

Preliminary Design

Gizmoball is an arcade game very similar to pinball. The aim is to keep a ball moving around the playing area and not let it touch the bottom using different types of gizmos. Gizmos¹ can be static objects, such as circles, squares and triangles or flippers which can hit the ball if it is in their reach. The final system would include a graphical user interface with 2 modes - editor mode and play mode. Below is the list of revised specifications in each mode:

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¹triangle, square and circle bumpers

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Revised Specification

Editor mode

- Initialise an empty area where the layout can be built
- Re-configure an already constructed layout
- Add any chosen type of gizmo to the playing area
- Add a ball to the playing area, specifying its position
- Move an existing ball to a different position
- Edit the velocity and the diameter of an existing ball
- Remove a ball from the playing area
- Set custom values for gravity and friction
- Move a gizmo from one cell to another
- Rotate a gizmo 90° clockwise
- Remove a selected gizmo from the playing area
- Connect gizmos together (link a certain gizmo's trigger to the action of another gizmo)
- Make a key press trigger a particular gizmo's action
- Save the configurations to a file
- Load particular configurations from a file and display it on the screen
- Go to play mode
- Clear playing area
- Exit the application

Play mode

- Start a game (release the ball in the playing area)
- Stop a game (stop the ball in its current position)
- Press keys that trigger gizmos' actions
- Save the current state of a stopped game (maybe not???)
- Load and display a saved game state (maybe not???)
- Go to editor mode
- Exit the application

Use cases

Add Gizmos

Precondition: Editor mode enabled

Trigger: Gizmo type selected from the gizmos panel

Path:

1. The 20L x 20L layout grid becomes highlighted.
2. The status label informs the user that he needs to select one grid location.
3. The user selects a grid square from the layout by clicking it.
4. If the grid square is occupied by another gizmo, go to 3. . The status label informs the user that he can now add more gizmos of the same type animated for 2 seconds, go to 2.

Postcondition: One or more gizmos of the same type have been added to the layout.

Add Absorber

Precondition: Editor mode enabled

Trigger: Absorber shape selected from the gizmos panel

Path:

1. The 20L x 20L layout grid becomes highlighted.
2. The status label informs the user that he needs to select one grid location representing the right top corner of the absorber.
3. The user selects a grid square from the layout by clicking it.
4. If the grid square is occupied by another gizmo, go to 3.
5. The status label informs the user that he needs to select one grid location representing the left bottom corner of the absorber, do 3 - 4 and go to 6.
6. The status label informs the user that he can now add more gizmos of the same type, go to 2.

Postcondition: One or more absorbers of the same type have been added to the layout.

Remove Gizmo

Or an already existing ball

Precondition: Editor mode enabled

Trigger: Gizmo selected

Path:

1. User clicks delete button.
2. Gizmo is removed from the grid layout.

Postcondition: The grid layout does not contain the removed gizmo.

Connect Gizmos

Connects a gizmo trigger to a gizmo action

Precondition: Editor mode enabled

Trigger: Connect switch has been toggled

Path:

1. The user selects a gizmo from the grid, the gizmo then becomes highlighted. If the gizmo cannot trigger then notify user through the status label, go to 1.
2. The user selects a second gizmo from the grid which then becomes highlighted in a different way. If the selected gizmo doesn't have an action then notify user through the status label, go to 2.

Postcondition: The first gizmo's trigger is now connected to the second gizmo's action.

Clear playing area

Precondition: Editor mode enabled and at least one edit action performed

Trigger: "Clear Board" button selected

Path:

1. User clicks the "Clear Board" button
2. All gizmos are removed from the playing area

Postconditions: All gizmos are cleared from the grid layout. Physics properties like gravity and friction are preserved.

Adding a new ball

Placing a new ball in the playing area

Precondition: Editor mode enabled, a ball does not exist in the current grid layout

Trigger: "New ball" button clicked

Path:

1. The user enters values in the input fields for the velocity (0L/sec to 200L/sec), diameter (default is 0.5L) or chooses to go with the default values.²
2. The user selects a grid location to place the ball at. If the grid location is occupied, go to 2, else go to 4. If The user clicks on an absorber go to 3.
3. The ball is placed in the right bottom corner of the absorber.
4. The properties panel shows up and user can adjust the velocity by dragging a slider.

Postcondition: A new ball is now added to the playing area.

Move Gizmo

Precondition: Editor mode selected

Trigger: "Move gizmo" button clicked

Path:

1. User clicks on the gizmo to be moved
2. User drags gizmo to the new location
3. If location is already occupied go to step 2.

Postcondition: Gizmo has changed its location;

²ball velocities range from 0L/sec to 200L/sec

Rotate Gizmo

Precondition: Editor mode enabled

Trigger: Rotate button has been toggled

Path:

1. The user clicks on a gizmo.
2. If the gizmo doesn't support rotation, go to 1.
3. The selected gizmo rotates 90 degrees clockwise.
4. Go to 1.

