

# Platform-Based Design of Ad Hoc Wireless Sensor Networks

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# Outline



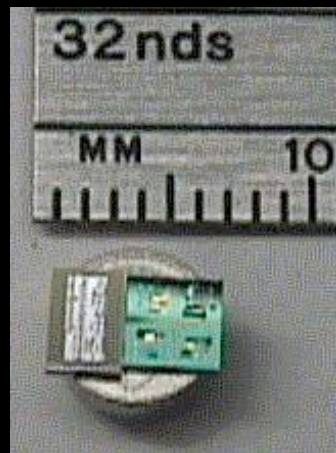
- Wireless Sensor Networks and their Evolution
- Platform-based Design for AWSN
  - Sensor Network Service Platform
  - Sensor Network Implementation Platform
- Design Flow
  - Rialto: specification capture (SNPS)
  - Genesis: protocol synthesis (SNIP)

# Wireless Sensor Networks

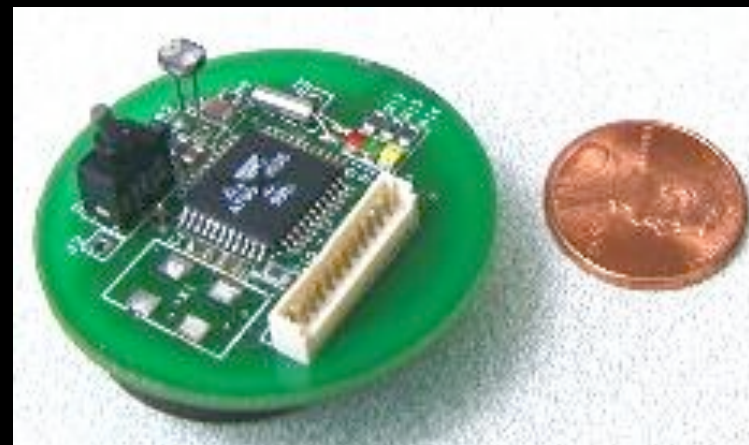


The use of wireless networks of embedded computers “**could well dwarf previous milestones in the information revolution**” - National Research Council Report: *Embedded, Everywhere*, 2001.

**Berkeley Dust Mote<sup>1</sup>**

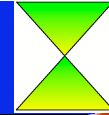


**Berkeley Mote<sup>1</sup>**

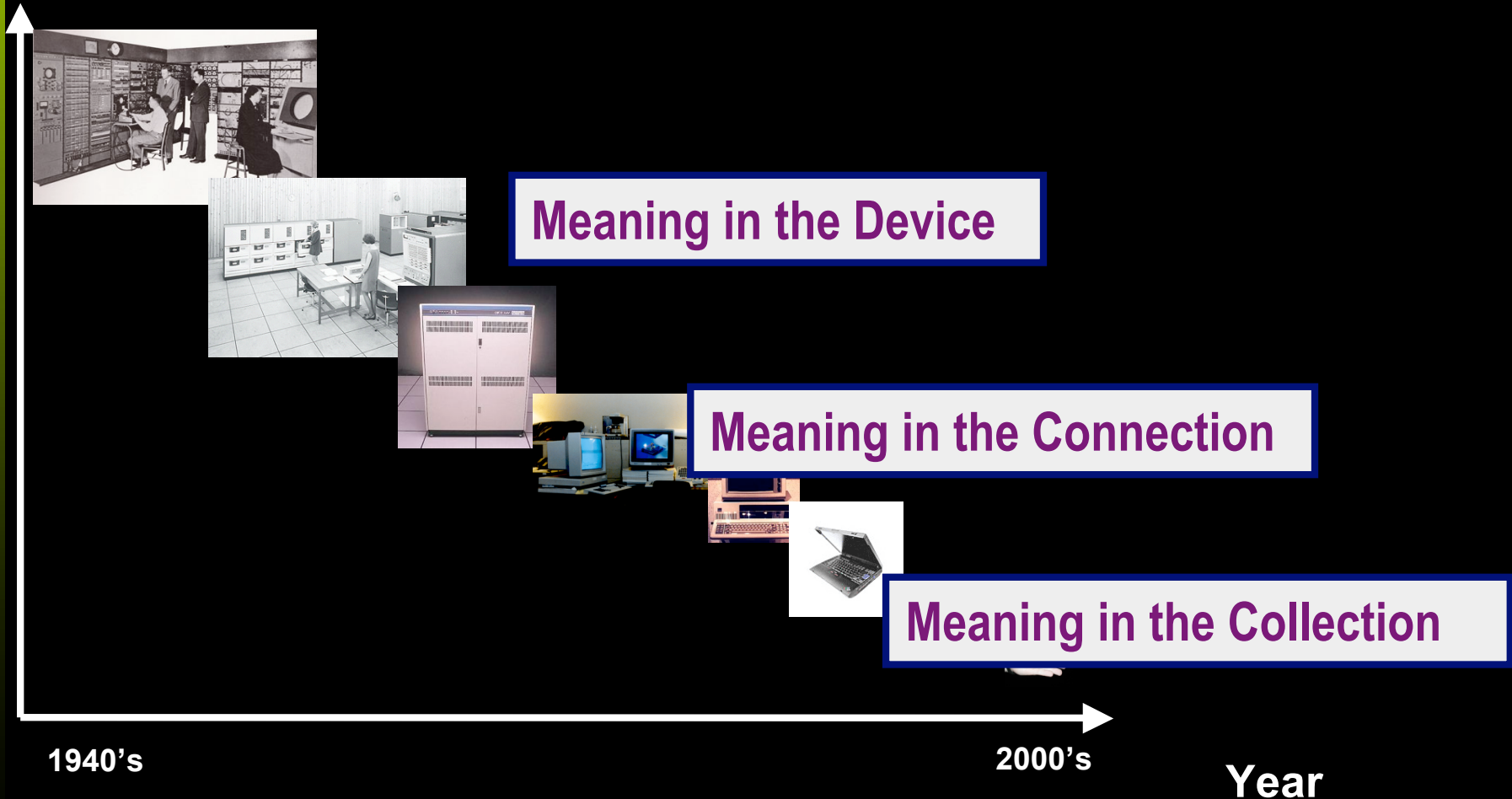


<sup>1</sup>From Pister et al., *Berkeley Smart Dust Project*

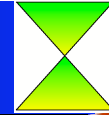
# Bell's Law: A New Computer Class Every 10 Years



log (people per computer)

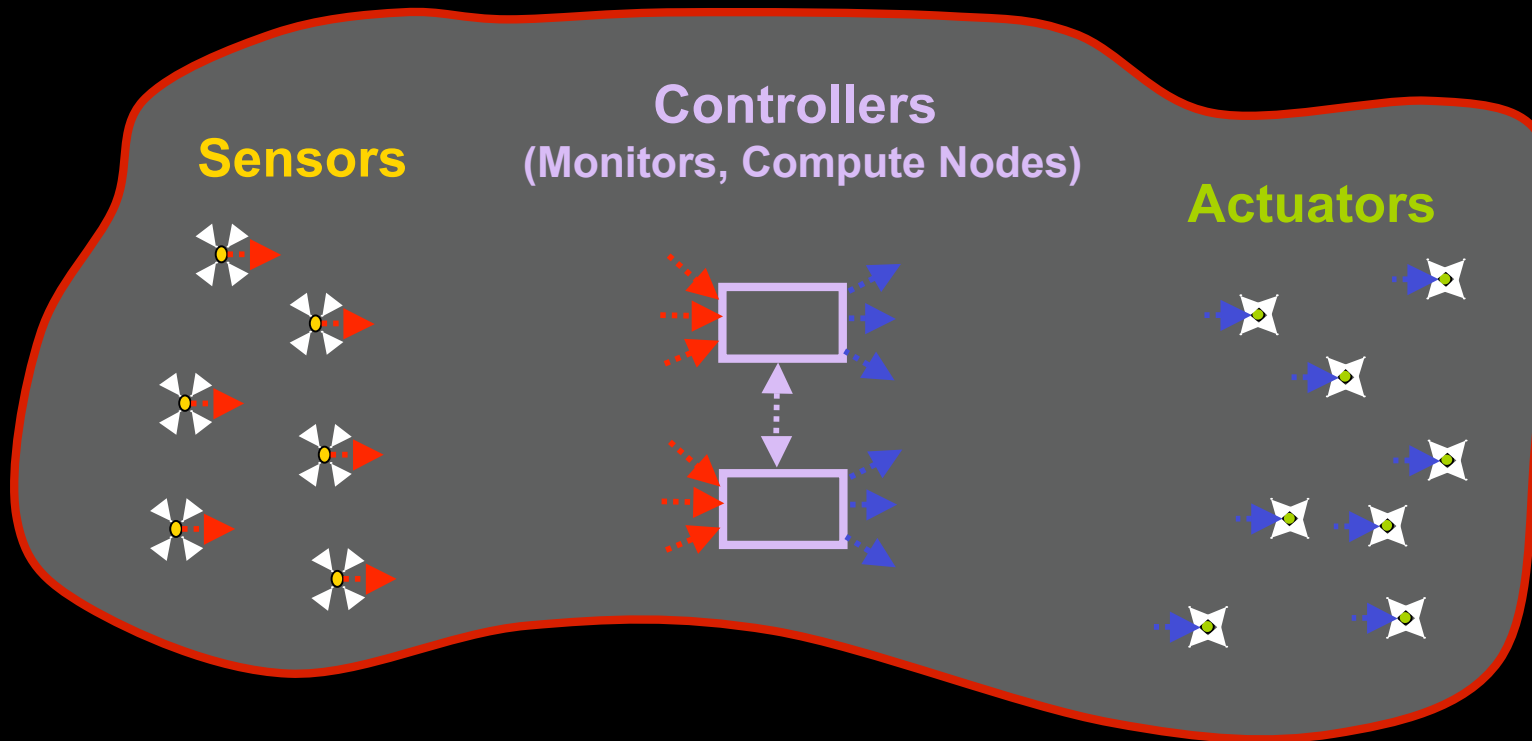


# Ambient Intelligence



- **An environment where technology is embedded, hidden in the background**
- **An environment that is sensitive, adaptive, and responsive to the presence of people and objects**
- **An environment that augments activities through smart non-explicit assistance**
- **An environment that preserves security, privacy and trustworthiness while utilizing information when needed and appropriate**

# Wireless Sensor and Actuator Networks as a First Incarnation



A collection of cooperating algorithms (controllers) designed to achieve a set of common goals, aided by interactions with the environment through **distributed** measurements (**sensors**) and actions (**actuators**).

**\$150 millions sales in 2003**

**\$7 billion in sales in 2010**

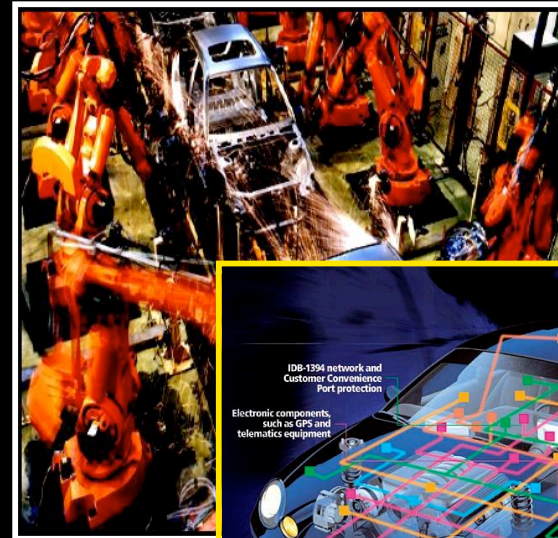


# Creating a Whole New World of Applications



From Monitoring

To Automation

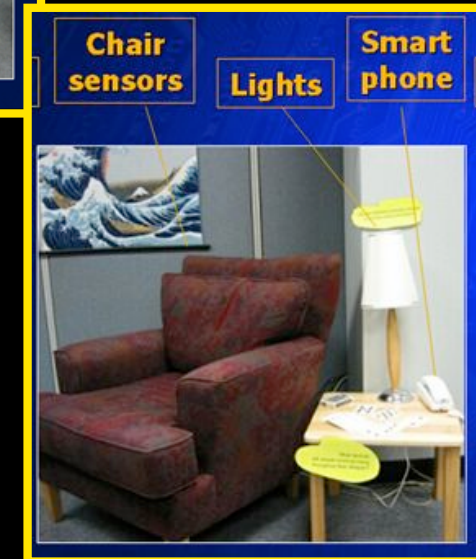
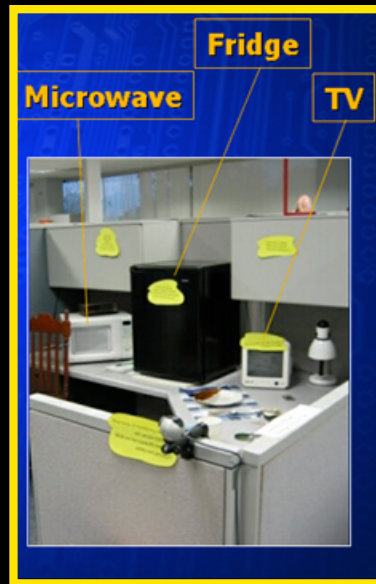


