Implications of Removing the Human Driver
Toyota "Unintended Acceleration" Has Killed 89

A 2005 Toyota Prius, which was in an accident, is seen at a police station in Harrison, New York, Wednesday, March 10, 2010. The driver of the Toyota Prius told police that the car accelerated on its own, then lurched down a driveway, across a road and into a stone wall. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig) / AP PHOTO/SETH WENIG

Unintended acceleration in Toyota vehicles may have been involved in the deaths of 89 people over the past decade, upgrading the number of deaths possibly linked to the massive recalls, the government said Tuesday.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said that from 2000 to mid-May, it had received more than 6,200 complaints involving sudden acceleration in Toyota vehicles. The reports include 89 deaths and 57 injuries over the same period. Previously, 52 deaths had been suspected of being connected to the problem.

See: https://users.ece.cmu.edu/~koopman/toyota/index.html

It's All Your Fault: The DOT Renders Its Verdict on Toyota's Unintended-Acceleration Scare

The final word on the Toyota unintended-acceleration mess.

CSABA CSERE JUN 9, 2011
Tesla Blames Driver In Fatal Model X Autopilot Crash As Family Considers Legal Action

Huang fatality; crash into concrete median.
Tesla car suddenly and unintentionally accelerated into driver's house, lawsuit says

Ji Chang Son says that Tesla's Model X vehicles are plagued by the phenomenon

Feds blame driver error for 16,000 annual unintended acceleration cases

Accident victims don't buy the argument but few can document any other cause

James R. Hood
Founder and Editor
Man reportedly caught sleeping behind the wheel of a self-driving Tesla  
https://goo.gl/ZFCYzD

Google's Waymo Self-Driving Car Crashed After Driver Dozed Off Back in June

Justin T. Westbrook  
10/04/18 10:23am  -  Filed to: WAYMO

A Waymo self-driving car sent a motorcyclist to the hospital — but the human driver was at fault

Graham Rapier  Nov. 6, 2018, 4:20 PM

Photo: Waymo  https://goo.gl/VTfW9d

© 2021 Philip Koopman
The 94% Human Error False Narrative

Where did “94%” come from?

- “The critical reason was assigned to drivers in an estimated 2,046,000 crashes that comprise 94 percent of the NMVCCS crashes at the national level.

However, in none of these cases was the assignment intended to blame the driver for causing the crash.”

[DOT HS 812 115]

Looking a little deeper:

- 74% of driver errors were “recognition” or “decision” errors
- And software driver must handle the 6% of no-driver-involvement crash causes
  - Tires, brakes, drivetrain failures
Humans Are Amazing Fault Mitigators

- Other side of the “94%” coin – people prevent crashes too

- Toyota uncommanded acceleration – most saved by human
  - 89 deaths, 57 injuries as of May 2010
  - 6,200+ NHTSA complaints [https://www.cbsnews.com/news/toyota-unintended-acceleration-has-killed-89/]

- GM brake issues – most saved by human
  - 293 injuries, 2111 crashes

- Will an ADS be as successful at fault mitigation as humans?
  - ADS will need to deal with heavy-tail issues
Automotive Software Quality Issues

Software defects & software integration problems

Figure 21A / Recall campaigns by electronic components & year

Source: Stout 2020 Automotive Defect & Recall Report
IEC is integrated electronic components (hardware)
Automotive Software Has Defects

- Small sampling of NHTSA recalls (i.e., confirmed bugs)
  - See: https://betterembsw.blogspot.com/p/potentially-deadly-automotive-software.html
  - 21V-071 Vehicle unexpected pulls to one side during evasive maneuver
  - 20V-213 Remote smart park continued motion after failsafe activation
  - 19E-070 Anti-rollback software causes unexpected vehicle motion
  - 19V-539 Forward collision avoidance does not detect stationary vehicle
  - 19V-351 Regenerative braking failure reduces deceleration
  - 19V-075 Transmission unexpected downshift to first gear causes loss of control
  - 18V-621 Automatic braking cancelled / ABS locks up wheels
  - 18V-607 Active Lane Keeping Assist does not intervene in lane departure
  - 17V-713: Engine does not reduce power due to ESP software defect
  - **17V-686 and MANY others:** Airbags disabled
  - **15V-460 and others:** Airbags deploy when they should not
Example Required ADS Fault Handling

- **Tire blowout/wheel detachment**
  - ADS: perform controlled stop (or run-flat tire operations)

- **Service brake failure**
  - ADS: downshift/regen braking, apply parking brake, runaway ramp

- **Catastrophic sensor failure**
  - ADS: dead reckon to stop using most recent object trajectories

- **Uncommanded acceleration**
  - ADS: de-energize engine/motors, apply forceful brakes

- **Main battery fire**
  - ADS: shed electrical load, stop vehicle, passenger evacuation
Controllability Without A Human Driver

- What happens when there is no human to exert controllability?
  - Own vehicle human driver?
  - Other vehicle human driver?

- Some combination of:
  - ADS will need to control faults to attain C1 or C2
  - Vehicle will have to upgrade subsystems to C3 ("uncontrollable")

- Potential for significant ASIL increase across whole vehicle
  - Many ADS control requirements

---

ISO 26262 Driver Controllability:
- C1 = Simply controllable
- C2 = Normally controllable
- C3 = Difficult / uncontrollable

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severity class</th>
<th>Exposure class</th>
<th>Controllability class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1</td>
<td>E1</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E2</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E3</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E4</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2</td>
<td>E1</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E2</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E3</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E4</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3</td>
<td>E1</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E2</td>
<td>QM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E4</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Computers won’t drive drunk” .. but ...

- Drunk/DUI is only 28% of fatalities (US 2019) [https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/Publication/813060]
- Automated Driving Systems (ADS) will likely make different mistakes
  - Perception/classification errors
  - Brittle in face of surprises (unknown unknowns)

What happens with ADS “driver error”? 

- Every AV crash is a product liability lawsuit waiting to happen
- Eventually, no human driver to absorb blame
  - What about Driver monitor system (DMS) failures?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Mode</th>
<th>Human Role</th>
<th>Driving</th>
<th>Driving Safety</th>
<th>Other Safety</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSISTIVE</strong></td>
<td>Driving</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPERVISED</strong></td>
<td>Eyes ON the road</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUTOMATED</strong></td>
<td>Eyes OFF the road</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUTONOMOUS</strong></td>
<td>No human driver</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/15" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vehicle Automation Modes

- **Driver Assistance**
- **Automated Driving**
Drivers do more than just drive
- Occupant behavior, passenger safety
- Detecting and managing equipment faults

Operational limitations & situations
- System exits Operational Design Domain
- Vehicle fire or catastrophic failure
- Post-crash response

Interacting with non-drivers
- Pedestrians, passengers
- Police, emergency responders
Lifecycle Issues

- Handling updates
  - Fully recertify after every weekly update?
  - Security in general

- Vehicle maintenance
  - Pre-flight checks, cleaning
  - Corrective maintenance

- Supply chain issues
  - Quality fade
  - Supply chain faults

Is windshield cleaning fluid life critical?
Changing Role of Human Driver

- No human driver to blame for crashes
- ADS handles vehicle equipment failures
- ADS handles non-ADS software failures