Design Diary

A particular struggle I overcame involved attempts to get the volume slider to function. The first attempts were all fruitless, so I took to searching the internet for suggestions on how code for the volume slider can be handled in Python. Eventually I was directed to a YouTube tutorial on PyQT5 specifically for a volume slider, which had great advice on writing the code and explaining what each line of code meant – such as setting minimum value, maximum value, and the starting value.

Advice to a future student on how he or she might succeed on this assignment is to make use of any tutorials that can be found with the specific keywords that relate to the assignment – QT, python, volume, play button, stop button, etc. I find it helpful to watch tutorials on YouTube because the video may helpfully explain what is being done and why it is being done. A future student could benefit to this by applying this information to their own assignment, and seeing if it works for what they are doing.

The most fun aspect of this assignment was finishing the event listeners. These were done early on in the assignment and it seemed like making great progress at the start before running into roadblocks and errors. Due to the straightforward nature of the event listeners open, quit, play, stop – it was a great feeling to finish this part and have it display early on.

The most challenging aspect of this assignment was probably fixing the volume slider. It took searching for examples to successfully get this part to work. It was difficult to try out different approaches from the web searches, but have them not work correctly.

The most difficult aspect of this assignment to understand was how to use the mov file. For a while I assumed having the desired mov file in the directory would simply play after pressing play on the main window. When it did not play anything, I thought it may be due to my using a different operating system, but after meeting with the professor the correct way to utilize the wav file was explained.

Suggestions to improve this assignment in the future may be to include tips and tricks for other options to add to the main window, or pointers in certain directions for those students who would benefit from it.