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# **The design of safe automotive electronic systems**

*Some problems, solutions and open issues*

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# General Context

- **Automotive industry: the most important economic sector for the next 10 years**  
(Mercer Management Consulting)

- **Automotive electronics**  
(Strategy Analytics, McKinsey)

$$\text{Cost of Electronic Embedded systems / Cost of a car} = \begin{cases} 1\% & (1980) \\ 20\% & (2005) \\ 40\% & (2015) \end{cases}$$

- **In vehicle embedded systems**

- **Electronic components** 50%
- **Software components** 50% - 1,1 KBytes (1980) → 2MBytes (2000) → 10MBytes (2004)

- **Software technology**

- **New services are easily developed**
  - **Customers requirements: cost, comfort, safety**
  - **Carmakers or suppliers requirements: cost, time to market**

Electronic systems = 90% innovation (Daimler Chrysler)

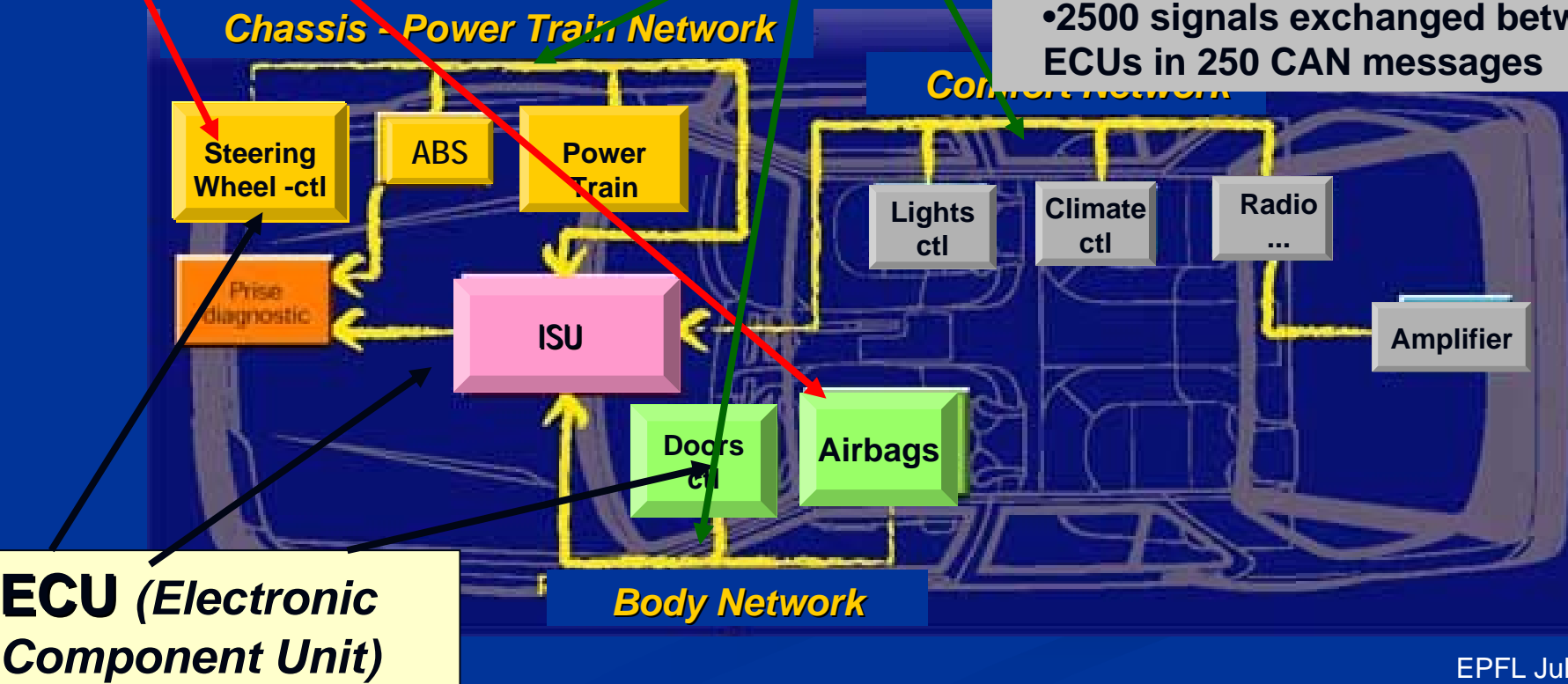
- **Mandatory for some functions (control of exhaust emission)**

# Problems

## □ Architectural complexity

**Critical Functions**

**Complex Communic Architecture**



**VW Phaeton**  
Jürgen Lehold  
IEEE WFCS 2004, Vienna, Austria

- 11 136 electrical devices
- 61 ECUs, 3 CAN networks, sub-networks, 1 bus multimedia
- 2500 signals exchanged between ECUs in 250 CAN messages

# Problems

## □ **Functional complexity**

- **Number of I/O signals - Size of the state vector (external/internal data)**
- **Integration of critical and not critical functions**
- **Interaction between functions - Functional modes**
- **Safety requirements:**
  - **Values**
  - **Performances / time constraints**

## □ **Development process**

- **Shared between several actors: Suppliers (subcontractors) / Car makers**
- **Interaction between partners**
  - **Black boxes / White boxes / Grey boxes - Intellectual property**
- **Process**
  - **Top – Down / Bottom - Up (reusability)**
- **Standards**

**Under constraints:**

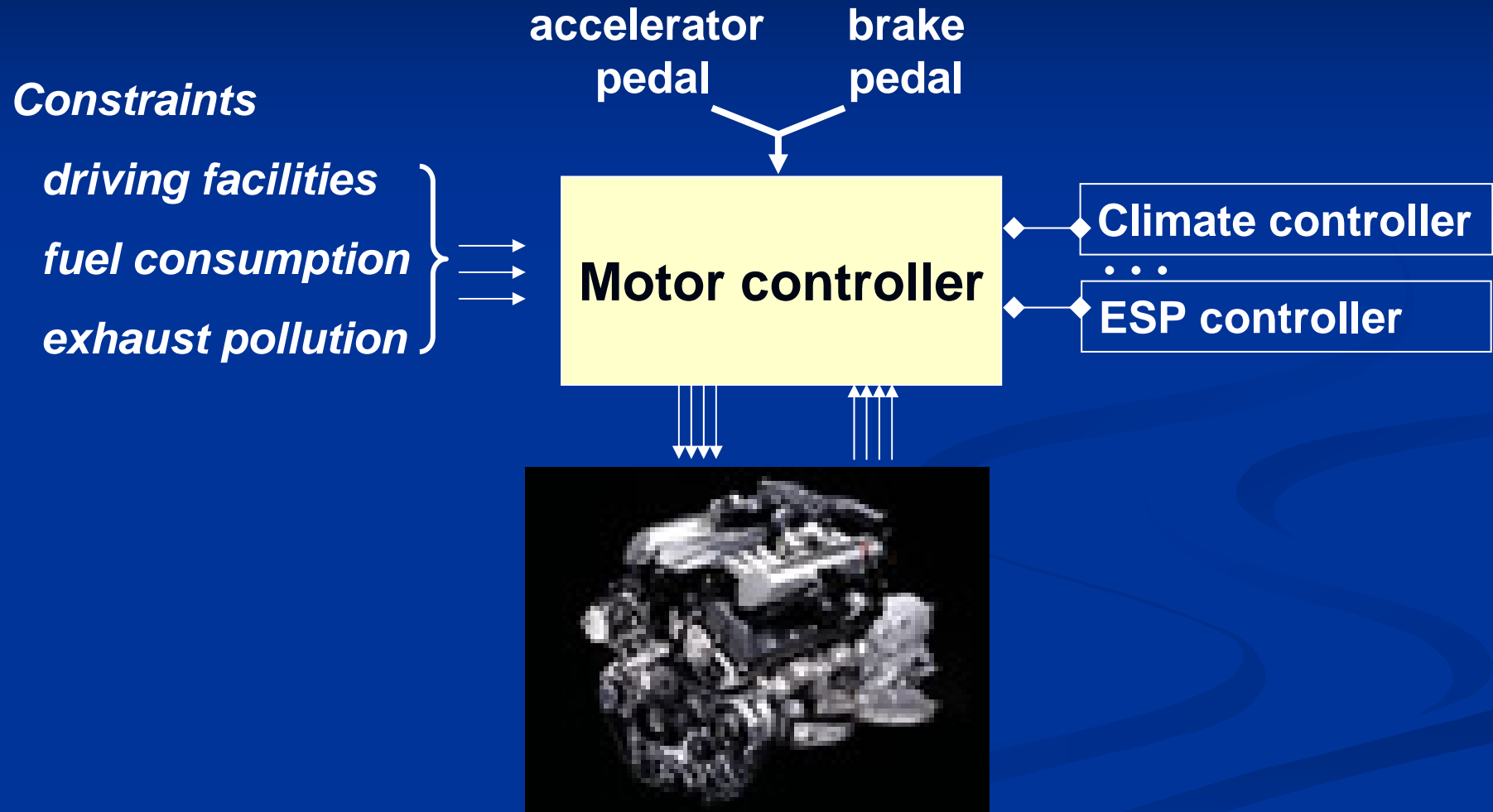
**Cost, Quality, Variants, Safety**

# Outline

- ❑ **Context and general problems**
- ❑ **Automotive domains**
- ❑ **An open issue: the safety assessment**
  - Example: a steer-by-wire system
  - Impact of the communication system
    - Priority-based protocol
    - TDMA-based protocol
- ❑ **Conclusions**



# Powertrain domain



# Powertrain domain

## □ Functional point of view

- Complex control laws
  - Multi-variables
  - Different sampling periods
    - Cyclic (motor times) - Periodic (other systems)

~ 100  $\mu$ s

~ 1 ms

## □ Operational point of view

- High computation power (*floating point coprocessors*)
- Multi-tasks (different activation rules)
- Compromise cost / resolution of sensors
- **Stringent time constraints (response time, freshness)**

# Chassis

**Forces**

*ground, wind*

Steering  
column

brake  
pedal

Wheel – suspension - ...  
controller

(ABS – ESP – ASC – 4WD - ...)

