

---

# Intelligent Vehicles that (Fore)See

Dariu M. Gavrila

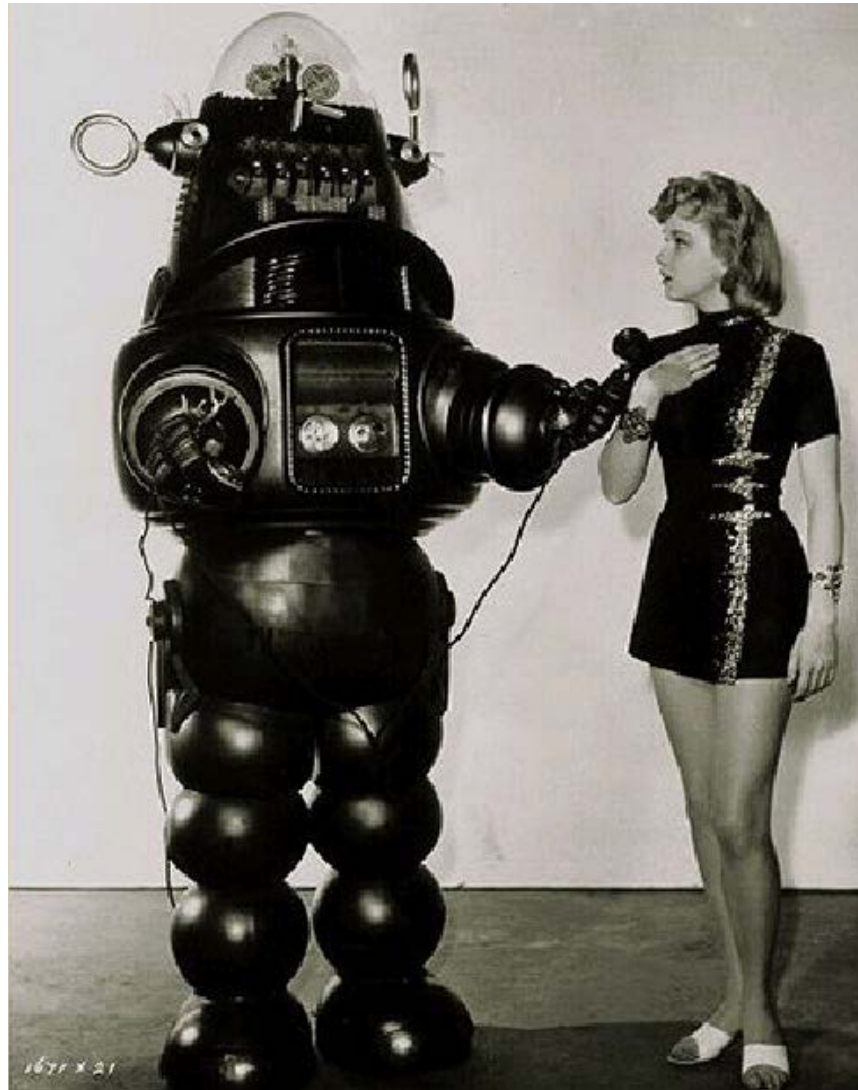
**DAIMLER**

Environment Perception  
Daimler R & D, Ulm, Germany



Intelligent Systems Laboratory  
Univ. of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

We originally thought Machine Intelligence would look like

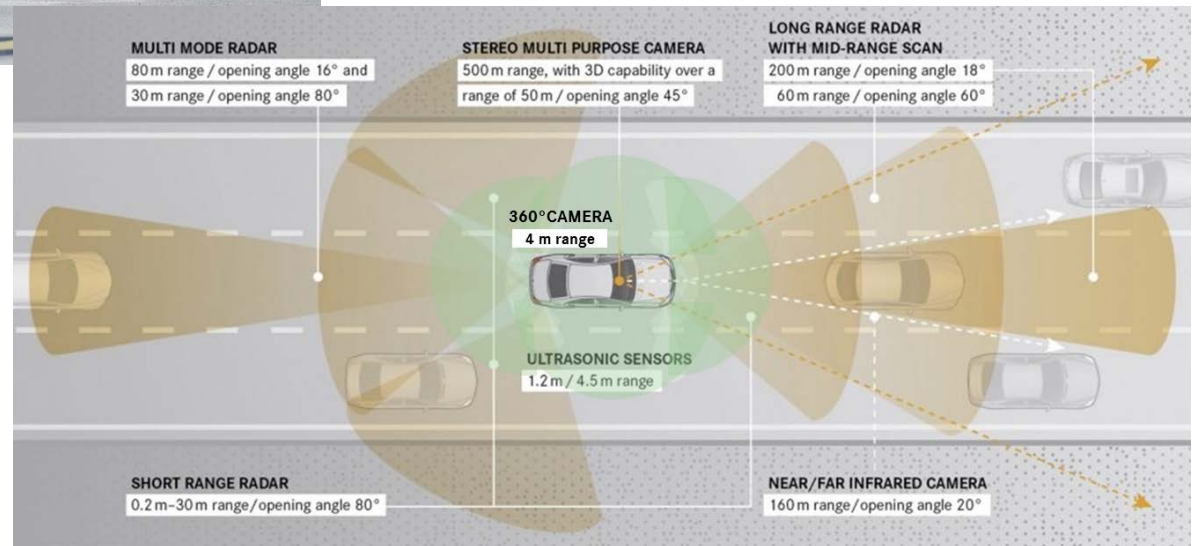


1956 "Forbidden Planet"  
Robby the Robot (Flickr)

when in fact, Machine Intelligence is already with us,  
and has a familiar embodiment ...



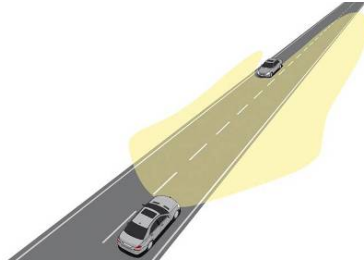
Mercedes-Benz S Class (2013)



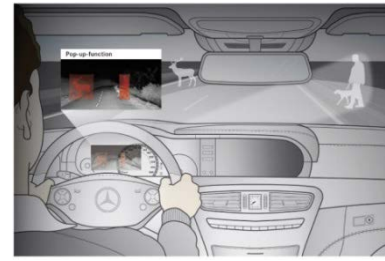
# Driver Assistance Functions (MB S-, E- and C-Class, 2013-2014)



Traffic Signs



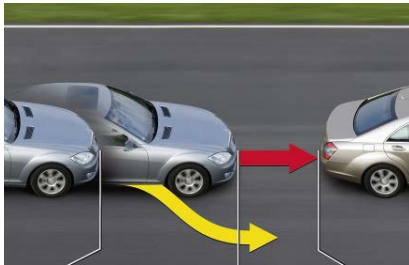
Adaptive High Beam



Nightview



Attention



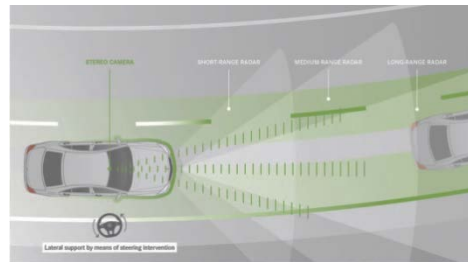
Pre-Crash Braking (longitudinal & lateral traffic) with Pedestrian Recognition



(Active) Body Control



Parking



Adaptive Cruise Control with Steering Assist



(Active) Lane Keeping

---

## My Research Focus So Far

*Perception and modeling of humans and their activities, for systems to interact intelligently with a human-inhabited environment*

*Learn visual appearance, dynamics and behaviors of humans*

- High dimensional data, complex manifold structure
- Non-linearity in the observation and dynamical model
- Noisy and/or incomplete sensor data
- Integration of multiple information sources
- Efficient (approximate) inference



