

THE ROLE OF VIRTUAL REALITY IN IMPROVING SOFTWARE TESTING METHODS AND TOOLS

¹IHOR HUNKO, ²OLEKSANDR MULIAREVYCH, ³RUSLAN TRISHCHUK, ⁴SERHII ZYBIN, ⁵PETAR HALACHEV

¹National Technical University of Ukraine “Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”, Ukraine, National Academy of Statistics, Accounting and Audit, Ukraine

²Computer Engineering Department, Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine

³Department of Reprography of the Publishing and Printing Institute, National Technical University of Ukraine “Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”, Ukraine
Information Technology Security Department, Faculty of Cybersecurity and

⁴Software Engineering, National Aviation University, Ukraine

⁵University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Bulgaria

ABSTRACT

This report focused on the utilisation of VR in software testing methods and tools, highlighting its impact on immersive test environments, three-dimensional analysis, collaboration and remote testing, as well as automation and optimisation. Testing sites are based on VR solutions that turn virtual reality environment where testers can easily identify bugs and usability issues. Three-dimensional representations offer a look at the multiple functions of software and its interactive nature in virtual space; they also help in improving accuracy and diagnosis of test results. As the collaboration and remote testing can be carried out in VR suitable settings, it helps to overcome space barriers, ensuring seamless communication and team work between testers and developers. Compared with the traditional test processes, automation and optimisation in VR-based testing systemise the workloads, save labour and allocate the resources efficiently, therefore, improve the testing outcomes in quality and quantity. The paper carried out the advantages and difficulties that came with application of VR technology in software testing and later suggesting methods that could be employed when adopting VR-based testing methods. It not only shows different study areas where improvement of the software testing is possible but also helps to develop these areas by inspiring creativity, innovation and progress. Knowledge dissemination and conceptualisation strategies were proposed in the paper, and calls for collaboration as the approaches for bridging the knowledge gap and enabling a deeper appreciation of the VR-powered software testing potential. In the end, the main goal of this article was to provide stakeholders in software sphere with data about the ways a virtual reality technology can help to retrain the process of testing software, also to encourage organisations to find other ways for improving quality and user experience. By strategically incorporating VR technology, organisations can optimise their testing procedures to enhance the development of high-quality software products, ultimately strengthening their position in the rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Keywords: *Testing Software Programs, VR Technology, Debugging, VR Simulation, Manual Testing.*

1. INTRODUCTION

VR is a fast-growing sector with a future of dramatically transforming multiple areas as is evident in the software testing industry. The traditional software testing methods even they are very reliable, but there is also the limitation of that such as they cannot test in real-world scenarios, the interactions of the complex users, and connect with people who are on the other side of the globe. The first advantage for VR to be used in software testing is the chance to have all these issues responded positively, for example VR testing turns three-dimensional analysis of software system possible, collaboration in development process can be

enhanced, and automation and optimization projects can be improved. The main purpose of this article is to look at the role played by virtual reality (VR) in the level of software testing technique and tools by analysing their merits and demerits followed by a look in their future innovation.

An application's functionality must be verified before it is made available to the public. Typically, this program must undergo testing to ensure its functionality. This involves manually evaluating the software in a controlled test environment following a pre-established test plan. On the other hand, manual testing takes a lot of time,

repetition, and monotony. The application will not receive any updates until manual testing is complete. To resolve issues that have already arisen, developers wait for test results. Over time, the testers' inability to give their work their whole concentration is caused by their repeated tasks. Thus, significant mistakes may go unnoticed [1]. The Consortium for Information & Software estimates that in 2020, the cost of subpar software amounted to over two trillion dollars in the United States alone. The problem of timing and monotonicity can be resolved by automating repetitive testing [2].

One of the most important phases of the software development process is testing or debugging. Testing is essential in both virtual reality (VR) application development and traditional software development to ensure the quality of the end products. However, because VR application testing depends on a variety of platforms and devices, including headsets and PCs, it is inherently more difficult and complicated. For example, during the testing phase, developers must constantly put on and take off their VR head-mounted display (HMD), which takes time and might lead to motion sickness. Furthermore, it's not always possible for developers to access VR HMDs to accurately assess the calibre of their work [3].

Numerous academic and professional communities have confirmed the value of software testing and quality assurance. Researchers have conducted several testing practices studies using a variety of methodologies, including as large-scale quantitative and qualitative empirical investigations and interviews with human developers, in order to address the issues and provide suitable solutions. Additionally, test-practice studies have been published for a variety of application kinds, including machine learning and mobile apps [4] among many others. The complex design of VR projects, the captivating immersion of the VR experience for users, and the inadequate technological support for VR development, debugging, and testing create challenges when testing VR apps. Up till now, developer support issues including performance, code dependencies, code hearing, and scent have been the main focus of VR research initiatives [5]. Research on gaming applications is also prevalent; it includes tests of games that are repeated and analyses of the distinctions between games and non-games. Nevertheless, the specifics, functionality, performance, and design quality of VR software testing have not been studied in the literature yet. We decided to perform a qualitative and quantitative

review of previous trials in VR apps in order to address this issue. The popularity, calibre, and efficacy of previous VR testing are examined in this article as they assess 97 VR apps, ranging from side projects to those backed by major corporations and organisations like Microsoft and Unity Technologies [5, 6].

