Driving Future Highways

Welcome to the Saxton Transportation Operations Laboratory

Vision of the Saxton Lab

Build Relationships with Universities, Researchers, and Industry

Develop Technologies and Evaluate Concepts

Advance the State of the Art through Transportation Operations Research

Promote Professional Development

Build on Federal Institutional Knowledge

Saxton Lab Capabilities



Development Platform for FHWA Innovation Research Vehicles

- Proof of Concept Vehicles
- Research Fleet Communications
 - 5.9GHz DSRC, Cellular/LTE, Corrected GPS
- On-board Technology
 - Connected Vehicle Data Collection and Processing
 - Stock Radar and Ultra-Sonic Sensors
 - Front and rear-facing cameras





Connected Laboratory

- State-of-the-Art Simulation and Analysis Tools
- High-Bandwidth Internet2 Connectivity
- High-Capacity Data Servers
 - Front and rear-facing cameras







Connected Vehicle Highway Testbed – Intelligent Intersection at TFHRC



MOU with DHS Federal Law Enforcement Training Center



Skid Pad F.

Ramps

Future:

Existing

Α.

Β.

C.

D.

Ε.

DSRC / Wi-Fi **V2I** Communications

IAA with U.S. Army Aberdeen Test and Evaluation Command



Automation - Example Systems at Each Level

SAEL evel	Example Systems	Driver Roles
1	Adaptive Cruise Control OR Lane Keeping Assistance	Must drive <u>other</u> functions and monitor driving environment
2	Adaptive Cruise Control AND Lane Keeping Assistance Traffic Jam Assist	Must monitor driving environment (system nags driver to try to ensure it)
3	Traffic Jam Pilot Automated parking Highway Autopilot	May read a book, text, or web surf, but be prepared to intervene when needed
4	Closed campus driverless shuttle Valet parking in garage 'Fully automated' in certain conditions	May sleep, and system can revert to minimum risk condition if needed
5	Automated taxi Car-share repositioning system	No driver needed

Source: California PATH

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Research in Applications for Connected Automation

Connected Automation Applications for Public Benefits:

- Cooperative Adaptive Cruise Control (CACC): Adds V2V communication to commercial ACC and allows platoons of cars or trucks. Can reduce traffic congestion, reduce fuel consumption, and improve safety.
- Eco-Approach and Departure (Glidepath): Uses V2I communication from traffic signals to allow vehicles to traverse traffic lights and travel along arterials more efficiently. Can reduce fuel consumption at intersections by 20%

> FHWA Roles:

- Develop and analyze concepts with traffic models
- Test concepts and enabling technologies with Lab prototypes on test tracks
- Engage automotive OEM's to work toward commercial products
- Engage state DOT's to develop strategies for deployment

Cooperative Adaptive Cruise Control Evolution

Three different types of cruise control



CACC Platooning



Cooperative Adaptive Cruise Control Research

Create a high-speed and high-capacity managed CACC lane

Examine the impacts of different CACC operational strategies

- Dedicated Lane VS. Shared Lane
- Car-following headway
- Platoon size
- Market penetration levels
- On-ramp and Off-ramp volume
- Lane-changing criteria between CACC and GP lane

Build the Simulation Testbed --- CACC Site Selection



- Major urban corridor for commuters
- Severe congestion problems
- Four lanes in each direction
- Existing HOV-2 lane
- Six interchanges

CACC Take-Away Bullets

- The dedicated lane's capacity increases from 1650 to 3800 vehicles/hour/lane (0.6s headway)
- CACC lane has shorter and more reliable travel time, which will promote CACC technology
- Cooperative lane-changes are important, especially under high speed differentials



GlidePath Prototype Application

Background: Completed AERIS Proof of Concept Testing (Fall 2012) A field test was conducted at TFHRC with a single vehicle at a single intersection with no traffic



Source: USDOT, November 2013

Longitudinal Control Capabilities

Traffic Signal Head



GlidePath Prototype Application Components – Automated Vehicle

Ford Escape Hybrid developed by TORC with ByWire XGV System

- Existing Capabilities

- Full-Range Longitudinal Speed Control
- Emergency Stop and Manual Override

- Additional Functionality

- Computing Platform with EAD Algorithm
- DSRC OBU
- High-Accuracy Positioning Solution
- Driver Indicators/ Information Display
- User-Activated System Resume
- Data Logging





GlidePath Prototype Application Research Study Findings



- HMI-based driving provided a 7% fuel economy benefit
- Partially automated driving provided a 22% benefit
- Minimizing controller lag is important
- Precise positioning is important near the intersection stop bar



To Learn More...

> Visit:

- FHWA Office of Operations Website: <u>http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/</u>
- Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center Website: <u>http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/research</u> /tfhrc/offices/operations/
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