

# A Resilient Real-Time Traffic Control System: Software Behavior Monitoring and Adaptation

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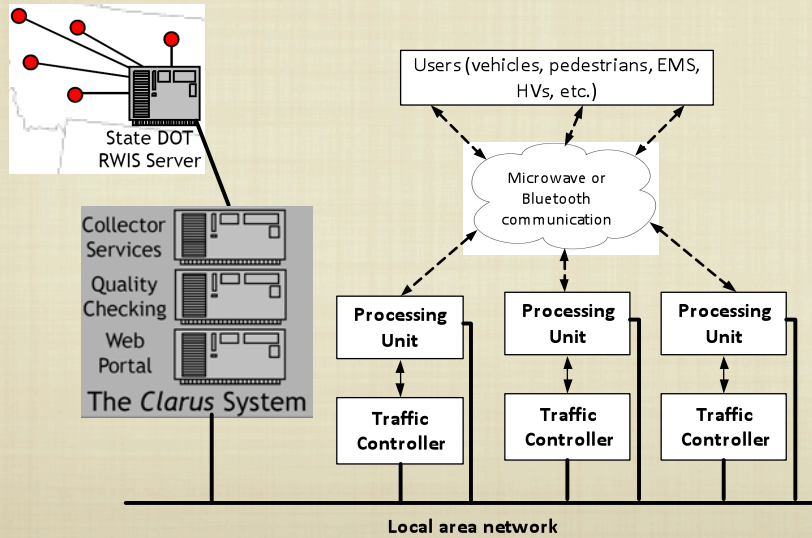
This research was supported by grant DTFH61-10-P- 00123  
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## Integrating Clarus data into RT-App.

- Challenges
  - The Engineering Challenge
  - The Security Challenge
  - The Real-time Challenge
  - The Survivability Challenge (includes all “illities”)
- Apply the newest technology to a survivability architecture
  - Design Methodology based on *Design for Survivability*

# Project Architecture

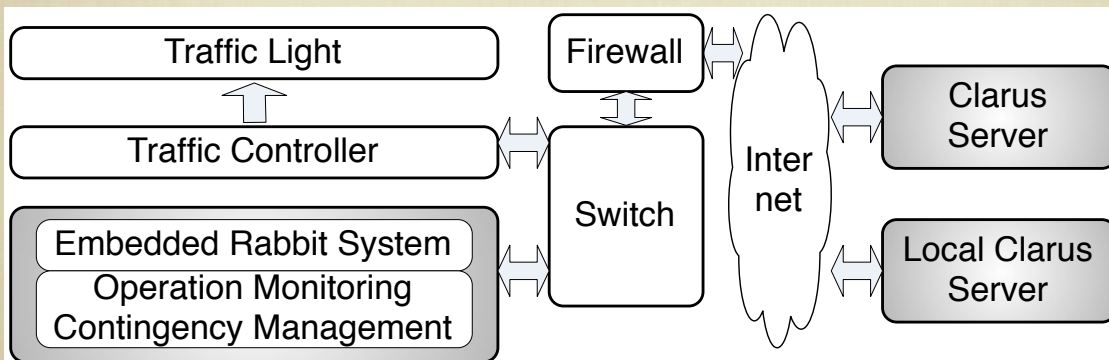
- A system operating in an unbounded environment
- Inheriting all problems from such environment



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# The big picture

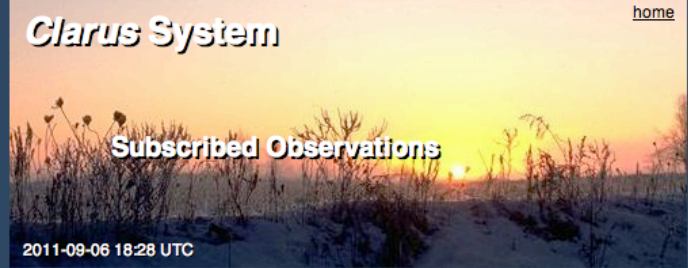
- The problem:  
*Should we connect the control network to the Internet?*



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# Clarus...

■ Utilizing local sensor data to do what?



[home](#)

**Subscribed Observations**

2011-09-06 18:28 UTC

Observations	Size (bytes)
<a href="#">20110906_1815.csv</a>	420
<a href="#">20110906_1800.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1745.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1730.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1715.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1700.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1645.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1630.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1615.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1600.csv</a>	5,515
<a href="#">20110906_1545.csv</a>	5,515

**Subscription: 2011082501**

Subscription Information:  
 DateCreated = 2011-08-25  
 Lat1 = not used  
 Lon1 = not used  
 Lat2 = not used  
 Lon2 = not used  
 PointRadiusLat = not used  
 PointRadiusLon = not used  
 PointRadiusRadius = not used  
 ObsType = 0 (all)  
 MinValue = -Infinity  
 MaxValue = Infinity  
 RunFlags = not applicable  
 PassNotPass = not applicable  
 Contributors = ID\_State\_TD  
 StationIds = Shirrod

# Clarus Subscription Data

■ Access Clarus data files from the web



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `http://www.clarus-system.com/SubShowObs.jsp?subId=2011082501&file=20110906_2200.csv`. The page displays a long list of data records, each starting with a sensor ID and a timestamp, followed by various numerical values representing sensor readings. The records are separated by lines of slashes, indicating a CSV or similar data format. The browser's address bar and search engine (Google) are visible at the top.

## Highly Critical (Essential) Clarus Data

<b>essPrecipSituation</b>	Describes the weather situation in terms of precipitation, integer values indicate situation
<b>essPrecipYesNo</b>	Indicates whether or not moisture is detected by the sensor: (1) precip; (2) noPrecip; (3) error
<b>essPrecipRate</b>	The rainfall, or water equivalent of snow, rate
<b>essRoadwaySnowpackDepth</b>	The current depth of packed snow on the roadway surface
<b>essAirTemperature</b>	The dry-bulb temperature; instantaneous
<b>essVisibilitySituation</b>	integer value, describes the travel environment in terms of visibility
<b>essVisibility</b>	Surface visibility (distance)
<b>essSurfaceStatus</b>	integer value, a value indicating the pavement surface status

## PROTOTYPE



# What could possibly go wrong?

- What assumptions should one place on a system?
  - Anything is possible!
    - and it will happen!
- Malicious act will occur sooner or later
- It is hard or impossible to predict the behavior of an attack



# Unique Opportunity

- What is unique about this project?
  - The application domain is part of a Critical Infrastructure
  - The project is just small enough to demonstrate a survivability architecture
    - The code is relatively small
    - The execution is relatively deterministic
    - The run-time support is relatively mature

