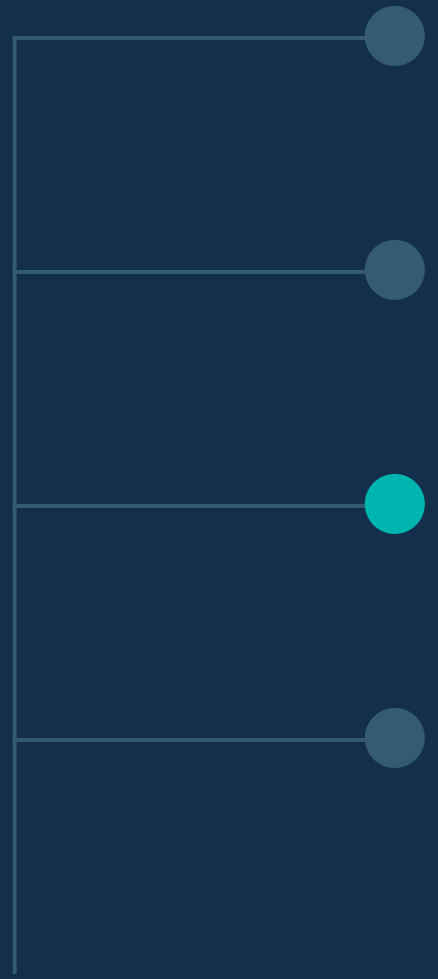
Process automation

Industrial Communication Buses

BS UNI studies, Fall semester 2026/2027

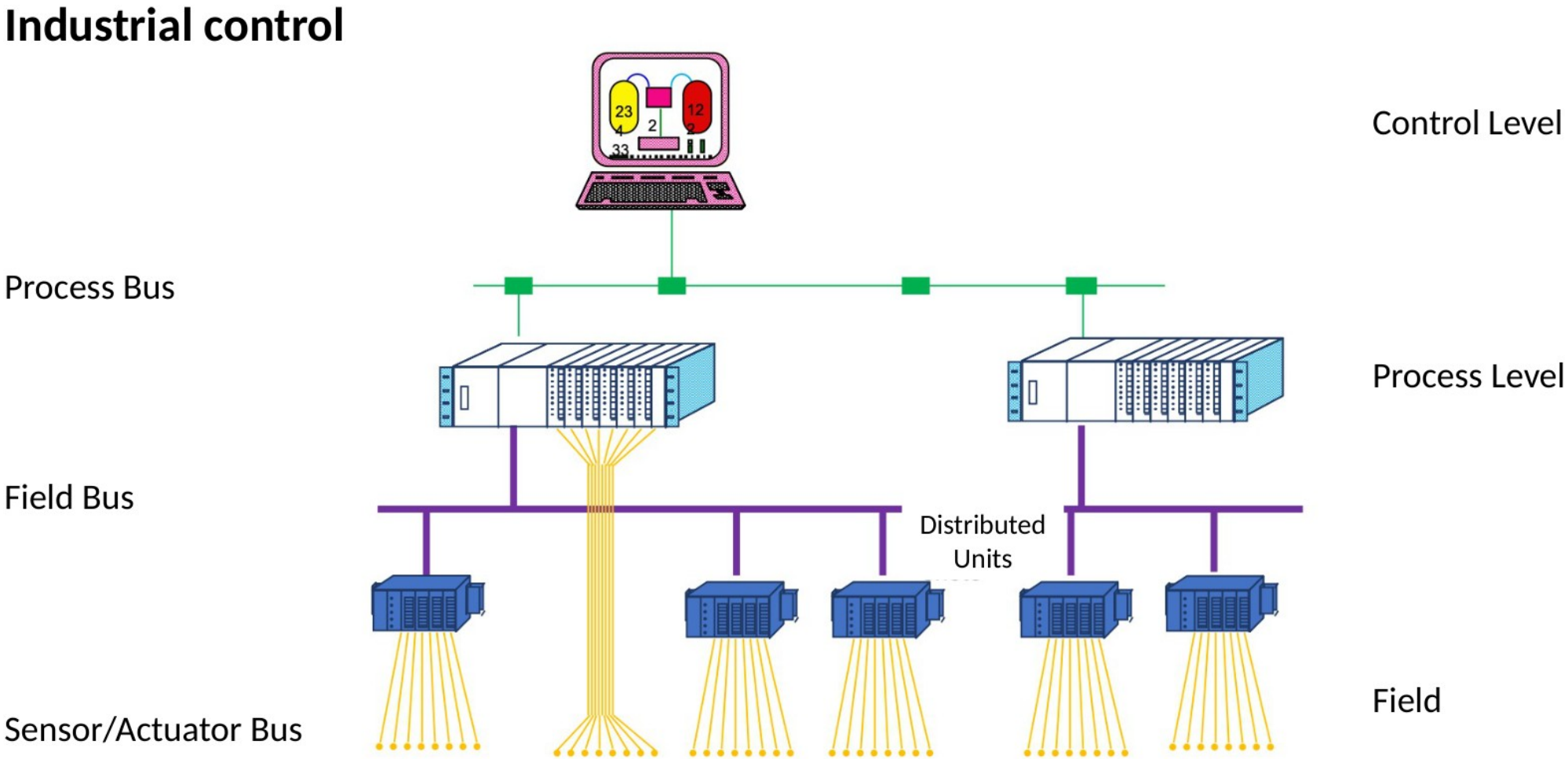
Octavian M. Machidon
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Lecture outline

- Introduction to Industrial Communication Systems
- Communication Protocols and Data Transmission Approaches
- OSI and TCP/IP Models in Industrial Applications
- Transmission Media
- Specific Protocols and Examples
- Future Trends and Real-Time Communication

Role and integration



Characteristics

Process Bus

- Large volumes of data
- Time is not a critical factor

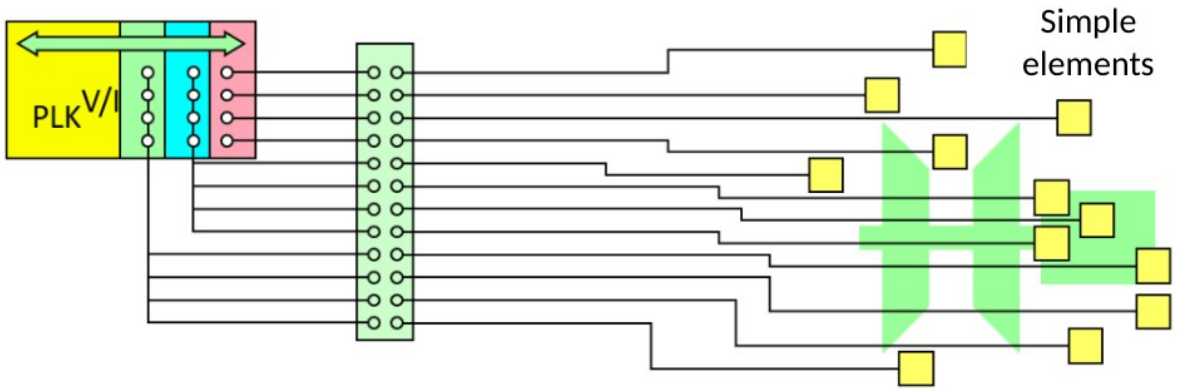
Field Bus and Sensor/Actuator Bus

- Transmission of a large number of small packets with minimal delays
- Harsh conditions:
  - Temperature, vibrations, electromagnetic interference, water, salt, etc.
- Robust and simple installation
- High data integrity (as few errors as possible)
- Availability
- Synchronization down to the microsecond level (µs)
- Continuous monitoring and diagnostics
- Moderate data transfer speeds: 50 kbit/s to 5 Mbit/s over long distances (4 km to 10 m)
- Capable of operation in explosive hazard zones

Expectations

Reduction of physical connections

- The number of simple elements remains the same
- Power supply is required for simple elements



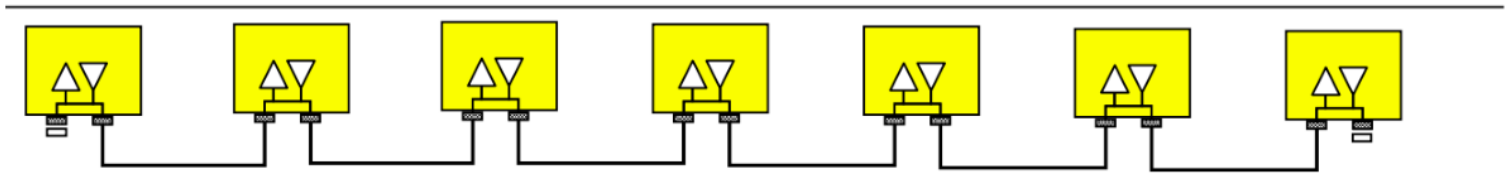
Increase in system modularity

- Easier troubleshooting
- Simplified startup
- Easier expansion or contraction of the system

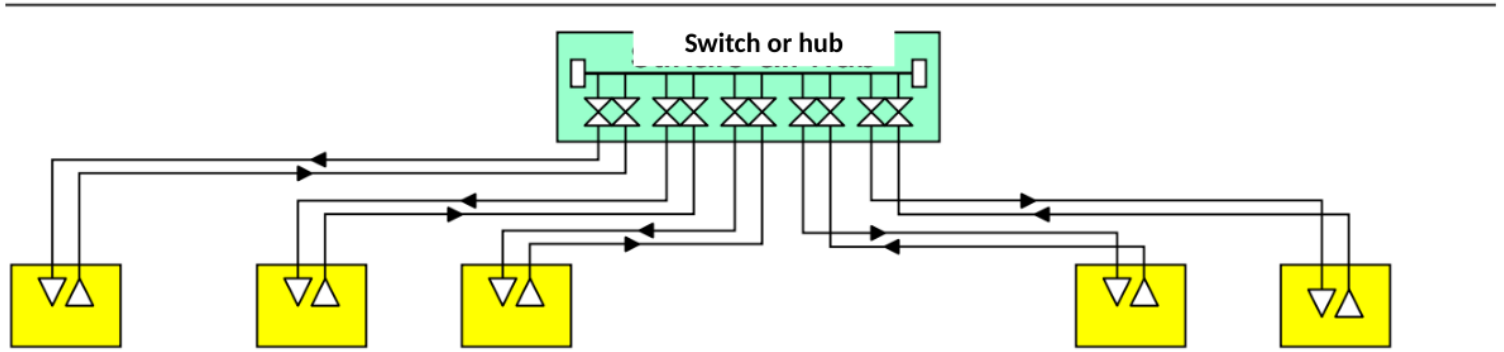


Topologies

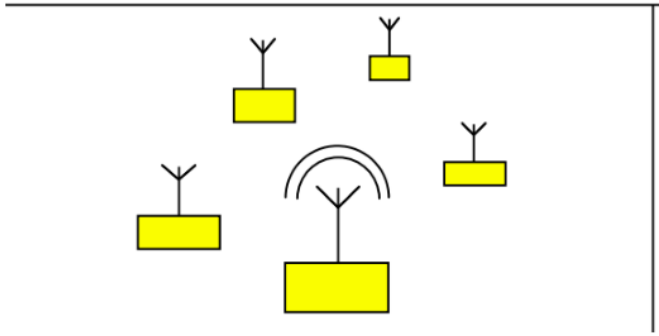
Serial



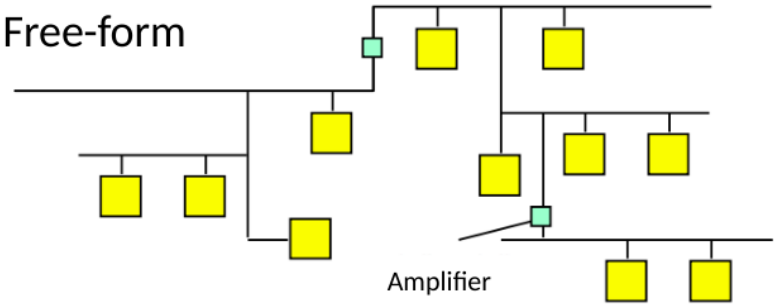
Star



Wireless



Free-form



Communication Modes

Master – Slave

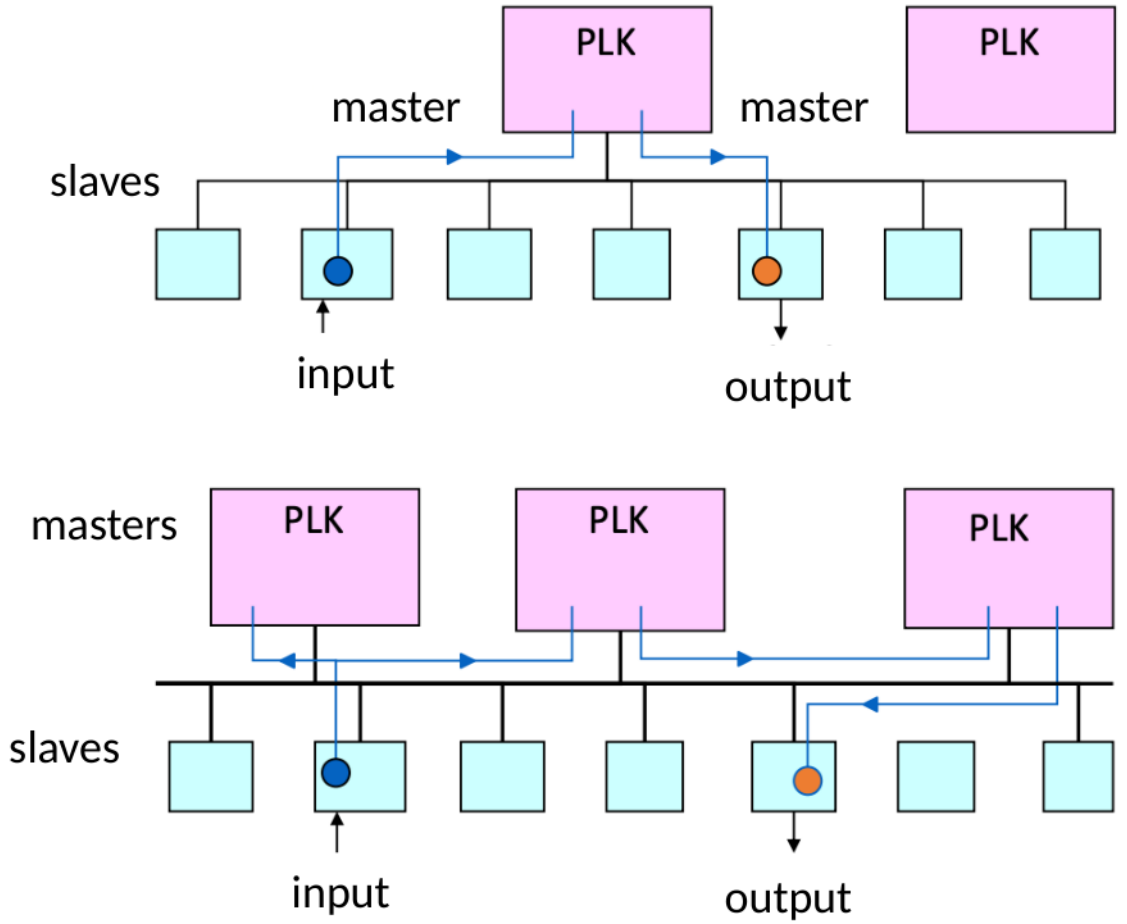
- All communication goes through the master
- Issues arise with multiple masters (master and slave functionality overlap)