A. purpose of the study

The purpose of this report was multifaceted and served several key objectives:

1. Educational: Define the software industry's key players: developers, testers, project managers, and decision-makers as the audience to explain to them about VR technology advances that are taking place as for the software testing purpose. Through the adding of the study on advantages and highlights of utilizing VR technology embodied in testing the report hopes to extend the knowledge and understanding level of stakeholders on innovative testing approach.

2. Strategic Planning: We strive to give the advice and guidance to organizations about strategic planning and management in terms of introduction VR-based testing tools and methodologies. When the report describes possible implications of virtual and immersive testing environments, application of three-dimensional analysis, collaboration and remote testing, automation and optimization processes, employers will be armed with an array of information needed to successfully assess whether VR can be worked into their testing processes.

3. Innovation Promotion: The goal was to drive innovation in the software testing industry by demonstrating the transformative potential of VR technology. The main point of the report was to demonstrate the variety of VR uses in VR in software tests and the tools of such tests to underline the importance of software teams and other role players to look for new testing avenues, and thus, to improve software quality and the user experience.

4. The knowledge Sharing: Is the core of our goal in knowledge sharing and spreading best practices among members of the software testing community. The objective was to blend the results of current researches, trends as well as practical tips about the use of VR in testing which will stimulate multidisciplinary collaboration and knowledge sharing among specialists so that the community of software testing professionals may be able to progress and raise the testing methodologies capacity.

B. Objectives of the Study

1. **Examine Immersive Testing Environments:** The purpose of this study is to see whether VR technology delivers a level of reality that is almost real or makes an outcome even more immersive. Yet, no matter what, let this be said too: the main application point of the software using different methods being tested will bring out bugs and usability-related problems that are more often than not hard to detect manually.

2. **Analyze Three-Dimensional Analysis:** This research can find many different facets and attempts to show the software testing from the three-dimensional side. VR will be implemented to ensure that testers can swiftly and easily visualize and deal with the software in an environment simulated close to real. Bringing in some extra details expands the chances for the worded questions to be as real as possible in a real-life case.

3. **Investigate collaboration and remote testing:** One obstacle that aims at control is the use of VR and the cooperation of users who are taking part in the software testing. Therefore, the study will be written to present ways in which VR supplies not only geographically remote team members but also others who won't be there. The essence of my thesis will be centered on the constructive role with which VR helps remote team members in their communication, collaboration, and analysis of problems.

4. **Explore Automation and Optimization:** The main goal of this research is that the probability of using VR must be changed from the attempt of manually doing tests to automatic tests and utilizing test case generation, execution, and analysis tools, which finally become more competent. Thus, the study not only provides the details of the product optimization methods for business with the most excellent options for consideration as starting points but also allows other key factors to be reassessed and additional ones to be brought to the board.

5. **Evaluate Benefits and Challenges:** Impartiality and exactness are anticipated to be the central features of VR; thus, this technology will strictly reflect corresponding traits of the standardization of the software testing process. I intend to make a detailed description of the points of transition highlighting the good experience. Also, these areas will get highlighted through which businesses may easily find it difficult to tackle.

6. **Provide Recommendations and Future Research Directions:** The last stage of this paper will focus on the fact that companies are increasingly likely to utilize video reality simulators for training purposes. In fact, our review hopes to cover more

research areas that have not been covered by existing studies, and also, point out the gaps that require further research. We did this purposefully to grab the focus of the people who were viewing it for the first time.

C. Scope of the Study:

- a. In-depth examination of how VR technology can improve different software testing aspects.
- b. Probing at how virtual reality, for instance, aids in realism in testing environments; enables 3D analysis and facilitates collaboration over long distances.
- c. Looking at how VR can be used with automation tools to create test cases and optimize testing processes.
- d. Benefits of using VR in software testing will be analysed as well as its challenges from an evaluative perspective.

D. Limitations

- a. Designing or implementing specific platforms or tools for VR based tests
- b. A more technical discussion about the hardware or software of virtual reality beyond their application to software testing.
- c. VR applications beyond the focus on software testing such as entertainment, education and anything else not related to these.
- d. An extensive financial analysis or cost-benefit analysis of adopting VR in software testing.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

a. Introduction

The problem selection criteria stress the purpose which is to offer the software testing by means of VR and there is a clear view of it improving all software testing and technology of VR is available for this process. The criteria for literature search concerns the relevance of intersection between VR and software testing, publishing within the last 5 years and the authenticity through verified sources. The literature should offer and cover in proficiency such areas as immersion and automation, be based on different approaches from the theoretical to the empirical, and, finally, show the methodological rigor. In this way, such criteria determine if the research is focused on the main, solvable problems and is based on the up-to-date and credible results of relevant studies.

b. Describe VR testing.

