Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager for UTM CSCI 352

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Abstract

"Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" is a modular asset management system for tabletop roleplaying games. The targets for "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" are those who wish to "make it easy" when working with TTRPG assets: dungeon masters and players alike. The project is three fourths of the way through the planning stage of development.

1. Introduction

"Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" is a modular asset management system for tabletop roleplaying games built to assist the user in TTRPG character building and upkeep via gathering information from online databases and organizing the information in an accessible and dynamic manner. We expect the target audience to benefit from "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" due to its ability to better keep track of TTRPG elements in the heat of a game: initiative scores, health points, spell slots, etc.

1.1. Background

Tabletop RPGs, or role-playing games, are an increasingly common hobby in modern society that involve creating and acting out characters in fictional scenarios. One game is typically called a "session," and multiple sessions are called a "campaign." Two such examples of tabletop role-playing games are the widely popular Dungeons and Dragons (5th Edition) and Pathfinder (1st Edition). D&D [5e] and Pathfinder [1e] sessions tend to take place in high fantasy, magical settings; however, their rulesets are incredibly different. D&D [5e] is a simpler model and is thus easier to introduce to new players. Pathfinder [1], however, is better suited to players with some amount of tabletop experience, as there are an abundance of rules, some of which build off of an older model of D&D, that being D&D 3.5 edition. Some terms that would be useful to know are as follows:

Sheet: A page in a character's portfolio, typically used to track their stats, equipment, and/or spells.

1.2. Challenges

A particular challenge in mapping out both the rulesets of D&D 5e and Pathfinder 1e is that, though we have access to source reference documents and particular websites that compile all of the information from several source books and pdfs, there is simply too much information out there (in Pathfinder specifically). In Pathfinder alone we have to compile all of the feats, classes, races, class archetypes, traits, alternate racial abilities, spells, and common equipment. This is a gargantuan undertaking, and a simple solution would simply be to add less content than we hope: to cut out the equipment databases and alternate features in favor of the minimum required amount.

2. Scope

Completion of the project entails the existence of a D&D 5e and Pathfinder 1e character maintenance tool that rivals traditional pen and paper sheets in terms of quality of life assurance and ease of access to information. While this software may not render the pen and paper style obsolete, it should prove valuable as a beginner's introductory tool to tabletop roleplaying or as a reference for rules and monster stats for Dungeon Masters. As for stretch goals we would like to give the user to save their sheet at a .pdf or .txt, and have an automatic initiative roller.

2.1. Requirements

Most requirements for "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" are derived directly from the standard pen and paper style of managing a character. Each requirement listed below deserves to be here because it makes the player's life easier, whether that requirement does something better than pen or paper, or adds new functionality.

Use Case ID	Use Case Name	Primary Actor	Complexity	Priority
1	Closing the Program	User	Low	1
2	Adding a New Entity to "HP Tracker"	User	Low	1
3	Creating a Blank Character Sheet	User	Low	1