Peer-to-Peer

- PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers) can exchange data directly with one another
- PLCs share inputs and outputs
- Support for redundant systems

Broadcast

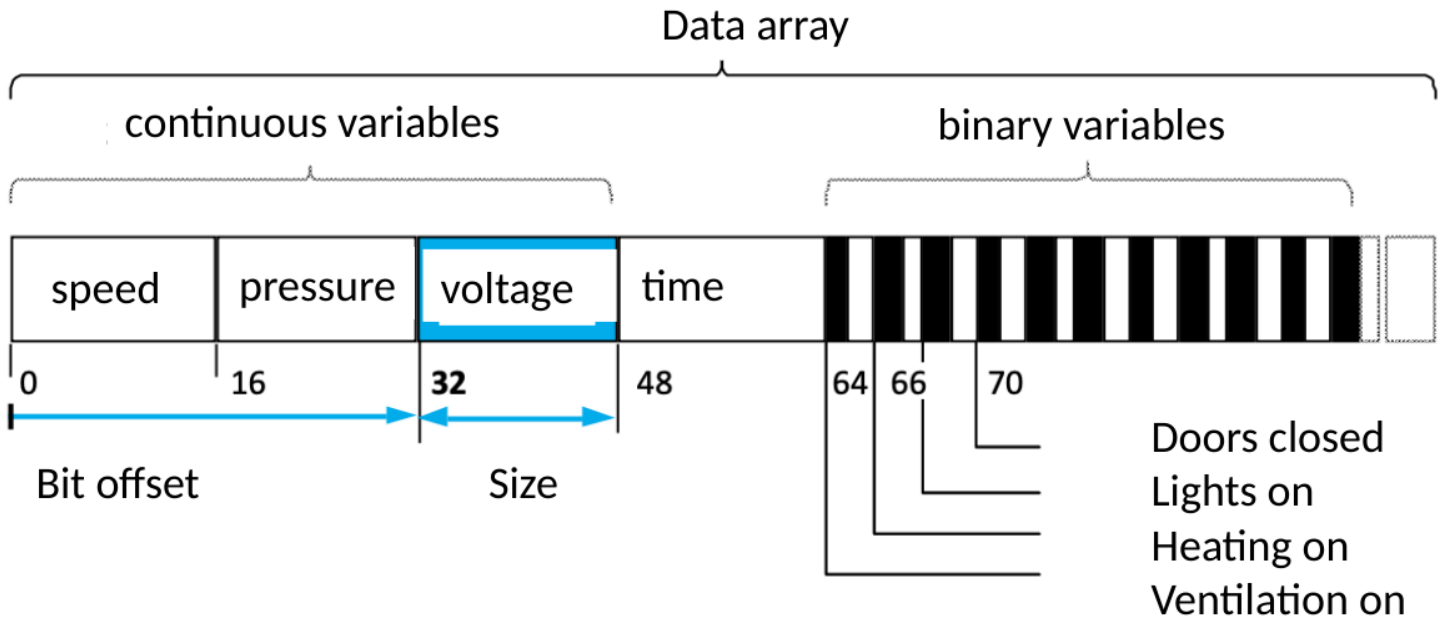
- For greater efficiency



Application Access to the Bus

Message

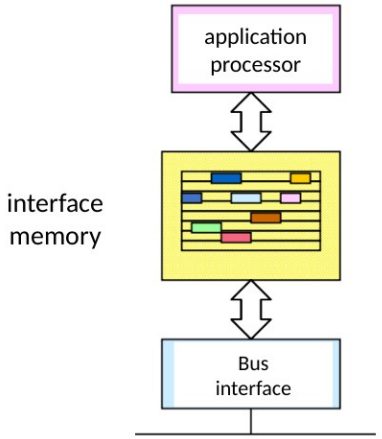
- Multiple data points are combined into a message before transfer.
- The message is treated as a whole during transmission and access.
- Example:



Application Access to the Bus

Cyclic

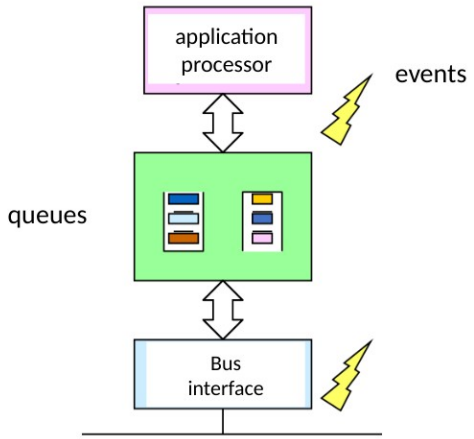
- **Writing:** The application writes to the interface memory
- **Reading:** The application reads from the interface memory



Event-Driven

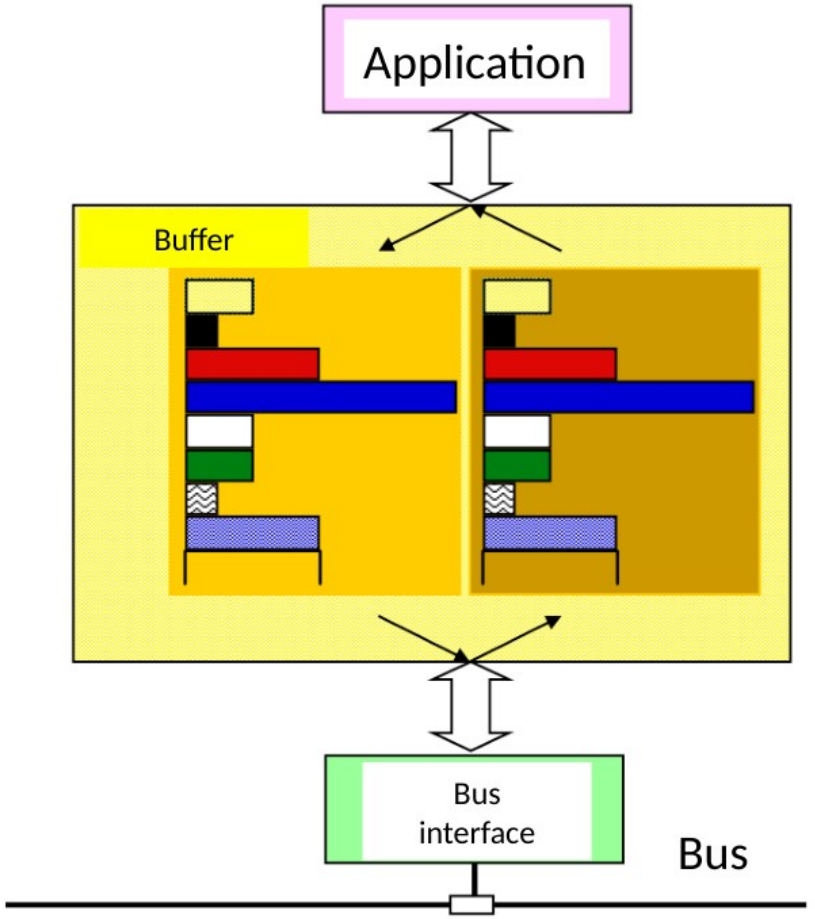
Concept of queues

- **Writing:** The application places data into the queue, and the interface retrieves it
- **Reading:** The interface places data into the queue, and the application retrieves it



Application Access to the Bus

- The bus and the application are separated by an interface with a buffer.
- The bus interface and the application share memory.
- Process variables are directly accessible to the application.
- Reading and writing can occur simultaneously.
- The bus and the application are not synchronized; access is not coordinated.



Cyclic Operation

- Supported by most field buses

- Deterministic operation at the cost of:
  - Reduced bandwidth
  - Limited sizes

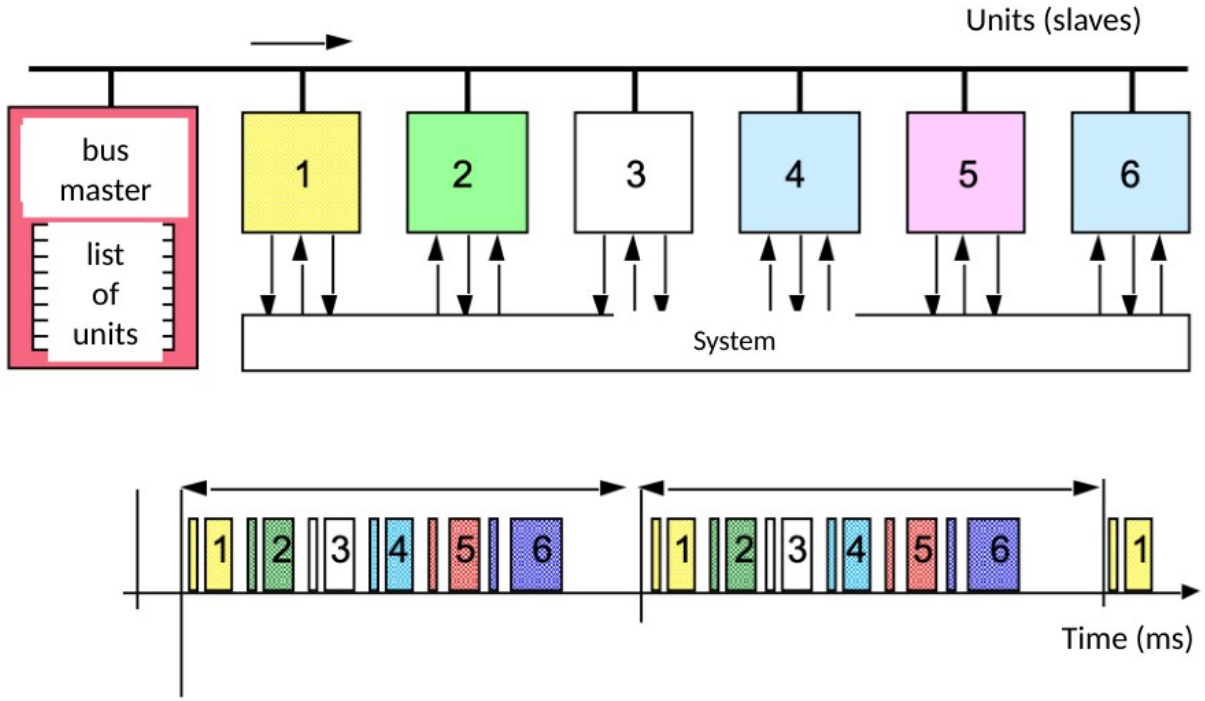
- Ensures that each application occupies exactly its (time) share of the bus and no more

Cyclic Operation

- The bus master sequentially establishes connections with all units on the bus.

Query on a unit:

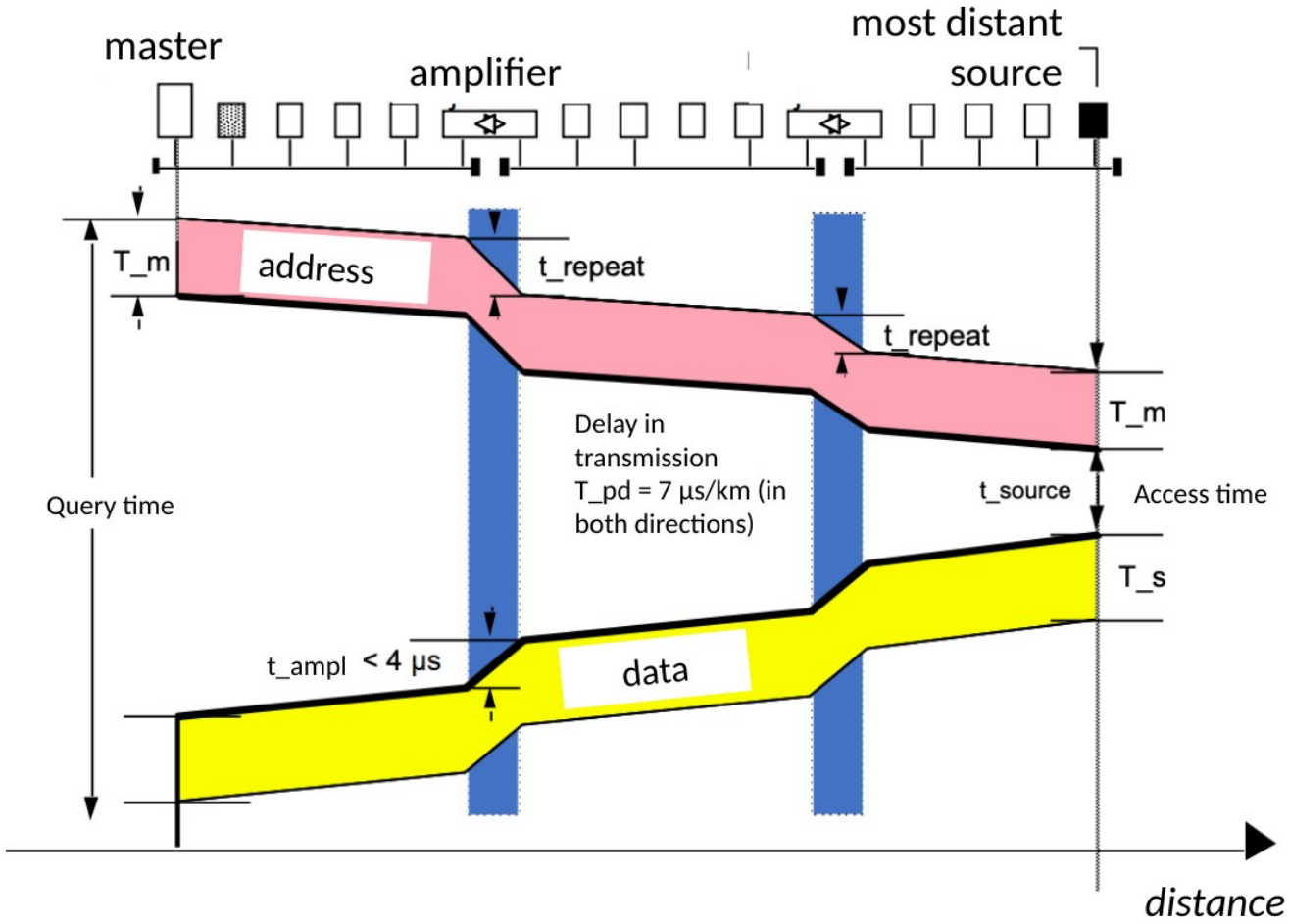
- Address transmission
- Delay
- Data transmission



