

Activities to improve understanding of comfort

Stefanie Horn, Dr. Hans-Joachim Bieg, Claus Marberger, Michael Schulz, Andreas Schultz, Erdi Kenar, Sabine Oßwalt, Dr. Andreas Korthauer (Robert Bosch GmbH)



Motivation

- Comfort is highly subjective, very versatile and varies greatly between people
- Objectification of comfort is essential for development of automated driving functions

01

Chauffeurs as reference

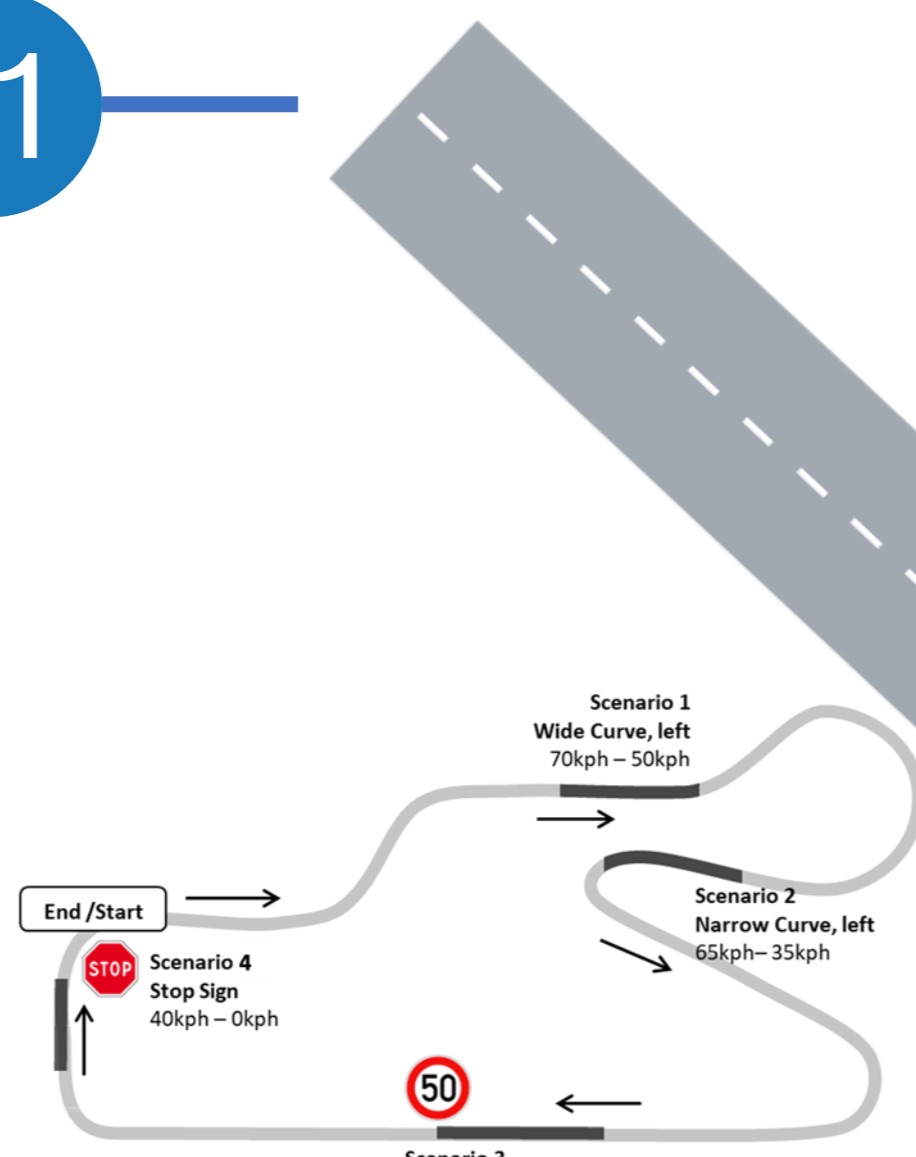
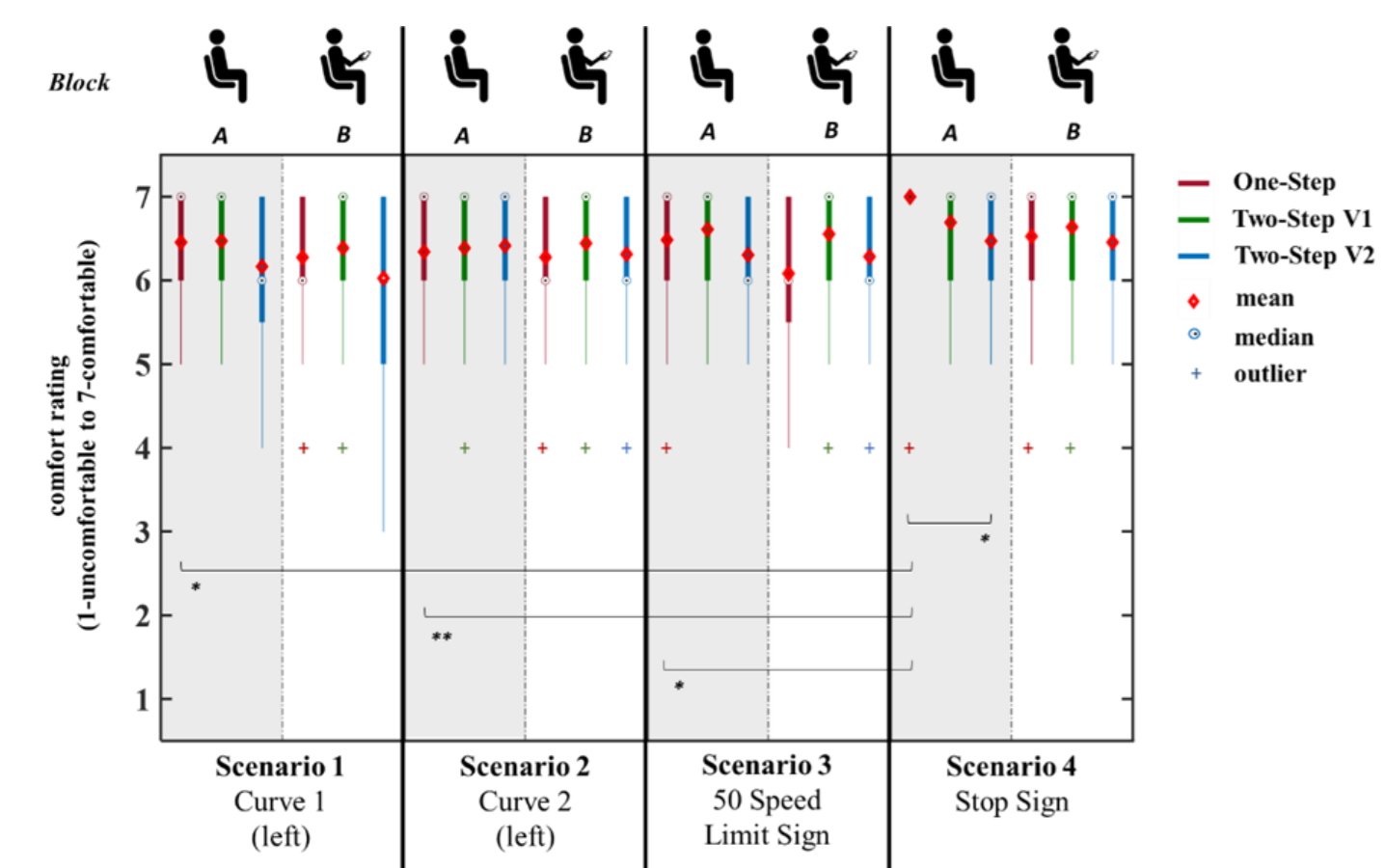
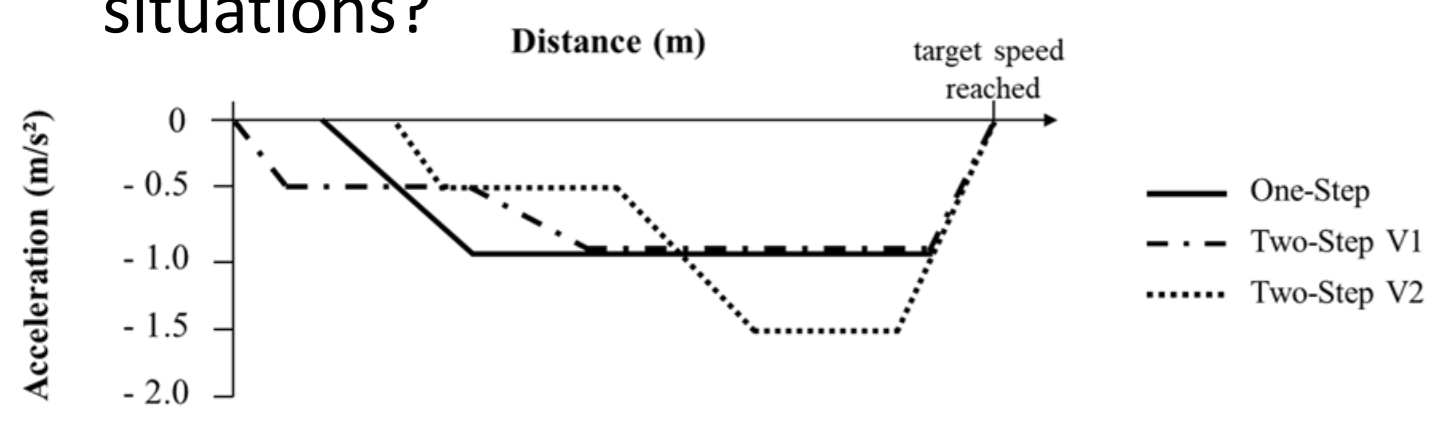
The following hypotheses support the use of chauffeurs and their driving behavior as a comfort reference:



