



Consent to Participate in Research

Basic Study Information

Title of the Project: **VaryCHarm: A Method to Automatically Vary the Complexity of Harmonies in Music**

Principal Investigator: **Professor Peter Stone, PhD, The University of Texas at Austin**

Faculty Advisor: **Professor Peter Stone, PhD, The University of Texas at Austin**

Invitation to be Part of a Research Study

You are invited to be part of a research study. This consent form will help you in choosing whether or not to participate in the study. Feel free to ask if anything is not clear in this consent document.

What is the study about and why are we doing it?

The purpose of the study is to understand how human listeners, musically trained and untrained, judge the reduced/added note transformations generated by our new technology. We want to know if the music sounds realistic, pleasant, and how complex.

What will happen if you take part in this study?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to: click a link to access a form online. In the form the first task is to self-report musical ability. Following, the survey has 4 sections:

1. **Musical Preference:** We show the participants 5 variations of the same 16 second piece of music. The participants are asked to rank them in order of preference.
2. **Perceived Musical Complexity:** We show the participants variations of the same 16 second sections of music. The participants are asked to rank them in order of performance complexity.
3. **Musical Humanness:** We show the participants 2 variations of the same 16 seconds section of music. The participants are asked to pick the most human version.
4. **(Multi-Instrument) Musical Humanness:** Same as 3, however we use multiple instrument music.

How long will this study take and how many people will be in the study?

Participation in this study will take 5-10 minutes, and include approximately 30 participants.

What risks and discomforts might you experience from being in this study?

There are some risks you might experience from being in this study. They are loss of confidentiality of collected data, issues related to volume being dangerously high, and tension from the inability to decide between music examples.

How could you benefit from this study?

You will receive no direct benefit from participating in this study; however, this study will help the community understand the value of this automatic adding or removing of notes as it relates to human preferences.

What data will we collect from you?

As part of this study we will collect music perception and preference data.



How will we protect your information?

We will protect your information we will/will not store any information that could directly identify you. Your name and any other information that can directly identify you will be stored separately from the data collected as part of the project.

Information about you may be given to the following organizations:

- Representatives of UT Austin and the UT Austin Institutional Review Board
- The data that we will collect about you will not be shared with any other researchers.
- We plan to publish the results of this study. To protect your privacy, we will/will not include any information that could directly identify you.

What will happen to the information we collect about you after the study is over?

We will/will not keep your research data to use for other projects, we will perform statistical analysis on the data. Your name and other information that can directly identify you will be deleted from the research data collected as part of the project.

How will we compensate you for being part of the study?

You will not receive any type of payment for your participation.

Your Participation in this Study is Voluntary

It is totally up to you to decide to be in this research study. Participating in this study is voluntary. Your decision to participate will not affect your relationship with The University of Texas at Austin. You will not lose any benefits or rights you already had if you decide not to participate. Even if you decide to be part of the study now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer.

If you decide to withdraw before this study is completed, exit the website forum and you data will not be stored.

Contact Information for the Study Team and Questions about the Research

If you have any questions about this research, you may contact:

Professor Peter Stone

Phone: **512-471-9796**

Email: **pstone@cs.utexas.edu**

Or

Juan Huerta

Phone: **956-579-3575**

Email: **jmhuert@gmail.com**

Contact Information for Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions, or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the following:

The University of Texas at Austin

Institutional Review Board

Phone: 512-232-1543

Email: **irb@austin.utexas.edu**

Please reference the protocol number found at the top of this document.



Your Consent

Before agreeing to be part of the research, please be sure that you understand what the study is about. We will give you a copy of this document for your records [or you can print a copy of the document for your records]. If you have any questions about the study later, you can contact the study team using the information provided above.