

Autonomous Racing : Perception. Planning. Control



Madhur Behl
Assistant Professor
Computer Science | Systems and Information Engineering
University of Virginia

Meet your instructor

Madhur Behl

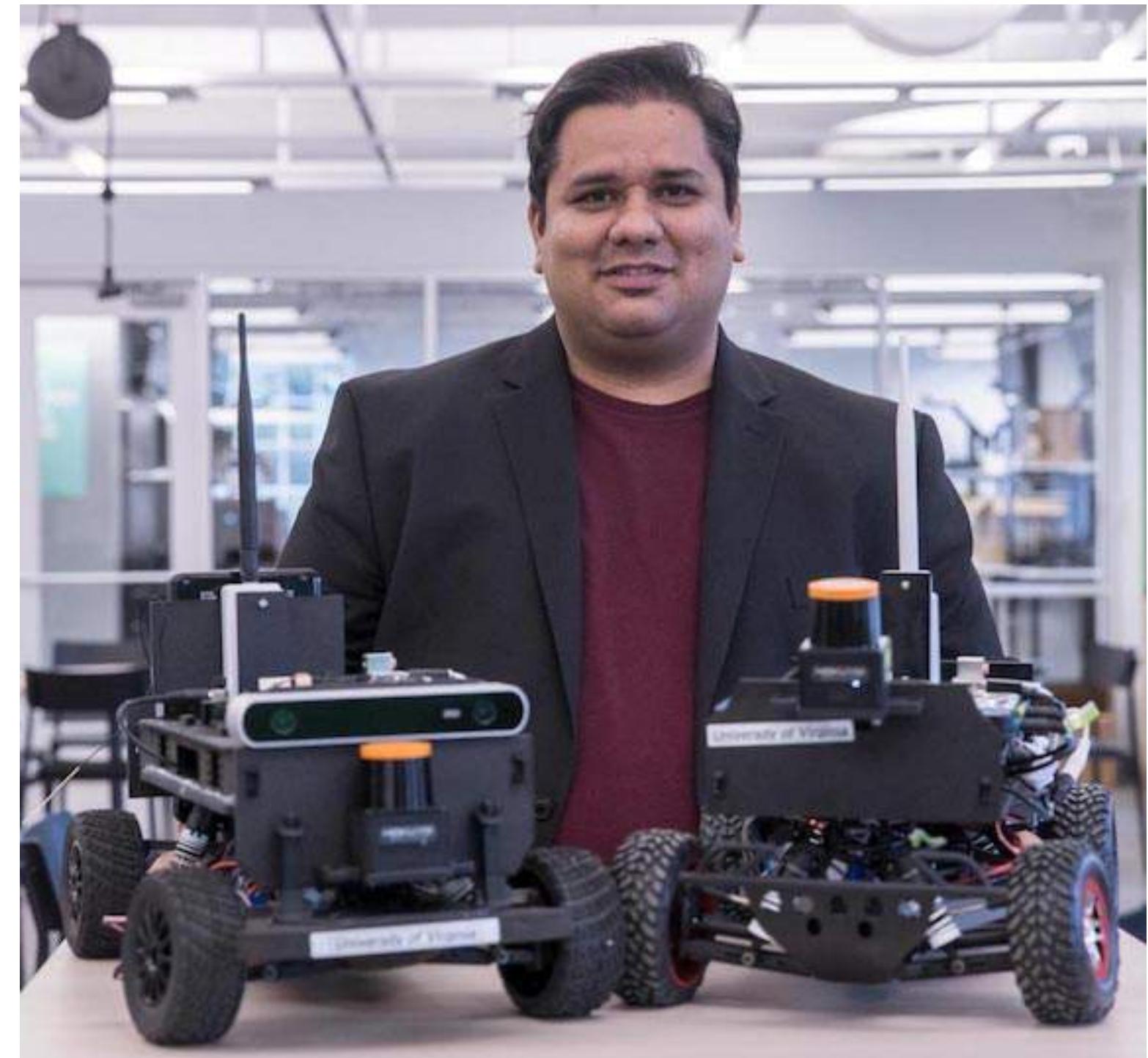
madhur.behl@virginia.edu

Assistant Professor

Computer Science,
Systems and Information Engineering.

PhD

University of Pennsylvania



What I do..

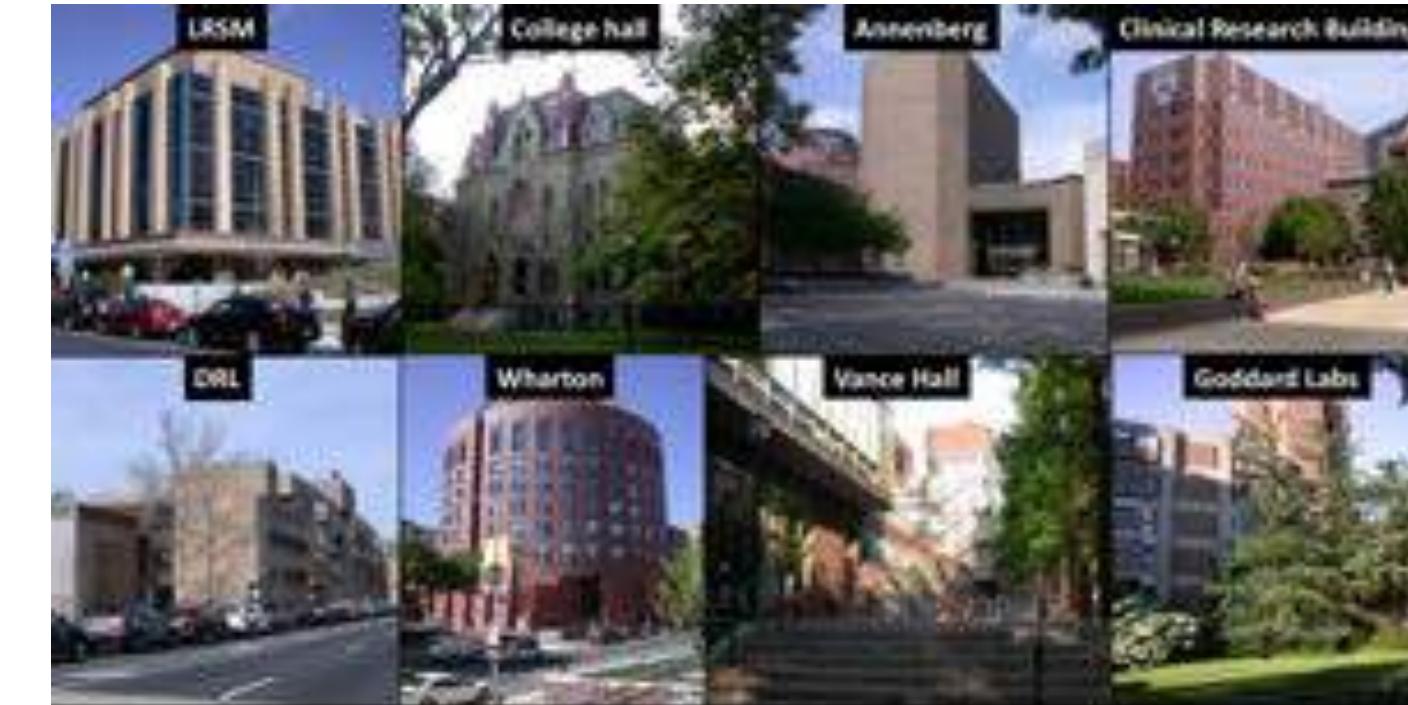
Modeling

Control

Optimization

Implementation

Safety



Cyber-Physical Energy Systems



Critical Infrastructures & Smart Cities



Medical Cyber-Physical Systems



Automotive Cyber-Physical Systems

Teaching assistant:

Varundev Sukhil : vss8sm@virginia.edu

Olsson Hall 2nd Floor, Link Lab

Office Hours:

TBD on Piazza

Lecture: Monday 2-3:15pm

Lab: Wednesday 2-3:15pm

Course Website: <https://linklab-uva.github.io/autonomousracing/>

Classroom: Rice 120

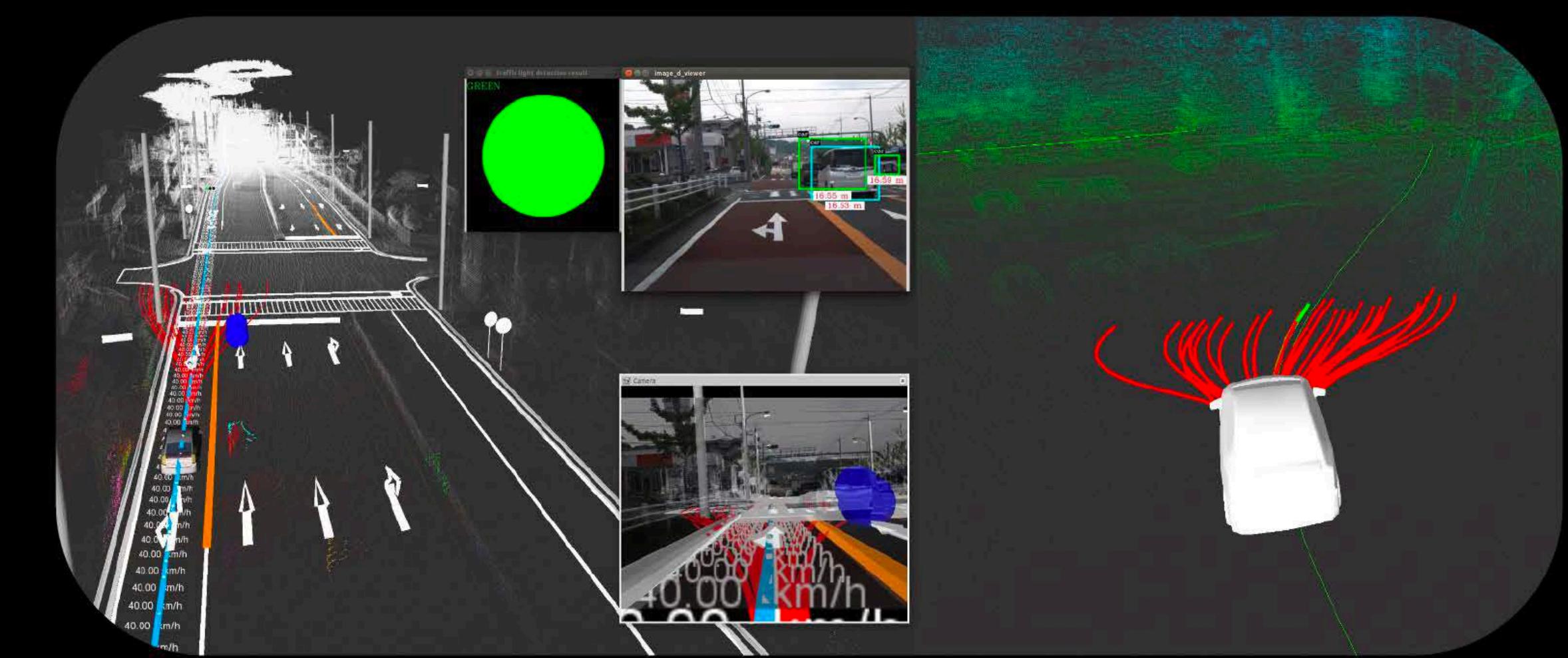
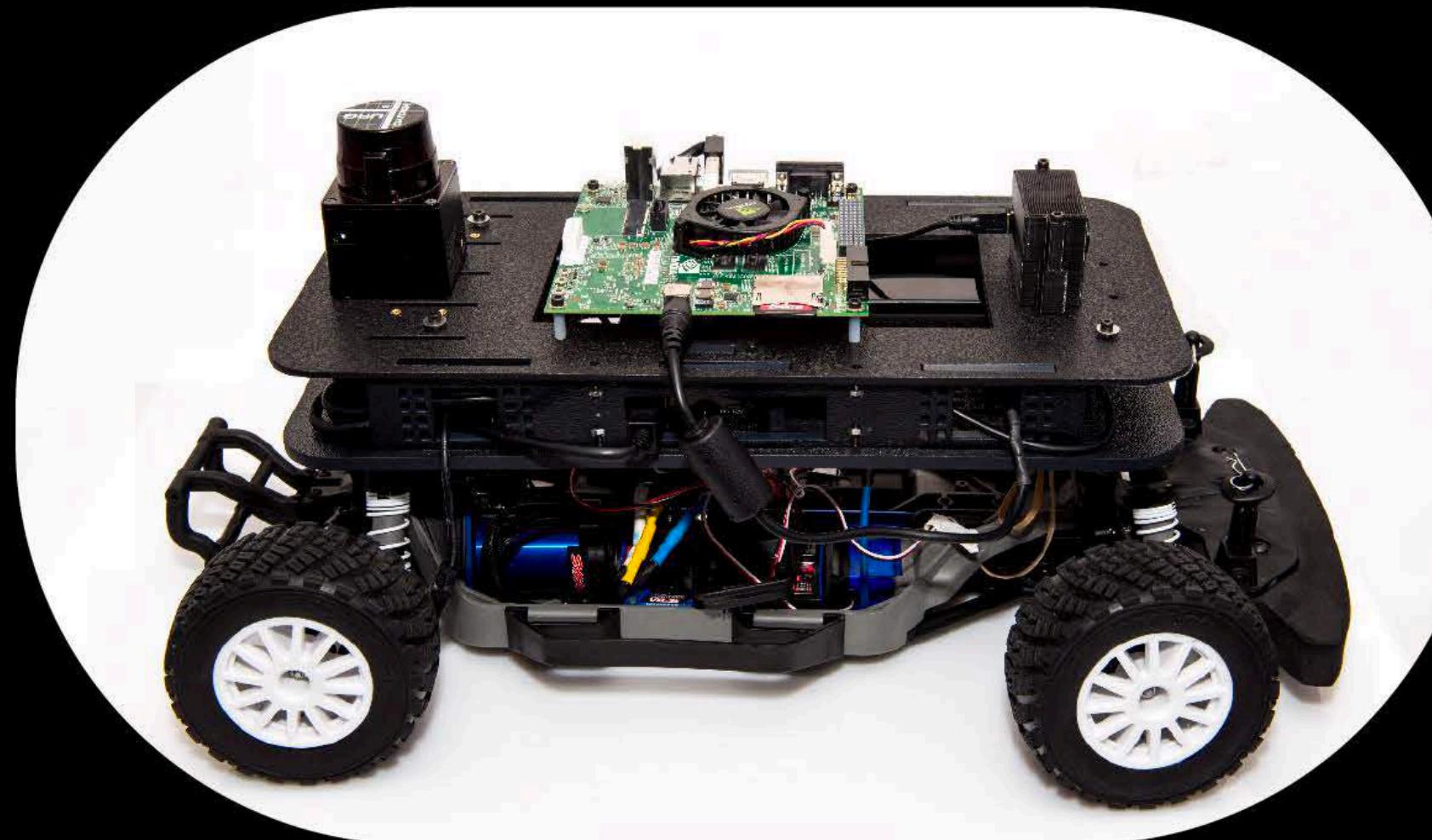


F1/10

Autonomous Racing

1/10 the scale. 10 times the fun!

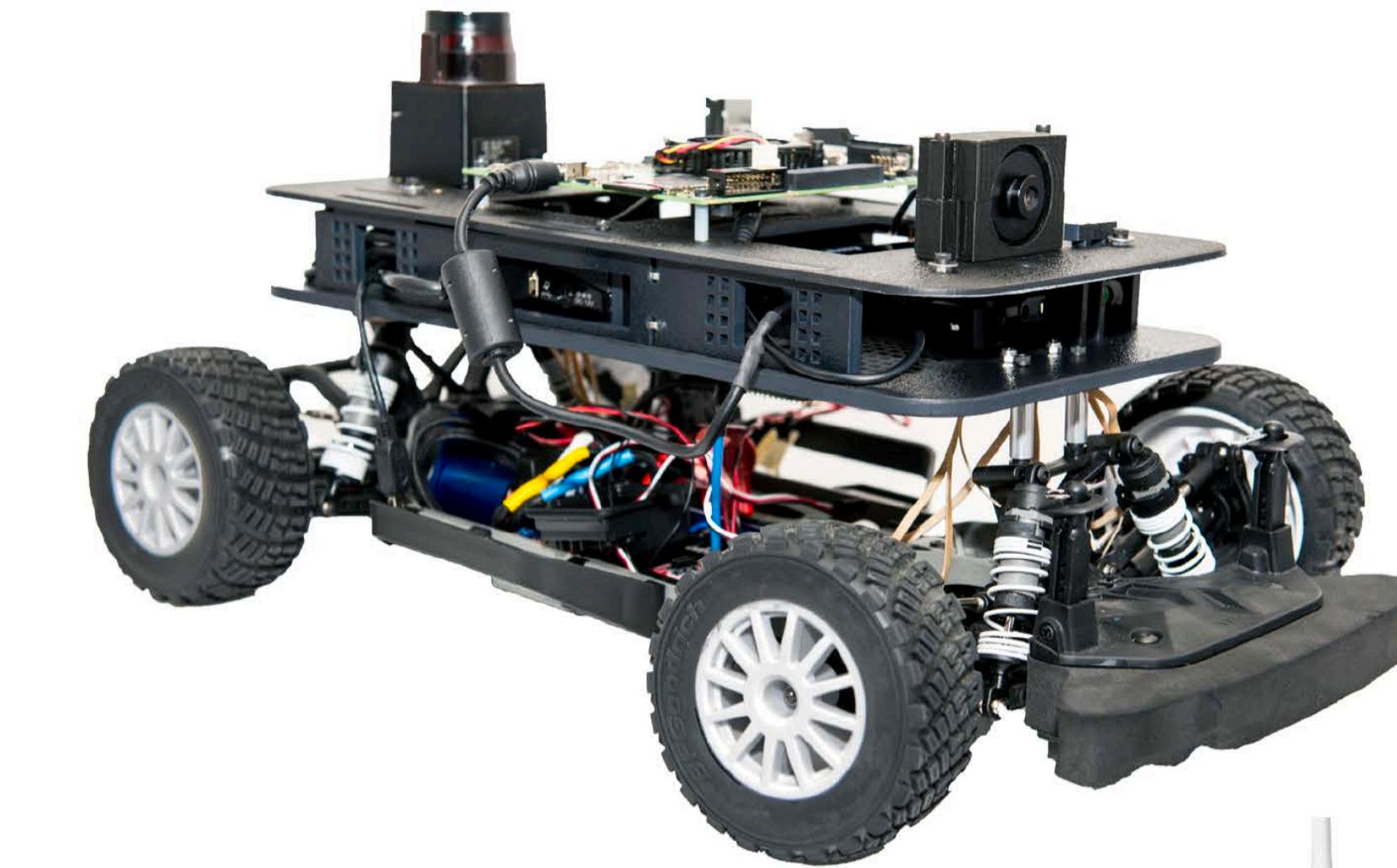
Build. Drive. Race.



Perception. Planning. Control

Platform

A 1/10th scale RC car provides the base vehicle. Components are added to make the car fully autonomous. For perception, a LIDAR, stereo, and depth cameras are added to a custom-built mounting frame. An inertial measurement unit (IMU) is used to aid in vehicle control, while an embedded microcontroller provides the necessary support for controlling the motor. All computation and motion planning is done using an on-board NVIDIA Jetson.



NVIDIA Jetson



LIDAR



Camera



Telemetry



IMU



Motor Controller

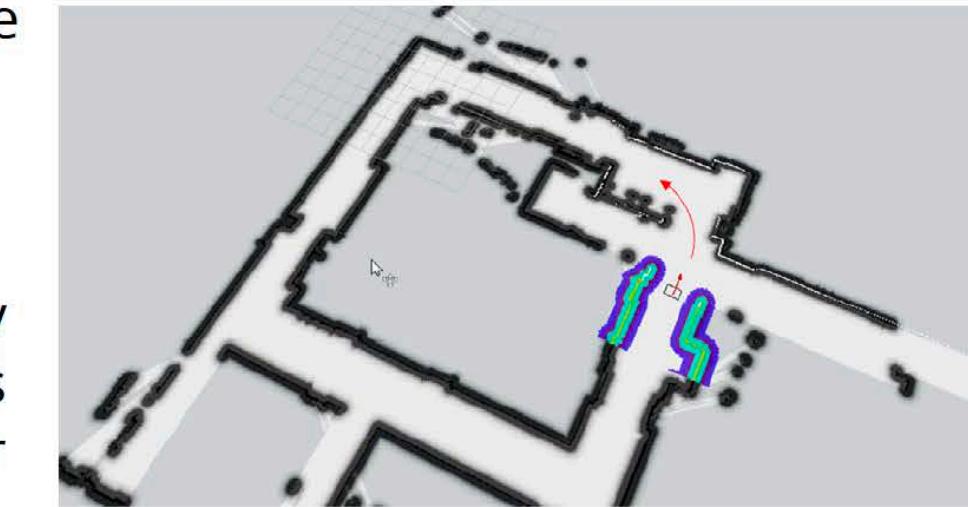


Stereo Camera

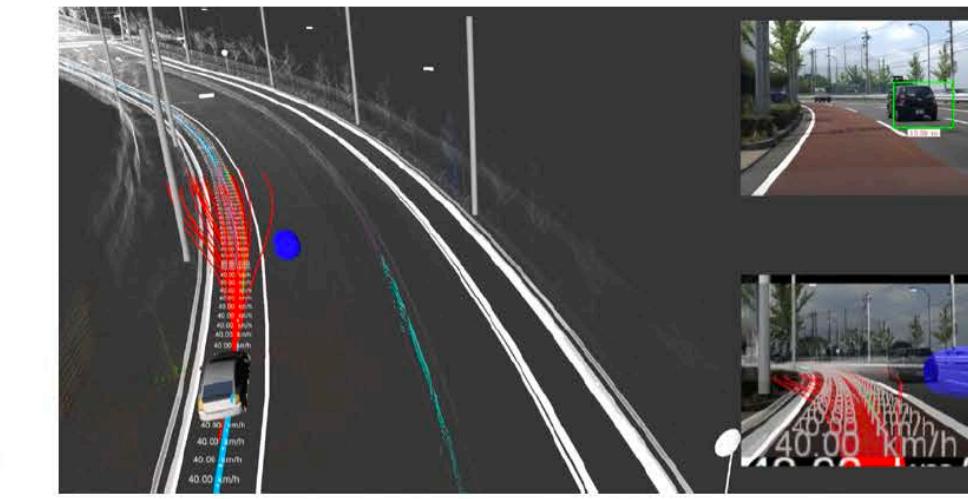
Course

The F1/10 autonomous racing course focuses on learning how to build, drive, and race 1/10th scale F1 race cars (capable of speeds in excess of 20 mph all while learning about **perception, planning, and control** for autonomous navigation.

Learn about the technology behind self driving cars while building one, on your own.



LIDAR scan map



Motion planning simulation run in ROS

Robot Operating System
Perception pipeline using LIDAR, Cameras, and IMU.
Odometry Basics.
Localization and Planning using Scan matching, kalman filter, particle filter (AMCL), vanishing point.
Mapping using Hector SLAM
PID control.
Command the steering and acceleration inputs of the car.
Data visualization and debugging tools.

Advanced topics in scene understanding: obstacle detection, lane detection
Collision avoidance
Optimal racing lines and racing strategies.

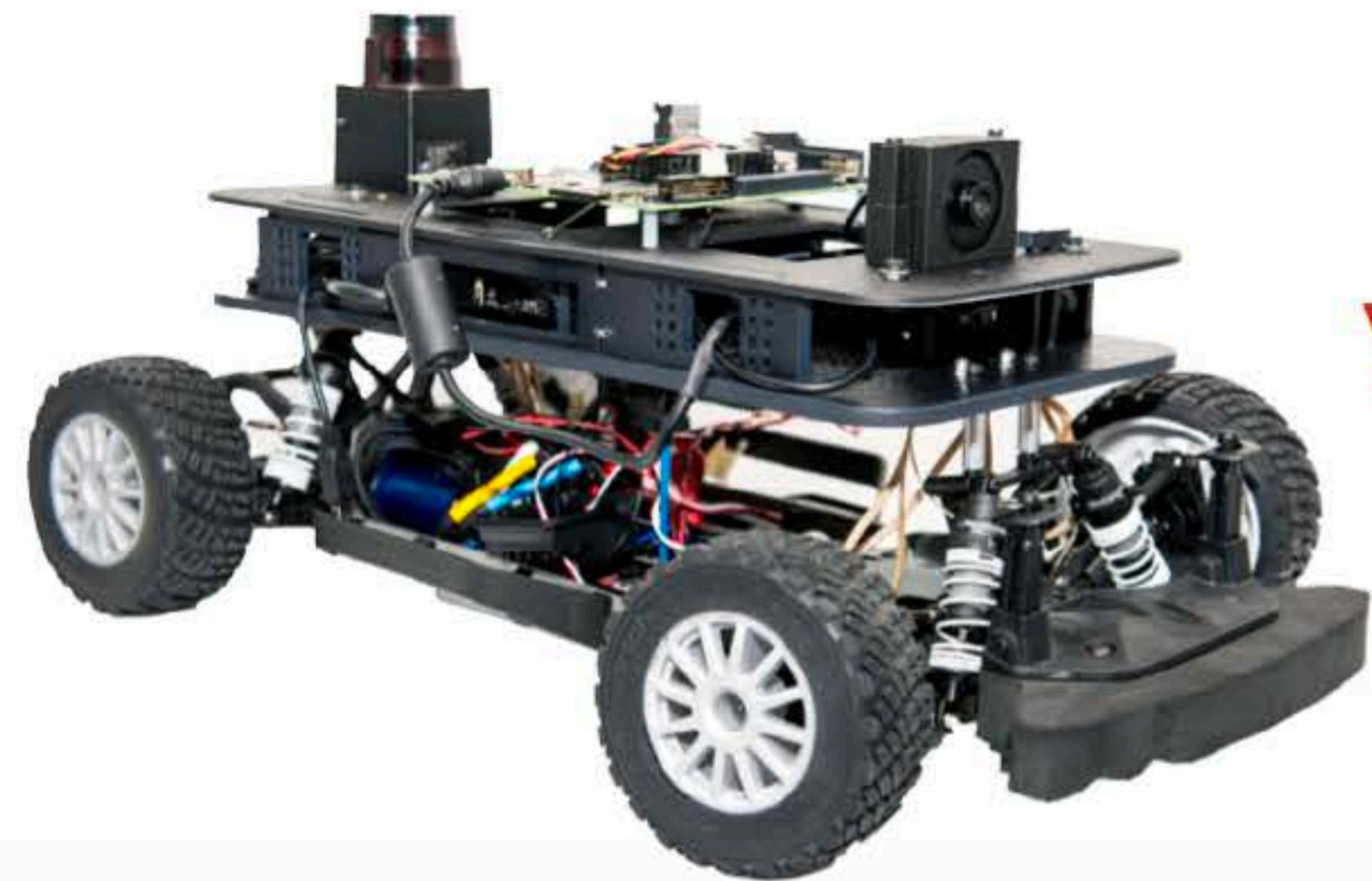
The course will end with a *battle of algorithms* F1/10 GP race amongst teams



VS.



The course will end with a *battle of algorithms* F1/10 GP race amongst teams



VS.



Grading Criteria

This course does not have a midterm or a final exam.

The final grade will be determined on the basis of:

- Weekly assignments
- Lab exercises
- Short project
- Final race performance

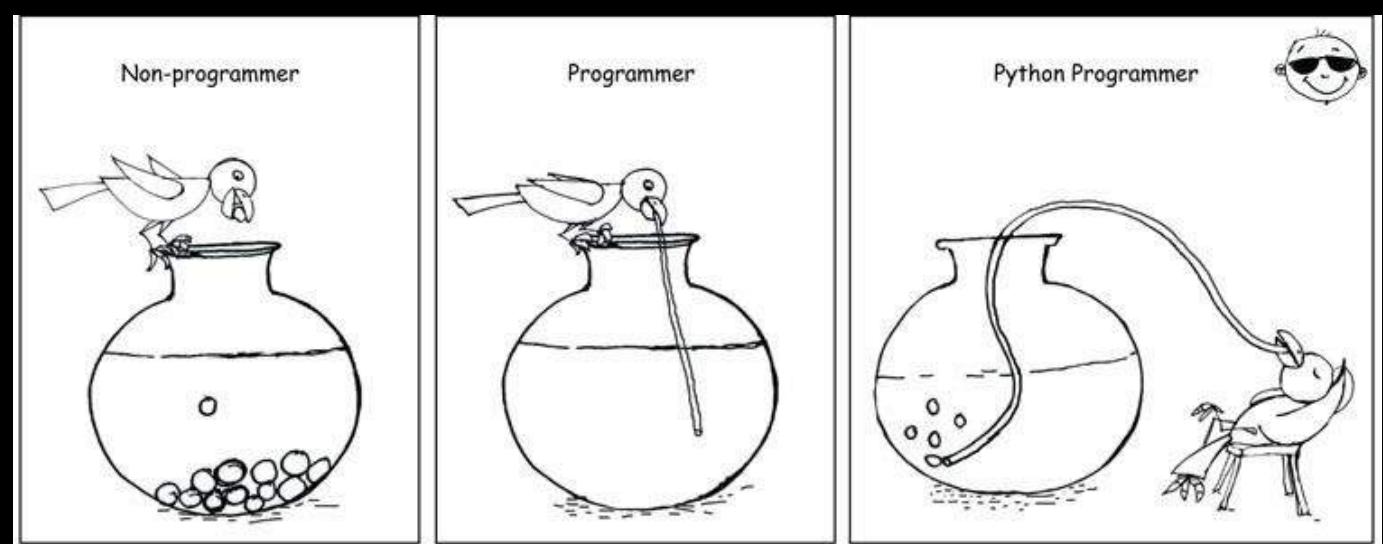
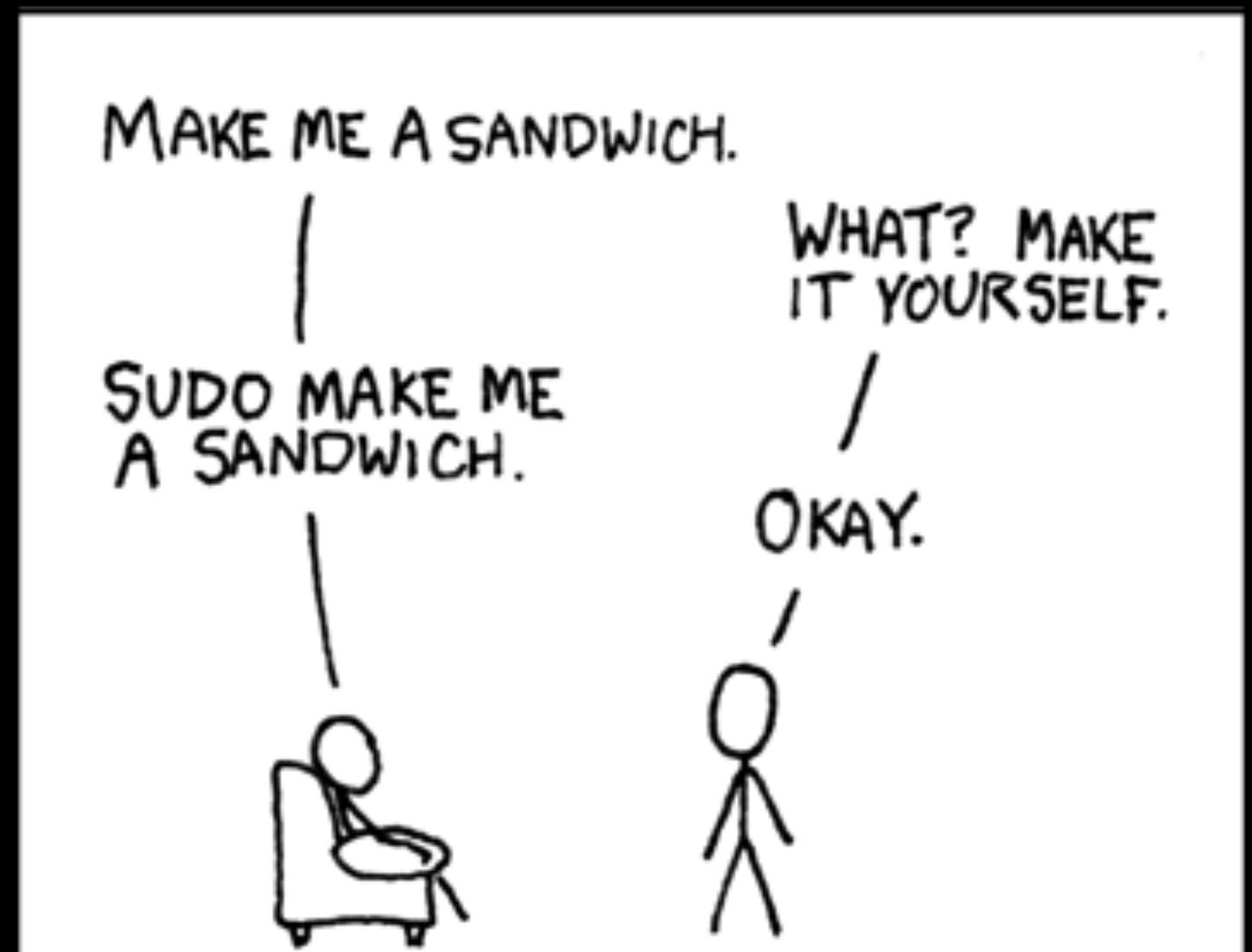


Students will be graded individually and in teams.

This is an *advanced* special topics class. Which means, that although, we will cover everything which is required to build, drive, and race the cars; it is assumed that students have some familiarity with the topics highlighted below.

To succeed in this course, you need to have some experience with the following topics:

- Calculus and linear algebra:
 - Single variable calculus and differential equations.
 - Matrix operations- transformations and rotations.
- Basic statistics and probability:
 - What is a probability distribution ?
 - What is sampling ? Mean, and variance of samples.
- Intermediate Python:
 - Function calls, conditional statements, loops and recursion
- Unix/linux command line/shell basics
 - File commands/file permissions: *ls, cd, pwd, mkdir, rm, cp, mv, touch, chmod, tar*
 - Process management: *ps, top, kill pid*
 - *ssh user@host.., grep, locate, echo*
 - Installation: *./configure, make, make install*
 - Ports: */dev/ttyACM**
- Basic physics (Newtonian mechanics)



```
int getRandomNumber()
{
    return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.
              // guaranteed to be random.
}
```

Background in the following is recommended, but not required:

- Intermediate C++
- ROS programming
- Integrating sensors with microcontrollers (master/slave configurations)
- Machine learning

If upon, looking at these topics, your conclusion is: *I'm qualified, but not that qualified.* Then it is likely that you are qualified.

If you are still unsure, feel free to email the instructor for permission to register.

Syllabus – Topics to be covered

Week 1

Course Introduction

Week 2

Introduction to Robot Operating Systems

Week 3

ROS deep dive + TurtleSim

Week 4

Pulse Width Modulation - Teensy

Week 5

Perception – Sensing your surroundings

Week 6

PID Control and path following

Week 7

Wall following, boundary detection

Syllabus – Topics to be covered

Spring Break

Week 8

Basics of Navigation - Localization

Week 9

Mapping - SLAM

Week 10

Trajectory planning

Week 11

Open CV, Visual Odometry

Week 12

Advanced topics in scene understanding

Week 13

Racing strategy

Lab exercises

P1

19°C

88%

P2

19°C

88%

Q

24°C

55%

R

24°C

0%

Practice Session 1:

Understanding ROS | Setting up the Car

Practice Session 2:

Perception/Sensing | Driving Straight

Practice Session 3:

Driving in a loop | Visual Odometry

20
TURNS

3.4
MILES

1 LAPS

15
TURNS

2.1
MILES

3 LAPS

Practice Session 3:

Race | Time trials | Head-to-head racing

We will use Ubuntu 14.04 LTS on the F1/10 car

Everyone must have access to Ubuntu **14.04** or **16.04** or **18.04**

Two options:

- Dual boot your laptop.
- Install an Ubuntu virtual machine on any OS.
(Announcement will go out on Piazza, with instructions.)

No lab session this week.

Bring your laptop to the lab session next Wednesday.



So what is **F10** ?