- Chauffeurs are trained in comfortable, speedy and safe driving.
- Chauffeurs enable secondary task (e.g. mobile working) for passenger.
- The driving style of chauffeurs reduced motion sickness effects.
- Passengers have high level of trust and feel safe.

Impact of different deceleration profile (Bosch2022a)

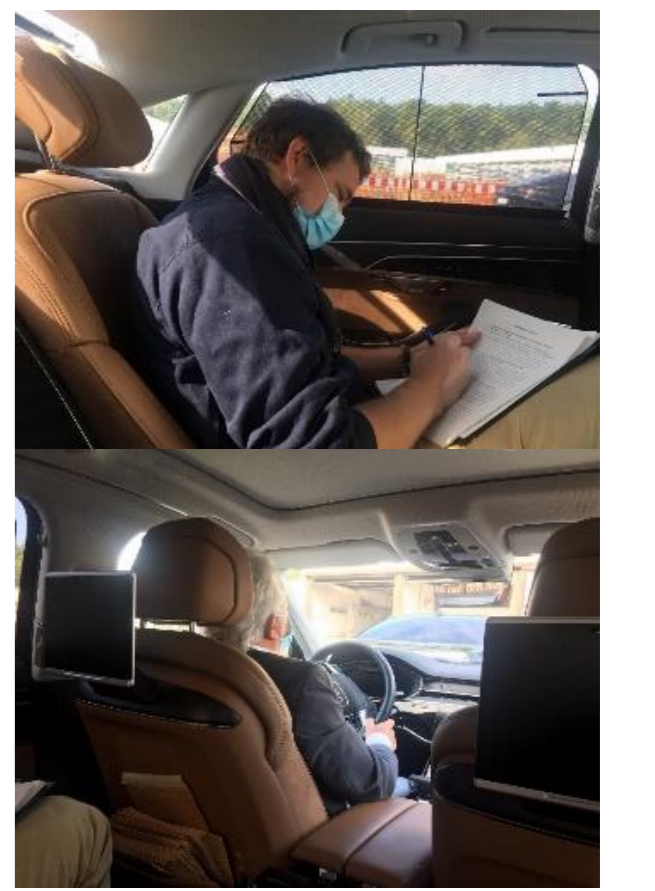
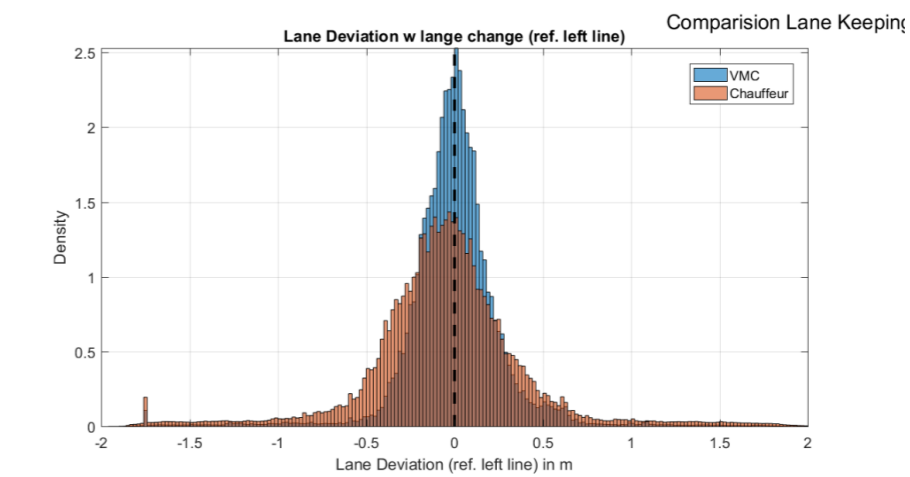
- How must the individual deceleration profile components (parameters + change over time) be designed to be considered as comfortable?
- Development Two-Step deceleration Profile based on chauffeur inputs.
- Is an adaption of the driving parameters necessary for different traffic scenarios and different situations?



