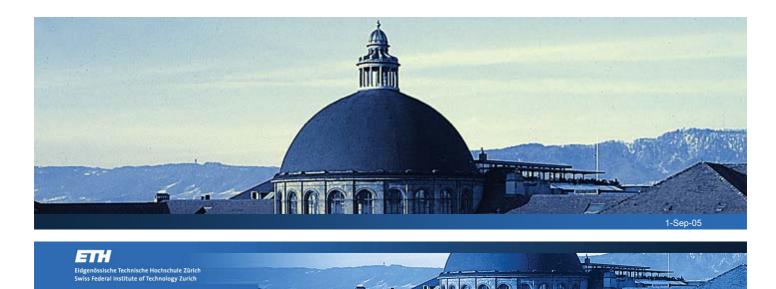
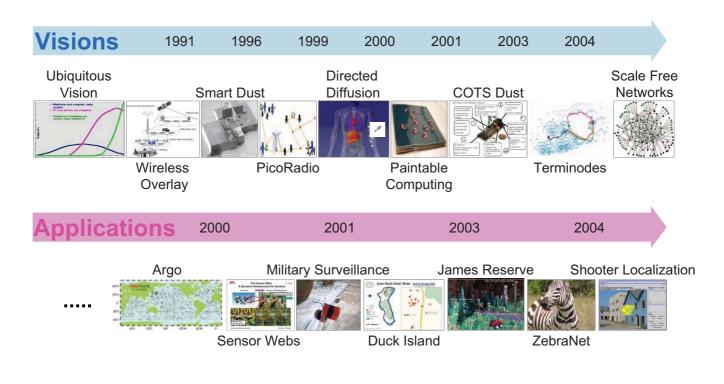
Real-world Sensor Networks: Experiences in Design and Deployment

Jan Beutel

Summer School on Wireless Sensor Networks and Smart Objects Schloss Dagstuhl



Wireless Sensor Networks





WSN – The Systems Perspective

Wireless sensor networks are not a fundamentally new

area of research

- New application domain for wireless
- Limited node resources are leveraged by node collaboration and the amount of nodes
- Tight coupling of nodes, application, environment
- Broad usage profile (non-expert users)

Drawing best from other established areas/technology

Cross-layer development

Sensor network applications have quite a long tradition.

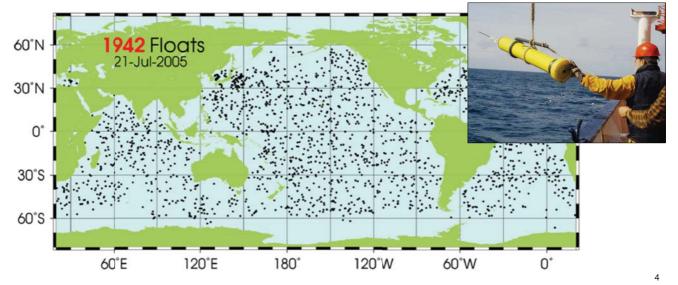


3

Argo – Global Ocean Observation Strategy

Global array of temperature/salinity profiling floats

- Satellite data relay to data centers on shore
- Operational since 2000
- Developed and maintained mainly by oceanographers



Anti-Submarine Surveillance

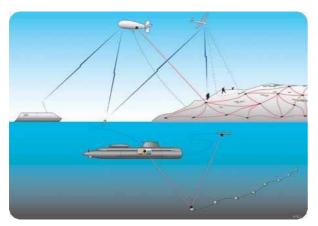
Distributed acoustic monitoring and surveillance

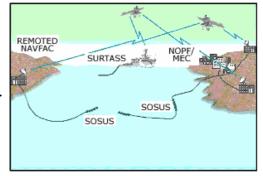
- Advanced signal processing
- Mostly wireline and analog

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- Fixed installations and mobile units
- Military development since the cold war





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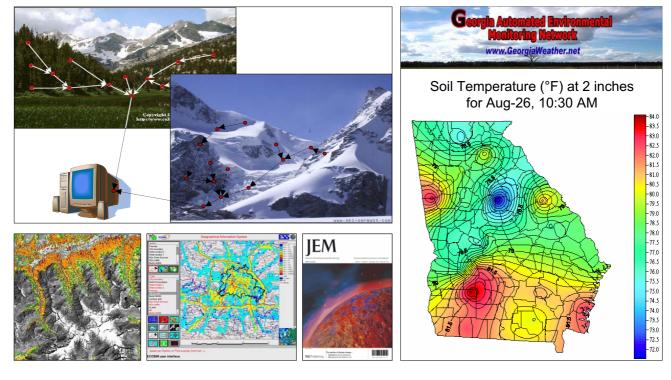


Globally Networked Weather Stations





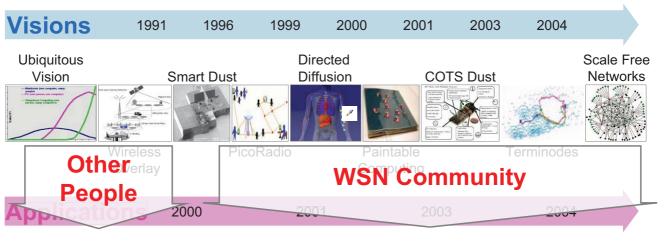
Environmental Monitoring



7



Wireless Sensor Network Applications



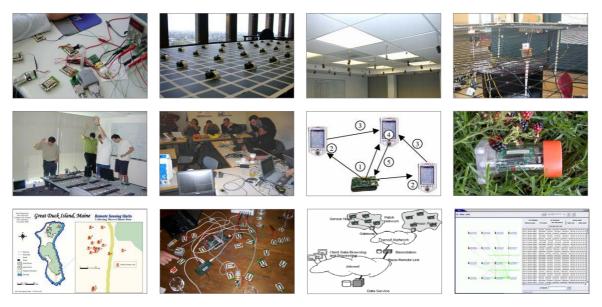
Argo	Military S	Surveillance	James Reserve	Shooter Localization
Production Applications	The force the same state of th		es, Experime search Dem	
	ensor Webs	Duck Isla	and Zel	oraNet

WSN Development Reality

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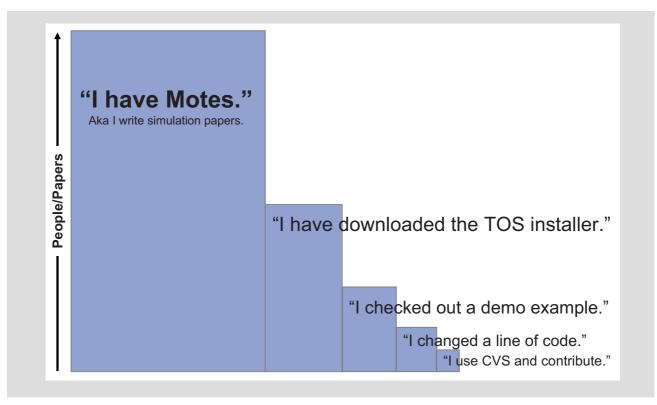
It is hard to deploy anywhere beyond 10-20 nodes today.



Coordinated methods and tools are missing today.



The WSN Evolution – Empirical Backup



400 horses 100 microprocessors



Exponential increase in software complexity

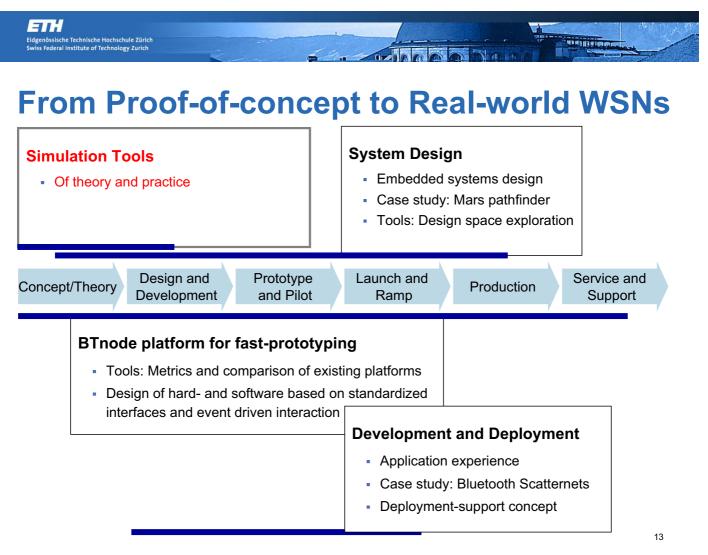
 In some areas code size is doubling every 9 months [ST Microelectronics, Medea Workshop, Fall 2003]

 ... > 70% of the development cost for complex systems such as automotive electronics and communication systems are due to software development [A. Sangiovanni-Vincentelli, 1999]

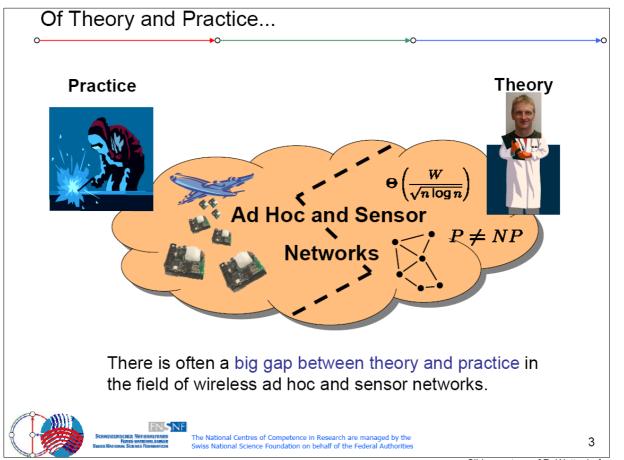
Slide courtesy of T. Henzinger

Slide courtesy of T. Henzing

\$4 billion development effort40% system integration & validation cost









Problems of Theoretical Work and Simulation

Typical simulation papers use

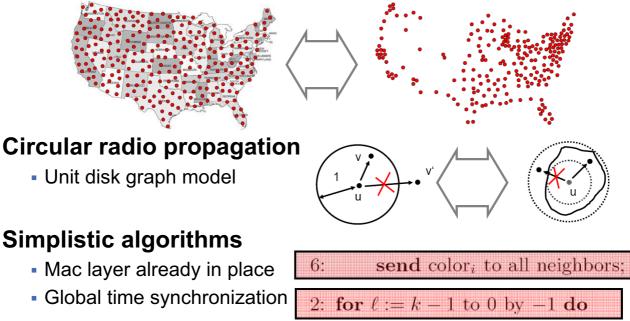
- Flawed assumptions, simplifications, wrong models [Kotz03/04,Min2003,Heidemann2001,Ganesan2002]
- Limited comparability/reproducibility [Cavin2002]
- **☑** Theoreticians try to understand the fundamentals.
- **☑** Need to abstract away a few "technicalities".
- ✓ This allows nice formulas.
- Abstracting away too many "technicalities" renders theory useless for practice!

