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Wireless Electronic Systems: Trading off performance, reliability and energy efficiency



Twan Basten

Eindhoven University of Technology & TNO Embedded Systems Innovation

Joint work with Marc Geilen, Hailong Jiao,
Majid Nabi, José Pineda, and many others

partners

Electronic Systems



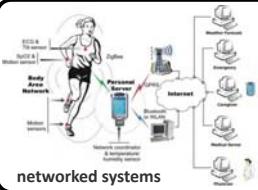
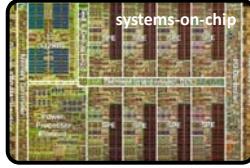
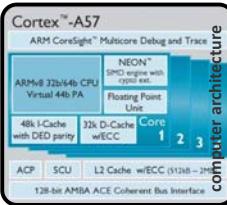
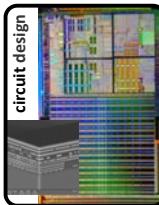
'Knowing is not understanding.'
Charles Kettering

The Electronic Systems group

3 Electronic Systems

Mission

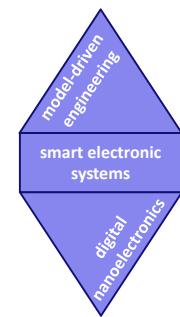
- Scientific basis for design trajectories
- From function to realization
- Constructive design



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Mission

- SDF3: Model-driven synthesis of data-processing applications
- POSSL: Fast discrete-event simulation
- Predictable multiprocessor platforms
- Embedded control and signal processing
- Health monitoring
- GPU and accelerators
- Brain-inspired computing
- Ultra-low power electronics





7 Trade offs

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- Cross-technology interference
- Device density
- Limited transmit power
- Wireless channel behavior

Reliability

Performance

- Latency and throughput requirements
- Safety-critical real-time applications

and of course **cost** ...

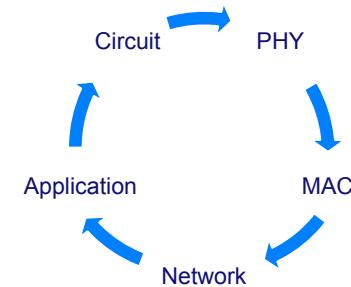
Energy Efficiency

- Communication
- Processing

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8 An integral approach

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- Co-design
- Model-driven development
- Experimental validation



CC2530 ZigBee Development kit

150 NXP JN5168 dongles

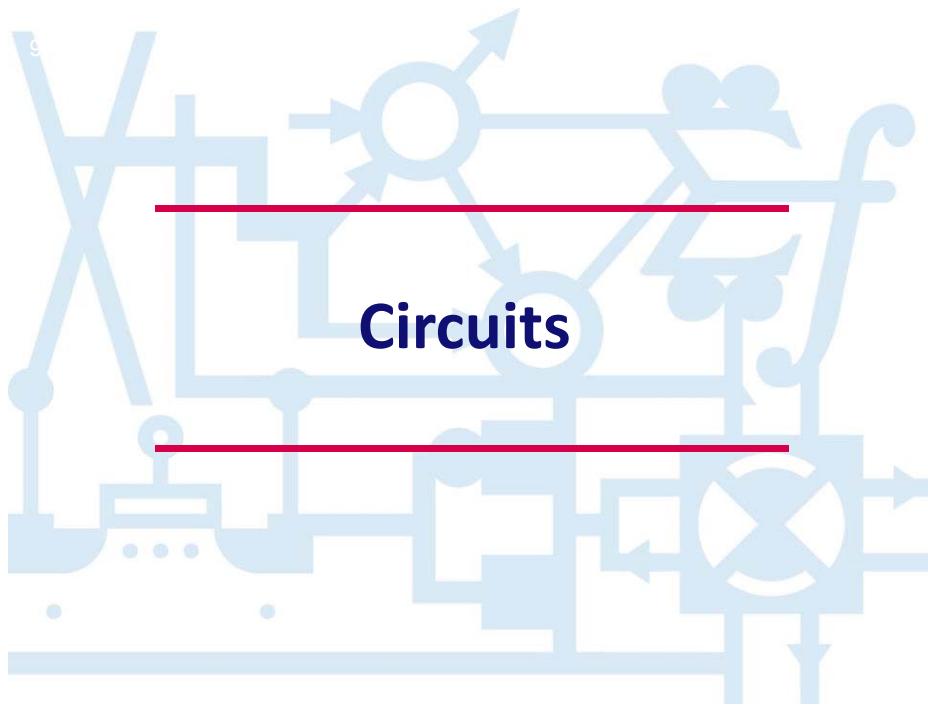


130 TI CC2650 SensorTags



100 MyriaNed nodes

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Circuits

10 Approximate computing



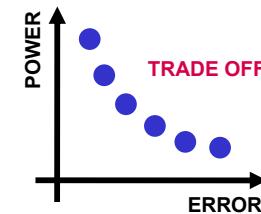
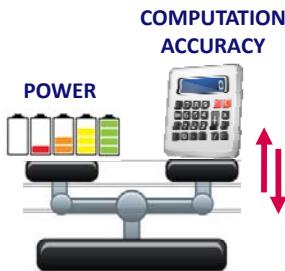
Can you see the difference between the two figures?

