

# Up & Running with wxPython

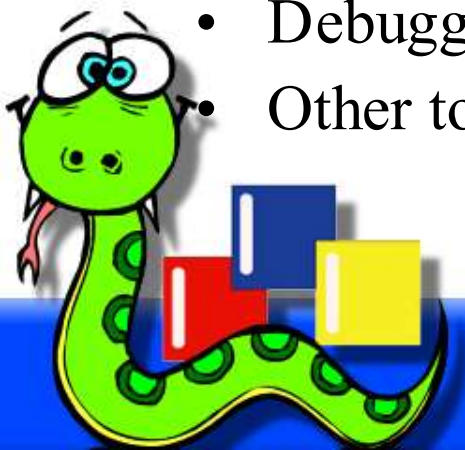
Robin Dunn

O'Reilly Open Source Convention  
July 26–30, 2004



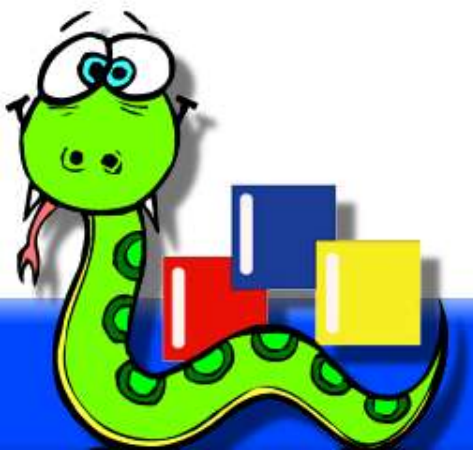
# Presentation overview

- Introduction to wxPython
- Getting started
- Application fundamentals
- Widgets galore
- Event handling
- Organizing your layout
- Drawing
- Drag and drop
- Debugging with PyCrust
- Other tools

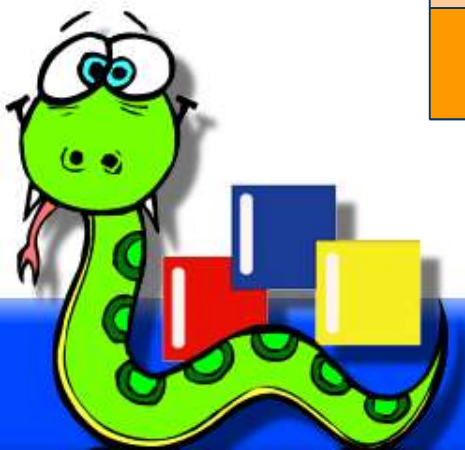
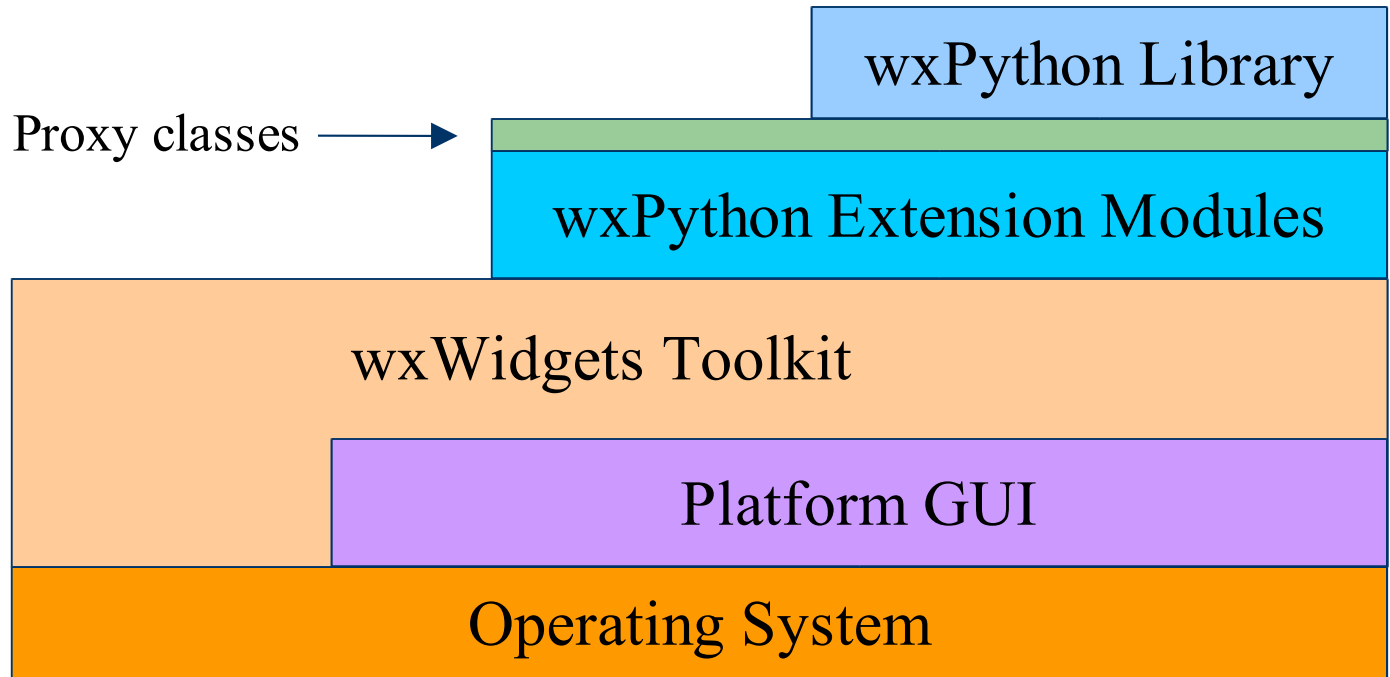


# Introduction to wxPython

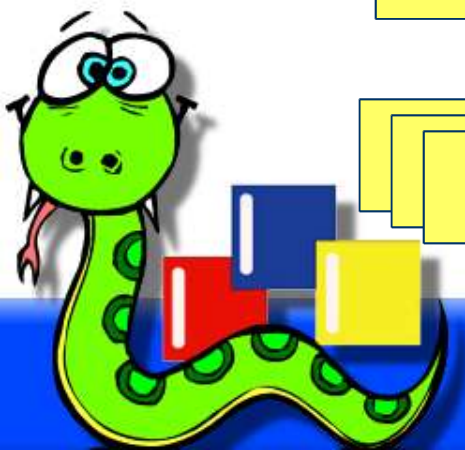
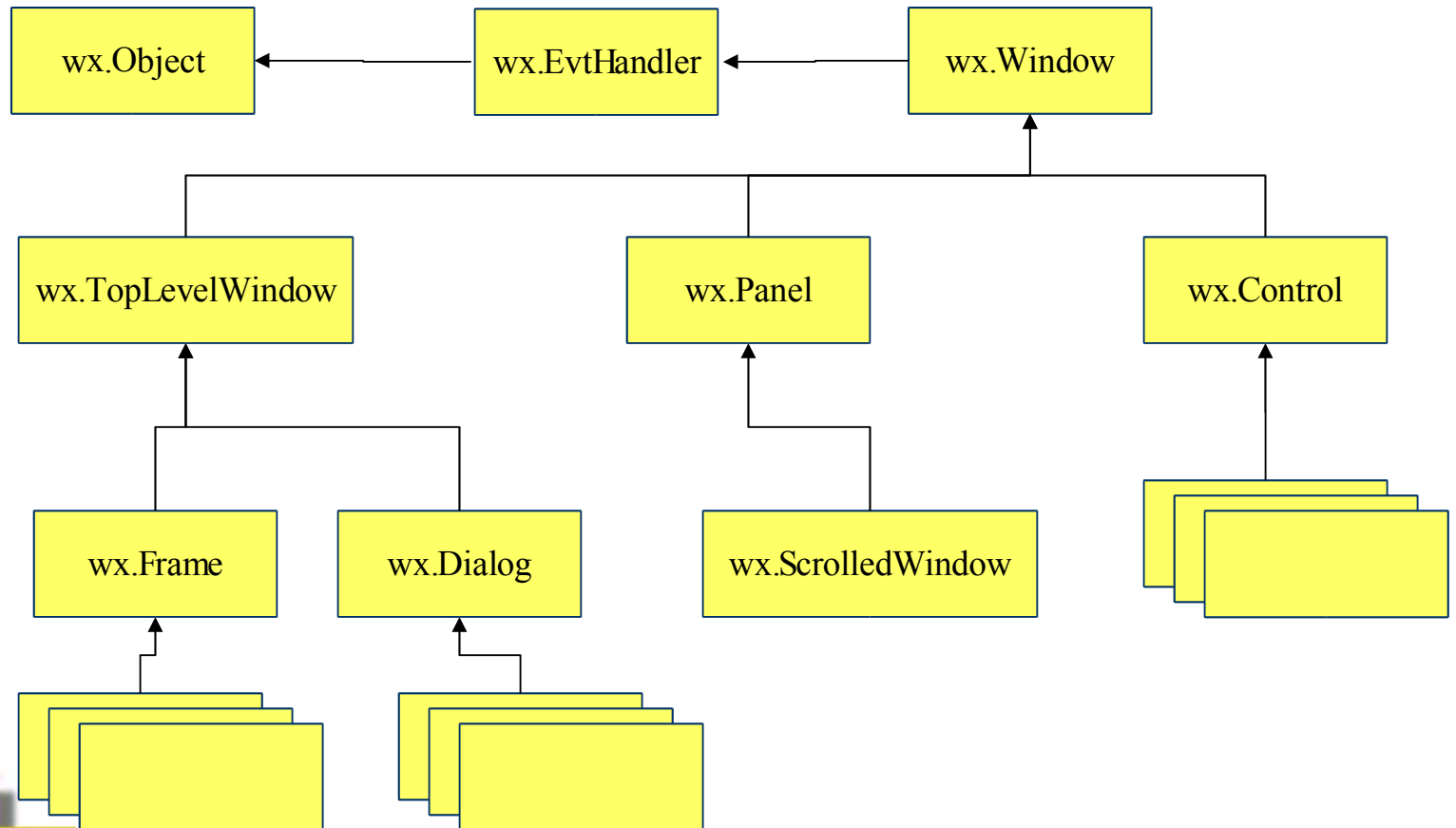
- wxPython is a GUI toolkit for Python, built upon the wxWidgets C++ toolkit.
  - Cross platform: Windows, Linux, Unix, OS X.
  - Uses native widgets/controls, plus many platform independent widgets.
- Mature, well established projects.
  - wxWidgets: 1992
  - wxPython: 1996



# Introduction: architecture



# Introduction: partial class hierarchy



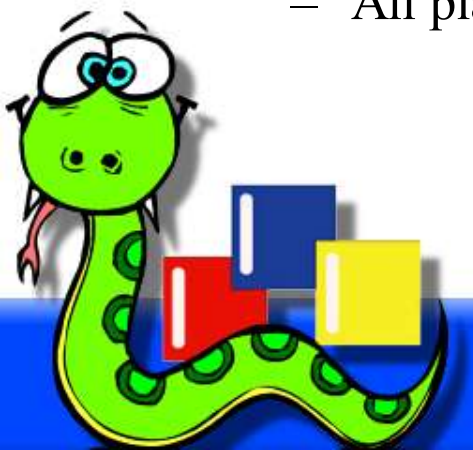
# Getting started with wxPython

- Installation is simple -- binary installers are available at SourceForge and via <http://wxPython.org/download.php> for:
  - Windows: \*.exe
  - Linux: \*.rpm (and \*.deb's are available separately.)
  - OS X: \*.dmg, a disk image that contains an Installer package.
- Can be built from source for other Unix-like systems.



