Comp 388/488 - Introduction to Game Design and Development

Spring Semester 2017 - Week 10

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gamedev.net

- game dev resources various updates, links, suggestions...
- a long standing example gamedev.net
 - https://www.gamedev.net/
- original founded in 1999
 - great resource for general game development

Fun gaming music covers

- Gaming music playlist 1
 - Lindsey Stirling Various Gaming Music Videos
- Gaming music playlist 2
 - Taylor Davis Video Game Covers
- covers include:
 - Dragon Age, Halo, Zelda, Skyrim, Assassin's Creed, Mass Effect, The Witcher...

Fun gaming inspirational music

Really Slow Motion - YouTube Channel

Graduate Courses

A few example game design and development courses:

- New York University Game Center
 - more design oriented
- University of Southern California USC Games
 - highest ranked school in many game design degree tables...
 - four applicable degree programmes 2 Graduate
 - good connections with industry...
- University of Utah Entertainment Arts & Engineering
 - good reputation for hands-on design and development
 - a good mix of design and development cross-tracks...
 - close links to industry e.g. EA
- New York Film Academy Game Design and Development School

Lots of options at the following URL,

Video Game Design Schools

intro

Please consult the extra notes on Pygame Sprites,

sprites - intro

resources

- notes = sprites-intro.pdf
- code = basicsprites1.py

image import

Please consult the extra notes on Pygame Sprites,

sprites - set image

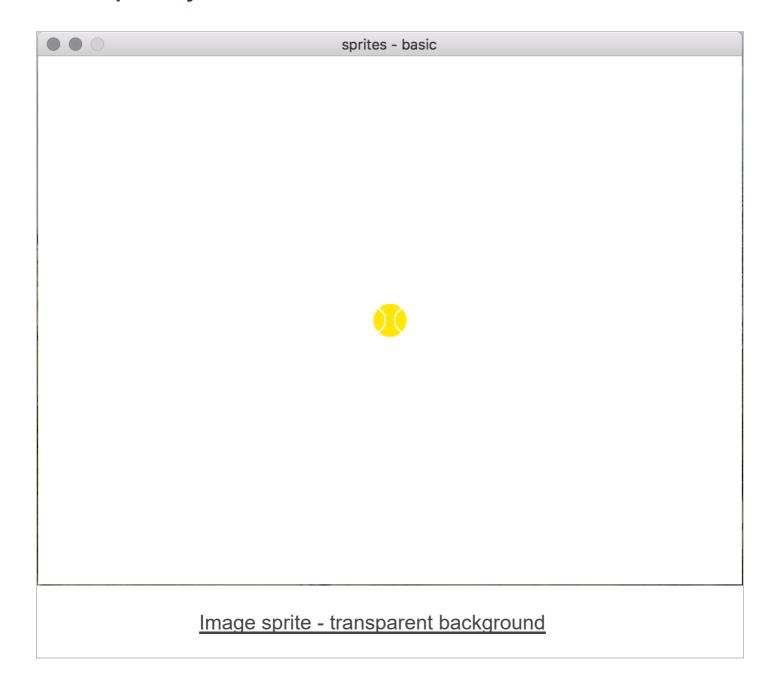
resources

- notes = sprites-set-image.pdf
- code = basicsprites2.py

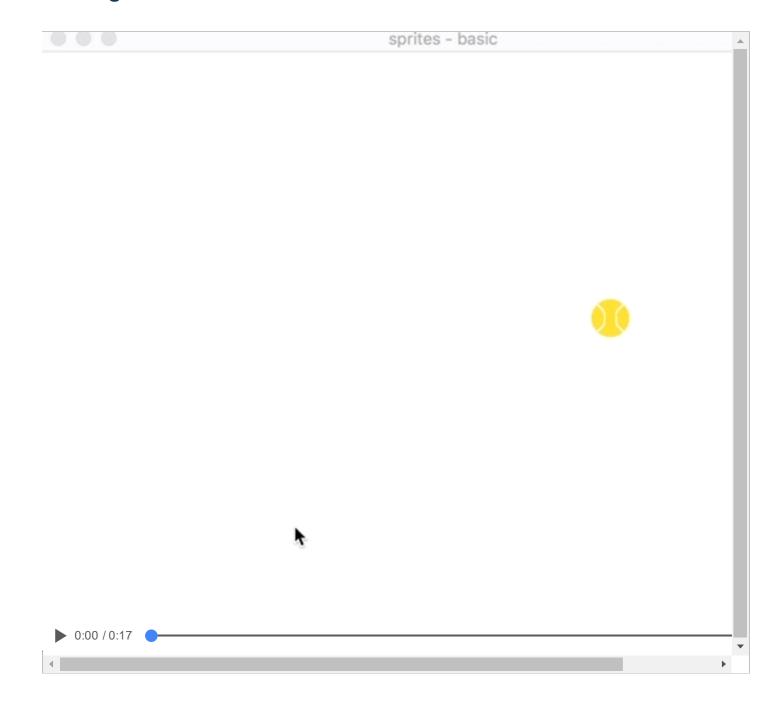
Image - Image Sprite

| | sprites - basic |
|-----------|-----------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| <u>In</u> | nage sprite |

add transparency



bouncing ball



control and move, add events...

Please consult the extra notes on Pygame Sprites,

sprites - control

resources

- notes = sprites-control.pdf
- code = basicsprites3.py

game example

shooter0.1.py - move & control

move & control

shooter style game - STG

- start creating our first full game example
 - shooter example STG in Japan
- this game will help us design, develop, and test the following:
 - user control
 - enemy objects
 - collision detection
 - firing projectiles at enemies
 - destroying enemy objects
 - add custom sprites and graphics
 - improve the collision detection
 - start animating sprite images
 - radomise enemy objects to create greater challenges
 - keep a running game score and render to game window
 - add game music and sound effects
 - check our player's health...
 - add some fun game extras
 - o e.g. health status, explosions...
 - o lots more...

add more objects - mob

- now start to add extra sprite objects to our game window
 - commonly given a collective, generic name of mob
- add the following class Mob to our game

```
# create a generic mob sprite for the game - standard name is *mob*

class Mob(pygame.sprite.Sprite):

    def __init__(self):
        pygame.sprite.Sprite.__init__(self)
        self.image = pygame.Surface((20, 20))
        self.image.fill(CYAN)

    # specify bounding rect for sprite
        self.rect = self.image.get_rect()
    # specify random start posn & speed of enemies
        self.rect.x = random.randrange(winWidth - self.rect.width)
        self.rect.y = random.randrange(-100, -50)
        self.speed_y = random.randrange(1, 10)

def update(self):
        self.rect.y += self.speed_y
```

