

# HORN-OK-PLEASE

An *Acoustic* Sensor Based Road *Congestion Detection*  
technique in *Developing Regions*

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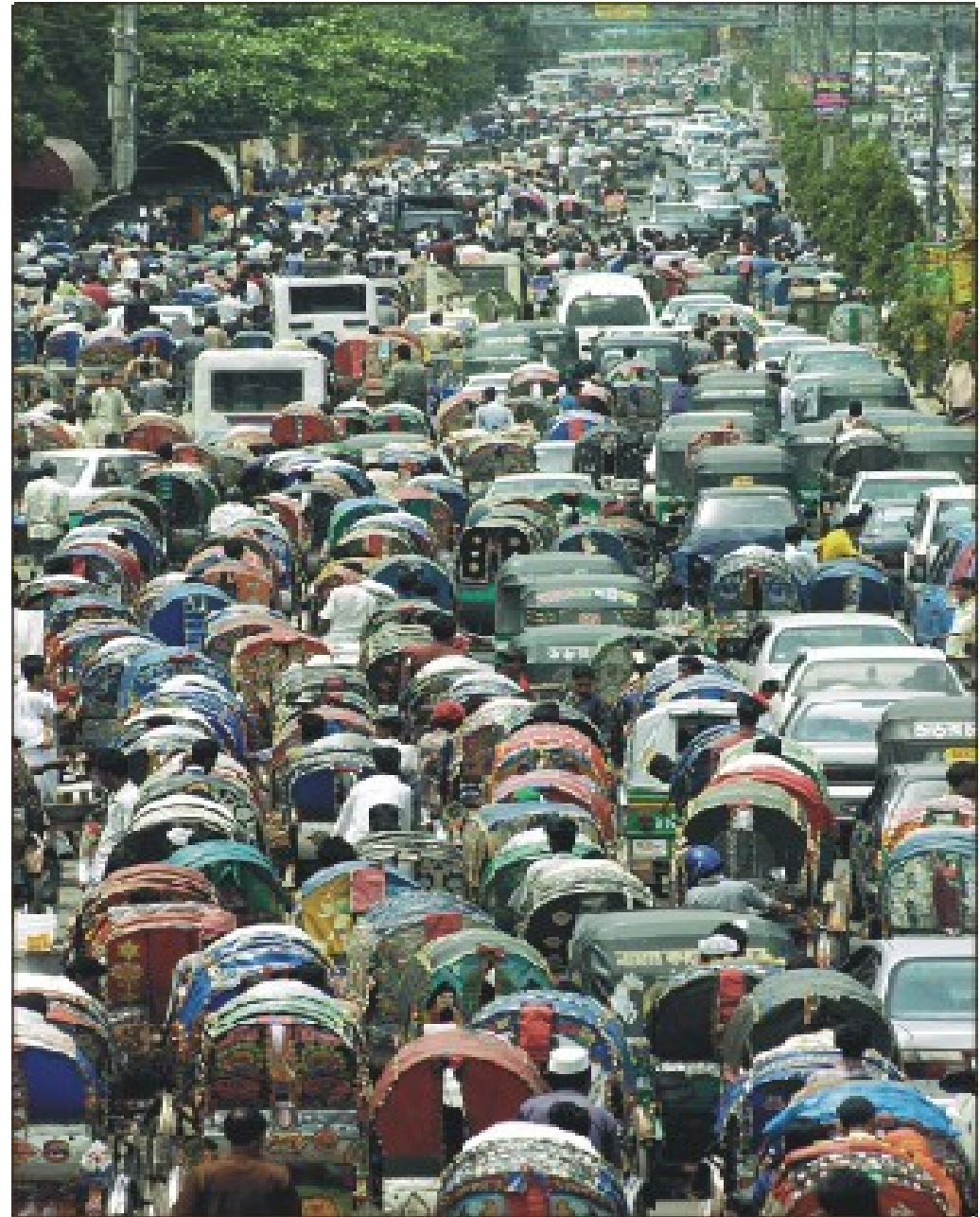
Why is solving this problem **important** ?

**“Congestion in Developing  
Regions”**

# Armenia



# Bangladesh : Dhaka



# Brazil : Sao Paolo



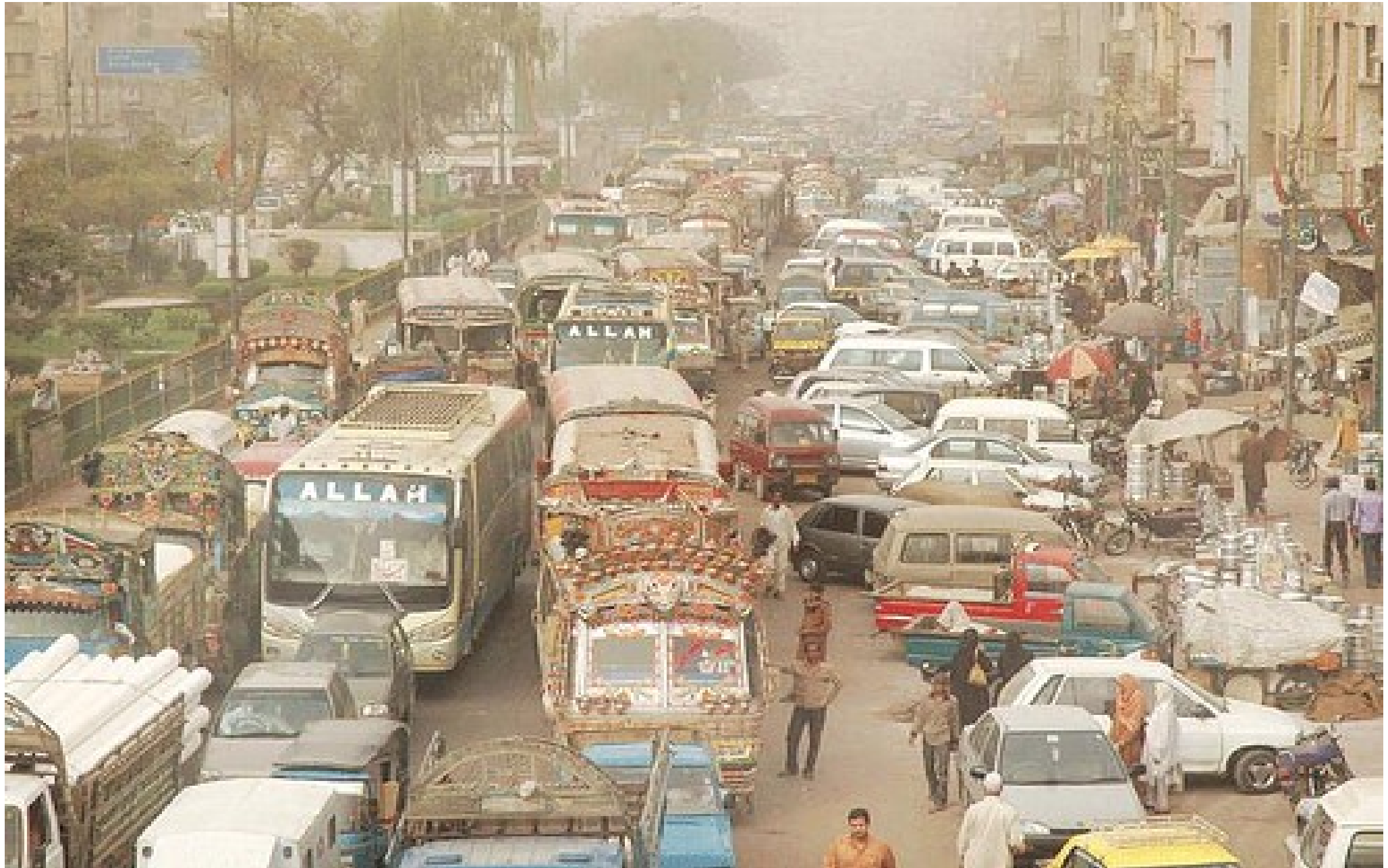
# China



# Egypt : Cairo



# Pakistan : Karachi





# Mexico



# Nepal : Kathmandu



# Sri Lanka : Candy



# India : Delhi



# India : Mumbai



# India : Chennai



# India : Bangalore



# India : Hyderabad





# Image Sources:

- [http://www.2spare.com/item\\_92761.aspx](http://www.2spare.com/item_92761.aspx)
- <http://freshclick.wordpress.com/2009/04/10/traffic-jam-in-dhaka-bangladesh/>
- <http://www.thedailystar.net/story.php?nid=111122>
- [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-12/09/content\\_502114.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-12/09/content_502114.htm)
- <http://nerdnirvana.org/tag/traffic-jam/>
- <http://visionsfortomorrow.net/2008/10/not-everyone-can-have-a-car-if.php>
- [http://evworld.com/press/trafficjam\\_cairo\\_egypt.jpg](http://evworld.com/press/trafficjam_cairo_egypt.jpg)
- <http://blackberrytravelog.blogspot.com/2009/11/san-luis-potosi-to-lake-chapala-end-of.html>
- <http://www.hinduonnet.com/fline/fl2119/stories/20040924000605800.htm>
- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/moody72/2285323145/>
- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/73047728@N00/65928682>
- <http://www.team-bhp.com/forum/international-automotive-scene/35403-awful-traffic-jams-around-world.html>

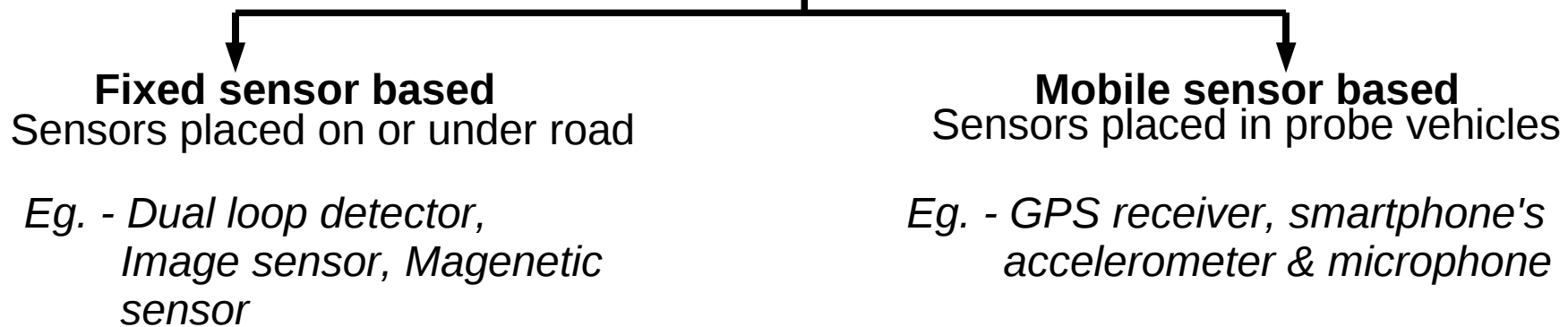
**Why is solving this problem **interesting** ?**

**“Issues with Existing Solutions”**

# Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)

- ◆ Infrastructure growth slow due to lack of funds & space, bureaucracy
- ◆ ITS uses *technology* to alleviate problems

## State of the art in ITS



### Challenges in developing regions

- × High installation and maintenance *costs*
- × Assumption of *lane based system*
- × Assumption of *low variability in vehicle speed*
- × *Low proliferation* of GPS and smartphones
- × *Lack of incentive* in participatory sensing
- × *Power drainage* issue of phones
- × *Privacy* issues

