Microcontroller mini-game "Defence Line"

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Development board

Microcontroller: ARM Mbed LPC1768

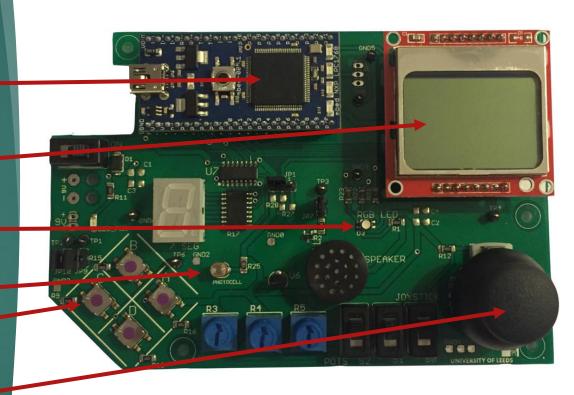
Nokia 5110 LCD display 84×48 pixels

RGB LED

Light-dependent resistor

4 push buttons

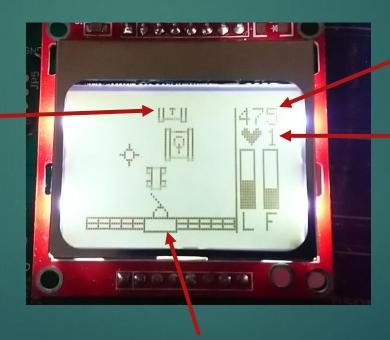
Thumb joystick



Game design: Goal

Survive for a specific time and destroy enemies before they destroy the turret or breach through the defence line

Enemy SUVs and Tanks coming from the top



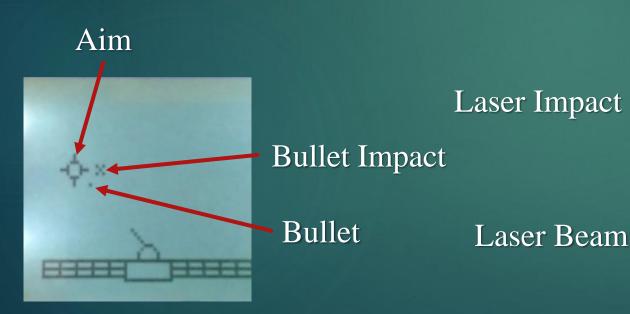
Defence line with a turret

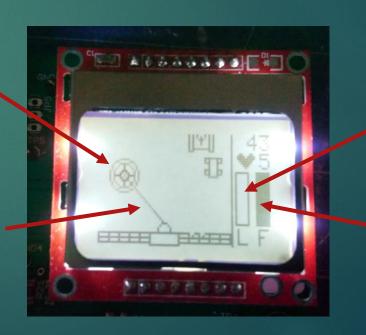
Remaining time

Turret life

Game design: Weapon

- ▶ Gun: shoots bullets at aim; bullets have constant speed and do 1 damage each
- ▶ Laser: reaches aim instantly and kills any enemy. Requires short cooldown time after use
- ▶ Freeze: stops enemies for 4s. Requires long cooldown time after use



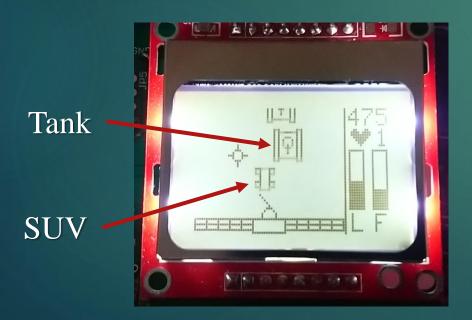


Laser Cooldown

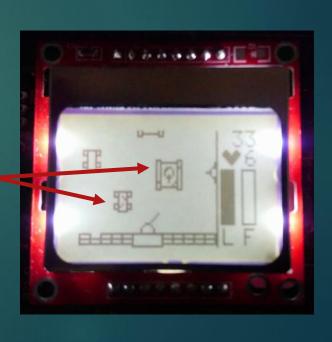
Freeze Cooldown

Game design: Enemies

- ▶ Using light-dependent sensor for enemy generation random seed (position, type, time)
- ▶ SUV requires 2 bullet hits to be destroyed and Tank requires 4 bullet hits
- ▶ Collision with Turret reduces its health by 1; collision with defence wall damages bricks
- Visual representation of damage for enemies

