

# CycleGuard: A Smartphone-based Assistive Tool for Cyclist Safety Using Acoustic Ranging

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# Motivation

LOCAL NEWS >

## Arlington bicyclist killed in fatal hit-and-run

CBS NEWS  
DFW

BY ALEX KE  
AUGUST 25

## Bicyclist killed in Bronx hit and run; driver fled in another car with baby

By Eyewitness News via   
Monday, July 4, 2022

SAN JOSE

## Cyclist Dies After Crash With Vehicle on Capitol Expressway in San Jose

By NBC Bay Area staff • Published May 2, 2022 • Updated on Ma

COBB COUNTY

## Man riding his bicycle hit and killed by car in Smyrna

<sup>1</sup> CBS News, DFW

<sup>2</sup> ABC News, NYC

<sup>3</sup> NBC Bay Area

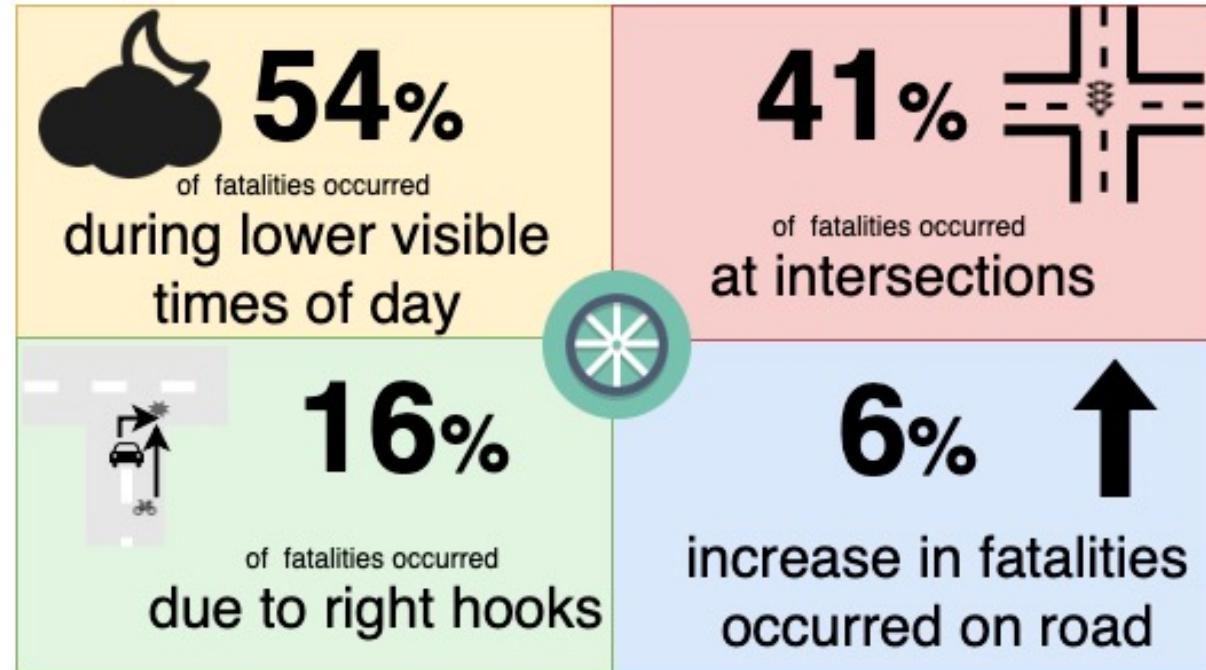
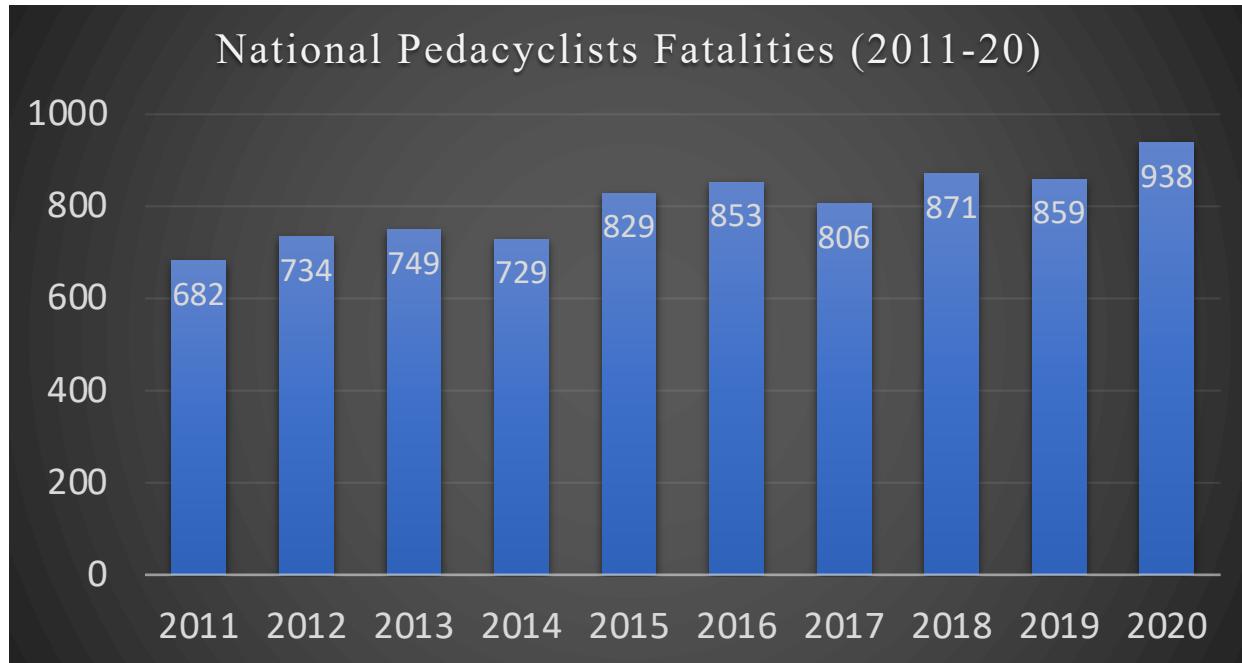
<sup>4</sup> WSBTV, GA



By WSBTV.com News Staff

December 31, 2021 at 4:49 am EST

# Motivation



*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)*

# The Right-Hook

- A motorist makes a right turn directly in front of the bicyclist abruptly



*\*Washington Area Bicyclist Association and The District Department of Transportation*

# The Right-Hook

- A motorist makes a right turn directly in front of the bicyclist abruptly
  - Not within bicyclist Field-of-view
  - Uncontrolled/partially controlled intersections
    - Worse in lower light scenarios



