

# AIMOTIVE

Introduction and Technical Overview



09.NOV.2016



## Our mission

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We at Almotive are committed to improving the lives of millions of drivers across the world.

We design AI software which powers self-driving vehicles, resulting in better safety, improved comfort, and increased productivity

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## Fast Facts

### Company details

Founded in July 2015 as a spin-off of Kishonti Ltd.  
Headquarter: Budapest, Hungary  
Founder: László Kishonti

### Investors

Funded by investors:  
Robert Bosch VC / Nvidia / Inventure / Draper Associates  
/ Day One Capital / Samsung / Private investors

### Team

100+ researchers/developers with in-depth  
experience in their field

### Expertise

In-house developed AI algorithms and framework  
10+ years in high performance embedded programming  
Complete navigation and mapping solution expertise  
5+ years in Computer Vision

### Membership

Khronos Group  
Embedded Vision Alliance



## Our Partners





## Our projects

### L3 / L4-L5 projects

- Large European OEM
- Large global technology company
- Discussions ongoing with many other Automotive OEMs and Partners

### L1 / L2 projects

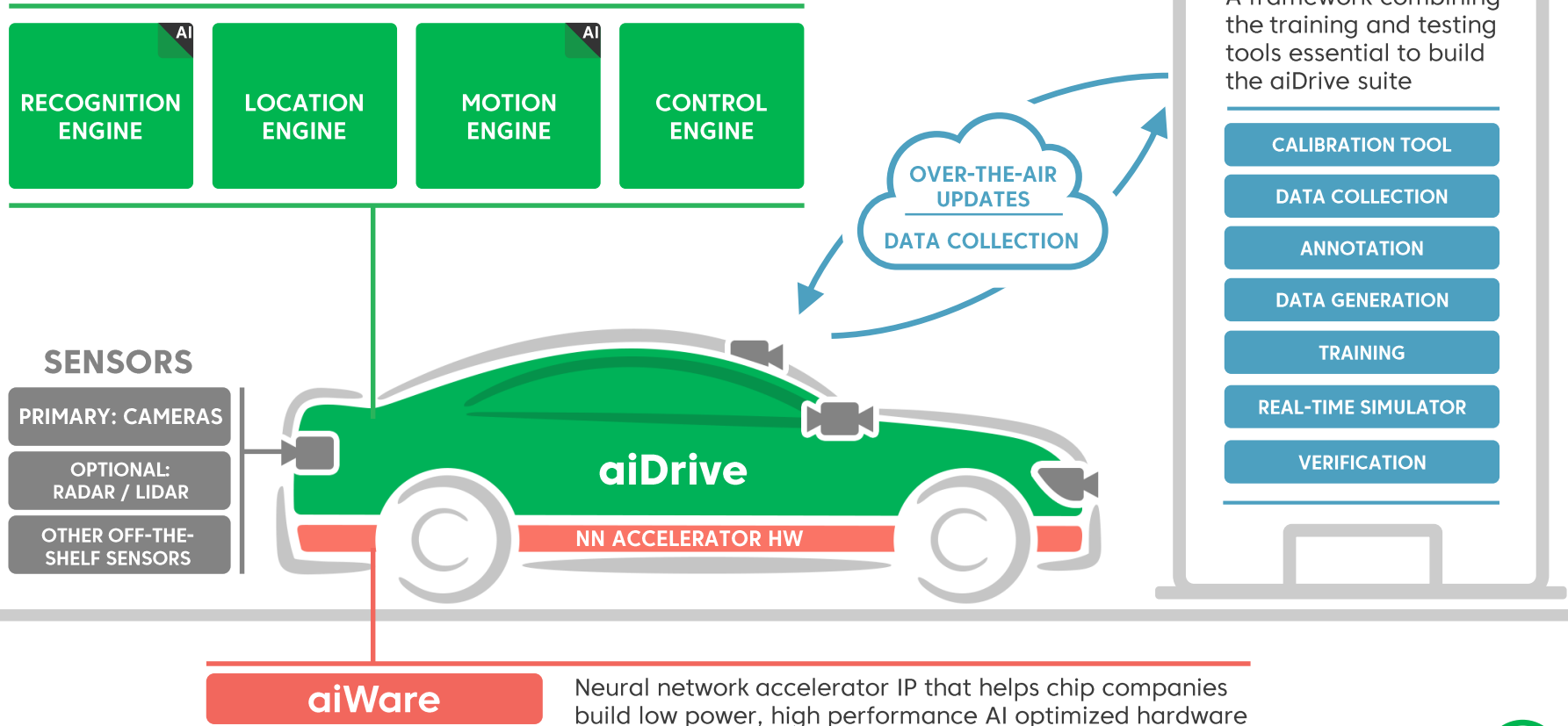
- Delivering Parking Assist and rear-view camera solution for Tier1/Automotive OEM
- Delivered local positioning project for global map data provider



# What We Offer

## aiDrive

Artificial Intelligence-based full stack software suite for Level 5 self-driving cars

