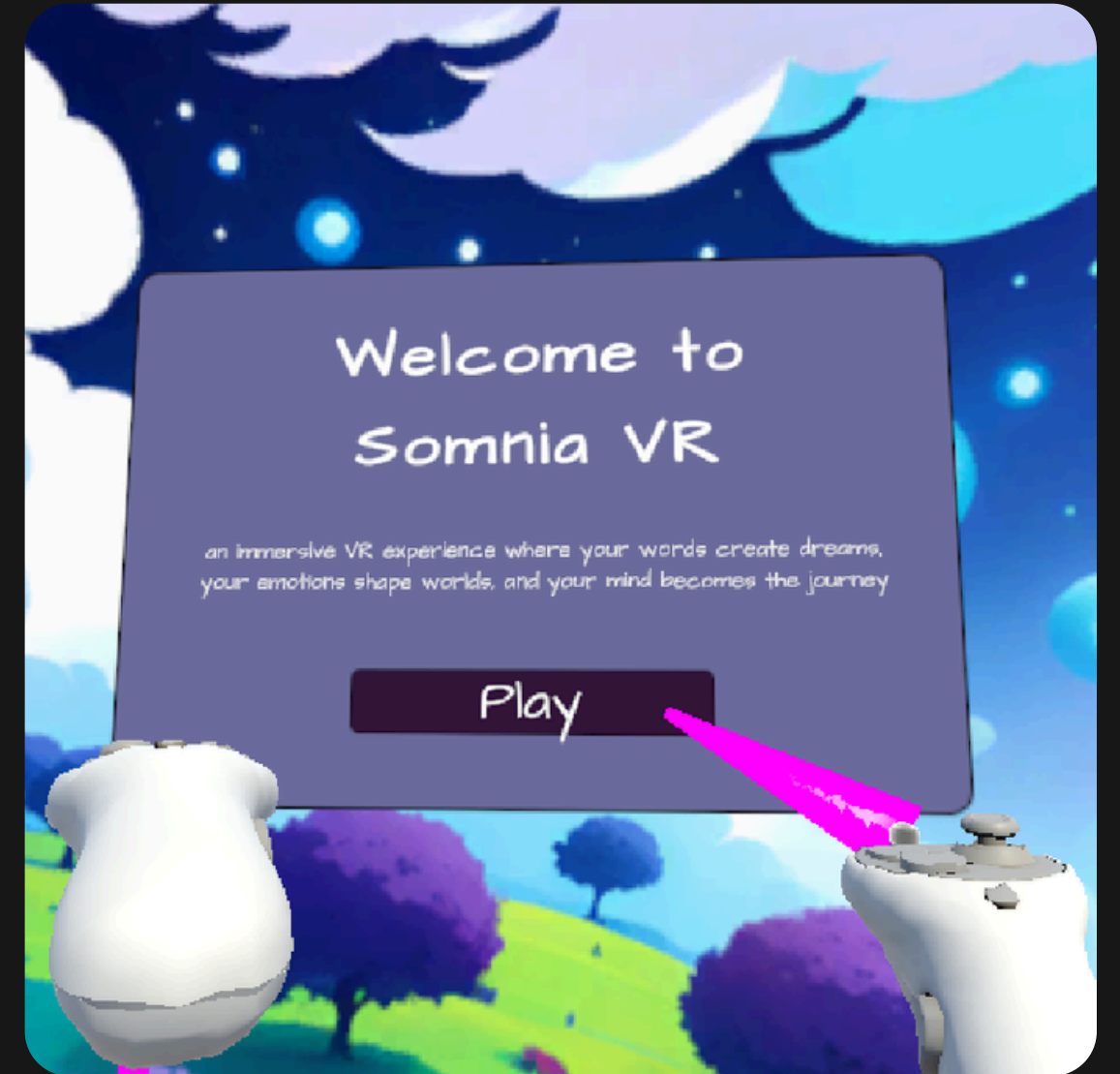




# WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SOMNIA VR

Carolina Reis, 131193, luanacarolina@ua.pt  
Hugo Castro, 113889, hugocastro@ua.pt



RVA 2025/2026 - FINAL PRESENTATION

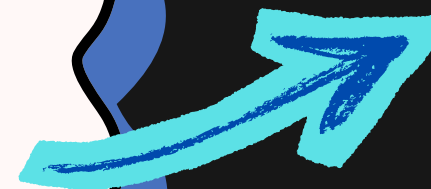
LET'S EXPLORE



# SOMNIA VR INTRODUCTION

## The Problem

- Lack of VR experiences exploring emotions procedurally
- Need for immersive worlds reflecting internal emotional states



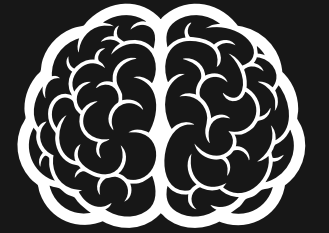
## Our Objectives

- ✓ Create VR experience where emotions shape the world
- ✓ Implement procedural dream generation
- ✓ Develop "Anxiety Mode" with pursuing entity
- ✓ Build persistent dream library

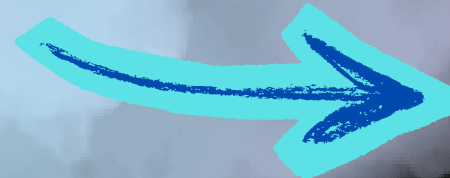


## SOMNIA VR

# PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS



### Theoretical Support



#### **Dream Theory (Freud & Jung)**

- Dreams as emotional processing | Unconscious manifestation

#### **Emotional Congruency Theory**

- Mood shapes perception | Memory & environment interpretation

#### **Immersion & Presence (Slater)**

- VR amplifies emotional impact | Enhanced sense of "being there"

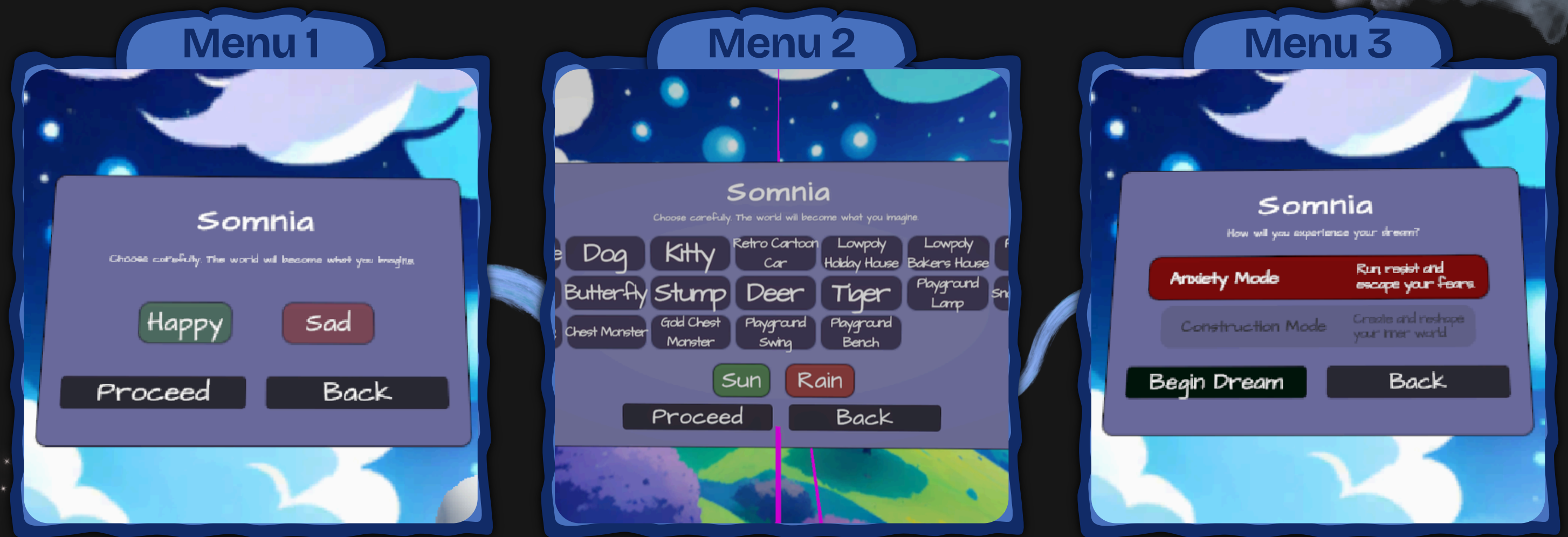
#### **Exposure Therapy Principles**

- Anxiety Mode: Controlled fear exposure | Safe therapeutic environment

### Why This Matters

Emotions ↔ Environment ↔  
Immersion = Powerful  
psychological tool

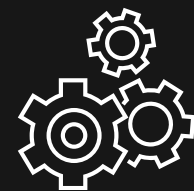
# Prototype: Multi-Stage Menu System



How do you feel?

