Playtesting

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1. Approach

As the time for the play testing was short, we had to do as many tests in parallel as possible. For this purpose, each member of the team did his own tests, focusing the parts of the game for which he is responsible. In addition to some of the questions from the course notes, which were posed during the tests, each play tester had to answer a questionnaire at the end of the session. This questionnaire was necessary, since our game lives from the puzzle and how easy/difficult they are to solve. The results of the questionnaire are shown in the appendix.

We additionally used the feedback from the players in the VIS office. Since most of the people do not write the comments they have to the corresponding sheets, it was a good idea to just sit in the back and silently taking notes. This revealed partially hard, but most often very good criticism. Therefore we had a wide spectrum of play testers, started with computer scientists and other people with an academic education up to friends with a standard schooling.

2. Results

Each team member asked questions about the whole game but also recessed questions in their responsibility area. The results were assembled and grouped in to three categories, each one for one group member. This eases the adaptation and corrections.

2.1 General

2.2.1 Control

There were several issues with the game pad for those who were not familiar with it. It was not intuitive for some of them to shoot with the RT trigger. We therefore changed the button X to shoot to.

It was also not clear how to activate a button and we improved that issue by displaying 'Press B' when a player is near a button.

Since not all players are used to a thumb stick, another improvement would be to also allow steering with the D-Pad.

2.2.2 Help

Starting a game without manual emerged to be difficult and we therefore display now a helping screen when pressing Y. The helping screen contains for now the semantics of the buttons but will probably be extended by the explanation on how the dimensions work.

2.2.3 View

The view frustum in the game was very small because of the split screen. While testing, we remarked that the player often did not see some important details, which were only visible at a given distance. We therefore changed the view so that lesser ground but more of the scene is visible.

2.2 Maps

2.2.1 The Adventure Begins

This map seemed to be a good one to introduce the players, as we expected. The puzzle is intuitive and the switching camera when getting the red gem explains the game principle.

2.2.2 Canyon-Trouble

It was not clear, that the door at the beginning of the level was in the blue dimension and some of the players tried a long time to move the rock at the side. Making the dimension more clear will solve the problem and avoid frustration.

Another problem is, that the players do not know how to activate the portal once entered the castle. Using the scene camera showing the spawning sheep and some progress indicator when killing them might be helpful at this point.

2.2.3 Northpole

The players did like the overall look of the map.

Some of them had problems with getting the red gem, because jumping with the current character model is somehow difficult for players without game experience. Making the blocks bigger and improving the character animation would be a good solution for this issue.

The sokoban puzzle for the blue gem is now too simple, since the blocks do not even have to move. One test group solved the puzzle without discovering the blocks being movable. We simplified the puzzle beforehand, because we saw that the original idea was too difficult and players got annoyed figuring it out.

2.2.4 Morbo's Lair

The problem of the 'Grande Finale' is that one can kill Morbo without him ever doing a shot. Making the players spawn at a lower point of the map to force them on the main platform is a suitable solution for this problem.

2.2.5 Death Match

Against our expectations, the test players had much fun playing the death match. We had a thought to fully drop the death match mode, but we will keep it since it is an easy change.

2.3 Characters

2.3.1 Movement

The players complained about the fidgety and bumpy animation. But worse was, that they tried to correct the 'intelligent' movement of the character which led to drunk–like movements and problems in puzzles where an accurate movement was necessary.

Also the orientation was chosen randomly when the character stopped, which led to confusion with aiming, since people expect to shoot where the character looks at.

We already improved the character model and the animation and hopefully overcome these problems.

2.3.2 Performance and Bugs

Several bugs like a disappearing and flickering character model made the game play in certain

situations a little bit tricky. There will be an extended bug fixing session with the new characters. The issues with the performance drop will also be part of this fixing session.

3. Schedule

The term (x/y) stands for x hours expected, in y hours realized. Green entries are additional work which has been completed, red terms are partially or not at all complete.

