## **Programming RISC-V using assembly and C** language<br>*lang*ungungu

# language

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## RISCV GCC Assembler

\_start: ld s3 0x001121 Ld rs2 0x0022233 add rd, rs1, rs2 St rd 0x0000001

## Assembly or C/C++

- Write Efficient Code
- Secure Application
- Multi-Threaded and Complex Program to run multiple devices (OS)
- Real-Time Applications for Real world Problems

## **Programming RISC-V**

- Problem
- Write it in your own words
- Make Pseudo Code
- Create Control and Data-flow Graph
- Program (C/C++, ASM)
- Debug
- Profile
- Optimize/Fine Tune
- Execute
- Test



## Hazards

- Data Hazards: Instructions are waiting for data from other instructions.
- Control Hazards: Changes in instruction flow cause delays.
- Structural Hazards: Limited hardware resources cause delays.



```
// example.c
int global var = 10;
int main() {
   int local var = 5;
   int result = global var +
local var;
   return result;
}
```
riscv32-unknown-elf-gcc example.o -o example

• The compiler generates an object file in ELF format. This object file contains machine code, data, and metadata, organized into different sections like .text (code), .data (initialized data), and .bss (uninitialized data).

- Instruction Section: Contains the compiled machine code instructions (text section).
- Data Section: Contains initialized data (data section).
- The linker combines the code and data sections, resolves symbols, and sets up memory addresses.
- The linker script defines how different sections are mapped into the memory of the microcontroller.
- It specifies memory regions and assigns addresses to different sections of the code and data.
- MEMORY
- $\bullet$  {
- ROM (rx) : ORIGIN = 0x08000000, LENGTH = 512K
- $RAM (rwx) : ORIGIN = 0x20000000, LENGTH = 64K$
- $\cdot$  }
- $\bullet$
- SECTIONS
- $\cdot$  {
- .text :  $\{$
- \*(.text)
- $\}$  > ROM
- $\bullet$

 $\cdot$  }

- .data :  $\{$
- \*(.data)
- $\}$  > RAM
- Next step involves using a programmer or debugger tool to flash the firmware into the RISCV System.
	- $\beta$  Instruction Memory: The code from the .text section is loaded into the system instruction memory.
	- $\beta$  Data Memory: The initialized data from the .data section is loaded into the system data memory.

### Linker Script: Program and Data Memory Allocation

The high addresses are the top of the figure and the low addresses are the bottom.

The stack pointer (sp) starts at BFFF FFF0 hex and grows down toward the Static data. The text (program code) starts at 0001 0000hex and includes the statically-linked libraries. The Static data starts immediately above the text region; in this example, we assume that address is 1000 0000hex . Dynamic data, allocated in C by malloc(), is just above the Static data. Called the heap, it grows upward toward the stack. It includes the dynamicallylinked libraries.





- **Storage Classes in C**
- Functions in C
- Memory Layout in C
- Arrays
- Operators in C

### **Decimal, Hexadecimal, Octal, and Character Values in C**



### **Program Variables in C Programming**

#### **Definition:**

A variable is an addressable storage location used to hold information that can be referenced and manipulated by the program.

#### **Declaration:**

Purpose: To specify the size, type, and name of the variable.

#### **Example:**

int x, y, z; // Declares 3 variables of type "int" (integer)

char a, b; // Declares 2 variables of type "char" (character)

#### **Storage Allocation:**

- **Registers:** Fast, limited storage for frequently accessed variables.
- **RAM:** Dynamic memory for variables that change during program execution.
- **ROM/Flash:** Permanent storage, typically for constants or read-only data.

### **Variable Declaration in C**

Basic syntax for variable declaring in C is as follows

**data\_type variable name = value;**

Example:

int  $z = 35$ ; // declare and initialize variable  $z$  with value 35.