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline = 100 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \approx 99 \end{array}$$

100% accuracy is not always necessary

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11 Trade off between power, performance, area and accuracy



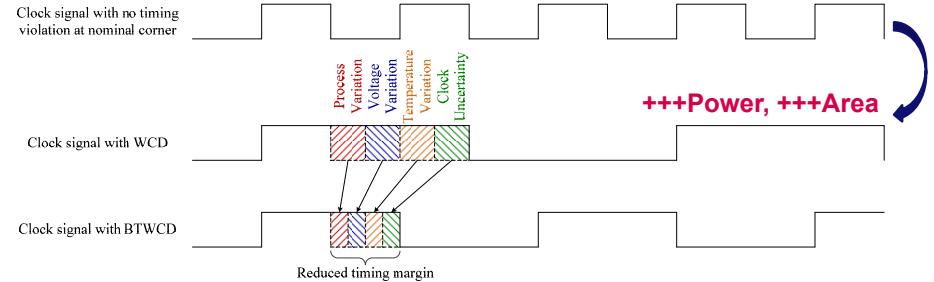
Approximate data

- Simplified logic
- Bit-width representation

Approximate timing

- Clock frequency
- Supply & threshold voltage

12 Better-Than-Worst-Case Design – Approximate timing



- Enhanced performance
 - Lower power consumption
 - Smaller silicon area
- at the cost of
- Reduced reliability

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13 Wireless baseband processing in the Internet of Things

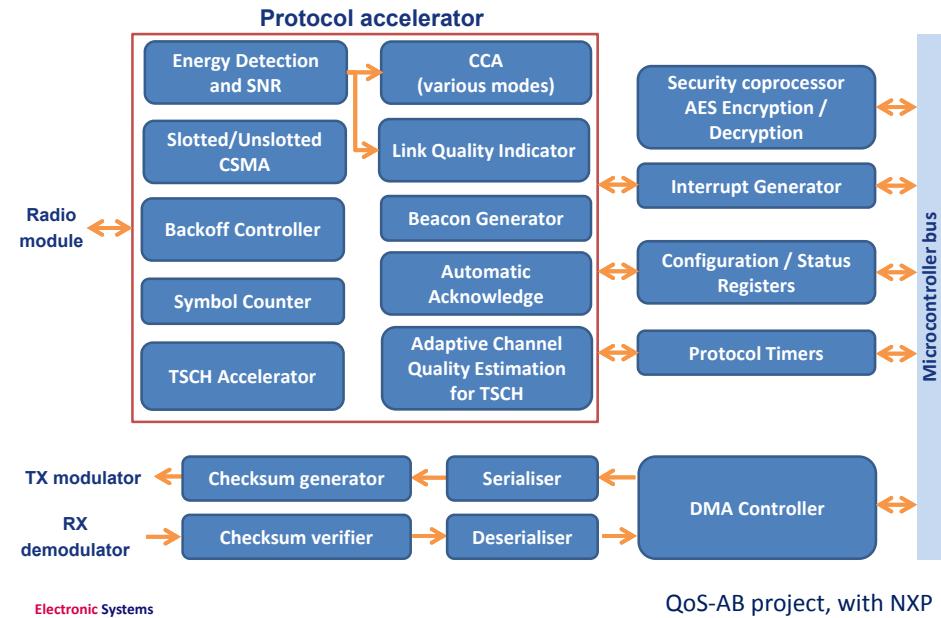
- Targeting IEEE 802.15.4 / WiFi standards
- Requires protocol / circuit co-design



