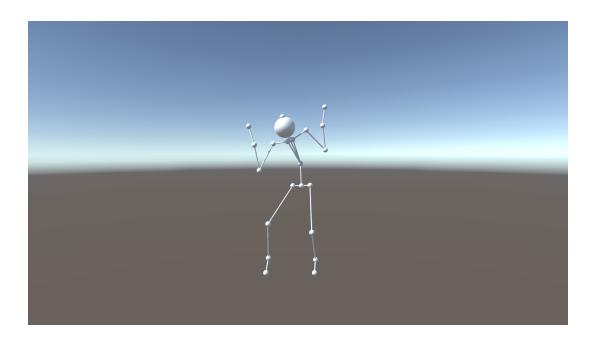
Exercise 1 - Animation & Transformations

In this exercise you will use BVH files to draw and animate a 3D character on screen.

The goal of this exercise is to learn about animation, homogeneous coordinates and 3D transformation matrices, as well as quaternions.

You **must** submit this exercise in pairs.



EX1 Guidelines

- In this exercise you may <u>only</u> edit the files CharacterAnimator.cs and QuaternionUtils.cs, according to the instructions.
- You are given 2 helper files BVHParser.cs and MatrixUtils.cs. Their documentation is provided at the end of this file. You may not edit or change these files in any way.
- You are also given a folder of different BVH files which you can use to check your code.
- 3. **Important!** In this exercise you <u>may not</u> use any function of GameObject.transform or directly set any of its properties. The <u>only</u> exception is transform.parent, which you may set in order to change the parent of a GameObject in the scene hierarchy.
- 4. Transformations should be done with matrix operations only, using MatrixUtils. All transforms in this exercise are in world space, relative to the scene origin (0,0,0).

General Guidelines

- Make sure you are using **Unity 2020.1.6f1**
- Make sure that you understand the effect of each part of your code
- Make sure that your code does what it's supposed to do and that your results look the way they should
- Keep your code readable and clean! Avoid code duplication, comment non-trivial code and preserve coding conventions
- Keep your code efficient

Submission

Submit a single .zip file containing only the following:

- **CharacterAnimator.cs** Your implementation as described in the exercise.
- QuaternionUtils.cs Your implementation as described in the exercise.
- **readme.txt** that includes both partners' IDs and usernames. List the URLs of web pages that you used to complete this exercise, as well as the usernames of all students with whom you discussed this exercise

Deadline

Submit your solution via the course's moodle no later than Thursday, November 24 at 23:55.

Late submission will result in 2^{N+1} points deduction where N is the number of days between the deadline and your submission. The minimum grade is 0, saturday is excluded.

Part 0 / Setup

- 1. Download the exercise zip file from the course Moodle website and unzip it somewhere on your computer.
- 2. In Unity Hub, go to *Projects* and click the *Add* button on the top right. Select the folder that you have downloaded.
- 3. Open the project. Once Unity is open, double click the MainScene to open it.

Part 1 / Building the Skeleton - Joints

- In this part you will implement the function CreateJoint. This function creates and positions a GameObject representing the given BVHJoint, then recursively creates objects for its child joints.
- First, add this line in the Start function. This will create our skeleton, starting from the root joint at the origin (0, 0, 0):

```
CreateJoint(data.rootJoint, Vector3.zero);
```

• Now implement the function as follows. It receives 2 parameters:

BVHJoint joint - the joint that will be drawn, along with any child joints it may have Vector3 parentPosition - the 3D position of the parent of the given joint

- The function returns the created GameObject.
- 1. Initialize the BVHJoint's gameObject field (joint.gameObject) to an empty GameObject, and name it according to the joint's name.
- 2. Use <u>CreatePrimitive</u> to create a sphere representing the joint. Make the sphere GameObject a child of joint.gameObject in the scene hierarchy by setting its <u>transform.parent</u> to the joint's transform component.
- 3. Construct and apply a transformation matrix that will scale the sphere by a factor of 2. If the joint's name is "Head", scale the sphere by a factor of 8 instead.
- 4. Using MatrixUtils, construct a translation matrix T that positions joint.gameObject at the correct location in 3D space. As described in the TA slides, the location is determined according to the joint's parent position and the given joint's offset.
- 5. Apply the matrix to joint.gameObject using MatrixUtils.ApplyTransform.
- 6. Apply this recursively to all child joints. You should now be able to see the spheres creating the general shape of a human in 3D space in play mode.

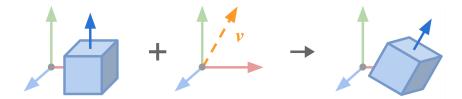
You have finished creating the joints of the skeleton. In parts 2-3 we will implement some helper functions that will allow us to connect these joints with bones.

