

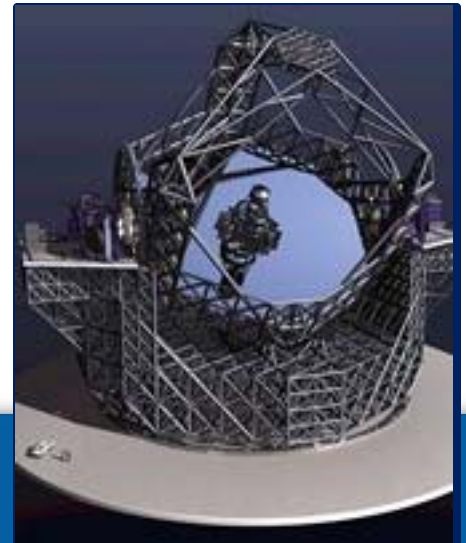


# Customized Off-The-Shelf Technologies Through Industry – Research Facility Partnership

Dr. James Truchard  
President, CEO & Cofounder  
National Instruments

# Today's Engineering Challenges

- Doing more with less
- Time to experiment
- Managing global projects
- Adapting to evolving application requirements
- Delivering on increasingly complex initiatives
- Maximizing operational efficiency
- Protecting system and resource investments



# Transition to Customized COTS

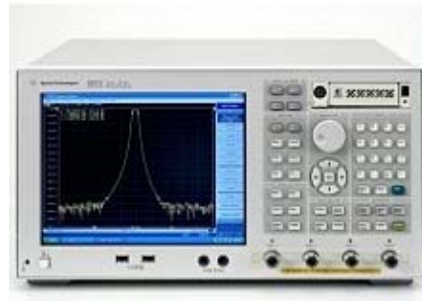
Vacuum Tube



General  
Radio

1920

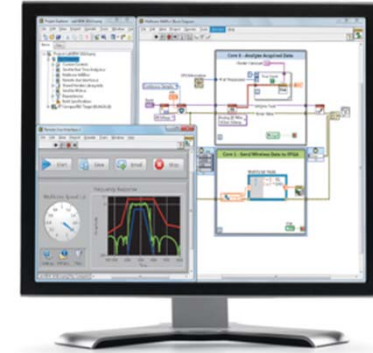
Transistor  
(Integrated Circuit)



Hewlett  
Packard

1965

Software



National  
Instruments

2010

# The National Instruments Vision, Evolved...

## Graphical System Design

Measurement  
Diagnostics  
Data Acquisition  
Reconfigurable  
Instruments

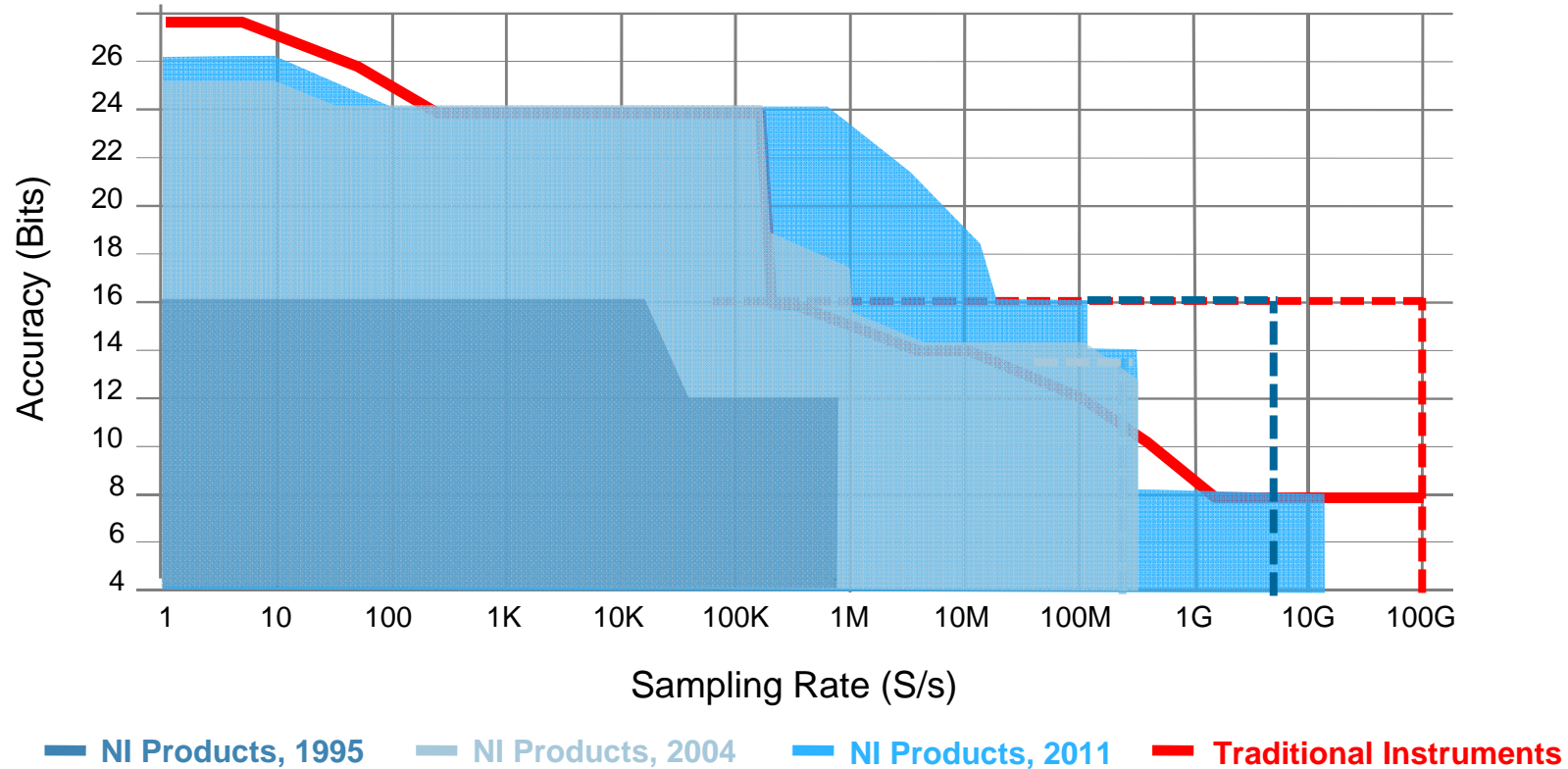
Real-time Measurements  
Embedded Monitoring  
Hardware-in-the-loop

