

Narrative-focused video games development with Ren'Py

Susan Chang

Start

About me

Quill Studios

- Developer
- Writer
- PM
- Marketing








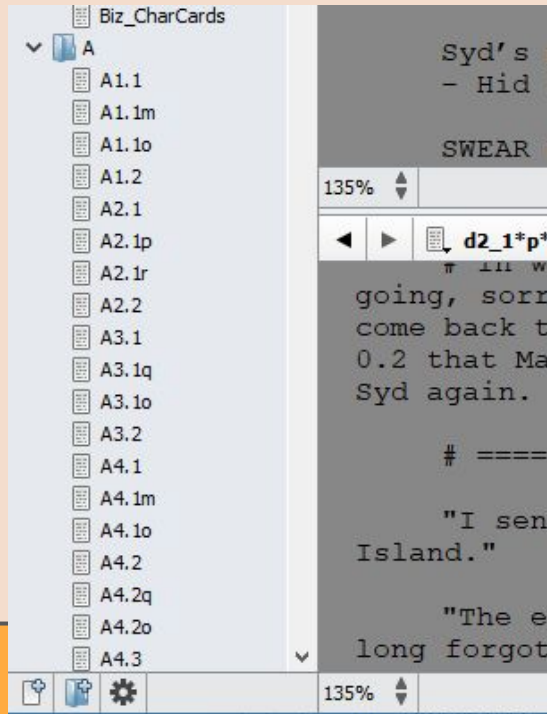
Other

- AISC Machine Learning livestream (11k+ YouTube subs)
- Senior Data Scientist



I started this project 2+ years ago...

	ASW Draft 0.5 (backup)	Dec 29, 2017
	ASW 0.4 Backup	Dec 26, 2017
	ASW 0.4 Backup	Dec 26, 2017
	ASW Script 0.4	Dec 23, 2017
	ASW-Opening Scenes V2.0 ★	Sep 4, 2017



I have the story,
now what?



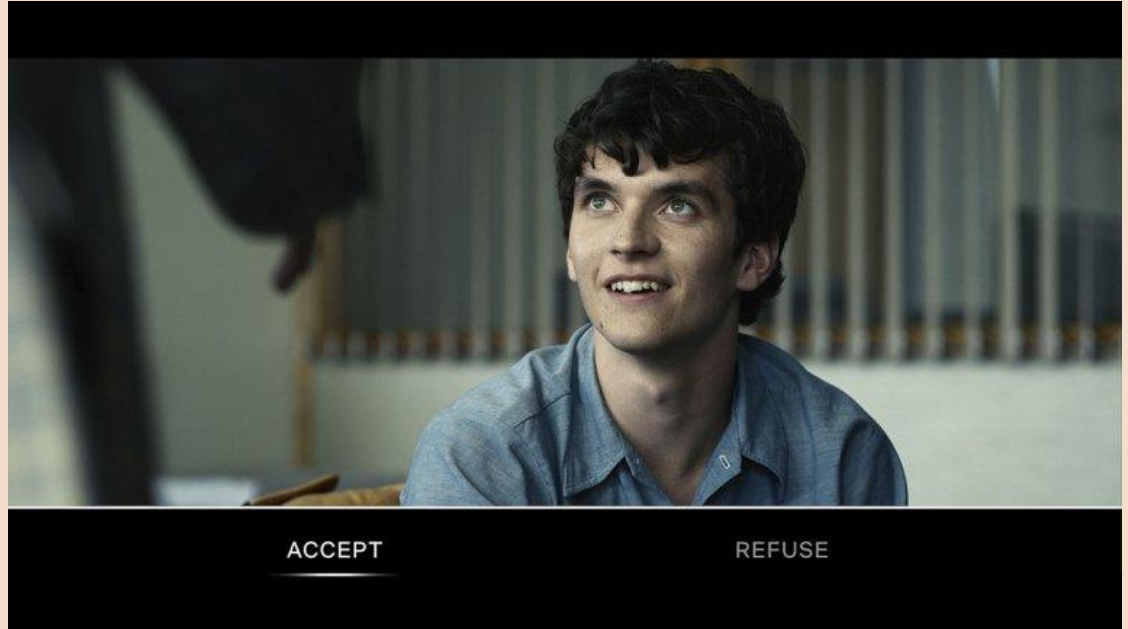
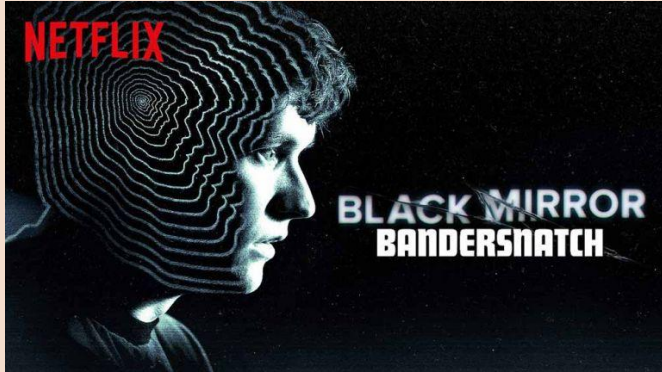
A Summer with the Shiba Inu, made in Ren'Py