Material courtesy of R. Wattenhofer 15

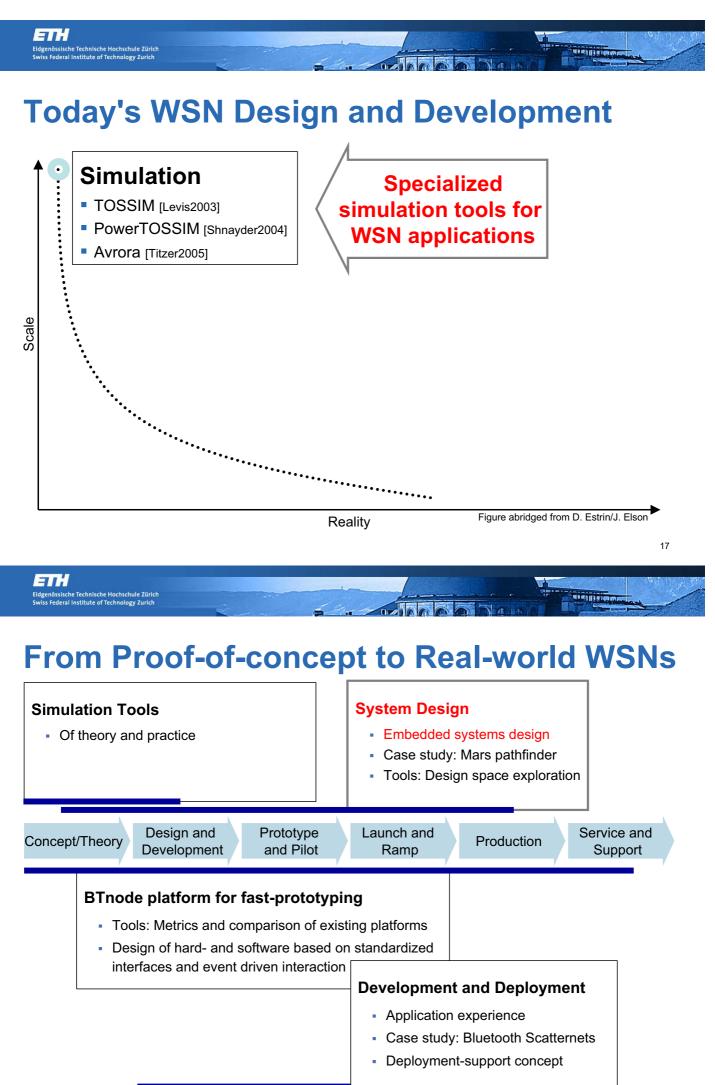


Common Assumptions in Theory and Simulation

Random, uniform node distribution



Material courtesy of R. Wattenhofer





Characteristics of Embedded Systems – (1)

Must be dependable:

- Reliability: R(t) = probability of system working correctly provided that is was working at t=0
- Maintainability: M(d) = probability of system working correctly d time units after error occurred.
- Availability: probability of system working at time t
- Safety: no harm to be caused
- Security: confidential and authentic communication

Even perfectly designed systems can fail if the assumptions about the workload and possible errors turn out to be wrong.

Making the system dependable must not be an after-thought, it must be considered from the very beginning.



Characteristics of Embedded Systems – (2)

Must be efficient:

- Energy efficient
- Code-size efficient (especially for systems on a chip)
- Run-time efficient
- Weight efficient
- Cost efficient

Dedicated towards a certain application

 Knowledge about behavior at design time can be used to minimize resources and to maximize robustness.

Characteristics of Embedded Systems – (3)

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Many ES must meet real-time constraints:

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- A real-time system must **react to stimuli** from the controlled object (or the operator) within the time interval dictated by the environment.
- For real-time systems, right answers arriving too late (or even too early) are wrong.

"A real-time constraint is called hard, if not meeting that constraint could result in a catastrophe." [Kopetz, 1997]

- All other time-constraints are called soft.
- A guaranteed system response has to be explained without statistical arguments.



Characteristics of Embedded Systems – (4)

Frequently connected to physical environment

- Through sensors and actuators
- Hybrid systems (analog + digital parts).

Typically, ES are *reactive systems*:

"A reactive system is one which is in continual interaction with is environment and executes at a pace determined by that environment" [Bergé, 1995]

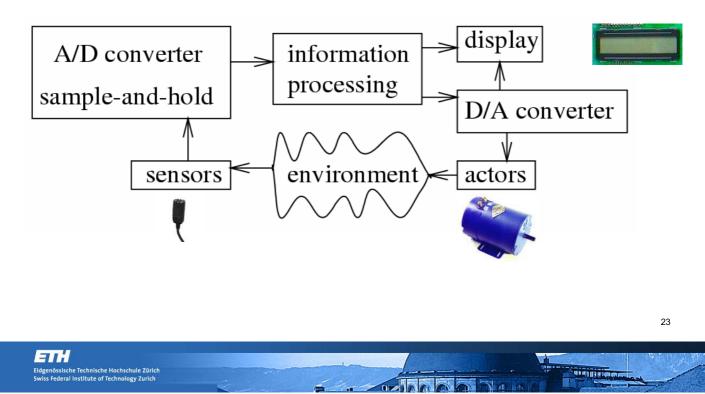
- Behavior depends on input and current state.
 - ☞ automata model are often appropriate.

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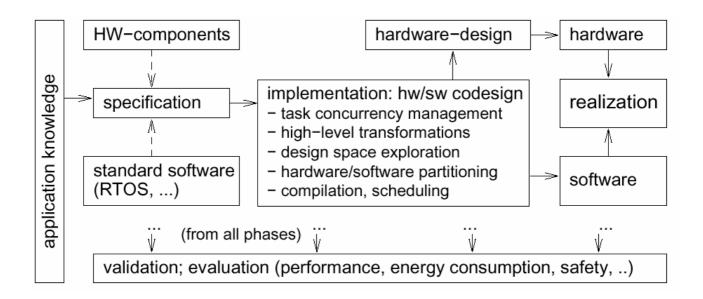
Embedded System Hardware-in-the-loop

Embedded system hardware is frequently used as

Hardware-in-a-loop

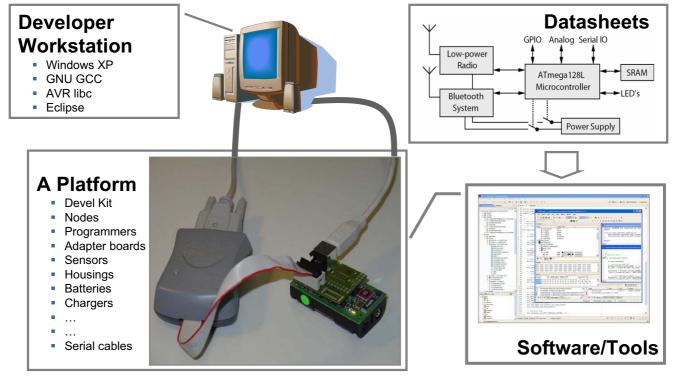


Simple Embedded Systems Design Flow



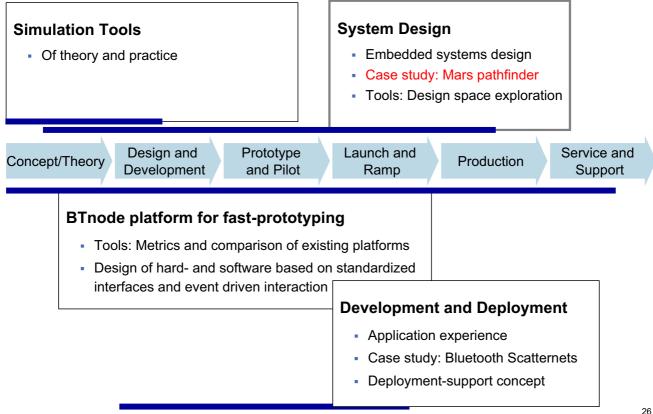


Classical Embedded Development





From Proof-of-concept to Real-world WSNs



Mars, July 4, 1997 Lost contact due to priority inversion bug

A few days into the mission, not long after Pathfinder started gathering meteorological data, the spacecraft began experiencing total system resets, each resulting in losses of data.

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The MARS Pathfinder problem – (1)

- VxWorks provides preemptive priority scheduling of threads. Tasks on the Pathfinder spacecraft were executed as threads with priorities assigned in the usual manner reflecting the relative urgency of tasks.
- Pathfinder contained an "information bus", which you can think of as a shared memory area used for passing information between different components of the spacecraft.

A bus management task ran frequently with high priority to move certain kinds of data in and out of the information bus. Access to the bus was synchronized with mutual exclusion locks (mutexes).



