



## Software and Systems Engineering Workbook 1. Games and the XMOS World

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Focus 1:

### Games

## The XMOS World

### *"X" (eXtreme) Multiplayer Online Simulations*

#### BACKGROUND and REVIEW --- The World in which the Games Operate

First we consider some general points about OASIS as an environment for activities, including games. OASIS is not itself a game but an operational environment for integrating games with many other activities including trading and commerce of many types, collaborations on projects and businesses, education through training that also employs games, and other forms of entertainment and leisure.

Then we proceed to XMOS games and the environments in which the games are played, online and in arena settings, within and outside of OASIS.

A player (user) can do many things within an OASIS world and this includes playing a GAME. For the most part, the games with be produced and managed by the XMOS business unit of IRI. Progressively, any XMOS game activities can include a variety of interactions with other OASIS activities (e.g., commerce, trading, wagers, project collaborations, etc.)

There are also options enabling a user to move from a point (activity) within OASIS into another game (not an XMOS game) and this can be explored from a business-advantage perspective).

Next: the divisions within OASIS, from the abstract universe and sectors, down to districts, tracts, and smaller divisions  $\rightarrow \rightarrow$ 





These are also abstractions and "future-tech" for right now, but XMOS games will emerge with activities that are at the level of Tracts, Quads, and later the larger Districts within OASIS.

Arena competitions, indoors and enabling multi-level playing areas, will map and correspond with OASIS Quads and smaller regional units.

Quads, Hecs, Plots, Subplots, Veks (increasingly smaller subdivisions of terrain and property divisions (including buildings and other constructed divisions) therewithin)

[Note: OASIS Quads correspond to OpenSimulator regions that are 256m x 256m in size, and OASIS Tracts correspond to OpenSimulator varregions that consist of multiple regions (thus, from 256m x 256m to 8192m x 8192m)]



Our focus here and now is upon Games.

Seriously new, different, challenging, technical mind-bender Games.

## **XMOS Games**

X-factor, X-Files, eXtreme Massive, Multiplayer Online, Onsite Simulation, Scene











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We may see something like this in the XMOS game, Detroit kNights, with the adventure-theme of Cyber Robin and the Hoods. Players have vehicles, of different customized and semi-custom designs. They have missions to complete, objectives to attain, objects to retrieve and take somewhere. In the process there are different types of events involving other players and the general "urban environment". There are obstacles and there are helpful aids and short-cuts. There are decision-points that flash up demanding instant decisions – slow down and help a woman being attacked on the sidewalk or being car-jacked, or keep on with the mission. Maybe she is really a "lure" working with a gang of thugs to get you to slow down, and they will get your car! Maybe she is for real and needs help. Maybe she will provide a clue and some assistance to you to get to your destination. All of this is in XMOS, and more!



Now, we turn to Implementation and how things work in the world of software, servers, and individual points of connection and *Action*...

**XMOS games** are developed within **OpenSimulator**, a well-established environment described as "an open source multi-platform, multi-user 3D application server. It can be used to create a virtual environment (or world) which can be accessed through a variety of clients, on multiple protocols. It also has an optional facility (the Hypergrid) to allow users to visit other OpenSimulator installations across the web from their 'home' OpenSimulator installation. In this way, it is the basis of a nascent distributed Metaverse."

An XMOS game takes place among players using avatars and a variety of objects including vehicles and other machines, all acting within OpenSimulator **regions** and **varregions** and super-collections of these, known as **estates**.

All of the "mechanics" for creating and managing objects (including avatars and mobile vehicles, surfaces, the overall landscape, and for communications with multiple users (players and others with access) are provided through the OpenSimulator software which is unique in its openness for enabling many types of data and program formats and for the ability to accommodate new modules and extensions.

#### **OpenSimulator Primary Features:**

- Supports online, multi-user 3D environments as small as 1 simulator or as large as thousands of simulators.
- Supports 3D virtual spaces of variable size.
- Supports multiple clients and protocols access the same world at the same time via multiple protocols.
- Supports real-time Physics Simulation, with multiple engine options.
- Supports clients that create 3D content in real time.
- Supports in-world scripting using LSL/OSSL.
- Provides unlimited ability to customize virtual world applications through the use of scene plugin modules.

