherits) a method called paint
 - public void paint(Graphics g)
 - the component should place the rendering code inside paint()
 - paint() is invoked every time it's time to paint
- A call to paint() can be triggered:
 - by the system
 - the component is made visible
 - the component is resized
 - the component needs to be repaired (i.e. some other window that was previously obscuring this component has moved away)
 - by the the application
 - when the program decides it needs to re-paint the component
- When the system invokes paint() on a component, it pre-configures a Graphics object with the current Graphics context and passes it as argument to paint()

The painting mechanism in Swing

- Programs should place the rendering code inside paint()
 - override paint()
- Programs should avoid placing rendering code at any point where it might be invoked outside paint
 - Why? Because such code may be invoked at times when it is not appropriate to paint -- for instance, before the component is visible or has access to a valid Graphics object.
- Programs should NOT invoke paint() directly.
- · Instead, use
 - public void repaint()
- In fact, Swing components should override
 - public void paintComponent(Graphics g)
- Paint mechanism is complicated
- We'll keep GUIs simple
 - GUIs are a tool for the class, not the focus

• Here is an example of a paint() method which renders a filled circle in the bounds of a component:

```
public void paint(Graphics g) {
```

}

//clear the screen
super.paint();

// Dynamically calculate size information of the component
Dimension size = getSize();

```
// diameter
int d = Math.min(size.width, size.height);
int x = (size.width - d)/2;
int y = (size.height - d)/2;
```

// draw circle (color already set to foreground)
g.fillOval(x, y, d, d);
g.setColor(Color.black);
g.drawOval(x, y, d, d);

Class work

- re-write Scribbler
 - place all render code in paint()
 - call repaint() when appropriate