

A Survey on Autonomous Driving Datasets: Statistics, Annotation Quality, and a Future Outlook

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Abstract—Autonomous driving has rapidly developed and shown promising performance due to recent advances in hardware and deep learning techniques. High-quality datasets are fundamental for developing reliable autonomous driving algorithms. Previous dataset surveys either focused on a limited number or lacked detailed investigation of dataset characteristics. To this end, we present an exhaustive study of 265 autonomous driving datasets from multiple perspectives, including sensor modalities, data size, tasks, and contextual conditions. We introduce a novel metric to evaluate the impact of datasets, which can also be a guide for creating new datasets. Besides, we analyze the annotation processes, existing labeling tools, and the annotation quality of datasets, showing the importance of establishing a standard annotation pipeline. On the other hand, we thoroughly analyze the impact of geographical and adversarial environmental conditions on the performance of autonomous driving systems. Moreover, we exhibit the data distribution of several vital datasets and discuss their pros and cons accordingly. Finally, we discuss the current challenges and the development trend of the future autonomous driving datasets. https://github.com/MingyuLiu1/autonomous_driving_datasets.git

Index Terms—Dataset, impact score, data analysis, annotation quality, autonomous driving.

I. INTRODUCTION

AUTONOMOUS driving (AD) aims to revolutionize the transportation system by creating vehicles that can accurately perceive their environment, make intelligent decisions, and drive safely without human intervention. Due to thrilling technical development, various autonomous driving products have been implemented in several fields, such as robotaxis [1]. These rapid advancements in autonomous driving rely heavily on extensive datasets, which help autonomous driving systems be robust and reliable in complex driving environments.

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the quality and variety of autonomous driving datasets. The first apparent phenomenon in the development of datasets is the various data collection strategies, including synthetic datasets [2]–[12] generated by simulators and recorded from

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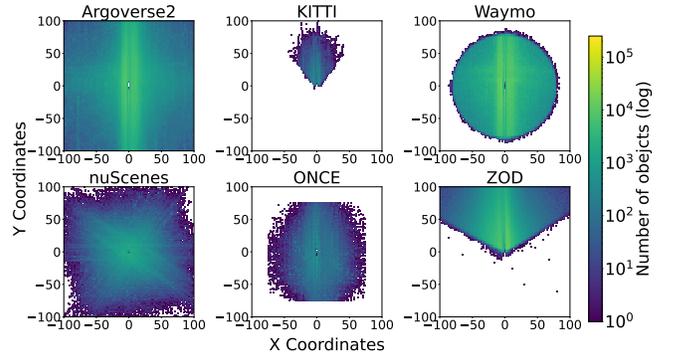


Fig. 1. Bird's-Eye View object distribution of datasets. Each heatmap represents a dataset and is plotted using X and Y coordinates. Y is the driving direction of the ego-vehicle. The unique annotation characters of each dataset are reflected in the distribution range, density, and number of bounding boxes.

the real world [13]–[29], to name just a few. Secondly, the datasets vary in composition, including but not limited to multiple sensor modalities like camera images and LiDAR point clouds, different annotation types for various tasks, and data distribution. Fig. 1 depicts the distribution of 3D object bounding box in six well-known real-world datasets (*Argoverse 2* [28], *KITTI* [13], *nuScenes* [22], *ONCE* [30], *Waymo* [23], and *ZOD* [31]) under a Bird's-Eye View (BEV), highlighting each dataset's unique annotation characteristics. The sensor mounting positions also reflect datasets' various sensing domains, including onboard, Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X), or drone domain. The datasets' geometric diversity and varying weather conditions also enhance the generalizability of autonomous driving datasets.

A. Research Gap & Motivation

We demonstrate the yearly published number of perception datasets in Fig. 2 to illustrate the growth trends in autonomous driving datasets. Given the vast and growing number of publicly available datasets, a comprehensive survey of these resources is valuable for advancing both academic and industrial research in autonomous driving. In prior work, Yin et al. [32] summarized 27 publicly available datasets containing data collected on public roads. As a sequential work of [32], [33] extended the number of datasets. Guo et al. [34] and Janai et al. [35] proposed systematical introductions to the existing datasets from an application perspective. Beyond describing existing datasets, Liu et al. [36] discussed the domain adaptation between synthetic and real data and automatic labeling

TABLE I

WE COMPARE OUR SURVEY PAPER WITH OTHER AD DATASET SURVEYS IN THE FOLLOWING PERSPECTIVES: COLLECTED DATASET NUMBER (#DATASET), RELEVANT TASKS, SENSING DOMAIN (S. DOMAIN), SENSOR MODALITY (S. MODA.), GEOMETRIC CONDITIONS (GEO.), ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS (ENV.), ANALYZING DATA DISTRIBUTION, INTRODUCING ANNOTATION QUALITY AND PROCESS. IN THE CONTEXT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, WE REFER TO THE VARIABILITY IN WEATHER CONDITIONS AND ILLUMINATION. GEOMETRIC CONDITIONS INCLUDE SCENARIO TYPES AND GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE. WE DESCRIBE THE TASK TYPES IN A COARSE GRANULARITY, INCLUDING PERCEPTION (PERC.), PREDICTION (PRED.), PLANNING (PL.), CONTROL (C.), AND END-TO-END (E2E).

Survey	General			Data				Annotation		
	Year	#Datasets	Tasks	S. domain	S. moda.	Geo.	Env.	Data analysis	Quality	Process
When to use what dataset [32]	2017	27	Perc		✓	✓	✓			
Self-driving Algorithm [33]	2019	37	Perc		✓	✓	✓			
Is it safe to drive [34]	2019	54	Perc, Pred, E2E		✓	✓	✓			
CV for AVs [35]	2020	33	Perc		✓	✓	✓			✓
A Survey on AD Datasets [36]	2021	30	Perc		✓	✓	✓			✓
3D Semantic Segmentation [41]	2021	29	Perc		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AD-Dataset [38]	2022	204	Perc, Pred, Pl, C	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Anomaly Detection [39]	2023	16	Perc		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Synthetic Datasets for AD [40]	2023	17	Perc, Pred		✓	✓	✓			
Decision-making [42]	2023	25	Pl, C		✓	✓	✓			
Open-sourced Data Ecosystem [37]	2023	70	Perc, Pred, Pl	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Ours	2024	265	Perc, Pred, Pl, C, E2E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

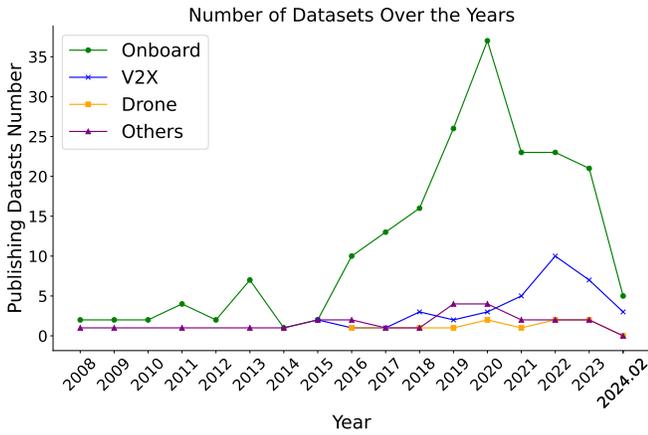


Fig. 2. Overview of dataset publication trends from 2008 to 2024. The diagram demonstrates a significant increase in the publication of onboard datasets between 2015 and 2020, followed by a gradual decline thereafter. In contrast, there has been a rising trend in the publication of V2X datasets, indicating growing research interest in cooperative perception systems.

methods. Li et al. [37] summarized existing datasets and undertook an exhaustive analysis of the characters of the next-generation datasets. However, these surveys only summarized a small number of datasets, causing a non-wide scope. AD-Dataset [38] collected a large number of datasets while lacking detailed analysis for the attributes of these datasets. Compared to studies on versatile datasets, some researchers presented surveys on a particular type of autonomous driving dataset, such as anomaly detection [39], synthetic datasets [40], 3D semantic segmentation [41], or decision-making [42]. Additionally, some task-specific surveys [43], [44] also organized the related AD datasets.

In this work, we present a comprehensive and systematic survey of a large number of datasets in autonomous driving. We compare our survey to others in Table I. Our survey covers all tasks from perception to control, considers real-world as well as synthetic data, and provides insights into the data modality and quality of several crucial datasets.

B. Main Contributions

The main contributions of this paper can be summarized as follows:

- We present an overview of the most exhaustive survey on autonomous driving datasets recorded to date. We show publicly available datasets as comprehensively as possible, recording their fundamental characteristics, such as published year, data size, sensor modalities, sensing domains, geometrical and environmental conditions, and support tasks.
- We systematically illustrate the sensors and sensing domains for collecting AD data. Furthermore, we describe the main tasks in autonomous driving, including task goals, required data modalities, and evaluation metrics.
- We categorize datasets based on their sensing domains and relevant tasks, enabling researchers to efficiently identify and compile information for their target datasets. This approach facilitates more focused and productive research and development efforts.
- Additionally, we introduce an impact score metric to evaluate the influence of published perception datasets. This metric can also be a guide for developing future datasets. We deeply analyze datasets with high impact scores, highlighting their advantages and utility.
- We investigate the annotation quality of datasets and the existing labeling procedures for various autonomous driving tasks.
- Our detailed data statistics demonstrate the data distribution of various datasets from different perspectives, exhibiting their inherent limitations and suitable use cases.
- We analyze recent technology trends and the development direction of next-generation datasets, such as integrating language into AD data, generating AD data using Vision Language Models, standardizing data creation, and promoting an open data ecosystem.

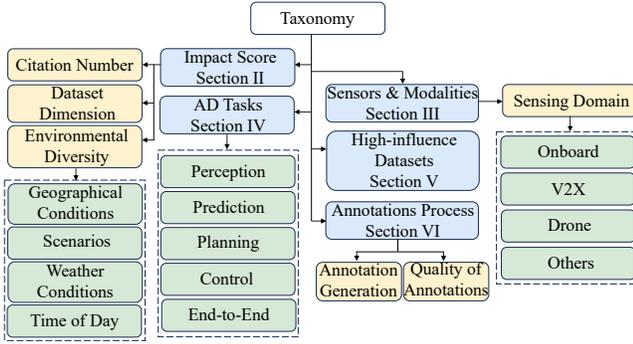


Fig. 3. This survey’s primary taxonomy includes impact score, sensors and modalities, autonomous driving tasks, high-influence datasets, and annotation process.

C. Scope & Limitations

We aim to conduct an exhaustive survey on the existing autonomous driving datasets to facilitate the development of future algorithms and datasets in this field. We collected datasets relevant to the five fundamental tasks of autonomous driving: perception, prediction, planning, control, and end-to-end (E2E) driving. To maintain clarity and prevent redundancy, we describe versatile datasets only within the main scope they support. Additionally, we collected a large number of datasets and exhibited them with their primary characters in tables. However, to ensure this survey aids researchers effectively, we focus our detailed discussions on the most impactful datasets rather than providing extensive descriptions of all datasets.

D. Survey Structure

The rest of the survey is structured as follows: Section II introduces the approach leveraged to source public datasets and the evaluation metrics for them. Section III demonstrates the primary sensors used in autonomous driving and their modalities. Section IV discusses autonomous driving tasks, related challenges, and required data. In-depth discussions of several important datasets are presented in Section V. The process of annotations and factors affecting annotation quality are addressed in Section VI. Section VII provides statistical analysis of data distribution across various datasets. Future trends and potential research directions in autonomous driving datasets are explored in Section VIII. The paper concludes with Section IX. The survey’s taxonomy is shown in Fig. 3.

II. METHODOLOGY

This section comprises two parts: 1) the collection and filtering of datasets, as detailed in Section II-A, and 2) the evaluation metric of a dataset’s impact on the autonomous driving domain, described in Section II-B.

A. Datasets Collection

Following [45], we conducted a systematic review to exhaustively collect published autonomous driving datasets.

To ensure source diversity, we utilized well-known search engines such as *Google*, *Google Scholar* and *Baidu* to

search datasets. To ensure a thorough dataset collection from various countries and regions, we conducted searches in English, Chinese, and German using keywords such as “autonomous driving dataset/benchmark”, “intelligent vehicle dataset/benchmark” and terms related to object detection, classification, tracking, segmentation, prediction, planning, control, and end-to-end driving.

Furthermore, we explored *IEEE Xplore*, *Paperswithcode*, and pertinent conferences in autonomous driving and intelligent transportation systems to collate datasets from journals and conference proceedings. We verified datasets from these sources through keyword searches and manual title reviews.

Finally, to ensure the inclusion of specialized or lesser-known datasets, we searched through *GitHub* repositories. Similar to databases, we performed both manual and keyword-based searches for datasets.

B. Dataset Evaluation Metrics

We introduce a novel metric, impact score, to assess the significance of a published dataset, which can also be a guide to preparing a new dataset. In this section, we explain in detail the approach to calculate the impact score of autonomous driving datasets.

For a fair and compatible comparison, we only consider datasets related to the perception domain, which takes up a large portion of autonomous driving datasets. Additionally, to ensure the objectivity and comprehensibility of our scoring system, we take into account various factors, including citation score, data dimension, and environmental diversity. All the values are gathered from official papers or open-source dataset websites.

