



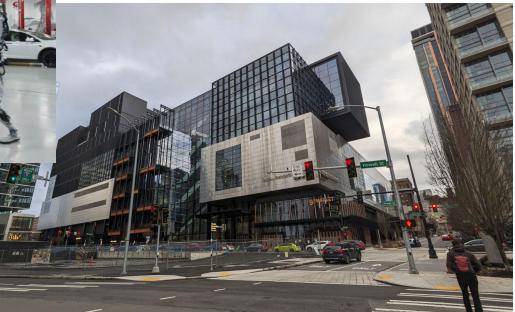
Visual World Models as “Foundation” Models for Autonomous Systems

Li Chen

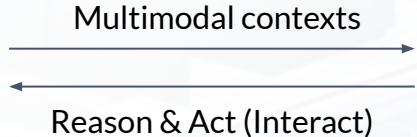
OpenDriveLab at Shanghai AI Lab

June 17, 2024

Autonomous Systems (Agents)

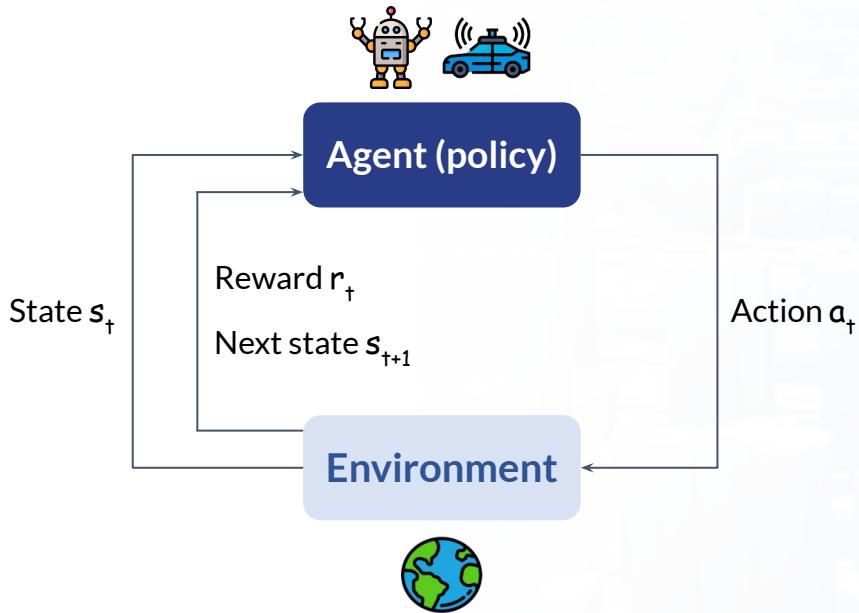


Environment

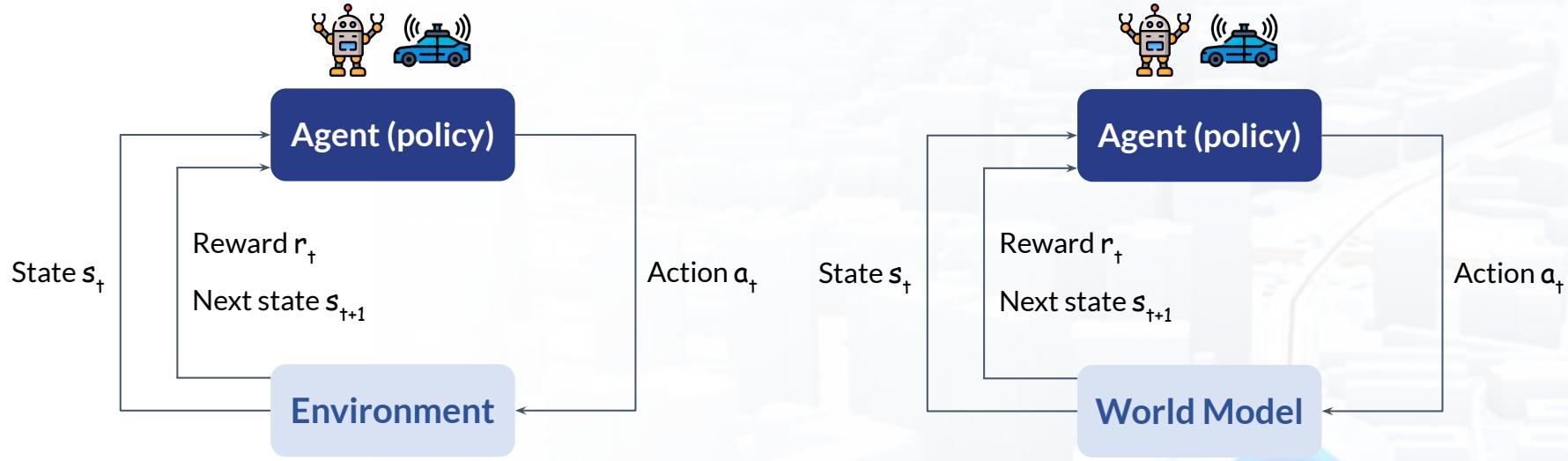


Autonomous Systems
(Agents)

World Model



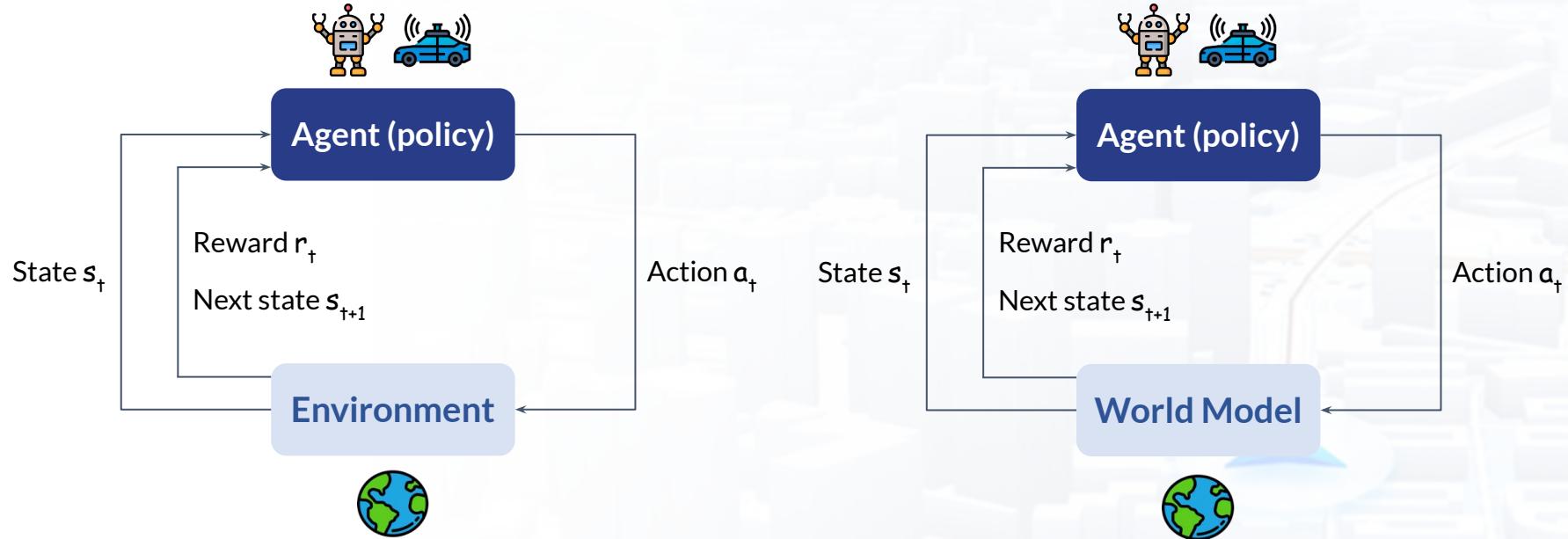
World Model



- **Selected concepts, and relationships** between them, to represent the whole system
- A **memory** component that makes predictions about **future** codes based on historical information
- Train a **simple controller** with the internal world model

[1] D. Ha and J. Schmidhuber. Recurrent World Models Facilitate Policy Evolution. NeurIPS, 2018.

World Model



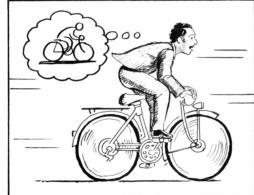
A Path Towards Autonomous Machine Intelligence Version – Yann Lecun

World Model

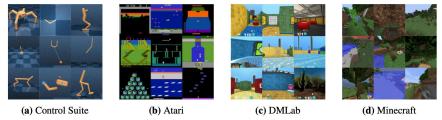
From simulated agents to real-world driving systems

RL Agents

2018



World Models:
Training agents inside
their dreams



2020

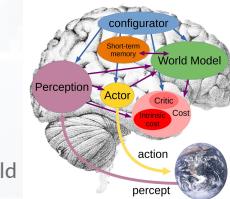
Vision

Dreamer V1/2/3:
Towards general agents with
scalable world models

Position Paper
(by LeCun)
Positioning the
developments of world
models

2022

Driving
Robotics



I-JEPA:
Capturing visual knowledge
in self-supervised manner



2024

Scaling up world models on large
corpus of videos



General World Model: inhouse data
collected around the globe

GAIA-1: 4700 hours of driving videos
collected in London

Genie / UniPi & UniSim: Internet
text-image, videos, human activities,
robots, etc.

Foundation Models

Mind-blowing Part



Weakness Samples



Are foundation models like Sora and LLMs world models?

Can Language Models Serve as Text-Based World Simulators?

