



SAE AADL: An Industry Standard for Embedded Systems Engineering

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SAE AADL Standard

An Enabler of Predictable Model-Based System Engineering

- Notation for specification of task and communication architectures of Real-time, Embedded, Fault-tolerant, Secure, Safety-critical, Software-intensive systems
- Fields of application: Avionics, Automotive, Aerospace, Autonomous systems, ...
- Based on 15 Years of DARPA funded technologies
- Standard approved by SAE in Sept 2004
- www.aadl.info



SAE AS-2C AADL Subcommittee

- Bruce Lewis (US Army AMRDEC): Chair
- Peter Feiler (SEI): technical lead, author & editor
- Steve Vestal (Honeywell): co-author
- Ed Colbert (USC): UML Profile of AADL
- Joyce Tokar (Pyrrhus Software): Ada & C Annex

Other Voting Members

- Boeing, Rockwell, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Smith Industries, General Dynamics, Airbus, Axlog, European Space Agency, TNI, Dassault, EADS, High Integrity Solutions

Coordination with

- NATO Aviation, NATO Plug and Play, French Government COTRE, SAE AS-1 Weapons Plug and Play, OMG UML & SysML



Potential Users

- Airbus
- European Space Agency
- Rockwell Collins
- Lockheed Martin
- Smith Industries
- Raytheon
- Boeing FCS
- Common Missile
- System Plug and Play

**New System Engineering Approach
incorporates AADL**

**Modeling of Satellite
Systems, Architecture
Verification - ASSERT**

**Modeling of Avionics
Computer System**

**Embedded System
Engineering & AADL**

**Apply AADL for systems
integration modeling & analysis**

**NATO/SAE AS1 Weapon
System Integration**



AADL-Based Engineering

System Analysis

- Schedulability
- Performance
- Reliability
- Fault Tolerance
- Dynamic Configurability

