Module-1: Introduction to Software in Vehicles

Introduction to Software-Driven Vehicles

Software-Driven Vehicles (SDVs), also known as Software-Defined Vehicles, are modern automobiles where software plays a central role in controlling, managing, and enhancing vehicle functionality. Unlike traditional vehicles that rely heavily on mechanical and hardware-based systems, SDVs shift intelligence to software, enabling flexibility, connectivity, automation, and continuous improvement through updates.

Software-Defined Vehicles represent a paradigm shift in automotive design and innovation. They enable faster development cycles, enhanced safety, better user experiences, and new revenue models. As the industry continues to evolve, SDVs are positioned to become the foundation for future mobility solutions, including autonomous and shared transportation.

Benefits of Software-Defined Vehicles

The benefits of software-defined vehicles include:

- Improved safety via features such as anti-collision systems and driver assistance Increased comfort through onboard infotainment systems that integrate connected features such as music and video streaming
- Deeper insights into vehicle performance through telematics and diagnostics, allowing for more effective preventative maintenance
- The capacity for automotive manufacturers to add new features and functionality with over-the-air updates

Software-defined vehicles outperform their hardware-defined predecessors across multiple arenas. In addition to being safer, they provide superior comfort and convenience. Since many Software-defined vehicles are also electric, they could have considerably smaller environmental footprints.

Current challenges

In the evolving landscape of software-defined vehicles (SDVs), where vehicle functionalities traditionally governed by intertwined hardware and software are now decoupled, virtualized, and steered predominantly by software, several industry challenges emerge:

- Escalating consumer demands: Consumer expectations are undergoing rapid expansion, necessitating the implementation of an ever-increasing array of features primarily through software.
- Dealing with software complexity: The automotive industry has struggled with the increasing complexity of software integration within vehicles for over a decade.
- Adapting to evolving technology: The current technology landscape and development processes
 weren't originally tailored to accommodate this transformative shift. So, original equipment
 manufacturers (OEMs) are confronted with substantial development and integration expenses,
 and delayed start of production (SOP) timelines.

Characteristics of SDVs:

- 1. Centralized Computing Architecture
 - Replaces dozens of separate ECUs (Electronic Control Units) with centralized or zonal computing platforms.
 - Simplifies hardware and enables more powerful, coordinated processing.

- 2. Over-the-Air (OTA) Updates
 - Vehicles can receive software updates remotely.
 - Enhances functionality, fixes bugs, and updates security without visiting service centers.
- 3. Separation of Software and Hardware
 - Software is decoupled from hardware components, allowing:
 - Independent development
 - Faster feature deployment
 - Reusability across models
- 4. Continuous Development and Integration
 - Supports agile development methods.
 - New features and improvements can be delivered throughout the vehicle's lifetime.
- 5. Advanced Connectivity
 - Integrates with cloud services, mobile apps, and other vehicles/smart infrastructure (V2X).
 - Enables real-time data exchange, remote diagnostics, and predictive maintenance.
- 6. Enhanced User Experience
 - Customizable infotainment systems, voice assistants, digital dashboards.
 - Software-driven personalization: driving modes, UI themes, seat/mirror preferences.
- 7. Vehicle Functions as Services (FaaS)
 - Vehicle features (e.g., heated seats, autopilot) can be turned on/off or purchased via subscription.
 - Shifts business models from product sales to service-based revenue.
- 8. Cybersecurity by Design
 - Continuous monitoring and security patching are vital due to always-connected systems.
 - Requires strong encryption, intrusion detection, and secure boot processes.
- 9. Support for Autonomous and Assisted Driving
 - SDVs often integrate AI and machine learning to enable:
 - Adaptive cruise control
 - Lane keeping
 - Self-parking and higher-level autonomy (L2-L4)

10. Scalability and Modularity

Platforms and features can be scaled across multiple vehicle models or brands.
 Modular

architecture makes it easier to add or remove features based on markets or regulations.

This shift is driven by trends like autonomous driving, electrification, vehicle connectivity (V2X), and mobility-as-a-service (MaaS).

