

W4. Perception & Situation Awareness & Decision making

- Robot Perception for Dynamic environments: Outline & DP-Grids concept
- Dynamic Probabilistic Grids – Bayesian Occupancy Filter concept
- Dynamic Probabilistic Grids – Implementation approaches
- Object level Perception functions (SLAM + DATMO)
- Detection and Tracking of Mobile Objects – Problem & Approaches
- Detection and Tracking of Mobile Objects – Model & Grid based approaches
- Embedded Bayesian Perception & Short-term collision risk (DP-Grid level)
- Situation Awareness – Problem statement & Motion / Prediction Models
- **Situation Awareness – Collision Risk Assessment & Decision (Object level)**

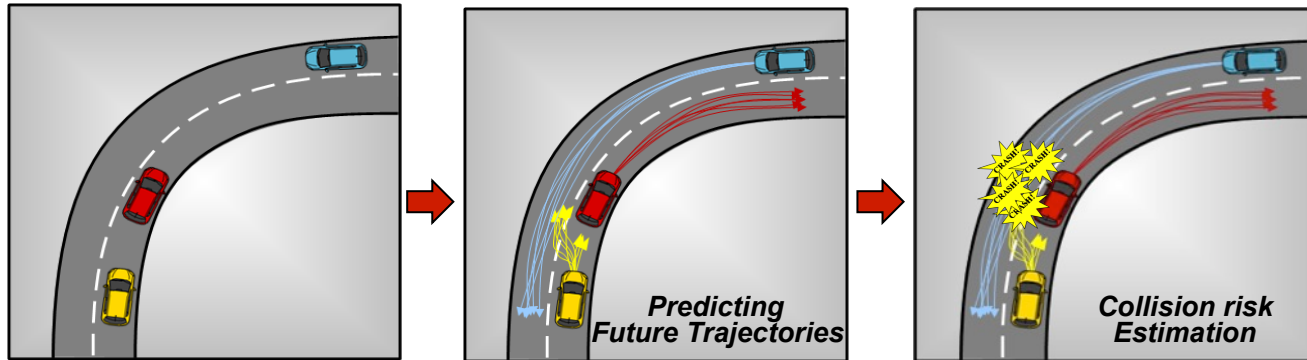
Collision Risk Assessment – Outline

- **Motion models** can be used to *predict the evolution of the current traffic situation*. Then, the **“Risk”** of the current traffic situation can be estimated
- **Risk is an ambiguous concept**
In general it is associated with the idea that a *situation may be dangerous for the driver*, i.e. may result in harm or injury
 - **Collisions** are considered as the main source of Risk
 - *Risk assessment is solely based on “Collision Prediction”*
 - A **more general interpretation** of the notion of Risk consists in detecting **“Dangerous Situations”**
 - *“Dangerous Situations” arise from drivers performing unexpected maneuvers*

Approach 1: Risk based on collision prediction

- Two complementary steps

1. Predict the potential future trajectories for all the moving entities (*see session 8*)
2. Detect collisions between each possible pair of trajectories, and derive a **Risk estimate based on the overall chance of collision**



$$\text{Collision_risk} = \sum_{(T_i, T_j)} P(T_i) \times P(T_j) \times P(\text{collision}|T_i T_j)$$

Risk based on collision prediction

Binary collision prediction

- A **vehicle** is typically approximated as a ***point, ellipse, or polygon***
- Detecting **collisions between pairs of trajectories**:
 - ⇒ *Analytical solution* (case of linear motion models)
 - ⇒ *Discretized trajectories & Checking for collision points iteratively*

Risk based on collision prediction

Probabilistic collision prediction

- Takes into account the **uncertainty on the future motion** of the vehicles in the scene
- **Main idea:** **Integrate** over the possible future trajectories & **Detect collisions** between each possible pair
- **Several ways to compute the probabilistic collision risk:**
 - Sum over both the *Maneuvers & their Physical Executions*
 - Select the *most likely Maneuver & Sum on the possible Physical Executions*
 - Compute the *Risk of colliding with a specific vehicle*
 - Sum over all the vehicles to obtain a *Global collision risk*
 - ...

