# Differences embedded networking and general networking

There are some pretty big differences between embedded networking and general networking. Both are used in their own way. They each have their pro's and cons.

The biggest differences are:

- Embedded networking prioritizes response time before throughput
    - Think about streaming a video for example. For the user it is much more important that the video is actually playing and not buffering all the time, rather than loading the whole video before it is playable. The user wants to watch the video as fast as possible, so the response time is very important in this situation.
- Embedded networking has a minimal overhead compared to general networking.
    - Embedded networking uses a different protocol, which doesn't include the IP protocol headers, which means that the data can be exchanged a lot quicker compared to general networking.
- Embedded networking has guaranteed control
    - Embedded networking uses a different protocol for sending and receiving messages. This protocol includes a start and an end bit, and an optional parity bit. These are used to make sure that the occasional interference doesn't mess up the data. Because, if the data is messed up, the extra bits will be read wrong and the data will be marked as invalid data.