

User-Generated Audio Tours Integrated with Egocentric Maps

maPodWalk: for spatial communication with user-generated audio tours

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maPodWalk

Audio Tours with Egocentric Maps (Visual Maps)

[Backgrounds]

1. Emergence of user-generated audio tours for listening place-related information on mobile media players
2. Prevalence on sharing daily information and digital content between users on online map services
3. Difficulty of spatial recognition and movements by listening only audio for users on audio tours.

[Purpose]

1. Designing and developing methods for high quality audio tours with egocentric maps
2. Developing authoring tools (*maPodWalk Maker*) for sharing user-generated *maPodWalks*

[maPodWalk] : Audio Tours with Synchronized Maps



Playing maPodWalk (Playing on a display of Apple iPod touch)

Audio (Recorded Narrations)

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Egocentric Maps

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maPodWalk (Audio Tours with Egocentric Maps)

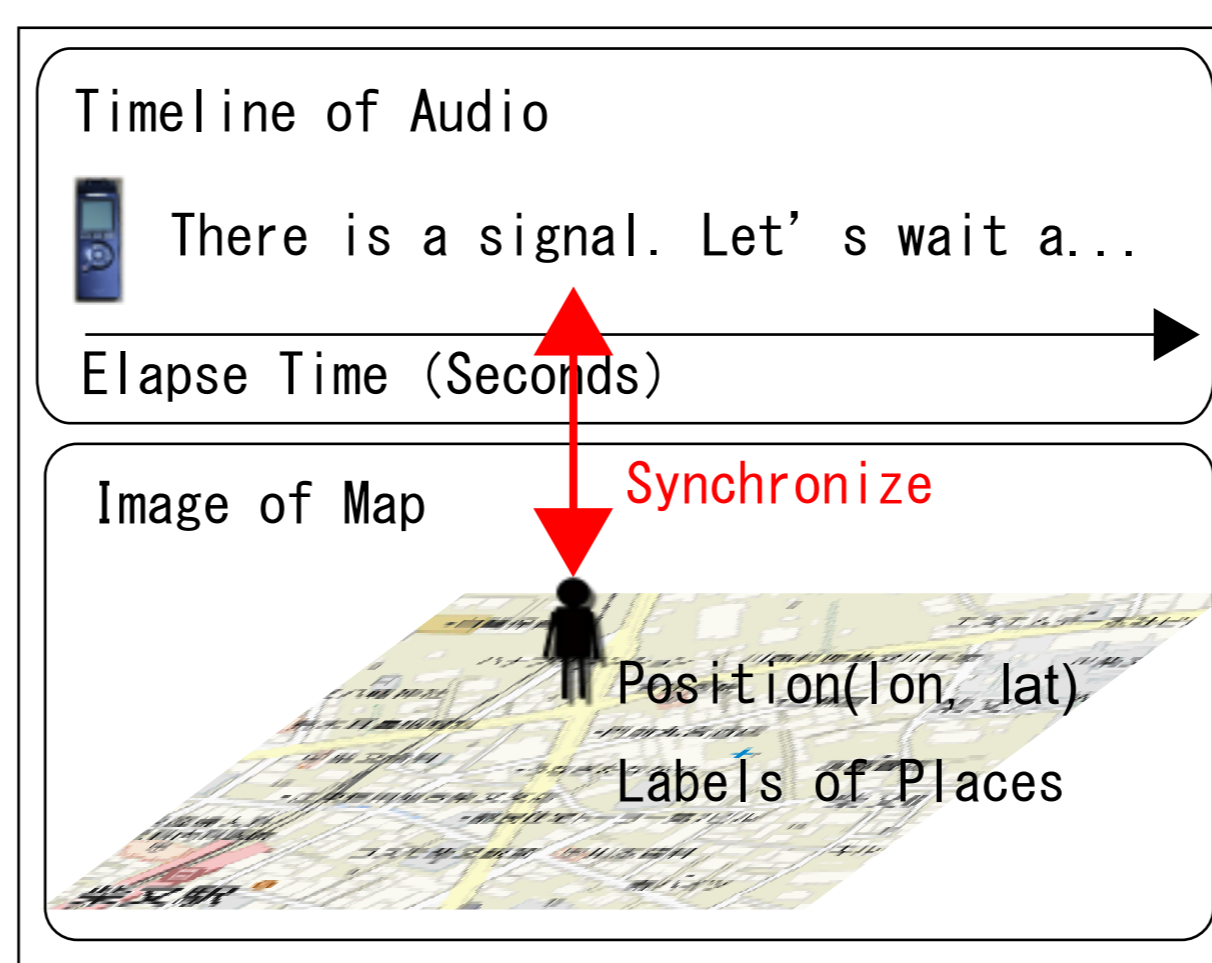
maPodWalk Maker

Development of authoring tools for new audio tours-- Providing environment for sharing place-related information with maPodWalk content



Snapshot of Authoring Tool with Audio and Maps: maPodWalk Maker
Map Data from Zenrin Co. Ltd.

1. To share place-related information with audio(narration) and egocentric maps.
2. Recording audio content with positions of maps and timeline of audio
3. Providing environment for creating and sharing various maPodWalk between users.



A Method of Synchronized Audio with Maps

Map Data from Zenrin Co. Ltd.



Example of maPodWalk content (Snapshot on Apple iTunes)

Urban Trips with maPodWalk

Spatial Communication with maPodWalk

1. Listeners can get place-related information and walk in city (without uneasiness about losing listeners' sway) with narration and maps on maPodWalks.
2. Authoring Tools for user-oriented audio tours --sharing place-related information (shift from commercial media and mass media to personal media)
3. Urban trips with maPodWalk -- new spatial communication with audio and synchronized maps

Example of An Urban Trip with maPodWalk (Spatial Recognition and Sharing Contexts and Narrative Stories Related with Places)



a. Trip with maPodWalk



b. Enforcement of Narrator and Listener



c. Navigations (without GPS device)



d. Viewing outside area of maps. with audio

Time