(16) Image / Graphics Shapes to (x, y) converter

Preface

Task title:

Program pentru comanda unui utilaj cu comanda numerica

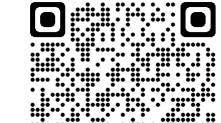
Task description:

- se va scrie un program pentru o masina de taiat cu flama

- programul citeste un fisier care contine traiectoria de taiere (secventa de segmente si arce de cerc) si genereaza comezni pentru deplasarea pe doua directii (x si y) a capului de taiere; deplasarea capului de taiere se va simula pe ecranul calculatorului (Java, C, C++, C# etc.)

Editor details:

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Year of study	3



- Git
- Repo
- QR image URL

I suggest reading the PDF version of this README here https://github.com/GaussianWonder/scs-project/blob/main/README.pdf

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Introduction

Context

The goal of this project is to **design and implement an algorithm** that **converts** an image or a set of graphical shapes into a set of commands that can be used by machines which work on 2D planar workspaces such as:

- Milling and Engraving machines
 - PCB prototype makers
- Plasma cutting machines
- 3D printers
- Drawing machines



This algorithm should be written and packed such that it runs on relevant platforms without the need of language specific adaptations

The **output** of the algorithm should be **encoded simple** enough such that it can be *repurposed / transpiled /* decoded easily in order to match the language the user's machine is using. (ie: via regex transformations or content interpretation)

Specification

The algorithm will be **simulated** in a *configurable* **simulation** that accepts similar (or identical) commands to the output of the algorithm.

Objectives

The objective of this project is to design and implement an algorithm that converts high level graphical content into simple commands that draw outlines of the given graphical abstractions.

Because of the given specification, an implementation of a configurable simulator is required.

Bonus objective

Given enough time, implement a configurable slicing algorithm for 3D objects and sequentially pipe them into the main algorithm described above to further demonstrate its usability.

Bibliographic Study

Since the topic of this project is converting images or 2d primitives into a set of 4 directional move commands, the first thing I research is image processing and 2d primitives such that project requirements can be established.

Image Processing

From previous experience i know that OpenCV is a helpful framework in this regard.

Documentation can be found here and the github page here

OpenCV relevant API:

- Detecting outlines via cv::findContours
- Detecting shapes via cv::convexHull

For this purpose alone, OpenCV is overkill, so any other solutions that solve these problems in particular are well fitted, however implementation time must also be considered.

Edge detection

The Canny Edge Detector is an algorithm that solves this particular problem.

High Level steps:

- Grayscale Conversion
- Noise reduction / Blurring
 - Gaussian Blur
 - OpenCV example
- Determining Intensity Gradients
 - Detect edge intensity and direction by using edge detection operators
 - Sobel operator
- Non-Maximum Suppresion
 - This can be thought out as the thinning of the currently calculated outlines
- Double Thresholding
 - o Filter out pixels by intensity
 - Strong
 - Weak
 - Non relevant
- Edge Tracking by Hysteris
 - Transform weak pixels into strong ones
- Cleanup
 - o Iterate through remaining weak edges and remove them

Articles that target this approach can be found here and here

There are other algorithms that can acomplish this as well, such as the Scharr filter and Sobel filter

Convex hulling

Although not necessary, it can be of use when debugging or for future features.

This is currently marked as not a requirement

2D Primitives

The list of 2D Graphics Primitives is pretty narrow:

- Point
- Line
 - 1st degree curve
- Polygon
- Ellipse
- Curve
 - Handy list of algebraic curves can be found here
 - Bézier curve
 - Examples of this can be found on p5.js source guided by it's documentation
 - Calculating the bounding box
 - Centripetal Catmull–Rom spline

I did not include particular shapes of other listed items (such as triangles, rectangles,... which derive from polygons, circles which can be generated from ellipses,...)

Programming language

The second most important thing is the programming language that powers the whole system.

