

ArtistDesign
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Networks and Middleware

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ieeta



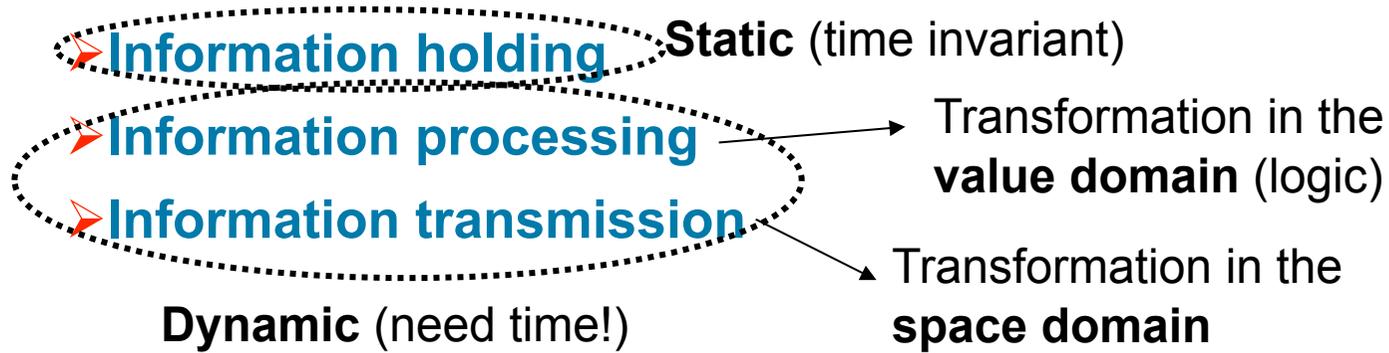
Universidade do Porto
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FEUP

Operating Systems and Networks Cluster
Real-Time Networks Activity



What is this about

➤ It's all about information!



Here we deal with

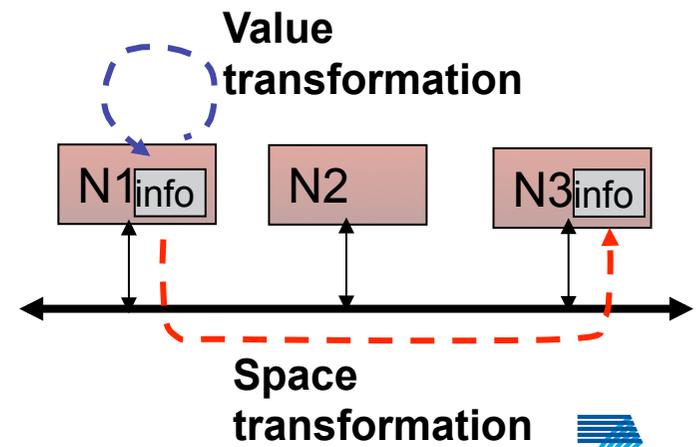
Information transmission

The operator for this transformation is

→ **The network**

And for time-bounded transformations

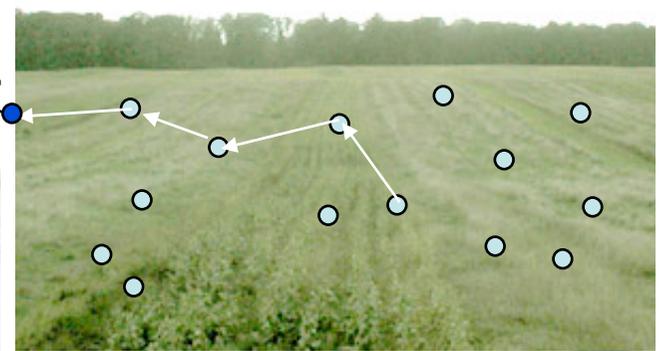
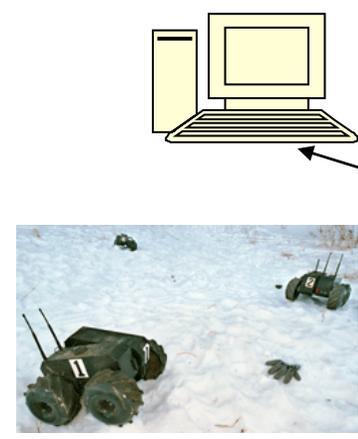
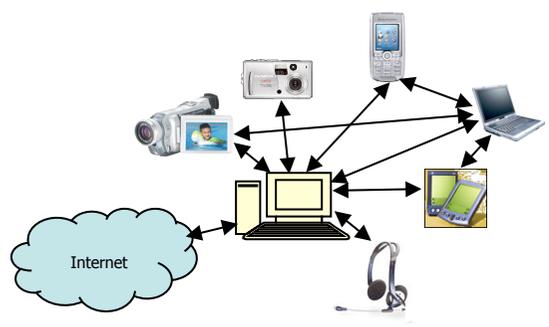
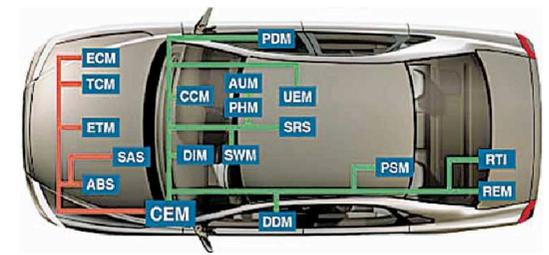
→ **Real-Time Networks !**





Many related networking frameworks

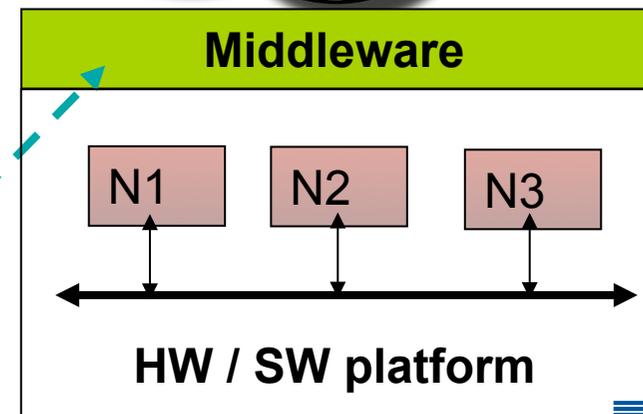
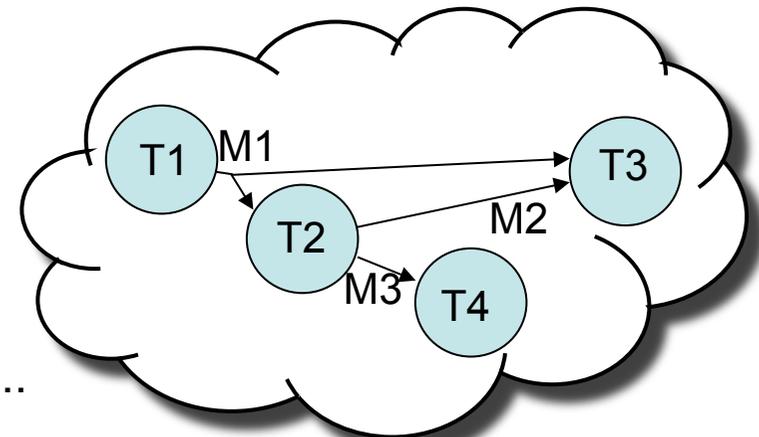
- Distributed embedded systems (DES)
- Networked embedded systems (NES)
- Ubiquitous systems
- Wireless sensor networks (WSN)
- Mobile ad-hoc networks (MANET)





Abstracting away platform details

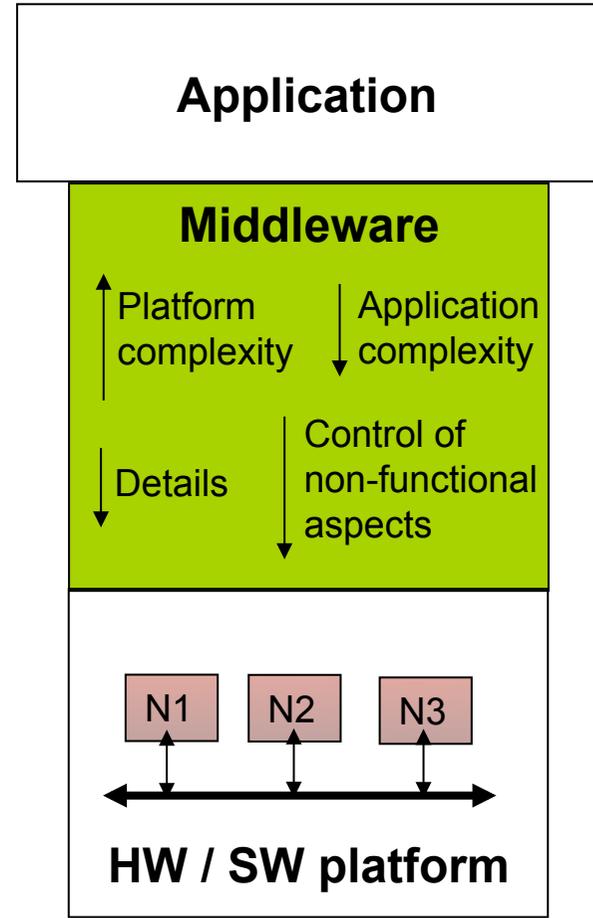
- **Applications are executed on HW / SW platforms**
 - Computing and communication
- **Implying many idiosyncrasies**
 - Dependence on HW / SW features
 - Processors, OSs, network protocols...
- **How to develop applications that**
 - Are agnostic to such idiosyncrasies?
 - Still delivering their services and exhibiting the desired properties...
 - And executing on a distributed platform...





Middleware: providing logical services

- **The middleware is a SW layer that**
 - Hides unnecessary details to the application (e.g., distribution)
 - Simplifies development, adds new services
- **But it implies trade-offs**
 - The HW and low-level SW have a profound impact on non-functional properties
 - timing, performance, dependability...
 - The simpler it is to develop applications the more complex the platform is
 - If the **right properties** are not properly enforced in the **lower layers** it will be hard (inefficient) to enforce them on the upper ones



