

# Communications and Control

## An introduction to Cyber Physical Networking

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based on joint work with

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DFG SPP 1914 project „Optimal Co-Design of Wireless Resource Management and Multi-loop Networked Control“



Uhrenturm der TUM

# Motivation: 5G Vision

*enhanced Mobile  
BroadBand*

**eMBB**

*Ultra Reliable  
Low Latency  
Communication*

**mMTC**

*massive  
Machine-Type  
Communication*

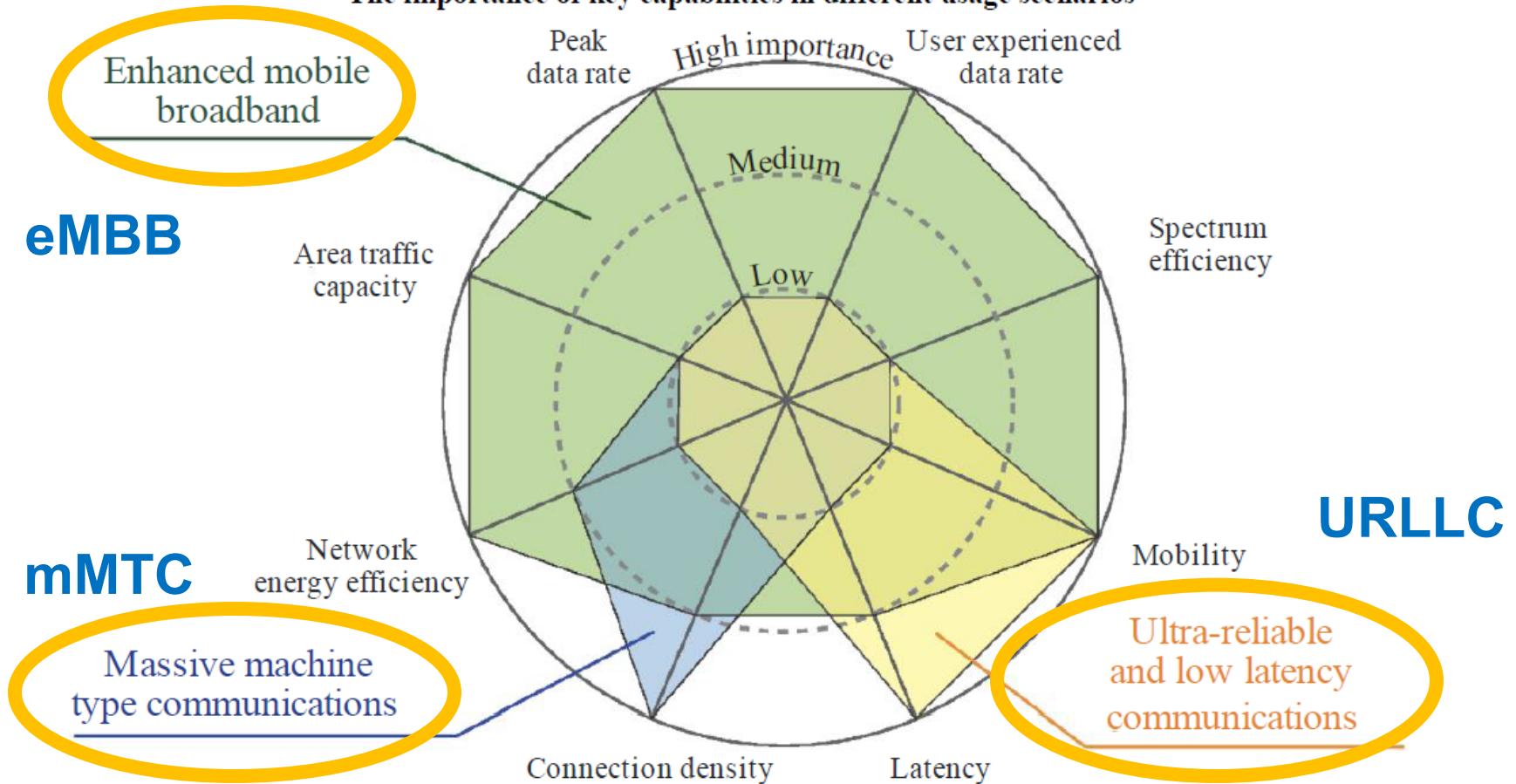
**URLLC**



Source: 3gpp.org

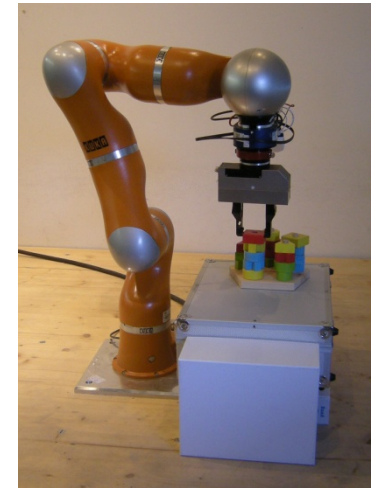
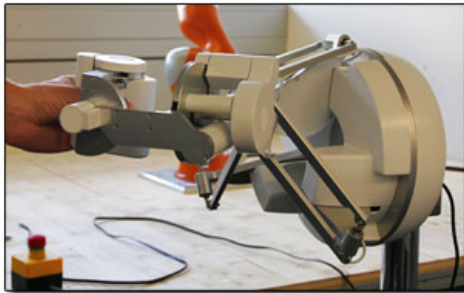
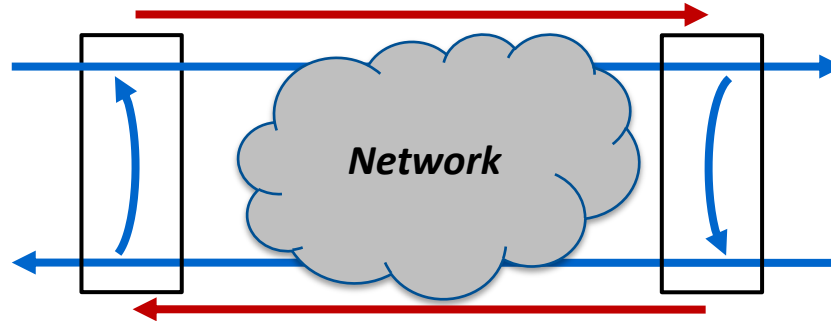
# Motivation: 5G Vision

The importance of key capabilities in different usage scenarios



M.2083-04

# It is mostly machines that communicate over networks





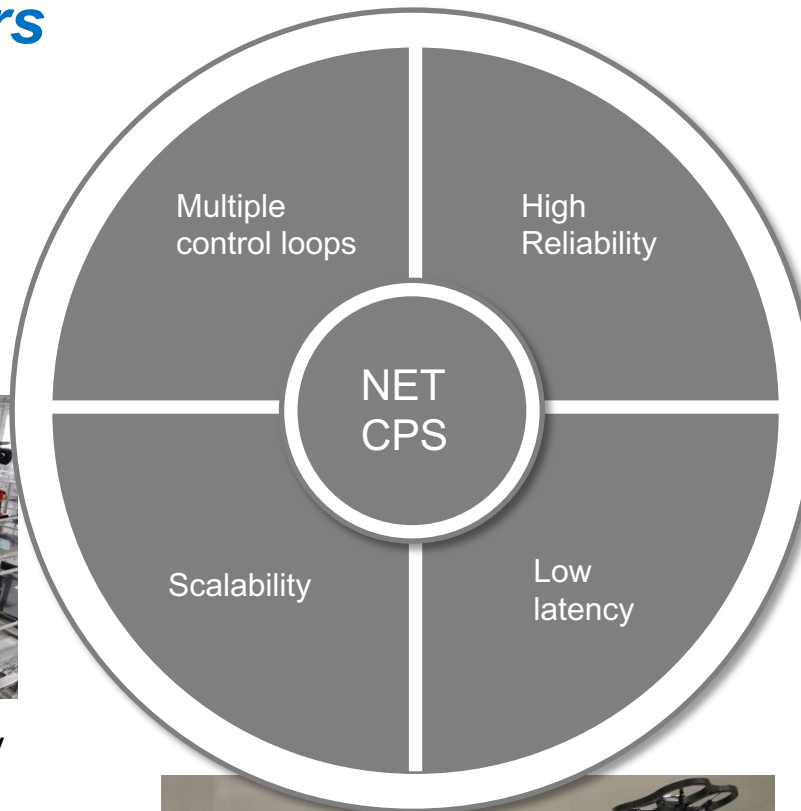
# Motivation: Control

- Networked Machines → Networked Cyber Physical Systems (NET CPS)

## *Control matters*



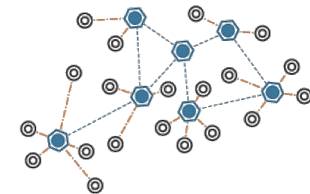
Industry 4.0, Tesla Factory  
<http://www.nytimes.com>



Trucks platooning, Scania  
[www.scania.com](http://www.scania.com)



Robot cooperation  
<http://iridia.ulb.ac.be/~mathews>



# Motivation: Cyber Physical Networking

- Key challenge in design and analysis of cyber-physical systems:

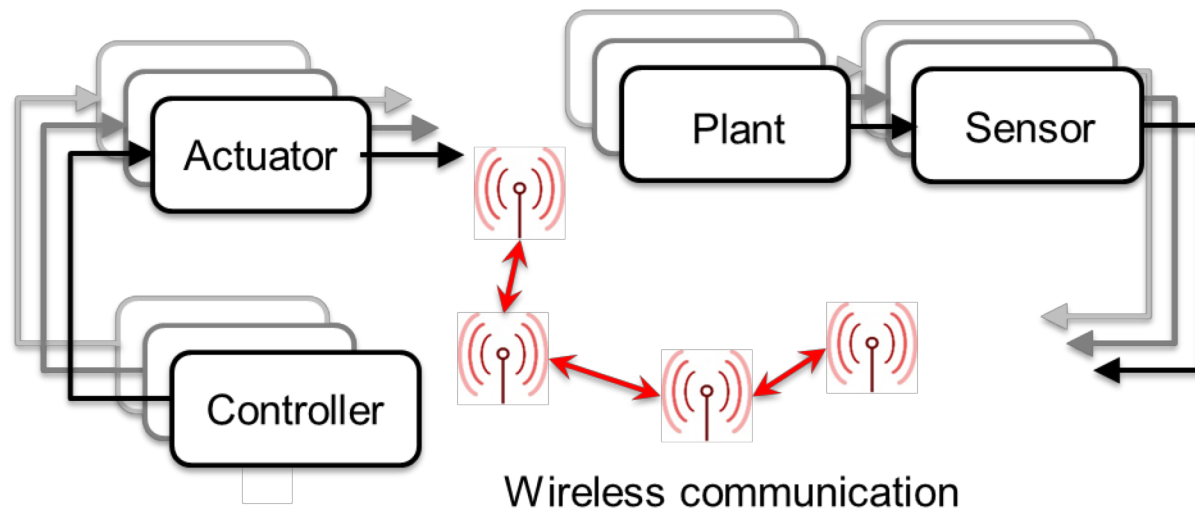
## **Control over shared communication networks**

- quality of control may be degraded due to the congestion while accessing the scarce communication resources

- **Cyber Physical Networking**: joint consideration of control and networking concepts to improve the system performance
- possibly involving
  - all network layers (cross-layer design,...)
  - all communicating nodes between devices (edge computing,...)
  - multiple control loops with different control strategies

# Focus of this tutorial

- Support of control over shared communication networks
- Focus on
  - **Communication**: Medium Access Control (MAC)
  - **Control**: multi-loop networked control system (NCS), all control loops share a communication network



- System model: Networked Control System
  - Including a short primer on control
  
- Selected use cases and results
  - Decentralized wireless MAC & Control: Adaptive Random Access
  - Scheduled wireless access & Control: Age of Information vs. Value of Information
  
- NCS experience for everybody:  
Intro to NCS benchmark platform
  
- ... with a break in between



- **DFG Priority Programme Cyber-Physical Networking (SPP 1914)**  
<https://www.spp1914.de/>
- **Understanding the fundamental trade-offs** btw. communication and control systems
  - **Fundamental limits** for communication latency, reliability, efficiency, and control performance including the role of feedback/side information
  - **Joint analysis methods and joint optimisation metrics** defining the interfaces
  - **Mathematical models** and analysis of interacting communication and control dynamics
- **Design methods for horizontal/vertical coordination and control**, surpassing the limitations of todays abstraction
  - **Co-design and adaptive feedback mechanisms** for control and protocols over unreliable communication channels such as wireless
  - **Distributed control** and communication in large-scale systems
  - **Latency-aware horizontal/vertical coordination**: interfaces, integration of network, operating system and applications

## Project areas

- Cooperative control and networking for wireless networks (e.g., topology control, consensus-based control, multi-agent systems, event-based c.)
- Co-design of control and networking/communications (e.g., information exchange between control and networking, model predictive CPN) <https://www.spp1914.de>
- Higher layer network aspects (e.g., latency, resilience-aware networking, co-designed architecture for in-network control)
- Performance measurements and modeling

