



# Virtual Verification for Autonomous Vehicles

## – focusing on safety

**Martin Törngren**

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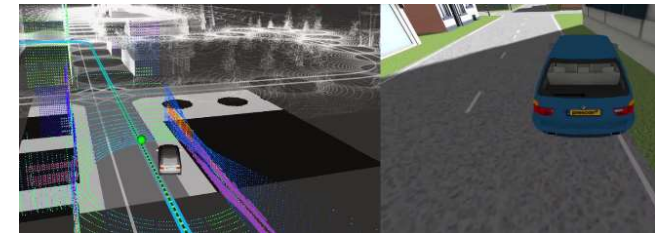
Collaborative work with Fredrik Asplund, Naveen Mohan, Masoumeh Parseh, José Gaspar Sánchez, Lars Svensson, Xin Tao, and Xinhai Zhang





# KTH (Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan) – Royal Institute of Technology

- Sweden's largest technical University, 1827, Stockholm  
~ 15000 students
- Architecting and Safety for Autonomous systems
  - Automated driving: Trucks, cars, forestry
  - AD-EYE simulation environment
  - Research concept vehicle



[www.ices.kth.se](http://www.ices.kth.se) (ICES competence network)



# Perspectives to virtual verification – focusing on safety

Context of AVs and  
V-V challenges

Legislation, standards  
and metrics

Virtual  
verification/

Automated  
vehicle virtual  
verification

KTH research efforts  
- AD-EYE

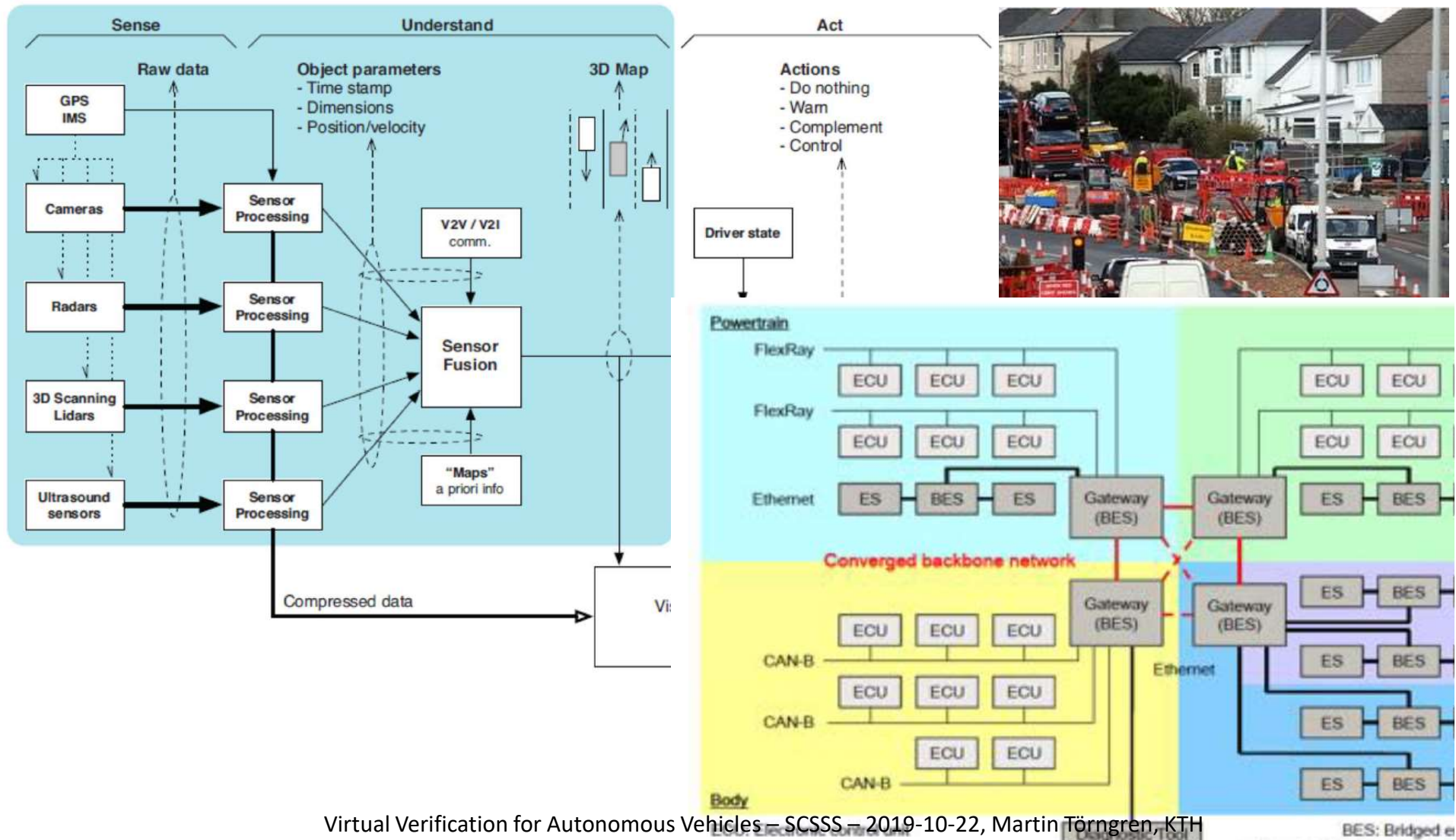


Virtual Verification for Autonomous Vehicles – SCSSS – 2019-10-22, Martin Törngren, KTH