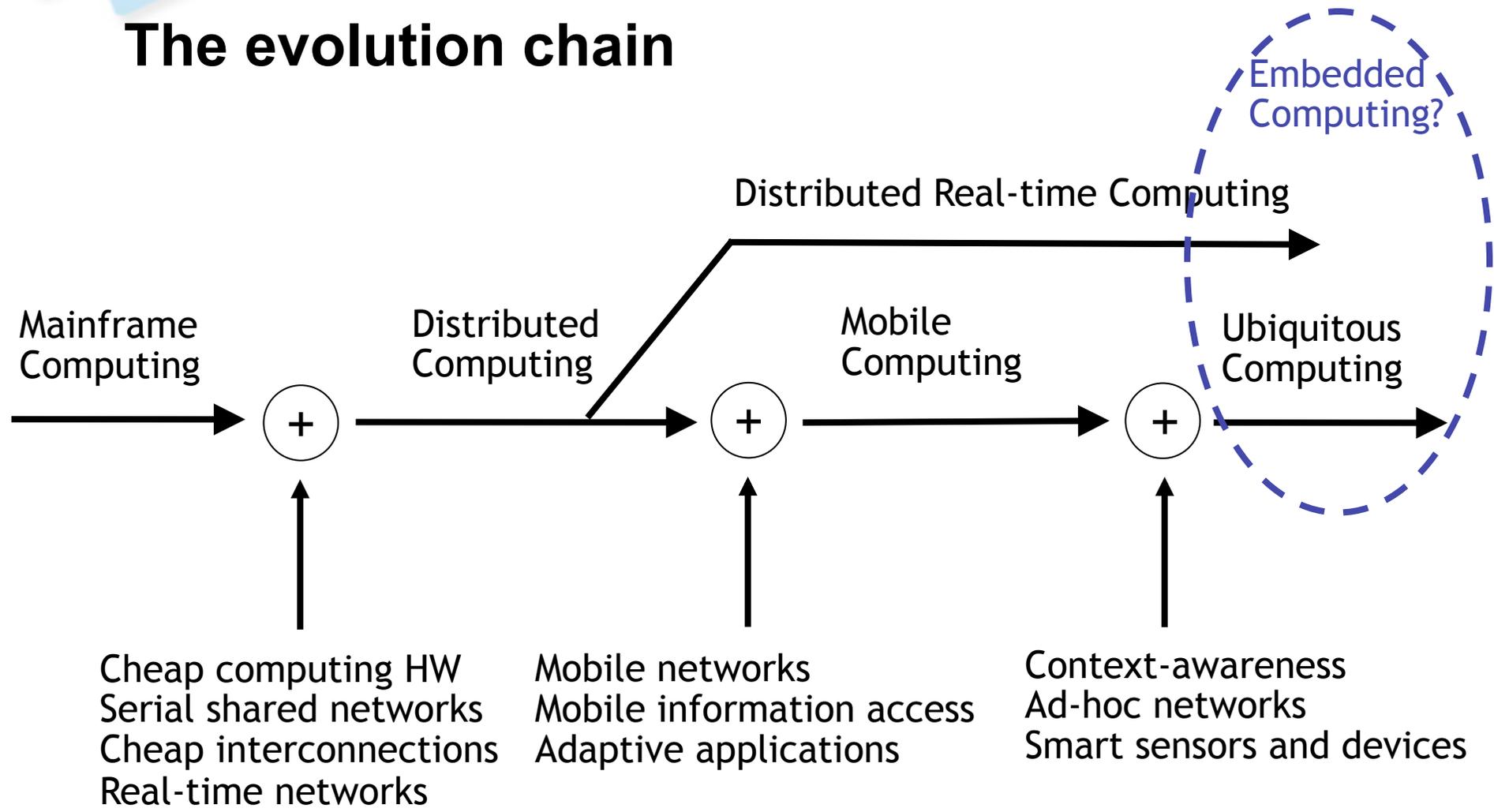


In this talk...

- *Distributed vs ubiquitous / networked ES*
- **Timing issues in the network**
- **Inside the protocol stack**
 - The Physical Layer (PHY)
 - The Data Link Layer (DLL)
 - The Network Layer (NL)
 - The Application Layer (AL)
- **Current technologies**
- **Some open issues**



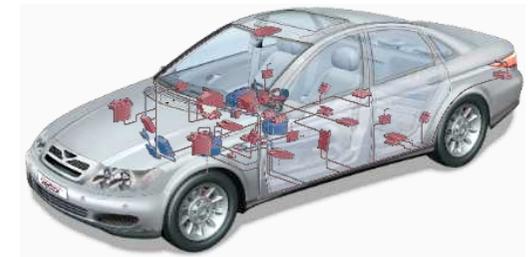
The evolution chain



Adapted from (Strang and Linnhoff-Popien, 2004)

Distributed vs networked

- **Distributed Embedded Systems**
 - System-centered (designed as a whole)
 - Confined in space (despite possibly large)
 - Normally fixed set of components
 - **Preference for wired networks**
 - **Fixed topology**
 - **Most interactions in single-hop segments**
 - Most frequent non-functional requirements
 - Real-time
 - End-to-end constraints on response to stimuli
 - Jitter constraints on periodic activities
 - Dependability
 - Ultra high reliability and safety, high availability
 - Composability
 - Maintainability



Distributed vs networked

Ubiquitous / networked Embedded Systems

– Interconnected stand-alone equipment for extra functionality (communication-centered)

• Fuzzy notion of global system (and its frontiers)

– too large / variable set of components

• **Wireless/wired networks**

– **Structured / Ad-hoc connections**

– **Varying topology**

– **Multi-hop communication**

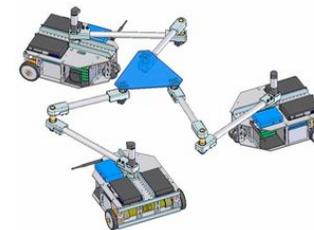
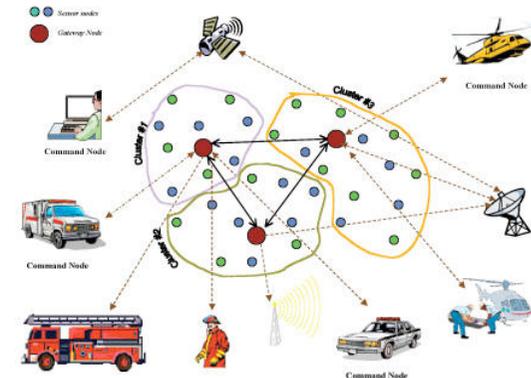
– Most common non-functional requirements

• Scalability

• Heterogeneity

• Self-configuration

• (Soft) real-time



Communication requirements

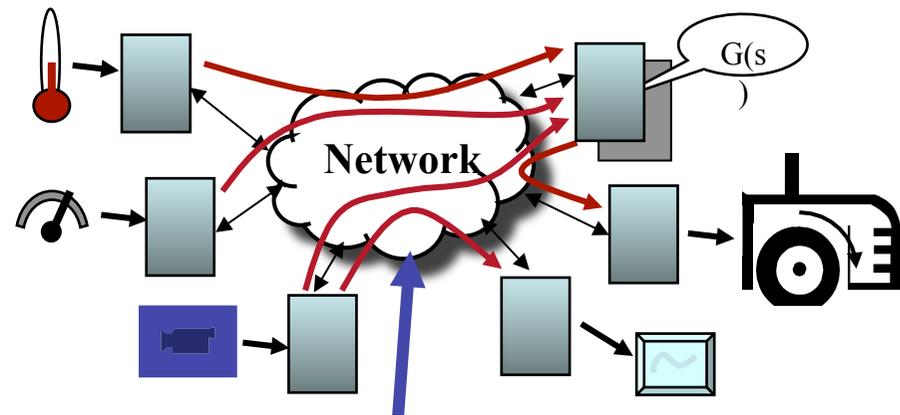
- In both previous cases (DES + U/NES)

- Efficient transmission of **short data** (few bytes)
- **Periodic** transmission (monitoring, feedback control) with **short periods** (ms) and **low jitter**
- **Fast transmission** (ms) of **aperiodic requests** (alarms)
- Transmission of **non-real-time data** (configuration, logs)
- **Multicasting**

Real-time messages

State messages
Event messages

! There is also a growing interest on **real-time multimedia traffic** (e.g., machine vision)
 → long RT data

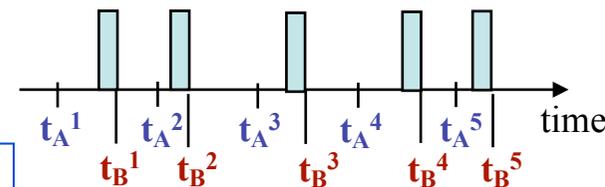
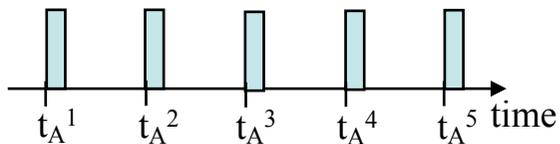
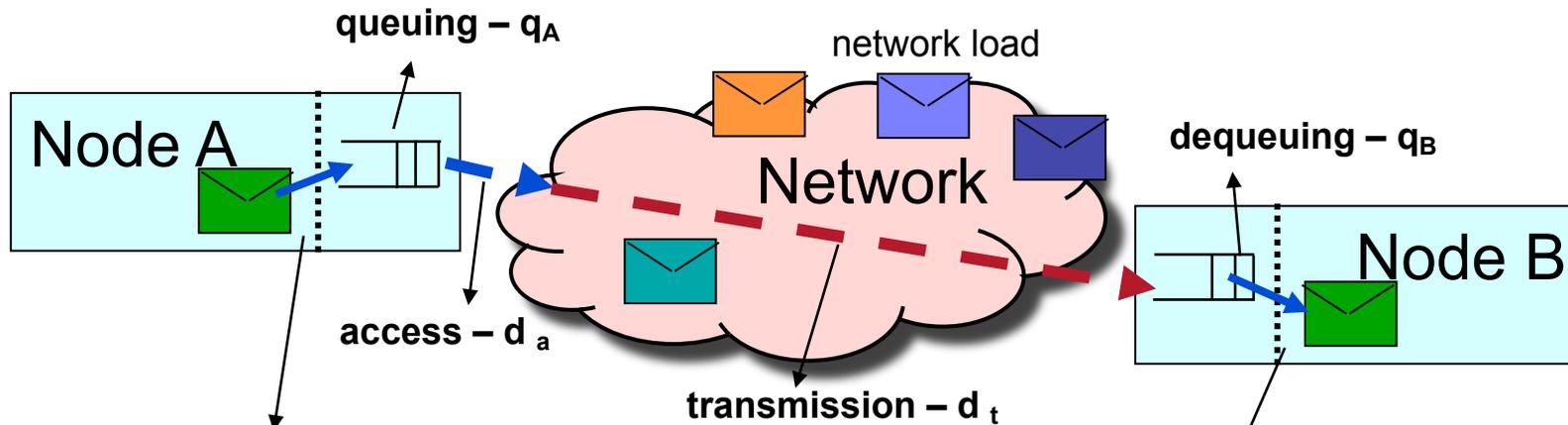


Bandwidth:
Limited shared resource

Timing Issues in the Network



Network delay and delay jitter



$t_B^i - t_A^i = d^i$, network-induced delay

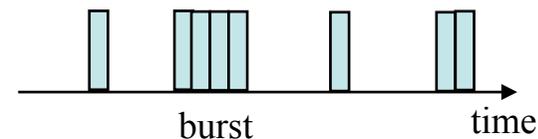
$d^i = q_A^i + d_a^i + d_t^i + q_B^i$, delay components

$d^i - d^{i-1} = j^i$, delay jitter

Reception instants may suffer irregular delays due to interferences from the network load, queuing policies and processor load

Burstiness and throughput

- **Burstiness – measure of the load submitted to the network in a short interval of time.**
 - Bursts have a profound impact on the real-time performance of the network and impose high buffering requirements.
File transfers are a frequent cause of bursts.

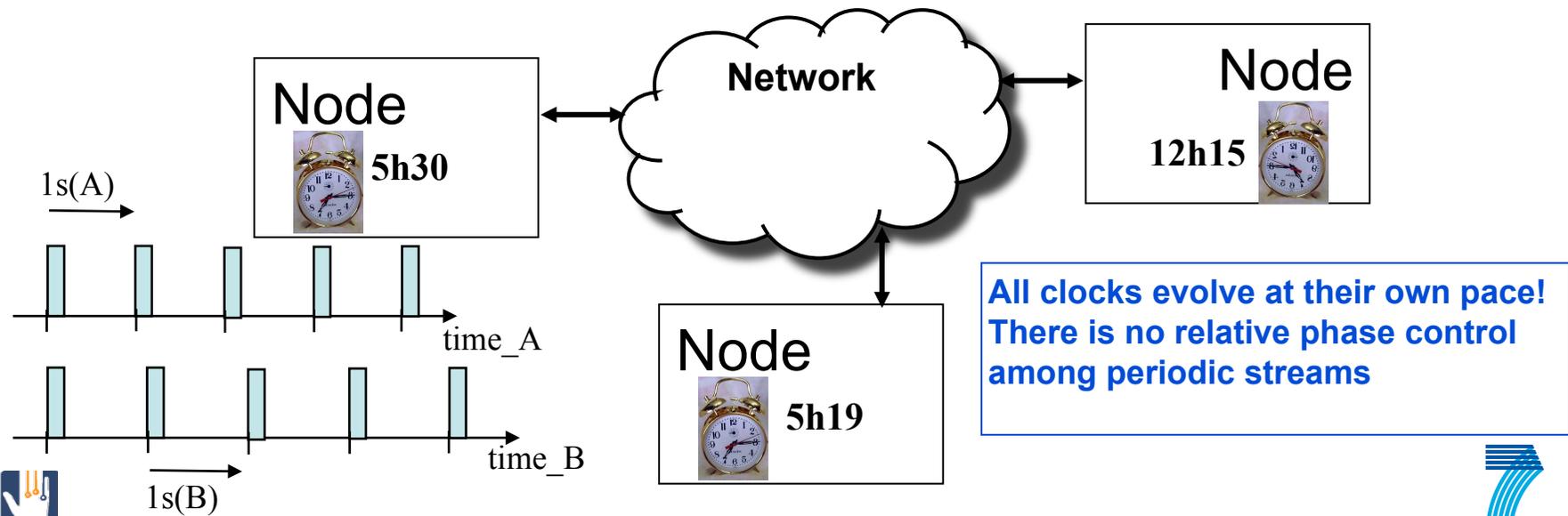


- **Throughput – average amount of data, or packets, that the network dispatches per unit of time (bit/s and packets/s).**
- **Arrival / departure rate – long-term rate at which data arrives at/ from the network (bit/s and packets/s).**
- **Capacity – maximum (gross) bit-rate achievable by the network**

Network bandwidth

Time across a network

- As opposed to a centralized system, in a distributed system each node has its own clock
 - Without specific support, there is **no explicit coherent notion of time** across a distributed systems
 - Worse, due to **drift**, clocks tend to permanently diverge





Time across a network

- **However, a coherent notion of time can be very important for several applications to:**
 - Carry out **actions** at **desired time** instants
 - e.g. synchronous data acquisition, synchronous actuation
 - **Time-stamp** data and events
 - e.g. establish causal relationships that led to a system failure
 - Compute the **age** of data
 - **Coordinate** transmissions
 - e.g. TDMA clock-based systems

But how to synchronize the clocks across the network?



