Interactive GUIs

10-27-2010

Opening Discussion

- Solutions to the IcP.
- Questions about the assignment?
- Minute essay comments:
 - Suggestions all went into the assignment.
 - Usefulness of matrices.

Menus

- The frame has a MenuBar.
- Contents of a MenuBar should be Menus.
- Menus can hold the following:
 - Menultem
 - Menu
 - CheckMenultem
 - RadioMenultem
 - Separator

Interactive GUIs

- Last time we learned how to build a GUI with components.
- Our GUI wasn't interactive though.
- Buttons and MenuItems are easy because we give them an Action.
- Simple read model of console apps is insufficient.
- Need a way to deal with input from many sources.

Publisher/Reactor

- The basic model employed by scala.swing is Publishers and Reactors.
- A Reactor can listenTo events from a Publisher.
- Events are in scala.swing.event.
- To stop listening, set yourself to be deafTo.
- The Publisher can be the component or an object in the component.

Partial Functions

- Scala has a construct called a partial function. It is a function that only works on some inputs.
- The brief syntax for them is like a match with no match. So it has curly braces with cases in them.
 - {
 case 1 => doOption1()
 case 2 => doOption2()
 ...
 }

Events/reactions

- When a Reactor is listening to a Publisher, it needs to define reactions.
- You can add PartialFunctions into the reactions of the Reactor.
- They should respond to the events you are interested in.
 - reactions += {
 - case e:ActionEvent => ...
 - case e:SelectionChanged => ...

Editing Pokemon

 Let's use this new knowledge to make it so that we are really editing our Pokemon.

Minute Essay

- Questions?
- Interclass Problem:
 - Try to make your calculator (or whatever you wrote for today) work. At the very least put in some interactions. (Like clicking buttons changes the display.)