#### **OpenSimulator Main Feature Matrix:**

#### http://opensimulator.org/wiki/Feature\_Matrix

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(Excerpt showing World-type features)

Feature Name	Core OpenSim?	Notes		
Terrain	Yes			
Sun	Yes			
Wind	Yes			
Cloud	Yes			
Vegetation	Yes			
Sound	Yes	Queueing sounds will be supported in the forthcoming OpenSimulator 0.7.6. However, not all sound facilities have been well tested (if there are gaps please set this back to partial and list them).		
Minimap	Yes			
World <mark>M</mark> ap	Yes			
Neighbouring regions	Yes	Regions can neighbour each other, even if hosted on different servers.		
Archiving	Yes	Entire regions can be saved and loaded as OpenSim Archives.		
Physics	Yes	There are several physics modules bundled with OpenSim, but only the ODE module (Open Dynamics Engine) really works.		
Parcel management	Yes			
Region settings	Yes			
Region / Parcel Lightshare / Windlight	Yes	Lightshare implemented March 30,2010 (Git: ec637e2b8). LightShare/WindLight from Region to Client enables full environmental control of the simulation, providing a more complete immersive experience. Supported in most V3 and some modified V1 Viewers.		
Telehubs	Yes			
Estates	Partial	Partial estate support is implemented. However, the only way to manipulate estates currently is via direct changes to the database.		
Avatar limits	Yes	Avatar limits were implemented in OpenSimulator 0.7.2.		
Prim limits	Yes	Prim limits where implement in OpenSimulator 0.7.2.		
Teleports	Partial	Teleporting in can be done to any point in or off world (if hypergrid enabled) however, Blocking teleports to a parcel is not currently enforced.		
Megaregions	Experimental	This is a system that allows regions to be created on the simulator that are larger than 256m x 256m. This is implemented purely on the server without requiring a specially adapted client. However, this is not fully implemented and you may encounter various issues with megaregions.		
NPCs	Yes	Allow NPCs to be created and manipulated on a region. This is handled purely on the server-side - NPCs are different from bots controlled as external clients via a library such as liborny.		
Pathfinding	No			

#### Using samples to illustrate examples for XMOS Games.

Here are some sample scenes from different grids (worlds) created and operating within OpenSimulator.

These have no connection with XMOS games or any of the prospective games to be created. But imagine for a moment that these scenes have been constructed by IRI's XMOS Game Construction Team.

For each of these there is a brief comment about how this, as a DW scene and context <u>within an **online** game</u>, can use certain RW content, including something from a "live" or "recent" Arena tournament.

For each of these there is also a comment about how this, as a DW scene and context, can be used <u>within an **Arena** competition</u> that is otherwise completely RW in nature.

Remember: DW = digital, virtual, computer-generated world effects RW = real-world effects and experiences (which could come in the form of video/audio/images or other sensory experiences Online: There could be a big marquee or screen on the outside here, or else as one goes inside, and it is showing a live Arena game or one that was recently held. Think: races, races, combats, chases, discoveries, parties, romantic encounters, anything that fits.



Onsite: In the arena, there are large display screens which are for not only spectators but also (!) for the players. There may be information here that is given, even for a momentary period, that pertains to secret paths, shortcuts, easy work-arounds, ways to avoid barriers, obstacles and conflicts, ways to get to the desired goal faster and win more points. Online: There could be a pop-up screen or else you have to get over to the lighthouse and go inside, and then you find a screen that is showing you some techniques for how players navigate across the water on land that is just barely below the surface and safe for vehicles – something like that.



Onsite: In the arena, on a display screen or on something only for each player, there is something that shows how winners in the online gaming got across the water and past obstacles to reach some place (e.g., the lighthouse, where something magical or otherwise important is kept and ready to be found and taken). Online: There may be scenes, live or pre-recorded, of some real parts of a city, that are "enough like" what is in the online game, and players must figure out the similarities and "congruences" and then they will know better what to do in their gameplay..





Onsite: In the arena, the players can see how in the online game, some winning players and some losing ones contended with the terrorists who had seized one of these big buildings and the people inside.

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Online: Something from the real world gets shown to help players know where "bad guys" may be lurking and how to either avoid them, get past them, or get ride of them.



Online: Great example of having screens that will show scenes from the real world, either from arena gameplay or anything else that is relevant. Also, this can be for displaying advertisements and related "soft-advert" content from sponsors.



Onsite: Basically the same principle as in the example for online play.

Online: Show close-ups of your "fav" players in the Arena, or anywhere else. Avatars are designed to fit player personalities.





Onsite: Show close-ups or pre-recorded videos of "fav" players or other celebrities. These can include game sequences saved by players or spectators. People can see their "fav" scenes and actions played out for others. And in all of this, people gain points and values.

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Online: Imagine UAV action in this environment, and then the UAV if properly empowered (and if the player has sufficient points and abilities) can literally fly into a room on the 80<sup>th</sup> floor...





