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Assessing User Experience in older adults: a valid and tailored evaluation tool

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As novel techniques for engaging with systems emerge within virtual reality, it becomes crucial to evaluate their impact on user experience. Several tools are available for assessing user experience, computer interfaces, or displayed content (e.g. Brooke 1996, Lewis 1995, and Sauro and Dumas 2009), as well as the sense of presence within an environment (e.g., Lessiter et al 2001). However, few measures are tailored to assess the interactions prevalent in 360° environments and among older users. Many of these lack the adaptability required to evaluate evolving interaction paradigms in VR environments, especially those designed for hardware input devices or use cases. Moreover, these measures often are not in line with the advancements in technology and shifts in user demographics.

We aim to create a psychometrically valid questionnaire that can be tailored to different input devices, aiding in the evaluation of virtual reality experience quality in older adults. Through a literature review, we identified key variables for fostering positive user experiences. Subsequently, we devised a customizable questionnaire capable of accommodating the needs of older adults and new interaction modalities, addressing the challenges. This questionnaire will undergo psychometric analyses to validate its reliability and sensitivity in VR environments, enabling researchers to employ a validated instrument when evaluating novel interaction forms in virtual reality.

We will delineate the development process of this questionnaire designed to assess subjective user experiences. The final questionnaire will be presented at the conference, providing researchers with a valuable tool for assessing the aspects of user experience in VR.

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