

# Self-Driving Cars

## Lecture 1 - Introduction to Self-Driving Cars

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Andreas Geiger

Autonomous Vision Group  
MPI-IS / University of Tübingen

October 18, 2018

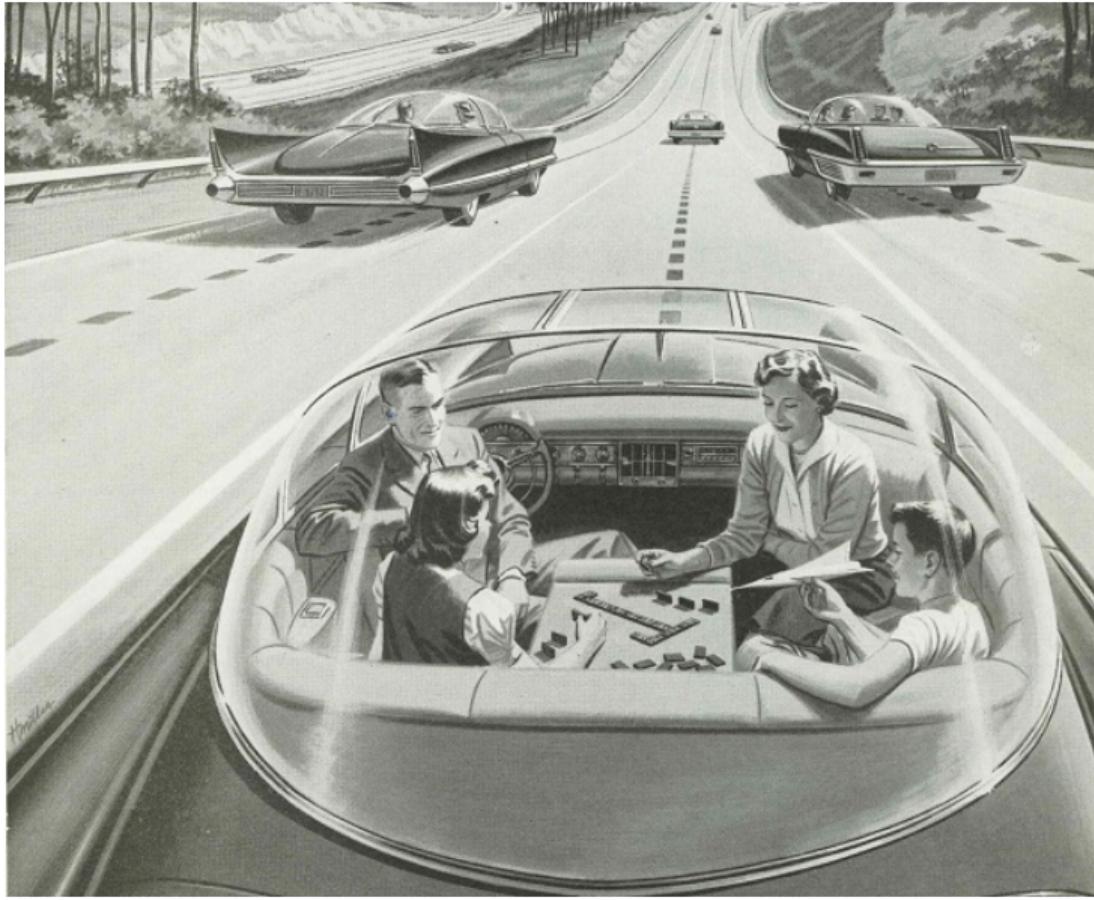


University of Tübingen  
MPI for Intelligent Systems  

---

**Autonomous Vision Group**











DEVELOPING STORY

NEW VIDEO OF DEADLY SELF-DRIVING UBER CRASH  
SHOWS MOMENTS LEADING UP TO ACCIDENT

GMA  
@GMA

# Organization

# Team



Prof. Dr.  
Andreas Geiger



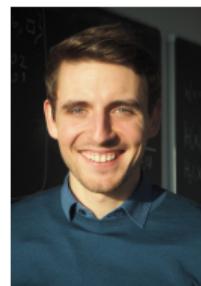
Dr.  
Simon Donné



Dr.  
Yiyi Liao



M.Sc.  
Benjamin Coors



M.Sc.  
Michael Oechsle



M.Sc.  
Carolin Schmitt

# Contents

**Goal:** Develop an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of state-of-the-art autonomous driving solutions and gain a basic understanding of the entire system comprising perception, learning and vehicle control.

- ▶ History of Self-driving cars
- ▶ Modular approaches to self-driving
- ▶ End-to-end learning for self-driving
- ▶ Perception (camera, lidar, radar)
- ▶ Localization (with visual and road maps)
- ▶ Navigation and path planning
- ▶ Vehicle model and control

# Organization

- ▶ SWS: 2 V + 2 Ü, 6 ECTS
- ▶ Lecture: Thursdays, 8:15-10:00, F119 (Hörsaal 1), starting October 18
- ▶ Exercise: Fridays, 8:15-10:00, F119 (Hörsaal 1), starting October 19
- ▶ Lectures and exercises will be held in English
- ▶ Exam (oral if  $\leq$  30 students)
  - ▶ Dates: 18.2.2019 and 12.4.2019 (mark your calendar!)
  - ▶ 0.3 bonus if 50 % of the points in the exercises
- ▶ Course Website: [www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/faculties/faculty-of-science/  
departments/computer-science/lehrstuehle/  
lernbasierte-computer-vision/teaching/lecture-self-driving-cars/](http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/faculties/faculty-of-science/departments/computer-science/lehrstuehle/lernbasierte-computer-vision/teaching/lecture-self-driving-cars/)
- ▶ **Enroll via ILIAS!**

# Exercises

- ▶ Exercises
  - ▶ Introduction to PyTorch and OpenAI Gym
  - ▶ Challenge 1: Imitation Learning
  - ▶ Challenge 2: Reinforcement Learning
  - ▶ Challenge 3: Modular Pipeline
- ▶ 3-4 weeks per challenge with Q&A session in between
- ▶ Challenges managed via ILIAS, 20 points per exercise
- ▶ Leaderboard, winners present their approaches in last lecture
- ▶ Challenges can be done in groups of up to 2 students
  - ▶ Establish groups in first exercise session (tomorrow!)
  - ▶ Solutions of a group must indicate all group members
  - ▶ Every group member must submit the solution
- ▶ Solutions may not be shared across groups
- ▶ Access to GPU cluster: first and second exercise session

# OpenAI Gym

[Environments](#) [Documentation](#)



## Gym

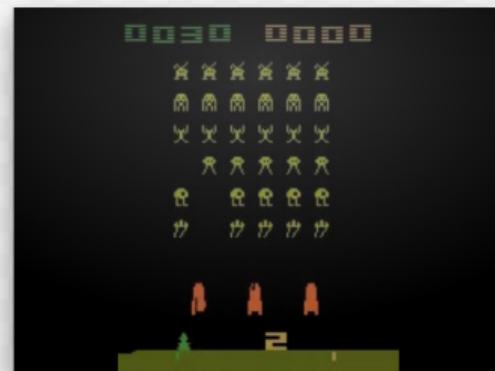
Gym is a toolkit for developing and comparing reinforcement learning algorithms. It supports teaching agents everything from walking to playing games like Pong or Pinball.

[View documentation >](#)

[View on GitHub >](#)



RandomAgent on Pendulum-v0



RandomAgent on SpaceInvaders-v0



# OpenAI Gym: Car Racing Environment

[Environments](#) [Documentation](#)



## CarRacing-v0

Easiest continuous control task to learn from pixels, a top-down racing environment. Discrete control is reasonable in this environment as well, on/off discretisation is fine. State consists of 96x96 pixels. Reward is -0.1 every frame and +1000/N for every track tile visited, where N is the total number of tiles in track. For example, if you have finished in 732 frames, your reward is  $1000 - 0.1 \times 732 = 926.8$  points. Episode finishes when all tiles are visited. Some indicators shown at the bottom of the window and the state RGB buffer. From left to right: true speed, four ABS sensors, steering wheel position, gyroscope.

[VIEW SOURCE ON GITHUB](#)



*RandomAgent on CarRacing-v0*

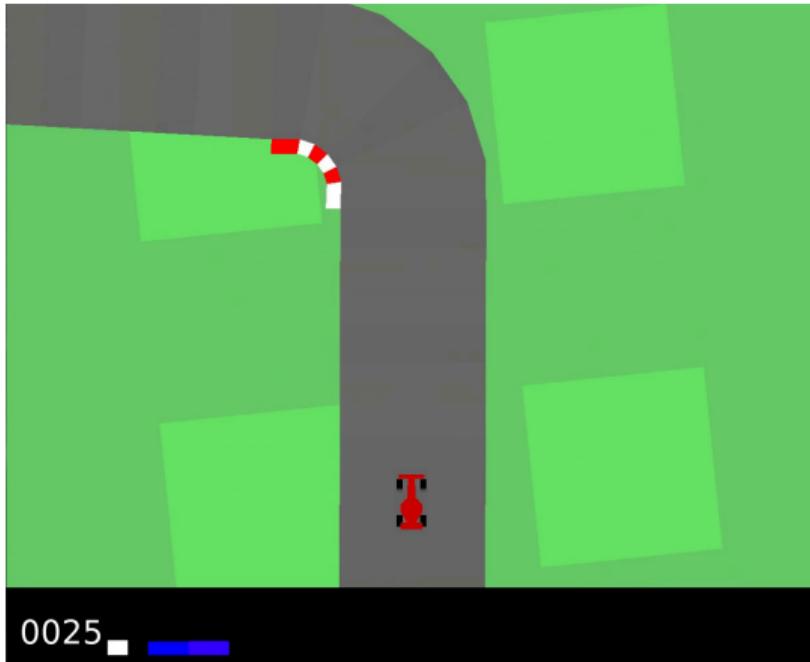
[Environments](#) [Documentation](#)

