

IRTAD 2022

J. Rogé\*

Lyon, 27-09-2022

*VICTIMS project  
funded by the Délégation à la  
Sécurité Routière, France  
Convention n°2201104903*

# Improvement of cyclists' conspicuity in urban environment using safety messages for car drivers



Université  
Gustave  
Eiffel

LABORATOIRE LESCOT  
LABORATOIRE ERGONOMIE  
ET SCIENCES COGNITIVES  
POUR LES TRANSPORTS

**C. Gasne\***, **A. Lafont\*\***, **C. Jallais \***, **D. Ndiaye\***

\*LESCOT UGE    \*\*Altran Lab Capgemini

**TD. Nguyen**, **F. Vienne**, PICS-L UGE

**JM Boucheix**, LEAD CNRS-Université de Bourgogne

Low conspicuity of the vulnerable road users (VRUs) for motorists  
=> high risk of accident or near misses



### **Sensory Conspicuity**

varies according to the physical characteristic of VRUs (retinal angular size, position in the motorist visual field, colour and luminance contrast with the background ...)

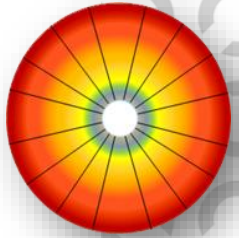
Cole 1988, Rogé 2019

### **Cognitive conspicuity**

Varies with specific characteristics of car drivers (their experience, their expectations, their temporary intentions ...)

Langham 2002, Rogé 2017

## Effect of a preventive film on pedestrians and motorcyclists' visibility



Film: preventive messages, testimonies and statistical data analysis (VRUs)

Task: detection of pedestrians and motorcyclists in a simulated road environment

Variable: preventive film “watched or not watched” before driving

### Results

Increase of the VRU visibility distance

Increase of the negative emotions' intensity

⇒ Positive effect of the film / pedestrians and motorcyclists visibility

⇒ Implication of emotions ?



Rogé 2015

## Persuasive techniques used in road safety campaigns

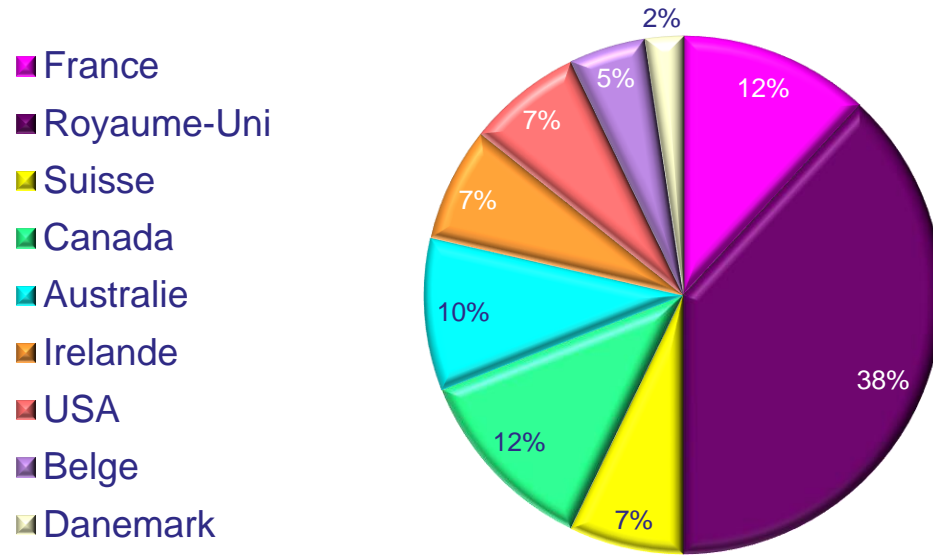
300 campaigns (41 countries) for the adoption of safety measures

