

# Secrets of Animal Crossing

Adventures in ROM Hacking

James Chambers

ONLY FOR

NINTENDO  
GAMECUBE™

Welcome to  
**Animal Crossing**

Population: Growing!

SPECIAL PRESENT ON CARD!  
MEMORY CARD 59  
INCLUDED!

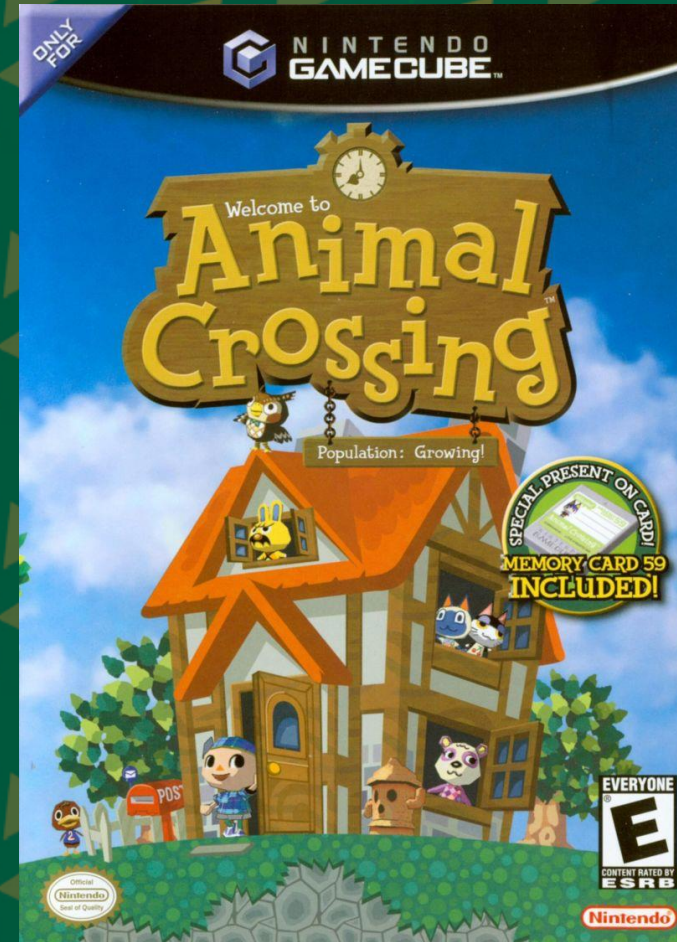
Official  
Nintendo  
Seal of Quality

EVERYONE  
**E**  
CONTENT RATED BY  
ESRB

Nintendo

# Introduction

- Animal Crossing
  - Released in 2002
- “Life simulator” game
  - Interact with villagers
  - Customize house, collect items
  - Events and holidays happen in real time, whether or not you’re playing







**Tank**

Tell you what! How's about I hook you up with this rad blue bureau as a little housewarming gift!



DERICARD

NINTENDO 64

どうぶつの森

ひとりよりふたり  
ふたりよりよんこ  
よんこより...た〜くさん  
ていけん

ひつりよりふたり  
ふたりよりよんこ  
よんこより...た〜くさん  
ていけん

ひとりよりふたり

コミュニケーションゲーム  
コントロールパック対応 121  
バックアップ機能付き

Nintendo

Nintendo

NINTENDO GAMECUBE

おまけデータ入り  
メモリーカード59が  
付いてるよ!

どうぶつの森+

ひとりよりふたり  
ふたりよりよんこ  
よんこより...た〜くさん

ひつりよりふたり  
ふたりよりよんこ  
よんこより...た〜くさん

ひとりよりふたり

ゲームボーイアドバンスとつないで  
もっとも〜っと、いい暮らし。

コミュニケーション ゲームボーイアドバンスとの接続には  
GSM/GC001-GAP-JPN メモリーカード 59 使用ブロック数 GBAケーブル(別売)が必要です。

ONLY FOR

NINTENDO GAMECUBE

Welcome to  
Animal Crossing

Population: Growing!

SPECIAL PRESENT ON CARD  
MEMORY CARD 59  
INCLUDED!

EVERYONE  
E  
CONTENT RATED BY  
ESRB

Nintendo

Nintendo

NINTENDO GAMECUBE

カートリッジ+ケーブル  
付き

どうぶつの森+

もっと、  
いい!暮らし

メモリーカード  
使用ブロック数 59~

つばかる  
CERO  
全年齢  
対象  
1~4人用  
コミュニケーション  
GBL-P933-DCL-GASJ-JPN

# Introduction

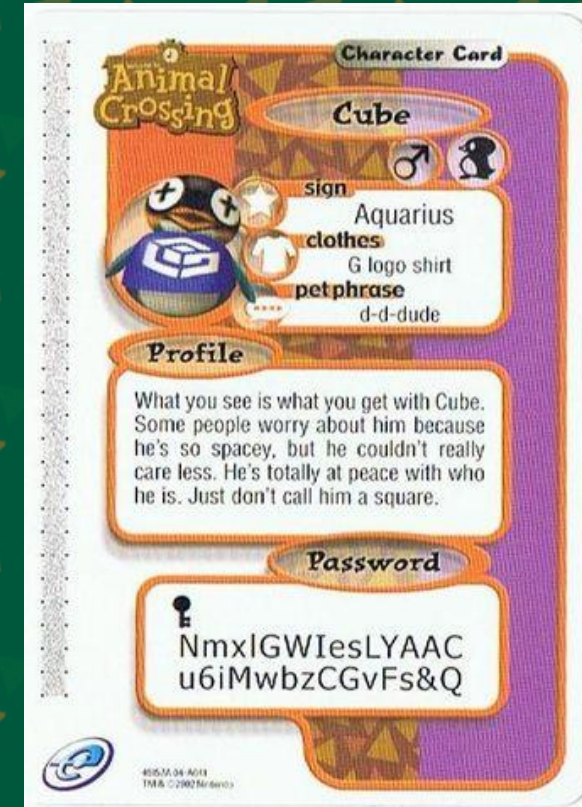
- Does N64 emulation (graphics, some system properties) for main game
- NES emulator for NES games you can acquire in-world





# Introduction

- Connects to Game Boy Advance
  - Can transmit NES games to run on Gameboy Advance
  - E-Reader peripheral for collectible cards that grant items, etc. (like an early version of Amiibo)
  - Unlocks game features



# Introduction

- GameCube contains customized PowerPC processor
  - Extended instruction set



# Introduction

- Halloween was approaching and it'd be fun to make a spooky mod
  - Lack of tutorials on doing comprehensive ROM hacking
  - I could make a tutorial in the style that I learned RE/cracking from
- Goals for mod:
  - Create a new holiday based event
- Targets:
  - Dialogue system
  - Event system
  - Quest system

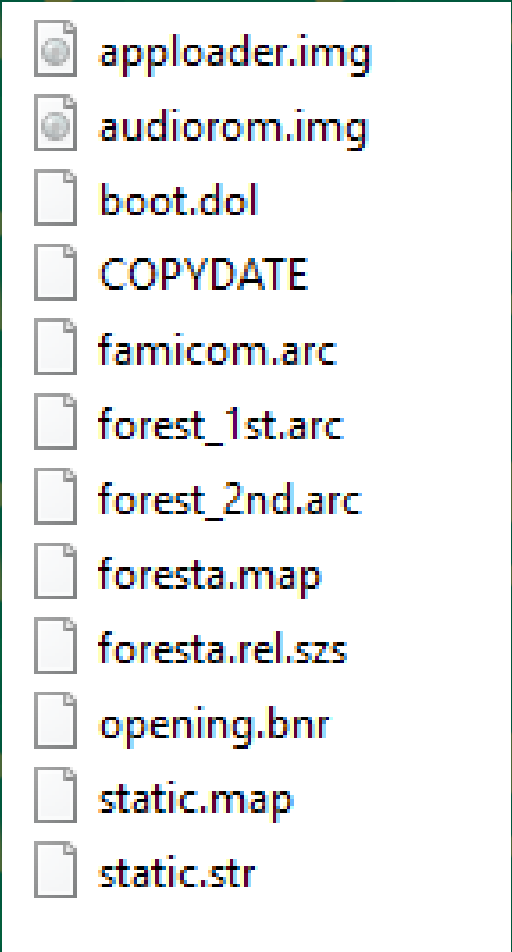


# Looking Inside

File formats, symbols, IDA scripts

# Looking Inside

- Open up the disc image:
  - boot.dol
  - foresta.rel.szs
  - forest\_1st.arc
  - forest\_2nd.arc
  - famicom.arc
  - statica.map
  - foresta.map
- Lots of proprietary formats
  - File format analysis will be important
  - Some documentation on common GameCube/Wii formats already exists

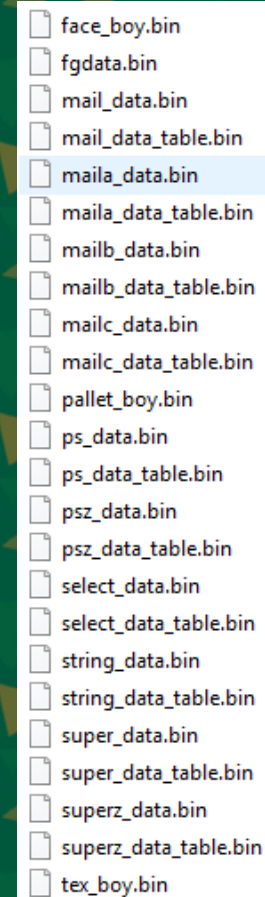


A screenshot of a file explorer window showing a list of files. The files are listed in a vertical column, each with a small icon to its left. The icons are either a folder icon (a square with a folded corner) or a file icon (a square with a document symbol). The file names are: apploader.img, audiorom.img, boot.dol, COPYDATE, famicom.arc, forest\_1st.arc, forest\_2nd.arc, foresta.map, foresta.rel.szs, opening.bnr, static.map, and static.str.

- apploader.img
- audiorom.img
- boot.dol
- COPYDATE
- famicom.arc
- forest\_1st.arc
- forest\_2nd.arc
- foresta.map
- foresta.rel.szs
- opening.bnr
- static.map
- static.str

# Looking Inside

- .ARC files: archives
  - Contain most of the interesting data files
- Some tools for opening ARC files but not creating them (except maybe sketchy EXEs)
- Found a Python extractor and added archive creation to it
  - Noticed why the other tools didn't support it
  - It'd be nice to have some generic tools for defining/analyzing binary formats
    - Kaitai and the other thing for game archives



A screenshot of a file explorer window showing a list of binary files. The files are listed in a vertical column, each with a small document icon to its left. The file 'maila\_data.bin' is highlighted with a light blue background. The list includes files such as 'face\_boy.bin', 'fgdata.bin', 'mail\_data.bin', 'mail\_data\_table.bin', 'maila\_data.bin', 'maila\_data\_table.bin', 'mailb\_data.bin', 'mailb\_data\_table.bin', 'mailc\_data.bin', 'mailc\_data\_table.bin', 'pallet\_boy.bin', 'ps\_data.bin', 'ps\_data\_table.bin', 'psz\_data.bin', 'psz\_data\_table.bin', 'select\_data.bin', 'select\_data\_table.bin', 'string\_data.bin', 'string\_data\_table.bin', 'super\_data.bin', 'super\_data\_table.bin', 'superz\_data.bin', 'superz\_data\_table.bin', and 'tex\_boy.bin'.

