# WatchOut:

Facilitating Safe
Driving Behaviors with Social Support

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### Background

- Bad driving behaviors are a major cause of traffic accidents, many of which result in fatalities.
- Drivers behave relatively safely when they are being monitored or feedback of their behavior is provided.

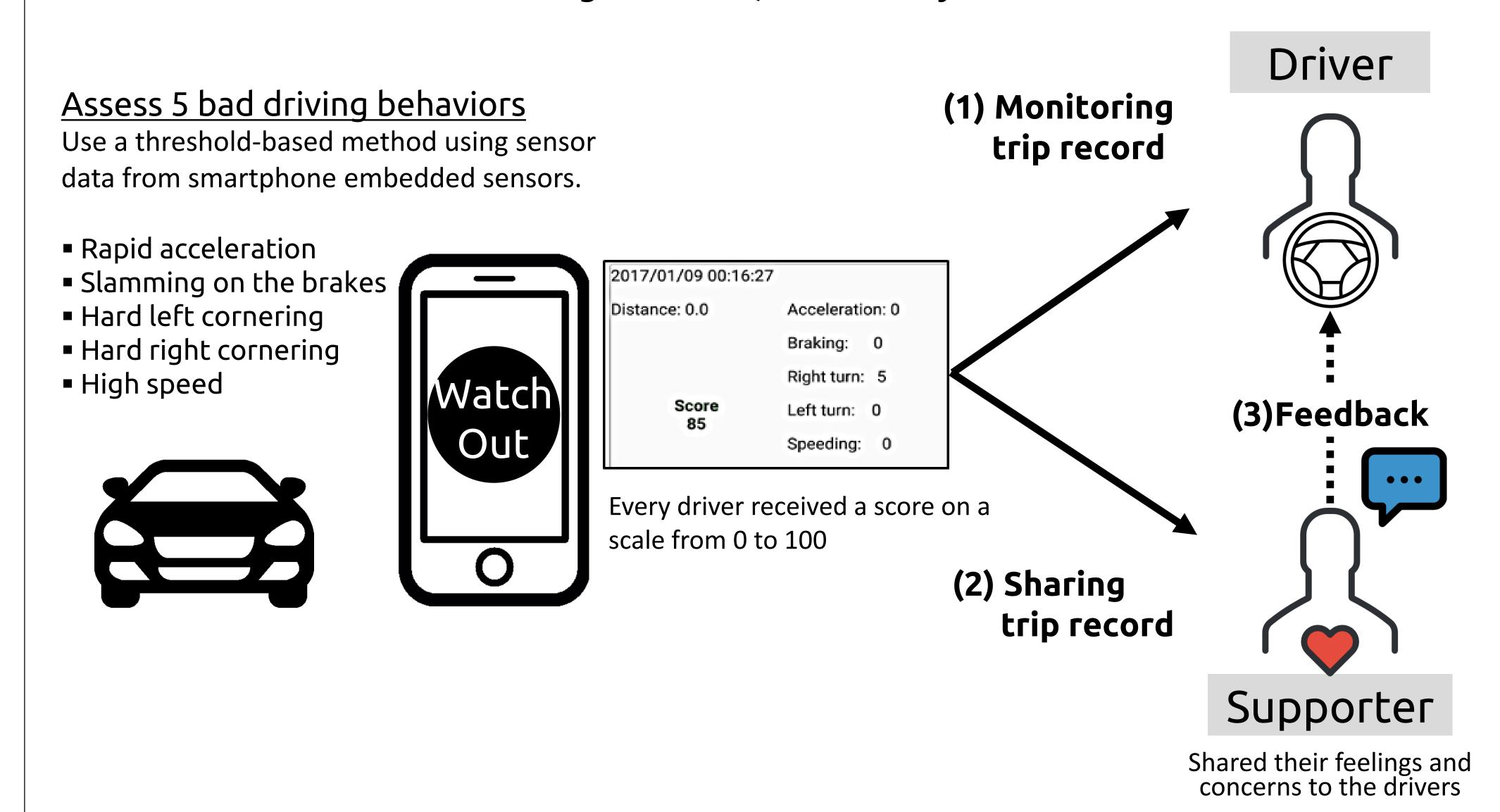
### **Research Objectives**

Intends to encourage safe driving habits by

- Increasing drivers' self-awareness about their own driving habits
- Receiving supportive feedback on their driving behaviors from a loved one as an intervention method.

## System Design

Developed a novel Android prototype mobile application called WatchOut to assess bad driving behaviors, increase the awareness of a driver's own driving behaviors, and identify the influence of intimate' social reinforcement.

