



RouteDetector

Sensor-based Positioning System
that Exploits Spatio-Temporal Regularity of Human Mobility

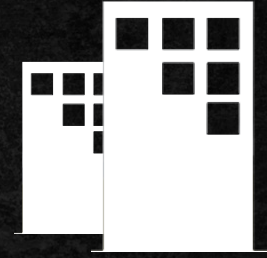
Takuya Watanabe[†], Mitsuaki Akiyama[‡] and Tatsuya Morit[†]

[†] Waseda University

[‡] NTT Secure Platform Labs



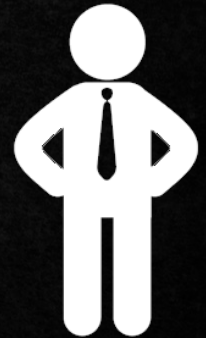
Your location



Unsolicited marketing

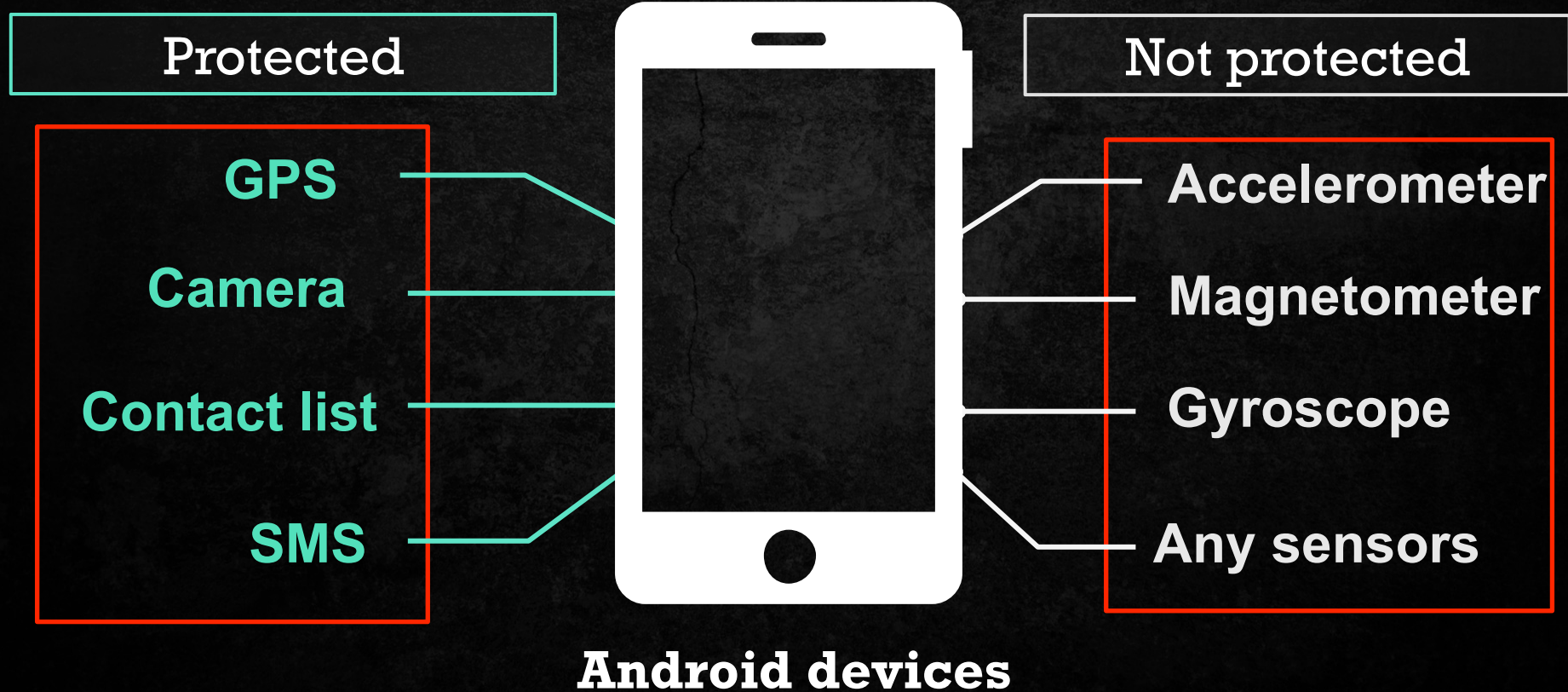


A stalker



A boss

The privacy protection mechanism



The ultimate goal

Sensor data

Accelerometer
Magnetometer
Gyroscope



data processing



Identify absolute position

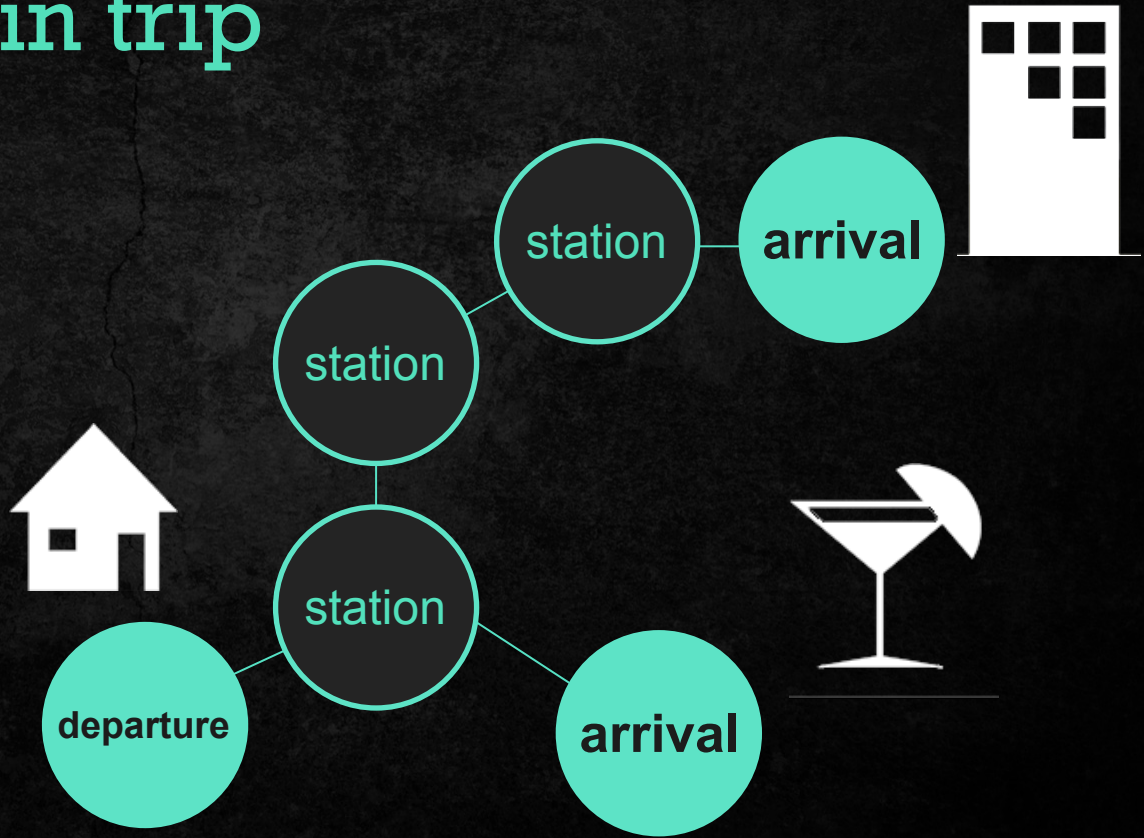
It is difficult

Then, we focus...

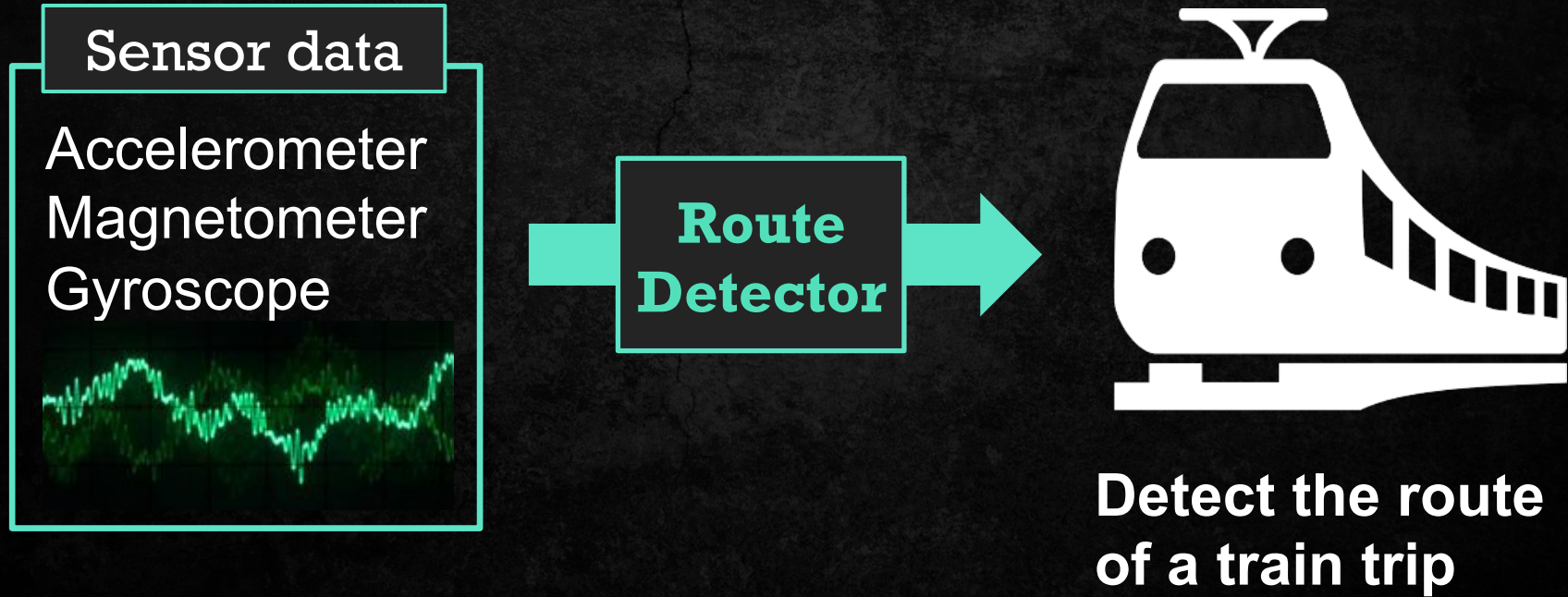


Features of train trip

- Static route
- Regularly
- Associated with
 - place of residence
 - workplace
 - favorite bar



