

## Tactile Object Understanding and Characterization

You are eligible to participate if you are over the age of 18 and have normal (or corrected to normal) vision OR if you are congenitally OR late-onset blind. You can participate in the behavioral experiments and/or in the fMRI experiments.

*This research will typically take place at three sites such as ERI, SKERI and UCSF, although the behavioral tests can be performed remotely at any other locations, such as schools, institutions, or residences, if necessary.*

You are invited to participate in a research project designed to examine how people perceive tactile objects and how they characterize them. You are eligible to participate if you are over the age of 18 with normal health, and have normal (or corrected to normal) vision OR if you are blind (congenitally/late-onset) with visual acuity of <20/500, LP and NLP. If you have cognitive impairment or hearing loss or neuropathy of the hands/fingers you are not eligible for this study.

There will be 4 experiments which will take approximately 2 – 3 hours in total, with some break between the experiments. This study involves no medical risk, and the information collected from you will be handled very confidentially and anonymously, and used for the research purpose only. If you decide to participate you will be compensated \$20, \$30 and \$30 for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd hours respectively.

You will be presented with 2D or 3D tactile shapes and tactile textured objects. Your task will be to explore the objects with your hands. Following your exploration you will be asked several questions about your stimulus preference, appreciation of tactile beauty, and ability to recognize basic object properties.

If you agree to participate Dr. Rezaul Karim will conduct a pre-screening interview for making an appointment for running the experiments with you.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us on the phone numbers as below.

Sincerely,  
Rezaul Karim, PhD

### **Investigator:**

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### **Mentor:**

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