- with this class we can create extra sprite objects
 - set their size, colour, &c.
 - then set random x and y coordinates for the starting position of the sprite object
- use random values to ensure that the objects start and move from different positions
 - from the top of the game window
 - then progress in staggered groups down the window...

update extra objects

- as our enemy objects move down the game window
 - need to check if and when they leave the bottom of the game window
- we can add the following checks to the update function

```
def update(self):
    self.rect.y += self.speed_y

# check if enemy sprite leaves the bottom of the game window - then randomise at the top...

if self.rect.top > winHeight + 15:

# specify random start posn & speed of enemies

self.rect.x = random.randrange(winWidth - self.rect.width)

self.rect.y = random.randrange(-100, -50)

self.speed_y = random.randrange(1, 7)
```

- as each sprite object leaves the bottom of the game window
 - we can check its position
- then, we may reset the sprite object to the top of the game window
- need to ensure that the same sprite object does not simply loop around
 - and then reappear at the same position at the top of the game window
 - becomes too easy and tedious for our player...
- instead, we can reset our mob object to a random path down the window
 - should make it slightly harder for our player
- also ensure that each extra sprite object has a different speed
 - by simply randomising the speed along the y-axis per sprite object

show extra objects

- now create a mob group as a container for our extra sprite objects
- group will become particularly useful as we add collision detection later in the game
 - update our code as follows, e.g.

```
# sprite groups - game, mob...
mob_sprites = pygame.sprite.Group()
# create sprite objects, add to sprite groups...
for i in range(10):
    mob = Mob()
    # add to game_sprites group to get object updated
    game_sprites.add(mob)
# add to mob_sprites group - use for collision detection &c.
    mob_sprites.add(mob)
```

- create our mob objects
 - then add them to the required sprite groups
- by adding them to the game sprites group
 - they will be updated as the game loop is executed
- mob sprites group will help us easily detect extra sprite objects
 - e.g. when we need to add collision detection
 - or remove them from the game window...

modify motion of extra objects

- above updates work great for random motion along the y-axis
 - add some variation to movement of extra sprite object by modifying the x-axis
- we can modify the x-axis for each extra sprite object
 - creates variant angular motion along both the x-axis and y-axis, e.g.

```
# random speed along the x-axis
self.speed_x = random.randrange(-3, 3)
...
self.rect.x += self.speed_x
# check if sprite leaves the bottom of the game window - then randomise at the top...
if self.rect.top > winHeight + 15 or self.rect.left < -15 or self.rect.right > winWidth + 15:
    # specify random start posn & speed of extra sprite objects
    self.rect.x = random.randrange(winWidth - self.rect.width)
    self.speed_x = random.randrange(-3, 3)
...
```

modify motion of extra objects - continued

our mob class may now be updated as follows,

```
# create a generic extra sprite object for the game - standard name is *mob*
class Mob (pygame.sprite.Sprite):
 def __init__(self):
     pygame.sprite.Sprite.__init__(self)
     self.image = pygame.Surface((20, 20))
     self.image.fill(CYAN)
      # specify bounding rect for sprite
     self.rect = self.image.get_rect()
      # specify random start posn & speed
      self.rect.x = random.randrange(winWidth - self.rect.width)
      self.rect.y = random.randrange(-100, -50)
      # random speed along the x-axis
      self.speed_x = random.randrange(-3, 3)
      # random speed along the y-axis
      self.speed_y = random.randrange(1, 7)
 def update(self):
     self.rect.x += self.speed_x
     self.rect.y += self.speed y
      # check if sprite leaves the bottom of the game window - then randomise at the top...
     if self.rect.top > winHeight + 15 or self.rect.left < -15 or self.rect.right > winWidth + 15:
          # specify random start posn & speed of extra sprite objects
          self.rect.x = random.randrange(winWidth - self.rect.width)
          self.rect.y = random.randrange(-100, -50)
          self.speed_x = random.randrange(-3, 3)
          self.speed y = random.randrange(1, 7)
```

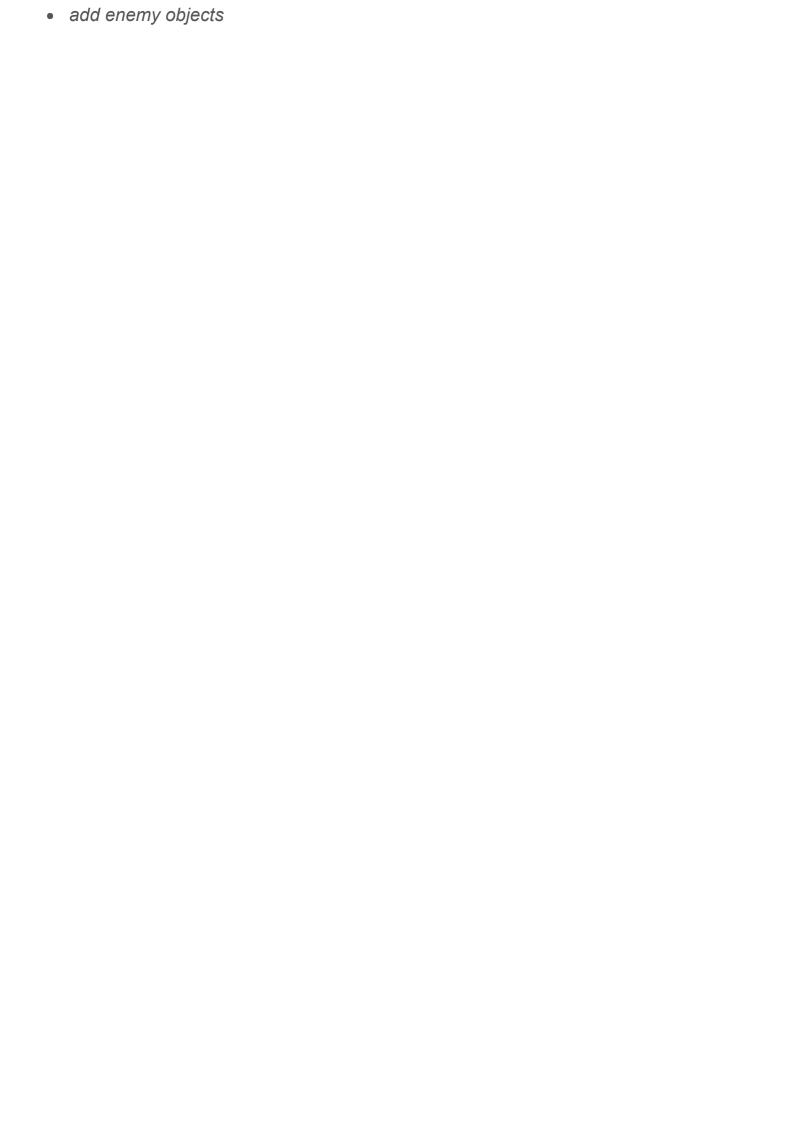
- added a quick check for motion of our extra sprite object along the x-axis
 - as sprite exits on either side of the screen
 - create a new sprite on a random path down the screen