Cyclic Operation

Query on a Unit

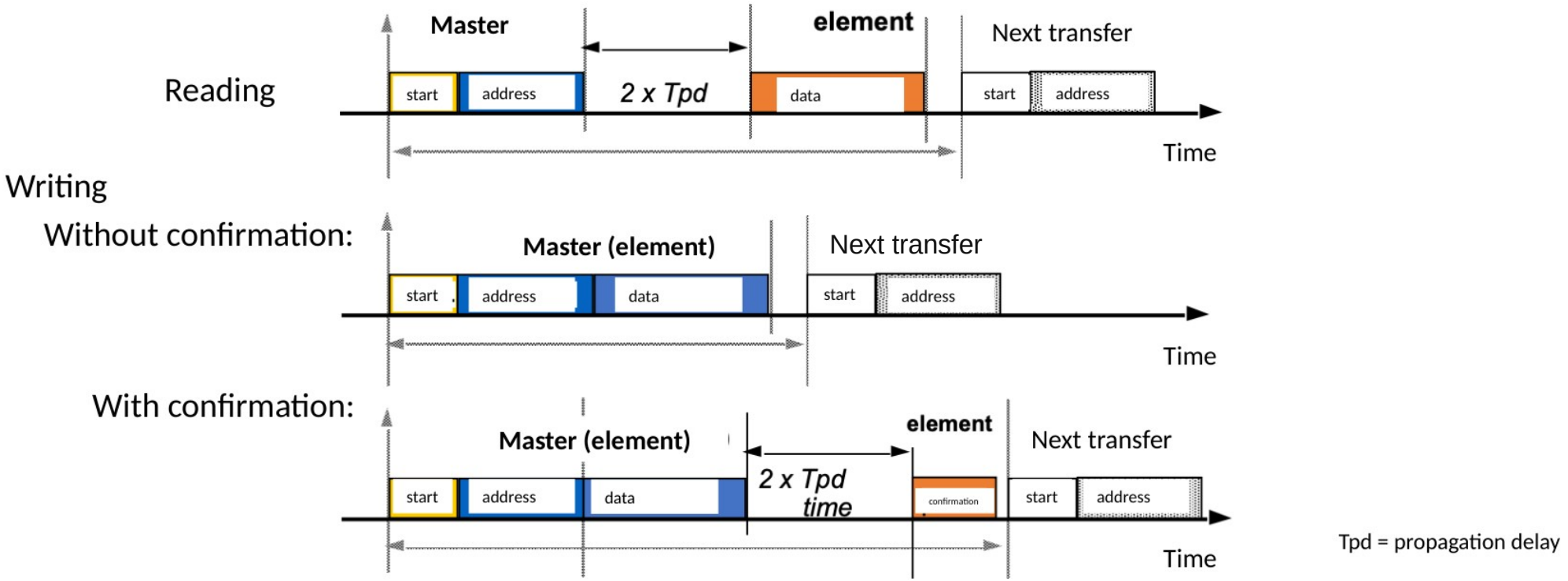
- The length of the bus affects the query time.
- The farthest device affects propagation delay; the full cycle includes all device queries and their overhead.



Cyclic Operation

Writing and Reading

- On field buses, read cycles dominate.



Tpd = propagation delay

Cyclic Operation

Data is transferred in every cycle.

- The values of variables are transferred, not the changes.
- A missed update may be replaced by a fresh value next cycle; error detection and fault monitoring remain necessary.

The bus is typically controlled by the master.

- In the case of multiple masters, they share the bus in a time-synchronized manner.

The refresh rate is deterministic and constant.

- Cycle time = number of units on the bus × query duration (e.g., 50 × 100 µs = 5 ms).
- To achieve short query times, small amounts of data must be transferred.
- The bus capacity is defined during configuration and cannot be changed during operation.

Event-Driven Response

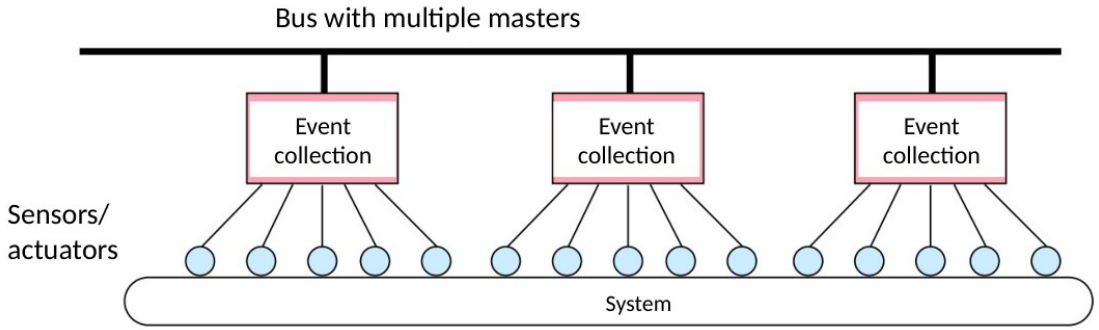
Events trigger data transfer upon a change in variable state.

The bus is not overloaded:

- Occasionally, short-term high loads occur because transfers depend on the process activity.
- High transfer rates during critical conditions (e.g., many alarms, "Christmas tree effect").

Events:

- An event is a change in one or more variables.
- What constitutes an event is determined by the application, as only the programmer knows the meaning of the variables.



Event-Driven Response

An event can occur anytime and anywhere:

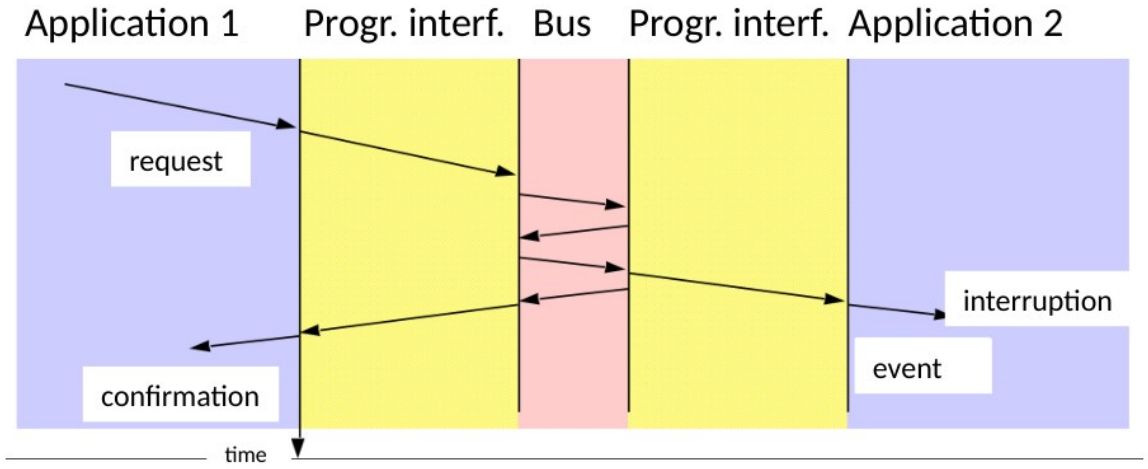
- Devices on the bus communicate spontaneously.

Contention can occur:

- On shared half-duplex links, collisions can delay time-critical tasks.

Multiple events directed to one unit (master):

- Sequential processing causes delays.



Event-Driven Response

Determinism

- The timing of an event is not precisely defined.
- The time required for transmission depends on:
  - The method of access to the transmission medium,
  - The size of the buffer in the bus interface,
  - Processing duration,
  - Response actions.

Access to the transmission medium:

- Non-deterministic: collisions on shared half-duplex Ethernet.
- **Deterministic:** Central master, token passing, collision with a winner, etc.

Event-Driven Response

Advantages

- Enables processing of a large number of events, provided they don’t occur simultaneously.
- Supports a large number of devices.
- Better resource utilization – when there are no events, the system is not burdened.
- Uses only write transfers.

Disadvantages

- Communication is more complex.
- Shared access to resources requires arbitration.
- Transmission time is difficult to predict (analysis).
- No guaranteed response-time limit without a bounded access policy.
- Limited by the congestion effect.
- The number of transfers depends on the number of changes in the process.

Comparison of Both Approaches

Coexistence of Cyclic Operation and Event-Driven Response

Process Data

- Typically
- Represent the system state; simple (short) and important

→ **Cyclic Transfer**

- Fresh values can replace missed samples; faults still require detection

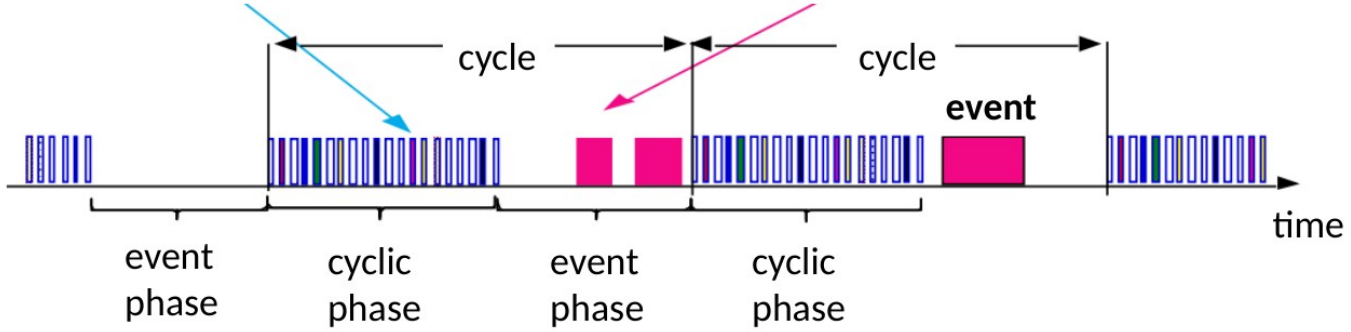
Event Data

Represent changes in the system state

- Irregular data, longer records

→ **Occasional Transfer**

- Messages represent changes; lost events may need acknowledgement and retry



Comparison of Both Approaches

- Cyclic transfers account for the majority and should be used for truly critical variables.

- The method of variable refreshing (cyclic or event-driven) is determined during system configuration.

- It is desirable for an industrial communication system to support both methods.

Comparison of Both Approaches

Cyclic Operation:

- Data is transferred at fixed intervals, regardless of whether it has changed or not.
- Deterministic: transfer time is consistent.
- Worst-case transfer times are the normal transfer times.
- Resource usage is predetermined.
- Periodic, circular selection.
- Mandatory for process-critical variables.

Event-Driven Response:

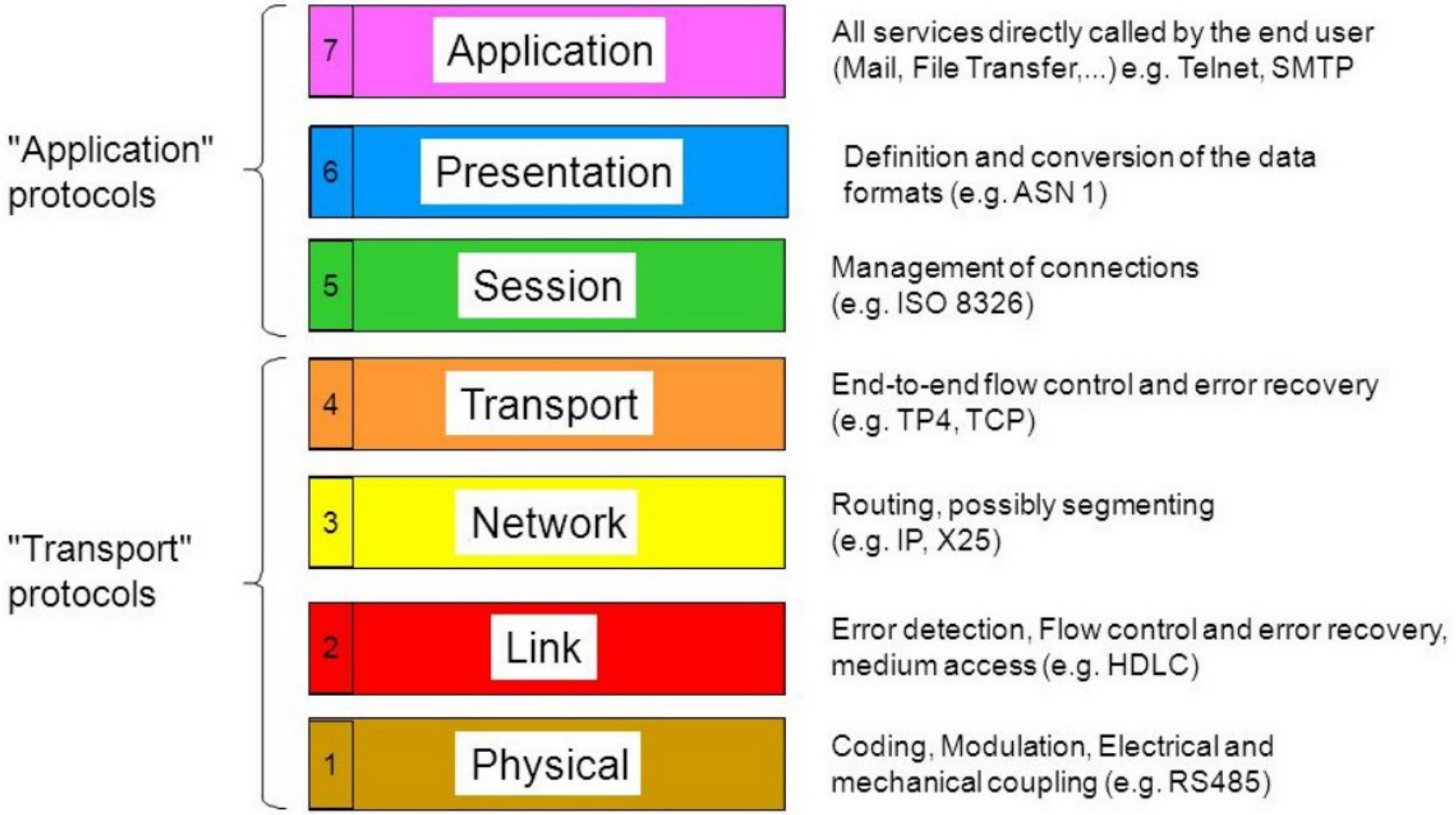
- Data is transferred when it changes.
- With unscheduled access, transfer time can vary.
- Typical transfer times are used most of the time.
- Good resource utilization.
- Non-periodic, dependent on requirements, isolated events.
- For less time-critical tasks: communication between controllers, supervisory systems, diagnostics.

