

#### Creating a virtual reality serious game using a domain specific language for interactive 3D environments

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21 June 2021

## Creating a virtual reality serious game using a domain specific language for interactive 3D environments

Florent Robert, Marco Winckler, Hui-Yin Wu, Lucile Sassatelli, Barthélemy Passin-Cauneau, Brice Graulier, Théo Fafet







## Summary

- Context and related works
- Challenges
- A domain specific language approach
- Perspectives

## **Context and related work**

Serious game in immersive environment

## Virtual reality

Place players in immersive environment

- Enjoy 360 ° video & film
- Interact with objects in an environment

Allows players to experience lifelike scenarios in interactive environments, useful in differents cases

- Game
- Training
- Education
- ...



Context



#### Context

## Serious game

A serious game for training and rehabilitation of users with low vision, using two differents environments

- Complex environment (house interior)
- Dangerous environment (city exterior)







## State of art

Some solutions already exist

X3D (Daly & Brutzman 2007), DSL for 3D content :

- XML based language usable for VR
- Describe 3D environnement (texture, position, rotation, ...)

Low level language, doesn't describe :

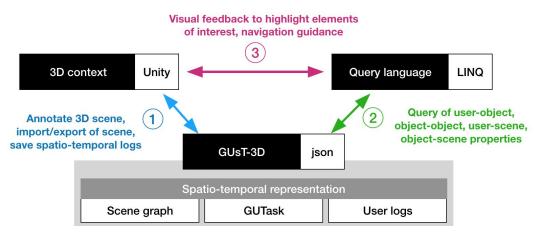
- Object relations and interactive properties
- How the user perceives, interacts



## System for serious game creation

Tool to create serious game DSL oriented on describing interactions

- Creation of interactive environment
- Creation of game scenario
- Guidance of user during scenario
- Analysis of user experience



# Challenges

Creation of scenario in interactive environment

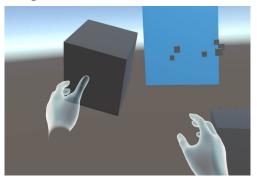
## Building a serious game in virtual reality

Creation present two main complex points:

- Interactive environment
- Game scenario

Analyse the experience to give feedback

- Record the experience
- Analyse the record





Context

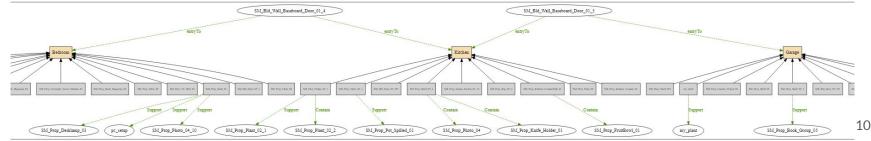
### Interactive environment

- Complexities:
  - Large number of objects
  - All unique properties and interactions
  - Walls / Objects obstruct player's view

The development team will have to work on each object



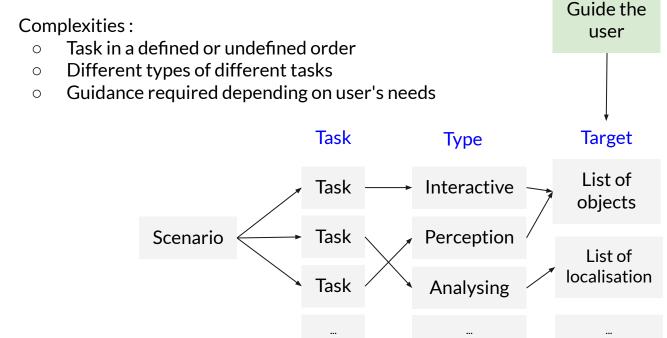
Complexity



### Complexity

## Game scenario

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## A domain specific language approach

## **Proposed solution**

Tool using a DSL to describe the environment and its properties, focusing on interactions

- Annotate objects in the scene
- Creating tasks using DSL
- Record user actions and interaction

Gain of time for the development team on the creation of interactives environments and scenarios

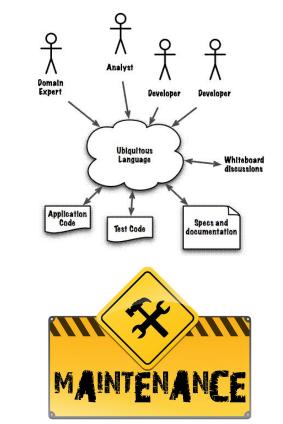


## A domain specific language?

Programming language with specifications designed to meet the constraints of a specific application area

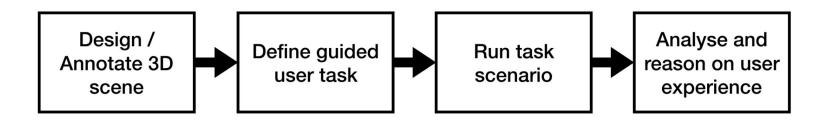
DSL oriented on describing interactions between objects composing a 3D scene and the player