Ruoyao Wang[†], Graham Todd[‡], Ziang Xiao[♦], Xingdi Yuan[◊]

Marc-Alexandre Côté[◊], Peter Clark[♣], Peter Jansen^{†♣}

[†]University of Arizona [◊]Microsoft Research Montréal

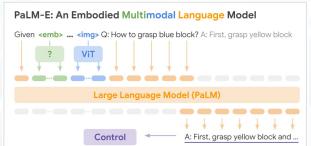
[‡]New York University [♦]Johns Hopkins University [♣]Allen Institute for AI

{ruoyaowang, pajansen}@arizona.edu gdrtodd@nyu.edu

zhang.xiao@jhu.edu {eric.yuan, macote}@microsoft.com

PeterC@allenai.org

- Large corpus of data
- Effective generalization
- Diverse range of use cases
- Self-supervision (generally)



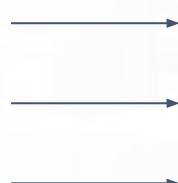
“Foundation” Models for Autonomous Systems

Towards Intelligent, Reliable and Generalizable System

- “Foundation” Models for Autonomous Systems

Foundation Model:

- Large corpus of data
- Effective generalization
- Diverse range of use cases
- Self-supervision (generally)



Raw data

World knowledge

Self-supervised learning

Labeled data

Task-wise optimization

Supervised learning

Representation Learning

x

Visual World Models

Specific Task Models



Summary (Questions)

Data

- **Question 1:** How can we find large corpus of data for autonomous driving, which helps effective generalization ability?

Model

- **Question 1:** How can we train a world model with intricate world knowledge, with self-supervised learning?

Application

- **Question 1:** What are the abilities of the world model?

Generalized Predictive Model for Autonomous Driving



Jiazhi Yang



Shenyuan Gao



Yihang Qiu



Li Chen



Tianyu Li



Bo Dai



Kashyap Chitta



Penghao Wu



Jia Zeng



Ping Luo



Jun Zhang



Andreas Geiger



Yu Qiao



Hongyang Li

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.09630>
- dataset: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/DriveAGI>

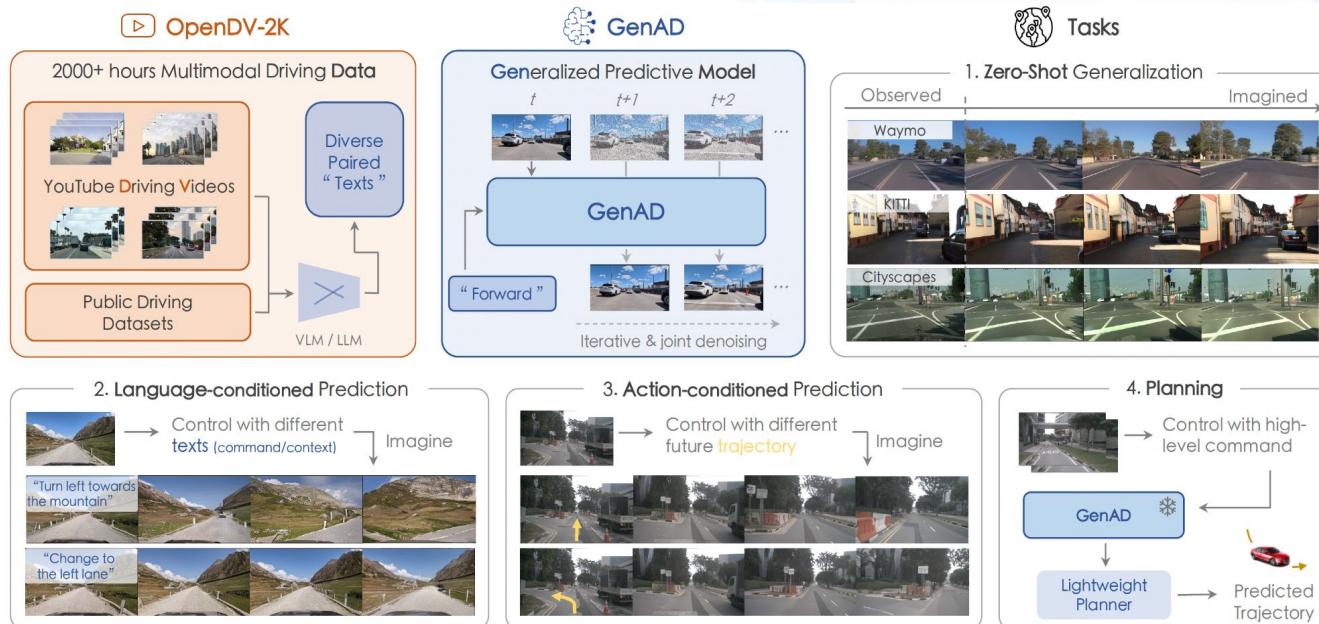
GenAD | At a Glance

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.09630>
- dataset: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/DriveAGI>

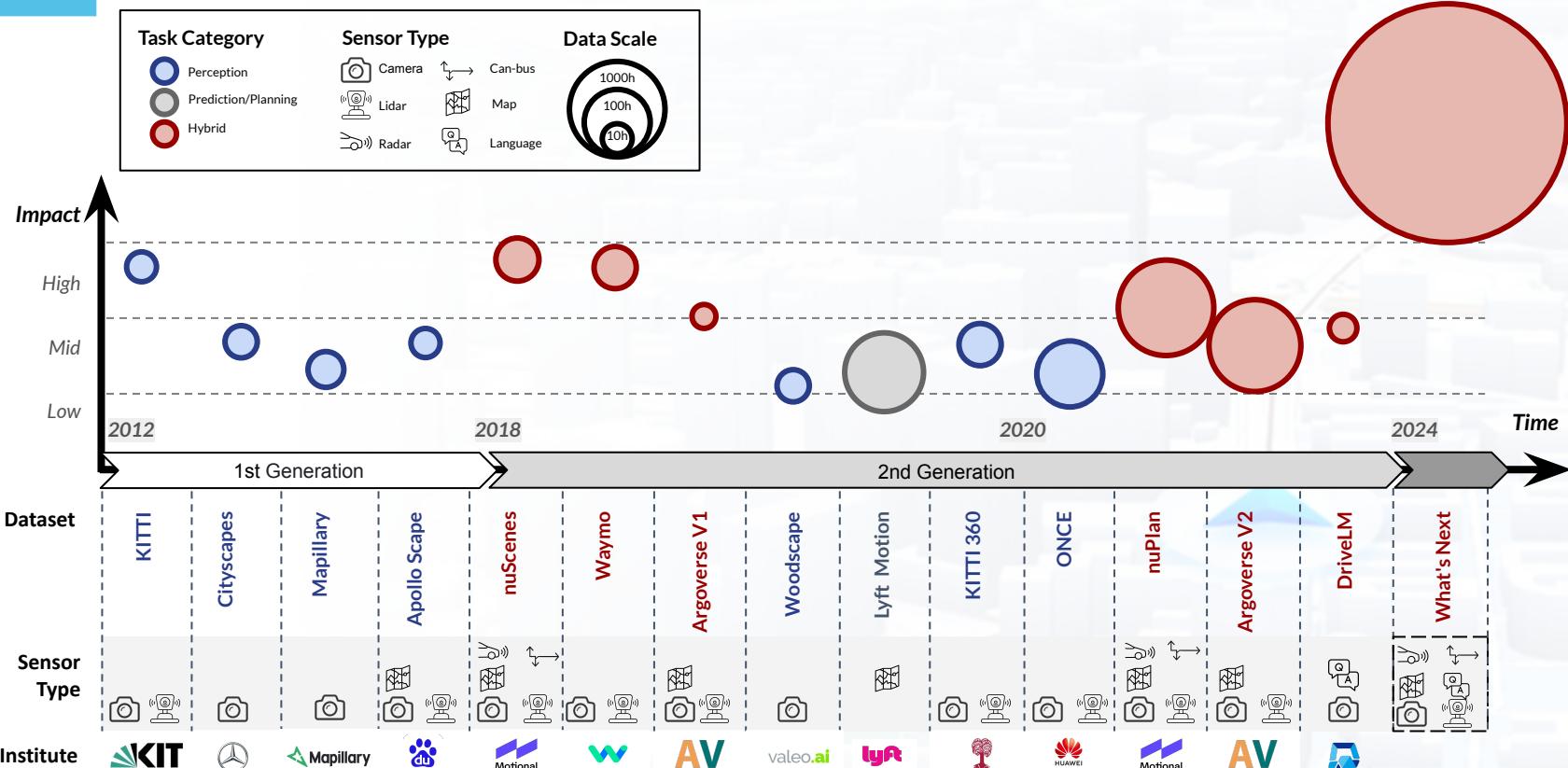
Highlight

Thu. 20 Jun 5 p.m – 6:30 p.m
Arch 4A-E Poster #5

A large-scale video prediction model on web-scale driving videos, to enable its generalization across a wide spectrum of domains and tasks.



Dataset in Autonomous Driving



Data | Scale-up Driving Videos



Training Data (hours)

