

# IEC 61850 - Communication Networks and Systems in Substations: An Overview of Computer Science

Jianqing Zhang and Carl A. Gunter

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Agenda

- Overview
- Data modeling approach
- Communication model
- Communication service mapping
- Sampled measured values
- Configuration description language
- Conclusion
- Reference

# Background I: Power Substation



# Intelligent Electronic Device


- Microprocessor-based controllers of power system equipment
  - e.g. circuit breaker, protective relay...
- Receive digitalized data from sensors and power equipment
- Issue control commands in case of anomalies to maintain the desired status of power grid
  - e.g. tripping circuit breakers



# Why Standards Are Needed

- Interoperability and Integration
  - No standard for data representation or how devices should look and behave to network applications
- Intuitive device and data modeling and naming
  - Hierarchical and structured, rather than plain formatted
- Fast and convenient communication
- Lower cost for installation, configuration and maintenance
  - Wire connected legacy devices

# History of IEC 61850



**Comprehensive  
EPRI-Project UCA 2.0**

**UCA:** Utility Communication Architecture

- Protocols
- Data models
- Abstract service definitions

**GOAL: One International Standard**

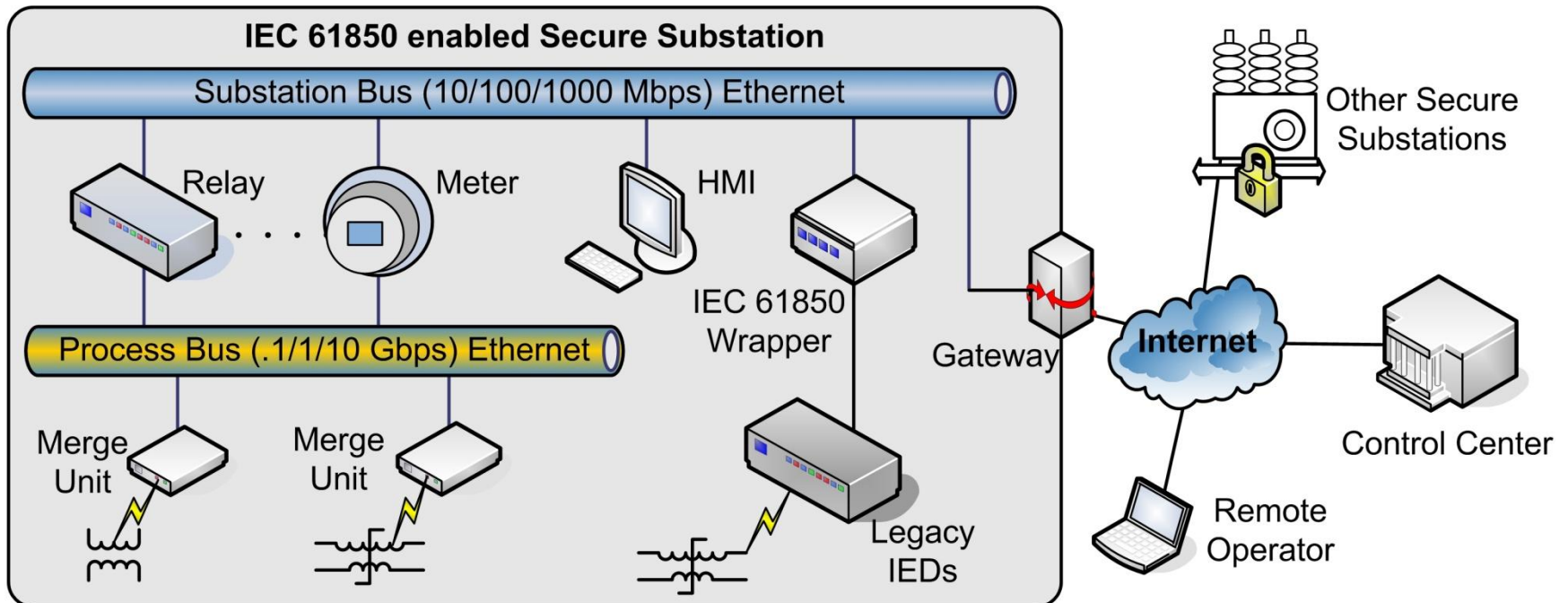
**IEC  
61850**

**IEC 60870-5-101, -103, -104  
European experience**

**IEC 60870-5**

- A communication profile for sending basic telecontrol messages between two systems
- Based on permanent directly connected data circuits

# IEC 61850 Substation Architecture



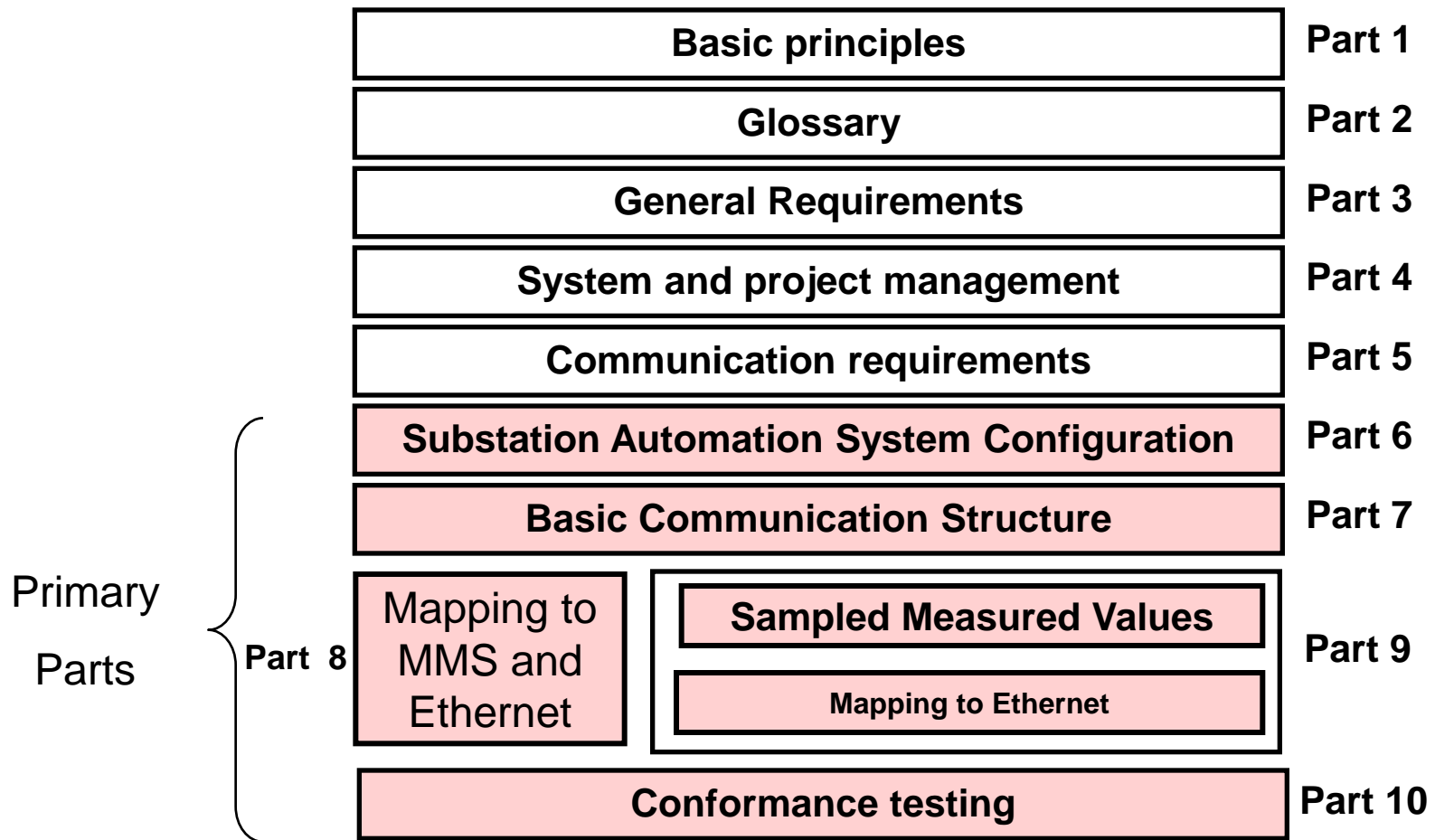
- IEC61850-enabled IEDs get digitalized power grid condition data via process bus and merge units
- IEDs communicate with each other using substation buses
- Legacy devices use IEC61850 wrapper

# Core Components of IEC 61850

- An object model describing the information available from the different primary equipment and from the substation automation functions
  - Abstract definitions of services, data and Common Data Class, independent of underlying protocols
- A specification of the communication between the IEDs of the substation automation system.
  - Maps the services to actual protocols
- A configuration language
  - Exchange configuration information



# IEC 61850 Standards



# IEC 61850 Primary Parts

- Part 6-1: Substation Configuration Language (**SCL**)
- Part 7-2: Abstract Communications Service Interface (**ACSI**) and base types
- Part 7-3: Common Data Classes (**CDC**)
- Part 7-4: Logical Nodes
- Part 8-1: Specific Communications Service Mappings (**SCSM**) - MMS & Ethernet
- Part 9-2: SCSM - Sampled Values over Ethernet
- Part 10-1: Conformance Testing

# IEC 61850 Is Unique

- Not a recast serial RTU protocol
- Designed specifically for LANs to lower life cycle cost to use a device:
  - Cost to install, configure, and maintain
- Real object-oriented approach for SA:
  - Supports standardized device models using names instead of object/register numbers and indexes.
  - Standardized configuration language (SCL).
  - Feature rich with support for functions difficult to implement otherwise.

