

CONSENT LETTER FOR ENROLLING ADULT PARTICIPANTS IN A RESEARCH STUDY

School of Interactive Computing Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA

Dear Subject,

You are being asked to participate in a research study. The study is part of a larger project titled “Automated Game Design”. The principal investigator on the project is Dr. Mark Riedl.

This project investigates how machine learning and artificial intelligence can inform an automated game design agent. This agent will eventually work with novice and expert game designers to aid in game development.

In this study, you will be asked to play a single level from three platformer video games. These games will be a mix of human-authored and AI-authored.

The ultimate goal is to adapt these results to more game design systems. We need your help to investigate the tradeoffs of utilizing different techniques in constructing these automated game designers.

Exclusion/Inclusion Criteria:

You must be an English speaker and age 18 or over.

Procedures:

If you choose to participate in this research study, you will be asked to play three platformer levels (like *Super Mario Bros.* or *Mega Man*). We ask that you take at most 10 minutes for each level. After all three levels you will be asked to take a brief post-study survey about your overall experience and some demographic information. Overall we estimate that this study will take between thirty minutes to one hour of your time.



Risks or Discomforts:

The risks involved are no greater than those involved in using a computer to edit a document.

Benefits:

We do not expect participants to benefit from this study directly, though they may gain additional level design or machine learning insight. From the participants results we will gain a richer notion of how best to create A.I. game designers.

Compensation to You:

There is no compensation for this study.

Confidentiality:

The following procedures will be followed to keep your personal information confidential in this study: Your privacy will be protected to the extent **required** by law. To protect your privacy, your records will be kept under a code number rather than by name. Your records will be kept in locked files and only study staff will be allowed to look at them. Your name and any other fact that might point to you will not appear when results of this study are presented or published, **unless you specify to the contrary**. The Georgia Institute of Technology IRB and the Office of Human Research Protections may look over study records during required reviews.

You may choose to email us. Only experimenters listed at the bottom of the letter may read and reply to your email. Because emails may contain your name, we will delete the emails once the study is complete. No link will be maintained that could connect your identity with your study responses.

Costs to You:

There are no costs to you, other than your time.

In Case of Injury/Harm:

If you are injured as a result of being in this study, please contact



the Principal Investigator, Mark Riedl, Ph.D. Neither the Principal Investigator nor the Georgia Institute of Technology has made provision for payment of costs associated with any injury resulting from participation in the study.

Participant Rights:

- Your participation is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you don't want to be.
- You have the right to change your mind and leave the study at any time without giving any reason and without penalty.
- Any new information that may make you change your mind about being in this study will be given to you.
- Please save a copy of this consent form to keep for your records.
- You do not waive any of your legal rights by participating in this research.

Questions about the Study:

If you have any questions regarding the conduct or research goals of this study, please contact one of the investigators listed on the bottom of this letter.

Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant:

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact:

Ms. Melanie Clark, Georgia Institute of Technology
Office of Research Integrity Assurance, at (404) 894-6942

Ms. Kelly Winn, Georgia Institute of Technology
Office of Research Integrity Assurance, at (404) 385-2175



If you click through to the next page, it means that you have read (or have had read to you) the information contained in this letter, and would like to be a volunteer in this research study.

Thank you!

Dr. Mark Riedl (riedl@cc.gatech.edu)

Matthew Guzdial (mguzdial3@gatech.edu)