Everything that moves will go autonomous



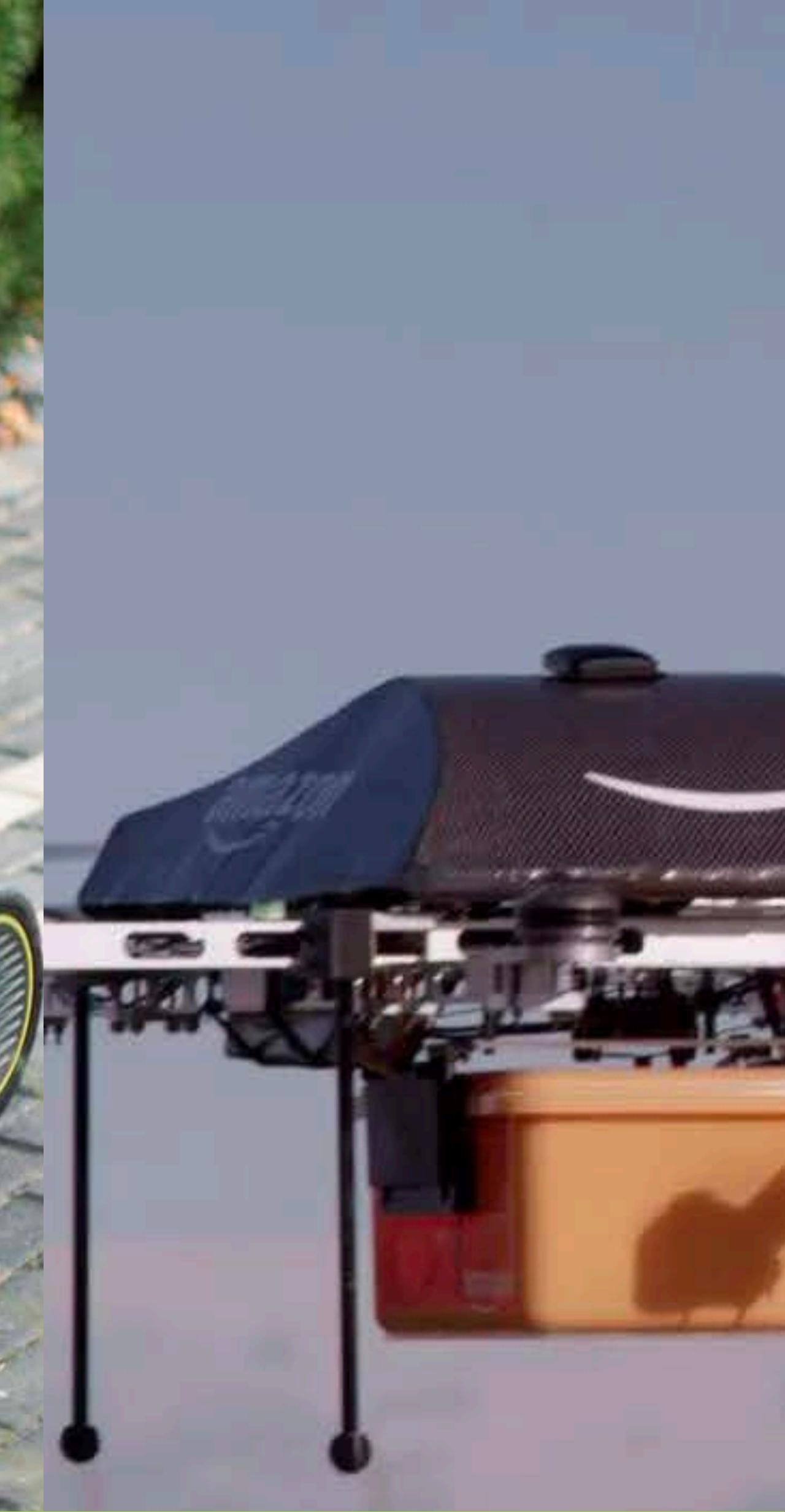
Cars



Trucks



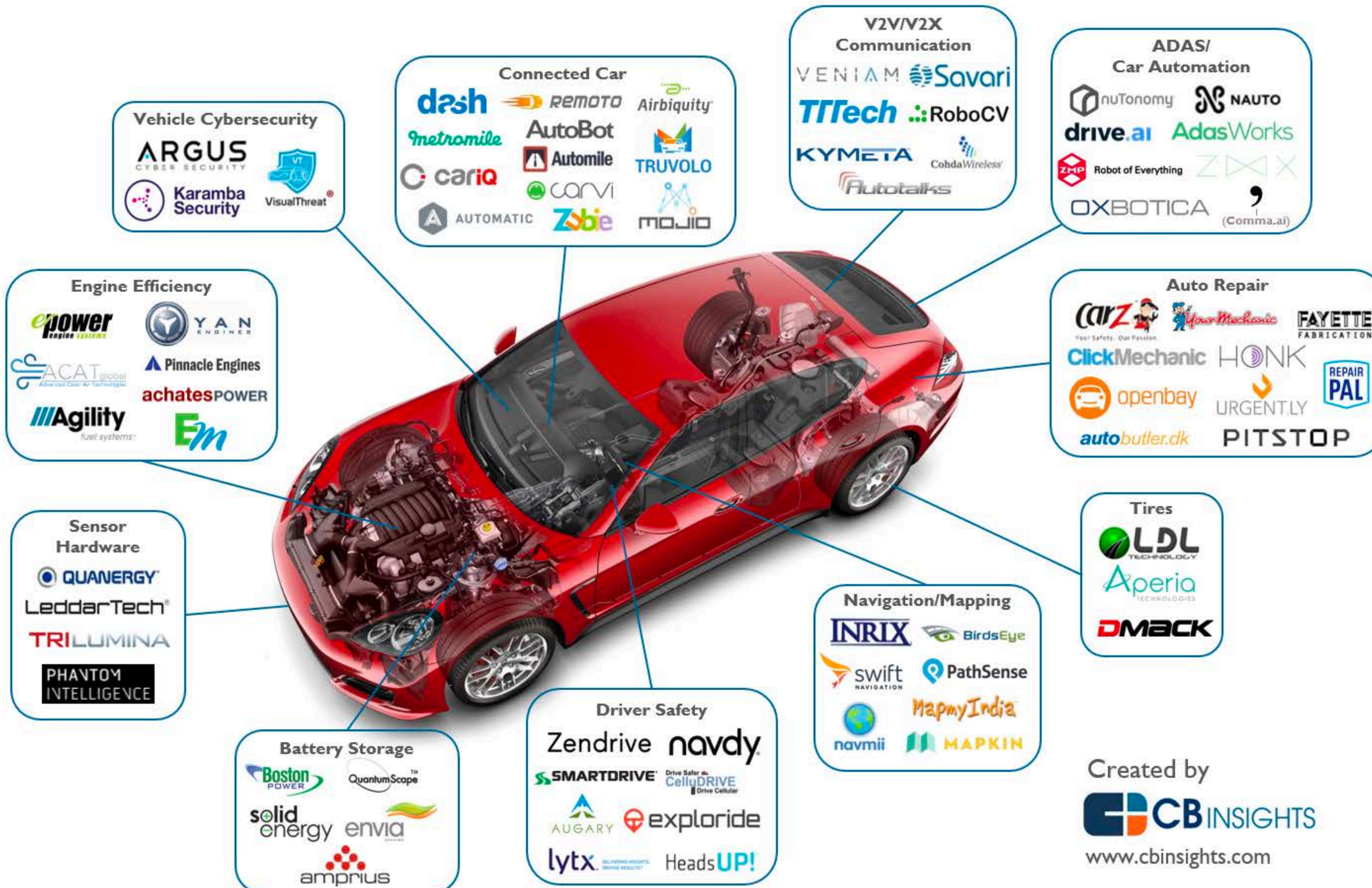
Carts



Drones

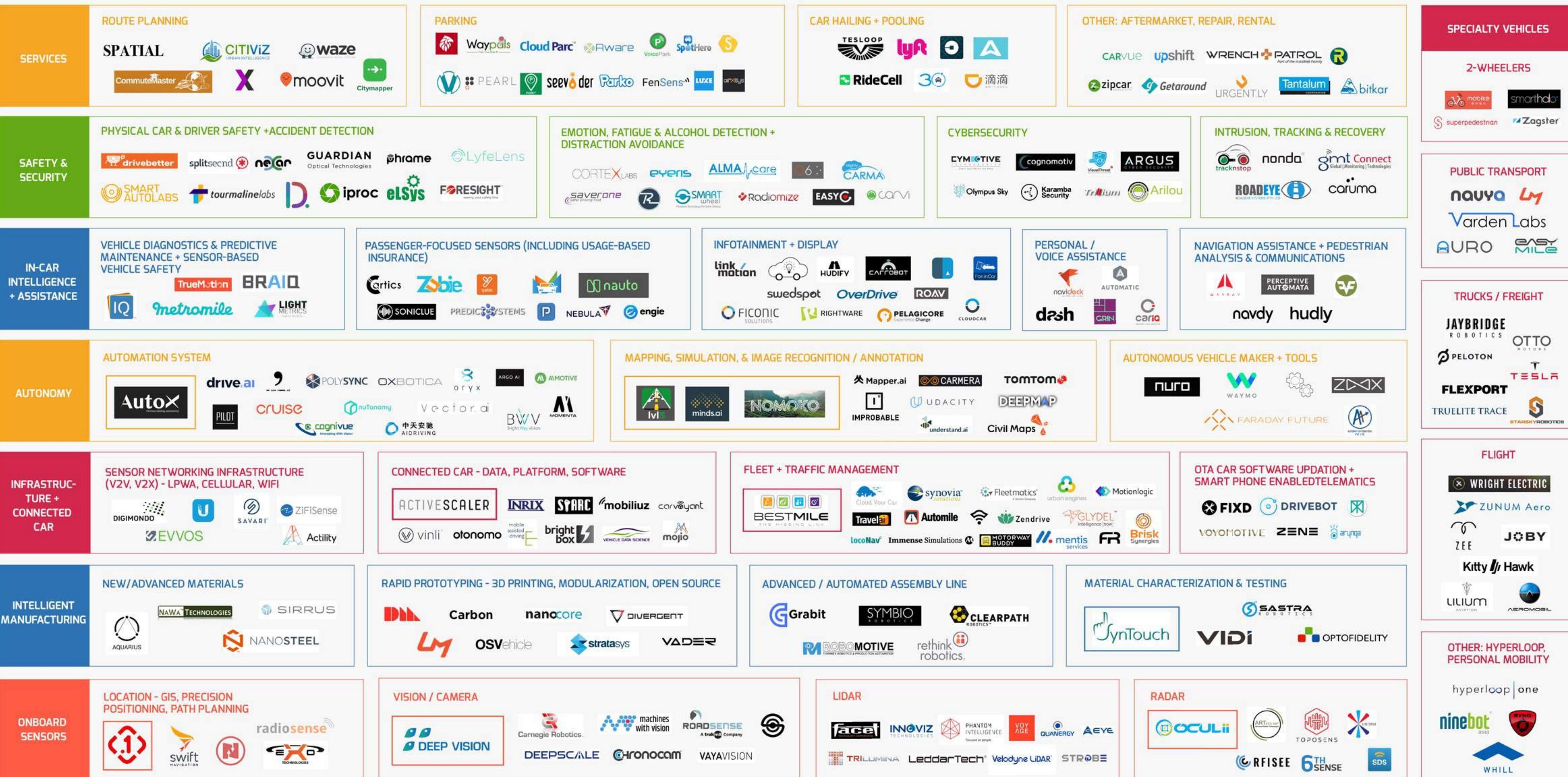


Unbundling The Automobile



THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION STACK

COMET LABS





Consumer
Technology
Association™

Product Categories

Vehicle Technology Robotics

Search

+ Zoom In - Zoom Out Max Fit

i Legend Options

Show Locations Map / All Venues

Tech West

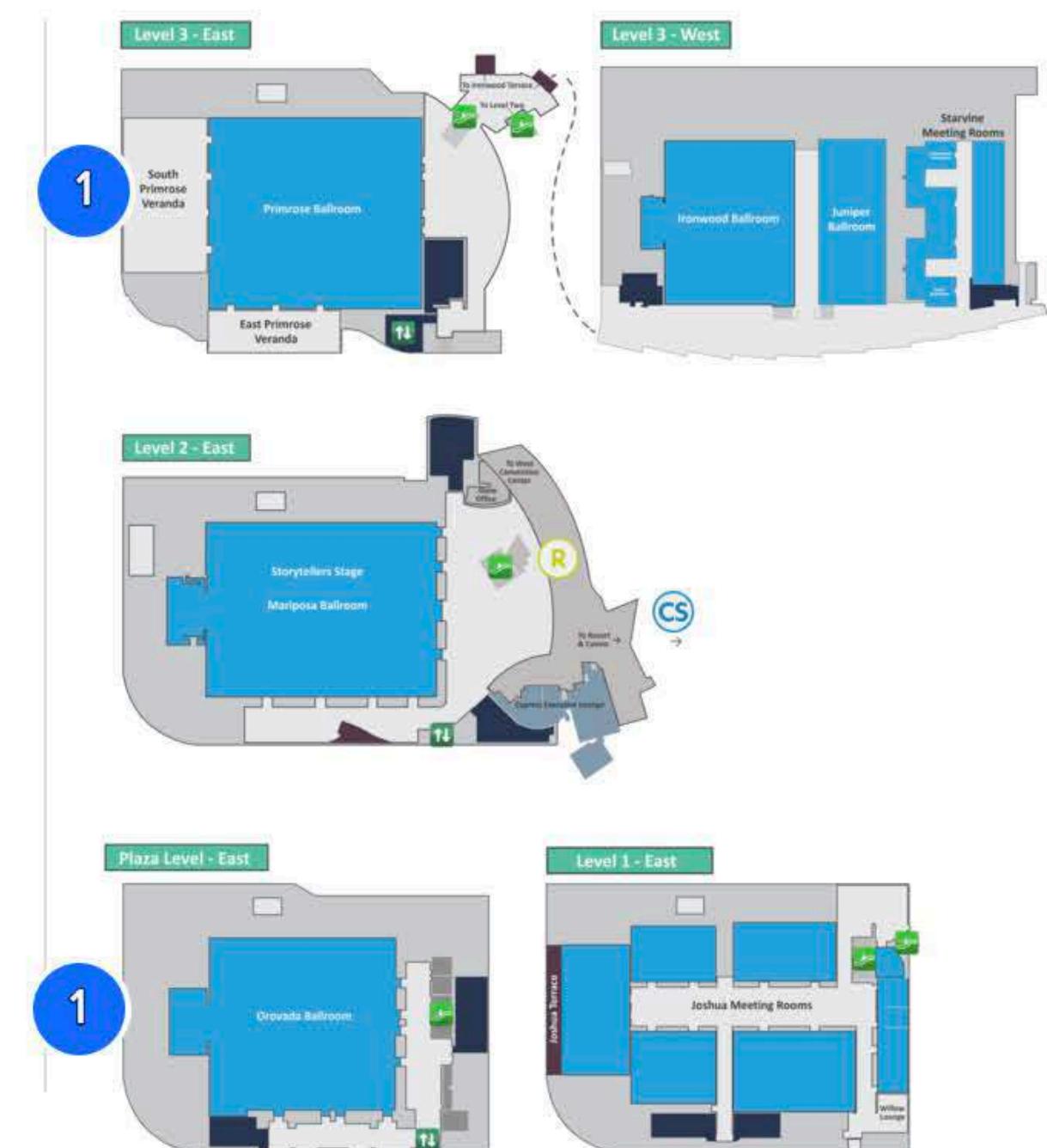
Sands Expo/The Venetian



> View Las Vegas City Map

Tech South

ARIA



Tech East

Las Vegas Convention and World Trade Center, Westgate Las Vegas and Renaissance Las Vegas



DESIGN THE FUTURE
Automotive Technologies



FEATURED BY BOOTH (45)

- ROHM Semiconductor (Titian 2205)

- AEV (9126)

- Aisin Seiki Co., Ltd. (3102)

- Baraja (Westgate Hospitality Suites)

- BeStar Holdings Co., Ltd. (36714)

- Bosch (14020)

- Bosch (CP-35)

- CEVA (Westgate Hospitality Suites)

- Continental Automotive Systems Inc. (7519)

- Continental Automotive Systems Inc. (Ballroom I)

- Continental Automotive Systems Inc. (Renaissance Hospitality Suites)

- Continental Automotive Systems Inc. (Summit Room)

- DisplavPort (21266)

Localization and Mapping

Where am I ?

Scene Understanding

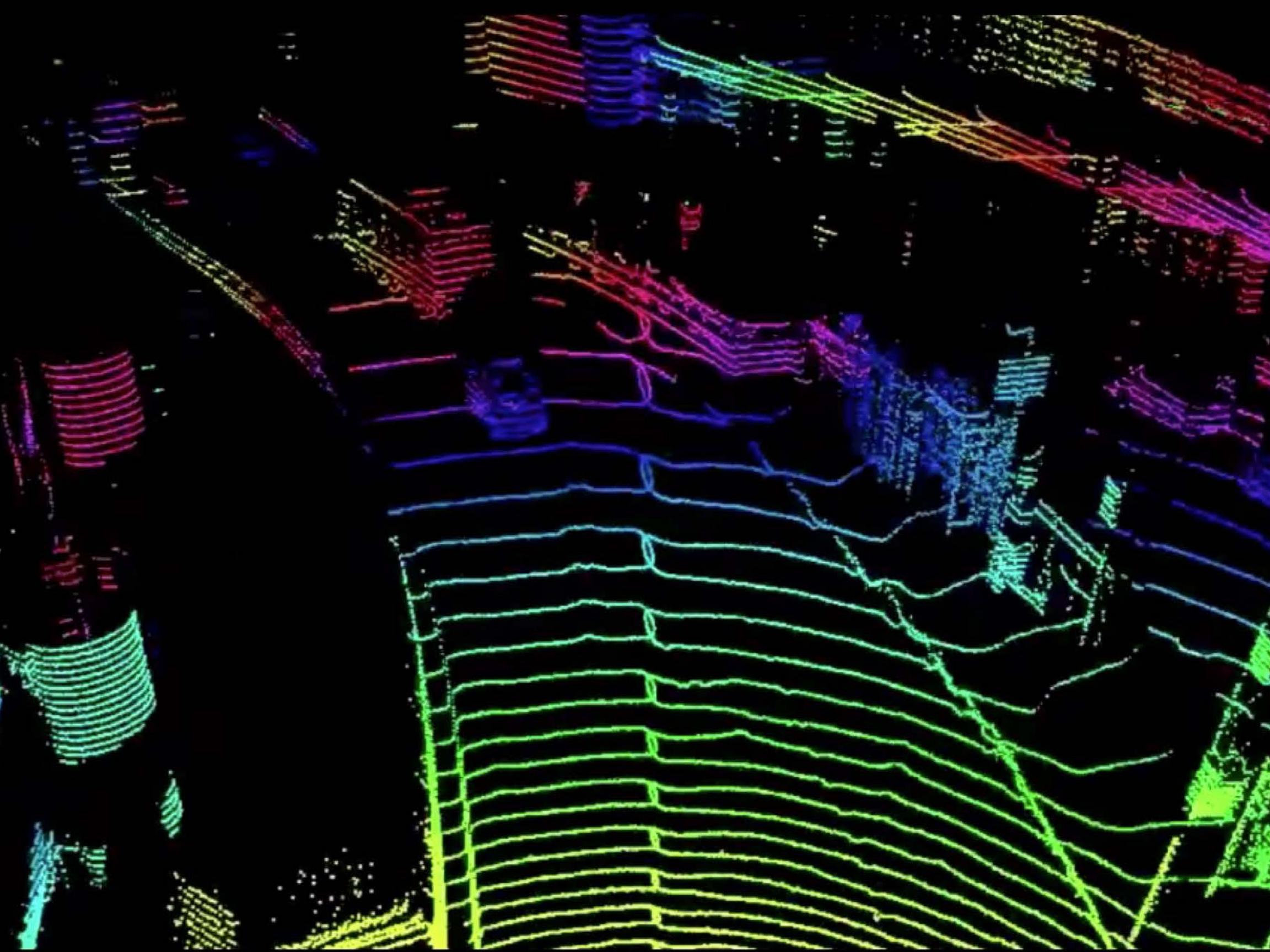
Where/who/what/why of everyone/everything else ?

Trajectory Planning and Control

Where should I go next ?
How do I steer and accelerate ?

Human Interaction

How do I convey my intent to the passenger and everyone else ?



SAE J3016™ LEVELS OF DRIVING AUTOMATION

What does the human in the driver's seat have to do?

SAE LEVEL 0

You are driving whenever these driver support features are engaged – even if your feet are off the pedals and you are not steering

SAE LEVEL 1

You must constantly supervise these support features; you must steer, brake or accelerate as needed to maintain safety

SAE LEVEL 2

SAE LEVEL 3

You are not driving when these automated driving features are engaged – even if you are seated in “the driver’s seat”

SAE LEVEL 4

When the feature requests, you must drive

SAE LEVEL 5

These automated driving features will not require you to take over driving

What do these features do?

These features are limited to providing warnings and momentary assistance

These features provide steering OR brake/acceleration support to the driver

These features provide steering AND brake/acceleration support to the driver

These features can drive the vehicle under limited conditions and will not operate unless all required conditions are met

This feature can drive the vehicle under all conditions

Example Features

- automatic emergency braking
- blind spot warning
- lane departure warning

- lane centering OR
- adaptive cruise control

- lane centering AND
- adaptive cruise control at the same time

- traffic jam chauffeur
- local driverless taxi
- pedals/steering wheel may or may not be installed

- same as level 4, but feature can drive everywhere in all conditions

These are driver support features

These are automated driving features

Autonomous Vehicles

(self driving cars, driverless cars)

Save lives

- 1.3 million die every year in manual driving
- Drunk, drugged, distracted, drowsy driving.

Eliminate car ownership

- Increase mobility and access
- Save money

Make transportation personalized, efficient, and reliable

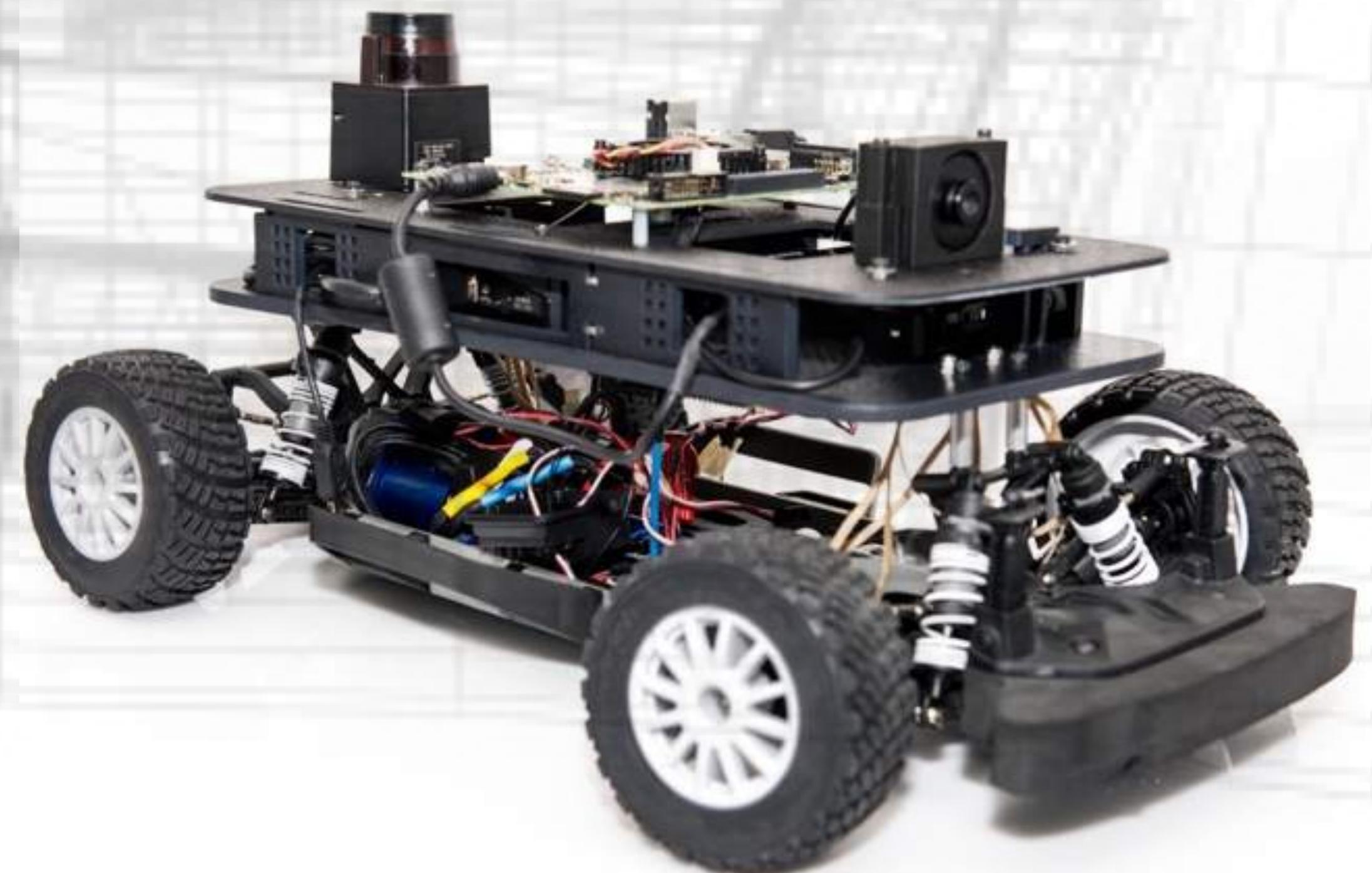
F1/10

1/10th the scale. 10 times the fun!

Research

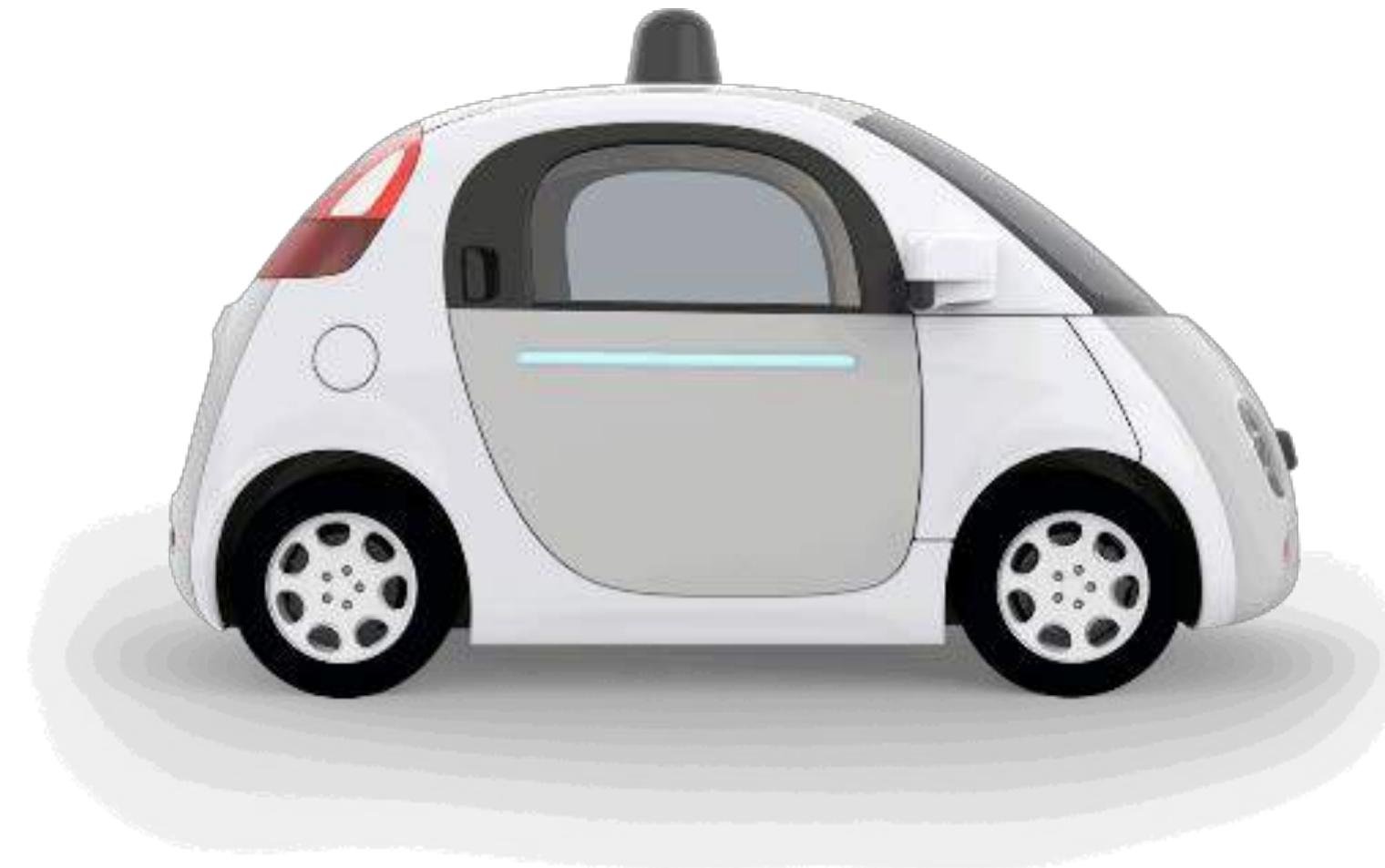
Education

Competition

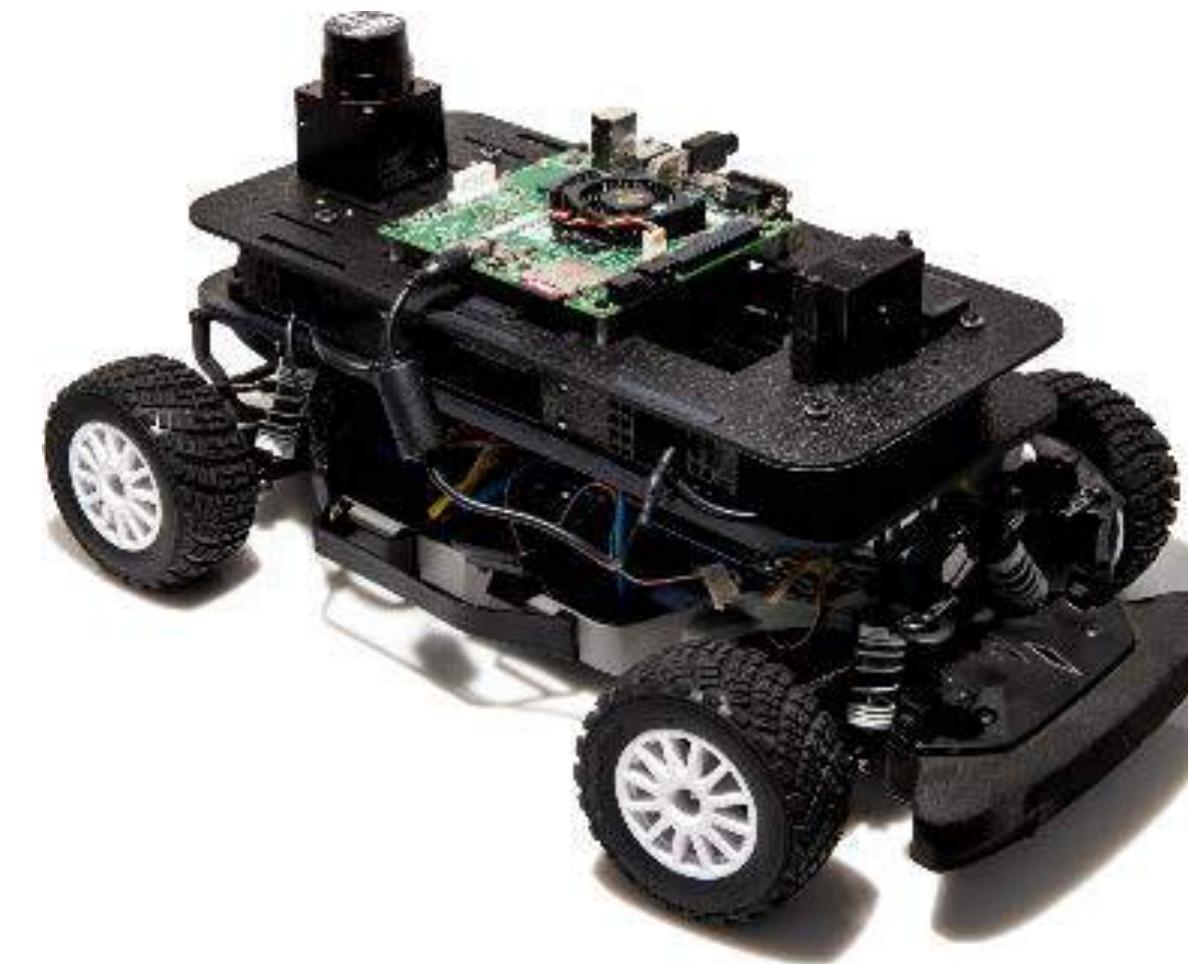


Accessible Autonomy

Expensive, power hungry, large...



Cheap, low power, small...



Same dynamics (different parameters), similar algorithmic challenges...

Similar dynamics, different parameters

TRAXXAS X0-1 vs Tesla Model S



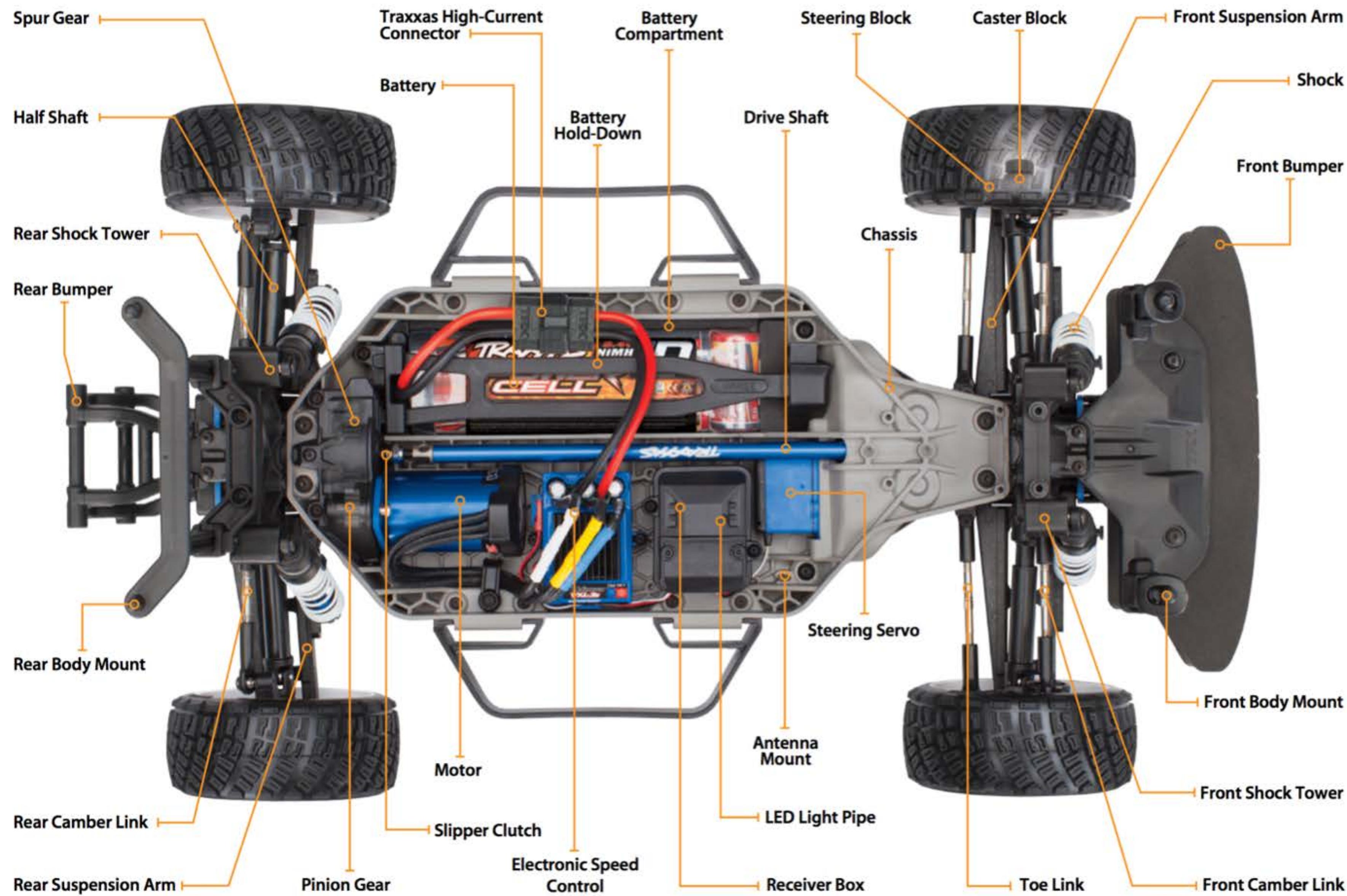
Build. Drive. Race.