# Looking Inside

- Binary files
  - boot.dol
  - foresta.rel
- Importing to IDA
  - Custom PPC instructions
    - “Paired singles are a unique part of the Gekko/Broadway processors used in the Gamecube and Wii. They provide fast vector math by keeping two single-precision floating point numbers in a single floating point register, and doing math across registers.”
    - PPC Altivec IDA plugin:  
<https://github.com/nihilus/PPCAltivec>
  - Custom REL/DOL loaders
    - <https://github.com/heinermann/ida-wii-loaders>
- Kaitai definitions for debugging loaders

```
[-] [root] 00000000: 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 14 .....
[-] header 00000010: 00 00 00 48 00 00 00 00 00 00 38 00 00 02 ...H.....8...
[-] id = 1 00000020: 00 23 32 bc 00 db c8 38 00 ee a5 e8 00 00 10 ...#2.....8...
[-] padding = 0 00000030: 01 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ac .....
[-] num sections = 20 00000040: 00 00 00 20 00 00 00 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] section_info_offset = 72 00000050: 00 00 00 e9 00 2d 0f ac 00 2d 10 94 00 00 04 .....
[-] name_offset = 0 00000060: 00 2d 10 98 00 00 00 04 00 2d 10 a0 00 00 c2 8c .....
[-] name_size = 56 00000070: 00 2d d3 40 00 ad f4 f8 00 00 00 00 00 23 32 bc ...@.....#2.
[-] version = 2 00000080: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] bss_size = 2306748 00000090: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] relocation_table_offset = 14403640 000000a0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] imp_table_offset = 15640040 000000b0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] imp_table_size = 16 000000c0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] section_info_prolog_index_relative = 1 000000d0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
[-] section_info_epilog_index_relative = 1 000000e0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6 .....|.|...
[-] section_info_unresolved_index_relative = 000000f0: 3c 60 00 00 90 01 00 14 93 e1 00 0c 80 03 00 00 <.....8...
[-] padding2 = 0 00000100: 2c 00 00 00 40 82 00 2c 3c 60 00 00 38 03 00 00 ;...@...
[-] prolog_offset = 0 00000110: 7c 1f 03 78 48 00 00 10 7d 89 03 a6 4e 80 04 21 |..xH...}...N.!
[-] epilog_offset = 96 00000120: 3b ff 00 04 81 9f 00 00 28 0c 00 00 40 82 ff ec ;.....(....@...
[-] unresolved_offset = 172 00000130: 48 09 79 c9 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c 7c 08 03 a6 H.y.....|...
[-] align = 32 00000140: 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6 8!..N...!..|...
[-] bss_align = 32 00000150: 3c 60 00 00 90 01 00 14 38 03 00 00 93 e1 00 0c <.....8...
[?] section_info_table 00000160: 7c 1f 03 78 48 00 00 10 7d 89 03 a6 4e 80 04 21 |..xH...}...N.!
[?] imp_table 00000170: 3b ff 00 04 81 9f 00 00 28 0c 00 00 40 82 ff ec ;.....(....@...
00000180: 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c 7c 08 03 a6 38 21 00 10 .....|...8!..
00000190: 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff e0 7c 08 02 a6 90 01 00 24 N...!..|...$
000001a0: 39 61 00 20 4b ff ff f1 3c 60 00 00 3b e3 00 00 9a. K...<...;...
000001b0: 38 7f 00 00 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff dd 38 7f 00 30 8...L.1.K...8..0
000001c0: 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff d1 3b c0 00 00 4b ff ff c9 L.1.K...;...K...
000001d0: 7c 7d 1b 78 48 00 00 20 80 bd 00 00 7f a4 eb 78 ]]-xH...}...x
000001e0: 80 dd 00 04 38 7f 00 58 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff a9 ...8..XL.1.K...
000001f0: 83 bd 00 00 28 1d 00 00 41 82 00 1c 3c 1d 00 01 (...A...<...
00000200: 28 00 ff ff 41 82 00 10 28 1e 00 10 3b de 00 01 (...A...<...
00000210: 41 80 ff c8 38 7f 00 74 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff 79 A...8..tL.1.K.y
00000220: 39 61 00 20 4b ff ff 71 80 01 00 24 7c 08 03 a6 9a. K...q...$|...
00000230: 38 21 00 20 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6 81. N...!..|...
00000240: 90 01 00 14 4b ff ff 51 80 01 00 14 7c 08 03 a6 ...K..Q...|...
00000250: 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6 8!..N...!..|...
00000260: 38 80 00 18 90 01 00 14 93 e1 00 0c 7c 7f 1b 78 8...<...x
00000270: 4b ff ff 25 3c 60 00 00 38 00 00 00 c0 03 00 00 K.%<...8...
00000280: d0 1f 00 08 d0 1f 00 10 d0 1f 00 0c d0 1f 00 04 .....
00000290: d0 1f 00 00 90 1f 00 14 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c .....
000002a0: 7c 08 03 a6 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 |...8!..N...!..|...
000002b0: 7c 08 02 a6 90 01 00 14 4b ff ff a1 80 01 00 14 |...K...
all: 1774, tree: 182, tree_draw: 150, hexview: 1591, ln: 24, highlight = 16..20
```

```
[~] [root]
[-] header
[.] id = 1
[.] padding = 0
[.] num_sections = 20
[.] section_info_offset = 72
[.] name_offset = 0
[.] name_size = 56
[.] version = 2
[.] bss_size = 2306748
[.] relocation_table_offset = 14403640
[.] imp_table_offset = 15640040
[.] imp_table_size = 16
[.] section_info_prolog_index_relative = 1
[.] section_info_epilog_index_relative = 1
[.] section_info_unresolved_index_relative =
[.] padding2 = 0
[.] prolog_offset = 0
[.] epilog_offset = 96
[.] unresolved_offset = 172
[.] align = 32
[.] bss_align = 32
[?] section_info_table
[?] imp_table

00000000: 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 14
00000010: 00 00 00 48 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 38 00 00 00 02
00000020: 00 23 32 bc 00 db c8 38 00 ee a5 e8 00 00 00 10
00000030: 01 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 60 00 00 00 ac
00000040: 00 00 00 20 00 00 00 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000050: 00 00 00 e9 00 2d 0f ac 00 2d 10 94 00 00 00 04
00000060: 00 2d 10 98 00 00 00 04 00 2d 10 a0 00 00 c2 8c
00000070: 00 2d d3 40 00 ad f4 f8 00 00 00 00 00 23 32 bc
00000080: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000090: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000a0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000b0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000c0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000d0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000e0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6
000000f0: 3c 60 00 00 90 01 00 14 93 e1 00 0c 80 03 00 00
00000100: 2c 00 00 00 40 82 00 2c 3c 60 00 00 38 03 00 00
00000110: 7c 1f 03 78 48 00 00 10 7d 89 03 a6 4e 80 04 21
00000120: 3b ff 00 04 81 9f 00 00 28 0c 00 00 40 82 ff ec
00000130: 48 09 79 c9 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c 7c 08 03 a6
00000140: 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6
00000150: 3c 60 00 00 90 01 00 14 38 03 00 00 93 e1 00 0c
00000160: 7c 1f 03 78 48 00 00 10 7d 89 03 a6 4e 80 04 21
00000170: 3b ff 00 04 81 9f 00 00 28 0c 00 00 40 82 ff ec
00000180: 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c 7c 08 03 a6 38 21 00 10
00000190: 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff e0 7c 08 02 a6 90 01 00 24
000001a0: 39 61 00 20 4b ff ff f1 3c 60 00 00 3b e3 00 00
000001b0: 38 7f 00 00 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff dd 38 7f 00 30
000001c0: 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff d1 3b c0 00 00 4b ff ff c9
000001d0: 7c 7d 1b 78 48 00 00 20 80 bd 00 00 7f a4 eb 78
000001e0: 80 dd 00 04 38 7f 00 58 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff a9
000001f0: 83 bd 00 00 28 1d 00 00 41 82 00 1c 3c 1d 00 01
00000200: 28 00 ff ff 41 82 00 10 28 1e 00 10 3b de 00 01
00000210: 41 80 ff c8 38 7f 00 74 4c c6 31 82 4b ff ff 79
00000220: 39 61 00 20 4b ff ff 71 80 01 00 24 7c 08 03 a6
00000230: 38 21 00 20 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6
00000240: 90 01 00 14 4b ff ff 51 80 01 00 14 7c 08 03 a6
00000250: 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0 7c 08 02 a6
00000260: 38 80 00 18 90 01 00 14 93 e1 00 0c 7c 7f 1b 78
00000270: 4b ff ff 25 3c 60 00 00 38 00 00 00 c0 03 00 00
00000280: d0 1f 00 08 d0 1f 00 10 d0 1f 00 0c d0 1f 00 04
00000290: d0 1f 00 00 90 1f 00 14 80 01 00 14 83 e1 00 0c
000002a0: 7c 08 03 a6 38 21 00 10 4e 80 00 20 94 21 ff f0
000002b0: 7c 08 02 a6 90 01 00 14 4b ff ff a1 80 01 00 14
```



# Looking Inside

- The symbol map files
  - GameCube build script options:  
# -map `output.map` - create a .MAP file that shows final memory layout of all sections
- Make simple IDA script for populating database with names

```
.text section layout
Starting      Virtual
address      Size      address
-----
00000000 000150 00000000 1 .text      executor.o
00000000 000060 00000000 4 _prolog    executor.o
00000060 00004c 00000060 4 _epilog    executor.o
000000ac 0000a4 000000ac 4 _unresolved executor.o
00000150 000024 00000150 1 .text      sys_vimgr.o
00000150 000020 00000150 4 viBlack    sys_vimgr.o
00000170 002998 00000170 1 .text      c_keyframe.o
00000170 000054 00000170 4 cKF_FrameControl_zeroClera c_keyframe.o
000001c4 000020 000001c4 4 cKF_FrameControl_ct      c_keyframe.o
000001e4 000034 000001e4 4 cKF_FrameControl_setFrame c_keyframe.o
00000218 0000b0 00000218 4 cKF_FrameControl_passCheck c_keyframe.o
000002c8 000098 000002c8 4 cKF_FrameControl_passCheck_now c_keyframe.o
00000360 00008c 00000360 4 cKF_FrameControl_stop_proc c_keyframe.o
000003ec 000088 000003ec 4 cKF_FrameControl_repeat_proc c_keyframe.o
00000474 0000b4 00000474 4 cKF_FrameControl_play      c_keyframe.o
00000528 00006c 00000528 4 cKF_HermitCalc              c_keyframe.o
00000594 0001d0 00000594 4 cKF_KeyCalc                  c_keyframe.o
00000764 0000cc 00000764 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_subRotInterpolation c_keyframe.o
00000830 000080 00000830 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_morphST    c_keyframe.o
000008b0 000024 000008b0 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_R_zeroClear c_keyframe.o
000008d4 00005c 000008d4 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_R_ct      c_keyframe.o
00000930 000004 00000930 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_R_dt      c_keyframe.o
00000934 00007c 00000934 4 cKF_SkeletonInfo_R_init_standard_stop c_keyframe.o
```

# Reversing the Dialogue System

# Reversing the Dialogue System

- Initial analysis
- Find the files that contain the message strings
  - \*\_data.bin and \*\_data\_table.bin files

```
forest_1st.d/data/mail_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/mail_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/maila_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/maila_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/mailb_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/mailb_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/mailc_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/mailc_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/ps_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/ps_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/psz_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/psz_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/select_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/select_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/string_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/string_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/super_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/super_data_table.bin
forest_1st.d/data/superz_data.bin
forest_1st.d/data/superz_data_table.bin
forest_2nd.d/data/message_data.bin
forest_2nd.d/data/message_data_table.bin
```



message\_data.bin



message\_data\_table.bin

Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	
00000470	7F	00	7F	09	00	00	15	49	20	63	61	6E	27	74	20	6C	.....I can't l
00000480	65	74	20	79	6F	75	20	67	6F	20	77	69	74	68	6F	75	et you go withou
00000490	74	CD	67	69	76	69	6E	67	20	79	6F	75	20	61	20	6C	tígiving you a l
000004A0	69	74	74	6C	65	20	73	6F	6D	65	74	68	69	6E	67	2E	ittle something.
000004B0	7F	03	06	CD	48	65	72	65	2C	20	74	68	69	73	20	69	...ÍHere, this i
000004C0	73	20	6D	79	20	66	61	76	6F	72	69	74	65	20	6B	69	s my favorite ki
000004D0	6E	64	CD	6F	66	20	73	74	61	74	69	6F	6E	65	72	79	ndíof stationery
000004E0	2C	7F	03	08	20	7F	1C	21	CD	7F	01	7F	09	00	00	15	,... ..!Í.....
000004F0	7F	1A	2C	7F	03	08	20	49	20	77	61	6E	74	20	79	6F	...,... I want yo
00000500	75	CD	74	6F	20	68	61	76	65	20	74	68	69	73	20	73	uíto have this s
00000510	74	61	74	69	6F	6E	65	72	79	2E	20	49	20	6A	75	73	tationery. I jus
00000520	74	CD	77	61	6E	74	20	74	6F	20	73	68	6F	77	20	79	tíwant to show y
00000530	6F	75	20	6D	79	CD	67	72	61	74	69	74	75	64	65	2C	ou myígratitude,
00000540	7F	03	08	20	7F	1C	21	CD	7F	01	7F	09	00	00	FF	53	... ..!Í.....ÿS
00000550	6F	2C	7F	03	0A	20	49	20	68	61	76	65	20	61	20	6C	o,... I have a l
00000560	69	74	74	6C	65	20	72	65	77	61	72	64	CD	66	6F	72	ittle rewardífor
00000570	20	79	6F	75	21	7F	03	06	20	49	74	27	73	20	73	6F	you!... It's so
00000580	6D	65	20	73	74	61	74	69	6F	6E	65	72	79	2C	7F	03	me stationery,..
00000590	08	CD	7F	1C	2E	CD	7F	01	7F	09	00	00	FF	4C	65	74	.Í...Í.....ÿLet
000005A0	20	6D	65	20	74	68	61	6E	6B	20	79	6F	75	21	7F	03	me thank you!..
000005B0	0C	20	4D	61	79	62	65	7F	03	06	CD	73	6F	6D	65	20	. Maybe...Ísome
000005C0	6E	69	63	65	20	73	74	61	74	69	6F	6E	65	72	79	20	nice stationery
000005D0	77	69	6C	6C	20	64	6F	2C	7F	03	08	CD	7F	1C	21	CD	will do,...Í...!Í
000005E0	7F	01	7F	09	00	00	15	54	68	65	20	64	65	6C	69	63	.....The delic
000005F0	61	74	65	20	70	61	74	74	65	72	6E	20	6F	66	20	74	ate pattern of t
00000600	68	69	73	CD	73	74	61	74	69	6F	6E	65	72	79	7F	03	hisístationery..

