

Crowdsourced Assessment of 227 Text-Based eHMIs for a Crossing Scenario

P. Bazilinskyy, D. Dodou, and J. C. F. de Winter

Faculty of Mechanical, Maritime and Materials Engineering, Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands

ABSTRACT

Future automated vehicles may be equipped with external human-machine interfaces (eHMIs) capable of signaling whether pedestrians can cross the road. Industry and academia have proposed a variety of eHMIs featuring a text message. An eHMI message can refer to the action to be performed by the pedestrian (egocentric message) or the automated vehicle (allocentric message). Currently, there is no consensus on the correct phrasing of the text message. We created 227 eHMIs based on text-based eHMIs observed in the literature. A crowdsourcing experiment ($N = 1438$) was performed with images depicting an automated vehicle equipped with an eHMI on the front bumper. The participants indicated whether they would (not) cross the road, and response times were recorded. Egocentric messages were found to be more compelling for participants to (not) cross than allocentric messages. Furthermore, Spanish-speaking participants found Spanish eHMIs more compelling than English eHMIs. Finally, it was established that some eHMI texts should be avoided, as signified by low compellingness, slow responses, and high inter-subject variability.

Keywords: eHMI, Text, Crowdsourcing, Automated driving, Crossing scenario

INTRODUCTION

Future automated vehicles (AVs) may be equipped with external Human-Machine Interfaces (eHMIs) that inform or instruct other road users. The eHMIs so far mostly target pedestrians, although eHMIs that address cyclists (e.g., Vlakveld et al., 2020; Volvo, 2018) and drivers (Rettenmaier, Albers & Bengler, 2020) have been proposed as well. eHMIs come in different forms, such as LED strips, lamps, icons, and text messages. This paper focuses on text-based eHMIs. Text-based eHMIs are often used in industry (Cortes, 2020; Daimler, 2017a; drive.ai, 2018; Mercedes-Benz, 2015; Nissan, 2015; Rinspeed AG, 2017; see Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019 for a review) and academic literature (see Dey et al., 2020).

Text-based eHMIs have the presumed advantage of conveying precise information compared to abstract eHMIs, such as LED strips. However, the size of the display for rendering a text message is limited, and long phrases may thus be unlikely to be implemented on AVs. Additionally, some researchers (Cefkin, 2018; Dey et al., 2022; Tabone et al., 2021a) have advised

against text-based eHMIs because text requires focused attention and takes time to read.

Text-based eHMIs have been found to vary in length considerably, ranging between the two-character OK (Song et al., 2018a) and GO (Vlakveld et al., 2020) to the 51-character CAR SLOWS DOWN. YOU CAN CROSS THE STREET SAFELY NOW (Rinspeed AG, 2017). Although lengthy, the latter message may be clear, as it explains what the pedestrian can do (so-called egocentric information) and what the car will do (allocentric information). Eisma et al. (2021) found that DON'T WALK yielded faster responses than STOP and BRAKING, presumably because it provides an egocentric instruction to the pedestrian.

The language of a text-based eHMI likely matters too. Some have criticized text-based eHMIs for their language requirements (Métayer & Coeugnet, 2021; Rasouli & Tsotsos, 2019; Tabone et al., 2021a). The literature focuses almost exclusively on English eHMIs (exceptions exist, such as eHMIs in Japanese: Daimon, Taima & Kitazaki, 2021; Lee et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2020; Soshiroda et al., 2021; German: Song et al., 2018a; Forke et al., 2021; Hebrew: Hochman et al., 2020; and Chinese: Lanzer et al., 2020). Currently, only a few studies have assessed how text-based eHMIs are interpreted cross-nationally. Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter (2019) found that participants from English-speaking countries gave higher clarity ratings to eHMIs in English text than participants from other countries. Lanzer et al. (2020) compared polite versus dominant eHMI messages and found that a polite message resulted in more compliance among Chinese participants but not among Germans.

