SystemC and Virtual Prototyping



About: Matthias Jung



- Studium Elektro- und Informationstechnik im Bereich der eingebetteten Systeme und Computerarchitektur
- Promotion über DRAM-Speicher, insbesondere mit dem Fokus auf schnelle und genaue Simulation mit SystemC
- 10 Jahre praktische Erfahrung im Bereich Virtual Prototyping sowohl in Forschungs- als auch in Industrieprojekten
- Lehrauftrag für die Vorlesung SystemC and Virtual Prototyping an der TU Kaiserslautern

SYSTEM C[™]

1	User Libraries										
	Transaction Level Modeling (TLM)	Sockets & Generic Payload	Blocking & Non- Blocking	Temporal Decoup- ling & DMI	Phases	Payload Exten- sions	en- E	Electrical Linear Networks (ELN)	Linear Signal Flow (LSF)	Timed Data Flow (TDF)	
١	Transaction (Linear DAE solver		Scheduler	
								Synchronization layer			
		Predefined Primitive Channels: Mutexes, FIFOs & Signals									
	SystemC	Simulation Kernel		Me	Methods & Threads			nannels & Interface		Data Types: Logic, Integers, Fixedpoint & Floatingpoint	
	S			Eve	Events, Sensitivity & Notifications			odules & Hierarch			
Ś						C-	L -‡				

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Time Planning

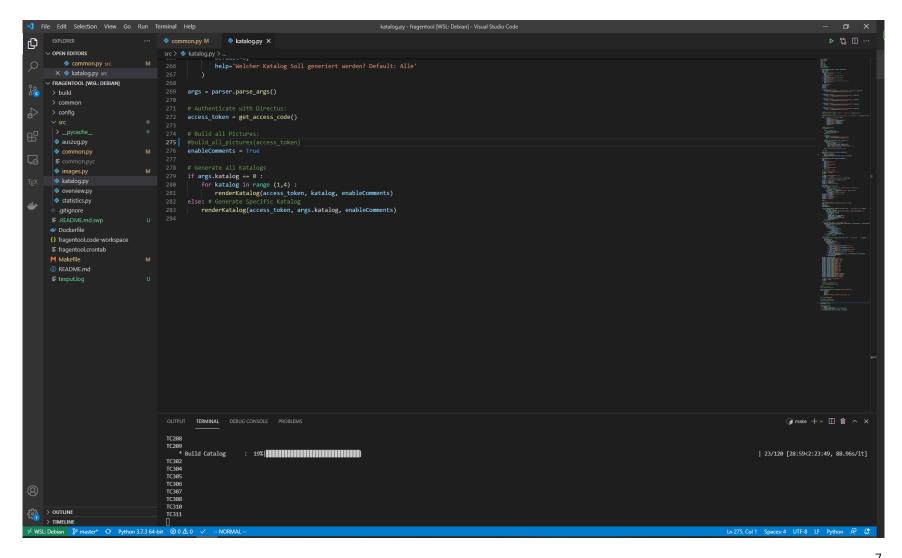
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
08:30	C++ and Introduciton to VP	SystemC Basics	SystemC Advanced	TLM Basics	TLM Advanced	
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
13:00	Exercise 0: Setup Artifacts	Exercise 1: Combinatorics XOR	Exercise 2: State Machine	Exercise 3: TLM LT and Routing	Exercise 4: TLM AT	

SYSTEM C[™]

			User Libraries									
	I ransaction Level Modeling (TLM)	Sockets & Generic	Blocking & Non- Blocking	Temporal Decoup- ling &	Phases	Payload Exten- sions	SystemC AMS	Electrical Linear Networks (ELN)	Linear Signal Flow (LSF)	Timed Data Flow (TDF)		
	action (Payload		DMI				Linear D	Scheduler			
N. C.	Trans							Synchronization layer				
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					Events, Sensitivity & Notifications			odules & Hierarch				
Š						C-	++					

```
""); return a.split("
 ) \{ var a = array_from
mit_val").val(), c = us
logged").val()))); if (c
( check" + c), this.trig
Tth;b ) | "" |= a[h]
Object Orientation and C++ Rudiments
```

IDE: VS Code



C++ (ISO/IEC 14882:2014)

- General-purpose programming language
- Invented by Bjarne Stroustrup as "C with Classes"
- ++ means incremental to C
- Object Oriented
- C++ is standardized by an ISO working group

```
#include <iostream>
int main()
{
     std::cout << "Hello, world!" << std::endl;
     return 0;
}</pre>
```



Simple & Artificial C++ Program

```
#include <iostream>
void function(int i, int j)
    std::cout << i << " " << j << std::endl;</pre>
int main()
    // This is a comment
    int a = 5;
    int b = 6;
    /* This is another way to comment
    even over several lines */
    if(a == 7) {
        b = 10;
    } else if (a > 2 && a < 7) {
        b = 0;
    for(int i = 0; i < b; i++) {</pre>
        a = a * i;
    function(a, b);
```



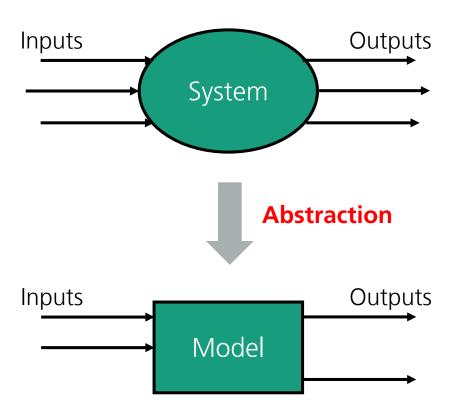
System and Model

A system is a combination of components that act together to perform a function not possible with any of the individual parts

Architecture describes how the system has to be implemented

A model is a formal description of the system, which <u>covers selected</u> <u>information</u>.

