SmartPeerJS: A library for turning smartphone in interactive controller

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Motivation

- Almost everyone owns a smartphone with good processing power and an array of sensors
- Touchscreen for various game controllers joystick, NES/Playstation style controller, camera for hand tracking or object recognition, accelerometer for racing games
- Smartphone controllers are free and require no software installation



Leap motion controller



Makey makey invention kit

Goals

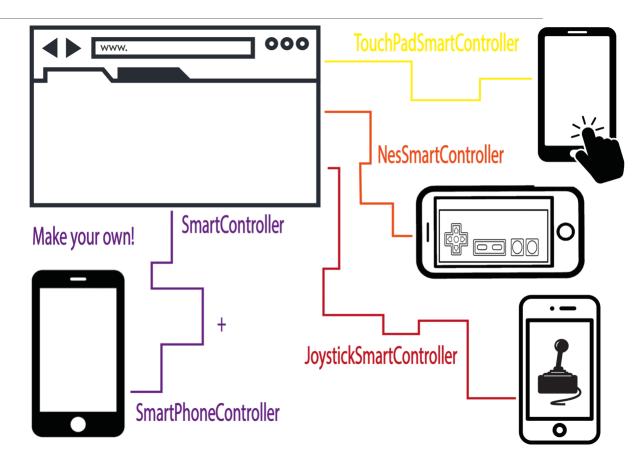
- Automatic connection handling
- Supporting multiplayer
- Hosting pre-made controllers
- Easy way of creating new controllers
- Creating a GitHub organization for the library
- Making user documentation, tutorials and demos
- Publishing the library on npm



SmartController organization logo

Design

- Survey to name the library, suggestions included web smartphone controller, game controller, rtc smart controller, JS P2P smartphone game
- Use WebRTC and PeerJS to connect smartphone via QR code
- SmartController manages the connection in the computer browser, SmartPhoneController is responsible for the smartphone side



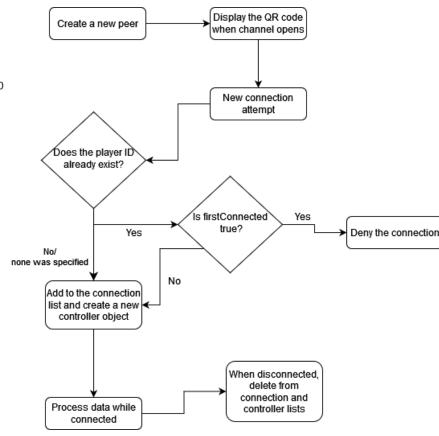
Simplified SmartController structure

Implementation

Use of PeerJS



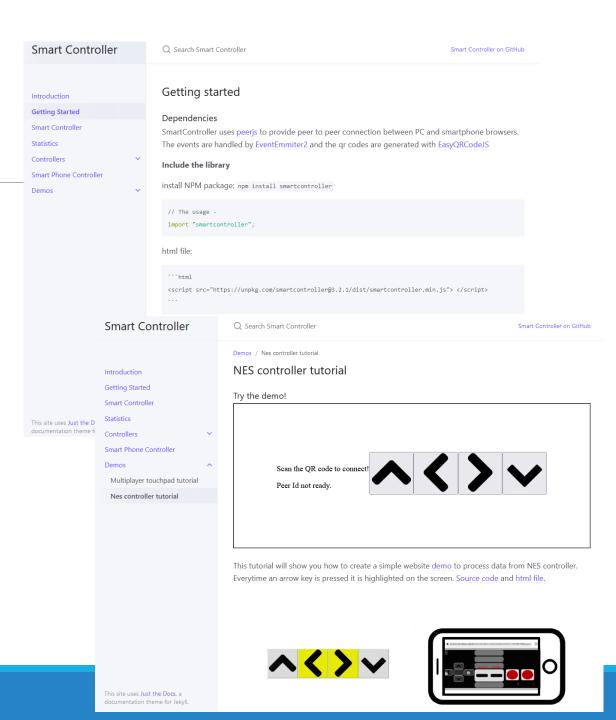
- Qr code method https://smartcontrollerjs.github.io/Controllers/joystick.html?id=1234567&playerid=1&throttle=20
- Events with EventEmitter2
- Statistics ping, user message rate, statistics message rate
- SmartPhoneController send method and message throttle



Basic SmartController flowchart

Working with users

- While developing the library I worked with two fellow students who used it to create their own projects
- There were weekly meetings where we discussed and issues or problems they had, or any functionalities that they needed but the library did no offer yet
- At the end I conducted a short interview to find out their overall experience of working with the library

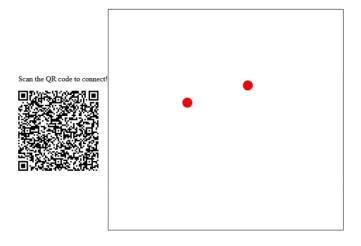


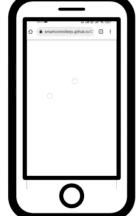
Demos

- Showcase the library functionalities
- Tutorials for new users













Thank you for your attention!