Location:
Cnine-da



“Narrative-driven” can be done many ways



“Narrative-driven” can be done many ways



“Visual novel” style narrative delivery is popular



Persona 5

Credit: Atlus USA

“Visual novel” style narrative delivery is popular



Danganronpa V3

Credit:
Spike Chunsoft

Difficult to build custom engine as solo dev

Custom engines are everywhere!



Difficult to build custom engine as solo dev

Custom engines are costly



Ren'Py is open source & high production

Games made in Ren'Py

- From NaNoRenO to high budget



renpy / renpy

Watch 132 Unstar 1.7k Fork 292

Code Issues 123 Pull requests 10 Projects 1 Security Insights

The Ren'Py Visual Novel Engine <http://www.renpy.org/>

renpy visual-novel visual novel game engine python

9,274 commits 27 branches 438 releases 98 contributors

Branch: master New pull request Create new file Upload files Find file Clone or download

renpytom Merge pull request #2054 from Andykl/fix-2053 Latest commit 52aea1 1 hour ago

gui	Remove information about mac signing.	last month
launcher	translation update	4 days ago
module	gl2: Extract model out into its own file.	2 days ago



Ren'Py is open source & high production

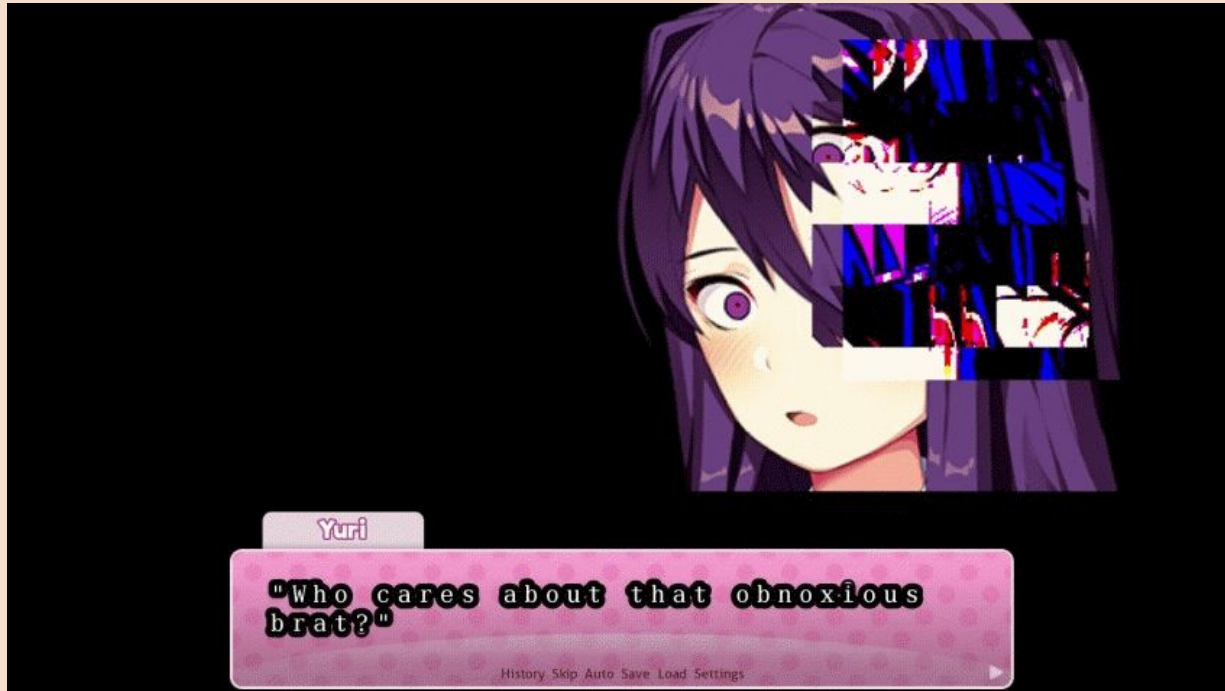
Games made in Ren'Py

- From NaNoRenO to high budget
- PyTom's philosophy
 - “The best way to make visual novels, and give it away for free”



