

FLIGHT SIMULATOR GAME USING UNITY 3D.

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INFO 5900: Virtual Reality and its Applications

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ABSTRACT:

The development of a flight simulator game using the Unity 3D game engine. The game is designed to provide users with a realistic flight experience by incorporating realistic physics and environmental effects. We talk about developing a virtual reality-based flying simulator that enables user involvement in a simulated setting. This setting mimics what a pilot would see in an aircraft cockpit. The pilot will be able to launch, fly, and land the aircraft under this situation. Flight simulation is the use of a computer or other simulation device to recreate the experience of flying an aircraft. Flight simulators are used for a variety of purposes, including pilot training, aircraft design, and research. There are two main types of flight simulators: fixed-base and full-motion. Fixed-base simulators are stationary and use a visual display to create the illusion of flying. Full-motion simulators are mounted on a platform that moves in response to the aircraft's movements, providing a more realistic experience. Flight simulators are used by pilots to train for a variety of tasks, including takeoffs, landings, and emergency procedures. They are also used to train pilots in new aircraft types or to refresh their skills. Flight simulators are also used by aircraft designers to test new aircraft designs. This allows designers to see how the aircraft will perform in different conditions before it is built. Finally, flight simulators are used by researchers to study human factors issues related to flying. This includes studying how pilots make decisions under pressure and how they handle emergencies. Flight simulators are an important tool for aviation safety and training. They provide a safe and realistic way for pilots to train and for aircraft designers to test new designs.

INTRODUCTION:

The primary objective of this project is to develop a virtual reality (VR) environment for familiarity of flight experience. The goal is to provide pilots under training with an immersive and realistic experience of flight take-off and landing. The VR environment is designed using Unity 3D game engine, allowing for an interactive and engaging experience. The use of VR technology allows personnel to practice emergency procedures and protocols in a safe and controlled environment, reducing response times and increasing effective preparedness during actual situations. The designed environment for this project replicates an actual cockpit, including different areas such as runway, security checkpoints etc.. The VR environment is designed using Unity 3D game engine, allowing for an interactive and engaging experience.



Layout of the VR Environment:

The layout of the VR environment replicates a real-world flight cockpit, providing users with a familiar environment for training. The environment is designed to be intuitive and user-friendly, allowing for easy navigation.

Cockpit Experience:

The cockpit experience is the experience of being in the cockpit of an aircraft. It is a unique and exhilarating experience that can be both challenging and rewarding. The cockpit is the control center of the aircraft. It is where the pilots sit and fly the aircraft. The cockpit is typically located in the front of the aircraft and is enclosed by a glass windshield. The cockpit is equipped with a variety of controls and instruments that the pilots use to fly the aircraft. The cockpit experience can be both challenging and rewarding. It is challenging because the pilots have to be constantly aware of their surroundings and make quick decisions in order to safely fly the aircraft. It is rewarding because the pilots get to experience the thrill of flying and the satisfaction of landing the aircraft safely. The use of VR technology allows for

safe and controlled training, improving personnel's preparedness and response times during actual situations.



Implementation :

The implementation of the flight simulator VR environment in airports using 3D Unity involves functionality of flight simulator that depicts the real time flight model. The following are the steps involved in the implementation of the project :

- Creating a 3D model of the aircraft: We have used a variety of 3D modeling tools to create a 3D model of the aircraft. Some popular 3D modeling tools include Blender, Maya, and 3ds Max.
- Creating a 3D environment for the aircraft to fly in: Used a variety of 3D modeling tools to create a 3D environment for the aircraft to fly in. Some popular 3D modeling tools include Blender, Maya, and 3ds Max.
- Implementing the flight physics: The flight physics is the code that calculates how the aircraft will move in response to the pilot's inputs. There are a variety of flight physics libraries available for Unity. Some popular flight physics libraries include Real Flight and Flight Gear.
- Implementing the user interface: The user interface is the way that the pilot interacts with the flight simulator. The user interface should include controls

for the aircraft's movement, as well as a display that shows the aircraft's position, speed, and altitude.

Once you have completed these steps, you will have a basic flight simulator that you can use to train pilots or test new aircraft designs.

