Reaction Tester

Mission 10



Pre-Mission Preparation

In this mission you will use a computer clock to measure time.

• What are some things you use a timer for?







Mission 10: Reaction Time

How fast is your reaction time? In this project you will make a device to measure your reaction time. This project will:

- Give a 3-2-1 countdown
- Wait a random delay
- Turn the pixels GREEN
- Measure the reaction time for the button press
- Loop and do the countdown again







Objective #1: Milliseconds

- This mission will require you to turn on all the pixels the same color.
- The code so far turned on a single pixel at a time:
 - pixels.set(0, RED)
- Using a list, there is an easier way:
 - pixels.set([RED, RED, RED, RED])
 - Do you notice the list with four items?
 - The pixels.set() command needs parenthesis, and the list needs []
 - Make sure you use both, in the correct order





Objective #1: Milliseconds

CodeX's powerful clock can work in milliseconds -- that's 1,000 times per second!

The clock measures milliseconds, but sleep() is in seconds, so you just have to do a little math.







Objective #1: Milliseconds

random.randrange(1, 5) gives a random
number between 1 and 4

random.randrange(1000, 5000) gives a
random number between 1000 and 4999.

- This gives you a good range of milliseconds, but sleep() uses seconds
- 1000 milliseconds = 1 second, so
- Divide the random number by 1000!





DO THIS:

- Start a new file named **Reaction_Time**
- Import the codex module
- Import the random module
- Import the time module
- Turn all pixels BLACK







DO THIS:

- Get a random number using 1000 and 5000 as the range
- Divide the random number by 1000
- Use the random number in sleep()
- Turn all pixels GREEN







Objective #2: The Countdown

To make this into a game, you want to give a countdown.

- This will let the player know the game is starting.
- It also indicates when to start the timer.







Objective #2: The Countdown

- Use display.clear() to clear the display
- Use display.print() to countdown from
 3 to 2 to 1 (with a sleep delay in between)
- You can scale the number bigger on the display for easy viewing
 - o display.print("3", scale=6)
 - o sleep(1)







Mission Activity #2 DO THIS:

Clear the display & the pixels Set all pixels to BLACK

- Countdown from 3 to 2 to 1
- Clear the screen again
- Then continue the rest of your code to get a random number and light all pixels GREEN

```
from codex import *
import random
from time import sleep
# clear screen and countdown
display.clear()
pixels.set([BLACK, BLACK, BLACK, BLACK])
display.print("3", scale=6)
sleep(1)
display.print("2", scale=6)
sleep(1)
display.print("1", scale=6)
sleep(1)
display.clear()
# get random delay time
ms = random.randrange(1000, 5000)
delay time = ms / 1000
```

pixels.set([GREEN, GREEN, GREEN, GREEN])

sleep(delay time)

—

Objective #3: The Fourth Dimension

Computers relay on electronic clock circuits

- Clock circuits are used to move through code
- They are used as time delays in the sleep() command
- When you turn on CodeX, its clock is continuously running.



So far you have used the time module for sleep()

• The time module also has a function that returns the current time on the computer clock





Objective #3: The Fourth Dimension

If you want to use more than one function from a module, you need to import the entire library, not just one function

- from time import sleep
- This imports only one function
- import time
- This imports the entire library







Objective #3: The Fourth Dimension

When you import the entire library, you must reference it when calling one of its functions.

- time.sleep(1)
- time.ticks_ms()
- This returns the current time
- It returns a value, so the value needs to be assigned to a variable
- start_time = time.ticks_ms()







Mission Activity #3 DO THIS:

• Go to your Mission Log and answer the question about importing a module

Mission Activity: Objective #3

If you import an entire module, how does the code change when you access

a function? _____





DO THIS:

- Change from time import sleep to import time
- Change all the sleep(1) commands to time.sleep(1) commands
 - HINT: There are four sleep() commands



clear screen and countdown display.clear() pixels.set([BLACK, BLACK, BLACK, BLACK]) display.print("3", scale=6) time.sleep(1) display.print("2", scale=6) time.sleep(1) display.print("1", scale=6) time.sleep(1) display.clear()

get random delay time
ms = random.randrange(1000, 5000)
delay_time = ms / 1000
time.sleep(delay_time)



