Principles of Software Construction: Objects, Design, and Concurrency

Introduction to GUIs

Claire Le Goues

Vincent Hellendoorn



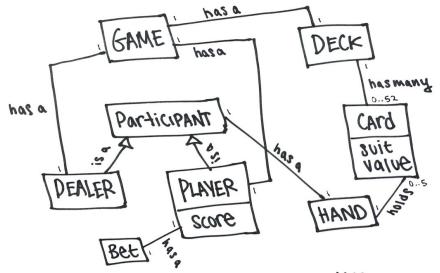
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Administrivia

HW2 grades posted.

HW4 is released, due Wednesday (not Monday!).

We have done: a backend with no explicit interaction



One Possible
Domain model

this is Not a reference solution, it's an example of what a domain model

Interaction with CLI

```
Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
scripts/kconfig/conf arch/x86/Kconfig
 Linux Kernel Configuration
 General setup
Prompt for developm
                  Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
Local version - app
Automatically appen
                  while (questions.hasNext()) {
O) [N/y/?] y
                      Question q = question.next();
Kernel compression
> 1. Gzip (KERNEL_C
                      System.out.println(q.toString());
 2. Bzip2 (KERNEL
 3. LZMA (KERNEL L
                      String answer = input.nextLine();
 4. LZO (KERNEL LZ
                      q.respond(answer);
choice[1-4?]: 3
Support for paging
System V IPC (SYSVI)
POSIX Message Queues (rosin_rigococ) [1/11/:]
BSD Process Accounting (BSD_PROCESS_ACCT) [Y/n/?] n
Export task/process statistics through netlink (EXPERIMENTAL) (TASKSTATS) [Y/n/?
```

How do you wait?

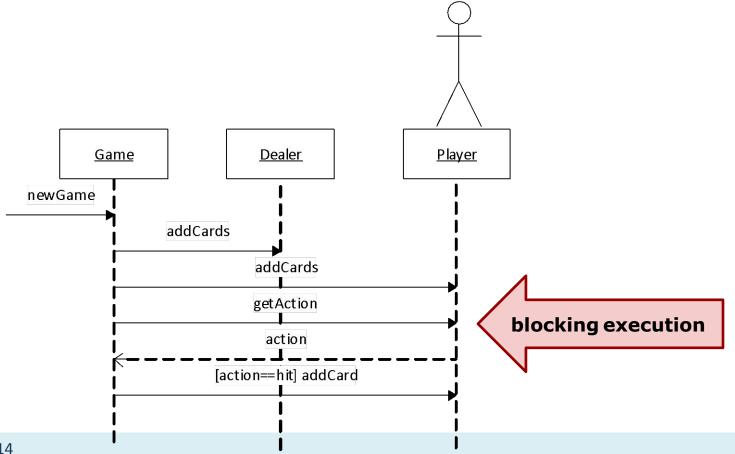
```
Edit View
                         Run Debug
                                     Options
                                              Window
                  Search
                                                                     Help
                  [1] CLOCK.FRM
                                              T
                                                    ndex
                                                    Contents
 You have a royalty-free right to use, modify, repr
 and distribute the sample applications and toolkit
                                                    Keyboard
 Visual Basic for MS-DOS (and/or any modified versi
 in any way you find useful, provided that you agre
                                                    Topic:
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 Microsoft has no warranty, obligations or liabilit
                                                   Using Telp
 any of the sample applications or toolkits.
                                                    Titorial
                                                  Ahout
 Include file containing declaration
                                    while (true) {
SINCLUDE: 'clock.bi'
                                           if (isKeyDown("Alt+Q")
CONST FALSE = 0
                                                 break:
CONST TRUE = NOT FALSE
CONST ALARMSOUND = "MBT255L1606C04GED
                                           if (isKeyDown("F1")
                                                 openHelp();
DIM SHARED AlarmTime AS STRING
DIM SHARED TimeFmt AS STRING
                                           if (isMouseDown(10 ...)
                                                 startMovingWindow();
         Display version number, cop
                                           . . .
```

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How do you GUI? Multiplayer?