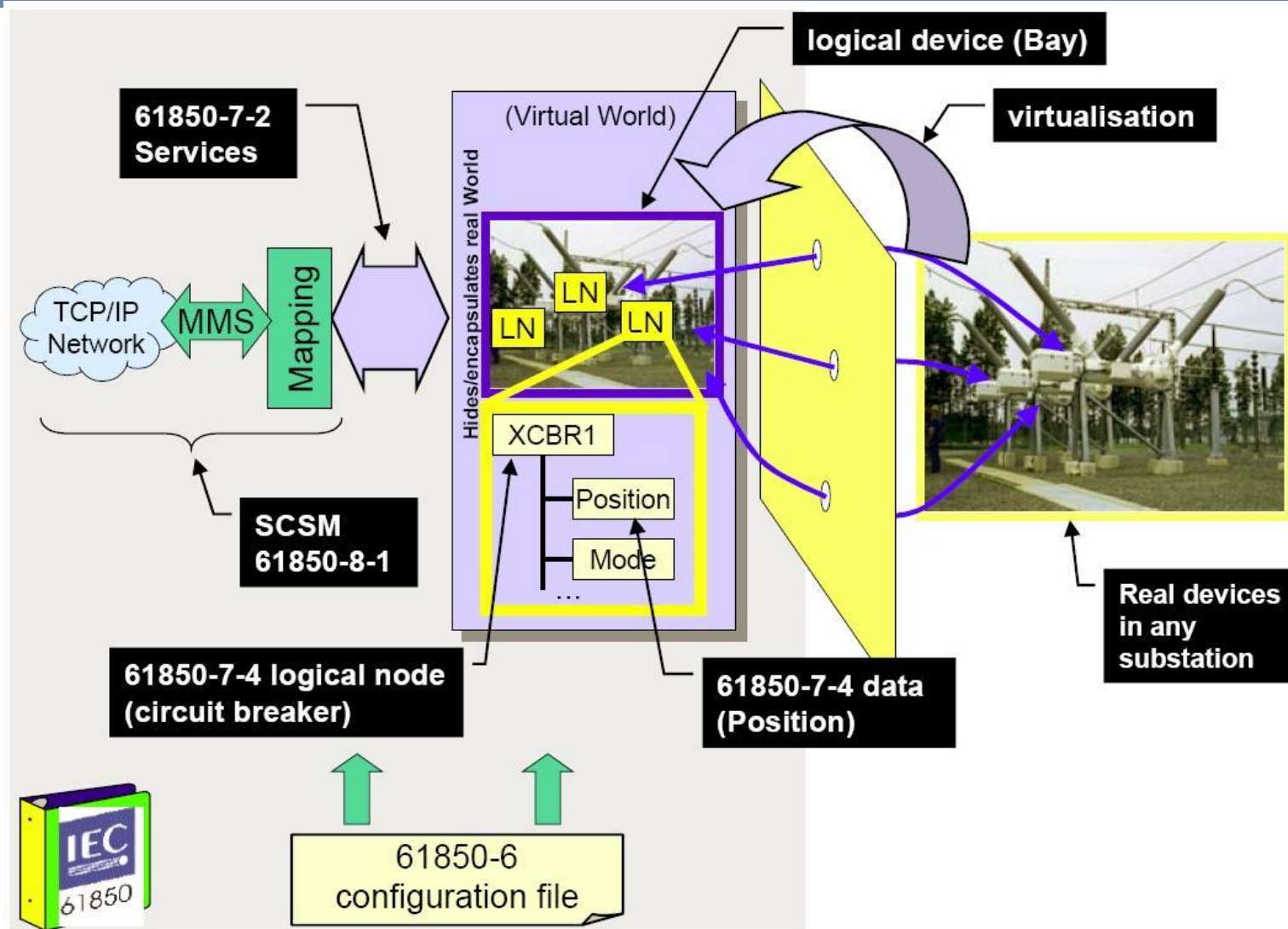
# Benefits of IEC 61850

- Supports a comprehensive set of substation functions
- Easy for design, specification, configuration, setup, and maintenance.
  - High-level services enable self-describing devices & automatic object discovery
  - Standardized naming conventions with power system context
  - Configuration file formats eliminate device dependencies and tag mapping and enables exchange of device configuration.
- Strong functional support for substation communication
  - Higher performance multi-cast messaging for inter-relay communications
- Extensible enough to support system evolution

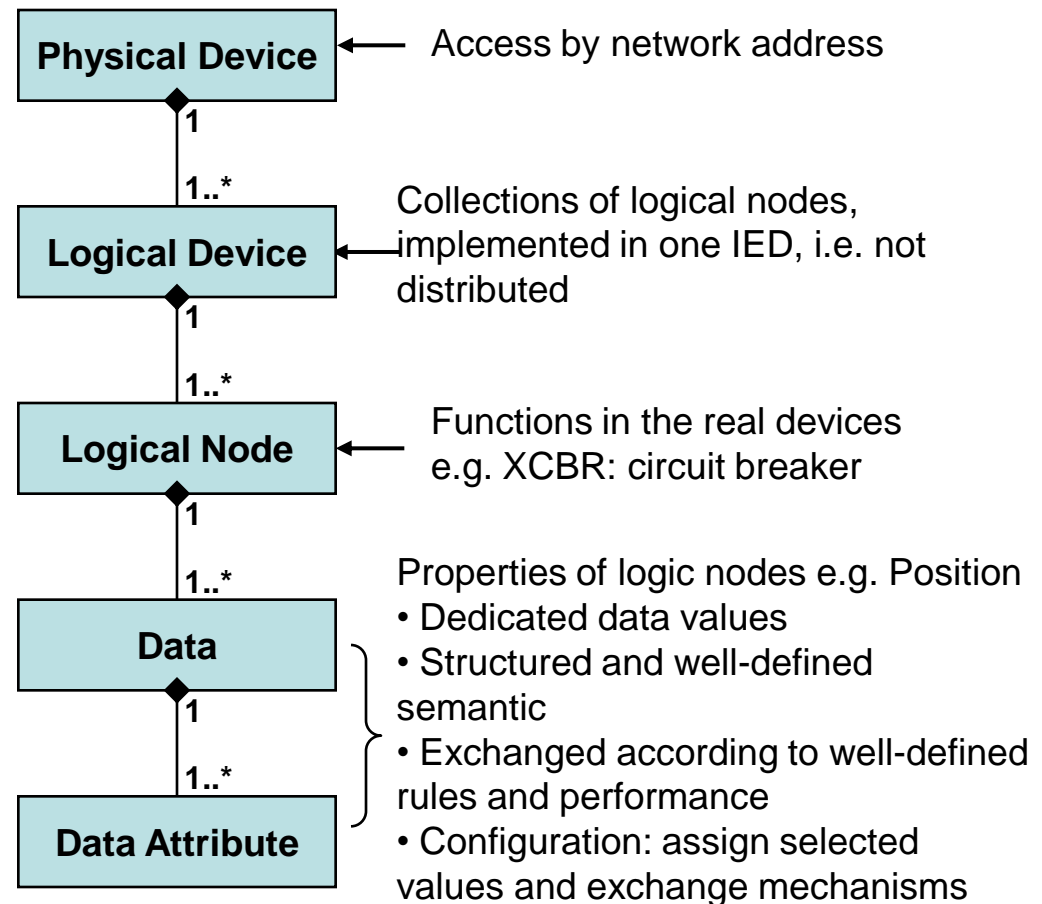
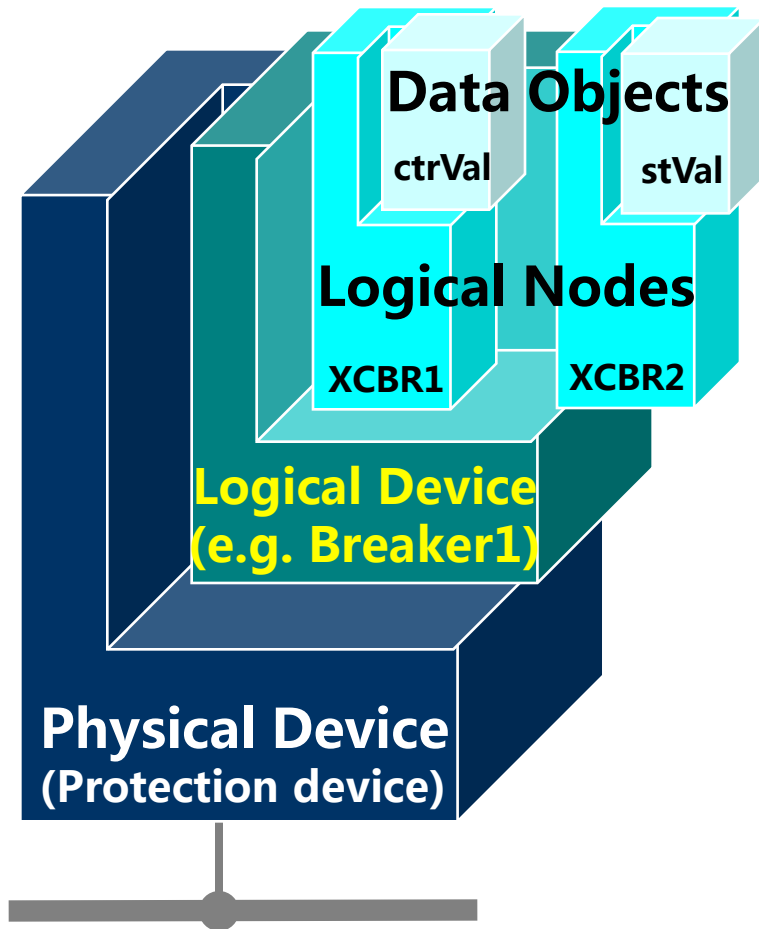
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# IEC 61850 Modeling Approach