Guttman 2016

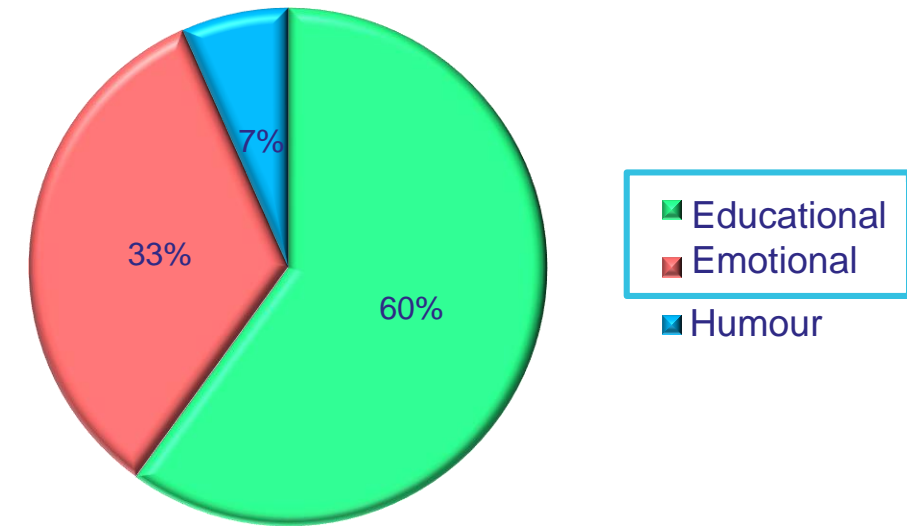
- \* Rationale: scientific explanations → cognitive satisfaction
- \* Humour: entertaining message → capture interest, facility memorization
- \* Social and ethical values: empathy → increase the positive feelings and the social standards
- \* Threat use: horror of crash → indignation, anger, shame, guilt

!!! If the intensity of emotions too high => reactance response (rejection and distancing)

Hoekstra 2011



*Percentage of the preventive films related to cyclist safety by country (45 available on internet 2018)*



*Percentage of the preventive films related to cyclist safety by communication mode*

\* Heterogeneity of the preventive films: communication mode, duration, topic, and making of the films

=> Create original messages in order to compare their effect

\* Messages aimed at motorists, interactions between motorists and cyclists

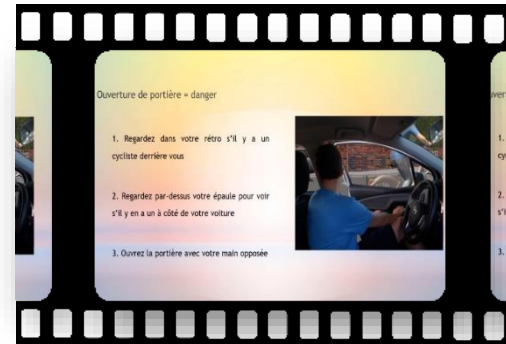
- Safe distance
- Excessive speed
- Door opening
- Right-turn situation
- Cell Phone use

## Common features of preventive films

- Making of the films: overlay of a real driver and car in a simulated environment
- A final short preventive sentence identical for the 2 communication modes
- Duration: 31s

≠

Emotional films	Educational films	Neutral films
Dynamic images	Static images	Dynamic images
Injured cyclist	<del>Injured</del> cyclist	<del>Cyclist</del>
The inevitability of the crash	Practical guidance if possible	Images from nature



**Objective:** Study the effect of the short films watched before driving on car drivers

## Hypothesis

- H1** Car drivers will estimate the emotional films more effective than the educational ones
- H2** The preventive films will help the car drivers to detect the cyclists during driving,  
particularly the emotional ones

## Population

57 men (25.4 years old), driving license (6.4 years)