TABLE 1. SAMPLE USE CASE TABLE

2.1.1. Functional.

- Users are able to create new characters By clicking on the "New Sheet" button on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window the user is able to create a new character from scratch.
- Users are able to open old sheets By clicking the "Open Sheet" button on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window the user is able to open a saved sheet
- User is able to use the "Make it Easy" functionality to create a new character By selecting the "Make
 it Easy" button on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" the user is able to quickly make a
 character
- Users are able to keep track of the HP of entities Using the "HP tracker" subsection of the "Aetalag
 Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" users should be able to add new entities, edit their values and name,
 and remove entities from the subsection
- Users are able to keep track of the initiative scores of entities Using the "Initiative Tracker" subsection
 of the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" users are able to track the initiative of entities. They
 should be able to add entities, move the initiative along, name the entities, and delete them as well
- Users are able to request more information on the HP, AC, Speed, Saves, and Initiative blocks from the "Character Sheet" window By clicking on the dog ears present on these information block users are able to request more information about the blocks and edit information inside
- Users are able to take long and short rests By clicking the "Short Rest" and or "Long Rest" buttons present on the "Character Sheet" window users can take rests, being prompted by a window
- Users can change program theme using the drop down menu user can change the theme of the program, such as light mode, dark mode, etc
- Users need to have a save file for each character analogous to a sheet of paper this will keep track of all his or her last saved values for said character
- Users need to be able to change the values of a character through text boxes, he or she will be able to alter the character's values, after unlocking said boxes
- The software must not allow incorrect input users should not be able to set their health too high, raise or lower skill levels to strange numbers, etc.
- The software must have all the important information found in the user's handbook each part of the character should be laid out and described for the player, if so desired
- Different tabs for different information a character is usually complex, having backstory, ability stores/feats, class and level, spells, proficiencies and an inventory. This data should be broken down logically into the different tabs: main, skills, equip, spells, ability
- Users have the ability to take notes note taking is an important part of TTRPGs there should be a seperate tab for these notes in the program

2.1.2. Non-Functional.

- Interchangeability The program is easy for the developers to adapt to new TTRPG frameworks
- Speed of loading and saving previous saves and the act of saving must load quickly for the user, in less than two seconds

2.2. Use Cases

Use Case Number: 1

Use Case Name: Closing the Program

Description: The use wants to close out of the program.

- User selects the "x" button on "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window.
- User is prompted by a window, the "Close Program" window. The "Close Program" window has the message:

"Are you sure you want to leave?"

With these three buttons: "Save and Exit" "Exit Without Saving" and "Cancel"

Termination Outcome: If the user selects "Save and Exit", all open sheets are saved, then the program closes all open windows.

If the user selects "Exit Without Saving", the program closes all open windows. If the user selects

"Cancel" the "Close Program" window is closed.

Alternative: User selects the "x" button on the "Close Program" window.

• User selects the "x" button on the "Close Program" window.

Termination Outcome: The "Close Program" window is closed, similar to the "Cancel" button.

Use Case Number: 2

Use Case Name: Adding a new entity to "HP Tracker"

Description: User wants to create a new entity to the "HP Tracker" section on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window. Allowing them to quickly view HP.

- User Selects the "+" button present to the top right of the "HP Tracker" section of the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window.
- A new HP bar appears with the fillable fields: "Enter Name" and "0/0" as current and max health, which each can be edited.
- User fills out these fields.

Termination Outcome: User has a new filled HP tracker.

Use Case Number: 3

Use Case Name: Creating a Blank Character Sheet

Description: The user wants to create a new character from scratch (without using the "Make It Easy" functionality).

- User Selects "New Sheet" button on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window.
- A blank sheet is opened in a new window.
- The user will then be able to fill out any blank fields in the sheet.

Termination Outcome: User has a new filled sheet.

Alternative: Sheet Manager window is already open

- User Selects "New" on the "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" window.
- A blank sheet is opened in a new window.
- The user will then be able to fill out any blank fields in the sheet.

2.3. Interface Mockups

3. Project Timeline

1) Requirements:

We plan to have all of our requirements established by the submission and review of the first project proposal draft on the 10th of February, 2020.

2) Design:

We plan for our major design decisions to be fleshed out by March 12th.

3) Implementation:

We hope to have finished implementing the primary, promised functionality of "Aetalag Tabletop RPG Asset Manager" by April 10th.

4) Verification:

We hope to have fixed all bugs and leaks by April 14th.

5) Maintenance:

After the end of April, any additional functionality and systems could be added at any point in the future.

4. Project Structure

Beginning the program the user is greeted by the Asset Manager window. This window is used to: track HP, track iniative, open sheets, and create new sheets, using "New Sheet" or "Make It Easy."

Once the user has opened a sheet the project is broken down Sheet \rightarrow Tabs. Each tab calls on the sheet. If the tab needs to know ability score is will go through the Strategy/Observer pattern created in this project.