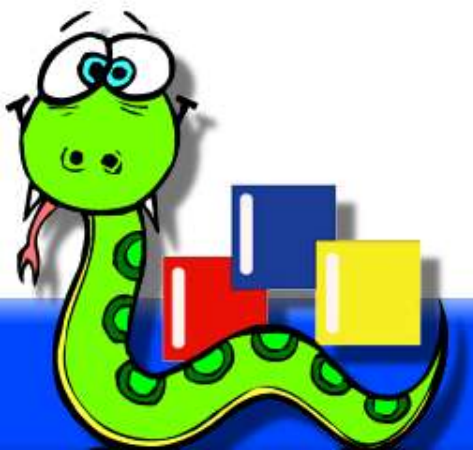
# Getting started with wxPython

- Choose an installer.
- Which version of Python do you use?
  - 2.2, or 2.3
- Unicode?
  - Windows, but be careful with Win9x/ME
  - Linux/Unix, with the GTK2 build
  - OS X, soon
- or ANSI?
  - All platforms



# Getting started with wxPython

- Choose an editor or development environment:
  - Boa Constructor
  - WingIDE
  - PyAlaMode
  - SCiTE
  - Emacs, vi, etc.
- It's just plain text, so an ordinary editor and command line will do.



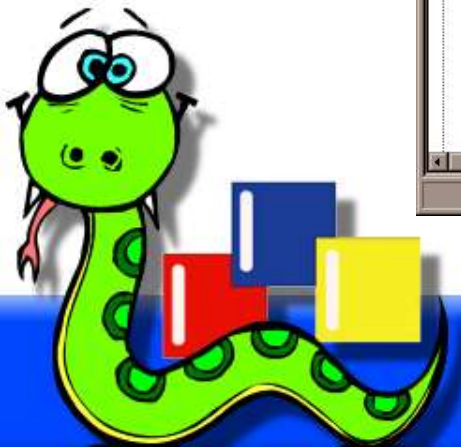
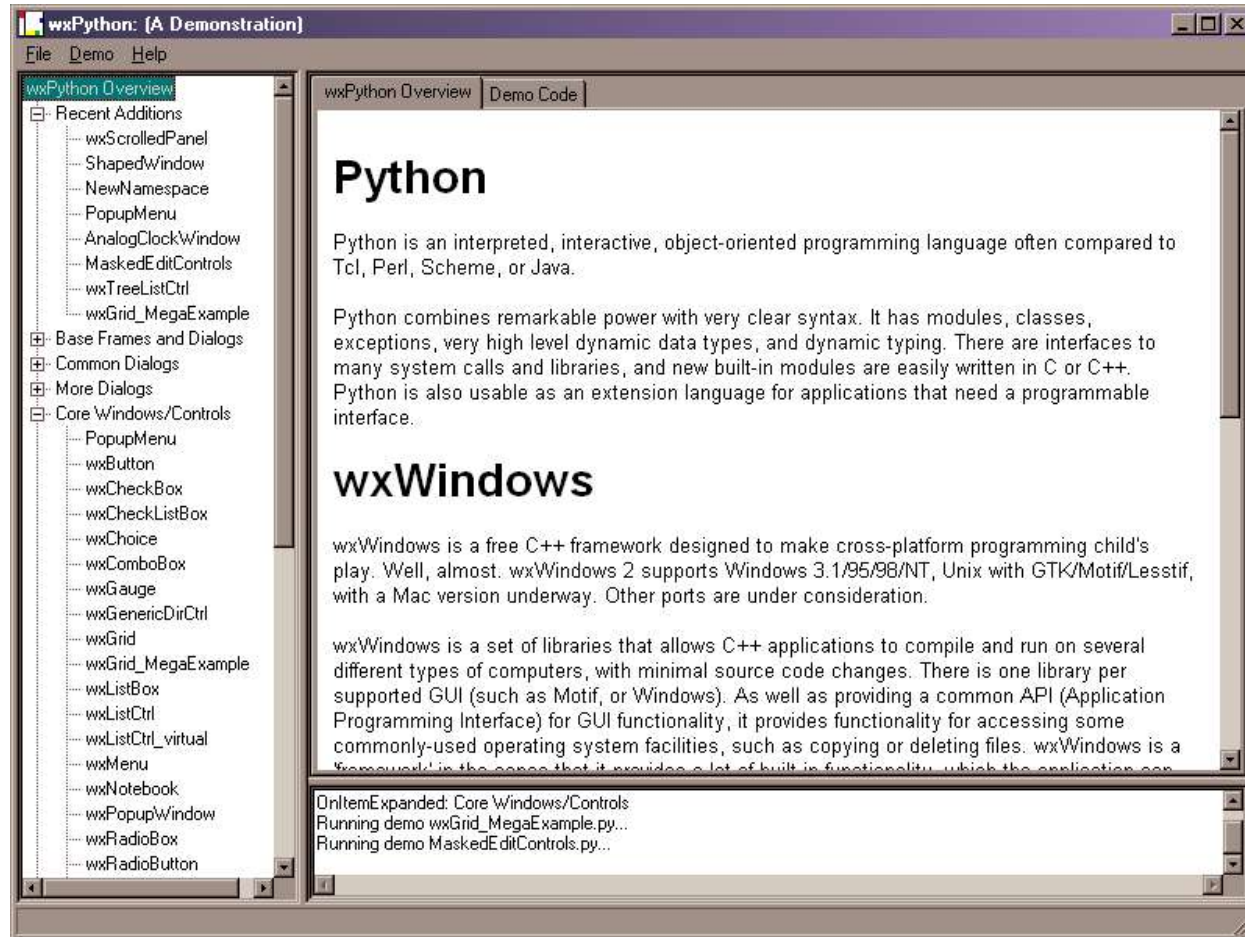


# Getting started with wxPython

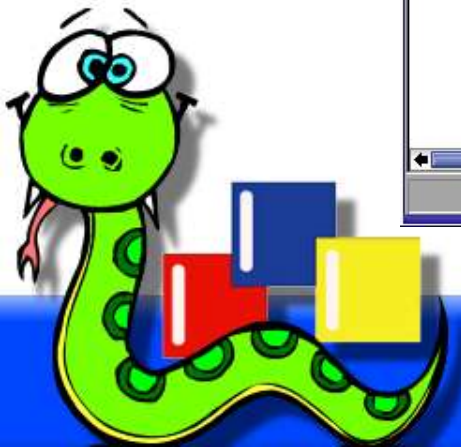
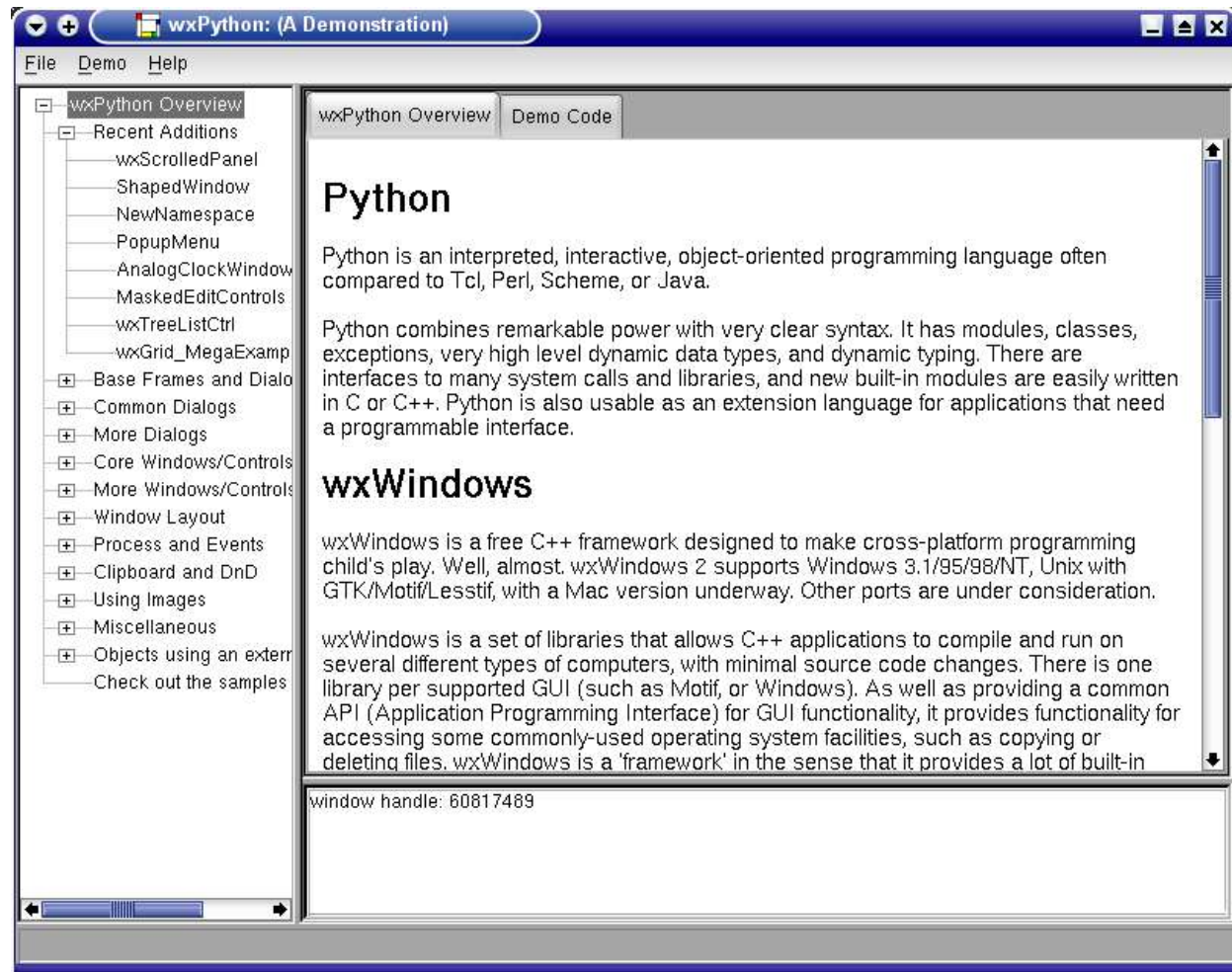
- Ready, set, go!
- The wxPython Demo is a great way to learn about the capabilities of the toolkit.



