Game Engine Programming

GMT Master Program
Utrecht University

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Course code: INFOMGEP
Credits: 7.5 ECTS

Lecture #15

Game Engine Standards

How they did it?

- Engines
  - Ogre 3D
  - XNA platform
  - Unreal, Quake and CryEngine
- Components
  - Global architecture
  - Scene management
  - Input management
  - Resource management

Ogre 3D

- Object-oriented Graphics Rendering Engine
  - a graphics engine, not a game engine...
  - easy plugin of features (python script, ode physics engine, *etc.*)
  - http://www.ogre3d.org

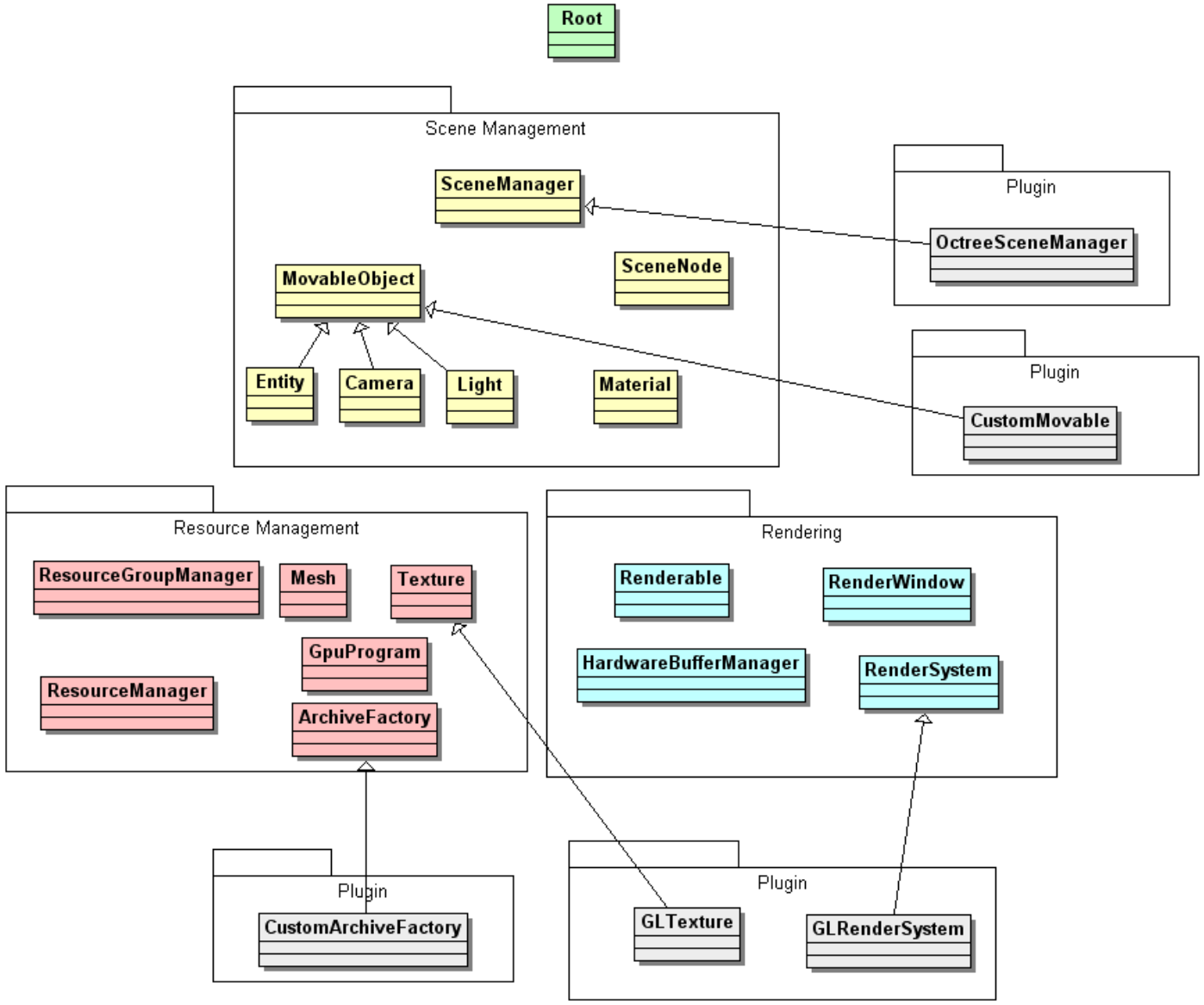
Torchlight
Runic Games

Alien Dominion
Black Fire Games

Ogre features

- Programming
  - OO interface in C++
  - Extensible framework
  - Stable and high performance engine
- Platform
  - Multi-platform
  - Direct3D and OpenGL support
- Content
  - Scene manager
  - Resource manager
    - Material, meshes
  - Animation
  - Renderer
    - Special effects, shader
  - Plugins

Ogre architecture overview



Ogre

- The ‘Root’ object is the entry point
  - must be the first created object
  - must be the last deleted object
  - enables the configuration of the system
  - has a continuous rendering loop

Ogre

- SceneManager
  - Contains everything that appears on the screen
  - Different managers for terrain (heightmap), exterior and interior scenes
- Entity
  - Type of object you can render in the scene
  - Anything that is being represented by a mesh (player, ground, …)
  - Not an entity: Lights, Billboards, Particles, Cameras, *etc.*

Ogre

- SceneNode
  - Scene nodes keep track of location and orientation for all of the objects attached to it
  - An Entity is only rendered on the screen if it is attached to a SceneNode object
  - A scene node's position is always relative to its parent node
  - A scene manager contains one root node to which all other scene nodes are attached
- The final structure is the scene graph

Ogre

```
// Create Root
Ogre::Root* mRoot = new Ogre::Root();

// Parses resources.cfg
setupResources();

// Shows the Ogre config GUI which configures the render system
// and constructs a render window
configure();

// The scene manager decides what to render
chooseSceneManager();

// We need a camera to render from
createCamera();

// and at least one viewport to render to
createViewports();
```

Ogre

```
// Create any resource listeners (for loading screens)
createResourceListener();

// Now we can load the resources: all systems are on-line
loadResources();

// Now that the system is up and running: create a scene to render
createScene();

// Create any frame listeners (input manager: keyboard, mouse...)
createFrameListener();

// Kick off Ogre loop
mRoot->startRendering();

// Clean up
destroyScene();

// Delete root
delete mRoot;
```

Ogre application design

- Ogre is using a Frame Listener in the game loop to receive notification from the system
  - The game inherits from FrameListener

```
class Game : public Ogre::FrameListener { // ... }
```

  - And register itself to listen to the notifications

```
mRoot->addFrameListener(this);
```

