REAL-TIME NETWORKS Controller Area Network

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Outline

- CAN (Controller Area Network) history and use
- Architecture and variants
- Physical layer
- Data link layer
- Temporal behavior
- Response time analysis
- Improving the real-time behavior

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History

- 1983: Initial development by Bosch
- 1986: Official introduction of CAN protocol
- 1991: CAN specification 2.0 published
- 1991: first application layer (CAN Kingdom)
- 1992: 2nd AL, CAN Application Layer (CAL) by CiA
- 1992: 1st cars from Mercedes-Benz using CAN
- 1993: becomes an international standard (ISO 11898)
- 1994: modifications for industrial use :DeviceNet by Allen-Bradley and SDS by Honeywell
- 1995: CAN open protocol from CiA (CAN in Automation)
- 2000: Time-triggered comm. protocol for CAN (TTCAN)
- 2012: CAN-FD (payload up to 64B @ bit rate 8 x arbitration)

Market

- Initially development for the car industry
 - In competition with others
- Attracted a lot of interest outside initial market
 - Due to availability of inexpensive silicon
- Today:
 - Actually used in cars but not for safety critical functions
 - Some use in the industry
 - Widely available in micro-controllers

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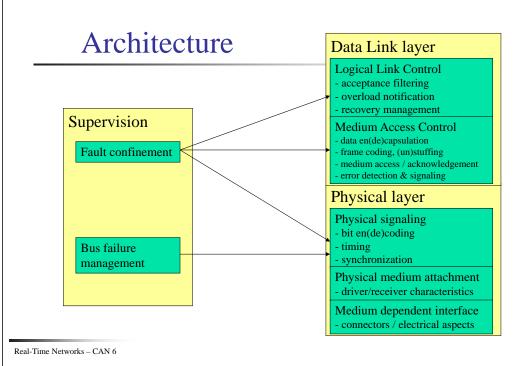
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Architecture

- 3 layer collapsed model
- Only first 2 layers are standard
- A few proposals for AL
 - CAL
 - CAN Kingdom
 - DeviceNet
 - CAN Open
 - SAE J1939
 -

application
presentation
session
transport
network
data link
physique

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Variants

- SDS
- DeviceNet
- TT-CAN
- FTT-CAN
- CAN-FD

Physical layer

- Topology
 - Terminated bus
- Number of stations
 - In principle limited to 30 (depends on drivers)
- Medium
 - Twisted pair, single wire (FO possible but not standard)
- Range
 - Signaling speed and propagation speed dependent: 40m at 1Mbit/s
 - Drop length limited to 30 cm
- Signaling and bit encoding
 - 10 kbit/s to 1 Mbit/s, NRZ
 - Up to 8 Mbit/s in payload with CAN-FD

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Physical layer (2)

- Synchronization
 - Uses signal edges (implies bit stuffing with NRZ)
 - After 5 consecutive ones, a zero is inserted
 - After 5 consecutive zeros, a one is inserted
 - This rules includes a possible stuffing bit inserted before
- Signals
 - Recessive: logical "1"
 - Dominant: logical "0"
 - When 2 stations compete on a bit by bit basis, the station that emits a dominant bit imposes this level on the bus

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Medium Access Control - frame

- RTR: data or request frame
- IDE: normal or extended format
- DLC: data field length
- EOF: End of frame (7 recessive bits)

- Ack: global ack by all connected nodes
- IFS: inter frame silence (3 recessive bits)
- R0: reserved (dominant)

S O F	Identifier	R T R	I D E	R 0	DLC	Data	CRC	A C K	EOF	IF S
1	11	1	1	1	4	08 x 8	16	2	7	3

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Extended addressing

- RTR: data or request frame
- IDE: extended format (recessive)
- DLC: data field length
- EOF: End of frame (7 recessive bits)

- Ack: global ack by all connected nodes
- IFS: inter frame silence (3 recessive bits)
- R0,R1: reserved (dominant)
- SRR: (recessive)

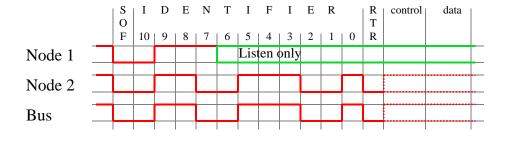
S		S	I		R	R	R				A		I
O	Identifier	R	D	Identifier	T	1	0	DLC	Data	CRC	C	EOF	F
F		R	E	extension	R						K		S
1	11	1	1	18	1	1	1	4	08 x 8	16	2	7	3