# Related Work

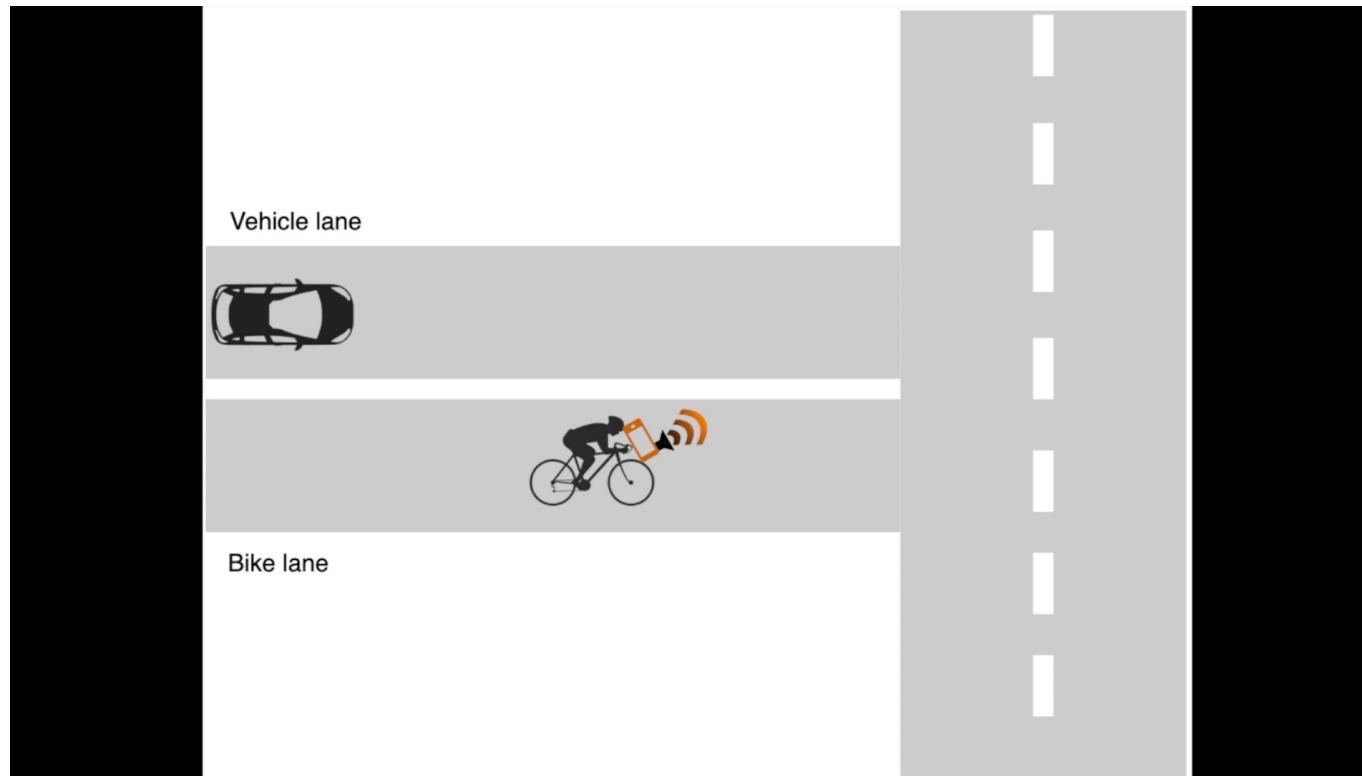


- Cyclist safety Techniques
    - Sophisticated sensors, sensitive to light
    - Expensive
  - Collision avoidance
    - Focused to cars
  - Industrial sensors
    - Sole purpose
    - Full functionality requires expensive add-ons
- A portable, cost-efficient system  
is needed to enhance the safety  
of cyclists.



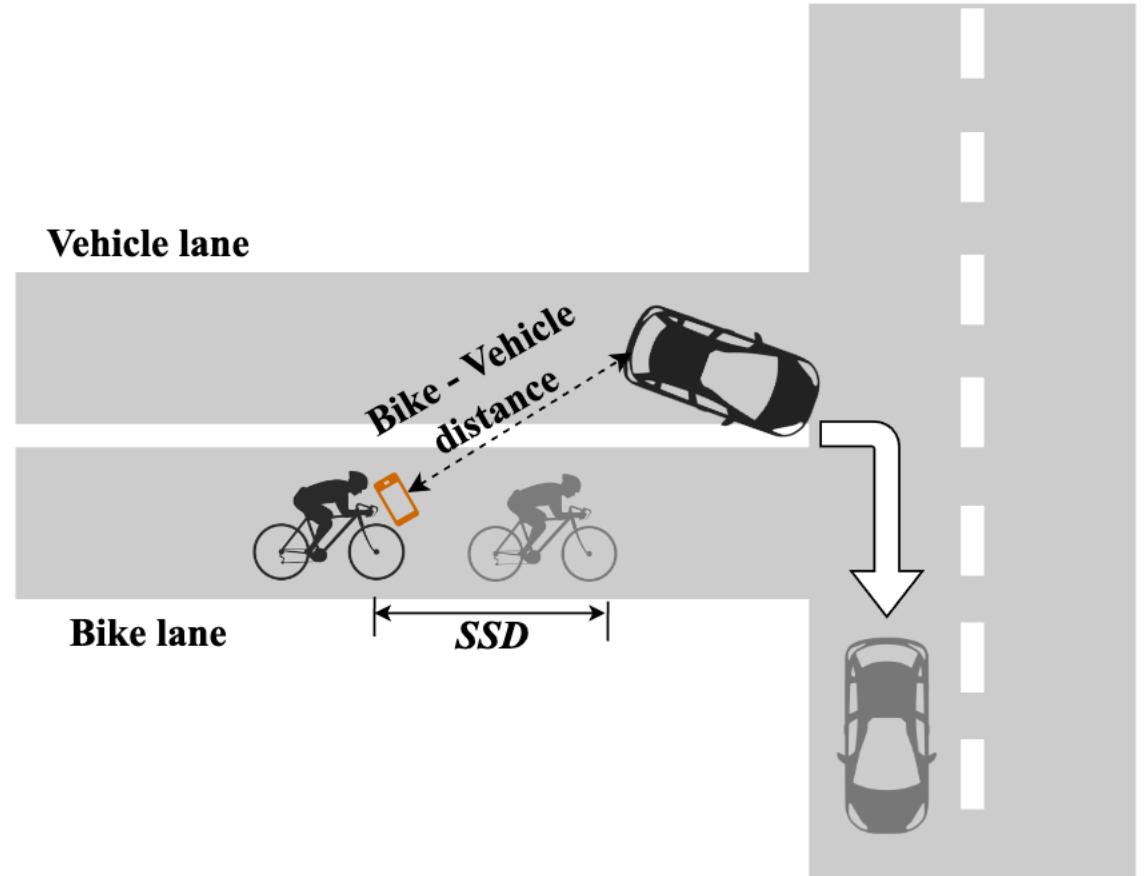
# Design Rationale

- Key Idea:
  - Alert the cyclist if the car is making a right-turn too close



# Design Rationale

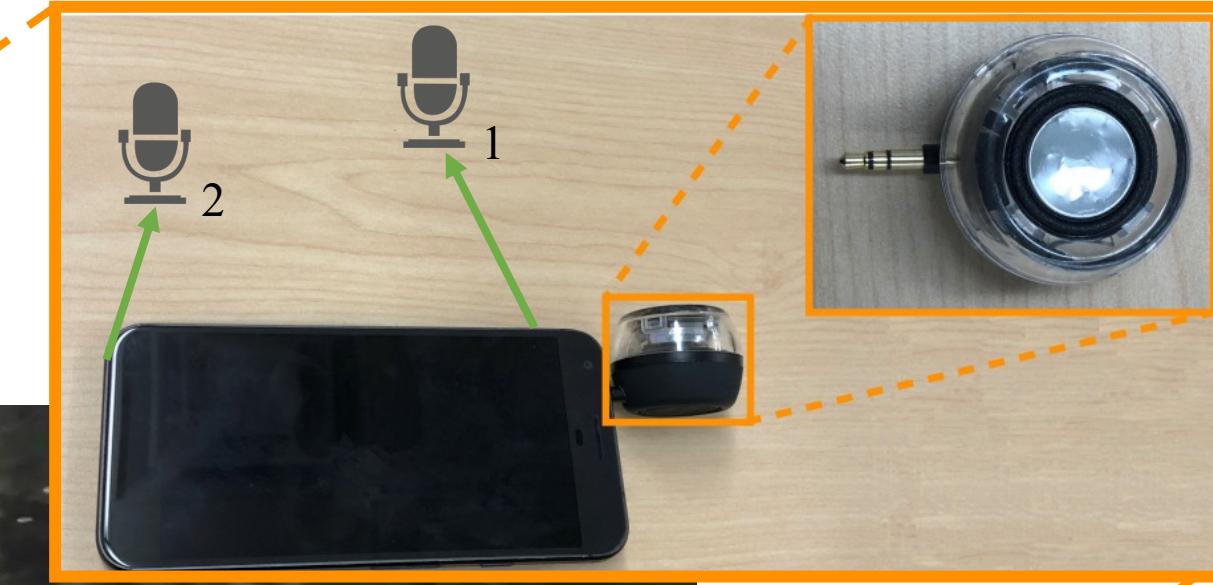
- Collision detection criteria:
  - Bike-Vehicle Distance  $\leq SSD$
  - Vehicle making a right turn
- SSD: Stopping-sight distance
  - Near **worst-case distance** the cyclist needs to be able **to see, react, and brake** to have room **to stop before colliding** with the vehicle.



# System setup

- Smartphone, installed with application
- External speaker





# System setup



# Practical challenges

- Interference from cyclist's surrounding objects



# Practical challenges

- Interference from cyclist's surrounding objects
- Estimate position correctly



# Practical challenges

- Interference from cyclist's surrounding objects
- Estimate position correctly
- Identify right-turn vehicle from other static and non-static objects