# Dealing with inherent dynamic risk

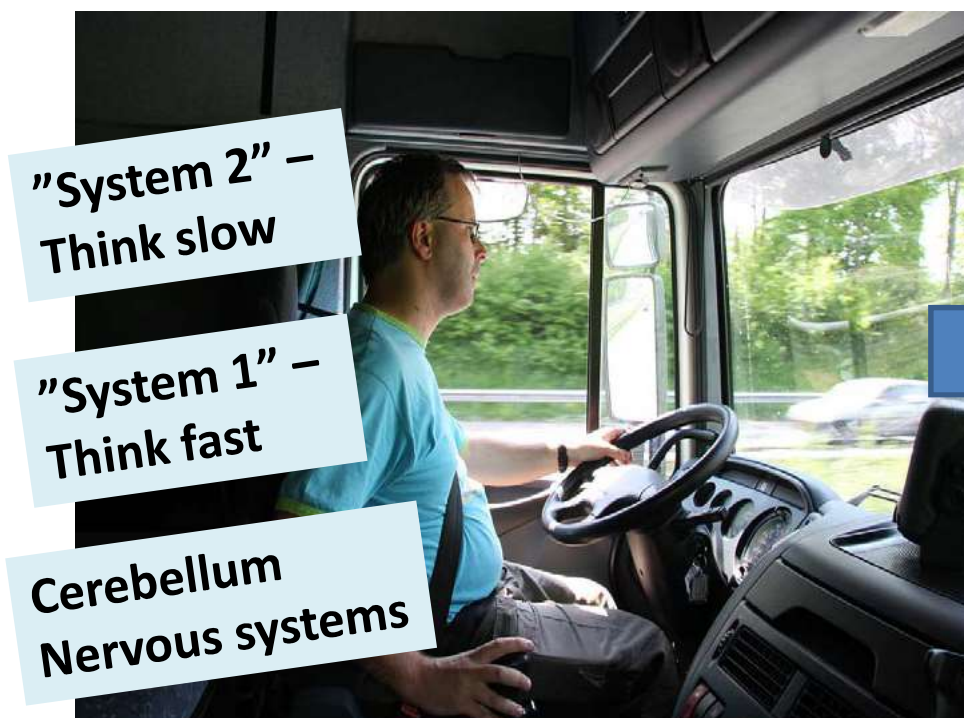
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjtiiGCe1pE&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjtiiGCe1pE&feature=youtu.be)

# New ground: Unprecedented complexity and corresponding capabilities (1)



# New ground – higher level reasoning (2)

## ADI – Autonomous Driving Intelligence



By Veronica538 (Own work)  
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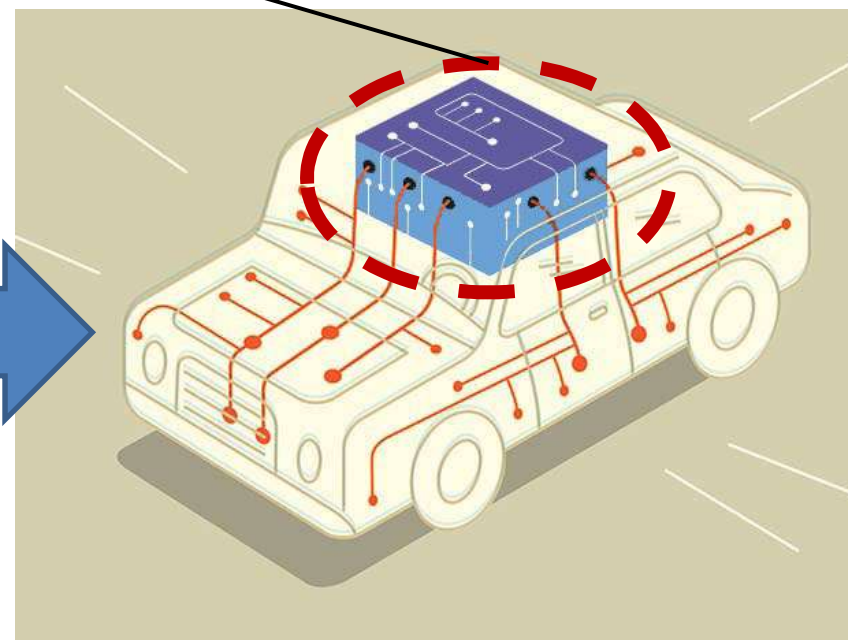


Illustration: Harry Campbell, IEEE Spectrum  
<http://spectrum.ieee.org/cars-that-think/transportation/self-driving/nxps-bluebox-bids-to-be-the-brains-of-your-car>

# When is verification “done” for an AV?

“Automated vehicles would have to be driven hundreds of millions of miles and sometimes even hundreds of billions of miles to demonstrate their reliability in terms of fatalities and injuries” (Kalra & Paddock, 2016)

- Quality and coverage of the miles?
- Changing systems, and systems of systems

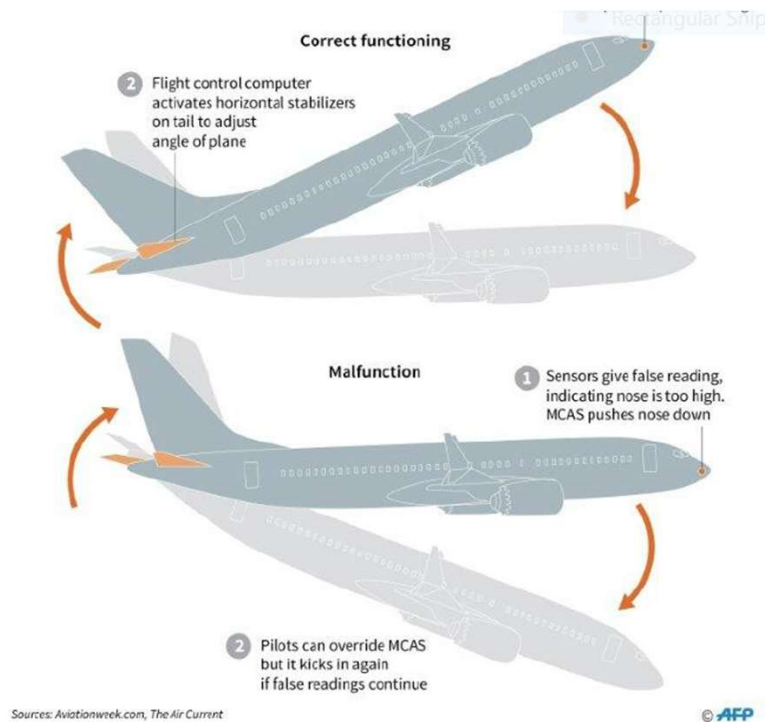
# Safety/Assurance cases for AV's

“... a structured argument, supported by a body of evidence, that provides a compelling, comprehensible and valid case that a system is safe ...”