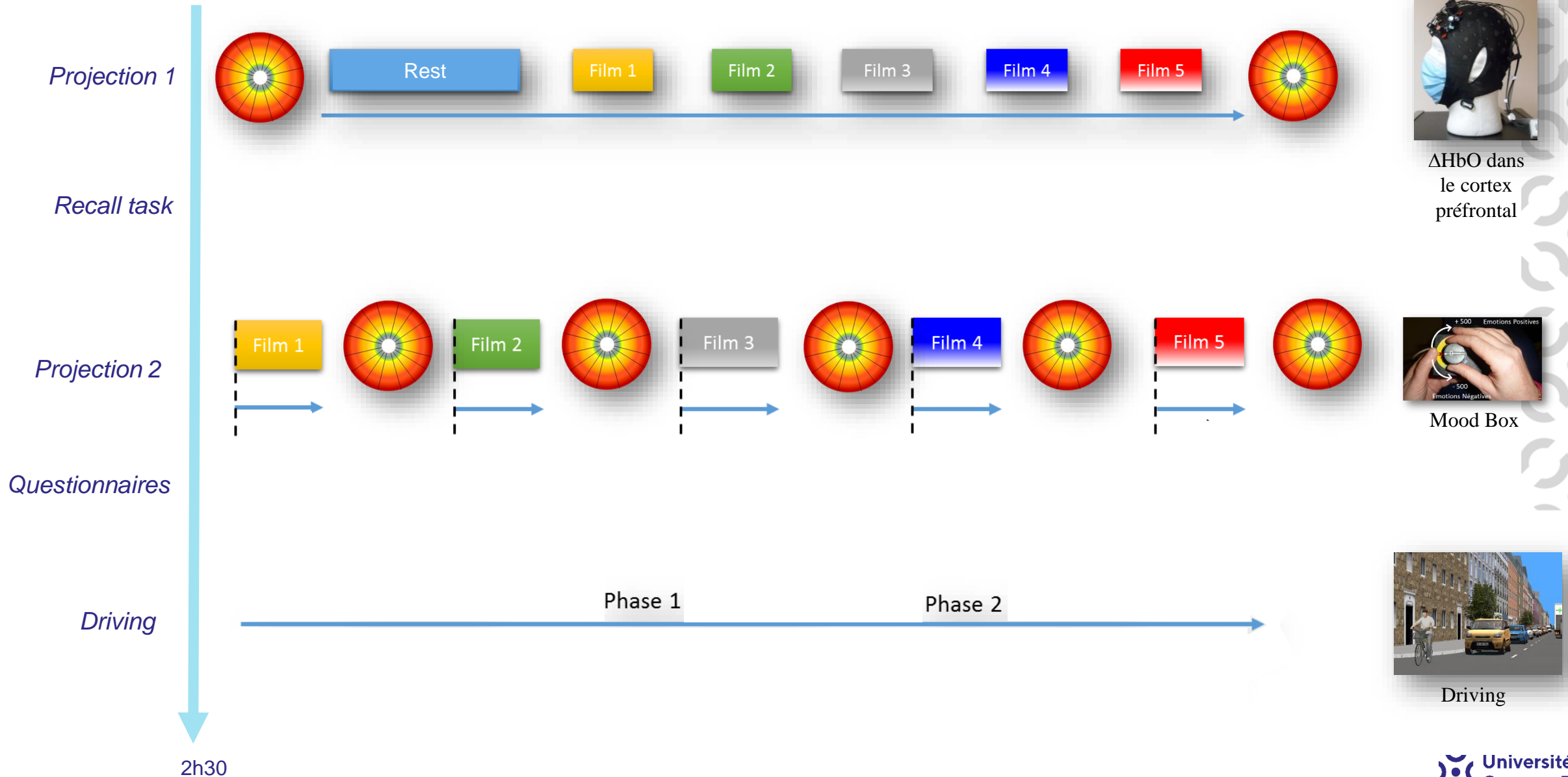
Randomised in 3 groups (19)

Each participant watched 5 films belonging to a specific category (educational or emotional or neutral one)

