Cindy Marie Méndez Avilés

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Final Report: Flappy Box

Description of the Project

Flappy Box is quite similar to the popular mobile game Flappy Bird. The game is a side-scroller where the player controls a box, attempting to jump between rows of pipes without coming into contact with them. If the player touches the pipes, it ends the game. Basic shapes, translation and scaling have been used in the program to emulate the same experience as to when the user plays Flappy Bird.

Design of the System

The game has been designed and developed in Javascript and WebGL using translation, and scaling. The box is of the boxes done in class, with a little bit of scaling to make it smaller. The program checks for collisions in the Y axis, between pipes and the box. Every time that a pipe gets passed correctly one point is awarded, and if a collision is detected then the program ends. After the game is over, the system will check if the score is a new highscore and if it is, the new high score will be saved. Lastly, the user has the ability to restart the game by pressing the 'R' letter.

Implementation Tools

- WebGL
- JavaScript
- HTML

Special Features

- Collision when the box touches any of the pipes which means that the game is over.
- Every time the box passes a pipe one point will be added to the score.
- To make the box go up the spacebar must be pressed.
- A sound will be made every time the player gets a point, when the box goes up and when a collision occurs, indicating a game over.
- The position between pipes where the box needs to go through is generated randomly.
- The system will track highscores in every session.
- To restart the game, the 'R' letter must be pressed.

Implementation Details

- A model matrix is used for all the scaling and transposing.
- Several control variables have been created to manage the game:

 Those variables get updated throughout the program to simulate a game just like flappy bird. The variables either get updated through the render function or through user's input • User's input is captured to play the game, we capture the events in JS to start the game (Enter), to make the box hop (Space) and restart the game (R).

```
document.onkeydown = function (ev) {
      case 32: if(isGameOver == 0 && start == 1){
                 yTranslation -= 0.15;
                 var audio = new Audio('Sounds/sfx_wing.wav');
                 audio.play();
               } break;
      case 13: if(isGameOver == 0) {
                 start = 1;
                 document.getElementById("score").innerHTML = "Score: " + score;
               } break;
      case 82: if(isGameOver == 1){
                 yTranslation = 0.000001;
                 start = 0;
                 isGameOver = 0;
                 firstTime = 1;
                 score = 0;
                 xMovement = 0;
                 randomNess[3] = 0;
                 for (i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
                   randomNess[i] = (1 + Math.floor(Math.random() * 10)) * 0.1;
                   var zeroOrOne = Math.floor(Math.random() * 2);
                   if (zero0r0ne == 1)
                     randomNess[i] = -randomNess[i];
                 document.getElementById("score").innerHTML = "Press Enter"
                    + "to Start!<br> <br> Current High Score: " + highScore;
               } break;
```

The safe spot is generated randomly.

```
randomNess[3] = 0;
//Tenemos el for loop que va por los remaining pipes, y para cada posicion
//se crea un valor random que va desde -1 a 1 en incrementos de .1. Estos
//valores se usan para posicionar el espacio seguro entre pipes donde el
//box tiene que pasar aleatoreamente
for (i = 0; i < 3; i++)
{
    randomNess[i] = (1 + Math.floor(Math.random() * 10)) * 0.1;
    var zeroOrOne = Math.floor(Math.random() * 2);
    //Anadimos valores negativos de vez en cuando aleatoreamente
    if (zeroOrOne == 1)
        randomNess[i] = -randomNess[i];
}</pre>
```

 The program gets printed once before everything starts. Once the user hits the start button the renderization gets going until a game over occurs.

```
//Funcion para renderizar nuestro programa
function render()
{
    //Si la variable de control de start es cierto, el programa continua el
    //rendering. La variable de control firstTime la usamos para imprimir la
    //pantalla una vez cuando sube el programa
    if(start == 1 || firstTime == 1)
    {
        initBuffers(vertexColorGreen, vertices, indices);
        gl.clear( gl.COLOR_BUFFER_BIT | gl.DEPTH_BUFFER_BIT);
}
```

• Every time the box passes a pipe a point is awarded. Here's how it was achieved:

```
//Si el movimiento en x es .3, aproximado, ese es el momento en el que
//el box pasa el pipe. Se añade un punto y suena el sonido del punto
if (xMovement > .298 && xMovement < .3) {
    score++;
    var audio = new Audio('Sounds/sfx_point.wav');
    audio.play();
    //El score se le da update en el HTML
    document.getElementById("score").innerHTML = "Score: " + score;
}</pre>
```

To have random safe zones the following was done:

```
if (xMovement > .5)
 xMovement = 0;
 var tempArray = [0, 0, 0, 0];
 for (i = 0; i < 4; i++)
   tempArray[i] = randomNess[i];
 randomNess[0] = (1 + Math.floor(Math.random() * 10)) * 0.1;
 var zeroOrOne = Math.floor(Math.random() * 2);
 if (zero0r0ne == 1)
    randomNess[0] = -randomNess[0];
 randomNess[1] = tempArray[0];
 randomNess[2] = tempArray[1];
 randomNess[3] = tempArray[2];
```

• Randomness stores values from -1 to 1, in .1 increments. Meaning the possible values are -1, -.9, -.8, -.7, -.6 until we reach 1.