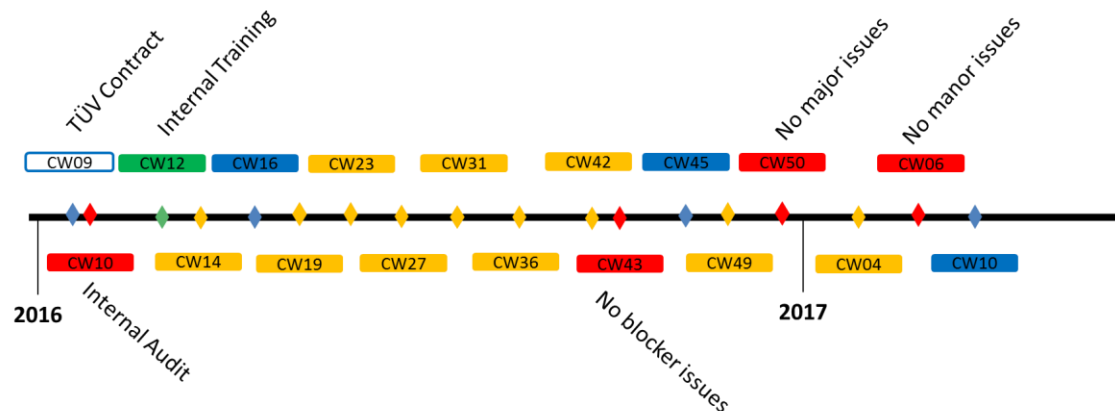




# We Work According to Automotive Standards

Cooperation with TÜV-Rheinland to establish the internal processes regarding to:

- ISO/IEC 33020:2015 Information technology -- Process assessment -- Process measurement framework for assessment of process capability
- ISO/TS 16949 – Quality Management Systems
- ISO/FDIS 26262 – Road Vehicles – Functional Safety





# How is the Almotive Approach Unique?






<b>Technical approach and scalability?</b>	L5 architecture (fully self-driving) Scalable (worldwide implementation possible)	L5 architecture (fully self-driving) Not scalable (optimized for local implementation)	Develops L1/ L2 solutions gradually towards L3/L4 functionality
<b>How to identify relevant objects?</b>	Primary sensor: Multiple cameras + optional sensors	Primary sensor: LIDAR + camera + High definition map data	Primary sensor: Single camera + mandatory radar sensors
<b>How well does it see?</b>	Similar to human eye Fine details visible (predicts behavior)	Very rough picture (LIDAR cannot see behavioral cues in humans)	Similar to human eye. Fine details visible
<b>Does it work in various weather conditions?</b>	Rain/Snow issues handled by AI Poor image quality in low light Other sensors as backup	Full day/night functionality but low resolution Rain/Snow issues	Poor image quality in low light Other sensors as backup
<b>What is the annotation technique?</b>	Fast & scalable annotation, 100k images/hour Semi automatic with some human intervention	No info, assumably semi-automatic	Time consuming human annotation only
<b>Is a mandatory chip needed?</b>	No, software runs on most chips Almotive supports automotive embedded chips	No, software runs on high-end chip	Runs only on Mobileye's own chip
<b>Is the training technique scalable?</b>	Yes, simulator tool can train various weather conditions and traffic situations	No, data collection for training purposes focuses on dry, temperate climate regions. Only 10 accidents in 1.5m miles	Not that we know of
<b>OK, so what does this all mean?</b>	Safe, more robust, highly scalable and can be used anywhere	Might work in predefined routes, e.g. for robotaxis	Incremental improvements to safety Multi-camera functionality expected in 2018, L3/L4 in 2021








# We use cameras as primary sensors due to the higher performance they enable

	Advantages	Disadvantages	
Camera 	Like the human eye, good for all use cases, best sensor for color and texture	High processing performance required	Primary
LIDAR 	High precision detection unaffected by light/sound interference	Needs an HD map for localization to function, requires huge amount of data	Secondary
Radar 	Cost effective, good as backup sensor	Poor resolution, 2D information only	Secondary

## Most valuable use case




-  Real-time localization, object recognition, classification, and tracking
-  Real-time localization, identification of objects, static 3D geometry
-  Backup to detect the location of objects if high resolution sensors fail

## Range and distance accuracy

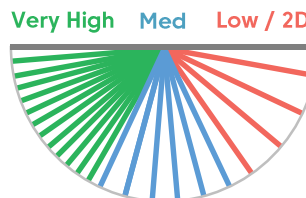
0 – 1000+ m	
3 – 150 m	
2 – 250 m	



## Dark / bad weather usage

-  Just like the human eye
-  Limited in rain and snow
-  Limited in rain and snow