Citation Score. First, we calculate the citation scores from the total citation number and average annual citation. To gain fair citation counts, we choose the time of the earliest version of a dataset as its publication time. Moreover, all citation counts were collected as of March 05, 2024, to ensure the comparison is based on a consistent timeframe. The total citation number c^t reflects the overall influence of a dataset. A higher count of this metric means that the dataset has been widely recognized and utilized by researchers. However, datasets published in earlier years can accumulate more citations. To address this unfairness, we leverage average annual citation c^a , which describes a dataset’s yearly citation increase speed. The function is shown in Eq. 1.

$$c^a = \begin{cases} c^t / (y_{curr} - y_{pub}) & \text{if } y_{curr} \neq y_{pub} \\ c^t & \text{if } y_{curr} = y_{pub} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where y_{curr} and y_{pub} represent the current year and the dataset published year, respectively. On the other hand, the citation number of distastes has a wide distribution range from single digits to tens of thousands. To alleviate the extreme imbalance and highlight the differences of each dataset, we apply a logarithmic transformation followed by Min-Max normalization to both c^t and c^a , described in Eq. 2.

$$c_{norm} = \min - \max(\log(c)) \quad (2)$$

Finally, the citation score c_{score} is the summation of c_{norm}^t and c_{norm}^a :

$$c_{score} = 0.5c_{norm}^t + 0.5c_{norm}^a \quad (3)$$

Data Dimension Score. We measure the data dimension across four perspectives: dataset size, temporal information, task number, and labeled categories. Dataset size f is represented by the frame number of a dataset, reflecting its volume and comprehensiveness. To get the dataset size score f_{norm} , we leverage the same method as the citation score to process the frame number to overcome the extreme imbalance between different datasets.

Temporal information is essential for autonomous driving as it enables the vehicle to understand how the surrounding environment changes over time. We use $t \in \{0, 1\}$ to indicate whether a dataset includes temporal information. Regarding the task number, we only consider datasets related to the six fundamental tasks in the autonomous driving perception domain, such as 2D object detection, 3D object detection, 2D semantic segmentation, 3D semantic segmentation, tracking, and lane detection. Therefore, the task number score is recorded as $t^n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. A large number of categories is critical for the robustness and versatility of a dataset. During the statistic, if a dataset supports multiple tasks and includes various types of annotation, we choose the largest number of categories. Afterward, the categories are divided into five levels, $cat = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, based on quintiles. We normalize t_n and l before the following process to simplify the calculation.

In order to reflect the data dimension score d_{score} as objectively as possible, we give different weights to the four components, as shown in Eq. 4.

$$d_{score} = 0.5f_{norm} + 0.1t + 0.2t_{norm}^n + 0.2cat_{norm} \quad (4)$$

Environmental Diversity Score. We evaluate the environmental diversity of a dataset according to the following factors: 1) weather conditions (such as rain or snow), 2) time of day (e.g., morning or dusk), 3) types of driving scenarios (like urban or rural), and 4) geometric scope refers to the number of countries or cities where the data is recorded. It is worth noting that we treat the geographical scope for synthetic datasets as undefined. We follow the granularity with which a paper categorizes its data to quantify the diversity. Moreover, for the missing value, if a dataset announces that the data is recorded under diversity conditions, we assign the median value; otherwise, the missing value is set to one. We apply quintiles to quantify each factor into five distinct levels. After that, the environmental diversity score e_{score} is the sum of these four factors.

In the end, we leverage Eq. 5 to calculate the impact score i_{score} .

$$i_{score} = 60c_{score} + 20d_{score} + 20e_{score} \quad (5)$$

The total impact score is 100, and 60 percent belongs to the citation score c_{score} . Data dimension score d_{score} and environmental diversity score e_{score} takes 40 percent.

III. SENSORS AND PERCEPTION TECHNOLOGY IN AUTONOMOUS DRIVING

In this section, we introduce the sensors and their modalities mainly used in autonomous driving (III-A). Subsequently, in III-B, we analyze the data acquisition methods and cooperative perception technologies.

A. Sensor Modalities

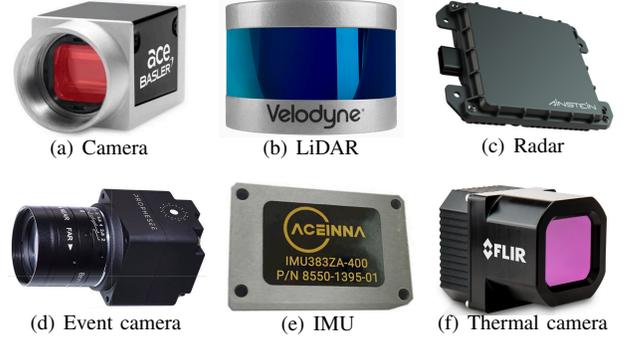


Fig. 4. Sensors on autonomous driving vehicles. The type of each sensor is (a) Camera: *Basler ace acA1600-20uc*, (b) LiDAR: *Velodyne Puck LITE*, (c) Radar: *Ainstein Launches K-79*, (d) Event-based camera: *Evaluation Kit 4 HD*, (e) IMU: *IMU383_Aceinna-W* and (f) Thermal camera: *FLIR 2nd_Gen_ADK*. All figures are extracted from the websites hosting the sensors.

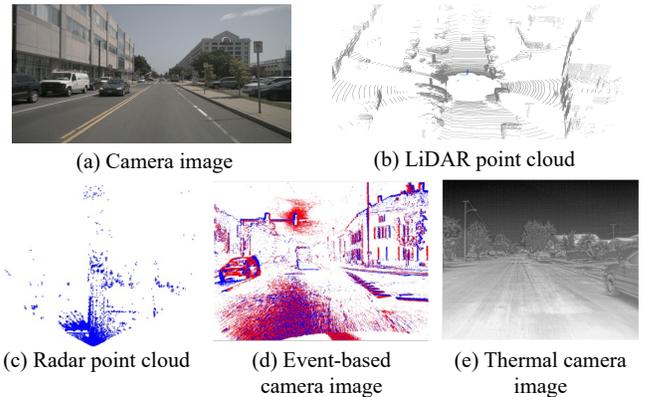


Fig. 5. We present the sensor modalities to provide an intuitive understanding of each sensor's characteristics. (a) is from nuScenes [22], (b) is from KITTI [13], (c) is from [46], (d) is from [47], (e) is from [48]. All figures are collected from the open-source data of datasets.

Efficiently and precisely collecting data from the surrounding environment is the key to a reliable perception system in autonomous driving. To achieve this goal, various types of sensors are utilized on self-driving vehicles and infrastructures. The sensor examples are shown in Fig. 4. The most used sensors are cameras, LiDARs, and radars. Event-based and thermal cameras are also installed on vehicles or roadside infrastructure to improve the perception capability further.

RGB Images. RGB images are usually recorded by monocular, stereo, or fisheye cameras. Monocular cameras offer a 2D view without depth; stereo cameras, with their dual lenses, provide depth perception; fisheye cameras use wide-angle lenses to capture a broad view. As shown in Fig. 5

(a), the 2D images capture color information, rich textures, patterns, and visual details of the environment. Due to these characters, RGB images are mainly used to detect vehicles and pedestrians and recognize road signs. However, the RGB images are vulnerable to conditions like low illumination, rain, fog, or glare [49].

LiDAR Point Clouds. LiDARs use laser beams to measure the distance between the sensor and an object, creating a 3D environment representation [50]. LiDAR point clouds (Fig. 5 (b)) provide precise spatial information with high resolution and can detect objects over long distances. However, the density of these points can decrease with increasing distance, leading to sparser representations for distant objects. Weather conditions, e.g., fog, also limit the performance of LiDAR. In general, LiDARs are suitable in cases that require 3D concise information.

Radar Point Clouds. Radars detect objects, distance, and relative speed by emitting radio waves and analyzing their reflection. Moreover, radars are robust under various weather conditions [51]. Nevertheless, radar point clouds are generally coarser than LiDAR data, lacking the detailed shape or texture information of objects. Therefore, radars are generally used to assist other sensors. Fig. 5 (c) exhibits the radar point clouds.

Event of Event-based Camera. Event-based cameras asynchronously capture data, activating only when a pixel detects a change in brightness. The captured data is called events (Fig. 5 (d)). Thanks to the specific data generation method, the recorded data has extremely high temporal resolution and captures fast motion without blur [52].

Infrared Images of Thermal Camera. Thermal cameras (see Fig. 5 (e)) detect heat signatures by capturing infrared radiation [53]. Due to producing images based on temperature differences, thermal cameras can work in total darkness and are unaffected by fog or smoke. However, thermal cameras cannot discern colors or detailed visual patterns evident. Furthermore, the resolution of infrared images is lower compared to optical cameras.

Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU). An IMU is an electronic device that measures and reports an object’s specific force, angular rate, and sometimes magnetic field surrounding the object [54]. In autonomous driving, it is used to track the movement and orientation of the vehicle.

We analyze the sensor distribution from the collected datasets, shown in Fig. 6. More than half of the sensors are monocular cameras (52.79%) due to their low price and reliable performance. Additionally, 93 datasets (25.98%) include LiDAR data, valued for its high resolution and precise spatial information. However, its high-cost limits LiDAR’s widespread use. Beyond LiDAR point clouds, 29 datasets leverage stereo cameras to capture depth information. Furthermore, 5.31%, 3.35%, and 1.68% datasets include radar, thermal camera, and fisheye camera. Given the temporal efficiency of capturing dynamic scenes, ten datasets generate data based on event-based cameras (2.79%).

B. Sensing Domains and Cooperative Perception Systems

Sensory data and cooperation between the ego vehicle and surrounding entities are pivotal for ensuring autonomous

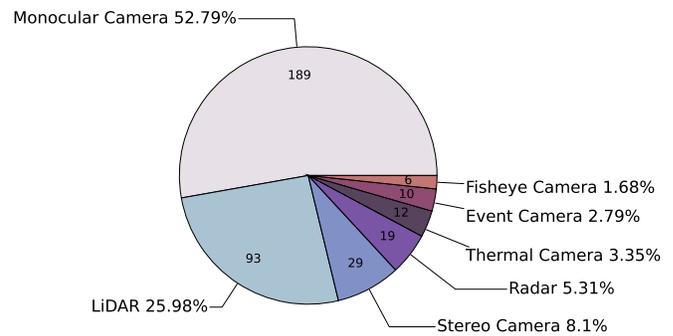


Fig. 6. Sensor type distribution. We show the distribution of different sensors. Overall, RGB cameras and LiDARs are the most used sensors in autonomous driving datasets.

driving systems’ safety, efficiency, and overall functionality. Therefore, the positioning of sensors is crucial as it determines the quality, angle, and scope of data that can be collected. Generally, sensing domains in autonomous driving can be categorized as onboard, Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X), drone-based, and others.

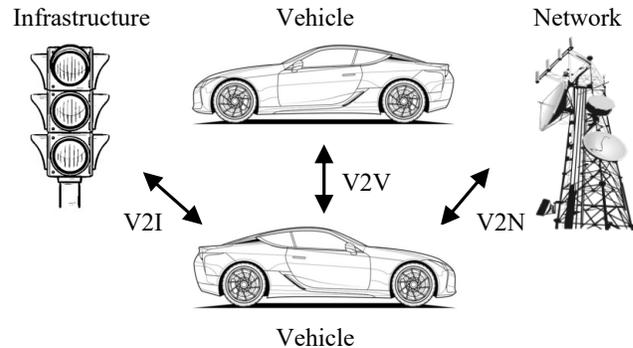


Fig. 7. Overview of cooperative perception systems in autonomous driving. A complete autonomous driving perception system consists of the ego vehicle along with collaborative interactions between vehicles, infrastructure, and networks.

Onboard. Onboard sensors are installed directly on the autonomous vehicle and usually consist of cameras, LiDARs, radars, and IMUs. These sensors provide a direct perspective from the vehicle’s standpoint, offering immediate feedback on the surroundings. Nevertheless, due to the limited detection scope, onboard sensors may have limitations in providing advanced warnings about obstacles in blind spots or detecting hazards around sharp bends.

V2X. Vehicle-to-Everything encompasses communications between a vehicle and any other components in the transport system [55], including Vehicle-to-Vehicle, Vehicle-to-Infrastructure, and Vehicle-to-Network (as shown in Fig. 7). Beyond the immediate sensory input, the cooperative systems ensure multiple entities work harmoniously.

- *Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V)*

V2V enables nearby vehicles to share essential data, such as position, velocity, and captured sensory data (e.g., camera images or LiDAR scans). This shared information

contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of driving scenarios.

- *Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I)*

V2I facilitates communications between the autonomous vehicle and infrastructure components such as traffic lights, signs, or roadside sensors. The sensors implemented in road infrastructure collaborate to enhance the perception range and situational awareness of autonomous vehicles. In this survey, we categorize interactions involving single or multiple vehicles with single or multiple infrastructure components, as well as collaborations among multiple infrastructure elements, under V2I.

- *Vehicle-to-Network (V2N)*

V2N refers to exchanging information between a vehicle and a broader network infrastructure, often leveraging cellular networks to provide vehicles with access to cloud data. V2N aids the cooperation perception of V2V and V2I by sharing cross-area data or offering real-time updates about traffic congestion or road closures.