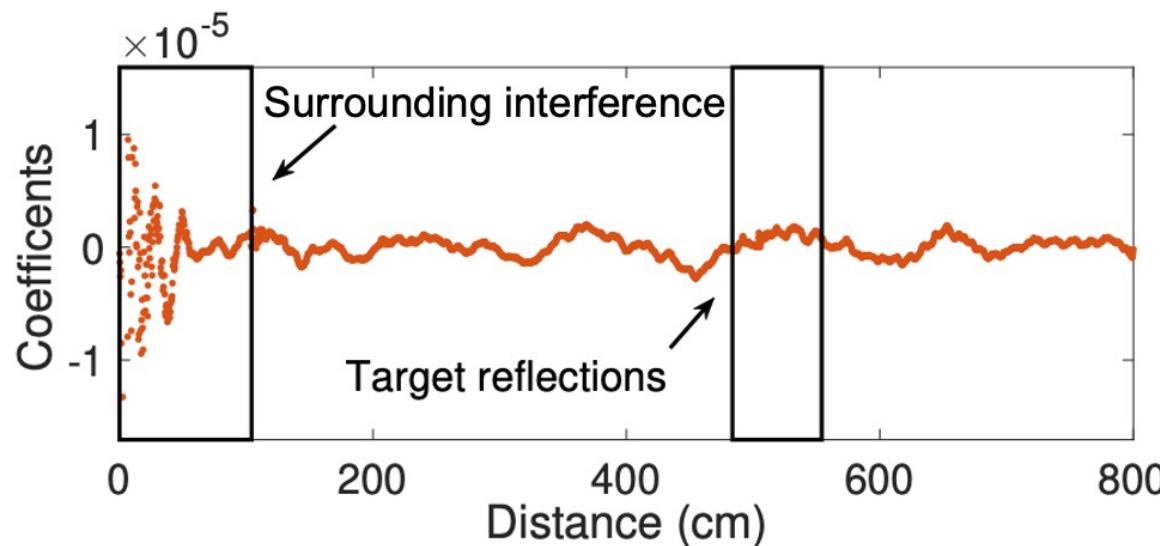
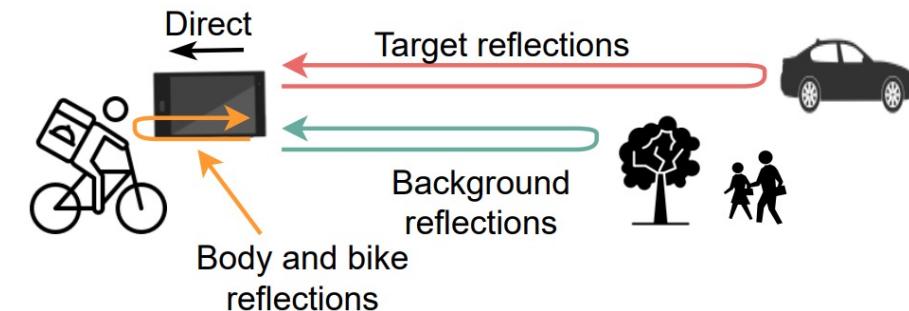
# Challenge 1: Interference from cyclist's surrounding objects

- Received signal:

- $R(t) = \sum_{i \in U_1} h_i S_C(t - \tau_i) + \sum_{i \in U_2} h_i S_C(t - \tau_i)$

- Cleaning of Signal:

- $\min_{h_i} = \sum_t [R(t) - \sum_{i \in U_1 \cup U_2} h_i S_C(t - \tau_i)]$

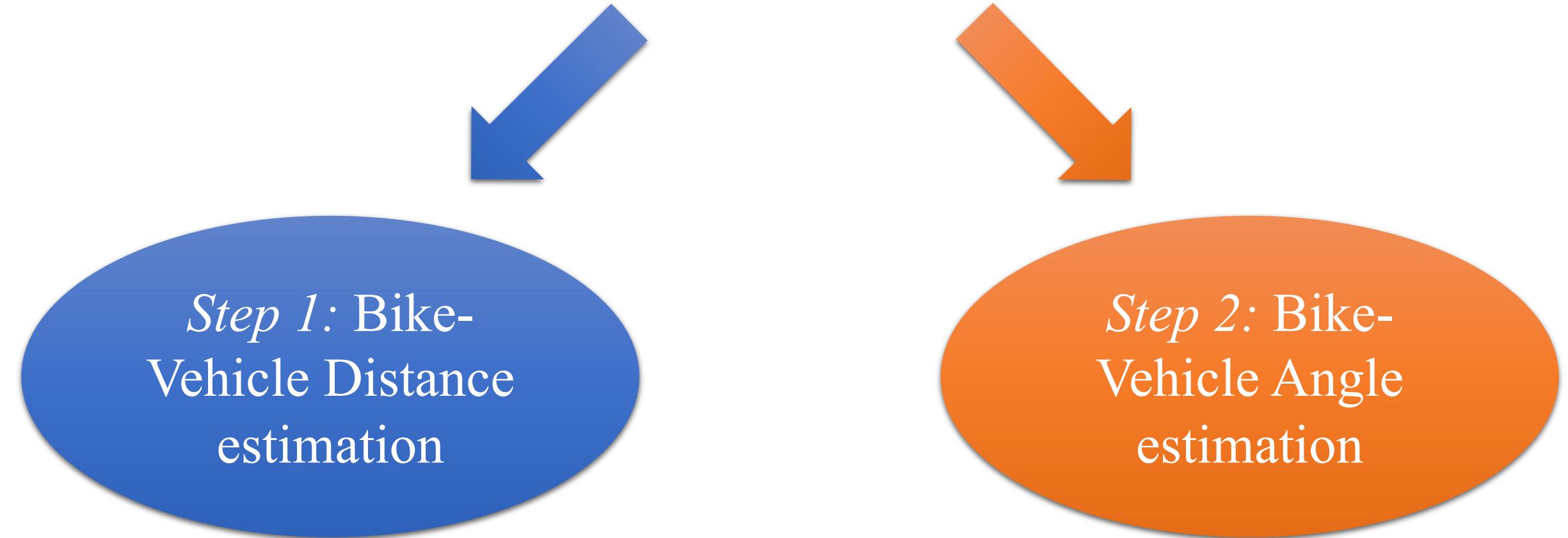


# Challenge 2: Position estimation



*Step 1: Bike-  
Vehicle Distance  
estimation*

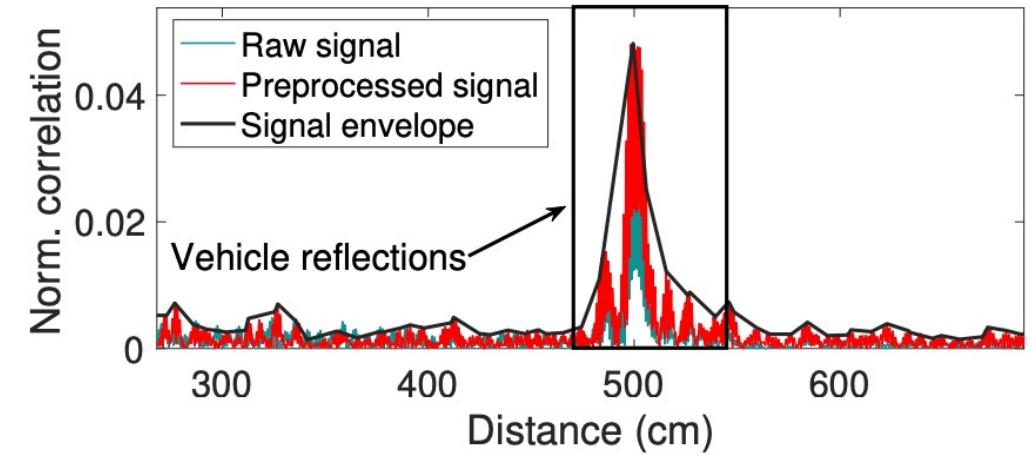
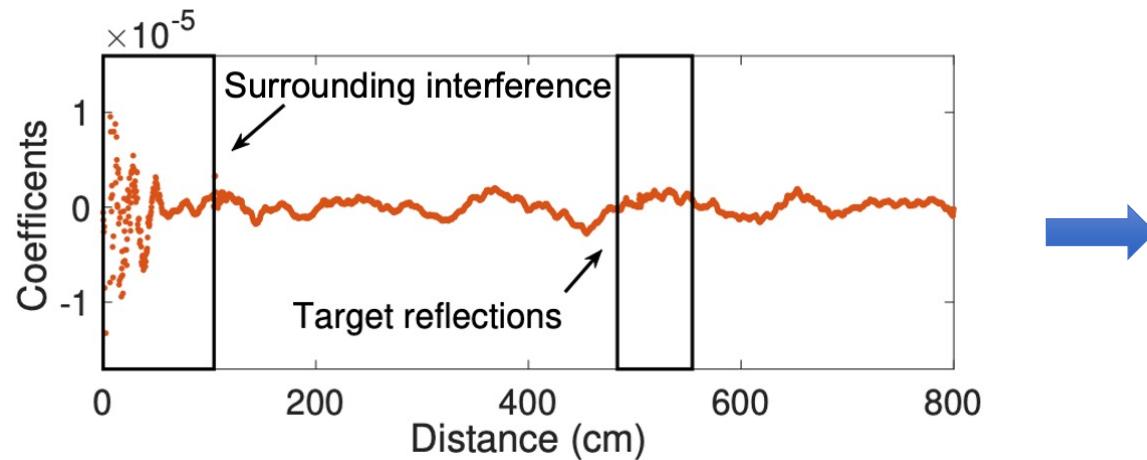
# Challenge 2: Position estimation



