

E-Team Squadra Corse

Introduzione al software

Architettura Hardware

- Sensori: temperatura, pressione, velocità (“foniche”), PPS, IMU
- Attuatori: Inverter (+ motore), pompa, contattori HV
- Battery Pack + BMS + IMD
- Vehicle Control Unit (VCU)
- Shutdown Chain (SDC)
- Display, Logging, Telemetry

Architettura di Comunicazione

- Uno o più bus di comunicazione basati su protocollo CAN
- EV-A: 3 can bus
 - CAN-S: signal bus, CAN-I: inverter can, CAN-B: BMS CAN
- ET-16: bus unificato (il BMS usa anche un bus interno)
- LoRA per la comunicazione telemetria

Software “in-house”

- **can_common**: generazione DBC, **bindings C**, documentazione, analisi del carico del bus
- can_bootloader: **STM32** and **AVR**
- **config_lib**: configurazione dei parametri senza ricompilare
- **etdv_dashboard**: visualizzazione
- Telemetria: **CAN2Radio**, **Radio2CAN**
- Firmware MCU

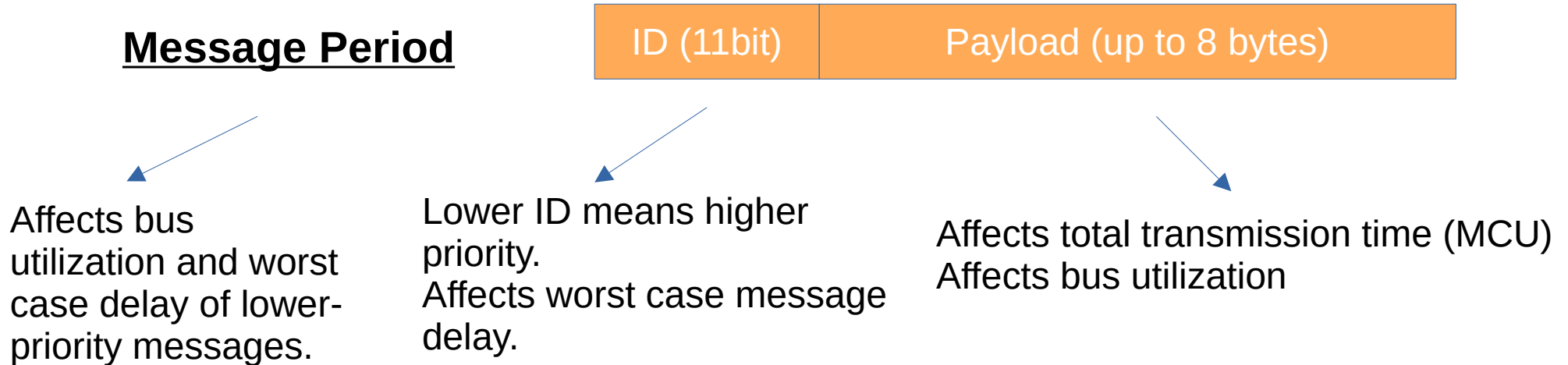
Software utilizzato

- Git/Github per il controllo di versione e collaborazione
- PlatformIO: programmazione dei micro
- Meson e Cmake: compilazione su linux
- STM32CubeMX: Configurazione degli STM32 (VCU)
- FreeRTOS: scheduler real-time che gira sulla VCU
- **cantools, asammdf, can-utils**
- Linux (sviluppo e raspberry)

