

CS 134

Platformer Physics

Questions?

Questions about the homework?

Super Mario World Example

Let's watch Super Mario World and
list out all the different behaviors

Super Mario World Example

- Run on ground
- Run into wall
- Move in air
- Jump up through one-way floor
- Jump down onto one-way floor
- Hit enemy from above
- Hit enemy from side or below
- Hit a coin
- And many many more...

Super Mario World Example

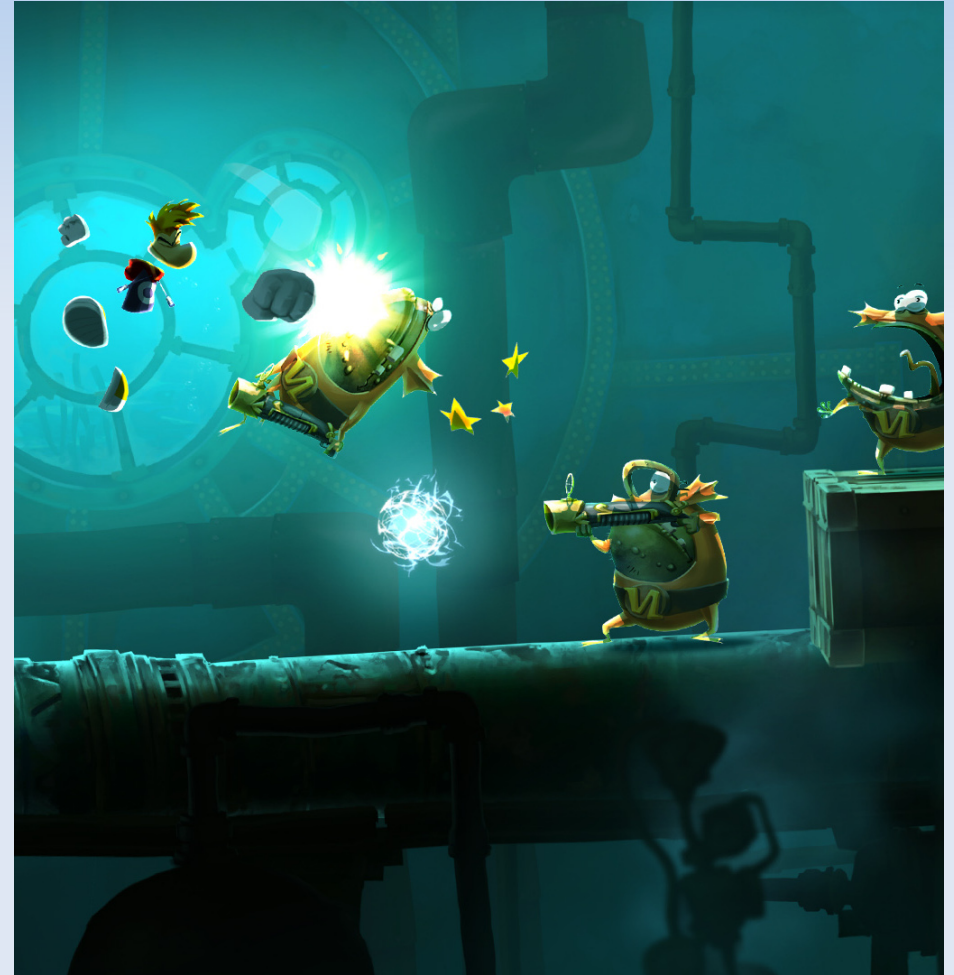
- These behaviors can get grouped into three categories:
 - Sprite Motion
 - Sprite / Background Collision Resolution
 - Sprite / Sprite Collision Resolution

Super Mario World Example

- These behaviors can get grouped into three categories:
 - Sprite Motion
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- This is what we are going to cover entirely today.

Sprite Motion

- “Normal” motion behavior
- Walking around on the ground
- Free fall in air.