- NASA System Safety Handbook ver. 1 (2014)



# Boeing 737 MCAS

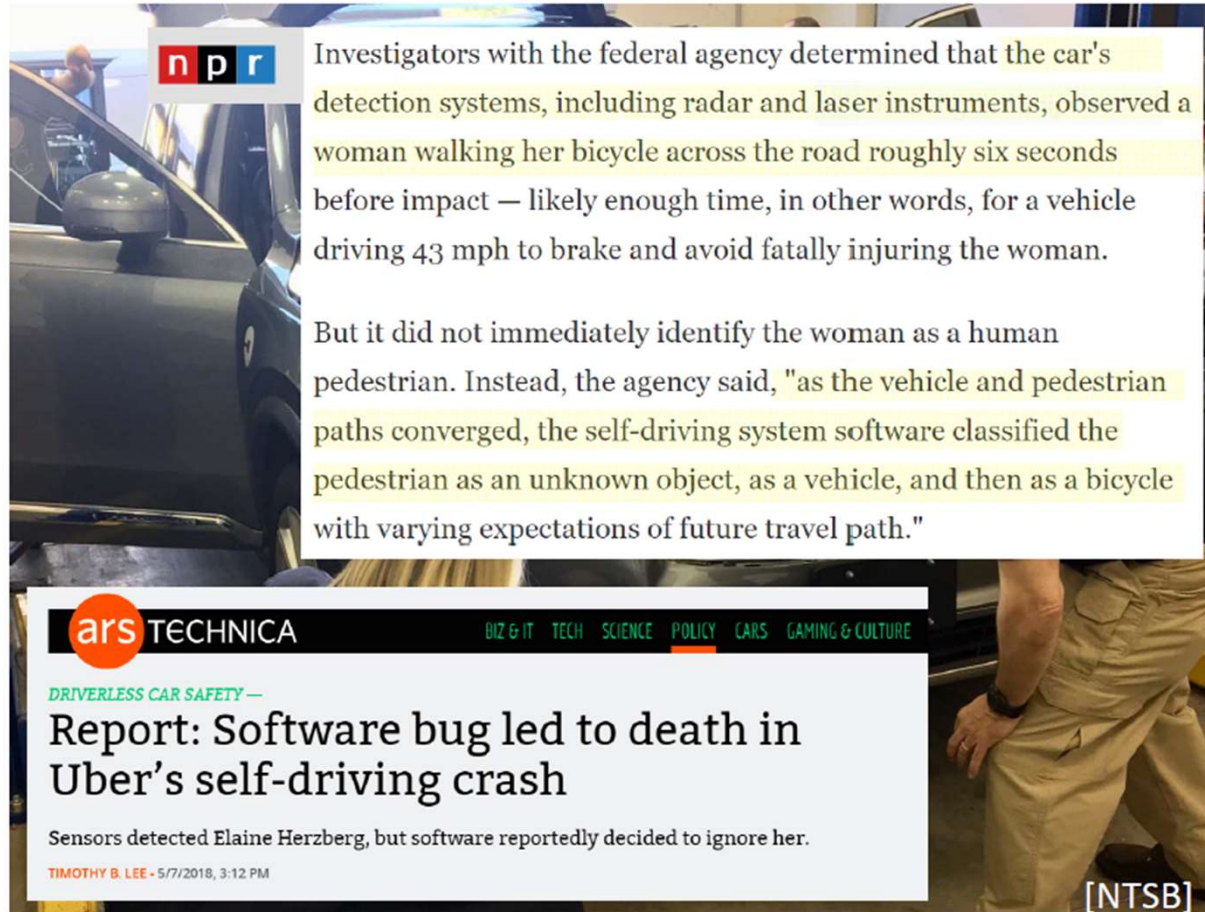


After two flight crashes:

A compelling,  
comprehensible  
and valid case?

The Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (**MCAS**) flight control law **was designed and certified** for the 737 MAX to **enhance the pitch stability** of the airplane – so that it feels and flies like other 737s (Source: Boeing).

# Uber crash March 2018



The image shows two overlapping news snippets. The top snippet is from NPR, featuring a photograph of a car's interior and a person. The text discusses an investigation into a self-driving car crash, stating that sensors detected a pedestrian six seconds before impact but failed to identify her as a human. The bottom snippet is from ars TECHNICA, with a navigation bar for categories like BIZ & IT, TECH, SCIENCE, POLICY, CARS, and GAMING & CULTURE. The headline reads 'Report: Software bug led to death in Uber's self-driving crash' and the sub-headline says 'Sensors detected Elaine Herzberg, but software reportedly decided to ignore her.' The author is Timothy B. Lee, dated 5/7/2018. A '[NTSB]' label is visible in the bottom right corner of the image area.

**n p r** Investigators with the federal agency determined that the car's detection systems, including radar and laser instruments, observed a woman walking her bicycle across the road roughly six seconds before impact — likely enough time, in other words, for a vehicle driving 43 mph to brake and avoid fatally injuring the woman.

But it did not immediately identify the woman as a human pedestrian. Instead, the agency said, "as the vehicle and pedestrian paths converged, the self-driving system software classified the pedestrian as an unknown object, as a vehicle, and then as a bicycle with varying expectations of future travel path."

