



#### The transformation of the insurance industry and road safety by driver safety behavior telematics

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Together with: Apostolos Ziakopoulos, Armira Kontaxi, George Yannis

# Background

- Despite substantial progress in improving road safety during the last decade, the aim of halving road traffic fatalities by 2020 has not been achieved
- The UN has set a new goal to halve traffic injuries and fatalities by 2030, highlighting the need to reduce risk factors affecting the probability of getting involved in a crash
- In contemporary motorized societies, human factors remain overwhelmingly responsible for road crash occurrence
- Urged by considerable technological developments, insurers have integrated telematics to their operations to develop an array of Usage-Based-Insurance (UBI) schemes



# **Objective and Goals**

#### Objective

An examination of how driving telematics provide actionable findings that can influence insurance policies

#### Goals

- An overview of relevant technological advancements and integration practices of telematics
- A more in-depth examination of the tangible benefits of telematics and driver feedback in road safety will be discussed
- Future directions, challenges, and limitations facing the transformation of the insurance industry





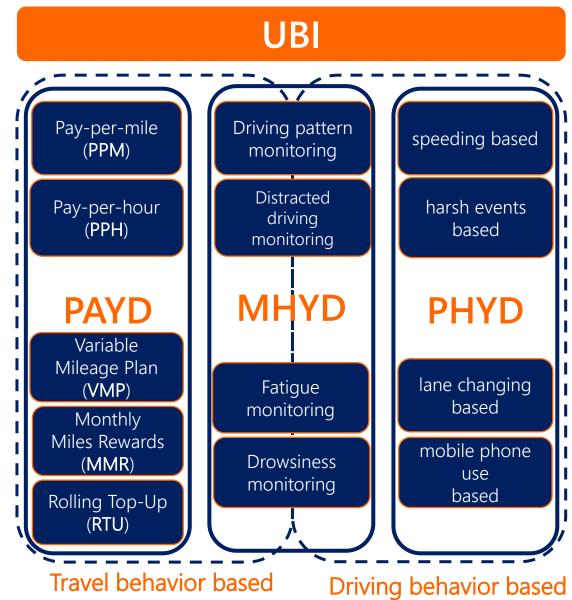
# **Technological Advancements**

- Although plenty of telematics based services are possible with today's 4G LTE networks, the 5G networks support new types of information with respect to telematics
- Telematics companies have spearheaded the development of direct communication capabilities, including:
  - > Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V),
  - Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I)
  - Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X)
- Regardless of the type of communication, omnipresent connectivity seems to play the most significant role in automation
- The integration of V2V and V2I communications with telematics solutions provides promising results considering road safety and society in general



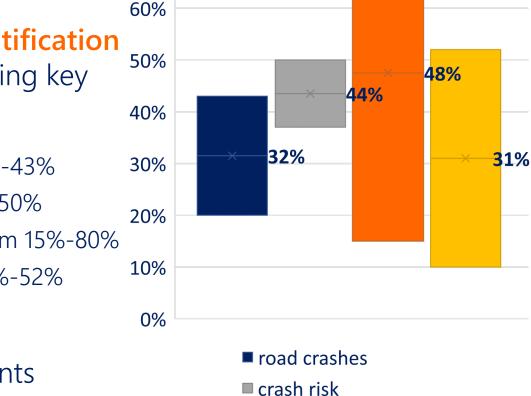
## **Telematics Integration in Insurance Practices**

- > The traditional charging policy of auto insurance companies, which is a fixed price, has been regarded as unfair and inadequate
- > The idea of UBI is that a driver's behavior is monitored directly using telematics, allowing insurance companies to align driving behaviors with premium rates
- Depending on the variety of driving data availability and the usage level of telematics, UBI can have several variants
  - Pay-As-You-Drive (PAYD)  $\succ$ the parameters that affect the insurance charging is the driven distance or time (hours, days)
  - Pay-How-You-Drive (PHYD) uses the motivation for safer driving for charging calculation based on the driver behavior
  - Manage-How-You-Drive (MHYD)  $\succ$ drivers are provided with a real-time data so that drivers can manage and moderate their driving



### **Road Safety Benefits**

- There is little research on the quantification of the influence of 80% telematics on road safety in terms of before/after feedback 70% provision to drivers
- After a thorough literature review regarding the quantification of the impact of telematics on road safety, the following key findings were observed:
  - > 7 studies determined road crash reductions varying from 20 %-43%
  - > 3 studies determined crash risk reductions varying from 37 %-50%
  - > 7 studies determined **speeding incident reductions** varying from 15%-80%
  - ➢ 6 studies determined harsh event reductions varying from 10 %-52%
- Also, network level studies have been developed to proactively assess road safety using harsh driving events



90%

- coording incid
- speeding incidents
- harsh events

#### **Telematics Lessons**

- Certain interesting lessons from conventional post-trip interventions may be worth taking into account as guidelines for the design of more efficient and longerlasting telematics interventions
- Although exposure to post-trip feedback and warnings had a positive effect on driver behavior and road safety, if follow-up efforts were not made, neither of the impacts was sustained over time
- Multi-stage provision of feedback (e.g. visual warnings, gamification, coaching, penalties or rewards) can improve driver behavior and reduce crash occurrence



#### **Future Directions**

- Provision of specialized UBI schemes per road user category (e.g. truck, taxi, PTW, e-scooters, etc.)
- Regarding road environments, more holistic approaches should be considered (e.g. shared space roads)
- Connected vehicles may introduce new unexpected road users (e.g. people with mobility or visibility impairments), which will require further refinement of insurance frameworks
- UBI will need to consistently prove its reliability to cover larger market shares across countries that may be unprepared or unwilling to adopt it



### **Open Issues**

- The question of who is assigned responsibility in a crash where a fully automated vehicle is at fault remains open
- The thorough investigation of the effectiveness of telematics-driven post-trip interventions, and how they may be optimized for maximum net impacts
- UBI telematics systems may require 'cold start' inputs for new users or for when an intervention or road safety measure is being implemented for the first time in their road network, but previous knowledge may exist
- Feasible transferability methods need to be set in place for effective UBI



# **Challenges & Limitations**

- The insurance industry faces challenges in balancing safety monitoring and privacy concerns
- GDPR limits the unhindered use of AI, which could be used to detect violations but may go against the core legislative purposes
- Insurers are accountable for shielding consumers from adverse effects of GDPR breaches, including potential hacking by malicious third-party hackers
- Telematics-based research is prone to bias, and studies have used different data sources and recording tools
- The effectiveness of different sensors for driver telematics remains to be explored, with exteroceptive sensors showing considerable untapped potential but each sensor type having its own feasibility issues



#### Conclusions

- The vehicle insurance industry is undergoing vast transformations driven by advances and innovation in driver telematics
- Telematics have aided in the gradual but constant shift towards UBI opening new research venues in road safety
- Driver feedback provided by telematics has been found to encourage safer driving behaviors, leading to a reduction in road crashes, crash risk and surrogate safety incidents
- The insurance industry will have to carefully balance between efficient monitoring, algorithmic methods, and data protection regulations, ultimately solving the 'transferability vs individualization' dilemma to deliver holistic and competitive insurance products







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