



# SRI MUTHUKUMARAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

(Approved by AICTE, Accredited by NBA and Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai)

Chikkarayapuram (Near Mangadu), Chennai- 600 069.

## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

YEAR/SEM: IV/VII

SUBJECT CODE & NAME: EC 8791 – EMBEDDED AND REAL TIME SYSTEMS

### UNITI:-INTRODUCTION TO EMBEDDED SYSTEM DESIGN

#### PART – A

#### 1. What is an embedded computer system? (Nov/Dec-2012)

It is defined as any device that includes a programmable computer but is not itself intended to be general-purpose computer. Thus, a PC is not itself an embedded computing system. But a fax machine or a clock built from a microprocessor is an embedded computing system.

#### 2. Why a programmable CPU is used rather than a hardwired unit?

A programmable CPU is used rather than a hardwired unit for two reasons: first, it made the system easier to design and debug; and second, it allowed the possibility of upgrades and using the CPU for other purposes.

#### 3. List the characteristics of embedded computing applications. (Nov/Dec-2013)

The characteristics of embedded computing applications are,

- Complex algorithms
- User interface
- Real time
- Multirate
- Manufacturing cost
- Power and energy

#### 4. Why use microprocessors?

There are two reasons for using microprocessors in embedded computing applications.

- Microprocessors are very efficient way to implement digital systems.
- Microprocessors make it easier to design families of products that can be built to provide various feature sets at different price points and can

be extended to provide new features to keep up with rapidly changing markets.

**5. Why not use PCs for all embedded computing? How many different hardware platforms do we need for embedded computing systems?**

PCs are widely used and provide a very flexible programming environment. Components of PCs are, in fact, used in many embedded computing systems. But several factors keep us from using the stock PC as the universal embedded computing platform.

**6. Define Cyber-physical systems. (Nov/Dec-2013)**

A cyber-physical system is one that combines physical devices, known as the plant, with computers that control the plant. The embedded computer is the cyber-part of the cyber-physical system. We can, in general, make certain trade-offs between the design of the control of the plant and the computational system that implements that control.

**7. List the challenges in embedded computing system design.**

The important problems that must be taken into account in embedded system design are,

- How much hardware do we need?
- How do we meet deadlines?
- How do we minimize power consumption?
- How do we design for upgradeability?
- Does it really work?

**8. What are the ways in which the nature of embedded computing machines makes their design more difficult? (Apr-2014)**

The nature of embedded computing machines makes their design more difficult in some ways. That are,

- Complex testing
- Limited observability and controllability
- Restricted development environments

**9. What are the applications of an embedded system?**

- Consumer electronics, e.g., cameras, camcorders, etc.,
- Consumer products, e.g., washers, microwave ovens, etc.,
- Automobiles (anti-lock braking, engine control, etc.,)
- Industrial process controllers & avionics/defense applications
- Computer/Communication products, e.g., printers, FAX machines, etc.

**10. What are the objectives of embedded system design process?**

There are two objectives for embedded system design process, that are,

- It will give us an introduction to the various steps in embedded system design before we delve into them in more detail.
- It will allow us to consider the design methodology itself.

**11. Why the design methodology is so important? (Nov/Dec-2012)**

A design methodology is important for three reasons,

- It allows us to keep a scorecard on a design to ensure that we have done everything we need to do, such as optimizing performance or performing functional tests.
- It allows us to develop computer-aided design tools.
- A design methodology makes it much easier for members of a design team to communicate.

**12. What are the major level of abstraction in the design process?**

The major level of abstraction in the Top-down design are,

- Requirements
- Specification
- Architecture
- Components
- System integration

The major level of abstraction in the Bottom-up design are,

- System integration
- Components
- Architecture
- Specification
- Requirements

**13. What are all the major goals and the tasks we need to perform at every steps in the design process?**

Goals:

- Manufacturing cost
- Performance

Tasks at every steps:

- We must analyze the design at each step to determine how we can meet the specifications.
- We must then refine the design to add detail.
- We must verify the design to ensure that it still meets all system goals, such as cost, speed, and so on.

**14. What are all the non-functional requirements in embedded system design process? (Nov/Dec-2013)**

The typical non-functional requirements includes,

- Performance
- Cost
- Physical size and weight
- Power consumption

**15. List out the entries in the requirements form as a check list.**

The entries in the requirement form are,

- Purpose
- Inputs
- Outputs
- Functions
- Performance
- Manufacturing cost
- Power
- Physical size and weight

**16. Define Unified Modeling Language (UML).**

The UML is an Object-Oriented modeling language. Object-oriented design emphasizes two concepts of importance:

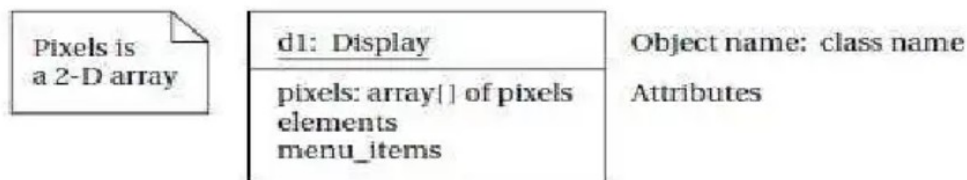
- It encourages the design to be described as a number of interaction objects, rather than a few large monolithic blocks of code.
- At least some of the objects will corresponds to real pieces of software or hardware in the system.

**17. Give the steps in embedded system design process methodologies ?**

- Requirements
- Specifications
- Architecture
- Components
- System integration

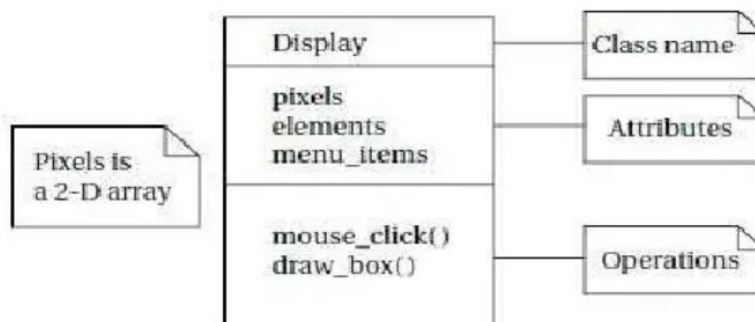
**18. Figure an object describing a display in UML notation. (Nov/Dec-2014)**

An object in UML notation



**19. Figure out A class in UML notation.**

An object in UML notation.



## 20. What are the types of relationships that can exist between objects and classes?

The types of relationships that can exist between objects and classes

- **Association** occurs between objects that communicate with each other but have no ownership relationship between them.
- **Aggregation** describes a complex object made of smaller objects.
- **Composition** is a type of aggregation in which the owner does not allow access to the component objects.
- **Generalization** allows us to define one class in terms of another.

## 21. What are the design metrics?

- Power
- Size
- NRE cost
- Performance

## 22. Give some examples for sophisticated embedded systems

- Embedded system for wireless LAN
- Embedded systems for real time video
- Security products
- ES for space lifeboat.

## 23. List the difference between soft and hard real time systems.

- **HardReal–timesystems:**Inthissystems,missingadeadlinemayleadtoacatastrophe(loss).  
[Missingdeadlinecauses failure.]
- **SoftReal–timesystems:**Inthesesystems,meetingthedeadlinesisimportantbutmissingthedeadlinewillnotlead to a catastrophe.[missingdeadlineresults in degraded performance]

24.

## What are all the major hardware components included in a typical computing platform?

- CPU: provides basic computational facility
- RAM: used for program and data storage.
- ROM: holds the boot program and some permanent data.
- DMA controller: provides direct memory access capabilities.
- Timers: used by the operating system for variety of purpose.
- High speed bus: connect to the CPU bus through a bridge, allows fast devices to communicate efficiently with the rest of the system.
- Low speed bus: provides an inexpensive way to connect simpler devices and may be necessary for backward compatibility as well.

25.

## Define CPU bus. (Nov/Dec-2014)

The bus is the mechanism by which the CPU communicates with memory and devices. A bus is, at a minimum, collection of wires but it also defines a protocol by which the CPU, memory, and devices communicate. One of the major roles of the bus is to provide an interface to memory.

## PART -B

1.Explain about the embedded system design process with suitable diagrams.