<continued>



Mission Activity #3 DO THIS:

After the pixels turn GREEN:

- Assign start_time the value from time.ticks_ms()
- Wait until BTN-A was pressed
- Assign end_time the value from time.ticks_ms()
- Print start_time and end_time

```
# turn pixels GREEN
pixels.set([GREEN, GREEN, GREEN, GREEN])
# get start and end time
start_time = time.ticks_ms()
while True:
    if buttons.was_pressed(BTN_A):
        break
end_time = time.ticks_ms()
display.print(start time)
```

display.print(end time)



Objective #4: Time Differential

You have the start_time and end_time. The reaction time is the difference of the two variables.

• You can just subtract the two:



- o reaction_time = end_time start_time
- OR use another time module function that finds the difference:
 reaction_time = time.ticks_diff(end_time, start_time)





Mission Activity #4 DO THIS:

- Go to your Mission Log and answer the question about functions in the time module
 - **Mission Activity: Objective #4**

List three functions available in the time module:





DO THIS:

- Assign reaction_time the difference between
 end_time and start_time
- Change the display.print() statements to print the reaction_time instead of start_time and end_time

```
# get start and end time
start_time = time.ticks_ms()
while True:
    if buttons.was_pressed(BTN_A):
        break
end_time = time.ticks_ms()
reaction_time = time.ticks_diff(end_time, start_time)
display.print("Reaction Time:")
display.print(reaction_time)
display.print(reaction_time)
display.print("milliseconds")
```





Objective #5: Let's Keep Playing

Great job so far! The reaction game is fun, but what if you want to play more than once?

- Make the game wait for a button press, and then play again
- You will need an infinite loop with most of the code in it
- You will need to wait for a button press after displaying the reaction time
- You already have code for waiting for a button press, so you can copy and paste it





DO THIS:

- Add an infinite loop after the import statements
- Indent all the code inside the loop
- Add another wait loop at the beginning of the loop

```
import time
while True:
    display.print("Press Button A")
   while True:
        if buttons.was pressed(BTN A):
            break
    display.clear()
    pixels.set([BLACK, BLACK, BLACK, BLACK])
    display.print("3", scale=6)
    time.sleep(1)
   display.print("2", scale=6)
    time.sleep(1)
    display.print("1", scale=6)
    time.sleep(1)
    display.clear()
    # get random delay time
    ms = random.randrange(1000, 5000)
    delay time = ms / 1000
    time.sleep(delay time)
    pixels.set([GREEN, GREEN, GREEN, GREEN])
    # get start and end time
    start time = time.ticks ms()
    while True:
        if buttons.was pressed(BTN A)
                                                  LABS
```



Objective #6: Reduce Repetition

Take a look at your code. Do you notice a block of code that is repeated?

- You learned in Mission 9 that you can write a function instead of copy-paste or repeating code, you can write a function instead.
- There are two places in your code that wait for BTN-A to be pressed







- Write a **wait_button()** function.
 - HINT: A function goes near the top of your code
- Delete the code that waits inside the while loop.
- Call the **wait_button()** function two times in the while loop.









Quiz Timing

During this mission you have learned about CodeX's electronic clock.

• Answer 3 quiz questions about the computer timing.







Objective #7: No Cheating

Fix a bug. Oh no! Players are pressing the button during the delay and getting ultra fast times.

- The buttons.was_pressed() is always listening
- Even during the random delay
- Solve this problem by resetting the buttons.was_pressed() just before starting the timer





DO THIS:

• Reset **buttons.was_pressed(BTN_A)** just before the pixels turn GREEN

turn pixels GREEN
buttons.was_pressed(BTN_A)
pixels.set([GREEN, GREEN, GREEN, GREEN])





Post-Mission Reflection

- Read the "completed mission" message and click to complete the mission
- Complete the Mission 10 Log







Clearing your CodeX

Go to FILE -- BROWSE FILES Select the "**Clear**" file and open it Run the program to clear the CodeX