Sprite Motion

- Ground motion:
 - Left / Right with input
 - Up via jumping
 - Hold down jump to go higher
 - Walk up / down inclined surfaces
 - Bump into walls
- Left / Right motion is just like before

Sprite Motion

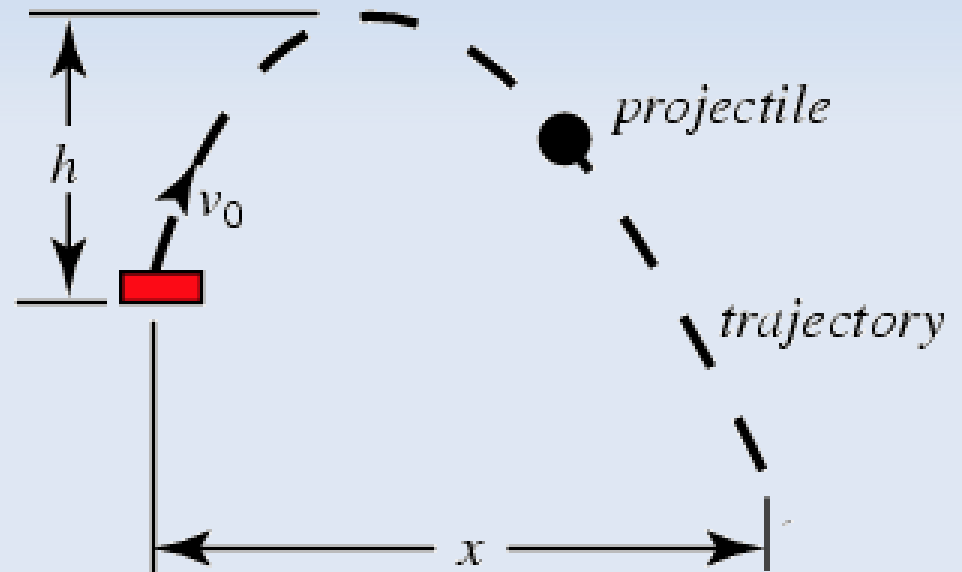
- Air motion:
 - Left / Right with input
 - Can't move faster up!
 - Fall down faster and faster due to gravity
- Left / Right motion may be slower than when grounded
- Falling down should accelerate due to gravity.

Sprite Motion

- Two new states:
 - isGrounded
 - yVelocity
- When isGrounded is true, you will do “ground” motion
 - Jumping, stick to ground, etc.
- When isGrounded is false, you will do “air” motion
 - Air attacks, less air control, double jumps, etc.

Sprite Motion

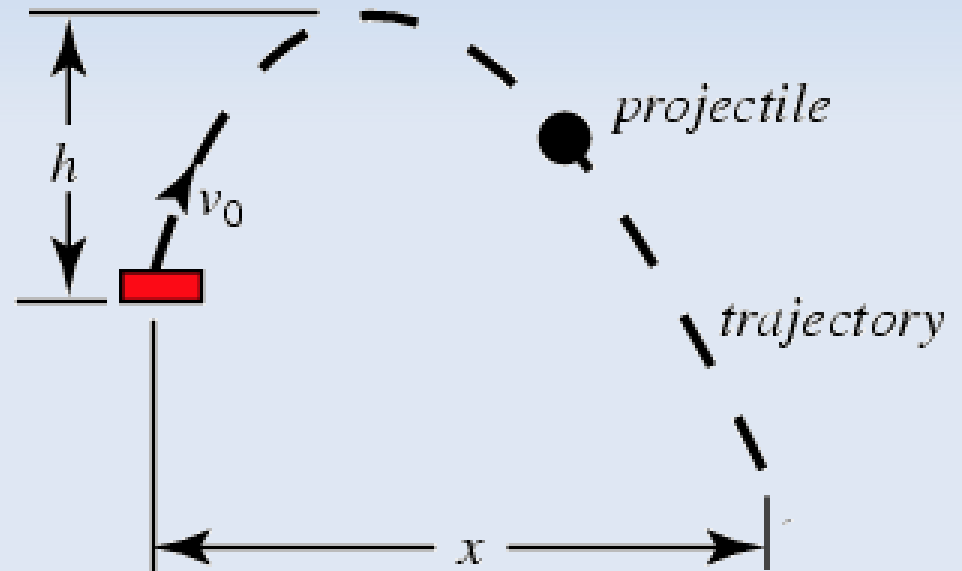
- Storing `yVelocity` allows you to remember fall speed and have a sense of momentum.
- Objects that are airborne always follow a parabola, falling faster the more they are airborne.