# Challenge 2: Position estimation

- Estimation of Bike-Vehicle Distance:

$$C(t) = \int_{\tau=-\infty}^{+\infty} S_c(\tau) R(t - \tau) d\tau$$



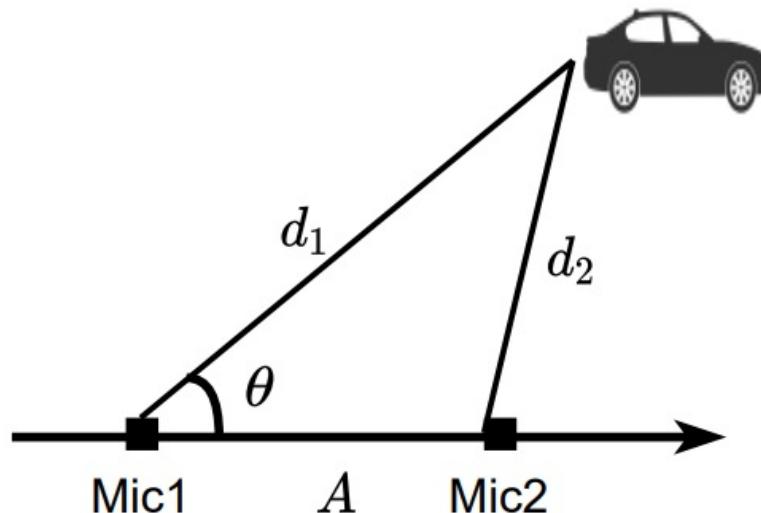
# Challenge 2: Position estimation

- Estimation of Bike-Vehicle Distance:

- $C(t) = \int_{\tau=-\infty}^{+\infty} S_c(\tau) R(t - \tau) d\tau$

- Estimation of Bike-Vehicle Angle:

- $\theta = \arccos\left(\frac{d_1^2 + A^2 + d_2^2}{2 \times d_1 \times A}\right)$

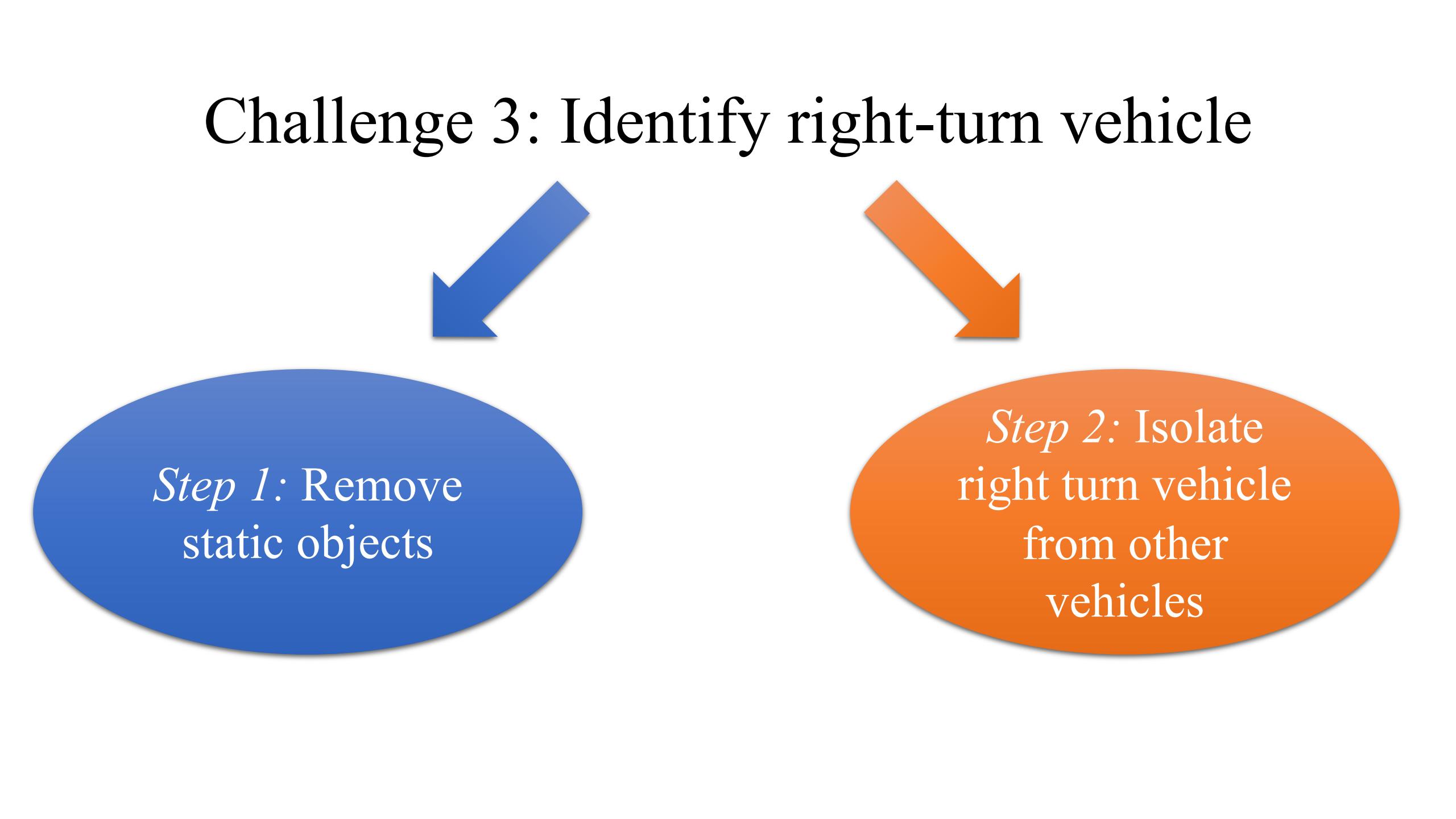


# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle



*Step 1:* Remove  
static objects

# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

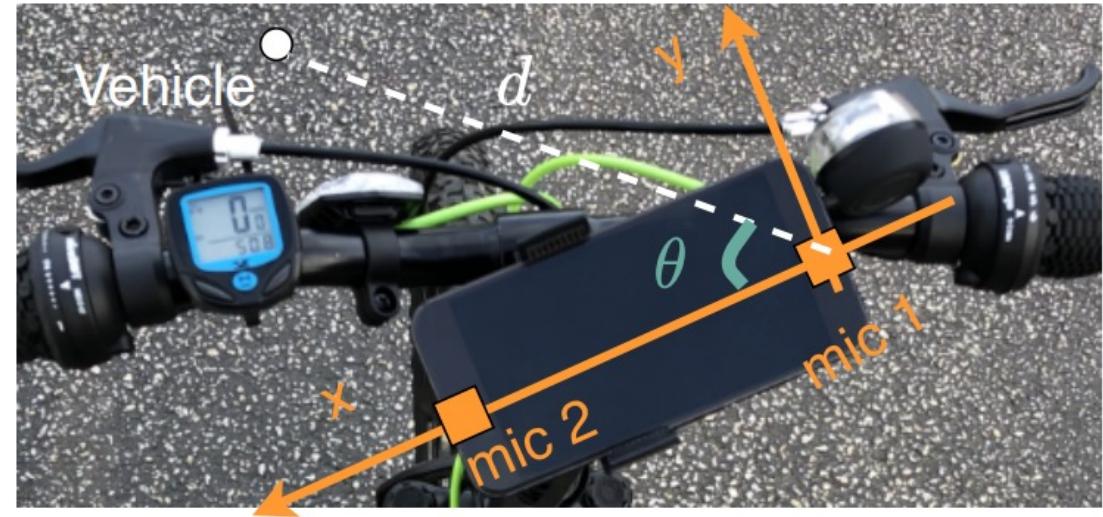


*Step 1:* Remove  
static objects

*Step 2:* Isolate  
right turn vehicle  
from other  
vehicles

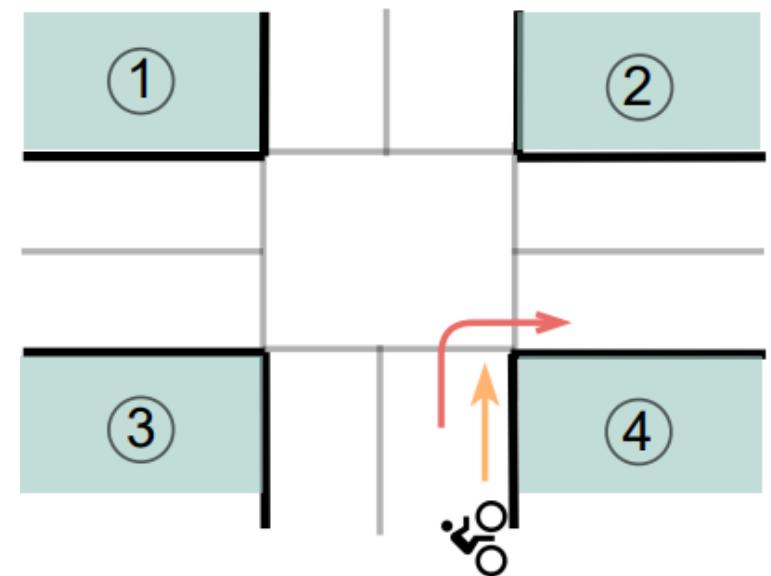
# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