Other  
systems

**Constraints**

*comfort*

*safety*

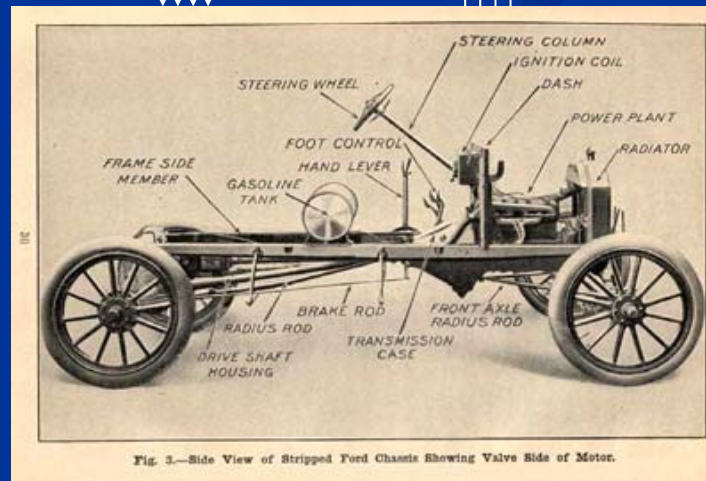


Fig. 3.—Side View of Stripped Ford Chassis Showing Valve Side of Motor.



# Chassis

## □ Functional point of view

- Complex control laws

## □ Operational point of view

- High computation power (*floating point coprocessors*)
- Multi-tasks (different activation rules)
- Compromise cost / resolution of sensors
- Distribution
- **Stringent time constraints (response time, freshness, temporal consistency)**

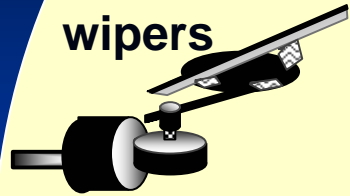
~1 ms

X-by-Wire

Critical domain for the safety

# Body domain

# Innovation



wipers

lights



doors,

windows,

seats,

...

mirrors



Drivers  
Passengers

controllers

Other  
systems

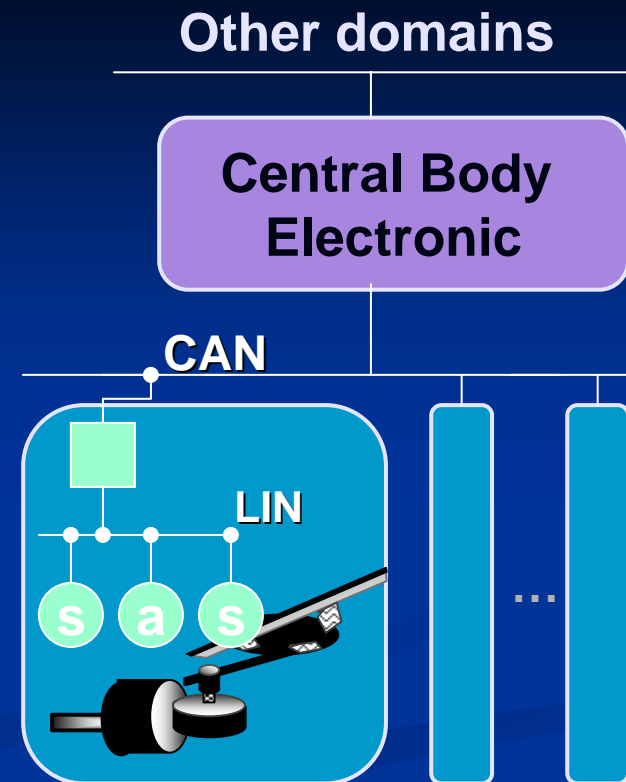
# Body domain

## □ Functional point of view

- Numerous functions
- Reactive systems

## □ Operational point of view

- Highly distributed
- Hierarchical distributed system
- Time constraints (response time, temporal consistency)
- Central Body Unit (critical entity)
  - Optimal scheduling of tasks
  - Optimal scheduling of messages



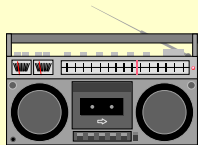
# Telematic, multimedia domain

Driver  
Passengers



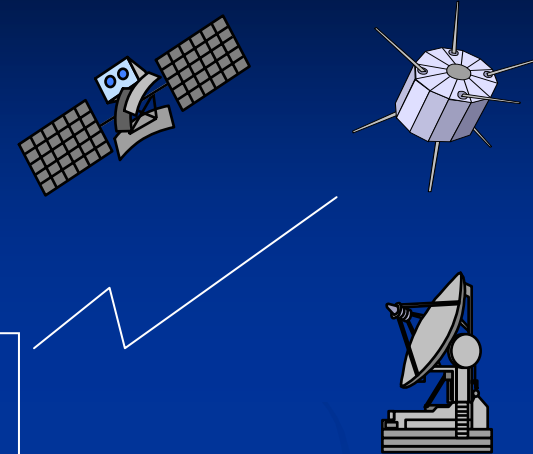
Human Machine Interface  
Multimedia applications  
Communication

Other  
systems



Telediagnostic

...



# Telematic, multimedia domain

## □ Operational point of view

- Upgradable devices, applications
- « Plug and play »
- Properties: security, multimedia QoS
  - Resource sharing
  - Fluid data streams
  - Bandwidth

# Driver assistance → Active safety

- ❑ Night vision support
- ❑ Pedestrian object recognition
  
- ❑ ACC
- ❑ Lane keeping assistant
  
- ❑ Collision avoidance

**Complexity  
of the  
closed loop**

**Deterministic  
guarantees  
safety and  
performance**

# Domain characteristics

**Probabilistic  
guarantees**

	<i>Application type</i>	<i>Constraints</i>	<i>Specification</i>
<b>Power train</b>	<b>Hybrid systems</b>	<b>Hard real time</b>	<b>Matlab/Simulink</b>
<b>Chassis</b>	<b>Hybrid systems</b>	<b>Hard real time (safety)</b>	<b>Matlab/Simulink</b>
<b>Body</b>	<b>Discrete event systems</b>	<b>Real time</b>	<b>State machine (SDL, Statecharts)</b>
<b>Telematic - HMI</b>	<b>Multimedia data flow processing</b>	<b>Soft real time – Security – QoS</b>	<b>?</b>

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- ❑ **An open issue: the safety assessment**
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  - **Impact of the communication system**
    - **Priority-based protocol**
    - **TDMA-based protocol**
- ❑ **Conclusions**



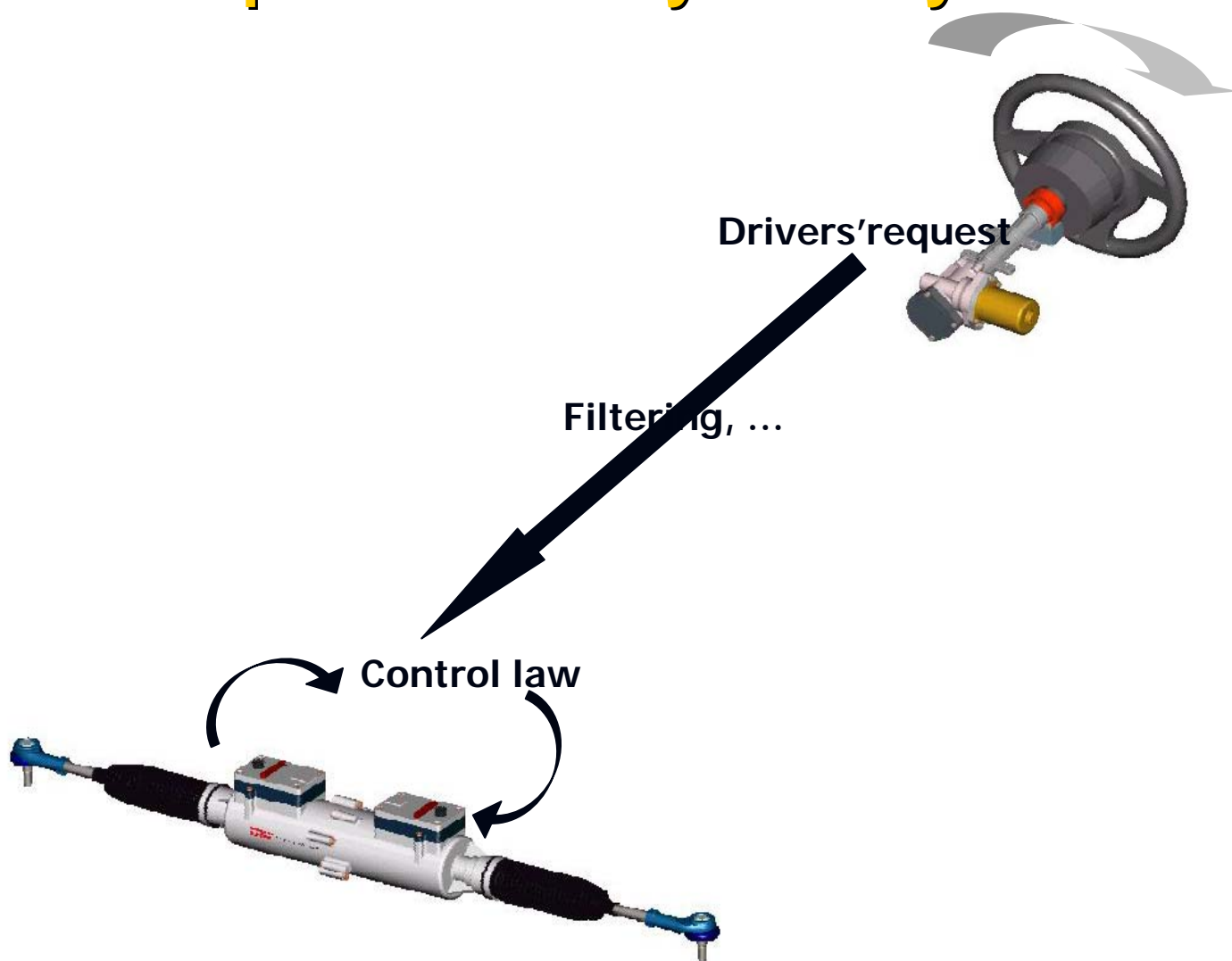


# An open issue: safety assessment

- Design for cost, performance  
→ Design for safety
- Reliability of electronic devices: difficult to evaluate formally
- Perturbation due to environment: not completely known
- Models for dependability evaluation: difficult to build, what level of accuracy, difficult to analyze
- Emergence of X-by-Wire systems (electronic technology): required stringent safety properties