System Integration

- Runtime System Generation
- Application Composition
- System Configuration

Software
System
Engineer

SAE AADL

Architecture
Modeling
Abstract, but
Precise

Predictive
Embedded
System
Engineering
Reduced
Development &
Operational Cost

Application
Software

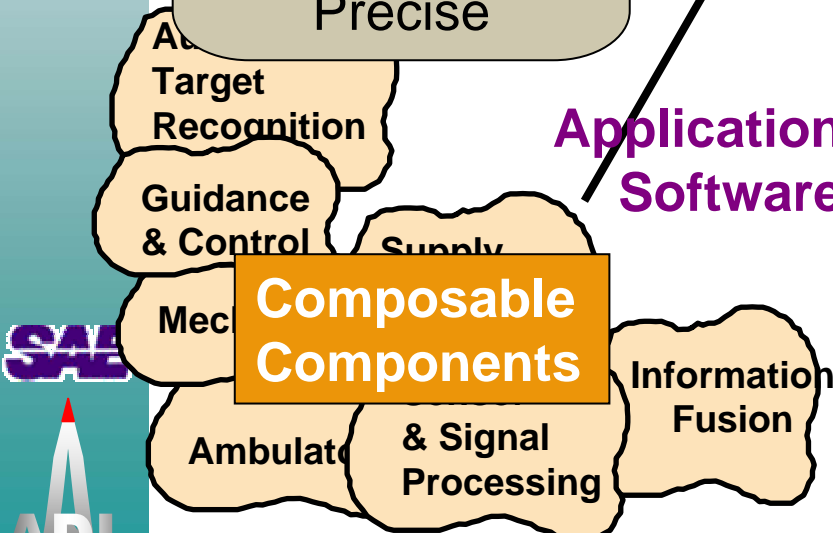
Execution
Platform

Composable
Components

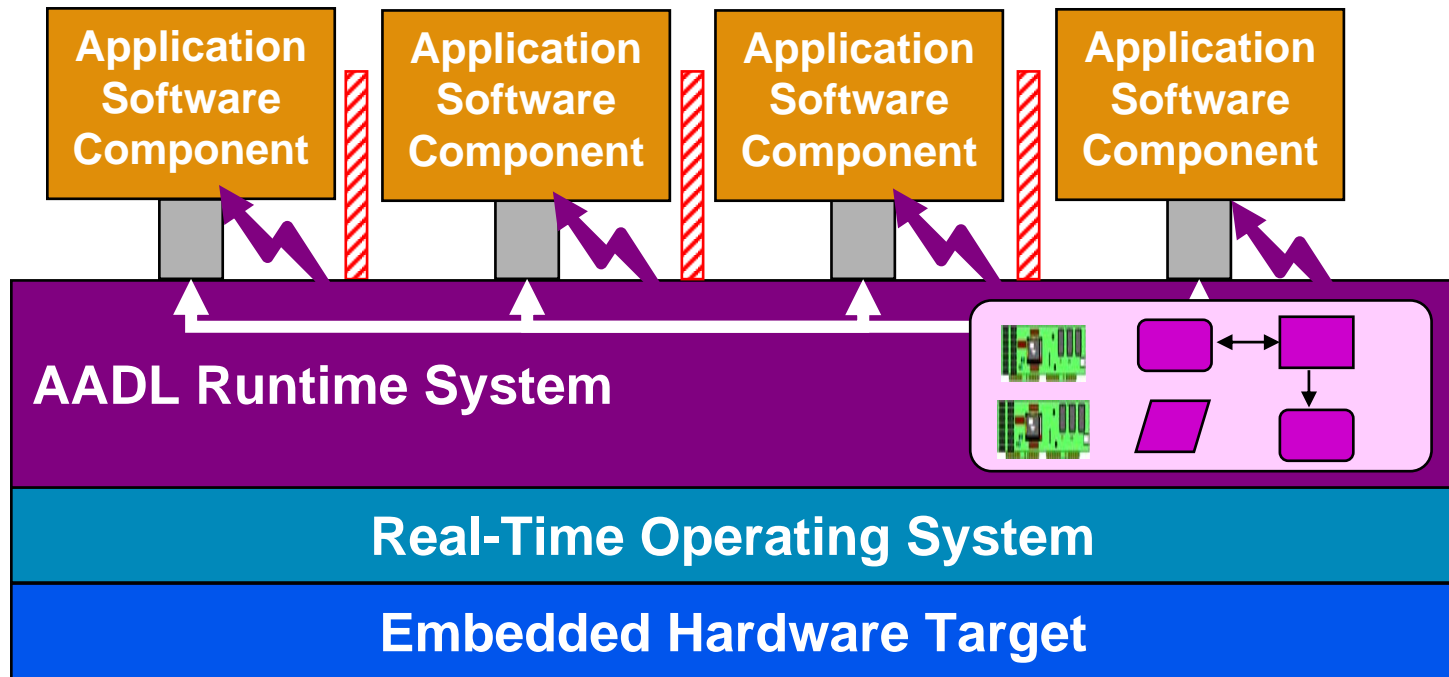
GPS	DB	HTTPS	Ada Runtime
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.....

Devices	Memory	Bus	Processor
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A Partitioned Portable Architecture



Strong Partitioning

- Timing Protection
- OS Call Restrictions
- Memory Protection

Interoperability/Portability

- Tailored Runtime Executive
- Standard RTOS API
- Application Components

MetaH: Proof of Concepts for AADL

1991 DARPA DSSA program begins

1992 Partitioned PFP target (Tartan MAR/i960MC)

1994 Multi-processor target (VME i960MC)

1995 Slack stealing scheduler

1998 Portable Ada 95 and POSIX middleware configurations

1998 Extensibility through MetaH-ACME Mapping

1998 Reliability modeling extension

1999 Hybrid automata verification of core middleware modules

Numerous evaluation and demonstration projects, e.g.

Missile G&C reference architecture, demos, others (AMCOM SED)

Hybrid automata formal verification (AFOSR, Honeywell)

Missile defense (Boeing)

Fighter guidance SW fault tolerance (DARPA, CMU, Lockheed-Martin)

Incremental Upgrade of Legacy Systems (AFRL, Boeing, Honeywell)

Comanche study (AMCOM, Comanche PO, Boeing, Honeywell)

Tactical Mobile Robotics (DARPA, Honeywell, Georgia Tech)

Advanced Intercept Technology CWE (BMDO, MaxTech)

Adaptive Computer Systems (DARPA, Honeywell)

Avionics System Performance Management (AFRL, Honeywell)

Ada Software Integrated Development/Verification (AFRL, Honeywell)

FMS reference architecture (Honeywell)

JSF vehicle control (Honeywell)

IFMU reengineering (Honeywell)

AADL in Context

Research ADLs

- MetaH
 - Real-time, modal, system family
 - Analysis & generation
 - RMA based scheduling
- Rapide, Wright, ..
 - Behavioral validation
- ADL Interchange
 - ACME

DARPA Funded
Research since 1990

Basis

Extension

Influence

UML Profile

Alignment

Enhancement

Industrial Strength

- UML 2.0, UML-RT
- HOOD/STOOD
- SDL

Airbus & ESA

AADL
Extensible
Real-time
Dependable



AADL: The Language

Components with precise semantics

- Thread, thread group, process, system, processor, device, memory, bus, data, subprogram

Completely defined interfaces & interactions

- Data & event flow, synchronous call/return, shared access
- End-to-End flow specifications

Real-time Task Scheduling

- Supports different scheduling protocols incl. GRMA, EDF
- Defines scheduling properties and execution semantics