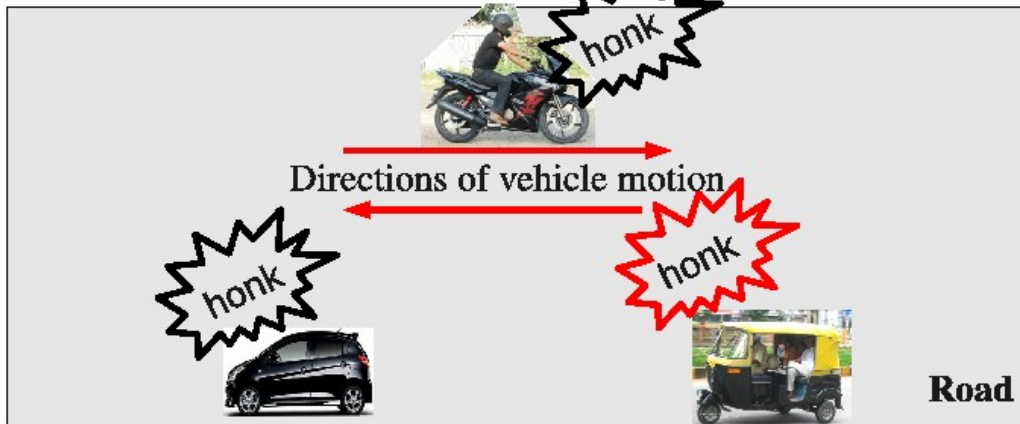
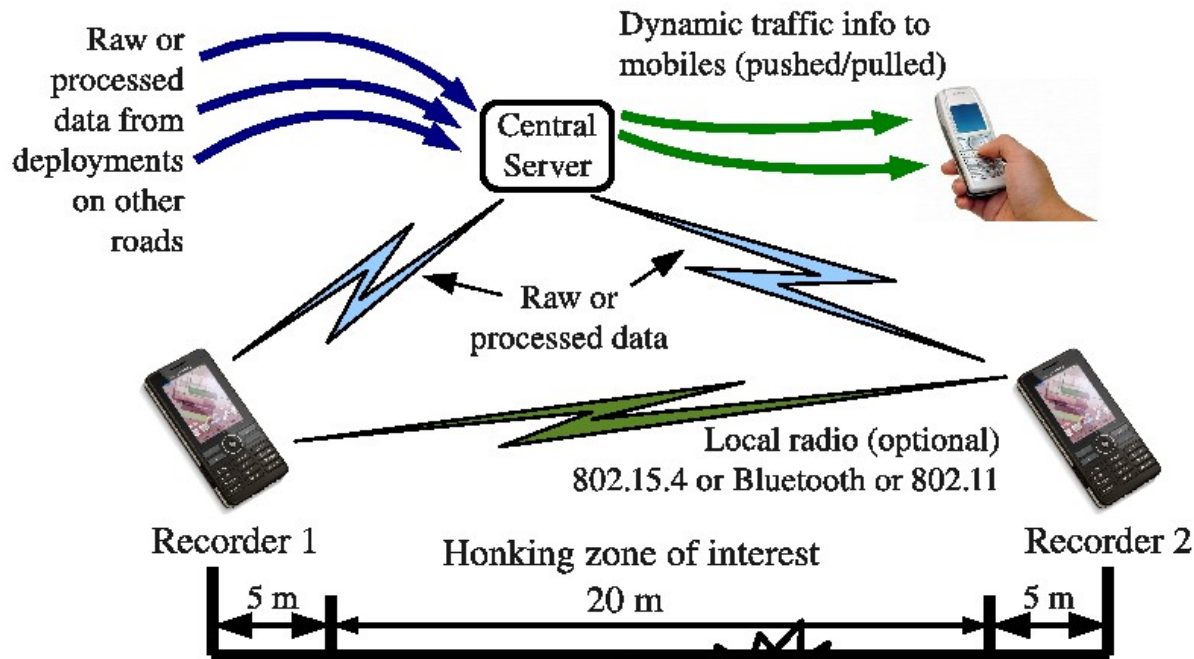
**No one technique can be used to solve an issue of this magnitude. Techniques have to be used in conjunction with one another, based on applicability and ease of deployment**

# Our Approach : Using *Acoustic* Sensors

**Chaotic Traffic is Noisy !!**

Can we exploit this ??

# System Architecture : Doppler Shift of Honks



Envisioned Architecture

Receding honk

$$f_1 = \frac{v}{(v + v_s)} \times f_0$$

Approaching honk

$$f_2 = \frac{v}{(v - v_s)} \times f_0$$

$$v_s = \frac{(f_2 - f_1)}{(f_2 + f_1)} \times v$$

Underlying Theory

# Work Done (Jul-Dec, 2009)

## Empirical Data Collection

- ➔ Are there *enough* honks on road?
- ➔ What is the honk *frequency range*?
- ➔ What is the average *honk length*?

## Algorithm Design & Evaluation

- ➔ How to *detect honks* in the presence of road noise?
- ➔ How to *match honks* across the two recorders?
- ➔ How to *extract f1 & f2* from a pair of matched honks?
- ➔ *How accurate* are our speed estimates?

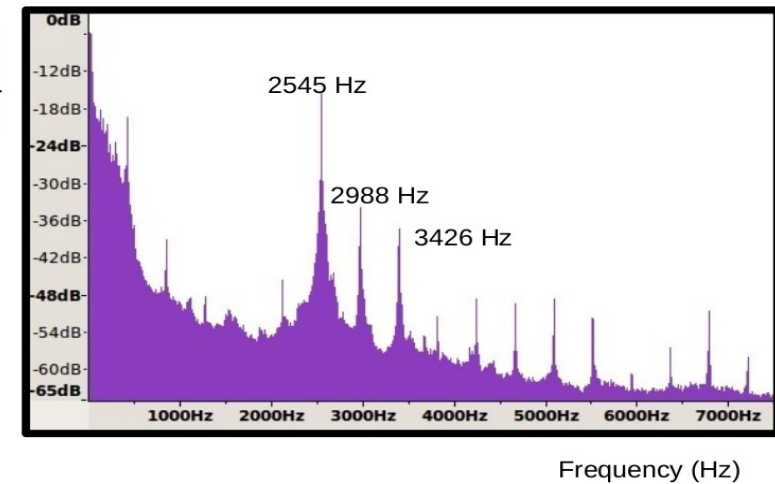
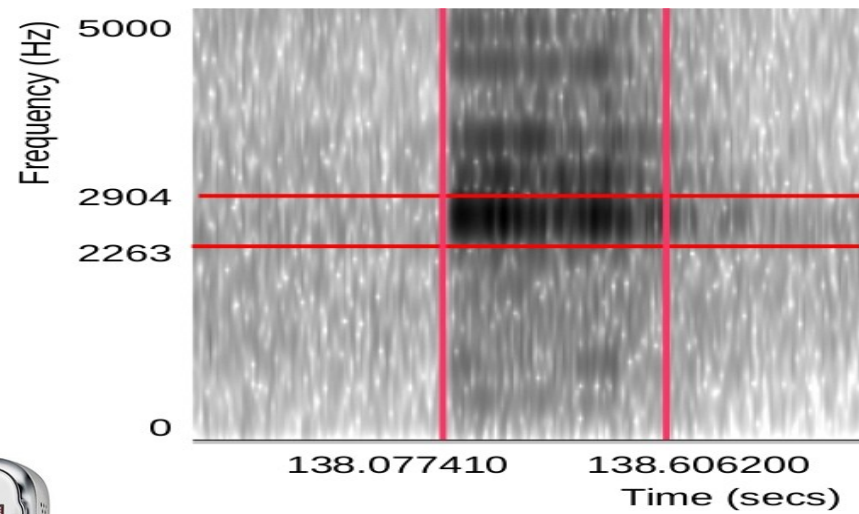
## Testing Applicability on Real Roads

- ➔ Do speed estimates from city roads *represent traffic state*?
- ➔ Can some metrics *distinguish congestion from freeflow*?
- ➔ Can we detect traffic state for *individual directions* on a bidirectional road?
- ➔ Will metric values for congested and freeflow be *statistically different*?
- ➔ Can we *classify* new traffic data into based on historical data? What is the *classification accuracy*?
- ➔ Can we detect the *onset of congestion*?

Experimental approach used all through

# Hardware and Software used

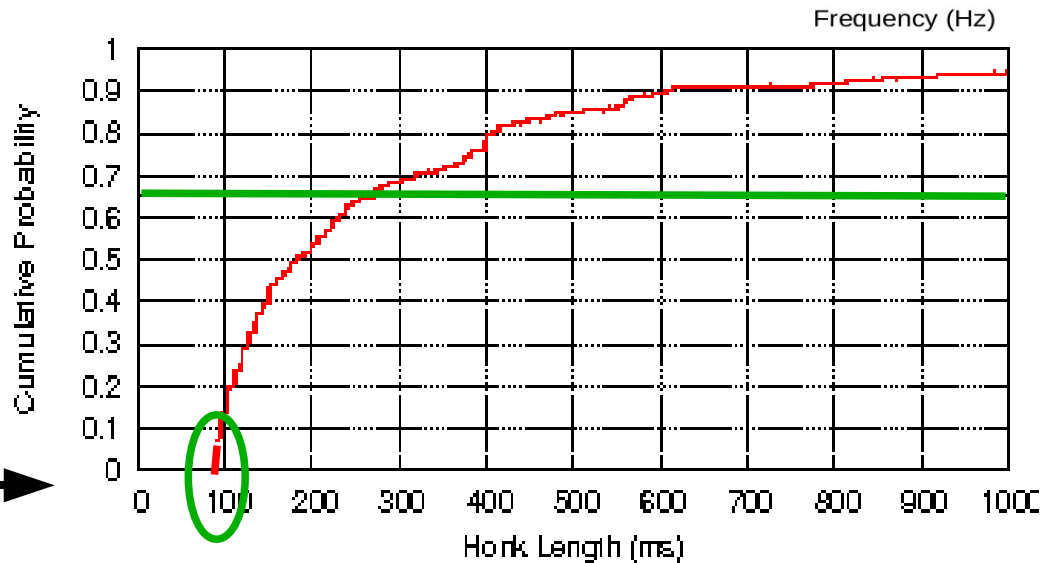
- Voice recorder of Nokia N79
- 16 KHz sampling frequency
- Mono channel
- 16 bit encoding
- Wav format
- Audio based synchronization