06

Expert study with Chauffeurs (Bosch2020a)

- Observation + Online Interview
 - How does the chauffeur act in certain traffic situations?
 - What does the chauffeur observe during the ride?
 - What characterizes a chauffeur ride?
- Recording of vehicle data
 - Identify objective differences between chauffeur and automated system



Method Development

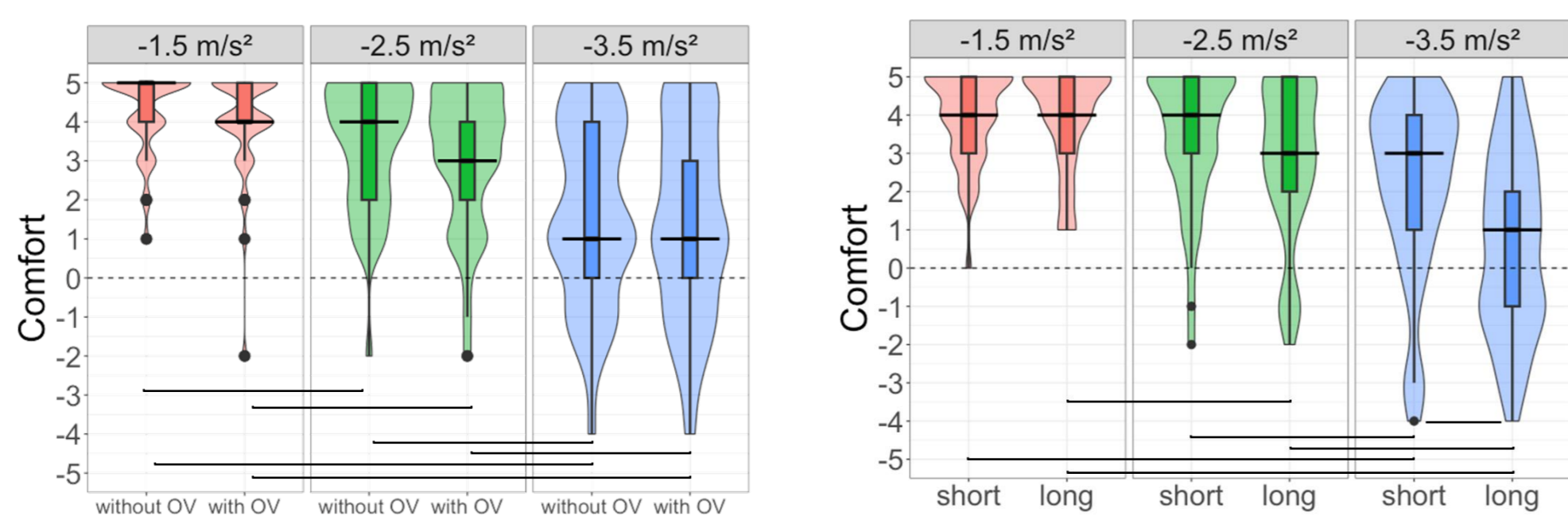
- Automated Ride Comfort Assessment (ARCA)
- Discomfort controller