Sprite Motion

- To state it in calculus terms:
 - $p(t)$ = position
 - $v(t)$ = velocity
 - $a(t)$ = acceleration

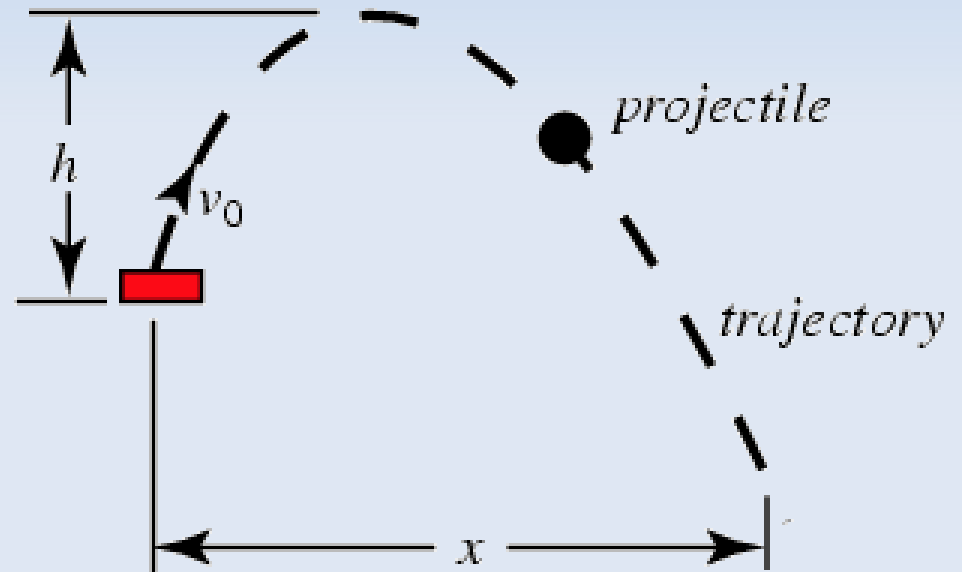
 - $v(t) = dp/dt$
 - $a(t) = dv/dt = \text{gravity}$



Sprite Motion

- $a(t) = 9.8$
- $v(t) = 9.8t + c$
- $p(t) = 4.9t^2 + ct + d$

- p is a quadratic equation, which always follows a parabola!



Sprite Motion

- Games are frame based, so we don't need to do it algebraically.
- Solve based on previous state.
 - $v(t) = 9.8t + c$
- If $v(t) = 0$, then $v(t+1) = 9.8$.
- If $v(t) = 55$, then $v(t+1) = 64.8$
- $v(t+dt) = v(t) + 9.8dt$

Sprite Motion

- We can do the same thing for position.
 - $p(t+dt) = p(t) + v(t)dt$
- Incidentally, we are literally doing calculus here.
 - $p(t+dt) - p(t) = v(t)dt$
 - $[p(t+dt) - p(t)] / dt = v(t)$
 - $dp/dt = v(t)$
- This step-based method is how you can code actor motion for falling.

Sprite Motion

- All this comes together to build the basic Platformer update
- $yPos = yPos + yVelocity * deltaTime$
- $yVelocity = yVelocity + yGravity * deltaTime$

Sprite Motion

- All this comes together to build the basic Platformer update
- **if (isGrounded) yVelocity = 0**
- $yPos = yPos + yVelocity * deltaTime$
- $yVelocity = yVelocity + yGravity * deltaTime$

Sprite Motion

- All this comes together to build the basic Platformer update
- if (isGrounded) yVelocity = 0
- **if (isGrounded && jumpButtonPressed)**
- **yVelocity = jumpVelocity**
- $yPos = yPos + yVelocity * deltaTime$
- $yVelocity = yVelocity + yGravity * deltaTime$

Sprite Motion

- Other things to add:
- Adjustable jump heights
 - Set yVelocity to jumpVelocity as long as jump button is held
 - Need jumpTimeRemaining state
- Double jumps, triple jumps
 - Allow jumping as long as you have jumps remaining
 - Need jumpsRemaining state

Sprite Motion

Questions?