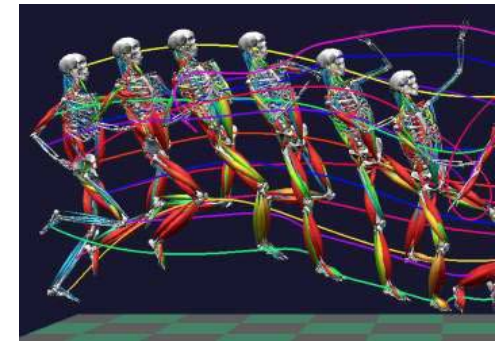
# Application Domains



Intelligent Vehicles



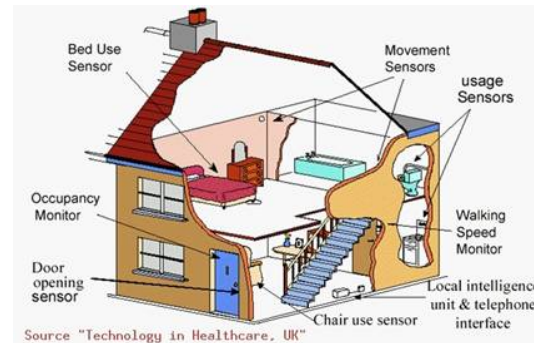
Surveillance



Biomechanics  
(Rehabilitation, Sports, Ergonomy)



Entertainment  
(Animation, Interactive Games)



Smart Homes

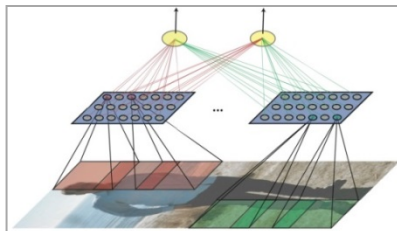
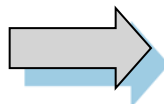


Social Robotics  
Elderly Care

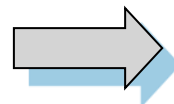
# Outline



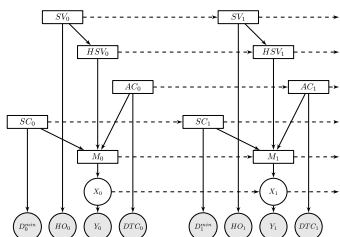
**Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)**



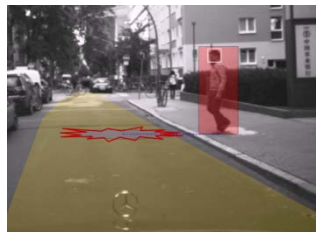
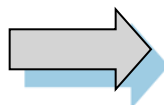
**Object  
Classification**



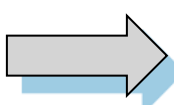
**Pose Estimation  
& Tracking**



**Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction**



**Collision Risk  
Assessment**

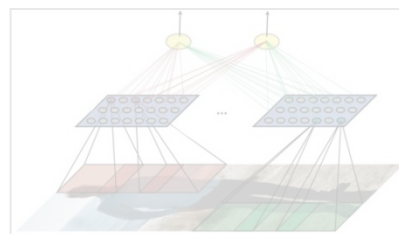


**Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control**

# Outline



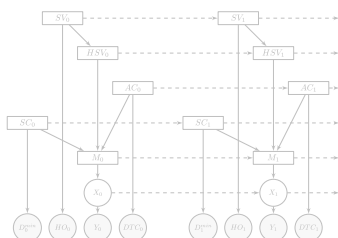
**Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)**



**Object  
Classification**



**Pose Estimation  
& Tracking**



**Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction**



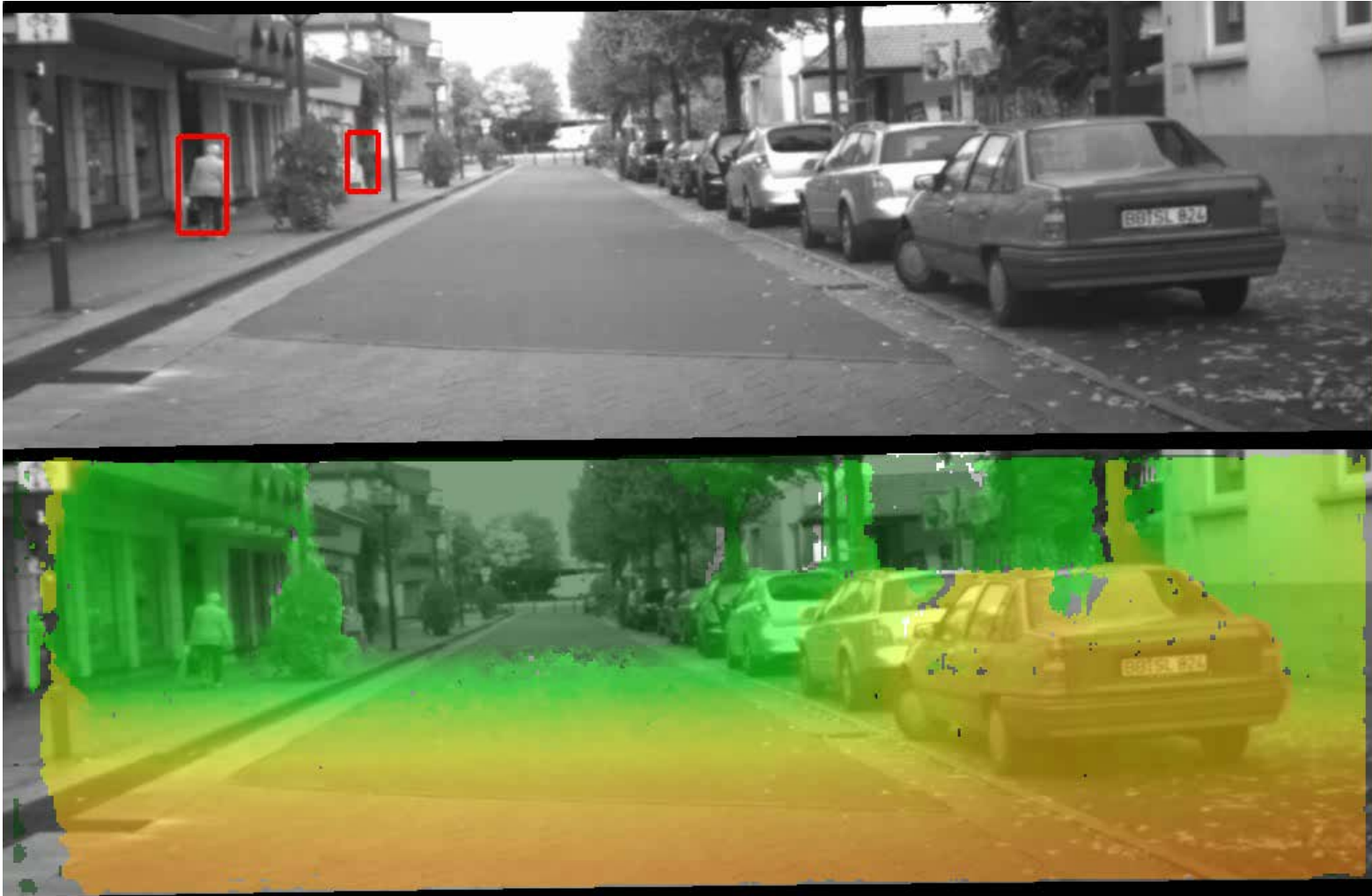
**Collision Risk  
Assessment**



**Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control**



# Dense Stereo: Better ROIs, Classification and Localization

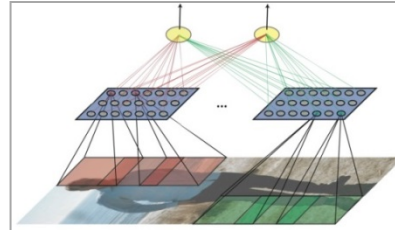


C. Keller, M. Enzweiler, M. Rohrbach, D.-F. Llorca, C. Schnörr, and D.M. Gavrila. „The Benefits of Dense Stereo for Pedestrian Detection.“ *IEEE Trans. on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2011.