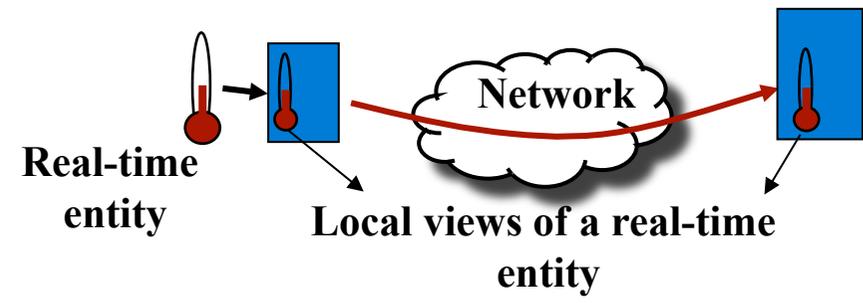
Synchronizing clocks

- **Clocks can be synchronized:**
 - **Externally** – an external source sends a time update regularly (e.g. GPS)
 - **Internally** – nodes exchange messages to come up with a global clock
 - **Master-Slave** – The time master spreads its own clock to all other nodes
 - **Distributed** – All nodes perform a similar role and agree on a common clock, for example, using an average (e.g. FTA, Fault-Tolerant Average)
- Standards: **NTP, SNTP, IEEE 1588**
- **Uncertainties in network-induced delay lead to limitations in the achievable precision**
 - Typical precision with SW methods in small networks is worse than $10\mu\text{s}$
 - With special HW support, it is possible to reach $1\mu\text{s}$ or better

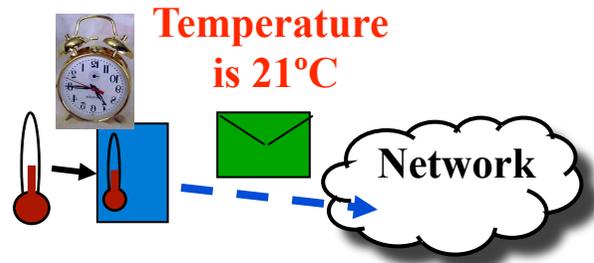
Constraints on the network delay

- Real-time messages must be transmitted within precise time-bounds
 - to assure **coherence** between senders and receivers concerning their **local views** of the respective real-time entities

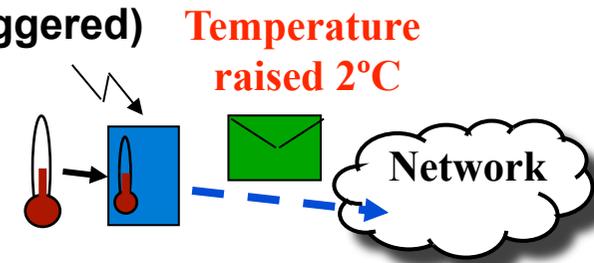
- This applies to both **event and state messages**



State (time-triggered)



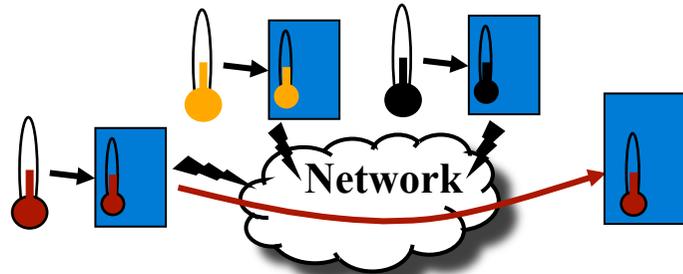
Event / State change (event-triggered)





Event and time-triggered messages

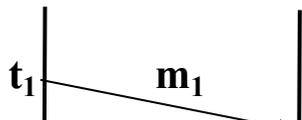
Event-triggered



transmitter

receiver

Temperature raised 2°C



Temperature decreased 2°C



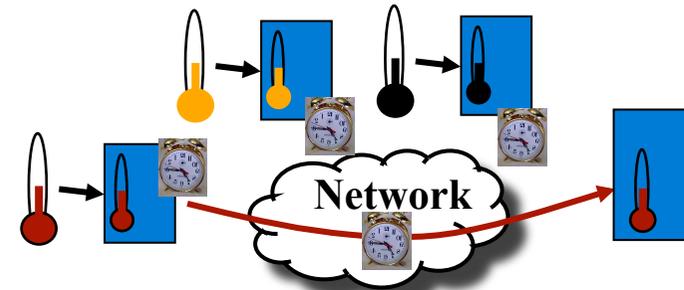
time

What if:
m₂ is lost?

Notice that:
 $\Delta t = t_2 - t_1$ is unbounded

Typical solutions involve limiting Δt (e.g. with heartbeat)

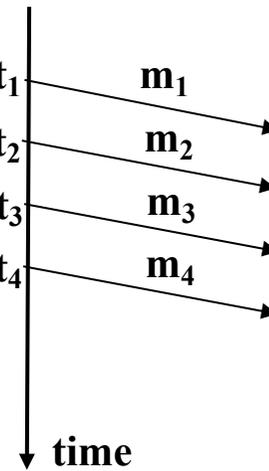
Time-triggered



transmitter

receiver

Temp = 20°C t₁
Temp = 20°C t₂
Temp = 21°C t₃
Temp = 22°C t₄



time

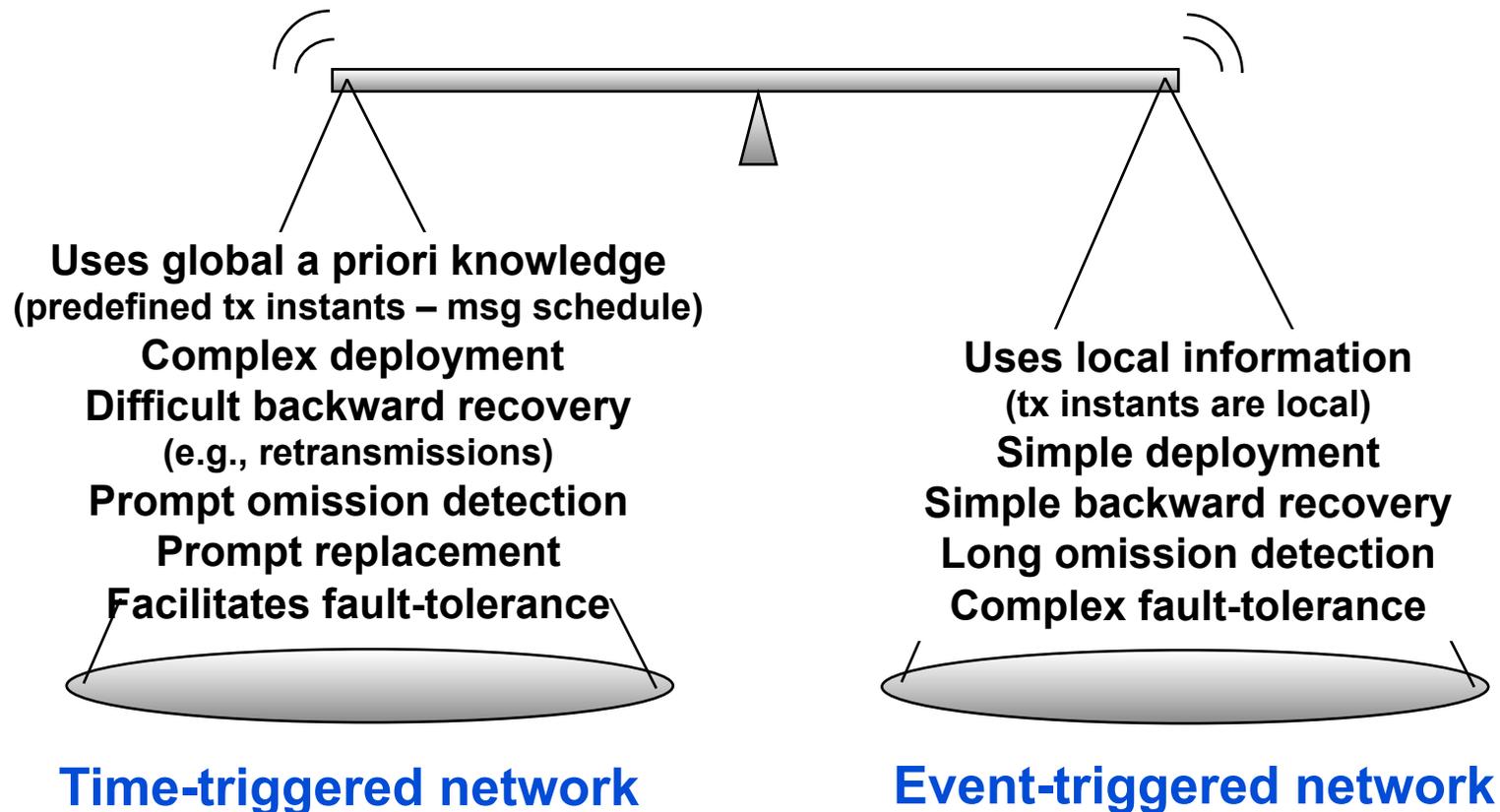
Notice:

$\Delta t = t_i - t_{i-1}$ set according to system dynamics

Losing one message causes inconsistency during Δt



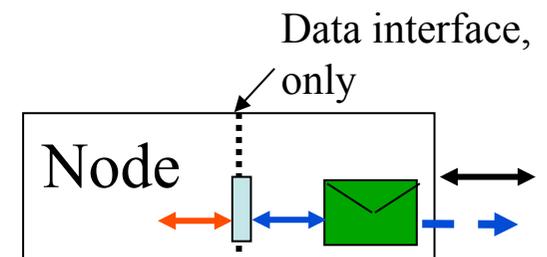
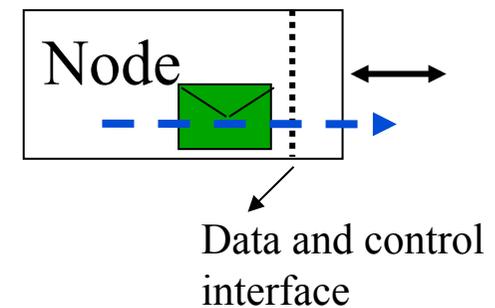
Event vs time triggering



How to support event & state messages efficiently?