Addressing

- Single 11 or 29 bit identifier par frame
 - If used to identify a node
 - Source (data) or destination (request) of the message
 - Normally used to identify the payload
 - Also called "Broadcast source addressing"
 - A lower value gives higher priority in contention

Medium Access Control

- CSMA with collision resolution
 - Each node observes bus while transmitting
 - If level different from what it has put, withdraws
 - Dominant bit overwrites recessive one



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Behaviour in case of error

- In case of stuff, bit, form or acknowledge errors
 - An error flag is started at the next bit
- In case of CRC error
 - An error frame is send after the ack delimiter
- Fault confinement
 - Each time an reception error occurs, REC is incremented
 - Each time a frame is received correctly, REC is decremented
 - Same for the emission errors with TEC
 - The values of TEC and REC may trigger mode changes

Error detection

- Several means
 - Bit error
 - When what is one the bus is different from what was emitted
 - Except when a recessive bit was emitted during arbitration or ack slot
 - Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)
 - Frame check (the frame structure is checked)
 - ACK errors (absence of a dominant bit during the ack slot)
 - Monitoring (each node which transmits also observes the bus level and thus detects differences between the bit sent and the bit received)
 - Bit stuffing (checking adherence to the stuffing rule.)
- A frame is valid for
 - A transmitter if there is no error until the end of EOF
 - A receiver if there is no error until the next to last bit of EOF

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Connection modes

• To enforce fault confinement, nodes may be in one of 3 modes

Error active

 Normally takes part to the communication and may send an active error flag (6 dominant consecutive bits) when an error has been detected

Error passive

 Takes part in communication but must not send an active error flag. Instead, it shall send a passive error flag (6 recessive consecutive bits

Some restrictions (silence between 2 tx)

REC>127 or TEC<128 TEC > 255

- Bus off
 - Cannot send or receive any frame.
 - A node is in this state when it is switched of the bus due to a request from a fault confinement entity. May exit from this state only by a user command.

(normal mode request) Normal_mode_request and 128 occurences of 11 consecutive recessive bits

Error frame

- 2 fields: error flag and error delimiter
- Error flag
 - Active: 6 dominant bits
 - Passive: 6 recessive bits
 - As all nodes monitor the bus and the flag violates stuffing rules, they will send error flags too
 - The error flag will last from 6 to 12 bits
- Error delimiter (8 recessive bits)
 - After sending an error flag, a node shall send recessive bits
 - As soon as it senses a recessive bit, it sends 7 recessive bits

Error recovery

- Automatic retransmission
 - of all frames that have lost arbitration
 - of all frames have been disturbed by errors during transmission

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Medium Access Control

- All messages are sent in broadcast
- Nodes filter according to their interest
- All messages are acknowledged including by nodes that are not interested by the message
 - Acknowledge just means "message well received by all receivers"
 - It does not mean "intended receiver received it"
- Node that does not receive message correctly sends an error bit sequence
- Node that is too busy may send an overload bit seq.
 - MA OVLD.request/indication/confirm
 - Same principle as an error frame (overload frame = 6 dominant + 8 recessive bit)

Logical Link Control

- 2 types of services (connectionless)
 - Send Data with no ack
 - L_DATA.request, L_DATA.indication, L_DATA.confirm
 - Uses a data frame
 - Request Data
 - L_REMOTE.request, L_REMOTE.indication, L_REMOTE.confirm
 - Uses a remote frame (same as a data frame but data field is empty)
- Flow control using the overload bit sequence

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Temporal analysis

- CAN is essentially unfair
 - Lower identifier frames get priority
 - There exists schemes to overcome this
 - [Cena 2001]
 - DeviceNet to some extent
- However
 - Given a set of traffic needs
 - Given that all nodes comply with the expressed needs
 - It is possible to check whether a network will comply with the requirements

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Response time analysis

- The worst case response time of a message R_m is the longest time between
 - Queuing of the message
 - Arrival time of the message at destination
- A set of traffic requirements can be handled by a CAN networks iif $R_m \le D_m$ for all message streams
- $R_m = C_m + J_m + I_m$
 - Where I_m is the interference time