She (2020) and She, Neuhoff & Yuan (2021) previously evaluated 14 eHMI messages, including advisory (e.g., SAFE TO CROSS), commanding (e.g., CROSS), and informative ones (e.g., BRAKING) with an online sample. The authors found that the commanding and advisory messages resulted in higher trust and compliance with the AV's intentions than the informative messages. She (2020) noted that "even though the author has not seen literatures (*sic*) that directly support this finding yet, it is common that a more direct instruction, e.g., command or advice, is much easier for people to process and follow in a short time."

In summary, although text-based eHMIs are widely proposed, little knowledge exists about which text message is most clear to pedestrians while taking minimal time to read and understand. Furthermore, little knowledge exists about how participants with different language abilities interpret eHMIs in different languages. This paper contributes to eHMI design by focusing on the wording of text-based eHMIs. It was determined for 227 eHMIs whether they were compelling to (not) cross the road and whether they yielded fast or slow responses. Additionally, we examined how text-based eHMIs are interpreted cross-nationally. Considering that, next to English, Spanish is one of the most spoken languages globally, we focused our cross-national evaluation on eHMIs in Spanish versus English.



Figure 1: Experiment page with an image and a slider to provide the response.

METHOD

We generated 227 eHMI images in the form of a rectangular black display. The eHMIs were positioned on a photo of a test vehicle driving in Delft, The Netherlands (Fig. 1; Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Rodríguez Palmeiro et al., 2018). We used a photo with a driver because future AVs may still require a human to resume control.

First, 47 text-based eHMIs were identified in the literature. These 47 messages were translated to Spanish, thus totaling 94 eHMIs (Table 1). Six eHMIs were added, namely I'LL STOP (Lee et al., 2021; Soshiroda et al., 2021), I'M WAITING (Habibovic et al., 2018), I'M ABOUT TO YIELD (Habibovic et al., 2018; Lagström & Malmsten Lundgren, 2016), I'M RESTING (Lagström & Malmsten Lundgren, 2016), I CAN SEE YOU (Mahadevan, Somanath & Sharlin, 2018), and OK (Song et al., 2018a), the first five being interpretations of light-based eHMIs. These six eHMIs were not translated to Spanish.

Messages used in augmented reality, e.g., DANGER: VEHICLE IS APPROACHING (Tabone et al., 2021b) and CLEAR THE AREA (Matsuda, 2016), were excluded. We also excluded texts that did not involve a car approaching a pedestrian crossing, e.g., BYE BYE TRISTAN (Rinspeed AG, 2017), ON MY WAY (Daimler, 2017a), I AM ABOUT TO START (Habibovic et al., 2018), STOPPED (Wang et al., 2019), STOPPED NOW AND WILL START SOON (Verma et al., 2019).

127 eHMIs were added by combining several verbs from the eHMI literature (CONTINUE, CROSS, GO, GO AHEAD, MOVE, PASS, PROCEED, WAIT, WALK) with the words PLEASE and NOW. Furthermore, we added YOU, I, OK TO, or CAR at the beginning of the message, and we interchanged CAN and MAY where applicable. Additionally, we produced eHMIs with contracted forms of verbs, e.g., WON'T STOP and WILL NOT STOP.

Table 1. 94 of the 227 eHMI's used in the experiment. 47 eHMI's were obtained from the literature and translated to Spanish (listed in parentheses).

