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Date: 1 March 2019

Dear Participant,

I, Luke Storry, am a masters student with the Computer Science Department within Bristol University. I am investigating how the interactive augmentation of various data can aid bouldering training. I have built a prototype app with a variety of features including video and accelerometer input, which is designed to analyse different aspects of climbing and provide some forms of information output. Through this study I aim to examine the accuracy and usefulness of the app, obtain feedback on potential future features or improvements, and investigate how a range of climbers interact with the product.

We will be conducting an investigation using our device at a variety of local climbing walls, which we would like to invite you to participate.

The experiment will take place over a variety of sessions, but you are not obligated to will take part in any future sessions unless you desire to do so. The session is expected to take 20 minutes, during which you will be given a phone with the app installed on, and you will be asked to try out each of the prototype features whilst bouldering, using the information provided however you wish. Climbing can be risky, and the app will only be giving some data analysis of your climbing, which it is up to you to interpret and use how you wish. It is important that you climb well within your means whilst trialling the product, and do not rely on it for any safety or advice, but instead ignore or stop using it if your assessment of your own safety requires so.

We will collect anonymous data of app and sensor logs (such as time spent on each feature, sensor inputs, and any app crashes), then you will be asked to partake in a semi-structured interview. This interview will last around 5 minutes, and be recorded on a secure device. A transcript will be made and then the recording deleted, with only your participant number and no other identifying data attached to that text file, which you can request to be deleted at any time. The transcripts will be collated and analysed thematically, then the information collected from this study will be used in my dissertation, and may be included in articles for publication in journals and conference proceedings.

Results from the research will be presented in accordance with rules for anonymity such that the results cannot be traced to individual participants. The outcomes of the study can be made available to you on request.

We would like to invite you to participate in this project by taking part in an experiment using the app product at a local climbing centre.

Confidentiality: All of the information we collect from you (data logged by the app, observations made by yourself and the experimenters, and your interview transcript file) will be stored so that your name is not associated with it. All data will be handled confidentially and anonymously. Any write-ups of the data will not include any information that can be linked directly to you. *Please do not mention your name or other identifying information during the interview.* The anonymous data will be encrypted (as per University of Bristol Policy) and stored by the Project Investigator (Damas Nawanda) on a password-protected computer system only accessible by the Project investigator and the specific investigator analysing the data. Hard copies of the data will be stored in a locked filing cabinet. Do you have any questions about the confidentiality of the study?

Right to Withdraw: You are free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty and without losing any advertised benefits. Withdrawal from the study will not affect your academic status or your access to services at the university. If you withdraw, your data will be deleted from the study and destroyed. In addition, you are free to not answer specific items or questions on the interview.
Your continued participation should be as informed as your initial consent, so you should feel free to ask for clarification or new information throughout your participation.

If you have further questions concerning matters related to this research, please contact:

Luke Storry (ls14172@my.bristol.ac.uk, 07805925658).

Questions: If you have any questions concerning the study, please feel free to ask at any point; you are also free to contact the researchers at the numbers provided above if you have questions at a later time. Any further concerns related to your participation in this study, please direct them to the Faculty of Science Human Research Ethics Committee, via Liam McKervey. (liam.mckervey@bristol.ac.uk)
If you agree to participate, please sign the attached consent form and return it to us by email or in-person. Please note that you are free to withdraw from participation at any time.

Thank you for your interest and co-operation and if you would like more information about the research project or have any questions about our work, please feel free to contact me via email ls14172@my.bristol.ac.uk

Yours Sincerely,

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Luke Storry