**I**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the project is to research and develop Algorithms and machine learning of various types accompanying progression of the knowledge base to further research and technical reports. With aim of contribution to a larger library of technical reports, the exploration of new efficient methods based on data structures and use cases should also be compared.

The potential to explore other areas programmatically, is also encompassed within the projects wider scope as time goes on. Other areas such as security, safe research and potentially even variants of other specialist areas would be branches to welcome and umbrella within the projects scope and drive specialist areas, light for example.

The initial beginnings of the project are to gain a best working practice and so trial and error is inevitable however, not unavoidable. In example, the use of virtual machines without virtual network interfaces would be an ideal way of sandboxing for a lot of the exploratory work and is one way to mitigate irrational behaviour from getting to the infrastructure.

As such, to get the project started, an idea, seemingly simple on the interface, yet complicated in the background with a lot of planning and thought required. Once the first iteration is completed, further review of the projects general direction and scope can occur.

**Aims**

* It has to be unique to this project
* It has to be beautiful in appearance and in code format
* It has to be planned out first
* It has to be researched
* It has to use algorithms to generate an interface and to work uniquely
* I have to be proud of the work afterwards

**Objectives**

* It has to be a solution to other apps
* It has to work fully planned out and has to be interactive
* It has to get people thinking about what they are doing
* It has to be safe and not illegal
* It must have potential and an alternative use case

**Interface**

To start the app is opened from its icon and the end user is presented with a multilingual selection scrolling drop down. Possibly even a secondary drop down selector to choose automatic or interactive. Potentially even a tertiary drop down selector for a word count selection to limit the count according to screen space 1-5 words in example.

Once the drop down has been selected, the next screen phases in and it has a very light background with a dark line horizontally across the centre of the screen.

Dots appear randomly spread out across the horizontal line and the keyboard is presented to the end user to encourage the end user to type in a word or a small set of words.

As the user types, the dots along the line begin to fray out from the line all interconnected as a mesh network of dots and the letters begin to appear where some of the dots were on the horizontal line across the screen.

Once the end user finishes typing and or presses enter, the first shuffle occurs. After the first shuffle, the end user can either move the letters around or after a small delay of 5 seconds, the letters reshuffle as the algorithm finds another logical dictionary based use of all the letters or finds another word from the letters typed. Whilst the shuffle occurs the mesh stays connected and arrives back to the single line, expanding for each shuffle randomly moving and contracting back to the line.

The app continues to run until all possibilities are exhausted or until the end user closes the app. The app can be tilted from portrait to landscape and back again and as the shuffle occurs, the colours of the line and letters change in random pastel hues or stronger hues. In addition, the letters go back to the line across the screen to present the new word(s) match.

As each match is found, the remaining letter(s) should stay external to the line as a mesh and or fade to permit the mesh to fully go to the line again and then reappear as the mesh expands again for the next shuffle.

**Interface Functionality**

Looking at the work from Irregulars [Benedis-Grab, 2020] and the combined solutions provided from StackOverflow and Google [2022], it would be possible to get the screen sizes and animate the polygonal ‘network mesh’ and even make that interactive from the users perspective. Furthermore, coding the linear work [CodeJava, Lewis Loftus] and looking into the solutions provided for changing the hues on StackOverflow [2020] it would be possible to combine those object orientated solutions with other Algorithms [Sedgewick and Wayne, 2011] to form an aesthetically pleasing visual display on the front-end.

In addition, the animations generated from Fibonacci natural curves and the use of radial boundaries would and could work well both in functionality and aesthetically as the mesh expands and contracts. The helictical properties observed would be quite nice to view in combination with colour changes.

Using the RGBA A values on the letters for fade in and out transitions is definitely an option since HSV may not be appropriate for Alpha channels in animations and so potentially the value model in the StackOverflow solutions [2020] may need to change to accommodate alpha channels else simply a new object or method built into the fade transitions object would be appropriate. They can then be applied to the letters fading is the interface description.

With the correct radial boundaries in place from the network mesh ‘connection points’ in the polygonal structure, it is likely that additional functionality and visual appeal will occur since the boundaries would be strict. As the user moves a point around with a letter attached to it, possible observed behaviour would be of other points and or letters moving out of the way of the users interaction as the boundaries collide.