Give your dream a voice

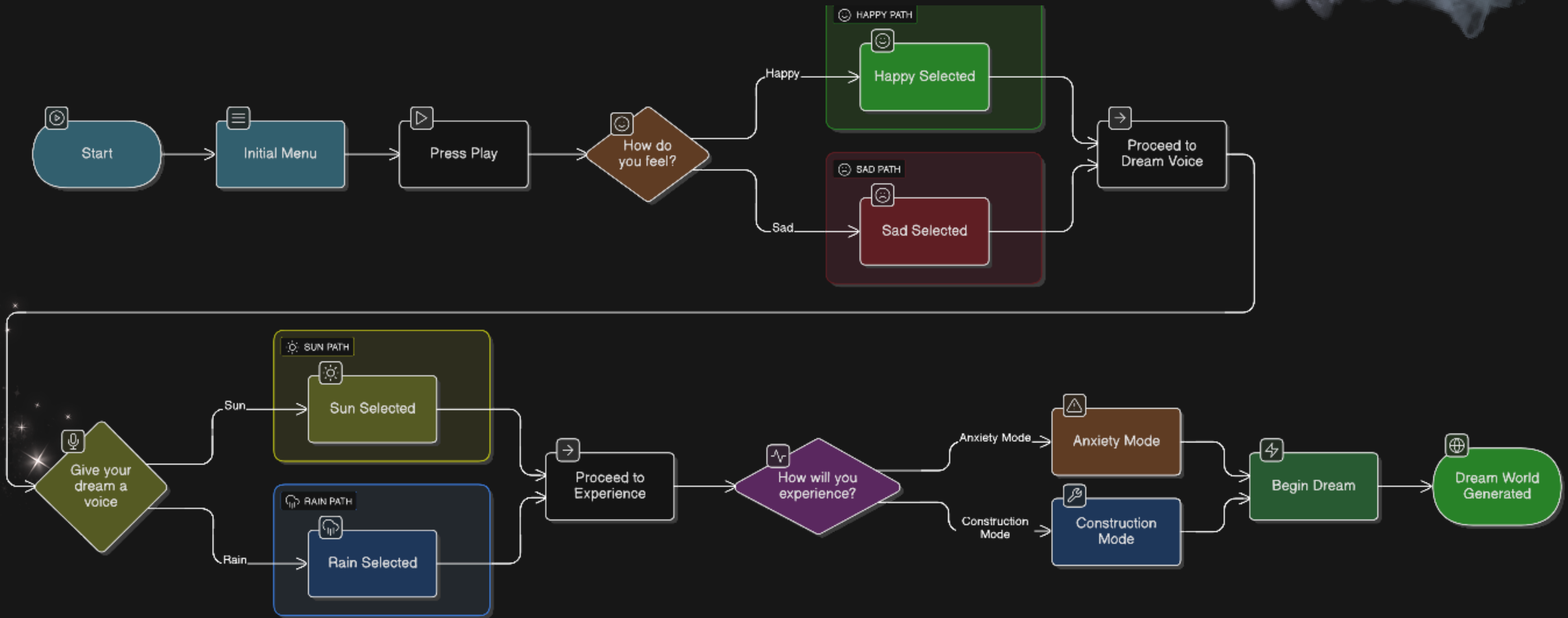
How will you experience your dream?



