

Virtual reality offers anyone the unique possibility of getting completely immersed in a virtual environment. The embodiment of a virtual avatar is part of the majority of these experiences and is an important factor in creating this feeling of virtual presence. When the bond between the players and their representation becomes strong enough, it leads to the illusion of body ownership (IVBO), a phenomenon where people start perceiving their virtual representation as their own body. However, most consumer-grade VR setups are not efficient enough to deliver sufficient sensory information to enable this phenomenon to appear. Furthermore, previous research on IVBO predominantly focuses on humanoid avatars instead of all the other possibilities these endless virtual worlds could enable. In this paper, we demonstrate the possibility of creating such an IVBO experience focused on the embodiment of an animal character with a typical consumer-grade VR setup composed of a headset and two controllers. It aims to prove these setups' compatibility with IVBO experiences and offers a list of important concepts for designing and implementing a successful animal embodiment-focused VR experience. Our empirical results show that creating a VR application involving the embodiment of a virtual animal character is totally possible with this consumer-grade setup. It also proved the importance of the environment and sound design of the virtual world in the appearance of IVBO. The results obtained from our user study align with the few previous papers on the subject using more complete setups, proving the potential of such simple setups in this domain.