University of British Columbia Department of Computer Science

Participant Consent Form

Human Factors in Information Visualization

You are being invited to participate in a study entitled "Human Factors in Information Visualization" that is being conducted by Matthew Brehmer and Tamara Munzner.

Matthew Brehmer is a Doctoral student in the department of Computer Science at the University of British Columbia and you may contact him if you have further questions by email at ______ or by phone at

This research is being funded by NSERC.

The purpose of this research project is to investigate how people analyze complex data, and how statistical analysis techniques and visual representations are used to make sense of this data. Research of this type is important because it allows us to design better data displays to allow more effective, efficient, and enjoyable analysis of data in a variety of applications.

If you agree to voluntarily participate in this research, your participation may include:

- Participating in a verbal interview.
- Filling out a background questionnaire that asks about your experience with computer technology and data analysis applications, as well as personal characteristics such as age and gender.
- Completing computer-based tasks.
- Filling out a questionnaire about the computer-based tasks and tools you experienced.
- Being audio-taped.
- Being video-taped
- Being watched by live observers.
- Using software with automatic data logging techniques (e.g., screen recording, mouse recording).

This study occurs over multiple sessions. Signing this form implies your consent to participate for the duration of the study. You will be periodically reminded that you can withdraw your participation at any time. Each research session is expected to take approximately 1-2 hours and, depending on the stage of research, will take place at one of the following locations:

- Your place of work.
- UBC Computer Science Department.
- Remotely by phone or a tele/video conference application such as Skype.

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

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, we will ask whether we may use your data for data analysis. If you decline, your data will be destroyed.

You will be asked to choose whether your participation in this study will be attributed (for example, by an explicit acknowledgement by name for your contributions towards the work in a publication) or confidential. If you choose confidentiality, your confidentiality and the confidentiality of the data will be protected by identifying data only with a participant number rather than your name. All data stored in computer files will be password-protected, and audio/video tapes will be stored in a locked office.

Some interviews will be with focus groups rather than a single individual. In these cases, we cannot fully guarantee confidentiality since other participants in your group may know your identity.

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways:

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