

# Lecture 1

## Overview of Safety-Critical Embedded Systems

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AbsInt GmbH  
2012

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### AbsInt Angewandte Informatik GmbH

- Advanced development tools for validation, verification, and certification of safety-critical software.
- Founded in February 1998 by six researchers of Saarland University, Germany, from the group of programming languages and compiler construction of Prof. R. Wilhelm.
- Privately held by the founders.
- Selected customers:



- Bachelor/Masters theses, or Hiwi positions available.



## Overview

- Daniel Kästner, Reinhard Wilhelm, Florian Martin, Jörg Herter, Sebastian Altmeyer.
- Advanced course (6CP): Fri 10-12, E1.3, HS003. 2 hours exercise.  
Goal: Working with industry tools for embedded systems development and understanding their theoretical background.
- Contents: Model-based code generation, static program analysis, task scheduling and schedulability analysis.
- Tools used:
  - **SCADE**: CASE tool for safety-critical embedded systems (avionics).
  - **aiT**: Static worst-case execution time analysis;
  - **StackAnalyzer**: static worst-case stack usage analysis;
  - **Astrée**: static runtime error analysis (avionics & automotive);
  - **Symta/S**: Task scheduling & schedulability analysis (automotive).
- Practical project with **LEGO Mindstorms**.



## Organization

- Website: <http://rw4.cs.uni-saarland.de/teaching/dses12/>
- Mailing Lists:
  - contact all lecturers and tutors: [dses12-team@gigasun.cs.uni-sb.de](mailto:dses12-team@gigasun.cs.uni-sb.de)
  - Mailing list address: [dses12@gigasun.cs.uni-sb.de](mailto:dses12@gigasun.cs.uni-sb.de)
- **Important**: send email with name, matriculation number, and tutorial date to [jherter@cdl.uni-saarland.de](mailto:jherter@cdl.uni-saarland.de)
- Exercises
  - No teams for theoretical exercises
  - First tutorial in week 43 (22.10.-26.10.)
  - Tutorial dates: tbd at end of today's lecture



## Organization

- Written examination: 22.02.2013
  - At least 50% of total exercise points
  - Successful participation in project
  - Final grade composed from examination result and potential bonus points from project.
- Project phase:
  - Teams of up to 3 students
  - Start in week 44
  - Submission & Presentation: week 6 2013



## Motivation

- Embedded systems have revolutionized **everyday life** and have become an integral part of it.
- Without embedded systems:
  - no energy supply
  - no transportation
  - scarce food supply
  - degraded medical service
  - no electronic communication
  - ...
- Market, application range and complexity of embedded systems are growing and impose new challenges.



## Motivation

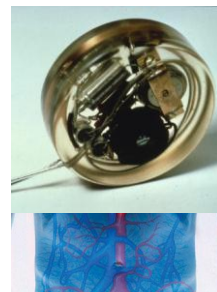
- Excellence cluster at Saarland University:  
**Multi-modal Computing and Interaction**
- Goal: develop computing systems that can interact with humans in a natural way. They should be
  - able to process different kinds of information: **speech, images, videos, graphics, ...**
  - **pervasive**: be available anytime, anywhere
  - **reactive**: analyze their environment, react to speech, text, gestures.
- Embedded systems all over.
- Selected challenges: distributed systems, real-time processing, safety.

*[Source: Press release of Saarland University Computer Science Deptmt]*



## Embedded Systems: Definition

- **Embedded systems** are
  - embedded in a **physical environment** and **interact** with it for measuring or controlling purposes.
  - Information processing systems embedded into a larger product; main reason for buying is **not** information processing.
- Characteristics of embedded systems:
  - **complex interaction** with environment
  - usually **dedicated** towards a certain application
  - typically **reactive systems**
  - high **availability and reliability** required
  - often **safety-critical**
  - often **real-time** processing required
  - often **limited resource availability**



