



Autonomous Vehicles: Implications for Insurance

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Key Issues:

- Different models of autonomy
- Benefits for road users; safety, efficiency and logistics
- Liability
- Long-term outlook for car insurers
- Cyber risk







Different models of autonomy

• 1) The fully autonomous 'Google car'



- NOTE: No driving controls



















Different models of autonomy

- 1) The fully autonomous 'Google car'
- 2) Ever-increasing levels of ADAS; Advanced Driver Assistance Systems:
 - Automated Emergency Braking (AEB)
 - Adaptive cruise control
 - Lane departure
 - Steering assist
 - Self-parking
 - ...eventually = optional full autonomy







2015

ASSIST

- SENSOR
- DRIVER ACTIVE
- FAIL SAFE



2020

AUTOMATE

- SENSOR FUSION
- CO-PILOT
- DEPENDABLE



2030

AUTONOMOUS

- HIGH ACCURACY MAPS
- DRIVERLESS
- SAFETY COCOON

















Benefits for users

- Safety
 - Fewer collisions
 - Mitigated collisions
- Logistics flow from improved safety:
 - Less congestion; shorter and more predictable journey times
 - Improved fuel economy
 - Less pollution







Top 10 Causes of accidents in UK











Top 10 Causes of accidents



AEB Effect on Crash speeds (predicted)





Avoidance: 7%

Avoidance: 18%









Wider benefits for users?

- Vehicle transport becomes easier to use
- Increased access to road travel
- Efficient use of time whilst travelling
- Social/commercial effects of connectivity
- New models of vehicle ownership
 - Decline in private ownership
 - Increase in single vehicle hire
 - Logistical and efficiency benefits









Liability?

- Control of vehicle = liability
- When the driver is removed, liability will shift to vehicle manufacturers product liability risk
- Big opportunities (and big risks!)









Liability?

- Transition issue; driver/machine interchanging control?
 - Control *in potentia* = driver still liable
 - Liability arises out of the use of the vehicle (RTA 1988, s145 3(a))
- However, new legal frameworks are under construction
- Ethics?











Long-term implications for car insurers?

- Low-frequency claims environment
- Simplified underwriting model (removed driver characteristics)
- Decline in private ownership
- Major shift to product liability
- = Major market contraction ultimately









- Complicated transition process:
- VM product disclaimers will be extensive
- Could still be some appetite to insure personal risks
- Owners will want to insure 1st party risks
 - Malicious damage
 - Theft of
 - Theft from
- Classic fleet will need traditional RTA insurance











And...

- Machines go wrong
- UK road network old and complex
- Still lots of non-automated road users
- Catastrophic injury claims tend be super-inflationary









Also...

- VMs assuming product liability may want business partners:
 - Risk selection, Underwriting and Pricing
 - Distribution
 - Claims
 - Risk transfer









When is all this going to happen?

"Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future"

Niels Bohr









When is all this going to happen?

- Lots of uncertainties surrounding predictions:
 - Speed of development of the technology, and launch to market
 - Public acceptance
 - Cost
 - Rate of realisation of expected benefits
 - Development of legal and regulatory framework
 - Integration over next 20 years

International Categorisation of Autonomy









INSIGHT CONSENSUS INFLUENC

Cyber risk

- Existing risk of connected vehicles is minimal
- In the future all (new) vehicles will be connected and reliant on autonomous systems
- Functionality creates risk:
 - Malicious attack; vehicles and networks
 - Theft
 - Data theft
- Solutions?
 - System isolation
 - Data Encryption
 - Exclusions (!)







Driverless cars

- Any questions?