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Project Charter

Project Title: Kart Racing Videogame

Date of Authorization: 4th October

Project Start Date: 4th October

Project Finish Date: 13th April

Key Schedule Milestones:

- Have first prototype ready by 1st November
- Have second prototype ready by 29th November
- Get a presentation ready for the Project Stand-up Review by 13rd December
- Have third prototype ready by 27th December
- Have fourth prototype ready by 25th January
- Have fifth prototype ready by 22nd February
- Have the whole project, including documentation ready by 13th April

Budget Information: £6 000 has been allocated for this project. More funds are available, if needed.

Project Manager: David Fodor, fodor-d@ulster.ac.uk

Project Objectives: The objective for this project is to result in a multiplayer video game, which can be sold on the market, make profit, and make the public place their trust in the development team regarding their future endeavours.

Main Project Success Criteria: The software needs to adhere to each of its functional and non-functional requirements that were set out, the software needs to be delivered by the indicated project finish date.

Approach:

- Declare project aims and objectives, choose a project management methodology, gather requirements, and gather hardware and software resources to be used for the project, within the first month.
- Prioritise the requirements, make a Gantt chart and a Work Breakdown Structure, assess risks, and declare version/change management strategy within the first 2 months.
- Conduct sprints that last 4 weeks each, with each sprint containing a sprint backlog, sprint development, testing, and sprint review.
- Follow along with a documentation, for the entirety of the project.
- By the end of sprint 5 in February, determine if there are new features needed to be added, or old features to be refined
- Continue to add optional features until the indicated project finish date

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Name	Role	Position	Contact Information
Tendai Mhlanga	Supervisor	N/A	Tendai.Mhlanga@qa.com
David Fodor	Project Manager	Programmer	Fodor-d@ulster.ac.uk

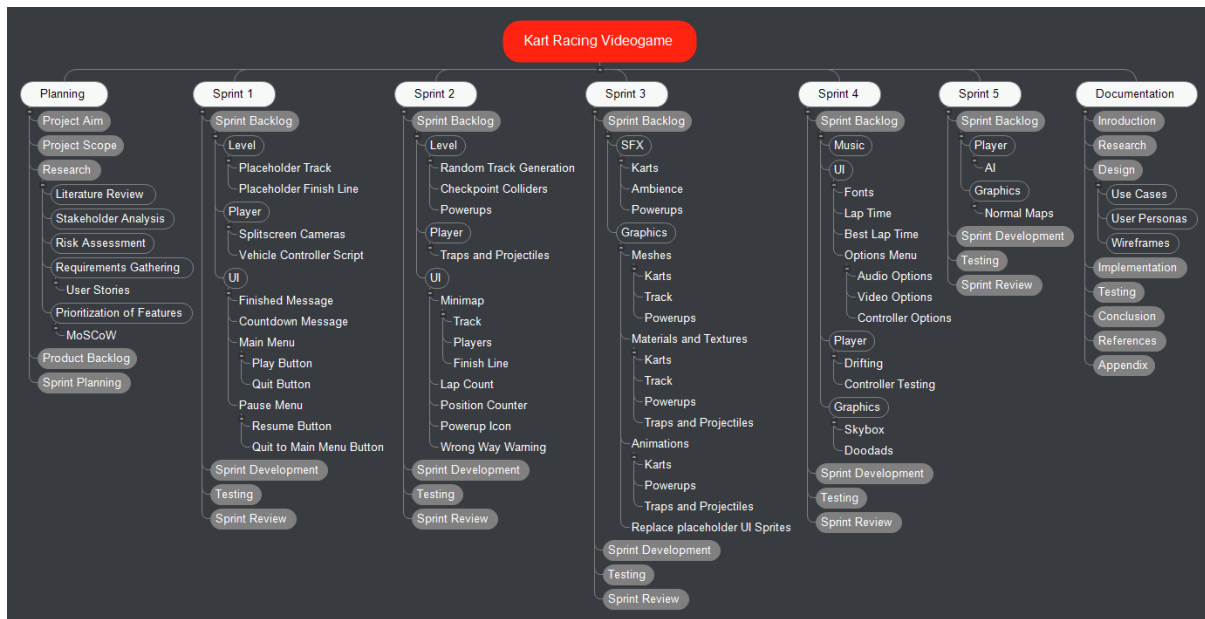
Sign-off: (Signatures of all the above stakeholders)



Comments: (Handwritten or typed comments from above stakeholders, if applicable)