resources

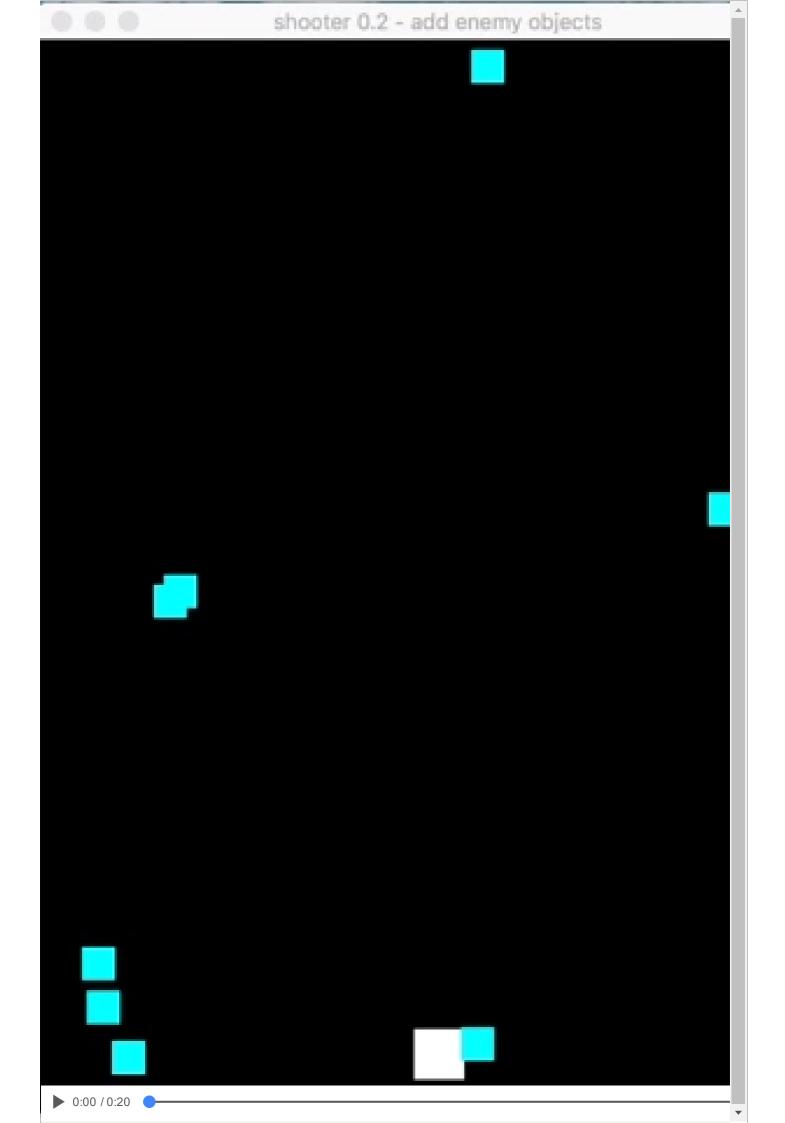
- notes = sprites-more-objects.pdf
- code = basicsprites4.py

game example

shooter0.2.py



move & control



←

•

add new sprites

- create a new class for this sprite object
 - e.g. projectiles that a player may appear to fire from the top of player object
 - such as a ship &c

```
# create a generic projectile sprite - for bullets, lasers &c.
class Projectile (pygame.sprite.Sprite):
   # x, y - add specific location for object relative to player sprite
   def __init__(self, x, y):
       pygame.sprite.Sprite.__init__(self)
        self.image = pygame.Surface((5, 10))
        self.image.fill(RED)
        self.rect = self.image.get_rect()
        # weapon fired from front (top) of player sprite...
        self.rect.bottom = y
        self.rect.centerx = x
        # speed of projectile up the screen
        self.speed y = -10
   def update(self):
        # update y relative to speed of projectile on y-axis
        self.rect.y += self.speed y
        # remove from game window - if it goes beyond bounding for y-axis at top...
        if self.rect.bottom < 0:</pre>
            # kill() removes specified sprite from group...
            self.kill()
```

- creating another sprite object for a projectile such as a bullet or a laser beam
- projectile will be shot from the top of another object
 - set x and y coordinates relative to position of player's object
 - setting the speed along the y-axis so it travels up the screen
- as we update each projectile object
 - update its speed, and then check its position on the screen...
- if it leaves the top of the game window
 - we can call the generic kill() method on this sprite
- method is available for any sprite object we create in the game window

listen for keypress

- need to add a new listener to the game loop to detect a keypress for the spacebar
- use this keypress to allow a player to shoot these projectiles, e.g. a laser beam

- updated our keypress listeners to check each time a player hits down on the spacebar
- use this keypress event to fire our projectile
 - e.g. a laser beam to hit our enemy mobs...

release new sprites

- as player hits the spacebar, we need to create new sprites
- new sprite objects will then be released from the top of the player's object
- relative position of one sprite object is determining start position of another sprite object
- need to update the class for our primary sprite object, e.g. a player
 - include a method for firing the projectiles from the top of this sprite object, e.g.

```
# fire projectile from top of player sprite object

def fire(self):
    # set position of projectile relative to player's object rect for centerx and top

projectile = Projectile(self.rect.centerx, self.rect.top)

# add projectile to game sprites group

game_sprites.add(projectile)

# add each projectile to sprite group for all projectiles

projectiles.add(projectile)
```

