CERIAS

E2C - Energy Efficient Consensus*

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1. Cyber Physical Systems (CPS)



- Often deployed in large-scale defense applications
- Devices need achieve consensus by tolerating byzantine faults

2. CPS State Machine Replication Ideal CPS SMR

- Byzantine Fault Tolerance: In a system of n nodes, tolerate up to f faults
- Liveness: Each client request is eventually committed by all correct nodes
- **Energy Efficiency**: The overall cost of performing the agreement must be optimal for non-faulty nodes
- *Fairness*: Energy expenditure for any node is the same over multiple nodes

4. Two-Tiered System Model

• An energy efficient and optimally resilient state machine replication protocol is necessary in this scenario.

3. Current Protocols do not

- Address energy overheads and fairness
- Assume that adversaries have limited energy resources
- Assume nodes to be heterogenous, have partial network connectivity and have limited computational or energy resources
- Consider network bandwidth limitations
- Address synchronization of sensors/lower tier devices
- Consider the availability of k —cast/local reliable broadcast channels for State Machine Replication

5. Benchmarks



- No resource and network constraints for Tier 1 nodes
- Tier 2 nodes are embedded nodes with *limited* computational and energy resources
- Some k-cast links available for nodes in Tier 2 providing local reliable broadcast
- Nodes in Tier 2 possess energy efficient k cast links (such as BLE) and have partial network connectivity
- Up to *f* faulty nodes in Tier 2
- All Tier 2 nodes are connected to Tier 1 nodes via an expensive link (such as WiFi/4G)



- Bluetooth LE consumes less power than WiFi (approx. 700x)
- Cost of ECDSA (339mJ,540mJ to sign and verify resp.) is nearly 10³ times greater than HMAC(0.139mJ)

6. Contributions

- Leverage *k-cast* and *resource bounded adversary* to optimize energy efficiency of the protocol
- Protocols must be optimal when all nodes are correct to be energy efficient
- E2C is the *most energy efficient* leader based SMR protocol and is based on best-case optimality
- E2C generates *certificates on-demand* (when the leader is bad)
- E2C uses O(1) signatures and O(n) verification operations per round, as opposed to O(n) and O(n²) by the state-ofthe-art protocol Sync-HotStuff

I. Abraham, D. Malkhi, K. Nayak, L. Ren and M. Yin, "Sync HotStuff: Simple and Practical Synchronous State Machine Replication