### THE EMBEDDED SYSTEM DESIGN PROCESS:

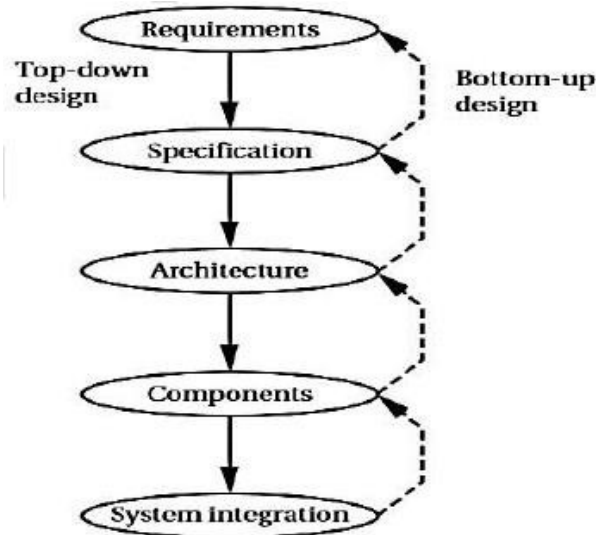


Fig1.2Major levels of abstraction in the design process

Embedded system design process has two objectives.

- Introduction to the various steps in embedded system design before developed in detailed design
- Design methodology

A design methodology is important for following reasons.

- > Design to ensure that we have done everything we need to do.
- > Develop computer-aided design tools.
- > Make it much easier for members of a design team to communicate.

There are five major levels of embedded system design process. Before going to design a system the designers need to fulfil the needs to design such a system. They are

### REQUIREMENTS:

- **First**, the designer must gather an informal description from the customer it is known as requirements.
- **Second**, then the designer must know what we are designing and then to refine the requirement into specification and to begin to designing the system architecture.
- Requirements may be functional or non-functional, we must of course capture the basic functions of the embedded system, but functional description is often not sufficient.

Typical non-functional requirements include:

### *Performance:*

- The speed of the system is often a major consideration both for the usability of the system and for its ultimate cost.
- Performance may be a combination of soft performance metrics such as approximate time to perform a user-level function and hard deadlines by which a particular operation must be completed.

### *Cost:*

- The target cost or purchase price for the system is almost always a consideration. Cost typically has two major components:
  - Manufacturing cost includes the cost of components and assembly;
  - Nonrecurring engineering (NRE) costs include the personnel and other costs of designing the system.

### *Physical size and weight:*

- The physical aspects of the final system can vary greatly depending upon the application.
- An industrial control system for an assembly line may be designed to fit into a standard-size rack with no strict limitations on weight.
- A handheld device typically has tight requirements on both size and weight that can ripple through the entire system design.

### *Power consumption:*

- Power, of course, is important in battery-powered systems and is often important in other applications as well.
- Power can be specified in the requirements stage in terms of battery life.

Now we will list some requirements form collected from the user at the start of the project.

1. Name
2. Purpose
3. Inputs
4. Outputs
5. Functions
6. Performance
7. Manufacturing cost
8. Power
9. Physical size and weight

### *SPECIFICATION:*

- The specification is more precise - it serves as the **contract between the customer and the architects**. It must be carefully written so that **it accurately reflects the customer's requirements**.
- Specification is essential to **creating working systems with a minimum of design effort**.
- The specification will **guide the designers what to build when it build**.
- The specifications should be **understandable enough so that someone can verify that it meets system requirements and overall expectations of the customer**.

### ARCHITECTURE DESIGN:

- The specification **does not say how the system does things, only what the system does.**
- **The architecture is a plan for the overall structure of the system that will be used later to design the components that make up the architecture.**
- The **creation of the architecture** is the **first phase** of what many designers think of as design.
- The architecture in the form of a **block diagram** that shows major operations and data flows among them.
- This block diagram is still quite abstract - **we have not yet specified which operations will be performed by software running on a CPU, what will be done by special-purpose hardware**, and soon.
- Architectural descriptions must be designed to **satisfy both functional and non-functional requirements.**
- Not only must all the required functions be present, but we must meet **cost, speed, power, and other non-functional constraints.**
- Starting out with a system architecture and refining that to **hardware and software architectures** is one good way to ensure that we meet all specifications.
- We can concentrate on the functional elements in the system block diagram, and then consider the non-functional constraints when creating the hardware and software architectures.

### DESIGNING HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE COMPONENTS:

- The component design effort **builds those components in conformance to the architecture and specification.**
- The components will in general include both **hardware like FPGAs, boards, and soon and software modules.**
- Some of the components will be ready-made.
- The **CPU**, for example, will be a standard component in almost all cases, as well as memory chips and many other components.

### SYSTEM INTEGRATION:

- **Only after the components are built do we have the satisfaction of putting them together and seeing a working system.**
- This phase usually consists of a lot more than just **plugging everything together and standing back.**
- **Bugs** are typically found **during system integration**, and **good planning** can help us **find the bugs** quickly.
- By building up the system in phases and running properly chosen tests, we can often find bugs more easily.
- System integration is **difficult** because it **usually uncovers problems.**
  - *It is often hard to observe the system in sufficient detail to determine exactly what is wrong.*
- The **debugging facilities** for embedded systems are usually much more **limited** than what you would find on desktop systems.



## 2. Analyse the requirements for designing a GPS moving map in embedded system design process.

### Requirements analysis of a GPS moving map:

- The moving map is a handheld device that displays for the user a map of the terrain around the user's current position; the map display changes as the user and the map device change position.
- The moving map obtains its position from the GPS, a satellite-based navigation system.
- The moving map display might look something like the following functions.

**Functionality:** This system is designed for highway driving and similar uses, not nautical or aviation uses that require more specialized databases and functions. The system should show major roads and other landmarks available in standard topographic databases.

**User interface:** The screen should have at least 400 x 600 pixel resolution. The device should be controlled by no more than three buttons. A menu system should pop up on the screen when buttons are pressed to allow the user to make selections to control the system.

**Performance:** The map should scroll smoothly. Upon power-up, a display should take no more than one second to appear, and the system should be able to verify its position and display the current map within 15 s.

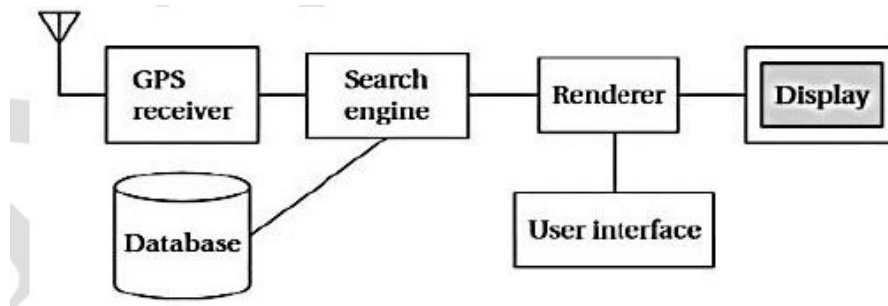
**Cost:** The selling cost (street price) of the unit should be no more than \$100.

**Physical size and weight:** The devices should fit comfortably in the palm of the hand.

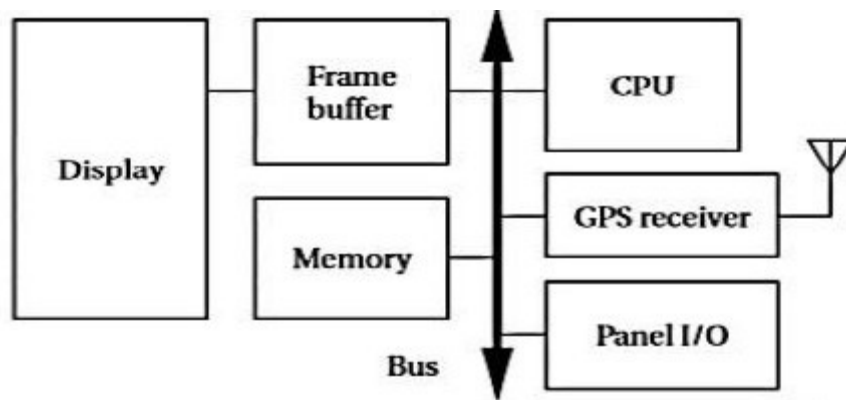
**Power consumption:** The devices should run for at least eight hours on four AA batteries.

