

# Cooperative Ramp Merging for Mixed Traffic with Connected Automated Vehicles and Human-Operated Vehicles Zhanbo Sun (zhanbo.sun@swjtu.edu.cn) School of Transportation and Logistics

Southwest Jiaotong University

**IEEE IV Workshop** 

2021/07/11



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## **Cooperative Ramp Merging**

Hybrid Model Predictive Control and Real Time Computations

Microscopic Right-of-Way Trading Mechanism

**Modeling Car-Following Heterogeneities** 

**Short-term Trajectory Prediction** 

**Trajectory Planning and Tracking** 

### **IEEE IV 2021**

## Background



Traffic conflict is the most fundamental problem in transportation science and engineering

At least in theory, it is possible to mitigate or eliminate traffic conflicts, in the mixed traffic environment with connected automated vehicles (CAVs) and human-operated vehicles (HVs)



The proposed mechanism is called Cooperative Decision-Making for Mixed Traffic (i.e., CDMMT)

## Background



China, EU and US will start to make highly automated cars around 2020-2025

 $DA/PA \rightarrow CA/HA \rightarrow FA$ 

Information exchange  $\rightarrow$  sensing and fusion  $\rightarrow$  **cooperative decision-making and control** 





#### Source: Chinese National Standard for CAV Industry

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## **Key Challenges**

Technical difficulties (hardware, sensing, communication) Mixed traffic (human are myopic, stochastic, and non-cooperative) System-efficient (cooperation is not necessarily system-improving)

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NEWSLETTER SIGNUP

Ethical dilemma (puppy vs. a group of people)

MOTORCYCLES

THE WAR ZONE

#### GM's Autonomous Car Gets Confused, Stops for Lunch

SHOP

While test driving GM's latest autonomous vehicles, some passengers found themselves stuck in

# Apple self-driving test car gets rear-ended by a Nissan Leaf in first ever crash

Predictably, it was a human's fault

By Nick Statt | @nickstatt | Aug 31, 2018, 7:18pm EDT



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merge area



RSU

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## **CDMMT: A Bi-level Programming Framework**



Sun, Z., Huang, T., & Zhang, P. (2020). Cooperative decision-making for mixed traffic: A ramp merging example. *Transportation research part C: emerging technologies*, *120*, 102764.

## IEEE IV 2021 Cooperative Ramp Merging

## **Upper-level:** merge sequencing (filling *n* ramp vehicles into *m+1* gaps)

$$f_{k}(s_{k}) = \min_{\substack{x_{k} \in X_{k}, \hat{q}_{T}^{k} = \{q_{1}^{k}, q_{2}^{k}, \dots, q_{T}^{k}\}}} \{D_{k}(s_{k}, x_{k}) + f_{k-1}(s_{k-1})\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, n \}$$
  
s.t.  $f_{0}(s_{0}) = 0$   
 $s_{1} = m + 1$   
 $s_{k+1} = s_{k} - x_{k} + 1, k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$   
 $D_{k}(s_{k}, x_{k}) = g_{t_{f}}^{k}(p_{t_{f}}^{k}) + \tilde{g}^{k-1}$ 



 $f_k(s_k)$ : The minimum system cost from the initial stage to stage k  $s_k$ : The number of available mainline gaps for ramp vehicle k

- $x_k$ : The gap taken by ramp vehicle k
- $D_k$ : The cost of the merge maneuver pertaining to ramp vehicle k
- $g_{t_f}^k$ : The objective function of the lower-level trajectory design problem

#### pertaining to ramp vehicle k

 $\tilde{g}^{k-1}$  : The cost for mainline vehicles that are not directory involved in any merging maneuver



