



MOVEMENT IN VIRTUAL REALITY

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Keywords: Software implementation, Virtual Reality, Application programming interfaces

Abstract: *In this paper we talk about the user's movement in virtual reality. The programmable part of the application is made in the C++ programming language, and as the engine for running the graphic image we used Unreal Engine developed by Epic Games. Fragments of code appear in the paper for the calculation and positioning of the user in space, on a two-dimensional plane. The work also contains instructions to be able to make the settings so that the application can be controlled by the glasses levers. The whole project is developed for HTC VIVE PRO virtual reality smart glasses.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The technology that facilitates the operation of complex systems, consuming information and turning it into knowledge (that most valuable of human resources), is the realm of virtual reality. This special issue of IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications brings together articles describing virtual reality technology and applications being pursued worldwide. We felt the time was right for a peer-reviewed special issue because the field has produced an enormous amount of hype. This can damage credibility and obscure the real industry achievements and the extraordinarily important work being done.

Although the terms cyberspace and virtual reality have been around for years, virtual reality as an industry is in its infancy. (Evans and Sutherland demonstrated the first head-mounted stereo display in 1965). The term “virtual reality” is credited to Jaron Lanier, founder of VPL Research: earlier experimenters, like Myron Krueger in the mid-1970s, used phrases like “artificial reality.” William Gibson coined “cyberspace” in his 1984 science fiction

novel, *Neuromancer*. Few technologies in recent years have evoked such fiery discussions in the technical community, and fewer still have sparked such passionate involvement of the humanities and the cultural sector. Maybe the humanities community reacts because the VR interaction is so tightly coupled to the human senses. Perhaps the cultural sector clamors for a role in the evolution of VR because the technology is finally interfacing with the human, rather than the human interfacing with the technology. Whatever the reasons, VR is more a convergence of previously disparate disciplines than a whole new branch of technology. It simply takes a fresh look at human interaction. Evolving from user interface design, flight and visual simulation, and telepresence technologies, VR is unique in its emphasis on the experience of the human participant. VR focuses the user's attention on the experience while suspending disbelief about the method of creating it. We feel that neither the devices used nor the level of interactiveness or fidelity determine whether a system is "VR." The quality of the experience is crucial. To stimulate creativity and productivity, the virtual experience must be credible. The "reality" must both react to the human participants in physically and perceptually appropriate ways, and conform to their personal cognitive representations of the microworld in which they are engrossed. The experience does not necessarily have to be realistic—just consistent. Articles by Stephen Ellis and by John Latta and David Oberg consider the frequently forgotten human side of VR systems.

Virtual reality today bears a striking resemblance to the early stages of computer graphics in the mid-1960s to the early 1970s. The products seem to be "a solution in search of a problem." As with early computer graphics products, the entry-level costs are relatively prohibitive. A complete VR environment, including workstations, goggles, body suits, and software, is in the range of \$50,000 to \$100,000. In an attempt to suggest low-cost methods, a new magazine called *PCVR: Virtual Reality and the IBM Personal Computer* (Gradecki Publishing, Laramie, Wyoming) publishes articles such as how to build a head-mounted display for under \$500. The serious limitations of the technology give rise to a number of apologists. At one VR meeting in 1992, the general attitude was, "Although the pictures aren't very good, we really don't need great pictures to achieve our objectives. They don't have to be in real time, and they don't need to be terribly realistic." We see a strong analog to the early days of computer graphics, when all that was affordable was a fairly static, monochrome, storage tube display. The early rationalization was that we didn't need color or dynamics. Time has shown that once the technology became affordable, color and realism were much preferred. We believe the VR community will reach the same conclusion as the technology progresses. Much research into the various elements of VR technology remains to be done, for example, control and navigation metaphors for HMD point-of-view applications. We need to find a comfortable way for a user to move a POV while attempting to interact with objects and simultaneously control and gather information. Mark Bolas' article discusses these issues. To accommodate both "immersive/inclusive" experiences and multiple serial users, Bolas suggests the headcoupled boom-supported stereoscopic display.

Many application areas require this type of capability to integrate a VR system into the work environment. As the price comes down, these systems will surely see success in many fields.

2. CREATING MOTION CONTROLS

In order to be able to create the movement of the character through the camera, it is first necessary to take over the characteristics of the camera and to make the connection between the C++ code and the Blueprint in which the character was created.