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1. AFTER YOU (DESPUES DE USTED) (Arame et al., 2020; Daimon, Taima & Kitazaki, 2021; Lee et al., 2021; Löcken, Golling & Riener, 2019; Nissan, 2015; Soshiroda et al., 2021; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
 2. BRAKE (FRENO) (Barendse, 2019; Strickland et al., 2016)
 3. BRAKING (FRENANDO) (Deb, Strawderman & Carruth, 2018; Eisma et al., 2021; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021; Song et al., 2018b)
 4. CAR BRAKES (EL COCHE FRENA) (Forke et al., 2021)
 5. CAR IS BRAKING (EL COCHE ESTA FRENANDO) (Koo et al., 2015)
 6. CAR SLOWS DOWN. YOU CAN CROSS THE STREET SAFELY NOW (EL COCHE ESTA FRENANDO. YA PUEDE CRUZAR LA CALLE DE MANERA SEGURA) (Rinspeed AG, 2017)
 7. COMING THROUGH (AVANZANDO) (She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021; Urmson et al., 2015)
 8. CROSS (CRUCE) (Carmona et al., 2021; Hochman et al., 2020; Mahadevan, Somanath & Sharlin, 2018; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021; Stadler, Cornet & Frenkler, 2019)
 9. CROSS NOW (CRUCE AHORA) (Matthews, Chowdhary & Kieson, 2017)
 10. CROSSING (CRUZANDO) (Cortes, 2021)
 11. DANGEROUS TO CROSS (PELIGROSO CRUZAR) (She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
 12. DON'T CROSS (NO CRUCE) (Asha et al., 2021; Chang, 2020; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
 13. DON'T WALK (NO CAMINE) (Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Eisma et al., 2021; Fridman et al., 2018; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
 14. DRIVE (CONducIR) (Barendse, 2019)
 15. DRIVING (CONducIENDO) (Eisma et al., 2020, 2021; Hochman et al., 2020)
 16. GO (VAMOS) (Eisma et al., 2021; Song et al., 2018a; Vlakveld et al., 2020)
 17. GO AHEAD (AVANCE) (Ackermann et al., 2019; Daimler, 2017b)
 18. I DO NOT POSE ANY DANGER (NO REPRESENTO NINGÚN PELIGRO) (Zandi et al., 2020)
 19. I HAVE SEEN YOU (LE HE VISTO) (Zandi et al., 2020)
 20. I SEE YOU (LE VEO) (Bai et al., 2021; Mahadevan, Somanath & Sharlin, 2018)
 21. I WILL STOP (VOY A PARAR) (Arame et al., 2020; Daimon, Taima & Kitazaki, 2021)
 22. I WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE MY DRIVE (ME GUSTARIA CONTINUAR MI CONDUCCION) (Zandi et al., 2020)
 23. I'M ACCELERATING NOW (ESTOY ACELERANDO AHORA) (Zandi et al., 2020)
 24. I'M SLOWING DOWN (ESTOY FRENANDO) (Zandi et al., 2020)
 25. MOVING (MOVIENDO) (Kannan, Lee & Min, 2021; Wang et al., 2019)
 26. PASS (PASE) (Song et al., 2018b; Wang & Xu, 2020)
 27. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING (CRUCE PEATONAL) (Cortes, 2021)
 28. PLEASE WAIT (ESPERE POR FAVOR) (Wang & Xu, 2020)
 29. PROCEED TO CROSS (PROCEDA A CRUZAR) (Ferenchak & Shafique, 2022)
 30. RECOGNIZED (RECONOCIDO) (Song et al., 2018b)
 31. RUNNING NOW AND WILL STAY RUNNING (CONducIENDO AHORA Y SEGUIRE CONducIENDO) (Verma et al., 2019)
 32. RUNNING NOW AND WILL STOP SOON (FUNCIONANDO AHORA Y FRENARE PRONTO) (Verma et al., 2019)
 33. SAFE (SEGURO) (Song et al., 2018b)
 34. SAFE TO CROSS (SEGURO PARA CRUZAR) (Chang, 2020; Dalipi et al., 2020; drive.ai, 2018; Hudson et al., 2018; Knight, 2016; Matthiesen et al., 2018; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
 35. STOP (PARAR) (Bai et al., 2021; Eisma et al., 2021; Hochman et al., 2020; Kannan, Lee & Min, 2021; Mercedes-Benz, 2015)
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Table 1. Continued.