Modal, configurable systems

- Modes to model transition between statically known states & configurations

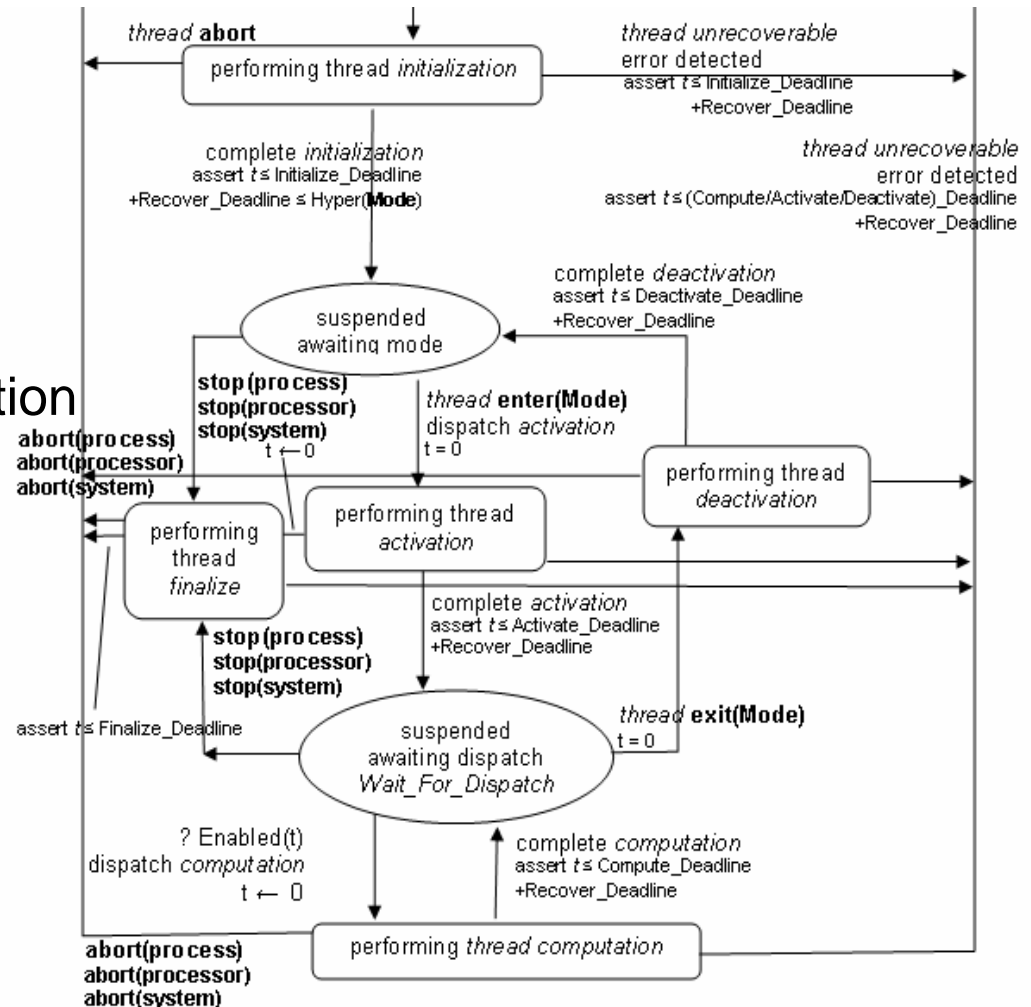
Component evolution & large scale development support

