

# Embedded System Design and Modeling

## I. Introduction

# What are Embedded Systems?

- ▶ Embedded System (Marwedel 2011): Embedded systems are information processing systems embedded into enclosing products
- ▶ Cyber-Physical Systems (Lee & Seshia 2017): A CPS is an integration of computation with physical processes whose behavior is defined by both cyber and physical parts of the system
  - ▶ “cyber” means  $\approx$  “control” (from Greek)



embedded

/ɪmˈbedɪd/

See definitions in:

All

Linguistics

Technology

Military

Journalism

*adjective*

1. (of an object) fixed firmly and deeply in a surrounding mass; implanted.  
“a gold ring with nine embedded stones”

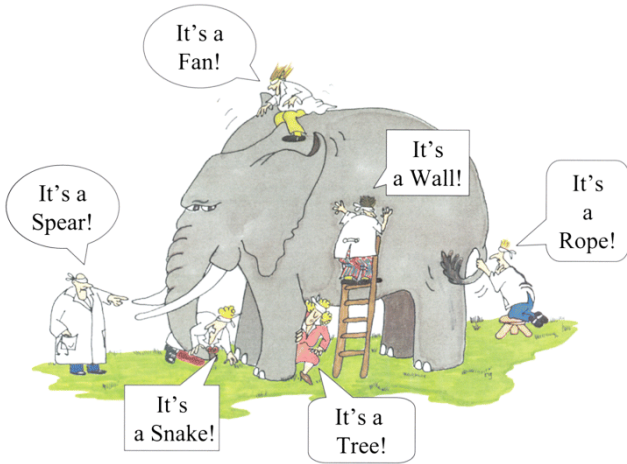
# What are Embedded Systems?

- ▶ Key points:
  - ▶ there is a physical process to be controlled
    - ▶ e.g. the movement of an automatic door, a car window, an elevator, a washing machine
  - ▶ there is some computational device who controls it
  - ▶ the processing is **close** to the physical process:
    - ▶ spatially: done right there (embedded)
    - ▶ behavioral: dedicated / specific to a particular process
    - ▶ e.g. not with a general purpose computer, not on the cloud

# What are Embedded Systems?

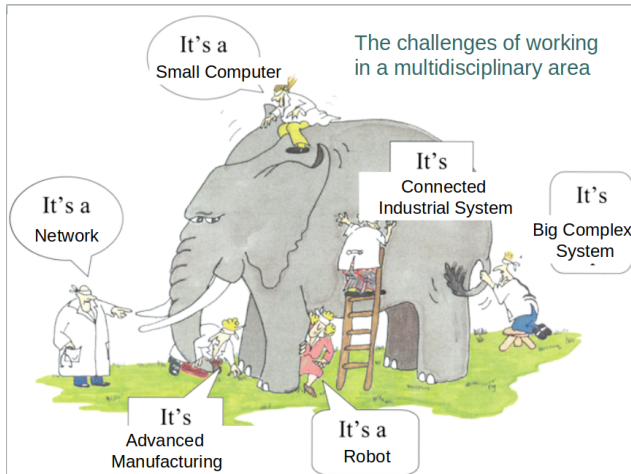
- ▶ Synonyms (more or less):
  - ▶ Embedded Systems
  - ▶ Internet of Things (IoT)
  - ▶ Industrial Internet
  - ▶ Systems of Systems
  - ▶ Industry 4.0
  - ▶ Internet of Everything (IoE)
  - ▶ Smart
- ≈ Cyber-Physical Systems

# What are Embedded Systems?



▶ Image from Lee&Seshia 2017

# What are Embedded Systems?



► Image from Lee&Seshia 2017

# Found everywhere

- ▶ Embedded systems are everywhere:
  - ▶ Automotive (Transportation industry)
  - ▶ Telecommunications
  - ▶ Medicine
  - ▶ Consumer electronics
  - ▶ ...



