Master's Thesis



F3

Faculty of Electrical Engineering Department of measurement

Implementation of actual version of DDSI-RTPS protocol for distributed control in Ethernet network

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[intro]

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Real-Time Publish-Subscribe (RTPS)[1] is the protocol of Data Distribution Service (DDS)[2] family, supporting Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe in real time and specifying communication in a decentralized network, where multiple nodes needs to send and/or receive data in real time. Specification of protocol is developed by Object Management Group[3] - international, open membership, not-for-profit technology standards consortium, since version 1.0 on February 2002 till version 2.2 on September 2014.

This thesis aims on upgrading ORTE implementation of RTPS protocol to be compatible with the latest standard version 2.2. The structure is as follows. In Chapter 1, there is an introduction to RTPS and ORTE. Chapter 3 compares implemented RTPS 1.0 with the latest RTPS 2.2, chapter 4 covers changes needed for compatibility with version 2.2 of the RTPS protocol and chapter 5 covers testing of new implementation of RTPS protocol in ORTE. In chapter 6, demo application of ORTE called *Shape* for Android is introduced. Original ORTE version based demonstration application has been developed as part of preparation for main work to gain experience with RTPS protocol and its implementation. Security for DDS is discussed in chapter 7.

[over]

Chapter 2 Technology overview

2.1 DDS

There are two main models used in Data Distribution Services. *Centralized* model, where single server for the whole network is needed and all communication goes throw it, introduces single point of failure. When the server is unreachable, the whole network is non-functional. By contrast, *decentralized* approach has no central server, no single point of failure. When one node of the network is non-functional, the rest of the network can continue in data transfers.

2.2 DCPS

In the Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe network, data are sent by *Publishers* and received by *Subscribers*. Node can be *Publisher*, *Subscriber* or both and each node can be interested in different data, timing and reliability. Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe network is responsible for delivery of right data between right nodes with right parameters.

2.3 RTPS

Real-Time Publish-Subscribe is wire protocol developed to ensure interoperability between DDS implementations. It has been designed to be fault tolerant (decentralized), scalable, tunable, with plug-and-play connectivity and ability of best-effort and reliable communication in real time applications.

2.4 **ORTE**

Open Real-Time Ethernet (ORTE)[4] is the implementation of RTPS 1.0. It's implemented in Application layer of UDP/IP stack, written in C, under open source license, with own API. Because there are no special requirements, it should be easy to port ORTE to many platforms, where UDP/IP stack is implemented.

[compare]

Chapter 3 Actual RTPS protocol

This chapter follows Platform Independent Model (PIM) of the RTPS protocol introduced in chapter 8 in [1]. It contains four modules - basic objects are discussed in section 3.1, messages used for communication is described in 3.2 and behavior - messages exchange between objects - is discussed in 3.3. The last module of discovering *Domain* is convered in section 3.4. In the last section 3.5, versions 2.2 and 1.0 of RTPS protocol are compared.

[struct]

3.1 Structure Module

The communication take place in the RTPS *Domain*, consisting of multiple *Entities*. Each *Entity* can be either *Participant* or *Endpoint*, where *Endpoints* can be specialized as *Writer* or *Reader*. Each *Endpoint* has it's own database of *Cache Changes* called *History Cache*. The whole structure is shown in figure 3.1.

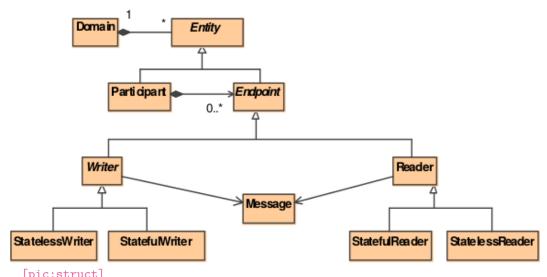


Figure 3.1. Structure Module diagram (chapter 7.1 in [1])

It should be mentioned that there is also proxy Participant - Participant Proxy and another two proxy Endpoints - Reader Proxy and Writer Proxy. These objects represents remote Participants and their Writers and Readers and are introduced in chapter 8.4 in [1]. The local Participant maintains the topology of the Domain and needs to store information about remote Participants. For this purpose, Participant Proxy is used. Sometimes, local Writer needs to store information about remote Reader and therefore, Reader Proxy is used. Also local Readers are sometimes in need of storing information about remote Writers and then Writer Proxy is used.

3.1.1 Participant

Domain Participant is container for Endpoints within the same application. It has the following attributes:

- GUID
- Protocol Version
- Vendor Id
- Default Unicast Locator List
- Default Multicast Locator List

Where the GUID is globally-unique RTPS-entity identifier consisting of GUID Prefix and EntityId, Protocol Version is version of actual implementation and vendor of implementation is represented by Vendor Id. Default Unicast Locator List and Default Multicast Locator List are lists of IP address and port combinations used to send User-data traffic to, when there is no such an information contained in Writers of the Participant.

Each Endpoint within the same Participant has to have the same GUID Prefix.

3.1.2 Writer Endpoint

Is the source of *Cache Changes* which are sent to *Readers*. It has the following attributes:

- GUID
- Topic Kind
- Reliability Level
- Unicast Locator List
- Multicast Locator List
- Push Mode
- Heartbeat Period
- Nack Response Delay
- Nack Suppression Duration
- Last Change Sequence Number
- Writer Cache

Where Topic Kind can be either NO_KEY or WITH_KEY. WITH_KEY is used, when the topic consists of more than one data instances identified by key. Reliability Level can be either BEST_EFFORT or RELIABLE, saying if it should be verified that Cache Change reached the Reader. Unicast Locator List and Multicast Locator List are lists of IP address and port combinations on which is the Writer listening. If there is no IP address and port combination in list, it's presumed that Writer is listening on Default Unicast Locator List respective Default Multicast Locator List of the Participant. Push Mode defines if data are sent (Push Mode is set to TRUE) or just Heartbeats with Sequence Numbers of available Cache Changes and Reader has to ask for Cache Change delivery. Heartbeat Period, Nack Response Delay and Nack Suppression Duration are time parameters used for protocol tunning, which defines announce interval of available data, how long the response to data request should be delayed respective how long can be data request for just sent data ignored. Last Change Sequence Number is the highest Sequence Number in History Cache and the Writer Cache is the History Cache of the Writer containing Cache Changes associated with the Writer itself.