## Application Areas of Embedded Systems

- **Avionics:** Pilot information systems, braking & steering systems, cabin pressure and air conditioning control, anti-collision systems, fly-by-wire, UAVs (unmanned airborne vehicles), ...
- **Space:** Autonomous vehicles, satellite control, ...
- **Automotive:** engine control, airbag, air-conditioning, electronic brakes, active suspension, blind-angle alert systems, adaptive cruise control, lane assistant, steer-by-wire, brake-by-wire, drive-by-wire, ...
- **Consumer electronics:** AV-R Receivers, CD-/DVD-/MP3-/bluray-players, washing machines, microwave ovens, PC peripherals,
- **Infrastructure & automation:** smart home, smart grid, roboters, ...
- **Telecommunications:** network switches, cell phones / smartphones, fax & answering machines, IPTV, ...
- **Healthcare Technology:** infusion pumps, defibrators, diagnostic imaging (CT, MRI, ...), pacemaker, artificial eye, ...



## Embedded Systems Market

- Global **market volume** for embedded systems estimated between 68 and 138 billion EUR (2009).
- German market for embedded systems is third largest behind USA and Japan; German **market volume** in 2010 estimated at 19 billion EUR.
- **Growth rates** have been stable at ~8% in the last years, also future growth rates estimated at 7-10%.
- Perceived as one of the most important **industries of the future**.
- More than 40.000 **jobs** in German embedded systems suppliers in 2008, tendency increasing. More than 250.000 jobs in embedded systems appliances (software development or integration of embedded systems).
- Sources:
  - *Nationale Roadmap Embedded Systems 2009*
  - *Bitkom-Study "Eingebettete Systeme – Ein strategisches Wachstumsfeld für Deutschland"*.

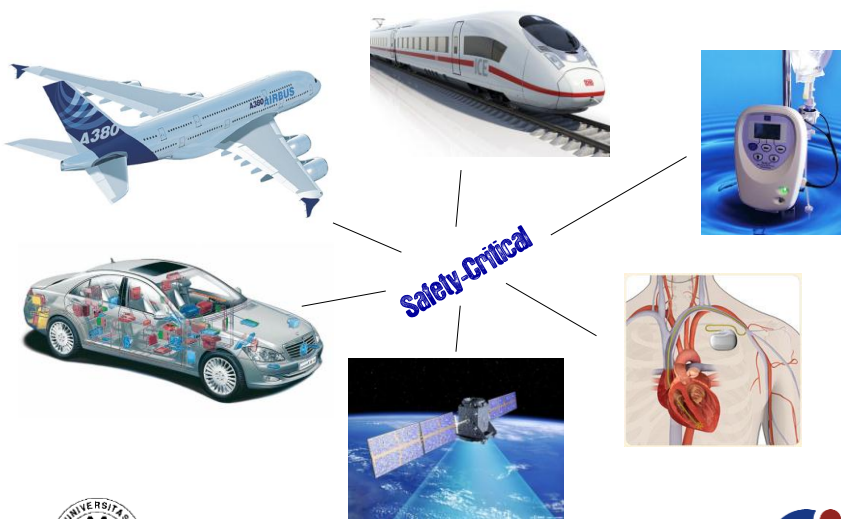


## Functional Safety

- **Safety-critical systems:** a malfunctioning of the system can cause significant damage and may endanger human beings.
- **Functional safety:** freedom from **unacceptable risk** of physical injury or of damage to the health of people either directly or indirectly (through damage to property or to the environment).
- Legal regulations require developing and verifying safety-critical systems with **due diligence**, according to the **state of the art**.
- **Safety standards** formalize the minimal processes and requirements for system development with due diligence. Non-compliance is indication for negligence in liability suits.



## Safety-Critical Embedded Systems



## Safety Standards

- Formulate requirements on **system and software development and verification** process
- Define **minimal** requirements for **state of the art**
- **Aerospace**: DO-178B/DO-178C (latest revision 2012)
- **Automotive**: ISO-26262 (latest revision 2011)
- General **E&E systems**: IEC-61508 (latest revision 2011)
- **Railway**: CENELEC EN-50128 (latest revision 2012)
- **Formal methods** and **model-based development** recognized and recommended – since about 2010 (!)