"I am going to work hard in order for this project to turn out as something that I can be proud of." – David Fodor

Work Breakdown Structure



Gantt Chart

Brief version:



Detailed view by each chunk:

1. Planning

Task Name	Duration	Start	End	20 Sep '21	27 Sep '21	4 Oct '21	11 Oct '21
2 Planning	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S
3 Project Aim	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
4 Project Scope	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
5 Research	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
6 Literature Review	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
7 Stakeholder Analysis	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
8 Risk Assessment	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
9 Requirements Gathering	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
10 User Stories	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
11 Prioritization of Features	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
12 MoSCoW	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
13 Product Backlog	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				
14 Sprint Planning	17 days?	20/09/2021	12/10/2021				

2. Sprint 1

Task Name	Duration	Start	End	1 Oct '21	18 Oct '21	25 Oct '21	1 Nov '21	8 Nov '21
15 Sprint 1	14 days?	13/10/2021	01/11/2021	T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
16 Sprint Backlog	13 days?	13/10/2021	29/10/2021					
17 Level	8 days?	13/10/2021	22/10/2021					
18 Placeholder Track	1 day?	13/10/2021	13/10/2021					
19 Placeholder Finish Line	1 day?	22/10/2021	22/10/2021					
20 Player	8 days?	13/10/2021	22/10/2021					
21 Splitscreen Cameras	1 day?	13/10/2021	13/10/2021					
22 Vehicle Controller Script	8 days?	13/10/2021	22/10/2021					
23 UI	6 days?	22/10/2021	29/10/2021					
24 Finished Message	2 days?	22/10/2021	25/10/2021					
25 Countdown Message	2 days?	25/10/2021	26/10/2021					
26 Main Menu	1 day?	27/10/2021	27/10/2021					
27 Play Button	1 day?	27/10/2021	27/10/2021					
28 Quit Button	1 day?	27/10/2021	27/10/2021					
29 Pause Menu	2 days?	28/10/2021	29/10/2021					
30 Resume Button	2 days?	28/10/2021	29/10/2021					
31 Quit to Main Menu Button	2 days?	28/10/2021	29/10/2021					
32 Sprint Development	13 days?	13/10/2021	29/10/2021					
33 Testing	13 days?	13/10/2021	29/10/2021					
34 Sprint Review	1 day?	01/11/2021	01/11/2021					

3. Sprint 2

Task Name	Duration	Start	End	1 Nov '21	8 Nov '21	15 Nov '21	22 Nov '21	29 Nov '21
35 Sprint 2	21 days?	01/11/2021	29/11/2021	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S	S M T W T F S S
36 Sprint Backlog	20 days?	01/11/2021	26/11/2021					
37 Level	14 days?	01/11/2021	18/11/2021					
38 Random Track Generation	6 days?	01/11/2021	08/11/2021					
39 Checkpoint Colliders	1 day?	08/11/2021	08/11/2021					
40 Powerups	4 days?	15/11/2021	18/11/2021					
41 Player	6 days?	19/11/2021	26/11/2021					
42 Traps and Projectiles	6 days?	19/11/2021	26/11/2021					
43 UI	5 days?	09/11/2021	15/11/2021					
44 Minimap	1 day?	09/11/2021	09/11/2021					
45 Track	1 day?	09/11/2021	09/11/2021					
46 Players	1 day?	09/11/2021	09/11/2021					
47 Finish Line	1 day?	09/11/2021	09/11/2021					
48 Lap Count	1 day?	10/11/2021	10/11/2021					
49 Position Counter	1 day?	11/11/2021	11/11/2021					
50 Powerup Icon	1 day?	12/11/2021	12/11/2021					
51 Wrong Way Warning	1 day?	15/11/2021	15/11/2021					
52 Sprint Development	20 days?	01/11/2021	26/11/2021					
53 Testing	20 days?	01/11/2021	26/11/2021					
54 Sprint Review	1 day?	29/11/2021	29/11/2021					