#### **Case-based control strategies**

Conditions	Cooperative Merging Control Strategy						
C1: HHA	R2/R3: vehicle 3 slower						
C2: HAA	R1/R4: vehicle 2 slower, vehicle 3 slower;						
	R2: vehicle 2 faster, vehicle 3 slower;						
	R3: vehicle 2 undetermined, vehicle 3 slower						
C3: AHA	R1: Vehicle 1 faster;						
	R2: Vehicle 3 slower;						
	R3/R4: Vehicle 1 faster & Vehicle 3 slower						
C4: AAA	R1: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 slower, Vehicle 3 slower;						
	R2: Vehicle 2 faster, Vehicle 3 slower, Vehicle 1 faster;						
	R3/R4: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 undetermined, Vehicle 3 slower						
C5: HAH	R1: Vehicle 2 slower;						
	R2: Vehicle 2 faster						
	R3: Vehicle 2 undetermined;						
C6: AHH	R1/R3: Vehicle 1 faster						
C7: AAH	R1: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 slower;						
	R2: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 faster;						
	R3: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 slower						
C8: AHN	R1/R3: Vehicle 1 faster						
C9: AAN	R1/R3: Vehicle 1 faster, Vehicle 2 slower						
C10: HAN	R1/R3: Vehicle 2 slower						
C11: NHA	R2/R3: Vehicle 3 slower						
C12: NAA	R2/R3: Vehicle 2 faster, Vehicle 3 slower						
C13: NAH	R2/R3: Vehicle 2 faster						
"N" stands for	"Null" it is used as a placeholder. "H" stands for a human-operated vehicle; "A" stands						
for a CAV	•						
R 1: vehicle 2 is	"too close" to vehicle 1						
R 2: vehicle 2 is	"too close" to vehicle 3						
R 3: vehicle 2 is	neither "too close" to vehicle 1 nor vehicle 3, but the it is uncomfortable to merge						
R 4: vehicle 2 is	"too close" to vehicle 1 and vehicle 3						



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Mainline

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Lower-level: trajectory design (multi-object optimal control)

$$g_{t}^{k}(p_{t}^{k}) = \begin{cases} \min_{q_{t}^{k} \in Q_{t}^{k}} \{d_{t}^{k}(p_{t}^{k}, q_{t}^{k}) + g_{t-\tau}^{k}(p_{t-\tau}^{k})\}, \ q_{t}^{k} \neq \emptyset \\ \infty, \ q_{t}^{k} = \emptyset \end{cases}, \ \forall t = t_{0}^{k} + \tau, t_{0}^{k} + 2\tau, \dots, t_{f}^{k}, \ k = 1, 2, \dots, r_{0}^{k}$$

$$g_{t_0}^k(p_{t_0}^k) = \sum_{i \in K} (v_i(t_0^k) - v^e)^2, \forall k = 1, 2, ..., n$$
$$p_{t_0}^k = \{v_i(t_0^k), l_i(t_0^k) | i \in K\}, \forall k = 1, 2, ..., n$$

#### State transition:

 $l_{i}(t + \tau) = l_{i}(t) - v_{i}(t)\tau - 0.5u_{i}(t)\tau^{2},$   $\forall i \in K, t = t_{0}^{k}, t_{0}^{k} + \tau \dots, t_{f}^{k} - \tau, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  $v_{i}(t + \tau) = v_{i}(t) + u_{i}(t)\tau,$ 

 $\forall i \in K, t = t_0^k, \dots, t_f^k - \tau, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 

#### Final-state constraint:

 $U_k(t_f^k) \ge 0, \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 

 $t_0^k, ..., t_f^k$ : The time stamps of a trajectory design period  $p_t^k$ : The states of all vehicles in set *K* at time *t*  $q_t^k$ : The set of decisions of vehicles in set *K* at time *t*  $v^e$ : Desired speed  $U_k(t_f^k)$ : Merging utility

## Lateral dynamics

## Lower-level: trajectory design (multi-object optimal control)



**Faster**:  $v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau \ge v_{mic}(S_k(t), v_k(t), v_l(t))$  $v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau \le v^e$ 

Slower:  $v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau \le v_{mic}(S_k(t), v_k(t), v_l(t))$  $v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau \ge 0$ 

#### Undetermined:

 $\begin{aligned} v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau &\leq v^e \\ v_k(t) + u_k(t)\tau &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$ 

Vehicle  $\hat{k}^{lead}$ 

Non-cooperative:

 $u_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t+1) = u_{mic}\left(S_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t), v_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t), v_{l}(t)\right)$ 