The refined syntax for declaring variables in C can be quite comprehensive, incorporating storage classes, type qualifiers, type modifiers, data types, pointers, arrays, and initial values. Adding these parameter the syntax will look like

**storage-class type-qualifier type-modifier data-type \*pointer variable-name[size] = initial-value;**

```
Example:
         static const unsigned int *configFlagPtr = (int
          *)0x40021000;
```
Storage-class, type-qualifier, type-modifier, pointer, array-size are all optional.

In C programming, storage classes determine following characteristics of variables and functions.

- **1. Scope:** Refers to variables or functions declared in another file or elsewhere in the same file.
- **2. Lifetime:** Exists for the duration of the program.
- **3. Visibility:** Visibility determines where a variable or function can be referenced within the program.
- **4. Memory location:** The actual variable or function is defined elsewhere, usually in a different file.

Storage Classes control how variables are stored, accessed, and managed throughout the program. The key storage classes in C are:



### **Storage Classes in C: Automatic**

#### **Automatic Variable**

- It is declared inside the function where it is used
- It are created when function is called and destroyed when the function is exited
- It is local to function and also called private variables
- It is also called as local or internal variables

Auto is Default storage class for all the local variables therefore, no need to use keyword auto

**Example:** void function1 (void) main() {  $\text{int m} = 1000;$ function2(); prinf("%d\n", m)  $\}$ Void function1(void) {  $\text{int m = 10};$ printf("%d"\n,m)  $\}$ 

### **Storage Classes in C: Automatic**

#### **Static Variable**

- It persists at the function until the end of the program
- The keyword Static is used for declaration  $\Box$  static int x;
- Static may be internal type or external type.
- Internal means it is declared inside the function
- The scope is up to end of the function
- It is used to retain the values between functions calls

#### **Example:**

```
void counterFunction() {
  static int count = 0; // Static variable retains its
value between function calls
   count++;
   printf("Count: %d\n", count);
}
```
### int main() {

}

 counterFunction(); // Output: Count: 1 counterFunction(); // Output: Count: 2 counterFunction(); // Output: Count: 3 return 0;

### **Scope**

The scope of a variable or function refers to the region of the program where the variable or function can be accessed or used.

Types of Scope:

**1. Local Scope**: The region within a function or block where a variable or function is defined. Example: Variables declared inside a function or a block are local to that function or block.

Code Example:

```
void func() {
int x = 10; // x has local scope within func }
```
**2. Global Scope**: The region of the program where a variable or function is accessible throughout the entire program, typically from its point of declaration until the end of the file.

Example: Variables and functions declared outside of all functions.

Code Example:

int globalVar = 20; // globalVar has global scope void func() { // can use globalVar here }

### **Visibility**

Visibility determines where a variable or function can be referenced within the program. It specifies the extent to which a variable or function is accessible.

#### **Types of Visibility:**

1. **Internal Visibility:** Refers to variables or functions that are only accessible within the file they are declared. This is typically controlled using the static keyword.

#### Example:

static int internalVar  $=$  30; // Only visible within the same file

2. **External Visibility:** Definition: Refers to variables or functions that are accessible across different files. This is typically achieved using the extern keyword.

Example:

```
// File1.c 
int externalVar = 40; // Visible to other files
// File2.c 
extern int externalVar; // Reference to externalVar defined in File1.c
```
#### **Lifetime**

The lifetime of a variable or function refers to the duration of time that the variable or function exists in memory and retains its value.

Types of Lifetime:

**1. Automatic Lifetime:** Variables with automatic lifetime are created when a function or block is entered and destroyed when it is exited. They are usually stored on the stack.

Example:

void func()

```
{ int autoVar = 50; // Lifetime is limited to the duration of func }
```
**2. Static Lifetime:** Variables with static lifetime are created when the program starts and destroyed when the program ends. They retain their value between function calls or across files.

