

The Soul of The Sims, by Will Wright

Macintosh HD:XmotiveHarness:src/Motive.c

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This is the prototype for the soul of The Sims, which Will Wright wrote on January 23, 1997.

I had just started working at the Maxis Core Technology Group on "Project X" aka "Dollhouse", and Will Wright brought this code in one morning, to demonstrate his design for the motives, feedback loop and failure conditions of the simulated people. While going through old papers, I ran across this print-out that I had saved, so I scanned it and cleaned the images up, and got permission from Will to publish it.

This code is a interesting example of game design, programming and prototyping techniques. The Sims code has certainly changed a lot since Will wrote this original prototype code. For example, there is no longer any "stress" motive. And the game doesn't store motives in global variables, of course.

My hope is that this code will give you a glimpse of how Will Wright designs games, and what was going on in his head at the time!

[-Don Hopkins](#)

```
//      Motive.c      -WRW  1/23/97

#include "SRand.h"
#include "utilities.h"

void SimMotives(int count);
void ChangeMotive(int motive, float value);
void SimJob(int type);

void AdjustMotives(int x, int y);
void DrawMotiveSheet(void);
void DrawMotive(int xpos, int ypos, int value);
void InitMotives(void);

float Motive[16] = {0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0};
float oldMotive[16] = {0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0}; // used for delta tests

int ClockH = 8, ClockM = 0;

enum
{
    mHappyLife    =0,
    mHappyWeek    =1,
    mHappyDay     =2,
    mHappyNow     =3,

    mPhysical=4,
    mEnergy      =5,
    mComfort=6,
    mHunger      =7,
    mHygiene =8,
    mBladder =9,

    mMental      =10,
    mAlertness   =11,
    mStress      =12,
    mEnvironment=13,
    mSocial      =14,
    mEntertained=15
};

#define DAYTICKS 720 // 1 tick = 2 minutes game time
#define WEEKTICKS 5040

void InitMotives(void)
{
    int count;

    for (count = 0; count < 16; count++) {
        Motive[count] = 0;
    }
    Motive[mEnergy] = 70;
    Motive[mAlertness] = 20;
    Motive[mHunger] = -40;
}
```

```
void SimMotives(int count)          // simulates internal motive changes
{
float tem;
int z;
Rect r = {100,100,140,140};

    ClockM += 2;                    // inc game clock (Jamie, remove this)
    if (ClockM > 58) {
        ClockM = 0;
        ClockH++;
        if (ClockH > 24) ClockH = 1;
    }

// energy
    if (Motive[mEnergy] > 0) {
        if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0)
            Motive[mEnergy] -= (Motive[mAlertness]/100);
        else
            Motive[mEnergy] -= (Motive[mAlertness]/100) * ((100 - Motive[mEnergy]) / 50);
    }
    else {
        if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0)
            Motive[mEnergy] -= (Motive[mAlertness]/100) * ((100 + Motive[mEnergy]) / 50);
        else
            Motive[mEnergy] -= (Motive[mAlertness]/100);
    }

    if (Motive[mHunger] > oldMotive[mHunger]) { // I had some food
        tem = Motive[mHunger] - oldMotive[mHunger];
        Motive[mEnergy] += tem / 4;
    }

// comfort
    if (Motive[mBladder] < 0)
        Motive[mComfort] += Motive[mBladder] / 10; // max -10

    if (Motive[mHygiene] < 0)
        Motive[mComfort] += Motive[mHygiene] / 20; // max -5

    if (Motive[mHunger] < 0)
        Motive[mComfort] += Motive[mHunger] / 20; // max -5

    // dec a max 100/cycle in a cubed curve (seek zero)
    Motive[mComfort] -= (Motive[mComfort] * Motive[mComfort] * Motive[mComfort]) / 10000;

// hunger
    tem = ((Motive[mAlertness]+100)/200) * ((Motive[mHunger]+100)/100); // ^alert * hunger^0
    Motive[mHunger] -= tem;

    if (Motive[mStress] < 0) // stress -> hunger
        Motive[mHunger] += (Motive[mStress] / 100) * ((Motive[mHunger]+100)/100);

    if (Motive[mHunger] < -99) {
        AlertCancel("pYou have starved to death");
        Motive[mHunger] = 80;
    }
}
```

```
    }

// hygiene
if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0) Motive[mHygiene] -= .3;
else Motive[mHygiene] -= .1;

if (Motive[mHygiene] < -97) { // hit limit, bath