36. STOPPING (PARANDO) (Colley, Belz & Rukzio, 2021; Löcken, Golling & Riener, 2019; Nissan, 2015; Wang et al., 2019)
37. VEHICLE SLOWS DOWN (EL VEHICULO FRENA) (Wang & Xu, 2020)
38. VEHICLE STOPS (EL VEHICULO SE DETIENE) (Wang & Xu, 2020)
39. WAIT (ESPERE) (Barendse, 2019)
40. WAITING (ESPERANDO) (Eisma et al., 2020)
41. WAITING FOR YOU TO CROSS (ESPERANDO A QUE CRUCE) (drive.ai, 2018)
42. WALK (CAMINE) (Bai et al., 2021; Barendse, 2019; Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Eisma et al., 2021; Fridman et al., 2018; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021; Song et al., 2018b)
43. WARNING, I'M DANGEROUS (CUIDADO, SOY PELIGROSO) (Zandi et al., 2020)
44. WILL STOP (PARARE) (Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Bazilinskyy et al., 2021)
45. WON'T STOP (NO PARARE) (Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Bazilinskyy et al., 2021)
46. YIELDING (DEJANDOLE CRUZAR) (Cortes, 2021; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021)
47. YOU CAN CROSS (PUEDE CRUZAR) (Mahadevan, Somanath & Sharlin, 2018)

All eHMIs were capitalized, presented in white text, and no accents were used (e.g., PARARE instead of PARARÉ). The text was center-aligned in a 15-character LED display.

Participants performed the crowdsourcing experiment via Appen. We allowed contributors from all countries. It was not permitted to complete the study more than once from the same worker ID. A compensation of USD 0.35 was offered for completing the experiment and receive their payment.

At the beginning of the questionnaire, the contact information of the researchers was provided. Participants were informed that the study would take approximately 20 minutes, that they could contact the investigators to ask questions, and that they had to be at least 18 years old. Information about anonymity and voluntary participation was provided as well. Participants provided consent via a dedicated questionnaire item. The research was approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Delft University of Technology.

The participants first completed questions about their demographics (age, gender, age of obtaining a driver's license, etc.) and proficiency in English and Spanish. They were asked to complete five items to test their knowledge of English (taken from Cambridge University, 2022). The language setting of the browser was also logged. Next, they clicked on a link that opened the experiment. After opening the webpage, they were given a prompt "*The experiment will switch to full-screen mode when you press the button below*". After clicking on the button "*Continue*" under the prompt, the experiment switched to a full-screen mode. Next, participants were presented with instructions about how to complete the task.

Participants were required to indicate whether they would cross the road in front of an AV for a randomly-selected 80 of the 227 eHMIs, by moving a slider below (Fig. 1). The slider represented a scale of 0 to 100. After moving the slider, the button 'Continue' became active, allowing the participant to proceed to the next image. At the top of the page, a bar displayed the progress.

At the end of the experiment, participants were shown a unique code. They were required to enter the code in the questionnaire to prove they completed the experiment.

RESULTS

A total of 1438 people participated between 12 January and 14 February 2022. The study received a satisfaction score of 3 on a scale from 1 to 5, with 4.3, 3.7, and 3.9 for 'Instructions clear', 'Ease of job', and 'Pay', respectively. Participants who reported not having read the instructions, who were under the age of 18, or who had not completed the task were removed. If people had completed the study more than once from the same IP address, only the first attempt coming from that IP address was retained. In total, 530 participants were removed, leaving 908 participants. The retained participants resided in 54 countries, with the most represented countries being Venezuela ($n = 475$), United States ($n = 108$), and India ($n = 38$). The sample consisted of 583 males, 321 females, and 4 participants who selected "I prefer not to respond" to the gender question. The mean age of the participants was 35.8 years ($SD = 10.8$). The participants had used an average of 21.8 min to complete the questionnaire and experiment (median = 17.2 min).

Figure 2 shows the participants' mean willingness to cross for all 227 eHMIs. The eHMIs were a-priori categorized based on whether the message was egocentric (green bars), allocentric (gray bars), or both (orange bars). Egocentric messages address (and often instruct) the pedestrian, whereas allocentric messages describe the state or action of the AV. Figure 2 shows that egocentric messages were more compelling than allocentric messages, i.e., participants were not willing (closer to 0%) or willing (closer to 100%) to cross, while allocentric messages left participants in doubt (closer to 50%). The most compelling English message to not cross was DO NOT WALK PLEASE, whereas the most compelling message to cross was CONTINUE PLEASE.