Comparison: Traditional Vehicles vs Software-Defined Vehicles

Traditional Vehicles Software-Defined

Vehicles (SDVs)

computing

Distributed control via multiple ECUs (Electronic

Control Units)

Modular, updatable software platform

decoupled from hardware

Fixed-function software

Over-the-air (OTA) tied to specific hardware updates for continuous

improvement

Manual updates via service

centers

Dynamic,

software-enabled features and

customizations

Static, hardware-defined

features

Rapid feature deployment

through agile software

development

Slow innovation due to long hardware development

cycles

Advanced ADAS and autonomy (e.g.,

self-parking, autopilot)

Basic ADAS (e.g., cruise control, lane assist)

Always-connected: V2X, cloud services, remote

diagnostics

Infotainment and UX are

secondary

Limited connectivity (e.g., Bluetooth, radio)

> Centralized or zonal architecture with high-performance

Rich, personalized UX with app ecosystems and

smart interfaces

One-time sale of vehicle Subscription-based

features, services, and updates

Role of Software in Vehicle Systems

1. Powertrain and Engine Control Systems

Software is critical for:

Engine control unit (ECU) functions like fuel injection, ignition timing, and emission control.

Electric vehicle (EV) management: battery usage, regenerative braking, energy optimization.

• Drive modes (eco, sport, snow) that adjust throttle response, suspension, and more—all controlled by software.

Benefit: Improved efficiency, performance, and emissions control.

2. Safety and Driver Assistance Systems

Software powers Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), which include:

- Lane Departure Warning (LDW)
- Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC)
- Emergency Braking
- Blind Spot Detection
- Collision Avoidance Systems

These rely on real-time processing of sensor data (cameras, radar, lidar) using algorithms for decision-making. Benefit: Enhanced driver safety and partial automation (Level 1–3 autonomy).

3. Infotainment and Human-Machine Interface (HMI)

Software provides:

- Touchscreen control systems
- Navigation and voice assistants
- Smartphone integration (Apple CarPlay, Android Auto)
- Multimedia and entertainment systems
- Digital instrument clusters and heads-up displays (HUDs)

Benefit: Better user experience, personalization, and driver engagement.

4. Connectivity and Telematics

Software enables vehicle-to-everything (V2X) communication and cloud integration:

- GPS-based services
- Vehicle tracking
- Remote diagnostics

- Software updates over-the-air (OTA)
- Vehicle data logging and analysis

Benefit: Real-time updates, fleet management, predictive maintenance.

5. Autonomous Driving Systems

Autonomous vehicles rely almost entirely on software for:

- Sensor fusion (combining input from lidar, radar, cameras)
- Perception (object recognition, lane detection)
- Localization and mapping
- Path planning and decision-making
- Motion control and vehicle dynamics

Benefit: Enables Levels 3–5 of autonomy with minimal or no human intervention.

6. Climate and Comfort Systems

Software controls:

- Automatic climate control
- Seat heating/cooling
- Cabin pre-conditioning (especially in EVs)
- Air quality monitoring and purification

Benefit: Adaptive comfort based on external conditions and passenger preferences.

7. Vehicle Security and Access

Software manages:

- Keyless entry and remote start
- Anti-theft systems and immobilizers
- Biometric access (e.g., face or fingerprint recognition)
- Intrusion detection systems (IDS) for cybersecurity

Benefit: Improved safety and protection against physical and digital threats.

8. Energy and Battery Management (in EVs)

For electric vehicles:

- Battery Management System (BMS) software ensures safe charging/discharging
- Range estimation algorithms
- Charging station communication

• Thermal management systems

Benefit: Maximizes battery lifespan, safety, and driving range.

9. Vehicle Customization and Feature Activation

- Software allows for on-demand features, like activating heated seats or autopilot post-purchase.
- Drivers can customize performance, lighting, audio profiles, and display preferences.

Benefit: Increased flexibility, user personalization, and new business models.

10. Manufacturing, Testing, and Maintenance

Software is used during:

- Factory configuration and calibration of components
- Automated testing of systems before delivery
- Remote diagnostics and repair tools for service centers

Benefit: Quality assurance, reduced downtime, cost efficiency in operations.