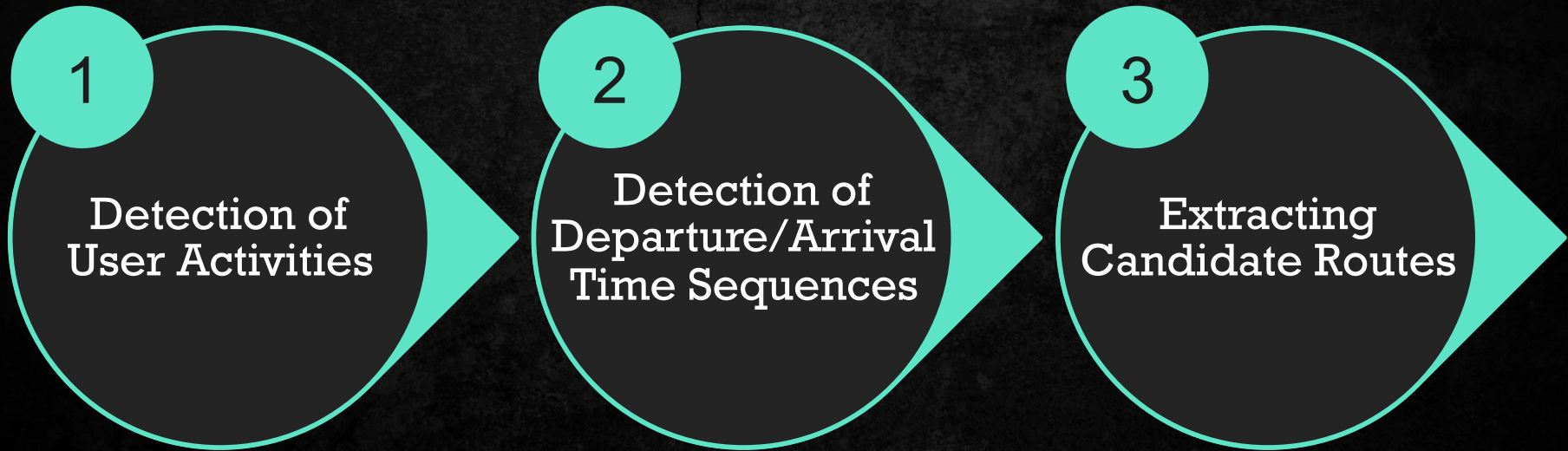
Our goal in this work

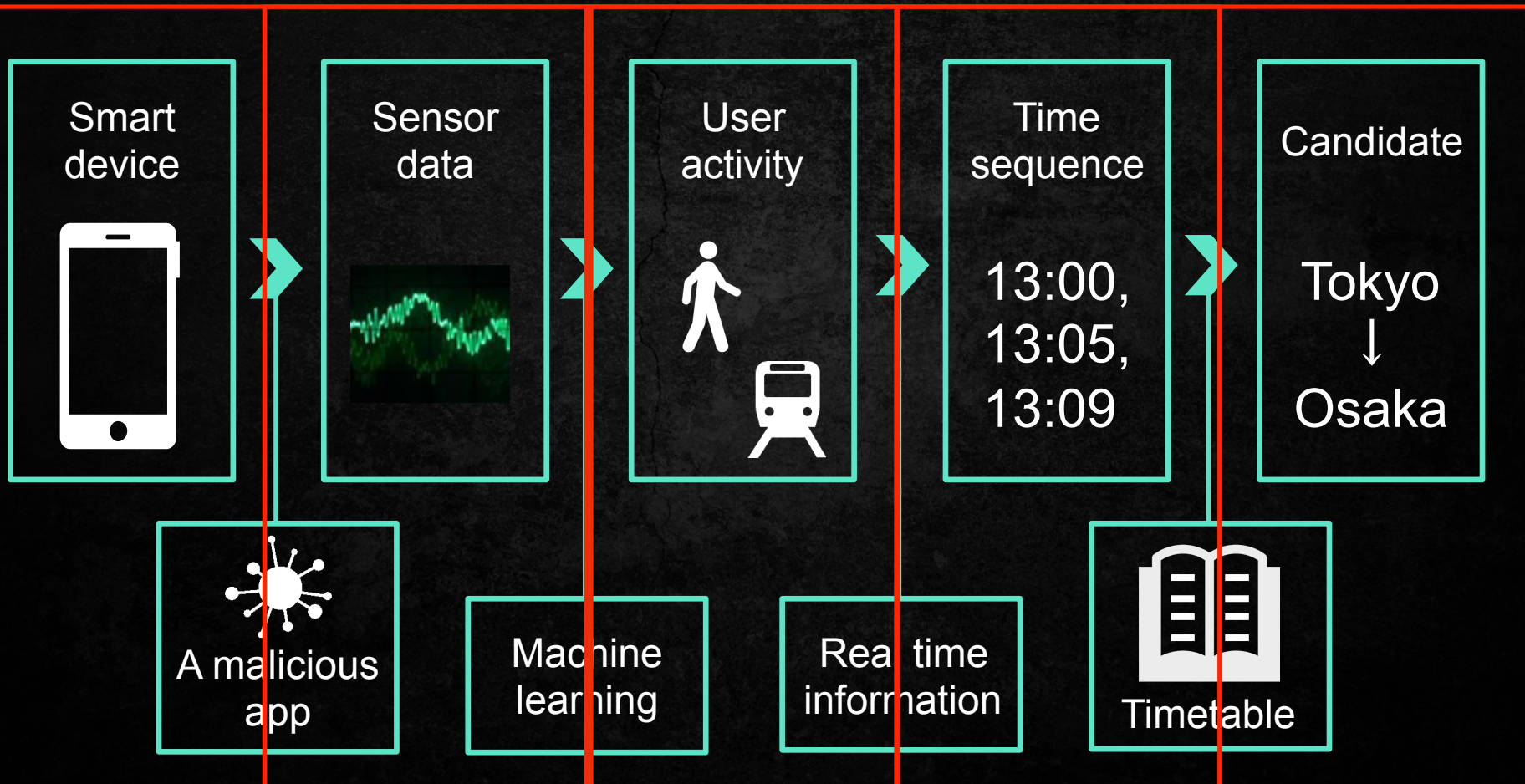


Threat model

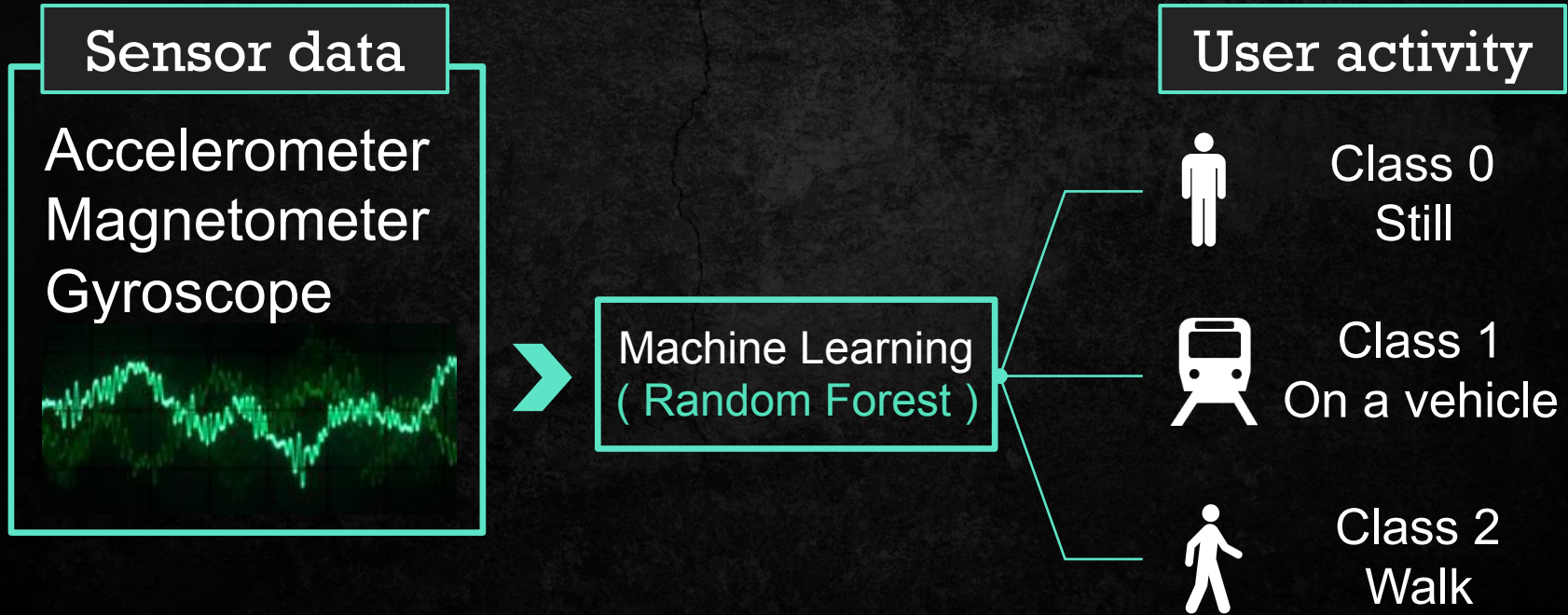
- A malicious software on a smart device
 - Only internet permission is required
- This software secretly keeps collecting sensor values
 - It estimates the owners activity (walk, on a vehicle and still)
- An adversary knows the list of public transportation systems that are used by the victim.