## Technical Implementation

DreamSettings.cs | Singleton pattern | Double-click protection

# Prototype: Multi-Stage Menu System



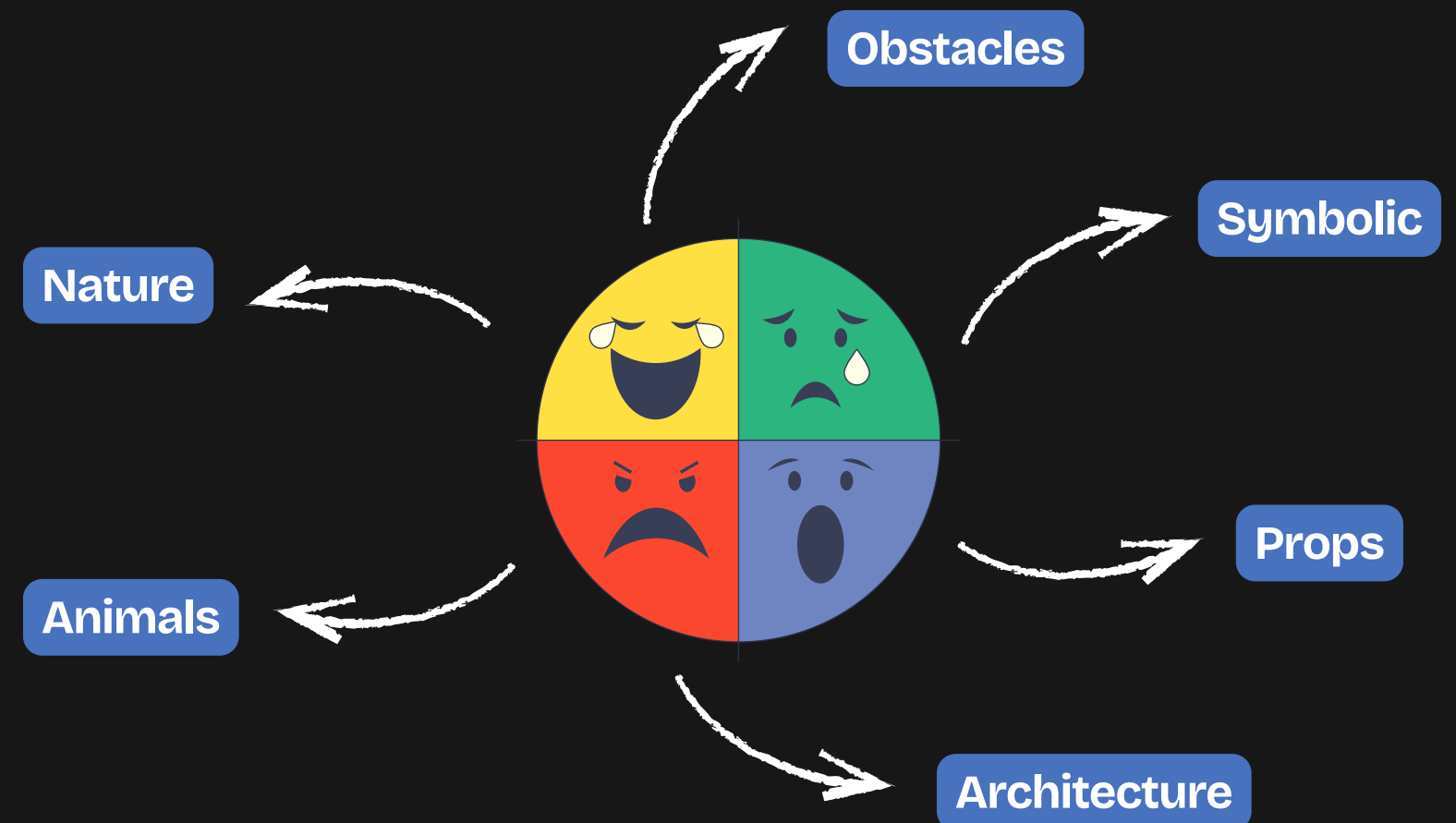
# Prototype: Procedural Generation

## Anti-Overlap System:

- Occupied positions tracking
- Multiple spawn attempts
- Distance validation

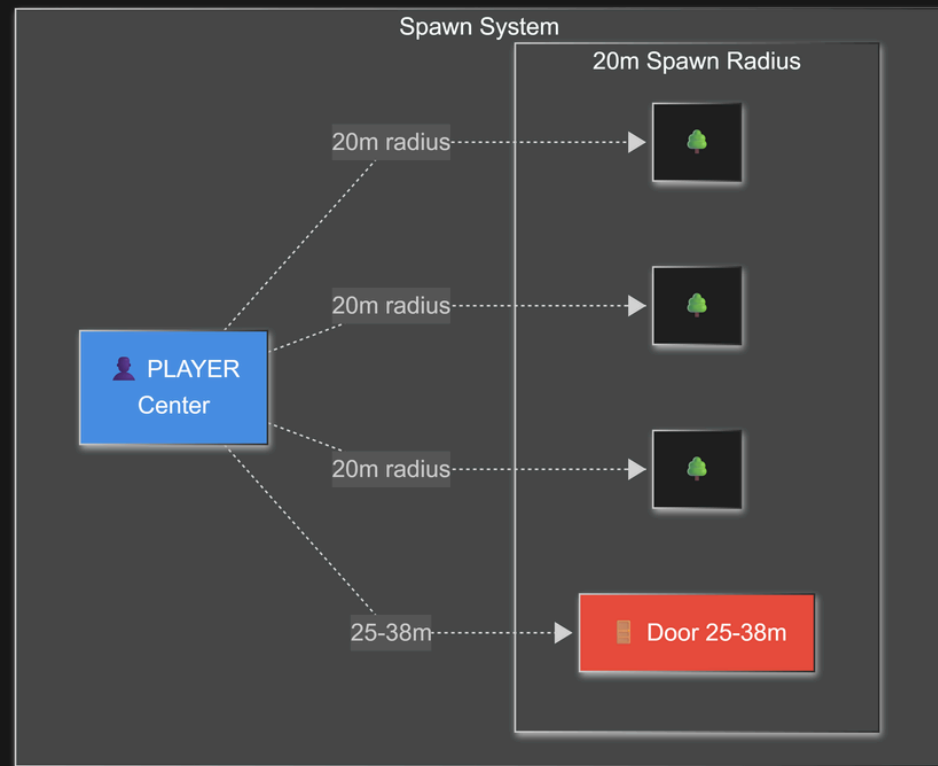
## Parameters:

- Spawn radius: 20m
- Min distance between elements: 2m
- Max attempts: 10
- Raycast for ground height detection



# SOMNIA VR

# Prototype: Procedural Generation



SOMNIA VR

# Prototype: Infinite Ground

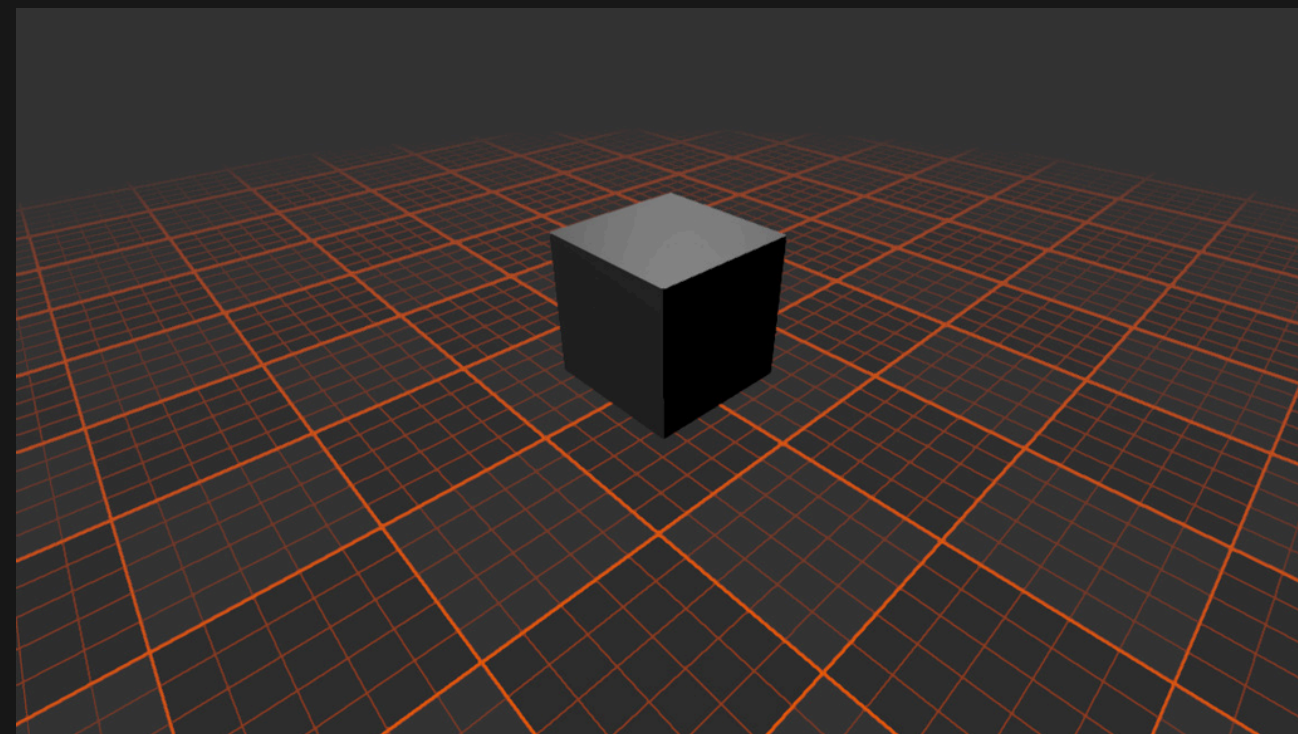
## Dynamic Tile Generation

### System:

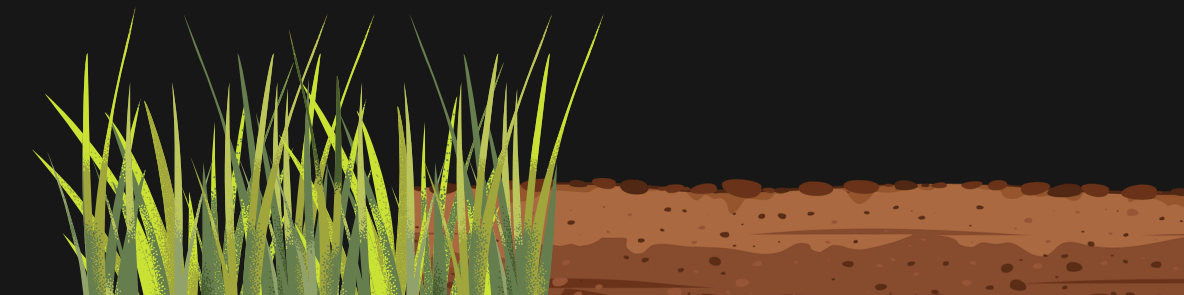
- 10×10m tiles
- 3×3 grid centered on player
- Tile recycling (pooling)

### Emotion-Dependent Materials:

- Happy → Green grass
- Sad → Dark texture



Infinite Ground Grid



# Prototype: Adaptative Environment



Happy



Sunny Environment

Sad



Rainy Environment

## Sunny (Happy):

- Warm light (1.5 intensity)
- Minimal fog (0.001)
- Blue sky

## Rainy (Sad):

- Cold light (0.5 intensity)
- Dense fog (0.01)
- Grey sky + rain particles
- Rain audio