## Angular Resolution

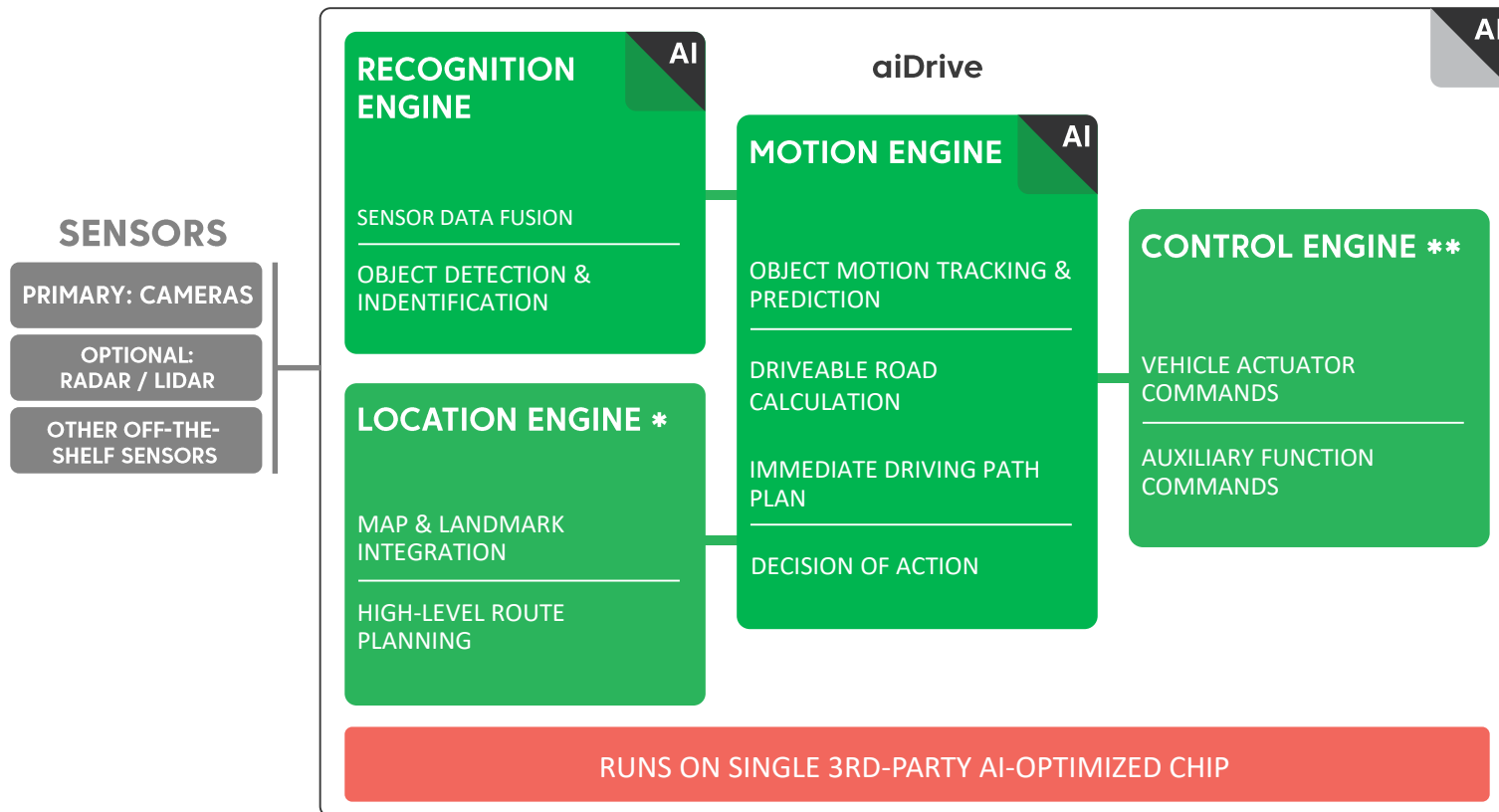


## Sensors / car

6–12 pieces	\$20 - \$70
1 Velodyne/4 Ibeo	\$40,000 - \$80,000
4–8 pieces	\$500 - \$1,500

## Cost / piece





\* OPTIONAL: 3RD-PARTY NAVIGATION IS SUPPORTED

\*\* OPTIONAL: VEHICLE'S OWN CONTROL SYSTEM IS SUPPORTED



# Recognition Engine

Recognition Engine identifies the objects and interprets the environment around the vehicle in real time.

