

Syllabus

Designing Embedded Computing Environments

COMP 514/ ECE 514

Professor Krishna V. Palem

Introduction

The well-known Moore's Law, which states that given a fixed cost, microprocessor performance doubles approximately every 18 months, also implies that for a fixed performance, the cost of computing declines by about 35% per year. Over the past decades, this has led to a significant drift in the center of gravity of computing, from mainframes down to the personal computers. Increasingly, it is evident that this shift will move the center of gravity into computing, embedded in numerous small pervasive computers that control processes and environments. All indications are that there will be an explosion of these technologies in diverse application domains ranging across networking, industrial automation, medical electronics, bio-informatics, and practically all areas of our lives. The terms "pervasive" and "ubiquitous" have been used to describe this mode of computing.

Assuming a background in basic digital logic and programming, this course aims to introduce the students to the major advances and challenges faced by the computing end of this growing field. With a core set of knowledge and a broad overview of the embedded computing space, the students can then go on to research specific areas within this space, or engineer solutions that encompass techniques and applications from this field.

Course Prerequisites

Computer architecture, high-level programming and programming languages, operating systems, and computer algorithms

Textbooks

- Computers as Components: Principles of Embedded Computing System Design, Wayne Wolf, ISBN 1-55860-541-X (required)

Additional Reading

- Engineering a Compiler by Keith Cooper and Linda Torczon, ISBN-10: 155860698X
- Embedded Computing: A VLIW Approach to Architecture, Compilers and Tools by Joseph A. Fisher, Paolo Faraboschi, Cliff Young. ISBN-10: 1558607668
- Optimizing Compilers for Modern Architectures: A Dependence-based Approach by Randy Allen and Ken Kennedy, ISBN-10: 1558602860

Lecture Schedule

Title	Readings*
Overview & Admin	WW-ch 1, 3
Evolution of ILP	WW-ch 1, 3
ISAs	WW – ch 2 & FFY ch 3
Trimaran Introduction	Supp
EPIC- HPL-PD	Supp
Instruction Scheduling (with emphasis on VLIW)	Supp, CT ch 12 & FFY ch 8
Register Allocation	Supp & CT ch 13, FFY ch 8
Loop and Data Optimizations	Supp & KA ch5 and ch 6
Lego Mindstorms Intro	WW – ch 6 & Supp
Real-Time OS	WW - ch 6
Project Review	<i>N/A</i>
Computer Networks	WW – ch 8
VHDL	Supp & ch 4
FPGAs	Supp
HW/SW Codesign	Supp & WW – ch 9
Reconfigurable Embedded Systems	Supp
Polymorphic Computing	Supp
Architecture Synthesis/Assembly Design Space Exploration	Supp

- WW: Computers as Components: Principles of Embedded Computing System Design, Wayne Wolf, ISBN 1-55860-541-X
- CT: Engineering a Compiler by Keith Cooper and Linda Torczon, ISBN-10: 155860698X
- FFY: Embedded Computing: A VLIW Approach to Architecture, Compilers and Tools by Joseph A. Fisher, Paolo Faraboschi, Cliff Young. ISBN-10: 1558607668
- KA: Optimizing Compilers for Modern Architectures: A Dependence-based Approach by Randy Allen and Ken Kennedy, ISBN-10: 1558602860
- Supp: supplemental information i.e. web pages, tech reports/papers, online docs, etc.

Grading Policy

The breakdown of the final grade will be as follows

Labs and Homeworks	30%
Term Report and Project	50%
Final	20%

Contact Information and Office Hours

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