

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

BigFoot: Analysis, monitoring, and tracking of feet features using a flat-bed scanner

Aydogan Ozcan, PhD and Steve Feng, BS, from the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) are conducting a research study.

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because you find the BigFoot software interesting or useful for your own purposes. Your participation in this research study is voluntary.

Why is this study being done?

The main purpose of the study is to gather interesting statistics and draw correlations following the release of a free Windows desktop software (BigFoot) that allows users to utilize their PCs and flat-bed scanners to capture images and monitor/track the features of their own feet. Specifically, users can define regions of interest on their feet images that are captured with their scanners and assign text notes to them. Regions can then be tracked across time on automatically aligned scanned feet images. We will upload these regions to our servers to determine interesting regions and various associated statistics.

What will happen if I take part in this research study?

If you volunteer to participate in this study, the researcher will ask you to do the following:

- Use the BigFoot software to scan your feet and track regions in any way you find useful or beneficial.
- We may collect data on your usage of the program, some scanned feet images, your defined regions, and your added notes on those regions.

How long will I be in the research study?

Participation duration is entirely dependent on the user and continues for as long as you will use the BigFoot software, or until we discontinue data collection via the BigFoot software, whichever comes first.

Are there any potential risks or discomforts that I can expect from this study?

One possible risk is the collection and storage of personal identifiable information, e.g. foot images containing indicators of diseases, on our servers. To mitigate this risk, all user data is de-identified and stored separately from identity data, linked using a randomly generated code. Identity information is limited to only IP addresses. All user data is stored in encrypted databases. Physical and software access to the servers where the data is stored is limited to only the primary investigators.

Are there any potential benefits if I participate?

You may benefit from the study from usage of the BigFoot software's ability to track regions of your feet via a simple and automated computerized interface. Using the BigFoot software, users can monitor their feet with better resolution and ease and, if a clinically relevant situation occurs, send images of the relevant region(s) along with some text notes via email from the BigFoot application to an authorized medical professional. The integrated design of the BigFoot application allows for users to perform simple and efficient monitoring of their feet over time.

The results of the research may allow the determination of interesting characteristics of feet features and foot types across large geographical areas and age ranges via the large-scale data collection of human feet images.

Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?

Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can identify you will remain confidential and encrypted. It will be disclosed only with your permission or as required by law. Confidentiality will be maintained by means of a series of layered security measures. After data is uploaded to our servers, the servers will automatically, without any human supervision, remove personal identifying information (username and IP address) from the de-identified data (images and/or notes), and both will then be stored in separate encrypted databases, linked using a randomly generated code string. The servers are kept in a secured room with key access for lab members. Servers are kept with limited access restrictions, with only the investigators and their successors having access to the code and databases.

What are my rights if I take part in this study?

- You can choose whether or not you want to be in this study, and you may withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time.
- Whatever decision you make, there will be no penalty to you, and no loss of benefits to which you were otherwise entitled.
- You may refuse to answer any questions that you do not want to answer and still remain in the study.

Who can I contact if I have questions about this study?

- **The research team:**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about the research, you can talk to the one of the researchers. Please contact:

Steve Feng at stevewfeng@gmail.com.

Aydogan Ozcan at ozcan@ucla.edu.

- **UCLA Office of the Human Research Protection Program (OHRPP):**

If you have questions about your rights while taking part in this study, or you have concerns or suggestions and you want to talk to someone other than the researchers about the study, please call the OHRPP at (310) 825-7122 or write to:

UCLA Office of the Human Research Protection Program
11000 Kinross Avenue, Suite 211, Box 951694
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1694