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Thesis
submitted to the
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### **Contents**

	Abstract	ХÌ
	Überblick	xiii
	Acknowledgements	xv
	Conventions	xvii
1	Introduction	1
2	Related work	3
3	Hardware Prototype and Software	5
	3.1 Hardware Prototype	5
	3.2 Software	5
4	Evaluation	7
	4.1 User Study	7
5	Summary and future work	9

vi Contents

	5.1 Summary and contributions	9
	5.2 Future work	10
A	TITLE OF THE FIRST APPENDIX	13
В	TITLE OF THE SECOND APPENDIX	15
	Bibliography	17
	Index	19

## **List of Figures**

### **List of Tables**

### **Abstract**

A lot of research is going into underwater global positioning systems since radio waves do not propagate underwater. However, the few underwater navigation approaches out there use bulky screen devices which are held in hand. This leads to constrained movement, is rather distractive, and prone to varying brightness conditions. In this master thesis we describe the construction of a prototype, which incorporates several feedback methods, and its evaluation. We implement a vibration motor, a red LED, and a peltier element in diving goggles and a headband. Additionally waterproof in-ear headphones were used for auditory feedback. Since these devices are worn on the head they allow an unintrusive way to give low level directional cues. In a user study we evaluate the feedback methods ashore as a baseline and compare it to their performance underwater and gather additional qualitative feedback of the participants.

xii Abstract

### Überblick

Global Positioning Systeme für Navigation unter Wasser ist ein aktuelles Forschungsgebiet, da Radiowellen unter Wasser nicht übertragen werden. Die wenigen Systeme, die Unterwassernavigation zu einem gewissen Level umsetzen, nutzen Bildschirme, die in der Hand gehalten werden. Das ist behindert die Bewegungsfreiheit, ist eher ablenkend und die Sichtbarkeit ist beeinflusst durch sich ändernde Lichtverhältnisse. In dieser Masterarbeit wird die Konstruktion eines Prototypen beschrieben, der verschiedene Feedbackmethoden beinhaltet und deren Auswertung. Wir benutzen einen Vibrationsmotor, eine rote LED und ein Peltierelement in einer Taucherbrille und Stirnband. Zusätzlich verwenden wir wasserfeste In-Ohr-Kopfhörer für Akustisches Feedback. Da diese Geräte direkt am Kopf getragen werden, ermöglichen sie einen unaufdringlichen Wege Richtungsangaben auf niedrigem Level zu vermitteln. In einen Benutzerstudie werten wir die verschiedenen Feedbackmethoden an Land aus und vergleichen die Leistung mit der unter Wasser. Zusätzlichen sammeln wir qualitatives Feedback der Teilnehmer.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you!

### **Conventions**

Throughout this thesis we use the following conventions.

Text conventions

Definitions of technical terms or short excursus are set off in coloured boxes.

#### **Excursus:**

Excursus are detailed discussions of a particular point in a book, usually in an appendix, or digressions in a written text.

Definition: Excursus

Source code and implementation symbols are written in typewriter-style text.

myClass

The whole thesis is written in Canadian English.

Download links are set off in coloured boxes.

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### Introduction

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### Related work

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# Hardware Prototype and Software

In this chapter we present the construction of the hardware setup and the user study program. Furthermore

- 3.1 Hardware Prototype
- 3.2 Software

### **Evaluation**

In this chapter we will evaluate our prototypes with respect to the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the different feedback methods. We are interested to what extent the perception of feedback differs onshore versus underwater regarding time until the stimulus is perceived. Afterwards the user gives feedback in order to tell if the conditions make a difference with respect to preference.

Since vibro-tactile and visual feedback is common today for several application ashore we let users test it onshore as well as under water. We drop sound in the underwater condition since it requires specific waterproof earphones or bone conduction headphones. Both exist and provide a comparable quality. The wireless connection however is not trivial underwater. Auditory feedback is broadly used in today's traffic and therefore not of particular interest in our case.

#### 4.1 User Study

The user study is divided into two groups. The first one is testing the prototype under normal condition while sitting on a chair where the other group is examining the feedback underwater.

# Summary and future work

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#### 5.1 Summary and contributions

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#### 5.2 Future work

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### Appendix A

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### Appendix B

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## Bibliography

### Index

abbrv, see abbreviation

evaluation, 11–12

future work, 14–15