**Faster**:  $v_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t) + u_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t)\tau \ge v_{mic}(S_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t), v_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t), v_{l}(t))$  $v_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t) + u_{\hat{k}^{lead}}(t)\tau \le v^{e}$ 

#### Vehicle $\hat{k}^{fol}$

#### Non-cooperative:

 $u_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t+1) = u_{mic}(S_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t), v_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t), v_{l}(t))$ 

# Slower: $\begin{aligned} v_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t) + u_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t)\tau &\geq 0 \\ v_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t) + u_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t)\tau &\leq v_{mic} \left(S_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t), v_{\hat{k}^{fol}}(t), v_{l}(t)\right) \end{aligned}$

# **Lateral dynamics**



# Longitudinal dynamics

Newell' s simplified car following model

Gipps

## IDM/EIDM

•••••

 $u_{mic}(S_k(t), v_k(t), v_l(t))$ 

**b\_{safe}:** The maximum allowable deceleration rate  $l_a$ : Equivalent vehicle length  $L_0^A$ : Minimum gap for CAVs  $L_0^H$ : Minimum gap for HVs  $\eta_1$ : Safety parameter  $\eta_2$ : Politeness parameter

# Results - q1:1000veh/h q2:1000veh/h 50% CAV

#### Speed profiles and acceleration profiles





## **Results – Flow-Density Diagrams**



- Capacity increases with the increase of CAV penetration (up to about 20%)
- CDMMT can further improve the capacity by about 10% - 15% in the case of high penetration

Sun, Z., Huang, T., & Zhang, P. (2020). Cooperative decision-making for mixed traffic: A ramp merging example. *Transportation research part C: emerging technologies*, *120*, 102764.



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### System Stochasticity is not considered in the deterministic-CDMMT mechanism

# The centralized control improves system-efficiency, however, computational efficiency becomes a critical issue



## **Solution:**

- Closed-loop control (model predictive control)
- > Hybrid Centralized-Decentralized system
- Use computational-efficient solution approach

Gao, Z., Li, Z., Huang, T., & Sun, Z. (2020). Cooperative Ramp Merging In Mixed Traffic Closed-loop Optimal Control and Real Time Computing. *Presented at 100th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 2021.* 

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**Step 1.** At time *t*, the communication between the RSU and the CAVs in the communication zone is established. Then the states of vehicles will be adopted and shared by RSU (centralized controller).

**Step 2.** As shown in the Figure(b), after the establishment of communication, **the centralized controller will assign the specific lower-level problem computing tasks to OBUs** through the iteration of upper-level problem. All the OBU controllers will receive the assignment of the lower-level problem and the information of neighboured vehicles.

**Step 3. OBUs solve the lower-level problem and return the optimal trajectory consisting of speed and location to the centralized controller**.

**Step 4.** RSU solves the upper-level sequencing problem according to the feedback in Step3 and transfers the optimized merging sequences to CAVs. Just as shown in Fig.(c), ramp CAV determines the specific merging gap and implements the lower-level longitudinal control after receiving the order of RSU. Then go to Step 1 ( $t = t+\tau$ ).

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### Hybrid Model Predictive Control and Real Time Computations



 $T_c^k$ : Control horizon  $T_p$ : The predictive horizon

$$\exists T_c^k, l_k (t_0 + T_c^k + \tau | t_0) \ge l_e \land l_k (t_0 + T_c^k | t_0) \le l_e). \ l_k (t_0 + T_c^k | t_0)$$

 $l_k(t_0 + T_c^k | t_0)$  denotes the location of vehicle k;  $(t_0 + T_c^k | t_0)$  represents the predictive time  $t_0 + T_c^k$  at real time  $t_0$ ;

$$T_c^{\widehat{kfol}} = T_c^{\widehat{klead}} = T_c^k$$
$$T_p = T_c^n$$

 $l_{e}$  the end of ramp control zone

## **Results – Flow-Density Diagrams**

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## **Results – Average Computational Time (Seconds)**

