



ADS-DV SOFTWARE INTERFACE SPECIFICATION

VERSION 2.0



1. INTRODUCTION

This document lists the signals on the CAN_B bus of the Formula Student ADS-DV demonstrator vehicle that is used for communications between the AI Computer and the Vehicle Control Unit (VCU), and the autonomous driving state machine that complies with the Formula Student Rules. It should be used in combination with the CAN database (ADSDV_2019_VCU_AI_interface_V2.dbc). The CAN B bus uses the CAN 2.0B protocol and runs at a baud rate of 500 kbps.

This CAN interface has been designed to comply with the 2019 Formula Student Rules for driverless vehicles and the supplementary regulations for the 2018 Formula Student Germany (FSG) competition, which provide more detailed guidelines on the data that must be logged for driverless vehicles. Any signals that are only relevant to the FSG data logging rules are highlighted in this document.

1.1. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADS-DV	Autonomous Driving System – Dedicated Vehicle
Al Computer	Designation for the autonomous driving computer used in the Formula Student
	Rules
AMI	Autonomous Mission Indicator
AS	Autonomous System
ASMS	Autonomous System Master Switch
ASSI	Autonomous System Status Indicator
EBS	Emergency Braking System
FSG	Formula Student Germany
MPP	Multi-Purpose Port
RES	Remote Emergency Stop
SDC	Shutdown Circuit
TS	Tractive System
TSMS	Tractive System Master Switch
VCU	Vehicle Control Unit

1.2. CHANGE LOG

Version	Date	Changes made	
0.2	24 Oct 2018	First release	
2.0	21 May 2019	CAN DBC database file name added,	
		Drive motor torque interface simplified: axle torque	
		request signals changed to unsigned [0-195 Nm],	
		Minimum axle torque feedback signals removed	
		(FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_MIN_Nm &	
		REAR_AXLE_TRQ_MIN_Nm),	
		List of implausible operating conditions added,	
		'Manual' option for AMI state removed	



2. CAN MESSAGES

2.1. AI COMPUTER MESSAGES

Message name	AI2LOG_Dynamics2		
CAN ID	501h		
Description	Vehicle dy	namics mess	age to comply with Formula Student Germany (FSG)
	data logging requirements		
Signal		Type	Description
Accel_longitudinal_ms2		Signed	Longitudinal vehicle acceleration [m/s ²]
Accel_lateral_ms2		Signed	Lateral vehicle acceleration [m/s ²]
Yaw_rate_degps		Signed	Yaw rate [°/s]

Message name	AI2VCU_Status		
CAN ID	510h		
Description	Al Compu	ter status sigr	nals for the VCU and some FSG logging signals
Signal		Type	Description
HANDSHAKE		Unsigned	Handshake bit to check communications between the AI Computer and VCU
ESTOP_REQUEST		Enum	Al request for a vehicle emergency stop: 0 = no E-stop requested 1 = E-stop requested
MISSION_STATUS		Enum	Autonomous mission status for the VCU to determine which autonomous driving state it should be in: 0 = not selected 1 = mission selected 2 = running 3 = finished
DIRECTION_REQUEST		Enum	Vehicle direction request: 0 = neutral 1 = forward
LAP_COUNTER	LAP_COUNTER		Lap counter for the 'Track drive' mission (FSG data logging requirement)
CONES_COUNT_ACTUAL		Unsigned	Number of cones that have currently been detected (FSG data logging requirement)
CONES_COUNT_ALL		Unsigned	Running counter of detected cones (FSG data logging requirement)
VEH_SPEED_ACTUAL	VEH_SPEED_ACTUAL_kmh		Actual vehicle speed (FSG data logging requirement)
VEH_SPEED_DEMAND_kmh		Unsigned	Demanded vehicle speed (FSG data logging requirement)



Message name	AI2VCU_Drive_F		
CAN ID	511h		
Description	Requests fo	r the front	drive motor
Signal		Туре	Description
FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_REQUEST_Nm		Unsigned	Requested absolute front axle torque (motor torque × gear ratio). Whether torque is positive (driving) or negative (braking) will depend on the setting of the motor speed limit Range: [0, 195]
FRONT_MOTOR_SPEED	_MAX_rpm	Unsigned	Maximum motor speed for vehicle speed control Range: [0, 4000]

