

Messing around with timeouts. In contracts?

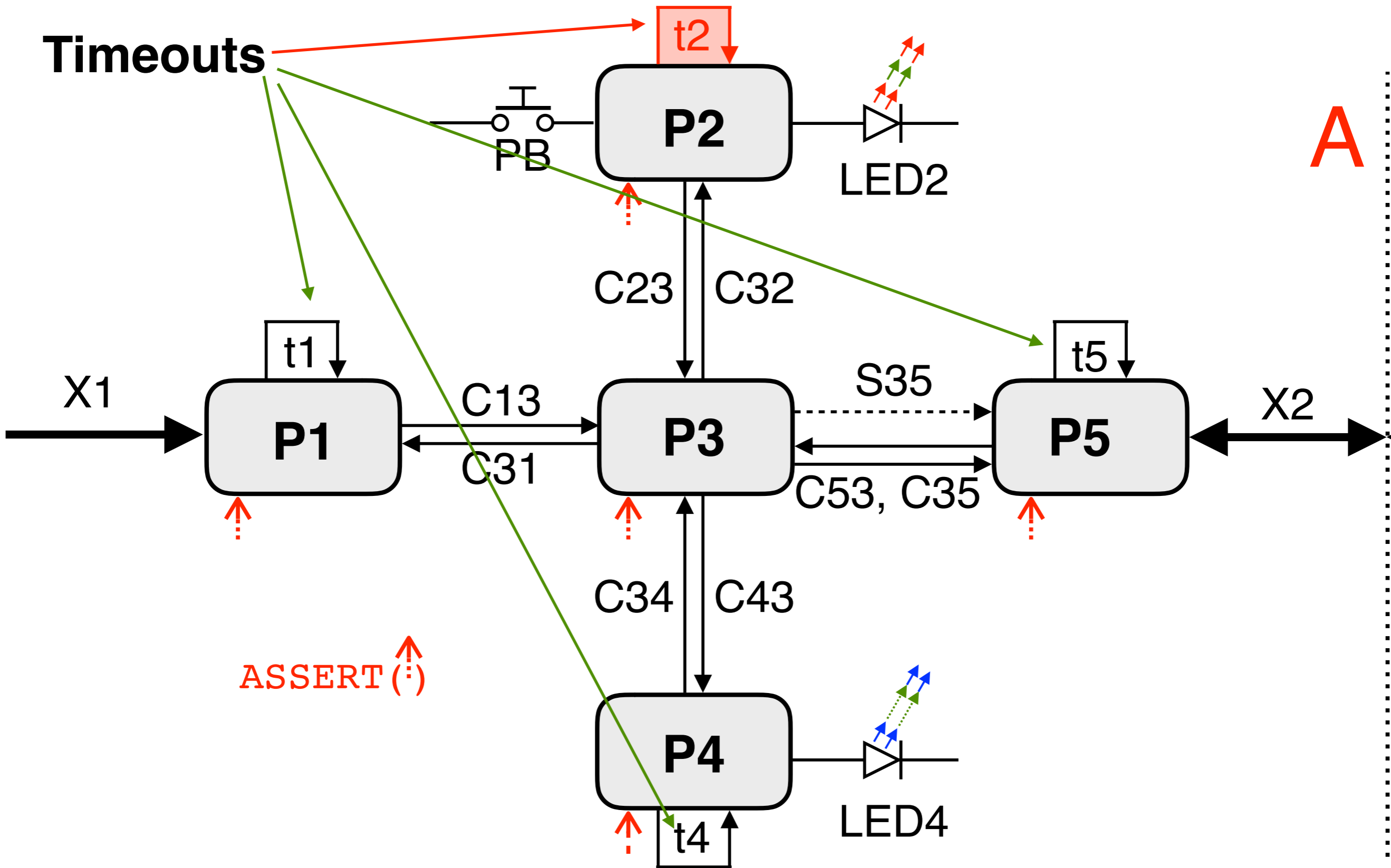
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www.teigfam.net/oyvind/home

@CPA 2016 fringe <http://www.wotug.org/cpa2016/>

Can time be part of a contract?