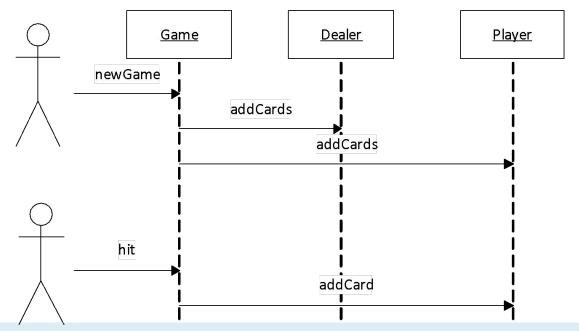


Potential issue: Blocking interactions with users



Interactions with users through events

- Do not block waiting for user response
- Instead, react to user events



Event-based programming

Style of programming where control-flow is driven by (usually external) events

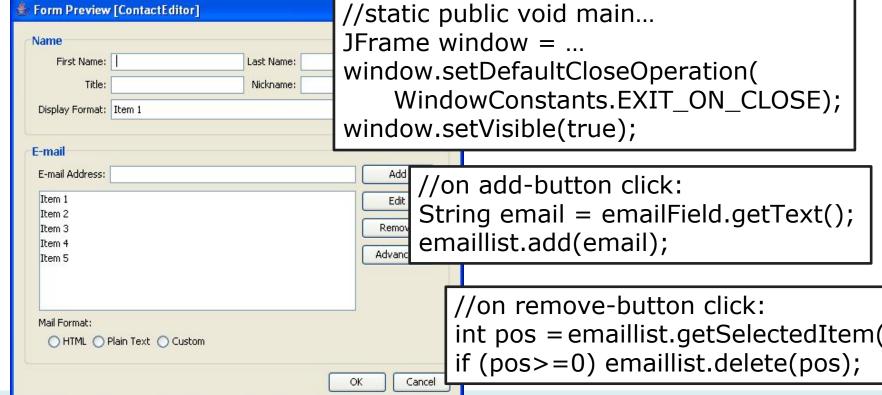
```
public void performAction(ActionEvent e) {
   List<String> lst = Arrays.asList(bar);
   foo.peek(42)
}

public void performAction(ActionEvent e) {
   bigBloatedPowerPointFunction(e);
   withANameSoLongIMadeItTwoMethods(e);
   yesIKnowJavaDoesntWorkLikeThat(e);
}

public void performAction(ActionEvent e) {
   List<String> lst = Arrays.asList(bar);
   foo.peek(40)
}
```

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Event-based GUIs



So, what about a frontend?

...in fact, let's start with basically just a frontend without an explicit backend.

(and we'll come back to that backend later.)

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How To Make This Happen?

17-214 Spring 2022 Course calendar Schedule Syllabus Piazza

- Be comfortable with object-oriented concepts and with programming in the Java or JavaScript language
- Have experience designing medium-scale systems with patterns
- · Have experience testing and analyzing your software
- · Understand principles of concurrency and distributed systems

See a more detailed list of learning goals describing what we want students to know or be able to do by the end of the semester. We evaluate whether learning goals have been achieved through assignments and exams.

Coordinates

Tu/Th 3:05 - 4:25 p.m. in PH 100

As an IPE class, we will be teaching remotely for the first two weeks of the semester. Zoom links are available via Canvas. We will share those links with the waitlisted students for the first week or so while the waitlist is sorted out.

Claire Le Goues, clegoues@cs.cmu.edu, TCS 363, office hours TBA (see calendar)

Bogdan Vasilescu, TCS 326, office hours TBA (see calendar)

Our TAs also provide an additional 18h of office hours each week, usually in TCS 310, see details in the calendar.

The instructors have an open door policy: If the instructors' office doors are open and no-one else is meeting with us, we are happy to answer any course-related questions. Feel free to email us for appointments; we are also available over Zoom.

Course Calendar

day		8 – Mar 6, 2022					Month Agenda
	Mon 2/28	Tue 3/1	Wed 3/2	Thu 3/3	Fri 3/4	Sat 3/5	Sun 3/6
9am			9:05 - 9:55 17214		9 – 11 Li Guo's OH https://cmu.zoom.u		
10am			10:10 - 11 17214		s/j/6593343031		
11am			11:15 - 12:05p 17214		11 – 12p Claire's OH (in person: TCS		
12pm			12:20p - 1:10p 17214		12:10p – 2:10p Deyuan's OH		
1pm			1:25p - 2:15p 17214	1p - 3p Lihao's OH https://cmu.zoom.u	TCS 310, 4665 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA		1p - 3p Jake OH https://cmu.zoom.u
2pm			2:30p - 3:20p	s/j/92157752420? pwd=VG1BN244ck	15213, USA		s/my/jzych
	p – 5p ulia OH CS 432	3:05p - 4:25p 17214 Lecture https://cmu.zoom.u	17214 Positation F	3:05p - 4:25p 17214 Lecture https://cmu.zoom.u			
4pm		s/j/94513341268?	4:30p – 5:30p	s/j/94513341268?			
	p – 7 p lichael OH CS432, TCS Hall,	4:45p - 6:45p Jessica OH TCS 310	Isabel OH TCS 310	5p – 7p Katrina's OH (Remote)	5:05p - 7:05p Haoran OH https://cmu.zoom.u		
	665 Forbes Ave, ttsburgh, PA			https://cmu.zoom.u s/i/92514454067?	s/my/bhr1723		

GUI Design: what do we want?