- Consider smartphone coordinate system on the road



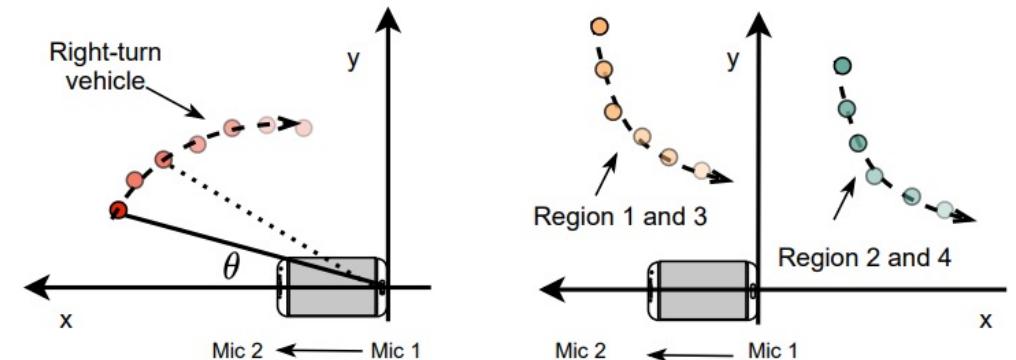
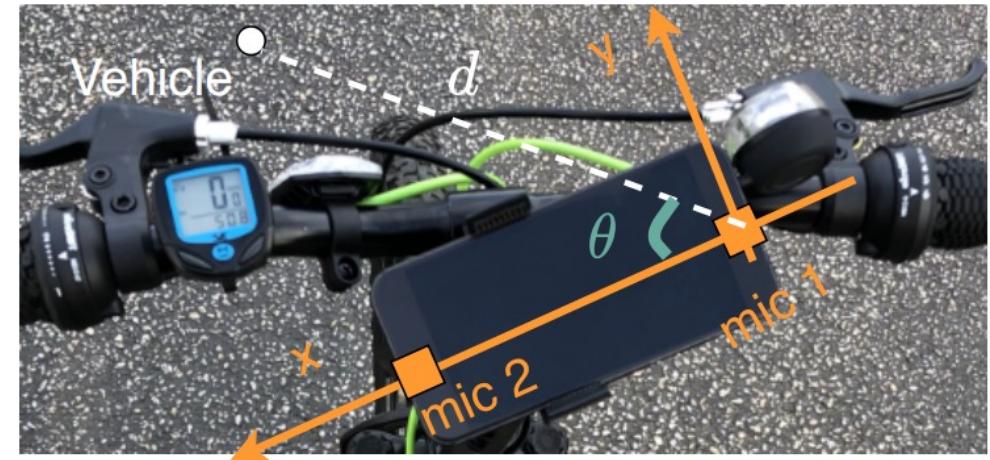
# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

- Consider smartphone coordinate system on the road
- Divide intersection into 4 regions



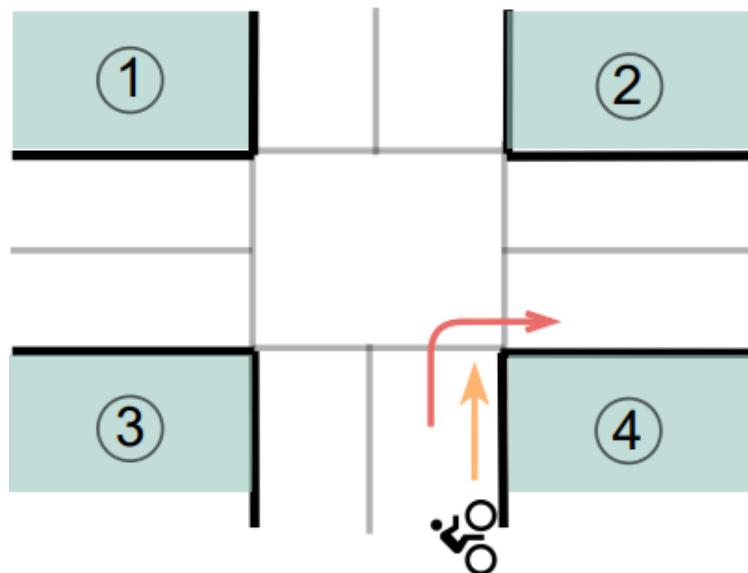
# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

- Consider smartphone coordinate system on the road
- Divide intersection into 4 regions
- Construct position curves for objects
  - Series of distances and angles



# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

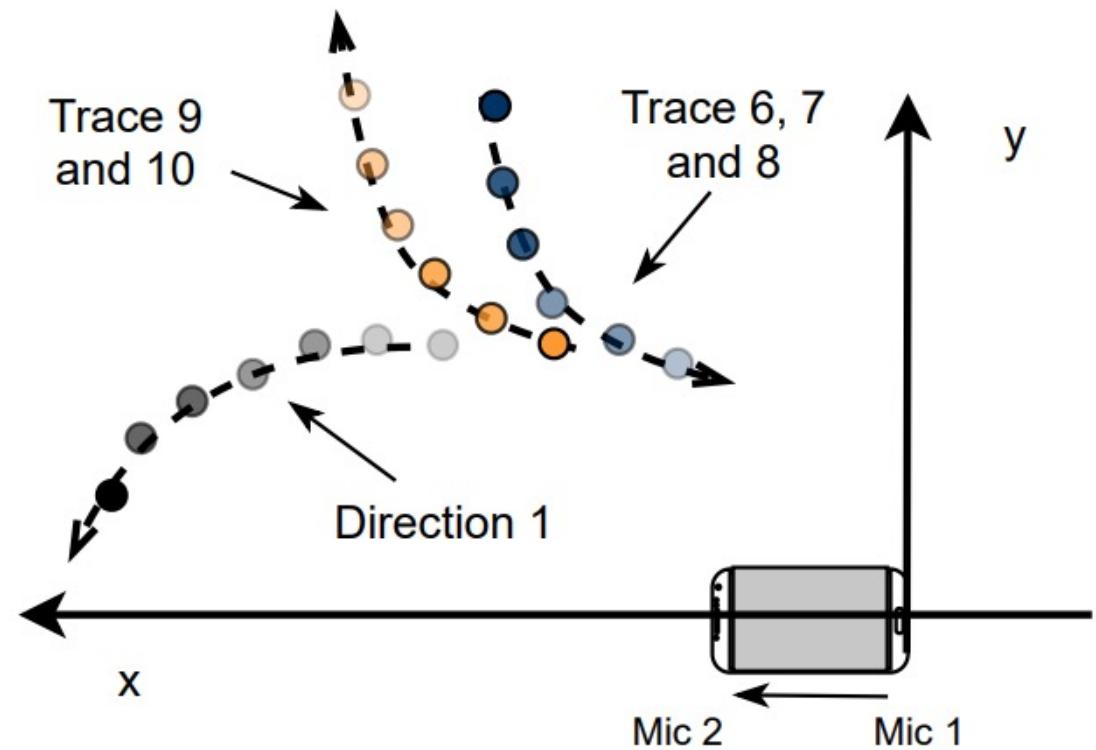
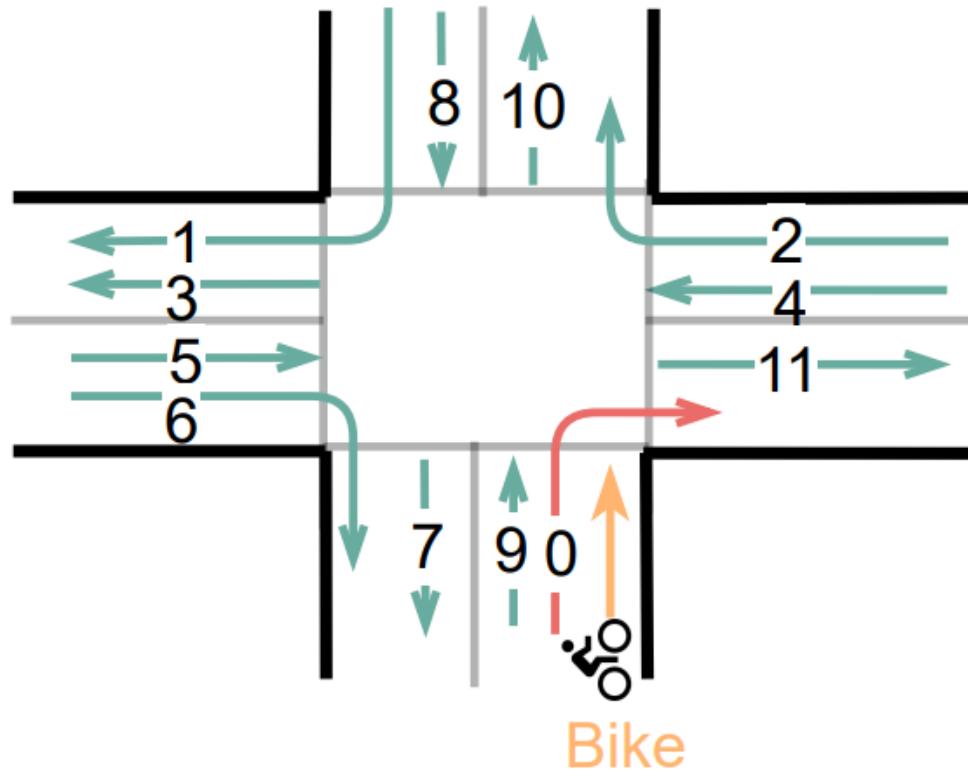
- Right-turn vehicles' curves confined within  $[0, \pi/2]$



