

Survey on the use of the CellML API

Participant Information Sheet for Current and Potential CellML API Users

This research activity seeks to collect information about who is downloading and using the CellML API (application programming interface) and what they plan to use it for, as well as the reasons why people who do not use the CellML API choose not to, so we can use that information to justify the ongoing development of CellML processing infrastructure to funders, to plan research collaborations with users of the API, and to assist with the prioritisation of API feature development.

This research activity is carried out by Dr Andrew Miller, a staff member at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute at the University of Auckland. To contact Andrew, e-mail ak.miller@auckland.ac.nz or phone +64 9 373 7599 ext 85122.

You are invited to participate in the research. You have been selected because you either visited the download page on the CellML API website (<http://cellml-api.sf.net/>), or you responded to a notice about the survey sent to a mailing list about CellML.

The research is web-based. The amount of time required will depend on the level of detail that you chose to provide, but for most participants, the survey should take a maximum of ten minutes. We aim to send out follow-up surveys approximately once per year. Participation in one survey does not obligate participation in any later surveys. Only those aged 16 years or older should participate and provide data.

Participation is Voluntary

Participation is voluntary for all participants, including students and staff members at the University of Auckland.

Neither grades nor academic relationships with the department or members of staff will be affected by either refusal or agreement to participate.

The ability of participants to download or use the API, or to receive support for the API will not be affected by either refusal or agreement to participate.

Data Retention and Privacy / Confidentiality

You will be given an opportunity to specify whether or not any of the information you supply is private and / or confidential, thereby withholding consent for that information to be released publicly. Information identified as private / confidential information will only be used for aggregate statistical purposes in ways that do not identify the participant or reveal the individual private / confidential data point.

Where you withhold consent to release any information publicly, that information will be held by

Andrew Miller in electronic format for a period of 6 years, and will not be disclosed to anyone else during that period. It will be deleted after 6 years.

Where you consent to the public release of your responses, those responses will be publicly released, and will be retained indefinitely because they provide a permanent record of how the CellML API is being used and why decisions about the CellML API were made.

The survey is conducted, and results transferred back to the researcher, over an encrypted Hypertext Transfer Protocol / Secure Sockets Layer (HTTPS) connection. This protocol provides security against interception of your responses, but there are nevertheless a number of circumstances in which this security could be compromised. Survey responses will be held for the first week exclusively in digital form on a computer system with access controls in place ensuring only the researcher can access the information. Subsequently, information which has been identified by participants as being private / confidential will continue to be stored securely.

Survey results (including response information not identified as confidential by participants) will be made available to the CellML community by an announcement to the CellML discussion mailing list. It is not expected that the results of this survey will be of sufficient interest, in their own right, to the scientific community to be published in a peer reviewed journal, but the results may be referenced in journal articles and conference presentations about further work done based on the results of this survey.

Anonymity and Identifying Information

This survey provides you with an opportunity to provide your name and e-mail address. Answering these questions is optional; you do not need to answer these questions if you do not want to.

Providing your contact information will allow us to contact you if we have any follow-up questions or can offer you support in relation to one of your answers, and will allow us to link responses from surveys undertaken by the same person as part of this activity to see how responses change over time.

Please be aware that even if you chose not to provide your name or e-mail address, your answers to the other questions might still uniquely identify you or your research group.

Participant's Right to Withdraw

Participants have the right to withdraw from participating in the research at any time.

Participants who have participated in the survey may request that their data is withdrawn at any time by e-mailing ak.miller@auckland.ac.nz, but only if the data can be traced to the participant.

Results will be held for at least one week before becoming public. Once results have become public, the information will be removed from resources that can be modified by Andrew Miller, but participants should be aware that it will not usually be possible to remove all copies of the data made once the information is public, because information taken from the public release may be held by people other than the researcher.

Funding of Research

This research is being completed as part of the Virtual Physiological Human Network of Excellence (VPH NoE) project funded by the European Union Framework 7, to guide the development of the CellML API. It is likely that the outcomes from this research will additionally used to support further grant applications.

Contact Details

This research is being conducted by Dr Andrew Miller, a member of the academic staff at the University of Auckland. You can contact Andrew by e-mail using ak.miller@auckland.ac.nz, by writing to Andrew Miller, Auckland Bioengineering Institute, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, or by calling +649 373 7599 ext 85122. Andrew's university line manager is A/Prof Poul Nielsen, p.nielsen@auckland.ac.nz, Auckland Bioengineering Institute, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, +649 373 7599 ext 88391. The Director of the Auckland Bioengineering Institute is Prof Peter Hunter, p.hunter@auckland.ac.nz, Auckland Bioengineering Institute, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, +649 373 7599 ext 88395.

For any concerns regarding ethical issues you may contact the Chair, The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Research Office, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142. Telephone 09 373-7599 extn. 87830/83761. Email: humanethics@auckland.ac.nz .

APPROVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND HUMAN PARTICIPANTS
ETHICS COMMITTEE ON the 7th of November, 2012 for (3) years, Reference Number
8688.