

Development of an Embedded Communication Hub for the Acquisition of Sensor Data in a Robotic System

Project Thesis

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Background



- » Robotic applications increasing their multi-connectivity
 - » Collaborative robots
 - » Peripherals
 - » 2D/3D vision systems
 - » HMIs
 - » Sensors/Actuators
- » Industrial shift into the Real Time Connectivity



Background: RT Ethernet Networks



- » Fieldbuses were included within IEC 61158 (CPFs) 1988-1999
 - » RTEN referenced to IEC61784 part II 2008
- » Two strategies to ensure RT communication:
 - » TDMA and CIP (Common Industrial Protocol)
- » TSN Group improves the Data Link and MAC Layer (IEEE802.1Qbv) 2012-2019
- » Open-source tools offer compatibility → Further development

Licensed RTE
Solutions:



Open source tools:



Open EtherCAT Society

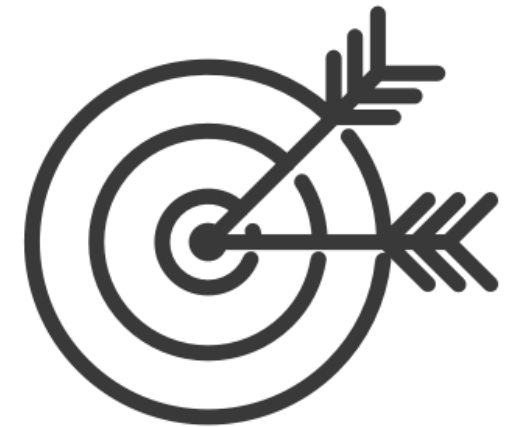
Simple Open Source EtherCAT Master & Slave Society

Main goal



“Develop a device using open-source tools to read out sensor data from a robot axis that can be interfaced with an RTE Network.

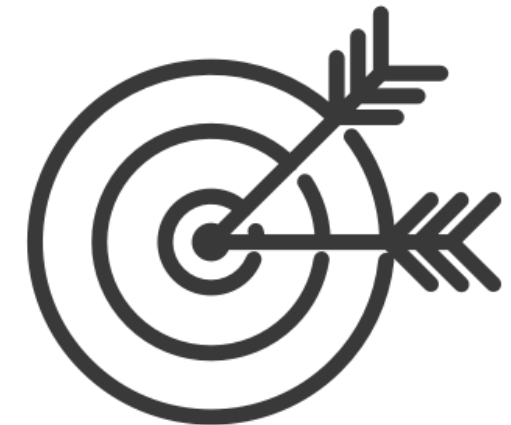
The device could be used afterwards as a test platform within an industrial environment to characterize its compatibility with the ongoing IEC/IEEE 60802 TSN Profile for Industrial Automation.”



Specific goals



- » To specify the requirements of the system
 - » Comparison considering the state of the art
- » To develop the embedded system as a functional EtherCAT Slave Device
 - » Integrating FreeRTOS-CMSIS with SOES (Open-source tools)
 - » Integrating the LAN9252 (SoC over SPI)
 - » Reading out of axis temperature sensors
 - » Controlling the axis LED Ring (WS2812b)
 - » Designing the required user application libraries
- » To design and manufacture a PCB prototype using Altium Designer
- » To test and report the system functionality

