

# Designing Interactive Systems 2

## Lecture 2: Window System Architecture

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RWTH Aachen University

[hci.rwth-aachen.de/dis2](http://hci.rwth-aachen.de/dis2)

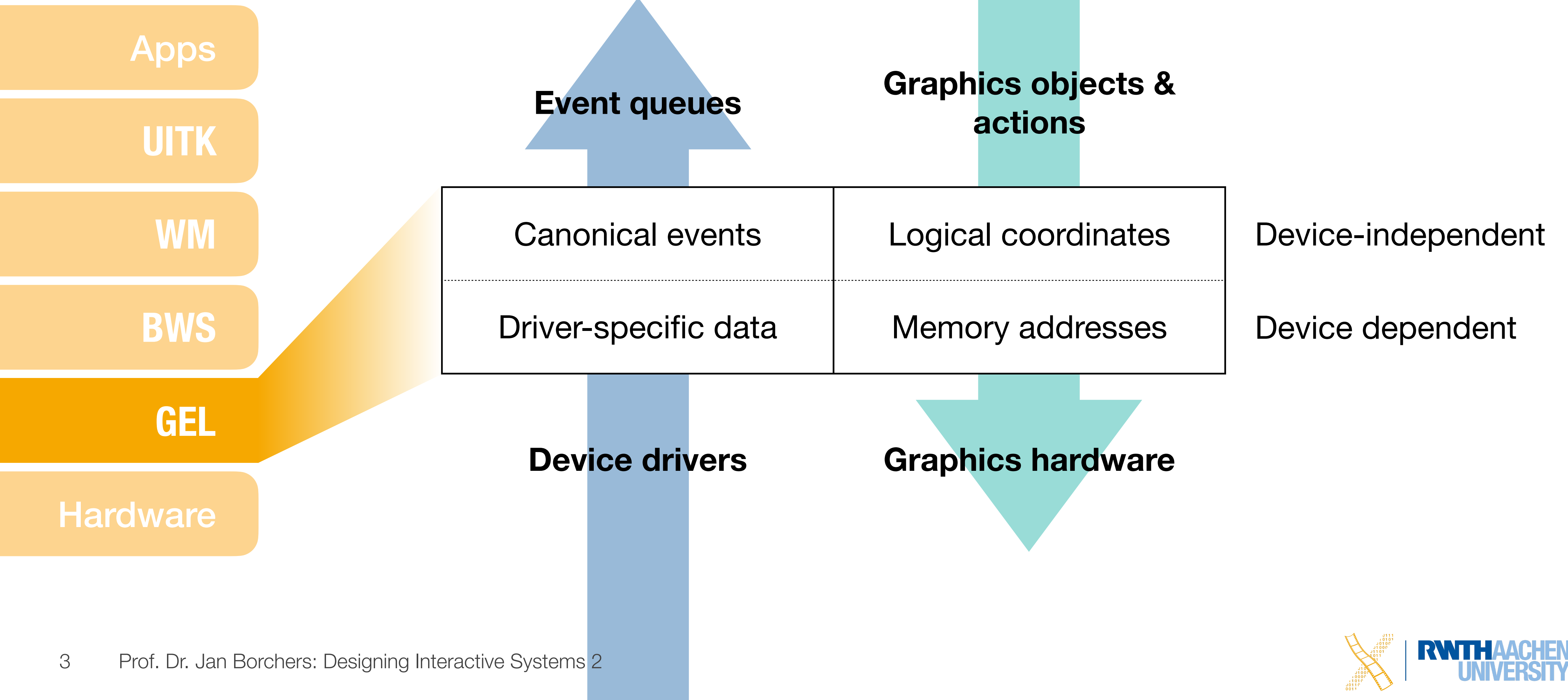


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UNIVERSITY

## CHAPTER 4

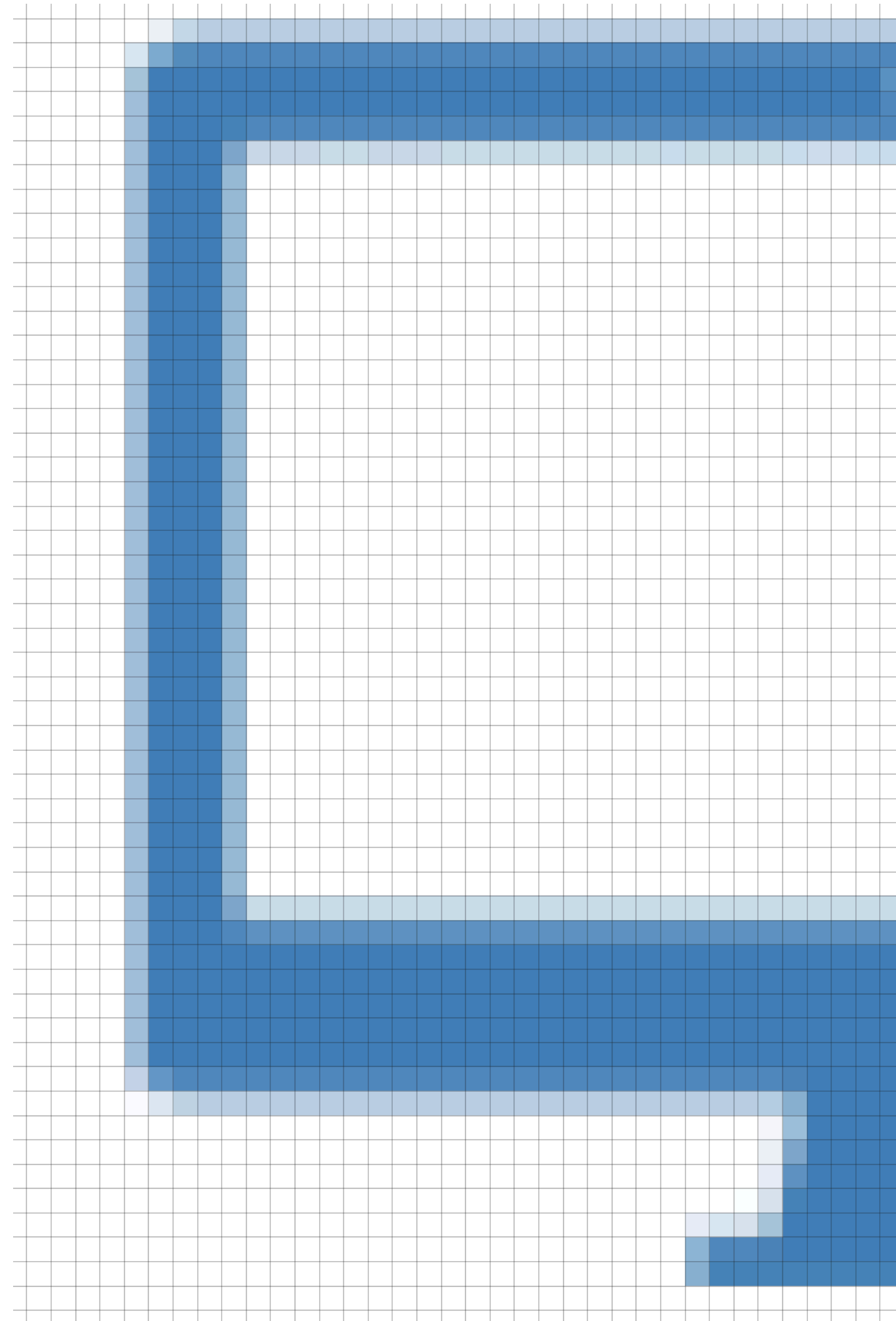
# Graphics & Event Library

# Graphics & Event Library

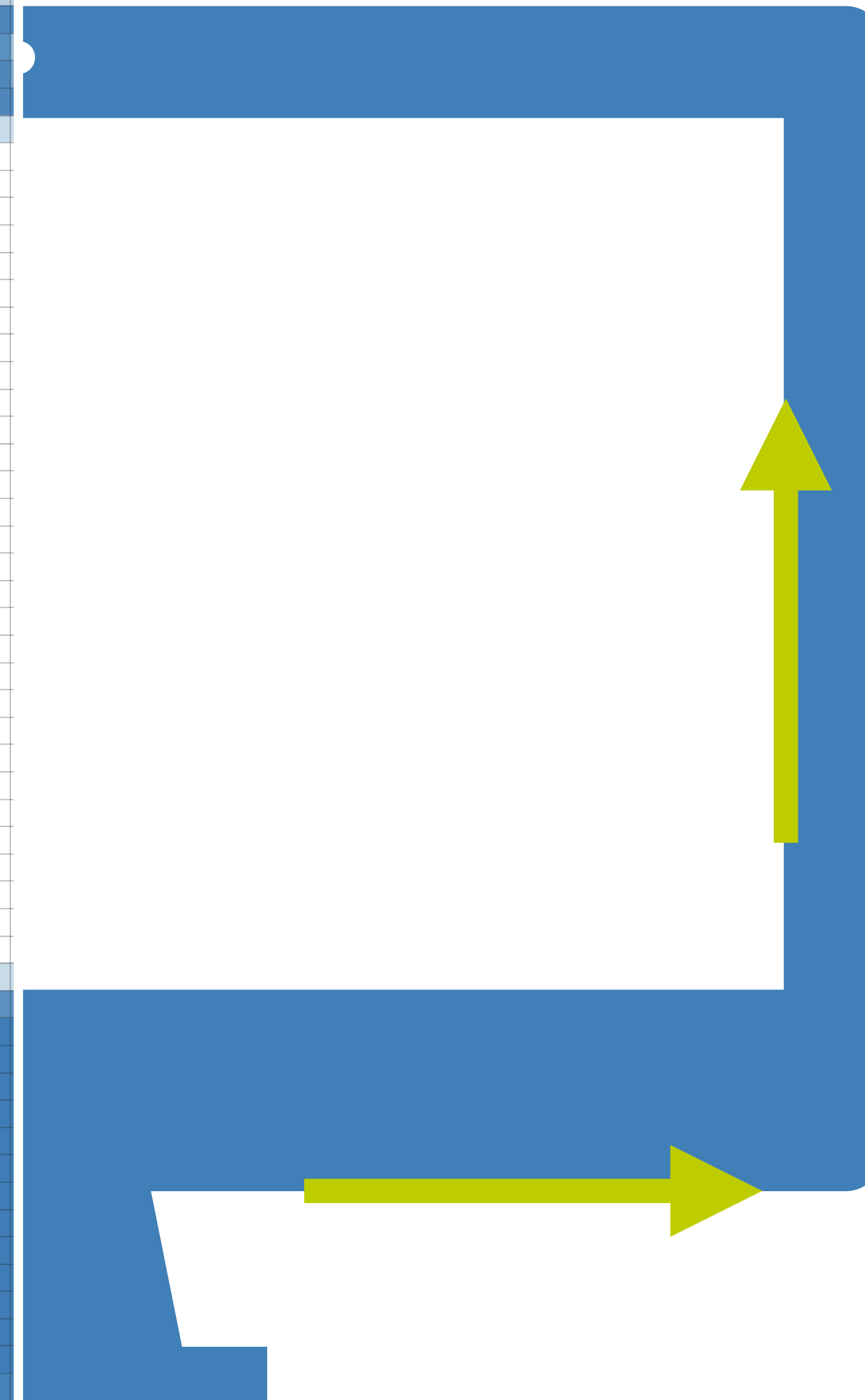


# Graphics Models

**RasterOp Model**



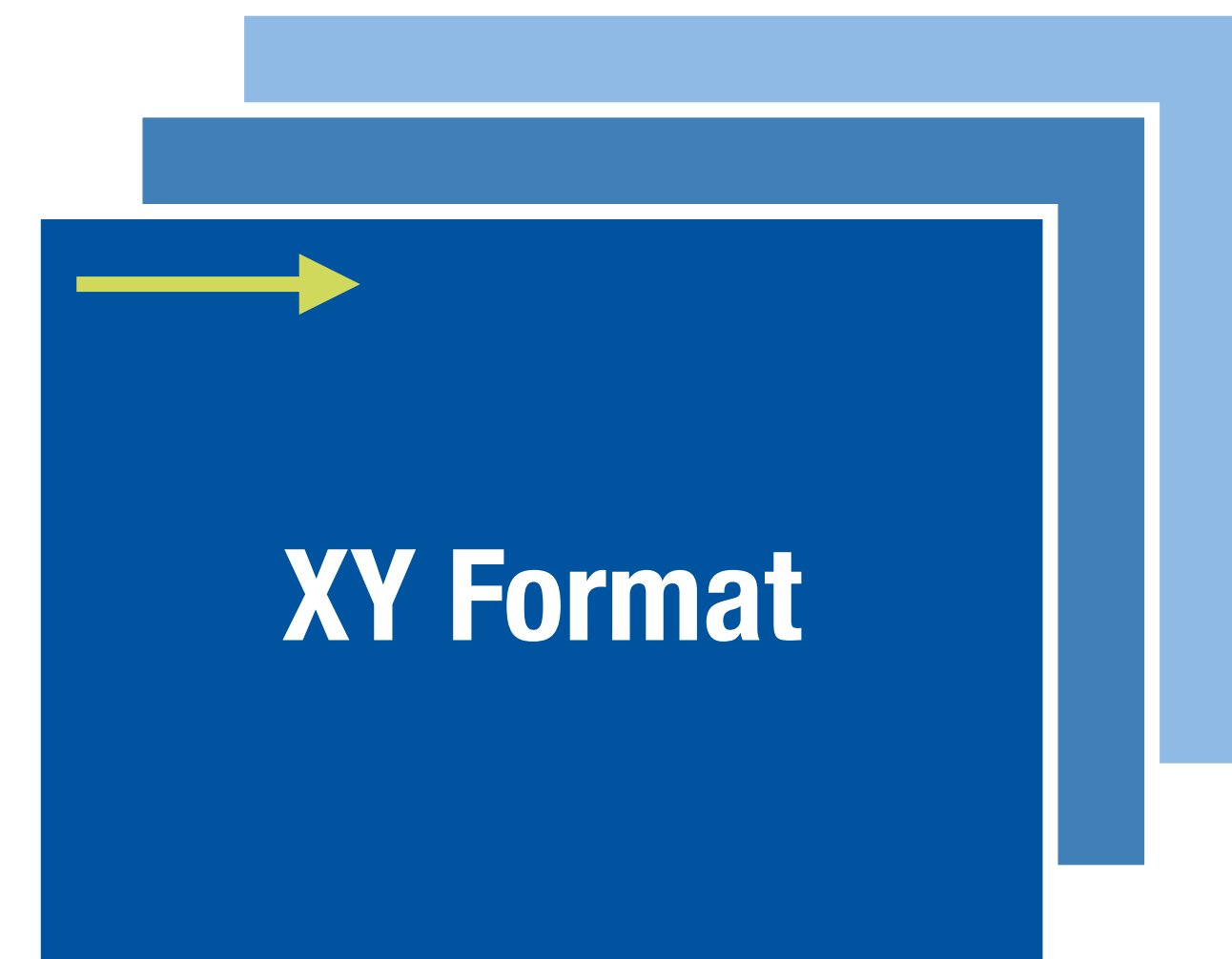
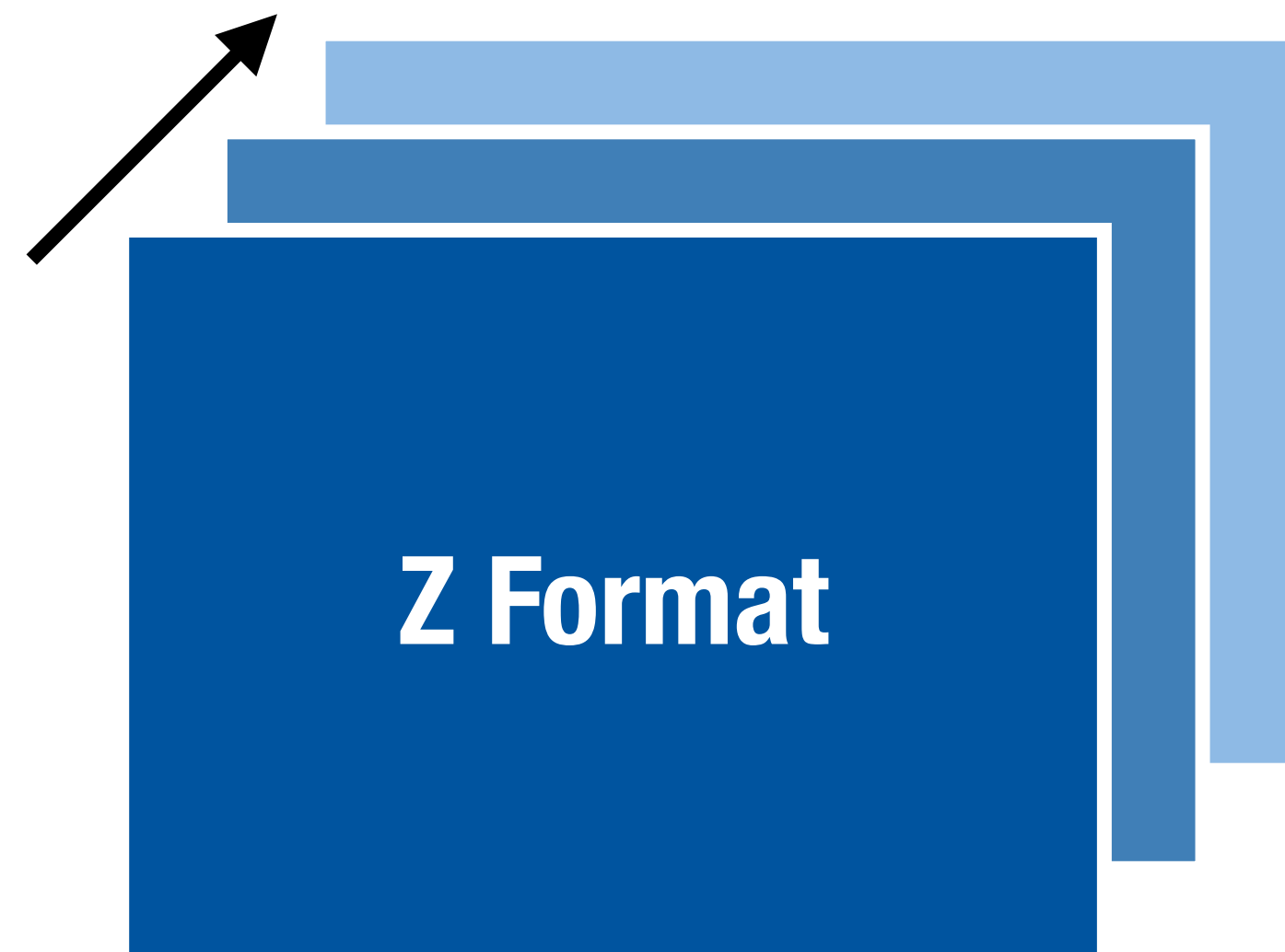
**Vector Model**



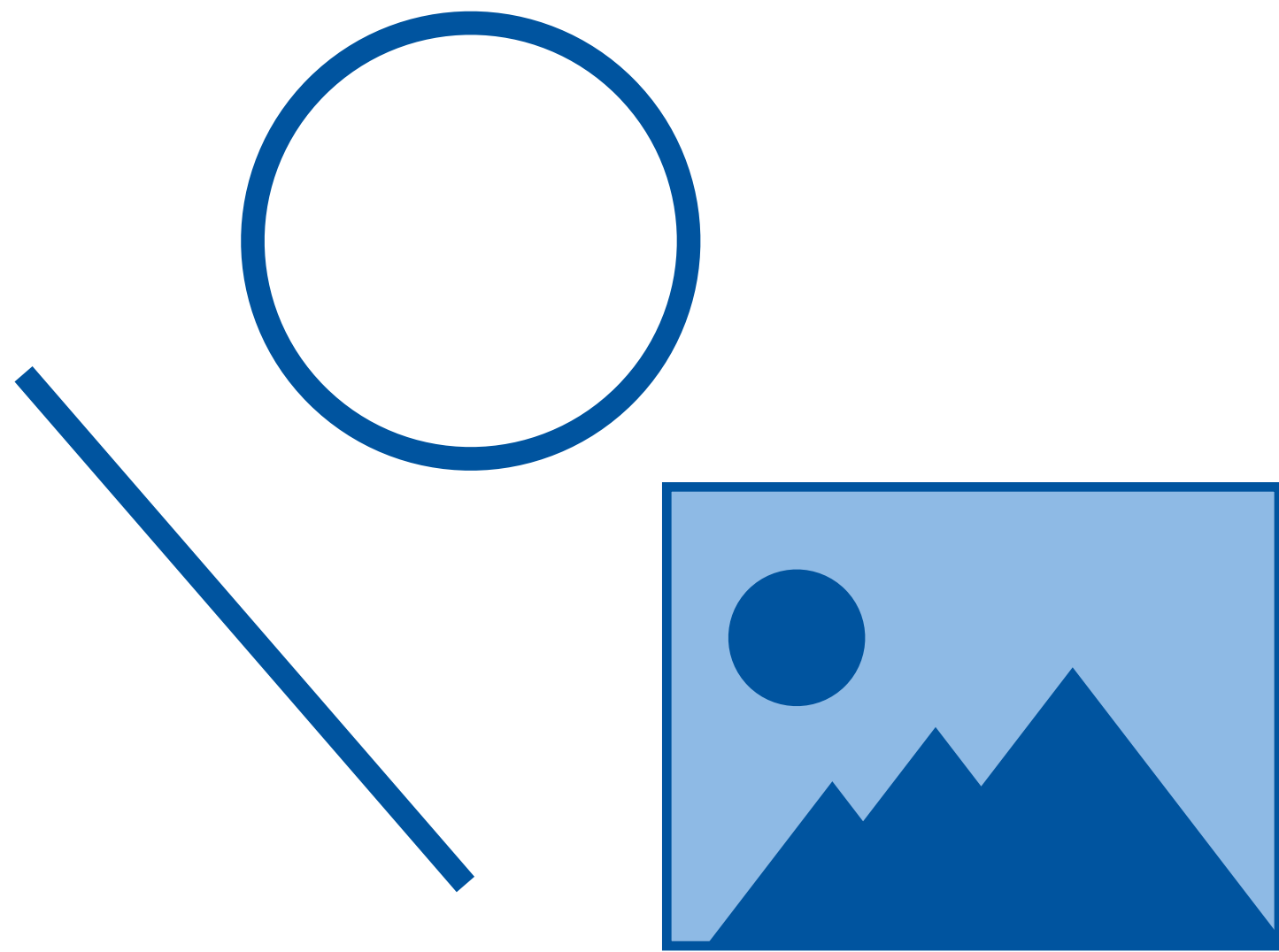


# Graphics Library Objects: Canvas

- A canvas is a memory area with a coordinate system and memory-to-pixel mapping
- Different formats



# Graphics Library Objects: Output Objects



**Elementary Objects**



**Complex Objects**

# Graphics Library Objects: Graphics Context

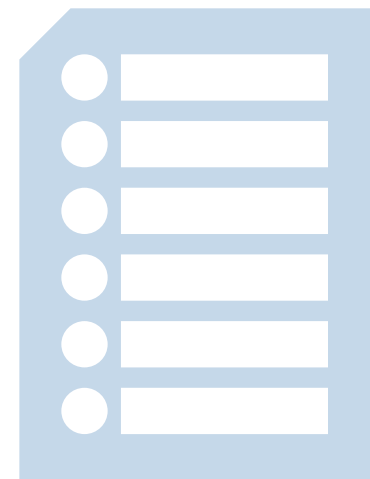
- State of the (virtual) graphics processor
- Goal: **reduce parameters** to pass when calling graphics operations

Attribute	Value
Font	Gill Sans
Font size	24 pt
Font color	(0,0,0)
Line width	2 px
...	...