Virtual reality testing involves simulating the environment, user interactions, and software design consequences using VR equipment and software. Virtual reality testing has applications in education, gaming, healthcare, and engineering. It is possible evaluating the design's usability, usefulness, accessibility, and aesthetics as well as the users' emotional and cognitive reactions by using virtual reality testing [7].

c. Why would Virtual Reality Testing be of use and how can it be implemented?

VR device comprise a motion tracking system and a display showing the virtual scenario for the beginning of the VR testing process. Therefore, it is essential to implement a VR program in order to design this virtual environment and its interactions within the digital space. This software is necessary, especially for applications such as computer games, 3D modelling tools, and frameworks. In addition, it is necessary to develop user testing methodology in order to obtain the input and build test scenario that would help the audience to go through the process. This may be achieved by using such tools as questionnaires, surveys, interviews, wafting, or observations. An efficient VR test certainly requires each of these elements, which needs improving [8].

d. What benefits can be gained by those who use VR testing services?

VR assessment involves novel methods for predicting patient recovery and treatment standings. There are also innovations in the utilisation of VR in the fields of orthopaedics, stroke rehab, mental health, and critical care. As well, VR testing improves realism, and both impulsive response and distraction are being reduced. Finally, altogether, VR allows the potential to offer a more intense form of rehab, if it is properly designed, it can become an exact copy of your software; users would then have a sense of being in the technology, and interacting with it. Another attribute of VR is that it will allow trying out new features, UI/UX and functionalities that physically are not feasible in the real-world. Finally, it will give enough data with strictly targeted user input to further enhance the design of your product.

e. Which obstacles will we encounter with VR testing?

In addition to cost, the VR experiment may have innovation and usability concerns, ethical

considerations, and potential risks. For the consumer and the developer, who may not be able avert the expenses of the virtual reality devices and software that will necessitate the sophisticated hardware and software requirement, are put out of their reach. Expert making VR software, however, cannot be trivial due to the complexity, which demands thoroughly addressed 3D modelling, animation, programming, and user interface design. Ethical issues should be solved concerning the use of VR for testing: permission, privacy, safety, and deception are the subjects to be taken care of. In addition, the users may be faced with VR testing downsides, some of them being fatigue, motion sickness, eye strain, and disorientation, thus the need to be pre-tested and post-tested for reduction purposes [10].

f. Why it is hard to determine the results of VR tests?

VR testing, also known as immersive testing is a new and important method designers have adapted to tests the performance of software designs. It refers to mostly setting diverse conditions at the start, so it can offer the feedback that is needed by users and also the production of design solutions that are different. Perhaps most of the challenges are those that the ordinary person has to think about and have strategies for and these are the ones to do with cost/complexity/ethics/side effects among others. Before diving into the VR testing process, it is crucial to establish clear objectives. Identification of the most appropriate VR hardware and software is one of the crucial factors to consider in the process. Creating a VR environment that accommodates the user characteristics is very vital. Using an efficient User Acceptance testing methodology is also an important thing to do because the method allows the collection and analysis of the user response which must be reliable informative careful implementation of the good clinical practices helps you to achieve positive outcome. [11].

The study of the existing resources related to the topic and their results: In the existing scientific works, a variety of aspects related to using VR in testing software processes are mentioned, where the main theme is to create automated testing environments. Research carried VR out has made an impact on human–system interactions through its realism that has helped to increase the accuracy of usability testing. The new research is emphasizing the idea that VR may serve as a platform for location cooperation among test teams, so this has in big way eased the testing process and communication as problems are being solved. In addition to this, it has

been shown that VR can generate test cases easily and run them perfectly, thus shortening the project time and increasing the proportion of accurate information.

g. Differentiation in Motivation and Conclusions:

Previous studies have already laid the foundation for understanding the merits of VR in software testing but this paper is different from currently existent work in its holistic review of VR usage in software testing. Our aim is to develop a comprehensive overview that explains not only the incorporation of the simulated immersion and the user experiences but also goes into three-dimensional analyses, collaborative advanced ways, and the automation and optimization tools integration. Instead of earlier research that usually concentrates on independent parts of virtual reality in software testing, our study seeks to propose a generic framework that emphasizes the cooperative advantages of integrating separate technologies. Furthermore, our outcomes are oriented in practice, being the actionable pieces of advice for the companies using the VR test approach. By employing such a methodical approach, research study gets the blank filled in and offers a strong basis for the future research and development in the field of VR-empowered software testing.

This research study extends upon the knowledge and the coverage of previous studies with the view of providing novel solutions that can be widely adopted in the software testing domain as the VR technology becomes mainstream.

3. METHODOLOGY

A. Keyword Selection:

The main task was to choose and to list the appropriate keywords concerning virtual reality (VR), such as their variations and synonym. Examples: Virtual reality or VR is a burgeoning area in software testing. Test case generation, test case creation, test case automation in VR, and its presence in software testing are some examples of this [12].

B. Database Selection:

For the research article databases were selected and topics on computer science, citation, and various related fields in the subject matter were involved. Scientific databases and search engines that I will utilise for retrieving academic articles include IEEE Xplore, ACM Digital Library, Scopus, PubMed, and Google

Scholar. These platforms provide access to a wide range of scholarly literature in various fields, allowed for comprehensive and in-depth research on the topics.