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QoS-AB project, with NXP

14 Potential approximate modules



15 Approximate multiplier – Approximate data

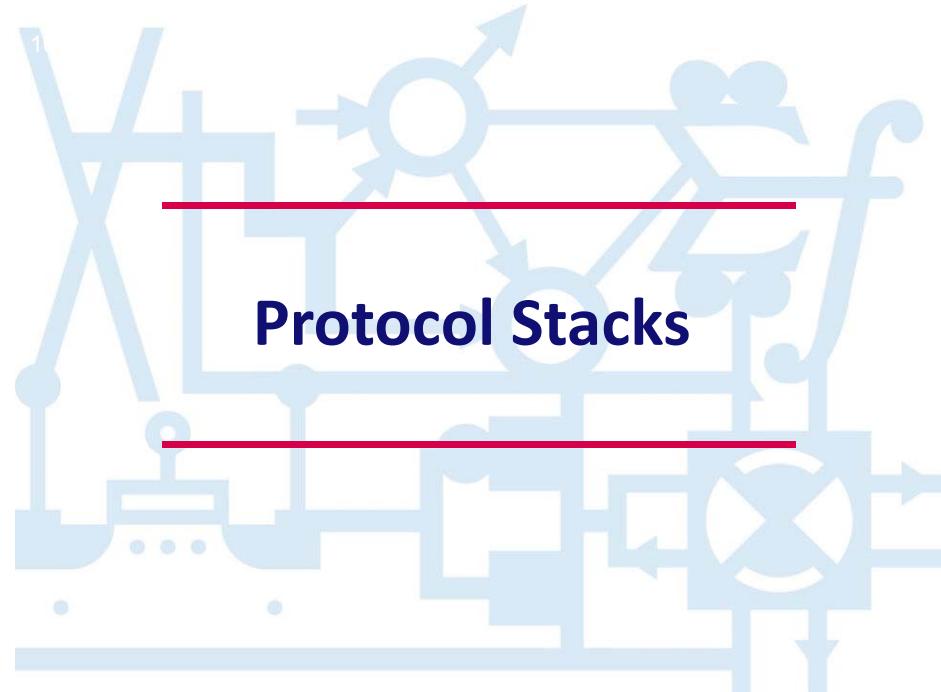
A low power accuracy-controllable iterative-approximate multiplier

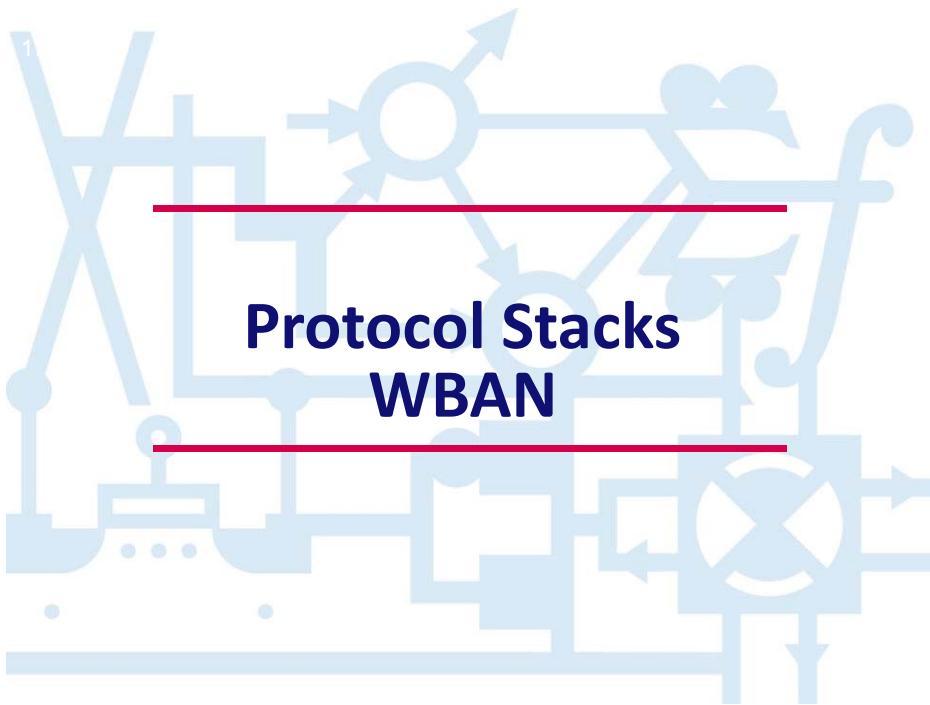
- Basic idea: piece-wise linear approximation, shift operations
- Low error rate (0.13% NMED, normalized mean error distance)

	Area savings	Power savings
32-bit Approximate Multiplier Based 5th Order FIR Filter	-26 %	-49 %