Figure 3 provides a scatter plot of two measures of ambiguity: median response time and standard deviation of the willingness to cross. It can be seen that egocentric messages were the least ambiguous. Furthermore, lengthier messages tended to take longer to respond.

The correlations between characteristics of the eHMIs are illustrated in Table 2. The compellingness score was defined as $2 \times (\text{mean willingness to cross percentage} - 50\%)$ (Eisma et al., 2020). A score of 100% indicates 'very compelling'; that is, participants interpreted the message as either 'cross' or 'not cross'. A score of 0% indicates 'very unconvincing', meaning that participants on average tended to answer near the midpoint of the scale. The correlation matrix indicates that egocentric messages were more compelling and yielded faster responses. Furthermore, longer messages were associated with slower responses.

Using linear regression analysis, we estimated the median response time as $3911 \text{ ms} + 59.3 \text{ ms} \times \text{number of characters} - 245 \text{ ms}$ if the message is egocentric. The corresponding predictive correlation of the median response time was $r = 0.75$ (180 eHMIs in English).

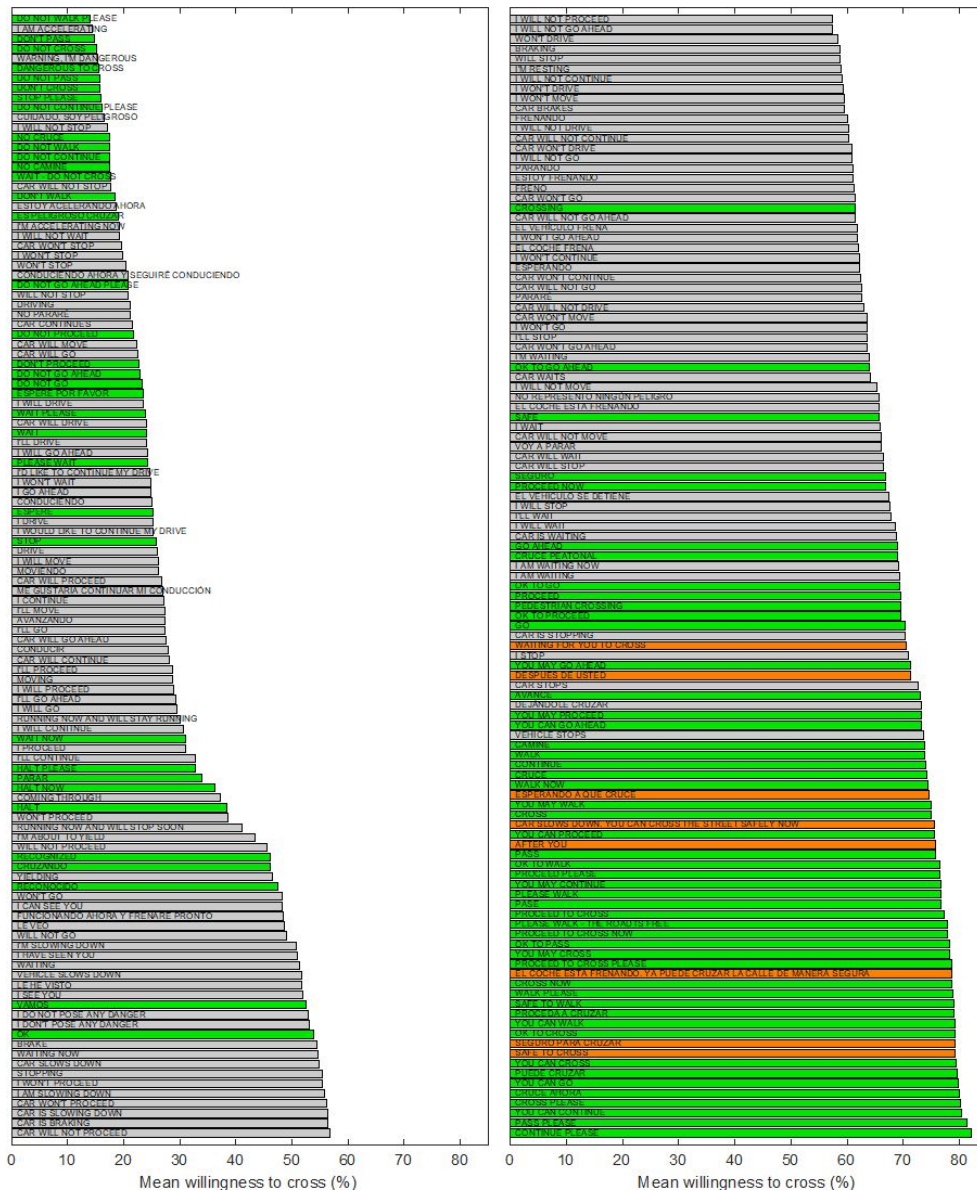


Figure 2: Willingness to cross for 227 eHMIs. Grey: allocentric, Green: egocentric, Orange: both.

A compelling eHMIs is not necessarily a desirable eHMI. A message such as CROSS PLEASE, although compelling, could be dangerous if the pedestrian does not check whether the road is free. In some cases, such as when the AV’s sensors do not have complete knowledge about the environment, an eHMI should not be compelling but merely acknowledge the pedestrian’s presence or communicate the AV’s state while leaving the decision to cross to the pedestrian. In such scenarios, the eHMI should yield a low compellingness score (i.e., willingness to cross close to 50%) yet not be ambiguous.

Table 3 shows the English eHMIs that yielded a mean willingness to cross between 45% and 55%; that is, these were unconvincing eHMIs. Also shown

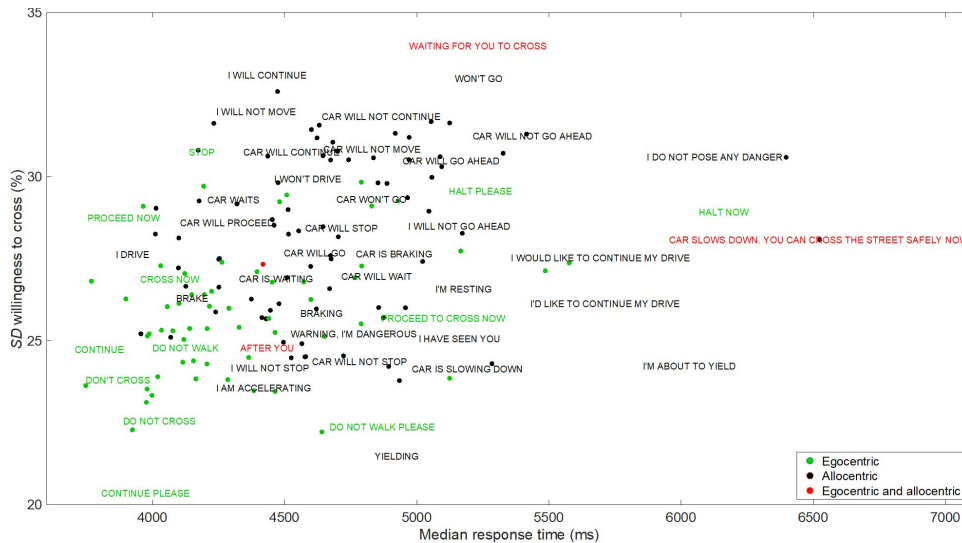


Figure 3: Median response time versus mean willingness to cross for the 180 eHMIs in English text. Either the eHMI text or a marker is shown.

Table 2. Correlation matrix among characteristics of English-text eHMIs ($n = 180$).