Some additional steps we used for creating a flight simulator in Unity:

- Used a high-quality 3D model of the aircraft. The better the quality of the 3D model, the more realistic the flight simulator will be.
- Used a realistic 3D environment. The environment should include realistic terrain, weather, and lighting.
- Implemented realistic flight physics. Flight physics should accurately simulate the way that an aircraft moves in the real world.
- Implemented a user-friendly interface. The user interface is easy to use and understand.

Interactive Environment:

An interactive environment in flight simulation is a virtual world that allows the pilot to interact with the aircraft and its surroundings. This can include things like changing the aircraft's settings, interacting with the environment, and even communicating with other pilots. There are a number of benefits of having an interactive environment in flight simulation. First, it allows pilots to train in a more realistic environment. This is because they can interact with the aircraft and its surroundings in the same way that they would in a real-world flight. Second, it allows pilots to learn new procedures and techniques in a safe environment. This is because they can experiment without the risk of damaging an aircraft or putting themselves in danger. Third, it allows pilots to practice flying in different conditions. This is because the environment can be customized to simulate a variety of weather conditions, terrain, and traffic situations.

The graphics should be realistic enough to fool the pilot into thinking that they are actually flying. This can be a challenge, as it requires a significant amount of computing power.

Physics needs to be realistic enough to simulate the way that an aircraft moves in the real world. This can also be a challenge, as it requires a deep understanding of aerodynamics and other physical principles.

The environment needs to be responsive to the pilot's input. This means that the environment needs to react to the pilot's commands in a timely and accurate manner. This was challenging, as it required a high-performance computing system. As technology continues to improve, interactive environments in flight simulation will become even more realistic and immersive. This will allow pilots to train more effectively and safely, which will ultimately lead to safer skies.

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- <https://github.com/vazgriz/FlightSim>
- <https://github.com/gasgiant/Aircraft-Physics>
- https://github.com/skiwee45/Airplane_Tutorial
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Goals and Objectives:

- Training pilots: Flight simulators are used to train pilots in a variety of skills, including takeoffs, landings, emergency procedures, and instrument flying.

- Testing aircraft designs: Flight simulators are used to test new aircraft designs before they are built. This allows designers to see how the aircraft will perform in different conditions and to identify any potential problems.
- Research: Flight simulators are used to research a variety of aviation-related topics, such as human factors, pilot decision-making, and aircraft performance.
- Entertainment: Flight simulators are also used for entertainment purposes. There are a number of commercial flight simulators available that allow people to experience the thrill of flying without having to get their pilot's license.

The objectives of the project are as follows:

Flight simulators are an important tool for aviation safety and training. They provide a safe and realistic way for pilots to train and to improve their skills. As technology continues to improve, flight simulators will become even more realistic and immersive. This will allow pilots to train more effectively and safely, which will ultimately lead to safer skies. Provide a safe and realistic environment for pilots to train in.

- Allow pilots to practice flying in a variety of conditions, including different weather, terrain, and traffic situations.
- Help pilots to learn new procedures and techniques.
- Help pilots to develop their skills and judgment.
- Reduce the risk of accidents and injuries.
- Improve aviation safety.

Functionality:

Here are some of the key functionalities of the Flight Simulation.

- Vision: High-quality textures and 3D models are used to create a realistic environment that provides detailed information to the trainees.
- Sound: Realistic sounds such as ambient noise, background music, and speech are used to provide information and enhance the immersive experience.

- Animation: At least three animated objects are used in the simulation, such as moving planes, switching on sensors in cockpit, and turning on the engines, to create a realistic environment.
- Interactivity: We have used interactive events such as the plane sound, engine noise, switches to be turned on, plane flaps.
- Characters/Avatars: Animated agents with path-following behavior are used to simulate the movement of passengers and staff in the airport.
- Sensors: Three different types of sensors are implemented, such as proximity sensors to detect nearby objects, touch sensors to activate objects when touched, and time sensors to trigger events after a certain amount of time.
- Player: A player controller, such as a first-person or third-person controller, is added to the scene to allow trainees to navigate the environment.
- AI Implementation: AI functionality is implemented to simulate different behaviors of passengers and staff in the environment. The user can choose the number of agents and assign different behaviors such as selfish or altruistic, learning, or adaptive, etc.
- Interface elements: The interface is designed to include menu items such as buttons to access the different functionalities and settings of the simulation, such as changing the time of day or weather conditions.

