

Effective QA Team Leadership in VR Development

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the way of leadership towards quality assurance (QA) teams related to virtual reality (VR) development. In general, the entire VR field is experiencing growth, and the QA teams are challenged with issues of creating a VR reliability, immersion, and usability. In this paper, outlines the key components in good QA leadership, the teamwork between the various roles, the application of enhanced testing techniques, and the opportunity for a proper, motivated team culture. It also touches on how the leaders can approach difficult VR problems such as dealing with hardware and software, optimizing the system and evaluating utility. Real-life examples and new trends in QA leadership present ideas for practicing innovation and preserving quality in VR on the example of actual projects.

Keywords: Virtual Reality, Quality Assurance, Teamwork, Efficiency Improvement

I. INTRODUCTION

This paper discusses how the QA leaders can develop the team, come up with new approaches of testing and enhance it. Virtual reality (VR) in the form in which it existed several years ago cannot be regarded as a separate, narrowly focused sphere. It is now in common use in gaming, healthcare, education and architecture. This growth requires some good QA processes to ensure that running great experience for the user is smooth and reliable. However, the development of VR is challenging, which creates some special considerations for QA teams. Some of them are testing on different hardware, solving such issues as, for example, lagging or ensuring that the manipulation of objects in the virtual world looks natural to the users. It is important for QA teams to be able to rise about these challenges with good leadership. QA manager must have technical qualification, top-sight vision, and interpersonal skills to give stimulus to developers, designers and testers. They also must employ such contemporary elements as automated testing, testing in AI, as well as hands-on testing in virtual reality to address the high requirements of VR projects. The book is devoted to the peculiarities of VR development and provides leaders with a clear instruction on how to achieve better outcomes in shorter amounts of time.

II. INTRODUCTION OF QUALITY STANDARDS IN VR DEVELOPMENT

According to the Virtual Reality (VR) development, setting standard quality indicators is one of the primary tasks of the QA Team Leader. This process starts with identifying realistic and quantifiable benchmarks which guarantee above-par quality, visual authenticity, and interaction precision. For examples, steady frame rates, high-definition graphic quality and precise hand tracking are some of the factors that make the experiences effective and natural. These goals form the basis of a product that provides the needed value to the end user while addressing the needs presented by the different VR platforms such as the Oculus and

HTC Vive [9], [13]. These quality standards must also have to be aligned with stakeholders' expectations in order to meet the both the intended technical quality and user experience expectations of the product by the QA Team Leader. This involves communicating oneself with developer, designers and the ultimate users with a view to taking their feedback and set an acceptance criteria. Integration tests are cooperative, which makes them compatible with different types of VR platforms and their applications, so increasing their usage rate and popularity among users [12], [15].

Managing the problems inherent to the VR environment, including latency and motion sickness, is one of the most important steps at the QA level. Because what a user is doing in VR will highly likely affect the normal flow of activities in real life such as working, eating or even resting, any latency that is experienced will interfere with the immersion of the user in the virtual reality environment. Applying reductions in motion sickness include reducing the motion-to-photon latency and stabilizing visual points to make certain that the users can feel comfortable when interacting with VR systems. Moreover, comfortable and easy to use interfaces and flexible environments are valued to satisfy the existing user requirements [3], [7]. These goals are met by the QA Team Leader who has the responsibility of putting efficient testing procedures in the entire process of development. It includes basic initial check of all the core features of the system, repeated testing to fine tune the performance of the system, and last test to check the compatibility of the hardware and robustness of the system against high intensity use. Because of this, a more structured QA process improves customer satisfaction, guarantee the reliability of the offering and make it enjoyable. Thus, following extensive definitions of the integral quality procedures, the QA Team Leaders can significantly contribute to the provision of the VR experiences that can adequately respond to the further development of the users' expectations and stakeholders' demands [8], [11].