message_data.bin	message_data_table.bin	
Offset (h)	00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0A 0B 0C 0D 0E 0F	
00000000	00 00 00 48 00 00 00 B3	00 00 00 B5 00 00 00 B7
00000010	00 00 00 B9 00 00 00 BB	00 00 00 BD 00 00 02 DC
00000020	00 00 02 DE 00 00 02 E0	00 00 02 E2 00 00 02 E4
00000030	00 00 02 E6 00 00 02 E8	00 00 02 EA 00 00 02 EC
00000040	00 00 02 EE 00 00 02 F0	00 00 02 F2 00 00 02 F4
00000050	00 00 02 F6 00 00 02 F8	00 00 02 FA 00 00 02 FC
00000060	00 00 02 FE 00 00 03 00	00 00 03 02 00 00 03 04
00000070	00 00 03 06 00 00 03 08	00 00 03 0A 00 00 03 0C
00000080	00 00 03 0E 00 00 03 10	00 00 03 12 00 00 03 14
00000090	00 00 03 16 00 00 03 18	00 00 03 1A 00 00 03 1C
000000A0	00 00 03 1E 00 00 03 20	00 00 03 22 00 00 03 24
000000B0	00 00 03 26 00 00 03 28	00 00 03 2A 00 00 03 2C
000000C0	00 00 03 2E 00 00 03 30	00 00 03 32 00 00 03 34
000000D0	00 00 03 36 00 00 03 38	00 00 03 3A 00 00 03 3C
000000E0	00 00 03 3E 00 00 03 40	00 00 03 42 00 00 03 44
000000F0	00 00 03 46 00 00 03 48	00 00 03 4A 00 00 03 4C
00000100	00 00 03 4E 00 00 03 50	00 00 03 52 00 00 03 54
00000110	00 00 03 56 00 00 03 58	00 00 03 5A 00 00 03 5C
00000120	00 00 03 5E 00 00 03 60	00 00 03 62 00 00 03 64
00000130	00 00 03 66 00 00 03 68	00 00 03 6A 00 00 03 6C
00000140	00 00 03 6E 00 00 03 70	00 00 03 72 00 00 03 74
00000150	00 00 03 76 00 00 03 78	00 00 03 7A 00 00 03 7C
00000160	00 00 03 7E 00 00 03 80	00 00 03 82 00 00 03 84
00000170	00 00 03 86 00 00 03 88	00 00 03 8A 00 00 03 8C
00000180	00 00 03 8E 00 00 03 90	00 00 03 92 00 00 03 94
00000190	00 00 03 96 00 00 03 98	00 00 03 9A 00 00 03 9C

0x00000ede:

\x7f \x00\x00\x15This is my favorite outfit,\x7f\x03\x08\xcdbut you can have it,\x7f\x03\x06  
\xcd\x7f\x1c! \x7f\x03\x06I bet\xcdit'll look good on you, too!\xcd\x7f\x01

0x00000f46:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffWhat should I give you in\xcdreturn?\x7f\x03\x10\x7f \x00\x00\x06 Oh  
\!\x7f\x03\x08 How about this?\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f \x00\x00\x15I just bought this outfit the\xcd  
ther day,\x7f\x03\x06 \x7f\x1c!\xcd\x7f\x01

0x00000fc6:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffThink these clothes will\xcdwork for you?\x7f\x03\x10\x7f \x00\x00\x15 Th  
e fabric\x7f\x03\x06\xcdis like a massage for your\xcdskin,\x7f\x03\x06 \x7f\x1c!\xcd\x7f\x01

0x00001032:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffNice work.\x7f\x03\x10 You can have\xcdthese clothes. \x7f\x03\x06I hope th  
ey're\xcdall right, because they're\xcdall that I have to give.\x7f\x04\xcd\x7f\x02\x7f \x00\x  
00\x15I'm sure you can tell from\xcdthem\x7f\x03\x08 that I'm a pretty\xcd darned fashionable gu  
y,\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f\x1c.\xcd\x7f\x01

0x00001106:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffSince I certainly don't want\xcdto owe you one,\x7f\x03\x08 you can\xcdhave  
this outfit.\x7f\x04\xcd\x7f\x02\x7f \x00\x00\x15I've never even so much as\xcdtried it on.  
\x7f\x03\x08 It's brand new,\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f\x1c.\xcd\x7f\x01

0x000011a2:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffThanks for your help.\x7f\x03\x10\xcdConsider this outfit your\xcdreward, a  
ll right?\x7f\x04\xcd\x7f\x02I picked it out myself,\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f \x00\x00\x16so don't l  
et me catch you\xcdcomplaining about it,\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f\x1c.\xcd\x7f\x01

0x0000124a:

\x7f \x00\x00\x15These clothes are your\xcdreward for a job well done.\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f \x00\x00\x16so don't l  
et me catch you\xcdcomplaining about it,\x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f\x1c.\xcd\x7f\x01

0x000012a9:

\x7f \x00\x00\xffI wasn't sure what I should\xcdgive you for your trouble.\x7f\x03\x08\xcdHo  
:

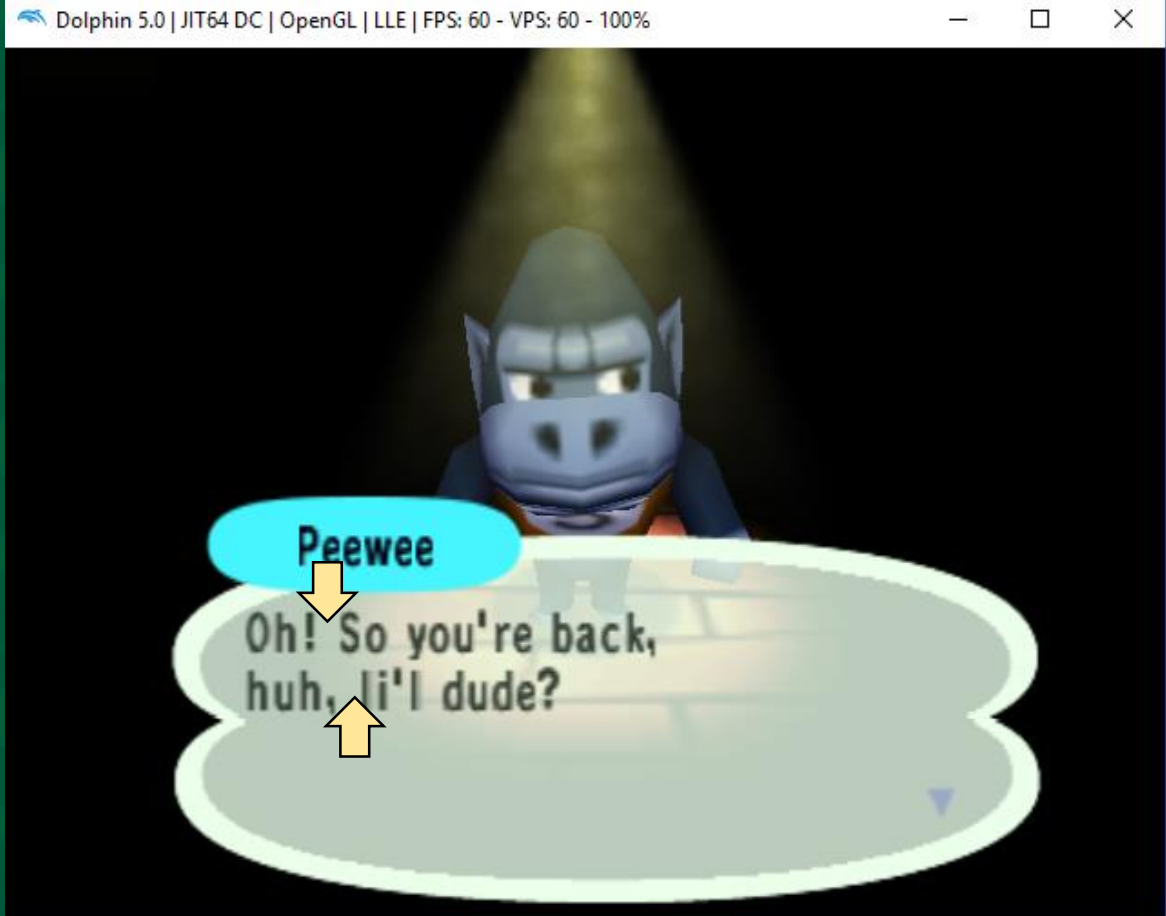
Animation plays

Speech pauses

Peewee

What?!? What do you want to do first, li'l dude???

```
0x000eedf2:
What?!? \x7f \x00\x00^K what do you\xcd want to do first, \x7f\x03\x06\xcd\x7f\x1c???\x7f\x18\x
00p\x01\xe7\x01\xb3\x00\x15\x7f^\x7f\x04\x7f^M\x7f\x0f\x14\x96\x7f\x10\x14\xac\x7f\x11\x14\xb2\
\x7f\x12\x14\x94\x7f\x19\x7f \x00\x00\xff\x7f \x00\x03\xcd\x7f\x01
```



```
0x000eed36:  
Oh! [\x03]\x06 So you're back,  
huh, [\x03]^L [\x1c]?[\x04]  
[\x02]It's [\x1e] [ ],  
[\x1d], [\x03]\x10 at [!]:["] [v]  
in [P]\x19\x8c\xdc\x08[(]'s [/] now. [\x0e]\x14\x94  
[\x01]
```



jamchamb@ubuntu: ~

```
[ANIM:NPC0:DEFAULT]I know it's kind of clunky to  
be carrying around,[PAUSE:0x06] but  
please accept this wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08]  
[PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]
```

```
#0x010b @ 0x00001b6c (0x4d bytes):
```

```
[ANIM:NPC0:HAPPY_BROWS]This time,[PAUSE:0x06] I think I'll thank  
you with some nice wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08]  
[PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]
```

```
#0x010c @ 0x00001bb9 (0x3a bytes):
```

```
[ANIM:NPC0:DEFAULT]Ooh! [PAUSE:0x07]I know![PAUSE:0x08] I'll give you  
wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08] [PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]
```

```
#0x010d @ 0x00001bf3 (0x51 bytes):
```

```
[ANIM:NPC0:HAPPY_BROWS]Eureka! [PAUSE:0x05]I've totally got it![PAUSE:0x0c]  
You can have[PAUSE:0x04] this  
wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08] [PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]
```

