Game Design Document

[Jelblob The Horrific Adventure]

Created by Team ASK

## 1.High Concept

1.1. Core Concept**:** “Jelblob The Horrific Adventure” is an unforgiving 2D side scrolling Platformer with a unique shooting feature that punishes the player for using it.

Jelblob is the main character of the game and is a simple generic slime creature only made special by the current predicament that he finds himself in. like all slime he can move to his left, to his right and he can jump, he can also should he chose take parts of himself and fling them at his enemies but this will have a price attached. The Horrific Adventure tells the story of the time Jelblob was accidently abducted and taken aboard the evil exotic animal dealer Dr. Magmim’s Bio ship. Upon realizing he had picked up the slime the Dr. begins his ruthless purge system that will lead to the death of Jelblob even at the cost of many of the doctor’s robotic minions and his exotic collection of animals. What follows in an epically difficult race for survival as Jelblob flees the purge system through many different Bio Domes in order to reach the ships core and escape back home.

Based off similar 2D platformers The Horrific Adventure will take the player through 7 unique levels based on different world environments each level will have its own thematic version of the purge system taking the shape of a disaster found naturally in each bio dome. as well as the purge system the player will encounter a multitude of different enemies and natural environmental hazards.

The Horrific Adventure being a 2D platformer it would worth mentioning that the game has 4 different platform types some of which will affect the players movement in major ways.

This game will be made in Unity using a C# programming language and is intended for play on PC only. The game is intended to have a high difficulty level with no checkpoints or rewards for the player until the final level is completed.

## 2.Gameplay Overview

2.1. Level structure: Each level in the horrific adventure is a challenging linear experience. The player is given no information in terms of what challenges or dangers they will face. All the player is made aware of at the start of any level is that they must reach the end before they are consumed by a thematically appropriate purge system (wall of death).  
There is only one way to complete any given level in the horrific adventure and that is to reach the end, there are no saves and no checkpoints if a player dies on level 6 they must start again from level 1 this is not a forgiving game.

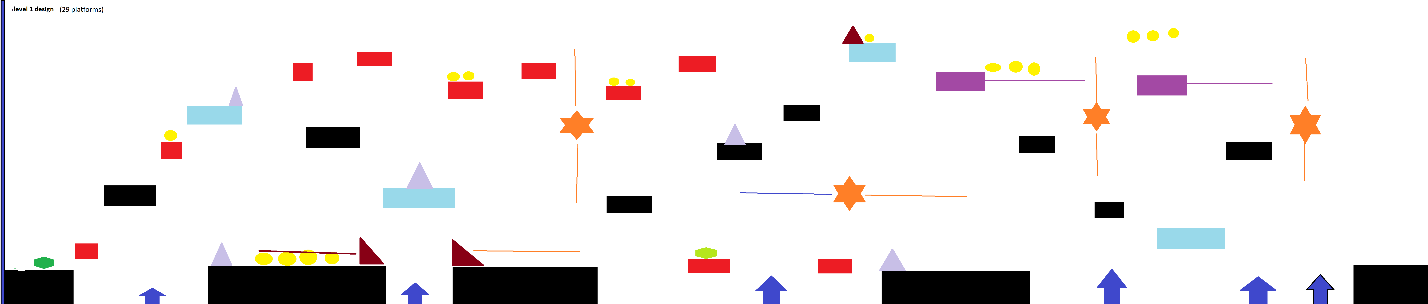
Each level is basically the same in the sense of they have the same mechanics and goals however the levels are thematically different not just in visuals but in the way the levels are crafted an example of this would be the frozen level (level 2) has a larger number of slippery platforms than any other level providing it with its own level of difficulty depending on how well a player deals with slippery platforms and the dangers they pose.

Another prime example of this would be the jungle level (level 3) which has a lot less in terms of platforms in general and the platforms it does have are spaced much further apart than the player is able to jump, what this level does have a lot of however are the bounce enemies forcing the player to use them to traverse and complete the level.

