

# Avatar AI Assistant:

## The Project Overview (Till 1st Month progress)

### 1. Errors encountered:

#### 1. Solved Errors:

- a. Error 1: gtts saved 'wav' file format not working

Error:

Failed to open file file.wav as a WAV due to: file does not start with RIFF id

Solution:

Upon investigation, I found that GTTS (Google Text-to-Speech) saved the file in MP3 format despite maintaining the '.wav' extension. Consequently, the file lacked the appropriate 'wav' format. Resolution: Given the necessity for WAV format to ensure high-quality audio output for avatar streaming, I opted to substitute the GTTS module with another text-to-speech solution known as pyttsx3, a Python library proficient in translating text to speech."

- b. Error 2: OSC-message gave no effect in facial expression:

- i. Error:

While implementing OSC messaging for facial expression on the Avatar, I encountered an issue. The code I utilized worked seamlessly for one avatar but failed for another.

```
def facial_express(emo_val):  
    osc_address = '/avatar/parameters/FacialExpression'  
    osc_value = emo_val  
    client.send_message(osc_address, osc_value)
```

- ii. Solution:

It became apparent that not all avatars share the same OSC address. Additionally, creators have the freedom to define default OSC addresses for their avatars. Therefore, it's crucial to either set the OSC address

during the avatar's creation or have a comprehensive understanding of the parameters supported by the avatar.

To ascertain the parameters supported by a specific avatar, one can navigate to VRChat's settings > debug > Avatar debug. Alternatively, locally, this information can be found within the config file located at:

```
~\AppData\LocalLow\VRChat\VRChat\OSC\{userId}\Avatars\{avatarId}.json`
```

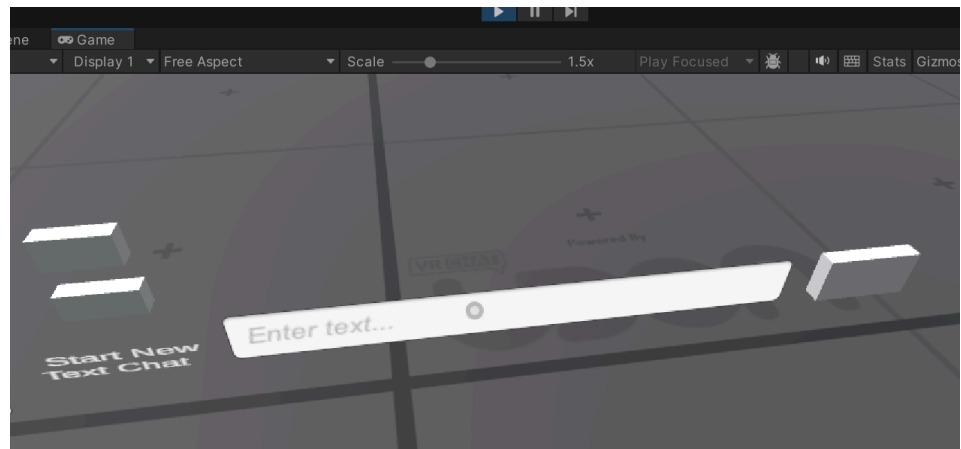
Upon inspecting the config file, I discovered that the OSC address for facial expression on the Avatar I was working with was actually *"/avatar/parameters/Face/Facial"*, rather than *"/avatar/parameters/FacialExpression"*. Making this adjustment resolved the issue.

```
def facial_express(emo_val):  
  
    osc_address = '/avatar/parameters/Face/Facial'  
    osc_value = emo_val  
    client.send_message(osc_address, osc_value)
```

c. Error 3:: Text Input field was not write able in Unity Game:

iii. Error:

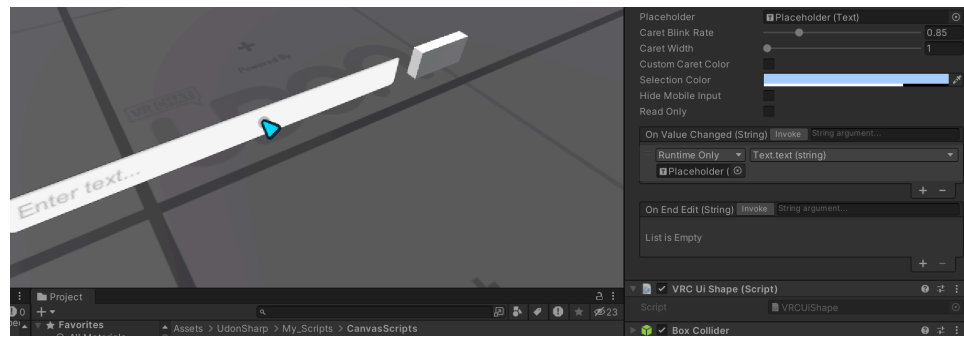
I was not able to write on both the legacy as well as TMX Pro input field when in the “game” scene in Unity.



iv. Solution:

I was able to write on the input field in the “game” scene after adding a component called “VRC Ui Shape (Script)” on the inspector window of that

## Input Text field.



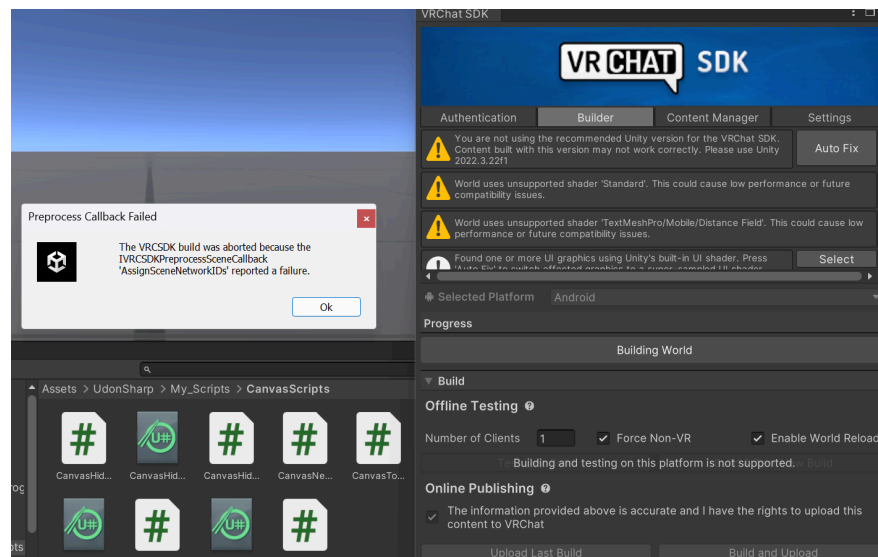
### d. Error 4: Error in audio channel settings:

Error might code due to mismatch of audio channels and sampling frequency given by the user. So, in that case please run the “audio\_dev.py” file using “python audio\_dev.py” to get the information about the available audio channels for both VB-audio A and B. Then set them accordingly as specified in the above sections.

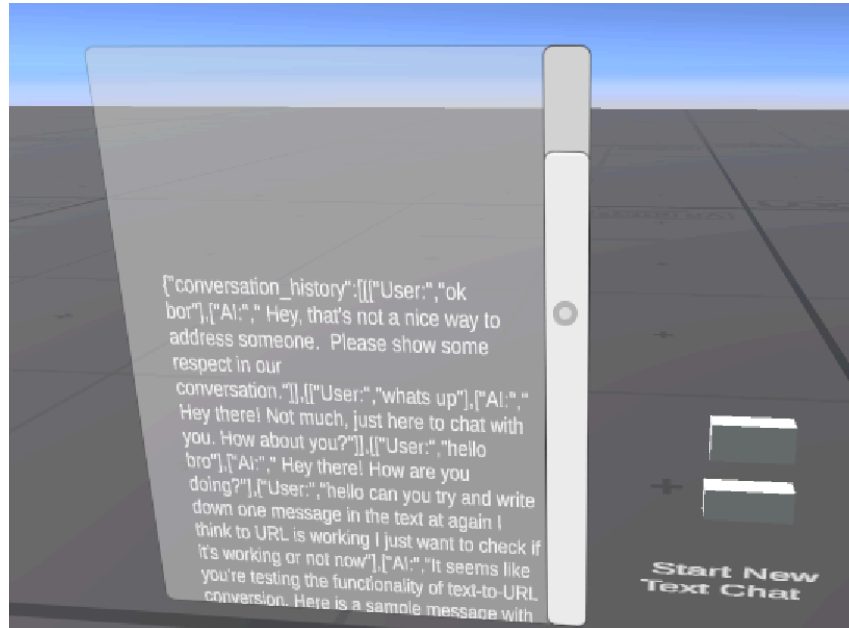
e. Error 5: Error due to python versions: Please set the python version to 3.12.0 if any new updates may depreciate dependencies. Also if you use 3.12.0 please install setup tools manually if not automatically installed using “pip install setuptools” (ref: <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/69919970/no-module-named-distutils-but-distutils-in-stalled>)