Based on this discussion, let's write a requirements chart for our moving map system:

Name	GPS moving map
Purpose	Consumer-grade moving map for driving use
Inputs	Power button, two control buttons
Outputs	Back-lit LCD display 400x600
Functions	Uses 5-receiver GPS system; three user-selectable resolutions; always displays current latitude and longitude
Performance	Update screen within 0.25 seconds upon movement
Manufacturing cost	\$30
Power	100mW
Physical size and weight	No more than 2"x6," 12 ounces



*Fig1.3 Block diagram for the moving map*



**Fig1.3.1 Hardware architecture for the moving map**

A specification of the GPS system would include several components:

- Data received from the GPS satellite constellation.
- Map data.
- User interface.
- Operations that must be performed to satisfy customer requests.
- Background actions required to keep the system running, such as operating the GPS receiver.

- The GPS is a good example of a specialized component in almost that will nonetheless be pre-designed, standard component.
- We can also make use of standard software modules one good example is that topographic database.

### **FORMALISMS FOR SYSTEM DESIGN:**

- There is a visual language that can be used to capture all these design tasks known as Unified Modeling Language (UML).
- UML was designed to be useful at many levels of abstraction in the design process.
- UML is useful because it encourages design by successive refinement and progressively adding detail to the design, rather than rethinking the design at each new level of abstraction.
- UML is an object-oriented modelling language.
- Object-oriented design emphasizes two concepts of importance:
  - It encourages the design to be described as a number of interacting objects, rather than a few large monolithic blocks of code.
  - Objects will correspond to real pieces of software or hardware in the system.

Object-oriented (often abbreviated OO) specification can be seen in two complementary ways:

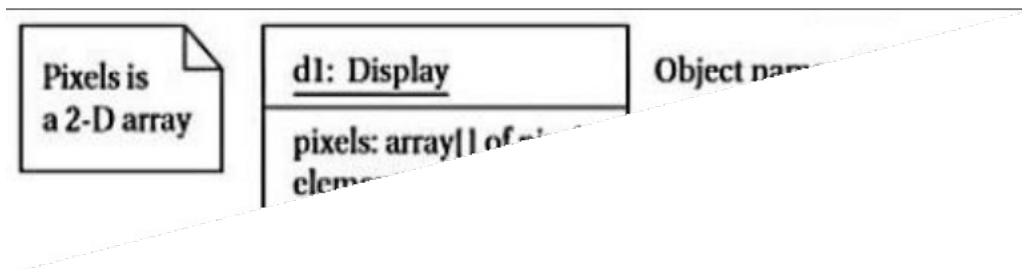
- Object-oriented specification allows a system to be described in a way that closely models real-world objects and their interactions.
- Object-oriented specification provides a basic set of primitives that can be used to describe systems with particular attributes, irrespective of the relationships of those systems components to real-world objects.

The relationship between an object-oriented specification and an object-oriented programming language is a specification language may not be executable.

- But both languages provide similar basic methods for structuring large systems.
- UML is a large and rich, there are many graphical elements in a UML diagram.
- It is important to be careful to use the correct drawing to describe something for instance; UML distinguishes between arrows with open and filled-in arrowheads, and solid and broken lines.

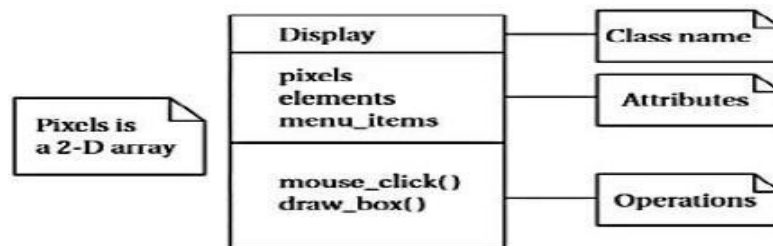
#### *Structural Description:*

- Structural description, gives basic components of the system and designer can learn how to describe how these components.
- The principal component of an object-oriented design is, the object.
- An object includes a set of attributes that define its internal state.
- An object describing a display is shown in UML notation in Figure 1.4.



*Fig1.4 An object in UML notation*

- The object is identified in two ways: It has a unique name, and it is a member of a class. The name is underlined to show that this is a description of an object and not of a class.
- A class is a form of type definition. All objects derived from the same class have the same characteristics, although their attributes may have different values.
- A class defines the attributes that an object may have.
- It also defines the operations that determine how the object interacts with the rest of the world.
- The UML description of the Display class is shown in Figure 1.4.1.
- A class defines both the interface for a particular type of object and that object's implementation.
- When we use an object, we do not directly manipulate its attributes; we can only read or modify the object's state through the operations that define the interface to the object.
- The choice of an interface is a very important decision in object-oriented design.
- The proper interface must provide ways to access the object's state as well as ways to update the state.



*Fig1.4.1 A class in UML notation*

- There are several types of relationships that can exist between objects and classes:

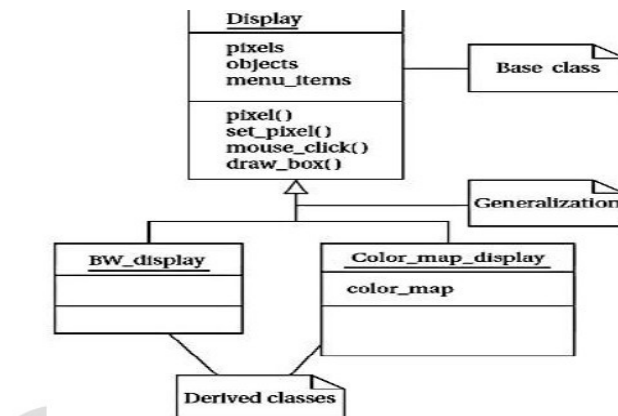
**Association** occurs between objects that communicate with each other but have no ownership relationship between them.

**Aggregation** describes a complex object made of smaller objects.

**Composition** is a type of aggregation in which the owner does not allow access to the component objects.

**Generalization** allows us to define one class in terms of another.

- The elements of a UML class or object do not necessarily directly correspond to statements in a programming language, if the UML is intended to describe something more abstract than a program, there may be a significant gap between the contents of the UML and a program implementing it.
- An attribute is some value that reflects the current state of the object.
- The behaviours of the object must be in a higher-level specification, and contains basic things that can be done with an object.
- Like most object-oriented languages, UML also allows us to define one class in terms of another.
- A derived class inherits all the attributes and operations from its base class.
- A derived class is defined to include all the attributes of its base class.

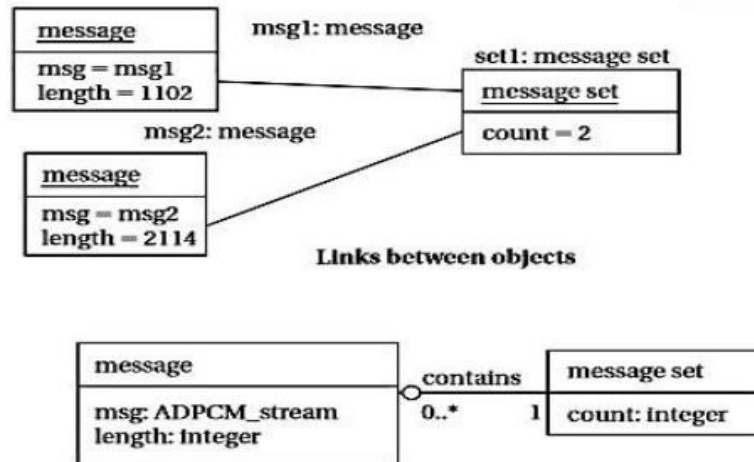


*Fig 1.4.2 Derived classes as a form of generalization in UML.*

From our example, `Display` is the base class and `BW_display` and `Color_map_display` are the two derived classes.

- Here `BW_display` represents black and white display, now we can draw the diagram for base and derived classes.

*Inheritance:*



*Fig1.4.3 Association between classes*

Unified Modeling Language considers inheritance to be one form of generalization.

- A generalization relationship is shown in a UML diagram as an arrow with an open (unfilled) arrowhead as shown in fig 1.4.3.
- Both `BW_display` and `Color_map_display` are specific versions of `Display`. UML also allows us to define multiple inheritance.
- Multiple inheritance means which a class is derived from more than one base class.
- A link describes a relationship between objects; association is a link as class to object.
- Link used to make objects to stand alone and association capture type information about these links.

### BehavioralDescription:

- We have to specify the behavior of the system as well as its structure. One way to specify the behavior of an operation is a state machine.

