



Date: Monday, May 27, 2019 5:05:02 PM

Print

01. General Study Information

All questions marked with a red asterisk (*) require a response. Questions without a red asterisk may or may not require a response, depending on those questions' applicability to this study.

1.1* Study Title:

Understanding Program Structure Representation via fNIRS

1.1.1 Full Study Title:

Toward Understanding Program Structure Representation via Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy

1.1.2 If there are other U-M studies related to this project, enter the eResearch ID number (HUM#) or IRBMED Legacy study number. Examples of related projects include, but are not limited to:

- Projects funded under the same grant
- IRBMED Legacy study being migrated into eResearch
- Previously approved Umbrella applications (such as Center Grants or approvals for release of funding)
- Previously approved projects for which this is a follow up study

1.2* Principal Investigator:[Westley Weimer](#)**Note:** If the user is not in the system, you may [Create A New User Account...](#)**1.3 Study Team Members:**

Study Team Member	Study Team Role	Appointment Dept	Appointment Selection Complete?	Student	Friend Account	COI Review Required	Edit Rights	Accepted Role?	PEERS Human Subjects?
Westley Weimer	PI	EECS - CSE Division	Yes	no	No	no	yes	N/A	yes
Xiaosu Hu	Co-Investigator	UMOR Center Human Growth & Dev	Yes	no	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Yu Huang	Co-Investigator	EECS - CSE Division	Yes	yes	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Jessica Kim	Co-Investigator	UMOR Center Human Growth & Dev	Yes	no	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Ioulia Kovelman	Co-Investigator	LSA Psychology	Yes	no	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Kevin Leach	Co-Investigator	EECS - CSE Division	Yes	no	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Xinyu Liu	Co-Investigator	LSA Mathematics	Yes	yes	No	no	yes	Yes	yes
Tyler Santander	Other		N/A	no	Yes	no	yes	Yes	yes

1.8* Project Summary:

Computer programs are developed using highly structured programming languages that tell the computer what to do. Program representation refers to the way the language is used to create order and structure within the program. For example, banking software may represent an individual account with a sequence of numbers referring to credits and debits over time. This program representation is often a design decision made by one or more software developers. Skilled software developers internalize a number of common structures used to realize large computer programs. While many studies have addressed best practices for code review, style, and software architecture, very few have approached understanding cognitive processes involved in software development. This study proposes using functional near-infrared

spectroscopy (fNIRS) to measure those cognitive processes.

We believe that understanding the correlation between manipulation program representation and related tasks will inform the software engineering community about how to better assess or train individuals who write software. This study will ask participants to read code and look at program representations and perform mental rotation tasks while wearing an fNIRS cap to measure these correlations.

Secondly, this study will compare manipulating program representation to mental rotation. Participants will be shown several three-dimensional objects and asked if one can be rotated to match another. Many previous studies in the psychology literature demonstrate a clear relationship between the amount of rotation required to match rotated objects and the time taken to respond to the query.

In this study, participants will answer a pre-questionnaire and complete a training session. Then, they will spend approximately 70 minutes wearing an fNIRS cap rotating between the program representation manipulation and mental rotation tasks. In the end, they will have a conversation-based post questionnaire with the study investigator about how they get the decision for some sample questions they encountered.

The data generated will be used to find correlations between tasks. We hypothesize that cognitive processes involved in program representation will be similar to mental rotation tasks. The similarities between these tasks will help the software engineering community to improve training for individuals involved in software development.

1.9* Select the appropriate IRB:

Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences

1.10* Estimated Study Start Date (Not required for IRBMED): (mm/dd/yyyy)

2/1/2018

1.11* Estimated Duration of Study:

90 minutes per participant, multiple participants over the course of 12 weeks.

01-1. Application Type

1-1.1* Select the appropriate application type.

Application Type	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Subjects research involving interaction or intervention (formerly Standard, non-exempt research project - or - Exempt)	<p>Studies that involve either or both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interaction, including communication or interpersonal contact between investigator and subject• Intervention, including both physical procedures by which information or biospecimens are gathered (e.g., venipuncture) and manipulations of the subject or subject's environment that are performed for research purposes <p>Interaction/Intervention studies may also have a "secondary research" component.</p>
<p>Does the research involve any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. more than minimal risk to participants?b. use of drugs or medical devices?c. target prisoners as research subjects?d. collection of biospecimens from subjects (including blood, saliva, cheek swabs)? <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary research uses of private information or biospecimens	<p>"Secondary research" are studies that involve ONLY re-using private information and/or biospecimens that are collected for some other "primary" or "initial" activity, such as other earlier</p>

research studies, a biorepository holding specimens obtained with "broad consent," clinical care, or educational records. Includes Exemption 4 and "not regulated" projects.

Do NOT use this application type for:

- Studies that **also** have an interaction/intervention component, such as primary collection of information or biospecimens for the purposes of the study. (Choose instead "Human subjects research involving **interaction or intervention.**")
- Projects involving secondary use of information/biospecimens for **only non-research purposes**, such as QA/QI, case studies on one or two individuals, or use in a class to teach research methods. (Choose instead "Activities **not regulated** as human subjects research.")

Not all activities that involve people, their data, or specimens are covered by the regulations governing human subjects research (45 CFR 46 or 21 CFR 50/56).

IRB review is required for the following activities **ONLY** to assess compliance with **HIPAA** or other regulations or institutional policies:

- Research on existing data or specimens that have been coded before the researcher receives them, but identifiers still exist.
- Research Involving Deceased Individuals Only
- Pre-review of Clinical Data Sets Preparatory to Research
- Standard Public Health Surveillance or Prevention Activities

☐ Activities **Not Regulated** as human subjects research

IRB review is not required for the following activities, but researchers may wish complete this brief application to generate a determination letter for funding or publication purposes, or to request IRB review to confirm the "Not Regulated" determination:

- Case Studies
- Class Activities
- Journalism/Documentary Activities
- Oral History
- Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement Activities
- Research on Organizations
- Research using Publicly Available Data Sets

☐ Projects **lacking immediate plans for involvement of human subjects**, their data, and/or their specimens

Activities such as training grants, program projects, center grants, or multi-phase studies not involving human subjects until later years. Before release of funding, some agencies may require IRB acknowledgement of the future use of human subjects.

These projects are sometimes referred to as "umbrella projects" or "dry applications."

☐ **Single-patient Expanded Access Drug or Biologic (Emergency Use or Non-Emergency/Compassionate Use)**

Use of an investigational drug or biologic, outside of a clinical trial, under a single-patient IND issued by the FDA for a patient faced with a serious or life-threatening disease or condition.

- Contact the **IRB Chair-on-Call** as soon as possible once the decision to use the investigational drug or biologic is made.
- Submission for IRB review and approval is required, prior to use if feasible. **If this was an emergency use, submit no later than five days after use of the investigational agent.**
- This includes both one-time use and continuing therapy.

☐ **Single-patient Expanded Access Device Use (Emergency Use or Non-Emergency/Compassionate Use)**

Use of an investigational device, outside of a clinical trial, when this is the only option available for a patient faced with a serious or life-threatening disease or condition.

Use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the IRB Chair-on-Call as soon as possible once the decision to use the investigational device is made. • Submission for IRB review and approval is required, prior to device use if feasible. If this was an emergency use, submit no later than five days after use of the investigational device. • This includes both one-time use and continuing therapy.
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanitarian Use Device (HUD) under a HDE	Non-research, on-label use of an HUD under a Humanitarian Device Exemption (HDE)
<input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Review by a Non-UM IRB	Use ONLY to request deferral of IRB oversight for UM activities to a non-UM IRB.
<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-site Research where U-M is a Coordinating Center and/or IRB of Record	<p>Do not use Multi-site Research application type when U-M is only a performance site - select Standard application type.</p> <p>Select when U-M is any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Coordinating Center; • Clinical Coordinating Center; or • IRB of Record for non-U-M sites (for U-M to be IRB of Record you must contact your IRB for prior acknowledgement). <p>When U-M is also a performance site, a separate application is required for local site considerations. Refer to special requirements at the IRB website.</p>

01-2. Standard Study Information

1-2.1* Who initiated this study?

