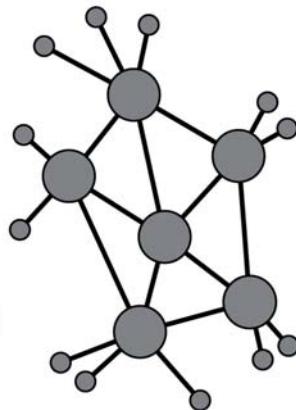


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Band 35

Herausgeber: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christoph Ruland



Thomas Koller

**Communication Security for
Distributed Mixed-Criticality Systems**

2018

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Communication Security for Distributed Mixed-Criticality Systems

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Abstract

The increasing computational power of embedded systems allows the usage of various applications in one system. These applications may possess diverse safety requirements and have to be classified into different criticality levels. Systems that execute applications of different criticality levels are called Mixed-Criticality Systems (MCSs). In addition to the increasing computational power of embedded systems, there is the trend to interconnect the individual MCSs to distributed MCS. Assuring the safety of a system protects against unintended faults. Intentional faults are often not covered by safety. They may also lead to a failure of the system. To protect the system against intentional faults, security services have to be used. Hence, there is no safety without security. The dependability of the communication is important in safety critical systems. The usage of secure communication services can prevent attacks that lead to a fault. Security in distributed MCSs was barely addressed by now. This work proposes the extension of the core services of a distributed MCSs by secure communication services.

First, the architecture of a distributed MCS is introduced and its core services are explained. The architecture and the core services are analyzed regarding threats, followed by a discussion on attack scenarios. The attacks are divided into internal and external attackers. The analysis of the architecture allows the classification of the system into different security domains. These security domains are the cluster level and the application level. Security services for these domains are defined and grouped into security levels. Security services on the cluster level protects the communication between the subsystems. The core service time synchronization is an example for a service using the secure cluster-level communication. Security services on the application level provide a secure end-to-end channel between applications. The usage of the application-level security is illustrated by the core service resource management. For both the application level and the cluster level, the necessary key management is

presented. Both possess individual methods for key generation and distribution, adjusted for the respective level.

The security solution for distributed MCS presented in this thesis hardens the systems against attacks and protects the system from faults that may impair the dependability of the system.

Zusammenfassung

Eingebettete Systeme werden immer leistungsfähiger und ermöglichen die Nutzung unterschiedlicher Anwendungen mit verschiedenen sicherheitskritischen Anforderungen. Systeme, deren Anwendungen unterschiedliche Kritikalitätsanforderungen haben, werden Mixed-Criticality Systems (MCSs) genannt. Gleichzeitig werden diese Systeme zunehmend vernetzt, was die Kommunikation der Komponenten und Anwendungen verschiedener verteilter Subsysteme untereinander erlaubt. In sicherheitskritischen Systemen ist die Zuverlässigkeit dieser Kommunikation von besonderer Bedeutung. Nicht nur zufällige Fehler, sondern auch aktiv herbeigeführte Fehler beeinträchtigen die Zuverlässigkeit. Um das System vor aktiv herbeigeführten Fehlern zu schützen, können Kommunikationsicherheitsdienste eingesetzt werden. Diese Arbeit befasst sich mit der Kommunikationssicherheit in verteilten MCSs.

Zunächst wird die Architektur eines verteilten MCS vorgestellt und ihre Basisdienste erläutert. Anschließend wird die Architektur und deren Basisdienste im Hinblick auf potenzielle Bedrohungen analysiert und Angriffsszenarien erläutert, die in interne und externe Angriffe unterteilt sind. Die Analyse der Architektur erlaubt die Einteilung des Systems in verschiedene Sicherheitsbereiche und -ebenen, sowie die Definition der für die Architektur erforderlichen Sicherheitsdienste. Diese Dienste müssen sowohl auf Cluster- als auch auf Applikationsebene bereitgestellt werden, da die Clusterebene zwar die Sicherheit auf den Verbindungen zwischen den Subsystemen bereitstellt, allerdings keine Ende-zu-Ende Sicherheit gewährleisten kann. Für beide Ebenen werden Sicherheitsarchitekturen mit den entsprechenden Anforderungen entwickelt. Ein Beispiel für diese Anforderungen auf Clusterebene ist der Basisdienst Zeitsynchronisation, der die Uhren der verschiedenen Systemkomponenten synchronisiert. Die Sicherheitsmechanismen der Clusterebene bauen auf bestehende Protokolle auf. Für die Applikationsebene ist ein eigenes Protokoll entwickelt worden. Die Anwendung der Sicherheitsdienste auf Applikationsebene wird am Beispiel des Basis-

dienstes Resource Management verdeutlicht. Beide Ebenen verfügen über eigene Methoden des Schlüsselmanagements. Schlüsselverteilung und -vereinbarung sind angepasst an die jeweilige Ebene.

Die in dieser Arbeit entwickelte Sicherheitsarchitektur für verteilte MCSs sichert das System gegen Angriffe ab und schützt das System vor Fehlern, welche die Zuverlässigkeit des Systems beeinträchtigen können.

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This thesis was created during my employment at the Chair for Data Communication Systems at the University of Siegen and has been supported by the research project Distributed Real-time Architecture for Mixed Criticality System (DREAMS) of the European Union.

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