## Demonstrating Functional Safety

- Demonstrating **functional correctness**
  - Compliance to specified functional requirements
    - Automated and/or model-based testing
    - Formal techniques:
      - Model checking
      - Theorem proving
- Satisfaction of **non-functional requirements**
  - Absence of **runtime errors** (division by zero, invalid pointer accesses, overflow and rounding errors, ...)
  - Availability of sufficient resources
    - satisfying **timing** requirements (e.g. WCET, WCRT)
    - satisfying **memory** requirements (e.g. no stack overflow)
  - Testing inappropriate
    - Formal techniques:
      - **Abstract Interpretation**



## Real-Time Systems

- In a **real-time system**, the correctness not only depends on the logical results but also on the **timing** of the applications.
- Distinction:
  - **Hard** real-time system: It is **vital** that the system satisfies the timing condition. Failure results in **catastrophic** consequences, e.g. the loss of lives. Examples: flight control software, airbag control.
  - **Soft** real-time system: It is **desirable** that the system satisfies the timing conditions; otherwise the functioning of the system is negatively affected. Example: MP3-Player, telephone software.



## Dependability of Embedded Systems

- **High dependability** requirements:
  - **Reliability  $R(t)$** : probability of system working correctly provided that it was working at  $t=0$ .
  - **Maintainability  $M(d)$** : probability of system working correctly  $d$  time units after error occurred.
  - **Availability  $A(t)$** : probability of system working at time  $t$ .
  - **(Functional) Safety**: no harm to be caused
  - **Security**: confidential and authentic communication
  - Even perfectly designed systems can fail if the assumptions about the workload and possible errors turn out to be wrong. Making the system dependable must not be an after-thought, it must be considered from the very beginning.





## The Software Challenge

- From daily experience on desktop applications and other (hopefully) non-critical applications:  
**erroneous software** widely perceived as normal.
  - reset as universal fix
  - abundant patches and updates



- But:
  - software patch for pacemaker?

SC Magazine Oct 2012: [...] have reverse-engineered a pacemaker transmitter to make it possible to deliver deadly electric shocks to pacemakers within 30 feet and rewrite their firmware.  
<http://www.scmagazine.com.au/News/319508,hacked-terminals-capable-of-causing-pacemaker-mass-murder.aspx>

- Ctrl-Alt-Delete on brake controller?
- Hence: high-quality software can be developed, but requires well-structured and sound approach.



## Well-known Software Faults

- Ariane 5 – Flight 501
- Patriot missile software problem
- Airbus A-320 Flight to Warsaw 1993
- USS Yorktown incident
- Infusion pumps software problems



## Ariane 5 – Flight 501

- Ariane 5
  - Satellite launcher
  - Successor of Ariane 4 with more payload capacity and lower cost
  - Explosion on maiden flight on June, 4<sup>th</sup>, 1996.
  - Complete report: <http://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/esa-x-1819eng.pdf>
- Course of events
  - regular start, nominal behavior for 36 seconds
  - T + 36.7s: deviation from flight path, partial disintegration
  - T + 39s: self destruction by automated flight termination system
- Consequences
  - satellite loss: >370M US \$
  - launcher unavaible for more than 1 year
  - reputation of Ariane rockets severely damaged (Ariane 4 considered very reliable)



## Ariane 5 – Flight 501

- Ariane 5 Flight Control System (FCS):
  - Inertial Reference System (SRI): measures attitude of launcher and its movements in space.
    - Inertial platform: sensors, e.g., laser gyros and accelerometers.
    - Internal computer: calculates angles and velocities from sensor input
  - On-Board Computer (OBC): executes the flight program, i.e., controls actuators to follow intended trajectory.
- Hardware redundancy:
  - Two OBCs
  - Two SRIs operating in parallel, with identical hardware and software.



