Building User Interfaces for Models

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Using Modeling to Prepare for Changing Healthcare Needs Duke-NUS April 16, 2014 Lecture Focus: Creating Custom User Interfaces using "Controls"

- 'Controls" are "widgets" that allow for obtaining user input
 - These widgets have properties that can be set at both design and run (execution, simulation) time
- By setting the properties of these controls at design time, we can
 - Establish their general logical & visual properties
 - Establish their correspondence with model variables
- These controls can be used by the user during simulation to set assumptions in the model





Load Previously Built Model: MinimalistSIRNetworkABM

After change, suggest saving as "UISupportedMinimalistSIRNetworkABM"

Recall: Hardcoded Exposure Rate



Add a Related Parameter to Main



Setting the Transition to Refer to the Parameter in Main



Resulting Expression



Reminder: An Explicitly Specified Population Size

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A Parameter Giving the Population Size

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Setting the Population to Use the Parameter Value

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Reminder: The Existing Experiment

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Running that Experiment

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Reminder: Pushing the Button Shows the Simulation Visualization



Understanding the Button's Actions

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Adding a Slider to Represent the Population Size

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Setting the Simulation Parameter Values to Use the Slider Setting

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Choosing a High Value on the Slider

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Resulting Network – Large Population



Choosing a Low Value on the Slider

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Resulting Network -- Small Population



Adding (Static) Text Labeling Slider



Creating a Text Element to Give the Slider Value



Dynamic Properties to Report the Slider Value



Example Resulting Output

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Reflecting on Temporal Specificity of UI Elements

- The user interface component (slider) we created thus has had its value used to set the initial state of the model (the population size)
- User interface components can also be used to vary assumptions dynamically during runtime
 - For example, vary parameter values

Example: Creating a Slider to Dynamically Vary the Infection Hazard



A High Slider Value Leads to a More Rapid Spread



Dropping the Slider Value (Exposure Hazard) to 0 Can Stop the Spread



Recall: The Initial Infection Seed



Cut Text from Startup Code for Main

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Setting the Button to Seed a New Infection

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With Multiple Presses, Multiple "Seed" Infections



Add a Contingent Reporting Variable



Contingent Infection Reporting



Contingent Recovery Reporting



Enabling Reporting



Unless Reporting is Enabled (i.e. Checkbox is Checked), No Output



Enabling Reporting Allows Output



Cleaning Up by Separating the Network Display Space from Other Model Components

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Resulting Visual Separation





Load Example Model: HardcodedMinimalistNetworkABMMo delWithFileDrivenNetworkStructure

Recall: "Hardcoded" File Names

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Creating a Parameter to Communicate the Network File Name & Location ("Path")



Creating an "Enum" to Encode the Possible Types of the Specified File

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Creating a Parameter to Encode the Network File Type





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Referring to the External Java Swing Library



Adding a Reference to the Java "Swing" File Chooser Component

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Adding a Button "buttonSelectFile"

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Add an EditBox editboxNetworkFilePathAndName

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Adding a Label for the Filename

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Logic to Set the File Name







Startup Code for Main