	$\theta$	$d$	Range of $\theta$
Region 1	↓	↓	$[0, \pi/2]$
Region 2	↑	↓	$[\pi/2, \pi]$
Region 3	↓	↓	$[0, \pi/2]$
Region 4	↑	↓	$[\pi/2, \pi]$
Right-turn vehicle	↑	↓	$[0, \pi/2]$

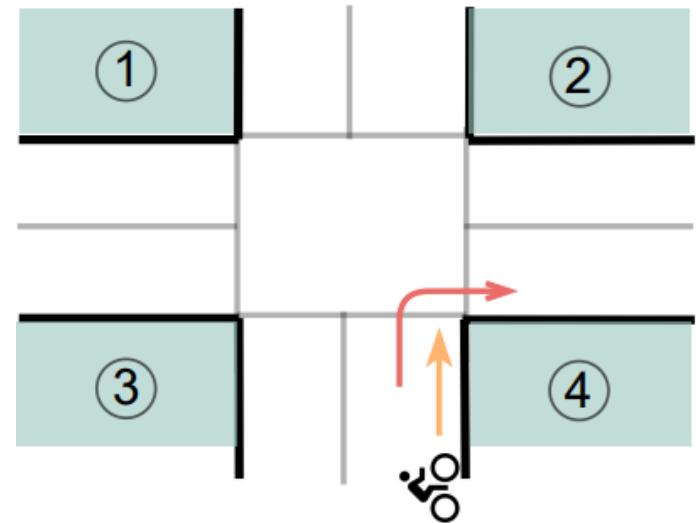
# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

- Construct moving trajectory for all possible vehicle directions

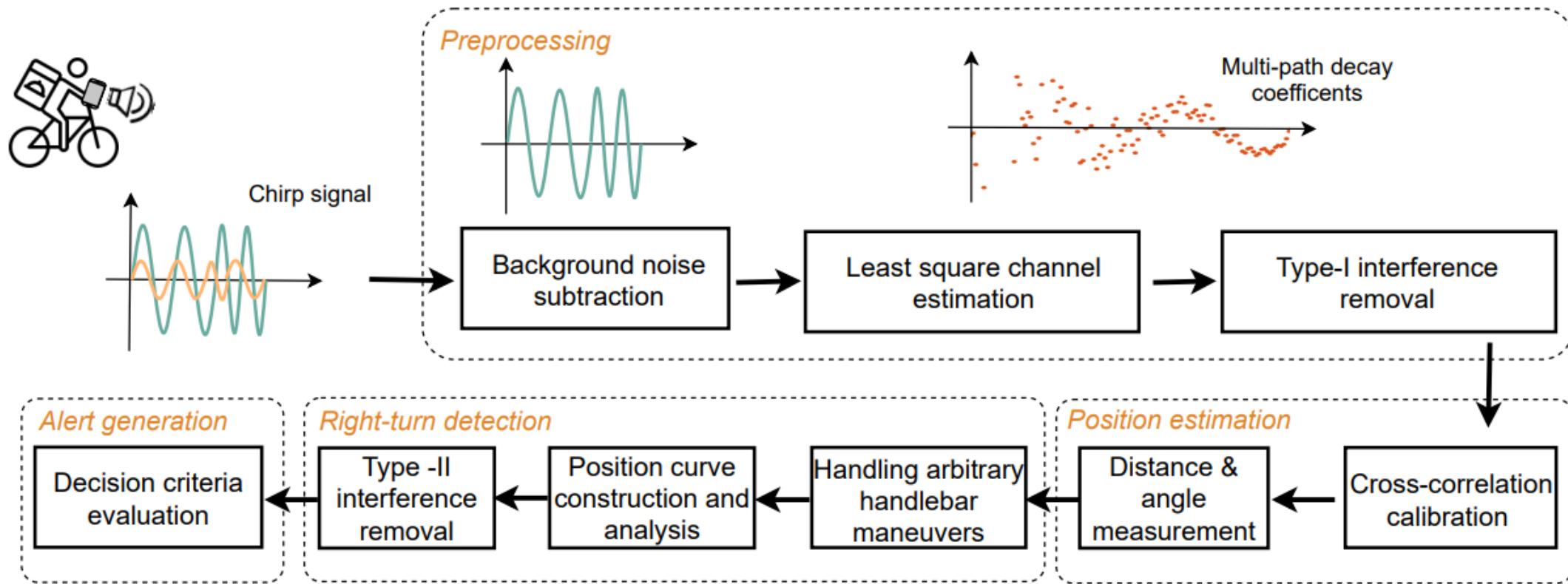


# Challenge 3: Identify right-turn vehicle

- Right-turn vehicles' curves confined within  $[0, \pi/2]$ 
    - Constantly increasing angle
    - Constantly decreasing distance



# Piecing all together



# Evaluation

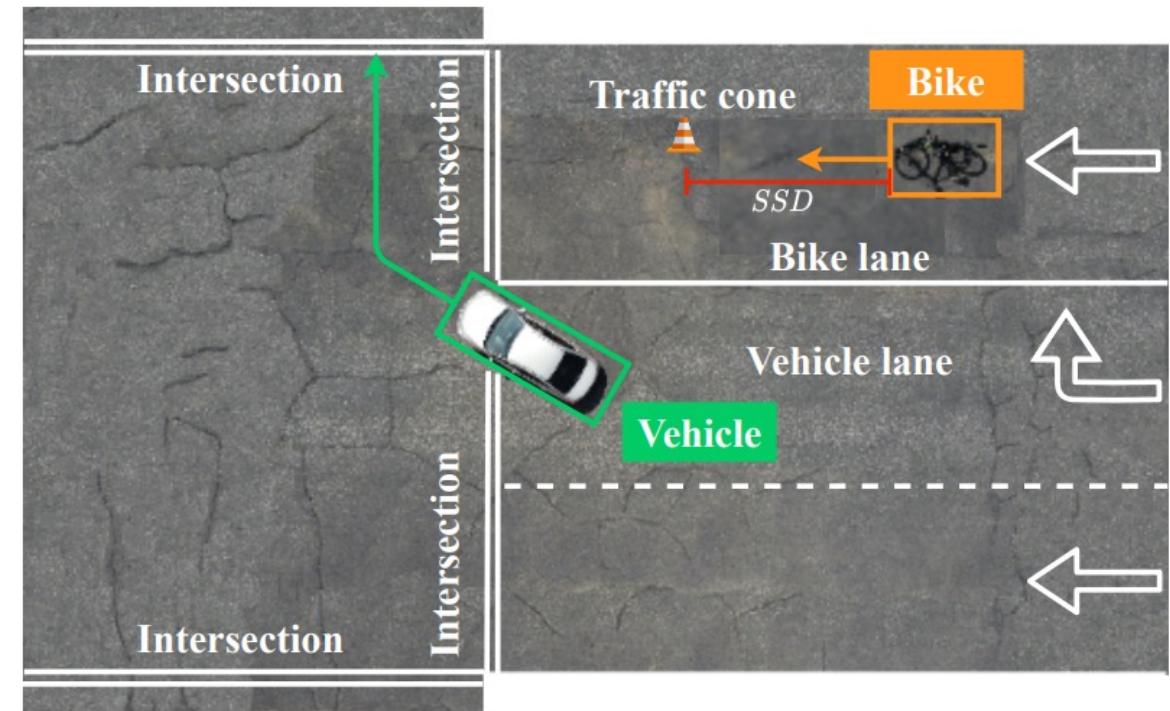
## Overview

- System benchmarks
  - Detection in presence of multiple vehicles
  - Impact of on-road obstacles
- Real-world testing (on-road)
  - Different environments
  - Different times of the day
- Micro benchmarks
  - Computation time
  - Energy consumption
  - Device diversity