# Empirical Data

3 hours of data = 18 clips of 10 mins each  
manually detected 257 honks

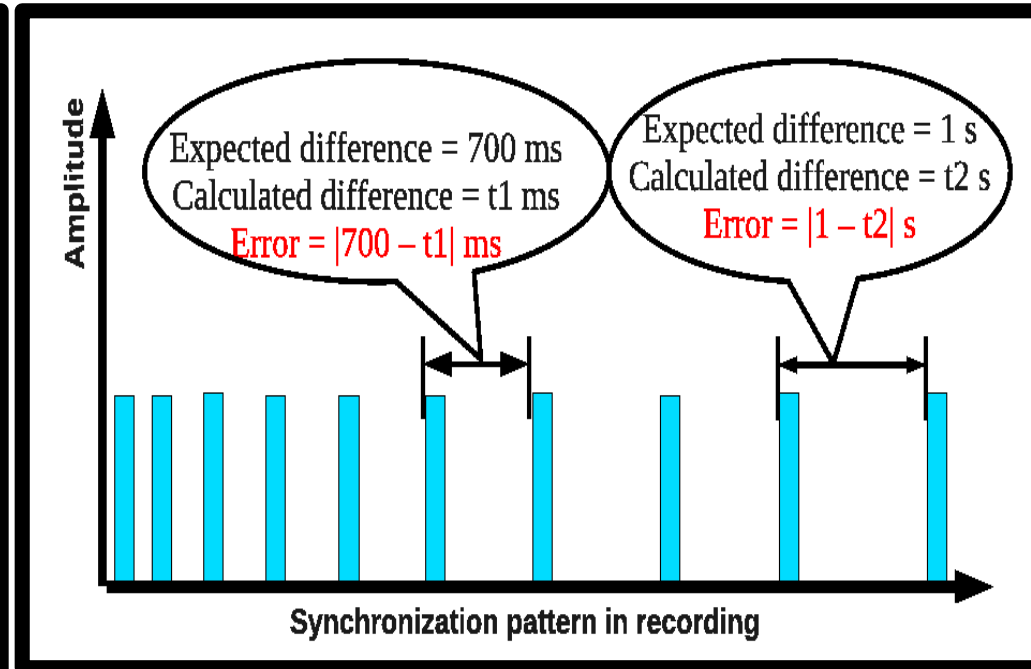
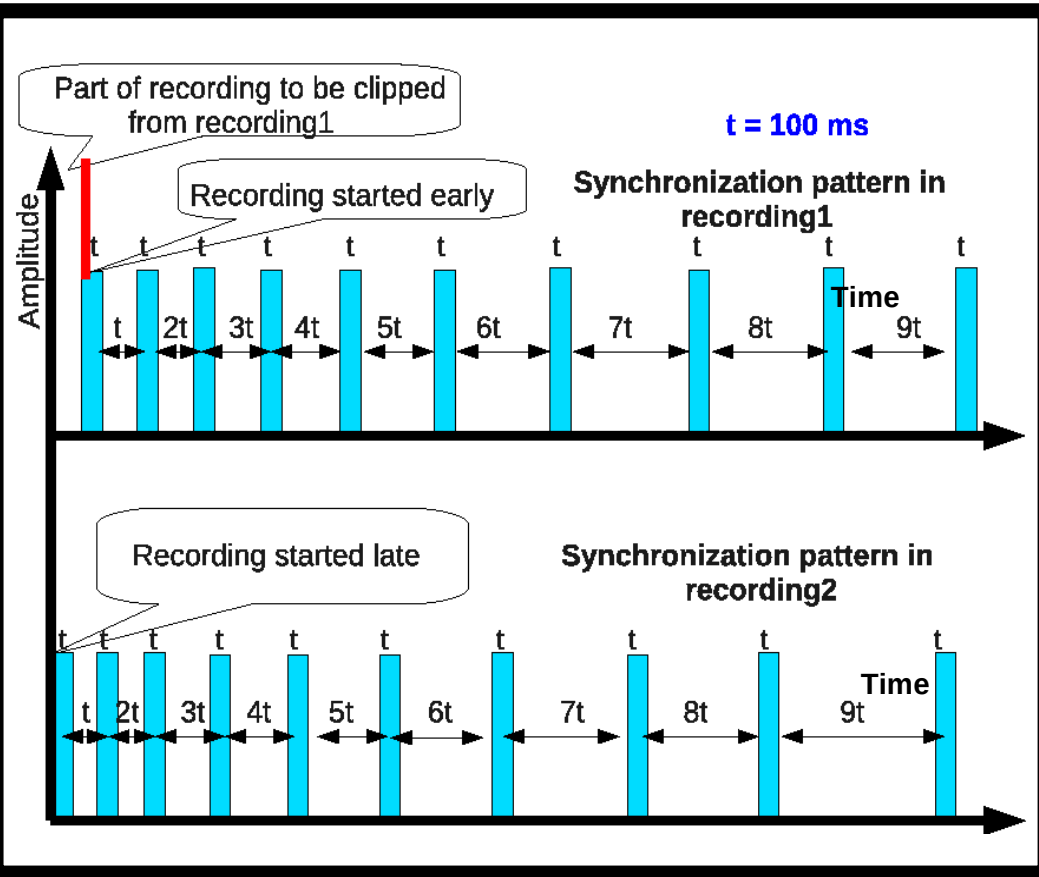
- Honk frequency range – 2-4 KHz
- Average number of honks per clip - 30
- Honk length - CDF



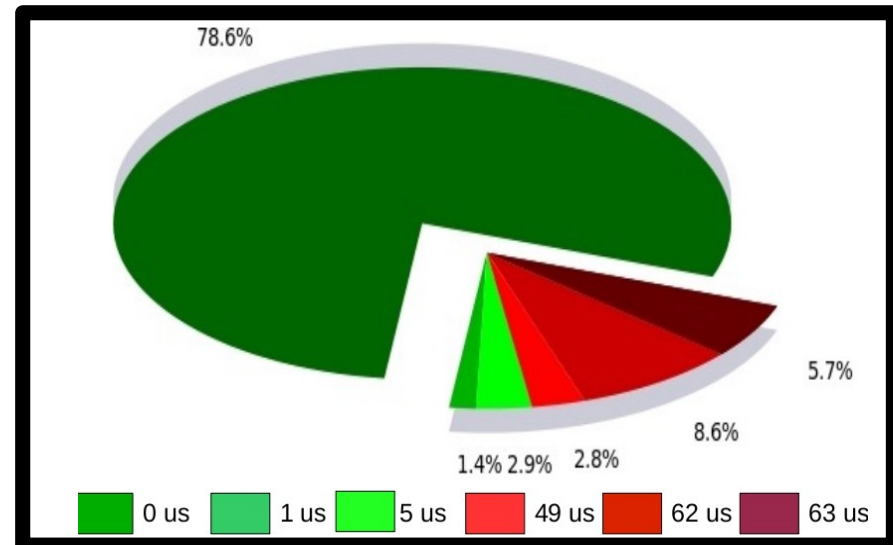
# Phone Synchronization

## Method

## Evaluation



- Audio based synchronization
- Square wave pattern generated in matlab
- Evaluation done across 70 pairs





# Honk Detection

## Preprocessing

- 1) Bandpassing
- 2) Windowing time
- 3) FFT computation

## Algorithms

- 1) PeakVsAvgAllFreq
- 2) PeakVsAvgHonkFreq
- 3) PeakAbsAmp

## Postprocessing

- 1) Length bounding
- 2) Honk merging

## Evaluation:

- 257 honks from empirical data used
- An 8 ms window marked as *honk* & *not detected* -> fn++
- An 8 ms window marked as *non-honk* & *detected* -> fp++
- $fn / (\text{total number of honk windows}) * 100 = fn(\%)$
- $fp / (\text{total number of non-honk windows}) * 100 = fp(\%)$

**Winner**

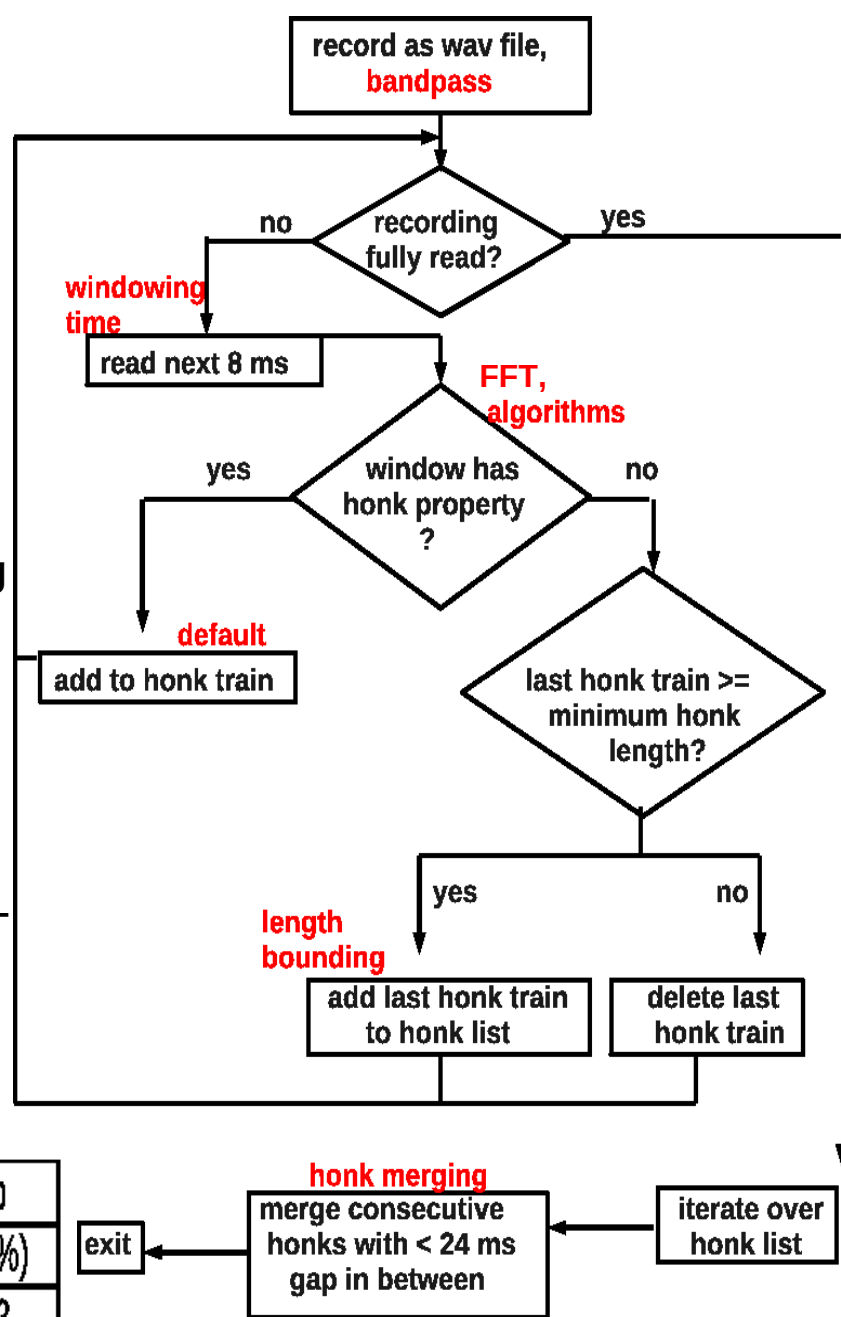
Stage	PeakVsAvgAllFreq		PeakVsAvgHonkFreq		PeakAbsAmp	
	fp (%)	fn (%)	fp (%)	fn (%)	fp (%)	fn (%)
Default	22.3	0.2	9.8	43	18.9	0.3
length bounding	5.6	0.7	2.1	74.7	10	1.04
honk merging	5.7	0.4	2.1	73.8	10.3	1.01

fp(%) falls

fn(%) falls

**T = 10**

**T = 2**



flowchart

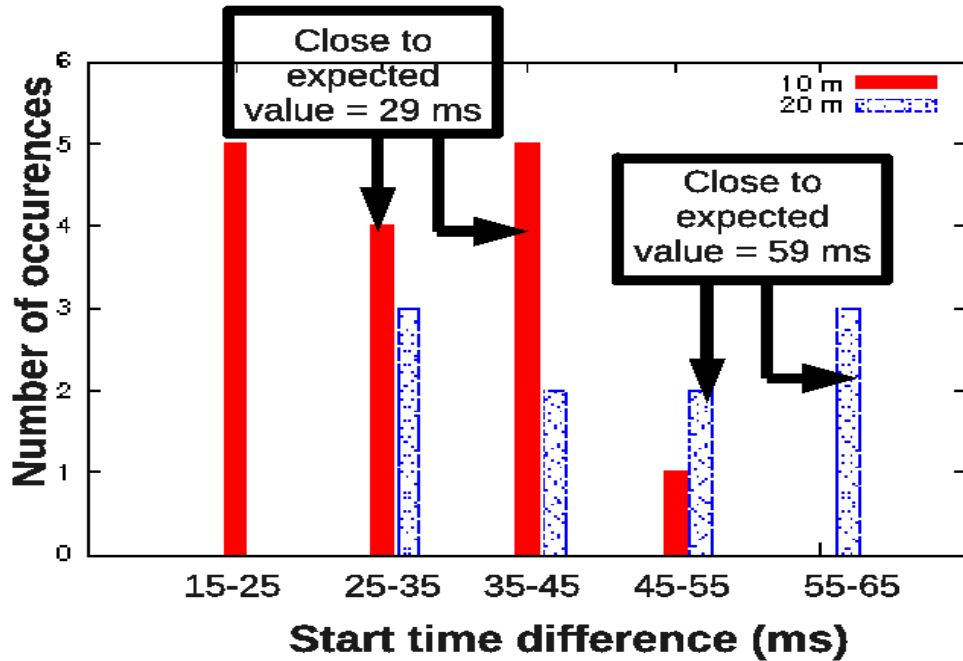
# Honk Matching

Criteria :