- Nested Elements
- Style Vocabulary
- Interactivity

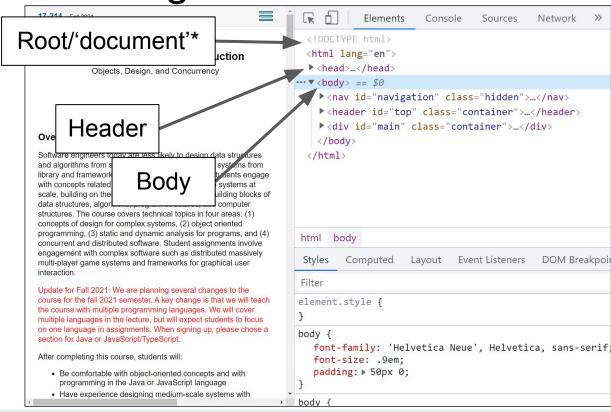
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GUI Design: what do we want?

- Nested Elements
 - o HTML
- Style Vocabulary
 - o CSS
- Interactivity
 - JavaScript

Anatomy of an HTML Page

Predefined elements

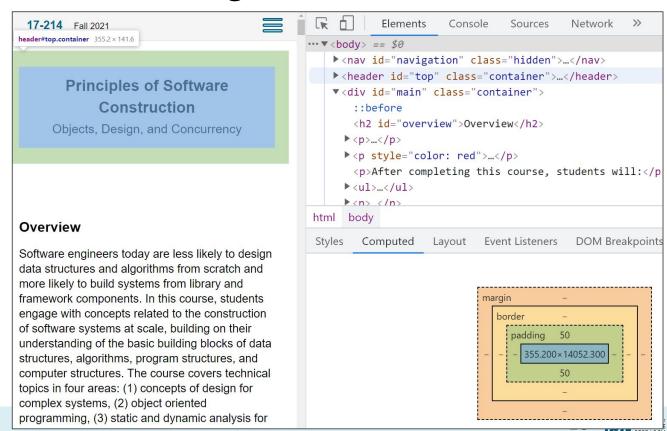


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Anatomy of an HTML Page

Nested elements

- Sizing
- Attributes
- Text



A few Tags

- <html>
 - The root of the visible page
- <head>
 - Stores metadata, imports
- <
 - A paragraph
- <button>
 - Attributes include `name`, `type`, `value`
- <div>
 - Generic section -- very useful
- - The obvious
- Many more; dig into a real page!

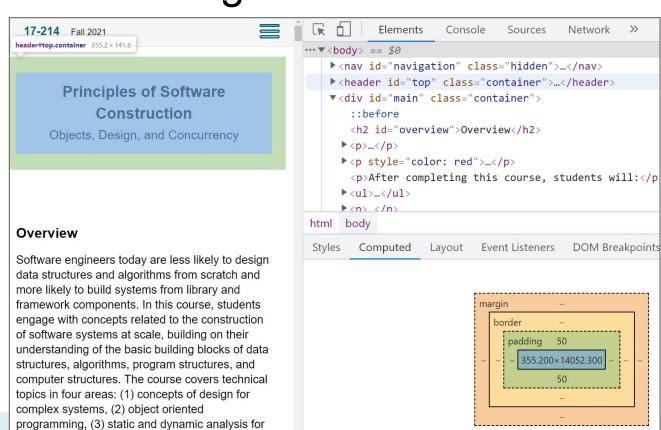
Anatomy of an HTML Page

Nested elements

- Sizing
- Attributes
- Text

You can write these out directly, or compose and modify them programmatically!

 Or, both! (we'll see in a minute).



Anatomy of a GUI/HTML Page

GUIs are typically trees

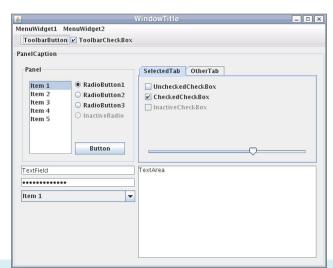
- Nested elements, recursively
- Some fixed positions (html, body)

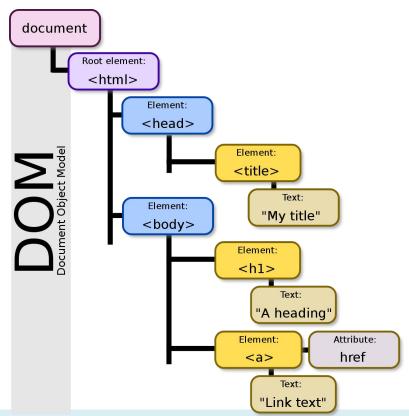
How to implement this?