Investigator

1-2.2* Are you or any students working on this project being paid from a federally funded training grant?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1-2.3 This study is currently associated with the following department. To associate this research with a different department, click Select. If the department has defaulted to "student", click select to specify the department through which this application is being submitted.

CoE Electrical & Computer Sci

1-2.5* Is the study related to cancer, cancer risk, or cancer care delivery?

☐ Yes ☐ No

1-2.7* Has the scientific merit of this study already been peer reviewed (i.e., reviewed by one or more recognized authorities on the subject)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1-2.8* Is this a clinical trial?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

Westley Weimer

Preferred email: weimerw@umich.edu
Business phone 734-615-9916
Business address: EECS/CSE 4636 Beyster 48109-2121

1.5 Function with respect to project:

PI

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 Westley Weimer Full CV	0.01

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

C1 Do you, your spouse, domestic partner, or dependents have any outside interests or relationships to companies or entities related to this research that the IRB should consider?
Examples of outside interests include, but are not limited to the following:

- receiving compensation whose value could be affected by the study outcome
- IN THE AGGREGATE, expecting to receive compensation from the sponsor of the research of \$10,000 or greater in the next year
- having a proprietary interest in the sponsor of the research or a product tested by this research including but not limited to, a patent, trademark, copyright, or licensing agreement, or the right to receive royalties from product commercialization
- individually or collectively, having an ownership interest (equity or stock options) in the sponsor of the research or product being tested whose value cannot be readily determined through reference to public prices
- individually or collectively, having an ownership interest (equity or stock options) in a company or product whose value could be affected by the study outcome
- IN THE AGGREGATE, having an ownership interest (equity or stock options) in the sponsor of the research that exceeds \$10,000 or 1% when the sponsor is a publicly traded entity
- receiving significant payments of other sorts with an aggregate value of \$10,000 or more (or payment of ANY amount to medical school or hospital employees) made directly by the sponsor of this research for unrestricted research or education, equipment, consultancy, or honorarium
- holding a position of management or leadership in company or entity related to this research including, but not limited to, officer, director, or member of an advisory board.
- providing consulting services or serve on a Speaker's Bureau, either paid or unpaid, to the financial or non-financial sponsor of this study
- when the sponsor is a publicly traded entity, having any ownership interest (equity or stock options) in the sponsor
- expecting to receive any loans, educational support, contributions of in-kind for equipment, or any other non-compensatory payment from the sponsor of the research in the next year

C2 Please provide a detailed description of the outside interest in the box below.

C2.1 Where have you submitted a disclosure of this outside interest?

C2.2 Has a management plan been formalized?

C2.2.1 Click the View Management Plan in M-Inform button below to see your management plan for this study.

C2.2.2 If no, describe the financial interest in sufficient detail to permit the COI Ancillary Committee and the IRB to determine if such involvement represents a potential conflict-of-interest and/or should be disclosed to potential research subjects in the informed consent form.

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

Xiaosu Hu

Preferred email: xiaosuhu@umich.edu
Business phone 734-615-9390
Business address: DENT Biologic & Material Sciences MBNI 201 Zina Pitcher PI 48109-5720

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
  Hu_CV.pdf	0.07

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

Yu Huang

Preferred email: yhh@umich.edu
Business phone 734-647-4255
Business address: EECS - CSE Division 3709 Beyster 48109-2121

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 resume.pdf	0.01

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

Jessica Kim

Preferred email: jesskim@umich.edu
Business phone 734-647-3712
Business address: LSA Psychology B242 East Hall 48109-1043

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 Resume	0.01

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

[Ioulia Kovelman](#)

Preferred email: kovelman@umich.edu
Business phone 734-647-3712
Business address: RCGD-Rsrch Cntr for Grp Dyn 5006 ISR-Thompson 48104-1248

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
  Kovelman CV	0.08

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

[Kevin Leach](#)

Preferred email: kjleach@umich.edu
Business phone 734-926-2495
Business address: CSE 2909 Beyster 48109-2121

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 kleach-resume.pdf	0.01

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

[Xinyu Liu](#)

Preferred email: xinyuliu@umich.edu
Business phone:
Business address: 48109

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Co-Investigator

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

Yes

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 xinyu liu resume.pdf	0.01

Conflict of Interest Detail: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Study Team Detail

1.4 Team Member:

[Tyler Santander](#)

Preferred email: t.santander@psych.ucsb.edu
Business phone:
Business address: Dept. of Psychological & Brain Sciences 93106

1.5 Function with respect to project:

Other

1.6 Allow this person to EDIT the application, including any supporting documents/stipulations requested during the review process:

Yes

1.7 Include this person on all correspondences regarding this application: (Note: This will include all committee correspondence, decision outcomes, renewal notices, and adverse event submissions.)

No

Credentials: Required for PI, Co-Is and Faculty Advisors

Upload or update your CV, resume, or biographical sketch.

Name	Version
 SantanderTyler_2019CV.pdf	0.02

Financial Interest Screening Questions for Study Team Members Not Affiliated with the University of Michigan: Required for all roles except Administrative Staff

Below, you be asked several questions intended to identify Financial Interests and relationships that may be relevant to **THIS RESEARCH**. These may include Intellectual Property Interests (IP interests), as well as relationships with entities whose interests may affect/be affected by this research. If relevant to this research, you should also consider companies that compete commercially with the research sponsor or the manufacturer of the study drug, device or other investigational item if you know that the competitor's Financial Interests would reasonably appear to be affected by this research.

In relation to **THIS RESEARCH**, for the past 12 months, do you or your Family member (your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent) have or anticipate having any of the following Financial Interests:

F1. Are any *activities or relationships* with an entity, whether paid or unpaid, where that entity's financial interests could be affected by this research? Examples include service on a board of directors, service on a scientific advisory board, consultant, officer, manager, or partner.

No

F2. An *Equity Interest* in any publicly traded or privately owned entity whose financial interests could be affected by this research, including but not limited to shares of stock or stock options? DO NOT include equity held in a mutual, pension, or investment fund over which you have no control with regard to investment decisions.

No

F3. An investorship or ownership interest in any *Intellectual Property (IP)* that is being tested, evaluated, developed in, or its commercial value will be affected by this research? This includes IP that is the subject of a copyright, issued patent or a patent application (regardless of whether it has been licensed or optioned).

No

F4. Any payments over \$5,000 (USD) received for the past 12 months (apart from any payments from the University of Michigan), including salary, honoraria, fees, or other forms of compensation or anything of value, from any entity that has a financial interest in this research?

No

F5. If any of the above is answered "yes", you must complete [this form](#) and upload the completed form below.

02. Sponsor/Support Information

The following sections request details about the current or pending sponsorship/support of this study. Consider all of the choices below and complete the appropriate sections.
* Note: At least one of the following sections must be answered. Multiple forms of funding or support must be added one at a time.

2.1 Please select all Proposal Approval Forms (PAFs), Awards (AWDs), and/or Unfunded Agreements (UFAs) associated with this study.

☐ Click here to indicate that a PAF(s) has not been initiated.

Related PAFs:

ID	Title	PI	Direct Sponsor	Prime Sponsor	State	Has SUBKs?	Related Awards
There are no items to display							

Related AWDs:

Award ID	Title	PI	Direct Sponsor	Prime Sponsor	State	Has SUBKs?	Project Period	Awarded PAFs
There are no items to display								

Related UFAs:

UFA ID	Title	PI	State	Category	Start Date	End Date
There are no items to display						

2.2 Internal UM Sponsor(s)/Support: [Including department or PI discretionary funding]

Type	Department Sponsor	Support Type
View PI Discretionary Funds	EECS - CSE	Financial

2.3 Check here if the proposed study does not require external or internal sponsorship or support:

☐

2.4* Is there any other financial or non-financial sponsorship or support not covered in the sections above?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Internal Sponsor Detail

2.2.1* Department Sponsor/Support:

EECS - CSE

2.2.2* Sponsor Type:

PI Discretionary Funds

If other, please specify:

2.2.3* Support Type:

Financial

2.2.4* Is the support confirmed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

2.2.5* Please describe the award/support:

Startup funding for PI Weimer's research group.

