

## Informed Consent Form

**Date:**

**Study Name:** Study of automatic text summarization methods

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**Purpose of the Research:** In this research, we are interested in studying different automatic text summarization techniques to help users understand data. Today, users often need to deal with large amount of data which can be in the form of text. Going through such large amount of data can be very difficult and time consuming. In this research, we are building AI methods that can automatically generate summaries from multiple documents based on a given query. For this purpose, we would like to compare between summaries generated by different AI techniques in terms of informativeness, conciseness, coherency, and fluency. We will present you some summaries generated by different techniques. Then we will ask you some questions about the quality of the presented summaries. Next, we are interested to analyze the responses to questionnaires to further improve our text summarization methods.

**What You Will Be Asked to Do in the Research:** In this research you will be asked to perform the following tasks:

1. At first, a consent form will appear to you before the experimental session begins.
2. After providing the consent, you will be asked to complete a pre-study background questionnaire about your educational background, age range and language proficiency.
3. Summaries generated from 5 different models for a particular query will be given. For each summary, your task is to read the whole summary and answering some questions about the summary.
4. The study session will last between 20-25 minutes. You will receive \$4.0 for completing the task (i.e., answering questions about all 5 summaries).

**Risks and Discomforts:** We do not foresee any risks or discomfort from your participation in the research.

**Benefits of the Research and Benefits to You:** Taking part in this research study may not benefit you personally, but we may learn new things that could help others.

**Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal:** Your participation in the study is completely voluntary and you may choose to stop participating at any time. If you stop participating at any point before completing the task, you will not receive any compensations. In the event you withdraw from the study, all associated data collected will be immediately destroyed wherever possible. Your decision not to volunteer, to stop participating, or to refuse to answer particular questions will not influence the nature of your relationship with York University either now, or in the future.

**Confidentiality:** All personally identifying information you supply during the research -- namely: your MTurk ID -- will be held in confidence and will not appear in any report or publication of the research. Please be aware that your MTurk Worker ID can potentially be linked to information about you on your Amazon public profile page, depending on the settings you have for your Amazon profile. We will not be accessing any personally identifying information about you that you may have put on your Amazon public profile page. Your personally identifying data will be safely stored in a locked facility and a password protected digital medium (USB key or DVD) and only research staff/research team members will have access to this information. The personally identifying data will be destroyed by the end of 2021. Confidentiality will be provided to the fullest extent possible by law.

Your non-personally identifying responses -- including demographics (age-range, educational background and questionnaire responses -- may be published on the PI's web-sites (personal, lab) and shared with the research community as data files. The PI will screen the data and use his own judgement to identify accidentally or indirectly personally identifying features and will redact the parts in question or, if necessary, the entire response prior to availing it to third parties. The anonymized non-personally identifying data collected in this research project may also be used by members of the research team in subsequent research investigations exploring similar lines of inquiry.

The researcher(s) acknowledge that the host of the online survey (e.g., Amazon Mechanical Turk) may automatically collect participant data without their knowledge (i.e., IP addresses). Further, because this project employs e-based collection techniques, data may be subject to access by third parties as a result of various security legislation now in

place in many countries and thus the confidentiality and privacy of data cannot be guaranteed during web-based transmission.

**Questions About the Research?** If you have questions about the research in general or about your role in the study, please feel free to contact Dr. Enamul Hoque Prince by e-mail ([enamulh@yorku.ca](mailto:enamulh@yorku.ca)). This research has received ethics review and approval by the Human Participants Review Sub-Committee, York University's Ethics Review Board and conforms to the standards of the Canadian Tri-Council Research Ethics guidelines. If you have any questions about this process, or about your rights as a participant in the study, please contact the Sr. Manager & Policy Advisor for the Office of Research Ethics, 5th Floor, Kaneff Tower, York University (telephone 416-736-5914 or e-mail [ore@yorku.ca](mailto:ore@yorku.ca)).

**Consent:**

By clicking "Agree" below, you confirm that you have read the consent form, are at least 18 years old, and agree to participate in the study "Study of automatic text summarization methods".

- ☐ I agree to participate in the research
- ☐ I do NOT agree to participate in the research

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