

Using behavioural observation studies to evaluate (vulnerable) road users' safety

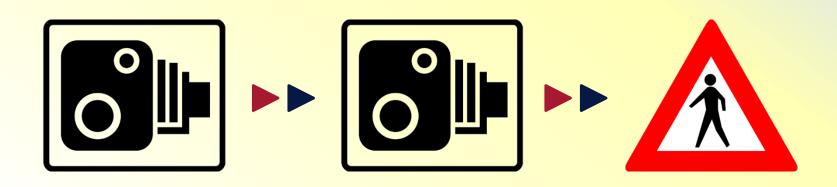
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ICTCT, 22/10/2016, Lund, Sweden





# Observing observation of road user behavior



A scoping review on current practices in scientific literature



## Our objectives

- Provide an overview of conducted road user behaviour observation studies
- Assess the usefulness of behavioural observation
- 3. Identify topics and behavioural indicators
- 4. Prevent duplicate research efforts



### Behavioural observation?

Actual (objective) traffic safety	Proxy for actual (objective) traffic safety		
Naturalistic data collection		Controlled data collection	
Revealed		Simulated	Stated
	<b>Behavioural Observation</b>	Driving Cimulator	Questionnaires
Crash data	Traffic conflict observation	Driving Simulator Microsimulation	Interviews
	Naturalistic Driving		Focus groups

Studies observing road user behaviour, in which the road users are not informed (beforehand) of their participation in the research (experiment).



## Our focus

### **Traffic Safety**

### Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Not uncommon
- Available resources
- Publication bias
- Study objective

### English



# Methodology

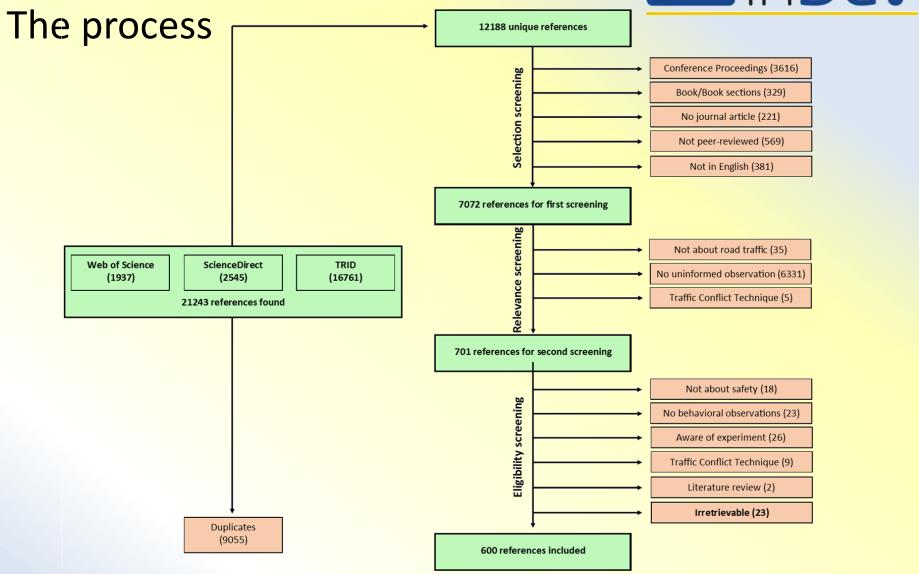
### A scoping review

- To "map rapidly the key concepts underpinning a research area and the main sources and types of evidence available". (Mays et al, 2001)
- A systematic literature retrieval process

#### Databases used

- Web of Science
- ScienceDirect
- TRID

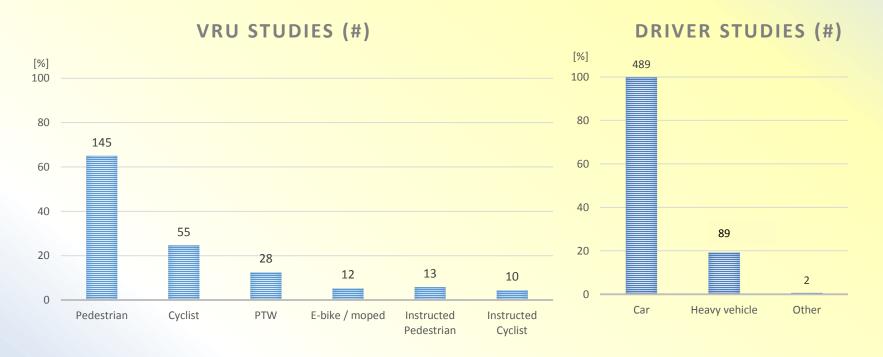






### Road user focus

- 223/600 (37%) studies included at least one VRU
- 490/600 (82%) studies included at least one Driver

