Exercise DEV2

The DEV team

January 13, 2016

1 Introduction

In this series of exercises you will be guided through the assignments 1 and 2 step by step. The assignments have been broken up in the relevant parts; an exercise for each part. The exercises each contain 2 parts: in the first one you will focus on the main concept that is related to this exercise, in the second part you will integrate that concept into a pygame application. In this way you will have an aditional concrete example of the concepts you have seen in the lessons with respect to the assignments. And you will learn to handle the complexity of a larger application.

2 Exercise 1 - make a car move

As said in the introduction. you will first focus on a relevant part. Assignment 1 is about cars in a city. We already gave you the city, so let's focus on the car.

The relevant concepts are classes and methods (those are links to the slides). In (very, very) short: A class is a blueprint which defines what data can be stored. An object can be instantiated, and can then store the data you want in attributes. Methods can be used to modify that data.

Console version

- Build a Car class;
- Add the attribute Position, which will be a simple integer;
- Add the Move method that increments the position by one;
- Make a test program that initialises the car and moves it ten times; print the position of the car on the console at every step.

Pygame version

- Get a template to kick-start your pygame application. For example from here. Delete code you don't need, so you have a relative clean application to start with.
- Draw Now add a shape or picture that will represent the car. For now you can put it in the game loop. Play around a bit with its parameters and make shure you understand how you can move the 'car'.
- Now add the Car class from part 1.
- Instantiate a car-object.
- From within the gameloop, call the move-method on the car
- Now use the car-position to change where the car is drawn on the screen.

3 Exercise 2 - make a list of cars move

In the assignment you will have more than one car. These multiple cars need to be stored in a way that makes it easy to use all these cars programatically. For this, we've introduced Lists in the lessons. In a list you typically store a lot of objects of the same type (but, it is possible to store any type). In this exercise you will combine the Car-objects with lists.

Console version

- Build the Node and Empty classes;
- Add the usual attributes IsEmpty, Head, and Tail to the classes;
- Make a test program that
 - initialises a list of cars,
 - moves each of them ten times,
 - print the position of each car on the console at every step.

Pygame version Expand on the pygame application from exercise 1.

- Add a VerticalPosition attribute to the car, so that each car has a different vertical position to distinguish it on the screen;
- Use the list of cars you just implemented to draw a pygame screen where various cars move from the left to the right of the screen.

4 Exercise 3 - moving along checkpoints

In the assignments the cars will not move along positions based on coordinates, but positions based on *tiles* are used. In this exercise we will focus on that concept, however we will use a slightly different example: metro's and metro stations. Our metro is always at a metro station. It can travel between 2 neighbouring stations, but we will not store any positions in between 2 stations.

Console version

- Make a Station class, which contains a Position attribute and a Name; for example: Station(Position(10,40), "Kralinse zoom")
- Make a list of stations;
- Make a Metro class, which has an attribute CurrentStation and a method Move.
- The CurrentStation will store a reference to a node in the list of checkpoints;
- In the Metro class, the Move method changes position to the Tail, which is the next checkpoint;
- Make a test program that initialises a list of metro's, and moves them until they all reach the final checkpoint; print the position of each metro (which is now a checkpoint) on the console at every step.

Let's reflect on what you did in the part of the exercise. The metro (or car) still stores its position, however that position is now abstracted away into a station object. Which has the advantage that you can reason about station "kralinse zoom" for example, instead of (10, 40). Station still stores its position in terms of coordinates (10,40), because that is important information. Stations are connected to each other by the linked list. a Node's head (containing station "kralingse zoom") is connected to the tail (containing it's neighbour "Capelse brug")

Pygame version

- Draw a pygame screen with the Stations and the Metro's;
- The various metro move from one Station to the other.

5 Exercise 4 - crossings

Console version

- Make a Node2D class, which contains attributes TailLeft, TailRight, TailUp, TailDown, and Final; this is effectively the same as a list but with four possible choices for the Tail (we call this a matrix);
- Make a series of checkpoints and put them into Node2D's;
- In the Car, the Position will now be a reference to a Node2D in the matrix of checkpoints;
- In the Car, the Move method changes position to one of the Tails, which is the next chosen checkpoint; the choice can be random;
- Make a test program that initialises a list of cars, and moves them until they all reach a specific checkpoint with Final == True; print the position of each car (which is now a checkpoint) on the console at every step.

Pygame version

- Draw a pygame screen with the checkpoints and the cars;
- The various cars move from one checkpoint to the other (like the cars in the city assignment).

6 Exercise 5 - bikes

Console version

- Make a Bike class that has the Move method just like the car;
- Bike's are fast, so the bike moves by two tiles at a time;
- Add a PrintPosition method to the Car and the Bike, which prints where the vehicle is;
- Make a test program that initialises a list contains a mixture of cars and bikes, and moves them until they all reach a specific checkpoint with Final == True; print the position of each car or bike (which is now a checkpoint) on the console at every step.

Pygame version

- Add a Draw method to the Car and the Bike, which draws where the vehicle is with the proper texture; the texture is also added as an attribute of both Car and Bike;
- Draw a pygame screen with the checkpoints, the bikes and the cars;
- The various cars and bikes move from one checkpoint to the other (like the cars and boats in the city assignment).