

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar  
Faculty of Media  
Degree Programme Human-Computer Interaction

# Jumping for Guided Navigation in Immersive Virtual Environments

Master's Thesis

Ramsha Saad Thaniana  
born on 07<sup>th</sup> October 1996 in Karachi, Pakistan

Matriculation number: 121766

**First referee:** Prof. Dr. Bernd Fröhlich  
**Second referee:** Jun.-Prof. Dr. Jan Ehlers

Submission date: 08<sup>th</sup> November 2021

# Declaration of Authorship

I hereby declare that I have written this thesis without the use of documents and aids other than those stated in the references, that I have mentioned all sources used and that I have cited them correctly according to established academic citation rules, and that the topic or parts of it are not already the object of any work or examination of another study programme.

Date

Ramsha Saad Thaniana

# Abstract

This is the abstract...

# Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Related Work	1
2.1	River Metaphor . . . . .	1
2.2	Exploration Assistance . . . . .	1
2.3	Jumping Navigation . . . . .	1
2.4	Conclusion . . . . .	1
3	Guided Navigation Scenarios	1
4	Automated Jumping for Guided Navigation	1
5	Comprehensibility of Automated Jumps	1
6	Design of the User Study	1
7	Procedure of the User Study	1
8	Evaluation of the User Study	1
9	Conclusion and Future Work	2
A	Appendix	4

# 1 | Introduction

Many navigation techniques exist for both Desktop and Immersive Virtual Environments (VE) that define how users move around these VEs. The goals of navigation are to move towards a target location and orientation to explore the environment. Navigation should facilitate way finding in the VE, which means allowing the user to know where they are, where they will go next and how they will get there. This also means that the user should have a good perception of the VE and path that they took. Navigation techniques have to ensure that there is minimal motion sickness, sufficient environmental awareness which means that while navigating the user knows where they are in an environment compared to where they were before and that it is easy to reach important places in the environment. Two common metaphors for navigation are steering and teleportation.

Steering navigation is a technique where there is continuous movement in a direction indicated either by gaze, pointing or use of a physical device. In some cases an additional action can be added to specify the velocity. With steering navigation spatial awareness is generally good but can cause motion sickness. Teleportation navigation is a target based metaphor for where the goal position is specified discretely by pointing or choosing a location and orientation to be moved towards. This form of navigation minimises motion sickness but results in less environmental awareness as compared to the steering metaphor. Some techniques try to reconcile these two metaphors to minimise motion sickness while still maintaining a good environmental awareness. One example is the jumping metaphor presented by Weissker et al. which *'only allows to teleport to locations in the currently visible part of the scene'* which makes it a short range version of the teleportation metaphor [1].

Navigation techniques can be active such that the user is controlling their own movement; passive such that the user is being automatically moved around the environment; or they can be a mix of active and passive. Guided navigation techniques such as the river analogy presented by Galyean which guides *'the user's continuous and direct input within both space and time allowing a more narrative presentation'* and uses steering for guided navigation [2].

These kinds of techniques allow for the addition of a narrative structure to a VE. In this work I will explore guided navigation using the jumping metaphor instead of a steering one and investigate the benefits of an automatic approach over a user controlled one for a museum setting.

This thesis

## **2 | Related Work**

As mentioned in -, this thesis aims to investigate a technique for guided navigation using the jumping metaphor. To understand where the concept for this technique comes from we will take a look at different navigation metaphors for Head-Mounted Displays (HMD)s and see what the advantages of jumping for navigation are.

### **2.1 River Metaphor**

### **2.2 Exploration Assistance**

### **2.3 Jumping Navigation**

### **2.4 Conclusion**

## **3 | Guided Navigation Scenarios**



## **4 | Automated Jumping for Guided Navigation**

## **5 | Comprehensibility of Automated Jumps**

## **6 | Design of the User Study**

## **7 | Procedure of the User Study**

## 8 | Evaluation of the User Study

## 9 | Conclusion and Future Work

This is the conclusion...

# Bibliography

- [1] T. Weissker, A. Kunert, B. Froehlich, and A. Kulik, "Spatial updating and simulator sickness during steering and jumping in immersive virtual environments," in *2018 IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces (VR)*, pp. 97–104, 2018.
- [2] T. A. Galyean, "Guided navigation of virtual environments," in *Proceedings of the 1995 Symposium on Interactive 3D Graphics, I3D '95*, (New York, NY, USA), p. 103–ff., Association for Computing Machinery, 1995.

# A | Appendix

This is the appendix...