Game Studies: studying the game w.r.t. its players, design ... and their role in the society.

**Game Theory:** A mathematical method of decision making of a competitive situation (game) that is analyzed to determine the optimal course of an action for an interested party (agent).

## Game studies is a huge field:

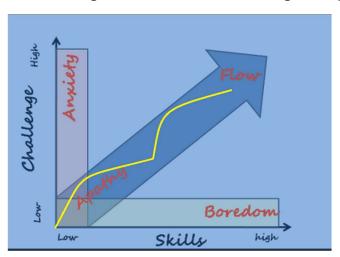
- 1. Sociologist View (Psychology): effect on people
- 2. Dynamics View (Structure): game's rules
- 3. Engineering View (Industry): how to make better games/design/development.

## **Game Funny? (1st View)**

- 1. Spatial Reasoning (Physical): searching for 3D objects that interact with body, eye, hands...
- 2. Pattern Recognition (Mental): candy crush game, cube ...
- 3. Social: communication skills, competition, coordination with others ... (social situation).

\*\* We give "real" emotions/psychological responses although we know the game is not "real"; (anger, anxiety, fear, pride..) => **Immersive** and **Flowing** gameplay.

<u>Flow:</u> deep sense of enjoyment so we keep the player **immersed** in the gameplay, it starts with **low level of challenge** to gain the **starting skills**, and **then it increases gradually** to avoid boredom.



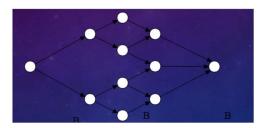
Structure View (2nd View): objects, rules, stories, objectives ...

- 1. **Ludology/Ludologists:** focus on the games' rules.
- 2. Narratology:
  - i) game should be understood as a novel of story-telling.
  - ii) Adding narrative to games:
    - a. Make it more compelling game (player is more convinced)
    - b. May add "social component."
  - iii) Narrative in games is like that in films (that what makes the player **immersed** and has real emotion responses):
    - a. Don't cut the narrative plane **or** chain.
    - b. Use the camera to immerse the viewer **or** to frame action.

iv) Narrative could be small cut scenes (all used for interactivity)

## **Concrete Things:**

- **1. Goals:** should be multiple simultaneous goals, achievable, and clear (always have at least one clear goal).
- 2. Illusion of choice: the player should think that his/her choice matter.
  - --Convexity of choice: 1 choice -> widen to many choices -> return to single choice (result).



- Rewards and Punishments: Value of an item depends on how much it costs the individual
  to acquire (money, effort, time ...) -> spend more time and effort => reward, not achieving a
  goal/objective/task => punishment
  - --Nowadays, players are <u>addicted to games</u> by rewards and punishment (punish if not playing, random rewards, loop reward/15 min ...)

**Engineering View (3<sup>rd</sup> View):** keep interfaces simple (shortcuts for advanced players), provide feedback for EVERY action, design for error and special needs.

**MDA:** is a game development paradigm designed to help developers:

- 1. To make the most out of a game idea
- 2. To proceed efficiently through the complex process of bringing a game to market.
- **A. Mechanics:** one should think before coding about: programming languages/ engines / tools/ libraries; the hardware required/ available; the software and hardware interfaces ...
- **B.** Dynamics: this is the "ludological" part and includes: the domain, rules, objects, players ... of the game.
- **C.** Aesthetics (Decoration): this is the "narratological" part and it is about the "look of the game" and includes: Colors, lighting, physical look of all players ...

```
//Rotation, Scale
transform.Rotate(0, 0, Time.deltaTime);
transform.localScale += new Vector3(Time.deltaTime, Time.deltaTime, 0);
//Input Axis:
transform.localScale += new Vector3(Time.deltaTime * Input.GetAxis("Fire1"), Time.deltaTime *
Input.GetAxis("Fire1"),0);
transform.Translate (Time.deltaTime * Input.GetAxis("Horizontal") * 2.0f, Time.deltaTime *
Input.GetAxis("Vertical") * 2.0f, 0.0f);
private void OnCollisionEnter2D(Collision2D other)
private void OnTriggerEnter2D(Collider2D other)
Input.GetKeyDown("space")
//Instantiation
public GameObject pinPrefab;
Instantiate(pinPrefab, new Vector3(-3.0f,-4.0f,0.0f), Quaternion.identity);
//Audio
AudioSource audio;
audio=GetComponent<AudioSource>();
audio.Play(0);
gameObject.tag;
//Active
GameObject obj = GameObject.FindWithTag("coin");
obj.SetActive(true/false);
//Finding objects
GameObject obj = GameObject.FindWithTag("tag");
GameObject obj = GameObject.Find("name");
//Finding components
GetComponent<Animator>(); //defaults to current object
obj.GetComponent<AudioSource>();
//Animation
Animator aninm;
void Start() { anim=GetComponent<Animator>(); }
void Update() {
   int state = anim.GetInteger("state");
   if (Input.GetKey(KeyCode.W))
       anim.SetTrigger("jump");
   if(Input.GetKey(KeyCode.D))
       transform.Translate(Time.deltaTime*2.0f,0.0f,0.0f);
       anim.SetInteger("state",0);
```

```
SceneManager.LoadScene(levelNames[currentLevel],LoadSceneMode.Additive); //LoadSceneMode.Additive means
load scene without unloading scene... idk why
SceneManager.UnloadSceneAsync(oldScene);
//MoveBackground
float speed = 0.1f;
float xpos = 0.0f;
void Start(){InvokeRepeating ("CreateAnchor", 0, 2.0f);}
 void Update() {
   xpos += Time.DeltaTime*speed;
   if(xpos >= 1.0f)
     xpos = 0.0f;
   Rendered bg = GetComponent<Renderer>();
   bg.material.mainTextureOffset = new Vector2(xpos,0.0f);
   float height = Camera.main.orthographicSize*2.0f;
   float width = Cmaera.main.aspect*height;
   float xChange = bg.bounds.size.x*speed*Time.DeltaTime;
   float xmin = -width/2.0f;
   GameObject[] anchors = GameObject.GetWithTag("anchor");
   foreach(GameObject anchor in anchors) {
     anchor.transform.Translate(-xChange,0.0f,0.0f);
     Renderer rn = anchor.GetComponent<Renderer>();
     if(anchor.transform.position.x < xmin - rn.bounds.size.x)</pre>
       Destroy(anchor);
   void CreateAnchor() {
     float height = Camera.main.orthographicSize*2.0f;
     float width = Camera.main.aspect*height;
     float xmin = -width/2.0f;
     float ymin = -height/2.0f;
     float xmax = width/2.0f;
     float ymax = height/2.0f;
     GameObject anchor = Instantiate(anchorPrefab);
     Renderer r = anchor.GetComponent<Renderer>();
     float x = xmax + r.bounds.size.x;
```

float y = Random.Range(ymin, ymax);

anchor.transform.position = new Vector3(x,y,0.0f);