The MARS Pathfinder problem – (2)

- The meteorological data gathering task ran as an infrequent, low priority thread... When publishing its data, it would acquire a mutex, do writes to the bus, and release the mutex.
- The spacecraft also contained a communications task that ran with medium priority.

High priority:retrieval of data from shared memoryMedium priority:communications taskLow priority:thread collecting meteorological data

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The MARS Pathfinder problem – (3)

Most of the time this combination worked fine. However, very infrequently it was possible for an interrupt to occur that caused the (medium priority) communications task to be scheduled during the short interval while the (high priority) information bus thread was blocked waiting for the (low priority) meteorological data thread. In this case, the long-running communications task, having higher priority than the meteorological task, would prevent it from running, consequently preventing the blocked information bus task from running.

After some time had passed, a watchdog timer would go off, notice that the data bus task had not been executed for some time, conclude that something had gone drastically wrong, and initiate a total system reset.

This scenario is a classic case of priority inversion.



Priority inversion on Mars

Priority inheritance solved the Mars Pathfinder problem

- The VxWorks operating system used in the pathfinder implements a flag for the calls to mutex primitives. This flag allows priority inheritance to be set to "on".
- When the software was shipped, it was set to "off".

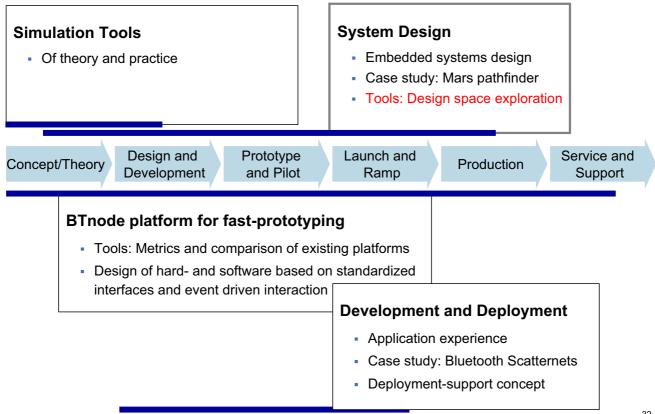
The problem on Mars was corrected by using the debugging facilities of VxWorks to change the flag to "on", while the Pathfinder was already on the Mars. [Jones, 1997]







From Proof-of-concept to Real-world WSNs



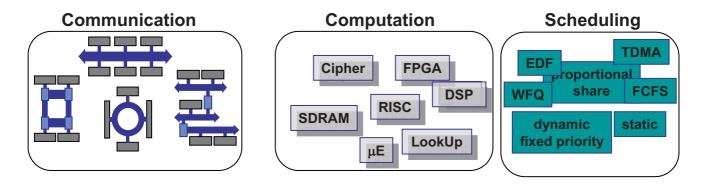


Selecting the Best Platform?

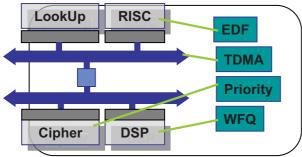




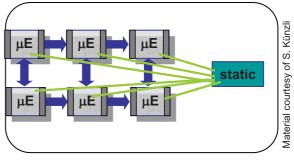
Design Space Exploration – Example NP







Architecture # 2

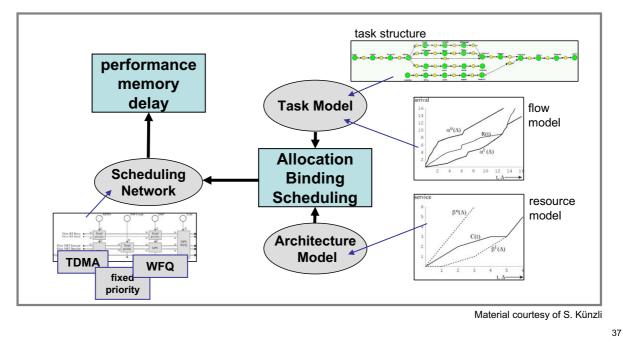




EXPO – Design Evaluation Cycle Example

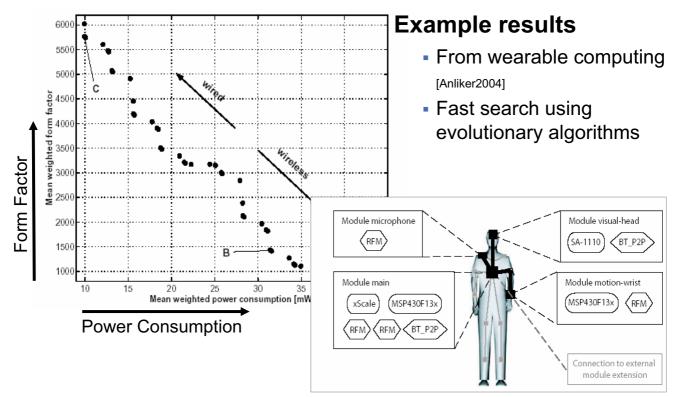
Semi-auto design space exploration

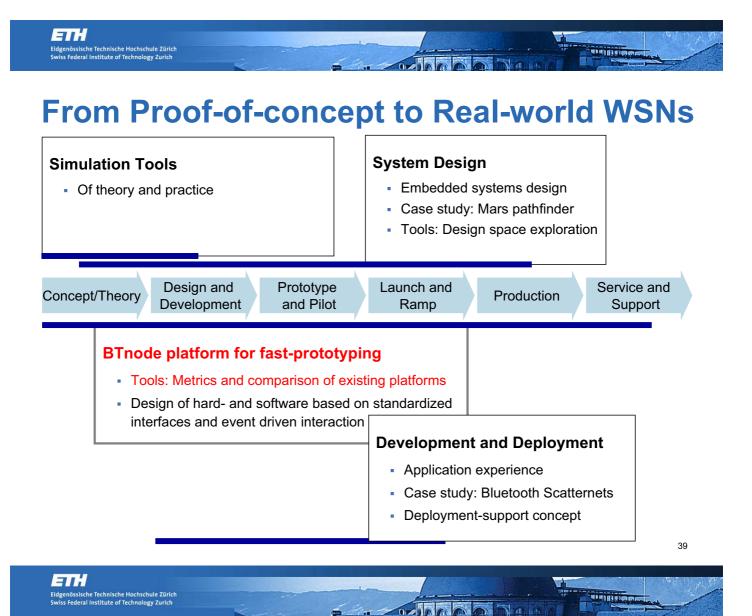
- Application to network processors [Künzli2005]





Design Space Exploration – Results





Metrics of WSN Platforms

Large application domain

No unified one-size-fits-all solution [Römer2004]



Good platform? Suitable solution? Optimum match?



Automated tools common in EDA community

E.g. semi-automatic design space exploration [Künzli2005,Anliker2004]

Current WSN community approach

- Device characterization, e.g. Mote family [Polastre2005,Shnayder2004]
- Tiered architectures [Estrin2003], WSN device classes [Hill2004]

Metrics of WSN Platforms

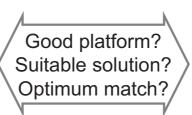
Large application domain

No unified one-size-fits-all solution [Römer2004]



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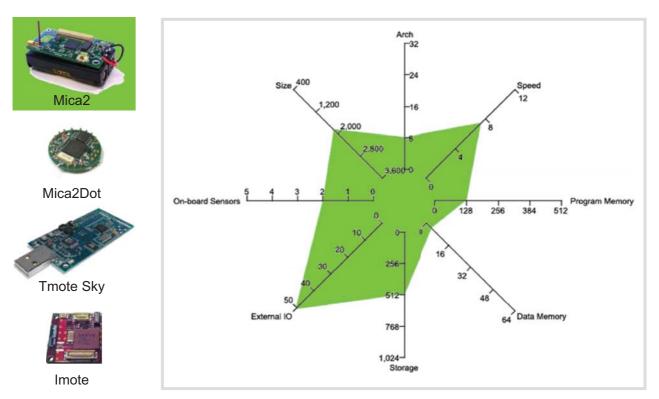
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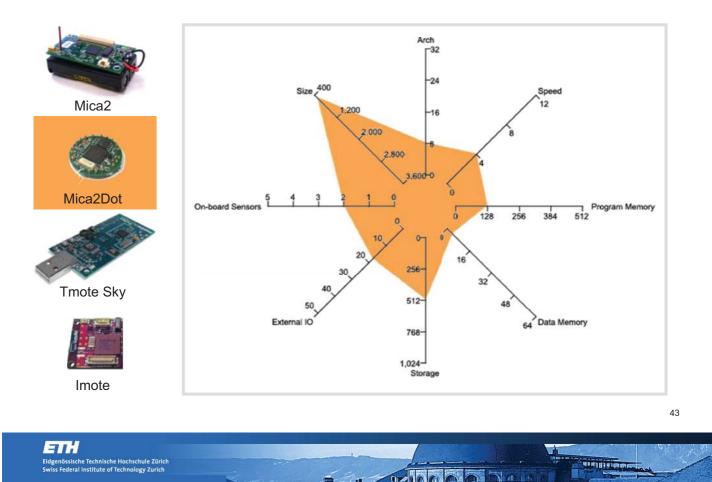
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State-of-the-Art Platforms – System Core