 OpenAI

# Challenge 1: Imitation Learning

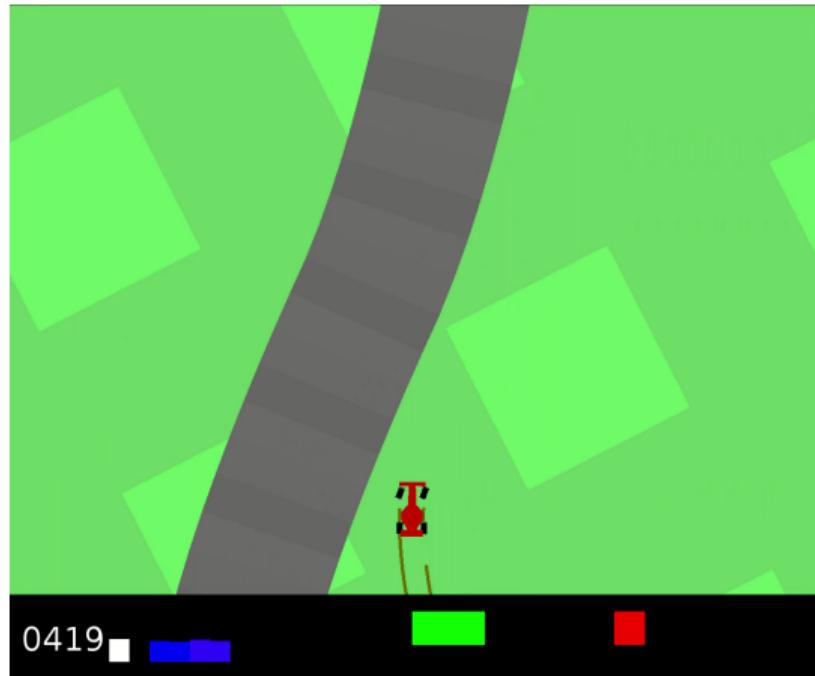
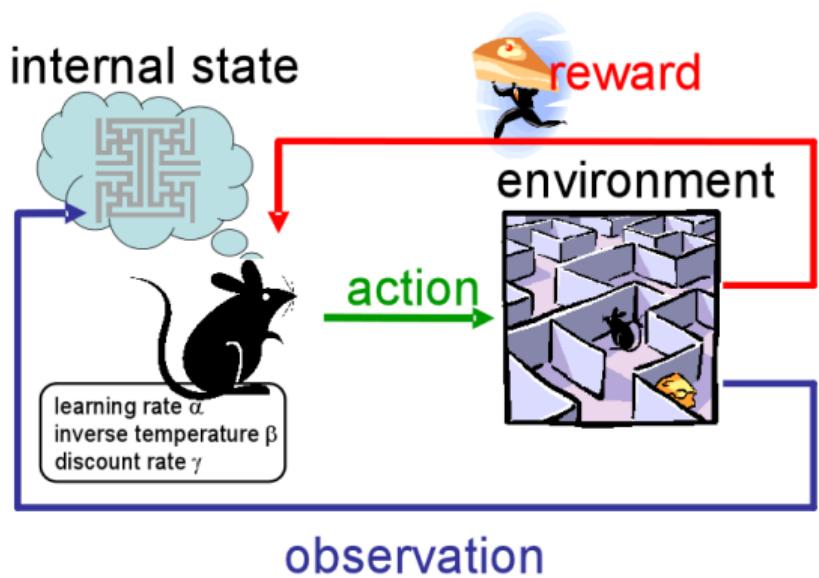


Trainer  
(Human Driver)

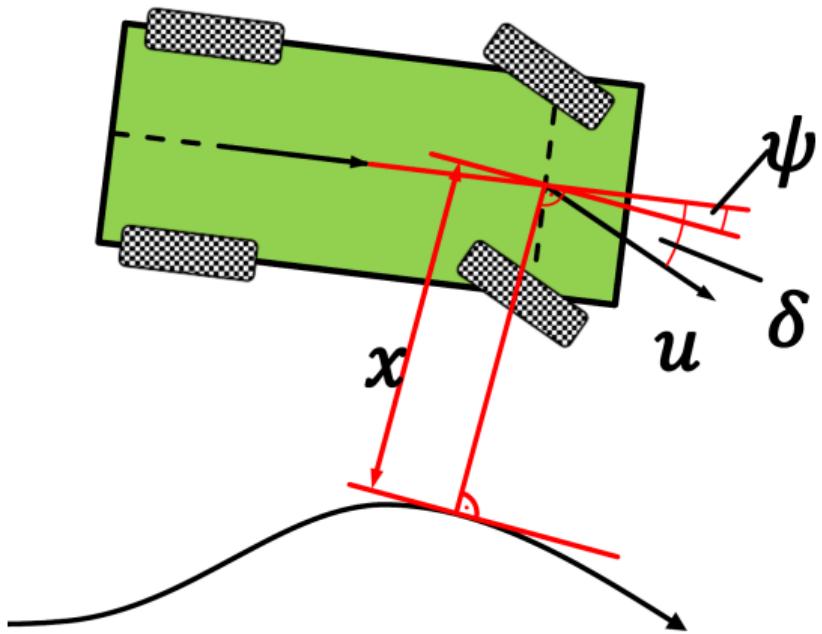
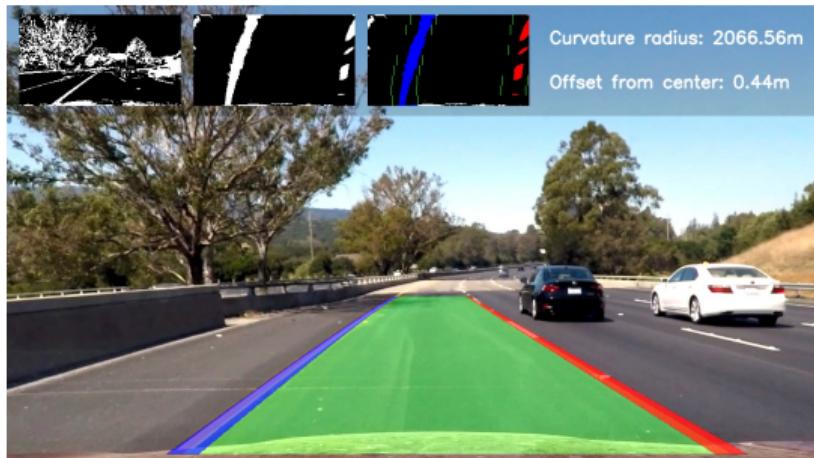


Trainee  
(Neural Network)

## Challenge 2: Reinforcement Learning

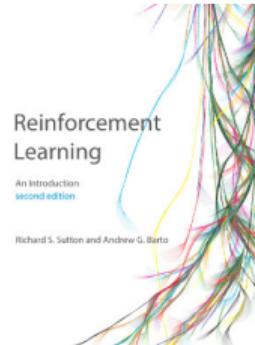
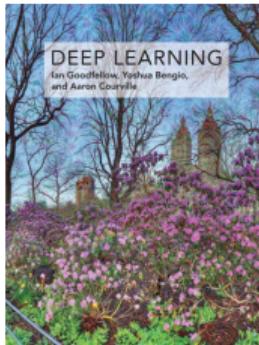


# Challenge 3: Modular Pipeline



# Materials

- ▶ Lecture slides, class-room writing (blackboard)
- ▶ Exercise slides & assignments
- ▶ Books:
  - ▶ Goodfellow, Bengio, Courville: Deep Learning ([www.deeplearningbook.org/](http://www.deeplearningbook.org/))
  - ▶ Sutton, Barto: Reinforcement Learning: An Introduction
  - ▶ Janai, Güney, Behl and Geiger: Computer Vision for Autonomous Vehicles: Problems, Datasets and State-of-the-Art (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.05519>)



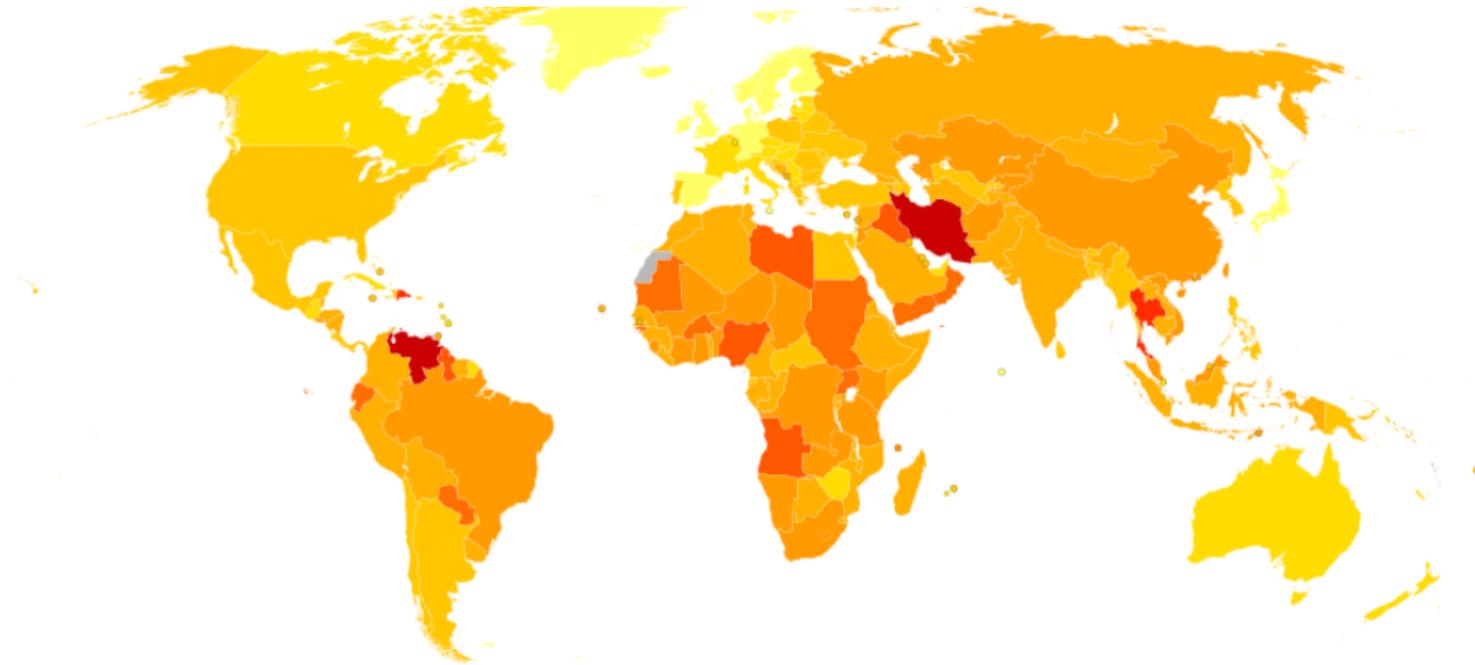
- ▶ But more important: Papers (announced during the lecture)

# Agenda

Date	Lecture (Thursday)	Date	Exercise (Friday)
18.10.	01 - Introduction to Self-Driving Cars	19.10.	00 - Introduction Pytorch & OpenAI Gym
25.10.	02 - DNNs, ConvNets, Imitation Learning	26.10.	01 - Intro: Imitation Learning
1.11.	none (Allerheiligen)	2.11.	
8.11.	03 - Reinforcement Learning I	9.11.	01 - Q&A
15.11.	none (CVPR Deadline)	16.11.	
22.11.	04 - Reinforcement Learning II	23.11.	01 - Discussion & 02 - Intro: Reinforcement Learning
29.11.	05 - Vehicle Dynamics & Control	30.11.	
6.12.	06 - Localization & Visual Odometry	7.12.	02 - Q&A
13.12.	07 - Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (J. Stückler)	14.12.	
20.12.	08 - Road and Lane Detection	21.12.	02 - Discussion & 03 - Intro: Modular Pipeline
10.1.	09 - Reconstruction and Motion Estimation	11.1.	
17.1.	10 - Object Detection & Tracking	18.1.	
24.1.	11 - Scene Understanding	25.1.	03 - Q&A
31.1.	12 - Planning	1.2.	03 - Discussion & Announcement of Winners
7.2.	13 - Winner's Presentations and Exam Q&A	8.2.	