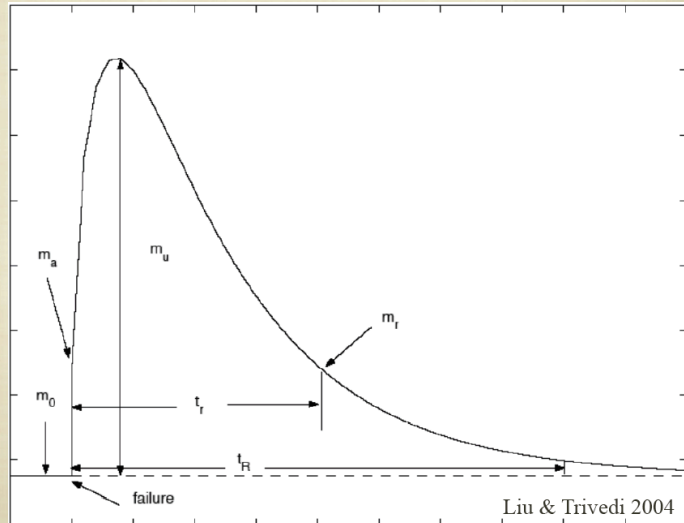
# What is Survivability

## ■ Closely related Terms

- Intrusion Tolerance
- Resilience

## ■ Relationship to

- Fault-tolerance
- Security

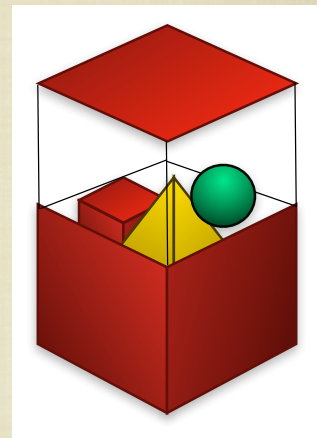


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# Design for Survivability

## ■ When Systems become too complex

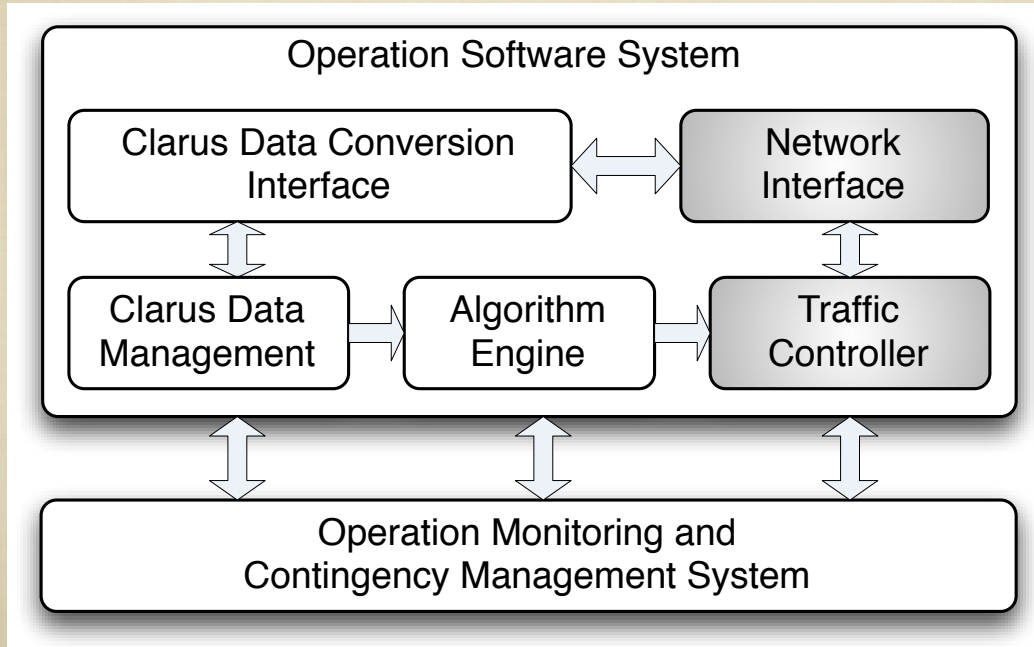
- Design by Integration of Survivability mechanisms
- Build-in *not* add-on
- Design for Survivability has surfaced in different contexts