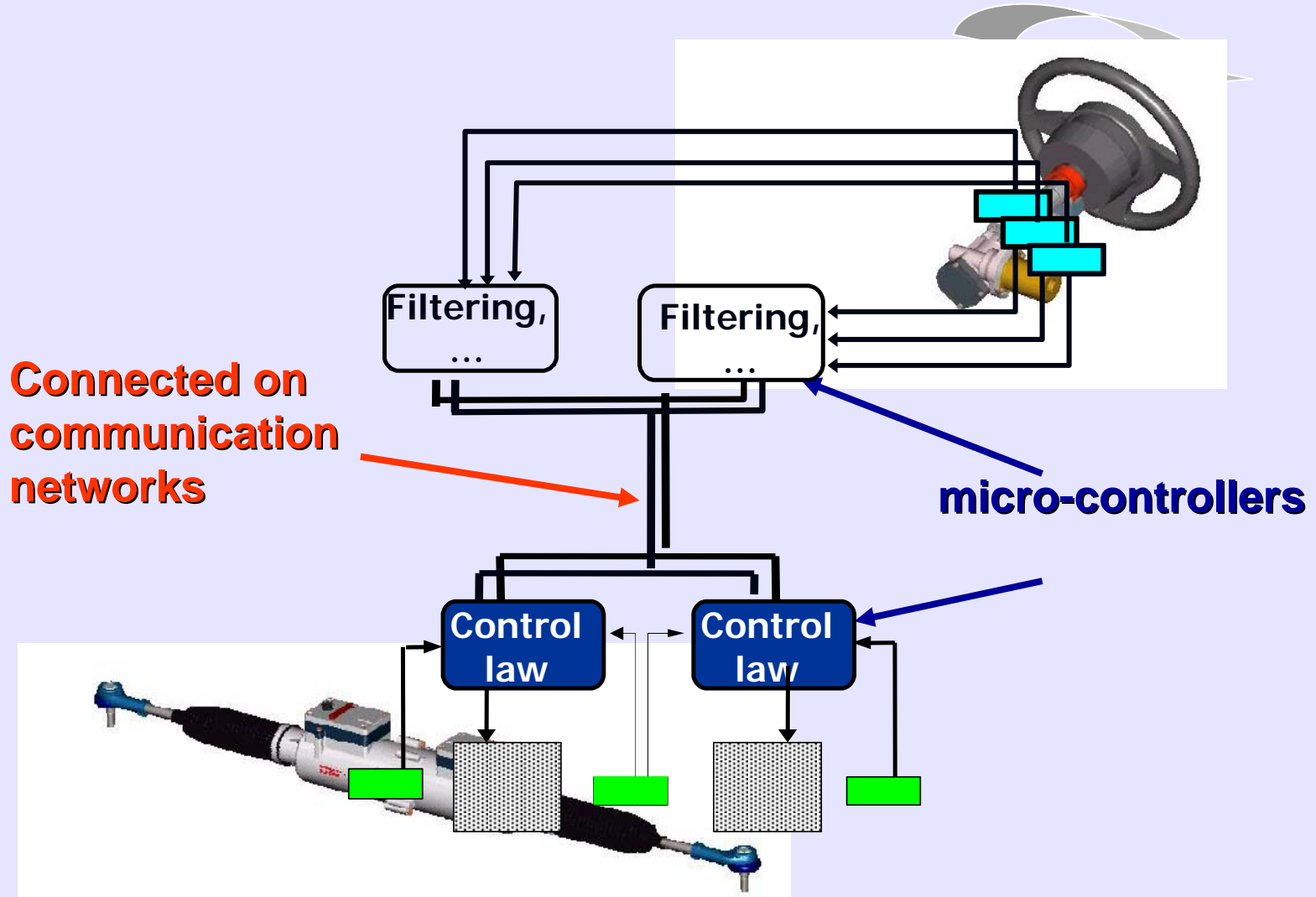
# An open issue: safety assessment

## Example: a Steer-by-Wire system



# An open issue: safety assessment

## Example: a Steer-by-Wire system



# An open issue: safety assessment

## □ Regulatory laws

- Internal recommendations, TÜV

## □ Standards

- DO 178B, C (avionic), EN 50128 (railway industry)
- MISRA (Motor Industry Software Reliability Association)
- IEC 61508 (generic)
- OSI 26262 (draft 2005, forecasted publication 2007)

**(Automotive) Safety Integrity Level**  
**SIL1 .. SIL4 / ASILx**

# An open issue: safety assessment

## □ OSI 26 262

### ➤ Identification of scenario, situation

- Frequency (often, quite often, sometimes, rare events)
- Severity (death of persons, severe, light, no injuries)
- Driver controllability (no, >1/100, >1/10)

### ➤ Determination of function ASIL

- ASIL A, ..., ASIL D

### ➤ ASILx corresponds to safety integrity attributes

- Functional (no wrong signals)
- Quantitative

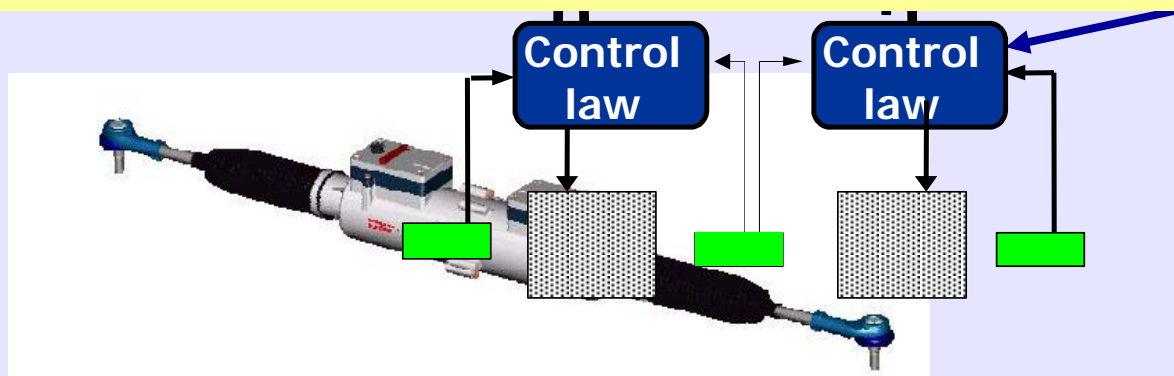
*Probability for a critical failure to occur in one hour  $< 10^{-n}$*