Sprite / Background Resolution

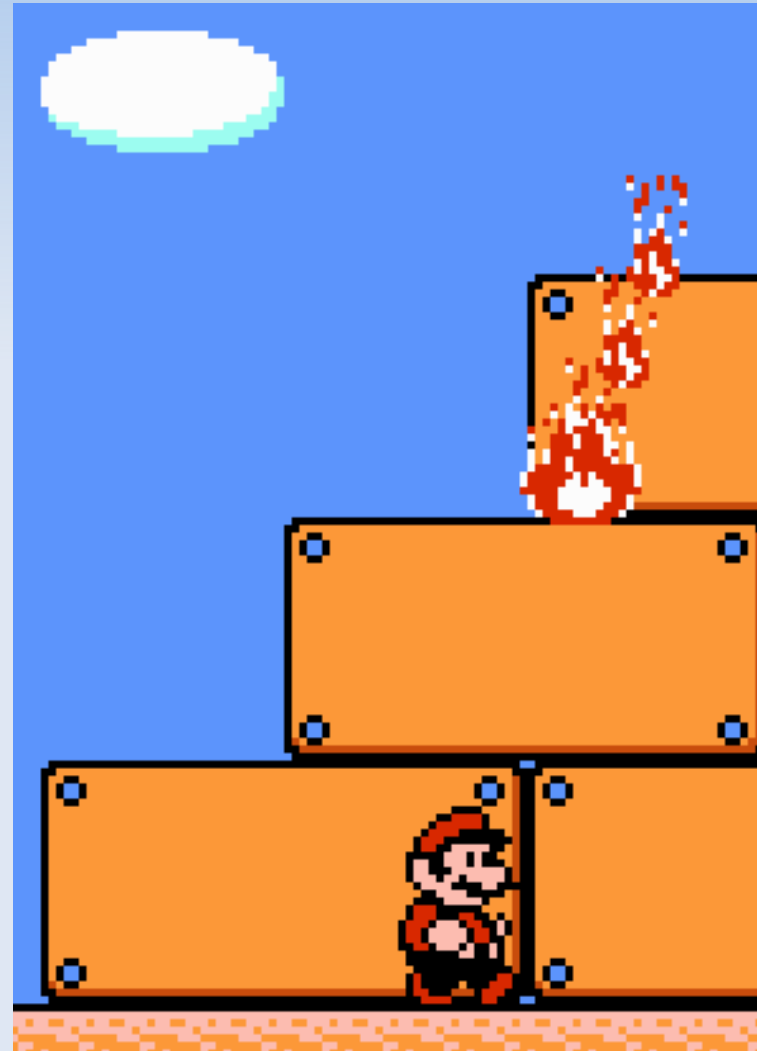
- Very similar to the motion talked about so far.
 - Need to make sure we update `isGrounded` here
- Split motion into “X” pass and “Y” pass
- When resolving Y pass, set `isGrounded` based on if you resolve by pushing the character up