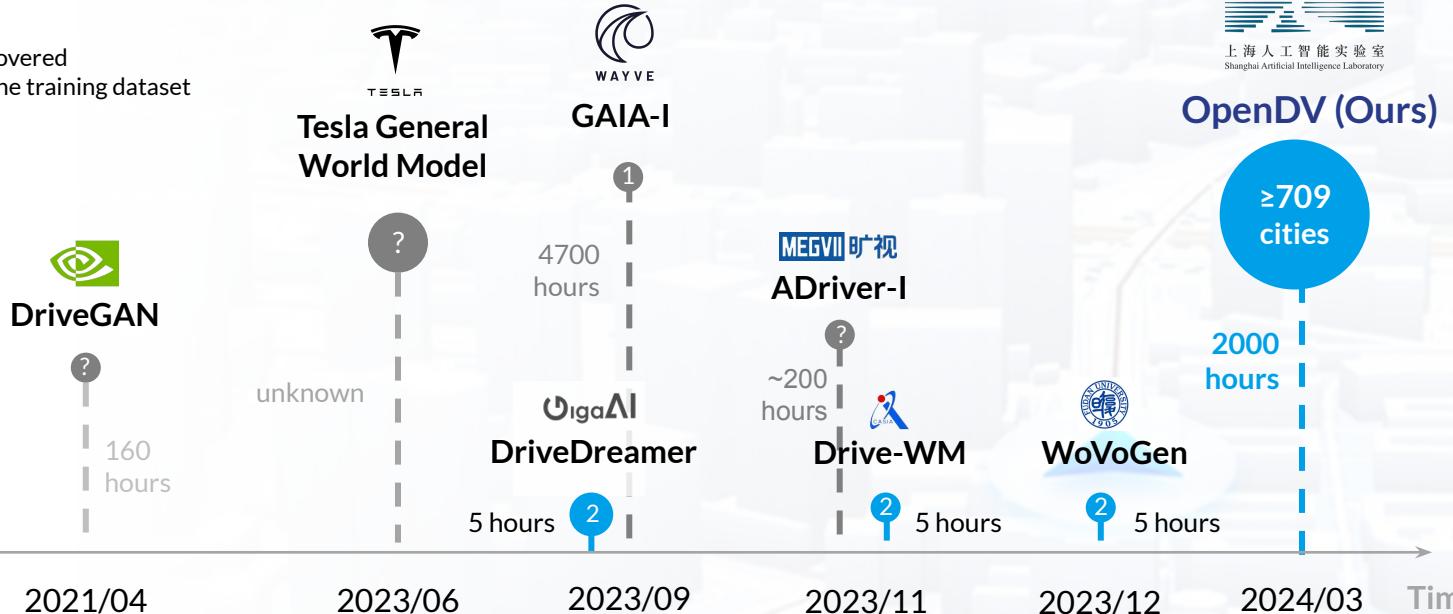
Bubble size: Number of cities covered

Dash line Length: Duration of the training dataset

? Unknown number of cities

● Proprietary data

● Public data



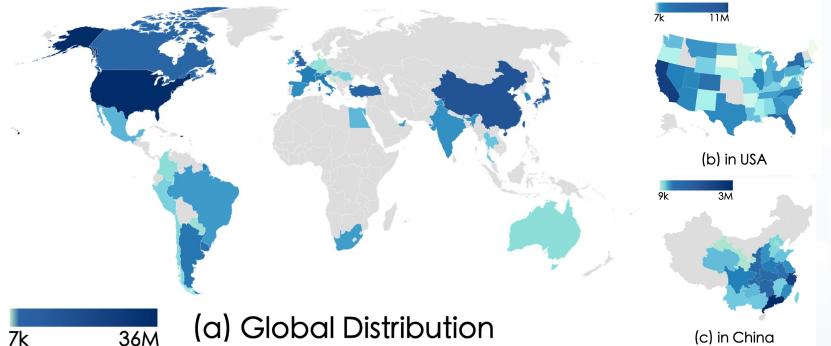
OpenDV: the largest public driving video datasets

Data | OpenDV

Massive YouTube videos, collected worldwide



- Diverse, in geography, weather, scenes, traffic, etc.
- No label (vehicle action, 3D boxes, calibrations, etc.)



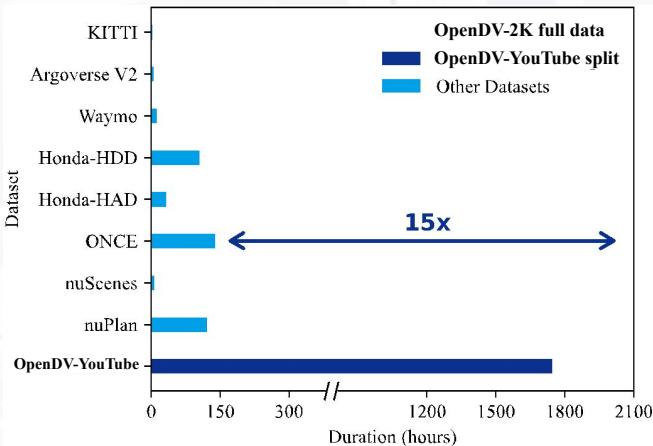
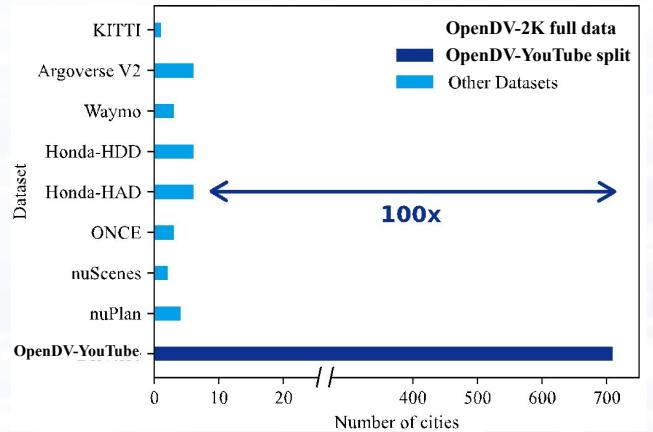
Data | OpenDV

- Largest public dataset up-to-date for autonomous driving
- 2059 hours, 709 areas

	Dataset	Duration (hours)	Front-view Frames	Geographic Diversity Countries	Cities	Sensor Setup
✗	KITTI [14]	1.4	15k	1	1	fixed
✗	Cityscapes [10]	0.5	25k	3	50	fixed
✗	Waymo Open* [41]	11	390k	1	3	fixed
✗	Argoverse 2* [45]	4.2	300k	1	6	fixed
✓	nuScenes [6]	5.5	241k	2	2	fixed
✓	nuPlan [7]	120	4.0M	2	4	fixed
✓	Talk2Car [12]	4.7	-	2	2	fixed
✓	ONCE [32]	144	7M	1	-	fixed
✓	Honda-HAD [23]	32	1.2M	1	-	fixed
✓	Honda-HDD-Action [38]	104	1.1M	1	-	fixed
✓	Honda-HDD-Cause [38]	32	-	1	-	fixed
✓	OpenDV-YouTube (Ours)	1747	60.2M	$\geq 40^\dagger$	$\geq 709^\dagger$	uncalibrated
-	OpenDV-2K (Ours)	2059	65.1M	$\geq 40^\dagger$	$\geq 709^\dagger$	uncalibrated

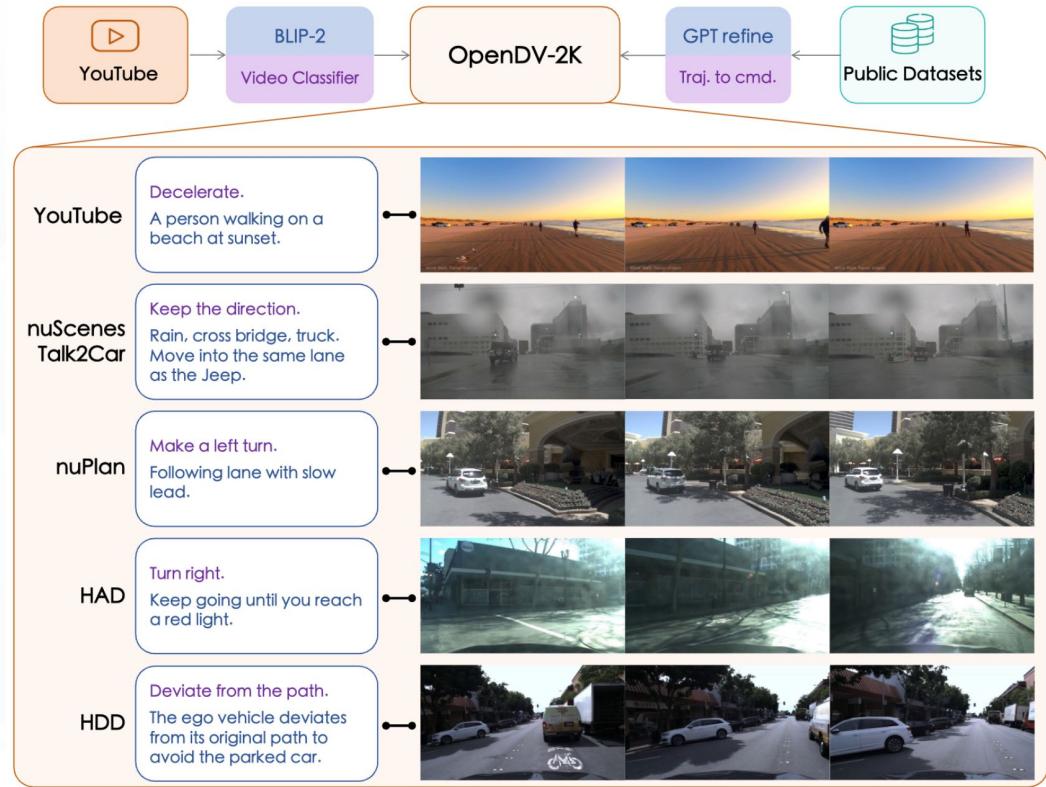
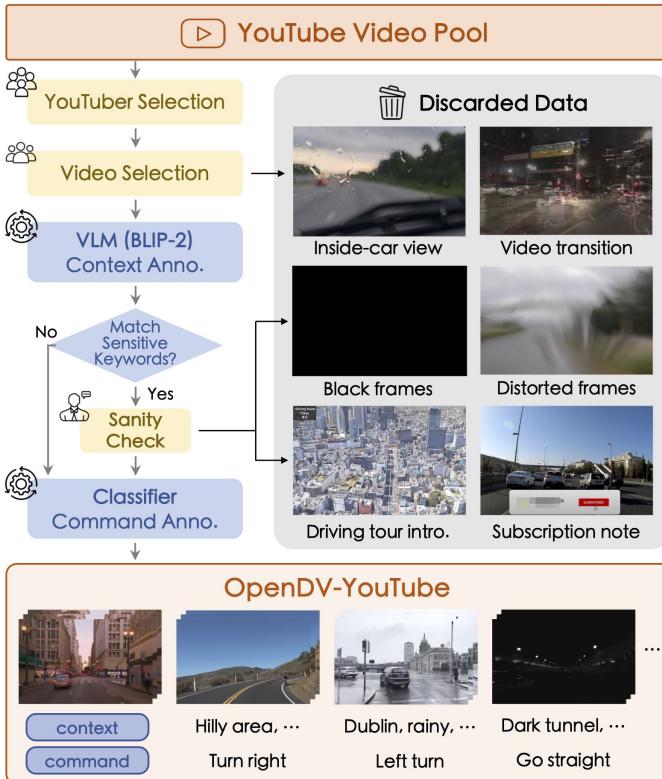
OpenDV-2K (Ours) 