Overview of RouteDetector

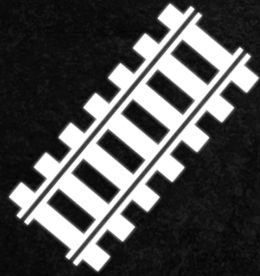




Detection of User Activities



cf: Android API to recognize activity



RouteDetector
User activities detection

No permission required



Android official API
ActivityRecognitionApi

Permission required

Summary of sensors

	Unit	Type	Permission	Description
Accelerometer	m/s^2	Physical	None	Acceleration applied to a device
Linear accelerometer	m/s^2	Virtual	None	Acceleration applied to a device excluding the gravity
Magnetometer	μT	Physical	None	Strength of geomagnetic field
Gyroscope	rad/s	Physical	None	A device's rate of rotation

10 Hz : read 10 values per second

Data preprocessing for each sensor

1. Compute norm = $\sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2}$
 - To eliminate the effect of differences in the directions



Data preprocessing for each sensor

2. Divide time series data into a set of blocks

$a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n$



$\{\underbrace{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{20}}_{\text{block1}}, \underbrace{a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{40}}_{\text{block2}}, \dots$

Data preprocessing for each sensor

3. Calculate typical values: mean, max, min and σ

$$\text{Block1} = \{a_{l1}, a_{l2}, \dots, a_{l20}\}$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{mean}(a_{l1}, a_{l2}, \dots, a_{l20}), \\ \text{max}(a_{l1}, a_{l2}, \dots, a_{l20}), \\ \text{min}(a_{l1}, a_{l2}, \dots, a_{l20}), \\ \sigma(a_{l1}, a_{l2}, \dots, a_{l20}) \end{array} \right\}$$

Feature vectors to detect activity

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Accelerometer} \\ \text{Linear acceleration} \\ \text{Magnetometer} \\ \text{Gyroscope} \end{array} \right\} * \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{mean} \\ \text{max} \\ \text{min} \\ \sigma \end{array} \right\} = 16 \text{ dimensions}$$

=> A random forest classifier (supervised ML)

Labels creation



HTC / Smartphone



Nexus 7 / Tablet

Labels stats (# of blocks)

Data	vehicle	walk	still	total	total time
HTC_hold	1,327	510	609	2,446	4,892 sec
HTC_bag	1,360	510	691	2,561	5,122 sec
Nexus_hold	1,352	505	686	2,543	5,086 sec
Nexus_bag	1,304	505	602	2,411	4,822 sec

HTC/Nexus ... devices name hold/bag ... situation

Definition of FP/FN

Ground truth



Class 0 or 2
Still or Walk

Prediction



Class 1
Vehicle

False Positive



Class 1
Vehicle



Class 0 or 2
Still or Walk

False Negative

Evaluation of Activities Detection

Data	ACC	FNR	FPR
HTC_hold	0.941	0.042	0.078
HTC_bag	0.965	0.024	0.047
Nexus_hold	0.943	0.041	0.074
Nexus_bag	0.969	0.023	0.041

Performance of detecting vehicle activity

Example of the classification

0: still , 1: On a moving vehicle , 2:Walk

Ground truth:

22211111111111111111111111000000000011111111111111111

Prediction:

222110011111111011111111110010000011111011111111111

Example of the classification

0: still , 1: On a moving vehicle , 2:Walk

On the still train

Ground truth:

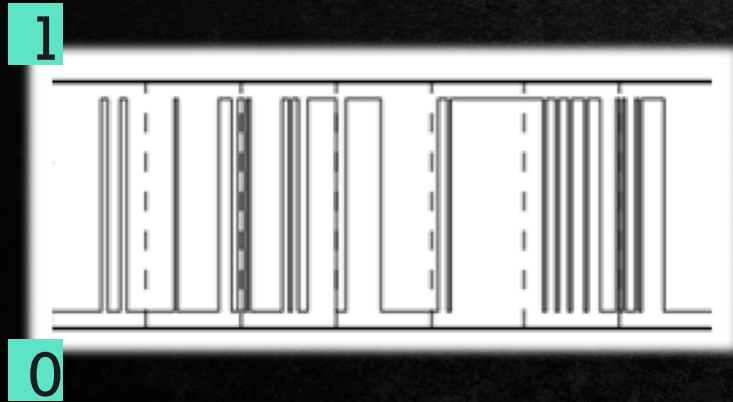
2221111111111111111111000000000001111111111111

On the moving train

[illegible]

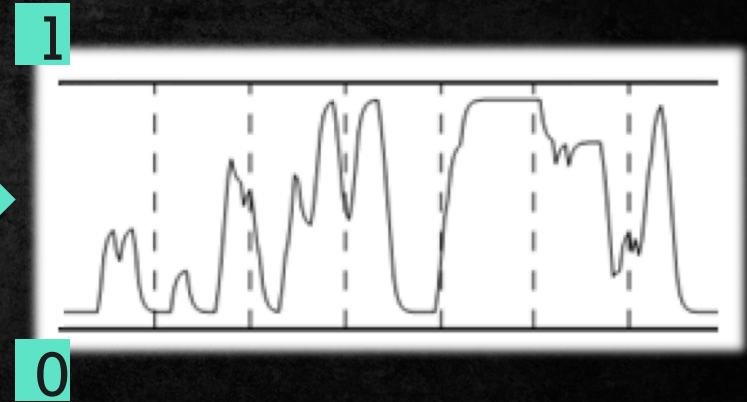
Noise reduction

Predicted user activities



EWMA

Smoothened user activities



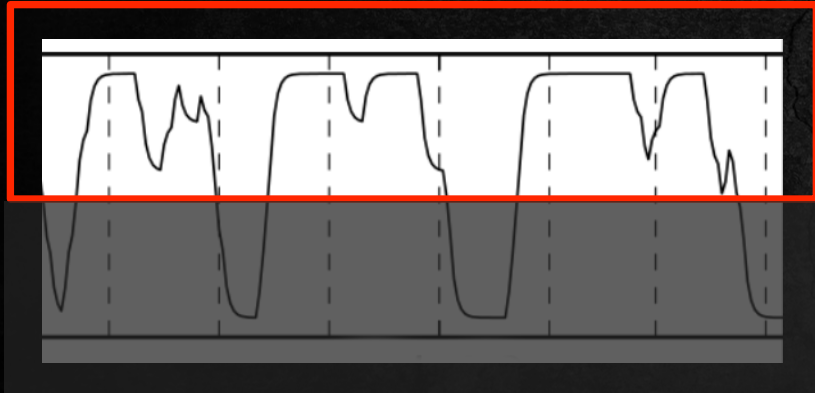
EWMA: Exponentially Weighted Moving Average

$$S_{\downarrow n} = \lambda S_{\downarrow n} + (1 - \lambda) S_{\downarrow n-1}$$

Noise reduction (cont.)

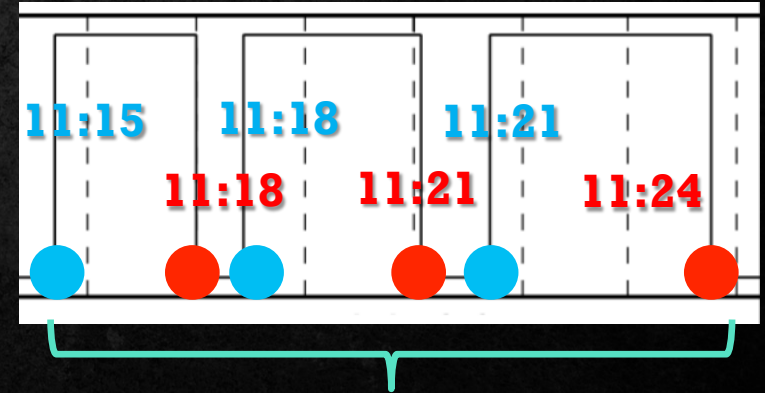
$0.5 > S \rightarrow 1$ (on vehicle)

$0.5 \leq S \rightarrow 0$ (still)



