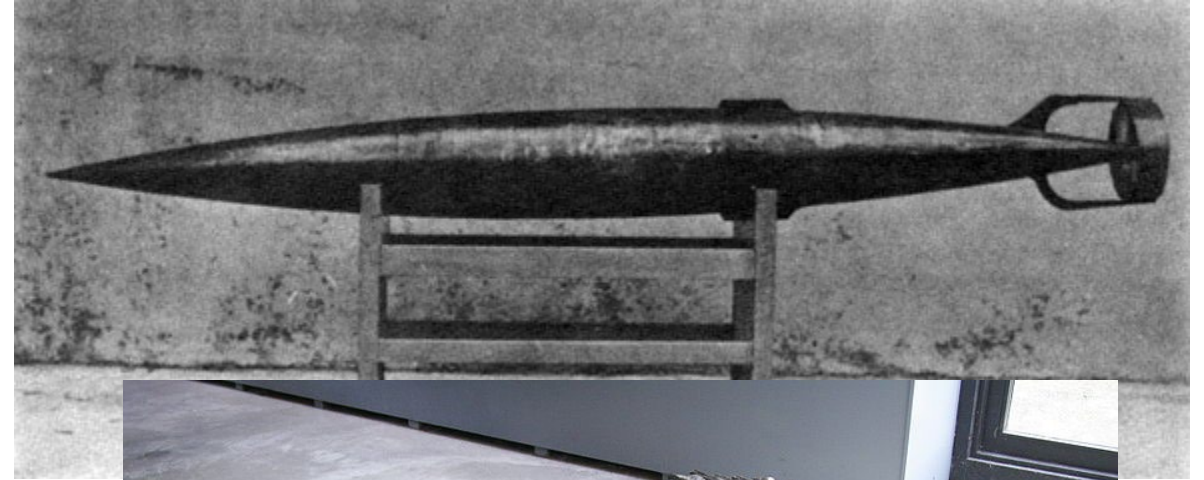


Self Driving Vehicle

A personal perspective

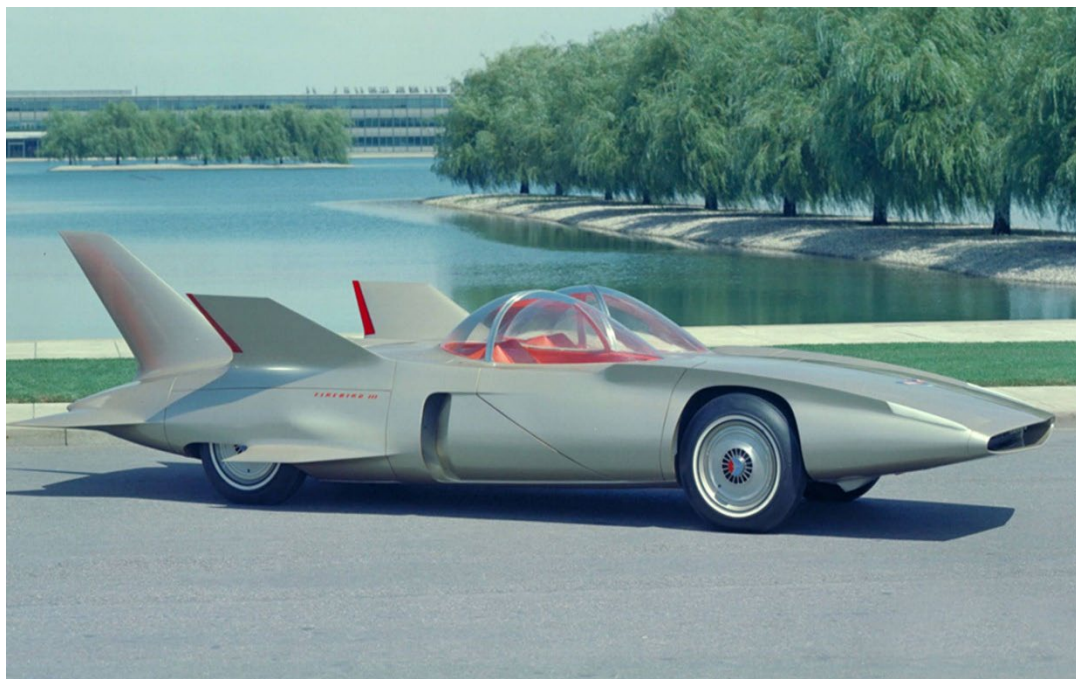
Uncrewed systems are not new



... but they have recently proliferated



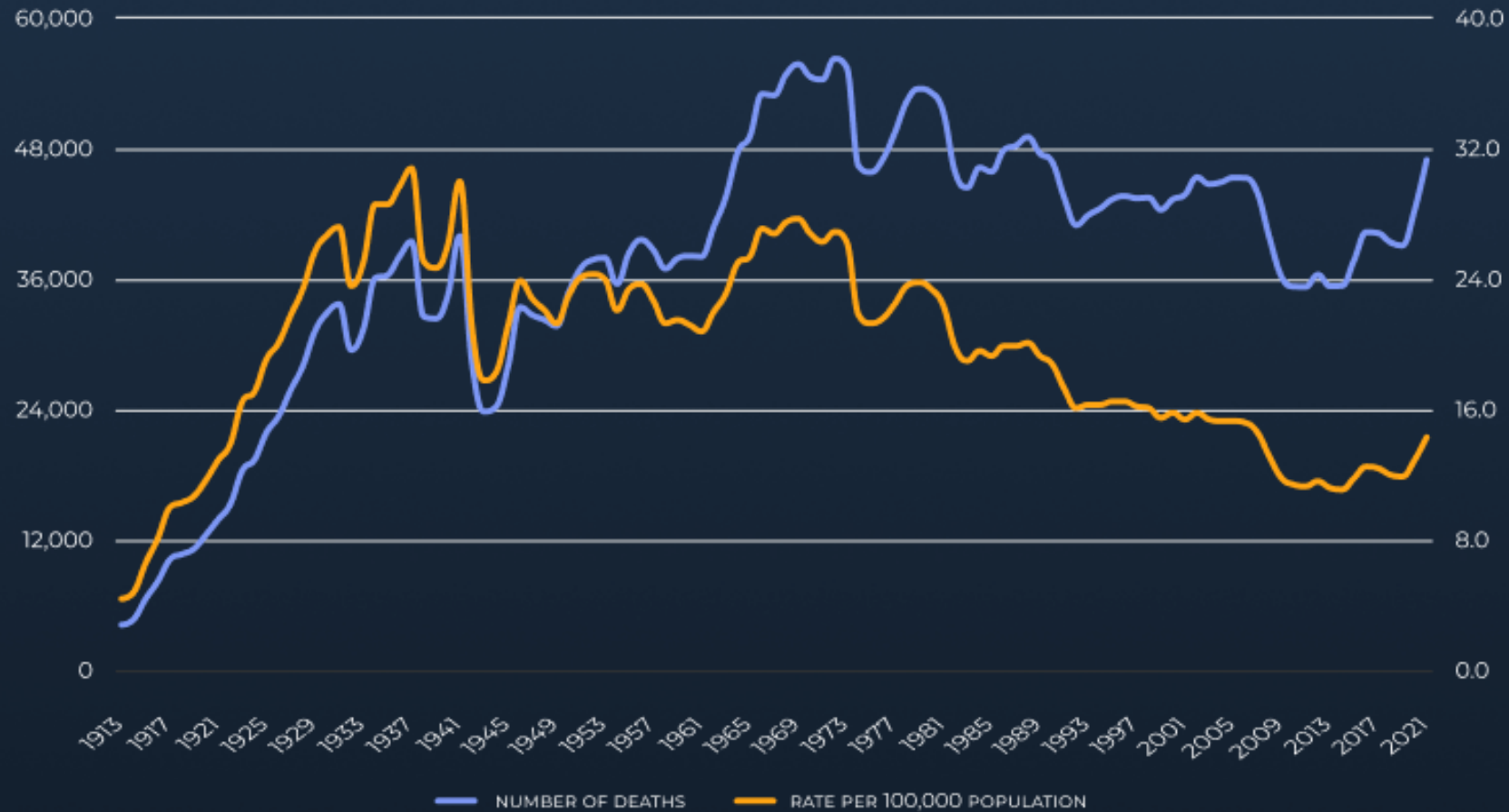
Self-driving isn't new, either



We all know the story ...

- We have improved vehicles, highways, drunk driving laws
- We haven't improved drivers
- In fact, distracted driving gets worse with time
- 90+ % of all crashes (we don't call them accidents) are due at least in part to driver error
- Crashes in turn are a major source of congestion

Car Deaths And Population Rates, 1913-2021



Source: National Safety Council

So self-driving cars are the solution, right?

- For safety: probably, eventually
 - How will we measure safety?
 - How good is good enough?
 - How does actual risk compare to perceived risk?
- For congestion: maybe
 - Will people live further from work?
 - Will automation enable better mass transit?
- For fairness: need to think this through carefully
 - Do you support smart roads with taxes?
 - Do you enable more ride share?

And who decides?

- When USDOT funded the Automated Highway System, it was cooperative:
 - Federal government
 - State government (CALTRANS)
 - Car manufacturers (GM)
 - Infrastructure builders (Bechtel)
- Now it's car companies and tech companies
- How do we get the public interest back in the conversation?

- <https://www.nhtsa.gov/vehicle-safety/automated-vehicles-safety#:~:text=In%202021%2C%20NHTSA%20issued%20a,information%20using%20NHTSA's%20interactive%20tool.>