Example:

```
void func() {
```
static int staticVar = 60; // Lifetime is the entire program duration  $\}$ 

**3. Dynamic Lifetime:** Variables with dynamic lifetime are allocated and deallocated manually using functions like malloc() and free(). Their lifetime is controlled by the programmer.

void func() {  $int^*$  dynamicVar = (int\*)malloc(sizeof(int)); // Dynamic allocation free(dynamicVar); // Manual deallocation

}



- Storage Classes in C
- **Functions in C**
- Memory Layout in C
- Arrays
- Operators in C

### **Functions in C**

- A function in C is a set of statements that when called perform some **specific task**.
- It is the basic building block of a C program that provides **modularity** and code **reusability**.
- The programming statements of a function are enclosed within { } braces, having certain meanings and performing certain operations.
- They are also called subroutines or procedures in other languages.

#### **Syntax of Functions in C**

The syntax of function can be divided into 3 aspects:

**Function Declaration**

```
return_type name_of_the_function (parameter_1, parameter_2);
```
Example:

int sum(int a, int b); // Function declaration with parameter names int sum(int, int); // Function declaration without parameter names



### **Functions in C**

#### **Function Definition**

The function definition consists of actual statements which are executed when the function is called (i.e. when the program control comes to the function).

```
return_type function_name (parameter_1, parameter_2) 
{ 
           // body of the function 
}
```
#### **Function Calls**

A function call is a statement that instructs the compiler to execute the function. We use the function name and parameters in the function call.

In the example,

- The first sum function is called and 10,30 are passed to the sum function.
- After the function call sum of a and b is returned and control is also returned back to the main function of the program.





- **Introduction to Embedded C Programming**
- Storage Classes in C
- Functions in C
- **Memory Layout in C**
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### **Memory Layout in C**

A typical memory representation of a C program consists of the following sections.

- **Text/Code segment (i.e. instructions)**
- **Initialized data segment**
- **Uninitialized data segment (bss)**
- **Heap**
- **Stack**



### **Memory Layout in C**

### **Text/Code Segment**

}

- A text segment, also known as a code segment or simply as text, is one of the sections of a program in an object file or in memory, which contains executable instructions.
- As a memory region, a text segment may be placed below the heap or stack in order to prevent heaps and stack overflows from overwriting it.
- Usually, the text segment is sharable so that only a single copy needs to be in memory for frequently executed programs, such as text editors, the C compiler, the shells, and so on.
- The text segment is often read-only, to prevent a program from accidentally modifying its instructions.



print message();  $\frac{1}{2}$  // Calls the function in the text segment return 0;

### **Initialized Data Segment**

A data segment is a portion of the virtual address space of a program, which contains the global variables and static variables that are initialized by the programmer.

int global\_var =  $10$ ; // Global variable initialized with 10

static int static\_var = 20; // Static variable initialized with 20

Note that, the data segment is not read-only, since the values of the variables can be altered at run time.

Lifetime: Variables in the data segment exist for the lifetime of the program. They are initialized at program startup and persist until the program terminates.



In C, **variables** and **constants** are stored in different parts of the data segment depending on their initialization and attributes.



### **Uninitialized Data Segment (bss)**

- Also called the "BSS" segment (Block Started by Symbol).
- Contains global and static variables that are either:
	- Not explicitly initialized in the source code.
	- Initialized to zero.

### **Characteristics**

- **Initialization:** The compiler initializes all variables in the BSS segment to zero before the program starts executing.
- **Memory Allocation:** The BSS segment occupies space in memory but does not store actual values; instead, it reserves space and initializes it to zero.
- **Memory Layout:** Comes after the initialized data segment in memory.

#### **Examples:**

- static int i; // Static variables uninitialized
- int j;  $\frac{1}{2}$  // Global variables uninitialized

### **Stack:**

- The stack is a region of memory that stores temporary data, following a Last In, First Out (LIFO) structure.
- Traditionally, it adjoined the heap and grew in the opposite direction.