# An open issue: safety assessment

## Example: a Steer-by-Wire system



**Probability of a critical failure occurrence  $< 10^{-9}$**

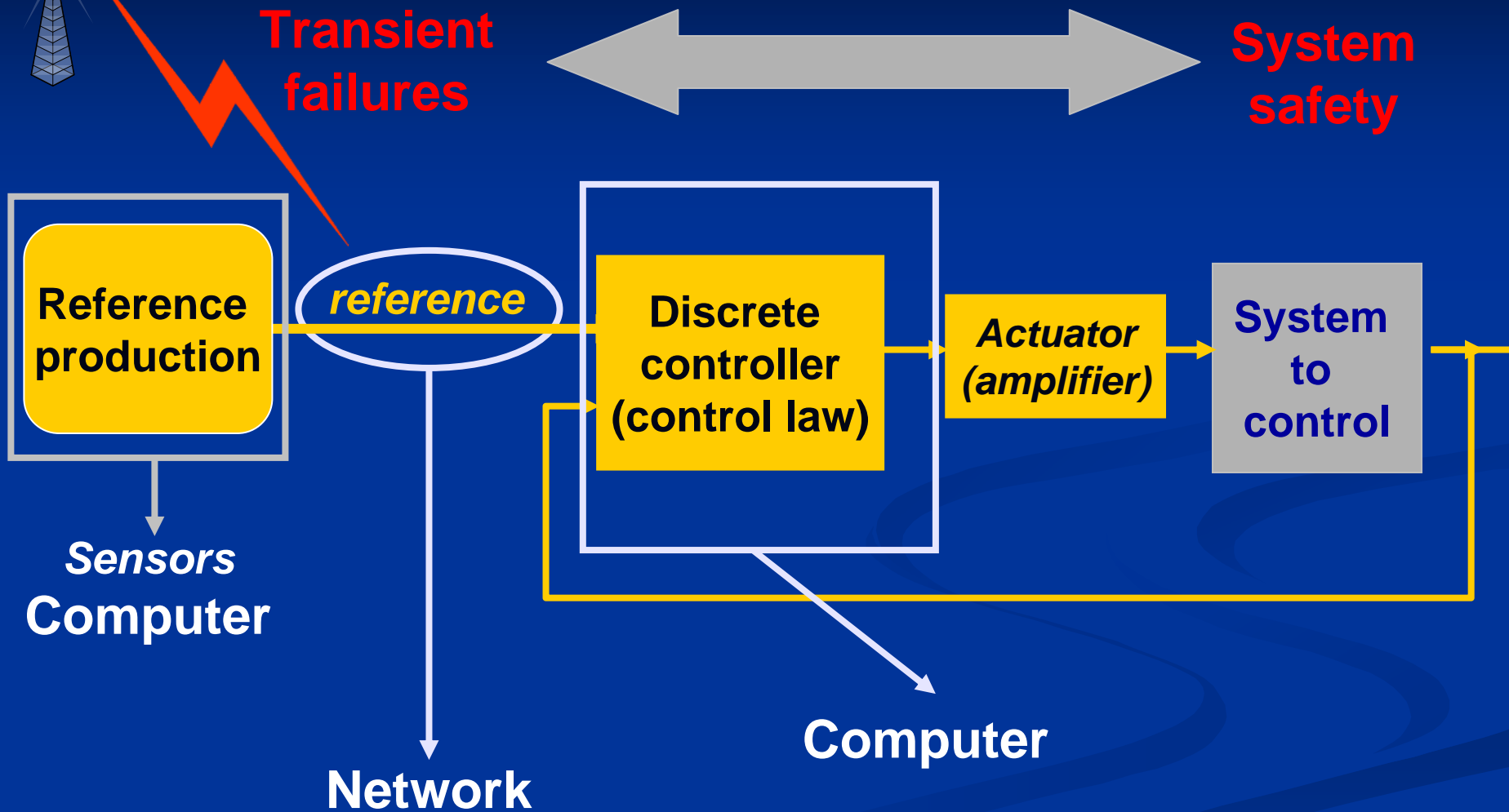


# An open issue: safety assessment

## □ A steer-by-wire: safety evaluation

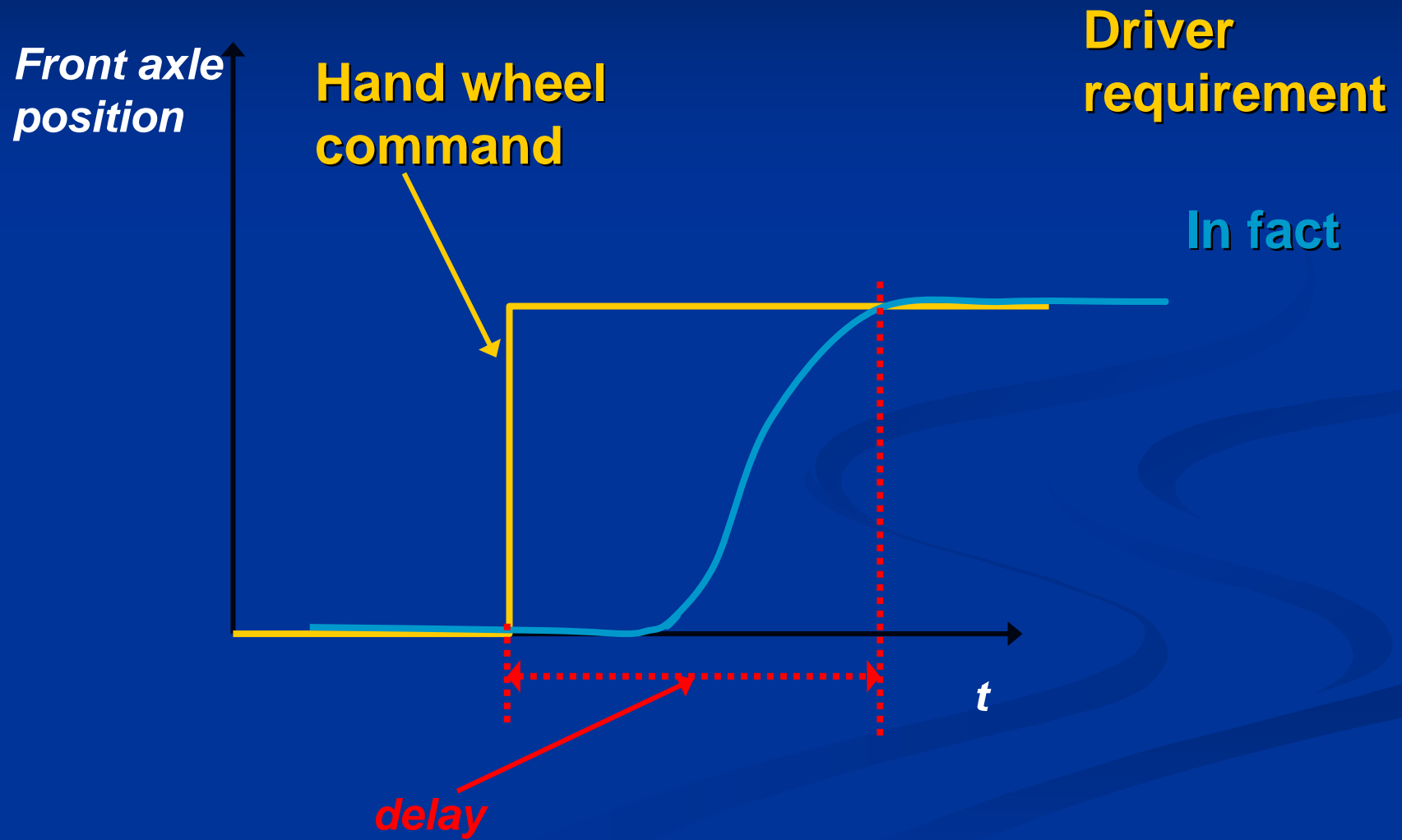
- On hardware components/architecture
- On software components (proof, code inspection, test cover, etc.)
- On the operational architecture
  - Behavioral aspects (tasks, frames)
    - Vehicle response time
    - Embedded systems response time
  - Behavior *under transient faults* (EMI perturbations, overload situation, ...)

# An open issue: safety assessment



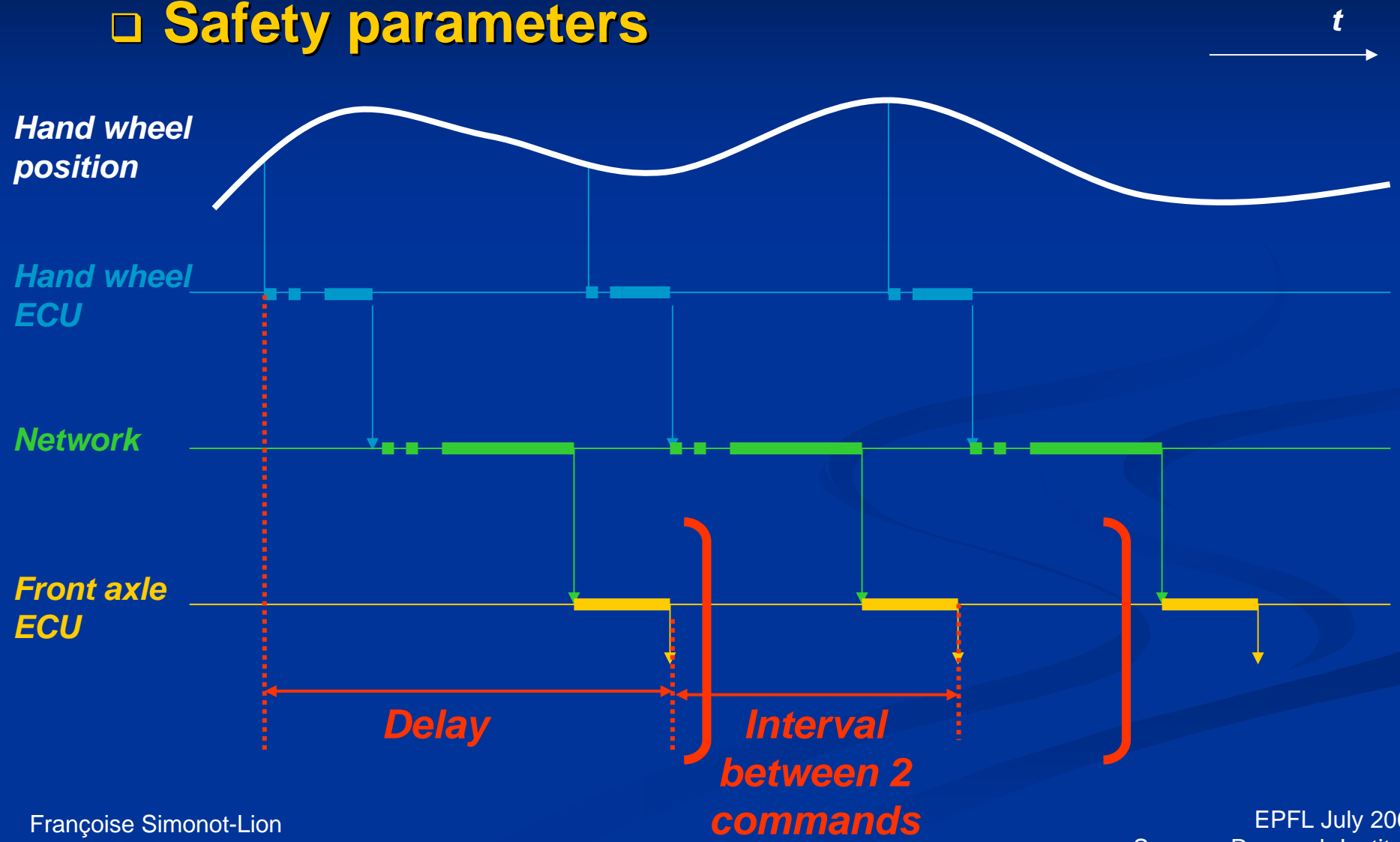


# An open issue: safety assessment



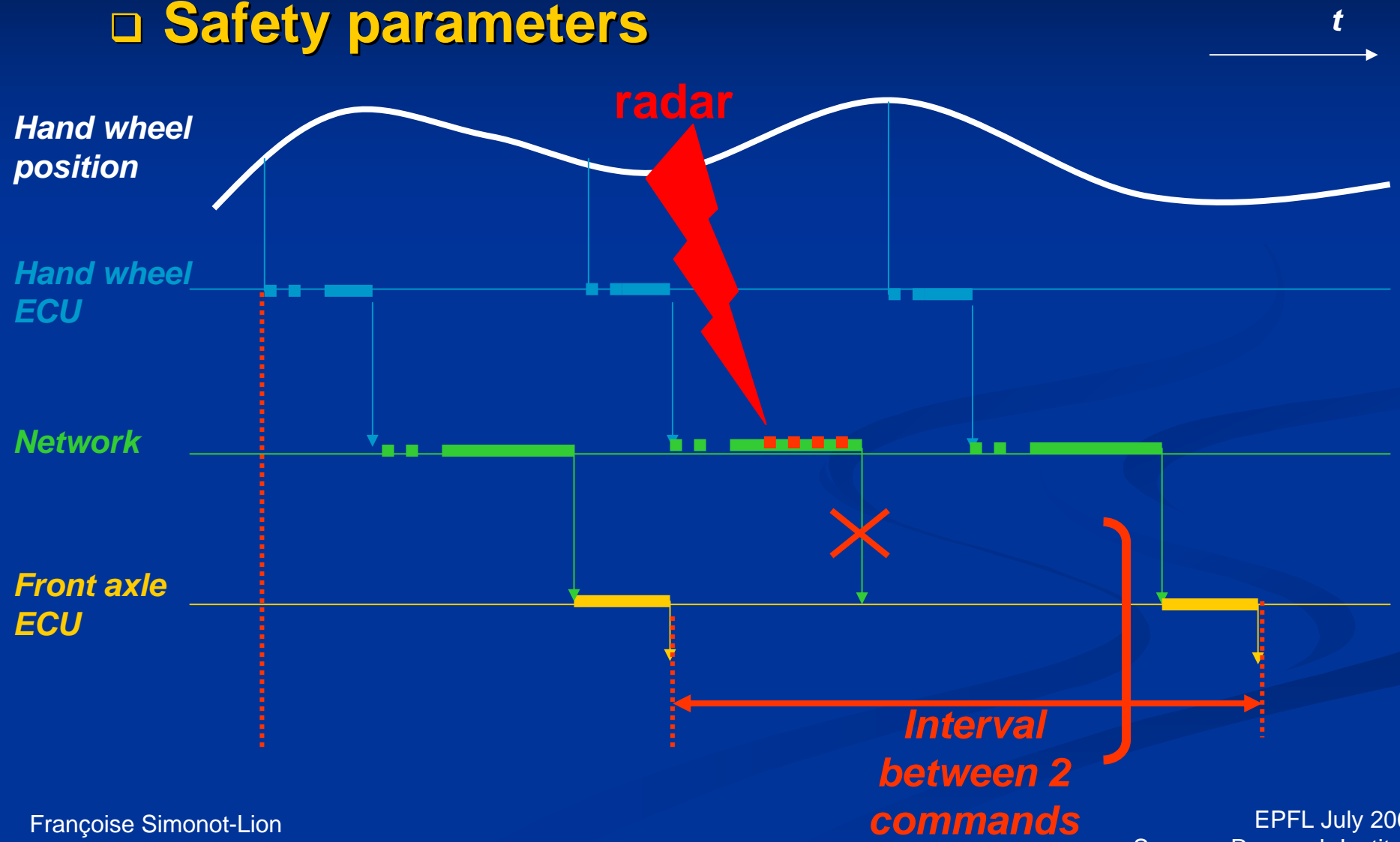
# An open issue: safety assessment

## □ Safety parameters



# An open issue: safety assessment

## □ Safety parameters



# Technological standards

## □ Networks and protocols - paradigms

### ➤ Event-triggered

Transmission of messages only when an event occurs

CAN

+	-
minimisation of bandwidth consumption incremental design	verification of temporal constraints detection of failed nodes