Postcondition: The gizmo/gizmos that the user clicked on have been rotated by $n * 90$ degrees clockwise, where n is the number of clicks on each gizmo.

Save configuration

Precondition: Editor mode selected

Trigger: "Save" button selected

Path:

1. A file explorer that only shows gizmoball files pops up.
2. User selects the desired location and clicks "Save".
3. If saving fails, notify user and then go to 1.
4. A status label shows that the game configurations have been successfully saved.

Postcondition: Game configuration have been saved to a gizmoball file on the disk.

Load configuration

Trigger: "Load" button clicked

Path:

1. A file picker that only shows gizmoball files pops up.
2. User selects the desired file and clicks "Load".
3. If loading fails, notify user, go to 1.
4. Game configurations are loaded and displayed on the screen.
5. The status label shows that the game configurations have been successfully loaded.

Postcondition: The saved playing area is shown ready for further editing.

Stop game

Precondition: Play mode selected, the game is running.

Trigger: "Stop" button pressed.

Path:

1. User presses "Stop" button.
2. Game has been stopped and main menu appears on the screen.

Postcondition: Ball stops (game has been paused). Main menu displayed on the screen.

Run game

Precondition: Play mode enabled, the game has been stopped or new game has been loaded.

Trigger: “Run” button pressed

Path:

1. User presses “Run” button
2. The ball starts to move with the previous velocity and direction.

Postcondition: Game is running, play mode enabled.

Physics loop (high level)

for every tick

Calculate collision time for all gizmos (and balls if added) inside the map.
The method that does the calculation also returns an object that the ball will collide next.

If estimated time until nearest collision is greater than 0.05sec (time until next frame is drawn) then
Set balls new coordinates where the ball will be after this time passes.
Apply gravity and friction for that time period.

If time until next collision is smaller than 0.05, then
update the coordinates of the ball taking into account time and velocity,
calculate and set the velocity of the ball after the collision taking into account
friction and gravity for that time period.

If gizmo that ball collides with have trigger then
trigger the action
(calls the triggerred() method on the object returned by calculate collisions method).

Redraw the screen

Triggering System

Things to address: Time will slow down when the collisions happen, because while ball will be displayed as it would have moved for time < 0.05 , the next frame will be drawn after 0.05 no matter what.