Software in vehicle systems:

Area Role of Software

Control Systems Manage engine, braking, steering, and transmission

Safety Detect threats, warn or act to prevent accidents

User Interface Enable intuitive interaction with the car

Connectivity Keep the vehicle online and integrated with the cloud

Automation Enable self-driving capabilities

Diagnostics Monitor health and facilitate predictive maintenance

Evolution of Automotive Software

The evolution of automotive software reflects the transformation of vehicles from purely mechanical machines into sophisticated, connected, and intelligent systems.

- 1. 1970s Early Electronics and Basic Control Systems
 - Introduction of Electronic Control Units (ECUs) for specific tasks like fuel injection and ignition timing.
 - Software was embedded, static, and written in assembly or low-level languages.
 Purpose: Improve

fuel efficiency, emissions, and engine performance.

Example: Bosch introduced the first electronic fuel injection system (Jetronic).

2. 1980s - Rise of Embedded Systems

- Increase in the number of ECUs for controlling engine, braking (ABS), and transmission.
- Software became more modular, but still limited in scope.
- Begin of on-board diagnostics (OBD) standards for fault detection.

Focus: Efficiency, safety, and basic diagnostics.

- 3. 1990s Networking and Integration
 - Introduction of in-vehicle communication networks like CAN bus (Controller Area Network).
 - Software now coordinated multiple ECUs across the vehicle.
 - More sophisticated systems introduced, like traction control, airbags, and early navigation systems.

Result: Vehicles became interconnected, with greater software coordination.

- 4. 2000s Infotainment and Driver Assistance
 - Introduction of infotainment systems, touchscreens, and early ADAS features (e.g., adaptive cruise control, parking sensors).
 - Software grew more complex; vehicles could have 50+ ECUs.
 - OEMs began using middleware and real-time operating systems (RTOS).

Vehicles started to interact with external systems, setting the stage for connectivity.

- 5. 2010s Connected, Electrified, and Smarter Cars
 - Explosion of vehicle connectivity, smartphones, and apps.
 - Emergence of Electric Vehicles (EVs) brought new software for battery management, energy optimization, and charging.
 - Over-the-Air (OTA) updates started (pioneered by Tesla).
 - More advanced ADAS and early stages of autonomous driving (Level 2+).
 - Shift toward centralized computing platforms.

Vehicles became connected devices with cloud integration and mobile app controls.

- 6. 2020s Software-Defined Vehicles (SDVs) and Autonomy
 - Major transition to Software-Defined Vehicles: software now defines much of the vehicle's behavior and features.
 - Primary changes:
 - Decoupling of hardware and software
 - Centralized or zonal architecture
 - Frequent OTA updates

- Support for Level 3–4 autonomy
- Vehicles running Linux, QNX, Android Automotive, and even custom OSs
- Business models evolved to include feature subscriptions, in-app purchases, and Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS).

Software is now the primary innovation driver in the automotive industry.

- 7. Future Outlook (2030 and Beyond)
 - Fully autonomous vehicles (Level 5)
 - Integration with AI copilots, digital twins, and vehicle-to-everything (V2X) networks
 - Cloud-native and edge computing architecture
 - More cross-industry platforms (e.g., shared OS between automakers)
 - Stronger emphasis on cybersecurity and data privacy

Cars will become smart mobility platforms, powered by software and data.

Evolution by Decade

Decade Software Focus Key Milestones

1970s Basic control ECU for fuel injection

1980s Embedded systems ABS, engine diagnostics

1990s Networking CAN bus, integrated ECUs

2000s Infotainment & ADAS Touchscreens, early ADAS 2010s Connectivity & Electrification EV software, OTA, cloud

2020s Software-Defined Vehicles Central computing, subscriptions, Level 3 autonomy

Automotive

2030+ Full autonomy & smart mobility

AI, digital twins, V2X, MaaS

Embedded Systems in

Embedded systems are special-purpose computing systems embedded into vehicles to perform dedicated functions — often in real-time. They are the core enablers of vehicle control, safety, infotainment, and more.