Ren'Py is powerful

Doki Doki Literature Club



Credit:
Team
Salvato

Ren'Py is powerful

Long Live the Queen

Current mood: Willful

Week 7

Skills

Mood

Outfit

Classes

Log

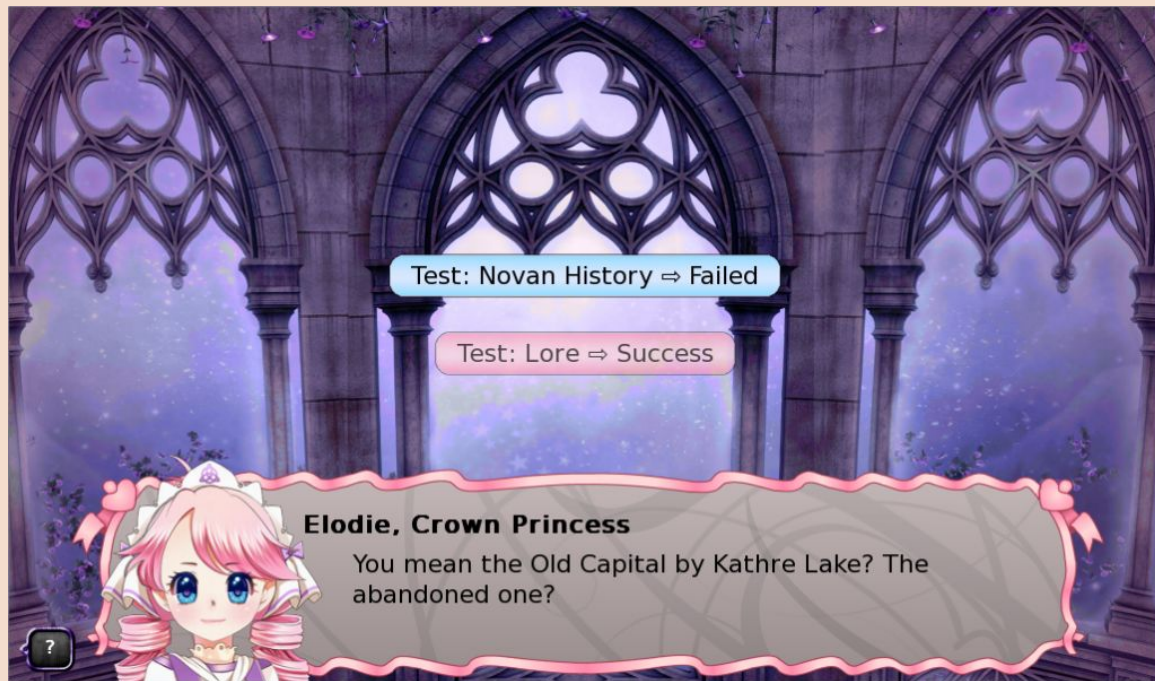
Menu

Social + 0.000		Intellectual + 0.125	
Royal Demeanor	- 2.00	History	- 2.00
Composure	0.0	Novan	0.0
Elegance	0.0	Foreign Affairs	0.0
Presence	0.0	World	0.0
Conversation	+ 0.00	Intrigue	+ 1.00
Public Speaking	0.0	Internal Affairs	0.0
Court Manners	0.0	Foreign Intelligence	0.0
Flattery	0.0	Ciphering	0.0
Expression	+ 0.00	Medicine	+ 0.00
Decoration	0.0	Herbs	0.0
Instrument	0.0	Battlefield	0.0
Voice	0.0	Poison	0.0
Physical + 0.000		Economics *	- 0.75
Agility	+ 0.00	Accounting	82.6
Dance	0.0	Trade	36.0
Reflexes	0.0	Production	36.0
Flexibility	0.0	Military	+ 1.00
Weapons	+ 0.00	Strategy	0.0
Swords	0.0	Naval Strategy	0.0
Archery	0.0	Logistics	0.0
Polearms	0.0	Mystical + 0.030	
Athletics	+ 0.00	Faith	+ 0.30
Running	0.0	Meditation	0.0
Climbing	0.0	Divination	15.0
Swimming	0.0	Lore	15.0
Animal Handling	+ 0.00	Lumen	+ 1.00