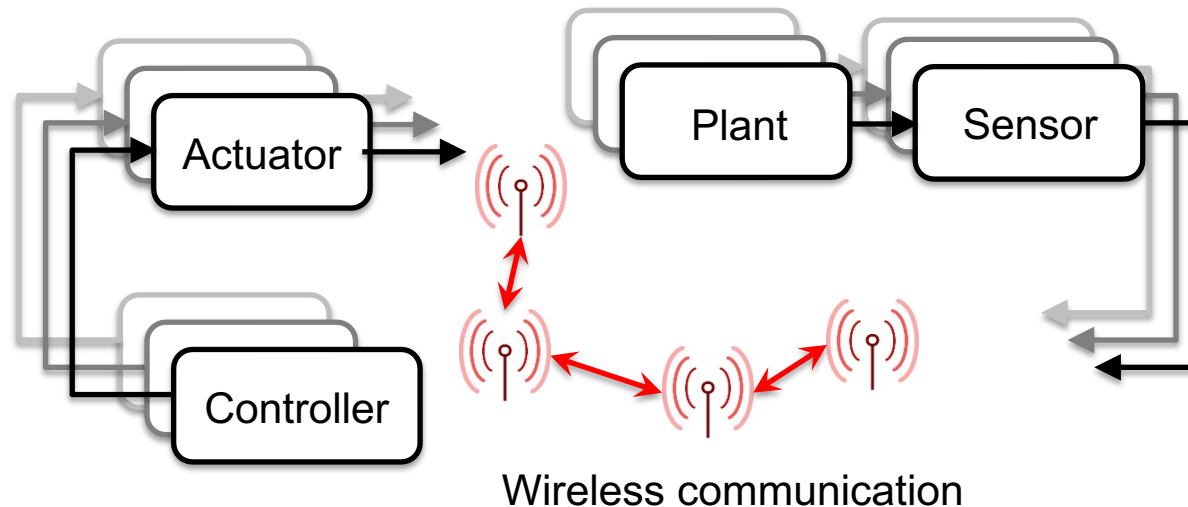
in **interdisciplinary teams** of control/automation and communication/ network experts

# Networked Control Systems

# Networked Control Systems

- Machine-to-Machine: Sensing & Actuation
- Control systems, coupled via communication networks

→ **Networked Control Systems**

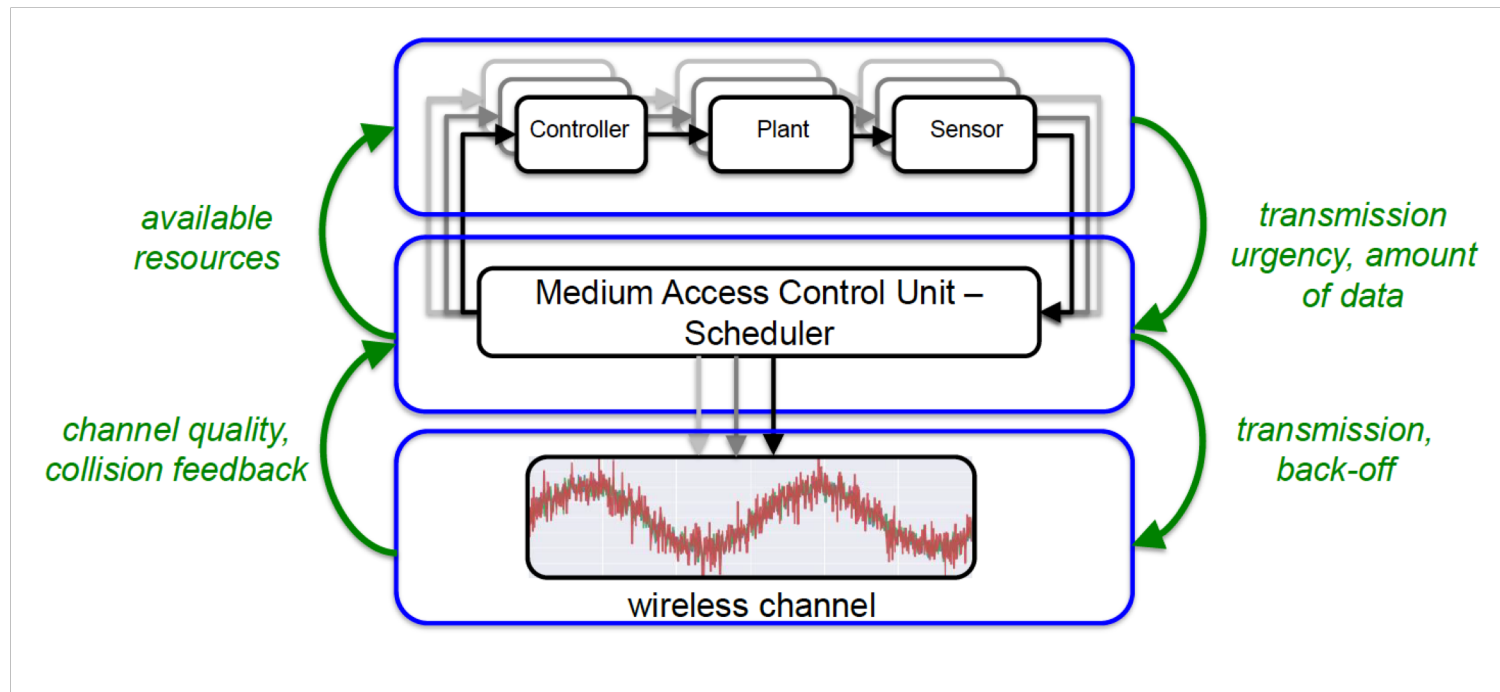


The following system model is based on the view of the DFG SPP 1914 Cyber-Physical Networks project

*„Optimal Co-Design of Wireless Resource Management and Multi-loop Networked Control“* (Hirche, Kellerer)

# Cross-Layer Design Framework

- Optimal Network & Control – Global Optimization Problem



- Control and network protocols: distributed solutions to global OP

# Scenario & Problem Formulation

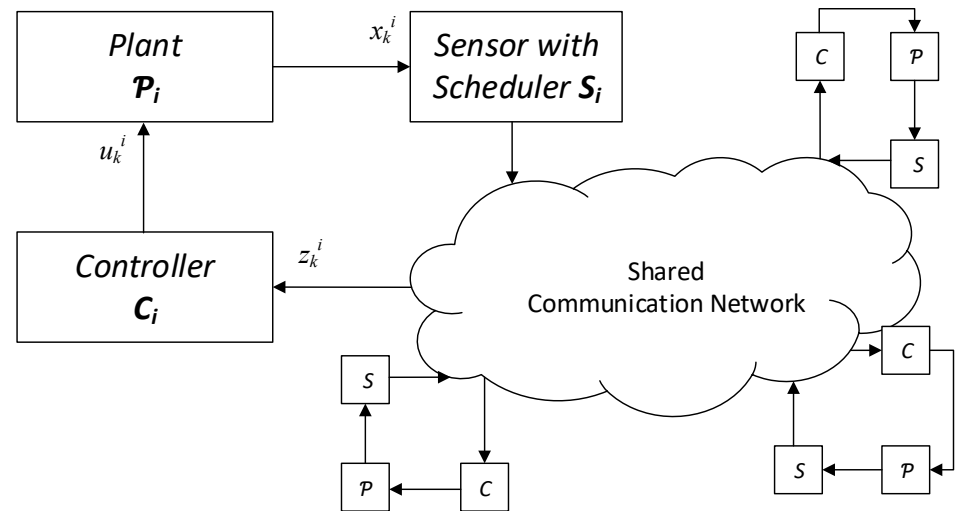
- $N$  stochastic Linear Time Invariant (LTI) systems

$$x_{k+1}^i = A^i x_k^i + B^i u_k^i + w_k^i$$

- Collocated  
Controller - (Actuator) - Plant

- Plant state is sensed remotely, e.g., camera

- Shared network: blocking / collisions / packet errors

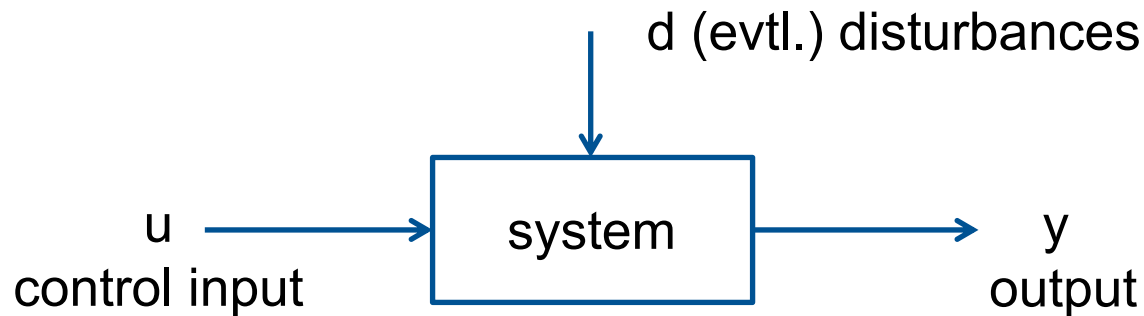


$$\theta_k^i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if OK} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



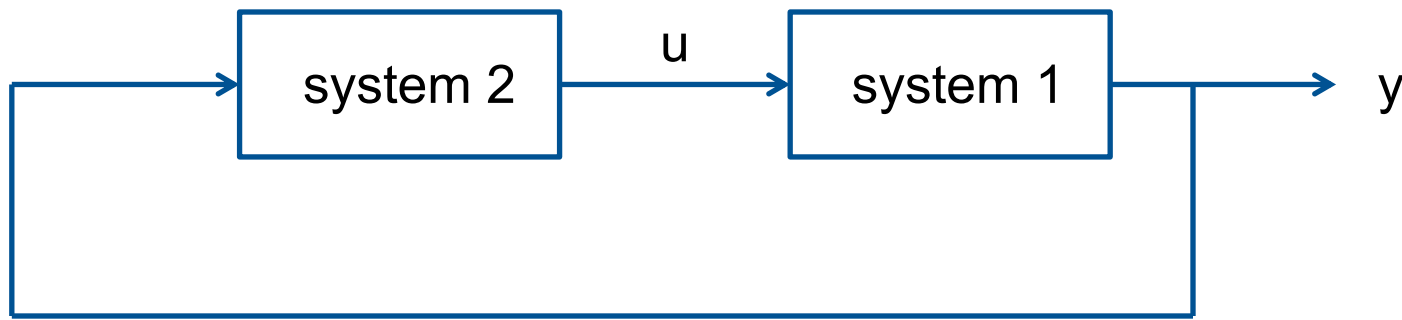
# Excursion: Quick Introduction to Control (1)

- Control: use of algorithms & feedback in engineering systems; usually for dynamic system
- Dynamic system: a system whose behavior changes over time, often in response to external stimulation



# Quick Introduction to Control (2)

- Feedback: two (or more) dynamic systems connected such that they influence each other



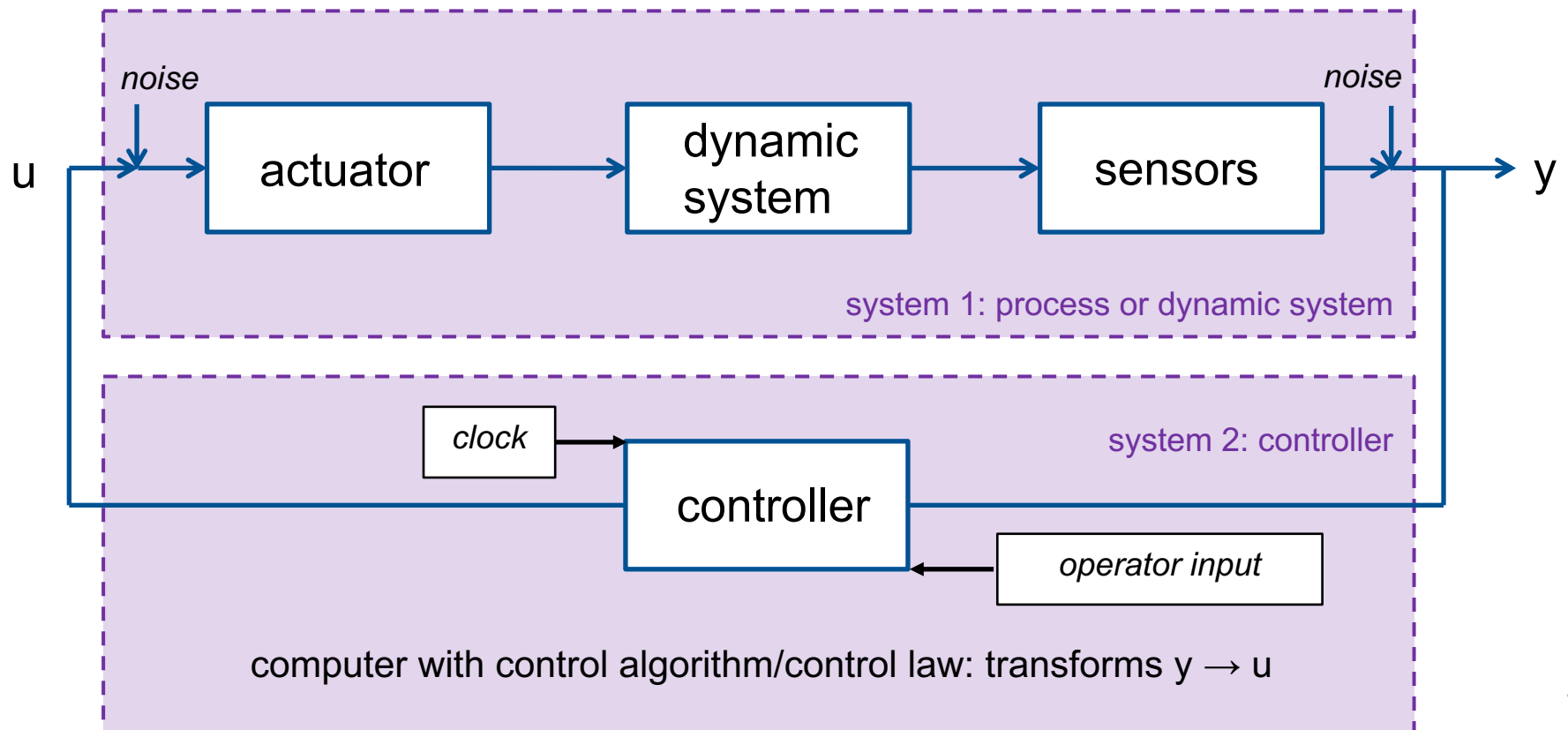
closed loop (with feedback)