The algorithm that performs the conversion must be a standalone that works with commandline arguments in order to fit some criterias specified during the **Introduction**. Because of this, it does not matter what language I use for this part of the system, as long as algorithmic requirements established during the Bibliographic Study are also met.

Eventhough the simulation is not tied in any way to the algorithm mentioned above, I want both of them to be constructed using the same language and resources.

As far as the Simulator is concerned, I want it to live in a powerful, fast environment capable of creative graphics via any means available (ie: OpenGL)

Memory safety and Thread safety are important for this specific tasks. Given the generic nature this has to be implemented in, it follows that it should support batch processing in order to be included in other systems.

RUST

A language empowering everyone to build reliable and efficient software.

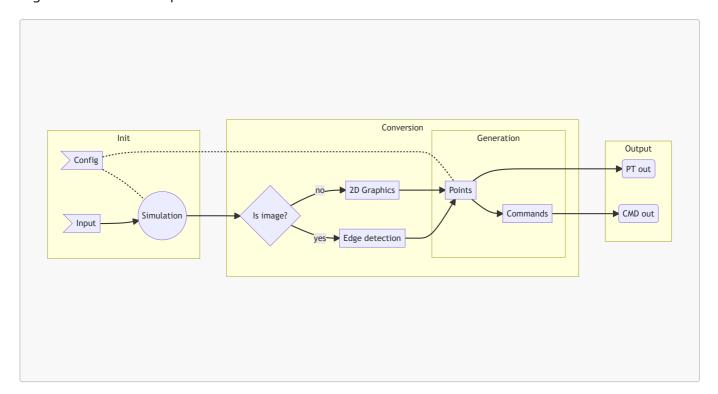
Rust is matching the given criterias so far. Docs are here

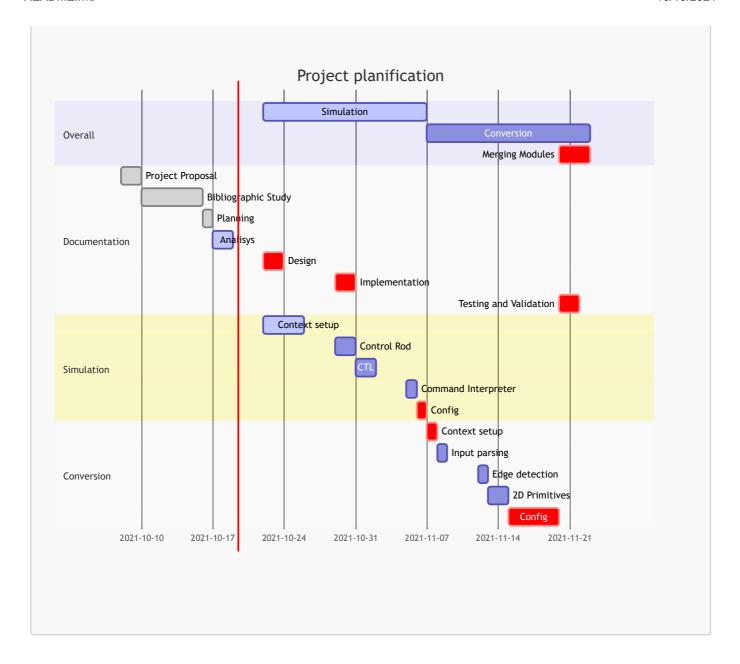
Requirement	Resource	Info	Targeted feature
Graphics	nannou	Safe, Reliable, Sufficient	2D Primitives
Image Processing	opencv-rust	Unstable, Untested	OpenCV relevant API:

Requirement	Resource	Info	Targeted feature
Image Processing	rust-cv	New, Has Edge detection	Edge detection
Statically typed	types	✓	Programming language
Memory Safe	ownership	✓	Programming language
Garbage Collector	bamboozle	√, Not a runtime GC	Programming language

Analisys

High level overview and planification:





Design

Implementation

Testing and Validation

Conclusions

[...]

Bibliography

[...]