Software Workshop Team Java (06-08165) 2010/11, Dr. E. Thompson

Project Report: Space Runner Game

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Work Breakdown

Coding	Daniel	Jere	David	Michal
Datastructures	Contribution: 100%	0%	0%	0%

Report	Daniel	Jere	David	Michal
Introduction	Chapter 1: 100%	0%	0%	0%

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Abstract

You should write a one-page abstract written as an "Executive Summary". It should be written for someone who is familiar with the Team Java module, so that there is no need for background or generalities. Rather, you should explain what is special about your project, and what you claim to have achieved. (One page maximum.)

Introduction

Give a brief overview and guide the reader to the important points in the remaining sections.

This template for your report also contains some examples of how to use some LATEX elements and commands. In particular, there are examples for tables, how to include figures, and various environments for bullet points or enumerations.

For further information (and here is how to do a bullet list):

- look on the Team Java web page, http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/internal/courses/team-java/current (Click on "Guidance".)
- google "latex"
- look at the LATEXbook [?]

This is how to do numbered lists:

- 1. First point
- 2. Second point
- 3. ...

This is how to do sections:

1.1 Some topic

1.2 Another topic

If you set a label with the label command, you can then use the ref command to refer to that section – e.g. section 1.1. This means you don't need to know about section numbers. Note that ~ means a space that cannot be broken across lines.

Requirements

2.1 Functional User Requirements

This section outlines the functional requirements which the system will be tested against. Functional requirements are what the system is expected to do and how to user interacts with the software. Each requirement is split into sub-requirements for ease of understanding and clarity.

1. The human player is able to control one's spaceship

This is a core requirement needed to be able to play the game successfully in at least a single player mode without any crashes or bugs.

- (a) The user is able to use either a mouse or the keyboard's arrow keys to move the spaceship.
- (b) The user's spaceship is able to move freely along the x and y coordinates but not leave the frame's boundaries.
- (c) The user will be able to hold more than one key for diagonal movement where the movement speed much be normalised.
- (d) The user's spaceship will be able to be represented graphically on the screen.

2. The human player will be able to shoot

The aim of the game is to enable the user to destroy enemy ships and therefore shooting is a must-have requirement of the game.

- (a) The user will be able to shoot by tapping or holding the spacebar or the mouse button (left click).
- (b) The user's spaceship will have a type of weapon to use, this can be changed during the game (if implemented dependant on future requirement).
- (c) The user's shot will follow a set path forwards (negative y-coordinate movement).
- (d) Shots which leave the frame's boundary will be removed from the game state.

3. Enemies will be created to be destroyed by the user

This is a core functional requirement that needs to be implemented to enable the user to progress through the game by shooting down opposing units.

- (a) Enemies will be spawned at set locations on the screen.
- (b) Enemy units are to have a set health limit.
- (c) Enemies will be able to be shot by any user spaceship.
- (d) Enemies are to be distinguishable from friendly user spaceships by using different shapes or graphics.

- (e) The enemy unit's health will be decreased when a user's shot collides with the enemy.
- (f) Enemy's will 'die' once all their health have been depleted.

4. Enemies are to be able to return a level of resistance

This requirement is needed to make the game more interesting by introducing the possibility of a player 'death'

- (a) Enemies are able to return shots towards the human players with the use of different weapons.
- (b) Enemies are able to move in certain paths (zig-zag, diagonal, straight, side-to-side).
- (c) If the player collides with an enemy the player will 'die'
- (d) 'Boss' enemies are to be introduced which fire more shots and have more health.

5. The game is to run continuously with set events occurring at regular intervals

This requirement ensures the game runs smoothly and that something will always happen. For example, to stop the incidence of no more enemies being spawned (so the game is playable).

- (a) The game is to implement a Timer class.
- (b) Enemies will always be spawned at set intervals during the game. These can be changed to be more or less frequent (if future requirement is implemented).
- (c) Each tick of the timer will move enemies, player units (depending on user input) and projectiles.
- (d) The game panel will be redrawn at every tick of the timer.

6. The game will be able to be multiplayer across the network

This requirement is necessary to fulfil the assessment criteria allowing for a second human user to play in co-operative mode with each other against the computer enemies.