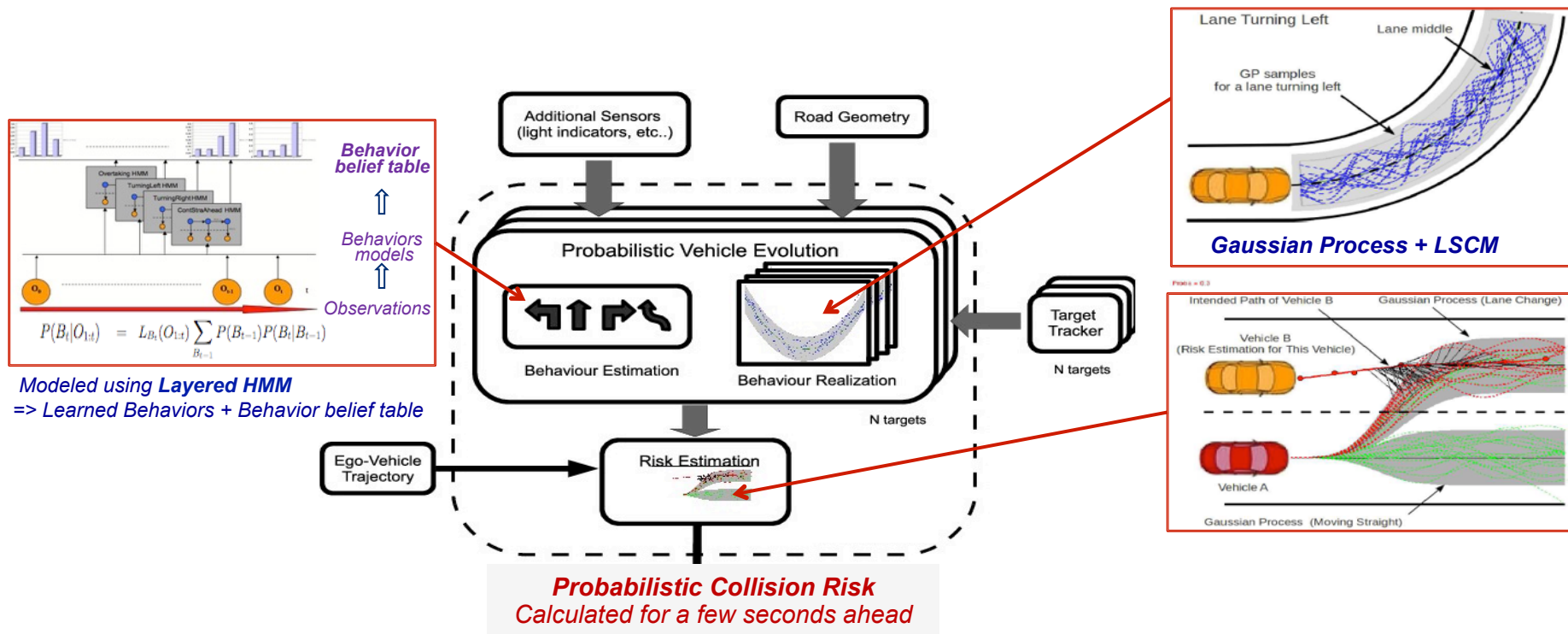
Risk based on collision prediction

Other risk indicators

- By analyzing further the Predicted Trajectories & their Intersecting Points, it is possible to **derive some indicators** (*giving more information about the potential collision*)
 - *Velocity of the vehicles when the collision occurs*
 - *Configuration of the collision*
 - *Time-To-X indicators*
 - ✓ *Time-To-Collision (TTC): time remaining before the collision occurs*
 - ✓ *Time-To-React (TTR): time available for the driver to react before the collision becomes inevitable*
- **These other risk indicators** can be used to determine the best way to **mitigate** or to **avoid** the potential collision