`drawString(x, y, "Turtle");`

# Graphics Library: Drawing

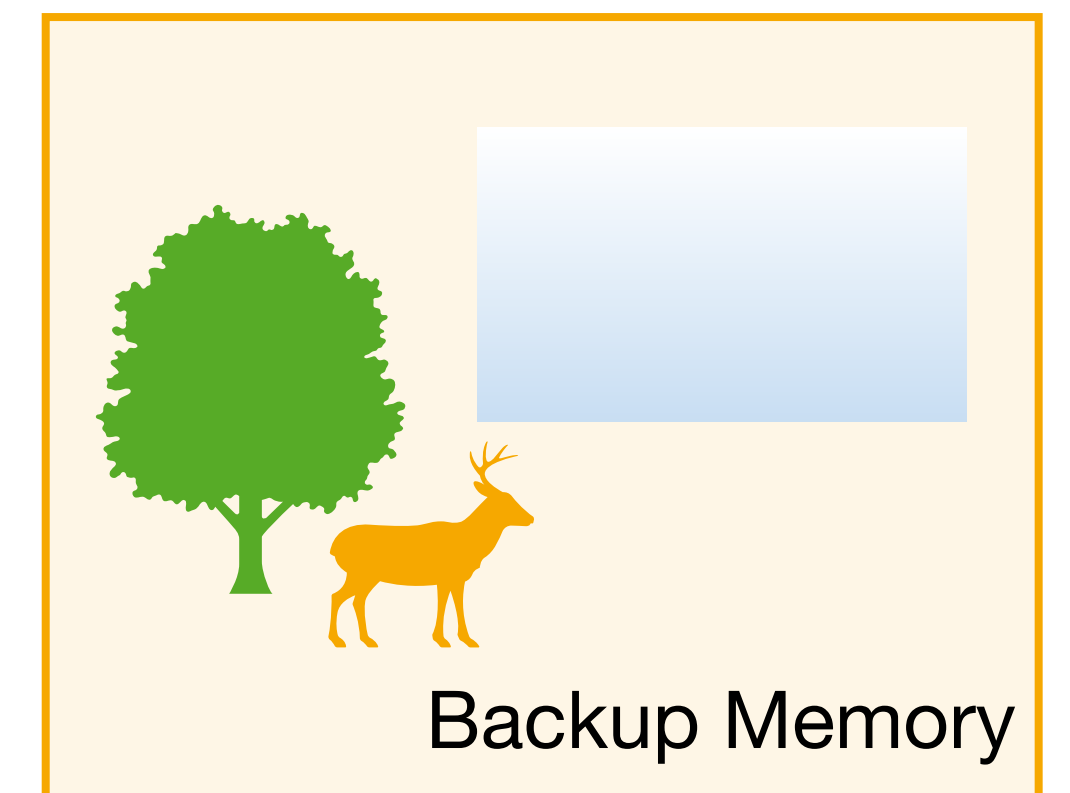
## Command-Buffered Drawing



```
setFillColor(green);  
fillPath(treePath);  
setFillColor(orange);  
fillPath(deerPath);
```

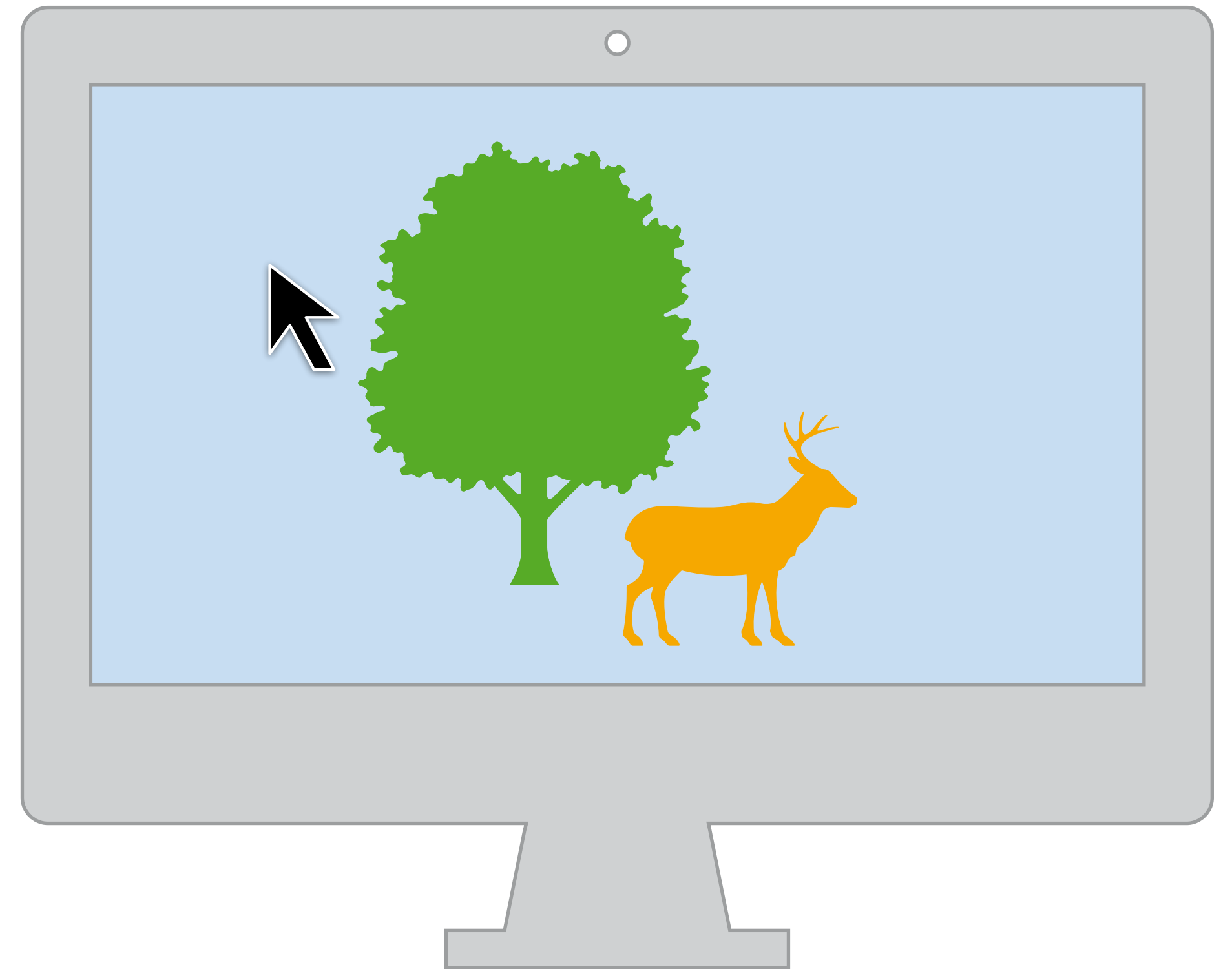
## Direct Drawing

## Data-Buffered Drawing



# Damage Repair

- Mouse cursor is always drawn by GEL (performance)
- Restoring contents that were occluded by mouse cursor needed



# Event Library

## Canonical Mouse Event Queue

Event	
Type	Movement
Value	(0,2)
Timestamp	13:37:12.203

Event	
Type	Mouse Down
Value	Left
Timestamp	13:37:12.271

Event	
Type	Mouse Up
Value	Left
Timestamp	13:37:12.289

Event	
Type	Movement
Value	(12,2)
Timestamp	13:37:12.416



## Mouse Driver Event Queue

Event	
Button 1	0
Button 2	0
Button 3	0
X	0
Y	<b>1</b>
Wheel	0
Timestamp	31267

Event	
Button 1	<b>1</b>
Button 2	0
Button 3	0
X	0
Y	0
Wheel	0
Timestamp	31335

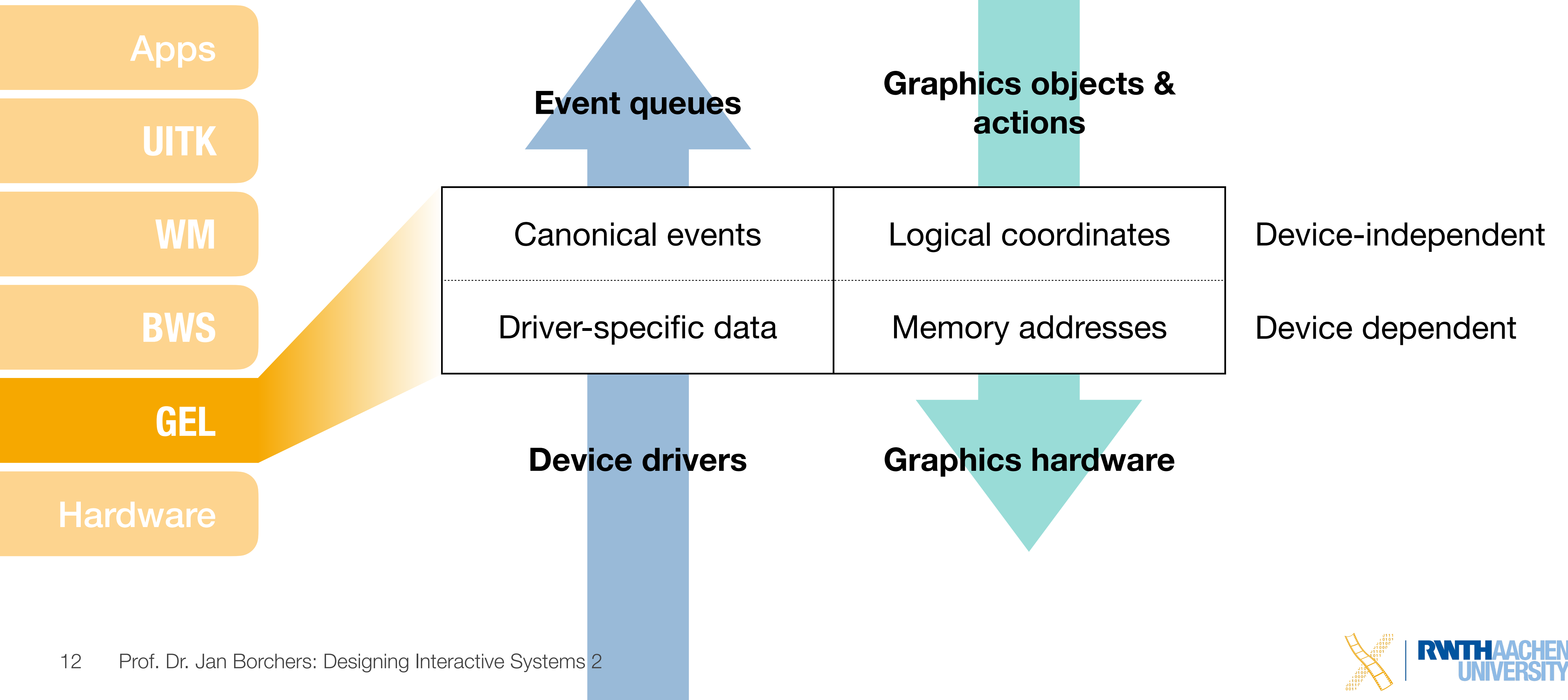
Event	
Button 1	0
Button 2	0
Button 3	0
X	0
Y	0
Wheel	0
Timestamp	31421

Event	
Button 1	0
Button 2	0
Button 3	0
X	<b>6</b>
Y	<b>1</b>
Wheel	0
Timestamp	31634

# How Extensible is the GEL?

- Most systems: Not accessible to application developer
- **GEL as library:** extensible only with access to source code (X11)
- GEL access **via interpreted language:** extensible at runtime (NeWS)
  - NeWS example: Download PostScript code into GEL to draw triangles, gridlines, patterns,...

# Graphics & Event Library





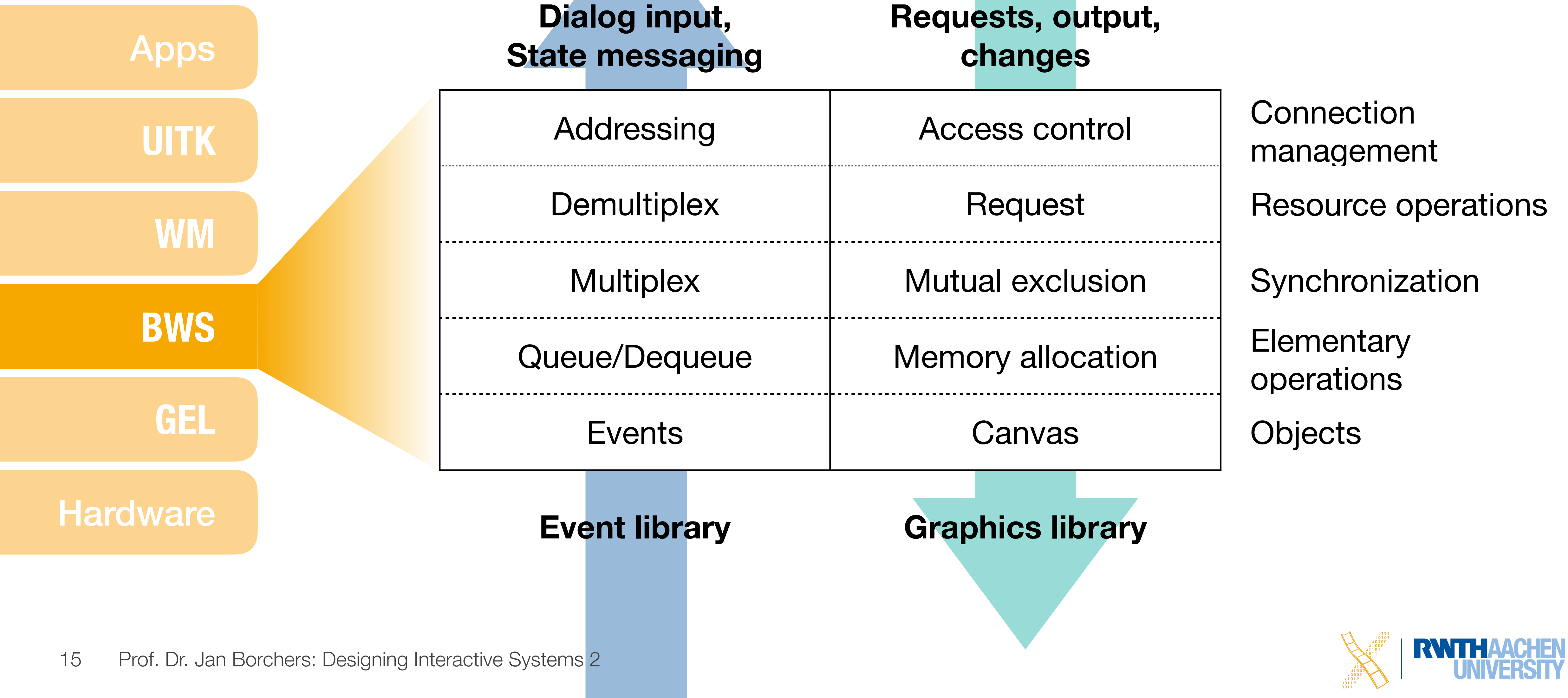
## CHAPTER 5

# Base Window System

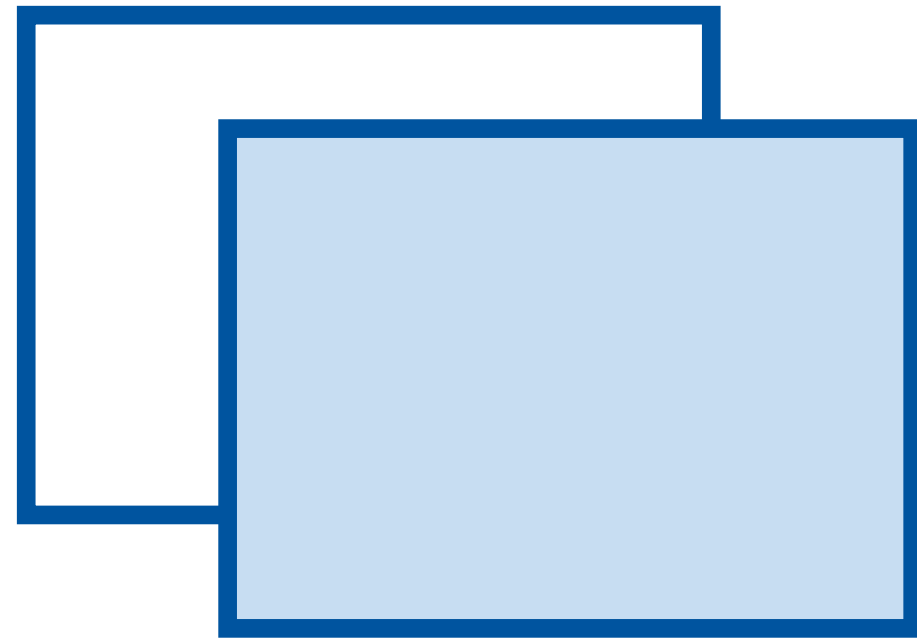
# Base Window System

- **Core** of the Window System
  - Provides **WS-wide data structures** and operations
  - Manages **shared resources** to ensure consistency
- **Base window**: logical canvases that include the on-screen windows and / or widgets
- In general:  
1 WS — *k* terminals, *m* applications, *n* objects per application (windows, fonts)

# Base Window System



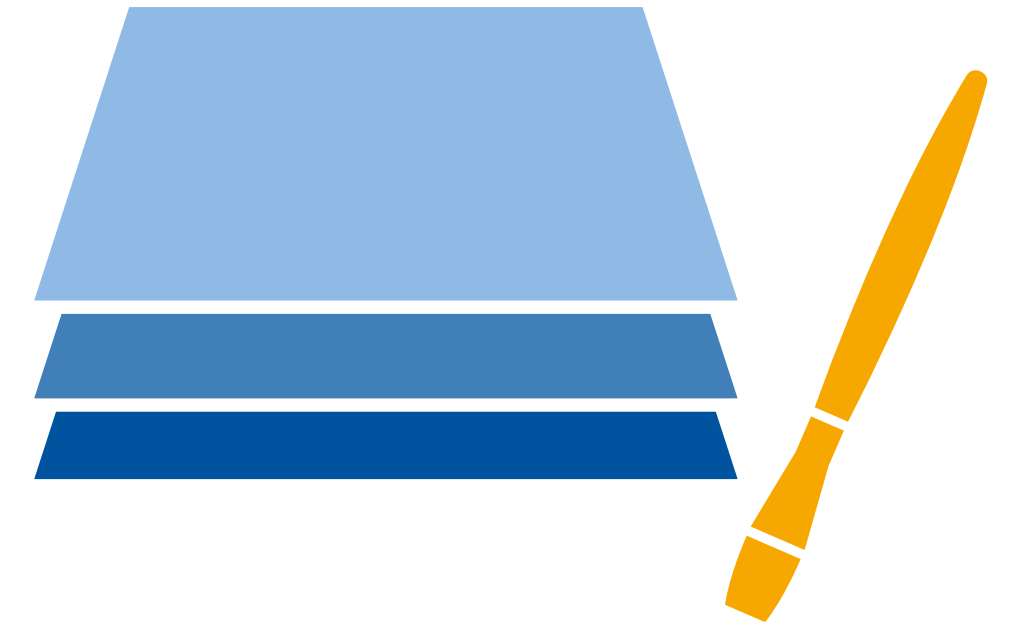
# Base Window System: Objects



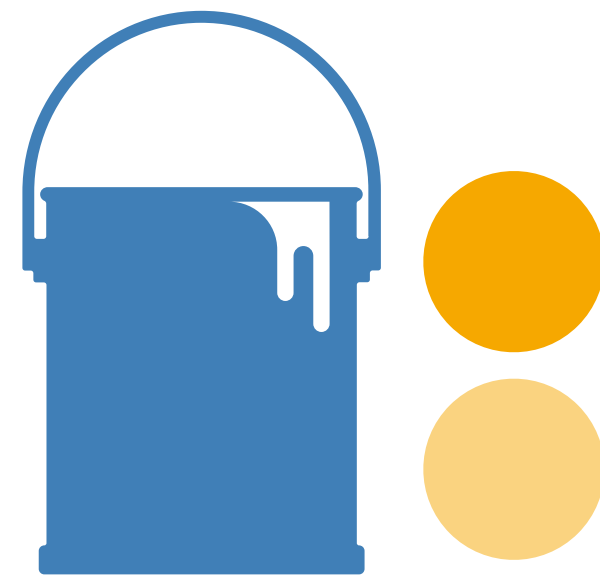
**Window & Canvas**



**Events**



**Graphics Context**



**Color Tables**

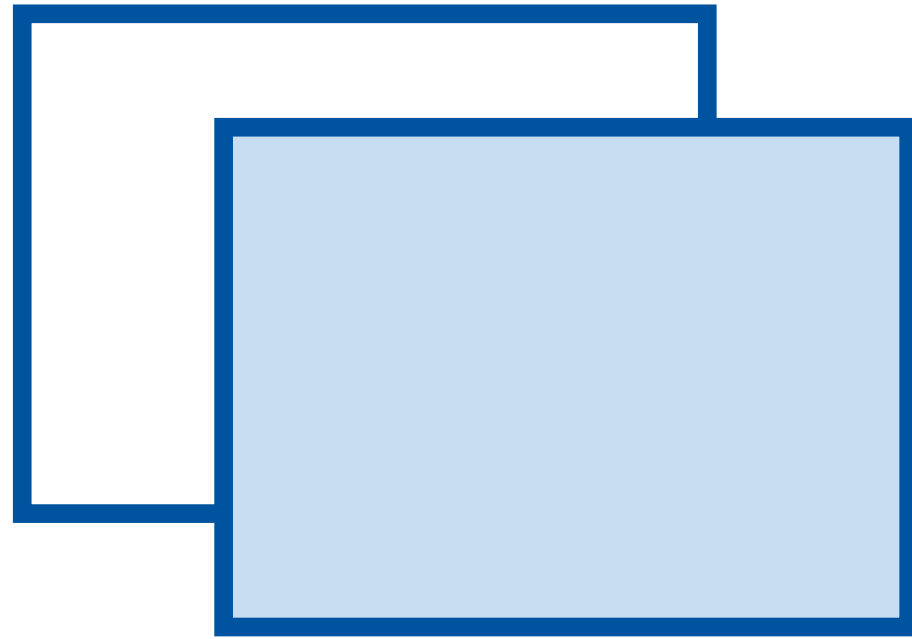


**Fonts**

# Base Window System: Objects

## Components

- Owning application
- Using applications
- Size, depth, border, origin
- State variables (only for windows)



