Hardware Integration testing at **Embedded Electronics** Challenges, Tasks, and Solutions



Het ontwerpen van innovatieve elektronica

Woensdag 20 maart 2024 1931 Congrescentrum 's-Hertogenbosch



D&E

EVENT





Agenda

- Challenges
 - Interoperability
 - Power Management / Power & Signal Integrity
 - Thermal & Mechanical Integration
- Testing Tasks & Solutions
 - Core Testing & Verification
 - Timing & Synchronisation
 - Fault injection tests







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Functional Blocks of an Embedded System



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Challenge: Interoperability

Target: Communicate, exchange data, and work together seamlessly.

> Between engineering teams, system intern, extern to the environment

- Locally separated teams (globally, home office, office)
- Specialized teams (RF, digital, analog, power,..)
- Interface definition (intern and extern)

Communication ProtocolsVoltage Levels







Challenge: Power Management

Target: stable, efficient and sufficient power supply

- Many different voltage levels are needed. The requirements are quite different (low volt, high current, high dynamic, low ripple, ...)
- Different building blocks require separate PSU







Challenge: Power & Signal Integrity

Target: high quality power supply & clean signal transmission

- Power supply quality is crucial for functionality and reliability
- To maintain proper digital communication and wireless communication requires focusing on Signal integrity
- Power integrity impacts Signal Integrity and vice versa



Challenge: Thermal & Mechanical Integration

Target: the optimum packaging solution

- Right thermal concept (air flow, space, head dissipation,...)
- Mechanical integration for water, dust, mechanical protection
- The use-case often defines the limits (wearable vs. industrial)
- Cost!















- Simulation Optimization & Verification
 - Component testing (connectors, transmission lines,)
- Tools: VNA / Component tester / LCR-Meter

Example: MLCC

Data sheet values don't cover every use case





- Power stability
 - No Oscillation
 - Right power levels
 - Stability over time





- Tools: Oscilloscope / Bode Plot / Data logger / Multimeter
- Functional Testing
 - Input check, output check, Sensor emulation, ...
- Tools: Multimeter / Oscilloscope / Arb. Function Generator





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- Power Integrity testing
 - Quality of Supply (static & dynamic)
- Tools: Oscilloscope & Probes / Load / VNA

Concept of design for Target Impedance









Load Step Response





- Signal Integrity testing
 - Digital communication lines / RF communication
- Tools: VNA / Oscilloscope / Signal Analyzer / Spectrum Analyzer
- Compliance testing (DDR, USB, Ethernet)





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- Compliance testing (DDR, USB, Ethernet)
 - Are communications within Standards
- Tools: Oscilloscope, Arb. Func. Generators / VNA







Timing & Synchronization

- Clock verification (Jitter)
- Digital communication -> actors
- Sensor -> data processing -> reaction
- RF output
 - Make sure the different parts work seamlessly together
- Tools: Oscilloscopes / Logic Analyzer / RF-Analyzer





Fault Injection Test

- Overlay input signals with noise and disturbances
- Worsen internal communication lines
- Voltage level change (up / down)
 - → Evaluate working boundaries, limits, reliability
- Tools: Noise- & Signal Generators / Analyzers





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Don't miss to visit our booth – number 22.

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