Date	Course Items	Peter	Christian	Nicola
24.02.		- FGP (3/3) - Sketches(2/2) - Mock up Scene (5/7)	- FGP (-/8)	- Design (-/4) - Skeleton (-/4) - Physics (-/16) - FGP (-/8)
03.03.	Formal Game Proposal	- Simple Map(10/8) - Meshload (5/4) - Ghost cam (-/3)		- Character Controller (20/15) - Power-Up Prototype (-/10)
10.03.	Mutual Project Critiques	- Project Critiques (1/1) - Simple Map editor (20/20)	- Project Critiques (1/1)	- Project Critiques (1/1) - Dimensions (15/15) - Box Controller (4/10)
17.03. 09	Game Prototype, Functional Minimum	- Map-Modelling (5/3) - Map editor (15/13) - Refactoring (-/2) - Separating editor solution (-/5)	- Character modelling (12/4) - Prototype video (-/24)	- Bomb Controller (20/15) - Refactoring (-/15)
24.03. 09		- Textures (5/1) - Mapeditor (15/15) - DM-Map (10/10)	- Animated character (12/6)	- Menu (20/12) - Character Controller (-/8) - Shader (-/3)
31.03.		- Textures (5/-) - DM-Map (15/-) - Introduction Map (20/20) - Map-Save/Load (3/3) - Mesh-Controller (4/4)	- Animation clip production (20/5)	- Multi Player (20/10) - Character Controller (-/ 10) - Pre—Alpha Tests (-/2) - Shader (-/3)
07.04.	Interim Report, Low Target	- Sound Effects (10/10) - Props- Modelling(10/3) - Map adjustments (5/5) - Interim Report (3/3)	- Realistic locomotion generation (20/25)	- Power-Ups (10/5) - Weapon (5/-) - Interim Report (5/1) - Interface (-/3) - Model Binding (-/5) - Menu (-/5)
14.04.		- Enemies (20/10) - Map-Editor (-/3) - Mapping (-/10) - Event-System (-/5)	- Several character models (16/10)	- Switch (4/6) - Elevator (8/8) - Door (8/2) - Testplaying (-/2) - Camera (-/2)
21.04.		- Mapping (10/15)	- Character actions	- Puzzle controllers

		- Decorate (10/5) - Varia (-/5)	(20/24)	(20/5) - Shadows (-/16) - Enemy (-/5)
29.04.		- Mapping (15/20) - Music (5/2) - Debugging (-/5) - Graphics (-/4)	- Improved character rendering (10/2)	- Effects (20/10) - Basic AI (-/10)
05.05.	Alpha Release, Desirable Target	- AR-Report (5/1) - Balancing (10/0) - Controllers (-/10) - Mapping (-/15)	- Basic AI (10/15) - Intelligent bomb (6/-) - AR Report (1/2)	- Mech. Enemy (10/10) - AR-Report (5/3) - Adjustments (5/8)
12.05.	Playtesting	- Playtesting (10/10) - Model Cleanup (10/-) - Frustum culling (-/3) - Playtest Report (-/1) - Graphics (-/5) - Map corrections (-/4)	- Better AI (10/15) - Animation clip production (-/10)	- Rocket (10/-) - Playtesting (10/10) - Corrections (-/10) - Playtest Report (-/6)

Appendix

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The A	Adv	entur	e Begins
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The Auventure Degins						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	4	5	Comments / Criticism
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	О	Ο	Ø	О	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	О	О	Ο	Ø	О	
It was easy to open the door	O	O	Ο	Ο	18	
The enemies were too strong	Ø	Ο	О	O	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	Ø	О	

Question			Rating	?		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The door puzzle was solvable	О	О	0	Ø	О	
It was intuitive to get the key	О	Ο	Ø	О	О	
I knew what to do with the key	О	О	Ø	О	O	
Killing the sheeps was easy	О	О	Ø	Ο	0	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	О	О	Ø.	О	O	
Overall impression of the level	O	О	O	Q	О	

Aor mbore	real and the second	
Question	Rating	Comments / Criticism
	1 2 3 4 5	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	0 0 0 🕸 0	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	0 0 0 0 0	
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	0 0 0 6 0	
Reaching the portal was easy	0 0 Ø 0 0	
Overall impression of the level	0 0 0 8 0	

Morbo's Lair

Question			Rating	3	-	Comments / Criticism	
	1	, 2	3	4	5		
I knew what to do	O	0	O	O	00		
Morbo was easy to kill	О	О	О	Ø	О		
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	О	Ø		

Question	Rating				Comments / Criticism	
	1	2	3	4	5	
The control was intuitive	О	Ø	Ο	О	Ο	
The view/perspective suited	O	О	Ø	O	O	
The characters support the game play	О	О	О	Ø	O	
The death match mode was cool	О	О	O	О	Ø	
The game is funny	O	0	Ø	О	О	

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The Auventure Degins						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	5	Comments / Criticism
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	О	×	О	О	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	O	0	O	O	×	
It was easy to open the door	Ø	О	Ο	О	О	
The enemies were too strong	О	О	О	О	×	
Overall impression of the level	О	×	О	О	О	

Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	5	Comments / Criticism
The door puzzle was solvable	X	О	О	О	O	
It was intuitive to get the key	Ø	О	O	О	0	
I knew what to do with the key	X	О	O	Ο	O	
Killing the sheeps was easy	О	×	0	О	Ο	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	X ·	О	0	О	О	
Overall impression of the level	X	О	0	О	О	