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.09630>
- dataset: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/DriveAGI>



Data | OpenDV

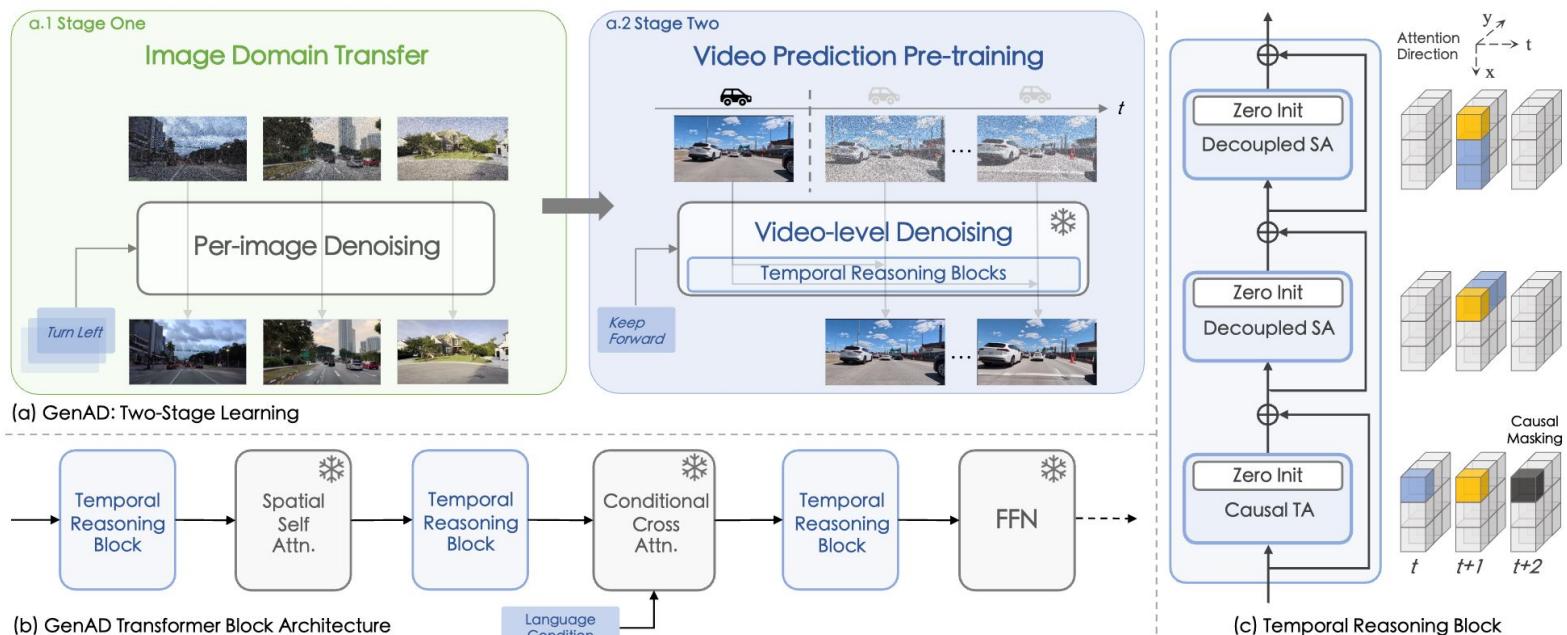
- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.09630>
- dataset: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/DriveAGI>



Model | Video Prediction Model for Driving

Keys

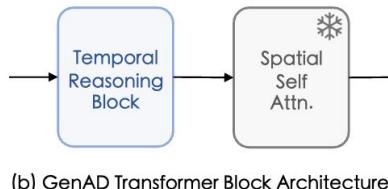
- GenAD (5.9B) = SDXL (2.7B) + Temporal Reasoning Blocks (2.5B) + CLIP-Text (0.7B)
- Tuning the **image generation model** into a highly-capable **video prediction model**



Model | Video Prediction Model for Driving

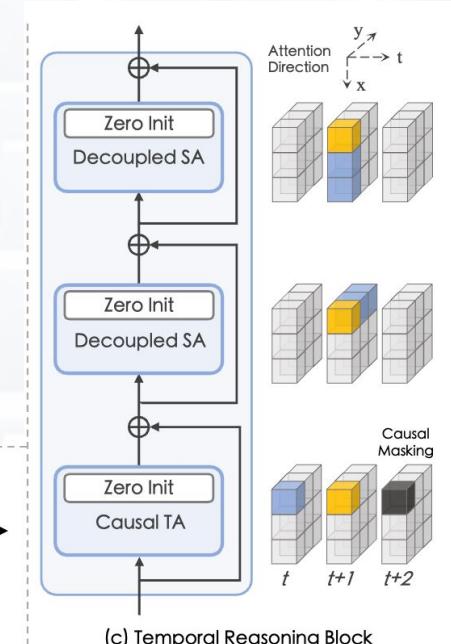
Designs

- **Interleaved temporal blocks:** Sufficient spatiotemporal interaction.
- **Decoupled spatial attention:** Efficient long-range modeling.
- **Causality mask:** Coherent future prediction and avoid causal confusion.



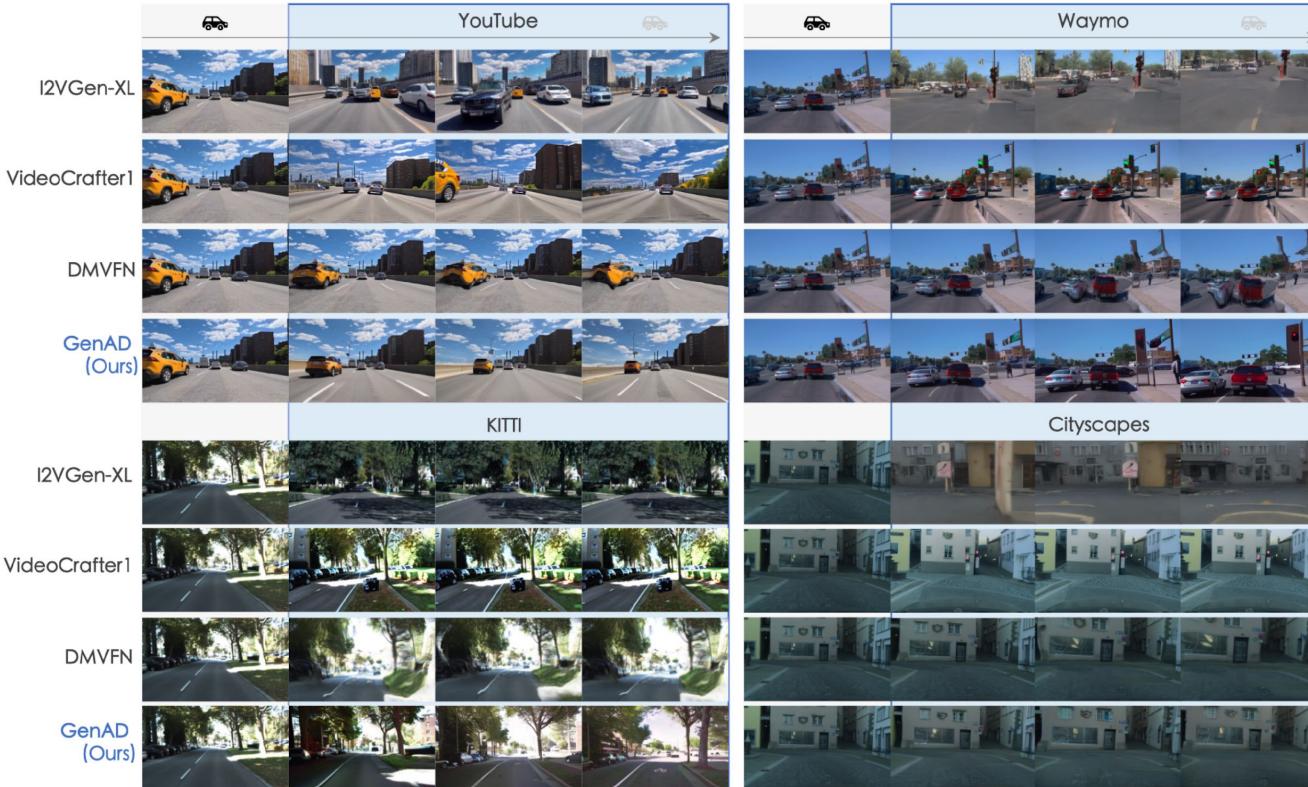
(b) GenAD Transformer Block Architecture

Language Condition



(c) Temporal Reasoning Block

Tasks | Zero-shot Generalization (Video Prediction)



Zero-shot video prediction on unseen datasets including Waymo, KITTI and Cityscapes

Tasks | Language-conditioned Prediction

2. Language-conditioned Prediction



Instruct the future with free-form texts.