4. Sprint 3

#	Task Name	Duration	Start	End
55	Sprint 3	21 days?	29/11/2021	27/12/2021
56	▢ Sprint Backlog	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
57	▢ SFX	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
58	📅 Karts	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
59	📅 Ambience	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
60	📅 Powerups	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
61	▢ Graphics	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
62	▢ Meshes	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
63	📅 Karts	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
64	📅 Track	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
65	📅 Powerups	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
66	▢ Materials and Textures	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
67	📅 Karts	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
68	📅 Track	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
69	📅 Powerups	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
70	📅 Traps and Projectiles	12 days?	29/11/2021	14/12/2021
71	▢ Animations	8 days?	15/12/2021	24/12/2021
72	📅 Karts	8 days?	15/12/2021	24/12/2021
73	📅 Powerups	8 days?	15/12/2021	24/12/2021
74	📅 Traps and Projectiles	8 days?	15/12/2021	24/12/2021
75	Replace placeholder UI Sprites	3 days?	22/12/2021	24/12/2021
76	📅 Sprint Development	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
77	📅 Testing	20 days?	29/11/2021	24/12/2021
78	📅 Sprint Review	1 day?	27/12/2021	27/12/2021

5. Sprint 4

[illegible]

6. Sprint 5

[illegible]

7. Documentation

	❶	Task Name	Duration	Start	End	Q4 2021				Q1 2022			Q2 2022		Q3 2022			
108		Documentation	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21	Dec '21	Jan '22	Feb '22	Mar '22		May '22	Jun '22	Jul '22	Aug '22	Sep '22
109	📅	Introduction	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
110	📅	Research	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
111	📅	📁 Design	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
112	📅	Use Cases	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
113	📅	User Personas	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
114	📅	Wireframes	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
115	📅	Implementation	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
116	📅	Testing	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
117	📅	Conclusion	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
118	📅	References	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												
119	📅	Appendix	138 days?	04/10/2021	13/04/2022	<div></div>												

Five largest tasks

Tasks that were excluded

Technically, the largest tasks are those related to documentation. However, given that the nature of the documentation is to encompass the entire time the project is being worked on, the time allocated to the documentation wasn't estimated, but simply declared as ranging from the start to the end of the project. For this reason, I have excluded them from my current selection of my five largest tasks.

Similarly, the planning phase was ranging from the date the project idea was conceived, and the date it was authorized (plus one week approximately), so there was no estimation being done, as I only adhered to external dates given to me.

Each sprint has a testing task, which ranges from the start to the end of the sprint, since testing occurs side by side with the development. This means that testing is bound to last for as long as the sprint development does.

Lastly, tasks inside Sprint 5 are allocated more time that they will probably need. Once again, there was no estimation for them; since they are the last foreseeable features to be implemented during the project, they are allocated the standard length that is agreed upon for each sprint, which is 4 weeks.

These exclusions leave us with the following **five largest tasks**, for which time actually had to be estimated:

- Music (21 days)
- SFX (20 days)
- Meshes (12 days)
- Materials and Textures (12 days)
- Animation (8 days)

Reason

It is not a coincidence, that all of the largest tasks are of a creative nature. While other aspects of the project, such as writing code for a particular behaviour or function we want to achieve, are fairly straightforward and linear processes, creative tasks require a different approach.

Inspiration does not always come when it would be convenient for the schedule, and there are a lot of second guesses regarding the end results, depending on the mindset and mood that we are in, when we evaluate them. For this reason, it is important to not underestimate the time we will consume with these processes, even if they seem like they could be done quickly.

While there is a general order in which graphics-related processes are usually done (meshes first, then materials and textures, and then animation), there can be some back and forth, tweaking and retrying until we are satisfied with the end result. For this reason, these tasks have been depicted as sometimes being side by side on the Gantt chart. So even though they are the largest tasks, since they run in parallel, the total time they consume will be less than the sum of each of them.

Time estimate

The PERT (Program Evaluation and Review Technique) formula was used to estimate the time to be allocated to each of the aforementioned tasks:

$$PERT \text{ weighted average} = \frac{\text{optimistic time} + 4 * \text{most likely time} + \text{pessimistic time}}{6}$$

This gives us the following results:

Task	Optimistic Time (Days)	Most Likely Time (Days)	Pessimistic Time (Days)	PERT Weighted Average (Days) - Rounded
Music	7	23	27	21
SFX (Sound Effects)	4	24	20	20
Meshes	6	12	20	12
Materials and Textures	6	12	20	12
Animation	4	8	14	8

References

- Brown, A. S. (2005). *The charter: selling your project*. Paper presented at PMI® Global Congress 2005—North America, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Newtown Square, PA: Project Management Institute.
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- Asana, Inc. (2021). *PERT chart: What it is and how to create one (with examples)* [online] Available at: <https://asana.com/resources/pert-chart> [Accessed 17 Dec. 2021].