

MIT9904-12: Cooperative Computing in Dynamic Environments

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- Developing models, analysis methods for distributed systems, focusing on cooperative group activities in networks.
- Agent communication, group communication
- Dynamic:
 - Participants come and go, change location.
 - Network topology changes, components fail and recover.
- Implementations complex; hard to build/understand/analyze
- Use formal modeling/analysis methods:
 - I/O automata, pi calculus, knowledge-based methods
 - Extend, combine methods
- IOA language and toolset



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Progress Through June 2001

- IOA language and toolset
 - New parser and semantic checker
 - Translating IOA to Larch shared language (LSL)
 - Using Larch to verify algorithms in IOA
 - Experiments with connecting IOA to Daikon
- Dynamic I/O Automata
 - Mathematical model for IOA and agents
- Building blocks
 - Performance evaluation
 - Modeling reliable multicast



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Research Plan for the Next Six Months

- IOA language and toolset
 - Experiment more with connecting IOA to Daikon and Larch; get more automated help with proofs
- Dynamic I/O Automata
 - Simplify mathematical model
 - Unify DIOA and hybrid, timed, probabilistic I/O automata
- Building blocks
 - Continue performance evaluation of group communication and reliable multicast