- sets start position for x and y coordinates of each projectile sprite
 - sets to the current position of the player's sprite object
- then, add each projectile sprite object to the main game sprite group
 - and add a new sprite group for all of the projectiles
 - add this new sprite group as follows,

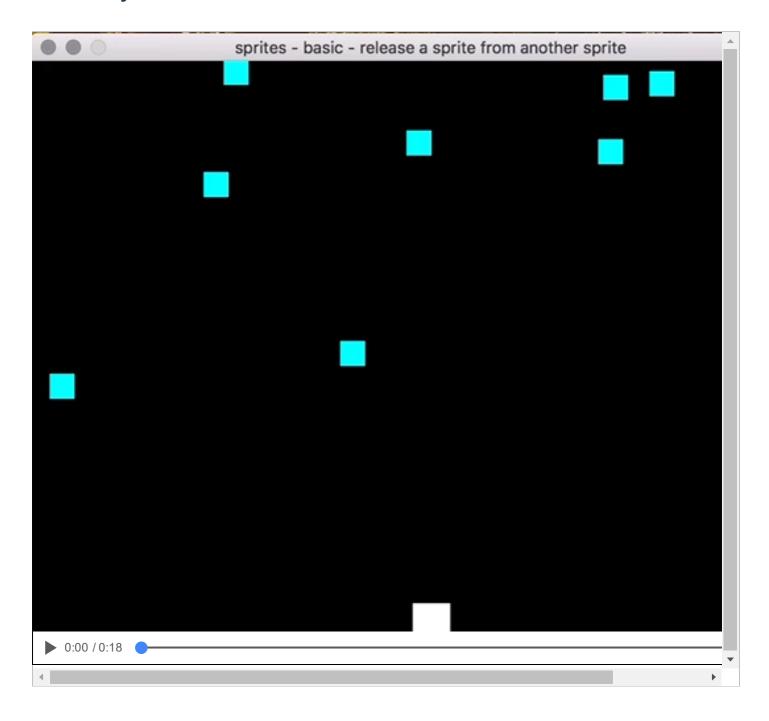
```
projectiles = pygame.sprite.Group()
```

- when a player presses down on the spacebar a projectile will be fired
 - a red laser beam from the top of the player's sprite object

resources

- notes = sprites-relative-objects.pdf
- code = basicsprites5.py

relative objects



basic collision detection

- Pygame includes support for adding explicit collision detection
 - between two or more sprites in a game window
 - use built-in functions to help us work with these collisions
- add basic collision detection
 - each time an object hits the player's object at the foot of the game window
 - Pygame includes the following function, e.g.

```
# add check for collision - extra objects and player sprites (False = hit object is not deleted from game window)
pygame.sprite.spritecollide(player, mob_sprites, False)
```

- sprite object's function allows us to check if one sprite object has been hit by another
- e.g. checking if player sprite object hit by another sprite object
 - in this example, from the mob sprites group
- False parameter is a boolean value for the state of the object that has hit
 - i.e. determines whether a mob sprite object should be deleted from game window or not
- particularly useful as it returns a list data structure
 - contains any mob sprite objects that hit the player sprite object
 - update this code as follows, and store this list in a variable, e.g.

```
collisions = pygame.sprite.spritecollide(player, mob_sprites, False)
```

then use this *list* to check if any collisions have occurred in our game window, e.g.

```
if collisions:

# update game objects &c.

...
```

use boolean value to check if the list collisions is empty or not

Sprite group collision detection

- now add collision detection for various groups of sprites
 - e.g. one group of sprites may be colliding with another, defined sprite group...
- use Pygame's collide method for sprite groups, e.g.

```
# add check for sprite group collide with another sprite group - projectiles hitting enemy objects - use True to delete special collisions = pygame.sprite.groupcollide(mob_sprites, projectiles, True, True)
```

- boolean parameter values of True and True
 - allow us to delete both the hit enemy objects
- and the projectile objects that hit them
- as list of collisions is populated
- create new sprite objects for those that have been hit and deleted
- e.g. extra objects that move down the game window

```
# add more mobs for those hit and deleted by projectiles
for collision in collisions:
    mob = Mob()
    game_sprites.add(mob)
    mob_sprites.add(mob)
```

- if we don't create new extra objects
 - game window will quickly run out of sprite objects

resources

- notes = sprites-collision-detection.pdf
- code = basicsprites6.py

game example

- shooter0.3.py
 - · collision detection of single sprite
 - detect group collisions

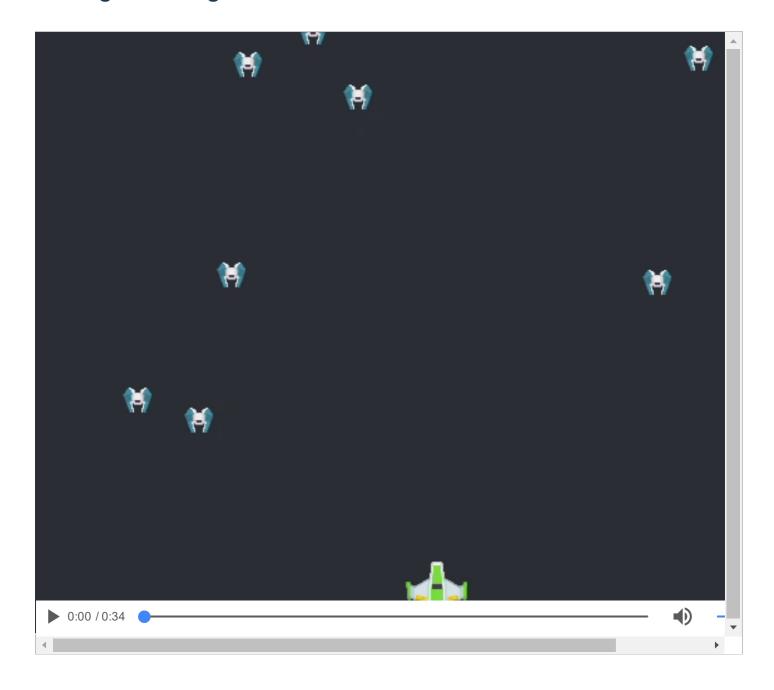
basic collisions and firing

add graphics to the sprites

- now start to add some custom images for our sprite objects
 - player object, mobs, projectiles, and a game background...
- add images and backgrounds to our shooter game to help represent objects
 - player's ship, laser beams firing, asteroids to hit, and star-filled background
- before we can add our images for the sprites and backgrounds
 - need to add some images files to our game's directory structure
 - normally create an assets folder
 - add any required images, audio, video &c. for our game...
- may now update our directory structure to include the required assets,

```
|-- shootemup
|-- assets
|-- images
|__ ship.png
```

add images to the game



import game assets

- need to import the Python module for os
- allows us to query a local OS's directory structure.

```
# import os
import os
```