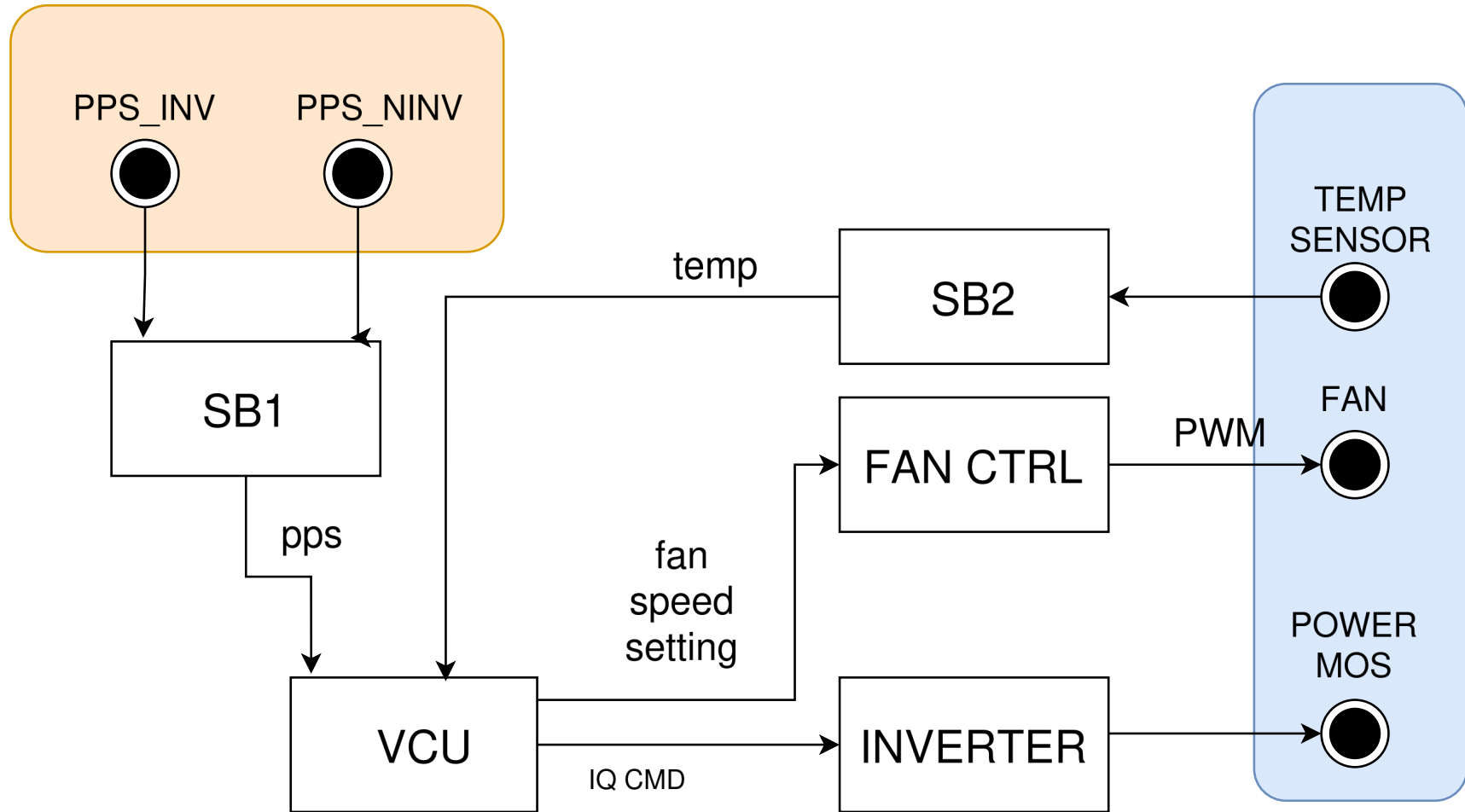
CAN Bus Design

Design space

- **CAN bus speed:** as high as 1Mbit/s (up to 40m cable length). Higher speed is associated to less noise immunity.
- **Can Messages (Standard Frame):**



Design example



can_common

Python based, generates a bunch of stuff:

- DBC for reading the CAN bus
- C bindings to automate packing/unpacking messages
- Bus documentation in PDF
- Bus load and timing analysis

using can_common to describe the bus

can_def.py

```
vcu_messages = [  
    {  
        'name': 'iq_cmd',  
        'senders': [NodeId.VCU],  
        'receivers': [NodeId.INVERTER],  
        'message_id': MsgId.IQ_CMD,  
        'comment': 'Quadrature current command',  
        'cycle_time': None,  
        'signals': [  
            {  
                'name': 'iq_rms',  
                'scale': 0.1,  
                'range': (0, 200),  
                'unit': 'Arms',  
                'comment': 'RMS value of quadrature current',  
            },  
        ],  
    },  
    ...  
]
```

