

TRIAL 3: AV interactions with buses, cyclists and pedestrians



WHAT HAS VENTURER DONE SO FAR?

VENTURER has completed Trials 1 and 2. The results of both trials are available on the VENTURER website.

- Trial 1 looked at planned handover; and
- Trial 2 demonstrated an autonomous vehicle's (AV) interactions with other vehicles at junctions and on road links.

WHAT DOES TRIAL 3 INVOLVE?

Trial 3 is split into two components:

- Participant experiments; and
- A bus demonstration.

The participant experiments will test public trust in the decisions of autonomous vehicles when they interact with pedestrians and cyclists at junctions and on link roads.

The participants will undertake experiments in both the Wildcat and the VENTURER Simulator.

Following the participant experiments, a technology demonstration will be undertaken where the Wildcat will showcase a 'look ahead' functionality during interactions with the VENTURER bus on an open road.

The 'look ahead' functionality will use a communications system to establish whether it is safe for the AV to pull out around a bus stopped at a bus stop before autonomously making the manoeuvre.



WHEN AND WHERE IS TRIAL 3 HAPPENING?

The Trial 3 participant experiments will take place on the University of the West of England campus, Bristol during January and February 2018.

The bus demonstration will take place between February and March 2018 and will be undertaken on a real road in South Gloucestershire.

WHY IS THIS RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

All of the scenarios being tested in Trial 3 are typical of those encountered by vehicles on the UK road network every day. If autonomous vehicles are to be successfully integrated into normal traffic flow, they must first demonstrate the ability to cope safely with real world traffic situations such as these.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The information gathered from each of the VENTURER trials will help inform any technical and policy changes that need to be implemented to enable autonomous vehicles to navigate successfully on UK roads.

Trial 3 will generate large volumes of data from both the Wildcat and the VENTURER Simulator. This data will be analysed by industry and academic experts and the findings will be published later in 2018.

Visit our website and follow VENTURER on Twitter to keep up to date with the latest project developments:

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