JFrame JPanel

JTextField

...







The composite pattern

- Problem: Collection of objects has behavior similar to the individual objects
- Solution: Have collection of objects and individual objects implement the same interface
- Consequences:
 - Client code can treat collection as if it were an individual object
 - Easier to add new object types
 - Design might become too general, interface insufficiently useful

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Composite

- Elements can contain elements
 - With restrictions
 - Need to deal with style, interaction
- In JS: HTMLElement
 - With child-classes e.g. HTMLDivElement, HTMLBodyElement
 - Navigation:
 - getElement*: locate by tag name, id, class, etc.
 - next/prev(Element)Sibling
 - childNodes, parent



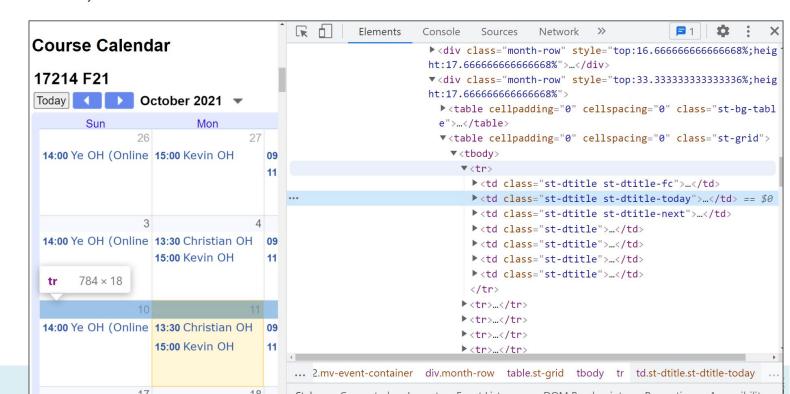
Let's start with a very simple example.

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Style: not only leaf-nodes have appearance.

Note the column, here.

17-214/514



Style

Tags come with inherent & customizable style

- Inherent:
 - <div> is a `block` (full-width, with margin)
 - is in-line
 - <h1> is large
- Customizable: add and override styles
 - Change font-styles, margins, widths
 - Modify groups of elements

- Cascading Style Sheets
 - Reuse: styling rules for tags, classes, types
 - Reuse: not just at the leafs!

```
<span style="font-weight:bold">Hello again!</span>
VS.

<style type="text/css">
    span {
       font-family: arial
    }
</style>
```

- Cascading Style Sheets
 - Reuse: styling rules for tags, classes, types
 - Reuse: not just at the leafs!
- What if there are conflicts?

```
<div style="font-weight:normal">
    <span style="font-weight:bold">Hello again!</span>
</div>
```

Lowest element wins*

*Technically, there's a whole scoring system



What is happening here?

```
Hi there!
                                                                                                                            *
                                                             Elements
                                                                        Console
                                                                                   Sources
                                                                                             Network
Hello again!
                                                      <span style="font-style:bold">Hi there!</span>
                                                      <br>
                                                     ▼ <div style="font-weight:normal">
                                                        <span style="font-weight:bold">Hello again!</span> == $0
                                                      </div>
                                                    </body>
                                                  </html>
                                                 html body div span
                                                         Computed Layout
                                                                              Event Listeners
                                                                                             DOM Breakpoints
                                                                                                                Properties
                                                                                                                           Accessibility
                                                                                                                   :hov .cls + 4
                                                  Filter
                                                 div > span {
                                                                                                                           main.css:13
                                                    font-family: 'Times New Roman', Times, serif;
                                                                                                                           index.html:6
                                                 span {
                                                    font-family: arial;
                                                                                                                             main.css:9
                                                 span {
                                                 Inherited from div
                                                 style attribute {
```

- Cascading Style Sheets
 - Reuse: styling rules for tags, classes, types
 - Reuse: not just at the leafs!
- What if there are no conflicts?

```
<div style="font-family:arial">
    <span style="font-weight:bold">Hello again!</span>
</div>
```

O How would you implement this?

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Decorator

What is happening here?

