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Saurabh Jha, **Subho S. Banerjee**, James Cyriac, Zbigniew T. Kalbarczyk and Ravishankar K. Iyer

Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering

AVFI: Fault Injection for Autonomous Vehicles

Fault Injection to Measure Resilience of AVs

- Recent media attention on Tesla/Waymo/Uber AVs

- Resilience and Safety characteristics vary across computing kernels and computing systems

- **Research Gap: Methods to Assess End-to-End Resilience of AVs not available**

TRANSPORTATION | UBER | RIDE-SHARING

Uber self-driving car saw pedestrian but didn't brake before fatal crash, feds say

The report is more interesting for what it doesn't say than what it does

By Andrew J. Hawkins | @andyjayhawk | May 24, 2018, 11:07am EDT

Safety and Reliability Issues [Banerjee et al., DSN 2018]

- **Data and Machine Learning:** 64% of reports were problems in the machine learning system (perception, control)

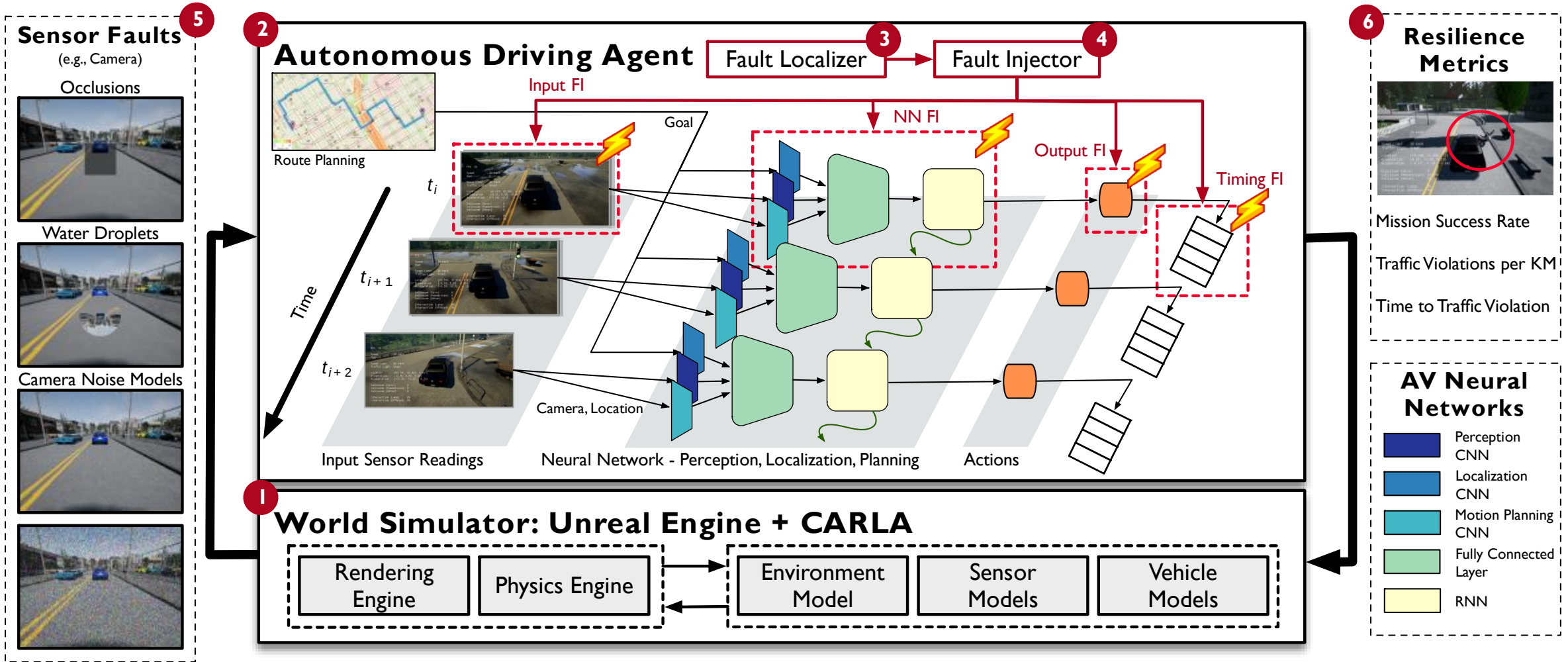
- **Compute system-related**: 30% or more due to failures in computing stack (e.g., watchdogs, networks)

- **Human in the loop:** Human in the loop systems (driver + other cars), have to anticipate the other actors on the roads

Challenges

- Heterogeneity of system components makes this a challenging problem
  - Complex integration of Sensors, ML, Actuators, Mechanical Components
  - Significant heterogeneity in AV systems: Bayesian Learning, DNNs…
- Interplay between uncertainty at system level: **HW/SW faults** & **algorithmic faults** (ML prediction errors)
  - Unknown Inputs and Inaccuracies in ML predictions
  - Data faults vs Hardware faults
- No robust resilience metrics: Understanding propagation and masking to evaluate safety violations
  - Masking of faults and errors at hardware, software and traffic-levels