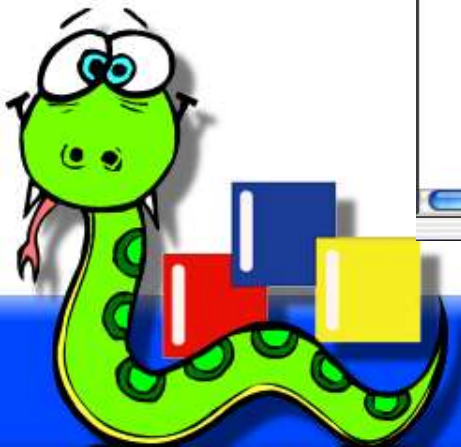
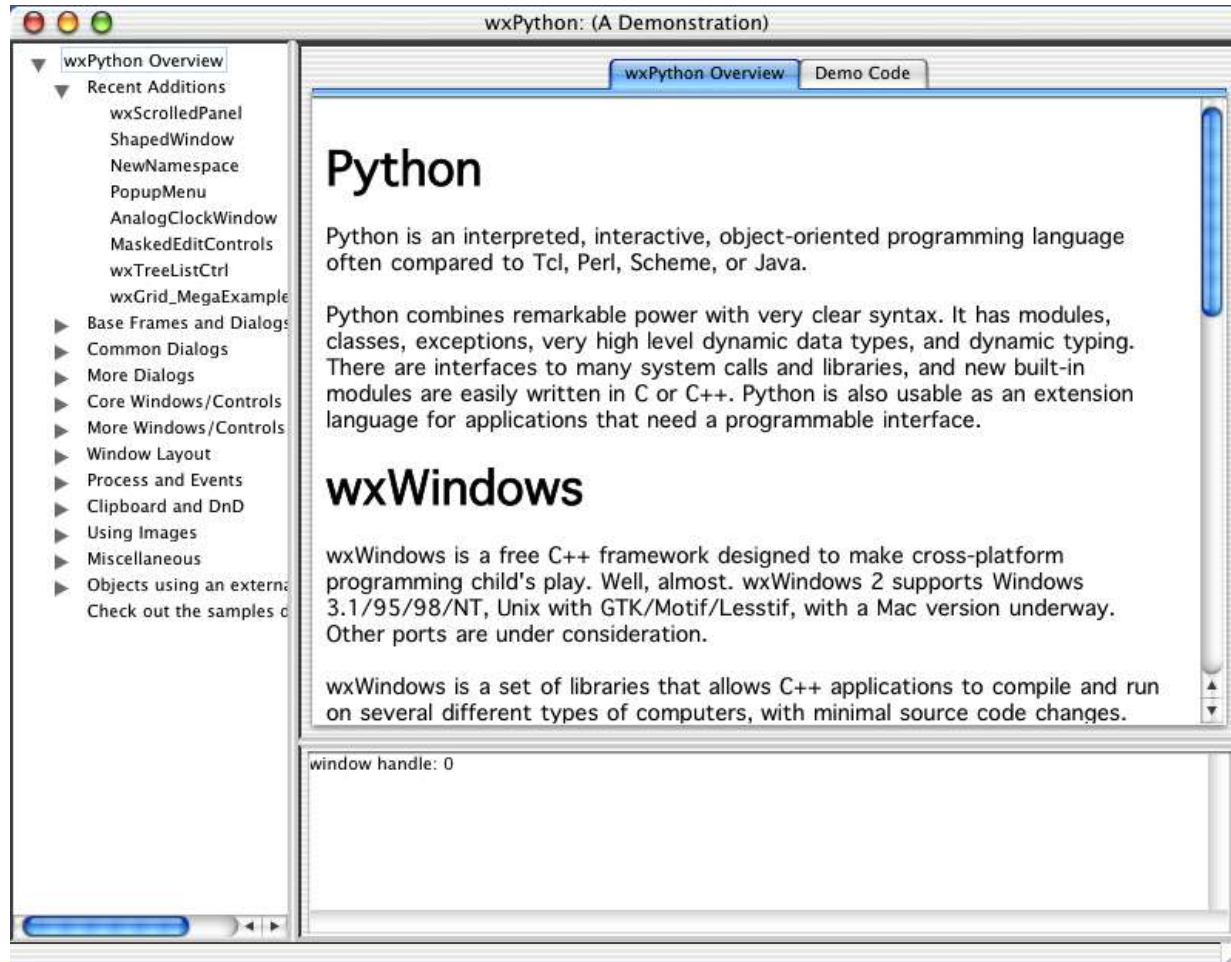
# Getting started with wxPython



# Getting started with wxPython



# Getting started with wxPython



# Demo time...



# Application fundamentals

```
import wx

class App(wx.App):

    def OnInit(self):
        title = 'Bare Frame'
        frame = wx.Frame(parent=None, id=-1, title=title)
        frame.Show()
        return True

app = App()
app.MainLoop()
```



# Application fundamentals

```
import wx

class Frame(wx.Frame):
    pass

class App(wx.App):
    def OnInit(self):
        title = 'Spare'
        self.frame = Frame(parent=None, id=-1, title=title)
        self.frame.Show()
        self.SetTopWindow(self.frame)
        return True

if __name__ == '__main__':
    app = App()
    app.MainLoop()
```



# Application fundamentals

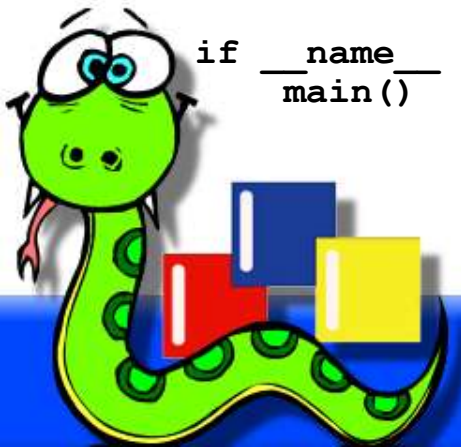
```
import wx

class Frame(wx.Frame):
    def __init__(self, parent=None, id=-1, title='Title',
                 pos=wx.DefaultPosition, size=(400, 200)):
        wx.Frame.__init__(self, parent, id, title, pos, size)

class App(wx.App):
    def OnInit(self):
        self.frame = Frame()
        self.frame.Show()
        self.SetTopWindow(self.frame)
        return True

def main():
    app = App()
    app.MainLoop()

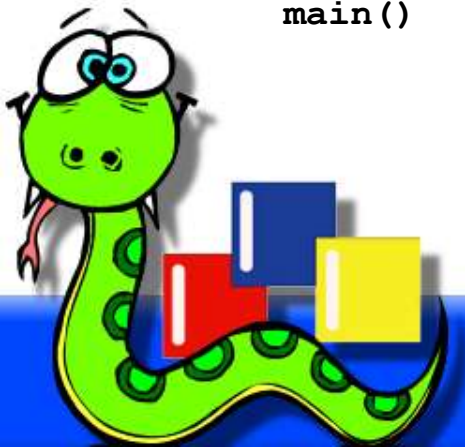
if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```





# Application fundamentals

```
"""app.py has a basic application class."""  
  
import wx  
  
from frame import Frame  
  
class App(wx.App):  
    def OnInit(self):  
        self.frame = Frame(title='This is my App')  
        self.frame.Show()  
        self.SetTopWindow(self.frame)  
        return True  
  