## Window & Canvas

## Operations

- Drawing in local coordinate system
- State changes

# Base Window System: Objects



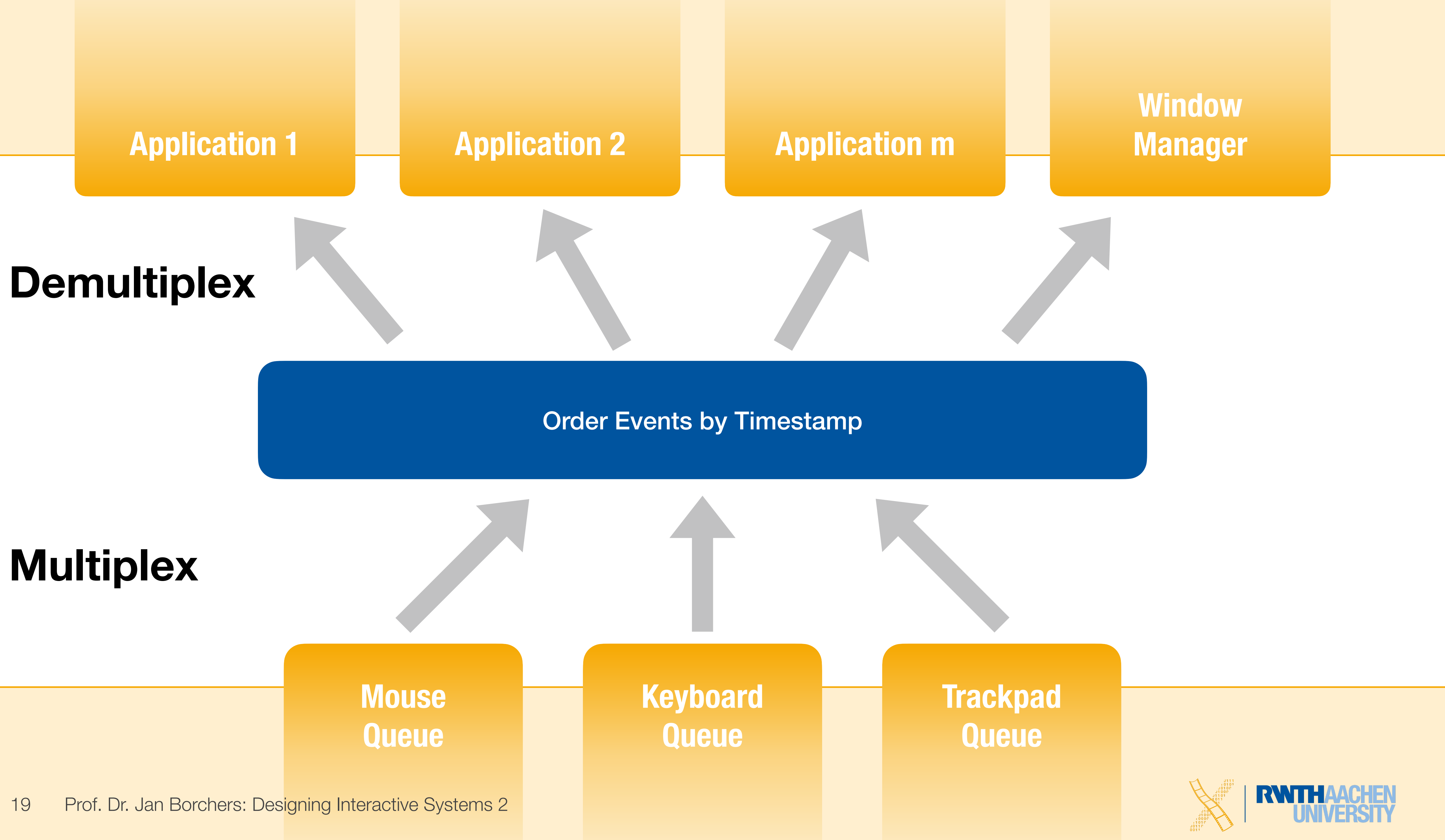
## Events

### Components

- Event type
- Timestamp
- Type-specific data
- Location
- Window
- Application

### Operations

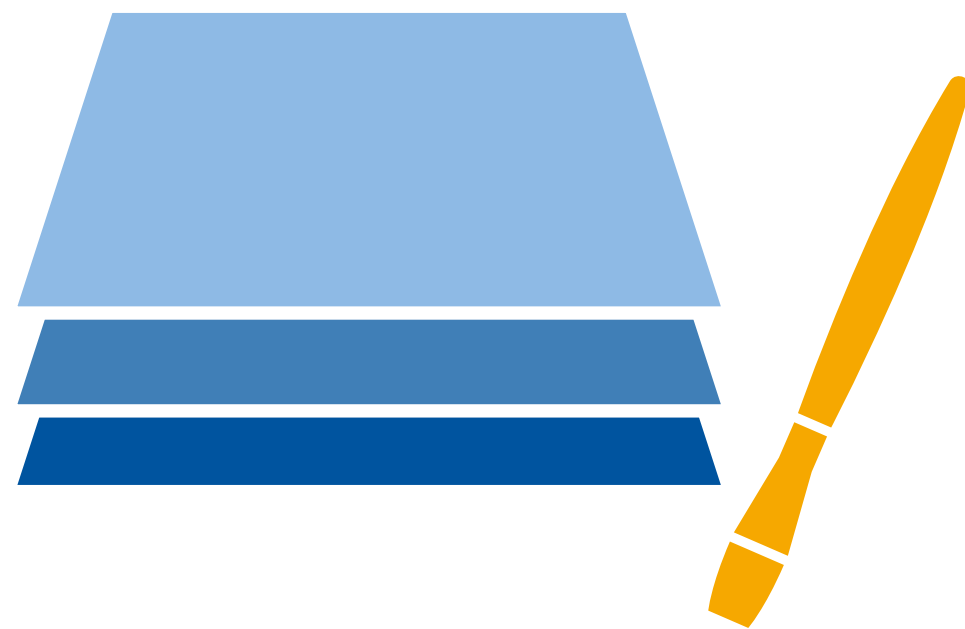
- Read, write and filter events



# Base Window System: Objects

## Components

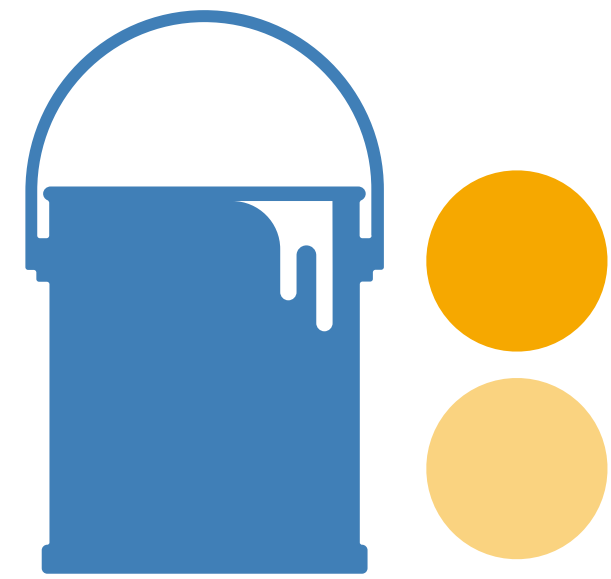
- Owner app, user apps
- Graphics attributes (line thickness, color index, copy function,...)
- Text attributes (color, skew, direction, copy function,...)
- Color table reference



## Graphics Context



# Base Window System: Objects



## Color Tables

### Components

- Owner app, user apps
- Data fields for each color entry
- RGB, HSV, YIQ,...

### Operations

- Provide default color
- Find close replacements of colors (fault tolerance)

# Base Window System: Objects

## Components

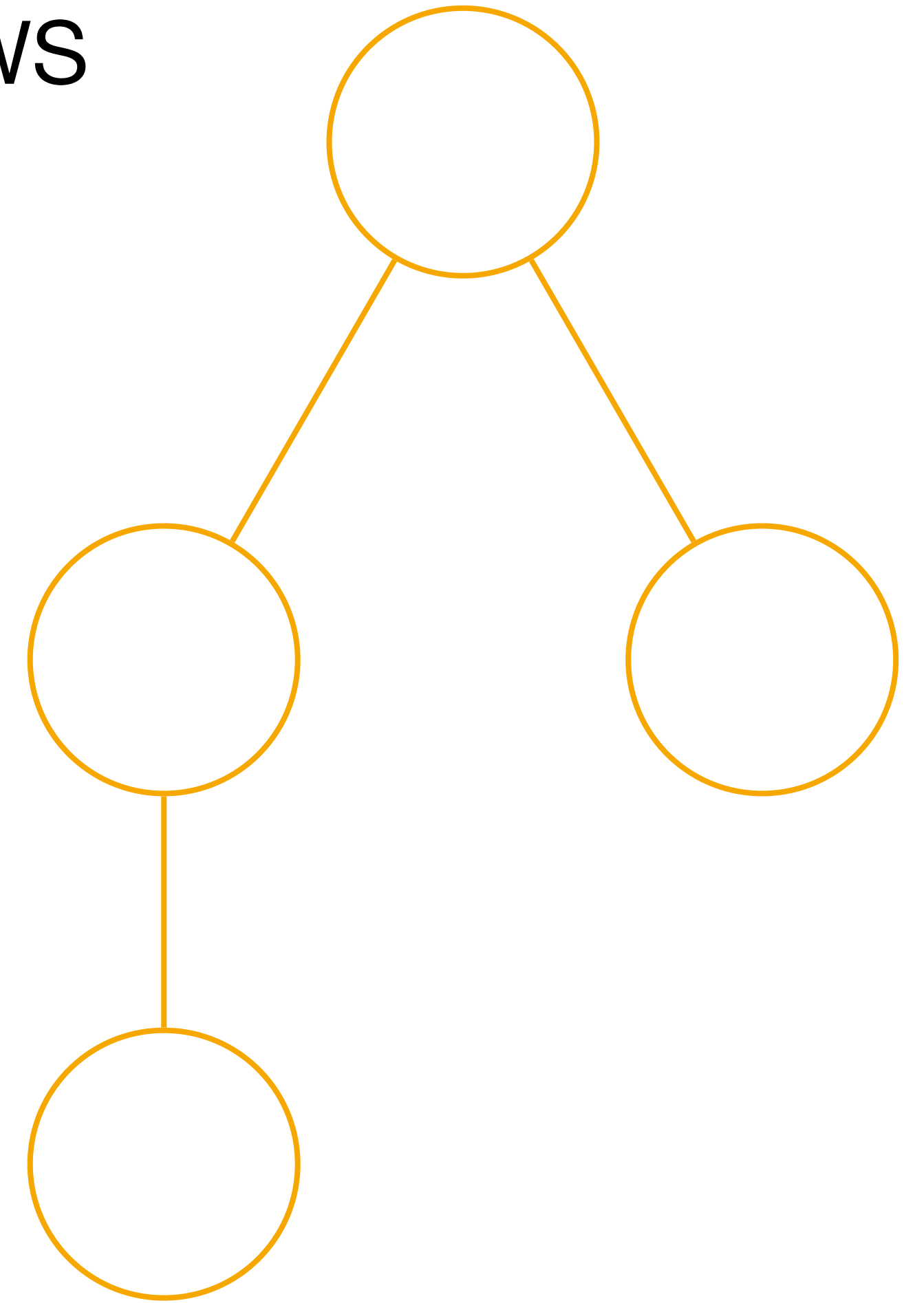
- Owner app, user apps
- Name, measurements  
(font size, kerning, ligatures,...)
- One data field per character

A stylized blue lowercase letter 'f' logo, which is part of the RWTH Aachen University branding.

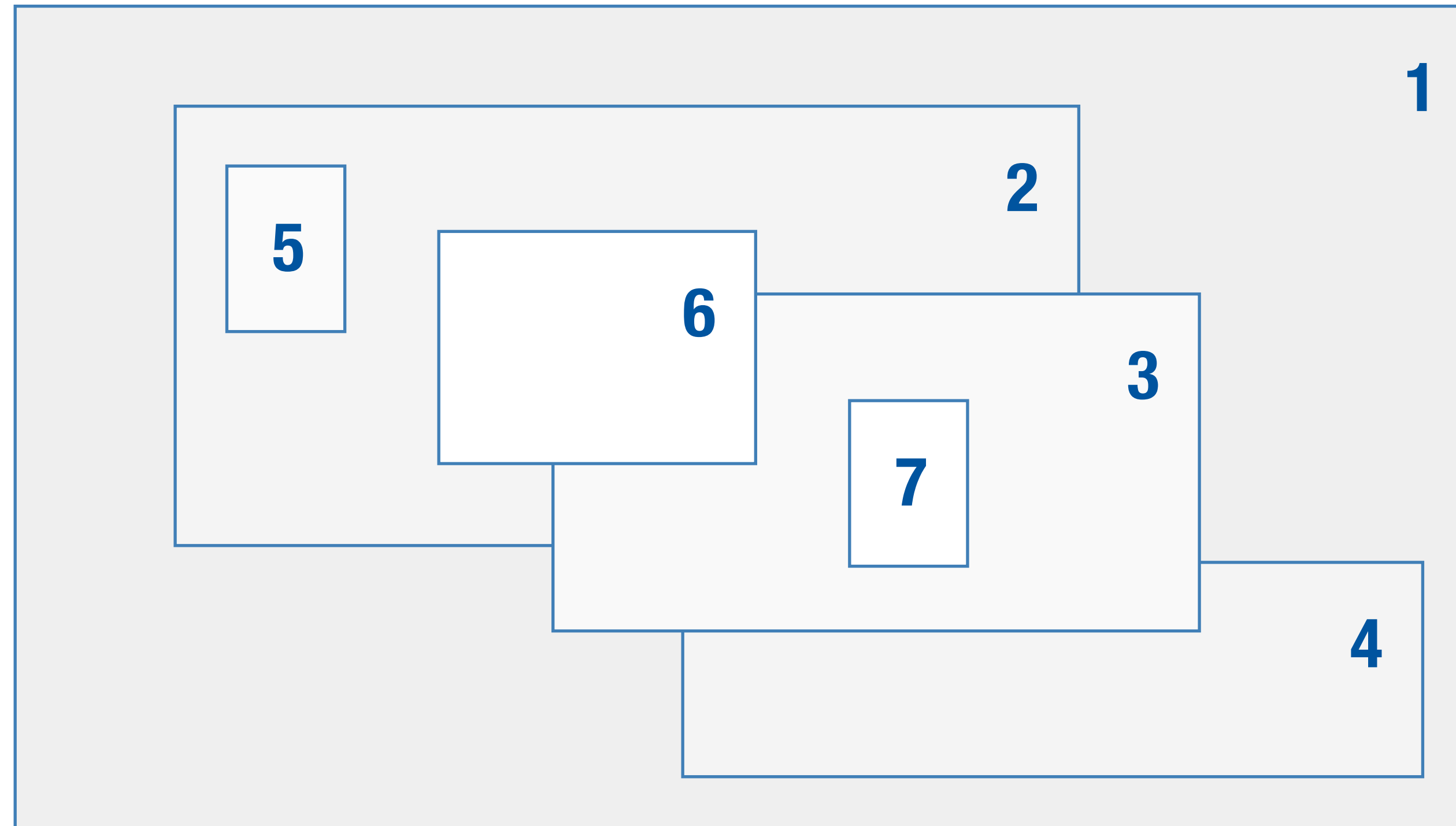
Fonts

# Base Window Management

- Trees are used to manage the window collection in the BWS
  - All child windows are inside their parent window
  - Simplifies event routing or setting visibility



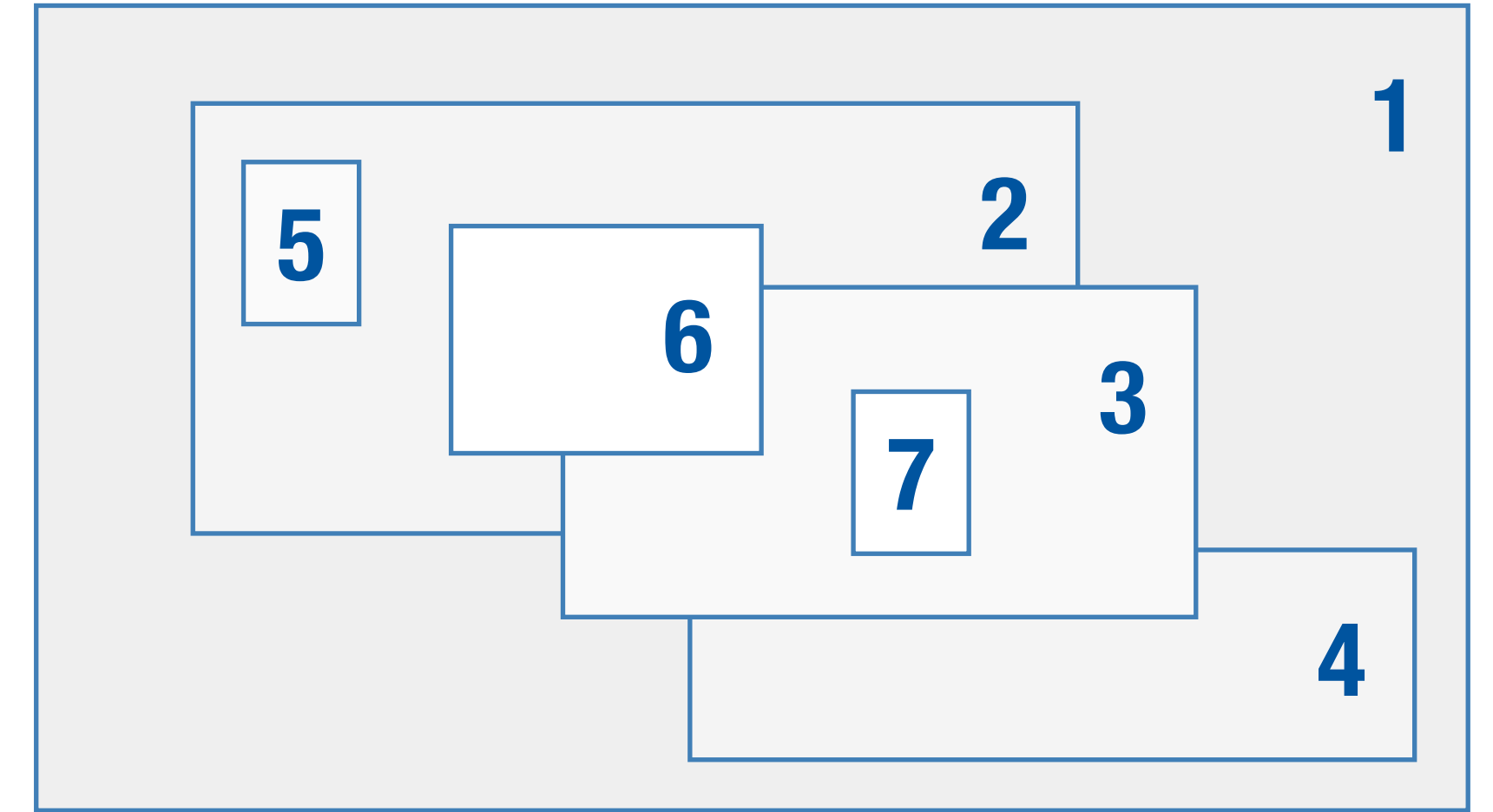
# Base Window Management



## Exercise

Determine a valid tree structure for the window arrangement shown above.