- (a) Each human user will be able to select whether they will act as the host or the client PC.
- (b) Clients will be able to enter the Host's IP address to connect.
- (c) The host's game will start immediately after selection with clients dropping into the game at a set spawn point.
- (d) The game must be able to support at least two human players and a maximum of eight players (7 clients).
- (e) All users must be connected to the same LAN network.
- (f) All users must have similar game information on their screens (player, enemy and projectile positions).
- (g) With each tick of the timer (requirement 5) each player's screen will be updated with network data from the host.

7. The game must have a terminating clause

This requirement ensures that the game will end at some point.

- (a) Once a player's health has been depleted, that unit will 'die' and be removed from the game allowing other player's to carry on playing.
- (b) If a player collides with an enemy unit they will also 'die'
- (c) The player's score will be displayed on termination and if high enough will be recorded in a high scores table.

8. The game will include a Graphical User Interface (GUI)

This allows all users to be able to start the necessary game type as well as actually play the game with the information displayed on the screen.

- (a) The game will run from a single frame.
- (b) Panel's are to be added to the frame: Menu, Game, Gameover.
- (c) The Menu Panel is to feature buttons corresponding to various game types and options.
- (d) The Menu Panel is to be accessible from within the game (Esc key).
- (e) The Game is to be able to be paused using the 'P' key.
- (f) The window is to be resizable allowing for full-screen play.
- (g) The Game Panel is to feature a scrolling 'star-like' background (black with white stars).
- (h) The game objects (players, enemies and projectiles) are to be represented by shapes or sprites (graphics).

2.1.1 Attributes

Attribute	Requirement No.	Comment		
Status	All	Approved - development started		
Priority	1, 2, 3, 4abc, 5, 6, 7, 8abch - Mandatory.	Mandatory requirements must be imple-		
		mented.		
	4d, 8defg - Important			
Effort	All	Deadline for code: 22/03/11 (10 weeks). Es-		
		timated 40 person-weeks for first release.		
Risk	All	Medium probability of risk occurring. Large		
		impact if assessment is not complete. High		
		risk with networking code due to lack of expe-		
		rience.		
Target Release	1, 8a, 8h	v0.1		
	2	v0.2		
	3b-f	v0.3		
	4, 5, 7	v0.4		
	3a, 8b-g	v0.5		
	6	v0.6		
Assigned To	All	4 x Team Members. Requirements and tasks		
		to be distributed at weekly meetings.		

2.2 Non-functional User Requirements

This section outlines the non-functional requirements. These requirements relate to the quality of the product and testing requires opinions and qualitative methods rather than quantitative feedback. The project has been split into different categories of requirement.

Usability

- 9. To provide a simple, easy to use system in order to play the game
 - (a) A novice to the game should be able to gain understanding and play the game within 10 minutes of first playing.
 - (b) Expert gamers should be able to grasp game concept within 1-2 minutes of playing.
 - (c) The game should have a clean look and feel.

- (d) The user should feel in control of their spaceship with smooth movement and quick reactions.
- (e) The menu should have a standard, organised layout with minimal pages
- (f) The game should have a professional look

A user manual or help pages are not required due to the limitations on time for the assessment and the game itself is believed to be simple enough for most people to be able to understand.

Efficiency

10. The game should be constantly quick to respond

- (a) The game should run at a constant quick speed without any lag.
- (b) The user's input should have an almost instant effect on the game.
- (c) Network play should be stable for 95% of the time.

Dependability

- 11. The game should run first time, all of the time as single player or host.
- 12. Network clients should be able to drop-into the host's game within 5 seconds.

Environmental

13. The game should run on the platforms detailed in the below section (system requirements).

Development

- 14. The project should be developed using appropriate software engineering practises within the time frame for the assessment.
- 15. The project must be written in the Java programming language.

Operational

- 16. The multiplayer game must be able to run on any LAN with the IP addresses given.
- 17. High scores will remain stored in each copy of the game until they are overridden by a higher score.

2.3 System Requirements

This section details the requirements and physical devices needed to play the game successfully.