**ars** TECHNICA BIZ & IT TECH SCIENCE POLICY CARS GAMING & CULTURE

DRIVERLESS CAR SAFETY —  
**Report: Software bug led to death in Uber's self-driving crash**

Sensors detected Elaine Herzberg, but software reportedly decided to ignore her.

TIMOTHY B. LEE - 5/7/2018, 3:12 PM

[NTSB]

**A compelling, comprehensible and valid case?**

# Systems engineering insights and needs for new methodologies



**Cynefin model**

- complex environments and uncertainty
- composability - dependencies and side effects

Martin Törngren and Paul T. Grogan.  
How to Deal with the Complexity of  
Future Cyber-Physical Systems?  
Journal of Designs, Vol. 2, No. 4, 2018

# Preliminary take aways

- Need for new verification methodologies!
- Scenario reasoning - underpinning the safety case
- Need to turn to design!
  - Architecture, functionalities and SoS providing resilience
  - "Simplicity is complex" (H. Kopetz)
- Unknowns drive updates: a safety life-cycle

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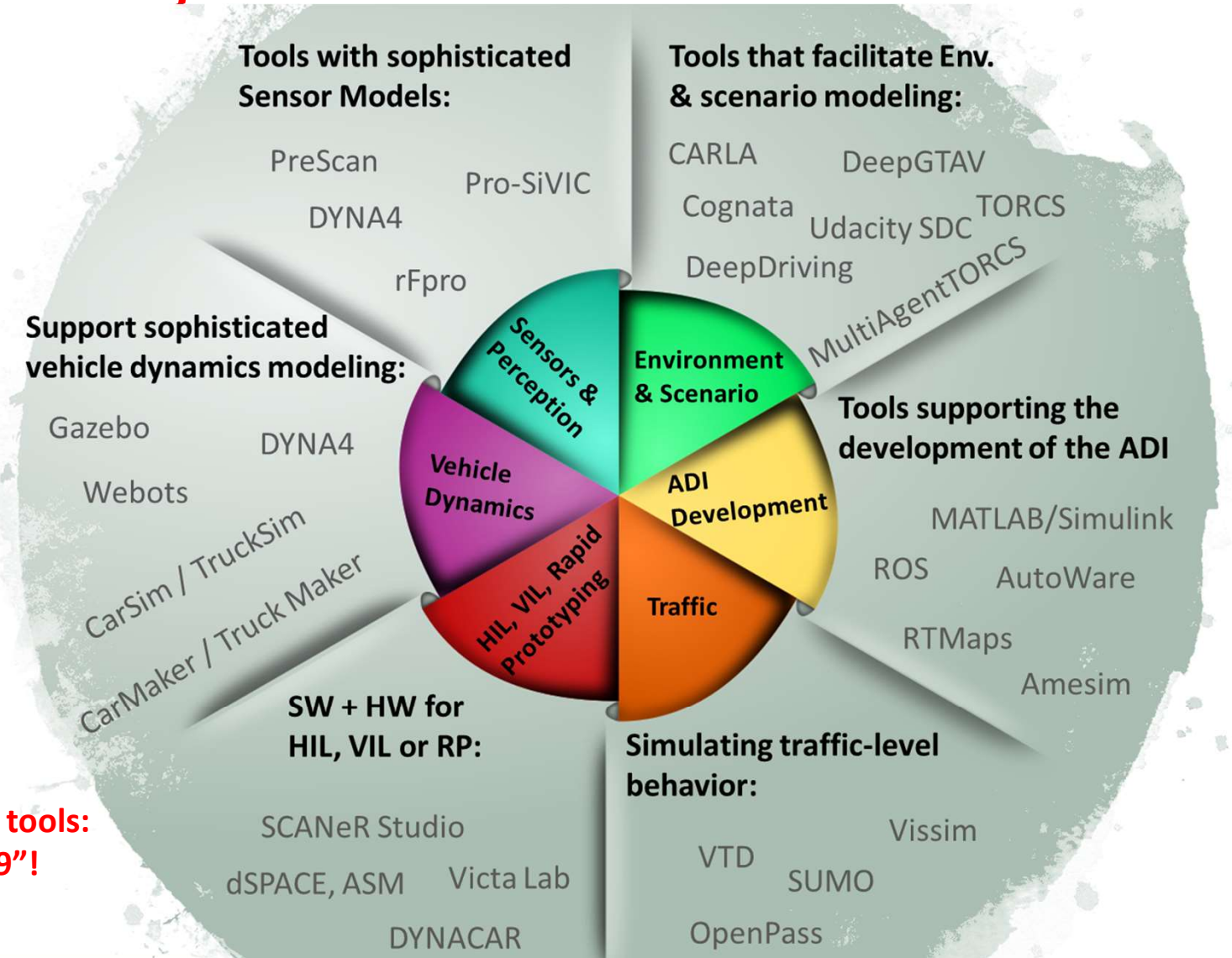
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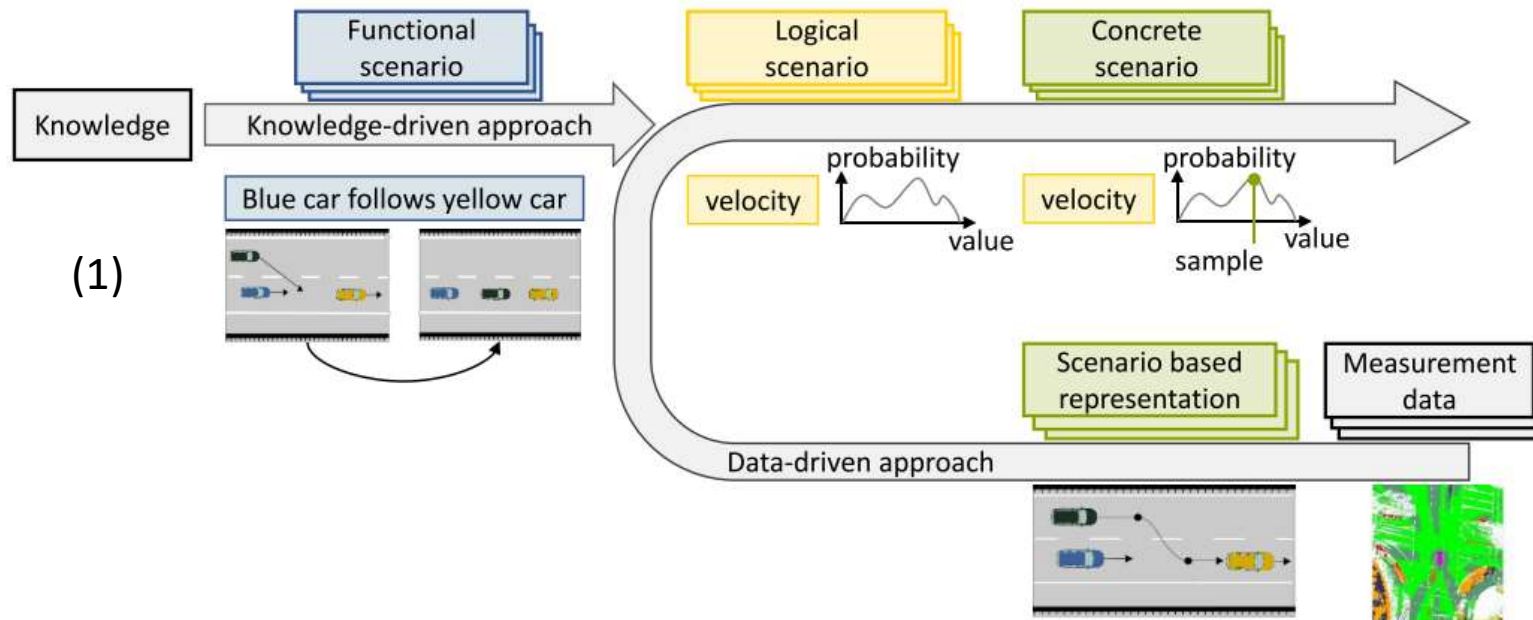
# Modeling and simulation tools