Behaviors implemented for different agents/avatars:

The behaviors implemented for different agents/avatars in flight simulation can vary depending on the specific simulation. However, some common behaviors include:

- Navigation: Agents need to be able to navigate the environment, which may include avoiding obstacles, following a path, or reaching a goal.
- Collision avoidance: Agents need to be able to avoid colliding with other agents or objects in the environment.
- Path following: Agents need to be able to follow a path, such as a runway or a flight plan.
- Communication: Agents need to be able to communicate with each other, such as to coordinate their movements or to share information.

- Decision-making: Agents need to be able to make decisions, such as when to take off, land, or change course.

Here are some of the benefits of having different agents/avatars in flight simulation:

- More realistic simulations: Having different agents/avatars can make simulations more realistic, as it allows for more complex and dynamic interactions between the agents and the environment.
- More engaging simulations: Having different agents/avatars can make simulations more engaging, as it allows for more interaction between the user and the simulation.
- More educational simulations: Having different agents/avatars can make simulations more educational, as it allows for users to learn about different types of agents and how they interact with the environment.

Here are some of the challenges of having different agents/avatars in flight simulation:

- Increased complexity: Having different agents/avatars can increase the complexity of the simulation, as it requires more code and more data to be managed.
- Increased computational cost: Having different agents/avatars can increase the computational cost of the simulation, as it requires more processing power to simulate the interactions between the agents and the environment.
- Increased difficulty of debugging: Having different agents/avatars can increase the difficulty of debugging the simulation, as it can be more difficult to track down the source of a problem when there are multiple agents interacting with each other.

Why this application is useful??

This application for flight simulation is useful for several reasons. Flight simulation is the use of a computer or other simulation device to recreate the experience of flying an aircraft. Flight simulators are used for a variety of purposes, including pilot training, aircraft design, and research.

It provides a realistic simulation of scenarios in flight, allowing personnel to practice procedures and improve their response times in a safe and controlled environment. This can help for the real time experience to reduce the risk of injury or fatalities during actual emergencies and increase the chances of successful flight handling. The application can help identify weaknesses in pilot plans and procedures, allowing for improvements to be made before an actual emergency occurs. The ability to train in a virtual environment can also help reduce costs associated with physical training exercises, such as damage to facilities or equipment.

Virtual reality allows for the creation of complex and detailed environments that can closely mimic real-life scenarios. This provides a highly immersive and interactive experience, which allows personnel to practice emergency procedures in a way that closely mimics actual emergencies.

Overall, this application for pilots is an advantageous tool for personnel training and improving emergency readiness, while minimizing costs and risks related to physical training exercises. It is an effective and practical approach to augment personnel training and preparedness for any possible flight contingencies.

Why virtual reality is the appropriate technology??

The implementation of Virtual Reality (VR) technology for this project is deemed appropriate due to its ability to create a fully immersive and interactive simulation that allows personnel to experience in flight scenarios in a safe and controlled environment. This technology provides a valuable tool for training personnel and improving pilots' preparedness, reducing the potential costs and risks associated with traditional physical training exercises. One of the benefits of using VR technology is the creation of highly realistic and detailed environments, which is essential for simulating inflight scenarios of a cockpit. With VR, it is possible to create a virtual environment that closely mirrors the real-life conditions and scenarios of a cockpit, providing an accurate representation of the experience. This level of realism is challenging to achieve using traditional training methods, such as classroom lectures or tabletop exercises. Moreover, the use of VR technology allows for the tracking and analysis of personnel's performance. This technology can record and measure individual actions and behaviors within the virtual environment, which can then be used to provide targeted training and feedback to improve their emergency response skills. The use of VR technology also allows for the repetition of cockpit scenarios, allowing personnel to practice emergency procedures in a

variety of scenarios, helping them to be better prepared to handle real-life situations. VR technology provides a safe, effective, and realistic training environment for emergency situations in flight scenarios. By utilizing this technology, personnel can acquire critical knowledge, skills, and experience to react and respond efficiently and effectively in emergency situations, ultimately enhancing the safety and security of passengers and staff in flight.