# Evaluation

Testing Scenario

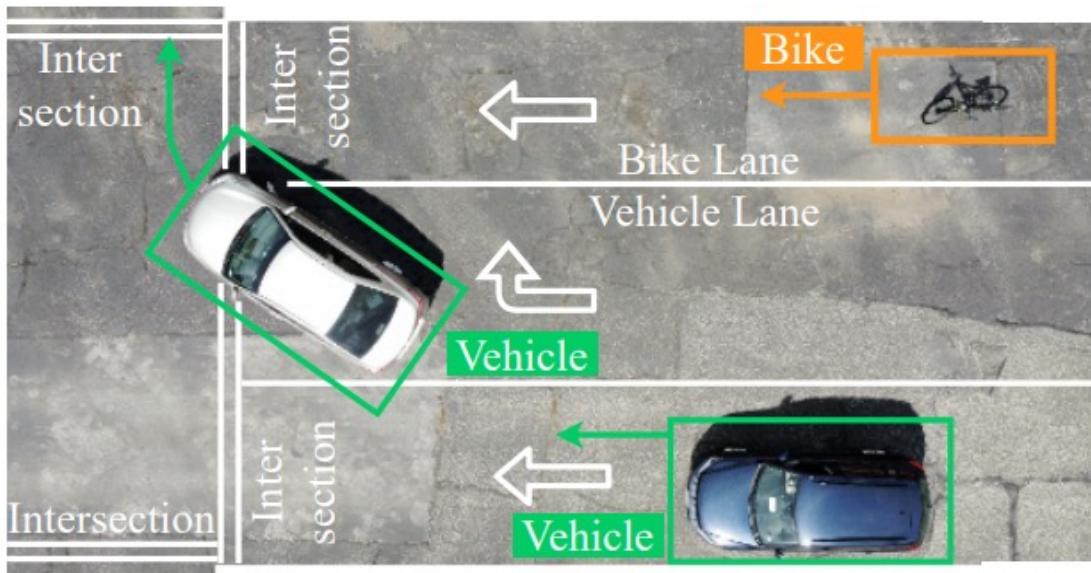
- Evaluation metrics:
  - True Positive Rate (**TPR**):
    - System successfully detects target vehicle before collision
  - True Negative Rate (**TNR**):
    - No false alarms in the absence of target vehicles



# Evaluation

System benchmarks

- Impact of Multi-vehicles
  - Bike riding speed

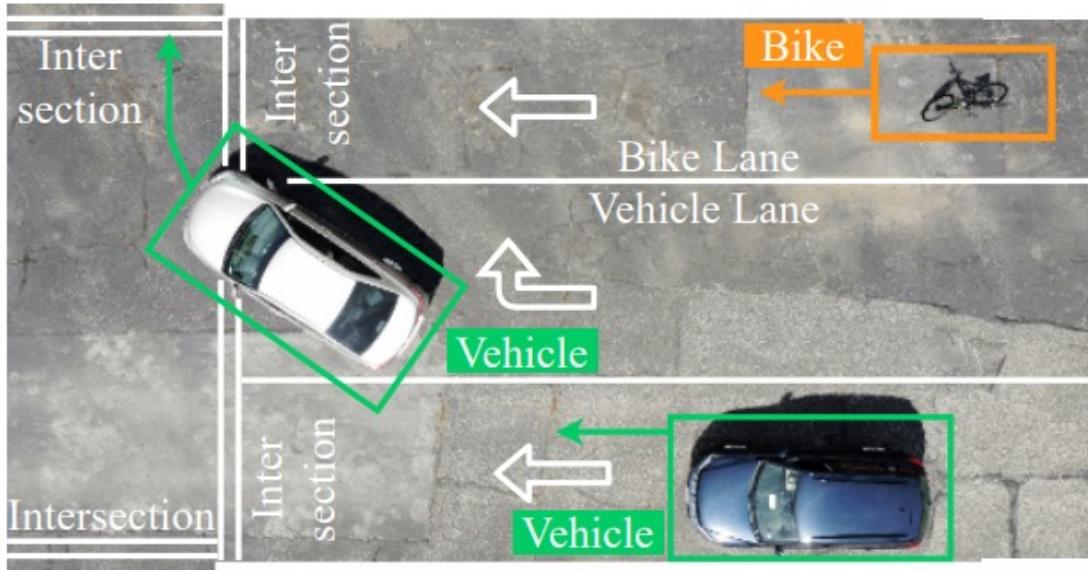


Metric	Bike riding speed (m/s)					Vehicle speed (mph)				
	2	3	4	5	6	5	7	10	12	15
TPR	98%	98%	96%	94%	93%	98%	98%	94%	92%	92%
TNR	90%	88.8%	88%	87.5%	86.95%	90%	88.8%	87%	86.6%	85%

# Evaluation

System benchmarks

- Impact of Multi-vehicles
  - Bike riding speed
  - Vehicle speed



Metric	Bike riding speed (m/s)					Vehicle speed (mph)				
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TNR	90%	88.8%	88%	87.5%	86.95%	90%	88.8%	87%	86.6%	85%

Successfully detect the correct vehicle 92% of the time

# Evaluation

System benchmarks

- Impact of maneuver changes
  - Bike riding speed

Metric	Bike riding speed (m/s)					Relative b-v distances (m)				
	2	3	4	5	6	10	15	20	25	30
TPR	98%	96.8%	95.83%	93.75%	92.3%	96.6%	96%	94.73%	93.9%	93.1%
TNR	90%	89.2%	88.57%	87.5%	87.5%	90.9%	88.4%	88%	86.9%	86.2%



# Evaluation

System benchmarks

- Impact of maneuver changes
  - Bike riding speed
  - Relative distances between bike and vehicle

CycleGuard achieves a minimum of 92.3% TPR and 86.2% TNR

Metric	Bike riding speed (m/s)					Relative b-v distances (m)				
	2	3	4	5	6	10	15	20	25	30
TPR	98%	96.8%	95.83%	93.75%	92.3%	96.6%	96%	94.73%	93.9%	93.1%
TNR	90%	89.2%	88.57%	87.5%	87.5%	90.9%	88.4%	88%	86.9%	86.2%



# Evaluation

Real-world testing

- Real-world environment:
  - Parking lot



Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus areas			Residential areas		
	Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)		
	10	20	30	10	20	30	10	20	30
TPR	98%	96%	92%	96.15%	93.9%	92.3%	95.45%	93.54%	91.83%
TNR	92%	89.7%	88%	91.66%	85.71%	80.55%	90.32%	84.31%	78.84%

# Evaluation

- Real-world environment:
  - Parking lot
  - Campus areas



Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus areas			Residential areas		
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# Evaluation

- Real-world environment:
  - Parking lot
  - Campus areas
  - Residential areas



Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus areas			Residential areas		
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# Evaluation

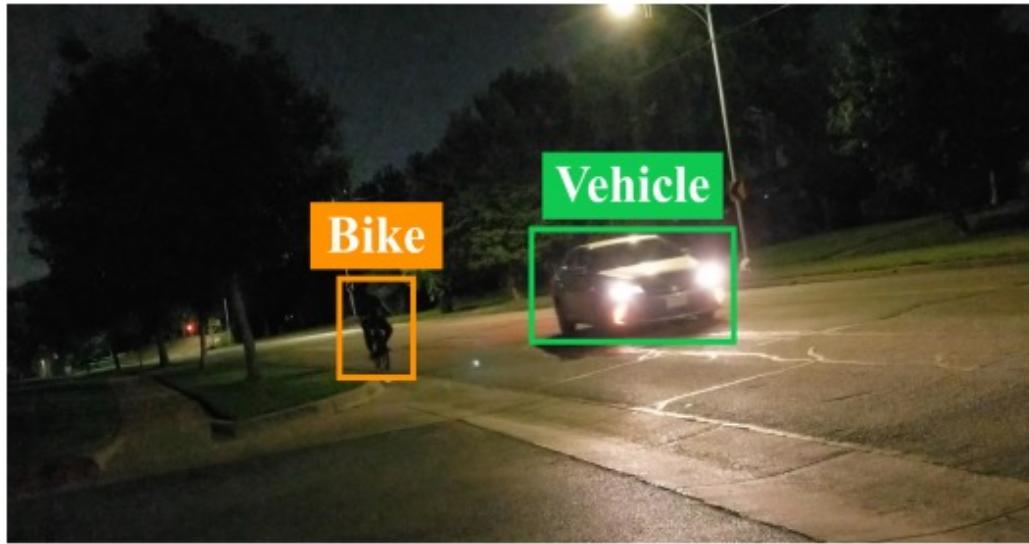
- Real-world environment:
  - Parking lot
  - Campus areas
  - Residential areas

Acceptable real-world  
performance

Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus areas			Residential areas		
	Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)		
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TNR	92%	89.7%	88%	91.66%	85.71%	80.55%	90.32%	84.31%	78.84%