The Skills, Equip, Spells, and Notes Tabs all make use of some variation of the Tab \rightarrow Window \rightarrow Object structure. This structure is used to standardize the creation and use of many object in the program.

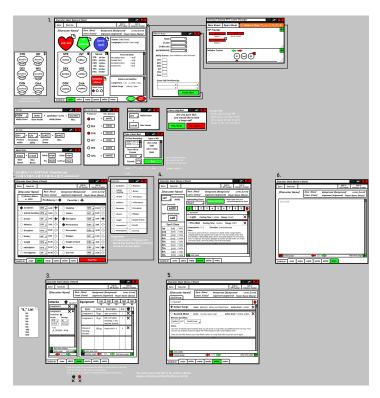


Figure 1. This is the entire user interface laid out.

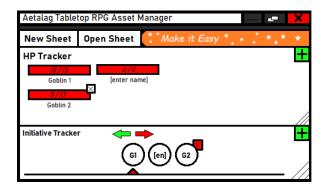


Figure 2. This is the window that the user will be welcomed with. Allowing them to take paths to all functionality. Has use cases 1, 2, and 3.

4.1. UML Outlines

4.2. Design Patterns Used

We have a Strategy/Observer hybrid pattern implemented. Also normal observer patterns are to be implemented.

5. Results

As of handin four Chase and I have designed the project, both in UML and in GUI. Now all is needed is to begin development.

5.1. Future Work

Where are you going next with your project? For early deliverables, what are your next steps? (HINT: you will typically want to look back at your timeline and evaluate: did you meet your expected goals? Are you ahead of schedule? Did you

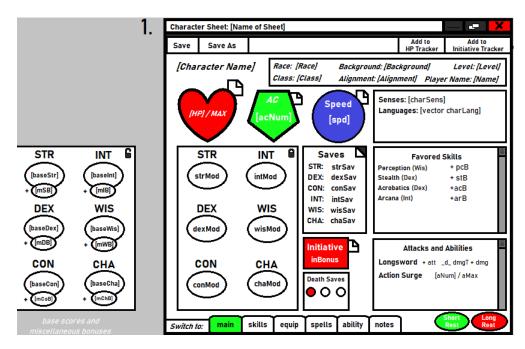


Figure 3. This is the window that the user will use to interact with the most of their characters information. This is the result of use case 3.

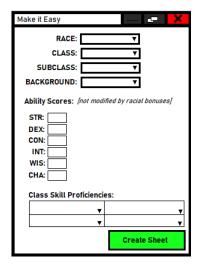


Figure 4. This is the window that the user will use to create a character easily.

decide to shift gears and implement a new feature?) By the end, what do you plan on doing with this project? Will you try to sell it? Set it on fire? Link to it on your resume and forget it exists?

References

[1] H. Kopka and P. W. Daly, A Guide to ETEX, 3rd ed. Harlow, England: Addison-Wesley, 1999.

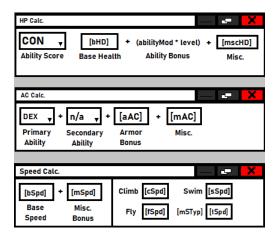


Figure 5. These are the windows that are present from the dog eared, HP, AC, and Speed buttons.

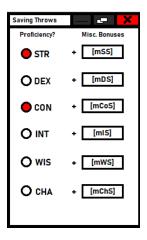


Figure 6. This window comes from the dog ear of the "Saving Throws" subsection of the Character Sheet.

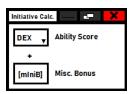


Figure 7. This window comes from the dog ear of the "Iniative" subsection of the Character Sheet.