# Base Window Management



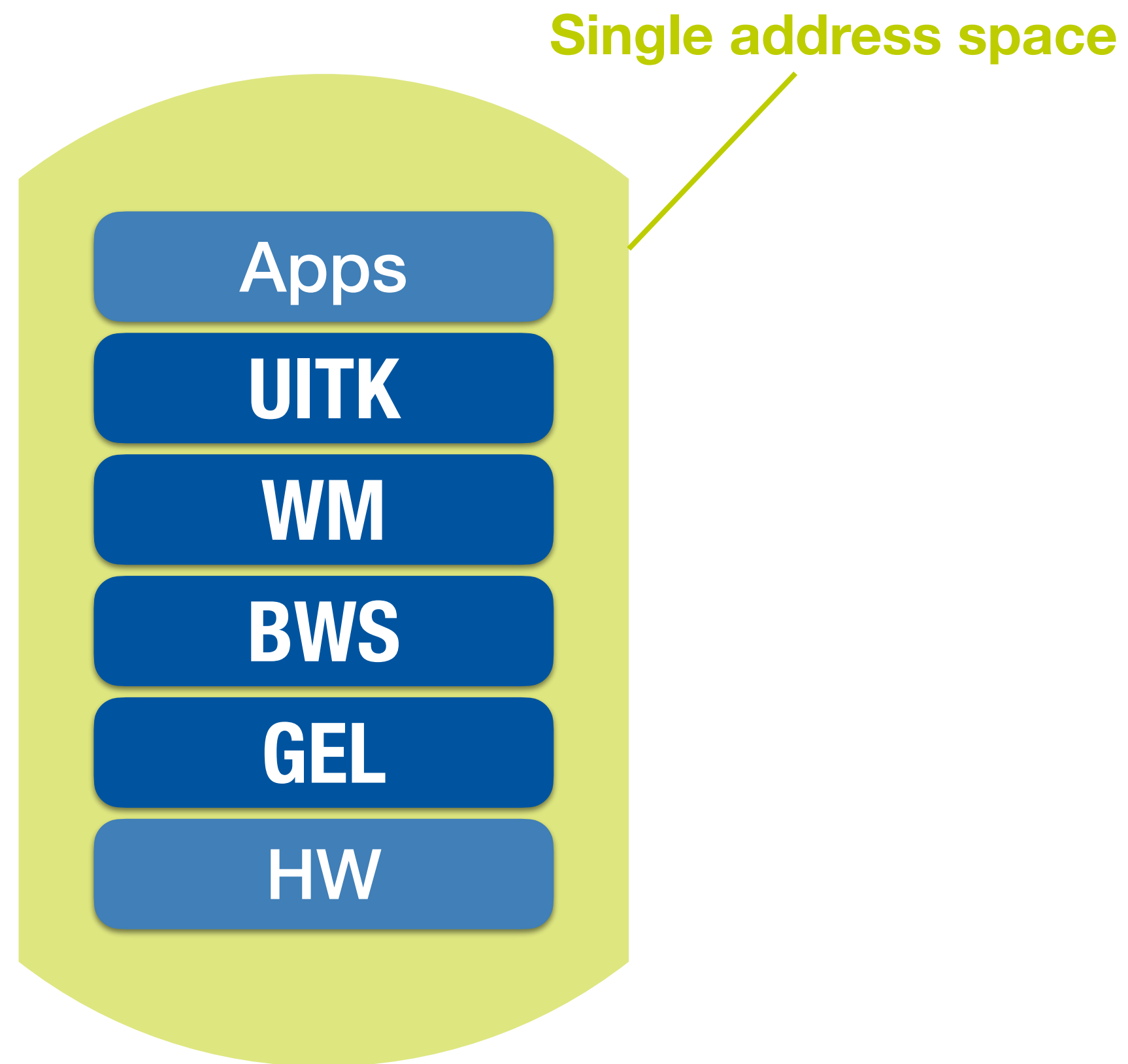
# Base Window System: Shared Resources

- Reasons for sharing resources: Scarcity, collaboration
- **Problems:** Competition, consistency

# Base Window System: Shared Resources

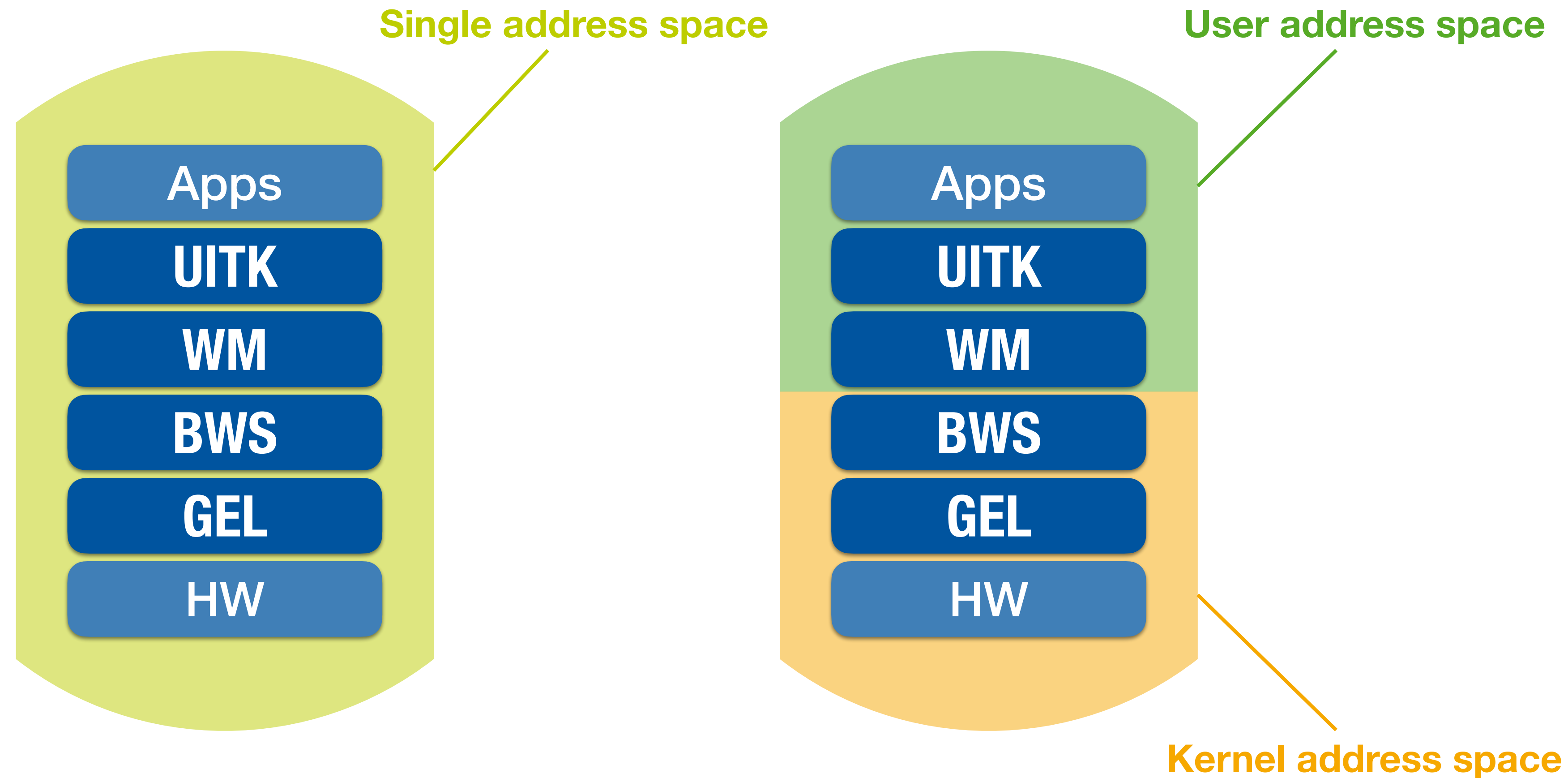
- Reasons for sharing resources: Scarcity, collaboration
- **Problems:** Competition, consistency
- **Synchronization** needed
  - At BWS entrance
  - Or on individual objects

# Base Window System: OS Integration

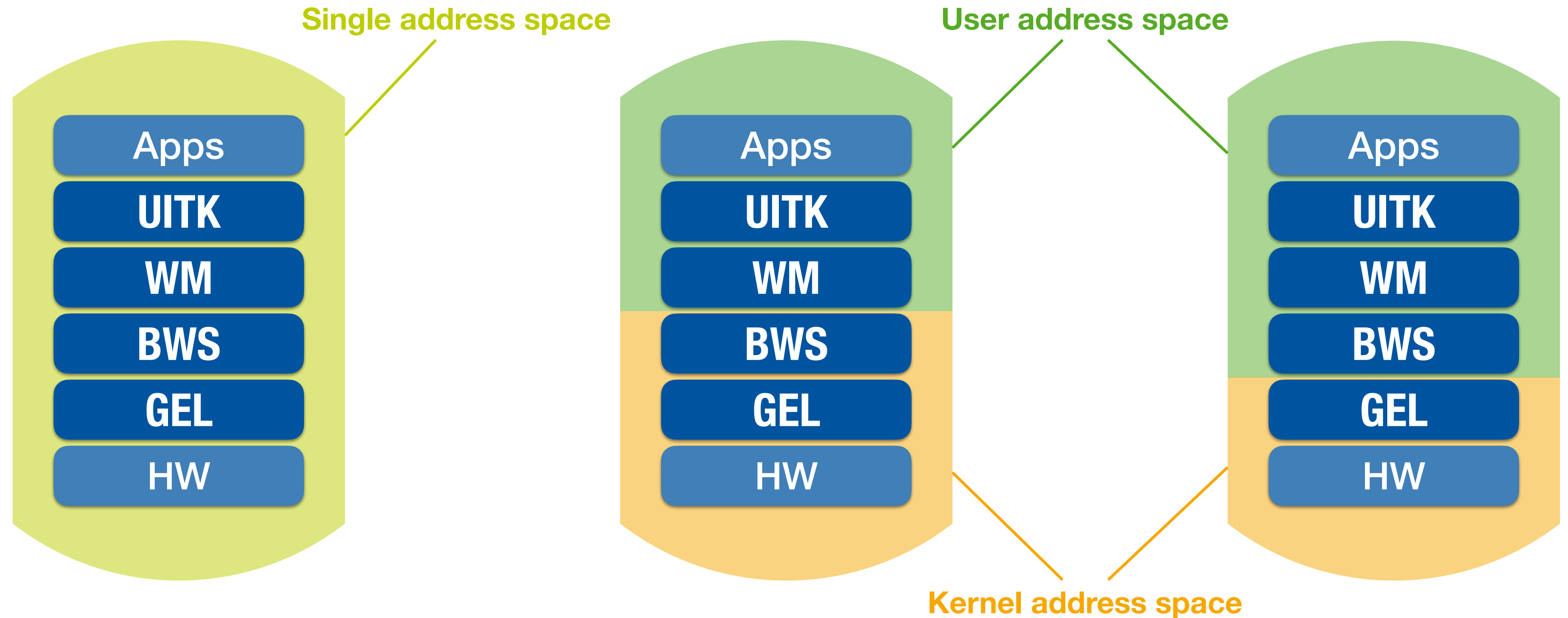




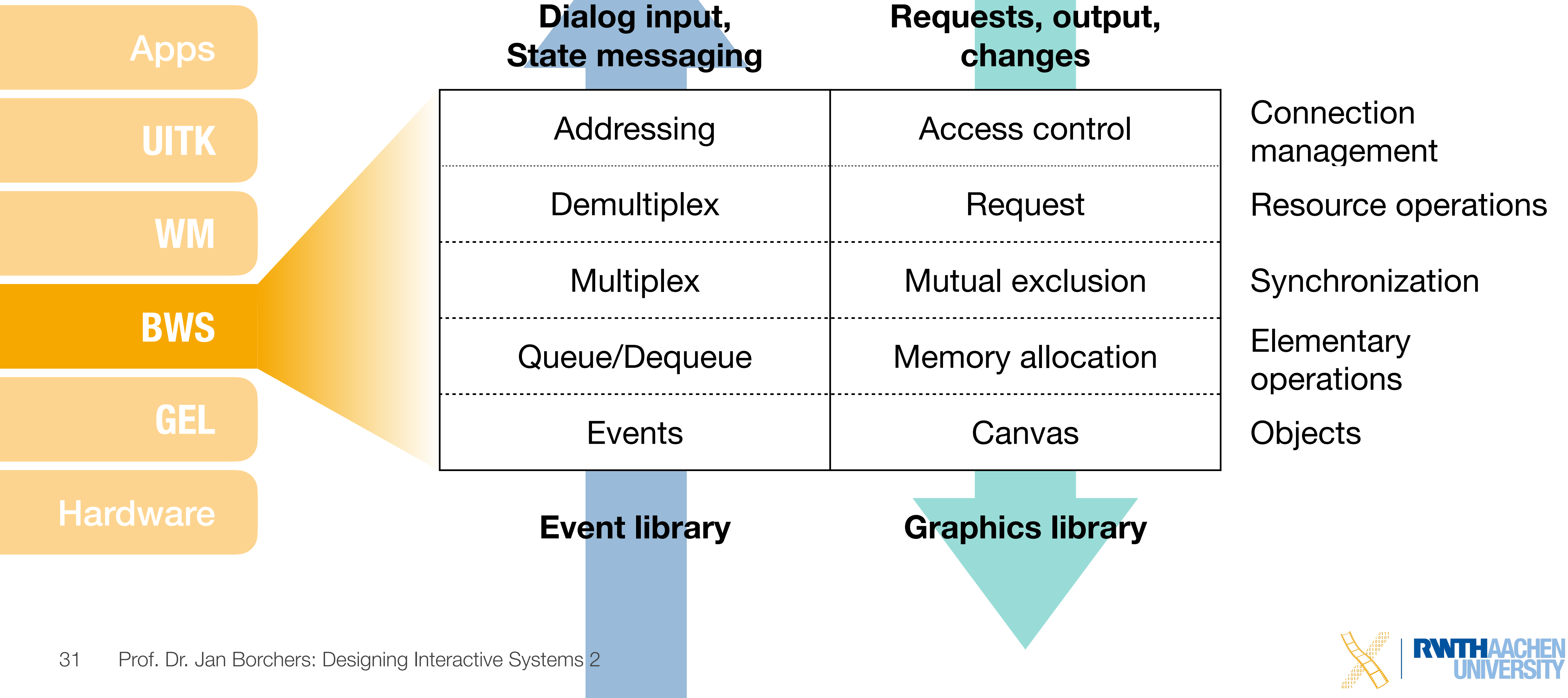
# Base Window System: OS Integration



# Base Window System: OS Integration



# Base Window System



# Designing Interactive Systems 2

## Lecture 3: Window System Architecture

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## CHAPTER 6

# Window Manager



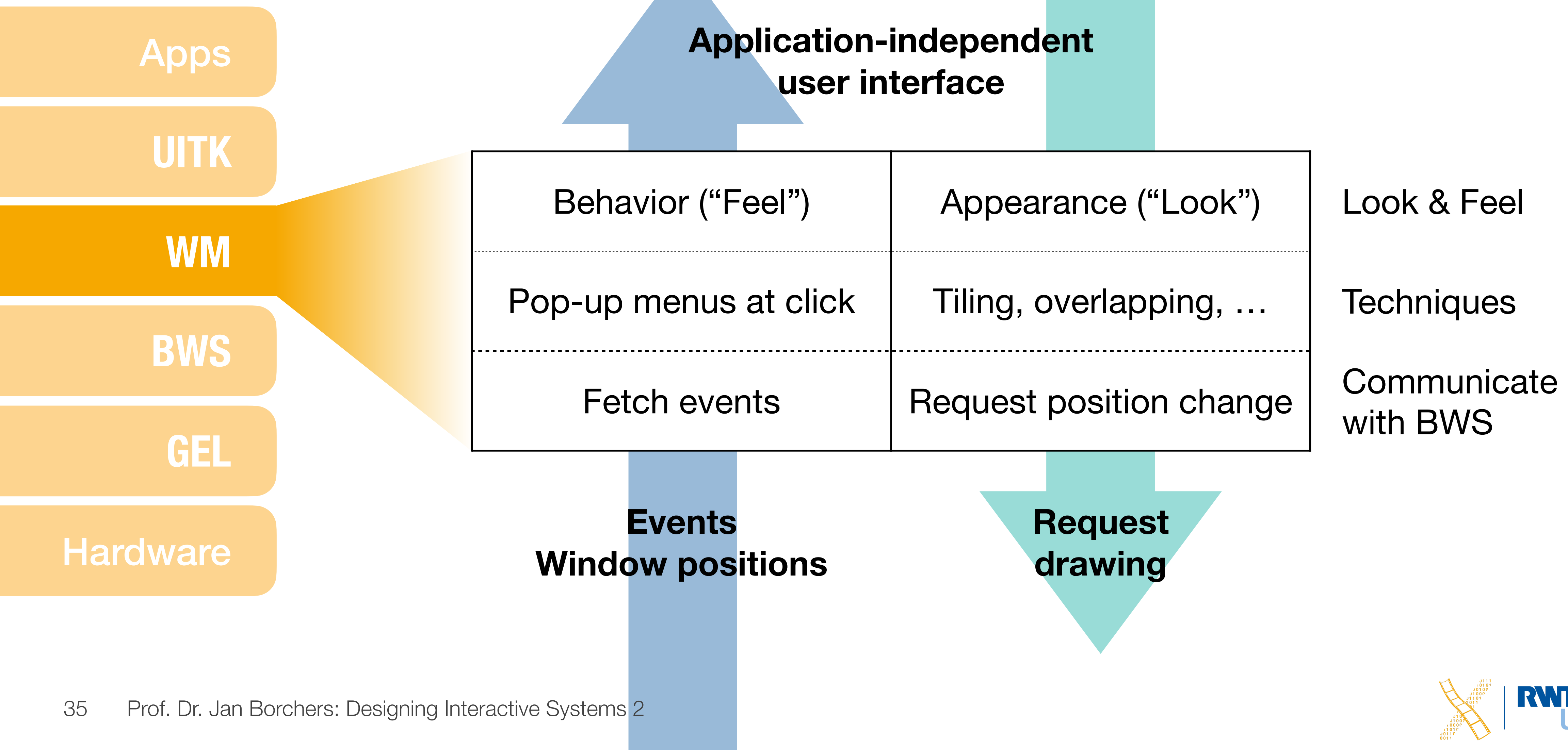
# Window Manager

- Allow users to control windows
- Provide Look & Feel for interaction with the WS





# Window Manager



# Window Manager

## Screen Management

- What is rendered where on screen?
- Where is empty space? Which apps are iconified?



# Window Manager

## Screen Management

- What is rendered where on screen?
- Where is empty space? Which apps are iconified?

## Session Management

- Provide consistent ways to perform standard tasks
- Move window, start app, iconify window

# Session Management

## Menu Techniques

Fixed Menu Bar

Standard Editor

Assistant Editor

Version Editor

Navigators

Debug Area

Inspectors

Libraries

Hide Toolbar

Hide Tab Bar

Show All Tabs

Enter Full Screen

Customize Touch Bar...