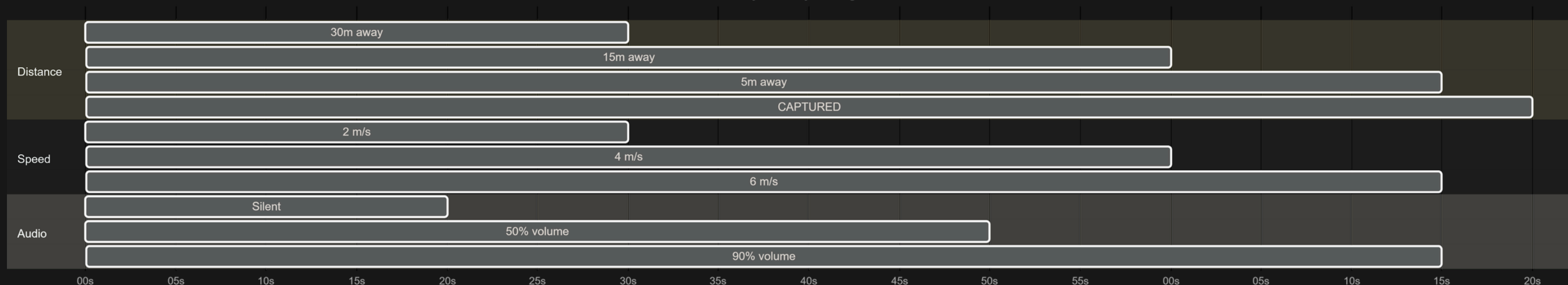
# Prototype: Anxiety Entity

## Progressive Pursuit Mechanism

### Behavior:

- Spawns 30m behind player
- Speed: 2 m/s → 8 m/s (progressive)
- Visual effects intensify with proximity
- Audio volume + pitch increase
- Capture distance: <2m = Game Over

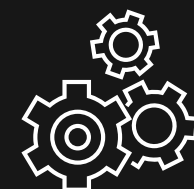
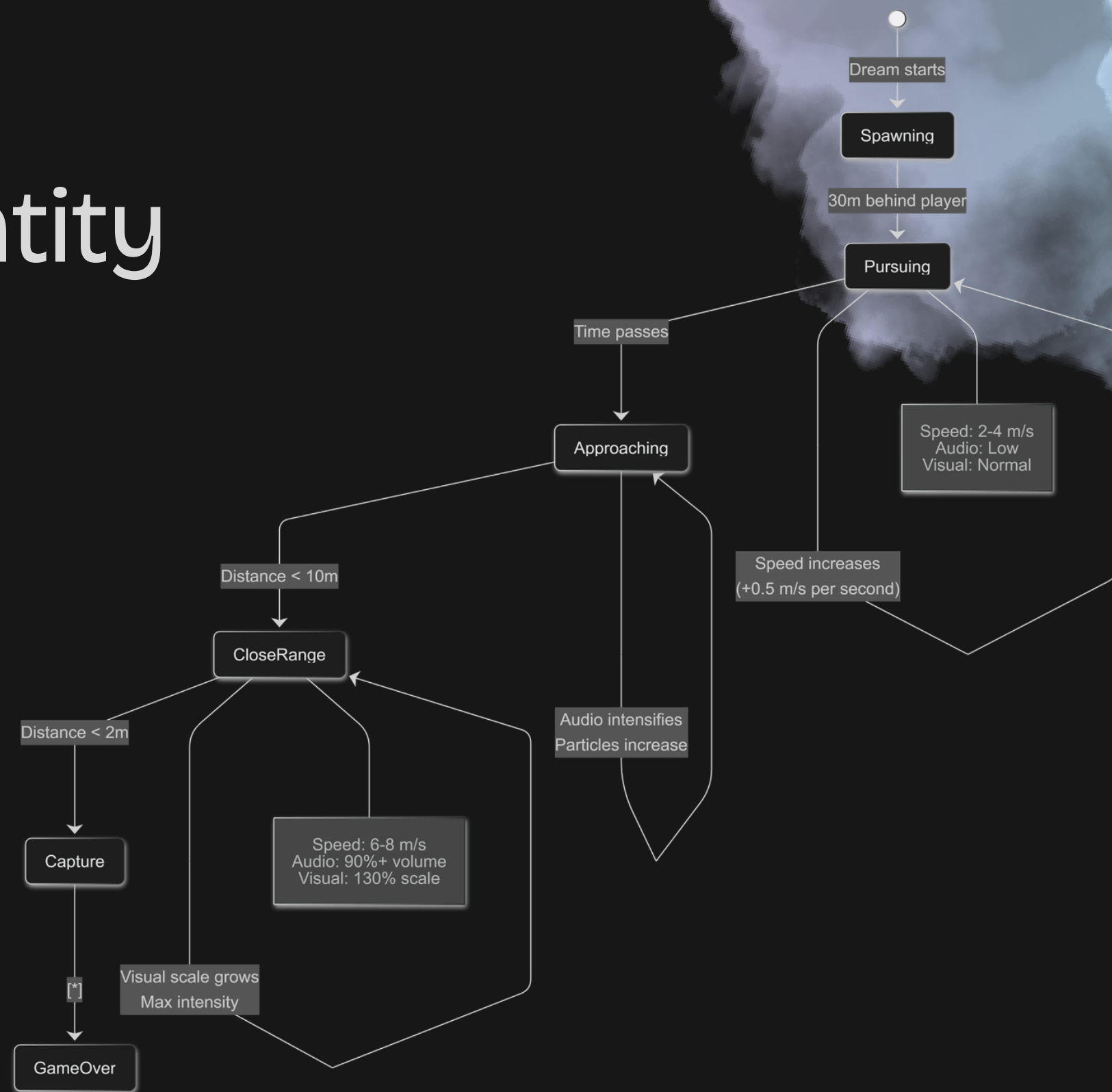
Anxiety Entity Progression



