

Introduction to C#, Visual Studio and Windows Presentation Foundation

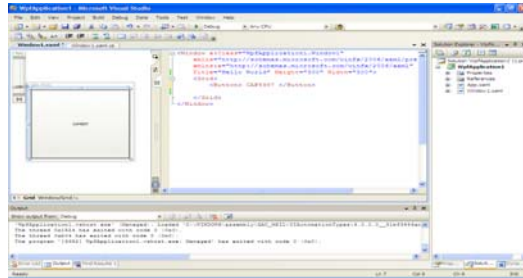
Lecture #3: C#, Visual Studio, and WPF
Joseph J. LaViola Jr.
Fall 2012

C#

- Combination of C++ and Java
 - no pointer manipulation
 - built in data structures – Lists, Hash tables
 - some higher level constructs
 - foreach
 - C# not difficult
 - .NET high learning curve
 - Intellisense makes things much easier
- Quick C# Reference

Visual Studio 2010

- Good IDE
 - debugging
 - intellisense
- Handles WPF well
- Visual UI designer
 - Integrates with XAML



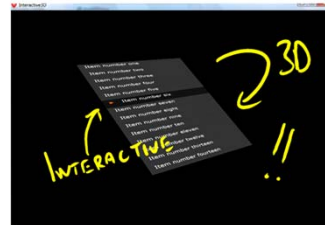
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Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF)

- UI development platform from MSFT
- Integration of
 - INK!!!!
 - Multi-touch
 - 2D graphics
 - 3D graphics
 - video/audio/animation
- Declarative/Procedural programming model
 - XAML
 - C#/Visual Basic/etc...
- Uses retained mode
 - implies scenegraph



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WPF Features and Machinery

- Control library
 - buttons, sliders, menus, toolbars
 - tool tips, popups, scroll bars, etc...
 - user defined as well
- Layout panels
 - canvas, stack, wrap, doc panels
 - grid – most flexible
- Actions
 - events
 - commands
 - triggers
- Styles, skins, themes, templates

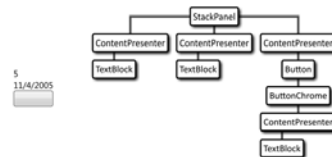
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Logical and Visual Trees in WPF

- UIs are constructed from a tree of objects (logical tree)
- Visual tree expands logical tree
 - nodes broken down into visual components
 - not all logical tree nodes appear in visual tree
 - System.Windows.Media.Visual
 - System.Windows.Media.Visual3D



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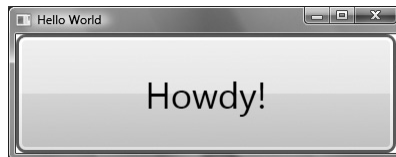
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Extensible Application Markup Language (XAML)

- Set of semantics on top of XML
- Tags always defined in context namespace
- Easy to read like and write
 - a.k.a. HTML
 - declarative
 - want to integrate graphic designers
- Independent of WPF
- Ideal for rapid UI prototyping
 - set up UI then write procedural code

WPF Example – Button

```
<Window
xmlns='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation
'Title='Hello World'>
<Button>Howdy!</Button>
</Window>
```



Examples adapted from *Essential Windows Presentation Foundation* by Chris Anderson, Addison Wesley, 2007.

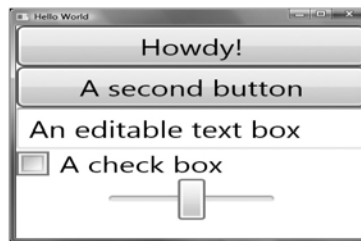
WPF Example – Stack Panel

```
<Window
xmlns='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation'
Title='Hello World' >
  <StackPanel>
    <Button>Howdy!</Button>
    <Button>A second button</Button>
  </StackPanel>
</Window>
```



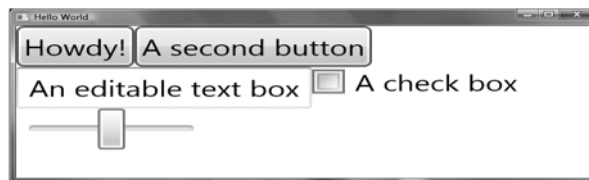
WPF Example – More Controls

```
<Window
xmlns='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation'
Title='Hello World' >
  <StackPanel>
    <Button>Howdy!</Button>
    <Button>A second button</Button>
    <TextBox>An editable text box</TextBox>
    <CheckBox>A check box</CheckBox>
    <Slider Width='75' Minimum='0' Maximum='100' Value='50' />
  </StackPanel>
</Window>
```



WPF Example – Wrap Layout

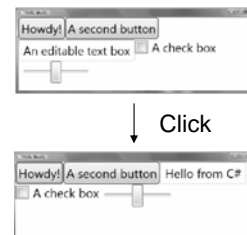
```
<Window
  xmlns='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation'
  Title='Hello World' >
  <WrapPanel>
    <Button>Howdy!</Button>
    <Button>A second button</Button>
    <TextBox>An editable text box</TextBox>
    <CheckBox>A check box</CheckBox>
    <Slider Width='75' Minimum='0' Maximum='100' Value='50' />
  </WrapPanel>
</Window>
```



