# Architecture and Mechanisms of Etherware for Cyber-Physical Systems

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# Outline

#### • Networked Control Systems

- Etherware : A Middleware for Networked Control Systems
- Real-Time Enhancement of the Etherware
- A Networked Inverted Pendulum Control System

## Cyber-Physical System

- Cyber-Physical Systems
  - Systems with computing, communication, and physical entities
  - Networked Control System (NCS)
- Characteristics of NCS
  - Large scale
  - Openness
  - Time-critical
  - Safety-critical



# Challenges for NCS Development

- Challenges for NCS Development
  - Platform heterogeneity
  - Clock offset and skew difference
  - Communication delay and packet loss
  - Support for continuous system evolution
  - 0 ...
- It is hard to develop a NCS application
- Need for a well-designed *Middleware* for rapid, reliable, and evolvable NCS application development





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#### Etherware Architecture

- Etherware
  - A Middleware for NCS developed at the University of Illinois [Baliga'05, Kim'10]
  - For rapid implementation of a reliable and evolvable NCS application
- Microkernel Architecture
  - Etherware Kernel
  - Components
- Component-based Application Development
- Message oriented Communication



## Message Delivery

- Message Class
  - An XML document
  - Profile: Name of the Message Receiver
    - E.g., controller for car 1
  - Content: Interaction semantics
  - Time Stamp: Time when Message is created
- Etherware Kernel
  - Deliverable address lookup from Profile
  - Receiver Component gets executed when it receives a Message
    - → Event-driven system





#### **Component Model**

- Software Design Patterns
  - Façade, Strategy, Memento
- Provide Flexibility
  - Runtime replacement of Component Logic
  - Runtime externalization of Component State



#### **Etherware Services**

- ProfileRegistry
  - Map a profile (semantic name) to a deliverable address
- NetworkMessenger
  - Maintain network connection between Etherware processes
  - Send/receive Message over network
- NetworkTime
  - Estimate time differences between computing nodes
  - Translate timestamp in each remote message from remote time to local time
- Notifier
  - Provide time-driven message, called Notification

# MessageStream and Filter Mechanisms

- MessageStream
  - 1-to-1 communication channel between components
  - Ordered and unreliable communication
    - Useful for control applications
- Filter
  - A mechanism for easy data collection
  - A Tap is created in a MessageStream to intercept messages



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#### Design for Temporal Guarantees

- Message Delivery in Etherware
  - Non-concurrent
  - First In First Out (FIFO) order
- Design Goal
  - Temporal Predictability
  - Flexibility
- Hierarchical Scheduling Mechanism
  - Static classification at first stage
  - Dynamic ordering at second stage

# Quality of Service (QoS) of Message Delivery

- Quality of Service (QoS)
  - A collection of attribute that is used in scheduling for Message delivery
  - Period, relative deadline, absolute deadline, criticality of a Message
- QoS Specification
  - QoS XML element in Message class
  - Message is scheduled based on the QoS specification and a *scheduling policy*



#### Preemptive Concurrent Message Delivery

- Concurrency
  - Dispatching Module: A set of Dispatchers
- Preemption
  - Assign a fixed *priority* to each Dispatcher
  - Each Dispatcher has a prioritized job queue
- Thread Scheduling Rule (TSR)
  - A policy for Dispatching Module configuration



**Dispatcher 1** 

# Preemptive Concurrent Message Delivery (continued)

- Job Placement Rule (JPR)
  - A pair of attribute for linear ordering within Dispatching Module
- Scheduling Policy
  - Map from a QoS specification to a JPR
  - JPR Implementation: An implementation of a specific scheduling policy
- Interface for JPR Implementation
  - Independent of a specific scheduling policy



Dispatcher 1 ()
Dispatcher 2 (
Dispatcher 3 (
DISPATCHING MODULE

#### Hierarchical Scheduling Mechanism



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## An Inverted Pendulum Control System

- Implementation Platform
  - Sun Java Real-Time System 2.0 with Solaris 10
- System Configuration
  - DSP Program
    - Return encoder values upon request from Controller
    - Deliver control command upon receive it from Controller





#### Periodic Control under Stress

- Periodic Controller Component
  - Period: 15ms
  - Execution priority: High
- Stressing Component
  - Period: 1s
  - Avg. Execution time: 100ms
  - Execution priority: Low





## A Networked Inverted Pendulum Control System

- Periodic Controller Component
  - Period: 15ms
- DSPProxy Component
  - Intermediate interaction between Controller and DSP program



# Controller Upgrade



# **Controller Migration**



# **Thank You !**