Build

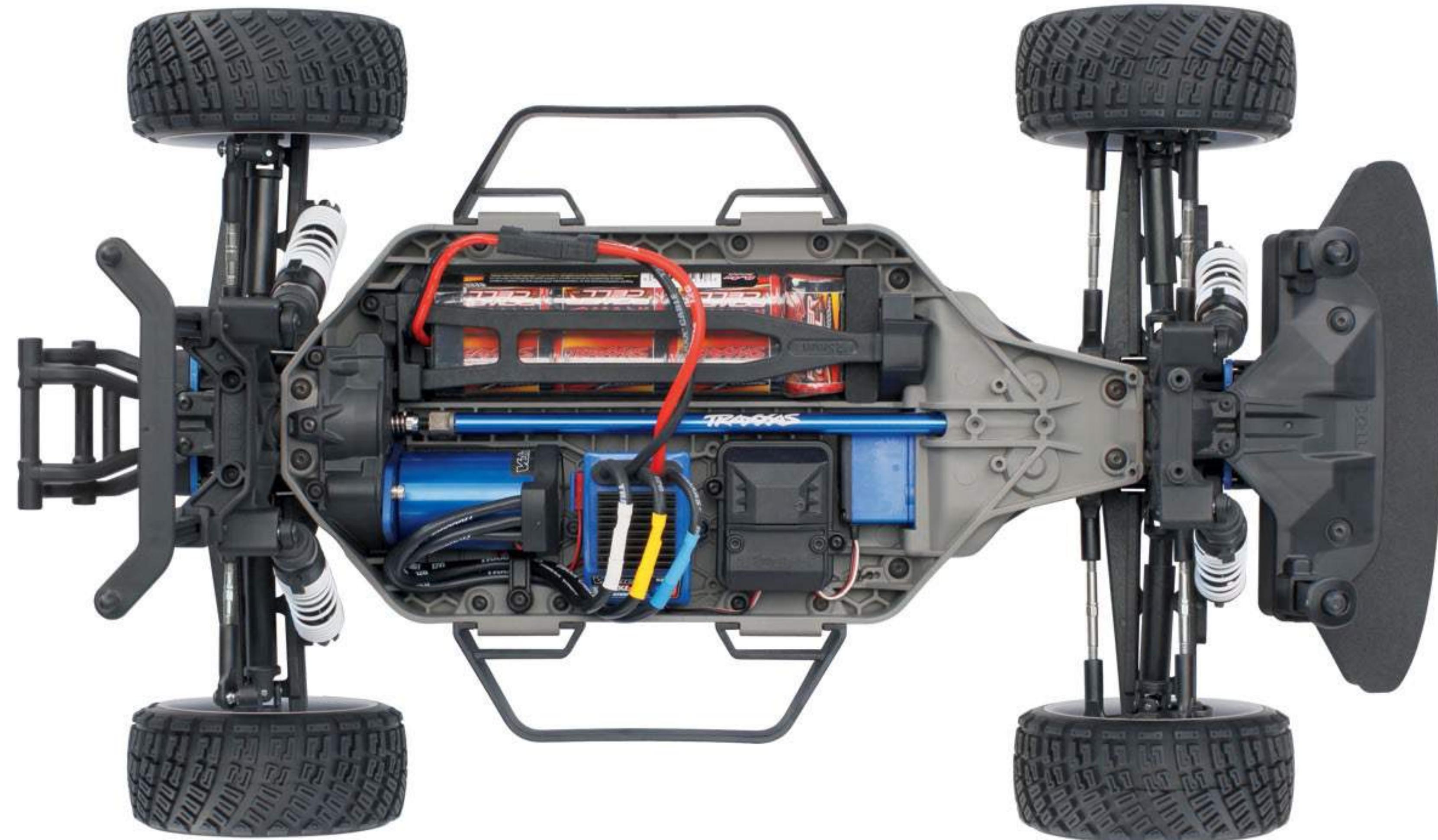
F1/10 racing platform



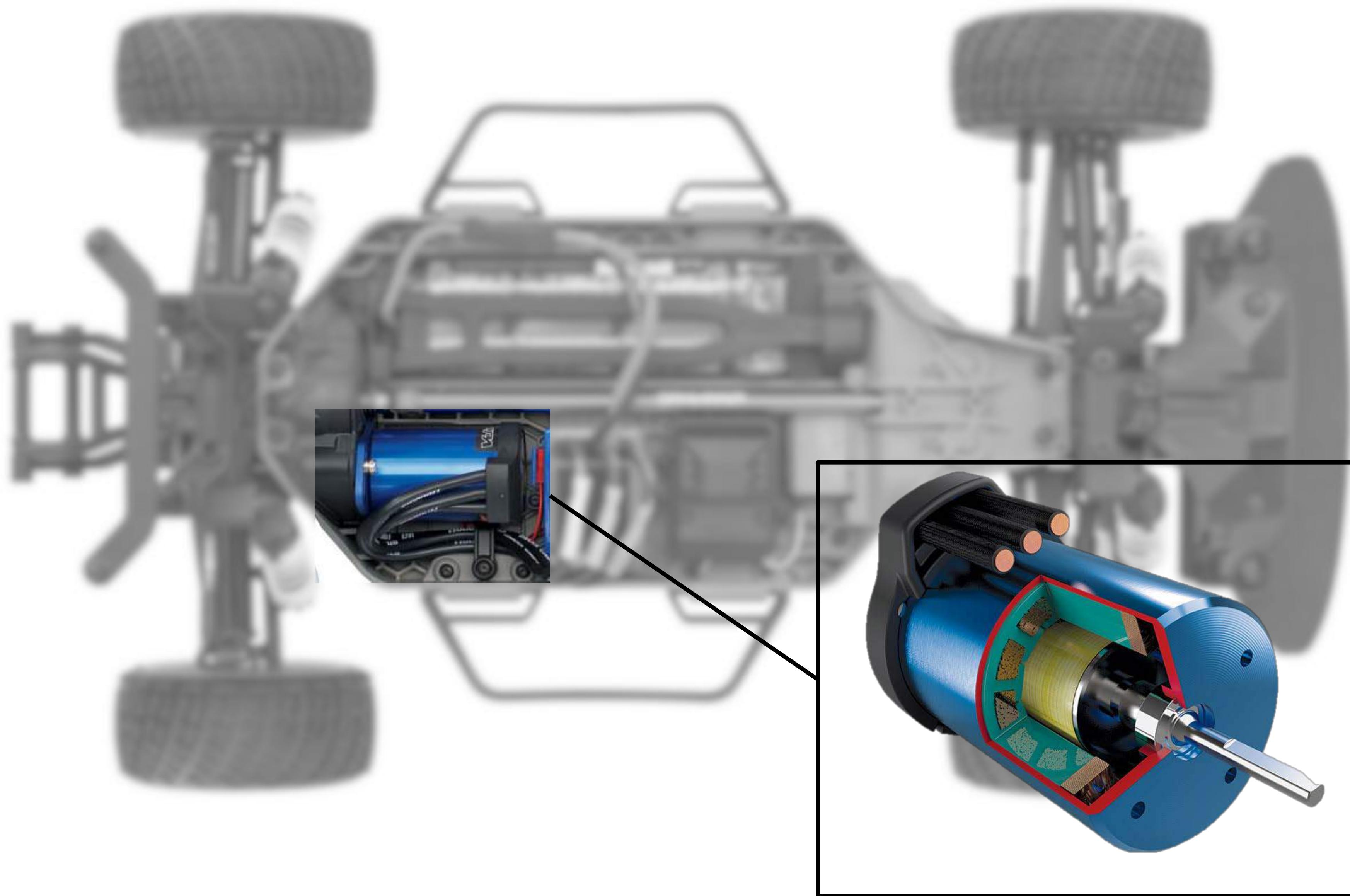
Traxxas 1/10 scale RC race car



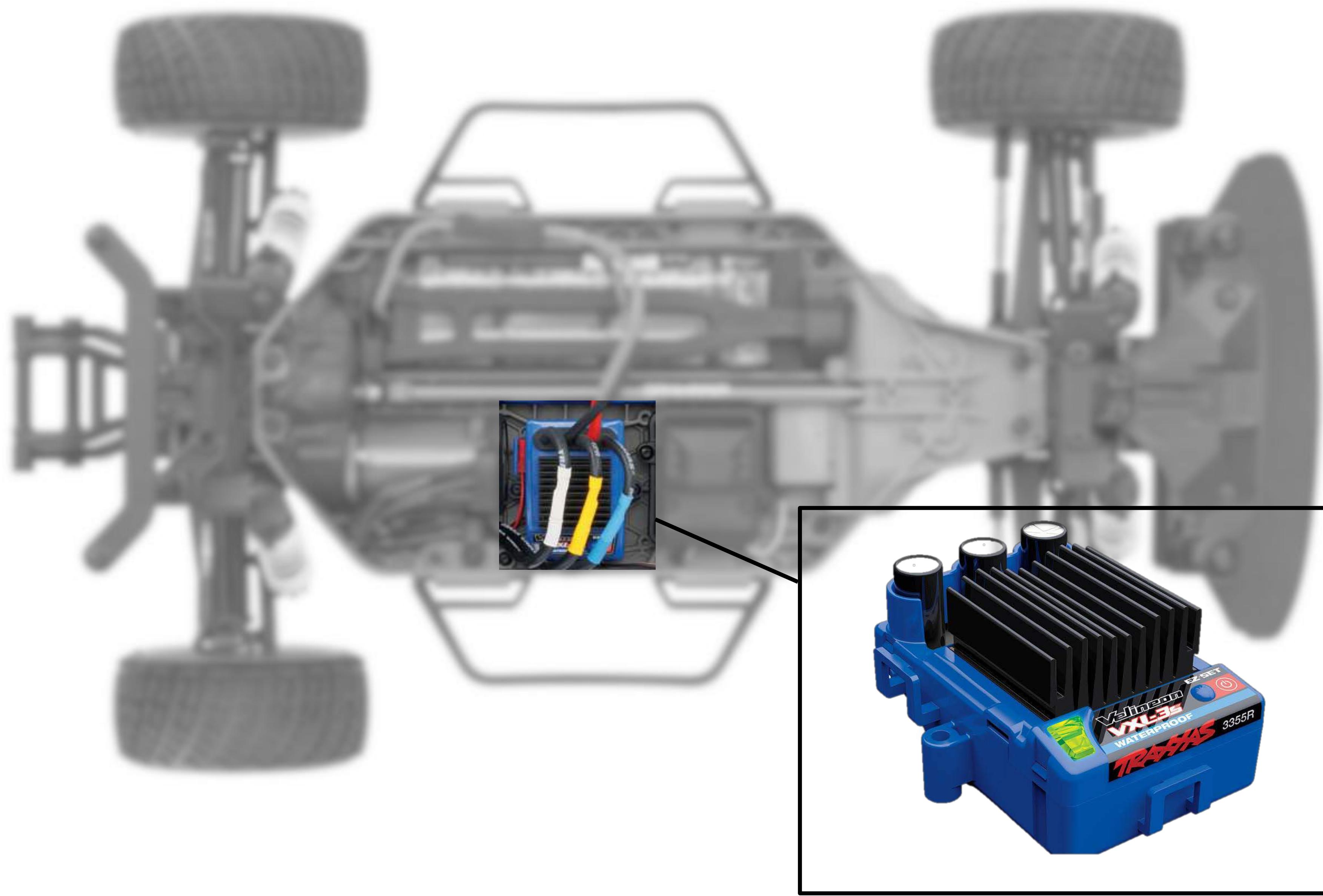
Traxxas 1/10 scale RC race car



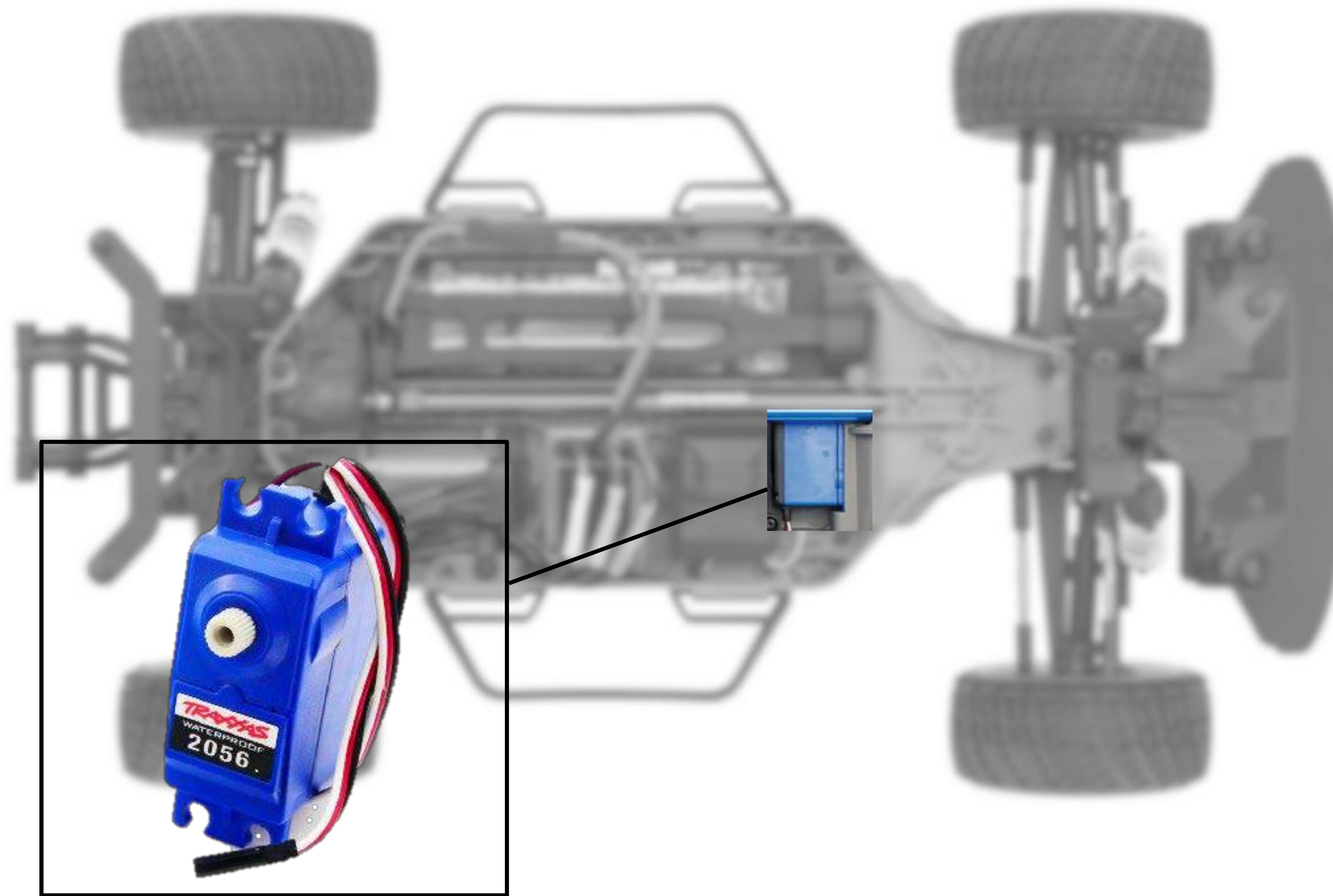
Brushless DC motor



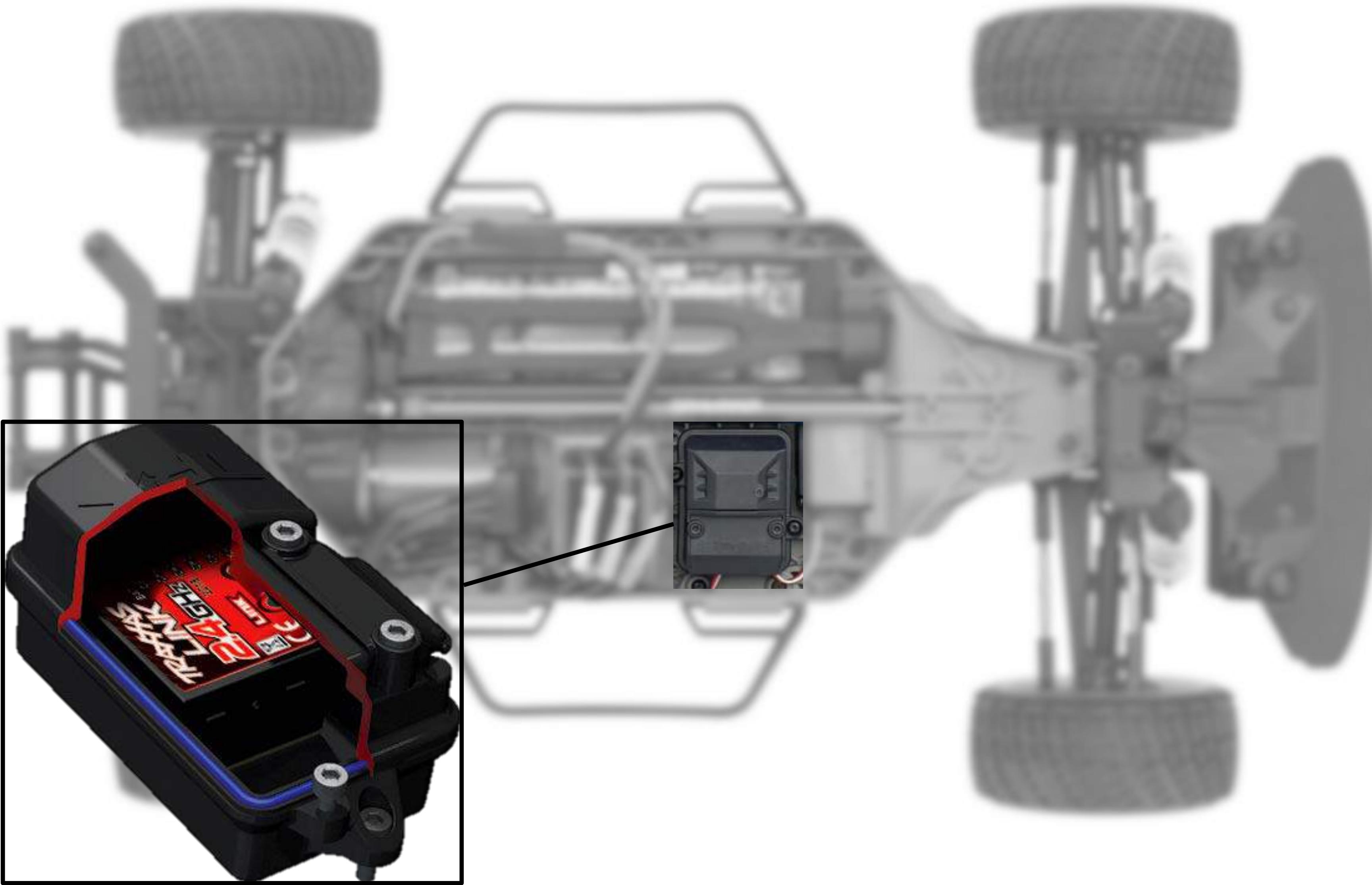
Electronic Speed Control (ESC)



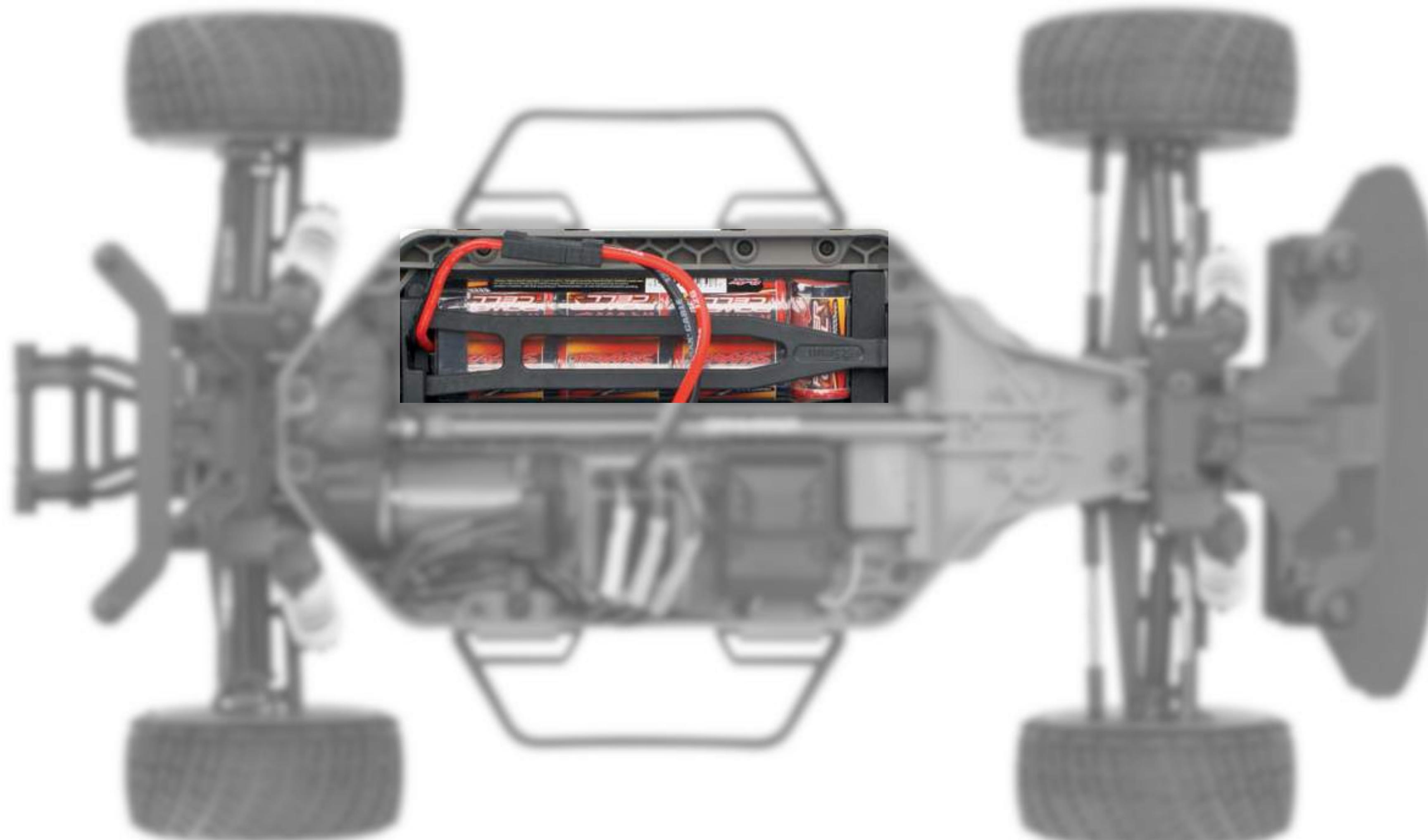
Servo motor for steering



Radio receiver



Battery pack



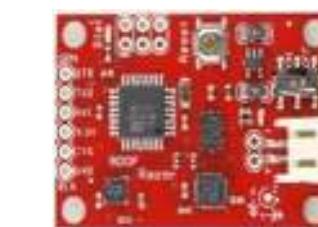
Sensor Integration



**LiDA
R**



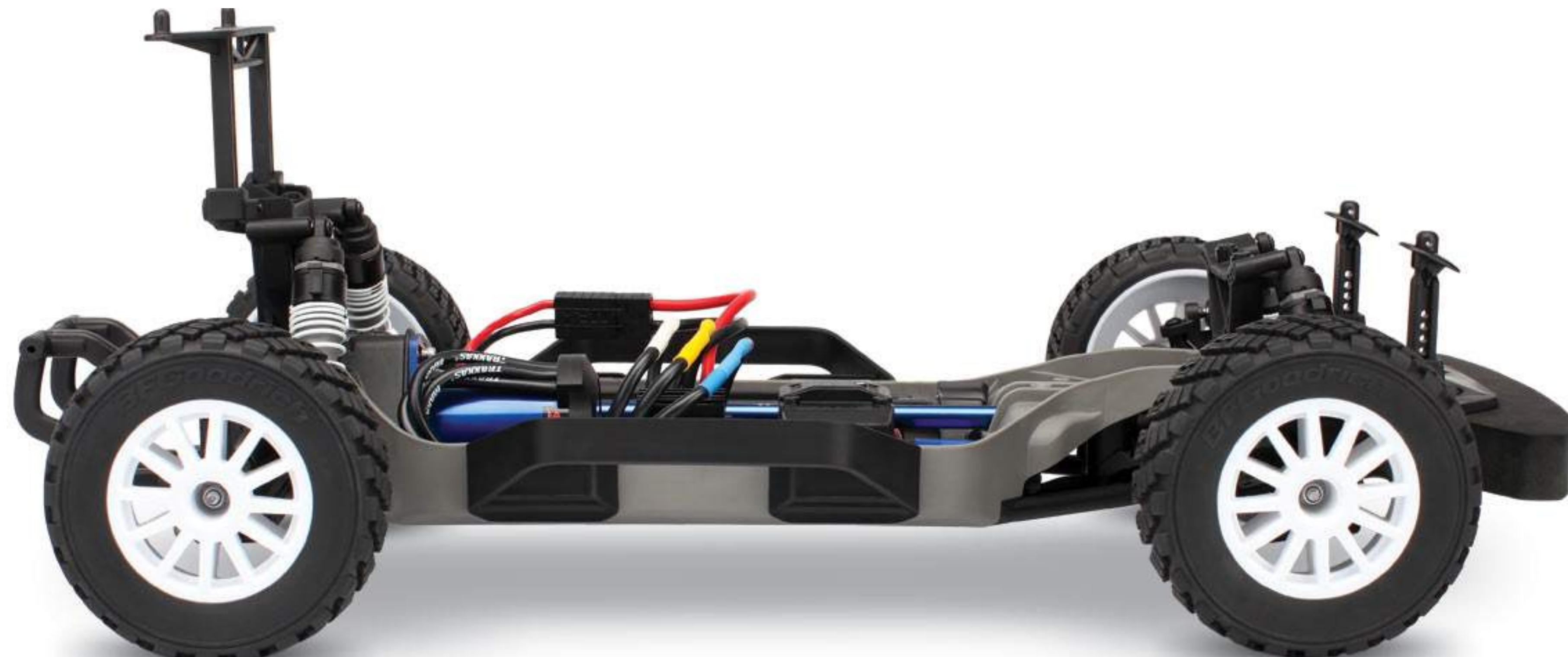
Camera



IMU



IR Depth Cameras



Sensor Integration



**LiDA
R**



Camera



IMU



IR Depth Cameras



Wi-fi Telemetry



Onboard Computer

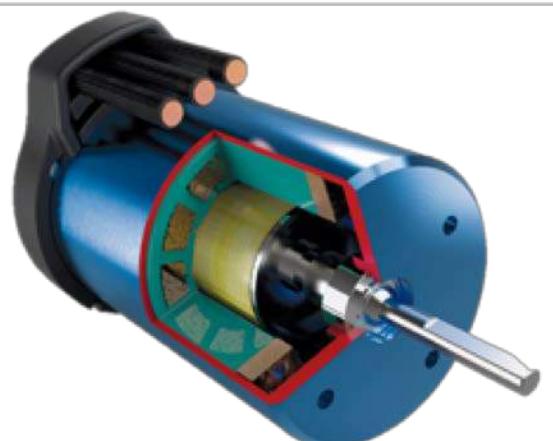
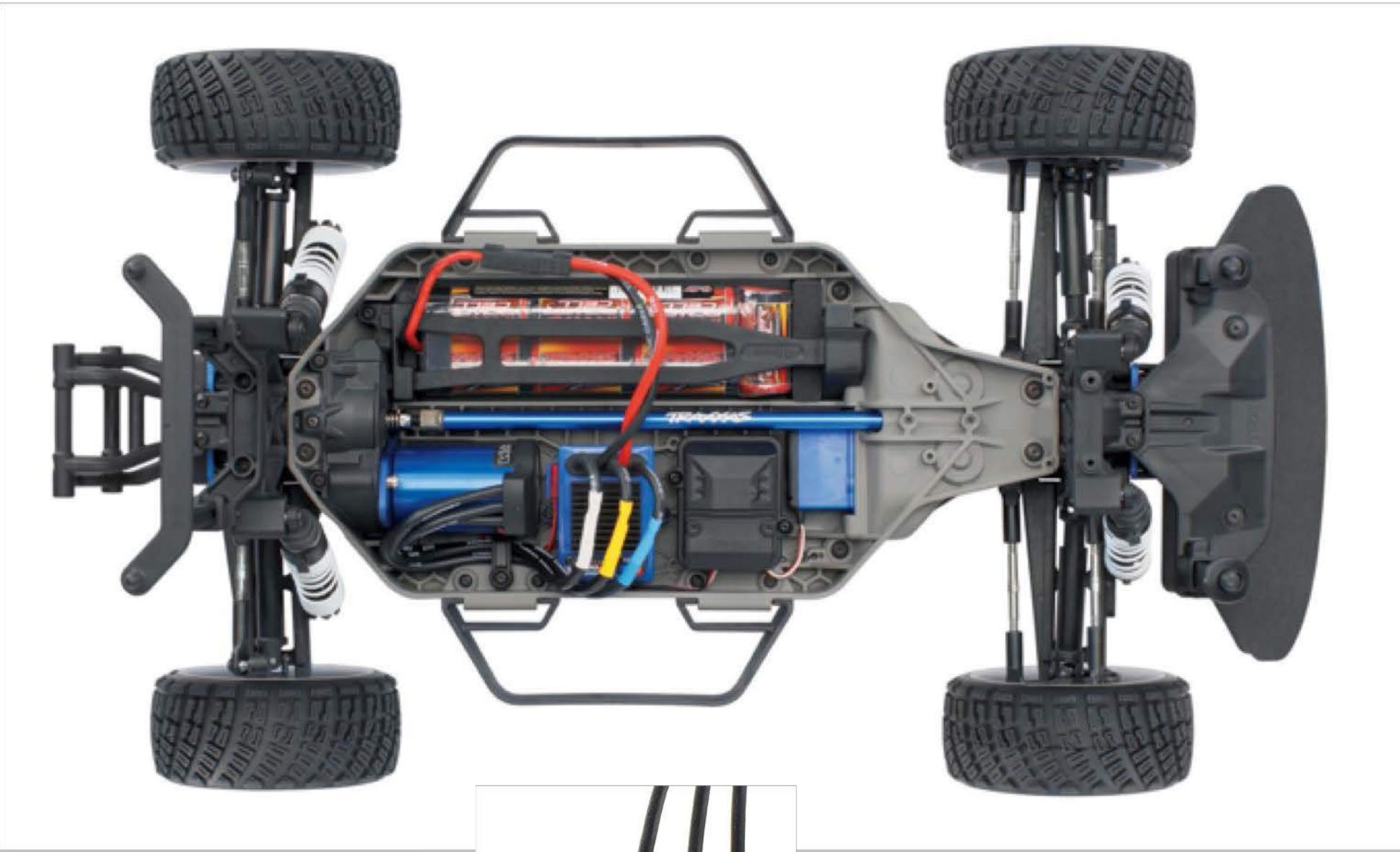


**Motor
Controller**

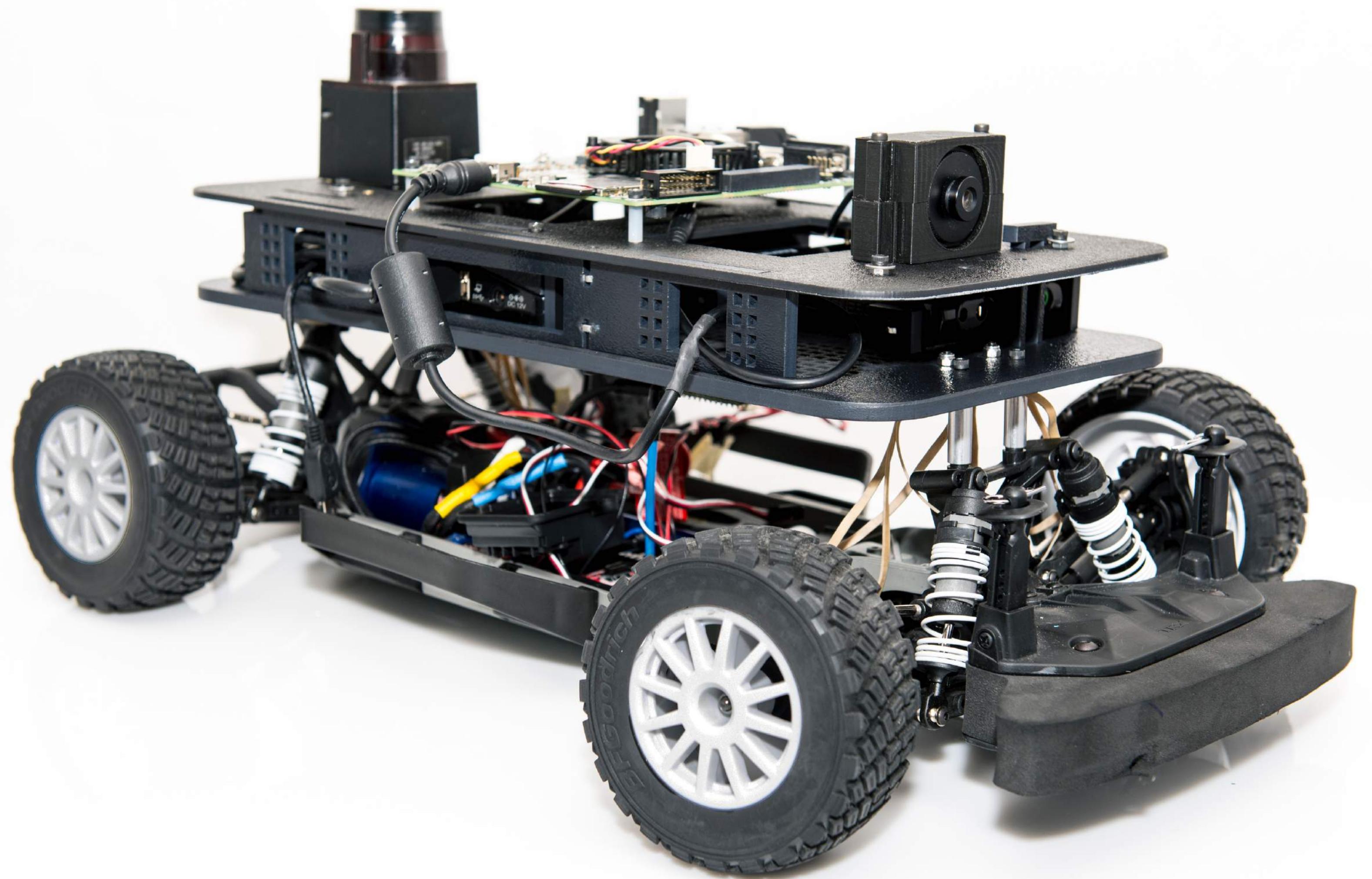


Battery

Fastware

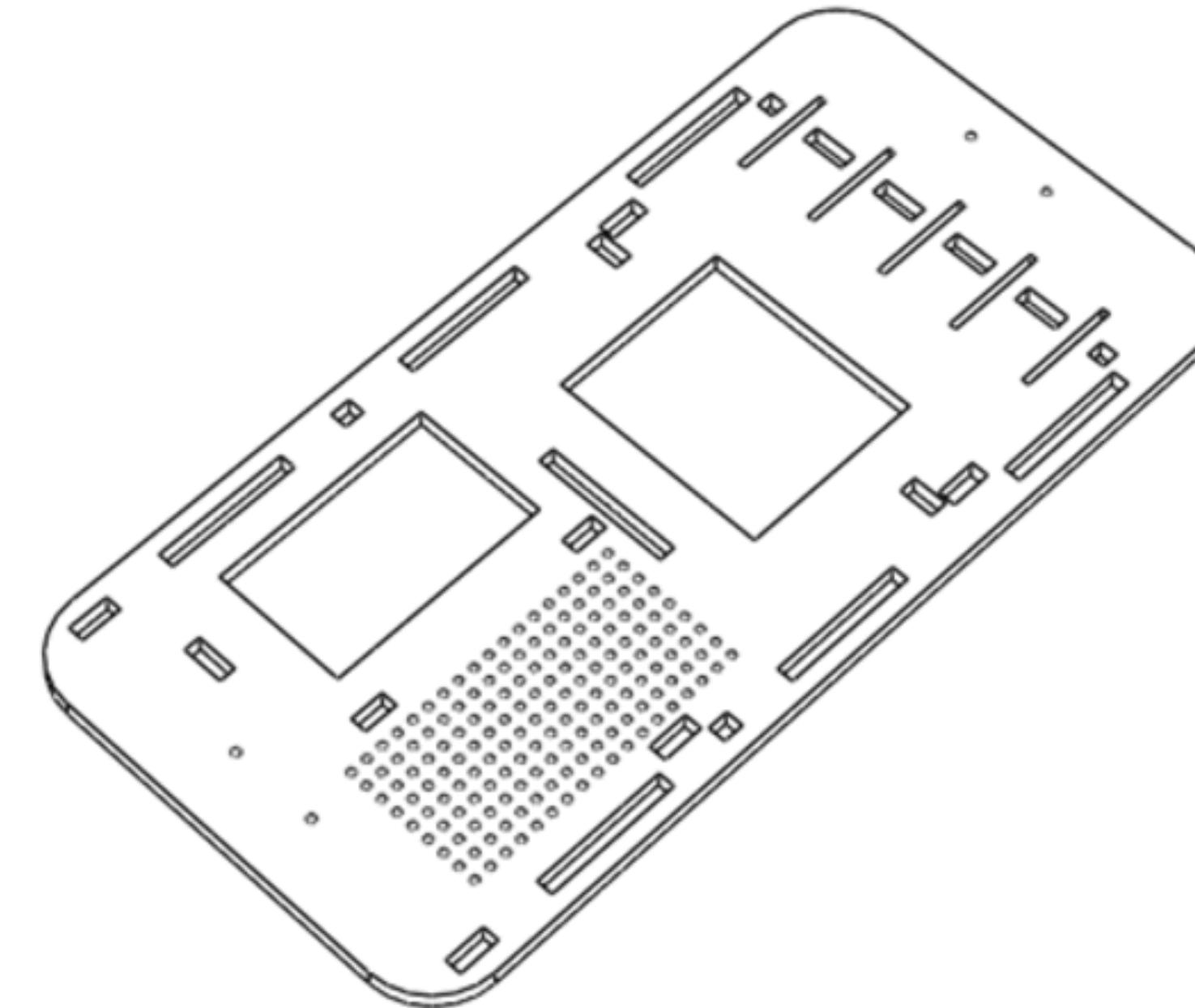
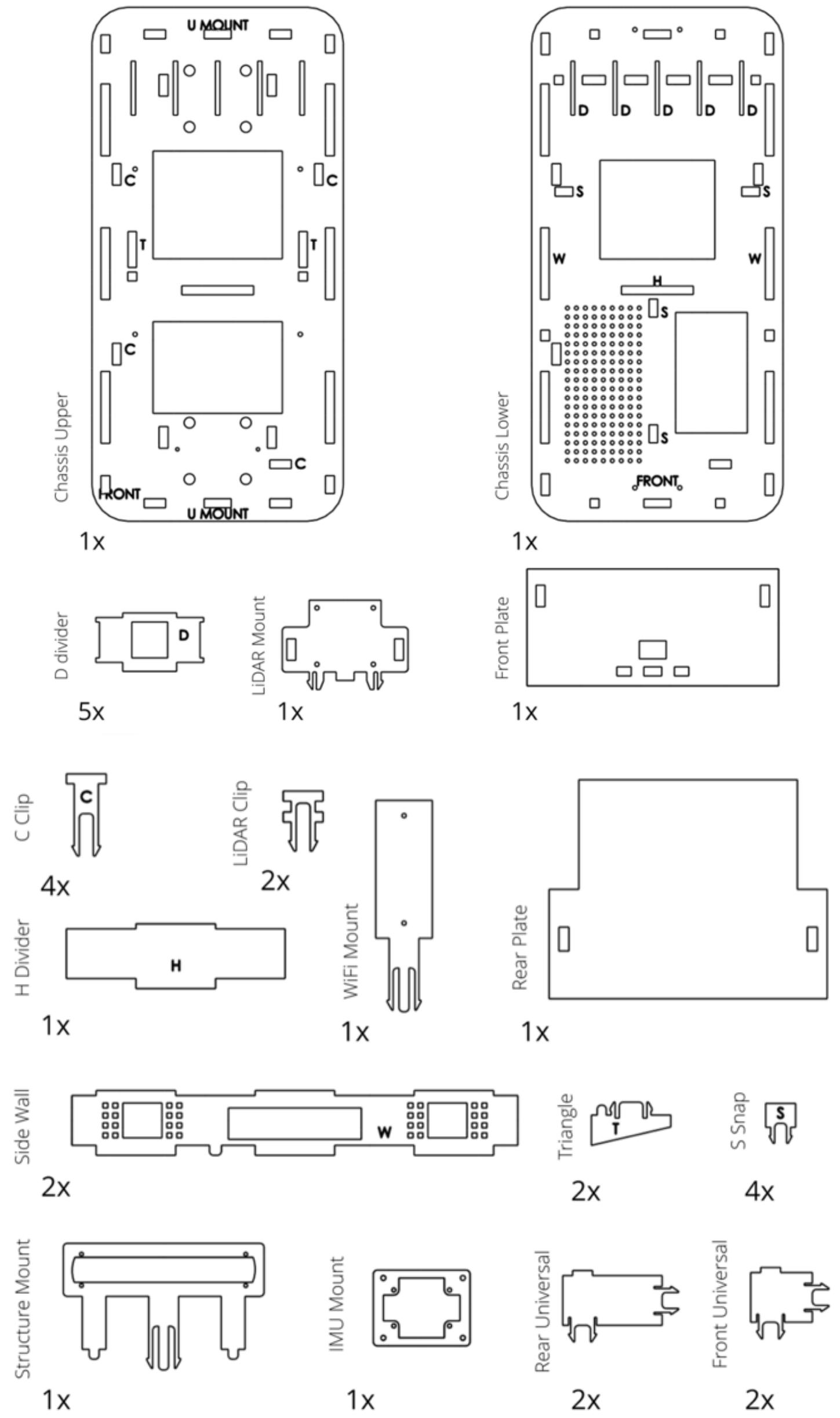


Approximately \$2,700



MOVE
FAST AND
BREAK
THINGS

With simple IKEA style instructions:



F1/10 Race Car Assembly [Time Lapse]

Drive

Perception. Planning. Control

In Spring 2018

**a new and unique course
was taught at the University of Virginia.**

**A novel approach to learn the principles of
perception, planning, and control.**

Here are highlights from the course

Open Source



f1tenth.org

Autonomous Racing Competition

1/10th the size. 10 times the fun!

