User Test Observations

Implementation 1 - Single Handheld Thruster

The first implementation for this project was overall a success. Most users demonstrated a sense of familiarity with the idea of the single handheld thruster and behaved as expected. The behavior I observed from most participants was that they would pause at first, look around, and they would note that their right hand was attached to the thruster. They would then move their left hand towards the thruster and start pressing either both triggers or one trigger at a time, quickly figuring out that the left trigger was used to thrust.

There was some confusion from one participant in which he believed that the user was required to pull back with their left hand while pressing the left trigger, and release the trigger in order to thrust. I'm not sure why this was, but this was quickly resolved after some explanation.

Implementation 2 - Double Handheld Thrusters (Iron Man-Like)

In general, this implementation proved to be very intuitive for most users. Users would first look at their hands, and then start experimenting with left and right trigger presses to thrust, quickly realizing that both were valid inputs. The participants' behavior, however, deviated slightly from my expectations. I was expecting the users to use both a combination of using both hands at the same time to thrust, and using a single hand at one time to thrust. Interestingly, 3 of the 5 participants used strictly both hands at the same time to move around the scene. I noticed that they seemed to move more efficiently and were able to find the treasure faster than those who used just one hand at a time, or a combination of one and two hands to thrust.

Implementation 3 - Speargun Grappling Hook

Most participants had an easy time understanding and using the speargun grappling hook, aligning with my expectations. One thing I did notice is that some participants tried holding down the right trigger which fires the spear, which works but is unnecessary as all that is required is one press of the right trigger. Another participant was interestingly using the reeling functionality correctly by holding the left trigger, but was simultaneously trying to tread water with his hand. This is not necessary in order to move, so I found this behavior very interesting.