Transmission control

- **Determines who triggers network transactions, application or network**
 - **External control**
 - Transactions are **triggered** upon explicit control signal from the **application**.
 - Messages are queued at the interface.
 - **Highly sensitive to application design/faults.**
 - **Autonomous control**
 - The network **triggers** transactions **autonomously**.
 - No control signal crosses the CNI.
 - Applications **exchange data** with the network by means of **buffers**.
 - **Deterministic behavior.**



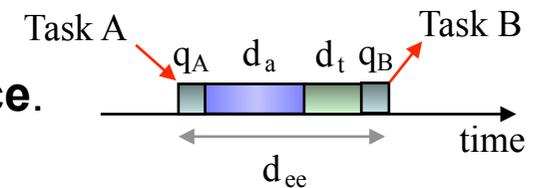
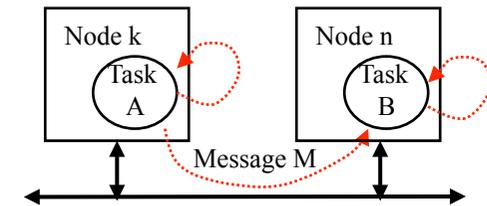


Information flow

• Determining end-to-end delay

– ET-network with external control

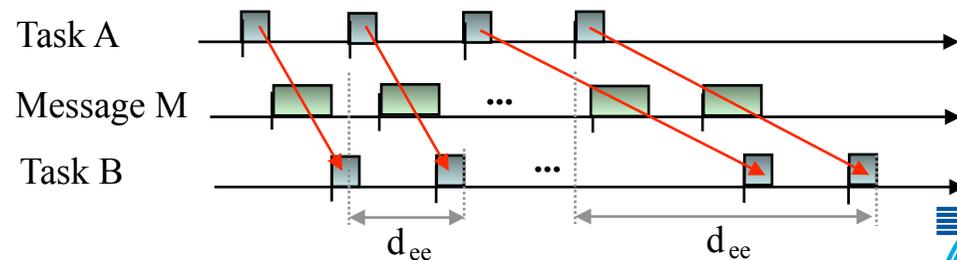
- Transactions are composed of several **elementary actions** carried out **in sequence**.



– TT-network with autonomous control

- The **elementary actions** in each intervenient (transmitter, network, receiver) are **decoupled**, spinning at an appropriate rate.

Requires relative phase control to avoid high delays and jitter





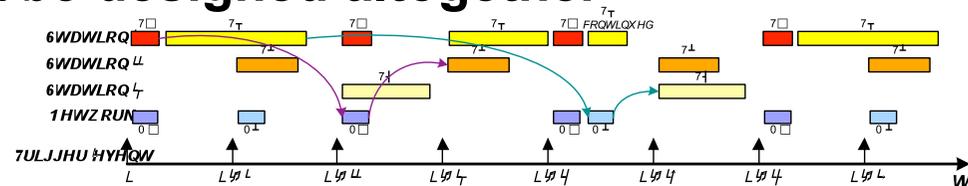
Information flow

In a TT-network

- The **tight control** of the **relative phase** required between all system activities (message transmissions and task executions) **imposes rigid architectural constraints**

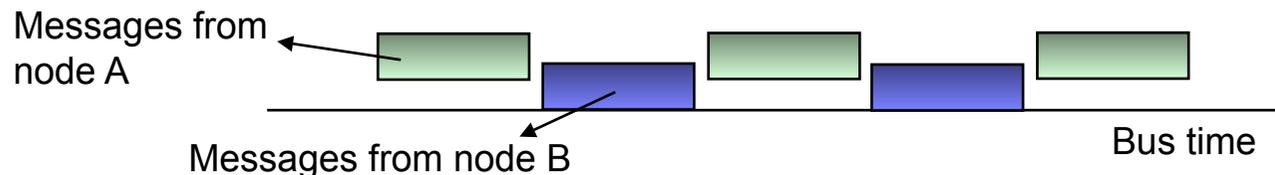
- **Time-triggered architecture**

- The **whole system** must be **designed altogether** (network and nodes)



- However, once the network is designed, **nodes will not interfere with each other** (transmissions occur in disjoint intervals)

- **Composability with respect to temporal behavior**





Inside the protocol stack



Physical entities & technologies

- **Computing - nodes**

- Desktop and Laptop PCs

- Embedded PCs
- Single-board computers
- Micro-controllers, specific processors, FPGAs, ...

DES

! Several of these technologies were developed for general purpose systems
→ potential impact on efficiency...

- **Communication - networks**

- Public telephony networks (ADSL, GPRS, UMTS...)

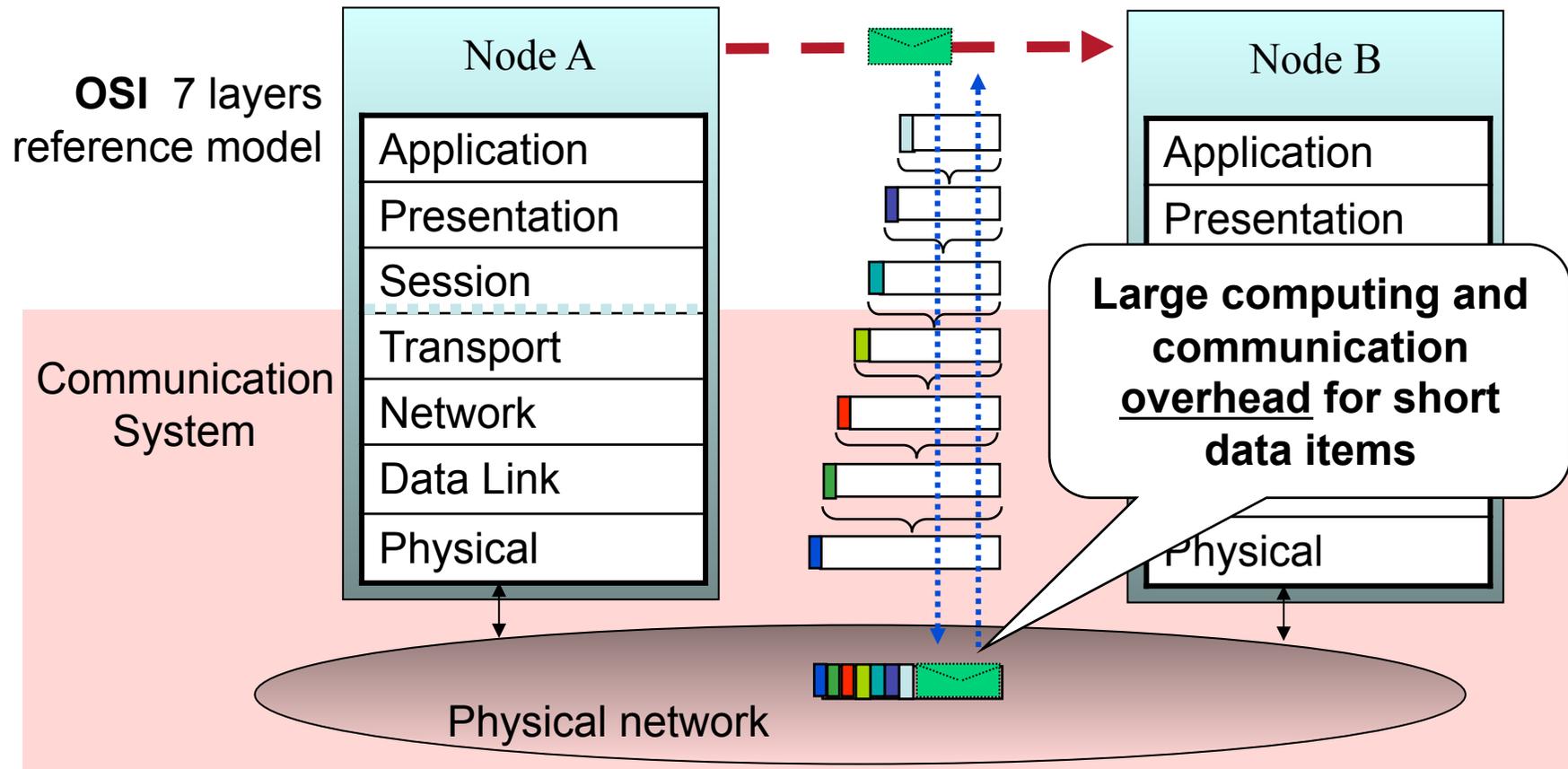
- Local Area Networks (Ethernet, WiFi, ...)
- Control networks (CAN, FlexRay, PROFIBUS, ...)

DES

- Powerline networks (X10, HomePlug, ...)
- Personal Area Networks (Bluetooth, IrDA, ...)
- Sensor Networks (ZigBee, RFID, ...)



The *not only physical* communication process (the OSI protocol stack)





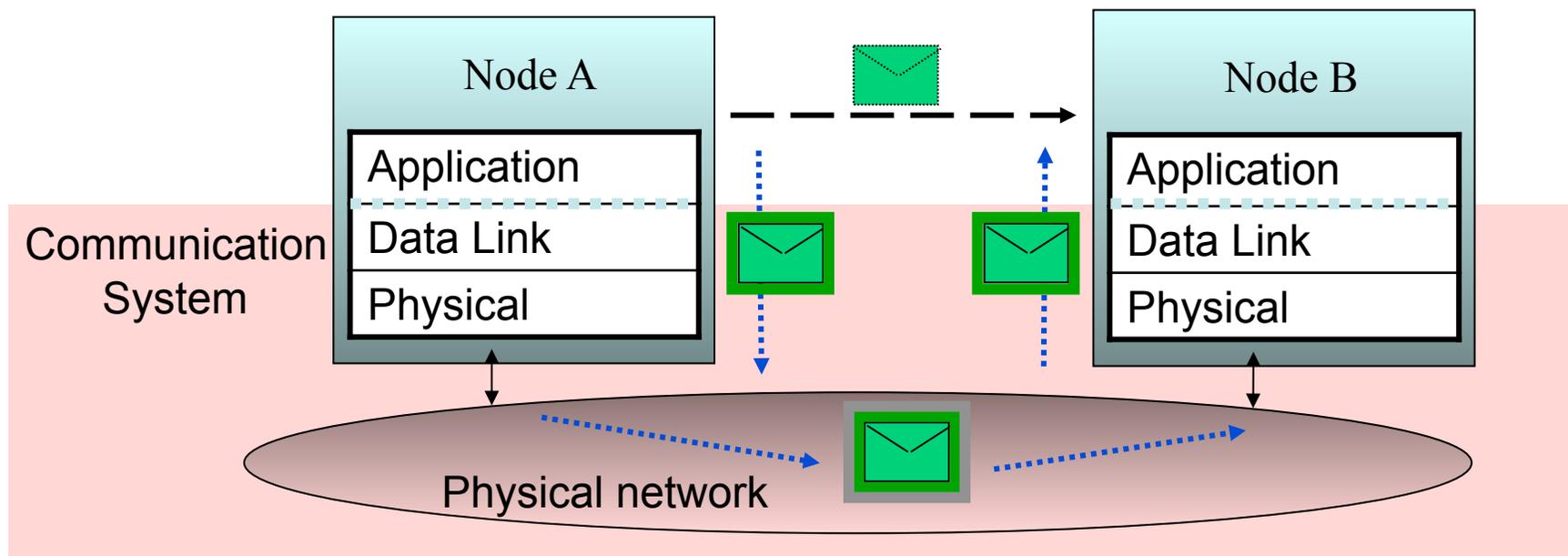
Requirements for an embedded / real-time protocol stack

- **The end-to-end communication delay must be bounded**
 - All services at all layers must be **time-bounded**
 - Requires appropriate **time-bounded protocols**
- **The 7 layers impose a considerable overhead...**
 - **Time to execute** the protocol stack (can be dominant wrt tx time)
 - **Time to transmit** protocol control information (wrt to original data)
 - **Memory requirements** (for all intermediate protocol invocations)
- **Many embedded / real-time networks**
 - are dedicated to a well defined application (no need for presentation)
 - use single broadcast domain (no need for routing)
 - use short messages (no need to fragment/reassemble)