## 2. Unsolved Errors:

- a. When I converted some C# Script to Udon# consequently this didn't let me build and upload the world threw this error:



- b. The UI ScrollView wont work (content is not moving the when slides) when and the text is not placed in the right place in Unity “game” window. However it works when I keep the camera from World Space to Screen Space.



- c. I have utilized the VRCUrl input for taking the user text message from the VRChat users. This is forcing the input to include the URL and user has to type the URL before any message they want to send. I am not able to tweak this or found any effective alternative.

## 2. IMPORTANT REFERENCES

### 1. OSC Use:

1. <https://qiita.com/will-yama/items/2945ab43c28352c2817e> This link uses OSC to manipulate chat avatar. I got the hint to leverage OSC for showing facial expressions to my avatar via this.
2. <https://docs.vrchat.com/docs/osc-as-input-controller> This is the official link of documentation for OSC use in VRChat.
  - a. This explains to how can use the OSC as Input controller.
  - b. This link provided me with the hint to use the “chatbox/input” to show text over avatar’s head and “chatbox/typing” to make the avatar display thinking dots when the backend is processing for AI response generation.

3. <https://docs.vrchat.com/docs/osc-debugging> This link describes how we can visualize the osc messages being passed on our VRChat. This lets us to test if our OSC-message is getting any changes in the parameters of avatar or not.
4. <https://docs.vrchat.com/docs/osc-avatar-parameters> This link describes how we can get information about the parameters of the Avatar that can be manipulated using OSC. It gives idea about the config file of the avatar that is saved inside the VRChat' OSC folder inside our C drive directory. The config file can be essential if we want to know about the OSC parameters, OSC address and types that the Avatar we are using supports.

## 2. VRCUrl, VRCUrlInputField and String Loading:

1. <https://udonsharp.docs.vrchat.com/vrchat-api/#vrcurlinputfield> This link provided me with information on VRCUrl and VRCUrlInputField
  - a. VRCUrl: This allows us to set a URL during editor time not in runtime. Thus we need to set this up in unity itself before building and uploading in VRchat world. I leveraged this to use it to set the consistent fastapi endpoint for showing chat history and creating new text chat sessions.
  - b. VRCUrlInputField: This field allows users to enter any URL during the game runtime. A Http request can be made to this URL. I have leveraged the VRCUrlInputField as an input field for user messages. When a user types in a message preceded by the URL of my backend fastapi (responsible for responding with AI answers) and makes a HTTP request, the fast api gets the request and provides the AI answers back to VRChat (Udon Script).
2. <https://creators.vrchat.com/worlds/udon/string-loading/>: This link (String loading) provides essential concepts on how to get the data downloaded from server to udon sharp. Useful for chat applications between external servers and VrChat..
3. <https://qjiita.com/namanonamako/items/96338ac346bafa912f08> : gives a good idea on how to make a request from U# to any external server and get the response back. This combines the idea of VRCUrl and String Loading. Moreover, the work involves receiving the string from the server but not sending string data to the server.
4. <https://docbase.io/posts/3074819/sharing/02ddccc2-f53a-4138-975b-0560cd48d6af> This document in the link provided me more idea on how to utilize the VRCUrlInputField to make two way string communication possible from VRchat to external server and viceversa. I slightly improvised this method to make a fastapi server based chat system using similar approach of using VRCUrlInputfield instead of VRCUrl field that enables runtime http request to make along with user message passing to external server.