Message name	AI2VCU_Drive_R		
CAN ID	512h		
Description	Requests for the rear drive motor		
Signal		Type	Description
REAR_AXLE_TRQ_REQUEST_Nm		Unsigned	Requested absolute rear axle torque (motor
			torque × gear ratio)
			Range: [0, 195]
REAR_MOTOR_SPEED_MAX_rpm		Unsigned	Maximum motor speed for vehicle speed control
			Range: [0, 4000]

Message name	AI2VCU_S	Steer	
CAN ID	513h		
Description	Steer ang	le request	
Signal		Туре	Description
STEER_REQUEST_de	≘ g	Signed	Requested steer angle according to the bicycle model for vehicle dynamics. A positive angle turns the front wheels to the left according to the ISO 8855 vehicle co-ordinate system:



Message name	AI2VCU_Brake			
CAN ID	514h	514h		
Description	Hydraulic	brake pressu	re request (NOT USED FOR 2019)	
Signal		Туре	Description	
HYD_PRESSURE_REC	UEST_pct	Unsigned	Normalised hydraulic pressure request for the	
			friction brakes.	
			Range: [0, 100]	

2.2. VEHICLE CONTROLLER (VCU) MESSAGES

Message name	VCU2LOG_Dynamics1			
CAN ID	500h			
Description	Vehicle dy	namics mess	age to comply with Formula Student Germany (FSG)	
	data loggi	ng requireme	nts	
Signal		Type	Description	
Speed_actual_kmh		Unsigned	Actual vehicle speed	
Speed_target_kmh		Unsigned	Target vehicle speed	
Steer_actual_deg		Signed	Actual steer angle (bicycle model)	
Steer_target_deg		Signed	Requested steer angle (bicycle model)	
Brake_actual_pct		Unsigned	Actual mechanical braking percentage	
Brake_target_pct		Unsigned	Requested mechanical braking percentage	
Drive_trq_actual_pct		Signed	Sum of actual front and rear axle torque	
Drive_trq_target_pct		Signed	Sum of requested front and rear axle torque	

Message name	VCU2LOG_Status		
CAN ID	502h		
Description	Vehicle status reporting to comply with Formula Student Germany (FSG		
	data logging requireme	ents	
Signal	Туре	Description	
State_ASSI	Enum	Autonomous System Status Indicator (ASSI) state:	
		1 = AS_OFF	
		2 = AS_READY	
		3 = AS_DRIVING	
		4 = EMERGENCY_BRAKE	
		5 = AS_FINISHED	
State_EBS	Enum	Emergency Braking System (EBS) state:	
		1 = unavailable	
		2 = armed	
		3 = triggered	
State_AMI	Enum	Autonomous Mission Indicator (AMI) state:	
		0 = not selected	
		1 = Acceleration	
		2 = Skidpad	
		3 = Autocross	



		4 = Track drive
		5 = Brake test
		6 = Inspection
State_steering	Enum	Steering system status:
		0 = off
		1 = active
State_service_brake	Enum	Service brake (mechanical friction brakes) status:
		1 = disengaged
		2 = engaged
		3 = available
Lap_counter	Unsigned	Signal gatewayed from AI2VCU_Status (510h)
Cones_count_actual	Unsigned	Signal gatewayed from AI2VCU_Status (510h)
Cones_count_all	Unsigned	Signal gatewayed from AI2VCU_Status (510h)

Message name	VCU2AI_Status			
CAN ID	520h			
Description	VCU and powertrain s	powertrain status reporting to the AI Computer		
Signal	Туре	Description		
HANDSHAKE	Unsigned	Handshake bit to check communications between		
		the VCU and AI Computer		
AS_SWITCH_STATUS	Enum	Status of the autonomous system master switch		
		(ASMS)		
		[0 = off; 1 = on]		
TS_SWITCH_STATUS	Enum	Status of the tractive system master switch (TSMS)		
		[0 = off; 1 = on]		
GO_SIGNAL	Enum	Remote "Go" signal to allow the vehicle to start		
		driving:		
		0 = no go		
		1 = go		
STEERING_STATUS	Enum	Steering system status:		
		0 = off		
		1 = active		
AS_STATE	Enum	Autonomous system state:		
		1 = AS_OFF		
		2 = AS_READY		
		3 = AS_DRIVING		
		4 = EMERGENCY_BRAKE		
		5 = AS_FINISHED		
AMI_STATE	Enum	Autonomous Mission Indicator (AMI) state:		
		0 = not selected		
		1 = Acceleration		
		2 = Skidpad		
		3 = Autocross		
		4 = Track drive		
		5 = Brake test		
		6 = Inspection		



