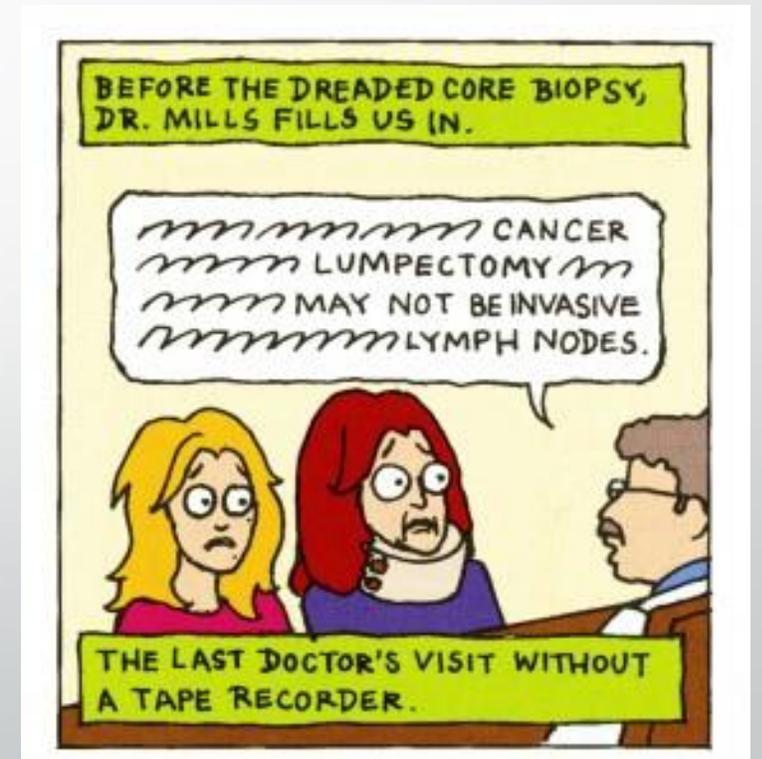# Interactive Narratives in 3D

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Hans de Bruin, Anton Bil, Marlon Kewaldar

HZ University of Applied Sciences

A picture is worth a thousand words

- An interactive story in 3D even more?!?

What is a narrative?

- A narrative or story is an account of a series of related events, experiences, or the like, whether true (episode, vignette, travelogue, memoir, autobiography, biography) or fictitious (fairy tale, fable, story, epic, legend, novel).

- A narrative consists of a set of events (the story) recounted in a process of narration, in which the events are selected and arranged in a particular order (the plot).

What is a narrative structure?

- Narrative structure is about story and plot: the content of a story and the form used to tell the story.

- Acts:

    - The setup (act one) is where all of the main characters and their basic situations are introduced, and contains the primary level of characterization (exploring the character's backgrounds and personalities). A problem is also introduced, which is what drives the story forward.

    - The second act, the conflict, is the bulk of the story, and begins when the inciting incident (or catalyst) sets things into motion. This is the part of the story where the characters go through major changes in their lives as a result of what is happening; this can be referred to as the character arc, or character development.

    - The third act, or resolution, is when the problem in the story boils over, forcing the characters to confront it, allowing all the elements of the story to come together and inevitably leading to the ending.

Elements of an interactive narrative in 3D

- Animated characters acting in a 3D world
- Situations van be viewed form different perspectives:
  - Per character
  - God-like figure (which we call: I Know How)
- Sequence of events is controlled by user
- Game-element: act to change (whether or not hidden or unknown) conditions in order to find satisfactory resolutions

Example: Sue at work

Acts:

1. Sue encounters some difficulties at work, in particular working together with her colleague Peter

2. Improving the situation

   - Discuss the situation with her colleague Peter and her supervisor

   - Discuss the situation with a company doctor

   - Find alternative ways for performing her tasks

3. Resolution: Sue's and her colleague's well-being have improved resulting in an overall better performance

Demonstration and discussion