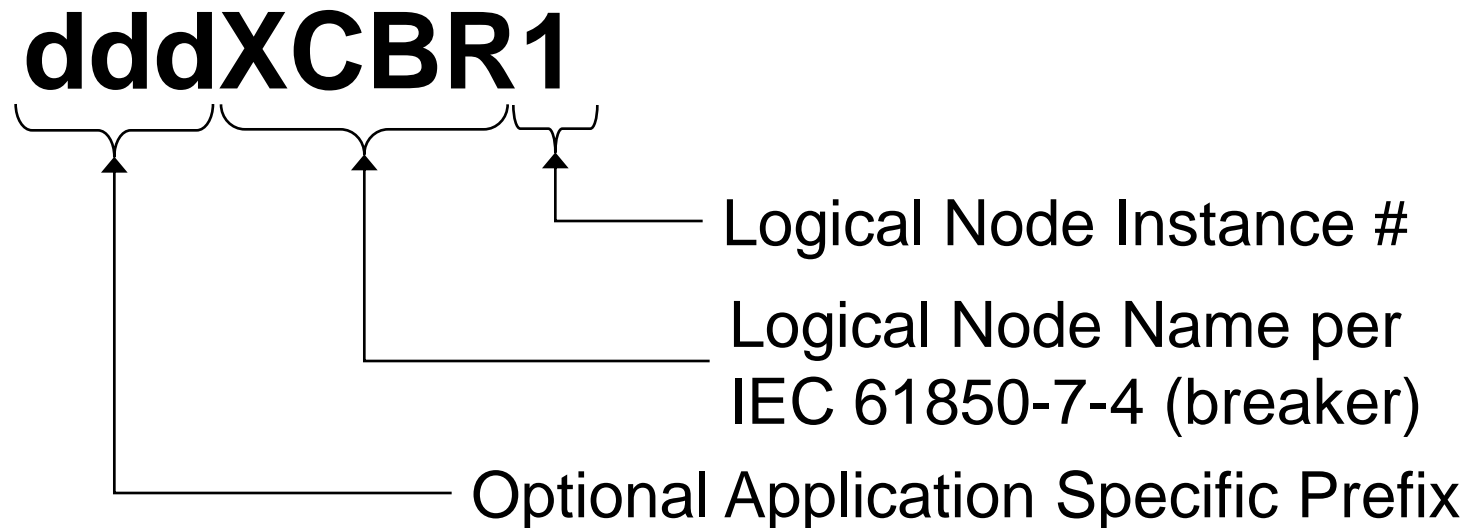


# IEC 61850 Class Model



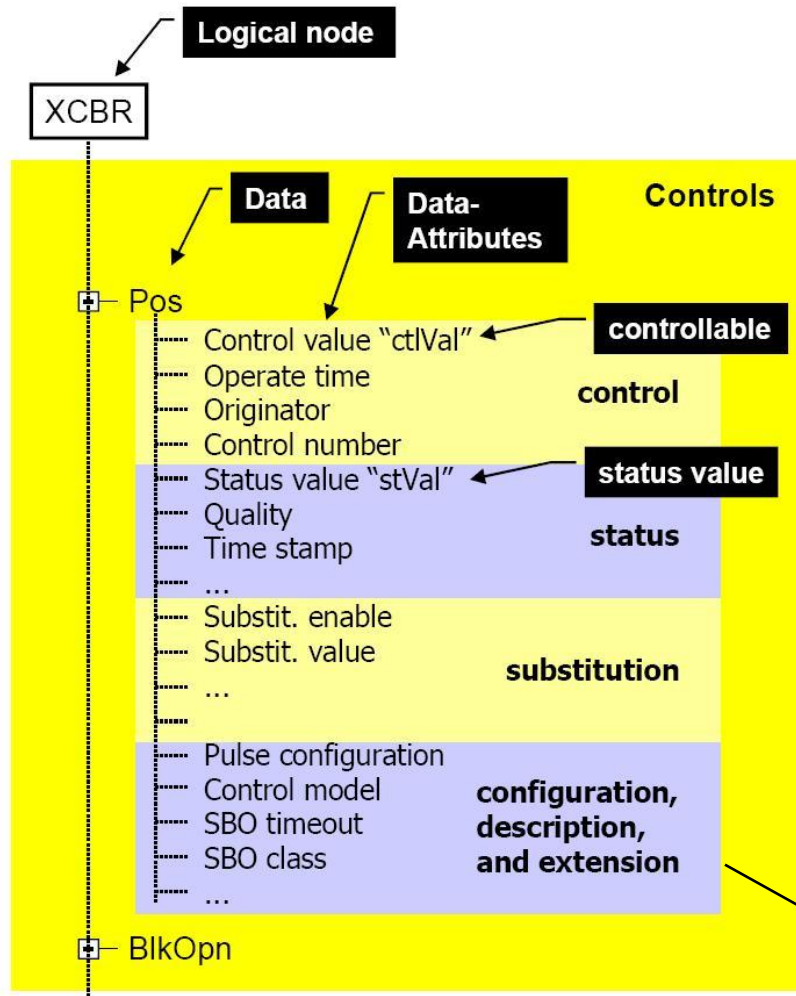
# Logical Node

- A named grouping of data and associated services that is logically related to some power system function.





# Data Example of Logical Node



Attr. Name	ctrVal	stVal
Attr. Type	BOOLEAN	CODED ENUM
Functional Constraint	CO	ST
TrgOp		dchg
Value/Value Range	OFF (False)   ON (True)	off   on   bad-state
M/O/C	O	M

Common Data Class:  
Double Points Control

# Logical Nodes Information Categories

- **Common logical node information**
  - Information independent from the dedicated function represented by the LN, e.g., mode, health, name plate, ...
- **Status information**
  - Information representing either the status of the process or of the function allocated to the LN, e.g., switch type, switch operating capability
- **Settings**
  - Information needed for the function of a logical node, e.g., first, second, and third reclose time
- **Measured values**
  - Analogue data measured from the process or calculated in the functions like currents, voltages, power, etc., e.g., total active
  - power, total reactive power, frequency
- **Controls**
  - Data, which are changed by commands like switchgear state (ON/OFF), resetable counters, e.g., position, block opening
- **88 pre-defined logical nodes and extensible**

# Logical Node Class Example - XCBR

XCBR class				
Attribute Name	Attr. Type	Explanation	T	M/O
LNName		Shall be inherited from Logical-Node Class (see IEC 61850-7-2)		
<b>Data</b>				
<b>Common Logical Node Information</b>				
		LN shall inherit all Mandatory Data from Common Logical Node Class		M
Loc	SPS	Local operation (local means without substation automation communication, hardwired direct control)		M
EEHealth	INS	External equipment health		O
EENAME	DPL	External equipment name plate		O
OpCnt	INS	Operation counter		M
<b>Controls</b>				
Pos	DPC	Switch position		M
BlkOpn	SPC	Block opening		M
BlkCls	SPC	Block closing		M
ChaMotEna	SPC	Charger motor enabled		O
<b>Metered Values</b>				
SumSwARs	BCR	Sum of Switched Amperes, resetable		O
<b>Status Information</b>				
CBOPCap	INS	Circuit breaker operating capability		M
POWCap	INS	Point On Wave switching capability		O
MaxOpCap	INS	Circuit breaker operating capability when fully charged		O

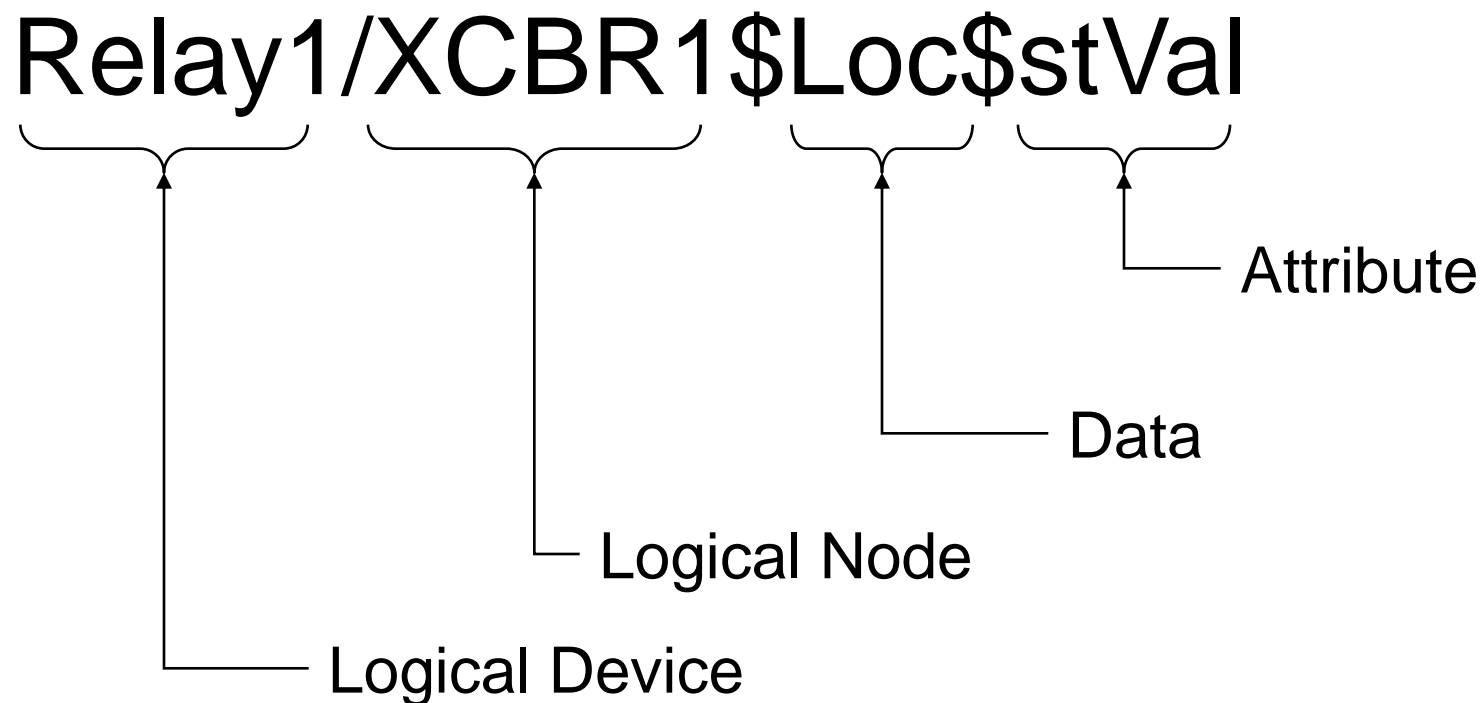
# Single Point Status (SPS) CDC

(e.g. Loc)