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# Software Architecture

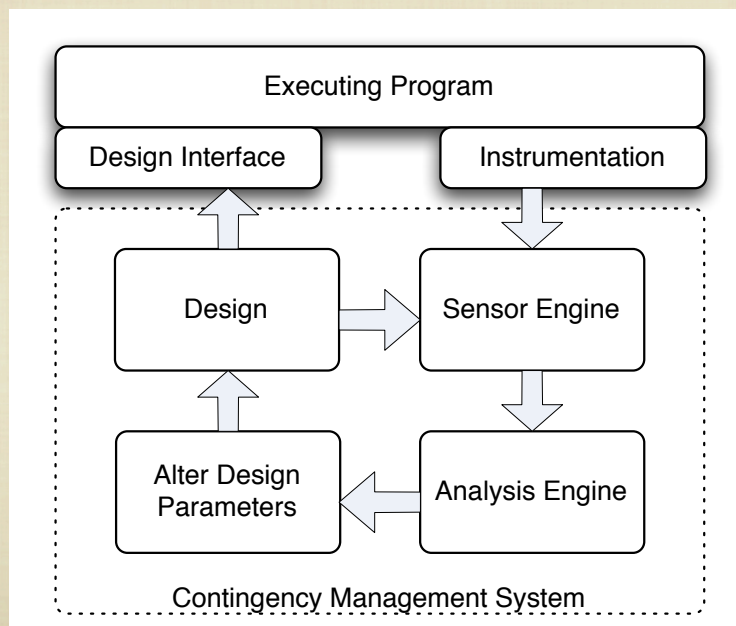
## ■ Overview



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# Design Methodology

## ■ Measurement-based design and operation



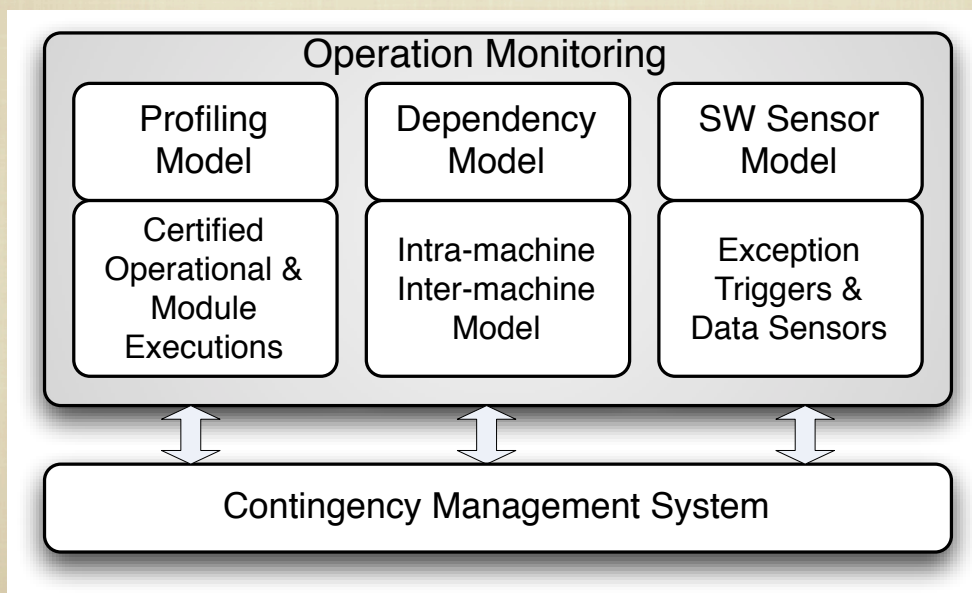
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# Our view of a System

- Different “machines”
  - Operations
  - Functions
  - Modules
- Epoch
  - defined by transitions

# Formal Model of Sys. Arch.

- Measurement-based design and operation





# Profiling Model

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## Profiles

- Frequency Spectrum (...and more)
  - count invocations
  - probability of invocation
  - defined for an epoch
  - defined for operations, functions and modules
  - does not say anything about dependencies!

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# Profiles

## ■ Module Profile

$$\mathbf{p} = \langle p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{|M|} \rangle$$

where  $p_i$  is probability that  $m_i$  is executing

# Profiles

## ■ Observed Profile

$\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \dots, \hat{p}_{|M|})$ , where  $\hat{p}_i = c_i/n$  is the fraction of system activity due to invocations of module  $m_i$  and  $c_i$  is the count of invocations of  $m_i$ .

$\hat{\mathbf{p}}^k$  denotes the  $k^{th}$  observed module profile, observed over  $n$  epochs

# Profiles and Certification

- System behavior
  - Analyze the observed profiles
  - What is the threshold for “normal” behavior?
  - How do we detect deviation from thresholds for “normal” executions?
  - Set the threshold of “normal” to “certified”
    - Looks like anomaly detection in IDS, or?

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# Profiles and Certification

- Interpretation of Certified Behavior
  - If profiles are beyond the certified threshold **we simply have not seen such behavior before!**
  - Could be benign or malicious reasons
- What is our response?
  - We could simply not allow the operation to continue and go to fail-safe state

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# Profile Vector

■ Vector  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \dots, \hat{p}_{|M|})$

■ notice *log scale*

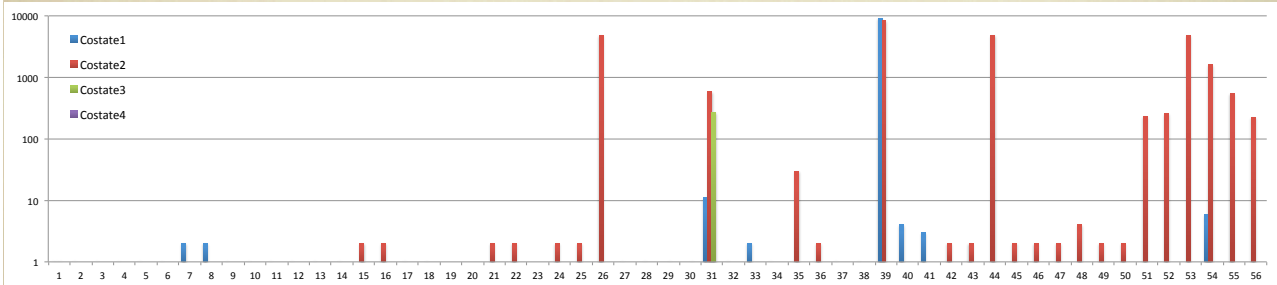


Fig. 5. Typical observed profile of 4 costates (module IDs and frequencies on the axis)

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# Profile Vector & Scalar

■ Observe  $h$  sequences of  $n$  epochs

■ Define a centroid  $\bar{\mathbf{p}} = (\bar{p}_1, \bar{p}_2, \dots, \bar{p}_{|M|})$ , where

$$\bar{p}_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{j=1}^h \hat{p}_i^j$$

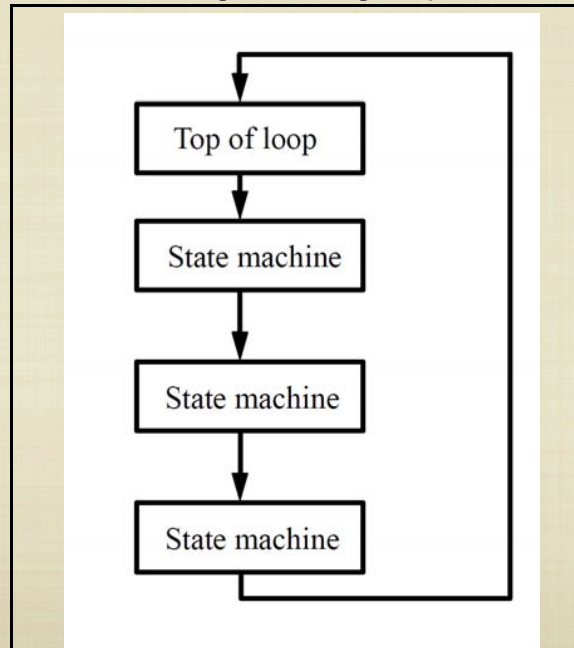
and the distance of  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^k$  from centroid  $\bar{\mathbf{p}}$  is given by

$$d_k = \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{p}_i - \hat{p}_i^k)^2$$

