



# Auto++:Detecting Cars Using Embedded Microphones in Real-Time

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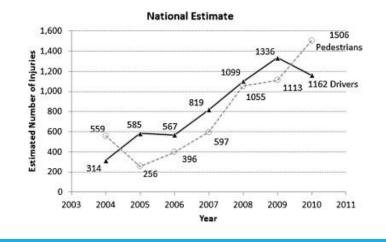


## Motivation

- "Smombie" was chosen as the official "Youth Word" in Germany in 2015
- In the U.S., A pedestrian was killed every two hours, and injured every 8 minutes[1].
- From 2004 to 2010, the phone related injuries increased from 559 to 1506[2].







[1] NHTSA. Trac safety facts 2013. DOT HS 812 139.

[2] Nasar, Jack L., and Derek Troyer. "Pedestrian injuries due to mobile phone use in public places." Accident Analysis & Prevention 57 (2013): 91-95.





# **Existing Solutions**

#### Infrastructure Support



#### Mobile Technology Support



DSRC, LIDAR & Camera







Smartphone CV (Walksafe 12')





## Potential Applications

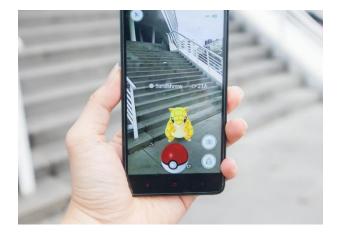
#### Pedestrian Safety

Residential Area Traffic monitoring

Enriching Augmented Reality Game



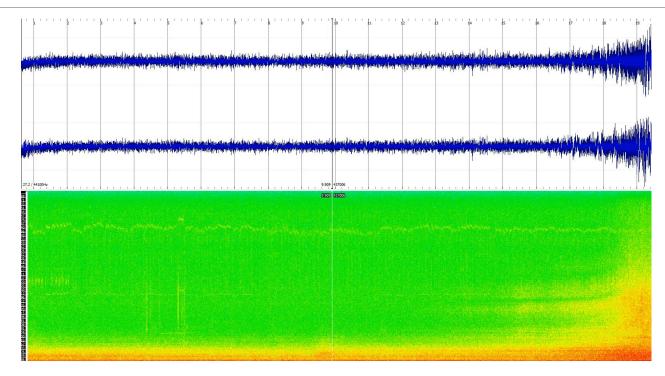








## Challenges



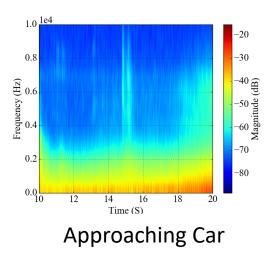
□No instantaneous cue for car's presence

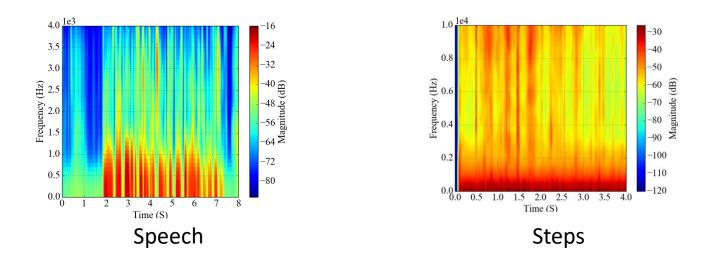
□No outstanding acoustic feature



WINLAB

# Challenges





#### The nature of car sound

- Tire-pavement friction noise
- No obvious acoustic formant

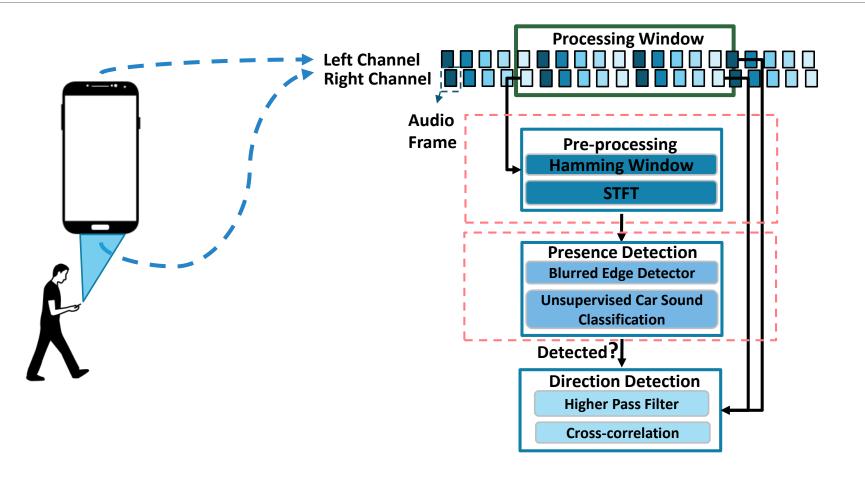
#### **Existing acoustic techniques are not feasible**