def main():  
    app = App()  
    app.MainLoop()  
  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    main()
```



# Code break...



# Widgets galore: top level windows

- `wx.Frame`
  - A container for other windows.
  - Can automatically manage a `MenuBar`, `ToolBar`, and a `StatusBar`.
- `wx.Dialog`
  - For Modal or Modeless dialog boxes.
- `wx.Miniframe`
  - Good for floating tool palettes, etc.
- `wx.MDIParentFrame`, `wx.MDIChildFrame`
  - [Take a wild guess :-]

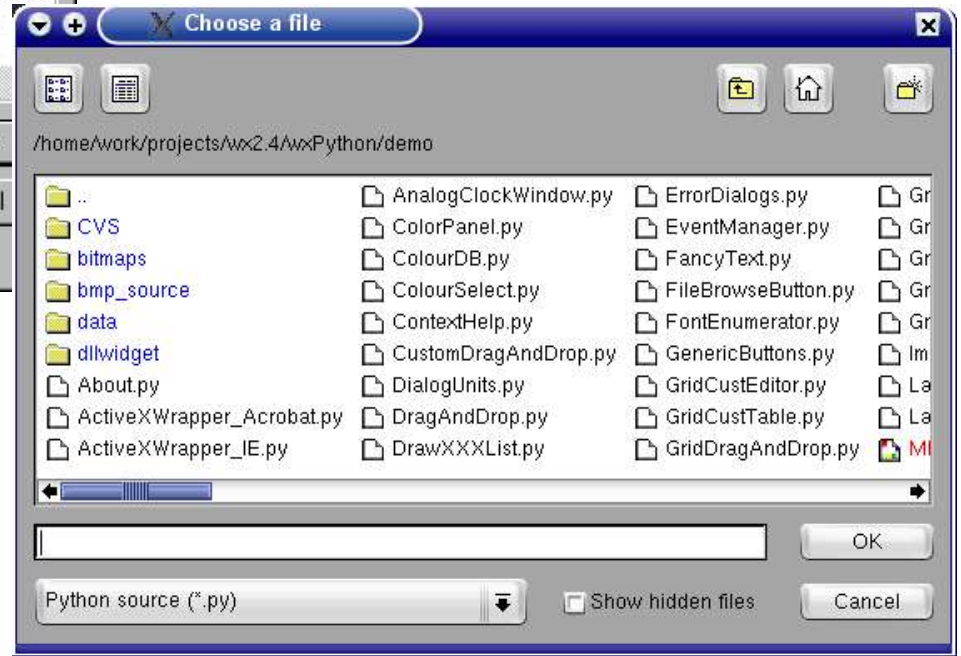


# Widgets galore: common dialogs

- All standard Windows common dialogs:
  - Color, Directory, File,
  - Font, PageSetup, Print,
  - Message, Progress,
  - FindReplace, etc.
- For other platforms either native dialogs are used, or suitable recreations in wxWidgets are provided.



# Widgets galore: common dialogs



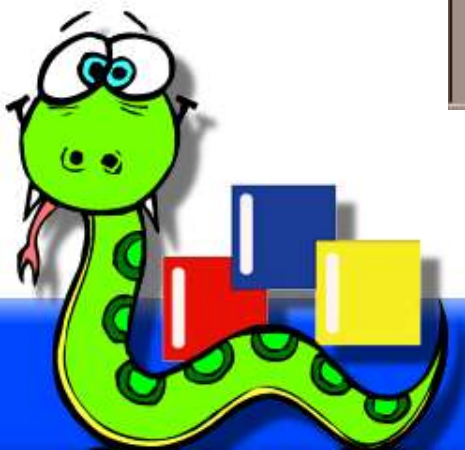
# Widgets galore: basic windows

- `wx.Window`
  - General purpose window.
- `wx.Panel`
  - Can do tab-traversal of controls.
  - Uses standard system color for the background.
- `wx.ScrolledWindow`
  - Manages its own scrollbars and scrolling of client area.
  - Transforms coordinates based on scrollbar positions.



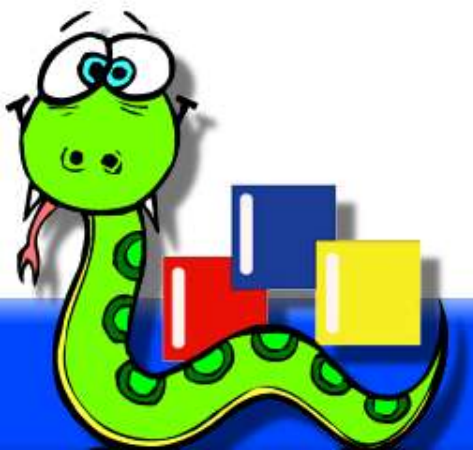
# Widgets galore

- `wx.SplitterWindow`
  - Can be split vertically or horizontally.
  - Draggable sash for redistributing the space between sub-windows.



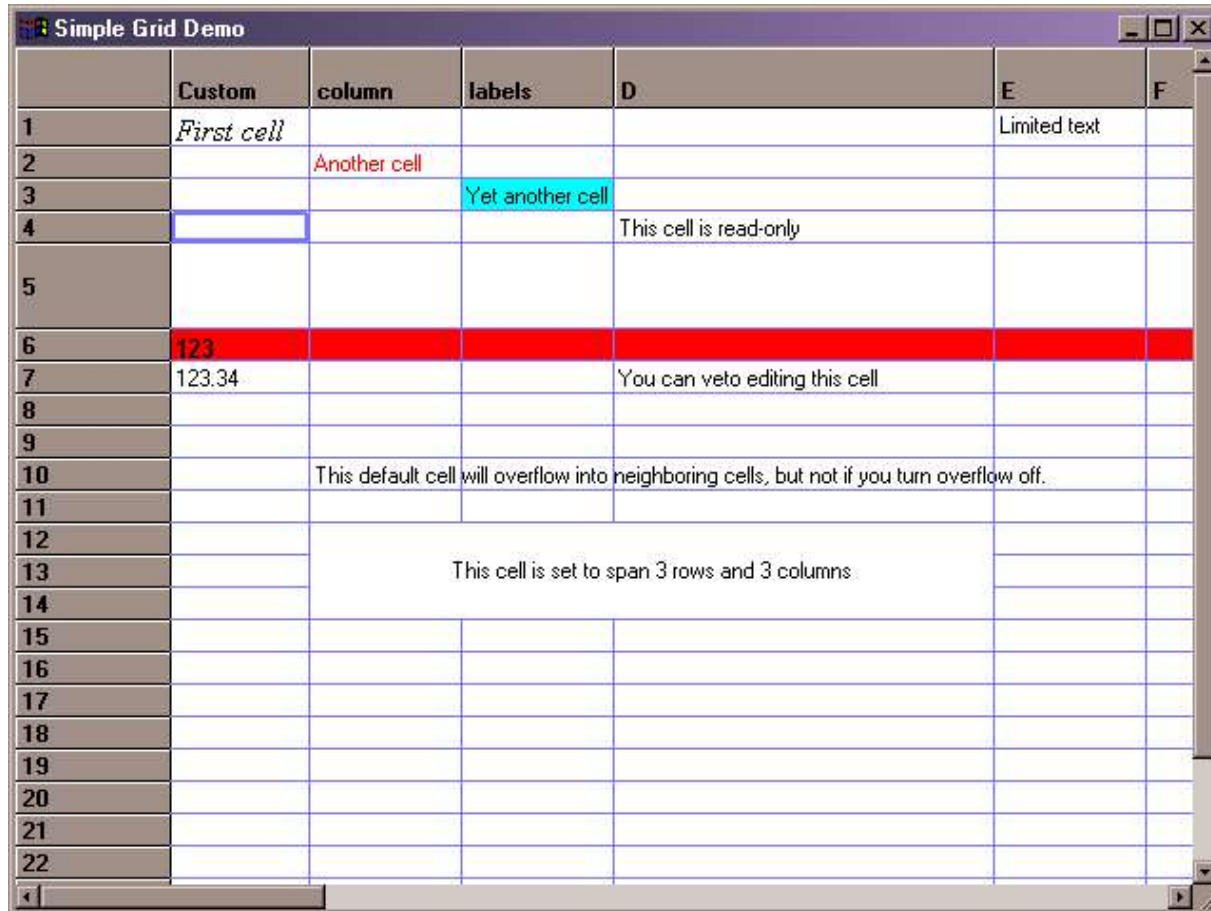
# Widgets galore

- `wx.grid.Grid`
  - Table or spreadsheet-like capabilities.
  - Editors, Renderers, Tables (the data provider) can all be customized and “plugged in”.



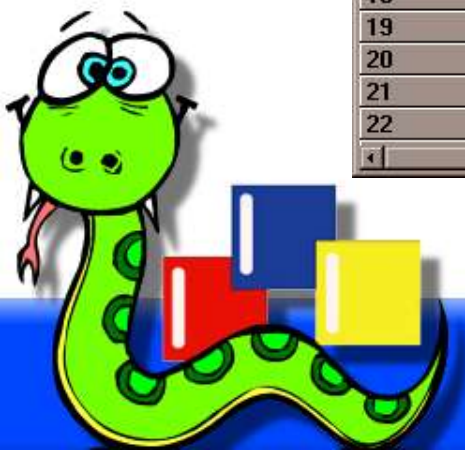


# Widgets galore



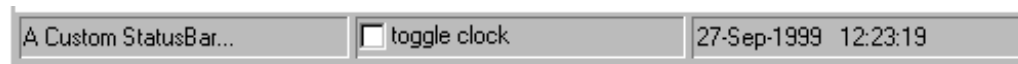
The screenshot shows a window titled "Simple Grid Demo" containing a grid with 22 rows and 6 columns. The columns are labeled "Custom", "column", "labels", "D", "E", and "F". The rows are numbered 1 through 22. The grid contains various text and styling examples:

	Custom	column	labels	D	E	F
1	<i>First cell</i>				Limited text	
2		Another cell				
3			Yet another cell			
4				This cell is read-only		
5						
6	123					
7	123.34			You can veto editing this cell		
8						
9						
10		This default cell will overflow into neighboring cells, but not if you turn overflow off.				
11						
12		This cell is set to span 3 rows and 3 columns.				
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						



# Widgets galore

- `wx.StatusBar`

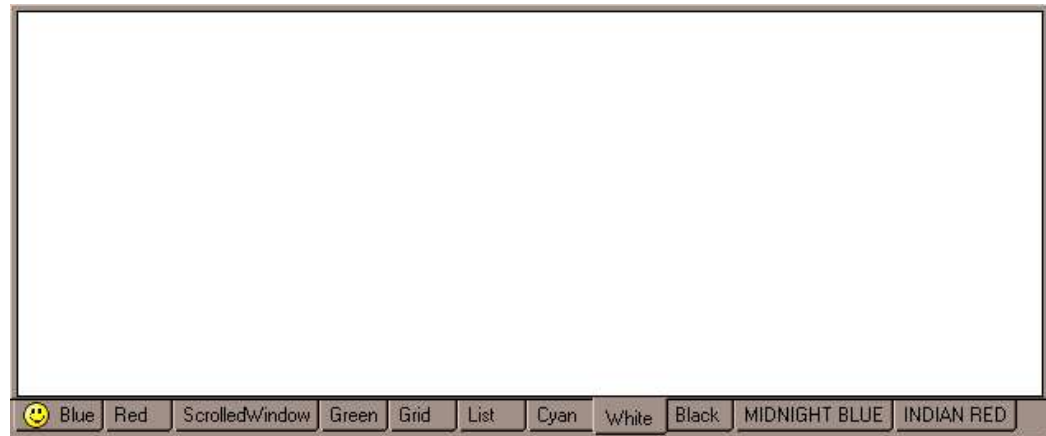
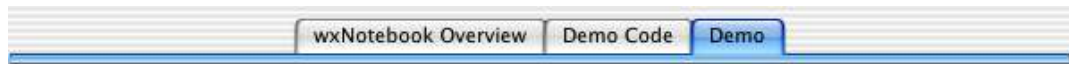


- `wx.ToolBar`



# Widgets galore

- wx.Notebook
  - Manages multiple windows with tabs.
  - Tabs can be on any side of the notebook that the platform supports.



# Widgets galore

- wx.html.HtmlWindow
  - Capable of parsing and rendering most simple HTML tags.
  - Custom Tag Handlers can change or add to how HTML is rendered.