SPS class					
Attribute Name	Attribute Type	FC	TrgOp	Value/Value Range	M/O/C
DataName	Inherited from Data Class (see IEC 61850-7-2)				
DataAttribute					
status					
stVal	BOOLEAN	ST	dchg	TRUE   FALSE	M
q	Quality	ST	qchg		M
t	TimeStamp	ST			M
substitution					
subEna	BOOLEAN	SV			PICS_SUBST
subVal	BOOLEAN	SV		TRUE   FALSE	PICS_SUBST
subQ	Quality	SV			PICS_SUBST
subID	VISIBLE STRING64	SV			PICS_SUBST
configuration, description and extension					
d	VISIBLE STRING255	DC		Text	O
dU	UNICODE STRING255	DC			O
cdcNs	VISIBLE STRING255	EX			AC_DLND_A_M
cdcName	VISIBLE STRING255	EX			AC_DLND_A_M
dataNs	VISIBLE STRING255	EX			AC_DLN_M

↑ Attribute Name      ↑ Type      ↑ Functional Constraint      ↑ Range of Values      ↑ Mandatory/Optional

# Object Name Structure

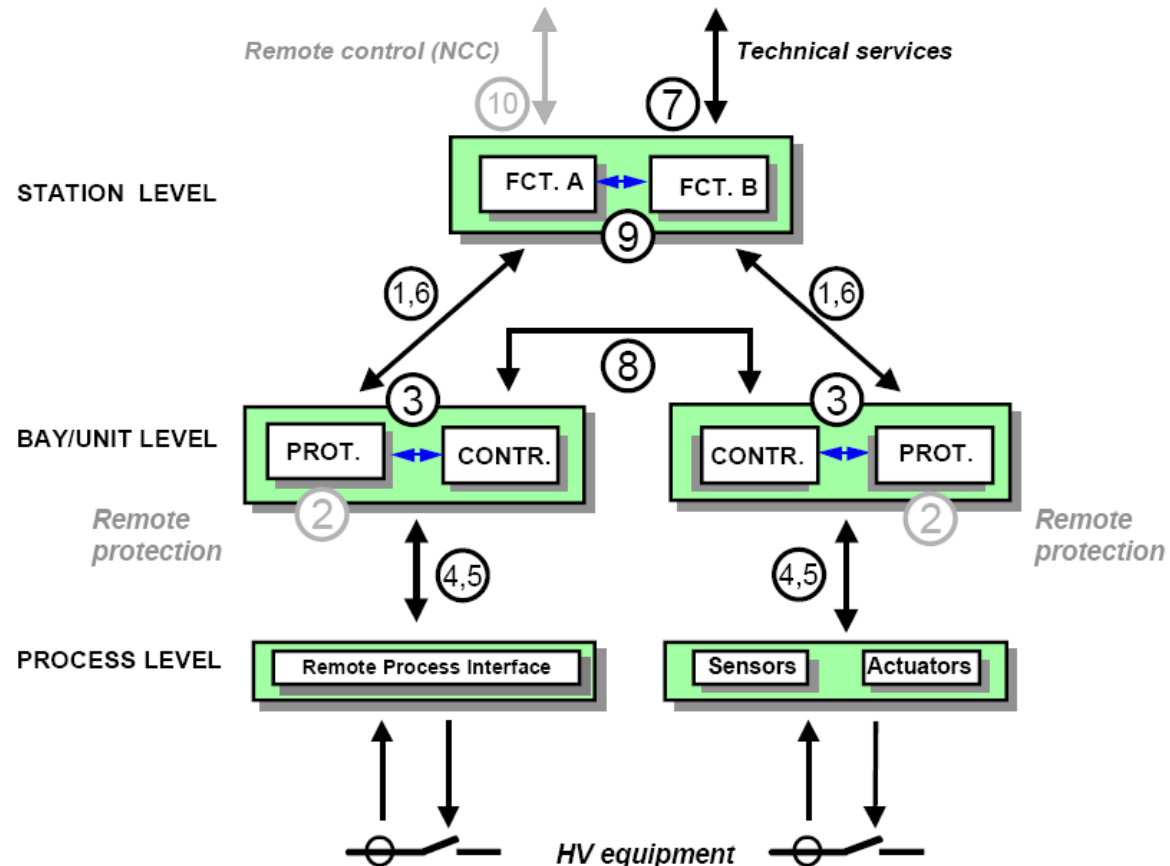


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# IEC 61850 Communication Scope

1. Protection-data exchange between bay and station level
2. Protection-data exchange between bay level and remote protection
3. Data exchange within bay level
4. CT and VT instantaneous data exchange between process and bay levels
5. Control-data exchange between process and bay level
6. Control-data exchange between bay and station level
7. Data exchange between substation and remote engineer's workplace
8. Direct data exchange between the bays especially for fast functions like interlocking
9. Data exchange within station level
10. Control-data exchange between substation (devices) and a remote control center



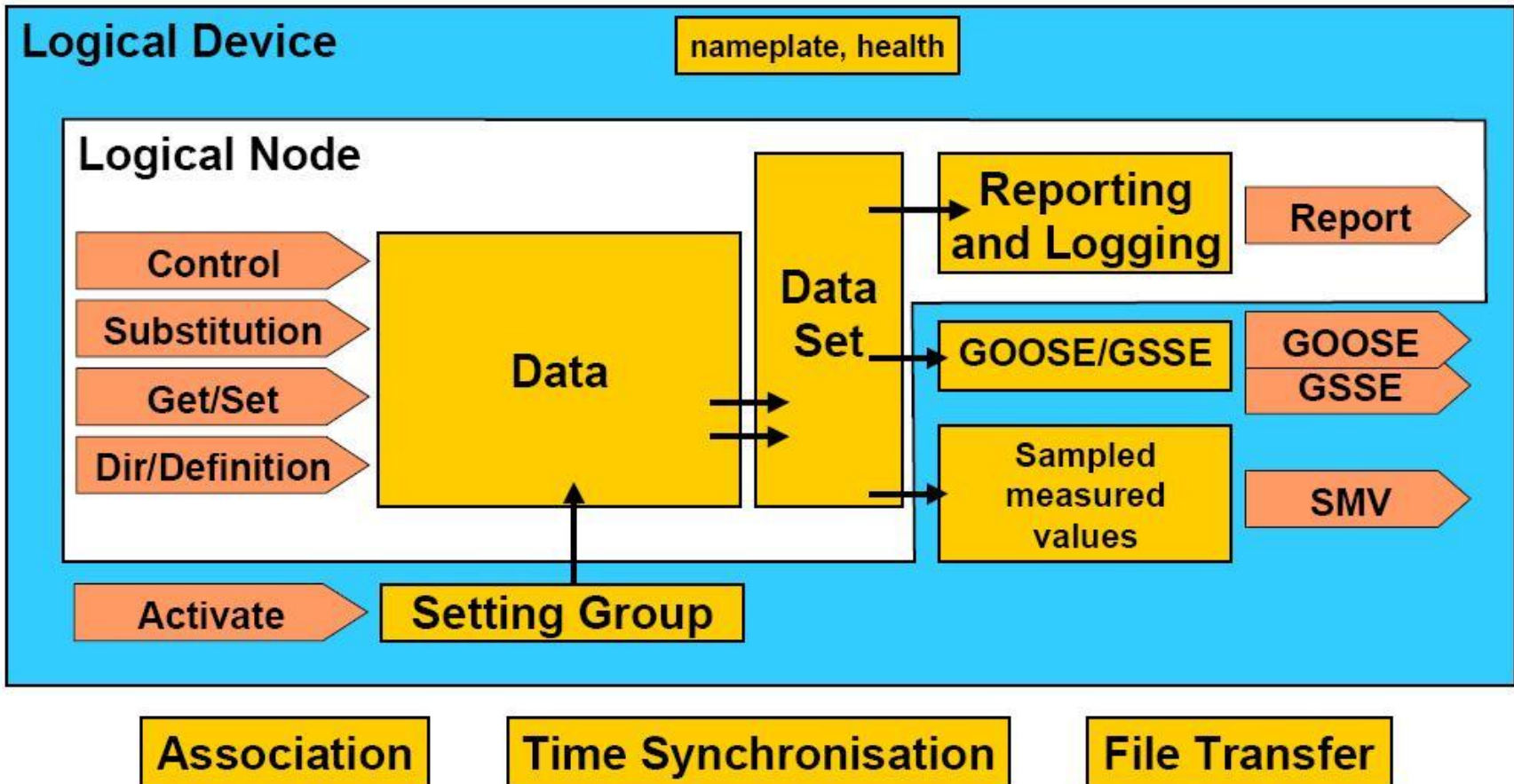
# ACSI: Abstract Communications Service Interface