Show Project Navigator

Show Source Control Navigator

Show Symbol Navigator

Show Find Navigator

Show Issue Navigator

Show Test Navigator

Show Debug Navigator

Show Breakpoint Navigator

Show Report Navigator

Hide Navigator

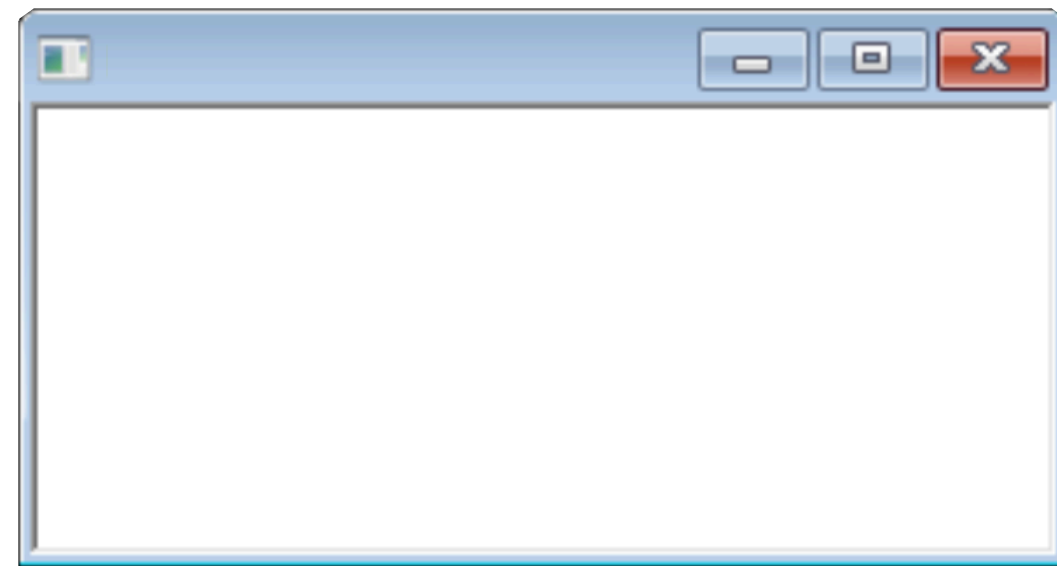
Filter in Navigator

Cascading Menu

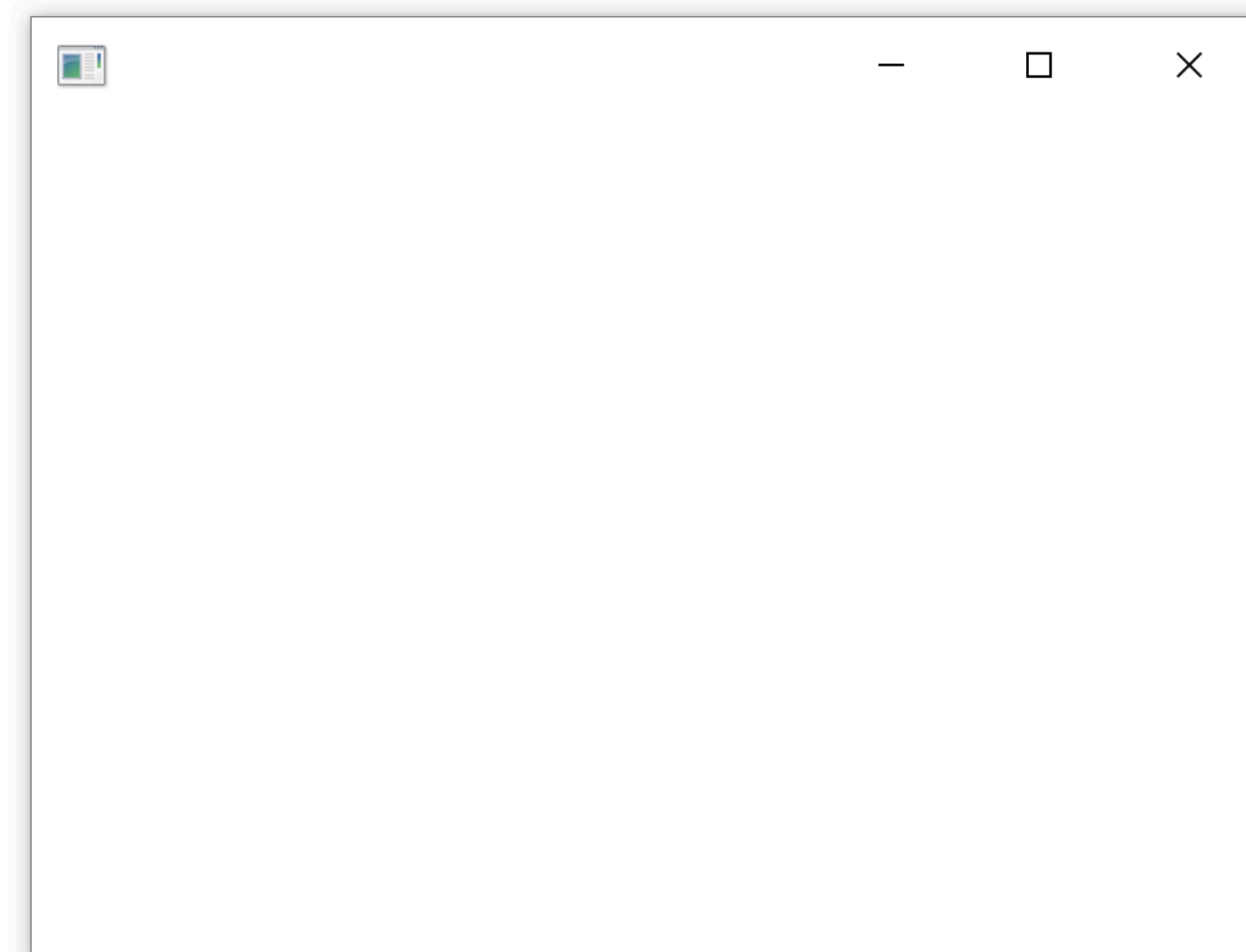
Pull-Down Menu

# Session Management

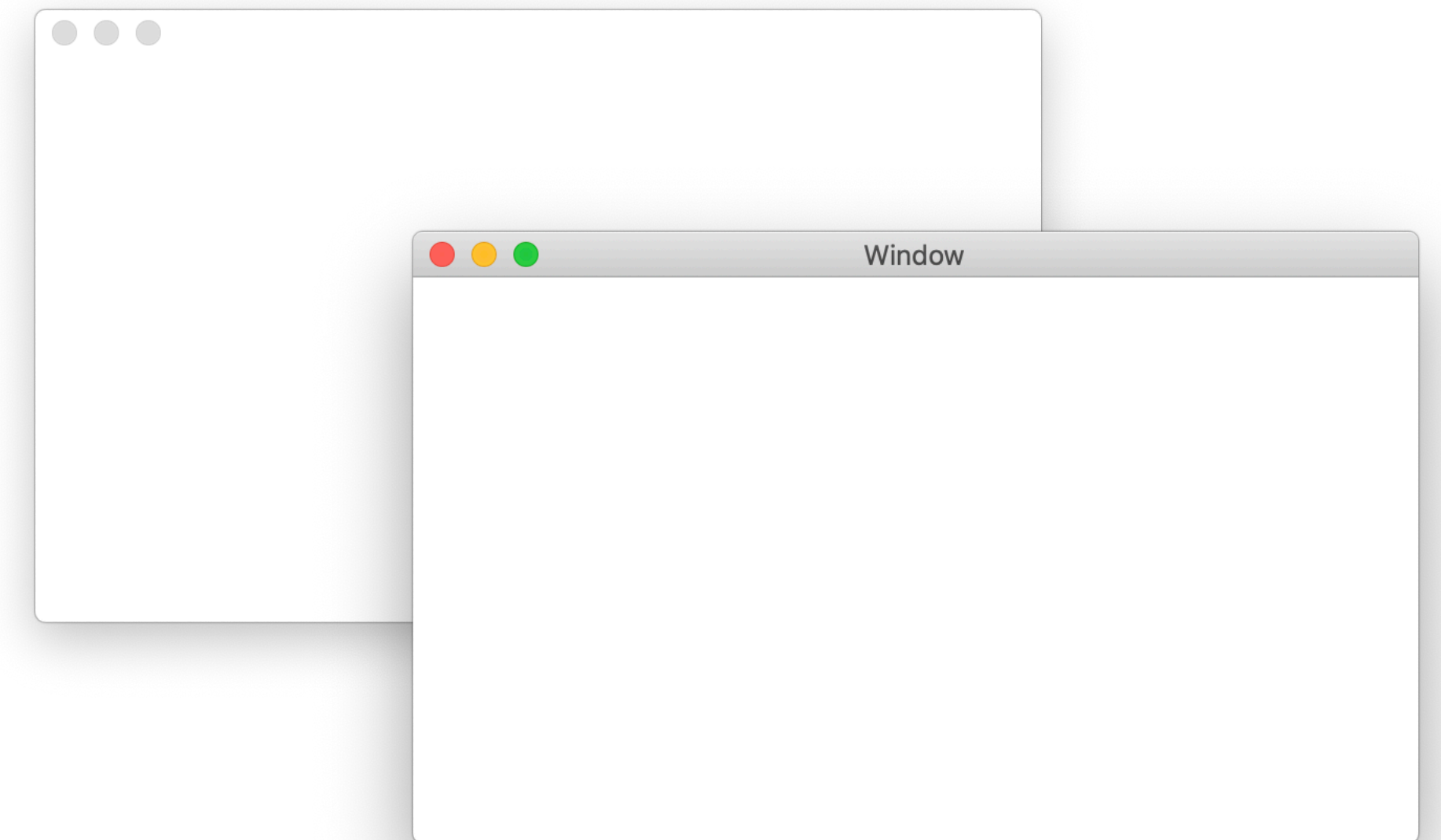
## Window Decorations



*Windows 7*



*Windows 10*



*macOS*



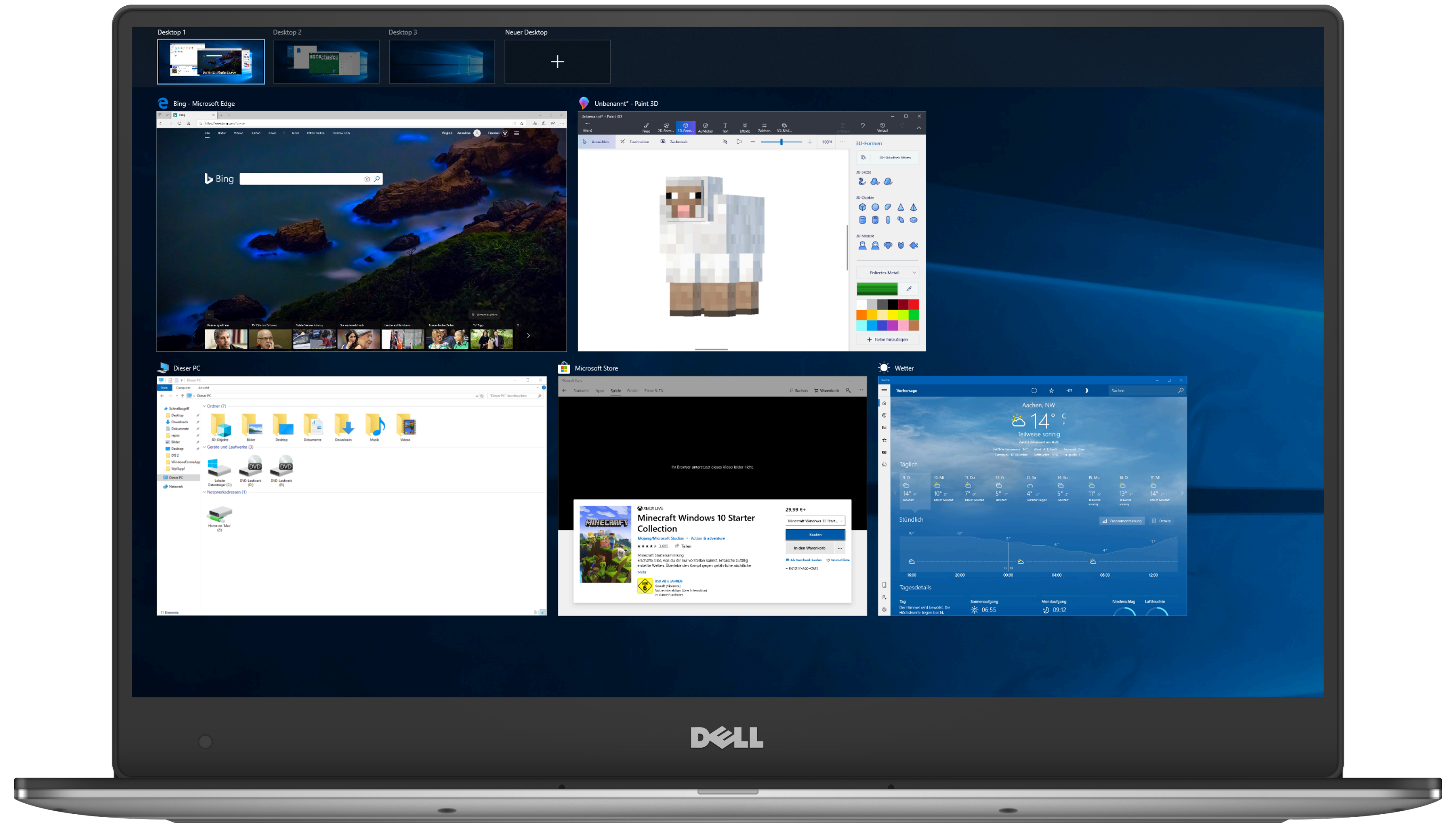
# Session Management

## Layout Policy



# Session Management

## Virtual Desktops





# Session Management

**Direct manipulation**

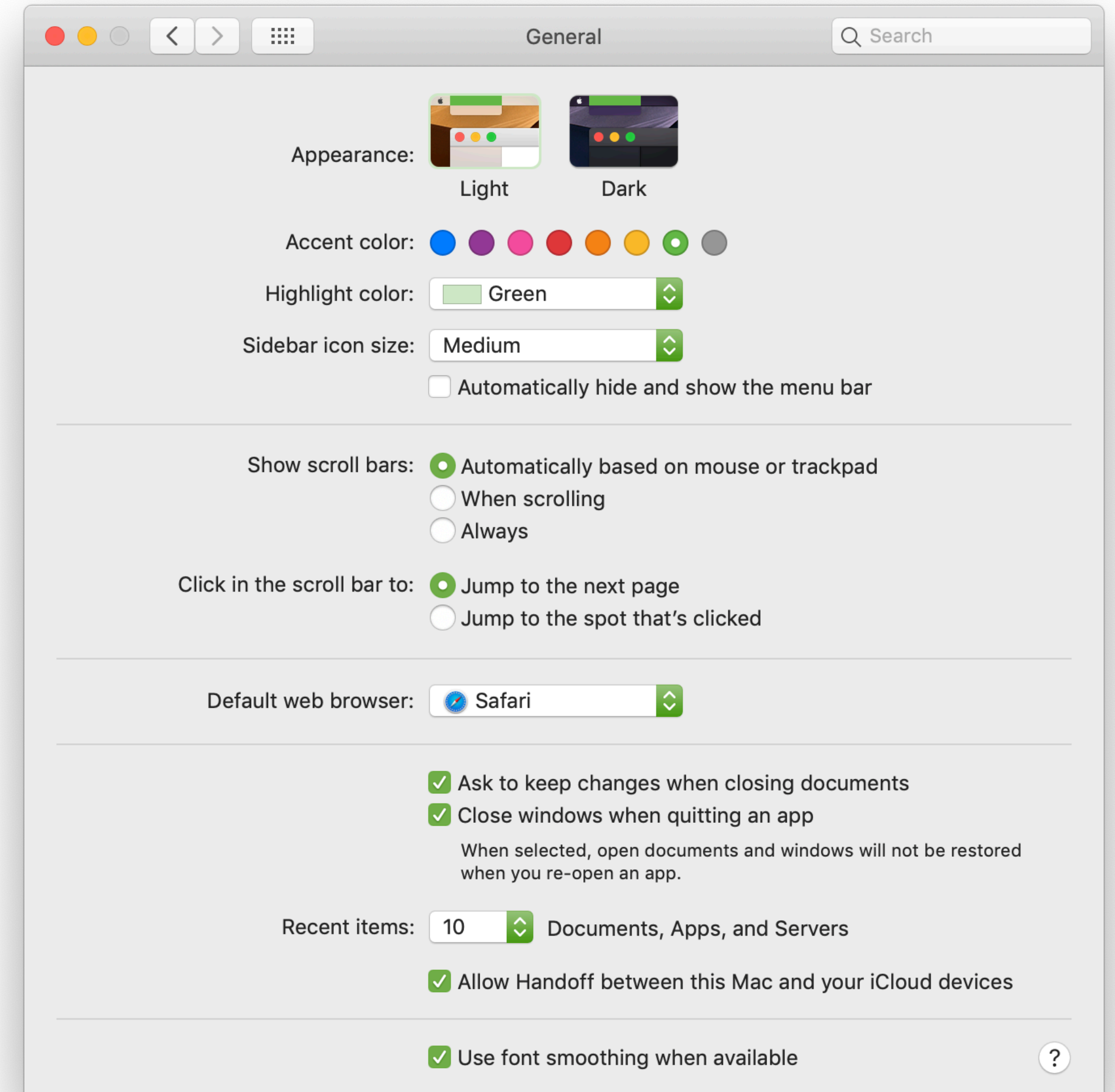
**Icon technique**

**Input focus**

**Look & Feel**

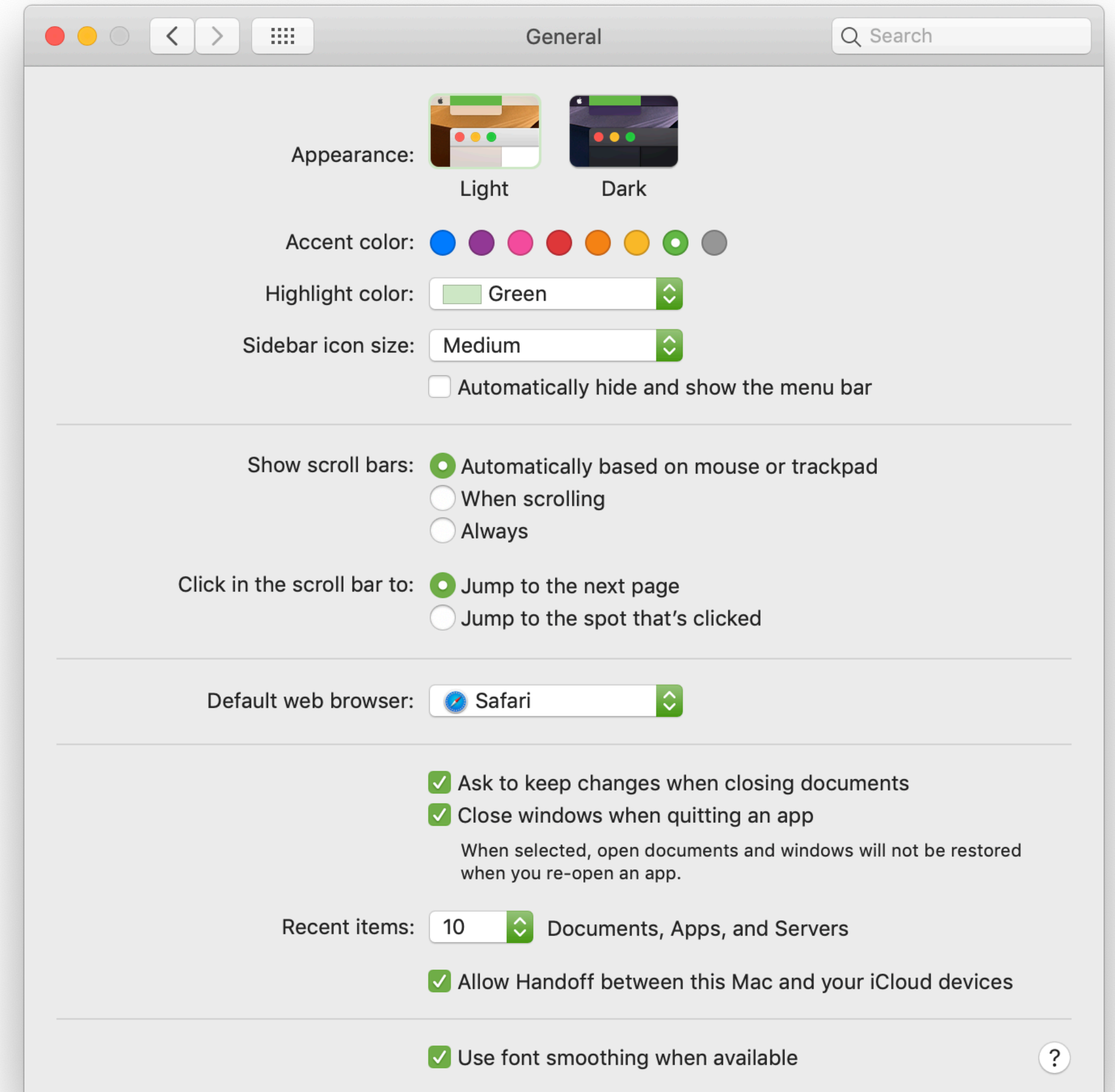
# Late Refinement

- WM accompanies the session
  - changing window positions
  - changing app appearance



# Late Refinement

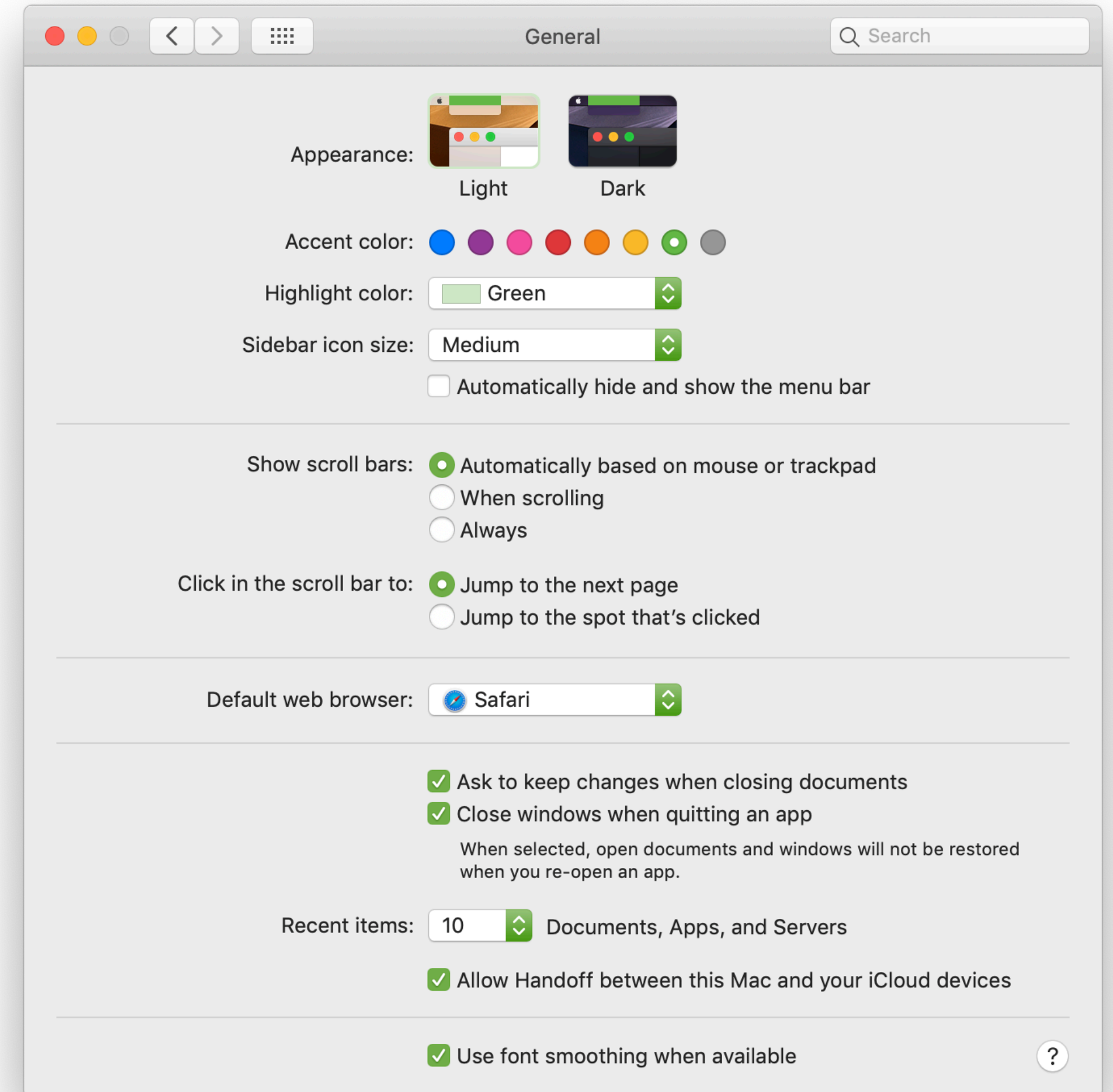
- WM accompanies the session
  - changing window positions
  - changing app appearance
- Levels of late refinement
  - Per session or application
  - Per launch, user or for all users





# Late Refinement

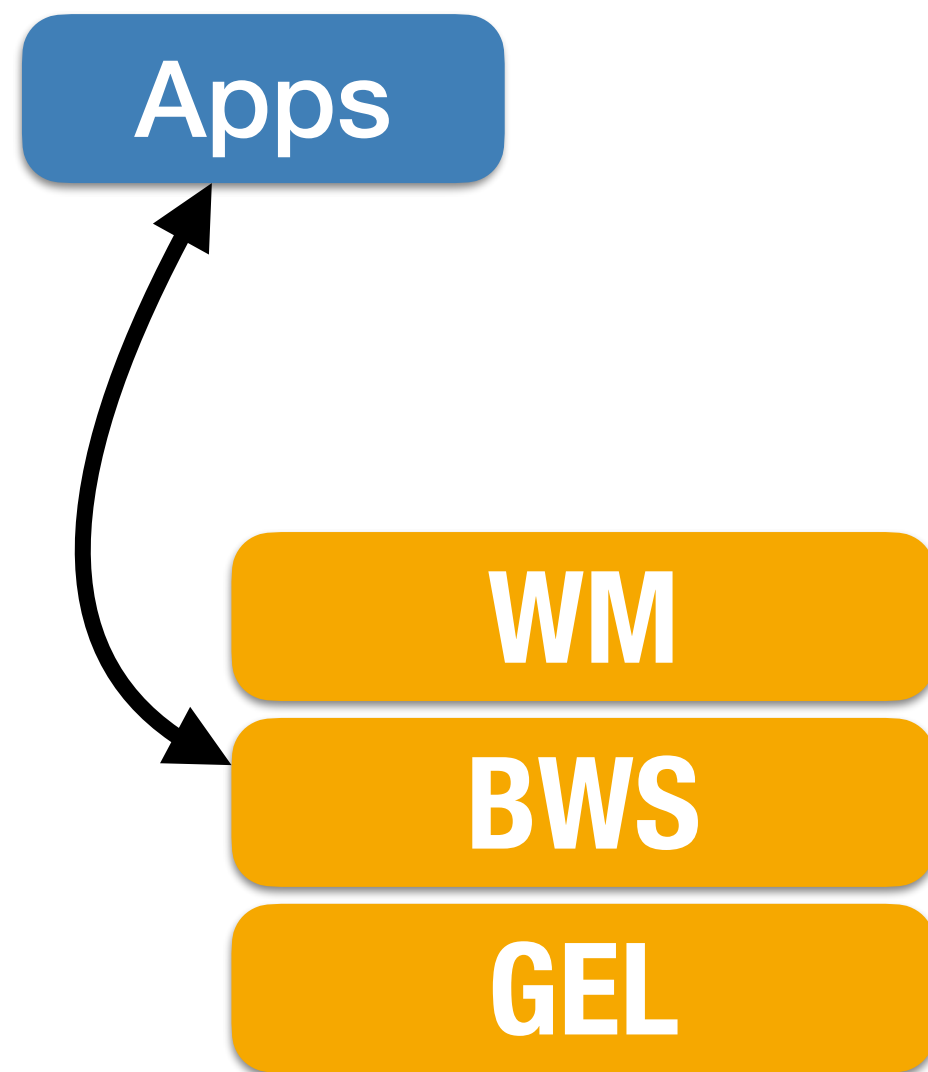
- WM accompanies the session
  - changing window positions
  - changing app appearance
- Levels of late refinement
  - Per session or application
  - Per launch, user or for all users
- Implementation with table files, internal database, or delta technique