TTCAN

FTTCAN

FlexCAN

FlexRay

### ➤ Time-triggered

Transmission of message at predetermined points in time

TTP/C

+	-
predictability detection of failed nodes	network utilisation (aperiodic messages) flexibility

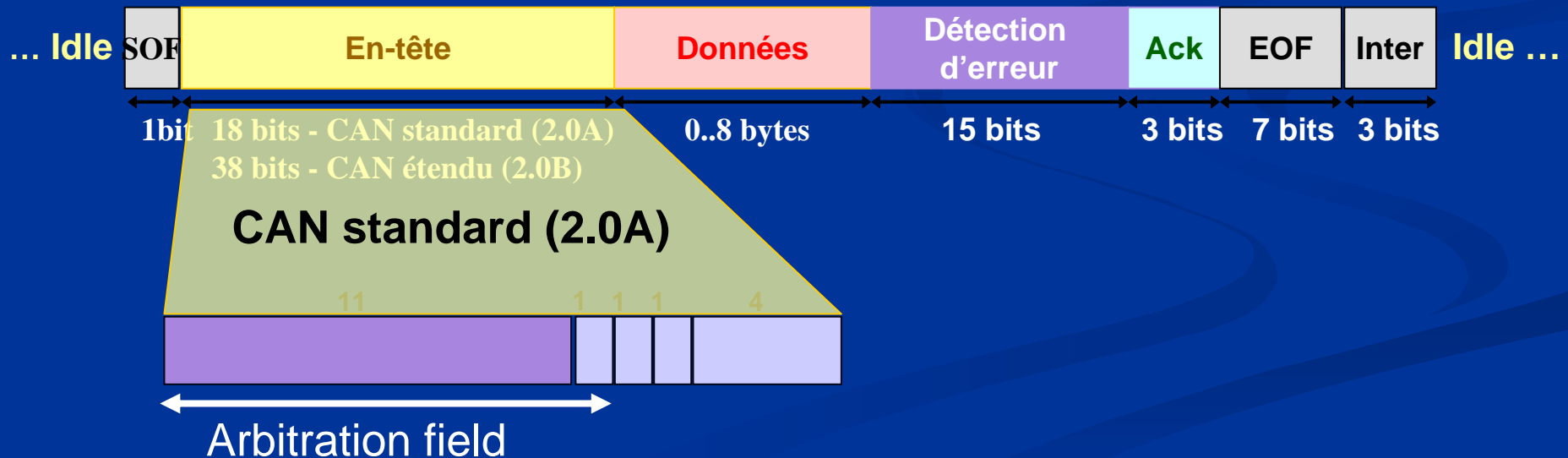
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# CAN – format of the frame

- ❑ Start of Frame (SOF) / synchronisation
- ❑ Header
- ❑ Application data
- ❑ CRC field
- ❑ Acknowledgement field
- ❑ End of frame (EOF), Intermission frame (Inter)



# CAN – Priority-based arbitration

- ❑ Arbitration – bit dominant (0) / recessive (1)
- ❑ Frame identifier
- ❑ Example : 3 nodes try to emit at the same time

Node 1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	listen			
Node 2	1	1	0	0	1	listen						
Node 3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1

Signal  
on the  
bus

1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

**Node 3 gain access to the bus**

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Without error

### □ Periodic / sporadic emission of frames

- Period  $T_m$  (seconds)
- Length of application data  $s_m$  (bytes)

### □ Bounded jitter on frame emission

- Jitter  $J_m$  (seconds)

### □ Constraint

- Relative deadline  $D_m$  (seconds)



# CAN – response time evaluation

- Frames are scheduled on the bus according to a **Fixed Priority Non Preemptive (FPNP)** scheduling policy
- The worst case response time of a frame is given by (K. Tindell, 1994):

$$R_m = J_m + W_m + C_m$$

Emission  
jitter

Worst waiting time  
to gain access to  
the bus

Worst (physical)  
transmission time

$$R_m \leq D_m$$

# CAN – response time evaluation

- Worst (physical) transmission time (11 bits identifier)

Overhead due to stuffing

$$C_m = \left( \left\lceil \frac{34 + 8s_m}{4} \right\rceil + 47 + 8s_m \right) \tau_{bit}$$

Length of applicative data (bytes)

Bit time duration (1μs for a 1Mbit/s. bus)

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Worst waiting time

Worst blocking time due to frames of lower priority (no preemption)

Worst blocking time due to frames of higher priority

$$W_m = B_m + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[ \frac{W_m + J_j + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

$W_m$  (circled in red)  
 $B_m$   
 $\forall j \in hp(m)$   
 $W_m + J_j + \tau_{bit}$  (circled in red)  
 $T_j$   
 $C_j$

Set of frames of higher priority than m

Emission period of frame j

$$B_m = \max_{\forall k \in lp(m)} (C_k)$$

Set of frames of lower priority than m

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Recurrent algorithm

$$w_m^n = \max_{\forall k \in lp(m)} (C_k) + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[ \frac{w_m^{n-1} + J_j + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

$$w_m^0 = 0$$

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Under errors

- **Periodic / sporadic emission of frames**
  - Period  $T_m$ (seconds)
  - Length of application data  $s_m$  (bytes)
- **Bounded jitter on frame emission**
  - Jitter  $J_m$ (seconds)

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Error model 1 (K. Tindell, 1994)

∀ t, in [0,t]

➤ 0 or 1 burst of errors

➤ Size of the burst:  $n_{\text{errors}}$

➤ Minimal interarrival of two consecutive errors:  $T_{\text{errors}}$

**Worst case – maximum number of errors in [0,t]:**

$$(n_{\text{error}} + \left\lceil \frac{t}{T_{\text{error}}} \right\rceil - 1)$$

# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Overhead due to one error

### ➤ Error frame emission

**23  $\tau$ bits (worst case)**

### ➤ Retransmission of the erroneous frame

**occurrence of all the errors at the last bit of the longest frame that is able to be transmitted (worst case)**

# CAN – response time evaluation

Overhead due to the errors occurring in

$$\left[ 0 \quad w_m^{n-1} + C_m \right]$$

Worst waiting time to gain access to the bus (without errors)

$$w_m^n = E_m(w_m^{n-1} + C_m) + \max_{\forall k \in lp(m)} (C_k) + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left\lceil \frac{w_m^{n-1} + J_j + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right\rceil C_j$$

$$w_m^0 = 0$$

$$E_m(t) = (n_{error} + \left\lceil \frac{t}{T_{error}} \right\rceil - 1) \cdot (23\tau_{bit} + \max_{j \in hp(m)} (C_j))$$

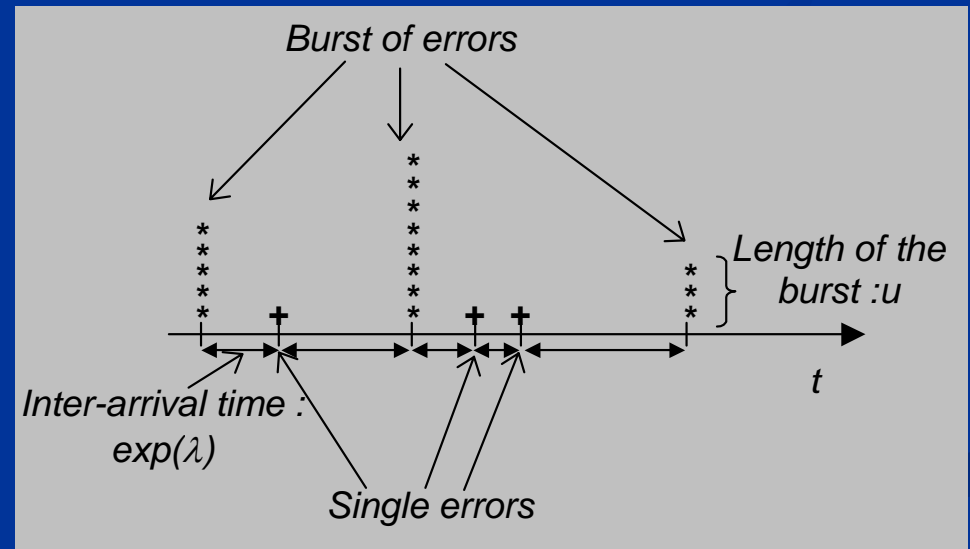


# CAN – response time evaluation

## □ Error model 2 (N. Navet, 1999)

The number of errors in  $[0 t]$  is a random variable  $X(t)$

- the inter-arrival of errors is given by  $\exp(\lambda)$ ,
- the length of a burst (number of errors) is given by  $u$ ,
- when an error occurs,  $a$  is the probability that this error is a burst and  $1-a$  that it is a single error