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Protocol Stacks





18 Wireless Body-Area Network (WBAN) communication



WBAN

- One gateway
- Number of nodes known
- Highly dynamic link quality

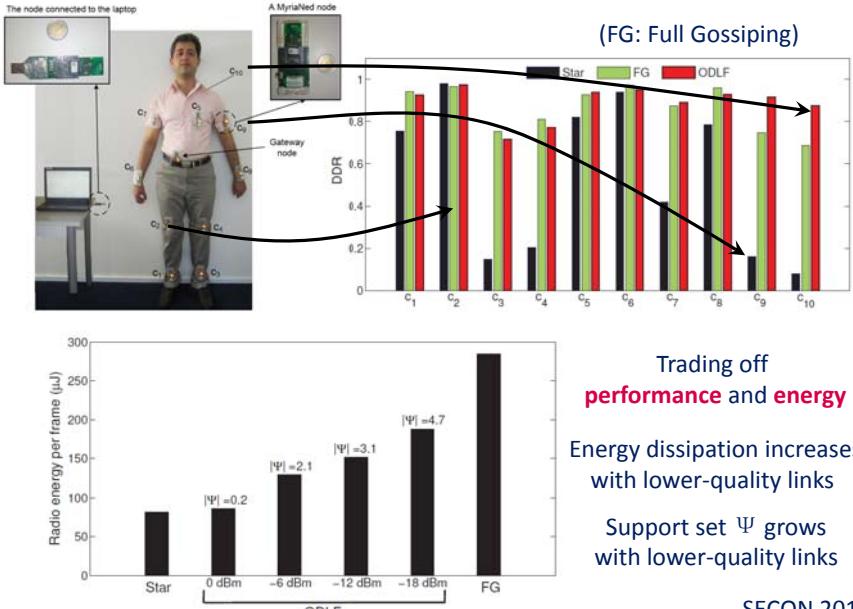
ODLF

- Hybrid star and gossiping protocol
- Gateway dynamically requests transmission support
- Efficient implementation with a support bitmap

SECON 2012

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19 Wireless Body-Area Network (WBAN) communication

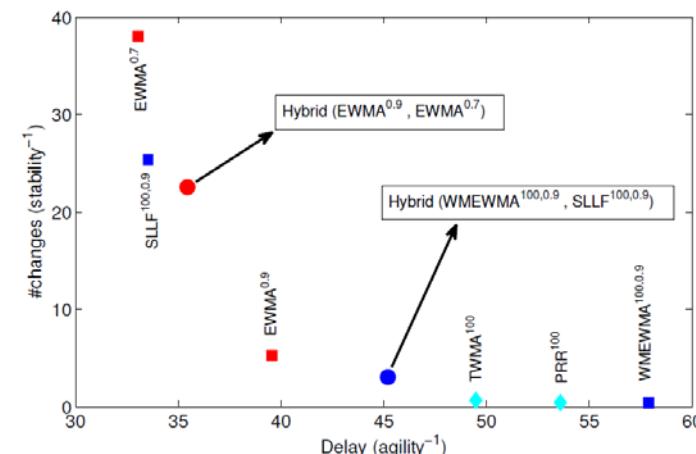


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SECON 2012

20 Link Quality Estimation (LQE)

- Prerequisite for many adaptive mechanisms, many variants
- Typical parameters: window size w and coefficient α
- Agility and stability trade offs



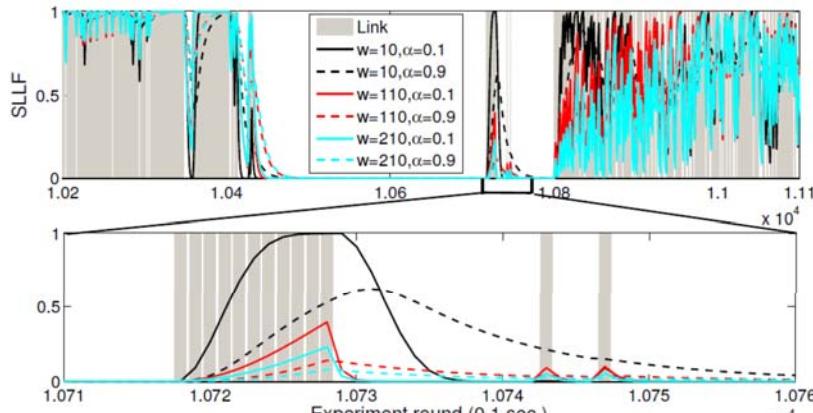
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MSWiM 2013