- 1. The game is to be written in the Java programming language.
- 2. All user PCs will need to follow the system requirements for Java 6
 - (a) Windows 7, Vista, XP, 2000, Server 2008, Server 2003. All 32 and 64-bit operating systems
 - (b) Mac OS X
 - (c) Most Linux distributions
 - (d) Solaris
- 3. Keyboard and Mouse are required (with Western layout)
- 4. For multiplayer, all users will need to be connected to a local area network (LAN) at least
- 5. Monitor and graphics card with at least a resolution of 800×600

2.4 Future Requirements

Requirements 1 to 17 are aimed at the first release which is as far as the project is aimed to go. However if the project is ahead of schedule the progress will be re-evaluated and requirements from this list will be introduced depending on complexity and remaining time and resources available.

- Power Ups
 - Increased health
 - Increased shot damage
 - Enemies freeze
 - Move quicker
- \bullet Boss Fights
 - Enemy unit with lots of health harder to kill
 - Enemy has greater weapons
 - Enemy does not move off screen (has to be killed)
- Different Weapons
 - Greater damage
 - Single-shot
 - Multiple direction shooting
- Increasing Difficulty
 - Enemies spawn more often in larger numbers
 - Enemies have greater damage
 - Enemies have greater health
 - Enemies shoot more often
 - More boss fights
- Background music added
- Endless mode (player respawns)

Design

This section is crucial. Describe the overall structure of your program at a suitably high level of abstraction. For instance, UML diagrams or informal box-and-arrow diagrams can be used to describe program structure. Be sure to describe the MVC structure used. Note that code listings or screenshots are not appropriate here. An important point is how you have divided the project into modules that different team members can work on, and how these are then integrated. For example, you could use interfaces to describe a clean boundary between modules, so that some team members use the functionality provided by the interface, while another team member implements it. Bear in mind Software Engineering principles of good design like coherence and coupling.

3.1 Release Plan

This section outlines the proposed release plan of the project. It has been decided that the project will take the incremental approach of software development with acceptance testing taking place at each stage. The six internal releases will be implemented consecutively to bring the project to the first public release within the 10 week timeframe.

- Version 0.1: Basic player spaceship (Java shape) on screen with controls and movement.
- Version 0.2: Basic shooting from the player's spaceship.
- Version 0.3: Static enemies on the screen, player able to shoot the enemy and score incremented.
- Version 0.4: Enemies have movement with the use of paths, are able to shoot back and collide with players.
- Version 0.5: Background scrolling, enemies are spawned at regular intervals at set points using a timer.
- Version 0.6: Multiplayer networking implemented.

This brings the project to the first public stable release which satisfies the requirements for the assessment. It time is available certain future requirements (section 2.4) towards the second public release.

3.2 Class Design

Below shows a diagram of how the project is to be organised in terms of classes and packages (dotted lines show packages).

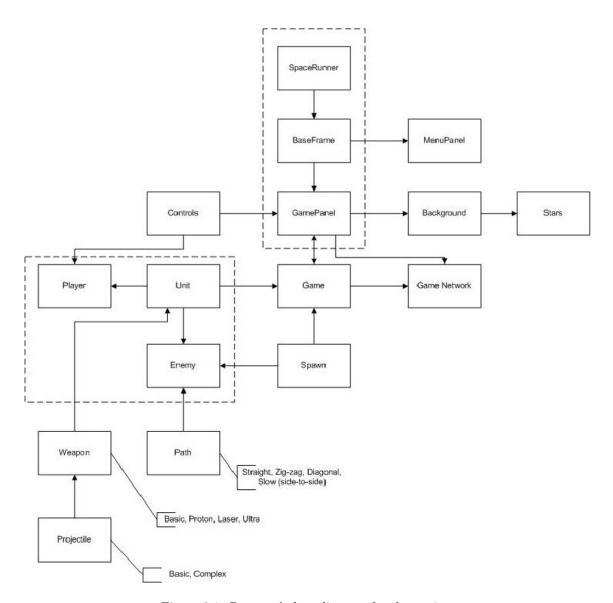


Figure 3.1: Proposed class diagram for the project

Validation and Testing

Your applet is expected to be in good working order and do something useful. This chapter is important, because it describes how you assure yourself that that is the case.

Testing is so you can be confident that the software is robust and bug-free. What was your strategy for that? How did you plan unit testing (for components) and integration testing (for the whole applet)? How did the prototype fit in?

Validation is to check that in the end the applet is useful and pleasant to use. What was your strategy for that? Have you tried it out with teachers or students? What kind of rolling validation did you use for the evolutionary part (developing the GUI)?