# Prototype: Anxiety Entity



Anxiety Entity represented by a ghost

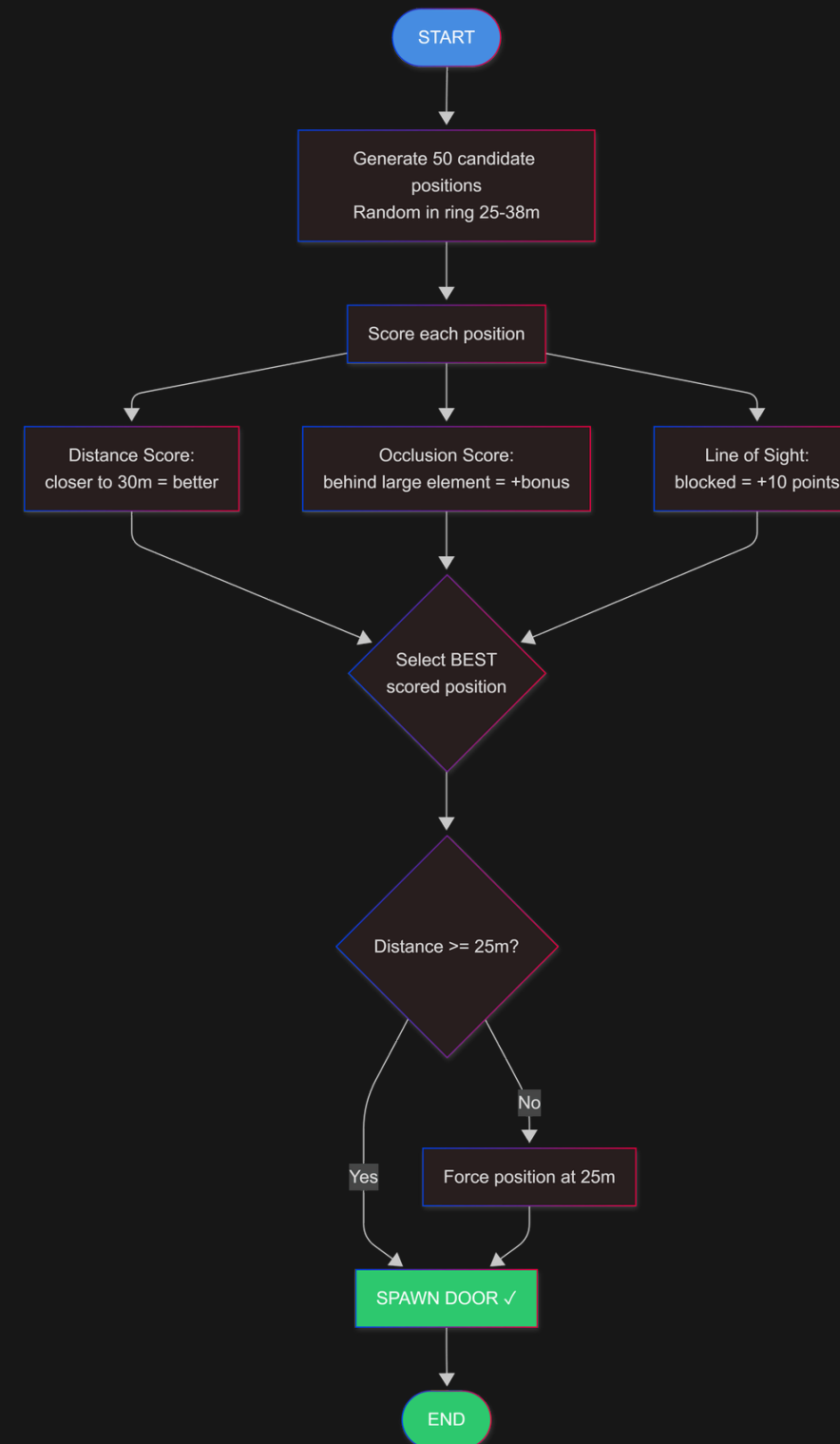


# Prototype: Smart Door System

## Intelligent Exit Positioning

### Smart Algorithm:

- 50 positioning attempts
- Scoring system (distance + occlusion)
- Distance: 25-38m from player
- Hides behind large elements (>3m)
- Guaranteed minimum distance fallback



Personalized 3D Door

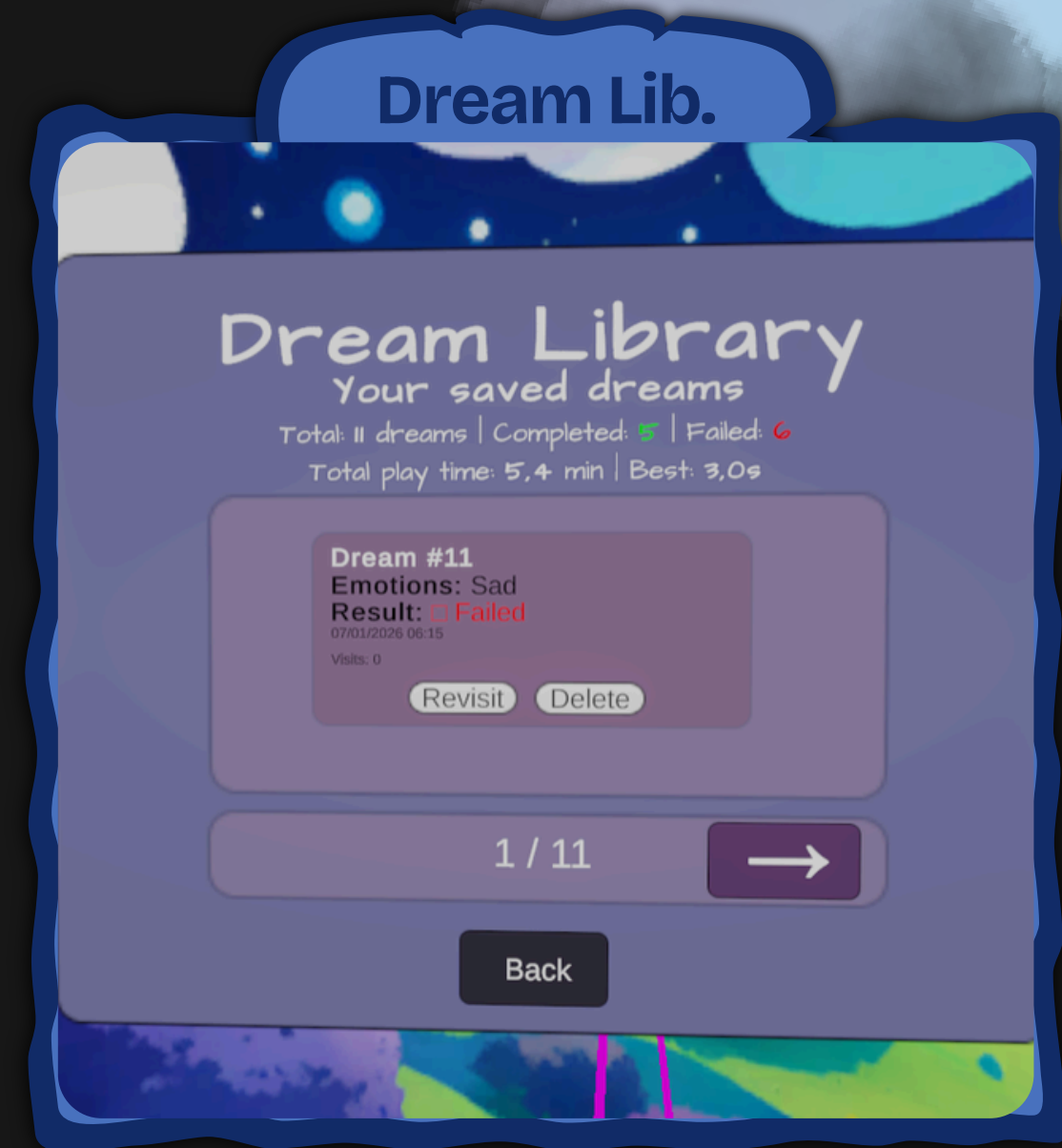
# Prototype: Dream Library



## Persistent Save System

### Stores up to 50 dreams:

- Dream ID (GUID) + Name
- Choices: Happy/Sad, Sun/Rain, Anxiety Mode
- Completion status + duration
- Visit count + best time
- Timestamps



Storage of previous dreams



### Technical Implementation

JSON serialization | Pagination (6/page) | Revisit functionality

# Prototype: Dream Library



SOMNIA VR

# Prototype: Other Features

## Additional Systems

### Timer & HUD:

MM:SS format | World-space canvas | TextMeshPro

### VR Interaction:

Teleport locomotion | Ray interactors | Auto menu positioning | Quest 2/3s support

