Guardian of Earth

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Owner

Vision Statement

For Android smartphone users of all ages who want a fun, quick-performing, and re-playable game, Guardian of Earth is an Android application that takes the formula of a basic spaceship shooter and adds depth to the objective of the game. Unlike many other spaceship shooters, Guardian of Earth possesses a unique simplistic art style making it an application that is not only visually satisfying, but is quick to pick and play.

Requirements

Actors

Users – Motivated users of the app with sufficient enough knowledge to get the app open, and learn about the game through the tutorial to the main menu.

Actor-Goal List

Actor	Goal
User	Navigates easily through main menu
	Play the game
Control spaceship rotation with buttons in lower portion of screen	
	Control spaceship laser firing with button in lower portion of screen
Pause the game	
	Press the pause button in upper portion of screen
	Resume the game
	Press the resume button that appears after user has paused game
	Change layout and size of user controls
	Go into settings portion of app to modify settings to user's liking

Product Backlog

Story ID	Story	Story Points	Priority	Status
S 1	Allow user to navigate easily through main	3	2	Completed
	menu			
S2	Allow user to visualize a loading screen	2	1	Completed
	that appears momentarily before the game			
	is loaded			
S3	Allow user to pause and resume the game	2	11	Not completed
	while in the middle of playing it by			
	interacting with the HUD			
S5	Allow user to modify settings like user	3	12	Not completed
	controls to their liking in a separate settings			
	screen navigated to from the main menu			
S 6	Allow user save high scores	4	13	Not completed
S7	Allow user to, while playing game, to	7	3	Completed

	interact with the spaceship's rotation by clicking buttons			
S8	Allow user to, while playing game, to shoot lasers out of the spaceship by clicking another button on the screen	8	5	Completed
S9	Allow user to, while playing the game, visualize a HUD (heads-up display) including, for example: scores, lives left, pause/play, etc.	5	9	Completed
S10	Allow user to, while playing the game, for each wave, to have a set, random number of meteors following towards that they have to destroy to not lose the game	12	4	Completed
S11	Allow user to, while playing the game, to also be able to visualize non-interactive game elements like the earth which lies at the bottom of the screen	6	7	Completed
S12	Allow user to, while playing the game, to progress through a set amount of waves and each wave gets progressively harder	8	6	Completed
S13	Allow user to, when they play the game for the first time, to walk through a tutorial which shows them how to operate the spaceship in rotation and firing, and how to interact with certain HUD elements	4	10	Completed
S14	Allow user to, while playing the game, have it so when they destroy meteors, they earn points that goes towards their total score which is visible on the HUD	4	8	Completed

Sprint Backlog

Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S2	Setup android studio project and startup activities	1	3
	Determine if game needs loading screen to show	1	1
	during the loading of game assets		
S1	Design main menu ui	1	0.5
	Code main menu ui	2	2
	Test main menu ui and app startup	2	1
S7	Determine best algorithm for game loop	1	2
	Code game loop	2	3
	Test game loop with placeholder animations	2	5

Retrospective

I thought my first iteration under the agile methodology went pretty well. I planned to do several tasks for story 1 and story 2. What could have gone better though, was in the beginning of the iteration, I definitely underestimated the learning curve of developing an android app, and simply using Android Studio. So I plan to, in the future, take that into account when planning out my tasks for an upcoming sprint. I also experienced some difficulty in testing game loop, which resulted in an essential complexity rather than an accidental one. That is because, testing the game loop is inherent to the problem, because I don't have all the game elements in place to test the game loop. So I guess, what I didn't realize off the bat, is that I will need to test the game loop as I continue to add game elements to the scene to maintain a good performance for the game. So in the future, I will try to plan out and notice those essential complexities beforehand so I don't waste time on trying to solve something that can't be solved yet. Overall, I feel the sprint went pretty well.