Smoothened user activities

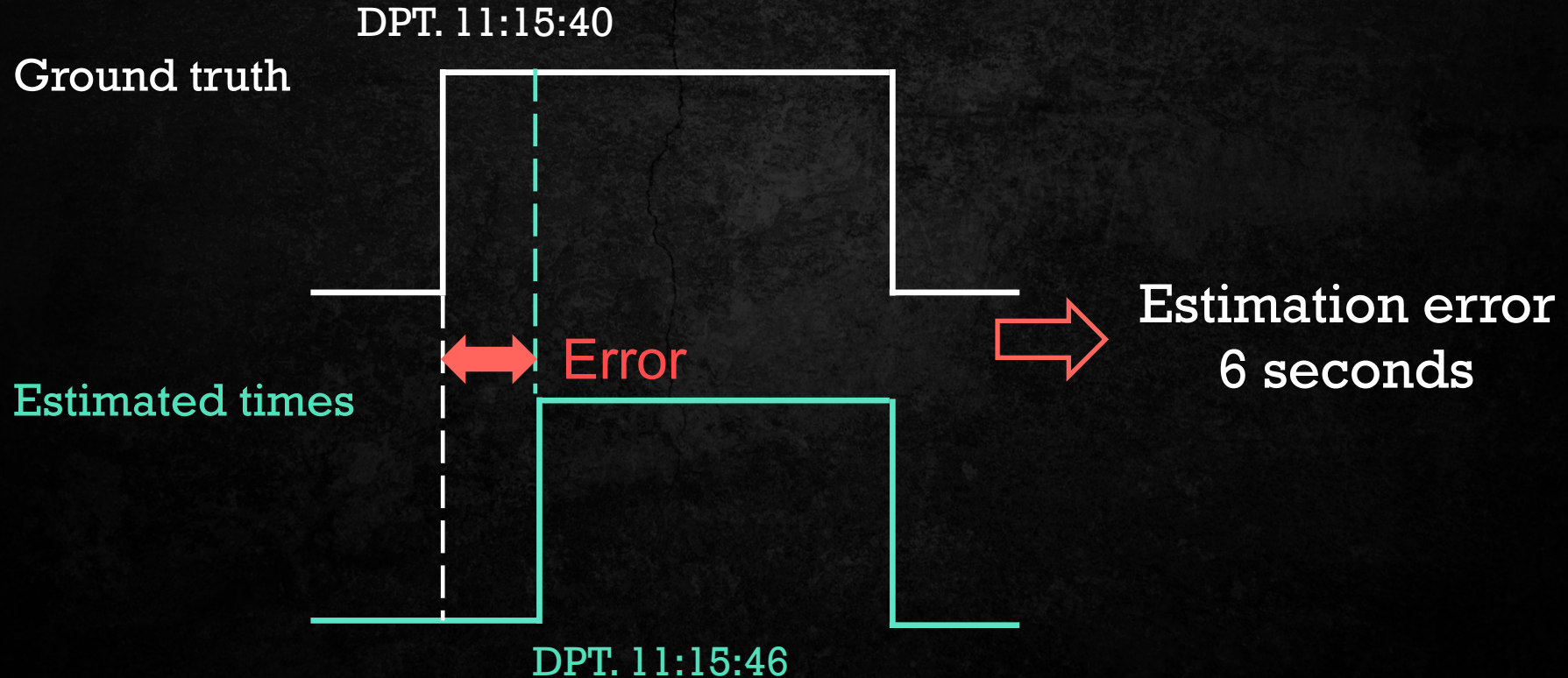
- Departure
- Arrival



extract these times

Corrected user activities

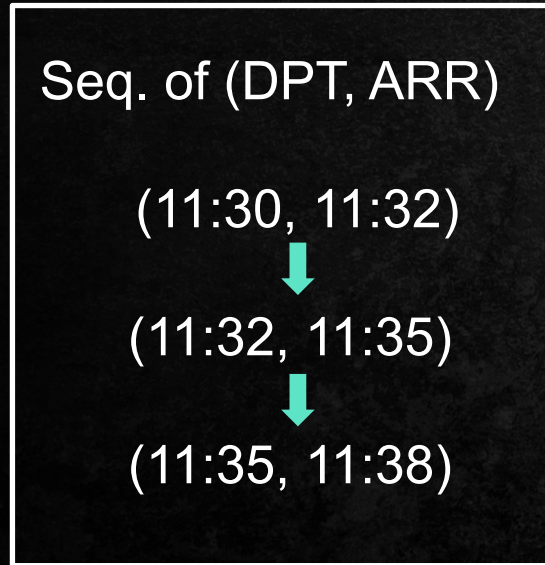
Accuracy of detected DPT/ARR times



Stats of absolute estimation errors (secs)

Data	Departure			Arrival		
	min	max	mean	min	max	mean
HTC_hold	1.97	3.54	2.79	2.52	6.75	4.13
HTC_bag	2.04	3.06	2.53	1.71	4.63	3.21
Nexus_hold	2.33	7.94	4.60	3.07	10.78	6.03
Nexus_bag	1.55	2.76	2.17	2.22	5.16	3.43

Candidate Routes Extraction



Timetables

Candidate 1

- Tokyo
- Kanda
- Akihabara
- Okachimachi

Candidate 2

- Shinjuku
- Shin-Okubo
- Takadanobaba
- Mejiro

Timetables

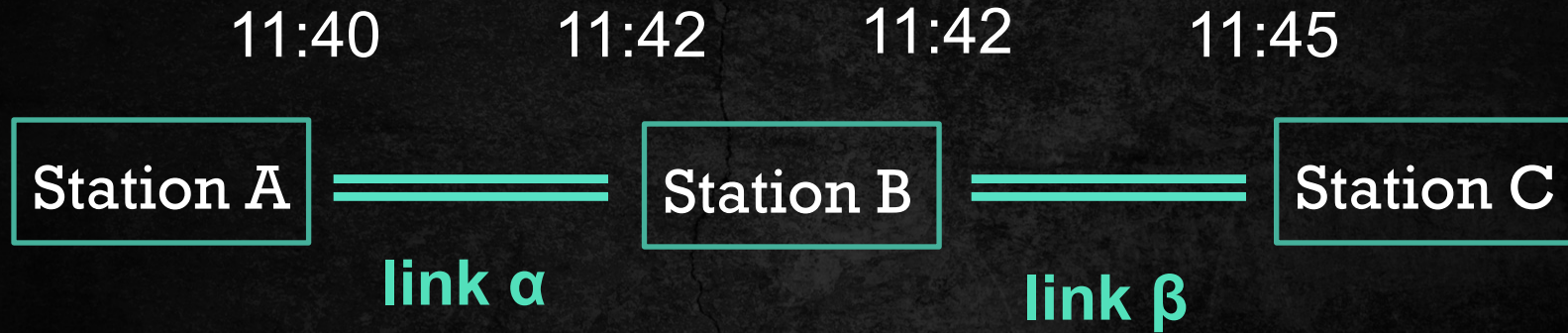
- Collected timetables of passenger train companies operating in Japan
- The DB covers all the prefectures in Japan
 - 9,090 railway stations
 - 597 lines
 - 172 railway companies
 - 2,277,397 “links”

<u>Osaki</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:46	11:51
<u>Gotanda</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:48	11:52
<u>Meguro</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:50	11:55
<u>Ebisu</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:53	11:57
<u>Shibuya</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:55	12:00
<u>Harajuku</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	11:58	12:02
<u>Yoyogi</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	12:00	12:05
<u>Shinjuku</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	12:02	12:07
<u>Shin-Okubo</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	12:04	12:09
<u>Takadanobaba</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	12:07	12:11
<u>Mejiro</u>	<u>DPT.</u>	12:09	12:13
<u>Ikebukuro</u>	<u>ARR.</u>	12:11	12:15

<http://ekikara.jp/>

Definition of a link

$$\text{Link} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ departure station} \\ \bullet \text{ arrival station} \\ \bullet \text{ departure time} \\ \bullet \text{ arrival time} \\ \bullet \text{ next link} \end{array} \right\}$$

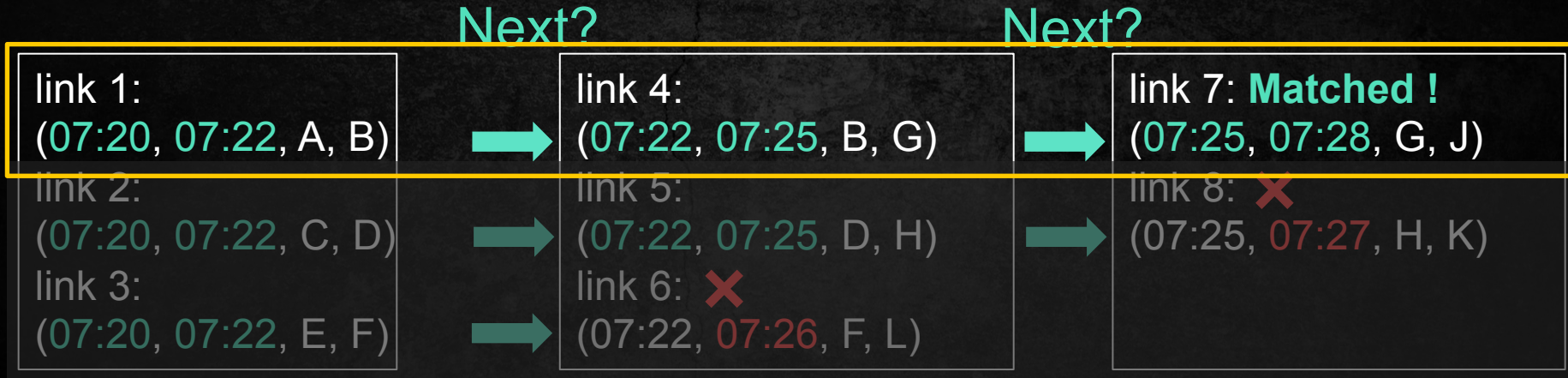


link α = $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_d = \text{Station A} \\ S_a = \text{Station B} \\ T_d = 11:40 \\ T_a = 11:42 \\ \text{Next} = \text{link } \beta \end{array} \right\}$

link β = $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_d = \text{Station B} \\ S_a = \text{Station C} \\ T_d = 11:42 \\ T_a = 11:45 \\ \text{Next} = \text{None} \end{array} \right\}$

Searching Candidate Routes

Input: [(07:20, 07:22), (07:22, 07:25), (07:25, 07:28)]

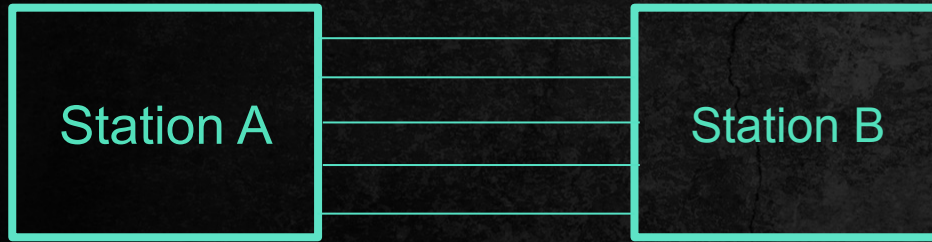


Results:



Score calculation

Count # of Links { Same origin / destination
Different Td / Ta }

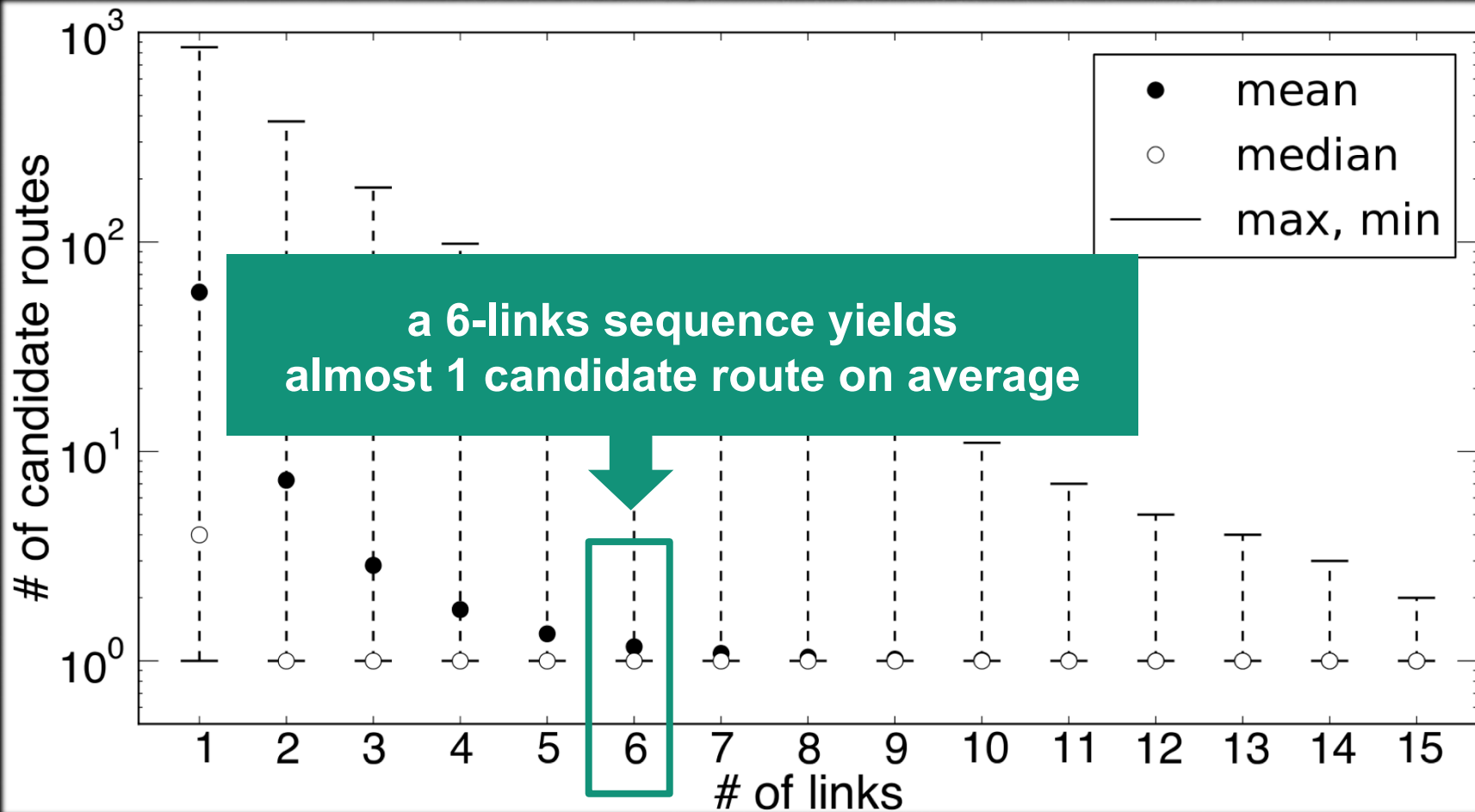


Score: +5
(more popular)

Score: +1

Performance of the algorithm (1)

- Enumerate all the possible routes
 - extracted 6.4 billion routes
 - Sequence length = less than 15 links
 - At most 2 line changes
- Compute the relationship between the number of links and the number of candidate routes.



Performance of the algorithm (2)

- More than 6.4 billion routes were searched within **74 mins**

- A route was searched

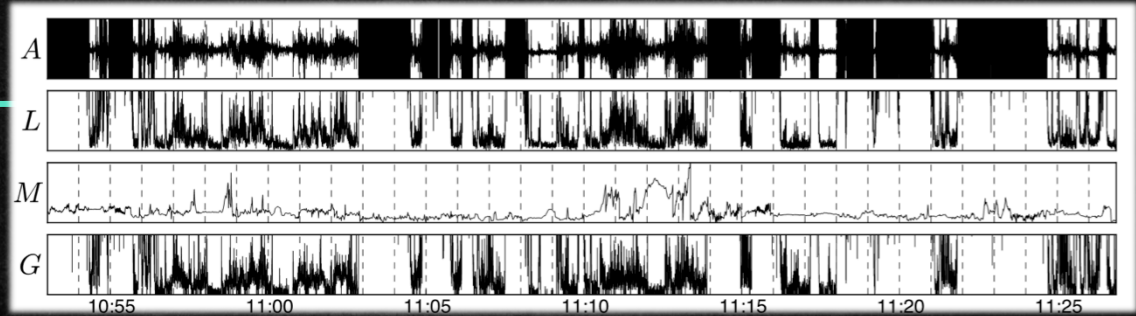
within $74mins/6400000000 = \mathbf{7.1} \mu sec$