- specify the directory location of the main game file
 - so Python can keep track of the relative location of this file, e.g.

```
game_dir = os.path.dirname(__file__)
```

- ___file__ is used by Python to abstract the root application file
 - then portable from system to system
 - allows us to set relative paths for game directories, e.g.

```
# game assets
game_dir = os.path.dirname(__file__)
# relative path to assets dir
assets_dir = os.path.join(game_dir, "assets")
# relative path to image dir
img_dir = os.path.join(assets_dir, "images")
```

may then import an image for use as a sprite as follows,

```
# assets - images
ship = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "ship.png"))
```

convert and colour key

- as we import an image for use as a sprite within our game
 - need to use a convert () method
 - ensures image file is of a type Pygame can use natively
- if not, there is a potential for the game to perform more slowly
- convert example,

```
ship = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "ship.png")).convert()
```

- for each image that Pygame adds as a sprite
 - a bounding rectangle will be set with a given colour
- in most examples, we want to set the background of our sprite to transparent
- rectangle for the image will now blend with the background colour of our game window, e.g.

ball.set_colorkey(WHITE)

- now check for white coloured pixels in the image background
 - then set them to transparent

add game background

- now add a background image for our game
 - we might recreate stars and space for our game window, e.g.

```
# load graphics
bg_img = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "bg-purple.png")).convert
```

also add a rectangle to contain our background image

```
# add rect for bg - helps locate background
bg_rect = bg_img.get_rect()
```

- basically helps us know where to add our background image
 - then subsequently find it as needed with the logic of our game
 - then draw our background image as part of the game loop, e.g.

```
# draw background image - specify image file and rect to load image
window.blit(bg_img, bg_rect)
```

add game images

 need to add an image for our player's ship, laser beams, and asteroids to shoot, e.g.

```
# add ship image
ship_img = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "ship-blue.png")).convert()
# ship's laser
laser_img = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "laser-blue.png")).convert()
# asteroid
asteroid_img = pygame.image.load(os.path.join(img_dir, "asteroid-med-grey.png")).convert()
```

- to use these new images in our game
 - need to modify the code for each object, e.g. Player object
 - update our class to include a reference to the ship img

```
self.image = ship_img
```

also customise this image by scaling it to better fit our game window, e.g.

```
# load ship image & scale to fit game window...
self.image = pygame.transform.scale(ship_img, (49, 37))
# set colorkey to remove black background for ship's rect
self.image.set_colorkey(BLACK)
```

- also update our ship's rect using a colorkey
 - ensures black rect is not visible in the game window

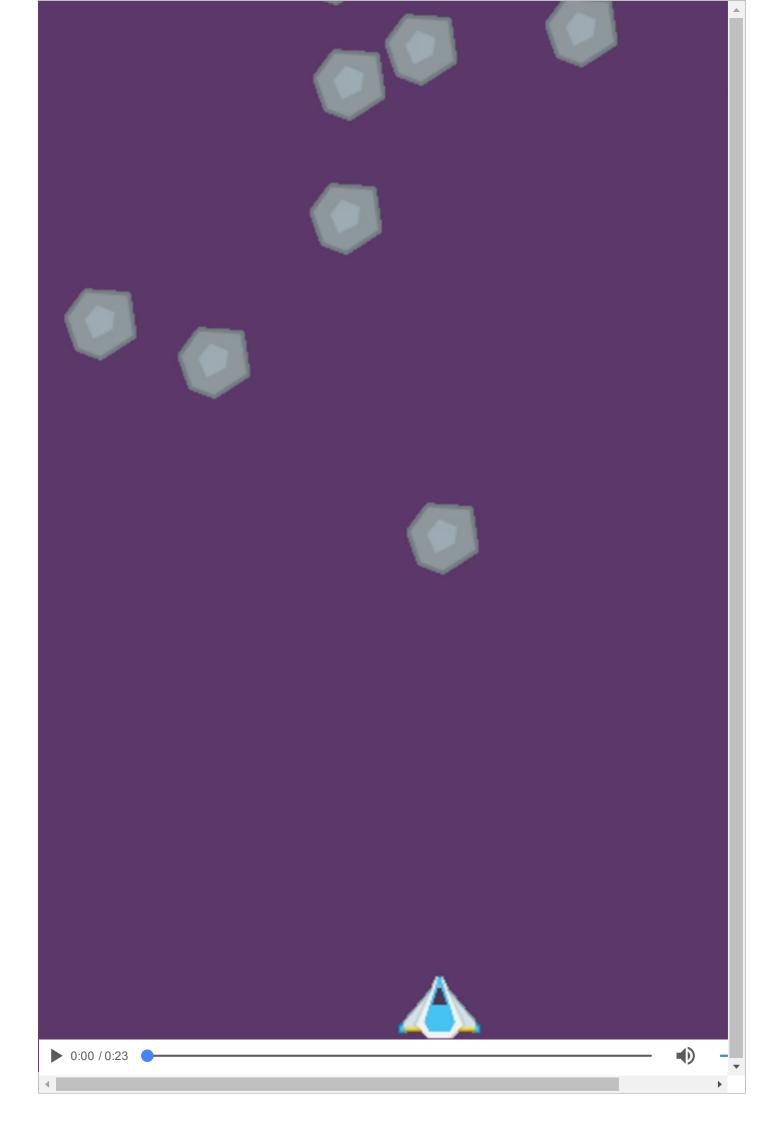
resources

- notes = graphics-and-sprites.pdf
- code = graphicssprites1.py

game example

- shooter0.4.py
- add graphics for sprites
 - o images for player's ship, ship's laser, and asteroids &c.
 - set colorkey for rect of sprite's
 - set background image for game window...

add graphics for sprites



better collison detection

- collision detection is currently using rectangles to detect one sprite colliding with another
 - technically referred to as **Axis-aligned Bounding Box** (AABB)
- for some sprite images this will often cause an unrealistic effect as the two images collide
 - image does not appear to collide with the other image
 - due to space caused by each respective rectangle
- as one corner of a rectangle hits another corner a collision will be detected, e.g.