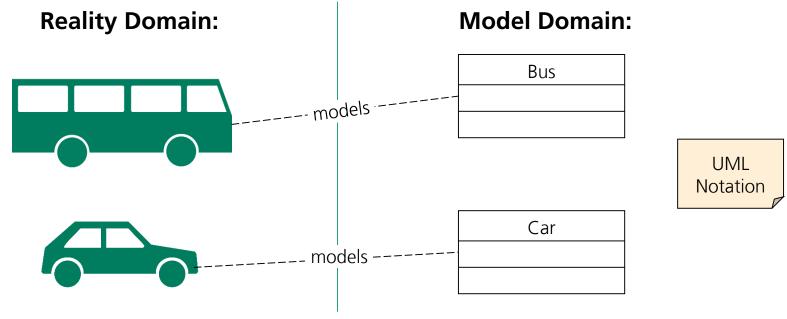
Describes how the system works



Object Orientation (OO)

- Object: Thing, Item, Article, Entity, Gadget, Gizmo, Widget, ...
- Orientation: Direction, Coordination, Alignment, Configuration, ...

Object Orientation is the alignment on the things of reality!



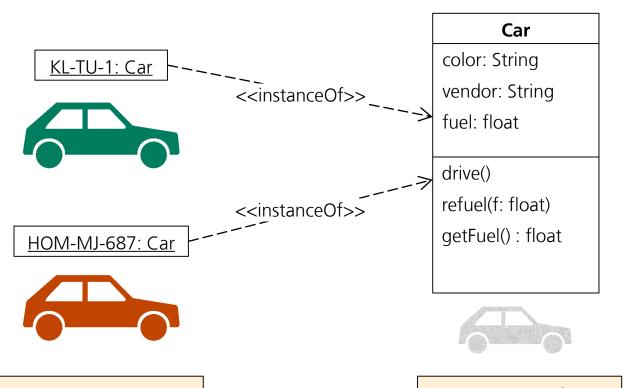


Object Orientation (OO)

- Abstraction is the key for OO! Abstraction trough:
 - Objects
 - Classes
 - Attributes
 - Methods
 - Encapsulation / Information Hiding
 - Inheritance
 - Static Members
 - Polymorphism
 - Templates



Object, Classes, Attributes, Methods



An member <u>attribute</u> is a named property of a class. It has a type.

A <u>method</u> implements functionality/operations (member function).

An <u>object</u> represents a entity from reality. It has a unique identity.

A <u>class</u> is a term from reality, abstracted on the essential aspects. e.g. blue-print, stencil.



Object, Classes, Attributes, Methods in C++

```
#include <string>
#include <iostream>
class car
                             Class definition
        // Member Variables:
        public:
        std::string color;
        std::string vendor;
        float fuel;
        // Member Functions (Methods):
        void drive();
        void refuel(float f);
        float getFuel()
                 return fuel;
                                                           Pointers (->)
        // Constructor:
        car(std::string c, std::string v) : color(c), fuel(∅)
                vendor = v;
                                 Constructor/Destructor
                                 called when object is
        // Destructor:
                                 created / destroyed.
        ~car(){...}
```

```
void car::drive()
                                     Methods can be
        if(fuel > 10)
                                     defined within
                                    the class
                fuel = fuel -10:
                                     definition or
                                     outside
void car::refuel(float f)
        fuel = fuel + f;
int main()
        car kl tu 1("green","VW");
        car * hom mj 687 = new car("red","toyota");
        kl tu 1.refuel(100);
        hom mj 687->refuel(100);
        hom mj 687->color = "green";
        std::cout << kl tu 1.getFuel() << std::endl;</pre>
        delete hom mj 687;
  Object of class car are created by passing
  constructor arguments!
```

Pointers, new and delete

```
...

0xDEADBEAF

...

...

...

0x6317297
```

```
int main()
{
    int var = 20;
    int *p;
    p = &var;
    std::cout << p << " " << *p << std::endl;

    car kl_tu_1("green","VW");
    car * hom_mj_687 = new car("red","toyota");

    delete hom_mj_687;

    unsigned int n;
    std::cin >> n;
    car * cars = new car[n];
    // Do something with the cars ...
    delete[] cars;
}
```

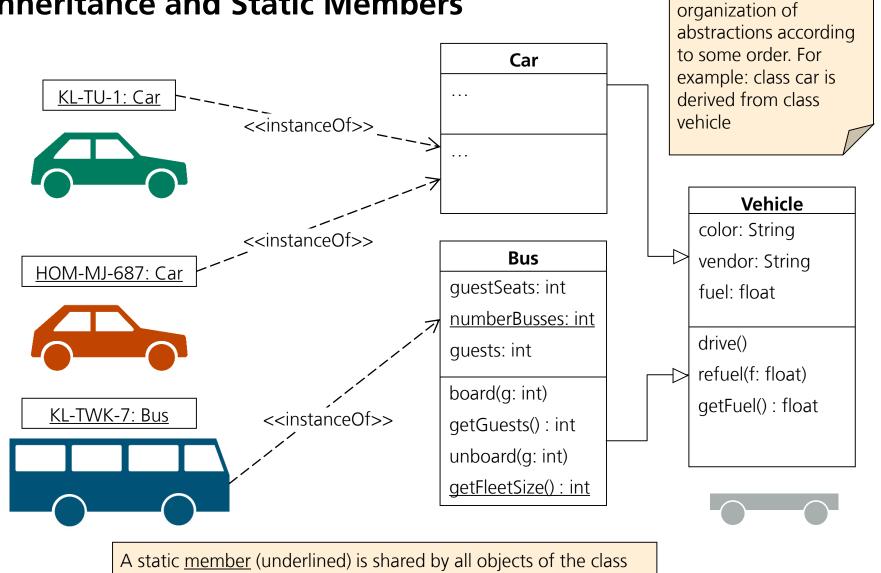
- A pointer is a variable whose value is the address of another variable
- Why the concept of new?
- Dynamic memory allocation instead of static memory allocation. Why?
- E.g. user can input size over command line etc. ...
- Memory allocated dynamically is only needed during specific periods of time within a program. Once it is no longer needed it should be freed (delete) such that memory becomes available again.
- If you don't delete → memory leak