- None timing critical message transmitting
- Used for configuration, maintenance, log...
- Three basic components
  - A set of objects
  - A set of services to manipulate and access those objects
  - A base set of data types for describing objects



# ACSI Server Building Block

## Server



# Basic Information Models

- **SERVER**
  - Represents the external visible behavior of a (physical) device
  - Communicate with a client
  - Send information to peer devices
- **LOGICAL-DEVICE (LD)**
  - Contains the information produced and consumed by a group of domain-specific application functions, which are defined as LOGICAL-NODEs
- **LOGICAL-NODE (LN)**
  - Contains the information produced and consumed by a domain specific application function
- **DATA**
  - Status and meta-information of object it presents in substation
  - Provide means to specify typed information

# Services Operating on Data

- **DATA-SET**
  - The grouping of data and data attributes
  - A view of DATA
- **SETTING-GROUP**
  - How to switch from one set of setting values to another one
  - How to edit setting groups
- **REPORT and LOG**
  - Describe the conditions for generating reports and logs based on parameters set by the client
  - Reports may be sent immediately or deferred
  - Logs can be queried for later retrieval
- **Generic Substation Event (GSE) control block (GSSE/GOOSE)**
  - Supports a fast and reliable system-wide distribution of input and output data values
- **Sampled Values Transmission control block**
  - Fast and cyclic transfer of samples

# Services Operating on Data (cont.)

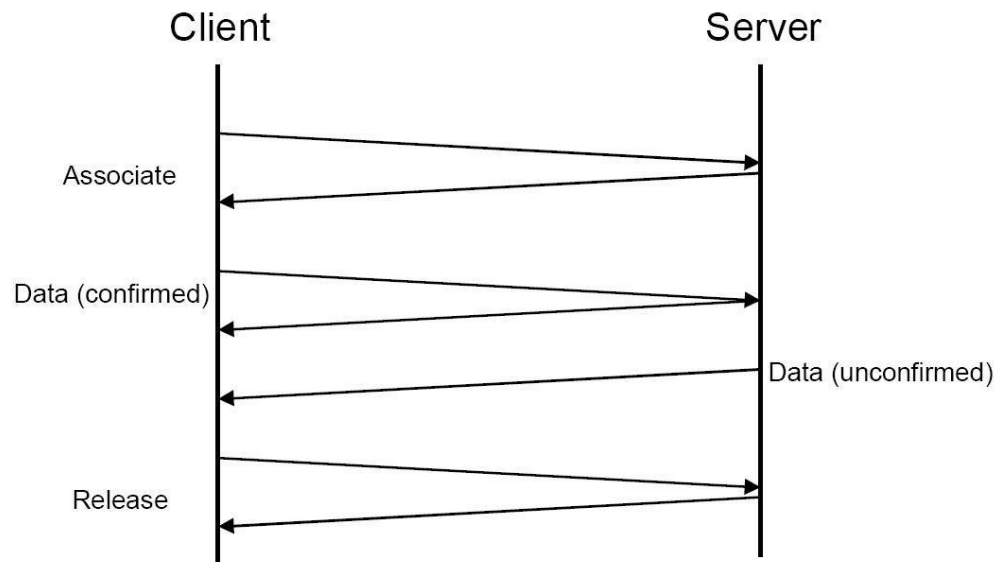
- Control
  - Provide client mechanisms to control the DATA related to external devices, control outputs, or other internal functions
- Substitution
  - Support replacement of a process value (measurands of analogue values or status values) by another value
- Get/Set
  - Retrieve or write particular DataAttribute Values
- Dir/Definition
  - Retrieve ObjectReferences and definitions of all sub-objects.

- Association
  - How the communication between the various types of devices is achieved
  - Two-party and Multicast
  - Access Control
- Time Synchronization
  - Provide the UTC synchronized time to devices and system
- File Transfer
  - Defines the exchange of large data blocks such as programs

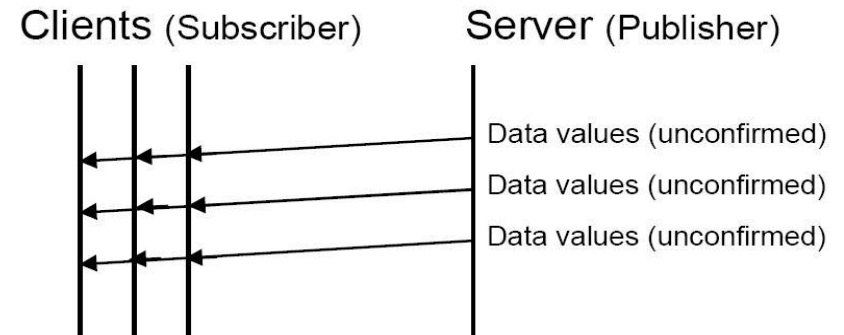
# Communication Model

- Two-Party-Application-Association (TPAA)
  - A bi-directional connection-oriented information exchange
  - Reliable and end-to-end flow control
- MultiCast-Application-Association (MCAA)
  - A unidirectional information exchange
  - Between one source (publisher) and one or many destinations (subscriber)
  - The subscriber shall be able to detect loss and duplication of information received
  - The receiver shall notify the loss of information to its user and shall discard duplicated information

