Session 1 Summary "Fault Tolerance & Autonomy" Rapporteur Jay Lala

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Fault Tolerant Architectures **For Space and Avionics:**



Towards More Autonomy

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(talk first presented in International Forum on Integrated System Health Engineering and Management in Aerospace, November 2005)



Fault-Tolerant Architectures for Space and Avionics -1

- Components of a spacecraft and generic fault detection and recovery techniques
- Progression of space probes and systems: from manual to autonomous over 40 yrs
- Early 60s vintage: DMSP
 - On-board ad hoc error detection & safing + groundbased diagnosis and recovery
- 90s vintage: Cassini-Huygens
 - Significant h/w redundancy with hot-backup config
 - Autonomous time-constrained onboard recovery
 - Recovery actions dependent on mission-mode

Fault-Tolerant Architectures for Space and Avionics -2

- Generic approaches to avionics fault-tolerance
- Commercial fly-by-wire flight control requirements (P(f) = 10⁻¹⁰ per hr)
- Contrast Airbus A3xx and Boeing 777 architectures to meet requirements
- TRENDS:
 - Increasing s/w size
 - Increasing redundancy, diversity, fault coverage

An Architecture for Robust and Fault Tolerant Autonomous Robots

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Arch for Robust & FT Autonomous Robots - 1

- Movies & animations of exemplar robots:
 - Companion, Service, and Tour Robots
- Focusing on reliability and safety aspects of dependability
- Motivated a need for an architecture
- Described the LAAS Architecture
 - Functional arch developed using GenoM which provides a software eng framework and an automaton for internal activities
 - Decision level arch (task planning) using OpenPRS and IxTeT
 - Execution Control using R2C

Arch for Robust & FT Autonomous Robots - 2

- Challenges of validating such architectures
 - Among others, hard to model environment and unforeseen evolutions
- Proposed solution: define constraining properties of modules (observable, controllable, real-time, etc)
- Examples of state checkers etc
- More movies and demonstrations of robot tests

Discussion & Issues

- Has increasing s/w complexity resulted in increased functionality/capability?
- What's a good language to program autonomous systems?
- Tension between new methods and risk averse managers.
- What are the biggest sources of undependability in autonomous robots?

DARPA UUV Program

- Circa 1986-89, DARPA funded Draper Lab to design, build & test two unmanned underwater vehicles (Office Dir: Dr. Tony Tether)
- UUV Mission & Characteristics:
 - 40' long, 5' diameter (yellow submarine)
 - Long duration mission: months unattended
 - Completely autonomous after launch from mother ship
 - Battery powered
 - Mission classified
- Dependability requirements:
 - Primary: UUV must not fall into enemy hands
 - Secondary: complete the mission successfully
- Vehicle swim-by-wire control, navigation, and system management
 - Triply redundant, Byzantine-resilient computer (Draper FTP)
 - No mission or systems failures during the program