#### Characteristics:

- **Memory Layout:** 
	- $\triangleright$  The stack is typically located in the higher parts of memory and grows towards lower addresses.
	- $\triangleright$  In modern systems with large address spaces and virtual memory, the stack and heap can be placed almost anywhere, but they still generally grow in opposite directions.

#### **Stack Pointer:**

- $\triangleright$  A stack pointer register keeps track of the top of the stack.
- $\triangleright$  Adjusted each time a value is pushed onto or popped from the stack.
- **Stack Frame:** The data associated with a function call is stored in a stack frame.

Stack Frame at minimum includes:

- Return Address: Address to return to after the function call is complete.
- $\triangleright$  May also include local variables, function parameters, etc.

The **size command** is used to check the sizes (in bytes) of these different memory segments.



#### **Simple Program Adding one global variable in program**



Adding one global variable increased memory allocated by data segment (Initialized data segment) by 4 bytes, which is the actual memory size of 1 variable of type integer (sizeof(global\_variable)).

### **Task: Day 3 Embedded C Programming**

Prepare a brief report explaining the operation of stack memory with respect to function calls and the phenomenon of stack overflow.





- **Introduction to Embedded C Programming**
- Storage Classes in C
- **Functions in C**
- Memory Layout in C
- Arrays
- Operators in C

### **Arrays in C Programming**

#### **Definition:**

An array is a collection of data elements stored in consecutive memory locations. The array begins at a named address and contains a fixed number of elements.

**---------------------------One-Dimensional Arrays----------------------------------**

#### **Declaration:**

Syntax: type arrayName[size];

#### **Example Code:**

int  $n[5]$ ;  $\angle$  // Declares an array of 5 integers

 $n[3] = 5$ ; // Sets the value of the 4th element (index 3) to 5

#### **Array Indexing:**

Indices: Start from 0 to N-1 where N is the number of elements. **Element Access:** Access elements using arrayName[index]. **Memory Layout:** Array Elements: n[0] | n[1] | n[2] | n[3] | n[4]





### **Arrays in C Programming**

**---------------------------Two-Dimensional Arrays---------------------------------- Declaration:** 

Syntax: type arrayName [rows][columns];

#### **Example Code:**

int matrix[3][4]; // Declares a 2D array with 3 rows and 4 columns matrix[1][2] = 7; // Sets the value of the element in the 2nd row and 3rd column to 7

#### **Array Indexing:**

Indices: Start from 0,0 to N-1,N-1 where N is the number of elements.

**Element Access:** Access elements using arrayName[index].

**Memory Layout:** Array Elements (for matrix[3][4]):

 $matrix[0][0]$  | matrix $[0][1]$  | matrix $[0][2]$  | matrix $[0][3]$  $matrix[1][0]$  | matrix $[1][1]$  | matrix $[1][2]$  | matrix $[1][3]$  $matrix[2][0] | matrix[2][1] | matrix[2][2] | matrix[2][3]$ 





### **Operators in C**

An operator in C can be defined as the symbol that helps us to perform some specific mathematical, relational, bitwise, conditional, or logical computations on values and variables. The values and variables used with operators are called operands. So we can say that the operators are the symbols that perform operations on operands.

#### **Types of Operators in C**

C language provides a wide range of operators that can be classified into 6 types based on their functionality:

- 1. Arithmetic Operators
- 2. Relational Operators
- 3. Logical Operators
- 4. Bitwise Operators
- 5. Assignment Operators
- 6. Other Operators



### **Arithmetic Operators**

The arithmetic operators are used to perform arithmetic/mathematical operations on operands.

There are 9 arithmetic operators in C language:



### **Arithmetic Operators Example**

### **Example Code:**

#### **int main()**

**{**



**printf("a-- = %d\n", a--);** 

#### **return 0;**

### **Relational Operators in C**

#### **Relational Operators in C**

The relational operators in C are used for the comparison of the two operands. All these operators are binary operators that return true or false values as the result of comparison.