# Reversing the Dialogue System

- Iteratively add codes
  - Focus on what non-printable bytes are left
- Basic editor
  - Doesn't have all the codes defined
  - Doesn't support writing special codes back
  - Good for analysis
- Use IDA to figure out the rest of the special codes

```
jamchamb@ubuntu: ~  
[ANIM:NPC0:DEFAULT]I know it's kind of clunky to  
be carrying around,[PAUSE:0x06] but  
please accept this wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08]  
[PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]  
  
#0x010b @ 0x00001b6c (0x4d bytes):  
[ANIM:NPC0:HAPPY_BROWS]This time,[PAUSE:0x06] I think I'll thank  
you with some nice wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08]  
[PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]  
  
#0x010c @ 0x00001bb9 (0x3a bytes):  
[ANIM:NPC0:DEFAULT]Ooh! [PAUSE:0x07]I know![PAUSE:0x08] I'll give you  
wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08] [PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]  
  
#0x010d @ 0x00001bf3 (0x51 bytes):  
[ANIM:NPC0:HAPPY_BROWS]Eureka! [PAUSE:0x05]I've totally got it![PAUSE:0x0c]  
You can have[PAUSE:0x04] this  
wallpaper,[PAUSE:0x08] [PHRASE]!  
[CONTINUE]
```

# Reversing the Dialogue System

- “ControlCursor” functions for each code handle reading the special bytes and doing something with them

```
.globl mMsg_Main_Cursor_CursorSetTime_ControlCursor # weak
mMsg_Main_Cursor_CursorSetTime_ControlCursor:

.set var_18, -0x18
.set var_14, -0x14
.set var_10, -0x10
.set arg_4, 4

stwu    r1, -0x20(r1) # Store Word with Update
mfspr   r0, LR        # Move from sprg,
stw     r0, 0x20+arg_4(r1) # Store Word
stfd    f31, 0x20+var_10(r1) # Store Floating-Point Double-Precision
psq_st  %fr31, 0x18(r1), 1, 0 # Paired Single Quantized Store
stw     r31, 0x20+var_14(r1) # Store Word
stw     r30, 0x20+var_18(r1) # Store Word
mr      r31, r4       # Move Register
mr      r30, r3       # Move Register
lwz     r4, 0(r4)     # Load Word and Zero
bl      mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode # Branch
fmr     f31, f1       # Floating-Point Move Register
lwz     r4, 0(r31)    # Load Word and Zero
mr      r3, r30       # Move Register
bl      mMsg_Set_SizeCode # Branch
lwz     r0, 0(r31)    # Load Word and Zero
add     r0, r0, r3     # Add
stw     r0, 0(r31)    # Store Word
lwz     r0, 0(r31)    # Load Word and Zero
stw     r0, 0x420(r30) # Store Word
lwz     r0, 0x43C(r30) # Load Word and Zero
cmpwi   r0, 0         # Compare Word Immediate
beq     loc_803C30A4   # Branch if equal
```

```
.globl mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode # weak
mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode:

.set arg_4, 4

stwu    r1, -0x10(r1) # Store Word with Update
mfspr   r0, LR        # Move from sprg,
stw     r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Store Word
lwz     r3, msg_window_t.msg_data_ptr(r3) # Load Word and Zero
addi    r3, r3, 0x20 # message text pointer
bl      mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode_forData # Branch
lwz     r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Load Word and Zero
mfspr   LR, r0        # Move to sprg,
addi    r1, r1, 0x10 # Add Immediate
blr     # Branch unconditionally
# End of function mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode
```

Double check it begins with 0x7F 0x03

```
.globl mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode_forData # weak
mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode_forData:

.set var_8, -8

stwu    r1, -0x10(r1) # Store Word with Update
lbzx    r0, r3, r4    # Load Byte and Zero Indexed
cmplwi  r0, 0x7F     # Compare Logical Word Immediate
bne     loc_803C0360 # Branch if not equal
```

```
add     r3, r3, r4    # Add
lbz     r0, 1(r3)     # Load Byte and Zero
cmplwi  r0, 3        # is next byte 3? (time code)
bne     loc_803C0360 # Branch if not equal
```

```
lbz     r3, 2(r3)     # time amount
lis     r0, 0x4330    # 43300000
lis     r4, 0x8064    # 80640000
lis     r5, 0x8064    # 80640000
xoris   r3, r3, 0x8000 # 800000XX (XX = time amount)
stw     r0, 0x10+var_8(r1) # Store Word
lfd     f1, dword_806426F4@1(r4) # Load Floating-Point Double-Precision
stw     r3, 0x10+var_8+4(r1) # Store Word
lfs     f2, _724@1(r5) # Load Floating-Point Single-Precision
lfd     f0, 0x10+var_8(r1) # Load Floating-Point Double-Precision
fsubs   f0, f0, f1    # Floating-Point Subtract Single-Precision
fmuls   f1, f2, f0    # casts time amount to float
b       loc_803C0368 # Branch
```

Extract pause amount from text buffer

Convert time integer to float

```
lis     r3, _725@h
lfs     f1, _725@1(r3) # Load Floating-Point Single-Precision
```

```
loc_803C0368:
addi    r1, r1, 0x10
blr     # Branch unconditionally
# End of function mMsg_Get_CursorSetTimeCode_forData
```

Return from extracting pause interval

Report size of the code

Do stuff with extracted data for code

```
.globl msg_Main_Cursol_CursolSetTime_ControlCursol # weak
msg_Main_Cursol_CursolSetTime_ControlCursol:

.set var_18, -0x10
.set var_14, -0x14
.set var_10, -0x10
.set arg_4, 4

stwu r1, -0x20(r1) # Store Word with Update
mfSpr r0, LR # Move from Sprg
stwu r0, 0x20+arg_4(r1) # Store Word
stfd F31, 0x20+var_10(r1) # Store Floating-Point Double-Precision
psq_st %Fr31, 0x18(r1), 1, 0 # Paired Single Quantized Store
stwu r31, 0x20+var_14(r1) # Store Word
stwu r30, 0x20+var_18(r1) # Store Word
mr r31, r4 # Move Register
mr r30, r3 # Move Register
luz r4, 0(r4) # Load Word and Zero
bl msg_Get_CursolSetTimeCode # Branch
fmr F31, f1 # Floating-Point Move Register
luz r4, 0(r31) # Load Word and Zero
mr r3, r30 # Move Register
bl msg_Set_SizeCode # Branch
luz r0, 0(r31) # Load Word and Zero
add r0, r0, r3 # Add
stwu r0, 0(r31) # Store Word
luz r0, 0(r31) # Load Word and Zero
stwu r0, msg_window_t.cur_pos(r30) # Store Word
luz r0, msg_window_t.cancel_requested(r30) # Load Word and Zero
cmpwi r0, 0 # Compare Word Immediate
beq loc_88C30A4 # Branch if equal
```

```
loc_88C30A4: # Load Immediate Shifted
lis r3, _7250h
lis f0, _7250h(r3) # Load Floating-Point Single-Precision
fcmpu cr0, f31, f0 # Floating-Point Compare Ordered
ble loc_88C30EC # Branch if less than or equal
```

```
stfS F31, 0x414(r30) # Store Floating-Point Single-Precision
luz r3, 0x40C(r30) # Load Word and Zero
rwinv. r0, r3, 0,23,23 # Rotate Left Word Immediate then AND with Mask
beq loc_88C30DC # Branch if equal
```

```
rwinv. r0, r3, 0,17,17 # Rotate Left Word Immediate then AND with Mask
bne loc_88C30DC # Branch if not equal
```

```
lis r3, _9A70h # Load Immediate Shifted
lfs F1, _9A70h(r3) # Load Floating-Point Single-Precision
bl msg_sound_MessageSpeedForce # Branch
b loc_88C30E4 # Branch
```

```
loc_88C30DC: # Floating-Point Move Register
fmr F1, F31
bl msg_sound_MessageSpeedForce # Branch
```

```
li r3, 0 # Load Immediate
b loc_88C30F0 # Branch
```

```
loc_88C30E4: # Load Immediate
li r2, 2
b loc_88C30F0 # Branch
```

```
loc_88C30EC: # Load Immediate
li r3, 0
```

```
loc_88C30F0:
psq_l %Fr31, 0x18(r1), 1, 0 # Paired Single Quantized Load
luz r0, 0x20+arg_4(r1) # Load Word and Zero
lfd F31, 0x20+var_10(r1) # Load Floating-Point Double-Precision
luz r31, 0x20+var_14(r1) # Load Word and Zero
luz r30, 0x20+var_18(r1) # Load Word and Zero
mtSpr LR, r0 # Move to Sprg
addi r1, r1, 0x20 # Add Immediate
blr # Branch unconditionally
# End of function msg_Main_Cursol_CursolSetTime_ControlCursol
```

Save interval to msg\_window\_t.timer

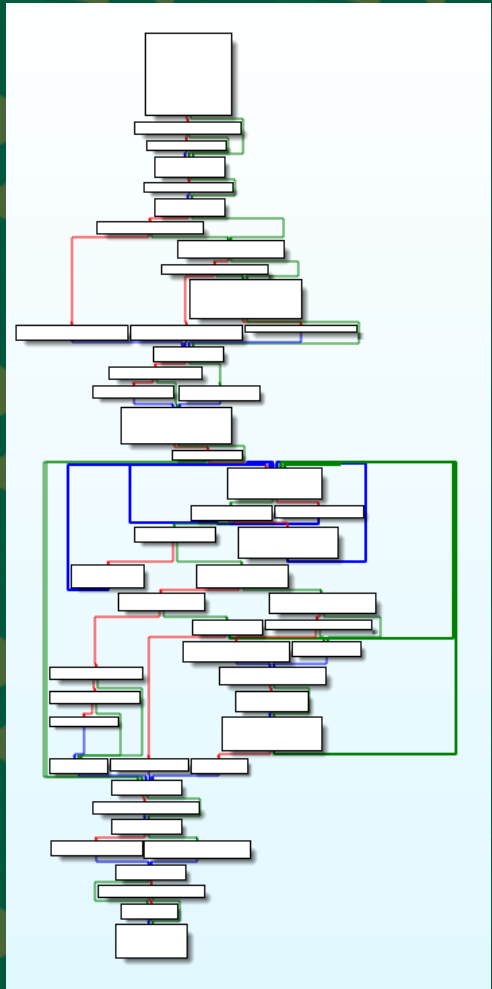
# Reversing the Dialogue System

- Still don't know where these cursor controller functions are used
  - Cross-references are a dead end
- Search for the function addresses as raw bytes...
  - They're held in a function table
  - Data type of the bytes wasn't defined, so the references didn't show up
- Referenced by `mMsg_Main_Cursor_Proc_ControlCursor`
  - Performs the table lookup by code
  - Referenced in turn by `mMsg_Main_Cursor_ControlCursor`

```
cursor_proc_table: .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_Last_ControlCursor# 0
                  # DATA XREF: mMsg_Main_Cursor_Proc_ControlCursor# 0
                  # mMsg_Main_Cursor_Proc_ControlCursor# 0
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_Continue_ControlCursor# 1
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_Clear_ControlCursor# 2
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_CursorSetTime_ControlCursor# 3
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_Button_ControlCursor# 4
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_Color_ControlCursor# 5
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_AbleCancel_ControlCursor# 6
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_UnableCancel_ControlCursor# 7
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetDemoOrderPlayer_ControlCursor# 8
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetDemoOrderNpc0_ControlCursor# 9
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetDemoOrderNpc1_ControlCursor# 0xA
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetDemoOrderNpc2_ControlCursor# 0xB
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetDemoOrderQuest_ControlCursor# 0xC
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetSelectWindow_ControlCursor# 0xD
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetNextMessageF_ControlCursor# 0xE
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetNextMessage0_ControlCursor# 0xF
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetNextMessage1_ControlCursor# 0x10
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetNextMessage2_ControlCursor# 0x11
                  .long mMsg_Main_Cursor_SetNextMessage3_ControlCursor# 0x12
```