Figure 8. These windows come from the "Short Rest" and "Long Rest" buttons on the "Character Sheet" main window

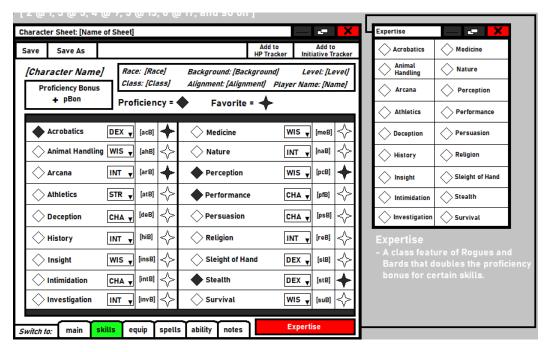


Figure 9. This window comes from the "Skills" tab of the "Character Sheet" window.

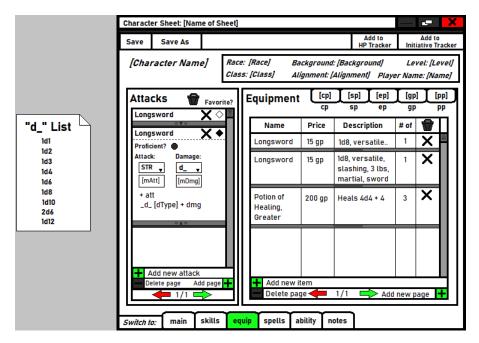


Figure 10. This window comes from the "Equip" tab of the "Character Sheet" window.

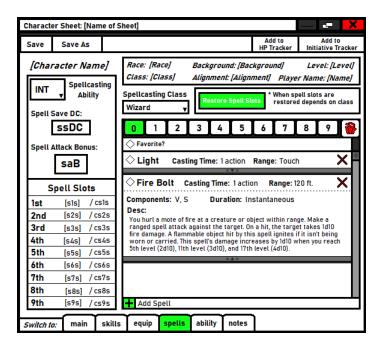


Figure 11. This window comes from the "Spells" tab of the "Character Sheet" window.

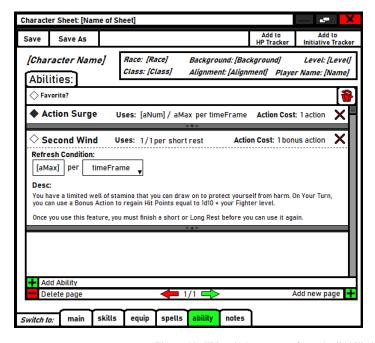


Figure 12. This window comes from the "Ability" tab of the "Character Sheet" window.

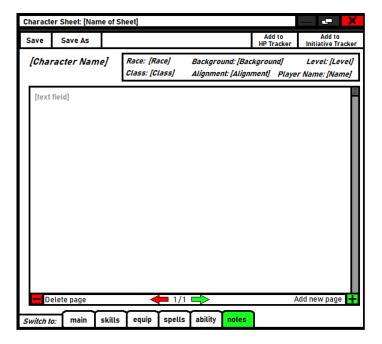


Figure 13. This window comes from the "Notes" tab of the "Character Sheet" window.

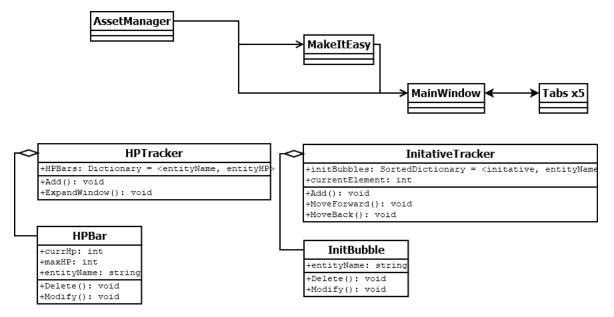


Figure 14. UML for the Asset Manager window.

Figure 15. UML for the Make It Easy window.

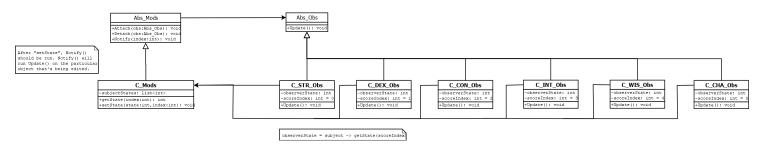


Figure 16. UML for a mesh between the Strategy and Observer Pattern.