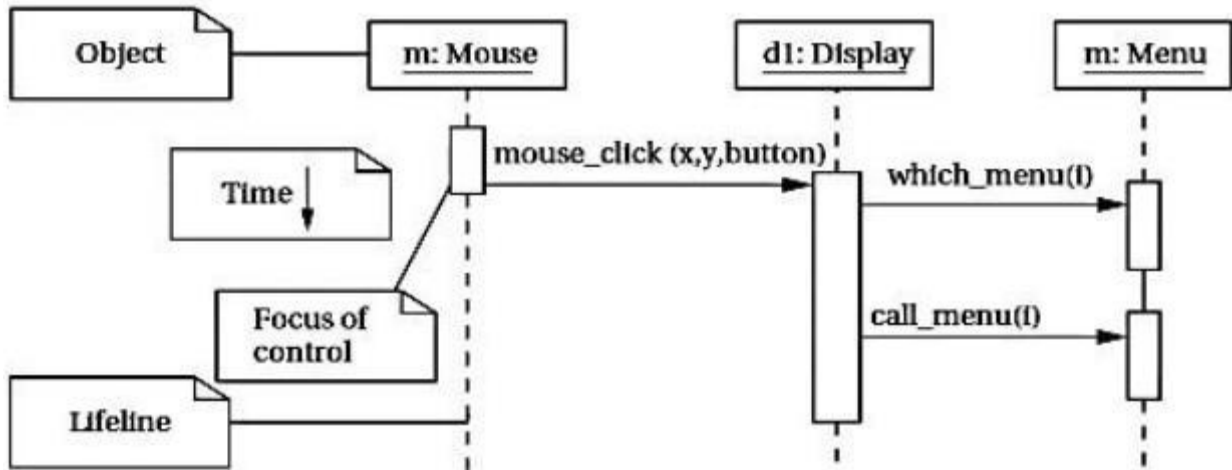


Fig1.4.5A state and transition in UML.

- These state machines will not rely on the operation of a clock, as in hardware; rather, changes from one state to another are triggered by the occurrence of events.
- An event is some type of action. We have three types of events defined by UML, as illustrated in Figure 1.4.6



A signal is an asynchronous occurrence. It is defined in UML by an object that is labeled as a <<signal>>. The object in the diagram serves as a declaration of the event's existence. A signal may have parameters that are passed to the signal's receiver.

- A call event follows the model of a procedure call in a programming language.
- A time-out event causes the machine to leave a state after a certain amount of time.
- The label  $t_m(\text{time-value})$  on the edge gives the amount of time after which the transition occurs. A time-out is generally implemented with an external timer.

### Sequencediagram:

- It is sometimes useful to show the sequence of operations over time, particularly when several objects are involved.
- A sequencediagram is somewhat similar to a hardware timing diagram, although the time flows vertically in a sequencediagram and horizontally in a timing diagram.
- These sequencediagram is designed to show a particular choice of events and it is not convenient for showing a number of mutually exclusive possibilities.

### 3. With an example in consumer electronics, explain the embedded system design with computing platform.

#### CONSUMER ELECTRONICS ARCHITECTURE:

Not all devices have all features, depending on the way the device is to be used, but most devices select features from a common menu.

Similarly, there is no single platform for consumer electronics devices, but the architectures in use are organized around some common themes.

This convergence is possible because these devices implement a few basic types of functions in various combinations: multimedia, communications, and data storage and management.

The style of multimedia or communications may vary, and different devices may use different formats, but this causes variations in hardware and software components within the basic architectural templates.

#### FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Consumer electronics devices provide several types of services in different combinations:

##### *Multimedia:*

The media may be audio, still images, or video (which includes both motion pictures and audio).

These multimedia objects are generally stored in compressed form and must be uncompressed to be played (audio playback, video viewing, etc.).

A large and growing number of standards have been developed for multimedia compression: MP3, Dolby Digital (TM), etc. for audio; JPEG for still images; MPEG-2, MPEG-4, H.264, etc. for video.

##### *Data storage and management:*

Because people want to select what multimedia objects they save or play, data storage goes hand-in-hand with multimedia capture and display.

Many devices provide PC-compatible file systems so that data can be shared more easily.

##### *Communications:*

Communications may be relatively simple, such as a USB interface to a host computer.

The communications link may also be more sophisticated, such as an Ethernet port or cellular telephone link.

#### NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Many devices are battery-operated means, which that they must operate under strict energy budgets.

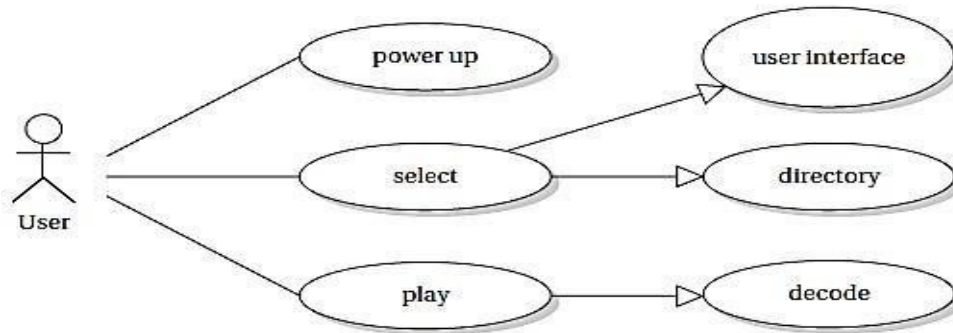
2. A typical battery for a portable device provides only about 75 mW, which must support not only the processors and digital electronics but also the display, radio, etc.

3. Consumer electronics must also be very inexpensive.

4. These devices must also provide very high performance; sophisticated networking and multimedia compression require huge amounts of computation.

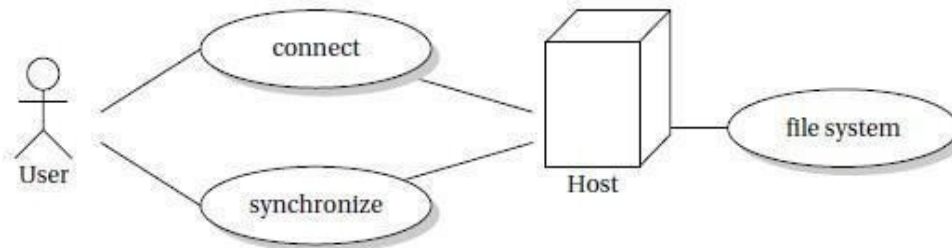


## USECASES:



**Fig2.12 Usecaseforplaying multimedia**

- Fig2.12shows ausecaseforselectingand playingamultimediaobject (anaudio clip,apicture,etc.).
- Selectinganobjectmakes useofboth theuserinterfaceand the filesystem.
- Playingalsomakesuse ofthefilesystem aswellas thedecodingsubsystemandi/Osubsystem.



*Fig2.12.1Usecaseof synchronizingwith ahostsystem*

- Fig2.12.1shows ause caseforconnectingto a client.
- Theconnectionmay beeitherover alocalconnection likeUSBor overtheInternet.
- Whilesomeoperationsmay beperformedlocally on theclient device,most of thework is doneon thehostsystemwhilethe connection is established.

### *PlatformsandOperatingSystems:*

- Giventhesetypes ofusagescenarios, wecandeduceafewbasiccharacteristics ofthe underlyingarchitectureofthesedeices.
- Thestoragesystemprovides bulk, permanentstorageas shownin fig 2.12.2.
- ThenetworkinterfacemayprovideasimpleUSBconnectionorafull-blownInternetconnection.
- Multiprocessorarchitecturesarecommoninmanyconsumermultimediadevices.
- Fig2.12.2shows,two-processorarchitecture;if morecomputationisrequired,moreDSPs andCPUsmaybeadded.
- TheRISCCPUrunthe operatingsystem,runtheuserinterface,maintainsthefilesystem,etc.
- TheDSP performssignalprocessing.
- TheDSP may beprogrammable insomesystems; inother cases,itmay beoneormorehardwiredaccelerators.

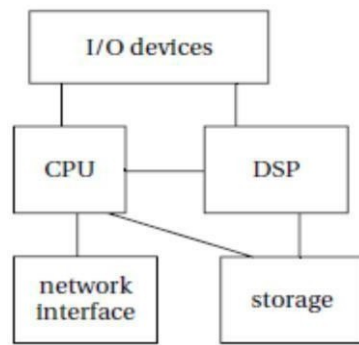


Fig 2.12.2 Hardware architecture of a generic consumer electronics

#### device Operating System:

- The operating system that runs on the CPU must maintain processes and the filesystem.
- Processes are necessary to provide concurrency—for example, the user wants to be able to push a button while the device is playing back audio.
- Depending on the complexity of the device, the operating system may not need to create tasks dynamically.
- If all tasks can be created using initialization code, the operating system can be made smaller and simpler.

