

# DriveFuzz:

## Discovering Autonomous Driving Bugs through Driving Quality-Guided Fuzzing

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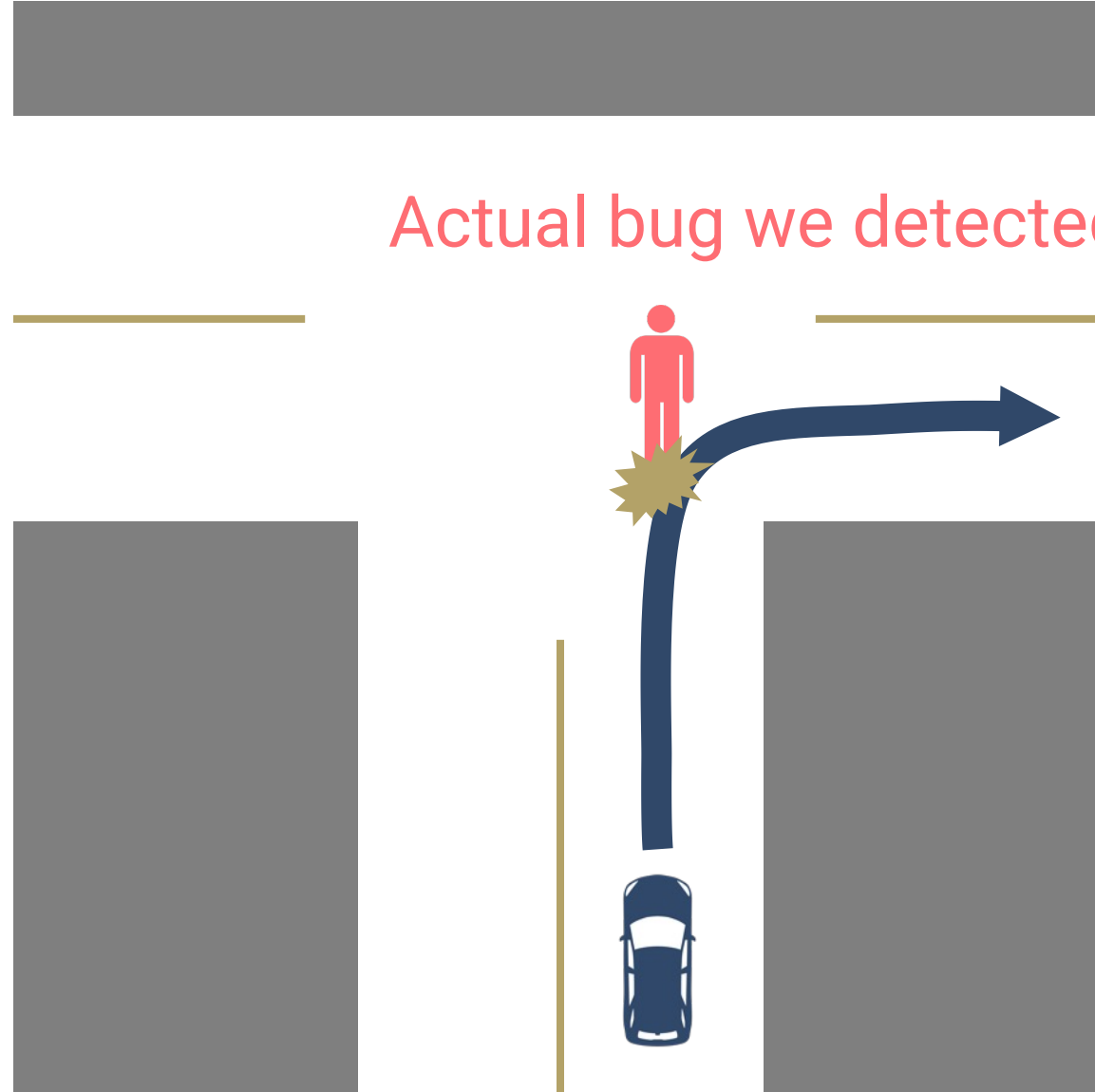


# Can we trust autonomous driving systems?

- Expectation

vs

Reality



Actual bug we detected!

# Can we trust autonomous driving systems?

- Fatal autopilot accidents continue



# Finding bugs via manual testing



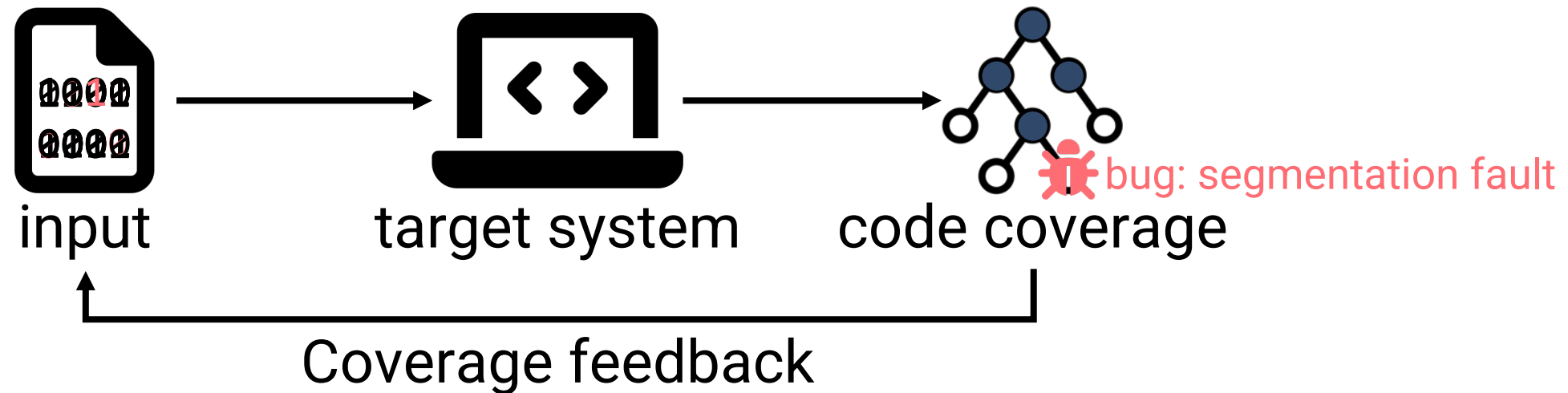
Source: "Will Tesla Autopilot hit a dog, human, or traffic cone?"  
– Youtube Lowlifemike