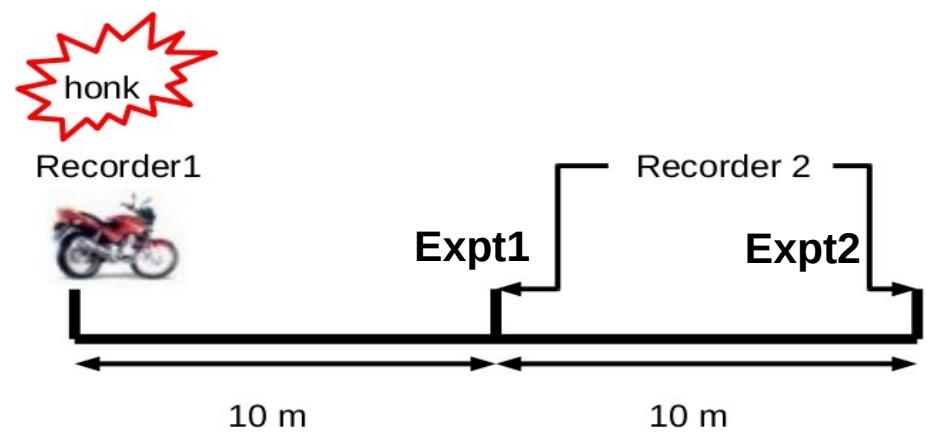
- 1) starttime\_difference
- 2) duration\_ratio

$$d_1 f_1 = d_2 f_2$$

$$\frac{d_2}{d_1} = \frac{f_1}{f_2} = \frac{(v - v_s)}{(v + v_s)}$$



Start time difference should be 28-30 ms at 10 m and 57-59 ms at 20 m with sound speed 340-350 m/sec

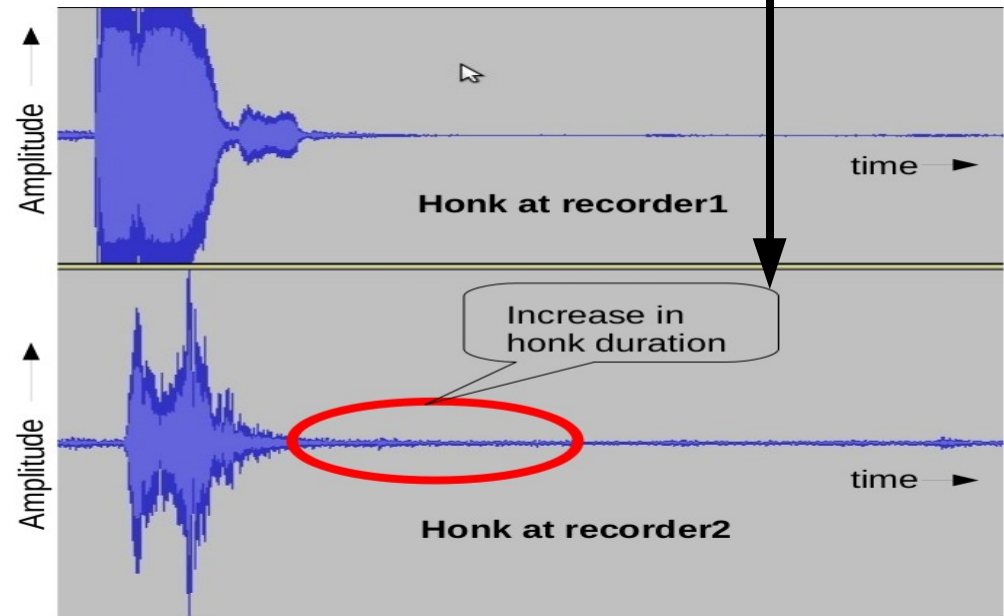


Experimental Setup

15 honks at 10m  
10 honks at 20m

To be done:

Analyze cause

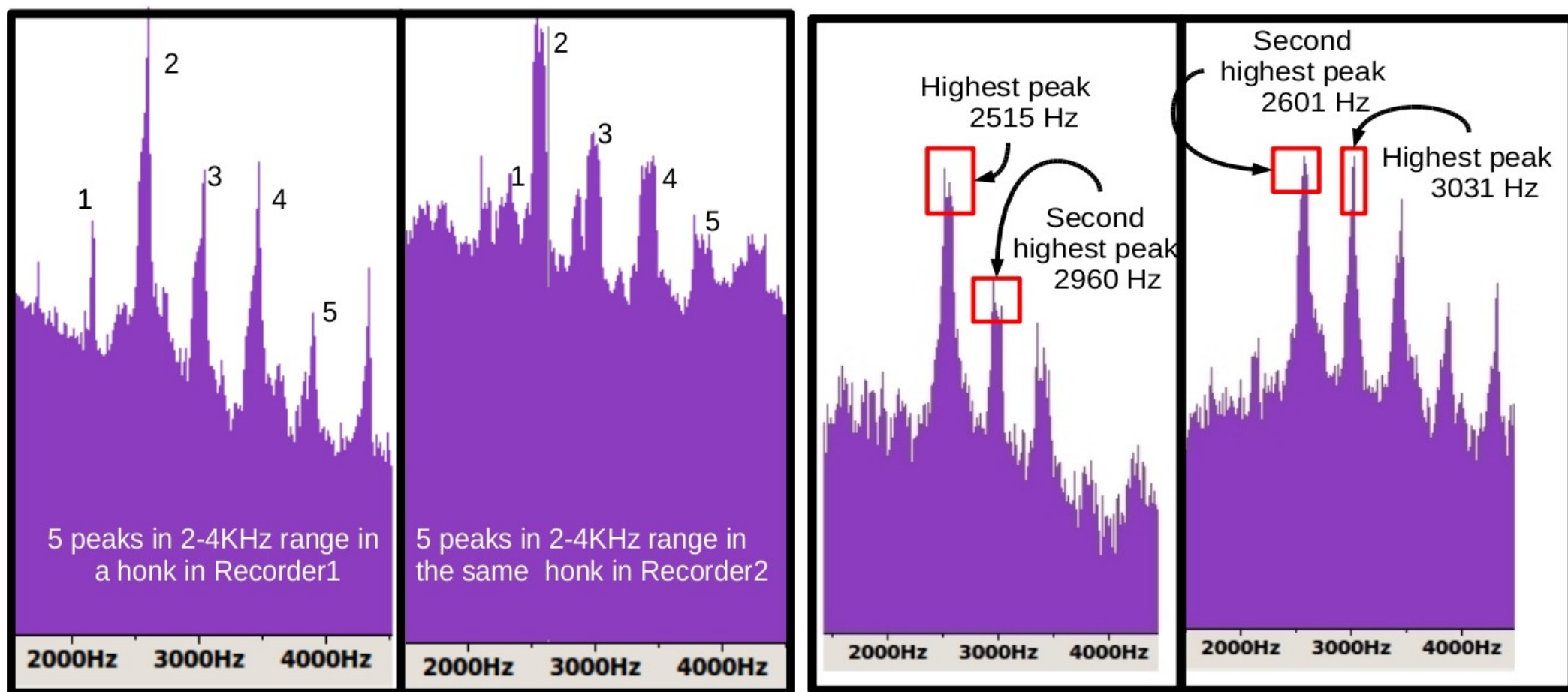


duration\_ratio problem

Duration ratio should be 1 for stationary bike, which is not so. So only starttime\_difference is used for matching.

# Frequency Extraction

2048 point FFT used (1024 point FFT for honks < 128 ms length)

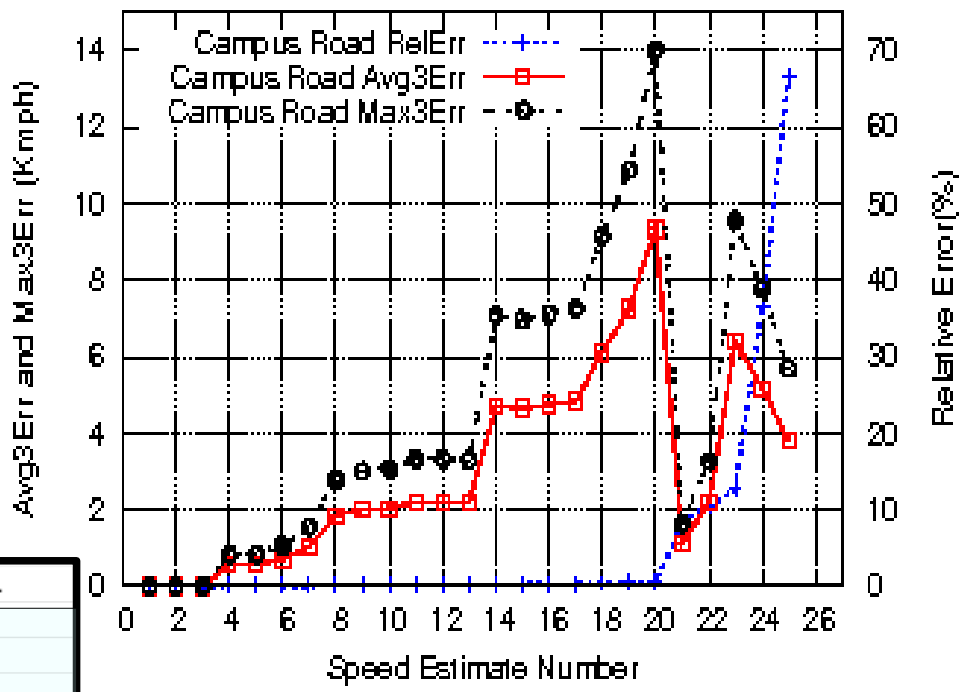
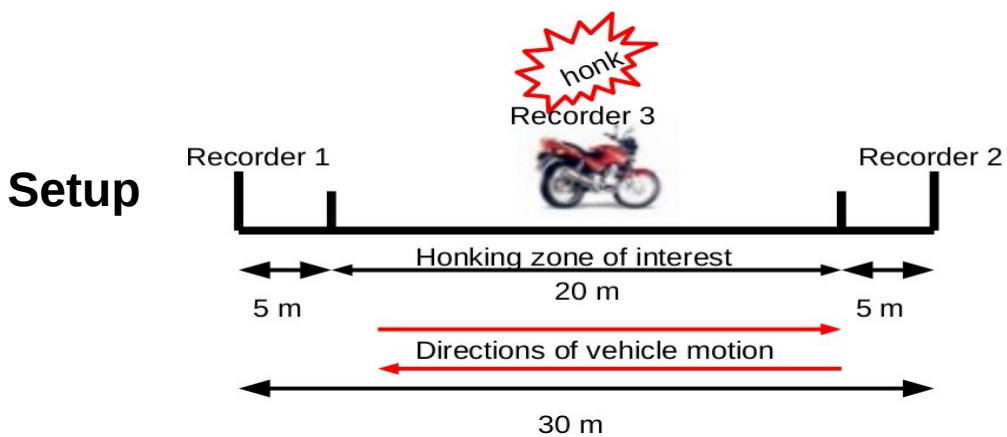