Generating the DBC and bindings

```
1 from dbc_dict_processor import create_dbs, fail_on_overlapping_ids
2 from dbc_bindings_generation import write_dbc_files, write_nodes_header
3 from can_def import main_messages, NodeId, DBC_VERSION
4 import cantools
5
6 main_db, main_bindings_db = create_dbs(main_messages(), NodeId, NodeId,
DBC_VERSION)
7 fail_on_overlapping_ids([main_db])
8 cantools.database.dump_file(main_db, r'dbc/main.dbc')
9
10 write_dbc_files(main_bindings_db, 'main', 'bindings/main_db.h', 'bindings/main_db.c')
11
12 write_nodes_header([
13     ('main', DBC_VERSION, NodeId),
14 ], 'bindings/nodes.h')
```

Firmware development

Concepts and tools

HAL (Hardware Abstraction Layer)

- Abstracts hardware details from implementation
 - CAN sending/receiving, sensor reading, pin control, timers, etc.
- Allows simulating the firmware code on a Linux PC (`posix_hal`)
- Used by almost all our firmwares (VCU, sensorboard, pdu)

HAL for design example SB

```
1  #pragma once
2
3  #include <stdbool.h>
4  #include <stdint.h>
5
6  bool hal_can_init();
7  extern bool hal_send_can_message(uint32_t addr, const
uint8_t* data, uint8_t length);
8  extern void hal_handle_can_message(uint32_t addr, const
uint8_t* data, uint8_t length);
9
10 extern void analog_sensor_conversion_ready(int num_sensor,
float value);
11
```



Called from interrupt
on real hardware

VCU HAL

bool	vcu_can_init ()	start CAN controller/communication
bool	vcu_send_can_message (uint32_t addr, const uint8_t *data, uint8_t length)	send out a CAN message
bool	vcu_add_can_id_filter (uint32_t id)	add a CAN id to the reception filter; must be called before vcu_can_init
void	vcu_handle_can_message (uint32_t addr, const uint8_t *data, uint8_t length)	handle CAN message inside the CAN handler task
void	vcu_watchdog_start ()	enable watchdog
void	vcu_watchdog_stop ()	stop the watchdog
void	vcu_reset_watchdog ()	refresh the watchdog
bool	vcu_watchdog_has_reset ()	check if the VCU started after a watchdog reset: will be true until next power cycle
void	vcu_set_buzzer (bool state)	set the buzzer state (true is on)
bool	vcu_is_sdc_closed ()	read shutdown-chain status

read shutdown-chain status		
bool	vcu_read_digital (vcu_digital_in_id id)	read digital input from one of the four digital input pins
void	vcu_write_digital (vcu_digital_out_id id, bool value)	write digital state to one of the four digital output pins
void	vcu_handle_digital_trigger (vcu_digital_in_id id, bool value)	handle digital input trigger interrupt
float	vcu_read_analog (vcu_analog_in_id id)	read analog input
void	vcu_handle_adc_conversion (vcu_analog_in_id id, float value)	handle ADC conversion interrupt
void	vcu_jump_to_bootloader ()	reboot to CAN bootloader (soft hw reset)

Scheduling periodic tasks

- Simple approach: use a timer (fake_bms, sensorboard, pdu)
- When more control is needed, use a RT scheduler/OS (e.g. FreeRTOS)

Heartbeats

- Periodic signals (usually CAN messages) generated by a board to signal it is alive
- Usually has some info attached (state, faults etc)
- Choose the period by estimating needed response time to a fault
- Some commands need to be issued periodically to be valid, e.g. inverter control or BMS command