- To compute the style of an element:
 - Apply its tag-default style
 - Wrap in added style rules (tag-specific or general)
 - Text: font-family, weight, etc.
 - o Inherit parents' style
 - Conflicts lead to overrides
- Makes themes really powerful

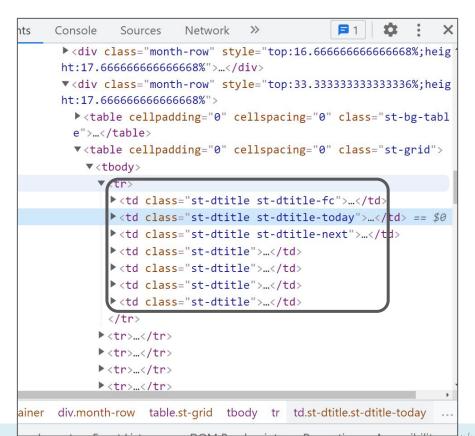
Technically, HTML is streamed top-to-bottom; CSS works bottom-up

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CSS: classes

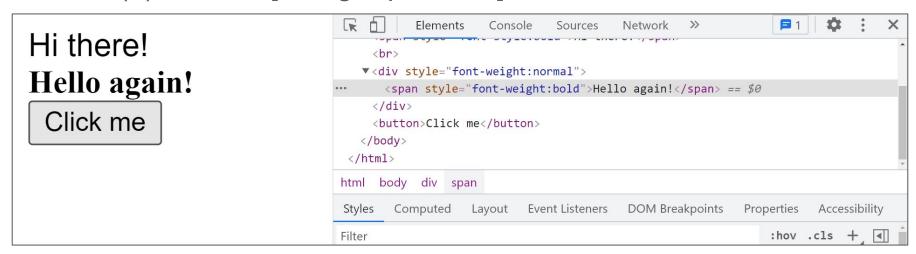
Let's not repeat custom style

- Use any nr. of class label(s)
- Class styles get added
- Facilitates <u>reuse</u>



Interactivity: A GUI is more than just a document

- How do we make it "work"?
- This is a two-part answer: (1) we can attach scripts to elements, but (2) ...how? [Design question!]



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That's extremely simple, let's try something slightly more complicated.

Consider: TicTacToe

(note that this is NOT the same code you'll see in recitation next week, but the game itself will look basically the same.)

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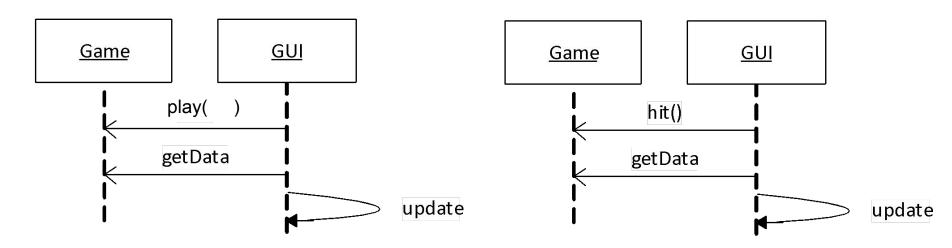
A design challenge

DECOUPLING THE GUI



GUI design challenge

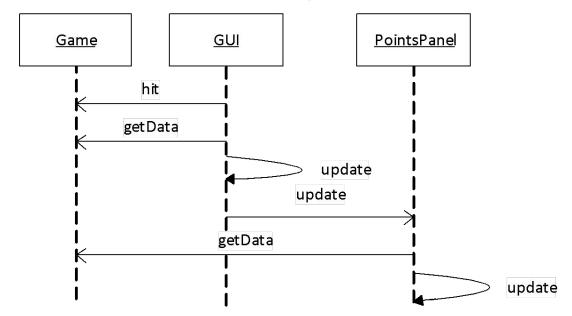
- Consider TicTacToe or Blackjack game, implemented by Game class:
 - Player clicks a space, expects it to update; clicks "hit" and expects a new card
 - When should the GUI update the screen?



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A GUI design challenge, extended

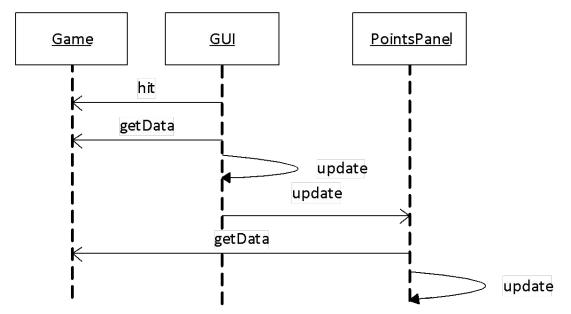
What if we want to show the points won?