2.2.6 Upload Supporting Documentation

Name		Version
 funding-support.pdf		0.01

03. UM Study Functions

3.1* Indicate all functions that will be performed at University of Michigan locations.

Select all that apply:

- Recruitment (including screening)
- Interaction (e.g., information gathering, survey, interview, focus groups, etc.)
- Intervention (e.g., use of drug or device, medical procedures, educational intervention, group intervention, social/psychological intervention etc.)
- Observation of behavior (direct or indirect)
- Qualitative research (e.g., 'member checking', open-ended questions, etc.)
- Primary or secondary analysis (data/specimen)
- Storage (data and/or specimen): Responsible for the management, security and transfer of study data and/or specimens.
- If other, please specify:

03-1. Performance Sites

3-1.1* Performance Sites:

Location	Country	"Engaged" in the research?	Performance Site Type	Site Function
University of Michigan	USA	yes		Qualitative research, Intervention, Storage, Interaction, Analysis, Observation, Recruitment

Performance Site Detail

3-1.2* Location or Institution:

University of Michigan

3-1.3 Address:

City
State
Country* USA

3-1.4* Function of this location with respect to this study:

Select all that apply:

- Recruitment (including screening)
- Interaction (e.g., information gathering, survey, interview, focus groups, etc.)
- Intervention (e.g., use of drug or device, medical procedures, educational intervention, group intervention, social/psychological intervention etc.)
- Observation of behavior (direct or indirect)
- Qualitative research (e.g., 'member checking', open-ended questions, etc.)
- Primary or secondary analysis (data/specimen)
- Storage (data and/or specimen): Responsible for the management, security and transfer of study data and/or specimens.
- If other, please specify:

3-1.5* Will this site be "engaged" in the conduct of the research?

☒ Yes ☐ No

3-1.6 If known, provide the Federalwide Assurance (FWA) number for this location.

FWA00004969

3-1.7 If applicable, indicate what organization, agency or government office has reviewed this research and provided its approval (e.g., IRB, ethics committee, school district office, prison official, nursing home administrator).

3-1.8 Upload any location site approval documentation here:

Name	Version
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There are no items to display

05. Research Design

5.1* Is there a stand-alone scientific protocol document and/or research plan associated with this application?

☐ Yes ☒ No

5.2* Will the involvement of ANY subjects in this study be limited to analysis of their existing data or specimens?

☐ Yes ☒ No

5.3* Will the study involve recruitment and/or participation of subjects in order to produce new data (e.g., surveys, interaction, intervention)? *[Require sections 8-1 and 11-3]*

☒ Yes ☐ No

5.4* List the inclusion and exclusion criteria for this study population and/or data set. (If covered in attached protocol, indicate section)

Participants will be excluded if they don't have fundamental computer science data structure knowledge, which is equivalent to EECS 280 and EECS281 in the University of Michigan or if they do not sign the consent form. More details is in the consent form in 10.1

5.5 Identify any racial, ethnic, or gender group(s) that will be specifically excluded from participation in this research study and provide a compelling justification for such exclusion:

None.

5.6* Indicate the age range (in years) of the subject population in this study.

Minimum Age: 18

Maximum Age: 65If no upper limit, enter "999"

05-1. Research Design

In its review of research applications, the IRB considers whether research procedures are consistent with sound research design in order to yield the expected results. Scientific merit is examined in relationship to the risks and benefits of the research. This section covers the overall research design of the project. Later sections will ask more specific questions about benefits, risks, special review considerations, targeted populations, recruitment strategies, and experimental methodologies/procedures.

5-1.1* Objective: What is the overall purpose of this research study?

We seek to study the cognitive processes and neural representation associated with completing data structure manipulation tasks typical in the software engineering discipline. We also seek to investigate differences in neural representation between manipulating data structures and performing mental rotation tasks.

5-1.2* Specific Aim(s): What is (are) the specific aim(s) of this study and/or what hypothesis (hypotheses) is (are) to be tested?

We hypothesize that neural representation is similar whether a human is performing data structure manipulation or mental rotation tasks.

5-1.3* Background: What prior information or knowledge exists to support the conduct of this study?

The process of designing software, called software engineering, involves several stages. While many models exist for this process, most of them contain the same ore phases: requirements specification, software design, implementation, verification, and maintenance. Briefly, requirements specifications describes the process of deciding how to software is supposed to behave. Then, based upon these requirements, a number of design decisions are made for the software system in the software design stage. Implementation describes the time actually coding the software system. In the verification stage, software is tested to ensure that it adheres to its specifications. After the software is sufficiently tested, it is deployed for use. Finally, the maintenance stage describes the ongoing process of repairing the software when a defect is found and supporting the users of the software.

These stages all take time, though software maintenance is by far the most time-consuming aspect of software development This stems from a

number of reasons, but primarily from the fact that it is much more difficult to repair a defect after the development stage. This could be true because the software engineers are less familiar with the code as time goes by, or because making a change to repair a defect can affect other parts of the software they were built on top of the defect. Regardless of cause, it has been empirically demonstrated that the majority of software costs come from this maintenance process. As a result, software companies are eager to deploy any solution that will decrease the time spent in maintenance.

One common approach to reducing time spent maintaining software is to make fewer mistakes in the initial implementation process. Implementing software frequently involves the design and manipulation of data structures, which are used to represent data within the program. For example, banking software may represent individual accounts as a sequence of numbers corresponding to debits and credits over time. Such a sequence could be stored in a list within the banking software. Unfortunately, structures can become quite complicated in production software. As a result, structures that are too complex for developers to manipulate mentally may cause implementation errors leading to buggy software and expensive maintenance. Thus, understanding how humans think about data structures is critical to reducing errors introduced by structures that are overly complex or by developers who fail to completely understand structures in large codebases.

To our knowledge, only two previous studies have considered looking at the cognitive processes involved in coding, and both used fMRI rather than fNIRS. Understanding understanding source code with functional magnetic imaging was published in the International Conference on Software Engineering in 2014. In this study, the cognitive processes involved in the act of code comprehension - reading and understanding code - are measured in an fMRI. The results of this experiment support the aforementioned claim: reading code is very similar to reading any other natural language. While this study intrigued many researchers in the software engineering community, it did not carry any opportunity for impacting the practices of the field. The other study, Decoding the representation of code in the brain: An fMRI study of code review and expertise, was published in ICSE in 2017 and received a distinguished paper award. This study investigated the neural activity involved in code comprehension and prose review, ultimately finding a distinction between the two tasks. Our study aims to apply many of the same techniques, but learn about a process that is used very commonly in the software engineering field. It is our hope that the results will be both intriguing and impactful to real software companies and institutions.

5-1.4* Briefly outline the special expertise and qualifications of the PI, Co-Investigators, and/or Faculty Advisors to conduct and/or oversee the particular procedures or activities involved in this particular study. This will supplement information provided in the study team CVs.

PI Weimer has previously conducted IRB-approved fMRI research involving software engineering tasks while at the University of Virginia. Research Fellow Kevin Leach and graduate student Yu Huang have both conducted IRB-approved human studies. All three have published peer-reviewed publications based upon such human studies.

PI Weimer has extensive experience researching program analysis and software engineering.

In this study, PI Weimer will supervise the design of the experiment and data analysis, but will not involve in the recruitment of the participants. Research Fellow Kevin Leach, graduate student Yu Huang and undergrad Xinyu Liu will design the experiment with PI Weimer. Yu Huang, Xinyu Liu and Kevin Leach will recruit participants and do the fNIRS experiments with the participants. Xiaosu Hu, Jessica Kim and Ioulia Kovelman are collaborators from Department of Psychology who are running the fNIRS labs. They will help to get the experiment equipment set up and data processing. The data analysis work will be conducted by Kevin Leach, Tyler Santander, Yu Huang, Xinyu Liu under the supervision of PI Weimer, also with the help of Xiaosu Hu, Jessica Kim and Ioulia Kovelman.