- unless each sprites image fits exactly inside the respective bounding box
 - there will be space left over...
- a few options for rectifying this issue
 - might choose to simply calculate and set a slightly smaller rectangle
 - or, use a circular bounding box for our sprite image
- benefit of an axis-aligned bounding box
 - game is able to detect and calculate collisions much faster for a rectangle bounding box
- a circular bounding box may be slower
 - simply due to the number of calculations the game may need to perform
 - checks radius of one bounding box against another bounding box radius
- rarely becomes a practical issue
 - unless you're trying to work with thousands of potential sprite images
- another option, the most precise as well
 - use pixel perfect collision detection (PPCD)
- PPCD game engine will check each pixel of each possible sprite image

- determines if and when they collided
- particularly resource intensive unless you require such precision

add circle bounding box - part 1

- add some circle bounding boxes to our sprite images
 - for player and mob objects
- start by adding explicit circles with a fill colour
 - helps us check the relative position of the circle's bounding box, e.g.

```
self.radius = 20
pygame.draw.circle(self.image, RED, self.rect.center, self.radius)
```

- we know sprite image for player's object will have a fixed, known size
- we may set the radius to 20
- we may add some circle bounding boxes to the mob objects as well, e.g.

```
self.radius = int(self.rect.width * 0.9 / 2)
pygame.draw.circle(self.image, RED, self.rect.center, self.radius)
```

add circle bounding box - part 2

- used same basic pattern to add circles
 - for mob objects we may set each circle's radius relative to the sprite image
 - setting radius as 90% of width of sprite image
 - then returning half of that value...
- to use each circle bounding box, we need to update the collision checks as well
 - update this check for each mob object in the update section of the game loop, e.g.

```
# add check for collision - enemy and player sprites (False = hit object is not deleted from game window)
collisions = pygame.sprite.spritecollide(player, mob_sprites, False, pygame.sprite.collide_circle)
```

- updated the collision check to explicitly look for circle collisions
- now remove explicit drawn circle for each circle bounding box
- e.g. for the player and mob object sprites
- we may simply comment out the drawn circle

```
self.radius = int(self.rect.width * 0.9 / 2)
#pygame.draw.circle(self.image, RED, self.rect.center, self.radius)
```