The OSI model

- OSI (**Open Systems Interconnection**)
- A standardized approach for designing communication software.
- It is a standardized reference model, not an implementation specification.

- Originated in the 1970s.
- Standardized by CCITT and ISO as ISO/IEC 7498.
- All communication protocols can be described using the OSI model.
- Industrial communication requires enhancements to the OSI model.

Layers of the OSI model



The OSI model

Basic Components

Amplifier

- Same speed, same medium, same frames.

Bridge, Switch

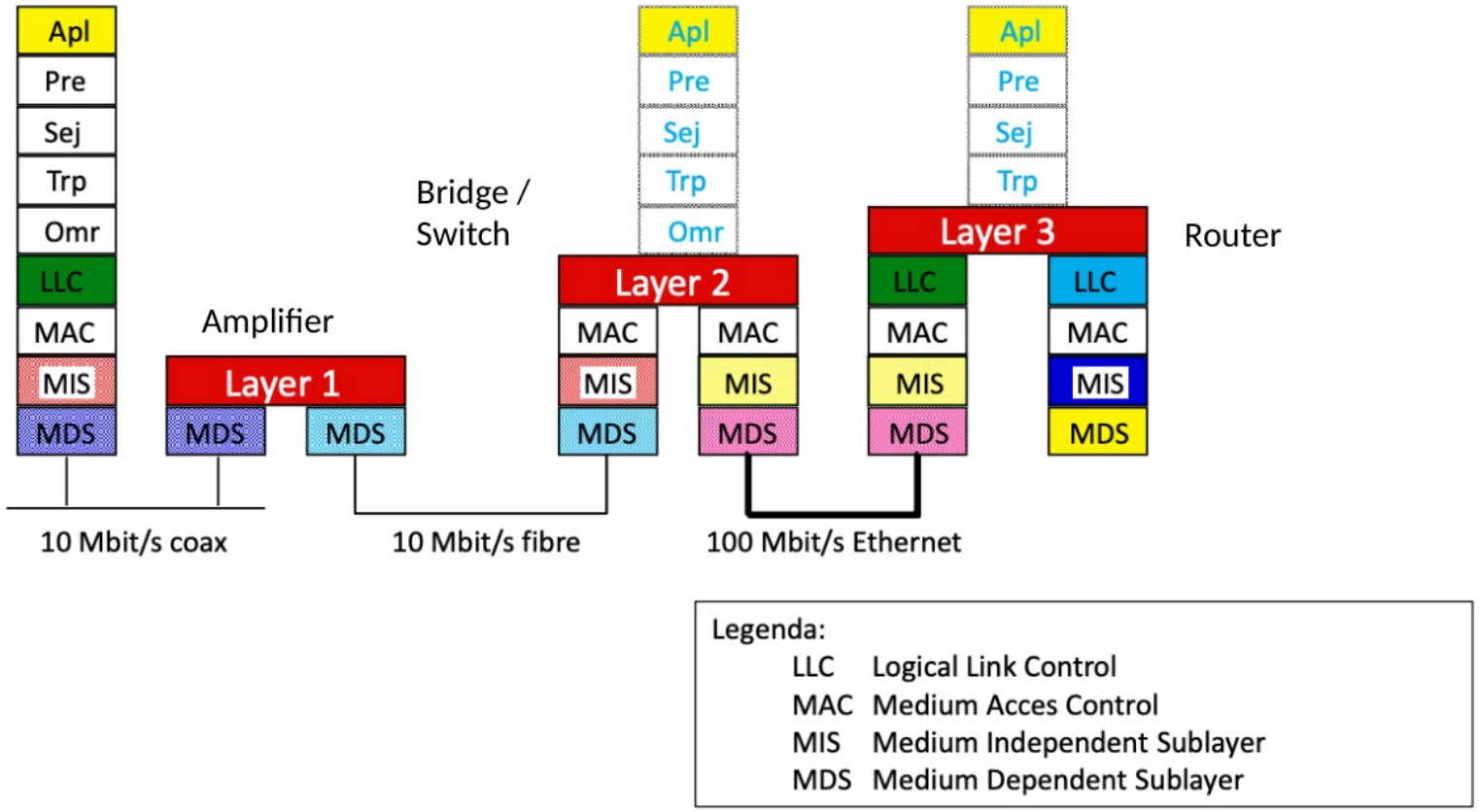
- Different speeds, different media, buffer, forwarding of same frames and addresses, bidirectional communication, filtering.

Router

- Different networks, same address space, same transport protocol, network segmentation.

The OSI model

- Basic components



The OSI model

The concept of multiple layers is not ideal for implementation due to complexity and speed limitations.

OSI Model in Industry

Reality:

- The OSI model is very general.
- Higher layers are unnecessary for transferring small amounts of data in real-time.
- Software is too complex; simple field devices have limited processing power.
- The OSI model does not address real-time requirements.

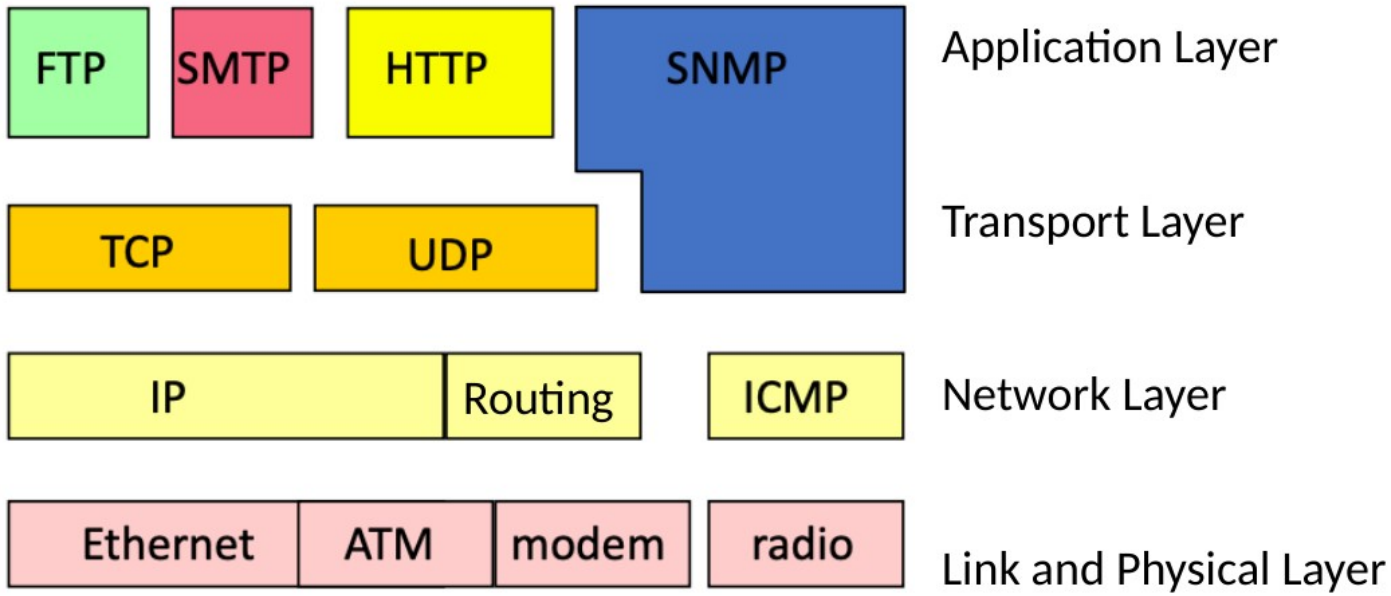
Solution:

- Industrial buses use a simplified OSI model.
- The model is extended to address real-time challenges.

The OSI model

Structure of the TCP/IP Model

- The TCP/IP model has fewer layers than OSI but is approximately as complex.
- TCP/IP was implemented and used before it was standardized.
- IPv6 is a newer version of IP within the same TCP/IP layer model.



The OSI model

The OSI model is a reference model for industrial protocols.

Layers commonly used:

Physical Layer:

- Wiring, power supply, modulation and demodulation of data and carrier signals.

Data Link Layer:

- Telegram format, start and end bits, parity, error handling.

Application Layer:

- Commands, message formats, profiles, device behavior, automatic addressing.

The TCP/IP model is becoming the standard for industrial communications:

- Rapid transition from proprietary protocols to TCP/IP.

Enhancements to the OSI and TCP/IP models for real-time communications.

Transmission Media

Comparison of Transmission Media

Transmission speed (Mbit/s) · legacy comparison

Type	200 m	700 m	2000 m	Price €/m	Resistance to EM interference
Optical Fiber					
Glass, single-mode	2058	516	207	3.5	Very good
Glass, multi-mode	196	49	20	4.5	Very good
Plastic	1	0.5	–	0.6	Very good
Coaxial Cable					
50 Ohm	20	8	1	0.6	Good
75 Ohm TV 1/2"	12	2.5	1.0	1.5	Good
93–100 Ohm	15	5	0.8	1.7	Good

Transmission Media

Comparison of Transmission Media · continued

Transmission speed (Mbit/s) · legacy comparison

Type	200 m	700 m	2000 m	Price €/m	Resistance to EM interference
Twisted Cable					
Twisted pair	8	0.9	0.2	3.3	Very good
Shielded twisted pair (STP)	2	0.35	0.15	0.3	Very good
Unshielded twisted pair (UTP)	1	0.3	0.1	0.7	Good
Telephone cable	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.1	Good
Other					
Signal superimposed on power voltage	1	0.05	0.01	–	Very poor
Radio communication	1	1	–	–	Poor
Infrared (IR)	0.02	0	0	–	Good
Ultrasound	0.01	0	0	–	Poor

Electrical Transmission Media

Common Solutions:

- Shielded twisted pair cable
- Unshielded twisted pair cable
- Coaxial cable

Advantages:

- Traditional system
- Well understood
- Easy to configure
- Inexpensive

Disadvantages:

- Slow data transfer
- Expensive galvanic isolation (transformers, optical couplers)
- Susceptible to interference
- Difficult to troubleshoot (poor contacts)
- Heavy weight

Optical fibers

Signal propagation is as fast as in wires.

Advantages:

- High bandwidth and transmission speed.
- Low losses (frequency-independent), allowing long distances without amplifiers.
- Resistant to electromagnetic interference (EMI), galvanically isolated, ideal for environments with high currents.
- Suitable for explosive environments.
- Lightweight, low cost.

Disadvantages:

- In process control, signal propagation time is more important than its frequency.
- Losses in electrical cables are usually minimal in most installations (up to 200 m).
- Coaxial cables offer sufficient resistance to interference.
- Galvanic isolation can be achieved with optical couplers.
- Optical networks with inexpensive components are limited to a few branches.
- Expensive installation due to the need to splice fibers.
- Topology is limited to star or ring configurations.

Radio Connections

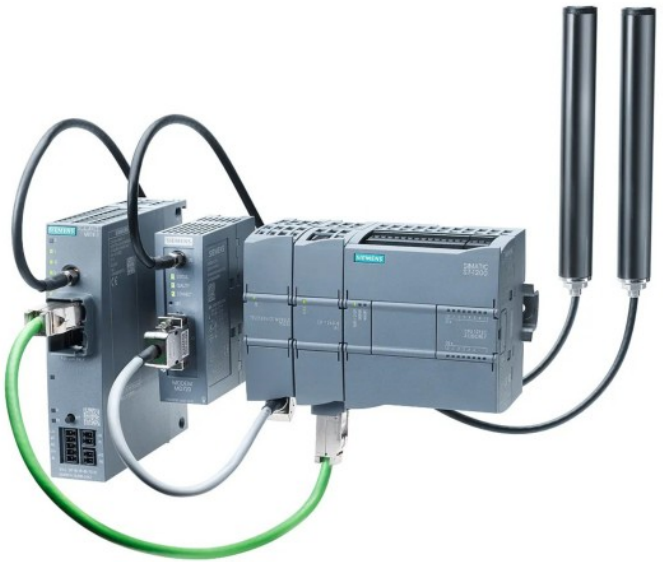
- Modern wireless area networks: speed, interference and range depend on the technology and environment.

Advantages:

- No wiring,
- Portable,
- Easy installation.

Disadvantages:

- Short range,
- Limited bandwidth,
- Coverage overlap,
- Vulnerable to intrusions,
- Unsuitable for powering devices,
- Cost.



Buses in the Market

- Market-share snapshot, target segments, and proponents

Bus	Market Share (%)	Target Segment	Proponents
CANs	25 %	Automotive and process	CiA, OVDA, Honeywell
Profibus (3 types)	26 %	Process control	Siemens, ABB
LON	6 %	Building automation	Echelon, ABB
Ethernet	50 %	Manufacturing bus	-
Interbus-S	7 %	Assembly of products	Phoenix Contact
Fieldbus Foundation, HART	7 %	Chemical industry	Fisher-Rosemount, ABB
ASI	9 %	Product assembly, buildings	Siemens
Modbus	22 %	Obsolete point-to-point	Many manufacturers
ControlNet	14 %	Process control	Rockwell

AS-i

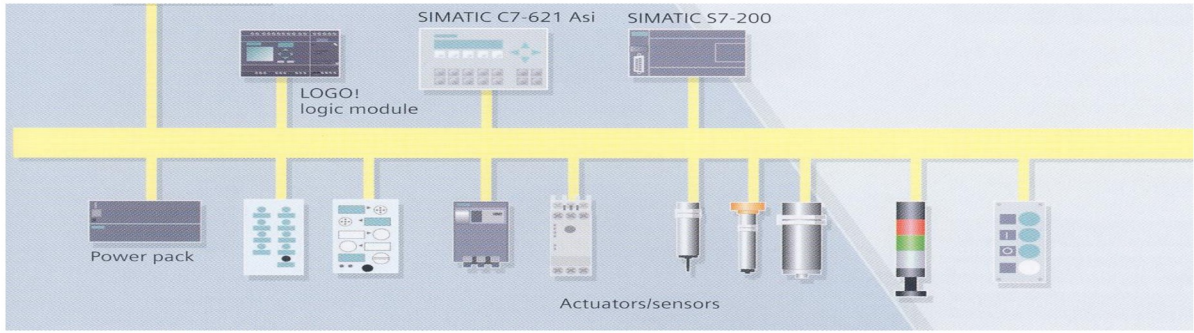
AS-i – Actuator Sensor Interface

Interface for sensors and actuators

- Open international standard
- Very simple low-level bus

Data transmission over power wires:

- Special power supplies (24 VDC) with network balancing – no common ground, demodulation
- Mostly used for binary signal transmission



AS-i

Physical Layer

Two-Wire Flat Cable

- Two wires for transmitting power and signals.
- 24 V / 2 A DC.