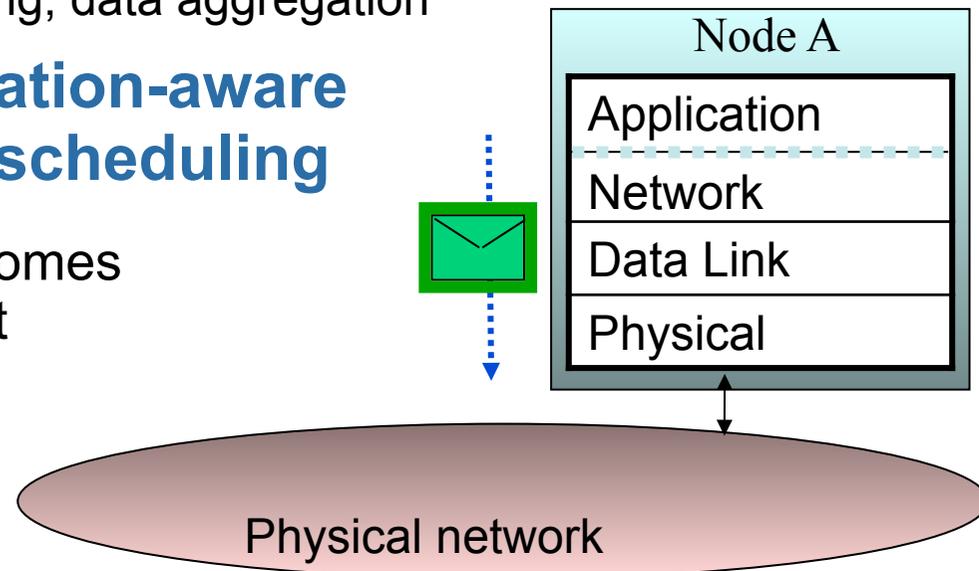
OSI collapsed model

- **Application services access the Data Link directly**
 - Services from other layers maybe present
- **In process control and factory automation these networks are called Fieldbuses**



Ubiquitous systems (e.g., WSN)

- **A network layer with routing services is fundamental**
 - multi-hop communication, logical addresses
- **Some more complex application layers**
 - Specific middlewares with certain services
 - Localization, tracking, data aggregation
- **Energy-aware / location-aware routing and traffic scheduling**
 - Synchronization becomes particularly important





Issues in the Physical Layer

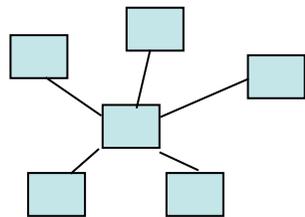


Physical layer

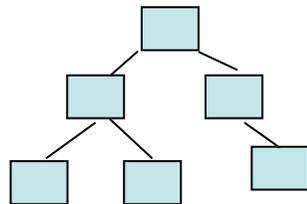
- **Issues related with the physical layer:**
 - **Interconnection topology**
 - **Physical medium**
 - Coding of digital information
 - **Transmission rate**
 - Maximum interconnection length
 - Max number of nodes
 - Feeding power through the network
 - **Energy Consumption**
 - Immunity to EMI
 - Intrinsic safety

Physical layer

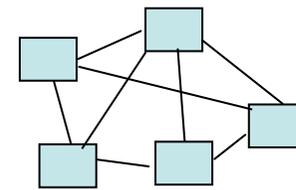
- **Interconnection topology**



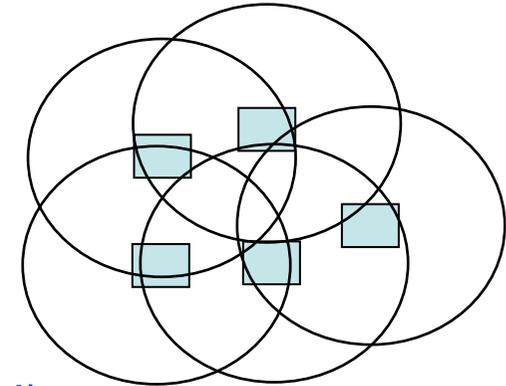
Star



Tree



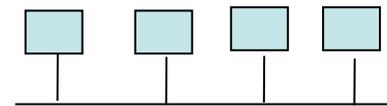
Mesh (wired)



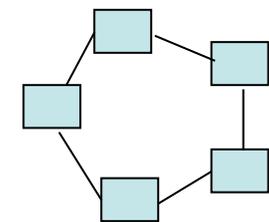
Mesh (wireless-RF)

- **Physical medium**

- **Copper wiring**
- Optical fibers
- **Wireless – Radio Frequency**
- Wireless – Infra-red light



Bus



Ring



Physical layer

- **Propagation delay ($\delta = L/V$)**
 - Caused by the **limited speed** of the electromagnetic wave
 - Typically, about **5ns/m in copper cables, 3.3ns/m in the air**
- **Bit length ($b = \delta * Tx_rate$)**
 - Number of bits traveling on the medium at the same time
 - High bandwidth networks always have $b > 1$
 - $b < 1 \rightarrow$ all nodes “see” the same bit at a time (CAN)
- **Wireless propagation**
 - **Strong attenuation**
 - **Free-space attenuation model**, increases with log of distance
 - Establishes a **communication range** and an **interference range**
 - Cause of **hidden-nodes** but also allows **spatial channel reuse**
 - **Multi-path fading, directional antennas, asymmetric links...**



Physical layer

- **Energy consumption**

- Very **complex relationship** among transmission power, bit rate, frame rate, network traffic, error control coding, retransmissions policy, type of medium access control and physical bit encoding. **Need to trade-off.**

- **Example of energy trade-offs in wireless**

- **Higher data rate** uses more energy but **transmissions take less time** (however, probability of errors and retransmissions also increases)
- In a mesh-like network (WSNs), **higher tx power** might **reduce the number of hops**, thus less energy spent in storing and forwarding
- **Asynchronous transmissions** (ET-like) reduce power on tx but **receivers may need to be awake** all the time!
- **Collisions require retransmissions** but **avoiding** them requires a **synchronization mechanism**

Issues in the Data Link Layer



Data link layer

- **Issues related with the data link layer:**
 - **Addressing**
 - **Logical link control – LLC**
 - Flow control
 - Transmission error control
 - **Medium access control – MAC**
(for shared media)



Data link layer

- **Addressing**

Identification of the parts involved in a network transaction

- **Direct addressing**

The **sender and receiver(s) are explicitly identified** in every transaction, using physical addresses (as in Ethernet)

- **Indirect (source) addressing**

The **message contents** are explicitly identified (e.g. temperature of sensor X). Receivers that need the message, retrieve it from the network (as in CAN and WorldFIP)

- **Indirect (time-based) addressing**

The message is **identified by the time** instant at which it is transmitted (as in TTP)



Data link layer

- **Logical Link Control**

Deals with the transfer of network packets

- Might have an **impact on the network delay** depending on whether **sender/receiver synchronization** is used
 - e.g., ack. mechanisms, retry mechanisms, request data on reply
 - **Retries mechanisms** (e.g., PAR, ARQ) might have a strong **negative impact** on the data **timeliness**...
 - No point on continue trying to transmit out-dated values



Data Link Layer

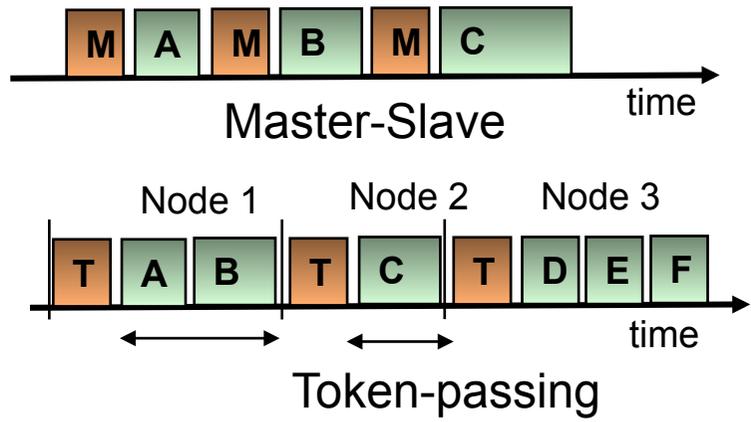
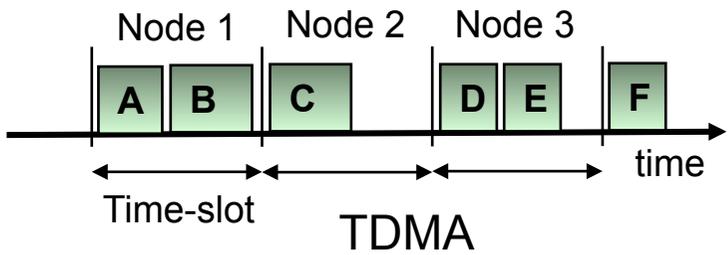
- **Medium Access Control**
Determines the waiting time to access the network
 - It has a **large impact** on the **network delay**
- **Two main families**
 - **Controlled access**
 - based on transmission control
 - The network says when to transmit
 - **Uncontrolled access**
 - based on arbitration (typically CSMA-based)
 - The nodes try to transmit immediately when needed

Temporal multiplexing

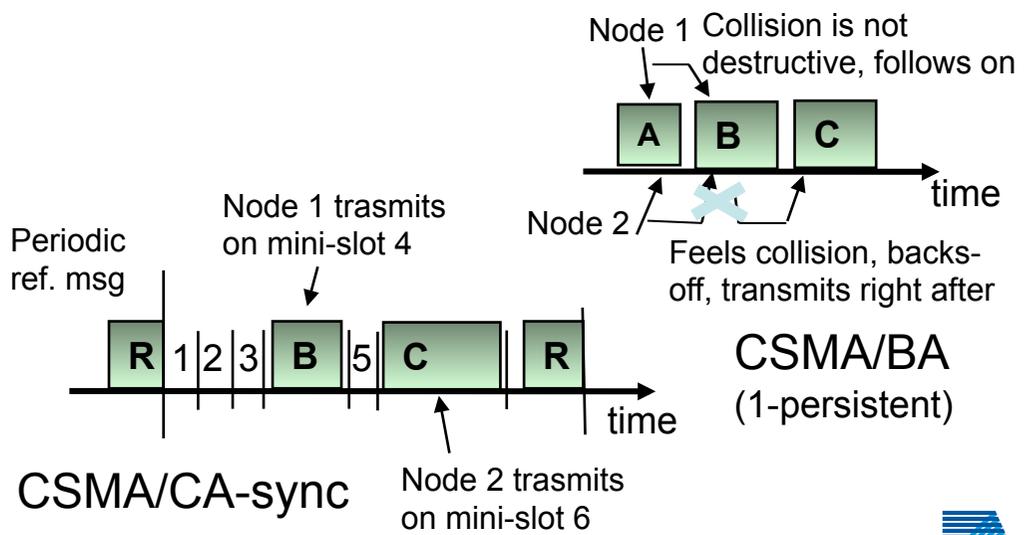
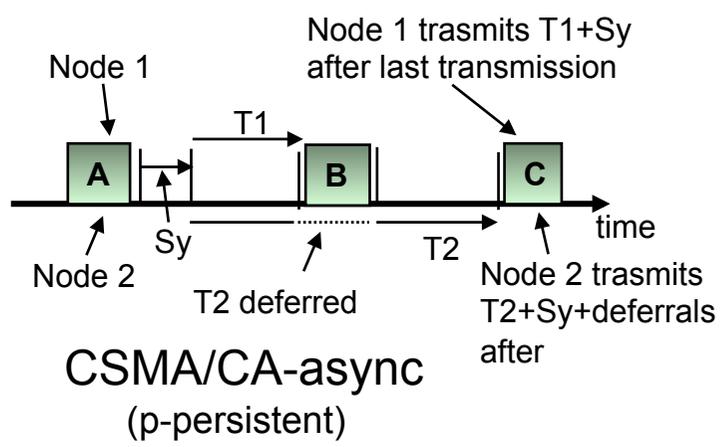