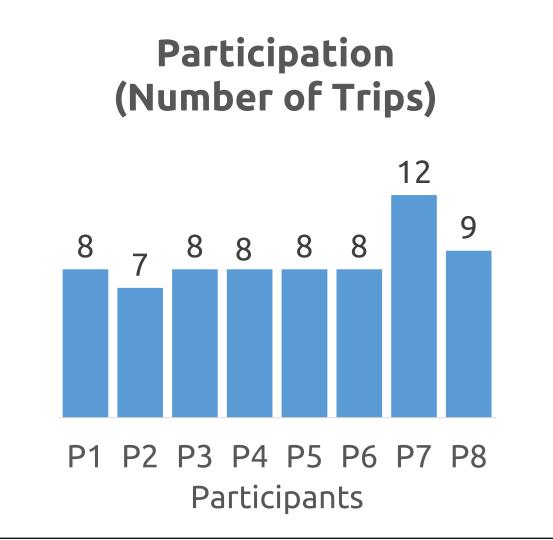


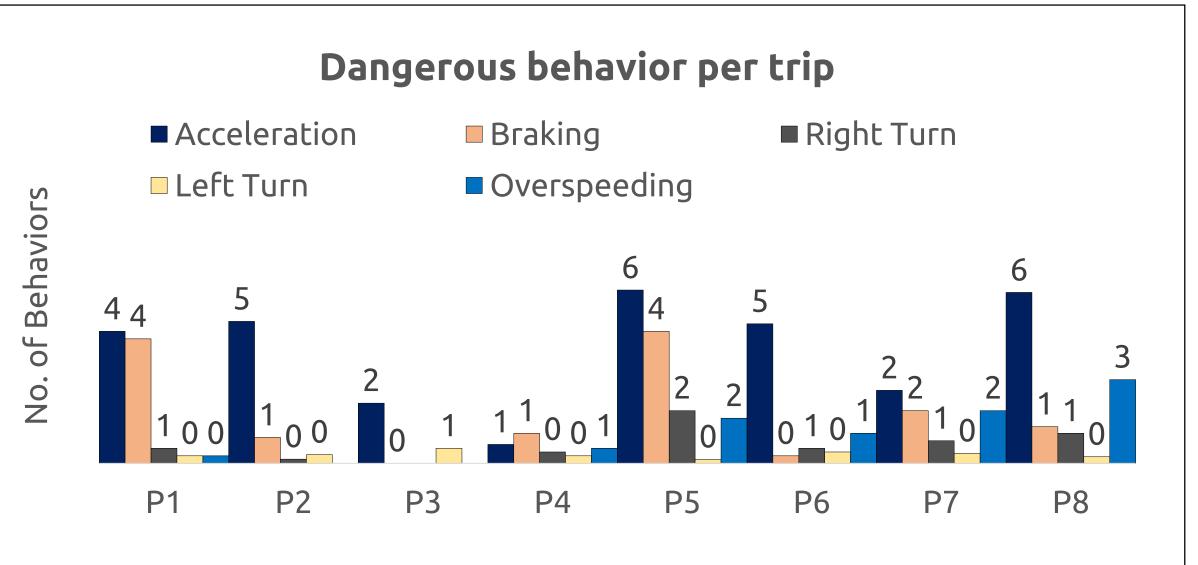
Examine the effectiveness of the following in driving behavior changes:

- The self-awareness of a driver's own driving habits with a smartphone sensor-based driving assessment
- How a person's intimate social reinforcement (e.g social attention and affection) can influence driving behaviors

## Field Experiment

- Recruited drivers & driver's intimate person to support the interventions
- 3 married couples, 2 parent-child couples,
   1 unmarried couple, 1 sibling couple, and
   1 pair of friends
- Conducted field experiment 5 days





### Results

Survey results on filed experiment (N=16)

### I. Social Reinforcement in Driving Behavior

- 1. The scored objective feedback provided by WatchOut helped to positively change driving behaviors
- 2. Drivers agreed that the supporters became aware of the driver's behaviors and that in turn positively influenced their driving
- 3. The objective feedback from supporters helped driver drive more safely
- 4. Supporter agreed that they could provide the driver with more objective and effective feedback than before

### II. Social Face in Driving Behavior

- 1. A driver's social face is important in keeping good driving behaviors:

  Drivers hope to look good to their closest person and to be regarded as a responsible person
  - \* Social Face: the face is a mask that changes depending on the audience and the variety of social interactions

# Future work

- New features can enhance the effectiveness of driving behavioral change
- May compare the pair group with the driver group without social reinforcement
- May investigate the outcome's dependence on the relationship between driver-supporter including the powerrelationship between the two partners
- Need to cover a longer period to examine lasting behavioral changes
- Improve privacy protection