III.SUPERVISING THE WORK RHYTHM OF THE TEAMS AND COORDINATING THE FUNCTION OF THEIR WORK SCHEDULE

When it comes to learning in VR environment, flexibility is key since something can emerge as a challenge very soon. This flexibility is kept alive by a QA Team Leader who ensures that a particular task is performed prioritized by its core features and value, thus offering the team an opportunity to fix high inheritance functions as they work on [9]. For better expediency the leader utilizes vulnerability assessment tools and the testing solutions. These tools help in early detection of problems and guarantee swift treatment of defects enhancing cumulative effectiveness. What is beneficial for the development of VR is that the test can quickly run through various subsequent similar scenarios, proof of correctness on different environments and platforms. Streamline is critical to maintaining the speed and quality of VR development and the QA Team Leader is among the most critical personnel.[2] If applicable the leader checks that responsibilities are properly delegated, and time schedules complied with while in agile development more emphasis is put on delivering the results when physically required in the process. Integrated into the work, the use of these tools helps the QA Team Leader reduce the volume of manual testing efforts, which will take a lot of time and keep resources tied up [8]. This is because poor time management might lead to some tasks congesting the entire development process. It should be noted that according to project circumstances, the QA Team Leader should be able to fit it into a scheme of preferred functionalities depending on the priorities of the project and correlate them with milestones and timeframes. This approach allows for faster cycles through a user-centered design which contributes to the success of the VR product by providing checks to ensure timely completion of the project [12], [3].

IV. TESTING TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES OF EMMERSIVE ENVIRONMENT

Performing a few tests in VR development helps software components to be smoothly integrated with the hardware components, and this is particularly important to guarantee users' interesting experience. QA

Team Leader being at the heart of the process is responsible for coordinating the checking of factors that define usability of the product, including rendering speed, synchronism of the displayed sound and pictures, and navigation means. Maintaining reasonable graphics quality, synchronizing the sound with the graphics, and making the user's actions correct and timed properly are significant for VR environment creation. These aspects have to satisfy technical criteria as well as consumer requirements for the product to endure [12]. The QA Team Leader also needs to make sure that the VR product also has cross-platform compatibility testing across different VR Headsets, Motion Tracking Devices and Controllers. To ensure that the hardware compatibility is smooth, testing has to be done across different hardware settings so as to ensure that the product can work well in spite of the hardware used in handling the virtual reality experience across the range. This would ensure users are able to enjoy the efficacy of the product through the equipment they possess; thus the exclusion of enhanced quality does not disrupt the value according to [11].

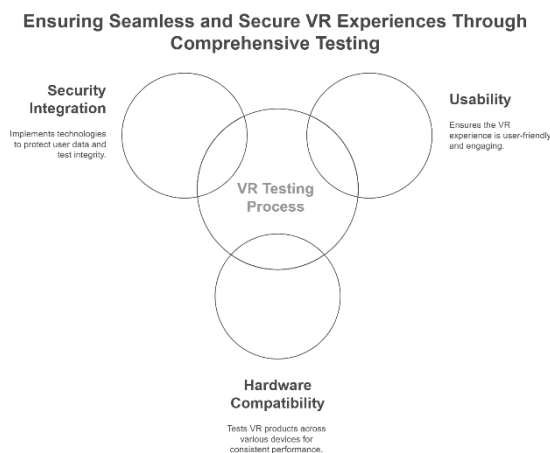


Fig.1. Work rhythm of Team

Further, complex methodologies like hybrid cryptosystems and block chain-based architectures are quickly adopted into the testing part of VR development. These technologies assist in keeping the integrity of test results while at the same time increasing security during the process this is primarily crucial depending on whether user information is sensitive and that, the VR environment must be secure. [5] discuss In this manner, through the application of these intricate methods, QA Team Leader is assured that VR product not only provides the proposed experience to the users but also the goods and services are consistent with the data protection and security standards laid down in the literature [9], [3].

A. *Setting up and leading a QA Team for Virtual Reality Work.*

Establishing and developing a quality assurance team for VR projects involve a systematic approach of designing because VR development poses certain challenges different from most development projects. To ensure the success of a VR project, a QA leader must focus on several key elements:

1). Making the right hires with skills in VR. The first and most important input is to find the right talent for the given task. In VR development, specialized knowledge is required in areas such as, spatial testing: Analyzing the way the users of virtual environments get along in the case of navigation through the environment or interaction with objects that require touch in terms of ease of use without the occurrence of effects such as motion sickness [9]. Hardware integration for the hardware and OS compatibility, it becomes

the testers' responsibility to check that all the parts can work together cohesively across the variety of VR platforms [11].

2). *Great Opportunities*: Opportunities that can enable efficient working together of developers, designers, and testers even the simplest forms of developing VR are inherently multidisciplinary. A QA team leader must ensure that, Developers, designers, and testers are engaged in a series of cooperation throughout the development project. The effective communication is established so the frequent inter-team meetings are held to discuss the progress and possible concerns [9]. More collaboration is achieved, and feedback loops are incorporated that facilitate faster problem solving in order to enhance the quality of VR [11].