Connection of Elements via Cable Piercing

- Protection up to IP67 even after sensor removal.

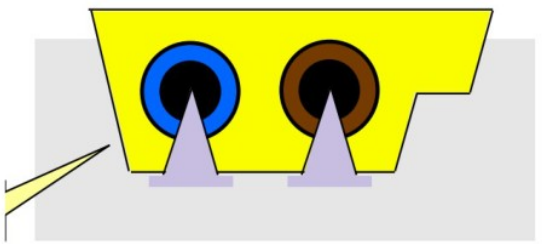


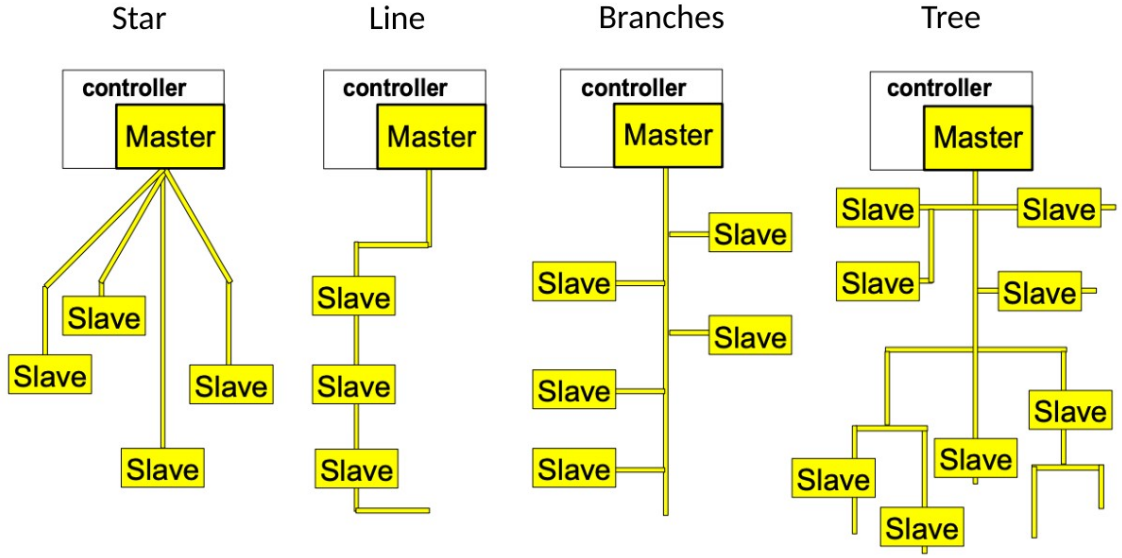
Diagram Note:

- The term "vampire connector" refers to the piercing connection method shown in the diagram.

AS-i

Simple Topology

- **Segment length**: Up to 100 m (500 m with an amplifier).
- **No terminating resistors required**.
- **Topologies**:
- **Star**: Central master connected to multiple slaves in a star configuration.
- **Line**: Slaves connected in a linear sequence to the master.
- **Branches**: Linear topology with branch connections to slaves.
- **Tree**: Hierarchical structure where the master connects to multiple levels of slaves.



AS-i

Master-Slave Communication

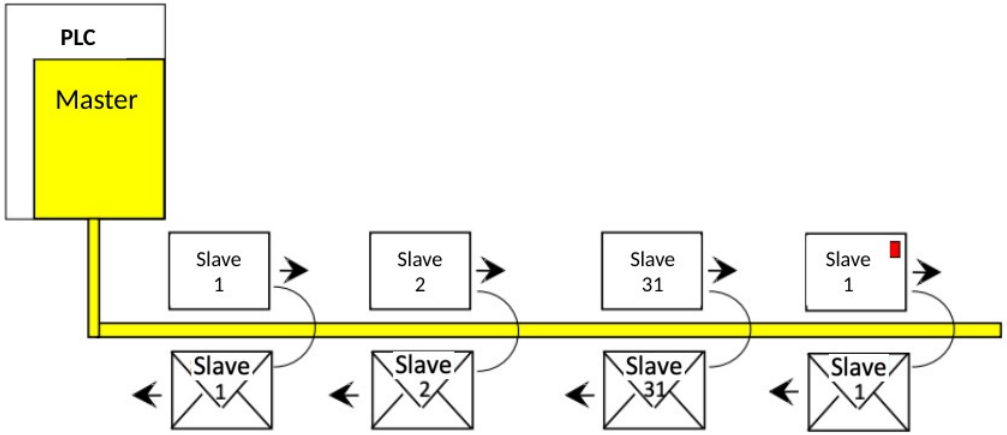
- Predefined message format for typical modules.
- Functional compatibility of modules from different manufacturers.

- Up to 62 slaves (modules): 31 A addresses and 31 B addresses on one bus:
  - Address 0 is factory-set → A new address is assigned when connecting to the bus.

Up to 5 ms for 31 standard addresses; up to 10 ms for 62 A/B slaves

- The basic 5 ms round corresponds to 33 messages; extended-data profiles can take longer.

Automatic Address Assignment

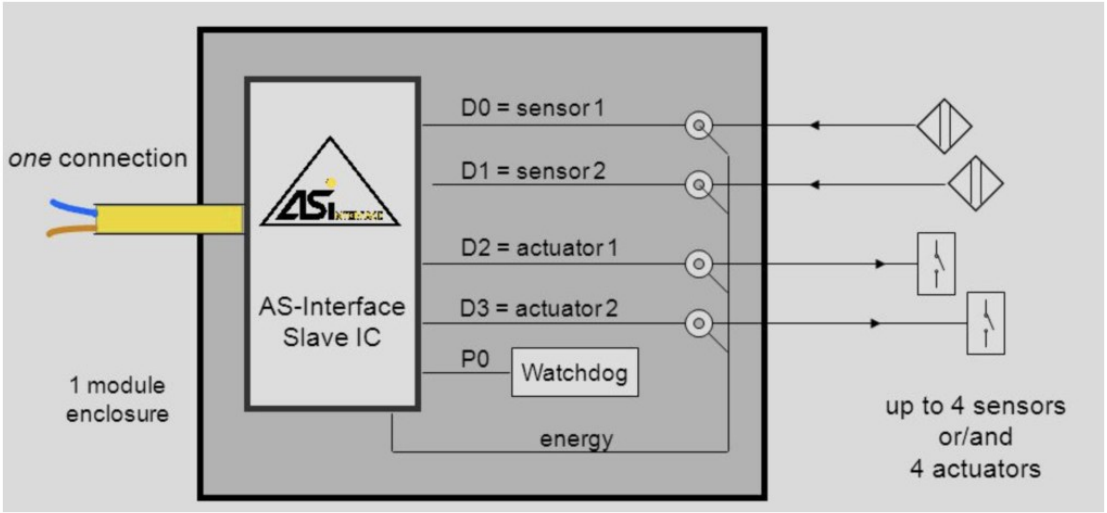


AS-i

AS-i Modules

- 4 digital inputs or outputs (synchronous)
- 4-bit parameters per module (asynchronous)
- Analog values are transmitted over multiple queries

- **Maximum capacity**:
  - 62 x 4 = 248 digital inputs or outputs



AS-i

Telegrams

- **Basic message** (master and device)





- **ST**: Start bit (0 = OK, 1 = Not Allowed)
- **SB**: Control bit (0 = Data/Parameters/Address, 1 = Control Signals)
- **Address**: A4..A0 - Device Address
- **Information**:
  - Master: I4..I0 - Data for the device
  - Device: I3..I0 - Data for the master
- PB: Parity bit (checked bits, including PB but excluding ST/EB, have even parity)
- **EB**: End bit (0 = Not Allowed, 1 = Correct)

- **Extension in v2.1**:
  - Bit I3 represents the address field (A or B)

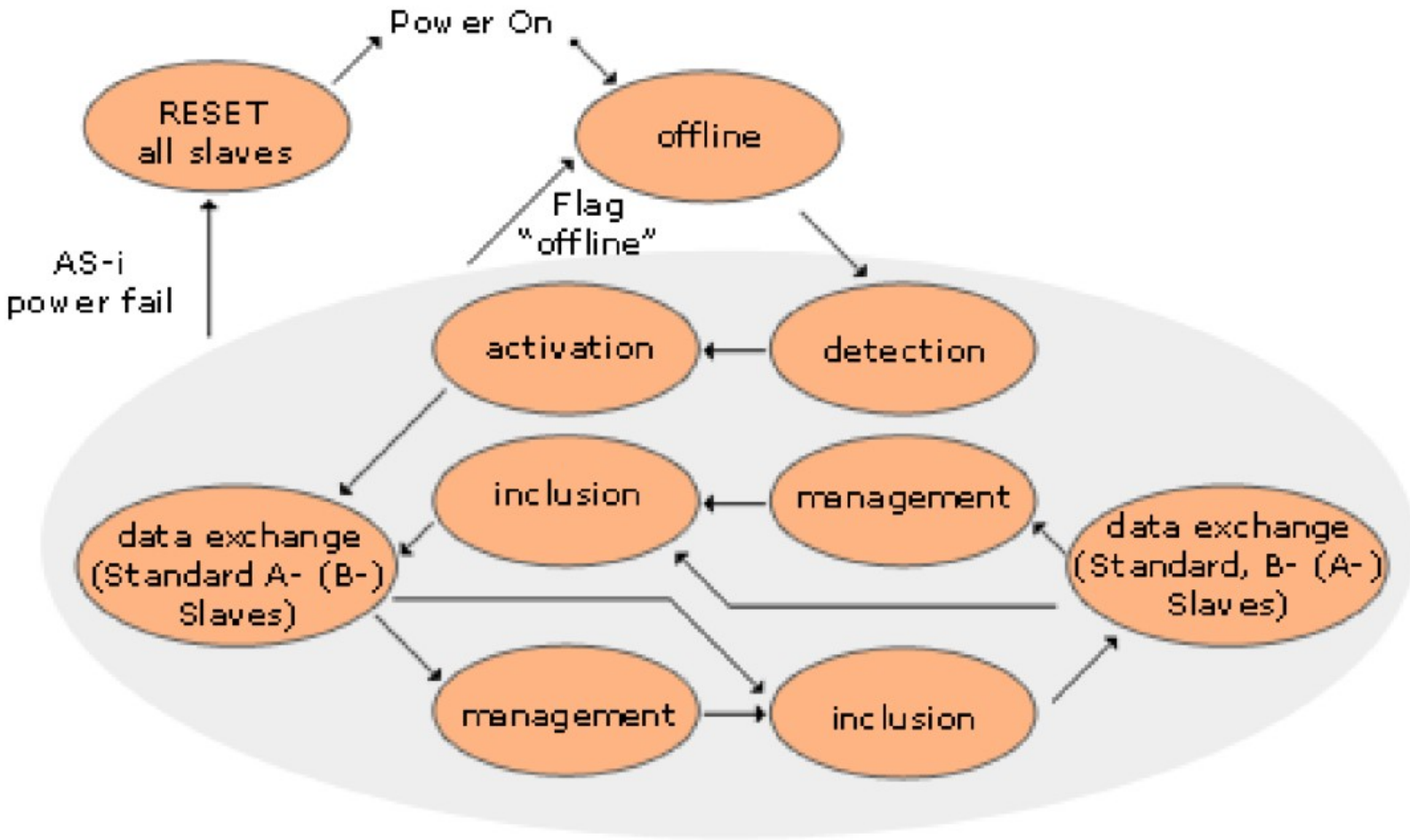
Composite Message

- Consists of several consecutive single messages

AS-i

Application Layer

- Functions of the bus master



Easy sensor replacement with IO-Link

ifm

0:35

IO-Link is a point-to-point digital link between one device and a master. The master connects to the fieldbus.



Play video

What to watch

The master restores the stored parameters to a compatible replacement sensor.

Online video requires internet access

CAN

Controller Area Network Bus

Applications

- Automotive Industry
- Developed by Intel/Bosch, also used by Honeywell and Allen-Bradley

Standards

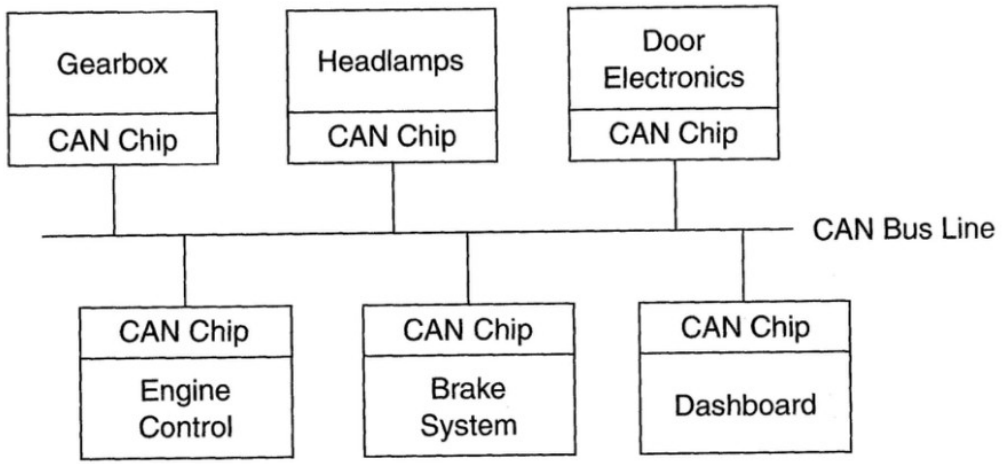
- **SAE**: Used in the automotive industry
- **ISO11898**: Used in frequency converters
- Different specifications are **not compatible** with each other

Availability

- Widely supported by **many integrated circuit manufacturers**

CAN

- Physical Layer
  - Electric cable or optical fibers
  - Electric cable
    - Trunk line with termination resistors
    - Branches without termination resistors, where devices are connected
    - Cable specifications:
    - 2 wires for power supply (24 V)
    - 2 wires for signal transmission (0–5 V)
    - Connectors are not standardized



CAN

Data Link Layer

- Nodes share one bus; DeviceNet supports up to 64 devices
- CAN uses multi-master access with priority arbitration

Speeds:

- 1 Mb/s up to 40 meters
- 100 kb/s up to 400 meters
- 25 kb/s up to 1000 meters

Message transmission:

- Uses NRZ line coding (Non-Return to Zero)

DeviceNet protocol

Overview

- Built on the **CAN bus** for industrial automation.
- Developed by the **Open DeviceNet Vendors Association (ODVA)**.
- Combines data and power in one cable for devices like sensors and actuators.