# Late Refinement: macOS Login Window

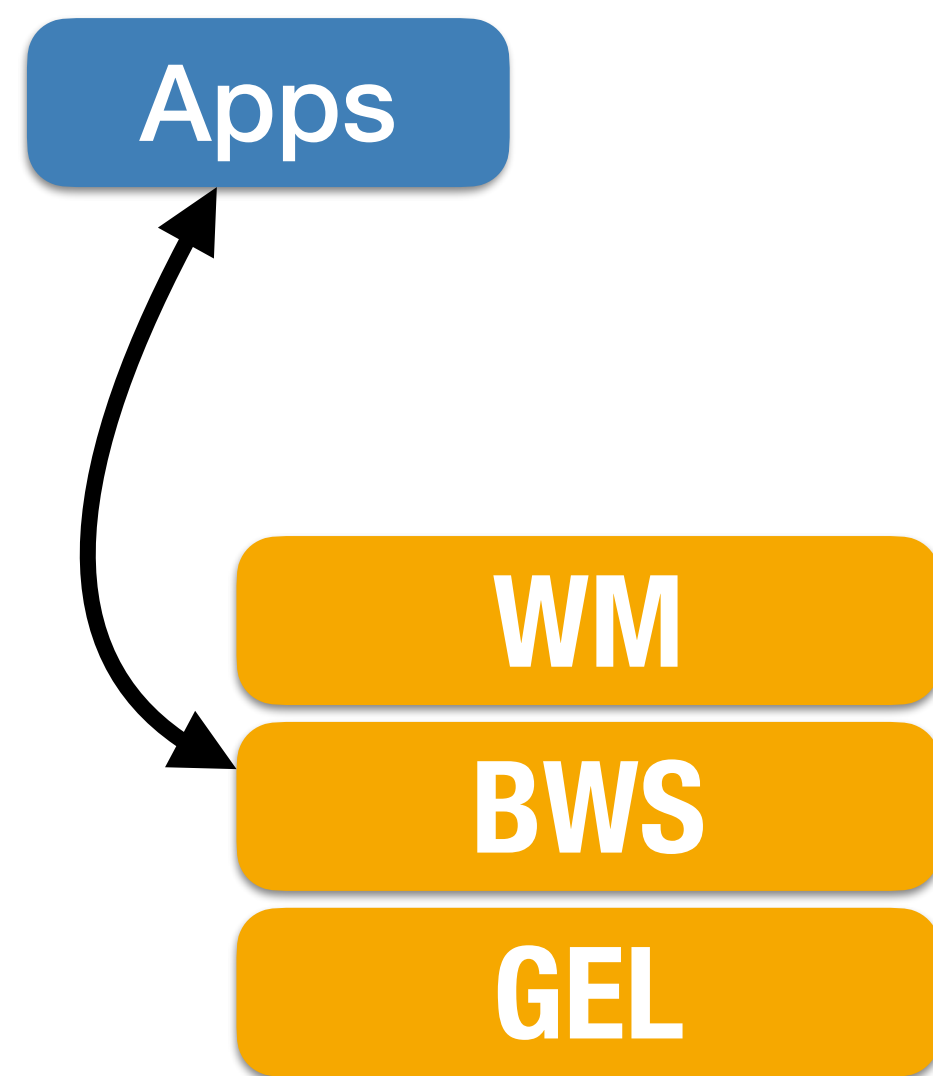
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple/DTD PLIST 1.0//EN"
"http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>GuestEnabled</key>
  <false/>
  <key>lastUser</key>
  <string>loggedIn</string>
  <key>lastUserName</key>
  <string>borchers</string>
  <key>retriesUntilHint</key>
  <integer>3</integer>
</dict>
</plist>
```

# Window Manager: Location

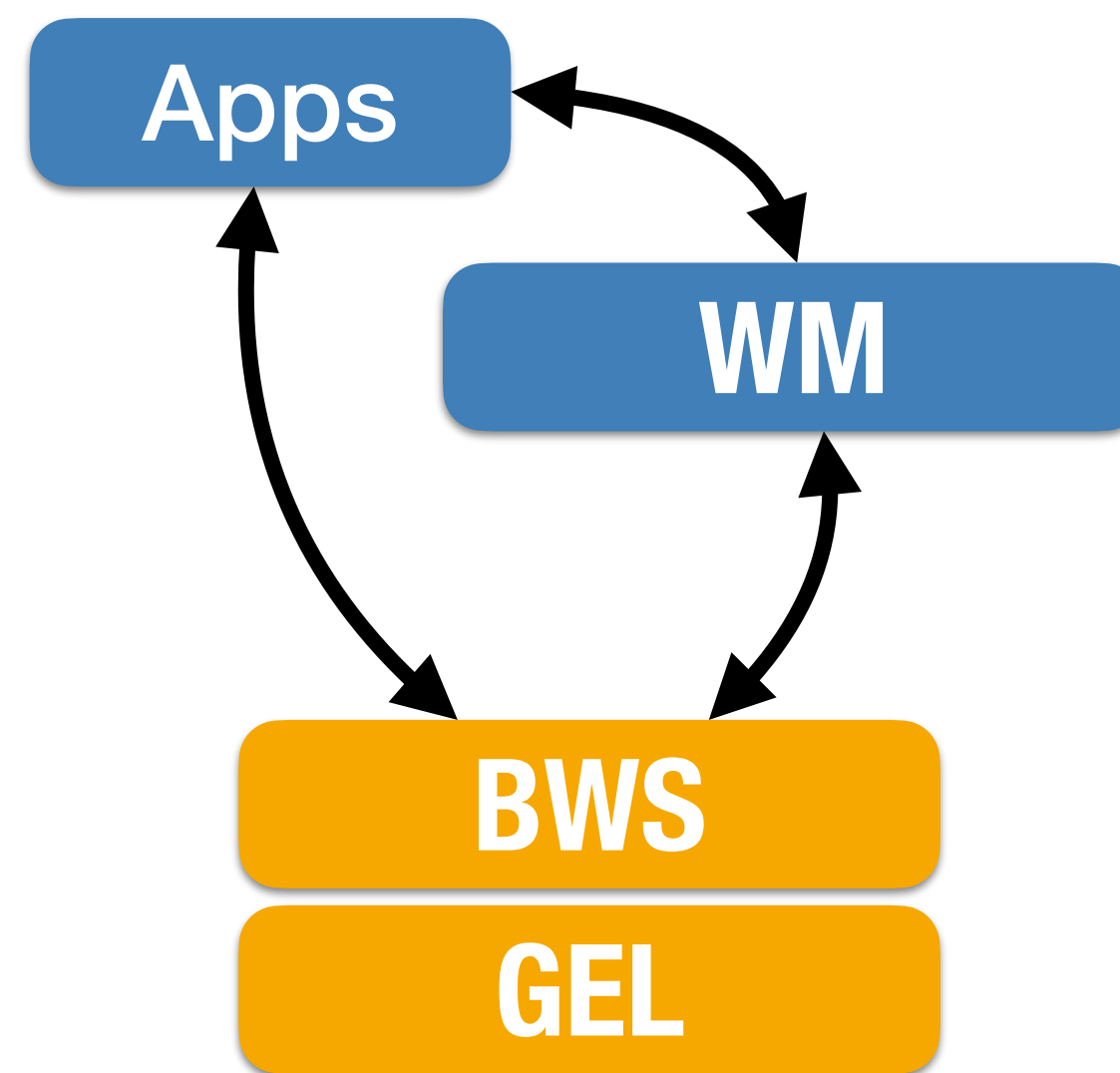


**Upper part of BWS**

# Window Manager: Location

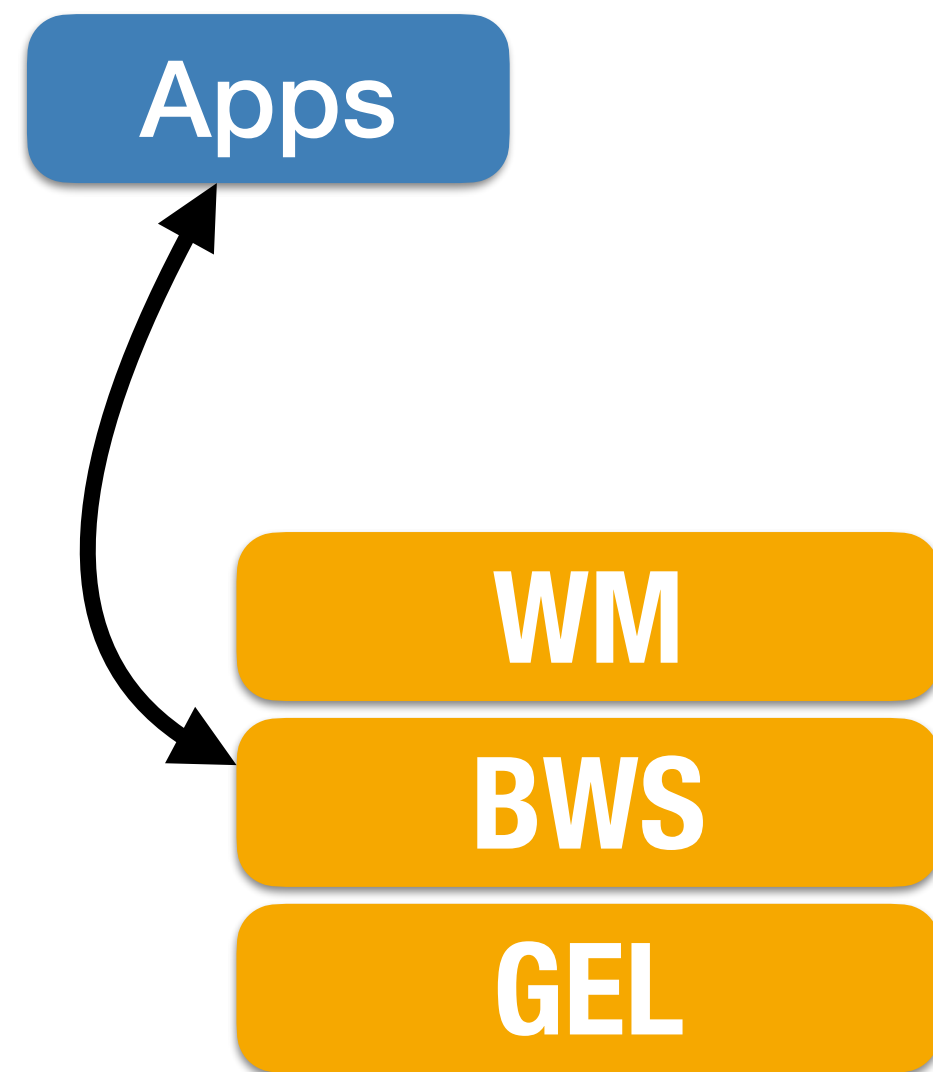


**Upper part of BWS**

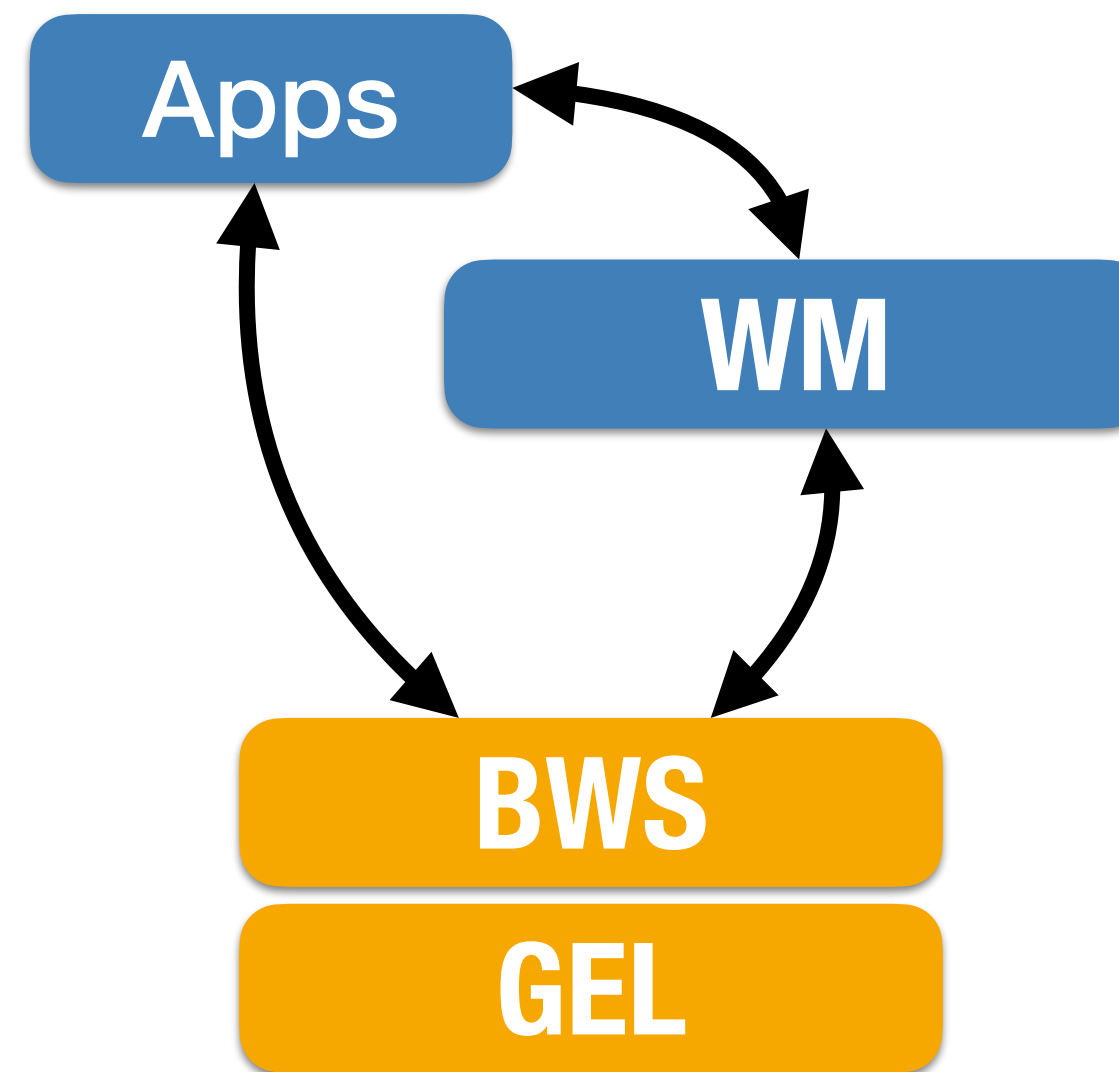


**Separate server**

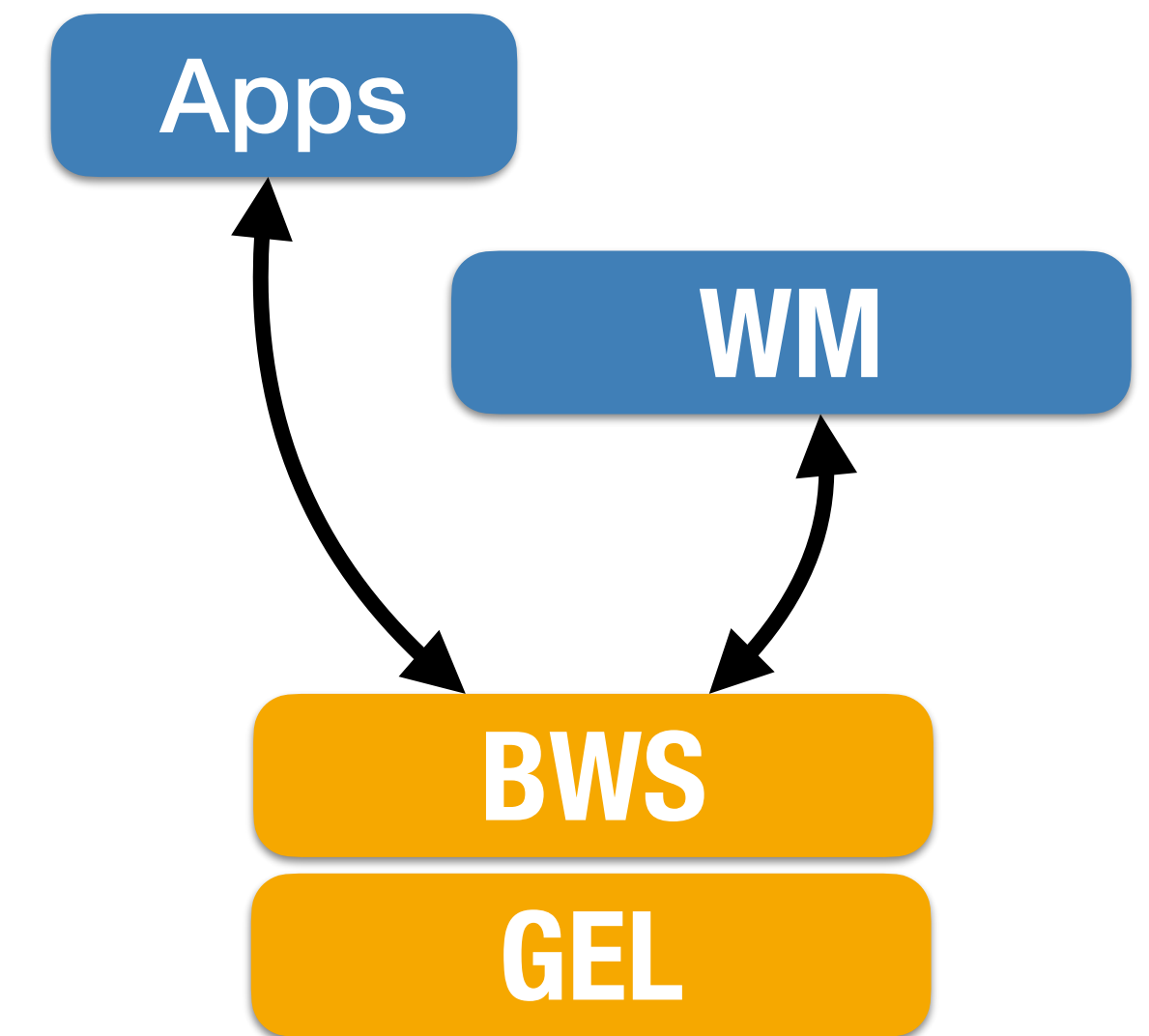
# Window Manager: Location



**Upper part of BWS**



**Separate server**

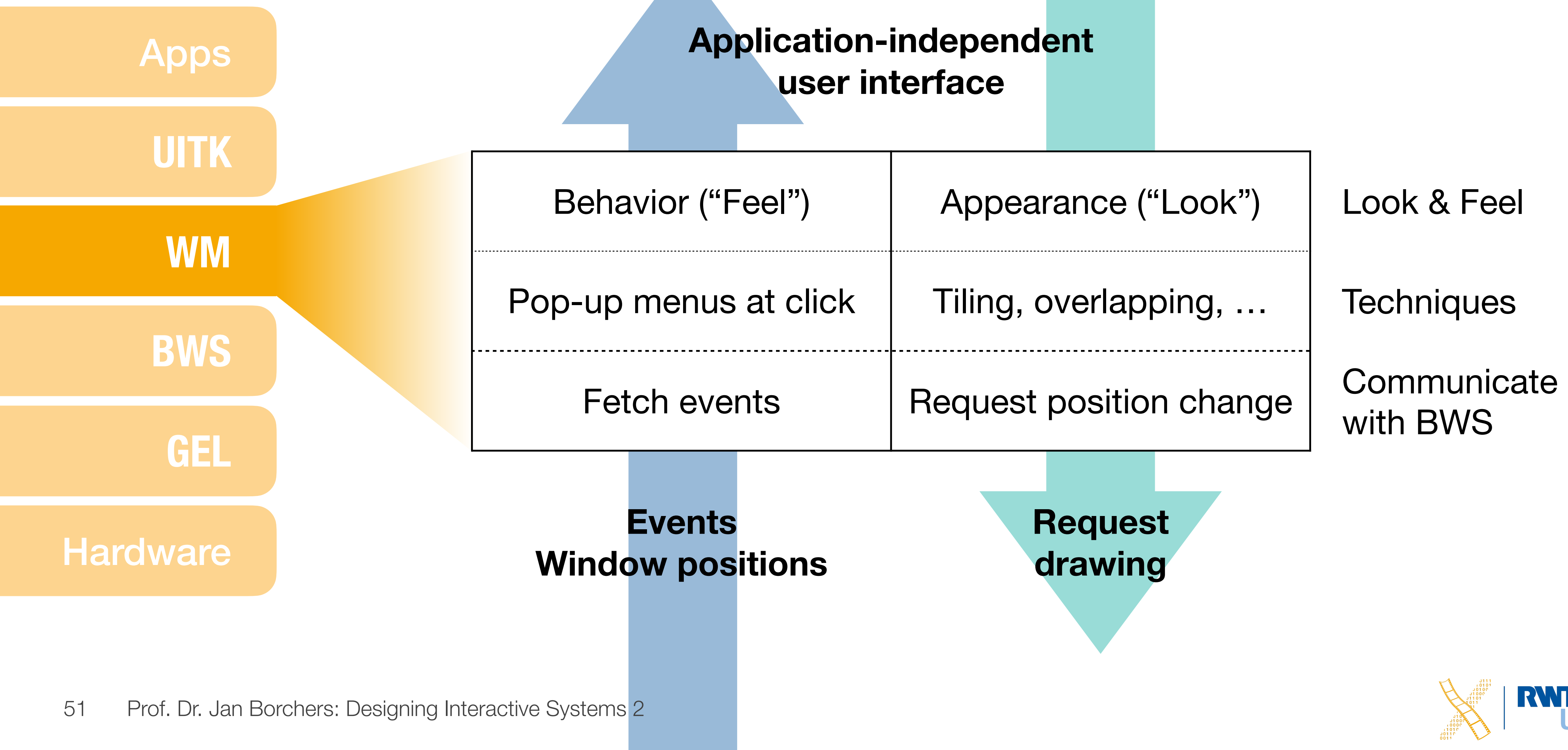


**Separate user process**

# Window Manager: Conclusions

- WM leads from system- to **user-centered view** of WS
- Provide different levels of **consistency**
- Accompanies user during **session**
- Potentially **exchangeable**