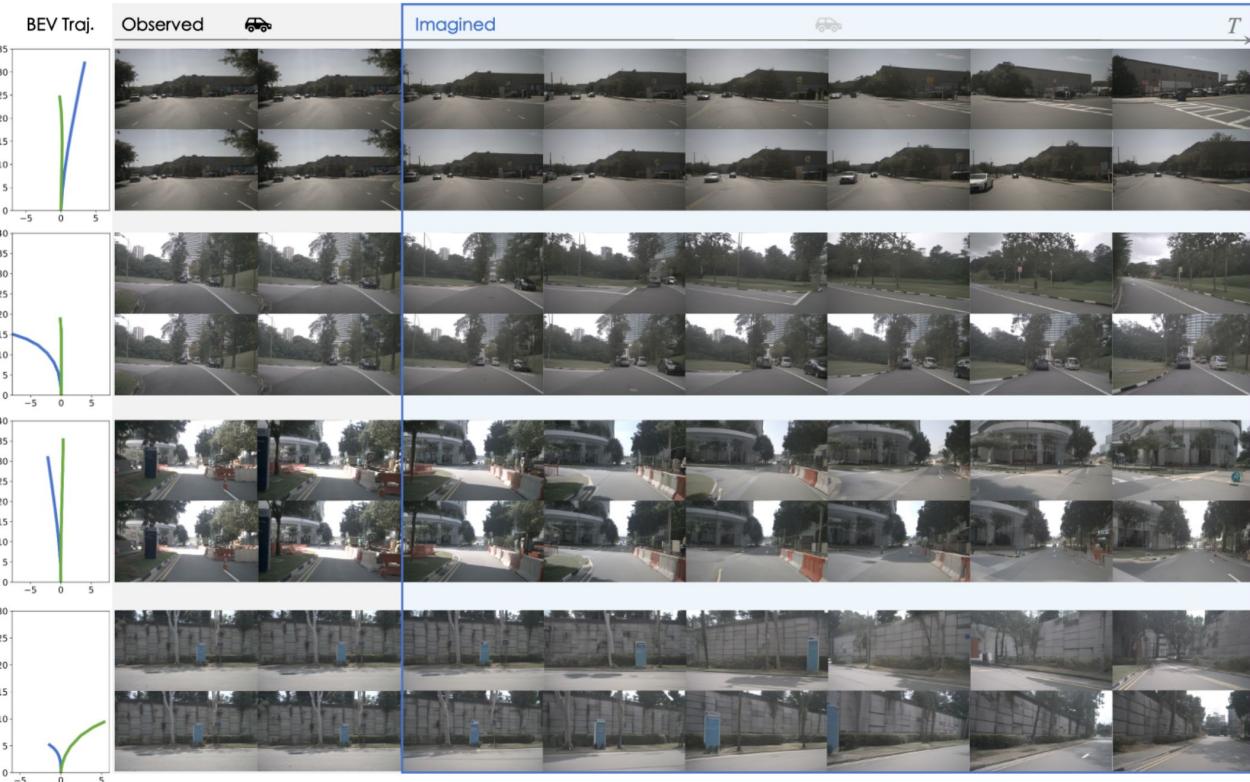


Tasks | Action-conditioned Prediction (Simulation)

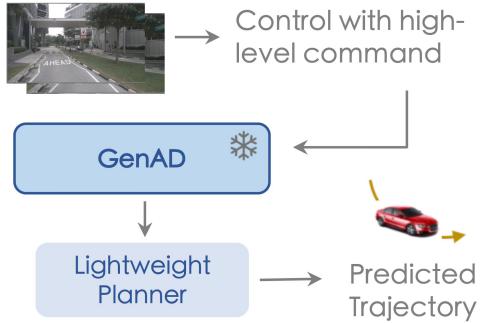
Method	Condition	nuScenes
		Action Prediction Error (\downarrow)
Ground truth	-	0.9
GenAD	text	2.54
GenAD-act	text + traj.	2.02

Table 4. **Task on Action-conditioned prediction.** Compared to GenAD with text conditions only, GenAD-act enables more precise future predictions that follow the action condition.

Simulate the future
differently conditioned on
future trajectory.



Tasks | Planning (Representation Learning)



Method	# Trainable Params.	nuScenes	
		ADE (↓)	FDE (↓)
ST-P3* [20]	10.9M	2.11	2.90
UniAD* [22]	58.8M	1.03	1.65
GenAD (Ours)	0.8M	1.23	2.31

- Speeding up training by 3400 times (vs. UniAD) w/o ego status

Summary

Data

- **Takeaway 1:** Largest available driving video dataset: OpenDV (2000+ hours). The great diversity ensures generalization.

Model

- **Takeaway 1:** Can be a video prediction model conditioned on high-level instructions.

Application

- **Takeaway 1:** Learned representations can be simply trained for policy prediction.

Summary (Question)

Data

- **Takeaway 1:** Largest available driving video dataset: OpenDV (2000+ hours). The great diversity ensures generalization.

Model

- **Takeaway 1:** Can be a video prediction model conditioned on high-level instructions.
- **Question 2:** How about more direct conditions (in the real world)?

Application

- **Takeaway 1:** Learned representations can be simply trained for policy prediction.
- **Question 2:** How about the typical application such as rewarding for model-based RL?

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.17398>
- demo page: <https://vista-demo.github.io/>
- code: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/Vista>

Vista: A Generalized Driving World Model with High Fidelity and Versatile Controllability



Shenyuan Gao



Jiazhi Yang



Li Chen



Kashyap Chitta



Yihang Qiu



Andreas Geiger



Jun Zhang

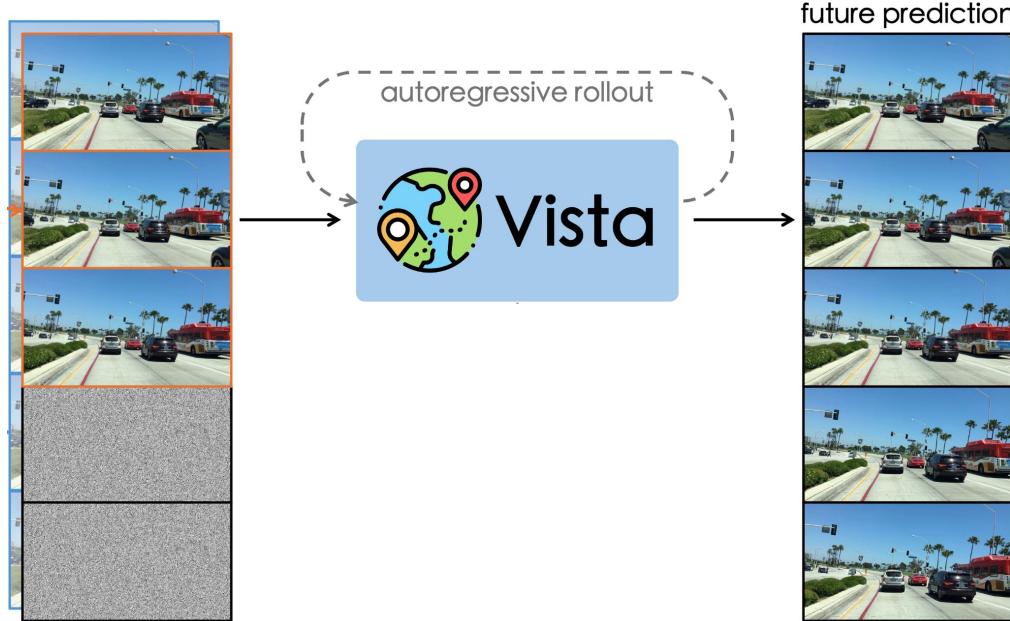


Hongyang Li

Driving World Models

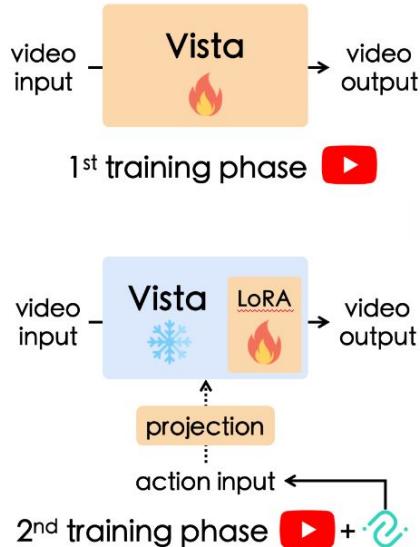
Method	Data Scale	Model Setups		Resolution	Action Control Modes			
		Frame Rate	Angle&Speed		Trajectory	Command	Goal Point	
DriveSim [99]	7h	5 Hz	80×160	✓				
DriveGAN [66]	160h	8 Hz	256×256	✓				
DriveDreamer [122]	5h	12 Hz	128×192	✓				
Drive-WM [124]	5h	2 Hz	192×384		✓			
WoVoGen [87]	5h	2 Hz	256×448	✓				
ADriver-I [60]	300h	2 Hz	256×512			✓		✓
GenAD [133]	2000h	2 Hz	256×448		✓		✓	
GAIA-1 [53]	4700h	25 Hz	288×512	✓				
Vista (Ours)	1740h	10 Hz	576×1024	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Vista | Versatile action controllability



From high-level intentions (command, goal point) to low-level maneuvers (trajectory, angle, and speed)

Vista | Model

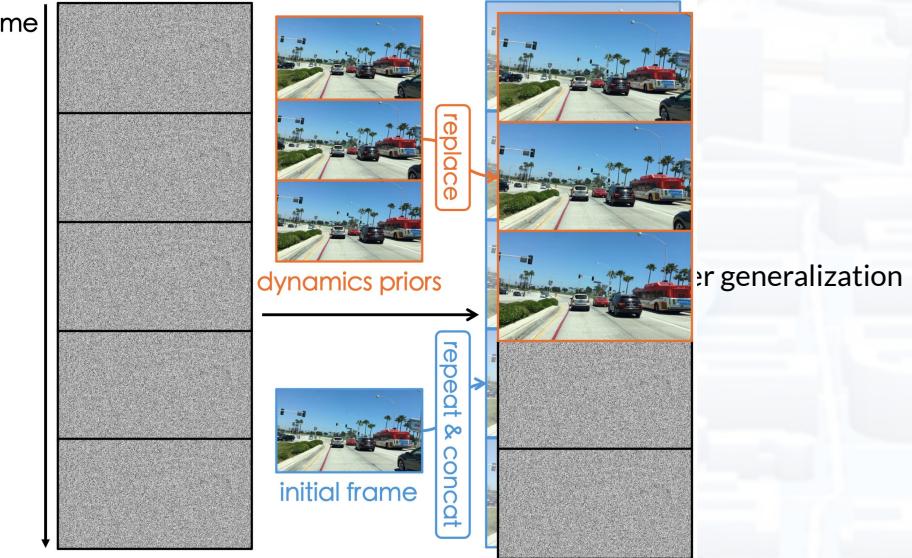


High-fidelity

- **Dynamic Prior Injection:** Replacing the latent to absorb varying numbers of condition frames
- **Dynamics Enhancement Loss:** Dynamics-aware weight to highlight dynamic regions
- **Structure Preservation Loss:** Preserve high-frequency structured features