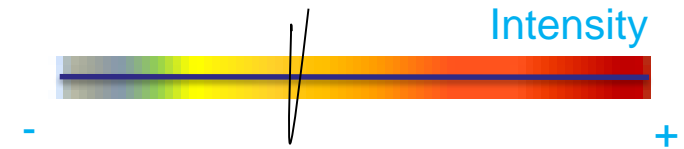
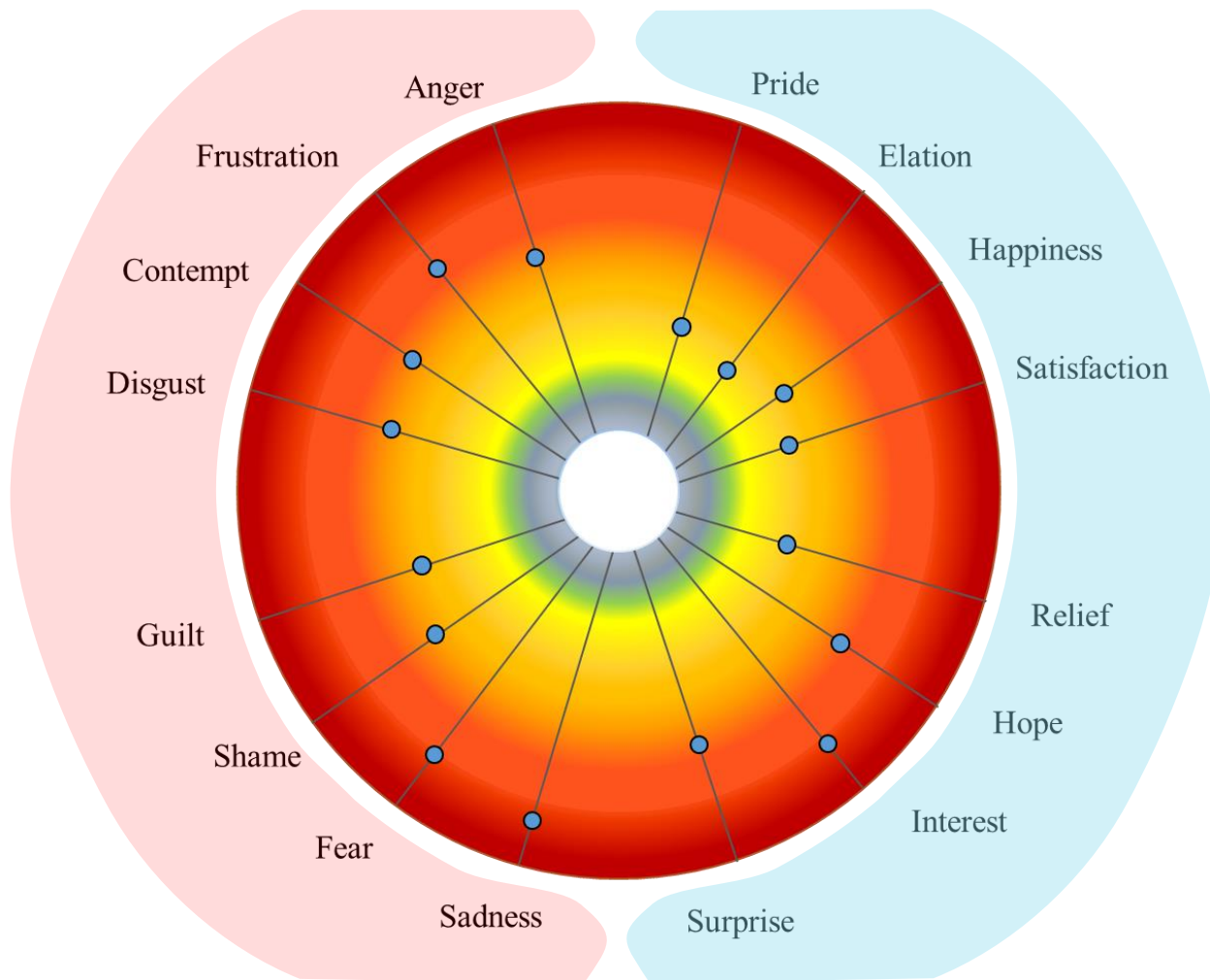
~~Interference between the films~~