## Ariane 5 – Flight 501

- Detailed chain of events:
  - Disintegration caused by [angle of attack](#) of more than 20 degrees.
  - Angle was [commanded by OBC](#) on basis of data transmitted by [SRI2](#).
  - SRI2 showed a diagnostic bit pattern instead of correct attitude data because the unit had declared [a failure due to a software exception](#).
  - The OBC could not switch to [SRI1](#), because that unit [had already ceased to function](#) during the previous data cycle (72 milliseconds period) for the [same reason](#) as SRI2.
  - The internal SRI software exception was caused by an [overflow](#) during execution of a data conversion from 64-bit floating point to 16-bit signed integer value.
    - 64-bit floating point numbers in interval  $[-3.6 \cdot 10^{308}, 3.6 \cdot 10^{308}]$
    - 16-bit signed integers in interval  $[-32768, 32767]$
  - The unexpected high value occurred in the Horizontal Bias, BH, related to the [horizontal velocity sensor input](#).



## Ariane 5 – Flight 501

- Detailed chain of events (c'ed):
  - The error occurred in the [alignment software reused](#) from the Ariane 4 launcher. The value of BH was much higher than expected because Ariane 5 could reach considerably higher horizontal velocity values than Ariane 4.
  - The execution of the [alignment software is not required after lift-off](#); it was introduced on Ariane-4 to avoid restarting the alignment (45 min) after a hold in the count-down.
  - This requirement does not apply to Ariane 5, which has a different preparation sequence; it was maintained for commonality reasons (don't change software which worked well on Ariane 4) although it [served no purpose](#).



## The Patriot Missile Software Problem

- Patriot: Surface-to-air defense missile system used, e.g. during Operation Desert Storm in the Gulf War in the early 1990's.
- On the night of the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, 1991, a Patriot missile system operating in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, **failed to track and intercept an incoming Scud**. The Iraqi missile impacted into an army barracks, killing 28 U.S. soldiers and injuring another 98.
- The cause of the missile system failing to defend against the incoming Scud was traced back to a **bug** in Patriot's radar and **tracking software**.
- Full Report at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/220/215614.pdf>



## The Patriot Missile Software Problem

- The bug occurs in the **calculation of the next location** of the incoming target. The prediction is calculated based on the target's velocity and the time of the last radar detection.
  - **Velocity** is **stored** as a **whole number** and a decimal.
  - **Time** is a continuous integer or **whole number** measured in tenths of a second.
  - The algorithm used to predict the next air space to scan by the radar requires that both velocity and time be expressed as **real numbers**.
  - The Patriot's computer only has 24-bit **fixed-point** registers.
  - The value 1/10 used to count tenth seconds has a non-terminating binary expansion and was **chopped** at 24 bits after the radix point.



## Fixed-Point Numbers

- The base- $b$  representation is extended by a **radix point** and a number of **fractional bits**. With **two's complement** notation:

$$z = z_{n-1} \dots z_0 \cdot z_{-1} \dots z_{-m}$$

$$:= -z_{n-1}b^{n-1} + \dots + z_0 b^0 + z_{-1}b^{-1} + \dots + z_{-m}b^{-m}$$

- Representable numbers for  $b = 2$  :  
 $-2^{n-1}, -2^{n-1} + 2^{-m}, \dots, 2^{n-1} - 2^{-m}$
- Some binary numbers with  $n = 9, m = 23$  (Q8.23 format):

Number (decimal)	Bit representation
0	00000000.000000000000000000000000
0.5	00000000.100000000000000000000000
-0.5	11111111.100000000000000000000000
-255.25	10000000.110000000000000000000000



## The Patriot Missile Software Problem

- $\frac{1}{10}$  has a **non-terminating** binary representation. Using fixed-point numbers with 23 bits after the radix point causes the value to be **truncated**:

$$\frac{1}{10} = 0.0001100110011001100110011001100110\dots$$

$$\approx 0.00011001100110011001100$$

- The **rounding error** is  $0.000000095_{10}$ .
- The error in precision grows as the time value increases.
- After 100 consecutive hours in continuous operation the resulting inaccuracy was roughly 0.34 seconds:  
 $100 * 60 * 60 * 10 * 0.000000095_{10} \approx 0.34$
- The Scud travels at roughly 1.7km/sec.
- The computed target location was **more than half a kilometer** away from the missile.