Ogre game loop

- The Root::startRendering method starts the rendering cycle
  - It begins the automatic rendering of the scene
  - It will not return until the rendering cycle is halted
- During rendering, any FrameListener registered will be called back for each frame that is to be rendered
  - These classes can tell Ogre to halt the rendering if required, which will cause this method to return

Ogre game loop

- Ogre notifies the listeners at different time of the game loop

```
// called just before a frame is rendered
virtual bool frameStarted(const FrameEvent& evt);

// called after all render targets have had their rendering commands
// issued, but before the render windows have been asked to swap
// buffers
virtual bool frameRenderingQueued(const FrameEvent& evt);

// called just after a frame has been rendered (buffers swapped)
virtual bool frameEnded(const FrameEvent& evt);
```

  - if return value is false, program exits
  - evt.timeSinceLastFrame contains how long is has been since the last call

Ogre game loop

```
void Root::startRendering(void) {
    // ... Initialization ...
    mQueuedEnd = false;
    while( !mQueuedEnd ) {
          //Pump messages in all registered RenderWindow windows
          WindowEventUtilities::messagePump();
          if (!renderOneFrame()) break;
    }
}

bool Root::renderOneFrame(void) {
    if(!_fireFrameStarted()) return false;

    if (!_updateAllRenderTargets()) // includes _fireFrameRenderingQueued()
     return false;

    return _fireFrameEnded();
}
```

Input management in Ogre

- Ogre allows for both HID managements
  - polling (called unbuffered)
  - interruption (called buffered)

HID unbuffered in Ogre

- Update the user inputs in frameRenderingQueued

```
bool Game::frameRenderingQueued(const Ogre::FrameEvent& evt) {
    // ...
    mMouse->capture();     // to read mouse state
    mKeyboard->capture();  // to read keyboard state
    return processUnbufferedInput(evt);
}
```

  - where mMouse and mKeyboard are defined using the OIS library included in Ogre

- processUnbufferedInput pass the event to user functions according to the updated keyboard and mouse states

```
bool processUnbufferedInput(const Ogre::FrameEvent& evt);
```

HID unbuffered in Ogre

- Example

```
static bool Game::prevLeftMouseDown = false; // if a mouse button was pressed
static Ogre::Real Game::mMove = 0.2;         // the movement increment

bool Game::processUnbufferedInput(const Ogre::FrameEvent& evt) {
    // check if current left mouse button is pressed
    bool leftMouseDown = mMouse->getMouseState().buttonDown(OIS::MB_Left);
    if (leftMouseDown && !prevLeftMouseDown) { // if not pressed before
          // do something when left mouse button pressed, e.g. shoot();
          prevLeftMouseDown = true;
    }
    // check if user is pressing up arrow
    if ( mKeyboard->isKeyDown(OIS::KC_NUMPAD8) ||
         mKeyboard->isKeyDown(OIS::KC_UP)) {
          moveForward(mMove);
    }
    // update scene ...
}
```

HID buffered in Ogre

- Mouse and keyboard events are handled immediately instead of once per game loop
- Ogre uses an event mechanism (DP), the game class needs to inherit from

OIS::KeyListener for keyboard

```
#include <OISEvents.h>
#include <OISInputManager.h>
#include <OISKeyboard.h>

class Game : public OIS::KeyListener
```

OIS::MouseListener for mouse

```
#include <OISEvents.h>
#include <OISInputManager.h>
#include <OISMouse.h>

class Game : public OIS::MouseListener
```

HID buffered in Ogre

- The following member functions are inherited

```
// OIS::KeyListener
virtual bool keyPressed( const OIS::KeyEvent& evt );
virtual bool keyReleased( const OIS::KeyEvent& evt );

// OIS::MouseListener
virtual bool mouseMoved( const OIS::MouseEvent& evt );
virtual bool mousePressed( const OIS::MouseEvent& evt, OIS::MouseButtonID id );
virtual bool mouseReleased( const OIS::MouseEvent& evt, OIS::MouseButtonID id );
```

  - when a key is pressed, the keyPressed function is fired
  - when the mouse moves, the mouseMoved function is fired
  - *etc.*

HID buffered in Ogre

- The listening registrations are done during the application setup, typically in a createFrameListener function

```
void Game::createFrameListener () {
    // ...
    mMouse->setEventCallBack(this);
    mKeyboard->setEventCallBack(this);
    // ...
}
```

Resource management in Ogre

- A resource has different states
  - **Unknown**: Ogre is not aware of the resource. Its filename is stored but Ogre has no idea what to do with it
  - **Declared**: Flagged for creation. Ogre knows what type of resource it is, and what to do with it when the time comes to create it
  - **Created**: Ogre has created an empty instance of the resource, and added it to the relevant manager
  - **Loaded**: Created instance has been fully loaded, stage at which the resource's file is accessed

Resource management in Ogre

1. Ogre's native ResourceManagers are created in Root::Root
2. Specify resource locations by calling

```
ResourceGroupManager::addResourceLocation("name","locType")
```

3. Manually declare resources
   - **Declared** state for declared resources
   - **Unknown** otherwise

Resource management in Ogre

4. Script parsing to automatically declare resources
   - Set these resources as **Declared**
   - Creates the declared resources, now **Created**
5. Resources are loaded when
   - an entity ask for a unloaded resource
   - explicit call to load a resource
   - explicit call to load the declared resources
   - ➢ loaded resources put in **Loaded** state

Resource management in Ogre

- ResourceManager::unload reverts a resource from **Loaded** to **Created**
- ResourceManager::remove removes a resource
  - back to **Unknown** state
- You can get a pointer to the resource with ResourceManager::getByName and unload or remove it manually
- Any existing resources are removed when the resource manager is destroyed

Resource management in Ogre

- Reloading resources is a very useful feature
  - resource is unloaded, and then loaded again
  - moves from **Loaded** to **Created** and then back to **Loaded** again
- ResourceManager::reloadAll reloads all resources of one type
- Resources can be individually reloaded with Resource::reload

Resource management in Ogre

- To extend the resource types

```
class MyResource : public Ogre::Resource {
 protected:
     void loadImpl();                    // load resource (e.g. from file)
     void unloadImpl();                  // unload it
     size_t calculateSize() const;       // get its size
 // ...
}

class MyResourceManager : public Ogre::ResourceManager {
protected:
   Ogre::Resource * createImpl(const Ogre::String &name,
    Ogre::ResourceHandle handle, const Ogre::String &group, bool isManual,
    Ogre::ManualResourceLoader *loader, const Ogre::NameValuePairList
    *createParams); // creates the MyResource instance
public:
   virtual MyResource * load(const Ogre::String &name, const Ogre::String
   &group); // load the resource (and create it if needed)
   // ...
}
```