	1	2	3	4	5
1 Compellingness score (%)					
2 Standard deviation of willingness to cross (%)	-0.48				
3 Median response time (ms)	-0.38	0.31			
4 Number of characters (#)	0.03	0.13	0.72		
5 eHMI text is egocentric (0 or 1)	0.49	-0.39	-0.31	-0.11	
6 eHMI text is allocentric (0 or 1)	-0.47	0.42	0.36	0.19	-0.95

are the corresponding standard deviations and median response times, which are indexes of ambiguity. It can be seen that some messages acknowledge that all is fine (OK) or that the AV has detected the pedestrian (I CAN SEE YOU, I HAVE SEEN YOU, I SEE YOU, RECOGNIZED). These messages yielded low SDs and relatively fast responses. There is also a number of eHMIs that suggest the AV is slowing down (BRAKE, CAR SLOWS DOWN, I'M SLOWING DOWN, VEHICLE SLOWS DOWN, YIELDING, WAITING, WAITING NOW). These eHMIs were unconvincing, possibly because it may have been unclear whether the AV was slowing down enough for the pedestrian to cross the road. Finally, there is a number of allocentric messages that used negative wording (I DO NOT POSE ANY DANGER, I DON'T POSE ANY DANGER, WILL NOT GO, WILL NOT PROCEED, WON'T GO). These eHMIs yielded high SDs and may have been hard to understand.

It was decided to use browser settings as an indicator of language proficiency because they reflect a participant's language use and preference. Mean self-reported English-language proficiency (1 = No proficiency, 5 = Native or bilingual proficiency) was 2.48 for participants with browser setting Spanish and 3.3 for participants with browser setting English. Mean self-reported

Table 3. Results for eHMIs with a compellingness score smaller than 5% (sorted on *SD*).

eHMI	Mean willingness to cross (%)	SD willingness to cross (%)	Median response time (ms)
YIELDING	46.4	21.5	4923.5
RECOGNIZED	46.1	22.2	4641
I CAN SEE YOU	48.3	24.2	4893.5
VEHICLE SLOWS DOWN	51.6	24.3	5284
I SEE YOU	52.0	24.5	4525
CAR SLOWS DOWN	54.8	24.5	4722.5
I HAVE SEEN YOU	50.9	25.1	5158
OK	53.9	25.1	3981
I'M SLOWING DOWN	50.7	26.0	4957
BRAKE	54.4	26.3	4151
I DO NOT POSE ANY DANGER	52.8	30.6	6121.5
WAITING	51.3	30.8	4173
WAITING NOW	54.7	31.2	4622.5
WILL NOT PROCEED	45.6	31.2	4971
I DON'T POSE ANY DANGER	53.2	31.3	5415
WILL NOT GO	49.0	31.4	4601
WON'T GO	48.2	33.0	5234

Spanish-language proficiency was 4.11 for persons with browser setting Spanish and 2.03 for participants with browser setting English. The number of correctly answered questions on the 5-item English language test was 2.86 for persons with browser setting Spanish and 3.03 for participants with browser setting in English.

Figure 4 shows the mean willingness to cross for Spanish- and English-speaking participants. Spanish-speaking participants ($n = 535$) found eHMIs in Spanish more compelling than eHMIs in English, i.e., the yellow markers lie above (if $> 50\%$) or below (if $< 50\%$) the diagonal line. Furthermore, Spanish-speaking participants found eHMIs in Spanish more compelling than did English-speaking participants ($n = 203$), i.e., the yellow markers lie above (if $> 50\%$) or below (if $< 50\%$) the red markers.

DISCUSSION

Similar to our previous study addressing the color of a non-text-based eHMI (Bazilinsky, Dodou & De Winter, 2020), this paper assessed text messages for eHMIs comprehensively. Based on the present crowdsourcing study, the following conclusions are offered:

- Egocentric messages (e.g., OK TO CROSS, DON'T PASS) are more compelling than allocentric messages (e.g., STOPPING).
- Egocentric messages yield faster responses than allocentric messages.
- Longer eHMIs texts take longer to respond.