### Fog Boundary:

40m radius cylinder | Invisible walls | Subtle fog visual

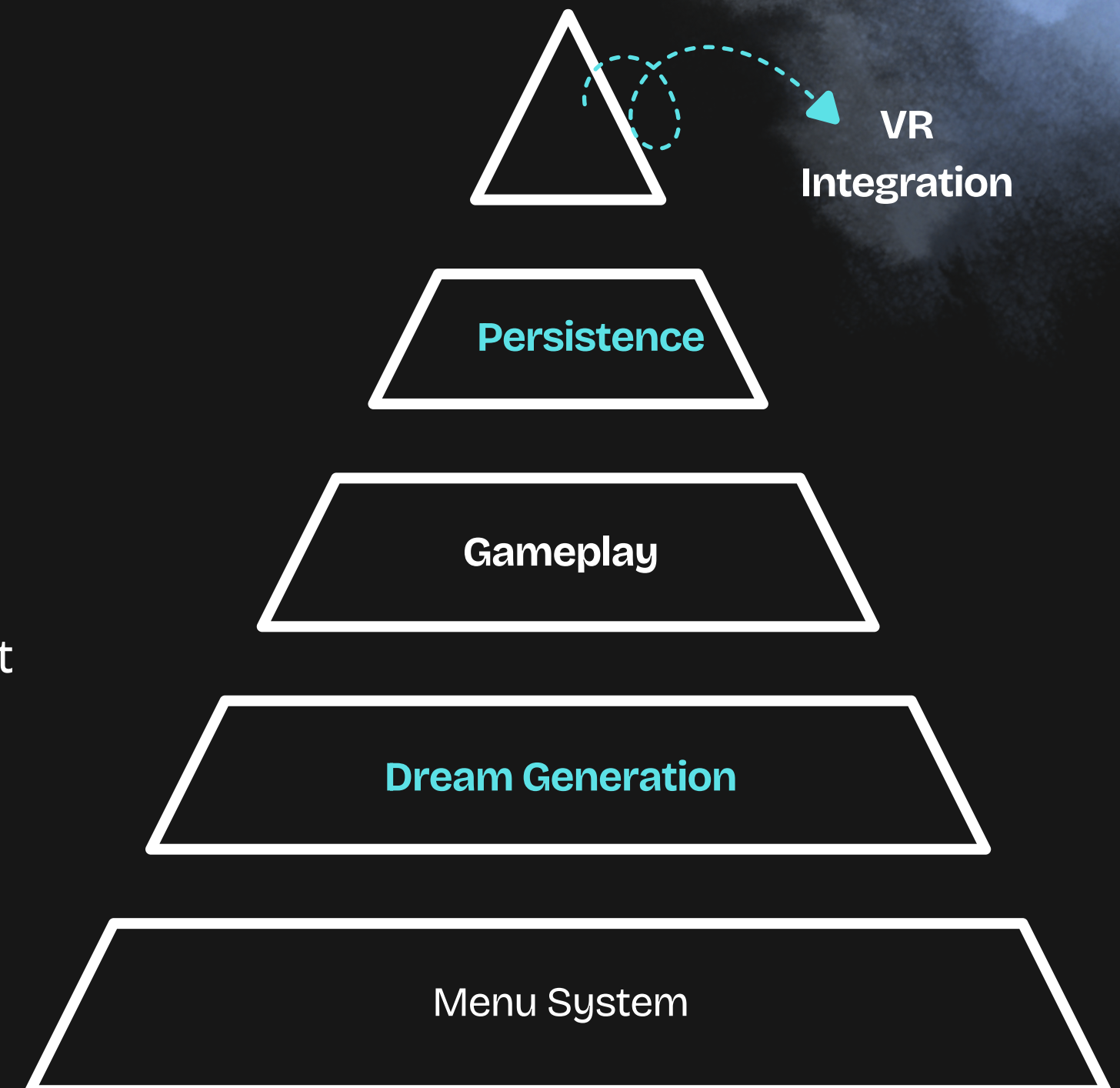


# SOMNIA VR ARCHITECTURE

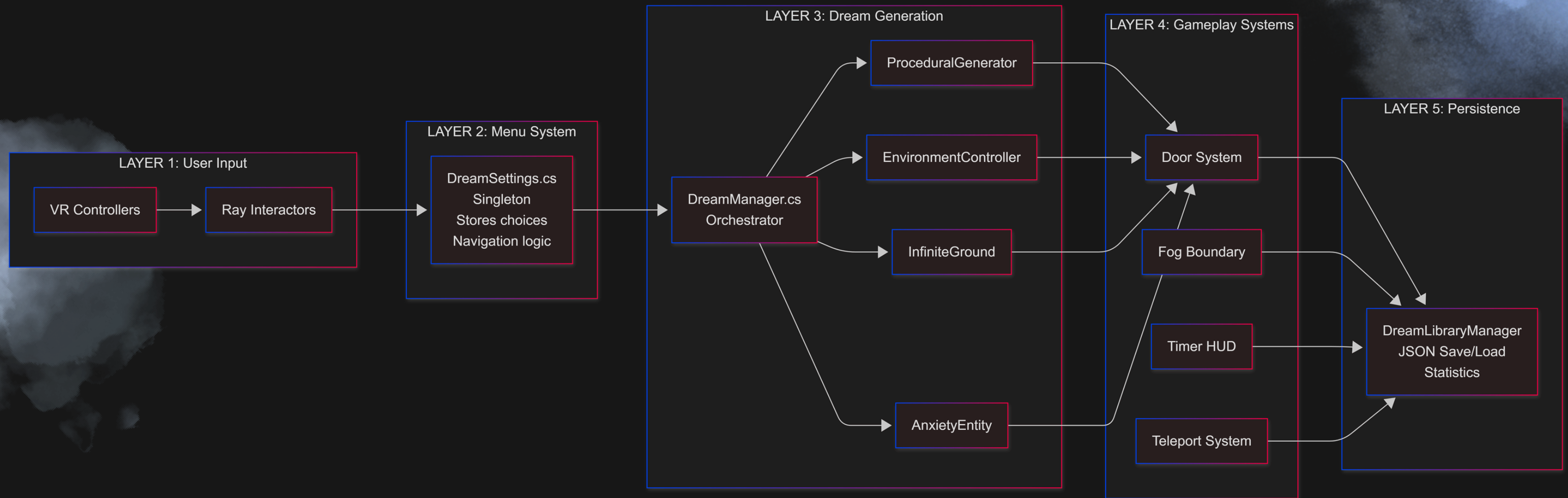
## Modular System Design

### 5 Main Layers:

1. Menu System → DreamSettings.cs
2. Dream Generation → DreamManager | ProceduralGenerator | EnvironmentController | InfiniteGround
3. Gameplay → AnxietyEntity | FogBoundary | Door | Timer
4. Persistence → DreamLibraryManager | DreamData | UI
5. VR Integration → TeleportSystem | VRMenuPositioner | XR Toolkit



# SOMNIA VR ARCHITECTURE



## Data Flow:

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User Input → DreamSettings → DreamManager → Parallel Generation → 3D World → DreamData → Save



# SOMNIA VR TOOLS USED

## Technology Stack



### Engine & Framework:

Unity Unity 6000.2.10f1 | Universal Render Pipeline (URP)

