Study information, data protection information and statement of agreement

# General information

The following study is a part of the research work within the master's thesis “Investigating the Effect of Choice in Gamified Online Surveys” at Saarland University, Department of Computer Science.

**Study:** “Investigating the Effect of Choice in Gamified Online Surveys”

## Purpose of the study:

In this master thesis, we developed an interface that allows participants to experience different versions of the survey. The purpose of this study to investigate on the impact of game elements on different player types.

## Form of participation:

In this experiment, you will be answering a sports and leisure activities survey. Participation in the study is voluntary. The consent to participate in this study can be revoked at any time and without giving reasons until the end of the data collection process by either ending the survey (a corresponding button is available on the website) or closing the browser window. All incomplete data records will be deleted by us. After the end of data collection, the statutory rights of revocation, information, correction, blocking and deletion can no longer be exercised because the data can no longer be attributed to the data subject.

## Procedure:

The survey takes about 15 – 20 minutes. After consent to the collection of data, the following data are collected and processed anonymously:

* Entries in the online survey
* Time taken to complete the survey

Once you start the survey, you will be redirected to one of the many survey versions. You will be provided with a guided tour of what are the specialities of the survey version you are playing.

Before starting the survey you will take a small questionnaire with demographic questions (gender, age, previous experience with game elements). Once you answer these set of questions, you will be forwarded to the main survey, where you fill in details about your exercise and sport activities and interests. At the end of the survey you will see a semi-structured questionnaire with questions about how the survey itself was (appearance, simplicity, ease-of-use, etc).

## Uses and risks of participation:

Your participation will help to test and evaluate the impact of incorporating gamification and game elements in online surveys.

Your participation in this study is not expected to carry any other significant risks. Please also read the legal information on the other tab provided on the main page.

# Voluntary participation and freely given consent

Participation in the study is voluntary. Consent to participate in this study can be revoked at any time and without giving reasons until the end of the data collection by informing the person conducting the study, by ending the survey (a corresponding button is available on the survey website) or closing the browser window. All incomplete data records will be deleted by us. After the end of data collection, the legal rights of revocation, disclosure, rectification, blocking and erasure of anonymous data, as described in Section 3, can no longer be applied because the data can no longer be assigned to a concerned person. However, your legal rights of revocation, disclosure, rectification, blocking and erasure of non-anonymous data, as described in Section 4, still apply and remain unaffected.

# What data do we collect and process in anonymous form?

Once you have consented to the collection of data, the following data will be collected and processed in an exclusively anonymous form (as described in Section 5):

* + Demographic data (age, gender, previous experience with gaming and streaming)
  + Answers to the survey questions
  + Logs of interactions

For technical reasons, data such as the following, which your internet browser transmits to us or to our web space provider (so called server log files), is collected:

* + type and version of the browser you use
  + operating system
  + websites that linked you to our site (referrer URL)
  + date and time of your visit
  + your Internet Protocol (IP) address.

This data is not merged with the survey data. On the website we use so-called cookies. Cookies are small files that are stored by your web browser. The cookies used on our website do not cause any damage to your computer and do not contain any malicious software. They enable a user-friendly and effective use of this website. We use permanent cookies with a maximum validity period of 365 days. We use these cookies exclusively to exclude multiple participation.

# What do we use the collected data for?

The results and collected data can be processed and published in anonymous form in this master’s thesis and used for other research purposes (e.g., writing scientific papers) at the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI).

# Contacts

If you have any questions that are not answered by this privacy policy or if you would like further information on data protection, please contact us: [s8swkris@stud.uni-saarland.de](mailto:%20s8swkris@stud.uni-saarland.de)

# Right of appeal

The study is conducted in Germany and in accordance with German law. You have the right of appeal to a supervisory authority if you believe that the processing of your personal data violates legal data protection regulations.