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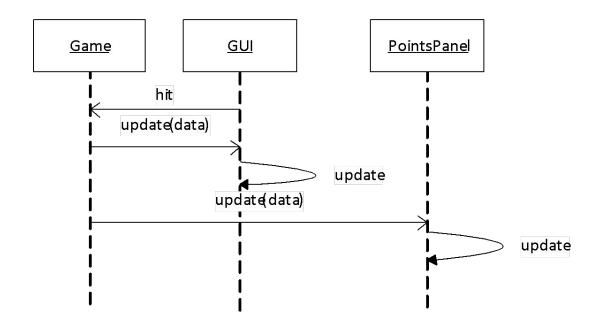
Game updates GUI?

What if points change for reasons not started by the GUI?
 (or computations take a long time and should not block)



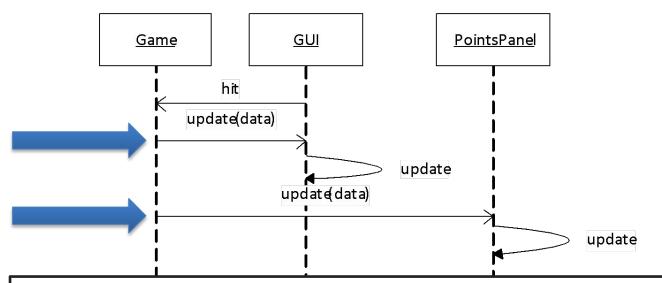
Game updates GUI?

Let the Game tell the GUI that something happened



Game updates GUI?

Let the Game tell the GUI that something happened



Problem: This couples the World to the GUI implementation.

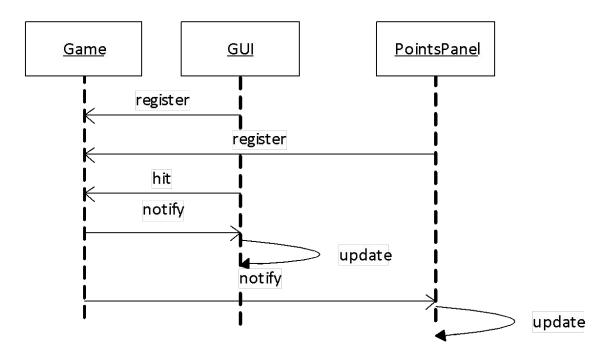
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Core implementation vs. GUI

- Core implementation: Application logic
 - Computing some result, updating data
- GUI
 - Graphical representation of data
 - Source of user interactions
- Design guideline: Avoid coupling the GUI with core application
 - Multiple UIs with single core implementation
 - Test core without UI
 - Design for change, design for reuse, design for division of labor; low coupling, high cohesion

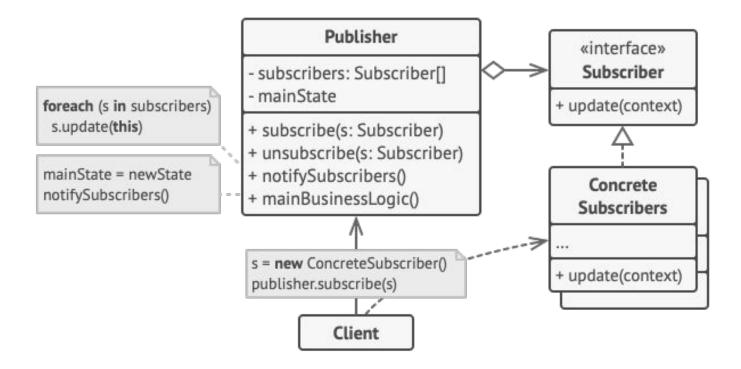
Decoupling with the Observer pattern

Let the Game tell all interested components about updates



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Recall the Observer



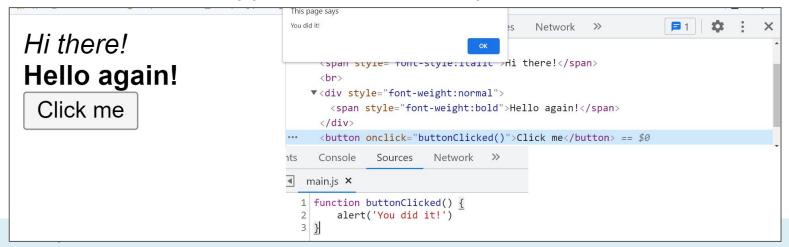
https://refactoring.guru/design-patterns/observer

Observer Pattern

- Manages publishers and subscribers
 - Here, button publishes its 'click' events
 - buttonClicked` subscribes to 1+ updates
- Flexibility and Reuse
 - Multiple observers per element
 - Shared observers across elements

Actions: JavaScript

- Key: event listeners/the Observer Pattern
- (frontend) JS is highly event-driven
 - Respond to window `onLoad` event, content loads (e.g., ads)
 - Respond to clicks, moves
- This is what happened with our simple button!