Northpole	1						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	4	5	Comments / Criticism	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	D	О	0	О	О		
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	O	O	О	×		
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	Ø	О	О	Ο	О		
Reaching the portal was easy	X	O	O	Ο	О		
Overall impression of the level	О	×	O	О	О		
Morbo's Lair							

Question			Rating	3	Comments / Criticism	
	1	2	3	4	5	
I knew what to do	О	F	О	×	О	Guidelines ?
Morbo was easy to kill	О	×	О	О	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	×	О	О	

Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	5	Comments / Criticism
The control was intuitive	О	×	О	О	О	
The view/perspective suited	O	Ø	О	О	O	
The characters support the game play	О	О	O	X	O	
The death match mode was cool	О	О	0	О	×	
The game is funny	×	О	0	О	O	

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The Auventure Degins						The state of the s
Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	Comments / Criticism	
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	О	О	Ø	О	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	О	0	8	O	О	
It was easy to open the door	О	O	О	Ø	O	
The enemies were too strong	О	О	Ø	О	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	0	Ø	О	O	

Question	1	2	Rating 3	<i>4</i>	5	Comments / Criticism
The door puzzle was solvable	О	О	О	Ø	О	
It was intuitive to get the key	O	Ο	Ø	О	O	
I knew what to do with the key	О	O	О	О	Ø	
Killing the sheeps was easy	Ø	О	О	O	0	10-Sheep - spawn > 10 wipes!
It was clear why the portal finally activated	О	8	О	О	O	
Overall impression of the level	О	Ο	О	Ø	O	

Question			Rating		/	Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	O	Ο	O	Ø	0	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	Ο	Ο	О	8(
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	О	8	О	О	O	Hatter sicht ravs - gefunder dass 3 tocke verschie blood sind
Reaching the portal was easy	O	О	8	О	O	undbersich Hich
Overall impression of the level	O	О	О	Ø	0	aturns undbersichtlich

Morbo's Lair

Question			Rating	3		Comments / Criticism	
	1	. 2	3	4	5		
I knew what to do	О	О	О	О	8		
Morbo was easy to kill	О	О	O	О	8	too ensy	
Overall impression of the level	О	8	О	О	О		

General

Ochci ai						the state of the s
Question			Rating			Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The control was intuitive	О	8	О	О	0	pricht on Pads gewohnt hakelig, verbugt
The view/perspective suited	O	8	О	О	O	Perspektive negative
The characters support the game play	О	Ο	Ø	О	O	off test-gehangen, verbugt
The death match mode was cool	O	О	О	Ø	О	weil Fischer so schlecht wat
The game is funny	О	O	О	Ø	0	mit fähigem Mitspieler wärs

sicher tell gewesen

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The Auventure Degins						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	5	Comments / Criticism
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	O	О	O	×	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	О	Ο	О	Ø	О	
It was easy to open the door	О	О	О	X	Ο	
The enemies were too strong	O	X	О	О	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	O	О	×	О	

Canyon-11oubic						
Question		ning. Patricka	Rating	g		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The door puzzle was solvable	О	0	О	X	О	color of the gate
It was intuitive to get the key	О	Ο	0	О	X	
I knew what to do with the key	О	0	0	О	X	to obvious
Killing the sheeps was easy	О	×	0	О	О	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	O	О	X	0	O	
Overall impression of the level	O	0	0	×	0	

Northpole						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	4	5	Comments / Criticism
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	О	О	О	X	О	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	О	О	X	0	hante mit lastroller nur schwer ungehen, s jump-noob
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	О	О	×	О	0	
Reaching the portal was easy	O	О	Ο	X	O	
Overall impression of the level	О	0	О	X	О	
Morbo's Lair						
Question	1	2	Rating 3	3 4	5	Comments / Criticism
I knew what to do	О	О	О	0	Ø	
Morbo was easy to kill	О	О	O	×	O	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	×	О	

General				te []		
Question	1	2	Rating 3	4	5	Comments / Criticism
The control was intuitive	О	О	×	O	О	riclan und schiessen gloidreifig istochechure
The view/perspective suited	О	O	O	О	О	
The characters support the game play	X	O	О	Ο	О	non veiss hie in melle Richtung
The death match mode was cool	O	O	O	Ο	X	an market loaduith wind
The game is funny	О	О	О	×	О	es fehilt ein Come Over Nodus oder eine Score die Bunkle
	-					and Tode verment. Han hat sout keinen Vergleich nun Nitspieler im Coop-Modus.