- Is it a *contract* when time is included?
- “Shall we meet at half past eight at the pub for a beer?”
 - Let’s call it *agreement* for this presentation?
- Expecting a proper *contractual* response
 - But you cant’ figure out why that timeout was added?
 - Was it needed?

Timeouts



Real contract without time

Assumed "contract"

```
start(some_event)
```

```
delay(duration)
```

```
get(&assumedData_orStatus)
```

for some time

Real contract

```
start(some_event)
```

```
wait(for_dataReady_signal)
```

```
get(&theData_orStatus)
```

forever

Real contract without time out

Assumed "contract"

```
start(some_event)
```

```
delay(duration)
```

```
get(&assumedData_orStatus)
```

Real contract

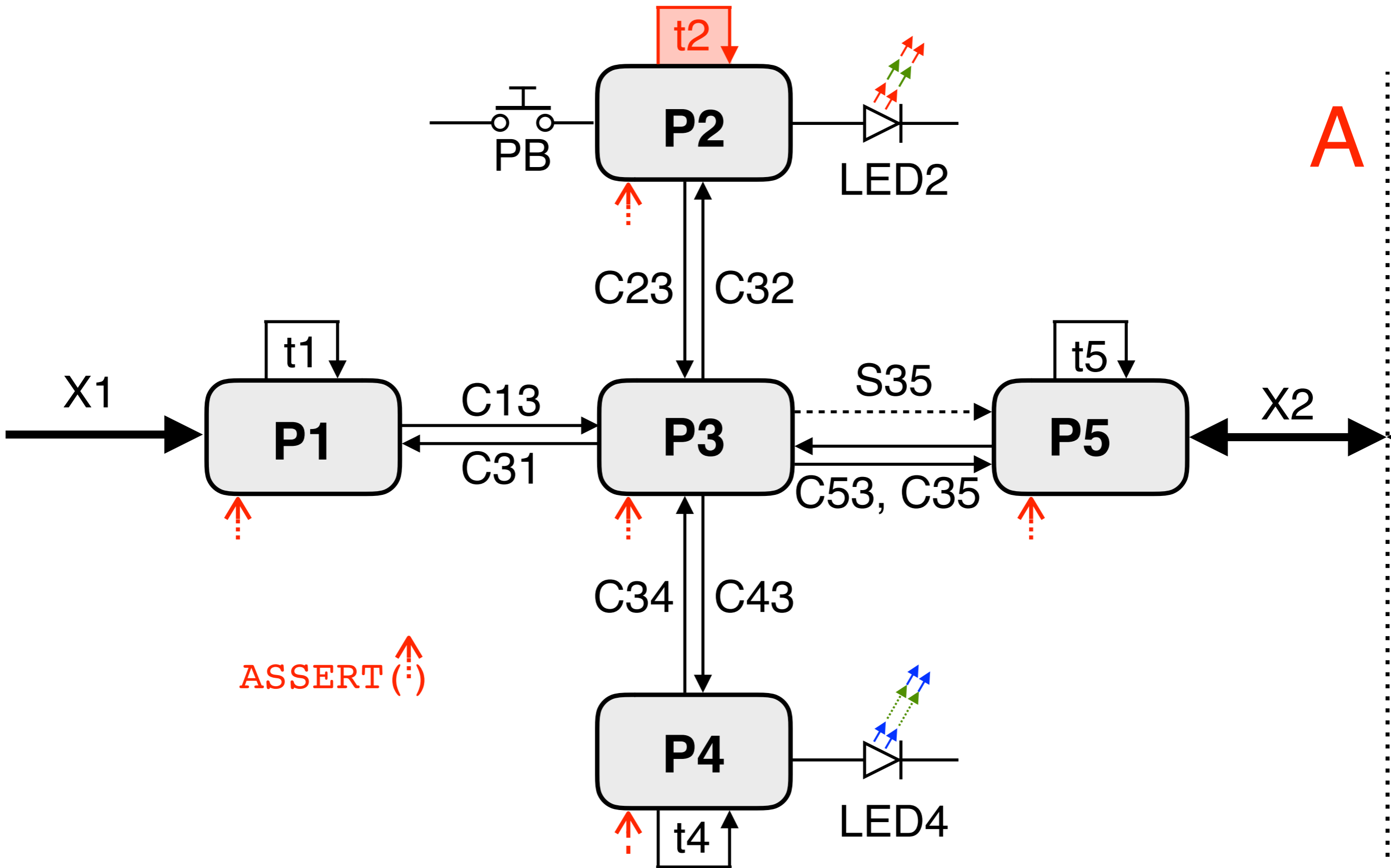
```
start(some_event)
```

```
wait(for_dataReady_signal)
```

```
get(&theData_orStatus)
```

