

Of course. This new system fundamentally changes your game from being player-centric to being a time-based, entity-driven simulation. It's a powerful and scalable approach.

Here is a complete rundown of how it works, how to use it, and how to extend it.

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## 1. The Core Concept: Time-Slice Simulation

The old system was simple: the player performs an action, and the world reacts *only* by updating the player's stats and position.

The new system works like this:

1. The **Player's action determines a "slice" of time**. A short walk might take 4 minutes. A long rest might take 8 hours (480 minutes).
2. This time slice is then given to the game's simulation engine (SimulateWorldTick).
3. The engine first executes the player's action.
4. Then, it tells **every other relevant entity** ("tethered" entities) that this much time has passed.
5. Each of those entities then gets to perform its own logic and actions within that time slice.
6. Finally, the world clock is advanced by the duration of the time slice.

Essentially, the player's actions act as the **metronome for the game world**. The world doesn't advance one "turn" at a time; it advances one "chunk of time" at a time, and everyone gets to act simultaneously within that chunk.

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## 2. Key Components of the New System

### A. The Entity Abstract Class

This is the new foundation for everything that exists in your game world.

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```
public abstract class Entity
{
    public Guid Id { get; }
    public string Name { get; protected set; }
    public EntityType Type { get; protected set; }
    public Vector2 WorldPosition { get; protected set; }
    public List<PendingAction> ActionQueue { get; } = new List<PendingAction>();

    // The brain of the entity
```

```
public abstract void Update(int minutesPassed, GameState gameState);  
}
```

- **What it is:** A blueprint for any object with a location and the potential to act. The player, a bandit, a deer, a dropped loot bag, or even a spreading fire can all be Entity types.
- **The Update(int minutesPassed, GameState gameState) method is crucial.** This is where you define the entity's behavior. It's called every time the world clock advances.

## B. The Player Class

The Player is no longer a collection of loose variables in GameState. It is now a concrete implementation of Entity.

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```
public class Player : Entity  
{  
    public PlayerStats Stats { get; }  
    // ... constructor ...  
}
```

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This is important because it means the player follows the same rules as every other creature in the world, making the system consistent.

## C. GameState as the World Manager

GameState is now the "conductor" of the simulation. Its key responsibilities have changed:

- `private List<Entity> _worldEntities`: This is the **master list** of every single entity that exists anywhere in the game world.
  - `private List<Entity> _tetheredEntities`: This is a **dynamic, filtered list** of entities that are close enough to the player to be worth simulating. This is a critical performance optimization.
  - `private void UpdateTetheredEntities()`: This method checks the `_worldEntities` list and populates `_tetheredEntities` with anything inside a 64x64 square around the player. It's called whenever the player moves.
  - `private bool SimulateWorldTick(PendingAction playerAction, int minutesPassed)`: This is the heart of the new simulation loop, as described in the core concept.
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### 3. How to Implement a New Reusable Entity

Let's create a simple Bandit entity that patrols between two points.

#### Step 1: Create the Bandit Class

Create a new file, Bandit.cs, and have it inherit from Entity.

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```
// In a new file, e.g., Bandit.cs
using Microsoft.Xna.Framework;
using System.Collections.Generic;

namespace ProjectVagabond
{
    public class Bandit : Entity
    {
        // Bandit-specific properties
        private List<Vector2> _patrolPoints;
        private int _currentPatrolIndex = 0;
        private int _timeAccumulator = 0; // To track time between moves
        private const int MINUTES_PER_MOVE = 5; // How long it takes this bandit to move one
tile

        public Bandit(Vector2 initialPosition, List<Vector2> patrolPoints)
            : base("Bandit", EntityType.Creature, initialPosition)
        {
            _patrolPoints = patrolPoints;
        }

        // This is the Bandit's AI
        public override void Update(int minutesPassed, GameState gameState)
        {
            // Add the time slice to our accumulator
            _timeAccumulator += minutesPassed;

            // Keep moving as long as we have enough accumulated time
            while (_timeAccumulator >= MINUTES_PER_MOVE)
            {
                // If we don't have a destination, figure one out
                if (WorldPosition == _patrolPoints[_currentPatrolIndex])
                {
                    // Move to the next patrol point in the list
                    _currentPatrolIndex = (_currentPatrolIndex + 1) % _patrolPoints.Count;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

// Calculate the next step towards the destination
Vector2 target = _patrolPoints[_currentPatrolIndex];
Vector2 direction = Vector2.Normalize(target - WorldPosition);

// Simple grid-based direction
Vector2 moveStep = Vector2.Zero;
if (System.Math.Abs(direction.X) > System.Math.Abs(direction.Y))
    moveStep.X = System.Math.Sign(direction.X);
else
    moveStep.Y = System.Math.Sign(direction.Y);

Vector2 nextPosition = WorldPosition + moveStep;

// Check if the next position is valid before moving
if (gameState.IsPositionPassable(nextPosition))
{
    SetPosition(nextPosition);
    System.Diagnostics.Debug.WriteLine($"Bandit {Id} moved to {WorldPosition} at
time {Core.CurrentWorldClockManager.CurrentTime}");
}
else
{
    // Can't move, maybe change patrol point or wait
    _currentPatrolIndex = (_currentPatrolIndex + 1) % _patrolPoints.Count;
}