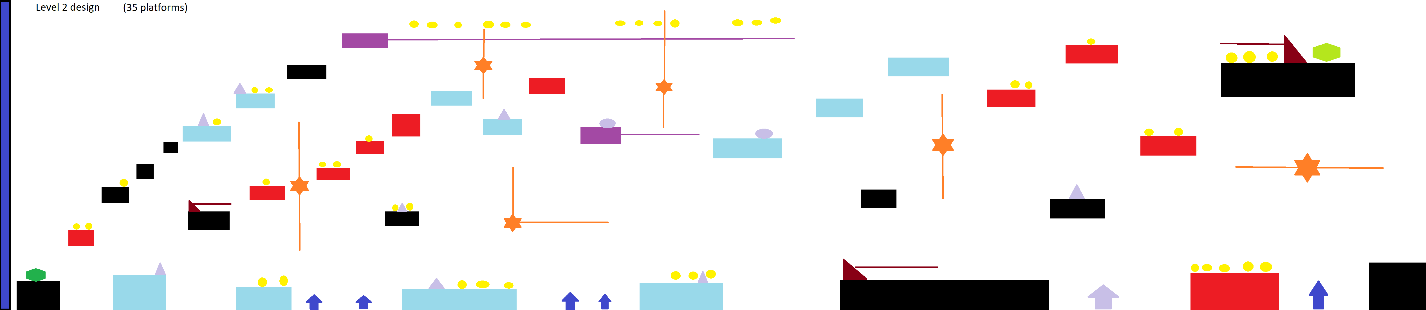
All levels in the horrific adventure contain 2 pickup types these pickups have no direct impact on the players ability to complete the level.

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**Level 1 (volcanic)**

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**Level 2 (Frozen)**

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**Level 3 (jungle)**

**Level 4**

**Level 5**

**Level 6**

**Level 7**

## 2.2. Player controls:

## 2.3. Player interactions with platform types:

The Horrific Adventure contains 4 platform types each of which have different effects on the player and purposes in the game:

Solid platforms: Solid platforms are the typical type of platform you will find in all platformers and is normally the core platform type in any given level. As with other platformers the horrific adventures solid platforms have no effect on the players movement they will sometimes be populated with enemies’ coin or slime pickups.

Crumbling platforms: Crumbling platforms simply put are platform types that upon the player having contact with the top of the platform, will begin to descend from the current position and eventually disappear off the level taking anything on them down with them. The purpose of this platform type is to force the player into quick thinking in terms of where they next move should be made and to speed up the player over all.

Slippery platforms: slippery platforms in the horrific adventure especially in some levels (frozen) are quite common. Upon landing on a slippery platform, the player character without any input from the player will slide along the length of the platform until colliding with another object or falling off the edge. There is no way to for the player to stop this effect they can merely slow it down by attempting to move in the opposite direction.

Moving platforms: Moving platforms in the horrific adventure work basically in the exact same way as they do in other more well-known platformers, their purpose is simply to force the player to slow down and carry them over distances that can’t be reached from other platforms. During stages with moving platforms the player can expect a high volume of flying enemies.

## 2.4. Shooting, Mass mechanic and player health:

The mass mechanic in the horrific adventure is by far the most unique feature in the game. The players mass is only affected by the player shooting and is in no way a representation of the players health.

Simply put there is no health system in the horrific adventure the player has 1 life with no way of getting another, anything that hits the player be it an enemy, enemy attack, purge system or environmental attack it will kill the player causing a game over.

The mass system is in place as an extra level of difficulty, every 2 shots the player takes will decrease the players mass, once at minimum mass the player will no longer be able to shoot. Player mass will however recover every 30 seconds the player will gain 1 level off mass until they are back at max mass there is also one slime pickup per level that will put the player to max mass when collected.

When the player loses mass this is represented visually in the color of the player character, Lime Green means maximum mass, dark green means medium and brown means minimum mass. In addition to the players color and inability to shoot changing at different masses the players jump height is also drastically affected by this change. This forces to player to think about the worthiness of shooting an enemy rather than just avoiding them as shooting that enemy could decrease player mass making the player unable to reach the required height for the next platform.

This mass system mixed with the horrific adventures purge system makes for a very challenging experience that will punish players for not properly thinking about their actions.

## 2.5. Purge system and environment attacks:

The purge system in the horrific adventure is basically a thematically appropriate wall of death that chases the player through every level of the game. From level to level the only thing that changes about the purge system is its appearance, the purge system will look thematically appropriate for each level i.e. a wall of lava in the volcanic level or a sandstorm in the desert level.

The only way to survive the purge system is to run away from it there is no way to slow it and no way to survive collision with it. The primary purpose of the purge system is to give the player a sense of urgency and to force them to speed up decision making, waiting too long to decide which route to take will cause the player immediate pain and death.