Source: "Will a Tesla KILL a cat?"  
– Youtube Carwow

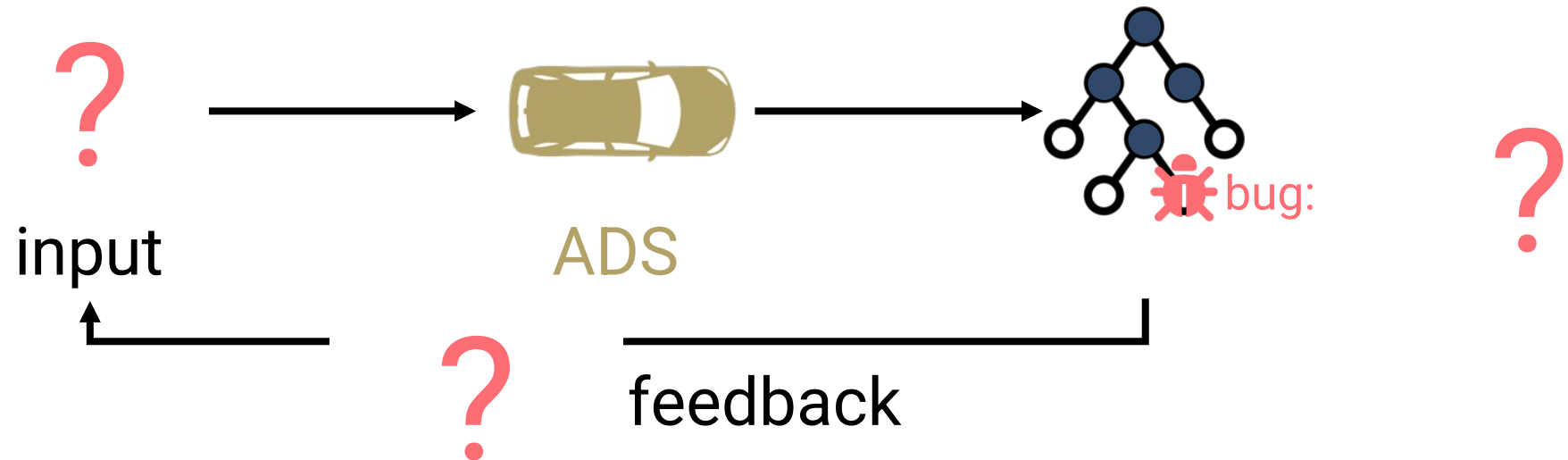
# Finding bugs via automated testing

- Feedback-driven fuzzing for traditional software



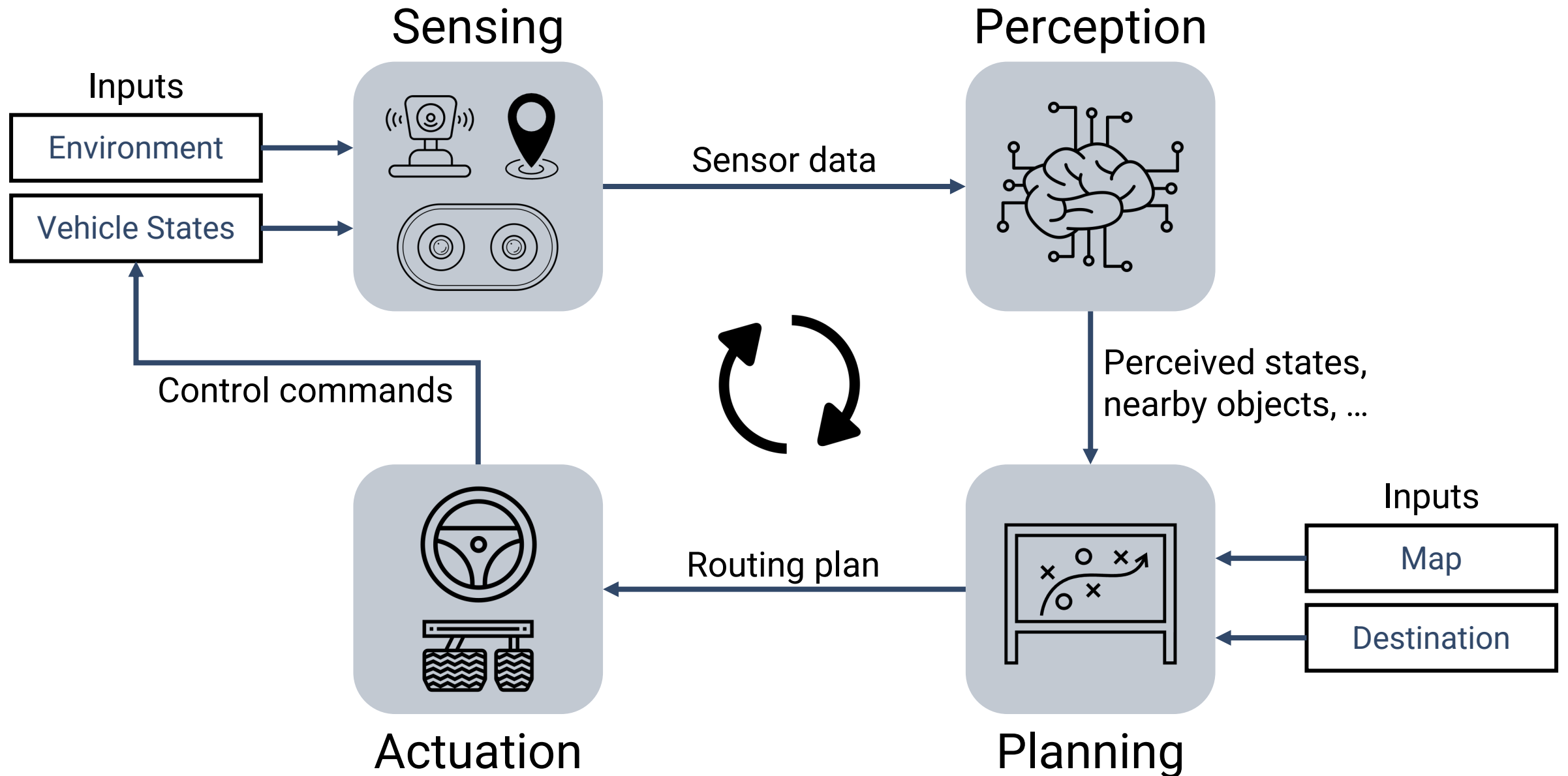
# Finding bugs via automated testing

- Feedback-driven fuzzing for autonomous driving systems?

