

SpaceWire RT 2.1



Although the principle of allocating time slots appears simple, and has been used elsewhere, its application to SpaceWire appears to be getting very complex (and, therefore, increasingly hard to validate).

- Is SpaceWire fundamentally different from other networks?
 - Because it does *not* behave like a bus or ...?
- Is there a fundamental conflict between requirements
 - e.g. guaranteed delivery (with retries) and timely delivery (limiting the number of retries)?

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Despite the ever-increasing size of the document, there are still many issues regarding a practical implementation.

- We do not yet understand the proposal well enough to provide support.

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How robust is the proposal?

What is the behaviour under abnormal conditions

- What happens if a destination node fails to accept data fast enough and a packet lasts into another time slot?
- What happens if a node sends too much data (jabbering node)– or takes too long sending it?

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Backward compatibility?

- Nodes
 - It appears that *all* nodes must be changed to meet the RT requirements, even if they have no RT behaviour.
 - Can devices such as SMCS332 be used without a CPU – e.g. as FIFO interfaces etc.
- Router
 - Support for a second time code (if needed)?
 - Access control to cut-off over-long (size or time) packets at the end of a time slot?

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Simplification?

Much of the complexity appears to originate with extensive Quality of Service provision

- Should some of the QoS be left to higher layers?
 - e.g. guaranteed delivery