Most of the tests for the interface generation itself are fine and would not need sandboxing since we aren’t really doing too much which is not already standardised with the work on the interface. It is the back-end of the model and control layers which will need to be sandboxed during technical exploration and reporting stages.

**Interface – Algorithm use cases**

In search of appropriate Algorithms, the use of Prim’ variants or Kruskal’ work [Sedgewick & Wayne 2011] might be appropriate. On reading about their Prim’ and Prim’ eager MST, though they seem appropriate, the Algorithms as they are, do not suite the use case since they are spanning to shortest path first (spf) and newest vertices (node) in the forest of the spanning tree. With regards to Kruskal, they also do not seem suitable for such use cases when generating a polygonal mesh of vertices and edges.

The edges will recalculate and disappear on edge draw or redraw as the vertices move and a lot of the possible connections between each node will be lost or discarded as not relevant because of the spf rule. It is also noted the Algorithms are for finding efficient paths. We are not trying to find a path of efficiency in this instance, we are trying to draw polygonal structures between vertices of a certain radius or distance.

If the algorithm principals were adhered to, they may prove useful in understanding how to draw the paths, in particular, where the data structuring of path to vertices is concerned. Because of the rule of ‘all vertices must be connected’ [Sedgewick & Wayne 2011] in MST functionality, the possibility and code is there to be used and modified in this instance with the use of arraylists.

**Control & Algorithms**

Sorting and Searching Algorithms

* Quick3Way – E.W.Dijskra – p.299
* Union Find (Case Study) – Sedgewick & Wayne – 2011 – p.216 – 240
* BST – p.397 – 415
* Hybrids – Dev – 2022-23
* Breadth First Search – p.538-541
* Depth First Search – 530- 537

Matching Algorithms

* Hybrids – Dev – 2022-2023
* Multiway Merge priority - queue client (Heap Sorting) – Chapter 2, p.308 – 327

Randomising Algorithms

* MST – Prims Algorithm - Vojtěch Jarník – 1930 – p.605 – 622
* RA – p.198
* LV – p.778
* MC – p.776
* Quickselect – 345-347
* Quicksort – p.290, 307
* RKA – p.776
* 3 way string quick sort – p.722
* Random Number p.30-32
* RQDT – p.168

Hue Randomising Algorithms

* Hybrid – Dev – 2022-23

Network algorithms

* Chapter 4
* Maze Explortion – p.530
* Path Finding – p.535 – 537
* Tremaux Explortion – p.530
* Dijkstra’s Algorithm – p.656-657
* Dynamic Connectivity – p.216
* Biconnected – p.562
* Path – p.519

Unique or altered Algorithms per use-case - (**MISC**)

* Hybrids – Dev – 2022-23
* Merge Sort and BT – p.278-281
* Computability – p.910
* Computational Complexity – p.910-918, 279-282
* Connectivity – p.936
* Fail Fast Iterator – p.160, 171
* FIFO policy – p.126

GUI Algorithms

* Circular Rotation – p.114
* Collision Resolution – p.458
* Array – p.18-21, 72
* TBBoA

Vector Algorithms

* Fibonacci Heap – p.628, 682
* Fibonacci Numbers – p.57
* Pythagorean Theorem – TBBoA – p.44-47

**Control an overview**

Batch and efficiency tests to accompany technical reports will need to be done for each Algorithm and their derivatives. It would be wise to sandbox the tests on virtual systems which are not connected to a virtual network after all the necessary development tools and upgrades have been performed. Data should be collected and presented in readable and easily digestible forms.

Further batch and efficiency tests will need to be performed with analysis of behaviour in the closed off system. In addition, virtual networks will need to be setup for network testing and security tests to accompany the behavioural tests if network sockets are used. Furthermore, it is imperative such tests are performed, analysed and reported where the exploratory Algorithms and their derivatives are used if network sockets are used.

Explorative experiments could be performed on localised VM systems and or devices with no network hardware (easily removed) for the purposes of Algorithmic interactions with the interface of such devices, Mobile devices in example.

