

Policy Processing Architecture for the 3.5 GHz Spectrum Access System (SAS)

Dr. Matthew Sherman BAE Systems Wayne, NJ <u>matthew.sherman@baesystems.com</u>

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Key Points

- Policy-Based Management (PBM) is useful for managing complex systems and networks
 - E.g. Security Policy, Network Policy, etc.
 - Often a "formalization" of what would have been done anyway
- Cognitive systems frequently apply PBM techniques
 - Particularly useful with "declarative" policies
 - Helps to isolate external constraints, conditions (state), internally imposed constraints, etc.
- The SAS is a cognitive system
- SAS will control other cognitive systems
- Suggests the need of a hierarchical PBM
- The author encourages the use of more formal PBM techniques when architecting the SAS and systems it manages

Elements of a PBM / policy controlled system BAE SYSTEMS

- Policy often formatted as *if* "Event" *with* "Conditions" (state), *then* "Actions"
 - Other formats as well
- PBM elements that are widely used and defined for example in RFC 3198
 - Policy Decision Point (PDP)
 - Policy Enforcement Point (PEP)
 - Policy Repository (PR)
- Often these elements are logical / functional rather than explicitly defined components
- Many systems for example IEEE 1900.5-2011 add the following
 - Policy Management Point
- IEEE 1900.5-2011 introduces another important formalization
 - System Strategy Reasoner Component termed SSR in this presentation
 - Not typically a PBM component

Hierarchical PBM

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- A cognitive system controlling other cognitive systems needs to generate policy for those systems
 - Should be an autonomous process
 - Having a hierarchical framework is useful
 - * Same components / interfaces applied recursively in tiers
- Introduce a "Policy Generation Point" (PGP)
 - Creates lower level policy consistent with high policies
 - Could be viewed as part of SSR
- Introduce concept of feedback to policy elements on higher tiers



Single Tier Policy Controlled Cognitive System BAE SYSTEMS



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Summary

- Policy-Based Management (PBM) can play an important role in the SAS and associated systems
 - Important to understand where policy is generated, applied (decided) and enforced
 - Introducing PBM architectural elements facilitates analysis
- Many PBM concepts have been standardized and additional work is ongoing
 - IETF RFC 2748, RFC 3198, RFC 2904
 - IEEE 1900.1-2008, IEEE 1900.5-2011
 - Etc.
- A hierarchical PBM approach seems most appropriate for the SAS

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