Drone. Drones, or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), offer an aerial perspective, providing data essential for trajectory prediction and route planning [18]. For example, the real-time data from drones can be integrated into traffic management systems to optimize the traffic flow and alert autonomous vehicles of accidents ahead.

Others. Data not collected by the previous three types is defined as others, such as other devices installed on non-vehicle objects or multiple domains.

IV. TASKS IN AUTONOMOUS DRIVING

This section offers insight into the pivotal tasks in autonomous driving, such as perception and localization (IV-A), prediction (IV-B), and planning and control (IV-C). The overview of the autonomous driving pipeline is demonstrated in Fig. 8. We detail their objectives, the nature of data they rely upon, and inherent challenges. Fig. 9 highlights several main tasks in autonomous driving.

A. Perception and Localization

Perception focuses on understanding the environment based on the sensory data, while localization determines the autonomous vehicle's position within that environment.

2D/3D Object Detection. 2D or 3D object detection aims to identify the locations and classification of other entities within the driving environment. Although the detection technologies have significantly advanced, several challenges remain, such as object occlusions, varying light conditions, and diverse object appearances.

Usually, the Average Precision (AP) metric [61] is applied to evaluate the object detection performance. According to [1], the AP metric can be formulated as

$$AP = \int_0^1 \max \{p(r') | r' \geq r\} dr \quad (6)$$

where $p(r)$ is the precision-recall curve.

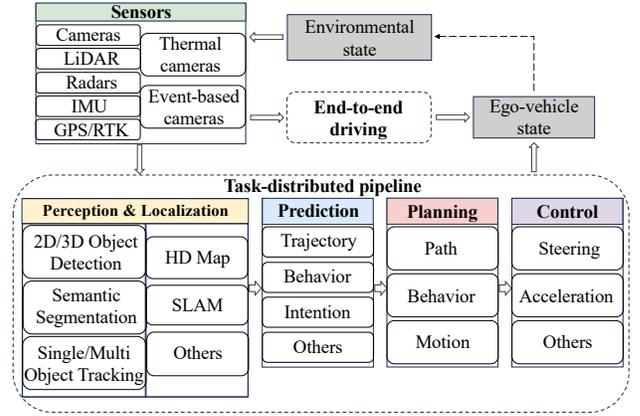


Fig. 8. The overview of autonomous driving pipeline. Autonomous driving systems can be categorized into two types: modular-based and end-to-end. Both types rely on data collected by various sensors installed on vehicles or infrastructures. These systems interact with and respond to the surrounding environment during driving scenarios.

2D/3D Semantic Segmentation. Semantic segmentation involves classifying each pixel of an image or point of a point cloud to its semantic category. From a dataset perspective, maintaining fine-grained object boundaries while managing extensive labeling requirements presents significant challenges for this task.

As mentioned in [62], the main metrics used for segmentation are mean Pixel Accuracy (mPA):

$$mPA = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{p_{ii}}{\sum_{j=0}^k p_{ij}} \quad (7)$$

And the mean Intersection over Union (mIoU):

$$mIoU = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{p_{ii}}{\sum_{j=0}^k p_{ij} + \sum_{j=0}^k p_{ji} - p_{ii}} \quad (8)$$

Where $k \in \mathbb{N}$ is the number of classes, and p_{ii} , p_{ij} , and p_{ji} represent true positives, false positives, and false negatives, respectively.

Object Tracking. Object Tracking monitors the trajectories of a single or multiple objects over time. This task necessitates time-series RGB data, LiDAR, or radar sequences. Usually, object tracking includes single-object tracking or multi-object tracking (MOT).

Multi-Object-Tracking Accuracy (MOTA) is a widely utilized metric for multiple object tracking, which combines false negatives, false positives, and mismatch rate [63] (see Eq. 9).

$$MOTA = 1 - \frac{\sum_t (fp_t + fn_t + e_t)}{\sum_t gt_t} \quad (9)$$

where fp , fn , and e are the number of false positives, false negatives, and mismatch errors over time t . gt is the ground truth.

Furthermore, instead of considering a single threshold, Average MOTA (AMOTA) is calculated based on all object confidence thresholds [64].

HD Map. HD mapping aims to construct detailed, highly accurate representations that include information about road

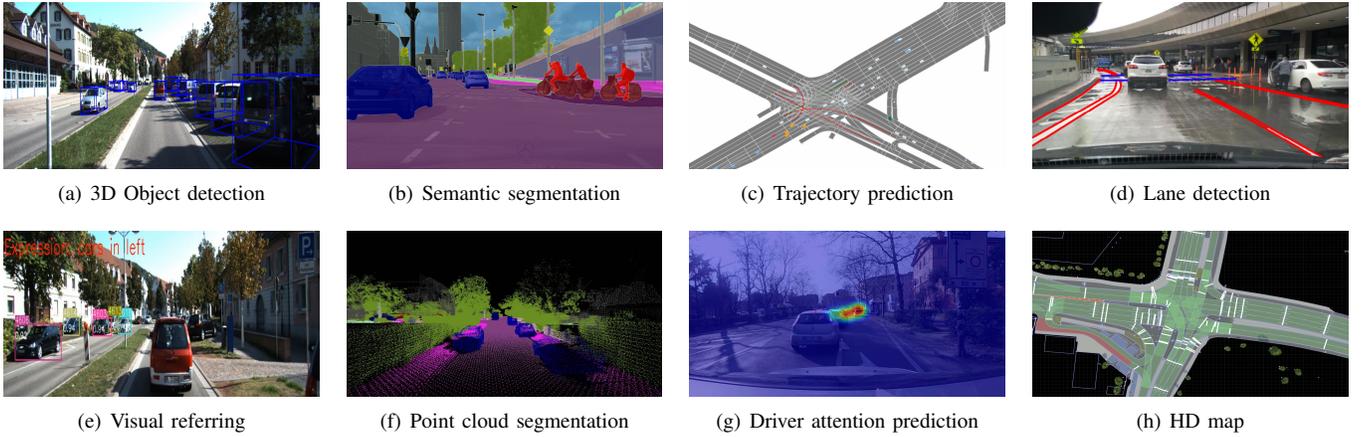


Fig. 9. Examples of various autonomous driving tasks. (a) is from KITTI [13], (b) is from Cityscapes [14], (c) is from V2X-Seq [56], (d) is from BDD100K [24], (e) is from Refer-KITTI [57], (f) is from KITTI-360 [58], (g) is from Dr(eye)ve [59], (h) is from TUMTraj [60]. All figures are collected from the open-source data of datasets or the websites hosting the datasets.

structures, traffic signs, and landmarks. A dataset should provide LiDAR data for precise spatial information and camera data for visual details to ensure established map accuracy. According to [28], HD map automation [65] and HD map change detection [66] have received more and more attention. Usually, the HD map quality is estimated using the accuracy metric.

SLAM. Simultaneous Localization And Mapping (SLAM) entails building a concurrent map of the surrounding environment and localizing the vehicle within this map. Hence, data from cameras, IMUs for position tracking, and real-time LiDAR point clouds are vital. Sturm et al. [67] introduces two evaluation metrics, relative pose error (RPE) and absolute trajectory error (ATE), for evaluating the quality of the estimated trajectory from the input RGB-D images.

B. Prediction

Prediction refers to forecasting the future states or actions of surrounding agents. This capacity ensures safer navigation in dynamic environments. Several evaluation metrics are used for prediction [68], [69], such as Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE):

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (T_{pred}^n - T_{gt}^n)^2} \quad (10)$$

where N is the total number of samples, T_{pred} and T_{gt} represent the predicted trajectory and ground truth.

Negative Log Likelihood (NLL) (see Eq. 11) is another metric focusing on determining the correctness of the trajectory, which can be used to compare the uncertainty of different models [70].

$$NLL = - \sum_{c=1}^C n_c \log(\hat{n}_c) \quad (11)$$

Where C is the total classes, n_c is the binary indicator of the correctness of prediction, and \hat{n}_c is the corresponding prediction probability.

Trajectory Prediction. Based on time-series data from sensors like cameras and LiDARs, trajectory prediction pertains to anticipating the future paths or movement patterns of other entities [68], such as pedestrians, cyclists, or other vehicles.

Behavior Prediction. Behavior prediction anticipates the potential actions of other road users [69], e.g., whether a vehicle will change the lane. Training behavior prediction models rely on extensive annotated data due to entities' vast range of potential actions within various scenarios.

Intention Prediction. Intention prediction focuses on inferring the higher-level goals behind the actions of objects, involving a deeper semantic comprehension of the physical or mental activities of humans [71]. Because of the task's complexity, it requires data from perception sensors like cameras, traffic signals, and hand gestures.

C. Planning and Control

1) *Planning:* Planning represents the decision-making process in reaction to the perceived environment and predictions. A classic three-level hierarchical planning framework comprises path, behavioral, and motion planning [59].

Path Planning Path planning, also known as route planning, involves setting long-term objectives. It is a high-level process of determining the best path to the destination.

Behavior Planning. Behavior planning sits at the mid-level of the framework and is related to decision-making, including lane changes, overtaking, merging, and intersection crossing. This process relies on the correct understanding and interaction with the behavior of other agents.

Motion Planning. Motion planning deals with the actual trajectory the vehicle should follow in real time, considering obstacles, road conditions, and the predicted behavior of other road agents. In contrast to path planning, motion planning generates appropriate paths to achieve local objectives [59].

2) *Control:* Control mechanisms in autonomous driving govern how the self-driving car executes the decided path or behavior from the motion planning system and corrects tracking errors [72]. It translates high-level commands into actionable throttle, brake, and steering commands.

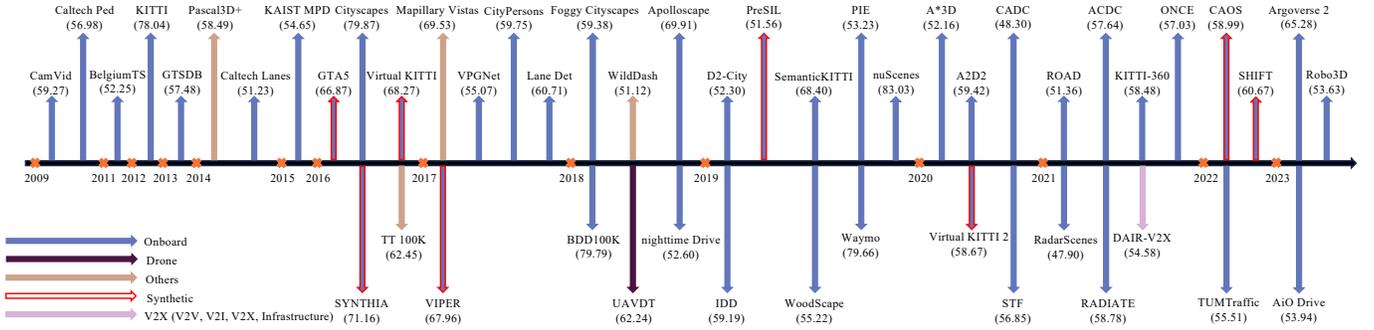


Fig. 10. Chronological overview. We show the top 50 datasets ranked by their impact scores. This diagram covers datasets released from 2009 through March 17, 2024.

D. End-to-end Autonomous Driving

End-to-end approaches in autonomous driving are those where a single deep learning model handles everything from perception to control, bypassing the traditional modular pipeline. Such models can often be more adaptive as they rely on adjusting the whole model through learning. Their inherent promise is in their simplicity and efficiency by reducing the need for hand-crafted components [73]. However, implementing end-to-end models faces limitations such as extensive training data requirements, low interpretability, and inflexible modular tuning.

Large-scale benchmarking for end-to-end AD can be categorized into closed-loop and open-loop evaluation [74]. The closed-loop evaluation is based on a simulated environment, while open-loop evaluation involves assessing a system’s performance against expert driving behavior from real-world datasets.

V. HIGH-INFLUENCE DATASETS

This section describes the milestone autonomous driving datasets in the field of perception (V-A), prediction, planning, and control (V-B). We also exhibit datasets for end-to-end autonomous driving (V-C).

A. Perception Datasets

Perception datasets are critical for developing and optimizing autonomous driving systems. They enhance vehicle reliability and robustness by providing rich, multimodal sensory data, ensuring effective perception and understanding of surroundings.

We leverage the proposed dataset evaluation metrics (see II-B) to calculate the impact scores of the collected perception datasets, subsequently selecting the top 50 datasets based on these scores to create a chronological overview, shown in Fig. 10. Concurrently, as described in III-B, we categorize datasets into onboard, V2X, drone, and others, choosing a subset from each to compile a comprehensive table of 50 datasets (Tab. II). It is worth noting that the datasets in the table are sorted by impact score within their respective categories and do not represent the overall top 50. In the following section, we choose several datasets with the highest impact scores within each sensing source and exhibit them, considering their published year.

1) *Onboard*: **KITTI**. KITTI [13] has been instrumental in advancing the autonomous driving domain since its release in 2012. KITTI data is recorded by various sensors, including cameras, LiDAR, and GPS/IMU, facilitating the development of algorithms for object detection, tracking, optical flow, depth estimation, and visual odometry. However, KITTI data was mainly recorded under ideal weather conditions in German urban areas. The relatively small geographic and environmental conditions scope limit its real-world applications.