Local maximas same after Doppler shift

Exchange of top two local maximas

***How accurate*** are the speed  
estimates?

# campus\_speed\_vary



type	v12	v13	v23	mean	s.d.
sta	0	0	0	0	0
sta	0	0	0	0	0
sta	0	0	0	0	0
sta	1.89	7.57	3.77	4.41	2.89
slow	11.2	14.79	7.53	11.17	3.63
slow	13	18.38	7.5	12.96	5.44
slow	14.88	18.38	11.3	14.85	3.54
slow	14.93	18.43	11.33	14.9	3.55
slow	16.82	18.43	15.16	16.8	1.64
med	20.55	19.03	22.03	20.53	1.5
med	20.56	22.05	19.01	20.54	1.52
med	20.56	19.01	18.93	19.5	0.92
med	22.39	22.81	21.99	22.4	0.41
med	22.39	22.81	21.99	22.4	0.41
med	23	15.62	25.19	21.27	5.01
med	23	25.08	26.27	24.78	1.65
med	24.22	22.81	25.58	24.2	1.38
med	25.5	26.04	24.98	25.51	0.53
med	25.5	20.83	29.98	25.44	4.57
high	27.99	20.83	20.23	23.02	4.32
high	27.99	20.83	34.83	27.88	7
high	30.73	29.98	31.52	30.74	0.77
high	33.36	34.97	31.66	33.33	1.66
high	33.36	31.66	34.97	33.33	1.66
high	33.36	29.98	36.93	33.42	3.48

Speeds in Kmph

- ★ 30 honks
- ★ 25 matched across all three
- ★  $\text{stddev}(|v12|, |v13|, |v23|)$
- ★  $\text{max}(|v12-v13|, |v12-v23|, |v13-v23|)$
- ★  $\text{avg}(|v12-v13|, |v12-v23|, |v13-v23|)$
- ★  $|v12| / (|v13| + |v23|) * 100$

# road\_speed\_vary

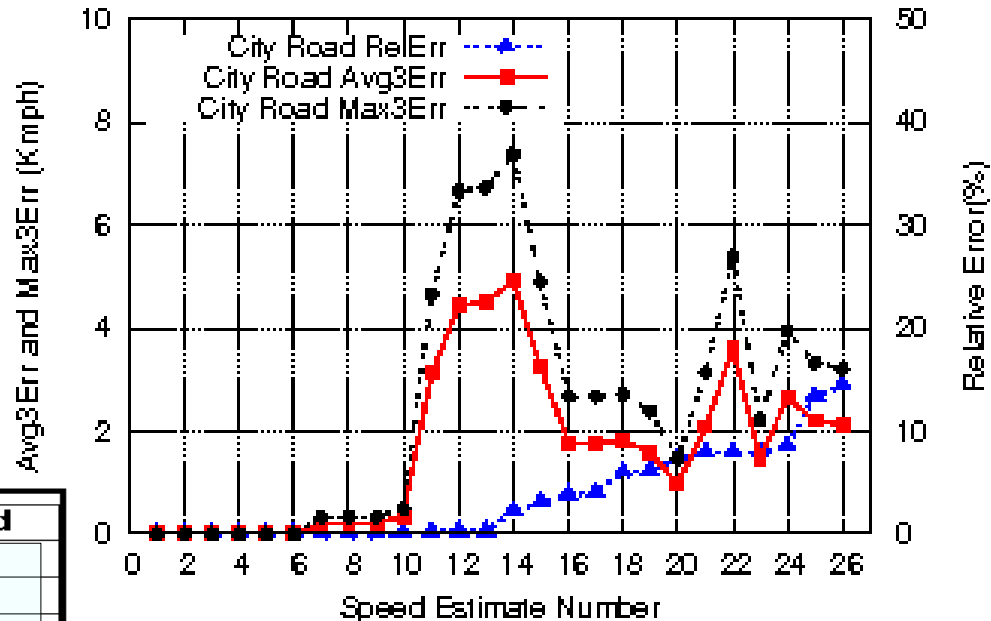
★ 36 honks

★ 4 lost due to annotation errors

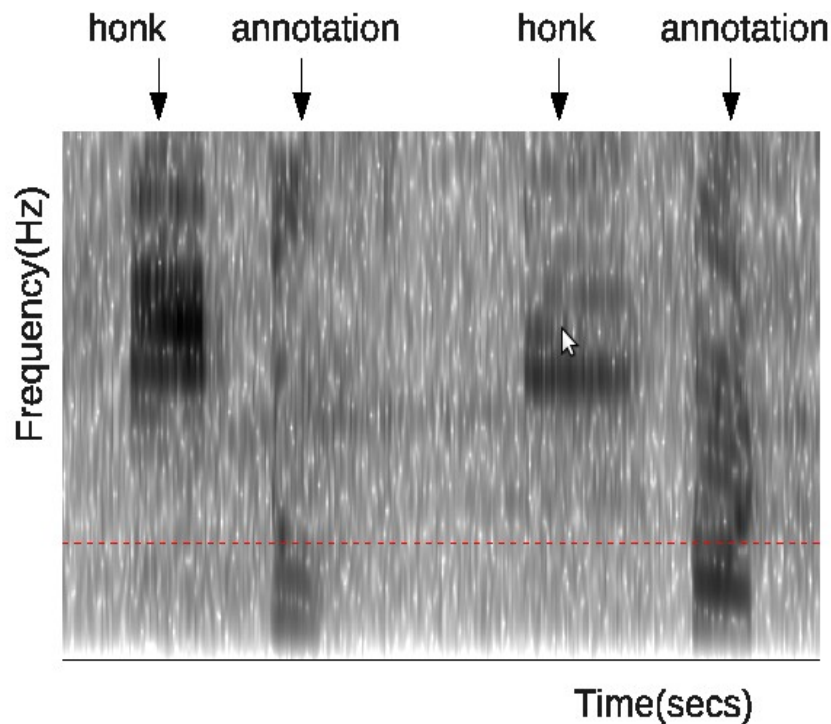
★ 26 matched across all three

type	v12	v13	v23	mean	s.d
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
sta	4.65	3.11	7.05	4.94	1.99
slow	9.50	8.75	11.46	9.9	1.4
slow	13.95	10.58	17.96	14.16	3.69
slow	13.95	10.58	17.24	13.92	3.33
slow	14.11	17.43	15.15	15.56	1.7
slow	14.11	17.44	10.71	14.08	3.37
slow	14.15	13.99	14.32	14.15	0.16
slow	14.15	13.99	14.32	14.15	0.16
slow	14.15	13.99	14.32	14.15	0.16
slow	15.30	12.39	17.29	14.99	2.46
med	17.49	17.24	17.74	17.49	0.25
med	19.10	17.63	17.95	18.23	0.77
med	21.04	18.93	17.84	19.27	1.63
med	22.00	24.27	21.60	22.62	1.44
med	22.00	24.20	21.54	22.58	1.43
med	22.96	20.75	21.80	21.84	1.11
med	24.60	24.14	21.47	23.4	1.69
high	26.42	24.14	28.80	26.45	2.33
high	26.42	27.51	28.80	27.57	1.19
high	29.00	34.19	28.80	30.66	3.06

Speeds in Kmph

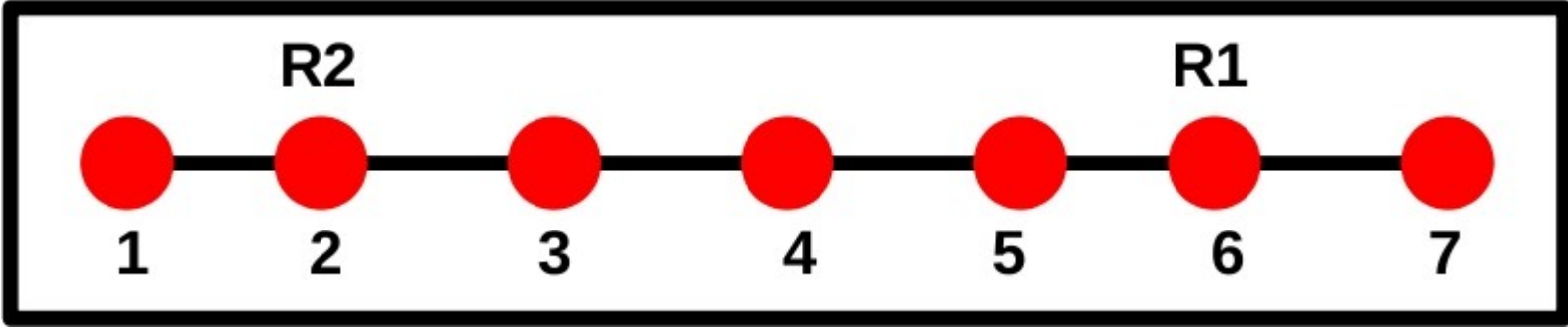


Error Measures

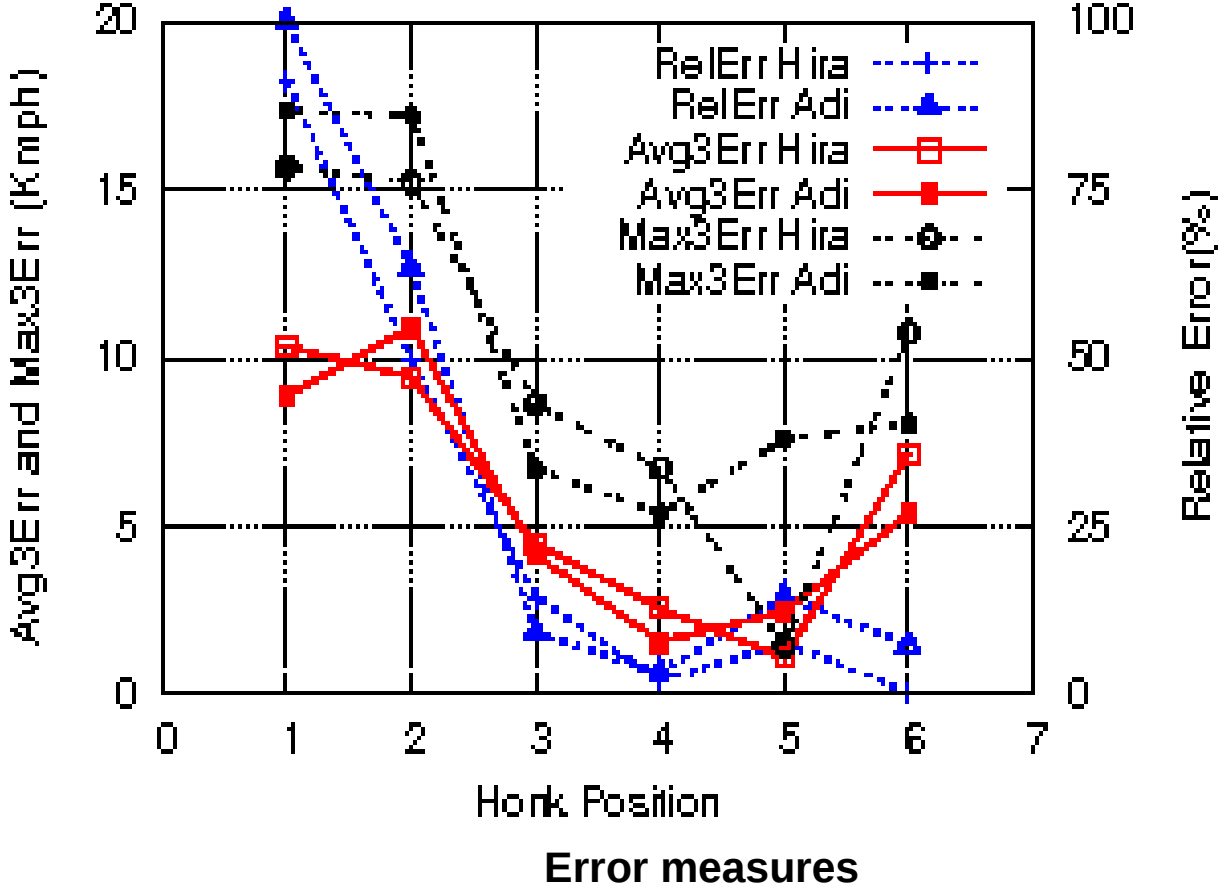


Annotations

# road\_position\_vary



Honking positions



✗ Wrong matches at 1 and 2

✓ R2 does not detect honks at 7

↓  
Vehicle honks are *directional*

To be done:

