

Gamifying Agent-Based Models in Cormas: Towards the Playable Architecture for Serious Games in Pharo

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Erasmus+



Google
Summer of Code

Main Message



Serious games can be seen as agent-based models, and agent-based models can be turned into games

=>

Cormas can be adapted to support serious game design.

Companion Modeling Community



Participatory Modeling

Modelers work with stakeholders

Co-construct models in local contexts (e.g., Africa, South America)

Goal: **DIALOGUE**

What is Cormas?



Cormas = ABM Platform

Built in Pharo

Designed for ecological/social simulations

Used in companion modeling since 1990s



PharoCormasBrowseDebugSourcesSystemLibraryWindowsHelp

Fix random seed:

Init method

initStandard

Release random seed after initia

Control method

step

Parameters

Ask before reinitializing

Reinitialize simulation

StepRun

Progress

0%

SpaceDataChartsInspector

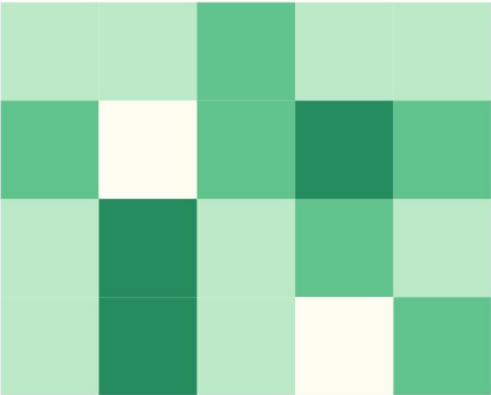
Save to PNGCreateFullscreenRefresh

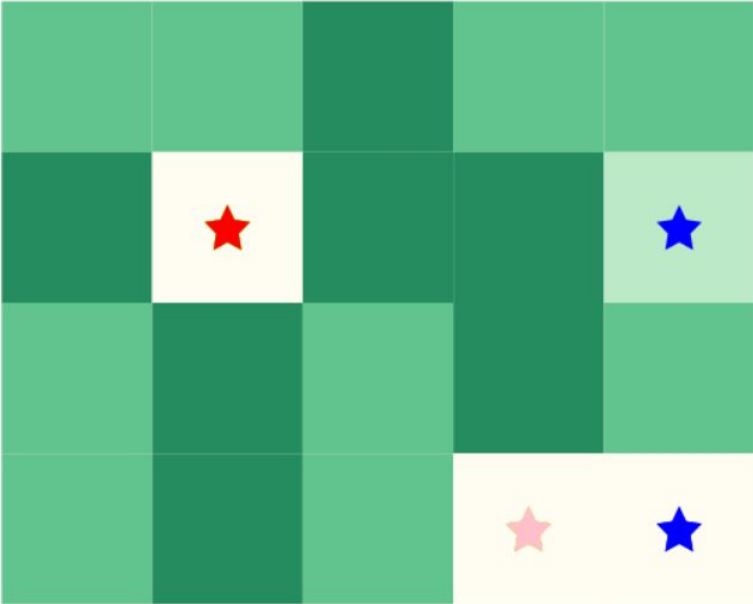
PoV

Simulation

Final stepSpeedDisplay ever

100normal1

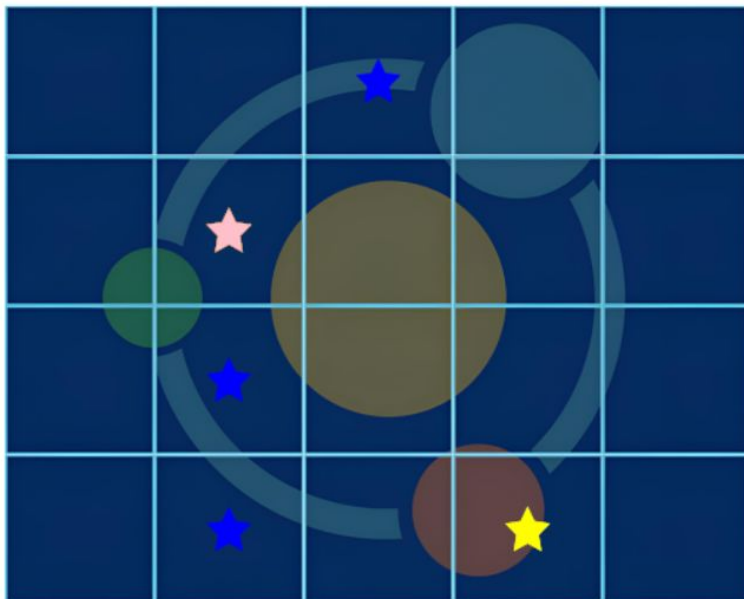




Space Data Charts Inspector

Save to PNG Create Fullscreen Refresh

PoV



- ▼ PCell
 - pov
 - povId
 - povInvisible
 - ✓ povBoard
 - povBirds
 - povClassName
 - povProtected
- ▶ PCFamily
- ▶ PCHarvester
- ▶ PCParkManager

Who Uses Cormas?



Non-programmer modelers

Researchers using simulation for real-world participatory work

Need accessible tools

Modeling Tools in Companion Modeling



1. Agent-Based Modeling (Cormas)
2. Serious Games
3. Forum Theater
4. Interactive Maps

Real Serious Game

Two words: Resource management.

One to survive (plants, biomass, etc.)