AVFI Design

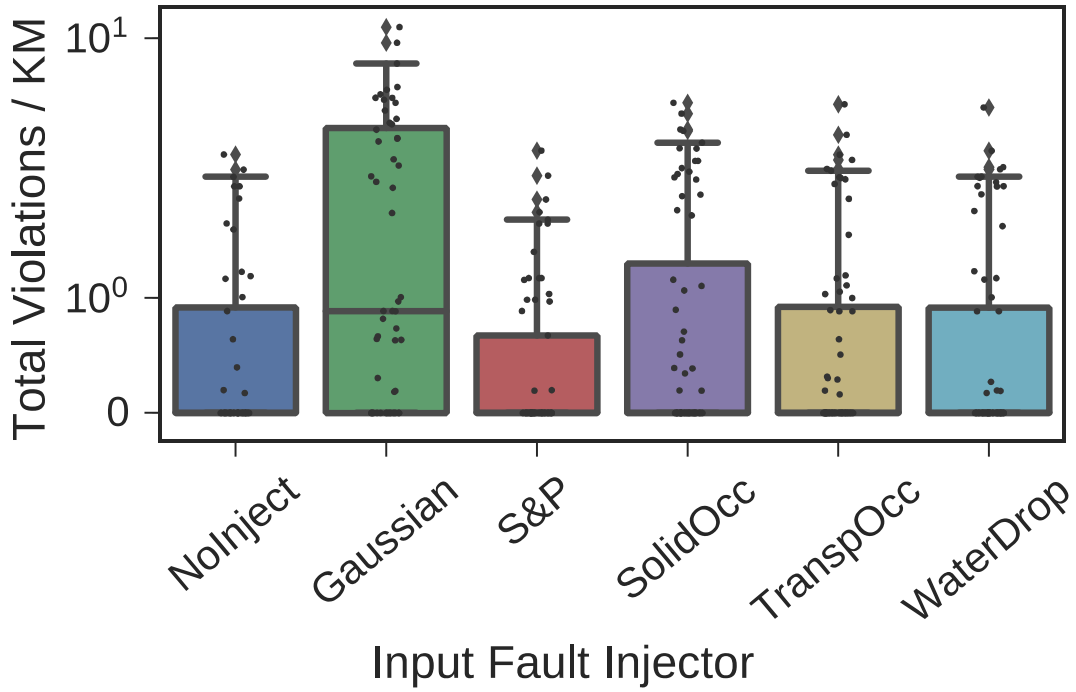


[1] Dosovitskiy, Alexey, et al. "CARLA: An open urban driving simulator." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.03938* (2017)

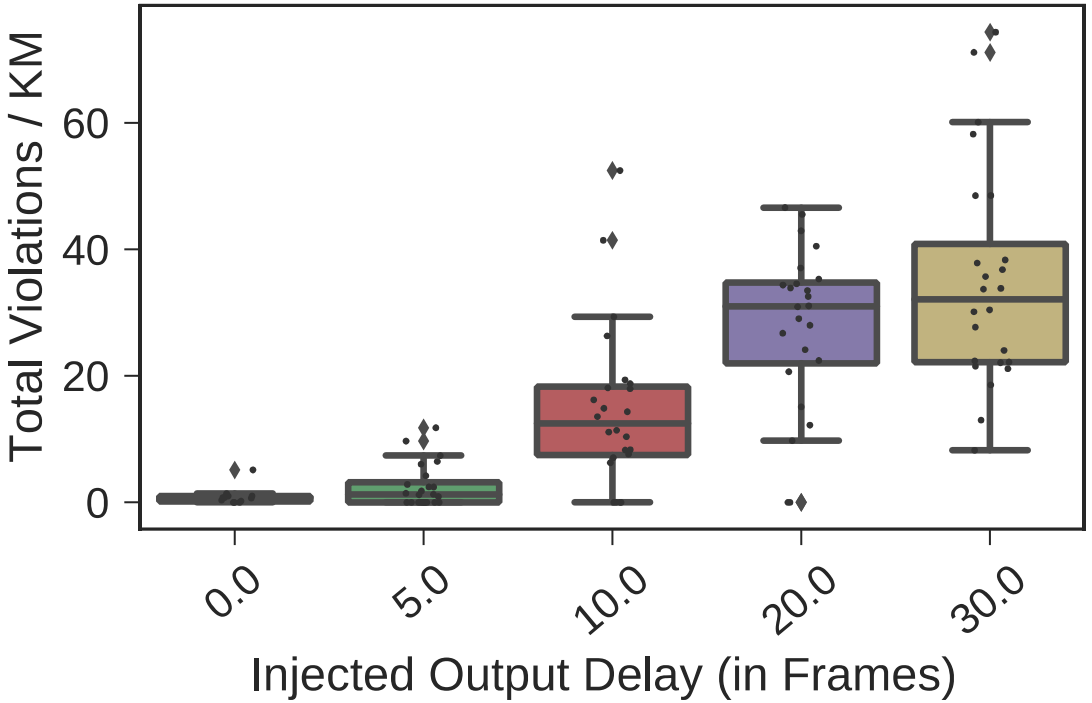
Example Injections

Fault Injection Results

Input Sensor Fault Injection



Delay Injection



- **Sensor models**: GPS, LIDAR, RADAR, SONAR
- **Network failure** – Clock synchronization, Route Planning

Looking Forward

- Need for End-to-End resilience safety assessment
  - Holistic view of at system stack
  - Need to focus beyond DNNs
  - Traffic resilience needs to be accounted

- Fault injection is challenging: Time – Coverage trade off

- Improve system resilience by targeting most vulnerable kernels and system units

Questions?

Code: Simulator + Injector
Simulator – https://github.com/carla-simulator/carla
Injector – https://gitlab.engr.illinois.edu/DEPEND/av-imitation-learning-fault-injection