Objectives

- Compare SFML with GLFW and GLAD for handling GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem.
- Study and document the structure and functionality of GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem.
- Conduct an in-depth analysis of the pros and cons of SFML and GLFW+GLAD for graphics rendering.
- Provide a progress update to the team lead and push the updated code to GitHub for review.
- Begin working on new R&D requirements for replacing Qt libraries.

Activities

1. Comparison of SFML and GLFW+GLAD

Key differences and applications:

• High-Level vs. Low-Level:

- SFML is a high-level library ideal for 2D rendering, with builtin abstractions for views, scenes, and sprites.
- GLFW and GLAD are low-level libraries focused on OpenGL context creation and function loading, requiring manual implementation of abstractions.

• Ease of Use:

- SFML has a beginner-friendly API and short learning curve.
- GLFW+GLAD demands OpenGL knowledge, making it harder for beginners.

• Flexibility and Performance:

- SFML is efficient for simple 2D graphics but less flexible.
- GLFW+GLAD provide granular control, optimizing advanced rendering and 3D performance.

Setup and Resources:

 SFML is straightforward to set up with built-in support for audio, networking, and image loading. GLFW+GLAD setup is complex, with additional dependencies for audio and other functionalities.

Suitability:

- SFML is ideal for 2D games and multimedia applications.
- GLFW+GLAD are better suited for advanced 2D/3D applications requiring high customizability.

2. Studying GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem

GraphicsView:

- Provides a viewport for scene rendering and manages transformations like zoom and pan.
- Includes functions like zoom(), pan(), fitInView(), and mapToScene().

o GraphicsScene:

- Manages GraphicsItem objects and renders them in sequence.
- Supports functions like addItem(), draw(), and itemAt() for hit testing.

o GraphicsItem:

- Serves as the base class for graphical elements with transformations (position, rotation, scale).
- Includes derived classes like RectItem (rectangles) and TextureItem (images).
- Handles rendering and hit testing with draw() and contains().

3. Pros and Cons of SFML vs. GLFW+GLAD

o **SFML**:

- Pros:
 - Beginner-friendly.
 - Integrated modules for graphics, audio, and networking.
 - Simple event system.

Cons:

- Limited flexibility and performance for advanced rendering.
- Abstractions introduce slight overhead.

\circ GLFW + GLAD:

Pros:

- High customizability and extensibility.
- Optimized for performance-critical and advanced rendering tasks.
- Larger OpenGL-focused community for support.
- Cons:
 - Steep learning curve due to OpenGL complexity.
 - Requires additional libraries for non-graphics tasks like audio.

4. Team Lead Meeting

- o Provided a progress update and pushed the code to GitHub for review.
- Discussed the R&D findings and implementation methods.

5. New R&D Requirements

- o Updated focus for free replacement libraries:
 - **UI**: ImGUI
 - **Signals**: Boost.Signals2
 - Graphics: SDL (to replace GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem).
 - **I/O**: OpenGL
- Additional tasks:
 - Add new functionalities beyond the current implementation.
 - Focus on detailed comparison of the graphics aspect.

6. Started Work on New R&D Requirements

- o Began studying SDL's capabilities for replacing GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem.
- o Planned integration of OpenGL for I/O and rendering functionalities.

Achievements

- Conducted a detailed comparison of SFML and GLFW+GLAD, highlighting their strengths and limitations.
- Documented the structure and functionality of GraphicsView, GraphicsScene, and GraphicsItem.
- Pushed updated code to GitHub for team lead review.

• Initiated work on new R&D requirements with a focus on SDL and OpenGL integration.

Problems & Solutions

- 1. **Problem**: Steep learning curve for GLFW+GLAD compared to SFML.
 - Solution: Continued in-depth study of OpenGL fundamentals to bridge knowledge gaps.
- 2. **Problem**: Limited abstraction in GLFW+GLAD for graphics scenes and items.
 - o **Solution**: Began exploring SDL as a potential replacement for these abstractions.