## Airbus A-320 Flight to Warsaw 1993

- Landing in Warsaw:
  - Bad weather conditions (rain, wind, wet runway)
  - Aquaplaning on touchdown at 300 km/h
  - **Delayed operation of braking system**
  - The aircraft departed the runway at a speed of 133 km/h and rolled 90 m before it hit the embankment and another airplane, causing a fire in the passenger cabin.
- Consequences
  - 2 dead, 56 injured (from 70 occupants)
  - Complete destruction of aircraft
- Complete report at  
<http://www.rvs.uni-bielefeld.de/publications/Incidents/DOCS/ComAndRep/Warsaw/warsaw-report.html>



## Airbus A-320 Flight to Warsaw 1993

- Principle cause of crash:
  - weather conditions were not correctly evaluated by flight crew
  - incorrect decision of flight crew: abandonment of landing and go around was necessary
- Secondary cause: significant **delay of braking systems**

Time	Distance from THR11*	Situation
T0	770m	RLG on ground
T0+3	1030m	NLG on ground, braking command issued (reverser levels full)
T0+6s	1525m	LLG on ground
T0+12s	1680m	spoilers fully deployed
T0+14s	1800m	full reversers achieved
T0+31s	2700m	end of runway

\*beginning of runway



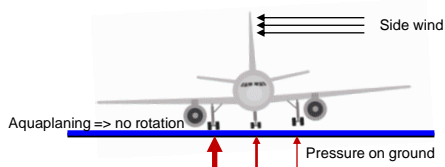
## Airbus A-320 Flight to Warsaw 1993

- Software design considerations:
  - Prevent activating braking system in mid-air
    - **spoilers**: high aerodynamic forces
    - **thrust reversal**: danger of in-flight destruction (example: accident of a 767-300 ER Lauda Air, 1991, 223 casualties).
- Specification:
  - activate spoilers and reversers **only if**
    - throttle is at minimum
    - **AND** one of the following conditions:
      - **EITHER** pressure of more than 6t on left and right landing gears
      - **OR** wheel rotation at speed above 130 km/h at both main landing gears



## Airbus A-320 Flight to Warsaw 1993

- Conditions at landing:



- Spoilers / reversers: **inhibited**
  - not enough pressure on left main landing gear (side wind)
  - insufficient wheel rotation speed
- Consequence: **change of specification**; new condition:  
 $P_{left} + P_{right} \geq P_{min}$



## USS Yorktown Incident

- USS Yorktown was a cruiser in the United States Navy from 1984 to 2004.
- On 21 September 1997, while on maneuvers off the coast of Cape Charles, Virginia, a crew member entered a zero into a database field causing a **divide by zero error** in the ship's Remote Data Base Manager which brought down all the machines on the network, causing the ship's **propulsion system to fail**.
- According to witness reports (revoked later) *Yorktown* had to be **towed back** to Norfolk Naval Station.