# Outline



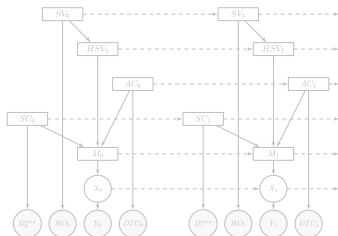
**Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)**



**Object  
Classification**



**Pose Estimation  
& Tracking**



**Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction**

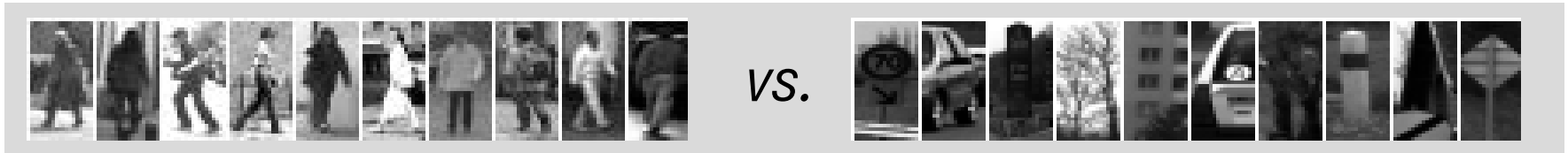


**Collision Risk  
Assessment**



**Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control**

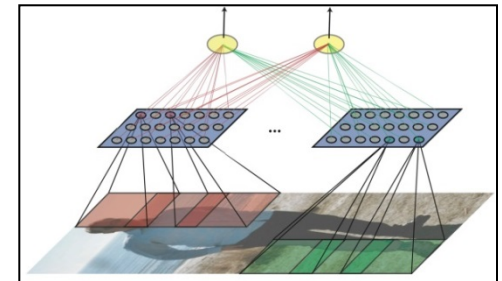
# Pedestrian Classification: Appearance-Based



## What features? What pattern classifier?

M. Enzweiler and D. M. Gavrila. Monocular Pedestrian Detection: Survey and Experiments. *IEEE Trans. on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 2009.

S. Munder and D. M. Gavrila. An Experimental Study on Pedestrian Classification. *IEEE Trans. on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 2006.

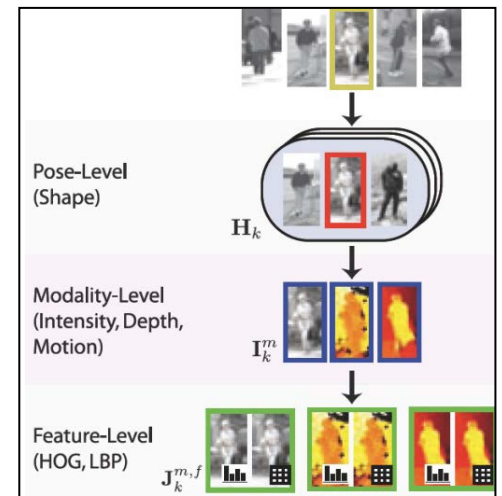


## How to combine features and pattern classifiers?

M. Enzweiler and D. M. Gavrila. A Multi-Level Mixture-of-Experts Framework for Pedestrian Classification. *IEEE Trans. on Image Processing*, 2011.

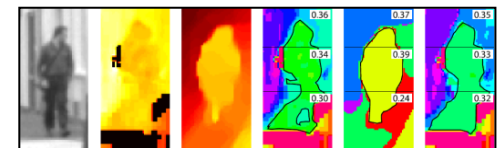
## How to deal with occlusion?

M. Enzweiler, A. Eigenstetter, B. Schiele and D.M. Gavrila. Multi-Cue Pedestrian Classification with Partial Occlusion Handling. *Proc. IEEE Conf. on Comp. Vision and Pattern Recognition*, 2010.

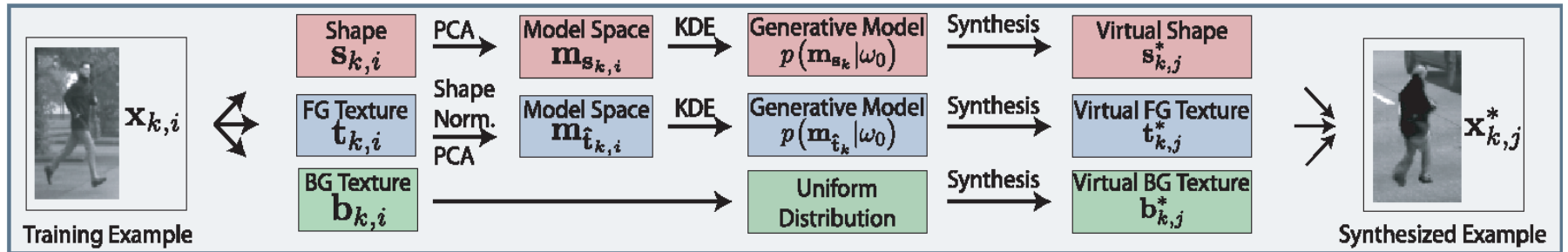


Mixture of experts: 
$$P(\omega_0 | \mathbf{x}_i) \approx \sum_{k=1}^K w_k(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{F}_k(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

