



# 3D Web Interoperability for the Metaverse

**SIGGRAH 2023 BoF - 8 August 2023**

**Anita Havele**

**Executive Director, Web3D Consortium**

**[anita.havele@web3d.org](mailto:anita.havele@web3d.org)**

**[www.web3d.org](http://www.web3d.org)**





# Metaverse has many definitions

A virtual-reality space in which users can interact with a computer-generated environment and other users.

# What might be a workable definition of term 'Metaverse'? Here is one of many:

- A constellation of connected multi-dimensional computer generated **virtual worlds**
- Where people will work, learn, play, buy, sell, communicate, collaborate, interact and travel.
- Could it be a sustainable, open and interoperable
- Could this be achieved through existing standards

Paper: [The Keys to an Open, Interoperable Metaverse](#)



# Elements of a Virtual Environment

- Real-time scene clients with lighting, animation, objects, user interaction (load asset and I/O devices)
- Scene updates through user interactions (animation, events, Web links)
- Shared consistent state via Web



# WWW + Web3D

## **Extensible 3D (X3D):**

### 3D Scene Graph

- Designed for distributed clients to experience 3D worlds from any platform across several domains.
- Designed for flexible, royalty-free authoring across verticals and data types

# X3D: Interoperable 3D for the Metaverse



# Data from different domains have to Coexist Mashup 3D data across domains



Design



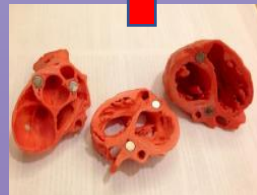
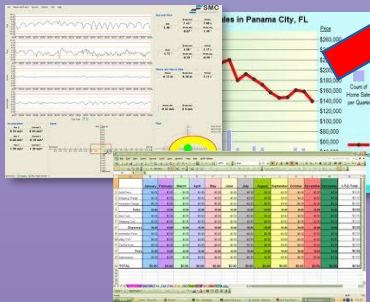
Geo



**OPEN  
STANDARDS  
FRAMEWORK**



Medical



3D  
Printing

Medical (MRI, Scans, 3D Prints)