What does this look like in TicTacToe?

Let's go look!

Important note! just because TTT is implemented in a static web page all in the frontend, does *not* mean that the GUI and the Game are hopelessly entangled or that we're violating the design principle to keep them separate!

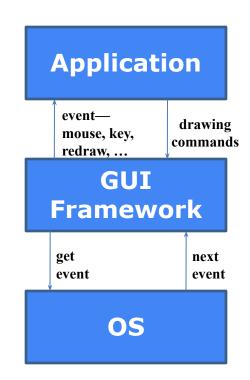
An event-based GUI with a GUI framework

Setup phase

- Describe how the GUI window should look
- Register observers to handle events

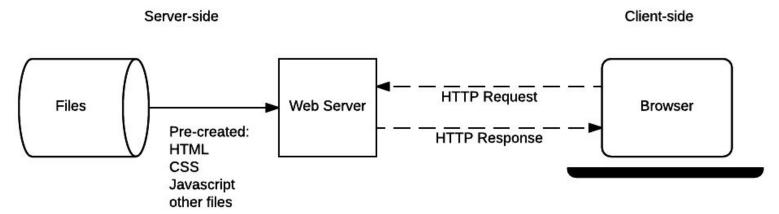
Execution

- Framework gets events from OS, processes events
 - Your code is mostly just event handlers



Static Web Pages

- Delivered as-is, final
 - Consistent, often fast
 - Cheap, only storage needed
- "Static" a tad murky with JavaScript
 - We can still have buttons, interaction
 - But it won't "go" anywhere -- the server is mum



Static Web Pages

- Delivered as-is, final
 - Consistent, often fast
 - Cheap, only storage needed
- Can be maintained with static website generators
 - Or you'll be doing a lot of copying
 - Coupled with themes => rapid development, deployment
 - Quite popular, e.g. hosting on GH Pages
 - o (remember: HW4!)



Static Web Pages

- But ...
 - No data from elsewhere (where does your email come from?)
 - No persistence (at least, not obviously)
 - No customizability (e.g., accounts)
 - No communication (payment, chat, etc)
 - Realistically, no intensive jobs

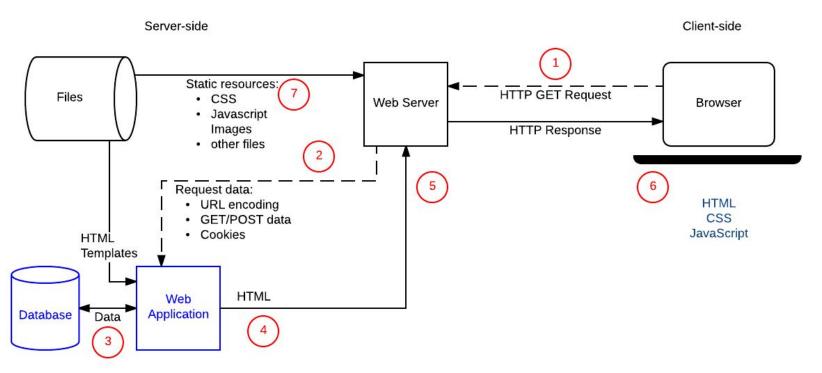
Dynamic Web Pages

- Client/Server
 - Someone needs to answer the website's calls
 - Doesn't need to be us!
 - Host a <u>webserver</u>
 - Serves pages, handles calls
 - For static pages too!
- We'll show you more in recitation tomorrow (Wednesday)



Web Servers

Dynamic sites can do more work



https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn/Server-side/First_steps/Client-Server_overview#anatomy_of_a_dynamic_request

Web Servers

- Communicate via HyperText Transfer Protocol
 - URL (the address)
 - o Method:
 - GET: retrieve data. Parameters in URL `...?key=value&key2=value2` and message body
 - POST: store/create data. Parameters in request body
 - Several more, rarely used
 - Responses:
 - Status Code:
 - We probably all know 404.
 - 2XX family is OK.
 - And possible data. E.g., entire HTML page.