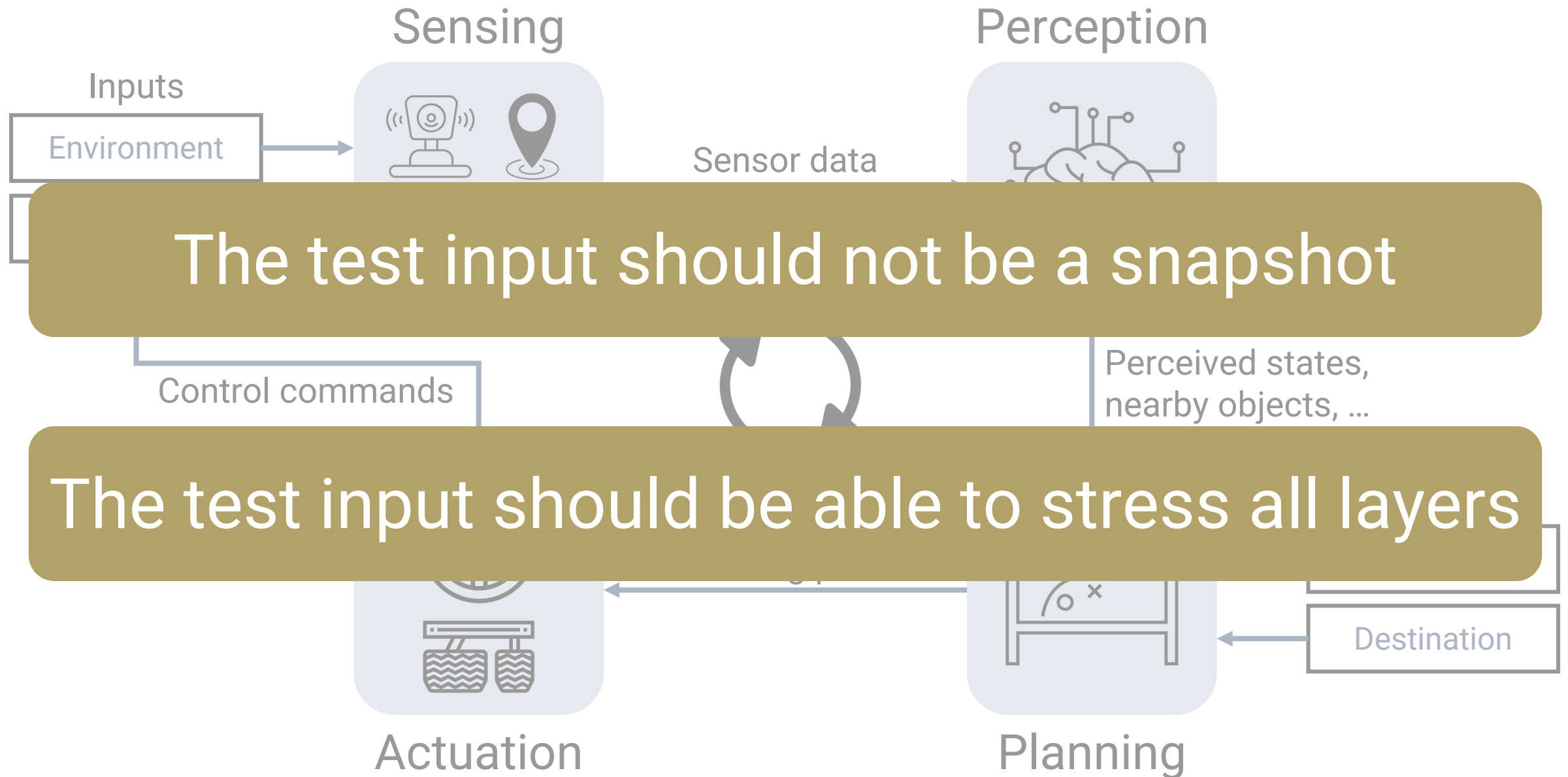




# Layers and workflow of Autonomous Driving System (ADS)



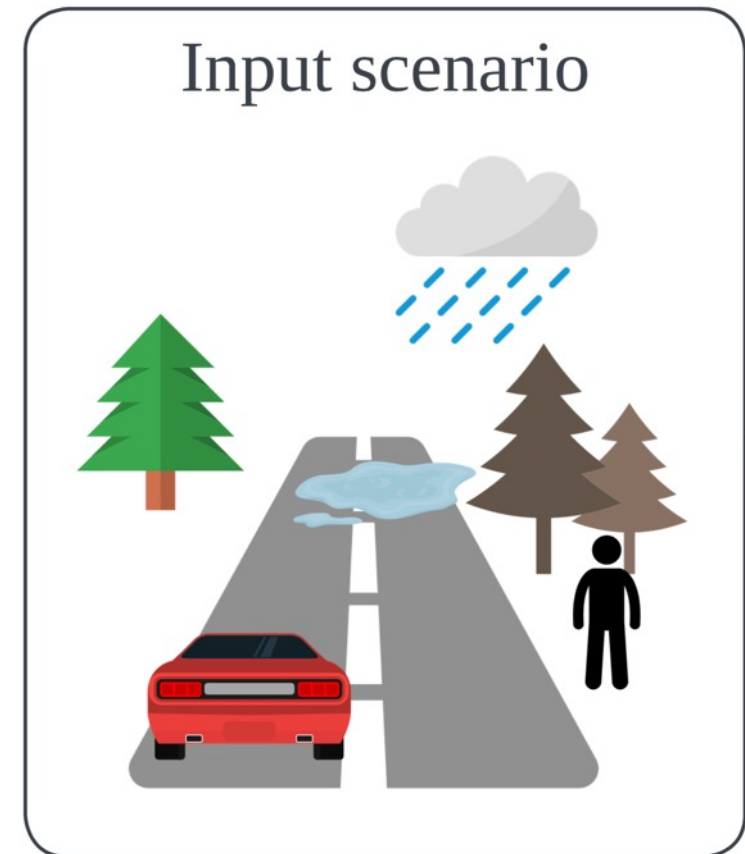
# Considerations in designing test inputs