1. Introduction to Embedded Systems

• Definition: A combination of hardware and software designed to perform a specific function within a larger system.

- Typically resource-constrained: limited memory, processing power, and power consumption.
- Real-time: Must process inputs and provide responses within strict time limits.

2. Hardware Components

- Microcontrollers (MCUs): Low-power processors used in control functions (e.g., lighting, wipers, temperature control).
- Microprocessors (MPUs): More powerful, used in infotainment or ADAS.
- Sensors and Actuators: Gather data (e.g., speed, temperature, proximity) and trigger physical actions (e.g., braking).
- ECUs (Electronic Control Units): Hardware units running embedded software; vehicles may have 70–100 ECUs in traditional architecture.

3. Software Components

- Firmware: Low-level software directly controlling hardware.
- Real-Time Operating Systems (RTOS): Provides deterministic timing behavior, essential for systems like ABS or airbag deployment.
- Middleware: Software layers (e.g., AUTOSAR) that standardize communication between application and hardware.
- Device Drivers: Interface between hardware and higher-level software layers.

4. Real-Time Constraints

- Hard Real-Time: Strict timing requirements (e.g., airbag deployment must happen within milliseconds).
- Soft Real-Time: Timing is important but not critical (e.g., multimedia playback).
- Determinism: The ability to guarantee a response in a defined time.

5. Communication Protocols

- CAN (Controller Area Network): Widely used for in-vehicle networking.
- LIN (Local Interconnect Network): For low-speed, low-cost communication.
- FlexRay: High-speed, deterministic communication for safety-critical systems.
- Ethernet: Emerging for high-bandwidth data (e.g., camera streams in ADAS).

6. Development Tools and Languages

- Languages: C, C++, Assembly (for low-level); MATLAB/Simulink for model-based design.
- IDEs: Keil, Eclipse, IAR Embedded Workbench.

• Simulation and Debugging: Hardware-in-the-loop (HIL), software-in-the-loop (SIL), and on-chip debugging tools.

Software Architecture of Software-Defined Vehicles (SDVs)

Modern SDVs adopt a layered software architecture that separates concerns, improves scalability, and allows for continuous updates and integration. This architecture also supports centralized or zonal computing models instead of traditional distributed ECUs.

Layered Architecture Overview

The architecture can be broken into the following main layers (bottom to top):

- 1. Hardware Layer
- 2. Platform/OS Layer
- 3. Middleware Layer
- 4. Application Layer
- 5. Cloud & Connectivity Layer

Diagram: SDV Software Architecture

- Linux, QNX, Android Automotive

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| Cloud & Connectivity Layer |
| Remote services (OTA, telematics, V2X) |
| Fleet management, digital twin, data APIs |

| Application Layer |
| ADAS / Autonomous Driving |
| Infotainment / HMI |
| Vehicle Control Logic |
| Personalization & Subscriptions |

| Middleware Layer |
| AUTOSAR (Classic/Adaptive) |
| Communication protocols (CAN, Ethernet) |
| Abstraction of hardware |
| Cybersecurity modules |
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- Hypervisors (for isolation, VMs)

| Hardware Layer |
- Sensors (Camera, LiDAR, Radar) |
- Actuators (Brakes, Steering, etc.) |
- Zonal/central compute units (SoCs, GPUs) |
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□ Descriptions of Layers

- Network (Ethernet, CAN, LIN, FlexRay)

1. Hardware Layer

- Sensors/Actuators: Provide real-world data and perform physical actions.
- Compute Units: Centralized high-performance units (e.g., NVIDIA DRIVE, Qualcomm Snapdragon Ride).
- Network Interfaces: CAN, LIN, Ethernet—support inter-device communication.

2. Platform / OS Layer

• RTOS (Real-Time Operating Systems): Used for time-critical tasks like braking or steering. •

Linux/QNX/Android Automotive: For infotainment, user apps, or general-purpose processing. ●

Hypervisors: Run multiple OS environments securely on a single hardware platform.

