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HiFlecs: Innovative Technologies for Low-Latency Wireless Closed-Loop Industrial Automation Systems

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Hochperformante, sichere Funktechnologien und deren Systemintegration in zukünftige industrielle Closed-Loop Automatisierungslösungen

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2







- Extremely low latency (< 1ms)
- Extremely high availability and reliability



System Concept





Requirement Profiles



Profile A

- Driverless transport of large goods
- Marriage in vehicle assembly
- Shuttle vehicles in packaging machines

Profile B

- Industrial plant with decentralized drive technology
- Robot cell with product feed and removal of the peripheral axes
- Storage and retrieval machines or shuttle systems

Profile C

- High bay warehouse
- Robot cells with interchangeable tools

Number of connections Parameters / other data: Distance between Data rate [Mbps] logical endpoints [m] Requirement profile B 600 Parameters / other data Speed [m / s] 400 Transmission time [s] Requirement profile C Parameters / other data: Distance at movement User data length [MByte] of wireless equipment [m] Process data: Process data: Update time [ms] User data length [octet] Requirement profile A Process data: Process data: Transmission time [ms] Transfer interval [ms]

Parameter	Α	B	С
Transmission time [ms]	0,15	1,00	0,50
Update time [ms]	5,00	1,00	1,50
Data length [Bit]	1024	400	1600
Packet Loss Rate	5 * 10 ⁻⁷	N/A	N/A
Consecutive Losses	2	N/A	2
No. of devices	32	1000	100





System Architecture, Interfaces and Channels





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Data channels

- Process channel
 - sensor/actor process data
 - real-time traffic, cyclic, symmetric (UL,DL)
- Parameter channel
 - Control loop parameter data
 - non-real-time, acyclic,not symmetric
- Management channel
 - Plug&Play, Plug&Trust signalisation
 - non-real time, best effort, not symmetric
- Client-to-Client channel
 - Exchange of application data (QoS)



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HiFlecs meets regulation requirements in 5,8-GHz-ISM-Band [1][2] **Approaches**:

• Database-based spectrum management



• Spectrum sensing and classification

[1] ETSI, "EN 300 440-1 - V1.6.1 - Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM); Short range devices; Radio equipment to be used in the 1 GHz to 40 GHz frequency range; Part 1: Technical characteristics and test methods," 2010.

[2] CEPT, ECC, ERC Recommendation 70-03: Relating to the use of Short Range Devices (SRD), Tromso 1997, 2015.

Spectrum Sensing and Classification



Challenge:

• Fast and reliable classification of active wireless systems in shared frequency bands

Approach:

- Short sensing snapshots (12.8ms)
- Multi-layer convolutional neural network

Key result:

• 100% classification down to -5 dB SNR







Latency optimized SDR Baseband Implementation



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Security: Message Encryption and Authentication





Classical Encryption and Message Authentication:

- Tight integration of encryption (AES) and authentication (CMAC) with baseband
- Determines minimum block sizes
- Large overhead for small message sizes especially in uplink

Physical-Layer Security based message authentication

- Avoids CMAC overhead
- Leads to reduced latency





Low Latency Encryption





Low Latency Cipher Implementation:

- Dedicated hardware implementation
- Different optimization goals possible for HiFlecs Controller/Client
 - Controller: Higher Throughput
 - Client: Low Area/Power



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Physical layer security based authentication





Physical Layer Security Approach:

- Exploit wireless channel characteristics for transmitter identification
- Machine learning based detection methods
- Experimental performance evaluation promising



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Dynamically reconfigurable, and fault-tolerant hardware architecture

- Programmable central processing unit (CPU)
 - Can be linked to the baseband signal processing task
 - Flexible (non-time critical) processing
- Specialized hardware accelerators
 - Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)
 - Logarithmic-Converter (LCU)
- Sophisticated function approximation technique
 - automated and accuracy-driven design of elementary functions
- Dynamic reconfiguration of the size of input data at runtime



Enabler for flexible implementation of technical components





Demonstrator: Transmodul line of a packing machine





- Wireless data transmission between control module (SPS) and transport modules by HiFlecs
- Synchronization with delta-robot and linear measurement system via HiFlecs (cycle time 1ms)



GOTTING

SIEMENS

Grafiken: Gerhard Schubert GmbH

Lenze

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SCHUBERT



Demonstrator: Radio Hardware





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Demonstrator: PHY-Process Data Channel (PPDCh)





Downlink: OFDMA, Message Authentication Code (MAC), synchronsisation, pilots, AGC preamble



Demonstrator: FrontEnd



- Two complete (i.e. RX and TX) RF-paths, a transceiver and digital processing unit
- Operation modes: TDD(single/dual antenna), FDD (dual antenna)
- Key feature: Fast Automatic Gain Control (AGC)







HiFlecs in a nutshell



- HiFlecs is a closed-loop control wireless communication system
- Key features:
 - Use of SotA technologies, but with appropriate parameter settings
 - Appropriate application programming interfaces (APIs)
 - Adjusted to control determinism (e.g. clock cycle)
 - Integrated security
 - Integrated coexistence management
- Consortium:
 - Builds upon expertise on mobile (3G-5G) and industrial (Wireless HART, IWLAN) communication systems
 - Direct transfer of HiFlecs system concept to industrial R&D by partners (Phoenix Contact, Lenze, Siemens, Götting, Schubert)
- Design and feasibility study is ongoing (end Jan 2018)
- Internal Technical Reports, 15+ publications, 7+ invited talks,