3). *Encouragement*: Demanding approaches to constant improvements and updates, The VR environment is continuously changing, and a QA team must stay updated to current trends. In order to encourage constant improvement, Implement periodic seminars on the newest devices in VR, available software, and most successful methods [9]. As Virtual Reality is a dynamic field invite people within the team to attend VR Conferences or Workshops thus making sure that the team continues improving its knowledge on the subject [11]. Encourage everyone in a team to be eager to increase their knowledge and skills, so that team members would be ready to conquer new tasks and to apply new technologies in their work.

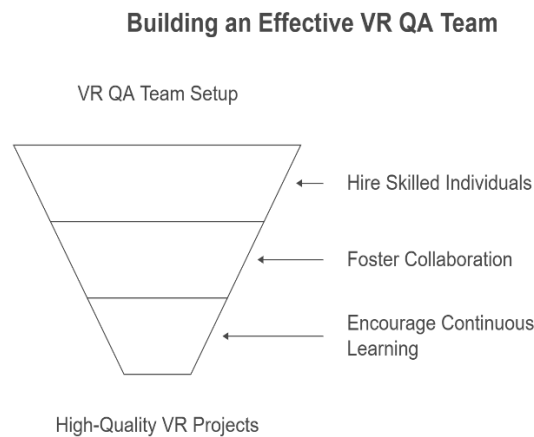


Fig.2. Effective VR QA Building

B. The Development of a Strong Testing Environment

Testing framework is the foundation of quality assurance in VR applications. Two aspects can be said of the concept – it is also beneficial in making sure that problems are recognized at an early stage, dealt with and potentially rectified in a standardized way. Of all the testing frameworks, two provide flexibility and adaptability to the context as outlined below.

1). *Early Detection of Issues*: To be specific, recognizing issues in the development life cycle helps avoid issues like redesigning, which account for large proportions of costs. This is possibly because early detection prevents bug generation and compatibility problems from escalation to other development stages, thus translating to enhanced successive development phases. In VR contexts specially, early detection is important as it allows one to addresses issues concerning motion sickness inducing stimuli, frequent rendering problems, or system performance problems as soon as they appear. Every sprint at Agile is designed to be a cycle on its own, which means that there is always a proper quality review conducted, which would not allow a lot of technical debt to build up [17].

2). *Frequent Feedback*: When it is done continuously it gives regular feedback loop between the testers developers and the stakeholders. Such feedback is provided frequently, which means that if teams faced new client expectations or some new unexpected technical conditions, they will be able to address such concerns swiftly. Such a feedback mechanism is crucial in VR development where user immersion and interaction take central stage and where adjustment can be made to, for example, enhance UI design, to improve latency, or to enhance system reactivity. Furthermore, by consistently reviewing their iterations, the developers remain in touch with users and general trends in VR development [17].

3). *Collaboration*: Test automation empowers individuals involved in testing while agile testing encourages collaboration of the developers, testers and the stakeholders in order to achieve certain goals and objectives. This increases over efficiency in problem solving as well as increases cross functional thinking such as implementing design changes recommended by the testers into the development cycle. In the case of VR projects more than in any other kind of project, collaboration is useful since it incorporates multiple fields such as software engineering, modeling, and interface design. Such an environment guarantees that important feedback from a number of stakeholders are not missed at Agile hence the formation of a team-based environment.

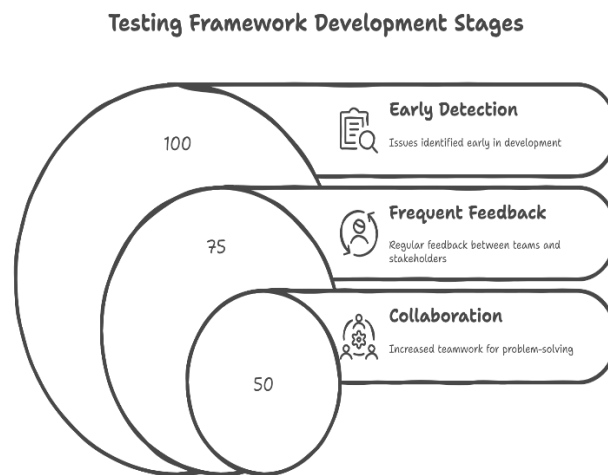


Fig.3. Testing Framework Development Plan

C. *Iterative Testing*

Iterative testing is a cycle of improvement of the applications via the developmental, testing and refining cycles done successively. It enables the developers to maintain that progress continuously and address problems as well as changes at the earliest and later stages of development. It is especially useful in the VR projects, as user experience and the performance parameters should be enhanced in detail [17].