Industrial Embedded  
Industrial Control (PAC)  
Machine Control  
Electronic Devices  
Code Generation

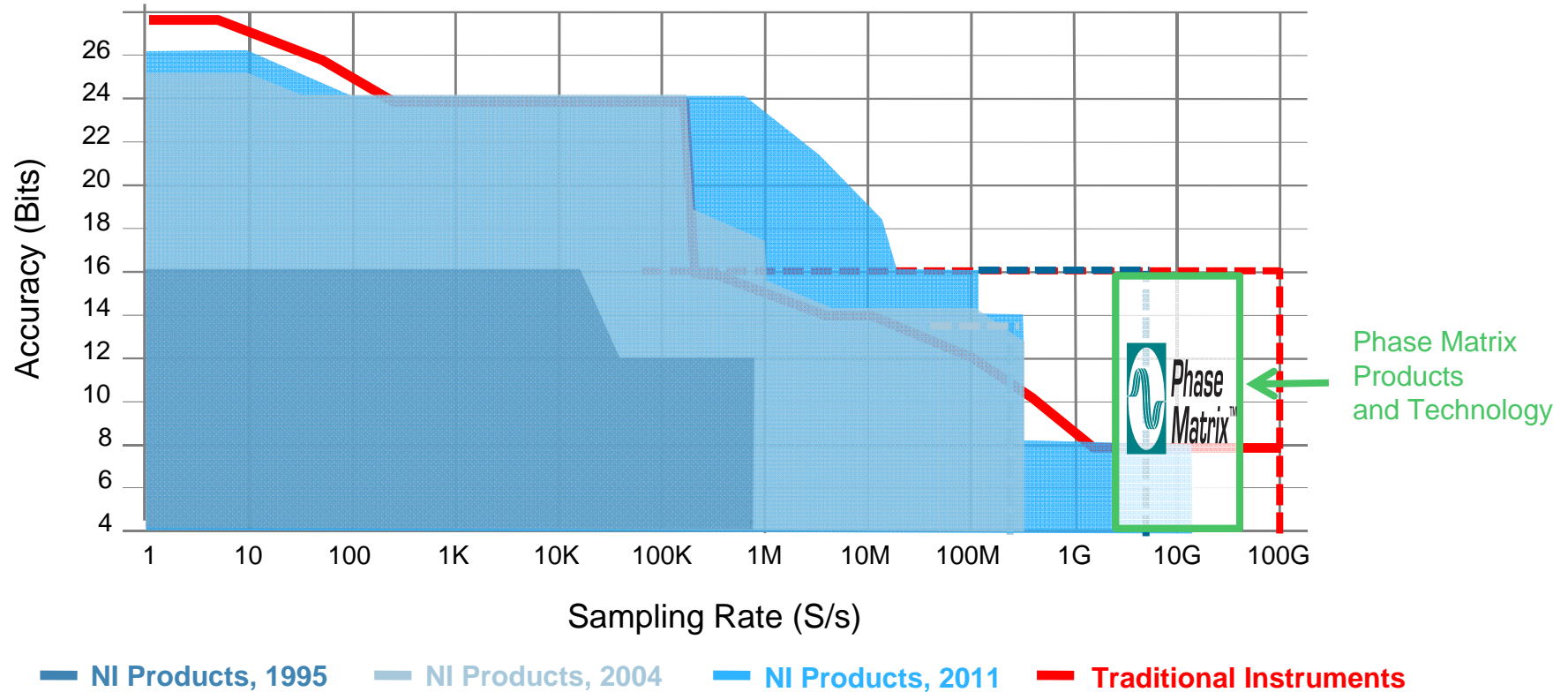
“To do for test and measurement  
what the spreadsheet did  
for financial analysis.”