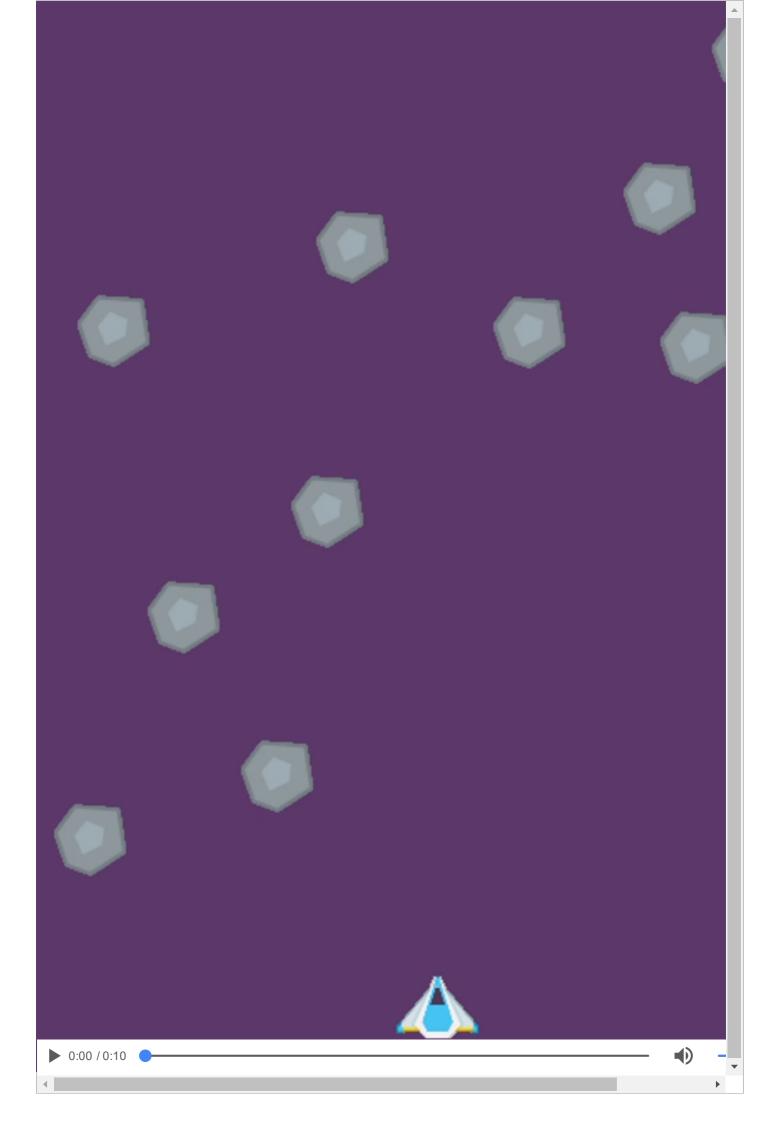
resources

- notes = sprites-collision-detection-better.pdf
- code = collisionsprites3.py

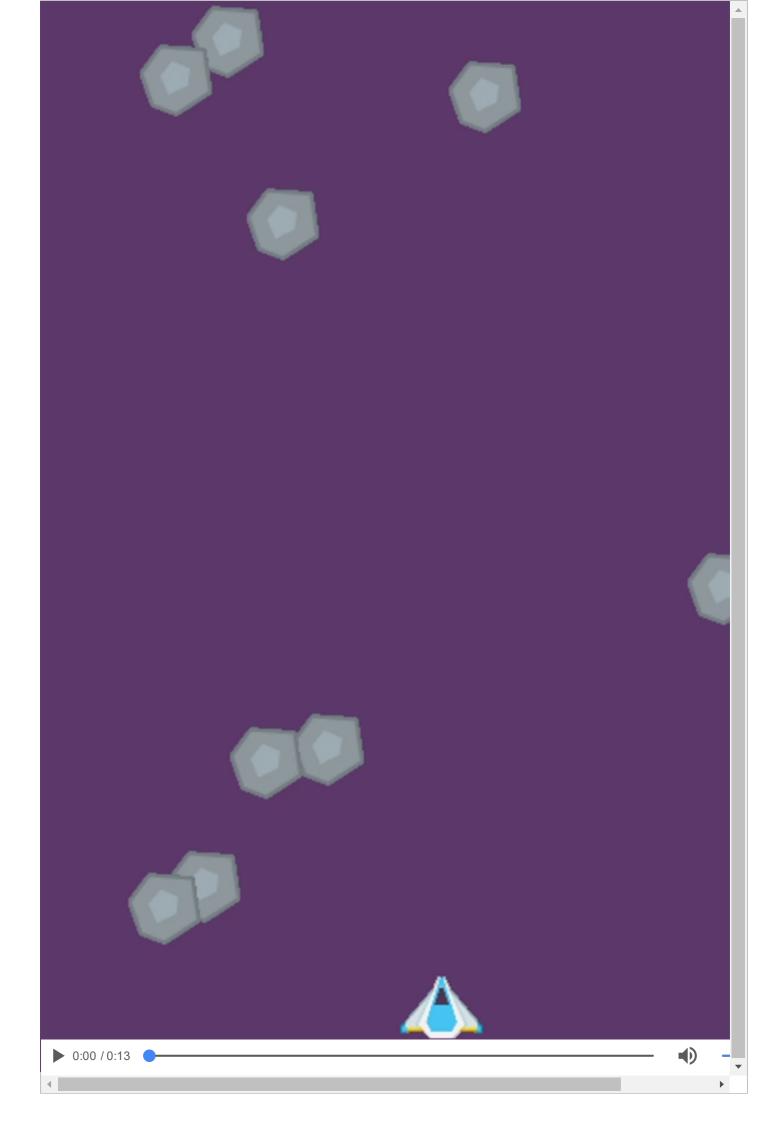
game example

- shooter0.5.py
 - better collisions and detection
 - change bounding box for player and mob sprite objects
 - change bounding box to circle, and modify radius to fit sprite objects

better collision detection - example 1



better collision detection - example 2



animating sprite images - part 1

- for many game sprites it's fun and useful to add different animations
 - to animate different states, actions, &c. as the game progresses...
- e.g. random rotation of mob objects, explosions, collisions...
- already added scale transform to mob objects
 - we may use the same pattern to add a rotate option
 - add animation to these sprites as they move down the game window
 - e.g. start by setting some variables for our rotation,

```
# set up rotation for sprite image - default rotate value, rotate speed to add diff. directions,
self.rotate = 0
self.rotate_speed = random.randrange(-7, 7)
```

- due to the framerate of this game, set to 60FPS
 - need to ensure rotate animation does not occur for each update of the game loop
 - if not, rotation will be too quick, unrealistic, annoying...

animating sprite images - part 2

- in addition to the rotate animation
 - also need to consider how to create a timer for this animation
 - regularity of update to the animation to ensure it renders realistically
- already a timer available within our existing code
 - currently using to monitor the framerate for our game
- use this timer to check the last time we updated our mob sprite image
- set a time to rotate the sprite image
 - then check this monitor as it reaches this specified time
- record last time our sprite image was rotated by getting the time
 - number of ticks since the game started, e.g.

```
# check timer for last update to rotate
self.rotate_update = pygame.time.get_ticks()
```

- each time the mob sprite image object is rotated
 - update value of variable to record the last time for a rotation
 - modify the mob sprite's update function as follows,

```
# call rotate update
self.rotate()
```

- simply going to call a separate rotate function
 - keep the code cleaner and easier to read
 - allows us to quickly and easily modify, remove, and simply stop our object's rotation

rotate

- now add our new rotate() function
 - start by checking if it's time to rotate the sprite image

```
def rotate(self):
    # check time - get time now and check if ready to rotate sprite image
    time_now = pygame.time.get_ticks()
    # check if ready to update...in milliseconds
    if time_now - self.rotate_update > 70:
        self.last_update = time_now
```

- uses the current time, relative to the game's timer
 - then checks this value against the last value for a rotate update
- if difference is greater than 70 milliseconds
 - it's time to rotate the sprite object

rotate issues

- for rotation we can't simply add a rotate transform to the rotate() function
 - possible in the code, it will also cause the game window to practically freeze
 - makes the game unplayable in most examples, e.g.

self.image = pygame.transform.rotate(self.image, self.rotate_speed)

- this issue is due to pixel loss for the image
- each rotation of a sprite object image
 - causes a game's logic to lose part of the pixels for that image
- this will cause the game loop to start to freeze...

correct rotation

 correct this rotation issue by working with an original, pristine image for the sprite object

```
# set pristine original image for sprite object
self.image_original = mob_img
# set colour key for original image
self.image_original.set_colorkey(BLACK)
```

then, set the initial sprite object image as a copy of this original

```
# set copy image for sprite rendering
self.image = self.image_original.copy()
```

then, we may use the pristine original image with the rotation

```
self.image = pygame.transform.rotate(self.image_original, self.rotate_speed)
```

correct rotation speed

- another issue we need to fix is the rotation speed for a sprite object image
- if we simply use our default self.rotate speed
 - not keeping track of how far we've actually rotated the image
- need to keep a record of incremental rotation of the image
 - ensure that it rotates smoothly and in a realistic manner
- monitor this rotation by using the value of the rotation
 - · adding rotation speed for each update to a sprite object image
- as the image rotates we can simply check its value as a modulus of 360
- to ensure it keeps rotating correctly

```
self.rotate = (self.rotate + self.rotate_speed) % 360
self.image = pygame.transform.rotate(self.image_original, self.rotate)
```

rect rotation issues

- still have an issue with the rectangle bounding box, which does not rotate
- as sprite image rotates, it loses its centre relative to the bounding rectangle
- to correct this issue, we can now modify our logic for the sprite object's update, e.g.

```
# new image for rotation

rotate_image = pygame.transform.rotate(self.image_original, self.rotate)

# check location of original centre of rect

original_centre = self.rect.center

# set image to rotate image

self.image = rotate_image

# create new rect for image

self.rect = self.image.get_rect()

self.rect.center = original_centre
```

