# VIRTUAL REALITY DRIVING GAMES

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## VIRTUAL REALITY DRIVING GAMES

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This report is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science (Interactive Media)

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate special thanks to my parents who giving me support and motivation throughout my PSM. This dedication is also to my PSM supervisor, Mr Muhammad Haziq Lim for the consultation, advices, comments and support just to make sure that I can finish this PSM successfully. I also want to thanks to all my friends that always are by my side as I working on this project.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Virtual Reality Driving Game (VRDG) is a final project of Final Year Project (FYP) that fulfills the characteristic of enhancement value, commercial value, new founding and have upgraded existing system. Its objectives are to identify and analyze factors of color and font size towards low-vision players, to develop a potential used of technology for low vision's kids and to determine effectiveness of low-vision's factor in different gaming environment; two-dimensional and three-dimensional. This scope of project is for low vision kids aged 6 to 10 years old in context of extreme light sensitivity and tunnel vision. This game development is using Prototype Methodology which consists of five phase; Planning, Analysis, Design, Implementation and Testing. This game is using Flash Player as the main platform to let user play. The approach that introduce in this game is introducing the selection of color illumination as it helps player to see better while playing. Player may chose five different colors; red, green, blue, yellow or normal color. An analysis has been conducted and 32 percent of testing showing that effectiveness of color gives a tremendous change in their vision. However, this game is unsuccessfully to draw excitement into player since have some bugs in this game. But in future, this game is potentially to grow further.

### **ABSTRAK**

Virtual Reality Driving Game (VRDG) adalah sebuah Projek Akhir Sarjana Muda yang memenuhi keperluan industri dari segi nilai komersil, nilai peningkatan, penemuan baru dan peningkatan daripada system sedia ada. Objektif bagi projek ini ialah untuk mengenal pasti dan menganalisa faktor warna dan saiz tulisan terhadap kanak-kanak yang menghidap kurang penglihatan, untuk membina teknologi yang berpotensi untuk membantu mereka dan akhir sekali ialah menentukan keberkesanan ciri-ciri kurang penglihatan dalam suasana permainan; dua dimensi dan tiga dimensi. Skop projek ialah untuk kanak-kanak yang menghidap kurang penglihatan separa di lingkungan umur 6 sehingga 10 tahun. Pembangunan projek ini menggunakan Metodologi Prototaip; Perancangan, Analisis, Rekabentuk, Implementasi dan Ujikaji dimana ia mempunyai unsur-unsur fleksibiliti. Permainan ini menggunakan Pemain Flash sebagai platfom utama kepada pemain. Permainan ini menggunakan pendekatan lima pilihan warna illuminasi yang berbeza; merah, kuning, biru, hijau dan warna biasa. Analisis telah dijalankan dan terbukti bahawa penggunaan warna yang bersesuaian boleh membantu kanak-kanak ini melihat dengan lebih jelas. 32 peratus daripada ujikaji yang dijalankan menunjukkan keberkesanan dari segi warna memberi impak yang besar dalam penglihatan mereka. Bagaimanapun, permainan ini tidak dapat melahirkan rasa keseronokan memndangkan terdapat masalah di dalam pembangunan projek ini. Namun begitu, permainan ini adalah sebuah permainan yang berpotensi di masa akan datang sekiranya di tambah baik.

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

2D Two Dimensional

3D Three Dimensional

AR Augmented Reality

GR Game Reality

PC Personal Computer

VRVirtual Reality

**VRDG** Virtual Reality Driving Games

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### **CHAPTER I**

### INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project Background

This project is particularly developed for low-vision kids. Through my studies, this game has not been developed in Malaysia yet it would be the first Virtual Reality Driving Games (VRDG) to be developed for low vision kids in Malaysia. This project is widely suitable for kids. It is a flash based; a platform that easy to install and portable in any devices of computer and mobile. This game is believed to be most flexible game for low vision due to its consideration in changing mode of color, contrast and font-size.

In this project, this project has been using Virtual Reality's method to attract and create attention of kids who are suffering from low vision. Virtual Reality is a set of images and sounds produced by a computer which seem to represent a place or situation in which a person experiencing it can take part. (Cambridge International Dictionary of English, 1999). It applies three main variables altogether; immersion, interaction and imagination to create an intuitive game. Immersion is the sense of being surrounded that a person see, hear, touch, taste, smell or haptic. Interaction helps to extend to which a person can modify form and content of a mediated environment. Meanwhile, imagination is the applications and the ideas to the virtual worlds.

