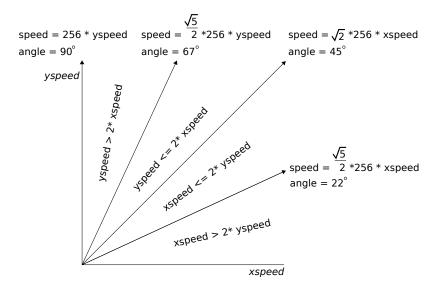
0.1 Tricks

This section describes random tricks used to speed up rendering.

0.1.1 Bouncing Flower

When Keen throws a flower it bounces of the walls. For flat walls and floors the bounce can be easily calculated by reversing either the x-speed (for vertical walls) or y-speed (for horizontal walls). It becomes more complicated for slopes. Making an accurate calculation of the bounce on a slope requires expensive cos and sin methods.

Instead, the game used a simple algorithm that approximates the angle to either 22° , 45° or 90° . Based on the ratio between the x- and y-speed it calculates the resulting speed and corresponding angle. Notice that for higher precision the speed is multiplied with 256.



For each of the eight type of slopes (Figure ??) and incoming angle combination, the corresponding bounce is defined using a simple lookup table.

The value in the table refers to the corresponding bounce angle calculation. As example, waltype 3 with incoming angle of 22° , results in bounce calculation case 5.

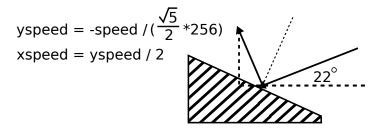


Figure 1: Walltype 3 with incoming angle of 22° (angle=0).

```
absx = abs(ob->xspeed);
absy = ob->yspeed;
if (absx>absy)
 if (absx>absy*2) // 22 degrees
   angle = 0;
  speed = absx*286;  // x*sqrt(5)/2 *256
 else
  [...]
          // Check for 45, 67 and 90 degrees
}
if (ob->xspeed > 0)
 angle = 7-angle;  // mirror angle
speed >>= 1;
                        // speed / 2 after bounce
newangle = bounceangle[ob->hitnorth][angle];
switch (newangle)
{
[\ldots]
case 5:
 ob->yspeed = -(speed / 286);
 ob->xspeed = ob->yspeed / 2;
 break;
[...]
}
```

Notice that in several cases the bounce angle is not following the laws of physics.

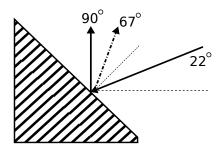


Figure 2: Incoming angle of 22° on a 45° slope results in 90° bounce.

0.1.2 Pseudo Random Generator

Random numbers are necessary for many things during runtime, such as calculating whether an enemy is able to hit the player based on its accuracy. This is achieved with a precalculated pseudo-random series of 256 elements.

```
rndindex
          dw
             ?
rndtable
db
           8, 109, 220, 222, 241, 149, 107, 75, 248, 254, 140,
                  47, 80, 242, 154, 27, 205, 128, 161,
db
          21, 211,
                                                            89,
                                                                  77,
                                                                       36
db
               85,
                    48, 212, 140, 211, 249, 22, 79, 200,
                                                                  28, 188
     95, 110,
                                                             50,
                                   62, 70, 184, 190, 91, 197, 152, 224
db
     52, 140, 202, 120,
                         68, 145,
               25, 178, 252, 182, 202, 182, 141, 197,
db
    149, 104,
                                                         4, 81, 181, 242
db
    145.
         42,
               39, 227, 156, 198, 225, 193, 219, 93, 122, 175, 249,
db
               70, 239, 46, 246, 163, 53, 163, 109, 168, 135,
    175, 143,
db
         92,
               20, 145, 138,
                             77,
                                  69, 166,
                                             78, 176, 173, 212, 166, 113
    25,
db
     94, 161,
                    50, 239,
                              49, 111, 164,
                                             70,
                                                  60.
                                                         2,
                                                             37, 171,
db
    136, 156,
                    56, 42, 146, 138, 229,
                                             73, 146,
               11,
                                                       77,
                                                             61,
db
    135, 106,
               63, 197, 195,
                              86,
                                   96, 203, 113, 101, 170, 247, 181, 113
db
     80, 250, 108,
                     7, 255, 237, 129, 226,
                                            79, 107, 112, 166, 103, 241
db
     24, 223, 239, 120, 198,
                              58,
                                   60,
                                        82, 128,
                                                    3, 184,
                                                             66, 143, 224
                              45,
                                        90, 168, 114,
db
    145, 224,
               81, 206, 163,
                                   63,
                                                       59.
                                                             33, 159,
db
                                   15,
                                        70, 194, 253,
                                                       54,
     28, 139, 123, 98, 125, 196,
                                                             14, 109, 226
                              87, 244, 138,
db
         17, 161,
                  93, 186,
                                             20,
                                                   52, 123, 251,
                                                                 26,
db
               52, 231, 232,
                              76,
                                   31, 221,
                                             84,
                                                   37, 216, 165, 212, 106
          46,
db
               98, 43,
                         39, 175, 254, 145, 190,
                                                  84, 118, 222, 187, 136
    197, 242,
    120, 163, 236, 249
```

Each entry in the array has a dual function. It is an integer within the range [0-255]¹ and it is also the index of the next entry to fetch for next call. This works overall as a 255 entry chained list. The pseudo-random series is initialized using the current time modulo 256 when the engine starts up.

¹Or at least it was intended to!

```
; void US_InitRndT (boolean randomize)
; Init table based RND generator
; if randomize is false, the counter is set to 0
PROC US_InitRndT randomize:word
 uses si,di
 public US_InitRndT
 mov ax,[randomize]
 or ax, ax
 jne @@timeit ;if randomize is true, really random
 mov dx,0
              ; set to a definite value
 jmp @@setit
@@timeit:
 mov ah, 2ch
          ; GetSystemTime
 int 21h
 and dx, Offh
@@setit:
 mov [rndindex],dx
 ret
ENDP
```

The random number generator saves the last index in rndindex. Upon request for a new number, it simply looks up the new value and updates rndindex.