



Melih Alkan

INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS FOR IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION

GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION AND END-TO-END
PERFORMANCE STUDY

Melih Alkan

INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS FOR IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION

GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION AND END-TO- END PERFORMANCE STUDY



VDM Verlag Dr. Müller

Impressum/Imprint (nur für Deutschland/ only for Germany)

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek: Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.d-nb.de> abrufbar.

Alle in diesem Buch genannten Marken und Produktnamen unterliegen warenzeichen-, marken- oder patentrechtlichem Schutz bzw. sind Warenzeichen oder eingetragene Warenzeichen der jeweiligen Inhaber. Die Wiedergabe von Marken, Produktnamen, Gebrauchsnamen, Handelsnamen, Warenbezeichnungen u.s.w. in diesem Werk berechtigt auch ohne besondere Kennzeichnung nicht zu der Annahme, dass solche Namen im Sinne der Warenzeichen- und Markenschutzgesetzgebung als frei zu betrachten wären und daher von jedermann benutzt werden dürften.

Coverbild: www.ingimage.com

Verlag: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller GmbH & Co. KG
Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Deutschland
Telefon +49 681 9100-698, Telefax +49 681 9100-988
Email: info@vdm-verlag.de
Zugl.: Ankara, Orta Dogu Teknik Universitesi (ODTU), Diss., 2010

Herstellung in Deutschland:

Schaltungsdienst Lange o.H.G., Berlin
Books on Demand GmbH, Norderstedt
Reha GmbH, Saarbrücken
Amazon Distribution GmbH, Leipzig
ISBN: 978-3-639-29885-7

Imprint (only for USA, GB)

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek: The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>.

Any brand names and product names mentioned in this book are subject to trademark, brand or patent protection and are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders. The use of brand names, product names, common names, trade names, product descriptions etc. even without a particular marking in this works is in no way to be construed to mean that such names may be regarded as unrestricted in respect of trademark and brand protection legislation and could thus be used by anyone.

Cover image: www.ingimage.com

Publisher: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller GmbH & Co. KG
Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany
Phone +49 681 9100-698, Fax +49 681 9100-988
Email: info@vdm-publishing.com

Printed in the U.S.A.

Printed in the U.K. by (see last page)

ISBN: 978-3-639-29885-7

Copyright © 2010 by the author and VDM Verlag Dr. Müller GmbH & Co. KG
and licensors
All rights reserved. Saarbrücken 2010

Melih Alkan

**INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS FOR IN-
VEHICLE COMMUNICATION**

INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS
FOR IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION:
GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION AND END-TO-END
PERFORMANCE STUDY

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES
OF
MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

BY

MELİH ALKAN

IN PARTIAL FULLFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING

MAY 2010

Approval of the thesis:

**INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS FOR IN-
VEHICLE COMMUNICATION: GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION AND
END-TO-END PERFORMANCE STUDY**

submitted by **MELİH ALKAN** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Master of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department, Middle East Technical University** by,

Prof. Dr. Canan Özgen

Dean, Graduate School of **Natural and Applied Sciences**

Prof. Dr. İsmet Erkmen

Head of Department, **Electrical and Electronics Engineering**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Şenan Ece Schmidt

Supervisor, **Electrical and Electronics Engineering Dept., METU**

Examining Committee Members:

Prof. Dr. Semih Bilgen

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Dept., METU

Asst. Prof. Dr. Şenan Ece Schmidt

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Dept., METU

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Özgür Barış Akan

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Dept., METU

Asst. Prof. Dr. Cüneyt Bazlamaççı

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Dept., METU

Emrah Yürüklü, M.Sc.

TOFAŞ Turkish Automobile Factory A.Ş.

Date: 13.05.2010

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

Name, Last name : Melih Alkan

Signature :

ABSTRACT

INTER-CONNECTED FLEXRAY AND CAN NETWORKS FOR IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION: GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION AND END-TO-END PERFORMANCE STUDY

Alkan, Melih

M. S., Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Supervisor: Asst. Prof. Dr. Ece Ş. Güran Schmidt

May 2010, 265 pages

The increasing use of electronic components in today's automobiles demands more powerful in-vehicle network communication protocols. FlexRay protocol, which is expected to be the de-facto standard in the near future, is a deterministic, fault tolerant and fast protocol designed for in vehicle communication. The current de-facto in-vehicle communication standard, CAN, and the future in-vehicle communication standard FlexRay will exist together in future cars. Data exchange between these two standards will be performed via Gateway units. In this thesis, end-to-end performance of a FlexRay-CAN network connected by a Gateway is evaluated as well as Gateway functionality and processing delay. The results of the experiments, which are performed for a realistic message set with various scheduling schemes, are presented and discussed.