Web Servers

- Communicate via HyperText Transfer Protocol
 - URL (the address)
 - o Method:
 - GET: retrieve data. Parameters in URL `...?key=value&key2=value2` and message body
 - POST: store/create data. Parameters in request body
 - Several more, rarely used
 - Responses:
 - Status Code. We all know 404. 2XX family is OK.
 - And possible data. E.g., entire HTML page.
 - POST makes no sense for static sites!
 - As do GETs with parameters



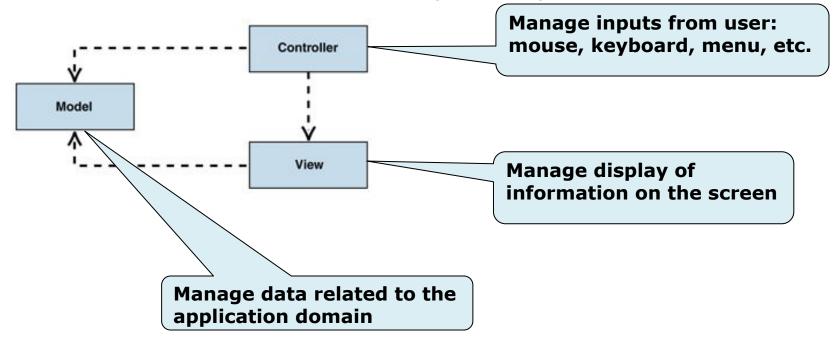
We can implement TicTacToe this way, too!

Let's go see.

(network tab of inspect will show us messages!)

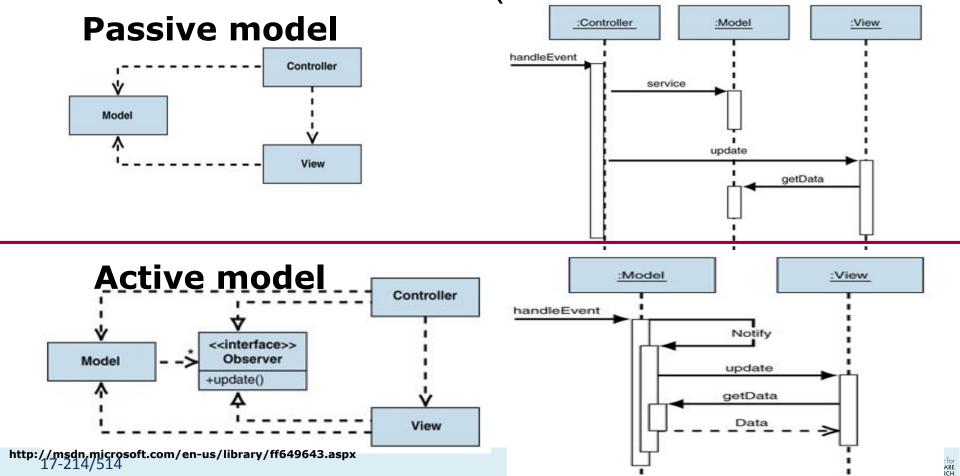
But notice we've begun to more explicitly separate out the HTML from the logic.

An architectural pattern: Model-View-Controller (MVC)

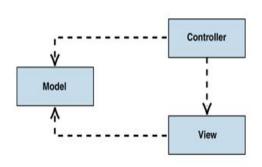


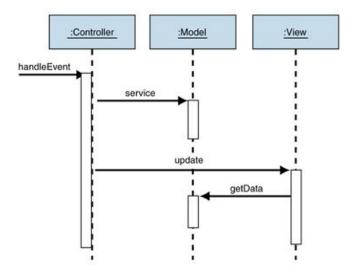


Model-View-Controller (MVC)



Model View Controller Dependencies





MVC is ubiquitous

Separates:

- Model: data organization
 - Interface to the database
- View: data representation (typically HTML)
 - Often called templates in web-dev; "view" is a bit overloaded
- Controller: intermediary between client and model/view
 - Typically asks model for data, view for HTML



How to Web App?

- Let's avoid generating HTML from scratch on every call
 - Map requests to handler code
 - Fetch data, process
 - Generate and return HTML
- Historically: PHP
 - Modifies HTML pages server-side on request; strong ties to SQL

```
<?php

// The global $_POST variable allows you to access the data sent with the POST method by name

// To access the data sent with the GET method, you can use $_GET

$say = htmlspecialchars($_POST['say']);

$to = htmlspecialchars($_POST['to']);

echo $say, ' ', $to;

?>
```

Summary

- GUIs are full of design patterns
 - Helpful for reuse, delegation in complex environments
- Covered the basics of HTML, CSS, JS, servers
 - Needed for dynamic web pages
 - Decouple the GUI; architect your backend
 - o A lot more to learn (security, performance, privacy), but this will do
- You will build this
 - At a small scale