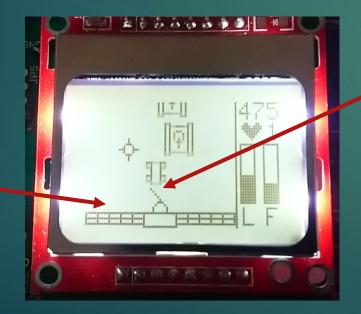


Enemy damage



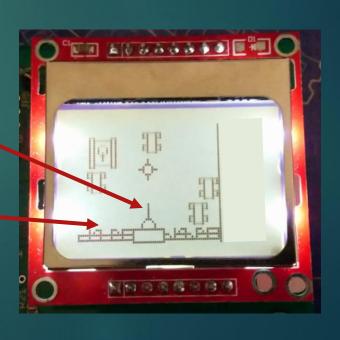
Game design: Defence Line

- ▶ Individual brick can withstand 2 enemy collisions and then breaks
- ▶ If two consecutive brick are broken, then enemies can break through the line (game lost)
- ► Turret's barrel follows the aim
- Visual representation of damage for the defence line



Barrel follows the aim

Visible damage



Intact

Game design: Menu

- ▶ Difficulty selection: affects the number of enemies and the SUV:Tank spawn proportion
- ► Settings: adjusting wave time in minutes, enemy speed in pixels per second, and turret health.



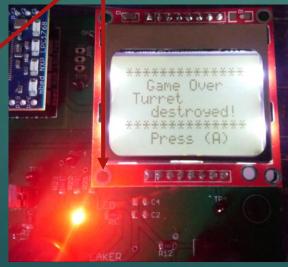




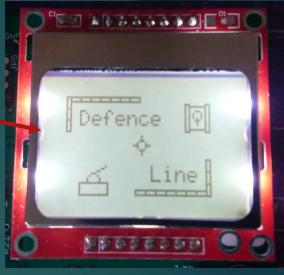
Game design: additional features

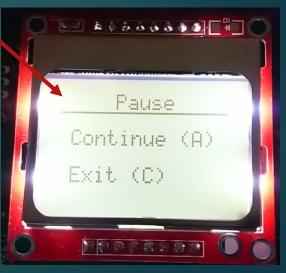
- ▶ Start screen and end screens for every outcome
- ▶ Ability to pause the game, then continue or exit
- ► Countdown before starting or continuing the game
- ► LED indication of events











Game Controls

- ▶ Move thumb joystick to change the position of the aim
- Press B button to shoot a bullet from Gun
- ▶ Press C button to use Laser if available
- ▶ Press A button to use Freeze if available
- ▶ Press D button to pause the game



Programming Highlights

- 1. Interrupts for buttons to provide more responsive control, time interrupts to increase time precision, and sleep function to save power
- 2. Multiple Finite State Machines to simplify behaviour programming
- 3. Bullet and enemy generation via dynamic memory allocation
- 4. Modularity of the project: there are 7 classes, 4 structs, 3 enum classes in 17 files, and the only global variables are the ones related to the peripherals. Thanks to this, the program is easily modifiable and static RAM efficient
- 5. There are 45 #define directives related to the screen and time parameters, which makes the game easily portable to a device with a bigger screen

Game Demonstration

Access the video via the link: https://youtu.be/2o6DjbYQ1rU



Thank you!