21 WBAN LQE: Smoothed Link Likelihood Factor (SLLF)

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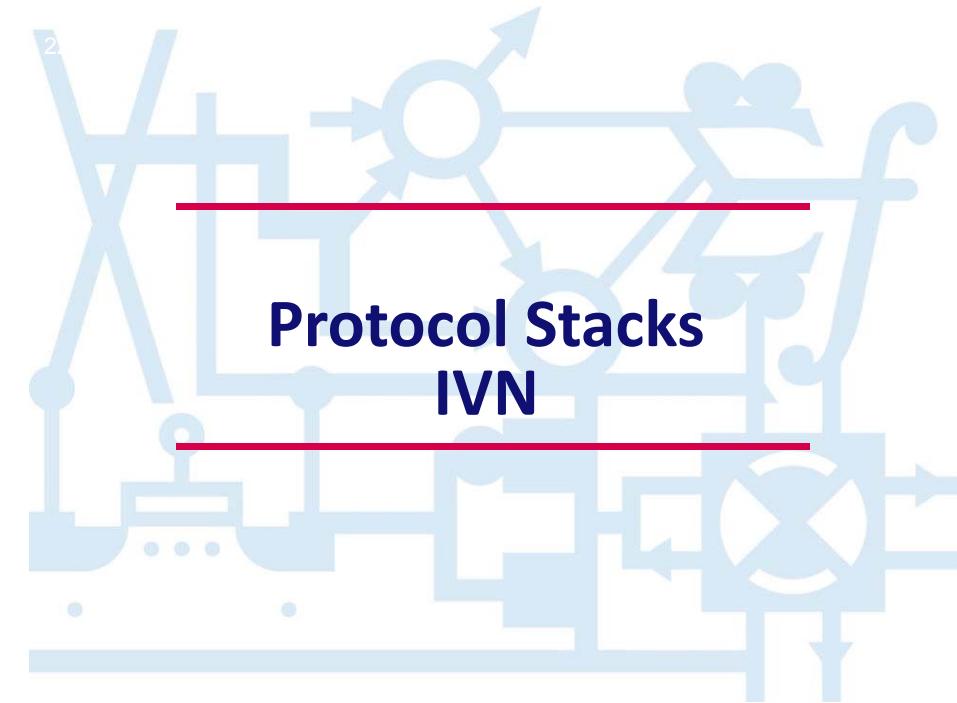
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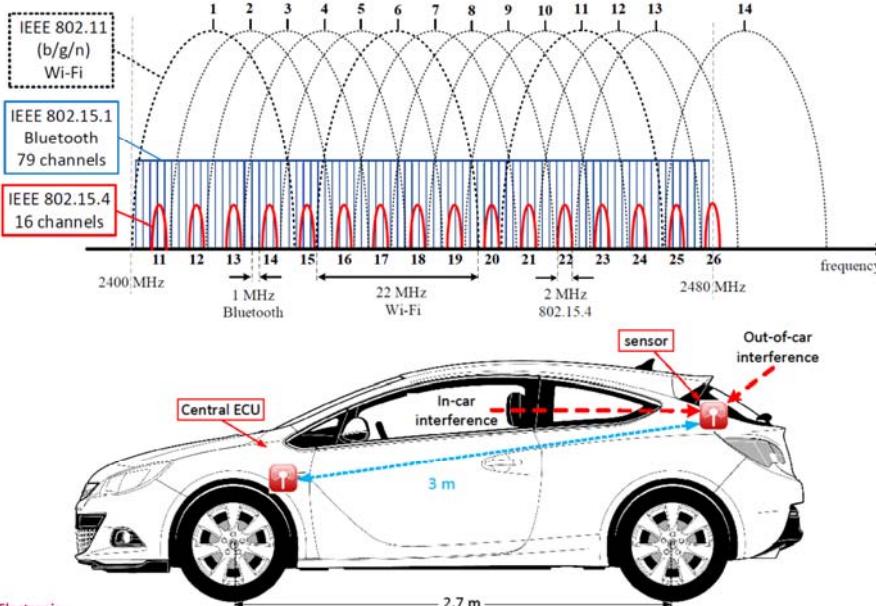
MSWiM 2013

Protocol Stacks IVN



23 Cross-technology interference – in-vehicle networking

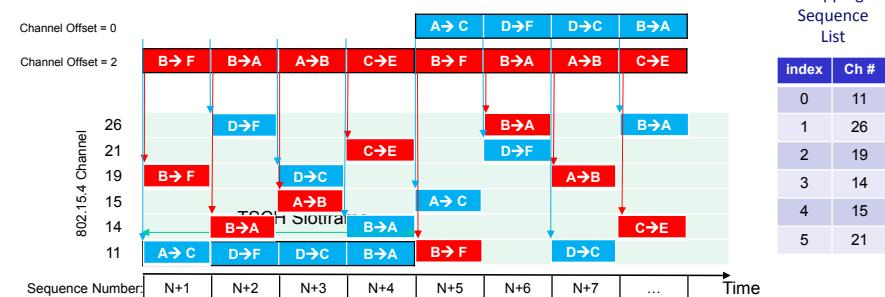
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24 802.15.4 - Time-Slotted Channel Hopping (TSCH)

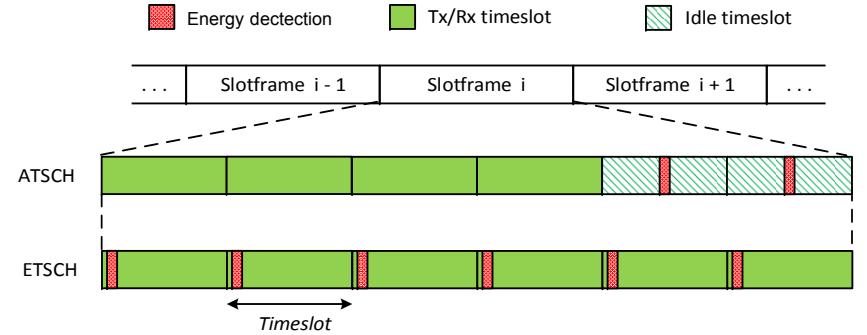
TU/e



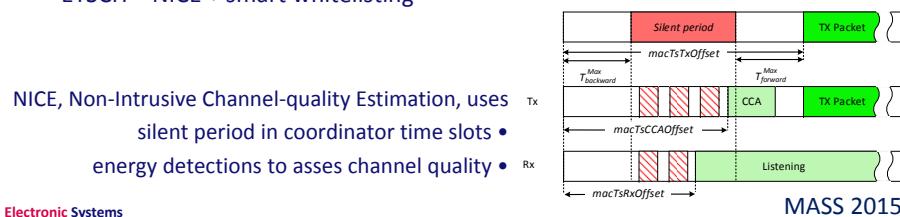
- Provides guaranteed access to the medium
- Prevents persistent multi-path fading
- Eliminates blocking of wireless links