[Start Your Engines!](#)

Stay in the loop with email updates!

[Subscribe](#)

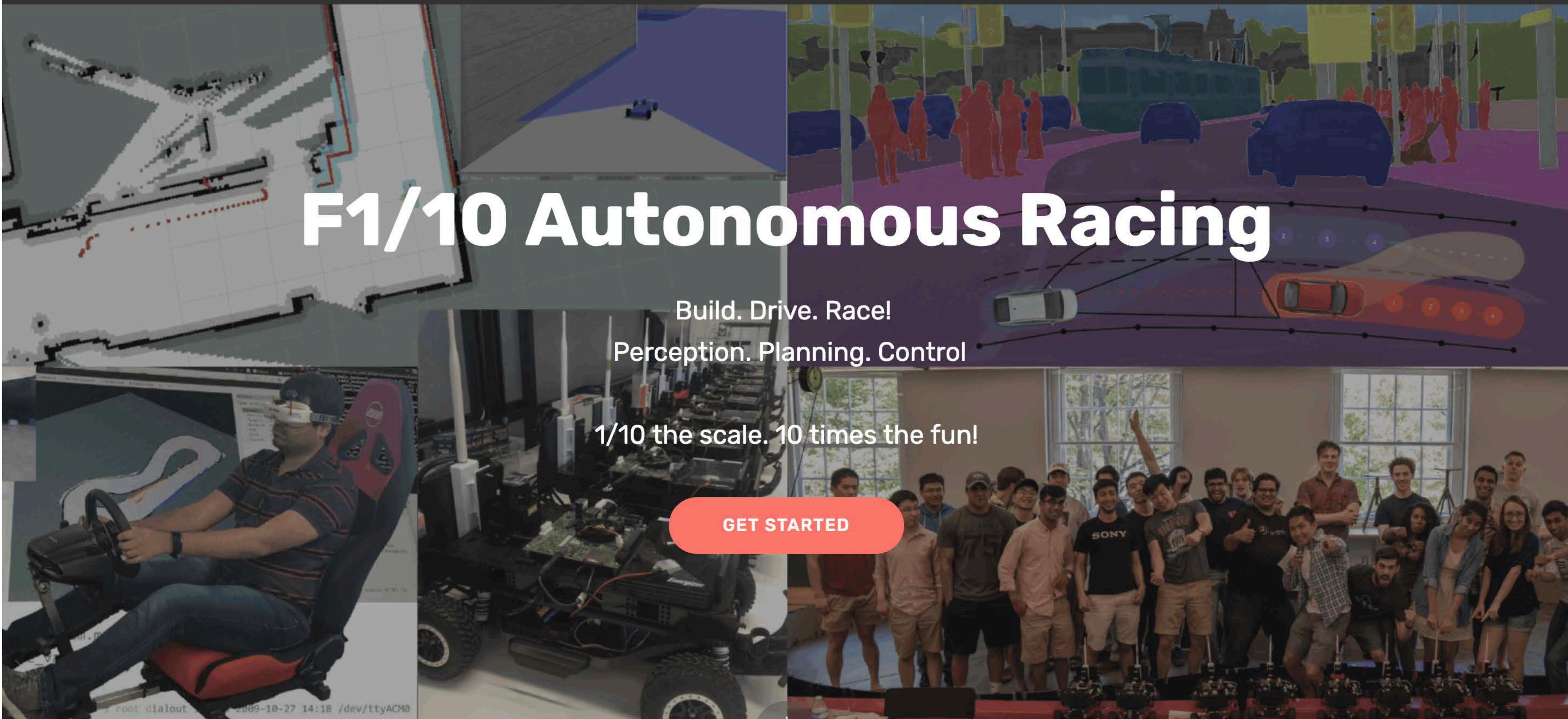
[Home](#)[Logistics](#)[Syllabus](#)[Resources](#)

F1/10 Autonomous Racing

Build. Drive. Race!

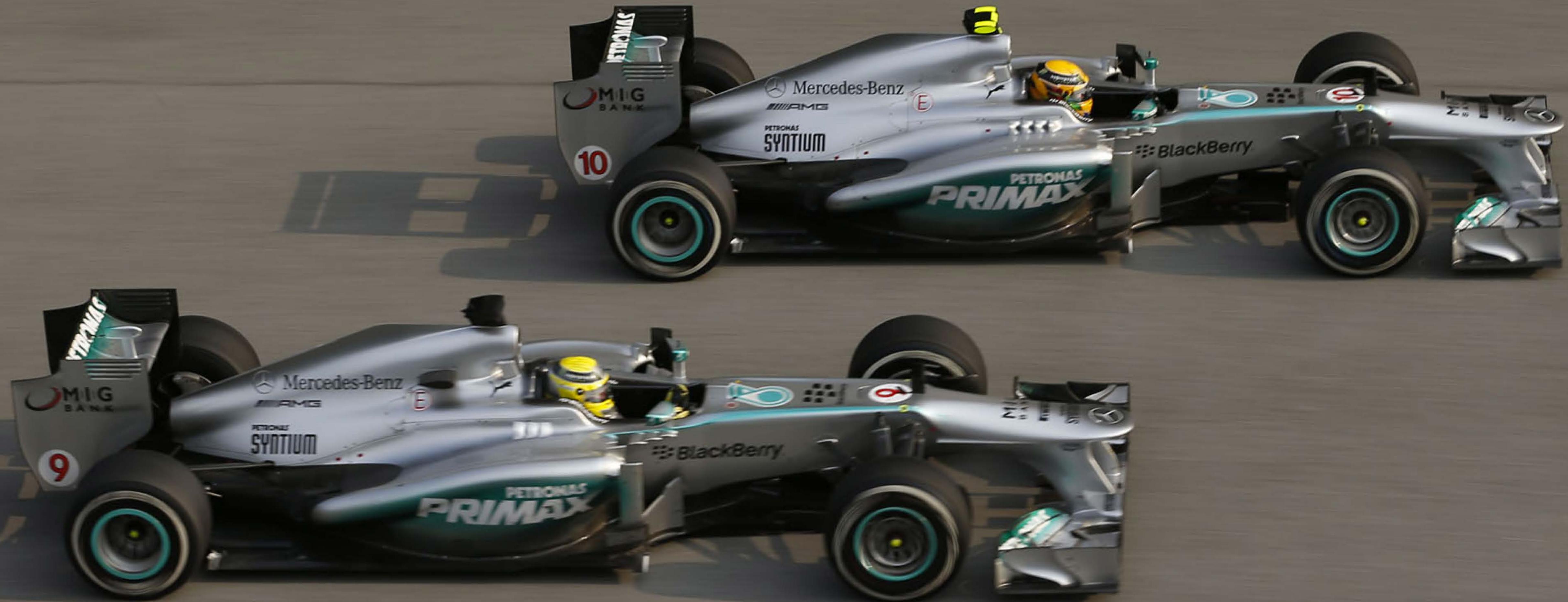
Perception. Planning. Control

1/10 the scale. 10 times the fun!

[GET STARTED](#)

Race

All teams have similar cars, with the same sensors



Battle of algorithms





October 1st-2nd

Wean Hall, Carnegie Mellon University

To compete, [register](#) your team name on our [sign up sheet](#)

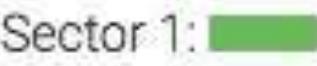
[Look at the progress of the Fall 2016 F1/10 teams](#)

[Directions/Accomodations](#)

ES Week Track Layout

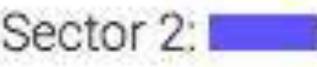
Wean Hall, 7th Floor

Sector 1:



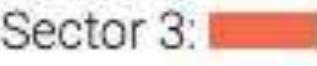
Width: 8'

Sector 2:



Width: 6'-8'

Sector 3:



Width: 6'-8'

Track length

812

Feet

7

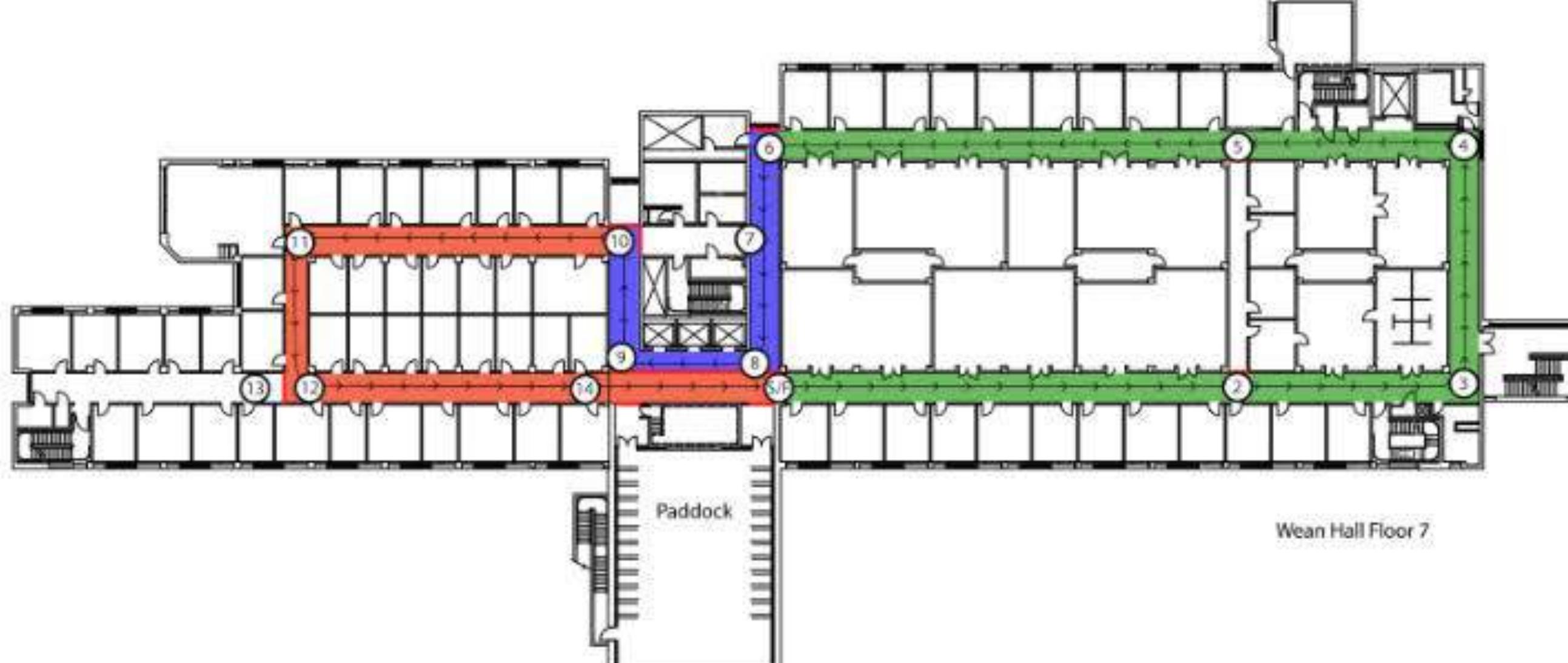
Left Turns

2

Right Turns

[Download ROSbags](#)

[Download DWF](#)



1st F1/10 Autonomous Racing Competition

[Oct 1-2, 2016, CMU, Pittsburgh]

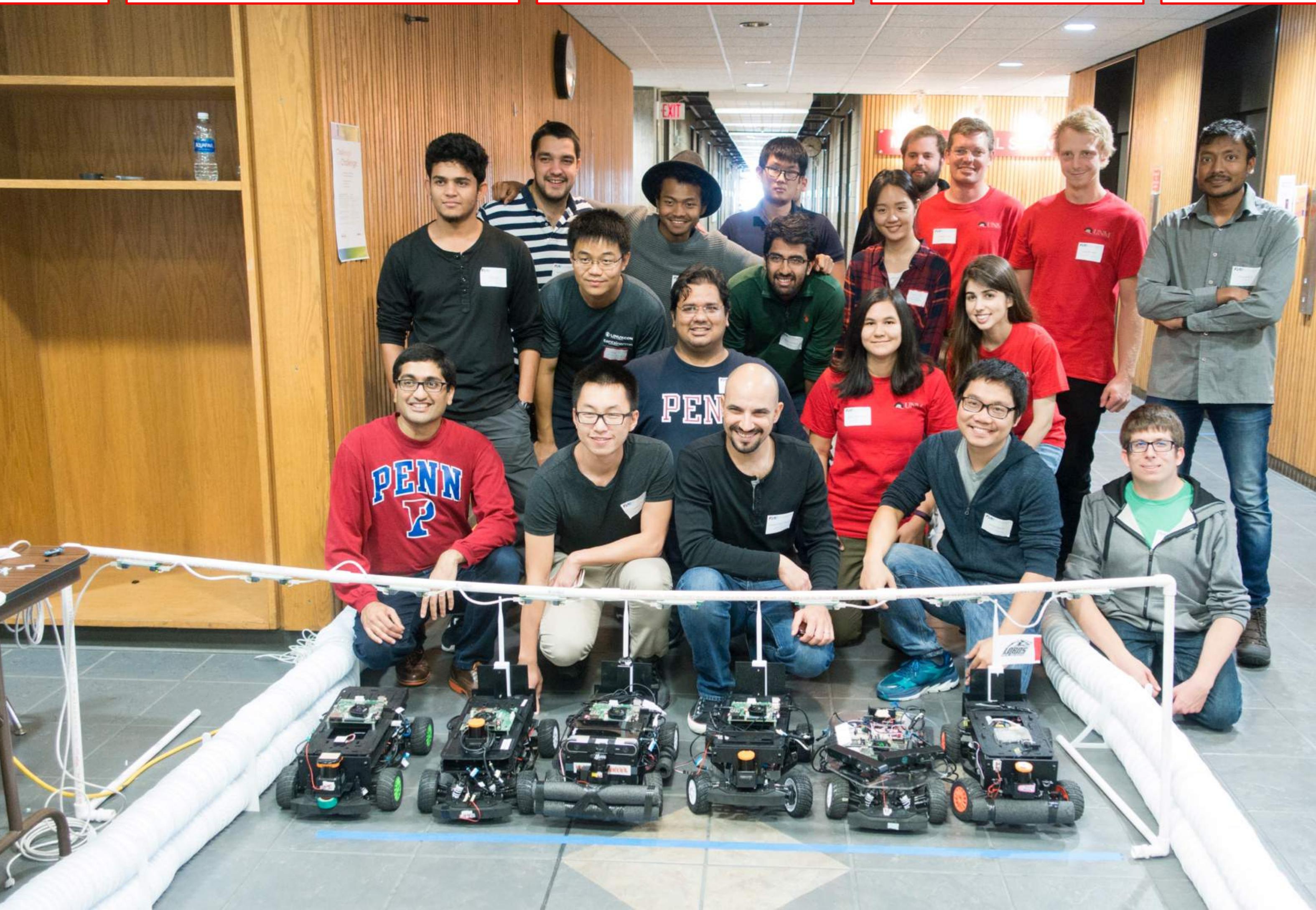
U. Of Penn

U. Of New Mexico

Arizona State

ETH, Zurich

Temple



1st F1/10 Autonomous Racing Competition

[Oct 1-2, 2016, CMU, Pittsburgh]



1st F1/10 Autonomous Racing Competition

[Oct 1-2, 2016, CMU, Pittsburgh]



Fastest Lap



812 ft

63.6 secs

Avg 8.7mph

Top ~16mph

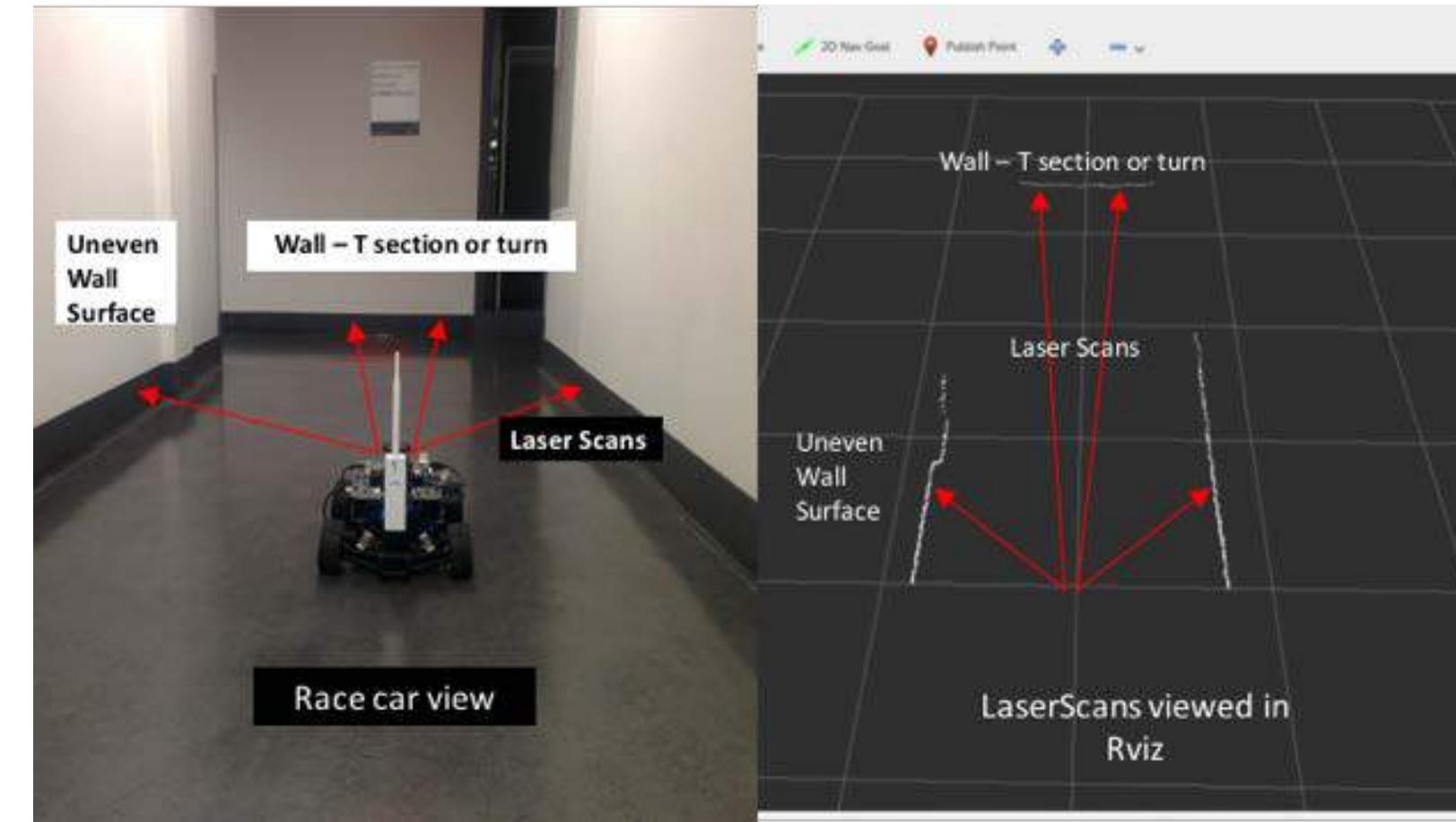
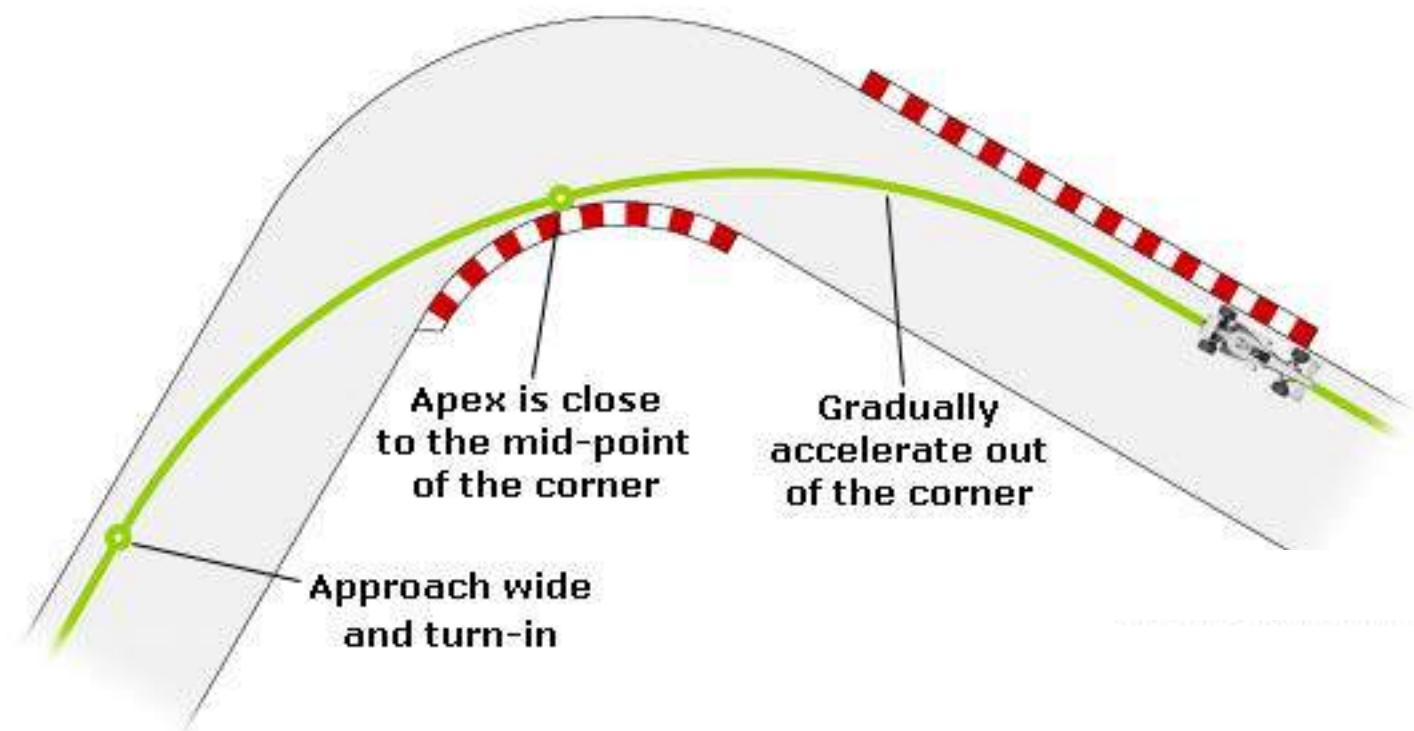


Porto, Portugal

Perception. Planning. Control.

Perception. Planning. Control

Making sense of the surroundings

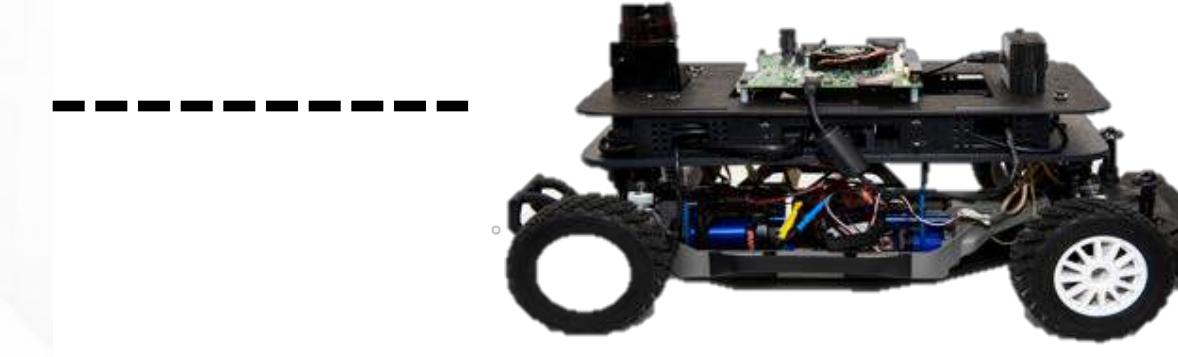
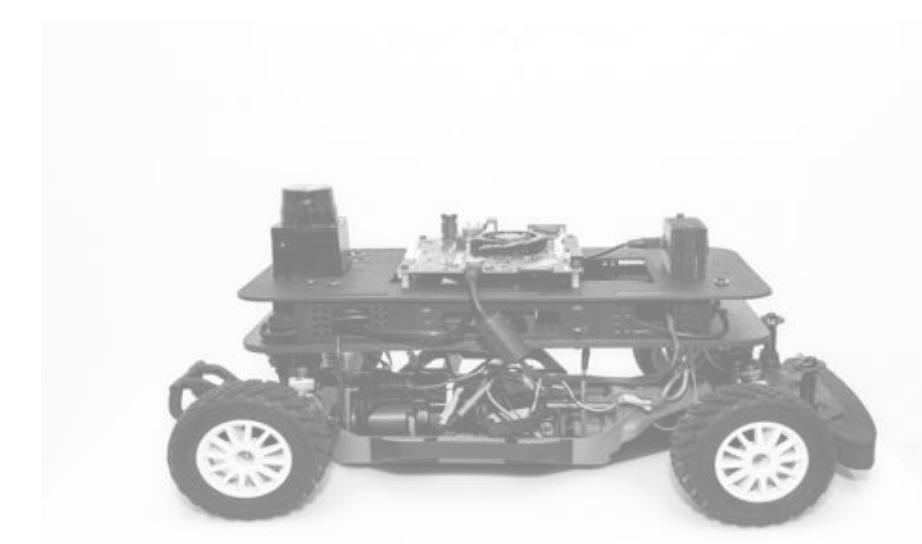
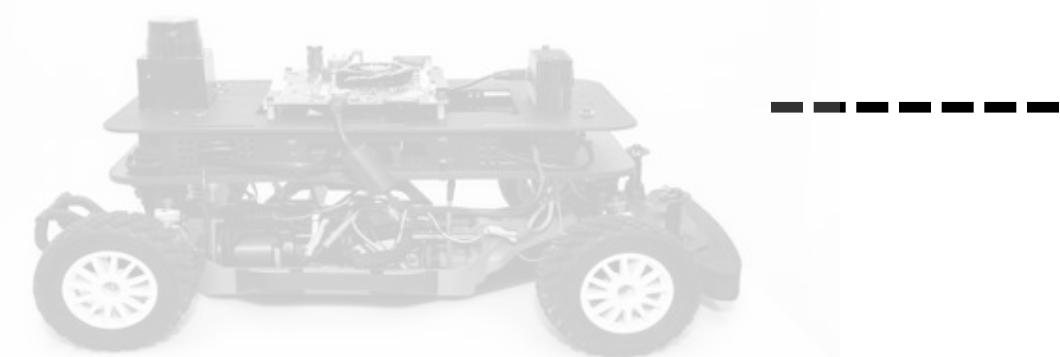
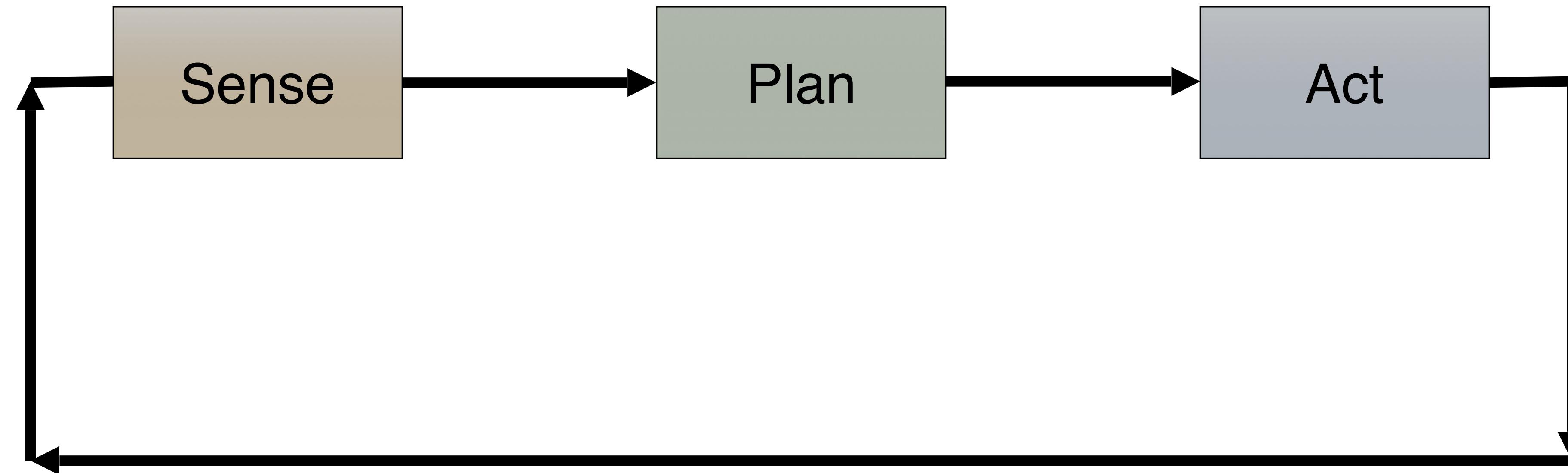


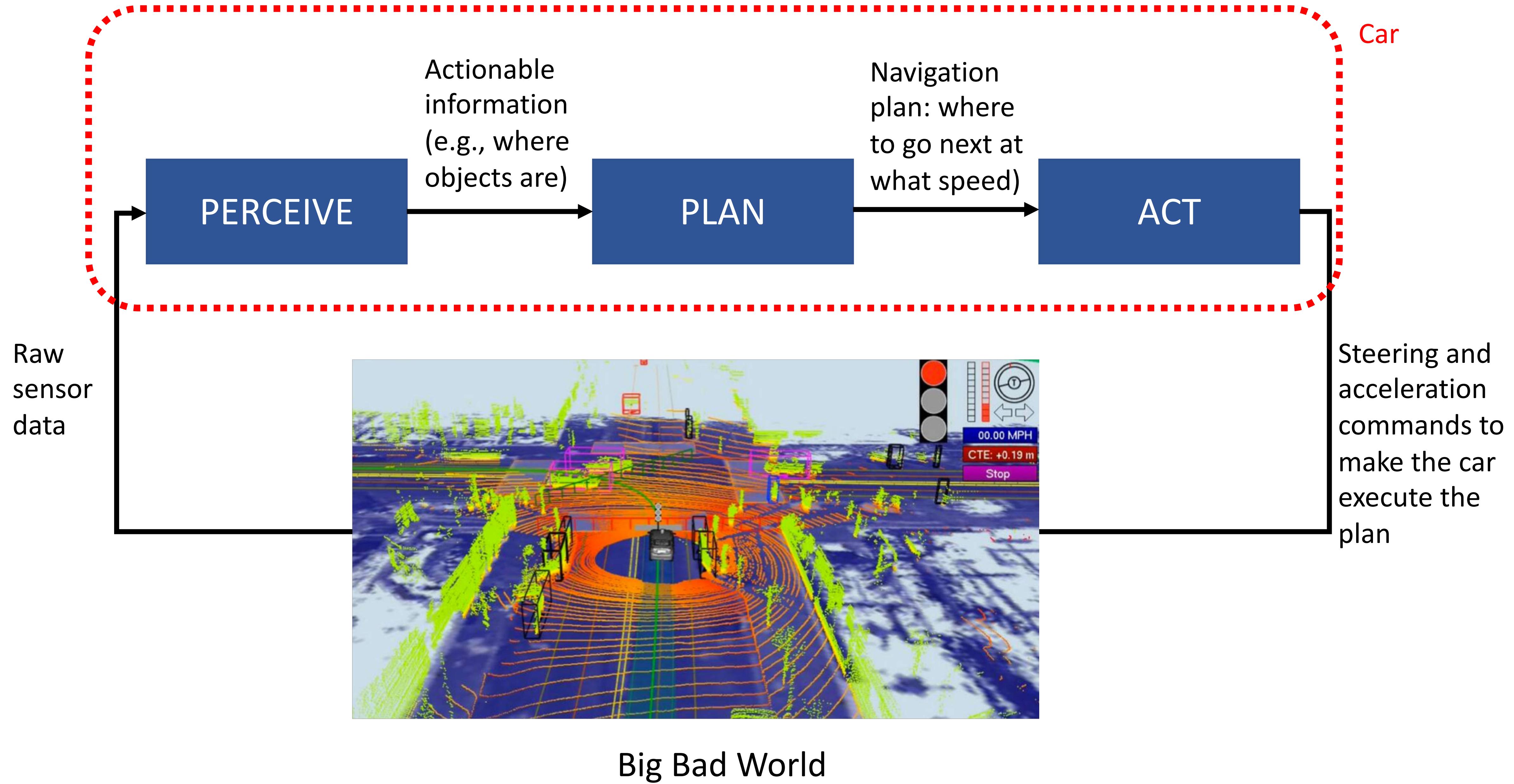
Planning the fastest racing line

Controlling the car to follow the planned path



Closing the loop

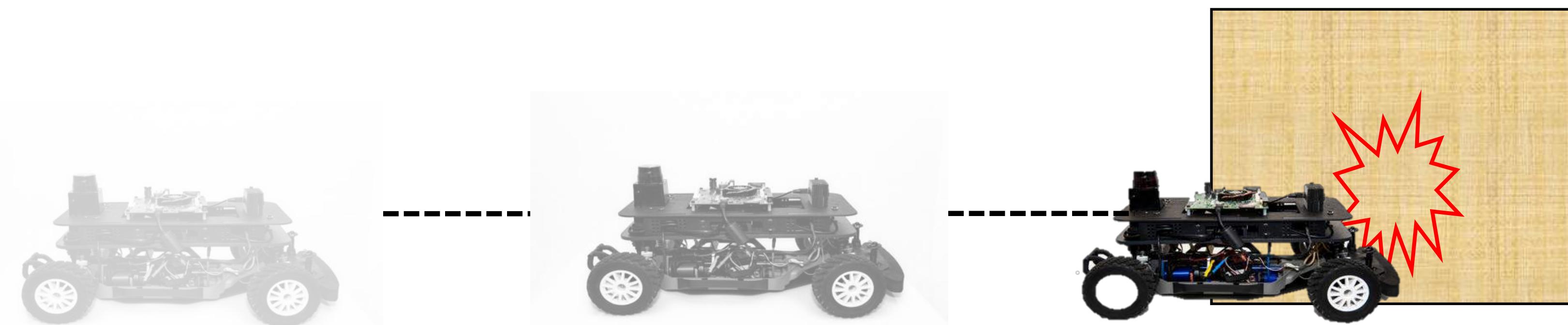
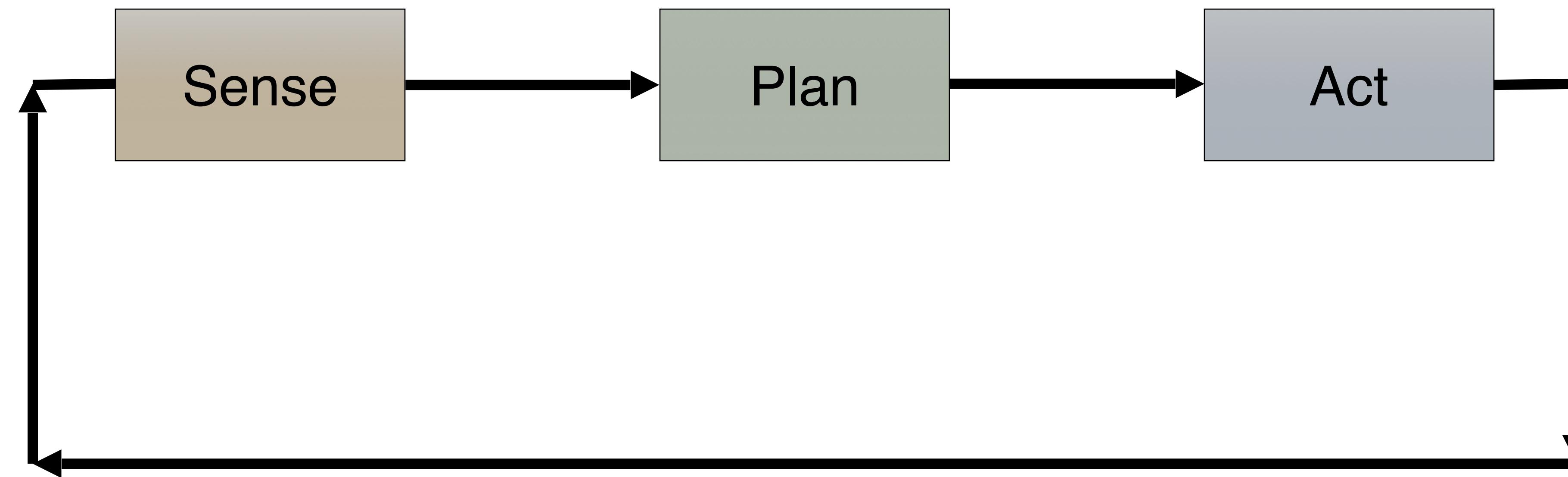




