

# Building Meaningful Products Using Complex Sensor Systems

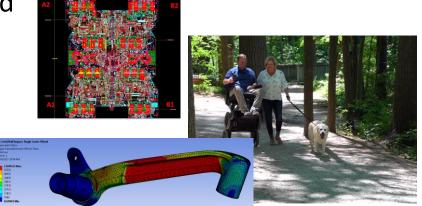
Dirk van der Merwe Autonomous Robotics Lead Deka Research and Development





# Deka

- 30 years of applying computer vision and robotics in real world applications.
- 800+ Incredibly smart engineers.
- Incredible technical resources.







# The World is Complex



- Sensors have inherent physical limitations.
- Algorithms are prone to weakness and errors.
- Cross checks are necessary to eliminate uncertainty and reduce risks.
- Sensor sample times and algorithmic processing times vary.
- Limited power available for complex processing.





# Example







#### **Approaches to Tackle Complexity**



- Up front system engineering.
- Comprehensive problem and solution understanding first.
- Avoid early solution constraints.

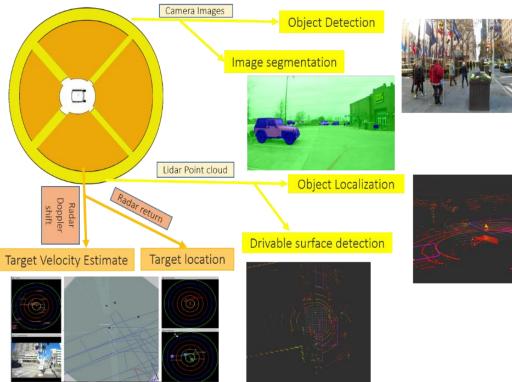




### **Approaches to Tackle Complexity**



- Dissect into manageable components.
- Clear interfaces.

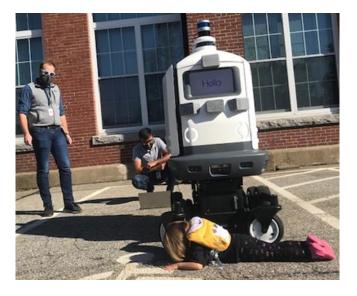




#### **Approaches to Tackle Complexity**



- Iterate rapidly through representative proof of concepts to validate technology suitability.
- Rigorous tests to refine understanding of technology.
- Integrate adjacent technologies early.





### Example







#### **Data Management in Complex Systems**



- Data management is pivotal in complex sensor-based systems.
- Organize data meticulously from inception.
- Document data origins and configurations rigorously.
- Ensure data accessibility for reuse and algorithm refinement as corner cases emerge.



# **Simulation Accelerates Software Development and Testing**

embedded VISION SUMMIT

- Tailor simulations to specific tasks.
- Don't overcomplicate for hypothetical future use.
- Leverage simulations for replaying real-world data.
- Employ hardware in the loop.







# **Team Organization for Complex System Development**



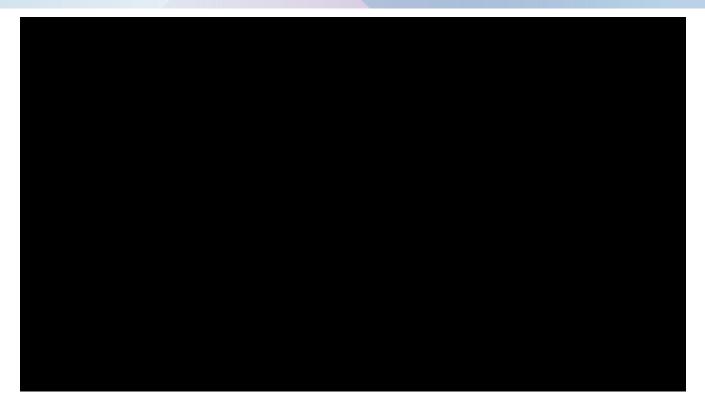
- Small teams.
- Multi disciplinary.
- Focused leads.
- Clear short terms objectives.
- Well defined overarching goals.













#### Deka







#### **Resources**



#### Resource

Deka Research and Development <a href="https://www.dekaresearch.com">https://www.dekaresearch.com</a>

First <u>https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc</u>

