

Proposal for the DJ interface DiskPlay :

DJs typically collect a certain amount of skills. They need to develop techniques (e.g. scratching and beat-matching) and a refined sense of touch, sight and sound. This makes them reluctant to most Interfaces, which make use of digital music. These systems often do not concur to the metaphor and do not provide haptical feedback for example. There are approaches, like Final Scratch , which use a time code based vinyl to control the playback of music. Although these systems provide haptic feedback they are still bound to keyboard, mouse and monitor which the DJ has to operate additionally.

With DiskPlay on the other side, we want to apply a display directly on the time code vinyl, on which any needed information is shown. This could include for example title and artist, a waveform representation of the song or bar lines for beat-matching. It would be much easier for a DJ to skip in a song without always looking at a display. Furthermore the turntable could be used to navigate through the music library, making any additional laptop or PC system redundant.

The display could be, on the one hand, a the projection onto a white time code vinyl or ,on the other hand, an LCD display mounted under a transparent time code vinyl. The challenge now is to read out the time code, map it to the song and create a useful song representation on the display. If the Interface is also used to navigate through a music library, we also need to need to find a natural way for navigating through songs with a turntable, which typically provides only a constantly rotating disk and a tone arm.

Timeline:

- 2 Weeks:** further research, paper prototype
- 2 Weeks:** user interviews, final paper prototype (maybe software prototype)
- 2 Months:** building a prototype
- 1 Month:** evaluation with users, writing the thesis