- Control System: design a dynamic system “the controller” (= system 2) to influence the process (= system 1) in a desired way

# Quick Introduction to Control (3)

## ■ Control System

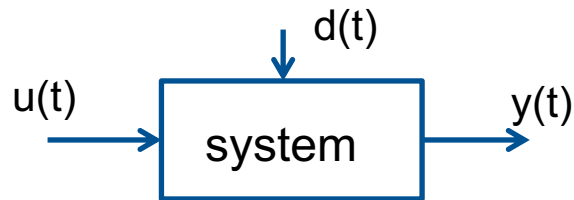
- design a dynamic system “the controller” (= system 2) to influence the process (= system 1) in a desired way
- modern control systems: controller is an algorithm running on a computer



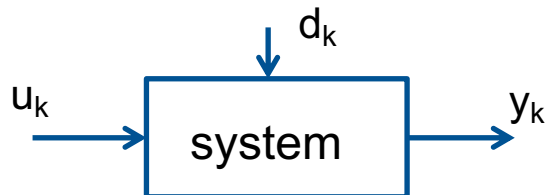
# Quick Introduction to Control (4)

## ■ Typical representations of Dynamic Systems

### (a) continuous time



### (b) discrete time



- $x(t)$ : system state
- Differential equation:

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} = f(x(t), u(t), d(t))$$
$$y(t) = x(t)$$

- Difference equation

$$x_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k, d_k)$$
$$y_k = x_k$$

Here: discrete-time linear time-invariant (LTI) systems

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + w_k$$

# Quick Introduction to Control (5)

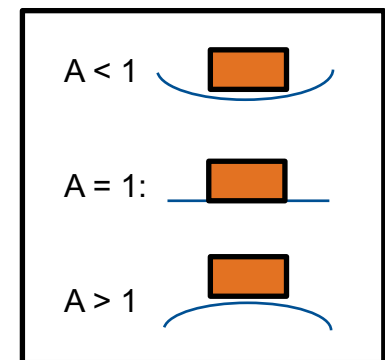
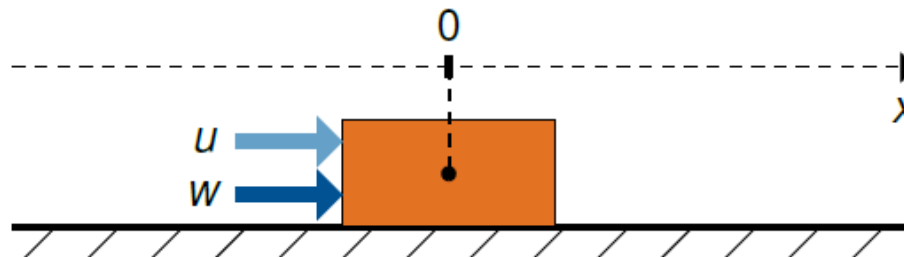
## Discrete-time Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) stochastic Networked Control Systems (NCS)

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + w_k$$
$$x[k + 1] = Ax[k] + Bu[k] + w[k]$$

- $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  discrete time-step
- $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : system state,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ : state matrix
- $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : control input,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ : input matrix
- $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : random noise vector

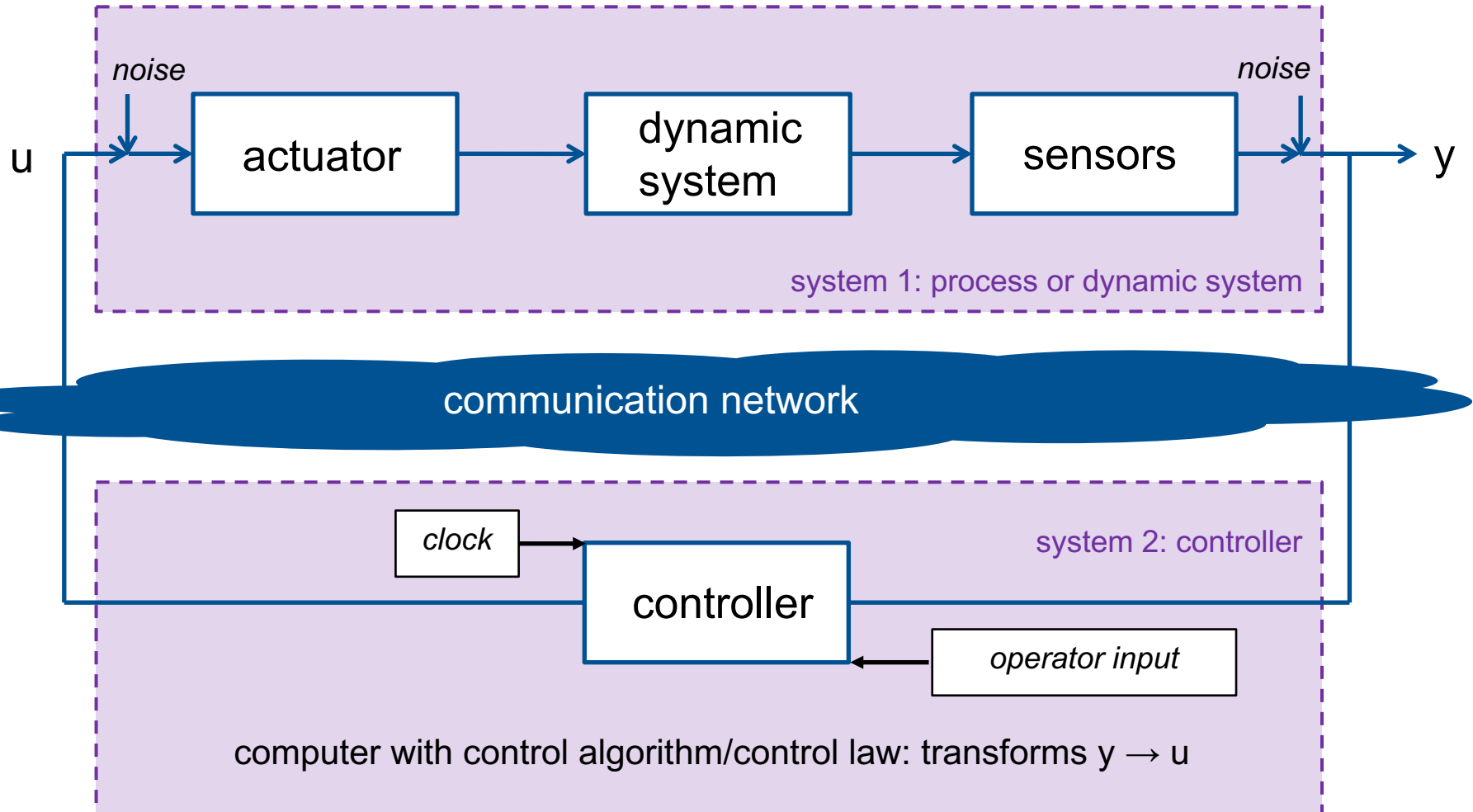
Special: 1-dim.

- $x[0] = 0$
- $A = 1 \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1}$



# Quick Introduction to Control (6)

- Networked Control System (NCS)





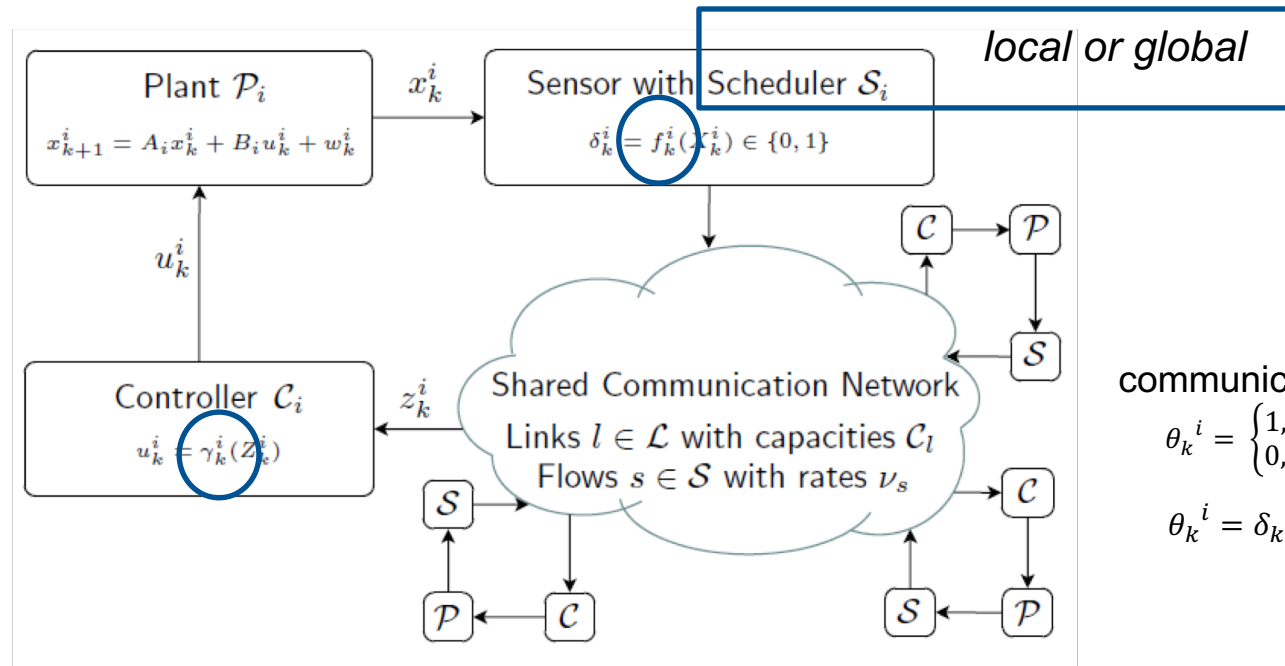
# Scenario & Problem Formulation

Generalized *optimization problem*:

- with control and scheduling/link access policies as optimization problem variables

QoC  
Quality of Control

$$\max_{\mathbf{f}, \gamma} QoC(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\delta}) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \delta_l(s) \nu_s \leq C_l \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = A\mathbf{x}_k + B\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{w}_k$$



communication success

$$\theta_k^i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if OK} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\theta_k^i = \delta_k^i \gamma_k^i$$

# Scenario & Problem Formulation

- Dead-beat control law

(linear discrete-time control: feedback  $\rightarrow$  stable state)

$$u_k^i = -L_i E[x_k^i | Z_k^i],$$

with  $Z_k^i = \{z_0^i, \dots, z_k^i\}$  and  $L_i$  - arbitrary stabilizing feedback gain

- Model-based estimation (if  $\theta_k^i = 0$  i.e. *communication failed*):

$$E[x_k^i | Z_k^i] = (A_i - B_i L_i) E[x_{k-1}^i | Z_{k-1}^i]$$

- *Network Induced Error* ( $\sim$ estimation error) [MTH15]

$$e_{k+1}^i = (1 - \theta_k^i) A_i e_k^i + w_k^i$$

- *Network Induced Error* (~estimation error) [MTH15]

$$e_{k+1}^i = (1 - \theta_k^i)A_i e_k^i + w_k^i$$

## → Separation of Control and Communication problems

Two application examples:

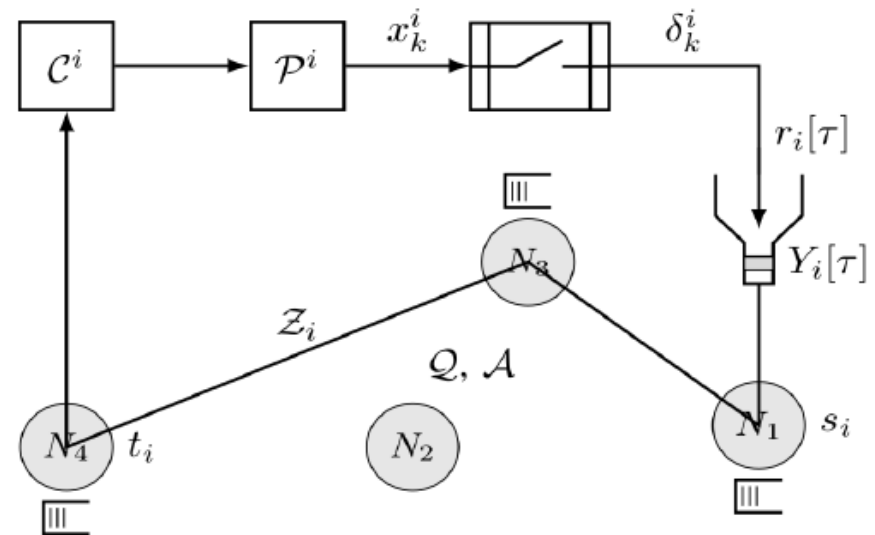
(1) Decentralized wireless MAC & Control