Resource management in Ogre

- To extend the resource types

```
MyResourceManager * mRM = new MyResourceManager();

ResourceGroupManager::getSingleton().declareResource("resourceName",
   "MyResource");

MyResource* _resource = mRM->load("resourceName",
   ResourceGroupManager::DEFAULT_RESOURCE_GROUP_NAME);

_resource->aFunction(); // you can now use the resource

// ...
_resource->reload();
// ...
mRM->unload("resourceName");
mRM->remove("resourceName");
// ...
```

Ogre

- Ogre uses many different design patterns
  - Factory in
    - MoveableObjectFactory, ParticleEmitterFactory, ...
  - Iterator in
    - ParticleIterator, ...
  - Singleton in
    - Root, OverlayManager, MaterialManager, ...
  - Listener in
    - FrameListener, ResourceGroupListener, ...
- Other commonly appearing structures
  - Events, Buffers, Plugins, Serializers

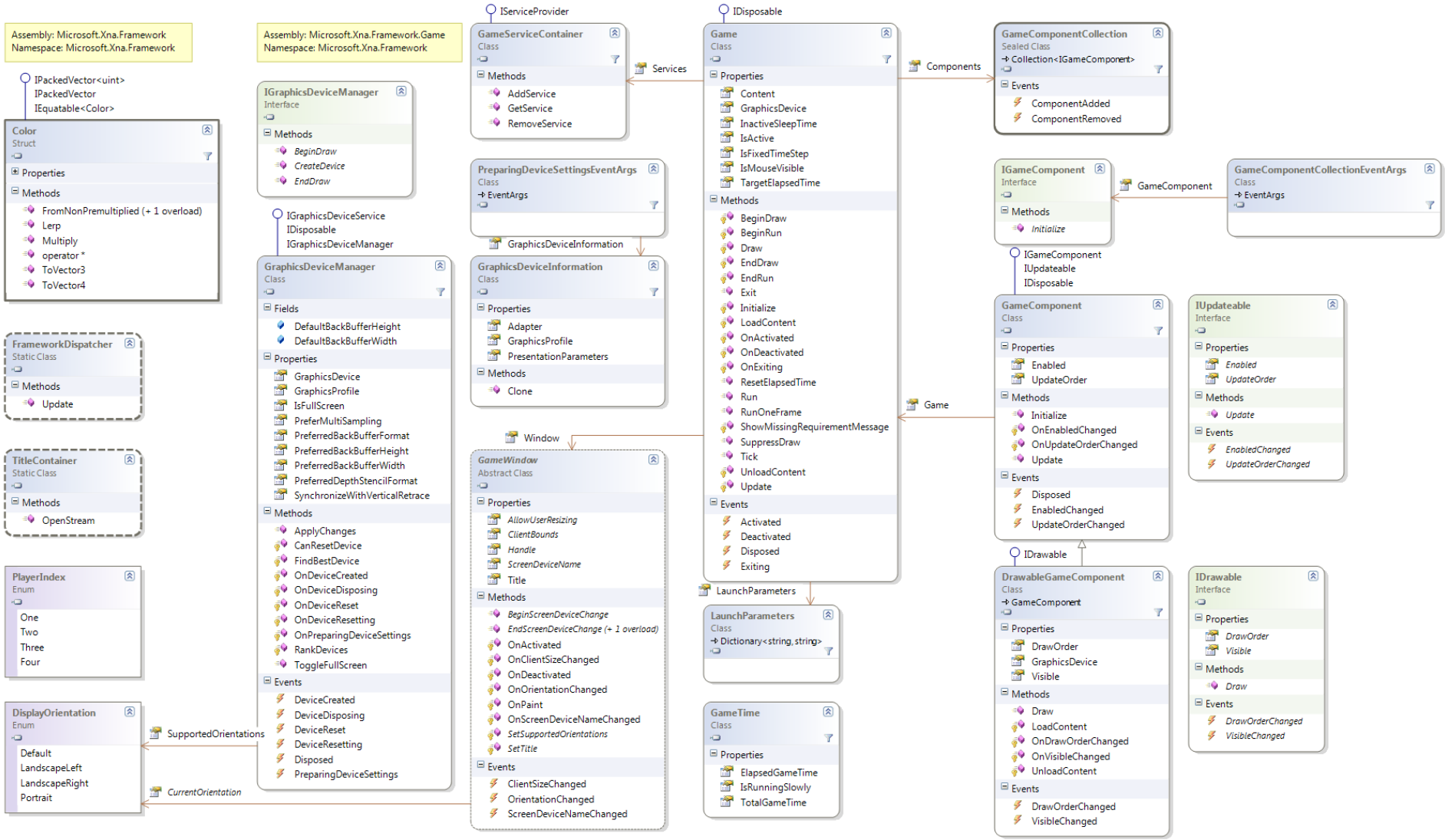
Microsoft XNA Platform

- C# game engine for PC and Xbox 360
  - Easy programming of DirectX based games
- Documentation on MSDN Library
  - http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/
  - Development Tools and Languages
  - XNA Game Studio
- Two sets of libraries
  - XNA Framework
  - Content Pipeline