C. Search Strategy:

In the search Boolean operators (AND/OR) were used when combining the keywords to make the results be more precise. Example search query: ("virtual reality" OR VR and "2019-2024" OR "2019-2023").

D. Inclusion Criteria:

Research papers that have been published in peer-reviewed journals or those presented in respectable conferences were included. One specified on reports that particularly showed techniques of Virtual reality in software testing, such as the generation of test cases or creation of test cases [13].

E. Exclusion Criteria:

Those papers which were not just studying the relationship between VR and software testing were eliminated. Non-English papers were excluded as language commands aren't the strengths of the judge.

F. Screening Process:

One started by looking at titles and abstracts of papers in the search results to see those that seemed to be relevant. The entries that did not meet the inclusion or were of other studies done previously were eliminated.

G. Full-Text Review:

One got the full-text copies of the articles selected and evaluated them to know how much they may be corporative and high quality. The excellent methods, methodologies, outcome, and results were featured [14].

H. Data Extraction:

The details of the practices that have found in articles that imply VR to build test cases in software testing were scraped out [15].

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Nowadays, artificial intelligence is frequently utilised to protect apps, and much of the testing process may be automated [16]. As a result, we're shifting from human-driven testing to one in which test scripts are executed by robots rather than by people [17]. Machine learning strategies for

automated testing need a minimal quantity of human input [18]. Because of this, it is now essential to form a group centred on the Grand Dream of Testing, in which technology allows for testing that is better than what is now provided by application testing teams [19].

VR emerges as a potential technology to be integrated into software testing approach as it allows testers to move beyond classic scenarios and prototype a dynamically changing environment. The introduction of VR in software testing is worthy of attentions which are listed as below.

VR as a platform for creating interactive environments, enable users to engage with software applications in simulated real-world scenarios. This close approximation improves the accuracy of testing by providing a more natural setting which in turn uncovers the hidden bugs or usability problems that might have been missed if other testing modes were employed.

Besides the VR has capability of producing high-complex scenarios which are difficult to replicate in normal testing rooms. Hence, VR can mimic several factors in the environmental characteristics like opening conditions, spatial limitations, and person interactions, therefore complete test coverage to diverse settings. This capability allows for testing of such ingredients as virtual environments, games and augmented realities [20].

Besides VR lab has several paths that can visualize and analyse software performance which are unique and new. The testers can see the physical behaviour of the software in three-dimensional environment. It leads to sophisticated information's about application performance as well as issue causation by dependencies and user perspectives [21].

In addition to that, real-time collaboration is another crucial feature of VR that makes cooperation between testers and developers so much easier. Virtual environment enables distance team's connection that is great for working together remotely and in a real time. This cooperative aspect is sure to create a knowledge sharing environment, speed up the resolution of issues and revolutionising practices in software testing [22].

Nonetheless, factors like VR gadgets cost, lack of prerequisites, and difficulty in assimilating them with testing tools are the most notable

obstacles to wide dissemination of VR technology (Table 1). The results prove that VR gives great expectations for creating a revolutionary new.

VR embraces a more strategic approach to software testing by delivering comprehensive insights, improved accuracy, and fostering collaborative capabilities. The projections of the future research and development activities are necessary to meet the challenges and to realise a completely useful virtual reality in testing software.

Table 1: Virtual Reality Tools For Software Testing [23]

Tools	Description
Oculus Rift	An advanced VR headset that delivers immersive experiences for the testers.
HTC Vive	VR system with accurate tracking for being able to simulate real-life testing conditions
PlayStation VR	A VR headset created for entertainment purposes and to try out interactive apps.
Unity Test Tools	Unity Package for creation of the VR testing environment.
Unreal Engine	A game engine which has VR capabilities, ideal for testing gaming applications.

Table 2: Virtual Reality Methods For Software Testing [23]

Methods	Description
Contextual Testing	Crafting scenarios corresponding to the where the software will be run to test in a believable way. Contextual Testing Crafting scenarios corresponding to the where the software will be run to test in a believable way.
Scenario simulation	Aiming to cover complex scenarios for testing software operation under diverse situations
3D Analysis	Visualisation of software in the 3rd dimension of the space provides additional insights for identification and fixing of bugs.
Remote Teamwork.	Synchronising and shadowing teams across the globe to perform equitably the testing tasks
Usability Test for	Apart from testing the usability and interaction quality of

Virtual Environment	software from a user viewpoint inside VRs.
---------------------	--

Nowadays it is becoming more and more evident that VR technology is exactly what software testing needs as it has those capabilities that traditional methods cannot boast of (Table 2). The most crucial function of VR in the process of software testing is the capacity to re-produce the immersive testing environment. By wearing VR headsets of Oculus Rift, HTC Vive or PlayStation VR, they can experience what it is like to be in virtual worlds that look like a real world. The immersion setups offer more realism to the testing scenarios, permitting the tester to interact with the software applications as end-users do. This therefore leads to an uncovering of bugs or usability issues that may go missing in traditional setups.