#### FILESYSTEMS: DOS

##### Filesystem:

- DOS file allocation table (FAT) filesystems refer to the filesystem developed by Microsoft for early versions of the DOS operating system.
- FAT can be implemented on flash storage devices as well as magnetic disks, wear-leveling algorithms for flash memory can be implemented without disturbing the basic operation of the filesystem.
- FAT can be implemented in a relatively small amount of code.

#### Flash memory:

- Many consumer electronics devices use **flash memory for mass storage**.
- Flash memory is a type of semiconductor memory that, unlike DRAM or SRAM, provides permanent storage.
- Values are stored in the flash memory cells as electric charge using a specialized capacitor that can store the charge for years.

- Fig 2.12.1 shows a use case for connecting to a client.
- The connection may be either over a local connection like USB or over the Internet.
- While some operations may be performed locally on the client device, most of the work is done on the host system while the connection is established.

#### Platforms and Operating Systems:

- Given these types of usage scenarios, we can deduce a few basic characteristics of the underlying architecture of these devices.
- The storage system provides bulk, permanent storage as shown in fig 2.12.2.
- The network interface may provide as simple USB connection or a full-blown Internet connection.
- Multiprocessor architectures are common in many consumer multimedia devices.
- Fig 2.12.2 shows, two-processor architecture; if more computation is required, more DSPs and CPUs may be added.

The RISCCPU runs the operating system, runs the user interface, maintains the file system, etc.

■ The DSP performs signal processing.

■ The DSP may be programmable in some systems; in other cases, it may be one or more hardwired accelerators.

■ The flash memory cell does not require an external power supply to maintain its value.

■ Furthermore, the memory can be written electrically and, unlike previous generations of electrically-erasable semiconductor memory, can be written using standard power supply voltages and does not need to be disconnected during programming.

#### *Flash file Systems:*

■ Flash memory has one important limitation that must be taken into account.

■ Writing a flash memory cell causes mechanical stress that eventually wears out the cell.

■ Today's flash memories can reliably be written a million times but at some point they will fail.

■ While a million write cycles may sound like enough to ensure that the memory will never wear out, creating a single file may require many write operations, particularly to the part of the memory that stores the directory information.

■ A wear-leveling flash file system manages the use of flash memory locations to equalize wear while maintaining compatibility with existing file systems.

■ A simple model of a standard file system has two layers: **the bottom layer handles physical reads and writes on the storage device; the top layer provides a logical view of the file system.**

■ A flash file system imposes an **intermediate layer that allows the logical-to-physical mapping of files to be changed.**

■ This layer keeps track of how frequently different sections of the flash memory have been written and allocates data to equalize wear.

■ It may also move the location of the directory structure while the file system is operating.

■ Because the directory system receives the most wear, keeping it in one place may cause part of the memory to wear out before the rest, unnecessarily reducing the useful life of the memory device.

■ Several flash file systems have been developed, such as **Yet Another Flash Filing System (YAFFS).**

## **4. Elaborate in detail about the various quality assurance techniques used for evaluating the embedded system design.**

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE TECHNIQUES:**

- The **International Standards Organization (ISO)** has created a set of quality standards known as ISO 9000.
- ISO 9000 was **created** to apply to a broad range of industries, including but not limited to embedded hardware and software.
- The processes used to satisfy ISO 9000 affect the entire organization as well as the individual steps taken during design and manufacturing.
- We can, however, make the following observations about quality management based on ISO 9000:

### **Process is crucial:**

➤ Knowing what steps are to be followed to create a high quality product is essential to ensuring that all the necessary steps are in fact followed.

### **Documentation is important:**

▲ The creation of the documents describing processes help those involved understand the processes.

Documentation helps internal quality monitoring groups to ensure that the required processes are actually being followed and

It also helps outside groups to understand the processes and how they are being implemented.

### **Communication is important:**

Quality ultimately relies on people.

Good documentation is an aid for helping people to understand the total quality process.

The people in the organization should understand not only their specific tasks but also how their jobs can affect overall system quality.

Metrics are used in quality control process to know the levels of quality, the execution speed of programs or the coverage of test patterns and the rate at which bugs are found.

#### *Role of ISO 9000:*

To help organizations to study their total process, not just particular segments that may appear to be important at a particular time.

One well-known way of measuring the quality of an organization's software development process is the

#### *Capability Maturity Model (CMM).*

The CMM provides a model for **judging an organization**.

It defines the following five levels of maturity:

1. **Initial:** A **poorly organized process**, with very few well-defined processes. Success of a project depends on the efforts of individuals, not the organization itself.

2. **Repeatable:** This level provides **basic tracking mechanisms** that allow management to understand cost, scheduling, and how well the systems under development meet their goals.

3. **Defined:** The management and engineering processes are **documented and standardized**. All projects make use of documented and approved standard methods.

4. **Managed:** This phase makes **detailed measurements of the development process and product quality**.

5. **Optimizing:** **At the highest level, feedback from detailed measurements** is used to continually improve the organization's processes.

## **5. Enumerate on platform level performance analysis of embedded computing system design.**

### **PLATFORM-LEVEL PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS:**

Bus-based systems add another layer of complication to performance analysis.

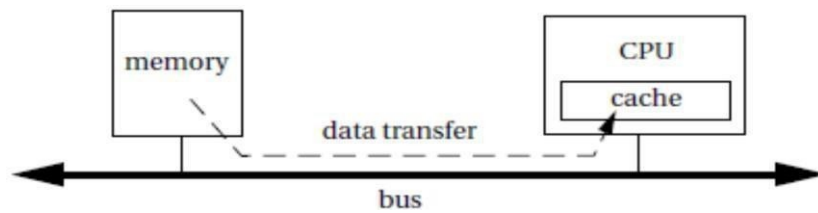
Platform-level performance involves much more than the CPU.

We often focus on the CPU because it processes instructions, but any part of the system can affect total system performance.

More precisely, the CPU provides an upper bound on performance, but any other part of the system can slow down the CPU.

Merely counting instruction execution times is not enough.

Fig2.13 System level data flows and performance.



- Consider the simple system of Fig 2.13. We want to move data from memory to the CPU to process it.
- To get the data from memory to the CPU we must:
  - Read from the memory;
  - Transfer over the bus to the cache; and
  - Transfer from the cache to the CPU
- The time required to transfer from the cache to the CPU is included in the instruction execution time, but the other two times are not.

#### *Bandwidth as performance:*

- Bandwidth: The rate at which we can move data.
- Ultimately, if we are interested in real-time performance, measured in seconds.
- But often the simplest way to measure performance is in units of clock cycles.
- However, different parts of the system will run at different clock rates.

#### *Bus Bandwidth:*

- When we are transferring large blocks of data, consider the bandwidth provided by only one system component, the bus.
- Consider an image of  $320 \times 240$  pixels, with each pixel composed of 3 bytes of data.
- This gives a grand total of 230,400 bytes of data.
- If these images are video frames, we want to check if we can push one frame through the system within the  $1/30$  sec that we have to process a frame before the next one arrives.
- Let us assume that we can transfer one byte of data every microsecond, which implies a bus speed of 1MHz.
- In this case, we would require  $230,400 \text{ s} = 0.23 \text{ sec}$  to transfer one frame.
- That is more than the  $0.033 \text{ sec}$  allotted to the data transfer.
- We would have to increase the transfer rate by  $7 \times$  to satisfy our performance requirement.
- **We can increase bandwidth in two ways:** We can increase the clock rate of the bus or we can increase the amount of data transferred per clock cycle.
- For example, if we increased the bus to carry four bytes or 32 bits per transfer, we would reduce the transfer time to 0.058 sec.
- If we could also increase the bus clock rate to 2MHz, then we would reduce the transfer time to 0.029 sec, which is within our time budget for the transfer.

#### *Bus bandwidth characteristics:*

- How do we know how long it takes to transfer one unit of data? To determine that, we have to look at the data sheet for the bus.
- A bus transfer generally takes more than one bus cycle.

- Burst transfers, which move to contiguous locations, may be more efficient per byte.
- We also need to know the width of the bus, how many bytes per transfer.
- Finally, we need to know the bus clock period, which in general will be different from the CPU clock period.

