

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS  
TEACHING AND RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (UTREC)  
SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
PRELIMINARY ETHICS SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM

This Preliminary Ethics Self-Assessment Form is to be conducted by the researcher, and completed in conjunction with the Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice. All staff and students of the School of Computer Science must complete it prior to commencing research.

This Form will act as a formal record of your ethical considerations.

Tick one box

☐

**Staff Project**

☐

**Postgraduate Project**

☒

**Undergraduate Project**

Title of project

Flocking

Name of researcher(s)

Alex Coli

Name of supervisor (for student research)

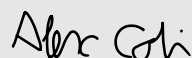
Simon Dobson

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (to be signed after questions, overleaf, have been completed)

Self audit has been conducted YES ☒ NO ☐

There are no ethical issues raised by this project

Signature Student or Researcher



Print Name

ALEX COLI

Date

24/09/2024

Signature Lead Researcher or Supervisor



Print Name

SIMON DOBSON

Date

25/09/2024

This form must be date stamped and held in the files of the Lead Researcher or Supervisor. If fieldwork is required, a copy must also be lodged with appropriate Risk Assessment forms. The School Ethics Committee will be responsible for monitoring assessments.



## Computer Science Preliminary Ethics Self-Assessment Form

### Research with secondary datasets

Please check UTREC guidance on secondary datasets (<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/research/integrity-ethics/humans/ethical-guidance/secondary-data/> and <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/research/integrity-ethics/humans/ethical-guidance/confidentiality-data-protection/>). Based on the guidance, does your project need ethics approval?

YES ☐ NO ☒

*\* If your research involves secondary datasets, please list them with links in DOER.*

### Research with human subjects

Does your research involve collecting personal data on human subjects?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, full ethics review required

Does your research involve human subjects or have potential adverse consequences for human welfare and wellbeing?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, full ethics review required

For example:

Will you be surveying, observing or interviewing human subjects?

Does your research have the potential to have a significant negative effect on people in the study area?

### Potential physical or psychological harm, discomfort or stress

Are there any foreseeable risks to the researcher, or to any participants in this research?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, full ethics review required

For example:

Is there any potential that there could be physical harm for anyone involved in the research?

Is there any potential for psychological harm, discomfort or stress for anyone involved in the research?

### Conflicts of interest

Do any conflicts of interest arise?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, full ethics review required

For example:

Might research objectivity be compromised by sponsorship?

Might any issues of intellectual property or roles in research be raised?

### Funding

Is your research funded externally?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, does the funder appear on the 'currently automatically approved' list on the UTREC website?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If NO, you will need to submit a Funding Approval Application as per instructions on the UTREC website.

**Research with animals**

Does your research involve the use of living animals?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, your proposal must be referred to the University's Animal Welfare and Ethics Committee (AWEC)

University Teaching and Research Ethics Committee (UTREC) pages  
<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/utrec/>