- ◆ Improve matching algorithm
- ◆ Ascertain accurate speed ground truth

**Can we apply these speed estimates on real city roads to detect congestion ?**



# Road Experiments

- 18 hours of road data collection
- 2 different roads
- Different times of the day
- Different weather conditions



4.30 pm : Freeflowing



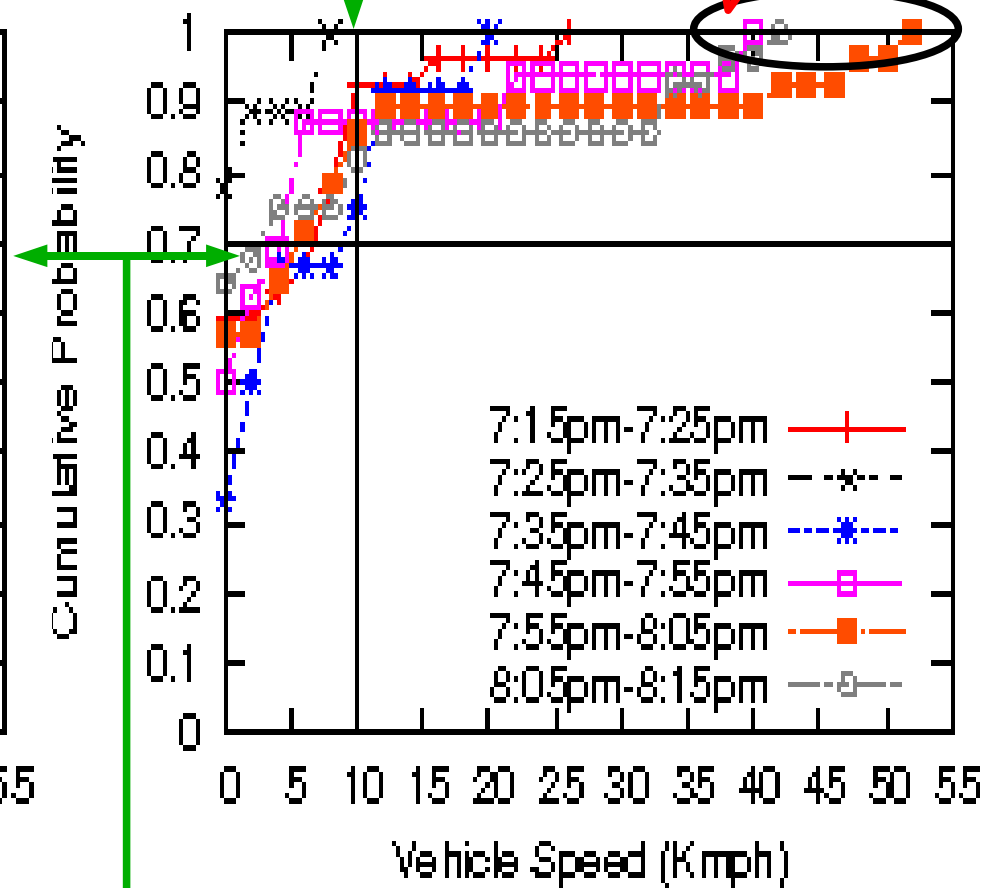
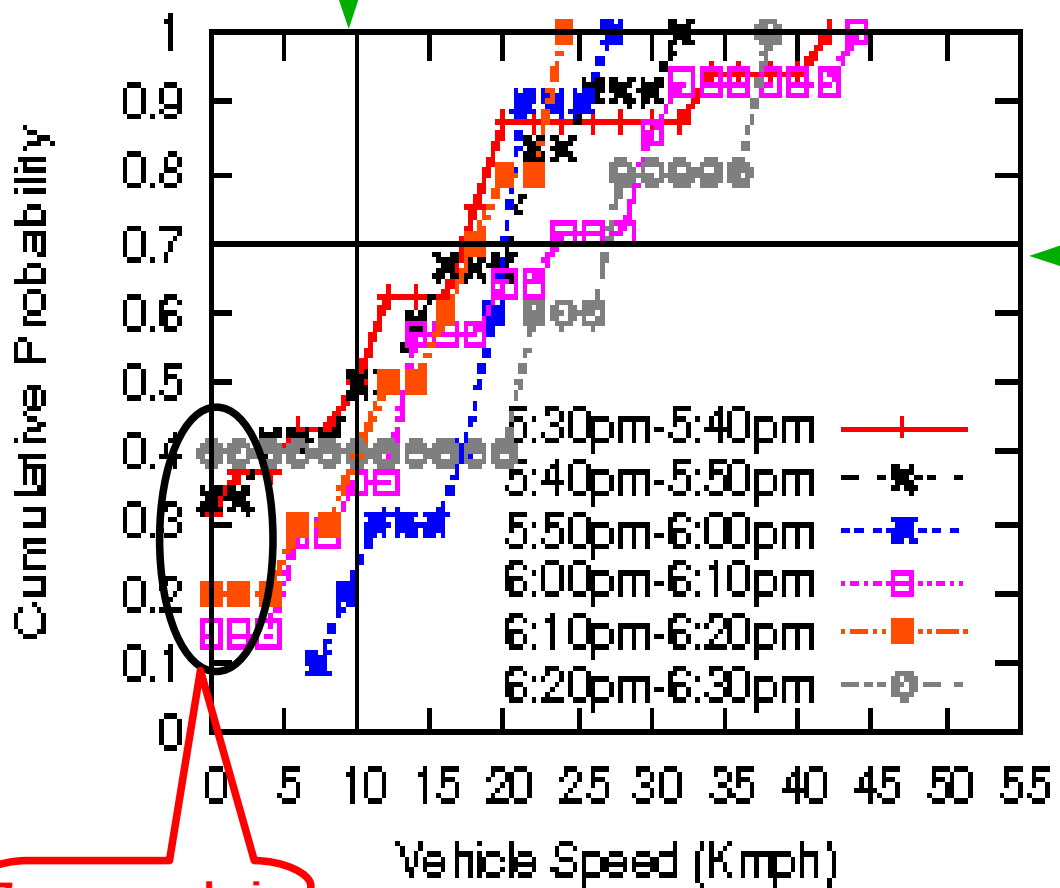
7.30 pm : Highly Congested

**Adi Shankaracharya Marg (outside IITB, notorious for congestion)**

# Empirical Speed CDFs

Percentile speed < 10 Km/h : clearly distinguishes congested from freeflow

High speed in Congestion ??



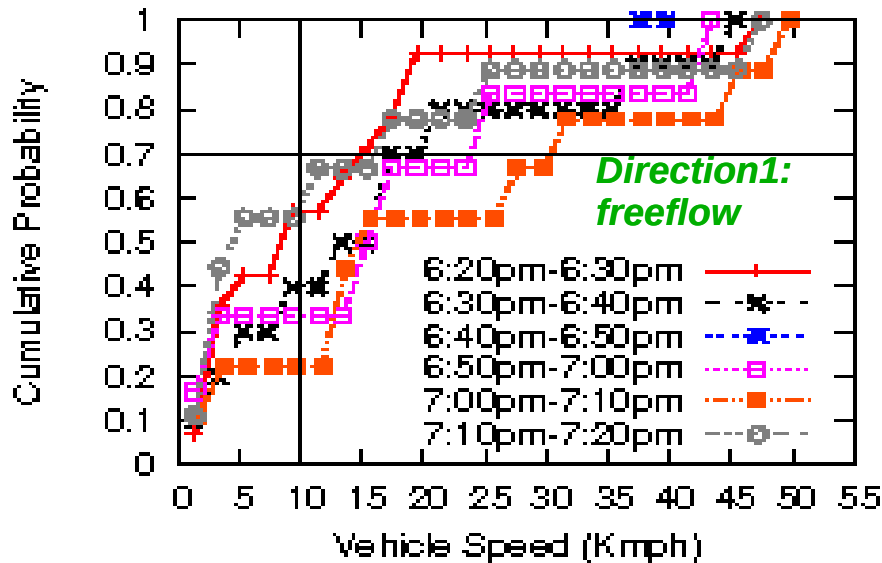
Zero speeds in freeflow ??