Risk based on collision prediction

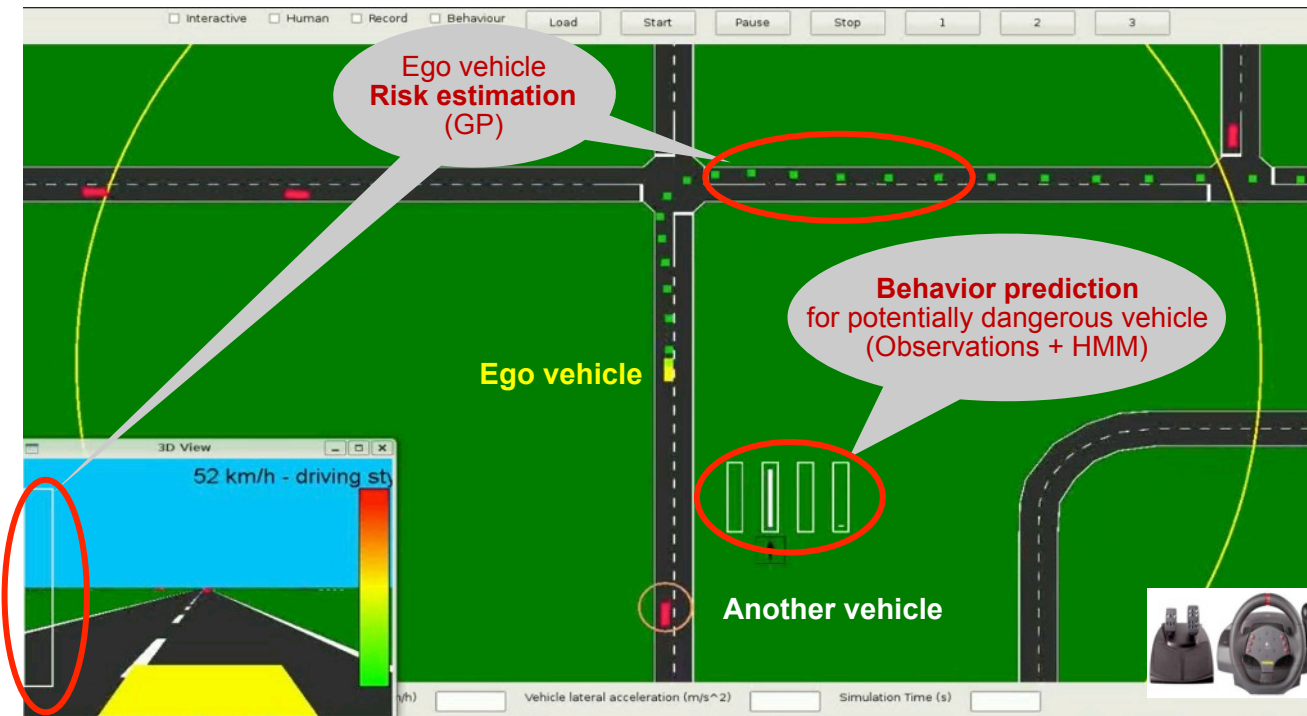
A practical architecture (Patented Inria / Toyota / Probayes)



For more details see [Tay 09] [Handbook of IV 2012 (chap. 54)]

