

Why the Tesla Model 3 Should be Your Next Car

ENGL 199 Descriptive Report

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February 4, 2018

1 Introduction

One might think that a Tesla vehicle would be expensive, given the many features a Tesla car has to offer. While the recently announced Tesla Roadster has a base price close to a quarter million[1], one may be surprised with Tesla's other consumer offerings, namely the flagship Model S sedan, Model X SUV, and the newer, more affordable Model 3. I recommend the Model 3 for the average person, given its more budget-friendly price point, with all the characteristic features one would expect from a Tesla vehicle.

2 Autopilot

Autopilot is one of the first amazing features you may notice about Tesla vehicles. Currently, all vehicles in production by Tesla have sufficient hardware and software to drive without any user input. Tesla even claims that their cars are capable of driving at a safety level “substantially greater” than a human driver[2]. Tesla is able to accomplish this by including eight cameras, twelve ultrasonic sensors, and a front radar sensor which all work together to monitor the area around the car. It is not hard to see why Tesla makes such bold claims about how effective its Autopilot system is, because a mere human is physically incapable of constantly keeping track of the area around the car he is driving. A human needs to divide his attention between looking forward, checking his blind spot when changing lanes, among other things one would typically look out for when driving. In contrast, a computer is able to monitor everything around the car simultaneously. Additionally, the ultrasonic and radar sensors provide more information to the computer for sensing objects, that a human cannot detect with his natural senses. For example, the radar sensor is very useful when there is thick fog that a camera or human cannot see through. The computer, powered by the powerful NVIDIA DRIVE PX 2 chip uses machine learning to improve driving for thousands of users every day. Other companies like GM have to test their autonomous driving systems with fleets monitored by their own employees, while Tesla collects real-world data (with consent) from its users and processes the data with machine learning to constantly push new updates and features to improve the autonomous driving experience. [3][4][5]

3 Price

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4 The Environment

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5 Conclusion

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