70th percentile speed : clearly distinguishes congested from freeflow

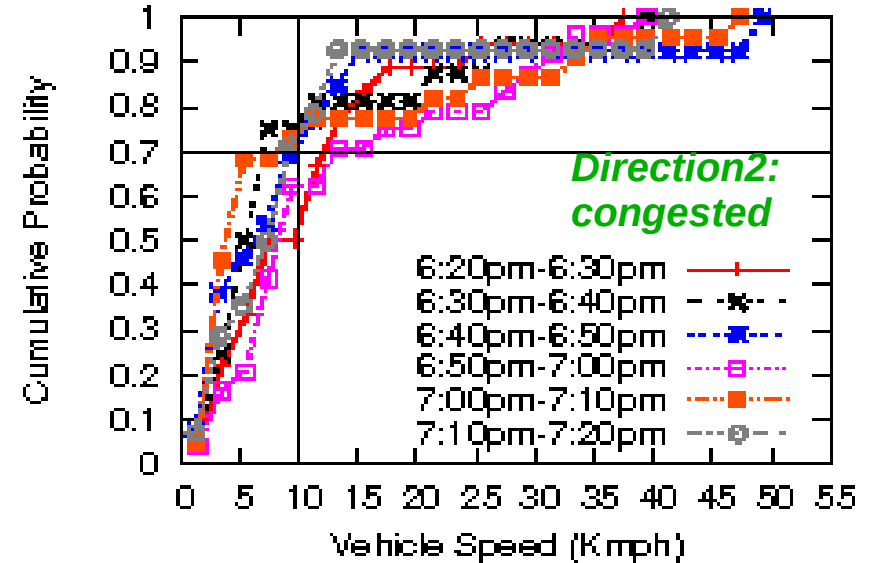
Freeflowing Traffic

Congested Traffic

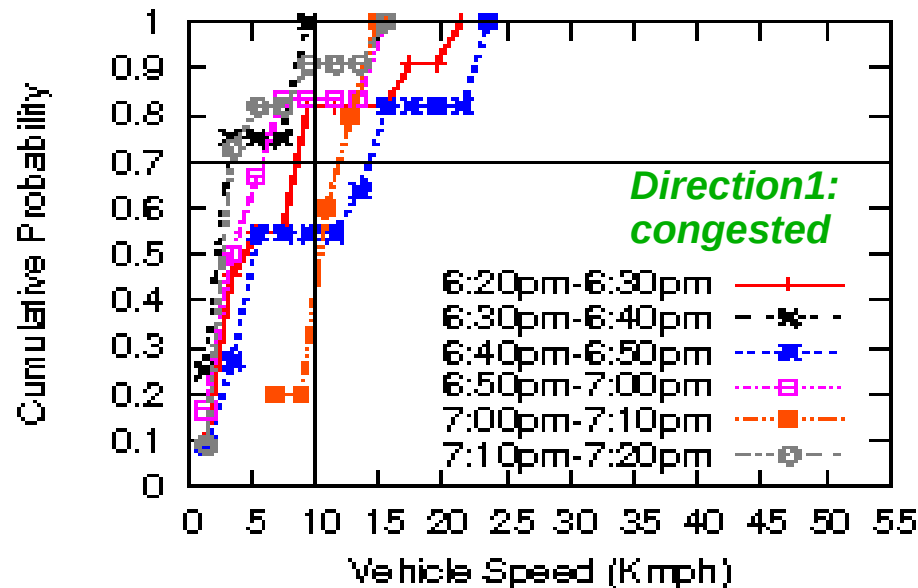
# Same Road : Opposite Directions



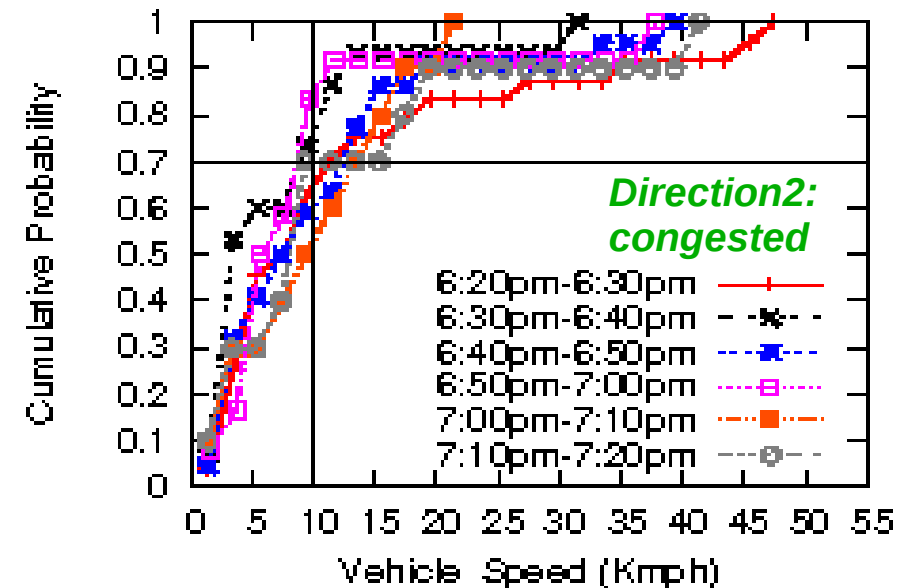
N  
O  
R  
M  
A  
L



(1) Speed estimates give traffic direction (2) Show freeflow and congestion in opposite directions on a normal day (3) On a rainy day, both directions show congestion, as rain causes vehicles to be slower.



R  
A  
I  
N  
Y



# Congested vs Freeflowing : Metrics

70<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed(Kmph)

↑ direction sensitive

↓

Percentile of Speed < 10 Kmph

	<i>Hira</i>		<i>Adi</i>	
Metric	Congested mean (s.d) [24 samples]	Free-flow mean (s.d) [54 samples]	Congested mean (s.d) [27 samples]	Free-flow mean (s.d) [27 samples]
70 <sup>th</sup> perc. speed (kmph)	12.2 (4.0)	18.2 (6.2)	7.7 (6.1)	21.1 (6.1)
Perc. speed < 10Kmph	65.6 (11.6)	51.1 (16.3)	79.5 (16.1)	37.6 (20.2)

Speed based metrics

Number of honks

↑ direction insensitive

↓

Duration of honks (secs) in 10 mins

	<i>Hira</i>		<i>Adi</i>	
Metric	Congested mean (s.d) [24 samples]	Free-flow mean (s.d) [30 samples]	Congested mean (s.d) [27 samples]	Free-flow mean (s.d) [27 samples]
Num. Honks	113 (30.4)	55.5 (21.1)	149.4 (27.8)	57.6 (21.2)
Honk duration (sec)	45.1 (12.4)	21.8 (9)	71.5 (21.4)	21.7 (9.2)

Non speed based metrics

Noise level (db) can be used in *Hira* but not in *Adi*

# Statistical divergence tests

Metric	Mann-Whitney U test		Kolmogorov-Smirnov test	
	<i>Hira</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Hira</i>	<i>Adi</i>
70 <sup>th</sup> perc. Speed	2.00E-006	7.48E-007	6.16E-005	4.48E-004
Perc. Speed < 10 Kmph	1.05E-005	2.28E-004	3.57E-006	5.95E-004
Num. Honks	5.33E-015	2.13E-014	3.30E-014	5.36E-019
Honk duration	3.86E-014	3.89E-014	6.19E-014	6.53E-017

Noise(db) has p-value of 0.0131 in MWU test in *Adi*

p-values

Statistical divergence of congested vs freeflowing data, based on all four metrics, is verified at 99.9% confidence using the Mann-Whitney U and two sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov tests.

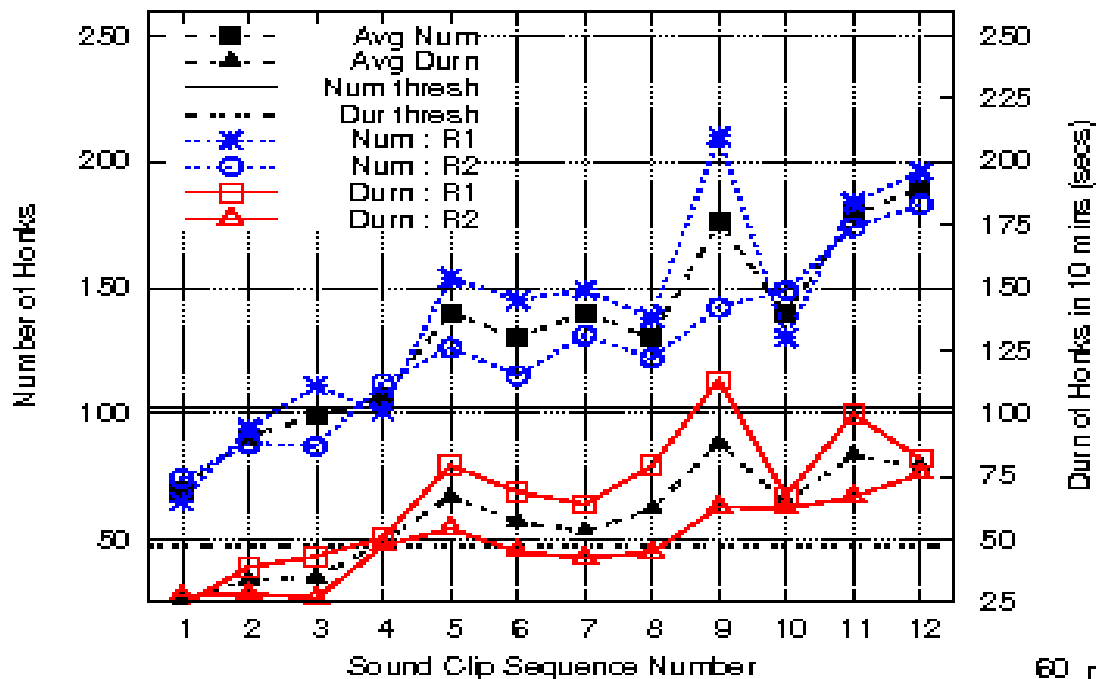
# Threshold based congestion detection

Metric	<i>Hira</i>		<i>Adi</i>	
	Fp (%)	Fn (%)	Fp (%)	Fn (%)
70th perc. Speed	24.1	8.3	12.1	5.6
Perc. Speed < 10Kmph	20.9	25.3	27.2	18.3
Num. Honks	10.7	17.4	0.0	5.9
Honk duration	7.1	19.6	0.0	5.9

Noise(db) has 74.3% fp and 65.6% fn in *Adi*

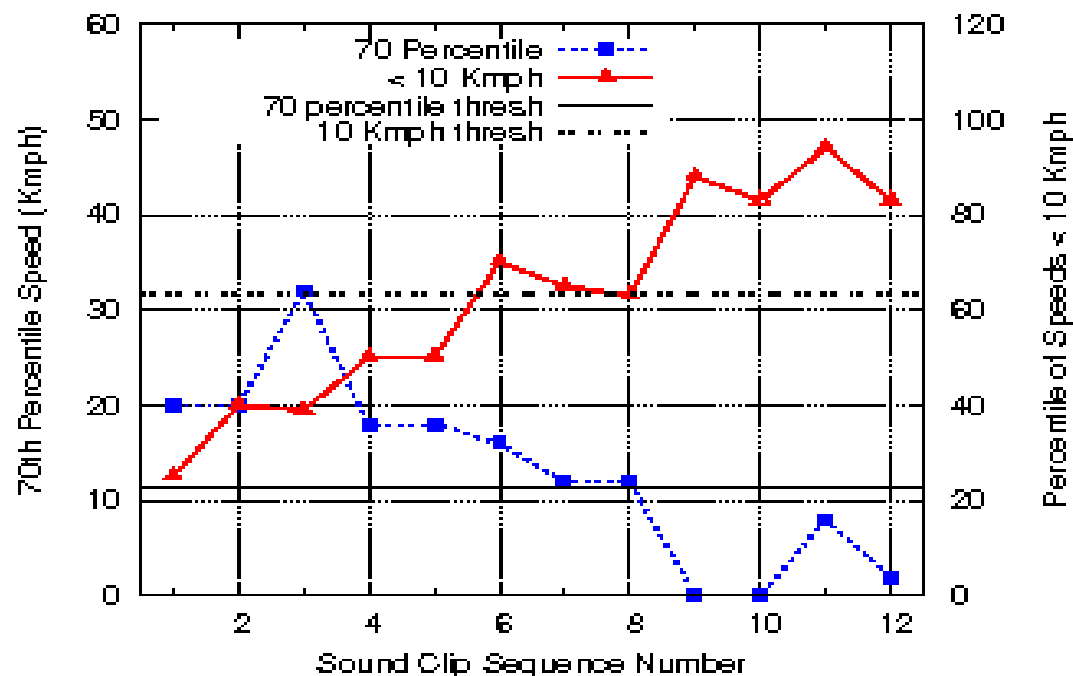
Maximum false positive is 27.2% and maximum false negative is 25.3%