Critical Signals and CRC

- Critical signals are valid only if their last updated value is recent enough
- Example: PPS (pedal position signal) needs to be updated at a fast enough rate (15ms~20ms period) to ensure safety
- For stronger safety, CAN messages can have an additional CRC of few bits to check message intentionality (assuring that another board is not writing a message with wrong id)
- To ensure message ordering, add a *rolling counter* field to the payload

VCU Critical Signals

Updating a critical signal (done in the can handler task):

```
void vcu_update_critical_signal (vcu_signal_id id, const void *data, TickType_t now, uint8_t counter, bool crc)  
    Update the critical VCU signal value identified by id.
```

Reading a critical signal: if value was not updated, dest value is garbage. Must either fail or provide an alternative safe value (e.g. 0 PPS)

```
bool vcu_read_signal_critical (void *dest, vcu_signal_id id, TickType_t now) __attribute__((warn_unused_result))  
    Read the signal value.
```

State Machines

- Communicate design intent to others
- Reason about correctness
- Validation and code generation from state machine definitions is common in automotive (see Simulink + Stateflow)
- See VCU State Machine

CAN bootloader

- Inspiration for the protocol from an AVR doc example/technical note
- Lives in a sector of the flash
- Each board has a unique identifier for flashing

```
[env:can_bootloader]  
build_type = debug  
can_baudrate=500000  
canbl_id=0x06  
canbl_node=0x02
```

Bootloader config is embedded in the
platformio env.
Upload using

pio run -t can_upload_stm32

config_lib

- Somewhat similar to standard XCP protocol for ECU
- Discoverable parameters with descriptions and bounds
- Supports bool, float, int datatypes
- Forward compatible storage on flash if used correctly
- Has a GUI... improvements or rewrites are welcome

PlatformIO tips

- Use environments to have different configurations for the same project (e.g. different build time flags/options)
- Can be used in vscode, but try to use it with the command line at least a couple of time

Firmware testing

- Unit testing: testing the single functions (see [platformio documentation](#))
- Functional testing: testing of the functionality of a software unit (e.g. one particular firmware)
- Integration testing: testing the interaction between two or more components (e.g. testing the whole firmware)

Reproducible Testing

- My attempt: ETeam Test Framework

```
1 def
test_vcu_precharge_missing_signals(logging_manager):
2     mgr =
logging_manager.with_can_dispatcher(vcu=True)
3     precharge_start = 3
4     total_time = precharge_start + 5
5
6     # create the following bms states sequence:
7     # monitoring -> precharge -> error
8     bms_status_signal =
mgr.main_can_signal("bms_BMS_Status.BmsMasterStatus")
9     bms_status_signal.set_values(
10         [0, precharge_start, precharge_start + 3, total_time],
11         [
12             "eFsmState_STANDBY",
13             "eFsmState_PRECHARGE",
14             "eFsmState_OPERATIONAL_LOAD",
15             "eFsmState_OPERATIONAL_LOAD",
16         ],
17     )
```

```
19 # ts button press for ~3 seconds
20 button_press_signal =
mgr.main_can_signal("STEERING_WHEEL_ButtonInputs.button
s")
21 button_press_signal.set_value(0.2, 1)
22 button_press_signal.set_value(precharge_start + 1, 0)
23
24 mgr.set_main_can_signals(bms_status_signal,
button_press_signal)
25 logs = mgr.run(total_time)
26
27 vcu_status_signal =
logs.select(mgr.main_bus_name).extract_signal(
28     "VCU_VCU_Heartbeat.Status"
29 )
30
31 assert (
32     vcu_status_signal.predicate(lambda s: s == "IDLE"
or s == "PARAM_UPDATE")
33     .always()
34     .eval()
35 )
```

