

Consent to Participate in a Research Study

Title of Study: Representing and Merging Diverse Goal Models in Requirements Engineering

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Introduction and Purpose of Study

- Goal modeling is used to facilitate stakeholders evaluating potential scenarios and making decisions for projects. A goal modeling language provides users with visualizations of related tasks and resources that contribute to high-level objectives and goals.
- You are being asked to be in a research study investigating the utility of different methods of goal-modeling. We are examining the process of building goal models and the challenges and benefits offered by various methods of model construction and analysis. At this time, you are being asked to complete an online questionnaire. You will have the option of providing your contact information for a future follow-up study.
- You were selected as a possible participant for this study because you applied to participate in the study, have proficiency in English, be known to NOT have a color vision deficiency (i.e., you are NOT color blind). Participants must be currently enrolled in the Computer Science Specialist or Computer Science Major at the University of Toronto, and must have passed either CSC148H1 or CSC111H1 with a grade of 'B' (~75%) or higher.
- We ask that you read this form and ask any questions that you may have before agreeing to be in the study.
- Ultimately, this research will be submitted to Requirements Engineering publication venues.

Description of the Study Procedures

- If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire. It is expected that you can complete the questionnaire in under 60 minutes.
- The questionnaire will review basic information about the Tropos goal modeling language and ask you questions about three scenarios. We will consider the correctness of some of your responses and the insights you provide in others. The purpose of this study is to explore the utility of each approach and not individual answers. If you choose to participate, you should complete the information at the end of this consent letter.
- Upon collection, your data will be stored in Smith College's Qualtrics server until the data is anonymized and coded for analysis. After that all electronic data will be stored securely on a Smith College server. Upon publication, anonymized data will be archived in a repository on Smith College ScholarWorks (<https://scholarworks.smith.edu>). *Note: All data will be stored on servers located in the United States. All raw information will be destroyed after 7 years.*
- If you would like to participate and require materials to be presented in an alternative format (e.g., large font), please contact Dr. Alicia M. Grubb at amgrubb@smith.edu.

Risks/Discomforts of Being in this Study

- There are no foreseeable (or expected) risks in this study. There may be unknown risks.
- Participation in this study does not waive any legal rights in the event of any harm.

Benefits of Being in the Study

- As someone who studies computer science, you may benefit from the results of this investigation as we discover which methods of goal-modeling are most beneficial.

Confidentiality

- The records of this study will be kept strictly confidential. All raw electronic information will be secured using a password protected file. We will archive the anonymized data in a repository on Smith College ScholarWorks (<https://scholarworks.smith.edu/>). We will not include any information in any report we may publish that would make it possible to identify you.

Payments

- All qualified respondents will have the option to receive a \$25 (CAD) Amazon.ca gift card distributed at the close of the survey.

Right to Refuse or Withdraw

- The decision to participate in this study is entirely up to you. You may refuse to take part in the study at any time without affecting your relationship with the investigators of this study or the University of Toronto. Your decision to refuse will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You have the right not to answer any single question, as well as to withdraw completely from the study at any point during the process; additionally, you have the right to request that the researcher not use any of your study material, **prior to data anonymization (approximately one week after your completion of this study)**. Participants who withdraw prior to completion will not receive compensation.

Right to Ask Questions and Report Concerns

- You have the right to ask questions about this research study and to have those questions answered by us before, during or after the research. If you have any further questions about the study, at any time feel free to contact Dr. Alicia M. Grubb at amgrubb@smith.edu or Prof. Marsha Chechik at chechik@cs.toronto.edu. If you like, a summary of the results of the study will be sent to you. If you have any other concerns about your rights as a research participant that have not been answered by the investigators, you may contact the Research Oversight and Compliance Office – Human Research Ethics Program at ethics.review@utoronto.ca or (416) 946-3273, and/or the Smith College Institutional Review Board at irb@smith.edu or (413) 585-3562.
- If you have any problems or concerns that occur as a result of your participation, you can report them to the IRB using the contact information above. Alternatively, concerns can be reported by completing a Participant Complaint Form, which can be found on the Smith College IRB website at <https://www.smith.edu/academics/institutional-review-board/compliance>

Consent

- Your digital signature below indicates that you have decided to volunteer as a research participant for this study, and that you have read and understood the information provided above.

- ☐ I confirm that I satisfy the eligibility requirements for this study described above.
- ☐ I agree to participate in this study.
- ☐ I do not agree to participate and will be excluded from the remainder of the questions.

Please enter your name as your digital signature.