The camera features are taken over by the following UCameraComponent command (this command takes over the camera components), because it does not need to be visible in the entire application source, it will be private. The syntax for declaring this feature of the application is as follows:

private:

UPROPERTY(VisibleAnywhere) Classic

UCameraComponent The room;*

That *Camera creates a reference of the application components. The reference will be used in the program file, where the data processing will be done, so that the motion effect can be created. "UPROPERTY(VisibleAnywhere)" is the method by which the component is assigned the visibility property throughout the program file, after inclusion. This property is only required for the latest Unreal Engine versions (Unreal Engine versions 4.15 and later). It must be put before each function that we implement in the header.

In the program file, we must first set the attachment, and the parent class will take the basic components by yourself.

In order to make it possible to move the character in the application workspace, we need to think of that plan as a two-dimensional (2D) axis system (*figure 1*). Suppose we want to make a forwardbackward motion, this involves moving on one of the axes of the plane, preferably the "Y" axis is chosen. In order to be able to perform movement, in C++, we need a function derived from the parent class, which takes data from the forwarding vector (forwardVector) and transmits them to the class defined in the header. For the forward-backward movement we can do it by incrementing or decrementing by one or more pixels depending on the speed with which we want to move. Increment or decrement can only be done with an integer, i.e. it cannot be done in half pixels.

„For right-to-left or reverse movement, the procedure is quite similar. It involves the movement on one of the axes of the plane, different from the axis we chose for the front – rear motion, preferably choose the "X" axis. In order to be able to perform motion, in C++, we need a function derived from the parent class, which takes data from the targeting vector (rightVector) and transmits it to the class defined in the header. As with the previous function, you cannot increment or decrement by half a pixel.



Fig. 1. Example of movement plan

For the physical controllers part, we will use the levers included in the HTC VIVE PRO virtual reality package. Setting them and setting specific buttons for movement is done by Unreal Engine: Settings -> Project settings -> Input -> Bindings. More precisely, it can be seen how the settings in the following set of figures are made.