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# The “Smart” Home — A Prime Target



- Security
- Environment control
- Energy management
- Object tracking/inventory
- Advanced user interfaces
- Sense of presence and space

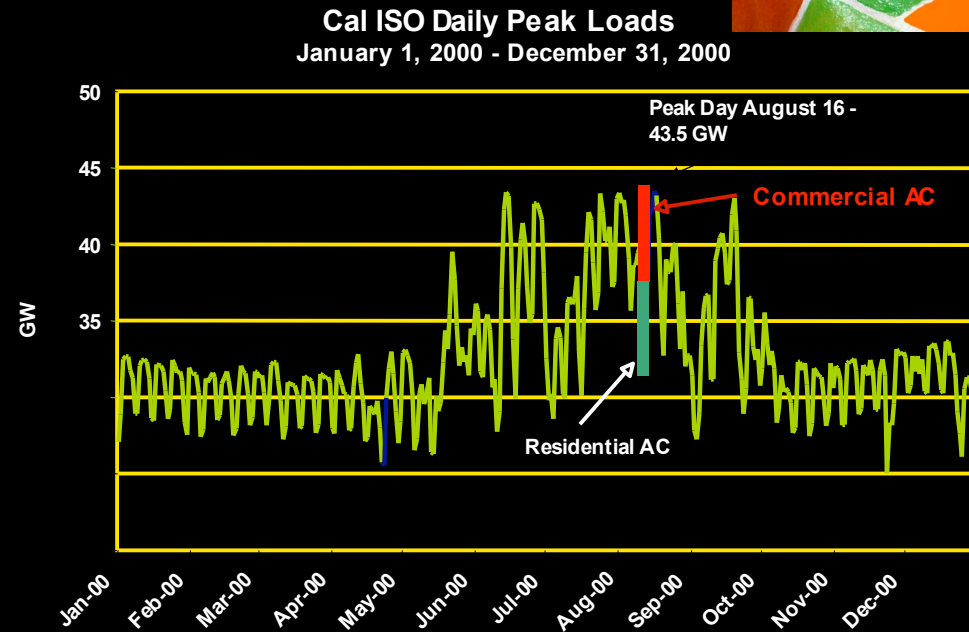




# Energy Management and Conservation as the Initial Driver

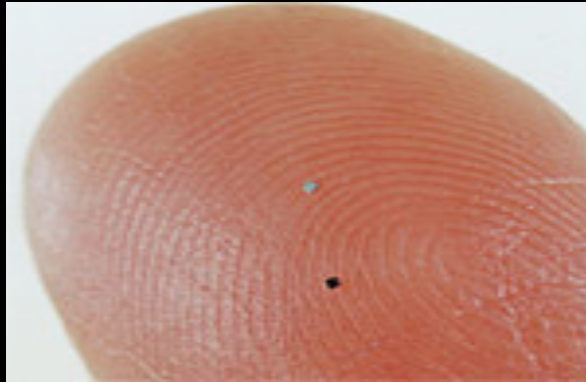


**Demand response:**  
Make energy prices  
dependent upon time-of-use

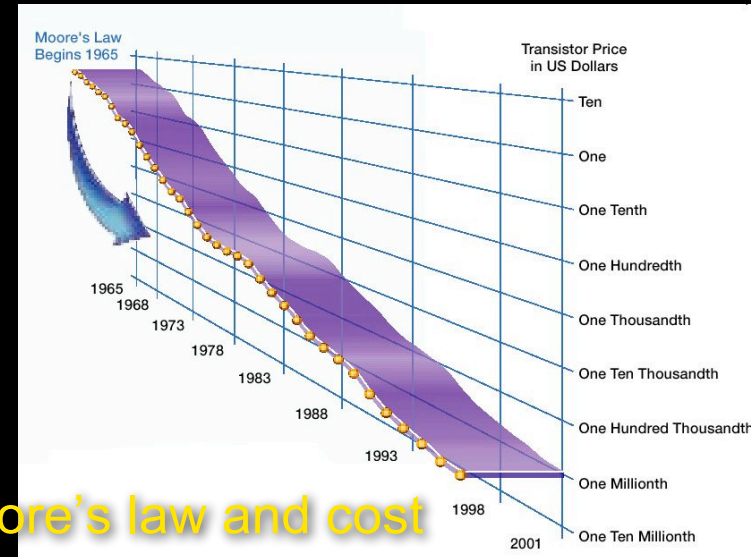


- Advanced thermostats operate on required level of comfort, energy cost, weather forecast and distributed measurements to offload peak times
- Appliances are energy and cost aware

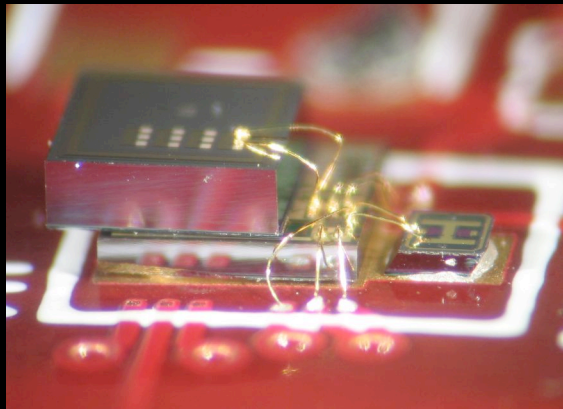
# Enabled by Combined Technology Advancements



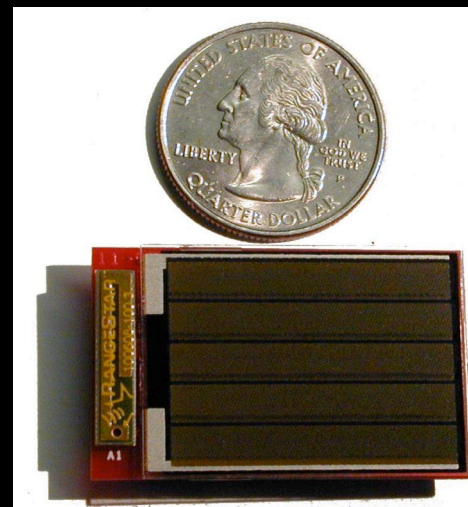
Moore's law and size



Moore's law and cost

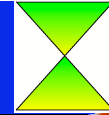


True system integration



Ubiquitous wireless as the glue

# Challenges in Wireless Sensor Networks



- **Power, Cost, Size (Disappearing Electronics)**
- **Reliability**
- **Portability, Scalability and Configurability**
- ***Security and Privacy***

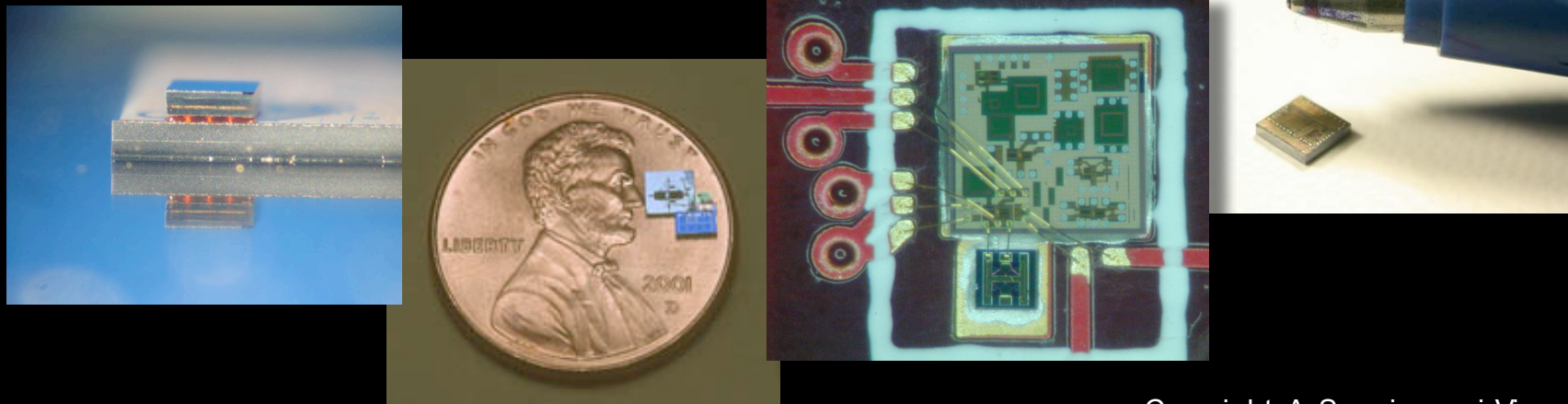
# How to Make Electronics Truly Disappear?



From 10's of cm<sup>3</sup> and 10's to 100's of mW

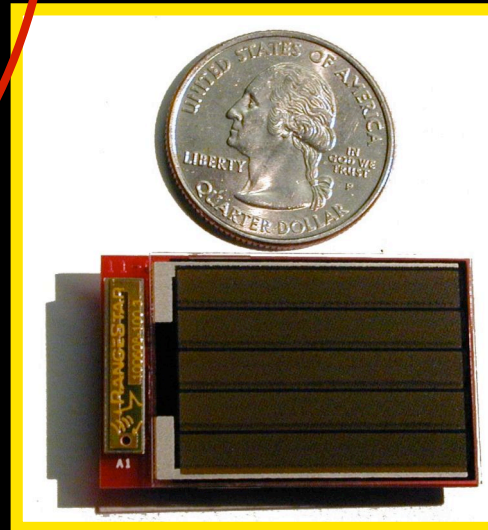
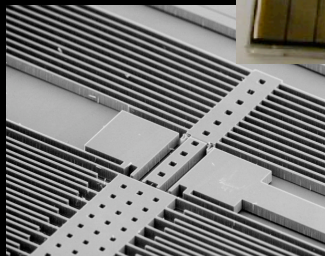
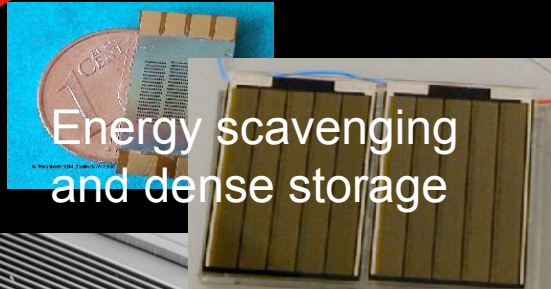


To 10's of mm<sup>3</sup> and 10's of  $\mu$ W



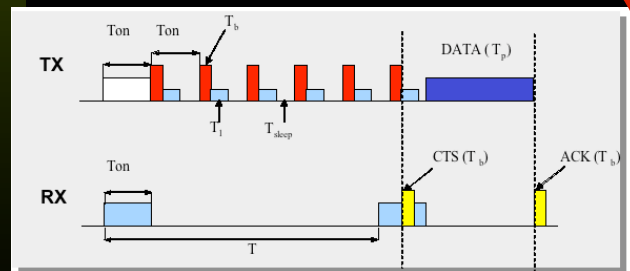
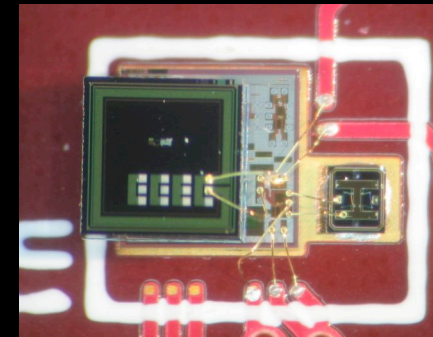