Data Link Layer

Controlled access



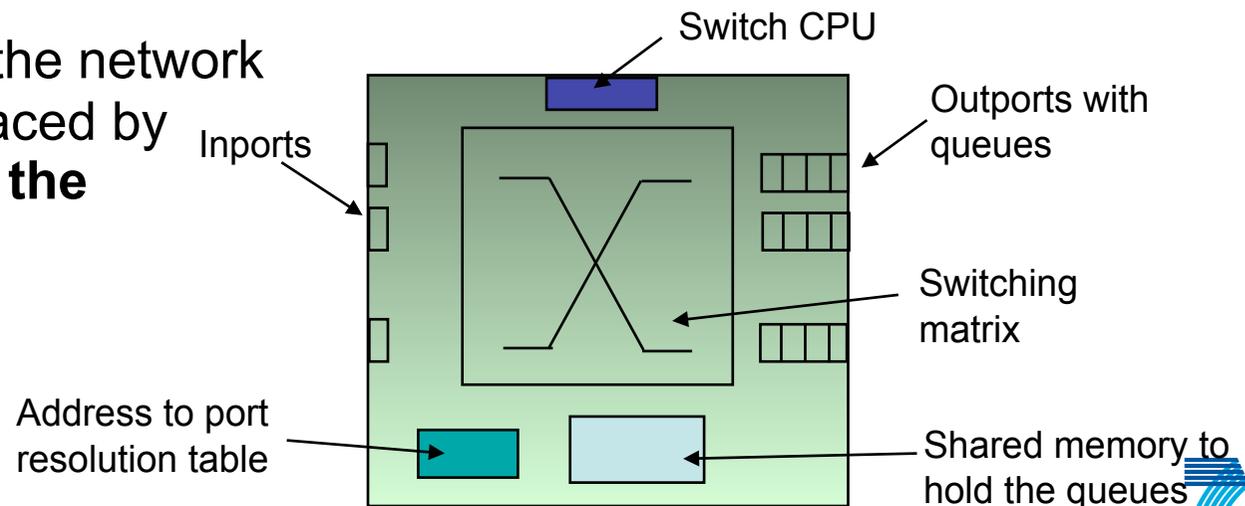
Uncontrolled access





Data Link Layer

- **Frequency multiplexing**
 - Wireless channels (not truly isolated...)
- **Switched**
micro-segmented network with central switching hub
 - Nodes send asynchronously messages to the switch using point-to-point links – **no shared medium, no collisions**
 - Contention at the network access is replaced by **contention at the output ports**





Issues in the Network Layer



Network layer

- **Issues related with the network layer:**
 - Logical addressing
 - Routing



Network layer

- **Logical Addressing**

- Independence of higher protocols wrt the physical hardware
- Requires an ARP (address resolution protocol)

- **Routing**

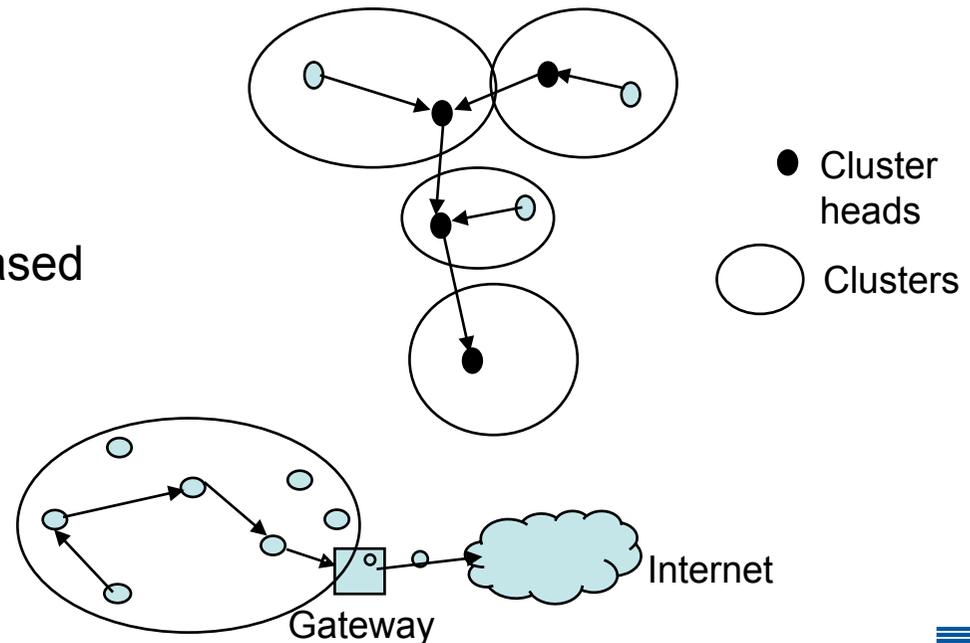
- **Ad-hoc routing**

- Flat routing
- Hierarchical / Cluster-based

- **Inter-network routing**

- **Setting routes**

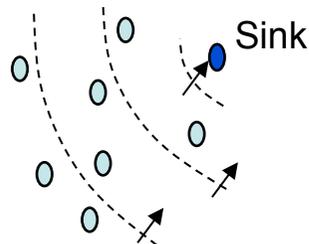
- Proactive
- Reactive





Network layer

- **Channel reuse in space**
 - Nodes that are sufficiently apart can transmit simultaneously
 - communication range versus interfering range
- **Synchronized frameworks**
 - Communication occurs in slots that are defined across the network (TDMA fashion)
 - Require synchronization (clock, beacons)
 - Enables reducing the data routing delay by defining adequate transmission (slot) sequences
 - Enables controlling on-off switching for energy saving



Issues in the Application Layer



Application layer

- **Issues related with the application layer**
 - Set of services that are common for a class of applications
 - (Middleware issues)
 - Transparency wrt Distribution, OS, Languages...
 - Support for different programming paradigms (SO, OO, CB...)
 - **Cooperation model**
 - Client-Server
 - Producer-Consumer
 - Producer-Distributor-Consumer
 - Publisher-Subscriber



Application layer

- **Client-Server**

- **Servers hold** information. **Clients request** it
 - Transactions **triggered by the receivers** (clients)
 - Typically based on **unicast** transmission (one to one comm.)
- Transactions can be **synchronous** (client blocks until server answers) or **asynchronous** (client follows execution after issuing the request)

- **Producer-Consumer**

- **Producers disseminate** information. **Consumers use** it
 - Transactions **triggered by the senders** (producers).
 - Based on **broadcast** transmission (each message is received by all)



Application layer

- **Producer-Distributor-Consumer**
 - Similar to Producer-Consumer
 - Adds a **central scheduler** to control Producers transmissions
- **Publisher-Subscriber**
 - Uses concept of **group communication**
 - Nodes must adhere to groups either as **publisher** (produces information) or as **subscriber** (consumes information)
 - Transactions are **triggered by the publisher** of a group and disseminated among the **respective subscribers**, only (multicast)

Communication technologies for (Distributed / networks) embedded systems

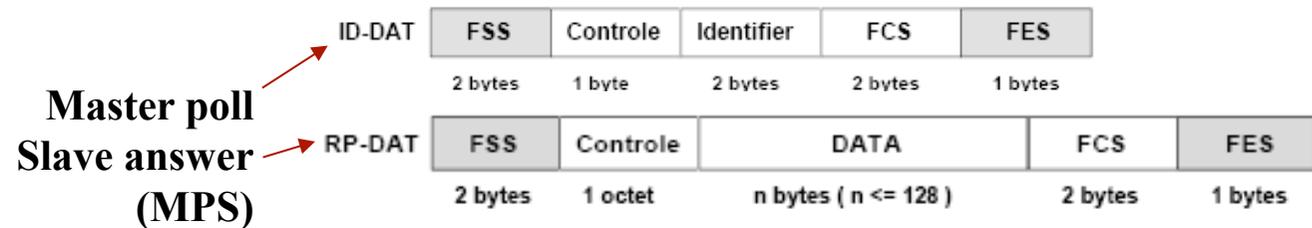


WorldFIP

Factory Instrumentation Protocol

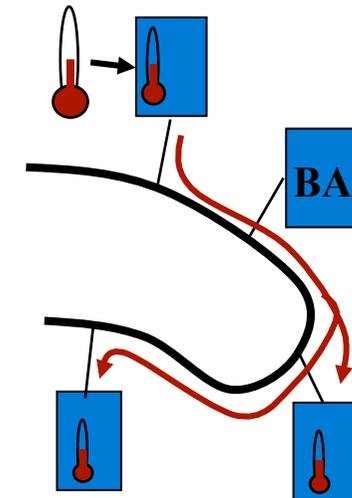
www.worldfip.org

- ✓ Created, in the 80s, in France for use in process control and factory automation.
- ✓ 2 messaging systems:
 - ✓ **MPS – real-time** services, periodic, aperiodic;
MMS (ISO 9506) subset – non-real-time messaging
 - ✓ **Data payload between 0 and 128 bytes (256 for NRT)**
 - ✓ **Source-addressing (message identifiers with 16 bits)**
 - ✓ **Master-Slave bus access control**
 - ✓ BA - Bus Arbitrator



WorldFIP

- ✓ MPS – *Messagerie Periodique e Sporadique*
- ✓ Producer-Distributor-Consumer middleware
- ✓ **Concept of Network Variable**
 - ✓ Entity that is distributed (several local copies coexist in different nodes)
 - ✓ Can be **periodic** or **aperiodic**
 - ✓ Local copies of **periodic variables** are **automatically refreshed** by the network
 - ✓ Local copies of **aperiodic variables** are refreshed by the network upon **explicit request**



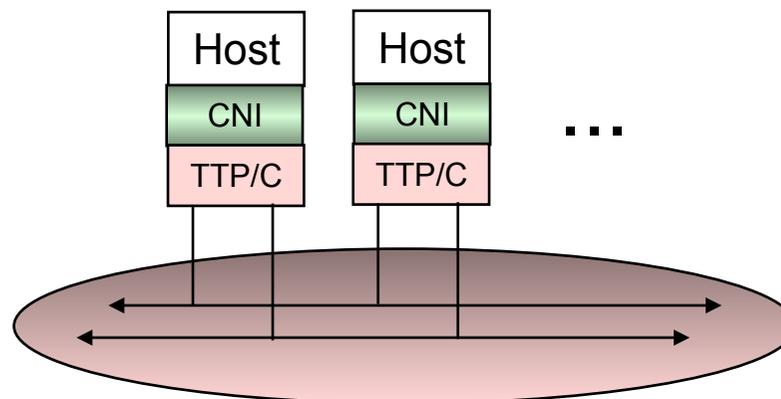


TTP/C

Time-Triggered Protocol

www.tttech.com

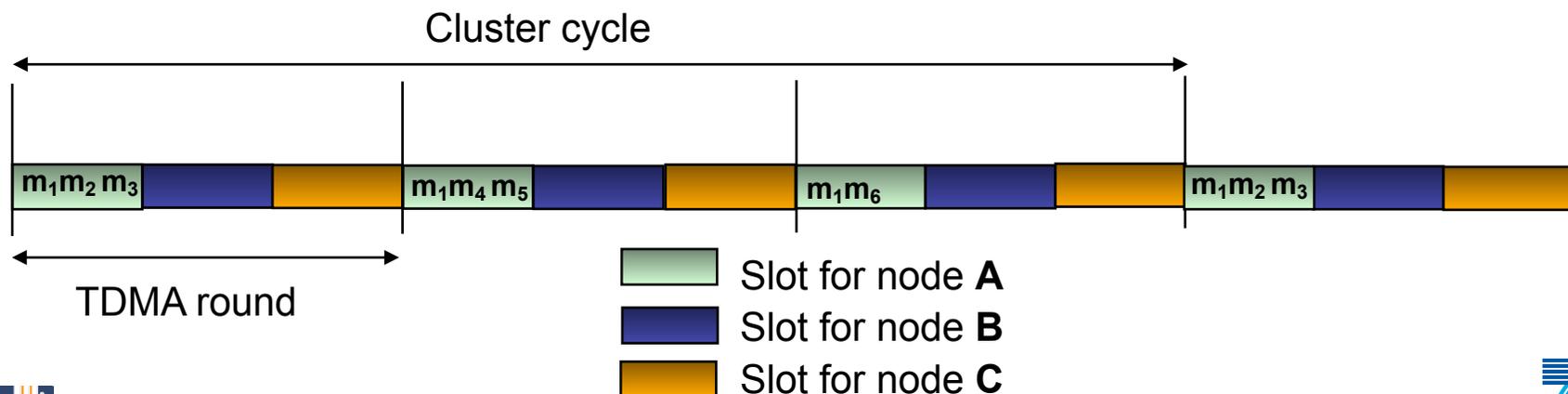
- Created around 1990 within the **MARS project** in the Technical University of Vienna
- Aims at **safety-critical** applications
- Considers an architecture with **nodes integrated in fault-tolerant units (FTUs)**, interconnected by a **replicated bus**
- Includes support for **prompt error detection** and **consistency checks** as well as **membership** and **clock synchronization** services.