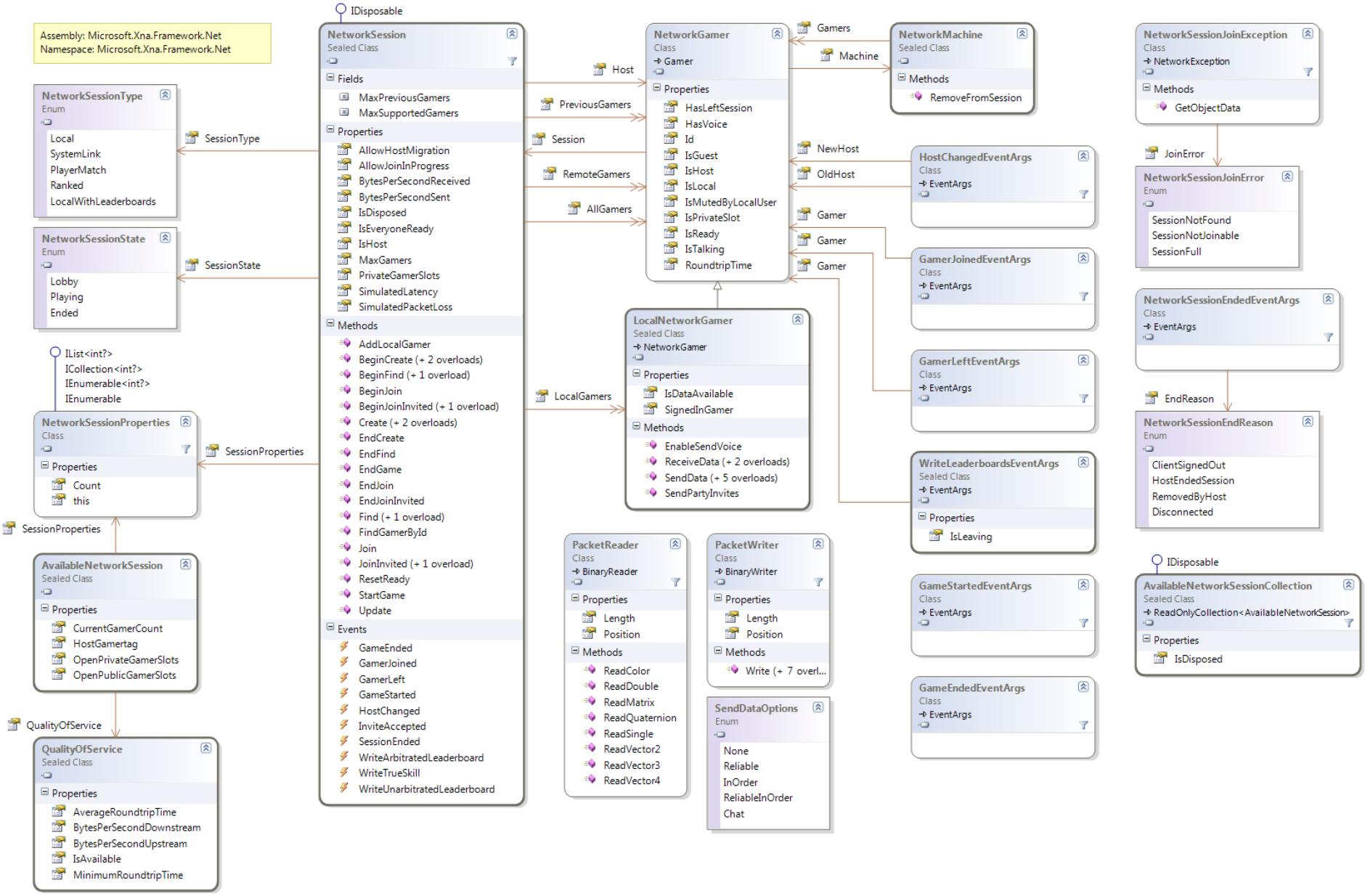
XNA Framework architecture

- Library of classes, interfaces and value types
  - Framework
    - commonly used game classes, *e.g.* timer and game loop
  - Framework.Audio
    - audio management
  - Framework.Graphics
    - 2D/3D graphics
  - Framework.Input
    - keyboard, mouse and Xbox 360 controller
  - Framework.Net
    - networking
  - Framework.Storage
    - file manipulation
  - ...

Microsoft.Xna.Framework



Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Net



XNA Game

```
using Microsoft.Xna.Framework;
using Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Graphics;

class BasicXNAGame : Game {                    // Inherits from XNA Game functionalities
 GraphicsDeviceManager graphics;               // The graphics manager
 SpriteBatch spriteBatch;                      // The sprite batch

 static void Main() {
  BasicXNAGame game = new BasicXNAGame();      // Main program creates a new game ...
  game.Run();                                  // ... and runs it
 }

 public BasicXNAGame() {
  Content.RootDirectory = "Content";             // Setup of content directory
  graphics = new GraphicsDeviceManager(this);  // Create the graphics manager
 }

 protected override void LoadContent() {
  spriteBatch = new SpriteBatch(GraphicsDevice); // Create the sprite batch
 }

 protected override void Update(GameTime gameTime) { // update code }

 protected override void Draw(GameTime gameTime) { // draw code }
}
```

XNA game loop

- The game loop is started by the function run of the class Game

```
public class MyGame : Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Game { // ... }
```

```
static class Program {
 static void Main(string[] args) {
   MyGame game = new MyGame();
   game.Run();
  }
}
```

- The run method calls the virtual functions to initialize the game, to update and draw the game, and to process events

XNA game loop

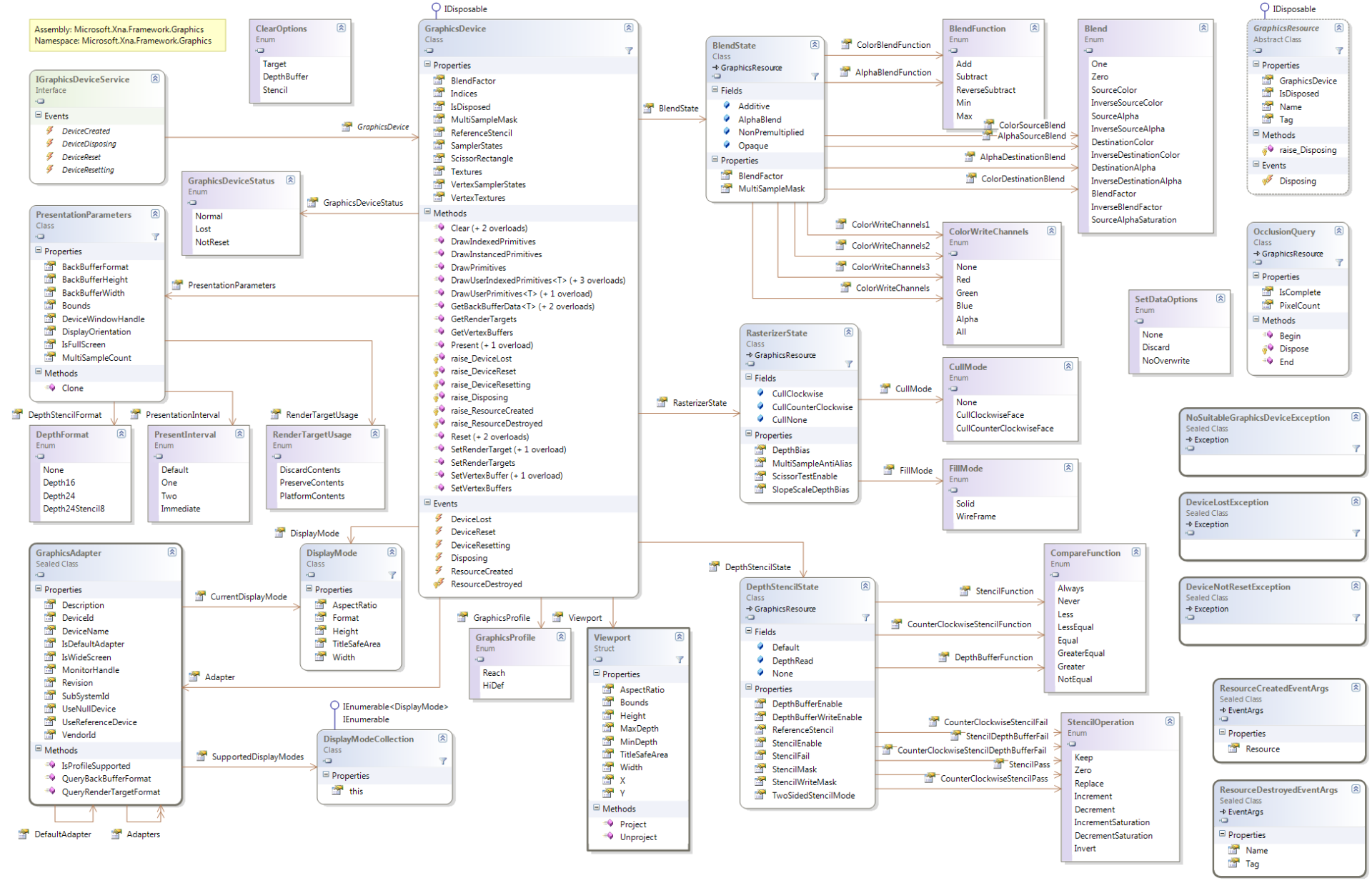
- The game loop is made of calls to the update and draw functions of the game
  - gameTime is the time elapsed since the last game loop call

```
protected override void Update(GameTime gameTime) { // ... }
protected override void Draw(GameTime gameTime) { // ... }
```