Part 2 / Rotations

• In this part you will implement the function RotateTowardsVector. The function receives 1 parameter:

Vector3 v - a vector representing the new up direction, after the rotation

• The function returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation that aligns the up vector (aka the y direction (0, 1, 0)) of an object with a given arbitrary vector. This means that the "top" of a transformed object will face the direction of the given v:



In other words, we want to find a rotation matrix **R** such that $\mathbf{R}(0, 1, 0)^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{v}$.

- 1. Normalize the given direction vector v.
- 2. Construct and return the rotation matrix **R**. Use Unity's Mathf library as well as MatrixUtils. Remember that MatrixUtils uses degrees rather than radians.

Hint: review the TA slides and think how to construct **R** from different rotations about the coordinate axes. To test your code, make sure the matrix you get satisfies the equation $\mathbf{R}(0, 1, 0)^T = \mathbf{v}$, by using Matrix4×4's MultiplyVector.

• In MatrixUtils you are given a different implementation of the function RotateTowardsVector, using quaternions. You may use that function instead of this one to test other parts of your code. However, note that the solution to $\mathbf{R}(0, 1, 0)^T = \mathbf{v}$ is not unique, so the matrix returned from MatrixUtils.RotateTowardsVector might be different to the one you get.

Part 3a / Transforming a Cylinder

- In this part you will implement the function CreateCylinderBetweenPoints. The function creates a cylinder GameObject "connecting" two given points in 3D space and returns it.
- 2. The function receives 3 parameters:

```
Vector3 p1 - first point from which to draw the cylinder
Vector3 p2 - second point at which the cylinder should end
float diameter - width (diameter) of the cylinder to be drawn
```

- 3. Use <u>CreatePrimitive</u> to create the cylinder. The function creates a cylinder with a height of 2 units and diameter 1 unit, centered at the origin (0, 0, 0).
- 4. Use MatrixUtils to construct a transformation matrix **M** = **TRS** for the cylinder:
 - T Translation matrix. Use it to move the cylinder to the correct position.
 - R Rotation matrix. Use the function RotateTowardsVector that you have implemented to orient the cylinder so that its top points from p1 to p2.
 - S Scaling matrix. Use it to scale the cylinder to the correct proportions.
- 5. Apply the matrix to the cylinder using MatrixUtils.ApplyTransform.

Hint: test your code as you write it. You can use Debug.DrawLine to see where the cylinder should be drawn. Make sure to set a duration to see the actual line!

Part 3b / Building the Skeleton - Bones

- Finally, we can use the functions we have created to connect all the joints with bones.
- 1. In the function CreateJoint, use CreateCylinderBetweenPoints with a diameter of 0.6 to connect all the joints with bones.
- 2. Make the cylinder GameObject a child of joint.gameObject in the scene hierarchy by setting its <u>transform.parent</u> to the joint's transform component.

You should now see a full skeleton figure in play mode! Check your code with different BVH files to make sure everything works properly.

Part 4 / Animating the Skeleton

- 1. Implement the function GetFrameNumber. For a given time, it returns the current frame number, according to the frameLength given in the BVHData. After numFrames have elapsed, the frame number should reset to 0 so that the animation loops.
- 2. Inside the Update function, use the current frame number to update the CurrFrameData property from the BVHData, then call TransformJoint on the root BVHJoint. For now, set the parentTransform parameter such that no transformation will be applied to the root joint.
- 3. Next you will implement the function TransformJoint. This function transforms the given BVHJoint according to the current keyframe's channel data, then recursively transforms its child joints.
- 4. Receives 3 parameters:

BVHJoint joint - the joint to be transformed, along with any child joints it may have Vector3 parentTransform - the parent joint's transformation matrix float[] keyframe - the channel data to use in the transforms. An array of float values, organized by channels corresponding to a particular transformation of a particular joint, as specified in the BVH Hierarchy

- 5. Implement the function TransformJoint. For each joint in the skeleton, construct and apply a global transform matrix M' as described in the TA slides.
- 6. You should now see the character moving in playmode! (Make sure to turn on the animate flag of the CharacterAnimator script component.)
- 7. Finally, recall that the root BVHJoint has positional channel data in every keyframe as well as the regular rotational data. Use this data to move the character around according to the animation.

The skeleton should now be animated nicely. Check your code with different BVH files to make sure everything works properly. However, notice when AnimationSpeed is slow, the motion appears choppy and discontinuous. You will fix this in the next part.

Part 5a / Quaternions

1. In this part you will implement various functions to create and manipulate quaternion rotations. Open the file QuaternionUtils.cs in the code editor.