5-1.5* Methodology: Describe the design and procedures to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the study. Describe the advantages of any innovative methodologies.

1. Recruitment

Graduate students, undergraduate students, professors, and any adult who has the fundamental knowledge of data structure (equivalent to EECS280 and EECS281 in the university of Michigan) would all be considered eligible.

We use three ways to advertise this study:

(i) In-class advertisement

Participants will be identified by their presence in various Computer science venues (classes, etc.). We target the EECS 300 and 400 level classes and labs. We will give a short presentation about our study.

To prevent concerns of coercion, we will take the following steps (PI Weimer's class also follows the same steps):

1) The instructor will not advertise or be involved in the selection or recruitment of participants. Instead, Research Fellow Kevin Leach, Graduate Student Yu Huang and/or undergrad Xinyu Liu will advertise the study and recruit participants. In any of the classes, if the investigator is the instructor or teaching assistant of the class, they will be excluded from the advertisement and selection of participants correspondingly in the class. In any class, we do not do real-time recruitment. The recruitment will only be done through emails offline.

2) We will make it very clear in the presentation that students will not be given extra credit. The participation is not relevant to their course

grade at all.

3) The recruitment is completely out of the class through emails. The instructor has no access to the participation information.

(ii) Email advertisement

We will send an advertisement email to the computer science mailing list. In the email, we will demonstrate the information of the study including basic requirement, incentives, the design of the study and recruitment contact information (Graduate Yu Huang's email).

(iii) Flyers

We will put flyer in the EECS hallway, Beyster Hallway, and preprint commons hallway to advertise the study. On the flyer, we will demonstrate the information of the study including basic requirement, incentives, the design of the study and the recruitment contact information (Graduate Yu Huang's email).

Participants will be recruited through emails: contact the study team by emailing Graduate Yu Huang their intention. Then, we will arrange an experiment time and email the participant the time and location of the experiment. The email will be sent to the participant within 3 days after they inform us their intention of participation.

2. Consent Process

Through recruitment (as introduced in the recruitment), every participant is scheduled with an appointment.

They will complete the experiment in the fNIRS lab of the University of Michigan assisted with the study investigators. Before the experiment, the participant needs to read through the consent form and sign it to confirm their wills of participation.

3. Description of the experiment

1) The participant will finish a short questionnaire (about 2 minutes) to record information like gender, sex, year in school, programming language experience. In the questionnaire, a unique ID is assigned to each participant. That unique ID (not identifiable) will also be used to name the fNIRS data file. So the fNIRS data is connected with the participant.

2) The study investigators will fit the fNIRS cap on the participant's head. At the same time, the participant will be shown a training video (20 minutes) which introduces the organization of the experiment and overviews the terminology and relevant data structure knowledge used in the experiment.

3) After the training video, the experiment will be conducted on the computer in the lab. The experiment includes questions on data structure program tasks and 3D mental rotation tasks. All the mental rotation tasks are from a publicly published library. Each task lasts for no longer than 30 seconds. Between the data structure tasks and mental rotation tasks, there will be a 5 minute break. Water and snacks are served. The experiment will last for about 80 minutes including the training video.

All the experiment tasks are in the attached tasks.pptx file. Every task is a two-option question. The participant needs to press the corresponding key of the keyboard to provide the answer.

4) Then the experiment is done. After the experiment, we will ask the participant with a short questionnaire. The study investigators will bring up a few of the sample questions in the experiment and ask the participant to explain their decision. This post questionnaire is audio-based that will last about 10 minutes. In the end, we will give the participant \$50 check or cash based on their own option. In total, the entire study for one participant will take about 80 minutes.

If the participant withdraws the study before the experiment is finished, we will still pay the participant \$20 cash or check based on their own preference immediately after they stop the experiment.

5) With all the fNIRS data we collect, we will employ techniques from graph theory and statistical machine learning to model spatial dependencies across brain regions and use those to predict (i.e. decode) individual difference factors.

4. security

The email address will be safely stored and there is no identifiable info of the fNIRS signal data at all. For incentives, we will not collect anything more than what HSIP requires. For each participant who completed the study, we will pay a \$50 check or cash right after they complete the experiment. For those who stopped and did not finish the experiment, we will pay them \$20 check or cash instead. This is done through HSIP.

All the experiment data is stored in a secured university server.

5-1.6* Statistical Design: Describe the statistical design of the research study, including methods used to analyze data.

1) We intend to collect basic information from participants including gender, the year in school, programming language, so that we can determine if differences in gender, sex, programming language, and levels of experience affect the neural activations associated with these tasks; and

2) We will employ techniques from graph theory and statistical machine learning to model spatial dependencies across brain regions and use those to predict (i.e. decode) individual difference factors.

06. Benefits and Risks

6.1 * Describe the potential benefits of this research to society.

There are no direct health benefits to the participants. The primary benefits of the study are best realized at the societal and scientific levels. The data gained from this study, along with the conclusions drawn from it, will help shape and improve the software engineering skills through improvements in training and the education in computer science.

6.2 * Will results of the research be communicated back to the subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

6.3 * Describe any direct risks to the public or community, which could result from this research?

The two expected risks are boredom and stiffness from wearing the fNRIS cap. There are no known physical risks associated with the use of fNIRS.

6.4 * Does this project involve study arms that have differing levels of benefit or risks to subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

6.5 * Benefits and Risks:

Click "Add" to begin entering the benefit and risk level detail information associated with this study.

Name	Risk Level	Direct Benefit
View HUM00139618	No more than minimal risk	no

Benefits and Risk Level Detail

If a study involves multiple arms or phases that pose different levels of risk or direct benefits to subjects, then create an entry for each arm or phase using the "OK and Add Another" option at the bottom of this page. Only one entry is necessary if the risk level and the direct benefit to subjects is the same for the entire project, even if the study involves multiple arms or phases.

6.5.1 * Name of Arm (experimental group, study wave, etc.)

HUM00139618

6.5.2 * Description of Arm (experimental group, study wave, etc.)

6.6 * Are there potential direct benefits of this research to the subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

6.7 * Provide a description of the foreseeable risks to subjects. For studies involving multiple arms or phases, enter the risks for this arm or phase only.

Provide a description of the foreseeable risks to the subjects.

For EACH identified risk, include:

- Likelihood of the risk,
- Seriousness to the subject; and
- What measures will be taken to minimize the risk (for example, study design includes the substitution of procedures already being performed on the subject for diagnostic or treatment purposes, or in a study of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, the investigator takes steps to identify, manage, or refer as appropriate, subjects for whom the study may evoke very difficult emotions)

If possible, please use the following categories to assess the likelihood:

- "Common" (i.e., approximate incidence > 25%)
- "Likely" (i.e., approximate incidence of 10-25%)
- "Infrequent" (i.e., approximate incidence of 1-10%)
- "Rare" (i.e., approximate incidence < 1%):

Minor risks that could result from the use of the fNIRS device is breach of confidentiality, boredom, and slight discomfort while wearing the device. To avoid these risks, we will ask participants if they are uncomfortable with the device on. If they are uncomfortable, we will adjust the device to minimize discomfort. Participants will be instructed that they can leave the study at any time (including if they are bored). The light emitted from the device is less intense than a light bulb and is safe for use with adults.

6.8 * What is the level of risk of harm to the subjects, resulting from this arm of the research? For studies involving multiple arms or phases, enter the level of risk for this arm or phase only.

