#### She is NOT as Good as Him: Using Gender Swap in Virtual Reality for Increasing Empathy

CS567-Checkpoint 2

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### **Outline**

- Research question
- Project Scenario
- Designing the environment in Unity
- Creating avatars with Adobe Fuse
- Reading Papers
- Future Steps

#### Can we increase empathy for victims of sexism using virtual reality?

- Under-representation of female students in STEM fields
- The stereotypes associating this area with males is a major barrier that prevents female students from developing interests in this field
- This concept can be generalized to other issues that involve stereotyping, for example the ones that are caused by: age, race, and appearance, or the ones that involve LGBT groups.

#### **Project Scenario**

- The participants of this projects are all male
- The participants experience two interviews in a VR environment
  - First interview with a male avatar
  - Second interview with a female avatar (gender-swap)
- Second interview is done under a sexist behaviour
- At the end, users complete a questionnaire



# 1. Designing the environment in Unity



Mirror

Adding Physics

High poly Texture



## Wizard-of-oz





# 2. Building new avatars in Adobe Fuse



## 5. Papers

 Perceived Authenticity, Empathy, and Pro-social Intentions evoked through Avatar-mediated Self-disclosures

Daniel Roth, Carola Bloch, Josephine Schmitt and et. al

• I See You: Interspecies Empathy and Avatar.

Sideris and Lisa H<sup>‡</sup>

## **Future Steps**

- 1. Creating survey for facial expressions
- 2. Attaching the avatar to FPS Controller
- 3. Importing interviewer avatar to unity and expand it
- 4. Reproducing the experiment for new male avatar
- 5. Fixing Hair problem
- 6. Creating more animations for the body
- 7. Reading more related papers