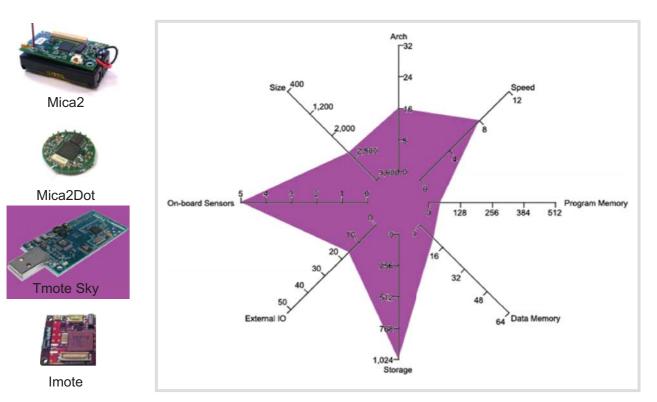




State-of-the-Art Platforms – System Core

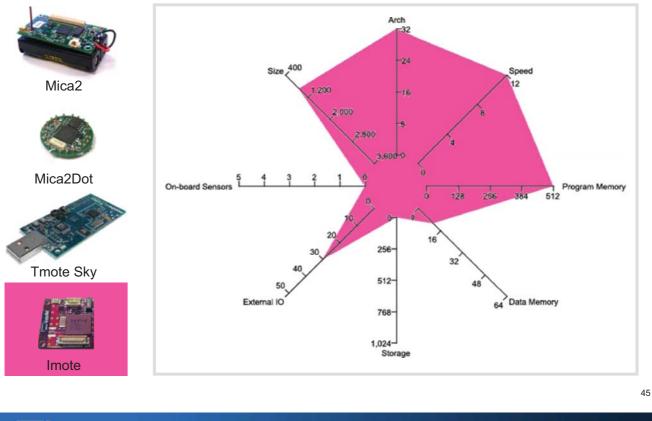


State-of-the-Art Platforms – System Core



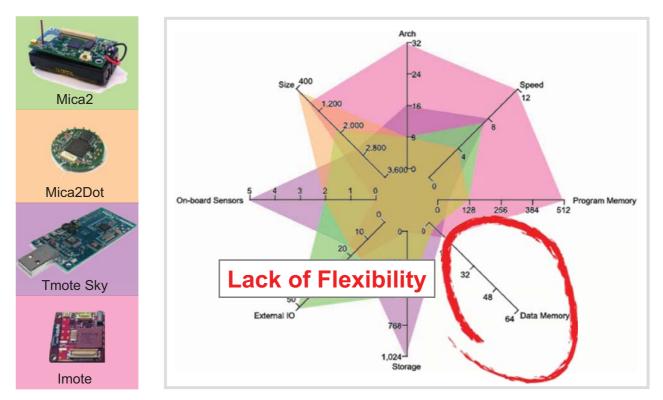


State-of-the-Art Platforms – System Core



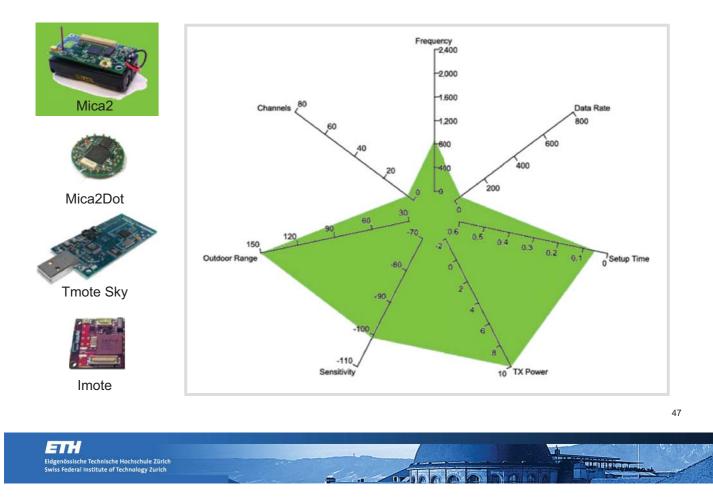


State-of-the-Art Platforms – System Core

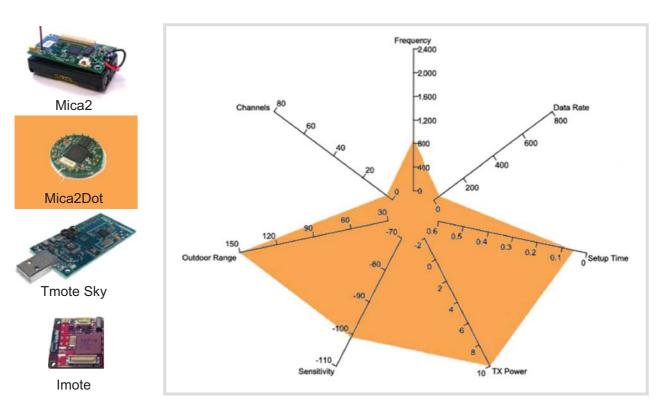




State-of-the-Art Platforms – Radio Systems

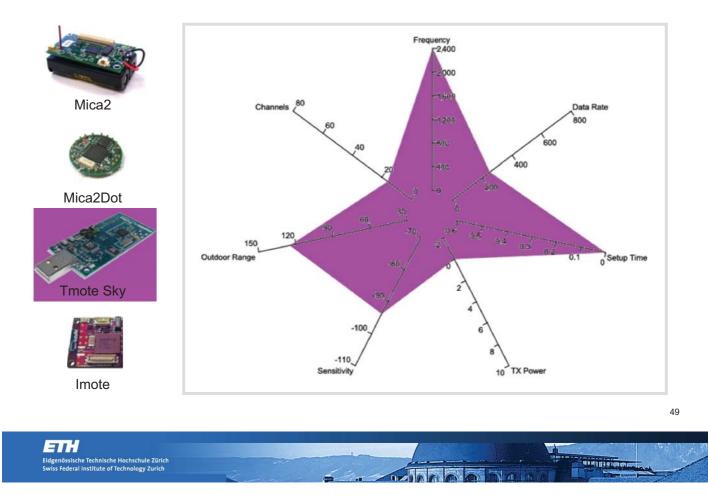


State-of-the-Art Platforms – Radio Systems

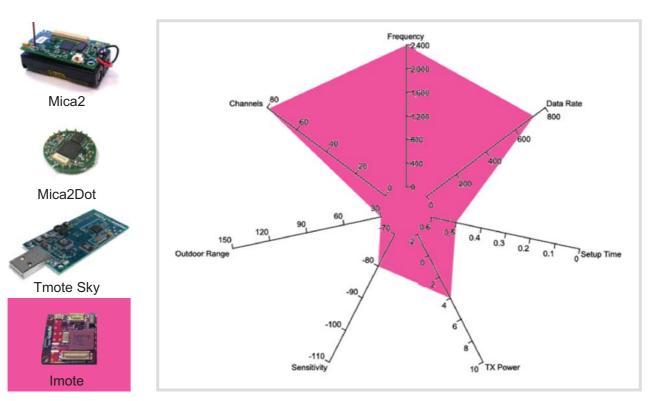




State-of-the-Art Platforms – Radio Systems

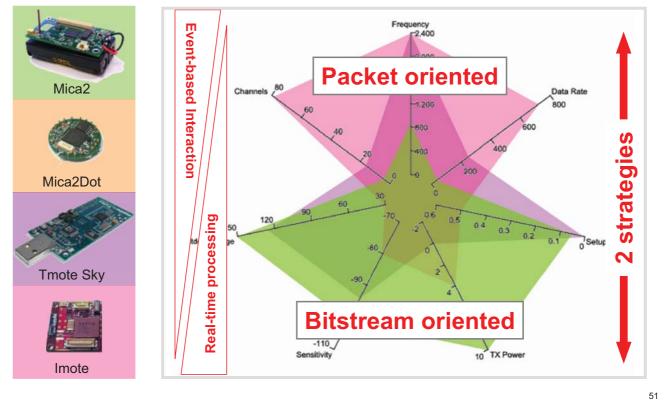


State-of-the-Art Platforms – Radio Systems





State-of-the-Art Platforms – Radio Systems





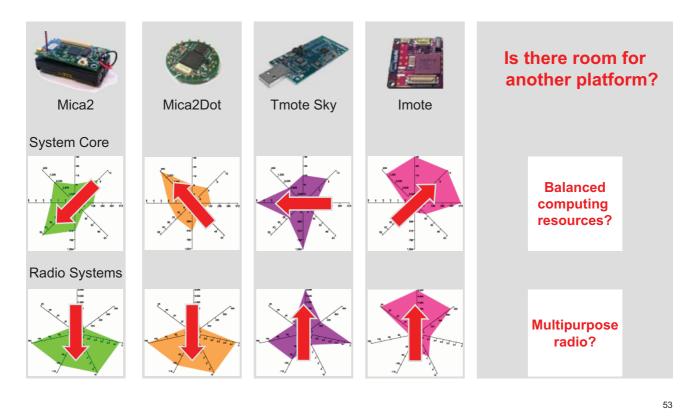
State-of-the-Art Platform Comparison



State-of-the-Art Platform Comparison

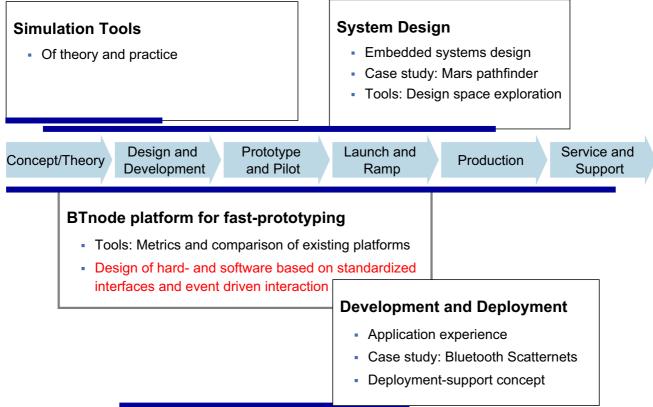
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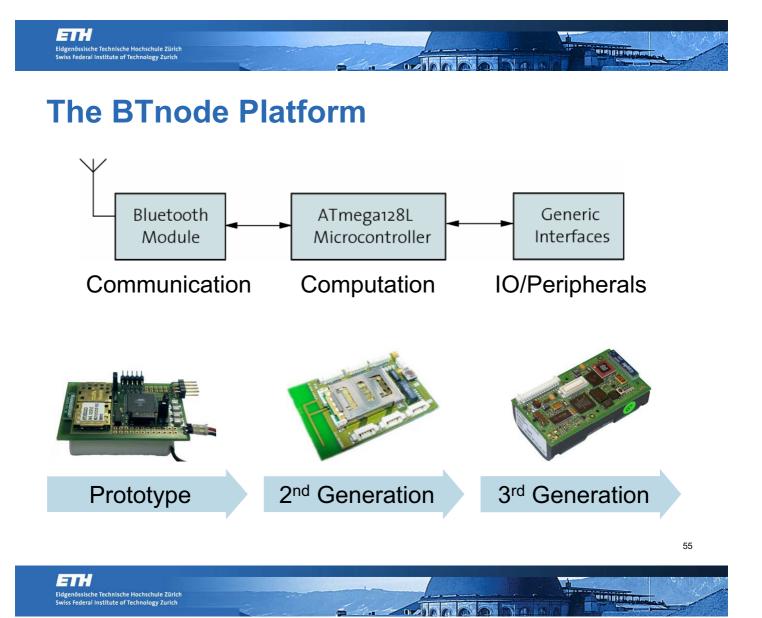