# Freeflow To Congested : Transition



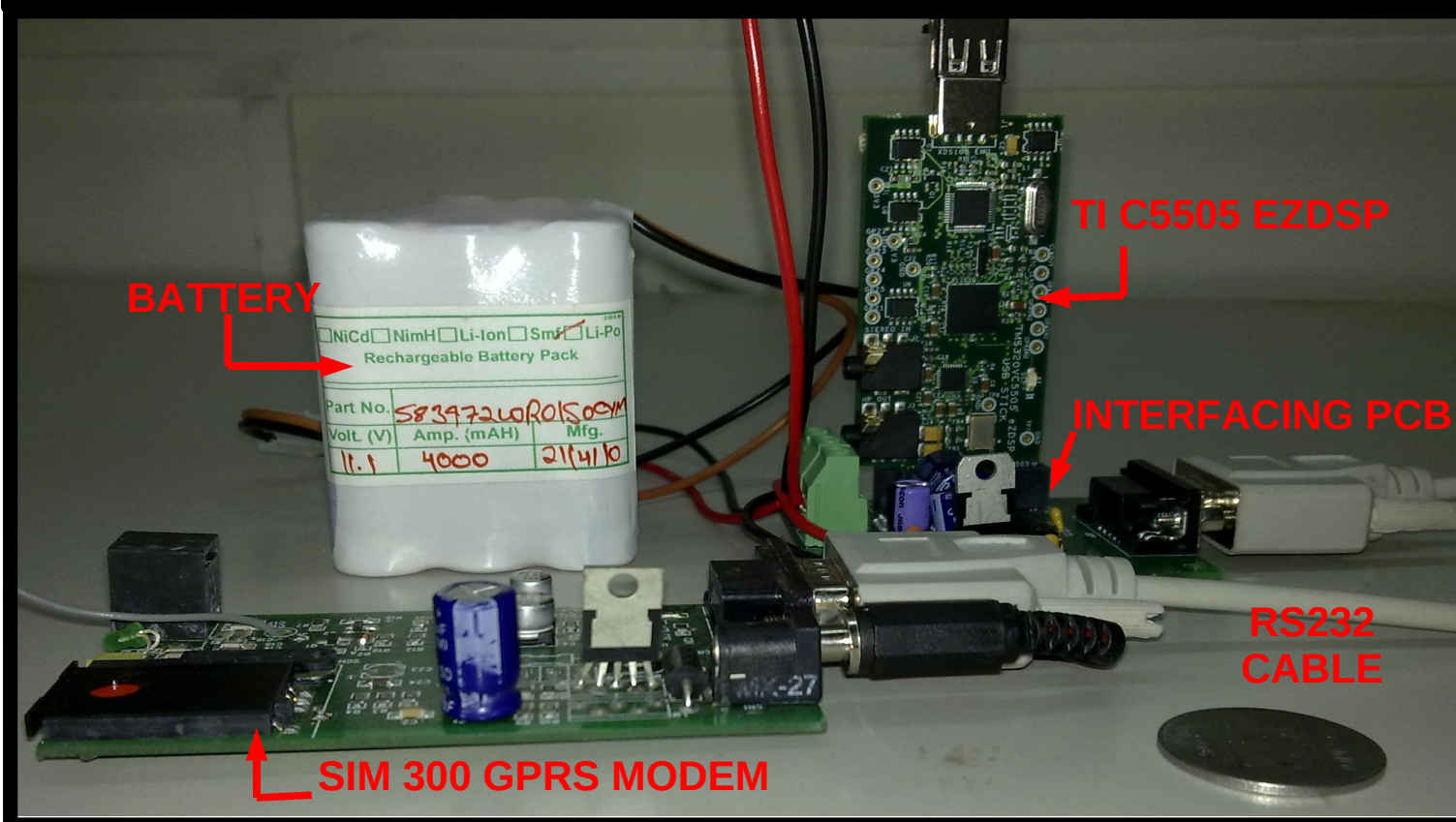
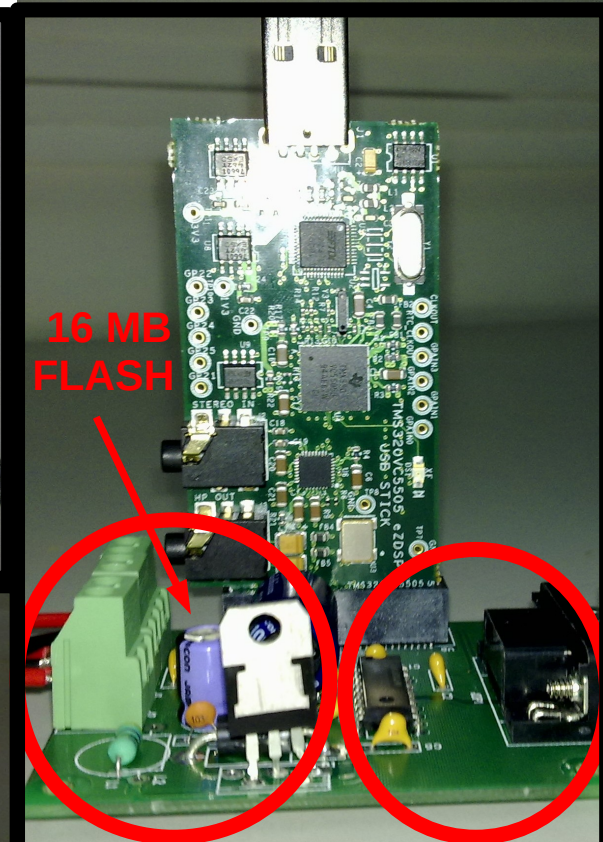
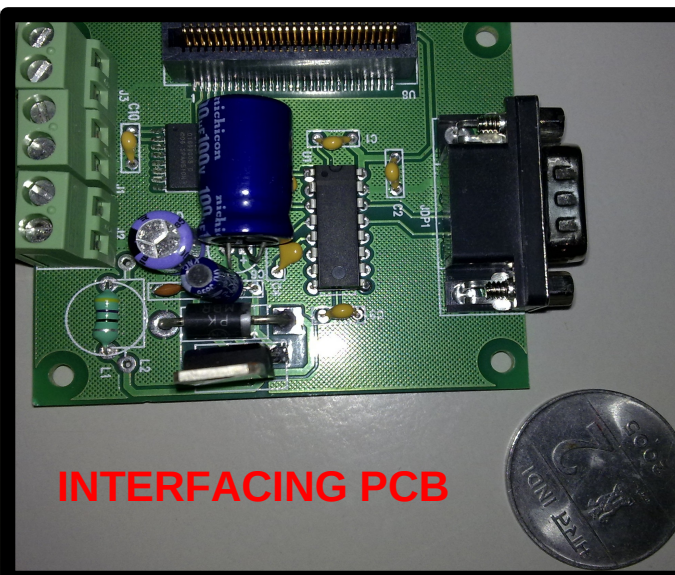
Continuous recording of road sound from 6 pm – 8 pm on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2009, in Adi Shankaracharya Marg, showed transtion from freeflow to congestion, based on all four metrics.

- ◆ Directionality of honks, road fork
- ◆ Non-speed based metrics show earlier rise than speed based
- ◆ Metrics to be used in conjunction (clip 10)



# Ongoing Work

# Sensor Platform Design



- C5505 EZDSP will sample and process road noise
- Results will temporarily be stored in flash memory
- Stored results will be sent to server over GPRS



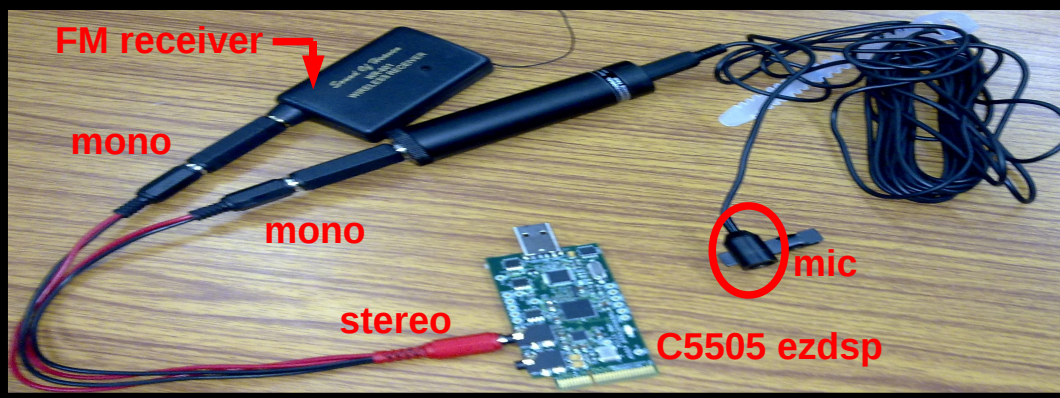
# ① Reducing hardware

# Enhancements

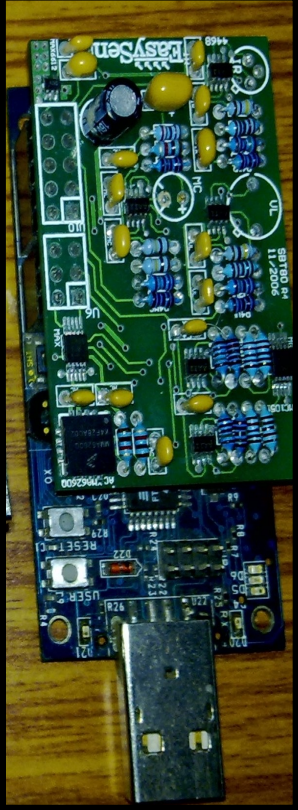
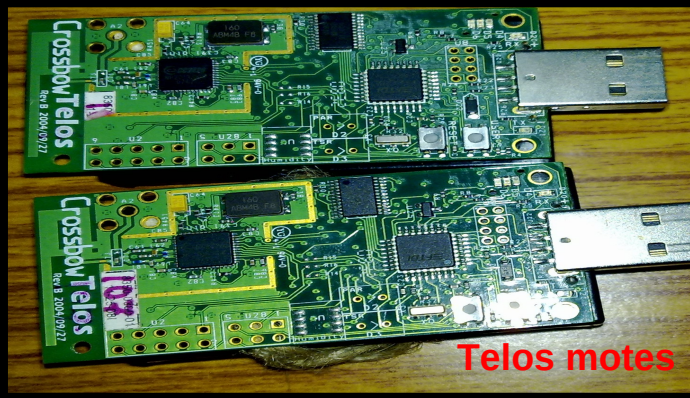
# ② Beyond acoustic sensor



- Mic + FM receiver with C5505 stick (bottom) instead of first phone.
- Mic + FM transmitter (left) at 30 m instead of second phone



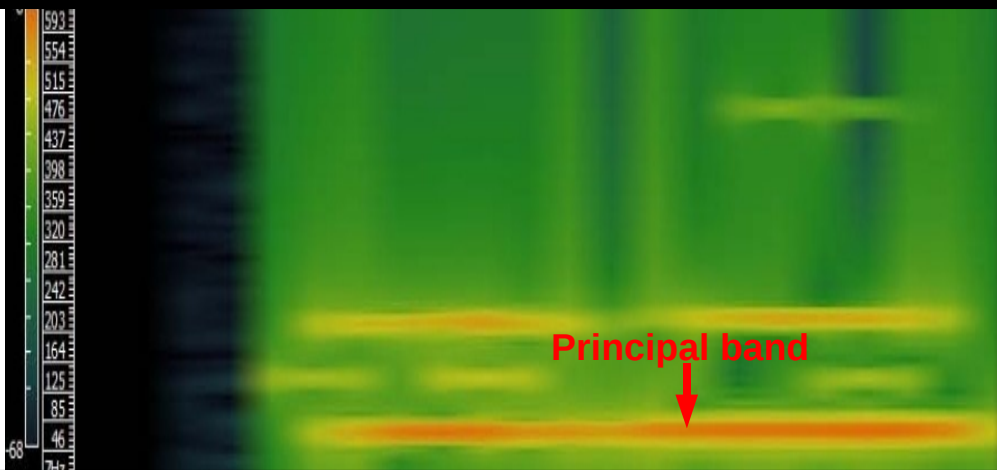
- Using RSSI and LQI variation, packet error rates between Zigbee tx-rx pair (bottom) across road as metrics to measure congestion
- Using magnetic sensor module SBT80 from Honeywell (right)



# ③ Beyond honks



- Using characteristic road sounds other than honks
- Auto engine (left) and heavy vehicle sound (right)



**Thank You**

**Questions??**