pose, modality, body parts, features



# Generative Model for Pedestrian Appearance: allows sampling „virtual“ pedestrians



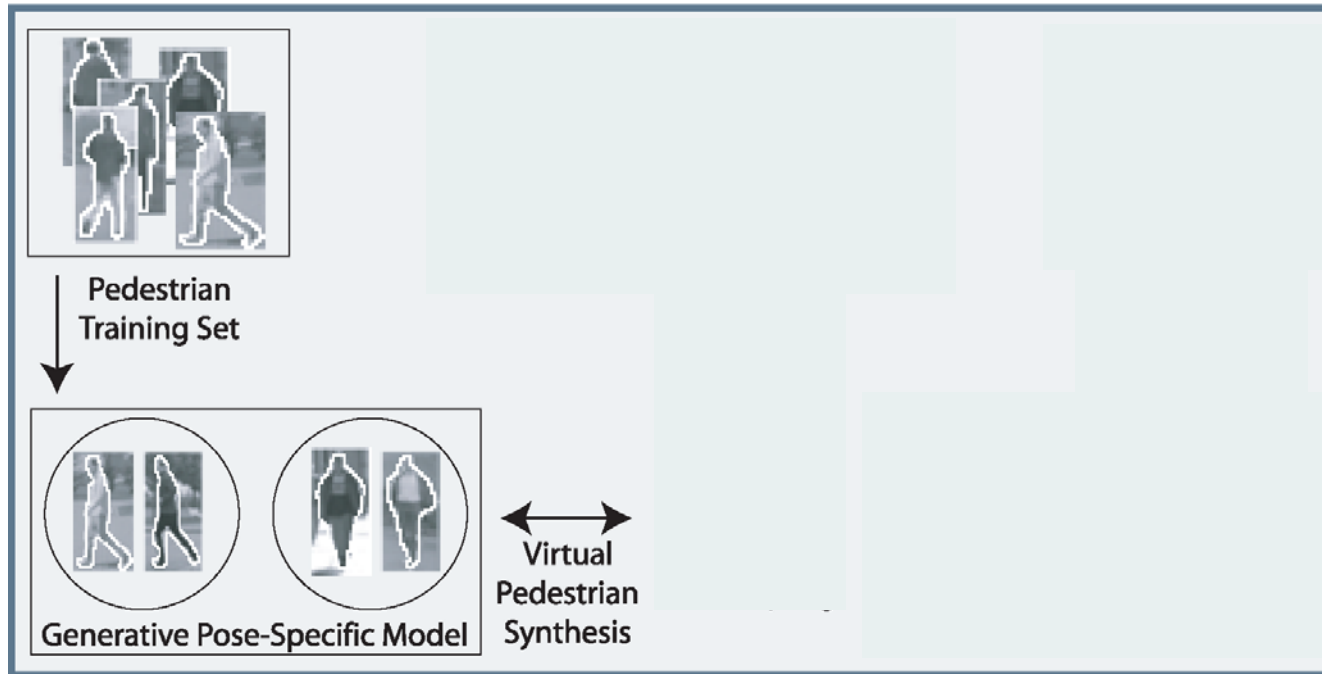
Shape variation



Texture variation



# Mixed Generative-Discriminative Classification Framework

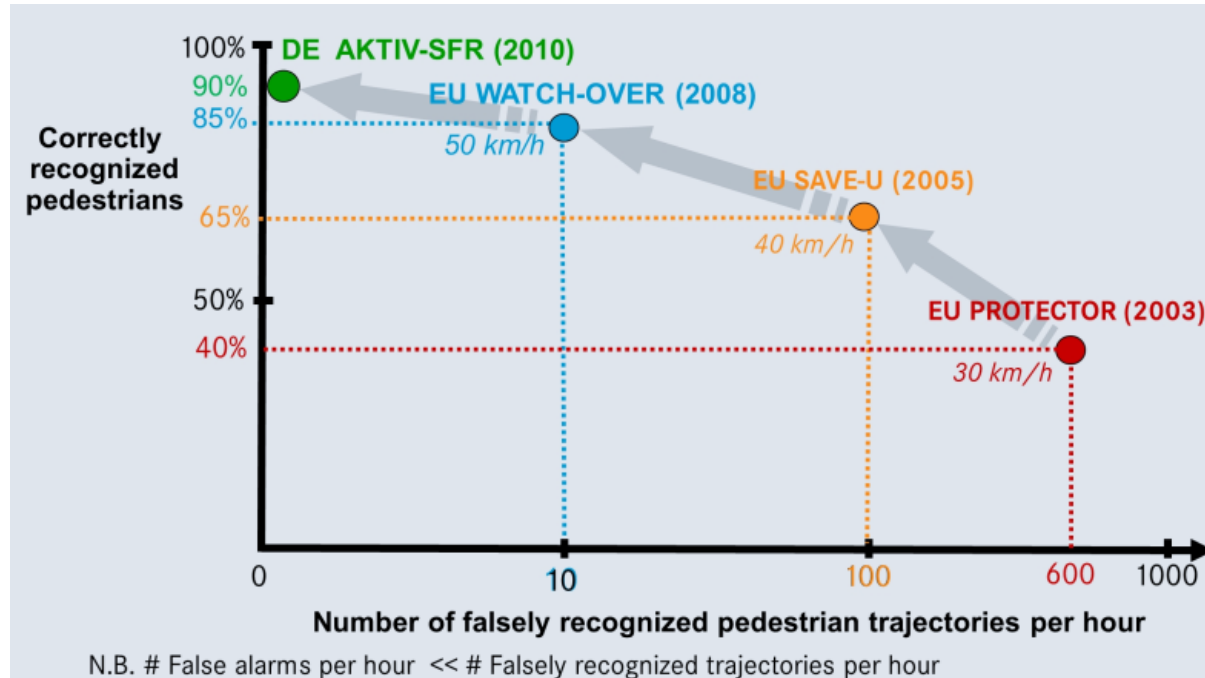


In experiments,  
30% less false  
positives  
(outperforming case  
where an equal  
number of manual  
labels were added)

Not all virtual samples are informative:  
Rejection sampling by active learning



# Pedestrian Recognition: from Research to Product



After a decade of research ...



S Class (2013)



E Class (2013)



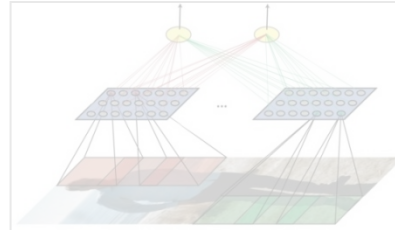
C Class (2014)

2013-2014: Market introduction PRE-SAFE® brake with stereo vision-based pedestrian recognition in Mercedes-Benz models

# Outline



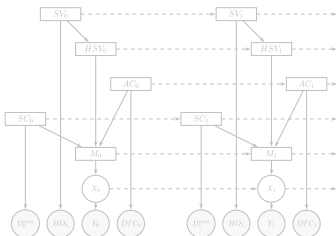
**Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)**



**Object  
Classification**



**Pose Estimation  
& Tracking**



**Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction**

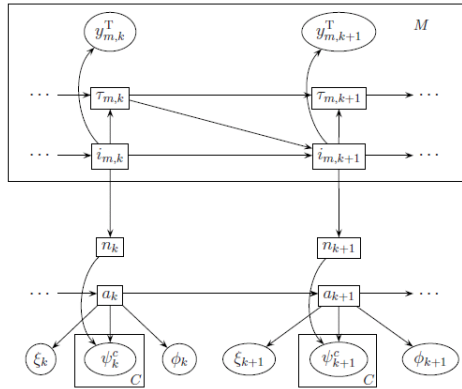


**Collision Risk  
Assessment**

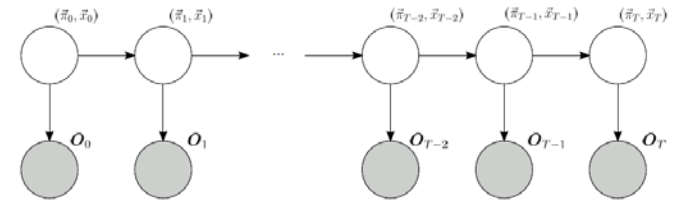


**Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control**

# Probabilistic Temporal Models – Directed Graphs



Conditional dependencies between variables denoted by links

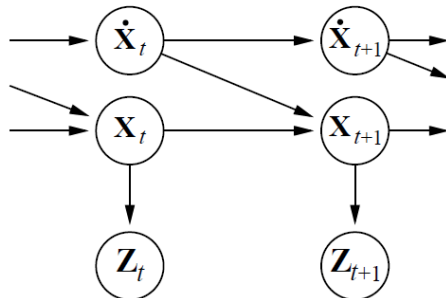


## Dynamic Bayesian Networks (DBN)

contains arbitrary many latent and observed variables (discrete or continuous), which are replicated at each time slice

## Hidden Markov Model (HMM)

DBN with a single, discrete latent variable and a single observed variable



## Linear Dynamical Systems (LDS)

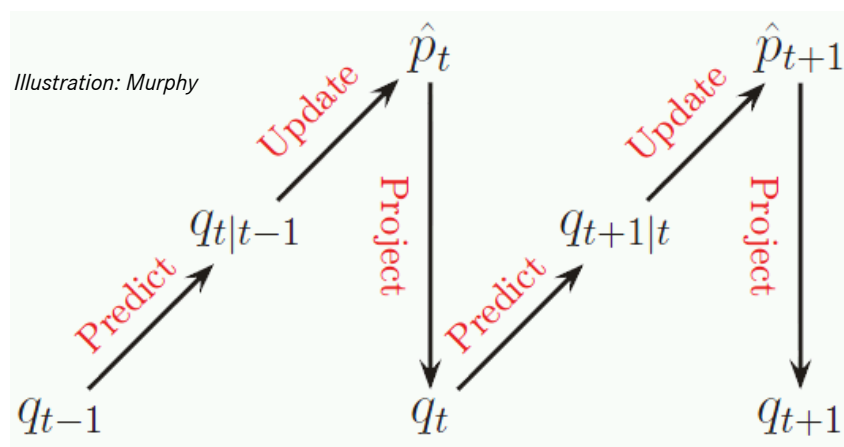
DBN with continuous variables, linear Gaussian dynamical and observation model