The integration of the model and interface with the control layer should be considered carefully, particularly if the decision to host and provision the applications features via a central location (PaaS, NaaS and SaaS) is reached.

Reviews of testing devices and systems should be performed as part of audits and a lot of monitoring will be required for live alpha testing of the hard/soft systems. Security engineers may have to be contracted with limitation of access to ‘break into’ the model and networked services as part of pentesting. To accompany their tests, monitoring tools to monitor their behaviour and ensure they are not breaching their bounds could and probably should be used. Else, as a company / team, perform those tests ourselves.

The integration of the control layer with the model and interface would be the most difficult; Efficiency, performance and behavioural scrutiny is required and forecast of live implementation also required. Perhaps the first iteration should be a localised one on one device and once tested move to live provisioning. As such, the negative results would be kept out of the live domain resulting in continuation of services without impact.

In addition, as a team we have more time to correct erroneous behaviour and deploy mitigation processes and test them further. However, though the internal tests do not outweigh the plethora of environments and real world scenarios, we could certainly make a good go at getting as much of those holes closed in advance. Practices such as coding standards, test cases and secure coding can be deployed well in advance of live implementation.

As a result, it lowers our work load after deployment and permits the team to explore new directions for the next iteration and naturally steer the team / company in its direction.

**Control Functionality**

The standard function calls at set intervals can be set and used with the interface behaviour. The use of time delays for certain behaviours is also a viable option from interface to back-end operations. In addition, range type methods can be used safely in effects such as transitions and movement and or animations.

**Control Functionality - Algorithms**

The use of Algorithms to perform and or even learn efficiency in searching and sorting will obviously need to be tested and measured. In combination with the storage and structure of the data to be used, research into efficiency learning through machine learning will contribute to wider technical reporting for such patterns.

Such Algorithms already exist in data centres and search engines to optimise the efficiency in returned results today from seemingly simple scraping algorithms to very large and complicated artificial intelligences deemed inaccessible and even proprietary with copyrights from large corporations such as Google and Microsoft. On the other hand, open solutions are potentially available from the OpenAi foundation and will have to be ported (rewritten in a different language for the use-case).

In addition, several ‘in-house’ functionality can be added to generate the interface as opposed t the use of xml, in particular for performing calculations relative to the screen area and x,y coordinates 0when placing vertices and calculating drawables within the bounds of those restrictions.

Furthermore, those calculations will be useful when deciding upon and writing Algorithms within the control and interface layers.

**Control Functionality – Data Structures**

With regards to the data structure of the dictionaries, current attempts so far for this project, have yielded much larger file sizes than the original source dictionary file when attempting to output the data to a different structure from say .txt to .xml kvp. In all cases, from MB to GB in difference between to source and output respectively.

As such, keeping the data in simple line by line .txt format would be beneficial if the data is to be stored on the device or even in a container. Reducing the need for complex parser method(s) and improving efficiency in search and sort right from the off and even reducing the storage size requirements.

**Control Functionality - Approach**

Object-orientated programming in combination with procedural and functional is certainly an appropriate hybrid approach to the completion and functionality of the control layer. As the functionality proceeds to call objects to act on the data, the returns can be piped back to the interface class functionality for end-user interpretation.

Standard functions and logical switches can and will be used to interpret, interoperate with and even control and move data form the back through control to the front-end. Some encapsulation of data and data access between each class may and probably will even be required to prevent data leaks and loss of data in transit.

**Control Functionality – Processing and Storage**

Deciding whether or not to act on the device APU or remote (if used) device resources, will inevitable either depend on our own research, efficiency and the operating systems native decisions. The preferred method is to allow the native decisions of the operating systems to decide which parts of the control layers are put where. The typical is stack, through to C/G/APU depending on what is being processed. For a larger game, the typical is to force graphics to be processed by the GPU and sometimes even some of the learning algorithms depending on efficiency in frame rates and response times or even ‘intelligence’ of the ‘target enemy’.