Horses	0.0	Sense Magic	0.0
Dogs	0.0	Resist Magic	0.0
Falcons	0.0	Wield Magic	0.0



Ren'Py is powerful

Long Live the Queen



Credit: Hanako Games



Ren'Py is powerful



Highway Blossoms

- Ren'Py 3D

Credit: Studio Élan

Ren'Py is flexible



Video:
npckc - a hero and a garden



Ren'Py is flexible



Ren'Py is flexible

```
import random
import time

class MenuTimer(object):
    start_time = 0.0

    def duration(self):
        return renpy.get_game_runtime() - self.start_time

    @property
    def verbose(self):
        if renpy.in_rollback():
            return "If only I could turn back time?"
        else:

            d = self.duration()
            return "{} It took me {:.02f} seconds. {}".format(
                random.choice(
                    ["Hmm.", "Interesting...",
                     "Woah.", "Wonderful.",
                     "Strange.", "Huh."] ),
```



Implement timer of how long player took to make decisions

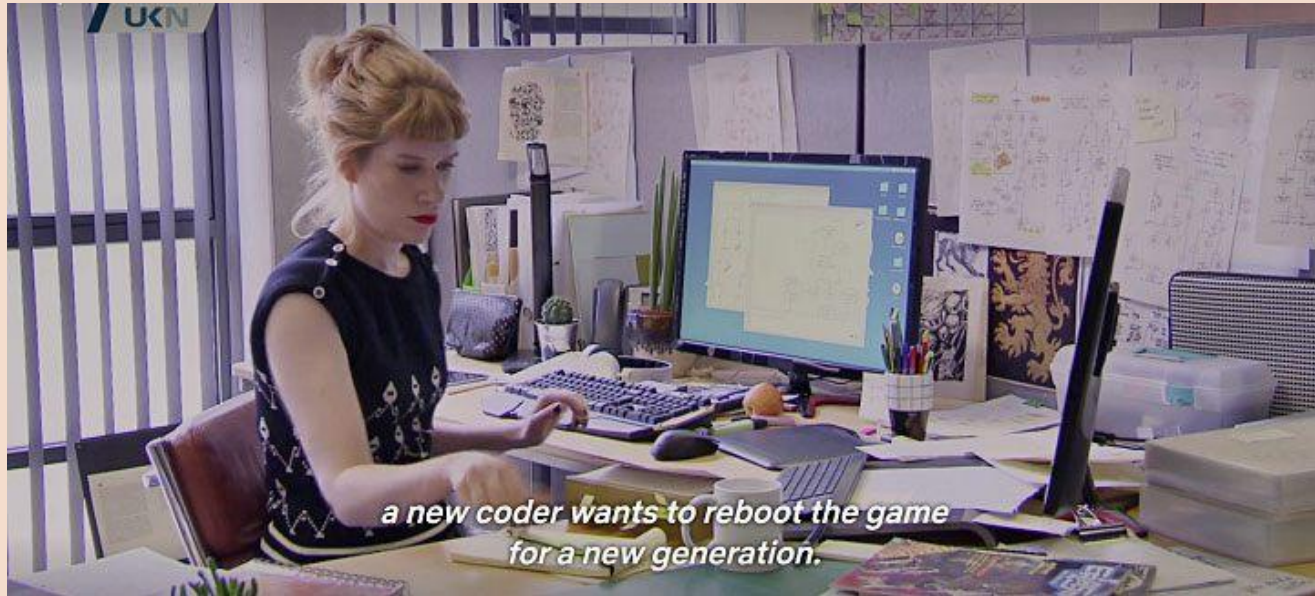
Generates dialogue by randomly selecting and combining phrases