You will be using Unity's Vector4 class to represent quaternions, where the first 3 coordinates x,y,z are the imaginary dimensions and the fourth coordinate w represents the real part:

$$(x, y, z, w) \Leftrightarrow w + xi + yi + zk$$

- 2. Implement the functions Conjugate, HamiltonProduct and AxisAngle as seen in class. Note that you are given an implementation of quaternion multiplication in the method Multiply.
- 3. Implement the function FromEuler, which converts a given euler rotation to a quaternion. The function receives 2 parameters:

Vector3 **euler** - Euler angles around the x, y, z axes Vector3Int **rotationOrder** - The order in which to apply the Euler angles

4. Implement the function Slerp. The function receives 2 parameters:

Vector4 **q1** - The quaternion from which to start interpolation

Vector4 **q2** - The quaternion at which to end interpolation

float t - The proportion of interpolation between q1 and q2, in the range [0,1]

The function returns a spherical linear interpolation between q1 and q2 given by:

$$\operatorname{slerp}(q_1, q_2, t) = \frac{\sin((1-t)\theta)}{\sin\theta} q_1 + \frac{\sin(t\theta)}{\sin\theta} q_2$$

Where θ is the angle between q1 and q2. In the cases where $\sin \theta = 0$, you may return q1. (what does this mean geometrically?)

5. Make sure to test your code with various inputs.

Part 5a / Interpolation

- 1. Now you will implement interpolation between animation keyframes. This will allow smooth playback at different speeds.
- 2. Implement the function GetFrameIntervalTime, which returns the proportion of time elapsed between the last frame and the next, in the range [0,1]. Use this function to update the class property float t when animating in the Update method.
- 3. Update the nextFrameData array from the BVHData at each frame in the animation. There is no need to update on the last frame of the animation.
- 4. In the function TransformJoint, use the property t along with the channel data of the current and next frame to interpolate the transformations between frames.
 - Make sure to interpolate only when bool interpolate = true.
 - You may use the function MatrixUtils.RotateFromQuaternion to convert a rotation quaternion to a transformation matrix.
 - You may replace any previous Matrix rotations you have used with a quaternion-based implementation.
- 5. Finally, you may use Unity's implementation of vector linear interpolation via Vector3.Lerp to smoothly interpolate the root joint's position between frames.
- 6. You should now be able to see the character moving smoothly at any animation speed!

Good luck!

MatrixUtils documentation

float **frameLength**

Length of each frame in seconds

```
void ApplyTransform(GameObject gameObject, Matrix4×4 m)
      Applies the transformation matrix m to given gameObject's transform component.
      Note that this overwrites any previous transformations made to gameObject.
Matrix4×4 Translate(Vector3 position)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a translation to the given position
Matrix4×4 Scale(Vector3 scale)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a scale on each axis according to the given scale
Matrix4×4 RotateX(float angleDeg)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation of angleDeg degrees around the X axis
Matrix4×4 RotateY(float angleDeg)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation of angleDeg degrees around the Y axis
Matrix4×4 RotateZ(float angleDeg)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation of angleDeg degrees around the Z axis
Matrix4×4 RotateTowardsVector(Vector3 v)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation aligning the up vector (0, 1, 0) of an
      object with the given direction vector v. See part 2 for more information.
Matrix4×4 RotateFromQuaternion(Vector4 q)
      Returns a Matrix4×4 representing a rotation equivalent to the given quaternion q.
      See part 5 for more information.
BVHData documentation
BVHJoint rootJoint
      Root BVHJoint object
int numFrames
      Number of frames in the BVH animation
```

List<float[]> keyframes

Keyframe data for animating. Each keyframe contains an array of float values, organized by channels. Each channel corresponds to a particular transformation of a particular joint, as specified in the BVH Hierarchy section

BVHJoint documentation

string name

Name of the joint

Vector3 **offset**

Offset of the joint relative to the position of its parent

Vector3Int rotationChannels

Indices of the XYZ rotation channels in each keyframe. For example, the X rotation in the first keyframe is given by: keyframes[0][joint.rotationChannels.x]

Vector3Int rotationOrder

Order of XYZ rotations. Represents the multiplication order from left to right - for example, a value of (1,2,0) corresponds to the rotation $\mathbf{R}_z\mathbf{R}_x\mathbf{R}_y$ i.e. if rotationOrder.z == 0, it means that \mathbf{R}_z should be the first rotation from the left Vector3Int positionChannels

Indices of the XYZ position channels in each keyframe, in a similar manner to rotationChannels. Note that only the root joint has positionChannels!

List<BVHJoint> children

List of children BVHJoints

GameObject gameObject

Will hold the GameObject of this joint that you will create

bool isEndSite

Indicates if this joint is an EndSite or not. Note that EndSites do not have rotationChannels or positionChannels