**Control Functionality – So Far**

For this project in it’s first iteration, we will let the operating system decide where to set the processing and simply control the data flow, presentation and interoperation of the Algorithms. As a result, we do not need to interrupt any other processes, we minimise our interaction with data we should not have access to or damage, and due to the relatively simple use of graphics rendering, do not need to force the graphics processor to do anything out of the ordinary which cannot be simply told by the transition methods.

As a result of Objectifying each method into pockets of functionality, each can be tested and easily observed should any issues arise thus making it easier for developers to examine and improve or even simply read and document the logic. That being said, each should be annotated for documentation and debug purposes, where it sends its output and how it operates on the data.

**Model**

As discussed already in previous sections, the multilingual dictionary will be line by line and probably a limited set. Whether to store locally or remote depends on storage, whether a need for containers in the cloud is required and safety of general data and code.

**Model - Back-end storage**

With regards to the dictionaries or online access to them. It might be feasible to make use of Googles translate libraries to extract and convert the words / symbols to extensible markup libraries if they aren’t already stored as such. From there, relational matching making use of standardised algorithms. In addition, a C program to extract and convert into structured data with key to value paired structures.

Alternatively, enumeration might be feasible or even dictionary lists / array lists encoded in Java files as opposed to xml files or in combination. Testing needs to be performed for efficiency, particularly since they will be potentially stored and processed on the device as opposed to the cloud; However, the security risks of having dictionaries stored on the device in full and accessible pose quite a heavy cyber security threat, as do the storage of algorithms.

**Model - Other Avenues**

Potential avenues to explore are server / data centre containers for remote security purposes and provisioning the app as it is accessed for each user. As such, measurements can be taken from a central location and access to the dictionaries and algorithms can be controlled better.

It might be a good idea to setup a small container for alpha testing and security testing. Penetration tests are essential, since access to a large data set of multilingual dictionaries and a whole plethora of search, sort and network algorithms is a huge security risk, it would be essential to run those tests and security tests. The risk is compared to storing rainbow tables and the tools to use them in one location, not a good idea without locking them down.

Weighing up the pro’s and con’s of horizontal storage to vertical and the trade off of multiple devices trying to hack into a central location or multiple devices having the same data attacking other devices; What is easier to manage and control from a security perspective and which could be used as a security tool better and with more control, the vertical or the horizontal? That is of course, if further iterations move into the security route instead of, in a wild example, holography.

**Model - So far**

To repeat our brief discussion in control functionality, current attempts so far for this project, have yielded much larger file sizes than the original source dictionary in all cases, from MB to GB in difference between to source and output respectively.

As such, we will be keeping the data in simple line by line .txt format to improve efficiency in search and sort right from the off and even reducing the storage size requirements.

**Safety and Risk factors**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type | Details | Mitigation | Value (low1 | high10) |
| Human Error | We make mistakes, trust too much, blame too often, fail to factor in everything, and cannot always pre-empt | Planning, reading, research, batch tests, risk assessments, security tests, closing holes, reports, audits, legal, repeat | 10 |
| Human Safety | Electricity, Fire, ergonomics, well being, (stress, anxiety, fatigue), over exposure to computer screen, exposure to wifi router (proximity based) | Common sense, training, pat testing, moving or removing deadlines, recommendations, discussions (121, group), plenty of breaks, time off | 7 |
| Environmental | Blackouts, environmental events beyond our control, fire, evacuations, flooding, snowed in/out | Wait or receive notifications, else, insurance and work from home plans | 3 |
| External | ByoD, Social Engineering, Theft, Internal Hacking, Internal breaches of security, sickness, legal (copyrights, rights to own code, lack of code referencing), SVN/Git Issues, lack of training, | Background checks, Device policies, Group Policies, Sandboxing, contracts of employment, ensure developers put all references in per block , plagiarism checks, local and remote backups and versioning, work based training, on the job training | 7 |
| Over Development | Too many iterations, not recognising when to disseminate the project and leave as is with just patching, failing to recognise potential incorrect use, lack of corrective, preventative, and responsive measures | Reviews, Audits, Meetings, Monitoring, Liabilities in terms and conditions, standardised processes and procedures, including legal. | 5 |
| Documentation | Incorrectly documenting or not documenting, old documentation not archived, insufficient documentation (not enough detail) | Ensure documentation follows a standard and versioning and is backed up with dates, make time to dedicate to documentation, make certain it is thorough enough | 7 |
| Steak Holders | Pulling out, applying pressure, demanding too much from the MoSCoW, trying to steer in a direction the developers and/or company are not content with, requesting Illegal code behaviour, falsifying authority documentations, theft, lawsuits, legal theft, not paying | Meetings, Compromises, legal, Backup plans, ensure the MoS are done before the CoW, debrief in discussion about the direction of the project, contracts, denial of services for illegal activity, cancellation of contract terms (financial gain on pull out, both sides), solicitors, lawyers, court | 10 |

