

The Vision of Virtual Reality:

A Perspective
through Eye Tracking
to inform Wayfinding
design

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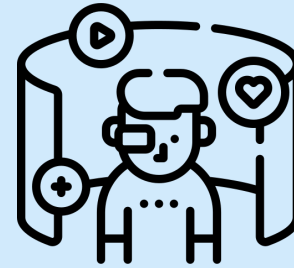
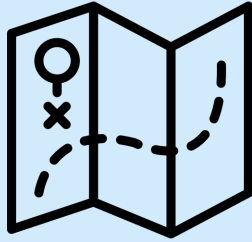
Wayfinding



Virtual Reality



Eye tracking



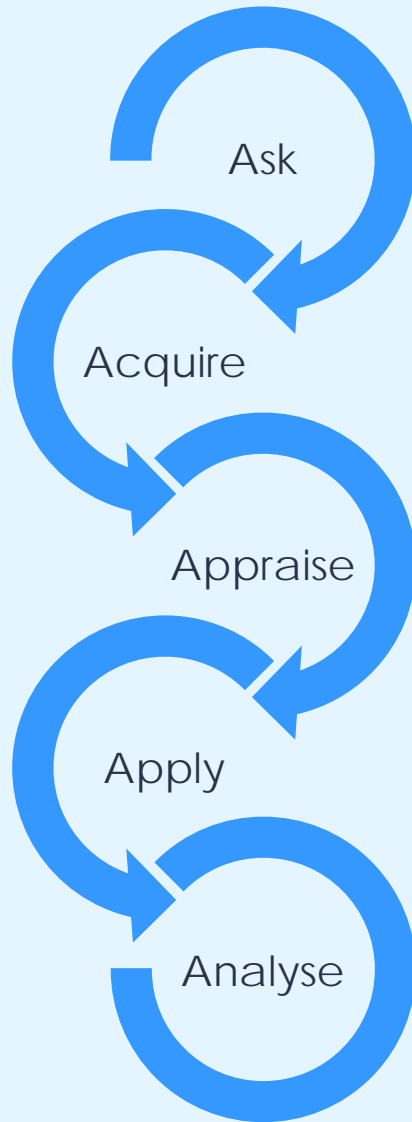
The
Principles



Wayfinding

- » Path planning
- » Decision-making
- » Choice of navigation points





Evidence based practice

... decision-making framework that builds on the conscientious, explicit, and judicious use of the best available evidence from research and practice. EBP therefore involves collecting the available evidence from multiple sources, critically evaluating it, applying it to their specific context, and assessing outcomes.

Criado-Perez et al. 2019



- » VR user immersion
- » Real time eye movement data
- » VR development technology