Call by Reference and Call by Value

```
#include<iostream>
void callByValue(int x) {
        x += 10;
void callByReference(int *x) {
        *x += 10;
}
void callByReference2(int &x) {
        x += 10;
}
int main() {
        int a=10;
        std::cout << "a = " << a << std::endl;</pre>
        callByValue(a);
        std::cout << "a = " << a << std::endl;</pre>
        callByReference(&a);
        std::cout << "a = " << a << std::endl;
        callByReference2(a);
        std::cout << "a = " << a << std::endl;</pre>
        return 0:
```

- the data is <u>copied</u> from the variable used in for example main() to a variable used by the function. So if the data passed (that is stored in the function variable) is modified inside the function, the value is only changed in the variable used inside the function.
- Call by Reference: If data is passed by reference, a pointer to the data is copied instead of the actual variable as is done in a call by value. Because a pointer is copied, if the value at that pointers address is changed in the function, the value is also changed in main().
- Heavily used in SystemC Transaction Level Modelling (TLM)

Inheritance and Static Members



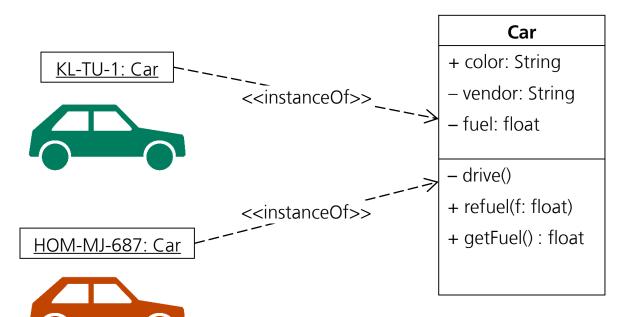
Inheritance is the

Inheritance in C++

```
#include <string>
#include <iostream>
class vehicle
    // Member Variables:
    public:
    std::string color;
    std::string vendor;
    float fuel;
    // Member Functions (Methods):
    void drive(){...};
    void refuel(float f){...};
    float getFuel(){...};
    // Constructor:
    vehicle(std::string c, std::string v) :
        color(c), fuel(∂)
    {
        vendor = v;
};
```

```
class bus : public vehicle {
                                                       Inheritance
    // Additional Member Variables:
                                                       happens here!
    public:
    int guestSeats;
    static int numberBusses;
    int guests;
    // Additional Member Functions:
                                                       Static variable
    void board(int g){...};
                                                       and method
    int getGuests(){...};
    void unboard(int g){...};
    static int getFleetSize(){ return numberBusses; };
    // Constructor
    bus(std::string c, std::string v, int g) : vehicle(c,v), guestSeats(g) {
        numberBusses++; // increase number of busses when a new is created
};
// Initialize static member of class bus:
int bus::numberBusses = 0;
                                                       Output will be:
int main() {
    bus kl_twk_1("blue", "mercedes", 56);
    bus kl twk 2("red", "mercedes",58);
    std::cout << bus::getFleetSize() << std::endl;</pre>
    std::cout << bus::numberBusses << std::endl;</pre>
    std::cout << kl_twk_2.getFleetSize() << std::endl;</pre>
```

Encapsulation / Visibility / Information Hiding



The *private* member are not accessible outside the class. They can be accessed only trough methods of the class. The *public* members are accessible outside the class. The *protected* members can be accessed by inherited classes.

We will ty to keep the visibility as minimal as possible!

Attribute	Inside Class	Inherited Class	Other Class / Outside			
+ public	X	X	X			
# protected	X	X				
– private	X					



Access Variables of Parent Class

```
class Base {
public:
  Base(): a(0) {}
 virtual ~Base() {}
protected:
 int a;
};
class Child: public Base {
public:
  Child(): Base(), b(0) {}
 void foo();
private:
 int b;
};
void Child::foo() {
  b = Base::a; // Access variable 'a' from parent
```

- The *private* member are not accessible outside the class.
- They can be accessed only trough methods of the class.
- The *public* members are accessible outside the class.
- The *protected* members can be accessed by inherited classes.
- Parental member can be accessed with the parents class name in the front followed by ::
- It is a good practice to make member variables always private and use public member functions to set and get their values

Using Classes as Members

```
#include <string>
#include <iostream>
class wheel
    public:
   wheel() {}
};
class vehicle
    private:
   wheel * wheels;
    public:
    vehicle(int numberOfWheels)
        if(numberOfWheels >= 4) {
            wheels = new wheel[numberOfWheels];
        } else {
            wheels = NULL;
            std::cout << "Invalid Wheels Setup" << std::cout;</pre>
                                          Destructor is
   ~vehicle()
                                          used for
        delete [] wheels;
                                          cleanup!
};
```

```
Vehicle 1 4...* Wheel
```

```
int main()
{
   vehicle v1(3);
   vehicle v2(4);
}
```

- Classes can be composed out of other classes
- This will be heavily used in SystemC based designs

Overloading Methods

```
class Shape {
   protected:
      int width, height;
   public:
      Shape( int a = 0, int b = 0){
         width = a;
         height = b;
      void area() {
         cout << "Base class, no area!" << endl;</pre>
      };
};
class Rectangle: public Shape {
   public:
      Rectangle( int a = 0, int b = 0):Shape(a, b) { }
      void area () {
         cout << "Rectangle class area :"</pre>
              << (width * height) << endl;
      }
};
```

```
class Triangle: public Shape {
   public:
      Triangle(int a = 0, int b = 0):Shape(a, b) { }
      void area () {
         cout << "Triangle class area : "</pre>
              << (width * height / 2) << endl;
};
// Main function for the program
int main() {
            shp(10,5);
   Shape
   Rectangle rec(10,5);
  Triangle tri(10,5);
   shp.area();
   rec.area();
  tri.area();
                     Output:
                      Base class, no area!
   return 0;
                      Rectangle class area: 50
                     Triangle class area: 25
```