## INPUT

### Perceived environment

- Camera vision
- CAN-bus
- Optional radar signal
- Optional LIDAR data

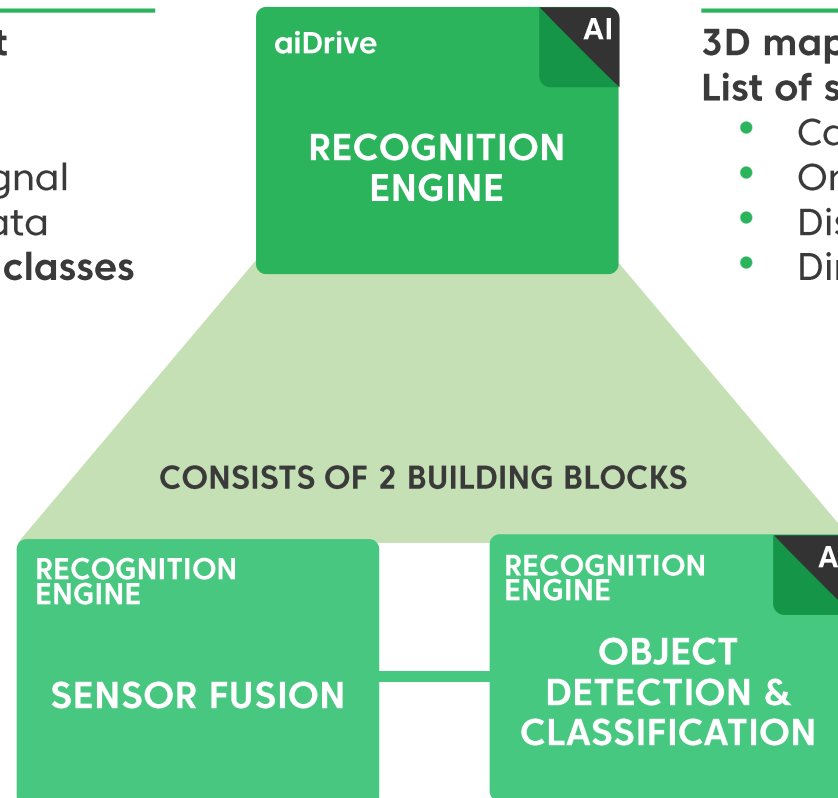
### Region specific object classes

## OUTPUT

### 3D map of vehicle environment

### List of surrounding objects

- Category
- Orientation
- Distance
- Dimensions

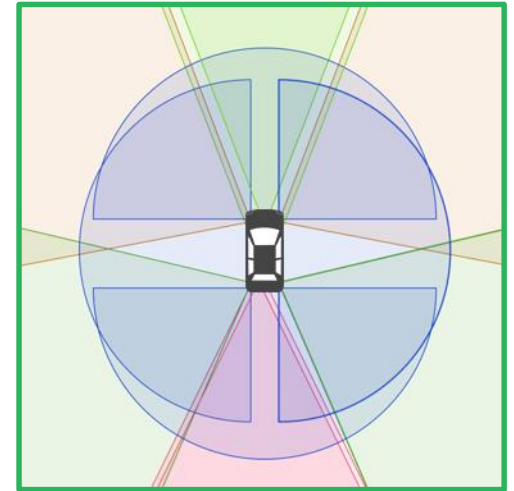




# Recognition Engine

## Sensor Fusion

1. Perceiving real 3D environment via sensors
2. Camera is our preferred primary sensor
  - Synchronized multiple mono / stereo cameras
3. Optional sensors:
  - Radars, LIDAR, ultrasonic and IMU / GPS
4. Fuses all sensor inputs into an Artificial Intelligence interpretable format



### INPUT

#### Perceived environment

- Camera vision
- CAN-bus
- Optional radar signal
- Optional LIDAR data

RECOGNITION  
ENGINE

SENSOR  
FUSION

### OUTPUT

#### Synchronized snapshots

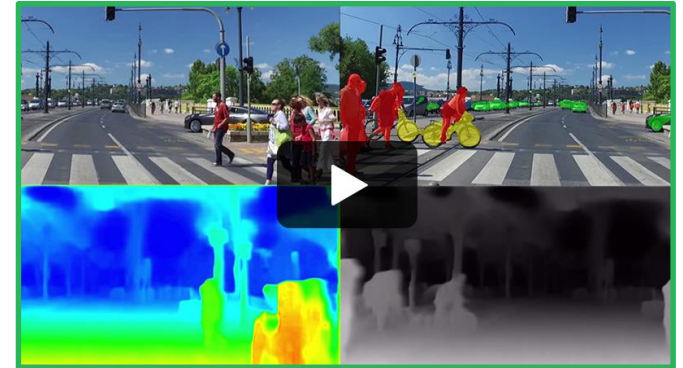
- Fused and pre-processed sensor data in AI interpretable format



# Recognition Engine

## Object Detection and Classification

1. Same AI algorithm for object detection and classification
  - Bounding box
  - Pixel precise segmentation
  - Recognizes up to 100 different object classes
2. Determines distance / dimensions
3. Recognizes even partially occluded objects
4. Localization
  - Country specific object classes



### INPUT

#### Synchronized snapshots

- Fused and pre-processed sensor data in AI interpretable format

#### Region specific object classes

RECOGNITION  
ENGINE

AI

OBJECT  
DETECTION &  
CLASSIFICATION

### OUTPUT

#### 3D map of vehicle environment

#### List of surrounding objects

- Category
- Orientation
- Distance
- Dimensions



# Location Engine

1. In-house navigation engine which does not require HD maps for precise positioning
  - Regional localization
  - GPS position of vehicle
  - Next maneuver and distance
  - Lane indication
2. Special landmark information is added for accurate positioning of the vehicle even when the GPS signal is weak / lost
3. Can also rely on OEM installed navigation



## INPUT

**Almotive landmark database**

**OEM Navigation device incl.  
standard map** (HERE, OSM, etc)

**Destination**

aiDrive

**LOCATION  
ENGINE**

## OUTPUT

**Precise vehicle location**  
**Optimal route**

- Next maneuver



# Motion Engine

## INPUT

**3D map of vehicle environment**  
**List of surrounding objects**

- Category
- Orientation
- Distance
- Dimensions

**Vehicle location**

aiDrive

AI

**MOTION  
ENGINE**

## OUTPUT

**Detailed route of driving path**

- Describing position of vehicle, state, behaviour and dynamics as a function of time