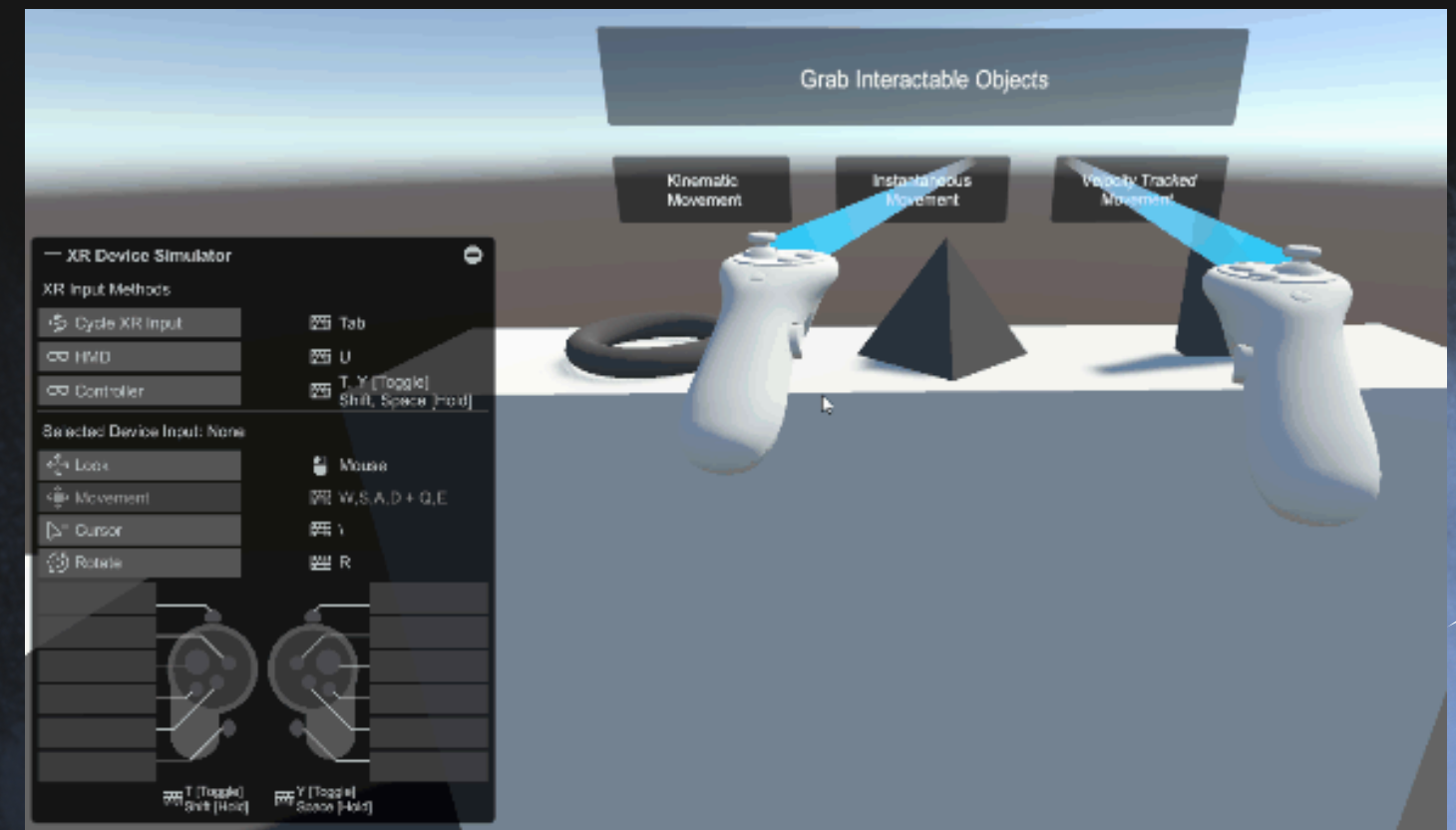
### 3D Assets (10+ packs):

Nature Starter Kit 2 | Rocks and Boulders 2 | Animals FREE | POLYART Ancient Village | Playground Low Poly | +more



### VR:

XR Interaction Toolkit 3.3.0 | Meta Quest OpenXR Plugin



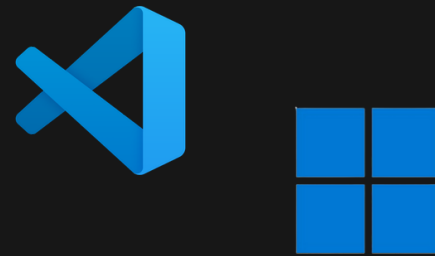


# SOMNIA VR TOOLS USED

## Technology Stack

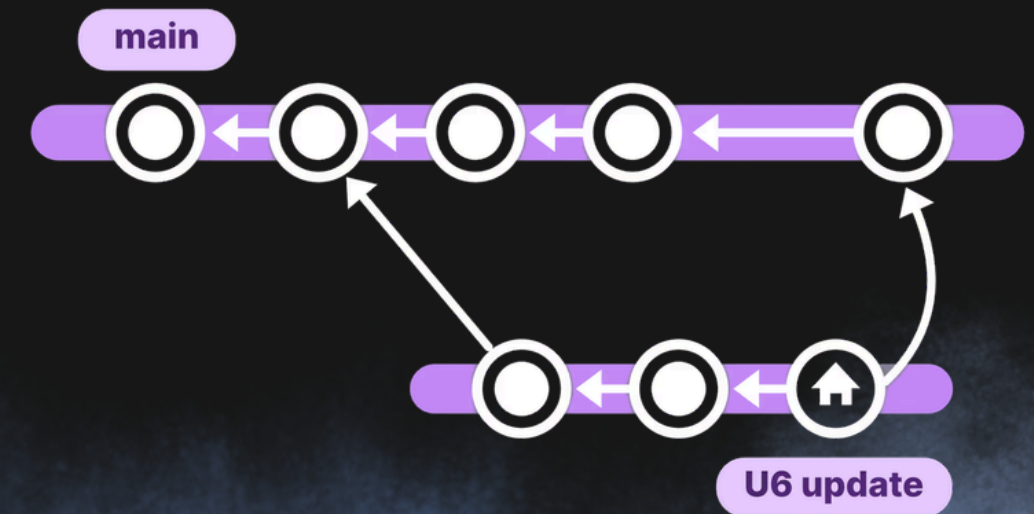
### Development:

Visual Studio Code | Unity DevOps Version Control |  
TextMesh Pro



### Hardware:

Meta Quest 2/3s | Windows PC





SOMNIA VR  
DEMO VIDEO



# SOMNIA VR USER EVALUATION

## Usability & Experience Testing

### Participants:

4 users | Age 20-30 | Mixed VR experience

### Tasks:

1. Navigate 3-stage menu
2. Start dream
3. Explore environment
4. Find exit door
5. Escape Anxiety Entity

### Assessment:

System Usability Scale (SUS) | Qualitative questions (immersion, emotion) | Motion sickness evaluation



# SOMNIA VR USER EVALUATION

## Results

Metric	Result
SUS Score	72/100 (Acceptable-Good)
Task Completion	85%
Menu Navigation Time	45s average
Door Finding Rate	90%
Anxiety Escape Rate	60%

## Qualitative Feedback

### Positive:

Intuitive menus | Engaging variety | Effective tension | Immersive atmosphere | Appreciated revisit feature

### Areas for Improvement:

Occasional overlap | Door sometimes easy to find | Entity too aggressive for novices | No tutorial

### Improvements Implemented:

Double-click protection | Improved door algorithm | Smoother entity movement | Better distance validation



## SOMNIA VR

# EXPECTATION VS REALITY

Initial Gole	Status	Notes
Procedural emotion-based dreams		Happy/Sad functional (needs to expand)
Multiple choice system		3-menu system
Anxiety Mode		Needs improvements
Dream Library		Complete save/load
Construction Mode		Discontinued (time)
Puzzle Mode		Not started



# SOMNIA VR

## MAIN DIFFICULTIES

### Technical Challenges

#### VR Performance:

Problem: Frame drops → motion sickness

Solution: Simple colliders | Limit elements | Tile pooling

#### Spawn Overlap:

Problem: Objects spawning on top of each other

Solution: Occupied positions list | Multiple attempts (10)

#### CharacterController Conflict:

Problem: Player falling through ground on teleport

Solution: Disable during teleport | LateUpdate forces Y position

#### Anxiety Entity Pathfinding:

Problem: NavMesh incompatible with procedural terrain

Solution: Simple XZ plane movement | Ignore obstacles (simplicity > realism)

### Design Challenges

Scope Creep: Too ambitious initially → Pivot to 1 polished mode

Motion Sickness: Teleport > smooth locomotion | Reduced fog

Emotional Differentiation: Accentuated Happy/Sad differences

# SOMNIA VR FUTURE WORK

## Next Steps

- **Additional Game Modes:**  
Puzzle mode (environmental puzzles) | Construction Mode (object manipulation)
- **Expanded Emotions:**  
Calm (ocean, breeze) | Angry (fire, red) | Nostalgic (sepia, vintage) | Gradient system
- **Anxiety Entity:**  
Difficulty levels (Easy/Normal/Hard) | Smart movement (flanking, ambush) | Multiple entities | Stealth mechanics
- **Other Improvements:**  
Achievements & progression | Interactive tutorial | Accessibility options | Cloud save | Asynchronous multiplayer





SOMNIA VR  
DIVISION OF WORK CONDUCTED

Carolina Reis

50%

Hugo Castro

50%





# SOMNIA VR

## WEB REFERENCES

### **Dream Theory (Freud & Jung)**

- ResearchGate. (2024). Exploring the Unconscious: Freud and Jung's Divergent Theories on Dream Analysis. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/377663726>