Ren'Py is flexible



Ren'Py is flexible



You could easily remake Netflix's Bandersnatch in Ren'Py.

(Its creator used Twine, a popular tool in the VN community, to code the script)

Ren'Py is flexible - Demo

- Add image and create transition
- Modify something in `ImageDissolve` class



```
1  init:
2
3      $ pycon = ImageDissolve("wipes/pycon_transparent_transition.png", 2.0, 8)
4      $ dmg = ImageDissolve("wipes/dmg_transparent_transition.png", 2.0, 8)
5
6  label start:
```


Your imagination's the limit with Ren'Py

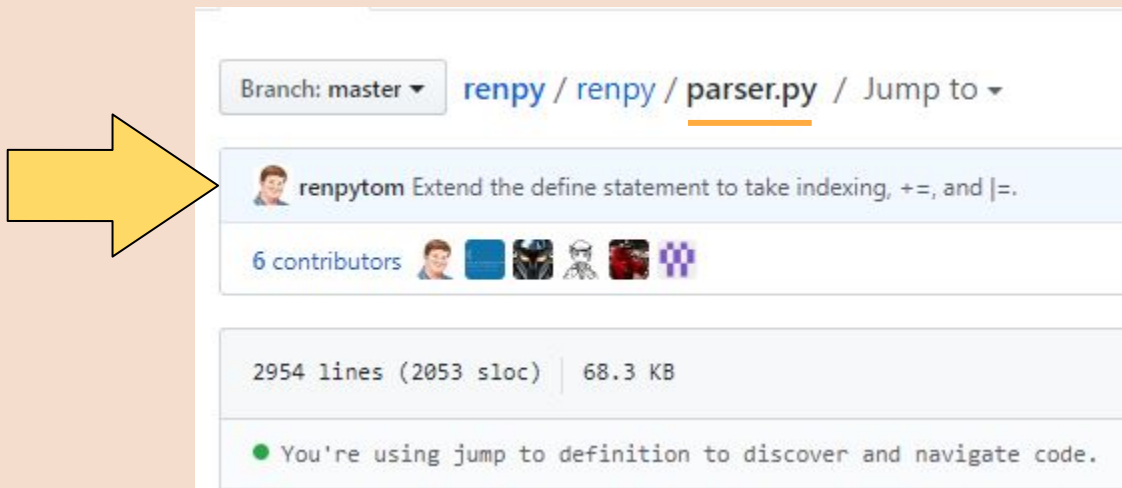
"I can't make a high production quality visual novel!"

Low budget dev
+ Ren'Py



You only have to learn Ren'Py once

- New programmer friendly
- Flexible for seasoned devs
- Thank you RenPyTom, your vision did come true





Now go make your story-driven game!



Contact me 



@quill_studios



A Summer With The
Shiba Inu 