On the other side, VR enables the reproduction of complicated scenes hard otherwise reproduce in a conventional testing environment. They (testers) can simulate different environmental factors like lighting, confinement and interactions of users, giving a full coverage of tests for all the diverse situations. For example, VR is most appropriate if the application being tested works for virtual environments, games or augmented reality sectors where traditional testers might not be effective in capturing the subtleties and complexity of the user interstation and environmental factors [24].

Besides VR simulation immersions, software behaviours could be demonstrated innovatively with the help of the VR visualisation and analysis. Via virtual reality testing, testers can experience three-dimensional analysis and observe how software run in the 3D space, the depth insights into application performance can be received and spatial dependencies and user perspectives can be detected. This new visualisation feature can improve the precision and speed of bug detection and fixation in the process that is a lot more effective.

In addition, it allows collaborative testing practice through remote participation of different teams dislocated all over the world. The virtual environment enables on-the-spot interaction and communication between testers and developers so they can collaborate effortlessly no matter where their physical location is. Cooperative nature of a machine learning system could boost teamwork,

solve the issues faster, and spread knowledge in the team.

In spite of all the advantages of VRs in software testing, the implementation of this technology is associated with some difficulties. The price of VR devices, the requirement for appropriate proficiencies and a framework compatible with VR introduces the problem of wide adoption. Nevertheless, the effect of technology development and reduction in its cost will bring a major innovation in VR which can revolutionize software testing methodologies.

Overall, virtual reality acts as a diverse and developing trend in software test. Virtual reality offers interactive testing environments by means of visualization of scenarios, three dimensions viewing tools, as well as remote collaboration, which can significantly change the software testing process. With maturity in the technology and wider usage, VR is predicted to become an indispensable tool for ensuring software quality and dependability in different fields.

In addition, it allows collaborative testing practice through remote participation of different teams dislocated all over the world. The virtual environment enables on-the-spot interaction and communication between testers and developers so they can collaborate effortlessly no matter where their physical location is. Cooperative nature of a machine learning system could boost teamwork, solve the issues faster, and spread knowledge in the team.

In spite of all the advantages of VRs in software testing, the implementation of this technology is associated with some difficulties. The price of VR devices, the requirement for appropriate proficiencies and a framework compatible with VR introduces the problem of wide adoption. Nevertheless, the effect of technology development and reduction in its cost will bring a major innovation in VR, which can revolutionise software testing methodologies [25].

Overall, virtual reality acts as a diverse and developing trend in software test. Virtual reality offers interactive testing environments by means of visualisation of scenarios, three dimensions viewing tools, as well as remote collaboration, which can significantly change the software testing process. With maturity in the technology and wider usage, VR is predicted to become an indispensable

tool for ensuring software quality and dependability in different fields [26].

a. Main role of VR in software testing

i. Immersive testing environments

Immersive test scenarios, in turn, mean that VR technologies play the most important role in software testing by providing the users with highly realistic and interactive simulations. By giving testers the power to simulate and play in virtual worlds analogous to the real life using those platforms, testing software turn into more dynamic and effective. Trial testers can, using VR headsets, interact with software interfaces, manipulate objects, and move around virtual spaces just as if they were actually engaging with the product.

The immersive nature of these environments boosts a higher level of accuracy and competence through a replication of user testing in a controlled environment. The testers can detect functionality problems of the system, verify the performance of its interfaces, and figure out whether the system may stumble on real-life use. Thus, immersive testing facilities allow the testers to validate software functionality in varying environments where such elements might include different lighting conditions, confining spaces and user actions [27].

In general, such kind of the environment of immersion testing is a deprivation of a complex and living platform for testing the whole software. They perform faster, more accurate and at the same time, they offer a precise approach to analysing software applications, resulting in better performance quality, usability and user satisfaction. While VR technology keeps advancing further, immersive testing spaces are resolutely expected to become crucial parts of the software development process, which, in turn, will lead to the emergence of novel inventions as well as the provision of top-notch software products [28].

b. Three dimensional testing

Three-dimensional (3D) examination in view of the software testing is derived from the virtual reality (VR) technology to confer testers more profundity regarding software behaviour. This is due to the fact that visualisation of these software relationships in the virtual space gives testers the perspectives from multiple ends and thus enhances the ability to spot and diagnose errors.

VR technology allows testers to view software behaviour in three dimensions, enabling them to thoroughly assess usability, performance, and functionality aspects with greater accuracy. This particular approach brings testers closer to the end users so that they can easily identify flaws caused by spatial dependencies, user adaptation, or environmental conditions.

On the other hand, 3D tools for analysis help perusing complicated software systems, allow having a platform for VR visualisation of data flows, user interactions, and system architecture. Users can strut through virtual worlds, focusing on the software parts and actions to detect any breakaway bug or security gaps.

Moreover, testers are able to use those tools to model input data in multiple ways, checking how well the software programs simultaneously perform when exposed to various usage scenarios. With ability to perform such checks, the margin of error is reduced and testers identify any problems before they reach the users.