Scene management XNA

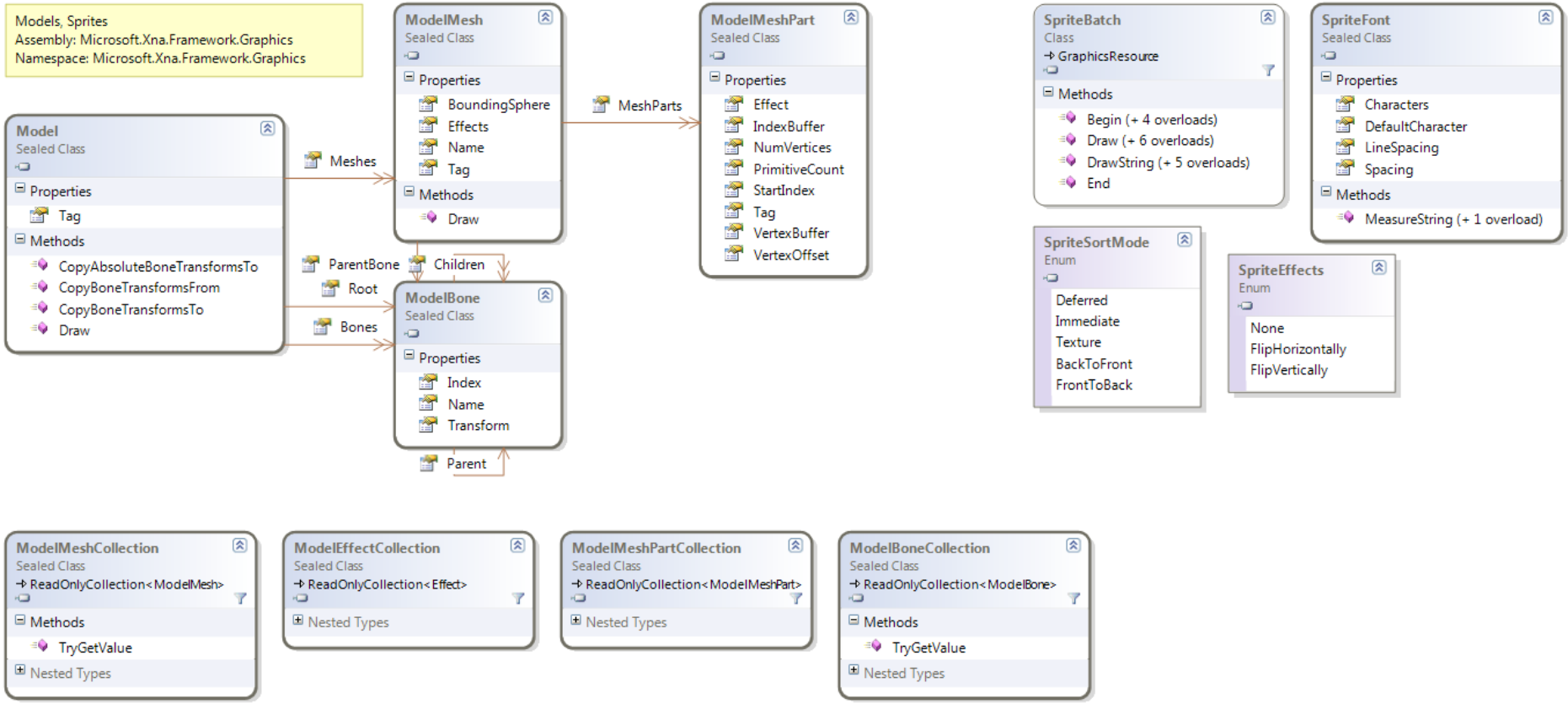
- The scene management (*e.g.* scene graph) is up to the user
- The graphics library contains low-level API methods that take advantage of hardware acceleration capabilities to display 2D/3D objects
  - Basically an interface for Direct3D
  - With classes such as Texture2D, ModelMesh and Effect

Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Graphics



Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Graphics

- Models and Sprites



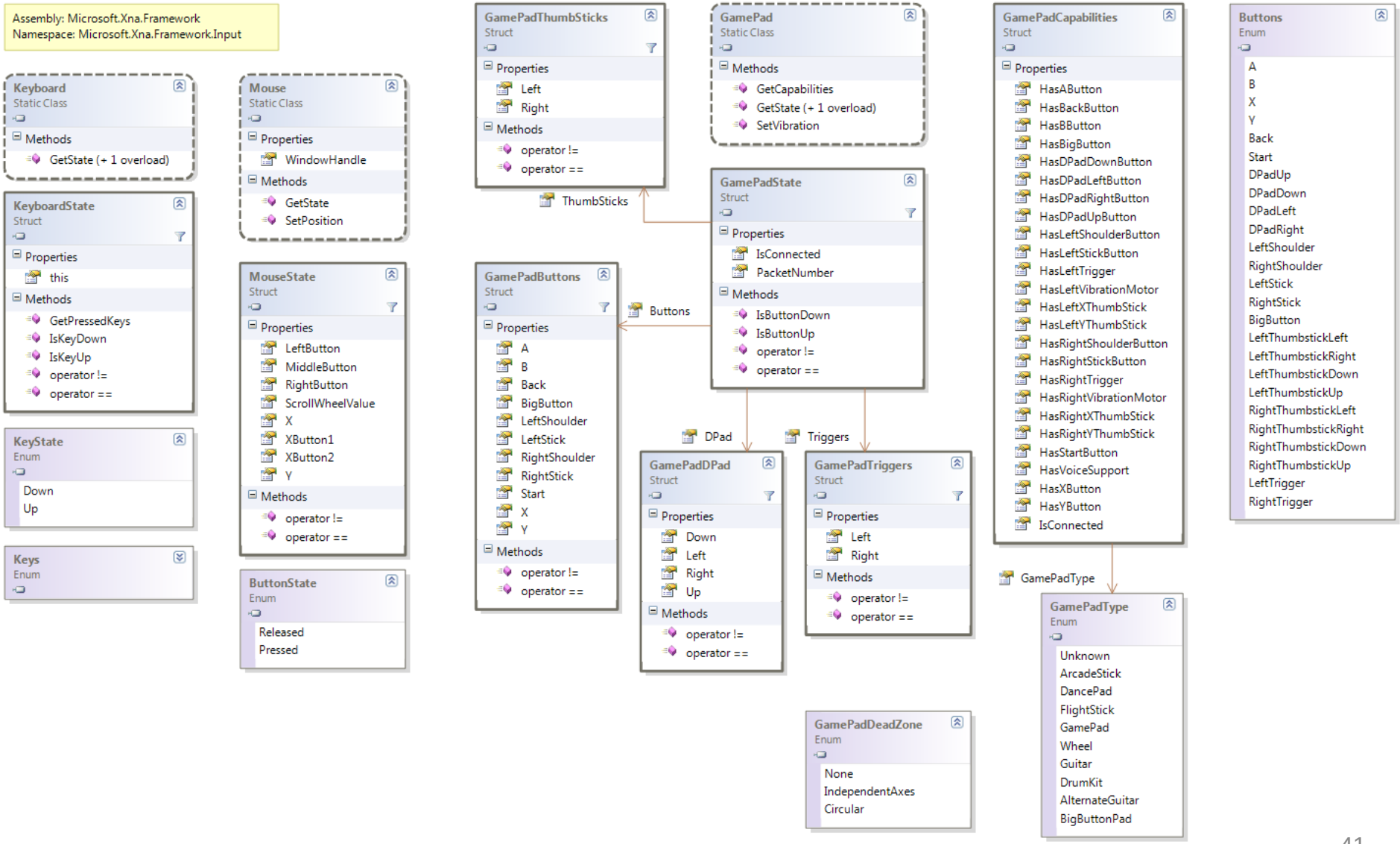
Input management XNA

- On PC, XNA can manage GamePad, Keyboard, Mouse and Microphone
- XNA provides only polling functions

```
KeyboardState ks = Keyboard.GetState();
if (ks.IsKeyDown(Keys.Space)) { // ... }
```

```
MouseState ms = Mouse.GetState();
if (ms.LeftButton == ButtonState.Pressed) { // ... }
int curMousePos.X = ms.X;
int curMousePos.Y = ms.Y;
```

Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Input



Input management XNA

- You can simulate events by manually checking changes in the state

```
KeyboardState _oldState; // data member

// ...

KeyboardState newState = Keyboard.GetState();
if (newState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Space)) {
  if (!_oldState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Space)) { // Key just pressed }
}
else if (_oldState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Space)) { // Key just released }
_oldState = newState; // Update state
```

Resource management XNA

- Game assets are managed by the XNA Framework Content Pipeline
- It transfers the run-time native loading process to compile time (implemented in Visual Studio)
  - Each asset is imported from its original file format and processed into a managed code object
  - Those objects are then serialized to a file that is included in the game's executable
  - At run time, the game reads the serialized data from the file directly into a managed code object

Resource management XNA

- Default asset importers in XNA
  - Autodesk model: .fbx
  - DirectX effect: .fx
  - Sprite fonts: .spritefonts
  - Texture: .bmp, .jpg, .png, .tga, ...
  - DirectX file: .x
  - Microsoft Audio file: .xap
  - XML file: .xml
- Automatically detected (dedicated project) and added to resource file

Resource management XNA

- To load a resource

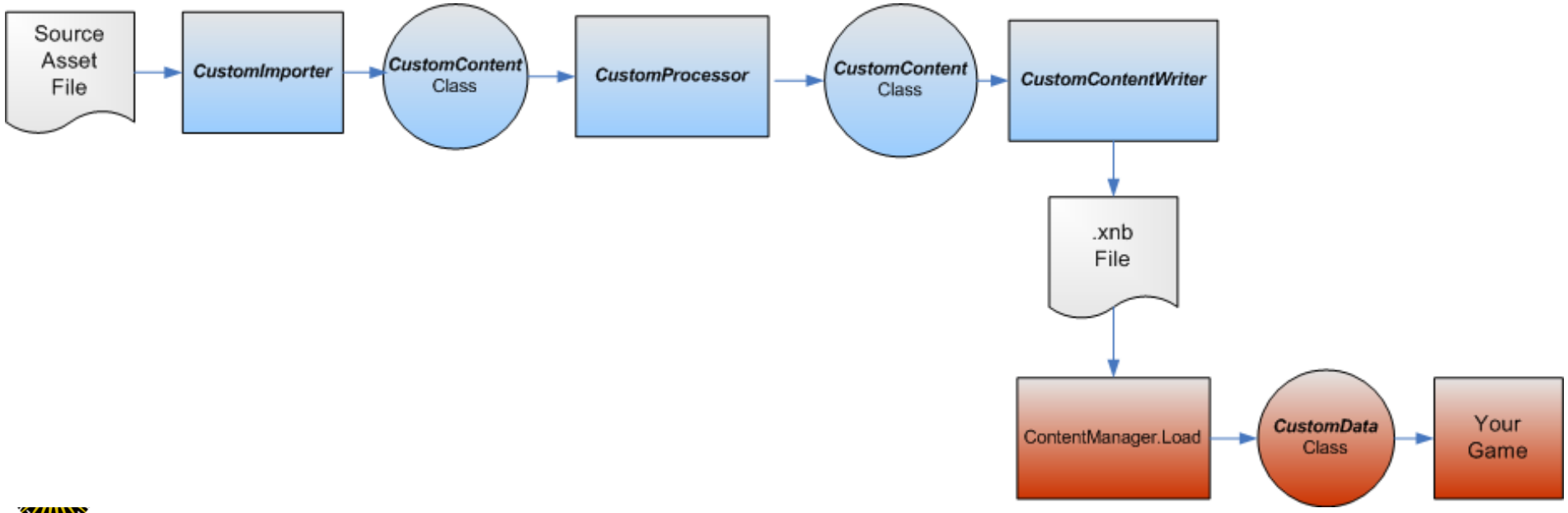
```
SpriteBatch spriteBatch;
Texture2D myTexture; // This is a texture to render

protected override void LoadContent()
{
    spriteBatch = new SpriteBatch(GraphicsDevice);
   myTexture = Content.Load<Texture2D>("mytexture");
}

protected override void UnloadContent()
{
    // ...
}
```

