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Simulation of Sensor Based Tracking in Second Life

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What?

This research proposes a novel type of testbed and simulation environment for sensorbased applications which is multi-user capable and extensible by new simulators and provides a three dimensional interaction.

How?

Our approach introduces a flexible architecture for an extensible test-bed for sensor-based applications. It employs Second Life to model an customizable three-dimensional environment with various interaction possibilities.

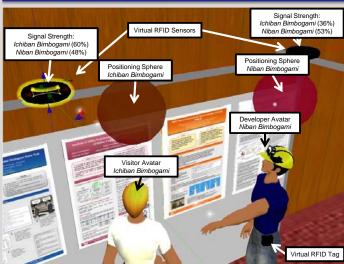
Overview

Current approaches

- · Development and testing of new systems is realized in different ways, ranging from
 - · real-world testing and
 - · miniature mock-ups for prototyping to
 - software-based simulators.
- · Some of the existing test-beds make use of simulators for the sensor devices to support the development.

- · Real-world testing requires significant resources and appropriate infrastructure
- Miniatures (e.g. made of wood or Lego) still rely on real sensors and have limitations in terms of fixed spatial structure and given equipment
- Software-based simulators so far are in two dimensions and not multi-user capable

Demo



Example of the simulated positioning system in Second Life with a Visitor Avatar experiencing the system and a Developer Avatar who is interactively adjusting the properties of a Virtual RFID Tag.

Our Approach

To our knowledge, our contribution is the first to propose an easy-to-use architecture that allows developers of sensorbased systems to utilize existing systems and simulators in combination with the virtual environment of Second Life.

3D interaction

- The test-bed can be experienced immersively
- · Anyone can interact with the environment in form of an avatar
- · 3D content can be created easily
- Spatial characteristics of sensors and sensor networks can be modeled more accurately. These characteristics can also be visualized to identify problems and interferences,
- · Sensor models and other objects can be moved easily and intuitively by 'direct' (avatar-mediated) manipulation, their parameters can also be changed by editing the object properties through the user interface of Second Life.

Extensibility

• New sensor types, such as temperature sensors, accelerometers, or light sensors, can be included.

Additional features

- 'Bots' can be programmed to simulate inhabitants of sensorbased environments
- Avatar behavior can be recorded and replayed

Architecture