# Why Self-Driving Cars?

# Road Fatalities in 2017



- ▶ USA: 32,700    Germany: 3,300    World: 1,300,000
- ▶ Main factors: speeding, intoxication, distraction, etc.

# Benefits of Autonomous Driving

- ▶ Lower risk of accidents
- ▶ Provide mobility for elderly and people with disabilities
  - ▶ In the US 45% of people with disabilities still work
- ▶ Decrease pollution for a more healthy environment
- ▶ New ways of public transportation
  - ▶ What could it be?
  - ▶ Benefits?
  - ▶ Drawbacks?
- ▶ Reduce number of cars (95% of the time a car is parked)

But

# Self-driving is Hard

**Human performance:** 1 fatality per 100 mio miles

**Error rate to improve on:** 0.000001 %

## Challenges:

- ▶ Snow, heavy rain, night
- ▶ Unstructured roads
- ▶ Big open parking lots, garages
- ▶ Pedestrians, erratic behavior
- ▶ Reflections, dynamics
- ▶ Merging, negotiating
- ▶ Ethics: what is good behavior?
- ▶ Legal questions





# History of Self-Driving Cars

# The Automobile

1886: Benz Patent-Motorwagen Nummer 1



## 1886: Benz Patent-Motorwagen Nummer 1

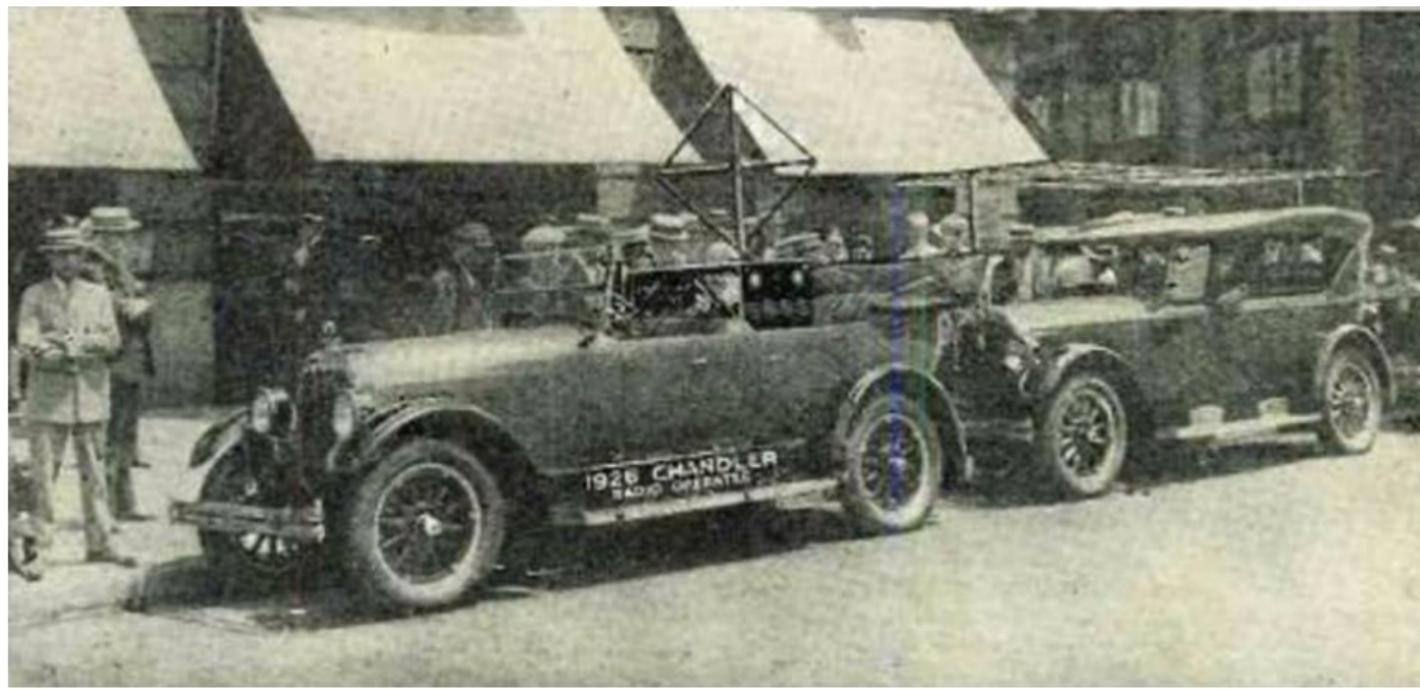
- ▶ Benz 954 cc single-cylinder four-stroke engine (500 watts)
- ▶ Weight: 100 kg (engine), 265 kg (total)
- ▶ Maximal speed: 16 km/h
- ▶ Consumption: 10 liter / 100 km (!)
- ▶ Construction based on the tricycle, several cycle components
- ▶ 29.1.1886: patent filed
- ▶ 3.7.1886: first public test drive in Mannheim
- ▶ 2.11.1886: patent granted, but investors stayed skeptical
- ▶ First long distance trip (106 km) by Bertha Benz in 1888 with Motorwagen Nummer 3 (without knowledge of her husband) fostered commercial interest
  - ▶ First gas station: pharmacy in Wiesloch near Heidelberg

# 1886: Benz Patent-Motorwagen Nummer 1



# Self-Driving Cars

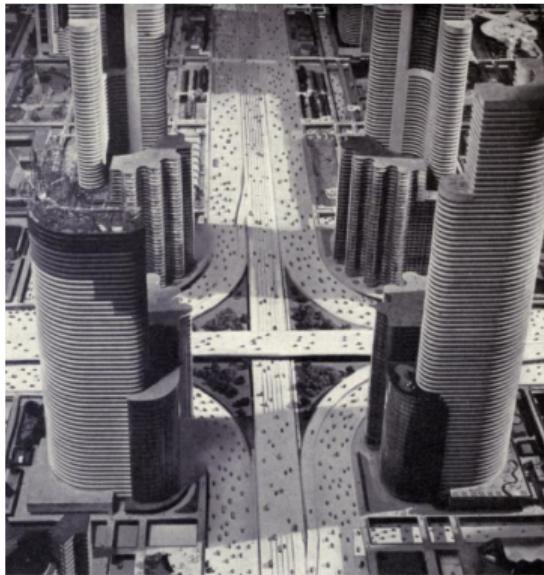
## 1925: Phantom Auto – “American Wonder” (Houdina Radio Control)



In the summer of 1925, Houdina's driverless car, called the American Wonder, traveled along Broadway in New York City—trailed by an operator in another vehicle—and down Fifth Avenue through heavy traffic. It turned corners, sped up, slowed down and honked its horn. Unfortunately, the demonstration ended when the American Wonder crashed into another vehicle filled with photographers documenting the event.

(Discovery Magazine)

# 1939: Futurama – New York World's Fair



- ▶ Exhibit at the New York World's Fair in 1939 sponsored by General Motors
- ▶ Designed by Norman Bel Geddes' - his vision of the world 20 years later (1960)
- ▶ Radio-controlled electric cars, electromagnetic field via circuits in roadway
- ▶ #1 exhibition, very well received (great depression), prototypes by RCA & GM

# 1956: General Motors Firebird II



# 1956: General Motors Firebird II

BRINGING THE MOST IMPRESSIVE USE OF MODERN SCIENCE  
FOR FAMILY TRANSPORTATION

contingent science. A continuing improvement in product design is required and will prove highly useful. Specifically, we believe a specialized

high-speed highway, designed to handle traffic at speeds up to 100 miles per hour, will change traffic patterns through the years ahead. We believe a

modern highway system will greatly increase the safety of travel.

## "PROGRESS POSSIBILITY"

### The Electronically Controlled Car on the Safety Autoway of Tomorrow

For several years General Motors has played an important role in the continuing campaign to bring our highways up to date.

At the same time, our designers and engineers have continuously planned and worked to make the motorcar an ever safer form of transportation.

Now the Styling Section of General Motors—under the leadership of Harley J. Earl, GM Vice President in charge of Styling—has created for the Motorama of 1956 a dramatic and daring concept of a Highway of Tomorrow.

Shown on VistaVision film in Technicolor, and on the Motorama stage, this amazing concept places control

of the motorcar in the hands of an "electronic brain"—actually releasing the driver from the wheel.

Though the realization of such a "dream highway" belongs in the far, far future—it utilizes present-day knowledge and experience gained through electronic control and computation, radar and television—all now in operation.

To present this spectacular vision on film—General Motors built a replica of such a highway on the Arizona desert—as well as a more complete miniature highway on a Hollywood stage for filming purposes. What's more, they incorporated, in the Firebird II, elements helpful in demonstrating such an electronically controlled operation.

# 1956: General Motors Firebird II



These include a Dashboard View screen which has two panels. The left panel is for "internal communication" between car and driver (information he would normally receive from visible instruments as to fuel supply, engine operation and temperature). It also reveals a radar pattern when he guides the car onto the electronic control-strip for automatic steering.

"External communication" from the control tower in his Autoway Zone also appears on this panel.

The right-hand panel supplies normal television reception, and two-way television communication with motels, other cars, etc.