 mob sprite object images will now correctly rotate as they move down the screen

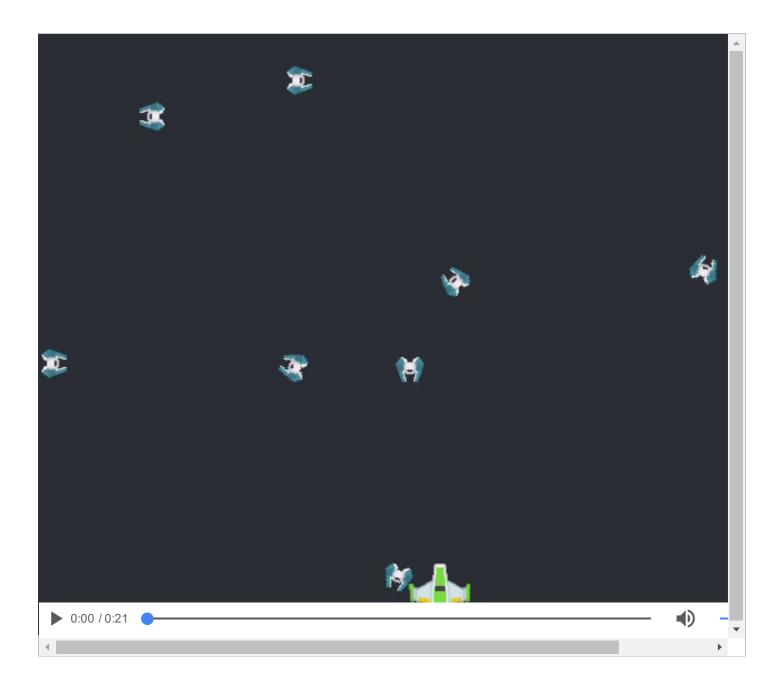
resources

- notes = sprites-animating-images.pdf
- code = animatingsprites1.py

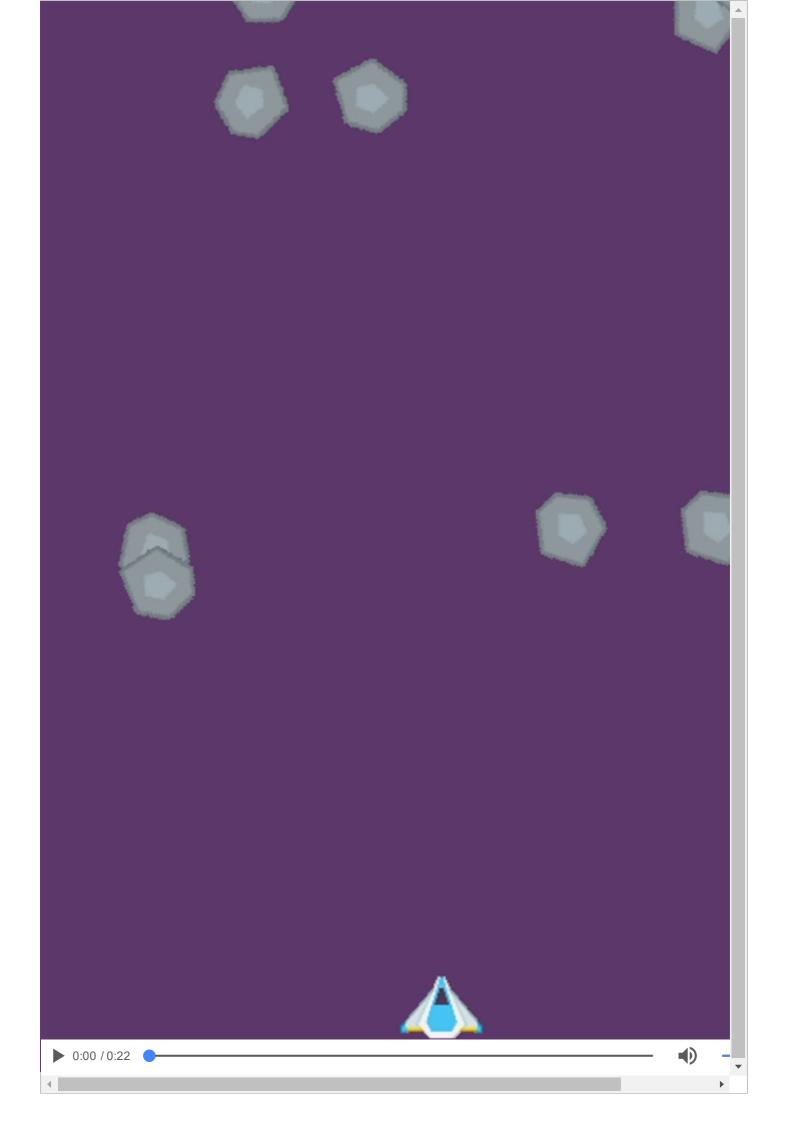
game example

- shooter0.6.py
 - animating sprite images
 - rotate mob images down the screen
 - create pristine image for rotation
 - o update rect bounding box to ensure it rotates correctly

rotation



animating sprite images



sprites - basic

- basicsprites1.py
- basicsprites2.py
- basicsprites3.py
- basicsprites4.py
- basicsprites5.py
- basicsprites6.py

graphics and sprites

graphicssprites1.py

collision detection - basic

- collisionsprites1.py
- collisionsprites2.py

collision detection - better

collisionsprites3.py

animating sprites

animatingsprites1.py

Demos - Pygame - Game 1 Example

- shooter0.1.py
- shooter0.2.py
- shooter0.3.py
- shooter0.4.py
- shooter0.5.py
- shooter0.6.py

References - Pygame - Game Notes

- sprites-intro.pdf
- sprites-set-image.pdf
- sprites-control.pdf
- sprites-more-objects.pdf
- sprites-relative-objects.pdf
- sprites-collision-detection.pdf
- graphics-and-sprites.pdf
- sprites-collision-detection-better.pdf
- sprites-animating-images.pdf

References - Various

- GameDev.net
- Video Game Design Schools

Gaming music covers

- Gaming music playlist 1
 - Lindsey Stirling Various Gaming Music Videos
- Gaming music playlist 2
 - Taylor Davis Video Game Covers
- covers include:
 - Dragon Age, Halo, Zelda, Skyrim, Assassin's Creed, Mass Effect, The Witcher...

Gaming inspirational music

Really Slow Motion - YouTube Channel