FAULT_STATUS	Enum	Flag to indicate the presence of a critical fault:
		0 = no faults
		1 = fault detected
WARNING_STATUS	Enum	Flag to indicate the presence of a warning. Used
		for fault diagnosis after a run:
		0 = no warning
		1 = warning active
WARN_BATT_TEMP_HIGH	Enum	High traction battery temperature warning flag
		0 = no warning; 1 = warning active
WARN_BATT_SOC_LOW	Enum	Low traction battery SOC warning flag
		0 = no warning; 1 = warning active
AI_ESTOP_REQUEST	Enum	Flag for E-stop request from the AI Computer
		0 = inactive; 1 = E-stop requested
HVIL_OPEN_FAULT	Enum	Flag for open-circuit fault in the shutdown circuit /
		HVIL
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
HVIL_SHORT_FAULT	Enum	Flag for short-circuit fault in the shutdown circuit /
		HVIL
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
EBS_FAULT	Enum	Emergency Braking System fault flag
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
OFFBOARD_CHARGER_FAULT	Enum	Offboard battery charger fault flag
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
AI_COMMS_LOST	Enum	AI-VCU CAN communications fault flag
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
AUTONOMOUS_BRAKING_	Enum	NEUTRAL direction request made while vehicle is
FAULT		still moving
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected
MISSION_STATUS_FAULT	Enum	MISSION_STATUS set to finished while vehicle is
		moving
		0 = no fault; 1 = fault detected

Message name	VCU2AI_Drive_F		
CAN ID	521h		
Description	Feedback f	rom the fror	nt drive motor
Signal		Туре	Description
FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_Nm	1	Signed	Actual front axle drive motor torque
			Range: [-195, 195]
FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_REG	QUEST_Nm	Unsigned	Requested front axle torque (AI2VCU_Drive_F,
			FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_REQUEST_Nm)
FRONT_AXLE_TRQ_MA	AX_Nm	Unsigned	Maximum allowable drive torque at axle
			Range: [0, 195]



Message name	VCU2AI_Drive_R			
CAN ID	522h	522h		
Description	Feedback 1	from the rea	r drive motor	
Signal	Type Description			
REAR_AXLE_TRQ_Nm		Signed	Actual rear axle drive motor torque	
			Range: [-195, 195]	
REAR_AXLE_TRQ_REC	QUEST_Nm	Unsigned	Requested rear axle torque (AI2VCU_Drive_R,	
			REAR_AXLE_TRQ_REQUEST_Nm)	
REAR_AXLE_TRQ_MA	X_Nm	Unsigned	Maximum allowable drive torque at axle	
			Range: [0, 195]	

Message name	VCU2AI_S	teer		
CAN ID	523h	523h		
Description	Feedback	from the stee	ering controller	
Signal		Type	Description	
STEER_ANGLE_deg		Signed	Actual steer angle	
			Range: [-27.2, 27.2]	
STEER_ANGLE_MAX	_deg	Unsigned	Maximum allowable steer angle. Limit is the same	
			for steering left (+) and right (-)	
STEER_ANGLE_REQU	JEST_deg	Signed	Requested steer angle (AI2VCU_Steer,	
			STEER_REQUEST_deg)	

Message name	VCU2AI_B	rake		
CAN ID	524h			
Description	Feedback	Feedback from the hydraulic braking system		
Signal		Туре	Description	
HYD_PRESSURE_pct		Unsigned	Actual normalised hydraulic brake pressure	
			Range: [0, 100]	
HYD_PRESSURE_REC	UEST_pct	Unsigned	Requested normalised hydraulic brake pressure	
			(AI2VCU_Brake, HYD_PRESSURE_REQUEST_pct)	

Message name	VCU2AI_V	Vheel_speeds	1	
CAN ID	525h			
Description	Wheel spe	Wheel speed measurements		
Signal		Type	Description	
FL_WHEEL_SPEED_r	om	Unsigned	Front left wheel speed	
FR_WHEEL_SPEED_r	pm	Unsigned	Front right wheel speed	
RL_WHEEL_SPEED_r	pm	Unsigned	Rear left wheel speed	
RR_WHEEL_SPEED_r	pm	Unsigned	Rear right wheel speed	