Traffic requirements

- Real-time periodic message streams
 - $M_{p,m} = \{T_m, D_m, C_m, J_m\}$
 - C_m duration of emission of message, T_m period of transfer, D_m relative deadline from beginning of period (absolute deadlines are d $_{n,m} = n T_m + D_m$
 - J_m is the arrival jitter (variability in queuing instants periodicity)
- Real-time sporadic message streams
 - $M_{sm} = \{T_m, D_m, C_m\}$
 - T_m min. interarrival time, D_m relative deadline from arrival time (absolute deadlines are $d_{n,m} = arr_{n,m} + D_m$)

Response time analysis

• Response time [Tindell 94&95]

$$R_m = C_m + J_m + I_m \text{ with } I_m = B_m + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[\frac{I_m + J_m + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

- B_m is the transmission of the longest lower priority message + S the duration of the interframe silence
- Assumes no new message queued before previous sent
- Different from Joseph and Pandya

$$R_m = C_m + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[\frac{R_m}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

Message emission time

- Influence of bit stuffing
 - Normal addressing

$$C_m = \left(47 + 8b + \left\lfloor \frac{34 + 8b - 1}{4} \right\rfloor \right) \tau_{bit}$$

Extended addressing

$$C_m = \left(65 + 8b + \left\lfloor \frac{52 + 8b - 1}{4} \right\rfloor \right) \tau_{bit}$$

• In the original paper 5 was used instead of 4 in the division. This is a mistake due to a lack of understanding of the stuffing mechanism that also includes stuff bits

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Example - SAE benchmark

		Bits	Period [ms]	Тур	D[ms]	source
29,30	High / low contactor control	8/8	10/10	P/P		V-C
31,35	Reverse & 2nd gear clutches / 12V power relay	2/1	50/50	S/S	20/20	V-C
32,33	Clutch pressure ctrl / DC-DC converter	8/1	5/1000	P/P		V-C
34,37	DC-DC converter current ctrl / brake solenoid	8/1	50/50	S/S	20/20	V-C
38,39	Backup alarm / warning lights	1/7	50/50	S/S	20/20	V-C
40	Key switch	1	50	S	20	V-C
42,43	Torque command / torque measured	8/8	5/5	P/P		V-C / I-M C
41,45	Main contactor close / Fwd-rev ack	1/1	50/50	S/S	20/20	I-M C
44,46	Fwd-Rev / idle	1/1	50/50	S/S	20/20	V-C
47,49	Inhibit / Processed motor speed	1/8	50/5	S/P	20/-	I-M C
48,53	Shift in progress / main contactor ack	1/8	50/50	S/S	20/20	V-C
50	Inverter temperature status	2	50	S	20	I-M C
51	Shutdown	8	50	S	20	I-M C
52	Status-malfunction	1	50	S	20	I-M C

Example - SAE benchmark

		Bits	Period [ms]	Тур	D[ms]	source
1,2	Traction battery voltage / current	8/8	100/100	P/P		Battery
3,5	Traction battery temp. average / max	8/8	1000/1000	P/P		Battery
4,6	Auxiliary battery voltage / current	8/8	100/100	P/P		Battery
7,17	Accelerator position / switch	8/2	5/50	P/S	-/20	driver
8,9	Brake pressure master cylinder / line	8/8	5/5	P/P		brakes
10,11	Transaxle lubrication/Trans. clutch line pressure	8/8	100/5	P/P		Transmission
12,18	Vehicle speed / brake switch	8/1	100/20	P/S	-/20	brakes
13,36	Traction battery ground fault / idem test	1/2	1000/1000	P/P		Battery/ V-C
14,28	HI&LO contactor open-close / interlock	4/1	50/50	S/S	5/20	Battery
15,16	Key switch run / start	1/1	50	S/S	20/20	driver
19,20	Emergency brake / shift lever	1/3	50/50	S/S	20/20	driver
22,26	Speed control / brake mode / SOC reset	3/1/1	50/50/50	S/s/s	All 20	driver driver
21	Motor/trans over temperature	2	1000	P		transmission
23-25	12V Power ack vehicle ctrl / inverter / I-M cont	1/1/1	50/50/50	S/S/s	All 20	battery

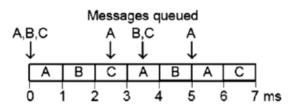
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Timing analysis [Tindell 95]

