

Digital Twin-Based Simulated Automotive Radar for Virtual Testing

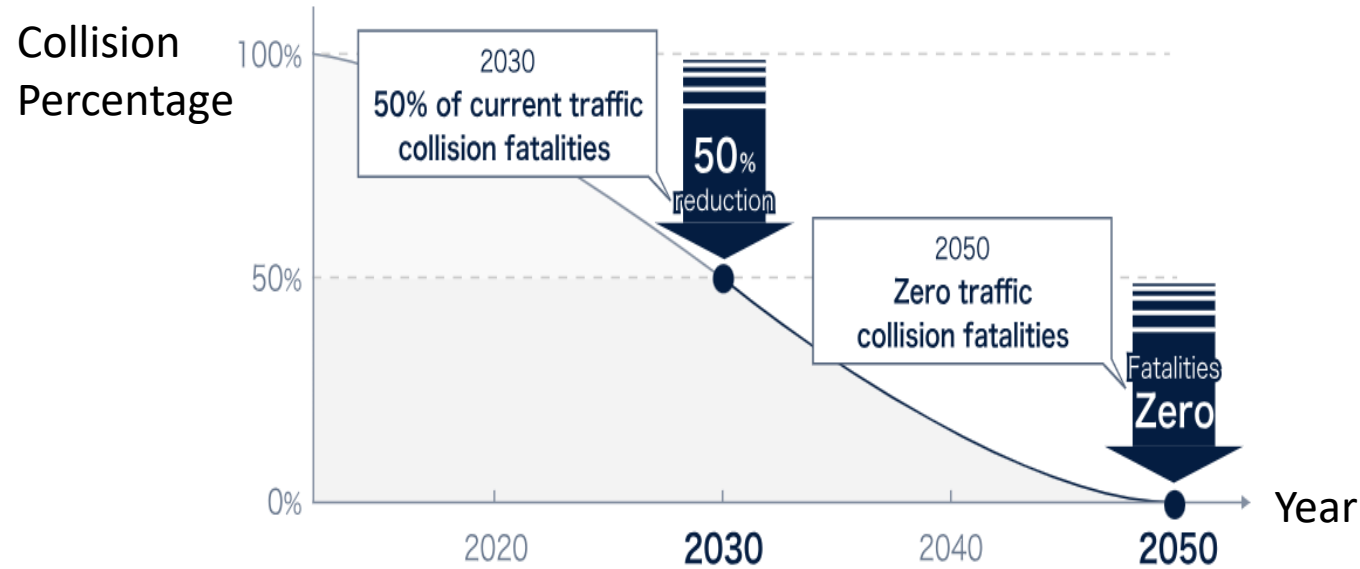
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This research was conducted under the EVIDENT project with funding from Vinnova.

INTRODUCTION

- Motivation



Vision Zero (EU)

“Almost every real situation will sooner or later be modeled”

- Aim

‘To what extent can simulation and virtual testing replace real-world testing?’

- EVIDENT Project Partners

AstaZero



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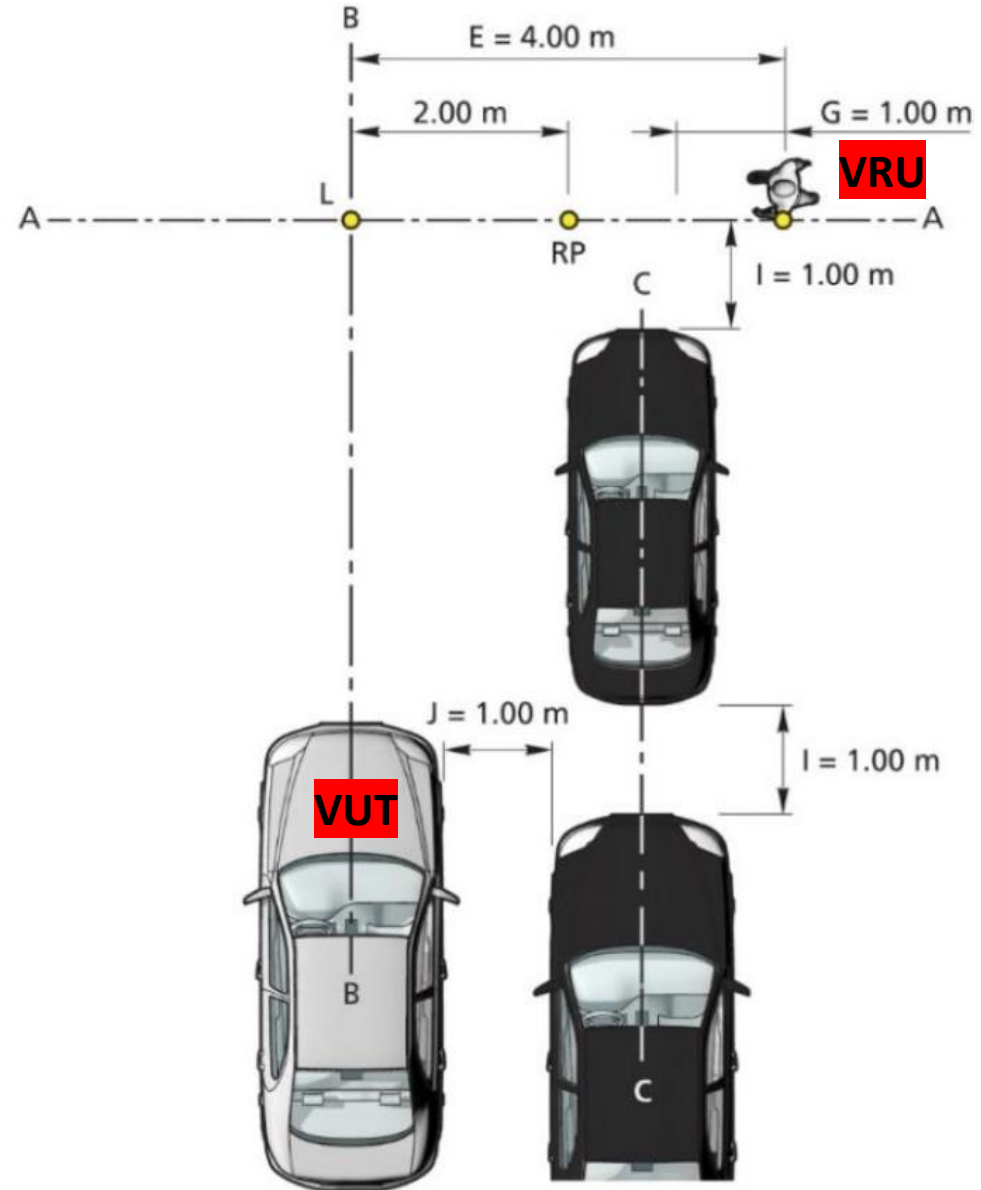
vti



Scenario

Euro NCAP: Car-to-Pedestrian Nearside Adult (CPNA)