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From Proof-of-concept to Real-world WSNs



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BTnode rev3 Architecture Details

System core

- Atmel ATmega128
- 256 kB SRAM
- Generic IO/Peripherals
- Switchable power supplies

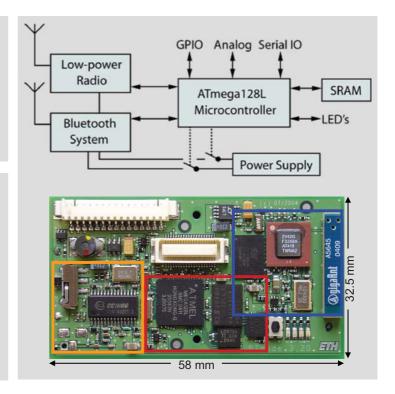
Dual radio system

Bluetooth radio

2.4 GHz Zeevo ZV4002

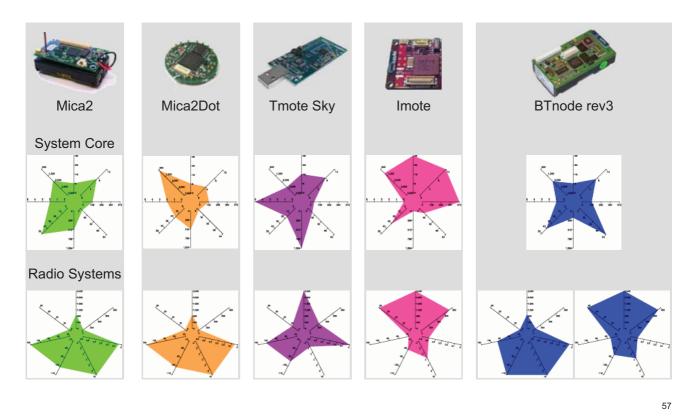
Low-power radio

 433-915 MHz ISM Chipcon CC1000



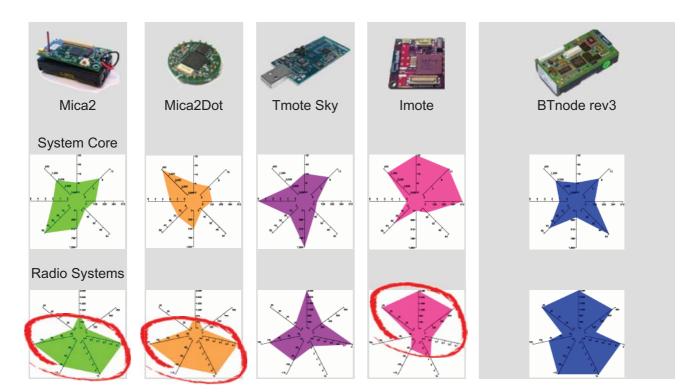


State-of-the-Art Platforms Comparison





State-of-the-Art Platforms Comparison



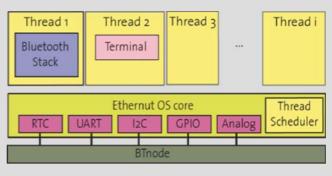
BTnut System Software

Versatile and flexible fast-prototyping

- Lightweight operating system support in plain C
- Linux-to-AVR embedded emulation
- Demo applications and tutorial

Built on top of multi-threaded Nut/OS framework

- Non-preemptive, cooperative multi-threading
- Events, timers
- Priorities for thread
- Dynamic heap allocation
- Interrupt driven streaming I/O



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simulate

upload

compile

emulate 🥢





How Much Does System Software Help?

Pros

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- Quick jumpstart (design kit, demo examples, tutorial)
- Community effort: exchange, collaboration, debugging
- Standardized interfaces, (modularity, reuse)
- Cleaner specifications, standards

Cons

- Overhead, learning curve (TinyOS CVS tree is ~200MB)
- Other peoples bugs/features make life hard

Bottom line

 Until it finally works you know your system so well, you might as well have started from scratch on your own...

BTnode Platform Success

Industrial technology transfer

- Commercialization with ETH spin-off "Art of Technology"
- Commercial replicas resulting from open source policy

BTnodes in Education

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ETH

- Different labs and demos
- Graduate lab in embedded systems (120 participants)
- 30-40 successfully completed student projects

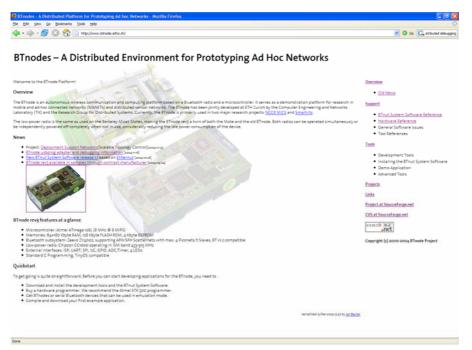
BTnodes in Research Domains

- 25+ wearable and ubiquitous computing applications and demos
- Wireless (sensor) network research
- 40+ scientific publications based on or related to BTnodes



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To probe further...



http://www.btnode.ethz.ch

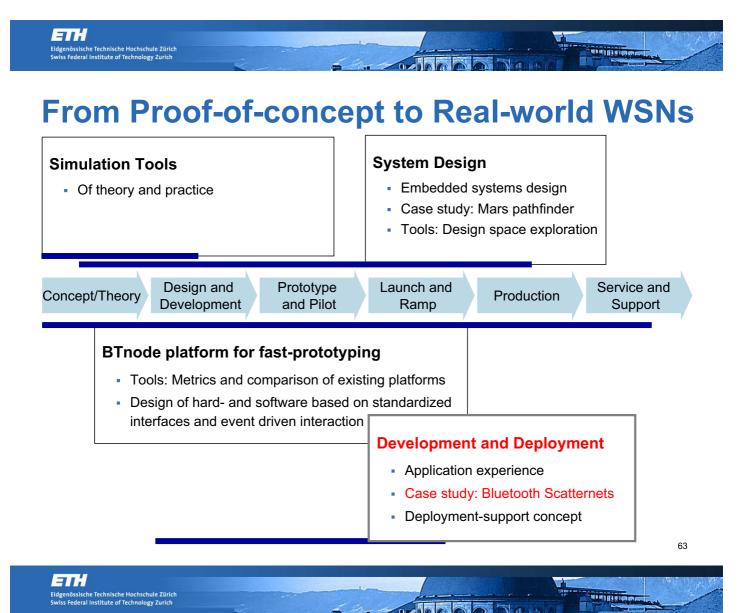


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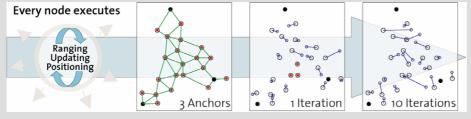
Vitronics Cobalt Blue™ Bluetooth Board

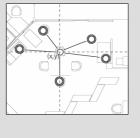


Deployment of Network Services

Example: Location Management

- Finding position based on radionavigation
- Robust network-based trilateration





Service deployment functions

- Re-programming
- Supervision, control and monitoring
- Measurements, benchmarking

Requirement

- Robust connectivity
- Reliable data link layer



Bluetooth Multihop Network Topologies

Constructing ad hoc network topologies

- Large networks, many devices
- All devices connected
- Transparent multihop transport

Scatternet formation algorithms

- BlueMesh [Petrioli2002], BlueStars [Petrioli2003], BlueRings [Foo2002], BlueTrees [Zaruba2001], mesh topologies [Guerin2003]
- Single-hop connectivity [Law2003]
- Complexity analysis [Law2003, Vergetis2003], comparative study [Basagni2004]

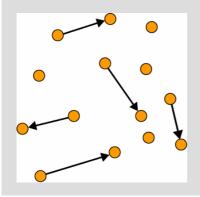
Mostly static, no (large-scale) implementation reports



Bluetooth Multihop Network Topologies

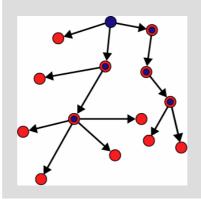
XHOP

- Initial experiments
- Time-multiplexed, dumbbell-like connections



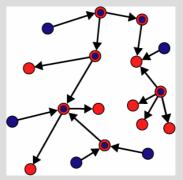
TreeNet

- Large, connected topologies
- Simple, top-down tree-building



DSNtrees

- Distributed tree topology formation
- Random connection points
- Streaming data