Establish what your project can handle successfully, and what its limitations are. Use meaningful examples, not lists of trivial cases.

Project Management

5.1 Development Methods

We discussed the possible use of software engineering techniques we could utilise to make things easier and to ensure success and good planning. In a way it was hard, since we have no concrete experience about how much work a single software engineer can do and so forth.

5.1.1 Weekly Meetings

In the weekly meetings we discussed our progress so far on the whole project and any problems that had arisen on the week and how we could get around them and fix them. We went over our plans of what we would have to have done during the next week and revised if it still was a good idea and possible to implement at that stage. After deciding what we wanted to accomplish in the next week we tried to split the tasks evenly amongst us.

We usually had two meetings a week, one on Tuesday and one on Thursday with the demonstrator. After we got feedback from the demonstrator we reviewed our plans. Depending on what we discussed we usually wrote logs and drew some rough drafts about what to do. Our main communication medium has been Facebook. We formed a group there where we only have the members of our team and we have been dealing with assigning tasks over it and talking over any problems we might have. I have been quite surprised how well it has worked for a thing like this.

5.1.2 Incremental Stages

We decided to build the base game first, without anything fancy in it, as in the absolute core of the game. So we started out making the ships with just shapes and not sprites. After we got that to render properly, we started adding movement, opponents, spawning and shooting.

Basically we built the game in incremental stages, first making the core and then adding functionality on top of that. The goal was to have a working copy with more functionality at the end of every week, according to our schedule and plans. I think we managed that fairly well. At the very start we decided to try to keep the game at a bare minimum, no extra fancy stuff added or even planned very far until the core was working well, since we knew the hazards of getting stuck with planning and daydreaming without getting anything worthwhile working in the end.

5.2 Planning

We ended up with the idea of trying to document everything as well as we can and use weekly meetings to plan out the tasks for that week and where we want to be after it. So we set our iteration period to last a week and assigned tasks at the start of it. Requirements documentation and user requirements was among the things we knew are critical if you want a project to succeed in the timeline it has been given.

Trying our best to decide how much time to use on each part and how to divide the tasks in even portions, so that the contribution would be spread evenly amongst us. But as said above, we found it to be rather difficult since we had no clear concept of how hard it would be to code networking and other parts we had no experience about.

One thing that was a bit daunting was the team work itself, since no-one of us had any experience in it either, so how would it work if we had to work on a class that someone else was working on already and how to arrange it all so that it would not get too messy. In the end we drew a rough diagram on how to organise our packages and classes and a basic timeline of when we would want each version to be out and what would it entail.

5.3 Testing

Testing is obviously and important part of any software development. At the very start of the project we decided to test everything well and throughly, if possible. We didn't have any experience with JUnit or testing in general, apart from the things we have done to debug our code and show testing with main methods during the first year.

After the lecture on testing and some help with the demonstrator we set up our tests and managed to test everything we had done so far and it all seemed to be in order. At the next stages of the project, I must admit, that we did not really utilise JUnit testing until the very end. But this does not mean we did not test everything. Everyone took care that the code they committed was tested with main methods and different kind of System.out.print commands.

Conclusions

Evaluate what you have achieved in your project in objective terms (not just things like "we are all happy with the result"). What are the strenths and limitations of your project? If you had more time, what could you add? If you could do it all over again, what would you do differently? Are there general things about software or team management that you have learnt in this project that you could apply if you were going to work on a (perhaps completely different) team project in the future?

Acknowledge any code you have used (if any), and also any that was generated automatically, e.g. by wizards.

Give correct and complete bibliographic information for any sources cited. See the local referencing guide. For instance cite which books on software engineering you have used, for instance [?]. Use the report.bib file to manage your citations.

When you quote material from other sources, you must be absolutely clear at the point where you quote it exactly which of your material is quoted and what the source is. As explained in [?],

"Direct quotation is not particularly common in scientific writing, as it is generally not the words that matter, but the meaning. Normally it is preferable to rewrite someone else's ideas in your own words, often changing the terminology and other superficial details to suit the new context.

However, in circumstances where it is appropriate to make direct use of the words of another person, those words should normally be included within quotation marks and a reference to the source of the words given in the usual way."