Cityscapes. Cityscapes [14] comprises a vast collection of images captured explicitly in intricate urban environments and has become a standard benchmark semantic segmentation. Cityscapes provides pixel-level segmentation through meticulous labeling for 30 object classes, including various vehicle types, pedestrians, roads, and traffic sign information. However, Cityscapes primarily focuses on German cities and lacks diverse weather conditions. These limitations hinder its usefulness for developing robust and generalized autonomous driving solutions.

VIPER. VIPER [5] is a synthetic dataset collected based on driving, riding, and walking perspectives in a realistic virtual world. VIPER contains over 250K video frames annotated with ground-truth data for low- and high-level vision tasks. It encapsulates various weather conditions, lighting scenarios, and complex urban landscapes, making it an invaluable resource for testing the robustness of autonomous driving algorithms. Nonetheless, the transition from synthetic data to real-world application remains challenging, as algorithms must bridge the domain gap to maintain their effectiveness in real environments.

SemanticKITTI. SemanticKITTI [6] consists of over 43,000 LiDAR point cloud frames, making it one of the most extensive datasets for 3D semantic segmentation in outdoor environments. SemanticKITTI provides precise labels for 28 categories, such as car, road, building, etc., achieving a robust benchmark for semantic segmentation. However, similar to the previous datasets, SemanticKITTI faces limitations in real-world applicability due to its restricted environmental diversity and geographical scope.

nuScenes. nuScenes [22] stands as an essential contribution to the field of autonomous driving, providing multimodal sensor setup, including LiDAR, radars, and cameras. It addresses the diversity in urban scenes and environmental conditions.

TABLE II

HIGH-IMPACT PERCEPTION DATASETS. FOR A MORE COMPREHENSIVE DEMONSTRATION, WE EXHIBIT 50 PERCEPTION DATASETS FROM DIFFERENT SENSING DOMAINS INSTEAD OF THOSE WITH THE HIGHEST SCORES. THE CITATION NUMBER OF EACH DATASET IS NOT SHOWN IN THE TABLE DUE TO THE FAST CHANGE FOR THIS POINT.

Dataset	Year	Size	Temp	2D Det	3D Det	2D Seg	Tasks 3D Seg	Tracking	Lane Det	Categories number	Weather conditions	Time of day	Scenario type	Geographical scope	Impact score
Onboard															
nuScenes [22]	2019	40K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23	3	2	4	2	83.03
Cityscapes [14]	2016	25K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30	1	1	3	1	79.87
BDD100K [24]	2020	12M	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	40	5	2	4	1	79.79
Waymo [23]	2019	230K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23	2	3	5	1	79.66
KITTI [13]	2012	41K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	1	1	2	1	78.04
SYNTIA [2]	2016	13.4K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	2	3	5	-	71.16
ApolloScope [17]	2018	143,906	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	28	4	3	3	1	69.91
SemanticKITTI [6]	2019	43,552	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	28	1	1	4	1	68.40
Virtual KITTI [3]	2016	21,260	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	3	2	5	-	68.27
VIPER [5]	2017	254,064	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	11	4	3	4	-	67.96
GTA5 [4]	2016	24,966	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	19	2	2	2	-	66.87
Argoverse 2 [28]	2023	6M	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30	2	1	1	6	65.28
Lane Det [75]	2017	133,235	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	3	3	1	60.71
SHIFT [10]	2022	2.5M	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23	5	5	3	-	60.67
CityPersons [76]	2017	25K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30	2	1	-	27	59.75
A2D2 [25]	2020	41,277	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	38	2	1	3	3	59.42
Foggy Cityscapes [77]	2018	20,550	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	19	1	1	2	1	59.38
CamVid [78]	2009	701	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	32	2	1	2	1	59.27
IDD [79]	2019	10,004	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	34	3	3	5	1	59.18
CAOS [7]	2022	13K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	3	2	3	-	58.98
RADIATE [26]	2021	44,140	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	5	2	4	1	58.78
Virtual KITTI 2 [9]	2020	20,992	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	4	2	3	1	58.67
KITTI-360 [58]	2021	150K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	37	1	1	1	1	58.48
Dr(eye)ve [59]	2018	555000	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10	3	3	3	-	58.13
ACDC [80]	2021	4,006	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	19	4	2	3	1	57.64
GTSDB [81]	2013	900	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	2	2	3	1	57.48
ONCE [30]	2021	1M	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	3	2	5	1	57.03
Caltech Ped [82]	2009	250K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1	1	2	56.98
STF [83]	2020	13,500	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	4	2	3	4	56.85
V2X															
TUMTraF [60], [84]–[86]	2022	50,253	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10	6	5	10	1	55.51
DAIR-V2X [27]	2021	71,254	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10	2	2	2	1	54.58
V2XSet [11]	2022	11,447	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1	1	-	49.84
V2V4Real [87]	2023	40K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	2	1	2	1	40.28
Rope3D [88]	2022	50K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	12	3	3	2	1	48.96
V2X-Sim [89]	2022	10K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23	1	1	1	-	48.50
V2VNet [90]	2020	51.2K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1	1	-	48.20
T&J [91]	2019	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1	2	1	46.63
Co-Percep [92]	2020	10K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1	1	1	42.99
DeepAccident [12]	2023	285K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	4	3	2	-	41.79
LUMPI [93]	2022	200K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	6	3	1	1	40.42
Drone															
UAVDT [94]	2018	80K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	2	2	6	1	61.63
DroneVehicle [95]	2021	28,439	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	1	3	4	1	44.42
Others															
Mapillary Vistas [96]	2017	25K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	66	5	3	3	2	68.63
TT 100K [15]	2016	100K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	45	2	2	2	10	61.99
Pascal3D+ [97]	2014	30,899	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	12	2	2	1	-	58.07
WildDash [98]	2018	1,800	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	28	2	2	7	1	50.02
TorontoCity [99]	2016	56K	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	2	2	1	1	45.82
DAWN [100]	2020	4,543	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	6	3	3	-	43.99
RAD [101]	2019	60	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	19	1	1	1	1	37.86
STCrowd [102]	2022	10,891	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	3	1	1	1	35.19

The data recorded from Boston and Singapore cover varied driving behaviors and urban layouts, enhancing generalizability. Its six cameras provide a comprehensive perspective of the surrounding environment, making them widely utilized in multi-view object detection tasks. Yet, the dataset’s coverage of rare driving cases, such as accidents, could be expanded to better assess algorithm performance under challenging conditions.

Waymo. The Waymo Open Dataset [23], introduced in 2019, significantly influences research and advancement in autonomous driving. Waymo provides an extensive size of multimodal sensory data with high-quality annotations compared to others. Key contributions of the Waymo dataset include its comprehensive coverage of driving conditions and geographics, which are pivotal for the robustness and generability of different tasks. The real-world applicability of Waymo’s data is enhanced by its diversity, although exploring its limitations in specific adverse conditions could provide deeper insights into areas needing improvement.

BDD100K. BDD100K [24] dataset is renowned for its size and diversity. It comprises 100,000 videos, each about 40 seconds in duration. Furthermore, it includes different times of day and weather conditions, offering a solid foundation for testing and improving the robustness of algorithms. Meanwhile, it provides various annotated labels for object detection, tracking, semantic segmentation, and lane detection. However, the varying quality of video annotations challenges the dataset’s real-world applicability, highlighting the need for consistent, high-quality annotations to ensure algorithm effectiveness across all conditions.

Argoverse 2. As a sequel to Argoverse 1 [19], Argoverse 2 [28] introduces more diversified and complex driving scenarios, presenting the largest autonomous driving taxonomy to date. It captures various real-world driving scenarios across six cities and varying conditions. Argoverse 2 supports a wide range of essential tasks, including but not limited to 3D object detection, semantic segmentation, and tracking. The limitation of Argoverse 2 in the real world is similar to [22] and [23],

considering more adversarial conditions and edge cases can extend its application field.

2) *V2X: TUMTraf*. The TUM Traffic Dataset family (*TUMTraf*) is a cutting-edge real-world dataset comprising 50,253 labeled frames (9,545 point clouds and 40,708 images) across five releases, capturing diverse traffic scenarios in Munich, Germany [60], [84]–[86]. It integrates multiple data modalities like RGB camera, event-based camera, LiDAR, GPS, and IMU. *TUMTraf* also provides perspectives from the infrastructure and vehicle, enabling research in cooperative perception. *TUMTraf* stands out for including edge cases like accidents, near-miss events, and traffic violations, providing a great resource to improve perception systems.

DAIR-V2X. *DAIR-V2X* [27] is a pioneering resource in the Vehicle-Infrastructure Cooperative Autonomous Driving, providing large-scale, multi-modality, multi-view real-world data. The dataset is designed to tackle challenges such as the temporal asynchrony between vehicle and infrastructure sensors and the data transmission costs involved in such cooperative systems. *DAIR-V2X* has been instrumental in advancing vehicle-infrastructure cooperation, setting benchmarks for addressing V2X perception tasks.

3) *Drone: UAVDT*. The UAVDT [94] dataset consists of 80,000 accurately annotated frames with up to 14 kinds of attributes, such as weather conditions, flying attitude, camera view, vehicle category, and occlusion levels. The dataset focuses on UAV-based object detection and tracking in urban environments. Moreover, the UAVDT benchmark includes high-density scenes with small objects and significant camera motion, all challenging for the current state-of-the-art methods.

DroneVehicle. *DroneVehicle* [95] proposes a large-scale drone-based dataset, which provides 28,439 RGB-Infrared image pairs to address object detection, especially under low-illumination conditions. Furthermore, it covers a variety of scenarios, such as urban roads, residential areas, and parking lots. This dataset is a significant step forward in developing autonomous driving technologies due to its unique drone perspective across a broad range of conditions.

4) *Others: Pascal3D+*. *Pascal3D+* [97] is an extension of the *PASCAL VOC 2022* [103], overcoming the limitations of previous datasets by providing a richer and more varied set of annotations for images. *Pascal3D+* augments 12 rigid object categories, such as cars, buses, and bicycles, with 3D pose annotations and adds more images from ImageNet [104], resulting in high variability. However, *Pascal3D+* only focuses on rigid objects and may not fully address the dynamic driving environments where pedestrians and other non-rigid objects are present.

Mapillary Vistas. *Mapillary Vistas* dataset, proposed by [96] in 2017, particularly aims at semantic segmentation of street scenes. The 25,000 images in the dataset are labeled with 66 object categories and include instance-specific annotations for 37 classes. It contains images from diverse weather, time of day, and geometric locations, which helps mitigate the bias towards specific regions or conditions.

B. Prediction, Planning, and Control Datasets

Prediction, planning, and control datasets serve as the foundation for facilitating the development of driving systems. These datasets are critical for forecasting traffic dynamics, pedestrian movements, and other essential factors that influence driving decisions. Hence, we demonstrate in detail several high-impact datasets related to these tasks according to the data size, modalities, and citation number. We summarize these datasets into task-specific and multi-task groups.

1) *Task-Specific Datasets: highD*. The drone-based highD [18] dataset provides a large-scale collection of naturalistic vehicle trajectories on German highways, containing post-processed trajectories of 110K cars and trucks. It is designed to address the shortcomings of traditional measurement techniques in scenario-based safety validation, which often miss capturing authentic road user behaviors or lack comprehensive, high-quality data. But highD is recorded under ideal weather conditions, limiting its application under adversarial weather conditions.

PIE. The Pedestrian Intention Estimation (PIE) dataset proposed by [21] represents a significant advancement in understanding pedestrian behaviors in urban environments. It encompasses over 6 hours of driving footage recorded in downtown Toronto under various lighting conditions. PIE offers rich annotations for perception and visual reasoning, including bounding boxes with occlusion flags, crossing intention confidence, and text labels for pedestrian actions.