AADL language extensibility

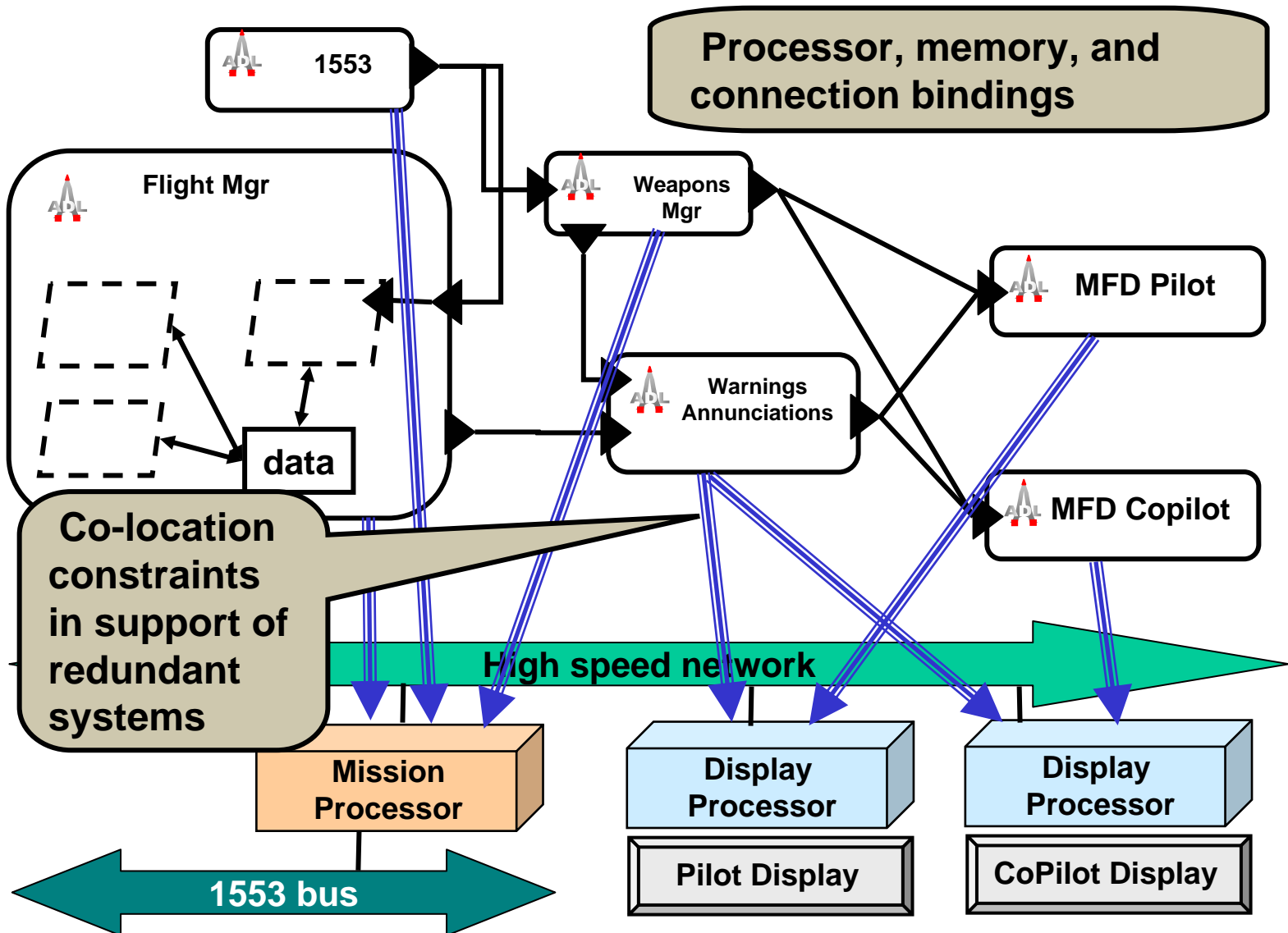


Thread Execution Semantics

- Dispatch protocols
- Nominal & recovery
- Fault handling
- Resource locking
- Mode switching
- Initialization & finalization