# mMsg\_Main\_Cursor\_ControlCursor



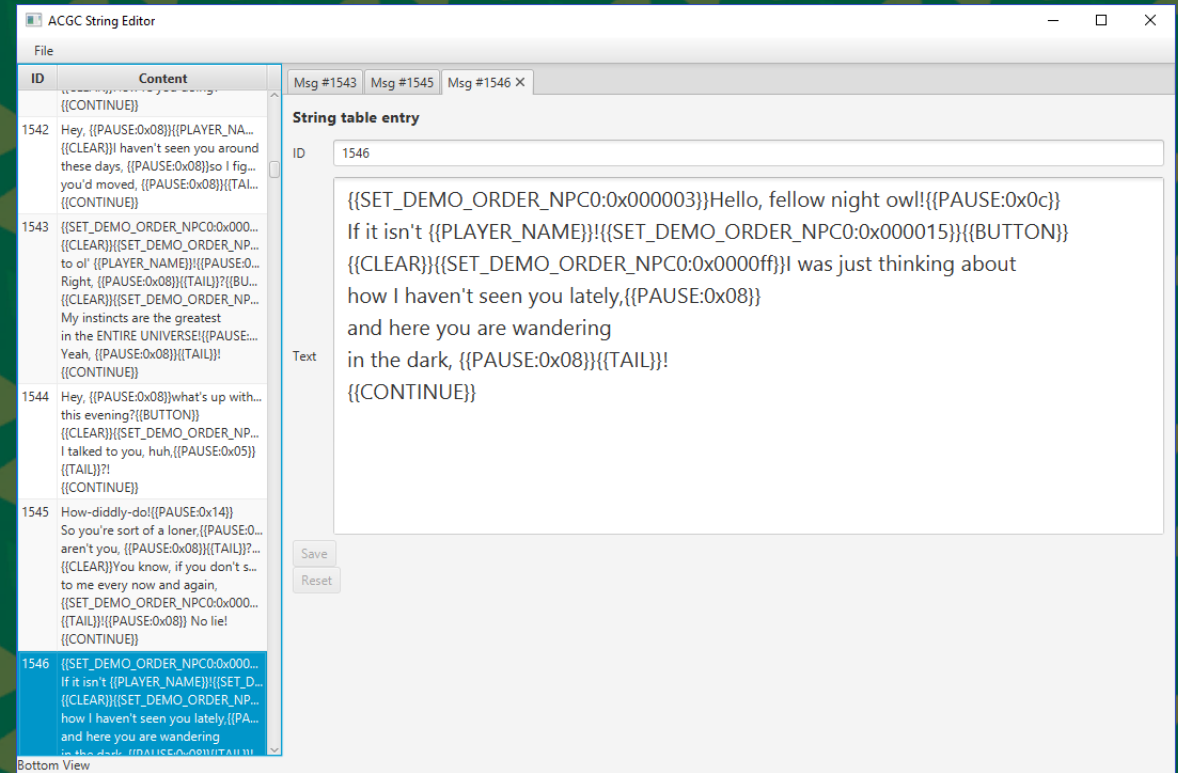
Timing and cancel request handling

**Check data at cursor;  
Print or handle proc code**

Timing and talk animation/sound handling

# Reversing the Dialogue System

- GUI editor for string tables
- Translates special codes to serialized text format, e.g. `{{PAUSE:0x03}}`
- Handles special character set
- Note: Adding more entries to a table requires generating a patch
  - Highest entry ID is compiled in, and used for bounds check



ACGC String Editor

File

ID	Content
	{{CONTINUE}}
1542	Hey, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{PLAYER_NA... {{CLEAR}}I haven't seen you around these days, {{PAUSE:0x08}}so I fig... you'd moved, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL... {{CONTINUE}}
1543	{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NPC0:0x000... {{CLEAR}}{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NP... to ol' {{PLAYER_NAME}}!{{PAUSE:0... Right, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL}}?{{BU... {{CLEAR}}{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NP... My instincts are the greatest in the ENTIRE UNIVERSE!{{PAUSE:... Yeah, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL}}! {{CONTINUE}}
1544	Hey, {{PAUSE:0x08}}what's up with... this evening?{{BUTTON}} {{CLEAR}}{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NP... I talked to you, huh,{{PAUSE:0x05}} {{TAIL}}?! {{CONTINUE}}
1545	How-diddy-do!{{PAUSE:0x14}} So you're sort of a loner,{{PAUSE:0... aren't you, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL}}?... {{CLEAR}}You know, if you don't s... to me every now and again, {{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NPC0:0x000... {{TAIL}}!{{PAUSE:0x08}} No lie! {{CONTINUE}}
1546	{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NPC0:0x000... If it isn't {{PLAYER_NAME}}!{{SET_D... {{CLEAR}}{{SET_DEMO_ORDER_NP... how I haven't seen you lately,{{PA... and here you are wandering in the dark, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL}}! {{CONTINUE}}

Msg #1543 Msg #1545 Msg #1546 X

**String table entry**

ID: 1546

Text: {{SET\_DEMO\_ORDER\_NPC0:0x000003}}Hello, fellow night owl!{{PAUSE:0x0c}}  
If it isn't {{PLAYER\_NAME}}!{{SET\_DEMO\_ORDER\_NPC0:0x000015}}  
{{BUTTON}}  
{{CLEAR}}{{SET\_DEMO\_ORDER\_NPC0:0x0000ff}}I was just thinking about  
how I haven't seen you lately,{{PAUSE:0x08}}  
and here you are wandering  
in the dark, {{PAUSE:0x08}}{{TAIL}}!  
{{CONTINUE}}














Save Reset

Bottom View

# Unlocking Developer Features

# Finding debug features

- Noticed a bunch of functions and variables with “debug” in the name
- Debug features would be useful for testing out mods
- What does `new_Debug_mode` do?

Name	Address
 <code>mAGrw_ClearDebugData</code>	803736D0
 <code>mAGrw_CheckRegisteredData_debug</code>	80373720
 <code>mAGrw_SetBlockData_debug</code>	8037375C
 <code>mAGrw_SetDebugDataBlock</code>	803737DC
 <code>mAGrw_SetDebugData</code>	803738CC
 <code>mAGrw_PrintFossilHaniwa_debug</code>	80373978
 <code>new_Debug_mode</code>	80396120
 <code>debug_display_output_sprite_16x16_l8</code>	803962DC
 <code>debug_display_output_polygon</code>	803964A8
 <code>debug_hayakawa_bitset</code>	803965E4
 <code>debug_hayakawa_move</code>	803966C8
 <code>debug_hayakawa_draw_safetyframe</code>	80396F54
 <code>debug_hayakawa_draw</code>	80397050

# Finding debug features

- Called by `entry` (right after the Nintendo logo splashscreen)
- Allocates a `0x1C94` byte structure and saves the pointer to it
- Value at offset `0xD4` is set to zero right away
- What happens if it's set to 1?

```
.globl entry # weak
entry:

.set arg_4, 4

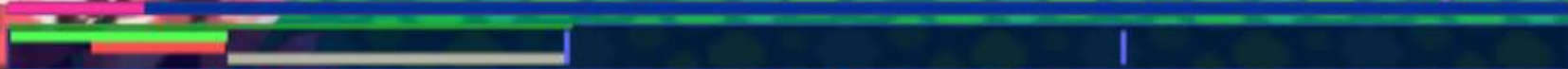
stwu    r1, -0x10(r1) # Store Word with Update
mflr   r0             # Move from link register
li     r3, 0          # Load Immediate
stw    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Store Word
bl     padmgr_Init    # Branch
bl     new_Debug_mode # mallocs a 0x1C94 byte structure
lis    r3, debug_mode@h # Load Immediate Shifted
li     r0, 0          # Debug mode flag set here
addi   r4, r3, debug_mode@l # Add Immediate
li     r3, 0          # Load Immediate
lwz    r4, 0(r4)      # mallocd debug mode structure
sth    r0, 0xD4(r4)  # Store zero at 0xD4(debug_struct)
bl     mainproc       # Branch
lwz    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Load Word and Zero
li     r3, 0          # Load Immediate
mtlr   r0             # Move to link register
addi   r1, r1, 0x10  # Add Immediate
blr    # Branch unconditionally
```

# Animal Crossing™



Press START!

© 2001, 2002 Nintendo



# Finding debug features

- Looking for more code that references the debug mode structure...
- There are a bunch of references to “zuru mode” in the context of debug display behavior
  - No idea what it is or what “zuru” means (zulu?)
- `zurumode_flag` looks important



```
.globl game_move_first # weak
game_move_first:

.set arg_4, 4

stwu    r1, -0x10(r1) # Store Word with Update
mflr   r0             # Move from link register
lis    r4, zurumode_flag@ha # Load Immediate Shifted
stw    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Store Word
lwz    r0, zurumode_flag@l(r4) # Load Word and Zero
cmpwi  r0, 0          # Compare Word Immediate
beq    loc_80404C8C   # Branch if equal
```

```
addi   r3, r3, 0x2C # Add Immediate
bl     zzz_LotsOfDebug # Branch
```

```
loc_80404C8C: # Branch
bl     JC_JUTProcBar_getManager
lis    r4, debug_mode@h # Load Immediate Shifted
addi   r4, r4, debug_mode@l # Add Immediate
lwz    r4, 0(r4) # Load Word and Zero
lha    r4, 0xD4(r4) # Load Half Word Algebraic
addic  r0, r4, -1 # Add Immediate Carrying
subfe  r4, r0, r4 # Subtract from Extended
bl     JC_JUTProcBar_setVisible # Branch
bl     JC_JUTProcBar_getManager # Branch
lis    r4, debug_mode@h # Load Immediate Shifted
addi   r4, r4, debug_mode@l # Add Immediate
lwz    r4, 0(r4) # Load Word and Zero
lha    r4, 0xD4(r4) # Load Half Word Algebraic
addic  r0, r4, -1 # Add Immediate Carrying
subfe  r4, r0, r4 # Subtract from Extended
bl     JC_JUTProcBar_setVisibleHeapBar # Branch
lwz    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1) # Load Word and Zero
mflr   r0             # Move to link register
addi   r1, r1, 0x10 # Add Immediate
blr    # Branch unconditionally
# End of function game_move_first
```



# Finding debug features

- Looked up functions with zurumode in the name:
  - zurumode\_init
  - zurumode\_callback
  - zurumode\_update
  - zurumode\_cleanup

# zurumode\_init

- Sets zurumode\_flag to 0
- Checks some bits in a thing called osAppNMIBuffer
- Stores pointer to zurumode\_callback in padmgr structure
- Calls zurumode\_update

```
.globl zurumode_init # weak
zurumode_init:

.set arg_4, 4

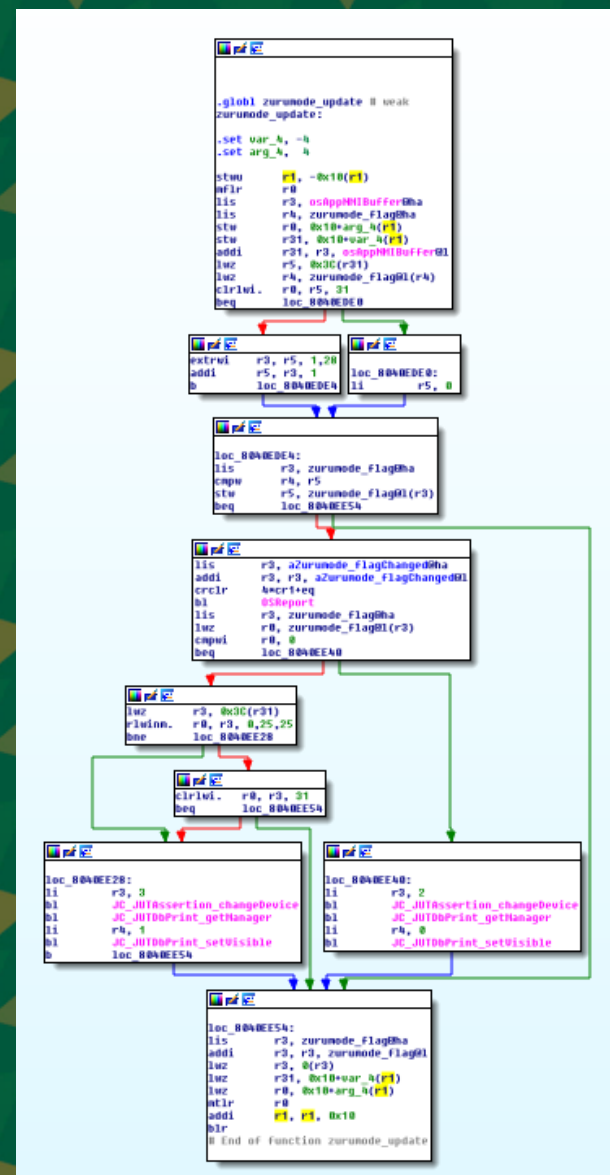
stwu    r1, -0x10(r1)
mflr   r0
lis    r3, zuruKeyCheck@ha
lis    r4, zurumode_flag@ha
stw    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1)
li     r0, 0
addi   r3, r3, zuruKeyCheck@l
stw    r0, zurumode_flag@l(r4)
bl     zerucheck_init
lis    r3, osAppNMIBuffer@ha
lis    r5, zuruKeyCheck@ha
addi   r3, r3, osAppNMIBuffer@l
lis    r4, zurumode_callback@ha
lwz    r6, 0x3C(osAppNMIBuffer)
lis    r3, padmgr_class@h
addi   r3, r3, padmgr_class@l
addi   r0, r4, zurumode_callback@l
clrwi  r6, r6, 31
addi   r4, r5, zuruKeyCheck@l
stb    r6, 4(r4)
stw    r0, 0xC(r3)
stw    r3, 0x10(r3)
bl     zurumode_update
lwz    r0, 0x10+arg_4(r1)
mflr   r0
addi   r1, r1, 0x10
blr

# End of function zurumode_init
```