*Bus bandwidth formulas:*

- Let's assume the bus clock period  $P$  and the bus width  $W$ .
- Write the basic formula in units of bus cycles  $T$ , then convert those bus cycle counts to real time using the bus clock period  $P$ :

$$t = TP \quad \dots(1)$$

- As shown in Fig 2.13.1, a basic bus transfer transfers a  $W$ -wide set of bytes.

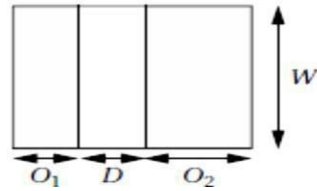


Fig 2.13.1 Times and data volumes in a basic bus transfer

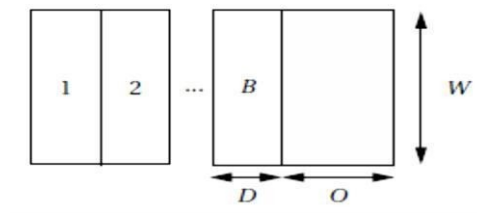


Fig 2.13.2 Times and data volumes in a burst bus transfer.

- The data transfer itself takes  $D$  clock cycles. (Ideally,  $D = 1$ , but a memory that introduces wait states is one example of a transfer that could require  $D > 1$  cycles.)
- Addresses, handshaking, and other activities constitute overhead that may occur before ( $O_1$ ) or after ( $O_2$ ) the data.
- For simplicity, we will lump the overhead into  $O = O_1 + O_2$ .

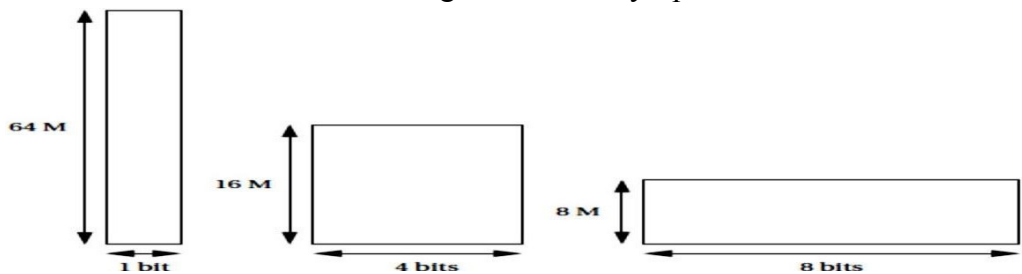
*Component Bandwidth:*

- The width of a memory determines the number of bits we can read from the memory in one cycle.
- That is a form of data bandwidth.
- We can change the types of memory components we use to change the memory bandwidth; we may also be able to change the format of our data to accommodate the memory components.

*Memory aspect ratios:*

- A single memory chip is not solely specified by the number of bits it can hold.

Fig 2.13.3 Memory aspect ratios



- As shown in Fig 2.13.3, memories of the same size can have different **aspect ratios**.

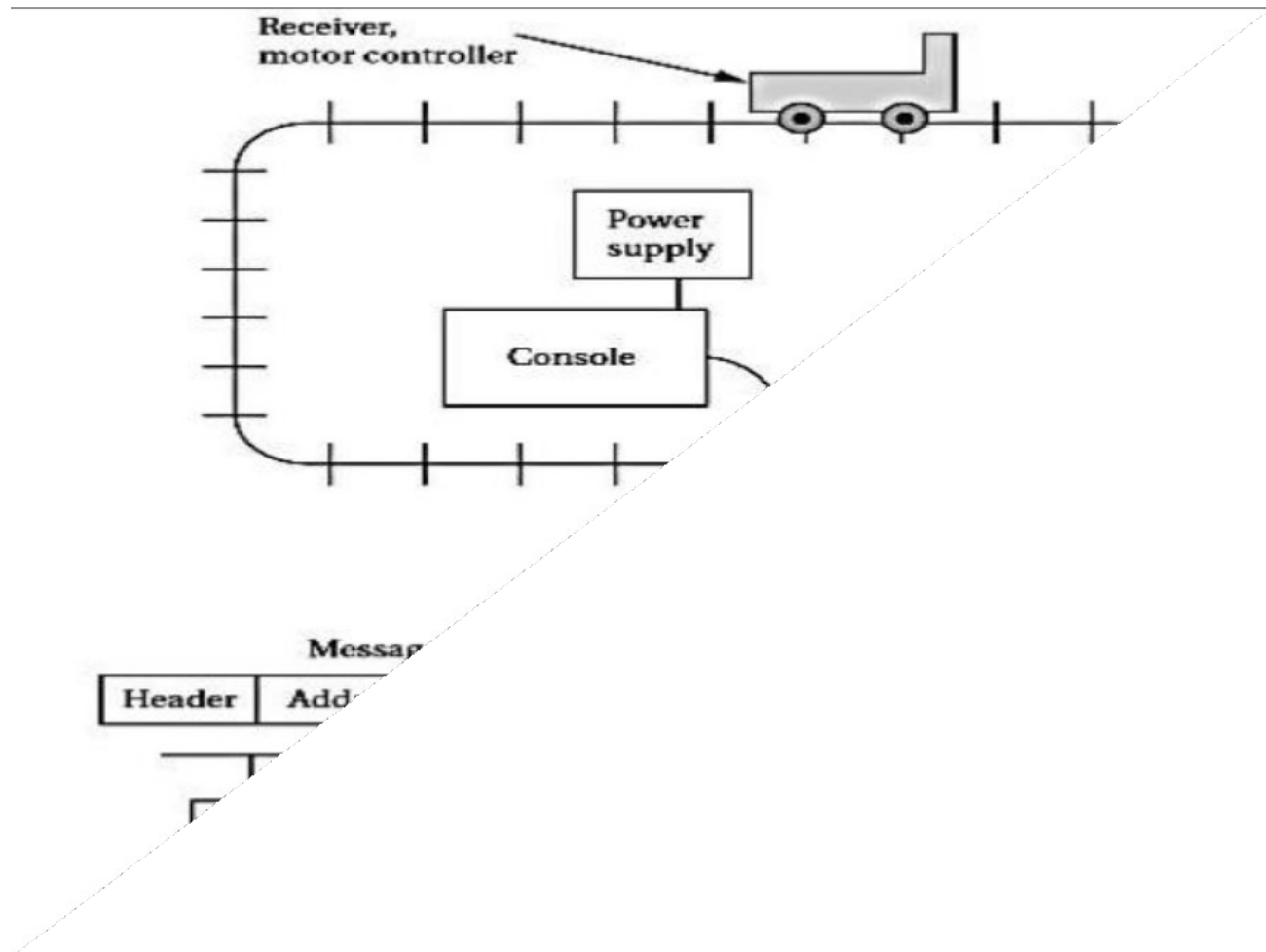
- For example, a 64-MB memory that is 1-bit-wide will present 64 million addresses of 1-bit data.
- The same size memory in a 4-bit-wide format will have 16 distinct addresses and an 8-bit-wide memory will have 8 million distinct addresses.
- Memory chips do not come in extremely wide aspect ratios but we can build wider memories by using several memories in parallel.
- Rather than buy memory chips individually, we may buy memory as SIMMs or DIMMs.
- These memories are wide but generally only come in fairly standard widths.
- Which aspect ratio is preferable for the overall memory system depends in part on the format of the data that we want to store in the memory and the speed with which it must be accessed, giving rise to bandwidth analysis.

#### *Memory access times and Bandwidth:*

- We also have to consider the time required to read or write a memory.
- Once again, we refer to the component data sheets to find these values.
- Access times depend quite a bit on the type of memory chip used.
- Page mode operates similarly to burst modes in buses.
- If the memory is not synchronous, we can still refer to the times between events back to the bus clock cycle to determine the number of clock cycles required for an access.
- The basic form of the equation for memory transfer time is that of  $Eq(3)$ , where  $O$  is determined by the page mode overhead and  $D$  is the time between successive transfers.
- However, the situation is slightly more complex if the data types do not fit naturally into the width of the memory.
- Let's say that we want to store color video pixels in our memory.
- A standard pixel is three **8-bit** color values (red, green, blue, for example).
- A **24-bit-wide memory** would allow us to read or write an entire pixel value in one access.
- An **8-bit-wide memory**, in contrast, would require three accesses for the pixel.
- If we have a **32-bit-wide memory**, we have two main choices: We could waste one byte of each transfer or use that byte to store unrelated data, or we could pack the pixels.
- In the latter case, the first read would get all of the first pixel and one byte of the second pixel; the second transfer would get the last two bytes of the second pixel and the first two bytes of the third pixel; and so forth.