Iterative Testing Cycle in VR Development

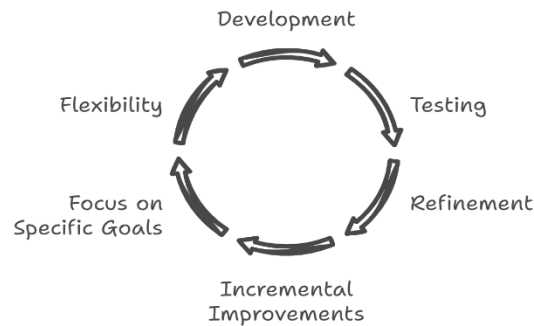


Fig.4. Iterative Testing Cycle

1). *Incremental Improvements*: This overcomes the problem of having to produce large and complex changes in a system that must be thoroughly tested. If specific aspects only are addressed in each iteration, then the likelihood of including new problems is greatly minimized. This process ensures that if there is any mistakes that has made it then is corrected independently without having to bring other problems in the application. For VR applications this is especially critical because even minor issues like lag or poorly rendered graphics will significantly degrade a user's immersive experience. Recurring improvements ensure a stable environment to develop a sound and interesting application [17].

2). *focus on Specific Goals*: Each iteration is aimed at a specific set of functionalities or features: developers and testers do not get confused in a large amount of work; they can concentrate. This approach is quite effective as it tailored to ensure all aspects of the application are tested, from motion tracking, haptic feedback to graphical rendering. For instance, a VR game's prototype might be centered on developing interaction mechanics for one iteration and environment design for another iteration. The like focused cycles assist to enhance the standards and credibility of the performance for each specific feature S13-17.

3). *Flexibility*: The iterative model allows developers to adapt the development process due to results attained in former cycles or new changing needs. This is especially important in VR as during development itself it is possible to hear from users about certain comfort or usability problems which were not considered initially, for example, motion sickness or incorrect gestures interpretation. Citing the importance of accommodating the user during development, iterative testing empowers the developers to alter their design based on what stakeholders have to say about it [17]. At a glance, this cyclical and iterative model fits well within the context of VR projects where there's constant churn in technology or user requirement that may call for continual improvement. Test-First is not only effective in producing more effective products – it encourages a more dynamic process of development. Feel free to ask me anything if you want more information!

D. The adaptability of Agile and Iterative Testing Frameworks in the Development of VR.

The use of stages of agile and iterative testing both provides substantial benefits for addressing the uncertain and ever-evolving nature of VR development. These approaches guarantee that the final product gives the best value in both performance and usability and are vital in VR applications. Here are the key ways these frameworks embrace adaptability:

1). *Accommodating Evolving User Needs*: The VR applications may themselves be developed by adaptation through user feedback especially on the aspects such as the user interface or user navigation as well as immersion. Test-vectored and spiral testing paradigms enable developers to fine-tune as they go along depending on users which guarantee user satisfaction at the end of development. This testing cycle serves to come up with products that are more user-oriented, and that correlate better to the market demands [17].

2). *Continuous Feedback Loop*: The first advantage of these frameworks is that they provide a constant feedback mechanism. This provides a stable ground for assessing the volatility of the project hence instead of waiting for a long term to review the project, the, technical and user experience issues are addressed as they come. In VR where timely, performing and interactivity is crucial; the testing and feedback assist to correct the deviations within the development process and help achieve the right quality [17].

3). *Integration of New Features*: VR technologies experience a process of constant updates and appear with new features and capacities. [4] With Agile and iterative models these advancements can be easily incorporated within the development cycle. While the new hardware, improving the type of the rendering method, or picking up the new methods of the user interactivity, the working with such frameworks provides the teams with the opportunity to work in the framework of the VR technologies perspective [15].