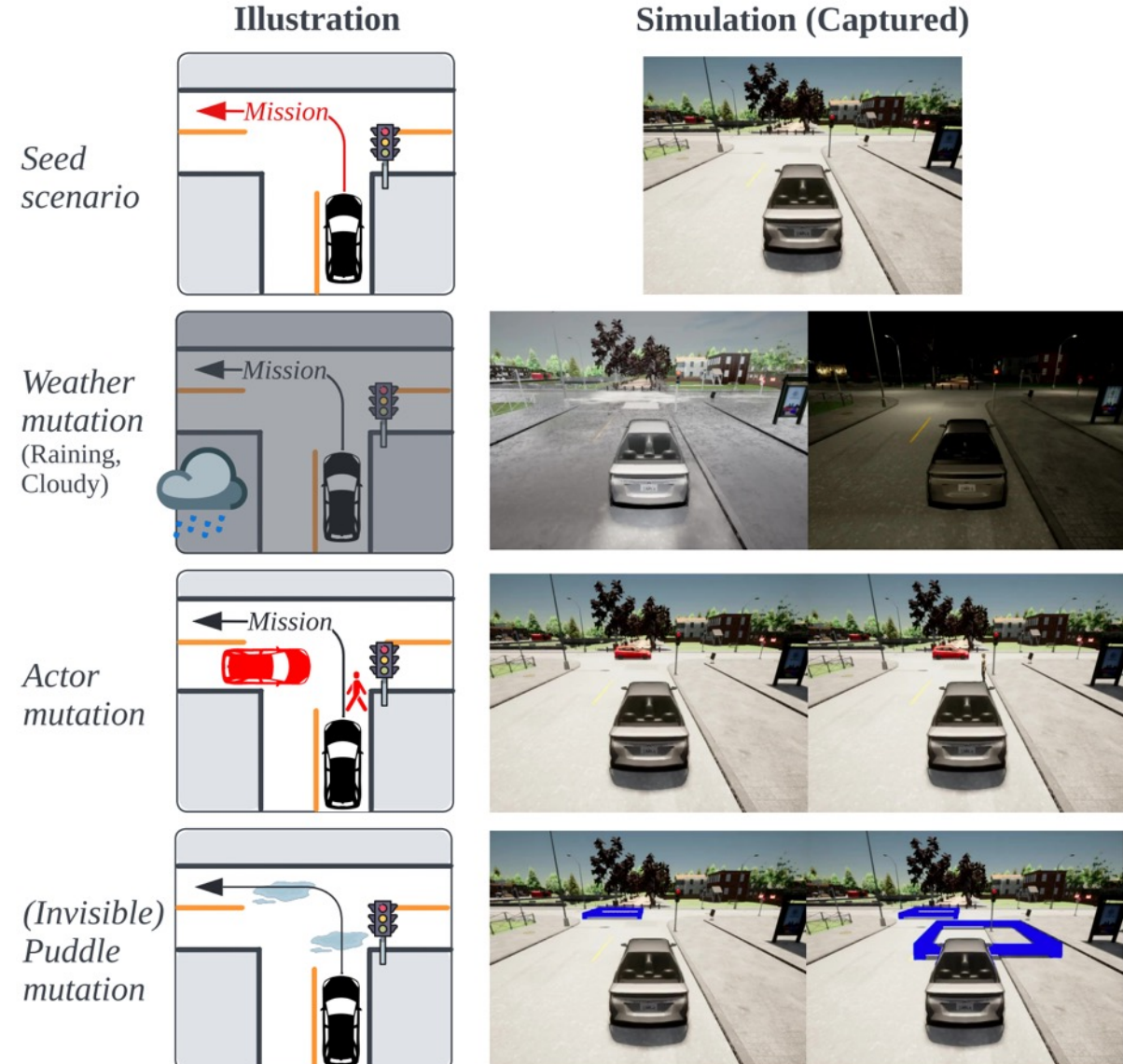
# Our input space: Driving scenarios

- Representing temporal and spatial domains of real world
- Consists of
  - 3D map
  - Mission (initial and goal positions)
  - Actors (vehicles or pedestrians)
  - Puddles (e.g., black ice)
  - Weather conditions



# Mutation of driving scenarios

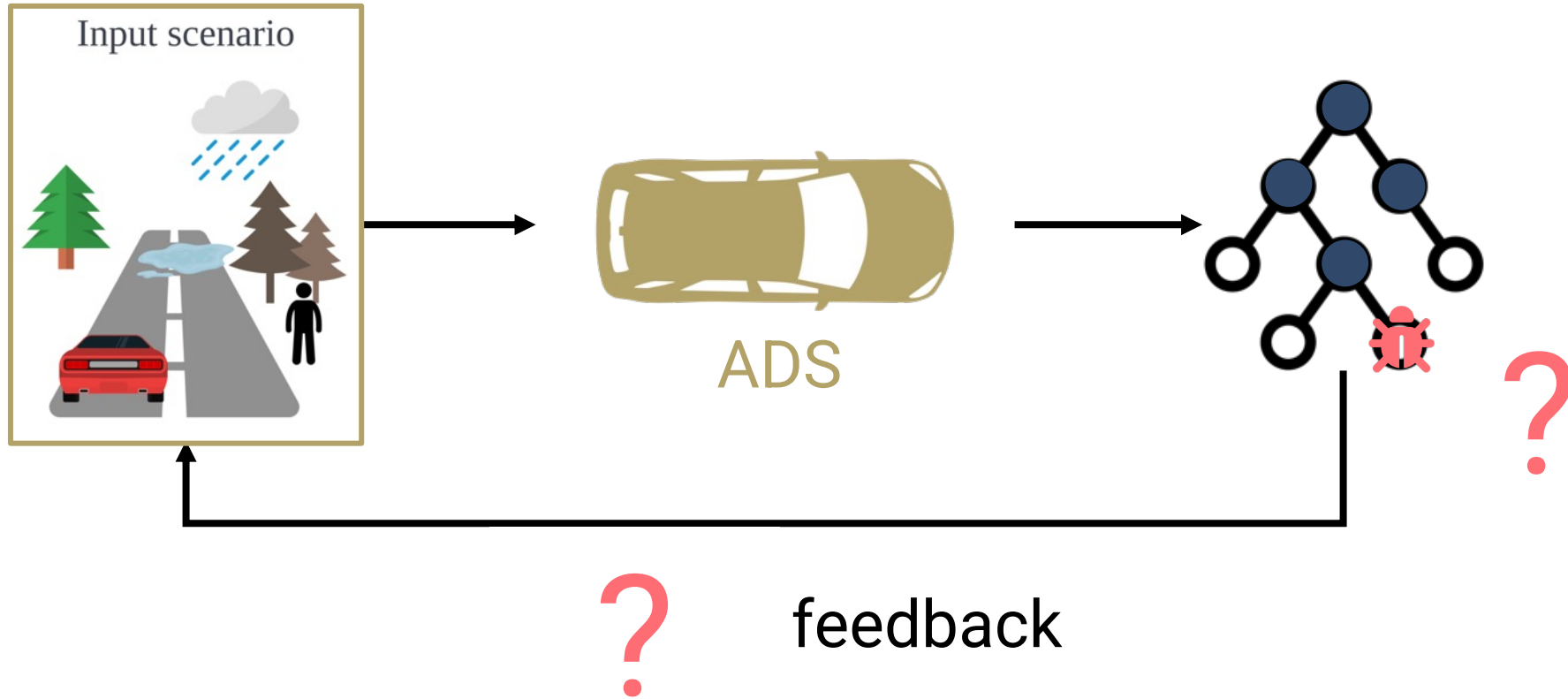
- Map and mission selection
  - stress ADS with diverse environments
- Actor generation & mutation
  - render diverse interactive situations
- Puddle generation & mutation
  - stress planning & actuation layers with frictional diversity
- Weather mutation
  - affect sensing and perception



# Confining mutation to feasible scenarios

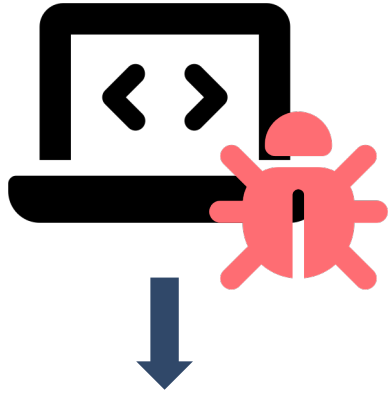
- Ensuring physically valid mutation
  - Spatial constraint
    - Initial positions of all actors and objects are spread away (e.g., 5 m)
    - Preventing unrealistic jams (e.g., vehicles overlapping)
  - Temporal constraint
    - Maximum speed of actor vehicles and pedestrians are conservatively set
    - Preventing reckless behaviors (e.g., a person running into a vehicle too quickly)
- Both constraints are configurable

# Feedback-driven fuzzing for ADS



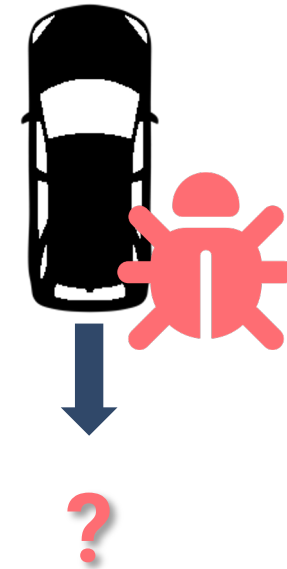
# Defining bugs

- What happens to a buggy ADS?



```
$ ./buggy_program  
[1] 3541023 segmentation fault ./buggy_program
```