# Course of the experiment

Experimental design



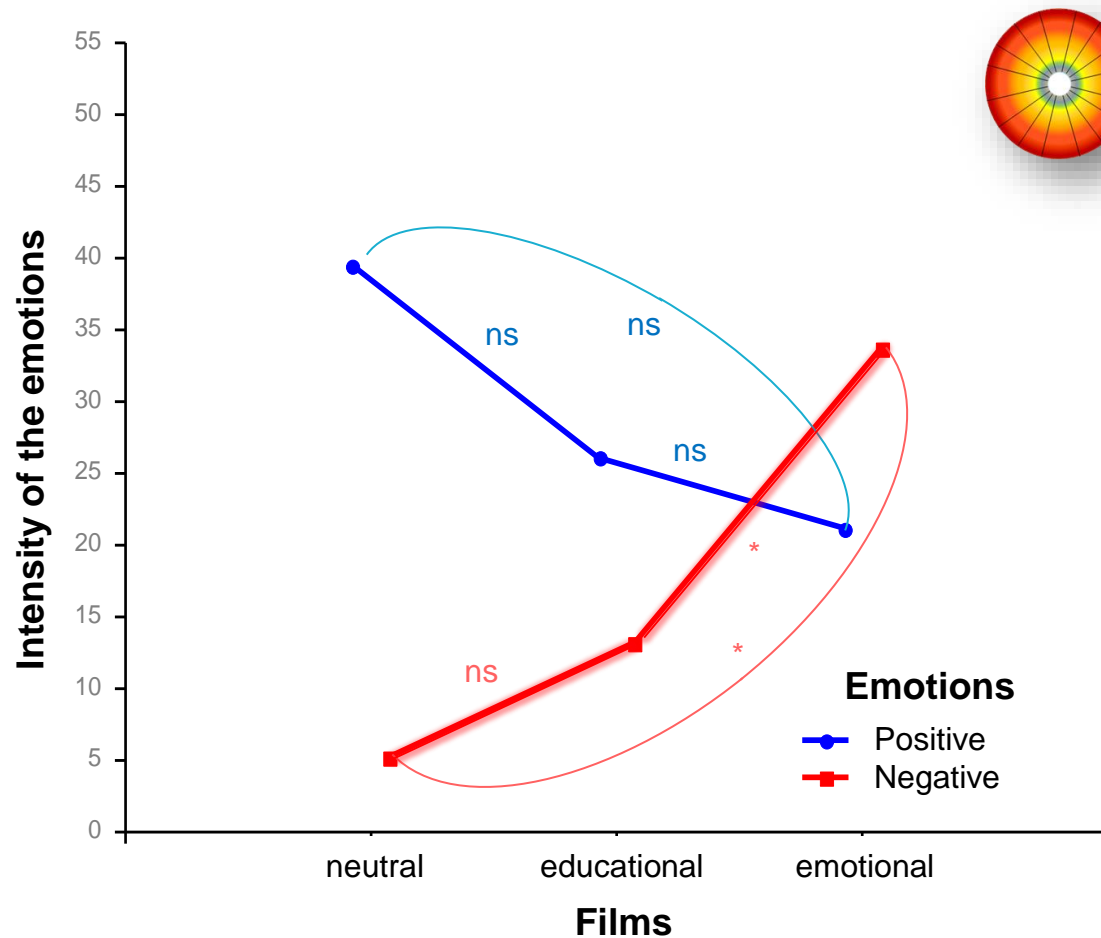




Mean of intensity

- for the positive emotions (8)
- for the negative emotions (8)

*Emotion intensity as a function of the communication mode  
and the valence of emotions*



Mean of intensity

- for the positive emotions (8)
- for the negative emotions (8)

Non parametric tests

57 participants (3 groups)

==> Ability to self-assess and to report the emotions felt during the films watching