		Vehicle	e per gro	up: 16; Traffic flow	: 1500:1	500			
	Average	Calculation time of Centralized			Calculation time of hybrid				
	Lower-level	system (Seconds)			system (Seconds)				
Pene	optimization								
	cases per	DMC	DP	Bang-Bang	DMC	DP	Bang-Bang		
	timestamp								
20%	1.03	0.056	0.31	0.0378	0.042	0.256	0.0374		
40%	1.57	0.094	0.71	0.0588					
60%	1.61	0.095	0.82	0.0846					
80%	1.56	0.10	0.87	0.1078					
100%	1.76	0.11	1.43	0.1135					
Vehicle per group: 50; Traffic flow: 1500:1500									
	Average	Calculation time of Centralized			Calculation time of hybrid				
	Lower-level	system (Seconds)			system (Seconds)				
Pene	optimization								
	cases per	DMC	DP	Bang-Bang	DMC	DP	Bang-Bang		
	timestamp								
20%	1.89	0.11	1.27	0.06					
40%	2.73	0.16	2.12	0.11	]				
60%	3.41	0.20	3.01	0.16	0.041	0.254	0.0379		
80%	3.67	0.24	3.48	0.23	]				
100%	3.69	0.24	3.62	0.24	]				

Gao, Z., Li, Z., Huang, T., & Sun, Z. (2020). Cooperative Ramp Merging In Mixed Traffic Closed-loop Optimal Control and Real Time Computing. *Presented at 100th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 2021.* 



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In academia, CAVs are always designed to be more cooperative, which conflicts the self-interest nature of human

Under the assumption of rationality, both CAVs and HVs can behave cooperatively (i.e., yielding or slowing down) if enough incentive can be provided

The proposed mechanism is called Microscopic Right-of-Way Trading Mechanism for Cooperative Decision-Making (i.e., Micro-ROWTM)



Sun, Z., Qin, Z., Ma, R., & Gao, Z. (2020). Microscopic Right-Of-Way Trading Mechanism for Cooperative Decision-Making: Theories and Preliminary Results. *Presented at 100th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 2021.* 

## IEEE IV 2021 Microscopic Right-of-Way Trading Mechanism

- Right-of-way trading
- Mixed traffic (NCVs & CVs)
- Game-theoretic
- Individual rationality & system-efficiency
- Dominant-strategy incentive-compatibility
  - (DSIC) under incomplete information
- Envy-minimization





## IEEE IV 2021 Microscopic Right-of-Way Trading Mechanism



The payoff of payer and receiver is equal (i.e., half of the total revenue).

2. Double auction:

The trading price is a linear combination of the payoffs reported by payer and receiver.

#### 3. Dynamic Negotiation:

Imitating the process of bargaining in reality to determine a trading price that both payer and receiver are satisfied with.

#### 4. A constrained optimization method:

Using the optimization method to find a trading price meets the conditions of individual rationality, system-improvement, and DSIC to minimize the envy.

## IEEE IV 2021 Microscopic Right-of-Way Trading Mechanism





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### **Modeling Car-Following Heterogeneities**

 According to Litman's prediction, by 2040, 50% of traffic will be CAVs (Litman, T. ,2014).

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- The emergence of connected automated vehicles (CAVs) has led to the problem of mixed traffic, i.e., traffic comprised of conventional human-operated vehicles (HVs) and CAVs(Huang, T., and Z. Sun., 2019).
- □ In mixed traffic, the decisionmaking and/or control of CAVs largely depends on accurate description and prediction of HVs' behaviors (Chen, D. et al,2020; Jin, S. et al,2020).



Sun., Z., X. Yao, Z. Qin, P. Zhang, Z. Yang. (2021). Modeling Car-Following Heterogeneities by Considering Leader– Follower Compositions and Driving Style Differences. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2021. 2021: 1-14.

## Model Calibration results

 Some parameters are highly consistent across the board, while others are quite different in different leader-follower compositions

## > PCA and FCM results

- The orders of Weighted contribution of feature (WCF) are quite different across different compositions.
- Such clustering results were attributed by the underlying driving style differences.
- The results are also consistent with the commonly recognized "aggressive-normal-mild" driving style classification.