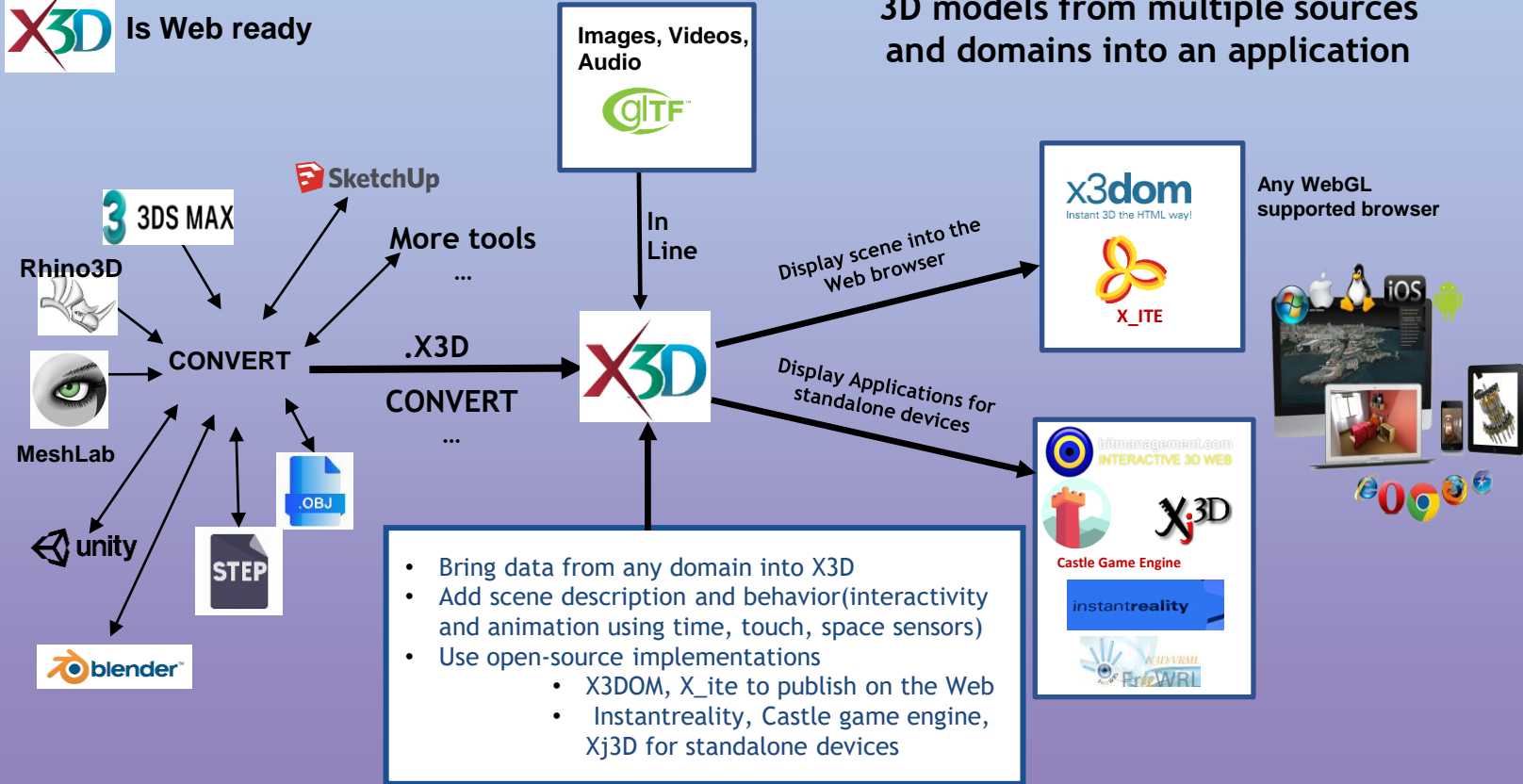
# X3D Ecosystem

**X3D** Is Web ready

X3D provides a presentation layer (a scenegraph) to display 3D models from multiple sources and domains into an application

## Domains

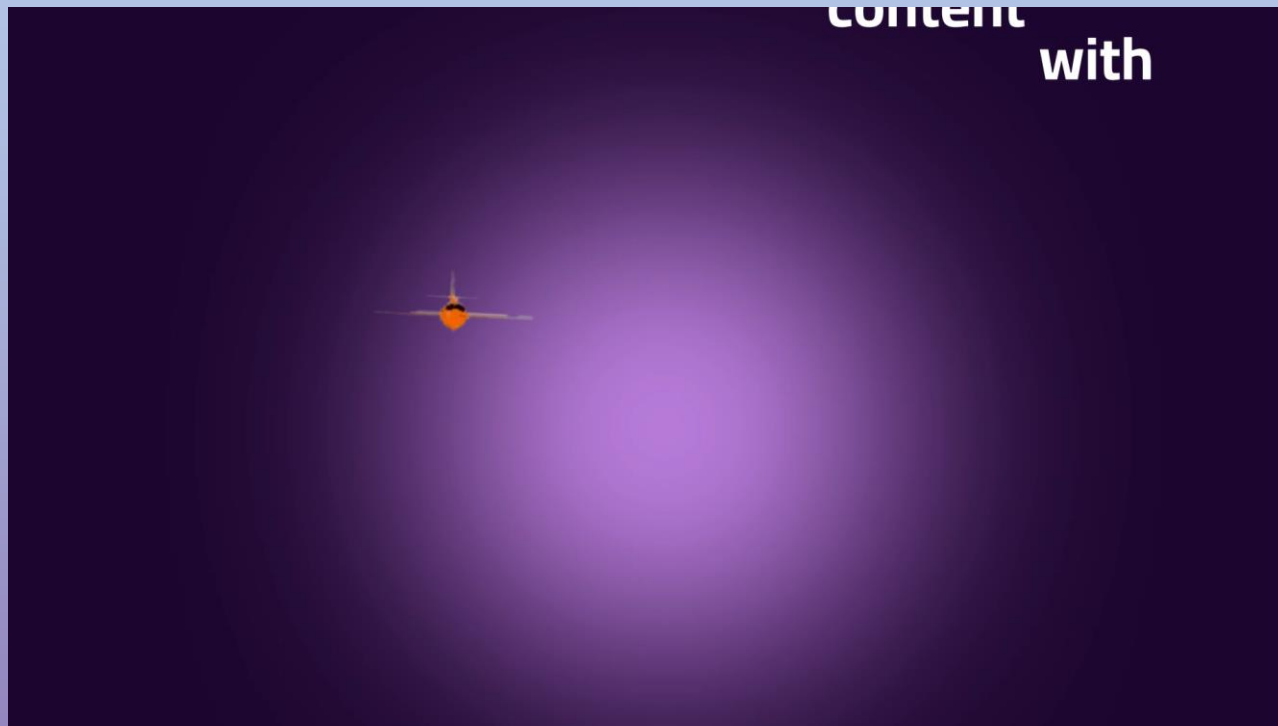
Geospatial  
 Medical  
 CAM/CAM  
 3D Scanning  
 3D Printing  
 Design  
 Manufacturing  
 Heritage  
 ...and more