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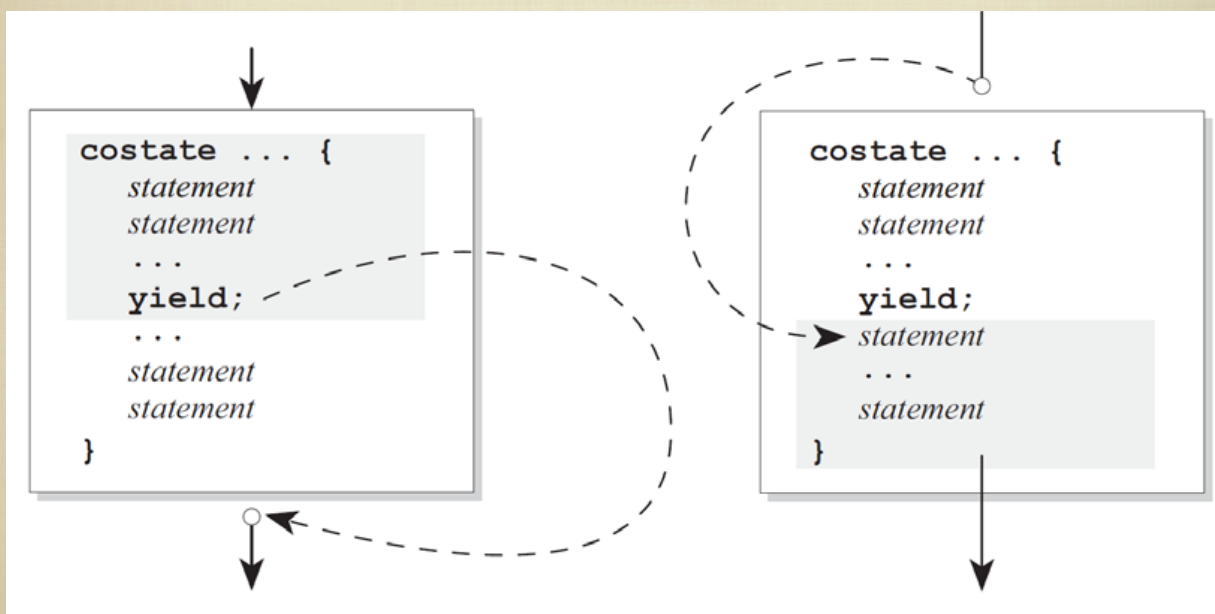
# Multitasking Model

- Rabbit runs Dynamic C which support costatements



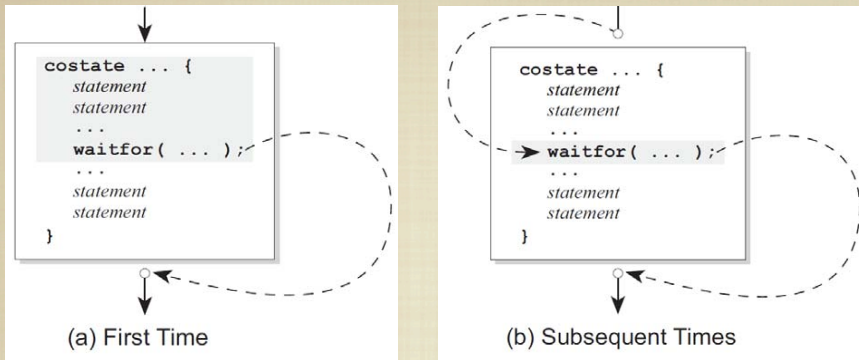
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- Dynamic C, *costates* and *yield*  
(Figure from Dynamic C Users Manual)

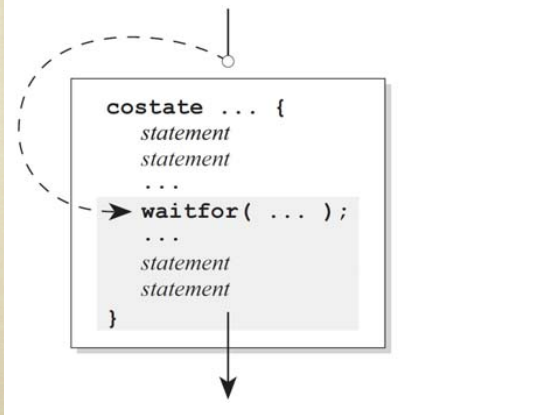


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## Dynamic C, *costate* and *waitfor* (Figure from Dynamic C Users Manual)



### Execution thread when *waitfor* evaluates to true



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## Profiles considering costates

- Definitions based on costate  $\alpha$ :

$$\hat{p}[\alpha], \hat{p}^k[\alpha], \bar{p}[\alpha] \text{ and } d_k[\alpha]$$

# Multitasking Model

- One knows which costate is executing
- Profiles of costates are not polluted with activity from other costates
- Result is lower degree of non-determinism of execution

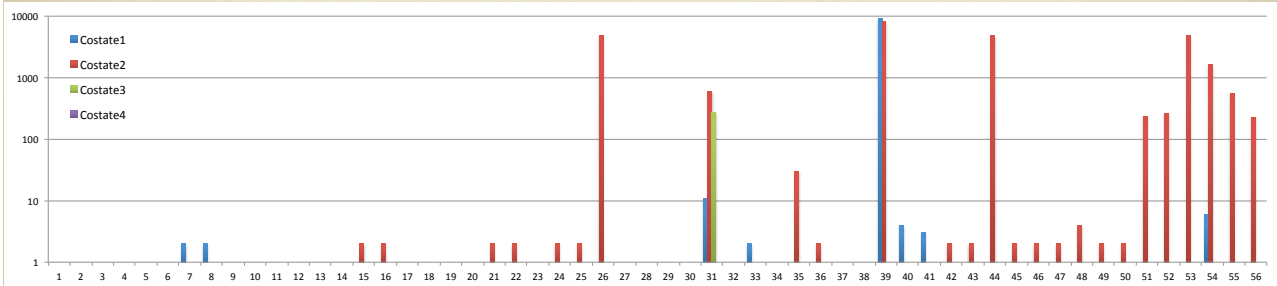


Fig. 5. Typical observed profile of 4 costates (module IDs and frequencies on the axis)

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# Certified Behavior

- The distance of the observed costate profiles  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^k[\alpha]$  from  $\bar{\mathbf{p}}[\alpha]$  can be used so that departure beyond it indicates non-certified behavior of costate  $\alpha$ . Two threshold vectors:

$$\epsilon^{max}[\alpha] = (\epsilon_1^{max}[\alpha], \dots, \epsilon_{|M|}^{max}[\alpha]) \quad (3)$$

$$\epsilon^{min}[\alpha] = (\epsilon_1^{min}[\alpha], \dots, \epsilon_{|M|}^{min}[\alpha]) \quad (4)$$

where  $\epsilon_i^{max}[\alpha]$  and  $\epsilon_i^{min}[\alpha]$  are the upper and lower threshold values of  $m_i$ , representing a dual-bound threshold.