- AA - Trajectory of Pedestrian Dummy
- BB - Centerline of Vehicle Under Test (VUT)
- CC - Centerline of Obstruction Vehicles
- G - Acceleration Distance of Pedestrian Dummy
- I - Distance of Pedestrian Dummy to Front of Obstruction Vehicle
- J - Distance Between VUT and Obstruction Vehicle
- L - Impact position
- RP - Reference Point



Scenario



AEB not active



AEB active

TEST CASE

Case Number	Host Speed	Pedestrian Model	Collision Point
1	15 km/h	Adult	50%
2	15 km/h	Child	50%
3	30 km/h	Adult	50%
4	30 km/h	Child	50%

MOTION MODEL

- Key Performance Indicator (KPI)

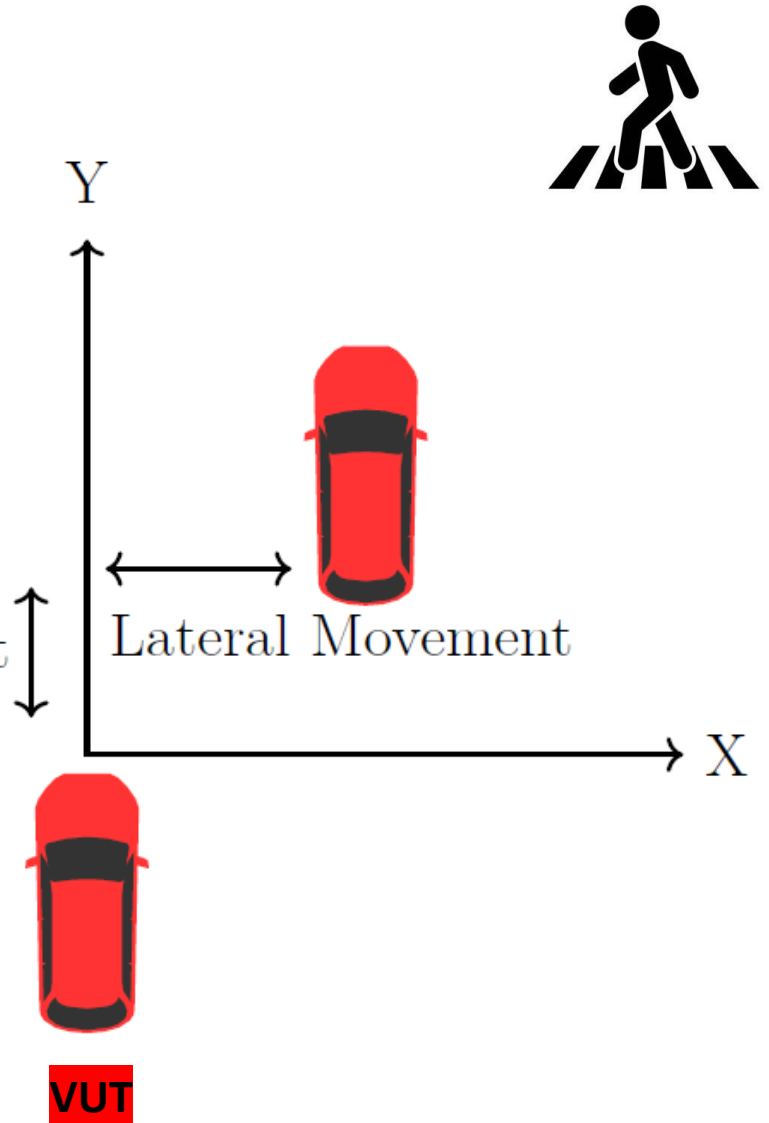
Lateral Movement

Longitudinal Movement

} Pedestrian

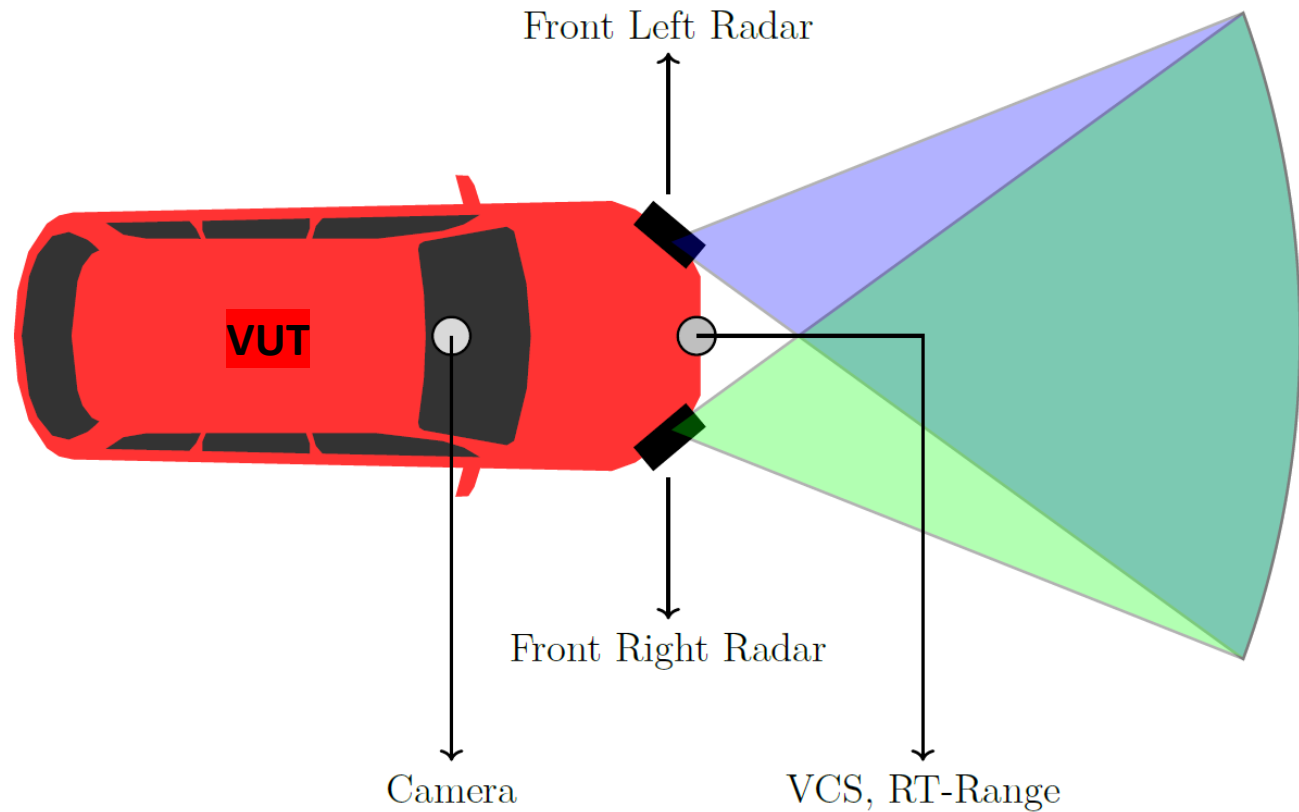
Longitudinal Movement

Lateral Movement



VUT

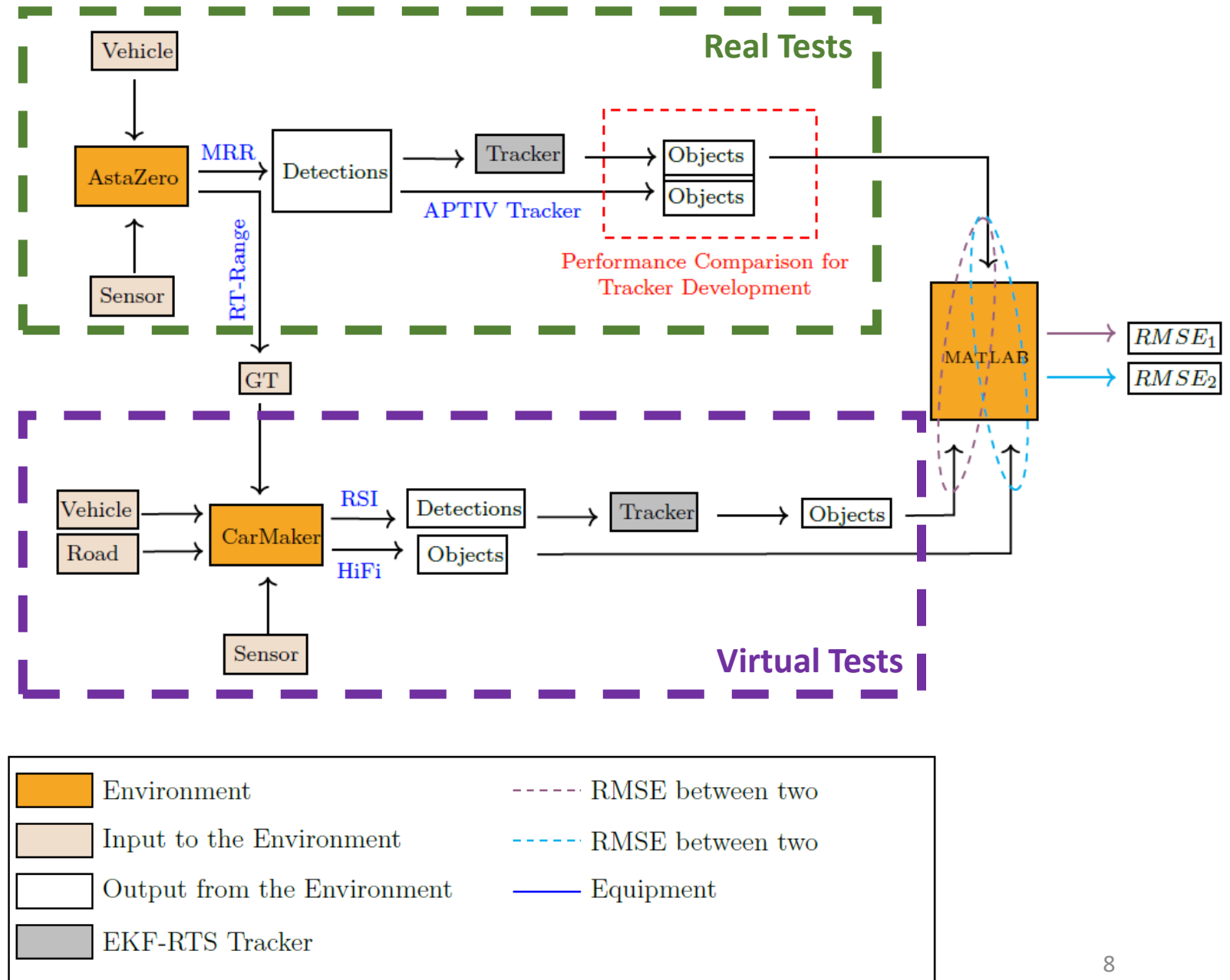
EQUIPMENT



- Ground Truth Data
GPS information of VUT, VRU
Input data for simulations
Reference data
- Experimental Data
VUT and Sensor
- Simulation Data
VUT, VRU, and Sensor

DIGITAL TWIN

- “Virtual Replica”
- Fidelity Level
- Advantages
 - Iterative design
 - Various scenarios
 - Easy prototyping
 - Decreased costs



METHODS

Digital Twin of the Vehicle

- Limits
 - Acceleration

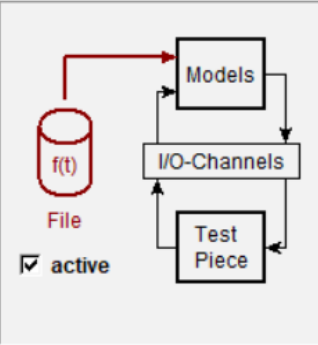
Digital Twin of the Motion

- Longitudinal Dynamics
 - Speed Profile
 - Timestamp
- Lateral Dynamics
 - Trajectory

CM CarMaker Office - Input from File

Input from File

Close



Input File
File: h15_adult_50p_20231102_144139_001.bt

Reference Channel
Based on: Time Distance (and Time)

	Channel	Factor
Time [s]	Time	1.0
Distance [m]	HostLongPos	1.0

Start Time [s]: End Time [s]:
Start Point [m]: 0

Starting Conditions
Gear No: 1