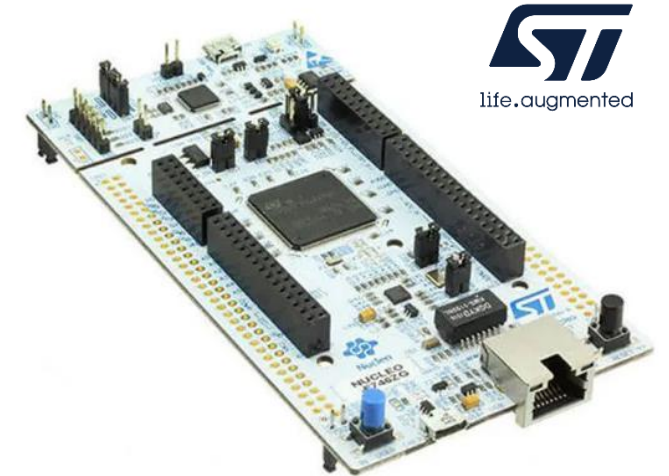
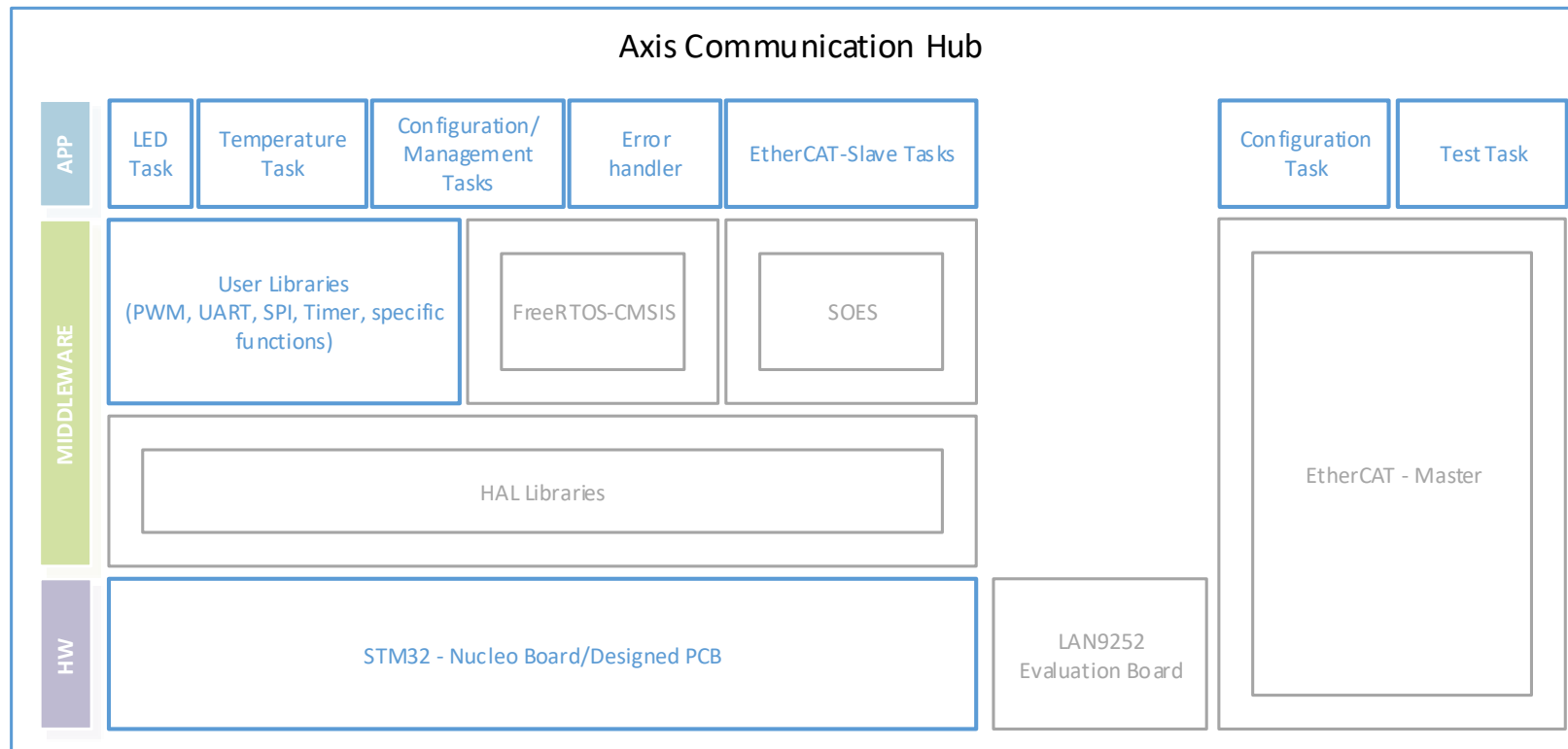