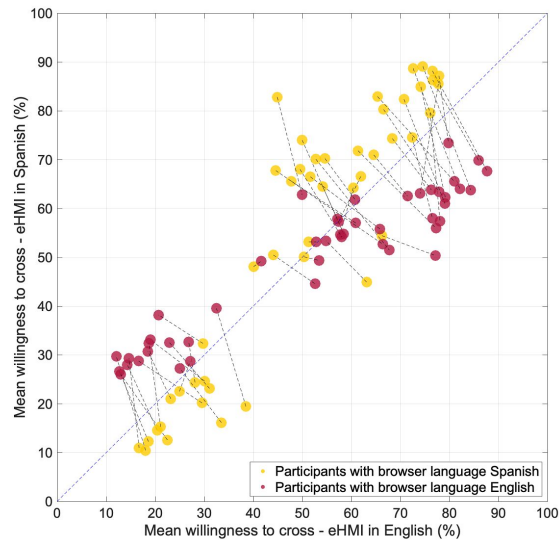


Figure 4: Mean willingness to cross for 47 eHMIs in English and their corresponding Spanish translation. A distinction is made between Spanish-speaking and English-speaking participants.

- Some eHMIs (e.g., WILL NOT GO) are confusing because it is unclear who is addressed and/or because of their negative wording.
- Spanish-speaking persons are more easily compelled by eHMIs in Spanish than by eHMIs in English. Furthermore, English-speaking participants appear to have difficulty comprehending eHMIs in Spanish.

This paper certainly does not provide the final word on text-based eHMIs. Although a large number of texts were used, our list of 227 eHMIs should not be seen as comprehensive. After conducting our study, we discovered extra messages, such as GET OUT OF THE WAY (Lanzer et al., 2020), PEDESTRIAN DETECTED (She, 2020), and ACCELERATING (She, 2020). Future research could include an even wider variety of messages.

A limitation is that this study used images rather than videos. Furthermore, participants did not need to cross the road, and there were no sounds, distractions, or other road users. Also, participants took a long time to respond, about 3500 ms on average, which may have been caused by the slider interface. It can be expected that extreme responses (0% or 100%) took more time because they required larger mouse movements. If this were factored out, then egocentric messages would probably turn out to yield even faster response times.

The present study used eHMIs on top of the license plate, see also Bai et al. (2021), Barendse (2019), Bazilinsky et al. (2021), Chang (2020), Dalipi et al. (2020), Eisma et al. (2020, 2021), Ferenchak & Shafique (2022), Song et al. (2018a), Verma et al. (2019), and Wang & Xu (2020). Other studies used the hood (Deb, Strawderman & Carruth, 2018; Hudson et al., 2018), windshield (Ackermann et al., 2019; Colley, Belz & Rukzio, 2021; Eisma et al., 2020; Forke et al., 2021; Fridman et al., 2018; Löcken, Golling & Riener, 2019; Matthiesen et al., 2018; She, Neuhoff & Yuan, 2021), side of

the AV (Bazilinskyy, Dodou & De Winter, 2019; Eisma et al., 2020), top of the AV (Eisma et al., 2020; Ferenchak & Shafique, 2022; Hochman et al., 2020; Knight, 2016; Lee et al., 2021; Soshiroda et al., 2021; Vlakveld et al., 2020), or a projection on the road in front of the AV (Eisma et al., 2020; Fridman et al., 2018). The interaction between eHMI position and efficacy of the text message needs further consideration, especially concerning visual occlusion.

A question remaining is whether text-based eHMIs have a future. Text can offer a compelling message but can take a long time to read. Furthermore, as was established in this study, language barriers exist. As noted in guidelines for external visual communication of automated vehicles: “The format and style of communication signals should be harmonious across OEMs in order to avoid the use of different messages for different types of vehicles in different countries” (International Organization for Standardization, 2018). It seems unlikely that manufacturers would deploy country-specific eHMIs. However, it can be argued that people with different language backgrounds may quickly learn basic messages such as WALK, so this could be a way forward if text-based eHMIs were to be deployed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT & SUPPLEMENTS

This research is supported by grant 016.Vidi.178.047, financed by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). Supplementary material and code are available at <https://doi.org/10.4121/19102133> and <https://github.com/bazilinskyy/text-crowdsourced>.

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