# Adopt Non-Orthodox Technologies and Approaches

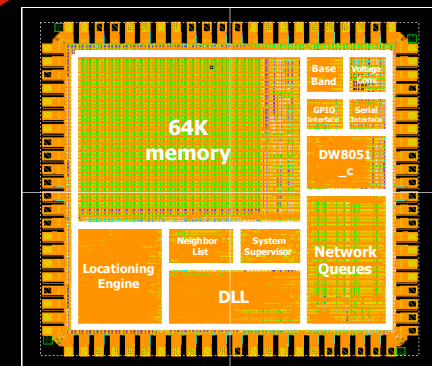


A 100 mW self-contained sensor node

Simple radio's with minimal external components

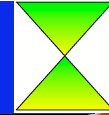


Protocols that maximize standby time



Ultra-low power processors with low standby power

# Reliability: A Serious Threat to Wireless Sensor Networks



**Unreliability is intrinsic to the disappearing electronics concept.**

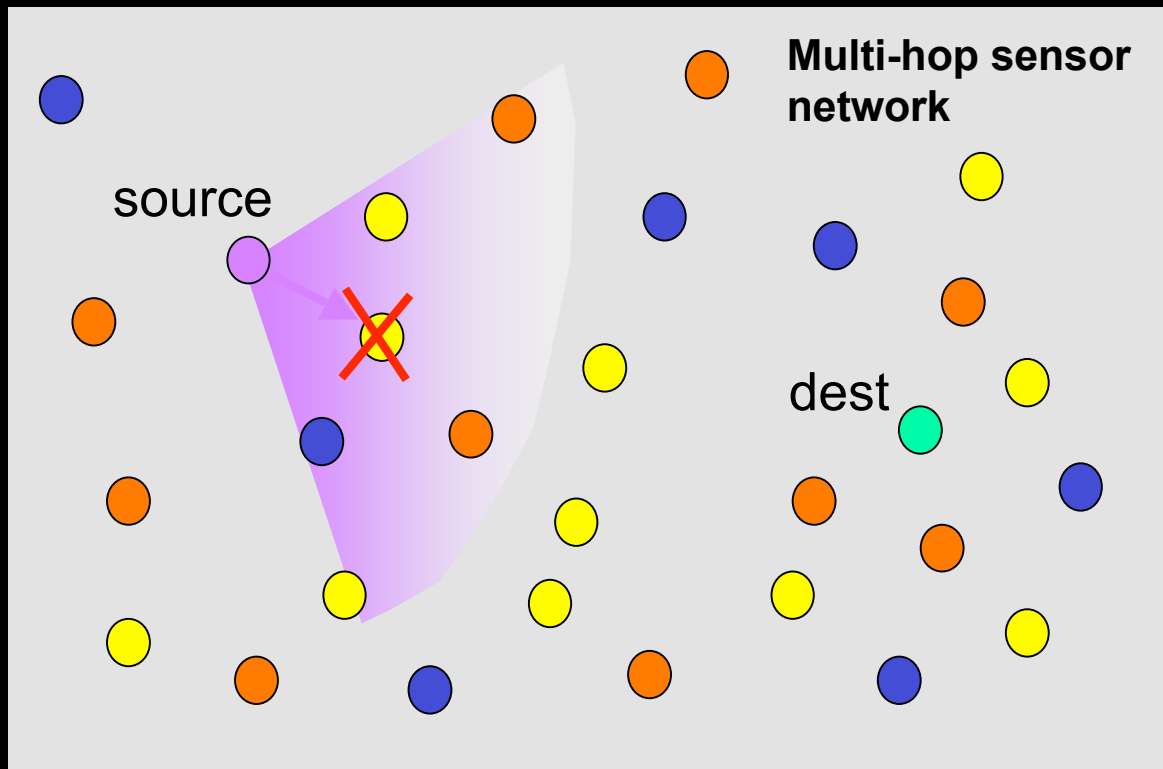
- Nodes may appear at will, may move, may fail and (temporarily) run out of energy
- Problem aggravated by cost, power and size constraints



**The wrong answer: over-design**

**The right answer: exploit nature of Ambient Intelligence**

# Reliability through Redundancy

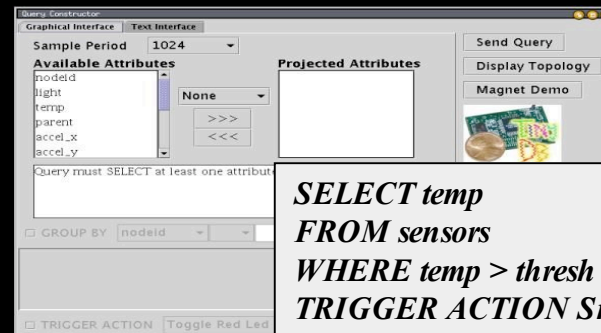
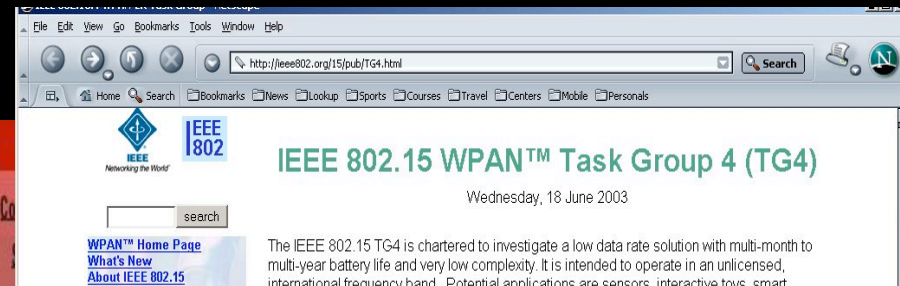


Opportunistic routing: choose any node that is available and goes in the right direction.  
Also reduces energy and latency.

**Redundancy is a core concept of Sensor Networks, providing high quality reliable service with cheap unreliable components.**

# Scalability, Portability and Configurability

A plethora of implementation strategies emerging at all layers, some of them being translated into standards



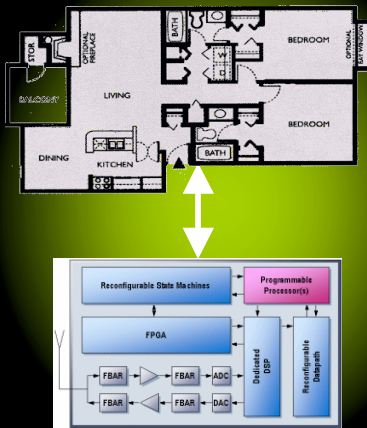
TinyOS/TinyDB

```
SELECT temp  
FROM sensors  
WHERE temp > thresh  
TRIGGER ACTION SndPkt  
EPOCH DURATION 5 s
```

- Bottom-up definition without perspective on interoperability and portability
- Mostly “stovepipe” solutions
- Little reflection on how this translates into applications

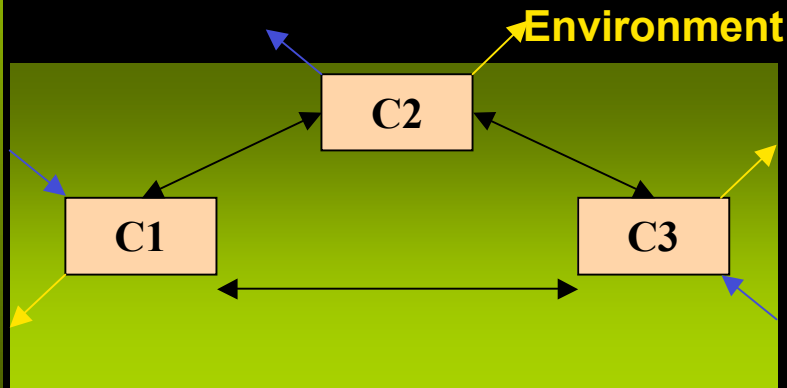


# Applications and Platforms Interoperability

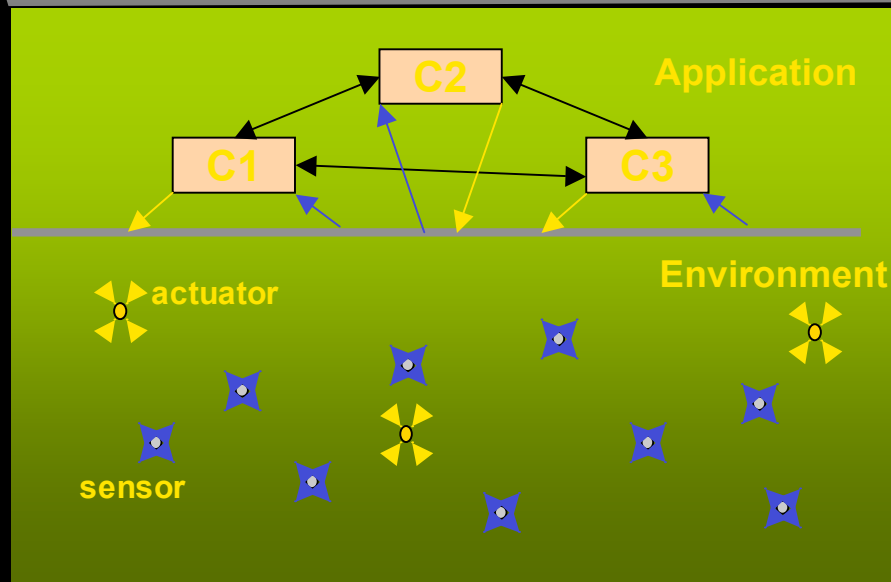


- Applications ***bound to specific*** implementation platforms
- Need ***interoperability*** between applications and between implementation platforms
- Need to ***hide*** implementation details from application programmers

# The Only Real Option: Raising the Abstraction Level!

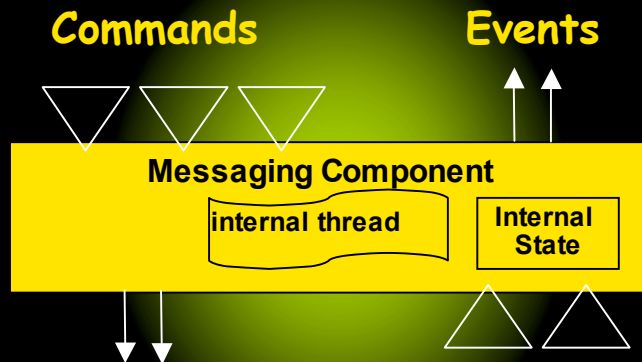


**Sensor Network: A set of distributed compute functions cooperating to achieve a set of common goals through interactions with the environment**

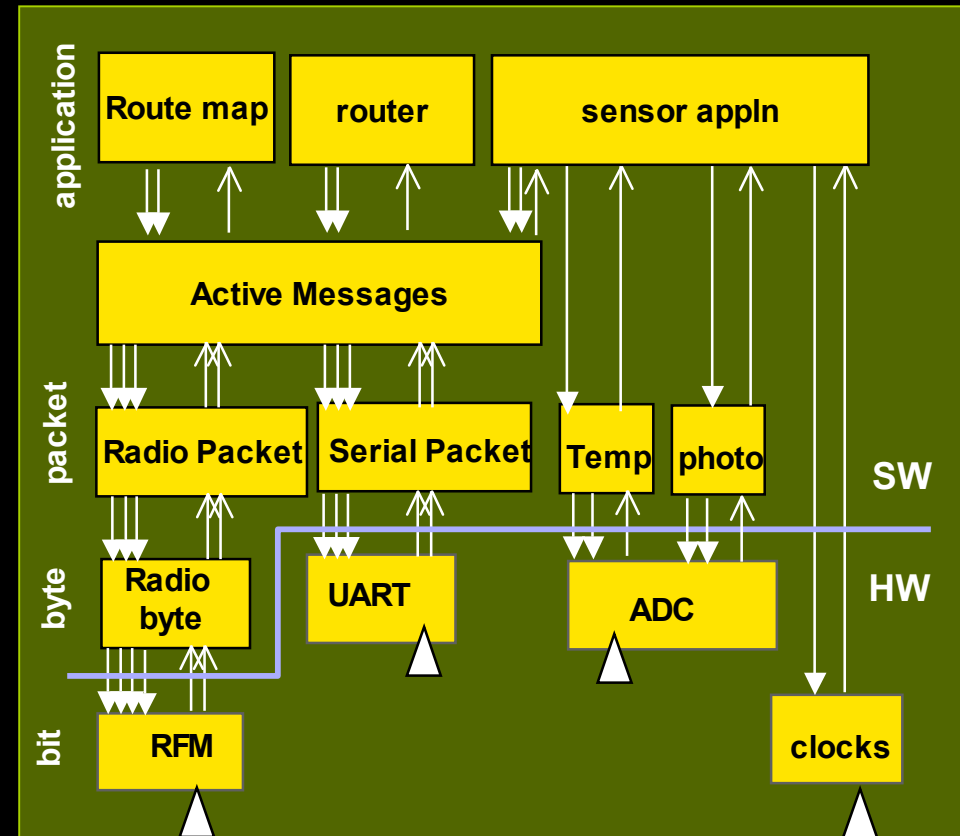


**through a set of distributed sensors and actuators**

# TinyOS



- OS optimized for Sensor Networks
- Used in most existing platforms
- Captures specification as a network of *components* that communicate through an interface of *events* (async) and *commands* (sync)
- Specification using nesC language
- Difficult to use for application and platform developers