3.1.3 Reader Endpoint

Is the destination of *Cache Changes* which are sent by *Writers*. It has the following attributes:

- GUID
- Topic Kind
- Reliability Level
- Unicast Locator List
- Multicast Locator List
- Expects Inline Qos
- Heartbeat Response Delay
- Heartbeat Suppression Duration
- Reader Cache

Where Unicast Locator List and Multicast Locator List are lists of IP address and port combinations on which is the Reader listening. If there is no IP address and port combination in list, it's presumed that Reader is listening on Default Unicast Locator List respective Default Multicast Locator List of the Participant. The value of Expects Inline Qos is set to TRUE if the Reader expects in-line Qos to be sent along with data. Heartbeat Response Delay and Heartbeat Suppression Duration are time parameters used for protocol tunning, which defines how long the acknowledgement of data should be delayed respective how long can be Heartbeat announces ignored after just received Heartbeat. Reader Cache is the History Cache of the Reader containing Cache Changes associted with the Reader itself.

3.1.4 History Cache

Is the database of *Cache Changes* serving as the API for *Writer* and *Reader Endpoints*. It has the following attributes:

Changes

Where Changes are Cache Changes stored in the History Cache.

■ 3.1.5 Cache Change

Is the change of the data object that should be propagated from the *Writer* to the matching *Readers*. It has the following attributes:

- Change Kind
- Writer GUID
- Instance Handle
- Sequence Number
- Data value

Where Change Kind can be ALIVE, NOT_ALIVE_DISPOSED or NOT_ALIVE_UNREGISTERED and is used to distinguish the change that was made to a data object. Writer GUID is the identifier of the source of the Cache Change, Instance Handle identifies the instance of the data object (in DDS the value of the key is used) and the Sequence Number is unique identifier of the Cache Change in the History Cache of the Endpoint. The last attribute, Data value, represents data associated to the Cache Change.

3.1.6 Participant Proxy

Represents the information about remote *Participant* in the *Domain*. It has the following attributes:

- Protocol Version
- Guid Prefix
- Vendor Id
- Expects Inline Qos
- Available Builtin Endpoints
- Metatraffic Unicast Locator List
- Metatraffic Multicast Locator List
- Default Multicast Locator List
- Default Unicast Locator List
- Manual Liveliness Count
- Lease Duration

Where Protocol Version specify the version of the RTPS protocol implementation used by remote Participant and the vendor of this implementation is represented by the Vendor Id. Guid Prefix is the common part of the GUID for the Participant and all of it's Endpoints, Expects Inline Qos describes whether the Readers of the remote Participant expects in-line Qos sent along with data and Available Builtin Endpoints parameter specify which builtin Endpoints used for plug-and-play interoperability are available by remote Participant. Metatraffic Unicast Locator List and Metatraffic Multicast Locator List are IP address and port combinations that can be used to reach the remote builtin Endpoints and Default Unicast Locator List and Default Multicast Locator List are IP address and port combinations that can be used to reach the remote Endpoints defined by user that serve for user data exchange. Manual Liveliness Count is used to implement MANUAL_BY_PARTICIPANT liveliness Qos and Lease Duration specify the time period for which the remote Participant should be considered alive.

3.1.7 Reader Proxy

Represents the information about remote Reader. It has the following attributes:

- Remote Reader GUID
- Unicast Locator List
- Muticast Locator List
- Changes for Reader
- Expects Inline Qos
- Is Active

Where Remote Reader GUID is unique identifier of remote Reader, Unicast Locator List and Multicast Locator List are lists of IP address and port combinations on which is the remote Reader listening, Changes for Reader is the list of Cache Changes that should be sent to the remote Reader, Expects Inline Qos attribute specify if the remote Reader expects in-line Qos to be sent along with data and attribute Is Active is set to TRUE if the remote Reader is responsive to the local Writer.

3.1.8 Writer Proxy

Represents the information about remote Writer. It has the following attributes:

■ Remote Writer GUID

- Unicast Locator List
- Multicast Locator List
- Changes from Writer

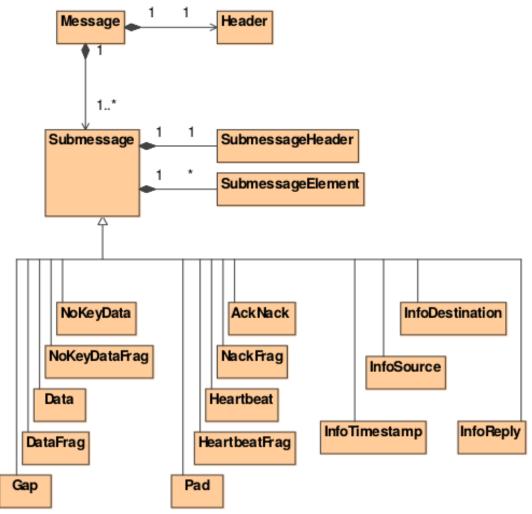
Where Remote Writer GUID is unique identifier of remote Writer, Unicat Locator List and Multicast Locator List are lists of IP address and port combinations on which is the remote Writer listening and Changes from Writer is the list of Cache Changes that are received or expected from the remote Writer.

[message]



3.2 Messages Module

For communication between *Writers* and *Readers*, RTPS messages are used. Each message consists of *Header* and one or more *Submessages*, where each *Submessage* has it's own *Submessage Header* and *Submessage Elements* based on the kind of the *Submessage*. The structure of RTPS message is shown in figure 3.2.



[pic:msg] Figure 3.2. Structure of RTPS message (chapter 8.3.3 in [1])

The interpretation of Submessage may depend on previously received Submessages within the same Message, therefore it's needed to store the state for each Message. Message Receiver ensures this function by storing information about Source Protocol

Version, Source Vendor Id, Source GUID Prefix, Destination GUID Prefix, Unicast Reply Locator List, Multicast Reply Locator List, Have Timestamp and Timestamp. State of the Message Receiver is reset to default values each time the Message is received.

Submessages can be divided to *Entity Submessages* which target an RTPS *Entity* affecting it's behavior and *Interpreter Submessages* changing the state of the *Message Receiver*.

3.2.1 Header

The first change in the state of *Message Receiver* is made by *Header* of the received *Message*. The *Header* identify RTPS *Message*, *Protocol Version* used, *Vendor* of the implementation and common part of GUID - *GUID Prefix* - used to interpret source *EntityId* in the *Submessage*.

3.2.2 Submessage Header

Submessage Header is included in each Submessage, it has the following attributes:

- Submessage Kind
- Flags
- Submessage Lenght

Where *Submessage Kind* specify the meaning of *Submessage*, *Flags* is an array of 8 bits, which identifies endianness used in the *Submessage* (LSB), the presence of optional elements and possibly changes the interpretation of the *Submessage*. The *Submessage Length* specify the length of the *Submessage*.