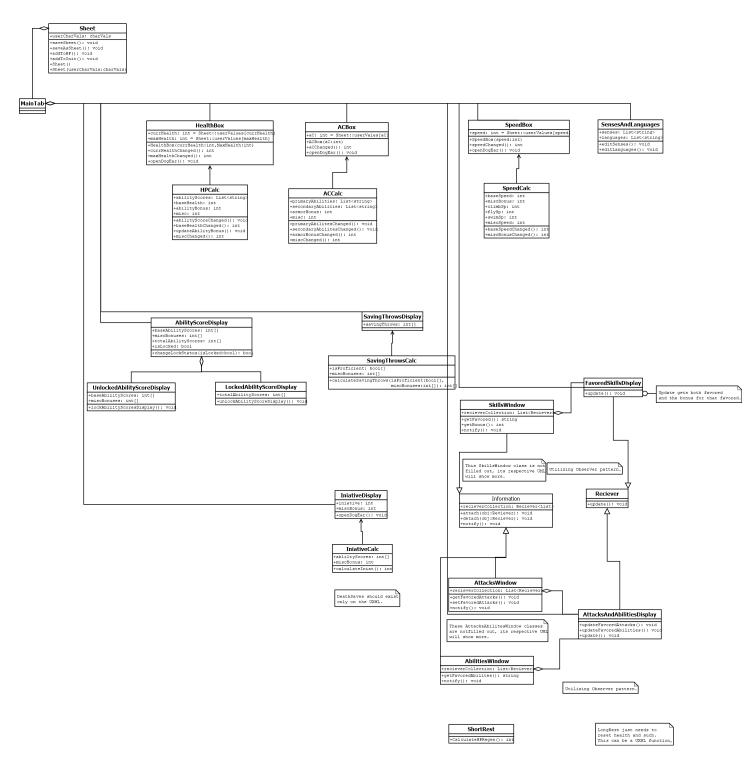


Figure 17. UML for the Main Tab window.

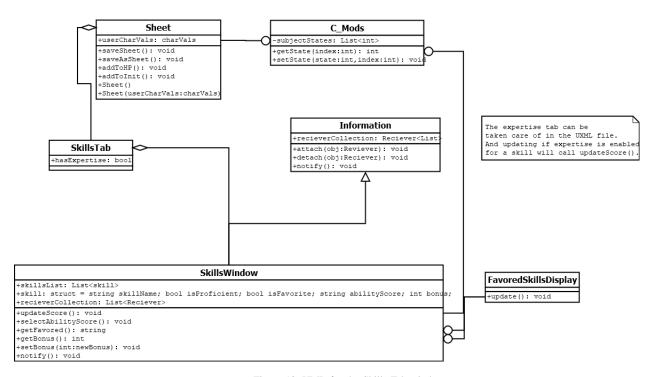


Figure 18. UML for the Skills Tab window.