Execution Platform Bindings

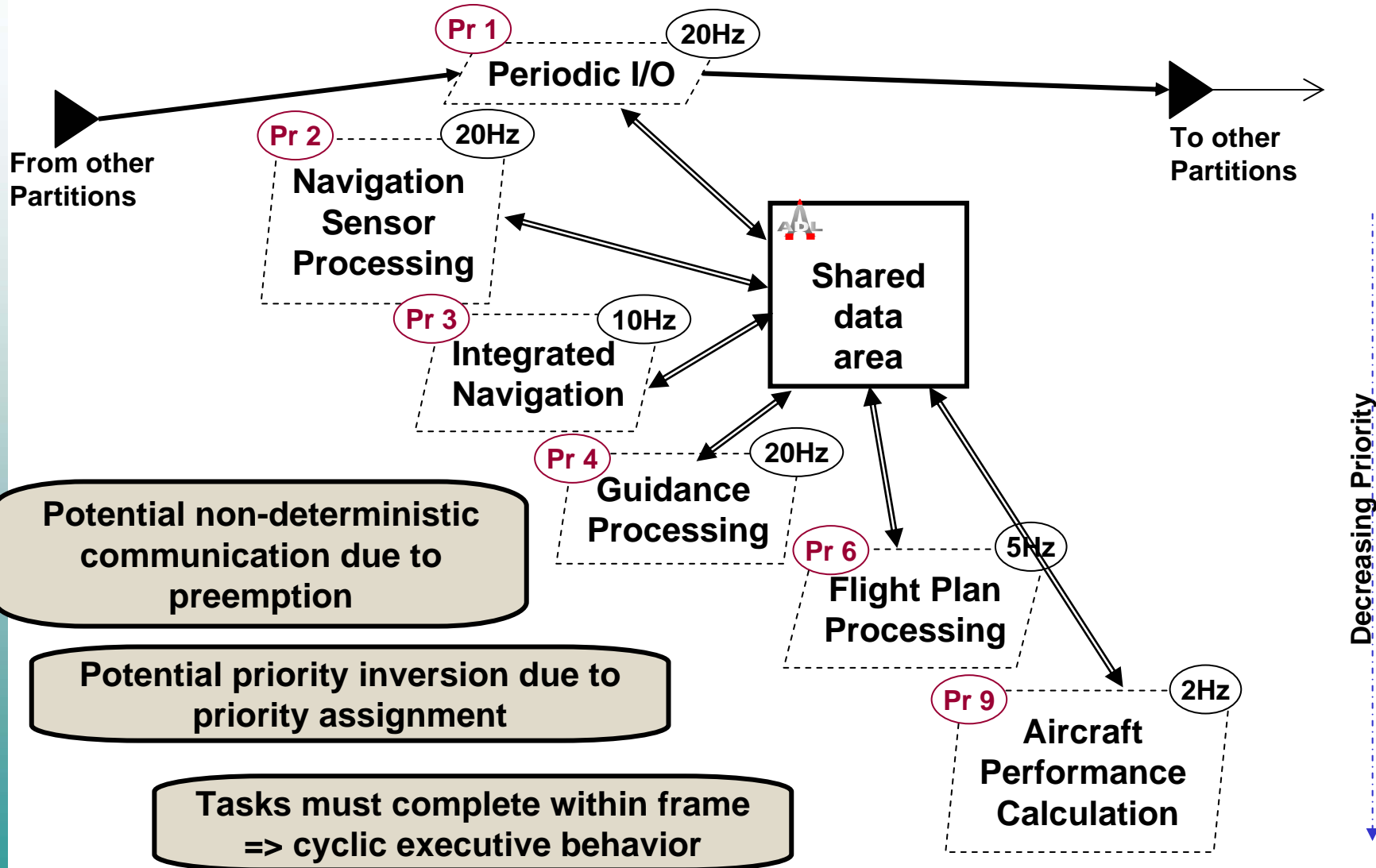


An Avionics System Case Study

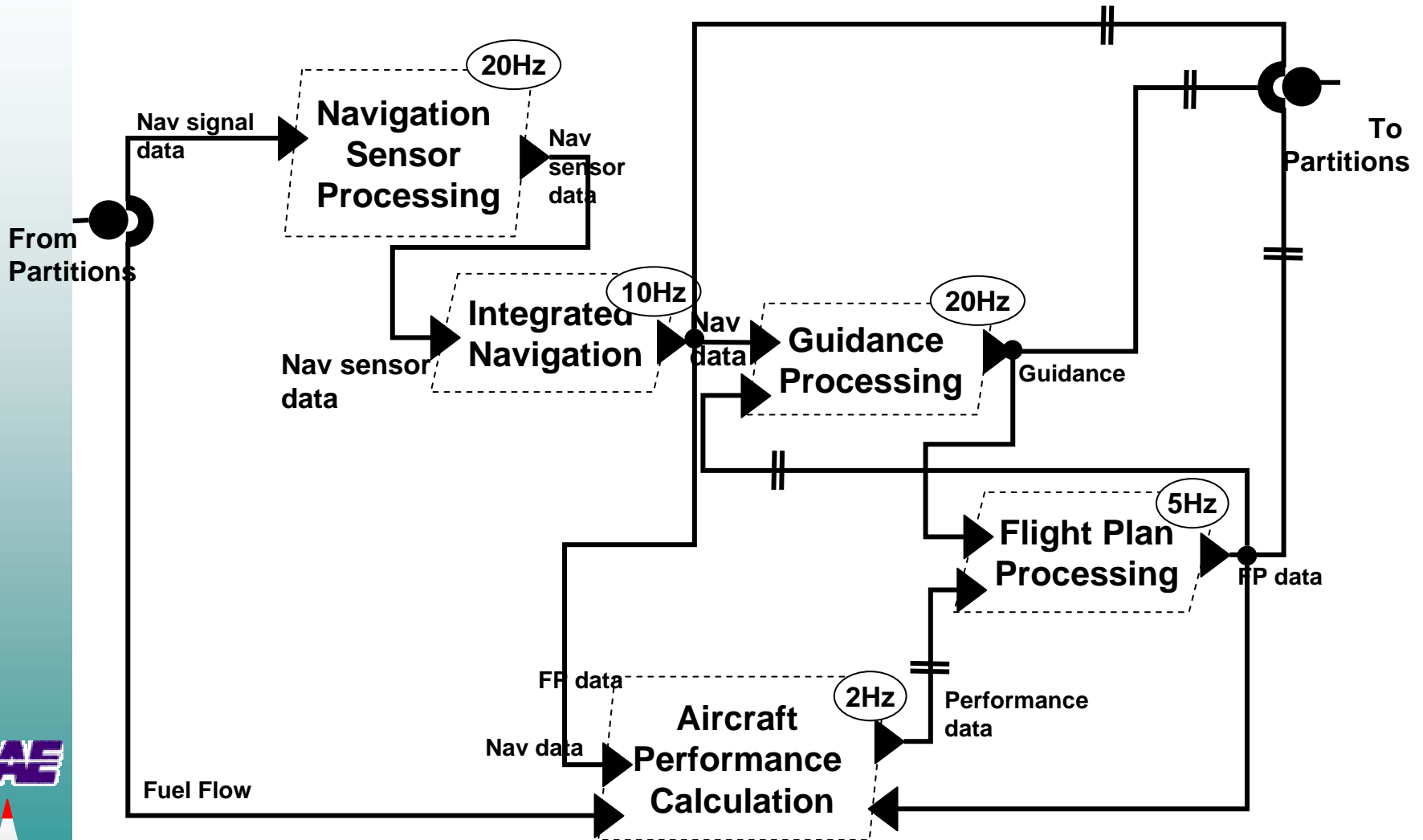
- Migration from static timeline to preemptive scheduling
 - Identified issues with shared variable communication
 - Migration potential from polling tasks to event-driven tasks
- Flexibility, predictability & efficiency of port-based communication
 - Defined communication timing semantics
 - Support for deterministic transfer & optimized buffers
- Effectiveness of connection & flow semantics
 - Support end-to-end latency analysis
- Analyzable fault-tolerant redundancy patterns
 - Orthogonal architecture view without model clutter



A Naïve Thread-based Design



Flight Manager in AADL



Data Stream Latency Analysis

- Flow specifications in AADL
 - Properties on flows: expected & actual end-to-end latency
 - Properties on ports: expected incoming & estimated output latency
- End-to-end latency contributors
 - Delayed connections result in sampling latency
 - Immediate periodic & aperiodic sequences result in cumulative execution time latency
- Phase delay shift & oscillation
 - Noticeable at flow merge points
 - Variation interpreted as noisy signal to controller