Signal number	Byte	Period [ms]	Type	D[ms]	R [ms]	source
14	1	50	S	5	1.544	Battery
8,9	2	5	P	5	2.128	Brakes
7	1	5	P	5	2.632	Driver
43,49	2	5	P	5	3.216	I-M C
11	1	5	P	5	3.72	Trans
32,42	2	5	P	5	4.304	V-C
31,34,35,37-40,44,46,48,53	6	10	P	10	5.192	V-C
23,24,25,28	1	10	P	10	8.456	Battery
15-17,19,20,22,26,27	2	10	P	10	9.04	Driver
41,45,47,50-52	2	10	P	10	9.624	I-M C
18	1	100	S	20	10.128	Brakes
1,2,4,6	4	100	P	100	18.944	Battery
12/10/21	1/1/1	100/100/1000	P/P/P	=T	19.44/19.55/29.19	Br/trans
3,5,13/33,36	3/1	1000/1000	P/P	=T	20.608/29.696	Batt/V-C

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Message	Priority	Period	Deadline	Tx time
A	3	2.5 ms	2.5 ms	1 ms
В	2	3.5 ms	3.25 ms	1 ms
С	1	3.5 ms	3.25 ms	1 ms



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Where is the flaw?

Tindell's analysis

$$R_m = C_m + J_m + I_m \text{ with } I_m = B_m + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[\frac{I_m + J_m + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

- Implicitely assumes that level-m busy period will end at or before T_m .
 - Would be true for preemptive scheduling as on completion of message m, no higher priority message would be pending
 - However in CAN, on completion of a message transmission, a higher priority message may be pending
 - Level-m busy period may extend beyond T_m.

New Analysis

- Use the definition of busy period. Level-m busy period is defined as:
 - It starts at some time t^s when a message of priority m or higher is queued ready for transmission and there are no messages of priority m or higher waiting to be transmitted that were queued strictly before time t^s.
 - It is a contiguous interval of time during which any message of priority lower than m is unable to start transmission and win arbitration.
 - It ends at the earliest time t^e when the bus becomes idle, ready for the next round of transmission and arbitration, yet there are no messages of priority m or higher waiting to be transmitted that were queued strictly before time t^e.
- All messages of priority m or higher, queued strictly before the end of the busy period, are transmitted during the busy period.
- These messages cannot therefore cause any interference on a subsequent instance of message m queued at or after the end of the busy period.
- Maximal busy period start at the critical instant when all message m is queued simultaneously with all higher priority msg and each of these is subsequently queued at highest speed

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New Analysis

• Busy period length $t_m = B_m + \sum_{\forall j \in hep(m)} \left| \frac{t_m + J_m}{T_j} \right| C_j$

 Number of instances of message m that becomes ready for transmission before the end of the busy period

$$Q_m = \left\lceil \frac{t_m + J_m}{T_m} \right\rceil$$

■ The longest time from the start of busy period to instance q (q=0 is first one) starting transmission is

$$I_{m}(q) = B_{m} + qC_{m} + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left| \frac{I_{m} + J_{m} + \tau_{bit}}{T_{j}} \right| C_{j}$$

•

Conclusion on response time analysis

- Takes profit of fixed priority nature of transmission
- Provided all nodes play the game (do not exceed traffic announced)
 - Allows to assess if traffic can be handled in absence of errors

Improving the real-time behaviour

- Provide fairness guarantees
 - MUST and CAN [Cena 01]
- Better predictability of periodic traffic
 - TTCAN [Leen 02]
- Same with handling sporadic traffic
 - FTT-CAN [Almeida 02]
- Comparing CAN and TTCAN in presence of errors
 - [Broster 04]

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Updated response time analysis

• Response time [Broster 04]

$$R_m = t_m + J_m$$
 with $t_m = B_m + C_m + I_m(t_m) + E_m(t_m)$

- $E_m(t)$ is the worst case overhead due to network faults and extra frames occurring before t
- B_m is the transmission of the longest lower priority message
 + S the duration of the interframe silence

$$I_{m}(t) = \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[\frac{t - C_{m} + J_{j} + \tau_{bit}}{T_{j}} \right] (S + C_{j})$$