Class diagram

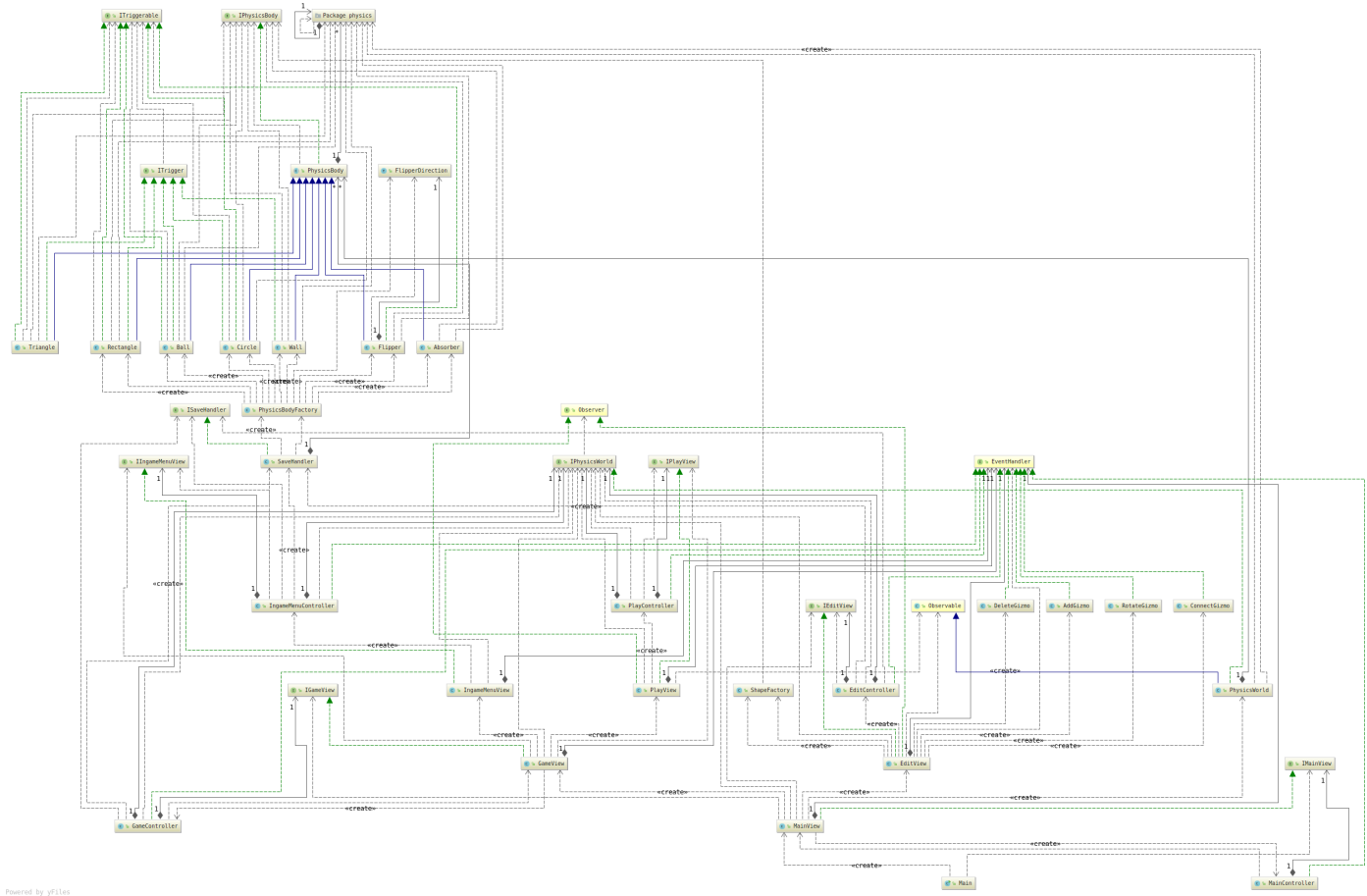


Figure 1: Class Diagram

View hierarchy

Some view contains sub-views. Each view has it's own interface. Each view has it's own controller class. The view Controllers are only handles the events fired from the actual view and not from it's sub-views.

- Main view
 - Game view
 - * Play view
 - * Ingame menu view
 - Edit view

Main

This class is the starting point of the FX application.

ShapeFactory

This class is responsible to create the representation of a PhysicalBody on the view.

MainView

This is where the main window and those elements what are presented in all view are implemented.

EditView

Contains the UI implementation of the editing mode.

GameView

Contains the UI implementation of the play mode. Build up by the PlayView and the InGameMenuView.

PlayView

This is where the game is presented by drawing out the PhysicalWorld. This is also an Observer to the PhysicalWorld, to make sure it's always representing the current state of the world.

IngameMenuView

This class implementing the menu which can be brought up while the user is playing in play mode.

View Interfaces

IEditView, IGameView, IIngameMenuView, IMainView, IPLayView. These interfaces are for hiding the actual implementations of the view from the other part of the application. Controller -> View

MainController

This is an implementation of EventHandler interface. This class required to handle all the events caused by interaction with the MainView.

EditController

This is an implementation of EvnetHandler interface. This class handles all the event coming from the EditView. And also changing the state of the editing area.

Edit area states

AddGizmo, ConnectGizmo, DeleteGizmo, RotateGizmo. These event handlers specifying that how the edit area should behave in the given state which was set by the EditController (trough an interaction of the EditView). This contains clicking and drawing events.

GameController

This controller handles the events coming from the GameView. And just the GameView itself.

PlayController

Handles the user interaction with the playing area of the game mode view.

IngameMenuController

This controller's task is to respond to the events generated by the playmode's in-game menu.

EventHandler

Interface from the javafx package. Main purpose to hide controller implementation and provide bridge between Controllers and Views. View -> Controller.

IPhysicsBody, ISaveHandler, IPhysicsWorld

This three interface meant to represent the Model in another part of the application, also hiding the implementation behind them. View -> Model Controller -> Model

ITriggerable

This interface provides details for those objects which can be triggered by triggers.

ITrigger

This interface provides unified functions across all trigger objects to be able to link triggerable objects to itself which can be triggered by the trigger objects.

SaveHandler

This class purpose to handle the config file IO operations.

PhysicsBodyFactory

Factory for generating proper object representation from strings which are contained in the config files.

PhysicsWorld

The PhysicsWorld class meant to coordinate a world which is built up by PhysicsBody's. This is where the physics loop takes place. This class is an Observable class, which meant to provide a way for the Model to communicate with another part of the application Model (Observable) -> View (Observer) //Mainly in our case.

PhysicsBody

Abstract class which provides the implementation of the common traits of an entity which meant to be placed in our game world and used in physics simulation.

Absorber

The entity class which represents an Absorber gizmo with all its own functionality and traits. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Ball

The entity class for the game ball. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Circle

Class for Circle gizmo representation in our Model. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Flipper

Representation of the Flippers in our Model. Single flipper class used for both left and right flipper. The difference between the two was separated with the FlipperDirection enum class. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

FlipperDirection

Enum class for representing the possible flipper directions.

Rectangle

Class for modelling the rectangle gizmo. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Triangle

Class for modelling the triangle gizmo. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Wall

Class in the model for representing the walls which are building up the boundaries of the physical world's boundaries. Subclass of the PhysicsBody.

Questions

1. How detailed the requirements should be: (Example: 1. Create your own map or 1. Add gizmos to map 2. Delete gizmos to the map 3. Flip gizmos)
2. Save game and/or save map?
3. Bonus stuff we could add: ## UI screenshots

Planning