Sprite / Background Resolution



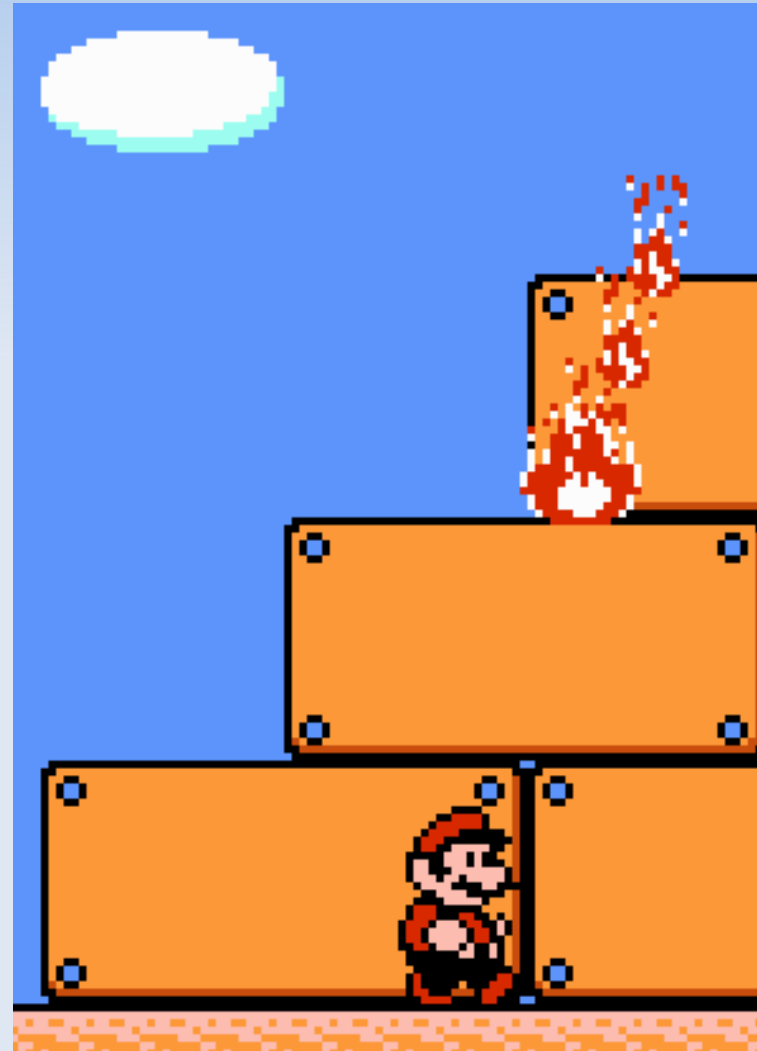
Sprite / Background Resolution

- One-way floors are needed if you want to allow to walk “in front” of platforms.
- Mario can jump “up” past the floor of each level here, but can't jump down.
- Often games have a way to jump down too.



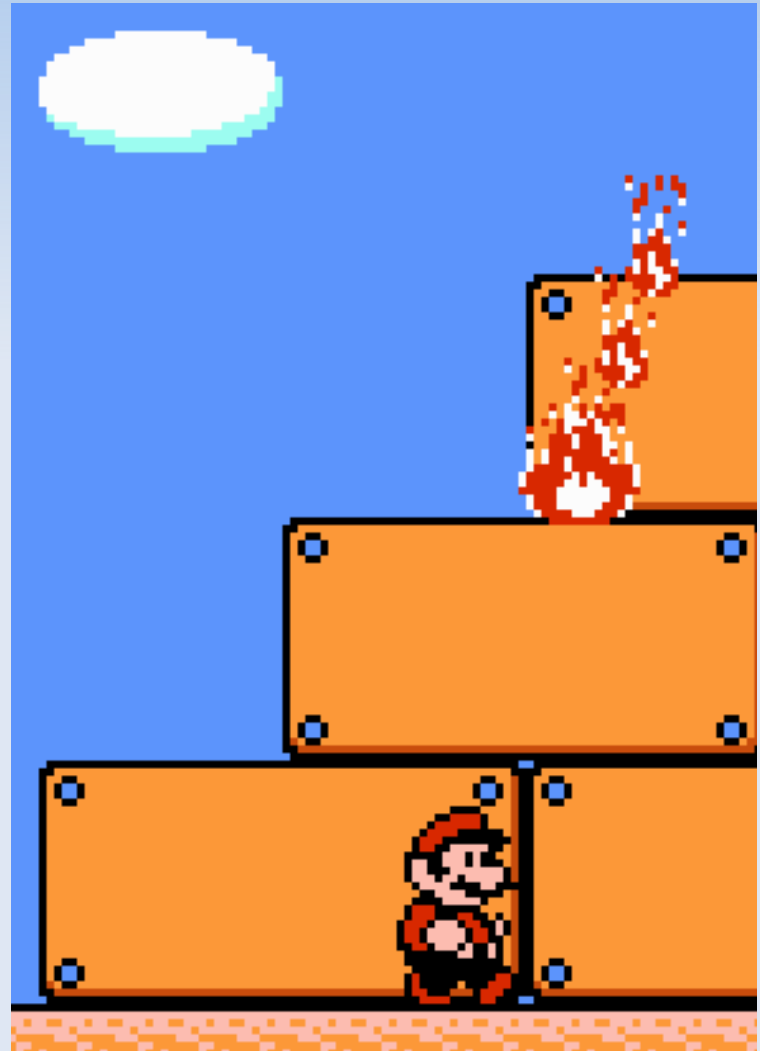
Sprite / Background Resolution

- Extra checks during collision resolution
- On down only floors:
 - X motion is allowed to collide with floor
 - Y motion backs up only if previous Y was above floor