Potential hazard

Latency calculation &
jitter accumulation

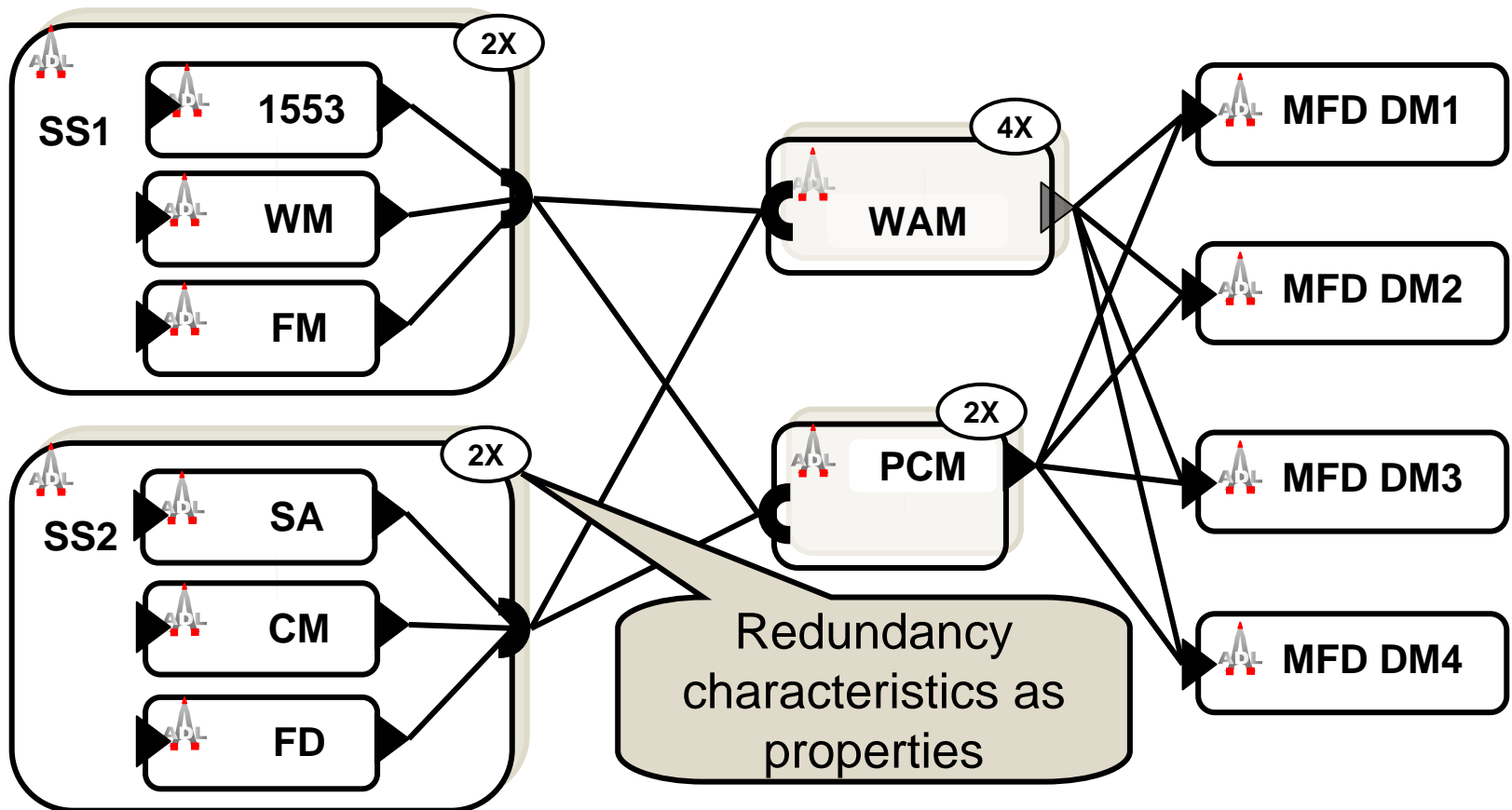
Other Flow Characteristics

- Miss rate of data stream
 - Accommodates incomplete sensor readings
 - Allows for controlled deadline misses
- State vs. state delta communication
 - Data reduction technique
 - Implies requirement for guaranteed delivery
- Data accuracy
 - Reading accuracy
 - Computational error accumulation
- Message acknowledgment semantics
 - In terms of flow steps



