Embedded System Design

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Spot the Computer



Cars These Days...



Embedded Systems: Ubiquitous Computers



Inside a Digital Camera



Want an Optimal Device that Meets Constraints On



Price



Performance









Functionality



Time-to-market



Safety

Embedded System Technologies



Integrated Circuits



Processing elements



Design tools

IC Technology



1947: First transistor (Shockley, Bell Labs)



1958: First integrated circuit (Kilby, TI)



1971: First microprocessor (4004: Intel)



Today: ten wire layers, 28 nm features

Moore's Law: Transistors per chip



\$1000 Buys You This Many Cycles per Second



Source: Ray Kurzweil, The Age of Spiritual Machines

1918 Sears Roebuck Catalog



From Donald Norman, The Invisible Computer, 1998.

What Percentage of Time Do You Spend...

00	%	5%	10)%	15%	20%	25%
Developing Specifications							
Conceptual Design							
Detailed Design							
Simulation							
Testing/Debugging							
Prototyping							
Sending to production							
Documentation/meetings							

What Percentage of Time Do You Spend...



Does Your Current Project Contain FPGAs?

Does Your Current Project Contain FPGAs?

45% Yes

55% No

Why Won't Your Next Project Use FPGAs?

0	%	15%	30%	45%	60%	75%
Don't need them						
Too expensive						
Too power-hungry						
Hard to use						
Too slow						
Too small						
Unreliable						
Don't Know						

Why Won't Your Next Project Use FPGAs?



Your Nemesis: The SoCKit Board



Components and Peripherals



Dual ARM Cortex-A9 and Programmable Logic



Inside the Cyclone V: Dual ARM processors + FPGA



An Example System



Linux + Custom Hardware





Three Introductory Labs: 2 weeks each Work in pairs

- 1. Hardware: Access, modify, and display memory
- 2. Software: A simple Internet chat client
- 3. HW + SW: A video bouncing ball

The project: **Design-your-own** Work in groups of four (mostly)

Custom Project Ideas

Broadly: C + SystemVerilog + peripheral(s)



Video game (e.g., Pac-Man)



Video effects processor



Digital photo frame



Very fancy digital clock

More Ideas



Digital tone control



Real-time audio spectrum analyzer



Internet radio



Speech Synthesizer



MIDI synthesizer



Line-following robot with video vision



SAE student vehicle telemetry system



Stereo video vision system



Internet video camera



Pac-man-like video game



Scrabble Timer



Scorched Earth



SAE Auto Shifter



Internet Radio

Broadcaster



3D Maze Game



VoIP Telephone



JPEG decoder



Rally-X video

game



Video-guided Lego Robot



 360° camera de-warper



Videogame with accelerated line-drawing



Voice recorder



JPEG decoder



Pac-Edwards



Button Hero Videogame



Digital Picture Frame: SD card with JPEG to VGA



Networked game of Clue



Conway's Game of Life (60 gps)



Real-time ray tracer



Video-camera-controlled pool game



Real-time video decryption



WiiMote-controlled maze game



Lightsaber video overlay



Networked Video Phone



Sound-controlled videogame



Visual object tracker

The Three Main Challenges of Embedded Systems



Coping with Real-World Sensor Data



Algorithm Design



Implementation Details

What Happens When You Press the Switch?



What Happens When You Press the Switch?



Inside a Pushbutton Switch



Source: Cherry CS series data sheet

Raw Data from a CCD (zoomed in)



Corrected Image (zoomed in)



Correcting Data from CCDs





Correcting Data from CCDs



Where Does This Noise Come From?

Nikon D300: 23.6 mm \times 15.8 mm 12.3 megapixel CMOS sensor

Pixels are 5.5 μ m on a side

A/D sampling of 12 bits per pixel measures



The units: electrons per ADU (digital unit).

Emil Martinec, A comparison of the Nikon D300 and Canon 40D sensors, 2007.



Development Plan

- 1. Obtain some representative raw sensor data
- 2. Develop an algorithmic prototype using your favorite language (e.g., Java, C, Matlab)
- 3. Plan how to implement it
- 4. Implement while constantly testing