# Principle of TPAA and MCAA

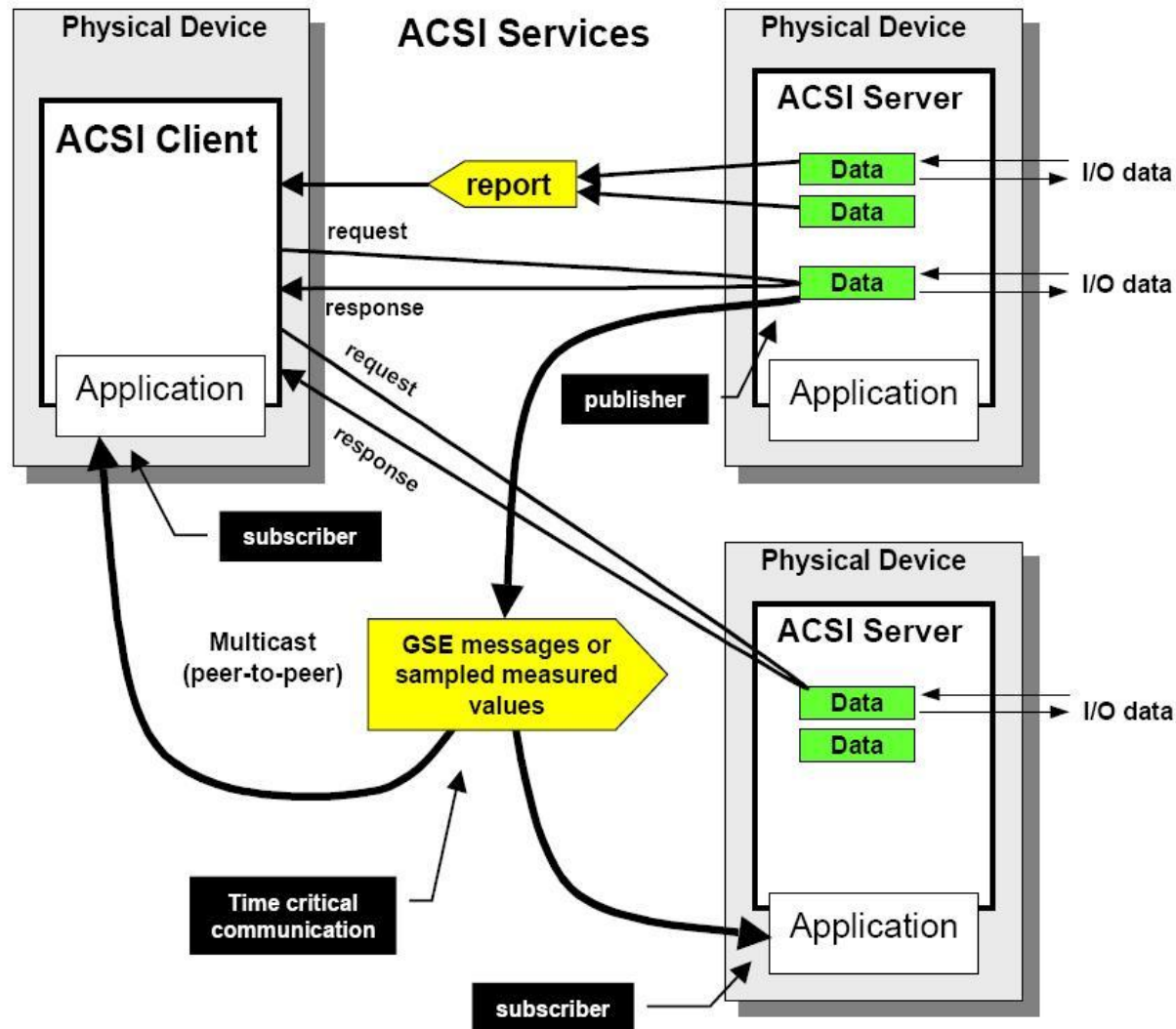


Two-Party-Application-Association



MultiCast-Application-Association

# ACSI Communication Model





# Generic Substation Event (GSE) Model

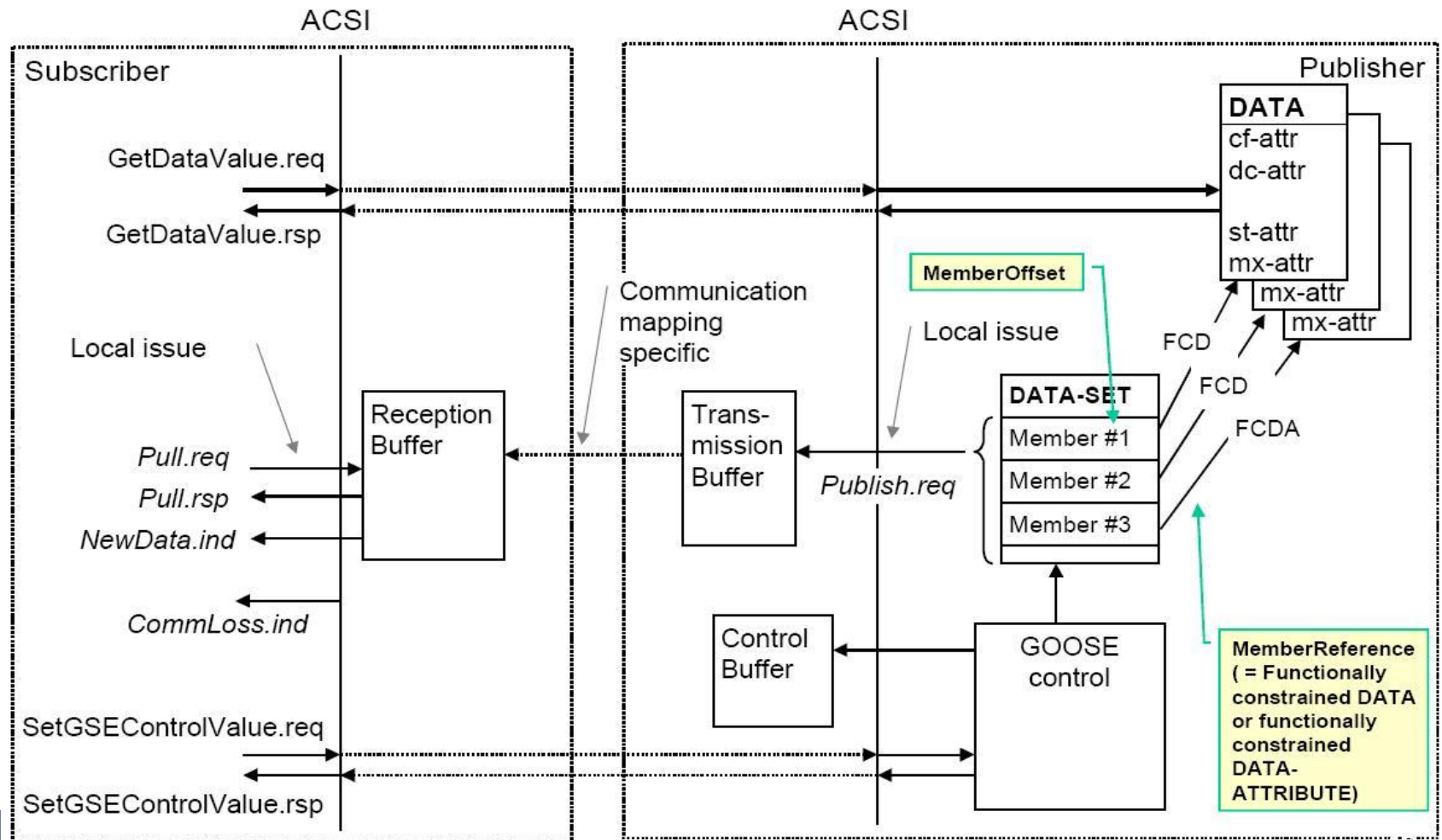
- A fast and reliable system-wide distribution of input and output data values
- Based on a publisher/subscriber mechanism
- Simultaneous delivery of the same generic substation event information to more than one physical device through the use of multicast/broadcast services
- GSSE/GOOSE

# GOOSE: Generic Object Oriented Substation Event

- Used for fast transmission of substation events, such as commands, alarms, indications, as messages
- A single GOOSE message sent by an IED can be received several receivers
- Take advantage of Ethernet and supports real-time behavior
- Examples:
  - Tripping of switchgear
  - Providing position status of interlocking