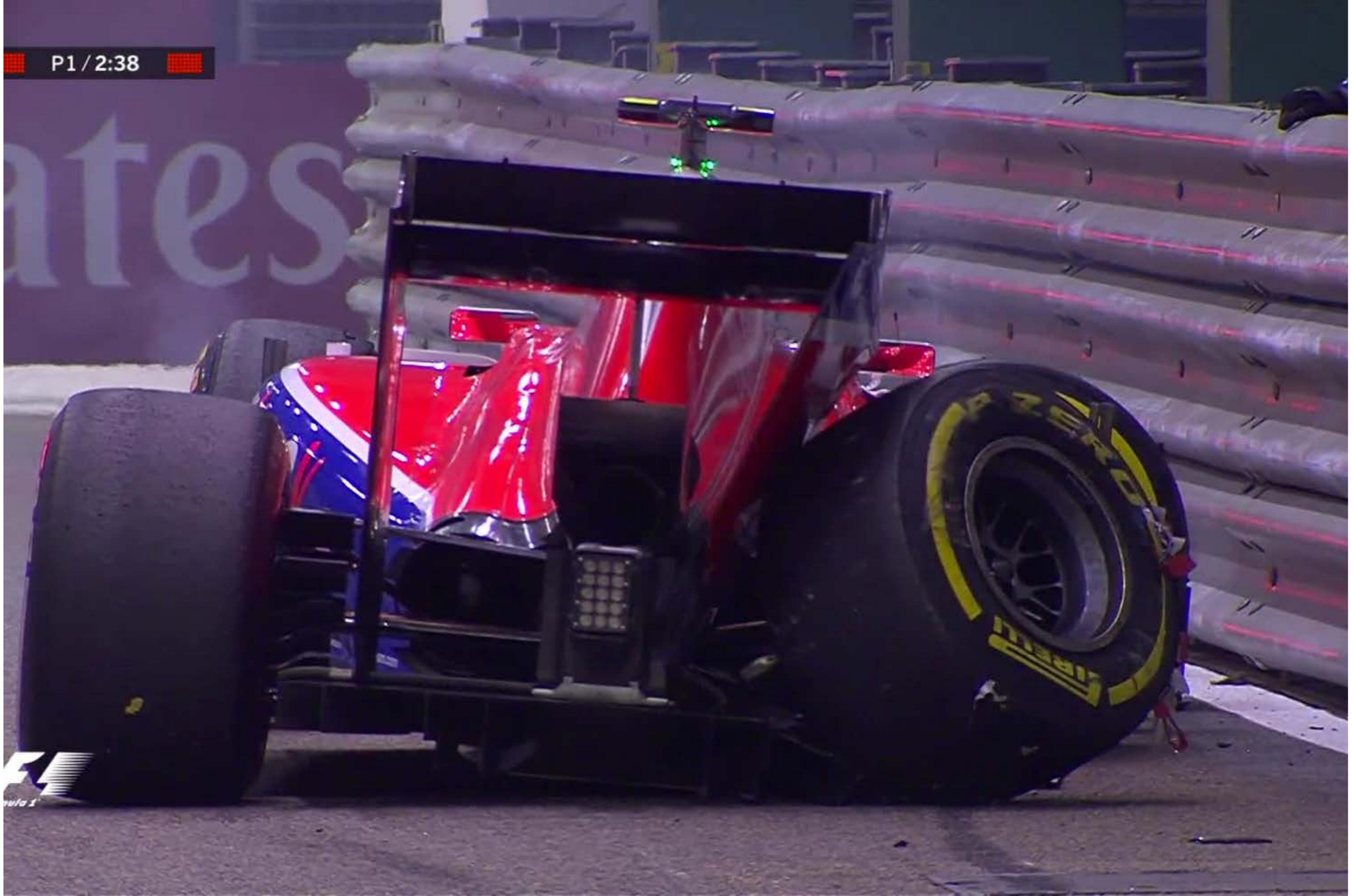
“If everything seems under control,
then you are not going fast enough”



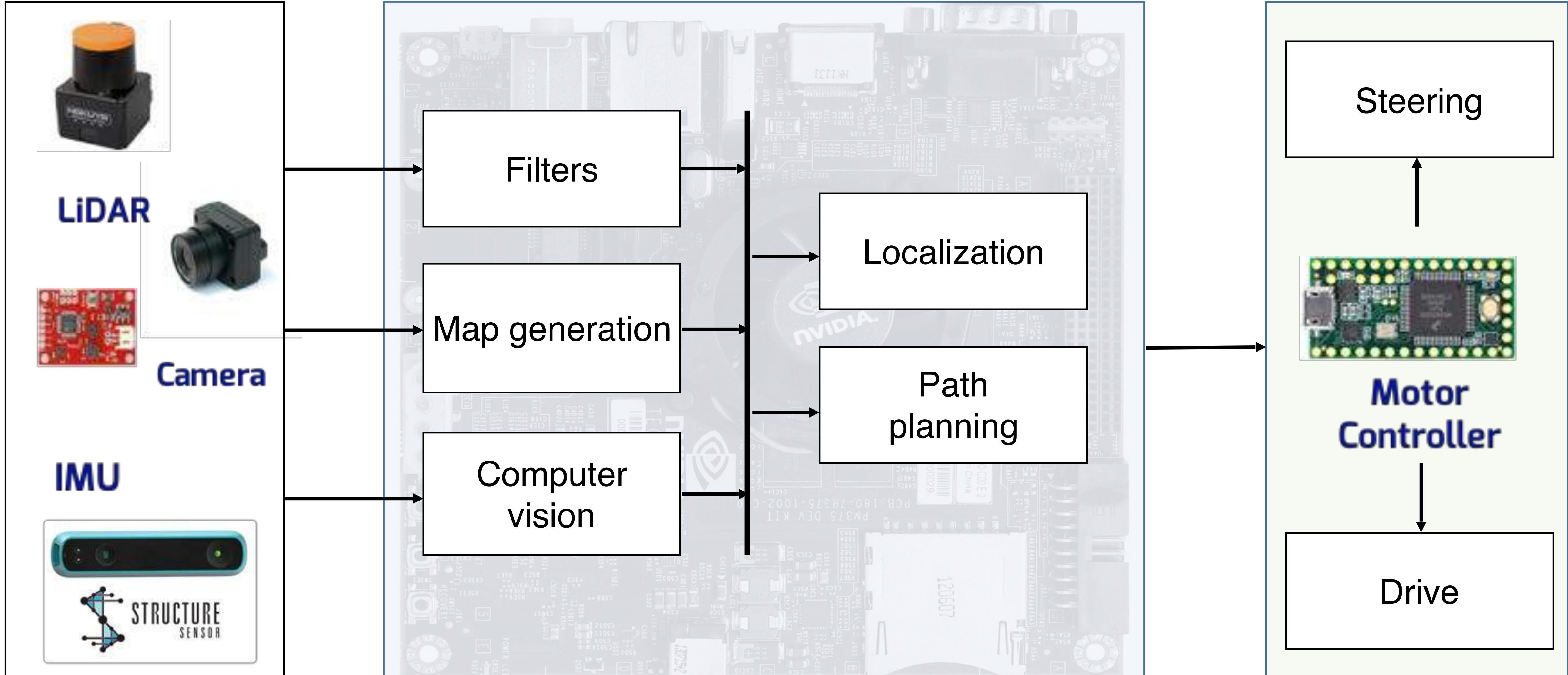
Closing the loop fast



P1 / 2:38



System Architecture

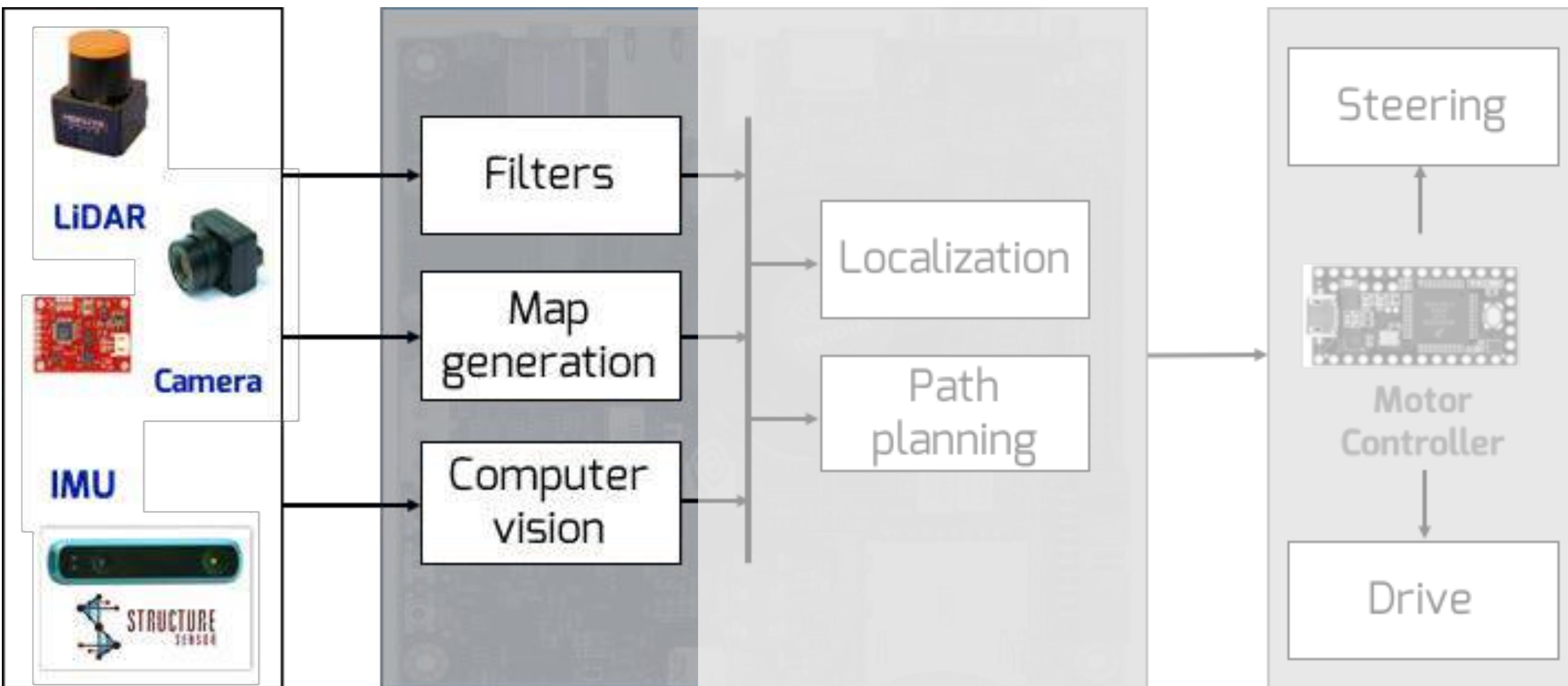


Perception

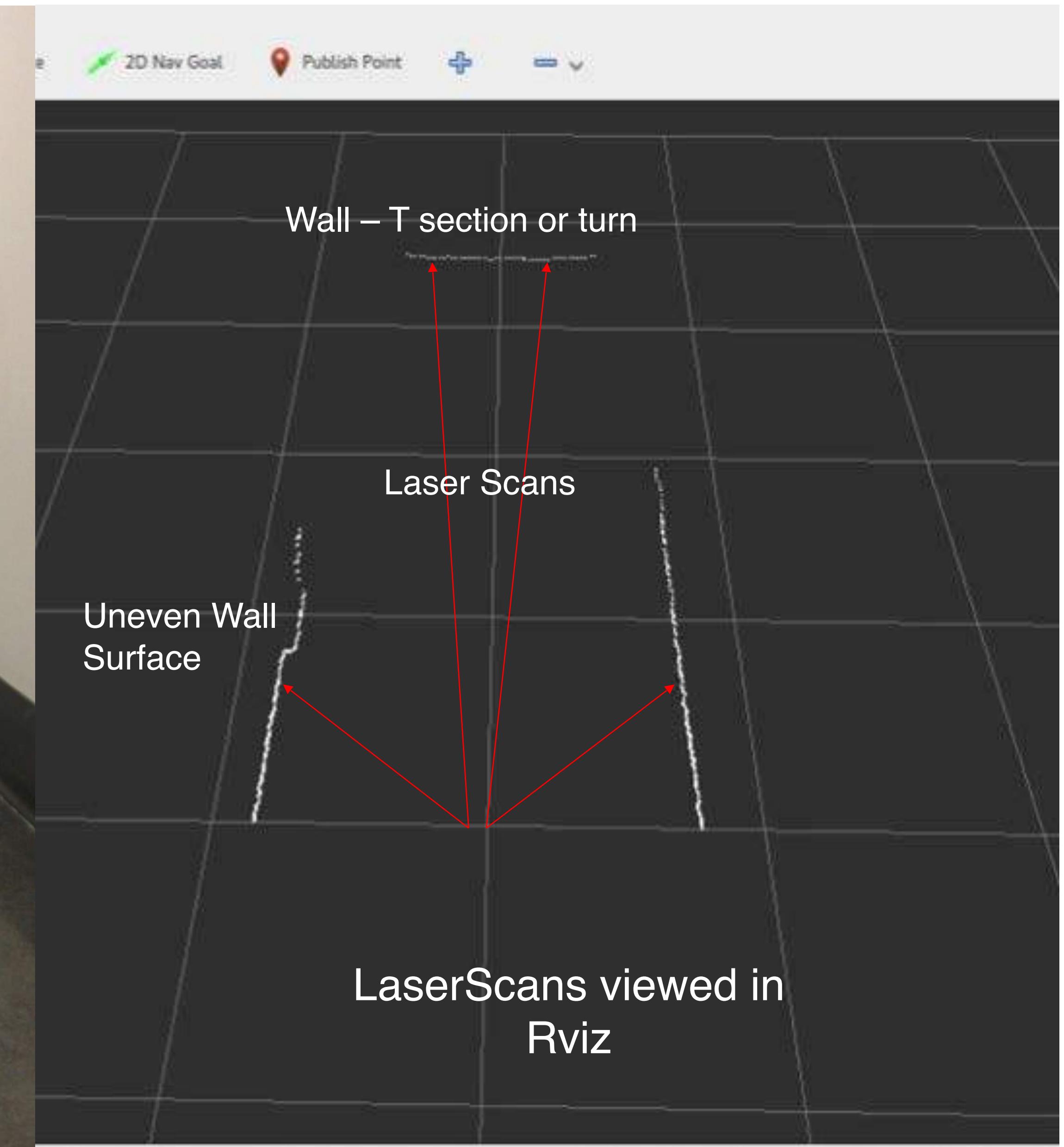
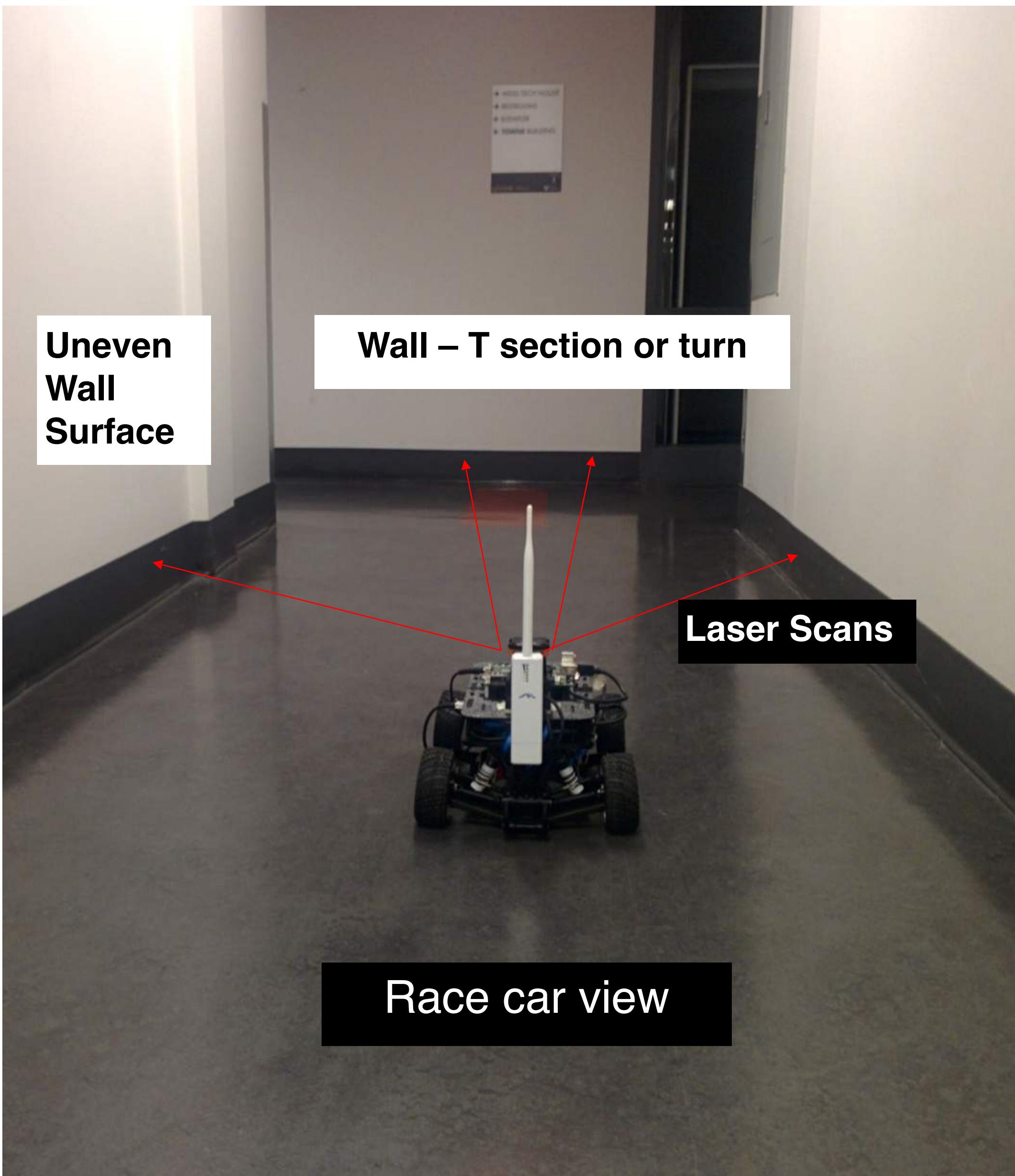
Planning

Control

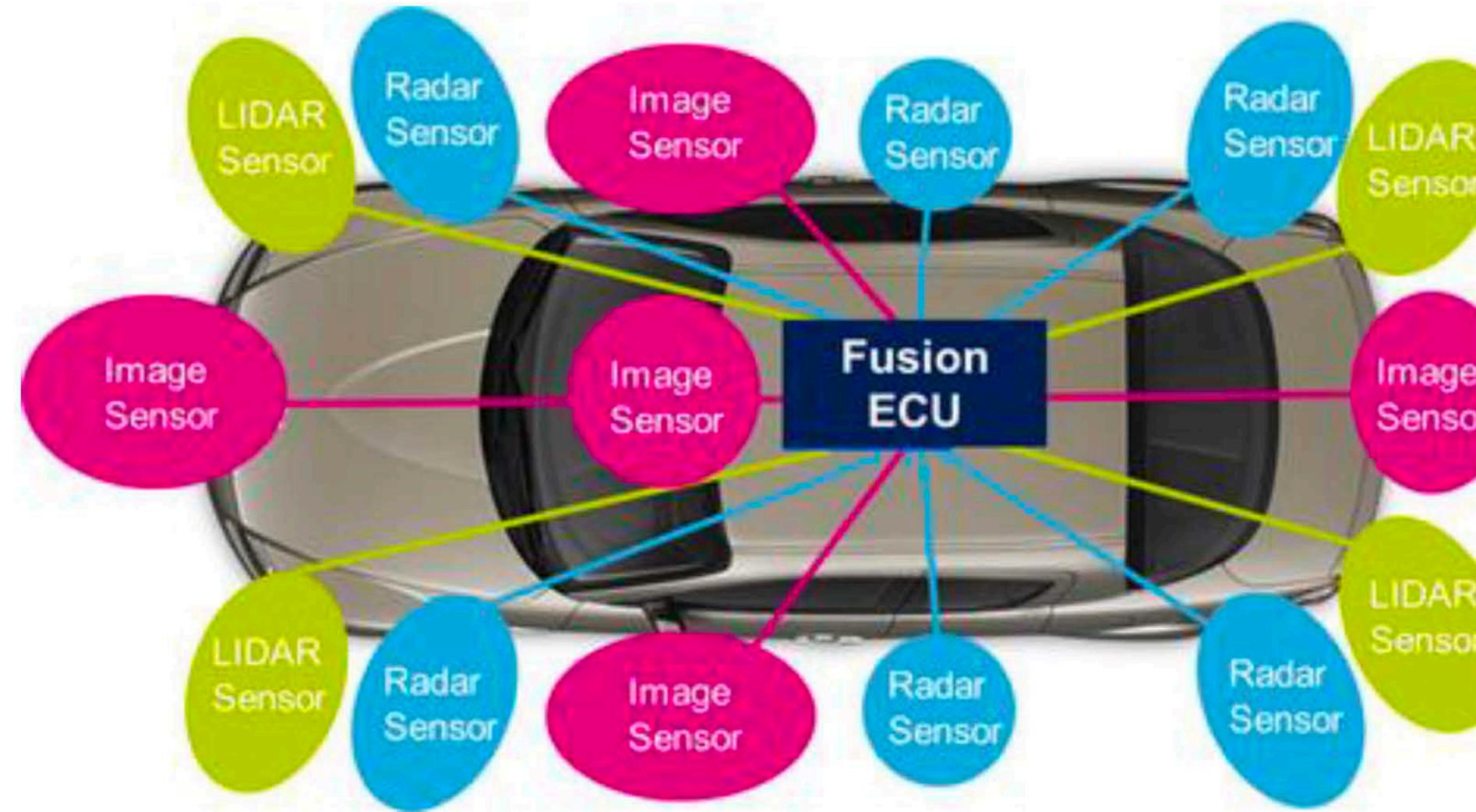
Perception



Perception



Automotive AI Sensors



Camera

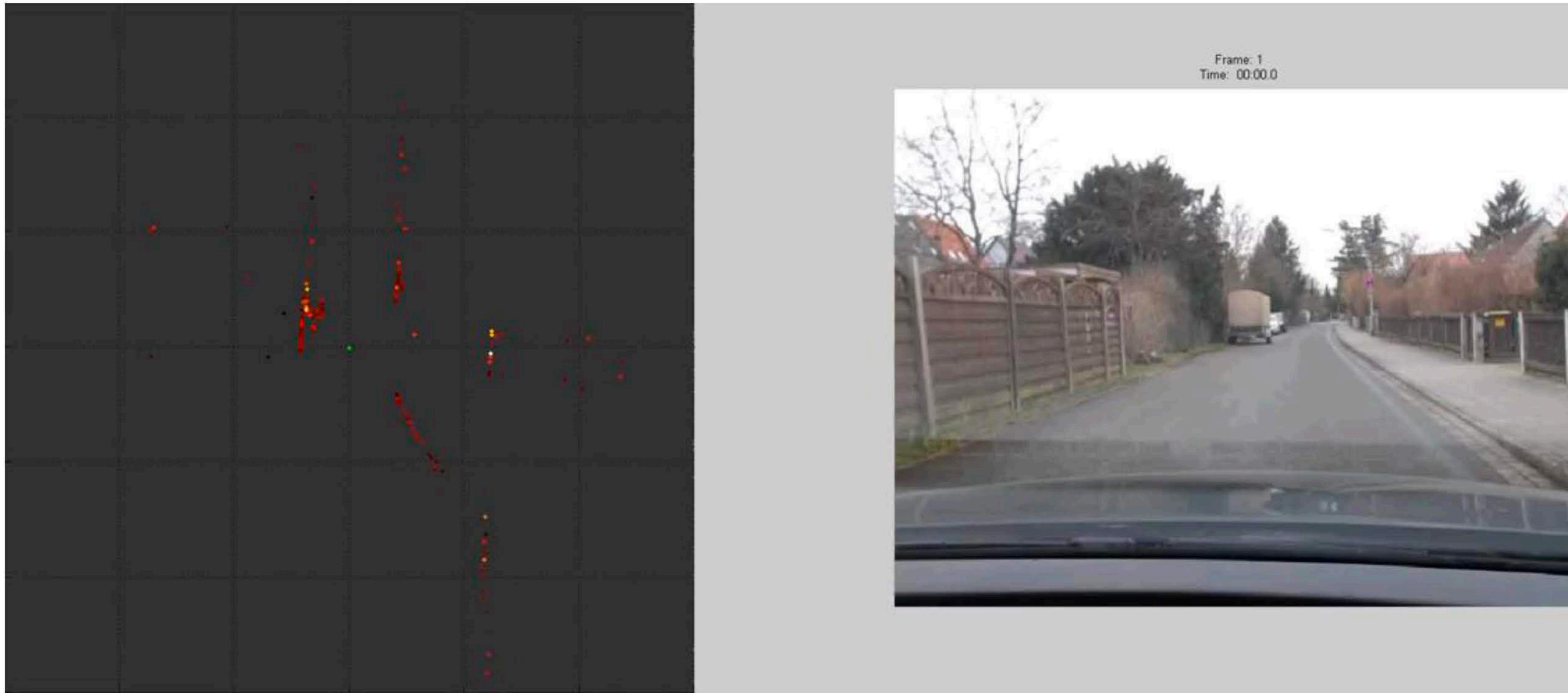


Radar



LIDAR

Radar

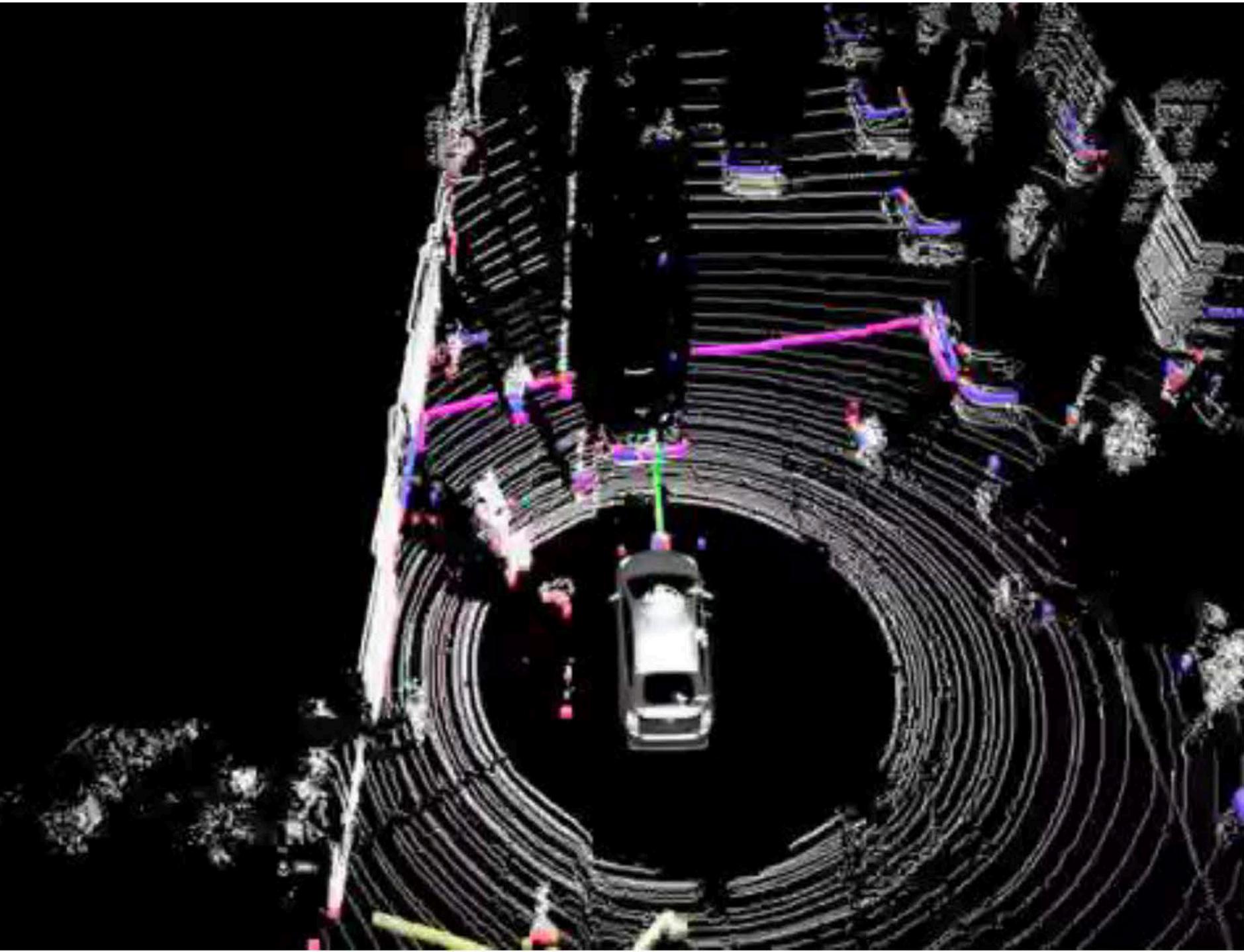


- Cheap
- Does well in extreme weather
- Low resolution
- Most used automotive sensor for object detection and tracking

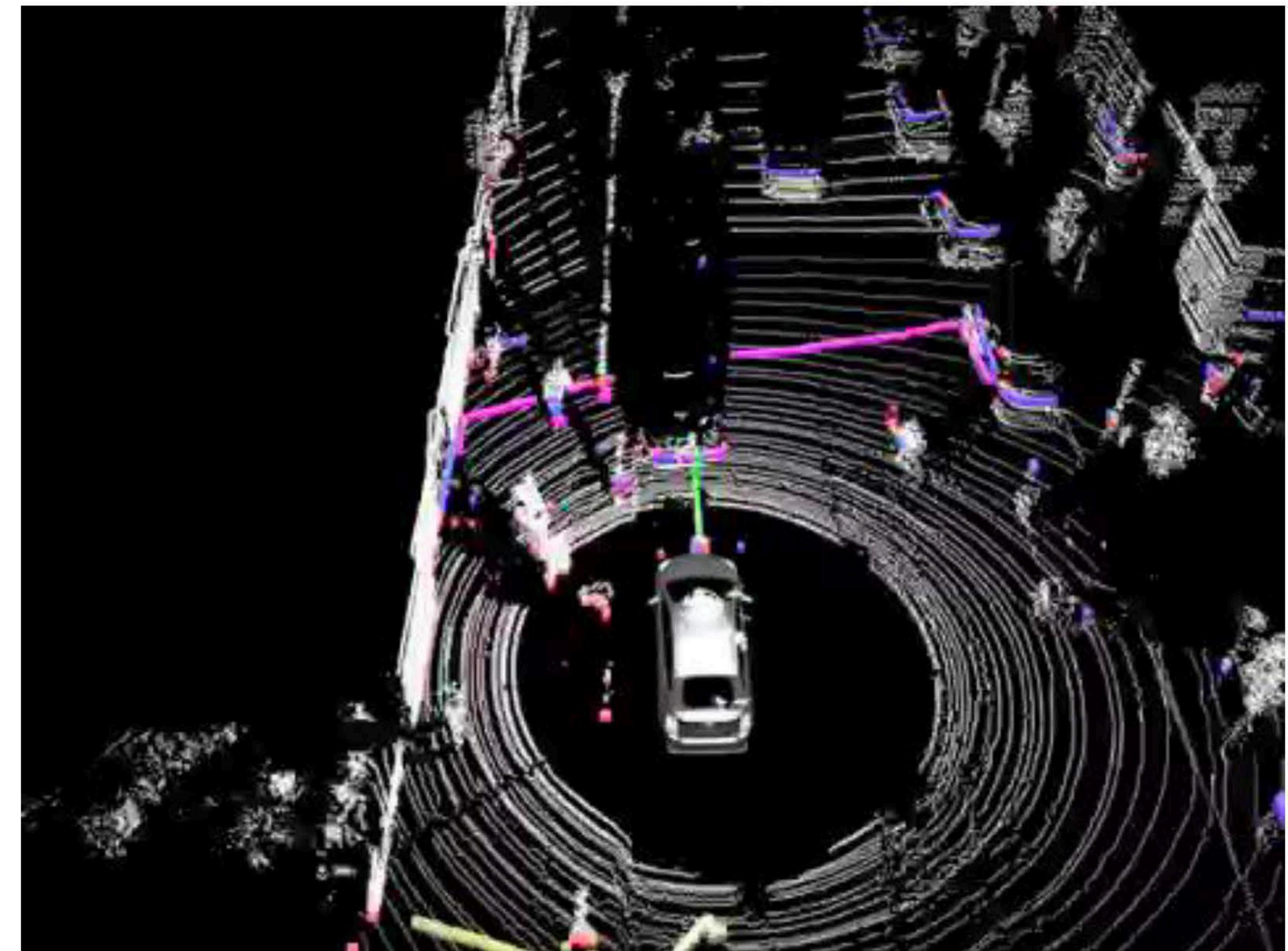
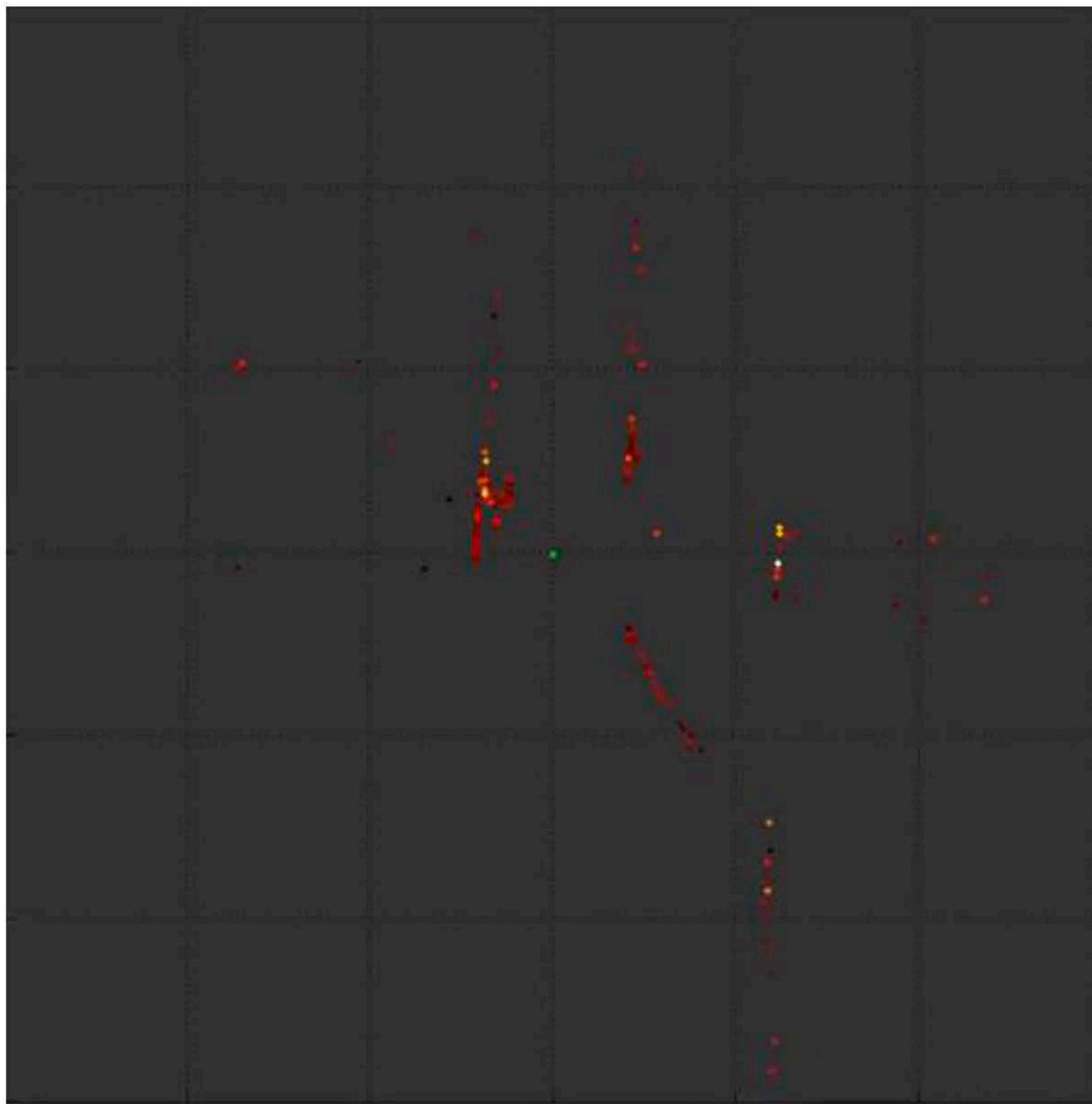
LIDAR



- Expensive
- Extremely accurate depth information
- Resolution much higher than radar
- 360 degrees of visibility



