



## **Research Ethics and Human Subject Protection Statement at Dolby Laboratories**

At Dolby Laboratories, we conduct systematic investigations into human perception of audiovisual signals that advance both scientific understanding and technological innovation. Through careful experimental design and rigorous methodology, we have established research frameworks that ensure participant safety, protect privacy, and maintain the highest standards of scientific integrity.

### **Our Research Approach**

Our experimental investigations focus on understanding the fundamental mechanisms of human auditory and visual perception. We employ established psychophysical paradigms and physiological measurements that allow precise quantification of perceptual experience. These methods include threshold measurements using adaptive tracking procedures, signal detection analysis of perceptual discrimination, and systematic evaluation of audiovisual quality metrics. Through non-invasive measurements such as electroencephalography, pupillometry, and eye tracking, we obtain objective correlates of perceptual experience that inform our technological development. All experiments are conducted under controlled conditions using stimuli within ranges established as safe by international standards organizations.

### **Participant Protection and Rights**

We maintain strict protocols to safeguard participant wellbeing throughout the research process. Before any experimental session begins, participants receive comprehensive information about study procedures, time commitments, and potential risks or benefits. We emphasize their absolute right to withdraw from any study without penalty. Our informed consent process ensures that participants understand both the scientific purpose of our investigations and their role in advancing our knowledge of human perception.

The privacy and security of participant information are of uncompromising importance in our research program. We employ robust data protection measures that separate personal identifiers from experimental data and maintain all information in encrypted storage with strictly controlled access. Results are reported only in aggregate form to prevent individual identification, and participant information is never shared with third parties under any circumstances.



## **Safety Standards**

The safety of our research participants guides all experimental procedures. We employ continuous monitoring of acoustic stimuli to maintain sound pressure levels at safe listening levels (<80 dBA LEQ). Visual displays typically operate at standard office luminance levels (80-120 cd/m<sup>2</sup>) with peaks at HDR levels appropriate limits on temporal frequency content. Our experimental equipment undergoes regular calibration and safety certification. Prior to participation, we conduct appropriate screening to identify and exclude individuals who may be at risk from specific stimulus conditions.

## **Ethical Research Practices**

Our research adheres to established ethical principles that protect participant welfare while ensuring scientific validity. The studies we conduct typically involve everyday perceptual tasks such as describing audio signals or discriminating between preferred audiovisual content, presenting minimal risk to participants. All research protocols undergo thorough internal expert review for safety and ethical considerations. We select participants based solely on scientific criteria, never on vulnerability or privilege, and ensure that the benefits to scientific understanding substantively outweigh any minimal risks involved.

## **Commitment to Excellence**

Dolby Laboratories remains committed to advancing the science of human perception through ethical research that respects and protects our participants while contributing to the advancement of audiovisual technology.

Our dedication to research integrity constitutes an ongoing process of evaluation and improvement. We continuously monitor and enhance our research practices through regular review of protocols and procedures. Our researchers receive comprehensive training in both technical procedures and research ethics, and we actively engage with the scientific community to maintain current best practices. Through rigorous adherence to these standards and guidelines, as well as any relevant regulatory requirements, we maintain the highest level of ethical conduct in all our research activities.

For questions regarding our research practices or participant rights, please contact Spencer Mazyck.