(2) Scheduled wireless access & Control (up-/downlink scheduling)

# Outlook: Global Optimization Problem

Generalization of the above problem

- Multi-loop
- Single-hop → Multi-hop
  - Base station (2 hop, central)
  - Multiple hops (wireless and wired)
- MAC → Multi-layer
  - Routing (topology, node buffering)
  - Transport (TCP congestion control)
- Network functions
  - Edge computing (location/migration of controller)

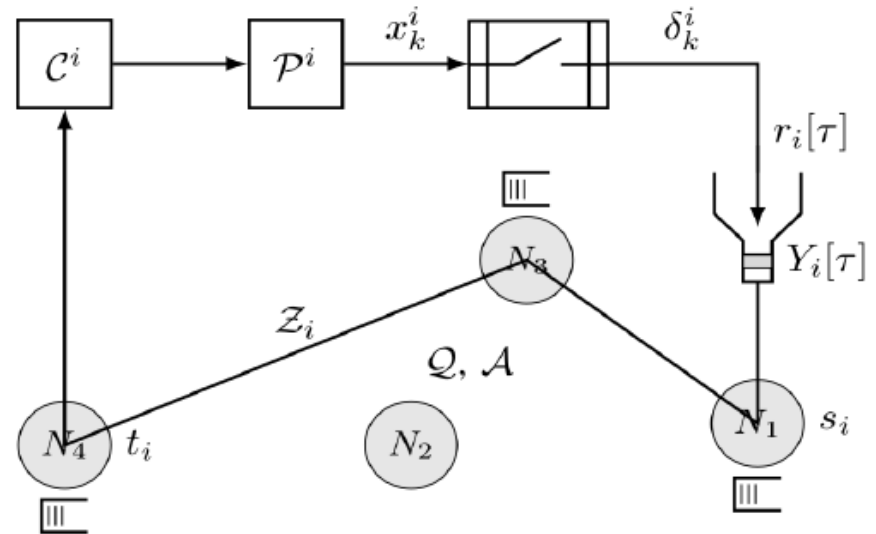


=> computationally very hard to solve – decomposition needed

$$J_i = \lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{K} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} x_k^{i\top} Q_x^i x_k^i + u_k^{i\top} Q_u^i u_k^i \right]$$

$$\min_{\psi, \pi, \varphi, \xi} \sum_j w_j J_j$$

- $\psi$ : congestion control law from the admissible set  $\Psi$
- $\pi$ : scheduling law from the admissible set  $\Pi$
- $\varphi$ : sampling law from the admissible set  $\Phi$
- $\xi$ : control law from the admissible set  $\Xi$



- Nodes are linked according to the topology  $Q$
- Action set  $A$
- Transmission determined by a choice of  $(Q;A)$

- System model: Networked Control System
  - Including a short primer on control
  
- **Selected use cases and results**
  - **Decentralized wireless MAC & Control: Adaptive Random Access**
  - **Scheduled wireless access & Control: Age of Information vs. Value of Information**
  
- NCS experience for everybody:  
Intro to NCS benchmark platform



# **Decentralized wireless MAC & Control: Adaptive Random Access**

# Adaptive Random Access: Scenario

- Adaptive decentralized MAC for Event-Triggered NCS

- LTI control loop

$$x_{k+1}^i = A_i x_k^i + B_i u_k^i + w_k^i,$$

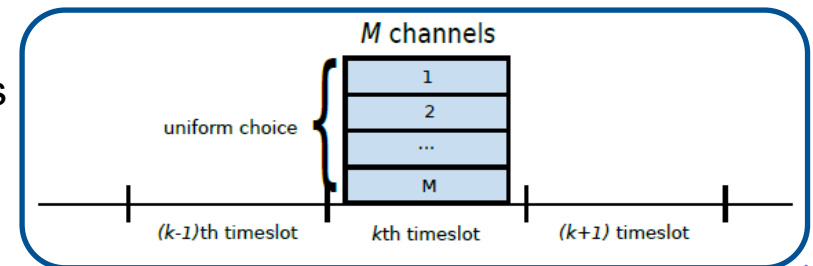
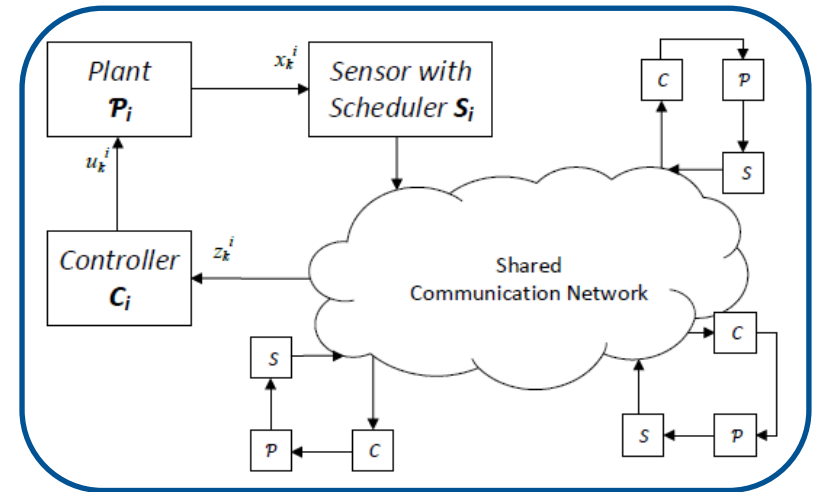
- State dynamics  $\rightarrow$  estimation error dynamics

$$e_{k+1}^i = (1 - \theta_k^i) A_i e_k^i + w_k^i.$$

- Local scheduler: event-based with threshold  $\Lambda_i$

- Decentralized medium access with  $M_k$  channels

- $\text{timeslot} == \text{control period}$
- uniform choice of the channels
- collision occurs if the same channel is chosen
- channel feedback:  $\text{collision} (1,0), M_k$



# Adaptive Random Access: Scenario

- Adaptive decentralized MAC for Event-Triggered NCS

- LTI control loop

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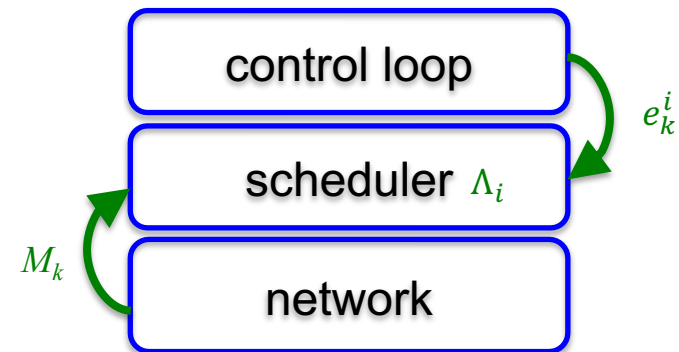
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- timeslot == control period*
- uniform choice of the channels
- collision occurs if the same channel is chosen
- channel feedback: *collision*  $(1, 0)$ ,  $M_k$



- Event-triggered NCS and Multichannel Slotted ALOHA
  - Communication delay  $\approx$  connection establishment delay
- Threshold-based event triggering:

$$P[\delta_k^i = 1 | e_k^i] = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \|e_k^i\| \leq \Lambda_i \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

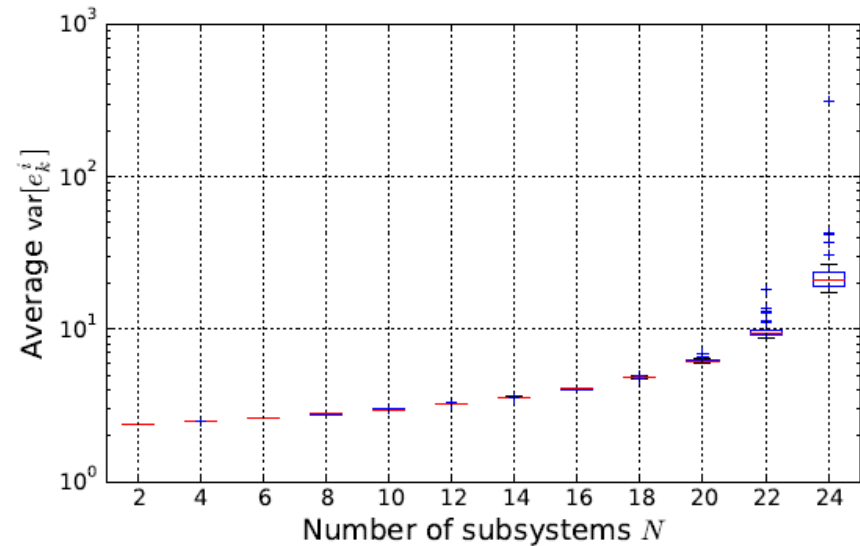
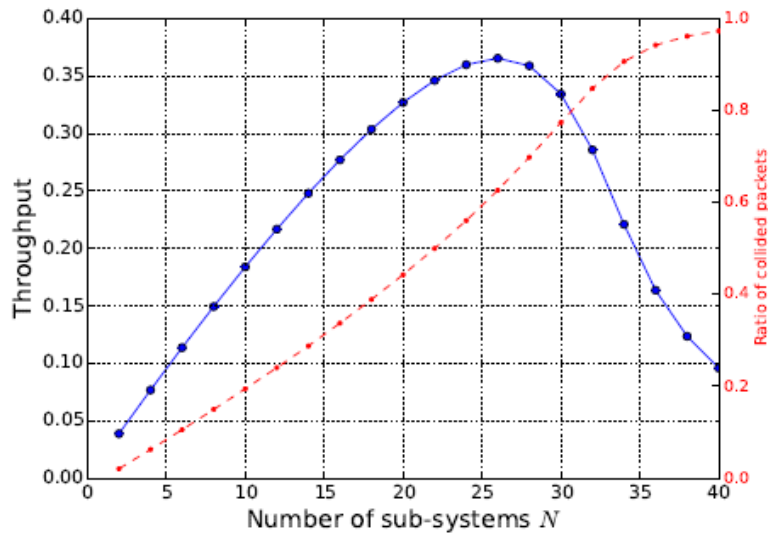
with  $\delta_k^i$  (local) scheduling variable.

- Successful reception:  $\theta_k^i = \delta_k^i \gamma_k^i$  with

$$P[\gamma_k^i = 1 | \delta_k^i = 1] = \left( \frac{M_k - 1}{M_k} \right)^{g_k}$$

# Adaptive Random Access: Initial Evaluation

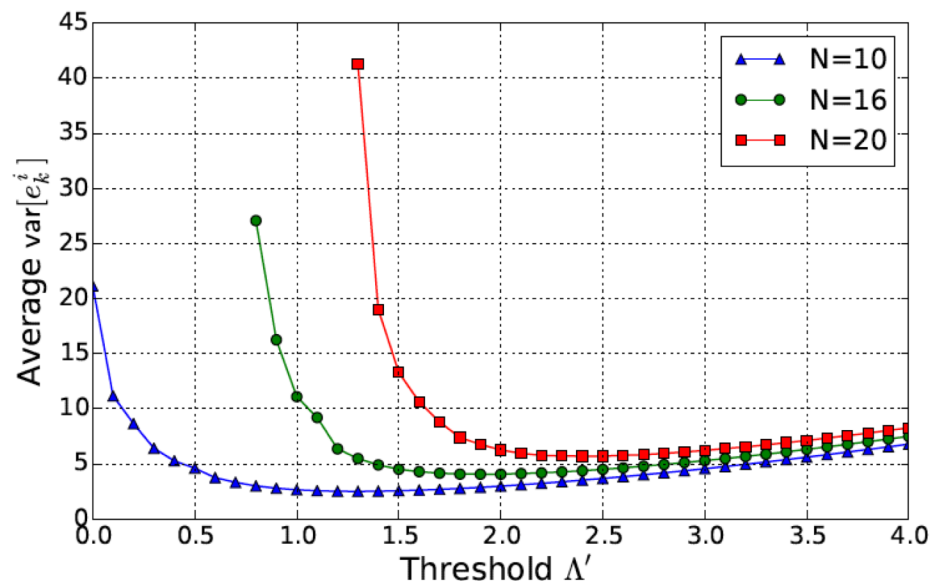
- Given  $N$  subsystems with  $A_i$ ,  $W_i$ , and  $M_k$  channels
  - Network performance depends on control loop &  $\Lambda_i$
  - Control loop performance depends on network &  $\Lambda_i$ 
    - Metric: variance of an estimation error



$M=10, A=2$

## ■ Performance Evaluation: Threshold

- Network and control performance are *coupled via the threshold*
- If the threshold is set too low, performance degrades drastic due to *collision*
- If the threshold is set too high, performance degrades slowly due to *underutilized network*
- Always exists a threshold (global), for which control and network performance are optimal