Solution proposal



» Layered structure of functional blocks

» Main HW: STM32Nucleo Board, Microchip LAN9252 SPI Eval Board

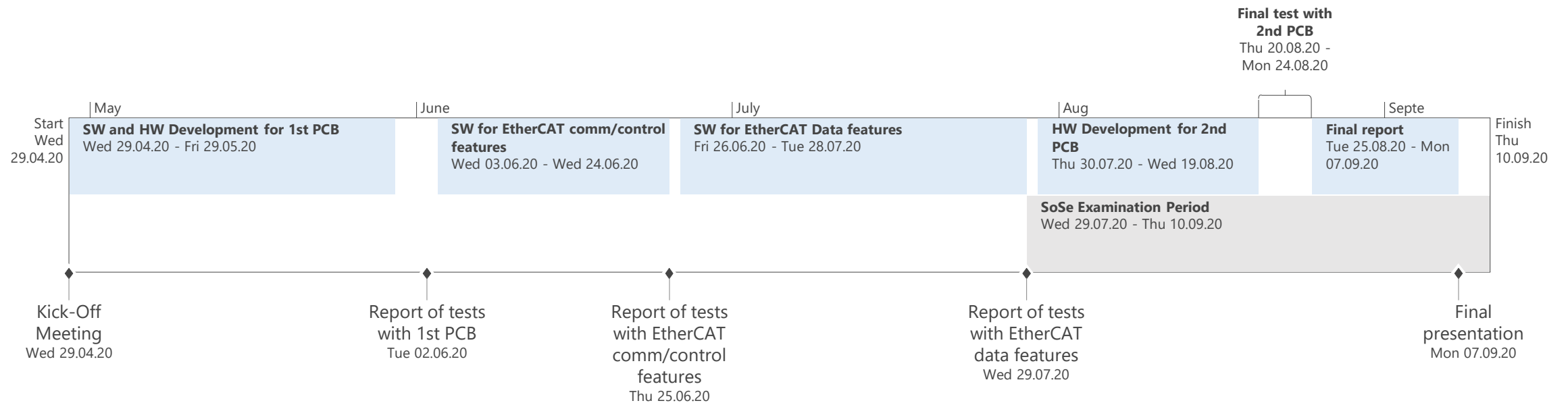


Timeline



» Duration: ~4 Months

» Official start: 29.04 Final Presentation: 07.09 (Proposal)