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# Certified Behavior

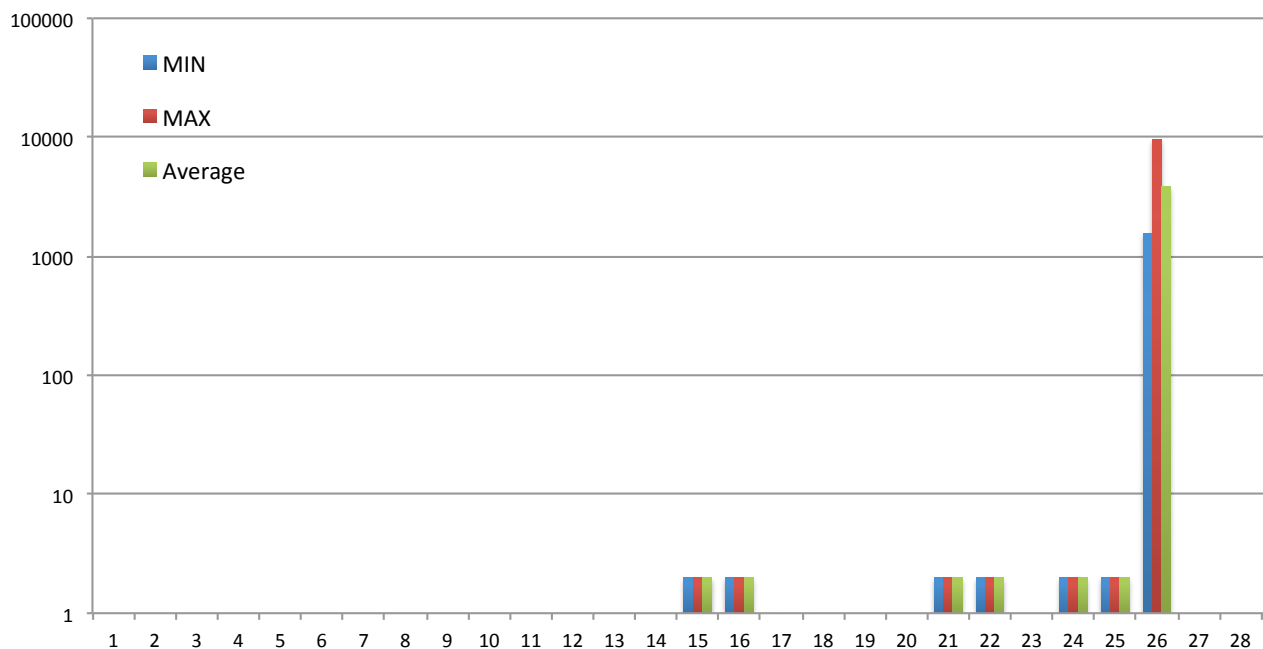


Every observed profile that is in the region between the two vectors is assumed nominal. Thus we certify a profile  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^k[\alpha]$  to be a *nominal profile* if

$$\epsilon^{min}[\alpha] \leq \hat{\mathbf{p}}^k[\alpha] \leq \epsilon^{max}[\alpha]$$

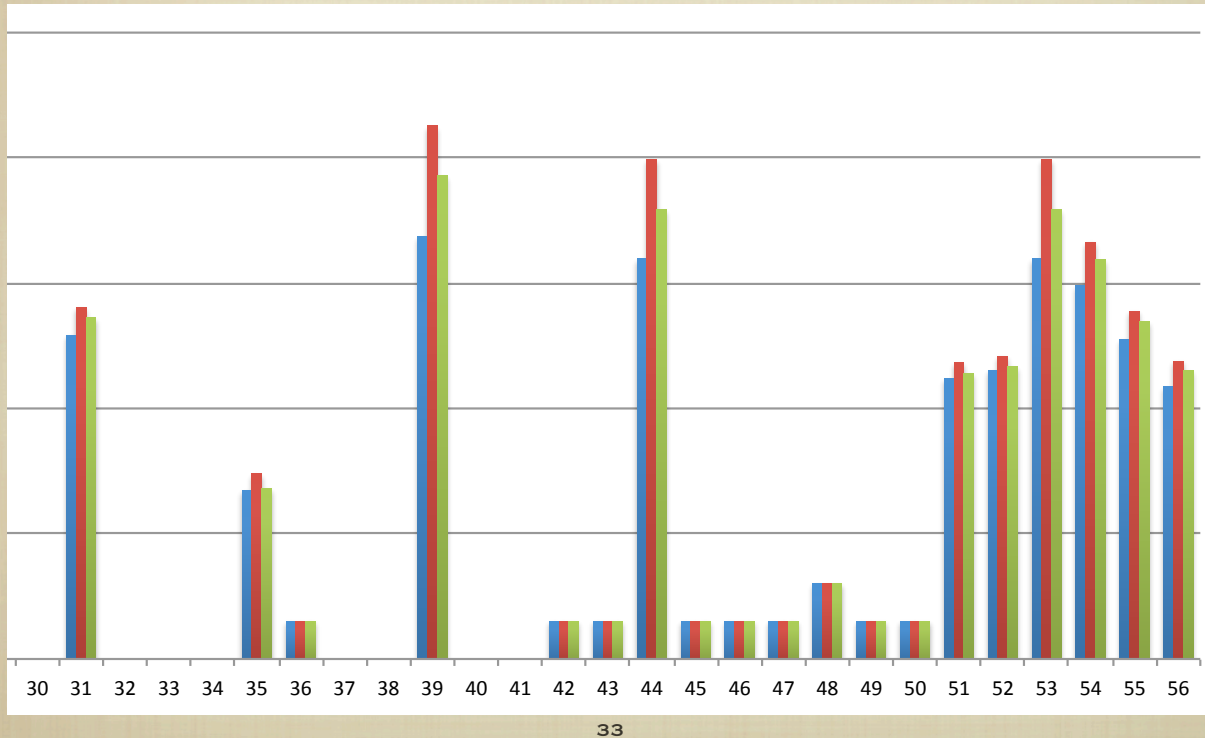
i.e., if  $\epsilon_i^{min}[\alpha] \leq \hat{p}_i^k[\alpha] \leq \epsilon_i^{max}[\alpha]$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq |M|$ .

# Centroid





# Centroid



# Synchronized Profiling

- So far we assumed that there is only one single behavior. However, there could be multiple.

Considering  $h$  sequences of  $n$  epochs each, we define a centroid of sets  $\bar{\mathbf{P}} = (\bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2, \dots, \bar{P}_{|M|})$ , where

$$\bar{P}_r = \bar{P}_r \cup p_i, \quad 1 \leq r \leq |M| \quad p_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{j=1}^h \hat{p}_i^j \quad (2)$$

for each behavior  $i$ . Thus  $\bar{\mathbf{P}}$  is a  $|M|$ -dimensional structure of sets, and again using the above financial metaphor, each element represents the “ $h$ -day moving average” of a specific *set of stocks* (module), where a day is measured as  $n$  epochs, and again we want to track the past in order to establish “nominal”, i.e., expected, behavior from a *set of behaviors*.

