<div style="font-size: 6; font-weight: bold;">SEI Tagung </div><div style="font-size: medium; font-weight: normal;">Studiengruppe elektronische Instrumentierung der Helmholtz-Zentren</div>



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General Machine Timing @ FAIR: Status

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The FAIR facility involves a long chain of accelerators which need to be tightly synchronized. This is achieved by the General Machine Timing (GMT) system, a distributed event generation system based on the notion of time. Time synchronization is achieved by using White Rabbit (WR), a fully deterministic Ethernet-based field bus for clock transfer and synchronization. The key components of the GMT are a so-called Data Master (DM) that schedules actions by broadcasting messages, a WR network and Timing Receiver (TR) nodes executing machine relevant actions on time.

The primary tasks of the timing system are the following.

- Time-Synchronization of ~2000 3000 nodes with sub-ns accuracy over fiber lengths of up to 2 km.
- Distribution of TAI counters with ns accuracy.
- Generation of timing events for synchronization of equipment.
- Provide infrastructure for common services of the accelerator (Post Mortem, Interlock,...) and FAIR experiments (time stamps, ...).

Primary author: BECK, Dietrich (GSI)

Presenter: BECK, Dietrich (GSI)

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