

Changing the Ethernet protocol - benefits and drawbacks

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Ethernet has its beginnings in the early 1980s and was standardized in 1983 by IEEE802.3. Since then major technological developments led to various increases in line speed as well as processing capabilities. Furthermore Ethernet has spread more and more into new application areas. Nevertheless, during all this time, fundamental Ethernet characteristics remained unchanged.

In this talk, we give an overview of the networking research activities within the Ericsson cluster of the 100GET project. After this we focus on modifications as well as new extensions of the Ethernet protocol supporting large scale WAN scenarios and discuss their consequences. Thereby the maximum Ethernet frame size is of special interest.