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A Classification of Driver Assistance Systems

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General Considerations

Driver Assistance Systems seem to have a considerable potential for road safety and traffic efficiency improvement

Driver Assistance Systems: **Support** the modification of the driving task by providing

- information
- advice
- assistance

Influence directly and indirectly the behaviour of users of both equipped and non-equipped vehicles

Alleviate accident consequences by in-vehicle intelligent injury reducing systems







Classification of Driver Assistance Systems

System oriented approach Based on the road safety features examination, where the **distinct phases in the accident** process are utilized

User oriented approach Based on their functional analysis, these systems are classified according to the **supported levels of driving tasks**

- individual / professional driver
- fleet owner
- elderly drivers
- etc.





System oriented approach User oriented approach

Such classification fails to provide answers on the usefulness of Driver Assistance Systems

Certain parameters not taken into consideration

- impact to traffic efficiency
- road safety

Outline these two different approaches where **priorities** for future developments can be better identified





Driver Assistance Systems are meant to **improve** road safety by

- influencing traffic exposure
- reducing the probability of crashes
- reducing injury consequences

Distinct phases in the accident process

- pre-crash
- crash
- post-crash





Driver Assistance Systems mainly focused in the **support** provided to the driver

- information
- perception
- convenience
- driver vehicle monitoring





Navigation Systems

- navigation routing
 - location and route guidance
- integrated navigation
 - additional services (signing, warning, or even intervening in the driving process)
- real time traffic and traveler information
 - combine information available to users of traditional navigation systems with real time travel-related information (road surface condition, work zones, congestion, etc.)





Elimination of unnecessary and sometimes dangerous deceleration and acceleration areas

 automated transaction systems (electronic toll collection)





Driver Performance Monitoring Systems

- driver health monitoring
 - assess several parameters of the driver's health and combines the results to estimate the current health level of the driver
 - if it appears to be below certain pre-selected "safe" levels the driver and possibly some external entity are notified (e.g. doctor, police)





Vehicle Status Monitoring Systems

- tachograph recording
- engine condition information services (e.g. oil pressure, tire inflation pressure, etc.)







Smart Restraint Systems

- vehicle restraint systems (EN1317)
- passive safety of support structures for road equipment (EN 12767)





Alerting Systems

- alert emergency services
 (e.g. police, ambulance, fire brigades, highway patrols)
- dedicated support services
 - troubled drivers get connected automatically





Classification based on Supported Levels of Driver Tasks

Tactical Operational





Longitudinal Control Systems

- intelligent speed adaptation (ISA)
 - external speed recommendations
 - automatic speed reduction function (directly, or indirectly by managing signalization)
- adaptive cruise control (ACC)
 - senses the presence and relative speed of moving vehicles ahead and adjusts the vehicle's speed accordingly





Lateral Control Systems

- road and lane departure collision avoidance
 - warning and control assistance to the driver (through lane or road edge tracking and by determining the safe speed for the road geometry in front)



- lane change and merge collision avoidance
 - detect and warn the driver of vehicles and objects in adjacent lanes
 - particular valuable during lane change or merging maneuvers





General Vehicle Control Systems

- automatic stop-and-go
 - significant safety benefits in hazardous situations or frequent stop-and-go conditions (e.g. congestion)
- platooning
 - lower level of maturity
 - each vehicle travels keeping a constant headway from the preceding





Collision Avoidance Systems

- rear end collision avoidance
 - senses the presence and speed of vehicles and objects in the vehicle's lane of travel and provides to minimise the risk of collisions
- obstacle and pedestrian detection
 - warning of driver when pedestrians or obstacles are in close proximity to the driver's path
- intersection collision warning
 - utilize a cooperation of vehicle and infrastructure
 - mostly beneficial at railway crossing areas







Operational Levels of Driver Tasks

Augment Driver's Perception

- vision enhancement systems
 - headlight design
 - blind spot detection
 - parking aids
 - etc.
- road surface condition info
 - collect and analyze data using vehicle-mounted or fixed infrastructure road sensors







Operational Levels of Driver Tasks

Driver Convenience Systems

- driver identification
 - adjust seat, steering wheel, mirrors, etc.
- hands-free interfaces and remote controls





Conclusions

The specific contribution of driver assistance systems is still under consideration and research

- some systems present a net potential for road safety improvement
- some others have an effect mainly on traffic efficiency improvement

There is a need for **"intelligent" roads** that will support and cooperate with the "intelligent" vehicles

More and more systems tend to **connect** and **collaborate** with **external systems**

In every case the **safety** of the **driver** as well as the **vehicle passengers** is the overall goal









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