- WM requires UI Toolkit to implement same **Look & Feel** across applications

# Window Manager



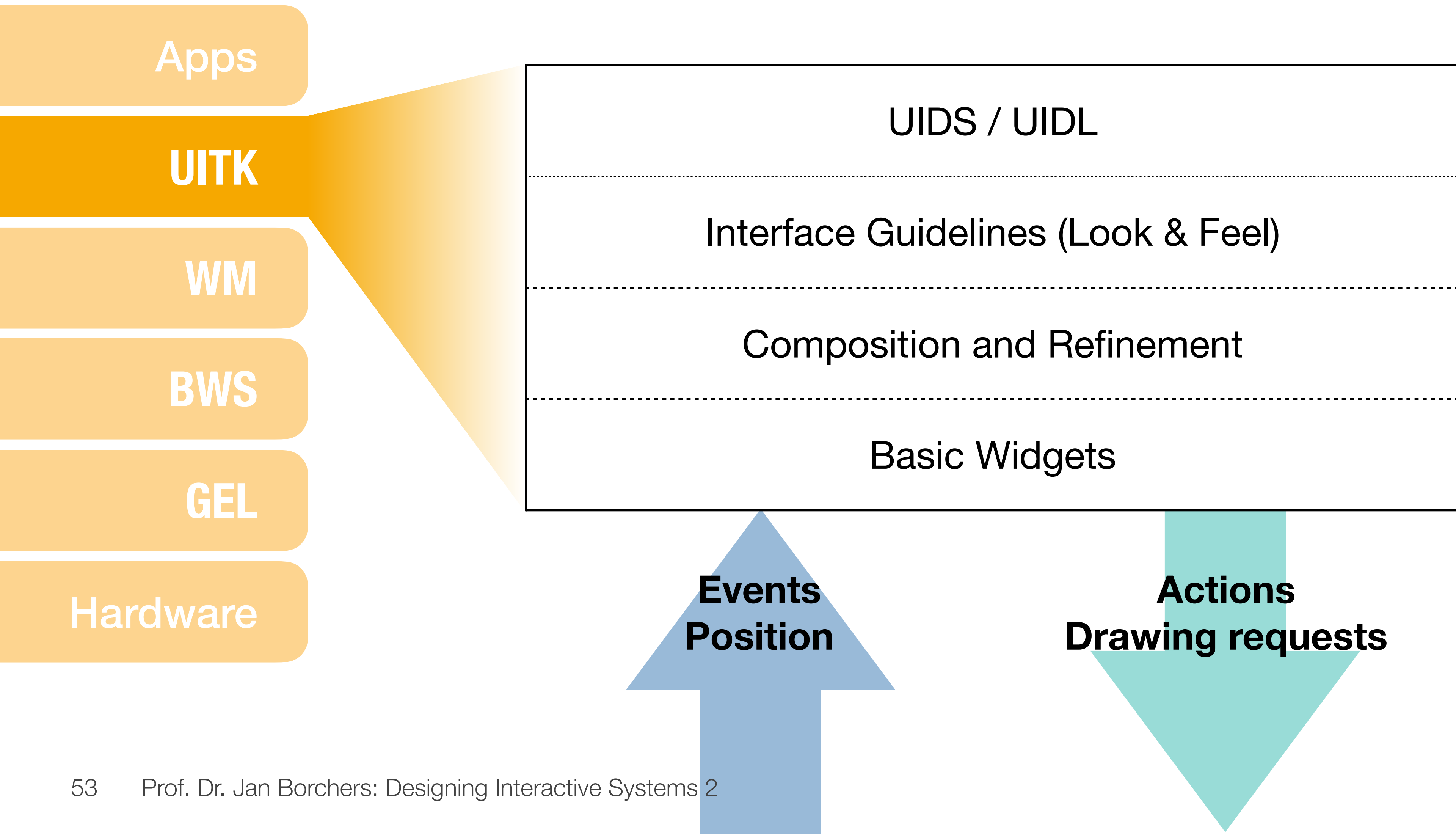


## CHAPTER 7

# User Interface Toolkit

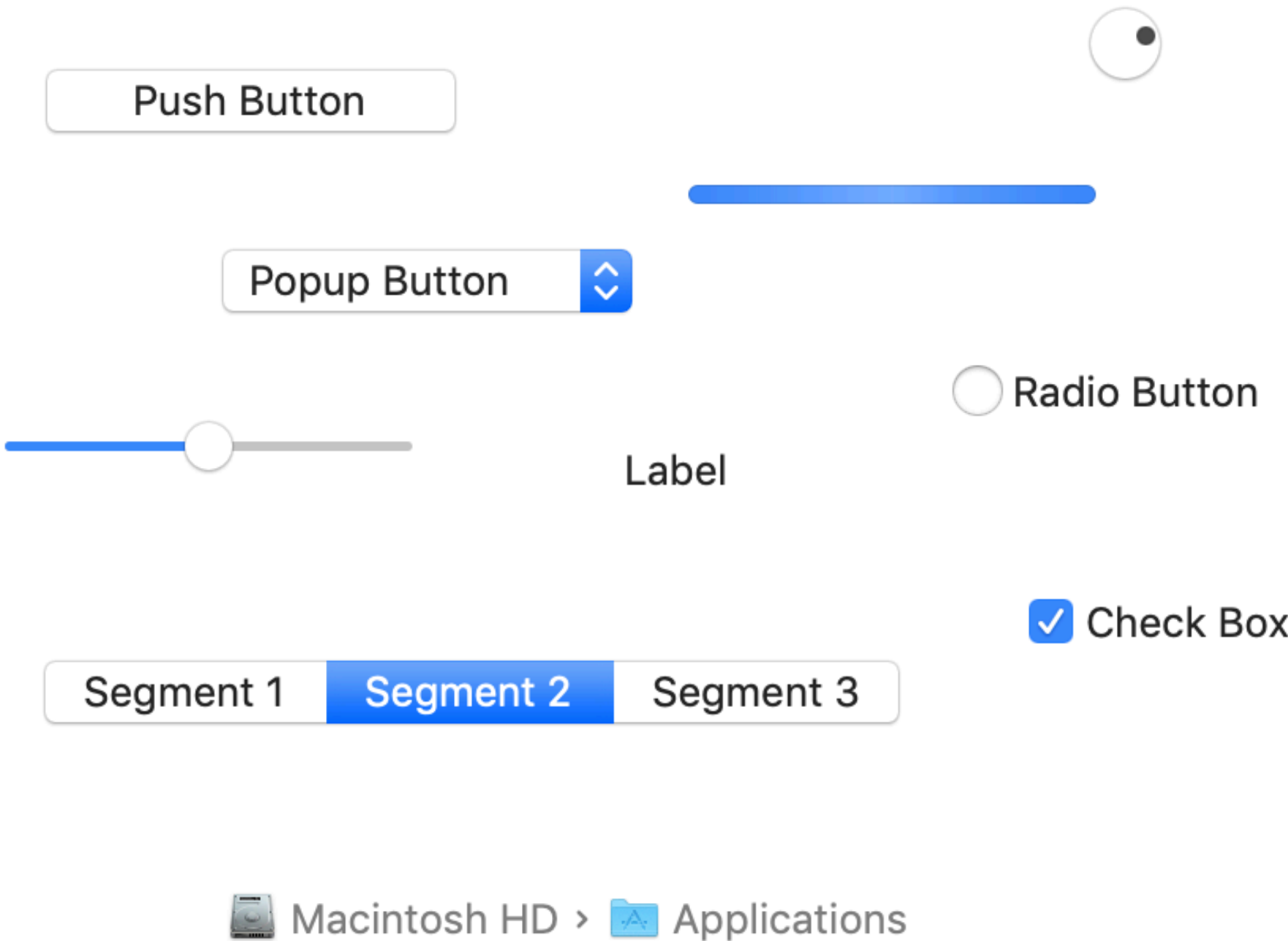


# User Interface Toolkit

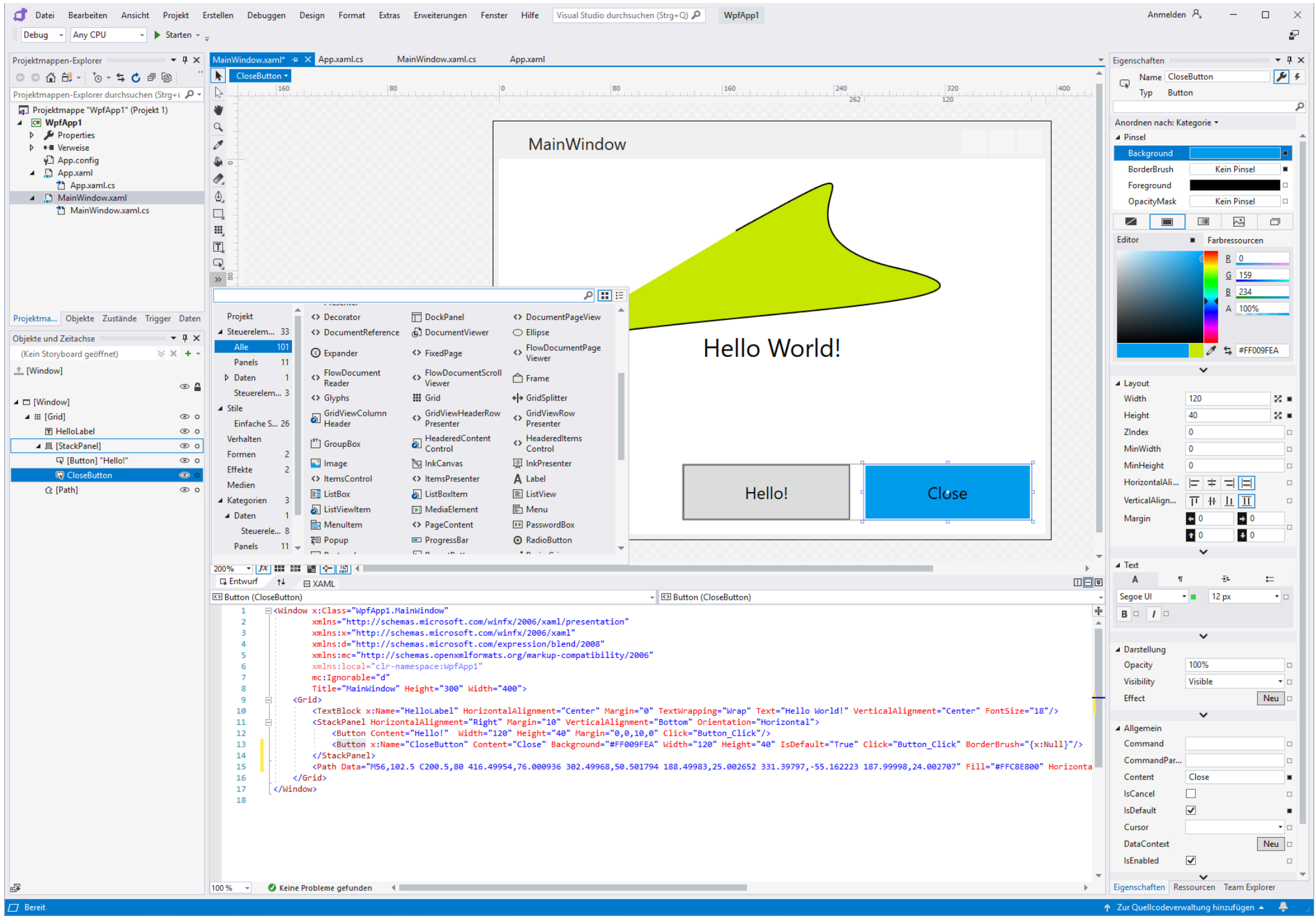


# UITK: Components

## Widget Set



## User Interface Design System



Visual Studio Blend

# UITK: Requirements

- Composition
- Reusability
- Communication
- Separation from app logic

# UITK: Defining Widgets

**Widget** :=

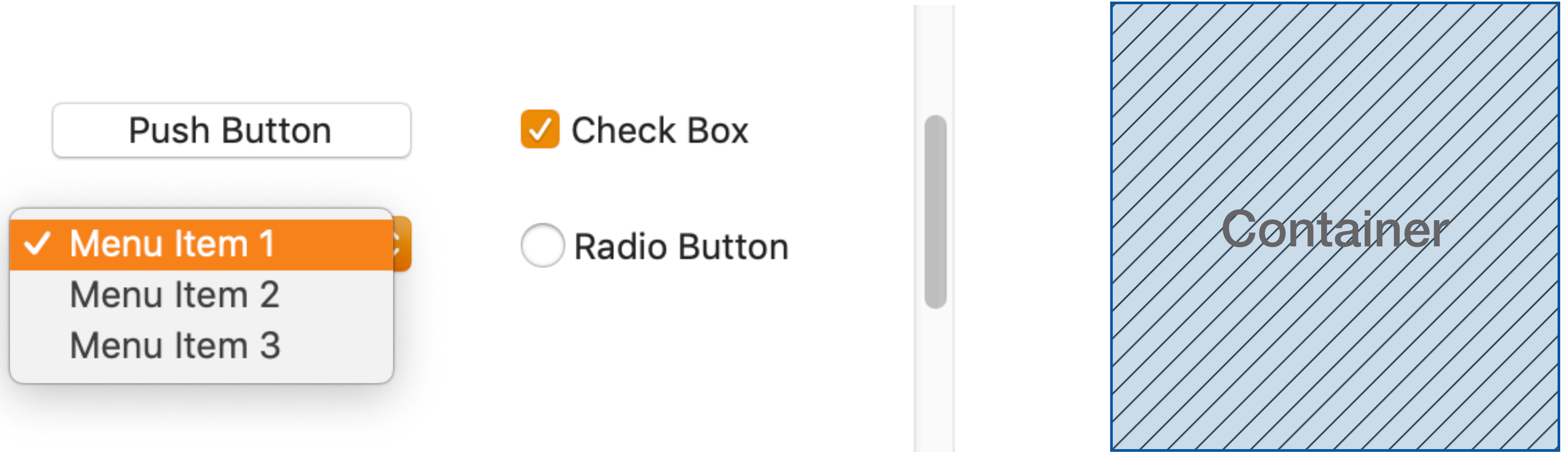
$\langle \mathbf{W}=(w_1 \dots w_k), \mathbf{G}=(g_1 \dots g_l), \mathbf{A}=(a_1 \dots a_m), \mathbf{I}=(i_1 \dots i_n) \rangle$

# UITK: Defining Widgets

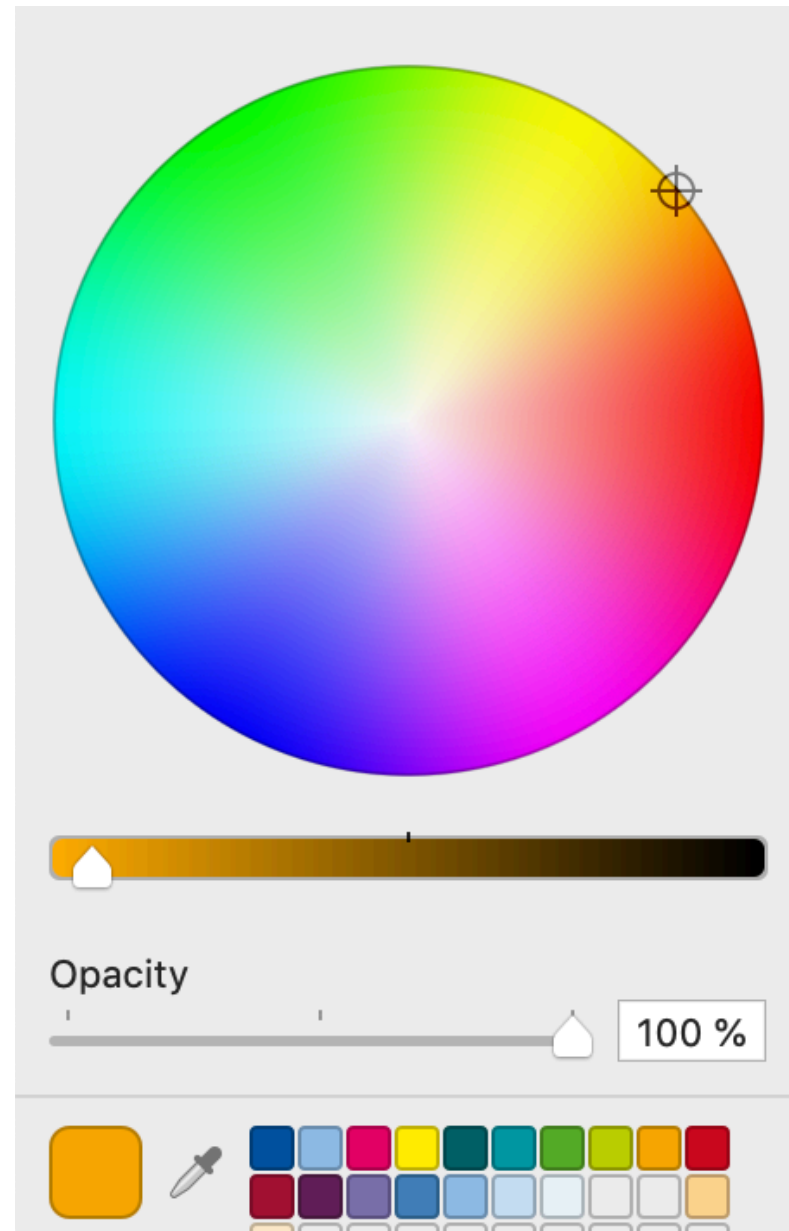
## Exercise

What are the typical components  $\langle W, G, A, I \rangle$  of a button?

# UITK: Basic Widgets



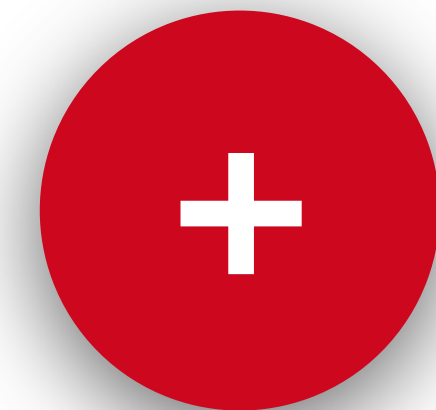
# UITK: Creating Complex Widgets



**Composition**

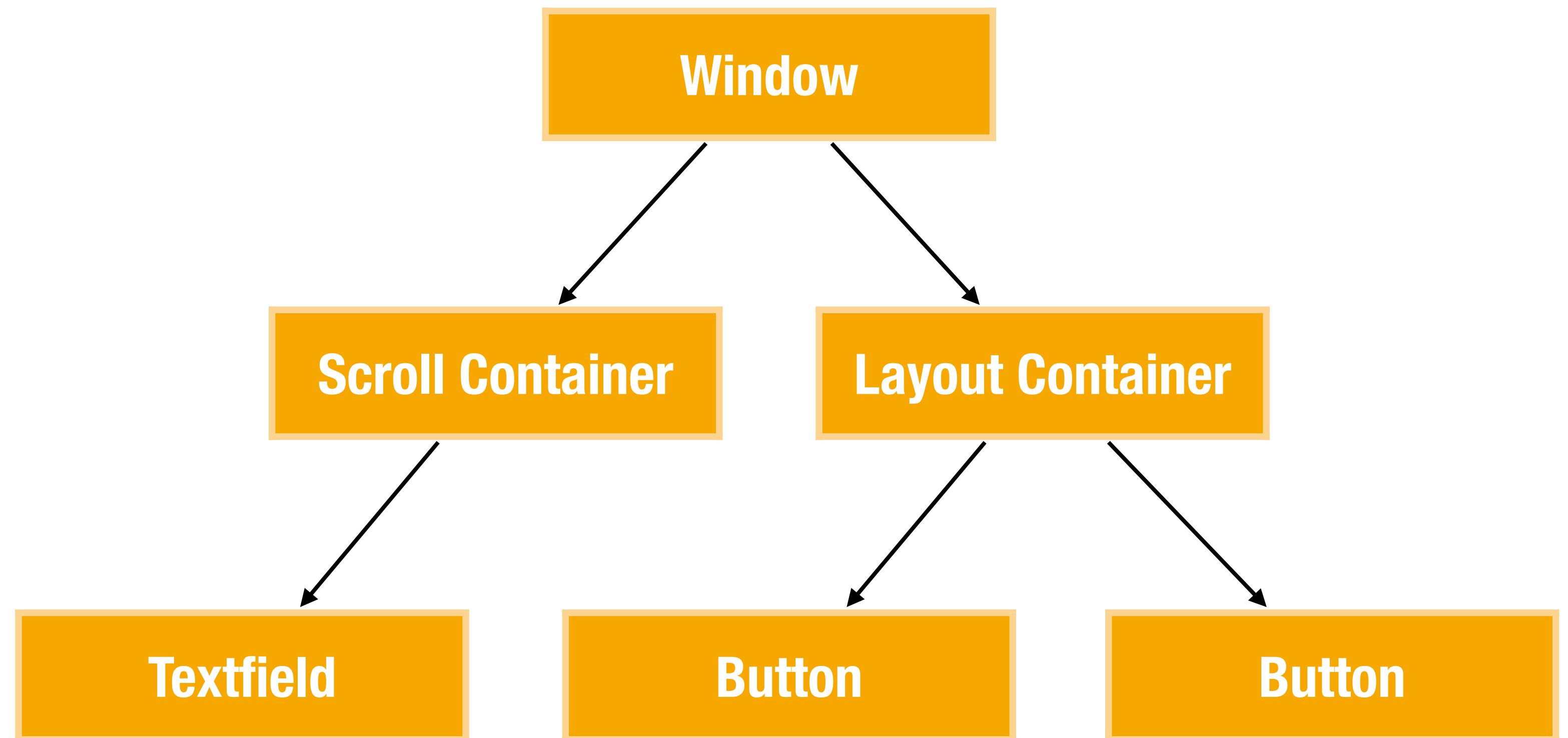
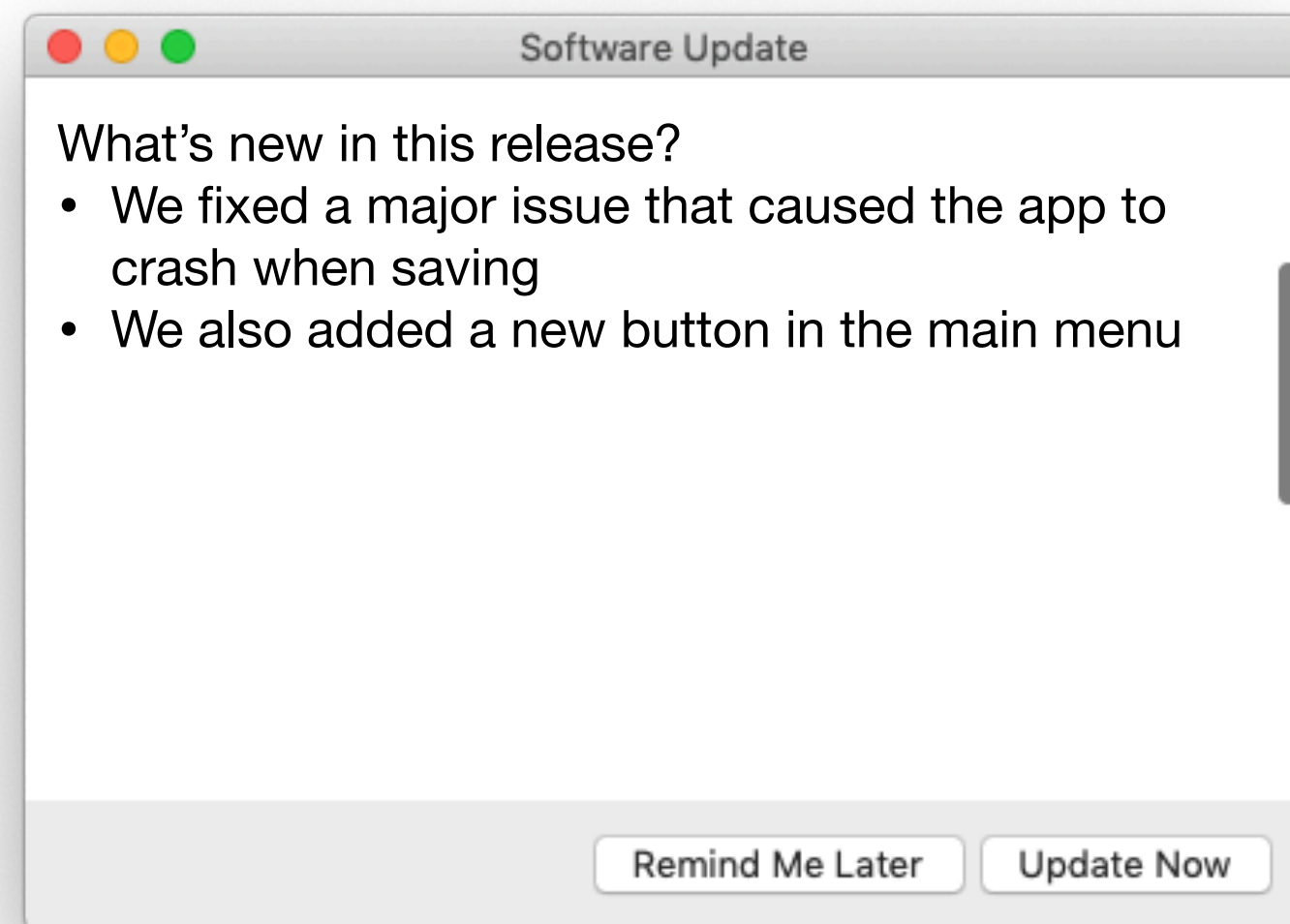


**Minimal Button**



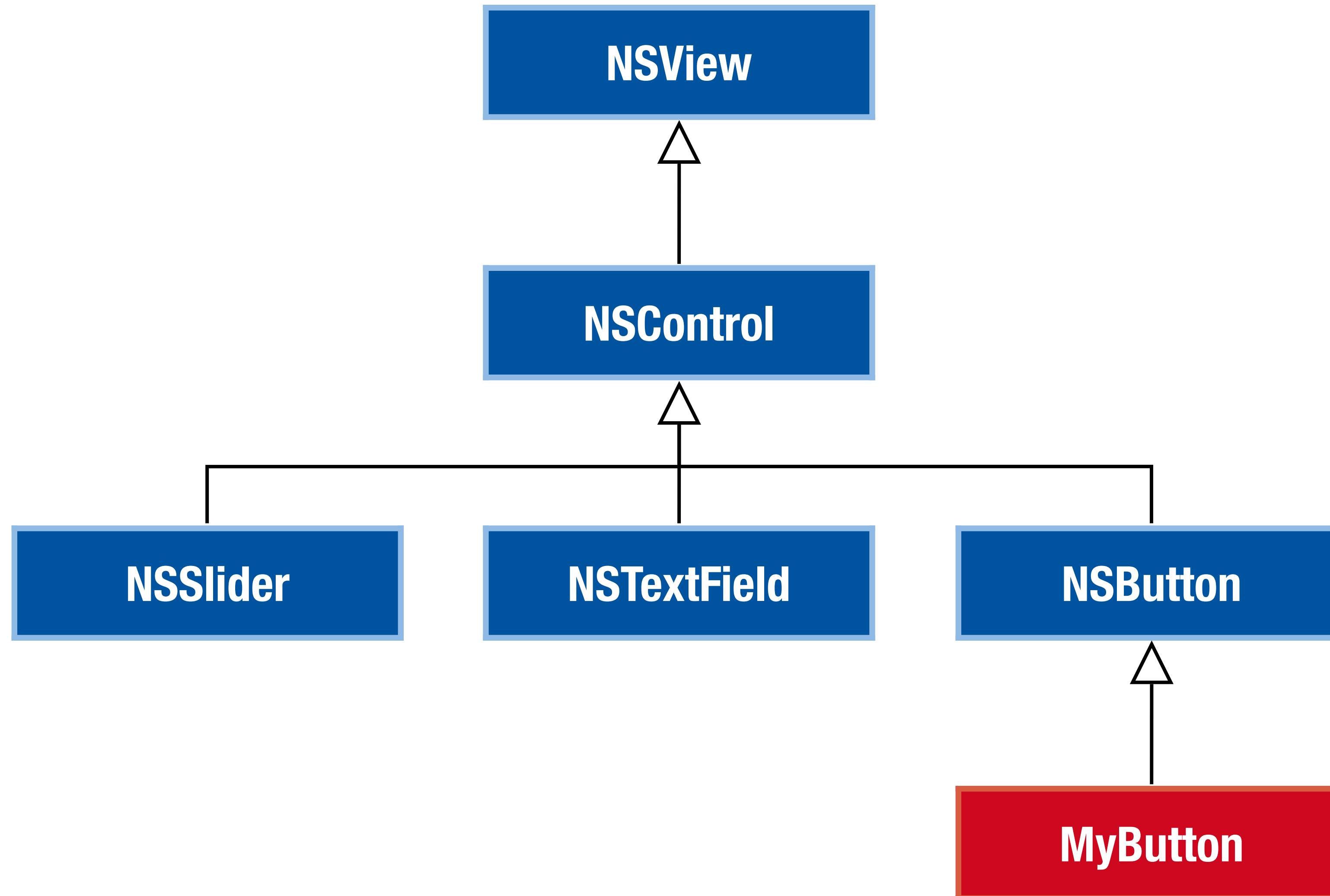
