EE 193: Networked Embedded Systems

Steven Bell 18 January 2024



This is a course about embedded systems.

But what is an embedded system?







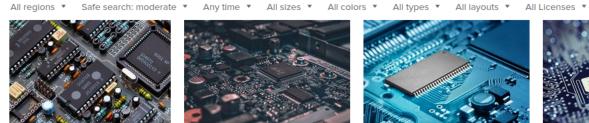






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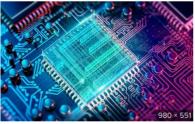
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Functional Safety of Embedded S...



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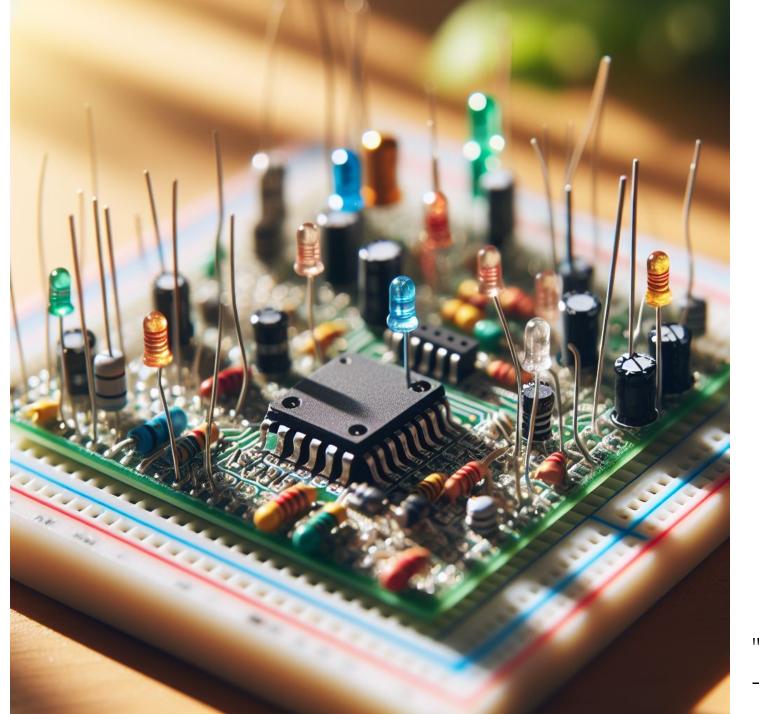












"Embedded System" - DALL-E via Bing

Your turn:

What is an embedded system?

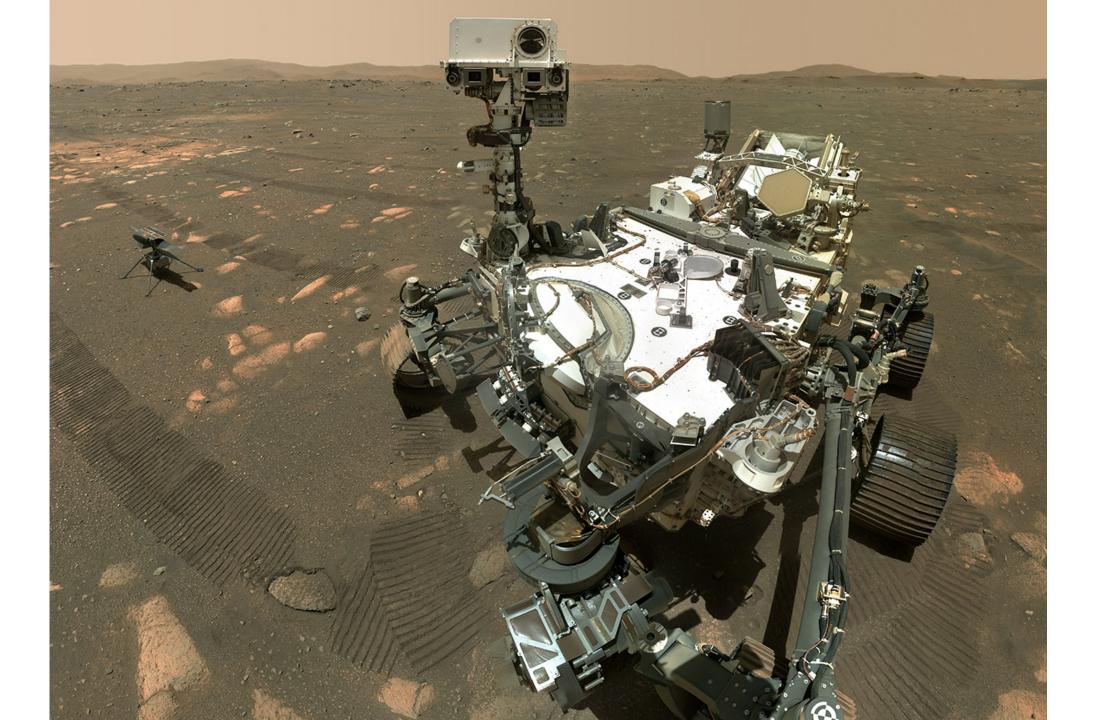
Respond at PollEV.com/stevenbell

"An embedded system is when you're writing code for something that isn't a computer."

(Elecia White)

What makes embedded systems hard?

Let's explore some examples...











The New Hork Times

7.5 Million Baby Shark Bath Toys Are Recalled After Reports of Children Being Injured

At least a dozen people have reported being injured by the toy. The top fins pose a risk of "impalement, lacerations and punctures," the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said.





What will we do in this course?

Go from "Arduino on a breadboard" to "real device deployed in the field"

What are we building?

A fleet of battery-powered nodes which monitor outside temperature across campus.

Three iterations

Iteration 1: sensor, dev board, USB power pack, tupperware

Design a PCB

Get started with ESP32 + WiFi

Analyze performance of the microcontroller

Iteration 2: your own design

Design + build a bigger PCB

Manage power consumption

Iteration 3: fixing all the bugs

Web dashboards and fleet management

What will we NOT do in this course?

High-performance embedded systems

Real-time embedded systems (take "Embedded medical devices")

Safety-critical applications (take "Software for regulated industries")



This is only the second offering of this course, and I'm changing tons of things from the first time around.

So things will be unrefined (or totally broken) at times!

Course format

Sometimes we will meet here for "lecture"

Sometimes we will meet in 550 Boston for "lecture" + "lab"

My office hours will be in Nolop, 1-4pm on Wednesdays

For Tuesday

Sign up on Slack

Read the syllabus (on the course website)

Complete the intro survey (link posted on Slack)

Bring your computer - We'll be searching Digi-Key on Tuesday!