TTP/C

- **TDMA access** with **one slot** allocated **per node** and **per round**
- The periodic sequence of slots is a **TDMA round** (typical values 1-10ms)
- In **each slot** the respective node may send **one frame** (up to 240B)
- Each **frame** may contain **several messages**
- The periodic sequence of messages is a **Cluster cycle**
- All **message transmission** instants are stored in a **distributed static table**, the MEDL





PROFIBUS

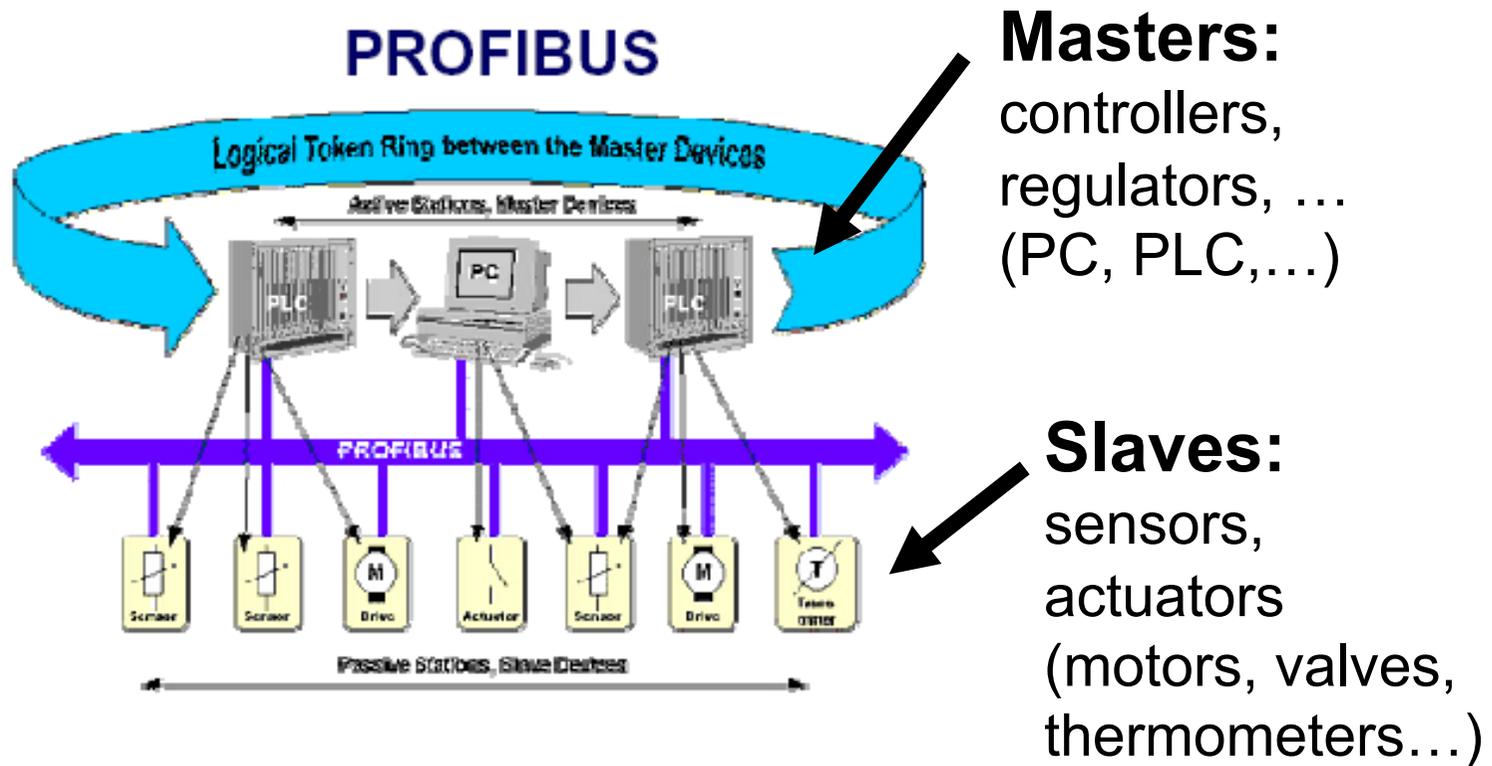
PROcess FieldBUS

www.profibus.com

- Created in the late 80's by Siemens, in Germany
- Two main application profiles (client-server middlewares):
 - PROFIBUS / FMS - Fieldbus Message Specification
 - PROFIBUS / DP - Decentralised Peripherals
 - The most common profile (~90%)
- Data payload between 0 and 246 bytes
- Direct-addressing (1 byte, possibly extended)
- Hybrid bus access control
 - Token-passing among masters
 - Master-Slave in each individual data transaction

PROFIBUS

- General architecture





CAN

Controller Area Network

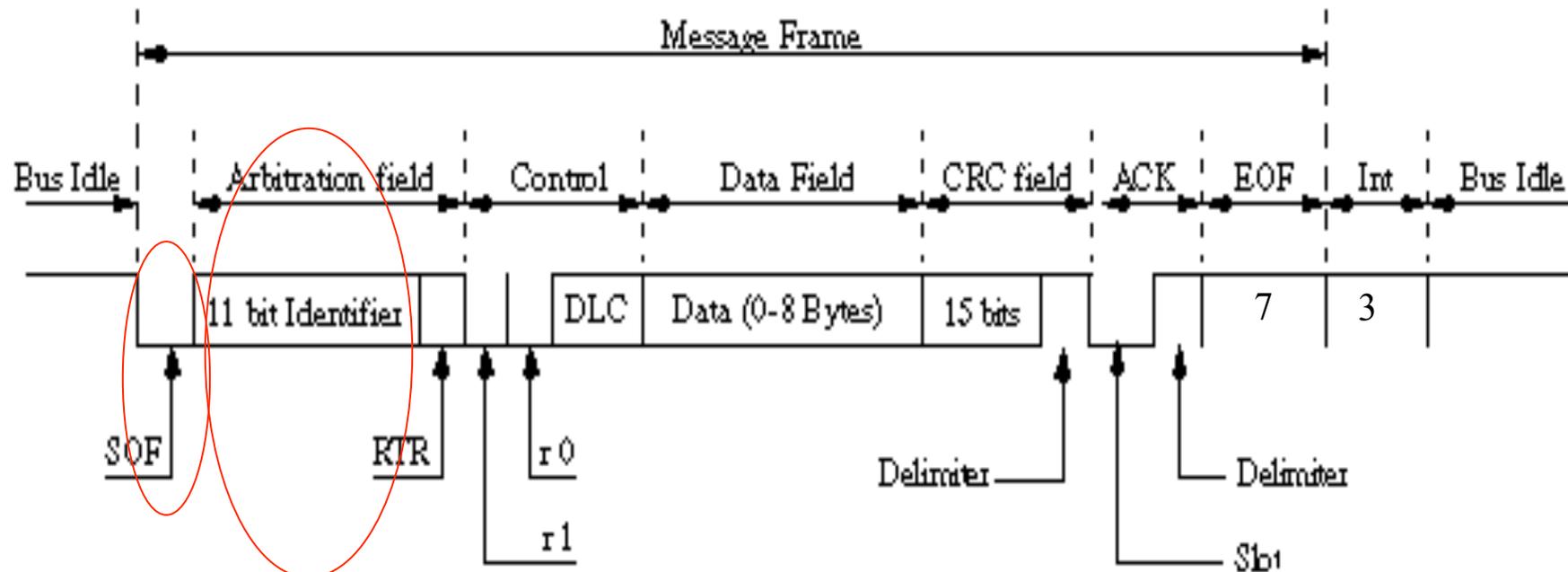
www.can-cia.de

- Created in the early 90s by Bosch, GmbH, for use in the automotive industry.
- Data **payload** between **0 and 8 bytes**
- **Source-addressing** (message identifiers) with 11 bits in version A and 29 bits in version B
- **Asynchronous bus access** (CSMA type)
- **Non-destructive arbitration** based on message identifiers (establish priority)
 - Bit-wise deterministic collision resolution CSMA/BA (CA?,DCR?)



CAN

- CAN 2.0A message frame

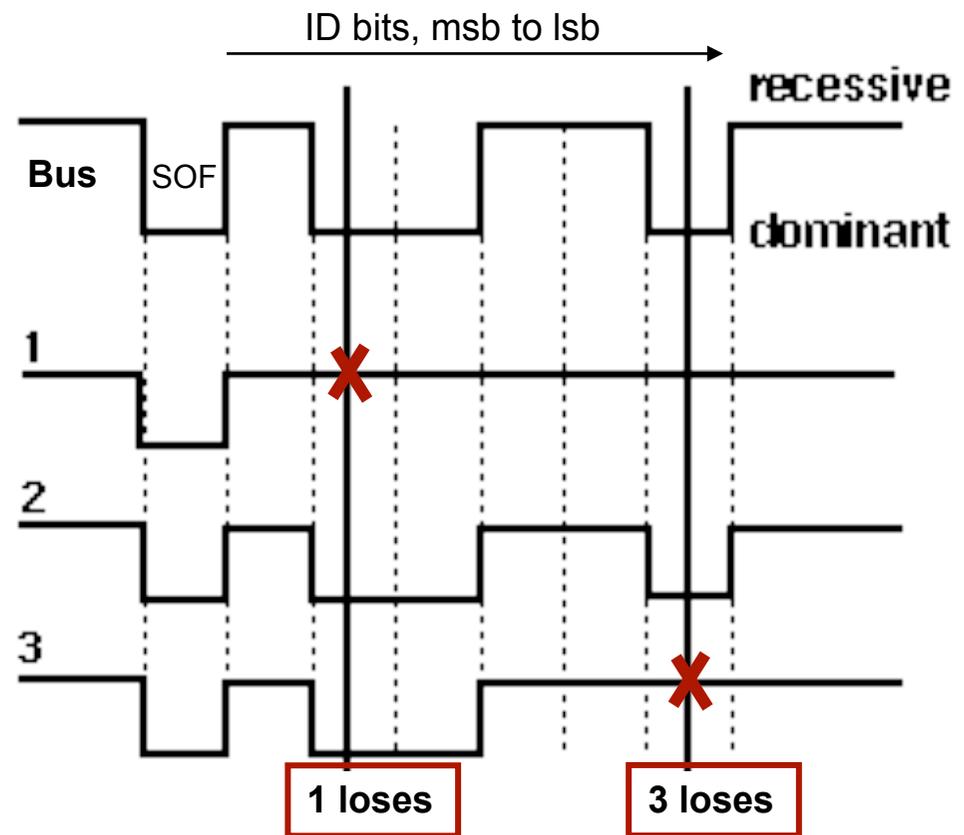




CAN

- **Prioritized arbitration**

- All nodes transmit and listen every bit
- If different, then lost arbitration and backoff





CANopen – a middleware for CAN

CAN-in-Automation

<http://www.can-cia.com>

- **Key features:**
 - **Process data** shared with the **producer/consumer** model
 - Standardized **device description** and **methods**
 - data, parameters, functions, programs
 - Standardized services for **device monitoring**
 - e.g. membership functions based on heartbeats
 - **System services:** synchronization message, central time-stamp message (e.g. synchronous data acquisition)
 - **Emergency messages**
 - Adopted by other protocols (e.g. Ethernet POWERLINK)



CANopen

- **Process Data Objects (PDO)**
 - Carry actual application data; broadcast, producer/consumer cooperation model, unacknowledged
 - Asynchronous PDOs (event-triggered)
 - Synchronous PDOs (time-triggered based on Sync Object)
- **Service data objects (SDO) - device configuration**
 - Read/write device OD entries, following sync client/server model
- **Network management (NMT)**
 - Node monitoring
 - Control their communication state



Ethernet

standards.ieee.org/getieee802/802.3.html

- Created in the mid 70s (!) at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center.
- CSMA/CD non-deterministic arbitration (**outdated...**)
 - 1-persistent transmission (transmits with 100% probability as soon as the medium is considered free)
 - Collisions can occur during the interval of one slot after start of transmission (512 bits)
 - When a collision is detected a jamming signal is sent (32 bits long)
- Frames vary between 64 (min) and 1518 (max) octets



Ethernet

- **Using switches**

- Became the **most common solution**

- Current switches are **wire-speed** (non-blocking)
 - 802.1D – possibly with **multiple priority queues** (802.1p)
 - 802.1Q – **Virtual LANs**

- Not perfect !