Velocity [km/h]:
max. Gas [0..1]: 1

Miscellaneous
 Consider road signs

Model Quantity to override

	Channel in File	Filter yes?	Param.	Signal Conditioning Factor	Signal Conditioning Offset	Signal Limits min	Signal Limits max
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Speed - Target	[m/s] HostSpeed	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Speed - Upper Limit	[m/s]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Speed - Lower Limit	[m/s]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Steering Wheel Angle	[rad]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Steering Torque	[Nm]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas Pedal	[0..1]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Brake Pedal	[0..1]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Clutch Pedal	[0..1]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gear No	[-1..n]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Selector Control	[-9..1]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Parking Brake	[0..1]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> Brake Pressure	[bar]	<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		
<input type="checkbox"/> IFF.User1		<input type="checkbox"/>		1.0	0.0		

Vehicle parameters | Maneuver | Visualization | Messages

Maneuver list

Maneuver settings Input from file

- Maneuver 0
 - Longitudinal / Lateral steps
 - 0

General

Label:

Description:

End condition: f(x)

Limit: Time [s] Distance [m] Calculate

Commands: f(x)

Longitudinal dynamics

Motion Attr.

Driver parameters

Manual gear shifting

Manumatic

Restart with speed profile from beginning

Lateral dynamics

Motion Attr.