Resolution: LIDAR vs Radar

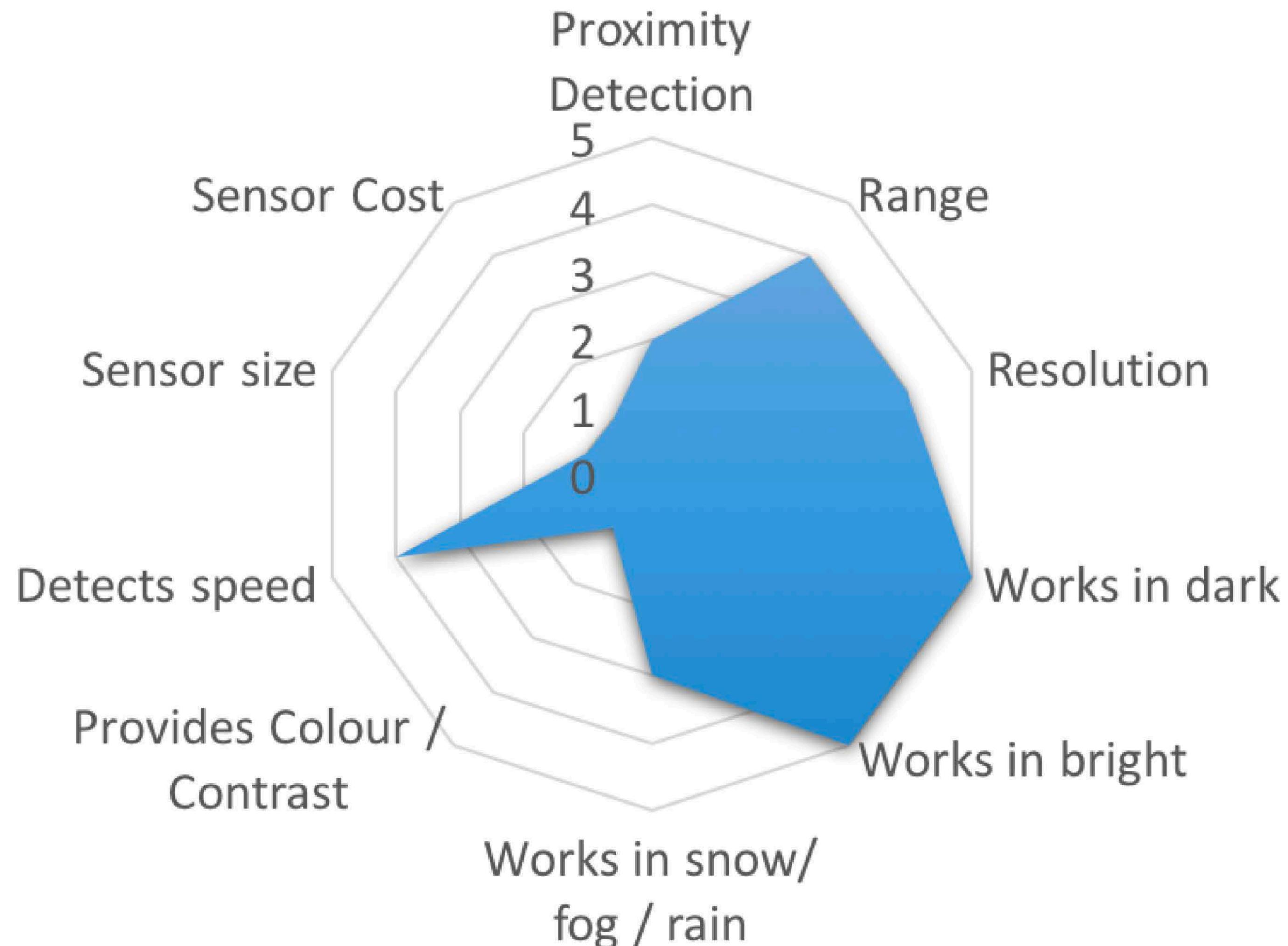


Camera

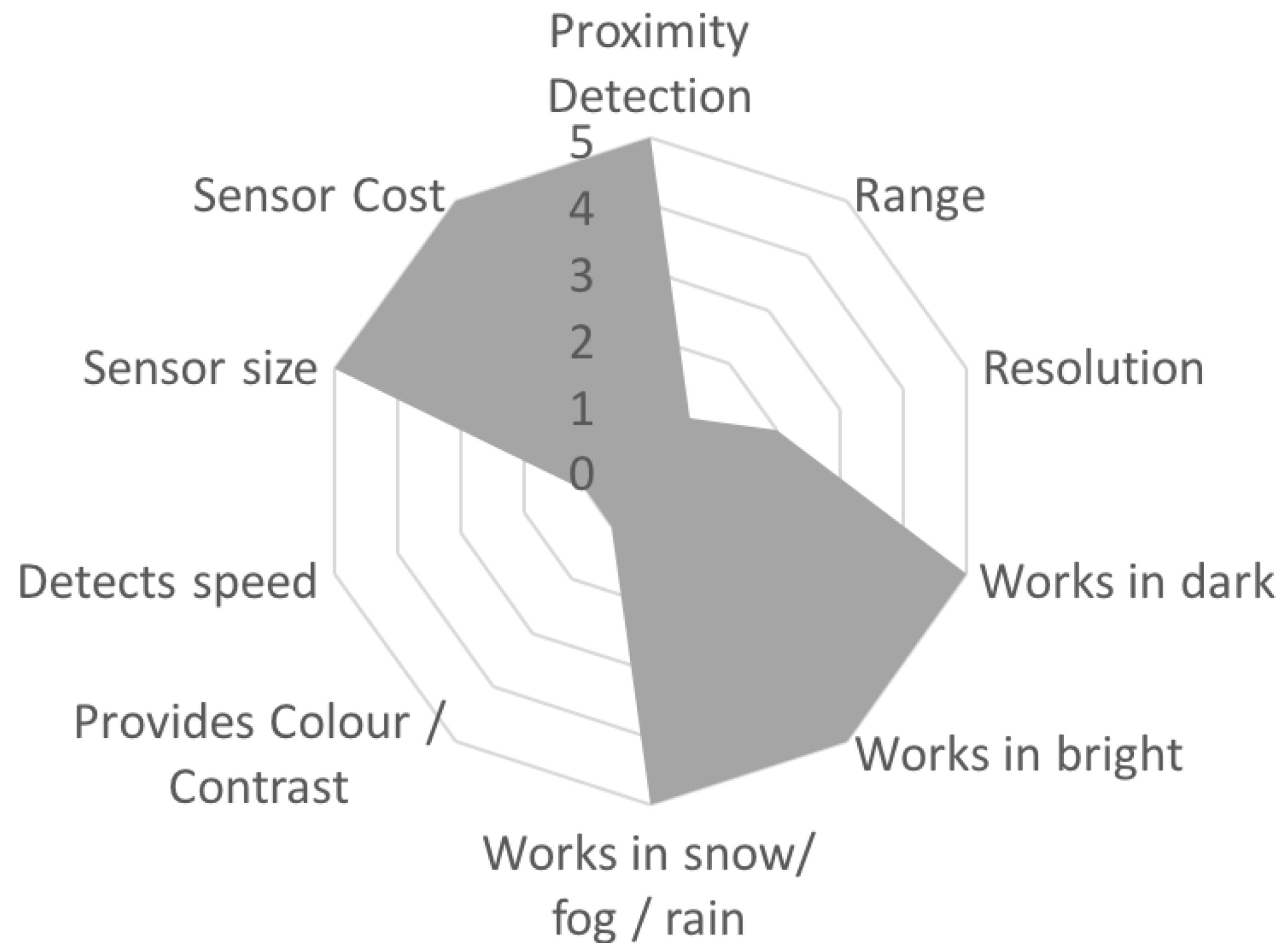
- Cheap
- Highest resolution
- Huge data = deep learning
- Human brains use similar sensor technology for driving
- Bad at depth estimation
- Not good in extreme weather



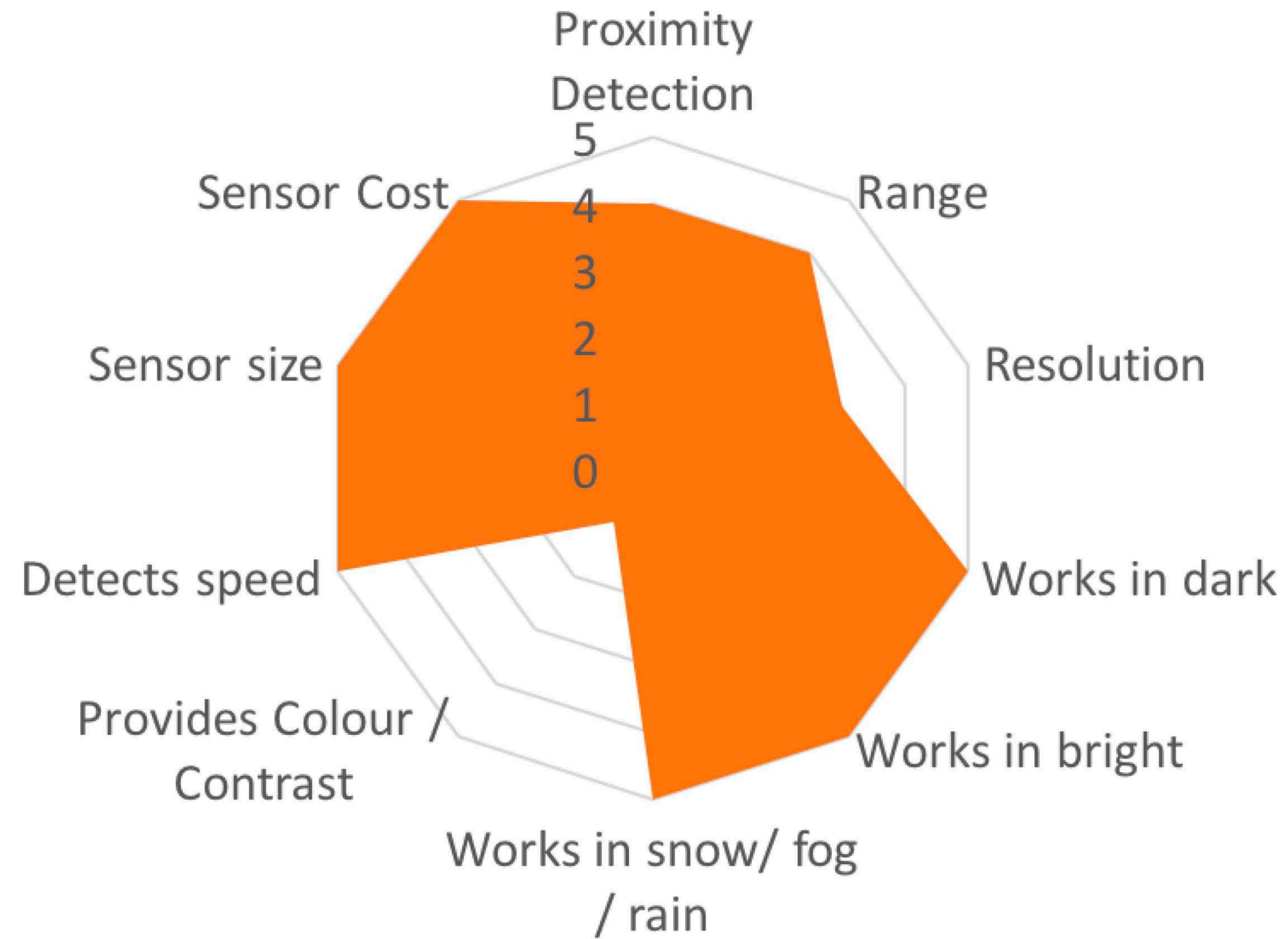
Lidar



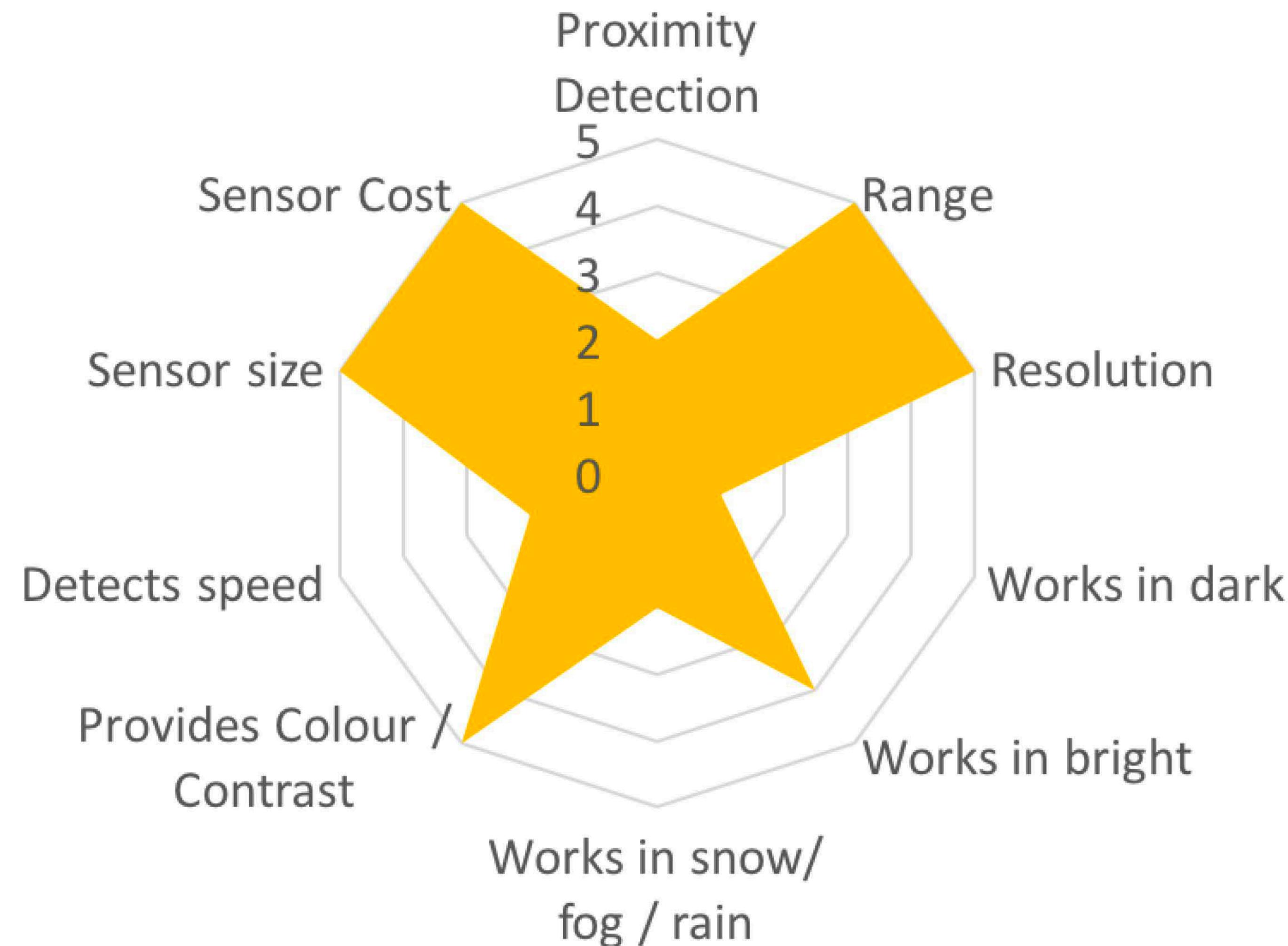
Ultrasonic



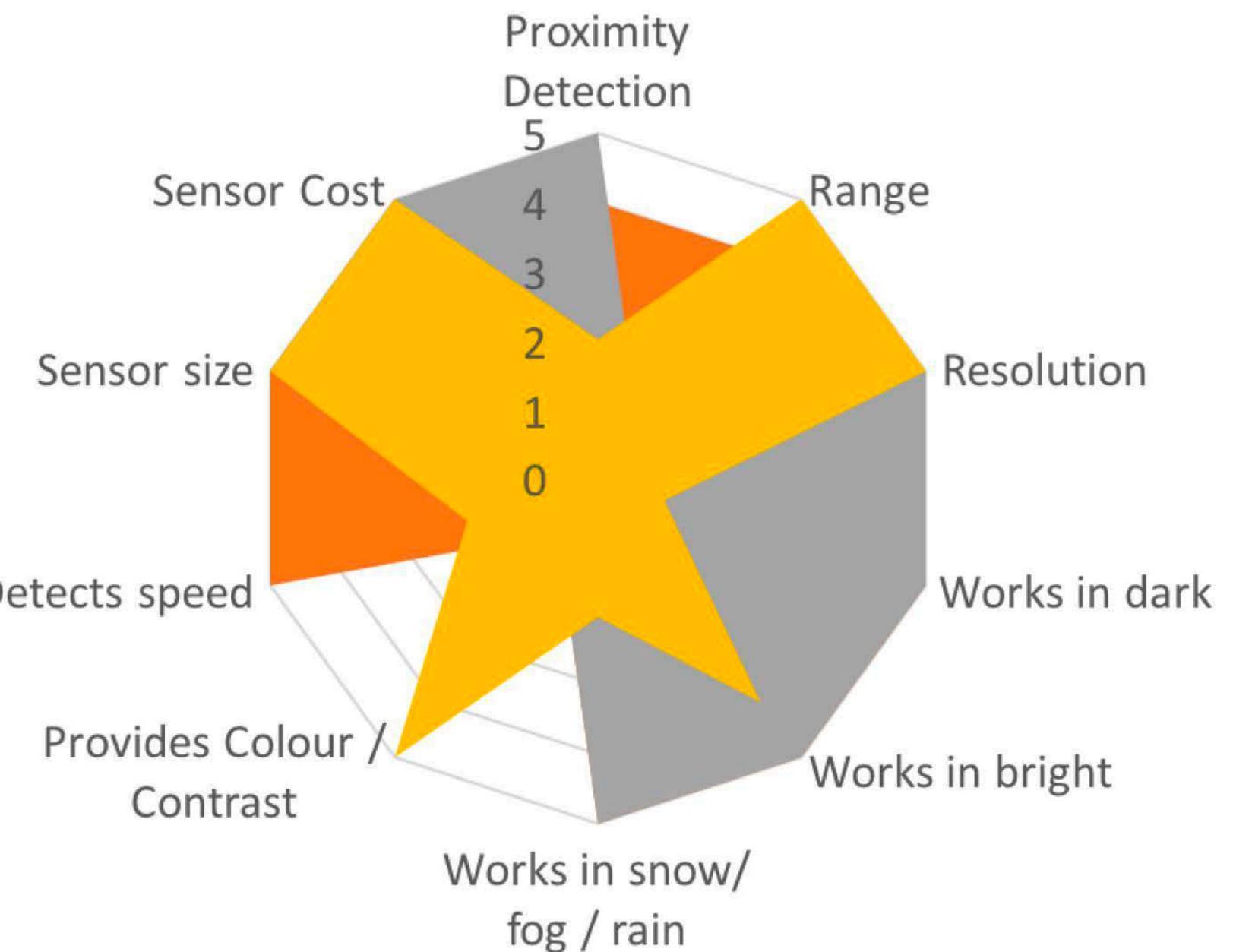
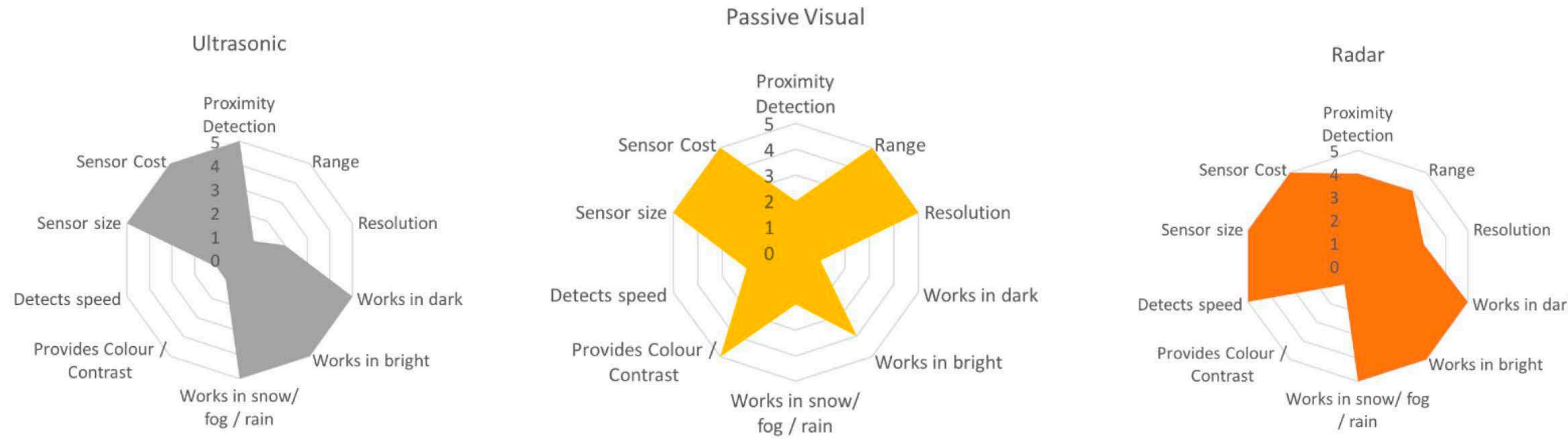
Radar



Passive Visual

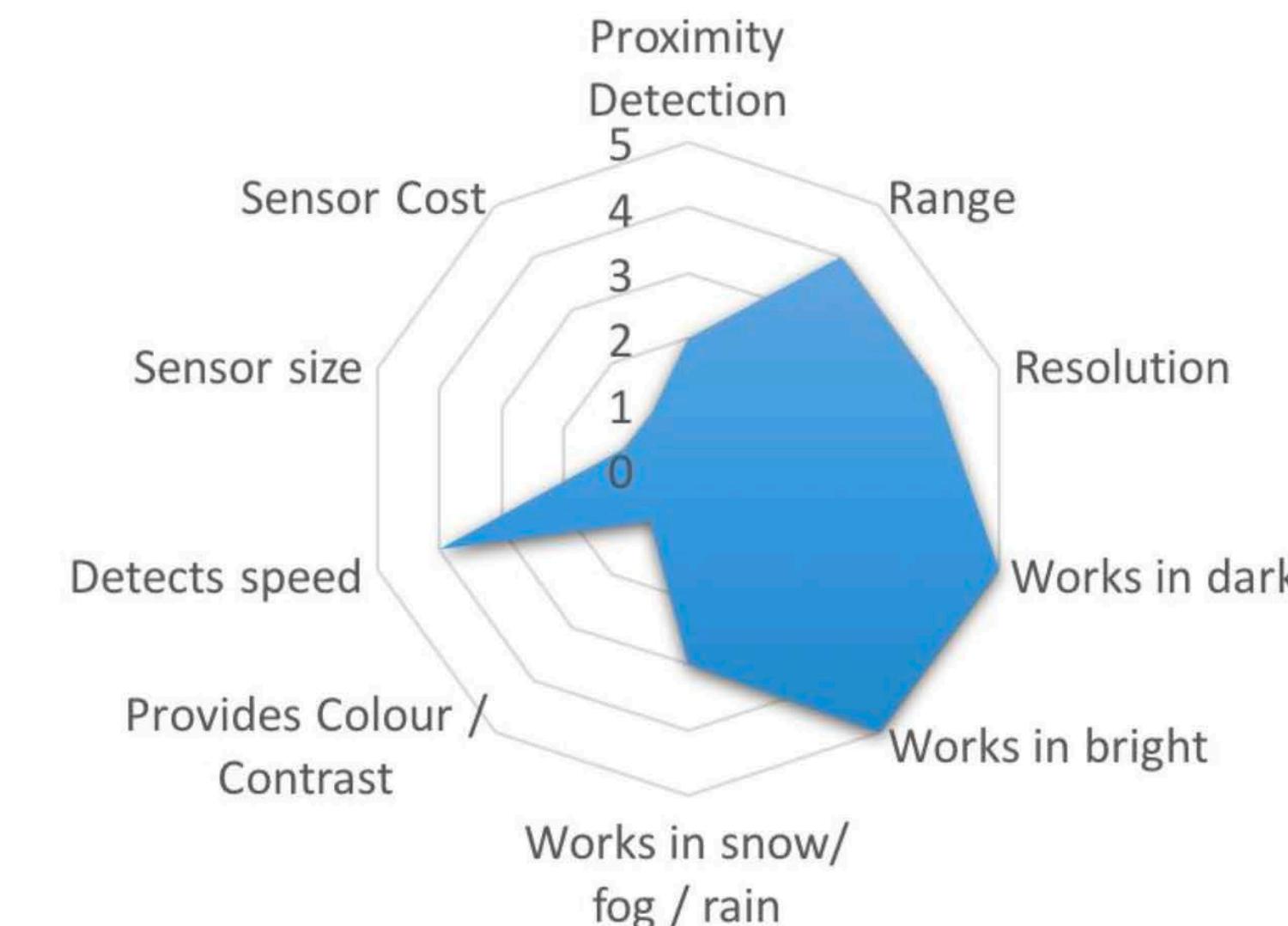
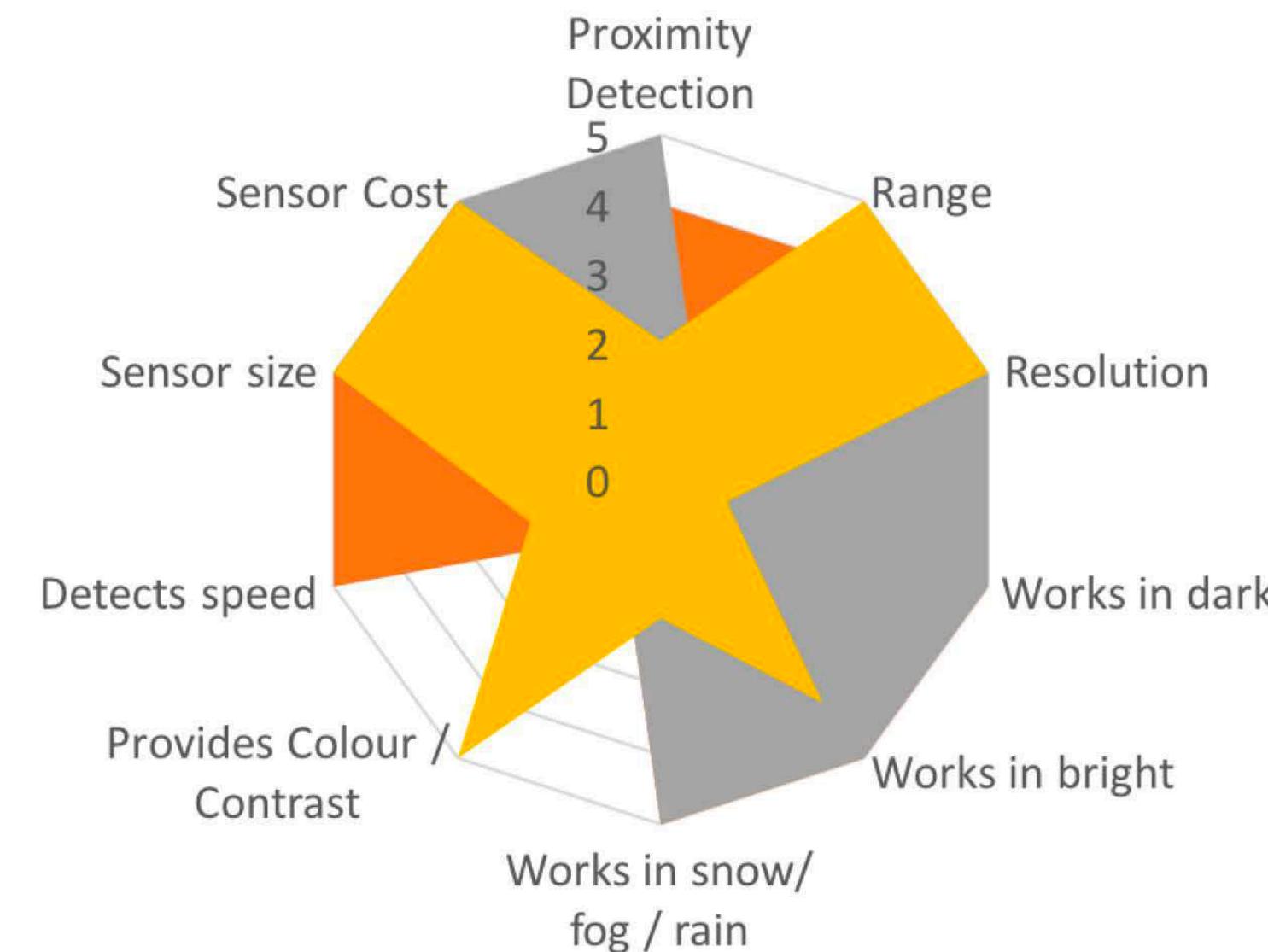


Sensor Fusion

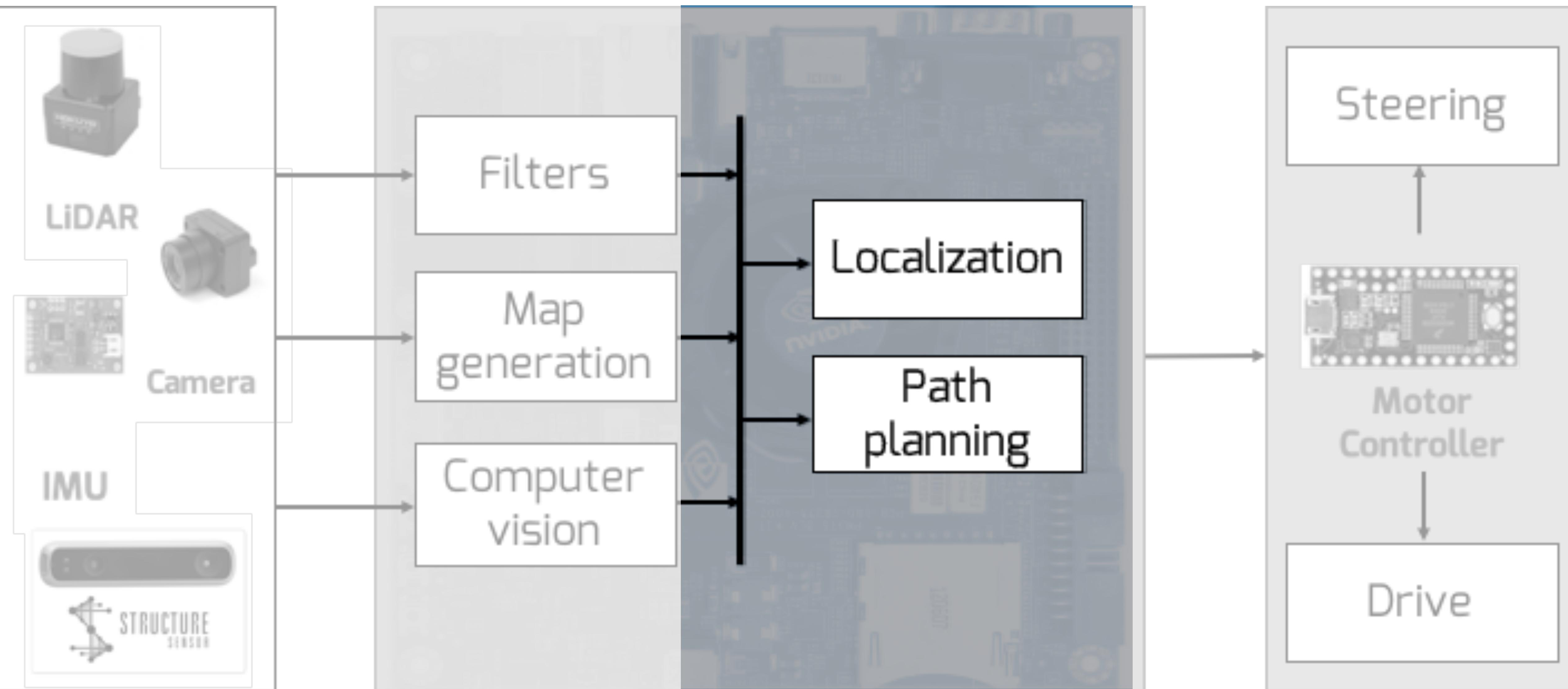


Future of Sensor Technology: Camera vs LIDAR

- **Radar and Ultrasonic:**
 - Always there to help
- **Camera:**
 - Annotated driving data grows
 - Deep learning algorithms improve
- **LIDAR:**
 - Range increases
 - Cost drops (solid-state LIDAR)

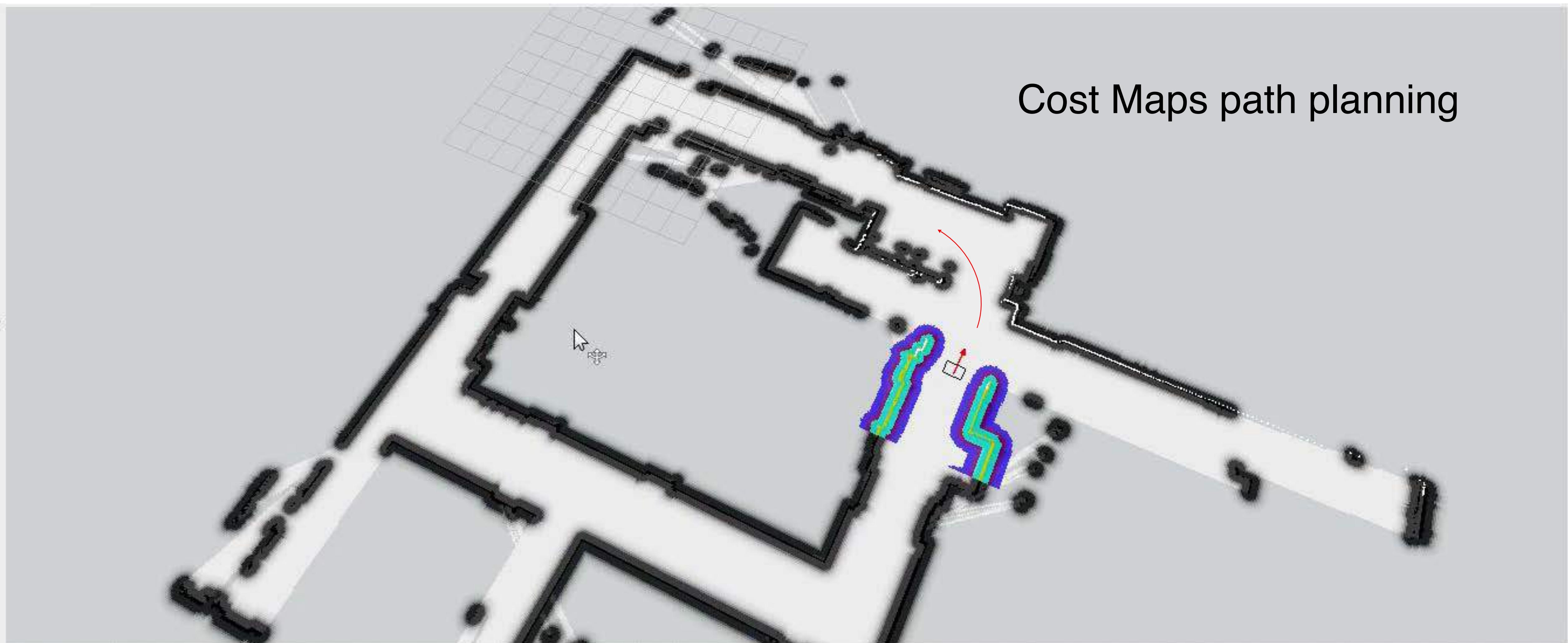


Planning



Planning

Cost Maps path planning



Time

ROS Time: 1453072851.57

ROS Elapsed: 30.29

Wall Time: 1454341978.42

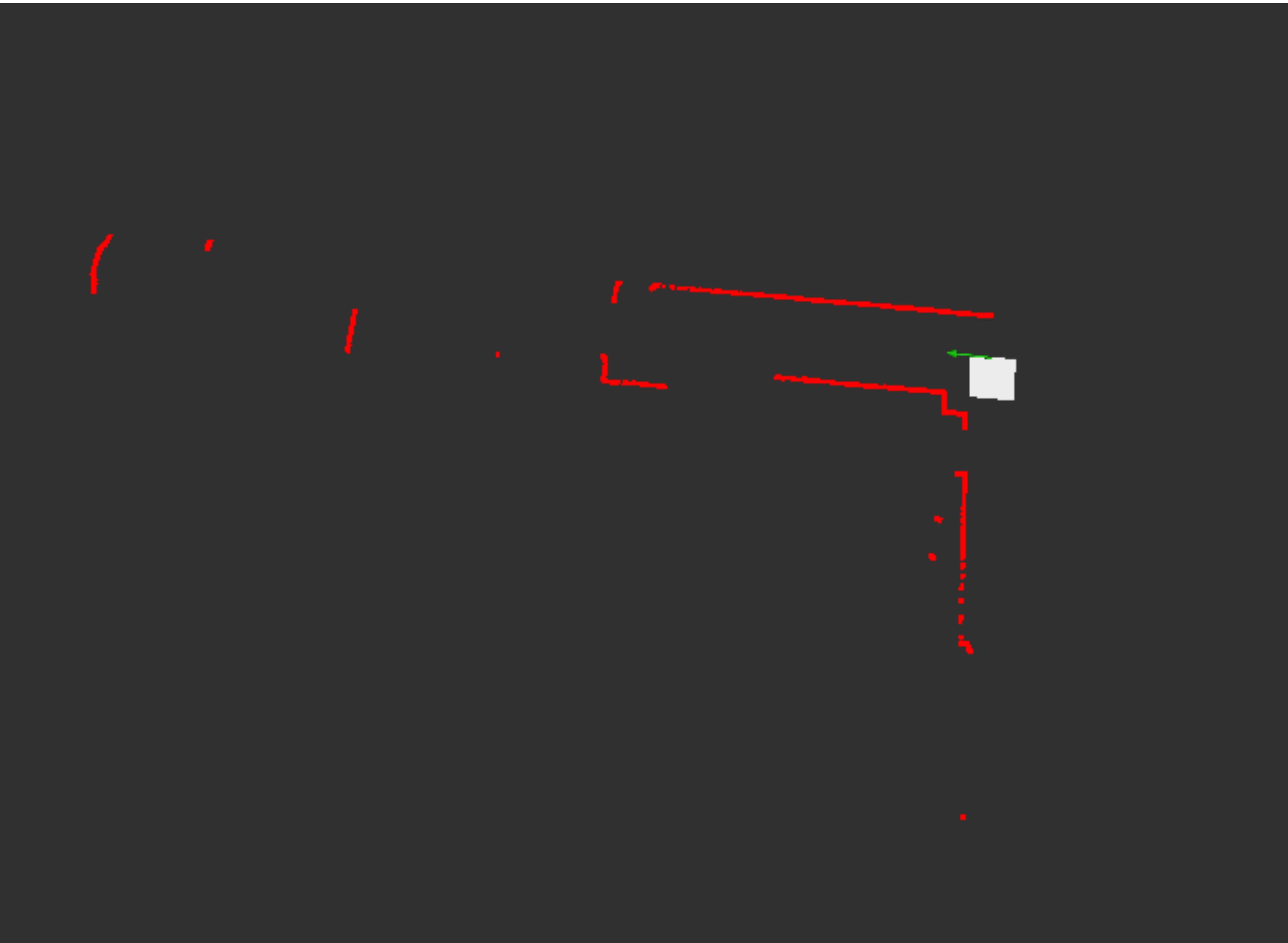
Wall Elapsed: 68.81

Experimental

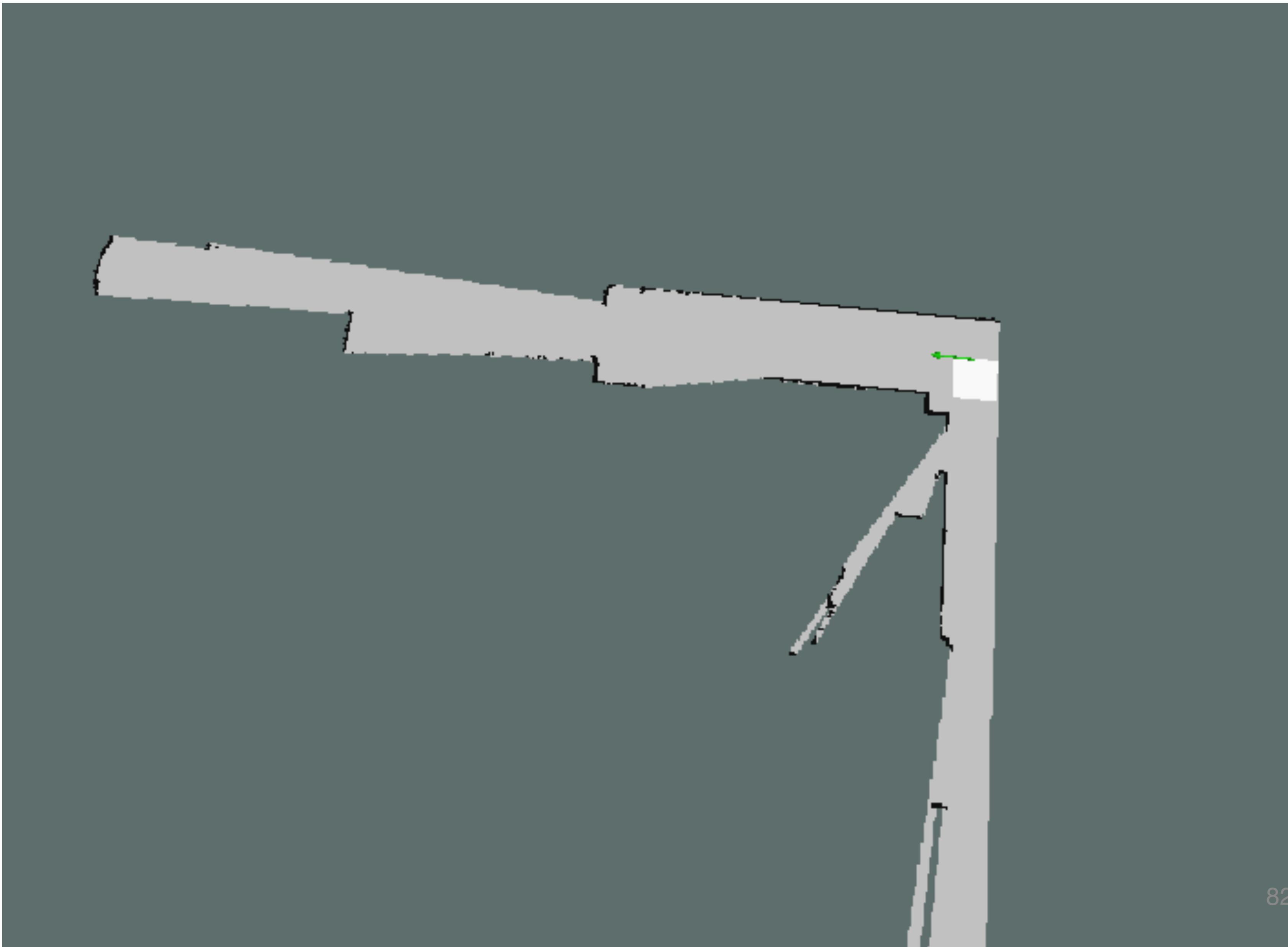
Reset Left-Click: Rotate. Middle-Click: Move X/Y. Right-Click: Move Z. Shift: More options.

