Overview and Introduction to Klax

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Contact information

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 - o Or by prior appointment
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- ICS2 is locked, so you may need to knock, send an email, phone me, or follow someone

A few comments on discussions

- o Discussions are by and large mandatory
- Should be more open-ended than lectures
- If you don't attend, you likely won't be able to do the assignments.
 - o They just won't make much sense.
- o Slides will be posted on Dr. Taylor's site
 - http://www.ics.uci.edu/~taylor/ICS_52_FQ04/syllabus.html

When we will have discussions?

- Hard copy of assignments are due at beginning of discussion.
 - o If you can't make it, make arrangements!
- o Occasionally, discussion will be cancelled.
 - o Notification to course list or in lecture
- o Otherwise, assume we have discussions.

What should you know?

- o The course syllabus has the pre-reqs
- You must have a familiarity with Java
- You should also have sufficient grasp of English language to write coherent technical documents that make sense.
- o If you feel you don't, please get in touch now!

A word about assignments

- o All assignments are individual in ICS 52
 - NO WORKING WITH OTHERS!
 - You will have plenty of team work later
- "Your TA is your friend, your friend is not your TA."
 - o Cheating is wrong. It is lying. Don't do it.

Klax: An old video game

- o Coin-op game circa late 1980s.
- "[The developer] originally programmed this in Amiga Basic, then ported it lineby-line to C. It was written in just a few weeks on "Escape From the Planet of the Robot Monsters" hardware."
- http://www.arcade-history.com/history_database.php?page=detail&id=1300

Nostalgia's great, but...

- Don't bother with emulators (MAME...)
 - o Your focus will be on our prototype!
 - Have some fun playing it...
 - o Yet, don't get distracted.
- o Mostly written around 1997; updated 2000.
- Written in a particular architectural style

Introduction to ArchStudio

- In a few weeks, you will hear more in lectures about 'software architecture' and the 'C2 style'
- o For now, you need to know how to run Klax
- Environment (platform) called ArchStudio
 - http://www.isr.uci.edu/projects/archstudio/

Installing ArchStudio

- http://www.isr.uci.edu/projects/archstudio/setup-easy.html
- http://www.isr.uci.edu/projects/softwareupdate/
- o Requires Java 1.4 installed
 - o For updater, browser must support 1.4
- Install 'xArchLibs', 'ArchStudio', and 'Apigen'

Configuring ArchStudio

- o Run 'java -jar archstudio.jar'
 - o May be able to double-click on JAR file
- Walk through choices...
- o Produces a script (for Win32 or Unix)
- Again, just follow: http://www.isr.uci.edu/ projects/archstudio/setup-easy.html

Invoking Klax with ArchStudio

- o File | Open ... regular-klax.xml
- Can drag-and-drop regular-klax.xml file on File Manager Window
- Select (Highlight) 'regular-klax.xml'
- o Invoke | AEMDriver
- Click Instantiate on lower-right-hand side

Klax Quick Reference

- o Left arrow moves your palette left
- o Right arrow moves your palette right
- o Down arrow drops your palette into chute
- You must catch tile with palette
- Vertical, horizontal, and diagonal sequences of three or more cause removal

Klax Demo

Where we are headed...

- All in the context of Klax...
 - o Initial emphasis on 'reverse-engineering'
- o Requirements: What does it do?
- o Design: How does it do it?
- o Testing: Does it do what it should?
- o Implementation: Make it do what it should

Next Discussion Time...

- o Introduce 'Requirements Specification'
- Assignment #1 will be due on October 18th, 2004 here in discussion
 - Electronic submission via EEE DropBox
- The best thing you can do this weekend is make sure you can play Klax!