..at a layer below:

Connection down
after some time



delay **or** sleep **also needed**

Assumed "contract"

```
start(some_event)
```

```
delay(duration)
```

```
get(&assumedData_orStatus)
```

Real contract

```
start(some_event)
```

```
wait(for_dataReady_signal)
```

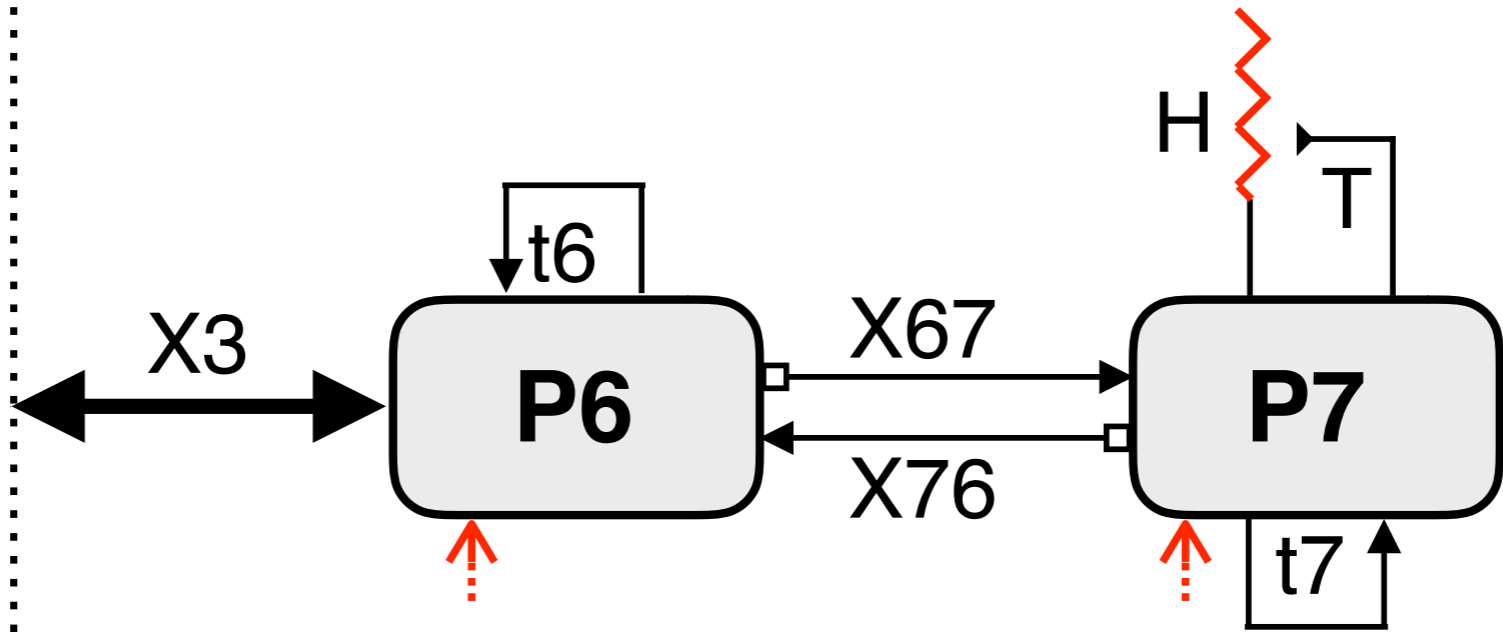
```
get(&theData_orStatus)
```

then action

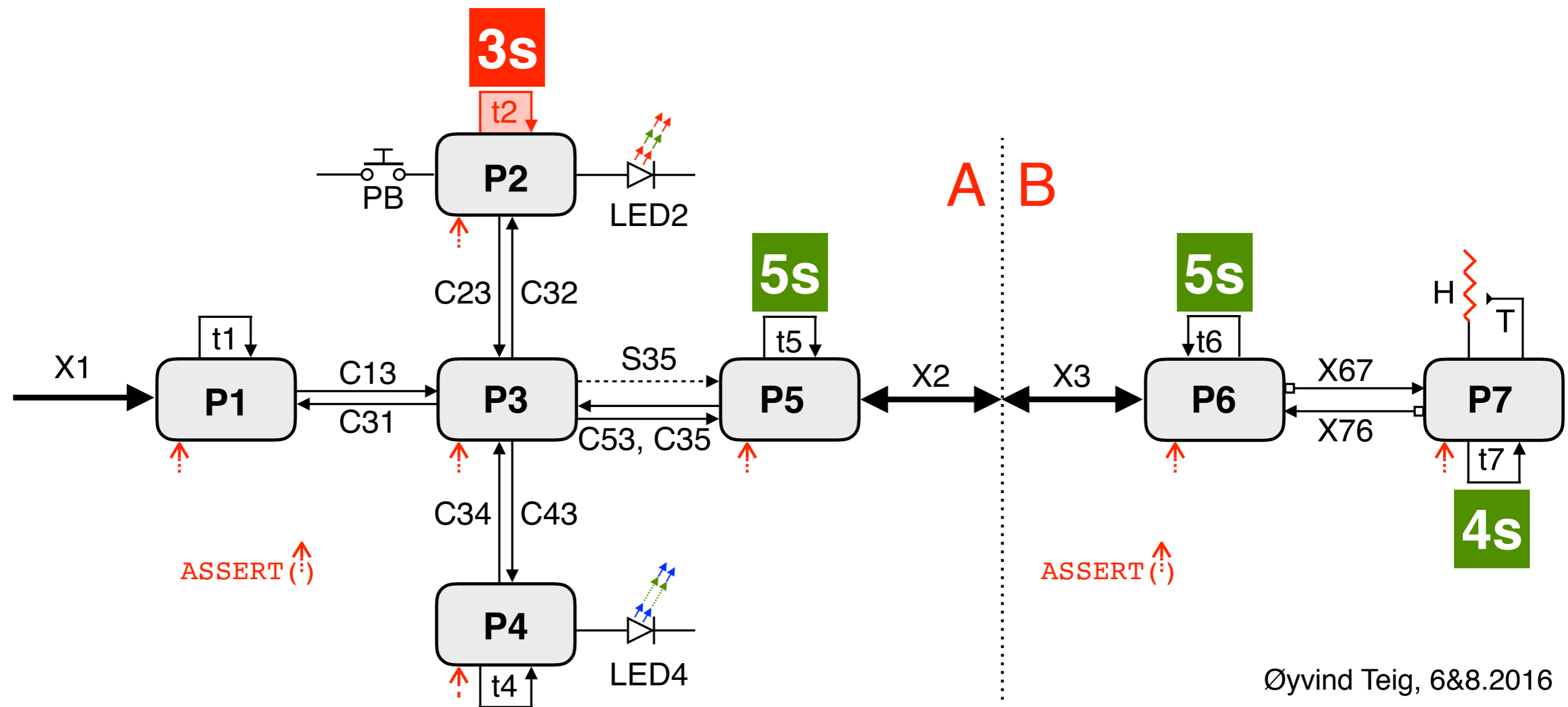
```
if (Status==OK) Blink_LED (Colour);
```