Message name	VCU2AI_Wheel_counts		
CAN ID	526h		
Description	Raw pulse	count measu	rements from the wheel speed sensors
Signal		Туре	Description
FL_PULSE_COUNT		Unsigned	Pulse counts from front left wheel speed sensor
			Range: [0, 65535]
FR_PULSE_COUNT		Unsigned	Pulse counts from front right wheel speed sensor
			Range: [0, 65535]
RL_PULSE_COUNT		Unsigned	Pulse counts from rear left wheel speed sensor
			Range: [0, 65535]
RR_PULSE_COUNT		Unsigned	Pulse counts from rear right wheel speed sensor
			Range: [0, 65535]

Message name	VCU2AI_Drive_motor_data			
CAN ID	527h	527h		
Description	Temperat	ure and curre	nt measurements from the drive motors	
Signal		Type	Description	
MOTOR_F_TEMP_de	egC	Unsigned	Front drive motor temperature	
			Range: [-30, 225]	
MOTOR_R_TEMP_de	egC	Unsigned	Rear drive motor temperature	
			Range: [-30, 225]	
MOTOR_F_CURR_0A	\ 05	Signed	Front drive motor current	
			Range: [-1638.4, 1638.35]	
MOTOR_R_CURR_0	A05	Signed	Rear drive motor current	
			Range: [-1638.4, 1638.35]	

Message name	VCU2AI_Diagnostics		
CAN ID	528h		
Description	Powertrai	n system diag	nostic information
Signal		Туре	Description
BATTERY_SOC_pc		Unsigned	Traction battery state of charge
			Range: [0, 100]
BATTERY_MAX_CELL	_TEMP_	Unsigned	Maximum traction battery cell temperature
degC			Range: [-30, 225]
FAULT_CELL_OVER_	ГЕМР	Enum	Cell over-temperature fault status
FAULT_CELL_OVER_V	VOLT	Enum	Cell over-voltage fault status
FAULT_CELL_UNDER	_VOLT	Enum	Cell under-voltage fault status
FAULT_CHG_AUX_O	PEN	Enum	AUX contactor open-circuit fault status
FAULT_CHG_AUX_SH	HORT	Enum	AUX contactor short-circuit fault status
FAULT_FUSE_ACTIVA	ATION	Enum	Fuse activation fault status
FAULT_HVPOS1_OPE	N	Enum	Front drive motor contactor fault status
FAULT_HVPOS2_OPE	N	Enum	Rear drive motor contactor fault status
FAULT_PRECHG_OPE	N	Enum	Pre-charge contactor fault status
FAULT_VOLTAGE_DI	SAGREE	Enum	BMS voltage disagree fault status
FAULT_PACK_OVER_	CURRENT	Enum	Traction battery pack over-current fault status



FAULT_MEASUREMENT	Enum	BMS measurement fault status
FAULT_LOW_SOC	Enum	Low traction battery SOC fault status
SYS_ACTION	Enum	Current system operating mode
SM_CONTACTOR	Enum	Contactor state machine state
SM_MAIN	Enum	Main VCU software state
SM_MC_DRV	Enum	Drive motor controller state
SM_DRV_AUTO	Enum	Autonomous driving state machine state
SM_EBS	Enum	Emergency braking system state

2.3. RESERVED CAN ADDRESSES

The AI Computer must not transmit any data using the following CAN IDs:

000h	410h to 41Eh inclusive
080h to 084h inclusive	450h to 470h inclusive
100h	4FDh to 4FFh inclusive
120h to 124h inclusive	581h to 584h inclusive
181h to 184h inclusive	601h
201h	604h
284h	701h
301h	704h

2.4. HANDSHAKE

A handshake must be performed between the VCU and the AI Computer when the tractive system is enabled to allow autonomous driving. The handshake bits are located in the first bytes of the AI2VCU Status (510h) and VCU2AI Status (520h) messages.

The VCU will alternate the value of the HANDSHAKE bit between 0 (low) and 1 (high). When the VCU sets the HANDSHAKE bit to 1 in the VCU2AI_Status message, it will wait for the AI Computer to set the corresponding HANDSHAKE bit in the AI2VCU_Status message to 1, at which point the VCU will change its HANDSHAKE value to 0 and wait for a value of 0 to be received from the AI Computer. This cycle will then continue throughout the operation of the vehicle (see figure 1) and will be used to measure the response time of the AI Computer as part of the scrutineering of all ADS-DV vehicles.