Risk Level	Description
<input checked="" type="radio"/> No more than minimal risk	A risk is minimal where the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the proposed research are not greater, in and of themselves, than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests. For example, the risk of drawing a small amount of blood from a healthy individual for research purposes is no greater than the risk of doing so as part of a routine physical examination. (Note: The definition of minimal risk for research involving prisoners differs somewhat from that given for non-institutionalized adults.) Refer to the Risk Grid for more information.
<input type="radio"/> Minor increase over minimal risk	While this risk category may be used to classify research involving adult subject populations, it must be considered in the evaluation of risk in research involving children as defined in 45 CFR 46 sections 404-407**** Risks are more severe than those defined as "No more than minimal risk" and less severe than those described as "Moderate" on the Risk Grid.
<input type="radio"/> Moderate risk	Refer to the Risk Grid for more information.
<input type="radio"/> High risk	Requires scrutiny in regards to the likelihood of direct benefits, and whether or not benefits clearly outweigh risks. Refer to the Risk Grid for more information.

6.9 * Discuss why the risks to the subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits.

fNIRS is an experimental brain imaging method that is helping to provide new neuroimaging data in populations that are unsuited for fMRI studies, can be performed at a much lower cost than fMRI, and admits more ecologically valid experimentation than in an fMRI. As the potential risks are minimal and temporary, they are reasonable in relation to the novel information that will be learned as a result.

07. Special Considerations

7.1* Does this study involve human tissue or biological specimens (use, collection, or secondary analysis) (e.g. blood, urine, bone marrow, skin, etc.)? [Require Section 18]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7.2* Does this study involve the [secondary analysis](#) of a [pre-existing data set](#), including data associated with any specimens identified in response to question 7.1? [Require Section 24]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7.3* Will the research involve the access, collection, use, maintenance, or disclosure of protected health information (PHI)? PHI is:

- information about a subject's past, present, or future physical or mental health, the provision of healthcare to a subject, or payment for the provision of healthcare to a subject; AND
- maintained by a HIPAA-covered entity (e.g. healthcare provider, healthcare plan, or healthcare clearinghouse).

[Require Section 25]

☐ Yes ☒ No

07-1. Special Considerations - Continued

7-1.1* Will subjects receive payment or other incentives for their participation in the study? [Require Section 13]

☒ Yes ☐ No

7-1.2* Will subjects undergo healthcare-related treatments or procedures (standard of care and/or research) as part of the study? [Require Section 14]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.3* Does this study involve the [deception](#) or concealment of subjects? [Require Section 27]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.4* Excluding routine email correspondence, does this study involve the use of the Internet or email as an integral part of the research design or will sensitive information be transmitted by e-mail? [Require Section 28]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.5* Will the study collect data using surveys, interviews, or focus groups? [Require Section 29]

☒ Yes ☐ No

7-1.6* Does this study require subjects to listen to an audio recording or view images? [Require Section 31]

☒ Yes ☐ No

7-1.7* Will any drugs, biologics, radiopharmaceuticals, nutritional (e.g., herbal or alternative medication) supplements or other material be administered, implanted, or applied to the subjects as the object of the study? [Require Section 15]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.8* Will the study involve a placebo (drug, device, procedure, intervention, surgery, etc.) control group? [Require Section 17]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.9* Will the study involve human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) or induced pluripotent stem cells? [Require Section 19]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-1.10* Will the study have a Data and Safety Monitoring Plan (DSMP)? [Require Section 32]

☒ Yes ☐ No

7-2. Special Consideration - Continued

7-2.1* Will any devices be used, administered, implanted, or applied to the subjects, or will human specimens be used to test in vitro diagnostic devices? [IRBMED Applications Require Section 16]

☒ Yes ☐ No

7-2.1.1* Describe all devices that are the OBJECT of the study, or ARE RELEVANT to the study. If this study is designed to test the safety or efficacy of any of these devices, then this project is FDA-regulated and must be reviewed by IRBMED.

fNIRS device in the UMich Psychology lab.

7-2.2* Is the research testing or utilizing a health-related mobile software application that is:

- Designed for a handheld (e.g., smartphone) or wearable mobile device (e.g., exercise tracking), or
- Tailored to a mobile platform (i.e., a handheld commercial or off-the-shelf computing platform, with or without wireless connectivity) but executed (run) from a server

and the mobile software application/platform performs any of the following:

- Uses a built-in feature of a device such as light, vibration, or camera to perform a medical device function.
- Connects or links to an existing device to control its operation, function, or energy source.
- Uses patient-specific data from a connected device including a sensor or electrode to monitor, manipulate, calculate, or analyze information.
- Conveys diagnostic information, or provides education materials or encouragement.
- Performs calculations, conversions, measurements or interpretations.

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-2.3* Will the subjects be exposed to any ionizing radiation during the course of this study? [Require Section 21]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-2.4* Will any organs, tissues, or cells from humans (including fetal tissue) or animals be administered to the subjects for the purposes of this study? [Require Section 22]

☐ Yes ☒ No

7-2.5* Does this study involve a gene transfer intervention or an intervention based on recombinant DNA technology? [Require Section 23]

☐ Yes ☒ No

08. Subject Participation

8.1* Please indicate the number of subjects to be enrolled from ALL study locations to achieve the goal of the study:

30

8.2* Enter the estimated number of subjects to be enrolled at each University of Michigan site:

Location or Institution	Total
University of Michigan	
Adults	30
Children	0
Total from all University of Michigan sites:	30

08-1. Subject Recruitment

8-1.1* At what point in the study are you planning on beginning the recruitment of subjects?

0-2 years after approval

8-1.2* Indicate which of the following established subject pools, if any, will be used for recruitment.

Select all that apply:

N/A

Provide Related UM IRB Project Number or Subject Pool Description:

8-1.3* Describe the manner in which potential study subjects will be recruited. List how, when, who will recruit and where they will be recruited. Include any provisions to protect or maintain subject privacy.

Our recruitment is planned as:

1. Recruitment

Graduate students, undergraduate students, professors, and any adult who has the fundamental knowledge of data structure (equivalent to EECS280 and EECS281 in the university of Michigan) would all be considered eligible.

We use three ways to advertise this study:

(i) In-class advertisement

Participants will be identified by their presence in various Computer science venues (classes, etc.). We target the EECS 300 and 400 level classes and labs. We will give a short presentation about our study.

To prevent concerns of coercion, we will take the following steps (PI Weimer's class also follows the same steps):

1) The instructor will not advertise or be involved in the selection or recruitment of participants. Instead, Research Fellow Kevin Leach, Graduate Student Yu Huang and/or undergrad Xinyu Liu will advertise the study and recruit participants. In any of the classes, if the investigator is the instructor or teaching assistant of the class, they will be excluded from the advertisement and selection of participants correspondingly in the class. In any class, we do not do real-time recruitment. The recruitment will only be done through emails offline.

2) We will make it very clear in the presentation that students will not be given extra credit. The participation is not relevant to their course grade at all.

3) The recruitment is completely out of the class through emails. The instructor has no access to the participation information.

(ii) Email advertisement

We will send an advertisement email to the computer science mailing list. In the email, we will demonstrate the information of the study including basic requirement, incentives, the design of the study and recruitment contact information (Graduate Yu Huang's email).

(iii) Flyers

We will put flyer in the EECS hallway, Beyster Hallway, and prepoint commons hallway to advertise the study. On the flyer, we will demonstrate the information of the study including basic requirement, incentives, the design of the study and the recruitment contact information (Graduate Yu Huang's email).

Participants will be recruited through emails: contact the study team by emailing Graduate Yu Huang their intention. Then, we will arrange an experiment time and email the participant the time and location of the experiment. The email will be sent to the participant within 3 days after they inform us their intention of participation.

Through recruitment (as introduced in the recruitment), every participant is scheduled with an appointment.

They will complete the experiment in the fNIRS lab of the University of Michigan assisted with the study investigators. Before the experiment, the participant needs to read through the consent form and sign it to confirm their wills of participation.

How to protect the subject privacy other than the protection in the recruitment:

The email address will be safely stored and there is no identifiable info of the fNIRS signal data at all (we use de-identified unique Id to connect the fnirs data and questionnaire). For incentives, we will not collect anything more than what HSIP requires. For each participant who completed the study, we will pay a \$50 check or cash right after they complete the experiment. For those who stopped and did not finish the experiment, we will pay them \$20 check or cash instead. This is done through HSIP.