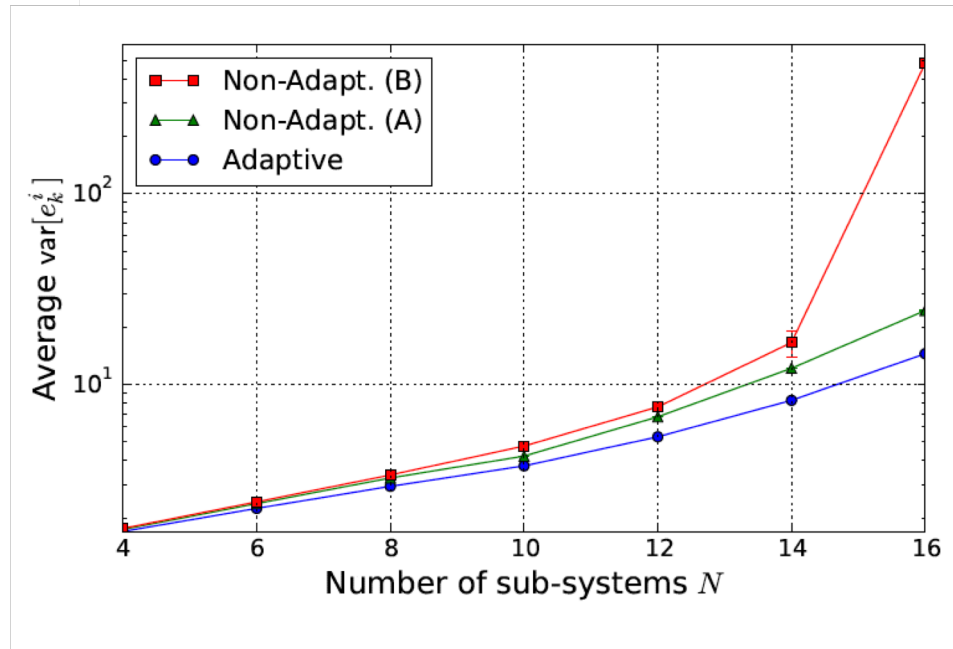
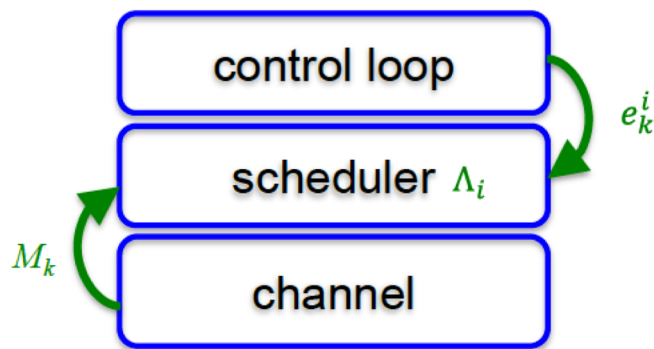
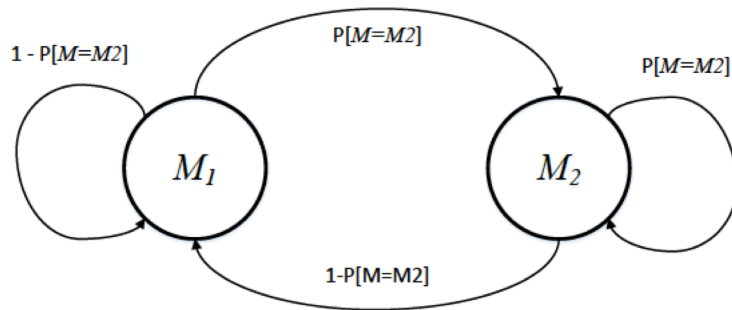


→ to optimally use the network, adaptive scheduling policy is required



# Adaptive Random Access: Adaptation

- Adapting to varying number of channels – *network state*

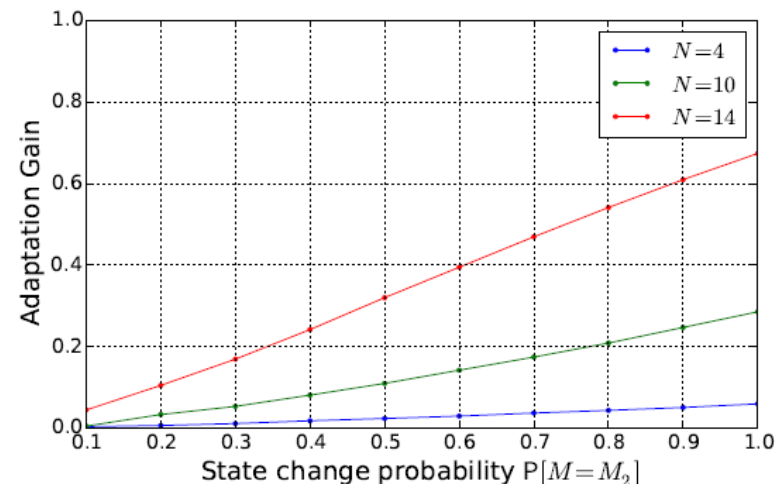
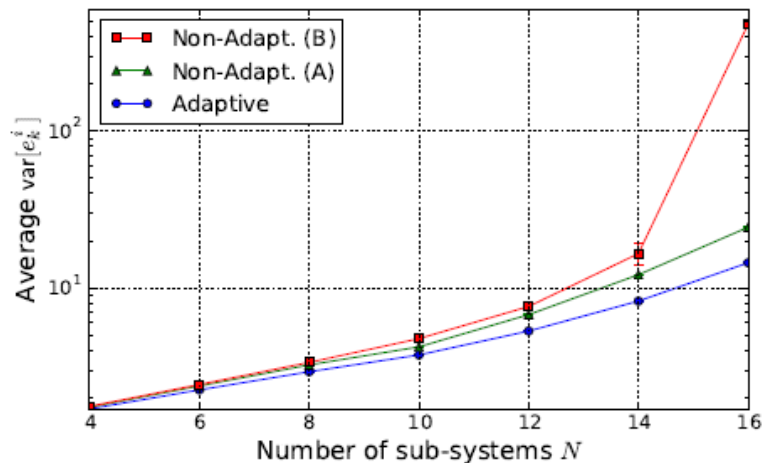


# Adaptive Random Access: Adaptation gain

- Adaptive choice of the threshold based on available channels

$$\Lambda' = f(M),$$

- Relative gain from adaptation depends on the variability of the number of channels

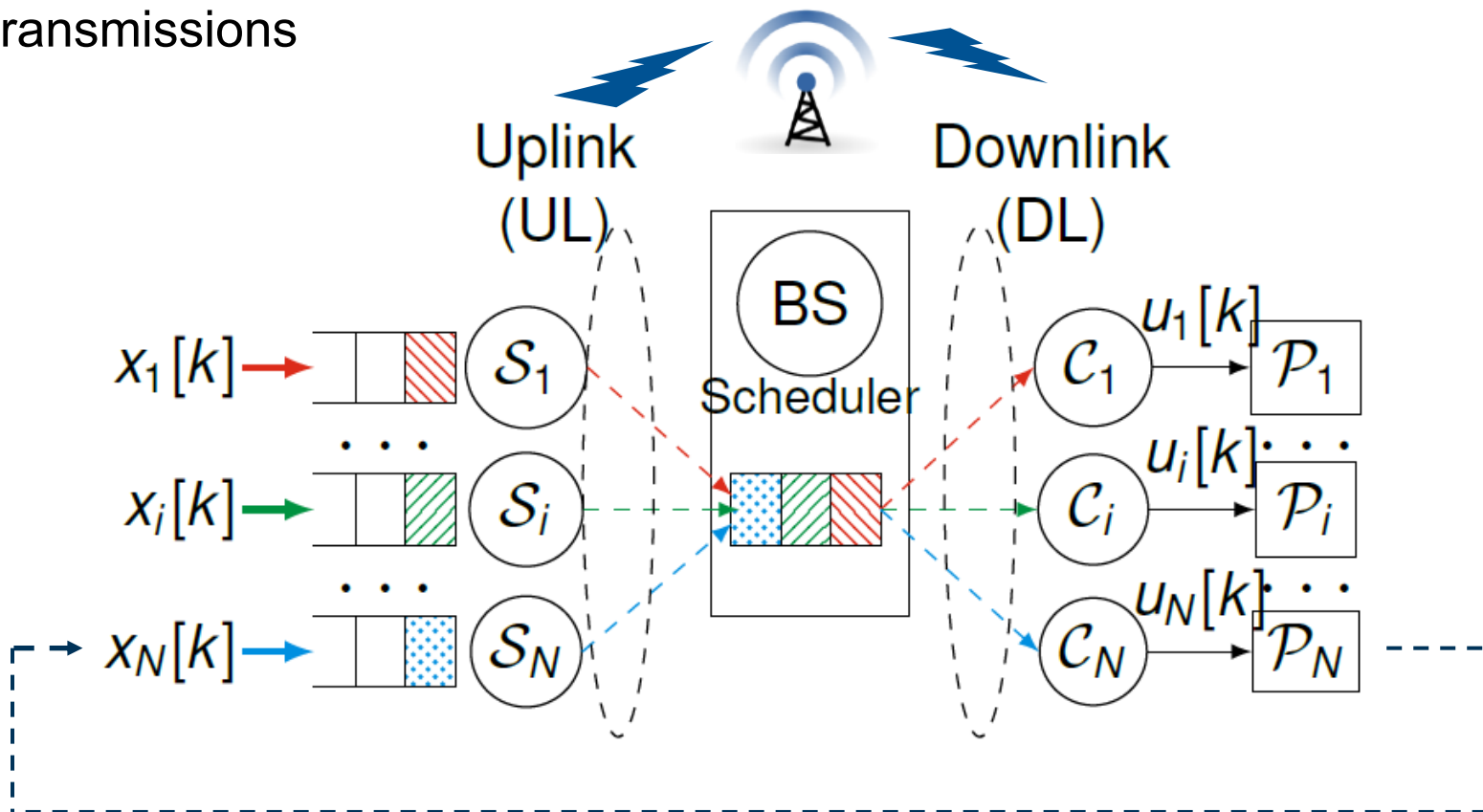


# **Scheduled wireless access and control: Age of Information vs. Value of Information**

„Age-of-Information vs. Value-of-Information Scheduling for Cellular  
Networked Control Systems“

# Scheduled wireless access: Scenario

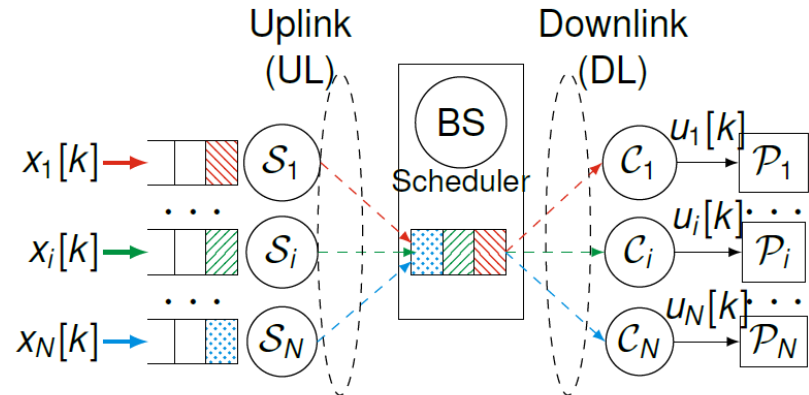
- $N$  stochastic LTI control loops share the same network
- Centralized scheduler in Base Station (BS) determines UL and DL transmissions



*Plant  $N$  is observed by Sensor  $N$*

# Scheduled wireless access: Scenario

- $N$  stochastic LTI control loops share the same network
- Each sub-system consists of sensor  $S_i$ , controller  $C_i$  and plant  $P_i$

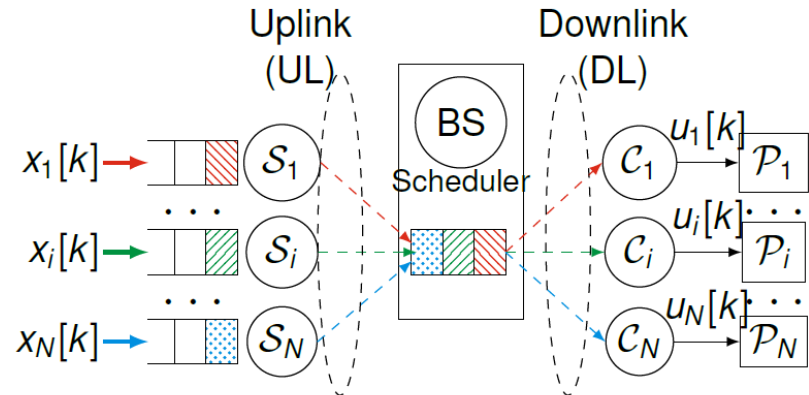


- Observed plant state  $x_i[k_i]$  at time-step  $k_i$  is transmitted towards  $C_i$ 
  - First on uplink (UL) from  $S_i$  to base station (BS)
  - Then on downlink (DL) from BS to  $C_i$
- *Only the latest generated measurement is stored in the packet queue*
- *Centralized scheduler determines UL and DL transmissions*

*How to distribute (schedule) the UL and DL resources among the sub-systems (control loops)?*

# Challenge: two-hop communication system

- Central scheduler has to consider the importance of a sensor value to decide for scheduling considering both hops



- Possible “importance” metrics:

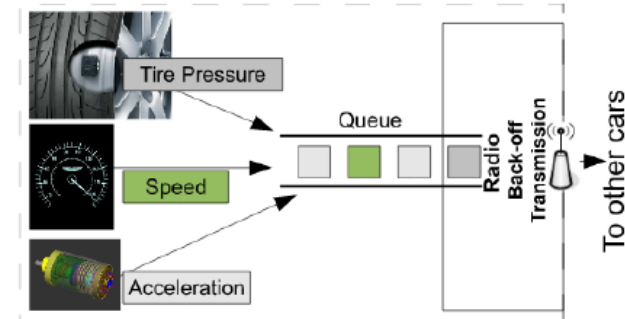
- Delay → **Age of Information (Aol)**

- Meaning of content of sensor value → **Value of Information (Vol)**

- We compare both in this example: *Age-of-Information vs. Value-of-Information Scheduling for Cellular Networked Control Systems*