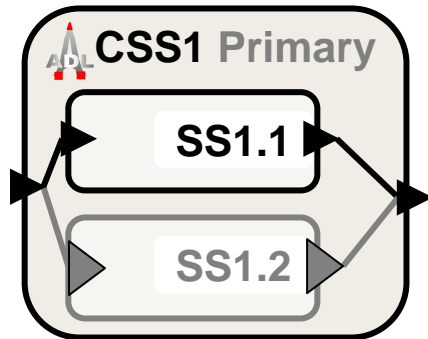
Redundancy Specification

- Redundancy abstraction
- Co-location constraints on execution platform binding

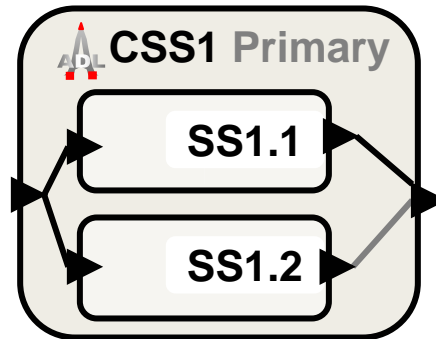


Primary/Backup Patterns

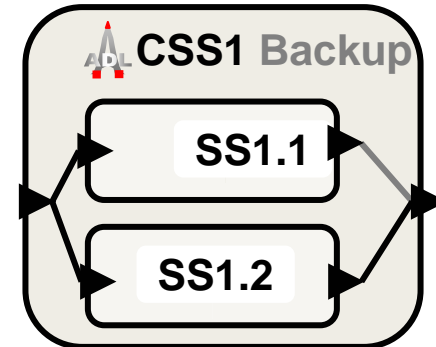
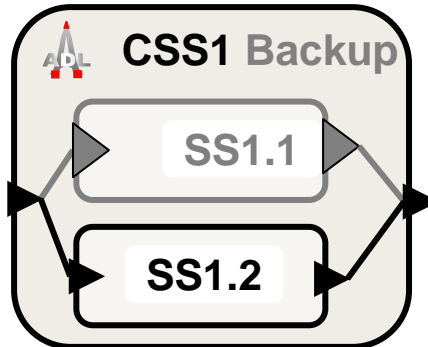
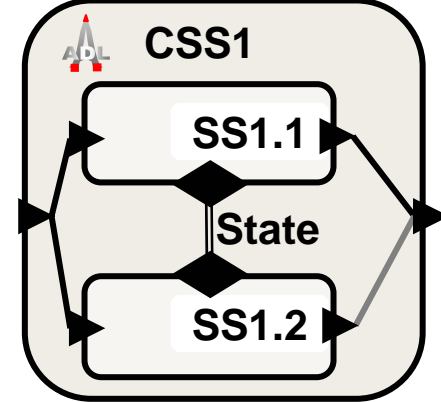
Passive Backup



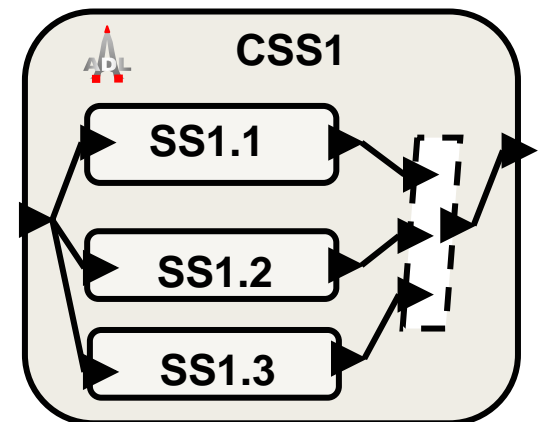
Hot Standby



Continuous State Exchange



Voted Output



AADL Language Extensions

- New properties through property sets
- Sublanguage extension
 - Annex subclauses expressed in an annex-specific sublanguage
- Project-specific language extensions
- Language extensions as approved SAE AADL standard annexes
- Examples
 - Reliability modeling
 - ARINC 653
 - Behavior
 - Constraint sublanguage



Example Annex Extension

```

THREAD t
FEATURES
  sem1 : DATA ACCESS semaphore;
  sem2 : DATA ACCESS semaphore;
END t;
  
```

```

THREAD IMPLEMENTATION t.t1
PROPERTIES
  Period => 13.96ms;
  cotre::Priority => 1;
  cotre::Phase => 0.0ms;
  Dispatch_Protocol => Periodic;
  
```

COTRE thread
properties

```

ANNEX cotre.behavior {**
STATES
  s0, s1, s2, s3, s4, s5, s6, s7, s8 : STATE;
  s0 : INITIAL STATE;
TRANSITIONS
  s0 -[ ]-> s1 { PERIODIC_WAIT };
  s1 -[ ]-> s2 { COMPUTATION(1.9ms, 1.9ms) };
  s2 -[ sem1.wait ! (-1.0ms) ]-> s3;
  s3 -[ ]-> s4 { COMPUTATION(0.1ms, 0.1ms) };
  s4 -[ sem2.wait ! (-1.0ms) ]-> s5;
  s5 -[ ]-> s6 { COMPUTATION(2.5ms, 2.5ms) };
  s6 -[ sem2.release ! ]-> s7;
  s7 -[ ]-> s8 { COMPUTATION(1.5ms, 1.5ms) };
  s8 -[ sem1.release ! ]-> s0;
**);
END t.t1;
  
```

COTRE behavioral annex

Courtesy of



Reliability Modeling Approach

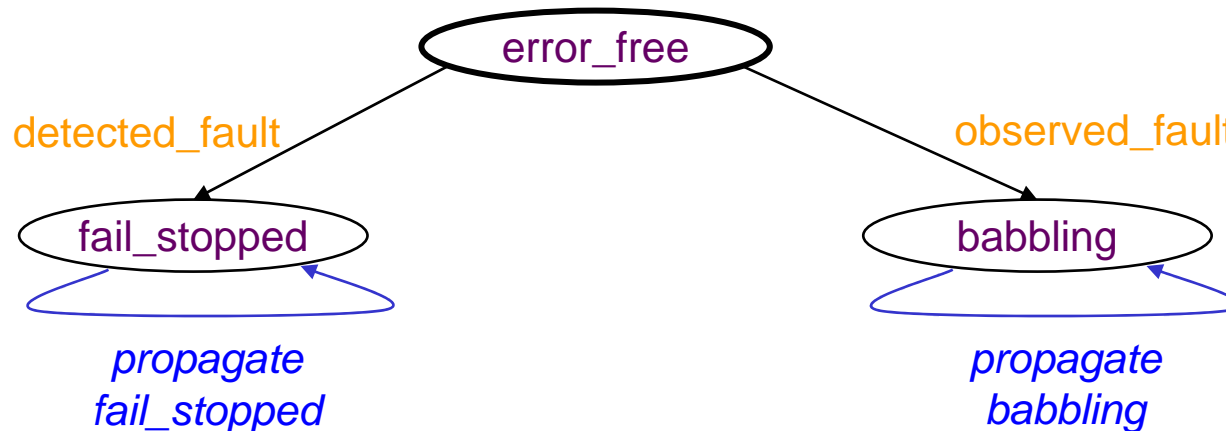
Error state & occurrence model as AADL extension