Onsite: The "action" in getting the next mission completed may be done by different players in many fashions. Someone may decide to go inside and up the elevator. Someone may want to climb up the side of the tower. Someone may want to use a helicopter and swing in by a rope... Online: There could be a big marquee or screen on the outside here, or else as one goes inside, and it is showing a live Arena game or one that was recently held. Think: races, races, combats, chases, discoveries, parties, romantic encounters, anything that fits.

#### eriment in OASIS using OpenSimulator

iak





10

Snapshot 🛛 🟸

30

Search 😈 Build 🖽 Map 🐼 Mini-Map 📂 Inventory

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL --- some of this is older, some is background



\* "MR" = VR + AR + any RW (real-world) media), as desired in game-flow design.



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IRI's XMOS unit produces games that can be played by individuals and teams of different types, both in purely online forms and in physical arena (stadium) settings, in both cases employing environmental functions and features from digital ("virtual") worlds (DW) and physical ("real") worlds (RW).

The online gaming influences and affects many aspects of what is the gameplay in tournaments and special competitions held in the arenas, and also vice versa. This is a completely new architecture, style and play for games including both MMORPG (MMOS) and e-sports types that have all been limited to digital electronic technologies having little or no engagement with any "live, real-world" experience.

XMOS games emerge as games for entertainment and professional competition within the context of a larger environment that brings together, very uniquely and for the first time, the powers of DW + those of RW, including everything connected with virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies.

This larger environment is known as

## OASIS

**Open Autopoetic Social Intelligence Synthesis** 

It's full of wonderful things. So much AI (artificial intelligence) and Real Intelligence that we call it SI – Synthetic Intelligence.

Robots and cybots that learn and can even program and train each other. Cool.

#### Everything is designed and designable to Cultivate COMEET

**Communicate – cOllaborate – Make – Educate – Entertain - Trade** 

	Investor	Sponsor	- Grantor	Client	- Customer
Reasons for putting their capital and other value into the Company and the Games	Company Teams Technology	Company Teams Technology	Company affiliated Institute(s)	Company	Company
	Individuals	Individuals	Individuals		
Reasons for putting their capital and other value into the Company and the Games	Profitable Returns \$\$\$ + "Equity-plus" Other gains (tbd)	Adverts Visibility Promotions Corp. responsibili Data Information	Grant objectives ty	Data Information Knowledge	Specific Products & Services



#### **Main System Architecture Qualities and Characteristics**

- Robust load-balancing Network Computing (Parallel, Distributed, Cloud-like)
- Decentralization in performance as well as information processes
- Privacy-preserving, Anonymity-enabling
- Fault-tolerant to the maximum (fail-safe)
- Autopoetic, Cybernetic (learns as it goes and grows)
- Self-stabilizing, Error-correcting, Self-optimizing
- Functional algorithms and software integrated with object-oriented principles for modularity and interoperability
- Accommodates standard and popular software engines, device interfaces
- Open-interface capabilities for partner and sponsor systems (gaming, e-commerce, trading, gambling, etc.)

#### **Some Other Highlight-Points**

- Different types of machines and robots can play in a given Game (the game-rules decide)
- Playing the Game and excelling in the Game is (offers, promotes, can even require for advancement) a built-in STEM learning process ("You want to advance to X and get Y points? Take this quiz...")
- Bring in serious-level robotic, VR, AI, and other skilled people to compete, to show-off, to win, and in the process get hugely creative, inventive and wildly attractive machines, environments, special effects, etc.
- Omni-Terrain is the only way to travel (stories of the "Aquaterraship," Sec-Nav, and more)
- Trucks with wheels and track, tanks with tracks and wheels, Mars Exploration Rover (Spirit and Opportunity), etc. ("Hey, what's next? Go read "Armada," perhaps, and use your imagination...)
- People do not want "Back to 'Back to the Future'" or Retro-tech , or HO-scale model railroads. They want "Tomorrow, the Stars" \*

#### In closing:

I would very much like to have characters and activities similar to these (following 4 slides) included somehow in the XMOS Games.

These are particular meaningful in many ways. The proof is in how successful the SHAKTI Academy program was with kids - in really rough, tough, traumatized living environments and schools in urban America – related so well, and improved their lives . They got energized, got inspired, got revitalized, got empowered, got a New Life Going.

My real purpose and motivation in all this? Very similar to that of the "recently-late" great Stan Lee, "Mr. Marvel Comics" and the creator of Spider Man and many more heroes. Go see the final slide here.











## THE FATE OF THE WORLD

# IS IN OUR HANDS