Project Velocity

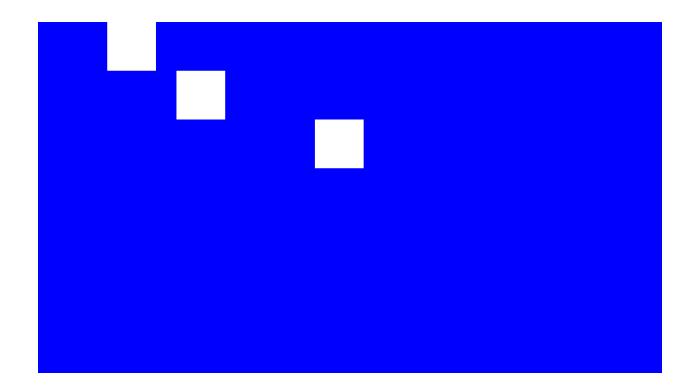
The project velocity after this sprint is 5 because I completed story 1 and story 2.

LOADING...

GUARDIAN OF EARTH

PLAY GAME

SETTINGS



Sprint Backlog

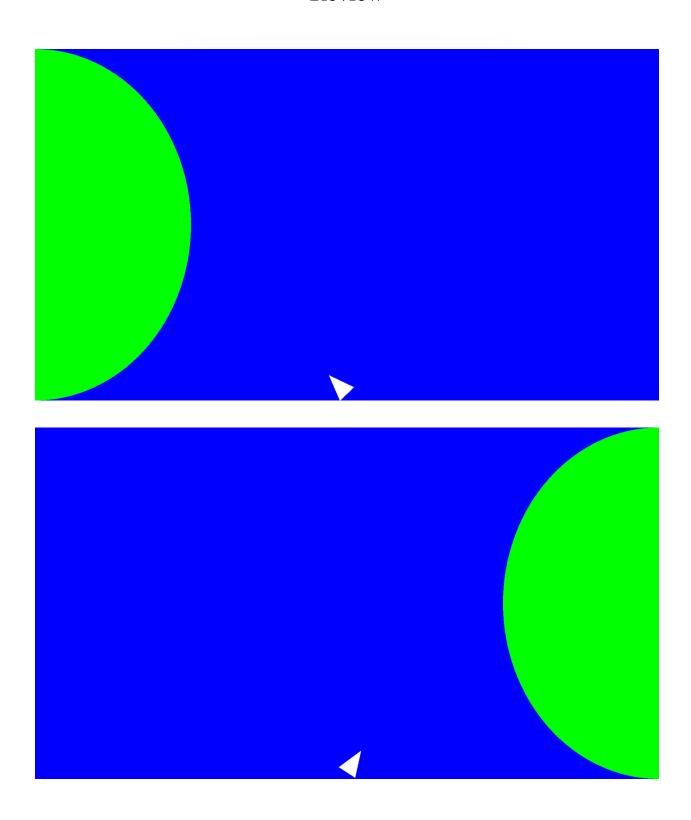
Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S7	Put placeholder objects into game scene:	4	2
	spaceship, earth, buttons for rotating, button for		
	firing		
	Add more definition to game object interface	2	1
	Capture button touches for rotating spaceship	3	4
	Rig up buttons to rotate the spaceship when they	4	5
	are tapped		

Retrospective

My second iteration, went pretty well. I did encounter some bugs though, which did slow me down a bit in the beginning. Specifically, dealing with the game loop itself, I spotted a bug that I should've noticed sooner, but I didn't. The bug was that my game loop drastically slowed down as time went on. After many, many hours of searching online for solutions, and eventually asking for help from an online programming community, I found the source of my bug myself. It was a few lines missing from each GameObject's update function. The main problem with this past iteration was that, even with that main bug that slowed me down a bunch, I feel I still didn't accomplish much from this past iteration. Because after I squashed the bug that caused extreme lag with my game, the development for rigging user presses to rotate the spaceship turned out to be quite easy. I guess it's just because I haven't had much experience at all developing Android apps, and specifically developing a game before, that I don't know exactly how much to plan to code for each iteration.

Project Velocity

The project velocity after this sprint is 7 because I completed story 7.



