

Change Report

Due to the nature of Assessment 3, changes had to be made to the product we received. With the project, we inherited a substantial amount of technical debt. It was incomplete and as such, additional features needed to be added, in order to comply fully with the requirements laid out in Assessment 1. Some changes were also made to the existing codebase, in most cases to increase efficiency, but occasionally to support new features.

Before changes could be made, as a team we needed to establish a firm grasp of the design decisions made in the development process so far, so as to know how to approach adding new functionality. For this reason, at the beginning of this stage of the project, all members of the team evaluated the project as a whole, before producing any work.

A large part of the initial evaluation process was the analysis of the requirements. The correct final product cannot be produced without knowledge of what was envisioned by its designers and the client. All team members began the development process with a strong understanding of the requirements, and all proposed changes were scrutinised using this information.

Before major changes were made, a group discussion, chaired by the product owner, took place. During this discussion two points were covered, the validity of the change and, the implications of the change:

- The first point ensured that the proposed change existed within the scope that the original game design laid out, so as not to deviate from the requirements.
- The second point ensured that the proposed change had been thoroughly thought out. During this time, any other changes implied by the aforementioned change were discussed, and (if the approved) added to the project backlog.

These discussions often made use of demonstrative resources, such as printed diagrams and prototypes, to aid in the understanding of the topic.

In order to monitor what documentation changes were required, a spreadsheet of tasks was created with the following columns: ID, task name, task description and the name of the document that needs updating. Columns identifying which team member was responsible for the completion of this task and whether or not the task has been completed were added so that team members could be liable for completing tasks and so that the workload could be distributed amongst the team.

For managing changes to the project's code, commits and issues in GitHub were used as they allow for any small changes to the code to be traced. This means that any change, no matter how small is recorded and is then able to be written about in the project's documentation if required. This also allows the coding department of the team to focus on making changes to the project code whilst letting the documentation department focus on reporting about them.

URLs for modified products / documents:

GUI Report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_5gEYND4-F4U1FQMTJueHBFaDg/view?usp=sharing

Testing: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_5gEYND4-F4Rm90LUxNDNXVWM/view?usp=sharing

Methods and Planning:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_5gEYND4-F4SjdtTWJUcndOTIk/view?usp=sharing

Risks: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_5gEYND4-F4Skc0UXNZVkiRWUE/view?usp=sharing

Change Log

This table logs all changes made to the software. Each change has GitHub commits related to it (each commit links to its GitHub page), showing the files edited, and how they were edited.

ID	Description	Related Requirement(s)	Responsible	Date(s) / GitHub Commit(s)	Architectural Changes	Justification
IM1	Tests replaced by ones which run with changes made	N/A	AD	25/01/16 - 106cf76 - bff3e21 - 498b1cc 01/02/16 - aa94e11 - 3aa3839 - 061dbac 02/02/16 - b4eba1a	N/A	When the product was received, the tests did not run, nor were they appropriate to the tools use. This meant new tests had to be written.
IM2	Existing physics replaced with box2D physics	N/A	JH	26/01/16 - 294bc82 27/01/16 - 57261e7 - 83d3b72 - f1300f5 - 1709d9f 01/02/16 - 8b05b23 - 69d68e8	PhysicsEntity introduced as a subclass of Entity, containing behaviour common to all physics experiencing Entities.	Physics were initially made from scratch, meaning new features would require a great deal of extra work (would require more physics functionality). Instead, a popular, well tested and fully featured alternative was added, box2D.
IM3	Add a time based objective	G2	TA	28/01/16 - 3744a28 - 4a16b4f	Additional class, SurviveObjective, was created inside the Objective class	Requirement G2 describes the need for at least two types of objective
IM4	Add a minimap	I4	JH	11/02/16 - eddee67 - 2a32041 12/02/16 - ae6baa5 - 88ba6f5	N/A	Requirement I4 describes the need for a minimap
IM5	Water and Swimming Added	C2, C4	JH	09/02/16 - 841be06 - 9a4a63e - 3379e47 10/02/16 - 7284f6e - 6d16984	New entity, WaterEntity, was added	Requirements C2 and C4 describe the need for water and the ability to swim

IM6	Add ranged enemies	G7, G8	JH	28/01/16 - 58902ee - 160fdec 08/02/16 - 4436296	New mob subclass, RangedMob	Added in order to add more obstacles, needed according to requirements G7 and G8
IM7	Add map screen/level select	G1, G6	TA	09/02/16 - a1e882f - 9881c17	Added MapScreen class	Required in order to support multiple levels and locations as described in G1 and G6.
IM8	Level progression. Levels are unlocked when the previous level has been completed.	G2	TA	09/02/16 - 9881c17 - a1e882f 11/02/16 - f59b662	Added Session as a nested static class within DuckGame	Allows the objectives described in requirement G2 to have a purpose upon completion.
IM9	Levels Added each with at least one objective	G1, G2	TA	09/02/16 - 7e06148 11/02/16 - 6393c63	N/A	Implements the multiple levels needed to fulfill requirements G1 and G2
IM10	AI pathfinding improvements	G8	JH	27/01/16 - f63a4a4	Introduced new subclass of AI, PathfindingAI, and removed ZombieAI	AI is very important in the player experience. The improvements made make the AI smarter and more aggressive (requirement G8), which in turn improves the player experience.
IM11	Melee attacks implemented, using a lightsaber pickup.	G8, G9	JH	13/02/16 - 40b8ab8 07/02/16 - a0b79bf	Upgrades and Weapons combined into a single class, Pickup	This change both improves the combat experience (requirement G8) as well as adding a new pickup (requirement G9)
IM12	Mobs can now be stunned (can't move/attack for a time period after being hit)	G8	JH	12/02/16 - 02a1157	N/A	When playtesting the game, we found that enemy mobs can kill the player very quickly, making melee attacks very difficult, therefore making them pointless. Stunning mobs allows melee attacks to be a viable method of combat, improving combat as a whole (requirement G8).
IM13	Implemented bullet deflection using melee attack against bullet	G8	JH	12/02/16 - 40b8ab8	N/A	This is another improvement the combat system needed by requirement G8

IM15	Music and sound effects added	N/A	TA	16/02/16 - bbf9685	N/A	Adding music improves player enjoyment.
IM16	Add a kill based objective where player is required to kill all enemies.	G2	JH	07/02/16 - 3db5526	Additional class, KillObjective, was created inside the Objective class	Requirement G2 describes the need for at least two types of objective