

187. GPS BASED AUDIO GUIDANCE SYSTEM FOR VISUALLY CHALLENGED

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This paper reports on a study of route guidance using a navigation system that receives location information from a Global Positioning System receiver. For many navigation tasks, a GPS-based personal guidance system for people who are blind needs to give only simple textual instructions. Personal Guidance System project has considered using spatial displays to convey information about the environment, rather than conveying the same information through synthesized speech alone. The original idea was to convey the locations of both waypoints and off-route landmarks (such as points of interest) using auditory virtual reality. In this conception, synthesized speech would be conditioned by a virtual acoustic display so as to appear to come from different locations within the auditory space of the user, ideally coinciding with the actual locations of the waypoints and off-route landmarks.

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