CONSISTS OF 3 BUILDING BLOCKS

MOTION ENGINE

AI

**TRACKING &  
PREDICTION**

MOTION ENGINE

AI

**PLANNING &  
DECISION**

MOTION ENGINE

**TRAJECTORY**

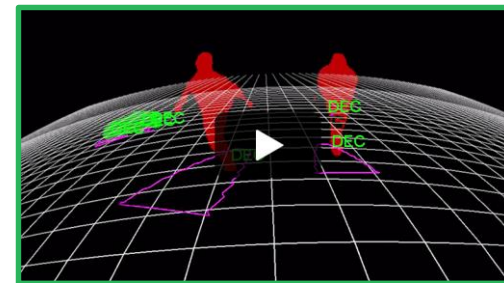




# Motion Engine

## Tracking & Prediction

1. Develops a short term memory of objects by analyzing changes between snapshots
2. Movement characteristics of region specific object classes are taken into account
3. Individual deviation of behaviour is considered (Children, drunk people)
4. Probability distribution of future locations and speed is calculated



### INPUT

#### 3D map of vehicle environment

#### List of surrounding objects

- Category
- Orientation
- Distance
- Dimensions

#### Vehicle location

MOTION ENGINE

AI

TRACKING &  
PREDICTION

### OUTPUT

#### Predicted state

- Future speed & location
- Behavior

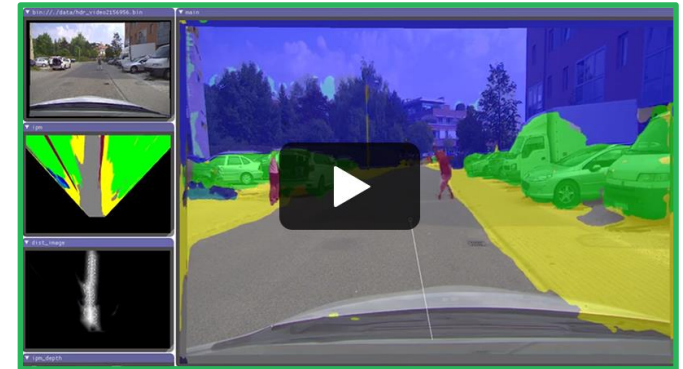
#### Motion pattern of all relevant objects

- ID, Speed, Acceleration, Direction



# Motion Engine Planning & Decision

1. Identifies free space based on predicted environment
2. Determines driving style
3. Creates high level plans for both normal and emergency situations
4. Decides if normal or emergency situation applies



## INPUT 1

**Precise vehicle location**  
**Optimal route**

- Next maneuver

## INPUT 2

**Predicted state**

- Future speed & location
- Behavior

MOTION ENGINE

AI

**DECISION &  
PLANNING**

## OUTPUT

**Driving style of our vehicle**

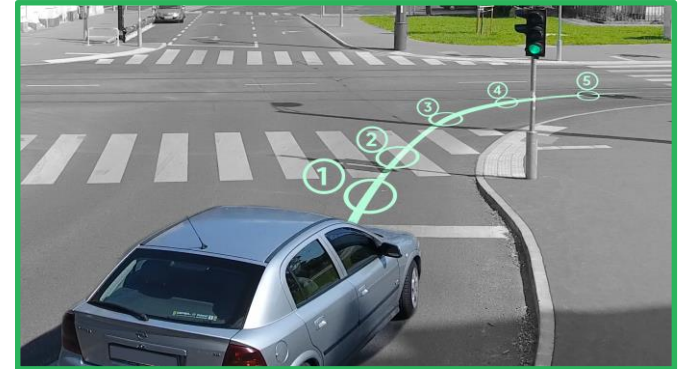
**Decision about route**

- Plan of normal or emergency situation



# Motion Engine Trajectory

1. Translates high level routing and free space information into low level controls
2. Calculates ego motion
3. Safely stops vehicle in case of emergency situation



## INPUT

**Driving style of ego vehicle**

**Decision about route**

- Plan of normal or emergency situation

MOTION ENGINE

AI

**TRAJECTORY**

## OUTPUT

**Detailed route of driving path**

- Describing position of vehicle, state, behaviour and dynamics as a function of time



# Control Engine

1. Executes chosen trajectory through the combination of (Control loop)
  - Vehicle actuators such as acceleration, braking, steering, gearshift
  - Auxiliary functions such as turn indicators, headlights, horn, etc
2. Control Engine is optional:
  - aiDrive can communicate with the vehicle's default control system



## INPUT

### Detailed route of driving path

- Describing position of vehicle, state, behaviour and dynamics as a function of time

aiDrive

AI

**CONTROL  
ENGINE**

## OUTPUT

### Low level control

- Actuator control (acceleration, brake, steering, gearshift)
- Auxiliary control (indicators, lights, horn)