**Classic software bugs**

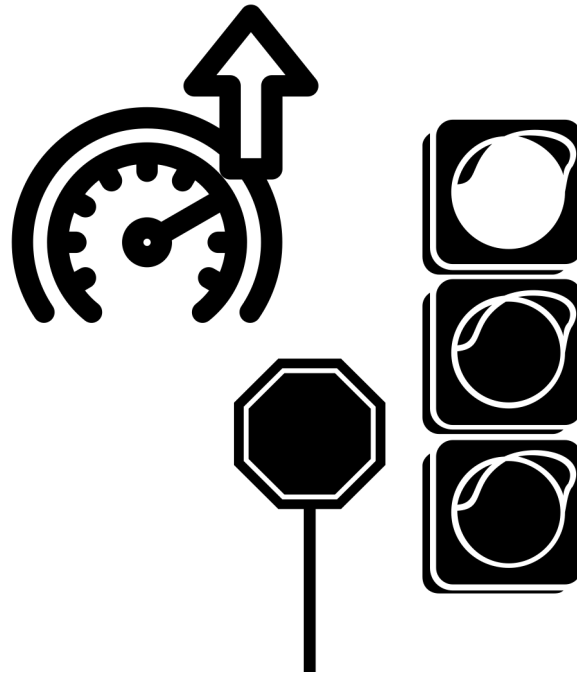


# Safety-critical vehicular misbehaviors

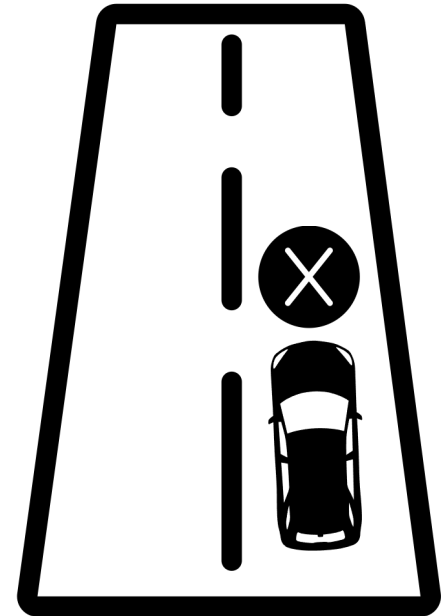
Collision



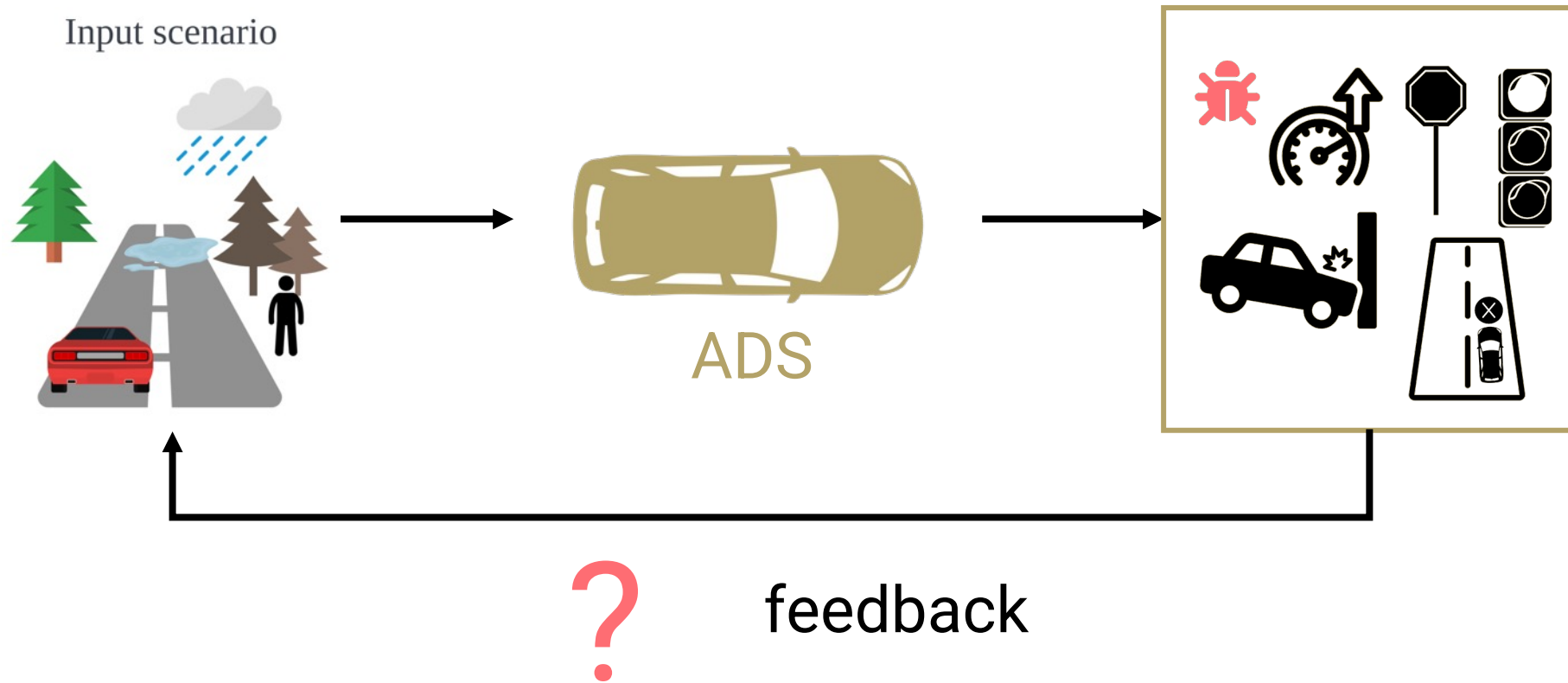
Infraction



Immobility



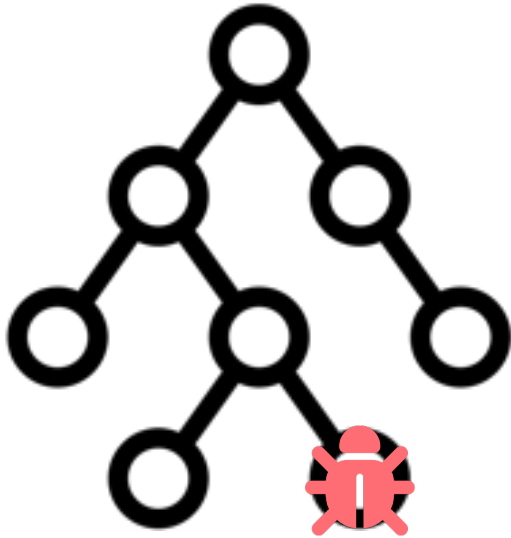
# Feedback-driven fuzzing for ADS





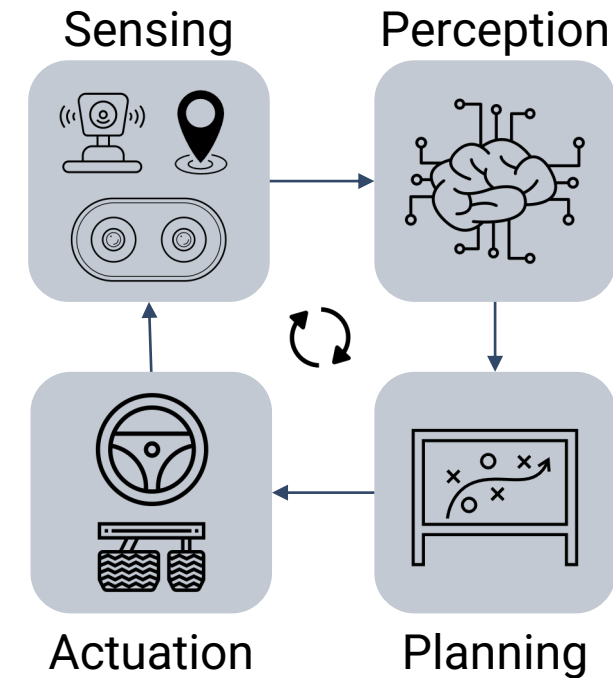
# A need for a new feedback mechanism

## General software programs



- Diverse, linear code paths
- More code paths  $\approx$  more bugs found

## Autonomous driving system



- Distributed system
- Behavior is driven by state changes in a loop, not code paths

# A need for a new feedback mechanism

## General software programs



## Autonomous driving system

Sensing



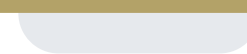
Perception



Need proper metrics to quantify  
the quality of input driving scenarios



Actuation



Planning

- Diverse, linear code paths
- More code paths  $\approx$  more bugs found

- Distributed system
- Behavior is driven by state changes in a loop, not code paths