**KTH survey on  
Modeling & sim. tools:  
Dated: "Jan. 2019"!**

**Co-simulation**      **FMI, HLA, DDS, ModelCONNECT, AD-EYE**

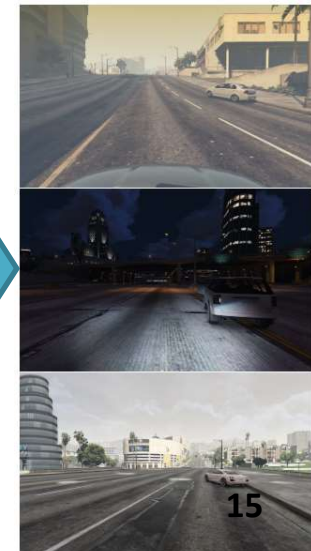
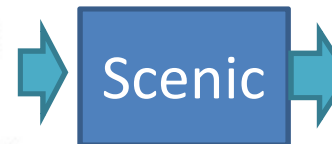
# Snapshots: state of the art on scenarios



**Taxonomies,  
Catalogues,  
Schemas,  
Languages,  
Formats,  
...**

(2)

- 1 spot = OrientedPoint on visible curb
- 2 badAngle = Uniform(1.0, -1.0) \* (10, 20) deg
- 3 Car left of spot by 0.5, \
- 4 facing badAngle relative to roadDirection



(1): Menzel et al. (2019): From Functional to Logical Scenarios: Detailing a Keyword-Based Scenario Description ...

(2): Fremont et al. (2018): Scenic: Language-Based Scene Generation

# Hazardous events and standards

Source	Cause of hazardous event	Within scope of
System	E/E System failures	ISO 26262 series
	Performance limitations or insufficient situational awareness, with or without reasonably foreseeable misuse	ISO/PAS 21448
	Reasonably foreseeable misuse, incorrect HMI (e.g. user confusion, user overload)	ISO/PAS 21448 ISO 26262 series European statement of principal on the design of human-machine-interface
	Hazards caused by the system technology	Specific standards
External factor	successful attack exploiting vehicle security vulnerabilities	ISO 21434 <sup>a</sup> or SAE J3061
	Impact from active Infrastructure and/or vehicle to vehicle communication, external devices and cloud services.	ISO 20077 series; ISO 26262 series
	Impact from car surroundings (other users, “passive” infrastructure, environmental conditions: weather, Electro-Magnetic Interference...)	ISO/PAS 21448 ISO 26262 series

<sup>a</sup> Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: ISO/SAE CD 21434

Source: Overview of safety-relevant topics addressed by different ISO standards (Source: ISO 21448)



# Approaches to scenarios (intermediate summary from ongoing KTH study)

Tasks\”Drivers”:	Data	Models	Knowledge
”Gathering/ Identifying	Real-world data, databases (accidents)	Simulation Exploration/ synthesis tools	Brainstorming Structured analysis (e.g. safety analysis) Checklists
Refinement	Analysis and synthesis tools		Manual refinement
Representation	XML, Open drive, Open scenario, Scenario description languages, ...		