30 fps

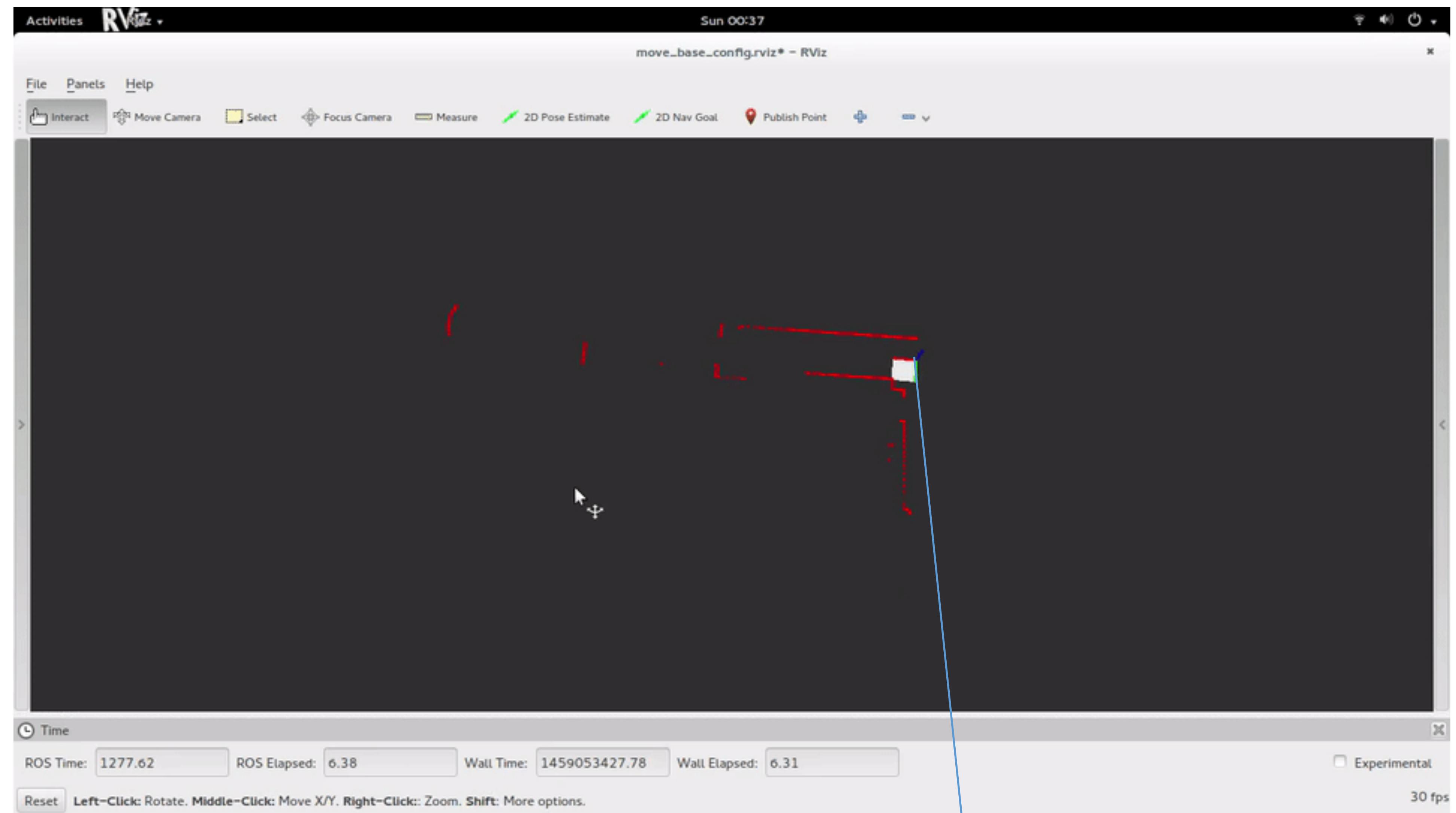
Registering a LIDAR Scan



Registering a LIDAR Scan



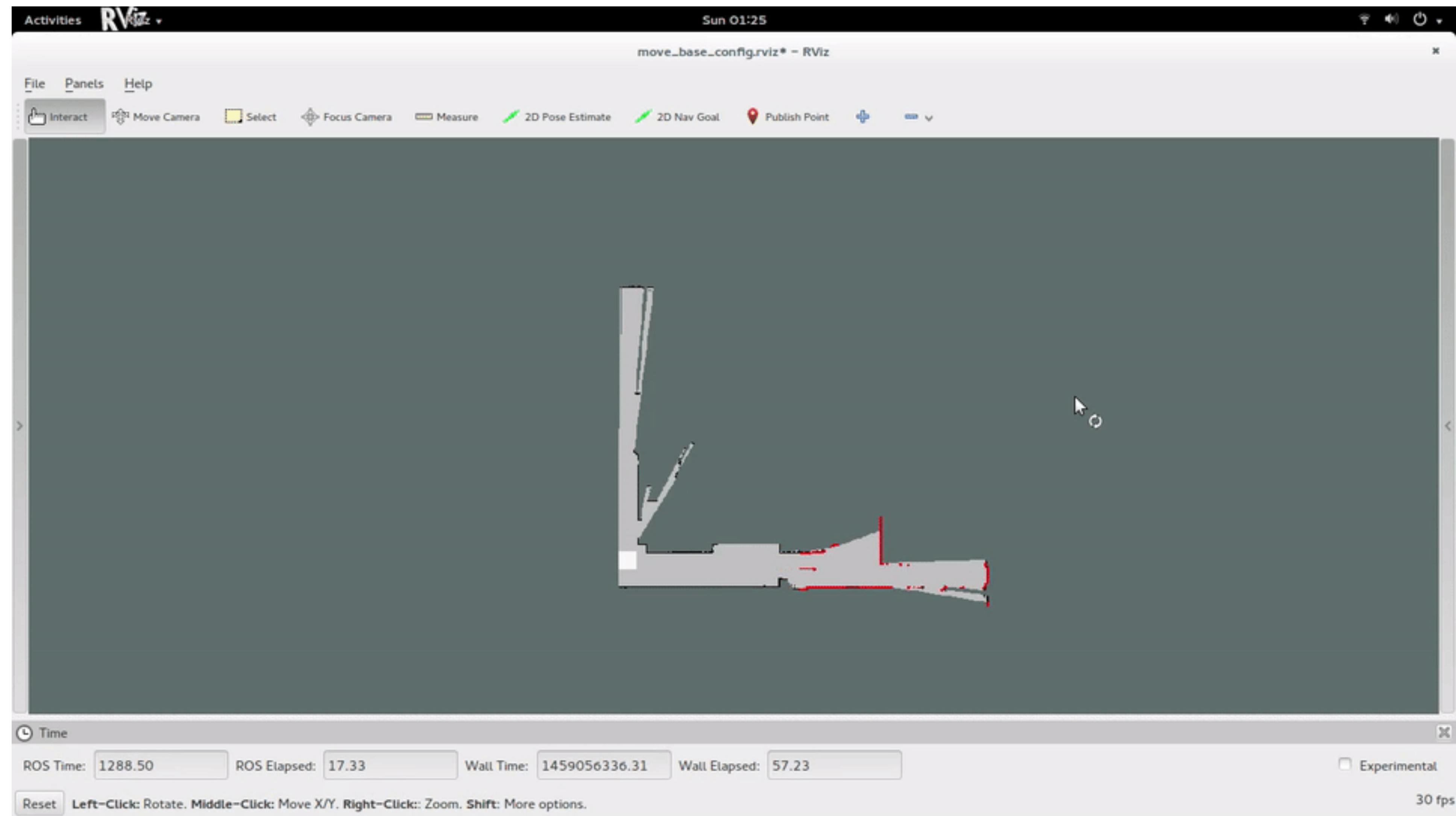
What the car sees..

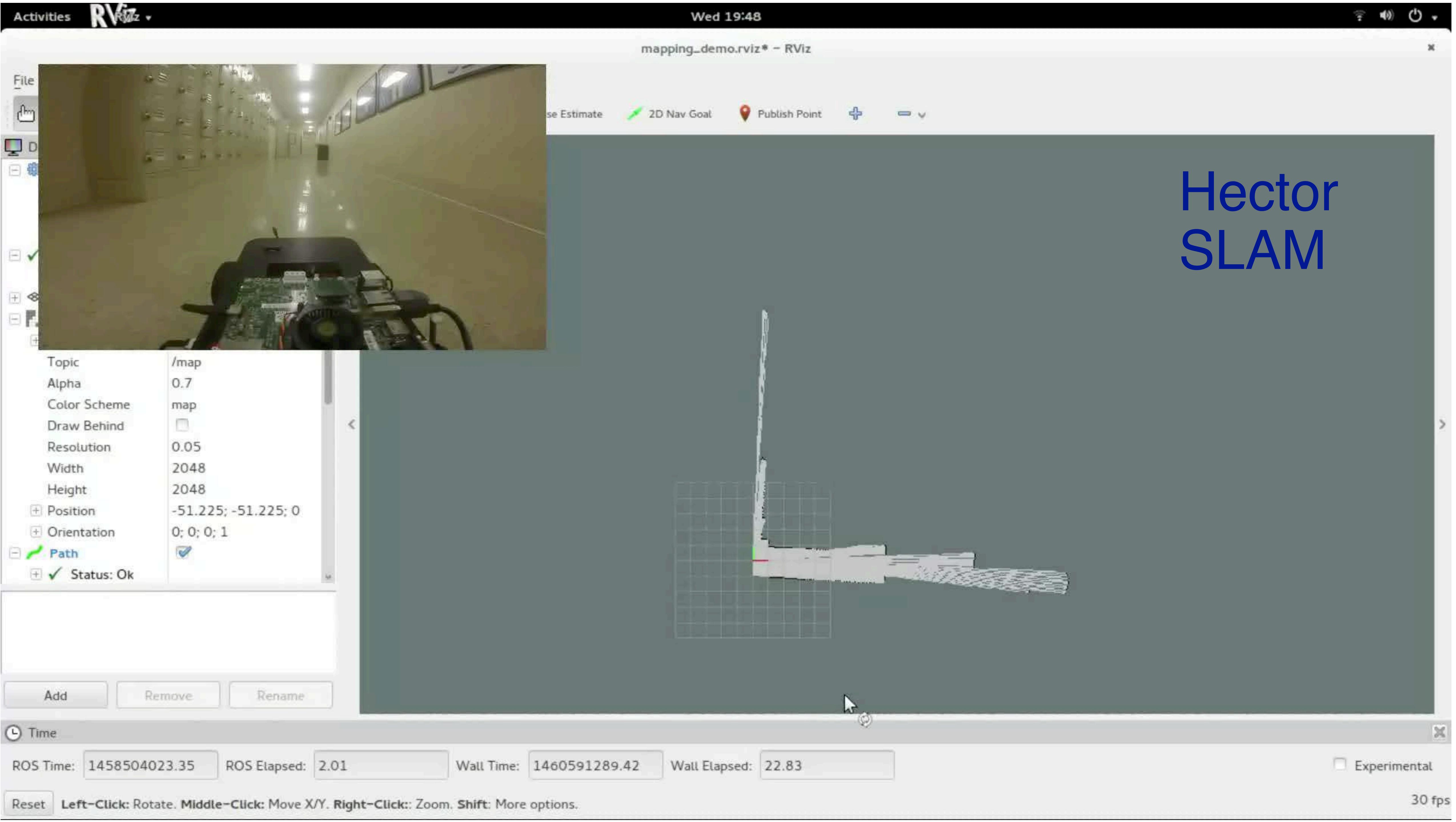


Baseframe Axes

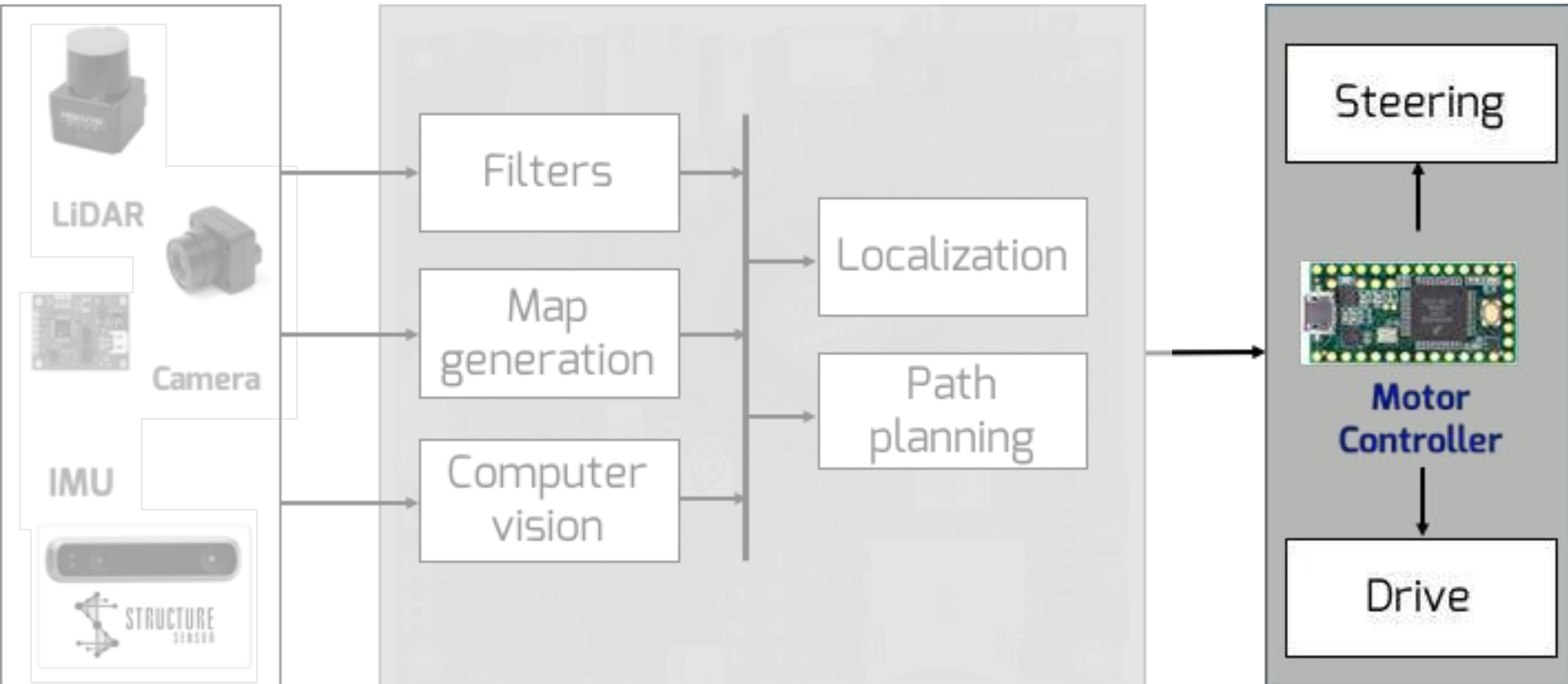
83

What can we infer..





Control



Control

Proportional, Integral, Derivative control

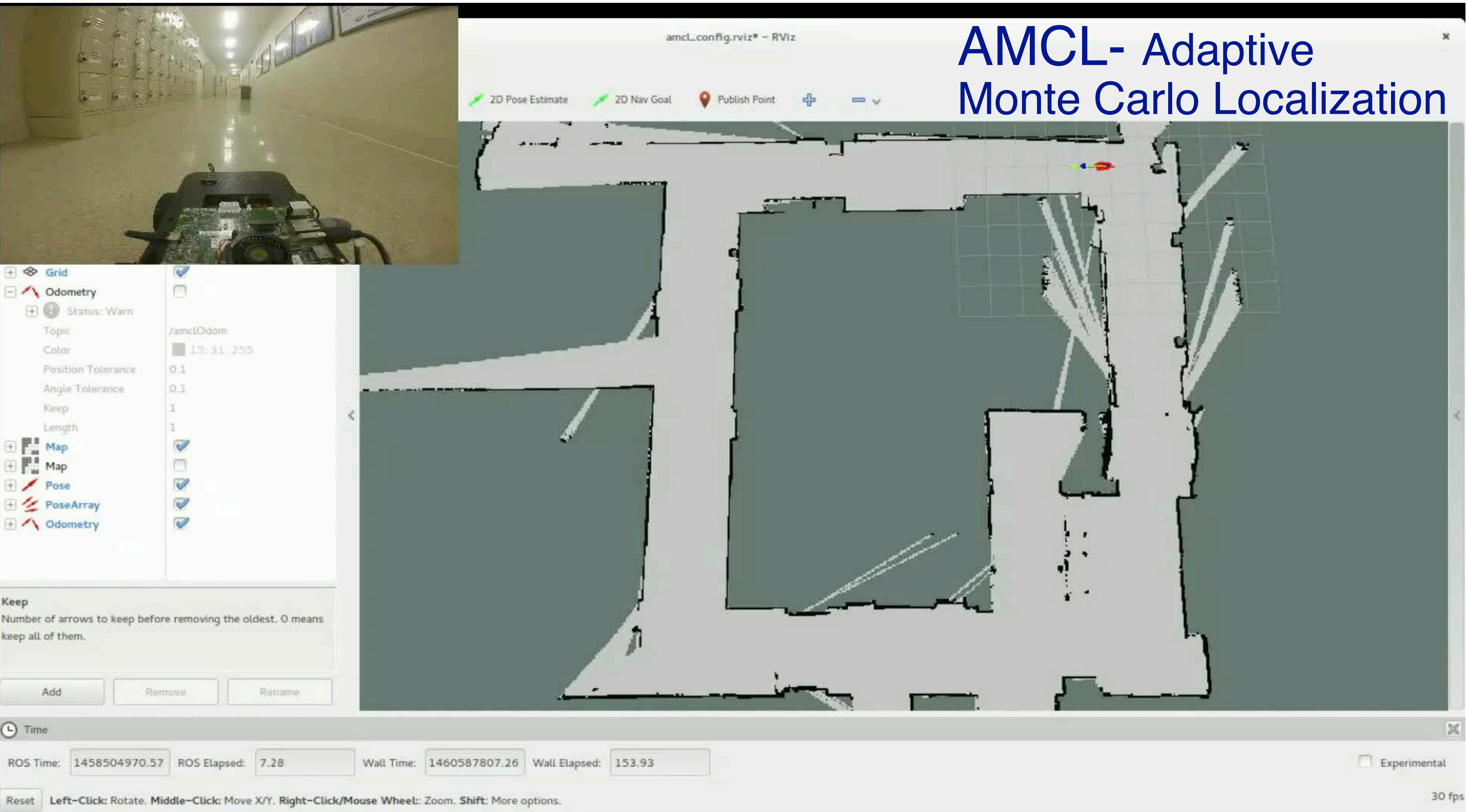
Nominal gains



Smaller K_p

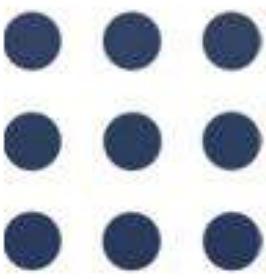


AMCL- Adaptive Monte Carlo Localization



ROS: Robot Operating System

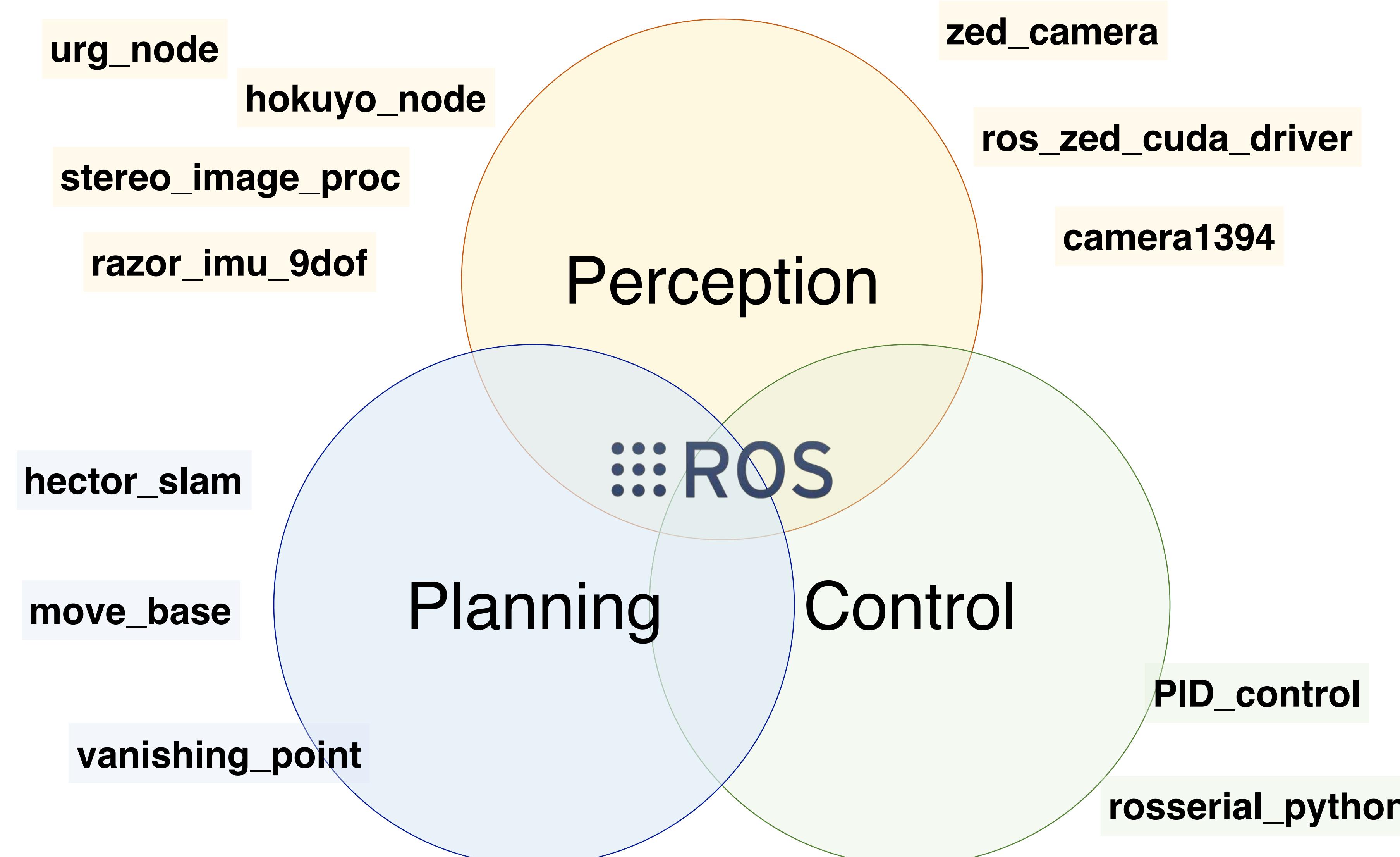
The screenshot shows the official ROS website. At the top left is the ROS logo. To its right are navigation links: About, Why ROS?, Getting Started, Get Involved, and Blog. Below this is a large banner featuring a white PR2 robot against a dark background. On the left side of the banner, there's a dark overlay with the title "What is ROS?" and a brief description of what ROS is. A "Read More" button is visible. On the right side of the banner, there's a snippet of Python code demonstrating ROS message publishing. Below the banner is a horizontal navigation bar with five dots.

 **ROS.org**



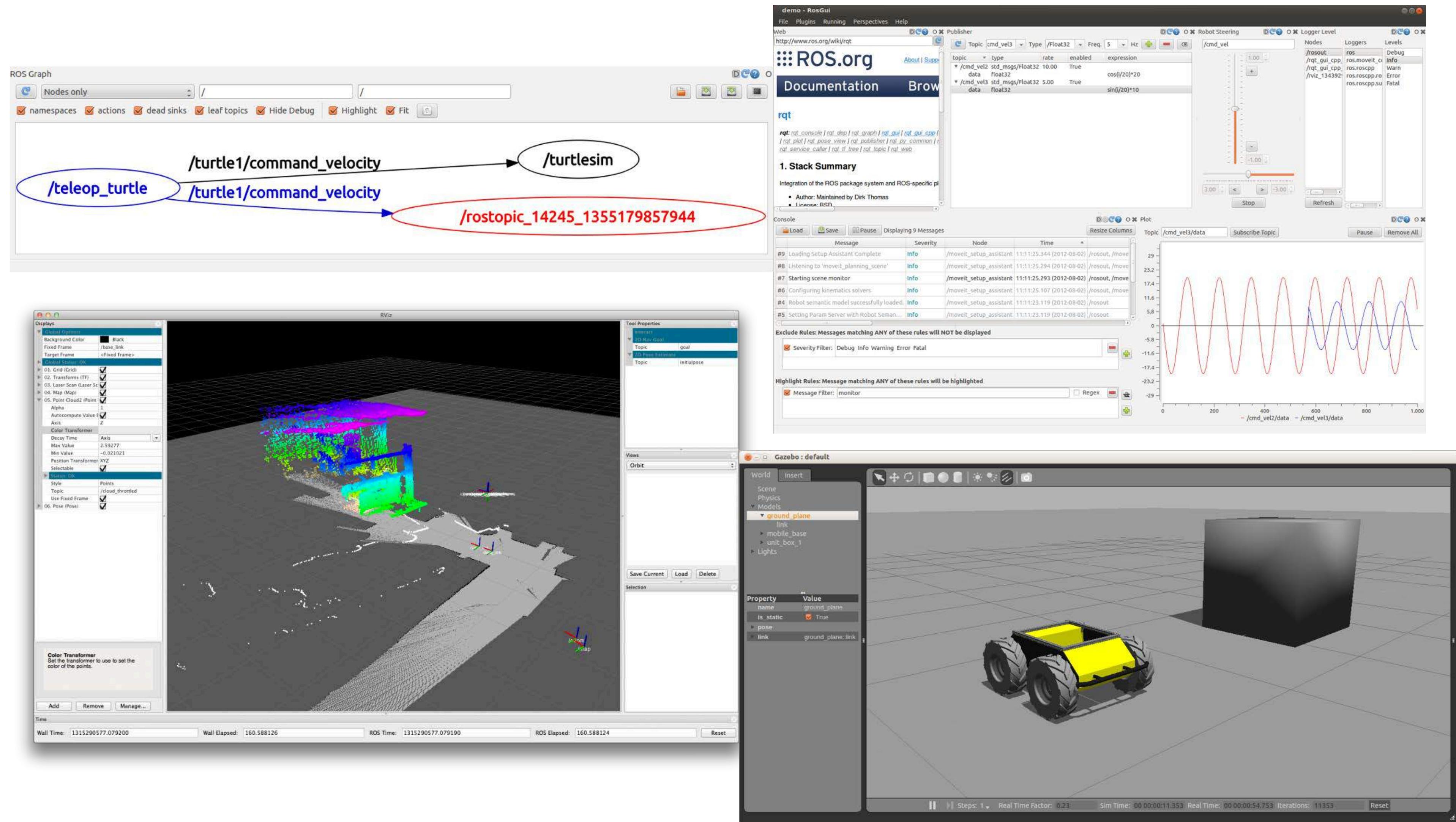
Open Source Robotics Foundation

ROS Capabilities



ROS Tools

Visualization, debugging and diagnostics, logging, and simulation



ROS: Topics

Topics are channels over which nodes exchange messages.

They are for **streaming data**

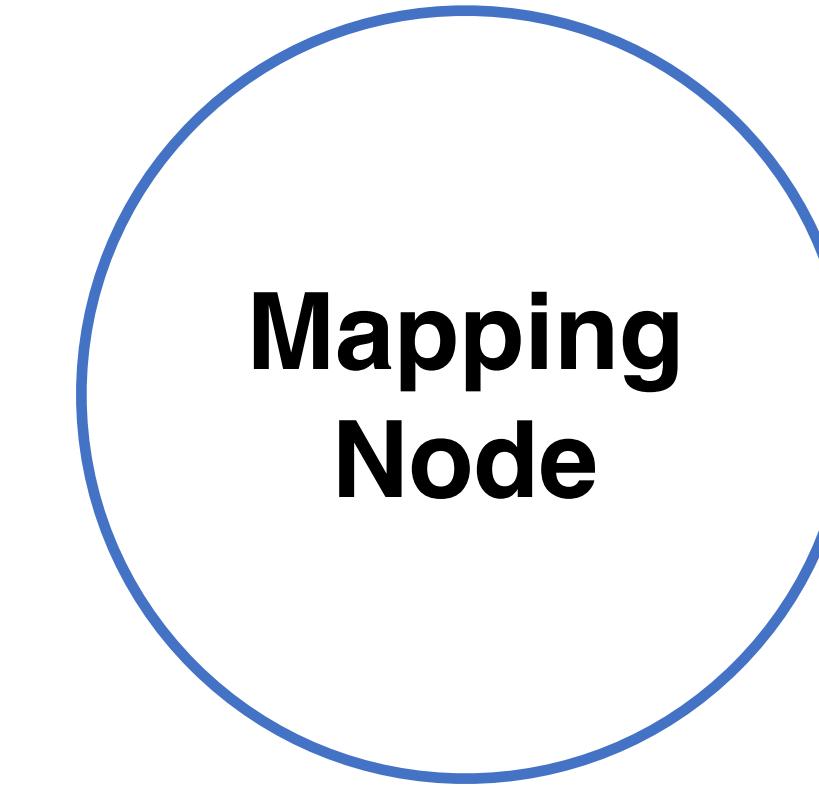


hokuyo_node

Publishes on topic: Scan



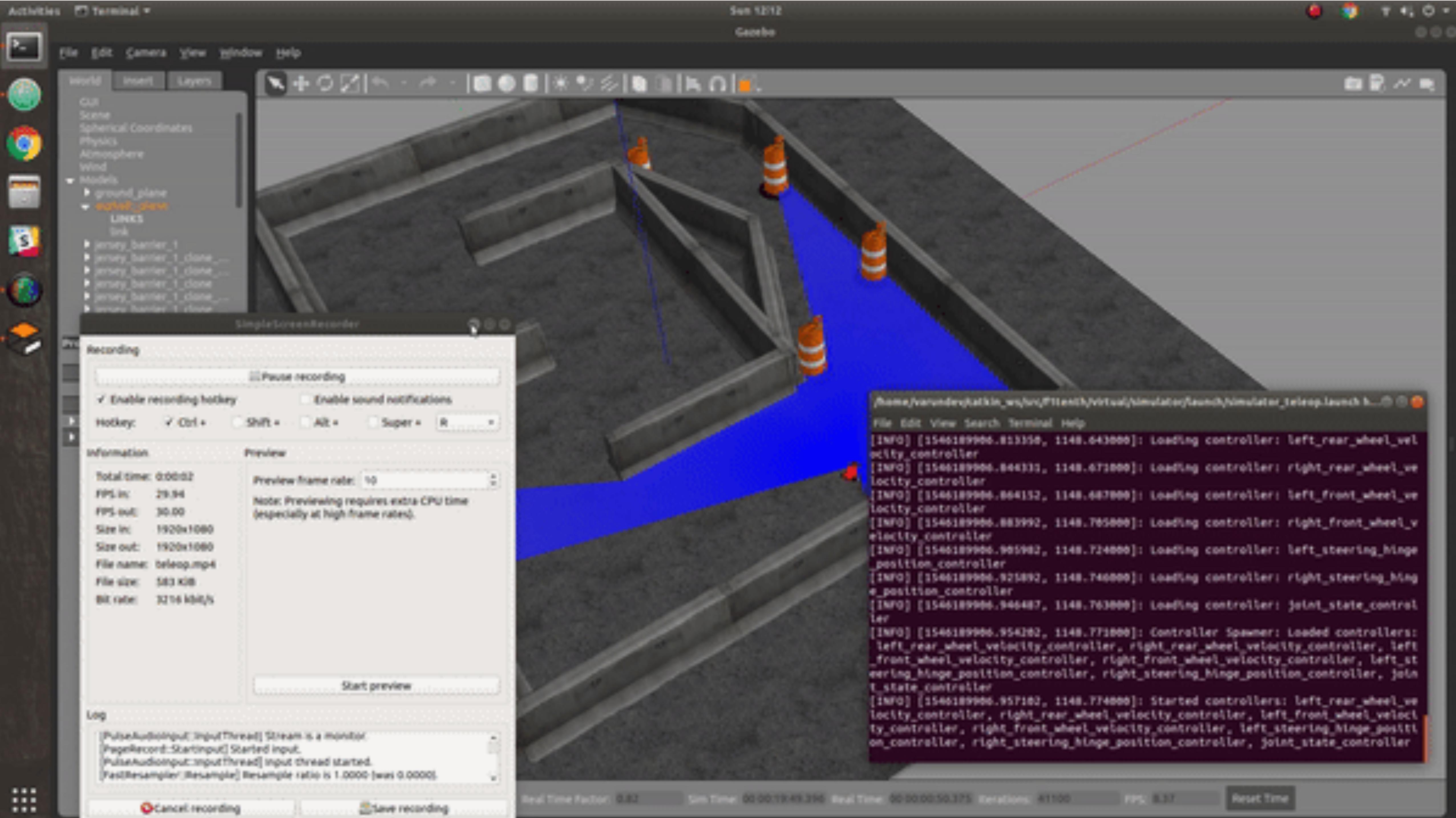
Scan [Topic]