# Inference – Bayesian Filtering

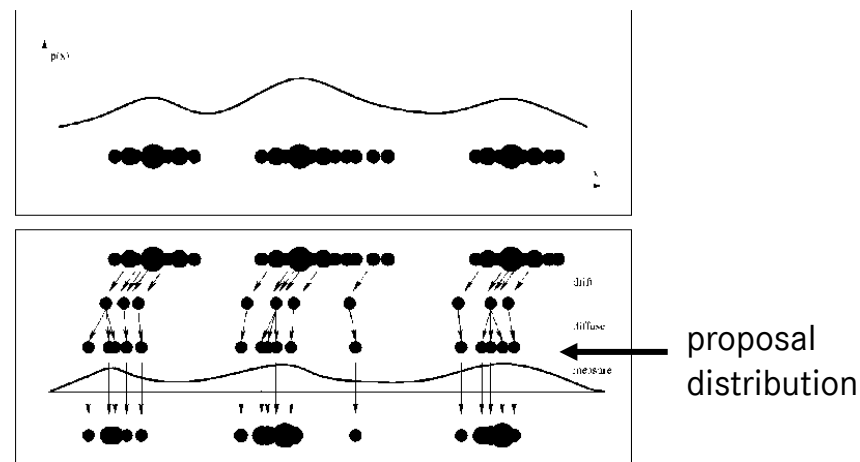
Few interesting problems allow exact inference (e.g. Kalman Filter for LDS)

Approximate inference techniques

1. Exact inference on approximate model →  
parametric approach: **Assumed Density Filter** (e.g. Boyen Koller, GPB-1, GPB-2, IMM)
2. Approximate inference on exact model →  
non-parametric approach: **Particle Filter**



Assumed Density Filter

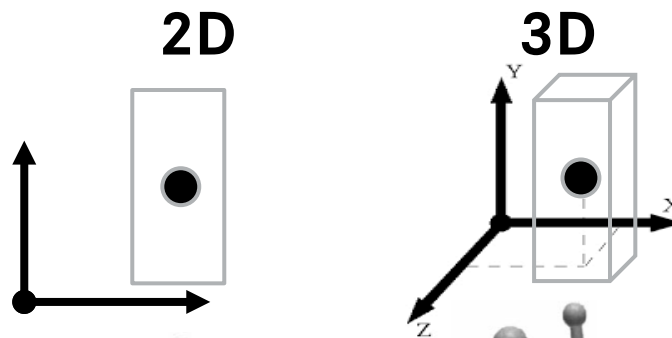


Particle Filter

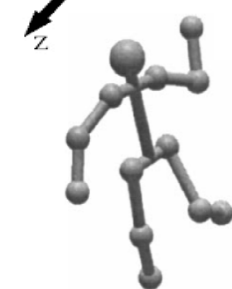
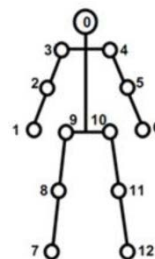
# Pose/Tracking - Related State Variables

Trade-off between modeling accuracy and ability to estimate parameters robustly

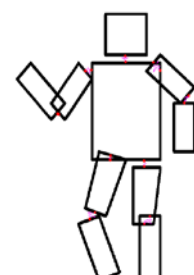
- Location  $L_t$



- Pose  $P_t$



- Shape  $S_t$



- Texture  $T_t$

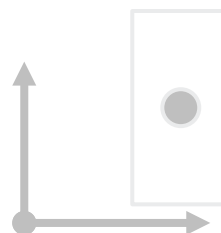




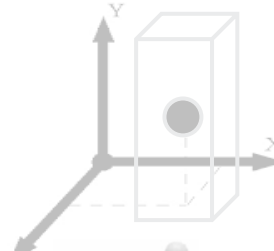
# Pose/Tracking - Related State Variables

• Location  $L_t$

2D



3D



## Particle filtering

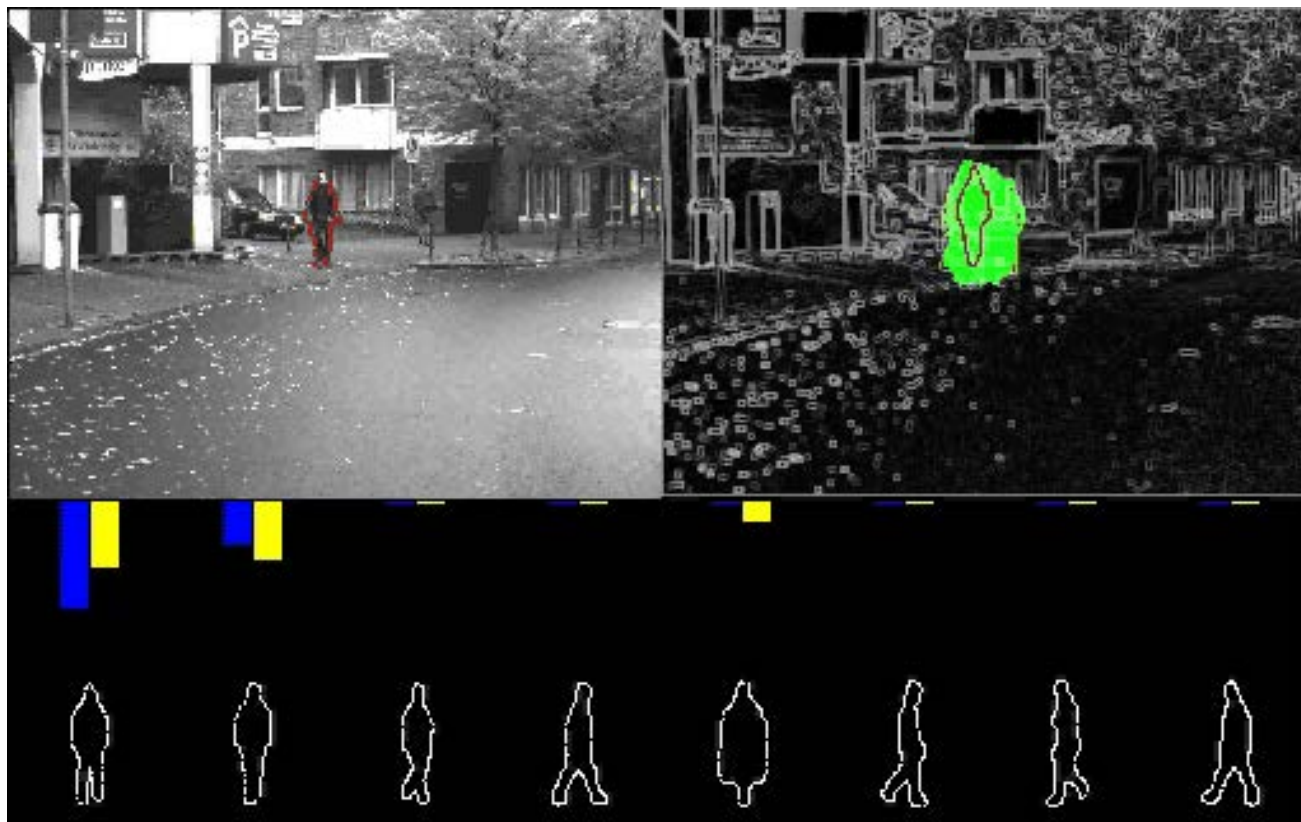
- *Partitioned sampling*
- *Mixture of predictive and detector distribution*
- *Particle optimization*
- *„Coarse to fine“ likelihood function*

Trade-off between  
modeling accuracy  
and all parameters  
estimated  
parameters  
robustly

• Texture  $T_t$



# Estimation of (Deformable) 2D Pedestrian Appearance



S. Munder, C. Schnörr and D. M. Gavrila, Pedestrian Detection and Tracking Using a Mixture of View-Based Shape-Texture Models. *IEEE Trans. on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2008.