# Generic Object Oriented Substation Event (GOOSE)

- Exchange of a wide range of possible common data organized by a DATA-SET

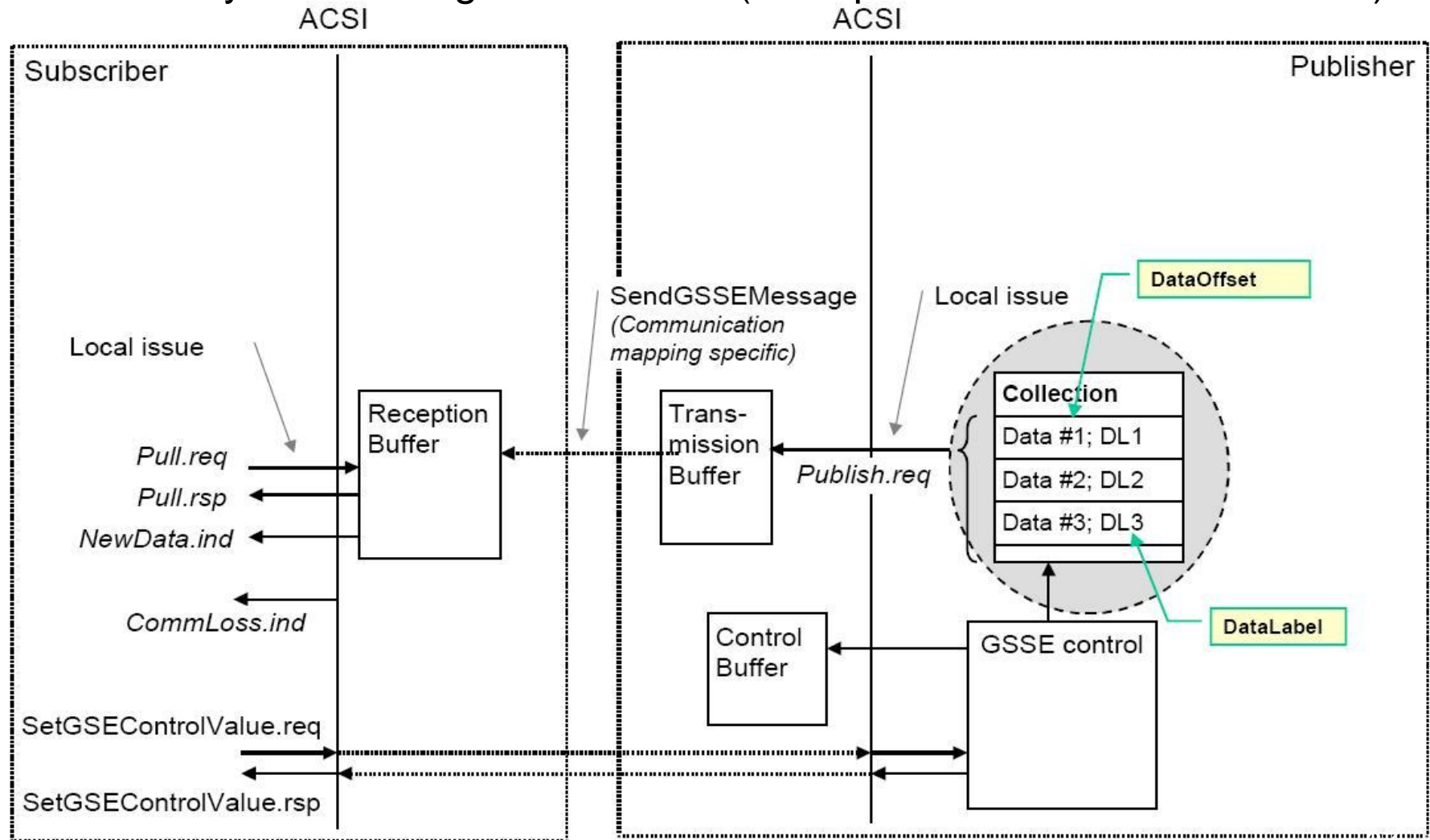


# GSSE: Generic Substation Status Event

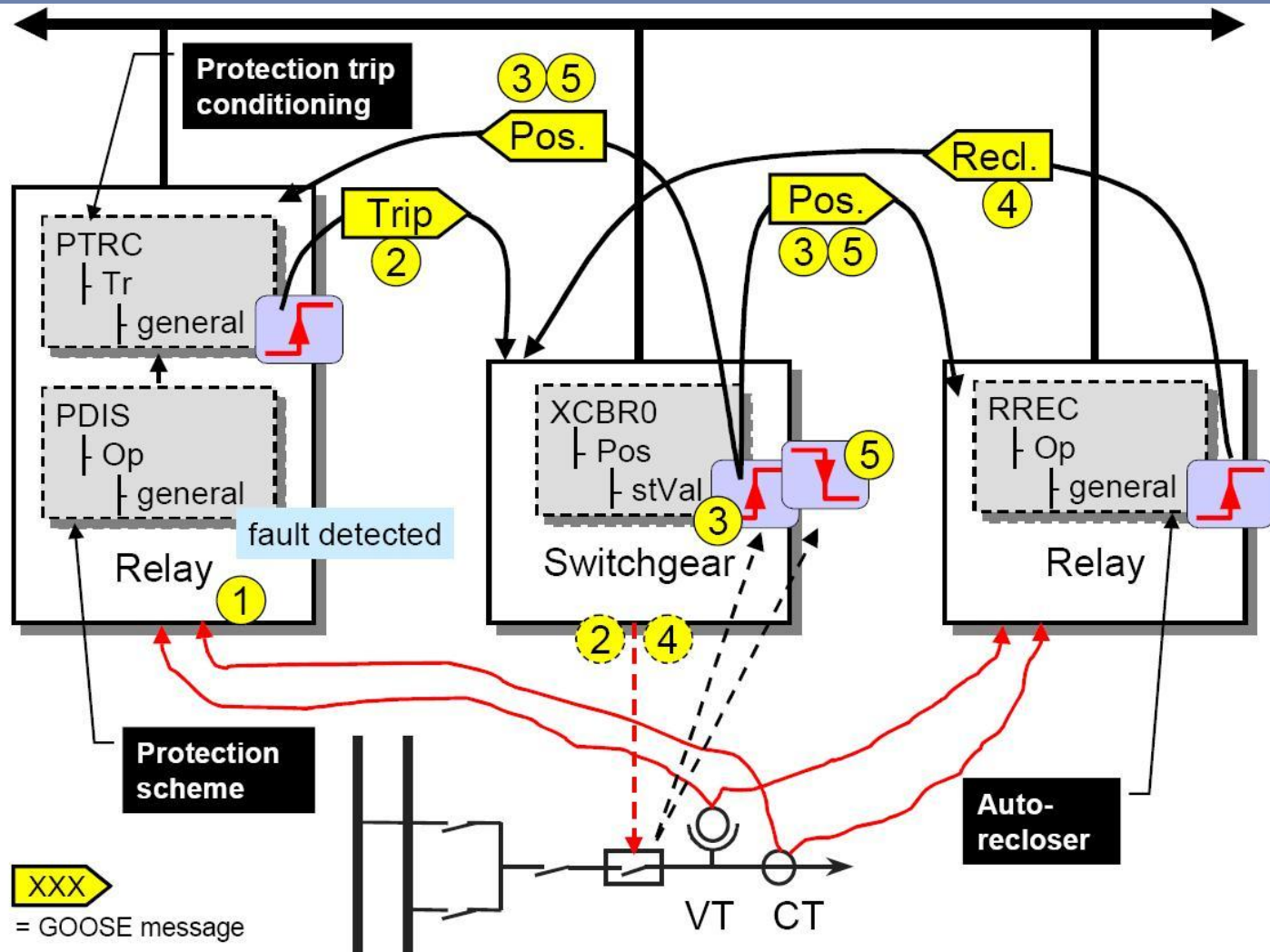
- Provide backward compatibility with the UCA GOOSE
- Just support a fixed structure of the data to be published
- Based on multicast

# Generic Substation State Event (GSSE)

- Convey state change information (a simple list of status information)



# Application Of GSE Model



# Application of GSE Model (cont.)

1. PDIS (distance protection) detects a fault
2. PTRC issues a <Trip> command to XCBR0 (circuit breaker); the switchgear opens the circuit breaker;
3. The new status information is immediately sent; the reporting model may report the change;
4. RREC (auto-reclosing) issues <Reclose> to XCBR0 according to the configured behavior;
5. XCBR0 receives the GOOSE message with the value <Reclose>; the switchgear closes the circuit breaker. XCBR0 issues another GOOSE message with the new position value

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# Mapping To Real Communication Systems

- IEC 61850 is just a high level description of substation automation
- Use MMS to implement IEC61850
- Map each IEC 61850 object to a MMS object
- Map each IEC 61850 service to a MMS operation
- All but GOOSE messages and transmission of sampled values are mapped to MMS protocol stack

# MMS: Manufacturing Message Specification

- ISO 9506 standard used in Control Networks
- A reduced OSI stack with the TCP/IP protocol in the transport/network layer
- Ethernet and/or RS-232C as physical media
- Defines communication messages transferred between controllers as well as between the engineering station and the controller (e.g. downloading an application or reading/writing variables)

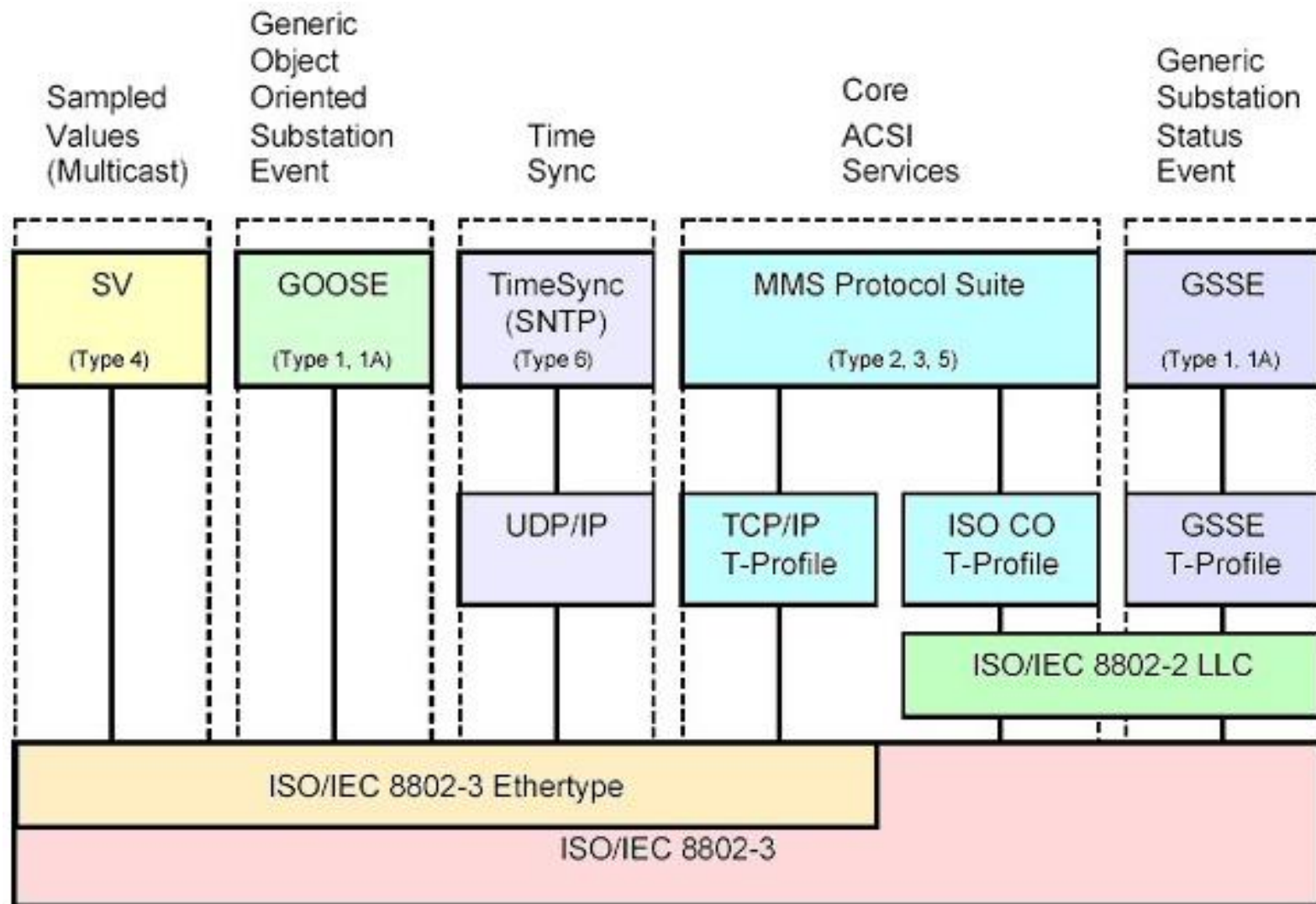
# ACSI Objects Mapping

ACSI Object Class (7-2)	MMS Object (8-1)
SERVER class	Virtual Manufacturing Device (VMD)
LOGICAL DEVICE class	Domain
LOGICAL NODE class	Named Variable
DATA class	Named Variable
DATA-SET class	Named Variable List
SETTING-GROUP-CONTROL-BLOCK class	Named Variable
REPORT-CONTROL-BLOCK class	Named Variable
LOG class	Journal
LOG-CONTROL-BLOCK class	Named Variable
GOOSE-CONTROL-BLOCK class	Named Variable
GSSE-CONTROL-BLOCK class	Named Variable
CONTROL class	Named Variable
Files	Files