Three-dimensional analysis applied to software testing allows testers to get a highly informative picture of the software behaviour allowing for increasing the quality of the software applications. Along with VR technology development, 3D paradigm is likely to have a higher role in software testing methodologies, becoming the tool to stimulate innovations and ensure success of software products [8].

c. Collaboration and Remote Testing

Along the way, new propaganda opportunities were discovered and utilised to enhance teamwork and efficiency. Due to VR technology, the spaces, which are located remotely, can bring together people who are physically not reachable, therefore, to eliminate the obstacles on communication and collaboration in the distant environment.

In such way, both the project participants are able to harmonise their ideas as they would be physically. The subjects of insight, perception and knowledge become the matter of deliberations in the virtual reality. Such an environment is creating “being there” effect and intensifies teamwork that involves interactions, systematisation and decisions making processes.

Likewise, it can be said that VR provides testers the opportunity to test the software from

anywhere they want without moving out of their current location. The testers can remotely manipulate objects in the virtual space using hand gestures and interact with devices. Also, they can execute the test as if they are in the actual environment.

VR includes a wide range of possibilities, expressed in a way where a team of people can share their innovative ideas as well as those who construct, design and implement them using a common virtual environment. These processes make the software development lifecycle conducive to knowledge sharing, therefore contributing to the quality of the product and speeding up the software lifecycle.

Yet, there is also another side of this as collaborative and remote testing within VR has paved a way for harmony and efficiency in the teamwork and software testing spheres. The working circle is no longer constrained by geographical boundaries. With the help of VR technology, communication and collaboration will be streamlined, leading to a quicker development of software products and reduced financial costs. As VR technology becomes more developed, the testing and collaboration at a distance will become one of the cornerstones of the software development process that results in the innovation and productivity advancements in all kinds of industries.

d. Automation and Optimisation

Automation and Optimisation are the parts that the software testing methodology is composed of, and VR opens ways to improve these matters. VR technology enables testers to automate test case generation, execution, and analysis, thus aiding in speeding up the procedure and increasing the efficiency of testing process overall.

The main item of automation related with VR-based testing is the designing of test cases. Automatic systems will be able to model user actions in the virtual world as well as to create test cases that are holistic in covering many usage scenarios and tricky conditions. This method excludes the manual work and results in full coverage, thus leading the project to more reliable tests with more test outcomes.

Hence, VR has simulation of test cases execution autonomously that helps in assessing software functionality and performance in given virtual environment. The ability to conduct automated testing in VR enables continuous testing

and allows for timely identification of issues during the software design process.

Additionally, VR based testing tools can increase the test cases' priority and reduce the resources allocation. Through data processing from virtual spaces, testers can discover usual paths, risk places, and efficiency bottlenecks, which later help them to prioritise the testing goals and tasks. Such improvement is aimed at ensuring that testing resources are applied productively and the full coverage result is achieved within a shorter time-to-market.

VR technology may be merged with optimisation algorithms together with machine learning to bring enhancement in testing processes in-depth as well. The enhanced approaches are capable of running analyses on huge volumes of data collected from virtual environments, discovering repeating patterns, and dynamically modifying the testing approaches explained by the system on a run-time basis.

Through automation and optimisation in VR-based testing all the valiant facets of productivity, reliability and proficiency are provided. The exploitation of VR technology allows the automation of specific routines, optimization of testing procedures and gradual incensement of software quality. With the development of VR technologies in the future, the implementation of automation and optimisation will greatly contribute to the growth of novelty and expansion of capability for consistent, premium software products [29].

e. Discussion

Among them is the fact that this research still contains its limitations and potential problems and we should take those into account for the benefits of the implementation of the virtual reality (VR) simulators for the software testing purposes. The first of all the present VR tech features certain constraints arising from hardware and software abilities. While VR guarantees progress it also creates some problems which include motion sickness and high cost of the equipment and the need for powerful computers that cannot be attained in certain experiments.

Moreover, the work principally focuses on the theoretical advantages and possible areas of VR application in software testing. At the same time, the practical problems which face testers when implementing VR technology may not be detected in the research. By way of example, the execution of VR within established testing processes requires

new technologies and also at least staff training as well as probably a higher initial investment. These problems are not only very hard as you cannot just have the SMEs shift to such expensive and advanced technologies.

Furthermore, here is a shining example, which says that in a particular context 3D models and immersive environments based on the type of programs tested are much more preferable. Some apps could be made better than others with the improvement of the VR-based testing, so such an aspect should be taken into account and this will help to transfer our study model to the general community.

Discuss the limitation such as the fact that one can only rely on the literature reviewed in the context. We have strived to harness the widest range of research studies; it is however possible that we excluded some significant work due to its early appearance in emerging studies through less accessible forums. We may find overlook or may emphasis more on media voice which is already popular among the public.

