University of Calgary CPSC 585 — Winter 2019 — Games Programming

Project A
High-Concept Design Document

Team A

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High-level Design Team A

1 Game Design

Project A is a combat-based driving game aimed to test your skill against a team of AI. The player finds themselves in an arena pitted against 4 bots to fight until the player is defeated. Utilizing abilities, power-ups, and the navigating the map, the player must survive as long as possible to take out the never-ending onslaught of bots.

1.1 Game Analysis

Project A at its core is inspired by Mario Kart's battle mode. Elements of the game are also inspired by Tron (1982), and Pac-Man.

1.2 Game Concept

1.3 Game Goals

• The player's central goal is to gain the highest score possible before they lose all their lives and the game ends.

1.4 Game Genre

1.5 Brand Analysis

1.6 Target Market

1.7 Competitive Analysis

Being a single-player game, players would compete to achieve the highest score possible, either against other players, or their own past high scores.

1.8 Gameplay Direction

2 Proposed Features

3 Game Design Elements and Terminology

- 3.1 Story
- 3.2 Terminology
- 3.3 Game Information
- 3.3.1 Arenas
- 3.3.2 Abilities

Movement

- **Standard movement** A hovercraft does not rely on wheels to move and so can traverse in any lateral direction without needing to turn, meaning that strafing is possible.
- Acceleration/braking A hovercraft can accelerate an brake in any direction is it currently moving.
 It will often drift if a turn is made, even at relatively slow speeds, which can be both advantageous and disadvantageous.

• **Dashing** — A hovercraft can dash in any direction, temporarily gaining invulnerability. From a mobility standpoint, dashing can be used to catch up to other hovercrafts, reach power-ups faster, or lose others when being chased. From a defensive standpoint, it can be used to dodge attacks.

Attacks

Every hovercraft has 3 attack abilities that are available from the start of the game.

- Rocket A rocket launches forward straight out from the direction the hovercraft is facing until it hits a surface. Upon impact, it explodes, damaging everything in a radius around it. Being the only ranged attack, it is great for attacking distant enemies if aimed well, or when chasing other vehicles. The splash damage can be utilized with parts of the arena environment to hit enemies near walls easier, or to hit multiple enemies that are grouped together.
- **Spikes** Spikes temporarily extend in all directions from the hovercraft, damaging other vehicles that come in contact with it. Can be used both aggressively and defensively when other vehicles are nearby. It can also be used in combination with dashing to crash into enemies.
- Flame trail A trail of fire is created that follows the players path. Any hovercraft that contacts it is damaged. Great to use when being chased.
- 3.3.3 Power Ups
- 3.3.4 Difficulty
- 3.3.5 Menu

4 Concept Art