# Age of Information (Aol)

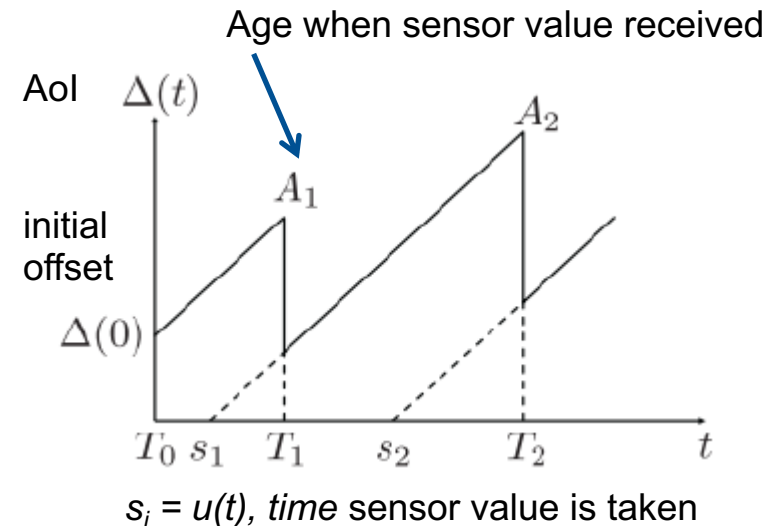
- a recently proposed performance metric that measures **information freshness** at the destination node
- proposed in 2011 by S. Kaul and R. Yates for vehicular networks [1,2]
  - [1]: “Average end-to-end (application-to-application) delay observed in any vehicle’s state”
  - [3]: “Time since last update was received”



- Age of Information  $\Delta(t)$ :

$$\Delta(t) = t - u(t)$$

- $t$ : current time
- $u(t)$ : time-stamp of the most recent update



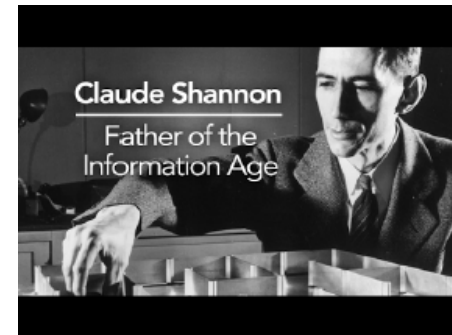
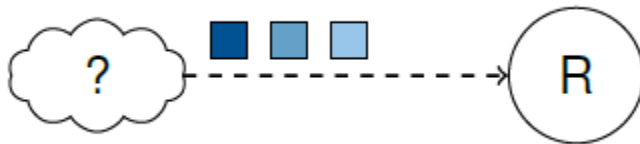
[1] Kaul, et al. Minimizing age of information in vehicular networks. 8th IEEE Conference on Sensor, Mesh and Ad Hoc Communications and Networks, 2011.

[2] Kaul, Yates, Gruteser, Real-time status: How often should one update? IEEE INFOCOM, 2012.

[3] Talak et al. Minimizing age-of-information in multi-hop wireless networks. 55th Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2017.

# Value of Information (Vol)

- deals with the **content** of a new update independently of its timeliness
- Vol stems from information theory (Shannon)
- The amount of reduction in the uncertainty of a stochastic process at the recipient



Not of the Age-of-Information!

## Value-of-Information

deals with the **content** of a new update independently of its timeliness

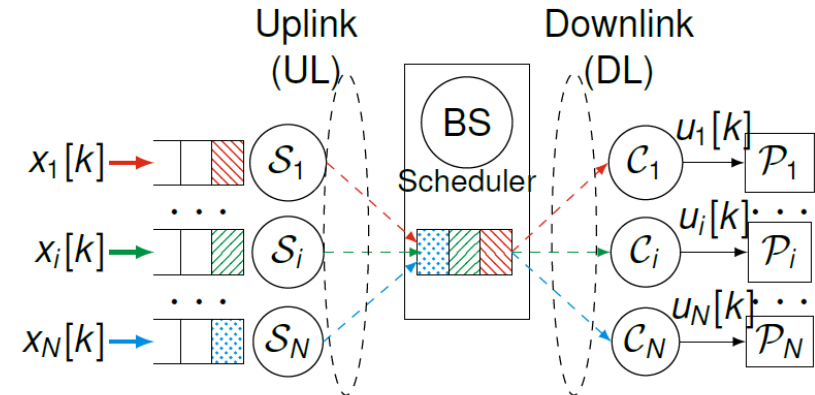
## Age-of-Information

deals with the **freshness** of a new update independently of its content



# Back to our scenario

- $N$  stochastic LTI control loops share the same network
- Each sub-system consists of sensor  $S_i$ , controller  $C_i$  and plant  $P_i$



- Observed plant state  $x_i[k_i]$  at time-step  $k_i$  is transmitted towards  $C_i$ 
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- Only the latest generated measurement is stored in the packet queue
- Centralized scheduler determines UL and DL transmissions

*How to distribute (schedule) the UL and DL resources among the sub-systems (control loops)?*

# Recap: Stochastic LTI Networked Control Systems

- as also before:

Discrete linear time-invariant (LTI) stochastic NCSs are modeled as:

$$x[k + 1] = A \cdot x[k] + B \cdot u[k] + w[k]$$

$k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  discrete time-step

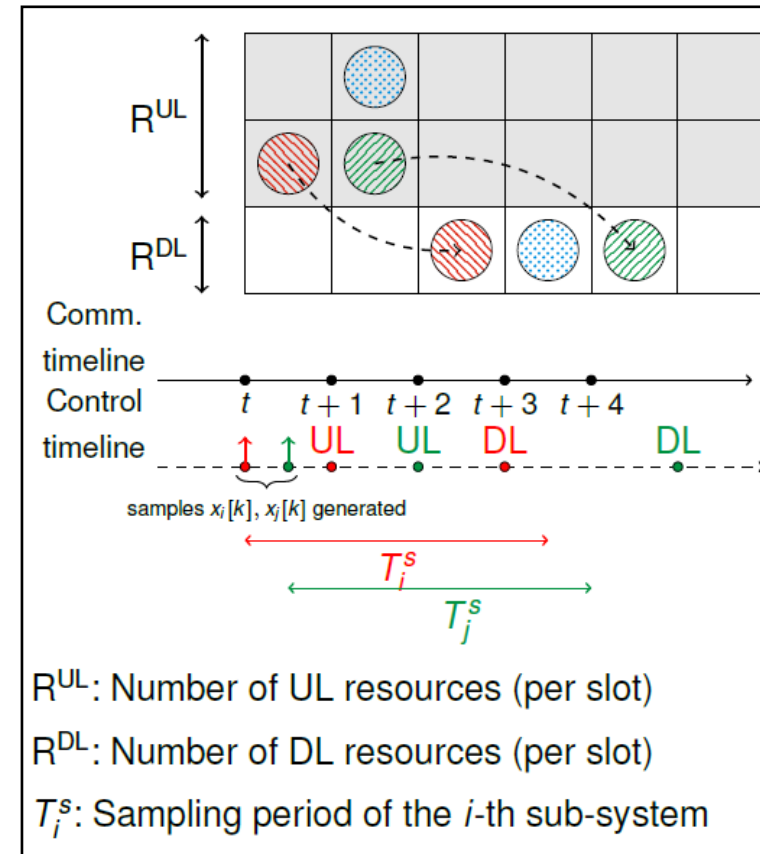
$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : System state,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ : State matrix

$u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : Control input,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ : Input matrix

$w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : Random noise vector

# Network Model

- Faster networking than control  $\Rightarrow T_i^s \geq t, \forall i$
- UL/DL schedules  $\pi^{UL/DL}(t) \in \{0, 1\}^N$ 
  - $\pi_i^{UL/DL}(t) = 1 \iff$  sub-system  $i$  transmits at  $t$
- $\mathcal{R}^{UL}, \mathcal{R}^{DL}$  set of UL and DL resources
  - $|\mathcal{R}^{UL}| = R^{UL} < \infty$
  - $|\mathcal{R}^{DL}| = R^{DL} < \infty$
  - $\mathcal{R}^{UL} \cap \mathcal{R}^{DL} = \emptyset \Rightarrow$  Frequency-Division Duplex (FDD)
- Reception at the end of the slot



# Control Model (1)

- Stochastic LTI control systems:

$$x_i[k_i + 1] = A_i \cdot x_i[k_i] + B_i \cdot u_i[k_i] + w_i[k_i]$$

with  $x_i[0] = w_i[0]$  and  $w_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, W_i)$ .

- Periodic sampling with sampling period  $T_i^s$  slots with initial sampling  $T_i^o \sim U(0, T_i^s)$
- Stairwise system evolution:

$$k_i(t) = \left\lfloor \frac{t - T_i^o}{T_i^s} \right\rfloor$$

- Sampling events at slots  $\{k \cdot T_i^s + T_i^o\}, k \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow$  TX-Buffer update at sensor  $\mathcal{S}_i$

# Control Model (2)

- Packet reception indicator variable  $\delta_i[k_i] \in \{0, 1\}$ :

$$z_i[k_i] = \begin{cases} x_i[k_i] & , \text{ if } \delta_i[k_i] = 1 \\ \emptyset & , \text{ if } \delta_i[k_i] = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Information set  $\mathcal{I}_i[k_i]$  available at  $\mathcal{C}_i$ :

$$\mathcal{I}_i[k_i] = \{k_i, z_i[0], \dots, z_i[k_i], u_i[0], \dots, u_i[k_i - 1]\}$$

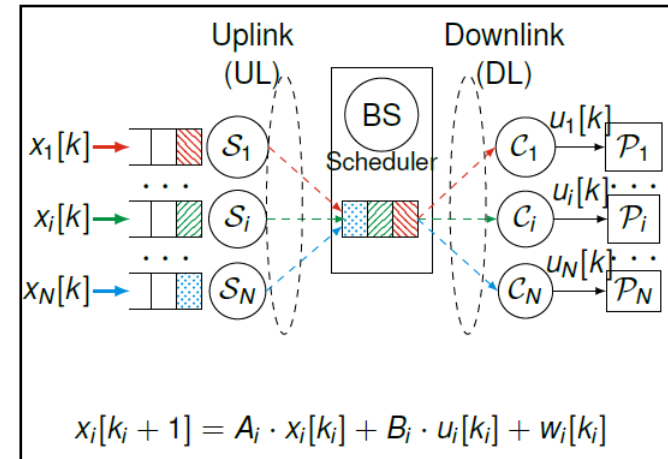
- State estimation at  $\mathcal{C}_i$ :

$$\hat{x}_i[k_i] = \mathbb{E} [x_i[k_i] \mid \mathcal{I}_i[k_i]]$$

- Control input:

$$u_i[k_i] = -L_i \hat{x}_i[k_i]$$

state feedback gain matrix  $L_i$



Age-of-Information

$$\Delta_i(k_i) = k_i - s_i[k_i]$$

# Age of Information and Value of Information

- Age-of-Information:

$$\Delta_i(k_i) = k_i - s_i[k_i]$$

with  $s_i[k_i] = \sup\{s \in \mathbb{N} : s \leq k_i, z_i[s] \neq \emptyset\} \Leftrightarrow s_i[k_i]$ : Generation time of the most recent received information

*AoI =  
time difference  
to sensor value  
generation time*

- Estimation error:

$$e_i[k_i] = x_i[k_i] - \hat{x}_i[k_i]$$

- Value-of-Information:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i[k]\|^2 \right] = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } \Delta_i[k] = 0 \\ g(\Delta_i[k_i]) & , \text{ if } \Delta_i[k_i] > 0 \end{cases},$$

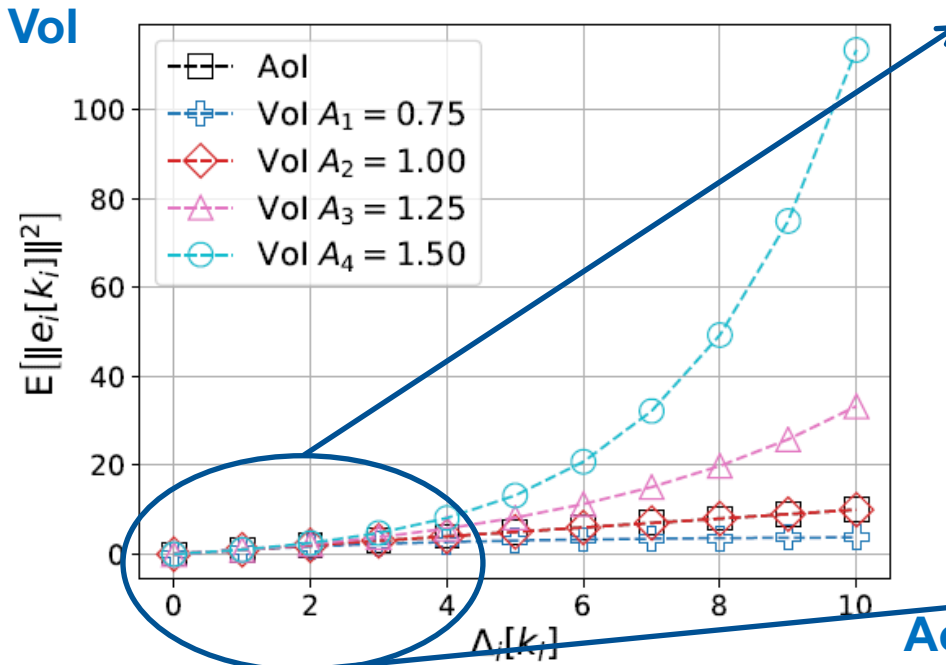
*Vol =  
expected value  
of squared  
estimation error*

with:

$$g(\Delta_i[k]) \triangleq \sum_{r=0}^{\Delta_i[k]-1} \text{tr}((A_i^T)^r A_i^r W_i)$$