**6. Assuming the design of model train controller, draw a state diagram for a behavior that sends the command bits on the track. The machine should generate the address, generate the correct message type, include the parameters and generate the error correcting code (ECC).**





**Fig1.5A model train control system**

- In order to learn how to use UML to model systems, we will specify a simple system, a model train controller in Fig1.5.
- The user sends messages to the train with a control box attached to the tracks.
- The control box may have familiar controls such as a throttle, emergency stop button, and soon.
- The train receives its electrical power from the two rails of the track, the control box can send signals to the train over the tracks by modulating the power supply voltage.
- As shown in the fig 1.5, the control panel sends packets over the track to the receiver on the train.
- The train includes an analog electronic to sense the bits being transmitted and a control system to set the train motor's speed and direction based on those commands.
- Each packet includes an address so that the console can control several trains on the same track; the packet also includes an error correction code (ECC) to guard against transmission errors.
- This is a one-way communication system; the model train cannot send commands back to the user.

*Requirements:*

The basic set of requirements for the system:

- The console shall be able to control up to eight trains on a single track.
- The speed of each train shall be controllable by a throttle to at least 63 different levels in each direction (forward and reverse).
- There shall be an emergency stop button.
- An error detection scheme will be used to transmit messages.
- There shall be an inertia control that shall allow the user to adjust the responsiveness of the train to commanded changes in speed.
- We can put the requirements into our chart format:

Name	Model train controller
Purpose	Control speed of up to eight model trains
Inputs	Throttle, inertia setting, emergency stop, train number
Outputs	Train control signals
Functions	Set engine speed based upon inertia settings; respond to emergency stop
Performance	Can update train speed at least 10 times per second
Manufacturing cost	\$50
Power	10W (plugs into wall)
Physical size and weight	Console should be comfortable for two hands, approximate size of standard keyboard; weight < 2 pounds

*DIGITAL COMMAND CONTROL (DCC):*

- The DCC standard was created by the National Model Railroad Association to support interoperable digitally-controlled model trains.
- DCC was created to provide a standard that could be built by any manufacturer so that hobbyists could mix and match components from multiple vendors.
- The DCC standard is given in two documents:
  - Standard S-9.1, the DCC Electrical Standard, defines how bits are encoded on the rails for transmission.
  - Standard S-9.2, the DCC Communication Standard, defines the packets that carry information.
- Any DCC-conforming device must meet these specifications.
- The DCC standard does not specify many aspects of a DCC train system.
- It doesn't define the control panel, the type of microprocessor used, the programming language to be used, or many other aspects of a real model train system.
- The encoding standard must be carefully designed because the main function of the track is to carry power to the locomotives.
- The signal encoding system should not interfere with power transmission either to DCC or non-DCC locomotives.
- The data signal should not change the DC value of the rails.
- The data signal swings between two voltages around the power supply voltages such as 0 and 1 as shown in Fig 1.5.1.

The standard also describes other electrical properties of the system, such as allowable transition times for signals.

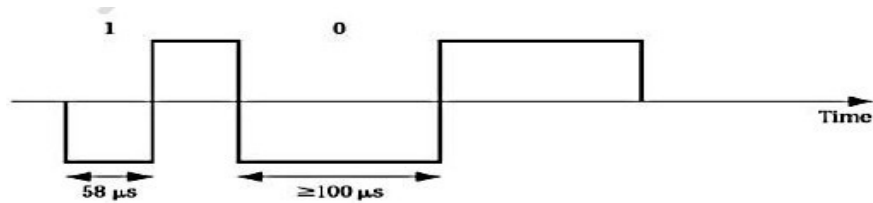


Fig 1.5.1 Bit encoding in DCC.

- The DCC Communication Standard describes how bits are combined into packets and the meaning of some important packets.

- We can write the basic packet format as a regular expression:

$$PSA(SD)+E \quad \dots \quad (1) \text{ Where}$$

➤ P is the preamble, which is a sequence of at least 10 1 bits.

➤ S is the packet start bit. It is a 0 bit.

➤ A is an address data byte that gives the address of the unit, with the most significant bit of the address transmitted first. An address is eight bits long. The addresses 00000000, 11111110, and 11111111 are reserved.

➤ S is the data byte start bit, which like the packet start bit is a 0.

➤ D is the data byte, which includes eight bits. A data byte may contain an address, instruction, data, or error correction information.

➤ E is a packet end bit, which is a 1 bit.

- A packet includes one or more data bytes (start bit/data byte combinations).

#### Baseline packet:

- A baseline packet is the minimum packet that must be accepted by all DCC implementations.

- More complex packets are given in a Recommended Practice document.

- A baseline packet has three data bytes:

☞ Address data byte that gives the intended receiver of the packet;

☞ Instruction data byte provides a basic instruction;

☞ Error correction data byte is used to detect and correct transmission errors.

- The instruction data byte carries several pieces of information such as

➤ Bits 0-3 provide a 4-bit speed value.

➤ Bit 4 has an additional speed bit.

➤ Bit 5 gives direction, with 1 for forward and 0 for reverse.

➤ Bits 7-8 are set at 01 to indicate that this instruction provides speed and direction.

### Conceptual Specification

- Digital Command Controls specifies some important aspects of the system, but it does not specify everything about a model train control system.
- Solution for the above problem is conceptual specification. It allows us to understand the system better.
- A train control system turns commands into packets.
- A command comes from the command unit while a packet is transmitted over the rails.
- Commands and packets may not be generated in a 1-to-1 ratio.
- In the DCC standard command units should resend packets in case a packet is dropped during transmission.
  1. Command unit and
  2. Train-board components as shown in Figure 1.5.2.

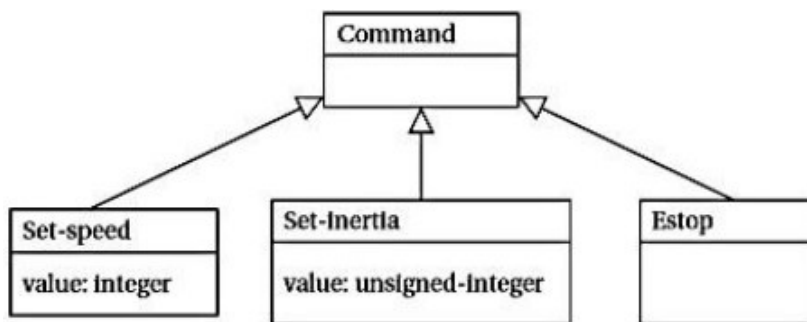


Fig 1.5.2 Class diagram for the train controller messages.

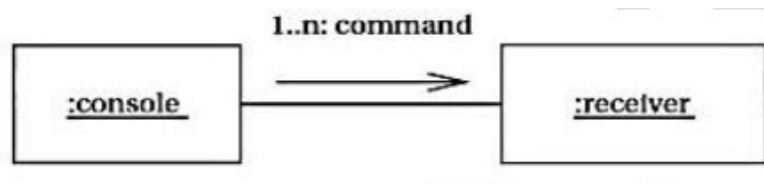


Fig 1.5.3 UML collaboration diagram for major subsystems of the train controller system.

Now we will discuss about class diagram of train subsystems and functions of each element presented in the diagram.

- The console needs to perform three functions:
  - Read the state of the front panel on the command unit,
  - Format messages, and
  - Transmit messages.