Questions

**Dankeschön für Ihre
Aufmerksamkeit!**

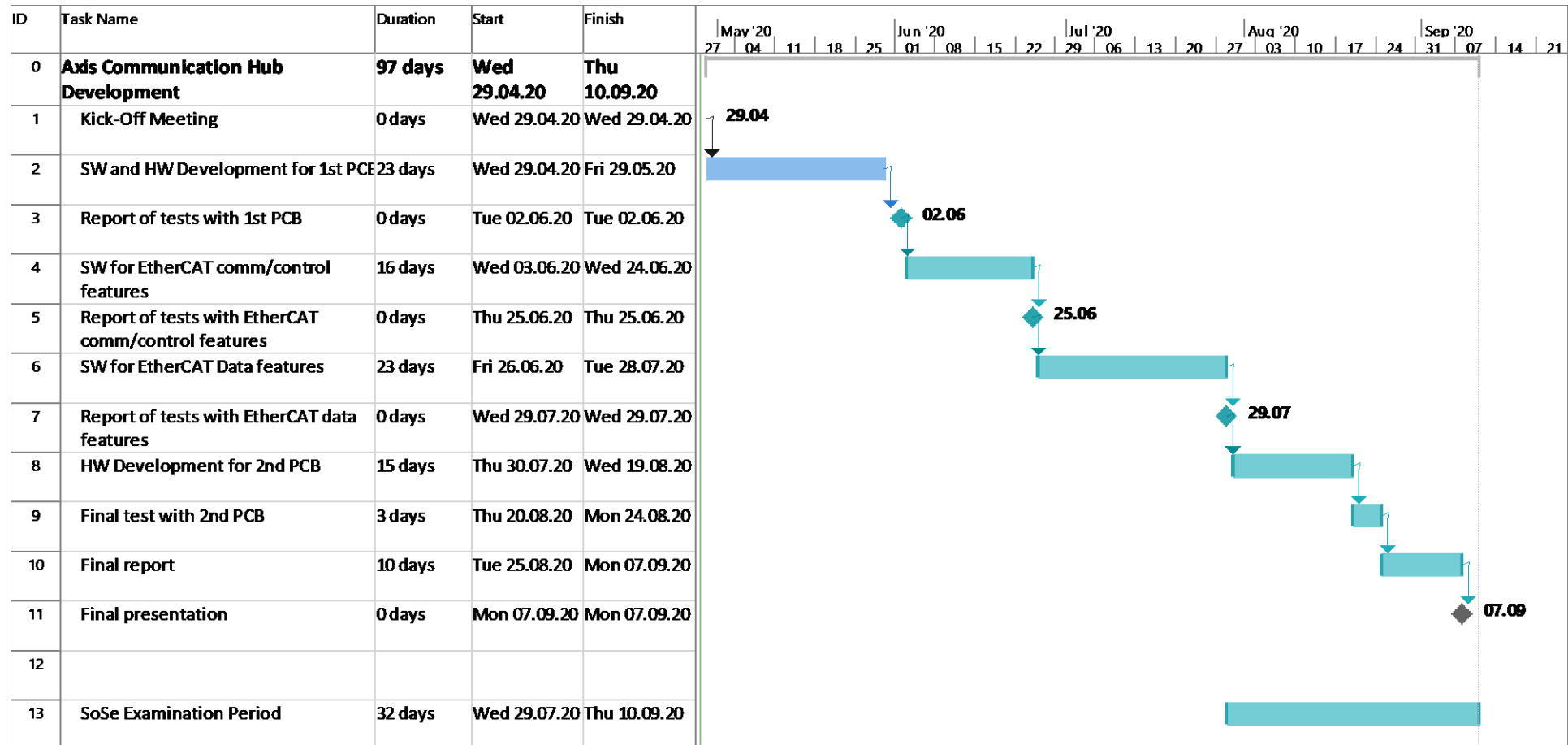
Extra information

Gantt Chart



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» Official start: 29.04 Final Presentation: 07.09 (Proposal)





» NUCLEO-F446ZE

- » ARM®32-bit Cortex®-M4 + FPU + Chrom-ART™ Accelerator
- » Up to 180MHz CPU frequency
- » 512 kB of Flash memory
- » 128 KB of SRAM
- » General-purpose DMA
- » Up to 17 timers
- » Up to 4 × I2 C interfaces (SMBus/PMBus)
- » Up to 4 USARTs/2 UARTs
- » Up to 4 SPIs
- » 2 × CAN (2.0B Active)
- » USB 2.0 full-speed device/host/OTG controller with on-chip PHY

» SOES is an EtherCAT slave stack

- » Address offset based HAL for easy ESC read/write access via any interface
- » Polling for interrupts
- » EtherCAT State Machine
- » Mailbox Interfaces
- » Protocols
- » CoE
- » FoE + bootstrap template
- » Build up the SII-EEPROM Data-Layout
- » ESI-file
- » Port the Libraries to the STM32 using HAL
- » FreeRTOS: Hardware Requirements >64KB RAM



Main topics

- » Programming of software for embedded systems
 - » STM32 MCUs with ARM architecture
 - » Communication Interfaces (UART, I2C, BiSS, SPI)
 - » Real Time tools (FreeRTOS - CMSIS)
- » Programming with industrial tools
 - » Integration of an industrial protocol software stack into RTOS (SOES)
 - » RT Ethernet Industrial Protocols (EtherCAT)
- » External configurations
 - » EtherCAT Host (Beckhoff)
- » External documentations
 - » TSN Industrial profile specification 2019