

Computer Games Development

Project Report

Year IV

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[Date of Submission]

[Declaration form to be attached]

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# Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following people who assisted in completing this project including;

John Doe of ACME who kindly agreed to …

I would also like to thank ICME for use of ….

Use this template when writing your research report. As a rule of thumb, the report should be of the order of 10 pages (about 250 words/page).

# Project Abstract

The main goal of my project is to create a no-code game editor which allows users without any coding experience to create a 2d, top-down, “shootemup” game. In the landscape of today’s gaming industry allowing users to create their own game modes and environments seems essential to the continued popularity of a game. With the industry shifting further every week towards a game’s as a “live service” model, the expectation of players is a consistent amount of new content. Very few developers can create content which they can put their name behind fast enough to meet this demand. This is where a game editor comes into play. Outsource the creation and distribution of new content to the players themselves.

# Project Introduction and/or Research Question

In the last couple of years most games which have had continued success and a thriving player base beyond the initial launch phase of the game have had this to some capacity. Roblox, Fortnite, Minecraft and GTA 5 are the best examples of this. Halo Infinite for example, launched without this and while it saw a massive player base initially, this dwindled off as 343 Industries were unable to add new content fast enough. Now they have released their in-game editor “Forge Mode” and the player base is beginning to return.

In my opinion, having some form of level editor in a lot of games, is near essential in order to sustain a large player base that keeps coming back for more. Furthermore, how your players are able to distribute these levels to each other is vital.

No Game has gone further in this regard than Fortnite Battle Royale, and low and behold consistently one of the most played games in world since its release 5 years ago. Not just does Fortnite have a game editor called “Creative” mode which allows you to create your own maps and minigames, but it also has a way to get your game viewed by the masses. Lastly, Fortnite incorporates referral codes called “creator codes” which allow the builders of these game modes to get paid. A player who plays their game, will see their creator code and opt to put in in their item shop, then when they buy something from the shop, a portion (5%) of that money goes to the creator. This is genius as it incentivises creating content more than even the enjoyment of being creative, but also the excitement of others enjoying your game and lastly the bonus of a pay check for doing a good job.

While its good for a game editor to have options, as it allows the player/creator to be as creative as they care to be, it’s also essential for an editor to have clear barriers to what cant be done and a direction/ use case which the editor is for.

In this instance the use case of my game editor is specifically to create 2d, top-down, “shootemups”. This ensures that people who come looking to create that, won’t be overwhelmed by a million things that don’t relate to what they are specifically trying to create. More options are good to a point, where it crosses over and makes you less likely to create.

The 2 main focuses of my editor are a smooth level designer and an accessible UI. The level designer allows you to create the world you want (within reason) that your game takes place in. An easy to use user interface is essential to the editor as players will only stay creating if their user experience is enjoyable.

Present relevant background or contextual material and define any terms or concepts when necessary.

Here you present to the audience what you are doing and why it is important. In essence, please provide an introduction to the project, why was it chosen, the potential impact of this research. You should state a research question (if any) and present the project objectives. This will most likely be a concrete question probably from one specific area, such as AI, Networking, Graphics etc.

E.g., Research Question Example (Networking): What is the effect of threshold size in the dead reckoning approach on player performance and player experience?

Summarize the main contributions of the project.

# Literature Review

Replace this text with an appropriate Literature Review.

The literature review places your research in context. You aren’t the first person to investigate or research a particular topic. Present a short literature review with the following goals:

* Give the reader a good overview of the key concepts;
* Describe the most relevant work (in your own words) that other people have done in this area;
* Use proper academic writing with references.
* Show how the existing work influenced your project.

# Evaluation and Discussion

Replace this text with Results and Discussion.

Describe the results using diagrams such as graphs etc. as appropriate, and discuss what the results mean.

Example: Results indicate that once the threshold gets over a certain point it significantly reduces player performance and player experience

**Project Milestones**

Replace this text with Project Milestones.

Key project milestone dates and measurement on schedule, was project schedule adhered to, effectively planned for delivery on-time or ahead of schedule if appropriate.

**Major Technical Achievements**

What are your major technical achievements?

**Project Review**

What went right? What went wrong? What (if anything) is still outstanding/missing (i.e., still left to do)? If starting again, how would you approach this project differently? What advice would you have for someone attempting a similar project in the future? Were your technology choices the right or wrong ones? If you chose the wrong technology, provide justifications for why you think this. What were the implications of your technology choices?

# Conclusions

summarise your work and findings.

**Future Work**

Indicate what might be some next steps to try (if a student next year was going to undertake a project in this area what might be an interesting thing for him/her to examine?).

# References

# Appendices

Replace this text with Appendices.

This might include ethics application and other relevant material e.g. copy of any questionnaires used.