

Project Proposal

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Project Name: Biometric Data Analysis in Digital Game Scenario

Project Context

Introduction

PUBG: Battlegrounds (previously known as PlayerUnknown's Backgrounds) is a battle royale style player versus player shooter game developed by PUBG Studio. Players face-off with each other using various types of battlefield weapons in a last man standing deathmatch and the last person to remain alive wins. The game is available in all major platforms and as of March 2021, the mobile version of the game has accumulated more than a billion download outside of China with revenue of over \$9 billion while the PC and console versions have accumulated a total revenue of \$4 billion [1].

Since its first release in 2017, the game has since become one of the fans favorite and has over '350,000' peak concurrent monthly users [1]. As a multiple award winning game with proven longevity records and a large community. Interest in the game cut across different demography and is equally far-reaching across the globe. The game playing scenario requires players to face-off with other players and there is where some skills like 'eye-hand-coordination', 'ear-hand-coordination', 'fine-motor' skills, etc: are required to compete favorably against other players. Players have access to a variety of weapons with different capabilities and can make in-game adjustments to their control to suit their various preferences. This project is a continuation of research work previously done by Fourth Year Software Design Students titled 'Biometric Data Collection for Performance Optimization in a Digital Game Scenario' in collaboration with the Department of Sports & Exercise Science, Atlantic Technological University.

Previous Project

The originating project titled '**Biometric Data Collection for Performance Optimization in a Digital Game Scenario**', posed the question 'can a player's biometric data be used to optimise their performance in a first-person

shooter game’?. The research was geared towards creating a test environment where players can practice and hone their skills in a similar scenarios (Weapons, controls, user perspective, etc.) obtainable in PUBG : Battlegrounds in the form of a Unity Desktop **Application**. Collection and storage of Biometric data from an **Activity Monitor** in the form of a **Smart Watch**. With the eventual goal of finding correlation between their performance and their Biometric data.

Further research was conducted by another team of Third Year Software Design Student to develop a module in the form of a ‘Chart API’ that can visualize data generated during the Initial research in a presentable and intuitive manner whereby all the various user data can be visualized in a unified chart that side by side.

Project Objective

The objective of this research project will seek to address some of the limitation listed in the previous projects as follows :

- Offline Data Storage
Provision will be made for offline temporary file storage to improve the overall reliability of the whole system
- PUBG API Further research on new developments in the PUBG API for better user experience.

And eventually seek to answer the following research questions :

- Can users’ current physical condition as indicated by their Biometric data, have any direct relationship with their performance in such gaming scenario?
- Can Biometric and test data help suggest the most suitable settings for different game scenarios?

Technologies & System Architecture

Legacy Architecture

The overall system architecture is depicted in Figure 1. The system is made up of three modules interacting with an external API and user devices. The modules are listed as follows:

- Test Application A Unity designed desktop application on Windows Platform that where users can play test for different game scenarios.
- Node Js Web Application An Express Node JS Web application deployed on Amazon EC2 Virtual machine, serving as a callback endpoint for OAuth 2.0 Authentication for the Polar Flow API.

- Firestore Data Storage Permanent storage medium for users' test and Biometric data.

User Devices:

- Smart Watch
- Smart Phone

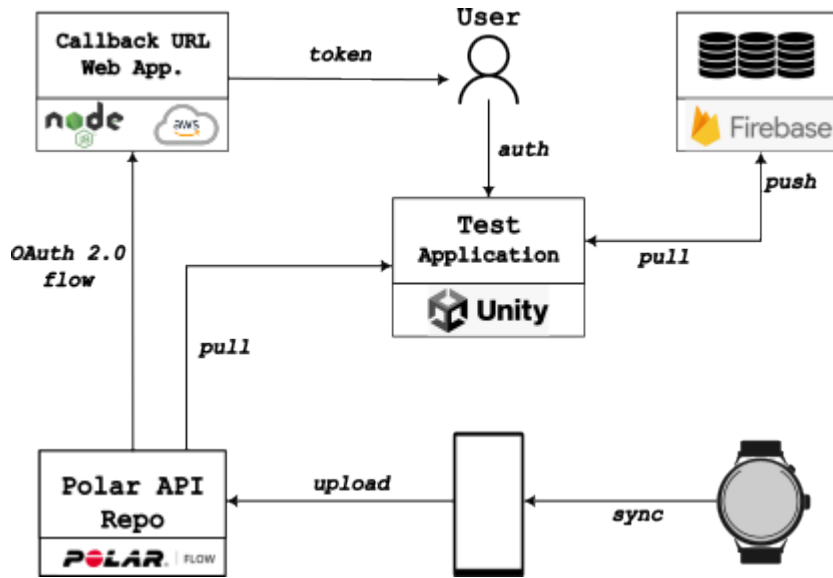


Figure 1: System Architecture

The actions in the Figure 1 can be summarized as follows:

- **sync**: passing of biometric data to a smart phone from a Polar watch.
- **upload**: uploading of biometric data to Polar API repository.
- **OAuth 2.0 flow**: Multi step OAuth 2.0 authentication protocol.
- **token**: getting verification token from the Callback URL by the user.
- **pull (Polar API - Test Application)**: retrieving biometric data from Polar API by the Test Application.
- **auth**: user supplies token to the Test Application as final step of authentication.
- **pull (Firestore - Test Application)**: retrieving user test/biometric data for rendering by Test Application.
- **push**: saving users' test/biometric data to a Datastore.

Proposed Architecture

The final system architecture will include new modules to facilitate data analytics using A.I models. The new system calls for a relational database replica of the Firebase storage to ensure data consistency, predictability and structures suitable for relevant statistical analysis. A.I models as a mini-service that perform operations with supplied data and returns result of analysis. A web Application that functions as a Controller that interfaces the data and A.I modules, Executive Dashboard capable of rendering user data and results from the A.I models.

Figure ?? shows the proposed architecture.

Schedule of work

Bibliography

- [1] J. Clement. *Monthly peak concurrent players of PUBG: Battlegrounds on Steam*. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/755111/pubg-number-players/>. Accessed on October 3, 2023. 2023.