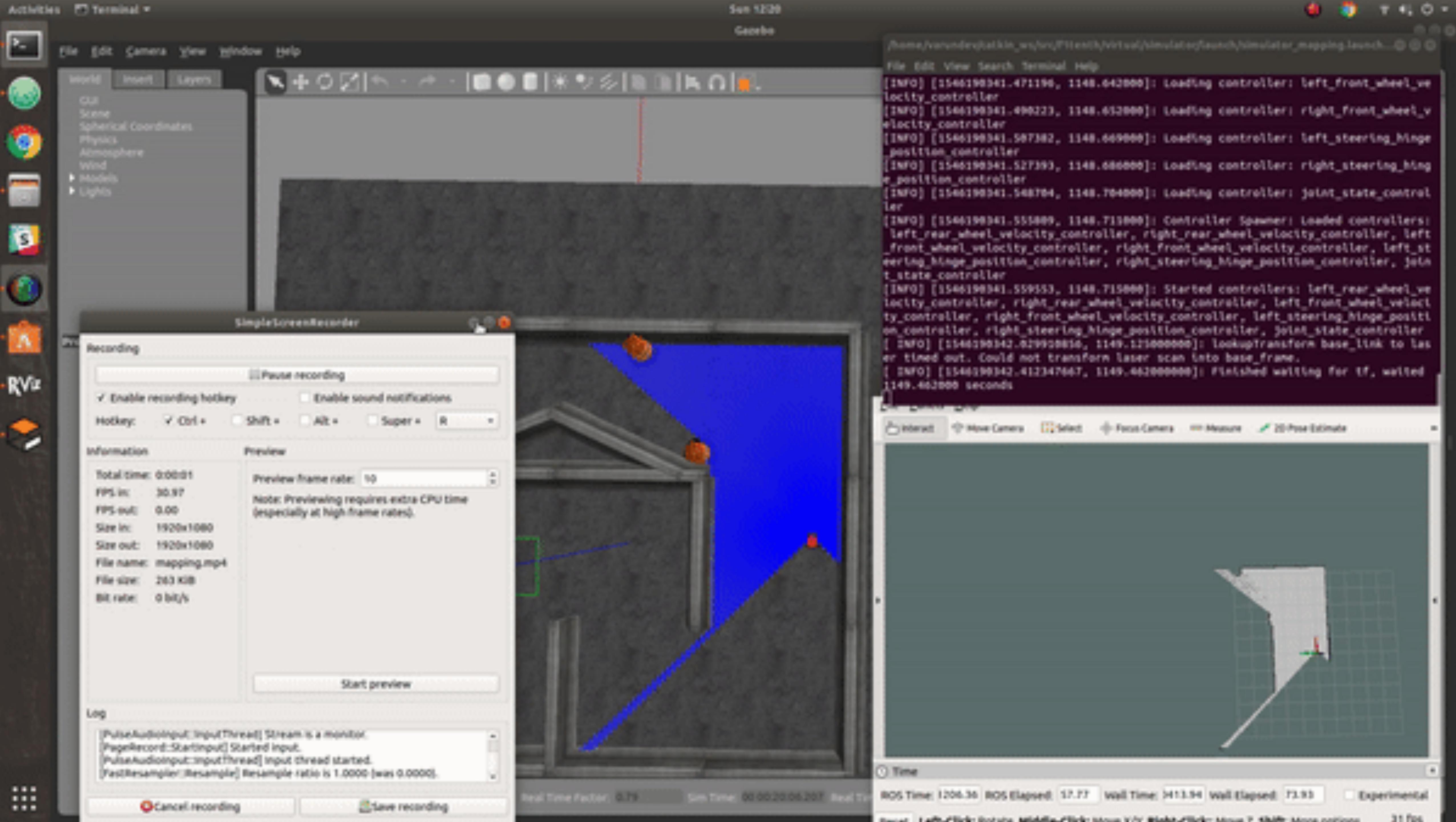


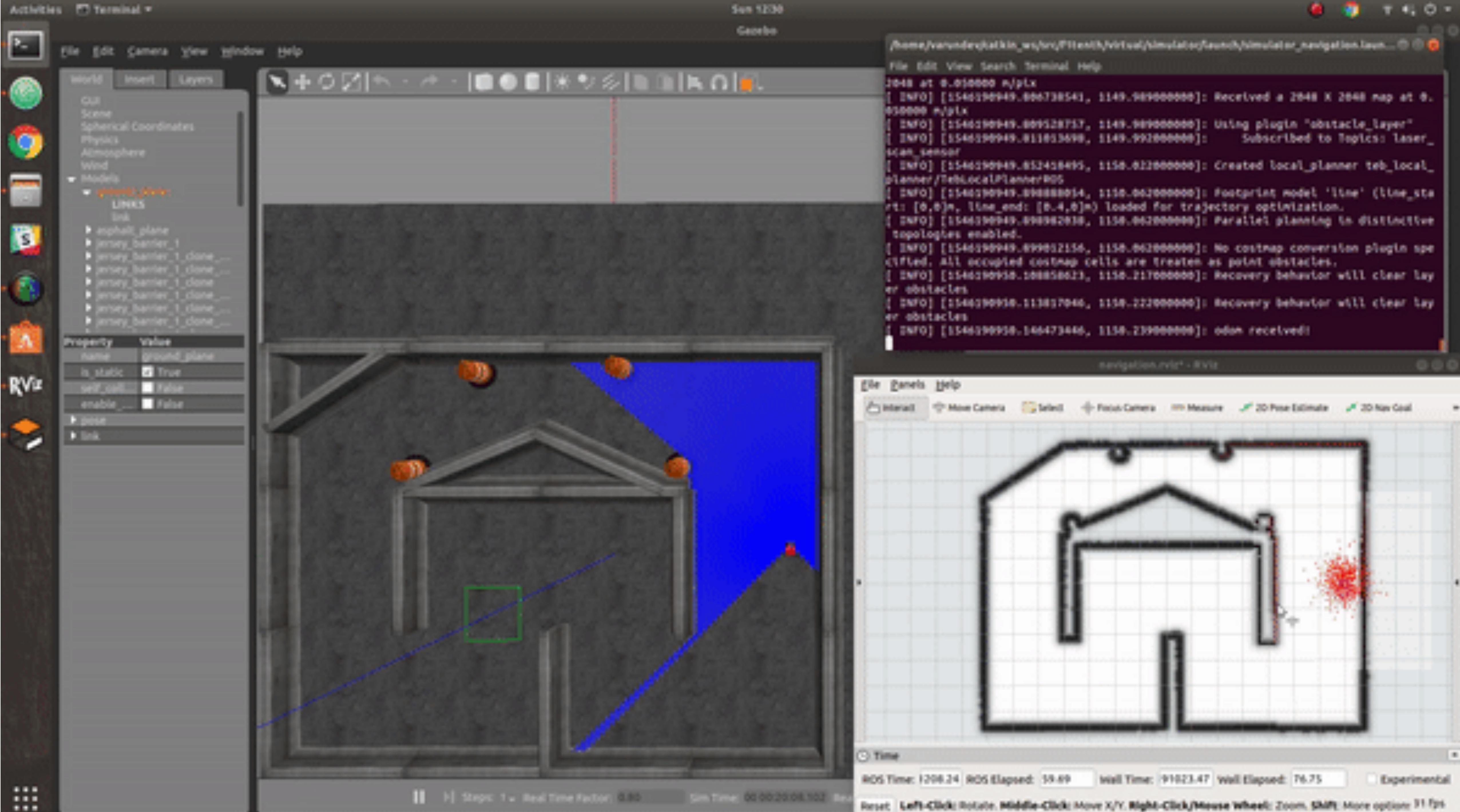
Subscribes to topic: Scan

Publisher Node

Subscriber Node





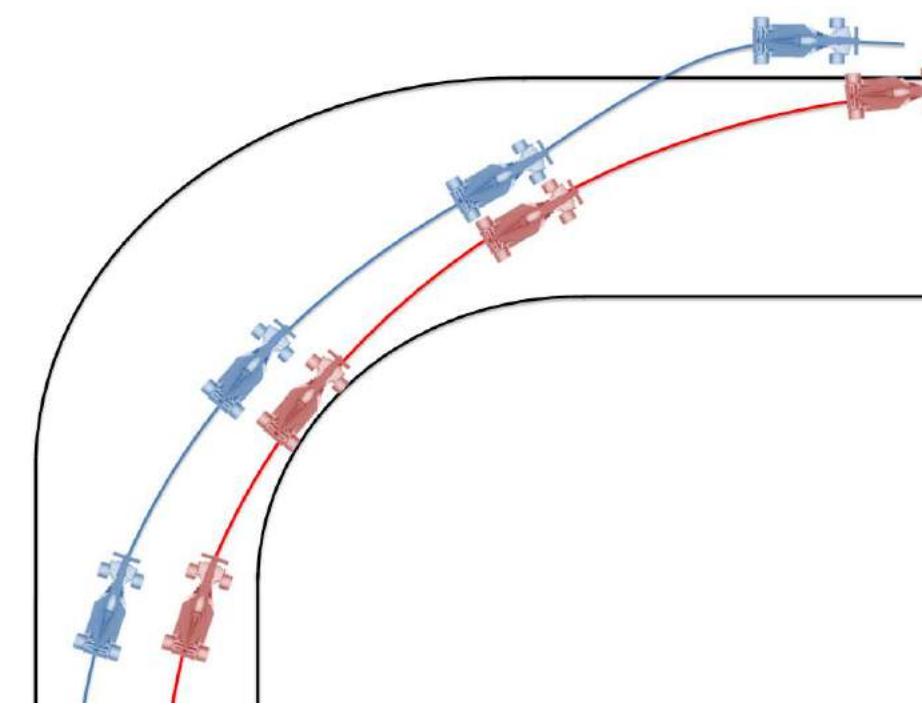
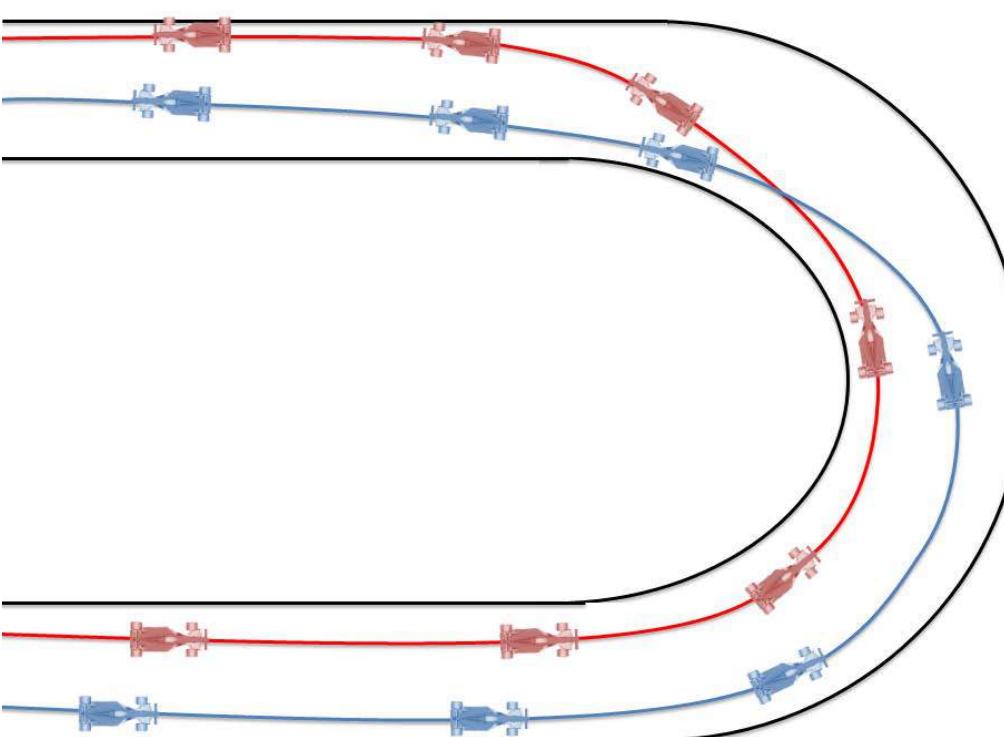
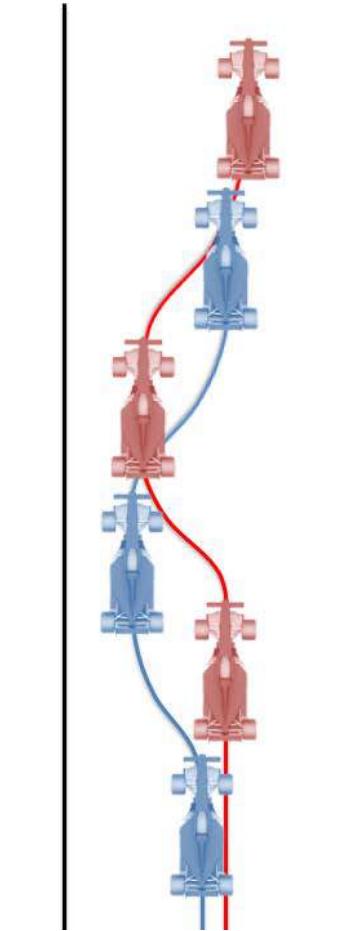
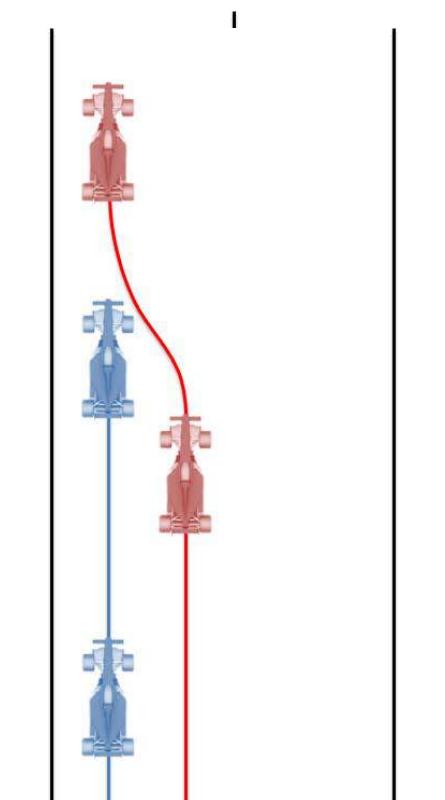
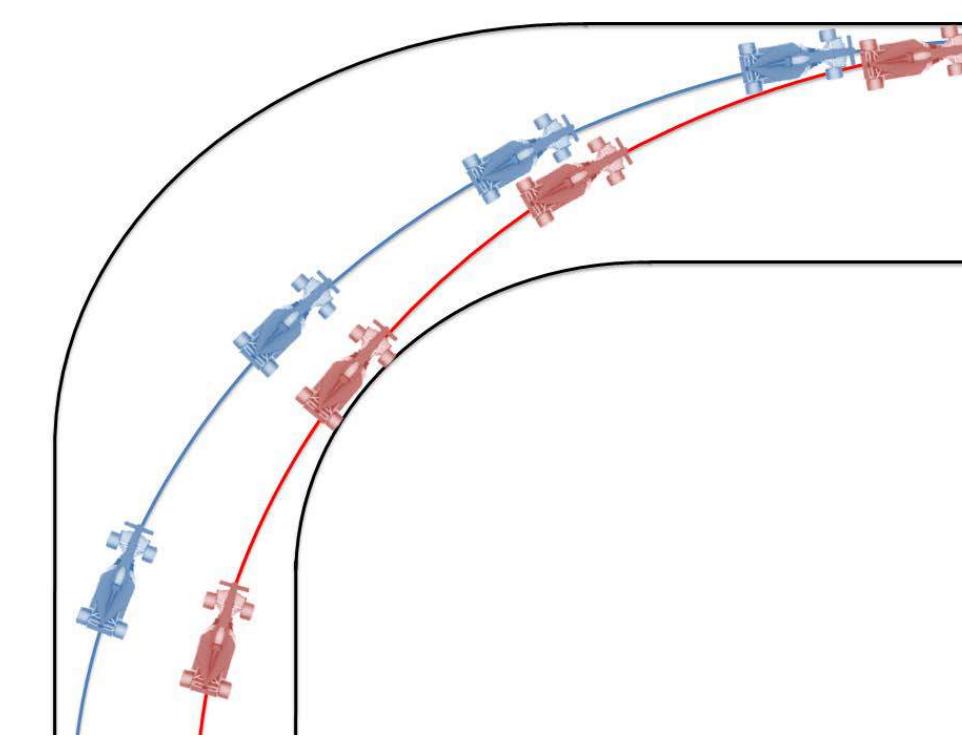
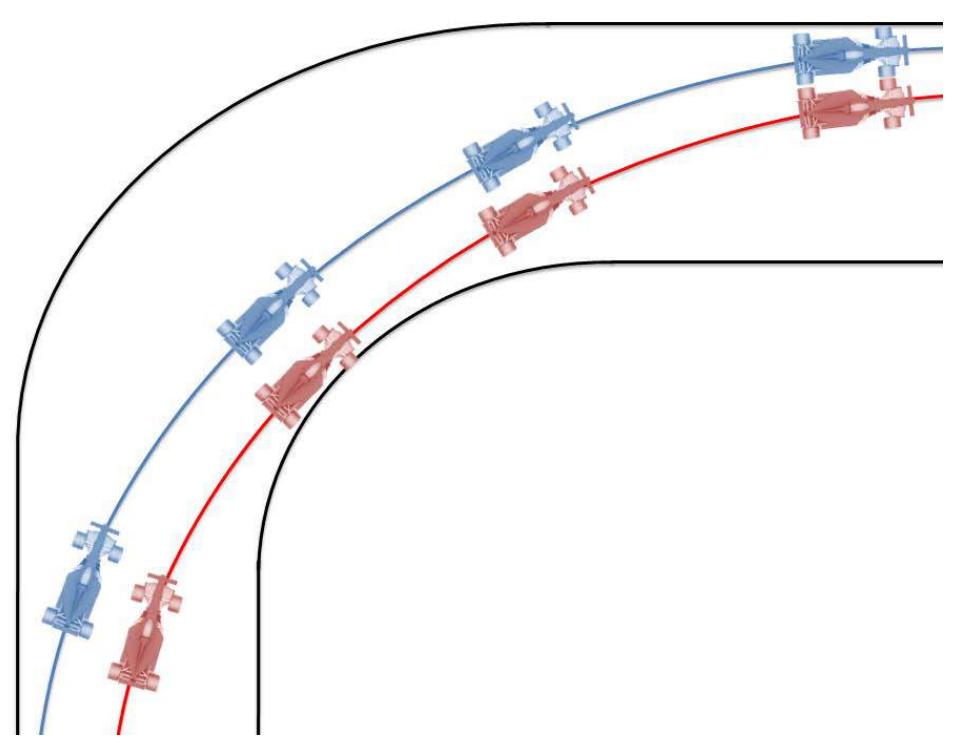


Research

Overtaking
Algorithms ?



Overtaking Algorithms



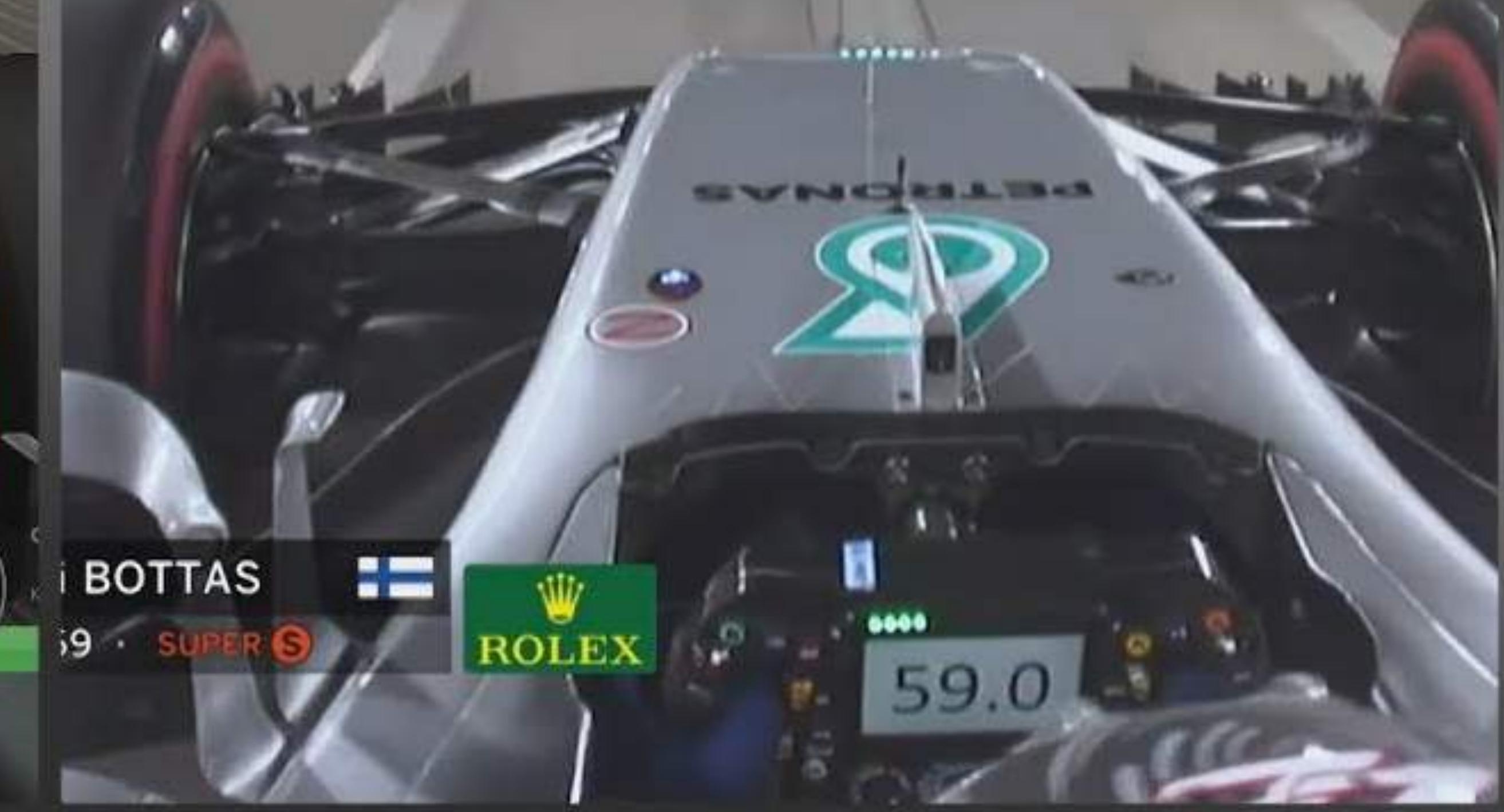
GAME

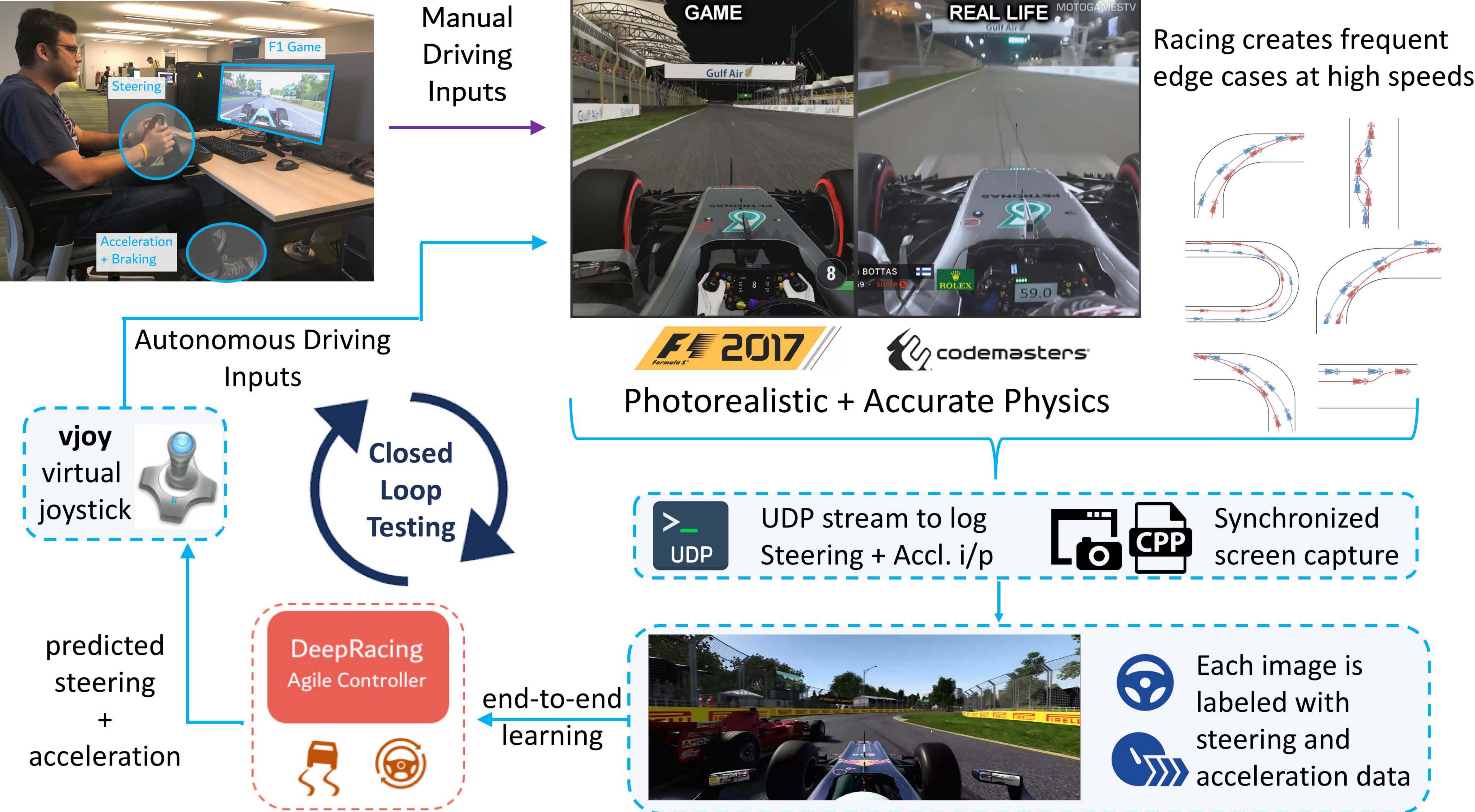


REAL LIFE



MOTOGAMESTV



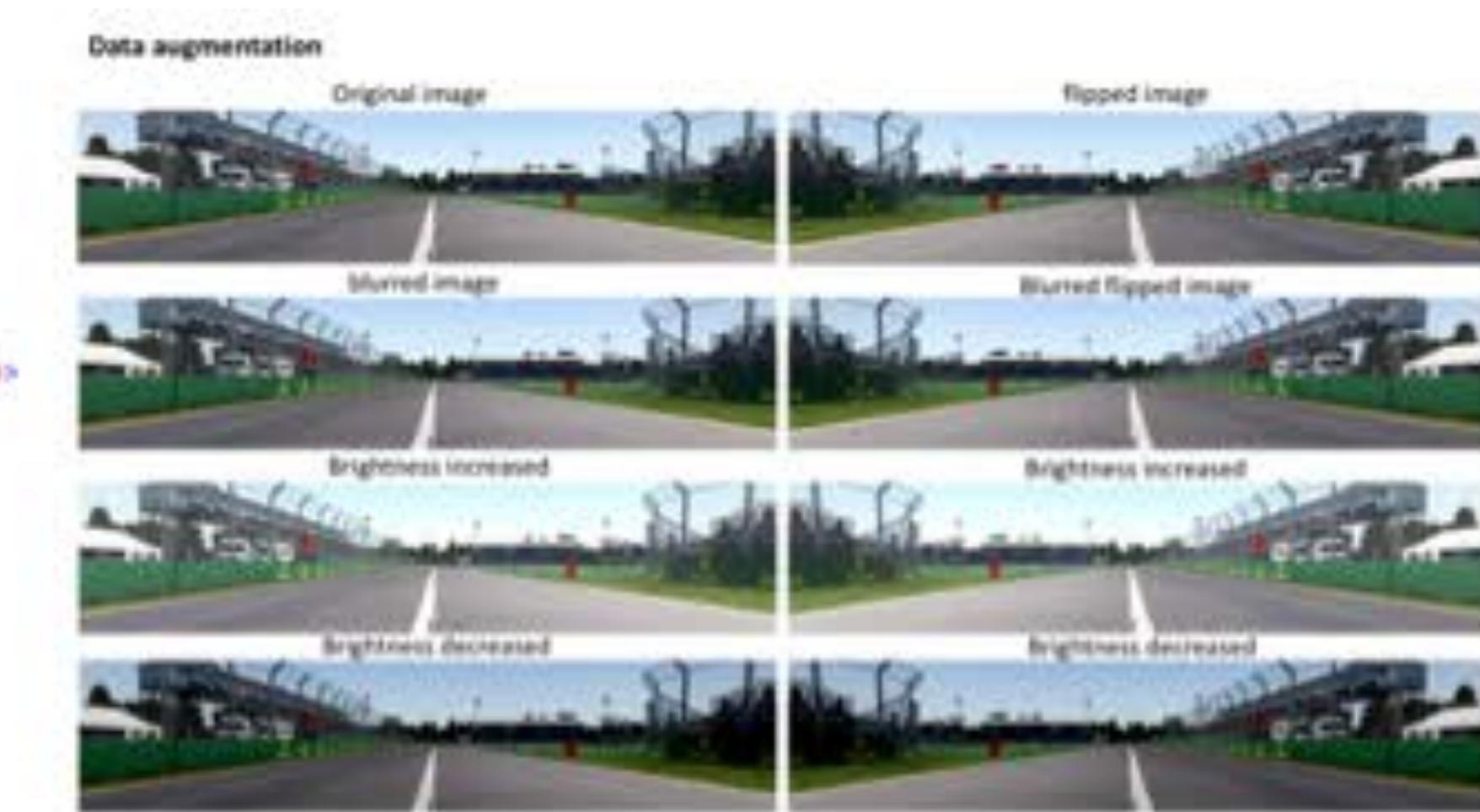




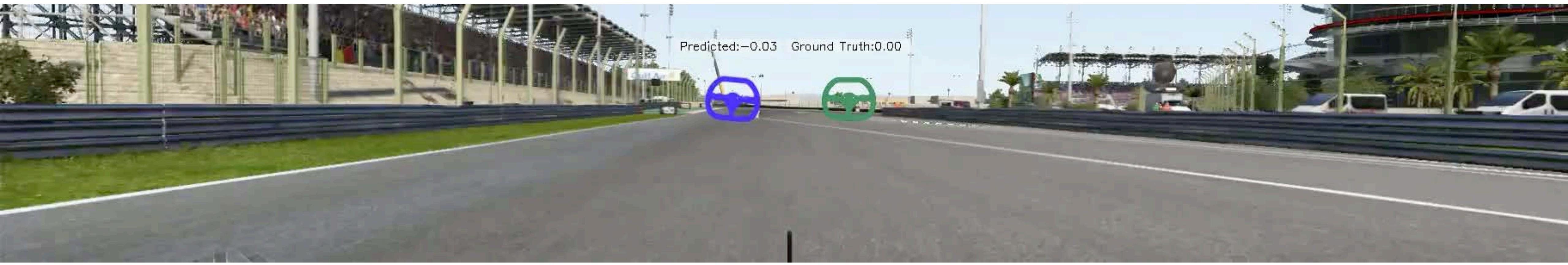
Annotated user steering and acceleration data is logged for each frame



<m-throttle>0.235294119 </m-throttle>
<m-steer>0.292629898 </m-steer>
<m-brake>0 </m-brake>
<m-clutch>0 </m-clutch>
<m-gear>2 </m-gear>



CNN + LSTM – End-to-end driving





F1/10 FPV Driving







Question: Would you trust an autonomous car? (Self-driving car).



Yes, it's the future

7.10%

If it had been tried and tested and proven safe

14%

No, I like to have control of my own car at all times

58.20%

They don't exist!

2.90%

I can drive better than any robot ever could

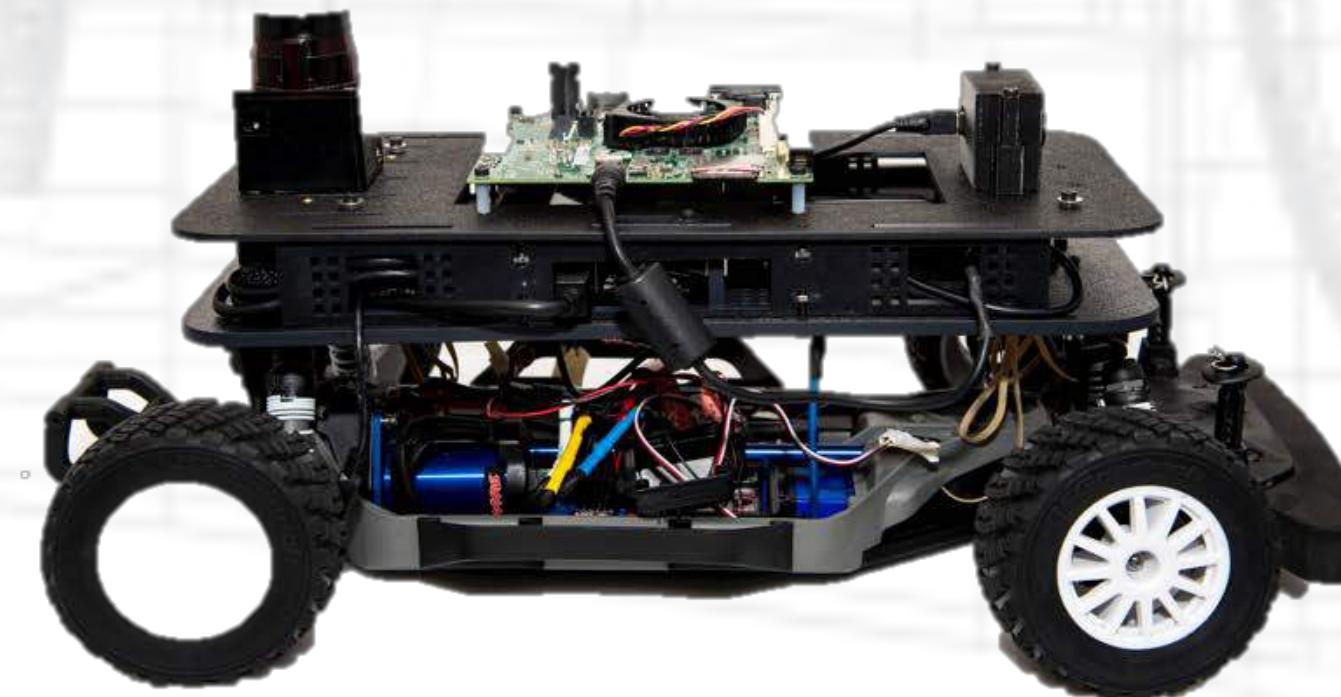
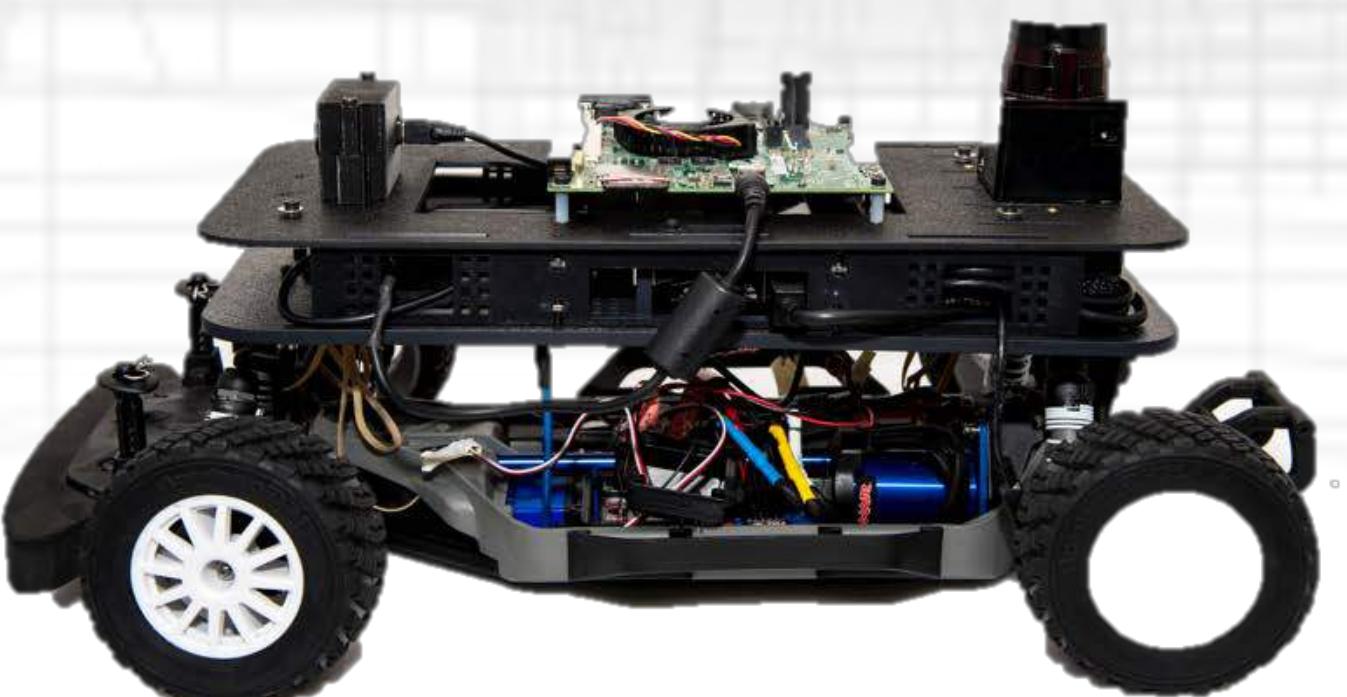
17.80%

0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60

Fun!

F1/10

1/10th the scale. 10 times the fun!





2017 Formula One United States GP, October, Austin, TX



Questions ?