# Further state of the art observations (from ongoing KTH study)

- Scope of scenarios (environment/internal; event types)
  - External factors: environment, ODD, uncertainties, ...
  - Internal factors: Functionalities, data, and technology performance limitations/uncertainty; faults/failure modes
- Strive for higher levels of abstraction and automation
- Scenario + model expressiveness vs. Tractability
- Other and combined factors
  - Interactions, emergence
  - Metrics (risks, robustness, sensitivity)

# Lessons learnt in model-based systems engineering

- **Learning from models by focusing on specific properties**
  - Accurate enough modeling for predictions, enquiry, training
  - Models (e.g. scenarios) for synthesis
  - Simplicity, Tractability, Accuracy, Precision, Robustness, Generality
  - Choice of formalisms and abstractions (viewpoints to tools)
- **Models become complex systems in their own right**
  - Model management: rationale, assumptions, versions, ...
  - Models have components and architectures
  - Attention to federated modeling, dependencies, concurrent usage and dependability

# Solomon Wolf Golomb on Modeling

Don't apply a model until you understand the **simplifying assumptions** on which it is based and can test their applicability.

**Distinguish at all times between the model and the real world.** You will never strike oil by drilling through the map!

“Mathematical Models: Uses and Limitations” –  
Solomon Wolf Golomb, April 70:

“Essentially all models are wrong, some are useful”,  
Box and Draper, 1987

“Essentially, all system implementations are wrong,  
but some are useful.” Lee and Sirjani!

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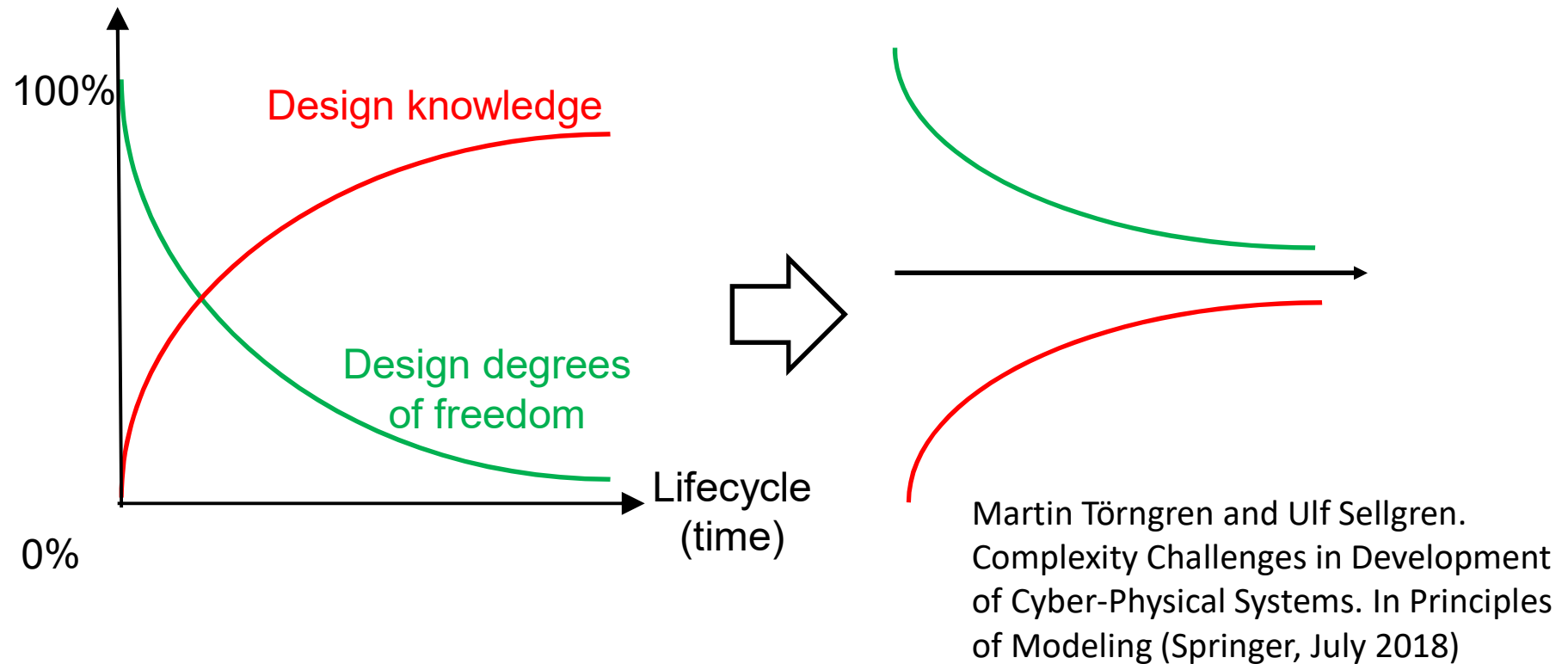
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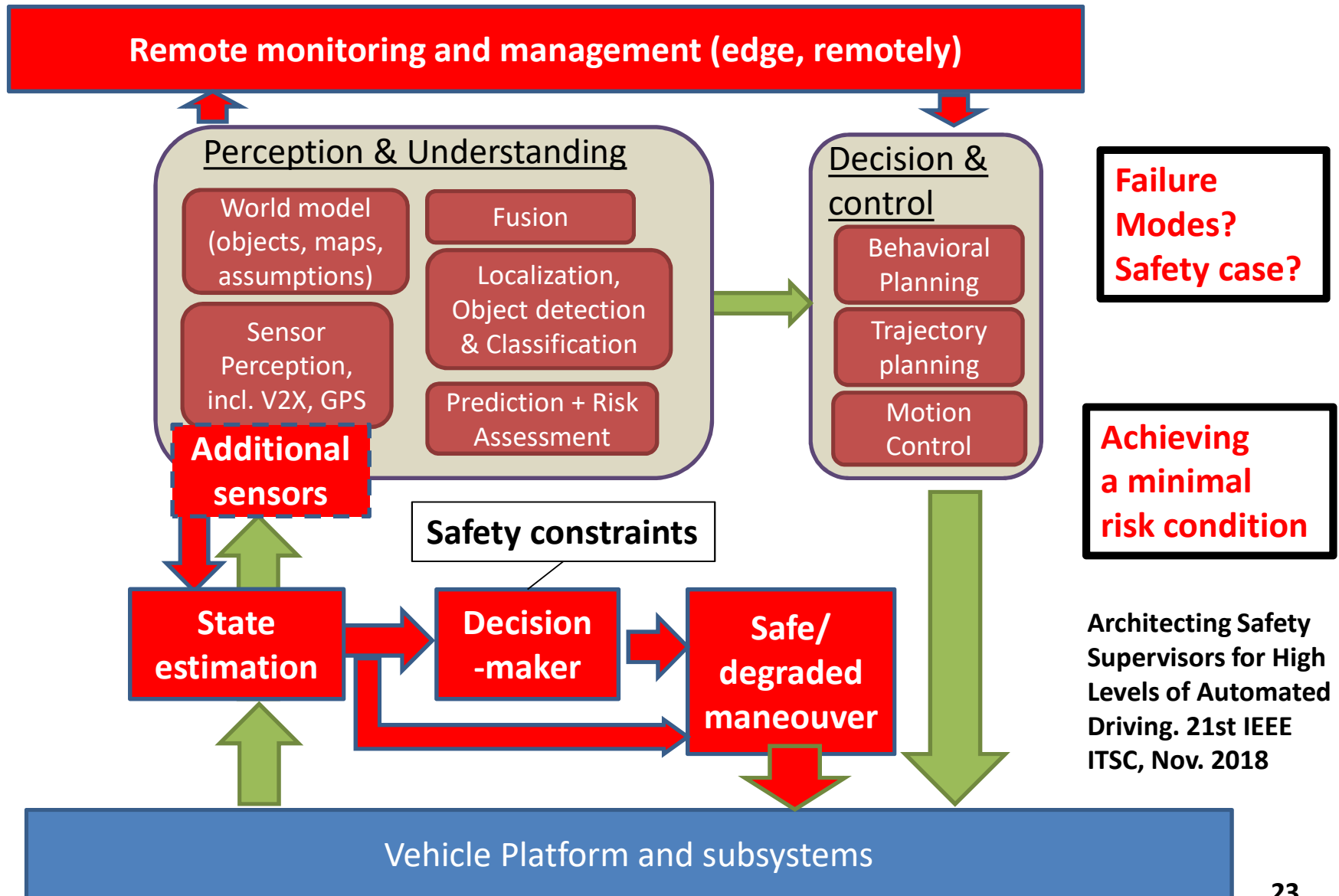


