Problem

112.9 million commuters in the United States drive to work. This is a massive energy expenditure each day. Instead of focusing on the cars themselves, what if drivers could learn how their driving patterns expend energy, and optimize to reduce costs and less environmental impact?

Target User

We target commuters – those who spend significant time and money driving to work most days of the week. Anyone with a car or light truck sold in the US after 1996 has the required OBD-II port in their vehicle.

Solution

Car, PhD streams data from your car’s onboard computer to the cloud, where features can be extracted and correlated using custom analytics technology developed with the UC Berkeley AMPLab.

Final Prototype

Our final device plugs directly into your car’s OBD-II port and collects data while you drive. It sends this data over Bluetooth to your Android phone, which both forwards the data to the cloud analytics and displays suggestions for improving your fuel efficiency.

Future Development

We plan to include GPS data with all OBD-II samples, allowing us to trace the routes drivers take and suggest more efficient routes. We also plan to allow a many-to-many relationship between drivers and cars by making user accounts flexible: multiple drivers can use the same car, and a driver can use Car PhD with multiple cars.