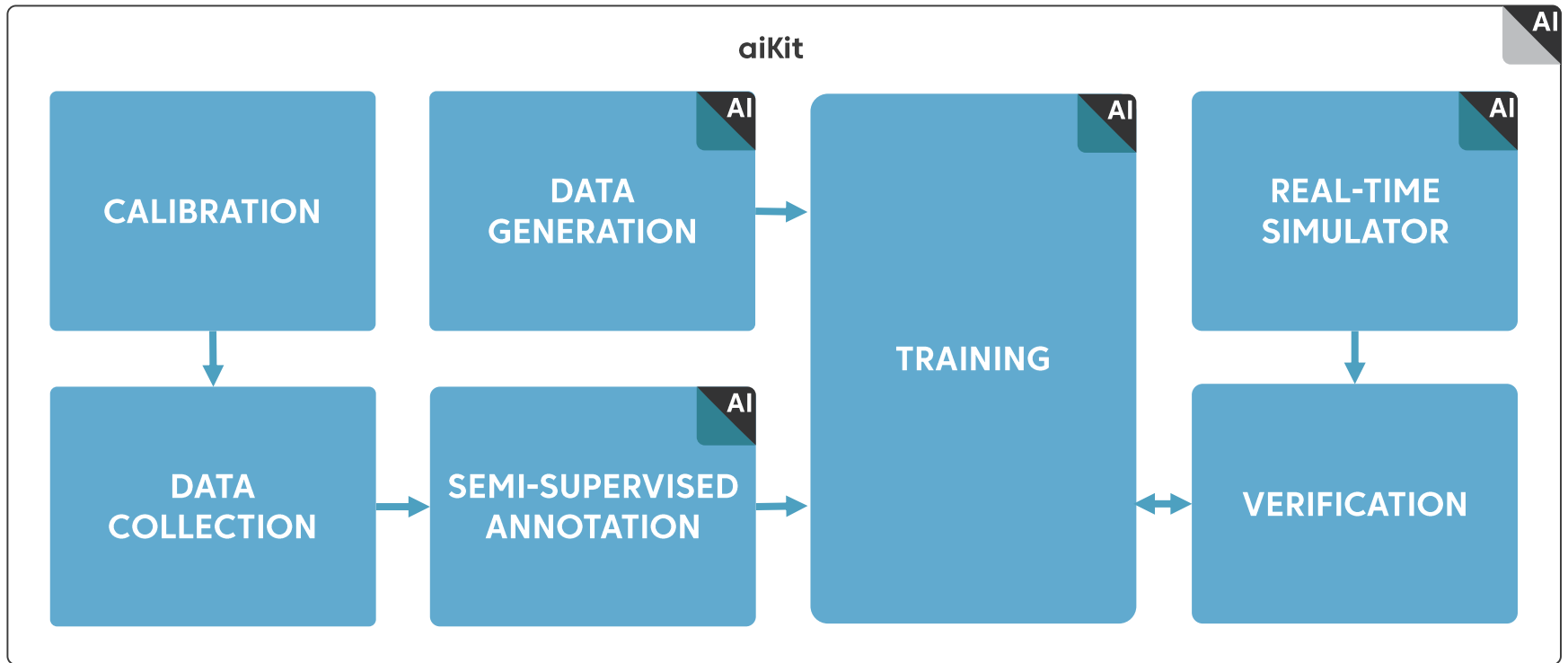
# aiDrive is already being tested on the road

Video of our Toyota Prius test car in action





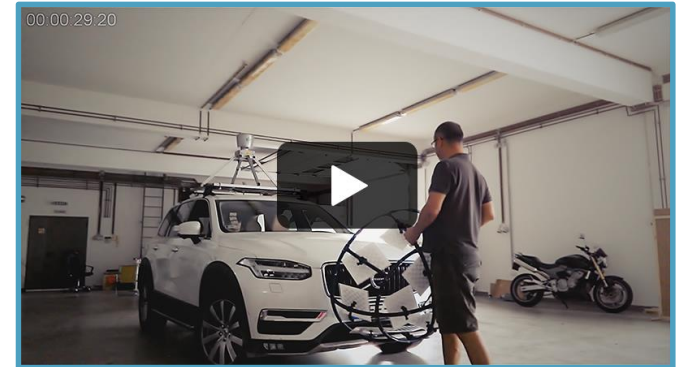






# aiKit Calibration Tool

1. Automated and fast process
2. Intrinsic/extrinsic calibration of cameras
3. Includes calibration of LIDAR to cameras
4. Radar solution is still under development, as radar currently penetrates our calibration kit (material issue)



## INPUT

**Physical calibration rig**

aiKit

**CALIBRATION**

## OUTPUT

**Calibrated sensors:**

- Multiple camera
- Radars, LIDARS, etc.





# aiKit Data Collection Tool

1. Real-time operation and simultaneous recording is used (logging of detection output)
  - Black-box functionality
  - Multisensor recording and playback
  - Modular sensor setup
2. HIL (hardware in the loop) testing
3. SIL (software in the loop) algorithm test



## INPUT

### Calibrated sensors:

- Multiple camera
- Radars, LIDARS, etc.