#### Distribution fitting for car-following parameters

• Stable distribution has the best performance compared to the other distributions

#### Comparisons between CCF and UCF models

 In all cases, the estimation errors of CCF models are much smaller compared to UCF model, clearly show that the proposed CCF models can more accurately describe the heterogeneities in carfollowing behaviors.

#### > Transferability analysis using US-101 dataset

- The CCF models calibrated using FVD and IDM in general outperforms the GHR model.
- The estimation errors of CCF models are much smaller compared to UCF model





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Accurately predicting trajectory of surrounding manual vehicles is the key premise to ensure that the CAVs can plan its own trajectory safely and reliably

Learning-based LSTM network (GR-LSTM)

local neighborhood vehicles & vehicles as far ahead as sensors can detect

Zhao, R., Gao, Z., Sun, Z. (2021). Modeling spatio-temporal interactions for vehicle trajectory prediction based on graph representation learning. *IEEE ITSC 2021*.





## **Architecture of GR-LSTM model**



## IEEE IV 2021 Short-term Trajectory Prediction



#### **Graph representation learning**



**The LSTM Decoder** 



Where: 
$$X_{v_i} = [X_{v_i}^{t_0 - T_{obs}}, X_{v_i}^{t_0 - T_{obs+\tau}}, \cdots, X_{v_i}^{t_0}], \forall v_i \in V$$
, where  $X_{v_i}^{t_0} = (x_{v_i}^{t_0}, y_{v_i}^{t_0})$   
 $h_{v_j}^{m-1} = LSTM(X_{v_i}, h_0) \ t \in \{t_0 + 1 \dots t_0 + T_{pred}\}$ 

$$h_{\mathcal{N}(v_{i})}^{k} = \operatorname{Aggregator}(h_{v_{j}}^{k-1}, h_{v_{i}}^{k-1}) \forall v_{j} \in \mathcal{N}(v_{i}), k = 1, 2 \dots m - 1$$
$$h_{v_{i}}^{k} = \sigma \left( W^{k} \cdot \operatorname{concatenate}\left(h_{v_{i}}^{k-1}, h_{N(v_{i})}^{k}\right) \right), k = 1, 2 \dots m - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_{\mathcal{N}(v_{s})}^{m,t-1} &= \text{Aggregator}(h_{v_{j}}^{m-1},s_{t-1}) \ \forall v_{j} \in \mathcal{N}(v_{s}), t \in \{t_{0}+1 \dots t_{0}+T_{pred}\} \\ C_{t} &= \sigma \left( W \cdot \text{concatenate}\left(h_{v_{s}}^{m-1},h_{N(v_{s})}^{m,t-1}\right) \right) \\ s_{t} &= LSTM(s_{t-1},C_{t}), t \in \{t_{0}+1 \dots t_{0}+T_{pred}\} \\ \hat{Y}^{t} &= MLP(s_{t};W_{z}) \end{aligned}$$

## Results

# *Vanilla-LSTM (V-LSTM)*[1]: uses a sequence of past trajectories to predict a sequence of future trajectories *Baselines:* Social LSTM (S-LSTM)[2]: model of an LSTM-based neural network with social pooling for pedestrian trajectory prediction

*Interaction-aware Kalman neural network (IaKNN)*[3]: added a Kalman filter layer to the interaction-aware layer *Convolutional social pooling LSTM (CS-LSTM):* LSTM with convolutional social pooling and maneuvers, including the maneuver-based decoder used for generating a multimodal predictive distribution

QUANTITATIVE RESULTS OF OUR **GR-LSTM** COMPARED WITH THOSE OF BASELINE APPROACHES. EVALUATION METRICS ARE REPORTED IN TERMS OF **RMSE** IN METERS.

#### Quantitative Results:

Prediction **GR-LSTM(2) V-LSTM S-LSTM IaKNN CS-LSTM** horizon(s) 0.74 0.62 0.68 1 0.68 0.63 1.44 1.17 2 1.28 1.03 1.27 3 2.57 2.27 1.97 2.09 1.74 4 4.23 3.32 2.93 3.12 2.64 5 5.92 4.46 4.12 4.27 3.32

S. H. Park, B. Kim, C. M. Kang, C. C. Chung, and J. W. Choi, "Sequence-to-sequence prediction of vehicle trajectory via LSTM encoder-decoder architecture," in 2018 IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV), 2018: IEEE, pp. 1672-1678.