# Evaluation

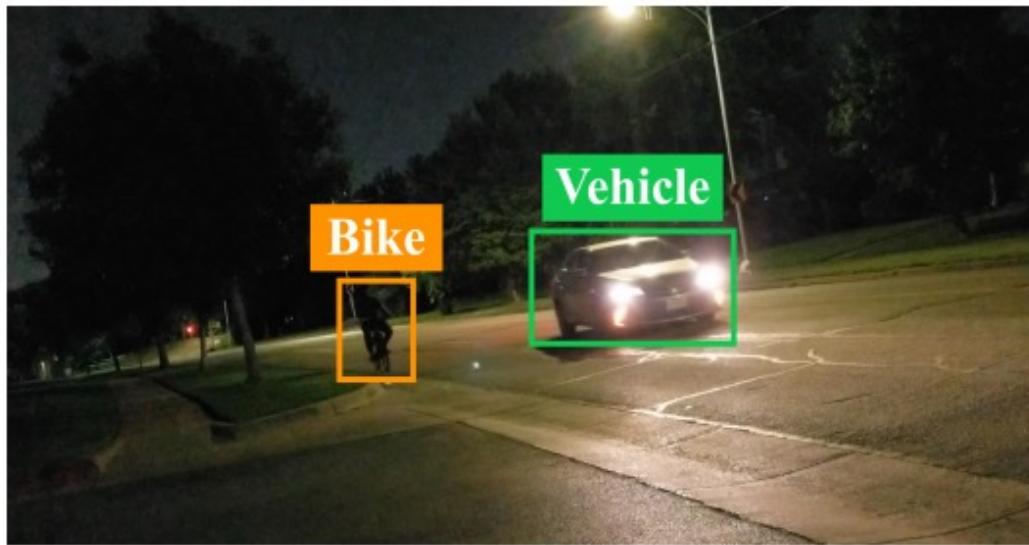
- Testing during night-time:
  - Parking lot



Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus roads		
	Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
TPR	98%	96.67%	92.3%	96.55%	94.1%	92.85%
TNR	93.9%	91.66%	90.9%	91.89%	86.36%	81.48%

# Evaluation

- Testing during night-time:
  - Parking lot
  - Campus roads

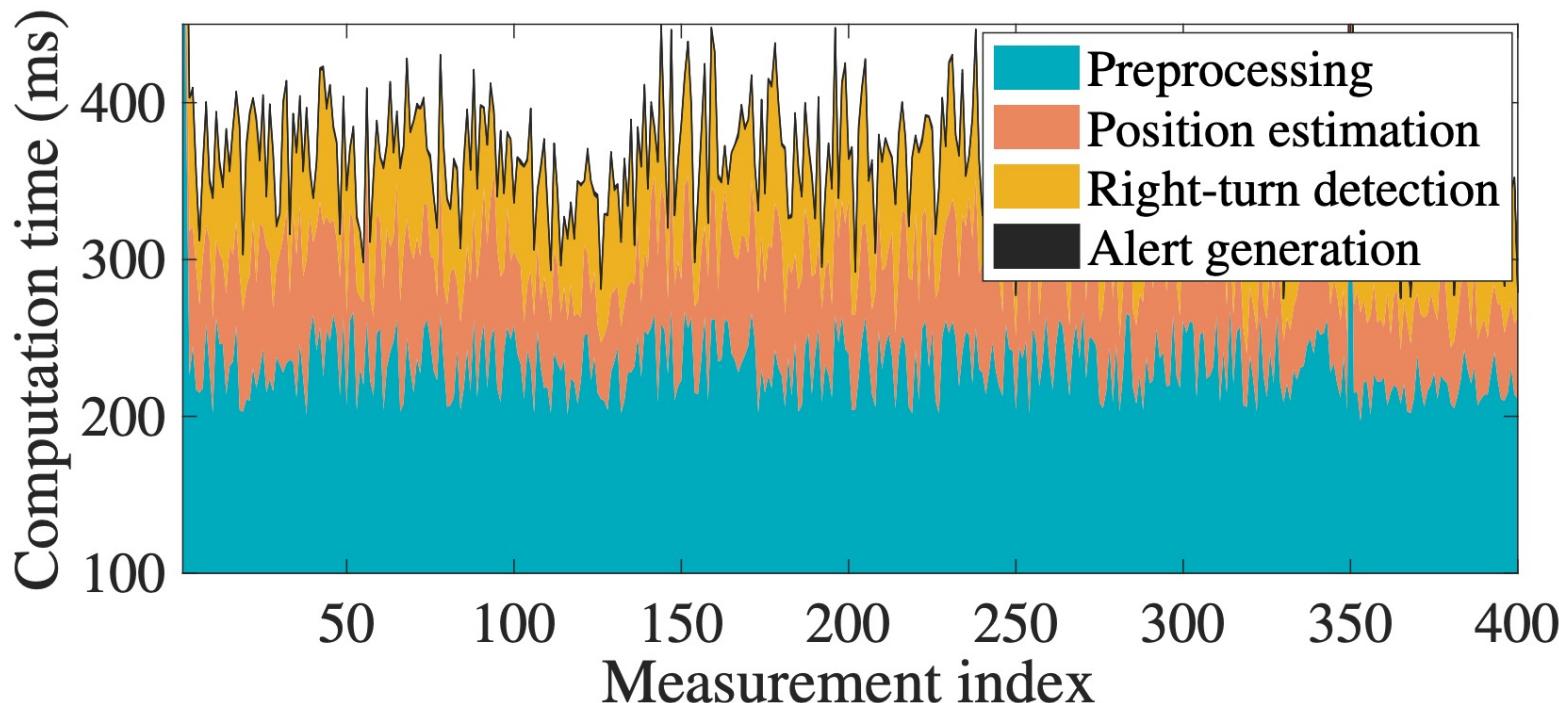


Metric/Setting	Parking lot			Campus roads		
	Relative b-v distances (m)			Relative b-v distances (m)		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
TPR	98%	96.67%	92.3%	96.55%	94.1%	92.85%
TNR	93.9%	91.66%	90.9%	91.89%	86.36%	81.48%

Acceptable real world  
performance at night

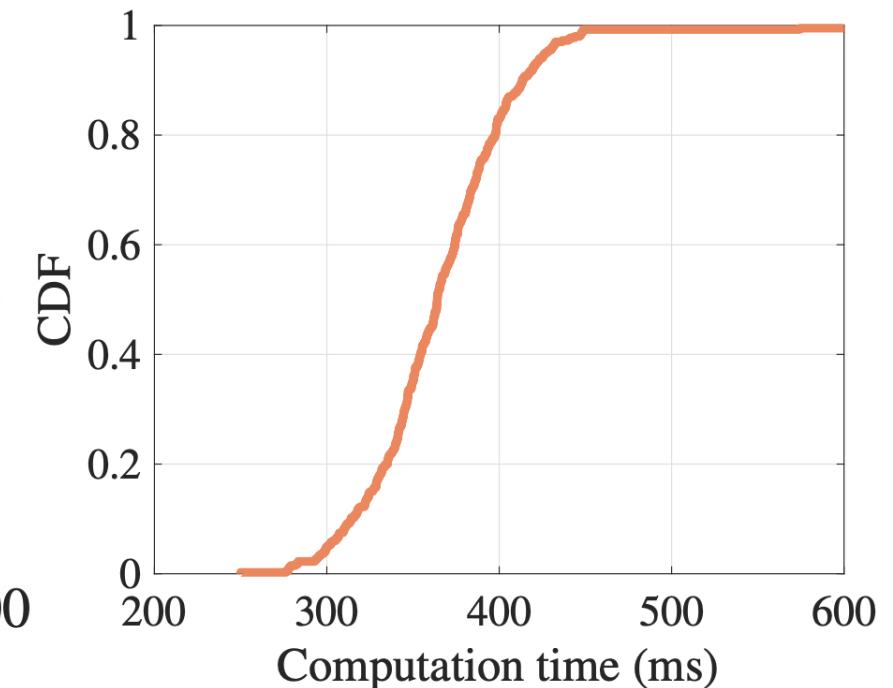
# Evaluation

- Micro benchmarks
  - Computation time



Acceptable time consumption:

- Average : 365ms
- 90% measurements  $\leq$  414ms



# Evaluation

- Micro benchmarks
  - Computation time
  - Energy consumption

Acceptable power consumption:  
- 30-min usage: 242mAh

Application	CycleGuard	Video calling	Video streaming	Web browsing
Energy consumption	242 mAh	563 mAh	422 mAh	242 mAh
Percentage	7%	16%	12%	7%

# Evaluation

- Micro benchmarks
  - Computation time
  - Energy consumption
  - Different devices

Portable to other devices

Phone	Battery capacity	Energy consumption	Percentage
Pixel XL	3450 mAh	242 mAh	7%
Galaxy S8	3000 mAh	270 mAh	9%

# Conclusion

- We presented a **low-cost, accurate, portable** system to continuously detect potential right-hook collisions
- Our solution relies on **emitting ultrasonic signals** via a **cheap external speaker** to analyze the vehicular reflections, which **cannot affect human hearing**, but can be **captured by standard smartphone hardware**
- We conduct extensive **experiments** in both controlled parking lots and **on real-roads** in low-light conditions
- Our system achieves up to **95%** real-world accuracy and is **energy friendly**

# Thanks for your attention!

For more details, please refer to our paper

For Demo video: <https://bit.ly/3BbsPRE>