### Vehicle data:

- CAN-bus

### aiDrive detection output

aiKit

DATA  
COLLECTION

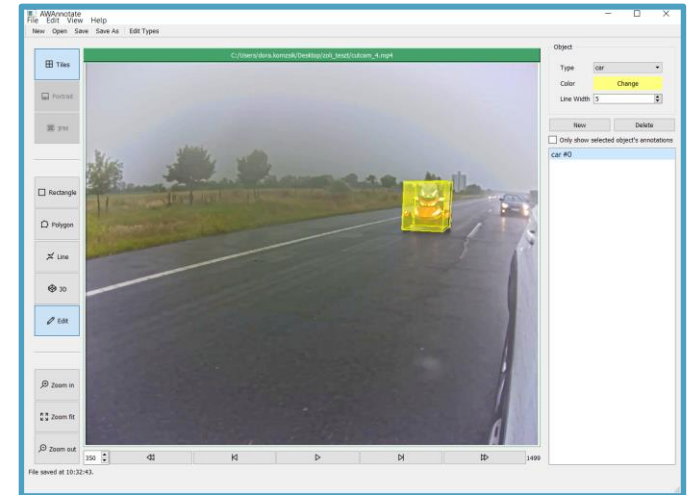
## OUTPUT

Synchronized data stream in  
user defined format



# aiKit Semi-supervised Annotation Tool

1. Semi-automated tool annotates reliably and fast (15 times faster than manual)
2. Capable of multisensory annotation based on camera image labelling
3. We have user definable object classes, attributes and output formats



## INPUT

**Synchronized data stream in  
user defined format**

aiKit

AI

**SEMI-SUPERVISED  
ANNOTATION**

## OUTPUT

**Labelled data according to the  
output format**

- ID
- Object class
- Size, Distance, Orientation



# Annotation of Non-camera Sensor Data

1. Capability to process sensor data from LIDAR and radar to verify the depth calculated by the cameras
2. Intelligent sensor fusion
  - Interconnected camera + LIDAR (depth) with camera based annotation
  - The annotated data is further extended with the radar's object list
  - The output is the complete set of necessary training inputs (object ID, class, distance, size and orientation)
3. Direct annotation of LIDAR point cloud data
  - Not as relevant for Almotive since primary sensor is camera
  - Research is in progress on 3D point cloud annotation methods



# aiKit Data Generation Tool

1. Renders photorealistic camera images or sensor fused data in various
  - Weather & lighting conditions
  - Occlusion, orientation, distance
2. Pixel precise annotation and depth information improve detection accuracy
3. Optional sensor data generation (radar/LIDAR)
  - In fact much easier than generating visual data



## INPUT

### 3D object models

- Vehicles, traffic signs, road paintings etc.

aiKit

AI

DATA  
GENERATION

## OUTPUT

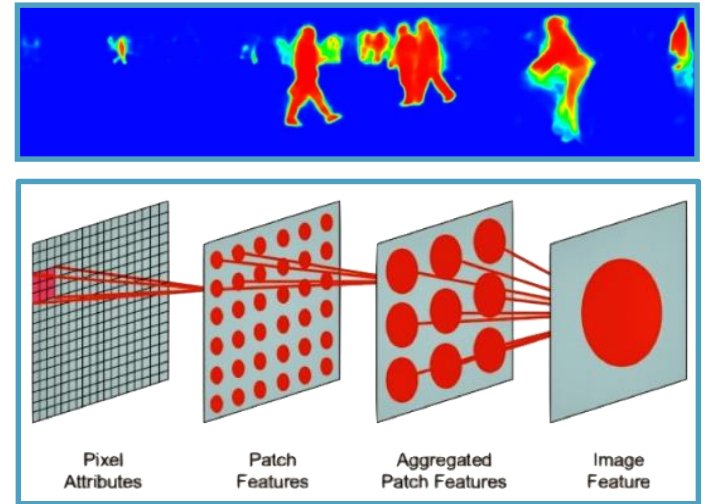
**Training data (image or fused data)**

**Ground-truth annotation**



# aiKit Training Tool

1. In-house developed training tool for all type of neural networks (CNN, RNN, etc.)
2. Massively parallel GPUs used to train faster
3. Compatible with the major toolsets (Caffe, Torch, Tensor flow)



## INPUT

Labelled or generated data

Feedback from testing tool

aiKit

AI

TRAINING

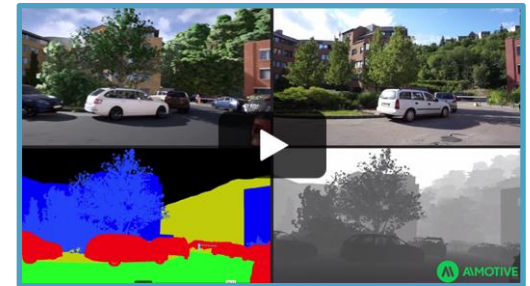
## OUTPUT

Trained network structure



# aiKit Real-time Simulator

1. Generates complex and realistic traffic situations
  - Photorealistic camera images
  - Different weather conditions
  - Multiple sensor inputs
  - Vehicle dynamics
2. Train and test aiDrive in various scenarios
3. Will accelerate training time significantly