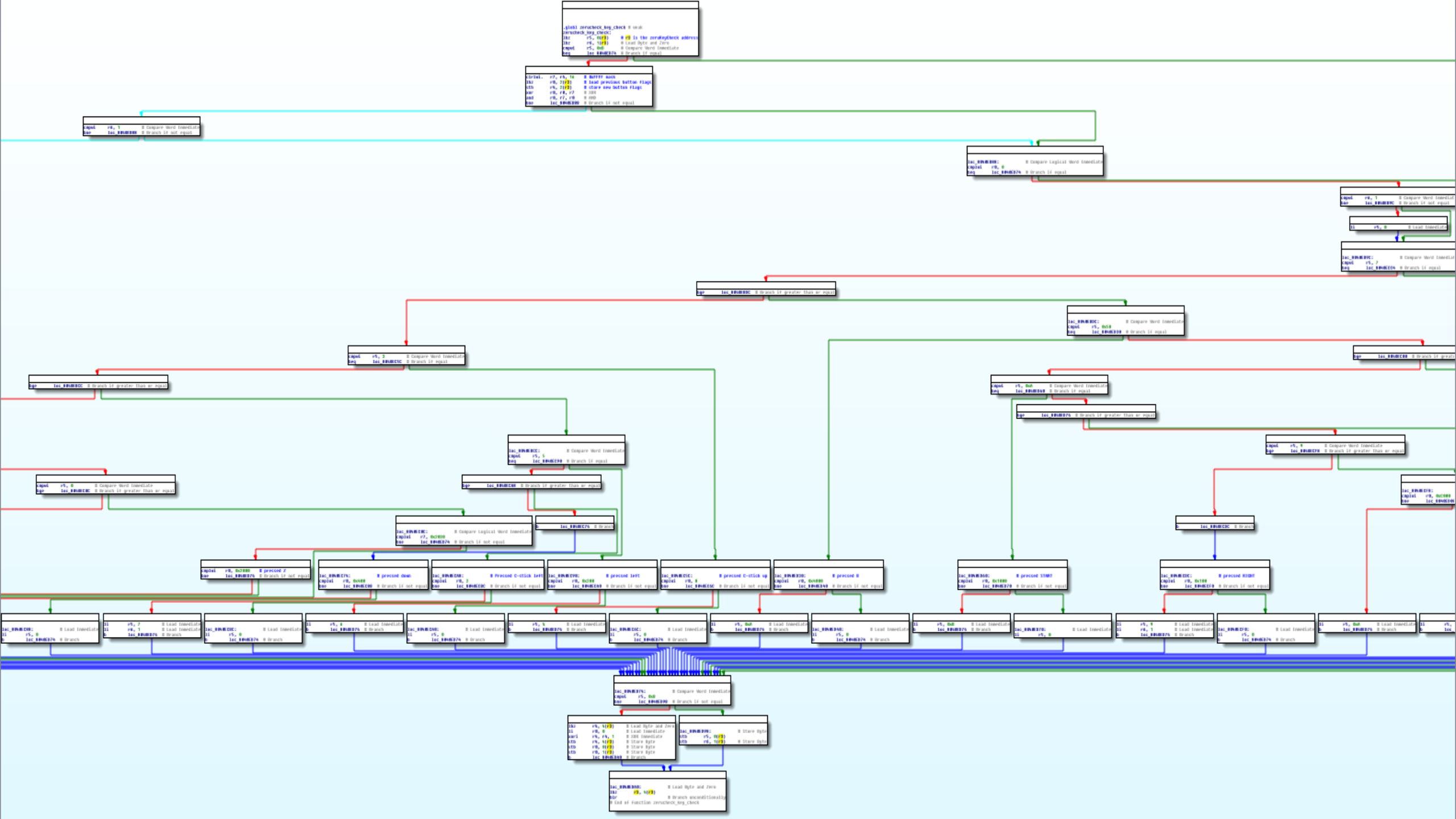
# zurumode\_update

- Checks some bits in `osAppNMIBuffer`.
- Conditionally update the value of `zurumode_flag` based on the bits
- Prints a format string to OS debug console
- Characters are not ASCII, so I tried Japanese encodings. It's Shift-JIS:
  - “zurumode\_flag が %d から %d に変更されました”
  - “zurumode\_flag has been changed from %d to %d”
  - Doesn't mean much yet, but knowing the encoding helped with other debug strings and untranslated game text

```
lis    r3, aZurumode_flagChanged@ha # "zurumode_flag é- %d é-ét %d é+ð-ìXé|é0é"...
addi   r3, r3, aZurumode_flagChanged@l # "zurumode_flag é- %d é-ét %d é+ð-ìXé|é0é"...
crclr  4*cr1+eq # Condition Register Clear
bl     OSReport # Branch
```

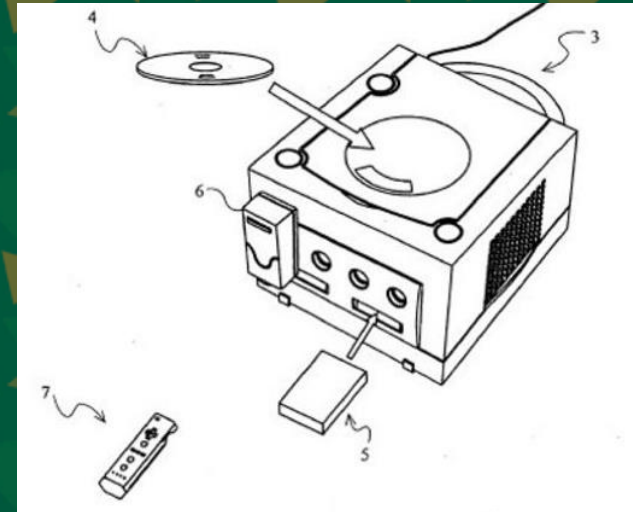






# zrumode\_check\_keycheck

- Didn't know what zuru mode was or how crucial it was to debugging
- Tried getting translations of "zuru" or slight changes in spelling through Google Translate, got "shake"
  - Thought this might refer to original Wii remote, which was actually made for Gamecube, or some other special kind of developer input device
- Didn't know if "key check" referred to cryptographic key, controller buttons, or keyboard keys
- Noticed missing/inconsistent symbols
- Held off and looked for path of least resistance



# Finding debug features

- Problem with the symbol loader
  - First script parsed out address/name and added it
  - Section addresses in `foresta` map all start from 0
    - Resulted in symbols clobbering each other
- New scripts set up values for each section with:
  - Name at correct address
  - Function or data definition
  - Segment named after the source object (e.g. `m_player_lib.o`)
- The new `bss` segment for `m_debug_mode.o` had some variables like `quest_draw_status` and `event_status`.
  - Cross-references from these data entries to a huge piece of code that checks `debug_print_flg` (located in the same `bss` segment)

# Finding debug features

- Approach in reverse
  - Go from debug display behaviors back up to debug mode activation
- Did some simple NOPping to bypass checks and get displays to activate
- Found `debug_print_flg` and some status variables related to it
  - Set breakpoint where `debug_print_flg` is checked. Never hits.
  - Why? `zurumode_flag` gets checked first.
- `zurumode_flag` keeps showing up throughout debug code and simple patches get the various displays to activate
  - No avoiding it any longer, I have to figure out what zuru mode is





# zurumode\_init

- Returning to `zurumode_init`, it initializes a few things:
  - `0xC` (`padmgr_class`) is set to the address of `zurumode_callback`
  - `0x4` (`zuruKeyCheck`) is set to the last bit of the 32-bit value at `0x3C` (`osAppNMIBuffer`)
- Only runs once on game start
- Patching it to set `0x4` (`zuruKeyCheck`) to 1 causes this text to appear on the title screen
  - But none of the other displays show up during play



# zurumode\_update

- Checks the last bit of 0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer) and updates zurumode\_flag based on its value
  - If it's zero, the flag is set to zero.
  - If not, it extracts bit 28 from the NMI buffer value and adds 1 to it
    - The result will always be 1 or 2. The flag is set to this value.
    - When the result is 2 a bunch of interesting stuff shows up.
- Checks whether the flag has changed
  - If so, it calls some functions from boot.dol:

```
manager = JC_JUTDbPrint_getManager()
if (flag == 0) {
    JC_JUTAssertion_changeDevice(2)
    JC_JUTDbPrint_setVisible(manager, 0)
} else if (BIT(nmiBuf+0x3c, 25) || BIT(nmiBuf+0x3c, 31)) {
    JC_JUTAssertion_changeDevice(3)
    JC_JUTDbPrint_setVisible(manager, 1)
}
```

# zurumode\_callback

- Runs each time the gamepad state updates
- Calls the crazy `zurumode_check_keycheck` function
- Checks and sets some bits in `0x3c` (`osAppNMIBuffer`)
- Calls `zurumode_update`
- *The last bit of the NMI buffer value is set if:*
  - bit 26 is set, or...
  - bit 25 is set and controller 2 is plugged in, or...
  - `0x4` (`zuruKeyCheck`) is non-zero
- Otherwise, the bit is set to zero (disabling zuru mode)



# Zuru Mode Activation

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 26

?

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 25

?

0x4 (zuruKeyCheck)

?

# osAppNMIBuffer

- What is osAppNMIBuffer?
- Found it in N64 SDK docs
  - “osAppNMIBuffer is a 64-byte buffer that is cleared on a cold reset. If the system reboots because of a NMI, this buffer is unchanged.”
- NMI refers to soft reset (via non-maskable interrupt).
- Where do the bits get set?



## N64® Functions Menu

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- [gdSP - General GBI Macros](#)
- [gSP - SP GBI Macros](#)
- [gt - Turbo Microcode RDP](#)
- [gu - Graphics Utilities](#)
- [Math - Math Functions](#)
- [nuSys - NuSystem](#)
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- [uh - Host to Target IO](#)
- [64DD - N64 Disk Drive](#)

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## NINTENDO<sup>64</sup> Function Reference Manual

### Operating System Functions

#### osAppNMIBuffer

##### Syntax

```
#include <ultra64.h>
s32 osAppNMIBuffer[16];
```

##### Explanation

osAppNMIBuffer is a 64-byte buffer that is cleared on a cold reset. If the system reboots because of a NMI, this buffer is unchanged. The game can use this small buffer to hold data just as if it were a variable. If the game needs a larger buffer, that buffer needs to be located outside of the 1 Megabyte boot segment.

