

Sample Consent Form for Lab Studies

Please consider this information carefully before deciding whether to participate in this research.

Purpose of the research: To examine how performing multiple tasks affects performance.

What you will do in this research: You will view a moving object on a computer display and you will do your best to track that object using either a mouse or a joystick. You will also respond by pressing a button whenever another event occurs on the computer display. While you are performing this task, you will be asked to also perform a second task such as counting backwards or repeating words that are read to you.

Time required: Participation will take approximately 60 minutes to complete.

Risks There are no anticipated risks associated with participating in this study. The effects of participating should be comparable to those you would experience from viewing a computer monitor for 60 minutes and using a mouse or keyboard.

Benefits: At the end of the study, we will provide a thorough explanation of the study and of our hypotheses. We will describe the potential implications of the results of the study both if our hypotheses are supported and if they are disconfirmed. If you wish, you can send an email message to [investigator's name (email address)] and we will send you a copy of any manuscripts based on the research (or summaries of our results).

Compensation: You will receive \$10 [and/or one hour study pool credit] for participating in this study.

Confidentiality: Your participation in this study will remain confidential, and your identity will not be stored with your data. Your responses will be assigned a code number, and the list connecting your name with this number will be kept in a locked room and will be destroyed once all the data have been collected and analyzed. [Researchers with a different plan regarding confidentiality should modify this section of the consent form to describe what they are actually promising to do to protect confidentiality.]

Participation and withdrawal: Your participation in this study is completely voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time without penalty. You will receive payment based on the proportion of the study you completed. You may withdraw by informing the researcher that you no longer wish to participate (no questions will be asked).

<p>To Contact the Researcher: If you have questions about this research, please contact [investigator's name, title, address, phone number, and email address]. You may also contact the faculty member supervising this work: [adviser's name, title, address, phone number, and email address]</p>

Whom to contact about your rights in this research, for questions, concerns, suggestions, or complaints that are not being addressed by the researcher, or research-related harm: Jane Calhoun, Harvard University Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research, 1414 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 234, Cambridge, MA 02138. Phone: 617-495-5459. E-mail: jcalhoun@fas.harvard.edu

Agreement:

The nature and purpose of this research have been sufficiently explained and I agree to participate in this study. I understand that I am free to withdraw at any time without incurring any penalty.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (print): _____