```
<wxp class="wxButton">  
  <param name="label" value="Okay">  
  <param name="id" value="wxID_OK">  
</wxp>
```



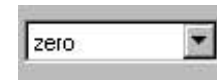
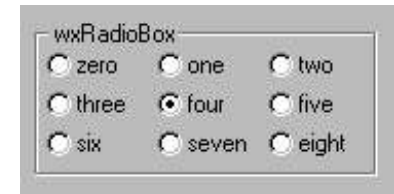
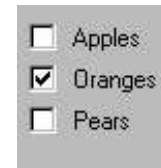
# Widgets galore

- wx.html.HtmlWindow



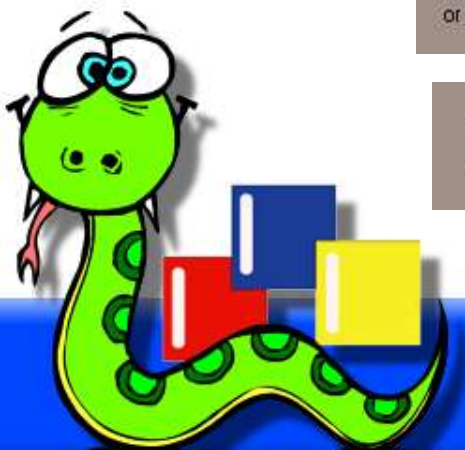
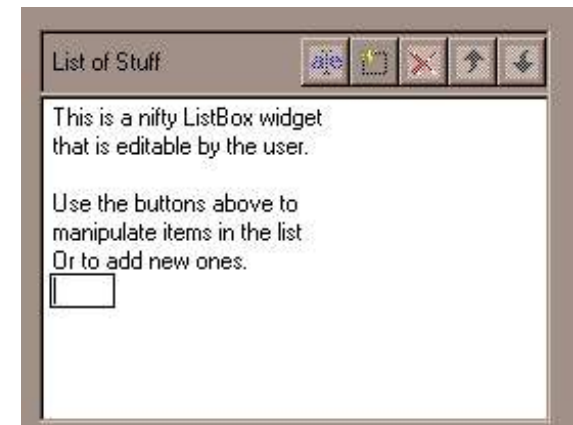
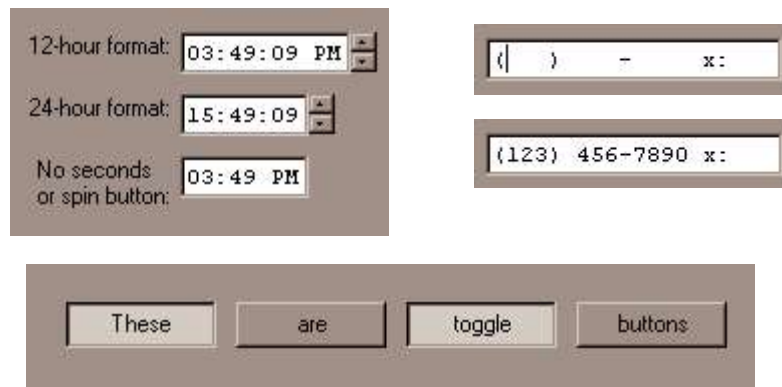
# Widgets galore: controls

- wx.Button, wx.BitmapButton
- wx.RadioButton, wx.RadioButton
- wx.CheckBox
- wx.Choice
- wx.ComboBox
- wx.SpinButton



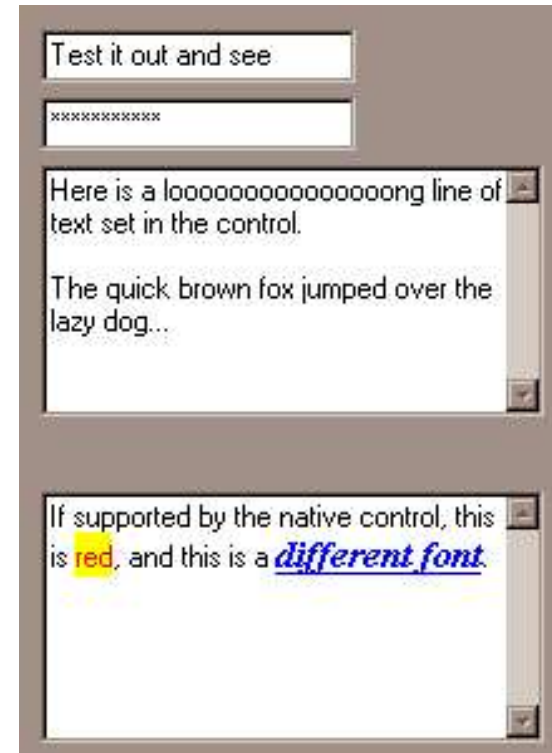
# Widgets galore: controls

- `wx.ToggleButton`
- `wx.gizmos.EditableListBox`
- `wx.lib.masked.TextCtrl`
- `wx.calendar.CalendarCtrl`
- `wx.lib.masked.TimeCtrl`



# Widgets galore: controls

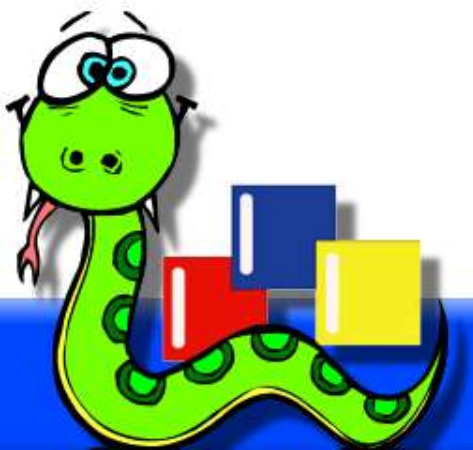
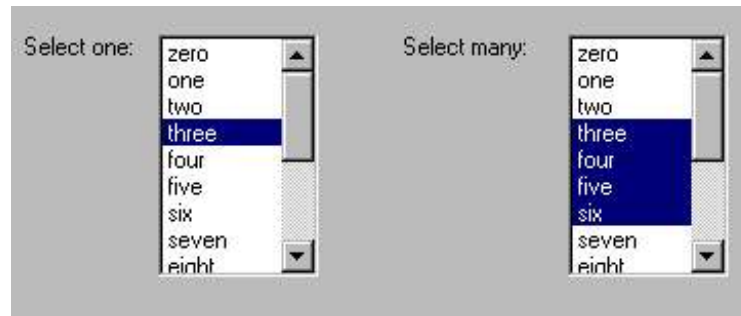
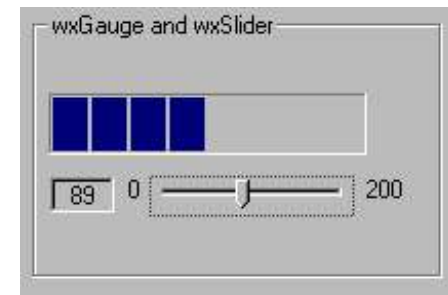
- wx.TextCtrl
  - Password masking, multi-line with or without word-wrap, simple attributes, etc.





# Widgets galore: controls

- wx.ListBox
- wx.CheckListBox
- wx.Gauge
- wx.Slider
- wx.StaticBox

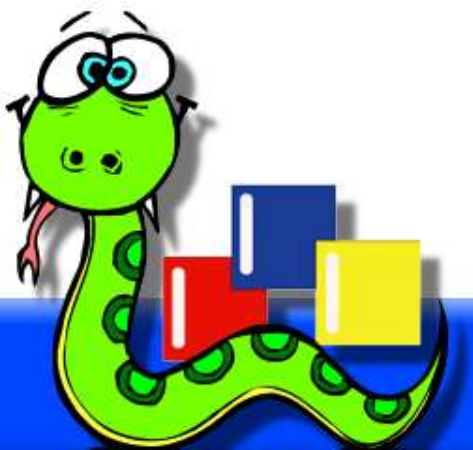


# Widgets galore: controls

- `wx.ListCtrl`
  - Supports list, icon, small icon, report views.
  - Virtual mode, where data items are provided by overloaded methods.

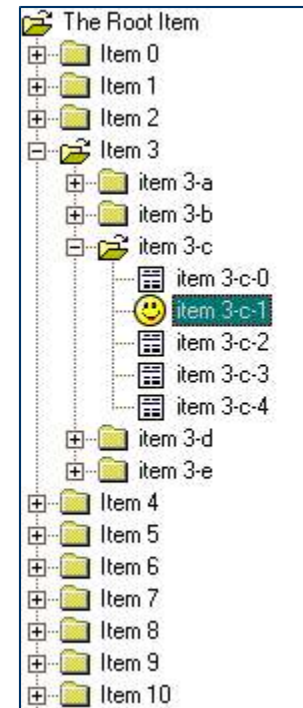


Artist	Title	Genre
☺ Bad English	The Price Of Love	Rock
☺ DNA featuring Suzanne Vega	Tom's Diner	Rock
☺ George Michael	Praying For Time	Rock
☺ Gloria Estefan	Here We Are	Rock
☺ Linda Ronstadt	Don't Know Much	Rock
☺ Michael Bolton	How Am I Supposed To Live Without You	Blues
☺ Paul Young	Oh Girl	Rock
☺ Paula Abdul	Opposites Attract	Rock
☺ Richard Marx	Should've Known Better	Rock
☺ Rod Stewart	Forever Young	Rock
☺ Roxette	Dangerous	Rock
☺ Sheena Easton	The Lover In Me	Rock
☺ Sinead O'Connor	Nothing Compares 2 U	Rock
☺ Stevie B.	Because I Love You	Rock
☺ Taylor Dayne	Love Will Lead You Back	Rock
☺ The Bangles	Eternal Flame	Rock



# Widgets galore: controls

- `wx.TreeCtrl`
  - Supports images for various node states.
  - Can be virtualized by delaying the adding of child items until the parent is expanded.



# Widgets galore: controls

- `wx.gizmos.TreeListCtrl`

Main column	Column 1	Column 2
[-] 📁 The Root Item	col 1 root	col 2 root
[+] 📁 Item 0	Item 0(c1)	Item 0(c2)
[+] 📁 Item 1	Item 1(c1)	Item 1(c2)
[+] 📁 Item 2	Item 2(c1)	Item 2(c2)
[+] 📁 Item 3	Item 3(c1)	Item 3(c2)
[-] 📁 Item 4	Item 4(c1)	Item 4(c2)
[+] 📁 item 4-a	item 4-a(c1)	item 4-a(c2)
[-] 📁 item 4-b	item 4-b(c1)	item 4-b(c2)
📄 item 4-b-0	item 4-b-0(c1)	item 4-b-0(c2)
😄 item 4-b-1	item 4-b-1(c1)	item 4-b-1(c2)
📄 item 4-b-2	item 4-b-2(c1)	item 4-b-2(c2)
📄 item 4-b-3	item 4-b-3(c1)	item 4-b-3(c2)
📄 item 4-b-4	item 4-b-4(c1)	item 4-b-4(c2)
[+] 📁 item 4-c	item 4-c(c1)	item 4-c(c2)
[+] 📁 item 4-d	item 4-d(c1)	item 4-d(c2)
[+] 📁 item 4-e	item 4-e(c1)	item 4-e(c2)
[+] 📁 Item 5	Item 5(c1)	Item 5(c2)
[+] 📁 Item 6	Item 6(c1)	Item 6(c2)



# Widgets galore

- wx.stc.StyledTextCtrl
  - (wx port of Scintilla)