WPF Example – Events

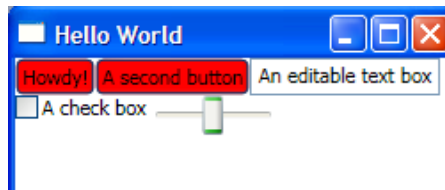
```
<Window
  x:Class='CAP6105Test.MyWindow'
  xmlns:x='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml'
  xmlns='http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation'
  Title='Hello World' >
  <WrapPanel>
    <Button Click='HowdyClicked'>Howdy!</Button>
    <Button>A second button</Button>
    <TextBox x:Name='_text1'>An editable text box</TextBox>
    <CheckBox>A check box </CheckBox>
    <Slider Width='75' Minimum='0' Maximum='100' Value='50' />
  </WrapPanel>
</Window>
```

```
using System;
using System.Windows.Controls;
using System.Windows;
namespace CAP6105Test
{
  public partial class MyWindow : Window {
    public MyWindow() {
      InitializeComponent();
    }
    void HowdyClicked(object sender, RoutedEventArgs e) {
      _text1.Text = "Hello from C#";
    }
  }
}
```



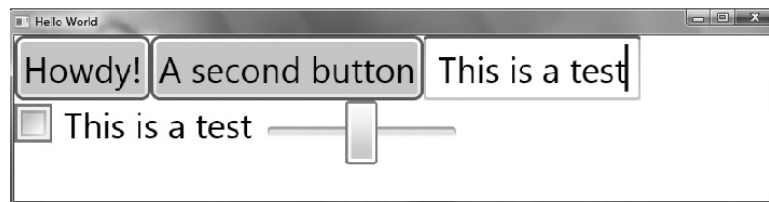
WPF Example – Resource Binding

```
...
<Window.Resources>
  <SolidColorBrush x:Key='bg' Color='Red' />
</Window.Resources>
<WrapPanel>
  <Button Background='{StaticResource bg}'
    Click="HowdyClicked"> Howdy!</Button>
  <Button Background='{StaticResource bg}'>A second
button</Button>
</WrapPanel>
...
```



WPF Example – Property Binding

```
...
<Button Background='{StaticResource bg}'>A second button</Button>
<TextBox x:Name='_text1'>An editable text box</TextBox>
<CheckBox Content='{Binding ElementName=_text1,Path=Text}' />
...
```



WPF Actions

- 3 principles
 - element composition
 - loose coupling
 - declarative actions
- Uses events, commands, and triggers
- Utilize routed events – traverse visual tree
- Semantic events vs. physical events
 - Click vs. MouseDown

WPF Events

- Declare events in XAML/implement in code
- Routed events
 - Direct – fire on single source
 - Tunneling – travel from root to target element
 - Bubbling – opposite of tunneling
- Tunneling version prefixed with *Preview*
- *Handled* property can break traversal

Event Ordering Example

```
<Window ...
PreviewMouseRightButtonDown='WindowPreviewRightButtonDown'
MouseRightButtonDown='WindowRightButtonDown' >
  <GroupBox PreviewMouseRightButtonDown='GroupBoxPreviewRightButtonDown'
    MouseRightButtonDown='GroupBoxRightButtonDown' >
    <StackPanel>
      <Button>One</Button>
      <Button PreviewMouseRightButtonDown='ButtonTwoPreviewRightButtonDown'
        MouseRightButtonDown='ButtonTwoRightButtonDown' > Two </Button>
    </StackPanel>
  </GroupBox>
</Window>
```

- Ordering** →
1. *Window* PreviewMouseRightButtonDown
 2. *GroupBox* PreviewMouseRightButtonDown
 3. *Button* PreviewMouseRightButtonDown
 4. *Button* MouseRightButtonDown
 5. *GroupBox* MouseRightButtonDown
 6. *Window* MouseRightButtonDown

Commands

- Provide single name to signify an action
 - define command
 - define command implementation
 - create trigger for command
- Uses `ICommand` interface

```
public interface ICommand {
    event EventHandler CanExecuteChanged;
    bool CanExecute(object parameter);
    void Execute(object parameter);
}
```

Command Example

```
public class Exit : ICommand {
    public bool CanExecute(object parameter) {
        return true; }

    public event EventHandler CanExecuteChanged;

    public void Execute(object parameter) {
        Application.Current.Shutdown(); }
}
```

```
public partial class Window1 : Window {
    public static readonly ICommand ExitCommand =
        new Exit();
    ...
}

<MenuItem Header='_File'>
    <MenuItem Header='E_exit'
        Command='{x:Static l:Window1.ExitCommand}' />
    </MenuItem>
</MenuItem>
```

```
<MenuItem Header='_File'>
    <MenuItem Header='E_exit'>
        <MenuItem.Command>
            <l:Exit />
        </MenuItem.Command>
    </MenuItem>
</MenuItem>
...
<Hyperlink>
    <Hyperlink.Command>
        <l:Exit />
    </Hyperlink.Command>
</Hyperlink>
```

Triggers

- Designed for markup
- Signaled by
 - state of a display property (Trigger)
 - state of a data property (DataTrigger)
 - used only within a data template
 - an event (EventTrigger)
- Cause set of actions when signaled
- MultiTrigger and MultiDataTrigger

Event Trigger Example

```
<Window.Triggers>
  <EventTrigger RoutedEvent='FrameworkElement.Loaded'>
    <EventTrigger.Actions>
      <BeginStoryboard>
        <BeginStoryboard.Storyboard>
          <Storyboard>
            <DoubleAnimation
              From='-25'
              To='25'
              Storyboard.TargetName='rotation'
              Storyboard.TargetProperty='Angle'
              AutoReverse='True'
              Duration='0:0:2.5'
              RepeatBehavior='Forever' />
          </Storyboard>
        </BeginStoryboard.Storyboard>
      </BeginStoryboard>
    </EventTrigger.Actions>
  </EventTrigger>
</Window.Triggers>
```

Readings

- WPF 4.0 Unleashed by Nathan
 - Chapters 1-8