# CAN – response time evaluation

Overhead due to  $i$  errors

Worst waiting time to gain access to the bus

$$w_m^n(i) = \varepsilon_m(i) + \max_{\forall k \in lp(m)} (C_k) + \sum_{\forall j \in hp(m)} \left[ \frac{w_m^{n-1}(i) + J_j + \tau_{bit}}{T_j} \right] C_j$$

$$w_m^0(i) = 0$$

$$\varepsilon_m(t) = i \cdot (23\tau_{bit} + \max_{j \in hp(m)} (C_j))$$

$$\eta_m = \max\{n \in N \mid R_m(n) \leq D_m\}$$

**worst-case deadline failure probability**

$$P[X(R_m(\eta_m)) > \eta_m]$$

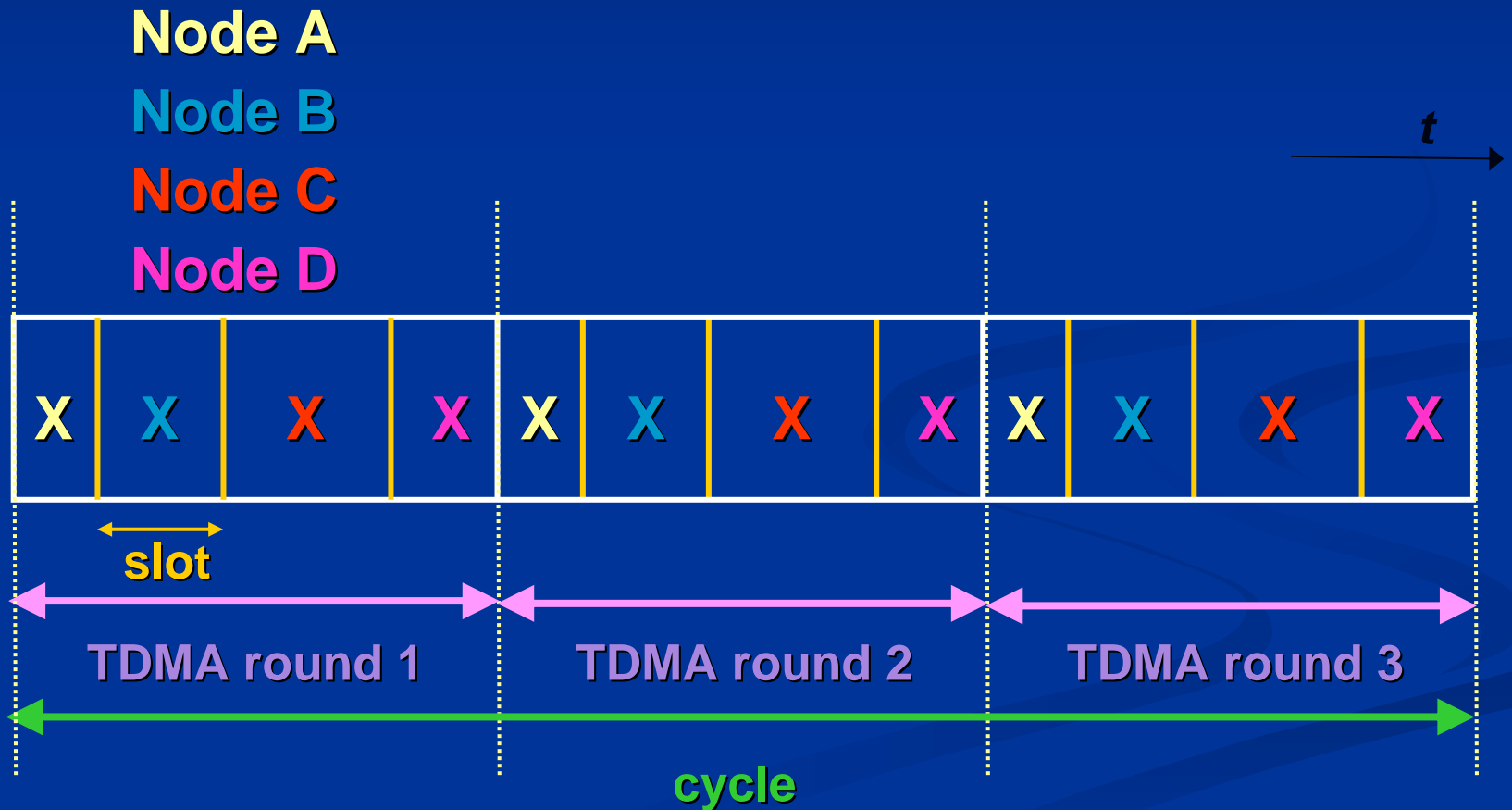
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# TDMA-based protocol

## □ Principles



# TDMA-based protocol

- **Probability for the system to reach a critical failure mode (Wilwert, 2005)**



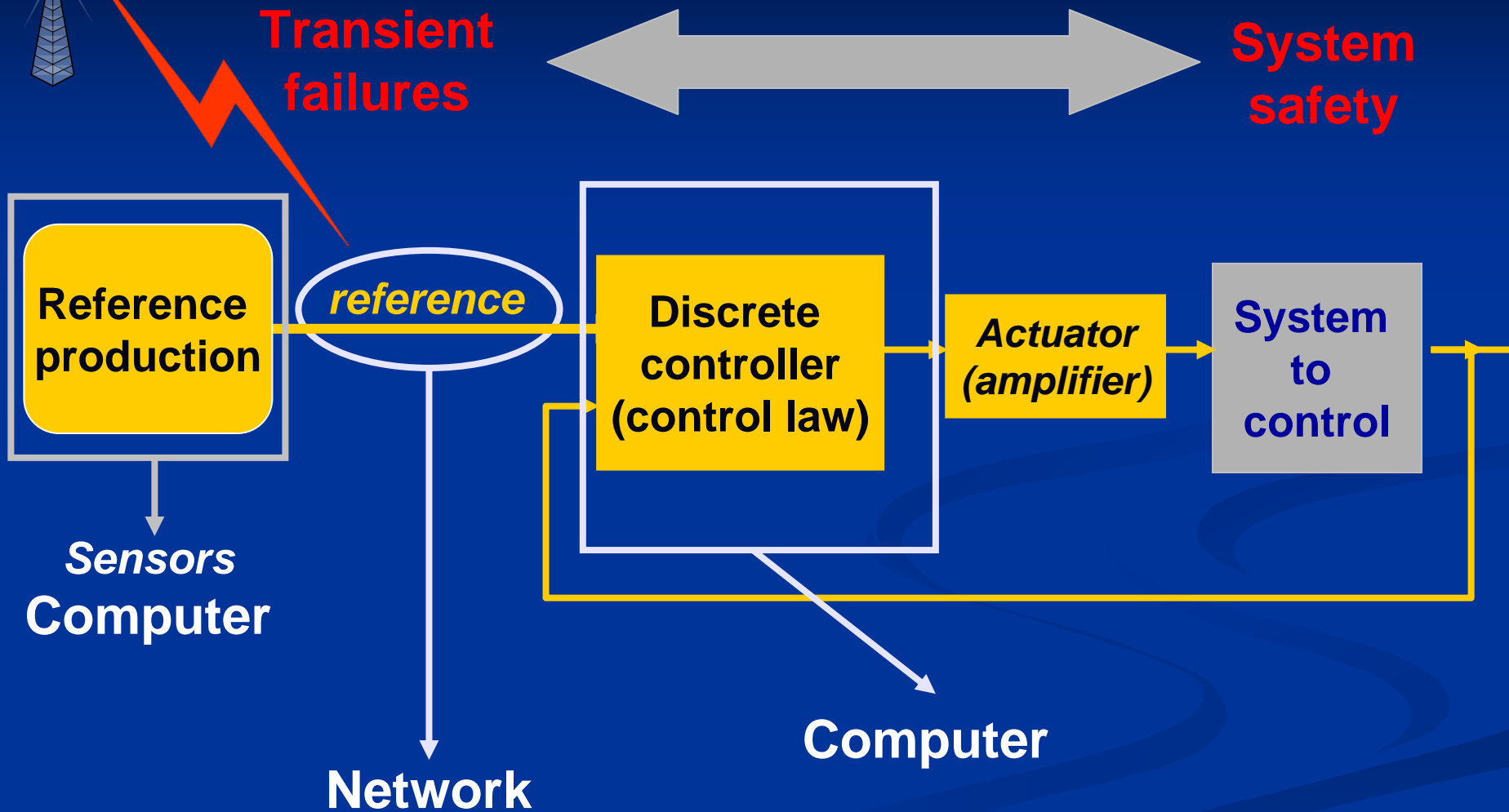
External fault (EMI perturbation)

Failure at communication system level (erroneous frame)

Fault at the controller level (loss of a reference)

Failure at system level (the system is no more safe)

# An open issue: safety assessment

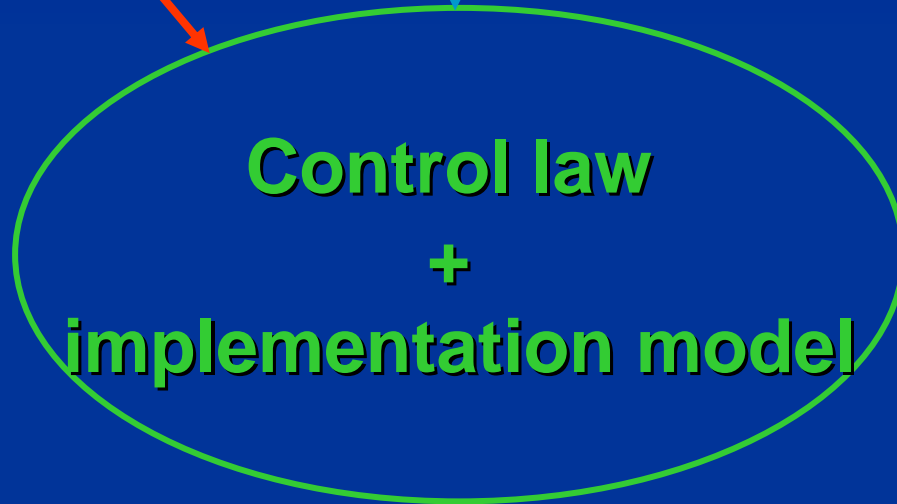


# TDMA-based protocol

## □ Models

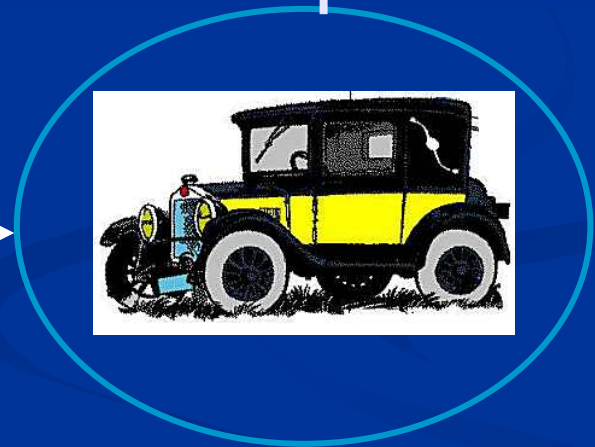
Parameters (cycle length,  
etc.)