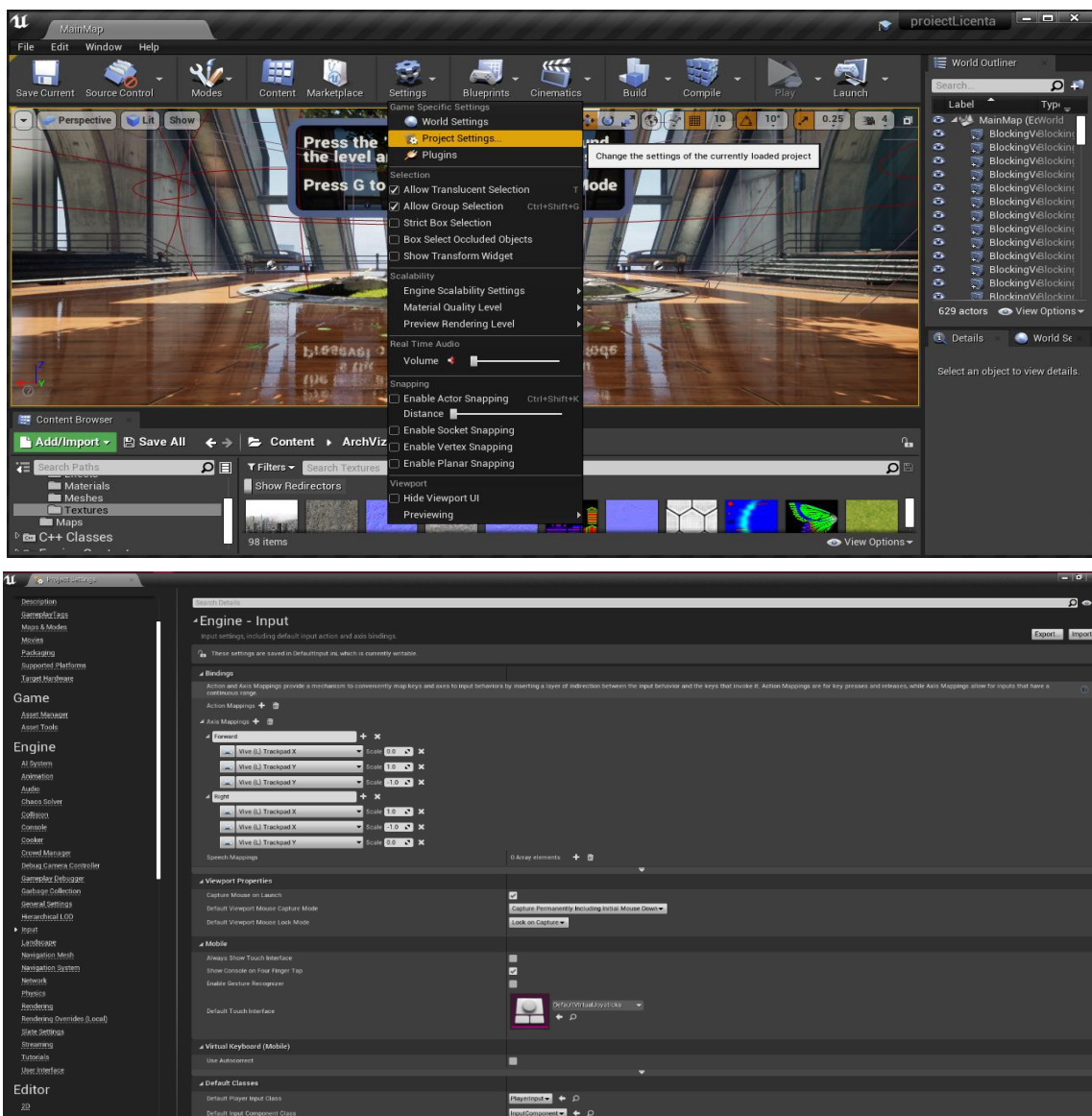


Fig. 2. Lever controller setting

To add functions (axes) we click on "+" next to "axis mappings" and a place will appear where we can enter the name of the axis, this name must be identical to the reference we gave in C++ code. From *figure 2* it can be seen that we named the axes "forward" and "right". For the "forward" axis I set the "Y" axis of the trackpad on the left joystick, and for "right" I set the "X" axis of the same trackpad. Since after several tests the movement was diagonal, I noticed that for each "forward" or "right" axis, the "X" or "Y" axis, which is not used for movement, must be set to 0.

The following set of figures exemplifies some of the code in C++ for capturing controls on levers.

```

// Called to bind functionality to input
virtual void SetupPlayerInputComponent(class UInputComponent* PlayerInputComponent) override;
private:
void UpdateDestinationMarker();
void MoveForward(float throttle);
void MoveRight(float throttle);
private:
UPROPERTY(visibleAnywhere)
class UCameraComponent* Camera;

```

Fig. 3. Header file

```

AVRCharacter::AVRCharacter()
{
// Set this character to call Tick() every frame. You can turn this off to improve performance if you don't need it.
PrimaryActorTick.bCanEverTick = true;
//Camera = CreateDefaultSubobject<UCameraComponent>(TEXT("Camera"));
VRRoot = CreateDefaultSubobject<USceneComponent>(TEXT("VRRoot"));
VRRoot->SetupAttachment(VRRoot);

Camera = CreateDefaultSubobject<UCameraComponent>(TEXT("Camera"));
Camera->SetupAttachment(GetRootComponent());

DestinationMarker = CreateDefaultSubobject<UStaticMeshComponent>(TEXT("DestinationMarker"));
//DestinationMarker = CreateDefaultSubobject<UStaticMeshComponent>(TEXT("DestinationMarker"));
//DestinationMarker->SetupAttachment(GetRootComponent());
}

// Called to bind functionality to input
void AVRCharacter::SetupPlayerInputComponent(UInputComponent* PlayerInputComponent)
{
Super::SetupPlayerInputComponent(PlayerInputComponent);
PlayerInputComponent->BindAxis(TEXT("Forward"), this, &AVRCharacter::MoveForward);
PlayerInputComponent->BindAxis(TEXT("Right"), this, &AVRCharacter::MoveRight);
}

void AVRCharacter::MoveForward(float throttler) {
AddMovementInput(throttler * Camera->GetForwardVector());
}

void AVRCharacter::MoveRight(float throttler) {
AddMovementInput(throttler * Camera->GetRightVector());
}

```

Fig. 4. Program file

3. CONCLUSION

To develop an application that serves the field of architecture, you need a team of

people who can create textures and objects, to be able to assemble them in order to come up with a useful application.

What we did in the app is the motion control part, the adjustment part collisions, introduction and modification of existing objects and the part of the user's interaction with objects in the application by inserting virtual hands using the controller.

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Authors' statement

This article was produced under the project Project RoUa 2SOFT/1.2/86 Ro-Ua Cross-border Academic Development for Research and Innovation”.