Resource management XNA

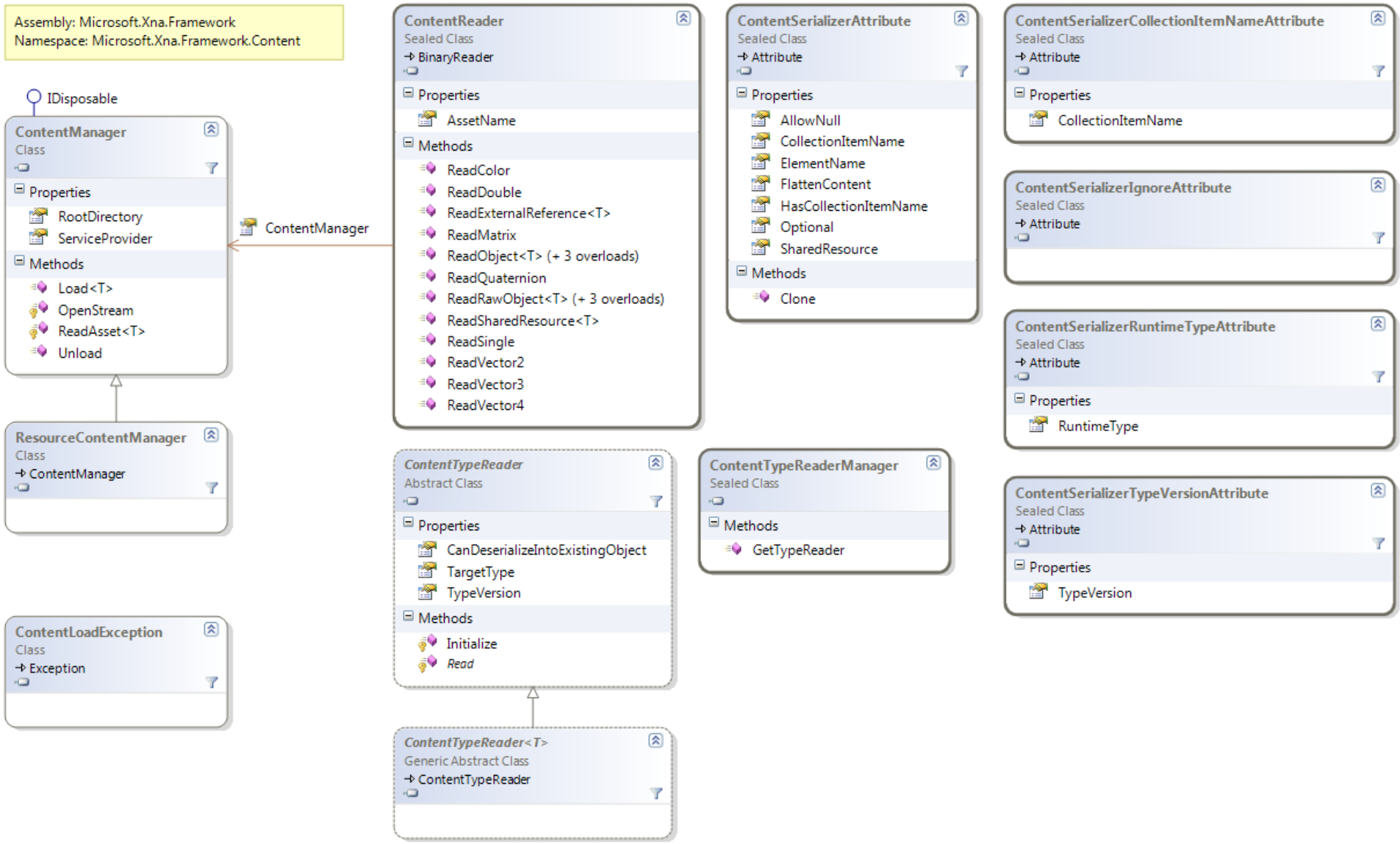
- Custom Content Pipelines can be added to support additional art assets and formats
- Or to derive special-purpose content from another piece of content at the time the game is built
- The asset is added in XNA project and its properties specify the appropriate importer
  - At build time the assigned importer is invoked
  - The asset is built into the game in a form that can be loaded at run time

Resource management XNA

- To manage new asset files
  - A custom importer is required that outputs a CustomContent object
  - A custom content processor is also needed
  - The ContentManager.Load method must be extended to support the custom data object



Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Content



Unreal Engine

- Unreal Engine 3 technology is available through UDK: the Unreal Development Kit
  - Main page: http://udk.com/
  - Documentation: http://udn.epicgames.com/Three/
- Features
  - Own editing environment (UnrealEd)
  - Highly dependent on scripts (UnrealScript)
  - Animation manager (AnimTrees)
  - Interface with PhysX engine (Unreal PhAT)
  - Networking, audio, particle, shader, AI managers
  - *and more*

Unreal Game

- UnrealScript is used to create custom classes to form the gameplay for the game
  - Located in a dedicated folder and pointed by a configuration file
- Content is stored within packages stored in a Content directory of the Unreal installation
  - including sub-folders for characters, maps, environments, sounds, *etc.*

Unreal Game

- The scripts are compiled into packages usable by the engine
- Default packages are
  - Core, Engine, GFxUI, GameFramework, UnrealEd, GFxUIEditor, IpDrv, OnlineSubsystemPC, OnlineSubsystemSteamworks, UDKBase, and UTEditor
  - Plus your own MyGame package

UDK Gameplay

- Player's viewpoint is handled in the GetPlayerViewPoint function of the PlayerController class

```
class MyGamePlayerCamera extends Camera;
function UpdateViewTarget(out TViewTarget OutVT, float DeltaTime) { // ... }
```

- Input from the player are handled and translated into controlling the game
  - the class responsible for determining how the player controls the game is PlayerController

```
class MyGamePlayerController extends GamePlayerController;
defaultproperties { CameraClass=class'MyGame.MyGamePlayerCamera' }
```

UDK Gameplay

- The visual representation of the player and the logic for determining how it interacts with the physical world is encapsulated in the Pawn class

```
class MyGamePawn extends Pawn;
defaultproperties { // ... }
```

- The HUD class is responsible for displaying information about the game to the player

```
class MyGameHUD extends MobileHUD;
defaultproperties { // ... }
```