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25 Enhanced TSCH (ETSch)



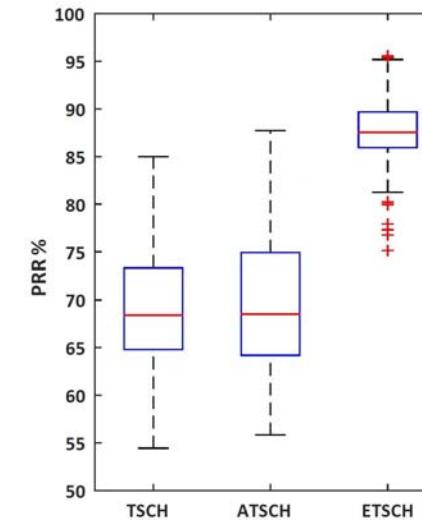
- ATSch = energy detections in payload slots + whitelisting
- ETsch = NICE + smart whitelisting



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26 Enhanced TSCH



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MASS 2015

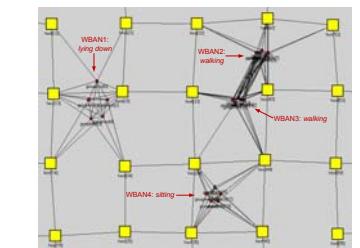
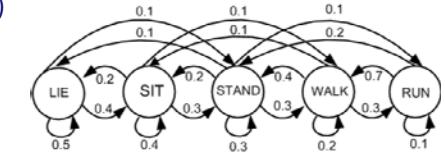
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Intermezzo: the Environment



28 MoBAN: mobility model for WBANs

- Reference point group mobility (RPGM)
- Markov chain for posture selection
- Spatial and temporal correlations
- Based on extensive measurements
- Intra-WBAN and ambient network simulation
- Implemented in MiXiM

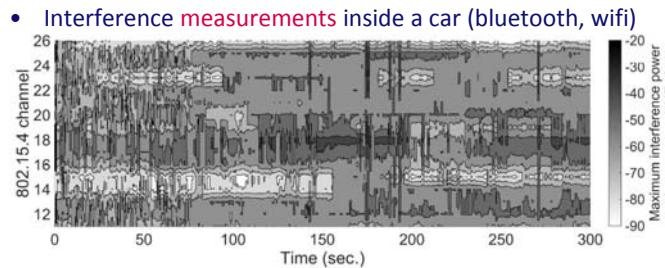


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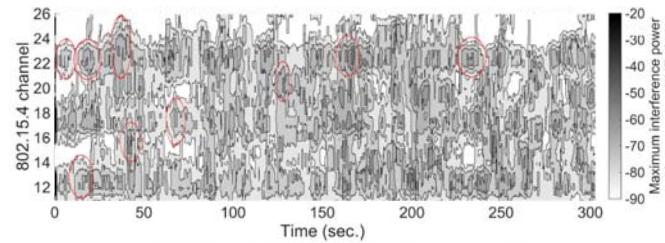
SimuTools 2011

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29 Cross-technology interference in vehicles



- Interference from outside (mostly wifi)