**Security**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type | Details | Mitigation | Value (low1 | high10) |
| Network | DoS, MitM, (Spoof, Cert replication, Proxy Routing), backdoors, outages | Provisioning, TLS/SSL, VPN, VLAN, Account logins, Key Rotation, Auth Standards, 2FA, Multiple containers, Cannot always mitigate outages, backup servers, use of horizontal plane? Planning, Research, Safety and Risk Mitigations, NaaS | 10 |
| Storage | Theft, Unprivileged Access, Misuse, Unauthorised use, Corruption, Failure, lack of backups, lack of space | OWIOWO, Multi-Layered Access (AAAA), RSA, Backups, Planning, Research, Safety and Risk Mitigations, Use of Horizontal Plane, Local Backups, Provisioned Backups, GPG | 7 |
| Vertical | Unauthorised use, Misuse, Debt incurrent, environmental, Unauthorised physical access to hardware, lack of locks on doors, SpoF, social engineering, firmware attacks, | Not using Vertical Services, Efficient Processing, Wake on LAN, Sophisticated Door locks, SaaS, PaaS, Multi Layered Traffic Transport, Get to know your team members, Background checks, Clearance levels, Work on a minimum trust basis or just trust people to want to do the right thing (cautiously) | 7 |
| Horizontal | Multiple variable environments, larger attack plane, misuse of provisioned service, direct access to provisioned service, over processing on end-users device, misuse of their storage, overheating, outages, Social engineering | Work based on the standard OS model as opposed to variants, MIMO, OWIOWO, Monitoring tools (SaaS), Distributed processing, Collective (Group) Policies – Central, Employee, Public, Minimum Trust, Contact Lists, Auth tools | 10 |
| Leak | ByoD, Social Engineering, Theft, Internal Hacking, Internal breaches of security, sickness, legal (copy writes, rights to own code, lack of code referencing), Memory, discarded work (skip divers) | Make use of PaaS, local storage and separate accounts for rights, permit share holding, firing, days off, employee rights, contracts of employment, company devices | 8 |
| Algorithms | Misuse, irrational behaviour (particularly with hybrid or new), misuse, incorrect use, sometimes unpredictable, rewrites and legal | Use Standardised, Batch tests, Functionality and Exploitability tests, Virtual systems, Virtual Networks, Emulations, Sandboxing, Technical Reports, Research, Rewrite, Reverse engineering (as tests and research), behavioural recognition builds (Antidotes) | 10 |
| Dictionaries | Misuse, storage requirements, unauthorised access, legal | Central Storage, Use of controlled libraries from service providers (i.e. Google, Microsoft), Non-local storage on the horizontal plane, multi-layered access (AAAA), RSA, No public releases to control code or backend storage, PaaS, SaaS, NaaS | 10 |
| Environmental | Impact with high levels of processing, physical access to junctions and base stations / switches, outages, social engineering, power outages, | Efficiency tests and technical reports, Research, some cannot be helped so NaaS, PaaS, Multi distribution Points and multi-layered distribution, local storage, Contacts lists, Multi layered Traffic, SPF? | 10 |

**Security in overview**

Further to PaaS, NaaS and SaaS, in-house built systems and monitoring tools would pave way for further opportunities of the project and the potential to further the companies reach into specialist areas thus generating further revenue. In the short term, those systems would be preferred over PaaS, NaaS and SaaS since they are unpaid services. In addition, the in-house systems can be tailored to specific use-case as required and further team members / employees knowledge, stimulate their interests, understanding and improve their professional experience.