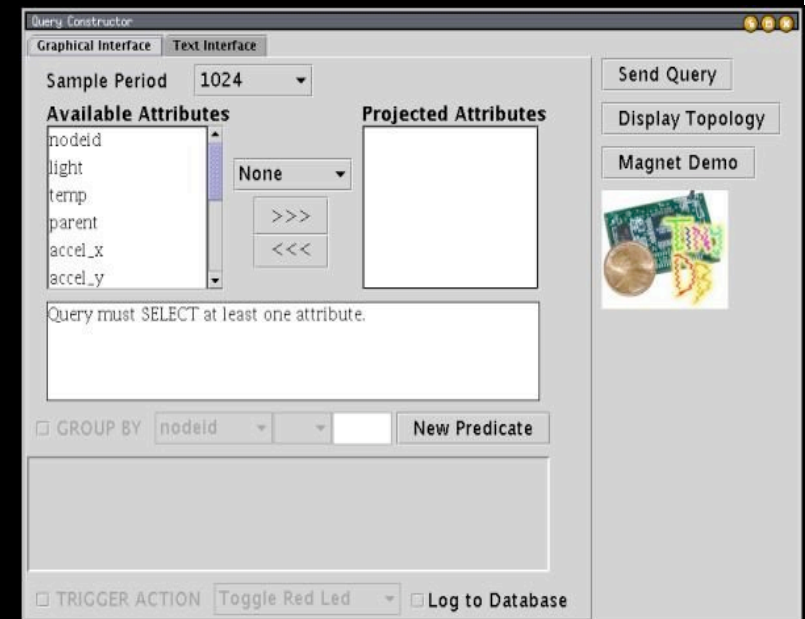


# TinyDB

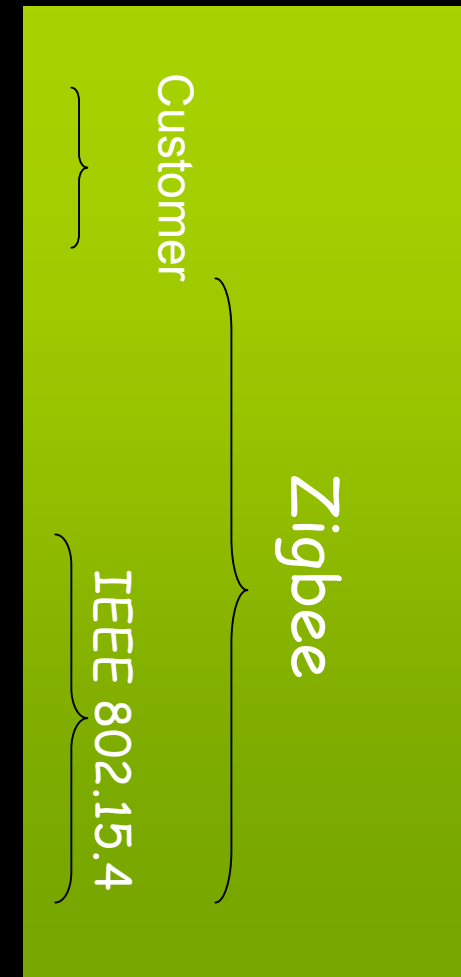
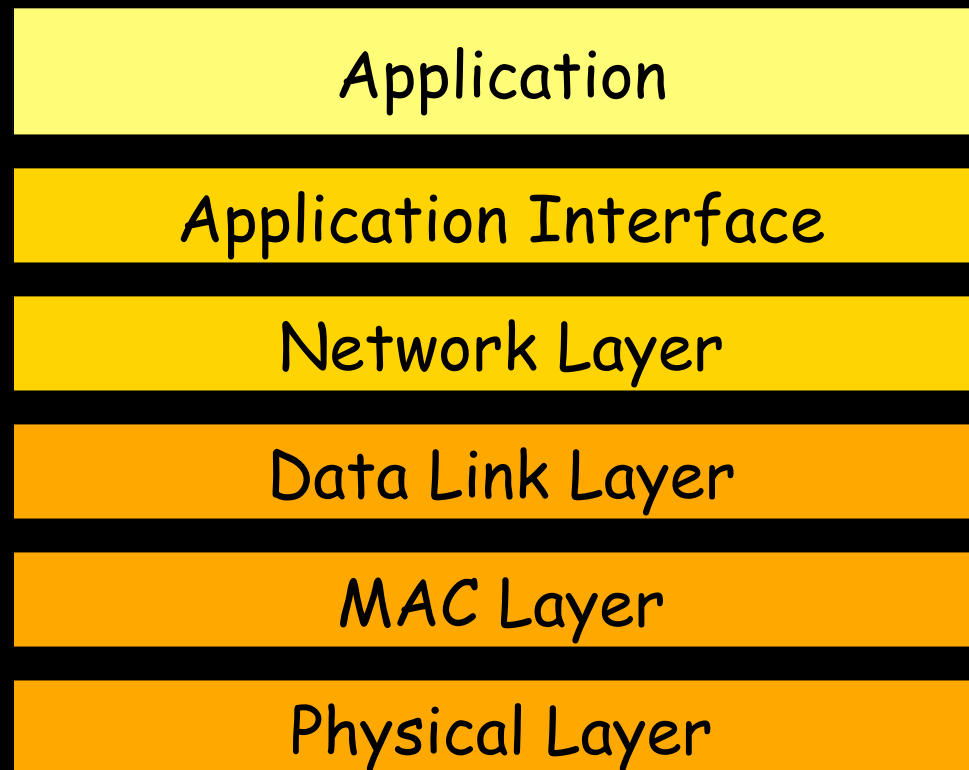


- High-level interface (no C programming)
- Defines query service interface *and* its implementation
- Data-centric approach: Sensor Networks queried as Databases
- Declarative SQL-like Queries
- Java-based GUI
- Query example

```
SELECT temp  
FROM sensors  
WHERE temp > thresh  
TRIGGER ACTION SndPkt  
EPOCH DURATION 5 s
```





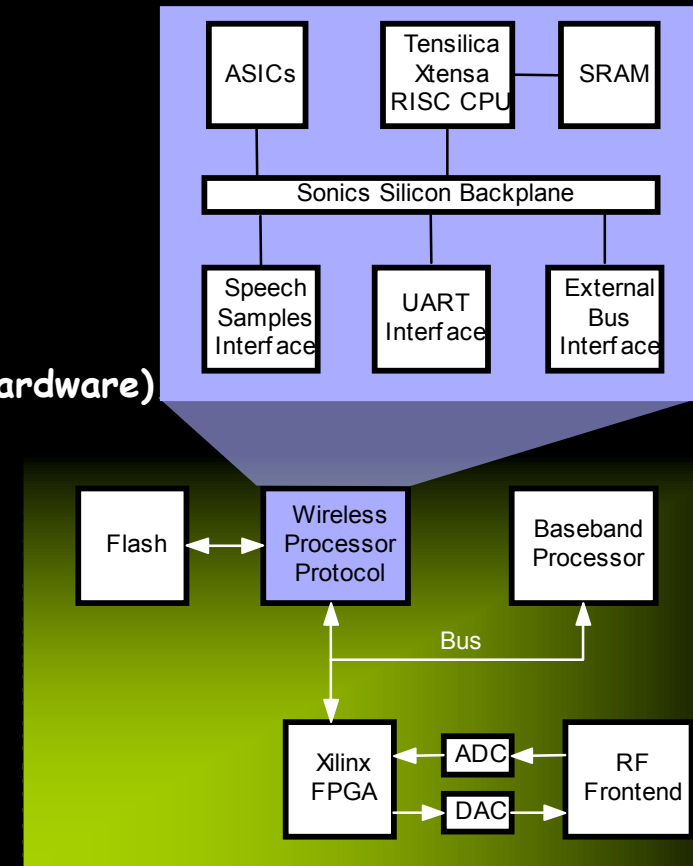
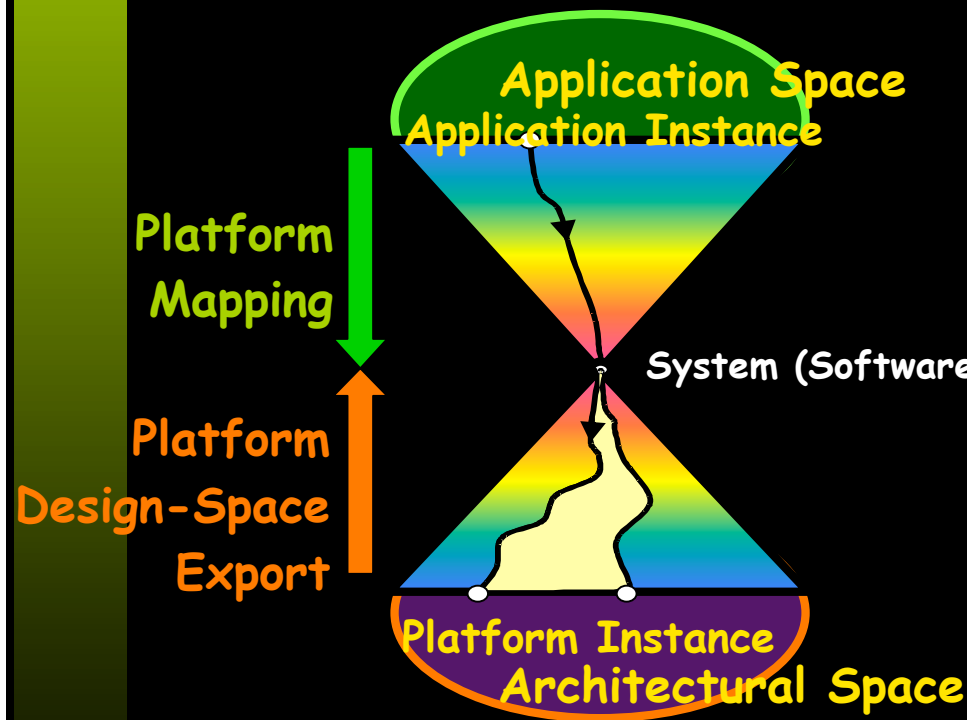


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# Platform-based Design (ASV Triangles 1998)



Intercom Platform (BWRC, 2001)

- Platform: library of resources defining an abstraction layer
  - hide unnecessary details
  - expose only relevant parameters for the next step

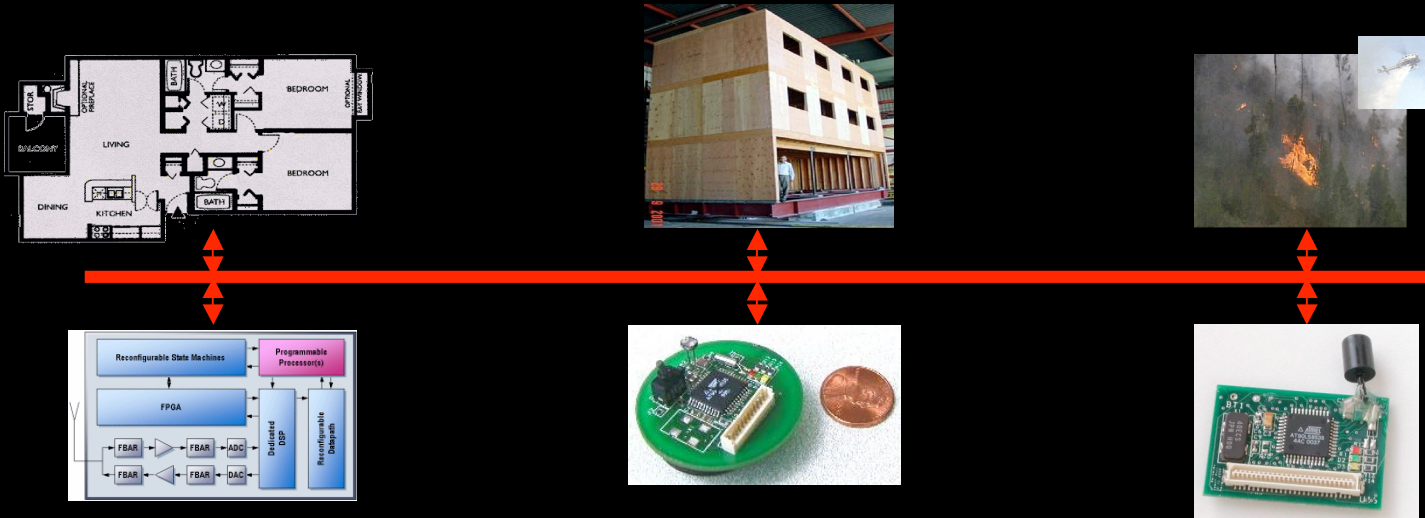
# Principles of Platform methodology: Meet-in-the-Middle



- Top-Down:
  - Define a set of abstraction layers
  - From specifications at a given level, select a solution (controls, components) in terms of components (Platforms) of the following layer and propagate constraints
- Bottom-Up:
  - Platform components (e.g., micro-controller, RTOS, communication primitives) at a given level are abstracted to a higher level by **their functionality and a set of parameters that help guiding the solution selection process.**
  - The selection process is equivalent to a covering problem if a common semantic domain is used.