Furthermore, given the rapid face of technological progress, the findings of our study could fade into irrelevance in a short period due to the appearance of new VR technologies or software testing approaches. Thus, constant updates and iterative research of the topic would be required to ensure that conclusions remain relevant and applicable in real-life contexts. To sum up, even though the research presents a wide and insightful overview of VR utility in the domain of software testing, the revealed weaknesses and limitations suggest that the findings should be treated with caution. The identified gaps should be addressed in a follow-up study, which should focus on practical implementation difficulties with the method, cost-benefit analyses, and long-term evaluation focusing on the real-life impact of VR integration into the software testing process. Thus, only through the critical assessment and ongoing investigation, the full potential of the application of VR into the software testing domain can be realized and put into effect.

5. CONCLUSION

In the previous section, it was explored how VR (virtual reality) can be a powerful tool for testing software, offering numerous advantages and transformational capabilities. Testing in natural environments offers testers an interactive connection with the software in real life scenarios and reveals the bugs and usability flaws that can

emerge from unexpected situations, potentially going unnoticed. VR analysis uses 3D tools to make sure the software behaviour is studied and diagnosed in the most appropriate and detailed way, which is a great contribution to the debugging. Emulation of VR and distant virtual tests are beyond space restrictions, which contribute to an effective exchange of information and agreement with other testers and developers thus contributing to the advancement of the software development cycle.

Consequently, virtual reality testing automation and optimisation not only facilitate testing workflows but also decrease the need for manual work, which in turn allows for optimal resource allocation, thus leading to more consistent and reliable testing outcomes. The role of testers is facilitated with the help of automatic generation of test cases, execution, and analysis. This also reduces the hassle of manual testing and supports in a higher number of test coverage for identified issues in a shorter duration. On the other hand, optimisation procedures enhance the test system by prioritising critical paths, high-risk areas, and performance bottlenecks and make sure that technology being tested system is at maximum level.

From there, with the emergence of virtual reality in to the field of software testing, this enhancement will have a significant impact and may revolutionise the way we test and assess software. Since VR technology is expected to keep its evolution and spread, its importance both in making tests in the software as well as in driving the innovation of the same software is going to increase – to the greater benefit of the user's experience. Implementing VR in software testing procedures is on the brink of being the pivotal factor that will ultimately decide the fate of organizations in adapting to the constantly shifting and demanding technology landscape in today's cutthroat business environment. Thus, it is vital taking into account the fact that the VR can simplify software testing and make it more effective and provide their customers with user-friendly reliable software which adds to their business reputation.

This study critically evaluated the current state of the potential of virtual reality in augmenting software testing methods and tools. The evidence provided showed that using VR can benefit as software testing methods and tools in creating immersive testing environments, three-dimensional analysis, and collaboration and revitalizing automated testing processes. The results of this research obtained fully support the idea that using

VR for software testing can increase the accuracy, speed, and efficiency of testing. However, the implementation of VR for software testing remains complicated due to high costs, developmental issues, and infrastructural problems. Nonetheless, the benefits of employing VR capabilities full it in the field of software testing are invaluable. Consequently, more research should focus on mitigating these challenges and enhancing the VR tools to effectively increase software quality and development efficiency.

REFERENCES

- [1] S. Minor, V. K. Ketoma, and G. Meixner, "Test automation for augmented reality applications: a development process model and case study," *i-com*, vol. 22, pp. 175-192, 2023.
- [2] H. Krasner, "The cost of poor software quality in the US: A 2020 report," *Proc. Consortium Inf. Softw. QualityTM (CISQTM)*, pp. 1-46, 2021.
- [3] M. Baumgartner, M. Klonk, H. Pichler, R. Seidl, and S. Tanczos, *Agile Testing*: Springer, 2021.
- [4] S. Ong, V. K. Siddaraju, S. Ong, and V. K. Siddaraju, "Introduction to the mixed reality toolkit," *Beginning Windows Mixed Reality Programming: For HoloLens and Mixed Reality Headsets*, pp. 85-110, 2021.
- [5] J. Molina, X. Qin, and X. Wang, "Automatic extraction of code dependency in virtual reality software," in *2021 IEEE/ACM 29th International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC)*, 2021, pp. 381-385.
- [6] D. E. Rzig, N. Iqbal, I. Attisano, X. Qin, and F. Hassan, "Characterizing Virtual Reality Software Testing," *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.01992*, 2022.
- [7] P. Kourtesis, D. Korre, S. Collina, L. A. Doumas, and S. E. MacPherson, "Guidelines for the development of immersive virtual reality software for cognitive neuroscience and neuropsychology: the development of virtual reality everyday assessment lab (VR-EAL), a neuropsychological test battery in immersive virtual reality," *Frontiers in Computer Science*, vol. 1, p. 497368, 2020.
- [8] D. J. Harris, J. M. Bird, P. A. Smart, M. R. Wilson, and S. J. Vine, "A framework for the testing and validation of simulated environments in experimentation and training," *Frontiers in Psychology*, vol. 11, p. 524804, 2020.
- [9] J. Pirker, A. Dengel, M. Holly, and S. Safikhani, "Virtual reality in computer science education: A systematic review," in *Proceedings of the 26th ACM symposium on virtual reality software and technology*, 2020, pp. 1-8.
- [10] N. Ashtari, A. Bunt, J. McGrenere, M. Nebeling, and P. K. Chilana, "Creating augmented and virtual reality applications: Current practices, challenges, and opportunities," in *Proceedings of the 2020 CHI conference on human factors in computing systems*, 2020, pp. 1-13.
- [11] M. H. Browning, K. J. Mimnaugh, C. J. Van Riper, H. K. Laurent, and S. M. LaValle, "Can simulated nature support mental health? Comparing short, single-doses of 360-degree nature videos in virtual reality with the outdoors," *Frontiers in psychology*, vol. 10, p. 2667, 2020.
- [12] K. Nikolenko, "Artificial Intelligence and Society: Pros and Cons of the Present, Future Prospects," *Futurity Philosophy*, vol. 1, pp. 54-67, 2022.
- [13] M. Iskakova, "Electronic Technologies to Ensure Individual Learning of Education Seekers with Special Needs," *Futurity of Social Sciences*, vol. 1, pp. 4-20, 2023.
- [14] O. Prokopenko, "Some aspects of the state information policy of the modern state: definitions of the future," *Futurity Economics&Law*, vol. 2, pp. 60-72, 2022.
- [15] G. Nowakowski, Y. Dorogyy, and O. Doroga-Ivaniuk, "Neural network structure optimization algorithm," *Journal of Automation, Mobile Robotics and Intelligent Systems*, pp. 5-13, 2018.
- [16] D. Andrii, N. Sergiy, Z. Dmytro, S. Yevheniy, and S. Borys, "Modeling of a stress-strain state of detachable connection in details of reinforced composite materials with CEA method," *Strojnický časopis-Journal of Mechanical Engineering*, vol. 70, pp. 17-28, 2020.
- [17] O. Marushchak, O. Muliarevych, V. Saienko, A. Hurbanska, and B. Nowak, "Digital Learning Hubs as a Component of the Information and Digital Learning Environment," 2023.
- [18] S. Telenyk, O. Rolick, M. Bukasov, Y. Dorogiy, D. Halushko, and A. Pysarenko, "Qualitative evaluation method of IT-infrastructure elements functioning," in *2014 IEEE International Black Sea Conference on*