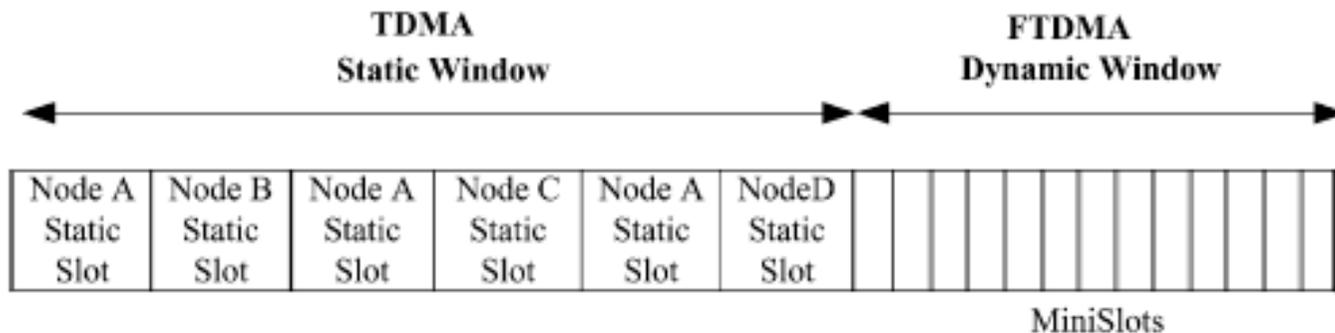
- **Priority inversions** in queues (normally FIFO)
 - **Mutual interference** through shared memory and CPU
 - **Additional forwarding delay** (with jitter caused by address table look up, address learning, flooding)
 - Delays vary with switch technology and internal traffic handling algorithms



FlexRay

www.flexray.com

- Created in the early 2000s by an industrial consortium from the **automotive domain**.
- First public specifications available since 2004
- Is expected to replace CAN and contend with TTP/C !
- **Tx rate up to 10Mbit/s**

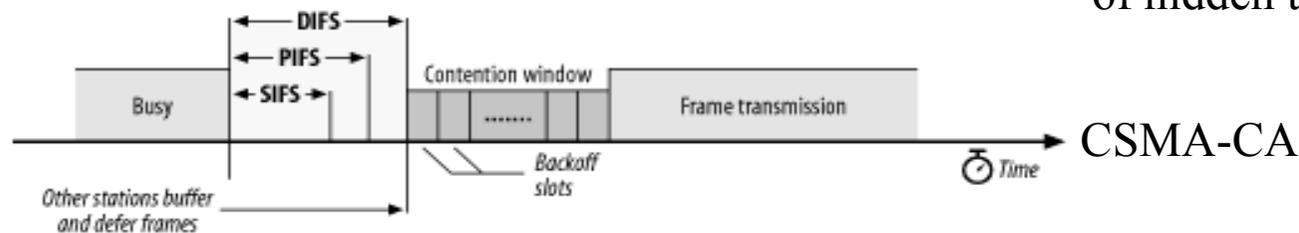




WiFi (802.11)

standards.ieee.org/getieee802/802.11.html

- Created in the 1990s for the SOHO domain and widely used for WLANs
- **3 modes/bands:** 802.11b/g (ISM-2.4GHz), 802.11a (5GHz)
- Scalable Tx rates between **1Mbit/s and 54Mbit/s**
- Many mechanisms to **reduce collisions** and **hidden-terminals**
- Growing interest for **QoS support** (initial PCF mode was abandoned, currently there is a new mode, 802.11e)

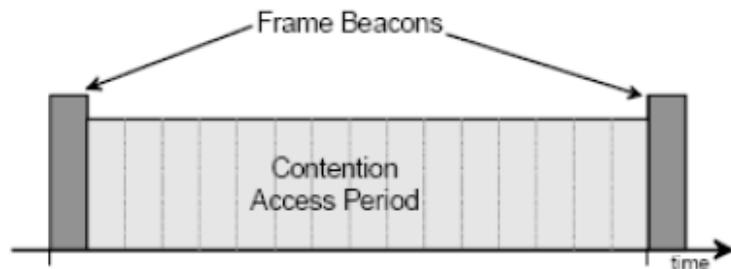




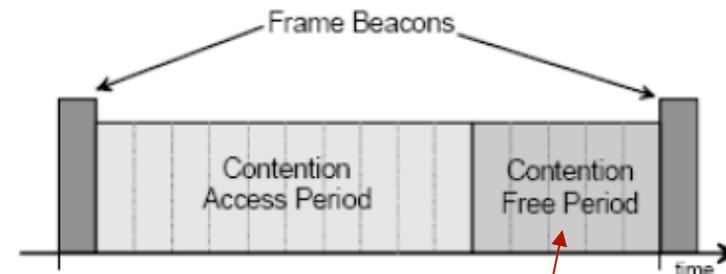
ZigBee

www.ZigBee.org

- Created in the early 2000s for **wireless monitoring and control**. Targets wireless sensor networks.
- Works on top of **802.15.4**, a PAN DLL. 3 bands: ISM-2.4GHz, 868/915 MHz. Targets **very low consumption**.
- Data rate of **250 Kbit/s** with range **up to 300m**
- **Beacon mode** and possible PAN coordinator to structure cells and QoS support. Structured and peer-to-peer modes. Routing support.
- Up to 65K nodes (full and reduced function devices)



Superframe without GTS
(Guaranteed Time Slot)



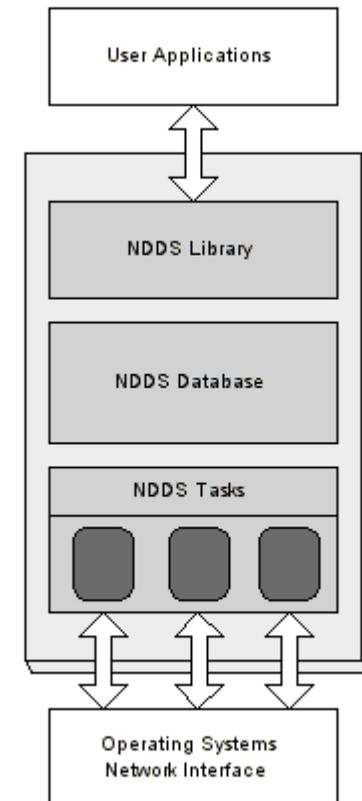
Superframe with GTS
(Guaranteed Time Slot)



DDS - Data Delivery Service

portals.omg.org/dds

- **Real-Time Publisher-Subscriber** middleware for distributed real-time and embedded systems
- Standardized by **OMG** (Object Management Group)
- **DDS database shared among all nodes**, which have an holistic view on the communication requirements
- Publishers create “**topics**” (e.g. temperature) and publish “**samples**”
- Addressing, delivery, flow control, handled by DDS

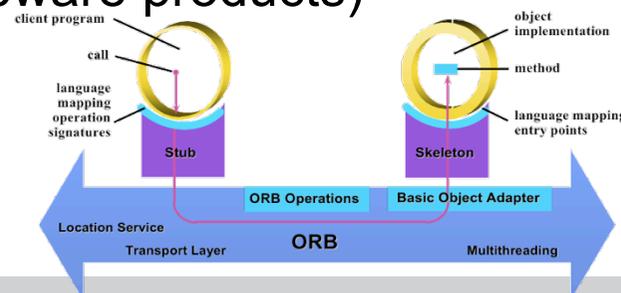




CORBA - Common Object Request Broker Architecture

www.corba.org

- **Open specification proposed by the OMG**
- **Objective**
 - Clients use remote objects as if they were local
- **Main features**
 - **Interoperability** between languages and platforms
 - Windows, Linux, Unix, MacOS, **QNX, VxWorks**, ...
 - Ethernet, CAN, Internet, ...
 - Ada, C, C++, Java, Python, ...
 - Multiple vendors (some are freeware products)
 - Many profiles
 - **Minimum CORBA, RT-CORBA, FT-CORBA,**

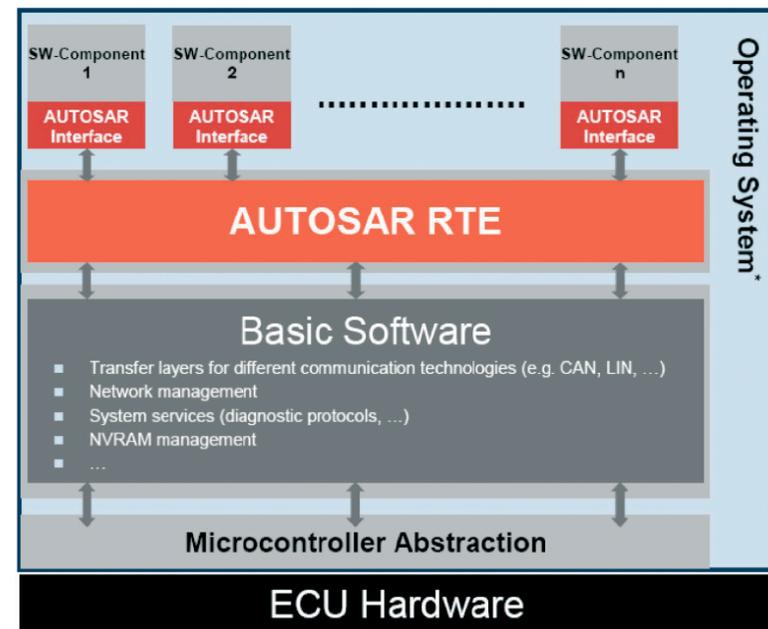




AUTOSAR

www.autosar.org

- Proposed by a consortium of automotive industries
- Aims at separating functionality from execution HW
 - Soft AUTOSAR components
- Improve efficiency in using system resources
- Reduce number of active components and costs
- Manage complexity
- Give more design freedom to the OEM wrt subsystem providers
- Similar trends in avionics (IMA) and industrial automation (IEC 61499)



Some open issues



Some open issues

- **In wired networks (DES or U/NES)**
 - Combining RT and nonRT nodes in a bandwidth efficient manner
 - Support virtualization in the network towards higher composability and robustness
 - Explore the use of stars to increase the robustness wrt errors and temporal misbehaviors and enforce partitions
 - How to guarantee non-functional properties with HW agnostic software components?
 - Adaptive QoS guaranteed channels (dynamic QoS management)
 - ...



Some open issues

- **In wireless networks (U/NES)**
 - Improve synchronization for better RT behavior
 - For channel spatial reuse, wave-like data routing
 - MACs & routing to further improve energy savings
 - Virtualization in large scale networks
 - Resource reservation
 - The *hole problem* in routing
 - Resilience to interference
 - Improving frequency multiplexing
 - Exploiting new techniques, e.g., cognitive radio...
 - Improve bandwidth efficiency with new coding techniques
 - E.g., Network coding
 - ...



Conclusion

- The **network is a fundamental component** within a distributed or networked system (supports **system integration**)
- **Real-time coordination** in a multi-node system requires **time-bounded communication**
 - appropriate protocols must be used
- We have seen a brief overview of the **techniques and technologies** used in the **networks and middlewares for embedded systems**
- Still many **open issues** remain in trying to **improve the timeliness, robustness and efficiency** of the communication