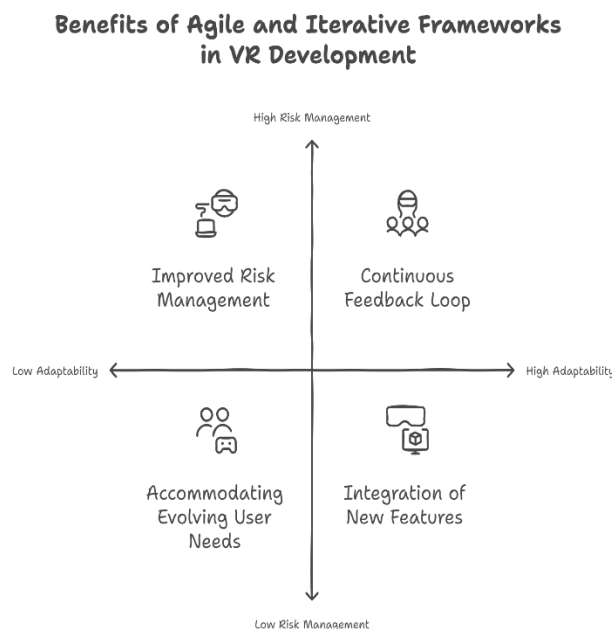


Fig.5. Agile and Iterative in VR Development

4). *Improved Risk Management*: The risks are high often compromising development to achieve value such as the chancing of rendering performance or losing it all together, or that of motion sickness. It is important to note that agile or iterative frameworks do not allow for a propensity for major issues as a result of testing on small problems that occurs during each development cycle. A major advantage of using this proactive approach is its ability to minimize the impact of systematic failure and regain stabilization within a relatively shorter period whenever the matter is detected [17]. Incorporating flexibility of the method within the agile and iterative frameworks enables the VR developers to come up with quality, friendly, easy to use as well as technically sound applications.

V. LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature Review: Due to the increasing complexity of Virtual Reality Development, there is often the Quality Assurance (QA) Team that oversees the project. Erstwhile, Virtual Reality (VR) has transformed industries by offering stretched and real-world experiences in gaming, healthcare, education and training. Due to complexity of VR development, its quality assurance (QA) is crucial to consider as the functionality, user experience and reliability is an important consideration. As with any complex process, the ability for professional management is critical for successful QA team performance in VR applications, such as HW-SW synergy, real-time response, and the interaction of users with the created environments. This review combines literature related to leadership techniques, QA issues and trends, and VR innovations to showcase promising practices for managing a QA team.

A. *Problems Facing QA in VR Development*

[6] Pointed out that compared to the traditional applications, QA for VR applications is more challenging. There are three metrics called presence, interactivity, and immersion, which must be considered in VR experiences and which are impossible to measure in terms of functionality. To be more realistic, or even to remain tolerable, the QA should mimic real conditions, such as feedback and delays, which decrease immersion [2]. Hardware dependency is another challenge – applications for VR need to function on Oculus, HTC Vive, and PlayStation VR and others. It is further important to perform screenings for compatibility and orientation problems in order to optimize performance [1]. Interactivity is highly important in Virtual Reality since the failure to deliver image frame rates higher than a minimum standard and latency below that threshold may result in discomfort like motion sickness. Stability under prolonged use requires stress testing for the stability that the quality needs [10], none of the sites is fully accessible for people with disabilities. QA must however ensure that the application is SC- and PDAA-compliant – that is, applications must meet certain requirements regarding physical accessibility to disabled individuals and a high degree of customization for disabled users [14]. These factors make VR QA to be specialized and quite complicated.

B. Leading QA Teams: Approaches and Best Practices, in leadership of the VR development, QA needs to work hand in hand with other stakeholders, embrace technology, and level of creativity. They should require the developers, designers and hardware engineers to form one single team responsible for dealing with the problems as and when they arise in the development phase. This is because the teams allow the end users and the developers together to come up with better products [9]. Applying working models and iterations makes testing always a part of the improved process during the project [5]. By using, for instance, automatic and intelligent approach to testing, the primary efficiency increases, and the evaluation of VR applications is facilitated in terms of the rapid search of functional problems [7, 15]. Upgrading trainings regarding new prospective of VR technologies like haptic feedback & eye tracking enhance the team's performance & capability to adapt new issues in VR development [13].

QA Challenges and Strategies in VR

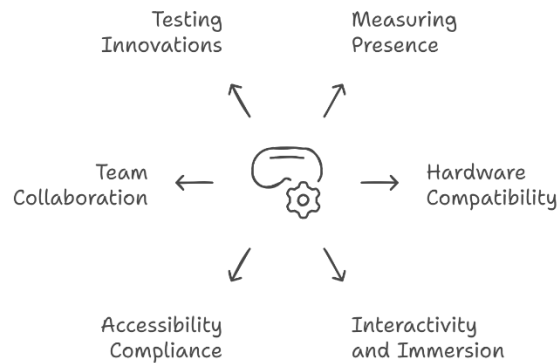


Fig.6. QA challenges and Plans in VR

FUTURE WORK

A focus on quality assurance (QA) of virtual reality (VR) applications implies that the development of this field in the future will develop in parallel with further innovations in the sphere of VR technologies. As for the future research, one can make an effort to enhance the precision of automated testing of applications in VR environments in relation to the future enhancements of new HW/SW components. Of the proposed areas, one of them is the fine-tuning of the testing procedures as applied to the VR environment in order to increase the practicality and relevance of the obtained results in relation to the real-world user interactions. Furthermore, the VR simulations can be complemented by extending the theory of ontological design where it can make the analysis of ontological patterns and characteristics of user experiences in virtual environment more profound [7].