```
5 #!/bin/env python
6 #-----
7 # Name:      Main.py
8 # Purpose:   Testing lots of stuff, controls, window types, etc.
9 #
10 # Author:    Robin Dunn
11 #
12 # Created:   A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...
13 # RCS-ID:    $Id: Main.py,v 1.76.2.29 2003/05/23 16:47:49 RD Exp $
14 # Copyright: (c) 1999 by Total Control Software
15 # Licence:   wxWindows license
16 #-----
17
18 import sys, os, time
19 from wxPython.wx import *
20 from wxPython.html import wxHtmlWindow
21
22 import images
23
```

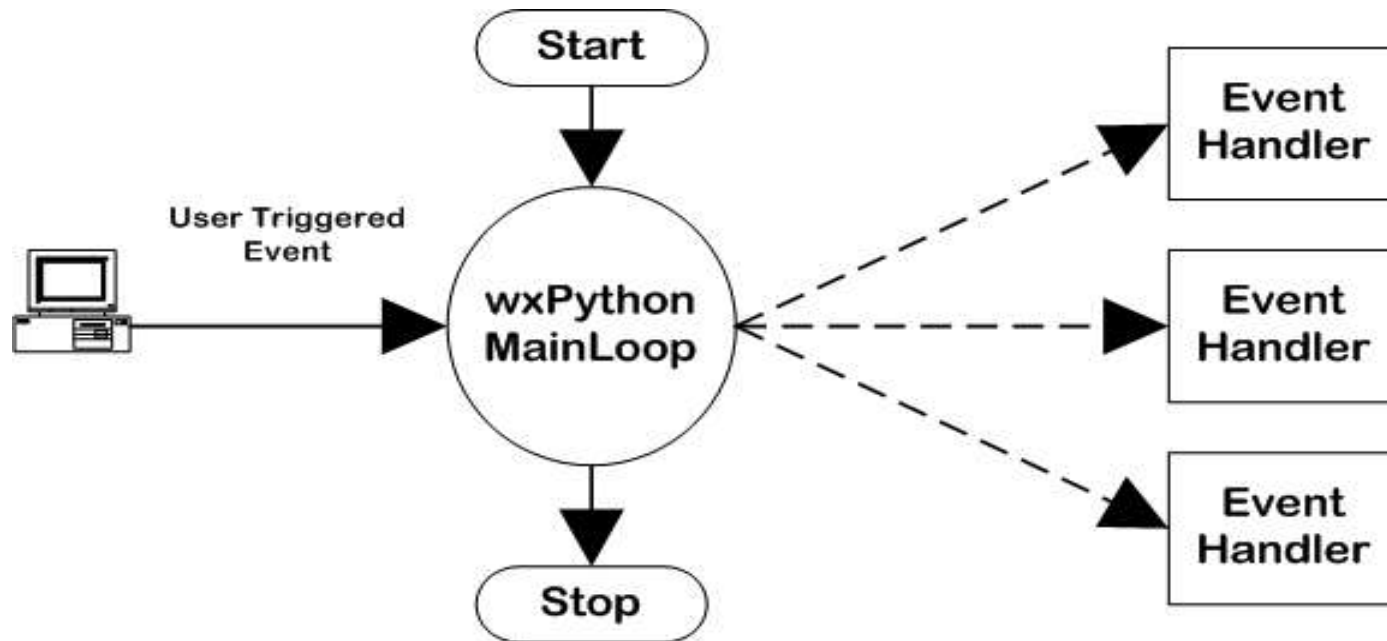


# Event Handling

- Most, if not all, GUI systems and toolkits are designed to be event driven, meaning that the main flow of your program is not sequential from beginning to end.
- When something happens that is of interest to you (an event), the system or toolkit calls a bit of your code that deals with that event (event handler).
- When your event handler finishes, control returns to the “main loop” and your program waits for the next event.

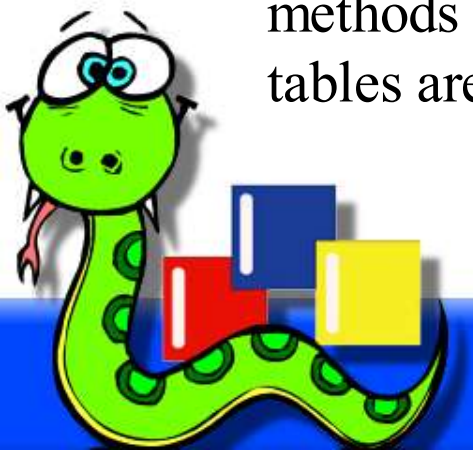


# Event handling



# Event Handling

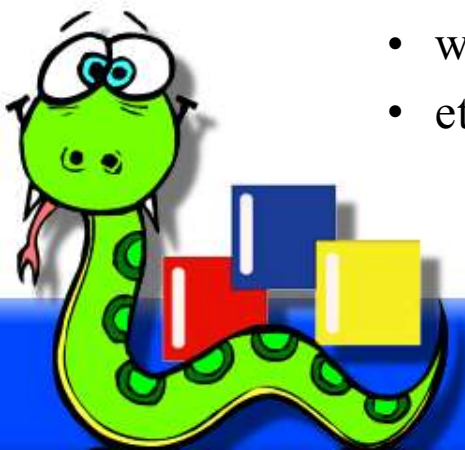
- Various event-handling models:
- **Callbacks:** Standalone functions associated with an event by calling a toolkit function. There are encapsulation problems.
- **Message based:** Messages sent to windows for controlling behaviour, or for events.
- **Virtual methods:** One for each type of event. Solves encapsulation, but leads to clutter, inflexible classes, and many derived classes just to handle an event differently.
- **Static event tables:** Events are associated with classes and methods at compile time via a table. When the event occurs the tables are searched for a match and the method is invoked.





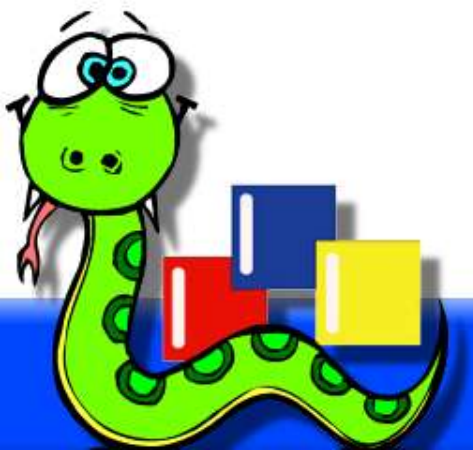
# Event Handling

- wxPython uses Dynamic Event Tables
  - Built at run-time.
  - Events can be “bound” to any callable object that will serve as the Event Handler:
    - any method of the class receiving the event, or other classes
    - standalone functions
    - any object with a `__call__` method
  - Handlers are connected to events with a set of binder objects:
    - `wx.EVT_MENU`
    - `wx.EVT_PAINT`
    - `wx.EVT_SIZE`
    - etc.

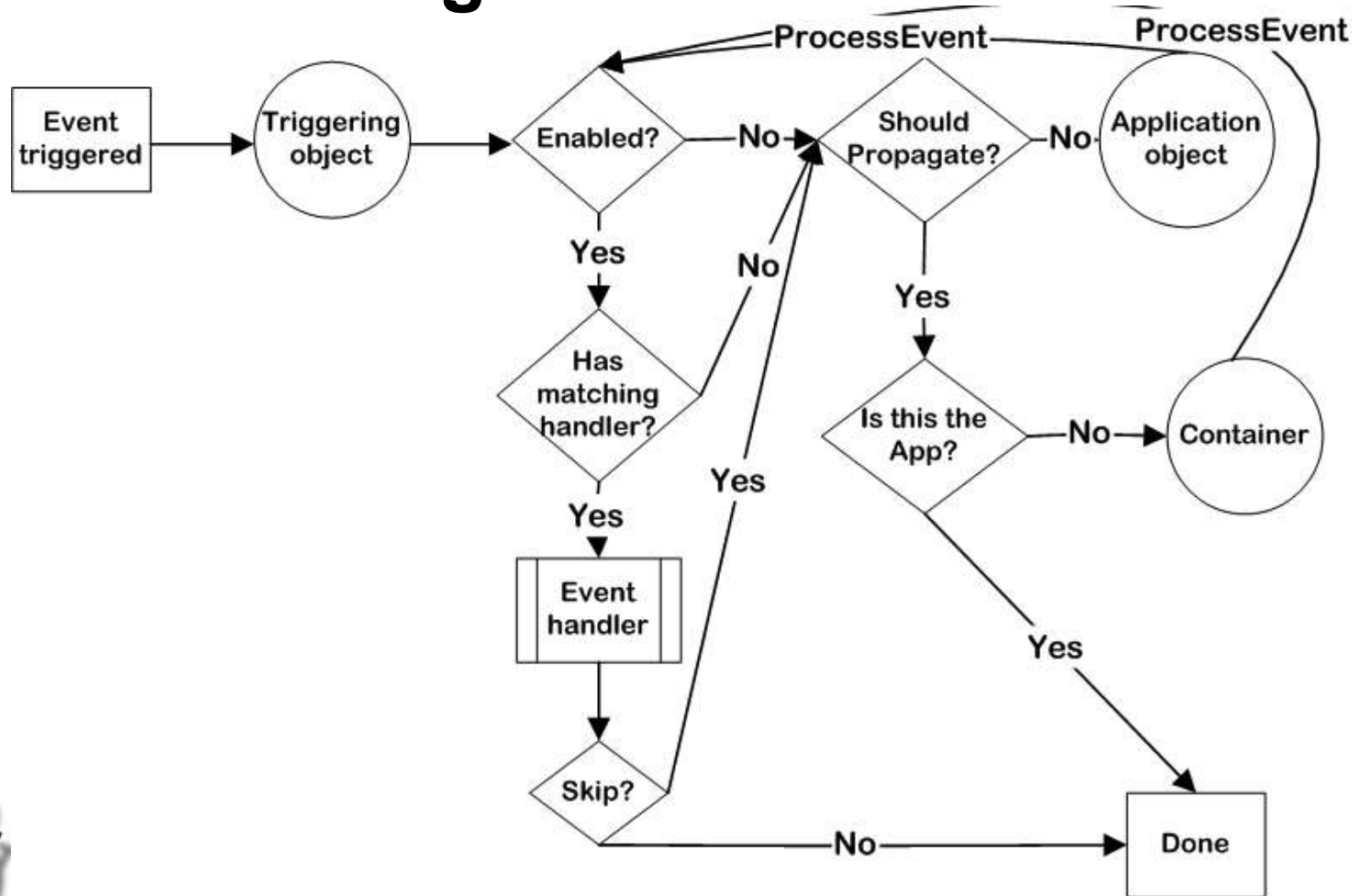


# Event Handling

- Each handler is passed an event object when called.
- Two classifications of event objects:
  - Classes derived from **wx.Event**
    - Events that only make sense for the window where the event took place, such as `wx.PaintEvent`, `wx.KeyEvent`, `wx.SizeEvent`, etc.
  - Classes derived from **wx.CommandEvent**
    - Events that may be of interest for any object up the “containment hierarchy,” such as `wx.MenuEvent`, `wx.NotebookEvent`, `wx.ListEvent`, etc.

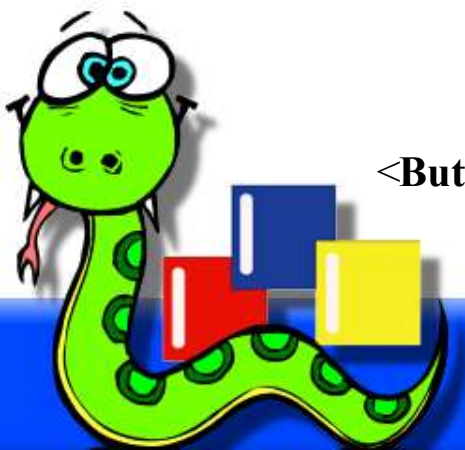
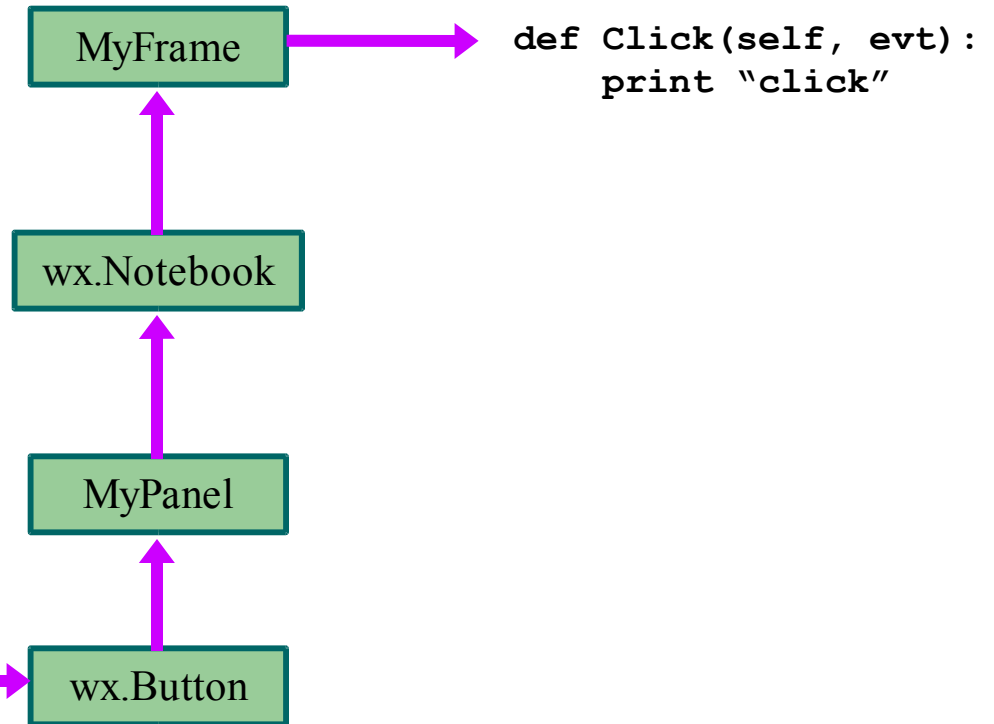


# Event handling



# In search of Event Handlers...

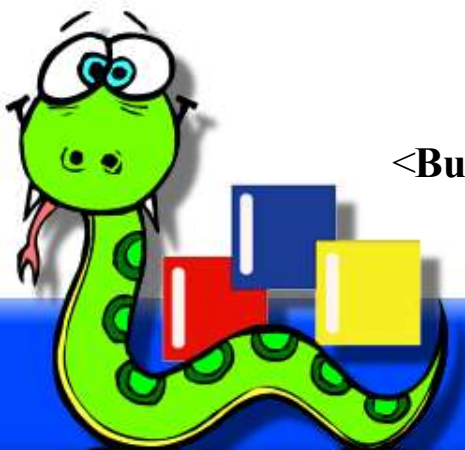
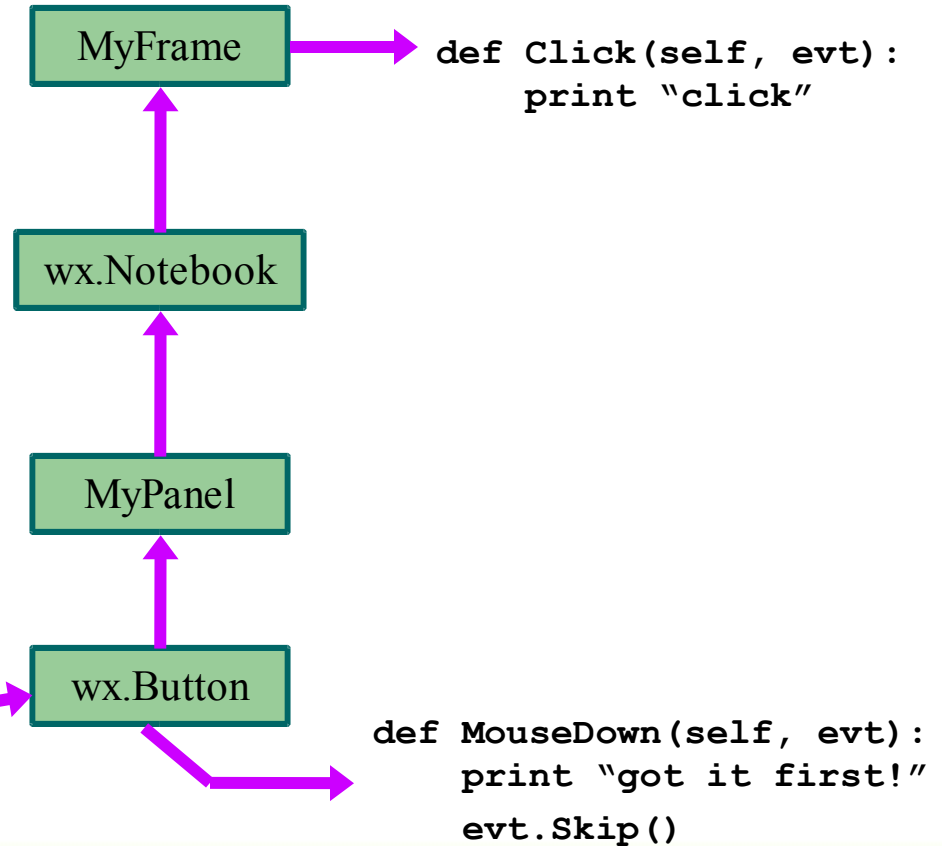
```
self.Bind(wx.EVT_BUTTON,  
          self.Click,  
          self.button)
```



# In search of Event Handlers...