These are a total of 6 relational operators in C:



### **Relational Operators in C**

Logical Operators are used to combine two or more conditions/constraints or to complement the evaluation of the original condition in consideration. The result of the operation of a logical operator is a Boolean value either **true** or **false**.



```
Example
int main()
{
         int a = 25, b = 5;
         // using operators and printing 
         results
            printf("a & 6 b : %d\n", a & 6 b);
             printf("a || b : %d\n", a || b);
             printf("!a: %d\n", !a);
         return 0;}
```
#### **Output**

 $!a: 0$ 

a && b : 1  $a || b : 1$ 

### **Relational Operators Example**

#### **int main()**

**{**

 **int a = 25, b = 5;**

 **// using operators and printing results printf("a & b: %d\n", a & b); printf("a | b: %d\n", a | b); printf("a**  $\land$  **b:** %**d**\n", **a**  $\land$  **b**);  **printf("~a: %d\n", ~a); printf("a >> b: %d\n", a >> b); printf("a << b: %d\n", a << b);**

#### **return 0;**

**}**

**Output**



### **Bitwise Operators in C**

The Bitwise operators are used to perform bit-level operations on the operands. The operators are first converted to bit-level and then the calculation is performed on the operands. Mathematical operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, etc. can be performed at the bit level for faster processing. There are 6 bitwise operators in C:



### **Bitwise Operators: AND, OR, XOR, ~**



### **Bitwise Operators: Bit Masking**

```
C = A & OxFE; A abcdefgh
                   OxFE 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 Clear selected bit of A
                      C abcdefg0
C = A & 0x01; A abcdefgh
                   0 \times FE \begin{array}{cccccc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & h \end{array} Clear all but the selected bit of A
C = A | 0x01; A abcdefgh0 \times 01 0 \times 000000001 Set selected bit of A<br>C a b c d e f g 1
C = A^{\wedge} 0x01; A abcdefgh
                  0 \times 01 0 \times 000000001<br>C a b c d e f g h'
```
### **Bitwise Operators: Shift Operator**



Generate a code to Print a number in binary and decimal format, then apply left shift operator 3 times then print number in binary and decimal

### **Bitwise Operators Example**

#### **int main()**

**{**

 **int a = 25, b = 5;**

 **// using operators and printing results printf("a & b: %d\n", a & b); printf("a | b: %d\n", a | b); printf("a ^ b: %d\n", a ^ b); printf("~a: %d\n", ~a); printf("a >> b: %d\n", a >> b); printf("a << b: %d\n", a << b);**

#### **Output**



#### **return 0;**

**}**

### **Assignment Operators in C**



### **Assignment Operators Example**

#### **int main()**

**{**

**}**

 **int a = 25, b = 5;**

 **// using operators and printing results printf("a = b:** %d\n",  $a = b$ ); **printf("a += b:** %d\n",  $a$  += b);  **printf("a -= b: %d\n", a -= b); printf("a \*= b:** %d\n",  $a$  \*= b); **printf("a /= b: %d\n", a /= b); printf("a %%= b: %d\n", a %= b); printf("a &= b: %d\n", a &= b); printf("a**  $=$  **b: %d\n", a**  $=$  **b); printf("a >>= b: %d\n", a >>= b); printf("a <<= b: %d\n", a <<= b); return 0;**

#### **Output**



## Testing and Executing the Code

### RIPES

<https://ripes.me/>

https://github.com/mortbopet/Ripes/releases/download/v2.2.6/Ripes-v2.2.6-win-x86\_64.zip

Next:

RISCV Micro Controller RISCV Simulator and Emulators RISCV Single Board Computer

### Microcontroller Memory Architecture

- Flash Memory
	- Stores the program code (firmware) and constant data.
- SRAM (Static RAM)
	- **Program Memory:**
	- Temporary storage used during execution, holding variables, the stack, and the heap.