N. Deo and M. M. Trivedi, "Convolutional social pooling for vehicle trajectory prediction," in Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops, 2018, pp. 1468-1476.

C. Ju, Z. Wang, C. Long, X. Zhang, G. Cong, and D. E. Chang, "Interaction-aware kalman neural networks for trajectory prediction," arXiv preprint arXiv:1902.10928, 2019.

## Results

#### **Relationship Between The Number Of Rows Of Forward Vehicles and The Prediction Accuracy**

#### QUANTITATIVE RESULTS OF THE SELECTION OF DIFFERENT ROWS OF FORWARD VEHICLES IN THE GR-LSTM MODEL. EACH CELL IN THE TABLE IS THE RMSE/ADE

Prediction horizon(s)	GR-LSTM(0)	GR-LSTM(1)	GR-LSTM(2)	GR-LSTM(3)
1	0.69/0.47	0.68/0.46	0.68/0.47	0.70/0.48
2	1.35/0.79	1.22/0.73	1.17/0.70	1.28/0.75
3	2.10/1.02	1.82/0.94	1.74/0.91	1.93/0.99
4	3.27/1.34	2.66/1.18	2.64/1.14	2.77/1.23
5	4.27/1.63	3.46/1.45	3.32/1.38	3.51/1.52
6	5.74/2.10	4.44/1.79	4.16/1.65	4.29/1.80
7	7.68/2.62	5.82/1.96	5.37/1.84	5.42/1.93



## IEEE IV 2021 Short-term Trajectory Prediction

## **Results**



Attention weights predicted by the graph attention mechanism. (a): Lane keeping case; (b): Lane changing case



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Integration of traffic decisions (strategic-level) and vehicle control (tacticallevel)

- Cooperative trajectory planning
- Control Strategy and Speed Planning
- Vehicle kinematics model and dynamical model



## Vehicle Models: vehicle kinematics model & vehicle dynamical model





**State variables**  $\xi_{kin} = [X_r, Y_r, \varphi]^T$ **Control variables**  $u_{kin} = [v_r, \delta_f]^T$  **State-space expression**  $\dot{\xi}(t) = f_{\mu(t)}^{2\omega}(\xi(t), u(t))$  **State variables**  $\xi_{kin} = [X_r, Y_r, \varphi]^T$ **Control variables**  $u_{kin} = [v_r, \delta_f]^T$ 

## **Cooperative trajectory planning**



## **Results**—trajectory planning



## **Trajectory Tracking**



# **Trajectory Tracking**



## **Trajectory Tracking**—Current work

- Solving the optimal model of speed profile generation
  Method: Dynamic programming/Quadratic programming
  /QP+DP
- 2. Designing the speed tracking controller based on PID
- 3. Designing the longitudinal and lateral coupling controller (Tracking a given trajectory with a desired speed profile)4. Evaluating the tracking performance of the designed controller according to the joint simulation results





## **Future directions**

Integration of trajectory planning and trajectory tracking (considering trajectory re-planning)

**Time-delay systems** 

Game theoretical approach for microscopic right-of-way trading considering heterogeneous users and bounded rationality

Stochasticity in the problem (HV, CAV)

**Generalization: e.g., intersections** 

**Road test experiments** 

## **Reference list**

[1]. Sun, Z., Huang, T., & Zhang, P. (2020). Cooperative decision-making for mixed traffic: A ramp merging example. Transportation research part C: emerging technologies, 120, 102764.

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## Acknowledgements

**Group Members @SWJTU** 

Tianyu Huang, Peitong Zhang, Ziye Qin, Ziyan Gao, Zheyi Li, Xue Yao, Ruibin Zhao, Sijie Li

Key Collaborators Guoyuan Wu (UC Riverside) Rui Ma (University of Alabama in Huntsville)

#### **Sponsors**

**IEEE IV 2021** 

National Natural Science Foundation of China Department of Science and Technology in Sichuan 吉利汽车 (Geely Automotive)

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# **THANKS!**



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