# Common characteristics

- ▶ Embedded systems share common characteristics:
  - ▶ must be **dependable**
    - ▶ reliability: probability that a system will not fail
    - ▶ maintainability: probability that a failed system can be repaired
    - ▶ safety: does not cause any harm even in worst-case conditions
    - ▶ security: allows authentication and confidentiality of data
  - ▶ must be **efficient**
    - ▶ low power consumption
    - ▶ low weight
    - ▶ low cost
    - ▶ no unnecessary resources used

# Common characteristics

- ▶ Embedded systems share common characteristics:
  - ▶ must satisfy **strict timing constraints**
    - ▶ most embedded systems operate in real-time
    - ▶ sometimes must guarantee response in a given time window
    - ▶ requirement example: “If pinch is detected, the motor must be stopped within 60ms” (automatic door closure)
  - ▶ must be **fault-tolerant**
    - ▶ assume that components may fail
    - ▶ detect failures, enter safe mode

# Embedded systems vs PC

- Aren't embedded systems just "small PC's"? No.

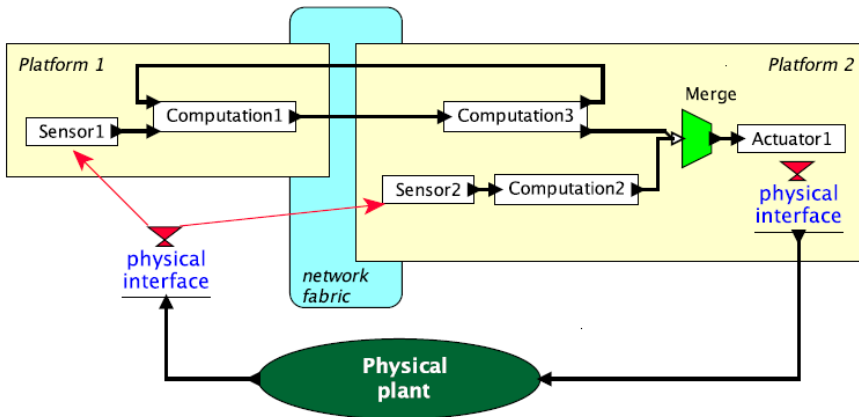
	Embedded	PC-like
Architectures	Frequently heterogeneous very compact	Mostly homogeneous not compact (x86 etc)
x86 compatibility	Less relevant	Very relevant
Architecture fixed?	Sometimes not	Yes
Model of computation (MoCs)	C+multiple models (data flow, discrete events, ...)	Mostly von Neumann (C, C++, Java)
Optim. objectives	Multiple (energy, size, ...)	Average performance dominates
Real-time relevant	Yes, very!	Hardly
Applications	Several concurrent apps.	Mostly single application
Apps. known at design time	Most, if not all	Only some (e.g. WORD)

Figure 1: Embedded Systems vs PC

- Image from Marwedel 2011

# Structure of an embedded system

- Typical structure of an embedded system (CPS)



- Image from Lee&Seshia 2017

# Structure of an embedded system

- ▶ Main components:
  - ▶ the physical process (known as the “plant”)
  - ▶ sensors: acquire information from the process
  - ▶ actuators: act on the process
  - ▶ computation: may be split between different devices
  - ▶ communications: between separate devices

# The design process

- ▶ Iterative, multiple steps:
  - ▶ **Modeling:** “the process of gaining a deeper understanding of a system through imitation. It specifies what a system does.”
  - ▶ **Design:** “the structured creation of artifacts. It specifies how a system does what it does.”
  - ▶ **Analysis:** “the process of gaining a deeper understanding of a system through dissection. It specifies why a system does what it does.”
  - ▶ ... and iterate again.

# What we cover

What we cover in this course:

- ▶ Modeling:
  - ▶ Modeling continuous dynamics with differential equations
- ▶ Design:
  - ▶ Design systems with discrete dynamics using finite state machines (FSM)
  - ▶ FSM concurrency, hierarchy etc.
  - ▶ Basics scheduling
- ▶ Analysis:
  - ▶ ...