# A Service-oriented Application Interface



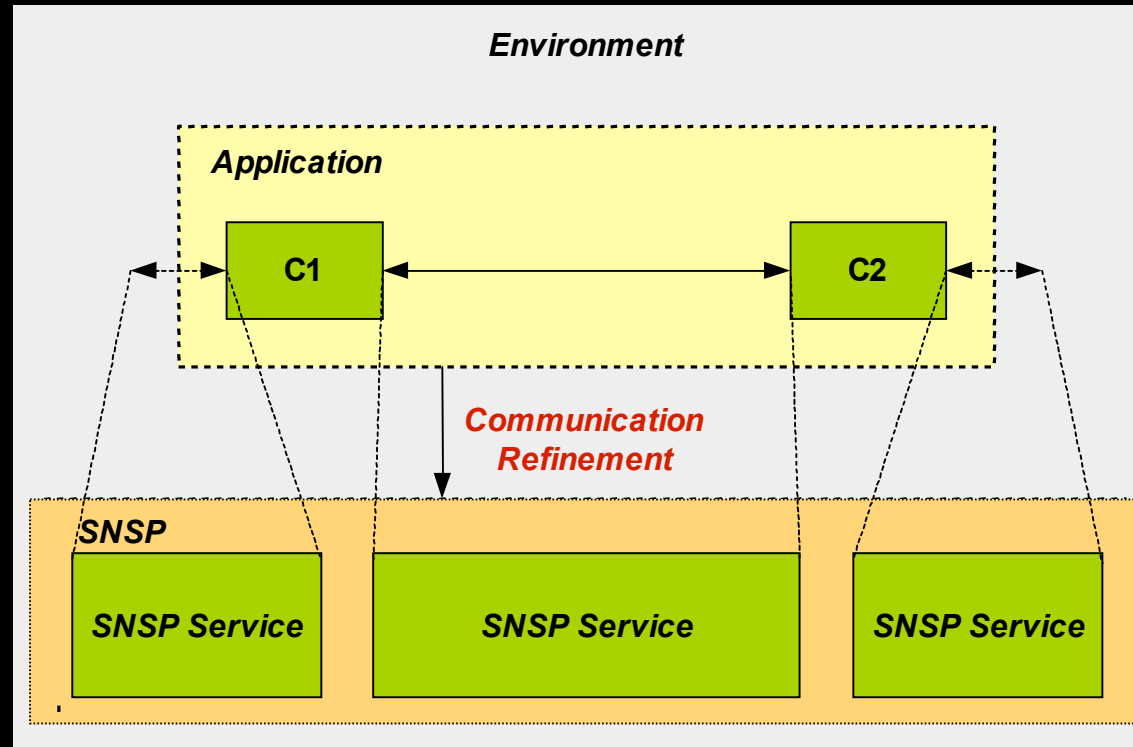
- **Application-level universally agreed Interface**

- In Internet Sockets support several applications and can be implemented by several protocols

- **Define a standard set of services and interface primitives for Sensor Networks**

- accessible by the Application (hence called Application Interface)
- independent on the implementation on any present and future sensor network platform

# SN Services Platform (SNSP)

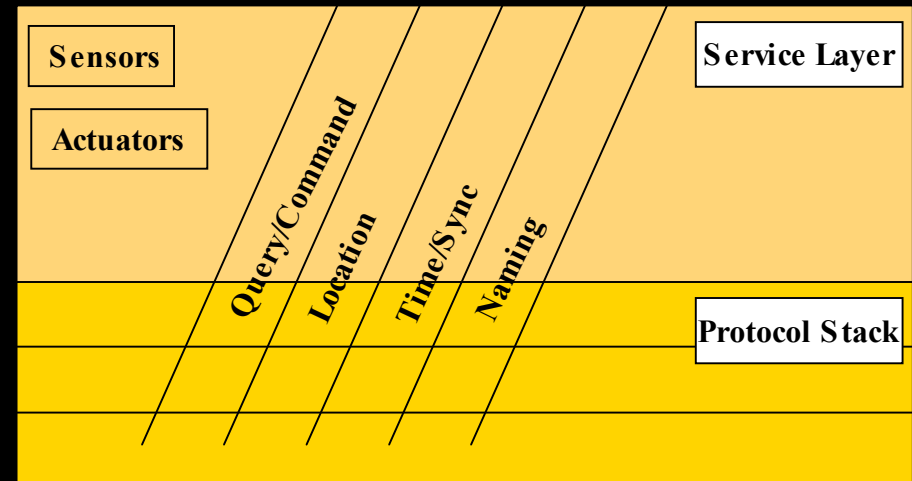


Refines the interaction among controllers and between the controllers and the Environment into interactions between Control, Sensor and Actuation functions

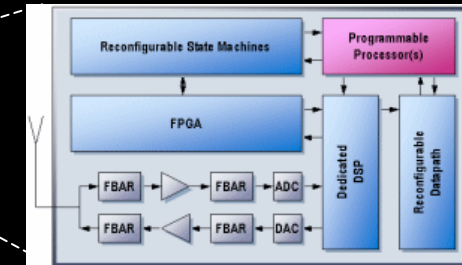
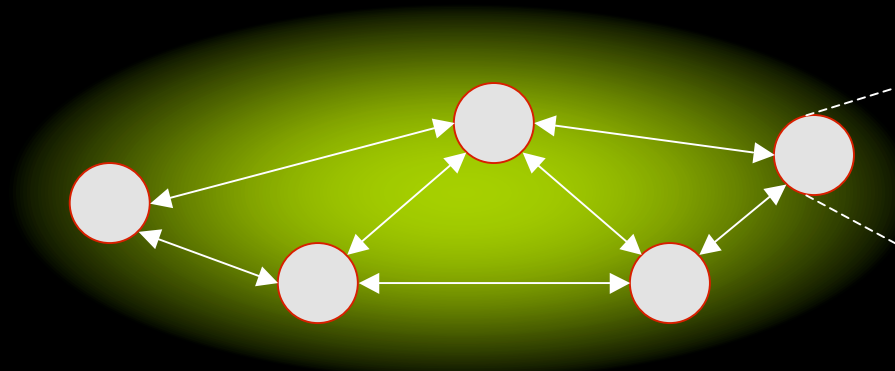
# SN Services Platform (SNSP)



- SNSP components:
  - algorithms (e.g. location and synchronization)
  - data processing functions (e.g. aggregation)
  - I/O functions (sensing, actuating)
- Offered Services:
  - Query
  - Command
  - Timing/Synchronization
  - Location
  - Concept Repository
  - Resource Management



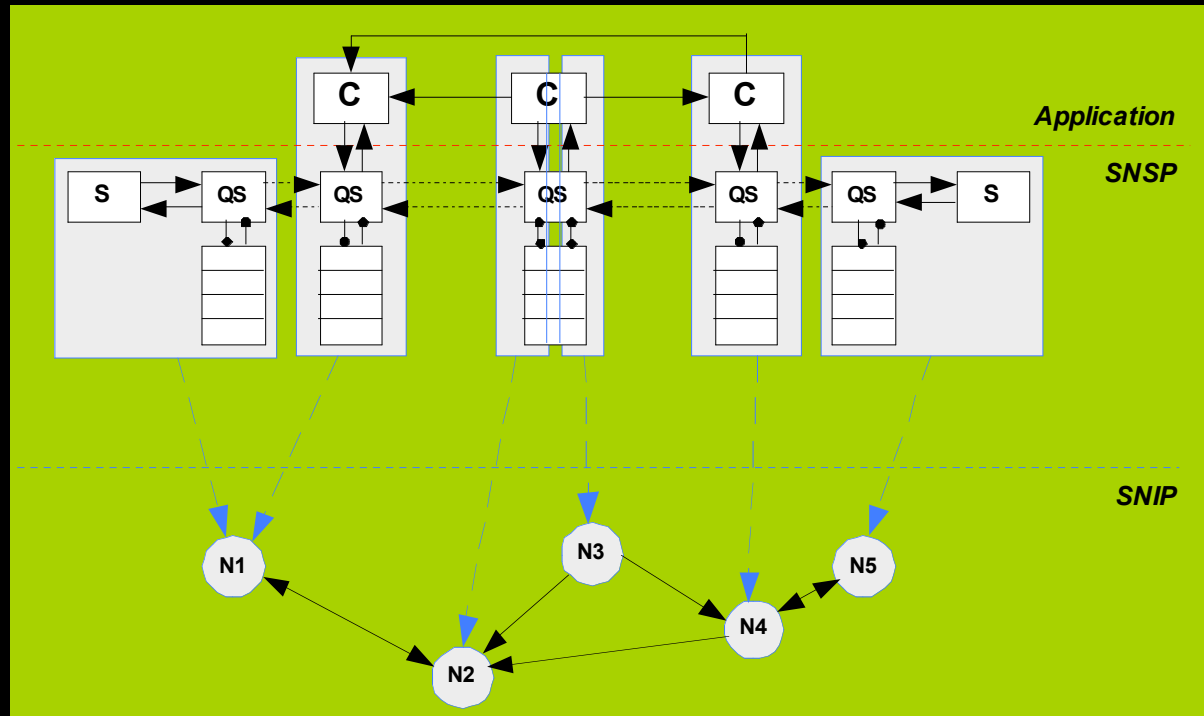
# SN Implementation Platform (SNIP)



- Network of interconnected physical nodes that implement the logical functions of the Application and the SNIP
- *Communication protocols* (Routing , MAC)
- *Physical node*: collection of physical resources such as
  - Clocks and energy sources
  - Processing units, memory, and communication and I/O devices
  - Sensor and actuator devices
- *Parameters* of physical nodes:
  - list of sensors and actuators attached to node, memory available for the application, clock frequency range, clock accuracy and stability, level of available energy, cost of computation (energy), cost of communication (energy), transmission rate (range)



# Mapping Application and SNSP onto a SNIP



- An **instantiated node** binds a set of logical Application or SNSP functions to a physical node
- SNIP parameters determine the **capabilities** of the network (i.e. quality and cost of the services it provides)