- Doppler Shift
- MFCC





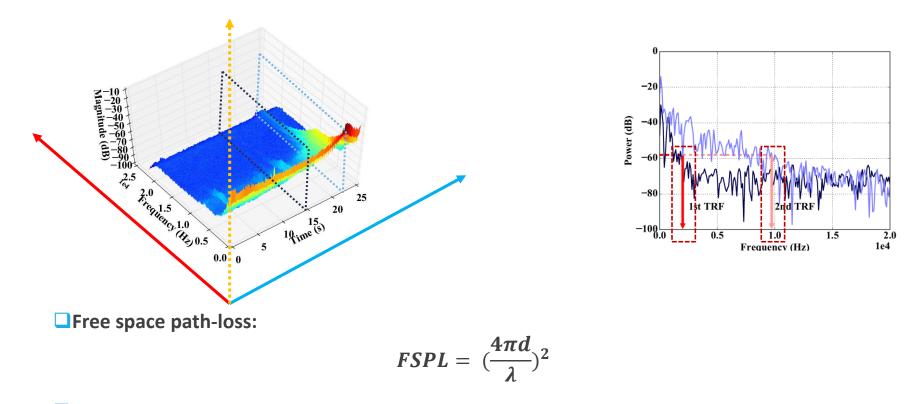
## Auto++ Design







## Presence Detection : Top-right Frequency (TRF)



Top-Right Frequency (TRF): Maximum Frequency Whose Power Reaches a Certain Threshold  $TRF(n) = \max\{argmax_f(S(n, f))\}$ 



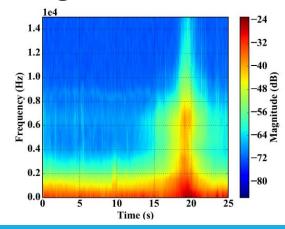


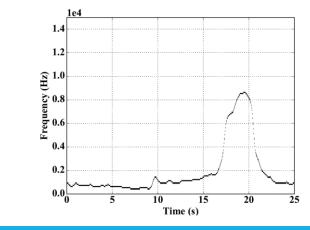
## Presence Detection: Feature Extraction

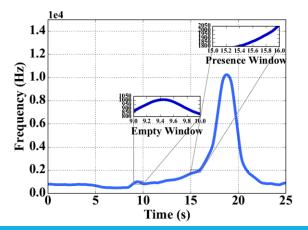
#### **Edge Detection**



#### **Edge Detection for TRF**



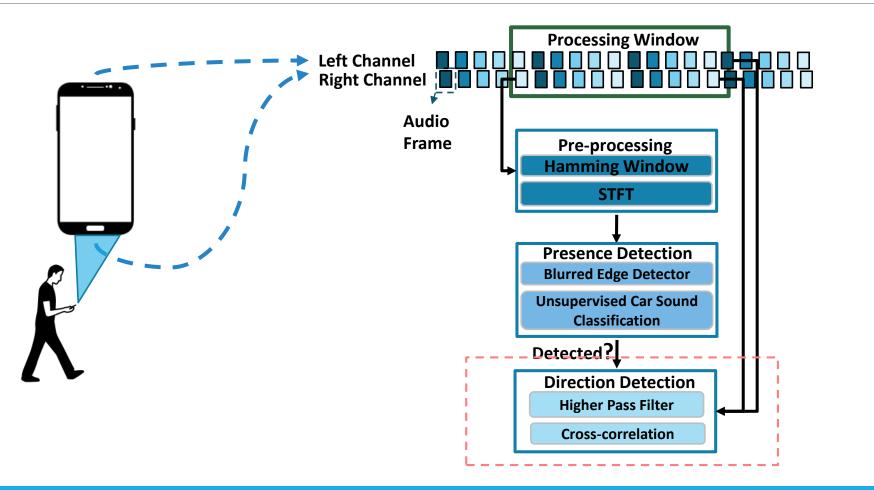








## Auto++ Design







## **Direction Estimation**

#### **TDoA** estimation

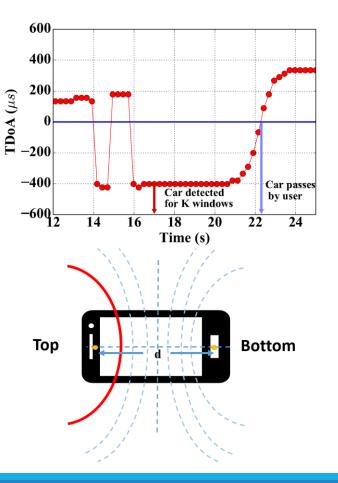
Cross-correlation function of 2 channel input

$$(f * g)[\tau] = \sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f^*[t]g[t+\tau]$$