Argoverse. *Argoverse* [19] is a crucial dataset in 3D object tracking and motion forecasting. *Argoverse* provides 360° images from 7 cameras, forward-facing stereo imagery, and LiDAR point clouds. The recorded data covers over 300K extracted vehicle trajectories from 290km of mapped lanes. With the assistance of rich sensor data and semantic maps, *Argoverse* is pivotal in advancing research and development in prediction systems. Real-world implementation has verified the effectiveness of *Argoverse* in urban environments, though its performance in different geographical areas may be constrained.

nuPlan. *nuPlan* [113] is the world’s first closed-loop machine learning-based planning benchmark in autonomous driving. This multimodal dataset comprises around 1,500 hours of human driving data from four cities across America and Asia. It features different traffic patterns, such as merges, lane changes, interactions with cyclists and pedestrians, and driving in construction zones. These characters of the *nuPlan* dataset take into account the dynamic and interactive nature of actual driving, allowing for a more realistic evaluation. Its real-world impact is seen in developing more adaptive and context-aware planning systems.

exiD. The *exiD* [117] trajectory dataset, presented in 2022, is a pivotal contribution to the highly interactive highway scenarios. It takes advantage of drones to record traffic without occlusion, minimizing the influence on traffic and ensuring high data quality and efficiency. This drone-based dataset surpasses previous datasets regarding the diversity of interactions captured, especially those involving lane changes at highway entries and exits. Extending the data from weather conditions

TABLE III

PREDICTION, PLANNING, AND CONTROL DATASETS. WE DEMONSTRATE SEVERAL CRUCIAL DATASETS RELATED TO PREDICTION, PLANNING, AND CONTROL. BP: BEHAVIOR PREDICTION, DAP: DRIVER’S ATTENTION PREDICTION, IP: INTENTION PREDICTION, MP: MOTION PREDICTION, TP: TRAJECTORY PREDICTION, MPLAN: MOTION PLANNING, DM: DECISION-MAKING, OT: OBJECT TRACKING, QA: QUESTION-ANSWERING, DBP: DRIVER BEHAVIOR RECOGNITION

Dataset	Year	Sensing domain	Size	Tasks	Weather conditions	Time of day	Scenario conditions
Task-Specific							
Brain4Cars [105]	2015	others	2M frames	Maneuver Anticipation			
JAAD [16]	2017	onboard	75K frames	pedestrian IT	sunny, rainy, cloudy, snowy	day, afternoon, night	urban
Dr(eye)ve [59]	2018	onboard	500K frames	DAP	sunny, rainy, cloudy	day, night	urban, countryside, highway
highD [18]	2018	drone	45K km distance	TP	sunny	8 am to 5 pm	highway
PIE [21]	2019	onboard	293K frames	pedestrian IT	sunny, overcast	day	urban
USyd [106]	2019	onboard	24K trajectories	driver IT			5 intersections
Argoverse [19]	2019	onboard	300K trajectories	TP	variety	variety	urban
Drive&Act [107]	2019	others	9.6M images	DBR			
DbNet [108]	2019	onboard	100 km distance	DBR	various road types		
D ² CAV [109]	2020	onboard		behavioral strategy			
inD [110]	2020	drone	11.5K trajectories	road user prediction	sunny	day	4 urban intersections
PeScenes [111]	2020	onboard	719 frames	pedestrian BP			
openDD [112]	2020	drone	84,774 trajectories	pedestrian BP			7 roundabouts
nuPlan [113]	2021	drone	1.5K hours data	MPlan			4 cities
DriPE [114]	2021	others	10K pictures	DBR		daytime	
Speak2label [115]	2021	others	586 videos	DAP	sunny, cloudy	daytime	
CoCAtt [116]	2022	onboard	11.9 hours	DAP			countryside
exID [117]	2022	drone	16 hours data	TP	sunny	daytime	7 locations on highway
MONA [118]	2022	drone	702K trajectories	TP	sunny, overcast, rain	8 am to 5 pm	urban
Occ3D-nuScenes [119]	2024	onboard	40K frames	occupancy prediction			
Occ3D-Waymo [119]	2024	onboard	200K frames	occupancy prediction			
Multi-Task							
HDD [120]	2018	onboard	104 hours data	driver behavior, causal reasoning			suburban, urban, highway
INTERACTION [20]	2019	drone, V2X	110K trajectories	MPlan and MP, DM			(un)signalized intersection
BLVD [121]	2019	onboard	120K frames	4D OT, 5D event recognition		day, night	urban, highway
round [122]	2019	drone	13,746 road users	scenario classification, BP	sunny	daytime	(sub-)urban
PREVENTION [123]	2019	onboard	356 mins video	IP, TP			highway, urban areas
DrivingStereo [124]	2019	onboard	180K images	trajectory planning	sunny, rainy, cloudy foggy, dusky	daytime	suburban, urban, highway elevated road, country road
Lyft Level 5 [125]	2021	drone	1.1K hours data	MPlan, MP			suburban
LOKI [126]	2021	onboard	644 scenarios	TP, BP	variety	variety	(sub-)urban
SeeNDD [127]	2022	onboard	68 driving scenes	MPlan, MP			urban
DeepAccident [12]	2023	V2X	57K frames	MP, accident prediction	sunny, rainy, cloudy, wet	noon, sunset, night	synthetic
V2X-Seq (forecasting) [56]	2023	V2X	50K scenarios	online/offline VIC TP			28 urban intersections

and nighttime could be an improvement direction for this dataset.

MONA. The Munich Motion Dataset of Natural Driving (MONA) [118] is an extensive dataset, with 702K trajectories from 130 hours of videos, covering urban roads with multiple lanes, an inner-city highway stretch, and their transitions. This dataset boasts an average overall position accuracy of 0.51 meters, which exhibits the quality of the data collected using highly accurate localization and LiDAR sensors. However, only recording the data in a particular city may limit its generalizability to other geographic locations.

2) *Multi-Task Datasets: INTERACTION.* The INTERACTION [20] dataset is a versatile platform that offers diverse, complex, and critical driving scenes, along with a comprehensive semantic map, making it suitable for a multitude of tasks, such as motion prediction, imitation learning, and validation of decision and planning. Its inclusion of different countries and continents further improves the robustness of analyzing the driving behavior across different cultures. A potential shortcoming of the dataset is that the impact of environmental conditions has not been explicitly addressed.

round. The roundD dataset presented by [122] is pivotal for scenario classification, road user behavior prediction, and driver modeling. It provides a large number of road user trajectories at roundabouts. The dataset utilizes a drone equipped with a 4K resolution camera to collect over six hours of video, recording more than 13K road users. The broad recorded traffic situations and the high-quality recordings make roundD an essential dataset in autonomous driving, facilitating the study

of naturalistic driving behaviors in public traffic. Yet, similar to all datasets only collected under clear weather conditions, developing models capable of performing under challenging situations could be restricted.

Lyft Level 5. Lyft Level 5 [125] represents one of the most extensive autonomous driving datasets for motion prediction to date, with over 1,000 hours of data. It encompasses 17,000 25-second long scenes, a high-definition semantic map with over 15,000 human annotations, 8,500 lane segments, and a high-resolution aerial image of the area. It supports multiple tasks like motion forecasting, motion planning, and simulation. The numerous multimodal data with detailed annotations make it a vital benchmark for prediction and planning. The dataset shows limitations in accurately representing scenes with uncommon traffic conditions or rare pedestrian behaviors.

LOKI. LOKI [126], standing for Long Term and Key Intentions, is an essential dataset in multi-agent trajectory prediction and intention prediction. LOKI tackles a crucial gap in intelligent and safety-critical systems by proposing large-scale, diverse data for heterogeneous traffic agents, including pedestrians and vehicles. This dataset makes a multidimensional view of traffic scenarios available by utilizing camera images with corresponding LiDAR point clouds, making it a highly flexible resource for the community.

DeepAccident. The synthetic dataset, DeepAccident [12] is the first work that provides direct and explainable safety evaluation metrics for autonomous vehicles. The extensive dataset with 57K annotated frames and 285K annotated samples supports end-to-end motion and accident prediction, which is

vital in avoiding collisions and ensuring safety. Moreover, this multimodal dataset is versatile for various V2X-based perception tasks, such as 3D object detection, tracking, and BEV semantic segmentation. The various environmental conditions also enhance the generalizability of this dataset. Due to the domain adaptation issue, the performance of models trained on DeepAccident in real driving situations needs further study.

C. End-to-end Datasets

End-to-end has become a growing trend as an alternative to modular-based architecture in autonomous driving [73]. Several versatile datasets (like nuScenes [22] and Waymo [23]) or simulators like CARLA [128] provide the opportunity to develop end-to-end autonomous driving. Meanwhile, some works present datasets that are especially for end-to-end driving.

DDD17. The DDD17 [129] dataset is notable for using event-based cameras. The dataset provides a concurrent stream of standard active pixel sensor (APS) images and dynamic vision sensors (DVS) temporal contrast events, offering a unique blend of visual data. Additionally, DDD17 captures diverse driving scenarios, including highway and city driving and various weather conditions, thus providing exhaustive and realistic data for training and testing end-to-end autonomous driving algorithms.

VI. ANNOTATIONS PROCESS

The success and reliability of AD algorithms rely not only on the numerous data but also on high-quality annotations. In this section, we first explain the methodology for annotating data VI-A. Additionally, we analyze the most important aspects for ensuring annotation quality VI-B.

A. Annotation Generation

Different AD tasks require specific types of annotation. For example, object detection requires bounding box labels of instance, segmentation is based on pixel- or point-level annotations, and continually labeled trajectory is critical for trajectory prediction. On the other hand, as shown in Fig. 11, the annotation pipeline can be categorized into three types: manual annotation, semi-automatic annotation, and fully automatic annotation. In this section, we detail the labeling approaches for different annotation types.

Annotate 2D/3D Bounding Boxes. The quality of the bounding box annotations directly impacts the effectiveness and robustness of the perception system (like object detection) of autonomous vehicles in real-world scenarios. The annotation process generally involves labeling images with rectangular boxes or point clouds with cuboids to precisely encompass the objects of interest.

Labelme [130] is a prior tool focusing on labeling images for object detection. However, generating bounding boxes by professional annotators faces the same issue as manual segmentation annotation. Wang et al. [131] presented a semi-automatic video labeling tool based on the open-source video annotation system *VATIC* [132]. Manikandan et al. [133] propose another automatic video annotation tool for AD scenes.

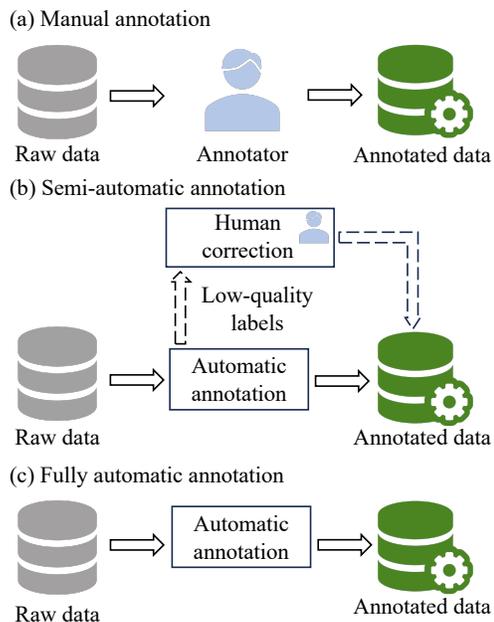


Fig. 11. Annotation pipelines. We demonstrate (a) Manual annotation: The professional annotators label the raw data using annotation tools. (b) Semi-automatic annotation: After generating annotations using an automatic annotation algorithm, the low-quality labels are refined by annotators. (c) Fully automatic annotation: The framework annotates data without human correction.

Process bounding box annotations in the nighttime is more challenging than daytime annotation. Schorkhuber et al. [134] introduced a semi-automatic approach leveraging the trajectory to solve this problem.

In contrast to 2D annotations, 3D bounding boxes contain richer spatial information, such as accurate location, the object’s width, length, height, and orientation in space. Hence, labeling high-quality 3D annotations requires a more sophisticated framework. Meng et al. [135] applied a two-stage weakly supervised learning framework using human-in-the-loop to label LiDAR point clouds. *ViT-WSS3D* [136] generated pseudo-bounding boxes by modeling global interactions between LiDAR points and corresponding weak labels. *ApolloScape* [17] employed a labeling pipeline similar to [137], which consists of a 3D labeling and a 2D labeling branch, to handle static background/objects and moving objects, respectively. *3D BAT* [138] developed an annotation toolbox to assist in obtaining 2D and 3D labels in semi-automatic labeling.

Annotate Segmentation Data. The target of annotating segmentation data is to assign a label to each pixel in an image or each point in a LiDAR frame to indicate which object or region it belongs to. After labeling, all pixels belonging to an object are annotated with the same class. For the manual annotation process, the annotator first draws boundaries around an object and then fills in the area or paints over the pixels directly. However, generating pixel/point-level annotations in this way is costly and inefficient.

Many studies have proposed fully or semi-automatic annotation methods to improve annotation efficiency. Barnes et al. [139] presented a fully automatic annotation ap-

proach based on weakly supervised learning to segment proposed drivable paths in images. The semi-automatic annotation method [140] utilizes the objectness priors to generate segmentation masks. After that, [141] offered a semi-automatic method considering 20 classes. *Polygon-RNN++* [142] presents an interactive segmentation annotation tool following the idea of [143]. Instead of using image information to generate pixel-level labels, [137] explores transferring 3D information into 2D image domains to generate semantic segmentation annotations. For labeling 3D data, [144] proposes an image-assisted annotation pipeline. Luo et al. [145] leverage active learning to select a few points and to form a minimal training set to avoid labeling the whole point cloud scenes. Liu et al. [146] introduce an efficient labeling framework with semi/weakly supervised learning to label outdoor point clouds.

Annotate Trajectories. A trajectory is essentially a series of points that map the path of an object over time, reflecting the spatial and temporal information. Labeling trajectory data for AD is a process that entails annotating the path or movement patterns of various entities within a driving environment, such as vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. Usually, the annotating process relies on object detection and tracking results.

As one of the prior works in trajectory annotation, [147] online generates actions for maneuvers and is annotated into the trajectory. The annotation approach [148] consists of a crowd-sourcing step followed by a precise process of expert aggregation. Jarl et al. [149] develop an active learning framework to annotate driving trajectory. Precisely anticipating movement patterns of pedestrians is critical for driving safety. Styles et al. [150] introduce a scalable machine annotation scheme for pedestrian trajectory annotations without human effort.

Annotate on Synthetic Data. Due to the expensive and time-consuming manual annotations on real-world data, synthetic data generated by computer graphics and simulators provide an alternative to address this issue. Since the data generation process is controllable and the attributes of each object in the scene (like position, size, and movement) are known, synthetic data can be automatically and accurately annotated.