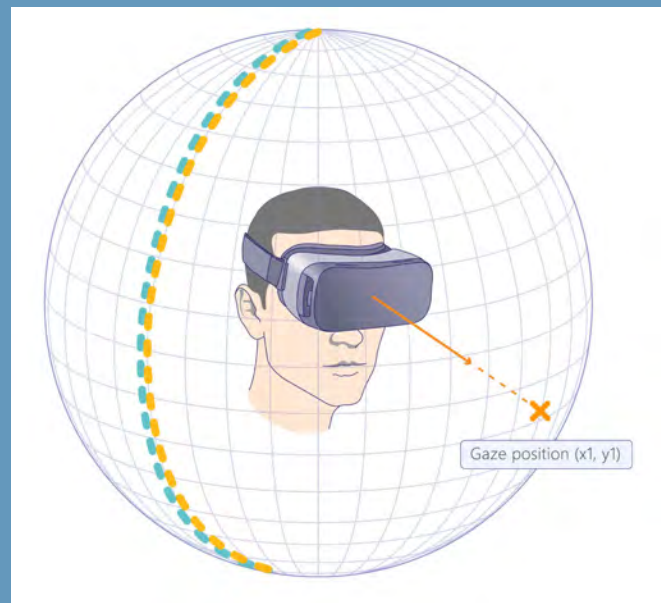


Eye tracking

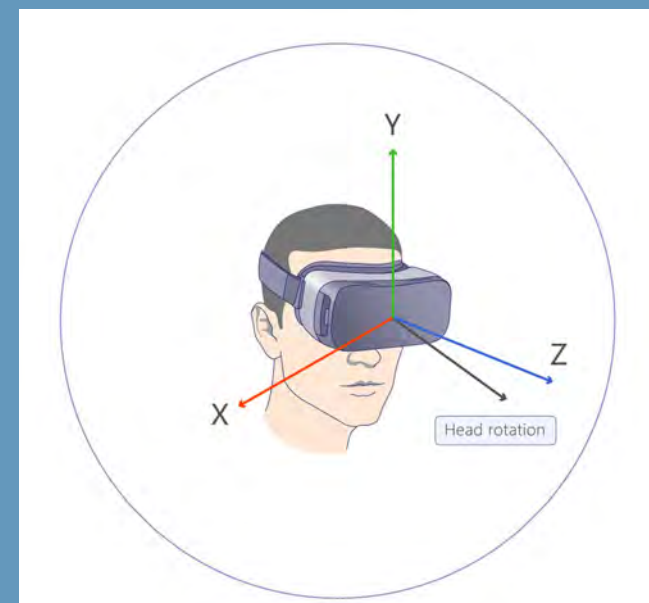
» Eye movement type:

- **Fixation:** the maintaining of the visual gaze on a single location
- **Saccade:** rapid, ballistic movements of the eyes that abruptly change the point of fixation

» Gaze direction:
coordinates of where
the person is looking



» Head rotation:
quaternion coordinates
(x, y, z, w) format



Project Aims

- » Analyse the utility of eye tracking (ET) in virtual reality (VR) environments
- » Assess the effectiveness of ET to inform navigation positioning decisions



Air travel passenger

Distraction



01

Passenger evacuation

Panic



02

Transport user testing conducted in a warehouse where participants wear eye tracking goggles

Simulated warehouse environment



03

User observing space through VR headset

Virtual architecture visualisation



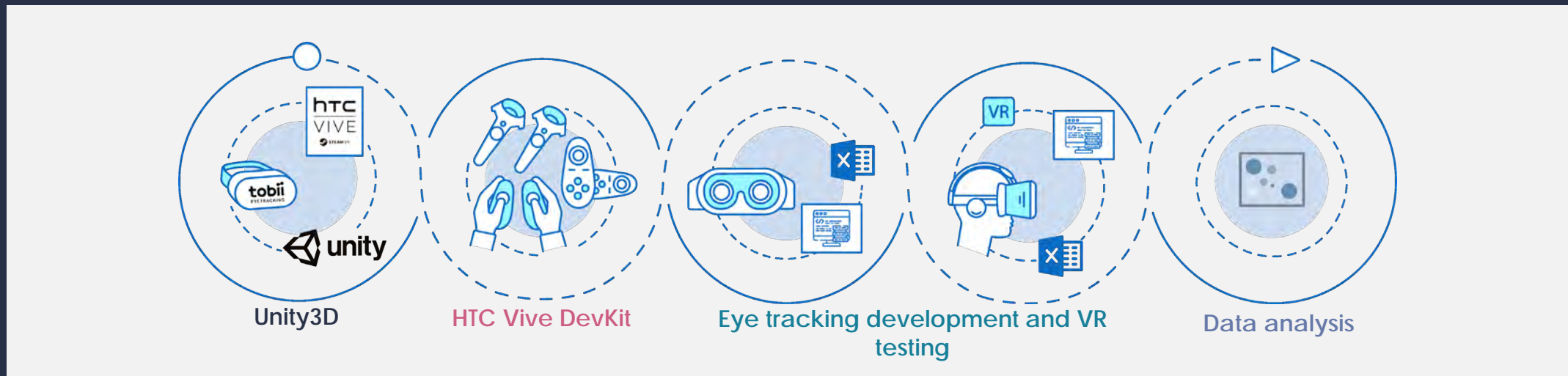
04

- » Share the vision when people can still have a say
- » Predict user behaviour when wayfinding



Project development

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11	WEEK 12
Design VR environment				Test VR			Perform VR experiment	Analyse information	Further research recommendations		



User profiles



- 22 year old
- No previous VR experience
- Tested VR with no signage
- Activity completed in **30 seconds**



- 50 year old
- No previous VR experience
- Tested VR with signage
- Activity completed in **24 seconds**