3.2.3 Interpreter Submessages

List of Submessages and their changes to the Message Receiver follows.

InfoDestination is sent from Writer to Reader to modify the Destination GUID Prefix value of Message Receiver used to interpret Reader EntityId in the Submessage.

InfoReply is sent from *Reader* to *Writer* to explicitly define where to send a reply to the *Submessage* that follow.

InfoSource modifies the source *Protocol Version*, *Vendor Id* and *GUID Prefix* of the *Submessages* that follow.

InfoTimestamp is used to send the *Timestamp* that apply to the *Submessages* that follow.

3.2.4 Entity Submessages

List of Submessages and their interpretation follows.

AckNack is sent by *Reader* to inform the *Writer* about which sequence numbers are received and which are missing.

Data is sent from *Writer* to *Reader* and is used to inform about changes to a data object. Changes may be in value or in lifecycle of the object.

DataFrag is used when the **Data** Submessage exceeds the MTU of lower communication layers, otherwise it has the same function as **Data** Submessage.

Gap sent by *Writer* indicates to the *Reader* which sequence numbers are no longer relevant.

Heartbeat announces to *Readers* sequence numbers of *Cache Changes* that are available in *Writer*.

HeartbeatFrag is used when fragmentation occurs and until all fragments are available. Once all fragments are available, **Heartbeat** *Submessage* is used.

NackFrag is sent by *Reader* to inform the *Writer* about which fragments are missing. **Pad** is padding message used for desired alignment. It has no other meaning.

[behavior]



3.3 Behavior Module

The purpose of the RTPS protocol can be simplified to propagating *Cache Change* from *Writer* to *Reader*. The manner of propagation in relation to properties of communication is discussed in this section. There are two main properties of communication:

- Topic Kind
- Reliability Level

Where *Topic Kind* can be either NO_KEY or WITH_KEY and *Reliability Level* can be either BEST_EFFORT or RELIABLE. Pairing of *Writers* with *Readers* must acknowledge the following restrictions.

Writer and Reader can be paired up and the communication may begin when the Topic Kind matches, because both Endpoints relate to the same DDS Topic which is either NO_KEY or WITH_KEY.

The reliability depends on the *Reader*. If the *Reader* has the *Reliability Level* set to RELIABLE, the corresponding *Writer* has to also have the *Reliability Level* set to RELIABLE, while the *Reader* has the *Reliability Level* set to BEST_EFFORT, the *Reliability Level* of the corresponding *Writer* doesn't matter.

The behavior required for interoperability between implementations is summarized in section 3.3.1. In chapter 8.4 in [1], there are two reference implementations of *Endpoints* that are summarized in section 3.3.2. In the remaining sections, these implementations are discussed in detail.

[inte]

3.3.1 Interoperability

In order to be compliant with protocol specification and interoperable with other implementations, the implementation of the RTPS protocol must satisfy the following requirements.

- General Requirements:
 - Only RTPS messages are used for communication.
 - Message Receiver must be implemented.
 - Timing characteristics must be tunable.
 - SPDP and SEDP must be implemented.
 - Writer Liveliness Protocol must be implemented.
- Required Writer Behavior:
 - Data must be sent in-order.
 - If requested, in-line Qos must be included.
- Additional requirements for Reliable Writer:
 - Periodic HEARTBEAT messages must be sent.
 - Response to ACKNACK message must be eventually sent.
- Required Reader Behavior:
 - No specific behavior needed as best-effort reader is completely passive.
- Additional requirements for Reliable Reader:

- Response to HEARTBEAT with final flag not set must be eventually sent.
- Response to HEARTBEAT indicating missing sample must be eventually sent.
- Once acknowledged, always acknowledged.
- ACKNACK can be only sent in response to HEARTBEAT.

Writer Liveliness Protocol is required by DDS to exchange information about the Liveliness of Writers by Participants. Builtin Endpoints are used for sending samples at rate faster than the smallest lease duration among Writers sharing the same liveliness Qos.

[impl]

3.3.2 Implementation

In chapter 8.4 in [1], two reference implementations of RTPS protocol are introduced.

Stateless implementation maintains no state about remote *Endpoints*, which suits for best-effort communication over multicast. While this implementation scales well in large systems and memory usage is reduced, additional bandwidth may be required.

Stateful implementation, on the other hand maintains full state on remote *Endpoints*. More memory is needed and scalability is limited, but bandwidth usage decreases. Also, strict reliable communication and Qos based filtering on the *Writer's* side may be applied.

It's important to mention that these are reference implementations. It means that there is no need for two kinds of Endpoints - Stateless and Stateful, because the only behavior needed for interoperability is introduced in 3.3.1. Reference implementations just helps to understand and implement this behavior. Both reference implementations, Stateless as well as Stateful may be BEST_EFFORT, RELIABLE, NO_KEY or WITH_KEY. Excaptions are discussed and explained below.

3.3.3 Stateless Writer

To be compliant with 3.3.2, *Stateless Writer* must send data in order and include in-line Qos if needed. BEST_EFFORT *Stateless Writer* has no other requirements and data are sent each *Resend Data Period* or on demand by user application.

If Stateless Writer is RELIABLE, periodic HEARTBEATs with available data are sent. Sending of data then depend on Push Mode. If Push Mode is TRUE, data are sent each Resend Data Period or on demand by user application, if it's FALSE, data are stored in History Cache of Writer and sent only in response to ACKNACK.

Readers uses ACKNACK messages to request interesting data from Reliable Writer. DATA submessage is sent if data are still available in Writer's History Cache or GAP submessage indicating that data are no longer relevant.

Even the bandwidth can be reduced if the information of acknowledged Sequence Numbers would be stored for remote *Readers*, it's not needed for interoperability.

3.3.4 Stateless Reader

Receive and process data is the meaning of BEST_EFFORT Stateless Reader. However, to ensure RELIABLE communication, the problem arise, because at least Sequence Numbers of announced, requested but not received Cache Changes are needed, so some information about remote Writer has to be stored and therefore Reader can't be Stateless.

As mentioned above, this is the only exception. Stateless Reader can't be RELI-ABLE.

3.3.5 Stateful Writer

For each remote Reader, Stateful Writer stores information in Reader Proxy structure. When Cache Change is added to the History Cache of Writer, filtering can occure to determine if Cache Change is relevant for Reader and consequently stored in Changes for Reader of Reader Proxy.

BEST_EFFORT traffic is sent on demand by user application to each *Reader Proxy* whenever there are any unsent changes in *Changes for Reader*.