The generated synthetic scenarios are designed to mimic real-world conditions, including multiple objects, various landscapes, weather conditions, and lighting variations. Selecting a suitable simulation tool is crucial to achieve this goal. *Torcs* [151] and *DeepDriving* [152] are two prior works for simulating autonomous vehicles while lacking multi-modality information and other types of objects like pedestrians. Recently, the open source simulators, such as *CARLA* [128], *SUMO* [153], and *AirSim* [154], have been widely used in data generation. They provide transparent platforms where researchers and developers can freely access and modify the source code, tailoring the simulator to specific requirements. In contrast, because of non-open sources, commercial simulation tools like *NVIDIA's Drive Constellation* [155] can make it difficult for users to create special driving environments. Rather than professional simulators, the game engines, including *Grand Theft Auto 5 (GTA5)* and *Unity* [156], are also popular for creating synthetic autonomous driving data.

Specifically, some researchers utilize the *GTA5* game en-

gine to build datasets [4] and [5]. Krahenbuhl et al. [157] present a real-time system based on multiple games to generate annotations for various AD tasks. Instead of applying game videos, *SHIFT* [10], *CAOS* [7], *FedBEVT* [158], and *V2XSet* [11] are created based on the *CARLA* simulator. Compared to [11], *V2X-Sim* [89] studies employing multiple simulators [128], [153] to generate dataset for V2X perception tasks. *CODD* [159] further exploits using [128] to generate 3D LiDAR point clouds for cooperative driving. Other works [2], [3], [9], [160] leverage the *Unity* development platform to generate synthetic datasets.

B. Quality of Annotations

Supervised learning-based autonomous driving (AD) algorithms rely heavily on extensive, well-labeled datasets. High-quality datasets ensure that these systems can accurately perceive and interpret complex driving environments, enhancing safety and reliability on the road. This in turn fosters user trust, a crucial factor for the widespread adoption of autonomous vehicles. Conversely, poor dataset quality can result in system errors and safety risks, undermining user confidence, hindering acceptance, and failing to meet the criteria for trustworthy AI as discussed by [161]. Therefore, ensuring the quality of annotations is fundamental for improving accuracy while driving in complex real-world environments. It is even more important to fine-tune the data quality and use active learning methods for dataset curation to get robust performance results on a test set than fine-tuning the model architecture [162].

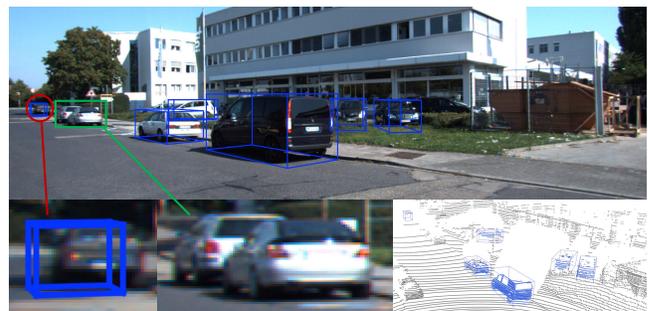


Fig. 12. Mislabeling example of KITTI [13] dataset. We show the ground truth in blue. The bounding box of a car (in red circle) is not precise. Two cars (in green cube) are not annotated, although sensors obviously capture them.

According to the study [163], the annotation quality is affected by several factors, such as consistency, correctness, precision, and validation. Consistency is the foremost criterion in evaluating annotation quality. It involves maintaining uniformity across the entire dataset and is crucial for avoiding confusion in models trained on this data. For example, if a particular type of vehicle is labeled as a car, it should be consistently annotated the same in all other instances. Annotation precision is another vital indicator, which refers to whether the labels match the actual state of the objects or scenarios. In contrast, correctness highlights that annotated data are appropriate and relevant for the purpose of

the dataset and annotation guidelines. After annotation, it is essential to validate the annotated data to ensure its accuracy and completion. The process can be done through manual review by experts or algorithms. Validation helps effectively prevent issues in datasets before they infect the performance of autonomous vehicles, decreasing potential safety risks. Inel et al. [164] presented a data-agnostic validation method for expert annotated datasets.

A failure case of annotation from KITTI [13] is shown in Fig. 12. We illustrate the ground truth bounding boxes (blue) in the corresponding image and LiDAR point cloud. On the left side of the image, the annotation of a car (circled in red) is inaccurate because it does not contain the whole object car. Additionally, two cars (highlighted by the green rectangle) are not annotated, even though the camera and LiDAR capture them clearly. Furthermore, datasets like the *IPS300+* [165] contain many labeled objects within a frame (319.84 labels per frame), but on the other hand, the annotations are of bad quality. Many large datasets like the *Pandaset* [166], *Oxford* [167], *CADC* [168], *nuScenes* [22], and *Lyft Level 5* [22] were labeled by specialized labeling companies like *Scale AI* and provide high-quality annotations. Labeling the *nuScenes* dataset took about 7,937 hours and cost 100k USD. Another way to label datasets is to use custom labeling tools like *3D BAT* [60], [138], which was used to create the *TUMTraF* dataset. The Waymo and KITTI datasets were both labeled with custom labeling tools. *V2V4Real* [87] has used the *SUSTechPoints* [169] labeling tool to generate the dataset.

VII. DATA ANALYSIS

In this section, we systematically analyze datasets from different perspectives in detail, such as the distribution of data around the world (VII-A), chronological trend VII-B, and the data distribution VII-C.

A. Worldwide Distribution

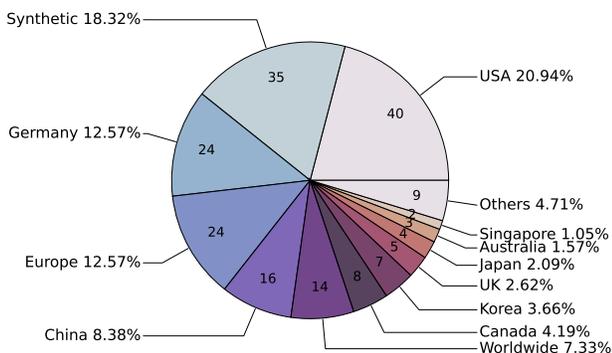


Fig. 13. The distribution of datasets around the world. This figure illustrates the distribution of data collection locations of the datasets.

We demonstrate an overview of the global distribution of 191 autonomous driving datasets in Fig. 13. The chart indicates that the USA is at the forefront with 40 datasets (21% share), underscoring its leadership in the autonomous

driving domain. Germany accounts for 24 datasets, and China closely follows with 16 datasets. On the other hand, developed countries, including Canada, Korea, the UK, Japan, and Singapore, cover the rest smaller segments. Although 11 datasets are collected worldwide and 24 are from the European region (except Germany), all these countries or regions are considered high-income areas. The dominance of the USA, western Europe, and East Asia reflects an extremely unbalanced development of autonomous driving around the world.

Specifically, one of the most classic datasets, KITTI [13], is collected in the metropolitan area of Karlsruhe, Germany. In comparison, both Waymo [23] and Argoverse 2 [28] datasets are collected from a wide variety of places, including six different cities in the USA individually. *ApolloScapes* [17] and *DAIR-V2X* [27] are recorded in China. Instead of collecting data solely within a country, *nuScenes* [22] is established based on the data from America (Boston) and Singapore, both known for complex and highly challenging traffic situations. Other well-known autonomous driving datasets [18], [21], [24], [88], [95], [118] are collected in those previously mentioned countries. It is noted that thanks to the geographic diversity, [22], [23] have been widely used in transfer learning to verify the generalizability of autonomous driving algorithms.

Moreover, autonomous driving faces unique challenges across different geographical regions. However, relying solely on data from a single source can introduce bias that could result in autonomous vehicles' failure to perform under varied or unseen regions and cases. For instance, the diversity and quantity of electric scooters in China far exceed those in Germany, meaning an algorithm trained exclusively on German data may struggle to accurately recognize objects in China. Hence, Recording data from different continents and countries can assist in addressing unique challenges caused by geographical locations. This diverse regional distribution enhances the robustness of the collected data and highlights the international efforts and collaborations in the research community and industry.

Furthermore, 35 synthetic datasets generated by simulators like *CARLA* [128] take up 18.32% percent. Due to the limitation of recording from real-world driving environments, these synthetic datasets overcome such drawbacks and are critical for exploiting more robust and reliable driving systems. However, the domain adaptation from synthetic data to real-world data is still a challenging research topic, which limits a broader application of synthetic data and relevant simulators.

B. Chronological Trends in Perception Datasets

In Fig. 10, we introduce a chronological overview of perception datasets with the top 50 impact scores from 2009 to 2024 (until the writing of this paper). The datasets are color-coded according to their sourcing domain, and synthetic datasets are marked with an external red outline, clearly illustrating the progress toward the diverse data collection strategy. A noticeable trend shows the increase in the number and variety of datasets over the years, indicating the requirement for high-quality datasets with the growing advancements in the field of autonomous driving.

In general, most of the datasets provide a perception perspective from the sensors equipped on the ego vehicle (onboard) because of the importance of the capability of the autonomous vehicle to efficiently and precisely precept the surroundings. On the other hand, due to the high-cost real-world data, some researchers propose high-influence synthetic datasets like VirtualKITTI [3] (2016) to alleviate the reliance on real data. Facilitated by the effectiveness of simulators, there are many novel synthetic datasets [7] [10] published in recent years. In the timeline, V2X datasets like DAIR-V2X [27] and TUMTraf ([60], [84]–[86]) also exhibit a trend toward cooperative driving systems. Furthermore, because of the non-occlusion perspective provided by UAV, drone-based datasets, such as UAVDT [94] published in 2018, take a crucial position in advancing perception systems.

C. Data Distribution

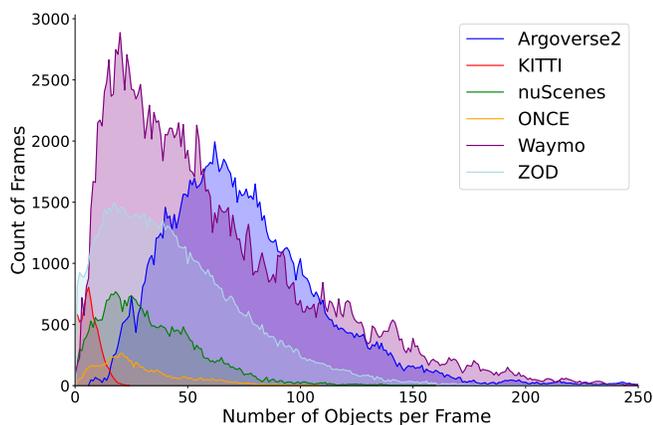


Fig. 14. Comparison of the distribution of the number of objects per frame across several datasets: Argoverse 2 [28], KITTI [13], nuScenes [22], ONCE [30], Waymo [23], and ZOD [31]. The horizontal axis quantifies the number of objects detected in a single frame, while the vertical axis represents the count of frames containing that number of objects.

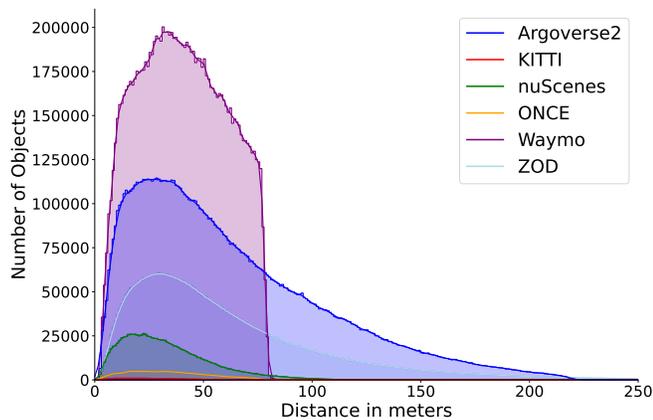


Fig. 15. Comparison of the distribution of the number of objects detected at various distances across several datasets: Argoverse 2 [28], KITTI [13], nuScenes [22], ONCE [30], Waymo [23], and ZOD [31]. The horizontal axis measures the distance from the ego vehicle in meters, and the vertical axis quantifies the number of objects detected at that distance.

We introduce an insight into the number of objects per frame for these datasets in Fig. 14. Notably, Waymo [23] exhibits an extreme number of frames with less than 50 objects while maintaining a broad presence across the chart, illustrating a wide range of scenarios from low to high object density per frame. Contrastingly, KITTI [13] shows a more constrained distribution and limited data size. Argoverse 2 [28] features a substantial number of frames with a higher object count—its peak appears around 70, which indicates its complex environmental representations in general. For ONCE [30], its density of objects evenly distributes in the supported perception range. Datasets like nuScenes [22] and ZOD [31] demonstrate similar curves with a quick rise and slow decline, implying a moderate level of environmental complexity with a decent variability of object counts per frame.

Beyond the number of objects in a scene, the object distribution based on the distance to the ego vehicle is another essential point for revealing a dataset’s variety and significant differences, illustrated in Fig. 15. The Waymo dataset demonstrates numerous labeled objects in near-field to mid-field scenarios. In contrast, Argoverse 2 and ZOD show a wider detection range, with some frames even including bounding boxes out of 200 meters. The curve of the nuScenes means it is particularly rich in objects in a shorter range, which is typical for urban driving scenarios. Nevertheless, as the distance increases, the nuScenes dataset quickly tapers off for the number of objects with annotations. The ONCE dataset covers a more even distribution of objects across distances, while the KITTI dataset focuses more on close-range objects.