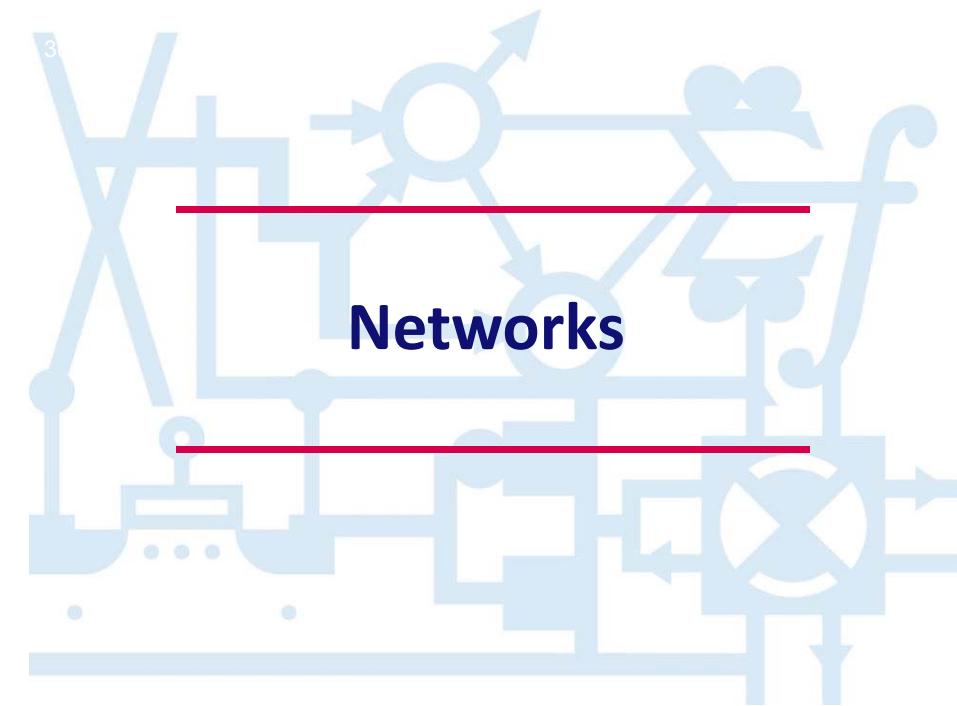


- Usable to drive simulations

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MSWiM 2016

Networks



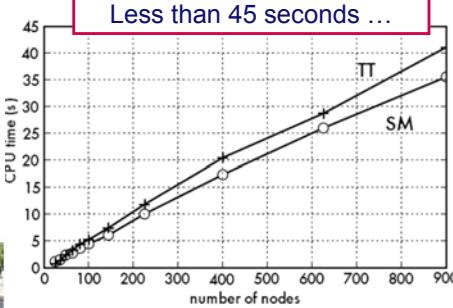
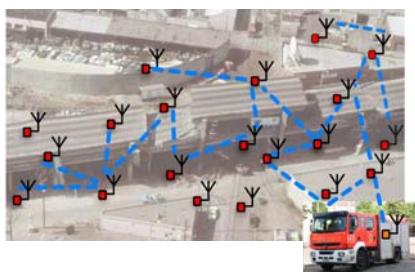
31 QoS provisioning in static trees

- Wireless sensor network
- 900 nodes
 - 27 configurations per node
 - 4 quality metrics
 - Routing tree to data sink

Problem
How to configure the network ?

Approach
Compositional computation following the routing-tree structure

27^{900} configurations in 4D space

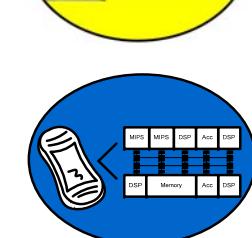


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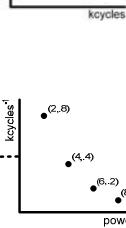
MSWiM 2007 best paper

32 Pareto algebra

Goal: Compositional computation of trade-offs



producer-consumer operation

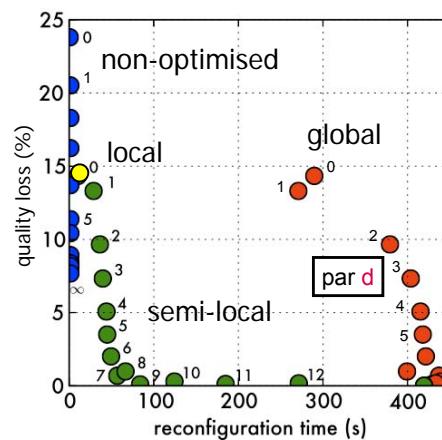


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Fundamenta Informaticae, 2007

33 QoS provisioning in dynamic trees

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EWSN 2009

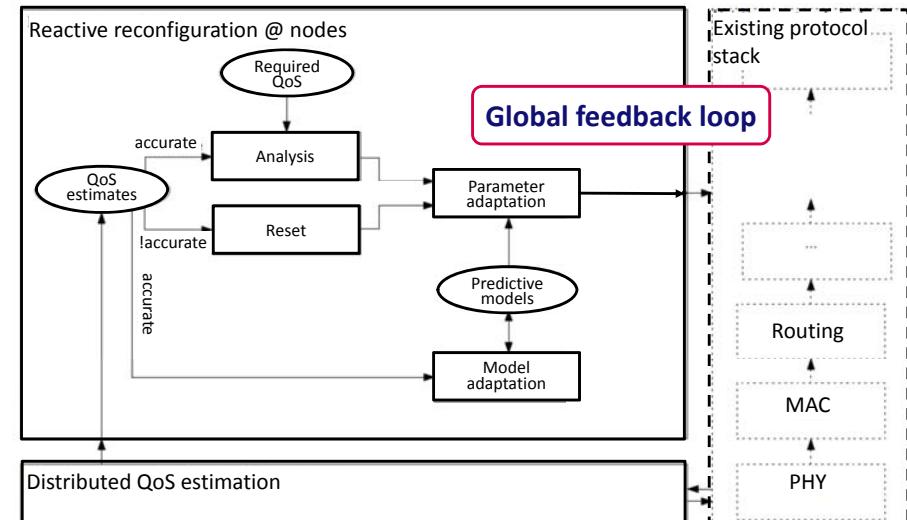
900 node network
Simulated in the OMNET++ simulator
Calibrated for TelosB sensor nodes
8 MHz processor
250 kbps transceiver bit rate