3. Middleware Layer

- Provides abstraction, standardization, and interoperability:
 - o AUTOSAR Classic: For static, real-time ECU software.
 - AUTOSAR Adaptive: For dynamic, high-performance applications (e.g., ADAS).
 - Communication stacks: Manage data flow between software modules and hardware.

4. Application Layer

- Contains high-level logic and services:
 - ADAS & Autonomous Systems
 - Infotainment & Navigation
 - Energy Management (in EVs)
 - Subscription services / Feature-on-demand

5. Cloud & Connectivity Layer

• Supports V2X communication, remote diagnostics, fleet management, and OTA updates.

• Interacts with cloud services to analyze data, deploy updates, and manage digital twins.

Additional Architectural Considerations

- Security: End-to-end encryption, intrusion detection, secure boot.
- Scalability: Modular software allows new features to be added over time.
 - Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA): Promotes reusability and modular deployment of services.

Primary Software Components in Software-Defined Vehicles (SDVs)

Software in SDVs is modular and layered. These components are critical for enabling vehicle functions, safety, performance, and connectivity.

1. Middleware

Middleware is the software "glue" that connects the OS/hardware to the application layer. It enables interoperability, abstraction, and communication.

Middleware Components:

Component Description

AUTOSAR (Classic) Standardized middleware for embedded ECUs, static configurations (e.g., ABS, airbags).

AUTOSAR Adaptive Dynamic, service-oriented middleware for high-performance computing (e.g., ADAS, autonomy).

for communication in ADAS and autonomous

DDS (Data Distribution Service) driving systems.

Real-time publish-subscribe middleware used

Communication Stacks Support for CAN, LIN, FlexRay, and automotive Ethernet protocols.

Security Middleware Handles encryption, key management, firewalling, and secure communication (aligned with ISO/SAE 21434).

modular services for easier updates and

Service-Oriented Middleware (SOA) deployment.

Allows vehicle functions to be exposed as

2. Real-Time Operating Systems (RTOS)

RTOS are essential for time-critical vehicle functions like braking, steering, and powertrain control.

Popular RTOS in Automotive:

RTOS Description

QNX Neutrino POSIX-compliant, microkernel RTOS used in safety-critical and infotainment systems.

Green Hills INTEGRITY High-assurance RTOS certified for ISO 26262 ASIL D (highest safety level).

AUTOSAR OS Part of the AUTOSAR Classic stack for control units requiring real-time

scheduling.

VxWorks Widely used RTOS in embedded and automotive systems.

FreeRTOS Lightweight, open-source RTOS for simple microcontroller-based applications.

3. Hypervisors

Hypervisors allow multiple OSs or software environments to run securely on the same hardware (virtualization).

Hypervisor Role in SDVs

BlackBerry QNX Hypervisor Separates safety-critical and infotainment domains.

Elektrobit Safe Hypervisor For mixed-criticality system integration on one ECU.

AURIX Multicore Virtualization Built into hardware for SoCs (System on Chips).

4. Operating Systems (General Purpose)

Used for infotainment, user interface, and non-critical services.

OS Use Case

Linux (Yocto, AGL) Open-source and customizable; used in cockpit and infotainment.

infotainment systems.

Android Automotive OS (AAOS)

Based on Android, designed specifically for

QNX Also acts as a general-purpose OS, especially when real-time performance is needed.

5. Cybersecurity Modules

Major components to ensure vehicle software is secure:

- Secure Boot: Verifies software integrity at startup.
- Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS): Monitors network traffic for threats.
- Encryption Libraries: Secure data in transit and at rest.
- Firewall/Access Control: Prevent unauthorized access to systems.

6. Vehicle Abstraction Layer (VAL) / Hardware Abstraction Layer (HAL)

- Separates application logic from hardware specifics.
- Enables portability of software across platforms.
- Abstracts control over sensors, actuators, and I/O systems.

7. Update and Diagnostic Systems

OTA (Over-the-Air) Update Modules: Enables remote updates and patching.
 ● Diagnostic

Communication Manager (DCM): Handles OBD and UDS-based vehicle diagnostics. ● Event &

Fault Management Systems: Log and report system issues.