Rearview mirror is replaced by a small circular view

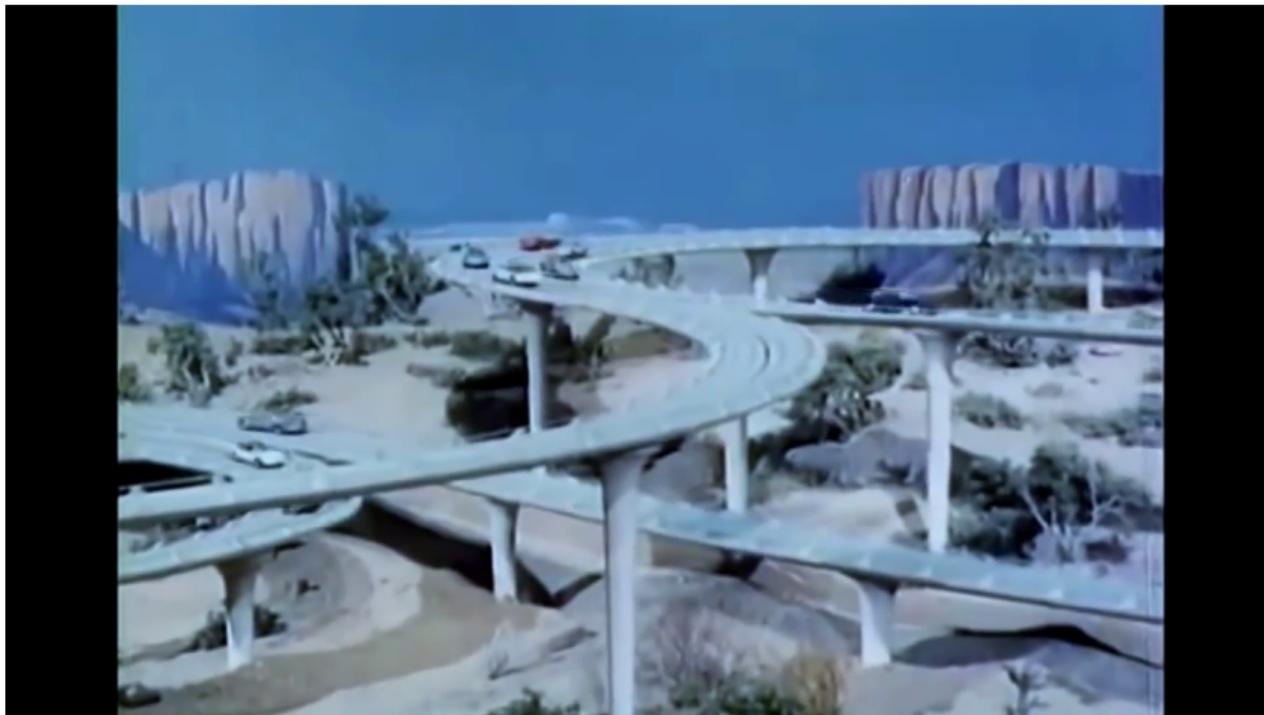
screen on the left side of the dashboard which projects images picked up by a TV camera at the rear of the car.

The steering control handles are designed to slide forward out of the way when car is on automatic control.

Extending from the two engine air scoops on each side of the nose of the car are probes or antennas which pick up wave impulses from the conductor strip in the center of the control lane.

None of these features is operative in the Firebird II. They serve merely to complete the demonstration of how an electronically controlled car should be equipped to function on the electronic Safety Autoway.

# 1956: General Motors Firebird II



# 1960: RCA Labs' Wire Controlled Car & Aeromobile

PAGE FOUR

THE PRESS-COURIER—PHONE HU 3-1101

## Reporter Rides Driverless Car

"Smart Road"  
Used to Test  
"Smart Auto"

By Doc Quigley

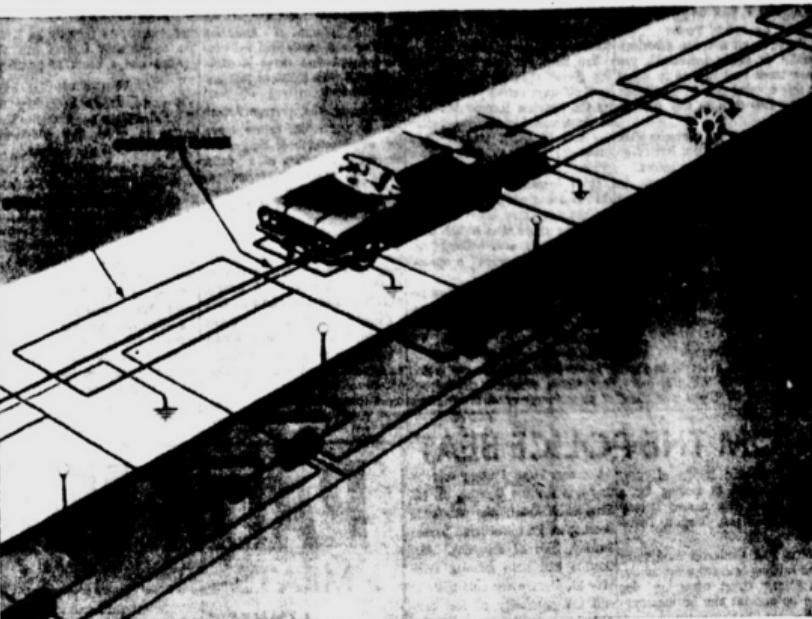
PRINCETON, N. J. (UPI)—Washington Irving put the headless horseman on paper. A corporation named RCA now has put the driverless car on the road. The automation tends to be as scary as the ghost, until you get used to it. But someday we may have to live with it.

The road is a private one, souped up mightily with loops and lengths of electronic gear buried within the asphalt pavement, at the research center of the Radio Corp. of America. It's about as automatic as a road can get, and in effect it does the driving.

The "electronic highway" can sense the presence of any metallic vehicle on its surface and tell you where the vehicle is, how fast it is going, and in what direction. RCA engineers admitted that a herd of cattle would not be detected, unless they were dressed in armor—but then, the limited access highway of the future will be closed to cows.

Smart Road

Given such a smart road, it remained to smarten up the auto-



DRIVERLESS CAR—Engineers at the RCA research center at Princeton, N. J., are experimenting with a driverless automobile that scoots around an electronic test track shown in diagram above. The elements of the test track include a series of

rectangular wire loops, a continuous guidance cable buried beneath the pavement, and a chain of transistorized detector circuits along the roadside, each linked to one of the buried loops.

POPULAR SCIENCE

JULY - 35¢ Monthly

Here Come Cars Without Wheels

PAGE 51

Also in this issue:

COMPLETE HANDBOOK

WHAT TO DO When Your Power Mower Conks Out

MECHANICS and HANDICRAFT SECTION PAGE 133

# 1970: Citroen DS19



- Steered by sensing magnetic cables in the road, up to 130 km/h

# 1986: Navlab 1



# 1990: Navlab 5

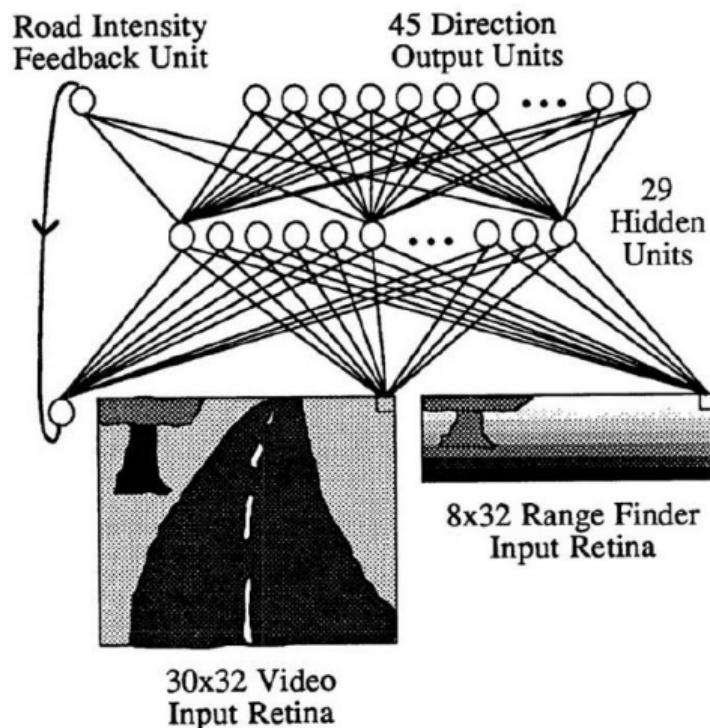


# Navlab Overview

- ▶ Project at Carnegie Mellon University, USA
- ▶ 1986: Navlab 1: 5 computer racks (Warp supercomputer)
- ▶ 1988: First semi-autonomous drive at 20 mph
- ▶ 1990: Navlab 2: 6 mph offroad, 70 mph highway driving
- ▶ 1995: Navlab 5: “No Hands Across America” (2850 miles, 98 % autonomy)
- ▶ PANS: Portable Advanced Navigation Support
- ▶ Compute: 50 Mhz Sparc workstation (only 90 watts)
- ▶ Main focus: lane keeping (lateral but no longitudinal control!)
- ▶ Position estimation: Differential GPS + Fibre Optic Gyroscope (IMU)
- ▶ Low-level control: HC11 microcontroller

## ALVINN: An Autonomous Land Vehicle in a Neural Network

- ▶ Forward-looking, vision based driving
- ▶ Fully connected neural network maps road images to vehicle turn radius
- ▶ Directions discretized (45 bins)
- ▶ Trained on simulated road images
- ▶ Tested on unlined paths, lined city streets and interstate highways
- ▶ 90 consecutive miles at up to 70 mph



1988: ALVINN



Pomerleau: ALVINN: An Autonomous Land Vehicle in a Neural Network. NIPS, 1988.

## AURORA: Automative Run-Off-Road Avoidance System

- ▶ Downward-looking (mounted at side)
- ▶ Adjustable template correlation
- ▶ Tracks solid or dashed lane marking
- ▶ shown to perform robustly even when the markings are worn or their appearance in the image is degraded
- ▶ Mainly tested as a lane departure warning system (“time to crossing”)

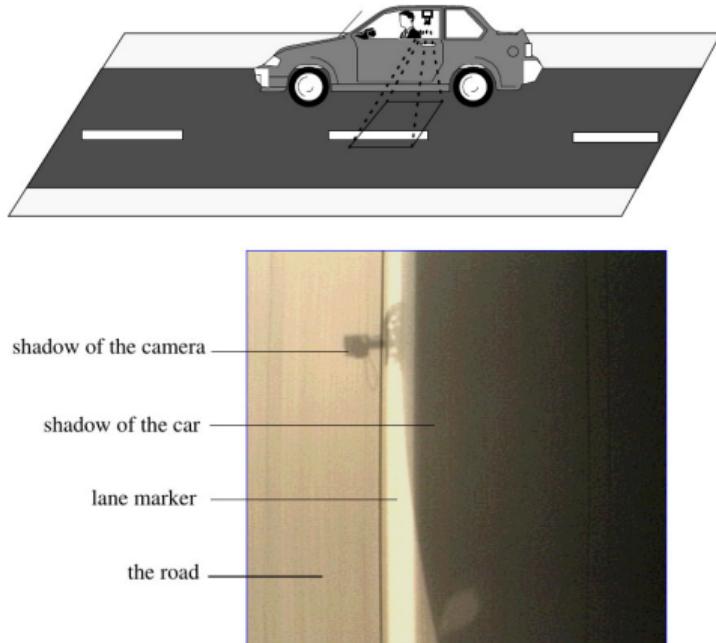


Figure 2: A typical image of a lane marker on the road

# 1986: VaMoRs – Bundeswehr Universität Munich



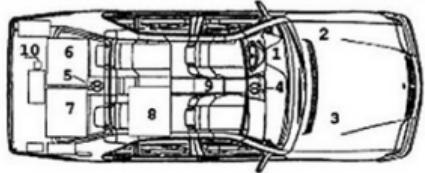
- ▶ Developed by Ernst Dickmanns in context of EUREKA-Prometheus (€800 mio.) (PROgraMme for a European Traffic of Highest Efficiency and Unprecedented Safety, 1987- 1995)
- ▶ Demonstration to Daimler-Benz Research 1986 in Stuttgart
- ▶ Longitudinal & lateral guidance with lateral acceleration feedback
- ▶ Speed: 0 to 36 km/h