##### See Also

[os.h](#)

##### Revision History

1998/10/29

Became independent from osGlobals.

al	gDP	gdSP	gSP	gt	gu
Math	nuSys	os	sp	uh	64DD



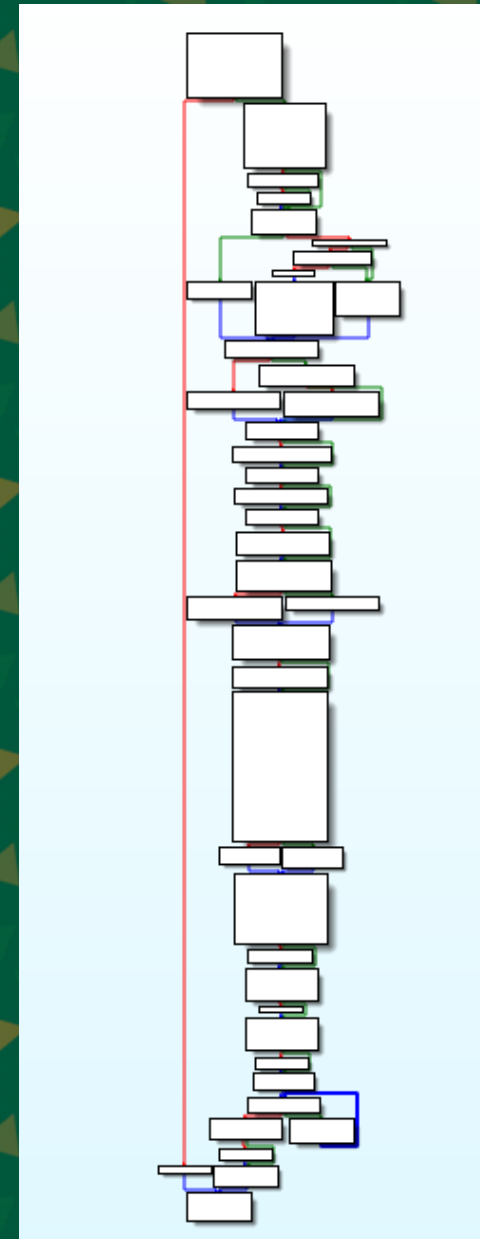
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# osAppNMIBuffer

- Bits 25, 26, 28, and 31 of 0x3c (osAppNMIBuffer) control zuru mode
  - 25 and 26 control whether it's enabled
  - 28 controls the flag level (1 or 2)
- A series of checks in the main function of boot.dol set bits in osAppNMIBuffer
  - Large, somewhat complex function
  - Look for OR instructions with 0x1, 0x8, 0x20, 0x40



boot.dol main function

# Bit 26

- First up: there's an `ori r0, r0, 0x20` instruction
  - Applied to the buffer value at `0x3c`
  - Sets bit 26, which always results in zuru mode being enabled.
- To reach this block, the eighth byte of the disk ID must be `0x99`
  - Try a simple patch for it in emulator...

```
loc_800062C4:          # r3 = 0x80000000
bl      DUDGetCurrentDiskID
lbz     r0, 7(r3)      # Load Byte and Zero
cplwi   r0, 0x99      # Compare Logical Word Immediate
bne     loc_800062E8   # Branch if not equal

lis     r4, osAppNMIBuffer@h # Load Immediate Shifted
addi    r4, r4, osAppNMIBuffer@l # Add Immediate
lwz     r0, (dword_80206F9C - osAppNMIBuffer)(r4) # Load Word and Zero
ori     r0, r0, 0x20   # Set bit 26 if version is 0x99 (enable zuru modes)
stw     r0, (dword_80206F9C - osAppNMIBuffer)(r4) # Store Word
```

Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F
00000000	47	41	46	45	30	31	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00000010	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	C2	33	9F	3D	00

SDK VERSION: 12Dec2001 Patch4



<DISK ID>  
GAMENAME: GAFE  
COMPANY: 01  
VERSION: 0x99(153)

COPYDATE: 02/08/01 00:16:48





# Zuru Mode Activation

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 26

Game disk ID is 0x99

Instant unlock

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 25

?

0x4 (zuruKeyCheck)

?

# Bit 25 and 28

- Bits 25 and 28 get set if the disk ID is greater than 0x90
- Bit 28 controls zuru mode level (1 or 2)
- Bit 25 was associated with that controller connection check...



# Bit 25

- One of the conditions for enabling zuru mode was:
  - Bit 25 is set
  - A controller is connected to port 2
- If the game disk ID is between 0x90 and 0x98, zuru mode can be enabled by plugging in a second controller, and...
- The second controller controls all of the debug displays!



# Zuru Mode Activation

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 26

Game disk ID is 0x99

Instant unlock

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 25

Game disk ID between 0x90  
and 0x98

Unlocked when a controller  
is in port 2

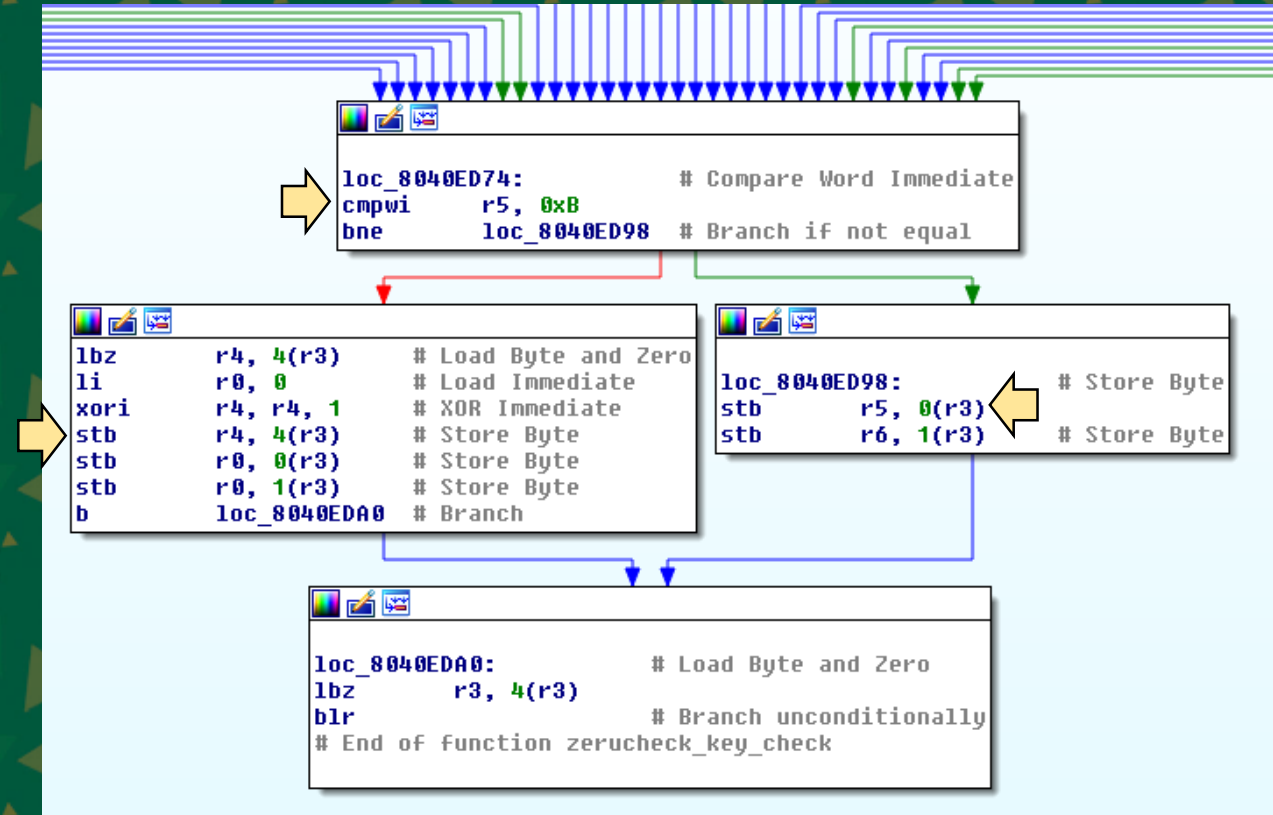
0x4 (zuruKeyCheck)

?



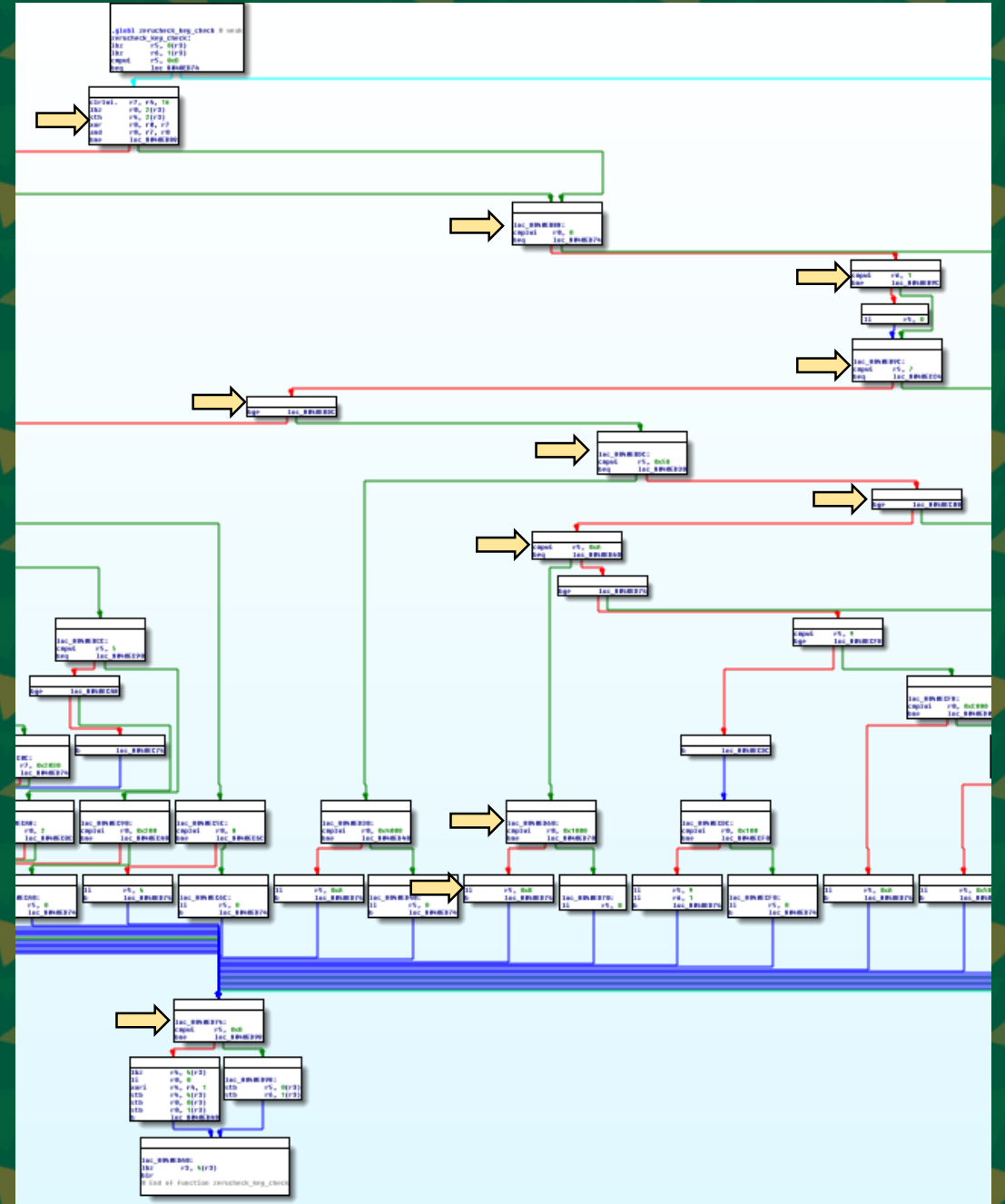
# zerucheck\_key\_check

- The last mystery is `zuruKeyCheck`
- It gets updated by `zerucheck_key_check`
  - Cross-reference didn't show up before because of the way the address is calculated
- What we want at the end is for register 5 to hold 0xB
  - This will toggle the value of 0x4 (`zuruKeyCheck`), enabling or disabling zuru mode
- r5 is stored in 0x0 (`zuruKeyCheck`)
  - Loaded at the beginning
  - Updated at the end



# zerucheck\_key\_check

- Follow the blocks up to the beginning and find the constraints
  - 8040ED74: r5 must be 0xB
  - Sets r5 to 0xB
  - 8040ED60: r0 must be 0x1000
  - 8040EBE8: r5 must be 0xA
  - 8040EBE4: r5 must be less than 0x5B
  - 8040EBA4: r5 must be greater than 0x7
  - 8040EB94: r6 must be 0x1
  - 8040EB5C: r0 must not be 0x0