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# SOMNIA VR

## WEB REFERENCES

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- <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6823515/>



THANK YOU

FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION

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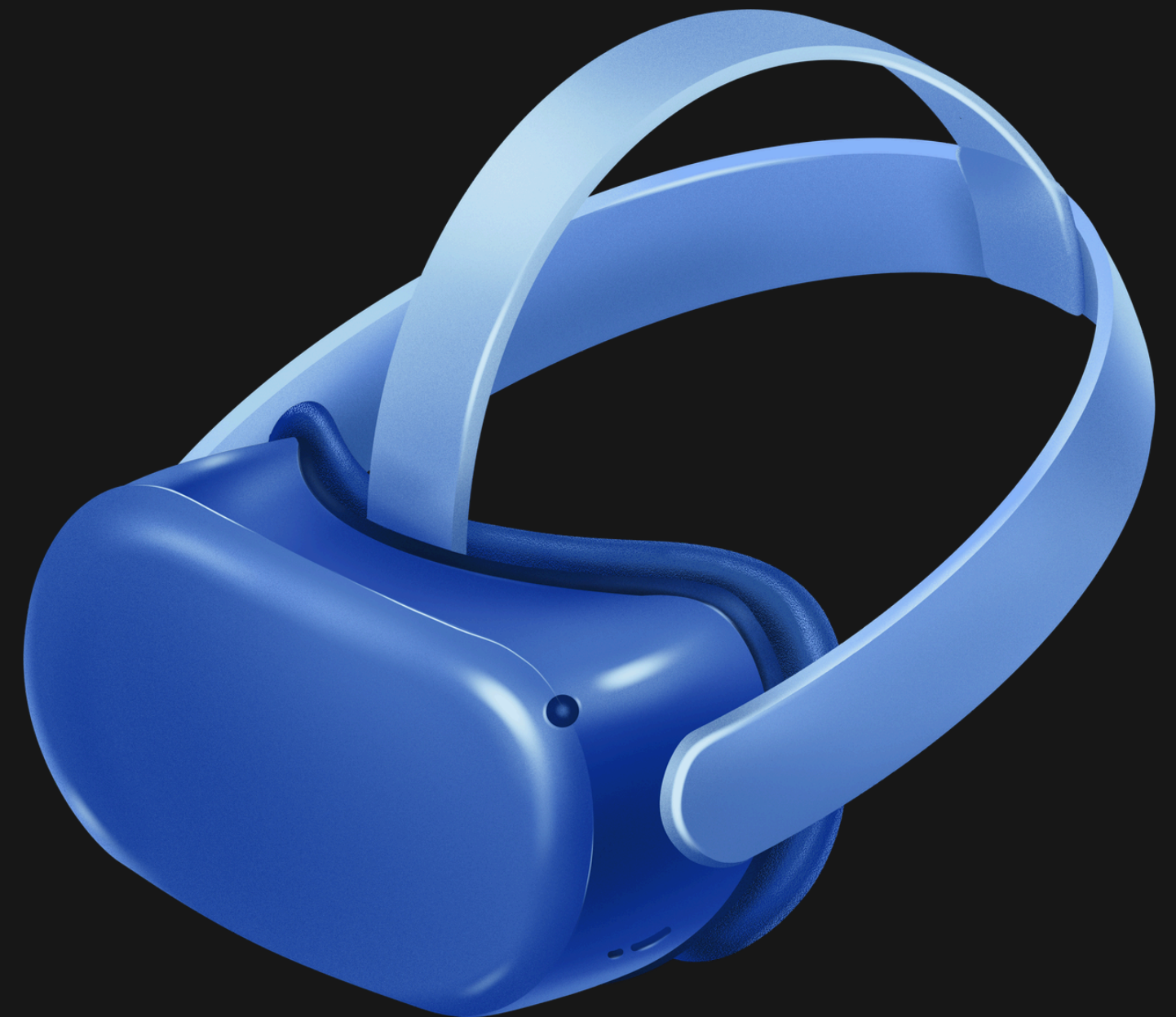


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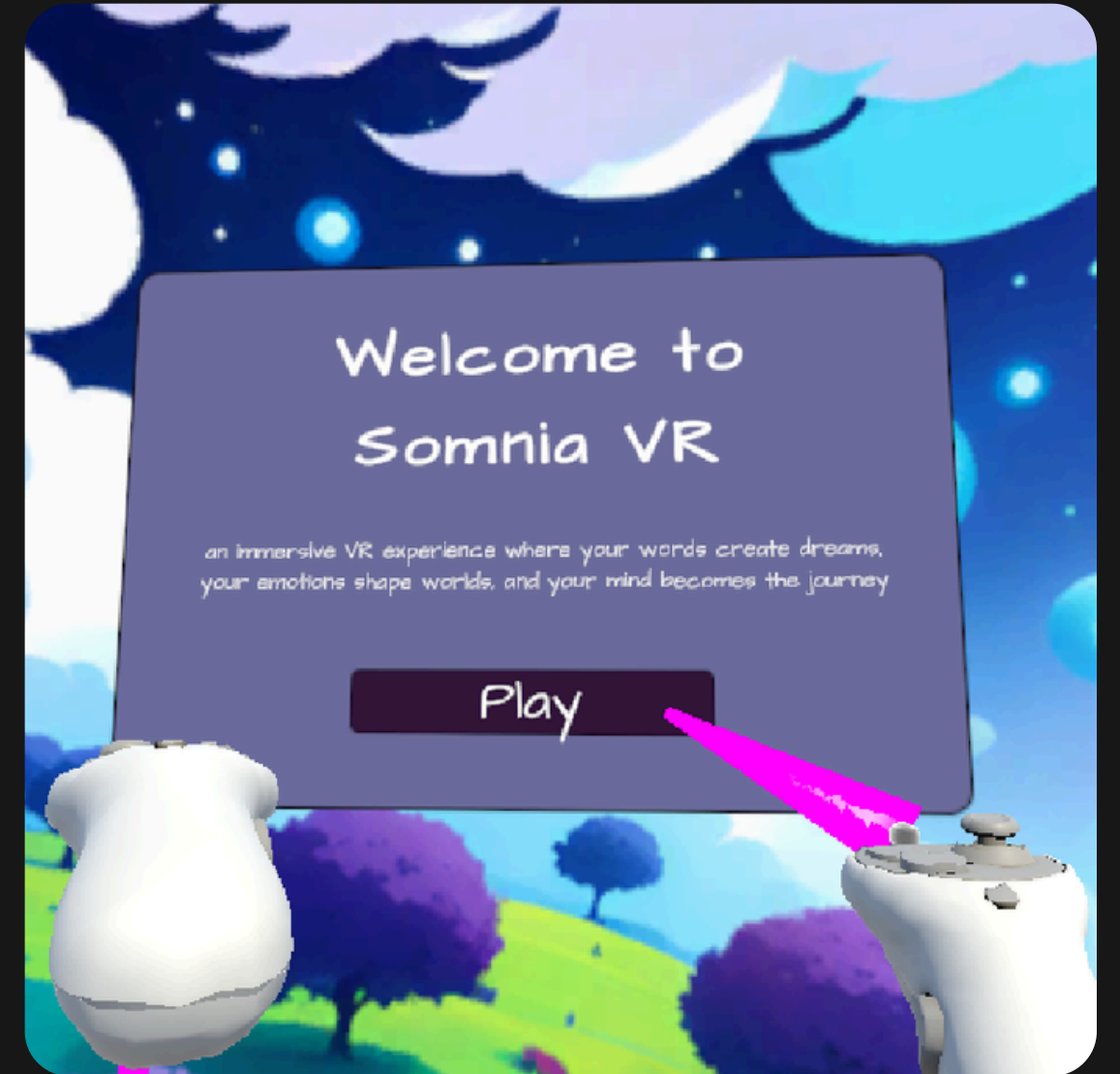
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