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# Design Methodology



## Short history

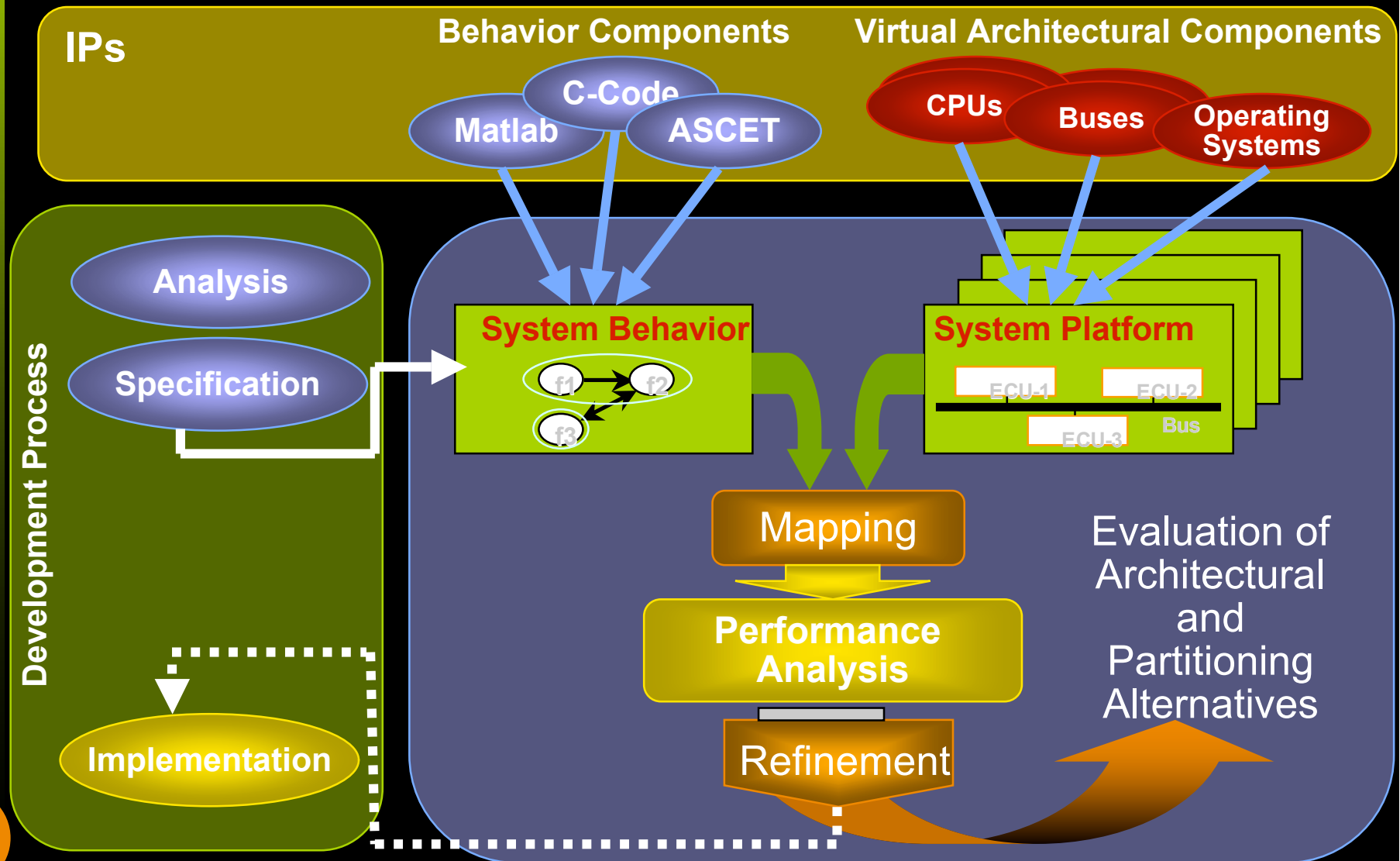
- Mostly application driven
- Poor system level perspective
- No established methodology
- Heterogeneity
  - Communication, DSP, Digital, Analog

FORMAL APPROACH  
Design Methodology  
Design Tools

## From Lab to Market

- Merging different ingredients
- Implementation Platforms are available
  - Mica, Dust, PicoRadio, Telos
- System Level Design

# Separation of Concerns



# Metropolis Level D

- Motivation

- Semantics
- Needs

- Platform

- Framework
- Compiler
- Co-simulation

- Metropolis

- Extension
- Syntax

- Easy
- Extension

- Release

## COVER FEATURE

# Metropolis: An Integrated Electronic System Design Environment



Based on a metamodel with formal semantics that developers can use to capture designs, Metropolis provides an environment for complex electronic-system design that supports simulation, formal analysis, and synthesis.

*Felice Balarin  
Yosinori  
Watanabe  
Cadence Berkeley  
Labs*

*Harry Hsieh  
University of  
California, Riverside*

*Luciano  
Lavagno  
Claudio  
Passerone  
Politecnico  
di Torino*

*Alberto  
Sangiovanni-  
Vincentelli  
University of  
California, Berkeley*

A solid design flow must capture designs at well-defined levels of abstraction and proceed toward an efficient implementation. The critical decisions involve the system's architecture, which will execute the computation and communication tasks associated with the design's overall specification. Understanding the application domain is essential to ensure efficient use of the design flow.

Today, the design chain lacks adequate support. Most system-level designers use a collection of unlinked tools. The implementation then proceeds with informal techniques that involve numerous human-language interactions that create unnecessary and unwanted iterations among groups of designers in different companies or different divisions. These groups share little understanding of their respective knowledge domains. Developers thus cannot be sure that these tools, linked by manual or empirical translation of intermediate formats, will preserve the design's semantics. This uncertainty often results in errors that are difficult to identify and debug.

The move toward programmable platforms shifts the design implementation task toward embedded software design. When embedded software reaches the complexity typical of today's designs, the risk that the software will not function correctly increases dramatically. This risk stems mainly from poor design methodologies and fragile software sys-

tem architectures, the result of growing functionality over an existing implementation that may be quite old and undocumented. The Metropolis project seeks to develop a unified framework that can cope with these challenges.

## DESIGN OVERVIEW

We designed Metropolis to provide an infrastructure based on a model with precise semantics that remain general enough to support existing computation models<sup>1</sup> and accommodate new ones. This *metamodel* can support not only functionality capture and analysis, but also architecture description and the mapping of functionality to architectural elements.

Metropolis uses a logic language to capture non-functional and declarative constraints. Because the model has a precise semantics, it can support several synthesis and formal analysis tools in addition to simulation.

The first design activity that Metropolis supports, communication of design intent and results, focuses on the interactions among people working at different abstraction levels and among people working concurrently at the same abstraction level. The metamodel includes constraints that represent in abstract form requirements not yet implemented or assumed to be satisfied by the rest of the system and its environment.

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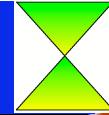
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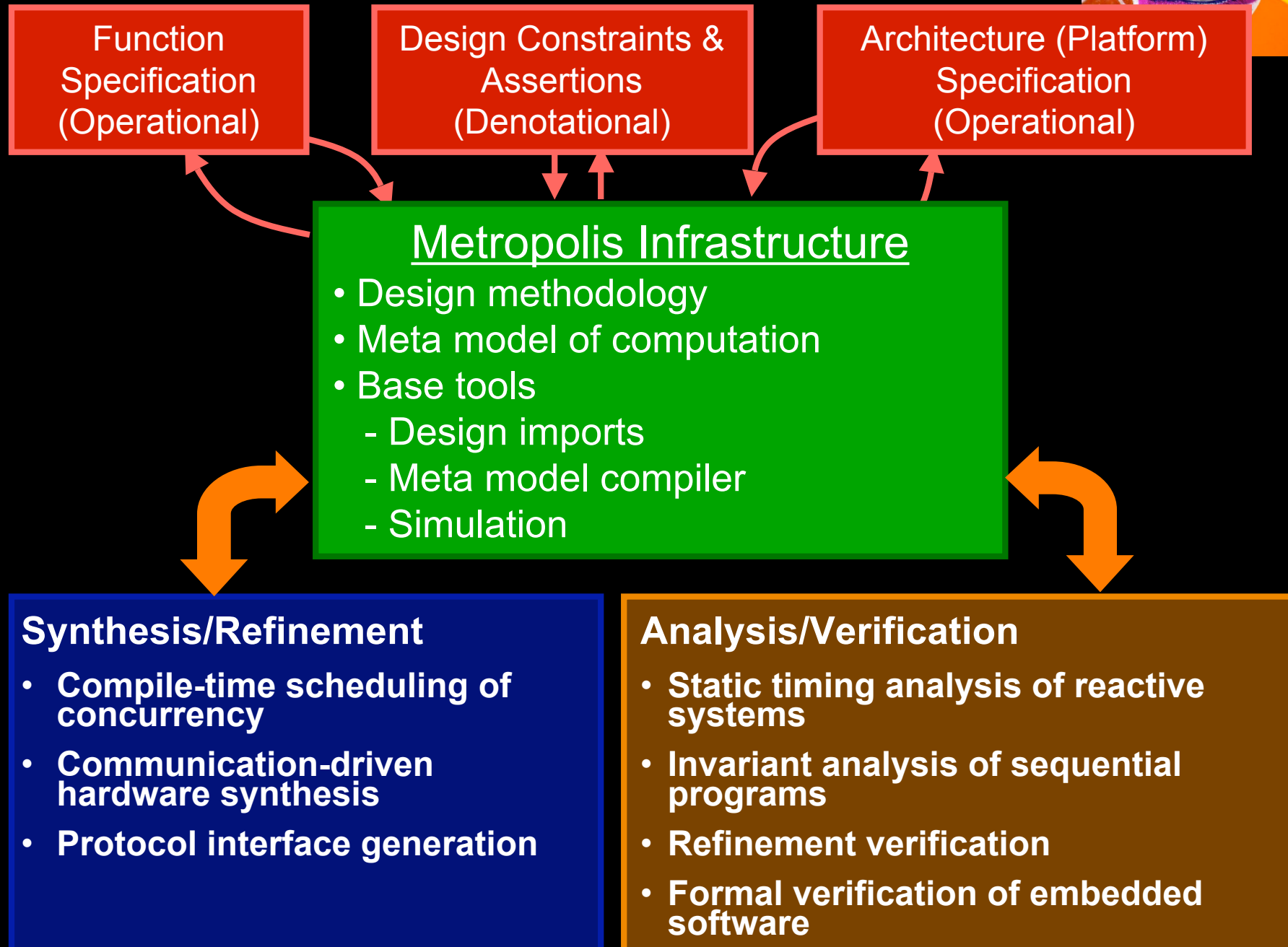


# Fundamental Concepts



- Support for different Models of Computation
- Support for Architecture Specification and Analysis
- Mix of imperative and declarative specification styles
- Quantities of interest dictated by the designer, not the framework
- Framework designed to allow interfacing with external tools

# Metropolis Framework (Berkeley)



# Metropolis Contributors



## Industry

- Cadence Berkeley Labs (Design Methods and Tool Development)
- Intel (Communication subsystem of the Centrino platform, Imaging-Video subsystems, Mixed Analog-RF-Digital )
- GM (distributed architecture)
- Infineon (Software defined radios)
- Nokia (Platform-based cell phone design)
- Cypress (Network processor)
- ST (Automotive design)
- United Technology (Security, Conditioning and Elevator Systems)
- Xilinx (Virtex II front-end)

## Universities

- University of California at Berkeley
- Carnegie Mellon
- MIT
- UCLA
- Politecnico di Torino
- Universita' di Pisa
- UC Riverside
- Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya

## Others

- BWRC
- PARADES

# PBD Design Flow



Describe  
Application

**Sensor Network Service Platform (SNSP)**

Specs

**Rialto**

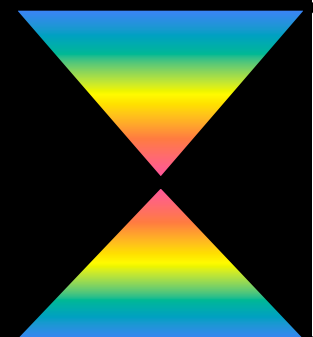
Network  
Architecture

Computation

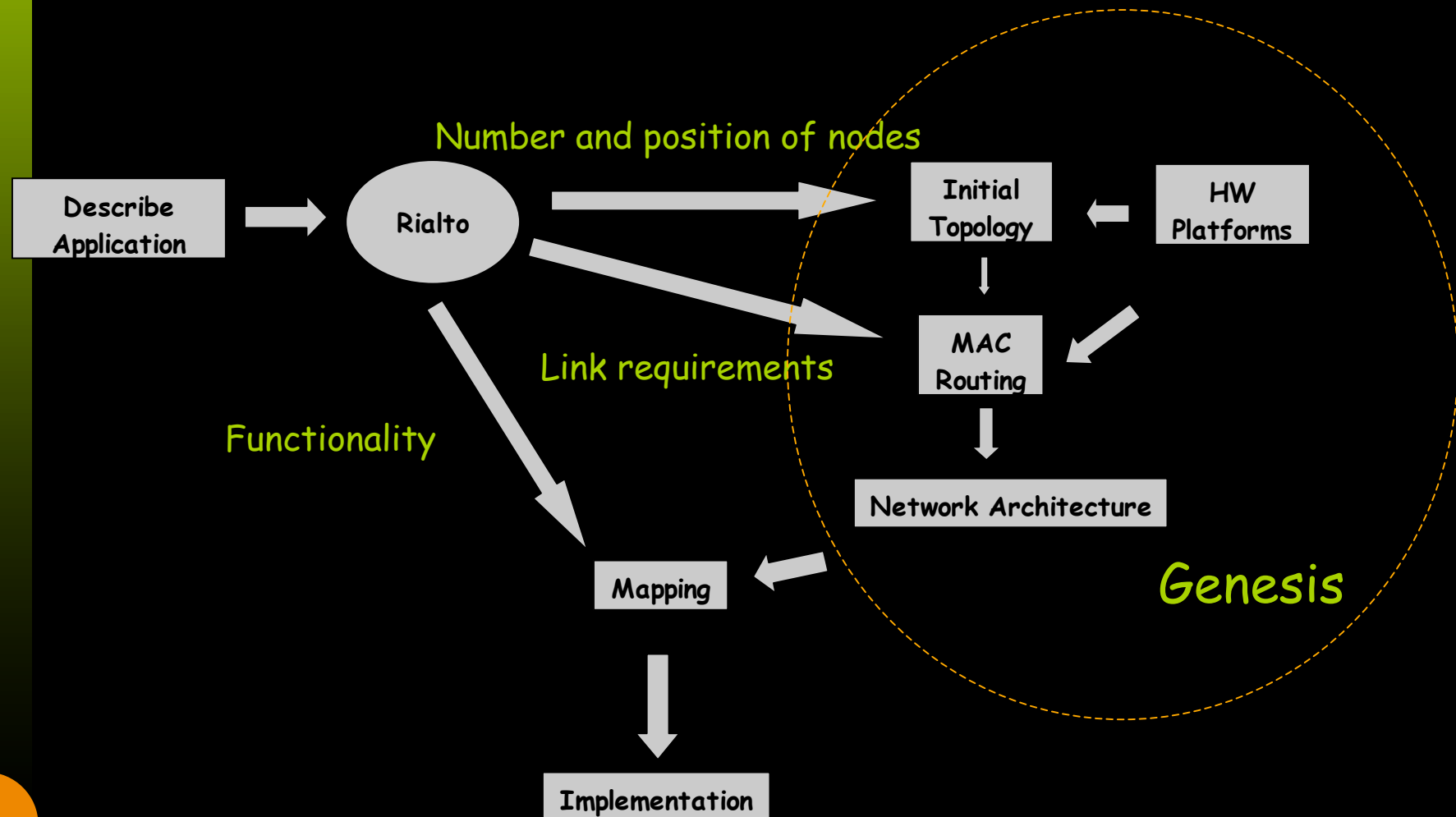
Communication

**Sensor Network  
Implementation Platform  
(SNIP)**

**Genesis**



# Design Flow



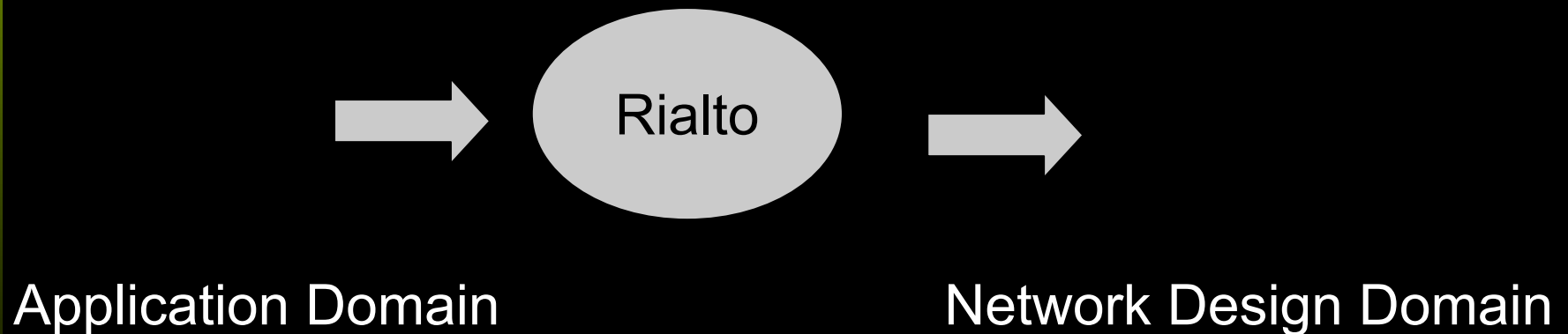


# Rialto



Allow user to describe the network in terms of logical components queries and services (as in SNSP)

Capture these specifications and produce a set of constraints on LATENCY, ERROR RATES, SENSING, COMPUTATION

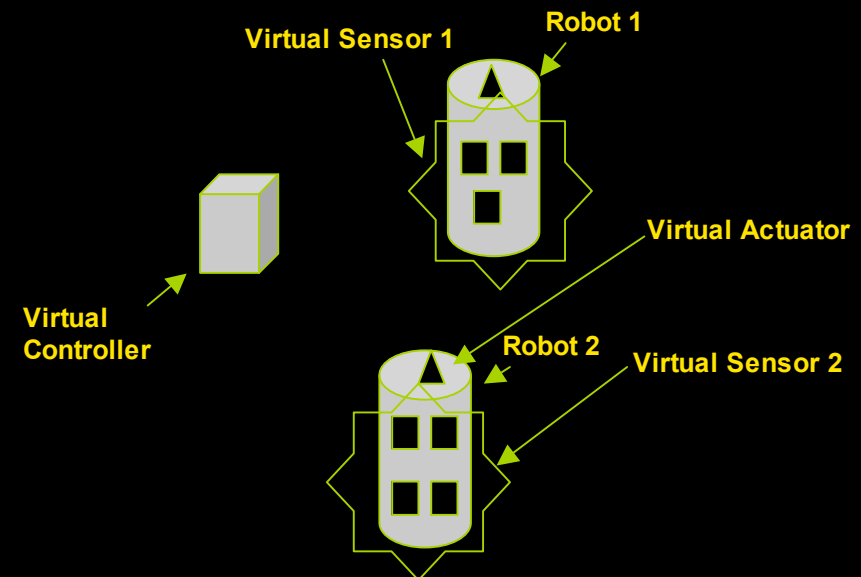


**Bridging Application with Implementation**

# Rialto Model



- Three types of “Logical Components”:
  - Virtual Controller
    - Cyclic Control Routine:
      - Queries and Commands
      - Read and Write Semantic
      - Decision Algorithm
  - Virtual Sensor
    - Sensing Capability
      - Read and Write Semantic
  - Virtual Actuator
    - Actuating Capability
      - Read and Write Semantic
- Connections
  - From VC to VS, From VC to VA
  - Unbounded, Bidirectional, Lossless
- Tokens
  - Queries
  - Commands
  - i.e.: “Give me vibration data (average) sampled at a rate R, from time T1 to time T2. Return data within L seconds with a message error rate P”



$$T=(1,0,Avg,Vib,R,T1,T2,L,P)$$

# Properties of Rialto



- Captures all possible scenario
  - Consider all possible combination of queries and commands
  - Report most “demanding” scenarios
  - Set requirements to satisfy those scenarios
    - Sensing
    - Latency
    - Message Error Rate
- Formal MoC
  - Separation of conditional branches of the controlling algorithm
  - Captures requirements deterministically

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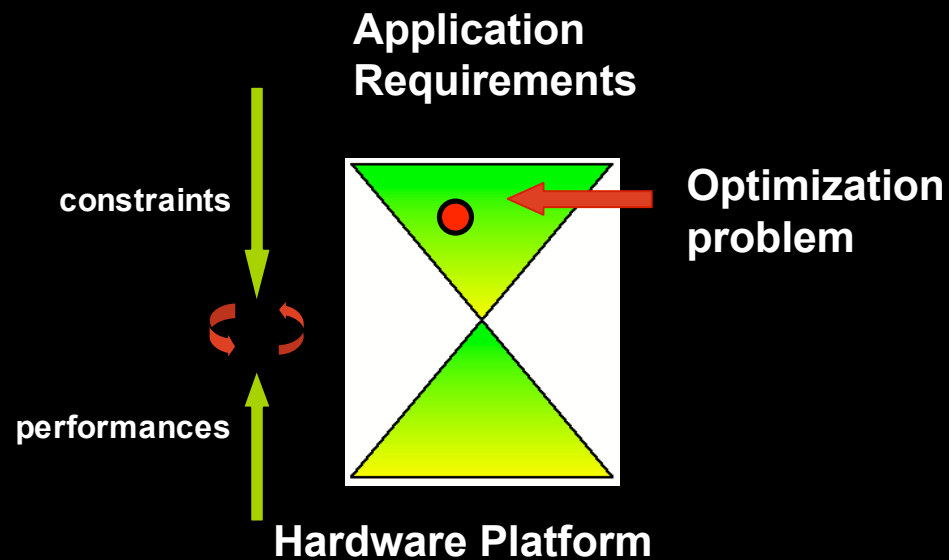
# Sensor Network Implementation Platform (SNIP)



- Sensing, Computation, Communication
  - Satisfy constraints
  - Optimize for energy consumption
  - Orthogonalization of concerns
  - Iterative refinement
    - Start from a valid solution
      - Centralized computation
      - Optimized communication
    - Decentralize Computation
    - Optimize Communication
  - Library
    - Distributed Computation Algorithms
    - Communication Protocols



