Name: Projectile Motion Analyser

Version: As of 5/6/2017

Date: 05/06/2017

Reviewer: Tanson Wang

I was unable to run the actual program due to differences in program. This is most likely due to the fact that the Microsoft Excel version I was using differed from that of the original programmer, I utilised Excel 2007. I will mainly talking about the aesthetics of the program before the generation of the graph instead.

There was a noticeable lack of a starting screen or title screen on the program which did not leave the most comfortable impression on start up. Due to most users tending to be used to having a title screen this was not the most effective method of starting the program.

The text box containing the text which was presented upon opening Projectile Motion Analyser contained white text upon a black background which made the words highly visible to the user. However, the black background was a bit intense and was, in my opinion not the most favourable choice for a title page.

It was noted that the program did not response in a favourable manner when the screen was resized despite the ability to do so. The screen did not shift or scale when the page was reduced in size hence causing some of the text to be clipped out. Furthermore there was a clear lack of scroll bar if the user did in fact intend to readjust the screen.

The textbox was not correctly centred in the page but rather was slightly to the right of the screen for no apparent reason. It should also be noted that the text was clipped at the end of the sentence near the edge of the textbox. It is unknown whether this is due to a difference in font. These two problems are recurring and have been note throughout the every option screen.

Regarding the options and variable input. The inputs were able to correctly accept only numbers in base ten and did not fail upon placing impossible numbers. Whether the calculation is correct is unknown due to Projectile Motion Analyser not working on my computer. The program was also effective in providing only the choice to choose from options that did not conflict and hence was very effective in that sense.

One of the largest flaws in Projectile Motion Analyser was that there was on option to return to the previous input screen. In most cases users will mistakenly enter information and hence will wish to re-enter the correct values without having to go through the entire process more that once hence having a back button would significantly increase the quality of life for the user.

The access to the help section was poorly done at best. The requirement for the user to access and external website through a URL was highly uncomfortable. To make matters worse the URL needed to be manually typed in due to a lack of the ability to highlight the text. This was further aggravated when resizing caused the loss of the required URL. Also, contrary to the dialog box there was no shortcut link provided within the package containing the test demo.

The help section is at a medium level at this point in time. The help section was one extended page with a lack of a contents page or pages as available on this domain hence the user is required to scroll through the entire page to find the information which they sought when coming to this page. The step by step process was well done with all of the images provided to help guide the user through the process. However rather than include that in the FAQ it is suggested that it is place in a standalone page due to it being part of a how to use rather than a frequently asked question. The frequently asked questions seem to have answered most question that may be asked without any particularly strange circumstances. It should be noted that, similar to the program itself, the page struggles to deal with resizing the screen as the text did not change in size. The ability for people to leave complaints or bug notices is one of the most favourable features of this help section and is a massive positive for this program.

From observations of help section I shall draw some conclusions about the program, considering that it was updated five days prior, 31/05/2017, it should be relatively accurate. The choice of colour for the background was frankly, absolutely horrifying. A neon green on a pitch black background is disagreeable in all circumstances and even worst it does not cover all of the black background. The choice of red text on the white graph was questionable and when considering use by the colour blind it may be slightly unfavourable. The use of a blue line to designate the projectile was fine. The x-axis was highly unpleasant to observe due to the excessive number of digits. Instead it is suggested that the numbers be rounded to perhaps 3 significant figures.

The layout of the results is good and efficient for the user. It has provided, from as much as I can see from the pixelated screenshot, all of the crucial information as expected from Projectile Motion Analyser. The black text within a white textbox is good choice. The ability to choose a time and gain the position of the projectile was a nice touch that truly managed to improve the program. The reset button really should have a back button next to it though.

Overall, the aesthetic state of the program is quite poor. The functioning of available inputs has been satisfactory.