Questionnaire after AD ride experience		Discomfort ← → Comfort				
How uncomfortable did you perceive the current drive?		1	2	3	4	5
Q1	General comfort	1	2	3	4	5
Q2	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q3	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q4	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q5	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q6	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q7	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q8	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q9	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q10	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q11	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q12	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q13	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q14	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q15	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q16	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q17	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q18	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q19	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5
Q20	General assessment of ride experience	1	2	3	4	5

Comfortable and appropriate deceleration values (Bosch2023a)



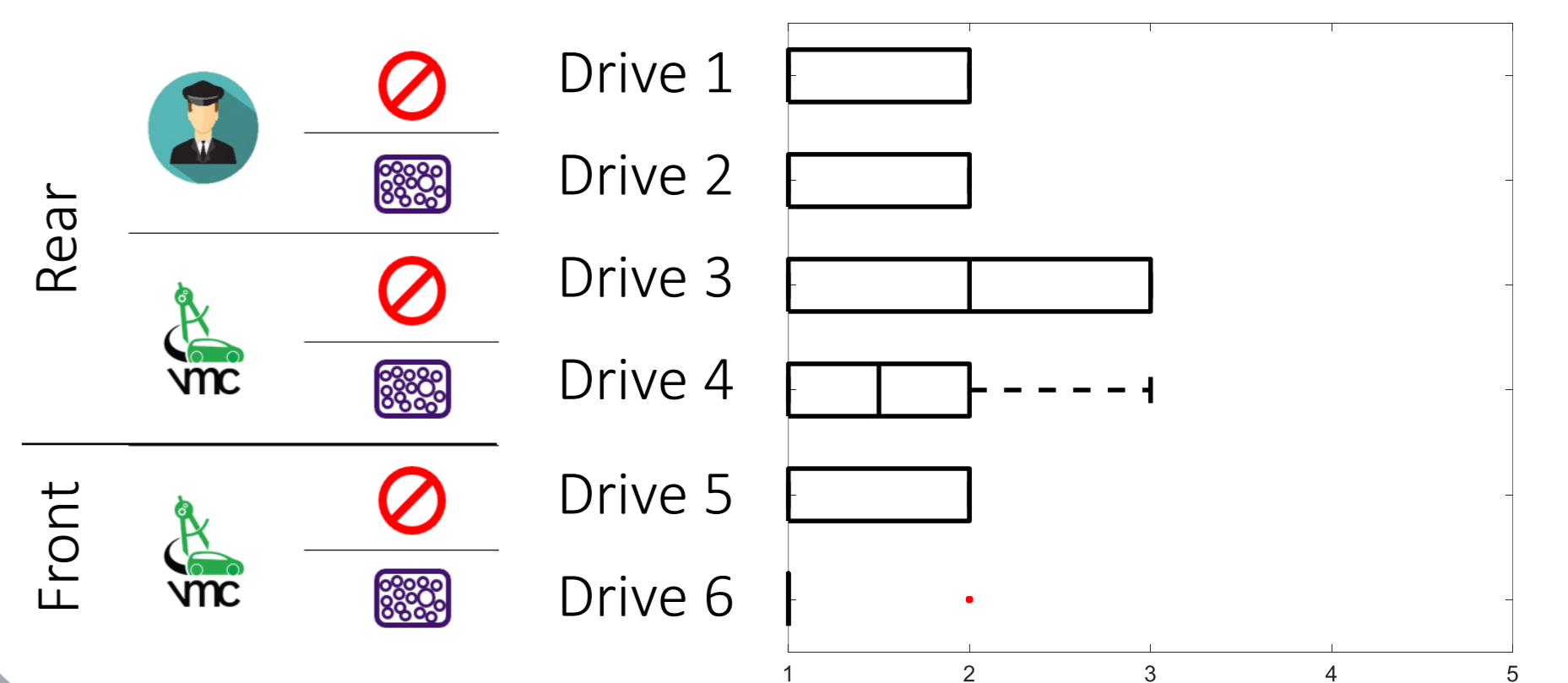
- Blind Intersection and crosswalk
- Which deceleration values are comfortable and appropriate? $a_x = [-1.5; -2.5; -3.5] m/s^2$, $j_x = -1.0 m/s^3$
- Investigating the influence of context on the perception of comfort.
 - What influence does the presence of crossing traffic have?
 - What influence does the Pedestrian Visibility Time (PVT) have?
- Results for scenario crosswalk:



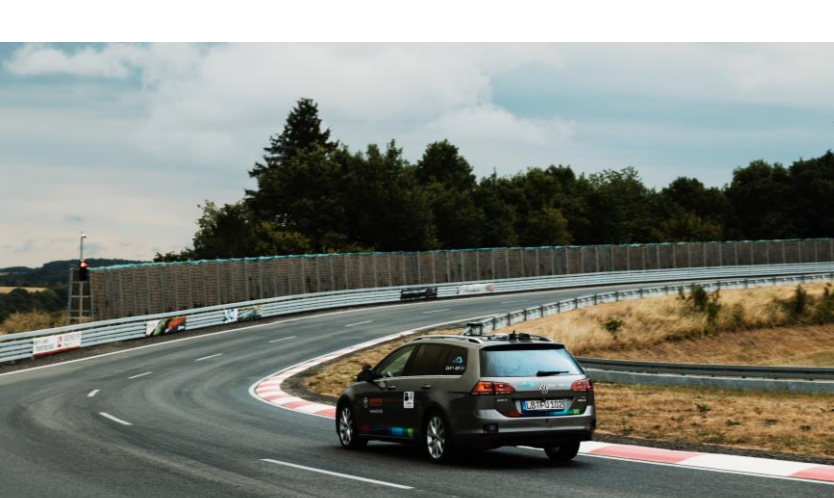
05

Automated Driving vs. Chauffeurs (Bosch2021a)

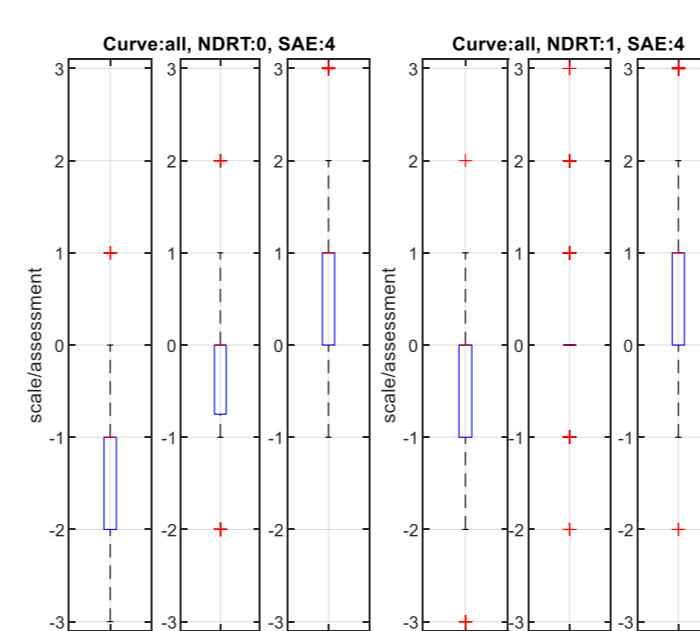
- Identification of discomfort events / scenarios on highway
- Analysis the effect of driver state (attentive / distracted) on ride comfort
- Analysis the effect of the sitting position (front / back) on ride comfort
- Comfort evaluation and comparison of VMC and Chauffeur



Comfortable and appropriate deceleration values (Bosch2023c)



- What is the "Comfort Zone" (threshold towards discomfort) for lateral acceleration values in curve driving? $a_y = [2.0, 3.0, 4.0] m/s^2$
- Investigating the influence of SAE Level & NDRT on the perception of comfort:
 - Impact of SAE Level (L1 & L4) on preference of a_y
 - Impact of Passenger State (w/wo NDRA) on preferences of a_y



08