## Infusion Pumps Software Problems

- External **infusion pumps** are medical devices that deliver fluids, including nutrients and medications, into a patient's body in a controlled manner.
- From 2005 through 2009, FDA received approximately **56,000 reports** of **adverse events** associated with the use of infusion pumps, including **numerous injuries** and **deaths**.
- From 2005 through 2009, **87 infusion pump recalls** were conducted by firms to address identified safety problems.
- Many of the problems that have been reported are related to **software malfunctions**. Examples:
  - failure to activate alarm when problems occur
  - activated alarm in the absence of a problem
  - **over- or under-infusion**.
- Source: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Devices and Radiological Health. *White Paper: Infusion Pump Improvement Initiative, 2010.*



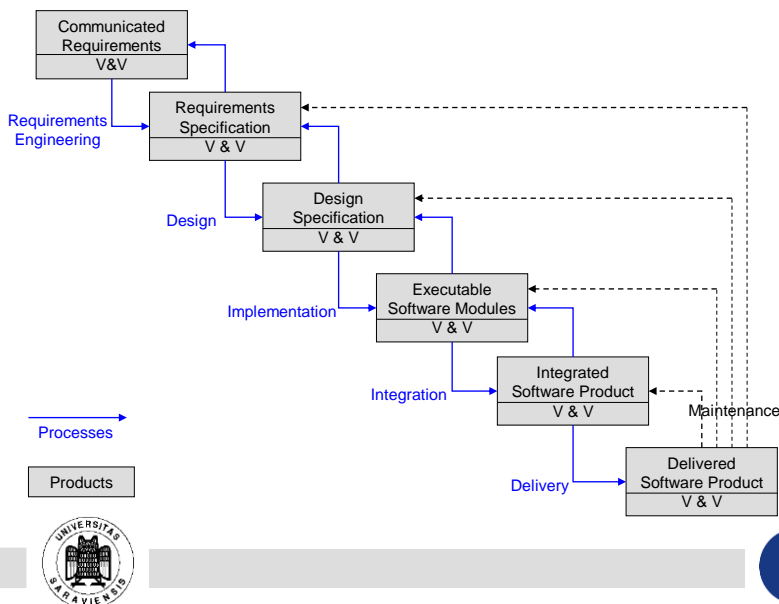


# Software Development

- Waterfall model
  - Classic software life cycle model; until early 1980s the only widely accepted life cycle model.
  - Represents the software life cycle using processes and products.
  - Each process transforms a product to produce a new product as output. Then the new product becomes the input of the next process.
  - Important characteristics: processes are iterative.
- V-Model
  - Regulates “who”, “when”, “what” in a software development project.
  - Development standard for IT systems of the German Federation for the entire civil and military area.
  - Basics: hierarchical decomposition of system into smaller parts until realization becomes possible.
  - Verification and validation is done [on each construction stage](#).
  - [No strict temporal ordering](#) imposed.



## Waterfall Model

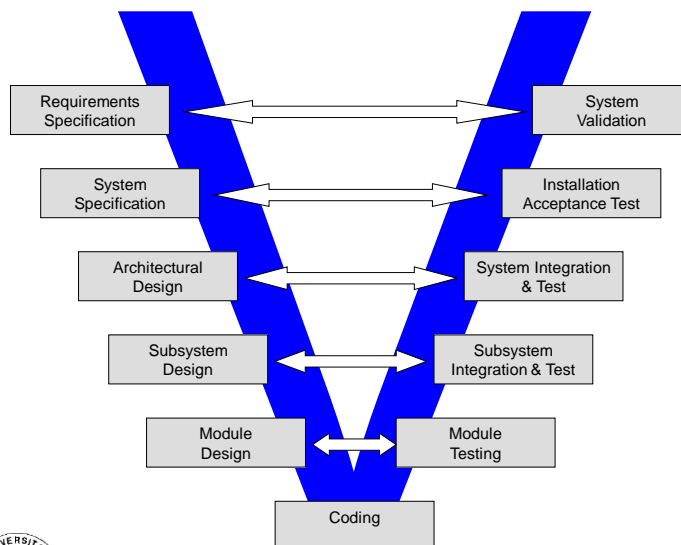


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## V-Model



## Safety Standards – Avionics

- **DO-178B** Standard: guidelines for the production of software for airborne systems and equipment.
  - Development assurance levels:
    - **A**: catastrophic failure condition for the aircraft (e.g. aircraft crash)
    - **B**: Hazardous/severe failure condition for the aircraft (e.g. injured persons)
    - **C**: Major failure condition for the aircraft (e.g. flight management system down => manual operation by pilot)
    - **D**: Minor failure condition for aircraft (e.g. pilot-ground communications down)
    - **E**: No effect on aircraft operation or pilot workload (e.g. entertainment system down)