```
self.Bind(wx.EVT_BUTTON,  
          self.Click,  
          self.button)
```

```
self.button.Bind(  
    wx.EVT_LEFT_DOWN,  
    self.MouseDown)
```

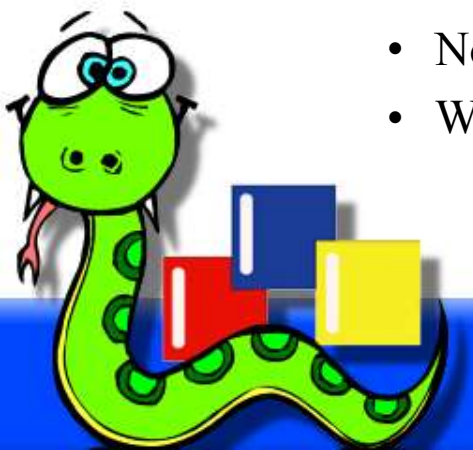


# Code break...



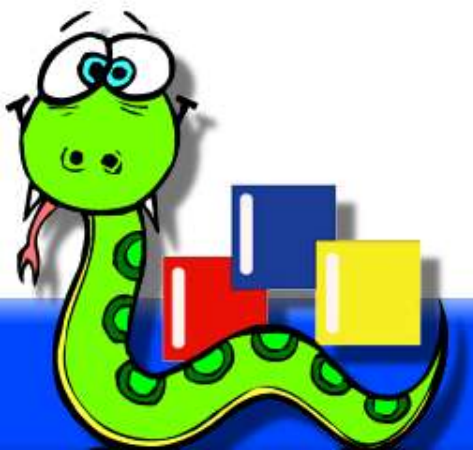
# Organizing your layout

- There are various ways to do layout:
  - Brute force
    - All widgets are positioned and sized pixel by pixel.
    - Has to be redone in every EVT\_SIZE event.
    - Painful, cross-platform issues.
  - Layout Constraints
    - Powerful, but complex and verbose.
    - Deals with the relationships between widgets.
    - See the docs and demo for more details.
  - Sizers
    - Not as flexible or complex, but powerful enough.
    - Worth the pain.



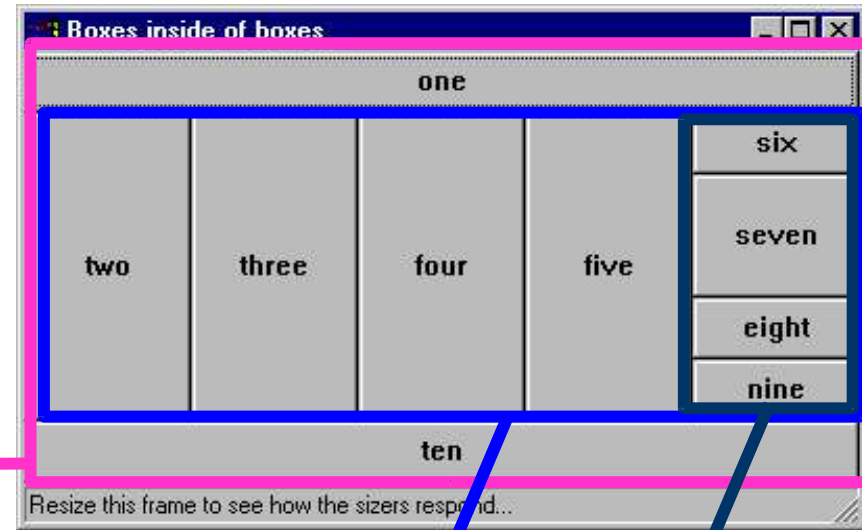
# Organizing your layout

- Sizers
  - Similar to LayoutManagers in Java.
  - Not as flexible as LayoutConstraints, but much simpler, once you get over the hump.
  - Relationships defined by containment within sizers or nested sizers.
  - All items (windows or nested sizers) added to a Sizer are laid out by a specific algorithm determined by the class of sizer.
  - An item's position within its allotted space is also controllable.





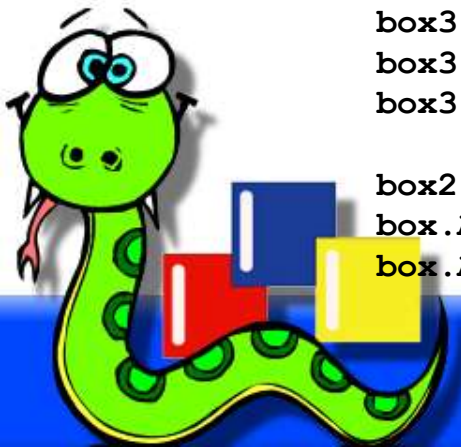
# wx.BoxSizer



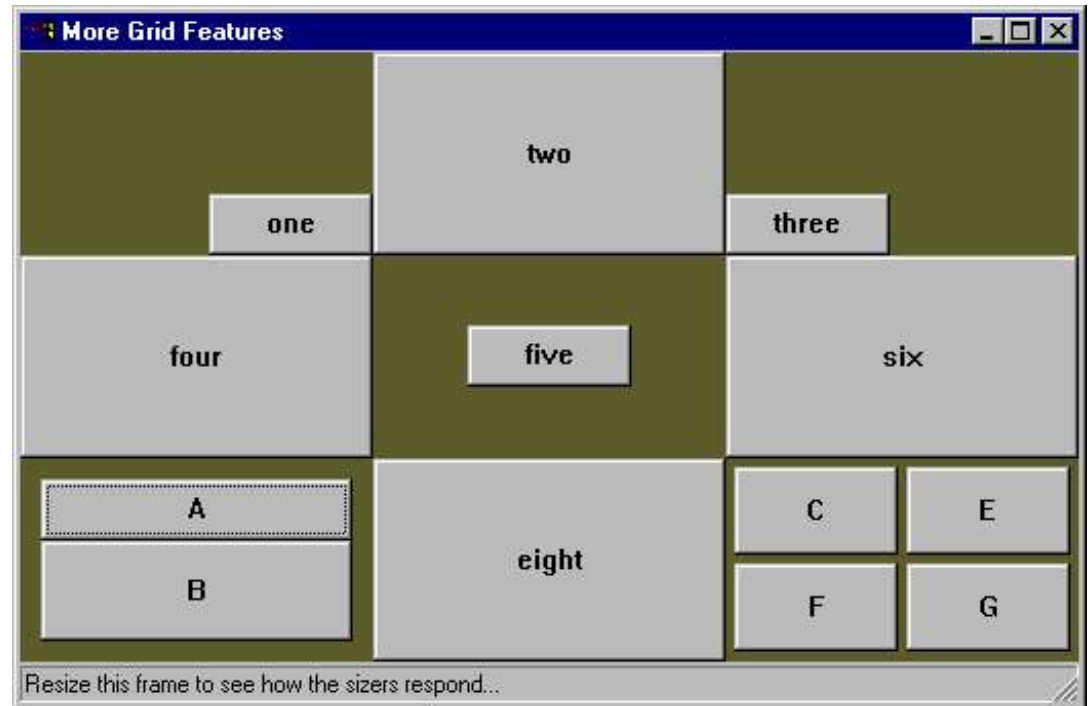
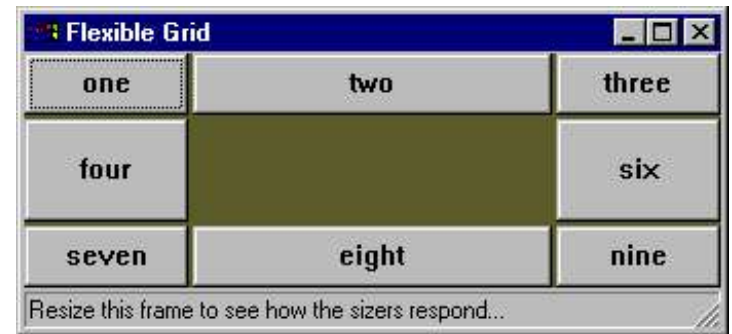
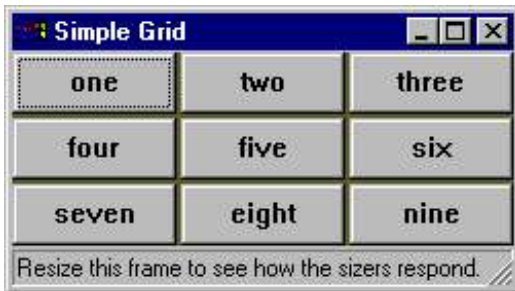
```
box = wx.BoxSizer(wx.VERTICAL)
box.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "one"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
box2 = wx.BoxSizer(wx.HORIZONTAL)
box2.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "two"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
box2.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "three"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
box2.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "four"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
box2.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "five"), 0, wx.EXPAND)

box3 = wx.BoxSizer(wx.VERTICAL)
box3.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "six"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
box3.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "seven"), 2, wx.EXPAND)
box3.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "eight"), 1, wx.EXPAND)
box3.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "nine"), 1, wx.EXPAND)