Risk based on collision prediction

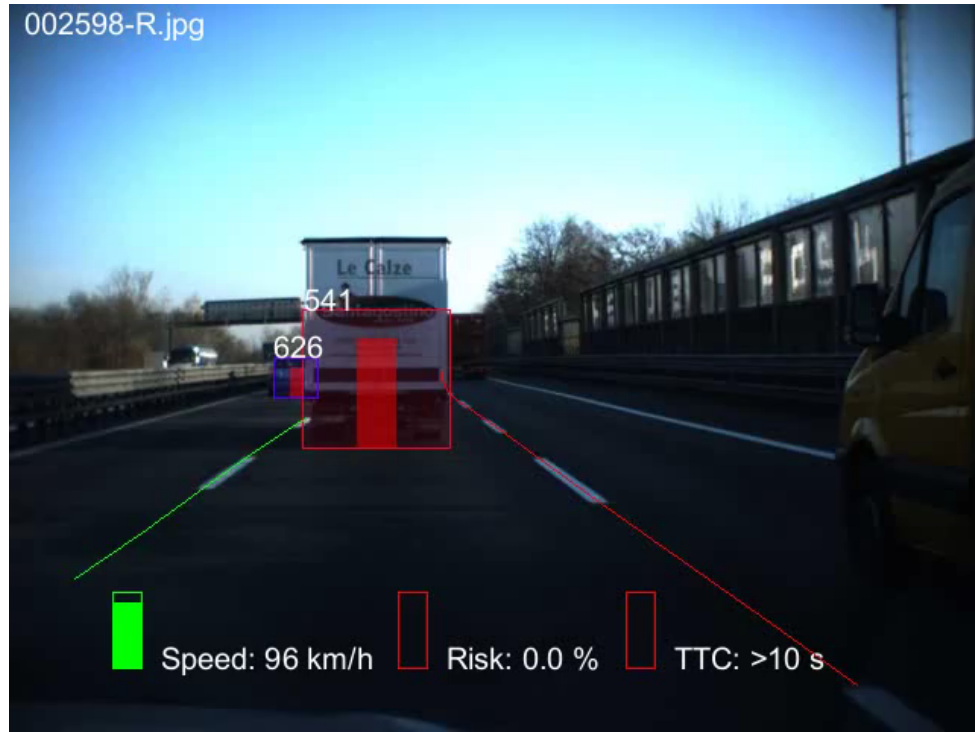
Validation using simulator (Toyota simulator + Driving device)



- Large road network & large number of simulation
- Ego vehicle driven manually
- Behaviors previously learned
=> *using driving devices*
- Behavior prediction for potentially dangerous surrounding vehicles
=> *displayed on the simulator screen*
- Risk estimation for ego vehicle
=> *displayed the simulator screen*

Risk based on collision prediction

Experimental results on highway (Inria + Probayes + Toyota)



Traffic participants behavior prediction & Collision risk estimation

(Courtesy Probayes)

Approach 2: Risk based on unexpected behavior

- **Main idea**

Instead of predicting future trajectories of vehicles: detect behaviors which deviate from the nominal behavior expected on the road

- **How to detect unexpected behavior?**

- **Expected behavior =**

- ✓ Behavior which complies with traffic laws
 - ✓ What human drivers usually do
 - ✓ **Combination of the two definitions above** when the traffic laws are vague, e.g. at **road intersections**

Risk based on unexpected behavior

Cooperative safety at road intersections



Road intersection

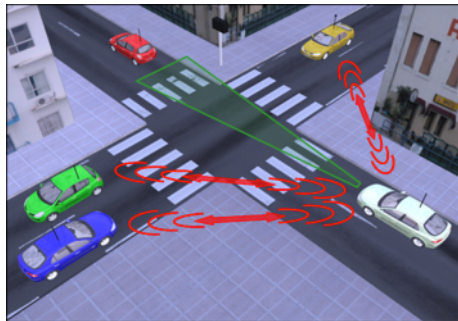
- *Complex Geometry & Traffic context*
- *Large number of Vehicles & Possible Maneuvers*
- *Vehicle behaviors are **Interdependent***
- ***Human Drivers are in the loop!***
- *90% of accidents are caused by **Drivers Errors***
*=> **Detect Drivers Errors instead of colliding trajectories***

Risk based on unexpected behavior

Road intersections: A human-like reasoning process

The Intention & Expectation approach (*Patent Inria / Renault*)

- *Exchanging vehicle states information (V2V communication and/or Perception)*
- *Estimating “**Drivers Intentions**”*
- *Inferring “**Behaviors Expectations**”*
- ***Risk** = Comparing Maneuvers Intention & Expectation*