**Refinement**

# Dynamic Widget Hierarchy

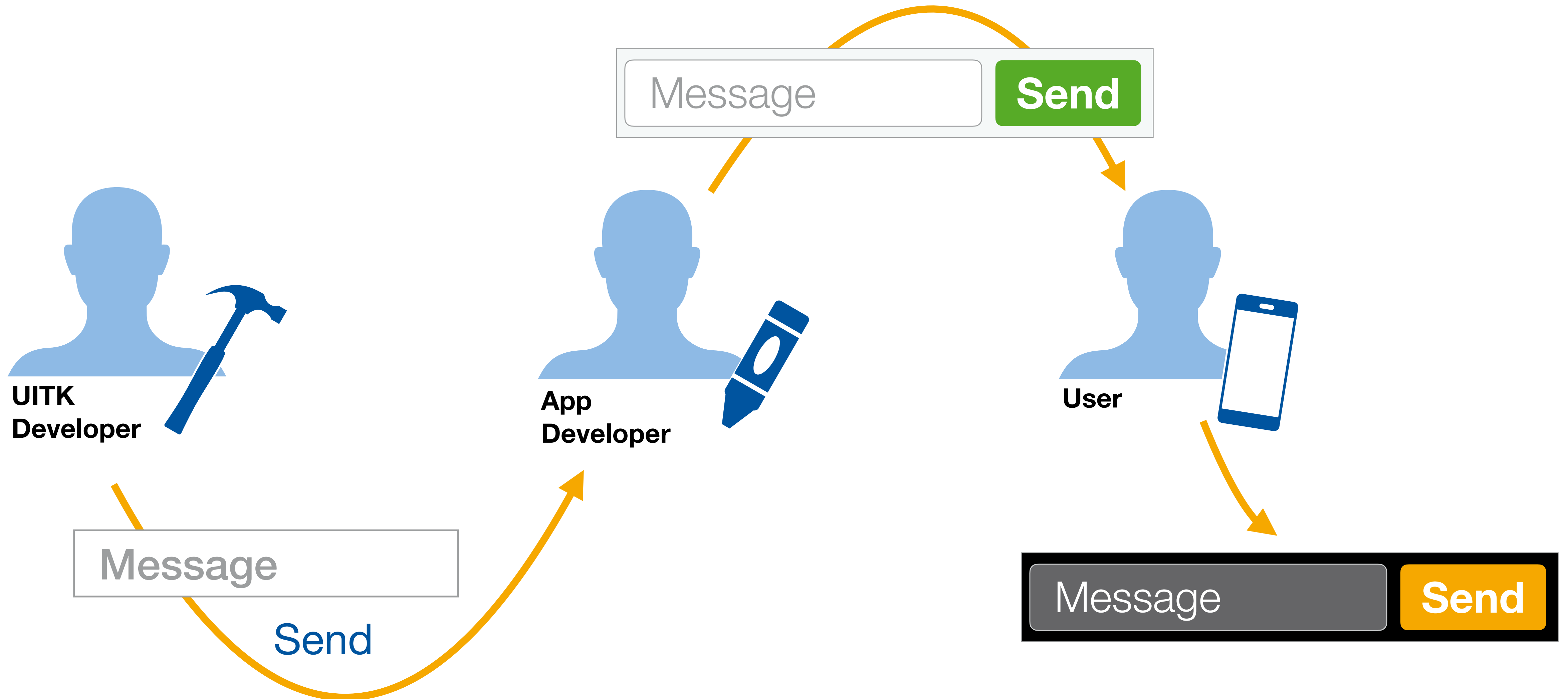




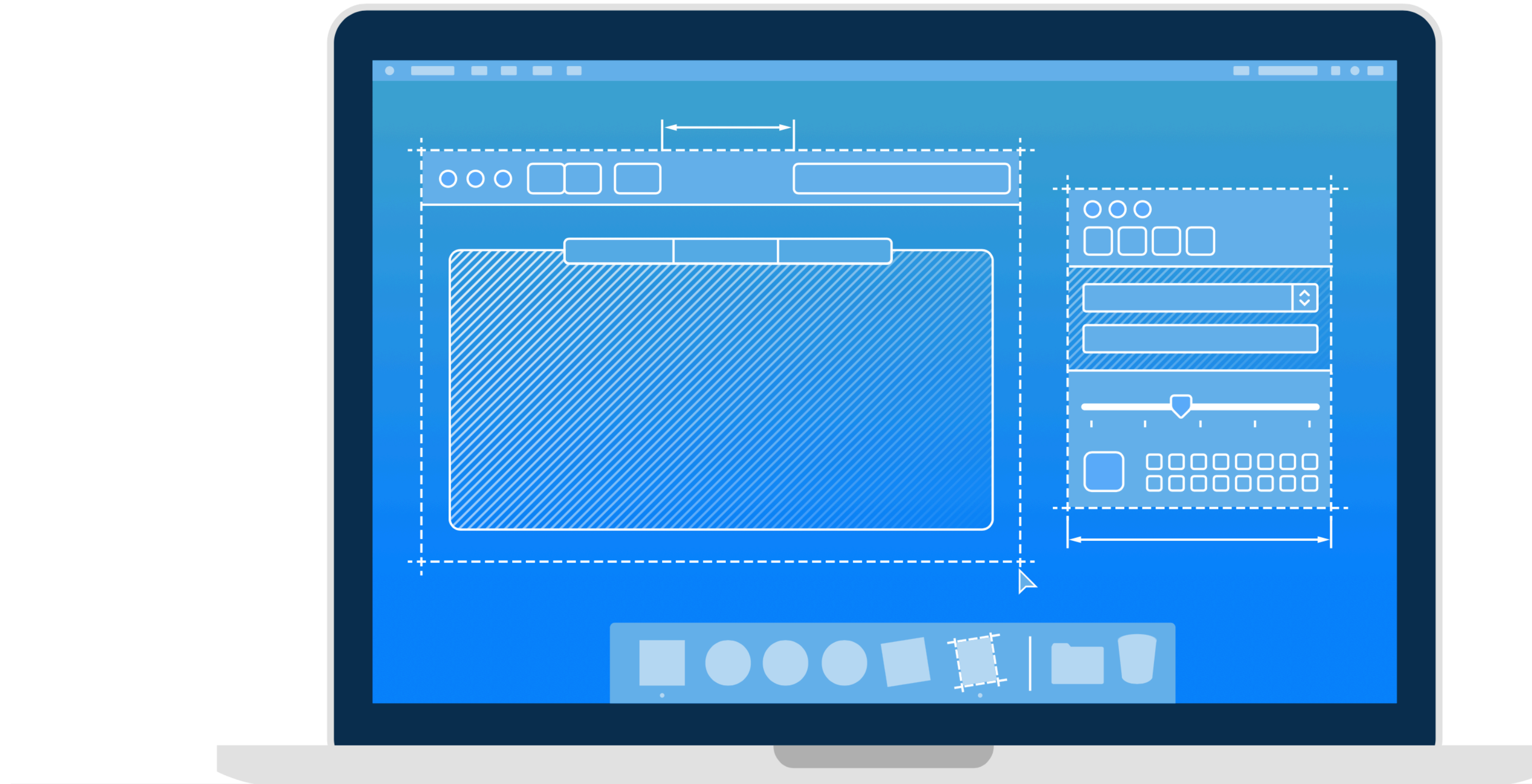
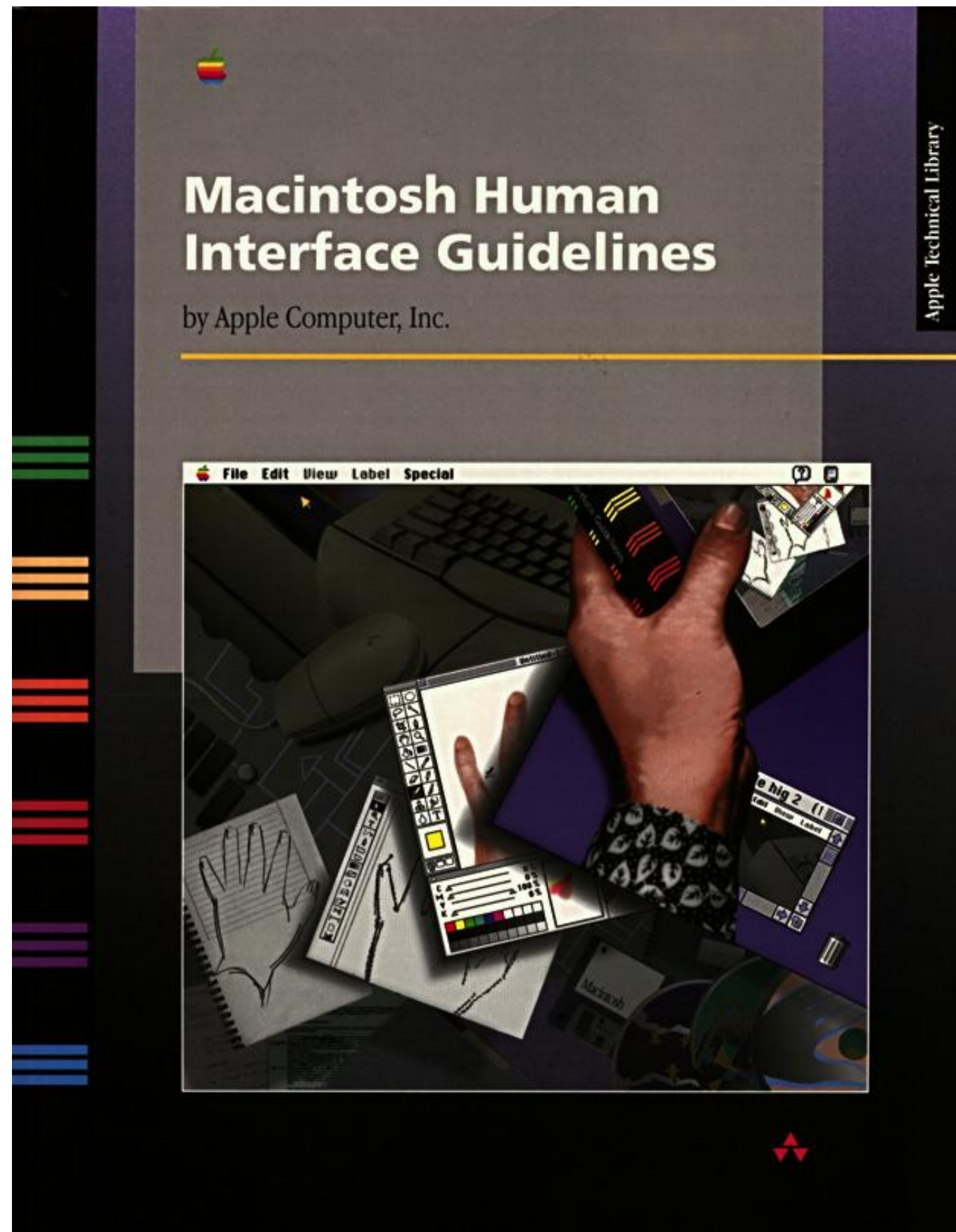
# Static Widget Hierarchy



# Late Refinement of Widgets



# Style Guidelines



# Types of UIDS

## Language oriented (UIDL)

- Compiler implements style guidelines by checking constructs

## Interactive

- Complex drawing programs to define look of UI
- Via lines connecting user input (*I*) to actions (*A*) (allowed by style guide)

## Automatic

- Create UI automatically from spec of app logic (research)

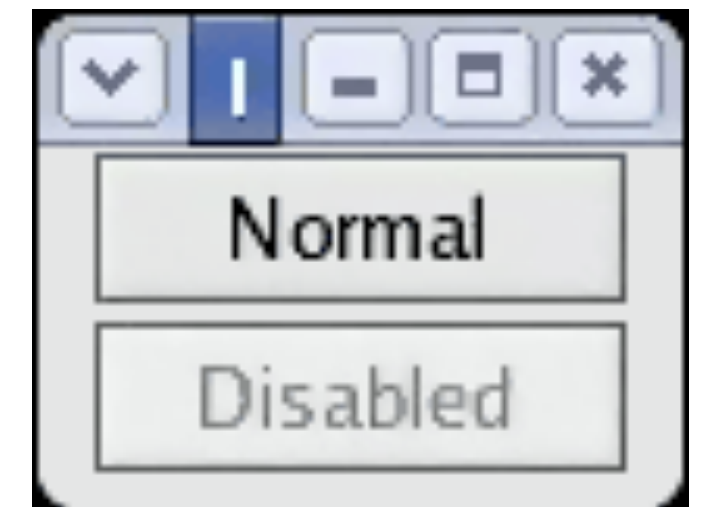


# User Interface Description Languages

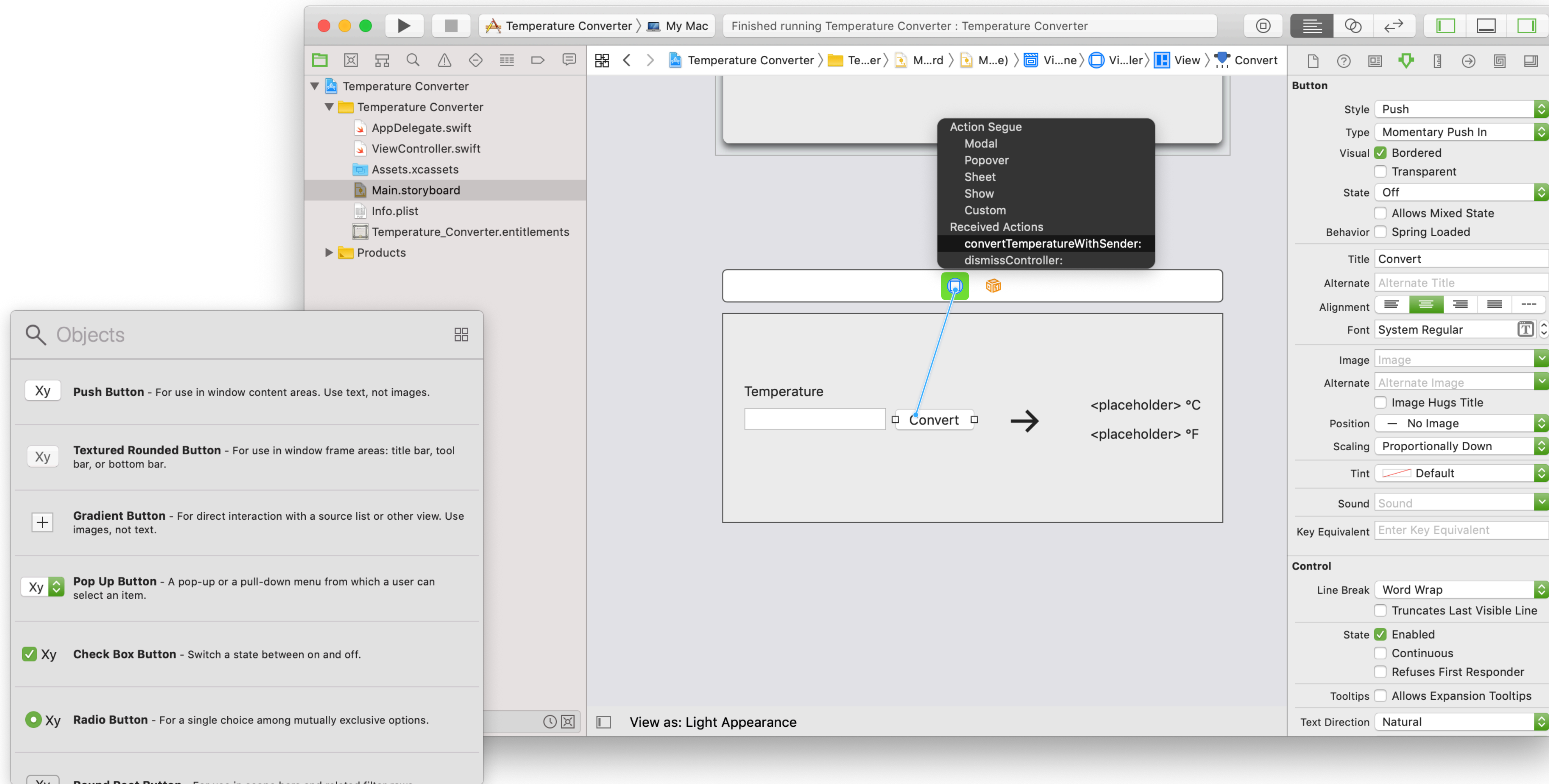
```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="chrome://global/skin/" type="text/css"?>
<window id="findfile-window"
        title="Find Files"
        orient="horizontal"
        xmlns="http://www.mozilla.org/keymaster/gatekeeper/
there.is.only.xul">

    <button label="Normal"/>
    <button label="Disabled" disabled="true"/>

</window>
```



# User Interface Design Systems



# User Interface Toolkit