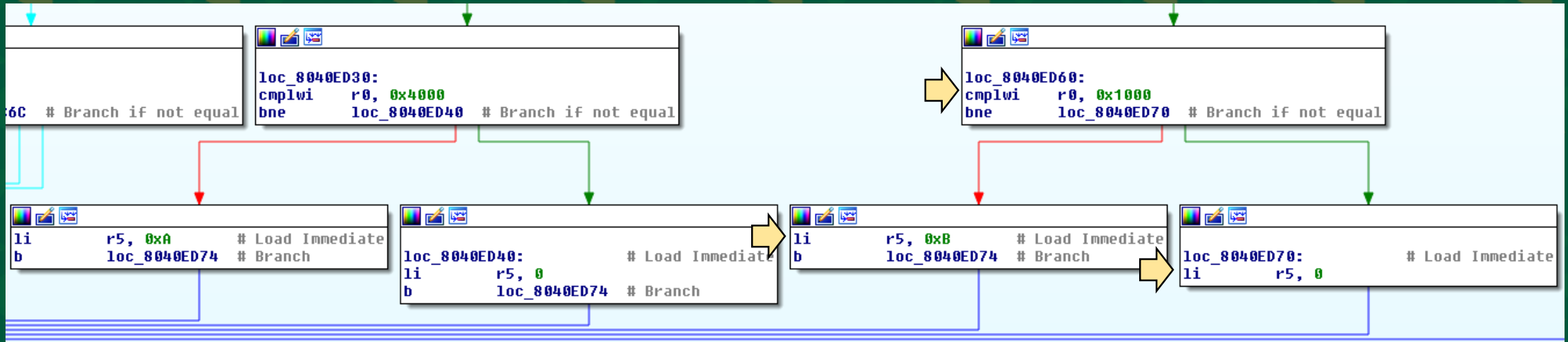






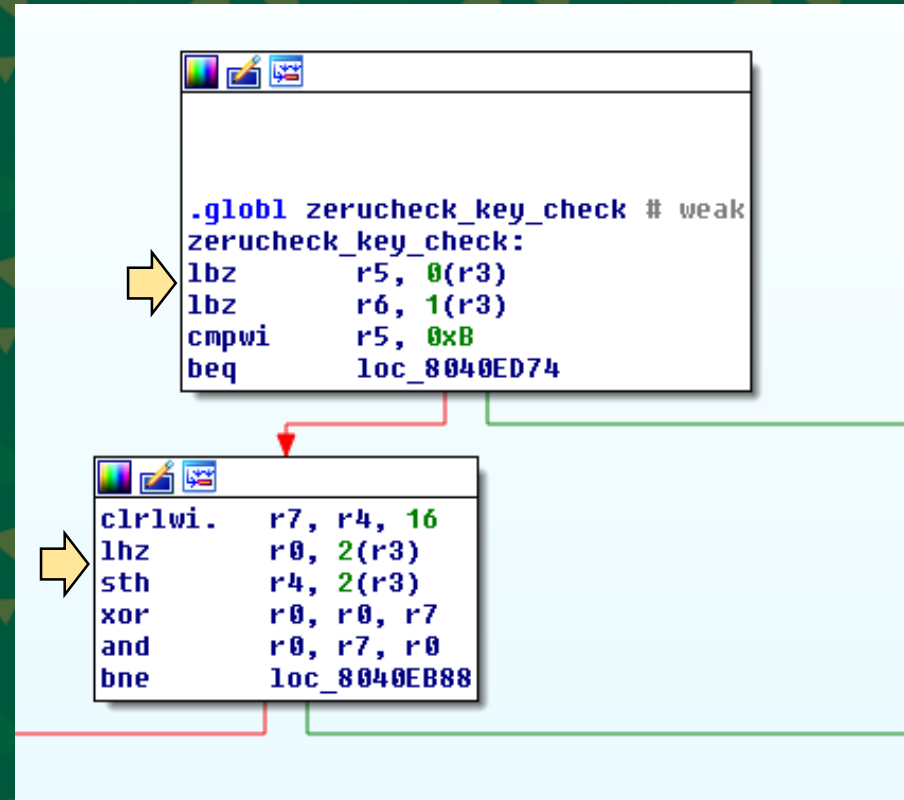
# zerucheck\_key\_check

- The blocks right before the end will update r5 to some number or reset it to zero based on a comparison
- It's a state machine
  - r5 stores state index and is advanced on correct conditions, or reset to zero
  - The condition is a comparison to the value of r0



# zerucheck\_key\_check

- The values of r0 looks like bit flags...
  - Where do they come from?
- Function called every frame via callback function passed to gamepad manager class
- Holding down various buttons on the second controller changes the value
  - Affects 16-bit value at offset  $0 \times 2$
  - So it *is* checking for certain button combinations on a controller
- The first thing key check does is load the state
- Second thing is load the previous and current button press flags
  - (new XOR old) AND new leaves only the changed button press flags
  - The input to this function is new button presses – this is r0



# zerucheck\_key\_check

- Look up button values in N64 SDK
- It's a cheat combo!
  1. Hold L + R triggers and press Z
  2. D-UP
  3. C-DOWN
  4. C-UP
  5. D-DOWN
  6. D-LEFT
  7. C-LEFT
  8. C-RIGHT
  9. D-RIGHT
  10. A + B
  11. START

Button	Value
A_BUTTON	0x8000
B_BUTTON	0x4000
L_TRIG	0x0020
R_TRIG	0x0010
Z_TRIG	0x2000
START_BUTTON	0x1000
U_JPAD	0x0800
L_JPAD	0x0200
R_JPAD	0x0100
D_JPAD	0x0400
U_CBUTTONS	0x0008
L_CBUTTONS	0x0002
R_CBUTTONS	0x0001
D_CBUTTONS	0x0004

# Zuru Mode Activation

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 26

Game disk ID is 0x99

Instant unlock

0x3C (osAppNMIBuffer)  
Bit 25

Game disk ID between 0x90  
and 0x98

Unlocked when a controller  
is in port 2

0x4 (zuruKeyCheck)

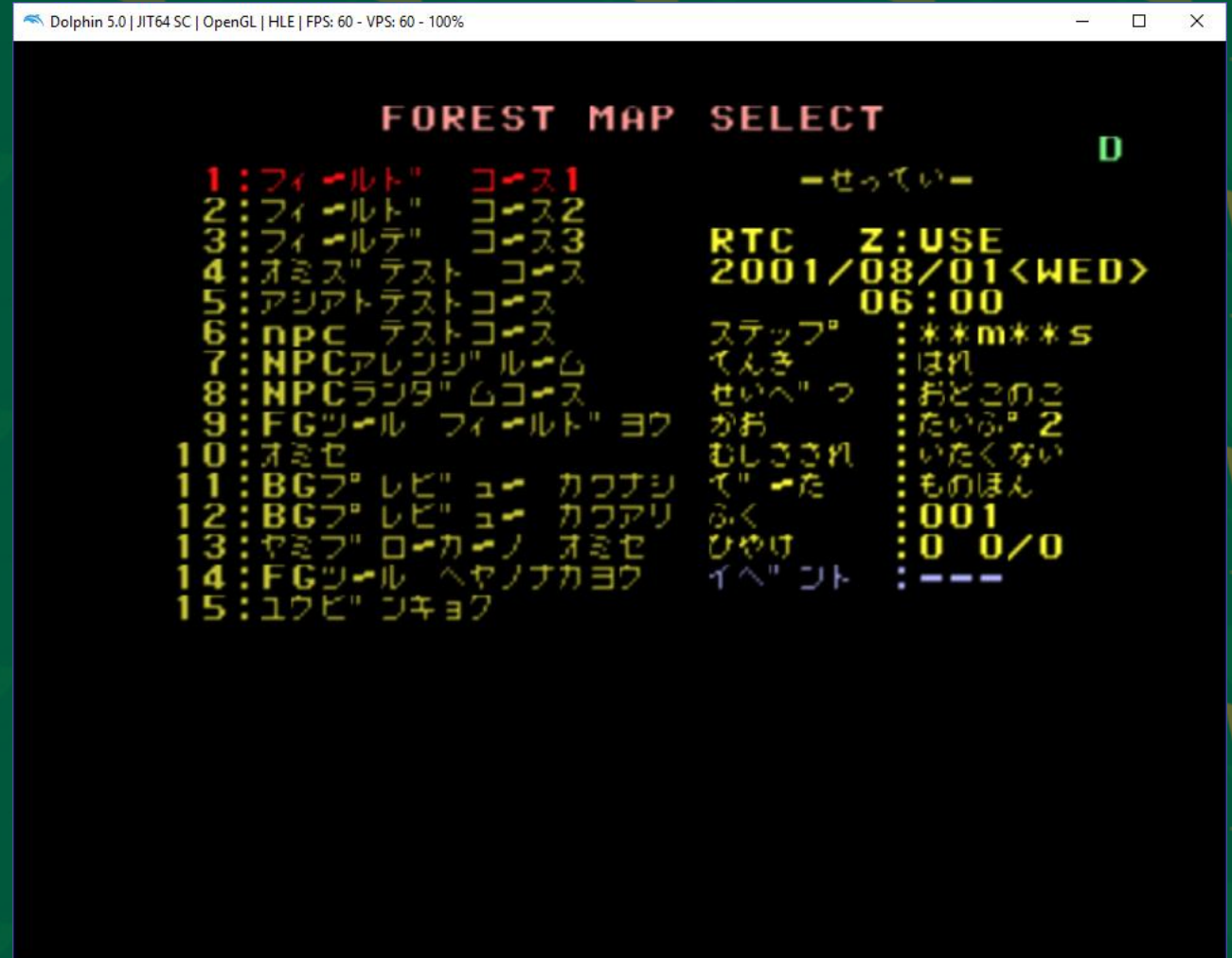
Enter 11-step button combo  
on port 2 controller

Toggle unlock with button  
combo



# Special menus

- Famicom menu
- Map select
- Player select
- Scene selection



```
.globl game_get_next_game_diff1 @ weak
game_get_next_game_diff1:
.set org_4, 4
move r1, -8(r1) @ Store Word with Update
wpage r0, r1 @ Store from sprg,
move r0, 8(r1) @ Store Word
li game_get_next_game_diff1, 0 @ Branch
li r0, FIRST_GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, FIRST_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, SELECT_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, SELECT_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, SELECT_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, PLAY_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, PLAY_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, PLAY_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, SPECIAL_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, SPECIAL_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, SPECIAL_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, TRADEMARK_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, TRADEMARK_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, TRADEMARK_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, PLAYER_SELECT_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, PLAYER_SELECT_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, PLAYER_SELECT_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, NEW_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, NEW_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, NEW_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, FANCLUB_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, FANCLUB_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, FANCLUB_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, PREFER_GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, PREFER_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, PREFER_GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Immediate Shifted
li r0, GAME_DIFF1
li r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
cmpbeq r0, r0 @ Compare Logical Word
nop @ Branch if not equal
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Store Register
li r0, r0
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
li r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ Load Immediate Shifted
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
andi r0, r0, GAME_DIFF1 @ And Immediate
inc_RNNR760: @ Branch
```

```
inc_RNNR760: @ Load Word and Zero
li r0, 0
wpage r0, 8(r0)
move r0, r0
andi r0, r0, 0
nop @ Branch unconditionally
@ End of function game_get_next_game_diff1
```



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[Date: 02-07-31 12:52:00]  
[Creator: SRD@SRD036J]



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QFC ver.011012 (C)2001 Nintendo

[3/21] R: back B: demo

:GAME

:GAME/01

->GAME/01/01\_nes\_cluclu3.bin.szs

GAME/01/02\_usa\_balloon.nes.szs

GAME/01/03\_nes\_donkey1\_3.bin.szs

GAME/01/04\_usa\_jr\_math.nes.szs

GAME/01/05\_pinball\_1.nes.szs

GAME/01/06\_nes\_tennis3.bin.szs



# Bonus

Translations, localization, development history

# Haniwa / Gyroids







# Kamakura

- Googling it returns a city
- Look up related message ID in message table:
  - “So what do you think? Isn't this a great igloo, {{TAIL}}?”
- Originally based on snow hut festival in Japan
  - Igloos are the localized version



# Death / Funeral

```
m_event.o:81167778 funeral:      .space 4          # DATA XREF: init_event+50fo
m_event.o:81167778                # init_event+50fw ...
m_event.o:8116777C                .globl dead # weak
m_event.o:8116777C dead:      .space 4          # DATA XREF: init_event+58fo
m_event.o:8116777C                # init_event+60fw ...
```

	Up	o	mEv_actor_dying_message+10C	lis	r3, dead@h	# Load Immediate Shifted
	Up	w	mEv_actor_dying_message+114	stw	r0, dead@l(r3)	# Store Word
	Up	o	mEv_someone_died	lis	r3, dead@h	# Load Immediate Shifted
	Up	o	mEv_someone_died+4	addi	r3, r3, dead@l	# Add Immediate