- Partitioned sampling  $L_t \rightarrow S_t \rightarrow T_t$   
( $S_t$  has mixed discrete/continuous representation, 20+ dim, implicitly encodes  $P_t$ )
- Proposal distribution: mixture of predictive distribution and detector distrib.
- Particle optimization (Active Shape Models [Cootes *et al.*, 1995])

# Estimation of 3D Head- and Body- Orientation



(results are only shown for one pedestrian at a time)

- $L_t \rightarrow P_t$ . Low-dimensional state space  $P_t(\phi_{\text{Head}}, \phi_{\text{Body}}) \rightarrow$  no partitioned sampling, no particle optimization necessary
- Proposal distribution equals predictive distribution

F. Flohr, M. Dumitru-Guzu, J. F. P. Kooij and D. M. Gavrila. A probabilistic framework for joint pedestrian head and body orientation estimation. *IEEE Trans. on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2014

# Estimation of 3D Articulated Human Pose

Cluttered, dynamic background, arbitrary (single) human motion, normal clothing, few overlapping cameras



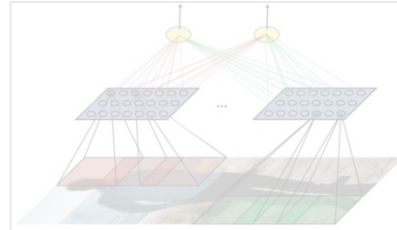
M. Hofmann and D. M. Gavrila. Multi-view 3D Human Pose Estimation in Complex Environment. *Int. Journal of Computer Vision*, 2012.

- $L_t \rightarrow P_t \rightarrow T$  ( $P_t$  has 13 DOF,  $S_t$  estimated by off-line process)
- Coarse-to-fine likelihood function
- Proposal distribution: mixture of extrapolations of K-most likely solutions within time interval (batch mode) and detector distribution
- Particle optimization (inverse kinematics)

# Outline



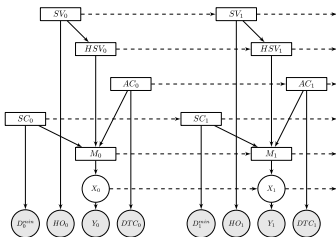
Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)



Object  
Classification



Pose Estimation  
& Tracking



Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction



Collision Risk  
Assessment



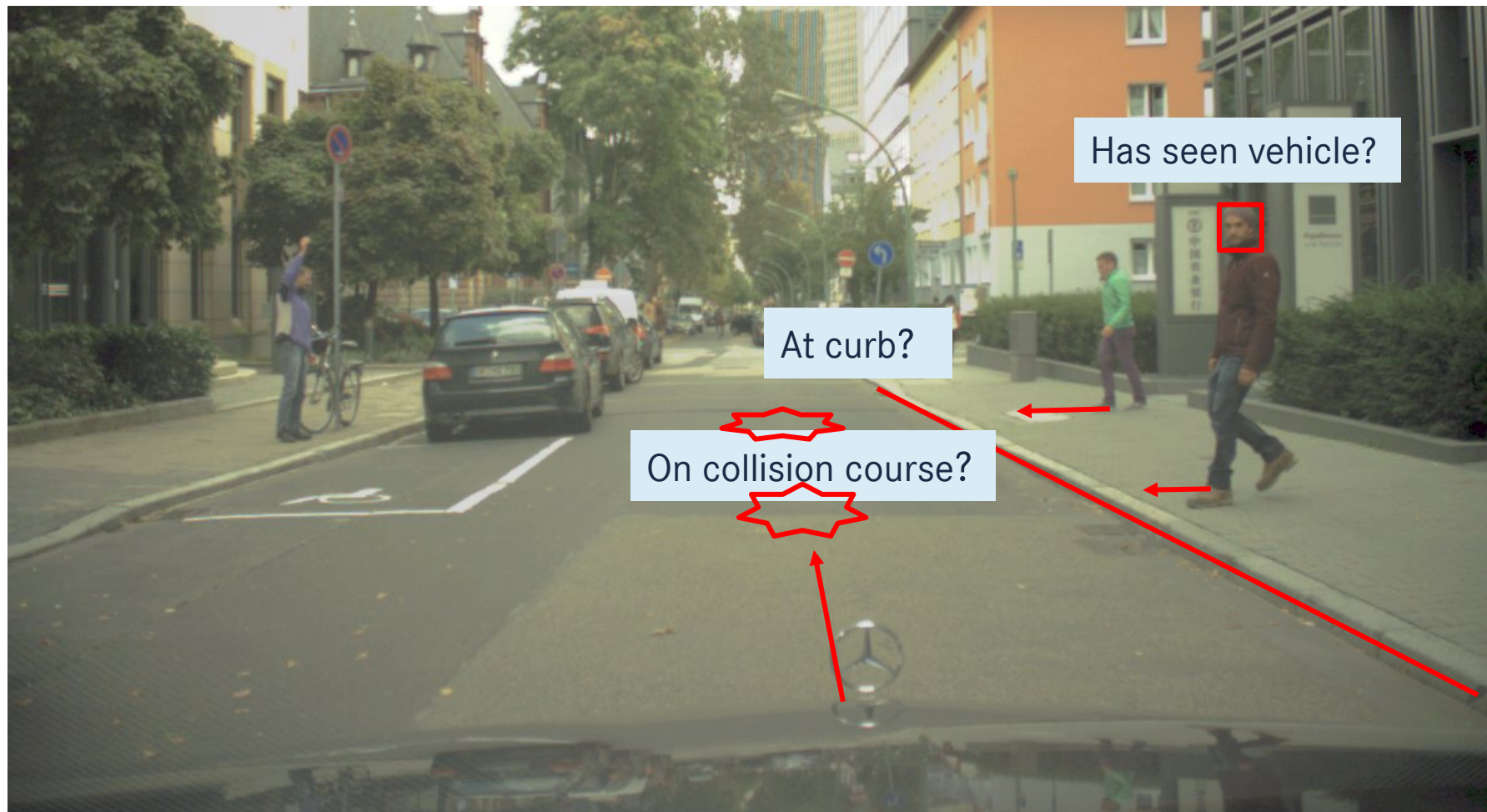
Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control