Key Features

- Adds industrial-specific functions to CAN.
- Simplifies wiring and device integration.
- Supports arbitration for non-deterministic communication.

Message Priority

- Lower IDs (higher priority) win arbitration.
- Critical devices like processors use lower IDs.

DeviceNet uses the CAN data frame

Field	Size	Description
Start of frame (SOF)	1 bit	Marks the start of the frame and synchronizes receivers.
Identifier / connection ID	11 bits	Identifies the connection and determines arbitration priority.
RTR (Remote Transmission Request)	1 bit	0 for a data frame; 1 for a remote request frame.
Control field	6 bits	Contains format/reserved bits and the 4-bit data length code.
Data	0–8 bytes	Carries the message payload.
CRC sequence	15 bits	Enables receivers to detect transmission errors.
CRC delimiter	1 bit	A fixed recessive bit separates the CRC from the ACK field.
Acknowledgment slot (ACK)	1 bit	At least one other CAN controller received the frame correctly.
ACK delimiter	1 bit	A fixed recessive bit ends the ACK field.
End of frame (EOF)	7 bits	Seven recessive bits mark the end of the frame.
Interframe space	≥3 bit times	A three-bit intermission precedes the next data or remote frame.

PROFIBUS

PROcess Field BUS

- Introduced in 1987 by Siemens, now an international standard.
- It has the most installations among fieldbuses.

Three Variants:

PROFIBUS-FMS (Fieldbus Message Specification):

- Designed for transferring large amounts of data.
- Used for communication between PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers) or between PLCs and PCs.
- Has been largely replaced by Ethernet.

PROFIBUS-DP (Decentralized Periphery):

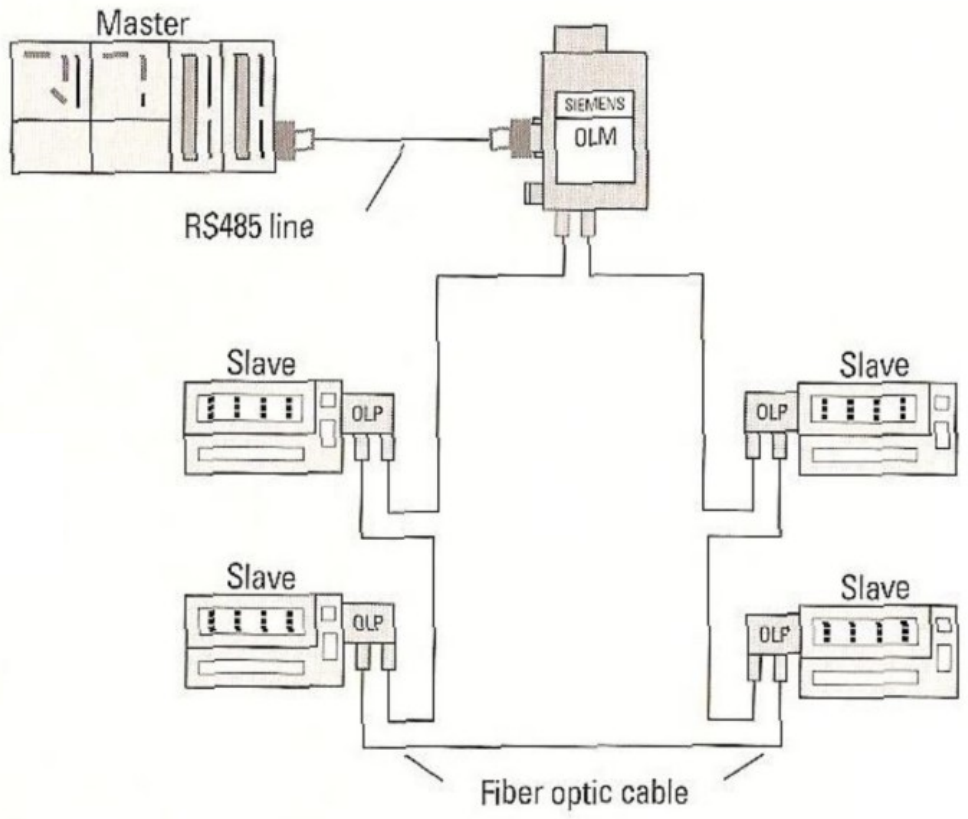
- Used for communication between PLCs and for connecting measuring and actuator components to PLCs.

PROFIBUS-PA (Process Automation):

- Developed for process automation needs in hazardous environments (explosion zones).
- Derived from PROFIBUS-DP.
- Supports data transfer and power supply over the same two-wire cable.

PROFIBUS

- Physical Layer: Optical Fiber
  - Distance between stations:
    - Up to 15 km with glass fibers
    - Up to 80 m with plastic fibers
  - OLP Technology (Optical Link Plug):
    - Connects via DB9 connector
    - Powered by devices
  - OLM Technology (Optical Link Module):
    - Acts as a bridge between electrical and optical networks



PROFIBUS

Data Link Layer

- Message Formats
- Frame with constant length and no data:
  | SD1 | DA | SA | FC | FCS | ED |
- Frame with constant length and data:
  | SD3 | DA | SA | FC | Data (8 bytes) | FCS | ED |
- Frame with variable length:
  | SD2 | LE | LEr | SD2 | DA | SA | FC | Data | FCS |
- Short Acknowledgement:
  | SC |
- Token Frame:
  | SD4 | DA | SA |

- SDx: Start Delimiter
- DA: Destination Address (0–126)
- SA: Source Address
- FC: Frame Control (priority)
- FCS: Frame Check Sequence
- ED: End Delimiter
- LE/LEr: Length byte (repeated)
- SC: Single Character (acknowledgement)

PROFIBUS

- **Error Handling**: In the case of incorrectly transmitted messages, transmission is repeated up to eight times.

Possible Transmission Modes:

- Point-to-point or broadcast
- With or without acknowledgment

Profiles:

- Define the meaning of bits in messages
- Types:
  - Encoders, Drives (frequency converters)
  - Human-machine interfaces
  - Error-free data transfer (fail-safe, emergency stop button, etc.)

Versions:

- **DP-V0**: Cyclic data transfer, diagnostics
- **DP-V1**: Acyclic data transfer, visualization, alarms
- **DP-V2**: Extensions for drive needs (isochronous communication)

PROFIBUS

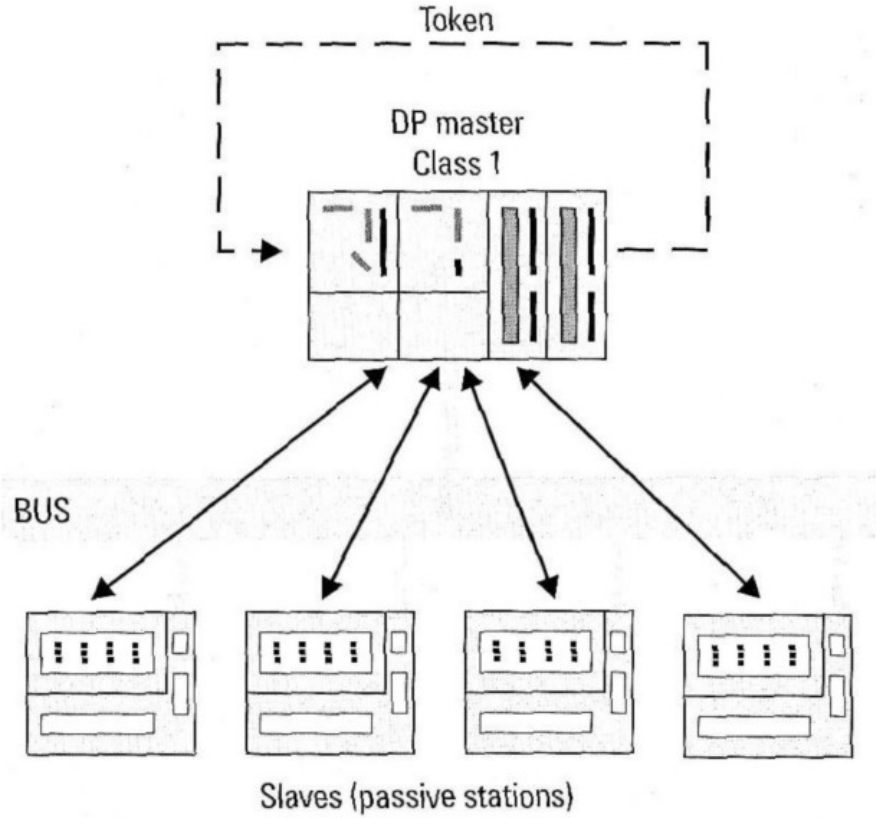
Modes

Master-Slave (Active-Passive Nodes)

- Only one active node (PLC).
- Sends messages to passive nodes (slaves) and waits for responses.
- Cyclic access to passive nodes.

Token Passing (Between Active Nodes)

- Active stations pass tokens in a predetermined sequence.
- Once an active station receives the token, it gains access to the bus.
- After the allocated time, it passes the token to the next station.
- The ring is adjusted if a device is lost or reconnected.



Industrial Ethernet

Why Industrial Ethernet?

- It is already a standard in office environments.
- Widely used for high-level communication in process automation.
- Well-suited for communication between field-level units.

Advantages:

- Simplifies vertical integration with higher-level control systems.

Challenges:

- Easy installation and parameterization of devices.
- Serial connection of devices for practical implementation.
- Achieving real-time communication capabilities at the Ethernet level.

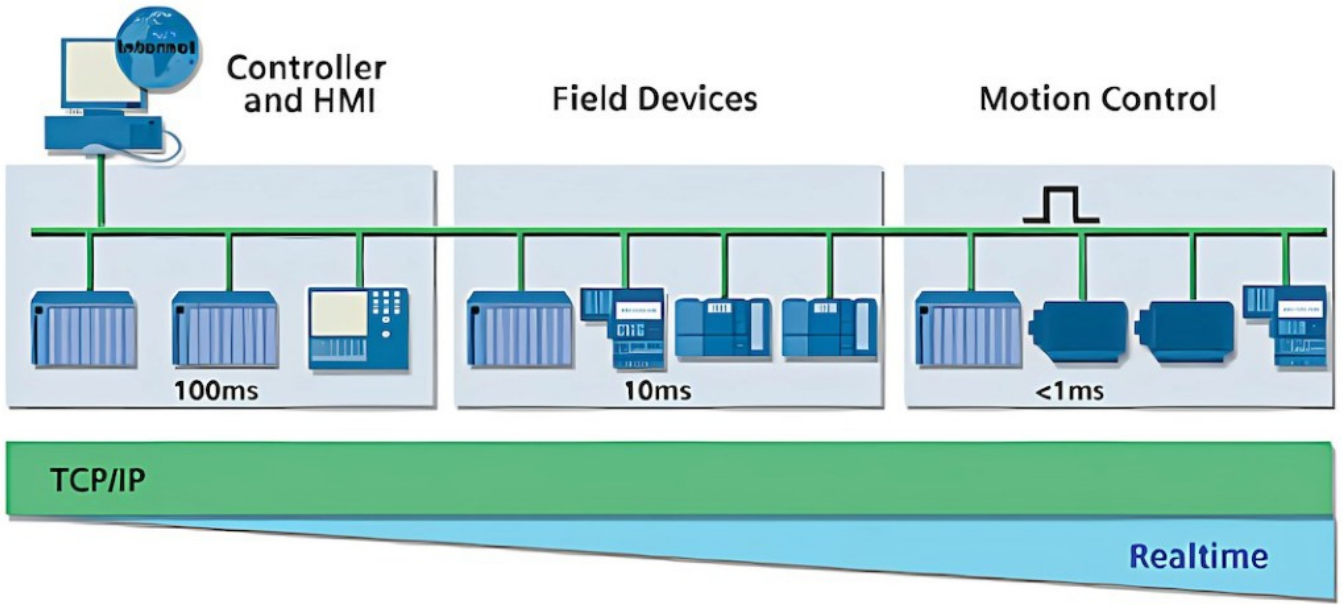
Industrial Ethernet

- Office vs. industrial environments

Office	Industrial
Fixed wiring	Wiring adapted to the system
Connection of various devices	Connected devices rarely change
Star topology	Serial connections
UTP cable (Unshielded Twisted Pair)	Cable adapted for industrial environments (STP)
Large data packets	Short packets
Responsiveness is not critical	Real-time responsiveness
Medium requirements for network availability	High requirements for network availability
Standard conditions	Harsh conditions (temperature, humidity, vibration, electromagnetic interference, mechanical and chemical damage)

Industrial Ethernet

- Real-time problem



- Coexistence with existing TCP/IP protocols.
- Covering both small and large requirements regarding real-time needs.

Industrial Ethernet

Ethernet: Physical and Data Link Layers

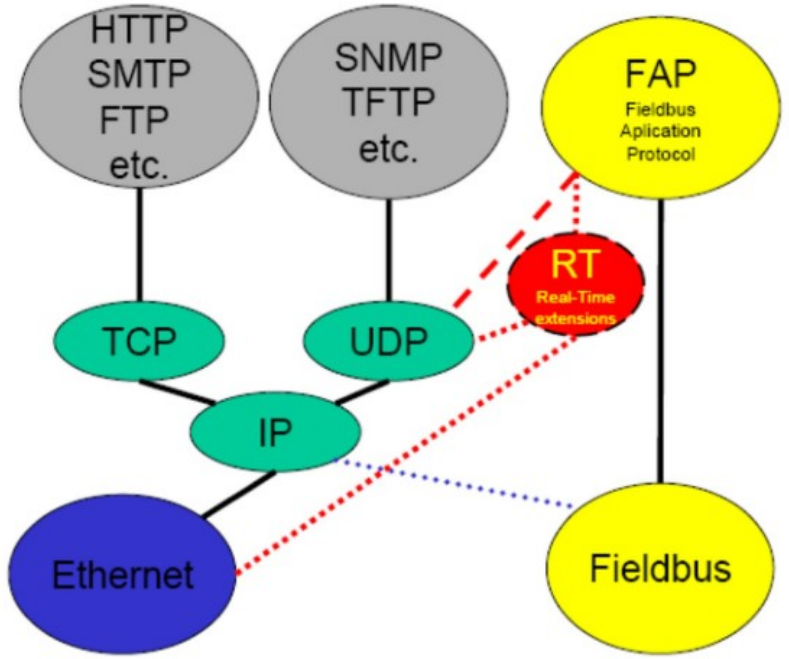
- Defines the process of transmitting messages and media.

TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- Provides reliable, ordered byte delivery using error detection and retransmission.
- Establishes connections between devices, transfers messages, and terminates connections.

UDP (User Datagram Protocol)

- Does not ensure error-free message transmission.
- Does not establish connections between devices.
- More suitable for time-critical transmissions.



Industrial Ethernet

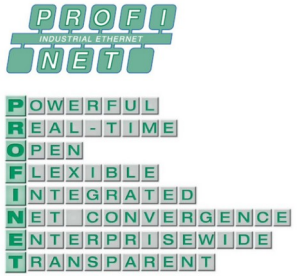
- Standard 61784-2 covers the following:

CPF (Communication Profile Family)	Standard Protocols (CP)	Real-Time Extensions (CP RTE)
CPF2 (ControlNet™)	CP 2/2 EtherNet/IP	CP 2/3 EtherNet/IP RTE
CPF3 (PROFIBUS)	CP 3/3 PROFINET CBA	CP 3/4 PROFINET I/O
		CP 3/5 PROFINET IRT
CPF4 (P-NET®)	CP 4/3 P-NET RTE	
CPF6 (INTERBUS®)	CP 6/2 INTERBUS TCP/IP	CP 6/4 INTERBUS RTE
CPF10 (VNET/IP)	CP 10/4 VNET/IP	
CPF11 (TCnet)	CP 11/4 TCnet	
CPF12 (EtherCAT)	CP 12/4 EtherCAT	
CPF13 (EPL)	CP 13/4 Ethernet Powerlink	
CPF14 (EPA)	CP 14/4 EPA	
CPF15 (Modbus-RTPS)	CP 15/4 Modbus-RTPS	
CPF16 (SERCOS)	CP 16/4 SERCOS III	

PROFINET

- Siemens, PNO, international standard

Development



2002:

- Distributed automation
- Use of standard TCP/IP
- Integration with PROFIBUS

2003:

- Real-time
- Integration with the web
- Network management
- Connection of decentralized devices

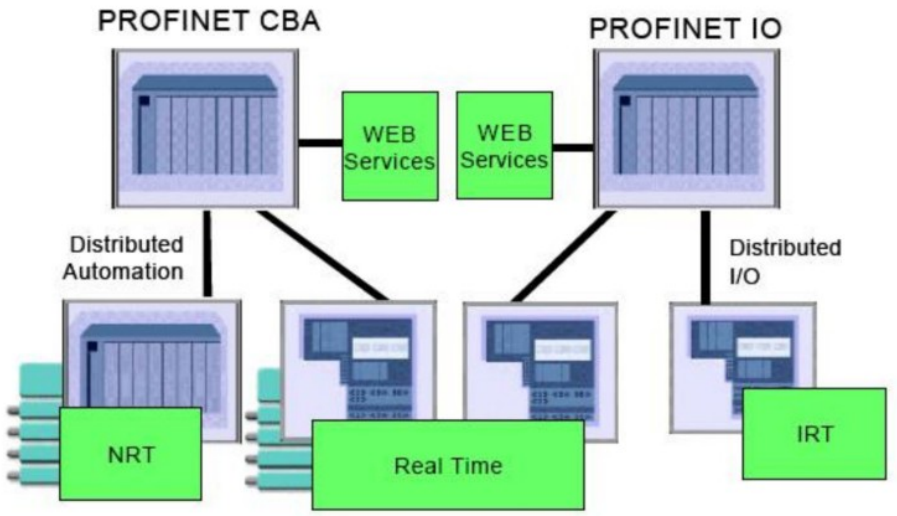
2005:

- Isochronous real-time
- Safety technologies

PROFINET

PROFINET IO

- Designed for connecting field devices to the bus.
- Simplicity of communication equipment provides an advantage over traditional data transmission methods.
- To ease the transition, the PROFIBUS concept is utilized:
  - Same peripheral devices are used as in PROFIBUS.
  - Installation and parameterization are carried out in the same manner.
- For non-time-critical processes, standard Ethernet TCP/IP or UDP/IP offers:
  - Sufficient bandwidth.
  - Adequate determinism.



PROFINET - The Movie | Technology Made Easy

Indu-Sol GmbH

7:32

PROFINET connects a controller to devices over industrial Ethernet. The film uses road traffic to explain communication cycles and delays.



What to watch

Watch how traffic flow changes when the network gets busier.

Play video

Online video requires internet access

PROFINET

PROFINET CBA (Component Based Automation)

- Designed for distributed control systems.
- Simplifies communication between various devices.
- Targets controllers and advanced programmable field devices.

- Component model describes devices as technological modules:
  - PCD file (PROFINET Component Description) in XML format.
  - “Object-oriented programming” in process control.

PROFINET

PROFINET: Three Communication Modes

NRT (Non-Real Time):

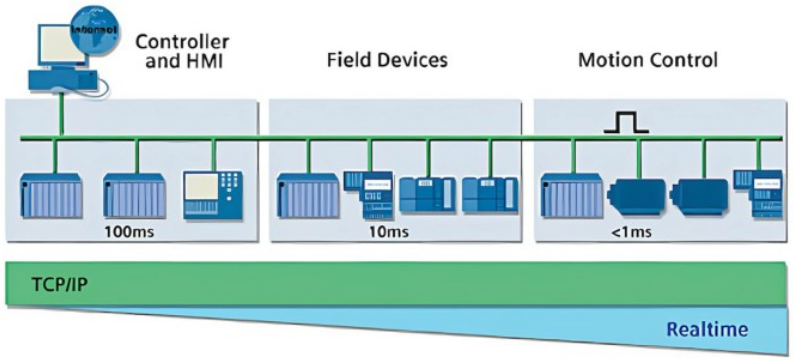
- Standard TCP/IP.
- Used for configuration and integration with higher-level management systems.

RT (Real Time):

- Stricter requirements for bandwidth and determinism.
- Includes software extensions.
- Handles process data and alarms.

IRT (Isochronous Real Time):

- Even stricter requirements for determinism.
- Involves hardware-level extensions.
- Suitable for multi-axis motor control.



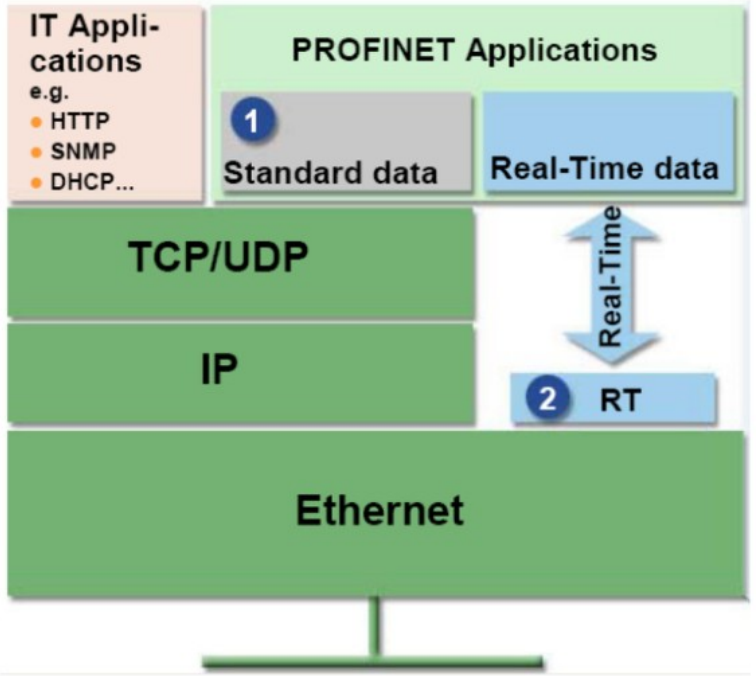
PROFINET

PROFINET RT (2)

- **High-capacity data transfer:** Supports efficient and large-scale data communication.
- **Cyclic data monitoring:** Allows for continuous tracking of process data.
- **Event-based operations:** Responds to system events in real time.
- **Implementation flexibility:** Can be implemented with any Ethernet network card and any Ethernet switch.

Application layer dominance:

- Improved transfer times by a factor of 6–10.
- Reduced start time variance by a factor of 5–8.



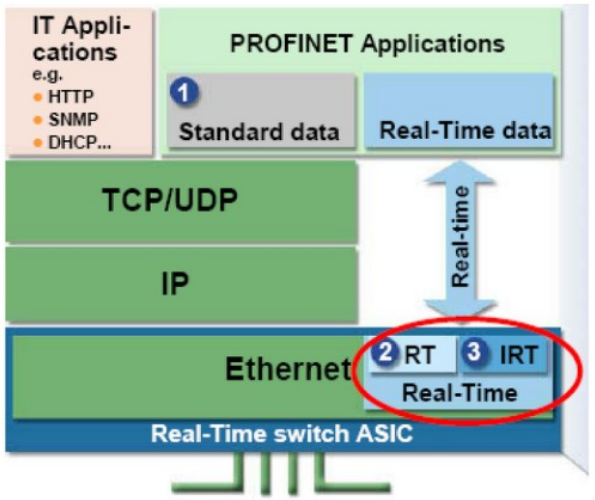
PROFINET - Communication

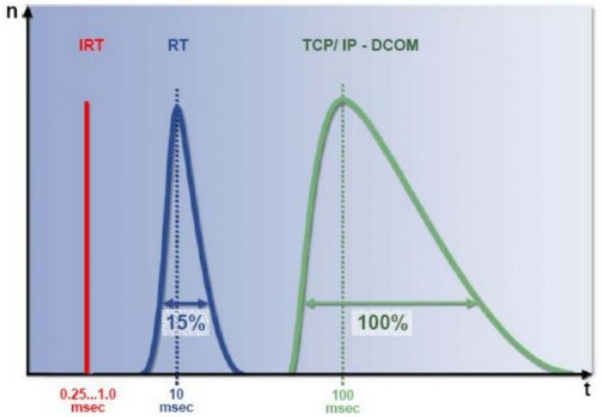
IRT (Isochronous Real Time)

- **Highly efficient data transfer:** Supports simultaneous (isochronous) data delivery to multiple devices.

Guaranteed real-time transfer:

- Independent of network traffic.
- Transmission start variance is less than 1 microsecond.
- Cycle time is less than 1 millisecond.



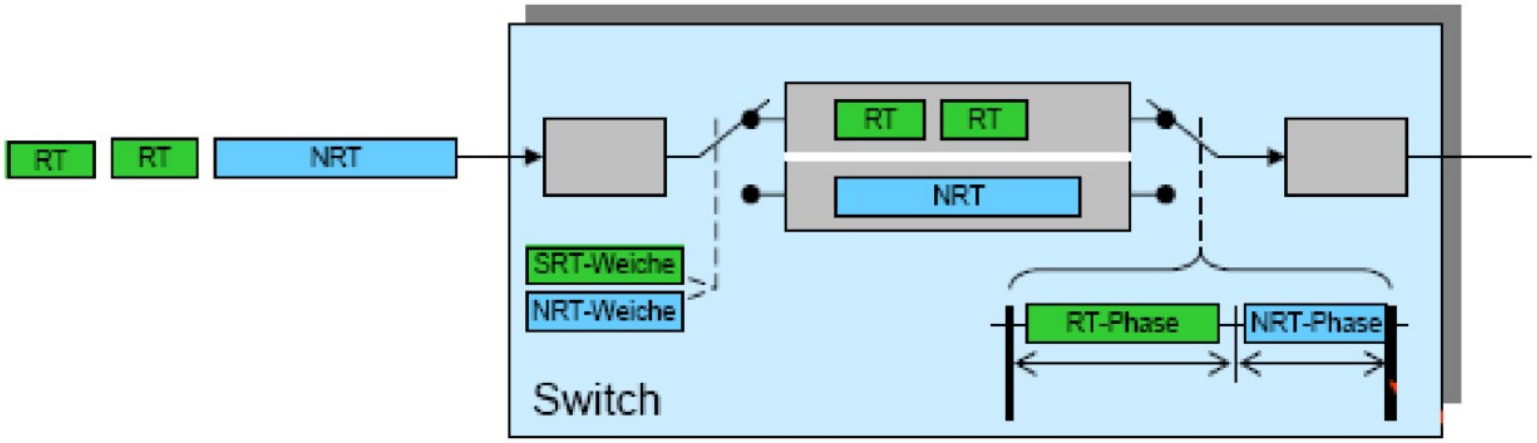


PROFINET

IRT

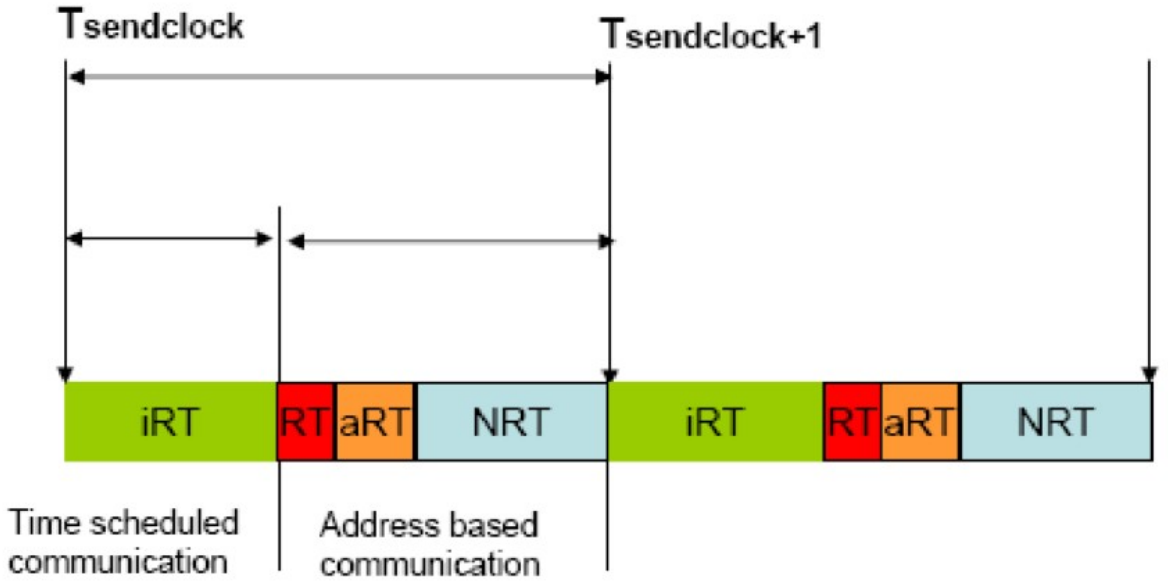
Special switches:

- Priority for IRT packets.
- Synchronization of cycles between switches.
- Mandatory topology configuration.