All the experiment data is stored in a secured university server. Also, all the fnirs data is deidentified. Only the study team member have access to it.

8-1.3.1 If applicable, how will prospective subjects' healthcare providers (e.g., physician, dentist, etc.) be involved in the recruitment and/or be notified of their individual patients' participation in the study?

8-1.4* Explain how the recruitment strategy is equitable and represents the population required for the study. If the information is covered in the attached protocol, please indicate section.

Any adult eligible for fNIRS can participate in this study provided they demonstrate the required basic programming expertise for completing the software engineering tasks. The requirement of the basic knowledge of programming is included in all types of the advertisement of this study. Every candidate participant will be assessed for minimal expertise using the same set of questions after receiving informed consent (the pre-questionnaire in section29.1).

8-1.5* Does the recruitment strategy involve contacting individuals multiple times in an effort to secure their initial enrollment into the study?

☐ Yes ☒ No

8-1.6* Indicate which methods will be used for recruitment?

Check all that apply:

Face-to-face contact (e.g. during a health care visit or an interview at a home address, etc.)

Email

Public advertisement (e.g., bulletin boards, newspapers, radio, TV, websites, or on-hold telephone scripts, etc.)

If other please specify:

8-1.7 How will any email, address, and/or telephone lists be obtained?

8-1.8* What materials will be used for recruitment? The IRB must approve all recruitment materials.

See Help for important information regarding the requirements for recruitment materials

Check all that apply:

Pre-screening questions

Flyers

Oral scripts

Email messages

If other please specify:

If Web pages will be used, provide the Web address (URL) for the location where the pages will be posted (also upload the content of the pages below):

Upload recruitment materials here:

See Help for more information about working with documents (e.g. uploading, downloading, and editing).

Name		Version
  fnirs_cfp_flyer.docx		
  recruitment_speech.docx		
  recruitment_email.docx		

☐ Check here if any of the materials are not available electronically.

Note: Study Teams are encouraged to scan and upload documents. See Help for a list of sites with scanning facilities

09. Survey Populations

9.1* Is the study limited to a survey of either:

- The general adult population (aged 18 or older); or
- A subgroup of the general population which does not specifically target:
 - Pregnant women and/or fetuses
 - Lactating women
 - Women of child-bearing potential
 - Prisoners
 - Cognitively impaired adults
 - College students
 - Economically or educationally disadvantaged persons
 - Patients of the study team
 - Employees, students or trainees of the study team
 - Family members of the study team

where the survey is the sole interaction with the subject and does not pose more than minimal risk?

☐ Yes ☒ No

09-1. Subject Populations

9-1.1* Is the research designed to include or allow the following populations?

Select all that apply

- ☒ **Normal, healthy subjects**
- ☒ **Adults** *age 18 and older*
- ☐ **Minors able to consent** *to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted (e.g. emancipated minors or minors seeking treatment for certain conditions.)*
- ☐ **Children and/or Viable Neonates** *(i.e. persons who have not yet reached the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted) [Require Sections 33 and 41]*
- ☐ **Neonates of uncertain viability and/or nonviable neonates** *(do not check this box if the research is solely retrospective. For retrospective research regarding neonates of uncertain viability, check the box for 'Children'. See Help for additional information.) [Require Section 34]*
- ☐ **Individuals and/or products involving human in vitro fertilization**
- ☐ **Pregnant women and/or fetuses** [Require Sections 35 and 41]
- ☐ **Lactating women** [Require Section 36]
- ☐ **Women of child-bearing potential** [Require Section 37]
- ☐ **Prisoners** *(If the research includes a study population that is likely to become incarcerated during the conduct of the research, also select this category) [Require Section 38 and 41]*
- ☐ **Cognitively impaired adults** [Require Sections 39 and 41]
- ☒ **College students** [Require Sections 40 and 41]
- ☐ **Economically or educationally disadvantaged persons** [Require Section 41]
- ☐ **Patients of the study team** [Require Section 41]
- ☐ **Employees, students or trainees of the study team** [Require Section 41]
- ☐ **Family members of the study team** [Require Section 41]
- ☐ **Unknown, unspecified population**

10. Informed Consent - Adults

10.1* What type of informed consent will be obtained from adults or minors legally able to consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research?

With signature:

- ☒ Comprehensive written
- ☐ Written assent for cognitively or decisionally impaired adults

Without signature (waiver of documentation):

- ☐ Comprehensive written
- ☐ Comprehensive oral consent script
- ☐ Assent for cognitively or decisionally impaired adults

Waivers of informed consent:

- ☐ Request for waiver of informed consent/parental permission/legally authorized representative consent (Note: no longer required for screening/recruitment)
- ☐ Request for waiver of assent for cognitively or decisionally impaired adults

Other:

- ☐ Short form, comprehensive oral script, and witness
- ☐ Request for alteration of informed consent requirements
- ☐ Pre-existing consent(s) covers this activity
- ☐ Re-consent/assent subjects for use of existing data/records/specimens for a new research purpose

10.1.2* Describe the process to seek and obtain informed consent and/or assent from adults. If requesting a waiver of documentation of assent, provide justification here.

Research Fellow Kevin Leach and/or graduate student Yu Huang and/or Undergrad Xinyu Liu will sit with the subject and explain the experiment, the process of the study, their rights, risks, and benefits. Subjects will be given as much time as they require to read, understand, and sign off on the informed consent form.

10.1.3* Is the cognitive capacity of the subjects expected to change significantly during the study?

☐ Yes ☒ No

10-1. Informed Consent

10-1.1* All documents related to consent, assent, permission, and or debriefing documents, including oral scripts must be uploaded here. If you are requesting a waiver of documentation of informed consent, upload a copy of any written materials to be provided to participants, and provide a written description of any information to be provided orally.

Name	Version
  informed-consent.docx	0.05

10-1.2* Will the subjects be audiotaped, videotaped, or photographed (identifiable images of subject) during the research?

☐ Yes ☒ No

10-1.3* Is there a substantial likelihood that the research will be conducted among a non-English-speaking population?

☐ Yes ☒ No

10-1.4* Indicate which anticipated costs could be the full or partial responsibility of the subject.

Check all that apply:

Parking

Travel

If other, please specify:

10-1.5* Is the study designed to collect identifiable information from primary research subjects about other individuals, including family members?

☐ Yes ☒ No

10-1.6* At the conclusion of this study, will specimens and/or data be retained for future research use?

☒ Yes ☐ No

10-1.7* Does the informed consent document explicitly notify subjects that their data and/or specimens will be stored for future research?

☒ Yes ☐ No

10-1.8* Are subjects required to agree to retention of their data and/or specimens as a condition of participating in the research?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11. Confidentiality/Security/Privacy

11.1* Will the study team access any data that is linked to a subject's identity by name or other identifier or code? [Require Section 11-1]

☒ Yes ☐ No

11.2* Explain how the subjects' privacy will be protected.

The email address will be safely stored and there is no identifiable info of the fNIRS signal data at all. For incentives, we will not collect anything more that what HSIP requires.

All the experiment data is stored in a secured university server.

11.3* How will the study team protect research records, data, and/or specimens against inappropriate use or disclosure, or malicious or accidental loss or destruction in order to protect the confidentiality of subject data?

