Artem Kirienko

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

Aspiring Software Engineer with a strong foundation in graphics programming, real-time systems, and multithreaded development. Adept at designing and implementing custom game engines, optimizing performance, and creating scalable frameworks for complex systems. Seeking to leverage my expertise in DirectX, HLSL, C++, and Software Design Patterns knowledge to deliver cutting-edge real-time technology.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- C++ Software Engineer for a NASA-funded project on Drone Traffic Management Ecosystem.
- Proven experience in Real-Time Game Systems and Multithreaded Development.
- Experience working with large-scale projects (150+ classes).
- Competitive character, striving to be the best of the best and compete against smarter people.
- Demonstrated analytical and quantitative problem-solving skills.
- Proven capacity to manage workloads under extreme time pressure and deadlines.
- Fluent in English and Russian(native speaker).

| EDUCATION |
|---|
| DePaul University (Chicago, IL) |
| Master of Science in Software Engineering |
| Concentration on Real-Time Game Systems |
| University of South Florida (Tampa, FL) |
| RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE |

Additional information, pictures and demo videos of the projects below can be found at:

Game Engine Development [C++/DirectX 11/Google Protocol Buffers]

- Designed and programmed a custom game engine from scratch using **DirectX**, **HLSL**, and **C++**, showcasing expertise in graphics programming and real-time rendering.
- Engineered a robust framework to encapsulate high-level abstractions such as meshes, textures, cameras, lights, etc., enhancing scalability and modularity.
- Developed **skeletal animation** and **mesh skinning** systems, enhancing the engine with realistic character animation through matrix transformations and efficient execution through DirectX Compute Shaders.
- Compressed animation clip data by a factor of ~3x with no perceivable visual degradation, optimizing memory usage and improving runtime performance.
- Programmed HLSL shaders to handle multiple dynamic and static lights in the scene including Point, Directional, Spot and Area lights based on Blinn-Phong BRDF.
- Implemented a **Volumetric Deferred Lighting Pipeline** capable of efficiently handling up to **10,000 lights** (~360 lights with forward lighting) in a scene with no noticeable drop in framerate, enabling realistic and scalable lighting effects.
- Programmed custom **static libraries** to support the engine framework, including a **Math library** for vector, matrix and quaternion operations, a **Memory library** for efficient memory management, and an **Object library** for game objects hierarchies and resource handling.
- Created an **offline mesh conversion tool** to process and convert .glb files into an engine-compatible format, ensuring seamless integration and reducing runtime overhead using Google Protocol Buffers.
- Conducted thorough debugging and performance profiling using tools such as **RenderDoc** and **Visual Studio Graphics Debugger**, enhancing engine stability and efficiency.

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Drone Traffic Management Ecosystem [C++/Unreal Engine 5]

- Collaborated with a team of six programmers to develop a **NASA-funded** drone traffic management system, using **C++** and **Unreal Engine 5** to create a scalable and efficient ecosystem.
- Owned the implementation of a **video streaming feature** using **GStreamer**, enabling real-time transmission from drone cameras to a dedicated server using the **RTP protocol** and **H.264 video format**.
- Optimized the project's multithreading architecture, improving system responsiveness under high-load conditions.
- Performed local code optimizations to boost overall performance and ensure efficient system operations.
- Contributed to the development of the system's **networking architecture**, ensuring reliable communication between drones and servers for real-time data exchange.
- Delivered a robust and optimized solution for drone traffic management, demonstrating expertise in real-time video streaming, networking, and multithreaded programming.

Omega Race Multiplayer Networking Layer [C#/.NET/Lidgren Network]

- Enhanced an existing codebase for Omega Race game by adding a networking layer, transforming it into a multiplayer game with a **Client-Server architecture** for two players.
- Developed robust communication systems using the Lidgren networking library, enabling seamless packet transmission between clients and a central server.
- Implemented data-driven queues for efficient packet management, ensuring reliable message exchange over the network.
- Achieved precise game state synchronization with **Cristian's algorithm** for clock synchronization and a **Lock-Step protocol**, ensuring deterministic and consistent gameplay across clients.
- Designed and implemented Client-Side Prediction and Dead Reckoning techniques to compensate for network latency, enhancing responsiveness and player experience.
- Created a debugging Record/Playback tool that records game sessions in real-time and allows playback to reproduce and diagnose errors, improving the debugging process and system reliability.
- Delivered a fully functional multiplayer networking layer, showcasing expertise in real-time networking, latency compensation, and debugging tools.