**A complete 3D Web application with Web Services!**



# What is X3D?



# What is Extensible 3D (X3D)

- Originated from VRML, X3D is an ISO standardized specification for interactive 3D graphics.
- A File Format and Runtime API (Javascript, Java, ...)
- Multiple encodings (file formats): XML, VRML, Compressed binary, JSON, based on the same abstract scenegraph model
- Includes shaders, animation, interaction, geometry, texturing, lighting, camera
- Extensible - Capabilities added through scripting and node prototyping



# What is Extensible 3D (X3D)

- Large set of nodes for 3D modeling
- Profile and Component structure promotes interoperability
- Domain components - Design, 3D Printing, Medical, Geospatial, Humanoid Animation, AR and VR
- Implementations on multiple platforms: desktop, mobile, Web
- Multiple open-source implementations ([X3DOM](#) and [X-ite](#))



X-ite

[www.web3d.org/what-x3d](http://www.web3d.org/what-x3d)

**x3dom**  
Instant 3D the HTML way!

# Web3D® Consortium



**An International, non-profit, member funded,  
Standards Development Organization (SDO)  
since 1997**

Developing the royalty-free ISO specifications  
**X3D®** and **Hanim** for interactive 3D Graphics on the Web

Community of Technologists and Enterprises who value open  
and stable 3D platforms

Members include Academia, Government, Industry, Research,  
and Professionals



[www.web3D.org](http://www.web3D.org)

# We are laying the foundation

Geospatial  
Medical  
Design  
3D Printing  
& Scanning



Simulation  
Humanoid Animation  
VR Technologies  
Augmented Reality





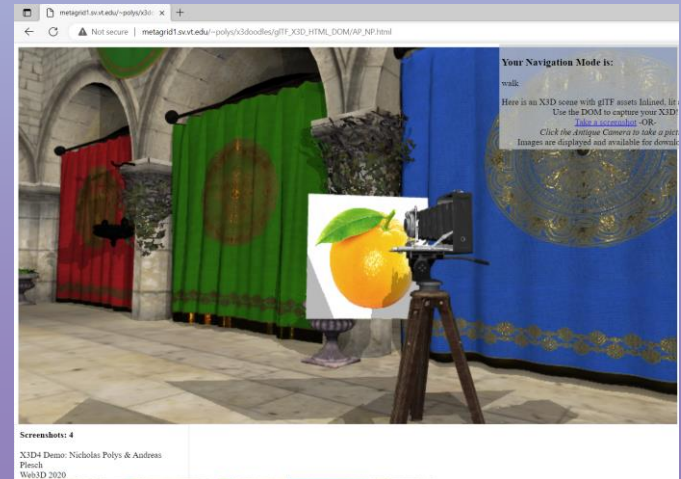
**Build once use anywhere**  
**The Web is the platform**