# 1986: VaMoRs – Bundeswehr Universität Munich



- ▶ Developed by Ernst Dickmanns in context of EUREKA-Prometheus (€800 mio.) (PROgraMme for a European Traffic of Highest Efficiency and Unprecedented Safety, 1987- 1995)
- ▶ Demonstration to Daimler-Benz Research 1986 in Stuttgart
- ▶ Longitudinal & lateral guidance with lateral acceleration feedback
- ▶ Speed: 0 to 36 km/h

# 1994: VAMP – Bundeswehr Universität Munich



- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1 Torque motor for steering  | 6, 8 Transputer system, image processing   |
| 2 brake system               | 7 processors for gaze & locomotion control |
| 3 electric throttle control  | 8 user interface                           |
| 4 front platform } for 2 CCD | 9 linear accelerometers                    |
| 5 rear platform } cameras    | 10 angular rate sensors                    |



- ▶ 2nd Generation Transputer (60 processors), bifocal saccade vision, no GPS
- ▶ 1678 km autonomous ride Munich to Odense, 95% autonomy (up to 158 km)
- ▶ Autonomous driving speed record: 180 km/h (lane keeping)
- ▶ Convoy driving, automatic lane change (triggered by human)

# 1992: Summary Paper by Dickmanns

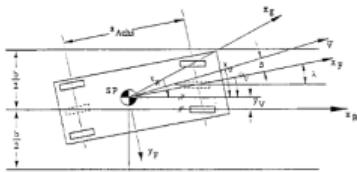
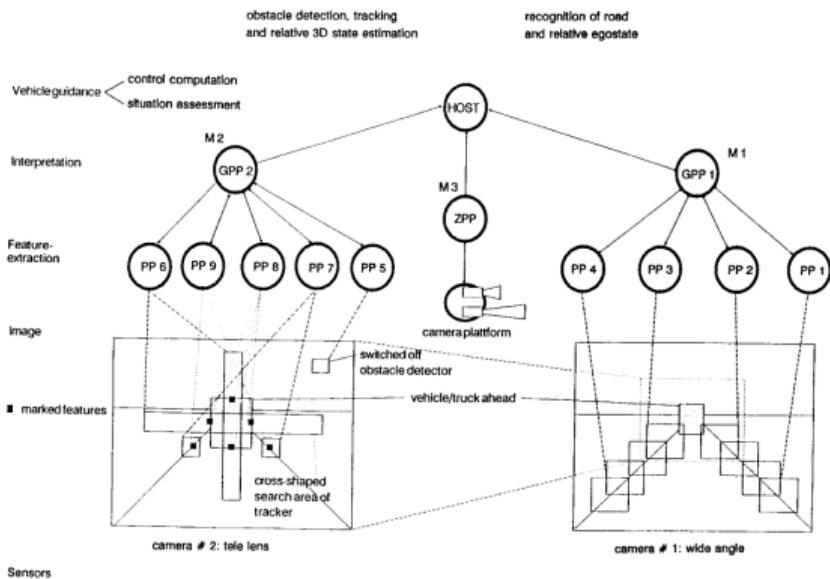


Fig. 7. Substitute model for lateral vehicle motion.

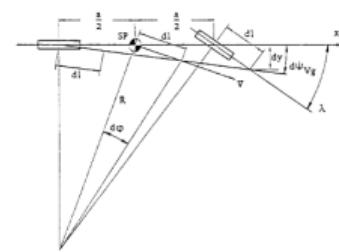


Fig. 8. Steering kinematics.

The steer angle is set by a stepping motor, the dynamic behavior of which is roughly modeled as an integrator

$$\dot{\lambda} = k_\lambda \cdot U. \quad (30)$$

Collecting these relations results in a linear velocity-dependent fourth-order state model

$$\dot{\lambda} = k_\lambda \cdot U$$

$$\dot{\beta} = -2K \cdot \beta + (V/a - K) \cdot \lambda$$

$$\dot{y}_v = V \cdot (\psi_v + \beta)$$

$$\dot{\psi} = V/a \cdot \lambda - V \cdot C_{0h}$$

or in matrix-vector notation

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}_v = \mathbf{A}_v \cdot \mathbf{x}_v + \mathbf{b}_v \cdot U + \mathbf{B}_v \cdot C_{0h} \quad (31)$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b_F & a_F & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & V & 0 & V \\ c_F & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\mathbf{x}_v = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda \\ \beta \\ y_v \\ \psi_v \end{bmatrix}; \mathbf{b}_v = \begin{bmatrix} k_\lambda \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \mathbf{C}_{0h} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -V \end{bmatrix}$$

with the elements

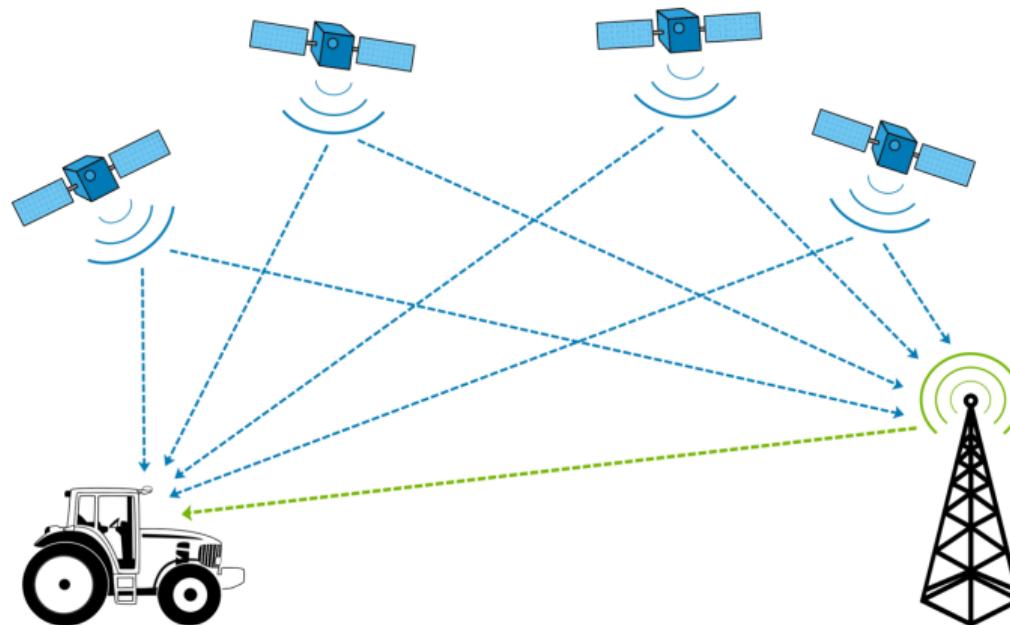
$$c_F = V/a, \quad b_F = c_F - K$$

# 1995: Invention of Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC)



- ▶ 1992: Lidar-based distance control by Mitsubishi (throttle control & downshift)
- ▶ 1997: Laser adaptive cruise control by Toyota (throttle control & downshift)
- ▶ 1999: Distronic radar-assisted ACC by Mercedes-Benz (S-Class), level 1 autonomy

## 2000: First Technological Revolution: GPS, IMUs & Maps



- ▶ NAVSTAR GPS available with 1 meter accuracy, IMUs improve up to 5 cm
- ▶ Navigation systems and road maps available
- ▶ Accurate self-localization and ego-motion estimation algorithms

## 2004: Darpa Grand Challenge 1 (Limited to US Participants)



- ▶ 1st competition in the Mojave Desert along a 240 km route, \$1 mio prize money
- ▶ No traffic, dirt roads, driven by GPS (2935 points, up to 4 per curve).
- ▶ None of the robot vehicles finished the route. CMU traveled the farthest distance, completing 11.78 km of the course before hitting a rock.

## 2005: Darpa Grand Challenge 2 (Limited to US Participants)



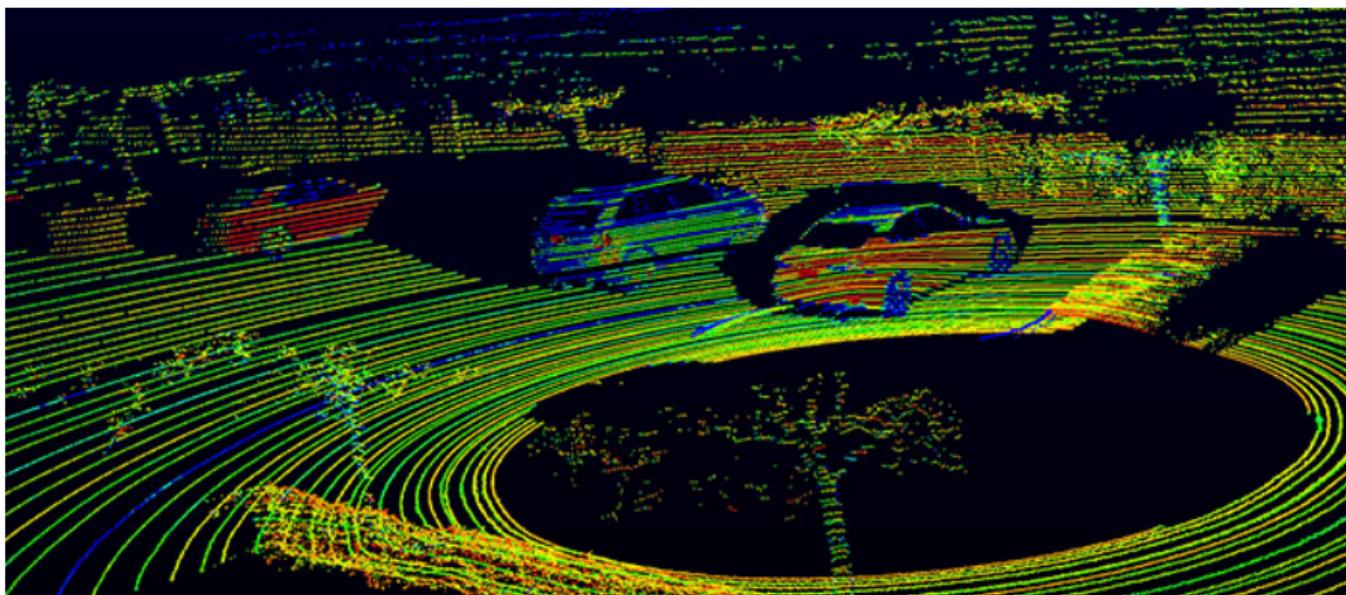
- ▶ 2nd competition in the Mojave Desert along a 212 km route, \$2 mio prize money
- ▶ Five teams finished (Stanford team 1st in 6:54 h, CMU team 2nd in 7:05 h)