Software Component Role

Middleware Standardization, communication, service-oriented architecture (e.g., AUTOSAR)

RTOS Real-time scheduling for time-critical functions

Hypervisor Isolation of different software domains on shared hardware OS (General

Purpose) Infotainment, cockpit, non-critical systems

Cybersecurity Protect vehicle systems from cyber threats

Abstraction Layers Decouple hardware from software applications

OTA & Diagnostics Remote maintenance, data collection, and updates

Vehicle Networks and Communication Protocols in Software-Defined Vehicles

Modern vehicles — especially SDVs — rely on a mix of communication protocols to allow various electronic control units (ECUs), sensors, and systems to communicate reliably, efficiently, and often in real-time. In Software-Defined Vehicles:

- Ethernet is the future, especially for centralized computing and ADAS.
- CAN and LIN remain vital for real-time control and legacy components.
- Service-oriented protocols like SOME/IP and DoIP enable modular, updatable, and scalable vehicle software architecture.

Why Do Vehicle Communication Protocols Matter?

- Enable coordination between vehicle subsystems (e.g., brakes, steering, ADAS).
- Support real-time data exchange and control.
- Crucial for safety, diagnostics, infotainment, and autonomous features.
- Allow centralized computing and service-oriented architecture (SOA) in SDVs.

Major Vehicle Network Protocols

- 1. CAN (Controller Area Network)
 - Use: Powertrain, chassis, body control.
 - Speed: Up to 1 Mbps (Classical CAN), 5–8 Mbps (CAN FD).
 - Features:
 - Robust, low-cost, real-time bus.

- Widely used in most vehicles today.
- Limitations: Limited bandwidth, not ideal for high-data applications.

CAN FD (Flexible Data-Rate) extends data length (64 bytes vs. 8 in classical CAN) and improves speed.

2. LIN (Local Interconnect Network)

- Use: Low-speed subsystems (e.g., window controls, seat adjusters).
- Speed: Up to 20 Kbps.
- Features:
 - Simple and low-cost.
 - o Typically used where high speed or complexity is unnecessary.
- Master-slave architecture: One master node controls several slaves.

3. FlexRay

- Use: Safety-critical and real-time systems (e.g., brake-by-wire, steer-by-wire).
- Speed: Up to 10 Mbps.
- Features:
 - High reliability and deterministic timing.
 - o Redundant channels for fault tolerance.
- Declining use in favor of Ethernet.

4. MOST (Media Oriented Systems Transport)

- Use: Multimedia and infotainment.
- Speed: 25–150 Mbps.
- Features:
 - Optimized for audio/video streaming.
 - Ring topology, less flexible compared to Ethernet.

5. Automotive Ethernet

- Use: ADAS, infotainment, cameras, radar, Lidar, zonal computing.
- Speed: 100 Mbps to 10 Gbps.

Variants:

- 100BASE-T1
- 1000BASE-T1 (1 Gbps)
- 10GBASE-T1 (10 Gbps)

• Features:

- High bandwidth for real-time sensor data and video streams.
- Supports IP-based networking.
- Enables Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) and central computing.

Becoming the backbone of SDV architecture.

Communication Protocols Built on These Networks Protocol Description Common Network

used for faster diagnostics

UDS (Unified Diagnostic Services) Standard CAN,

for vehicle diagnostics and testing

Ethernet Ethernet

DoIP (Diagnostics over IP) UDS over TCP/IP,

over IP) **ECUs**

Enables service-oriented Ethernet SOME/IP (Scalable

service-Oriented Middleware communication between

extensions that support real-time

communication

Ethernet

TSN (Time Sensitive Networking) Ethernet

& Calibration Protocol) between ECU and tools

Real-time CAN,

XCP (Universal Measurement measurement/calibration Ethernet

OBD-II (On-Board Diagnostics) Emissions and fault diagnostics CAN

Comparing Vehicle Networks CANopen / J1939 Higher-layer protocols for CAN, used in heavy vehicles and trucks $\,^{\hbox{\footnotesize CAN}}$