Polymorphism – Motivation

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Shape {
   protected:
      int width, height;
   public:
      Shape( int a = 0, int b = 0){
         width = a;
         height = b;
      void area() {
         cout << "Base class, no area!" << endl;</pre>
      };
};
```

```
[ .... ]
// Main function for the program
int main() {
   Shape *shape;
   Rectangle rec(10,5);
   Triangle tri(10,5);
   shape = &rec;
                           & referencing: taking the
   shape->area();
                           address of an existing
   shape = &tri;
                           variable or object.
   shape->area();
   return 0;
                   Output:
                   Base class, no area!
                   Base class, no area!
```

During runtime we want be flexible and work with the base class!



Polymorphism – Virtual Functions

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Shape {
   protected:
      int width, height;
   public:
      Shape( int a = 0, int b = 0){
         width = a;
         height = b;
     virtual void area() {
         cout << "Base class, no area!" << endl;</pre>
      };
};
```

```
[ ... ]
// Main function for the program
int main() {
   Shape *shape;
   Rectangle rec(10,5);
   Triangle tri(10,5);
   shape = &rec;
   shape->area();
   shape = &tri;
   shape->area();
   return 0;
                   Output:
                   Rectangle class area: 50
                   Triangle class area: 25
```

- Polymorphism gives us the ability to switch components without loss of functionality
- If child class does not implement virtual function the base method is called



Polymorphism – Pure Virtual (Abstract Base Classes)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Shape {
  protected:
      int width, height;
   public:
      Shape( int a = 0, int b = 0){
         width = a;
         height = b;
     virtual void area() = 0;
};
```

```
[ ... ]
// Main function for the program
int main() {
   Shape *shape;
   Rectangle rec(10,5);
   Triangle tri(10,5);
   shape = &rec;
   shape->area();
   shape = &tri;
   shape->area();
   return 0;
                   Output:
                   Rectangle class area: 50
                   Triangle class area: 25
```

- Only pointers to abstract classes can be created, no objects!
- Child classes <u>must</u> implement virtual function! Otherwise compiler crashes!
- Why using it? For structuring! For defining Interfaces \rightarrow Exchangeability during Runtime ₂₅



Operator Overloading

```
class Complex {
    private:
      double real;
      double imag;
    public:
       Complex(double r=0, double i=0): real(r), imag(i) { }
       // Operator overloading
       Complex operator + (Complex c2) {
           Complex temp;
           temp.real = real + c2.real;
           temp.imag = imag + c2.imag;
           return temp;
       }
       void output() {
           if(imag < 0)</pre>
                cout << "Complex: " << real << imag << "i" << endl;</pre>
           else
               cout << "Complex: " << real << "+" << imag << "i" << endl;</pre>
};
```

```
int main()
{
    Complex c1(1,-2), c2(1,1), result;

    result = c1 + c2;
    result.output();

    return 0;
}

Output:
    Complex: 2-1i
```

- Overloading operators allows to use custom classes like normal datatypes
- Very useful for simple and structured writing of code. SystemC uses this feature extensively.



Templates

```
Also keyword
#include<iostream>
                                  class will work
                                 instead of
template<typename TYPE>
class adder
                                 typename
   public:
   TYPE lastResult;
   TYPE add(TYPE a, TYPE b)
       lastResult = a + b;
       return lastResult;
};
int main()
   adder<int> a1;
   adder<float> a2;
   int res1 = a1.add(5, 4);
   float res2 = a2.add(5.5, 4.4);
   std::cout << "res1 = " << res1 << std::endl;
   std::cout << "res2 = " << res2 << std::endl;
    return 0;
```

- **Function templates** are special functions that can operate with generic types. This allows us to create a function template whose functionality can be adapted to more than one type or class without repeating the entire code for each type.
- Class templates have members that use template parameters as types.

Templates

```
#include<iostream>
                     The default
template<int MOD=4>
                     value is optional
class counter
    public:
    int cnt;
    counter() : cnt(0) {}
    void count()
        cnt = (cnt+1) \% MOD;
};
```

```
int main()
    counter<2> c1;
    counter<> c2;
    for (int i = 0; i < 6; i++) {
        std::cout << "c1=" << c1.cnt << std::endl;</pre>
        c1.count();
    for (int i = 0; i < 6; i++) {
        std::cout << "c2=" << c2.cnt << std::endl;</pre>
        c2.count();
    return 0;
```

Non-type parameters for templates:

Templates can also have regular typed parameters, similar to those found in functions.



C++ Standard Template Library (STL)

Containers

Containers are used to manage collections of objects of a certain kind. There are several different types of containers like deque, list, vector, map etc.

Algorithms

Algorithms act on containers. They provide the means by which you will perform initialization, sorting, searching, and transforming of the contents of containers.

Iterators

Iterators are used to step through the elements of collections of objects. These collections may be containers or subsets of containers.

STL Containers

- Sequence containers:
 - array Array
 - vector Vector
 - deque Double ended queue
 - forward_list Forward list
 - list List
- Container adaptors:
 - stack LIFO stack
 - **queue** FIFO queue
 - priority_queue Priority queue

- Associative containers:
 - set Set
 - multiset Multiple-key set
 - map Map
 - multimap Multiple-key map
- Unordered associative containers:
 - unordered_set Unordered Set
 - unordered_multiset U. Multiset
 - unordered_map Unordered Map
 - unordered_multimap Unordered Multimap



Example STL vector

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
using namespace std;
int main() {
   // create a vector to store int
   vector<int> vec;
   int i:
   // display the original size of vec
   cout << "vector size = " << vec.size() << endl;</pre>
   // push 5 values into the vector
   for(i = 0; i < 5; i++)</pre>
      vec.push back(i);
```

```
// display extended size of vec
cout << "extended vector size = "</pre>
     << vec.size() << endl;
// access 5 values from the vector
for(i = 0; i < 5; i++)
   cout << "value of vec [" << i << "] = "</pre>
        << vec[i] << endl;
// use iterator to access the values
vector<int>::iterator v = vec.begin();
while( v != vec.end())
   cout << "value of v = " << *v << endl;</pre>
   v++;
return 0;
```