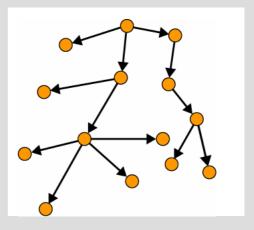


Simple Scatternet Tree Construction

Link layer connectivity

- Random search and connect

```
loop {
  while (my_slaves < max_degree) do
   found_nodes = inquiry();
   forall nodes in found_nodes do
      connect();
  }
}</pre>
```



Distributed coordination

- Inquiry() and connect() operations can exhibit long delays
- No a priori guarantee for success
- Serialization of parallel processes

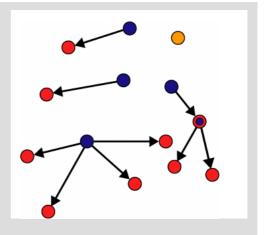


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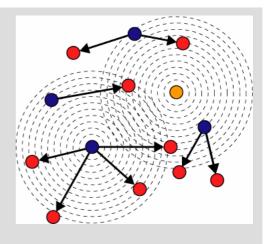


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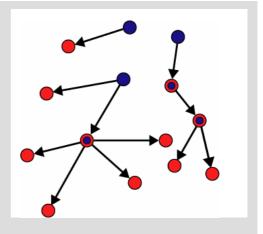


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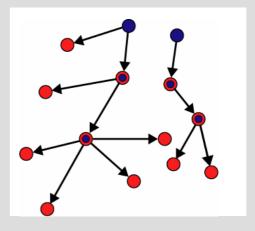


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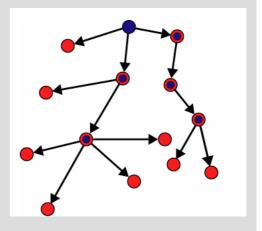


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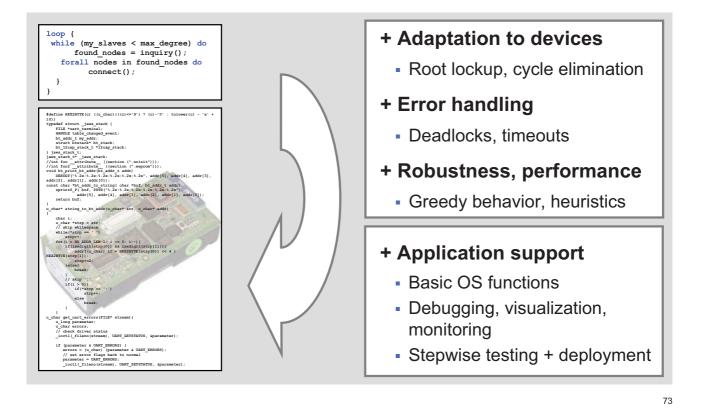


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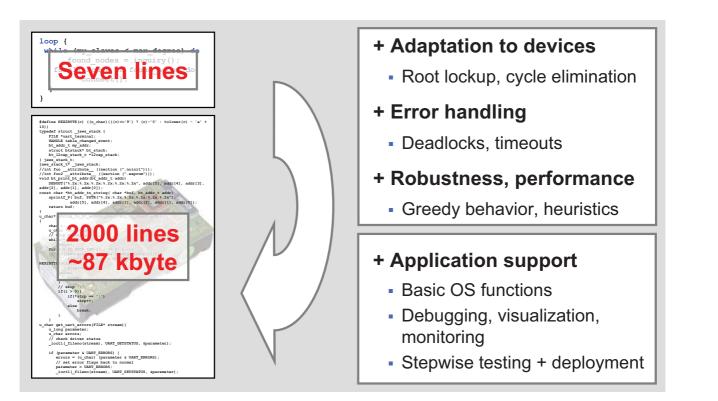


Making a Seven Line Algorithm Work





Making a Seven Line Algorithm Work

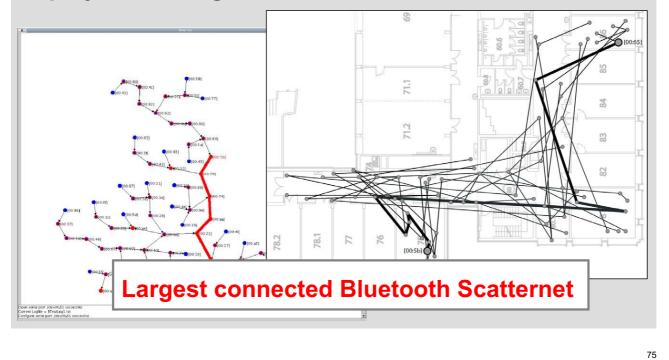


DSNtrees – Field Experiments

ETH

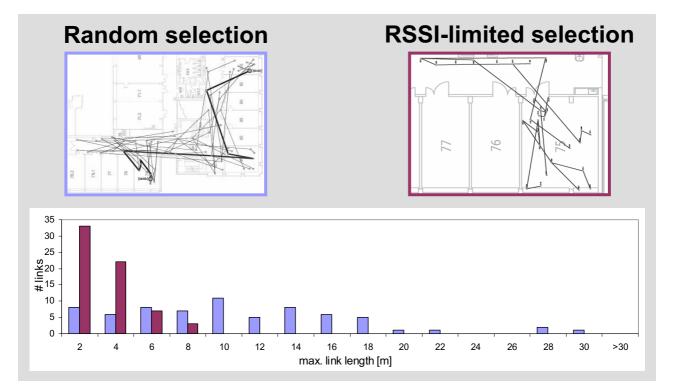
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Deployment using 70+ nodes on an office floor





DSNtrees – Connection Manager Variants

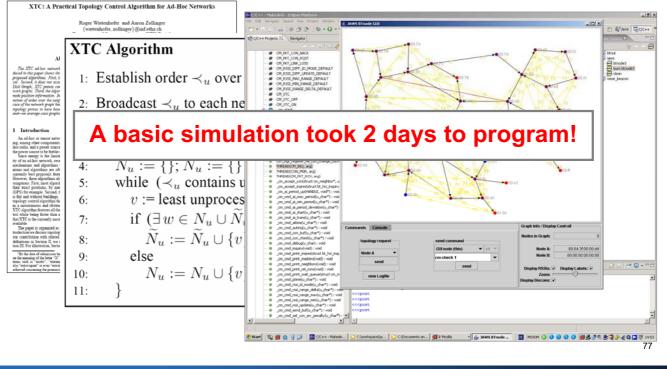


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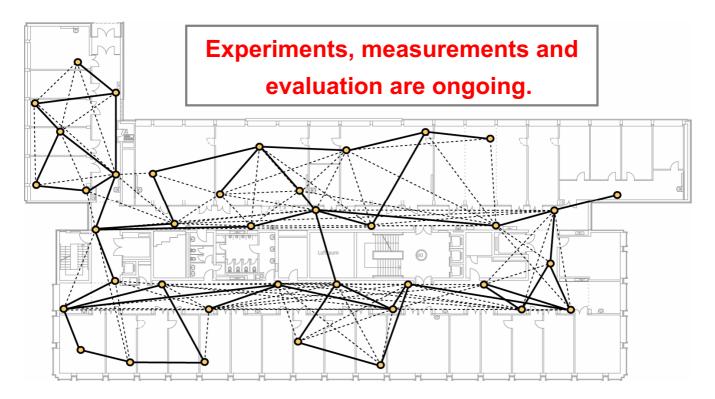
XTC – Bluetooth Mesh Networking

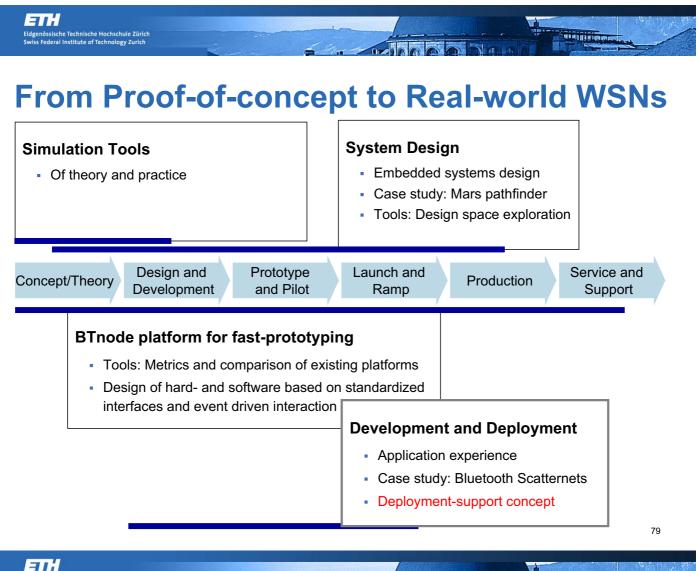
Theory paper-grade algorithm to implementation in 6 months