Fault injection

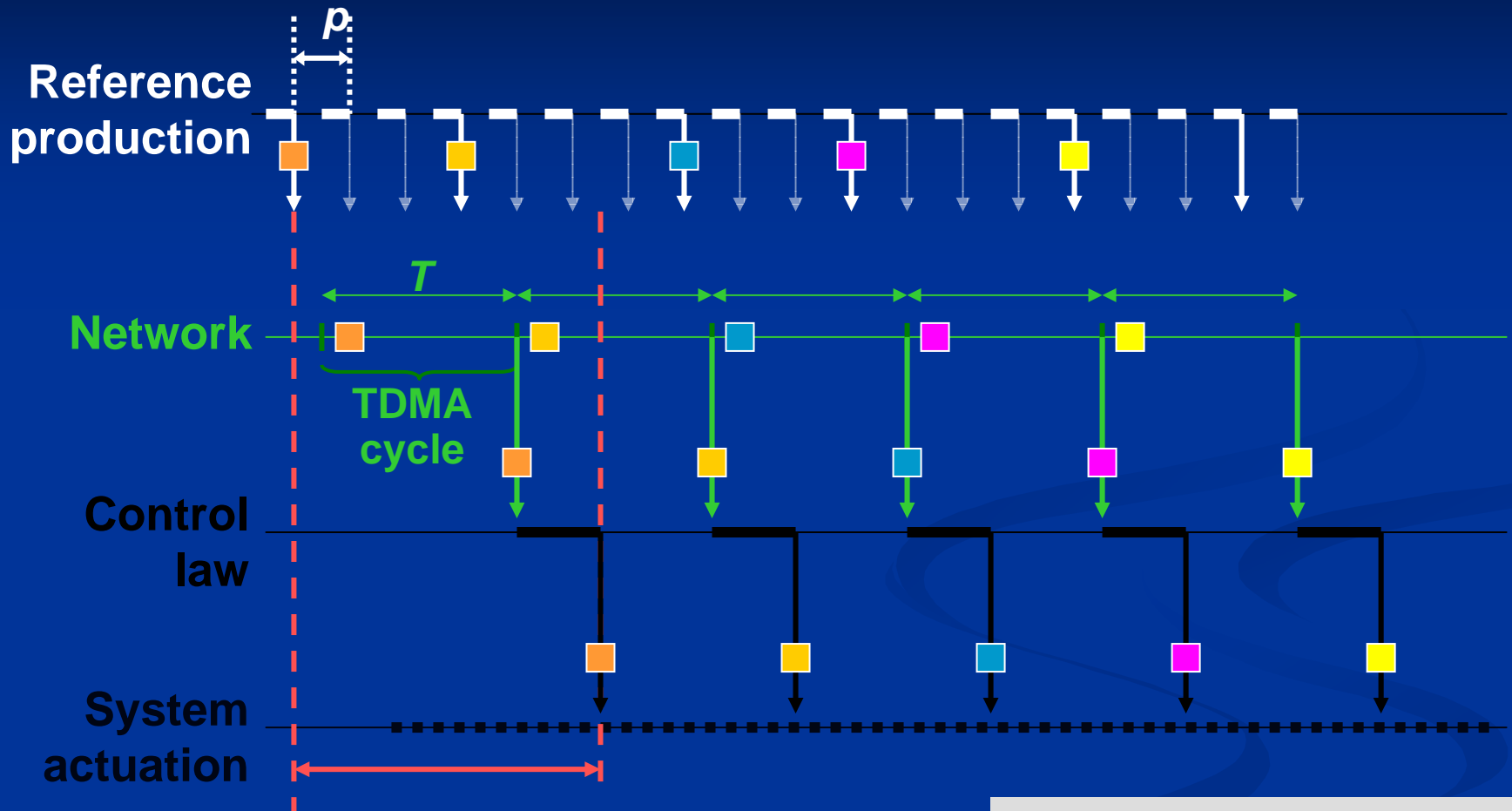


Matlab / Simulink  
model

Indicators



# Which reference for each control law execution?

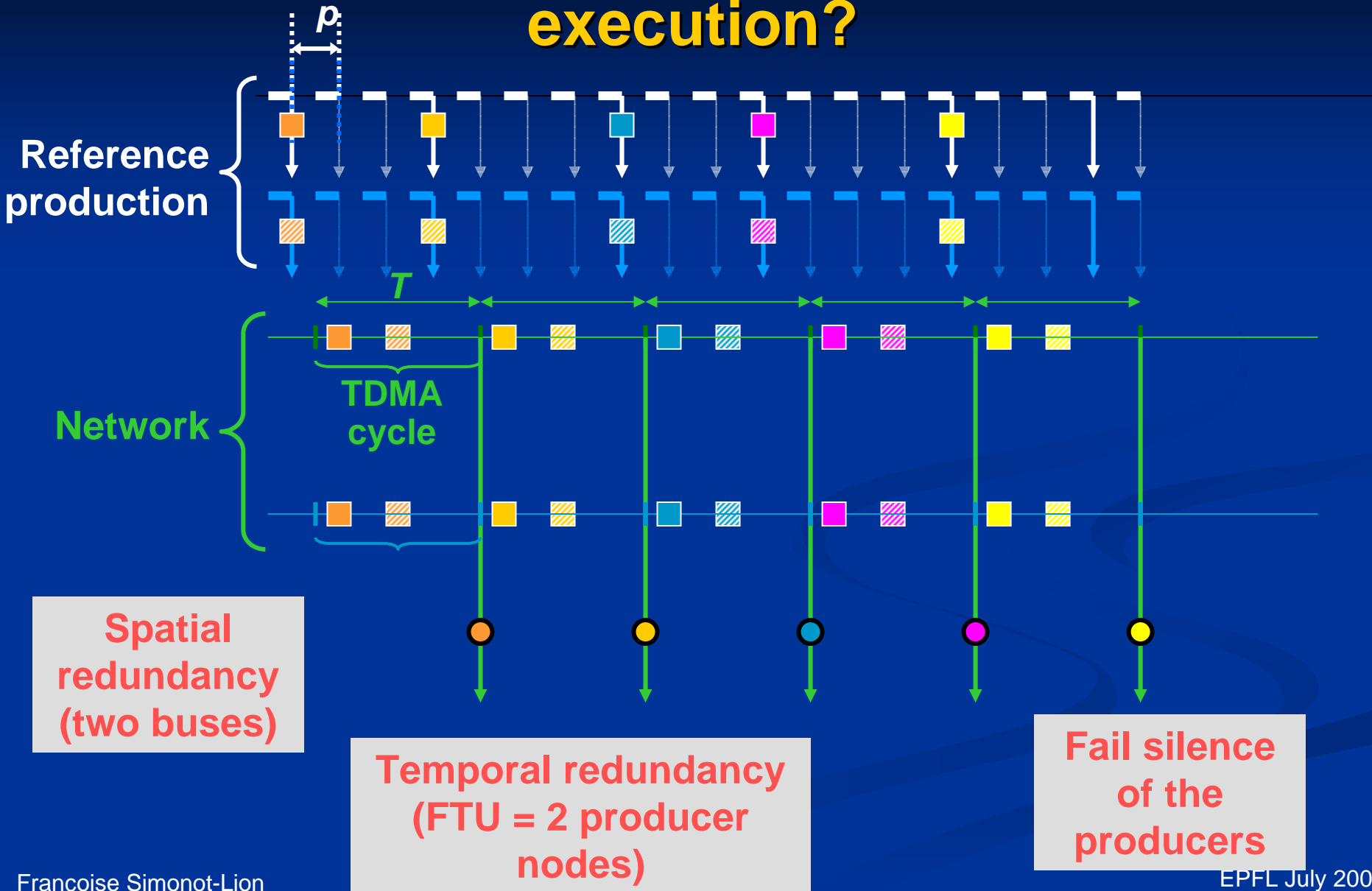


**Bounded delay**

**Control law synchronized with the TDMA cycle**



# Which reference for each control law execution?



# What reference for each control law execution?



→ *The probability of non-detection by the controller of an erroneous reference is negligible*

Spa  
redundancy  
(two buses)

Temporal redundancy  
(FTU = 2 producer  
nodes)

Fail silence  
of the  
producers

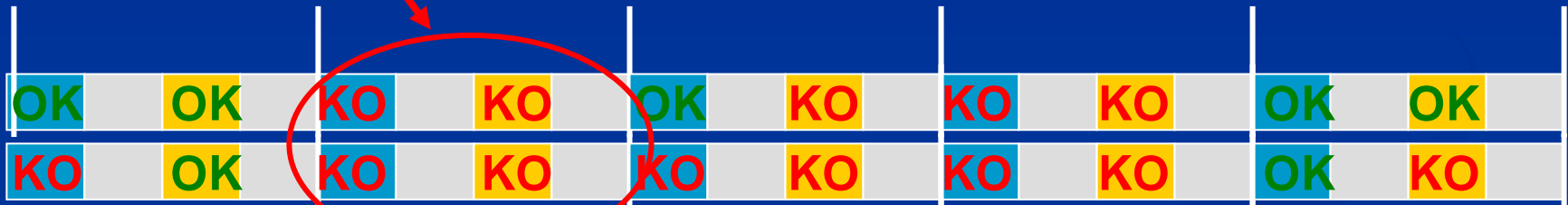
# Role of the controller

External  
fault



Failure at the  
« slot » level

# Role of the controller



Failure at the  
TDMA-cycle level  
=  
Fault for the  
controller

→ ***Fault tolerance of the controller:  
recovery mechanism  
(compensation)***

# Role of the controller

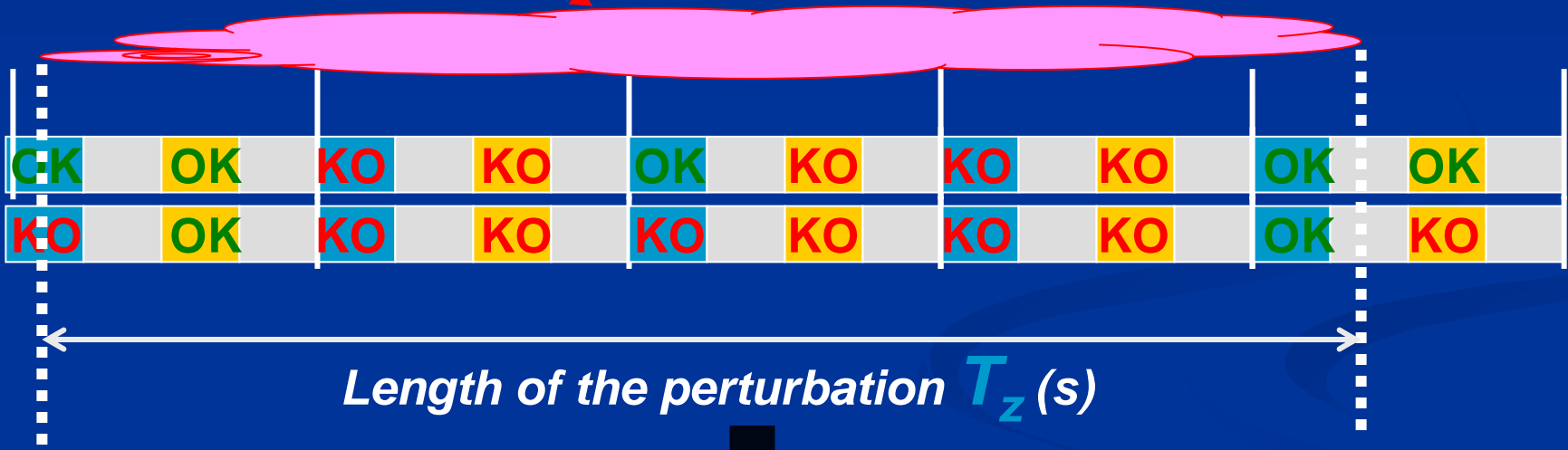
→ ***Failure of the controller:***  
***the controller is able to control the***  
***system in a **safe mode** if and only if***  
***there are less than **k consecutive faults*****