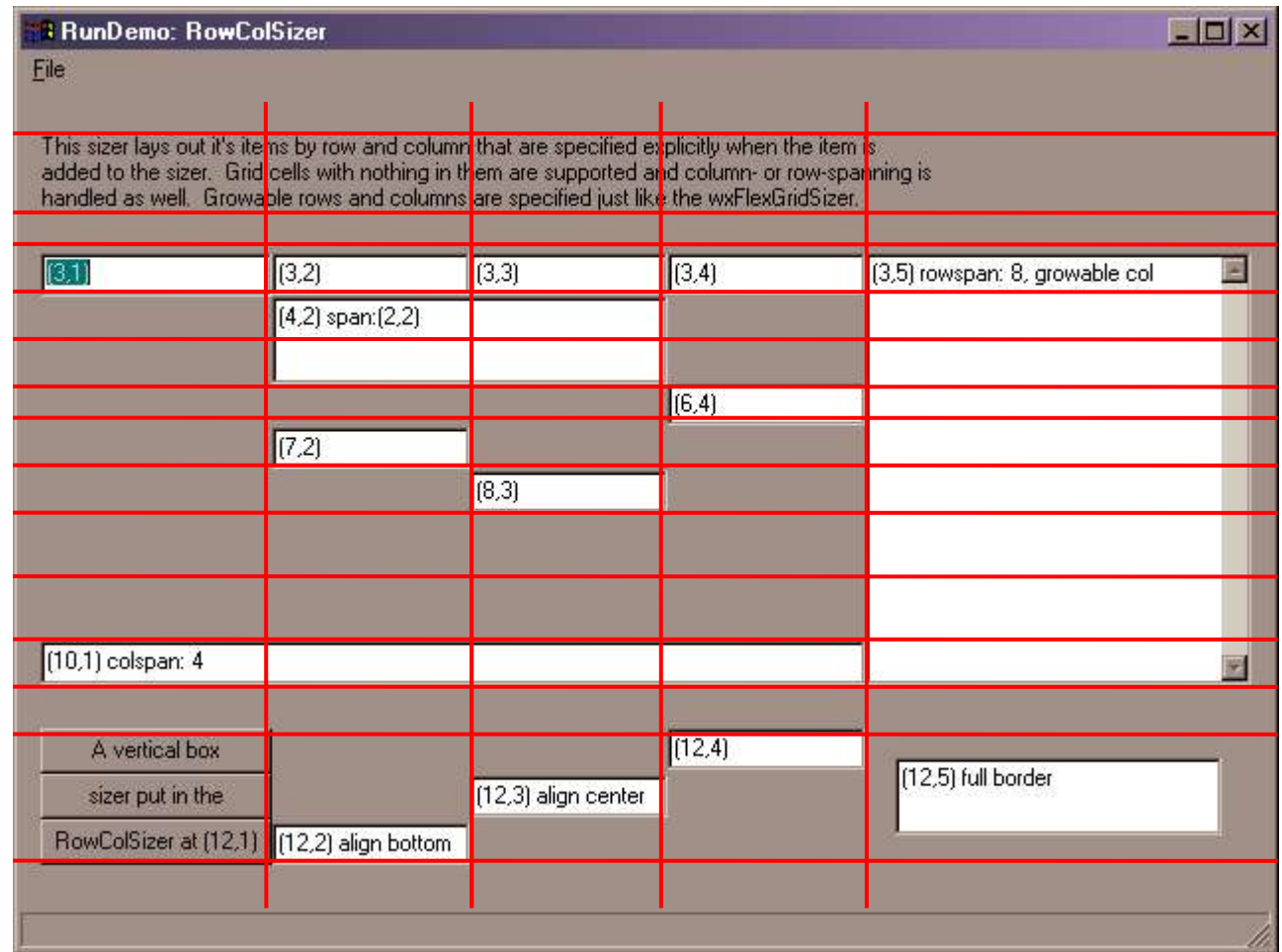
box2.Add(box3, 1, wx.EXPAND)
box.Add(box2, 1, wx.EXPAND)
box.Add(wx.Button(win, 1010, "ten"), 0, wx.EXPAND)
```



# wx.GridSizer

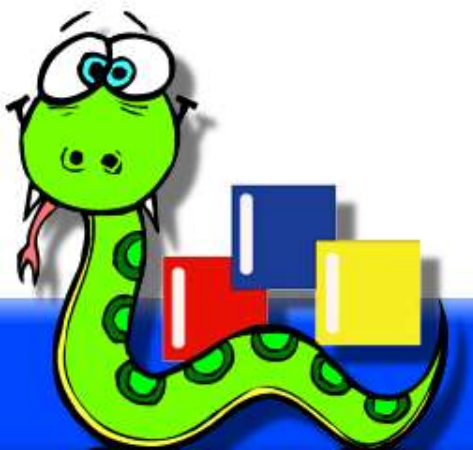


# RowColSizer



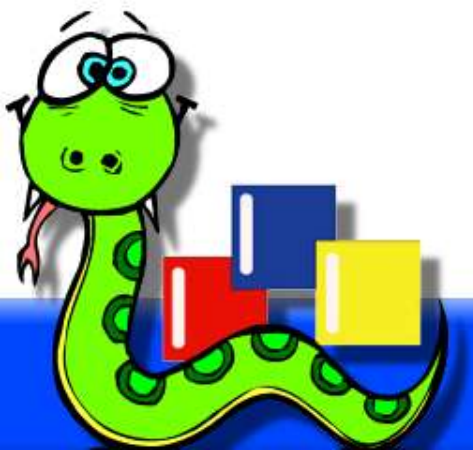
# Drawing

- A `wx.DC` is a *device context* onto which graphics and text can be drawn.
- Represents a number of output devices in a generic way:
  - windows
  - printers
  - bitmaps
  - the whole screen
- The same code may be used to draw on different devices.



# Drawing

- DC's have many drawing primitives:
  - DrawArc, DrawBitmap, DrawEllipse, DrawLine, DrawLines, DrawPoint, DrawPolygon, DrawRectangle, DrawRoundedRectangle, DrawSpline, DrawText
- And work with GDI objects:
  - wx.Font, wx.Bitmap, wx.Brush, wx.Pen, wx.Mask, wx.Icon, etc.



# Code break...

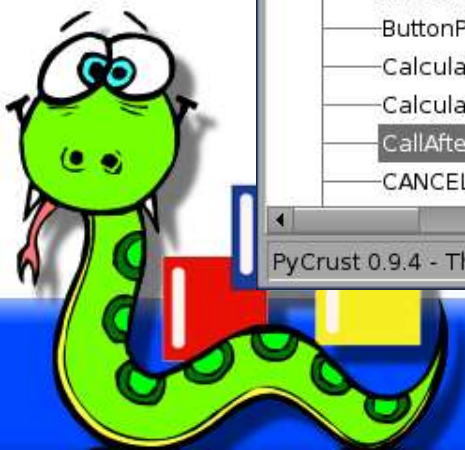


# Debugging with PyCrust

- Interactive Python Shell
- 100% Python
- Part of wxPython
- Standalone App
- Embeddable Components



```
PyCrust
File Edit Options Help
1 PyCrust 0.9.4 - The Flakiest Python Shell
2 Sponsored by Orbtech - Your source for Python programming expertise.
3 Python 2.3 (#2, Aug 31 2003, 17:27:29)
4 [GCC 3.3.1 (Mandrake Linux 9.2 3.3.1-1mdk)] on linux2
5 Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
6 >>> import wx
7 >>> f = wx.Frame(None, -1, "Hello World")
8 >>> p = wx.Panel(f)
9 >>> b = wx.Button(p, -1, "Click me", (10,10))
10 >>> f.Show()
    Show(bool show=True) -> bool
    Shows or hides the window. You may need to call Raise for a top level
    window if you want to bring it to top, although this is not needed if
    Show is called immediately after the frame creation. Returns True if
    the window has been shown or hidden or False if nothing was done
    because it already was in the requested state.
Namespace Display Calltip Session Dispatcher
- BusyInfoPtr
- Button
- Button_GetDefaultS
- ButtonNameStr
- ButtonPtr
- CalculateLayoutEve
- CalculateLayoutEve
- CallAfter
- CANCEL
wx.CallAfter
Type: <type 'function'>
Value: <function CallAfter at 0x413bc48c>
Docstring:
"""Call the specified function after the current and pending event
handlers have been completed. This is also good for making GUI
method calls from non-GUI threads."""
PyCrust 0.9.4 - The Flakiest Python Shell, Sponsored by Orbtech - Your source for Python programming expertise.
```





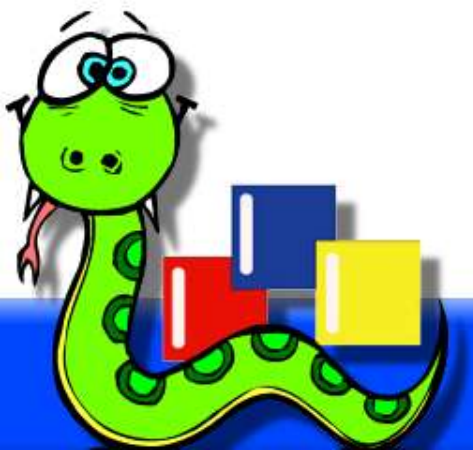
# PyCrust Embeddable Components

- Interactive Shell:  
`py.shell`
- Namespace Viewer:  
`py.filling`
- Integrated Combo:  
`py.crust`



# PyCrust Features

- Colorized Python Code
- Attribute/Method Auto-Completion
- Function/Method Calltips
- Multiline Command Editing
- Command History/Recall



# PyCrust demo...



# Other tools

- wxDesigner
- Boa Constructor
- wxGlade
- WingIDE
- PythonCard
- Chandler



# Questions?



# Last minute additions

- Slides of this presentation are available at:  
<http://wxPython.org/OSCON2004/basic/>