- The train receiver must also perform three major functions:

- Receive the message,
- Interpret the message
- Control the motor

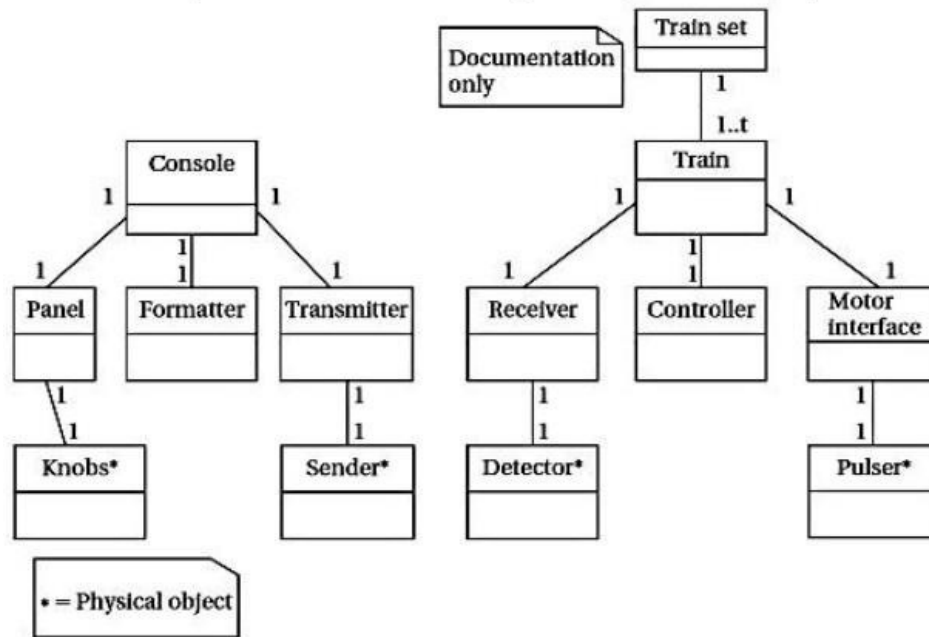


Fig 1.5.4 A UML class diagram for the train controllers showing the composition of the subsystems.

**Detailed Specification:**

<b>Knobs*</b>
<b>train-knob: integer</b> <b>speed-knob: integer</b> <b>inertia-knob: unsigned-integer</b> <b>emergency-stop: boolean</b>
<b>set-knobs()</b>

<b>Pulser*</b>
<b>pulse-width: unsigned-integer</b> <b>direction: boolean</b>

<b>Sender*</b>
<b>send-bit()</b>

<b>Detector*</b>
<b>&lt;integer&gt; read-bit(): integer</b>

*Basic characteristics of classes in UML diagram:*

- The **Console** class describes the command unit's front panel, which contains the analog knobs and hardware to interface to the digital parts of the system.
- The **Formatter** class includes behavior that knows how to read the panel knobs and creates a bit stream for the required message.
- The **Transmitter** class interfaces to analog electronics to send the message along the track.
- In the class diagrams some special classes that represent analog components and it is ending the name of each with an asterisk:
  - **Knobs\*** describes the actual analog knobs, buttons, and levers on the control panel.
  - **Sender\*** describes the analog electronics that send bits along the

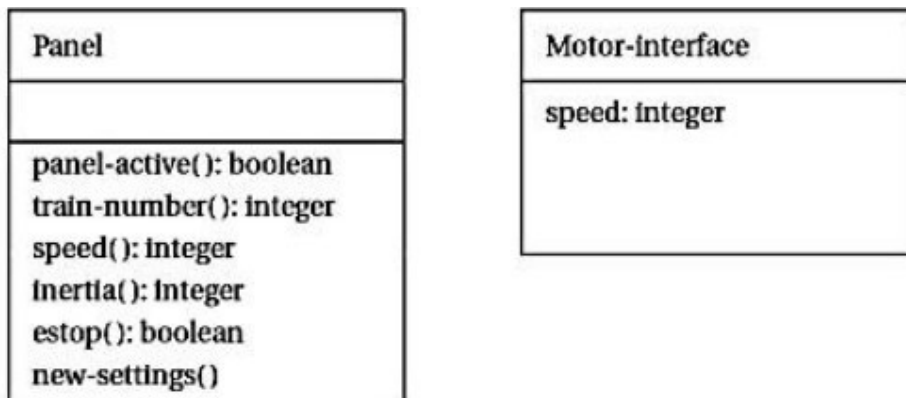
track. Likewise, the train makes use of three other classes that define its components:

1. The **Receiver** class knows how to turn the analog signal on the track into digital form.
2. The **Controller** class includes behavior that interprets the commands and figures out how to control the motor.
3. The **Motor interface** class defines how to generate the analog signals required to control the motor.

*Classes to represent analog components:*

- **Detector\*** detects analog signals on the track and converts them into digital form.
- **Pulser\*** turns digital commands into the analog signals required to control the motor speed.

We have also defined a special class, **Trainset**, to help us remember that the system can handle multiple trains.

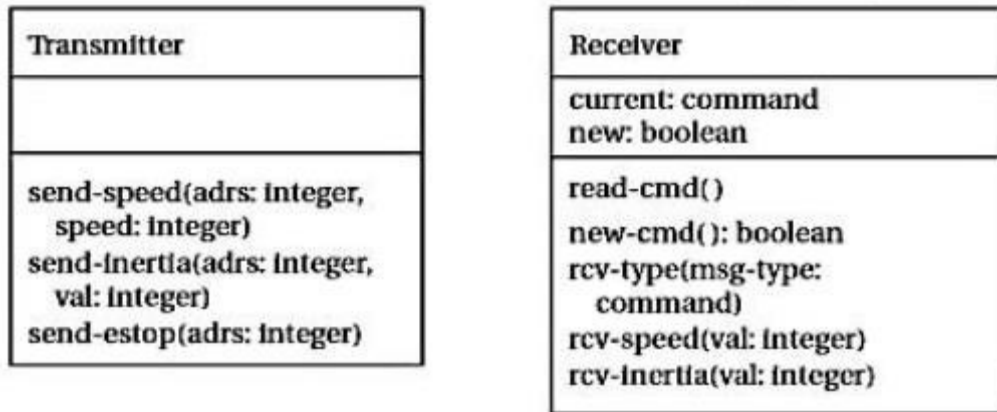


*Fig1.5.5 Class diagram for the Panel and Motor interface.*

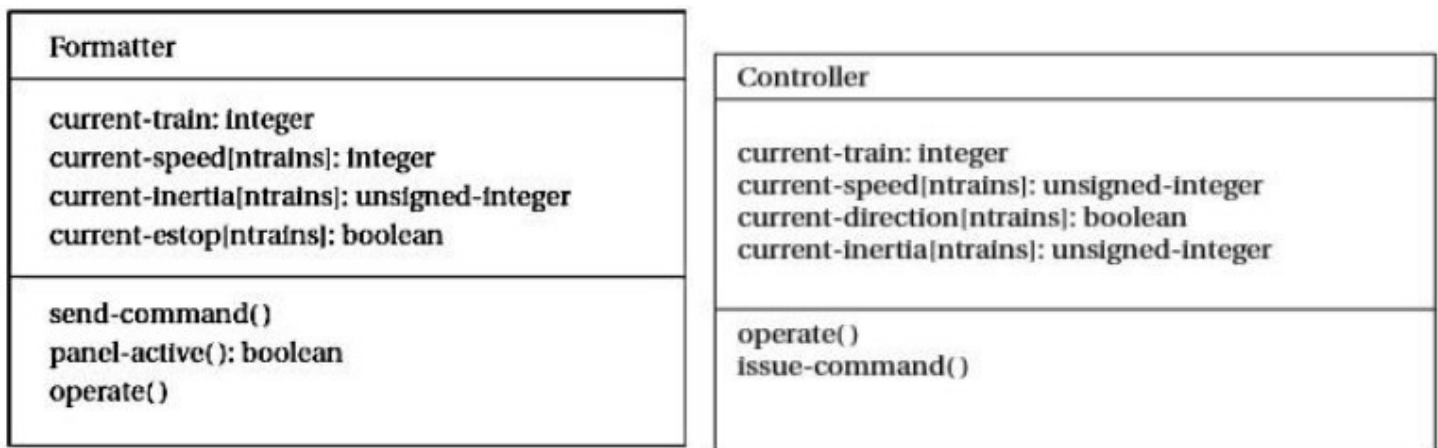
- We need to define the analog components in a little more detail because their characteristics will strongly influence the **Formatter** and **Controller**.
- Fig1.5.5 Classes describing analog physical objects in the train control system. Now we will concentrate on each analog component and its functions in a detailed manner with its class diagram.
- The **Panel** has three Knobs:
  1. Train number
  2. Speed and

### 3. Inertia.

- It also has one button for emergency-stop.



*Class diagram for the Transmitter and Receiver.*



**Class diagram for formatter and controller class.**

- These classes specify the detailed functions of each and every component. The pulse will control the train speed using pulse width modulation.
- In the train control system we have two more components such as formatter and controller. Now we will see the class diagram of it, which gives the detailed operation performed by the particular component.
- Operate behavior of any class is also an important behavior of a class. It is defined in a state diagram. For example, we can see the state diagram for the formatter and controller class.

Class diagrams and state diagrams will give more detailed information and what kind of operation each class is going to perform. Everything will be presented.

How one class is going to communicate or interface with other classes to perform different kinds of operations.

