

Sections and Chapters

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October 8, 2022

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Source code documentation

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1.1.3 Creatures

In the following chapters, we will use several variables to compute various information regarding creatures in-game, their status and the way that they interact with the environment and the player. For that purpose, we will use the following definitions, some are explicitly computed/stored in-game, others are just definitions and are not explicitly declared in-game. The definitions we will use are

- *min_local* the smallest local coordinate value possible
- *max_local* the biggest local coordinate value possible
- *Player_global coordinate* to represent a player's global coordinate, either X or Y coordinate
- *Creature_global coordinate* to represent a creature's global coordinate, either X or Y coordinate
- The exact same variables are defined for the local coordinates
- *max_moves* is the maximum number of tiles a player/creature can move, before they move out of bounds of the current screen view. It is computed as $(max_local - min_local) + 1$
- *Player_set to min* is a subtraction of the players global coordinate s.t its local coordinate is the minimal. It is computed as $Player_global_coordinate - (Player_local_coordinate - min_local)$

- $Player_{set\ to\ max}$ is an addition of the players global coordinate s.t its local coordinate is the maximal. It is computed as $Player_{global\ coordinate} + (max_local - Player_{local\ coordinate})$

With that in mind, we can now go over the different mechanics that we need to consider for the creatures in game, such as spawning, movement, death, behavior, actions and so on

Spawning creatures

When it comes to spawning creatures, there are several things that we need to compute in relation to the player. One of them is the creatures local coordinates. The kicker about this is that while a player's local coordinates can be arbitrary without any hassle, the coordinates of the creature must be aligned relative to the players to that the view the creature has on screen matches that of the global coordinates. To do this, there are two cases that need to be considered, the trivial case and the nontrivial case.

In the trivial case, the distance between the player and the creature is s.t the distance for the particular axis, does not exceed the boundaries of the screen

In the non-trivial case, what we effectively do is reduce it to the nontrivial case. The way that we do this is by considering whether the axis-wise coordinate for the player is greater or smaller than the creature's just like in the non-trivial case. In the case that

$$Player_{global\ coordinate} > Creature_{global\ coordinate}$$

Then set the creature's local coordinate to

$$Creature_{local\ coordinate} = max_local - (Player_{set\ to\ max} - Creature_{global\ coordinate}) \mod max_moves$$

In the other case where

$$Player_{global\ coordinate} < Creature_{global\ coordinate}$$

Instead, set the creature's local coordinate to

$$Creature_{local\ coordinate} = min_local + (Player_{set\ to\ min} - Creature_{global\ coordinate}) \mod max_moves$$

The workings of this are a little hard to work around. Admittedly, this took rather a long while to figure out and I am unsure whether the computations can get simplified further. However, truth be told, I spent way too long to figure this out and so at this point that I cannot be bothered to come up with more clever solutions.

The way it works (informally) is as follows. Assume that

1.2 Controls

1.2.1 Keyboard Layout

a-m	n-z	A-M	N-Z+ESC
a - N/A	n - N/A	A - N/A	N - N/A
b - N/A	o - N/A	B - N/A	O - N/A
c - N/A	p - N/A	C - N/A	P - N/A
d - N/A	q - N/A	D - N/A	Q - N/A
e - equip item in inventory	r - N/A	E - Show equipped items	R - N/A
f - N/A	s - N/A	F - N/A	S - N/A
g - N/A	t - N/A	G - N/A	T - N/A
h - N/A	u - N/A	H - N/A	U - N/A
i - Display current inventory	v - N/A	I - N/A	W - N/A
j - N/A	w - N/A	J - N/A	X - N/A
k - N/A	x - N/A	K - N/A	Y - N/A
l - show past 10 events	y - N/A	L - N/A	Z - N/A
m - N/A	z - N/A	M - N/A	ESC - Quit command

Table 1.1: Keyboard bindings.

1.2.2 Character meanings on map

a-m	n-z	A-M	N-Z+ESC	Misc.
a - animal	n - N/A	A - N/A	N - N/A	@ - player character
b - N/A	o - N/A	B - N/A	O - N/A	! - interactable npc
c - N/A	p - N/A	C - N/A	P - N/A	
d - N/A	q - N/A	D - N/A	Q - N/A	
e - N/A	r - N/A	E - N/A	R - N/A	
f - N/A	s - N/A	F - N/A	S - N/A	
g - N/A	t - trader	G - N/A	T - N/A	
h - N/A	u - N/A	H - N/A	U - N/A	
i - N/A	v - N/A	I - N/A	W - N/A	
j - N/A	w - N/A	J - N/A	X - N/A	
k - N/A	x - N/A	K - N/A	Y - N/A	
l - N/A	y - N/A	L - N/A	Z - N/A	
m - N/A	z - N/A	M - N/A	ESC - Quit command	

Table 1.2: Meaning of characters on screen.