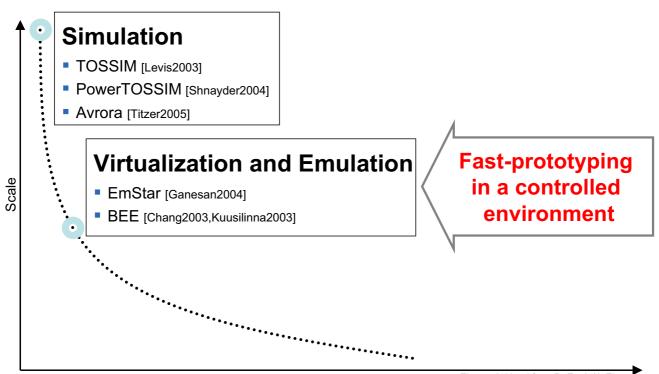
XTC – Bluetooth Networking Revisited

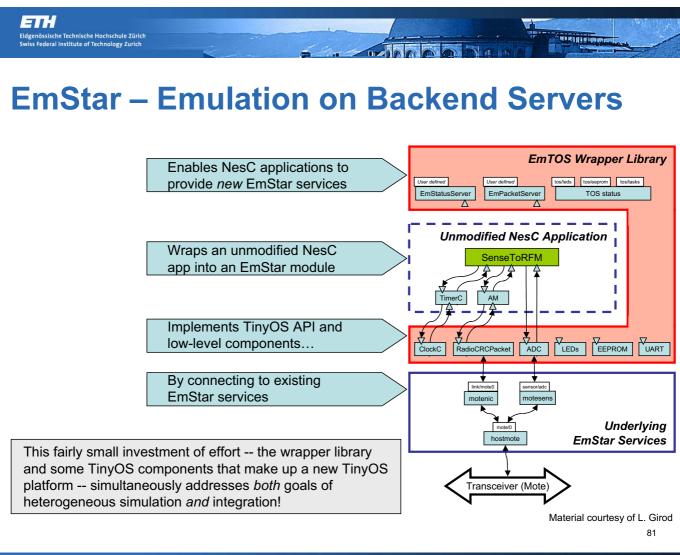




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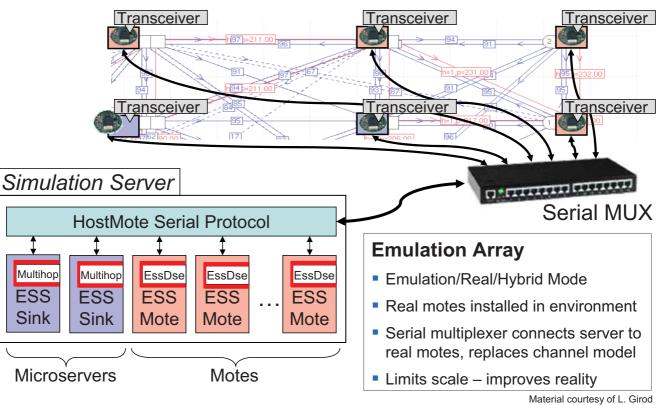
Today's WSN Design and Development

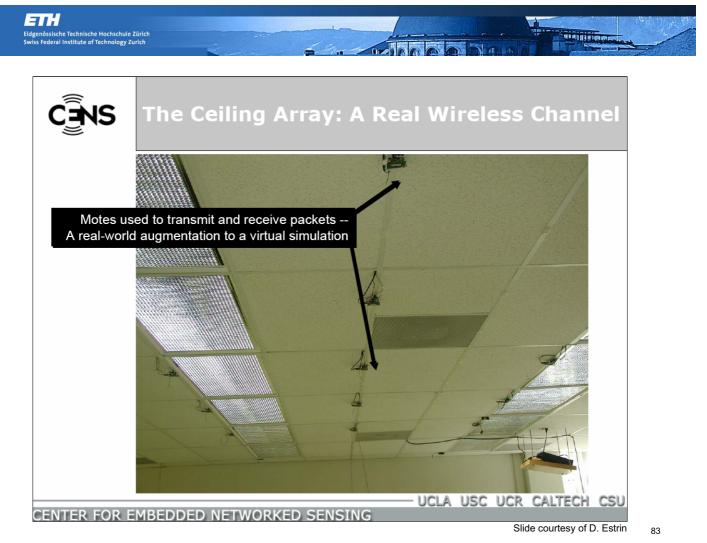




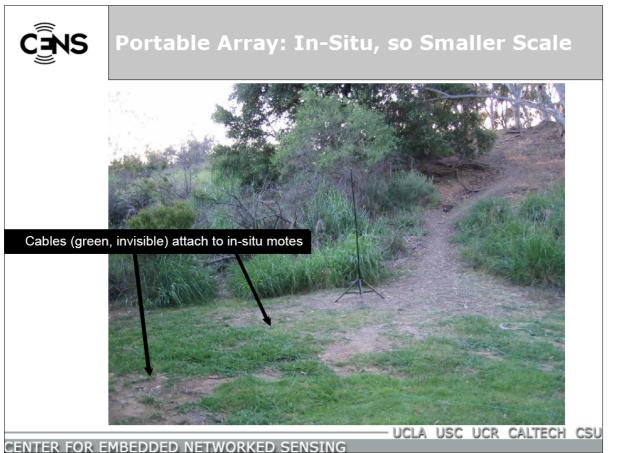
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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich	

