

Team E7: Body Buddy

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Use Case

- Problem
 - Falls can cause serious injuries for elders
 - Fear of falling can also limit their activities / social engagements
- How can we promptly handle the emergency situations caused by falls?

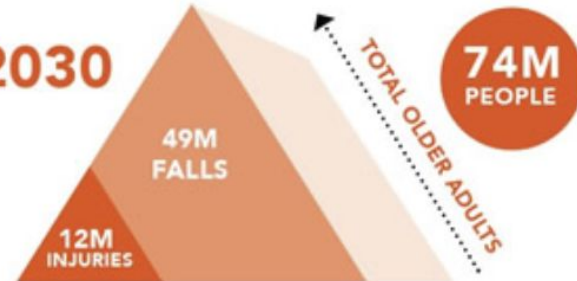
OLDER ADULT FALLS A Growing Burden

STEADI Stopping Elderly
Accidents, Deaths & Injuries

2014



2030



Use Case

- Proposal: An attachable device connected to a mobile app that detects a fall and sends alerts to the first responders
- Covered Areas:
 - Software
 - Hardware



Requirements: Fall Detection

- Detect a fall with 90% accuracy
- Should not detect ordinary behaviors as a fall (running, sitting down, jumping)
- Should not miss a fall
- Process data and output result within 2 seconds

Requirements: Hardware Platform

- Battery Life - needs to last a full day on a charge (at least 10h)
- Weight - under 10oz.
- Enclosure - Weatherproof, drop-safe, and somehow wearable
 - Easily accessible
 - Need to determine size & impact of location on accuracy first
 - Actual form factor TBD

Requirements: App

- Connections with the mobile app
 - Hardware System (Bluetooth)
 - Sending an alert to first responders
- Location tracking
 - In a human-readable format, not coordinates
- Cancelling an alert by a user for unintentional falls or false alarms
- Store contacts of the first responders

Technical Challenges

- Detection of a fall using IMU data
- Location of the sensors for collecting the most precise data
- Accuracy of the fall detection algorithm
- Possible false alarms due to user's movement
- Latency of sending sensor data through bluetooth
- Easy-to-carry / easy-to-attach design
- Intuitive app UI for elderly

Solution Approach: Hardware

Hardware Platform: Raspberry Pi

- Fast to set up, Bluetooth included
- IMU add-on boards available
 - Would still want separate boards with a custom PCB to vary placement
- Prioritize small size & low power

Enclosure: Off the shelf enclosure

- Don't need any I/O buttons or cables other than power
 - Can use a less-than-weatherproof enclosure and modify
- Prioritize size & weight

Solution Approach: Software

- Fall Detection
 - Machine Learning
 - Use SVM to classify IMU data into two categories (fall/normal)
 - Collect user's dataset
 - Improve Data Accuracy
 - Measure time after detecting falls
 - Combine sensor data with phone's IMU data
 - iOS Core Motion framework
- iOS App
 - Google Maps API for location / GPS
 - Connection with hardware through Bluetooth
 - Alerts through an app notification / email / text message
 - Alerts can be cancelled on the app to prevent false alarms

Testing / Verification / Metrics

- Fall Detection
 - Obtain data from different numbers and positions of IMU devices
 - Test on people with different heights / weights
 - >90% accuracy of the algorithm
- Latency
 - Sending IMU data through bluetooth
 - Running ML algorithm to detect the fall using IMU data
 - Sending an alert to first responders
 - → total time should sum up to < 3s

Testing / Verification / Metrics

- Battery Life
 - Determine battery life by logging connectivity on phone / measuring power consumed
 - Estimate from battery pack size
 - Should last at least 10h without charging
- Location Tracking
 - Location accuracy
- Enclosure
 - Waterproof
 - Fall Resistant
 - Total weight < 10oz