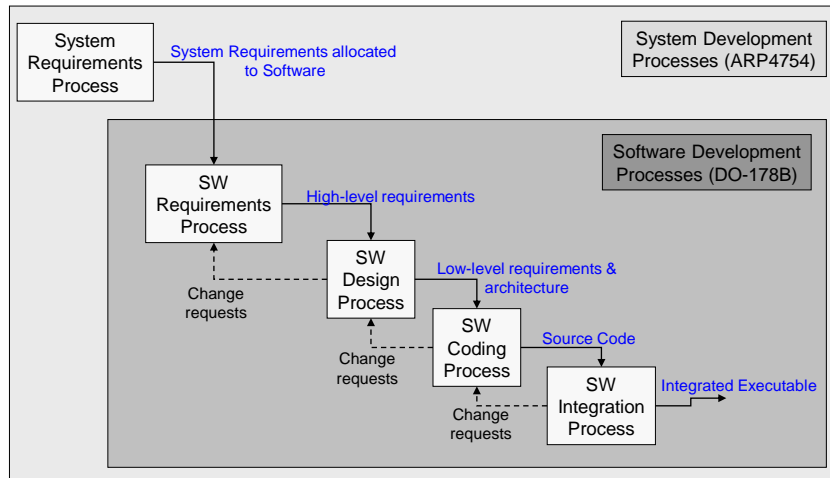


## DO-178B Standard

- Essence: formulation of appropriate **objectives/requirements** and **verification** that these objectives have been achieved. The ways of achieving an objective may vary.
- Purpose: **detect and report errors** that may have been introduced during the software development process.
- Important: All requirements have to be **verifiable** and must be **compliant** with the requirements of other stages.
- **Testing** is part of the verification process, but **reviews** and **analyses** are also required. Analyses should be reproducible.



## DO-178B Development Process



## DO-178B Verification Process

- Reviews and Analyses of the **High-Level** Requirements:
  - Algorithm accuracy
- Reviews and Analyses of the **Low-Level** Requirements:
  - **Compatibility with target computer**: no conflict between software requirements and hardware/software features of the target computer, e.g. system response times, input/output hardware
- Reviews and analyses of the **source code**:
  - **Verifiability**: the source code does not contain statements and structures that cannot be verified and the code does not have to be altered to test it.
  - **Accuracy** and **consistency**: stack usage, resource contention, worst-case execution timing, exception handling, use of non-initialized variables or constants.



## DO-178C

- Revision of DO-178B to bring it up to date with current software development and verification techniques, published in 2012.
  - **model-based software development**
  - object-oriented software
  - **use and qualification of software tools** and
  - the use of **formal methods** to complement or replace dynamic testing
    - theorem proving
    - model checking
    - abstract interpretation



## Development of Avionics Software

- Airbus A340 contains 115 digital units and 20 MB onboard software.
- Development of **safety-critical avionics software** is very expensive:
  - Avg development and test of 10 KLOC **level B** software is 16 person-years
  - Cost of minor bug is \$100K-\$500K
  - Cost of major bug is \$1M-\$500M
  - Time-to-market 3-4 years
  - For Level A software, the overall **verification cost** (including testing) may account for **up to 80%** of the budget



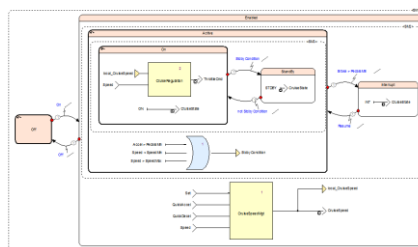
## Why so expensive?