Sprint Backlog

Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S8	Add button for firing lasers from spaceship	2	3
	Capture button press for firing lasers out of spaceship	4	2
	Create a laser emitter class which will handle spawning of multiple lasers	8	12
	Rig the fire button up to the laser emitter class which will spawn lasers from the end of the spaceship	4	4
S10	Create structure class for handling the meteors for each wave	2	2

Retrospective

This sprint was definitely a roller coaster. I went from thinking I wasn't going to complete the things I had planned out in the spring backlog, to even adding another task to do from a different story because I had a little extra time. The specific task I got held up on was making the function to determine the new nose position of the spaceship after it had been rotated a bit on the canvas. I had to figure out this new position, because that was where the lasers of the spaceship would spawn when the user wished to fire. As I finally finished up, and figured out how to do that I began thinking about the overall structure, design, and layout of the app and how I could use abstract classes to perform similar things. This is what led me to create a ParticleEmitter class which handles the movement of all particles on the screen, whether they are spaceship lasers, or in the near future, meteors. It also led me to create a whole new wrapper class called, GameHolder, name pending, which will handle all the game objects; functions the game performs, such as firing spaceship lasers; and game constants, such as the different values I will need stored for each wave of the game.

Project Velocity

The project velocity after this sprint is 8 because I completed story 8.

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SETTINGS



Sprint Backlog

Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S10	Finish class for handling the meteors that will	8	9
	take in parameters to specify the rate, speed, and		
	number of meteors		
	Somehow pass a signal or event back to the	10	8
	parent class from the MeteorContainer class		
	which signals the end of a wave		
	Make function for determining collisions between	6	3
	spaceship lasers and the meteors		
	Test MeteorContainer using different parameters	8	5
	acting as the different waves the game will		
	progress through		
S12	Start design of Wave class which holds a	6	6
	MeteorShower, which also prints out the wave		
	name at the beginning of the wave		
	Make Wave class observed by GameHolder	2	1

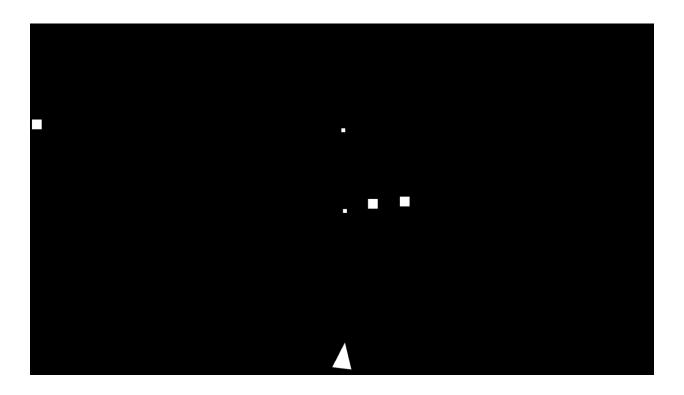
Retrospective

This sprint, for the most part went decently well. It started off kind of slow because this whole process of developing an android app, and a game at that, is still really new to me, and I was simply unsure on how I was going to implement all the ideas I had in my head in a design that made sense, was modular, and followed all the rules of an object-orientated design philosophy. I then started to pick it up about halfway through the sprint when I began to get a grasp on what I needed to code and how to implement a lot of the stuff I wanted the game to have. I began to seek out solutions in the form of design patterns, and this time it came in the form of the Observer design pattern. Since I knew the ParticleEmitter class was fit to determine collisions between lasers and meteors, I had to be able to signal or alert the GameHolder class of things like those collisions, and also when meteors have actually reached the bottom of the screen. It was a no-brainer for me, I had to use an Observer design pattern, making GameHolder observe ParticleEmitter. Also I realized that GameHolder could also observe each Wave class so that each Wave object can signal GameHolder when all of its meteors in the MeteorShower have been emitted.

Project Velocity

The project velocity after this sprint is 8 because I completed story 12.