Trajectory type:

Positioning type:

Route:

Specify time channel (defines long. dynamics)

Edit trajectory

CM CarMaker Office - Edit Trajectory

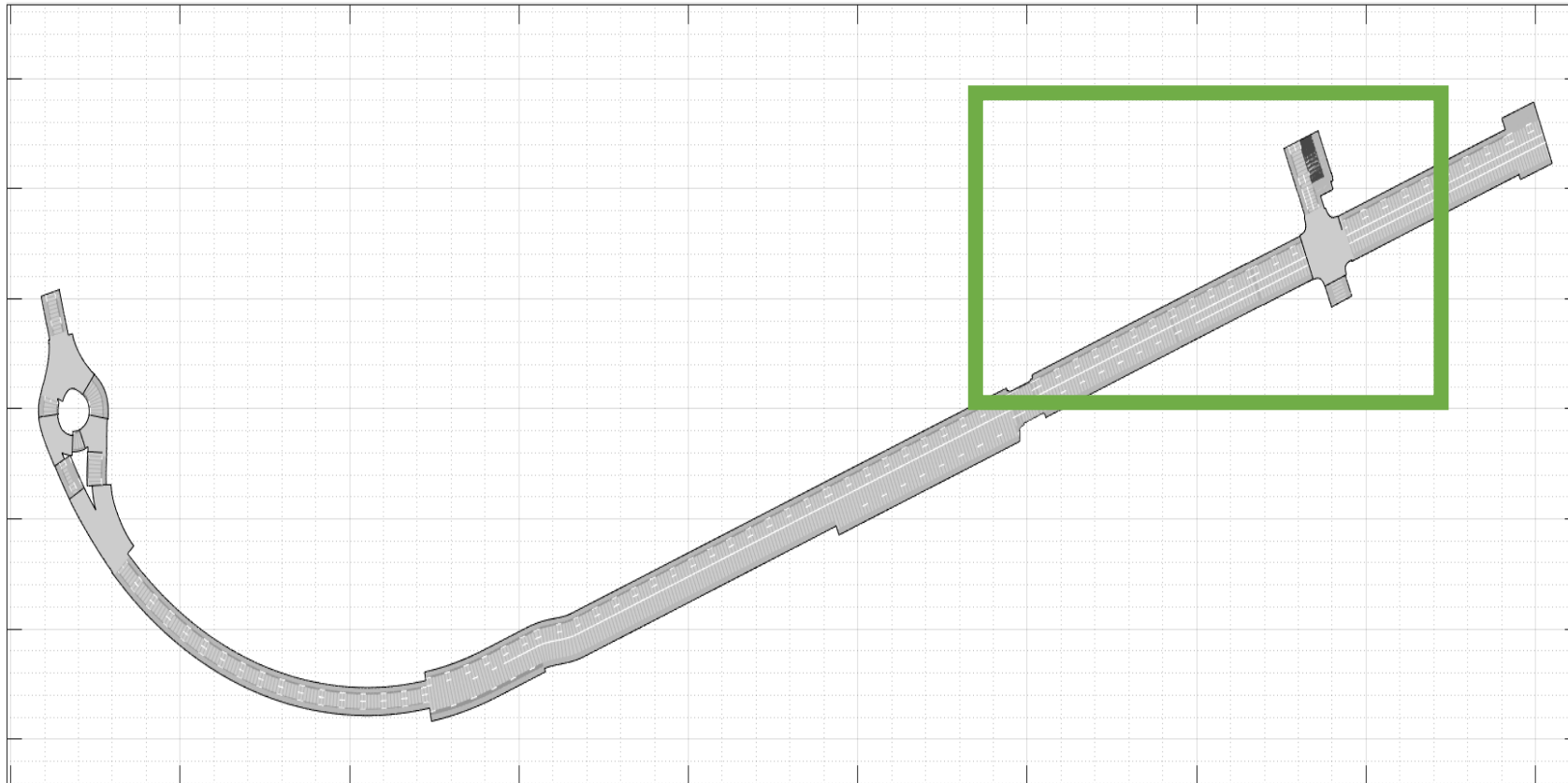
Edit Maneuver Path

Specify curvature (drz/ds)

Lateral				Longitudinal	
sRoute [m]	tRoute [m]	rz [deg]	drz/ds [deg/m]	dTime [s]	vel [km/h]
123.143	0.108				
123.148	0.104				
123.15	0.103				
123.325	0.11				
123.972	0.132				
125.258	0.163				
127.136	0.204				
129.475	0.239				
132.052	0.272				

METHODS

Digital Twin of the Road



- Provided by AstaZero
- ASAM OpenDrive Format
- Lane markings, lane width, junctions included
- VUT, VRU routes have to be defined

METHODS

Digital Twin of the Pedestrian



Balloon Dummies

Property	Value
Adult Height	181 cm
Adult Width	50 cm
Child Height	114 cm
Child Width	30 cm

- Stationary Vehicles
Positioning based on the scenario definition.
- Barriers
Both sides of the road.
- Buildings
Warehouse.
- Trees
Both sides of the road.

METHODS

- Digital Twin of the Sensors

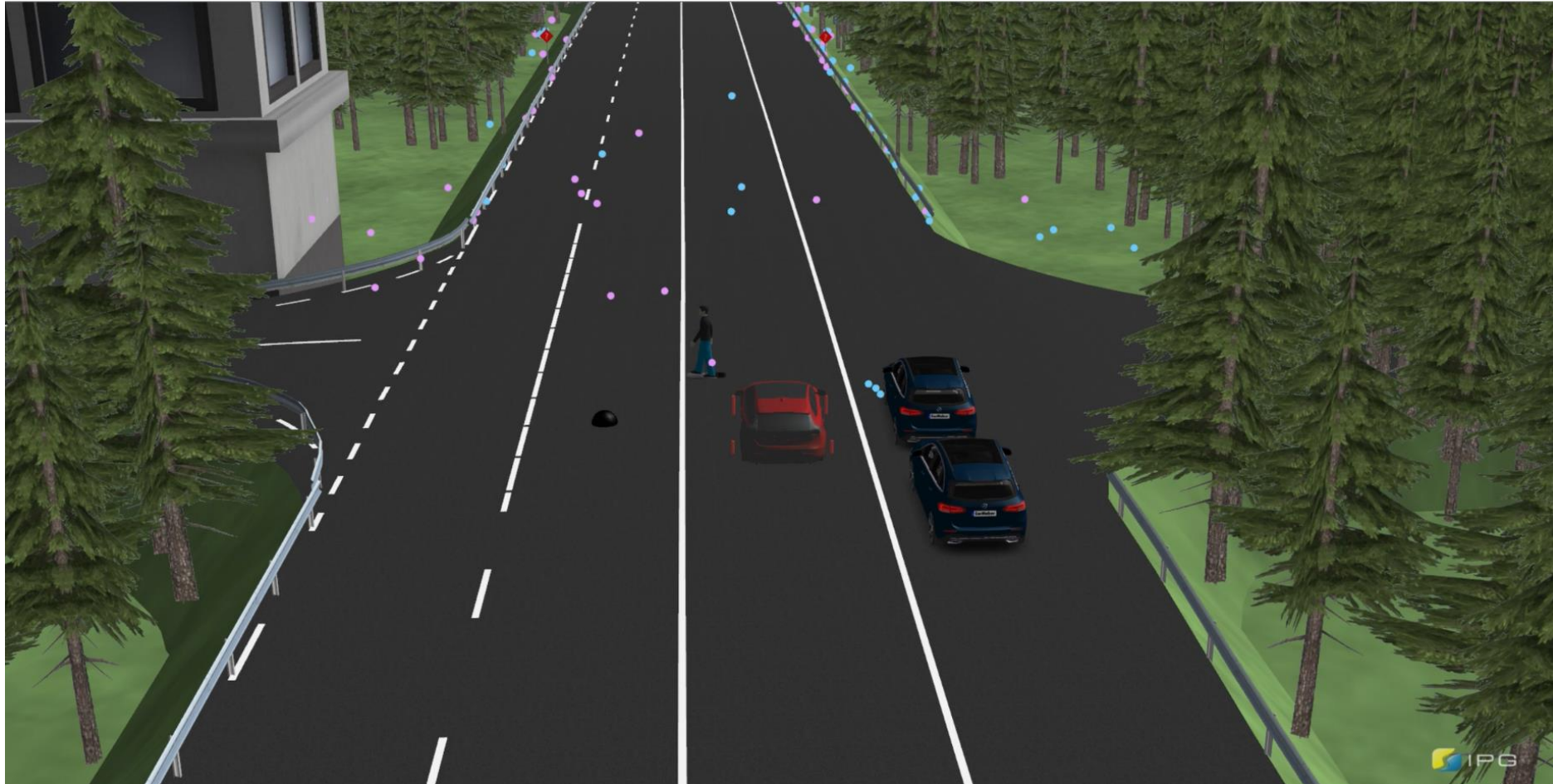
Sensor Properties Based on Technical Characteristics.