#### **Data Memory:**

- Used for dynamic data storage, including global variables, static variables, and temporary data.
- DRAM (Dynamic RAM)
	- Typically used in more complex microcontrollers or embedded systems where larger data storage is needed.
	- Stores variable data, buffers, and other dynamic data structures.



### Memory Architecture Overview:

- Harvard Architecture: Many microcontrollers use this architecture, where program and data memories are separate, allowing simultaneous access to both.
- Von Neumann Architecture: Some microcontrollers use this unified memory architecture, where program and data are stored in the same memory space, but this can introduce bottlenecks since program and data fetches compete for the same bus.

### Pointers in Embedded C

- Pointers in C are variables that store the memory address of another variable. In embedded C, pointers are particularly important because they provide a way to directly access and manipulate hardware registers, memory locations, and peripheral devices.
- Direct Hardware Access: Pointers allow you to interact with specific memory-mapped registers and peripherals.
- Memory Management: They are used for dynamic memory allocation, accessing arrays, and structures efficiently.
- Function Arguments: Pointers can be passed to functions to modify variables or return multiple values.

#### int  $a = 10$ ;

int a = 10;<br>int \*ptr = &a; // ptr is a pointer that stores the address of variable 'a' int  $*$ ptr = &a; // ptr is a pointer that stores

 $\prime\prime$  Access the value of 'a' using the pointer

printf("Value of a: %d\n", \*ptr); // Output:

// Modify the value of  $a'$  using the pointer

 $\gamma$ ptr = 20;

```
printf("New value of a: %d\n", a); // Outputs 20
```
 $int arr[5] = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\};$ 

int  $*$ ptr = arr; // Points to the first element of the array

 $\frac{1}{2}$  Accessing array elements using the pointer

for(int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {

```
printf("arr[%d] = %d\n", i, *(ptr + i));
```

```
void myFunction(int x) {
   printf("Value is: %d\n", x);
```
}

int main() {

 void (\*funcPtr)(int) = myFunction; // Declare a function pointer

 funcPtr(10); // Call the function using the pointer return 0;

#### }

```
#define GPIO_PORTA_BASE 0x40004000
volatile unsigned int *gpioData = (volatile unsigned
int *)(GPIO_PORTA_BASE + 0x3FC);
*gpioData = 0xFF; // Set all bits of PORTA to 1
```
#### Program Memory

- Stack and Heap: Typically located in SRAM.
- Global/Static Variables: Located in SRAM.
- Constant Data: Located in Flash.



## Generate Instruction and Data Memory

- riscv32-unknown-elf-gcc -march=rv32i -S -o riscv.s ./code.c
- riscv32-unknown-elf-as -march=rv32i -S -o riscv.o ./riscv.s
- riscv32-unknown-elf-as -march=rv32i -o riscv.o ./riscv.s
- riscv32-unknown-elf-ld -o riscv ./riscv.o
- riscv32-unknown-elf-objcopy -O binary --only-section=.text riscv instr.mem
- riscv32-unknown-elf-objcopy -O binary --only-section=.data riscv data.mem
- riscv32-unknown-elf-objdump -D -b binary -m riscv:rv32i instr.mem

## Managing Local Memory (SRAM)

```
#include <stdio.h>
void printArray() {
   // Local array stored in stack memory (SRAM)
   int a[10] = \{1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1\};
   for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
       printf("%d ", a[i]);
\overline{\ } printf("\n");
}
int main() {
    printArray();
    return 0;
}
```
## Main Memory