The reason of using Virtual Reality is because it allows better and faster understanding of even complex applications and provides means for intuitive operations and control. Besides, it provides a wide field of regard visual or auditory portrayal medium.

Virtual Reality usually classified in terms of level of immersion; which means related to sense of presence in the virtual environment. Talking about sense, sight contributes the biggest percentage in human senses that takes 70 percent, following by hearing 20 percent, smell is 5 percent, touch is 4 percent and taste is 1 percent. Refer in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1: Human Five Senses** 

Sense	Percentage (%)		
Sight	70		
Hearing	20		
Smell	5		
Touch	4		
Taste	1		

In this project, a semi immersive level is applied which interaction with the virtual environment can occur by conventional means such as keyboards, mice and trackballs. The advantages are that they do not require the highest level of graphics performance, no special hardware and can be implemented on high specification Personal Computer (PC) clones. In Table 1.2 shows the qualitative performance of VR level in three different features of VR.

Table 1.2: Qualitative Performance of Virtual Reality Level

Resolution	High	High	Low-Medium
Scale (Perception)	Low	Medium-High	High
Sense of situational awareness (navigation skills)	Low	Medium	High
Field of regard	Low	Medium	High
Lag	Low	Low	Medium-High
Sense of immersion	None-low	Medium-High	Medium-High

## 1.2 Problem Statement

Low vision is individual who have reduced vision even when using the best possible spectacle or contact lens correction available. Initially, kids who suffers from low vision has been confronting with many limitation.

Through the previous studies, based on 2002 Survey of Income and Program Participation there are 189,000 children 6 to 14 years of age (0.5 percent) have difficulty seeing words and letter in ordinary newspaper print(Steinmetz, 2006). They also have limitation in playing games. Directly, we can see there are more children that needs something for their entertainment; gaming. This is what we aiming for. We aimed to gain some insight into how the difficulties they encountered would influence the social interaction between the children.

The idea of Virtual Reality Driving Games using Flash helps to train player to drive safely on the road. It is useful role in the treatment of driving phobia though. The findings a study suggest that VR and GR may have a useful role in the treatment of driving phobia post-accident even co-morbid conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder and depression are present (David. Walshe, Elizabeth J.Lewis, Sun I.Kim, Kathleen O'Sullivan and Brenda K.Wiederhold, Exploring the use of Computer Games and Virtual Reality in Exposure Therapy for Fear of Driving Following a Motor Vehicle Accident). It is a game that has a simple interaction with devices such as keyboard and monitor. For kids level, to bring them a high interactive device could leads to lose. It takes an actual environment among players in such setting/background, sound/effects and so on.

This game particularly is for a single player only. Before starting, player can customize the modes of color. First option is whereby player drives along less than 30 seconds journey on the road or highway and will complete the gameplay without break any laws. This game used a simple device such as keyboard or joystick; to control the speed of the car and to control the mode of color. The integration between these 3 devices is capable to create a simple but interactive game. The reason why this project chooses virtual reality is to create feel in every kids of experience driving cars. So to achieve this aims, a real virtual environment is needed. This is one of approaches that will be discussed in next chapter.

### 1.3 Objectives

Nowadays, we seen there are lots of new technological product that help towards globalization growth and benefit, no matter for individuals, groups, organizations or the developer itself. Each year, the number of low vision's patients' growth and according to its statistical, 0.5 percent of them are children. Because the number of statistic is small,

majority of big Information Technology companies do not tend and interesting to develop a game for low vision's kids. These project objectives are:

- 1. To identify and analyze factors of color and font size towards low-vision players.
- ii. To develop a potential used of technology for low vision's kids so it will help them in difficulties of playing driving games.
- iii. To determine effectiveness of low-vision's factor in different gaming environment; two-dimensional and three-dimensional.

## 1.4 Scope

Today, games are an integrated part of children's play activities as well as school education. This project will be used by kids widely as it helps to grow their brain. It is a flash game; a platform that easy to install and portable in any devices of computer and mobile. This game is believed to be most flexible game for low vision due to its consideration in changing mode of color, contrast and font-size. Below are project scopes:

## i. Target User

This game is focus to a low vision's kids around aged of 6 to 12 only. This game kindly can be used in all countries especially that has small or wide group of kids suffering low-vision. In a new phase of life, kids are tending to play a simple game, interactive and fun. That is reason the scope has been narrow down into range of age. The selection of low vision's kids as the target user is to create awareness to everyone of the increasing number of low vision among kids.