

# Information Consent Letter

## Study: Sing UI

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*Study Facilitators:*

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## What is this study about?

We are examining how people interact with computers and other digital devices. This is important because understanding the characteristics and performance of human-computer interactions can discover new interaction methods and improve existing interaction methods.

This study examines different ways to interact with a computer using singing and other musical sounds.

## Who may participate in the study?

You will need a working microphone, headphones, laptop/desktop with Google Chrome, phone, and a quiet place to complete these tasks.

## What does participation involve?

This study involves a single session which is less than 1 hour. After the session, you may be contacted by an experiment facilitator if you would like to participate in 4 follow-up sessions over 1 week, where each follow-up session is less than 30 minutes. The additional sessions are optional and simply involve more repetitions of tasks from the first session.

You will complete a series of simple tasks, each taking only a few seconds, where you sing or hum to interact with a computer.

Your computer interactions during the tasks will be logged to a file and a researcher may observe and take notes. You may also be asked for basic demographics, such as age and gender, your previous experience with computers, and your opinions and perceptions of the different conditions you experience during the session.

*With your permission below*, we may also capture the following **additional data sources** during the study session:

- recorded audio during portions of the session. Each recording will be clearly delineated when you press a button.

## Your participation is voluntary.

You may decide to withdraw during the session by informing the facilitator or principal investigator and/or exiting the session software.

You may decline to respond to questions if you wish by not answering or leaving the question blank. If a question is required for the study to continue, such as demographic information for us to classify and use your data, then declining the question may require you to withdraw from the study.

If you wish to withdraw your data after completing a session, please contact the facilitator or principal investigator. Note it may not be possible to withdraw your data if your data has been anonymized or already included in analysis.

### **You will be remunerated.**

You will be remunerated \$15 via Interac e-Transfer for completing the first session. If you are invited to participate in follow-up sessions, you will be remunerated \$10 for each follow-up session.

If you choose to withdraw, please contact an experiment facilitator to be remunerated for the proportion of the study you completed.

### **The risks are no greater than experiences in daily life.**

There is potential for minor discomfort or fatigue from performing repeated tasks, but the physical requirements of the task are like normal computer usage and/or common real-world tasks. We will reduce this risk by requiring and/or encouraging rest breaks.

If we provide equipment, you may touch or wear a device (e.g. headset, gloves, smartphone, touchscreen). We will clean the device after each participant session using a suitable disinfectant cleanser.

### **Your identity is confidential.**

Only the research team will know which data is from your participation, your name and any identifying information will not appear in any public dataset or publication resulting from this study.

When information is transmitted or stored on the internet privacy cannot be guaranteed. There is always a risk your responses may be intercepted by a third party (e.g., government agencies, hackers). Google temporarily collects your participant ID and computer IP address to avoid duplicate responses in the dataset but will not collect information that could identify you personally.

### **Your data will be anonymized or de-identified.**

All data will be anonymized or de-identified for analysis, reporting, and public data sharing. Generic labels will be used to refer to specific participants (P1, P2, ...).

If screen captures, photos, audio or video is recorded, it will be obscured (e.g. changing audio tone and pitch, or blurring or masking images/video/captures).

### **Your data will be stored securely for at least 7 years.**

Any data with identifying information will be stored on a password-protected computer with an encrypted hard drive until it is de-identified. This storage will be for at least 7 years.

### **This study has received ethics clearance.**

This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Board (REB# 43346). If you have questions for the Board, contact the Office of Research Ethics at 1-519-888-4567 ext. 36005 or [reb@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:reb@uwaterloo.ca).

### **What if I have questions?**

Your facilitator or the principal investigator can answer any questions, their contact information is above.

## Consent Form

*By providing your consent, you are not waiving your legal rights or releasing the investigator(s) or involved institution(s) from their legal and professional responsibilities.*

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(REB #43346)

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- ☐ I read the information above and had the opportunity to ask questions and receive satisfactory answers.
- ☐ I was informed that my participation is voluntary and that I can withdraw this consent by informing the facilitator or primary investigator.
- ☐ I agree to the use of anonymous quotations in any thesis, dataset, or publication that comes from this research.
- ☐ If applicable, I agree to allow any **additional data sources** listed in the “What does participation involve?” section, with the understanding that I will not be identified by name and my identity will be obscured. I grant permission to use these in teaching, scientific presentations, publication and/or datasets.
- ☐ I understand any remuneration I receive may be taxable: it is my responsibility to report this amount for income tax purposes.
- ☐ I agree of my own free will to participate in the study.

If you do not agree, exit this page and inform the experiment facilitator or primary investigator.