D. Influence of Adversarial Environmental Conditions.

TABLE IV
3D OBJECT DETECTION PERFORMANCE UNDER ADVERSARIAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ON THE nuSCENES [22] DATASET. WE REPORT mAP (%) AS THE EVALUATION METRIC. 'L' AND 'C' REFER TO LiDAR AND CAMERAS, RESPECTIVELY. THE TERM 'NORMAL' INDICATES THAT THE MODEL WAS TESTED ACROSS THE ENTIRE VALIDATION SET, ENCOMPASSING ALL ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.

Method	Modality	Adversarial Conditions	mAP \uparrow
VoxelNext [170]	L	normal	60.5
		nighttime	32.4
		rainy	58.7
UTVR [171]	L	normal	60.8
		nighttime	33.9
		rainy	56.5
Transfusion [172]	L+C	normal	68.9
		nighttime	37.5
		rainy	65.8

We further study the influence of adversarial environmental conditions (low lightning and rain) on the performance of 3D object detectors in the autonomous driving system. The experiment results are reported in Tab. IV. We utilize the nuScenes [22] dataset and choose three state-of-the-art methods, *VoxelNext* [170], *UTVR* [171], and *Transfusion* [172]. For a fair comparison, we directly utilize the pre-trained checkpoints provided in the repository of each approach. The rainy and nighttime data are also manually collected from the

TABLE V
 VLM AUTONOMOUS DRIVING DATASET. OT: OBJECT TRACKING, MOT: MULTI-OBJECT TRACKING, QA: QUESTION-ANSWERING, DM: DECISION-MAKING, IP: INTENTION PREDICTION, VR: VISUAL REASONING, SR: SPATIAL REASONING

Dataset	Year	Size	Temporal	Sensing domain	Tasks	Real/Synthetic
BDD-X [175]	2018	8.4M	✓	onboard	reasoning, planning	real
Cityscapes-Ref [176]	2018	5,000 stereo videos	✓	onboard	object referring	real
TOUCHDOWN [177]	2019	9,326 examples	✓	onboard	reasoning, navigation	real
Talk2Car [178]	2019	11,959 commands, 850 videos	✓	onboard	object referring	real
BDD-OIA [179]	2020	11,303 scenarios	×	onboard	explainable decision-making	real
CityFlow-NL [180]	2021	5,289 samples	✓	onboard	OT	real
CARLA-NAV [181]	2022	83K	✓	onboard	navigation	real
NuPrompt [182]	2023	34K frames, 35K prompts	✓	onboard	MOT	real
NuScenes-QA [183]	2023	1K scenarios, 460K QA pairs	✓	onboard	visual QA	real
Refer-KITTI [57]	2023	6,650 frames	✓	onboard	referring MOT	real
Driving LLMs [184]	2023	10K driving situations, 160K QA pairs	×	drone	visual QA	synthetic
DRAMA [185]	2023	17,785 scenarios	✓	onboard	reasoning, visual QA	real
Rank2Tell [186]	2023	116 scenarios	✓	onboard	importance level ranking	real
LamPilot [187]	2023	4,900 samples	✓	others	planning	synthetic
LangAuto CARLAR [188]	2023	64K data clips	✓	onboard	closed-loop driving	synthetic
NuScenes-MQA [189]	2023	34K scenarios, 1.4M QA pairs	×	onboard	visual QA	real
DriveMLM [190]	2023	280 hours	✓	onboard	planning, control	synthetic
DriveLM-nuScenes [191]	2023	4,871 frames	✓	onboard	end-to-end driving	real
DriveCARLA [191]	2023	183,373 frames	✓	onboard	end-to-end driving	real
LiDAR-text [192]	2023	420K 3D captioning data, 280K 3D grounding data	×	onboard	3D scene understanding	real
Talk2BEV [193]	2023	1K BEV scenarios, 20K QA pairs	✓	onboard	DM, IP, VR, SR	real
NuScenes-MQA [194]	2024	1.4M QA pairs, 34,149 scenarios	✓	onboard	visual QA	real
VLAAD [195]	2024	10,379 scenarios	✓	onboard	visual QA, reasoning	real

nuScenes validation set. All three methods demonstrate similar trends under different environmental conditions. Specifically, the detection accuracy declines significantly under low illumination conditions compared with evaluations of the whole validation set. Besides, all models exhibit slight decreases under the non-heavy rainy situations recorded by nuScenes. The reliability of detectors in the real world could be much worse once the rain is heavy. Therefore, taking image restoration into account is a promising way for camera or sensor fusion-based approaches to overcome these challenges [173], [174]. In conclusion, increasing the amount of data recorded on various types and intensities of weather conditions is critical for training a robust and reliable autonomous driving system.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND FUTURE WORKS

With rapid technological development, powerful computation resources, and excellent artificial intelligent algorithms, many novel trends in next-generation autonomous driving datasets have occurred while proposing new challenges and requirements.

End-to-End Driving Datasets. Compared to the modular-designed autonomous driving pipeline, the end-to-end architecture simplifies the overall design process and reduces integration complexities. The success of *UniAD* [196] verifies the potential ability of end-to-end models. However, the number of datasets for end-to-end AD is limited [129]. Therefore, introducing datasets focusing on end-to-end driving is crucial for advancing autonomous vehicles. On the other hand, implementing an automatic labeling pipeline in a data engine can significantly facilitate the development of end-to-end driving frameworks and data [74].

Potential Applications of AD Datasets Future autonomous driving datasets should provide extensive real-world environmental and traffic data, supporting a wide range of applications beyond the ego-vehicle and basic vehicle-infrastructure cooperation. For instance, the interaction data between autonomous

vehicles and intelligent infrastructure components can guide the advancement of Internet-of-Thing (IoT)-enabled devices like smart traffic signals. Moreover, the detailed insights into traffic patterns, congestion, and vehicle behavior across different times and conditions can facilitate urban planning, optimize the traffic flow, and enhance overall traffic management strategies.

Introduce Language into AD Datasets. Vision language models (VLMs) have recently achieved impressive advancement in many fields. Its inherent advantage in providing language information to vision tasks makes autonomous driving systems more explainable and reliable. The survey [197] highlights the prominent role of Multimodal Large Language Models in various AD tasks, such as perception [176], [182], motion planning [187], and motion control [193]. Autonomous driving datasets including language labels are shown in Tab. V. Overall, incorporating language into AD datasets is a trend of the future development of AD datasets.

Data Generation via VLMs. The powerful capability of VLMs can be used to generate data [198]–[201]. For example, *DriveGAN* [202] generated high-quality AD data by disentangling different components without supervision. Additionally, due to the capability of world models for comprehending driving environments, some works [203]–[205] explored world models to generate high-quality driving videos. *DriveDreamer* [204] as a pioneering work derived from real-world scenarios, addressing the limitation of gaming environments or simulated settings. The most recent advancements in text-video generation, exemplified by *Sora* [206], have opened a new avenue for generating autonomous driving data. With a brief description, *Sora* can generate high-quality synthetic data that is very close to real scenes. This capability significantly enhances dataset augmentation, especially by extending the data available for rare events like traffic accidents. The increased data availability provided by VLMs is poised to enhance the training and evaluation of autonomous driving

systems, potentially improving their safety and reliability.

Domain Adaptation. Domain adaptation is a critical challenge in developing autonomous vehicles [207], referring to the ability of a model trained on one dataset (the source domain) to perform stable on another dataset (the target domain). This challenge manifests in multiple aspects, such as diversity in driving conditions [208], sensor settings [209], or synthetic-to-real transform [210]. Therefore, a trend of developing the next-generation datasets is incorporating data from heterogeneous sources. First of all, datasets should not only cover a wide range of environmental conditions (various weather conditions and day-night illumination) but also include diverse geographic locations. Second, combining data from various sensor types is also pivotal to overcoming the domain adaptation issue. Another solution is taking into account blending high-quality synthetic data and real-world data in a balanced way to improve generalization.

Uncertainty Issues in Autonomous Driving. Usually, uncertainty is modeled in a probabilistic way in the field of machine learning. The uncertainty can be referred to two types: a) aleatoric uncertainty, where the uncertainty like noise stems from the data, and b) epistemic uncertainty refers to uncertainty caused by unawareness about the best model [211]. For autonomous driving, one of the major reasons resulting in uncertainty is the incompleteness of training data [212]. The insufficient training data can not wholly represent the driving environment, causing autonomous vehicles to problematically deal with rare cases during operation. Therefore, improving the diversity of the dataset for training reliable autonomous driving systems is crucial. Moreover, datasets include rare events and edge cases, allowing models to better understand and quantify the uncertainty associated with unexpected situations and safely handle them.

Standardization of Data Creation. Addressing the standardization of data creation is critical aspect for developing new datasets, as it directly impacts the accuracy, efficiency, and reliability of autonomous vehicle models. In general, data standardization refers to the attributes of the data, terminology and structure of the dataset, and data storage [213]. For the data attributes, unifying data formats across different sensor types and source domains is valuable to facilitate integrated processing and analysis. Developing comprehensive guidelines for dataset labeling is crucial to guarantee consistent, high-quality annotations, enhancing model training across diverse datasets and boosting performance reliability. Moreover, establishing standardized data storage and access protocols is vital, enabling seamless dataset sharing and integration across multiple sources, and fostering collaboration within the autonomous driving research community.

Data Privacy. The advancement of autonomous vehicles require a lot of data to guarantee the driving safety. However, the more the available data, the greater the concern that private data will be abused. For the earlier autonomous driving datasets like KITTI [13], there is no anonymization progress for the recorded data, especially for images, which leads to a potential risk for leak private information. With the introduction and refinement of relevant regulations in various countries, data anonymization has been widely adopted in

recent datasets [22], [23], [84]. Nevertheless, the information provided by a large dataset is more than individual biographic features or vehicle plates. Professional institutes can indirectly extract external information by analyzing the existing information in the data. For instance, by analyzing the types of vehicles and the attire of pedestrians in the dataset, one can infer information about the infrastructure, basic construction, and other characteristics of the surrounding area in which the data were collected.

Open Data Ecosystems. The primary objective of open data ecosystems (ODE) for autonomous driving is to foster innovation, enhance transparency, and facilitate collaboration across governments, companies, and research communities. This is achieved through the free exchange of datasets, breaking down the traditional barriers that have restricted access to corporations and research institutions. By doing so, ODE empowers a wider range of innovators to participate in autonomous driving development, thereby boosting a more diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystem. Additionally, ODE establishes dynamic feedback loops where users can report issues, propose improvements, and contribute to enhancing datasets. Nevertheless, unrestricted access to data raises strong concerns about data security and privacy. Addressing these concerns necessitates carefully crafting and continuously refining relevant legal frameworks to safeguard sensitive information while prompting the growth of ODE. The balance is pivotal for maintaining the integrity of open data ecosystems and ensuring their sustainable development in autonomous driving.

IX. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we exhaustively and systematically reviewed 265 existing autonomous driving datasets. We started with the sensor types and modalities, sensing domains, and tasks relevant to autonomous driving. We introduced a novel evaluation metric called impact score to validate the influence and importance of perception datasets. Our analysis covered the attributes and significance of high-impact datasets across perception, prediction, planning, control, and end-to-end driving tasks. Additionally, we investigated the annotation methodologies and the factors affecting annotation quality. We also analyzed datasets from chronological and geographical perspectives to understand current trends and conducted experiments demonstrating the crucial need for data diversity under adversarial conditions. With the study on data distribution, we offered a specific viewpoint for comprehending the variances across different datasets. Our findings underscore the essential role of diverse, high-quality datasets in shaping the future of autonomous driving. Looking forward, we highlighted key challenges and future directions for autonomous driving datasets, including the adoption of VLM, domain adaptation, uncertainty challenges, standardization, data privacy, and open data ecosystems. These areas represent promising avenues for future research and are pivotal for advancing autonomous driving technology, setting a clear roadmap for further innovation in this rapidly evolving field.