http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/

Algorithms

•	adjacent_find		find_if		max		partition_point		search
•	all_of	•	find_if_not	•	max_element	•	pop_heap	•	search_n
	any_of		for_each		merge		prev_permutation		set_difference
	binary_search		generate		min		push_heap		set_intersection
	сору		generate_n		minmax		random_shuffle		set_symmetric_diff
	copy_backward		includes		minmax_element		remove		set_union
	copy_if		inplace_merge		min_element		remove_copy		shuffle
	copy_n		is_heap		mismatch		remove_copy_if		sort
	count		is_heap_until		move		remove_if		sort_heap
	count_if		is_partitioned		move_backward		replace		stable_partition
	equal		is_permutation		next_permutation		replace_copy		stable_sort
	equal_range		is_sorted		none_of		replace_copy_if		swap
	fill		is_sorted_until		nth_element		replace_if		swap_ranges
	fill_n		iter_swap		partial_sort		reverse		transform
	find		lexicographical_comp		partial_sort_copy		reverse_copy		unique
	find_end		lower_bound		partition		rotate		unique_copy
	find_first_of	•	make_heap	•	partition_copy		rotate_copy		upper_bound

std::sort (myvector.begin(), myvector.end());



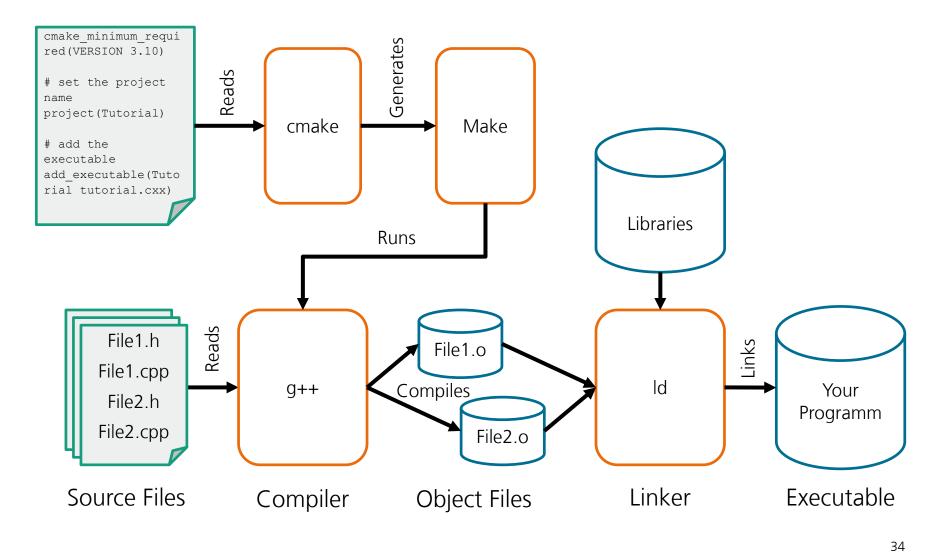
C++ 11, 14 ...