No significant effect of the communication mode on the positive emotion intensity

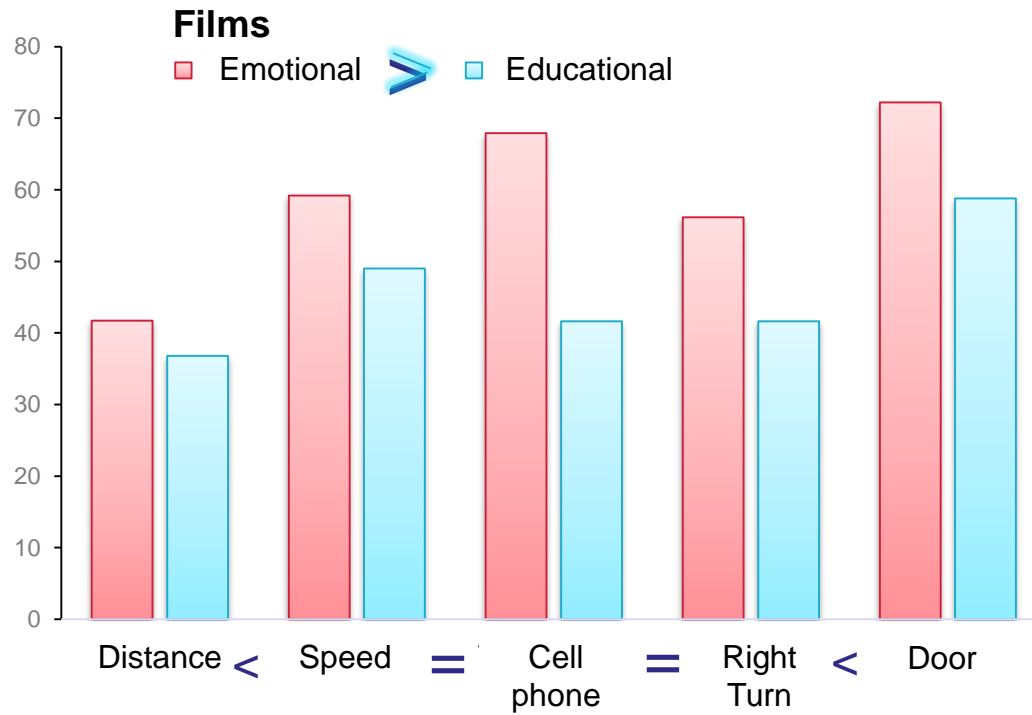
Negative emotions intensity varies according to the communication mode



ANOVA: Communication mode<sup>2</sup>, Topic<sup>5</sup>

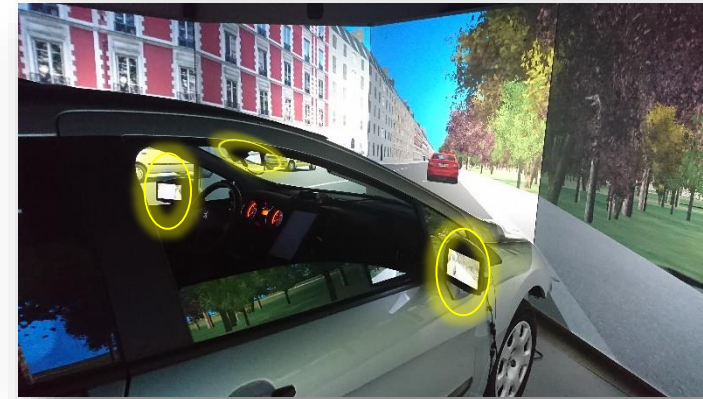
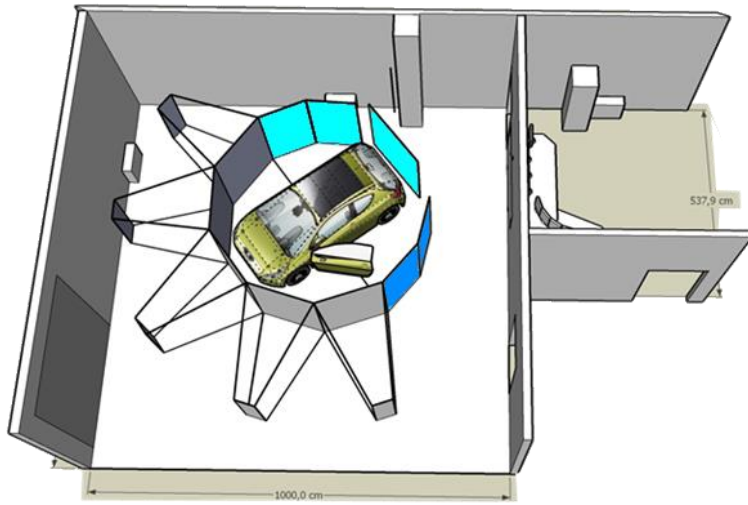
38 participants (2 groups)