    AlertCancel("\pYou smell very bad, mandatory bath");
    Motive[mHygiene] = 80;
}

// bladder
if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0) Motive[mBladder] -= .4; // bladder fills faster while awake
else Motive[mBladder] -= .2;

if (Motive[mHunger] > oldMotive[mHunger]) { // food eaten goes into bladder
    tem = Motive[mHunger] - oldMotive[mHunger];
    Motive[mBladder] -= tem / 4;
}
if (Motive[mBladder] < -97) { // hit limit, gotta go
    if (Motive[mAlertness] < 0)
        AlertCancel("\pYou have wet your bed");
    else
        AlertCancel("\pYou have soiled the carpet");
    Motive[mBladder] = 90;
}

// alertness
if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0) tem = (100 - Motive[mAlertness]) / 50; // max delta at zero
else tem = (Motive[mAlertness] + 100) / 50;

if (Motive[mEnergy] > 0)
    if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0)
        Motive[mAlertness] += (Motive[mEnergy] / 100) * tem;
    else
        Motive[mAlertness] += (Motive[mEnergy] / 100);
else
    if (Motive[mAlertness] > 0)
        Motive[mAlertness] += (Motive[mEnergy] / 100);
    else
        Motive[mAlertness] += (Motive[mEnergy] / 100) * tem;

Motive[mAlertness] += (Motive[mEntertained] / 300) * tem;

if (Motive[mBladder] < -50)
    Motive[mAlertness] -= (Motive[mBladder] / 100) * tem;

// stress

Motive[mStress] += Motive[mComfort] / 10; // max -10
Motive[mStress] += Motive[mEntertained] / 10; // max -10
Motive[mStress] += Motive[mEnvironment] / 15; // max -7
Motive[mStress] += Motive[mSocial] / 20; // max -5

if (Motive[mAlertness] < 0) // cut stress while asleep
    Motive[mStress] = Motive[mStress] / 3;
```

```
// dec a max 100/cycle in a cubed curve (seek zero)
Motive[mStress] -= (Motive[mStress] * Motive[mStress] * Motive[mStress]) / 10000;

if (Motive[mStress] < 0)
    if ((SRand(30) - 100) > Motive[mStress])
        if ((SRand(30) - 100) > Motive[mStress]) {
            AlertCancel("\pYou have lost your temper");
            ChangeMotive(mStress, 20);
        }
    }

// environment

// social

// entertained
if (Motive[mAlertness] < 0) // cut entertained while asleep
    Motive[mEntertained] = Motive[mEntertained] / 2;

// calc physical
tem = Motive[mEnergy];
tem += Motive[mComfort];
tem += Motive[mHunger];
tem += Motive[mHygiene];
tem += Motive[mBladder];
tem = tem / 5;

if (tem > 0) { // map the linear average into squared curve
    tem = 100 - tem;
    tem = (tem * tem) / 100;
    tem = 100 - tem;
}
else {
    tem = 100 + tem;
    tem = (tem * tem) / 100;
    tem = tem - 100;
}
Motive[mPhysical] = tem;

// calc mental
tem += Motive[mStress]; // stress counts *2
tem += Motive[mStress];
tem += Motive[mEnvironment];
tem += Motive[mSocial];
tem += Motive[mEntertained];
tem = tem / 5;

if (tem > 0) { // map the linear average into squared curve
    tem = 100 - tem;
    tem = (tem * tem) / 100;
    tem = 100 - tem;
}
else {
    tem = 100 + tem;
    tem = (tem * tem) / 100;
}
```

```
        tem = tem - 100;
    }
    Motive[mMental] = tem;

// calc and average happiness
// happy = mental + physical

Motive[mHappyNow] = (Motive[mPhysical]+Motive[mMental]) / 2;
Motive[mHappyDay] = ((Motive[mHappyDay] * (DAYTICKS-1)) + Motive[mHappyNow]) / DAYTICKS;
Motive[mHappyWeek] = ((Motive[mHappyWeek] * (WEEKTICKS-1)) + Motive[mHappyNow]) / WEEKTICKS;
Motive[mHappyLife] = ((Motive[mHappyLife] * 9) + Motive[mHappyWeek]) / 10;

for (z = 0; z < 16; z++) {
    if (Motive[z] > 100) Motive[z] = 100;           // check for over/under flow
    if (Motive[z] < -100) Motive[z] = -100;
    oldMotive[z] = Motive[z];                       // save set in oldMotives (for delta tests)
}
}

void ChangeMotive(int motive, float value) { // use this to change motives (checks overflow)

    Motive[motive] += value;
    if (Motive[motive] > 100) Motive[motive] = 100;
    if (Motive[motive] < -100) Motive[motive] = -100;
}

void SimJob(int type) { // use this to change motives (checks overflow)

    ClockH += 9;
    if (ClockH > 24) ClockH -= 24;

    Motive[mEnergy] = ((Motive[mEnergy] + 100) * .3) - 100;
    Motive[mHunger] = -60 + SRand(20);
    Motive[mHygiene] = -70 + SRand(30);
    Motive[mBladder] = -50 + SRand(50);
    Motive[mAlertness] = 10 + SRand(10);
    Motive[mStress] = -50 + SRand(50);
}
}
```