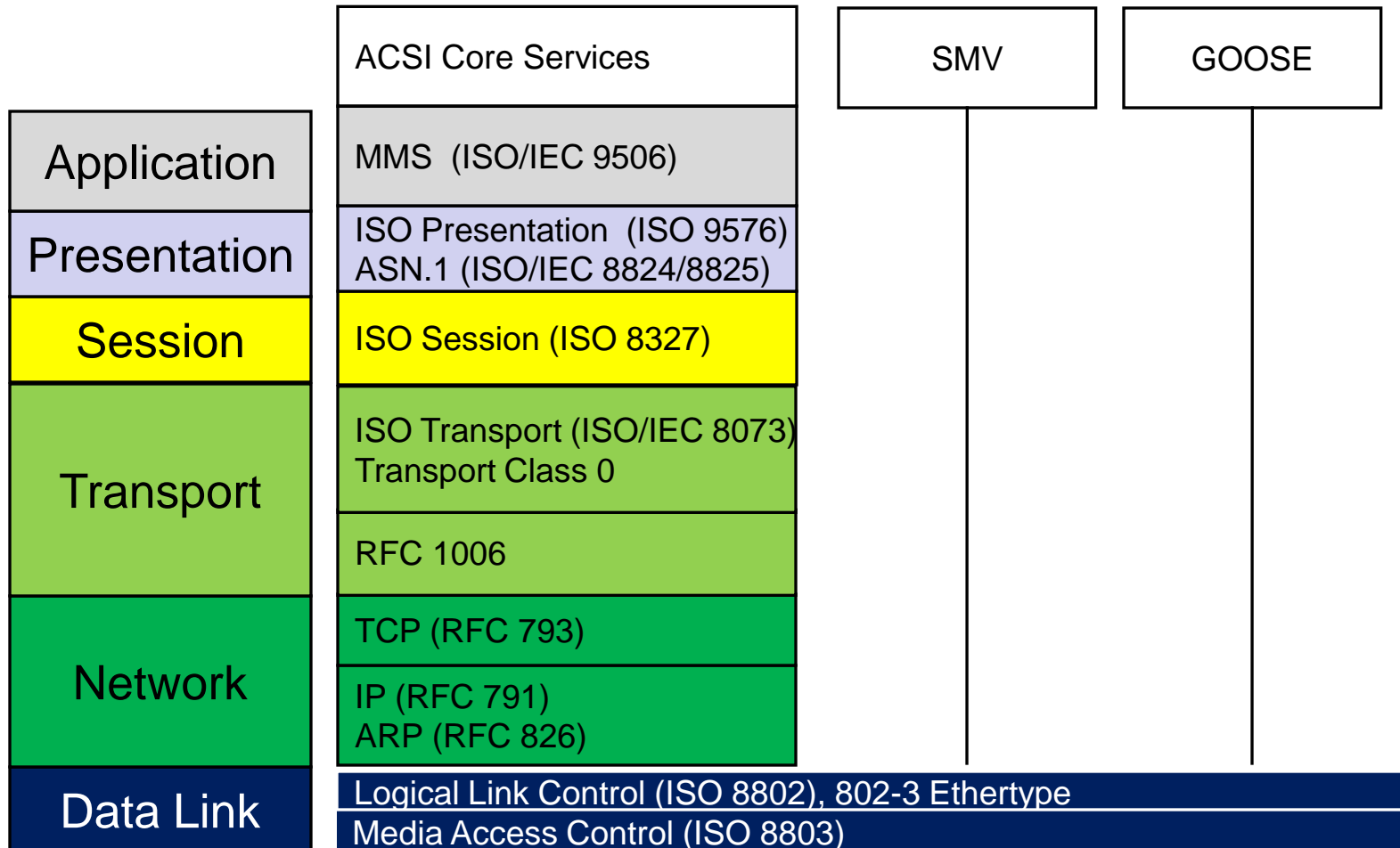
# ACSI Services Mapping

ACSI Services (7-2)	MMS Services (8-1)
LogicalDeviceDirectory	GetNameList
GetAllDataValues	Read
GetDataValues	Read
SetDataValues	Write
GetDataDirectory	GetNameList
GetDataDefinition	GetVariableAccessAttributes
GetDataSetValues	Read
SetDataSetValues	Write
CreateDataSet	CreateNamedVariableList
DeleteDataSet	DeleteNamedVariableList
GetDataSetDirectory	GetNameList
Report (Buffered and Unbuffered)	InformationReport
GetBRCBValues/GetURCBValues	Read
SetBRCBValues/SetURCBValues	Write
GetLCBValues	Read
SetLCBValues	Write
QueryLogByTime	ReadJournal
QueryLogAfter	ReadJournal
GetLogStatusValues	GetJournalStatus
Select	Read/Write
SelectWith Value	Read/Write
Cancel	Write
Operate	Write
Command-Termination	Write

# Protocol Mapping Profile



# IEC61850 Protocol Stack



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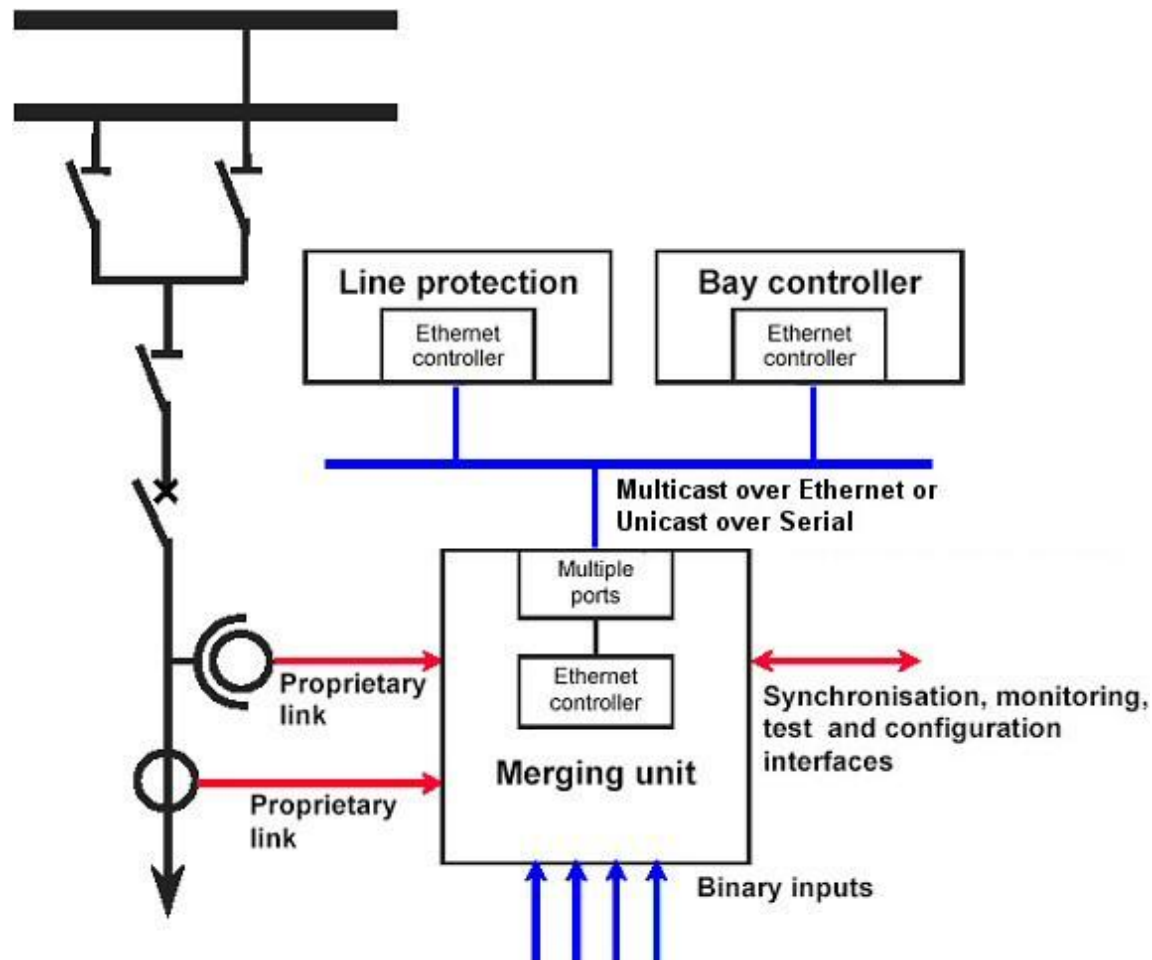
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# Sampled Measured Values

- A method for transmitting sampled measurements from transducers such as CTs, VTs, and digital I/O.
- Enables sharing of I/O signals among IEDs
- Supports 2 transmission methods:
  - Multicast service (MSVC) over Ethernet
  - Unicast (point-to-point) service (USVC) over serial links.



# SMV Application



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# SCL: Substation Configuration Language

- Description language for communication in electrical substations related to the IEDs
- XML based language that allows a formal description of
  - Substation automation system and the switchyard and the relation between them
  - IED configuration

# SCL File Types

- SSD: System Specification Description
  - XML description of the entire system.
- SCD: Substation Configuration Description
  - XML description of a single substation.
- ICD: IED Capability Description
  - XML description of items supported by an IED.
- CID: Configured IED Description
  - XML configuration for a specific IED.

# IEC61850 View of Devices

- Only network addressing requires configuration in the remote client.
- Point names portray the meaning and hierarchy of the data.
- Point names can be retrieved from the device automatically without manual intervention.
- All devices share a common naming convention.
- Device configurations can be exchanged using (SCL) files

# Conclusion

- IEC 61850 is a migration from the analog world to the digital world for substation
  - Standardization of data names
  - Creation of a comprehensive set of services
  - Implementation over standard protocols and hardware
  - Definition of a process bus.
- Multi-vendor interoperability has been demonstrated
- Discussions are underway to utilize IEC 61850 as the substation to control center communication protocol
- IEC 61850 will become the protocol of choice as utilities migrate to network solutions for the substations and beyond.

# Reference

- IEC 61850 Communication Networks and Systems In Substations, Technical Committee 57, International Electrotechnical Commission,
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- Overview of IEC 61850 and Benefits, R. E. Mackiewicz. PES TD 2005/2006
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# ILLINOIS SECURITY LAB

4309 Siebel Center for Computer Science  
201 N Goodwin Ave  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Phone: (217)265-6758  
Fax: (217)265-6738  
<http://seclab.uiuc.edu>

Jianqing Zhang: [jzhang24@cs.uiuc.edu](mailto:jzhang24@cs.uiuc.edu)

Carl A. Gunter: [cgunter@cs.uiuc.edu](mailto:cgunter@cs.uiuc.edu)