Keywords : in-vehicle communication, FlexRay, Gateway, end-to-end performance

ÖZ

ARAÇ İÇİ HABERLEŞME İÇİN BİR BİRİNE BAĞLI FLEXRAY VE CAN AĞLARI: AĞ GEÇİDİ (GATEWAY) UYGULAMASI VE UÇTAN UCA BAŞARIM ÇALIŞMASI

Alkan, Melih

Yüksek Lisans, Elektrik Elektronik Mühendisliği Bölümü

Tez Yöneticisi : Y. Doç. Dr. Ece Ş. Güran Schmidt

Mayıs 2010, 265 sayfa

Günümüz otomobillerinde artan elektronik birim kullanımı daha güçlü araba içi haberleşme protokollerine olan ihtiyacı doğurmaktadır. FlexRay protokolü ortaya çıkan bu ihtiyacı karşılayabilecek özelliklere sahip, kararlı, hatalara dayanıklı ve hızlı bir haberleşme protokolidür. Bugünün defakto araç içi haberleşme protokolü CAN ve geleceğin defakto araç içi haberleşme protokolü FlexRay gelecekte, otomobillerde eş zamanlı olarak yer almaları beklenmektedir. Bu iki ağ arasındaki veri haberleşmesi ağ geçidi (gateway) birimleri ile gerçekleştirilecektir. Bu tezde, Ağ Geçidi ile bağlanmış FlexRay-CAN ağlarının uçtan uca başarımı ve aynı zamanda Ağ Geçidi işlem süresi ve çalışırlığı değerlendirilmiştir. Gerçekçi mesaj kümesi ile çeşitli çizelgeleme yaklaşımlarına göre gerçekleştirilen deneylerin sonuçları sunulmuş ve tartışılmıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: araç içi haberleşme, FlexRay, Ağ Geçidi, uçtan uca başarım

To My Family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Asst. Prof. Dr. Ece S. Güran Schmidt for her guidance, advice, criticism, encouragement, endless patience and insight throughout the completion of the thesis.

I wish to thank my company ASELSAN A.Ş for giving me the opportunity of continuing my thesis study and supporting me in my efforts to get the Master degree.

I owe a debt of gratitude to TOFAŞ Türk Otomobil Fabrikaları A.Ş. for their support and providing the hardware and the software that I used throughout the thesis.

I would like to forward my appreciation to all my friends and colleagues for the contribution to my thesis with their continuous guidance, advice, encouragement and for expanding my horizons.

Finally, my family. No word can suffice to express how I am grateful to my parents but at least I can mention my sincere gratitude to them for their unwavering support, continual confidence and endless and gratis love. I also wish to thank my beloved sister for her support, criticism and help on the format of my thesis.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	iv
ÖZ.....	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	viii
CHAPTER	
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 TERMINOLOGY	2
1.2 CONTRIBUTIONS OF THESIS	3
1.3 THESIS ORGANIZATION.....	4
2 BACKGROUND	5
2.1 IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION NETWORKS	9
2.1.1 CAN (Controller Area Network)	9
2.1.2 FlexRay.....	15
2.1.3 LIN (Local Interconnect Network).....	28
2.1.4 MOST (Media Oriented System Transport).....	31
2.2 GATEWAY NODE FOR INTERCONNECTED INVEHICLE NETWORKS	35
3 FLEXRAY-CAN GATEWAY DESIGN	38
3.1 FLEXRAY-to-CAN GATEWAY FUNCTIONALITY DESIGN.....	40
3.2 CAN-to-FLEXRAY GATEWAY FUNCTIONALITY DESIGN.....	45
4 DEVELOPMENT AND TEST ENVIRONMENT	47
4.1 SK-91465X-100MPC FUJITSU FLEXRAY EVALUATION BOARD.....	47
4.2 SOFTUNE WORKBENCH SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT.....	49
4.3 FR-FLASH PROGRAMMER	50
4.4 FLEXRAY COMMUNICATION CONTROLLER DRIVER.....	51
4.5 FLEXCONFIG™ DEVELOPER – UNIVERSAL FLEXRAY CONFIGURATION TOOL...	54

4.6 FLEXCARD CYCLONE II SE	55
4.7 FLEXALYZER	56
5 FLEXRAY-CAN GATEWAY IMPLEMENTATION.....	59
5.1 GENERAL ARCHITECTURE OF THE GATEWAY	59
5.2 FLEXRAY PROJECT DETAILS.....	64
5.2.1 Tasks Executed In MAIN.c	65
5.2.2 Tasks Executed In TTask.c.....	73
5.3 CAN PROJECT DETAILS.....	79
5.3.1 Tasks Executed In MAIN.c	79
5.3.2 Tasks Executed In CAN.c.....	81
5.4 GATEWAY PROJECT DETAILS.....	84
5.4.1 Tasks Executed In MAIN.c	84
5.4.2 Tasks Executed In TTask.c.....	86
5.4.3 Tasks Executed In CAN.c.....	88
5.5 OTHER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES	91
6 EXPERIMENTAL PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS AND RESULTS	95
6.1 PERFORMANCE METRICS.....	95
6.2 OVERVIEW OF THE EXPERIMENTS	98
6.2.1 Experiment Set-Up	101
6.2.2 Time Measurements.....	105
6.2.3 Quantitative Analysis of the Time Measurement Errors.....	114
6.3 DISCUSSION OF THE EXPERIMENTS	122
6.3.1 CAN Experiments.....	122
6.3.2 FlexRay Static Segment Experiments.....	142
6.3.3 FlexRay Dynamic Segment Experiments	155
6.3.4 Gateway Experiments	164
7 CONCLUSION.....	190
REFERENCES.....	194
APPENDICES	
A.....	198
B.....	212
C.....	217
D.....	225

