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# Inferring Aggressive Driving Behavior from Smartphone Data – Smartphone’s sensors meet Inception

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## 1 Motivation

Road accidents occur all over the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that every year approximately 1.35 million people die and between 20 to 50 million people suffer injuries as a result of road traffic crashes[1]. The causes of these fatalities are varied, but the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety has found that more than a half of the fatal accidents that occurred between 2003 and 2007 (just in the U.S.) were related to aggressive driving behavior [2]. To mitigate these problems, we need to raise awareness of aggressive driving behavior and provide driving feedback on an individual level.

This study aims to exploit driving data collected from sensors embedded in our own smartphones. In this way, the smartphone can be made to act as our copilot and make us aware of risky decisions that we make behind the driving wheel. By using smartphones rather than, for example, a) Aftermarket systems [3, 4], b) On Board Diagnostics (OBD) systems [3][5][6] and, c) Vehicle-mounted video cameras [7][8], we achieve broad applicability of this study by allowing practically any driver in any car to be supported by this technology. As we know, smartphones come integrated with a variety of sensors, some of which (accelerometer, gyroscope, magnetometer) can be used to measure accelerations and forces that the smartphone itself experiences [9]. There are several reports in the literature where they following this approach of analyzing, via Machine Learning pipelines, all available smartphone sensor data to infer the driving action that might have caused it [10, 11, 7, 5, 12, 13]. This is known as Maneuver Classification. By solving this classification problem we can then attempt to generate a more informative Driving behavior profile, which could be used to measure improvements against oneself or within a community of friends under a gamification scenario, or even to make profit of this information by reducing insurance premiums [14].

## 2 Problem Statement

The processing of smartphone sensor data is not trivial, the signal-to-noise ratio is commonly low. A common approach to deal with this problem is to use only one sensor at a time to reduce information overload [11], then evaluating which sensor has better capabilities to detect certain driving maneuvers. On the other hand, there are studies where the data from different sensors is concatenated within the same feature vector [15]. This then enables a multitude of discriminative algorithms to relate the data to specific phenomena. In this study, we attempt to improve how this learning problem is approached by means of two original ideas:

- Design a Gated mechanism able to learn to discriminate what sensor data to use and what to ignore, then efficiently balancing the available sensor data
- Exploit the native structure of sensor data, which is a time series, by means of ad-hoc state-of-the-art approaches such as the InceptionTIME Neural Network

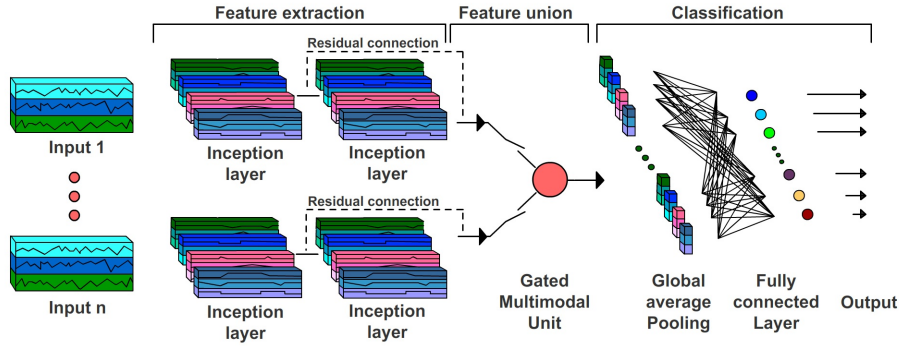


Figure 1: Proposed model with 2 inceptions layers and a Gated multimodal unit.

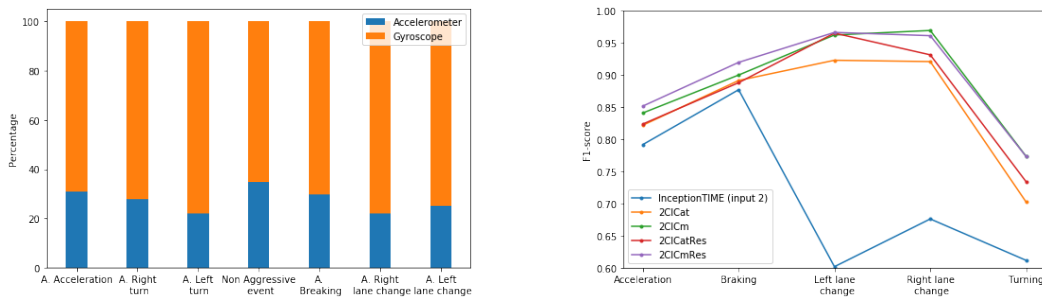


Figure 2: (a)Gated multimodal units performance; (b) Comparison of different models on several driving maneuvers

35 Both of these innovations are integrated within the same deep architecture. The intuition behind this  
 36 workflow is based on the success that InceptionTime[16] has showed as a state-of-the-art method to  
 37 classify generic time series, and also on results that show that Gated Multimodal Units [17] improve  
 38 classification performance by finding intermediate representations based on data from different  
 39 modalities.

### 40 3 Experiments and Results

41 For illustration purposes, Figure 1 shows a schematic proposal of the integration of the ideas just  
 42 stated. For the evaluation of these architectures we selected two state-of-the-art datasets used to detect  
 43 driver’s aggressive maneuvers: Ferreira dataset [11] and the UAH-dataset [18]. As we have stated,  
 44 the literature has not envisioned mechanisms to explicitly discriminate parts of or all sensor data that  
 45 is useless for classification. When this model receives Accelerometer and Gyroscope data as input it  
 46 learns to weight how much importance it needs to pay to each data source (similar to an Attention  
 47 mechanism!); this phenomenon can be observed in Figure 2(a). As can be seen, the gated unit learns  
 48 the specific amount of source data to flow through it for each individual maneuver (x-axis). As  
 49 expected, turning and lane changing events, that is, events involving some kind of rotation, rely more  
 50 on gyroscopes than braking and acceleration events. The next experiment deals with classification  
 51 performance of different models based on the  $F_1$  score. We evaluate several variations of models that  
 52 incorporate InceptionTIME and gated units on the two aforementioned datasets. In this study we will  
 53 show the results on the UAH-dataset. Figure 2(b) presents a comparison among different architecture  
 54 proposals (all starting with code name "2C1") against the original and robust InceptionTIME network.  
 55 It can be observed that all the proposed models produce very competitive performance, and in all  
 56 cases outperforming InceptionTIME. At this point, we are focused on reducing the computational  
 57 complexity of these models to allow them to be executed on regular smartphones.

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