## 2006: Park Shuttle Rotterdam



- ▶ 1800 meters route from metro station Kralingse Zoom to business park Rivium
- ▶ One of the first truly driverless car, but dedicated lane, localization via magnets

## 2006: Second Technological Revolution: Lidars & High-res Sensors



- ▶ High-resolution Lidar
- ▶ Camera systems with increasing resolution
- ▶ Accurate 3D reconstruction, 3D detection & 3D localization

## 2007: Darpa Urban Challenge (International Participants)



- ▶ 3rd competition at George Air Force Base, 96 km route, urban driving, \$2 mio
- ▶ Rules: obey traffic law, negotiate, avoid obstacles, merge into traffic
- ▶ 11 US teams received \$1 mio funding for their research
- ▶ Winners: CMU 1st (4:10), Stanford's Stanley 2nd (4:29). No non-US participant.

## 2009: Google starts working on Self-Driving Car



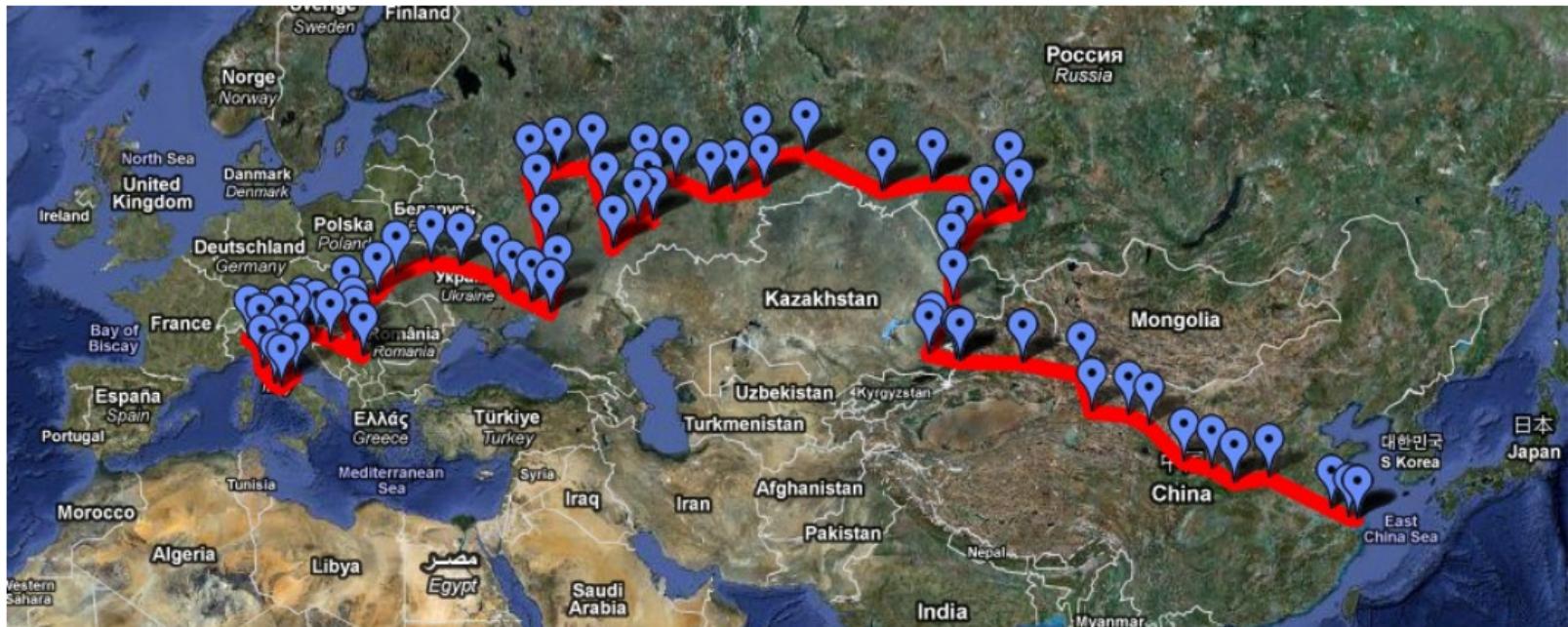
- ▶ Led by Sebastian Thrun, former director of Stanford AI lab and Stanley team
- ▶ Others: Chris Urmson, Dmitri Dolgov, Mike Montemerlo, Anthony Levandowski
- ▶ Renamed “Waymo” in 2016 (Google spent \$1 billion until 2015)

# 2010: VisLab Intercontinental Autonomous Challenge (VIAC)



- ▶ July 20 to October 28: 16,000 kilometres trip from Parma, Italy to Shanghai, China
- ▶ The second vehicle automatically followed the route defined by the leader vehicle by following it either visually or thanks to GPS waypoints sent by the lead vehicle

# 2010: VisLab Intercontinental Autonomous Challenge (VIAC)



- ▶ July 20 to October 28: 16,000 kilometres trip from Parma, Italy to Shanghai, China
- ▶ The second vehicle automatically followed the route defined by the leader vehicle by following it either visually or thanks to GPS waypoints sent by the lead vehicle

## 2010: Pikes Peak Self-Driving Audi TTS



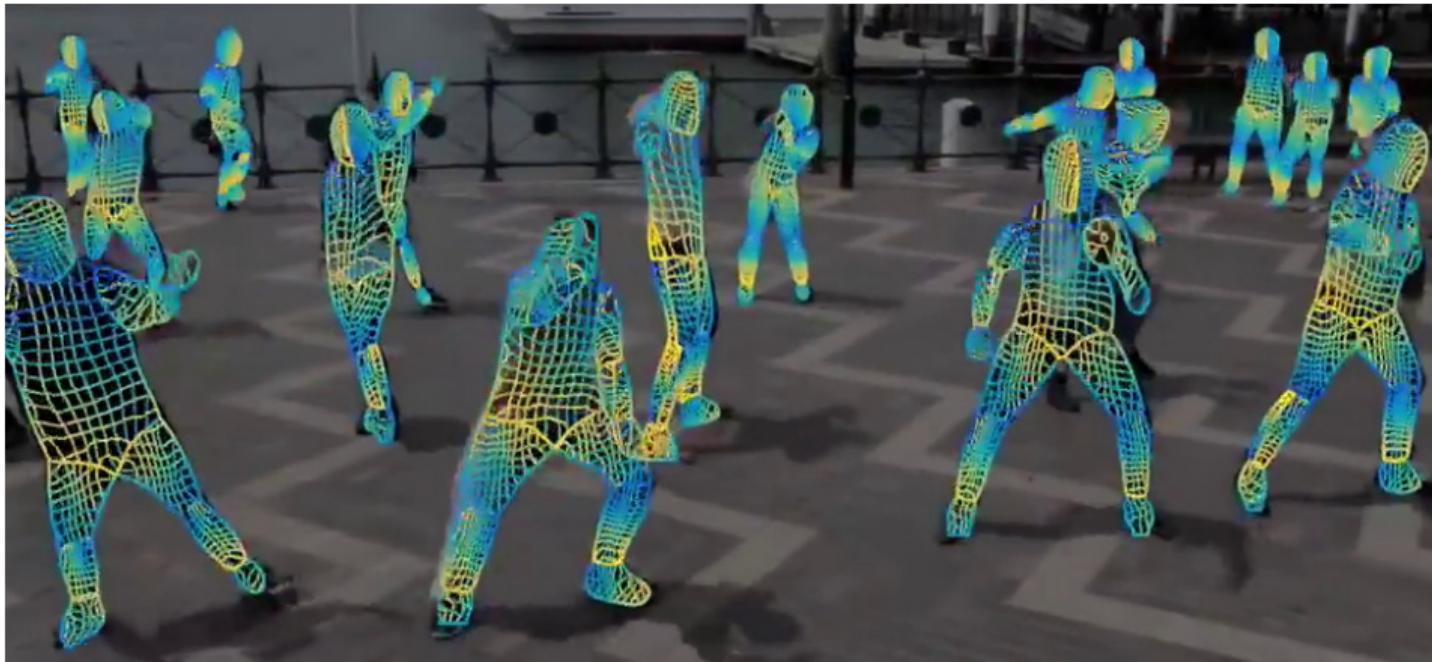
- ▶ Pikes Peak International Hill Climb (since 1916): 20 km, 1440 Hm, Summit: 4300 m
- ▶ Audi TTS completes track in 27 min (record in 2010: 10 min, now: 8 min)

## 2010: Stadtpilot (Technical University Braunschweig)



- ▶ Goal: geofenced innercity driving based on laser scanners, cameras and HD maps
- ▶ Challenges: traffic lights, roundabouts, etc. Similar efforts by FU Berlin and others

## 2012: Third Technological Revolution: Deep Learning



[Güler et al.: DensePose: Dense Human Pose Estimation In The Wild. CVPR, 2018.]

- Representation learning boosts in accuracy across tasks and benchmarks

# 2012: Third Technological Revolution: New Benchmarks

The KITTI Vision Benchmark Suite  
A project of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago

home setup stereo flow sceneflow depth odometry object tracking road semantics raw data submit results

Andreas Geiger (MPI Tübingen) | Philip Lenz (KIT) | Christoph Stiller (KIT) | Raquel Urtasun (University of Toronto)

## Stereo Evaluation 2012

The stereo / flow benchmark consists of 194 training image pairs and 195 test image pairs, saved in loss less png format. Our evaluation server computes the average number of bad pixels for all non-occluded or occluded (=all groundtruth) pixels. We require that all methods use the same parameter set for all test pairs. Our development kit provides details about the data format as well as MATLAB / C++ utility functions for reading and writing disparity maps and flow fields.

- Download stereo/optical flow data set (2 GB)
- Download stereo/optical flow calibration files (1 MB)
- Download multi-view extension (20 frames per scene, all cameras) (17 GB)
- Semantic and instance labels for 60 images and car labels for all training images (1 MB)
- Download stereo/optical flow development kit (3 MB)

Our evaluation table ranks all methods according to the number of non-occluded erroneous pixels at the specified disparity / end-point error threshold.