*Efficiency of the preventive films for the 2 communication modes and by topic*



Significant effect of the topic

Significant effect of the communication mode



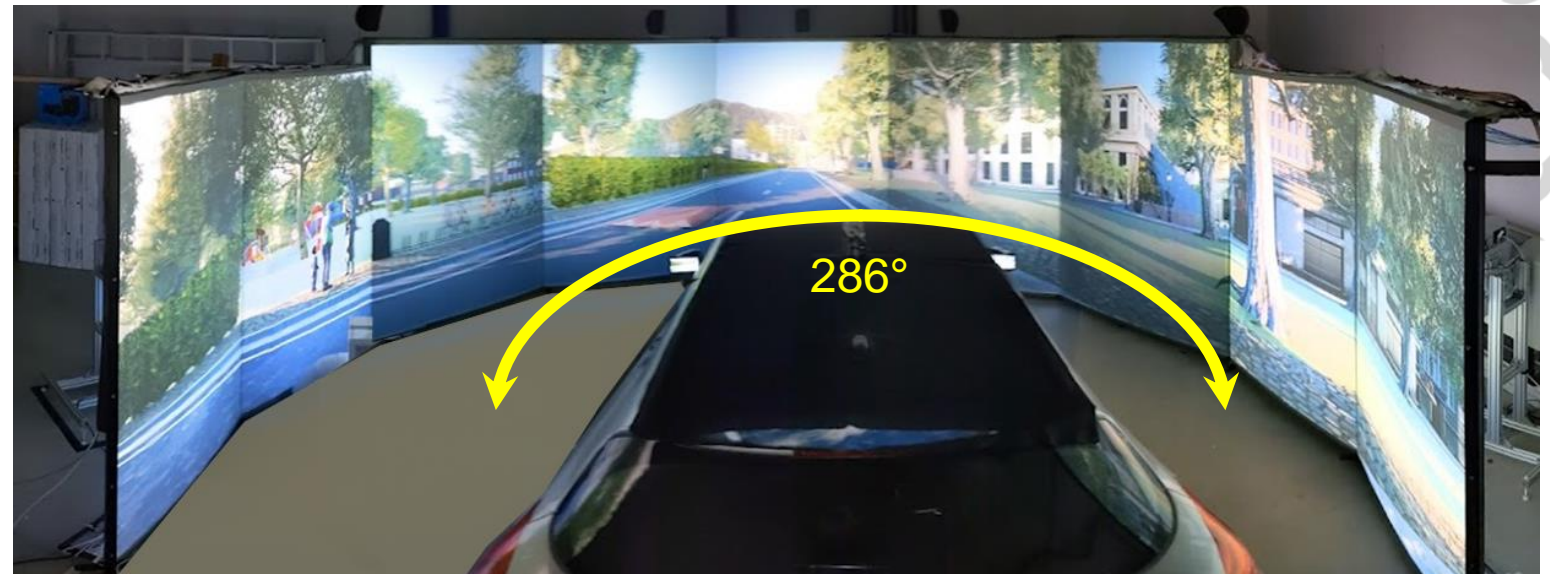
Fixed base simulator

Front view: 9 screens (back screen projection)