For RELIABLE Stateful Writer, periodic HEARTBEATs must be sent to each Reader Proxy. Sending of data then depends on Push Mode - when the value is TRUE, Cache Change pass the filter and is added to Changes for Reader, the Cache Change is marked as unsent and will be sent as soon as the needed resources would be available. When the value of Push Mode is FALSE, only HEARTBEATs are sent and Reader has to ask for data by sending ACKNACK for interested data. In response to ACKNACK, Reliable Writer then sends DATA submessage if the data are still available or GAP submessage when the data are no longer relevant.

It should be mentioned that in general, Reader's Entity Id of submessages is set to ENTITYID_UNKNOWN, stating that each Reader of remote Participant should receive the data. The only situation when Writer knows exactly the destination and therefore may set Reader's Entity Id properly is sending DATA submessage in response to ACKNACK by Stateful Writer.

3.3.6 Stateful Reader

For BEST_EFFORT traffic, *Stateful Reader* stores information about expected Sequence Number for each remote *Writer*. This information is stored in *Writer Proxy* structure. Storing Sequence Number ensures that there are no duplicated nor out-of-order data changes.

If the communication is RELIABLE and DATA submessage or GAP is received, expected Sequence Number is set correspondingly. When HEARTBEAT is received, databases of missing and lost changes are updated for *Writer Proxy* and the rest of behavior depends on *Final* and *Liveliness Flags*. When both, *Final* and *Liveliness Flags* are set, nothing happens. When *Liveliness Flag* is not set, then ACKNACK with missing changes may be sent and when *Final Flag* is not set, ACKNACK must be sent.

[discovery]

ery.

3.4 Discovery Module

The communication as described in 3.3 between *Endpoints* described in 3.1 throw the *Messages* described in 3.2 assumes that both ends of communication are known. *Discovery Module* introduces two processes of probing *Domain* due to discovering *Participants* called *Simple Participant Discovery Protocol* and theirs *Endpoints* known as *Simple Endpoint Discovery Protocol*.

SPDP and SEDP are only discovery protocols described in RTPS specification and have to be implemented in order to enable interoperability between implementations. However vendor specific discovery protocols can be implemented in addition to overcome some drawbacks of *Simple Discovery Protocols*.

The difference between Builtin and User-defined Endpoints needs to be clear. Builtin Endpoints are predefined by RTPS specification and once a Participant is discovered, it can be assumed that Builtin Endpoints are present, while User-defined Endpoints are defined by user application and it's purpose and can't be known in advance. Therefore the purpose of Discovery Module can be roughly simplified to discovering User-defined

Endpoints of remote Participants with help of Builtin Endpoints. Builtin Endpoints are used by Simple Discovery Protocols.

3.4.1 SPDP

Best-effort Writer with predefined Entity Id¹) and Best-effort Reader with predefined Entity Id²) are used to exchange SPDPdiscoveredParticipantData containing Participant Proxy information about remote Participant. This traffic is sent to predefined IP address and port discussed in PSM in [1]. Remote Participants and their attributes are discovered by SPDP.

3.4.2 **SEDP**

Reliable Writer with predefined Entity Id³) and Reliable Reader with predefined Entity Id⁴) are used to exchange Discovered Writer Data containing information about Writers of remote Participant.

Reliable Writer with predefined Entity Id^5) and Reliable Reader with predefined Entity Id^6) are used to exchange DiscoveredReaderData containing information about Readers of remote Participant.

The last pair of Reliable Endpoints⁷) can be used to exchange Discovered Topic Data, but these Endpoints aren't mandatory and the interoperability is not affected by them. Writers and Readers of remote Participants are discovered by SEDP.

[rtps10]

3.5 RTPS 1.0

ORTE is one of the implementations of the RTPS protocol used as proof of concept to standardize RTPS 1.0. This section discuss the difference between version 1.0 and 2.2 of the RTPS protocol, viewed from the perspective of the version 2.2.

3.5.1 Structure Module

In version 2.2, *GUID* consists of *Guid Prefix* (12B) and *Entity Id* (4B), while in version 1.0, *GUID* consists of *Host Id* (4B), *Application Id* (4B) and *Object Id* (4B). *Entity Id* may be compared with *Object Id* as well as *Guid Prefix* with *Host Id* and *Application Id*. The size of *GUID* in version 2.2 was increased by 4B.

New *Locator* type is introduced in version 2.2, containing IP address, port and kind. *Locator* type is introduced because of IPv6, it's kind can be either LOCATOR_KIND_UDPv4 or LOCATOR_KIND_UDPv6.

3.5.2 Messages Module

The structure of the RTPS Header remains same, but because of change in size of GUID in version 2.2, size of the Header also increased. Host Id and Application Id are replaced by Guid Prefix indeed.

The structure of the Submessage remains completely same.

Following are changes in *Submessages*:

 $^{^{1})\} ENTITYID_SPDP_BUILTIN_PARTICIPANT_WRITER$

²) ENTITYID_SPDP_BUILTIN_PARTICIPANT_READER

³⁾ ENTITYID_SEDP_BUILTIN_PUBLICATIONS_WRITER

⁴⁾ ENTITYID_SEDP_BUILTIN_PUBLICATIONS_READER

⁶) ENTITYID_SEDP_BUILTIN_SUBSCRIPTIONS_READER

⁷⁾ ENTITYID_SEDP_BUILTIN_TOPIC_WRITER and ENTITYID_SEDP_BUILTIN_TOPIC_READER

- VAR is deprecated
- ISSUE is deprecated
- ACK is renamed to ACKNACK
- INFO_REPLY is renamed to INFO_REPLY_IP4
- INFO_REPLY is introduced
- NACK_FRAG is introduced
- HEARTBEAT_FRAG is introduced
- DATA is introduced
- DATA_FRAG is introduced

3.5.3 Behavior Module

Writers are divided to CSTWriters and Publications, Readers to CSTWriters and Subscriptions in version 1.0.

CSTWriters and CSTReaders are builtin "endpoints" used for Composite State Transfer protocol and the communication between them is reliable. Messages used are VAR, GAP, HEARTBEAT and ACK. CSChanges are exchanges between CSTWriters and CSTReadres.

Publications and Subscriptions are used for user data exchange and the communication can be either reliable or best-effort. Messages used are ISSUE, HEARTBEAT and ACK. User data in ISSUE messages are represented in CDR format.

In version 2.2, only difference between builtin and user defined *Endpoints* are predefined Entity Ids. Both, builtin and user defined *Endpoints* can be reliable or best-effort and DATA, HEARTBEAT, GAP and ACKNACK submessages are used independently on the purpose of the communication.

