

Haute Ecole d'Ingénierie et de Gestion du Canton de Vaud

Systèmes embarqués: un ensemble de compétences en technologies avancées

5 à 7 de l'AIT, 1er Novembre 2007 Prof. Daniel Rossier

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Let us try to answer these questions...

• What kind of **embedded system** are we talking about in our Institute?

• What are we doing at REDS in this area?

• What are the key points towards success stories?



What does embedded system mean?

Embedded OS, RTOS

Linux, Windows CE Realtime OS (RTAI/Xenomai), VxWorks, threadX, etc.

Embedded Cores

32 bits microcontroller (ARM9-based, Freescale i.MX, XScale PXA, etc.) FPGA for System-On-Chip (Altera, Xilinx, etc. with Nios, *UbiChip*, etc.)

Embedded Interfaces and Bus

Classical interfaces (miniPCI, USB, Serial UART, etc.) Wishbone, AHB, AMBA, etc.

Embedded **Devices**

Communication modules (GPS, WiFi, ZigBee, etc.) LCD, **touchscreen**, RFID, Sensors, actuators, etc.









Embedded systems is evolving fast... (Applied Research)



Back to daily business... (Development)

- Example of Project at REDS
- Project HCB (Heterogeneous Communication Box)
 - CTI/KTI Project Industrial Collaboration
 - To develop a universal multi-communication embedded system which can act as user **terminal** or **gateway**.
 - To support all popular **communication standards** (GPRS, GSM, UMTS, EDGE, HSDPA, WiFi) including GPS and other devices...
 - Hardware cryptographic support
 - Modular architecture



Heterogeneous Communication Platform





- 3 boards architecture
- GPS
- 2xWiFi, Option 5-in-1
- uC + FPGA









Configuring and sending a WiFi packet...



What are the issues?

- A success story for this kind of project can only be possible if there is a strong collaboration between people issued from different backgrounds. In this context, the collaboration between our Institutes plays a fundamental role.
 - Finding a common language to express requirements (**functionalities**), interactions between software and hardware (**compatibility**), and chipset capabilities (**constraints**)
- In the future, Embedded Systems Engineers will have to have deep knowledge in three areas: **IT**, **Hardware and Communication**





Can we answer the initial questions?

- What kind of **embedded system** are we talking about in our Institute?
 - 32-bits microcontrollers and FPGA systems
 - Embedded systems dealing with rich features chipsets and communication modules
 - Multimedia application, **realtime** control, etc.
- What are we doing at REDS in this area?
 - **Research** in the field of convergence of software and hardware
 - **Design** of boards including **FPGA design** integrating existing components
 - **Software development** for dealing with hardware (OS kernels, drivers, realtime applications, *adaptive* applications)
- What are the key points towards success stories?
 - Managing efficiently a dynamic team with **multiple competences** is a key point!
 - Make sure that software guys **understand** hardware guys and vice-versa...
 - Collaboration between Institutes is crucial! Competences are here, lets use them!



Thank You...

- REDS is a member of the Open Source Automation Development Lab
 - http://www.osadl.org

OSADL

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