Property	Value	Unit	Radar Model	Sensor Type
Operating Frequency	76.5	GHz	HiFi & RSI	FL&FR
FOV (azimuth)	150	deg	HiFi & RSI	FL&FR
FOV (elevation)	10	deg	HiFi & RSI	FL&FR
Maximum Range	150	m	HiFi & RSI	FL&FR
Probability of Detection	0.5	-	HiFi	FL&FR
Probability of False Alarm	10^{-4}	-	HiFi	FL&FR

- Radar HiFi
- Radar RSI (Ray Tracing Based Model)

Radar Pipeline: data processing, filtering, clustering, tracking

DETECTIONS (RSI Radar)



OBJECTS (HiFi Radar)



Camera View (Side-by-Side Comparison)

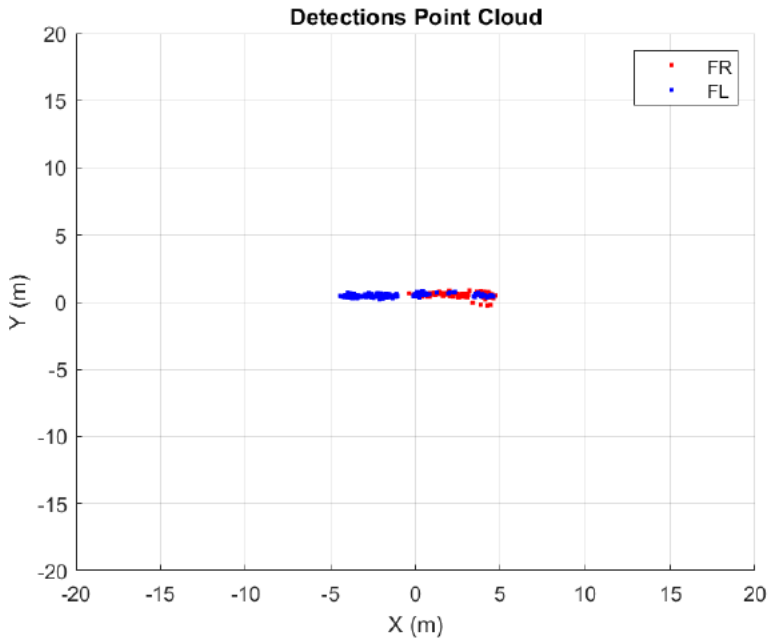
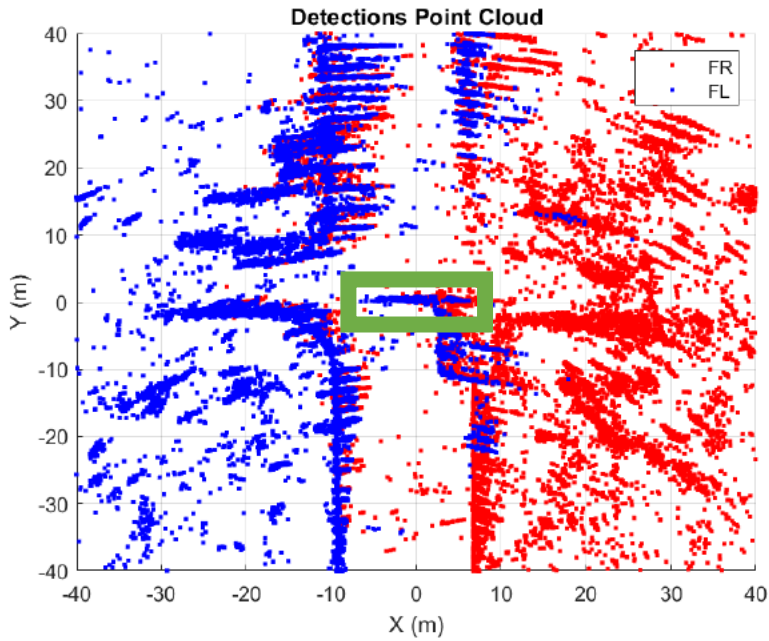


Test Track (AstaZero)

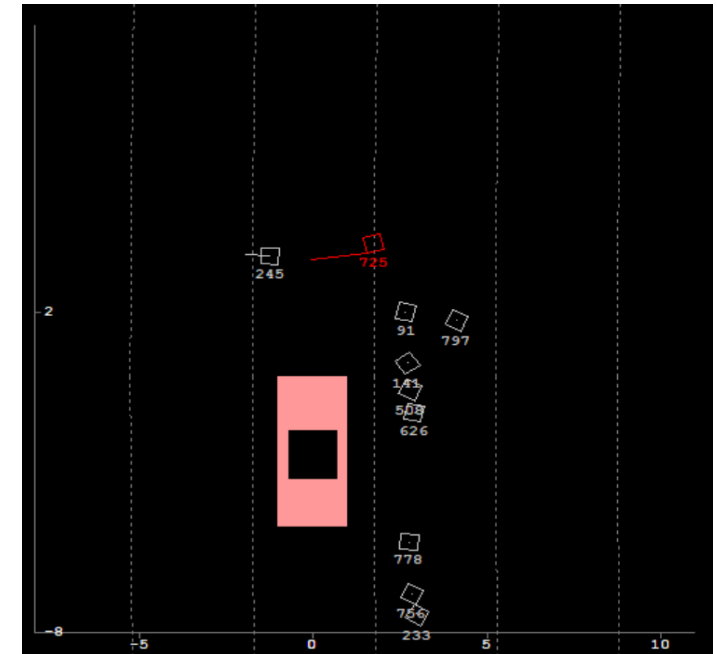


Simulation Environment (CarMaker)