Versatile Control

- Unified Condit
- Efficient Learn
- Collaborative

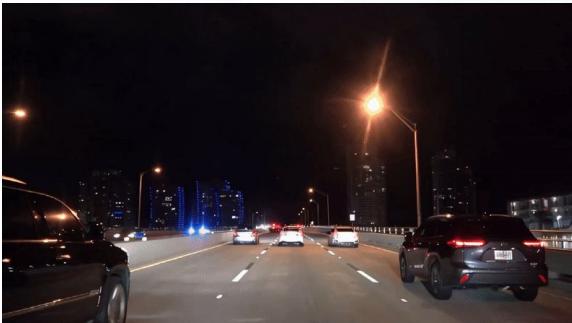


Vista | Video Prediction

- High-fidelity future prediction



- Continuous long-horizon rollout (15 seconds)



Vista | Zero-shot Action Controllability

turn left



go straight



turn right



stop

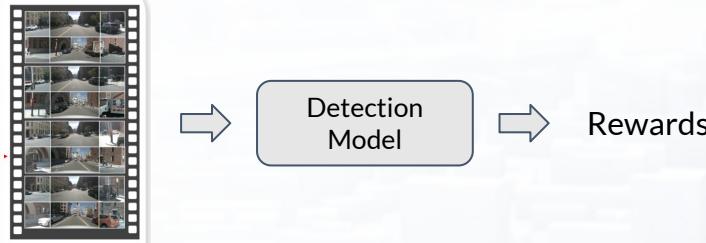


* The commands above are translated from trajectories, or angles+speed.

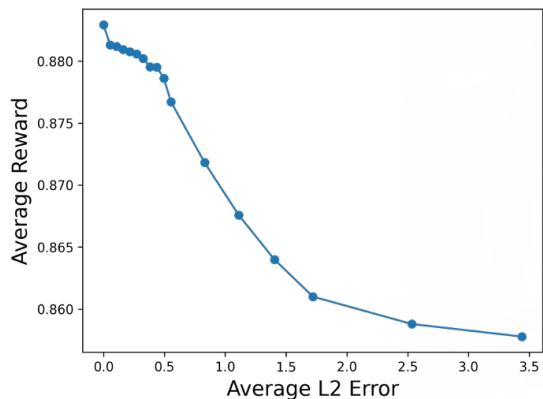
Vista | Reward

- Drive-WM rewards

Drive-WM, CVPR'24



- Provide reward without ground truth actions, by uncertainty



Reasonable rewards

More reasonable than ADE

Summary (Question)

Data

- **Takeaway 1:** Largest available driving video dataset: OpenDV (2000+ hours). The great diversity ensures generalization.

Model

- **Takeaway 1:** Can be a video prediction model conditioned on high-level instructions.
- **Takeaway 2:** We can inject kinds of conditions with efficiency to make it a real world model / simulator.

Application

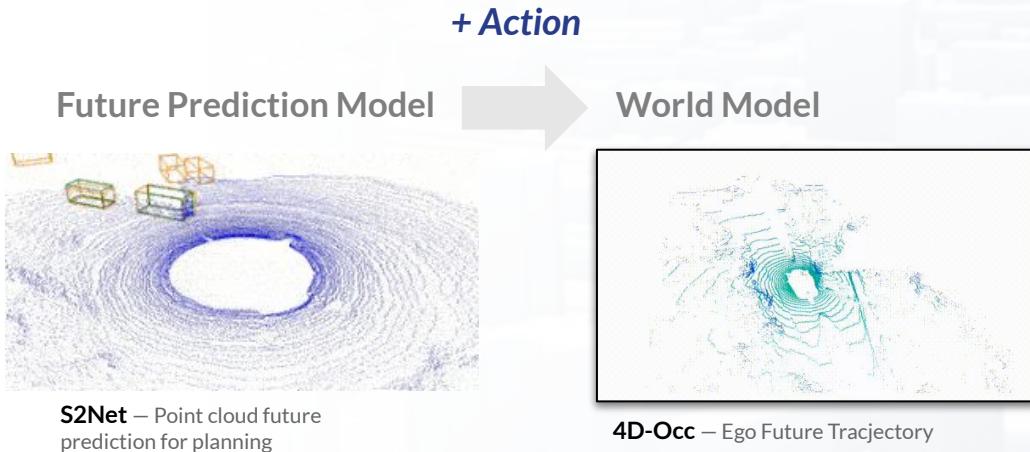
- **Takeaway 1:** Learned representations can be simply trained for policy prediction.
- **Takeaway 2:** The stochastic diffusion process learns inherent rewards.

Can we have more industry-friendly approaches, including data, model, and tasks' application?

Also, evaluations?

ViDAR | Motivation

Carnegie
Mellon
University



Motivation

- The industry has accumulated huge amount of **image-LiDAR** data with test vehicles
- **image-LiDAR** naturally has both **semantic** and **geometric** clues



Pre-training with
Point Cloud & Visual Image

OpenDriveLab

[1] Weng et al. S2Net: Stochastic Sequential Pointcloud Forecasting. ECCV, 2022.

[2] Khurana et al. Point Cloud Forecasting as a Proxy for 4D Occupancy Forecasting. CVPR, 2023.

ViDAR | Motivation

VIDAR in multi-view stereo (from Mobileye, CES 2021)

VIDAR

“Visual Lidar”: DNN-based Multi-view Stereo

- Redundant to the appearance and measurement engines
- handling “rear protruding” objects – which hover above the object’s ground plane.



Note:

- Reconstruction purpose
- Lack of exploration in temporal dimension
- More geometric estimation, lack of the reasoning ability of the environment

ViDAR | Motivation

VIDAR in depth estimation (from TRI)

TRI-VIDAR

[Installation](#) | [Configuration](#) | [Datasets](#) | [Visualization](#) | [Publications](#) | [License](#)

Official [PyTorch](#) repository for some of TRI's latest publications, including self-supervised learning, multi-view geometry, and depth estimation. Our goal is to provide a clean environment to reproduce our results and facilitate further research in this field. This repository is an updated version of [PackNet-SfM](#), our previous monocular depth estimation repository, featuring a different license.



Note:

- Reconstruction purpose
- Lack of exploration in temporal dimension
- More geometric estimation, lack of the reasoning ability of the environment

Highlight

Thu. 20 Jun 5 p.m – 6:30 p.m

Arch 4A-E Poster #6

Visual Point Cloud Forecasting enables Scalable Autonomous Driving



Jiazhi Yang



Li Chen



Yanan Sun



Hongyang Li

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.17655>
- code: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/ViDAR>

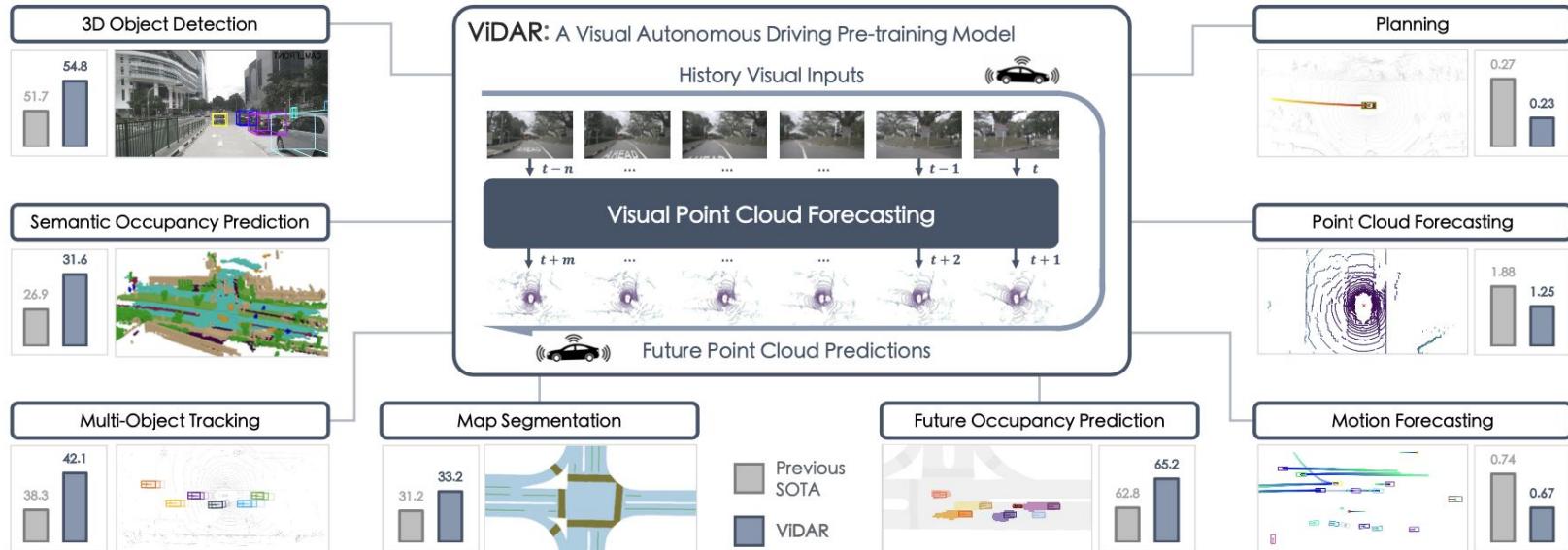
ViDAR | At a Glance

Training multimodal world model by **Visual Point Cloud Forecasting** and boosting **End-to-End Autonomous Driving**.