In addition to the purge system the Environment itself is out to kill the player with environment attacks. As with the purge system these environment attacks are visually thematically appropriate for example in the frozen level these will take the form of shards of ice. Environment attacks are exactly how they sound they are attacks from the environment and are found in every level at random points they will shoot at the player from above or below, the only way to combat this is to avoid them.

## 2.6. Coin and slime pickups:

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## 2.7. Story overview:

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## 3.Enemy Overview

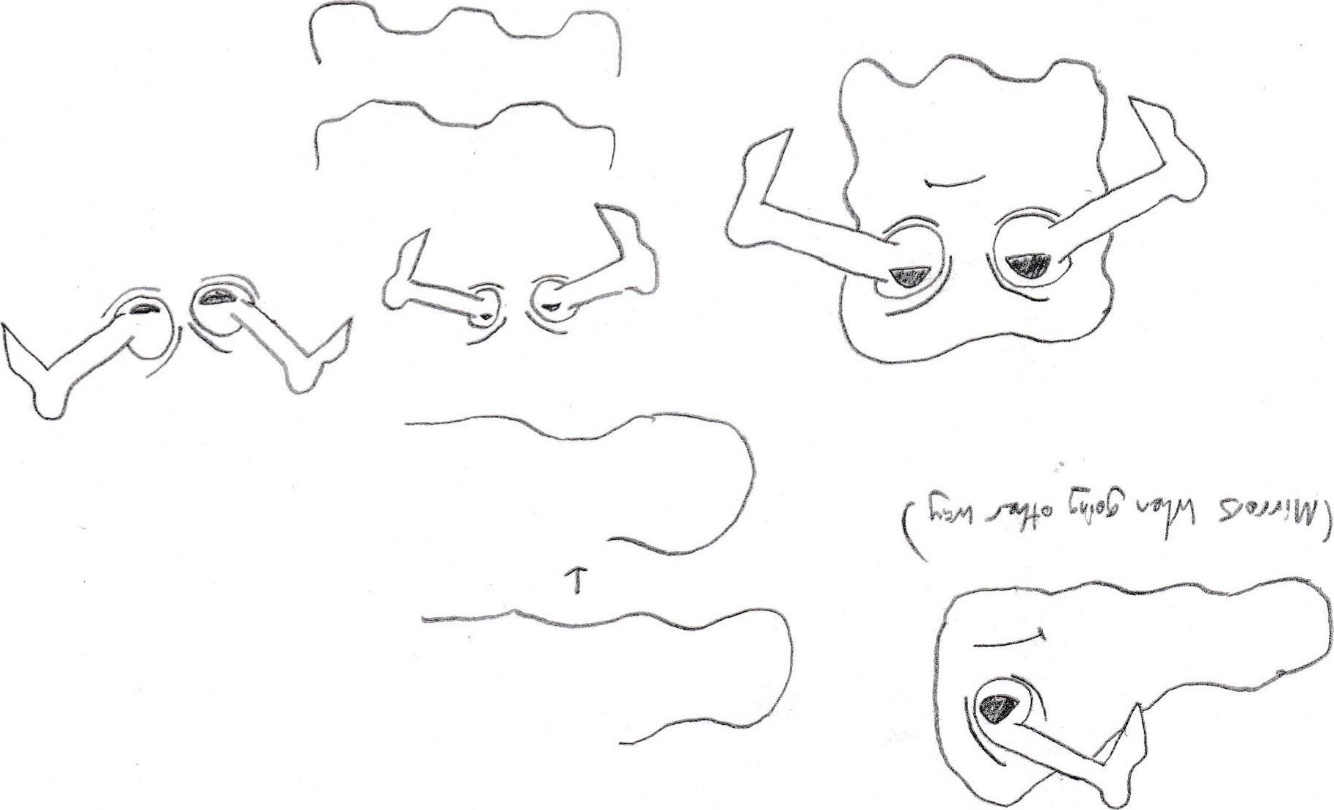
## 3.1. Enemy Bios:

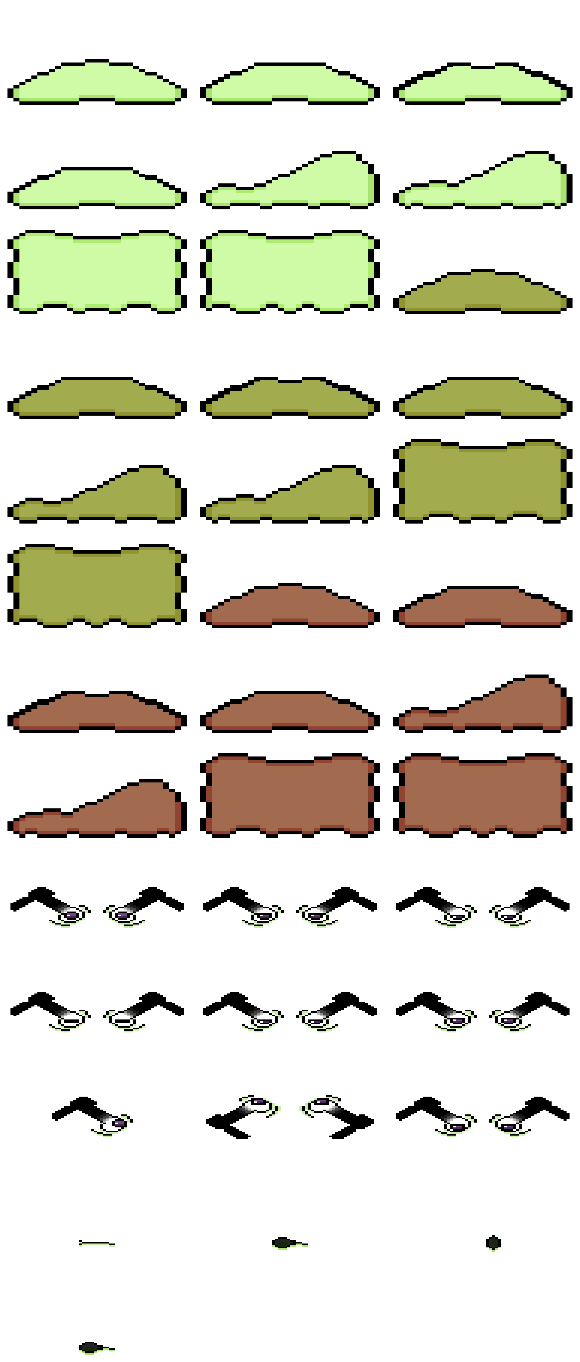
* **Navigator (stationary enemy)**: These simple creations lead the charge against the player with dangerously pointy spikes on their side!... However due to Dr Magmin using cheap materials for their development, their top heads are rather fragile to anything and with their gyroscopes out of whack, they are completely unable to move despite their appearance.
* **Navigator with Bounce Helm (Stationary bounce enemy)**: Due to the amount of complaints from the Navigators department about the failure rate of Navigator missions, a new solution to the problem was to give every Navigator a bounce helm to stop their fragile heads from being cracked open, no changes have made to the gyroscopes though meaning they are still unable to move (Of course, it doesn’t solve the problem of them being so useless.)
* **Enforcer(Moving enemy):** Every leader needs his soldiers, and the Enforcer fits this bill nicely enough. A slow moving robotic tank that hovers, they lock-on to their target and mercilessly hunt it down to crush it. This puts a lot of strain on the Enforcers body, causing them to explode to the slightest force that may collide with their body… hey, at least they are smart enough to turn away from ledges.
* **Patroller (Flying enemy):** They are the eyes in the skies and enough fuel to make it past the moon, the patroller joins the chase! Built with latest (but cheapest) materials, they glide through the air, hoping to by chance to bump into their targets with their rockets; letting them feel the burn of their air superiority!

## 3.2. Enemy Functions:

## 4.The Visuals of the Horrific Adventure

## 4.1. Slimeblob visual:



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## 4.2. Enemy Visuals:

## 4.3. System purge and Environmental Visuals:

## 4.4. Platform Visuals:

**Story:**

Deep within the depths of space, within a bizarre cloud of matter where many dimensions meet, an uncharted planet covered in lush jungles and open field’s lies. Deep within one of the jungles of this planet, rests a creature known as ‘Jelblob’, a slime-jelly like monster which spends its days jumping around and fleeing from predators.

One day it was resting like usual amongst a herd of animals when suddenly a giant spaceship appeared out of nowhere in the sky; and fired an abduction beam which pulled in all the animals, and Jelblob too! There was a bright light, and then suddenly Jelblob found himself within another, new jungle; however this one was within a giant glass dome surrounded by machinery. Little did he know that he had been abducted by Dr Magmin, an infamous evil genius who made his fortune by capturing and selling exotic creatures from planets across the universe.