# Solution: Driving quality feedback

- Intuition
  - Quality of driving  $\simeq$  likelihood of misbehaviors

Hard acceleration,  
braking, and turns



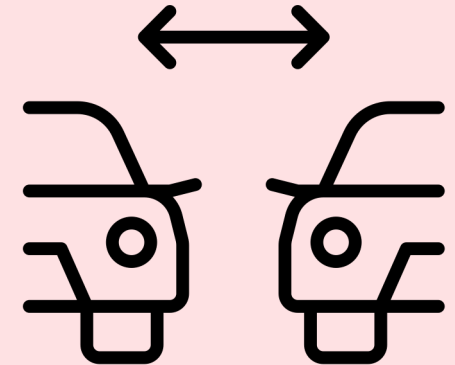
- Metric auto insurance companies use

Oversteer and  
understeer



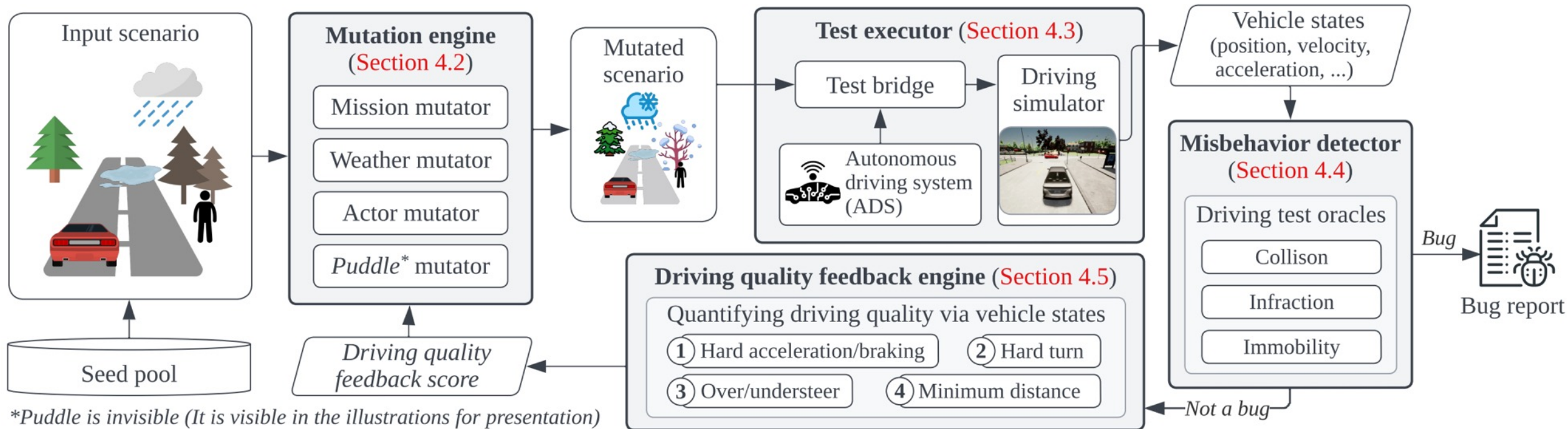
- #1 cause of motorsport accidents

Minimum distance  
to other actors



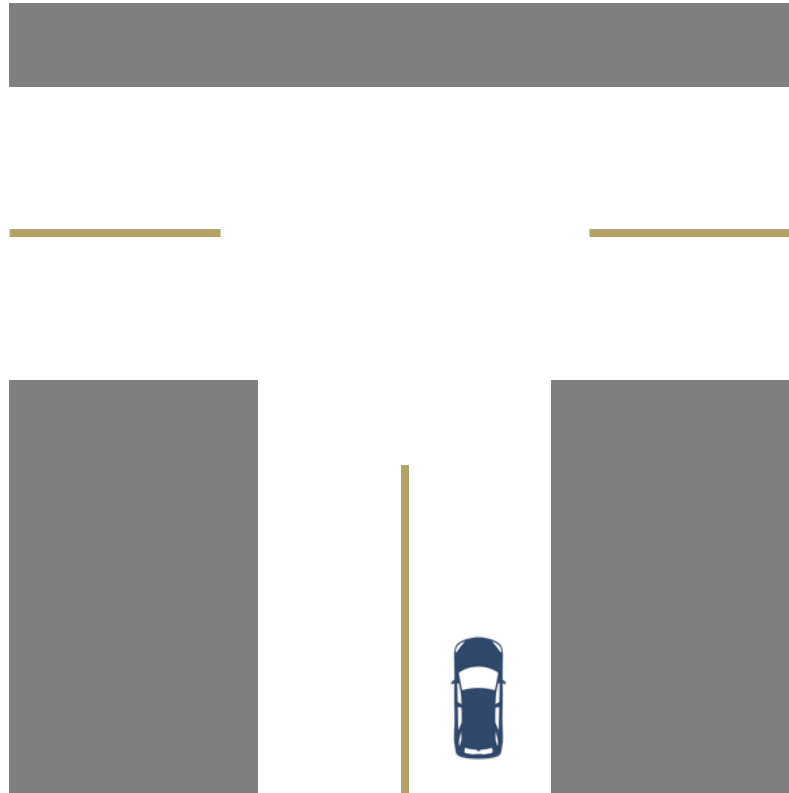
- Near-missed collisions

# DriveFuzz overview



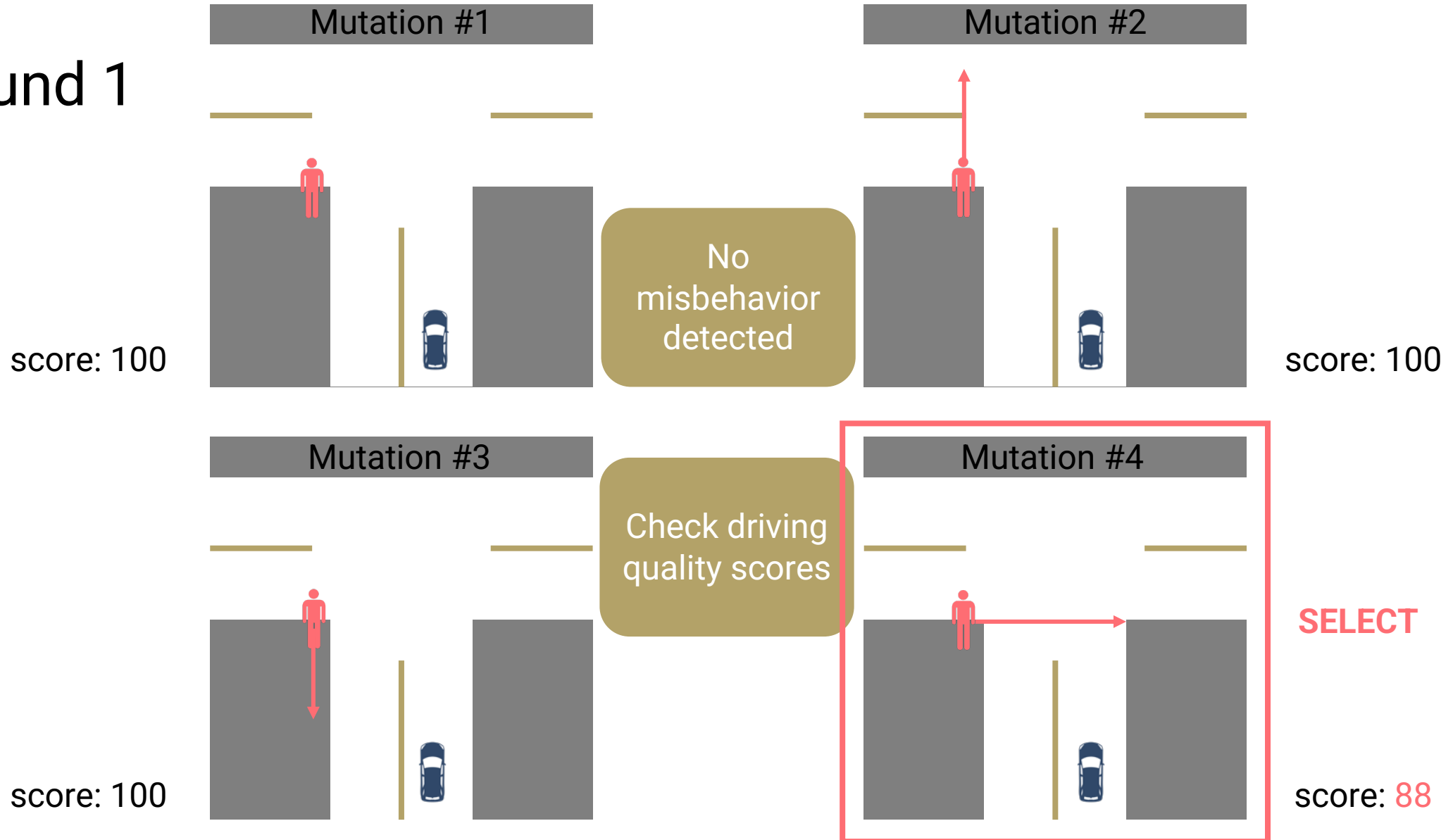
# DriveFuzz in action

- Seed scenario
  - Map
  - Initial position
  - Destination



# DriveFuzz in action

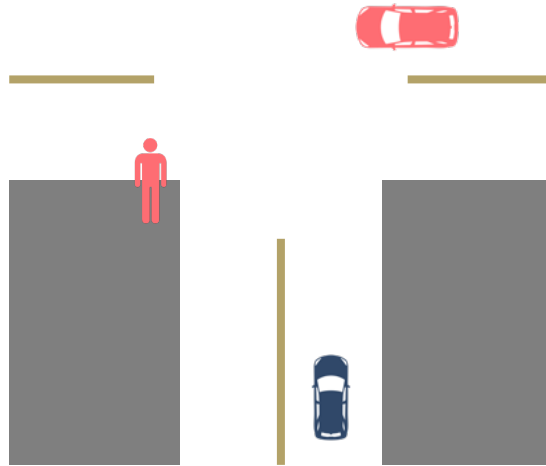
- Round 1