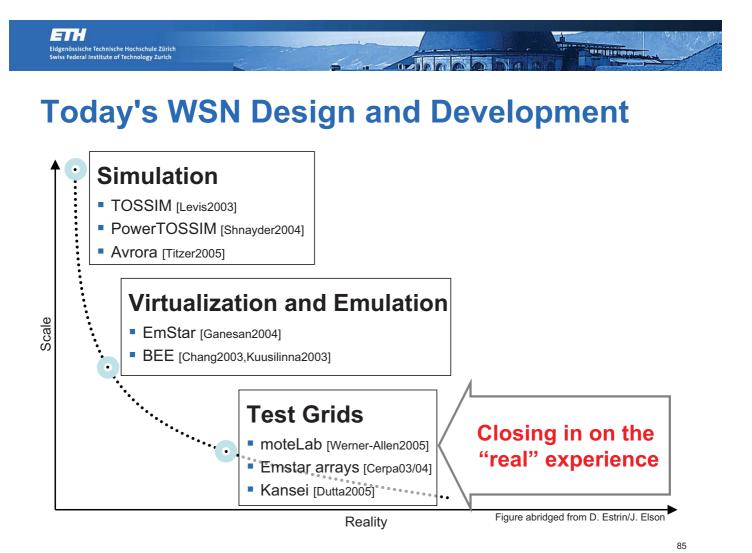
EmStar – Emulation Array





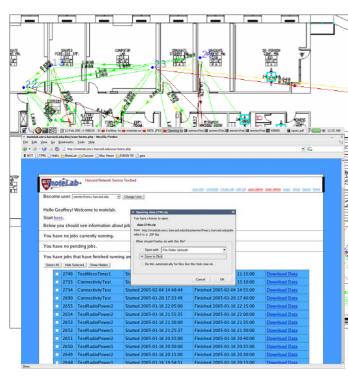


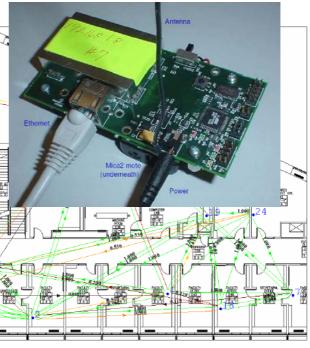


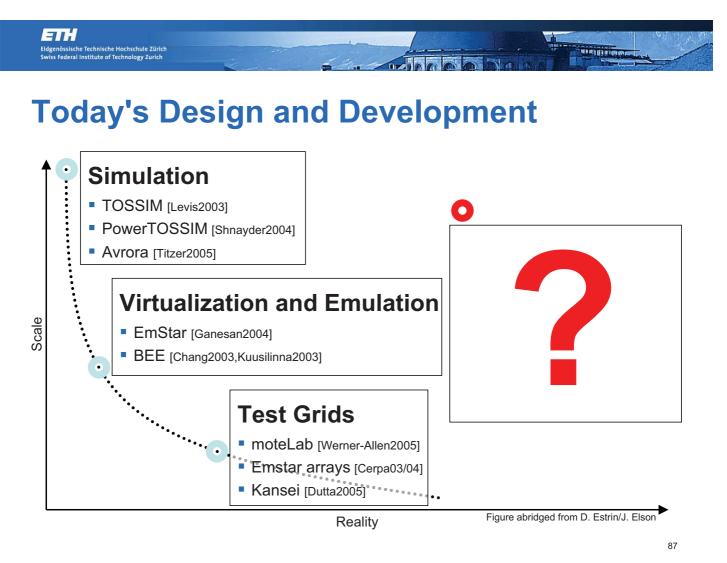




MoteLab – Test Bed and Compute Server

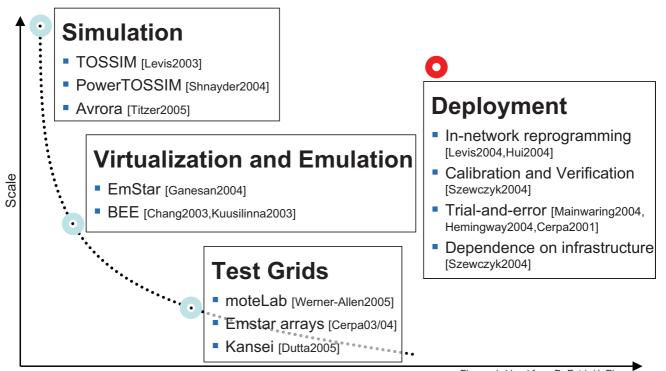






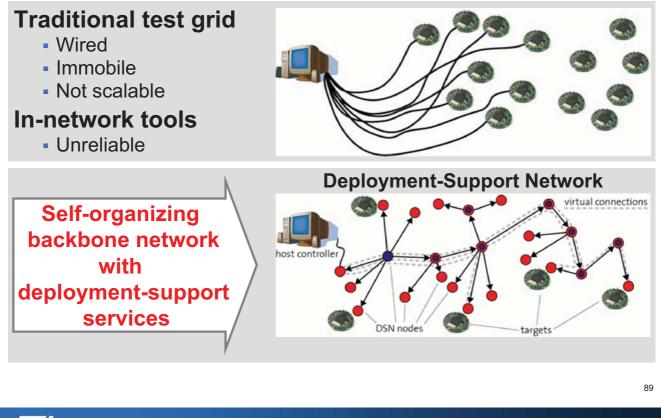


Today's Design and Development



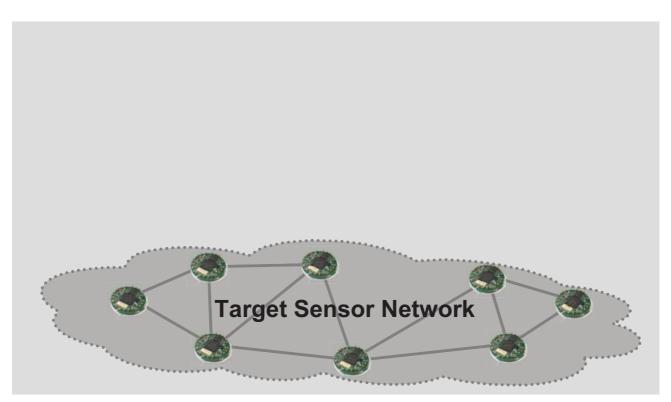


Next-Generation Deployment-Support



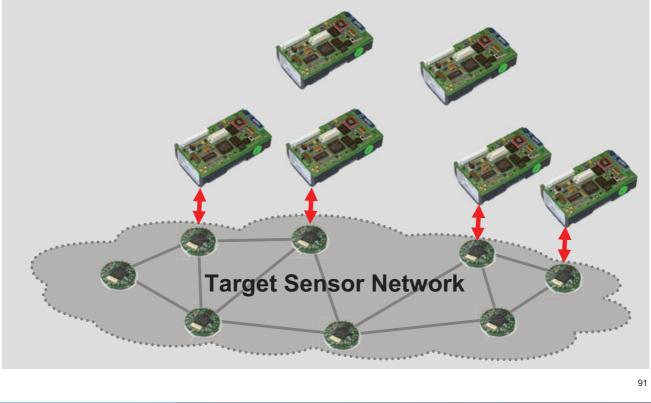


Next-Generation Deployment-Support



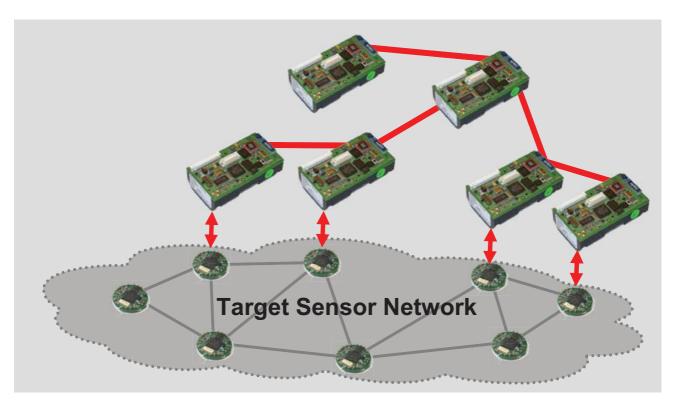


Next-Generation Deployment-Support



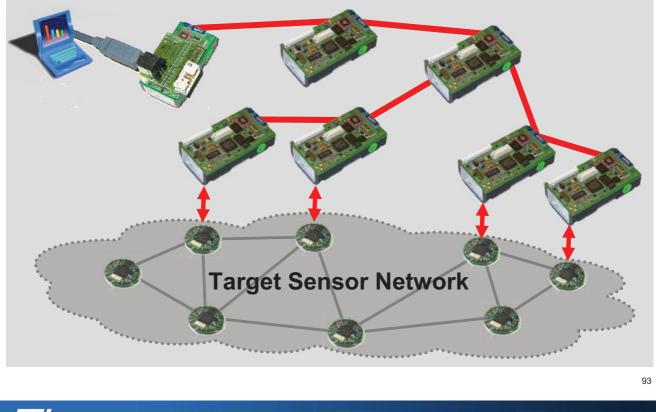


Next-Generation Deployment-Support



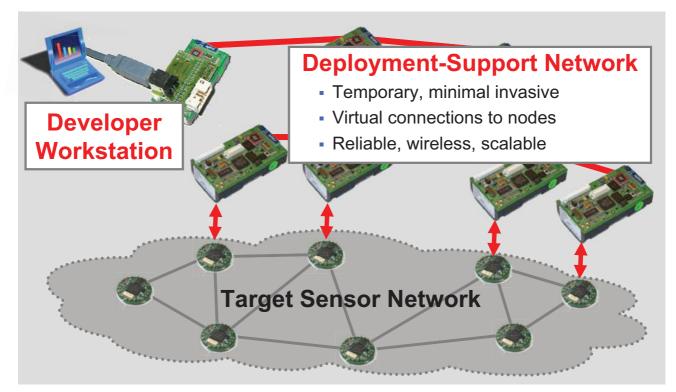


Next-Generation Deployment-Support



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Next-Generation Deployment-Support





Vision: Full Life-Cycle Support for WSNs

Stepwise refinement

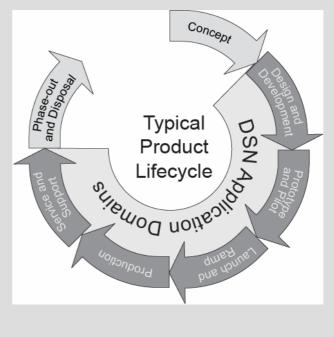
Feedback to

- Design
- Development

Monitoring of

- Functionality
- Quality

Validation and Verification





Further Reading

Suggested Papers (in this order)

- R. Szewczyk, A. Mainwaring, J. Polastre, J. Anderson, and D. Culler. An analysis of a large scale habitat monitoring application. In Proc. 2nd ACM Conf. Embedded Networked Sensor Systems (SenSys 2004), pages 214–226. ACM Press, New York, November 2004.
- J. Gray. Why do computers stop and what can be done about it? In Proc. 5th Symp. Reliability in Distributed Software and Database Systems (SRDS 86), pages 3–12, January 1986.
- D. Kotz, C. Newport, and C. Elliott. The mistaken axioms of wireless-network research. Technical Report TR2003-467, Dartmouth College Computer Science, July 2003.
- G. Werner-Allen, P. Swieskowski, and M. Welsh. MoteLab: A wireless sensor network testbed. In Proc. 4th Int'l Conf. Information Processing in Sensor Networks (IPSN '05), pages 483–488. IEEE, Piscataway, NJ, April 2005.
- L. Girod, T. Stathopoulos, N. Ramanathan, J. Elson, D. Estrin, E. Osterweil, and T. Schoellhammer, "A System for Simulation, Emulation, and Deployment of Heterogeneous Sensor Networks", In Proc. of SenSys 2004.
- J. Beutel, M. Dyer, M. Hinz, L. Meier, and M. Ringwald. Next-generation prototyping of sensor networks. In Proc. 2nd ACM Conf. Embedded Networked Sensor Systems (SenSys 2004), pages 291–292. ACM Press, New York, November 2004.

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71

Further Papers and Reports

- L. Girod, J. Elson, A. Cerpa, T. Stathapopoulos, N. Ramananthan, and D. Estrin. *EmStar: A software environment for developing and deploying wireless sensor networks.* In Proc. USENIX 2004 Annual Tech. Conf., pages 283–296, June 2004.
- R. Szewczyk, J. Polastre, A. Mainwaring, and D. Culler. *Lessons from a sensor network expedition*. In Proc. 1st European Workshop on Sensor Networks (EWSN 2004), volume 2920 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, pages 307–322. Springer, Berlin, January 2004.
- J. Heidemann, N. Bulusu, J. Elson, C. Intanagonwiwat, K.C. Lan, Y. Xu, W. Ye, D. Estrin, and R. Govindan. *Effects of Detail in Wireless Network Simulation*. In Proc. SCS Multiconference Distributed Simulation 2001, pages 3–11.
 USC/Information Sciences Institute, Society for Computer Simulation, Los Angeles, CA, January 2001.
- D. Kotz, C. Newport, R.S. Gray, J. Liu, Y. Yuan, and C. Elliott. *Experimental evaluation of wireless simulation assumptions*. In Int'l Workshop Modeling Analysis and Simulation of Wireless and Mobile Systems (MSWiM 04), pages 78–82. ACM Press, New York, October 2004.
- D. Cavin and Y. Sasson. On the accuracy of MANET simulators. In ACM Workshop Principles Of Mobile Computing (POMC 02), pages 38–43. ACM Press, New York, October 2002.
- J. Beutel, O. Kasten, F. Mattern, K. Römer, F. Siegemund, and L. Thiele. *Prototyping wireless sensor network applications with BTnodes*. In Proc. 1st European Workshop on Sensor Networks (EWSN 2004), volume 2920 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, pages 323–338. Springer, Berlin, January 2004.
- J. Beutel, M. Dyer, L. Meier, and L. Thiele. Scalable topology control for deployment-sensor networks. In Proc. 4th Int'l Conf. Information Processing in Sensor Networks (IPSN '05), pages 359–363. IEEE, Piscataway, NJ, April 2005.
- ESA, Ariane 501 Presentation of Inquiry Board report, press release N° 33-1996.
- Yeh, Y.C.; Design considerations in Boeing 777 fly-by-wire computers, HASE 1998.
- Richard Feynman, PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER ACCIDENT, Appendix F.

. Manstallanden.



Further Reading

Books

- What Do You Care What Other People Think?, Richard P. Feynman, W. W. Norton & Company, 2001, ISBN 0-393-32092-8
- Ambient Intelligence, Editors: W. Weber, E. Aarts and J.M. Rabaey, Springer, Berlin, 2004, ISBN 3-540-23867-0
- Embedded System Design, Peter Marwedel. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Nov. 2003, ISBN 1-4020-7690-8, 258 pp.

Part of the material used in this tutorial originates from other authors.

- L. Thiele, S. Künzli, R. Wattenhofer, ETH Zurich
- P. Marwedel, U. Dortmund
- R. Szewczyk, UC Berkeley
- T. Henzinger, EPF Lausanne
- D. Estrin, L. Girod, UCLA
- G. Werner-Allen, Harvard

Think,

Try hard,

Talk to the community, Use simple solutions, Share your work.

You are not alone.

Have fun...