3.5.4 Discovery Module

In version 1.0, two kinds of "entities" are discussed in specification - Managers and Managed Applications. The purpose of Managers is Managed Application discovery and the purpose of Managed Applications is to exchange user data. Each Managed Application needs to be registered to one of the Managers.

Discovery in version 1.0 is ensured by following protocols:

- Inter-Manager Protocol allows Managers to discover each other.
- Manager-Discovery Protocol allows every Managed Application to discover other Managers.
- Registration Protocol allows Managers to find theirs Managed Applications.
- Application-Discovery Protocol is used by Managed Application to discover other Managed Applications.
- Services-Discovery Protocol allows to find Publications and Subscriptions in other Managed Applications.

In version 2.2, SPDP and SEDP are only required protocols used for discovery.

[upgrade]

Chapter 4

Required changes in ORTE

In this chapter, changes required for ORTE to be compatible with the version 2.2 of the RTPS protocol are discussed. Following is the state of work, where what is done is blue, working is green, not finished is red and needless for interoperability is black.

- Structure Module
 - Participant
 - History Cache
 - Cache Change
 - Participant Proxy
 - Writer Endpoint
 - Reader Endpoint
 - Reader Proxy
 - Writer Proxy
- Messages Module
 - Header
 - Message Receiver
 - Data
 - InfoDestination
 - InfoReply
 - InfoSource
 - InfoTimestamp
 - Pad
 - AckNack
 - Gap
 - Heartbeat
 - DataFrag
 - HeartbeatFrag
 - NackFrag
- Behavior Module
 - Best-Effort Stateless Writer
 - Best-Effort Stateless Reader
 - Reliable Stateless Writer
 - Reliable Stateful Reader, Writer Proxy
 - Best-Effort Stateful Writer
 - Reliable Stateful Writer, Reader Proxy
 - Best-Effort Stateful Reader
- Discovery Module
 - SPDP
 - SEDP

In section 4.1, specific types used in ORTE are introduced, their purpose and legacy of previous implementation. In 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5, implementation of each module from chapter 3 is discussed. Proposal of consequential development is introduced in section 4.6.

[orte:spec]

4.1 ORTE specific

4.1.1 Version 1.0

In RTPS 1.0 implementation, the core structure is ORTEDomain. Following are specific types contained in ORTEDomain structure:

- TaskProp
- TypeEntry
- ObjectEntry
- PSEntry
- CSTPublications
- CSTSubscriptions

TaskProp maintains properties of *Tasks*, including own socket, thread and MessageBuffer (used for sending and receiving data) for each *Task*. There are five *Tasks*: taskRecvUnicastMetatraffic, taskRecvMulticastMetatraffic, taskRecvUnicastUserdata, taskRecvMulticastUserdata and taskSend.

TypeEntry is database of *Types* used for data encapsulation, containing name of *Type* and functions to serialize and describing it.

The database of all "endpoints" is stored in ObjectEntry. In ORTEDomain, variable objectEntry of type ObjectEntry is the root of 3-layered AVL tree ([5]), where each layer correspond to *Host Id*, *Application Id* and *Object Id*. Also, *Application Id* layer serves as the root for *Hierarchical Timer* ([5]) used for timing in ORTE.

PSEntry, CSTPublications and CSTSubscriptions are databases of *Publications* and *Subscriptions*. In context of version 1.0 of the RTPS protocol, "endpoints" used for user data communication are stored here.

Builtin "endpoints" are defined directly in $\mathtt{ORTEDomain}$ structure, there is nine of CSTWriters and CSTReaders used for CST protocol:

- writerApplicationSelf
- readerManagers
- readerApplications
- writerManagers
- writerApplications
- writerPublications
- readerPublications
- writerSubscriptions
- readerSubscriptions.

4.1.2 Version 2.2

Domain is abstract term involving communication of nodes that have something in common. The core structure in implementation of version 2.2 of RTPS protocol was therefore renamed to ORTEDomainParticipant. Following types persisted:

■ TaskProp

- TypeEntry
- ObjectEntry

TaskProp has the same purpose as in previous implementation, just some of names changed to be more appropriate:

- taskRecvUnicastDiscoveryTraffic
- taskRecvMulticastDiscoveryTraffic
- taskRecvUnicastUserTraffic
- taskRecvMulticastUserTraffic.

TypeEntry remains completely same.

Because of substitution of *Host Id* and *Application Id* for *Guid Prefix*, $\mathtt{ObjectEntry}$ changed from 3-layered to 2-layered AVL tree ([5]), where the first layer corresponds to *Guid Prefix* and the second one to *Entity Id*. The root for *Hierarchical Timer* ([5]) is at the *Guid Prefix* layer.

ORTEEndpoint structure was added to ObjectEntry at the Entity Id layer. ORTEEndpoint can be Stateless Writer or Stateless Reader at present (see 4) and Stateful Writer, Stateful Reader, Participant Proxy, Reader Proxy and Writer Proxy will be added in the future. So one database containing all Endpoints in Domain is used for each Participant and there is no need for directly defined Endpoints or separate database of publishers and subscribers.

[orte:struct]

4.2 Structure Module

In the correspondence to PIM (3.1) and as mentioned above, ORTEDomain structure changed to ORTEDomainParticipant. Identifiers of ORTEDomainParticipant are domainId, participantId and guid, where guid is generated as discussed in [6].

Because CSTWriter evolves to Stateful Writer and CSTReader to Stateful Reader, new structures StatelessWriter and StatelessReader are introduced in correspondence to reference implementation.

Cache Change is replacement of CSChange and is used as "transfer unit" for all exchanges in RTPS 2.2.

The implementation of *History Cache* remains the same - it's implemented as *List* ([5]). This manner allows to save memory by maintaining only one *Cache Change*, pointed from more structures as multiple matched *Reader Proxy* or *Writer Proxy*.

While the name changed for *CSTRemote Reader* and *CSTRemoteWriter* to *Reader Proxy* respective *Writer Proxy*, the function of this *Endpoints* remains the same.

[orte:message] 4.3 Messages Module [orte:behavior] 4.4 Behavior Module [orte:discovery] 4.5 Discovery Module [orte:next] 4.6 Next Steps

[test]

Chapter 5 Testing of implementation

[shape]

Chapter 6 Shape for Android

6.1 Shape demo

With ORTE implementation of RTPS 1.0 protocol, demo application called Shape is delivered. Shape demo demonstrates the functionality of ORTE - when the color (Blue, Green, Red, Black, Yellow) is choosen, the *Publisher* is created as random shape (Circle, Square, Triangle) moving on the screen. Then, under the topic of color name, object's shape, color and coordinates are published to the network. It's possible to receive and interpret object's data (to see colored shapes moving on the screen) by adding the *Subscribers* of specific topics (colors).