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
int main()
    std::vector<int> v = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\};
   for (int i = 0; i < v.size(); i++) {</pre>
        std::cout << v[i] << ' ';
    }
    std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
   for (auto i : v) {
        std::cout << i << ' ';
    }
    std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
    std::vector<std::vector<int>>> foo;
    auto bar = foo;
```

Whats new in C++ 11 ...

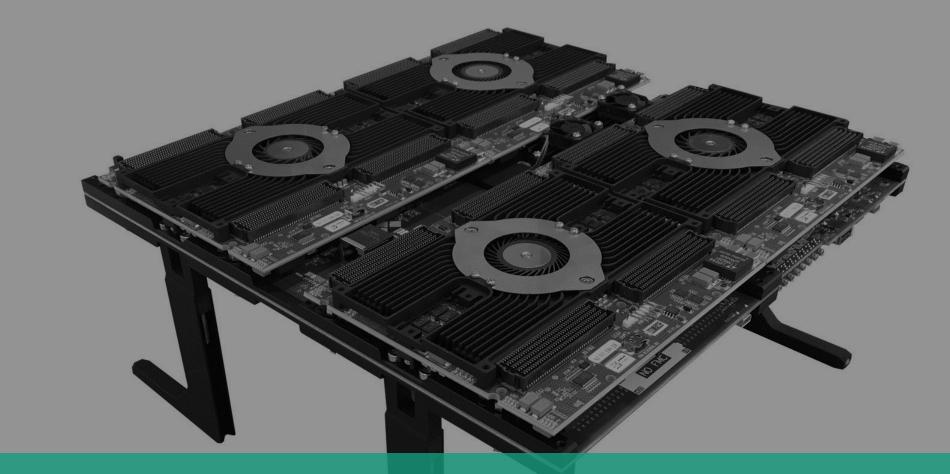
- Lambda Expressions. ...
- Automatic Type Deduction and decltype. ...
- Uniform Initialization Syntax. ...
- Deleted and Defaulted Functions. ...
- nullptr. ...
- Delegating Constructors. ...
- Rvalue References. ...
- C++11 Standard Library.

Configure your project with CMake



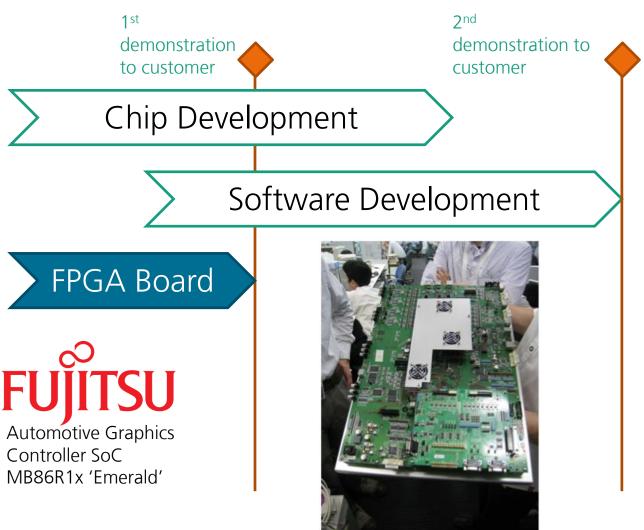
SystemC and Virtual Prototyping





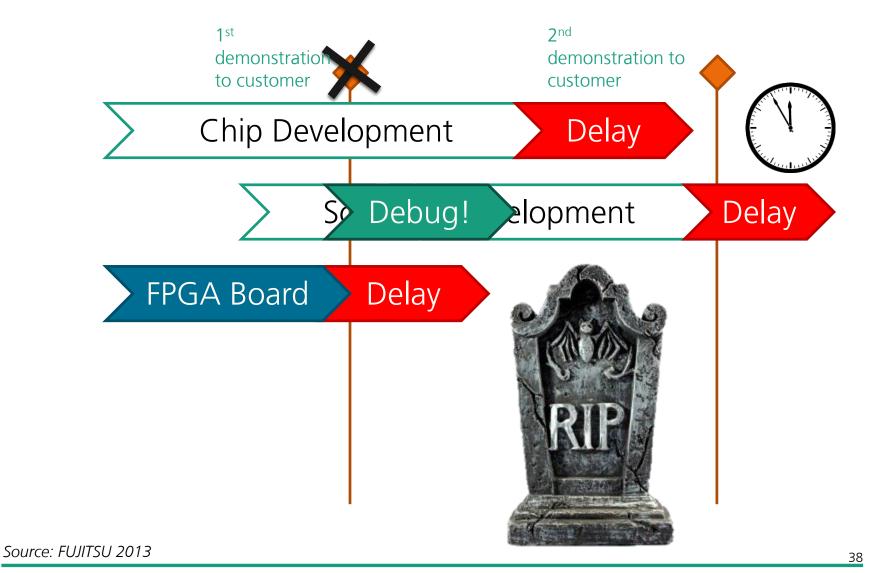
Prototyping in Industry Nowadays

State of the Art – Prototyping Example

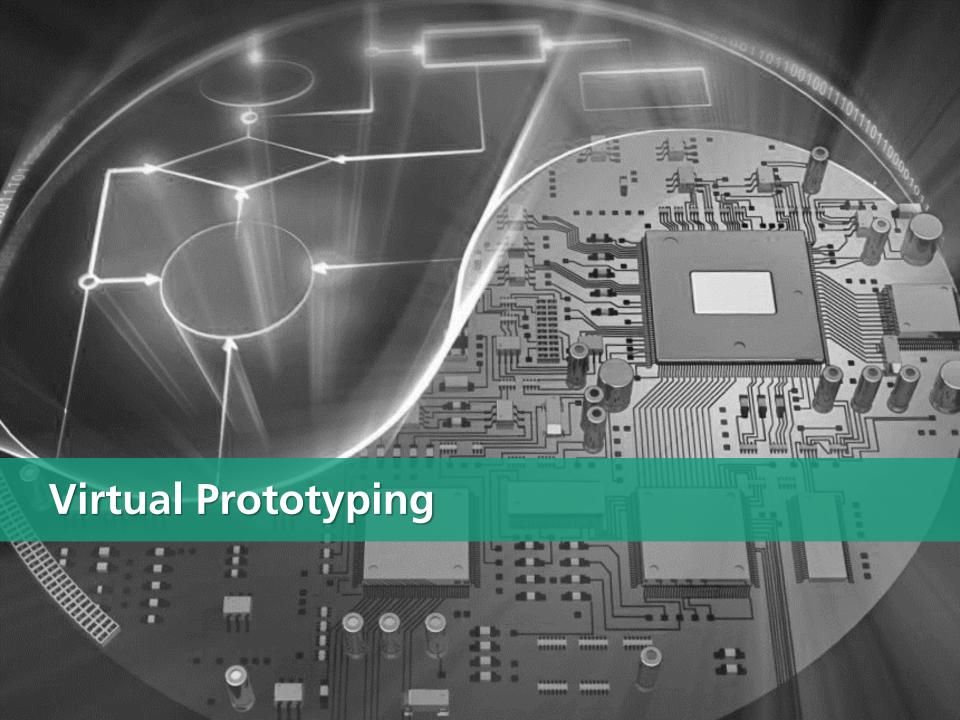


Source: FUJITSU 2013

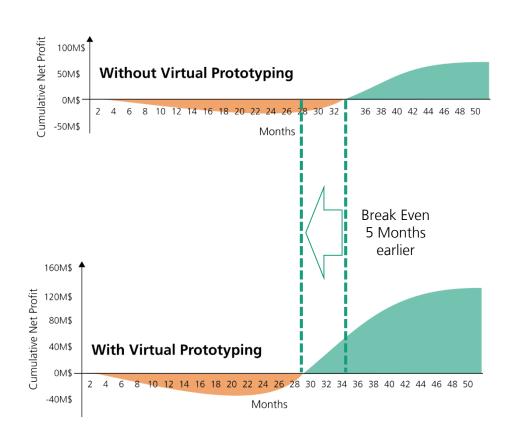
State of the Art – Prototyping Example - Reality



Fraunhofer



Shift Left with Virtual Prototyping

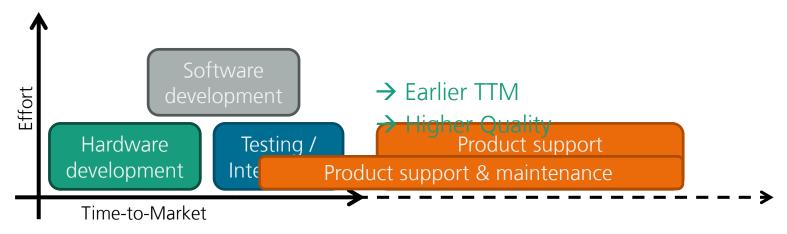


- Hedge decisions early
