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## The potential of autonomous driving technologies for low-cost city cars

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Automated driving functions are able to increase vehicle safety and customer comfort. They also have potential to improve road traffic management and to reduce negative impacts of traffic on environment. In this way, car manufacturers, supplier and research institutes increasingly perform R&D activities in the area of automated driving on the way to the self-driving car. The submitted work treats an evaluation of automated driving functions for the application in electrically driven low-cost city cars. The intended evaluation is focused on SAE level 5, which means fully automated cars that do not require a driver, and even no passengers. This type of vehicles might not only be used for logistics, delivery service and similar applications, but also as self-driving people mover. Autonomous navigation of such vehicles is similar to those of robots, which includes tasks of localization, path planning, and path execution. These tasks require appropriate sensor systems and computation strategies to recognize and cluster continuously changing environmental conditions in daily traffic scenarios. The applied sensor and object recognition technology, representing cost-intensive modules plays an important role. In this context, different sensor technologies are evaluated in terms of their capability of road and surrounding area observation, driveway and obstacle recognition, the robust provision of data for vehicle control and path planning as well as economic parameters. Sensor fusion comes to use to combine advantages of different technologies and to provide reliable object detection under different environmental conditions. The paper closes with exemplary applications of autonomous driving technologies in small city vehicles and a prospect of development trends.

### Biography

Mario Hirz has been awarded with MS Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Economics, a PhD in Mechanical Engineering, and a *venia docendi* in the area of virtual product development. He is an Associate Professor at Graz University of Technology and frequent Guest Lecturer at international universities. He is the Vice-Head of the Institute of Automotive Engineering. His research topics comprise knowledge-based engineering, innovative propulsion systems, concepts for sustainable transport, future mobility and mechatronics systems. He has published more than 200 works and has received several national and international awards for his scientific contributions.

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