***The system is therefore no more safe!***

# Characterization of a perturbation



How long?



Length of the perturbation  $T_z$  (s)

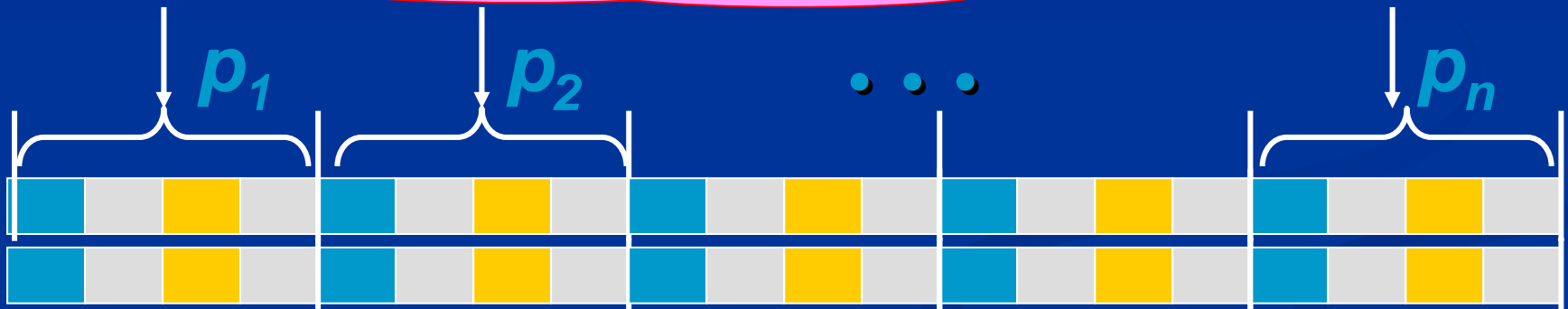
Length of the perturbation  $n$  (TDMA cycles) – worst case

$$n = \left\lceil \frac{T_z}{T} \right\rceil + 2$$

# Characterization of a perturbation



How?



$p_i$  probability for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  TDMA cycle in a sequence of  $n$  cycles to be fully corrupted

# Problem

To determine the probability to have more than  $k$  consecutive corrupted cycles when the system is under a perturbation whose duration is  $T_z$  and whose effect is given by the function  $P(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$

$$P_{fail}(k, T_z, P)$$



# Technical solutions

## □ Similar to « consecutive-k-out-of-n:F » systems - C(k,n:F)

- System = ordered sequence of  $n$  components
- The system fails if and only if more than  $k$  consecutive components fail
- $L_n$ : number of consecutive failed components

$$P(L_n < k) = R(k, n; p)$$

[Burr, 1961], [Lambridis, 1985], [Hwang, 1986]

$$p_1 = p_2 = \dots = p_n = p$$

$$R(n, k; p) = \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor (n+1)/(k+1) \rfloor} (-1)^m p^{mk} q^{m-1} \left( \binom{n-mk}{m-1} + q \binom{n-mk}{m} \right)$$

$$\text{with } q = 1 - p$$

**Efficient algorithm  
(ETFA05)**

# Technical solution for $P$ variable?

## □ Recurrent relation:

*Given a probability profile  $P = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$*

$$u_m(k) = u_{m-1}(k) - \lambda_m(k)u_{m-k-1}(k) \text{ for } k+1 \leq m \leq n$$

$$u_m(k) = 1 \text{ for } 0 \leq m \leq k-1$$

$$u_k(k) = 1 - \lambda_k(k)$$

$$\lambda_m(k) = q_{m-k} p_{m-k+1} p_{m-k+2} \dots p_m$$

for  $m \geq k$  with  $q_0 = 1$  and  $q_m = 1 - p_m$



$$P_{fail}(k, T_z, P) = 1 - u_n(k), \text{ with } n = \left\lceil \frac{T_z}{T} \right\rceil + 2$$

# Case study: a Steer-by-Wire system

## ❑ Extreme situation

- vehicle speed (90 km/h)
- sharp turning

## ❑ Perturbated area $T_z = 1.5$ s

## ❑ Matlab/Simulink model

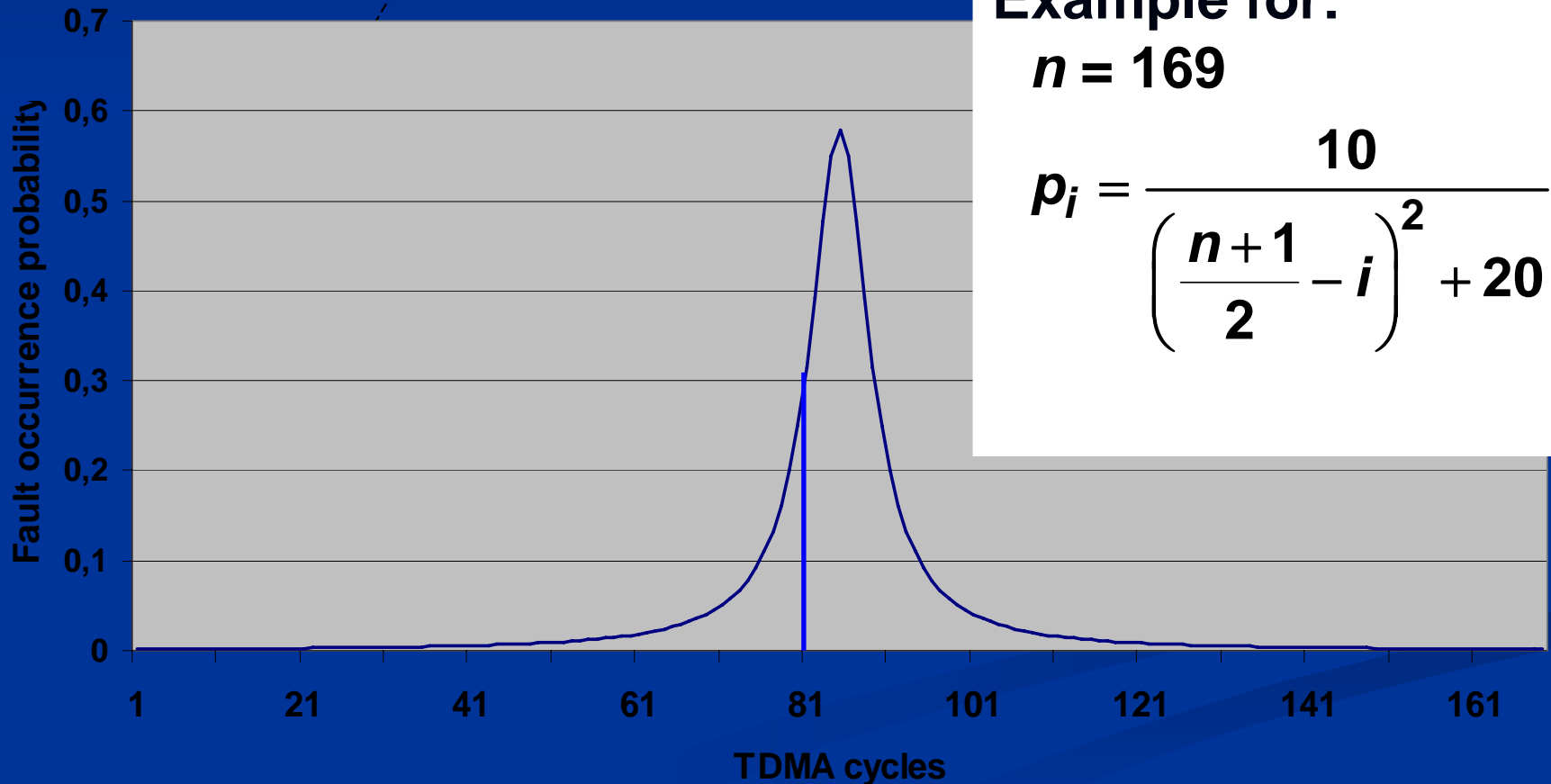
- Controller + Vehicle
- Fault injection / simulation



➔ **controller tolerance**  
 **$k$  = maximum tolerated number of consecutive corrupted TDMA-cycles**

# Case study: a Steer-by-Wire system

## □ Perturbation profile: radio transmitter



# Case study: a Steer-by-Wire system

$$p_i = \frac{10}{\left(\frac{n+1}{2} - i\right)^2 + 20}$$

TDMA cycle <i>T</i> (ms)	Perturbation duration <i>n</i> (TDMA cycles)	Tolerance of the controller <i>k</i> (TDMA cycles)	System failure probability <i>P<sub>fail</sub></i>
4	377	10	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-8}$
7	217	5	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$
10	152	4	$0.8 \cdot 10^{-2}$

# Conclusions

## ❑ Automotive industry is dependent of software-based embedded systems

➤ Emergence of X-by-Wire systems

Timing, dependability annotations

➤ Technological standards – communication networks

## ❑ Safety assessments

➤ Standard ISO 26 262

Certification, verification

➤ Integration of several points of view

Multi-competencies experts

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# Thank you