# Protocol Synthesis

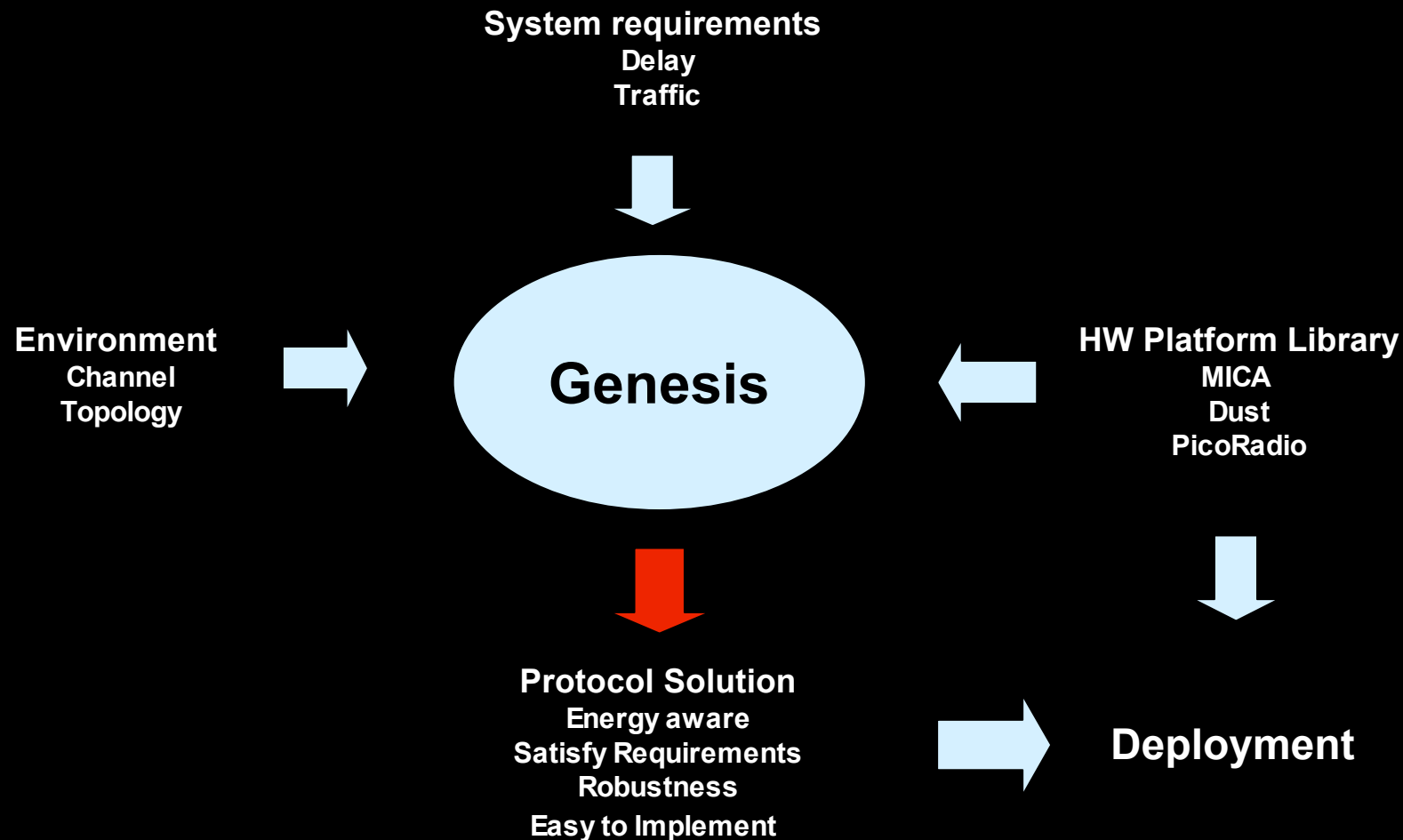


Example

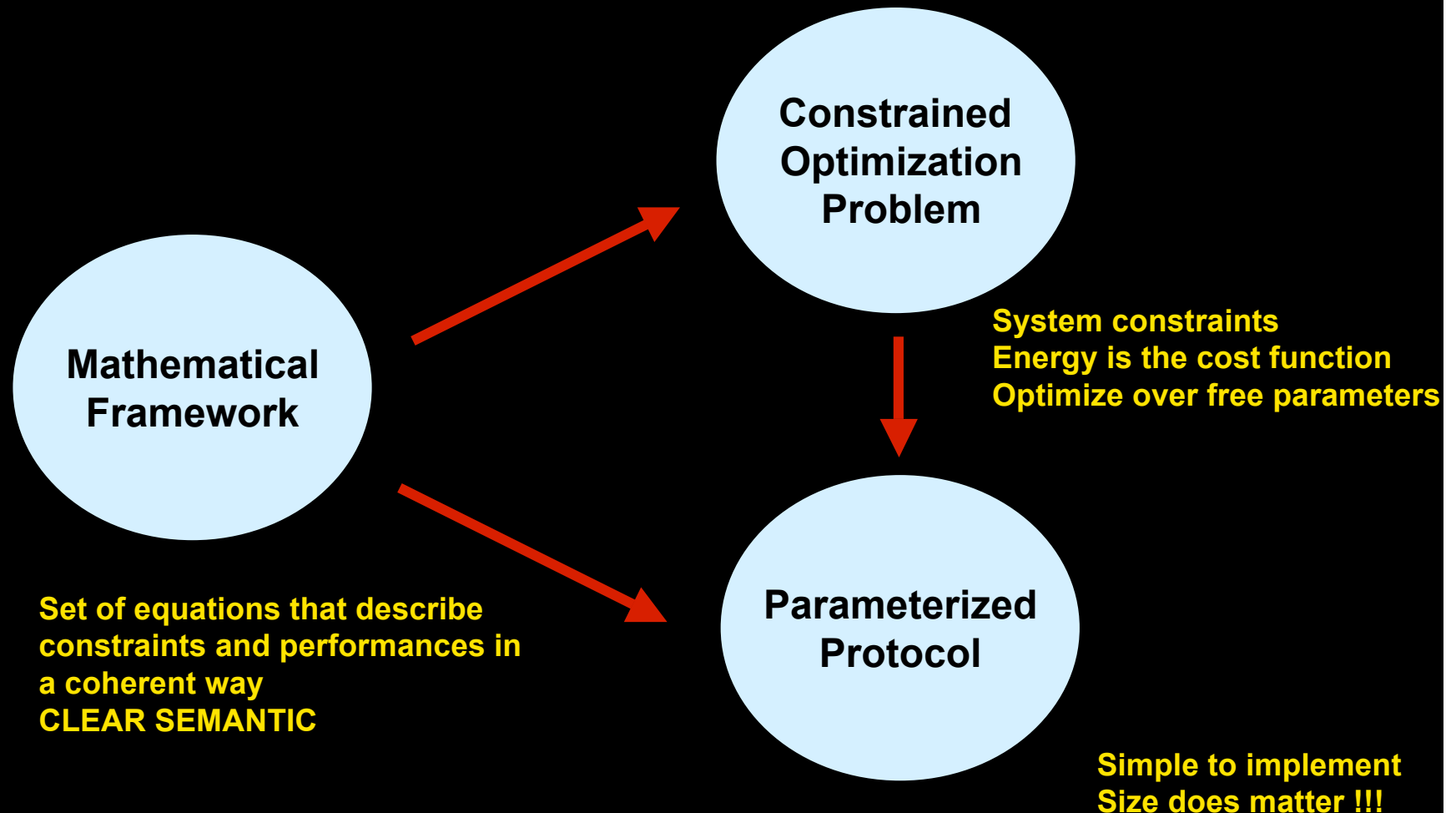


Constraint: End-to-End delay  
Cost Function: Energy Consumption  
Optimization Space: MAC + Routing

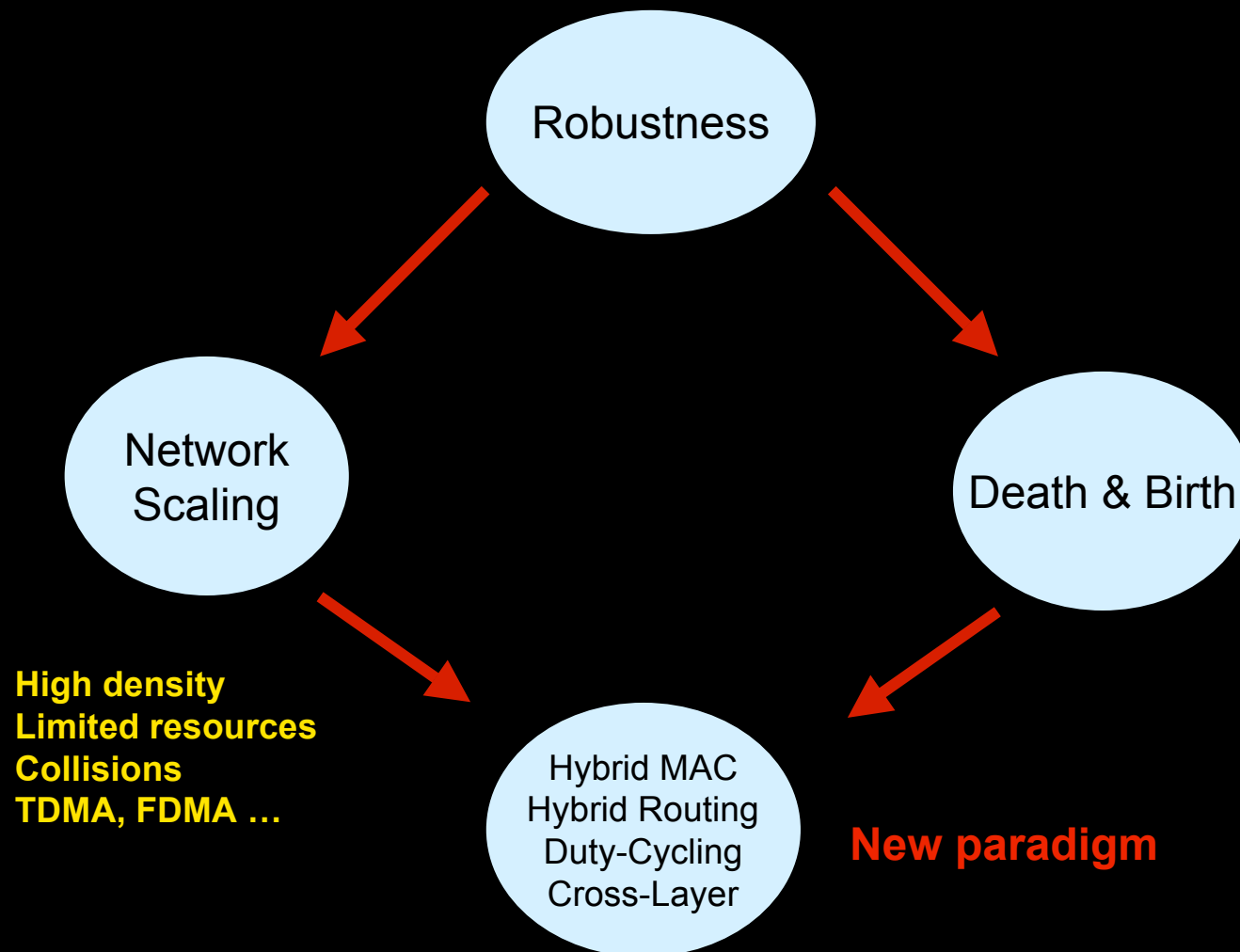
# Genesis: Synthesis Engine for Embedded Networks Protocols



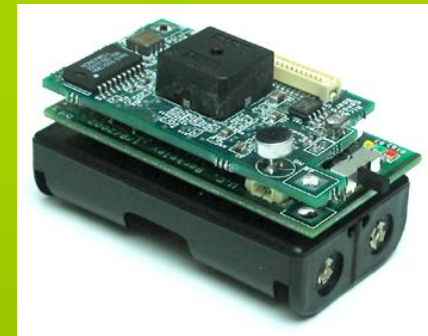
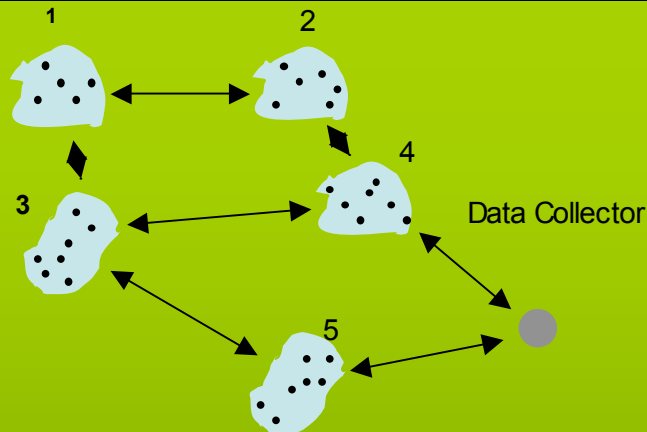
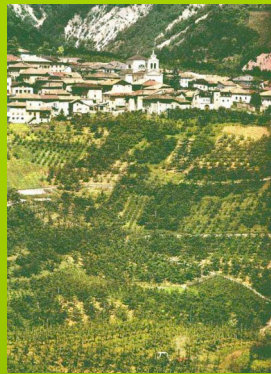
# Genesis



# Parameterized Protocol

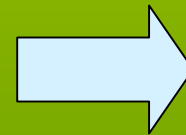


# Example: SERAN



## Given:

Topology  
Traffic generation requirement  
Delay Requirement  
Target HW Platform

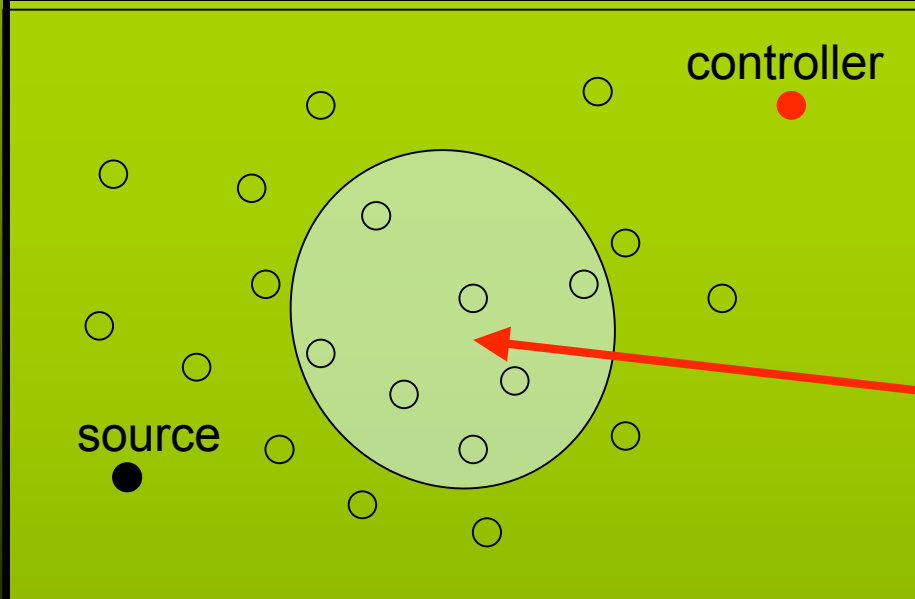


## Generated:

Hybrid Routing  
Hybrid MAC  
Duty-Cycle  
Cross-optimization



# Example: Randomized PicoRadio



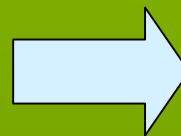
**Density is the main resource:**

**EXPLOIT EQUIVALENCE**

**For routing purposes  
these nodes are equivalent**

**Given:**

Topology  
Traffic generation requirement  
Delay Requirement  
Loss Rate



**Generated:**

Opportunistic Routing  
Randomized MAC  
Randomized Duty-Cycle  
Cross-optimization  
Distributed Adaptation

# Applications



## Ambient Intelligence

- CEC

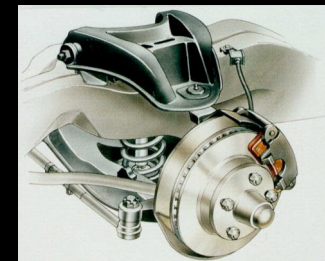


## Environmental Monitoring

- Irrigation
- Water pollution



## Advanced Sensing



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# Conclusions



- Wireless Sensor Networks and their Evolution
- Platform-based Design for AWSN
  - Sensor Network Service Platform
  - Sensor Network Implementation Platform
- Design Flow
  - Rialto: specification capture (SNPS)
  - Genesis: protocol synthesis (SNIP)