Protocol Speed Use Case Pros Cons

5–8 Mbps (FD) control supported

CAN 1 Mbps (Classic), Powertrain, body Robust, widely Low bandwidth

FlexRay 10 Mbps Safety-critical (steering,

LIN 20 Kbps Simple sensors/actuators braking) Deterministic Complex, fading out

MOST Up to 150 Mbps Infotainment AV optimized Legacy tech

ibps OTA Needs shielding, more

Ethernet 100 Mbps–10 ADAS, cameras, cloud, High speed, scalable complex

Security and Network Management Considerations

- Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) monitor CAN and Ethernet for anomalies.
- Secure Gateways are used to isolate external (OTA, cloud) and internal networks.
 Message

Authentication and Encryption becoming standard with Ethernet and IP-based protocols. SDV and

Cloud/Edge Integration

Software-Defined Vehicles rely heavily on cloud and edge computing to enable advanced functionalities such as real-time data processing, OTA updates, Al-assisted driving, and connected services. • SDVs are connected platforms, continuously interacting with cloud and edge infrastructure.

- Cloud offers large-scale compute and analytics, enabling OTA updates and fleet management.
- Edge provides low-latency processing crucial for safety-critical functions.
- Together, they enable scalable, intelligent, and updatable vehicle software ecosystems.

What is Cloud and Edge Integration in SDVs?

- Cloud Computing: Centralized data centers that offer massive processing power, storage, AI/ML model training, and fleet-wide analytics.
- Edge Computing: Distributed compute resources located closer to the vehicle (e.g., roadside units, 5G base stations, or even inside the vehicle) that process data with low latency and real-time constraints.

Roles and Benefits

Integration Layer
Role Benefits for SDVs

 Temporary storage/cache for intermittent connectivity

Cloud - Data aggregation from fleets -Machine learning model training

- OTA software distribution
- Remote diagnostics and updates

Edge - Real-time data processing near vehicle - Low-latency decision making

- Pre-processing sensor data

Interaction Between SDV, Edge, and Cloud

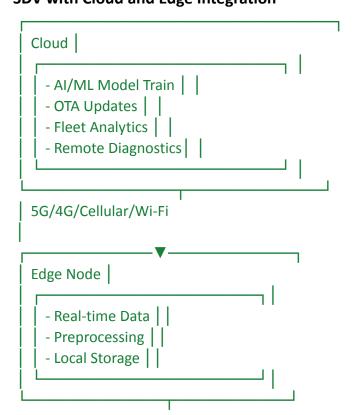
- Scalability
- Centralized control
- Rich data analytics
- Cost-effective updates
- Reduced latency

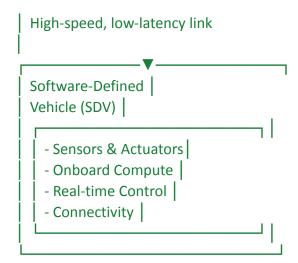
- Vehicles generate massive amounts of sensor and operational data.
- Edge nodes perform immediate analysis, filtering, and event detection.
- Critical data/actions needing global insights or heavy compute are sent to the cloud.
- Cloud sends AI model updates, diagnostics, maps, and new features back to vehicles via edge or directly.
- OTA (Over-the-Air) updates are orchestrated securely through the cloud.

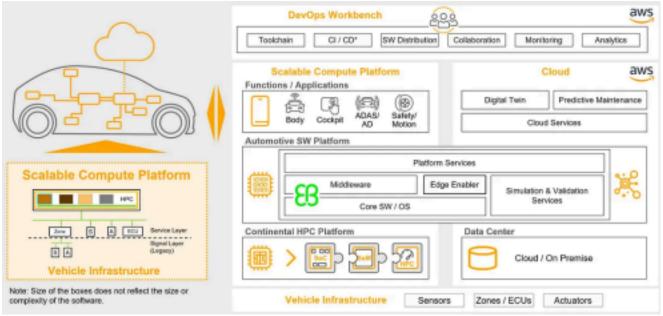
Use Cases Enabled by Cloud/Edge Integration

- Autonomous Driving: Edge computes sensor fusion and perception locally; cloud refines models.
- Predictive Maintenance: Cloud aggregates fleet data to predict failures; edge monitors real-time signals.
- Personalization: Cloud stores user profiles and preferences, synchronizing across devices.
- Traffic and Route Optimization: Real-time edge data helps in route planning; cloud optimizes traffic flow.
- Cybersecurity: Edge detects threats locally; cloud coordinates security patches and threat intelligence.

