# Autonomous Cooperative Control of Emergent Systems of Systems (ACCESS) Laboratory

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**Research** Areas

## Autonomous Cooperative control of Emergent Systems of Systems (ACCESS) Laboratory

**Research Focus:** 

- **Control and Robotics**
- Human-machine Interactions
- **Cyber-physical systems**
- **Multi-agent Systems**
- **Artificial Intelligence**
- **Reliability and Security**

#### **Applications of Interest:**

- **Smart Transportation**
- Self-driving cars
- Human-Autonomy
- **Connected Vehicles**
- **Battlefield management**
- **Smart Agriculture**







NC-CAV Center of Excellence on

Advanced Transportation Technology

"NC-CAV Center of Excellence on Advanced Transportation Technology," Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), 2020-2025.

- <u>Thrust 1 (CAV Impacts )</u> investigates the impact of Connected and Autonomous Vehicle's (CAV) on North Carolina's transportation system and associated revenue.
- <u>Thrust 2 (CAV Infrastructure)</u> assesses North Carolina's readiness for CAVs in traditional and emerging transportation infrastructure.
- <u>Thrust 3 (CAV Applications)</u> explores emerging applications of CAVs and develops CAVs and Unmanned Arial Vehicles (UAVs) for advancing transportation systems.





The NC Transportation Center of Excellence on Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Technolog (NC-CAV)



"Developing and Operationalizing a Testbed of Connected Self-driving Shuttles to Test and Develop CAV Applications in North Carolina," Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), 2021-2023.



#### We Continue to Serve the Southeast!



Serving rural and underserved communities

PZCZ Center for Regional & Rural Connected Communities

Center for Regional and Rural Connected Communities (CR<sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup>) was initially funded by Department of Transportation in 2023 for \$15M for 5 years. The consortium members will contribute \$15 million in matching funds, making the total investment in this project \$30 million.

The  $CR_2C_2$  will serve as the Region 4 (Southeast) University Transportation Center (UTC) charged with addressing transportation challenges within the southeastern region of the United States.





### Heterogeneous Fleet of Connected Autonomous Vehicles



The first university research testbed of connected and autonomous self-driving shuttles!



AVRural Test Track





State University

Gateway University Research Park - North Campus Autonomous Vehicle Test Track

5900 Summit Ave. Browns Summit, NC 27214



AVRural Test Track

- Narrow road
- Steep Hills
- Forest environment
- Solid /Dash line
- Pedestrian Cross
- Roundabout
- Intersection
- Regulatory/Warning Signs
- Bicycle lane
- Bus stop
- Pedestrian crossing



One of the first nation's AV rural test track.



## Unveiling the AV Rural Test Facility; Nov 2022







and Communication," Ford, 2021-2023.
Objective 1: Network fusion: We explore fusing different networks and inferences with manageable runtime overhead through parallel fusion mechanisms.
Objective 2: Edge acceleration: We explore the

"Enhancing Autonomous Vehicle Traffic Safety through Pedestrian Detection, Classification

**Objective 2:** Edge acceleration: We explore the implementation of the developed networks on the RPI4B+, NVIDIA Jetson by achieving an optimized speed in network communication using edge computing, while maintaining IoT devices.

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University





### **AI-enabled** Perception

### North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

## We Continue to Advance the Technology!





We Continue to Serve the Local Community!

Connecting disconnected underserved communities

"Technology Transfer (T<sup>2</sup>): *Microtransit Pilot Project in Greensboro, NC,*" Sponsor: NCDOT, April 15, 2023- May 15, 2024.

Public Deployment Pilot Program: Sep 18-Oct 13; 11 AM to 1:00 PM







Thank You!