Game Performance Optimization [C++]

- Reengineered core data structures to improve memory usage and data caching, achieving a **10x speed boost** in system performance.
- Optimized the **vector** and **matrix math library** by leveraging **SIMD Intrinsics**, resulting in a **5x performance improvement** in mathematical computations.
- Developed a custom heap-based memory system, providing a 3x speed increase over the default Microsoft memory management system.
- Implemented a Load-In-Place technique to accelerate data initialization, delivering a 7x speed improvement in startup times.
- <u>Final Project Achievement</u>: Refactored a **200,000-particle game system** for a class competition, achieving a **20x speed boost**, marking the best performance in the 16-year history of the course.
 - Removed costly matrix multiplication operations from the game loop, integrating a **SIMD-optimized math library** for real-time performance.
 - Designed a **project-specific memory scheme** to minimize and consolidate memory allocations, enhancing resource efficiency.
 - Applied **Return Value Optimization (RVO)** to eliminate unnecessary temporary constructions, reducing runtime overhead.
 - Transitioned the project from **double** to **float** data types, significantly reducing computational weight and improving processing speed.

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Multithreaded Game Audio Engine [C++/XAudio2]

- Engineered a real-time multithreaded game audio engine leveraging the Actor Model architecture, with 7 independently running threads handling distinct tasks across a codebase of over 7,000 lines.
- Harnessed the XAudio2 framework to extract, process, and play raw audio data, implementing extended functionality using XAudio2 Callbacks and Attributes.
- Designed and implemented a thread communication system using the Command design pattern and a Circular Queue data structure to efficiently pass commands between threads.
- Built a custom **Handle Library** utilizing **C++ mutexes** to ensure thread-safe access to shared resources.
- Developed a linked list-based Manager Library for efficient asset management, ensuring memory integrity and preventing leaks.
- Created an **Error Handling System** that processes and resolves runtime errors on a dedicated thread, enhancing engine stability and reliability.

Space Invaders Game Remake [C#/.NET]

- Implemented the legacy arcade game Space Invaders, employing 10 Object-Oriented Design Patterns, such as Singleton, Observer, Proxy, Null Object etc., to achieve a modular and scalable codebase.
- Constructed the game with **149 classes** across more than **9,000 lines of code** (2,550 lines of executable code), demonstrating advanced software design and development skills.
- Programmed core gameplay mechanics, enabling the game to **draw**, **move**, and **animate sprites**, process keyboard inputs, and handle **sprite collisions** for interactive gameplay.
- Integrated the irrKlang Audio Library to produce dynamic sound effects for alien movement, missile shooting, and background music, enhancing player immersion.
- Implemented an **Object Pooling Method** to minimize dynamic memory allocations, significantly improving game performance and resource efficiency.
- Developed an Object Collision System leveraging early-out techniques and Visitor and Composite
 Design Patterns to optimize collision detection and eliminate unnecessary computation during gameplay.
- Created a **Font System** using the **Flyweight Design Pattern** to efficiently render the player's score, level labels, and menu options, reducing memory usage while maintaining visual quality.

Other Research Areas [C++/C#/.NET]

- Real-Time Collision Detection.
- Real-Time Multithreaded Architecture.
- Applied Algorithms and Data Structures.

_ WORK EXPERIENCE _____

C++ Software Engineer for a NASA-funded project at DePaul University (Chicago, IL)....9/2024 – Present

____ TECHNICAL SUMMARY __

Programming languages: C, C++, HLSL, C#, CUDA C/C++.

Libraries and API: DirectX 11, Unreal Engine 5 API, CUDA, GStreamer, Win32, .Net, XAudio2.

Networking Protocols: TCP, UDP/RTP, IP.

Software and IDEs: Unreal Engine 5, Visual Studio Enterprise.

Software Engineering: UML, Test-driven and Data-driven development.

Version Control: Perforce. **Platforms:** Windows.