## Pro-active pedestrian safety: will the pedestrian cross?



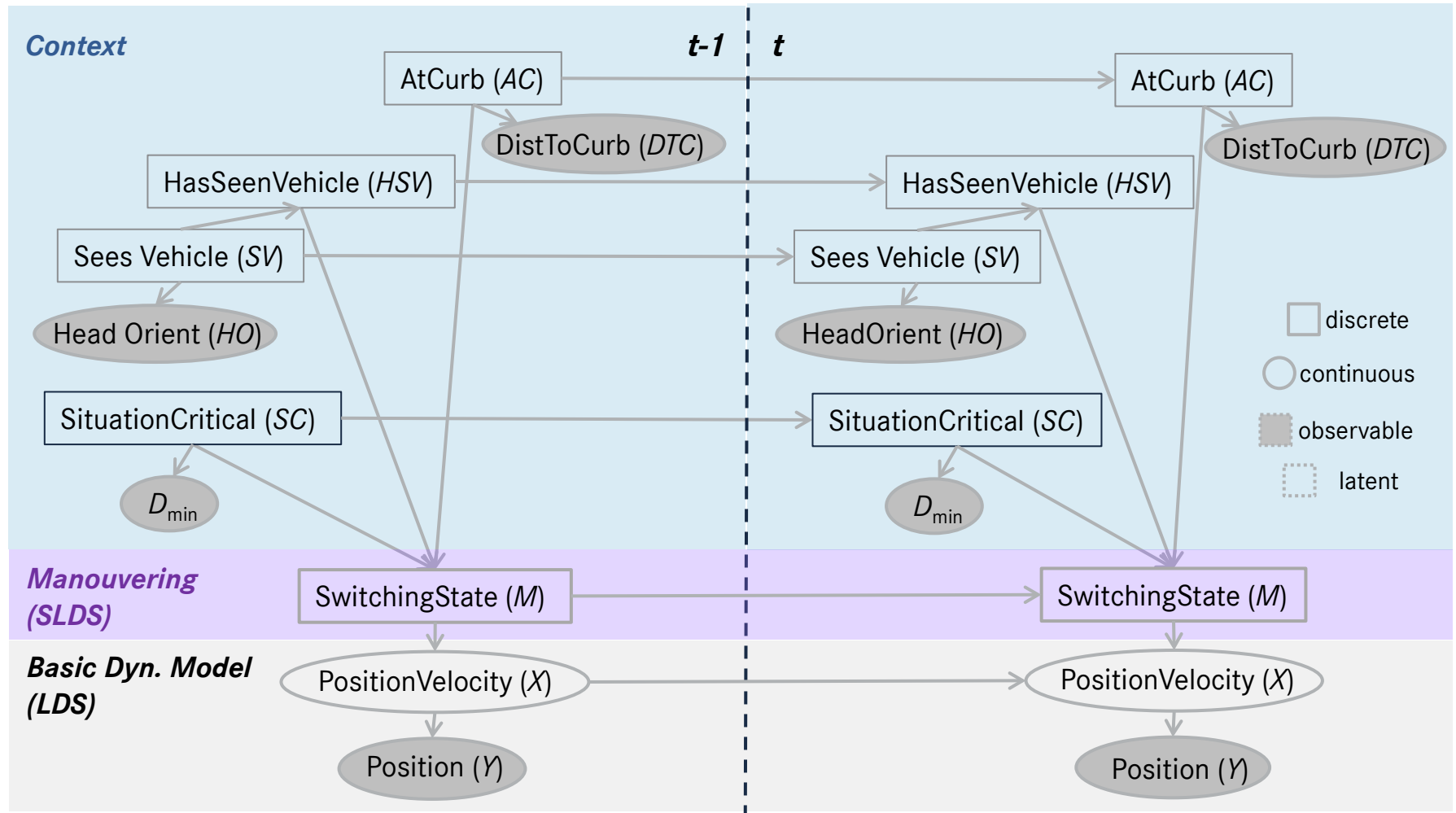
# Context Matters



# Context-based Switching Linear Dynamical System (SLDS)

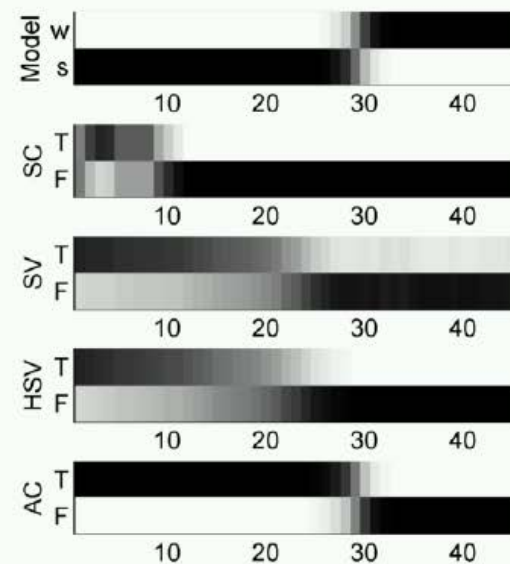
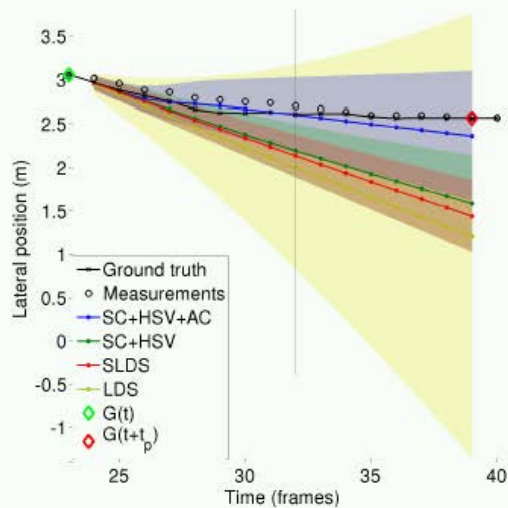
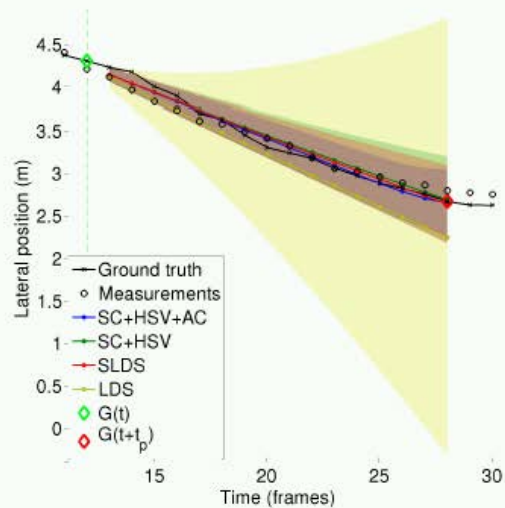
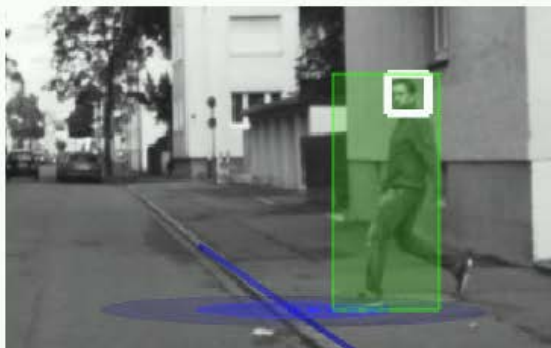
## Dynamical Bayesian Network

Inference by Assumed Density Filtering



# State Estimation & Path Prediction

Scenario: pedestrian sees vehicle and stops (two snapshots of a run)



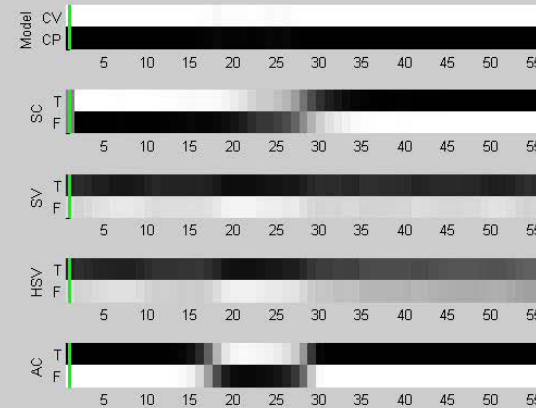
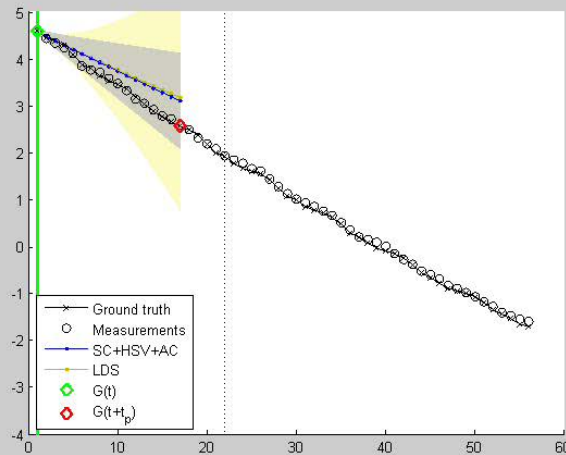






