# EE458 - Embedded Systems
# Lecture 1 - Introduction

- Outline
  - Embedded Systems
  - Embedded OS vs Superloop
  - Real-time Operating Systems
  - Embedded Systems Development
  - The RTEMS Real-Time OS
  - The RTEMS Development Environment

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded Systems

- An embedded system is a computing system with tightly coupled hardware and software that performs a _____.
- Examples: Printers, Routers, Video Game Systems, Portable Music Players, Satellite Receivers, Personal Video Recorders (Tivo), Automotive Control Systems, Wristwatches,

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded Systems

- Note that embedded systems are *computer systems*. An embedded system uses a microcontroller or microprocessor and is _____. Pure digital logic systems are not embedded systems.
- In contrast to a general purpose computing system, embedded systems are typically programmed by the system developer, not by the user.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded OS vs Superloop

- The embedded systems you've worked with in EE354 and EE454 are _____ systems in which all of the functions are performed in a single (infinite loop).
- Superloop design is fine for small, simple systems.  Larger, more complex applications will typically use an *embedded operating system*.  Embedded operating systems offer many advantages over superloop systems.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded OS vs Superloop

- Reduced Development Time – The OS provides a library of functions for timing, interprocess communication, I/O, _____, and memory management. Applications can be developed much more quickly.
- Hardware Abstraction – Direct hardware communication is performed by the OS (and in interrupt routines). This simplifies and standardizes hardware communication.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded OS vs Superloop

- Portability – Porting an application to a new _____ (board and/or processor) supported by the OS is much simpler than porting a superloop application.
- Scalability – An OS usually allows an application to scale more easily to increased loads by adding additional hardware resources.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded OS vs Superloop

- Design and Maintenance – An embedded OS application usually consists of multiple, small tasks. This approach can simplify design, development, _____, and maintenance. It also facilitates a team design approach.
- Communication Complexity – The OS may provide routines to support networking and I/O. This can simplify application development.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded OS vs Superloop

- Timing Complexity – Different timing requirements by different hardware components can usually be handled quite easily by using different tasks. Different task _____ can be used to help prevent errors due to communication bursts or timing jitter.
- Possible Disadvantages
  - Learning Curve
  - Increased Hardware Requirements
  - Costs

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded Operating Systems

- An operating system typically provides the following features:
  - A Task Scheduler (multitasking)
  - Task Control (creation, priority assignment)
  - Task Synchronization (semaphores, message queues, signals, etc)
  - Intertask _____ (mailboxes, message queues, pipes, shared memory)
  - Memory Management (allocation, deallocation)
  - Other: I/O Services, Timers, Networking

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Real Time Operating Systems

- Both general purpose operating systems (GPOS) like Windows and Linux and real time operating systems (RTOS) like _____ are used in embedded systems.
- Real time systems respond to external events in a timely fashion. “The timing correctness is at least as important as the functional correctness.” (RTC – Page 13)

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Real Time Operating Systems

- Hard real time systems must meet deadlines with a near zero degree of flexibility. A missed deadline is _____.
- Soft real time systems must meet deadlines but with a degree of flexibility. A missed deadline does not cause system failure.
- Example Real Time Systems: Weapons Defense, Medical Systems, DVD Player.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded Systems Devel.

- Embedded systems typically use a cross-platform development model. The software is developed on the host platform (Windows/Mac/Linux) and run on the target platform.
- A _____ runs on the processor on the host platform and produces executable code that runs on the target processor.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction Embedded Systems Devel.

- In embedded systems the application and OS are usually compiled and linked into a single executable file. (Implying that the OS source code is available.) Not all OS features are required in every application.
- Many embedded systems are _____. The application code and OS are usually stored in non-volatile memory (PROM, flash).

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS

- RTEMS is an acronym for the Real-Time Executive for _____ Systems. RTEMS was developed by On-Line Applications Research Corporation (OAR) for the U.S. Army Missile Command
- RTEMS is released under a modified version of the Gnu Public License (GPL). It is open-source and there are no licensing fees.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS

- The RTEMS Web Site
  - http://www.rtems.org
- After installing RTEMS, you can find the complete documentation under:
  - /opt/rtems/rtems-4.10.2/tools/rtemsdocs-4.10.2/share/rtems/html/index.html
- After extracting the EE458 archive you can find a shortcut to the docs here:
  - “/opt/ee458/RTEMS/RTEMS Documentation”

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS

- Any UNIX or Windows/MSYS (or Windows/cygwin) system may be used as the host development platform.
- RTEMS is available for multiple processors: Motorola MC68xxx, Motorola ColdFire, ARM, Hitachi H8/300, Hitachi SH, _____, MIPS, PowerPC, SPARC, AMD A29K, Hewlett-Packard PA-RISC, ADI Blackfin, TI C3x/C4x, OpenCores OR32.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS

- For each processor there are typically multiple board support packages (BSPs) available.  A BSP provides OS support for a particular developer board.  For example, there are more than 20 BSPs for the M68K processor.
- RTEMS must be “built” for a particular BSP. Cross-development tools for the processor must be in place to build the OS.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS Development

- In this class, we will be using Windows/ MSYS as our host platform and the _____ (the RTEMS pc386 BSP) as our target processor.
- Instructions for installing MSYS, RTEMS, the cross-development tools and QEMU can be found on the course website under the **Installing Software** link.

# Lecture 1 - Introduction RTEMS Development

- Since we are targeting the PC the applications we develop should run on any available PC. (Provided there is a boot manager installed capable of booting multiple operating systems.) It will usually be much more convenient to run our RTEMS applications on the _____ PC emulator.

# Lecture 1 – Introduction RTEMS Development

- QEMU can treat either a disk image file on the host or a host directory as a QEMU disk drive.  It is most convenient for us to use a host directory.  This allows us to drag-and-drop files onto the QEMU “disk”.