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## Survey of Scientific Software Development Practices

### INFORMATION SHEET

This project has been designed to examine the current development practices in use by scientific software developers. More specifically, this survey will investigate what kinds of practices which are well-known in the software engineering area are currently in use in scientific software development and why these practices have been adopted.

#### Why this research is being carried out

This research is being performed in order to gain understanding and have practical examples of the current state of scientific software development. The information gained from the survey will be used to determine areas in which the transfer, adaptation, and/or extension of software engineering development practices to the scientific software development field could be performed effectively, with maximum benefit to the scientific software development community.

#### What this research involves

This research will involve one or more surveys that focus on people who have had experience developing scientific software applications. Participation in this research will involve the completion of a survey which is anticipated to take approximately 10 minutes. If you agree to provide your name and contact details, then you may be contacted in order to participate in further surveys in the future.

Participation in this project is purely voluntary and there will be no adverse consequences if you decide not to participate. You may withdraw from participation in the project at any time, and you are not required to provide any reason for doing so. If you choose to withdraw, any information that you have previously provided will not be used if so requested.

The results of this research will be reported in a doctoral thesis and may be published in academic journals or books. The names of individuals or their position titles will not be reported in connection with any of the information in the survey, unless they have explicitly consented to be identified. Once published, the results of this research will be made available upon request.

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## Potential risks in participation

The survey has not been designed to elicit any information that is confidential, sensitive, or potentially incriminating in nature. Answering all the questions is not required, and there are no consequences to the participant in not answering any given question, although the more complete a survey is the more useful it is to the researcher. Should you have any further concerns about confidentiality and anonymity, please raise the issue prior to submission of the completed survey so that assurances can be made that specific information is not reported or published.

## Contact names and phone numbers

If you have any questions, comments, or complaints about this research, please do not hesitate to contact:

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If you have any concerns regarding the way the research was conducted you can also contact the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee:

Human Ethics Officer  
Human Research Ethics Committee  
The Australian National University  
Phone: 02 6125 7945  
Email: [human.ethics.officer@anu.edu.au](mailto:human.ethics.officer@anu.edu.au)