The requirement for such systems and tools to be in place, furthers potential to steak holders and may even move the company / team into top-level companies outsource list if they see potential in the team / group as an asset to their own. That however presents issues during their own verification checks.

That is to say however, they might decide to have us work remotely following their own procedures. A route which may or may not be explored depending on our own interests as a team and direction we would like to go with the work.

With such tools already in place, and with their own functionality serving its purpose, there might not be any need for PaaS, NaaS or SaaS. However, that does then bring us to physical security, company policy, contractual obligations, contracts of employment, law, various other tasks legally required to be fulfilled and of course, requirement for steak holders and share holders in the company / team. It does not however, refute PaaS, NaaS or SaaS.

Breaches of security are difficult to cope with, the legal ramifications, evidence required, handing over of all documentation and hard / soft systems to forensics and security professionals is, in itself, breach of security and as such, is sometimes their plan or the plan of another in the first instance by means of social engineering on a large scale.

Cases have most probably occurred whereby which, a ‘criminal’ (security professional) has been sent in purely to get sensitive data which is being held securely for very good reasons on both sides of the case. The professional will breach security to cause a legal case to have the sensitive data legally handed over for further investigation, it happens in lots of different variants of crime, crime prevention and law suits, even in fiction.

The tools developed should in fact protect both the company, team, and public access to sensitive data, they should be capable of mitigating remote attacks and remote breaches of sensitive data. PaaS, NaaS and SaaS systems are designed in practice to do just that. Hosting with well known providers do just that and expose the team to such companies for potential to highlight the team / company to them.

As such, if any law suits are to occur, those providers autonomously hand over the data only after the legal documentation and justification have been suitably met, that is not to say if they see something they will hide it, that is to say, if our team and company is doing nothing wrong, often the provider will fight the legal battle on our behalf with plenty of leverage and even hand over the non-sensitive data for good reasons, even the document you are reading right now. They themselves as service providers have legal obligations.

Physical security is very costly, building rental, lock installation, key cards, security doors, fire doors, extraction fans, large rooms for storing hardware, large offices, network routers and switches, energy bills, insurance, the list is endless.

In some cases even physical security personnel and in very sensitive cases armed security professionals, their training, certifications and licenses and insurance policies, they are considered to be employees in those cases.

The need for testing and research of programming code behaviour and irrational behaviour to be reported is also part of security and should be reviewed once more across the whole section of control and model overviews enforcing the need to plan, research, test, report and audit. The stages leading up to the audits and technical reports are there to protect people and the infrastructure, we don’t want rogue algorithms and new code running without technical documentation and resolutions. We also do not want code running ‘in the wild’ which will cause harm at the wireless distribution points.

Memory leaks and virtualisation leaks are also to be looked into because although technically, the virtualisation technology acts as a hypervisor with multithreading capability and sits ’on top’ of the operating systems; They are still prone to memory leaks and local storage data theft. Particularly without fde. Although a lot of companies opt for fde, there is a marginal performance drop as a result. Furthermore, there is nothing to say a remote accessor via a web backdoor or and application back door (application level attacks) have not already breached the security levels and policies.

On that note, one should be cautious about cookie acceptance from javascript pop-ups, recall there could be a potential 24Mb of cookies stored from a single site via your browser, that is a large computer program if they were to compile. More over, javascript itself has the potential to be a huge security flaw when browsing.

**Development Lifecycle**

The section on development lifecycle is simple, an agility in hybrid approach is preferred to cope with the different scenarios throughout each iteration and stage of development, from the first for loop to the largest automated test case.

Some parts of development are simply a waterfall use case, some are iterative and others are cyclic or agile. Developers learn those skills and associations to each use of the hybrid approach (which encompasses several approaches) as they grow within the team / company.

As such some stresses, pressures and work flow inhibitants are mitigated, permitting a healthier work atmosphere. Some developers are more experienced than others and can recognise a simple waterfall approach, (step by step), in comparison to an agile hybrid (responding rapidly to a tailored algorithm and its behaviour).

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**Wireframes**

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**UML Diagrams**