• To print the pipes correctly we had to do the following:

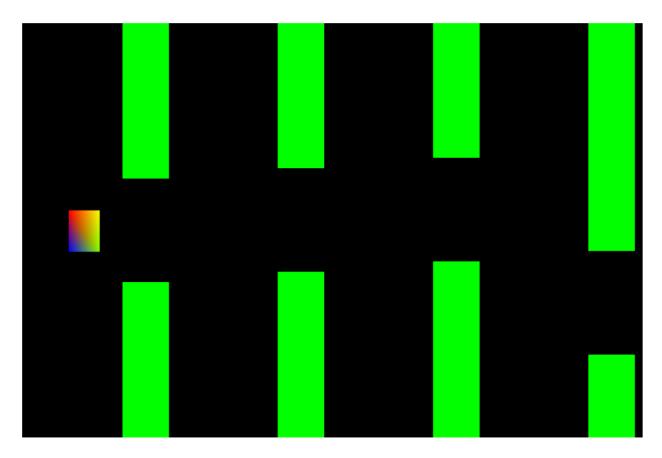
```
for (i = 0; i < 4; i++) {
 modelMatrix = translate((0.9 - xTranslation - xMovement), 1, 0);
 modelMatrix = mult(modelMatrix, scale(.15, 1.5 + randomNess[i], 0));
 gl.uniformMatrix4fv(u_modelMatrix, false, flatten(modelMatrix));
 gl.drawElements( gl.TRIANGLES, indices.length, gl.UNSIGNED BYTE, 0 );
 modelMatrix = translate((0.9 - xTranslation - xMovement), -1, 0);
 modelMatrix = mult(modelMatrix, scale(.15, 1.5 - randomNess[i], 0));
 gl.uniformMatrix4fv(u_modelMatrix, false, flatten(modelMatrix));
 gl.drawElements( gl.TRIANGLES, indices.length, gl.UNSIGNED_BYTE, 0 );
 xTranslation += .5;
 xMovement += 0.0006;
```

• To check for collisions the following was done:

- Once a collision occurs, the game is over and an appropriate message is displayed on screen. Users have the ability to restart the game by hitting the R key.
- Lastly, to print and handle the box movement the following was done:

```
//Cada vez que se renderiza la figura, le restamos un poco a la variable de
//control de yTranslation para que el box baje (esta sube cuando se entra
//un input en el spacebar)
yTranslation += 0.004;
initBuffers(vertexFunColors, vertices, indices);
//Le damos update a nuestra matriz de escalado para el box, usando translacion
modelMatrix = translate(-.8, -yTranslation, 0);
//Y aqui scaling
modelMatrix = mult(modelMatrix, scale(.1, .2, 0));
//Subimos nuestra nueva modelMatrix antes de dibujar nuestro box
gl.uniformMatrix4fv(u_modelMatrix, false, flatten(modelMatrix));
//Dibujamos nuestro box
gl.drawElements(gl.TRIANGLES, indices.length, gl.UNSIGNED_BYTE, 0);
```

And with that, the project was completed successfully. It was a fun project where many of the lessons learned in class were applied in a fun application. The application looks like this:



Press Enter to Start!

Press the Space Bar To Make the Box Go up!

Current High Score: 5

Lessons Learned

- It was a really fun project where I was able to learn how to make a practical application with the concepts shown and taught in class.
- How simple things like translation and scaling can be used to create extremely successful applications.
- I got more understanding of the underlying concepts of graphic engines, which is great.
- Handling collisions and movement is a lot more complicated when you don't have objects or can use powerful design tools.
- How powerful can control variables be to make sure your program works successfully and smoothly.

Possible Future Work

- Better models can be used to make the program look better.
- The ability to make the box go down faster.
- Work on performance, i.e.removing the init buffers inside the render function.
- Add textures
- Create a module for tournaments, or to keep track of highscores over the web.
- Implement this in a 3D environment
- And many other things, the possibilities are endless.

Video Demo

A demo of the program can be found at: https://youtu.be/IGOZ2nNt3jE

Github

https://github.com/Cindy-Mendez/Flappy-Box

Conclusion

In conclusion, I felt like I've learned so many new things with this class and I am extremely grateful for it. It was extremely challenging throughout the semester, and the struggle was real, but definitely worth it as I have expanded my knowledge and my skill set. I am looking forward to my other achievements in computer graphics.