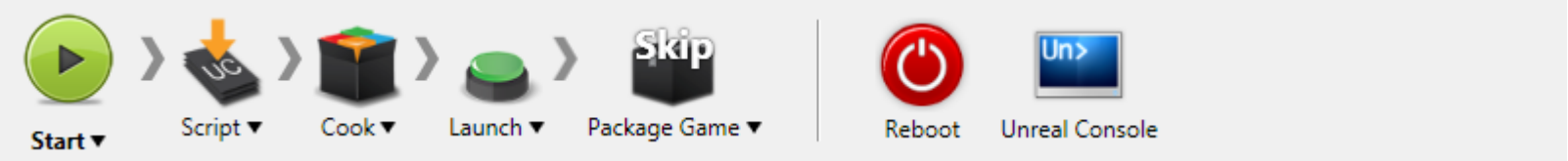
UDK Gameplay

- The gametype determines the rules of the game and the conditions under which the game progresses and ends
- The gametype is also responsible for telling the engine which classes to use for PlayerControllers, Pawns, the HUD, *etc.*

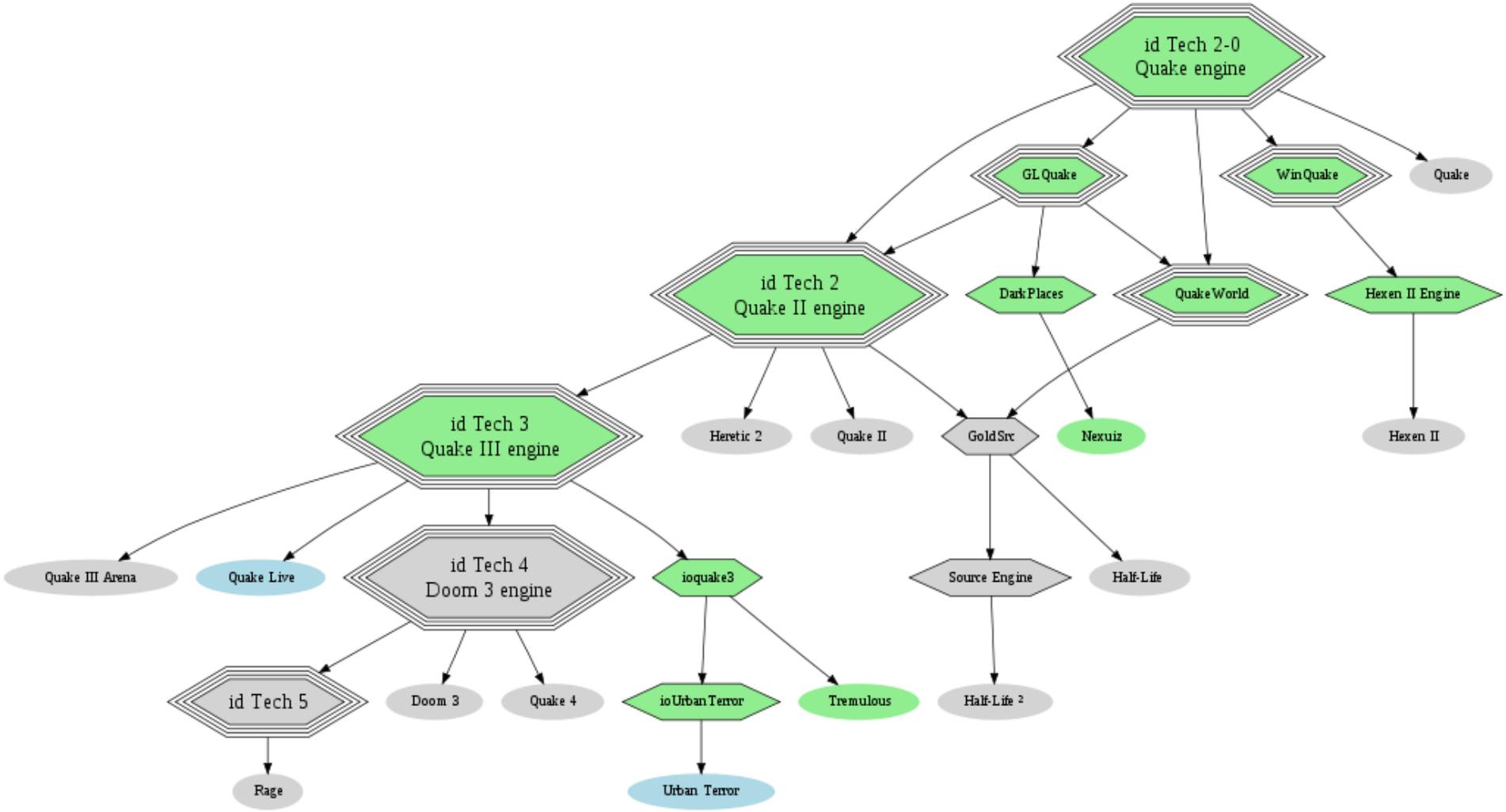
```
class MyGame extends FrameworkGame;

defaultproperties
{
   PlayerControllerClass=class'MyGame.MyGamePlayerController'
   DefaultPawnClass=class'MyGame.MyGamePawn'
   HUDType=class'MyGame.MyGameHUD'
   bDelayedStart=false
}
```

Unreal Game

- The UnrealFrontend application finally provides the ability to build scripts, either as a single operation or as part of a pipeline for building and packaging the game for testing or distribution



Quake engine family



Quake engine: Id Tech

- Current version is Id Tech 5
  - Used in Rage and Doom 4
- Id Tech 4 SDK download and documentation http://www.iddevnet.com/quake4 (2005)
- Source code released in November 2011
  - ftp://ftp.idsoftware.com/idstuff/source/idtech4-doom3-source-GPL.zip
  - Used in Doom 3, Quake 4, Wolfenstein, Brink

An Id Tech 4 game

- Q4Radiant is the editor used to create the maps
  - To create a game you start by modeling the virtual world (objects, lights, shadows *etc.*)
- Q4Script system is then used to implement the game logic
  - the scripts will be called from the game with triggers activated by conditions defined in the editor

An Id Tech 4 game

- Script to spawn a monster at a location defined in the editor (targetMonster)

```
void spawnMonster() {
 //create a variable to hold the entity handle
 entity newMonster;

 //spawn the monster and store his handle in the variable
 newMonster = sys.spawn("monster_strogg_marine");

 //move it to where that new target lives in the edited map
 newMonster.setWorldOrigin( $targetMonster.getWorldOrigin() );
}
```

And more...

- Another very good free SDK: CryEngine 3
  - SDK download: http://www.crydev.net
  - SDK documentation: http://freesdk.crydev.net/
  - Source released in August 2011
  - Used in Crysis 2, also level design oriented
- Architecture
  - Engine
    - Config, Fonts, Shaders
  - Game
    - Animations, Entities, Levels, Music, Scripts, *etc.*
    - Libs
      - Dialogs, Particles, Sky, SmartObjects, UI, *etc.*
    - Scripts
      - AI, Entities, GameRules, Network, Utils, *etc.*

End of lecture #15

Next lecture

Final lecture