

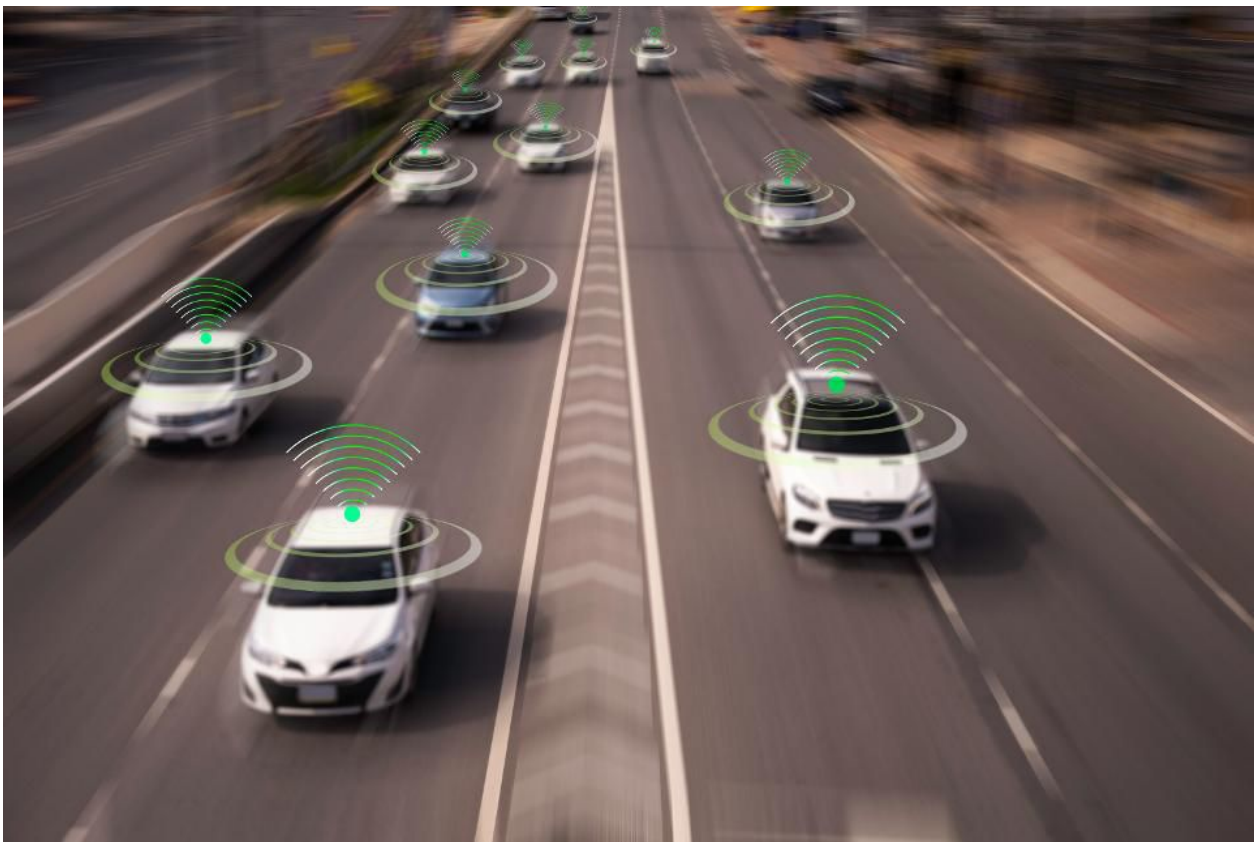
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# What Obstacles Are Preventing Self-Driving Cars From Going Mainstream?



Quora Contributor ⓘ

Consumer Tech



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*What are the obstacles that are preventing self-driving cars from going mainstream? originally appeared on Quora: the place to gain and share knowledge, empowering people to learn from others and better understand the world.*

**Answer by Louay Eldada, CEO & Co-Founder of Quanergy, on Quora:**

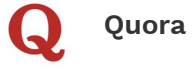
For a long time, the price of autonomous systems, and particularly LiDAR sensors, was a determining factor in preventing mainstream AVs. When one sensor costs tens of thousands of dollars, and you need four to five sensors per car, the technology quickly becomes more expensive than the vehicle itself and is not feasible for the average consumer.

Today, the price of LiDAR sensors has dropped drastically, and at mass production, these sensors can be produced for just a few hundred dollars. While one major hurdle has been addressed, when people's lives are at stake you must take extreme precaution before opening up this type of technology to the public more widely.

When the first automobiles were introduced, regulations were developed, starting with speed limits on certain roads, which then sparked a domino effect: seat belts, traffic lights, and airbags all materialized. With new autonomous technology, there will be another wave of regulations that will need to be created and adapt to an extremely complex ground landscape that involves pedestrians, cyclists, and perhaps most dangerously – non-autonomous cars. From an infrastructure standpoint, there will need to be changes made to roadways themselves, such as implementing designated AV lanes, which has already started to happen in some countries.

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