If the value of the handshake bit received from the AI Computer does not match the value of the transmitted signal within 50ms, the VCU will raise an 'AI_COMMS_LOST' fault. If the vehicle is in the autonomous driving mode and in any state other than AS_OFF when this fault occurs, the vehicle emergency stop procedure will be activated.



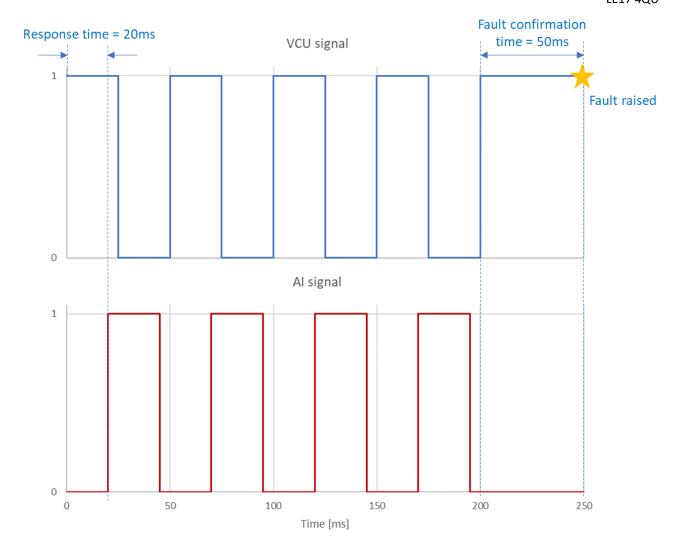


Figure 1: VCU-AI handshake and comms fault detection



3. AUTONOMOUS SYSTEM STATE MACHINE

Figure 2 shows the autonomous driving state machine implemented in the VCU in accordance with the Formula Student Rules. Any numbering on state transitions relates to the order in which the conditions are evaluated.

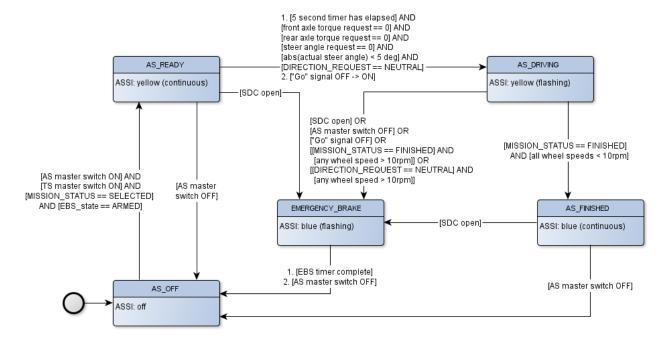


Figure 2: Autonomous driving state machine

3.1. AS OFF TO AS READY

The autonomous driving state machine will transition from AS_OFF to AS_READY when all the following conditions are satisfied:

- Tractive System Master Switch (TSMS) is turned on
- Autonomous System Master Switch (ASMS) is turned on
- An autonomous mission has been selected using the Autonomous Mission Indicator (touchscreen display)
- The Emergency Braking System (EBS) is in its ARMED state

The selected autonomous mission will be transmitted from the VCU in the 'AMI_STATE' CAN signal ('VCU2AI_Status' message, 520h). The AI software should then update the 'MISSION_STATUS' signal ('AI2VCU_Status' message, 510h) to the SELECTED state (signal value of 1) to confirm that it has received the mission.

3.2. AS READY TO AS DRIVING

When the AS_READY state is active in the autonomous driving state machine, all powertrain components will have been initialised and be ready to act on the commands received from the AI Computer. At this point the VCU will not respond to drive or steering requests from the AI Computer



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to avoid any unintended motion of the vehicle. The transition from AS_READY to AS_DRIVING will be as follows:

- 1. The VCU will remain in the AS_READY state for a minimum of 5 seconds before checking the exit conditions to move to AS_DRIVING
- 2. Requests from the AI Computer must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Front and rear drive motor torque requests must be zero
 - b. Requested steering angle must be zero
 - c. 'DIRECTION_REQUEST' signal ('AI2VCU_Status' message, 510h) must be set to NEUTRAL

The intention is that the direction request is set to FORWARD when in the AS_DRIVING state. The VCU will also check that the actual steering angle of the front wheels is less than 5° to prevent any sudden steering movements when entering the AS_DRIVING state.