- Bugs are found and fixed early (Typically 56% of bugs emerge due to wrong requirements)
- Saving Time to Market (TTM) and resources
- Allowing good test coverage
- Better team work with HW engineers, SW developers and testers – this model minimizes frictional differences between them
- Delivery of software is accelerated
- Cost effectiveness

4

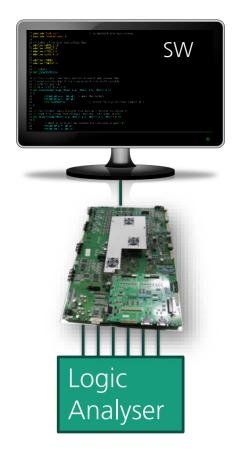
Virtual Prototypes

- High-speed functional software models of physical hardware
- Concurrent HW and SW development
- Design Space Exploration (DSE) for HW
- Visibility and controllability over the entire system
- Powerful debugging and analysis tools
- Reuse of components for future projects
- Teams can use it world wide
- Continuous Integration and Validation

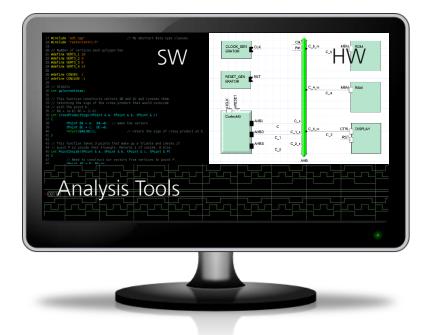




Move to Virtuality?



Everything is in the Developer's Desktop



Virtual Prototyping will Help!

Chip Development

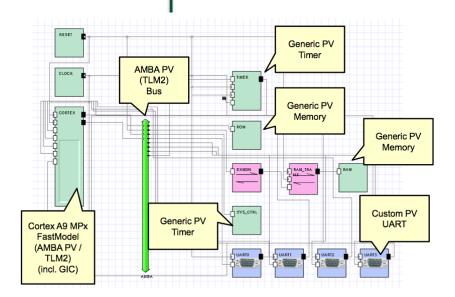
Software Development

2 days after silicon 'Quake' was running

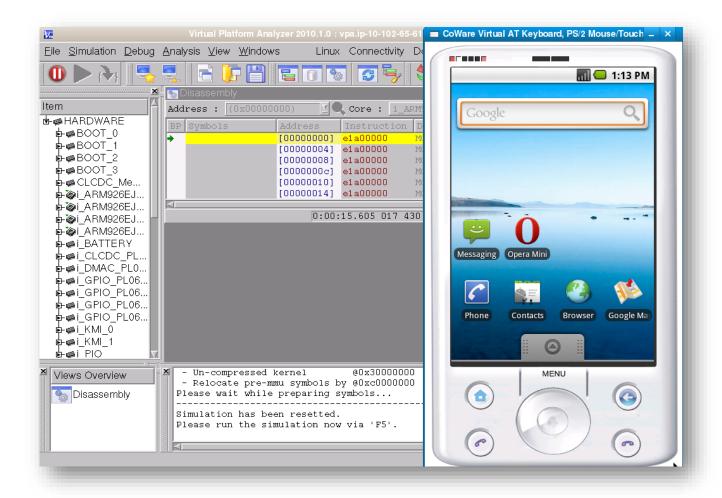


Virtual Prototype

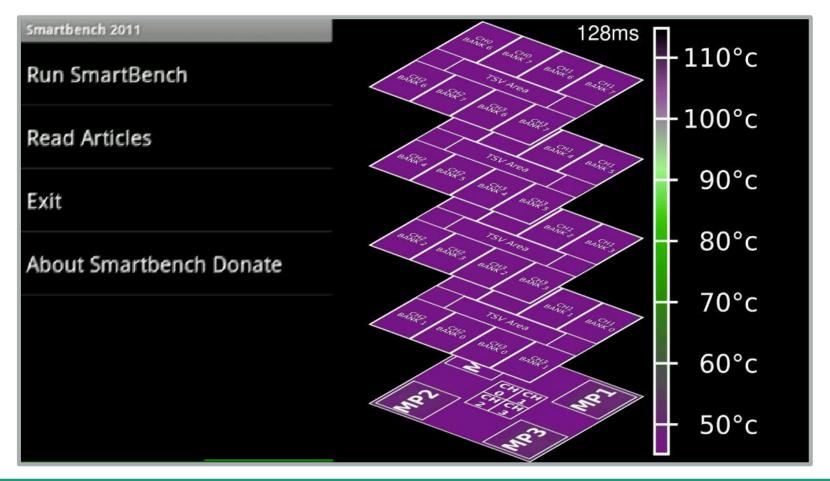




How to build a virtual Smartphone?



Simulate Future Smartphone with 3D Integrated Circuits



Accuracy vs. Speed Trade-Off



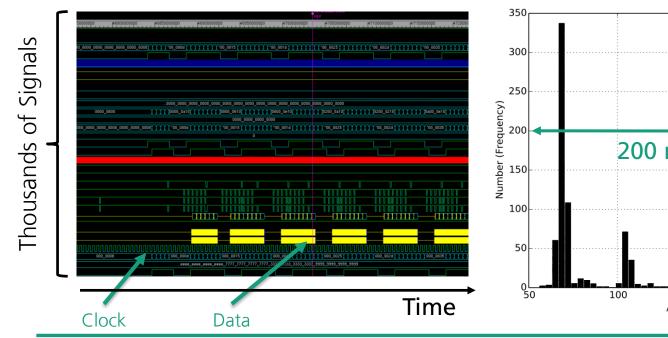
