

Confidentiality agreement

This experiment is conducted by the M.Sc. students Jesper Olsson and Erik Risfelt of Chalmers University of Technology, Department of Software Engineering. The aim of the experiment is to investigate how technical debt might influence the affective state of software practitioners.

This agreement and any personal information you add to it will not be transferred to any other format, with the exception of your name. Your name will be written along with your anonymous code on a physical list which will be destroyed at the conclusion of the project. This is the only place where your name and anonymous code will be present together. All data and answers you provide as part of the experiment will be marked solely with your anonymous code, and will not be stored with the list of names and anonymous codes. Please do not add any personal information on any other material you provide as part of this experiment.

The experiment will remain anonymous, meaning that participation cannot be traced directly or indirectly back to you. The data is collected only for scientific research purposes in the public interest. The data will be published in raw or aggregated form. Key excerpts and concepts from the experiment may become part of one or more scientific publications, but no personal data will be included.

We would like to emphasise that:

- your participation is entirely voluntary;
- you are free to decline answering any question;
- you are free to withdraw from the study at any time;
- the study will be made publically available;
- at any time before the study is published, you may request your data to be erased.

I have read the above information and by signing this document. I give my consent in participating in the study. I agree not to share any of the contents of the study to any but the parties mentioned herein, until the study is publically available.

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Place and date: _____

In the event that the data collected is missing or unusual, the researchers may use the email address below to contact me.

Email address: _____

☐ I would like to receive a copy of the results of the study.

This experiment is part of a master thesis at the software engineering programme at Chalmers University of Technology. Any questions about the study or its contents can be directed to the students in charge.

Jesper Olsson is a master student at the Software Engineering and Technologies programme at Chalmers University of Technology. His studies have focused on large scale systems, software quality and software design and architecture. Contact him at jesploss@student.chalmers.se.

Erik Risfelt is also a master student at the Software Engineering and Technologies programme at Chalmers University of Technology. His studies have focused on software modeling and requirement specification, as well as some functional programming. Contact him at risfelt@student.chalmers.se

The study is supervised by senior researchers. Any questions or complaints concerning the students can be directed to the supervisors.

Terese Besker is a Ph.D. candidate in Software Engineering at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden. She is working in the research fields of architectural technical debt management. Before becoming a Ph.D. student, she worked as a senior software engineer in the software industry for more than fifteen years. She also has a bachelor degree in software engineering and a master degree in applied IT from Chalmers. She has published several peer-reviewed articles in conference and workshop proceedings. Contact her at besker@chalmers.se

Antonio Martini is an associated professor in Software Engineering at the University of Oslo, Norway. Antonio has worked as a developer in industry, carrying out various roles. Antonio is leading a project within a research consortium of academia and large international companies. Its current focus is on Architectural Technical Debt: a financial metaphor that represents sub-optimal architectural solutions taken as debt that needs to be repaid in the future with extra-effort (interest). Contact him at antonima@ifi.uio.no