- Multiple descriptions:
  - At each level software is **rewritten** into another form – traditionally by hand => expensive and error-prone.
- **Ambiguity** and **lack of accuracy** of specifications.
- **Manual** coding
- **Late detection** of specification and design errors

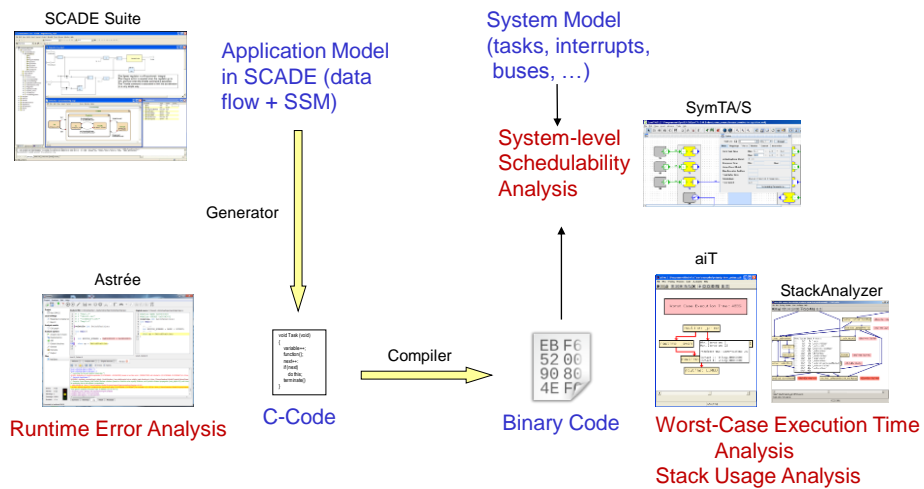


## Model-based Software Development

- Application graphically specified by data flow diagrams and/or finite state machines
- **Model is software specification and has executable semantics**
- **Automated & integrated development tools:**
  - automatic target code generation (typically C code)
  - automatic simulation
  - formal verification at model level
  - model-based testing
- Examples: Esterel SCADE, Matlab/Simulink + dSPACE TargetLink
- **BUT: Higher level of abstraction** than with programming in C.
  - timing? memory consumption? runtime errors? system integration?



# Model-based Software Development



## Contents of Lecture

- SCADE: Data flow kernel (textual representation)
- Basic Automata Theory
- SCADE: SyncCharts / Safe State Machines (SSM)
- Abstract Interpretation: basics & theory, applications to runtime errors, worst-case execution time, stack usage.
- Scheduling & Schedulability Analysis



## Lego Mindstorms NXT

- A brief overview of the NXT hardware based on information from LEGO. The LEGO Mindstorm NXT consists of following items:
  - **NXT brick**
    - CPU: 32-bit ARM7 micro controller @ 48 MHz
    - Co-Processor: 8-bit AVR micro controller @ 4 MHz
    - 4 input ports / 3 output ports
    - 100 x 64 pixel LCD display
    - USB 2.0 and Bluetooth support
    - Speaker
  - **Sensors**
    - Ultrasonic sensor
    - Touch sensor
    - Sound sensor
    - Light sensor
  - **Motors**
    - 3 motors with integrated rotation sensors



## Practical Project

- **Aim:** program a Mindstorm robot to
  - automatically drive to a light source
  - avoid obstacles along the way
  - be controllable by clapping
- **Organization**
  - Groups of 2 to 3 students
  - Several Milestones over the whole semester:
    - Milestone 1 (week 48): Specification as SyncChart
    - Milestone 2 (week 51): Implementation using Scade
    - Milestone 3 (week 5): Timing and stack usage validation with aiT/StackAnalyzer





# Tutorials

- Gruppe A (Hahn)
- Fr, 12-14
- Mo, 10-12
  
- Gruppe B (Haupenthal)
- Mi, 10-12
- Mi, 12-14
- Do, 10-12