on average

Case study



A victim



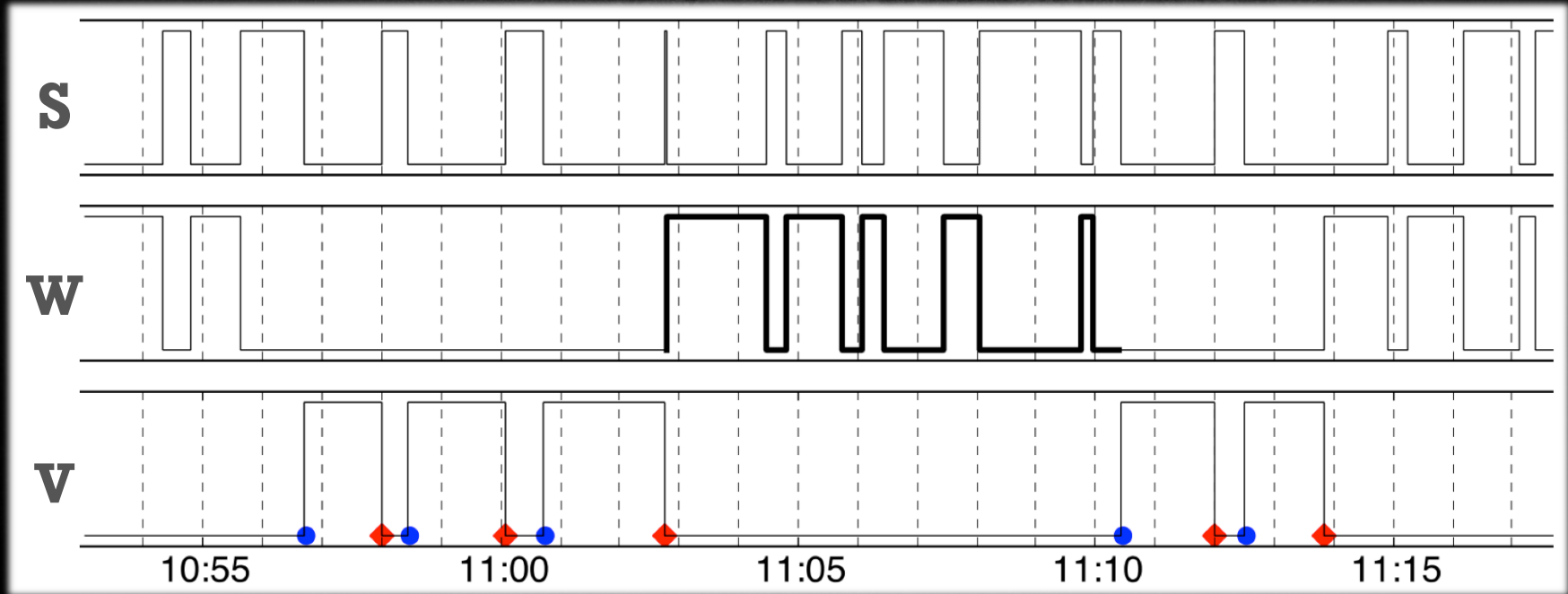
Sensor data



**Route
Detector**

Case study 1

Results of activity detection



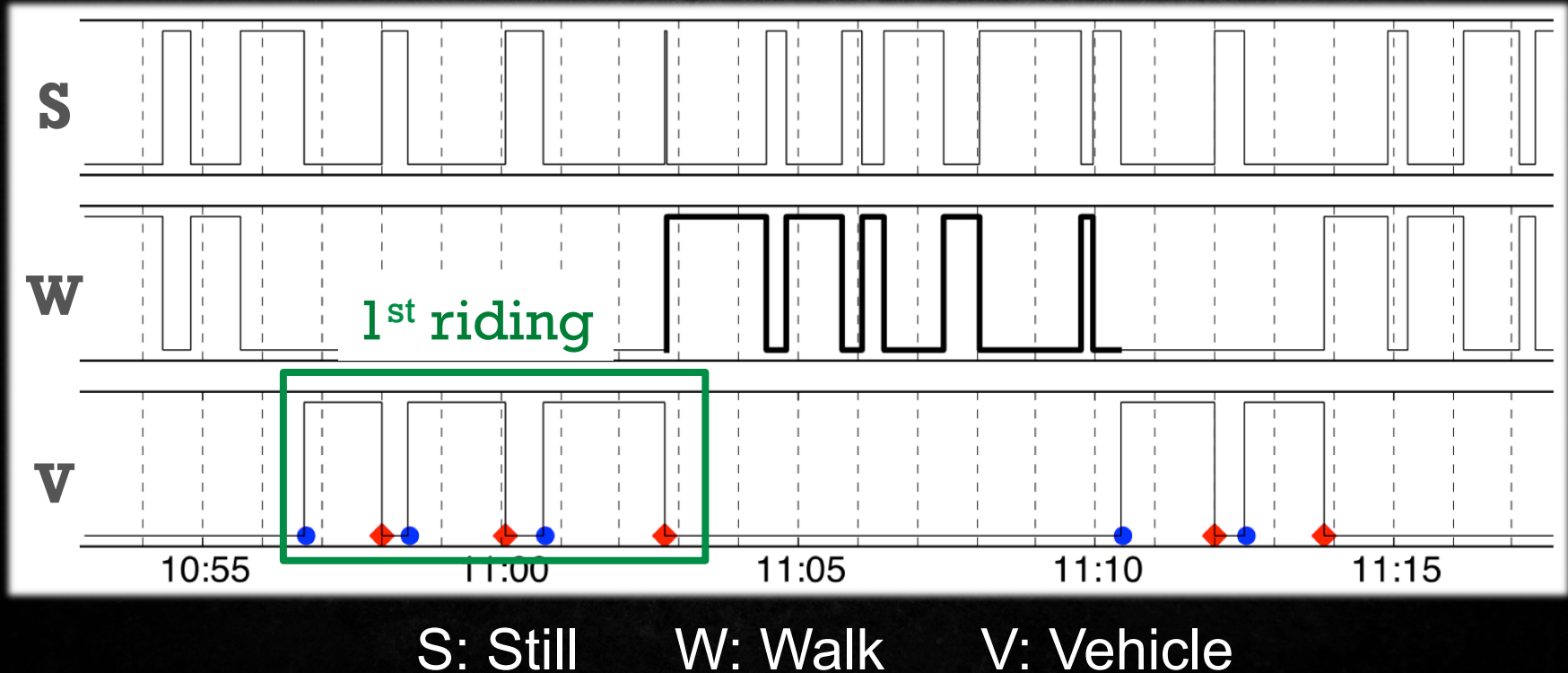
S: Still

W: Walk

V: Vehicle

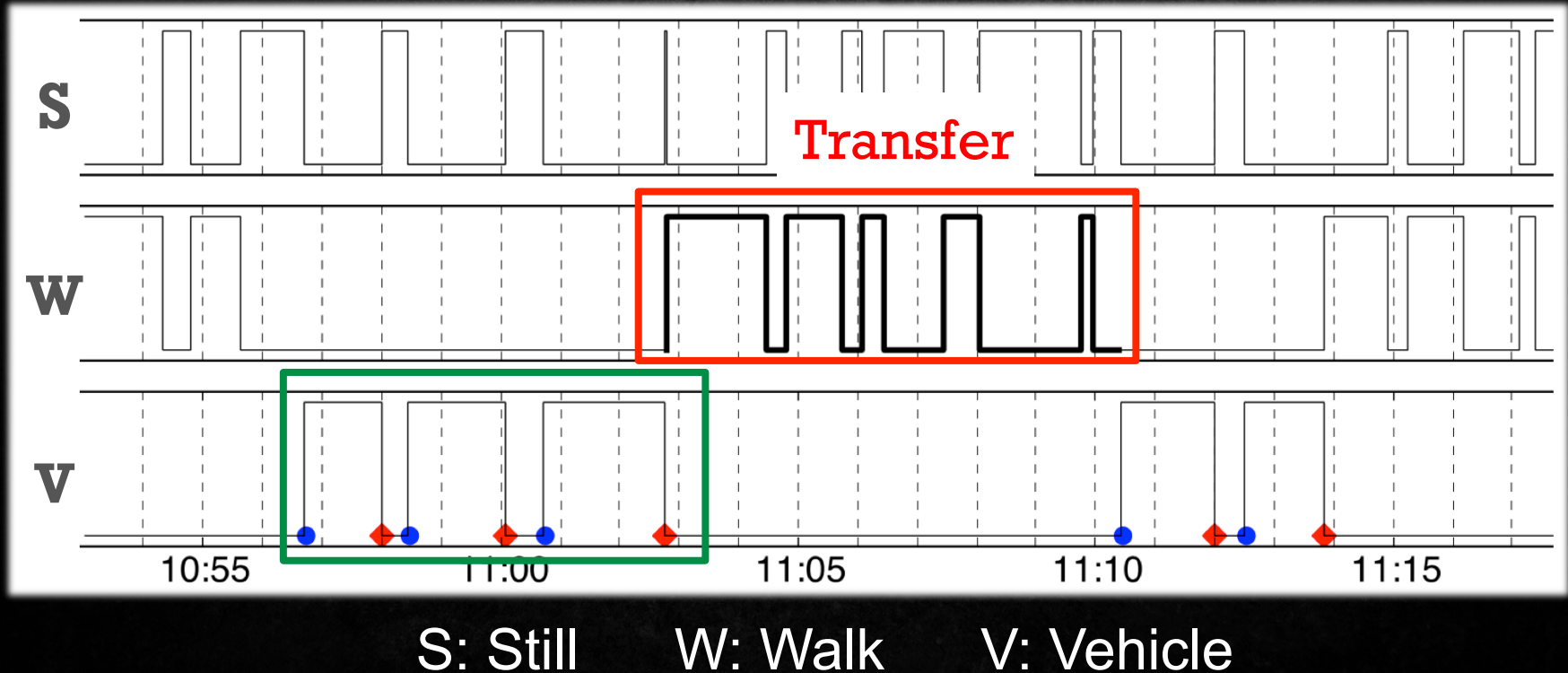
Case study 1

Results of activity detection



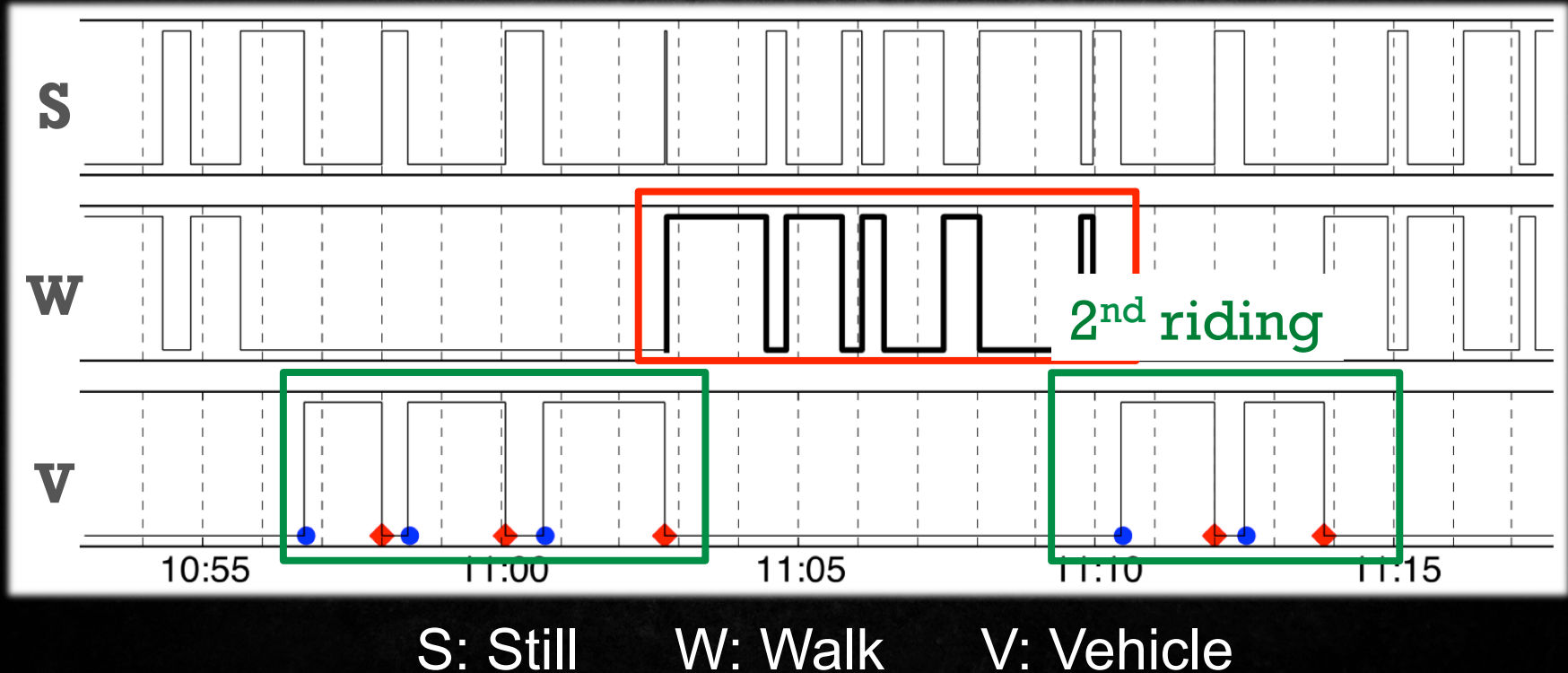
Case study 1

Results of activity detection



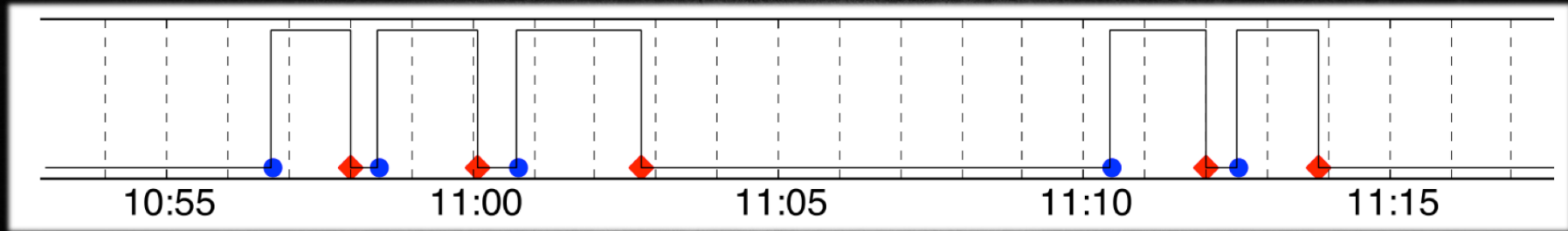
Case study 1

Results of activity detection



Case study 1

Results of Dpt./Arr. time detection



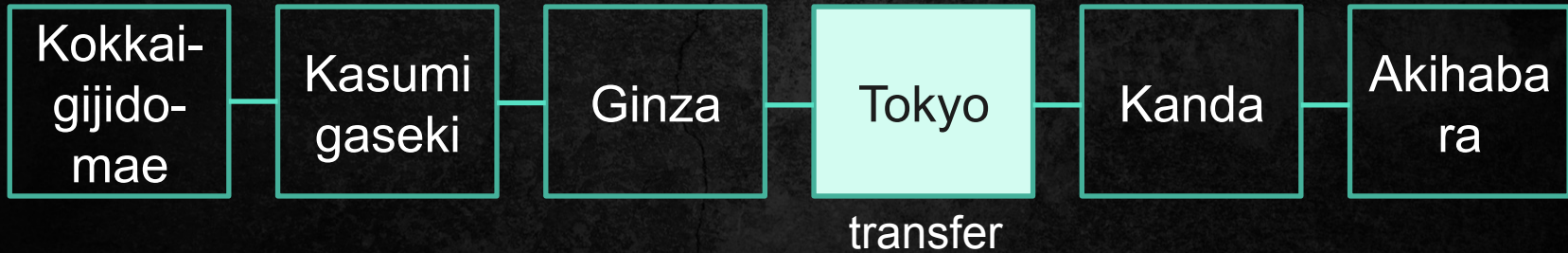
(10:56, 10:58) → (10:58, 11:00) → (11:00, 11:03) →
(change the line) → (11:10, 11:12) → (11:12, 11:14)