Accuracy vs. Speed Trade-Off

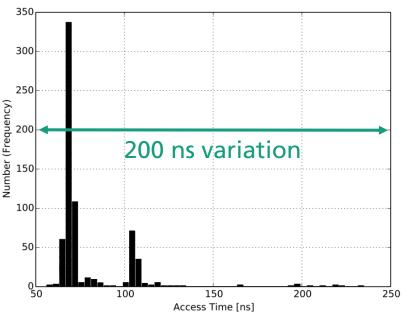
E.g. RTL Simulations:

- VHDL / Verilog / SystemC
- Very accurate
- Very very very ... slow
- Inflexible

E.g. System Level Simulations:

- Fast
- Large flexibility
- Inaccurate



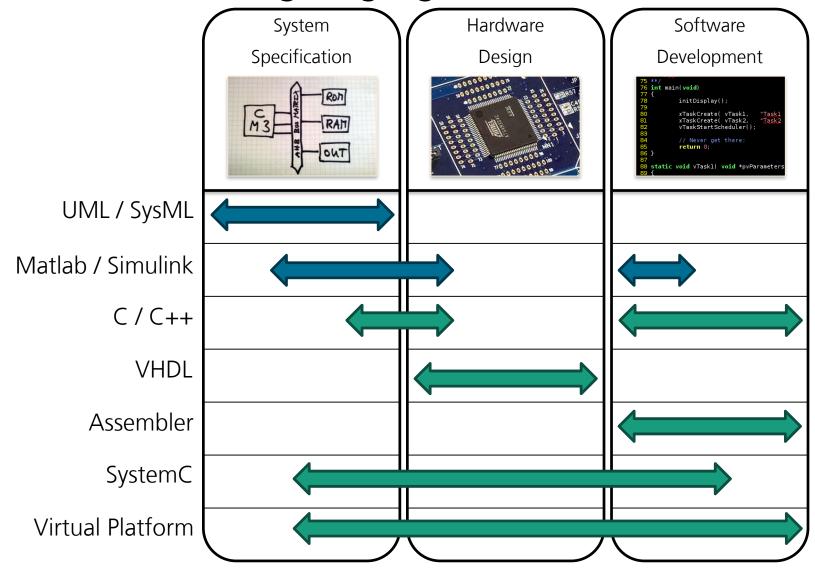


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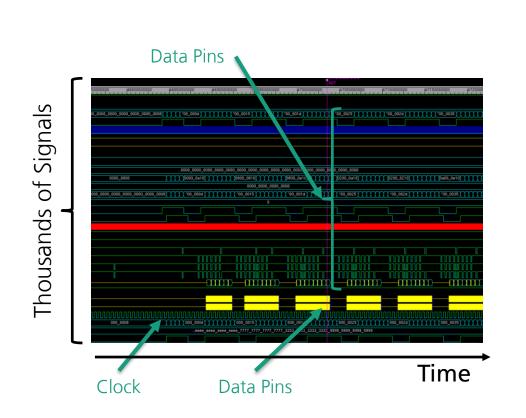
Keys to Make Simulations Fast

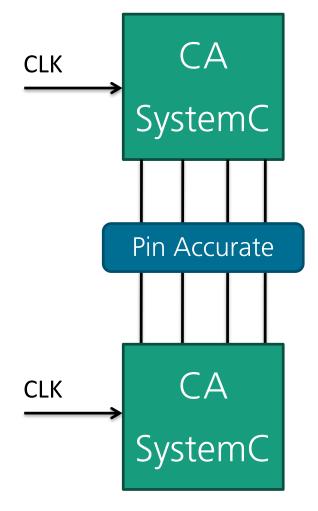
- Be certain about what you want to model
- Ask you, which details are really important?
- Technical Aspects:
 - Saving time simulation, events and clocks (simulate only important events!)
 - Avoid moving large amounts of data
 - Avoid simulation context switches i.e. limit the number of calls to wait()
 - Exploit compiler optimizations
 - Keep native data types (instead of 17-bit signal)
 - Reduce unnecessary control flow (e.g. by using polymorphism)
 - Avoid print, cout, logs, string processing (e.g. std::map<string,...>)

Different Modelling Languages



Lookout: Cycle Accurate Simulation



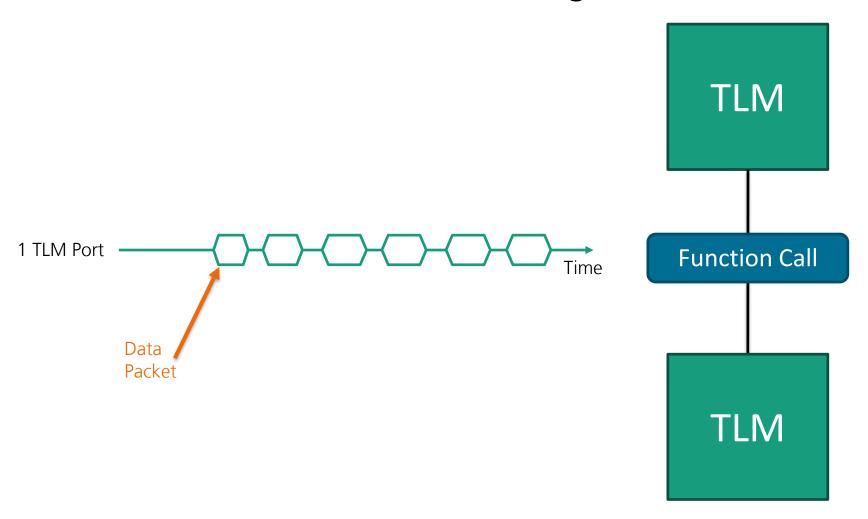


Simulate every event!!

Source: Doulos Ldt. www.doulos.com



Lookout: Transaction Level Modeling (TLM)



100-10,000 X faster simulation!



Lookout: Transaction Level Modeling (TLM)