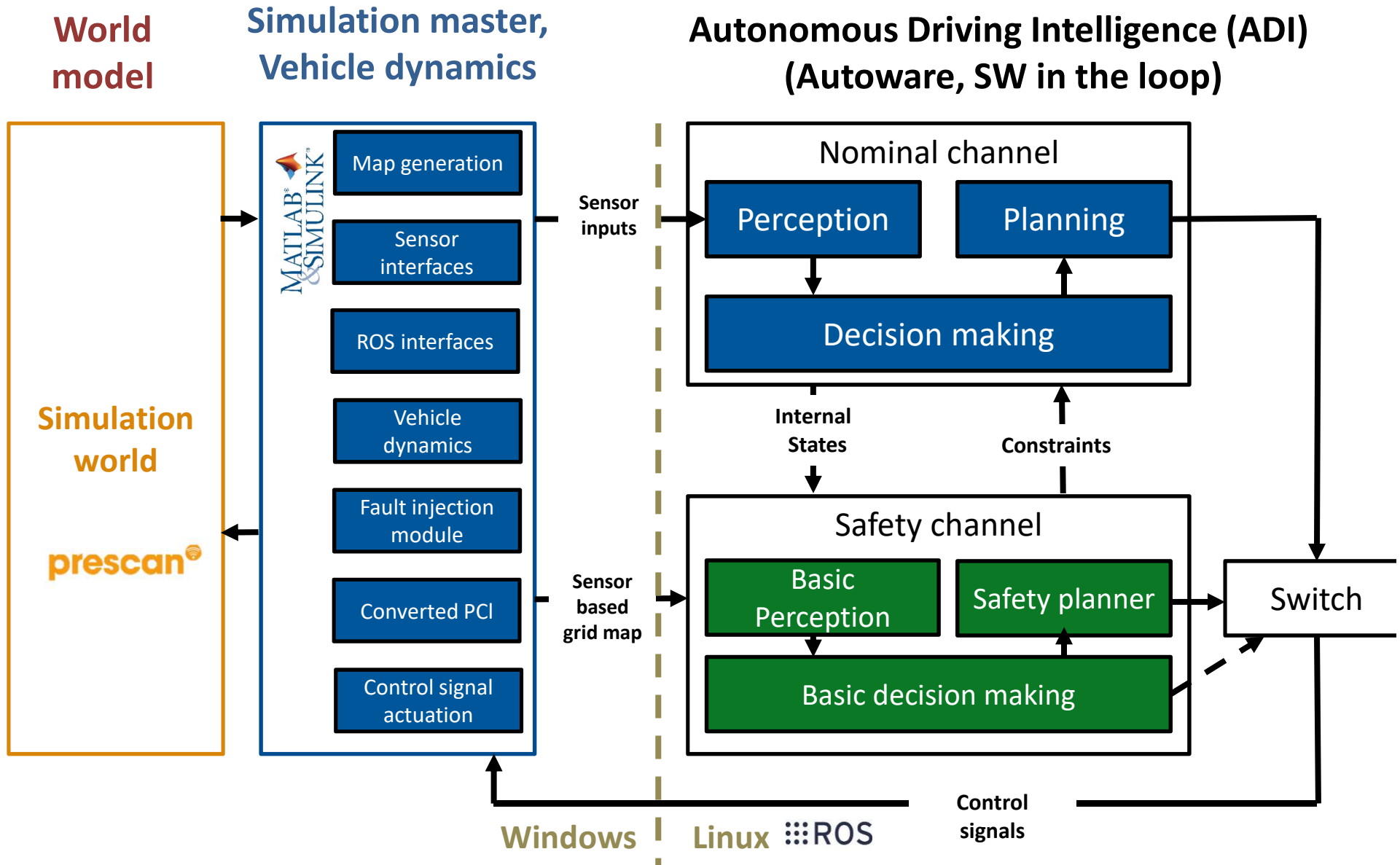
# Managing an increasing cone of uncertainty