• Find the lag with the maximum value

#### **SPL** is sensitive to noise

• Trigger only if we detect a presence event







## **Evaluation:** Overview

#### 

- Presence detection's timeliness & accuracy
- Direction detection's accuracy

#### □Wide range of test cars

• 7 models – sedan, SUV, electric car, sport car

#### □ Various environments

Parking lot, residential area, campus road, shopping center

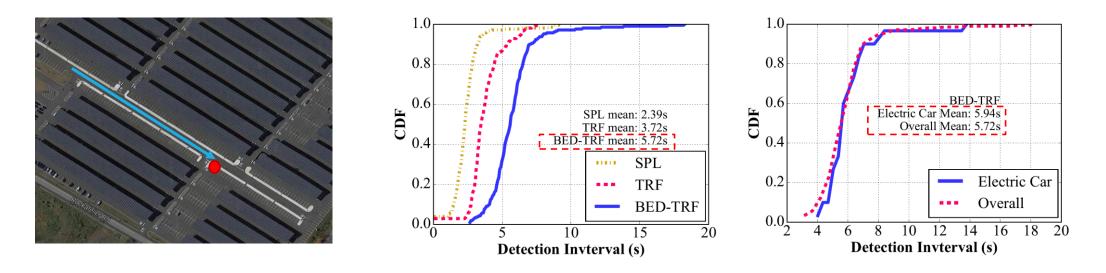






## **Evaluation: Presence Detection**

#### Timeliness



Edge detection based algorithm outperforms the SPL baseline algorithm and the naïve TRF algorithm
Electric car can be detected





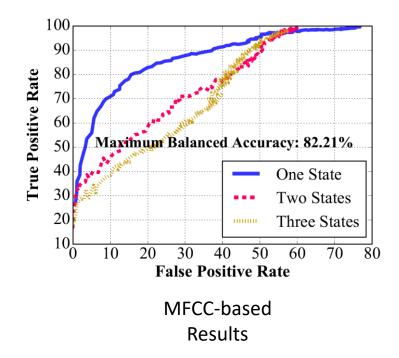
## **Evaluation: Presence Detection**

#### Accuracy

	Quiet Parking Lot	Campus Road	Residential Area	Shopping Center
Detection Interval (s)	5.7	4.2	3.6	3.2
TPR(%)	100	97.2	94.8	83.8
FPR(%)	0	3.3	13.3	13.3

✓ Auto++ is highly accurate in less crowded area

- ✓ Auto++ can still detect cars in challenged environment
- ✓ Auto++ outperforms MFCC based solution

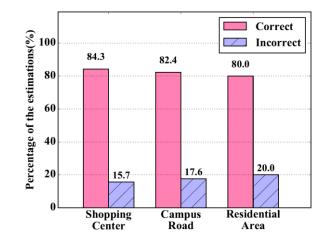






## Evaluation: Direction Detection

# $\square Accuracy$



✓ The accuracy of direction detection is increasing as the car is getting closed

✓It is robust in various noisy environment

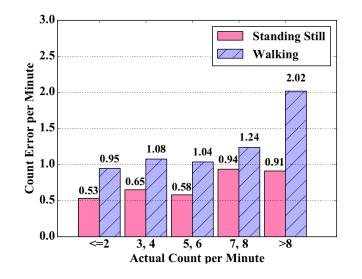




## Evaluation: Car Count

#### Error count





✓ Auto++ has low count error in suburban residential area

✓ It is robust to user's activity

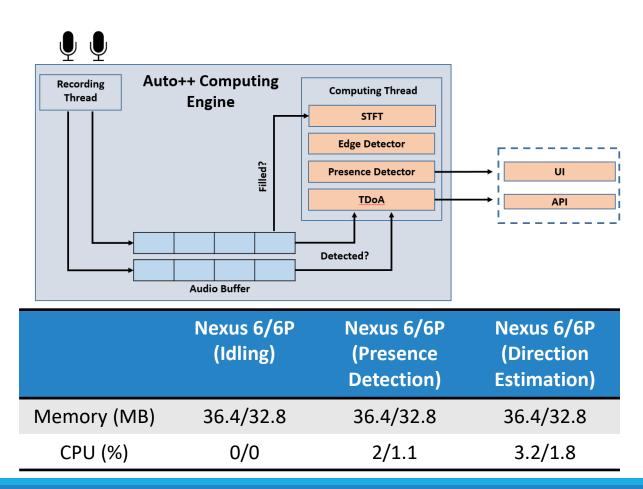




## Prototype

#### Platform

- Android + OpenCV
- Concurrent Threads
- Memory and CPU usage profiling
- Memory does not exceed the OS preallocated size
- Peak CPU usage is only 1.8%







## Conclusion

We proposed Auto++, a vehicle sensing system that used off-the-self smartphone microphones

We introduced a new feature (TRF) that catched the presence of a vehicle timely and accurately

We proposed a edge detection based algorithm to extract traces robustly

□ We conducted comprehensive experiments to evaluate the performance of Auto++'s presence detection, direction detection, and car counting.

We implemented Auto++ on Android platform and showed its feasibility as a background service.





# Thank you!

### 🗆 Q & A

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