# A novel non-Intrusive approach to assess drowsiness based on eye movements and blinking

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Life Saving Innovations

# Background

- Increasingly sleep-deprived society
- Fatigue, drowsiness, cognitive deficits
- Negative impacts on health, safety and performance
- Annual average of 83,000 sleep-related crashes on U.S. roadways (2005-2009); Drowsiness involvement in nearly 3% of US crash fatalities in 2014 (NHTSA).
- Increase of fatigue-related motor vehicle fatalities from 4.6% in 2000 to 6.4% in 2013 in Canada (Traffic Injury Research Foundation).



https://inscopeca.wordpress.com/fatigue-information-2/employer-and-hse-fatigue-information/



http://www.drivingschoolireland.com/what\_not.html

# Alcohol Countermeasure System Corp. (ACS)



Research collaborations with academic sector

In-house R & D

- An international group of companies (beginning in 1970) with a Canadian headquarter
- Pioneer in alcohol detection technology and road safety
- Scientific research, product development, and manufacturing

# Objective

To develop non-intrusive real-time techniques to reliably assess the state of vigilance, which is critical for managing fatigue in people and reducing motor vehicle collisions and human fatalities.

# Methods

- Sustained vigilance task
  - Consecutive <u>psychomotor vigilance task</u> (PVT)
  - 100 stimulus-response trials per PVT episode
  - Two separate sessions (different sleep conditions):
    - » normal sleep (NS)
    - » sleep restriction (SR)
  - 15 subjects (age 22.9±3.3 years; 11 females)
  - Brain & Mind Sleep Research Lab. Western University, Canada
- Multi-modal data (eye tracking, EEG, and reaction time)
- A Gaussian mixture model (GMM) of the "alert" state
- Reaction times to visual stimuli as the <u>baseline</u>



GazePoint GP3 Eye Tracker



5 ACS 💥

# Methods

General Gaze	STD, median, scanpath, velocity
Fixation	Duration, frequency, percentage, scanpath, velocity
Saccade	
Blinking	Duration, frequency, percentage

Dimensionality reduction

• Fisher's discriminant analysis (FDA)

## Methods



7 ACS 🔀

# Results

Case 1.

Drowsiness Index vs. Reaction Time (baseline)



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# Results

Case 2.

Drowsiness Index vs. Reaction Time (baseline)



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#### Results

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# Conclusion & Discussion

- A novel GMM-based method for non-intrusive assessment of drowsiness using eye tracking data
- Sustained vigilance task
- RTs to visual stimuli as baseline
- Preliminary study <u>verifies</u> the potential of the proposed methodology

Further investigations required:

- Various levels of fatigue/sleep deprivation and time of day
- Biological measures as baseline
- Simulated and real driving scenarios

# Thank you!

Q & A

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