Review





Sprint Backlog

Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S12	Finish up and test Wave class throwing in	2	4
	different parameters		
	Initialize all waves in GameHolder class	3	2
	Create GameStatus enum in GameHolder class	12	10
	and determine effective way of monitoring the		
	game status at all times based on observer notices		
	from ParticleEmitter and Wave		
S11	Make GameObject for Earth lying at the bottom	4	5
	of the screen using either placeholder object or		
	actual image drawn on canvas		
S9	Make outline of HUD basic game object	2	3
	Figure out way for HUD game object to get lives	6	4
	and score variables from GameController, and		
	use those variables to update the HUD		
S14	After completing game status enum and handling	2	3
	events and observer notices from ParticleEmitter		
	and Wave, link up meteor destroyed by user event		
	with adding score.		_
	After meteor is destroyed, make popup text	3	3
	appear displaying the score accounted for		
	destroying that meteor		
	Change look of meteor from a simple rectangle to	4	5
	an image drawn to the canvas		
S10	Finish up update function in Wave class	3	4
	improving on the randomness in regards to speed,		
	number, and rate of meteors.		

Retrospective

This sprint was nice; I felt like I got a lot done, probably because it was a week longer than all of the other sprints I've had up to now. I was having a bit of difficulty during this sprint implementing the foundational philosophy of the scrum method. Specifically that after every sprint, each feature that you implemented throughout that sprint needs to be fully tested and complete. I found myself, a few times, going back and fixing little things here and there that

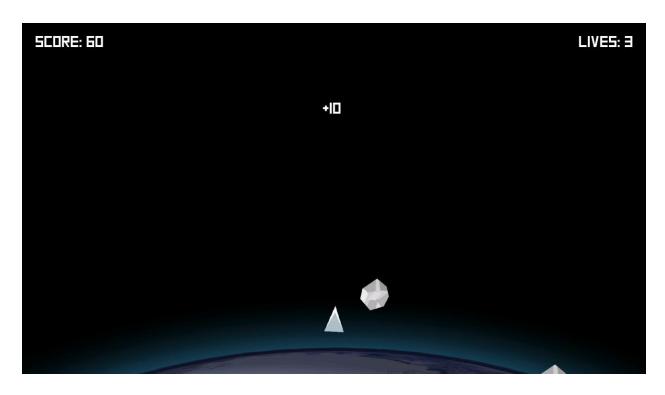
were listed on my product backlog as already complete. For example, in the middle of this sprint, I found myself swapping out the way the spaceship was drawn to screen, using an image instead of a simple path drawn on the canvas. I'm not sure if this is something that would follow under story 7 or 8 or not. Maybe it's just that the scrum agile methodology isn't perfectly tuned for mobile game development, or maybe even any game development of that matter. Needless to say, I feel I made a lot of much needed progress in this sprint. Although I may not finish all the items listed on my product backlog, I'm almost positive that I will complete all the items essential to the game.

Project Velocity

The project velocity after this sprint is 31 because I completed story 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Review







Sprint Backlog

Story ID	Story / Task	Estimated Hours	Actual Hours
S14	Finish up formula to calculate a point worth for	4	3
	each meteor destroyed taking into account the		
	meteor's speed and size		
S13	Make either fullscreen tutorial image displayed	6	4
	before the game starts, and/or small tips at the		
	bottom of the screen as the game progresses		
	through the first wave		
	Decide between displaying tutorial/tips every	8	7
	time a new game is started, or just the first time		
	the user ever plays the game, and implement the		
	decided upon solution		

Retrospective

Finally this project has come to an end. The last iteration for this project went relatively well. All I mainly had planned for it was to complete the formula for calculating point worth for each meteor destroyed and to make the tutorial which displayed at the beginning of every game. Being at the end certainly leads me to reflect on the process of developing this app. It definitely wasn't an easy or straight forward process, and was more along the lines of a roller coaster ride, if I'm being completely honest. It was hard to make every sprint dedicated towards only completing the tasks on the sprint backlog, because there were always little things I felt I had to finish. I do think I did a decent job at integrating and testing at the end of each sprint to make sure the project always ran with no bugs. And I also do think that following the Scrum method for this project did help in focusing me on specific goals I wanted the app to do, with the project backlog. And writing, reviewing, and doing retrospection at the end of each sprint absolutely helped throughout the development process in forcing me to realize what I had accomplished and what I left to go. Overall, although I didn't complete all the goals laid out in the project backlog, I would say that this app was a success, because it required me to decide on a priority for all the goals, and to complete all the goals of higher priority first.

Project Velocity

The project velocity after this sprint is 8 because I completed story 13 and 14.

GUARDIAN OF EARTH PLAY GAME