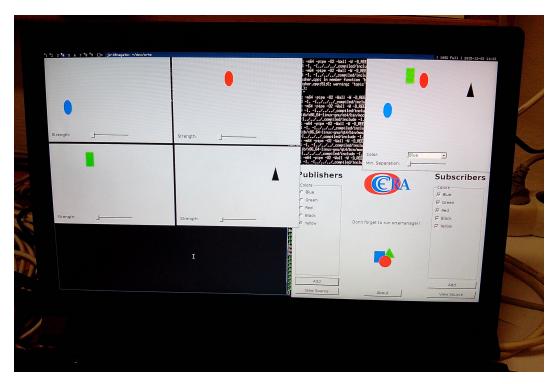


Figure 6.1. Shape demo - Publishers and Subscribers

6.2 Familiarization with ORTE

The familiarization with ORTE was done by creating demo application for Android compatible with Shape. Because the port of ORTE to Android has been already done in [7] and is available as library, the main task was application design and compatibility ensurance. The application was designed to be as simple as possible. *Publishers* view allows to create new *Publisher* of specific color and random shape, *Subscribers* view allows to set up *Subscribers* of specified colors. Finally, Settings and Help views are present.

6.3 Classes

As in Shape demo, in Shape for Android the BoxType class is presented, allowing to create, send and receive objects. BoxType consists of color (integer), shape (integer) and rectangle (BoxRect), where BoxRect is class for storing coordinates - top_left_x (short), top_left_y (short), bottom_right_x (short), bottom_right_y (short). The BoxType is extension of MessageData class delivered with ORTE library for Android. It allows to send and receive objects.

PublisherShape class stores BoxType information about Publisher, it's properties needed for ORTE, methods for communication with object and prepares data to send. In Publisher view, Publisher objects are created, stored in ArrayList and drawed on screen. Data objects are sent in Publisher activity each time objects are redrawn.

SubscriberElement class receives BoxType object from ORTE and stores it's data and methods needed for presentation. In Subscriber view, all received objects are stored in ArrayList and periodically redrawn.

Settings view allows to set up scaling, needed because of various dimensions of screens. It also contains a list of managers - in RTPS 1.0 special application called manager is used for communication of available *Publishers/Subscribers* between nodes. In RTPS 2.2 Simple Participant Discovery Protocol (SPDP) and Simple Endpoint Discovery Protocol (SEDP) are used.

Help view contains information about ORTE, Shape and application usage.



6.4 Compatibility

BoxType in Shape and Shape for Android is a little bit different. The reason is just familiarization with ORTE implementation and RTPS protocol, where misunderstooding was not fully avoided. Suggestions for improvements follows.

The first property of BoxType is color. In Shape demo, color is typed as CORBA_octet (macro for uint8_t, 1 byte) and in Shape for Android, color is of integer type (4 bytes). The reason why this approach does not break the compatibility is following: each data-type serialized by CORBA is aligned to 4 byte boundary. In this case, object color is first byte and the rest until the boundary is filled by zero bytes. This data representation corresponds to Little Endian in which the message is encoded by default (endianness is operating system dependent), so when Shape for Android deserialize data, Little Endian encoded integer is obtained. It also works in opposite direction - value of the *color* is serialized as integer, encoded as Little Endian and on the side of Shape demo, CORBA_octet is deserialized and 3 zero bytes skipped because of boundary alignment. The problem could arise when color would be sent as integer with Big Endian encoding and received as CORBA_octet, because the value of the first byte would be then zero. Also, the problem wouldn't persist in the opposite direction, because endianness is always part of the RTPS message so even node with Big Endian default encoding would receive Little Endian encoded message correctly.

The second property of *BoxType* is *shape*. The type in Shape demo is CORBA_long (macro for int32_t, 4 bytes) and integer (4 bytes) in Shape for Android. Therefore there is no problem with *shape* property.

The last property of *BoxType* is *BoxRect* consisting of coordinates of object. Each value of *BoxRect* is CORBA_short type (2 bytes) in Shape demo and short type (2 bytes) in Shape for Android. Because *BoxRect* is presented as CORBA autonomous data-type, the whole data-type (8 bytes) is aligned to 4 bytes boundary.

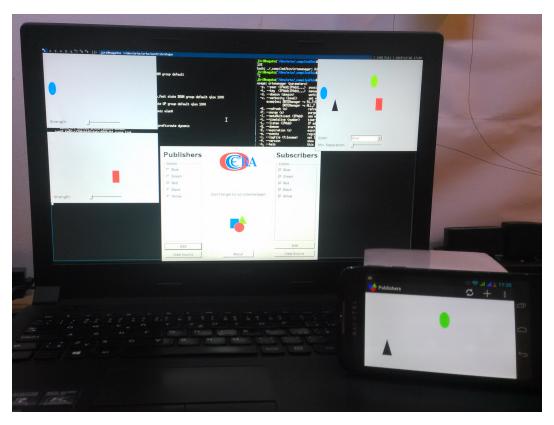


Figure 6.2. Shape for Android - Publishers view

The suggestion for the future improvement of Shape demo and Shape for Android is the revision of BoxType data-type.

[sec]

Chapter **7**Security for DDS

In the modern world, security is often considered. Technologies for securing communication differs by TCP/IP layers [8] - security at Media access layer consists of preventing deterioration of physical media, environmental noise and access to media. At Network layer, IPsec (IP Security Architecture) protocol is used while Transport layer uses TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol. In this chapter, Application layer security for DDS standard [9] and possibilities of implementation in RTPS protocol are considered.

7.1 Threats

From point of view of DDS standard, communication takes place in the domain consisting of participants with various number of publishers and subscribers. In this context, Application layer security threats are following:

- Unauthorized¹) subscription
- Unauthorized publication
- Tampering and replay
- Unauthorized access to data

Unauthorized subscription is a situation when malicious participant receives data for which it is not allowed to. In network infrastructure where access to media is shared, communication runs over multicast or participants sits on one node, it's practically unavoidable to restrict access to data. The solution is making data unreadable for malicious participant - in other words, applying encryption on publisher's side and sharing keys with authenticated subscribers only.