## 2013: Mercedes Benz S500 Intelligent Drive



- ▶ Autonomous ride on historic Bertha Benz route by Daimler R&D and KIT/FZI
- ▶ Novelty: close to production stereo cameras / radar (but also HD maps)

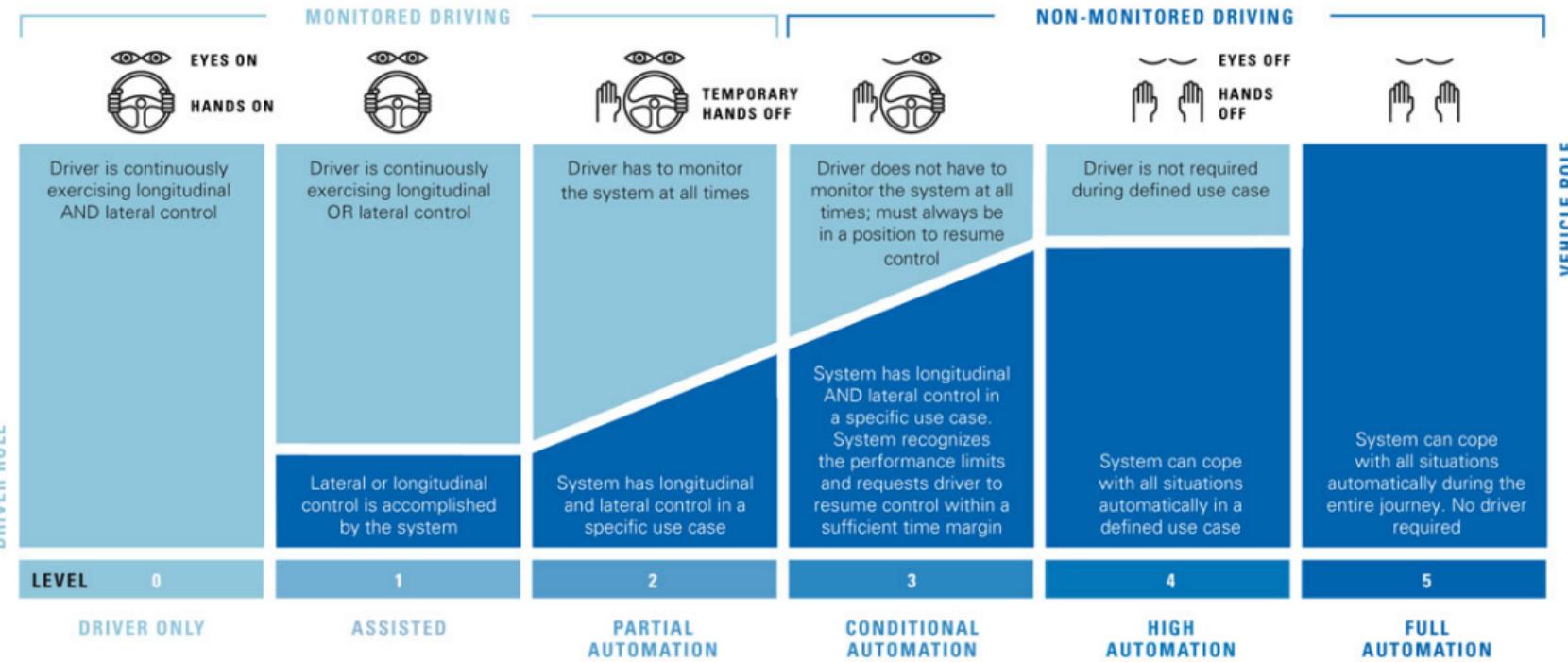
## 2014: Mercedes S Class



Advanced ADAS (Level 2 Autonomy):

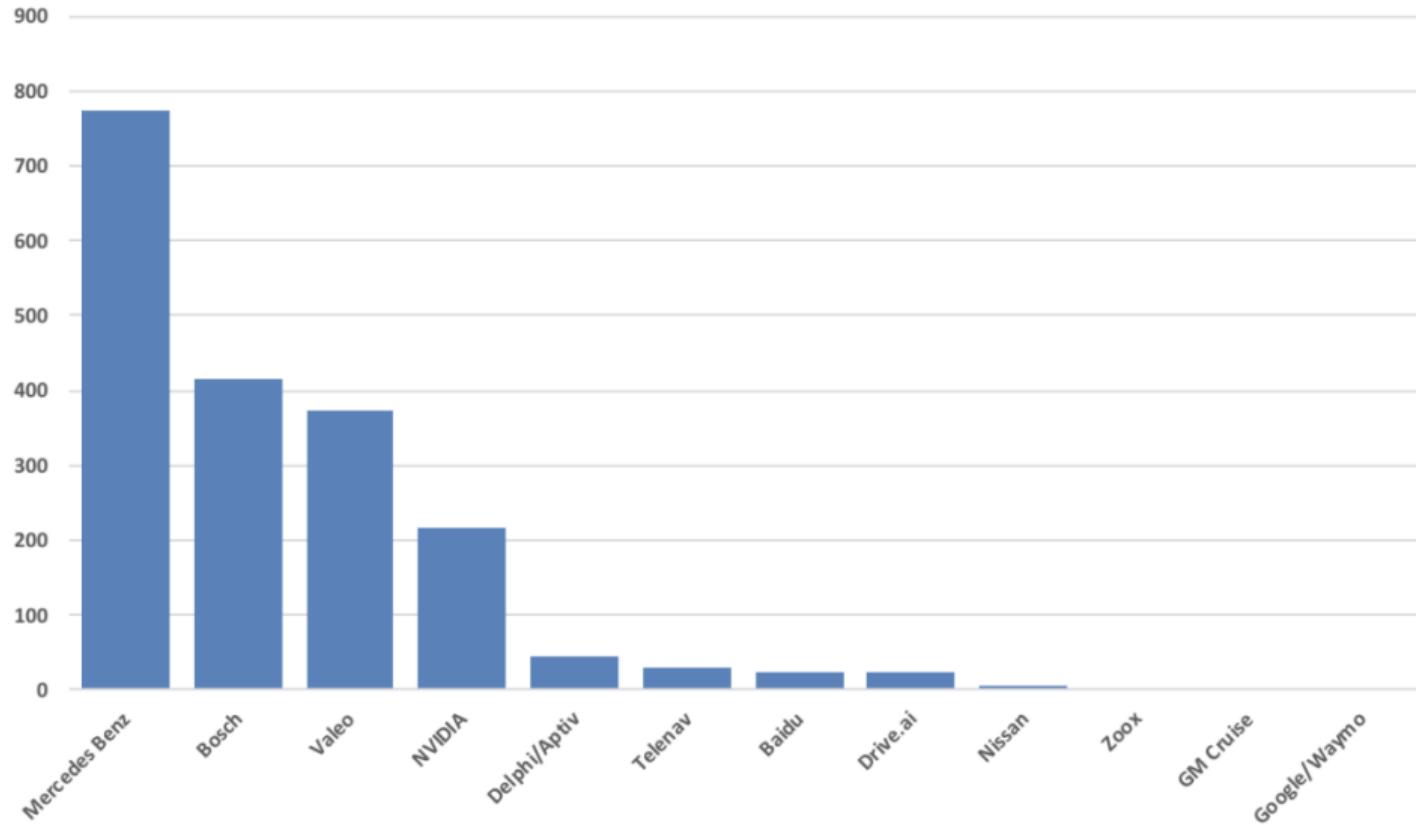
- ▶ Autonomous steering, lane keeping, acceleration/braking, collision avoidance, driver fatigue monitoring in city traffic and highway speeds up to 200 km/h

# 2014: Society of Automotive Engineers: SAE Levels of Autonomy



Mike Lemanski

# Disengagement per 1000 miles (California Dept. of Motor Veh., 2017)



# 2015: Uber starts Self-Driving Research



- Uber hires 50 robotic researchers and academics from CMU (!)

## 2016: OTTO



- Self-driving truck company, bought by Uber for \$625 mio., later shut down

## 2015: Tesla Model S Autopilot



Tesla Autopilot (Level 2 Autonomy):

- ▶ Lane keeping for limited-access highways (hands off time: 30-120 seconds)
- ▶ Doesn't read traffic signals, traffic signs or detect pedestrians/cyclists

# 2015: Tesla Model S Autopilot



# 2016: Tesla Model S Autopilot: Fatal Accident 1



## 2018: Tesla Model X Autopilot: Fatal Accident 2



## 2018: Tesla Model X Autopilot: Fatal Accident 2

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said that four seconds before the 23 March crash on a highway in Silicon Valley, which killed Walter Huang, 38, the car stopped following the path of a vehicle in front of it. Three seconds before the impact, it sped up from 62mph to 70.8mph, and the car did not brake or steer away, the NTSB said. After the fatal crash in the city of Mountain View, Tesla noted that the driver had received multiple warnings to put his hands on the wheel and said he did not intervene during the five seconds before the car hit the divider. But the NTSB report revealed that these alerts were made more than 15 minutes before the crash. In the 60 seconds prior to the collision, the driver also had his hands on the wheel on three separate occasions, though not in the final six seconds, according to the agency. As the car headed toward the barrier, there was no “precrash braking” or “evasive steering movement”, the report added.

The Guardian (June, 2018)

2018: Waymo (former Google) announces Public Service



- In a geofenced district of Phoenix, but without safety driver, starting in 2018

# 2018: Nuro Last-mile Delivery



- Founded by two of the Google self-driving car engineers

## 2018: Cadillac Supercruise



- Self-driving truck company, bought by Uber for \$250 mio., later shut down

# Investments in Self-Driving

2015	2016	2017
1. Aug : Audi, BMW, Daimler and other German automakers acquires digital mapping company HERE for \$3 billion.  2. Aug: Hyundai and Kia invests \$2 billion in artificial intelligence (AI).  3. Nov: Toyota invests \$1 billion in AI.	4. Jan: GM invests \$500 million in Lyft for driverless car partnership.  5. Mar: GM acquires Cruise Automation, a software maker, for \$1 billion.  6. Mar: Toyota hires staff of driverless car startup JayBridge Robotics.  7. May: Apple invests \$1 billion in Chinese rideshare company Didi Chuxing.  8. May: Ford and venture capital firms invests \$16 million in driverless car company NuTonomy.  9. May: Toyota announces driverless car partnership with Uber.	10. Aug: Uber acquires driverless car company Otto for \$680 million.  11. Oct: Nvidia invests \$5.25 million in driverless car company Optimus Ride.  12. Oct: Toyota, BMW, and the insurer Allianz invests in software company Nauto.  13. Oct: Qualcomm acquires microchip manufacturer NXP for \$39 billion.  14. Nov: Samsung acquires car parts manufacturer Harman International Industries for \$8 billion.  15. Nov: Intel announces partnership with Mobileye (sensors), Delphi (car parts).
		16. Jan: Audi announces partnership with Nvidia for AI.  17. Jan: Bosch announces partnership with Nvidia for AI.  18. Jan: Intel invests \$390 million in mapping software company HERE.  19. Feb: Daimler announces partnership with Nvidia for AI.  20. Feb: Ford invests \$1 billion in software company Argo AI.  21. Mar: Intel acquires MobileEye for \$15.3 billion.  22. Apr: Tencent, JD.com, and Baidu invests \$1 billion in Bitauto Holdings Ltd.  23. May: Peugeot-PSA Groupe announces partnership with NuTonomy.  24. Jun: Lyft announces partnership with Nutonomy.