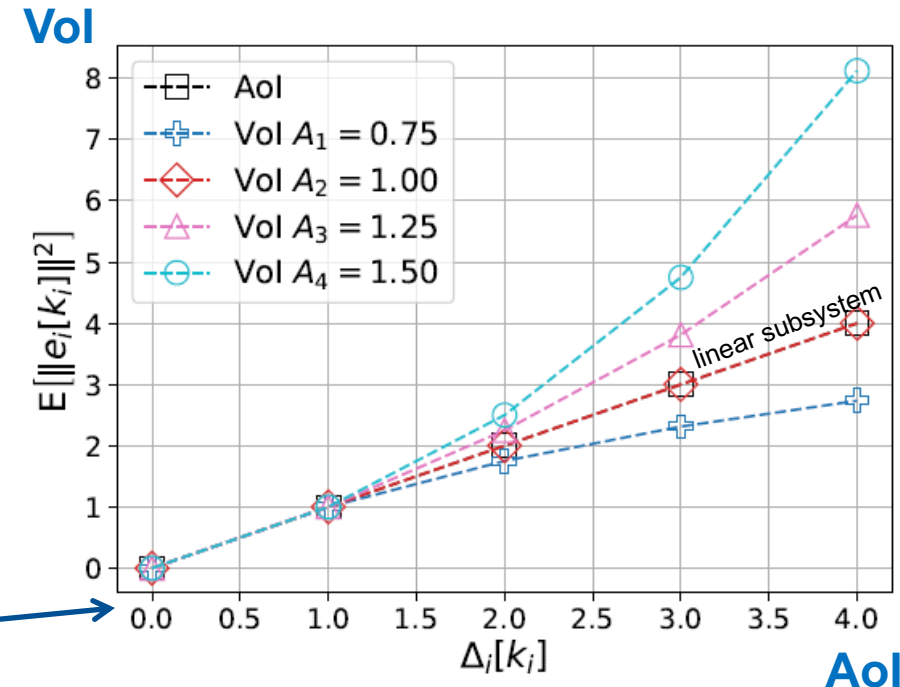
$\text{tr}(\cdot)$ : Trace operator

# System Dependability of Vol



a)  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i[k_i]\|^2 \right]$  for  $\Delta_i[k_i] \in [0, 10]$ ,  $W_i = 1$

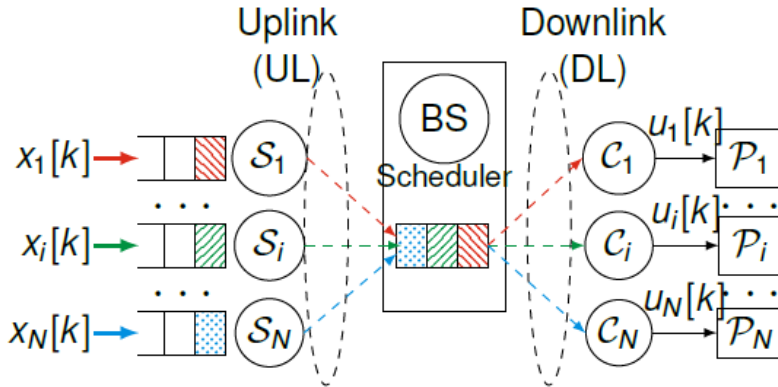
$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i[k]\|^2 \right] = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } \Delta_i[k] = 0 \\ g(\Delta_i[k_i]) & , \text{ if } \Delta_i[k_i] > 0 \end{cases}$$



b)  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i[k_i]\|^2 \right]$  for  $\Delta_i[k_i] \in [0, 4]$ ,  $W_i = 1$

$$g(\Delta_i[k]) \triangleq \sum_{r=0}^{\Delta_i[k]-1} \text{tr}((A_i^T)^r A_i^r W_i)$$

- Vol depends on plant dynamics (system matrix A)
- $A < 1$ : sub systems tend to stability /  $A > 1$ : plant dynamics require control



- Reception variable:

$$z_i[k_i] = \begin{cases} x_i[k_i] & , \text{ if } \delta_i[k_i] = 1 \\ \emptyset & , \text{ if } \delta_i[k_i] = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Information set  $\mathcal{I}_i[k_i]$  available at  $C_i$ :

$$\mathcal{I}_i[k_i] = \{k_i, z_i[0], \dots, z_i[k_i], u_i[0], \dots, u_i[k_i - 1]\}$$

- State estimation at  $C_i$ :

$$\hat{x}_i[k_i] = \mathbb{E} [x_i[k_i] \mid \mathcal{I}_i[k_i]]$$

**Assumption 1.** The scheduler at the BS observes the content of any packet it receives on the UL.

**Assumption 2.** The scheduler is aware of system parameters  $A_i, W_i, B_i, L_i, T_i^s, T_i^o, \forall i$

- Reception variable  $\delta_i^B[k_i] = \{0, 1\}$
- Age-of-Information  $\Delta_i^B[k_i]$  available at BS:
  - $\Delta_i^B[k_i] \leq \Delta_i[k_i]$
- Information set  $\mathcal{I}_i^B[k_i]$  available at BS:
  - $\mathcal{I}_i^B[k_i] \supseteq \mathcal{I}_i[k_i] \forall i, k_i$
- Analogously:

$$e_i^B[k_i] = x_i[k_i] - \hat{x}_i^B[k_i]$$

$$\hat{x}_i^B[k_i] = f(\Delta_i^B[k_i], \mathcal{I}_i^B[k_i])$$

$$\mathbb{E} [\|e_i^B[k_i]\|^2] = g(\Delta_i^B[k_i])$$



# Value-of-Information on UL / DL

- Value of UL packets:

$$\begin{aligned} v_i^{\text{UL}}(t) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i^B[k_i] - e_i^S[k_i]\|^2 \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i^B[k_i]\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

with  $k_i = k_i(t)$  and sensing error  $e_i^S[k_i] = 0$ .

- UL Scheduling:

$$\begin{aligned} &\max_{\pi^{\text{UL}}(t)} \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i^{\text{UL}}(t) \cdot v_i^{\text{UL}}(t) \\ &\text{subject to } \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i^{\text{UL}}(t) \leq R^{\text{UL}}, \end{aligned}$$

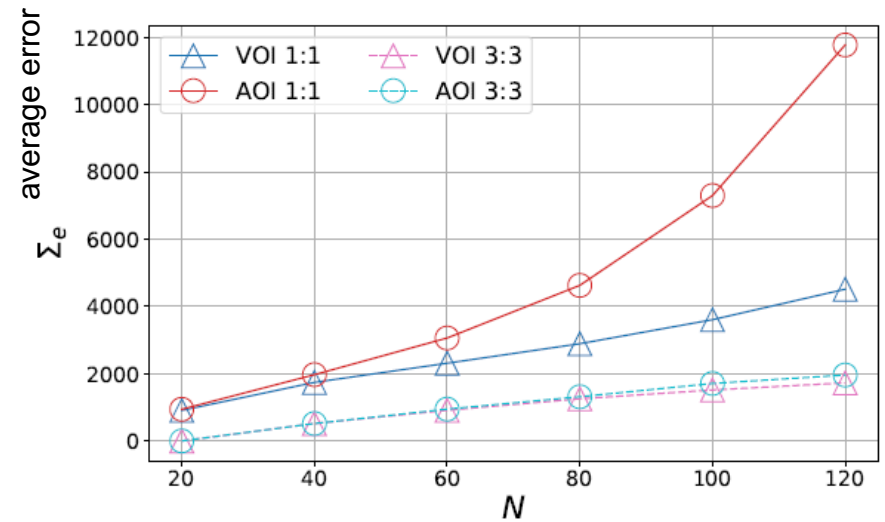
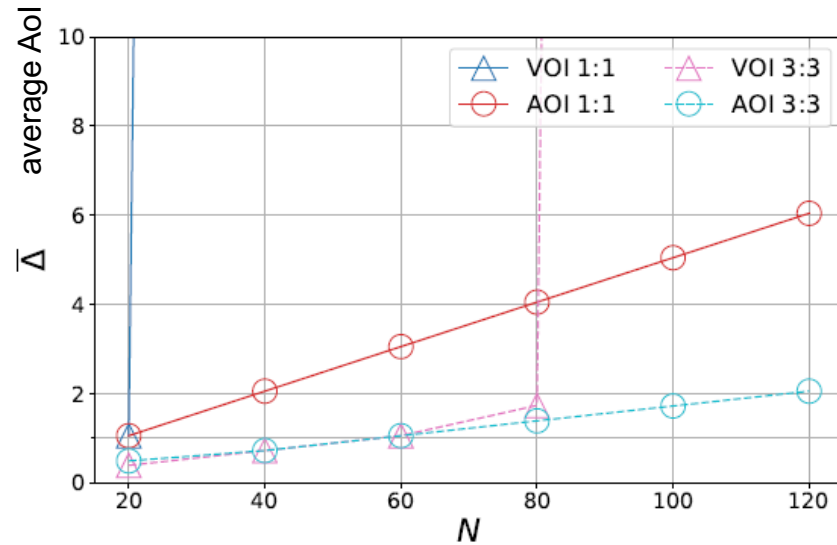
- Value of DL packets:

$$\begin{aligned} v_i^{\text{DL}}(t) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \|e_i[k_i] - e_i^B[k_i]\|^2 \right] \\ &= \|\hat{x}_i^B[k_i] - \hat{x}_i[k_i]\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

- DL scheduling:

$$\begin{aligned} &\max_{\pi^{\text{DL}}(t)} \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i^{\text{DL}}(t) \cdot v_i^{\text{DL}}(t) \\ &\text{subject to } \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i^{\text{DL}}(t) \leq R^{\text{DL}}. \end{aligned}$$

# Simulation Results



a) Average Age-of-Information per sub-system over increasing  $N$ . b) Average Integrated Absolute Error per sub-system over increasing  $N$ .  
 $R^{UL} : R^{DL} = \{1 : 1, 3 : 3\}$

$$\bar{\Delta} = \frac{1}{N} \frac{1}{T_{sim}} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{t=0}^{T_{sim}-1} \Delta_i(t)$$

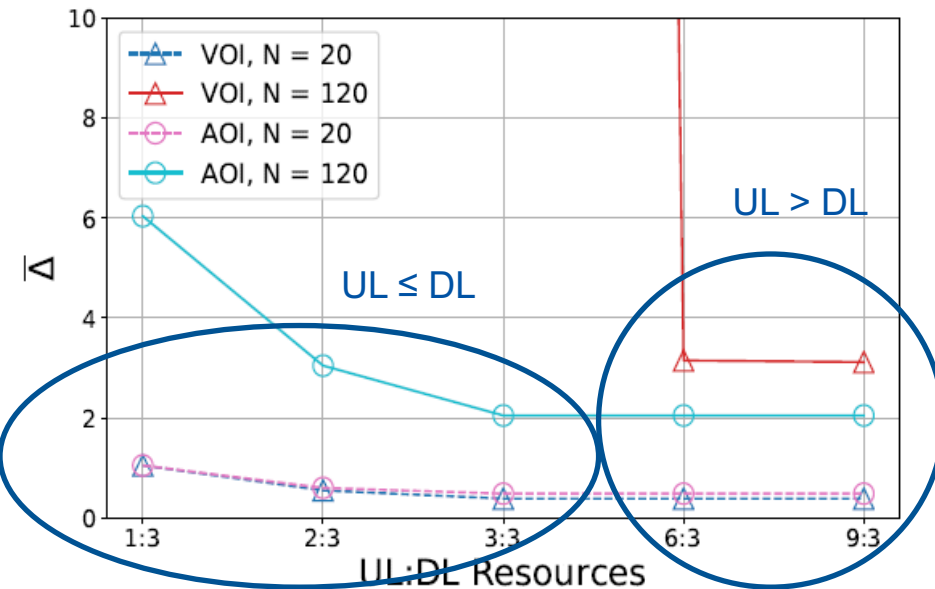
with simulation run-time  $T_{sim}$

$$\Sigma_e = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{t=0}^{T_{sim}-1} \|e_i[k_i(t)]\|$$