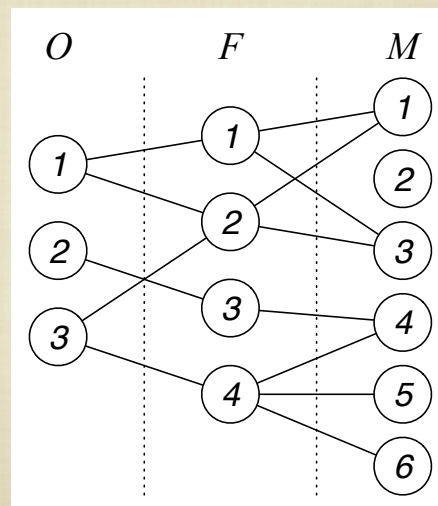
# Dependency-based Model

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## Inter-dependencies

- Relationship between Operations, Functionalities, and Modules

Mappings in  $(O \times F \times M)$



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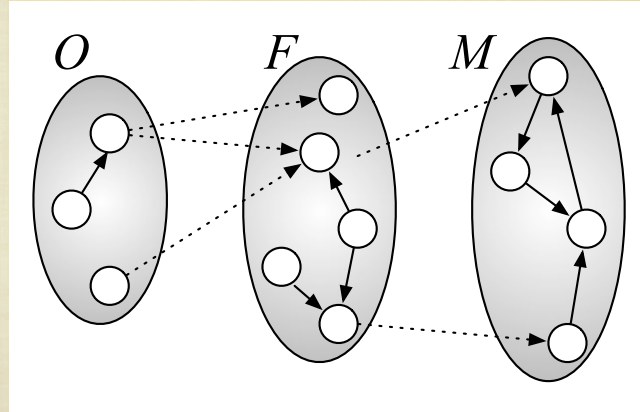
# Intra-dependencies

- Relationship **within** Operations, Functionalities, and Modules

$$\mathcal{G}^O = (O, \prec^O)$$

$$\mathcal{G}^F = (F, \prec^F)$$

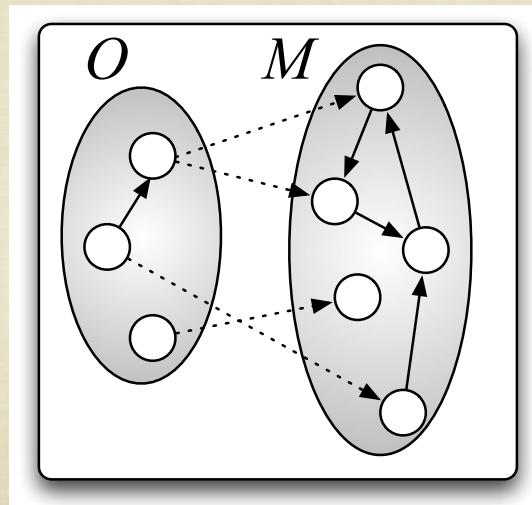
$$\mathcal{G}^M = (M, \prec^M)$$



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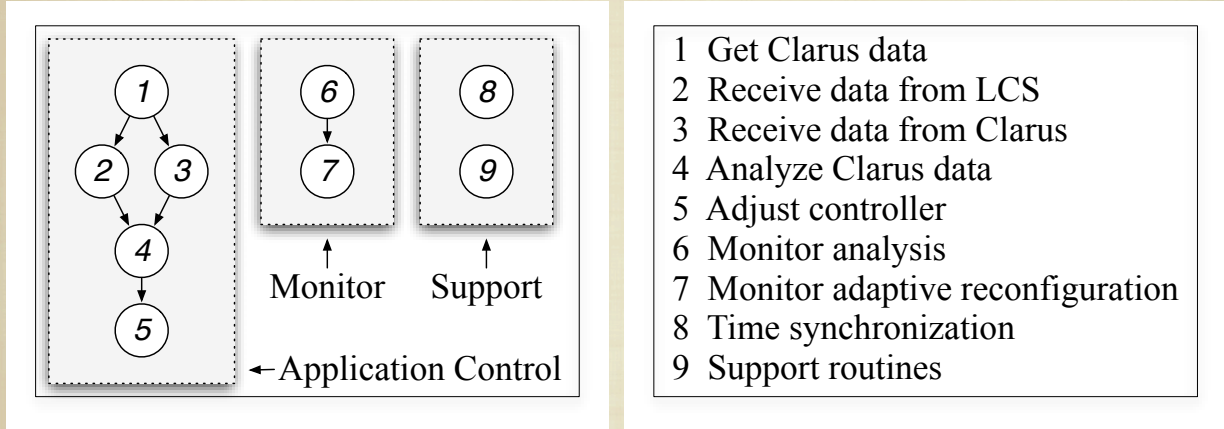
# Intra-dependencies

- In our current system we simplify to



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# Operations & Costates



**Figure 3: Costates and Operations**

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## Sensor-based Model

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# Sensor-based Model

- Not every behavior can be extracted from profiles or dependencies.
- Specific data sensors are needed to observe specific data values or trigger exceptions.

# Exception Triggers

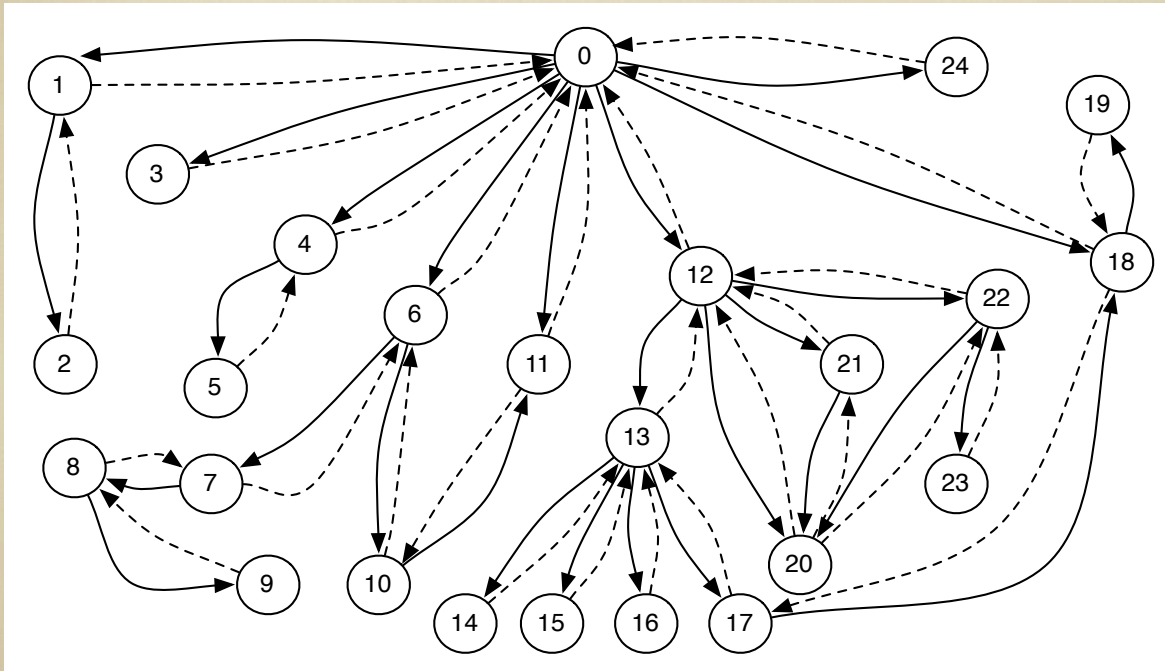
- Exception trigger array
  - identify and profile exceptions, e.g., file does not exist, specific sensor data is not longer available.
  - any error condition can be viewed as an exception trigger