3. Once the above conditions have been satisfied, the VCU will monitor the remote "Go" signal from the GrossFunk RES transmitter to detect a rising edge. If the switch for the "Go" signal is in the 'on' position while in AS_READY, it must be turned off and on again before the VCU will enter the AS_DRIVING state. Once the rising edge has been detected, the CAN signal 'RES_GO_SIGNAL' ('VCU2AI_Status' message, 520h) is set to TRUE and transmitted to the AI Computer. The state machine will then transition to the AS_DRIVING state

3.3. AS DRIVING TO AS FINISHED

- 1. The AI Computer must inform the VCU when the selected autonomous mission has been completed in accordance with the rules for the driverless dynamic events. The AI software is responsible for bringing the vehicle to a stop at the end of each event by applying the service brake
- 2. Once the vehicle has stopped, the AI Computer must set the value of the CAN signal 'MISSION_STATUS' ('AI2VCU_Status' message, 510h) to FINISHED (signal value of 3)
- 3. When the VCU sees that the autonomous mission has been completed and the vehicle has come to rest, the autonomous driving state changes from AS DRIVING to AS FINISHED.
- 4. Upon entering the AS_FINISHED state, any commands for the drive or steering motors from the AI Computer will be ignored

3.4. AS_FINISHED TO AS_OFF

The VCU state machine will return to the AS_OFF state when the ASMS is turned off.

3.5. AS_READY TO EMERGENCY_BRAKE

The VCU state machine will enter the EMERGENCY_BRAKE state from AS_READY if the shutdown circuit (SDC) is broken, which could be caused by any of the following:

- The remote E-stop button is pressed
- The remote E-stop receiver in the vehicle loses contact with the transmitter
- Either of the E-stop buttons on the vehicle is pressed





- The inertial crash sensor in the vehicle is activated
- The VCU detects a critical system fault
- The BMS detects a critical fault in the traction battery pack
- The autonomous driving dongle is removed from the vehicle's Multi-Purpose Port (MPP)

3.6. AS READY TO AS OFF

The VCU state machine will return to the AS_OFF state if the ASMS is turned off.

3.7. AS DRIVING TO EMERGENCY BRAKE

The VCU will enter the EMERGENCY_BRAKE state if any of the following criteria are satisfied:

- The SDC is open (see section 3.5 for possible causes)
- The "Go" signal received from the GrossFunk RES transmitter is turned off
- The AS master switch is turned off
- The 'MISSION_STATUS' CAN signal from the AI Computer is set to 'FINISHED' while any of the wheel speeds are greater than 10rpm
- The 'DIRECTION_REQUEST' CAN signal from the AI Computer is set to 'NEUTRAL' while any of the wheel speeds are greater than 10rpm

The last condition is in addition to those specified in the Formula Student Rules as in this scenario it is assumed that the AI Computer has lost control of the vehicle by not bringing it to a stop at the end of the driving mission.

3.8. AS_FINISHED TO EMERGENCY_BRAKE

The emergency stop procedure will be activated if HVIL/shutdown circuit is broken while the VCU state machine is in the AS_FINISHED state.

3.9. EMERGENCY_BRAKE TO AS_OFF

Once the 15 second timer for the emergency braking procedure has elapsed, the state machine will return to AS_OFF when the ASMS is turned off. A power cycle of the vehicle will be required to return to a state where the vehicle can be driven again.



4. IMPLAUSIBLE OPERATING CONDITIONS

The following is a list of operating conditions that are not permissible when the ADS-DV is in its autonomous driving mode. If any of these conditions are met, the VCU will execute an emergency stop to bring the vehicle to a halt.

- 1. In the AS_DRIVING state, an emergency stop will be initiated if the 'DIRECTION_REQUEST' signal in the AI2VCU_Status message (510h) is changed from 'FORWARD' to 'NEUTRAL' while the vehicle is moving, i.e. any of the wheel speed measurements is greater than 10 rpm
- 2. In the AS_DRIVING state, an emergency stop will be initiated if the 'MISSION_STATUS' signal is changed from 'RUNNING' to 'FINISHED' while the vehicle is moving, i.e. any of the wheel speed measurements is greater than 10 rpm