BROOKINGS

# Self-Driving Industry

## The Building Blocks of Autonomy

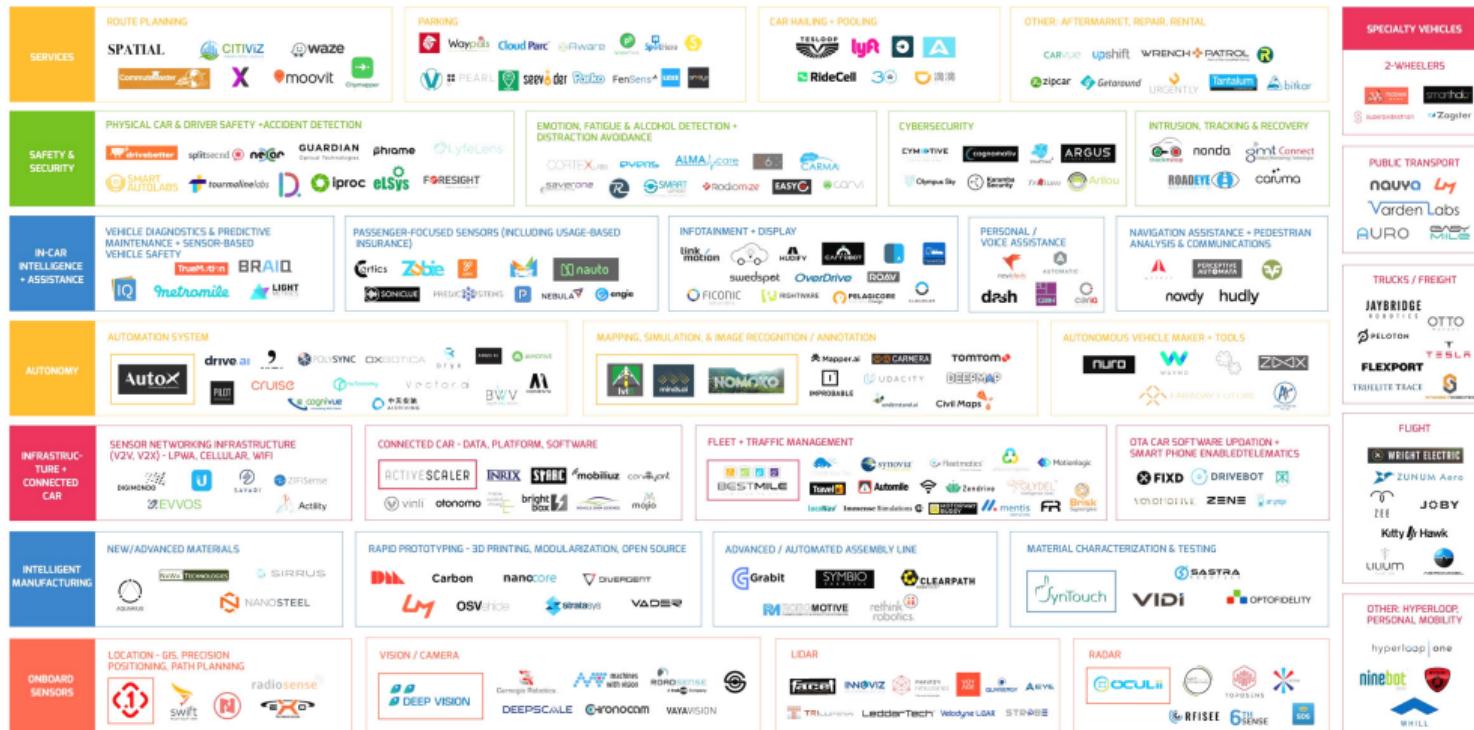
Prepared by  VISION SYSTEMS INTELLIGENCE



# Self-Driving Industry

## THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION STACK

COMET LABS



# Business Models

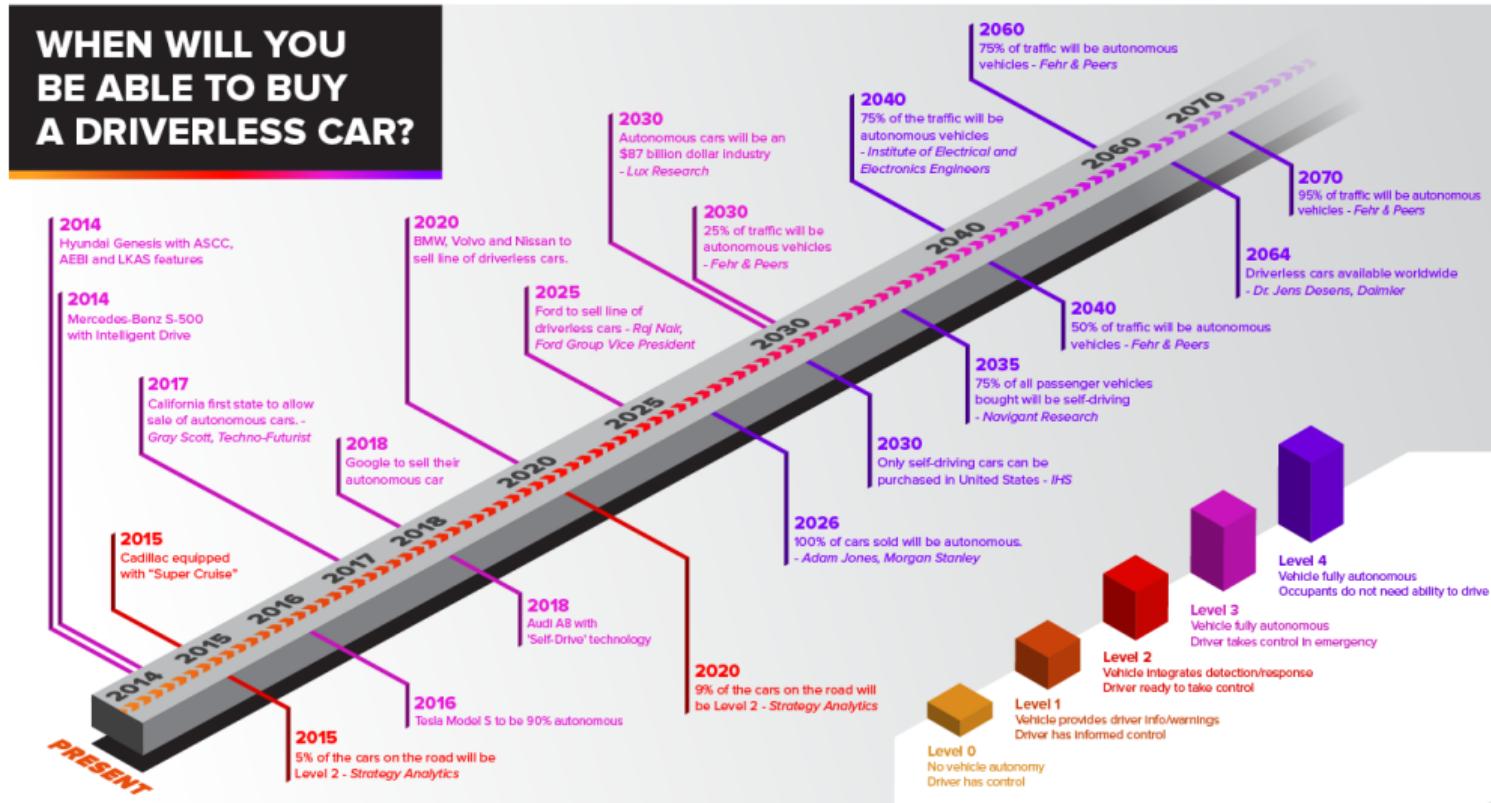
## **Autonomous or nothing** (Google, Apple, Uber)

- ▶ Very risky, only few companies can do this
- ▶ Long term goals

## **Introduce technology little by little** (all car companies)

- ▶ Car industry is very conservative
- ▶ ADAS as intermediate goal
- ▶ Sharp transition: how to maintain the driver engaged?

# Wild Predictions about the Future of Self-Driving



Sources: Mercedes-Benz, GM News, Strategy Analytics, Automotive News, Nissan News, Navigant Research, Volvo News, Fehr & Peers, Lux Research, IHS

# Summary

- ▶ Self-driving has a long history
- ▶ Highway lane-keeping of today was developed 30 years ago
- ▶ Increased robustness ⇒ introduction of level 3 for highways in 2019
- ▶ Increased interest after DARPA challenge and new benchmarks (e.g., KITTI)
- ▶ Many claims about full self-driving (e.g., Elon Musk), but level 4/5 stays hard
- ▶ Waymo may introduce first public service end of 2018 in geofenced area
- ▶ Waymo seems ahead of competition in fully self-driving, also largest investments
- ▶ But several setbacks (Uber, Tesla accidents)
- ▶ Existing systems require laser scanners and HD maps
- ▶ Driving as an engineering problem, quite different from human cognition

## Further Readings

- ▶ Janai, Güney, Behl and Geiger: Computer Vision for Autonomous Vehicles: Problems, Datasets and State-of-the-Art. Arxiv, 2017.
- ▶ Jochem, Pomerleau, Kumar and Armstrong: PANS: A Portable Navigation Platform. IV, 1995.
- ▶ Pomerleau: ALVINN: An Autonomous Land Vehicle in a Neural Network. NIPS, 1988.
- ▶ Chen, Jochem and Pomerleau: AURORA: A Vision-Based Roadway Departure Warning System. IROS, 1995.
- ▶ Dickmanns and Mysliwetz: Recursive 3-D Road and Relative Ego-State Recognition. PAMI, 1992.
- ▶ Geiger, Lenz and Urtasun: Are we ready for Autonomous Driving? The KITTI Vision Benchmark Suite. CVPR, 2012.

Next Time:  
Imitation Learning

Questions?