- Error states and transitions
- Fault events & occurrence rates
- Error propagation rates
- Masking of subcomponent and propagation errors

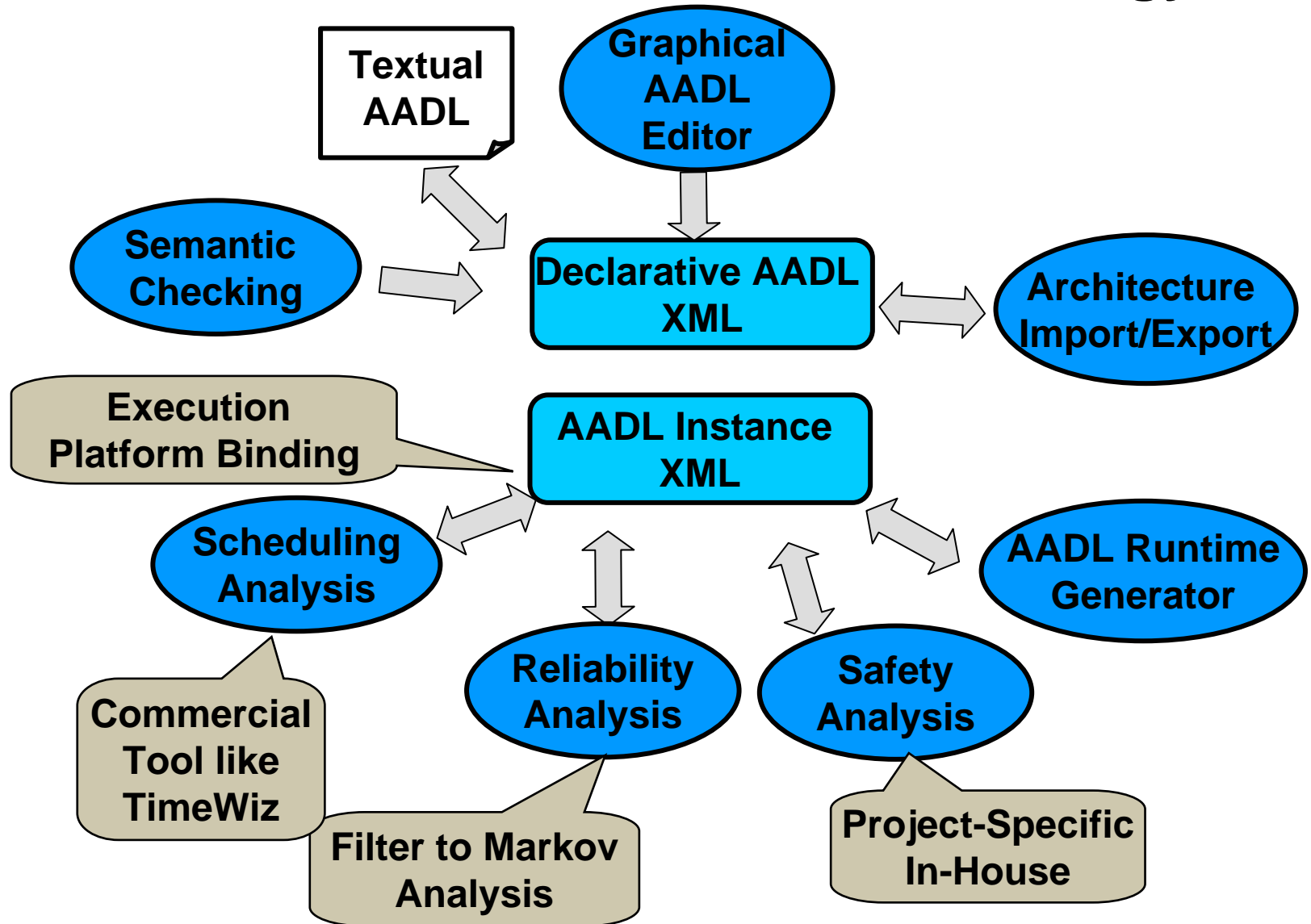
Reflects hazard analysis,
component failure modes &
effects analysis

Architecture model provides

- Dependency information
- Isolation analysis
- Basis for stochastic process model generation



An XML-Based AADL Tool Strategy



Open Source AADL Tool Environment

- OSATE is
 - Developed by the Software Engineering Institute
 - Available at under a no cost Common Public License (CPL)
 - Implemented on top of Eclipse Release 3 (www.eclipse.org)
 - Generated from an AADL meta model using the Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF)
 - A textual & graphical AADL front-end with semantic & XML/XMI support
 - Extensible through architecture analysis & generation plug-ins
- OSATE offers
 - Low cost entrypoint to the use of SAE AADL



SAE AADL and OSATE: Enablers of Embedded Systems Research

- Industry standard architecture modeling notation & model interchange format facilitates
 - Interchange of architecture models between contractors & subcontractors
 - Common architecture model for non-functional system property analysis from different perspectives
 - In-house prototyping of project specific architecture analysis & generation
 - Architecture research with access to industrial models & industry exposure to research results