# X3D Provides Flexibility, Expressive Power

- **HTML**
  - 2D User Interfaces, layouts
  - DOM and event linkages
- **X3D**
  - compose 3D scenes across formats and languages
  - user interaction, any device
- **gITF**
  - model embed, convert
  - advanced rendering

- **Audio**
  - spatialization
  - Web Audio API
  - MIDI 2.0



# Web3D: Working Groups Highlights

**X3D:** X3D Version 4 specification (X3D4).

## **Design, Printing and Scanning (DPS):**

Developing standards and practices for robust and secure visualization of STEP Product Data, with valuable collaboration with other visualization formats such as JT and 3D-PDF.

**Geospatial:** Workflows and systems to support glTF and a Cesium Tiles-type approach for dealing with large and complex scenes.

**Medical:** Through our HL7 Liaison relationships, the Medical WG has developed several examples using X3D to visualize healthcare data.

**Heritage:** Creating a Web3D library from their world-class insect collection.

**Join us and participate in building X3D**

[WWW.Web3D.org/working-groups](http://WWW.Web3D.org/working-groups)



# WebX3D.org and X3D Webinars



[WebX3D](#) – Learn X3D  
Easy access to get started with X3D  
[Blogs](#), [Newsletter](#) and more!  
[YouTube](#)  
[X3D Resources](#)



**Web3D Webinars**  
Learn X3D, X3D Browsers, X3D Tools  
[www.web3d.org/webinars](http://www.web3d.org/webinars)

[www.web3d.org/news-events](http://www.web3d.org/news-events)

# NEW RELEASES!

Four different open-source engines released for SIGGRAPH!