The second major growth area is the employment AI within QA. AI has the ability to radically transform the manner in which QA teams determine and address the problem sectors affecting latency, motion sickness, and compatibility issues among various VR platforms. Automated testing could minimize human intervention, enhance the speed of testing and provide solutions for identifying performing weakness of VR applications in shorter span of time. For instance, [16] shows that AI and automation should be integrated into design education, which can help design improved learning algorithms for smarter QA of VR [3]. Future research could establish the effects of engaging VR for training and quality assurance in the medical and industrial fields, based on other research showing that VR's application for mimicking complicated tasks [9]. Implementing virtual environments in product design as in the case of Virtual Reality in construction safety systems is yet another opportunity of improving QA functionalities by addressing certain requirements in real time [10].

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On behalf of the authors of this work, we would like to thank the individuals and teams involved in this research. I would like to thank specifically the developers, designers and the most of all testers who shared their understanding of challenges with VR QA. As for the current and future work, we also recognize the rapid new development of VR technologies that is also defining the future of QA in the field. The professionals' workshops have proved effective in analyzing and coming up with practices that help the entire VR industry overcome obstacles.

DISCUSSION

During the assessment of the state of virtual reality QA, several interesting topics to discuss and work on emerge. First, due to a specific nature of VR systems, these problems cannot be solved with the help of regular testing methods because the nature of VR systems is too different from the usual ones. AI and machine learning have made an application in automated testing that has the potential to identify problems, which may not be visible to human testers such as motions sickness UI issues or variation in performance between operating systems. Further, the QA of the game is integrated with the user feedback, when the user feedback is used to adjust the UX in VR according to the user needs and preferences. This leaves the problem of how to accurately replicate actual user activity and even usage scenarios in a fire-setting situation most effectively. Even with today's sophisticated testing tools, it is possible to test only basic functionality all the while not coming remotely close to mimicking real-world usage. Consequently, there is a possibility for the future studies aimed at identifying new testing approaches, like prediction in terms of actual users' interactions with VR content. Furthermore, the integration of QA professionals into VR developers will play a critical role in making testing a famed of creating VR, and not an afterthought.

CONCLUSION

This work underscores the importance of quality assurance (QA) in VR technologies development. In the light of the growing use of the technology in various fields like education, health facility and entertainment among others, a good QA strategy and process become invaluable. In our holistic assessment, it is clear that next generation testing tools, in combination with an emphasis on actual user activity, is significant for rendering superior virtual reality environments. Application of the automated testing techniques alongside the use of the Artificial Intelligence solutions for testing mark points is expected to provide much enhanced quality assurance procedures that will address the need to provide quality and reliable VR applications. Owing to the development of more complex systems of VR the expanded hardware and software, the problem of testing has become critical and requires more efficient some solutions. Integrated testing especially using AI can improve the efficiency in identifying problems such as latency, motion sickness and user interface that are inherent in the AR application. Moreover, integrating them with real life simulation will enhance understanding of flow nature of human behavioral response and actual performance of the systems.

However, VR technology is progressing fast, and as a result, qualified and more flexible approaches to QA are also required. Perhaps, the more conventional testing paradigms may be incapable of dealing with the constantly evolving nature of VR. Future QA strategies will have to provide for its ability to adapt to these changes, as well as general implementation of effective measures that can help to prevent numerous challenges that are more likely to appear with the further growth of the intricacy of VR applications and with their increasing integration with other cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence and block chain. Any future of development of VR is based on the elaboration of these kinds of QA approaches to make not only the systems themselves accurate and reliable but also the final experiences which user gets. While VR keeps on enhancing fields and its penetration is going up, it is pivotal to notice the need to enhance QA practices, while, at the same time, encouraging development. The testing tools, borrowing wiser approaches, and the encouragement on creating technologies that are built for users, the social application of VR can be achieved to effectively deliver real and believable experiences across the many industries.

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