Select all that apply:

Locked office

Locked cabinet or storage unit

Restricted access

Secure laptop

Individual ID plus password protection

Encryption of digital data

Network restrictions

Security software (firewall, anti-virus, anti-intrusion) is installed and regularly updated on all servers, workstations, laptops, and other devices used in the project

Safe disposition/destruction of data or devices, as appropriate (e.g., shredding paper documents, destroying disks or thumb drives, secure erasure of electronic media)

If other please specify:

11.4* Does either statement apply to this research:

Research has NIH, CDC, or FDA funding, or other federal funding from an agency that automatically issues a Certificate of Confidentiality as part of the terms of the award:

The study will include identifiable sensitive information, identifiable biospecimens, individual human-level genomic data/biospecimens, or any information about an individual for which there is at least a very small risk, as determined by current scientific practices or statistical methods, that some combination of the information, a request for the information, and other available data sources could be used to deduce the identity of an individual.

or

Research does NOT have NIH, CDC, or FDA funding, or other federal funding from an agency that automatically issues a Certificate of Confidentiality as part of the terms of the award:

The study will include identifiable, sensitive information or identifiable biospecimens that, if revealed, might place the subjects at risk for personal safety, criminal or civil liability, or damage to their financial standing, employability, insurability, or reputation.

[Require Section 11-2]

☐ Yes ☒ No

11.5* Will data be provided to a repository as part of a data sharing agreement?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11.6* What will happen to the data and/or any specimens at the conclusion of this study?

Select all that apply:

Retain for future research use - requires Section 11-4

11-1. Identifiable Data

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 11.1.

11-1.1* Indicate how subjects are identified in the research records.**Select all that apply:**

Coded or Indirect Identifiers - data record includes a link to direct identifiers (e.g., name, initials, phone number, SSN, or medical record number linked to data record but stored separately)

No Identifiers (De-identified, Anonymous, or Anonymized) - stored data record is stripped of all identifiers

11-1.2* Explain the necessity for collecting or maintaining data linked to subjects' identities. If the information is covered in the attached protocol, please indicate section.

HSIP will require name and address for distributing the incentives.

Emails will be used for recruitment. But the email address will not be linked with the experiment data.

11-1.3* How long will the identifiers be retained?

Until the participants have been remunerated.

11-1.4* Will individually identifiable sensitive data be accessed, collected, used, maintained, or disclosed in the study?

☒ Yes ☐ No

11-1.4.1* Will a continuous, periodic, or automatic feed of sensitive data be set up to provide data directly from any University information system (e.g., M-Pathways, U-M Data Warehouse, CareWeb)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11-1.4.2* Will sensitive data be accessed by individuals who are not University employees?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11-1.4.3* Will sensitive data be stored on or accessed from computer equipment that is not maintained and supported by a University IT services provider (e.g., ITS, MCIT, MSIS) - such as home computers, grant-funded computers, etc.?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11-1.4.4* Will sensitive data be stored on portable devices (e.g., laptops, PDAs, flash drives) in unencrypted form?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11-3. End of Subject Participation

11-3.1* What specific criteria will be used to prematurely end a particular subject's participation in the study (If covered in attached protocol or informed consent, indicate specific location).

If the participant does not confirm the consent or they do not have the required fundamental knowledge, they will be removed from the study. In the consent form, we indicate:
The researchers may remove you from the study even if you want to continue your participation if the researchers believe it is not in your best interest to continue, if your condition changes and requires treatment, or if you do not follow the instructions from the researchers.

11-3.2* If a participant withdraws from the research, what is the plan to use, disclose, store, or destroy the participant's data and/or specimen?

Destroy any electronic data related to the participant securely, and destroy copies of the survey used to filter participants.

11-4. Retention of Data and/or Specimens Detail

Retention may be for future research by the investigator and/or the creation of a bank or repository.

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 11.6.

11-4.1* What is the intent or purpose of retaining the data and/or specimens?

For follow up work and dissemination to the academic community. This domain of research is largely unexplored and related data is difficult to obtain. The academic community would benefit greatly from having (anonymized) data available for comparison in subsequent studies.

11-4.2* Where will you store the data and/or specimens?

Only at the University of Michigan

If Other Institutions, please specify:

11-4.3* Describe the arrangements for the storage conditions, management, and security of the data and/or specimens. Include the following as applicable:

-
- **Personnel access to data and/or specimens**
 - **Whether identifiers will be removed and the key to any code destroyed**
 - **For coded data and/or specimens, indicate who holds key to the code and where it is stored in relation to the data and/or specimens**
 - **Storage plan**
 - **Plan to protect privacy in transfer to other collaborators.**

PI Weimer has secure office space allocated in the Beyster building for storing sensitive information. Only PI Weimer and Research Fellow Leach will have key access to the office.

Participant identifiers(emails for recruitment only) will not be stored after the recruitment. Research data will be stored on encrypted volumes secured by a passphrase that will be shared between PI Weimer, Research Fellow Leach, and UMich collaborator Xiaosu Hu.

13. Subject Payments Or Other Incentives

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 7-1.1 or 7-3.3.

13.1* Indicate all payments or other incentives provided to subjects for their participation in this study:

Select all that apply:

Cash

Check

If other, please specify:

13.2* If the subject is a child (under the age of majority), are any of the payments or incentives intended for the parent/guardian of the child?

N/A

13.3* Estimate the maximum total payment (including cash, checks, gift cards, and other cash-equivalent incentives) that an individual subject could receive for participating in this research in a single calendar year.

\$26-\$100

13.3.1* Please indicate what information you will be collecting from subjects in order to distribute their incentive or compensation.

Select all that apply:

Name

Address

Email

13.4* Describe the frequency of the payments or incentives. If applicable, list any healthcare procedure(s) that will be provided to subjects at no charge.

One payment will be issued immediately after the participant completes the fNIRS study.

13.5* What is the justification for offering these payments or incentives?

The study will take approximately 90 minutes of the participants' time. Additionally, participants are required to have a minimal expertise with computer science. We want to compensate participants for their time at a reasonable rate.

13.6* What is the plan to compensate subjects withdrawing from the research prior to completing the entire study.

Participants that withdraw will receive \$20 check or cash.

29. Survey Research

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 7-1.5.

29.1* Provide a list of all surveys and interviews used in the study:				
Name	# of Questions	Duration	Sensitive?	Disturbing?
background questionnaire (pre-questionnaire)	6	2 minutes	no	no
post questionnaire	6	5 minutes	no	no

29.13* Will the research involve the use of focus groups?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.14* Is any of the material disturbing?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Survey Detail

29.2* Survey or interview name:

background questionnaire (pre-questionnaire)

29.3* Is the design or development of this survey instrument dependent on receipt of funding or hiring of personnel?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.4* In what manner will the survey or interview be conducted (e.g., in-person, Internet, mail, telephone, etc.)? *Special Note: For electronic surveys, the eResearch ID number must be included in the informed consent document (uploaded in section 10-1) or other material that serves as the informed consent.*

in-person

29.5* What is the predicted response rate?

100 %

29.6* What is the total number of questions?

6

29.7* What is the anticipated cumulative amount of time required for each subject?

2 minutes

29.8* What is the total number of interviews/data collection interactions with an individual subject?

1

29.9* Does the survey or interview contain questions of a sensitive nature (e.g., mental illness, sexual abuse, illicit drug use, etc.)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.10* Is the survey or interview likely to produce psychological discomfort or negative feelings in the subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.11* Has the survey instrument been validated or used in standard practice?

☒ Yes ☐ No

29.11.1* If yes, describe the origin of the instrument.

The background questionnaire is a paper-based survey. It is very short and to collect very basic information of the participant. The information does not contain any identifiable information.

29.12* Upload the survey instrument here.	
Name	Version
 background_questionnaire	0.01

Survey Detail

29.2* Survey or interview name:

post questionnaire

29.3* Is the design or development of this survey instrument dependent on receipt of funding or hiring of personnel?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.4* In what manner will the survey or interview be conducted (e.g., in-person, Internet, mail, telephone, etc.)? *Special Note: For electronic surveys, the eResearch ID number must be included in the informed consent document (uploaded in section 10-1) or other material that serves as the informed consent.*

in-person audio-based questionnaire

29.5* What is the predicted response rate?

100 %

29.6* What is the total number of questions?

6

29.7* What is the anticipated cumulative amount of time required for each subject?

5 minutes

29.8* What is the total number of interviews/data collection interactions with an individual subject?