»» Candidate Routes

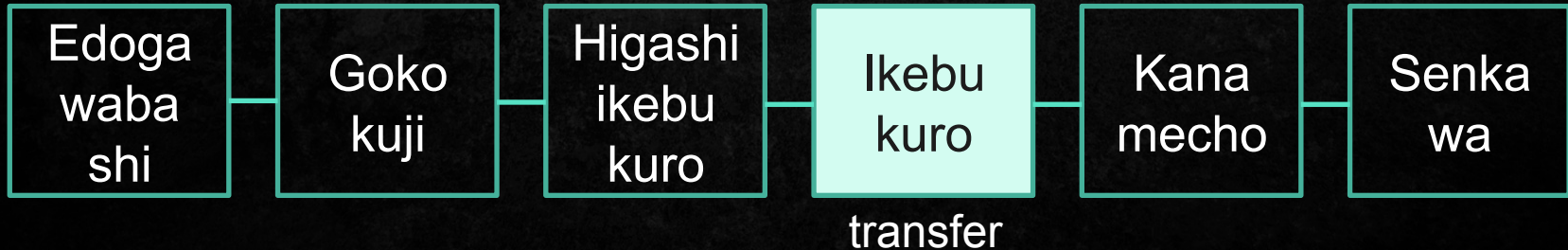
Case study 1

Results of Candidate Routes Detection

Candidate 1: Score 2664



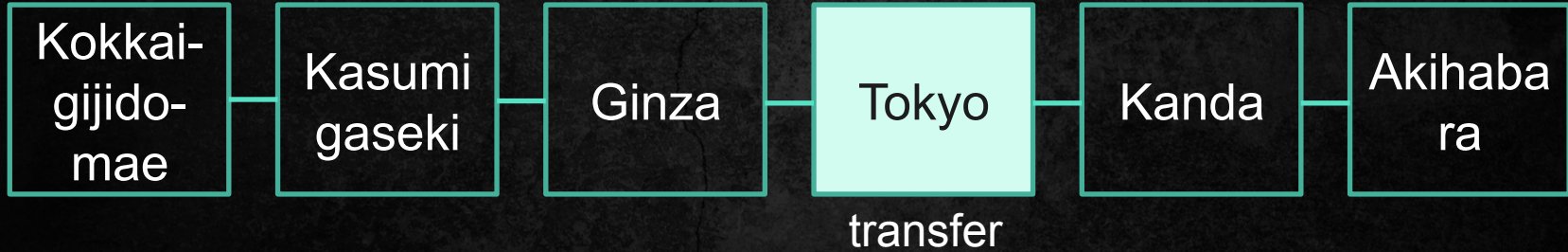
Candidate 2: Score 2277



Case study 1

Results of Candidate Routes Detection

Candidate 1: Score 2664

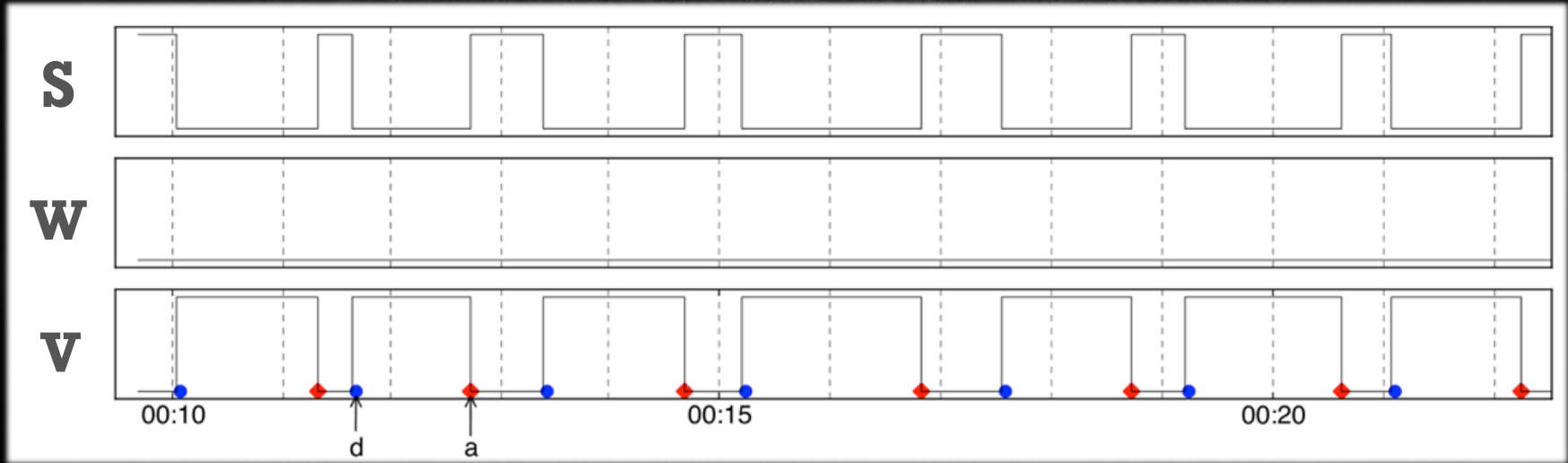


Candidate 2: Score 2277



Correct!

Case study 2



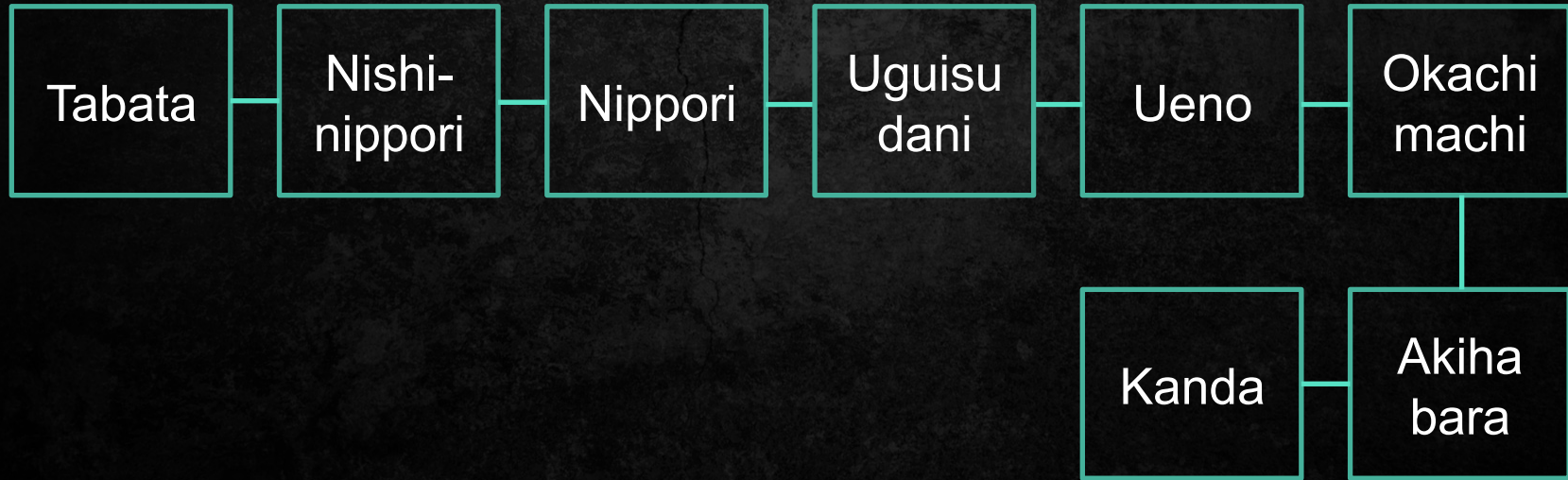
S: Still W: Walk V: Vehicle

(0:10, 0:11) → (0:11, 0:13) → (0:13, 0:15) → (0:15, 0:17)
→ (0:17, 0:19) → (0:19, 0:21) → (0:21, 0:22)