E	262
F	264
G	265

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURES

Figure 2-1 CAN Bus Arbitration Scheme[14]	10
Figure 2-2 CAN Frame Format.....	11
Figure 2-3 FlexRay TDMA Structure[14]	19
Figure 2-4 Scheduling Structure: (Msg, Freq, Offset): (M1, 2, 0) and (M2, 4, 1)..	20
Figure 2-5 FlexRay Timing Hierarchy [19].....	21
Figure 2-6 FlexRay FTDMA Structure [14].....	23
Figure 2-7 FlexRay Timing Hierarchy [19].....	24
Figure 2-8 FlexRay Electrical Levels [14].....	25
Figure 2-9 FlexRay Frame Formats	26
Figure 2-10 LIN Communication Frame [14].....	29
Figure 2-11 Conventional Configuration of Audio and Video Signals	33
Figure 2-12 Example of a MOST Frame [14].....	35
Figure 3-1 FlexRay-to-CAN Gateway Functional Diagram	44
Figure 3-2 CAN-to- FlexRay Gateway Functional Diagram	46
Figure 4-1 SK-91465X-100MPC Evaluation Board.....	48
Figure 4-2 FR Family SOFTUNE Workbench V60L06.....	49
Figure 4-3 FME FR-Flash Programmer V4.0.2.1	50
Figure 4-4 FlexRay Communication Controller Driver Layer Concept [33].....	52
Figure 4-5 FlexRay Communication Controller Driver Architecture [33]	53
Figure 4-6 FlexConfig™ User Interface	55
Figure 4-7 FlexCard Cyclone II SE	56
Figure 4-8 FlexAlyzer User Interface	58
Figure 5-1 Projects in the FlexRay Gateway Workspace	60
Figure 5-2 Coding Structure of the Projects.....	61
Figure 6-1 The PCB Bus Used For Both FlexRay and CAN Bus	102

Figure 6-2 The Gateway Network Illustration	103
Figure 6-3 The Gateway Network Photograph	104
Figure 6-4 The Gateway Network.....	105
Figure 6-5 Time Tagging: CAN2FR.....	106
Figure 6-6 Time Tagging: FR2CAN	108
Figure 6-7 A view from the log file exported by FlexAlyzer	110
Figure 6-8 Illustration for the task of obtaining the CANRX	112
Figure 6-9 Time Stamp Deviation from the Actual Time	117
Figure 6-10 End-to-End Delay vs Priorities: Conventional Scheduling	126
Figure 6-11 Jitter vs Priorities: Conventional Scheduling	126
Figure 6-12 End-to-End Delay and the Theoretical Maximum Values	128
Figure 6-13 End-to-End Delay vs Priorities: Prioritized Scheduling.....	132
Figure 6-14 Jitter vs Priorities: Prioritized Scheduling	132
Figure 6-15 End-to-End Delay and the Theoretical Maximum Values	134
Figure 6-16 E2E Delay vs Priorities: CAN Scheduling with Fixed Priorities.....	138
Figure 6-17 Jitter vs Priorities: CAN Scheduling with Fixed Priorities	138
Figure 6-18 End-to-End Delay and the Theoretical Maximum Values	140
Figure 6-19 End-to-End Delay vs Message ID: FID Allocation Without Jitter....	147
Figure 6-20 Jitter vs Message ID: FID Allocation Without Jitter.....	148
Figure 6-21 E2E Delay vs Message ID: FID Allocation With Minimum FID	153
Figure 6-22 Jitter vs Message ID: FID Allocation With Minimum FID	153
Figure 6-23 Illustration of End-to-End Delay of P26	154
Figure 6-24 End-to-End Delay vs Priority: Dynamic Segment with 18 Minislots	159
Figure 6-25 Maximum End-to-End Delay and Theoretical Maximum.....	160
Figure 6-26 End-to-End Delay and Theoretical Maximum	162
Figure 6-27 End-to-End Delay vs Theoretical Maximum	163
Figure 6-28 Protocol Conversion Experiment Network Topology	165
Figure 6-29 Photograph of the Protocol Conversion Experiment.....	166
Figure 6-30 Log File of the Experiment.....	168
Figure 6-31 Signal Mapping Functionality	169
Figure 6-32 a) Segmentation b) Combination.....	171
Figure 6-33 Delay Decomposition of the Gateway Experiment.....	179

Figure 6-34 Delay Decomposition of the Gateway Experiment in Percentage	180
Figure 6-35 Jitter Values in Gateway Experiment	180
Figure 6-36 Delay Histogram in FlexRay-to-CAN Direction.....	184
Figure 6-37 Delay Histogram in CAN-to-FlexRay Direction.....	184
Figure 6-38 Effect of Polling: @ 5ms and @ 2.5 ms.....	189