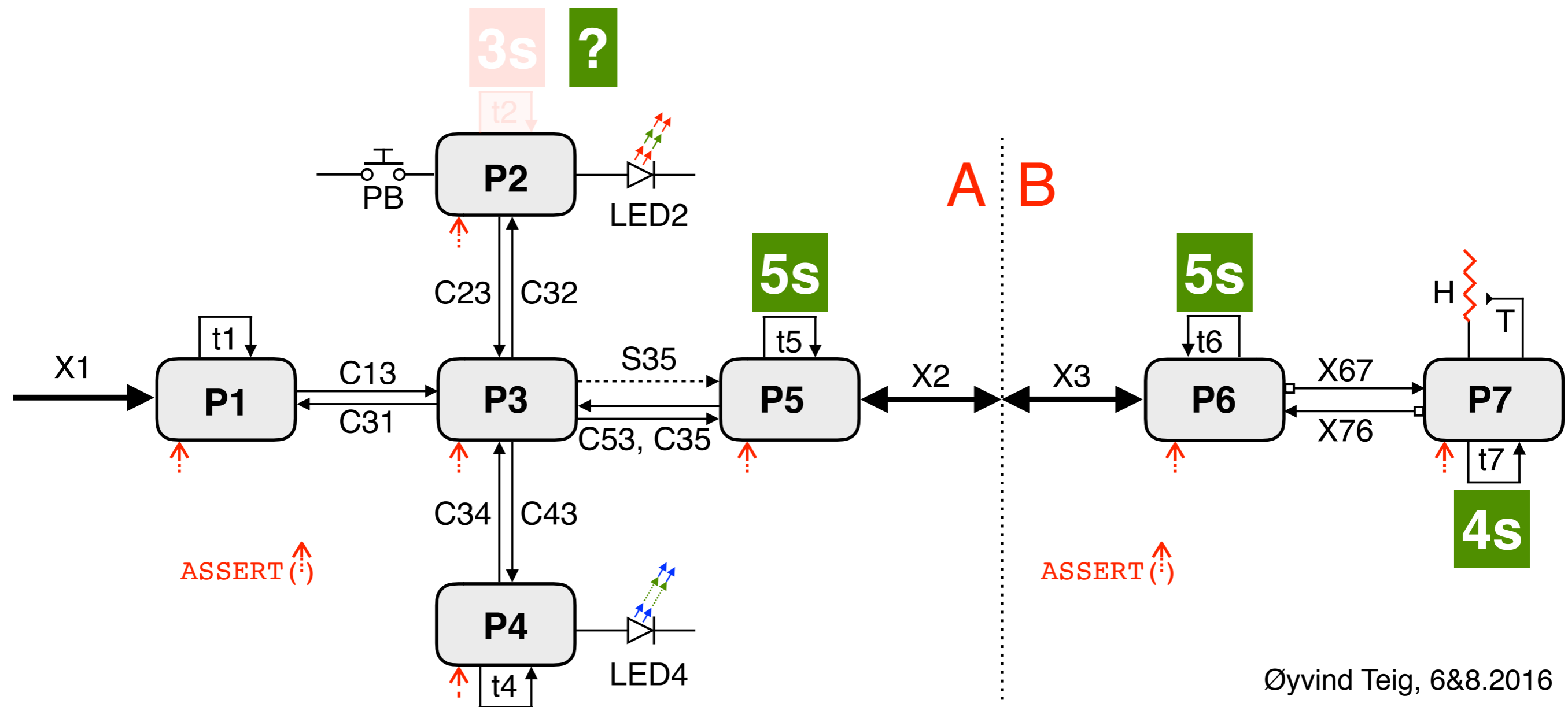
Periodic task certainly needs timeouts

B

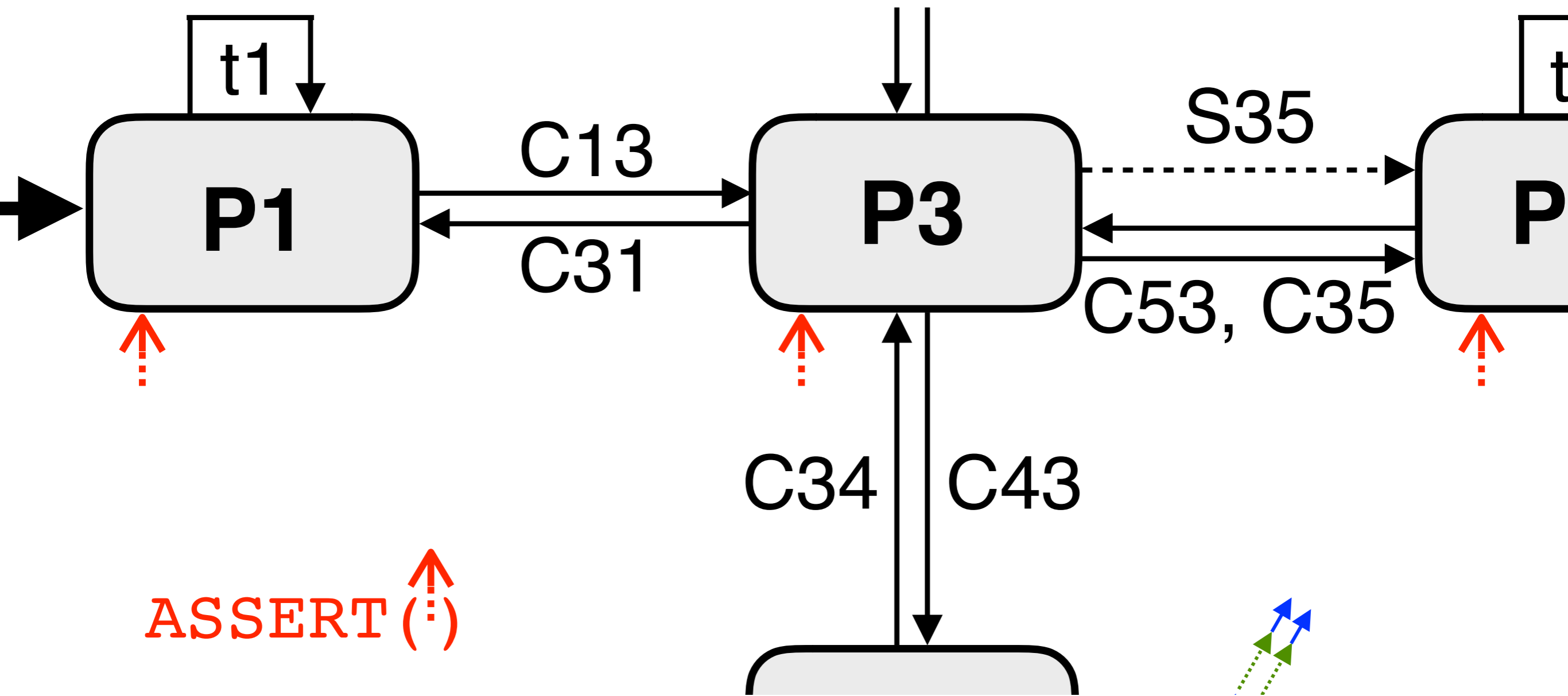


ASSERT (↑)





ASSERT (ok): «Design by contract»



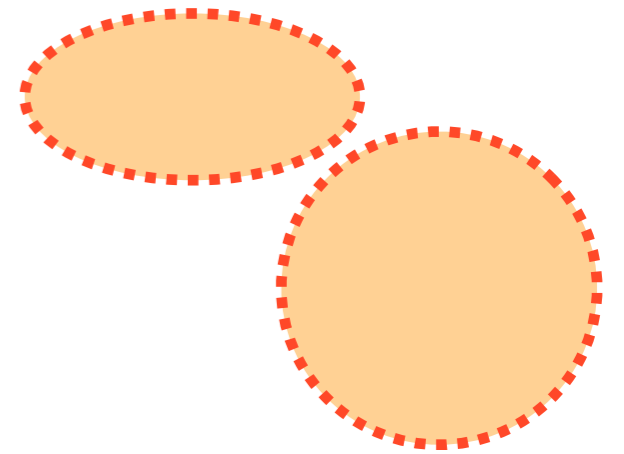
Timeouts to loosen or tighten?