APTIV MRR Radar Sensor Output

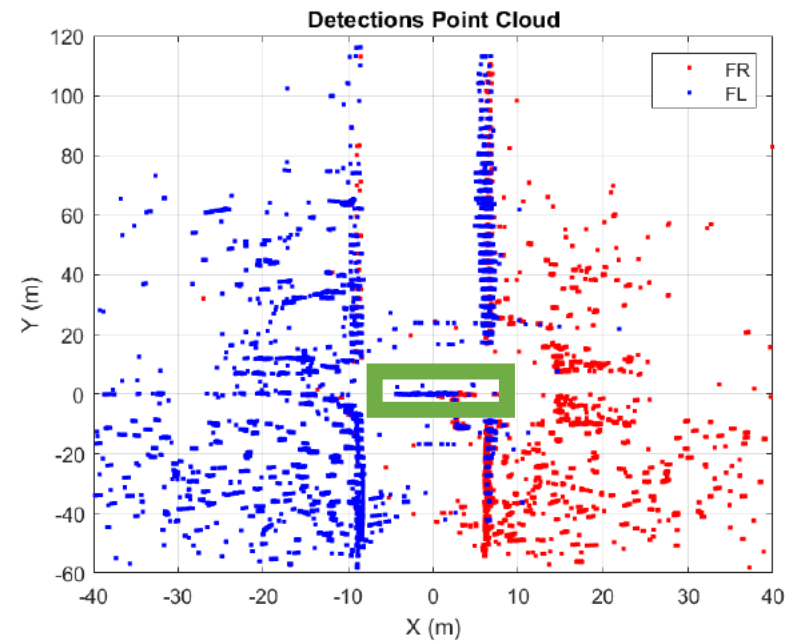
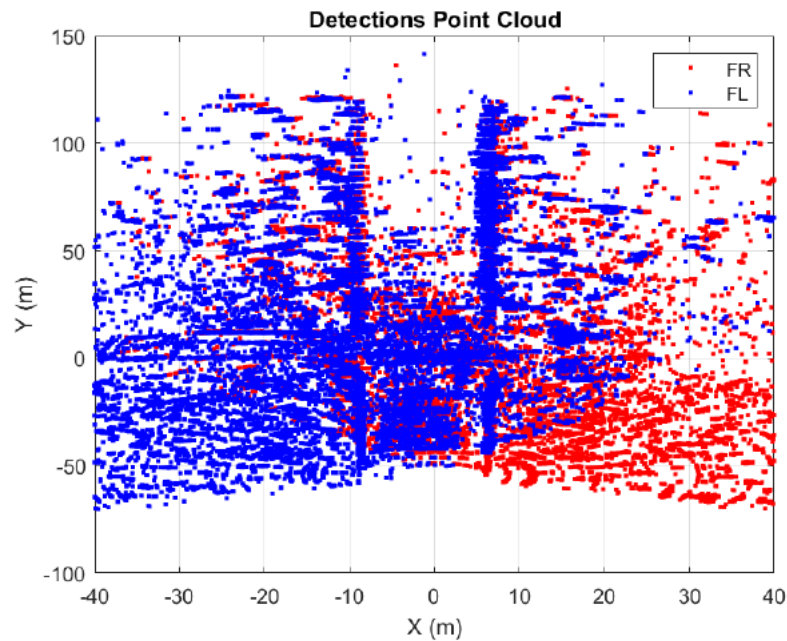


APTIV MRR Radar Sensor Output from Real Data Collection
(Unfiltered Data on the Left, Filtered Data on the Right).



Visualization Tool

IPG CarMaker RSI Radar Sensor Output



IPG CarMaker Radar Sensor Output from Synthetic Data Collection
(Unfiltered Data on the Left, Filtered Data on the Right).

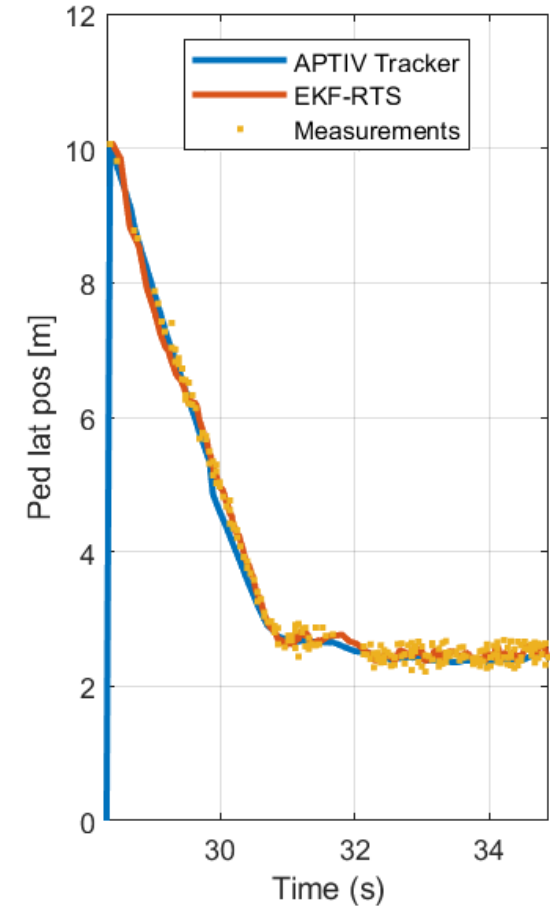
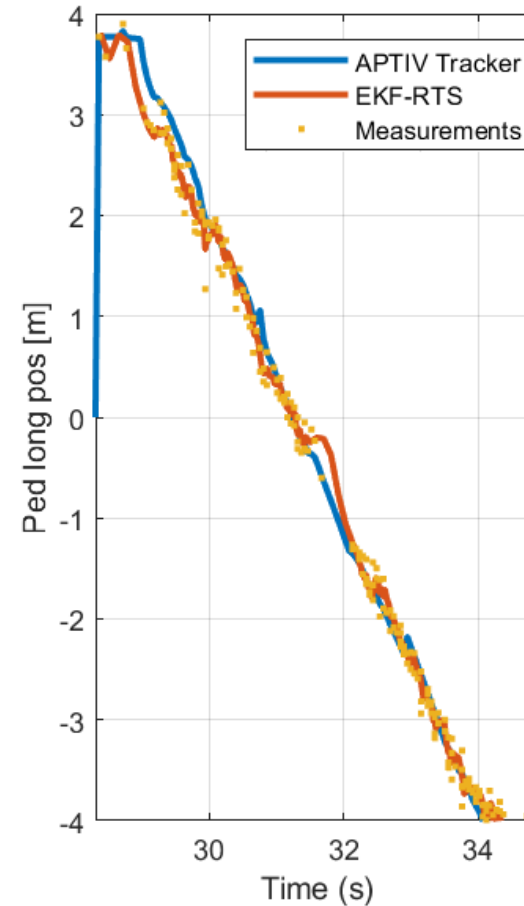
RSI Radar Object Tracking