Case study 2

Results of Candidate Routes Detection

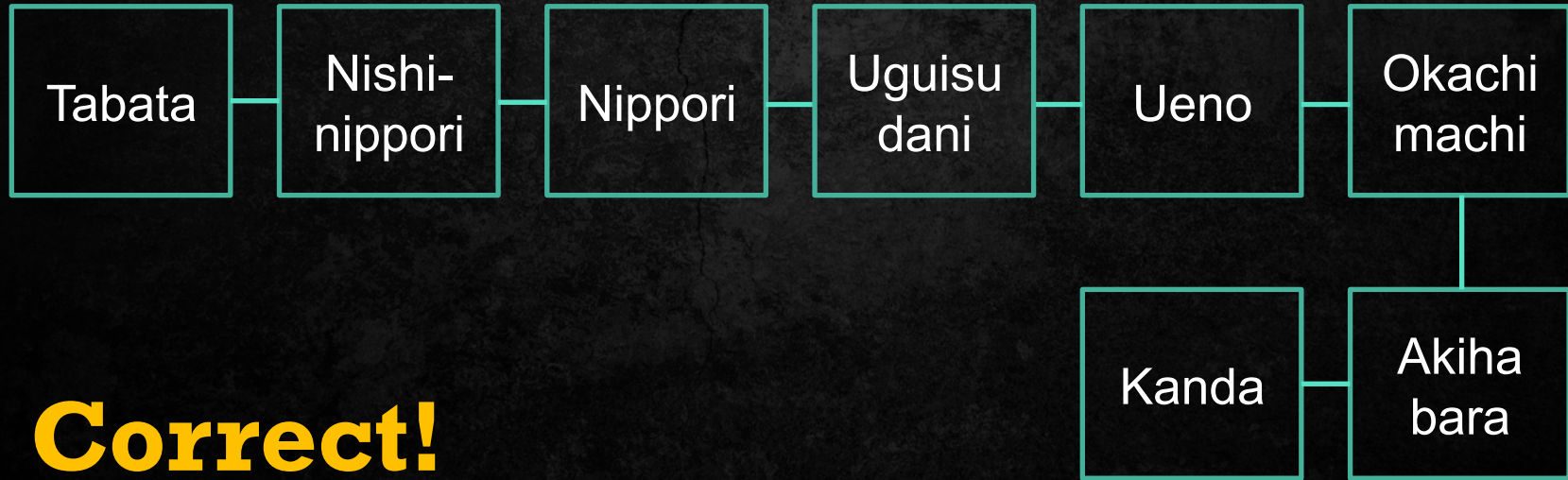
Candidate 1 (The only): Score 3892



Case study 2

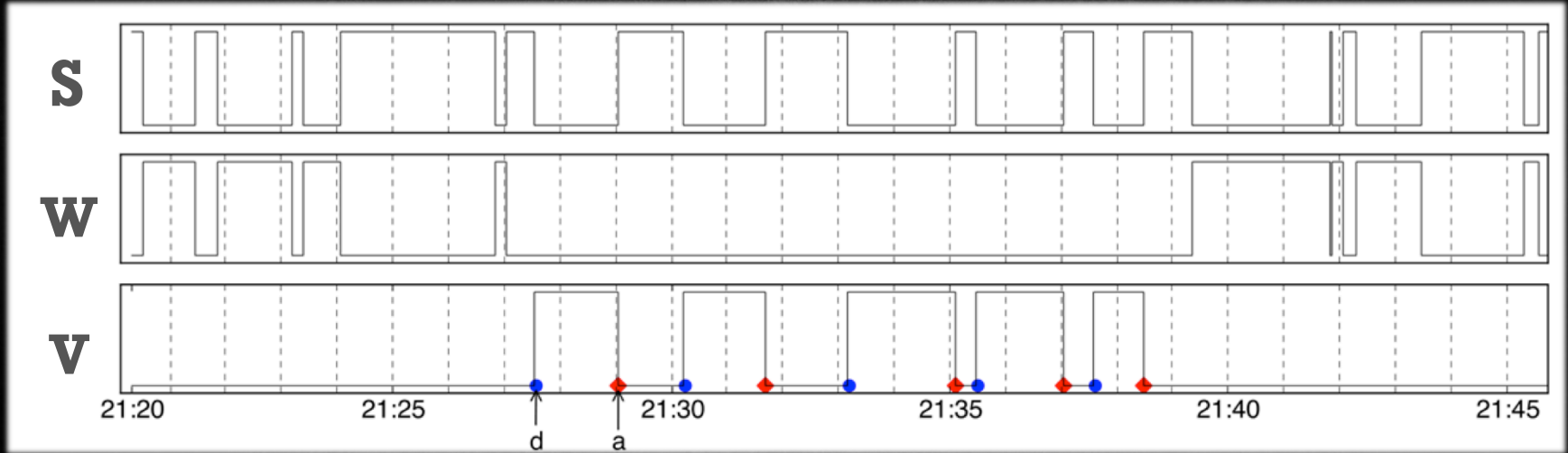
Results of Candidate Routes Detection

Candidate 1 (The only): Score 3892



Correct!

Case study 3



S: Still W: Walk V: Vehicle

(21:27, 21:29) → (21:30, 21:32) → (21:33, 21:35)
→ (21:35, 21:37) → (21:37, 21:39)

Case study 3

Results of Candidate Routes Detection



None

Why we failed to detect in Case 3 ?

	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R
Scheduled	21:26	21:28	21:28	21:32	21:32	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Observed	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Detected	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39

Why we failed to detect in Case 3 ?

	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R
Scheduled	21:26	21:28	21:28	21:32	21:32	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Observed	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Detected	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39

DPT./ARR. time detection was perfect

Why we failed to detect in Case 3 ?

	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R	DPT	AR R
Scheduled	21:26	21:28	21:28	21:32	21:32	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Observed	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39
Detected	21:27	21:29	21:30	21:32	21:33	21:35	21:35	21:37	21:37	21:39

The train was delayed at the time of measurement

Discussion - Train Operation

#1001	On time
#1002	On time
#1003	On time
#1004	On time

Detectable



#8001	Delayed
#8002	Delayed
#8003	Suspended
#8004	Delayed

Undetectable



Discussion - Train Operation (cont.)

- Multiple observations
 - An adversary can figure out locations frequently visited by the target in a statistical way
- Automatic train operation
 - It will work to increase the accuracy of train operations

Countermeasures

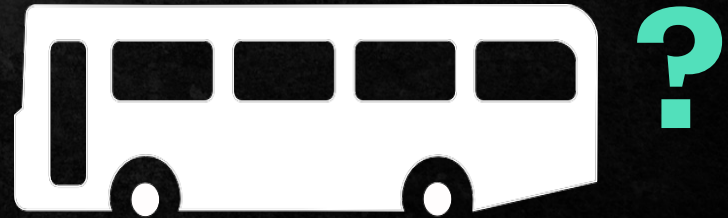
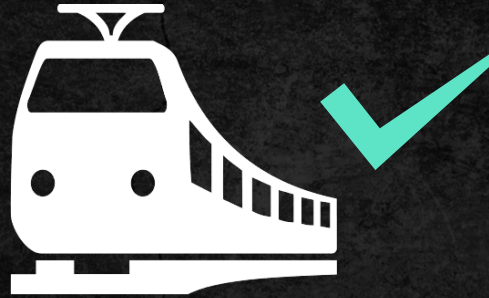
- Restricting access to raw sensor data
 - Requiring permission
 - Wrapping in APIs
- Low-pass filtering
 - The trade offs between functionality and security
- Staying away from Japan

Conclusion

- A novel, proof-of-concept side-channel attack framework called RouteDetector was introduced
- It needs only sensors data which is not protected on the Android platform
- We successfully demonstrated that a route can be identified, used for a trip by train using timetables and route maps.

Q&A

Discussion - Types of Vehicles



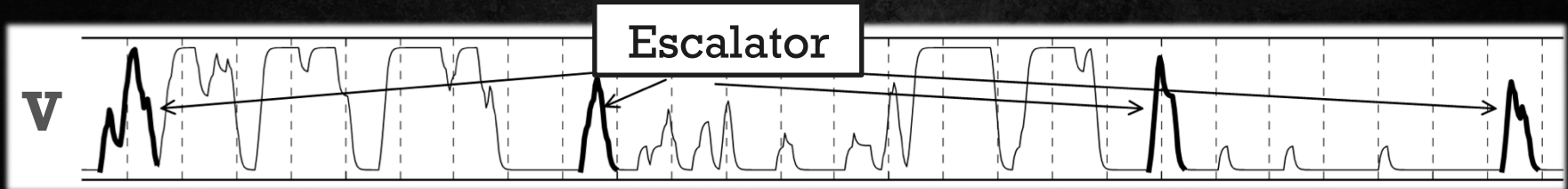
Discussion - Types of Vehicles (cont.)

- An airplane
- A mono rail
 - Possible candidate to be attacked
- A bus

average time waiting at traffic lights > average time waiting at bus stops

Discussion – Detection errors

- Our classifier can predict the activity of riding an escalator as "Vehicle"



- To distinguish between escalator and train, we apply a timing heuristics;

Discussion – Detection errors (cont.)

- We consider a short "vehicle activity" (less than 60 seconds) as other activities
 - Coping with long escalator ride, e.g., more than 60 seconds, is for future work.

Image sources

Map: <https://www.google.co.jp/maps>

Boss icon: <http://pictogram-free.com/03-mark/042-mark.html>

Location icon: <http://www.cliparthut.com/map-icons-clip-art-clipart-W13IHd.html>

Train photo: http://blogs.yahoo.co.jp/yuuki_20140313/40442989.html

Sensor image: <http://fscomps.fotosearch.com/bigcomps/CSP/CSP139/k1398123.jpg>

Train icon: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bahn_aus_Zusatzzeichen_1024-15.svg

Timetable icon: <http://simpleicon.com/book-2.html>

Airplane icon: <http://www.sozai-library.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/00289-450x337.jpg>

Bus icon: http://4vector.com/i/free-vector-bus-symbol-black-clip-art_110561_Bus_Symbol_black_clip_art_hight.png

Home icon: http://free-icon.org/data/dl_05/m_06.gif

Bar icon: http://map-icon.com/material/eatanddrink/m_05.gif

Malware icon: <http://freeiconbox.com/icon/256/30992.png>

Smartphone with xyz axis: <http://vnreview.vn/image/61/36/613648.jpg?t=1373940855536>

Photo in the train :<http://www.uraken.net/rail/alltrain/ec/syanai/207e.jpg>

Nexus7: <http://i.ytimg.com/vi/Vj1koPa9FGQ/maxresdefault.jpg>

Htc j: http://adcdn.goo.ne.jp/images/sumaho/model/au/htc_j_butterfly_htl21_c.jpg

Acknowledgements

- A part of this work was supported by JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research (KAKENHI), Grant number 15K12038.