APPENDIX

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES OF AD DATASETS

TABLE VI

PART I OF AUTONOMOUS DRIVING DATASETS. SS: SEMANTIC SEGMENTATION, OD: OBJECT DETECTION, OT: OBJECT TRACKING, MOT: MULTI-OBJECT TRACKING

Dataset	Year	Size	Temporal	Sensing domain	Tasks	Real/Synthetic
ETH Ped [214]	2007	2,293 frames	✓	onboard	pedestrian detection	real
TUD-Brussels [215]	2009	1,600 frames	×	onboard	(3D) OD	real
Collective activity [216]	2009	44 short videos	✓	others	human activity recognition	real
San Francisco Landmark [217]	2011	150K panoramic images	×	others	landmark identification	real
Daimler Stereo Ped [218]	2011	21,790 frames	✓	onboard	pedestrian detection	real
BelgiumTS [219]	2011	13K traffic sign annotations	×	onboard	traffic sign detection	real
Stanford Tack [220]	2011	14K tracks	✓	onboard	classification	real
TME Motorway [221]	2012	30K frames	✓	onboard	OD, OT	real
MSLU [222]	2013	36.8 km distances	✓	onboard	SLAM	real
SydneyUrbanObject [223]	2013	588 object scans	×	onboard	classification	real
Ground Truth SitXel [224]	2013	78,500 frames	×	onboard	stereo confidence	real
NYC3DCars [225]	2013	2K images	×	onboard	OD	real
AMUSE [226]	2013	117,440 frames	✓	onboard	SLAM	real
Daimler Ped [227]	2013	12,485 frames	✓	onboard	pedestrian path prediction	real
LISA [228]	2014	6,610 frames	✓	onboard	traffic sign detection	real
Paris-rue-Madame [229]	2014	643 objects	×	onboard	OD, SS	real
TRANCOS [230]	2015	1.2K images	×	V2X	onboard number estimation	real
FlyingThings3D [231]	2015	26,066 frames	×	others	scene flow estimation	synthetic
Ua-detrac [232]	2015	140K frames	✓	V2X	OD, MOT	real
NCLT [233]	2015	34.9 hours	✓	onboard	odometry	real
CCSAD [234]	2015	96K frames	✓	onboard	scene understanding	real
KAIST MPD [235]	2015	95K color-thermal pair frames	×	onboard	pedestrian detection	real
SAP [236]	2016	19K frames	×	drone	OD, OT	real
LostAndFound [237]	2016	2,104 frames	×	onboard	obstacle detection	real
UAH-Driveset [238]	2016	500 mins	✓	onboard	lane detection, detection	real
CURE-TSR [239]	2017	2.2M annotated images	×	onboard	traffic sign detection	real
TuSimple [240]	2017	6,408 frames	×	onboard	lane detection, velocity estimation	real
TRoM [241]	2017	712 frames	×	onboard	road marking detection	real
NEXET [242]	2017	91,190 frames	×	onboard	OD	real
DIML [243]	2017	470 videos	×	onboard	lane detection	real
Bosch STL [244]	2017	13,334 images	✓	onboard	traffic light detection and classification	real
Complex Urban [245]	2017	around 190km paths	✓	onboard	SLAM	real
DDD20 [246]	2017	51 hours event frames	✓	onboard	end-to-end driving	real
PedX [247]	2018	5K images	✓	onboard	pedestrian detection and tracking	real
LiVi-Set [248]	2018	10K frames	✓	onboard	driving behavior prediction	real
Synapses [249]	2018	25K images	×	onboard	OD, SS	synthetic
NVSEC [250]	2018	around 28 km distances	✓	others	SLAM	real
Aachen Day-Night [251]	2018	4,328 images, 1.65M points	✓	onboard	visual localization	real
CADP [252]	2018	1,416 scenes	×	V2X	traffic accident analysis	real
TAF-BW [253]	2018	2 scenarios	✓	V2X	MOT, V2X communication	real
comma2k19 [254]	2018	2M images	×	onboard	pose estimation, end-to-end driving	real
nighttime drive [255]	2018	35K	×	onboard	SS	real
VEIS [160]	2018	61,305 frames	×	onboard	OD, SS	synthetic
Paris-Lille-3D [256]	2018	2,479 frames	×	onboard	3D SS, classification	real
NightOwls [257]	2018	56K frames	×	onboard	pedestrian detection, tracking	real
EuroCity Persons [258]	2018	47,300 frames	×	onboard	OD	real
RANUS [259]	2018	4K frames	×	onboard	SS, scene understanding	real
SynthCity [260]	2019	367.9M points in 30 scans	×	onboard	(3D) OD, (3D) SS	synthetic
D ² -City [261]	2019	700K annotated frames	✓	onboard	OD, MOT	real
Caltech Lanes [262]	2019	1,224 frames	×	onboard	lane detection	real
Mcity [263]	2019	1,7500 frames	×	onboard	SS	real
DET [264]	2019	5,424 event-based camera images	×	onboard	lane detection	real
PreSIL [8]	2019	50K frames	✓	onboard	OD, 3D SS	synthetic
H3D [265]	2019	27,721 frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, MOT	real
LLAMAS [266]	2019	100K frames	✓	onboard	lane segmentation	real
MIT DriveSeg [267]	2019	5K frames	×	onboard	SS	real
Astyx [268]	2019	500 radar frames	×	onboard	3D OD	real
UNDD [269]	2019	7.2K frames	✓	onboard	SS	real
Boxy [270]	2019	200K frames	✓	onboard	OD	real
RUGD [271]	2019	37K frames	✓	others	SS	real
ApolloCar3D [272]	2019	5,277 driving images	×	onboard	3D instance understanding	real
HEV [273]	2019	230 video clips	✓	onboard	object localization	real
HAD [274]	2019	5,675 video clips	✓	onboard	end-to-end driving	real
CARLA-100 [275]	2019	100 hours driving	✓	onboard	path planning, behavior cloning	synthetic
Brno Urban [276]	2019	375.7 km	✓	onboard	recognition	real
VERI-Wild [277]	2019	416,314 images	✓	V2X	onboard re-identification	real
CityFlow [278]	2019	200K bounding boxes	✓	V2X	OD, MOT, re-identification	real
VLMV [279]	2020	306K frames	✓	V2X	lane merge	real
Small Obstacles [280]	2020	3K frames	×	onboard	small obstacle segmentation	real
Cirrus [281]	2020	6,285 frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD	real
KITTI InstanceMotSeg [282]	2020	12,919 frames	✓	onboard	moving instance segmentation	real
A*3D [283]	2020	39,179 point cloud frames	×	onboard	(3D) OD	real
Toronto-3D [284]	2020	4 scenarios	×	onboard	3D SS	real
MIT-AVT [285]	2020	1.15M 10s video clips	✓	onboard	SS, anomaly detection	real
CADC [168]	2020	56K	×	onboard	(3D) OD, OT	real
SemanticPOSS [286]	2020	2,988 point cloud frames	✓	onboard	3D SS	synthetic
IDDA [287]	2020	1M frames	×	onboard	segmentation	synthetic

TABLE VII
PART II OF AUTONOMOUS DRIVING DATASETS

Dataset	Year	Size	Temporal	Sensing domain	Tasks	Real/Synthetic
CARRADA [288]	2020	7,193 radar frames	✓	onboard	SS	real
Titan [289]	2020	75,262 frames	✓	onboard	OD, action recognition	real
NightCity [290]	2020	4,297 frames	×	onboard	nighttime SS	real
PePScenes [111]	2020	40K frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, pedestrian action prediction	real
DDAD [291]	2020	21,200 frames	×	onboard	depth estimation	real
MulRan [292]	2020	41.2km paths	✓	onboard	place recognition	real
Oxford Radar RobotCar [167]	2020	240K scans	✓	onboard	odometry	real
OTOH [125]	2020	170K scenes	✓	drone	trajectory prediction, planning	real
DA4AD [293]	2020	9 sequences	✓	onboard	visual localization	real
CPIS [92]	2020	10K frames	×	V2X	cooperative 3D OD	synthetic
EU LTD [294]	2020	around 37 hours	✓	onboard	odometry	real
Newer College [295]	2020	290M points, 2300 seconds	✓	others	SLAM	real
CCD [296]	2020	4.5K videos	✓	onboard	accident prediction	real
LIBRE [297]	2020	40 frames	×	onboard	LiDAR performance benchmark	real
Gated2Depth [298]	2020	17,686 frames	✓	onboard	depth estimation	real
TCGR [299]	2020	839,350 frames	✓	others	traffic control gesture recognition	real
DSEC [47]	2021	53 sequences (3193 seconds in total)	✓	onboard	dynamic perception	real
4Seasons [300]	2021	350km recordings	✓	onboard	SLAM	real
PVDN [301]	2021	59,746 frames	✓	onboard	nighttime OD, OT	real
ACDC [80]	2021	4,006 images	×	onboard	SS on adverse conditions	real
DRIV100 [302]	2021	100K frames	×	onboard	domain adaptation SS	real
NEOLIX [303]	2021	30K frames	✓	onboard	3D OD, OT	real
IPS3000+ [165]	2021	14,198 frames	✓	V2X	3D OD	real
AUTOMATUM [304]	2021	30 hours	✓	drone	trajectory prediction	real
DurLAR [305]	2021	100K frames	✓	onboard	depth estimation	real
Reasonable-Crowd [306]	2021	92 scenarios	✓	onboard	driving behavior prediction	synthetic
MOTSynth [307]	2021	768 driving sequences	✓	onboard	Pedestrian detection and tracking	synthetic
MAVD [308]	2021	113,283 images	✓	onboard	OD and OT with sound	real
Multifog KITTI [309]	2021	15K frames	×	onboard	3D OD	synthetic
Comap [310]	2021	4,391 frames	✓	V2X	3D OD	synthetic
R3 [311]	2021	369 scenes	×	onboard	out-of-distribution detection	real
WIBAM [312]	2021	33,092 frames	✓	V2X	3D OD	real
CeyMo [313]	2021	2,887 frames	×	onboard	road marking detection	real
Raidar [314]	2021	58,542 rainy street scenes	×	onboard	SS	real
Fishyscapes [315]	2021	1,030 frames	×	onboard	SS, anomaly detection	real
RadarScenes [316]	2021	40K radar frames	✓	onboard	OD, classification	real
ROAD [317]	2021	122K frames	✓	onboard	OD, SS	real
All-in-One Drive [46]	2021	100K	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, (3D) SS, trajectory prediction	real
PandaSet [166]	2021	8,240 frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, SS, OT	real
SODA10M [318]	2021	20K labeled images	✓	onboard	OD	real
PixSet [319]	2021	29K point cloud frames	×	onboard	(3D) OD	real
RoadObstacle21 [320]	2021	327 scenes	×	onboard	anomaly segmentation	synthetic
VIL-100 [321]	2021	10K frames	×	onboard	lane detection	real
OpenMPD [322]	2021	15K frames	×	onboard	(3D) OD, 3D OT, semantic segmentation	real
WADS [323]	2021	1K point cloud frames	✓	onboard	SS	real
CCTSDB 2021 [324]	2021	16,356 frames	×	onboard	traffic sign detection	real
SemanticUSL [325]	2021	1.2K frames	×	onboard	domain adaptation 3D SS	real
CARLANE [326]	2022	118K frames	✓	onboard	lane detection	synthetic
CrashD [327]	2022	15,340 scenes	×	onboard	3D OD	synthetic
CODD [159]	2022	108 sequences	×	V2X	multi-agent SLAM	synthetic
CarlaScenes [328]	2022	7 sequences	✓	onboard	(3D) SS, SLAM, depth estimation	synthetic
OPV2V [329]	2022	11,464 frames	×	V2X	onboard-to-onboard perception	synthetic
CARLA-WildLife [330]	2022	26 videos	✓	onboard	out-of-distribution tracking	synthetic
SOS [330]	2022	20 videos	✓	onboard	out-of-distribution tracking	real
RoadSaW [331]	2022	720K frames	✓	onboard	Road surface and wetness estimation	real
I see you [332]	2022	170 sequences, 340 trajectories	✓	V2X	OD	real
ASAP [333]	2022	1.2M images	✓	onboard	online 3D OD	real
Amodal Cityscapes [334]	2022	5K frames	×	onboard	amodal SS	real
SynWoodScape [335]	2022	80K frames	×	onboard	(3D) OD, segmentation	synthetic
TJ4RadSet [336]	2022	7,757 frames	✓	onboard	OD, OT	real
CODA [337]	2022	1,500 frames	×	onboard	corner case detection	real
LiDAR Snowfall [338]	2022	7,385 point cloud frames	✓	onboard	3D OD	synthetic
MUAD [339]	2022	10.4K frames	✓	onboard	OD, SS, depth estimation	synthetic
AUTOCASIM [340]	2022	52K frames	✓	V2X	(3D) OD, OT, SS	real
CARTI [341]	2022	11K frames	✓	V2X	cooperative perception	synthetic
K-Lane [342]	2022	15,382 frames	×	onboard	lane detection	real
Ithaca365 [343]	2022	7K frames	×	onboard	3D OD, SS, depth estimation	real
GLARE [344]	2022	2,157 frames	×	onboard	traffic sign detection	real
SUPS [345]	2023	5K frames	✓	onboard	SS, depth estimation, SLAM	synthetic
Boreas [346]	2023	7,111 frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, localization	real
Robo3D [347]	2023	476K frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, 3D SS	real
ZOD [31]	2023	100K frames	✓	onboard	(3D) OD, segmentation	real
K-Radar [348]	2023	35K radar frames	×	onboard	3D OD, OT	real
aiMotive [349]	2023	26,583 frames	✓	onboard	3D OD, MOT	real
UrbanLaneGraph [350]	2023	around 5,220 km lane spans	✓	drone	lane graph estimation	real
WEDGE [351]	2023	3,360 frames	×	others	OD, classification	synthetic
OpenLane-V2 [352]	2023	466K images	✓	onboard	lane detection, scene understanding	real
V2X-Seq (perception) [56]	2023	15K frames	✓	V2X	cooperative perception	real
SSCBENCH [353]	2023	66,913 frames	×	onboard	semantic scene completion	real
RoadSC [354]	2023	90,759 images	×	onboard	road snow coverage estimation	real
V2X-Real [355]	2024	171K images, 33K LiDAR point clouds	-	V2X	3D OD	real
RCooper [356]	2024	50K images, 30K LiDAR point clouds	✓	V2X	3D OD, OT	real
FLIR [48]	-	26,442 thermal frames	✓	onboard	thermal image OD	real

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