Tracker

- Extended Kalman Filter (Forward Pass)
- Rauch–Tung–Striebel Smoothing (Backward Pass)

Performance Criteria

- Comparison with APTIV Tracker



RESULTS

- Simulation-to-Reality Gap
- Sensor Fidelity
- Sensitivity Analysis

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

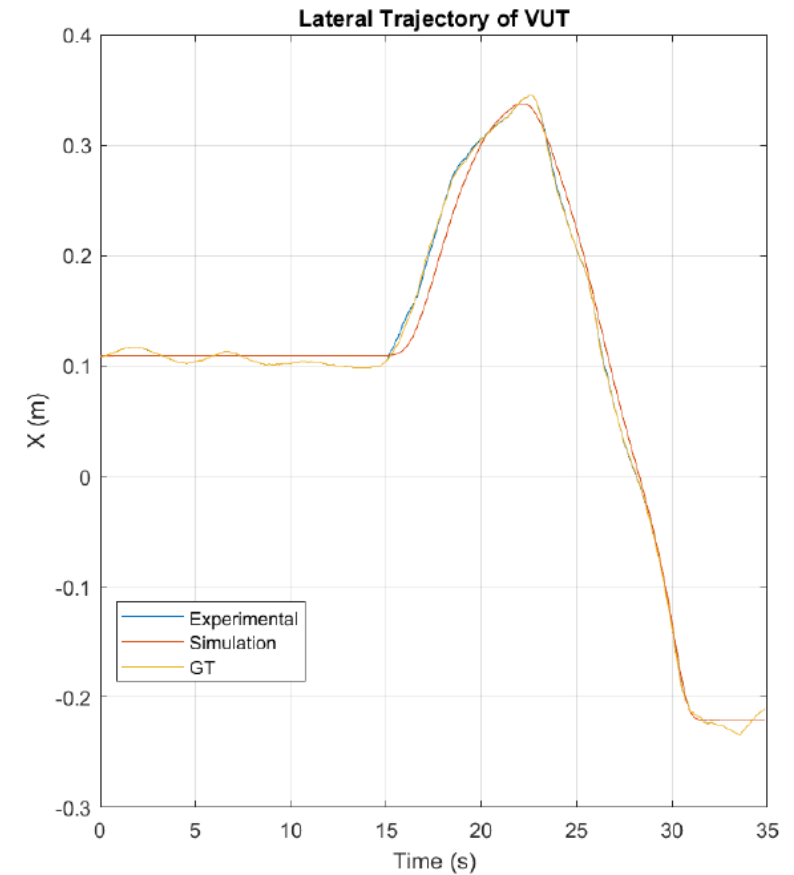
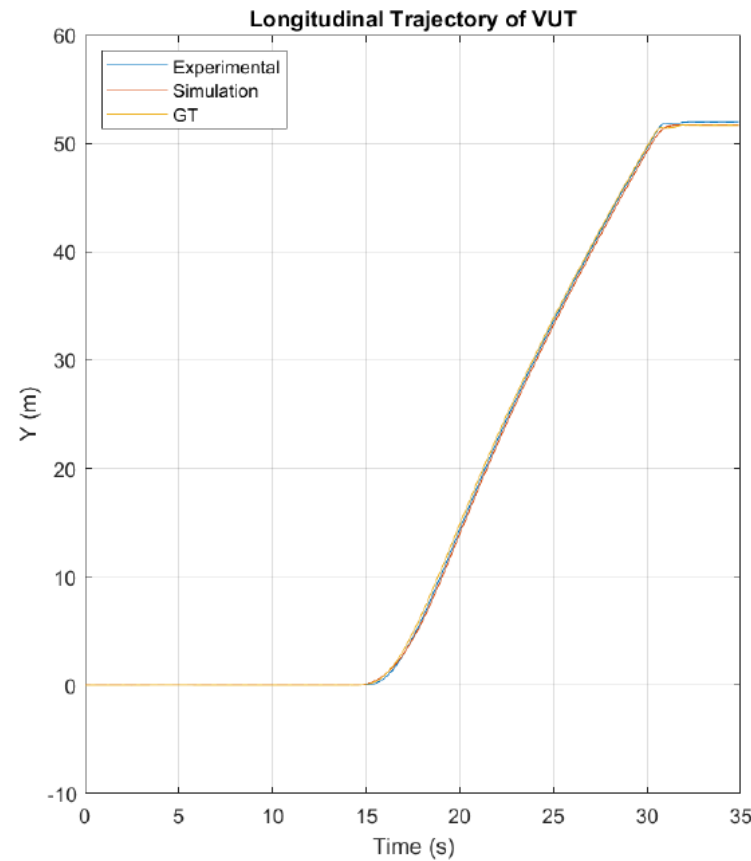
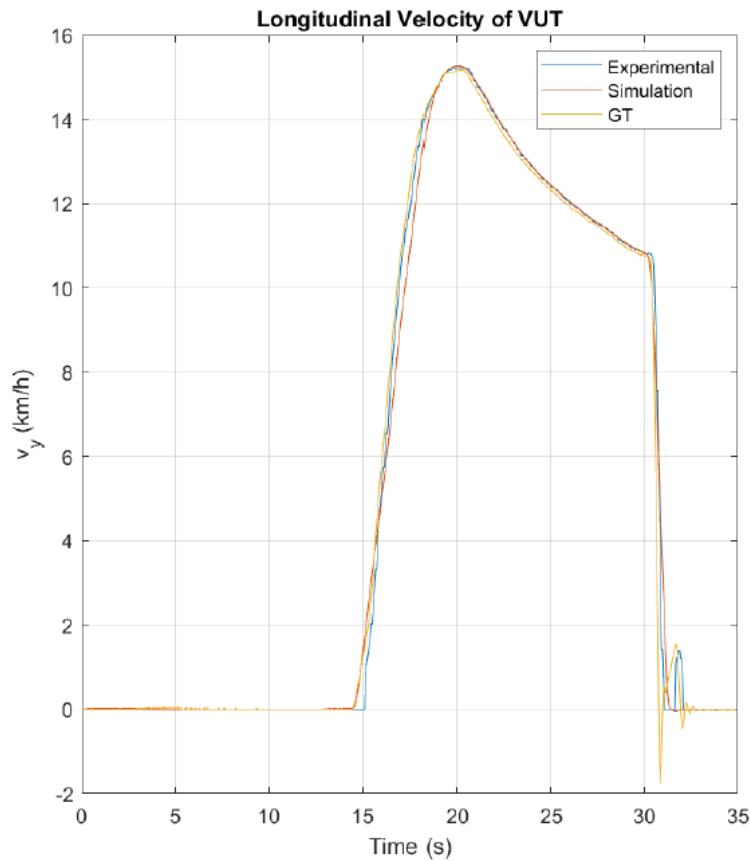
$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i - \hat{y}_i|$$

y_i : Experimental Data

\hat{y}_i : Simulation Data

Simulation-to-Reality Gap

- **RQ:** Does the proposed method allow comparability to the simulation-to-reality?