- Communications and Networking (BlackSeaCom)*, 2014, pp. 165-169.
- [19] D. S. Battina, "Artificial intelligence in software test automation: A systematic literature review," *International Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (www.jetir.org|UGC and issn Approved)*, ISSN, pp. 2349-5162, 2019.
- [20] S. I. Khaleel and R. Anan, "A review paper: optimal test cases for regression testing using artificial intelligent techniques," *International Journal of Electrical & Computer Engineering (2088-8708)*, vol. 13, 2023.
- [21] L. Chemnitz, D. Reichenbach, H. Aldebes, M. Naveed, K. Narasimhan, and M. Mezini, "Towards code generation from bdd test case specifications: A vision," in *2023 IEEE/ACM 2nd International Conference on AI Engineering-Software Engineering for AI (CAIN)*, 2023, pp. 139-144.
- [22] M. Leotta, F. Ricca, A. Marchetto, and D. Olianas, "An empirical study to compare three web test automation approaches: NLP-based, programmable, and capture&replay," *Journal of Software: Evolution and Process*, p. e2606, 2023.
- [23] S. Singh. (2022, 8/4). *Which AR/VR Testing Tools Should You Use For Your AR/VR App?* Available:
<https://www.techugo.com/blog/which-ar-vr-testing-tools-should-you-use-for-your-ar-vr-app/>
- [24] F. Ricca, A. Marchetto, and A. Stocco, "A Retrospective Analysis of Grey Literature for AI-Supported Test Automation," in *International Conference on the Quality of Information and Communications Technology*, 2023, pp. 90-105.
- [25] R. Rocca, P. Rosa, C. Sassanelli, L. Fumagalli, and S. Terzi, "Integrating virtual reality and digital twin in circular economy practices: A laboratory application case," *Sustainability*, vol. 12, p. 2286, 2020.
- [26] Y. Zhang, H. Liu, S.-C. Kang, and M. Al-Hussein, "Virtual reality applications for the built environment: Research trends and opportunities," *Automation in Construction*, vol. 118, p. 103311, 2020.
- [27] A. D. Kaplan, J. Cruik, M. Endsley, S. M. Beers, B. D. Sawyer, and P. A. Hancock, "The effects of virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality as training enhancement methods: A meta-analysis," *Human factors*, vol. 63, pp. 706-726, 2021.
- [28] J. Zhao, T. Sensibaugh, B. Bodenheimer, T. P. McNamara, A. Nazareth, N. Newcombe, *et al.*, "Desktop versus immersive virtual environments: effects on spatial learning," *Spatial Cognition & Computation*, vol. 20, pp. 328-363, 2020.
- [29] Y. Chen, S. Chen, T. Xiao, S. Zhang, Q. Hou, and N. Zheng, "Mixed test environment-based vehicle-in-the-loop validation-a new testing approach for autonomous vehicles," in *2020 IEEE intelligent vehicles symposium (IV)*, 2020, pp. 1283-1289.