**X3DOM.org : Javascript Engine - New Release 1.8.3**



**X\_ITE : Javascript Engine - New Release**



Castle Game Engine

**Castle Game Engine**



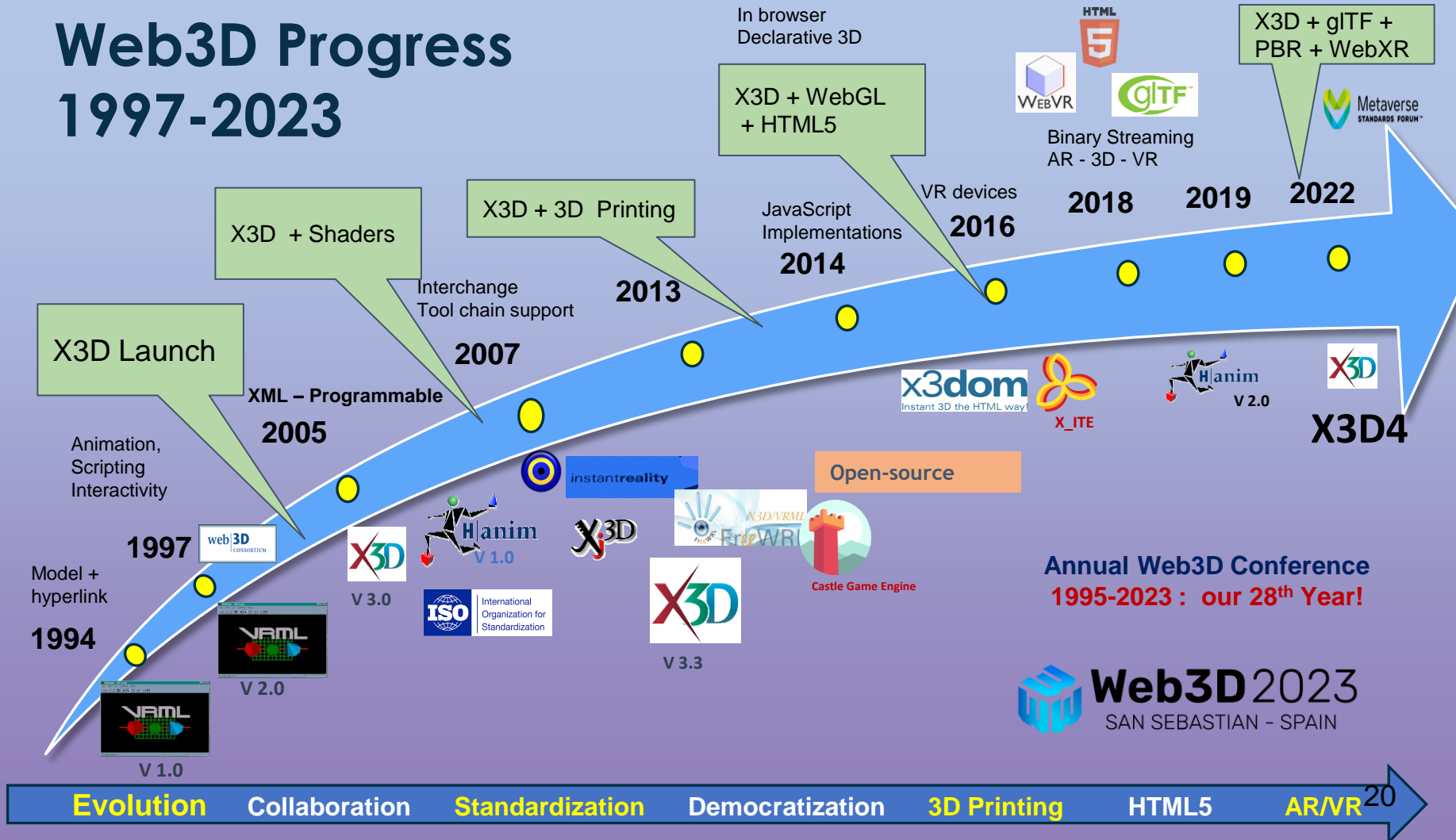
**FreeWRL 6.1**

# Web3D Efforts include SDO Harmonization

Engagement and coordination with multiple SDOs and open source efforts.



# Web3D Progress 1997-2023





# 3D Web Interoperability Proposal

## Metaverse Standards Forum

### Goal

Enable the broadest possible interoperability of  
Metaverse content using the Web

To make the Metaverse fully interoperable with the WWW  
and the Standards ecosystem in order to enable new  
Metaverse capabilities to flourish on a strong foundation..

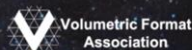
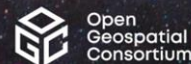
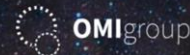
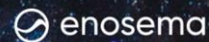


Metaverse Standards Forum (MSF) has many current efforts, over 2300 members

## A Constellation of Standards

Building a pervasive, open and inclusive metaverse at a global scale will require cooperation and coordination between a constellation of international standards organizations, including the Khronos Group, World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), Open Geospatial Consortium, OpenAR Cloud, [Spatial Web Foundation](#), and many others.

The Forum does not create standards itself but coordinates requirements and resources to foster the creation and evolution of standards within standards organizations working in relevant domains.



# Upcoming Events

**SIGGRAPH 2023** 6-10 August 2023 - **Los Angeles, California**

**Multiple BoF sessions: Carto, X3D4, & 3D Web Interoperability**

**Web3D 2023** 9-11 October 2023 - **San Sebastian, Spain**

Metaverse Theme, Papers, Tutorials, Workshops, Industrial Use Cases, Demos

**Metaverse Workshop on Oct 11<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 PM**



# Join Web3D and Participate

Join us in building X3D



## Contact

**Anita Havele**

Executive Director,  
Web3D Consortium

[Anita.Havele@Web3D.org](mailto:Anita.Havele@Web3D.org)

[contact@web3d.org](mailto:contact@web3d.org)

[X3d-public@web3d.org](mailto:X3d-public@web3d.org)

What is X3D flyer: [www.web3d.org/about](http://www.web3d.org/about)

[www.web3d.org/join](http://www.web3d.org/join)