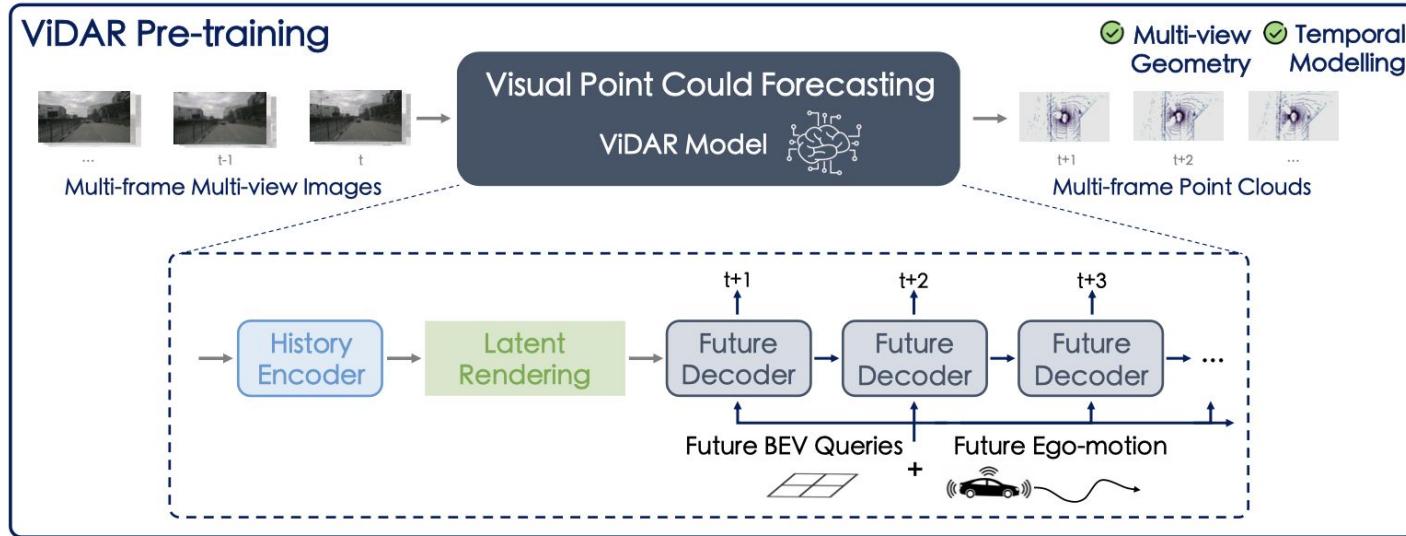
Highlight

Thu. 20 Jun 5 p.m – 6:30 p.m
Arch 4A-E Poster #6

- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.17655>
- code: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/ViDAR>



ViDAR | Architecture



- **History Encoder:** Target pre-training structure, extracting BEV embeddings from visual inputs.
- **Latent Rendering:** Extract geometric latent space. Removing ray-shape ambiguities by volume rendering in feature space.
- **Future Decoder:** Iteratively predict future BEV features, conditioned on ego-motion.

ViDAR | World Model in Driving

The First Multimodal World Model

Visual Inputs

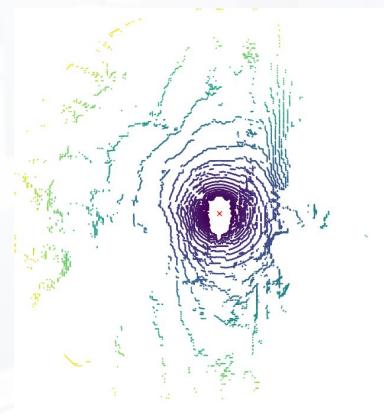
-1s, -0.5s, 0s



LiDAR Outputs



Go straight



Turn left

ViDAR | Future Prediction

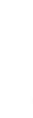
ViDAR effectively models relative motion, and motion of other objects.

Visual Inputs
-1s, -0.5s, 0s

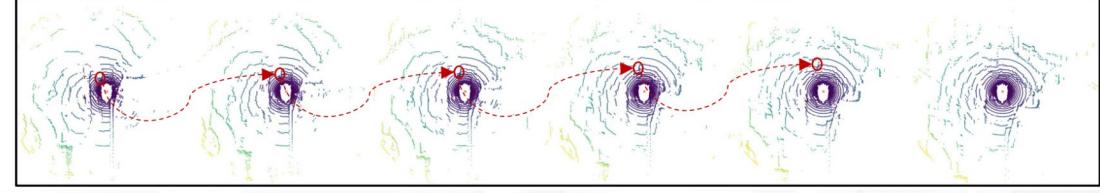


LiDAR Outputs
0.5s, 1s, 1.5s, 2s, 2.5s, 3s

Visual Inputs
-1s, -0.5s, 0s



LiDAR Outputs
0.5s, 1s, 1.5s, 2s, 2.5s, 3s



ViDAR | Downstream Tasks

Pre-training by visual point cloud forecasting helps end-to-end autonomous driving

Method	Detection		Tracking			Mapping		Motion Forecasting			Future Occupancy Prediction				Planning	
	NDS↑	mAP↑	AMOTA↑	AMOTP↓	IDS↓	IoU-lane↑	IoU-road↑	minADE↓	minFDE↓	MR↓	IoU-n.↑	IoU-f.↑	VPQ-n.↑	VPQ-f.↑	avg.L2↓	avg.Col.↓
UniAD	49.36	37.96	38.3	1.32	1054	31.3	69.1	0.75	1.08	0.158	62.8	40.1	54.6	33.9	1.12	0.27
ViDAR	52.57	42.33	42.0	1.25	991	33.2	71.4	0.67	0.99	0.149	65.4	42.1	57.3	36.4	0.91	0.23



Summary

Data

- **Takeaway 1:** Largest available driving video dataset: OpenDV (2000+ hours). The great diversity ensures generalization.
- **Takeaway 2:** The image and LiDAR pairs are very helpful to capture both semantic and geometric information in the environment.

Model

- **Takeaway 1:** Can be a video prediction model conditioned on high-level instructions.
- **Takeaway 2:** We can inject kinds of conditions with efficiently to make it a real world model / simulator.
- **Takeaway 3:** BEV-based models (c.f. videos) are also effective world models.

Application

- **Takeaway 1:** Learned representations can be simply trained for policy prediction.
- **Takeaway 2:** The stochastic diffusion process learns inherent rewards.
- **Takeaway 3:** Spatio-temporal pre-training improves all tasks in driving and serves as a foundation model.

How about robotics?

Challenges

- Heavy interactions between robots and environments
- More diverse tasks and environments

Visual data

World knowledge

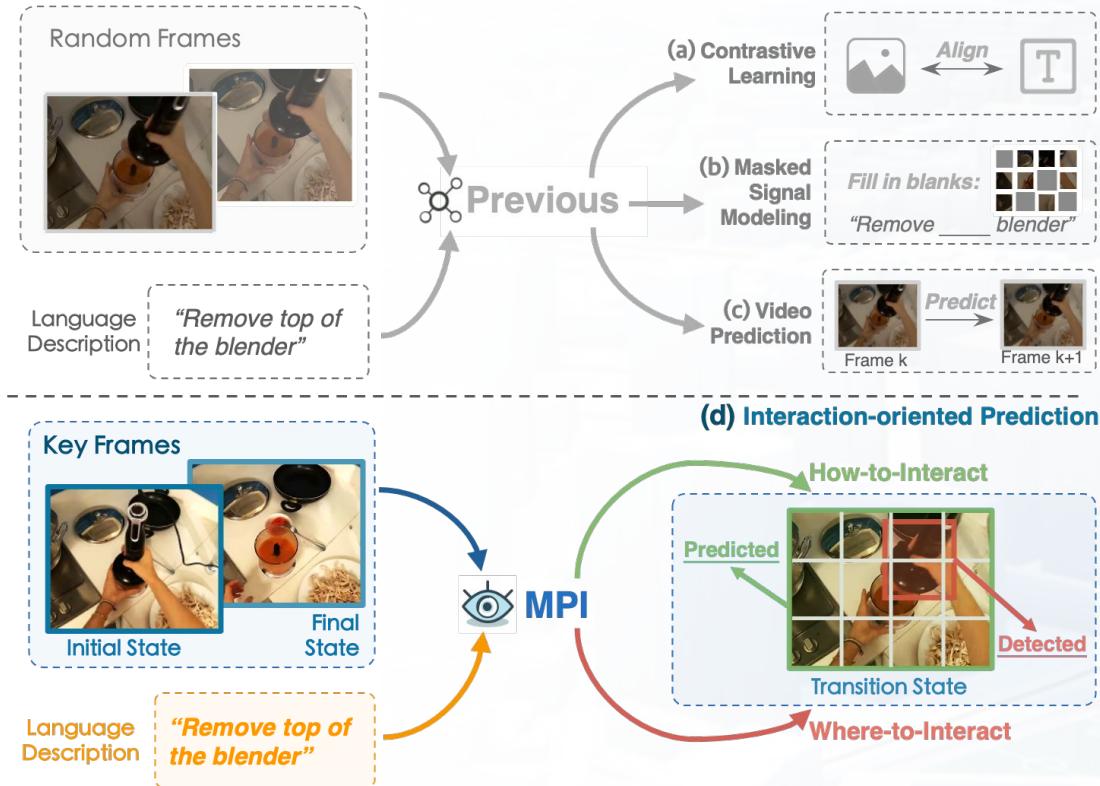
Representation learning



Visual World Models
w/ Highlighted Interaction



Learning Manipulation by Predicting Interaction (MPI)



- arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.00439>
- project page: <https://opendrivelab.com/MPI>
- code: <https://github.com/OpenDriveLab/MPI>

Existing works

- High-level semantics
- Or low-level details

MPI (Ours)

- Interactive dynamics (patterns of behavior and physical interactions)
- w/ both high-level semantics and low-level details

MPI | Interaction Prediction

Two Training Objectives

“where to interact”

“how to interact”