// Subtract the time for one move and loop again
_timeAccumulator -= MINUTES_PER_MOVE;
}
}
}
}
}

```

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## Step 2: Add the Bandit to the World

In the GameState constructor, create an instance of your new Bandit and add it to the master \_worldEntities list.

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```

    // In GameState.cs constructor
public GameState()
{
    int masterSeed = RandomNumberGenerator.GetInt32(1, 99999) + Environment.TickCount;

    _player = new Player(new Vector2(0, 0));
    _worldEntities.Add(_player);

    // --- ADD YOUR NEW ENTITY HERE ---
    var patrolRoute = new List<Vector2> { new Vector2(5, 5), new Vector2(5, 10), new
Vector2(10, 10) };
    var bandit1 = new Bandit(new Vector2(5, 5), patrolRoute);
    _worldEntities.Add(bandit1);
    // -----

    _noiseManager = new NoiseMapManager(masterSeed);

    UpdateTetheredEntities(); // Initial tethering
}

```

```

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```

**That's it!** Now, whenever the player is within 32 tiles of this bandit, the bandit's Update logic will run every time the player moves, rests, or otherwise passes time.

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## 4. Adding Features and Mechanics to Entities

The Update method is your canvas. Here's how you can add more complex behaviors.

### State-Driven AI

Give your entity an enum for its state (Patrolling, Chasing, Fleeing) and use a switch statement in the Update method.

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```

    // In your Bandit class
private enum BanditState { Patrolling, ChasingPlayer }
private BanditState _currentState = BanditState.Patrolling;

public override void Update(int minutesPassed, GameState gameState)

```

```

{
    // State-detection logic
    float distanceToPlayer = Vector2.Distance(WorldPosition, gameState.PlayerWorldPos);
    if (distanceToPlayer < 10)
    {
        _currentState = BanditState.ChasingPlayer;
    }
    else
    {
        _currentState = BanditState.Patrolling;
    }

    // State-execution logic
    switch (_currentState)
    {
        case BanditState.Patrolling:
            // Run the patrol logic from the example above
            break;
        case BanditState.ChasingPlayer:
            // Implement logic to move towards gameState.PlayerWorldPos
            break;
    }
}

```

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## Time-Based Events

For an entity like a campfire, you can track its fuel.

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```

public class Campfire : Entity
{
    private int _fuel; // in minutes

    public Campfire(Vector2 position, int initialFuel)
        : base("Campfire", EntityType.Effect, position)
    {
        _fuel = initialFuel;
    }

    public override void Update(int minutesPassed, GameState gameState)

```

```

{
    _fuel -= minutesPassed;
    if (_fuel <= 0)
    {
        // The fire has burned out.
        // You could remove it from the world or change its state.
        System.Diagnostics.Debug.WriteLine("Campfire burned out.");
    }
}
}

```

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## Inanimate Objects

A LootBag might not need to do anything in its Update method. It just needs to exist as an Entity so it has a WorldPosition and can be found and interacted with. Its Update method can simply be empty.

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## 5. How Entities Interact with the Player's Action System

This is the most important concept to grasp:

- **The Player is the Driver:** The player's action queue is the *only* one that is processed step-by-step with a visual delay (`_moveTimer`). This is because the player's actions need to correspond to what the user sees on screen.
- **Other Entities are Passengers:** All other entities are simulated in the background. Their actions are resolved instantly within the time slice provided by the player's action.
- **Example Flow:**
  1. Player queues run n 1. GameState calculates this will take **3 minutes**.
  2. `exec` is typed. `UpdateMovement` calls `SimulateWorldTick(run_action, 3)`.
  3. **Inside SimulateWorldTick:**
    - a. The player's position is updated, and energy is spent.
    - b. The `_tetheredEntities` list is looped. Let's say our Bandit is in it.
    - c. The bandit's `Update(3, gameState)` method is called.
    - d. The bandit's `_timeAccumulator` becomes 3. This is less than its `MINUTES_PER_MOVE` (5), so it **does not move yet**.
    - e. The `WorldClockManager` advances by 3 minutes.
  4. The player queues another run n 1. This also takes **3 minutes**.
  5. `SimulateWorldTick(run_action, 3)` is called again.

6. **Inside SimulateWorldTick:**

- a. Player moves again.
- b. The bandit's `Update(3, gameState)` is called.
- c. The bandit's `_timeAccumulator` was 3, and now another 3 minutes are added, making it 6.
- d. Since  $6 \geq 5$ , the while loop in the bandit's `Update` runs. The bandit moves one tile. Its `_timeAccumulator` is reduced to 1.
- e. The `WorldClockManager` advances by another 3 minutes.

This elegant system allows a fast-moving player to see a slow-moving bandit take a step every couple of player moves, all while keeping the world time perfectly synchronized. If the player were to rest short (10 minutes), the bandit would get an `Update(10, ...)` call and would move twice in that single player action.