



SMU-IRB: Participant Information Sheet and Informed Consent Form (Online)

Title of Research Study as it will be stated on the Informed Consent Form provided to participants:
 Recommending Who to Follow for Software Developers in Twitter

Principal Investigator, Title, and Affiliation: Abhishek Sharma, PhD Student, School of Information Systems, SMU

1. Purpose of Research Study:

To understand how developers decide what accounts they follow on Twitter that can help them in their software development tasks in order to propose a recommendation system to identify specialized software gurus or experts.

2. Study Procedures and Duration:

The study involves filling up a structured questionnaire about how developers decided what accounts to follow on Twitter that can help them in their software development tasks. The study will take 10-15 minutes to complete. The participants are free to skip some questions but some others are mandatory so for the purpose of research being conducted. The participants will be asked to answer some demographic questions. The participants will be able to withdraw from the survey at any point of time by just closing the browser.

3. Benefits of Study:

This proposed research project aims to develop techniques which can help them to find relevant accounts on Twitter which can help them in their software development activities. The technique envisaged will help developers to follow experts in their areas of and help them to keep aware of the latest updates in the software domains they are interested in.

4. Possible Risks of Study:

There are no anticipated risks or adverse effects this study beyond what one would typically experience in daily life.

5. Confidentiality and Privacy of Research Data :

The responses will be used for further analysis and the aggregated results will be published in top tier international conferences and journals. Only researchers' part of the study will have access to the responses. No personal information will be collected during the study.

6. Contact Details:

For questions/ clarifications on this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Abhishek Sharma, at email address abhisheksh.2014@phdis.smu.edu.sg, and/or office/mobile number: +65 81455823 or David Lo at email address: davidlo@smu.edu.sg

- If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a participant in this research study and wish to contact someone unaffiliated with the research team, please contact the SMU Institutional Review Board Secretariat at irb@smu.edu.sg or + 65 68281925. When contacting SMU IRB, please provide the title of the Research Study and the name of the Principal Investigator, or quote the IRB approval number (IRB-17-005-A019(217)).
 - Please bookmark or save a copy of this information sheet and informed consent form for your records.
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Principal Investigator's Declaration:

I have explained and defined in detail the research procedures in which the participant (or legal representative) has consented to participate.

I also declare that the data collected for this research study will be handled as stated above.

Abhishek Sharma 03.01.2017

Principal Investigator's Name and Date:

Participant's Declaration:

I understand that participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty.

I declare that I am at least 18 years of age.

If I am affiliated with Singapore Management University, my decision to participate, decline, or withdraw from participation will have no adverse effect on my status at or future relations with Singapore Management University.

I have read and fully understood the contents of this form, and hereby give consent to the Singapore Management University research team and its affiliates for this project to collect and/or use my data for the purpose(s) described in this form.

By clicking the "Continue/Next" button, I consent to participate in this study and agree to all of the above.

[Continue/Next Button]

If you do not wish to participate in the survey, you may close the browser now to exit.