# Data Sensors

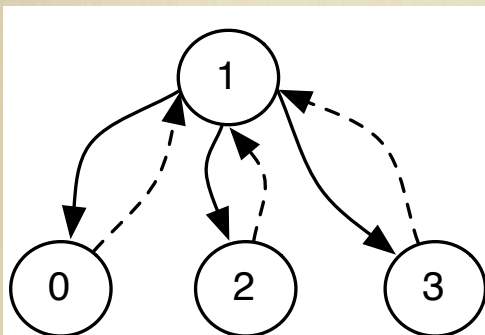
- Observation of specific numeric values for analysis
- Example: the adjustment to the yellow timing
- What happens when someone changes to yellow time to zero? Is that possible?

# System Operation & Contingency Management

# System Module State Machine



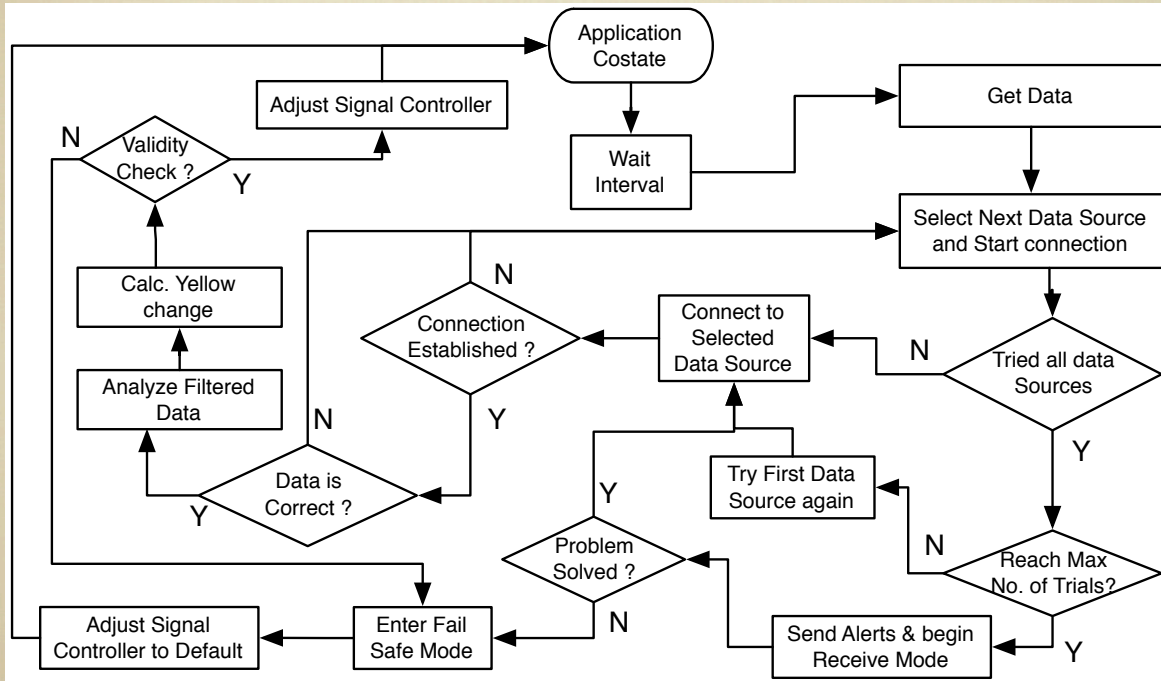
# System Operations State Machine



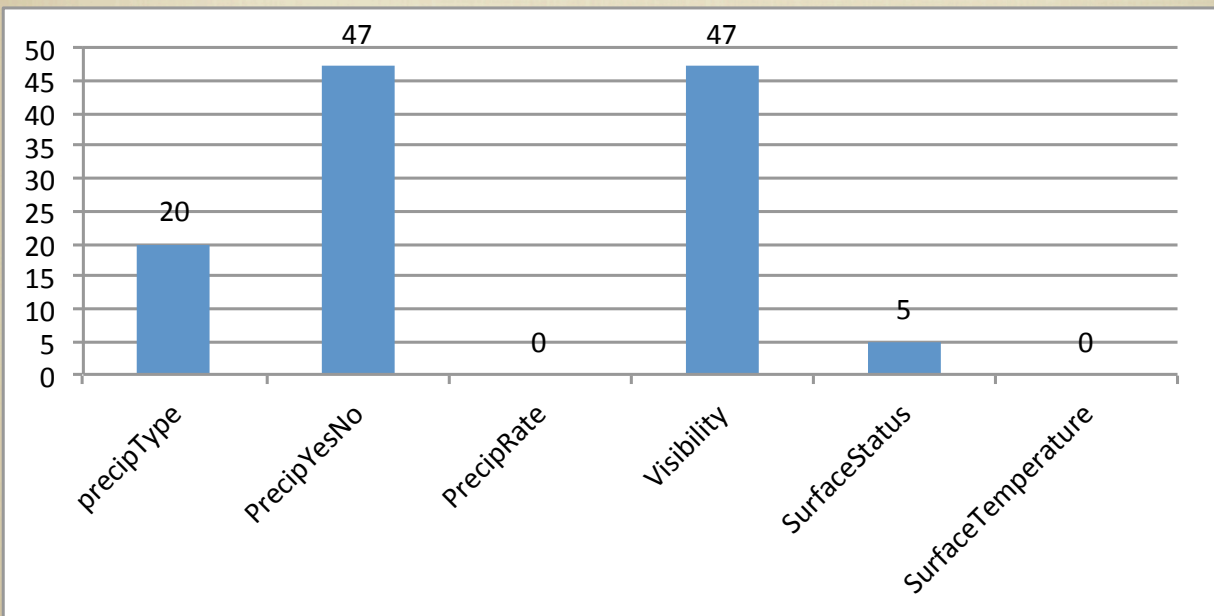
Operations:

- 0 : Initialize Program
- 1 : Runtime Timing Module
- 2 : Get Weather Data
- 3 : Update Controller

# Application Control Costatement



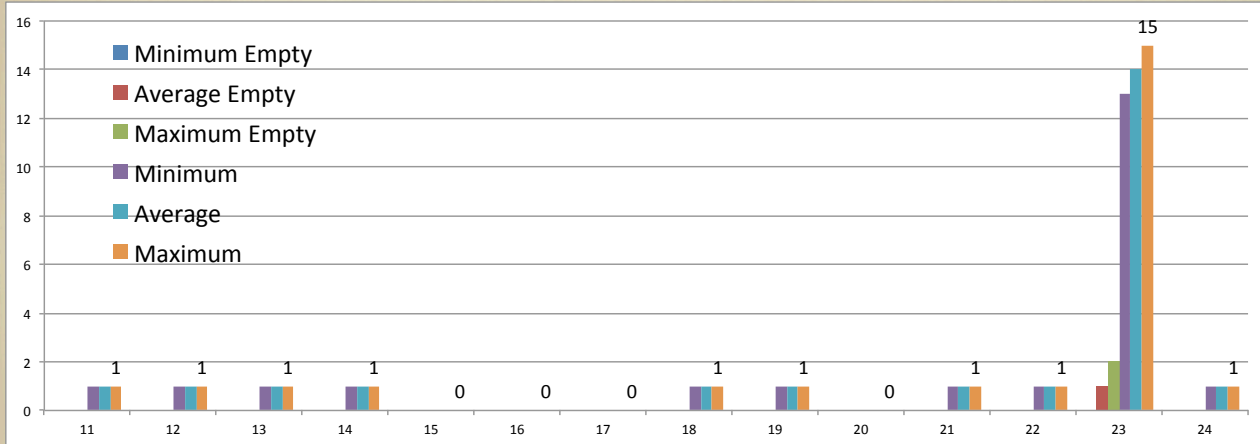
# Exception Triggers



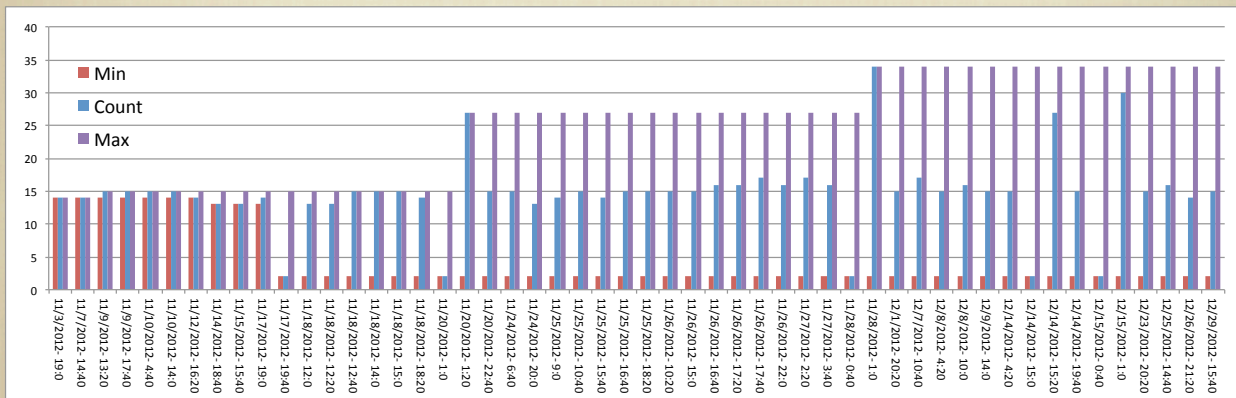




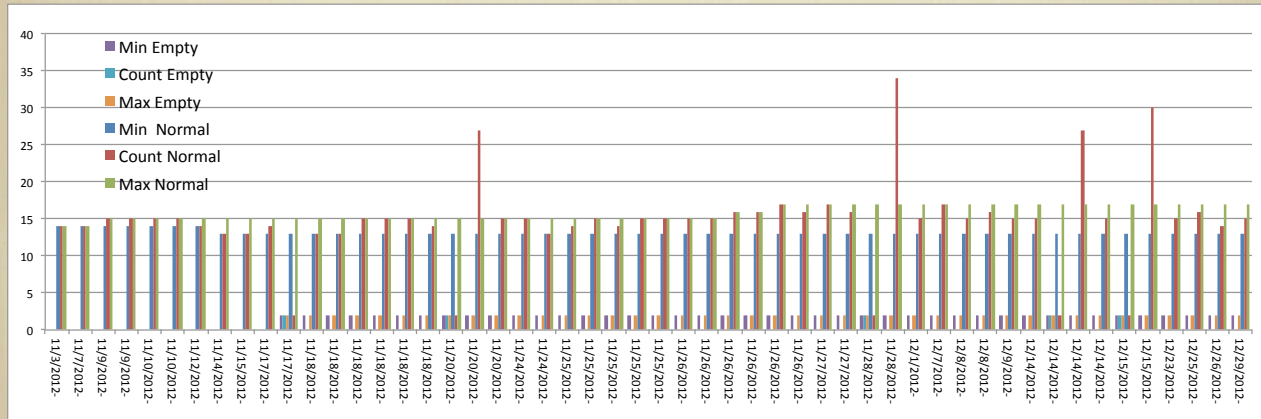
# Profiles of key modules and two nominal behaviors



# Profiles of module m23 with behavior set size equal 1



# Profiles of module m23 with behavior set size equal 2



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## Current Status

### ■ Contingency Management Description:

A. Serageldin, A. Krings, and A. Abdel-Rahim, “A Survivable Critical Infrastructure Control Application”, 8th Annual Cyber Security and Information Intelligence Research Workshop, Oct. 30 Sept. 2 2012, ORNL

Axel Krings, Ahmed Serageldin and Ahmed Abdel-Rahim, “A Prototype for a Real-Time Weather Responsive System”, in Proc. Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference, ITSC2012, Anchorage, Alaska, 16-19 September, pp. 1465 - 1470, 2012.

### ■ Gaining Experience: prototype started running 24/7

- Mature in setting thresholds.
- Dealing with realities of Internet access in Intersection

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# Conclusions

- Prototype has been running over 1 year
  - uses real-time weather data to modify traffic signal timing within safety standard
- Utilization of Design for Survivability
  - Off-nominal executions detected (dual-bound thresholds)
  - Violation of dependencies detected
  - Contingency Management to Recover from anomalies