The data

Heatmap – Check in area

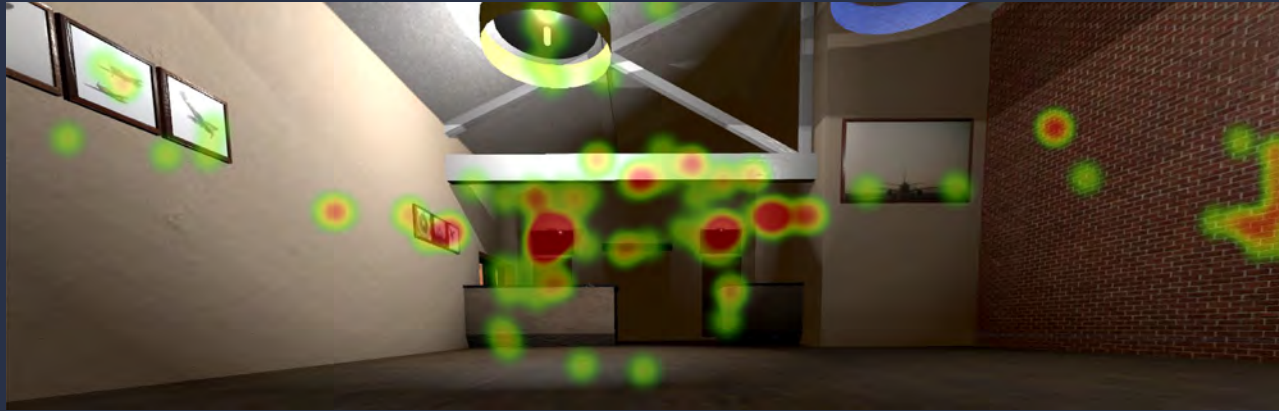
Number of fixations
and duration



High



Low



Participant A
No signage



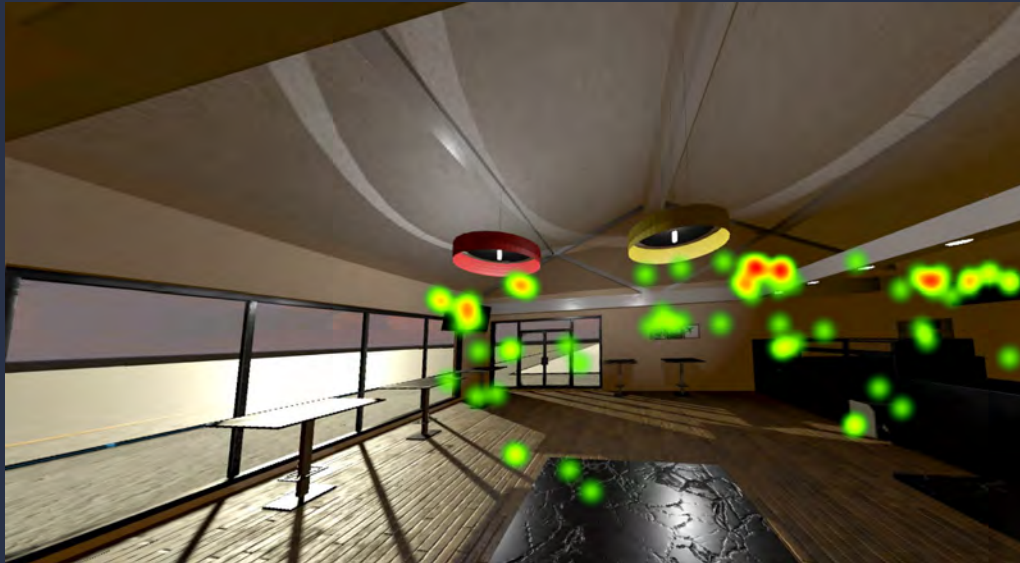
Participant B
With signage


The data

Heatmap

Number of fixations and duration

■ High ■ Low



 **Participant A**
No signage



 **Participant B**
With signage

The data

Heatmap

Number of fixations and duration



High



Low



Participant A
No signage



Participant B
With signage

Limitations

- VR environment tested
- Sound, crowds and distracting aspects
- People's behaviours are different
- Demographic selection
- Knowledge of technology

Future research potential

- Multiple iterations – action research approach
- Patterns of user behavior
- Method validation – testing in real vs virtual environments
- Test on any public transport environment
- Spatial navigation research – signage positioning and type



BVN
REAL

BVN
REAL

BVN
REAL

BVN

REAL

Thank you!