While it might’ve not been bad for Jelblob which considered itself a lazy creature, Dr Magmin however viewed the creature as an unwanted, disgusting virus which risks contaminating his bio-dome and his collection of creatures. So he planned to release a special gas which would chase after and only disintegrate the slime creature and leave the rest of his collection unharmed, the plan was foolproof!... except he had a bad habit of leaving doors open everywhere (with the domes being no exception), and Jelblob had a talent of being able to escape anywhere.

So, take control of the Jelblob, and help him escape the bio-domes (and ultimately the spaceship) of Dr Magmin as he attempts to gas, flood, burn, bury, freeze, shred, bury again and blast away Jelblob.

**Game Walkthrough:**

As with other 2D side scrolling platformers “Jelblob’s Horrific Adventure” has the basic controls players have come to expect, the player can move left, right and jump as well as shoot in the direction they are facing.

The player will encounter multiple platform types that will have varied effects on the players movement, some will crumble to the players touch causing the player to plummet to their death if their reaction times are not quick enough, while others will slide the player across them straight into enemies or off the edge.

Jelblob will also face multiple enemy types that vary in their movement and abilities, one enemy is entirely stationary and is purely a barrier for the player while another will fly along set routes in the level and reign death upon Jelblob whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Jelblob doesn’t only have Magmim’s minions to worry about as the environment is also against him, because of the ongoing purge each level will have a thematically appropriate wall of death that will progress towards the player forcing them to move quickly or die. As well as the death walls the environment its self will also try to kill Jelblob again with thematically appropriate attacks that will strike from the ground or from above.

Jelblob’s Horrific Adventure is a very unforgiving game, there are no checkpoints there are no lives once you die it is game over and you must restart from the beginning of the game there is no easy way to win.

[Bio for core game enemy below]

* **\\Stickler:** Traps they are, as well as robots too (and nuisances), introducing the Stickler, a robot capable of sticking onto any surface and not moving for long periods of time (in fact, not moving at all forever); whenever an enemy walks into its reach, it will admit a healthy controlled shock which will subdue in no time! However due to their battery life, they are known to enter sleep mode for random periods of time, activating their shock functions upon wakening before going back into sleep mode…
* **\\Stickler gone Haywire:** “…okay, it has been noted recently that Sticklers tend to be in sleep mode more often than being active, so we attempted to increase their battery life and adjust some wiring so that they are able to stay awake forever. However, we can’t get close to turn off their functions and it seems at random intervals their shock function intensifies beyond the norm, so the safety distance for being near a Stickler has increased. So, all employee’s/workers are to just leave them alone and keep a safe distance always. Thank you.” – *Announcement from Dr Magmin.*
* **//Sky Patroller:** Not enough data from the prototype patrollers could be extracted before they fell victim to their fragile bodies, so for the next version of Patrollers we equipped them with the very same bounce helms used for Navigators and improved their flight capabilities; so now their survivability has greatly increased in any environment! (still not suited for actual combat, but we’ll see about that in the final version of this series…)
* **//Heavy Mag Patroller:** The true kings of the airfield and terror from above, the final version of the Patroller series comes equipped with the best air artillery at Dr Magmins disposal; proving to be an enemy none would want to come up against. Their AI has greatly improved so their smart enough to keep their height advantage, and their weapon has great spread across the field making this one enemy to always watch out for.
* **//Cold Enforcer:** With much more time spent of their development and covering their flaws, the Cold Enforcer is the ideal soldier for Dr Magmin; Bounce Helm to protect them from projectiles above them, improved hover tech to allow them to keep their height when moving across ledges into the air, and of course their new stronger weapon at their disposal. This weapons projectiles, while losing the ability from previous models projectiles of going through walls, is a strong single projectile that if it collides with any surface, it will split into 3 smaller projectiles, which 2 of them move along the hit surface going opposite directions from each other, and the 3rd moving away from the surface in a straight line.
* **//Final Enforcer:** Out of all his current creations he’s created thus far, Dr Magmin considers the Final Enforcer to be his crowning jewel; a robot that has no need for rockets or hover tech to fly, possesses a miniature energy reactor that causes no strain of the robot at all, and harnesses powerful energy into weaponized forms. The final Enforcer, due to being able to achieve a perfect balance between the intense energy with it and itself, appears to all with a zen-like appearance; being able to leave afterimages of itself as it moves from place to place, and using 2 different forms of attack. The first attack is can use is a giant laser beam, which is fires down to those below it, and the second attack fires 3 energy pellets which ricochet off any surface; it is clear to all who go up against a Final Enforcer that it will be a challenging fight.

[End of Enemy Bios]