- +
  - Syntax represent any concept to use with the domain
  - Experts modify without programming knowledge
  - Cost linked to the production and its maintenance
  - Performance, use processor time less efficiently



## Solution

- Define the layers
- Annotate the scene
- Create a scenario
- Play the scenario
- Analyse the user experience



## Defining the layers

The differents types of objects understood by the language

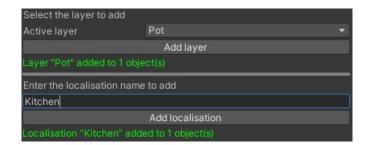
- Explain the domain
- Can be extended as needed

Camera User [Camera] Support Ground [Support] Container Obstacle Wall [Obstacle] Movable Entryway Prop [Movable] Door [Entryway] Bookshelf [Support,Container] Plant [Prop]

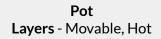
## **Annotation of objects**

- Describes the scene by annotating objects
- Language that can be extended

Allows actions without being predefined



Solution





Interaction - On the table

Interaction - User holding it

Interaction - On the counter

## **Creation of scenario tasks**

Creation of tasks for a scenario

- Type of goal
- Time limits
- Help provided

Modify a guided user task							
ID	2	Add new GUS	Add new GUST Delete cu				
Goal type	Get	▼ my_plant					
Target time	10	Baseline tim	ie 20				
Help after target	Text 👻	The plant is on top of a shelf	Help after baseline	Path 🔻			

### **Creation of scenario tasks**

- 1/Go to the garage
- 2/ Get my\_plant
- 3/ Go to the bedroom
- 4/ Place my\_plant on my\_desk



## Logs

Analyzing logs to check over time :

- Player action and interaction with the environment
- Player localisation in the environment
- Player visible items and range distance

Allow development team to analyse user experience

Where was	Player	Validate	
Timestamp (Second)		•	- 54
	i Bedroom holding my_plant M_Prop_Chair_04 at Far range		

#### **Solution**

Jeff Sauro. 2010. MeasuringU: 5-second usability tests.

### Results

#### KLM-GOMS preliminaries results

- Type of task
- Time estimate

Simulates scenario time

Description	Operator	Duration (s)
Mentally prepare (by heuristic rule 0)	М	1.35
Move cursor to departure	Р	1.10
Click mouse button	K	0.20
Mentally prepare (by heuristic rule 0)	М	1.35
Move cursor to origin	Р	1.10
Click mouse button	K	0.20
Move hands to keyboard	Н	0.40
Press pkey	K	0.20
Press akey	K	0.20
Press rkey	K	0.20
Press down arrow key	K	0.20
Press enter key	K	0.20
Press enter key	K	0.20
Total time predicted		6.90

### Solution

## Results

Preliminaries results with 10 objects :

- Annotate objects
- Create scene graph
- Record experience
- Analyse experience

With GUsT-3D DSL			Without GUsT-3D DSL		
Туре	Description	time	Туре	Description	time
K	Open the Unity scene	0.2	K	Open the Unity scene	0.2
Р	Move mouse cursor to the PFE menu option	1.1	-	Create and complete scripts to store all layer and localisation options	S
K	Select PFE menu	0.2	-	-	
Р	Move to the "Layer assign" window	1.1	-	-	-
М	Identify objects to annotate	1.35	М	Identify objects to annotate	1.35
P*n	Move cursor to objects to annotate	1.1*n	P*n	Move cursor to objects to annotate	1.1*n
K*n	Select objects to annotate	0.2*n	K*n	Select objects to annotate	0.2*n
Р	Move the cursor to the layer field	1.1	P*n	Attach a layer script to each object	1.1*n
Н	Select a layer	0.4	K*n	Type in the layer name	2*n
Р	Move cursor to "Add Layer" button	1.1	-	÷	-
K	Click "Add Layer" button	0.2	-	-	-
Р	Move the cursor to the localisation field	1.1	P*n	Attach a localisation script to each object	1.1*n
K	Enter a localisation	2	K*n	Type in the layer name	2*n
Р	Move cursor to "Add Localisation" button	1.1			-
K	Click "Add Localisation" button	0.2	-		-
Total	Total time: 11.15 + 1.3*n (24.15 for n = 10)			time: $1.55 + 7.5^*n + S(76.55 + S \text{ for } n = 10)$	

## Perspectives

#### Perspectives

## Perspective

Provide help for

- Creation of interactive environment
- Creation of game scenario
- Analyzing user experience

Useful in various domains

- Education
- Rehabilitation
- Training

• ...





## Perspectives

We are planning to do 2 case studies

- Complex environment (house interior)
- Dangerous environment (city exterior)

Applicable in any domain to

- Generate content dynamically
- Understand user experience
- Describe 3D environment with a vocabulary

Interested by using it in a specific domain

### Perspectives





# Thanks you for your attention