# LDS (white) vs. context-based SLDS (blue), 1 s ahead, $\pm\sigma$

Scenario: Crossing, situation critical, not sees vehicle



# Performance Evaluation

## Metric

- Log likelihood of ground truth position  $G$  under the predictive distribution

$$predll(t_p|t) = \log [\bar{P}_{t_p|t}(G_{t+t_p})]$$

**Results** (*predll* 16 frames ahead  $\sim$  1 s )

Benefit  
of context

Really bad

Similar

Other  
state-of-art  
is worse too

<i>Higher (i.e. less negative) values are better</i>	LDS	SLDS	<b>C-SLDS</b>	PHTM [1]
SceneCritical=0, HasSeenVehicle=0, Crossing	-1.90	-0.59	-0.61	-0.78
SceneCritical=0, HasSeenVehicle=1, Crossing	-1.93	-0.49	-0.53	-0.75
SceneCritical=1, HasSeenVehicle=0, Crossing	-1.88	-0.33	-0.48	-0.97
SceneCritical=1, HasSeenVehicle=1, Stopping	-1.88	-1.26	-0.33	-0.38

[1] C. Keller, C. Hermes and D.M. Gavrila. Will the pedestrian cross? Probabilistic Path Prediction based on Learned Motion Features. *Proc. of the DAGM*. (DAGM 2011 Prize)

J. P. F. Kooij, N. Schneider, F. Flohr and D. M. Gavrila. Context-based pedestrian path prediction. *Proc. ECCV*, 2014.

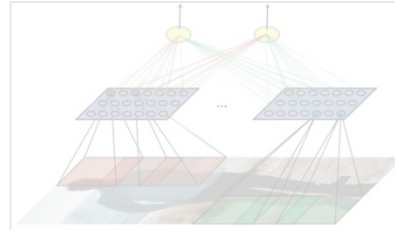
# Context-based Pedestrian Path Prediction



# Outline



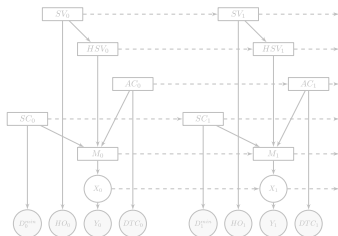
**Regions of Interest  
(Stereo, Motion, Geometry)**



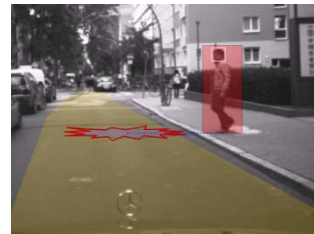
**Object  
Classification**



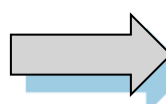
**Pose Estimation  
& Tracking**



**Behavior Modeling  
& Path Prediction**



**Collision Risk  
Assessment**



**Driver Warning /  
Vehicle Control**

# Vehicle Demo – Midterm BMWi UR:BAN Project (May 2014)

Scenario: Crossing, situation critical, does not see vehicle



*„New“  
warning  
comes 1 s  
earlier !*

*High tone:* „state-of-the-art“ warning (Kalman Filter, based on current position estimate)

**Low tone:** „new“ warning (context-based SLDS, based on position predicted 1 s ahead)

## Vehicle Demo – Midterm BMWi UR:BAN Project (May 2014)

Scenario: Stopping, situation critical, sees vehicle



*No  
false  
alarm(s) !*

*High tone:* „state-of-the-art“ warning (Kalman Filter, based on current position estimate)

**Low tone:** „new“ warning (context-based SLDS, based on position predicted 1 s ahead)



# Automatic Evasion



C. Keller, T. Dang, A. Joos, C. Rabe, H. Fritz, and D.M. Gavrila. Active Pedestrian Safety by Automatic Braking and Evasive Steering, IEEE Trans. on Intelligent Transportation Systems, 2011

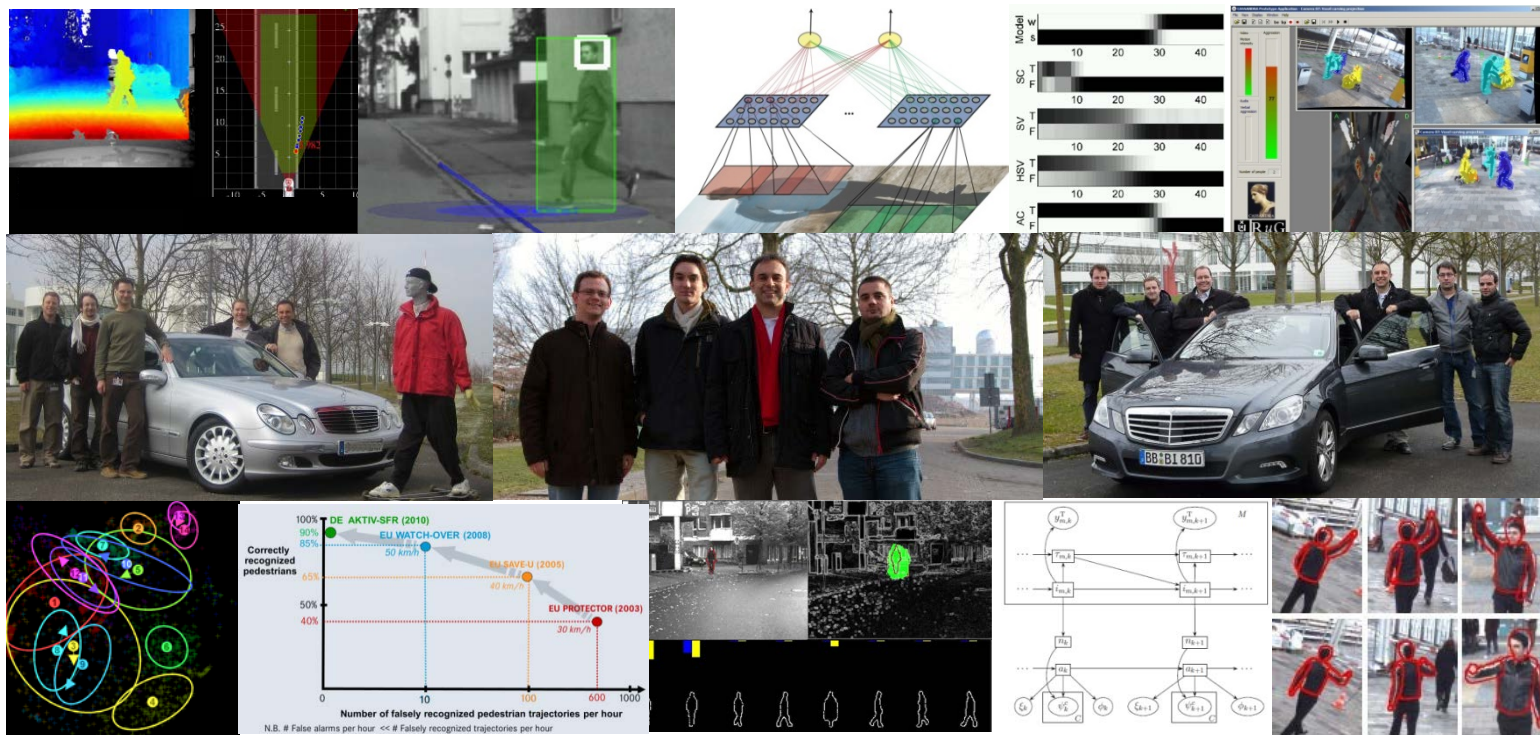
300 ms from first sight of pedestrian to initiation of vehicle maneuver (braking or evasion)

# Autonomous Driving



Mercedes-Benz Autonomous Driving on the Memorial Bertha-Benz Route, 09-2013  
(Mannheim - Pforzheim, ~ 100 km on secondary and urban roads)

These are interesting times ...



... but the best is yet to come!

## Credits

M. Enzweiler, F. Flohr, J. Giebel, M. Hofmann, C. Keller, J. Kooij, S. Munder, N. Schneider, and others ...