When malicious participant attempts to send data which it is not allowed to, it's called *Unauthorized publication*. For subscriber it's important to receive data only from valid publishers to avoid influence of malicious participant on data. The solution is to include authentication information to data sent by valid publishers so subscribers would be able to recognize data by authenticated publishers from data sent by malicious participant. Two ways how to accomplish authentication of publishers in data are Hashbased message authentication code (HMAC) and digital signature. HMAC creates authentication code using secret key shared between publisher and subscriber. Digital signature is based on private/public key pair - authentication code is created as message digest encrypted by private key of publisher. Each subscriber has access to public key of publisher and can use it to decrypt the authentication code to message digest and compare it with message digest calculated by itself. The point is that these two message digests equals if and only if the authentication code is encrypted by publisher's private key and decrypted by publisher's public key. Digital signature is called asymmetric

¹) Difference between authentication and authorization has to be clear. Authentication is verification of (in this context) participant - that the participant is really the one it claims to be. On the other hand, authorization is process of allowing access to data for already authenticated participant.

cryptography (private/public key pair) and is much slower then symmetric cryptography (shared key), therefore the use of HMAC is preferred because of performance reasons.

Valid publisher would send data to subscriber and malicious participant (in this case, malicious participant will be allowed to subscribe but not to publish). However if the same key is shared between publisher, subscriber and malicious participant, there is no way how to prevent malicious participant to use this shared key for mimicking publisher and sending data to subscriber. This threat is called *Tampering and Replay* and can be solved by sharing different keys between publishers and subscribers. When the communication is taken over multicast, multiple HMACs are needed to be included in data, but this solution is still more powerful than using digital signatures.

In the DDS network, some participants acts as relay participants forwarding data. These participants need to be trusted as valid publishers and subscribers, but it's not always desirable to let them understand data they work with. The solution for *Unauthorized Access to Data* is having different keys for HMAC and data encryption and to share keys for decrypting of data only with desired endpoints.

7.2 Securing of messages

Securing of messages is application dependent - sometimes it's sufficient to encrypt only user-data, in other applications, submessage's metadata as sequence numbers or writer/reader identifiers are needed to be secured too and in the most secure applications, the whole metatraffic submessages are considered confidential. In order to support of different application scenarios, mechanism called *Message Transformation* is introduced. It transforms one RTPS message into another RTPS message so that the original RTPS message or it's submessages may be encrypted into the new one and protected by HMAC.

Because of *Message Transformation*, new submessages and submessage elements are introduced and the questions about interoperability between secured and non-secured implementations of RTPS protocol arises. In implementations of RTPS protocol, unknown submessages should be skipped so the regular user-traffic should not be affected, but there is Discovery also. SPDP is used by DomainParticipants to discover each other, informations as IP address, port, vendor and version are exchanged to bootstrap the communication. Therefore it makes no sense to protect SPDP communication, better to use it for exchange of informations needed to bootstrap the secured system. For both - secured and non-secured implementations of RTPS protocol, *DCPSParticipants* Topic is used in SPDP and there is no new secured Topic for SPDP.

SEDP protocol is used for discovering publishers and subscribers of each DomainPariticipant. The DCPSPublications and DCPSSubscriptions Topics are used for communication with non-secured endpoints. However for DomainParticipants supporting DDS Security, DCPSPublicationsSecure and DCPSSubscriptionsSecure Topics and associated DataWriters (SEDPbuiltinPublicationsSecureWriter, SEDPbuiltinSubscriptionsSecureWriter) and DataReaders (SEDPbuiltinPublicationsSecureReader, SEDPbuiltinSubscriptionsSecureReader) are introduced. These Topics should be used for communication that is considered sensitive.

In RTPS protocol, Writer Liveliness Protocol is specified and because data exchange by this protocol could be considered sensitive, DDS Security specifies alternate protected way to exchange liveliness information. BuiltinParticipantMessageWriter and BuiltinParticipantMessageReader are used to communicate liveliness information with non-secured endpoints. ParticipantMessageSecure Topic is introduced with as-

sociated BuiltinParticipantMessageSecureWriter and BuiltinParticipantMessageSecureReader, used to communication liveliness information with endpoints considered sensitive.

Also, there are two completely new builtin Topics:

- ParticipantStatelessMessage
- ParticipantVolatileMessageSecure

ParticipantStatelessMessage Topic is used to perform mutual authentication between DomainParticipants. While the mechanism for participant-to-participant communication already exists, it suffers from weakness of reliable protocol - sequence number prediction. HeartBeat messages containing first available sequence number can be abused by malicious participant to prevent other participants to communicate. Therefore new Topic ParticipantStatelessMessage with associated BuiltinParticipantStatelessMessageWriter (Best-Effort StatelessWriter) and BuiltinParticipantStatelessMessageReader (Best-Effort StatelessReader) is introduced.

For key exchange between DomainParticipants, reliable and secure communication is needed. On top of that, DURABILITY Qos needs to be VOLATILE to address only DomainParticipants that are currently in the system. ParticipantStatelessMessage is not suitable because it's not reliable nor secured. ParticipantMessageSecure Topic is not suitable because it's QoS has DURABILITY kind TRANSIENT_LOCAL rather than VOLATILE (which is required). So new Topic ParticipantVolatileMessageSecure with associated BuiltinParticipantVolatileMessageSecureWriter and BuitinParticipantVolatileMessageSecureReader is introduced.

7.3 Plugin architecture

There are five SPIs:

- Authentication
- Access-Control
- Cryptographic
- Logging
- Data Tagging

Interactions of plugins are shown in figure 7.1.

7.3.1 Authentication plugin

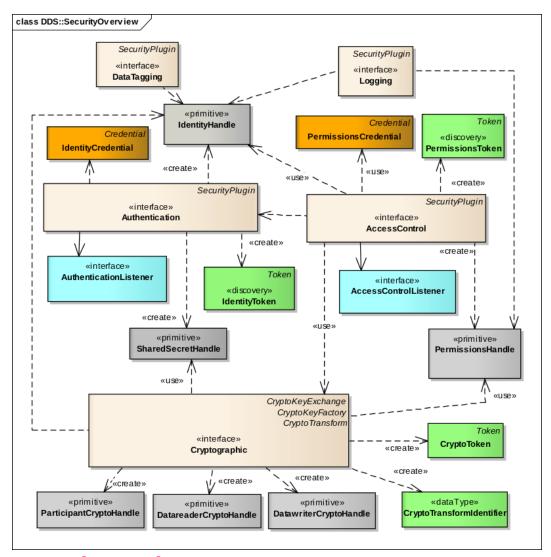
Authentication is process of verifying that (in this case) DomainParticipant is really the one it claims to be. DomainParticipant is authenticated when joining a DDS Domain, mutual authentication is supported and shared secret is established between Domain-Pariticipants.