Good quality reconfiguration within one minute

Global feedback loop

34 Distributed QoS provisioning in dynamic networks

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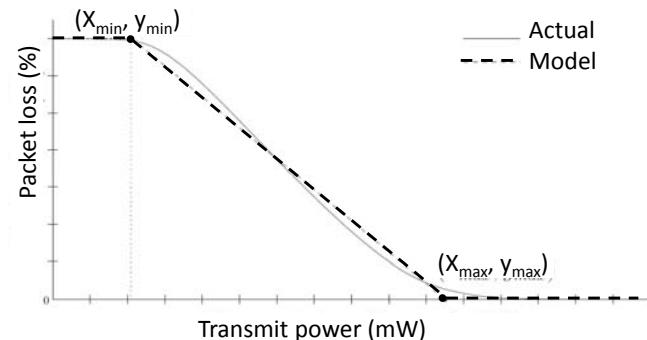
TOSN 2015

Challenge: distribute contributions to QoS changes

35 Distributed QoS provisioning in dynamic networks

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- Relations network & node parameters – QoS properties



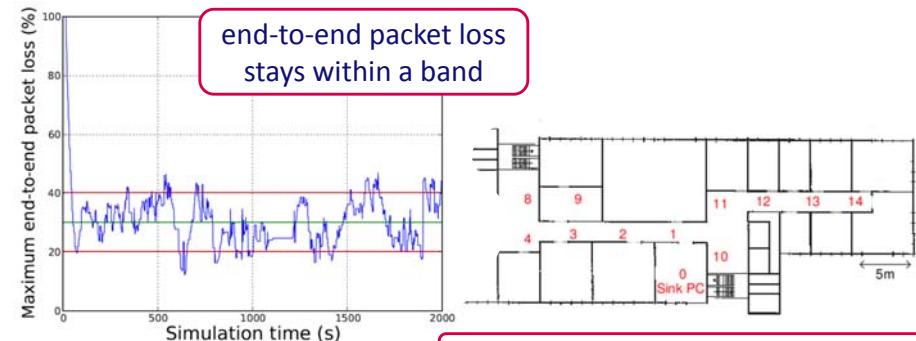
Electronic Systems

TOSN 2015

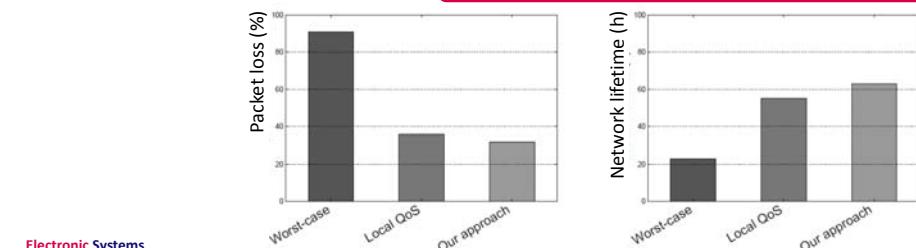
- Model-driven approach
- Impact models with 4 parameters

36 Distributed QoS provisioning in dynamic networks

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and outperforms other approaches

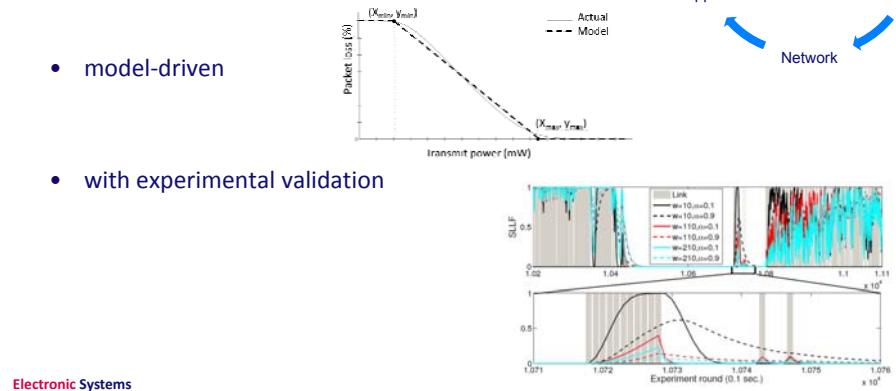




Wrapping up

38 Conclusions – wireless electronic systems

- is all about trade offs
- requires co-design of circuit, protocols and application
- model-driven
- with experimental validation



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39 Funding acknowledgement

- WASP – EC FP6 project IST-034963
- ALwEN – Dutch innovation program Point-One, grant PNE07007
- DEWI – ARTEMIS grant 621353.
- RESIST – CATRENE grant CT217
- QoS-AB – SRC grant 2016-IT-2681

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40 Thank you !

Questions ?

More info: www.es.ele.tue.nl/~tbasten/

www.es.ele.tue.nl/nes/



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