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The Adventure Begins

Question			Rating	ŗ	Comments / Criticism	
	1	2	3	4	5	
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	O	O	Ø	О	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	O	0	O	O	Ø	
It was easy to open the door	O	O	O	О	Ø	
The enemies were too strong	О	О	O	Ø	O	
Overall impression of the level	О	O	X	O	O	all brown

Question			Rating	7		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The door puzzle was solvable	O	O	О	O	Ø	
It was intuitive to get the key	О	O	O	Ø	О	
I knew what to do with the key	O	O	О	O	Ø	
Killing the sheeps was easy	О	Ø	O	O	О	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	Ø	O	О	О	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	Ø	О	cool rostle

Question			Rating	?		Comments / Criticism
~	1	2	3	4	5	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	О	0	O	Ø	О	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	О	O	Ø	O	
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	О	O	О	О	Ø	
Reaching the portal was easy	О	O	O	Q	O	
Overall impression of the level	О	O	O	О	Ø	Very vice level design

Morbo's Lair

Question			Rating	3		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
I knew what to do	О	O	Ø	O	О	
Morbo was easy to kill	О	О	О	O	XX	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	О	Ø	cod locking animated vigs, maybe ending music
	····			. of ann. I constant to the second to		missim

Question			Rating	7		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The control was intuitive	O	O	О	Ø	O	
The view/perspective suited	O	O	О	Ø	O	
The characters support the game play	Ø	О	O	O	O	character animation was poor
The death match mode was cool	О	О	Ø	O	O	maybe missing powerups
The game is funny	О	О	О	Ø	О	cod Levels and dimensional idea.

Alpha Tests (Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

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		. ,	****		·	~

Question			Rating	3		Comments / Criticism
~	1	2	3	4	5	
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	O	O	Ø	О	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	О	O	O	0	О	
It was easy to open the door	О	O	O	O	0	
The enemies were too strong	О	O	O	O	Ø	
Overall impression of the level	О	O	O	Ø	О	

Question			Rating	?		Comments / Criticism
~	1	2	3	4	5	
The door puzzle was solvable	О	О	O	Ø	О	
It was intuitive to get the key	О	O	O	О	8	
I knew what to do with the key	O	0	O	O	Ø	
Killing the sheeps was easy	Ø	O	0	O	О	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	О	O	О	8	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	Ø	О	

torthpole						
Question		-	Rating	3		Comments / Criticism
_	1	2	3	4	5	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	О	O	O	Ø	О	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	O	O	0	O	
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	О	O	O	Ø	О	
Reaching the portal was easy	О	O	O	O	Ø	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	О	0	most instanting level

Morbo's Lair

Question			Rating	g	Comments / Criticism	
~	1	2	3	4	5	
I knew what to do	О	O	О	O	Ø	
Morbo was easy to kill	О	0	О	О	Ø	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	Ø	О	

Question			Rating	3		Comments / Criticism
_	1	2	3	4	5	
The control was intuitive	O	Ο	Ø	O	О	
The view/perspective suited	O	О	Ø	О	О	
The characters support the game play	O	Ø	О	O	О	Zaboli
The death match mode was cool	O	O	O	O	0	
The game is funny	О	О	Ø	О	О	

Alpha Tests
(Rating from 1 = 'crap' to 5 = 'awesome')

The Adventure Begins

Question		Rating				Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
It was clear what the red turning thing caused	О	О	O	O	K	
The Dimension Bridge Puzzle was solvable	О	O	O	Ø	О	
It was easy to open the door	О	O	O	Ø	О	
The enemies were too strong	O	O	O	О	Ø	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	О	Q	О	

Canyon-1 rouble						NAME OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OWNE
Question			Rating	3		Comments / Criticism
	1	2	3	4	5	
The door puzzle was solvable	О	0	O	Á	О	
It was intuitive to get the key	О	О	О	0	О	<u> </u>
I knew what to do with the key	О	O	O	O	X	zelda P
Killing the sheeps was easy	O	O	O	O	Ø	
It was clear why the portal finally activated	О	O	О	О	Ø	
Overall impression of the level	О	O	O	О	&	

Question			Rating	7	Comments / Criticism	
~	1	2	3	4	5	
The green gem puzzle was solvable (turrets)	О	O	O	Ø.	О	
The red gem puzzle was solvable (jumping)	О	Ò	O	O	A	
The blue gem puzzle was solvable (blocks)	О	O	O	О	Ø	
Reaching the portal was easy	О	О	O	Ø	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	O	O	Q	

Morbo's Lair

Question			Rating	3	Comments / Criticism	
~	1	2	3	4	5	
I knew what to do	О	O	8	О	О	
Morbo was easy to kill	О	О	О	Ø	О	
Overall impression of the level	О	О	Ø	О	О	

5 ausser Hall-A	niu Be
O ansser Model-Y	niu BB
O	***************************************
O Stock im 44	**
O Diet gegiet	
8	
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