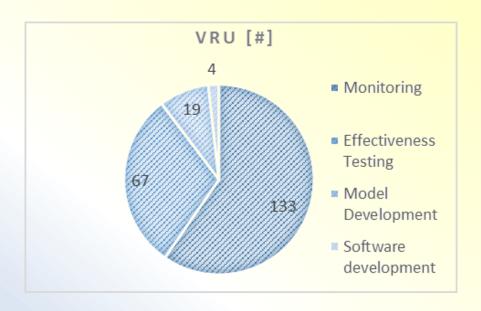


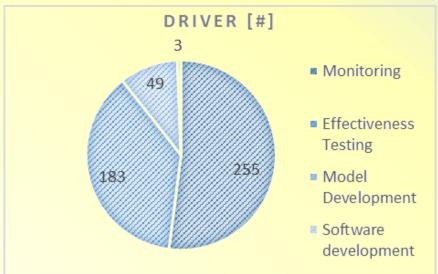


# Their purpose

### The main goal of behavioural observation studies

 Software development in certain papers a side-goal or not directly linked to behavioural observation!







## Common topics

#### **VRU** studies

• Crossing (39%)

• Yielding (22%)

• Red light running (10%)

#### **Driver studies**

• Speed (16%)

• Yielding (13%)

Crossing (13%)



# Common topics & indicators

#### **VRU** studies

• Crossing (3)	9%	)
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- Yielding (22%)
- Red light running (10%)

### **VRU** studies

•	Red	light	running	(33%)
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- Yielding (32%)
- Looking (22%)

#### Driver studies

•	Speed	(16%)
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- Yielding (13%)
- Crossing (13%)

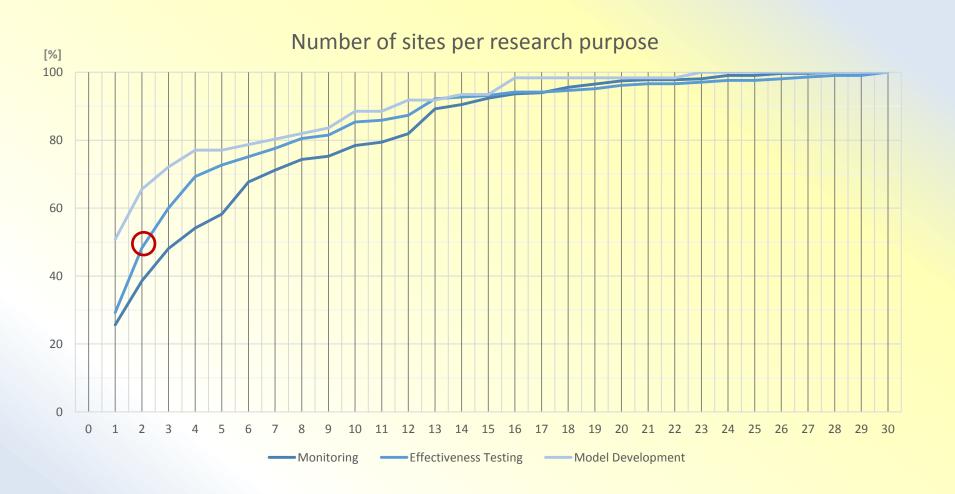
### **Driver studies**

•	Speed	(60%)
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- Yielding (16%)
- Red light running (12%)



## Testing sites





# Reporting

### Missing information

- Heavy vehicles
- Observation period

Week vs weekend (18% VRU; 47% Driver)

Day vs night (14% VRU; 33% Driver)

Peak vs off-peak (22% VRU; 53% Driver)

- Sample sizes
  - 13% VRU; 25% Driver

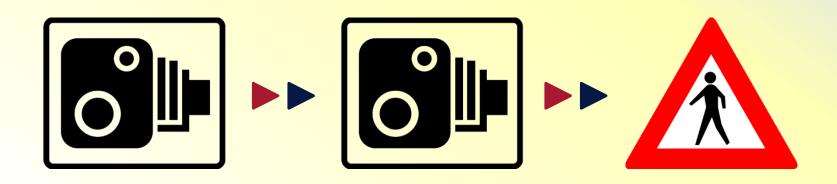


# **SWOT analysis**

	Positive	Negative
Internal factors	Strengths Behavioural and situational processes Natural driving behaviour Data quality	Weaknesses Control of traffic events Data processing Control groups Bias
External factors	Opportunities  Amount of data  Automated video-analysis software  Combination with other methodologies	<u>Threats</u> Privacy legislation Validity



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## Thank you very much for your attention!