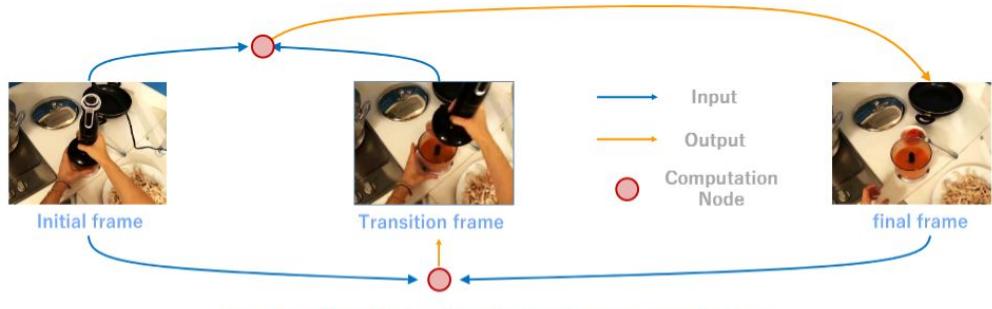


Transition / Future states



Visual World Models
w/ Highlighted Interaction

Ego4D
Hand-and-Object subset

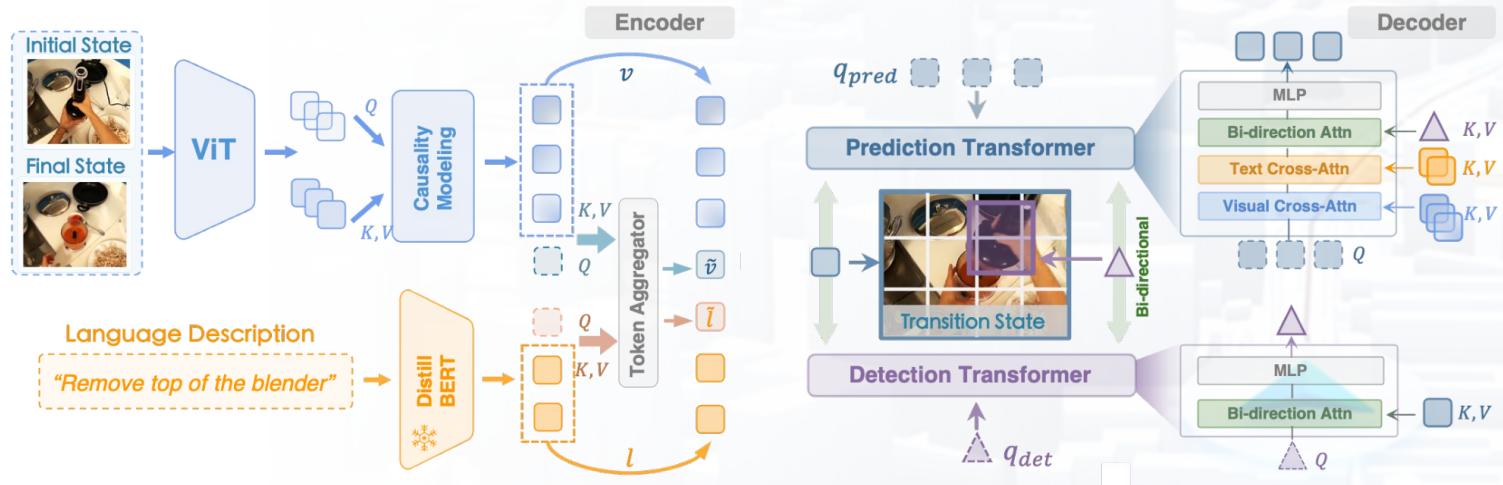


State-change: Plant removed from ground

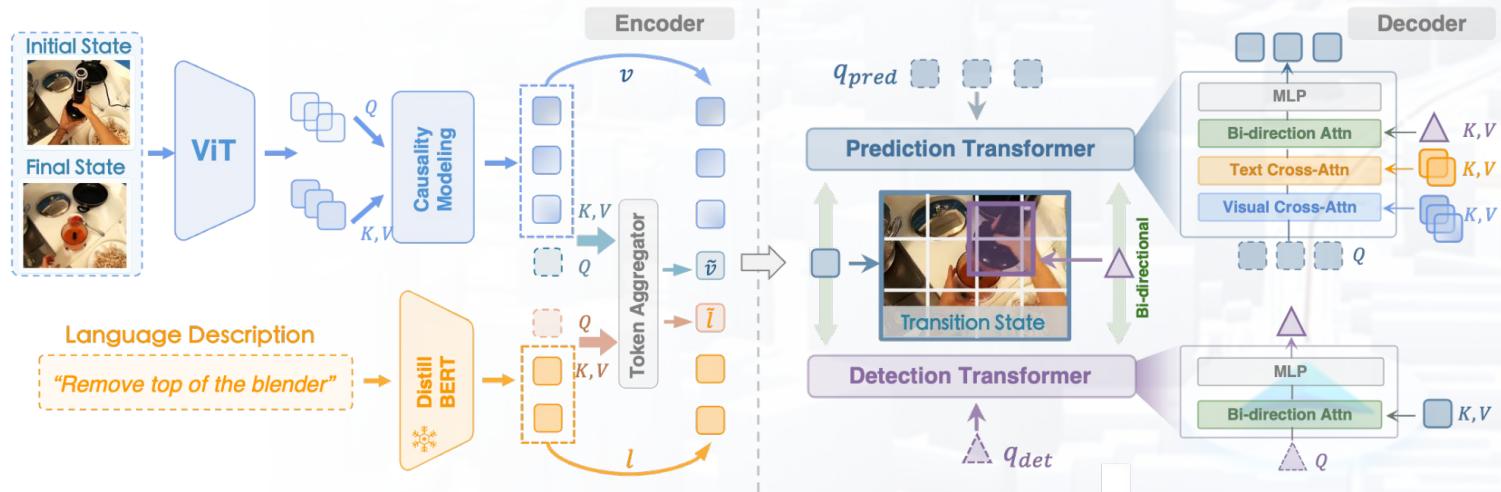


State-change: Wood smoothed

MPI | Model

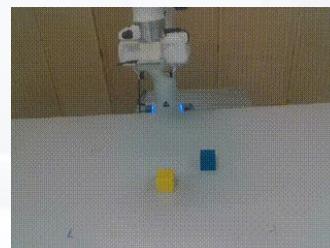
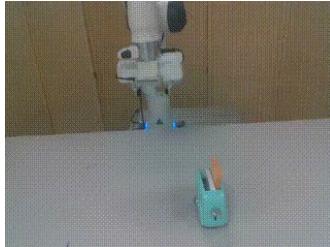


MPI | Model



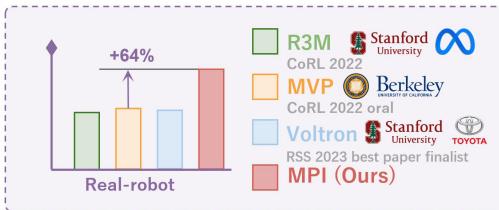
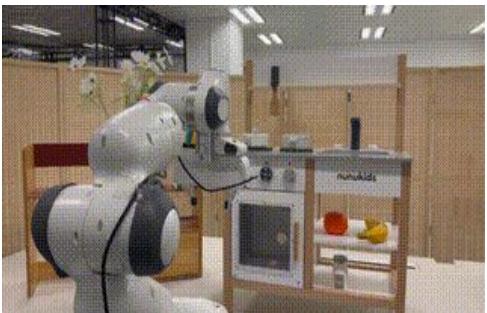
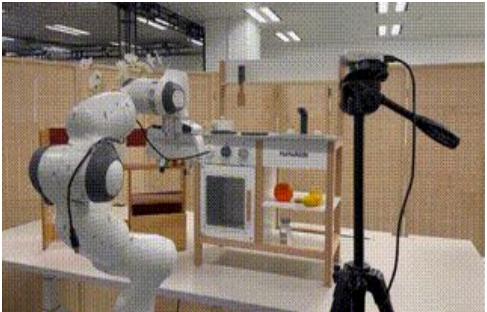
MPI | Results

Demos in clean background with varied positions/angles/etc

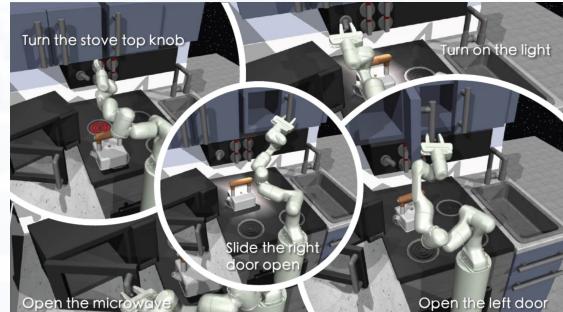


MPI | Results

Real-robot Experiments



Visuomotor Control in Simulation



Referring Expression Grounding



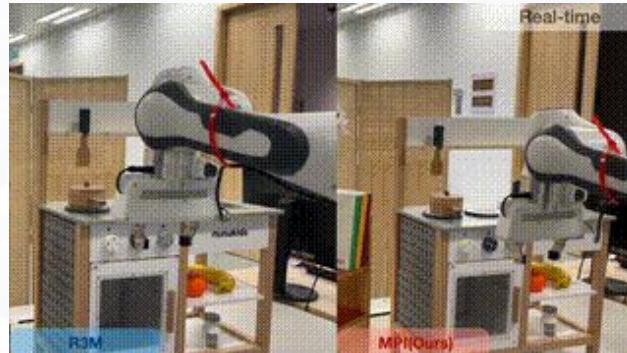
Referring Expression Grounding

The Stapler in front and
on the top-left of the
food bag.

MPI | Generalization Results

Generalization Validation

Robustness to Visual Distractions



Object Variation

White plastic pot
→ Wooden pot



Background Distraction

Daisies → Roses

Conclusion

- **Data:** Visual data, like large-scale videos and image-LiDAR pairs, are valuable to train a **generalized** world model by **self-supervised learning**.
- **Model:** World models have **different forms**, like videos and BEVs, and **different conditions**; all serving as effective environmental abstractions.
- **Application:** Learning representations by learning world models are helpful for multiple applications, including **policy learning**, reward evaluation, and diverse driving tasks.



Visual World Models as Foundation Models for Autonomous Agents



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Visual World Models with LLM/VLMs as Foundation Models for Autonomous Agents

Thank you

open
drive
Lab