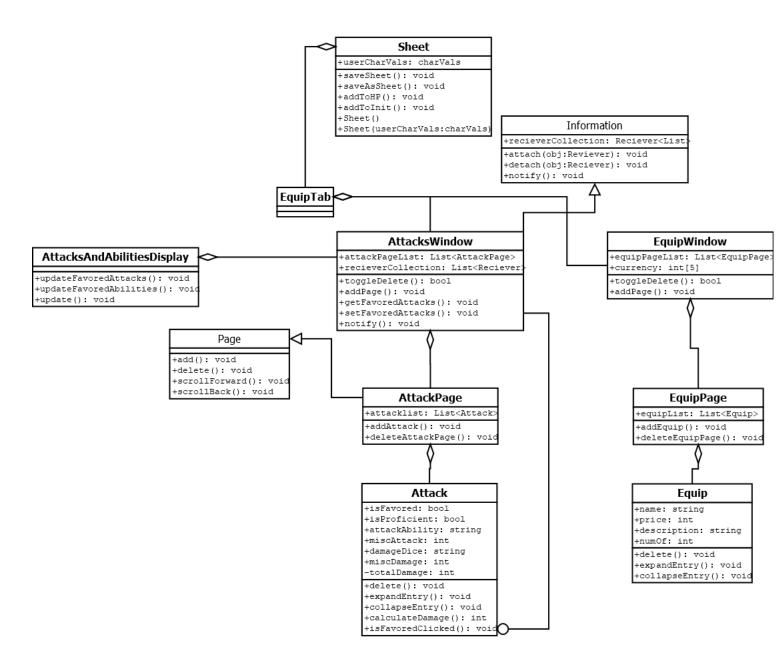


Figure 19. UML for the Equip Tab window.

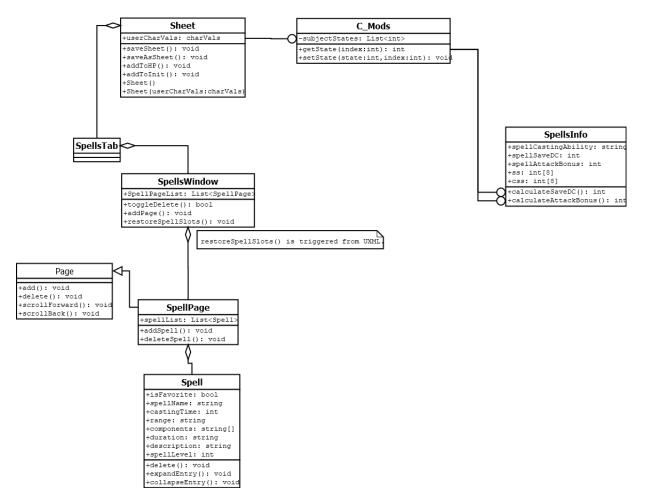


Figure 20. UML for the Spells Tab window.

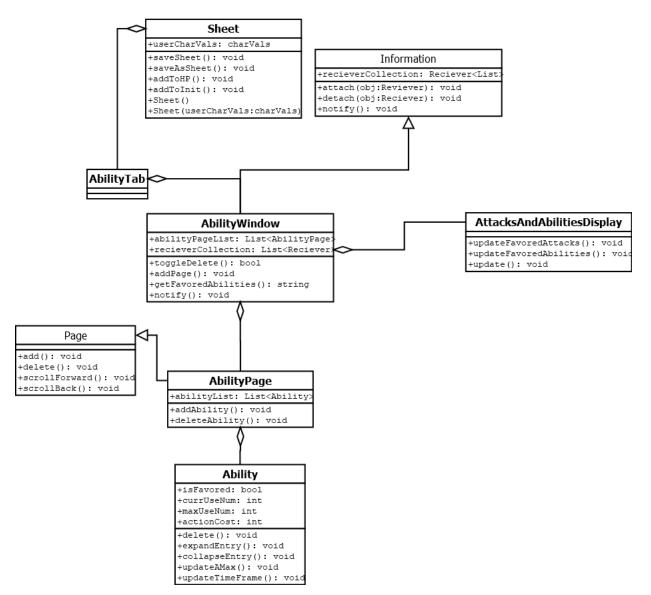


Figure 21. UML for the Abilites Tab window.

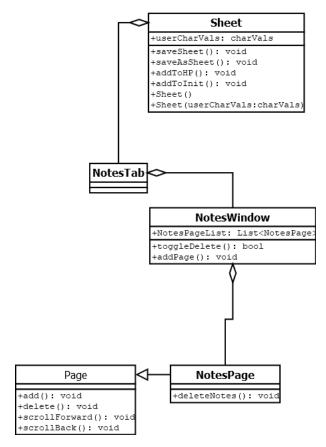


Figure 22. UML for the Notes Tab window.