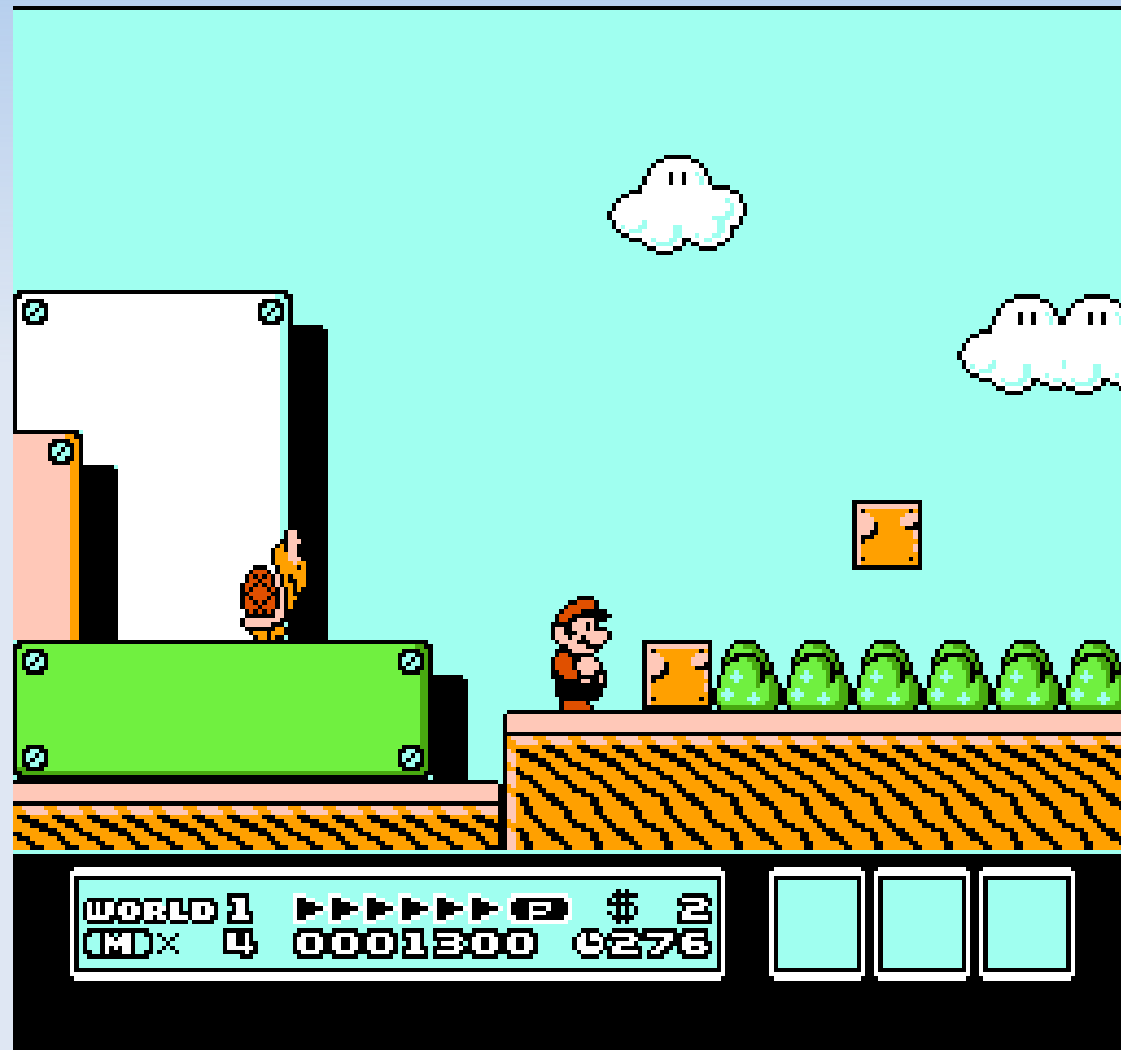


Sprite / Background Resolution

- Take advantage of this to allow jumping down
- Move y down one pixel (outside of physics motion) so next frame is not above the floor



Sprite / Background Resolution



Sprite / Background Resolution

Questions?

Sprite / Sprite Resolution

- This is where the fun game logic lives!
- There's lots and lots of special cases.
- Make sure the design is foolproof and every collision is fully resolved so the collision won't happen next frame.

Sprite / Sprite Resolution

- Hit enemy from above
- Hit enemy from side or below
- Hit a coin

Sprite / Sprite Resolution

- Hit enemy from above
 - Set enemy animation to “Dead”
 - Add 100 points to score
 - Set Mario's Y speed
- Hit enemy from side or below
 - Hurt Mario, make Mario invincible
- Hit a coin
 - Remove coin from world
 - Add 1 to Mario's coin count, if coin count is 100, set it to 0 and add 1 to Mario's life count

Platformer Motion

- Other game-specific motion rules can be added
 - Wall jumping
 - Pushing objects
 - Double jump
 - Running up walls
- Any others you want covered?