

# COSC 345 Assignment 4

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# 1 The NKTD app

Our app now contains three functioning games which can be opened via speech commands from the main menu and controlled either by speech commands or through touch. Two of the games (2048 and Frozen Bubble) are open source games we have manipulated to work with voice commands and Teragram is an original game, a maths practice game for children.

The application uses pocketSphinx to interpret speech commands: <https://github.com/cmusphinx/pocketsphinx>

## 1.1 Since the Beta

*I have added some new stuff here, but I'm sure I've missed quite a few things -Kat*

We have made the following improvements and enhancements since our beta release:

- The whole app now has a consistent design / colour scheme
- Bugfixes:
  - Fixed memory leaks upon closing Activities
  - Frozenbubble: Fixed launcher rotation
  - Teragram: Recognition doesn't restart after confirmation noise if it isn't supposed to.
- Fixed frozen bubble launcher thing so that game is now actually playable - launcher stops moving immediately on hearing a command, but waits to interpret it before launching the bubble, this means the delay in interpreting a speech command doesn't ruin the game.
- Frozenbubble speech implementation was finished, making it completely playable hands-free.
- Added an animation to the listening button, which is intuitively easy to understand and shows the user when the app has heard something.
- Changed the way the radio buttons are labelled in multiple choice quizzes in Teragram - we originally labelled them as "a", "b", "c" etc, but this was not suitable for voice recognition, so we changed it to numbers, but this was a bit weird looking and a bit distracting. We have changed the labelling of the options to colours instead.
- Speech recognition stops when focus shifts from NKTD such as the phone going to sleep.

## 2 Testing

*Do we have anything new to add to this section??*

### **Voice control**

Testing an application that is run by voice commands was not something we felt could be done through automated methods without devoting a large amount of time that could instead be spent implementing features. Instead, frequent testing was done manually either through emulators or by installing the apk on our own phones. We note that the microphone on a typical phone is significantly better than the microphone on a typical laptop or desktop computer, and so the app is significantly easier to play on a phone than on an emulator.

### **Teragram**

For the Teragram game, we had extensive user testing performed by two children, seven and four years old. In the months since the alpha and beta releases, they have still been playing it frequently, so it has passed the fun test and is clearly suitable for children of those ages, with some room to grow, as some parts are too hard for them for now. However, they do prefer to play it without using the voice control. This is partly because they do not often find themselves in a quiet enough place for the voice control to work reliably, but also because they get frustrated that voice controls are a bit slower and less reliable than entering answers via the touch screen.

## 3 User Documentation

*- I have made some small changes to this section - I think we can leave this mostly unchanged from our last assignment -Kat*

### 3.1 Teragram

The game starts up at level one, and the user can move to the easiest level by tapping the ‘too hard’ button or go up levels by tapping the ‘too easy’ button. When ten questions in a row are answered correctly, the game will automatically level up, otherwise if two questions are incorrect in a row, it’ll automatically level down. The user is not aware of the actual level, it’s just that questions get easier or harder - the bound on the random number generator used in setting new questions is related to the level.

The game launches in addition mode, and the user can chose to move to subtraction problems, or practice times tables or powers of two.

### 3.2 2048

2048 is a popular number name released on March 20, 2014. This game is very simple; you can choose to slide the tiles up, down, left or right by swipping the screen or saying ‘left’, ‘right’ ‘up’ or ‘down’. Every slide, all the digital squares will move in the direction the screen was slid. This is a really neat game, and there are many open source implementations out there, but what makes it especially suitable for our app is the simplicity of its controls - it’s an interesting and challenging game controlled with only four commands. Also there is no time pressure in this game, so if it takes half a second for the speech recogniser to work, this does not adversely affect the game play.

### 3.3 Frozen Bubble

The aim of this game is to clear the screen by shooting the current bubble from the launcher to its respective coloured bubbles on the level. Saying ‘fire’/‘now’ or swiping up will shoot the bubble.

### 3.4 Voice Controls

You can control the game with the following voice commands:

### 3.4.1 Main menu

- **‘Teragram’** or **‘game two’** - this will take you to the game Teragram.
- **‘Twenty Fourty Eight’** or **‘game three’** - this will take you to the game 2048.
- **‘Frozen Bubble’** or **‘game four’** - this will take you to the game Frozen Bubble.

### 3.4.2 Teragram

- **‘help me’** - Brings up help menu with available voice commands.
- **‘harder’** - Provides a harder question.
- **‘easier’** - Provides an easier question.
- **‘new question’** - Provides a new question of the same type
- **‘addition’** - Provides an addition question
- **‘subtraction’** - Provides a subtraction question
- **‘times tables’** - Starts times tables practice mode
- **‘powers of two’** - Starts powers of two quiz
  - Say the colour of the correct answer: **‘blue’**, **‘green’**, **‘pink’**, or **‘red’**
- **‘number’** - Starts Number Input mode, see below
- **‘exit’** - Prompts a message confirming if they want to exit

### 3.4.3 2048

- **‘help me’** - Brings up help menu with available voice commands.
- **‘left’** - All blocks will move to the left if possible.
- **‘right’** - All blocks will move to the right if possible
- **‘up’** - All blocks will move to up if possible.
- **‘down’** - All blocks will move to down if possible
- **‘exit’** - Prompts a message confirming if they want to exit

### 3.4.4 Frozen Bubble

- **‘fire’** or **‘now’** - Will fire the bubble

- **‘exit’** - Prompts a message confirming if they want to exit
- **‘continue’** - Continues the launcher’s auto-rotation after a pause.
- **‘colorblind’** - Toggles colorblind mode.
- **‘full screen’** - Toggles fullscreen mode.
- **‘(don’t) rush me’** - Toggles ‘Rush Me’ mode.
- **‘about frozen bubble’** - Displays Frozen Bubble credits.
- **‘new game’** - Starts a new game.
- **‘help me’** - Displays a help screen.

### 3.4.5 Number Input

- **numbers 0 to 9 inclusive** Appends the spoken number to the end of your answer, ie. Speaking ‘one’, ‘two’ will give you 12. Note that 0 is to be spoken ‘zero’
- **‘okay’** - Submits the current answer and exits Number Input mode
- **‘back’** - Removes the last number from your answer
- **‘clear’** - Removes the entirety of your answer
- **‘cancel’** - Exits Number Input mode

When entering numbers, please wait until the number you have just spoken appears in the box before trying to input the next one. Good Luck!

## 4 Open Source components

The code for the speech recognizer setup/permissions/asset copying is taken almost directly from the pocketSphinx demo application here: <https://github.com/cmusphinx/pocketsphinx-android-demo>

The phoneme definitions in our nktd.dic file are selectively taken from the cmudict-en-us.dic file in that same demo.

The acoustic model we use is provided by CMUSphinx at [sourceforge.net](http://sourceforge.net)

The game FrozenBubble taken from <https://github.com/kthakore/frozen-bubble>

The game 2048 taken from <https://github.com/BuddyBuild/2048-Android>