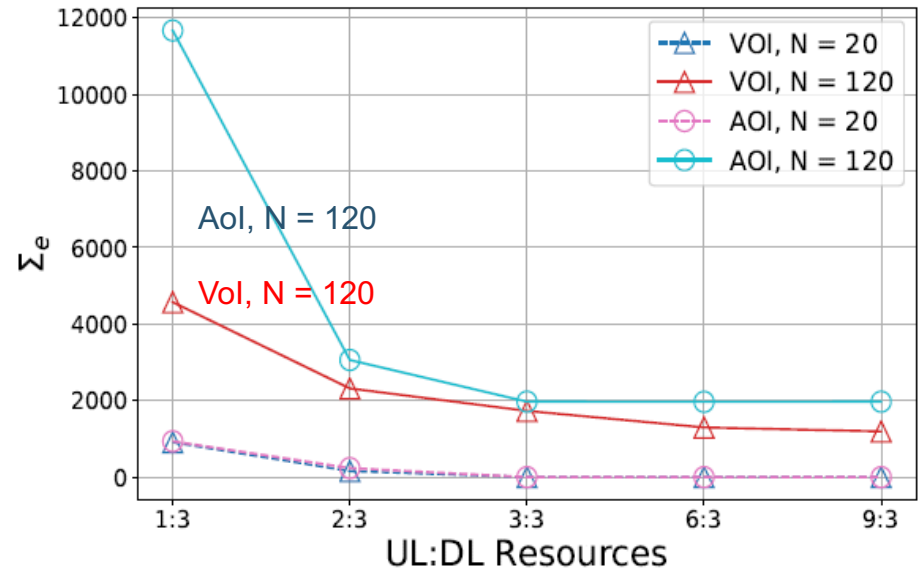
$$A_{1,2,3,4} = \{0.75, 1.0, 1.25, 1.50\}$$

- stable sub-systems (control loops) are less scheduled by Vol-scheduler (→ delay) with scarce resources (increasing  $N$ )
- Vol: less improvement expected from sensor values for stable loops

# Sensitivity to UL/DL Bottleneck Shift



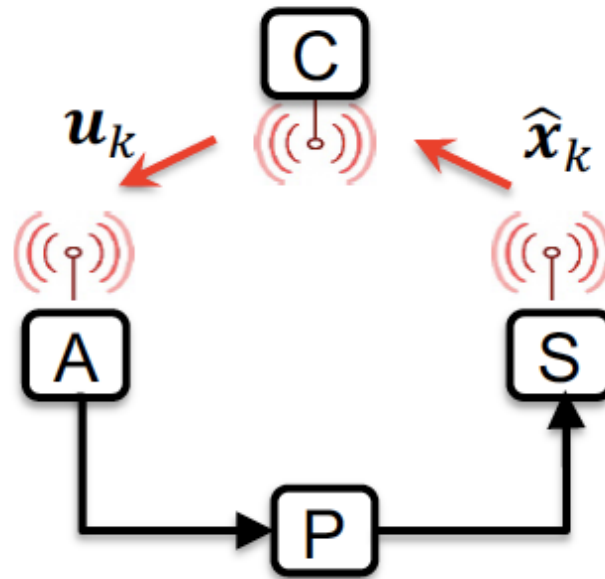
a) Average Age-of-Information over changing  $R^{\text{UL}}$ .  
 $R^{\text{UL}} : R^{\text{DL}} = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 9 : 3\}$



b) Average Integrated Absolute Error over changing  $R^{\text{UL}}$ .  
 $R^{\text{UL}} : R^{\text{DL}} = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 9 : 3\}$

- Uplink (UL) capacity increased => bottleneck shifts from UL to downlink
- Vol-scheduler can better deal with scarce resources (N=120)
- Vol buffers information that is not urgent (low Vol) (stable loops)

- System model: Networked Control System
  - Including a short primer on control
  
- Selected use cases and results
  - Decentralized wireless MAC & Control: Adaptive Random Access
  - Scheduled wireless access & Control: Age of Information vs. Value of Information
  
- **NCS experience for everybody:**  
**Intro to NCS benchmark platform**

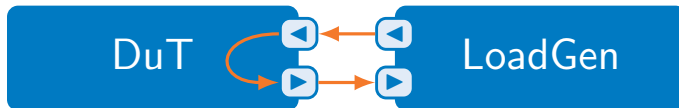


# NCS benchmark platform

<https://github.com/tum-lkn/NCSbench>

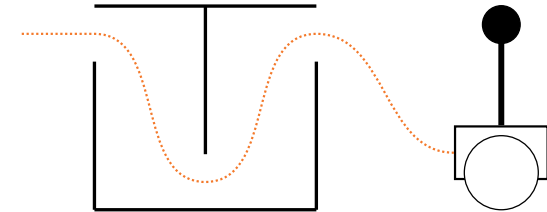
# Introduction & Motivation

## Network Domain



Network domain has well-known benchmarks

## Control Domain



Control domain has its own benchmarks

- We combined **Network** and **Control** domains
  - towards our **benchmarking** platform  
→ *NCSbench*
  - in a **practical** approach  
→ *Two-Wheeled Inverted Pendulum*

- ... a **Benchmarking** Platform that is ...
- Easy to recreate & affordable
  - Lego Mindstorm EV3
- Easy to reproduce
  - Public GitHub Repository & Wiki
  - Step-by-step instructions for usage
  - Documentation for extension



<https://git.io/fpaU4>

# Current Status & Outcome

[1] *Benchmarking Networked Control Systems,*  
**CPSBench, 2018**

[2] *Reproducible Benchmarking Platform for  
Networked Control Systems,*  
(under submission) => TR at TUM

[3] *Design Of a Networked Controller For a  
Two-Wheeled Inverted Pendulum Robot,*  
(under submission)

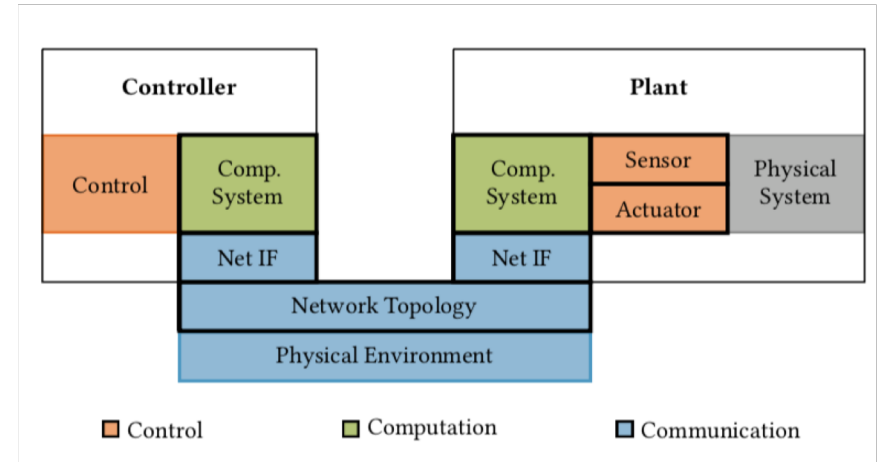


# NCSbench Platform – Implementation

- Flexible model of the CPS

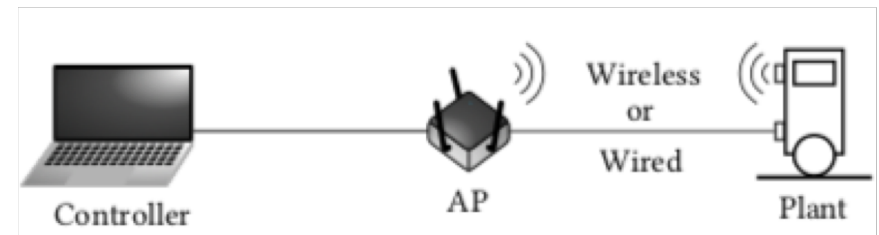
1. Computing System
2. Communication Network
3. Control Logic

→ allows the **performance analysis** of the individual components!

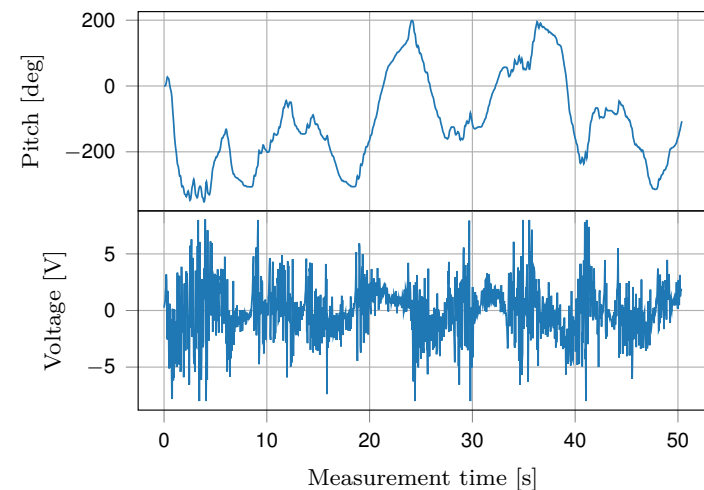
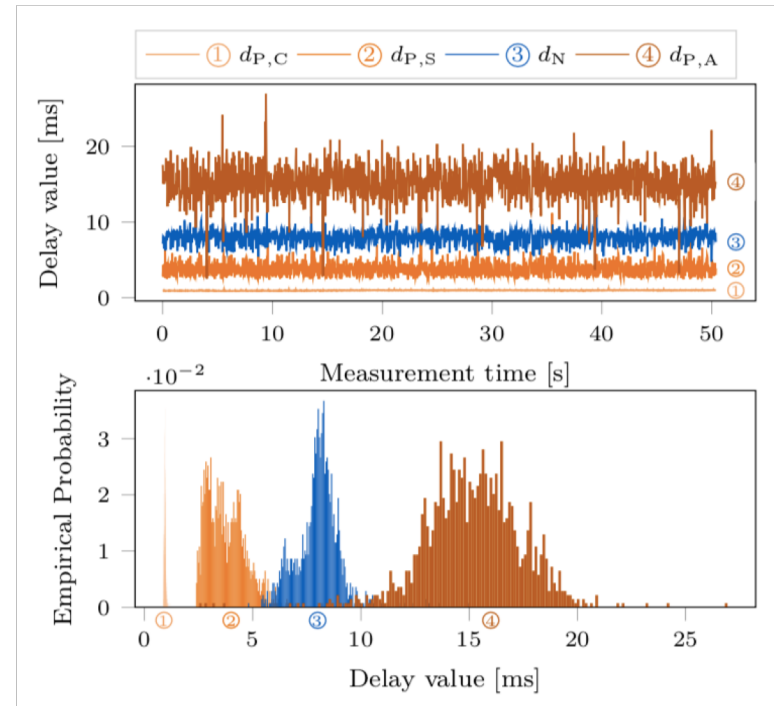


- In our implementation

1. Lego Mindstorm & any PC
2. Ethernet & Wi-Fi networks
3. Delay & packet loss tolerant



- Measures of the **delays** of the NCS
  - Network delays ( $d_N$ )
  - Controller ( $d_{P,C}$ )
  - Sensor ( $d_{P,S}$ )
  - Actuator ( $d_{P,A}$ )
  - Computing system
- Measures of the **control performance**
  - Sensor → pitch angle, robot position (fig)
  - Actuation → motor voltage (fig)



- Measurement scenario:
  - Robot balancing for one minute
  - Data collection via scripts on Controller
  - Logging on Robot too expensive (only one CPU core, slow disk), data sent to Controller
  - Network: wired (Ethernet) & wireless (IEEE 802.11g, 2.4 GHz)

- KPIs:

- Network:
  - Transmission Latency (in ms)
  - Jitter

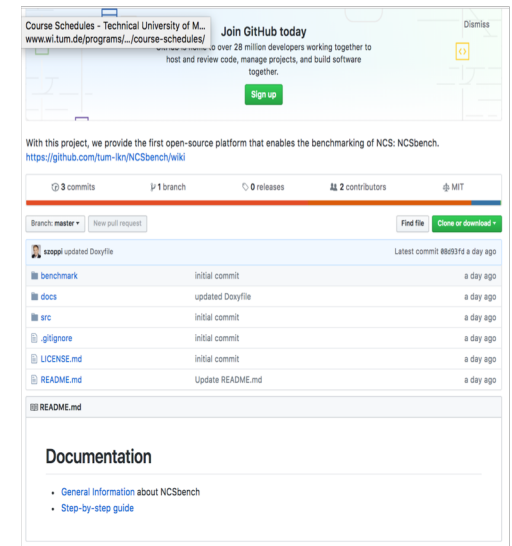
Scenario	Median +- 95%	Q3	99.9%
Wired	4.38 +- 0.041	5.03	6.66
Wireless	8.09 +- 0.053	8.54	10.88

- Control:
  - Pitch angle of robot (gyro)
  - Rotation angle of motors
  - Motor voltage
  - Lost predictions

Scenario	$\Sigma$ Pitch	$\Sigma$ Rot.	$\Sigma$ Volt	Loss
Wired	763	152090	2067	0
Wireless	938	217080	2637	10

# NCSbench: Summary

- Results:
  - Several publications directly based on the TWIP and the NCSbench
  - Collaboration between different project partners
  - Reproducible NCS benchmark combining Network & Control KPIs
- Open Source NCSbench framework (<https://git.io/fpaU4>)
  - TWIP software
  - Measurement scripts
  - Plotting scripts
- Future Work
  - Benchmarking platform is currently limited by Robot's controller
  - Solution: Better hardware (Raspberry Pi-based)
  - Testing with different networks (WLAN 802.11ac, Bluetooth)
  - Better sensors
  - Extend the TWIP to a non-linearized controller



# Conclusion

- M2M Applications → Networked Control Systems
- NCS Model → Network Induced Error for Decoupling from Control
- Global Optimization model needs further decomposition
- Threshold-based policy for multi-channel ALOHA
- Network induced error → up-/downlink scheduling problem in a cellular network scenario
- NCSbench to experiment with your favorite
  - Control law
  - Communication network strategy

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- [NCS19] <https://github.com/tum-lkn/NCSbench>



# Questions?