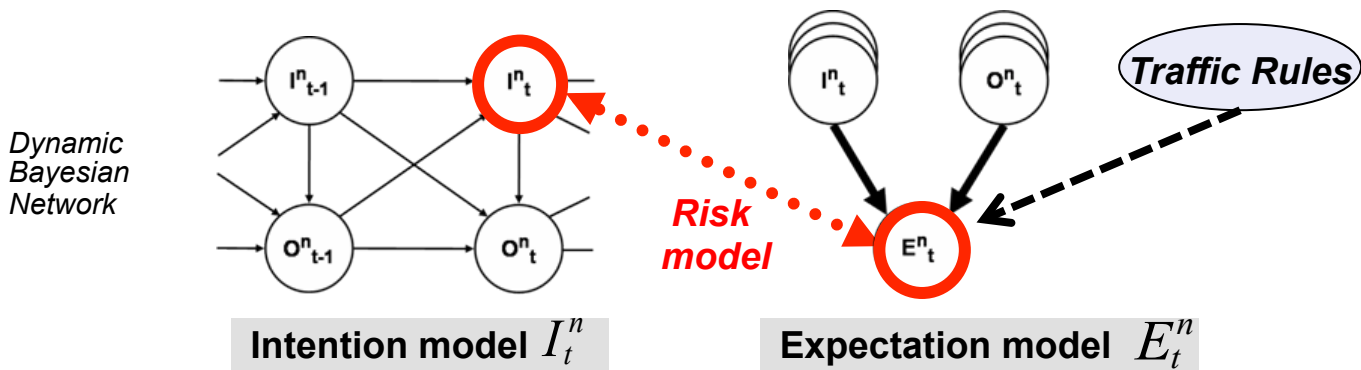


Risk based on unexpected behavior

Road intersections: A human-like reasoning process

Implemented process:

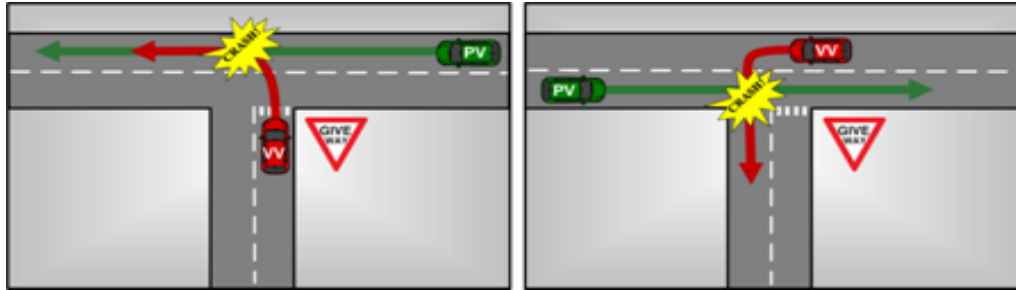
- Intention I_t^n : Estimated from the **successive states observations** $O_t = (X, Y, \theta, S, \text{Turn signal})$
- Expectation E_t^n : Estimated from **Drivers Intentions & Traffic rules**
- Risk: Based on $P([I_t^n = 0][E_t^n = 1]|O_{0:t})$



Risk based on unexpected behavior

Road intersections: Experimental results

- **Two Renault passenger vehicles**
 - Equipped with off-the-shelf V2V modems
 - Sharing position, heading, speed, turn signal information at 10 Hz
- **Collision scenarios:** *Blind rural intersection near Paris*



- **90 instances, 9 Drivers** (*No accident*)

Risk based on unexpected behavior

Road intersections: Experimental results



Conclusion

- **Risk estimation based on collision prediction**
 - Needs **trajectory prediction** for all the entities in the scene
 - Many metrics can be derived to **quantify the severity of the collision**
 - **Popular approach**, but often computationally demanding
- **Risk estimation based on unexpected behavior**
 - Assumes that risk is caused by **vehicles behaving differently from the nominal behavior**
 - **Conflicts are detected at the maneuver intention level**
 - Complementary to trajectory prediction

MOBILE ROBOTS AND AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

1. Objectives, Challenges, State of the Art, Technologies
2. Bayes & Kalman Filters
3. Extended Kalman Filter, Observability properties
4. Perception & Situation Awareness & Decision Making
5. Behavior Modeling & Learning