- For Safety Critical systems, in IEC 61508 [4] 2010 part 3, Annex F 61508-3 there is an informative chapter called «Techniques for achieving **non-interference** between software elements on a single computer»
- «**Independence of execution**»
 - **Spatial domain** (don't modify)
 - **Temporal domain** (don't disturb)

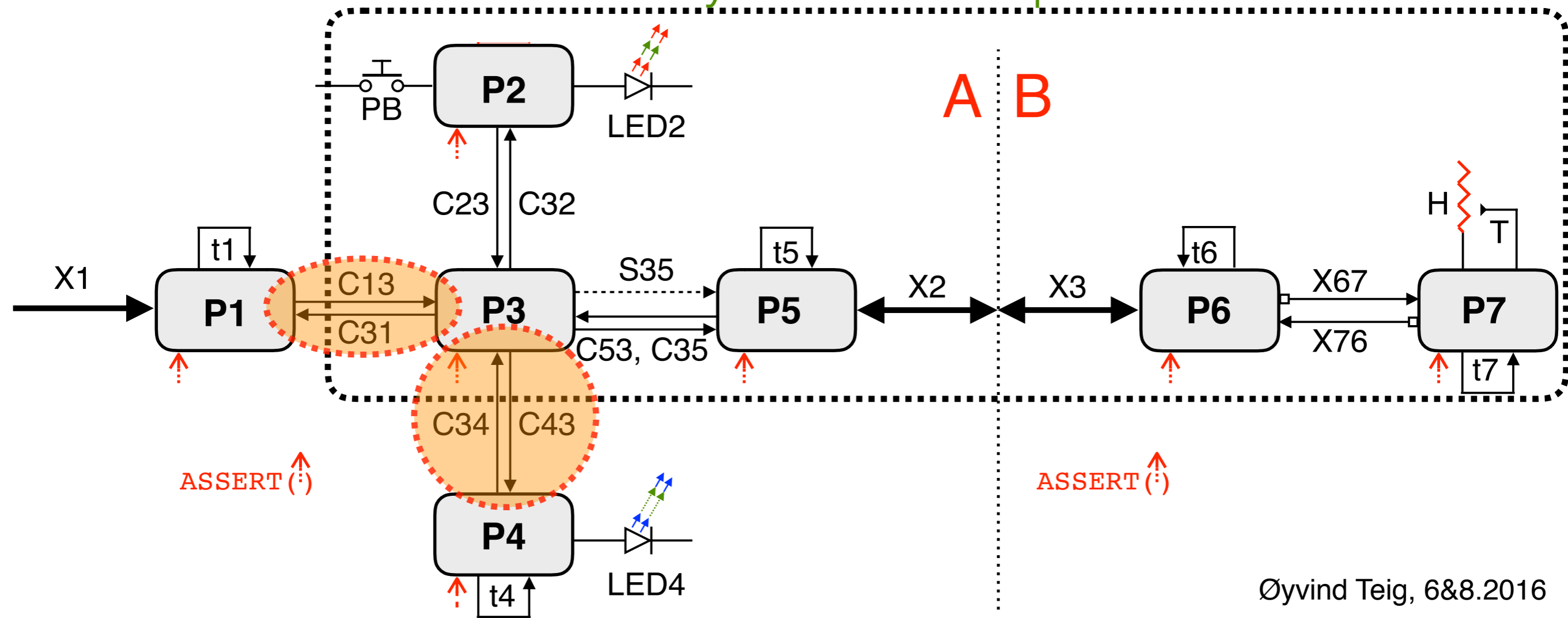
Progress guarantee or timeouts?

IEC 61508

- Differing «systematic capability»
- Is progress guarantee,
i.e. no deadlock and livelock *not* enough?
- Do we need timeouts or layers? Like at



Safety critical components



Montecatini Alto Chiesa dei Santi Jacopo e Filippo (o del Carmine), Italy
Minus some modern antenna wires!



**Rather layered / hidden timeout
than interfering timeouts?**

This CPA 2016 fringe presentation is based on a blog note

«Timing out design by contract with a stopwatch»

www.teigfam.net/oyvind/home/technology/128-timing-out-design-by-contract-with-a-stopwatch/

Preprint of the fringe presentation

<http://www.wotug.org/cpa2016/preprints/30-preprint.pdf>

Programme

<http://www.wotug.org/cpa2016/programme.shtml>

«CPA @ CPH»

