

**Spike:** Spike Week 14

**Title:** Emergent Group Behaviour

**Author:** Nguyen Khanh Toan - 104180605

**Goals / deliverables:**

Create a group agent steering behaviour simulation that is able to demonstrate distinct modes of emergent group behaviour. In particular, the simulation must:

- Include cohesion, separation and alignment steering behaviours
- Include basic wandering behaviours
- Use a weighted-sum to combine all steering behaviours
- Support the adjustment of parameters for each steering force while running
- Spike outcome report and working code (with key instructions).

**Technologies, Tools, and Resources used:**

- Visual Studio Code
- Python 3.12

**Tasks undertaken:**

- Install Python 3+
- Install and setup compatible IDE for the language, e.g.: Visual Studio Code
- Pay attention to the comment of how the code work and functionality. Can use debug tool to observe the program more clearly.
- Run the code and observing the output.

**Planning Notes:**

- Use the existing lab code, copy and create a new project
- Extend the code to support multiple agents and new keyboard input
- Create display code that can show the current parameter values you need
- Create code that can, for each agent, identify its immediate "neighbours" and gather the average heading, the centre position etc as needed

**What we found out:**

Combine force: In the calculation function, it will calculate the force of a group of agents. The forces are the combination of wander force, cohesion force and alignment force, using the formular  $F = m * a$  where F: force; m: weight; a: acceleration of the object. This a group of agents have the same vector of direction

The wander function, introduced in previous tasks, introduces random behavior by initially adding a small random vector to the agent's current target position. This vector is then adjusted to fall within a unit circle

with the same radius as the wander circle. Finally, the target position is moved ahead of the agent, and the agent seeks toward this new target.

```
1 elif mode == "combine":
2     wander_accel = self.wander(delta)
3     cohesion_accel = self.cohesion(close_neighbors)
4     alignment_accel = self.alignment(close_neighbors)
5     print("CO AND AL", cohesion_accel, alignment_accel)
6
7     combined_force = (wander_accel * self.wander_weight +
8                       cohesion_accel * self.cohesion_weight +
9                       alignment_accel * self.alignment_weight)
```

Cohesion: The cohesion function determines the centre point of nearby agents and provides a direction toward that point. This enables agents to move together in groups.

```
1 def cohesion(self, close_neighbors):
2     center_of_mass = Vector2D()
3     count = 0
4     # if close_neighbors is not None:
5     if len(close_neighbors) > 0:
6         for agent in close_neighbors:
7             center_of_mass += agent.pos
8             count += 1
9         if count > 0:
10            center_of_mass /= count
11            return center_of_mass
12
13     return Vector2D()
```

Separation: Separation identifies the nearest neighbour among nearby agents and calculates the force needed to push the agent away from that neighbour. This behaviour helps agents avoid collisions and maintain a safe distance from each other.

```
1 def separation(self, close_neighbors):
2     if not close_neighbors:
3         return Vector2D()
4     closest_agent = self.closest(close_neighbors)
5     closest_agent_pos = closest_agent.pos
6     target = (self.pos - closest_agent_pos).normalise()
7     to_target = target - self.pos.normalise()
8
9     return to_target
```

Alignment: Alignment computes the average direction of neighbouring agents and adjusts the agent's heading to match that average direction. This ensures that agents align their movements with those of their neighbours.

```
1 def alignment(self, close_neighbors):
2     average_heading = Vector2D()
3     count = 0
4
5     if len(close_neighbors) > 0:
6         # if close_neighbors is not None:
7         for agent in close_neighbors:
8             average_heading += agent.heading
9             count += 1
10
11     if count > 0:
12         average_heading /= len(close_neighbors)
13         average_heading -= self.heading
14         return average_heading
15     else:
16         return Vector2D()
17
```