University of Victoria

Parked Car Location Finder

You are invited to participate in a study entitled Parking Car Location Finder that is being conducted by Arfaz Hussain, Aran Cinar, Henry Gross-Hellsen, and William Bourgeois for the course SENG 310, Human-Computer Interaction. The course instructor is Hamid Mansoor, Department of Computer Science, hmansoor@uvic.ca, (+1) 250-208-6579.

As undergraduate students, we are required to conduct research as part of the requirements for a degree in Computer Science/Software Engineering. It is being conducted under the supervision of Hamid Mansoor, a Sessional Instructor in the department of Computer Science at the University of Victoria. You may contact my supervisor at 250-208-6579 or hmansoor@uvic.ca .

Purpose and Objectives
The purpose of this research project is using GPS location and directional API, to provide information about the status and location of their parked car.
- Saving location of parked car, for later recall.
- Inputting parking time limits, then reminding the user in time to move their car.
- Interaction with other app users, to allow the sharing of a single spot at specific times

Importance of this Research
Research of this type is important because it helps us understand what users actually need in a parking app. Specific features could be more or less desired than we expected, and in the interest of a minimalistic interface this is important. Furthermore, there are drastically different needs between urban and rural users, and this must be accounted for.
- Example: Small towns would place a bigger importance on finding their vehicle, while bigger cities could place a bigger importance on time sharing of a specific spot.
- Example: Research on how users interact with the app would help us understand which features should have a greater emphasis.

Participants Selection
- You have been selected to participate in this study because

  • You have a car which you use regularly

  • You have a mobile phone

  • You regularly park in dense parking locations
- Participation in this project is entirely voluntary.
- Whether you choose to participate or not will have no effect on your position [e.g. employment, class standing] or how you will be treated.

What is involved
If you consent to voluntarily participate in this research, your participation will include :
- Observe/interact with provided media.
- Answer questions on your experience and opinions.
  - In-person or online (Zoom, Discord, etc.)

- **Audio/video recording (anonymous)**
Duration: approximately 10 minutes.

Examples:
- **Interview**:
- Answering a series of questions about a technology
- **Duration:** Approximately 10 minutes
- **Where:** indicate clearly if this will be an in-person interview at UVic campus or conducted remotely
- **Inconvenience:** *None beyond dedicating approximately 10 minutes to this study*

- **Photo/Video/Voice Elicitation**:
- Capturing everyday interaction with technology using photos, videos, and voice memos. The photos and videos only need to demonstrate your interaction with the technology and **must not** capture any personal identifiers such as your face.
- **Duration:** Approximately 20 minutes
- **Sharing Instruction:**

  - Example: You will share your videos and photos by emailing us at: xxx

  - Example: You will upload your data to our google drive folder found here: <link>

- **Inconvenience:** *None beyond dedicating approximately 20 minutes to this study*

Please be advised that information about you that is gathered for this research study uses an online program located in the U.S. (e.g., Zoom, Skype, Google Forms) or a program that can be accessed from the US. As such, there is a possibility that (non-identifiable) information about you may be accessed without your knowledge or consent by the US government in compliance with the US Freedom Act.

Risks
There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

When participating in-person, participants must recognize that the level of risk of certain communicable diseases, including COVID-19, may elevate from time to time or on a seasonal basis. This may occur at a local or regional level or within a workplace. Thus, we will follow UVic's recommendations for managing risks and therefore require participants to conduct health self-assessment and notify us if they are not feeling well so the study can be cancelled or rescheduled. In addition, when participating in the study on campus we request participants to wash hands regularly or use hand sanitizers, and covering mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. More detailed suggestions for managing risks can be found in the UVic CD plan: https://www.uvic.ca/ohse/assets/docs/rtc/uvic-communicable-disease-plan.pdf

Participants will be advised if they have or may have come into contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. Contact information for participants will be stored in a separate file from research data in the event that follow up is needed.

Benefits
The potential benefits of your participation in this research include helping us generate new design guidelines for people who create interfaces, and helping us alleviate congestion and allow ease of parking in major cities and parking lots. Your participation will also allow us to gather more data on the needs of specific regions and areas.

Voluntary Participation
Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. If you do withdraw from the study your data will be permanently erased and removed from all analysis by removing all documents associated to your identity.

Anonymity
In terms of protecting your anonymity, you will not provide identifiable information such as your name thus the data we collect is anonymous. If you are identifiable in the video(s) taken, we will take the necessary measures to censor (blur) or otherwise remove the identifying section.

Confidentiality
We will not store any identifiable information.

Dissemination of Results
It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in class presentation, coursework report and will be documented on a website hosted on local UVic server. In addition, if the research findings are of publishable quality, the students and the instructor can decide to use the results in a scientific, peer-reviewed publication.

Disposal of Data
- Within one month of the end of the course, students will delete the raw data and confirm their action by sending me an email acknowledging that they have indeed deleted all the raw data.
- The website and related data hosted on UVic server will be deleted one month after the end of the course.

Contacts
Individuals that may be contacted regarding this study include the researchers and supervisors listed at the beginning of this document.

In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

By completing and submitting the questionnaire, **YOUR FREE AND INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPLIED** and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers.

Please retain a copy of this letter for your reference.