# Article information:

Emotionally involving telephone conversations lead to driver error and visual tunnelling - ScienceDirect
<https://www-sciencedirect-com.libezproxy.open.ac.uk/science/article/pii/S1369847811000301?via%3Dihub=>

# Article summary:

1. Engaging in emotionally involving telephone conversations while driving can lead to driver errors and visual tunnelling, resulting in decreased driving performance.

2. Research has shown that drivers who are distracted by phone calls are four times more likely to be involved in accidents than undistracted drivers, with the distracting effects persisting for up to 5 minutes after the conversation ends.

3. Different elements of the secondary task, such as the type and content of the conversation, can contribute to increased cognitive workload and impair driving performance when dual tasking.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article discusses the impact of engaging in telephone conversations while driving on driver performance. It highlights previous research that has shown a decrease in driving performance when drivers are distracted by using a mobile phone. The article mentions impairments in reaction times, decision-making abilities, detection of road users and signs, lane discipline, speed choice, and gap judgments as potential consequences of dual-tasking while driving.

The article also delves into theoretical models such as multiple resource theory and Regan, Lee, and Young's model of control to explain how drivers may allocate their attentional resources while engaging in dual tasks. It suggests that drivers can apply feedback, feedforward, and adaptive control strategies to manage their cognitive workload and maintain performance while driving.

However, the article lacks a critical analysis of the potential biases present in the research cited. For example, it does not address any potential conflicts of interest or funding sources that may have influenced the findings of the studies mentioned. Additionally, there is a lack of discussion on the limitations of the research methodologies used in previous studies.

Furthermore, the article presents a one-sided view by focusing solely on the negative effects of engaging in telephone conversations while driving. While it acknowledges that some researchers have suggested differences in conversation topics may result in varying effects on driving performance, it does not explore potential benefits or mitigating factors that could improve driver performance during dual-tasking scenarios.

There is also a lack of evidence provided for some claims made in the article. For instance, it states that drivers engaged in mobile phone conversations are four times more likely to be involved in an accident than undistracted drivers without citing specific studies or data to support this claim.

Moreover, the article does not address potential counterarguments or alternative perspectives on the topic. It fails to consider whether there are situations where engaging in telephone conversations while driving may not necessarily lead to decreased performance or accidents.

Overall, while the article provides valuable insights into the impact of dual-tasking on driver performance, it would benefit from a more balanced presentation of information, addressing potential biases and limitations in previous research, exploring alternative viewpoints, and providing more robust evidence for its claims.

# Topics for further research:

* Benefits of hands-free devices while driving
* Cognitive workload management strategies for drivers
* Impact of conversation topics on driving performance
* Studies on the effectiveness of feedback
* feedforward
* and adaptive control strategies for drivers
* Factors influencing driver performance during dual-tasking scenarios
* Research on the relationship between mobile phone use and accident risk in driving

# Report location:

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