One which they don't need, but are encouraged to protect (species of birds)



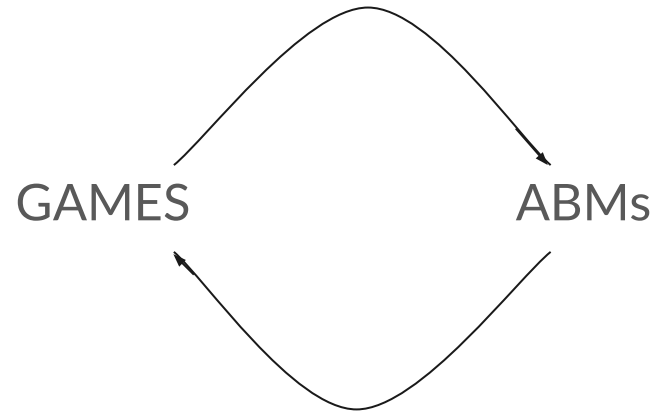
Research Questions?



Can we adapt Cormas to support **serious game execution**?

Can players interact directly with the model as part of a game?

Games = ABMs



Games = Players (Agents) + Environment+rules

ABMs = Agents + Environment + Rules

Why Use Cormas for Games?



Complex systems

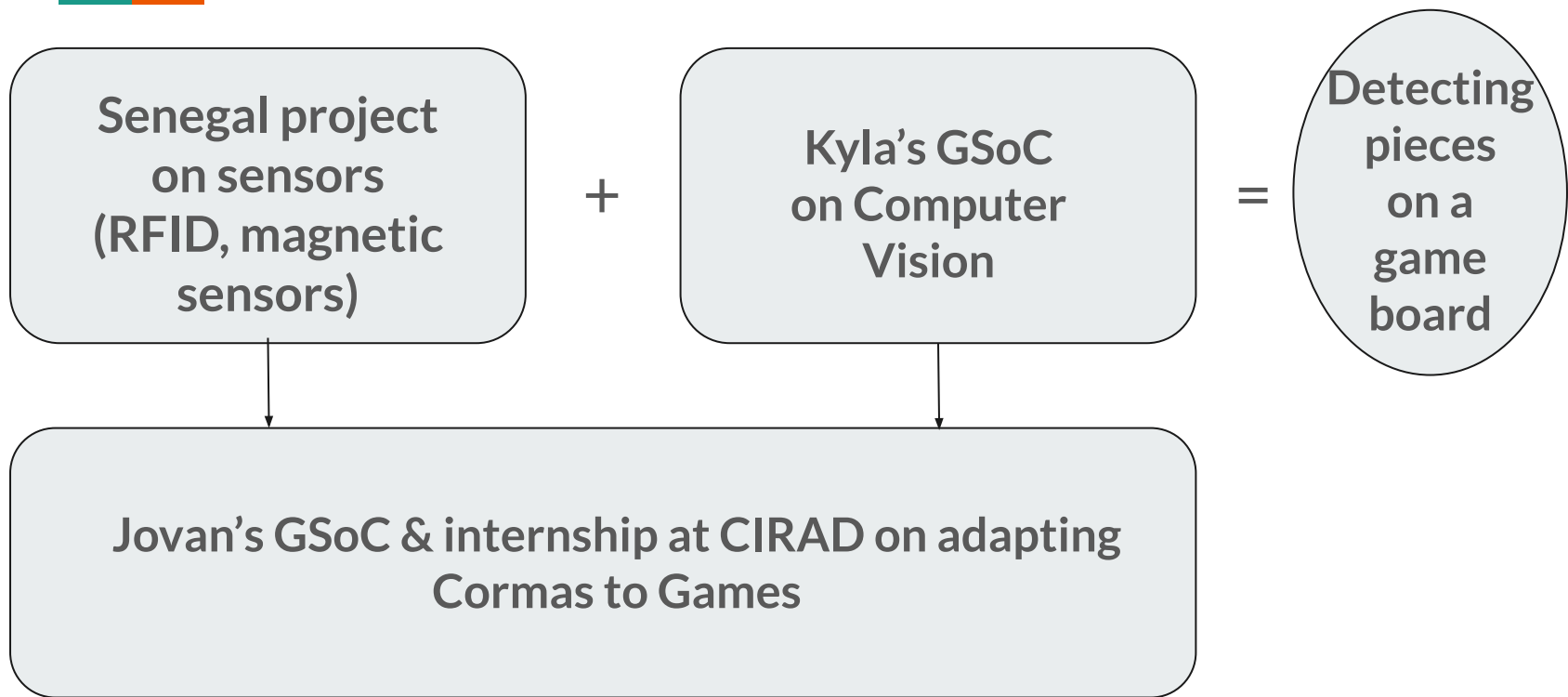
Random programmers

Unified ecosystem (model + game in same tool)

Maintained by modeling community

Easy to reuse, modify, and extend

Three Current Projects



What I've Done So Far?



Planet C implemented in Cormas

HTTP server → Phone interaction

Started adding:

- Player actions
- Turns
- Game loop structure

Next Steps (GSoC Project)



Finalize player-action architecture

Enable interaction via phone/browser

Build example game scenarios

Document and publish tools

Community-friendly tools for non-programmers

Conclusion



Every game can be seen as an ABM where players are agents

Most ABMs can be played as games

Games and ABMs are deeply linked

Cormas can bridge simulation and play

My project is a first step toward a unified modeling + gaming tool