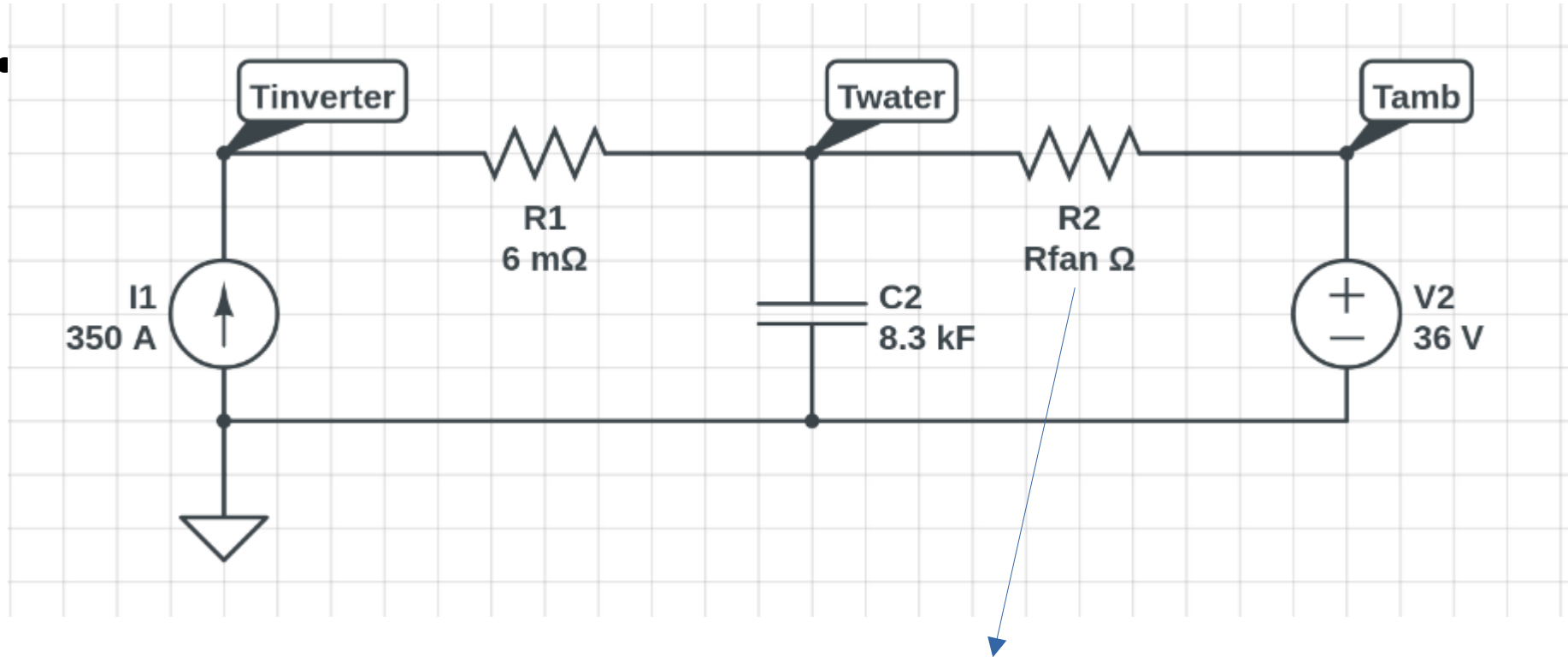
Vehicle Model/Simulator

- **el_vehicle_model**: C++ implementation of a vehicle model (dynamics, powertrain, some control electronics)
- Preliminary support for export as FMU (Functional Mock-Up Unit), which can be used inside Simulink or Modelica
- Works alongside the other simulated firmwares, so structure needs to be coded directly in (C++, boost, not really easy)

Homework: design example

- Control the fan speed to regulate the heatsink outflow and keep the inverter under 90 C
- Max power to dissipate: $70\text{kW} * 0.05$
- Water temperature is measured

???



The value of R_{fan} must be controlled indirectly using VCU CAN messages

Homework: design example

- Control the fan speed to regulate the heatsink heatflow and keep the inverter under 90 C
- Max power to dissipate: $70\text{kW} * 0.05$
- Water temperature is measured
- Thermal model simulator is already there, follow README for compilation and further instruction
- VCU pps signal should be critical, fix the bug!
- Sensorboard code for temperature reading is missing!