Collaborative Research: CPS: Medium: Harmonious and Safe Coordination of Vehicles with Diverse Human / Machine Autonomy

Lead PI: Wenhao Luo, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; PI: Junmin Wang, University of Texas at Austin

https://webpages.charlotte.edu/wluo4/NSF_CPS_Mixed_Autonomy/

Challenges:

- How to enable vehicles with varying autonomy by humans and AI to understand and predict each others' driving behaviors.
- How to accommodate individual perceived safety for altruistic behavior designs of vehicle autonomy.
- How to create decentralized behavioral coordination and provable safety-critical control of vehicles with mixed and varying autonomy to safely interact in a socially compliant manner.

Solutions:

1. Develop universal behavioral modeling, safety assessment, and uncertainty characterization for vehicles of diverse levels of human/machine autonomy.
2. Design decentralized semi-cooperative behavioral coordination framework of mixed autonomy in highway traffic for collective safety.
3. Devise interaction-aware safety-critical control methods for ego autonomous vehicles to reliably track the rendered trajectory with safety assurance.

Scientific Impact:

- The research contribute to the core CPS research areas of Autonomy, Safety, and Transportation by ushering in a new CPS paradigm of harmonious and safe integration of robotic systems with heterogeneous, varying, and mixed human / machine autonomy.
- The proposed research work can be extended to other CPS in manufacturing, warehousing, and healthcare applications where safe coordination in human-robot interaction is critical.

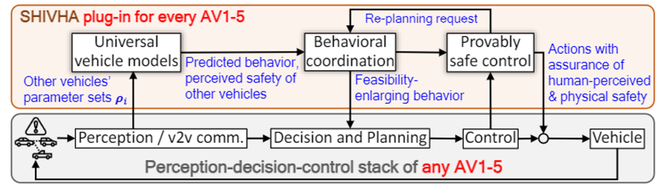
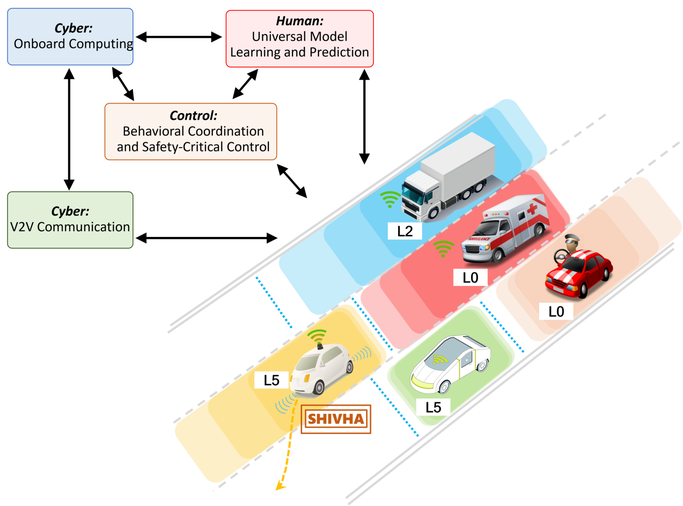


Figure 2: Interface between SHIVHA and any AV1-5 systems.



- Two courses being enriched; Four REUs/year participating the project.

Broader Impact:

- The research may provide new methods and transformative impacts on other domains requiring harmonious and safe coordination of robots with varying AI autonomy and humans, such as manufacturing, warehousing, and healthcare applications.
- The project involves curriculum development and leverage resources at UNC Charlotte and UT Austin to encourage graduate, undergraduate, and K-12 students from URM and marginalized groups.
- Recruit REUs working on this research in collaboration with graduate students at UNC Charlotte and UT Austin.

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Wenhao Luo (wenhao.luo@uncc.edu)
Junmin Wang (jwang@austin.utexas.edu)