- **Uncertainties in system and environment**
- **Resilience; fault-tolerance; survivability**
- **Operational risk management at system and SoS level**

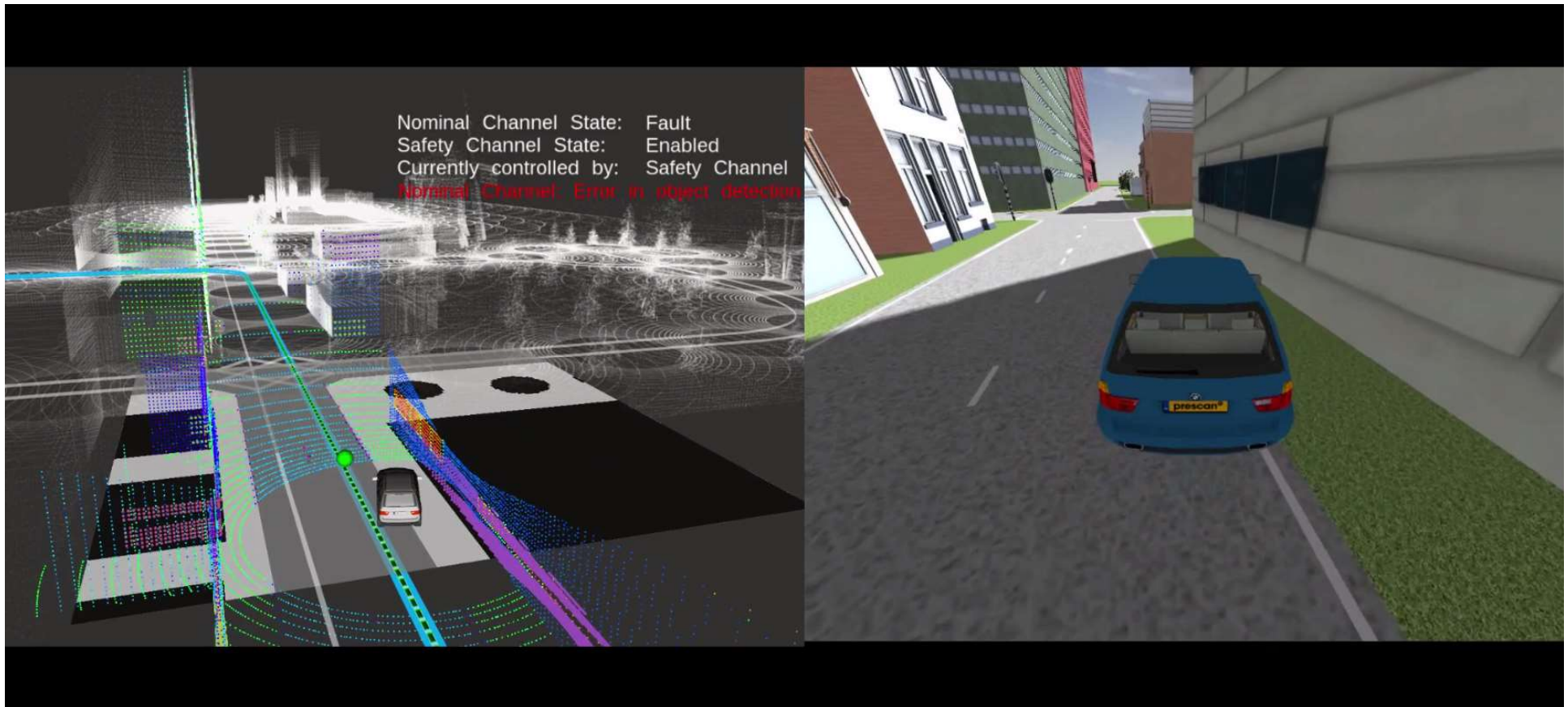
# Autonomous safety supervisor architectures







# AD-Eye simulations – a taster



**AD-EYE: read more here: <https://tiny.cc/adeye>**

# Take aways

- Need for new methodologies
  - Abstraction levels; Model and method combinations
  - Reasoning about scenarios – crucial for the safety case
  - Uncertainty drives updates: a safety life-cycle
  - Architecting at vehicle and system of system level
    - Resilience; “Simplicity is complex”
- KTH work on automated safety supervisor architectures and their evaluation
  - AD-Eye simulation environment: <https://tiny.cc/adeye>

# References and further reading

- Naveen Mohan and Martin Törngren. **A practical simulation toolchain for the early verification of Functional Safety Concepts**. Accepted for SAE World Congress, 2019.
- Martin Törngren and Paul T. Grogan. **How to Deal with the Complexity of Future Cyber-Physical Systems?**, Journal of Designs, Vol. 2, No. 4, 2018
- Martin Törngren and Ulf Sellgren. **Complexity Challenges in Development of Cyber-Physical Systems**. In Principles of Modeling; Lohstroh, M.; Derler, P.; Sirjani, M., Eds.; Springer, 2018; Vol. 10760, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, July 2018
- Martin Törngren et al. **Architecting Safety Supervisors for High Levels of Automated Driving**. 21st IEEE Int. Conf. on Intelligent Transportation Systems, Nov. 2018.
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- Xinhai Zhang et al. **Architecture Exploration for Distributed Embedded Systems: A Gap Analysis in Automotive Domain**. 12th IEEE Int. Symposium on Industrial Embedded Systems.