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**GROUP F**

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SPEEDING DETECTOR ALONG ROADS  
TO CURB INCREASING ROAD TRAFFIC  
ACCIDENTS IN UGANDA IN VIEW OF  
TAXI DRIVERS

By Group F

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Barely two months after 13 Tanzanian nationals perished on the Kampala-Masaka highway after attending a wedding in Kamoala, one Ugandan has died and three others were badly injured in an accident, on same road. Eye witnesses said the speeding FUSO truck lost control in a "dangerous spot" and swayed towards the side of the oncoming Saloon car, causing the crash at about 10:00pm. The car was damaged beyond repair. The driver of the Sallon car was travelling together with three passengers when this occurred. The three sustained serious injuries while the driver died on the scene.[?]

Though the cause of the accident is still being investigated, road accidents have claimed the lives of many individuals, and is among the leading causes of injuries that are treated in a very odd way. Low income countries (LIC) and middle income countries (MIC) populations are faced with more road deaths than the high income countries (HIC) but all are as much affected.

Regardless of what level of income an individual is, all road users are at risk of this endemic. The most hurting accidents are those that claim the life of children or pedestrians who are caught in the indiscipline of drivers

to keep or maintain traffic rules.

Research has it that there are very many causes for road accidents; including - driver's age, weather, road conditions, driver's sex, drunkenness, attitudes of drivers and so on.[?] Traffic experts agree that a good driving attitude-more than driving skill-can keep you out of most accident-producing situations from which not even the most skillful driver could escape without injury or property loss.[?] By observation, taxi drivers are well known for exhibiting a very bad attitude while driving. All these causes of accidents can be categorized as human error, environment factors and vehicle factors. In Uganda the process of tracking and monitoring the behavior of drivers has always been done by the traffic officers who often stand alongside roads and highways in specific areas using speed guns and radar antennas to catch over speeding vehicles. This was put in practice after sighting over speeding as one of the main causes of road accidents by the traffic police of Uganda (Mubaraka, 2013). However, these traffic officers cannot be assembled in all spots of the roads to control the traffic. This has left the lives of very many Ugandans using road transport especially public transport at the mercy of irresponsible drivers.[?] The purpose of this research is to help improve the safety of passengers by designing a system that can be installed along blind spots to capture information on over speeding vehicles and report to the traffic police automatically.

## **1.2 Lessons from Domestic and International Speed Camera Programs**

Most researchers and public safety officials agree that speeding causes an increase in crashes. They generally agree that speed limit enforcement measures, including cameras, help catch and penalize drivers who break that speed limit. However, some questions remain unanswered. Do speed cameras actually lead to a reduction in the number of speeders and crashes, or reduce crash severity overall? [?]

It has been an observation of many that when drivers are well acquainted with roads and visible speed cameras, as they approach an enforcement zone, they suddenly decelerate only to accelerate again after having passed it. There is no experimental proof that this leads to accidents however drivers will not have learned the detrimental results over speeding could lead to. In addition, some research has noted that drivers aware of fixed speed cameras may resort to using alternative routes to avoid the cameras, possibly leading to an increase in crashes on other roadways.

Many drivers have actually discovered that not all speed cameras work, some are switched off. For this reason, speed cameras are actually ignored by such drivers.

## **1.3 Proposed System Architecture**

This section logically illustrates the mechanism of the proposed system structure together with module that constructs the overall system architecture.