7.3.2 Access Control plugin

Ensures authorization - allows or deny protectected operations of DomainPariticipant as join domain, create Topic, publish to Topic or subscribe Topic.

7.3.3 Cryptographic plugin

Encryption, decryption, digests, MAC, HMAC, key generating and exchange, signing and verifying of signatures is ensured by *Cryptographic plugin*. The plugin API has to be general enough to allow specific requirements for cryptographic libraries, encryption and digest algorithms, message authentication and signing users of DDS may need to deploy.



[pic:sec-pa] Figure 7.1. Plugin Architecture Model

7.3.4 Logging plugin

This plugin logs security events of DomainParticipant. Two options of collecting log data are logging all events to a local file and distributing log events securely over DDS.

7.3.5 Data Tagging plugin

Classification of data is performed by *Data Tagging plugin*. It can be used for access control based on tag, message prioritization or even don't have to be used by middleware (RTPS implementation), but by application or service. There are four kinds of tagging:

- Data Writer used in specification, data received from DataWriter has it's tag.
- Data Instance each instance of the data has a tag.
- Individual sample each sample of data instance is tagged individually.
- Per field the most complex method of tagging.

7.4 Interoperability

Out-of-the-box interoperability of DDS Security implementations is ensured analogously to RTPS implementations - while mandatory builtin endpoints ensures that each DomainParticipant is able to discover other DomainParticipants, in DDS Security implementations, each DomainParticipant is able to secure data by at least mandatory builtin plugins.

7.4.1 Requirements

This is resume of requirements for builtin plugins by out-of-the-box interoperability as presented in chapter 9.2 of [9]. Following are essential functional requirements for builtin plugins:

- Authentication of DomainParticipants joining a domain
- Access control of applications subscribing to data
- Message integrity and authentication
- Encryption of a data by different keys

Following are functions that should be required by builtin plugins:

- Sending digitally signed data
- Sending data securely over multicast
- Data tagging
- Integrating with open standard security plugins

Following are functions considered useful:

- Access control to certain samples
- Access control to certain attributes within sample
- Permissions for QoS usage by DDS Entities

Non-functional requirements are:

- Performance and Scalability
- Robustness and Availability
- Fit to DDS Data-Centric Information Model
- Reuse of existing security infrastructure and technologies
- Ease of use

7.4.2 Considerations

Usually DDS is deployed in systems where high performance for large number of DomainParticipants is needed, therefore actions performed by plugins shouldn't notably degrade system performance. In practice it means that asymmetric cryptography should be used only for discovery, authentication, session and shared-secret establishment, symmetric cryptography should be used for data, use of ciphers, HMACs or digital signatures should be selectable per Topic, there should be possibility of providing integrity via HMAC without data encryption and there should be support for encrypted data over multicast.

DDS used to be deployed in system where *robustness and availability* is considered critical. It's required from system to continue operating even if partial fail occures, so centralized services reprezenting single point of failure have to be avoided, DomainParticipant components have to be self-contained to be able to operate securely, multi-party

key agreement protocols should be avoided because of simplicity of discruption and tokens and keys should be compartmentalized as much as possible to avoid situations where multiple applications using same key are compromised if just one of them is compromised.

7.5 Implementation

The implementation of DDS Security into ORTE consists of changes in Modules (presented in chapter 8 of [1]). Introduction of SecureSubMsg Submessage and SecuredPayload Submessage Element assumes modification of Message Module, Discovery Module is affected by Builtin Secure Endpoints - if configured to, discovery of publishers and subscribers is secured and Behavior Module needs to be modified to include Builtin Plugins which ensures security.

7.5.1 Builtin Endpoints

This is the list of *Builtin Endpoints* presented in chapter 7.4.5 of [9]. In order to ensure out-of-the-box compatibility, following *Builtin Secure Endpoints* needs to be implemented:

- SEDPbuiltinPublicationsSecureWriter
- SEDPbuiltinPublicationsSecureReader
- SEDPbuiltinSubscriptionsSecureWriter
- SEDPbuiltinSubscriptionsSecureReader
- BuiltinParticipantMessageSecureWriter
- BuiltinParticipantMessageSecureReader
- BuiltinParticipantVolatileMessageSecureWriter
- $\hbox{$\blacksquare$ Builtin Participant Volatile Message Secure Reader}$

7.5.2 Builtin Plugins

This is resume of *Builtin Plugins* presented in chapter 9.1 of [9]. In order to ensure out-of-the-box compatibility, following *Builtin Pluqins* needs to be implemented:

- DDS:Auth:PKI-RSA/DSA-DH (Authentication plugin)
 - Uses PKI with pre-configured shared Certificate Authority
 - RSA or DSA and Diffie-Hellman for authentication and key exchange
- DDS:Access:PKI-Signed-XML-Permissions (Access control plugin)
 - Permissions document signed by shared Certificate Authority
- DDS:Crypto:AES-CTR-HMAC-RSA/DSA-DH (Cryptographic plugin)
 - AES128 for encryption (counter mode)
 - SHA1 and SHA256 for digest
 - HMAC-SHA1 and HMAC-256 for HMAC
- DDS:Tagging:DDS_Discovery (Data Tagging plugin)
 - Send Tags via Endpoint Discovery
- DDS:Logging:DDS_LogTopic (Logging plugin)
 - Logs security events to a dedicated DDS Log Topic

[concl]

Chapter 8 Conclusion

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Appendix A Symbols

AES Advanced Encryption Standard
API Application Programming Interface
CDR Common Data Representation

CORBA • Common Object Request Broker Architecture

CST • Composite State Transfer

CTR • Counter

DCPS Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe

DDS Data Distribution Service

DH • Diffie-Hellman

DSADigital Signature AlgorithmGUIDGlobally Unique Identifier

HMAC • Hash-based Message Authentication Code

IP Internet Protocol

IPsec • IP Security

LSB • Least Significant Bit

MAC • Message Authentication Code

MSB • Most Significant Bit

MTU
 Maximum Transmission Unit
 OMG
 Object Management Group
 ORTE
 Open Real-Time Ethernet
 PIM
 Platform Independent Model
 PKI
 Public Key Infrastructure

PSM • Platform Specific Model
RSA • Rivest Shamir Adleman

RTPS Real-Time Publish-Subscribe

SEDP Simple Endpoint Discovery Protocol

SHA Secure Hash Algorithm

SPDP Simple Participant Discovery Protocol

SPI • Service Plugin Interface

TCP Transmission Control Protocol

TLSTransport Layer SecurityUDPUser Datagram Protocol

XML • EXtensible Markup Language

A Symbols

Requests for correction

[rfc-1] obrazek