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main() {
   // Allocate memory for an array of 10 integers in the heap
  int a = (int \cdot)malloc(10 \cdot sizeof(int));
   // Check if memory allocation was successful
  if (a = NULL) {
      printf("Memory allocation failed\n");
      return 1;
\rightarrow // Initialize the array with values
  for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
     a[i] = i + 1;\rightarrow // Print the array values
  for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
      printf("%d ", a[i]);
\bigcup printf("\n");
   // Free the allocated memory
   free(a);
   return 0;
}
```
Embedded systems are specialized computer systems designed for specific purposes. They

- **Control**
- **Monitor**
- **Assist**

in the operation of equipment, machinery, or a larger system. These systems are present in various industries, such as automotive, consumer electronics, aerospace, and medical devices.

- **Debugging** is a crucial aspect of embedded systems development. As these systems are responsible for critical operations, any error or malfunction can have severe consequences.
- Debugging helps identify and fix errors, ensuring the system functions as expected.
- Moreover, it contributes to the overall quality, reliability, and performance of the embedded system

### **Understanding Debugging**

Debugging is the process of

- **Identifying,**
- **Analyzing,**
- **Resolving issues within a software or hard**

It involves

- **finding the root cause of problems,**
- **understanding their impact, and**
- **implementing solutions to ensure proper formation**



### **Goals and Objectives of Debugging**

- The primary goal of debugging is to ensure that a system functions as intended. This involves identifying and fixing errors, optimizing performance, and enhancing stability. Debugging aims to:
- Locate and resolve software bugs and hardware issues.
- Improve system performance and efficiency.
- Enhance the user experience by fixing usability issues.
- Ensure compliance with industry standards and best practices.
- Maintain system stability and reliability.

### **Importance of Debugging in Embedded Systems**

Debugging plays a vital role in embedded systems development. Due to the specialized nature of these systems, errors can lead to severe consequences, such as equipment malfunction or even safety hazards.

- Debugging helps ensure the proper functioning of embedded systems by:
- Eliminating errors that can compromise system performance and safety.
- Optimizing resource usage, which is crucial in systems with limited resources.
- Enhancing system stability and reliability.
- Improving overall system quality and user satisfaction.

By thoroughly understanding and mastering debugging techniques, embedded systems developers can create high-quality, reliable, and efficient systems that meet the demands of various industries.

### **Common Debugging Challenges in Embedded Systems Limited Resources and Processing Power**

Embedded systems often operate under strict resource constraints, such as limited memory, processing power, and power consumption.

Debugging in such environments can be challenging, as developers must balance the need for debugging tools and techniques with the available resources. This may require creative approaches and careful planning to ensure effective debugging without impacting system performance.

### **Real-Time Constraints**

Many embedded systems operate in real-time, meaning they must respond to events and inputs within strict time constraints. Debugging real-time systems can be challenging, as developers must not only identify and resolve issues but also ensure that the system continues to meet its real-time requirements.

This often involves analyzing and optimizing the timing and synchronization aspects of the system.

### **Complex Hardware and Software Interactions**

Embedded systems typically involve complex interactions between hardware and software components. Debugging these systems requires a deep understanding of both domains, as well as the ability to analyze and trace issues across the hardware-software boundary. This can be challenging, particularly when dealing with proprietary or custom hardware.

### **Concurrency Issues**

Many embedded systems rely on concurrent processing to achieve their goals, whether through multi-threading, multi-processing, or other parallel processing techniques.

Debugging concurrent systems introduces additional complexity, as developers must identify and resolve issues related to synchronization, race conditions, and other concurrency-related challenges.

### **Debugging Techniques for Embedded Systems**

### **1. Static Code Analysis**

Static code analysis involves examining the source code of a system without executing it. It helps identify potential issues such as syntax errors, memory leaks, and coding standard violations. The benefits of static code analysis include early detection of errors, improved code quality, and reduced development time.

Some popular static code analysis tools for embedded systems include:

PC-Lint: A widely used tool for analyzing C and C++ code

Cppcheck: An open-source tool for detecting bugs in C and C++ code

CodeSonar: A commercial tool for analyzing C, C++, Java, and Ada code

MISRA-C: A set of coding standards for embedded systems development in C

### **2. Dynamic Analysis**

Dynamic analysis involves monitoring the behavior of a system during runtime. It helps identify issues such as memory corruption, race conditions, and performance bottlenecks. The benefits of dynamic analysis include real-time error detection, improved system performance, and increased reliability.

Some popular dynamic analysis tools for embedded systems include:

Valgrind: An open-source tool for detecting memory management issues

GDB: The GNU Debugger, a widely used debugger for various programming languages

JTAG: A hardware debugging interface used for on-chip debugging and programming

Tracealyzer: A commercial tool for visualizing and analyzing real-time system behavior

### **4. In-Circuit Debugging**

In-circuit debugging involves connecting a debugger directly to a running embedded system, allowing developers to monitor and control its execution. Benefits include real-time debugging capabilities, improved system visibility, and the ability to debug hardware-related issues.

Some popular in-circuit debugging tools for embedded systems include:

JTAG: A widely used hardware debugging interface, as mentioned in the Dynamic Analysis section

Segger J-Link: A popular JTAG/SWD debugger for ARM-based systems

P&E Micro: A provider of in-circuit debugging solutions for various microcontroller platforms

Atmel-ICE: An in-circuit debugger and programmer for Atmel microcontrollers

### **5. Hardware Debugging**

Hardware debugging involves diagnosing and fixing issues related to the physical components of an embedded system, such as circuitry, sensors, and actuators. Benefits include improved system reliability, reduced development time, and the ability to identify and resolve hardware-specific issues.

Some popular hardware debugging tools for embedded systems include:

- Oscilloscopes: Essential tools for analyzing and troubleshooting electrical signals
- Logic Analyzers: Devices used for monitoring and analyzing digital signals
- Protocol Analyzers: Tools for capturing and analyzing communication data between system components
- Power Analyzers: Instruments for measuring and analyzing power consumption in embedded systems

What do we means by Performance ?

An analogy with passenger airplanes shows how subtle the question of performance can be. For example



The capacity, range, and speed for a number of commercial airplanes.

Which of the planes in this table had the best performance ? We have possible performance criterias' as



### **Computer Performance**

Similarly, we can define computer performance in several distinct ways.

### **Your personal performance Criteria:**

If you were running a program on two different desktop computers, you'd say that the faster one is the desktop computer that gets the job done first.

As an individual computer user, you are interested in reducing response time the time between the start and completion of a task—also referred to as **execution time**.

### **Data Centre's Criteria of performance**

The faster computer was the one. that completed the most jobs during a day.

Datacenter managers often care about increasing **throughput** or **bandwidth** —the total amount of work done in a given time.

**Response time /Execution time**. The total time required for the computer to complete a task, including disk accesses, memory accesses, I/O activities, operating system overhead, CPU execution time, and so on.

### **Maximizing the Performance of Computer**

To maximize performance, we want to minimize response time or execution time for some task. Thus, we can relate performance and execution time for a computer  $X:$ 

This means that for two computers X and Y, if the performance of X is greater than the performance of Y, we have

That is, the execution time on Y is longer than that on X, if X is faster than Y.

In discussing a computer design, we often want to relate the performance of two different computers quantitatively. We will use the phrase

"X is n times faster than Y"—or equivalently "X is n times as fast as Y"—to mean

If X is n times as fast as Y, then the execution time on Y is n times as long as it is on X:

### **Relative Performance**

Example If computer A runs a program in 10 seconds and computer B runs the same program in 15 seconds, how much faster is A than B?

Answer We know that A is n times as fast as B if

Thus the performance ratio is and A is therefore 1.5 times as fast as B.

### **Measuring Performance**

Time is the measure of computer performance: the computer that performs the same amount of work in the least time is the fastest.

Program **execution time** is measured in **seconds per program**.

Also wall clock time, response time, or elapsed time.

These terms mean the total time to complete a task, including disk accesses, memory accesses, input/output (I/O) activities, operating system overhead everything.