Back view

Inside mirror (front screen projection)

Exterior mirrors (2 screens of 7 pouces)







Area = 6 km<sup>2</sup>



### Instructions

- reach a specific location
- comply with traffic laws
- detect VRUs (pedestrians and cyclists)





31 cyclists



51 pedestrians



other vehicles (cars, vans, buses, trucks)





Distractors



Slow vehicles

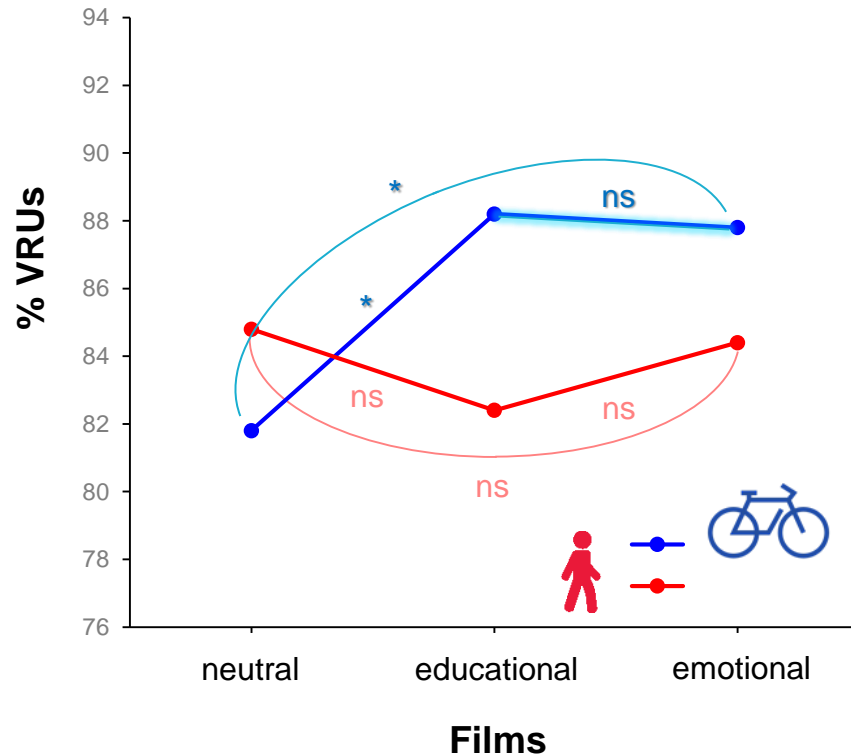




ANOVAs: Communication mode<sup>3</sup>, VRU type<sup>2</sup>

57 participants

*Percentage of detected VRUs while driving as a function of communication mode and type of VRUs*



Interaction of VRU type and communication mode

% of detected pedestrians →

% of detected cyclists ↗

==> Cyclists' cognitive conspicuity enhanced by preventive films

= { Pedestrians and motorcyclists (Rogé 2015)  
Cyclists (Lafont 2021)

==> **Information** about critical situations involving cyclists and car drivers  
is **more important** than the **communication mode** of the preventive message





→ Assessed efficiency of the preventive films

Emotional films > Educational films

→ Percentage of detected cyclists

Emotional films = Educational films

Declarative data:

~~Indicator~~

real efficiency of the  
preventive messages ?

==> Advantages of advanced simulators to evaluate the impact of preventive messages

- critical situations without taking risks
- collection of objective data (VRUs detection)



High realism level !  
Simulator sickness !



And after .....

Conspicuity of e-scooter users for car drivers

Immersive Virtual Reality technique to improve the visibility of the e-scooter



Thank you for your attention



**Joceline ROGE**

[joceline.roge@univ-eiffel.fr](mailto:joceline.roge@univ-eiffel.fr)