Simulation-to-Reality Gap

- RQ: How does the simulation-to-reality gap vary among the different test runs?

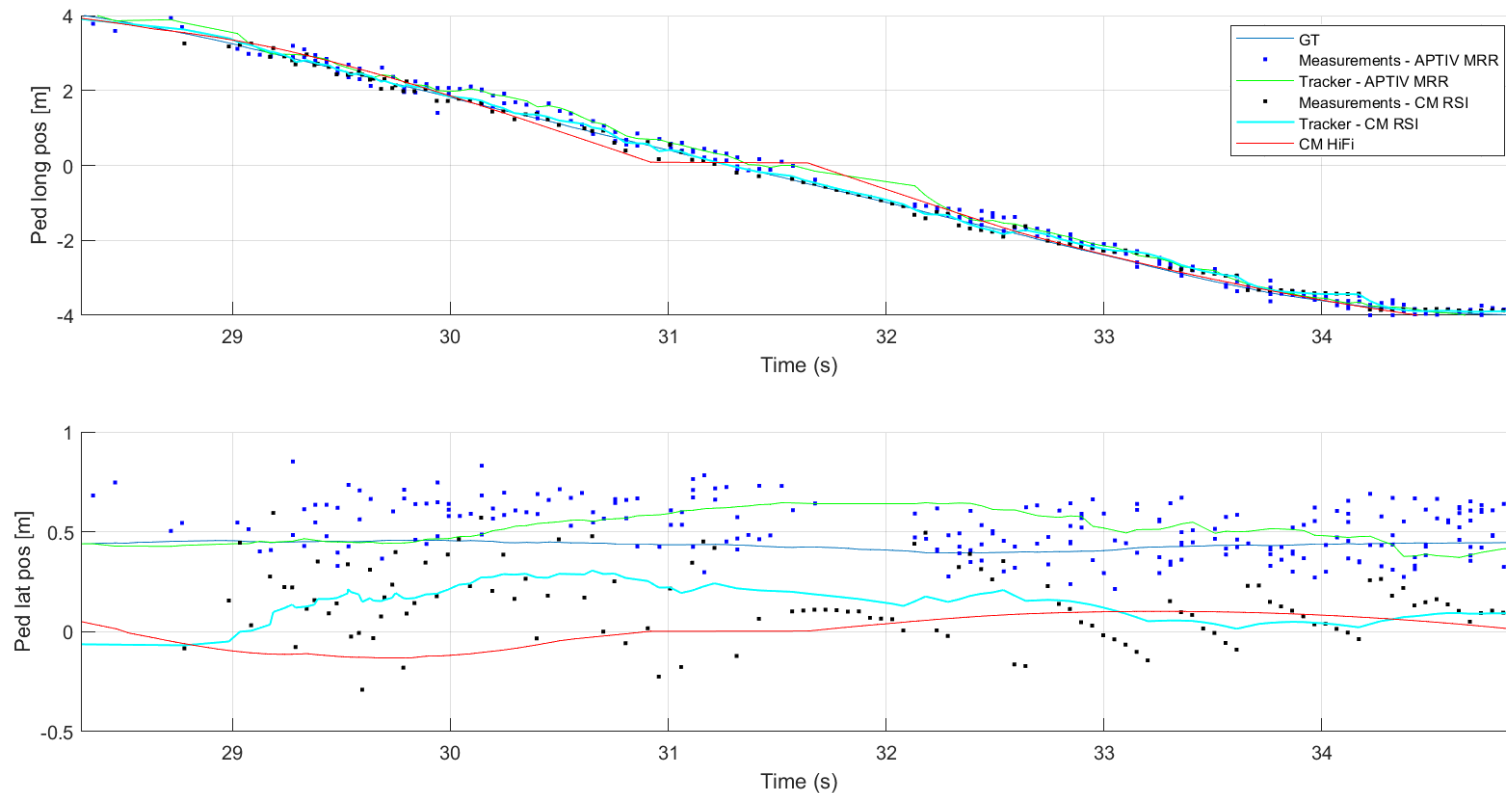
Given the limitations: Vehicle model, driver profile, input data (speed, steering angle).

Lower speeds usually indicate better results.

Case Number	Host Speed	Pedestrian Model	MAE (Long)	MAE (Lat)
1	15 km/h	Adult	0.18	≈ 0
2	15 km/h	Child	0.36	≈ 0
3	30 km/h	Adult	0.4	≈ 0
4	30 km/h	Child	3.86	≈ 0

Sensor Fidelity

- **RQ:** Does the proposed method allow comparability to the sensor fidelity?



Case 1: Host 15 km/h, Adult

Sensor Fidelity

Root Mean Square Error Values between Simulated and Real Data for Pedestrian Longitudinal Movement Tracking - RMSE(m).

Case	RMSE (HiFi)	RMSE (RSI)	RMSE (m)
h15 Adult	0.24	0.21	0.013
h15 Child	0.23	0.21	0.016
h30 Adult	0.35	0.31	0.014
h30 Child	0.10	0.11	0.026

Root Mean Square Error Values between Simulated and Real Data for Pedestrian Lateral Movement Tracking - RMSE(m).

Case	RMSE (HiFi)	RMSE (RSI)	RMSE (m)
h15 Adult	0.50	0.39	0.18
h15 Child	0.92	0.80	0.48
h30 Adult	0.67	0.5	0.57
h30 Child	3.63	3.6	4.01

- **RQ:** How does the fidelity of the sensor model affect the execution efficiently representing the necessary degree of fidelity?

RSI > HiFi, due to object merging.

Sensitivity Analysis

- **RQ:** Which parameters have a strong influence on the performance of simulations? How do these parameters influence the simulation results?
 - Sensor Parameters
 - Noise bandwidth
 - Number of rays
 - Number of reflection points
 - Environmental Parameters
 - Temperature
 - Rain Rate
 - Speed of Wind
 - Angle of Wind

CONCLUSION & FUTURE RESEARCH

SUMMARY

- Successful tracking of pedestrians considering the limiting factors (vehicle dynamics, lower fidelity twins)
- Higher fidelity radar sensor provides better tracking however it is not a cost-effective solution.
- **RQ:** Virtual testing a promising method to accelerate the development of autonomous vehicles, and holds the potential to replace physical tests to some extent however requires the use of high fidelity components.

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Further research should focus on analysis with higher fidelity components, HiL setups, sensor fusion with other sensors.



This research was conducted under the EVIDENT project with funding from Vinnova.

QUESTIONS?

Funding from: **VINNOVA**
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