1

29.9* Does the survey or interview contain questions of a sensitive nature (e.g., mental illness, sexual abuse, illicit drug use, etc.)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.10* Is the survey or interview likely to produce psychological discomfort or negative feelings in the subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

29.11* Has the survey instrument been validated or used in standard practice?

☒ Yes ☐ No

29.11.1* If yes, describe the origin of the instrument.

the post questionnaire is an audio-based questionnaire. It asks how the participant reason about the questions. Audio-based questionnaire saves the participant's time. Also, the conversation is to debrief the participant from the 70-minute computer-based experiment.

29.12* Upload the survey instrument here.

Name	Version
 post_questionnaire	0.01

31. Watching/Listening to Audiovisual Materials

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 7-1.6.

31.1* Please upload copies of all audio-visual materials used in the research.

Name	Version
 tasks.pptx	0.01
 training_video_20min	0.02

☐ Check here to indicate that the material is not available electronically.

31.2* Are any of the materials likely to produce psychological discomfort or negative feelings in the subjects?

☐ Yes ☒ No

32. Data Safety And Monitoring Plan

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 7-1.10.

The principal investigator (PI) has the ultimate responsibility for the conduct of this research study. The study-specific scientific protocol should include detailed information about tests and procedures employed to safeguard the health and safety of the subjects. Additionally, the PI must prepare a specific data and safety monitoring plan taking into account national guidelines and the study's complexity, risk, and size. The plan should include the administrative processes for recording and evaluating the data quality and integrity. The plan should also specify the responsibilities of research team members and the schedules for reviewing and reporting study progress and adverse events.

Components of this plan relating to the protection of subject privacy and data confidentiality should already have been included in the Confidentiality/Security section of this application.

Additionally, certain members of the research team must complete the PEERRS mandatory training on human subject protection. This includes personnel joining the study team after the initiation of the study.

The Risk Level has been indicated as:

Name	Risk Level	Direct Benefit
HUM00139618	No more than minimal risk	no

32.1* Indicate who will provide study information and instructions to the subjects beyond what is included in the informed consent document.

Select all that apply:
There are no items to display

If other, please specify:

32.2* Indicate who will obtain informed consent from the subjects.

Select all that apply:
Co-I

If other, please specify:

32.3* Indicate what mechanism(s) will be used for monitoring subjects and identifying adverse events.

Mechanism (Select at least one:)	Conducted by:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct interviews/ physical exams conducted by:	<div>Select all that apply:</div> <div>Co-I</div> <div>If other, please specify</div>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review of lab work, tests, procedures, etc. by:	<div>Select all that apply:</div> <div>PI</div> <div>Co-I</div> <div>If other, please specify</div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone follow-up conducted by:	<div>Select all that apply:</div> <div>There are no items to display</div> <div>If other, please specify</div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-reporting by subject	Instructions must be included in the Informed Consent Document.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	If other, please specify

Reminder: Adverse Events that come to the attention of any member of the study team must be reported to the PI in a timely manner.

32-1. Data and Safety Monitoring Plan - AE Reporting

Adverse Event (AE) Reporting

32-1.1* Adverse events will be reported to:

Organization	Reporting Mechanism
--------------	---------------------

Organization	Reporting Mechanism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRB	eResearch AE/ORIO submission
<input type="checkbox"/> DSMB/DSC/independent monitor	
<input type="checkbox"/> UMHS Cancer Center DSMB	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal oversight agencies (FDA, RAC, etc)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (federal, industry, private, etc)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

If other, please specify:

32-1.2* Indicate the AE reporting timetable that will be used to report adverse events to the IRB:

Standard IRBMED AE reporting timetable

32-1.3* Affirm that the adverse events will be reported to the IRB according to the following generalized AE GRADING SCALE:

- ☒
- 0 - No adverse event
 - 1 - Mild AE – No treatment needed
 - 2 - Moderate AE – Resolved with treatment
 - 3 - Severe AE – Inability to carry on normal activities, required professional medical attention
 - 4 - Life-threatening or disabling AE
 - 5 - Fatal AE

32-1.4* Will Serious Adverse Events (SAEs) be categorized according to the following FDA definition?

N/A - not FDA-regulated

- Death
- A life-threatening adverse drug experience
- Inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization
- A persistent or significant disability/incapacity
- A congenital anomaly/birth defect
- Important medical events that may not result in death, be life-threatening, or require hospitalization may be considered a serious adverse drug experience when, based upon appropriate medical judgment, they may jeopardize the patient or subject and may require medical or surgical intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed in this definition. Examples of such medical events include allergic bronchospasm requiring intensive treatment in an emergency room or at home, blood dyscrasias or convulsions that do not result in inpatient hospitalization, or the development of drug dependency or drug abuse.

32-1.5* Affirm that either the principal investigator or a co-investigator will determine the ATTRIBUTION/RELATEDNESS for each adverse event.

- ☒
- Definitely related
 - Probably related
 - Possibly related
 - Unlikely to be related
 - Definitely not related

32-1.6* Affirm that the EXPECTEDNESS will be assigned for each adverse event according to the following definitions:

- ☒
- Unexpected adverse events (i.e., has NOT been addressed or described in one or more of the following: Informed consent document(s) for this study, IRB application for this study, grant application or study agreement, protocol or procedures for this study, investigators' brochure or equivalent (for FDA regulated drugs or devices), DSMB/DSC Reports, published literature, other documentation)
 - Expected adverse events (i.e., has been addressed or described in one or more of the following: Informed consent document(s) for this study, IRB application for this study, grant application or study agreement, protocol or procedures for this study, investigators' brochure or equivalent (for FDA regulated drugs or devices), DSMB/DSC Reports, published literature, other documentation, or characteristics of the study population)

32-2. Data Safety and Monitoring Plan - Monitoring the Study

Monitoring the Study

32-2.1* Indicate the frequency with which the study team will conduct scheduled assessments of study recruitment, data integrity and quality, adverse events, withdrawals, and compliance with protocol plan.

Monthly

If other, please specify:

32-2.2* Study oversight and safety monitoring may be required based on the nature, size, and complexity of the study. Indicate the responsible entities.

Select all that apply:

☒ No additional monitoring is required – the nature, size, and complexity of this study does not require additional safety monitoring to that provided by the IRB.

☐ Independent monitor

☐ Internal committee

☐ Sponsor

☐ Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) or Data Safety Committee (DSC)

☐ UMHS Cancer Center DSMB

☐ Other

If other, please specify:

If no additional monitoring is required, jump to 32-2.3.

32-2.2.1 Provide the names and areas of expertise of those providing this additional monitoring

32-2.2.2 Indicate the frequency with which the additional monitoring activities will be conducted.

If other, please specify:

32-2.2.3 Indicate the data that will be reviewed.

Select all that apply:

There are no items to display

32-2.2.4 If a DSMB or DSC charter exists, upload it here.

Name	Version
There are no items to display	

32-2.3* Monitoring reports will be provided to:

Organization	Reporting Mechanism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRB (required)	eResearch
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal oversight agencies (FDA, RAC, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (federal, industry, private, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

If other, please specify:

41. Subjects Vulnerable to Coercion

Completion of this section is required based on the response provided to question 9-1.1 or 9-2.1.

The following subject populations, vulnerable to coercion or undue influence, have been identified for inclusion in the study.

College Students

41.1* What is the justification for the inclusion of these subject populations?

It requires the participants to have some basic software knowledge as what is covered in a 200-level courses in the CS department in University of Michigan. The participants will spend around 90 minutes using a computer and wearing a fNIRs cap. Thus the recruitment is open to college students, or research fellows/professors who is able to take such an experiment.

41.2* Describe the additional safeguards that have been included in this study to protect the rights and welfare of these subjects.

All participants will read through and sign a consent form based on their own wills. The participants can quit the experiment anytime during the experiment. In this case, they will still receive a \$20 check or cash based on their own preference.

44. Additional Supporting Documents

44.1 Please upload any additional supporting documents related to your study that have not already been uploaded. Examples include, but are not limited to, data collection sheets, newsletters, subject brochures, and instructional brochures.

Name	Version
There are no items to display	