PROFINET

- Coexistence of NRT, RT, and IRT
  - Resource Allocation
    - Defined during bus configuration.
  - Priorities within the Cycle
    - IRT - Constant length.
    - RT - Cyclic transfers.
    - aRT - Asynchronous transfers.
    - NRT - Other communication.
  - Cycle length remains unchanged.



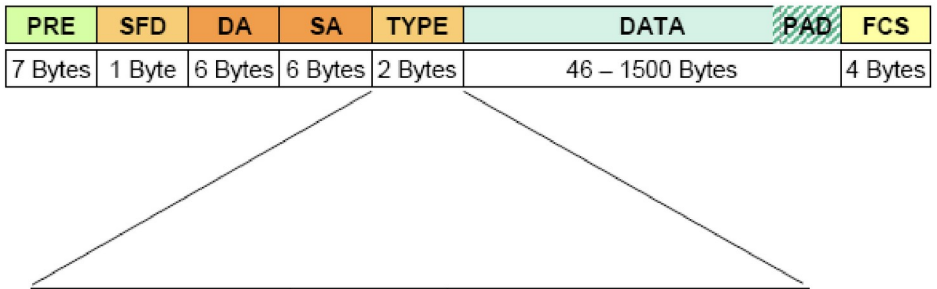
PROFINET

Changes in Ethernet Telegram

Ethernet

802.3 Standard

- **TYPE Field** - Defines the size or type of the DATA block:
  - ≤ 1500 (0x05DC) - Specifies the size in bytes.
  - ≥ 1536 (0x0600) - Specifies the type, as shown in the table.
  - Example Types:
  - 0x0800 - IP Header
  - 0x0806 - Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)
  - 0x8100 - Virtual LAN (VLAN) Header
  - 0x8892 - PROFINET Real-Time (PN-RT)



TYPE	Protocol	Meaning
0x0800	IP	IP Header
0x0806	ARP	Adressresultion
0x8100	VLAN	Virtual LAN Header
0x8892	PN-RT	PROFINET Real-Time

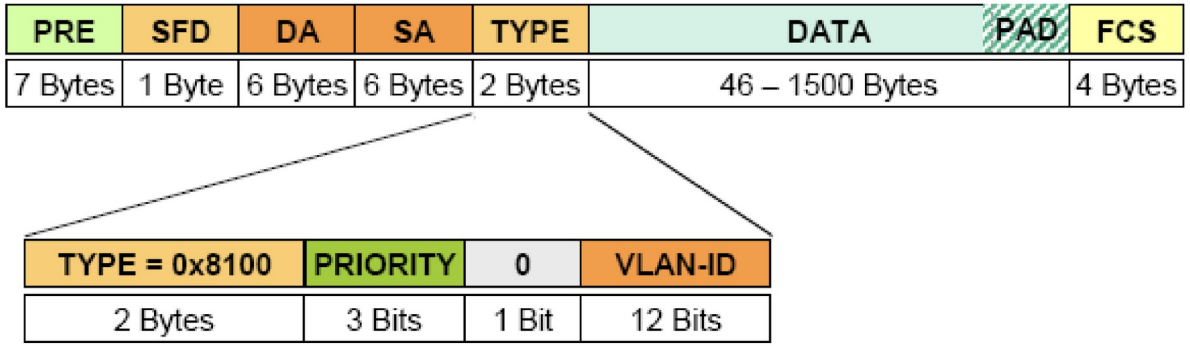
PROFINET

VLAN (Virtual LAN)

802.1q Standard

Priority Setting

- RT packets are given the highest priority.
- Priorities can be configured on network switches.



PROFINET

- Message

PRE	SFD	DA	SA	TYPE	DATA	PAD	FCS
7 Bytes	1 Byte	6 Bytes	6 Bytes	2 Bytes	46 – 1500 Bytes		4 Bytes

FrameID	RT-Data	Cycle-Counter	Data Status	Transfer Status
2 Bytes	40 - 1440 Bytes	2 Bytes	1 Byte	1 Byte

FrameID	Meaning
0x0000 – 0x00FF	Time Synchronization
0x0100 – 0x7FFF	RT Class 3 Frames (IRT)
0x8000 – 0xBFFF	RT Class 2 Frames (RT)
0xC000 – 0xFBFF	RT Class 1 Frames (RT)
0xFC00 – 0xFCFF	Acyclic transmission „high“
0xFD00 – 0xFDFF	Reserved
0xFE00 – 0xFEFC	Acyclic transmission „low“
0xFEFD – 0xFEFF	DCP
0xFF00 – 0xFFFF	reserved

Cycle-Counter	Meaning
One bit represents a time increment of 31,25µs; Big-Endian Format	**Provider:** Increments the CycleCounter (within the send cycle) and fits it in the frame. **Consumer:** Checks the CycleCounter during rceiption to identify take overs.

7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Data Status	Meaning
0	0			0		0		Reserved	
							X	State	Primary, leading channel in a redundant system
					X			DataValid	Data are valid
			X					ProcessState	Process is running
		X						ProblemIndicator	Set if there is no problem

Transfer Status	Meaning
0	Transmitted ok

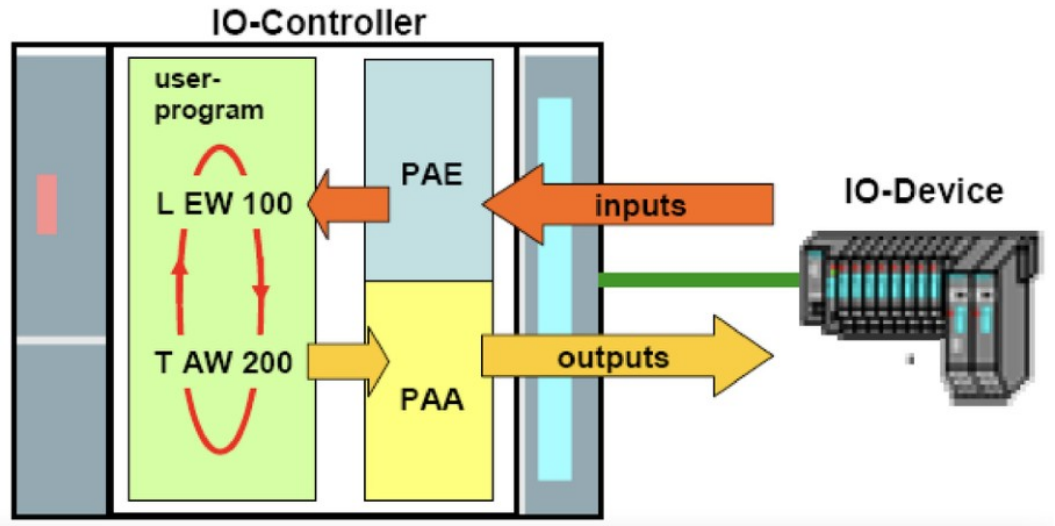
PROFINET - Communication

Device Addressing:

- **IP Address** – Required for NRT (Non-Real-Time) and communication outside the network.
- **MAC Address and Symbolic Name** – Used for communication within the network.

Programming Model for Field Devices:

Mapping of Inputs and Outputs



PROFINET Engineering

Import GSDML File with Device Data:

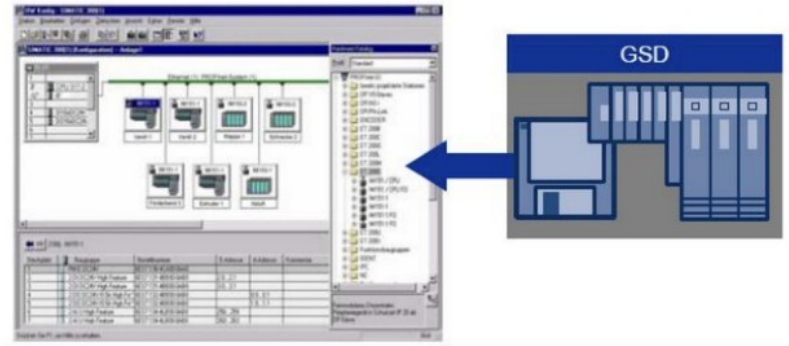
- Prepared by the device manufacturer.
- Includes a mapping of inputs and outputs.

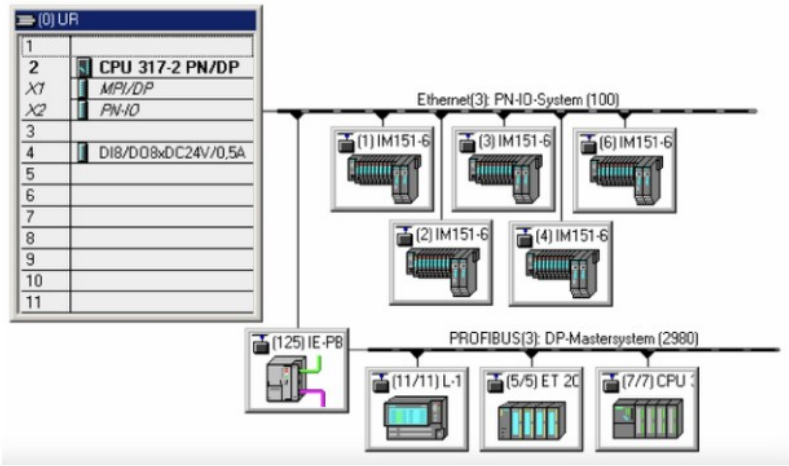
Preparation of Hardware Configuration:

- Configure the structure and connections of the devices.

System Upload:

- Assign IP addresses.
- Define device names.





EtherCAT Functional Principle (3D)

EtherCAT Technology Group

0:58

One frame passes through devices. Each device reads its output data and writes its input data while the frame continues moving.



Play video

What to watch

Follow the frame as each device processes its data and the frame returns to the controller.

Online video requires internet access

The perfectly synchronized XTS: Dynamic, precise, scalable

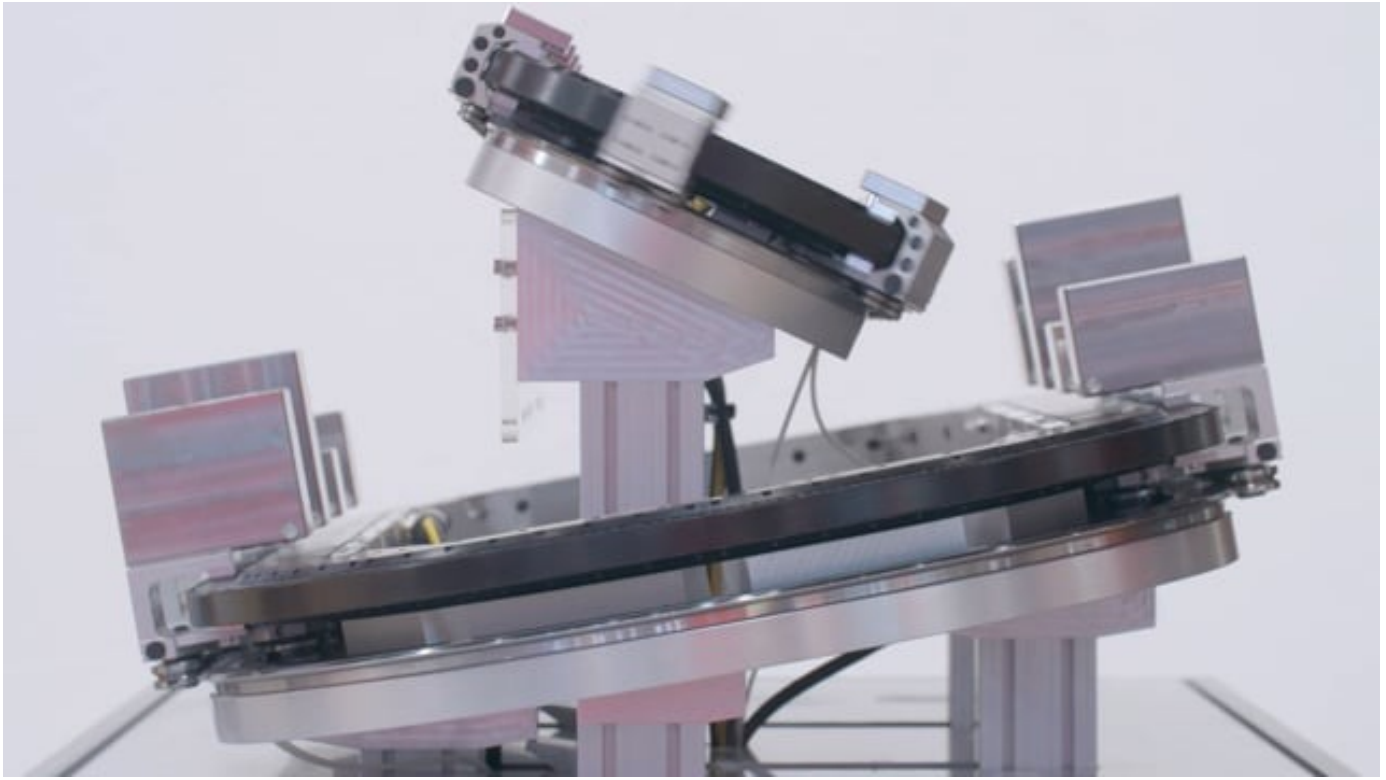
Beckhoff Automation

1:18

Independently controlled movers share a track.
Clock synchronization gives motion axes a common time reference.

What to watch

Watch how the movers maintain their relative positions during coordinated movements.



Play video

Online video requires internet access

Process automation

Industrial Communication Buses

BS UNI studies, Fall semester 2026/2027

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