SDV with Cloud and Edge Integration







The value ecology of automotive vehicles refers to the entire ecosystem of value creation, distribution, and consumption associated with vehicles—across manufacturing, usage, servicing, and end-of-life. Technological changes are rapidly reshaping this ecosystem in several transformative ways.

Reshaping of the value ecology of automotive vehicles by technological changes

1. Redefining the Vehicle's Core Value Proposition

Traditional Value:

• Ownership, performance, brand identity, mechanical reliability

New Technological Shifts:

- Software-defined vehicles (SDVs): Cars increasingly run on software (over-the-air updates, infotainment, autonomy).
- Electrification: EVs shift value from mechanical systems (engines, transmissions) to batteries, motors, and power management.
- Autonomous driving: Vehicles are becoming mobility platforms, where comfort, interface, and AI
 matter more than horsepower.

Implication: Value shifts from hardware to software, data, and user experience.

2. Supply Chain & Manufacturing Disruption

Technological Drivers:

3D printing & advanced manufacturing: Enable more localized and customizable production.

Al and robotics in factories: Improve efficiency, reduce labor costs, enable mass customization.

Implication: Traditional suppliers and OEMs must rethink their role; some lose relevance while new players (e.g. chipmakers, AI startups) gain prominence.

3. Data as a New Currency

Sources of Value:

• Telematics, user behavior, in-vehicle app usage, navigation patterns

Implication: OEMs, insurers, and mobility providers monetize data. The car becomes a data-generating platform, similar to smartphones.

4. Emergence of New Business Models

Shift from:

- Ownership → Subscription, ride-hailing, car-sharing
- Product → Service (Mobility-as-a-Service or MaaS)

Enabled by:

• IoT, connectivity, platform-based models

Implication: Value is no longer in one-time car sales but in ongoing service revenue (e.g. Tesla charging for Full Self Driving features via subscription).

5. Sustainability & Regulatory Drivers

Tech Shifts:

• EVs, hydrogen, recyclable materials, circular economy initiatives

Implication: Value is increasingly tied to environmental impact. Consumers and regulators demand greener solutions, pushing OEMs to innovate in material science, energy efficiency, and lifecycle design. **6.**

Cross-Industry Convergence

Examples:

- Tech companies (Apple, Google) entering auto space
- Telecoms involved in vehicle connectivity (5G for V2X)
- Energy companies involved in charging infrastructure

Implication: Boundaries blur. Ecosystem players must collaborate or compete across traditional industry lines.

Traditional Value Ecosystem Emerging Value Ecosystem (Tech-Driven)

Mechanical engineering focus Software-defined vehicles (SDVs)

OEM-centric Platform and data-centric

Ownership model Subscription & MaaS

Internal combustion engine EVs, batteries, hydrogen tech

Fixed design lifecycle Modular, updatable via software

Dealer-based sales/service Direct-to-consumer, online platforms

The Software Defined Vehicle

Does it Need a Mobile Edge and Cloud?

A vehicle will be a Smart Edge

- Central Compute Stack
 - · Flexible, software defined architecture
 - Superior perception software
- Infotainment System with Android/iOS
- Fiber ethernet between ICU, PCU and
- Continuous 4G or 5G connection to the OEM's cloud
- Autonomous Driving Service on Vehicle Edge

2. Mobile Edges to connect to local smart services

- Intelligent Intersection Service
- Intelligent Vehicle-2-Grid Service
- Congestion Management Service

3. Smart Subscribed Services provided by the OEM will live in the OEM's Cloud

- AD Continuous Development
- AD Continuous ML
- Over-The-Air Updates (OTA)
- Predictive Maintenance Service
- Intelligent UBI Service
- Entertainment Service

Is an Edge

Needs additional Mobile Edges

Needs a Central Cloud Connection