## INPUT

**Manually parametered scenes  
for testing**

aiKit

AI

**REAL TIME  
SIMULATOR**

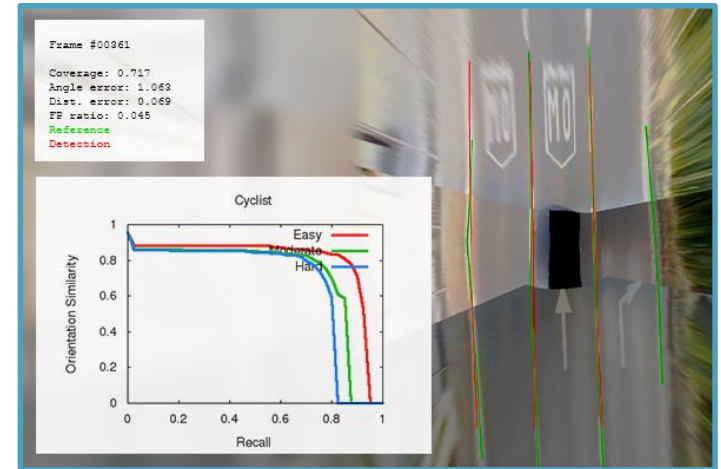
## OUTPUT

- **Extreme traffic situations**
- **Various weather and lighting scenarios**
- **Simulated camera and sensor data**



# aiKit Verification Tool

1. Verification tests are based on specific customer requirements
2. Modular data verification
  - Various environmental conditions and object classes
  - Area of interest can be modified
  - Accuracy of evaluation criteria can be adjusted



## INPUT

Trained neural networks

Test cases

aiKit

VERIFICATION

## OUTPUT

Test and evaluation metrics

Feedback to the training process



# Iterative Test Cycles Accelerated by Simulation

An example test program:

1. Test cases submitted into test tool
2. Testing vol. 1
  - a. Road testing. Test tool recognizes automatically predefined test cases while driving and evaluates performance
  - b. Simulator testing. Simulator can provide random or predefined driving scenarios. Test tool recognizes automatically predefined test cases while driving and evaluates performance
3. Test tool outputs the test results with opportunity for human check
4. Define additional test cases
5. Testing vol. 2
  - a. Road testing efficiency will depend on encountered test situations (which can be organized)
  - b. With simulator test tool can run a large test set without human intervention. Testing can focus on difficult corner cases instead of collecting millions of eventless miles





# aiWare - Hardware IP Optimized for AI

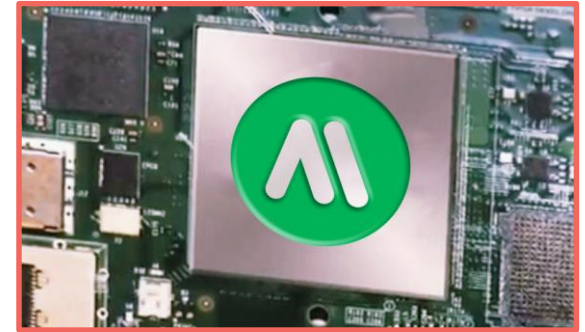




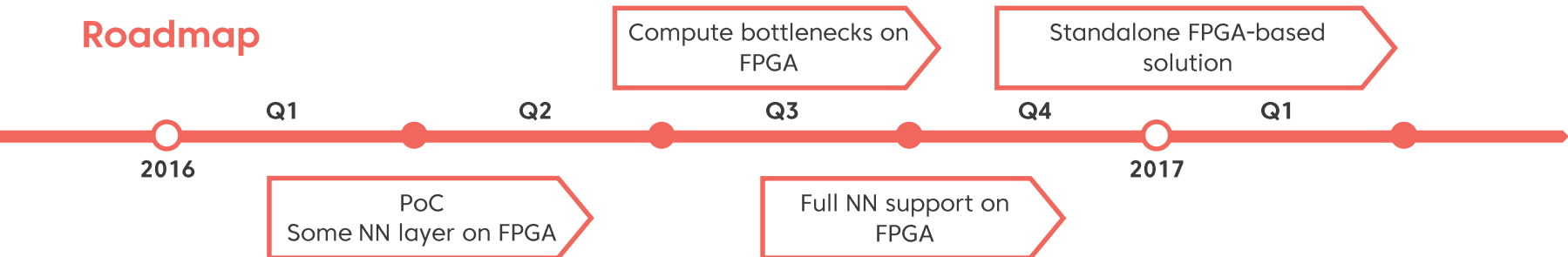
# aiWare NN Accelerator IP

**We offer performance efficient NN accelerated hardware for automotive embedded solutions**

1. Benefits: low power consumption, high bandwidth, low latency NN computation
  - ASIC's power consumption is 3% of a GPU's
2. We provide the NN optimized RTL design for chip companies
3. Almotive also provides hardware agnostic solution to fit OEM / Tier 1 preferences



## Roadmap





**aiWare**

## **NN Exchange Format Standard**

**K H R O N O S**  
GROUP

**Almotive initiated the Khronos Working Group to create a new NN data format standard (NNEF) and actively contributes to the specifications**

1. The NNEF standard encapsulates:
  - Neural network structure
  - Data formats
  - Common operations (convolution, pooling, normalization etc.)
  - Formal network semantics
2. Enables reliable import / export between network creating tools, inference engines and other toolkits
3. Reduces deployment friction and encourages a richer mix of cross-platform deep learning tools, engines and applications



## Members of the Khronos Group

RENESAS

ARM

Microsoft

CEVA<sup>®</sup>  
The DSP Powerhouse

Panasonic

intel

nVIDIA<sup>®</sup>

AMD

Continental

Visteon<sup>®</sup>

Google



QUALCOMM<sup>®</sup>

SAMSUNG

ALTERA<sup>®</sup>

NXP



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