# DriveFuzz in action

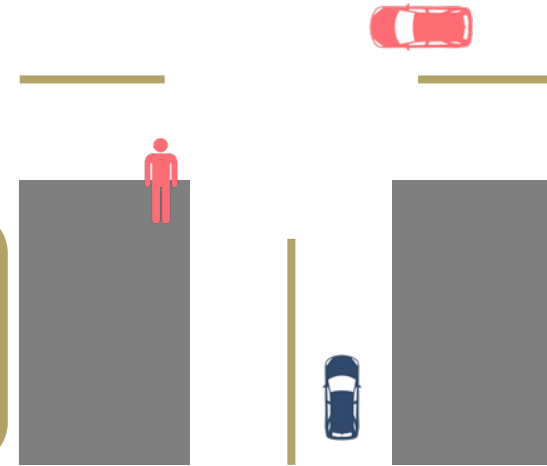
- Round 2

Mutation #4-1

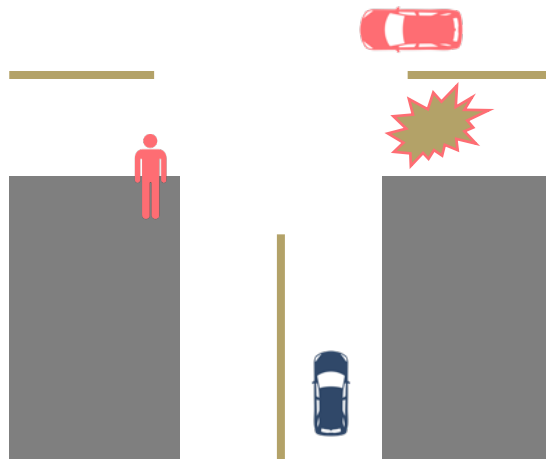


Misbehavior  
detected  
(collision)

Mutation #4-2



Mutation #4-3



Save states  
and report



# Evaluation

- Targeted two autonomous driving systems
  - **Autoware**
    - A full-fledged ADS with active development status
    - Internationally adopted by well-known auto manufactures (e.g., BMW)
    - Qualified to run driverless vehicles on public roads in Japan (2017~)
  - **Behavior Agent**
    - A rudimentary ADS developed by CARLA
    - Implements path planning and feedback-based PID control
    - Complies with traffic laws and avoids collisions

