ABSICHERUNG Safe AI for Automated Driving

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KI Absicherung: Proof of Project Concept

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From a data-driven AI function to an Assurance Case for the use case Pedestrian Detection



- Process-related generation of synthetic learning, testing and validation data.
- Development of measures and methods that improve the AI function over a wide array of metrics.
- Development and validation of testing methods for these metrics.
- Stringent safety argumentation for the AI function and its Operational Design Domain (ODD).



Proof of Project Concept (PoPC)



- Define and implement the detailed technical workflow for developing a stringent safetyargumentation for AI-based functions in a minimalistic example
- Goals of the Proof of Project Concept
 - Develop an exemplary Mini-Safety argumentation (represented as GSN)
 - Define consistent terminology and workflow
 - Document and implement as a Blueprint for the complete project
 - Cover all required project activities
 - beginning with safety requirement as starting point, also defining and generating data, and going through DNN insufficiencies, mitigating them by Methods and Measures, and measuring the success by metrics which lead to providing evidences
- Definition in core team
- Implementation in PM and operational team









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Project Approach to Safety Argumentation for Al-based Functions (Big Picture)



PoPC Minimalistic Example

- Synthetic Data generated for one ground context (simple crossing, few assets and pedestrians)
- DNN insufficiency: Insufficient generalisation capability
- Measure: Variational Autoencoder
- Safety Requirement: Inadmissible application of the AI-Function outside of the specified Operation Design Domain should be avoided
- Two-dimensional ODD Definition: ODD is defined over one variation domain only
- Safety Argumenation: only Mini-GSN providing initial evidences

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IN ODD (Dark)



OUT ODD (Bright) Images: KI-Absicherung, Tranche 3, BIT Technology Solutions



Specifications (Functions, Architecture)





Customer Facing Functionality

 Automated driving function, that once activated by the driver ahead of an urban intersection in "sample village", takes control of the vehicle and drives it safely and smoothly through a specific type of intersection.



• Among others, this function contains an AI function "Pedestrian Detection" whose task is to detect all visible vulnerable road users ...

Specification of the Operational Design Domain (ODD)





- The ODD is specified by an **ontology** that describes the relationships of objects that can vary in a defined ground context.
- Derived Zwicky Boxes define dimensions and value ranges, e.g. for Natural Light Sources
- Metadata specifications serve as basis for data generation and testing



Source: Bos

PoPC two-dimensional ODD Definition

Dimension		
sun elevation	medium (6°-20°) Day (>20°)	twilight/sunrise (-6 to 0°) low (0 - 6°)
sky	clear high clouds	low partly clouded low completely clouded

Safety and Risk Analysis



Safety Goal

No pedestrian is harmed or injured by the vehicle during the automated ride through the intersection in "sample village" unless the accident is physically unavoidable.

Decomposition (simplified)

The derived safety requirement for perception is that within the ODD every relevant pedestrian is detected in all cases. Simplified: A pedestrian is relevant if she is visible/not occluded to more than X% and not more than Y meter away from the vehicle.

Derived safety requirements (PoPC only)

 The bounding box detection works correctly in the ODD - this requirement is not considered further in the following
Input data out of the ODD is detected at runtime



Image: Bosch

Training of AI Functions





Images: BIT Technology Solutions, Opel, Intel

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DNN safety measures and metrics



- Autoencoders are trained to "reconstruct" their input
 - "Reconstruction error" measures the
 - distance beetwen input and output
 - High reconstruction errors imply that the input is "far away" from the training data distribution
- Generated Safety Evidence
 - The Autoencoder is used as an online monitor
 - Inputs with high reconstruction errors are likely to produce wrong outputs in the AI function

Architecture	DNN	Testing	Data				
Measures	Measures	Measures	Measures				
Metrics	Metrics	Metrics	Metrics				
Safety Measures & Metrics							







Example for "IN ODD" reconstruction

Testing and Deriving Evidences



outside ODD

- PoPC splits defines IN ODD / OUT ODD test data
- Reconstruction error is higher OUT ODD (blue) than IN ODD (orange) on average
- A clear distinction on based on a single image is not possible
- Statistical significance of OUT ODD detection can be shown when testing sequences of frames
- A simple light based baseline test outpferforms the Autoencoder
- Evidences can be derived, but in the simplistic dark/bright ODD, simple algorithms work better

Architecture	DNN	Testing	Data Moasuros				
Metrics	Metrics	Metrics	Metrics				
Safety Measures & Metrics							





Images: TUBS, Continental, Bosch, Fraunhofer IAIS

100

80

60

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Light based Tests



Observations

Safety Argumetation (Method)

- An assurance case is used to provide confidence that a system is safe to operate in a defined environment
- Assurance case strategy is the evidence based safety argumentation.
- Mitigation of DNN insuffiency
 - Identify
 - Define
 - Mitigate
 - Argue
- Formal approach: "Goal Structuring Notation" (GSN)
- The GSN visualizes the evidence based safety argumentation



Resulting Assurance Case - Mini-GSN (simplified, PoPC only)





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PoPC - Summary, Implications and Next Steps



- The PoPC has been **developed** in the core team
- The PoPC exemplifies the agreed overall project approach
- The PoPC has been implemented and used as a blue-print for the complete project
- Workshop series on DNN specific safety concerns
 - Harmonized and agreed for achieving project consensus
- Series of evidence workshops
 - Specific DNN safety mechanisms and methods have been analyzed
 - Method specific Mini-GSNs developed together with "test and safety buddies"
- The PoPC will be extended to cover a multi-dimensional ODD definition and include multiple DNN safety mechanisms, providing a safety-argumentation that takes the inherent multi factorial nature of DNN failures into account.



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KI Absicherung ist ein Projekt der KI Familie und wurde aus der VDA Leitinitiative autonomes und vernetztes Fahren heraus entwickelt.

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