

Informed Consent of Participation

You are invited to participate in the user study **Effect Of Hand-movement On The Presence Of Another Person In A Virtual Environment** initiated and conducted by Felix Bühler, Jan Leusmann, Jamie Ullerich and Katrin Angerbauer. The research is supervised by Jun.-Prof. Dr. Michael Sedlmair at the University of Stuttgart. Please note:

- Your participation is entirely voluntary
- The user study will last approximately 60 minutes
- We will record personal demographics (age, gender, etc.)
- You receive no compensation and you will not directly benefit from participation in this user study
- We may publish our results from this and other sessions in our reports, but all such reports will be confidential and will not include your name

If you have any questions or complaints about the whole informed consent process of this research study or your rights as a human research subject, please contact Katrin Angerbauer (Email: Katrin.Angerbauer@visus.uni-stuttgart.de) or Jun.-Prof. Dr. Michael Sedlmair. You should carefully read the information below. Please take as much time as you need to read the consent form.

1. Purpose and Goal of this Research

The purpose of this research is to study the effect of hand movement on the presence of another person in a virtual environment. The goal of this research is to understand how hand movement influences the presence. Your participation will help us achieve this goal. The results of this research may be presented at scientific or professional meetings or published in scientific proceedings and journals.

2. Participation and Compensation

Your participation in this user study is completely voluntary. You will be one of approximately 16 people being studied for this research. You will receive no compensation. You may withdraw and discontinue participation at any time without penalty. If you decline to participate or withdraw from the user study, no one on the campus will be told. You may refuse to answer any questions you do not want to answer.

3. Procedure

After confirming your informed consent, you will:

1. Get a virtual reality headset and will be introduced with virtual hands in the environment.
2. In multiple rounds, you must discuss various topics.
3. This procedure will repeat multiple times using different conditions.

The complete procedure of this user study will last approximately 60 minutes.

4. Risks and Benefits

There are no risks associated with this user study. Discomforts or inconveniences will be minor and are not likely to happen. If any discomforts become a problem, you may discontinue your participation. You will not directly benefit through my participation in this user study. We hope that the information obtained from your participation may help to bring forward the research in this field.

5. Data Protection and Confidentiality

Personal data (age, gender, etc.) will be recorded while participation. The researcher will not identify you by your real name in any reports using information obtained from this user study and that your confidentiality as a participant in this user study will remain secure. All data you provide in this user study will be published anonymized and treated confidentially in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union (EU). In all cases uses of records and data will be subject to the GDPR. Faculty and administrators from the campus will not have access to raw data or transcripts. This precaution will prevent your individual comments from having any negative repercussions. We will and will potentially take notes during the user study. Any recordings cannot be viewed by anyone outside this research project unless we have you sign a separate permission form allowing us to use them (see below). As with any publication or online related activity, the risk of a breach of confidentiality is always possible. According to the GDPR, the researchers will inform the participant if a breach of confidential data was detected. We will and will potentially take notes during the user study.

6. Identification of Investigators

If you have any questions or concerns about the research, please feel free to contact:

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Investigator

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Allmandring 19
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Jun.-Prof. Dr. Michael Sedlmair
Professor

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7. Informed Consent and Agreement

- ☐ I understand the explanation provided to me. I have been given a copy of this form. I have had all my questions answered to my satisfaction, and I voluntarily agree to participate in this user study.

Printed Name of Subject

Signature of Subject

Location, Date