Assumes no new message queued before previous sent

Taking faults into account

- Here we only consider network faults
 - All nodes are well behaved (according to protocol)
 - Caused by electromagnetic interferences or physical faults
 - It is possible for 2 nodes on the bus to simultaneously read different values from the bus
- Scenarios
 - Error during a data frame \Rightarrow error frame (duration E is transmitted): additional delay = C+E+S
 - Error during error frame: additional delay = E+S
 - Error during bus idle (false start): add. delay = E+S
 - Burst of interferences of duration Z: add. delay = Z+C+E+S

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Sporadic fault model

- Faults are always separated by a minimum inter-arrival time T_F.
- n_{burst} is the maximum number of faults that can occur in a succession during a burst

$$E_m(t) = \left(n_{burst} + \left\lceil \frac{t}{T_F} \right\rceil \right) \left(E + \max_{j \in hep(m)} C_j\right)$$

hep(m) is the set of messages with priority higher or equal to m

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Analysis

- $R_m = \langle t_m, p(t_m) \rangle$ gives us the response time in case of k errors (denoted as $R_{m|k}$) and the probability that k faults occurred between times 0 and t_m
- However, this cannot be taken as is:
 - For instance $R_{m|1}$ is the response time when one fault occurred before $R_{m|1}$.
 - However this fault must have occurred before R_{ml0}
 - Otherwise we would have had a response time of R_{mi0}

$$P(R_{m|1}) = p(1,[0,R_{m|1}]) - P(R_{m|0})p(1,]R_{m|0},R_{m|1}]$$

Probabilistic fault model

Probability that k faults occur in interval t is given by

$$p(F = k, t) = \frac{(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t}}{k!}$$

• Each fault causes the maximum length error frame and occurs on the last bit of the longest frame

$$M_m = E + \max_{\forall j \in hep(m)} C_j$$

The error overhead function is a random distribution

$$E_m = kM_m$$
 with probability $p(F = k, t)$

• So we get a set of pairs $R_m = \langle t_m, p(t_m) \rangle$

Scenari

Response Time	Possible Scenarios (Shorthand)	Number of Scenarios
$R_{i 0}$	[0]	1
$R_{i 1}$	[10]	1
$R_{i 2}$	[200], [110]	2
$R_{i 3}$	[3000], [2100], [2010], [1200], [1110]	5
$R_{i 4}$	[40000], [31000], [30100], [30010], [21100], [21010],	14

Source: I. Broster, 2004

Analysis (2)

- With 2 faults
 - We take the probability to have 2 faults before $R_{m,2}$
 - minus the case in which there is 0 fault before R_{m,0}
 - Minus the case in which there is 1 fault before $R_{m,1}$

$$\begin{split} P(R_{m|2}) &= p(2,[0,R_{m|2}]) \\ &- P(R_{m|1}) p \big(1,] R_{m|1}, R_{m|2}] \big) \\ &- P(R_{m|0}) p \big(2,] R_{m|0}, R_{m|2}] \big) \end{split}$$

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Analysis (3)

• For k faults, this generalizes to:

$$P(R_{m|k}) = p(k,[0,R_{m|k}]) - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} P(R_{m|j}) p(k-j,]R_{m|j},R_{m|k}]$$
• With
$$P(R_{m|0}) = p(1,[0,R_{m|0}])$$

• The probability of a deadline failure is then given by:

$$p_m(R_m > D_m) = 1 - \sum_{\forall j | R_{m|j} < D_m} p(R_{m|j})$$

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Case study

- SAE benchmark difficult to use because very tight
- Mobile robot message set [Borster 04]
 - bus at 256 kbit/s, 41% use, λ =30 faults/s

Priority	Length	Period	Deadline	WCRT	Probability	signal
	[ms]	[ms]	[ms]	[ms]	of failure	
6	0.288	2	2	0.828	1.5 10-5	Motor control
5	0.328	4	4	1.168	1.6 10-9	Wheel 1
4	0.328	4	4	1.508	8.7 10-8	Wheel 2
3	0.528	8	8	2.048	2.7 10-9	Radio In
2	0.248	12	12	2.608	2.1 10-12	Proximity
1	0.528	240	240	2.32	< 10-20	Logging

Summary

- Efficient for sporadic traffic
 - No control / non destructive distributed access
- Low response time in case of low traffic
- Periodicity difficult to achieve without jitter and some additional control
- A lot of care for error detection and handling
- Provides spatial consistency (global ack)
- Multicast easily implemented (broadcast source addr)
- Bounds can be derived for all kind of traffic
 - Under some assumptions
- MAC essentially unfair but there exists improvements

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