# Detected 33 new bugs throughout ADS layers

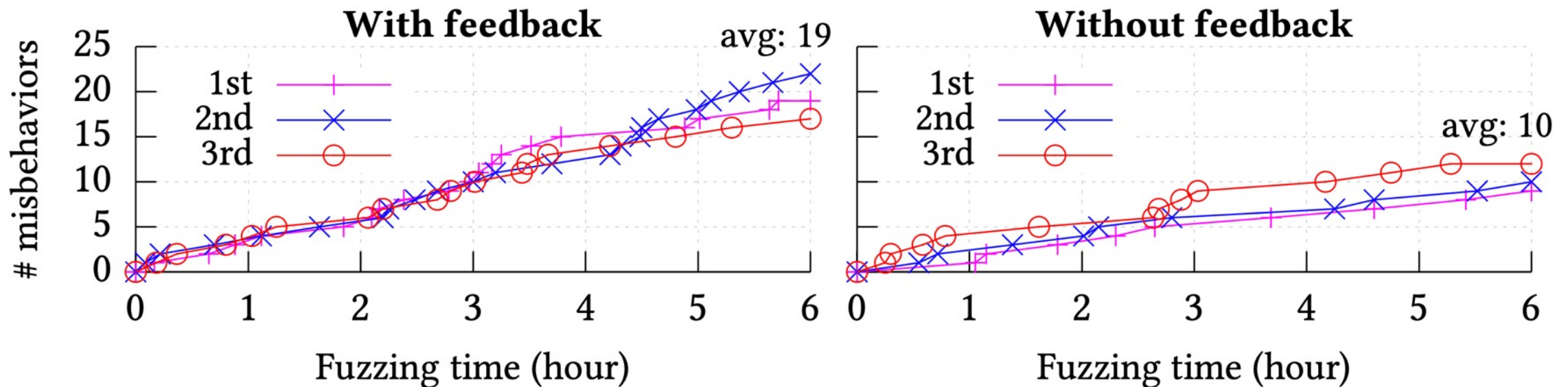
	Bug #	Layer	Component	Description	Impact	Strategy	Root cause	ACK
Autoware	01	Sensing	Fusion	LiDAR & camera fusion misses small objects on road	C	all	Logic err	
	02	Perception	Detection	Perceives the road ahead as an obstacle at a steep downhill	I	all	Logic err	✓
	03	Perception	Detection	Fails to semantically tag detected traffic lights and cannot take corresponding actions	C, V	all	Logic err	
	04	Perception	Detection	Fails to semantically tag detected stop signs and cannot take corresponding actions	C, V	all	Logic err	
	05	Perception	Detection	Fails to semantically tag detected speed signs and cannot take corresponding actions	V	all	Logic err	
	06	Perception	Localization	Faulty localization of the base frame while turning	C, L	all	Logic err	✓
	07	Perception	Localization	Localization error when moving underneath bridges and intersections	C, L	all	Logic err	✓
	08	Planning	Global planner	Generates infeasible path if the given goal is unreachable	C, L	all	Logic err	✓
	09	Planning	Global planner	Generates infeasible path if the goal's orientation is not aligned with lane direction	C, I, L	all	Logic err	✓
	10	Planning	Global planner	Global path starts too far from the vehicle's current location	C, I, L	all	Logic err	✓
	11	Planning	Local planner	Target speed keeps increasing at certain roads, overriding the speed configuration	S, C	all	Logic err	✓
	12	Planning	Local planner	Fails to avoid forward collision with a moving object	C	all	Logic err	
	13	Planning	Local planner	Fails to avoid lateral collision (ADS perceives the approaching actor before collision)	C	ent	Not impl	
	14	Planning	Local planner	Fails to avoid rear-end collision (ADS perceives the approaching actor before collision)	C	ent	Not impl	
	15	Planning	Local planner	While turning, ego-vehicle hits an immobile actor partially blocking the intersection	C	ent	Logic err	
	16	Actuation	Pure pursuit	Ego-vehicle keeps moving after reaching the destination	C, L	all	Logic err	✓
	17	Actuation	Pure pursuit	Fails to handle sharp right turns, driving over curbs	C, L	all	Faulty conf	
Behavior Agent	18	Perception	Detection	Indefinitely stops if an actor vehicle is stopped on a sidewalk	I	ent	Logic err	
	19	Perception	Detection	Flawed obstacle detection logic; lateral movement of an object is ignored	C	con	Logic err	
	20	Planning	Global planner	Generates inappropriate trajectory when initial position is given within an intersection	C, L, V	all	Logic err	
	21	Planning	Local planner	Improper lane changing, cutting off and hitting an actor vehicle	C	man	Logic err	
	22	Planning	Local planner	Vehicle indefinitely stops at stop signs as planner treats stop signs as red lights and waits for green	I	all	Logic err	
	23	Planning	Local planner	Vehicle does not preemptively slow down when the speed limit is reduced	S	all	Logic err	
	24	Planning	Local planner	Always stops too far (> 10 m) from the goal due to improper checking of waypoint queue	F	all	Logic err	
	25	Planning	Local planner	Collision prevention does not work at intersections (only checks if actors are on the same lane)	C	all	Logic err	
	26	Planning	Local planner	Fails to avoid lateral collision (ADS perceives the approaching actor before collision)	C	man	Not impl	
	27	Planning	Local planner	Fails to avoid rear-end collision (ADS perceives the approaching actor before collision)	C	man	Not impl	
	28	Planning	Local planner	No dynamic replanning; the vehicle does infeasible maneuvers to go back to missed waypoints	C, L	ins	Not impl	
	29	Actuation	Controller	Keeps over-accelerating to achieve the target speed while slipping, creating jolt back on dry surface	C, L	ins	Not impl	
	30	Actuation	Controller	Motion controller parameters (PID) are poorly tuned, making the vehicle overshoot at turns	C, L	all	Faulty conf	
CARLA	31		Simulator	Simulation does not properly apply control commands	C, L, V	all	Logic err	✓
	32		Simulator	Vector map contains a dead end blocked by objects as a valid lane	I, V	all	Data err	
	33		Simulator	Occasionally inconsistent simulation result	I, V	all	Logic err	✓

[Impact] C: Collision / F: Fails to complete a mission / I: Vehicle becomes Immobile / L: Lane invasion / S: Speeding / V: Miscellaneous traffic Violation

[Strategy] all: all strategies / man: Adversarial maneuver-based / con: congestion-based / ent: entropy-based / ins: instability-based

# The impact of driving quality feedback

- Fuzzing with and without driving quality feedback
  - Approximately 2x bugs detected with the feedback





# An interesting bug



## Multi-layer faults

- Sensing & Perception
  - Fails to perceive the puddle
- Planning
  - Fails to consider the slipping state
  - Keeps commanding speed-up
- Actuation
  - Missing Electronic Stability Control (ESC)
  - Keeps increasing the throttle amount

# DriveFuzz summary

- DriveFuzz: End-to-end fuzzing framework for ADS
- Mutate driving scenarios
  - Mission, actors, puddles, weather
- Look for safety-critical misbehaviors
  - Collision, infraction, and immobility
- Leverage semantic feedback using driving quality metrics
- Found 30 bugs in two industry grade ADS
  - Readily exploitable by controlling nearby actors or objects
- Additional materials
  - Website & code: <https://drivefuzz.autoinsight.dev/>

Q & A