“To do for embedded what the PC  
did for the desktop.”

# Expanding Measurement Capabilities



# Expanding Measurement Capabilities



# HPCiL System

System Management

Software

Programming Tools

Supervisory Node

Hybrid Compute Nodes  
Real-Time OS

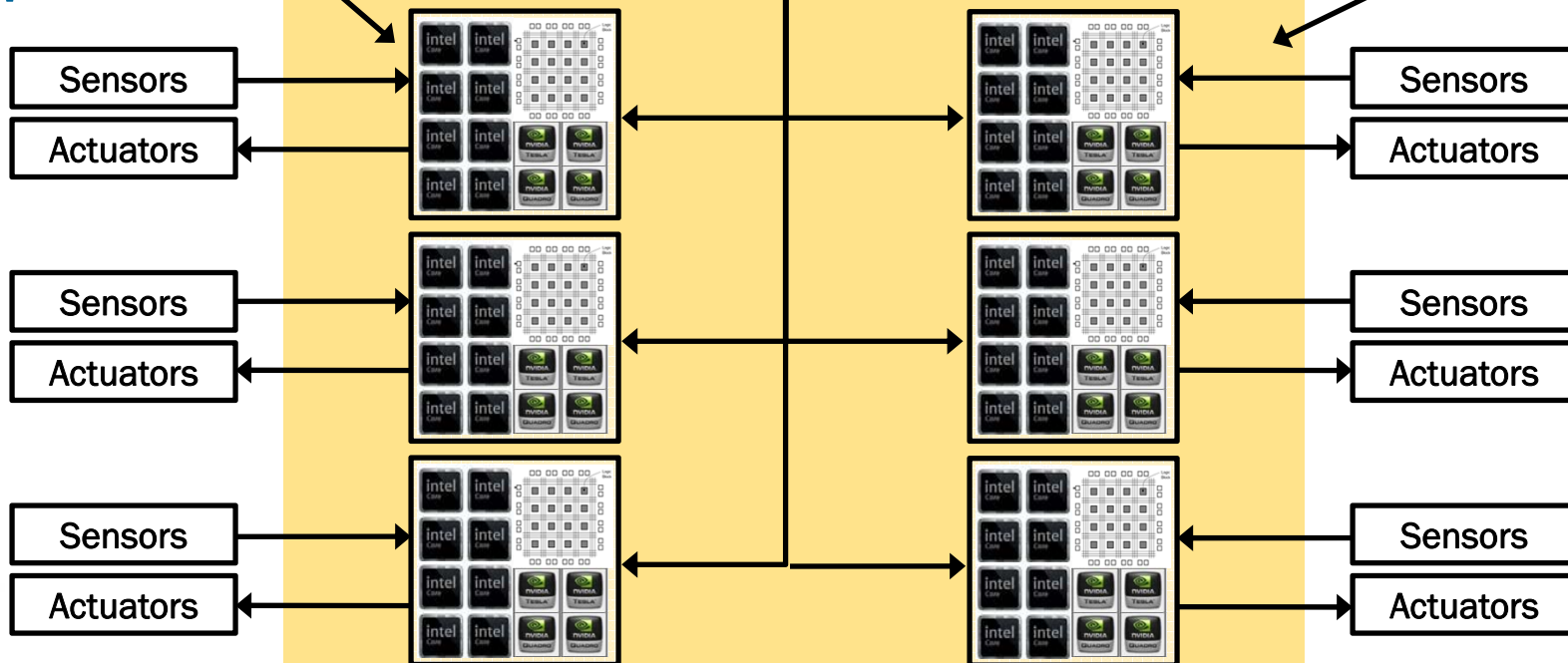
High-Speed  
Deterministic  
Interconnect

Compute Nodes

CPUs, FPGAs, GPUs

CPUs, FPGAs, GPUs

I/O





# Partnership with Industry

## Continuous innovation

- Leverage R&D investment and latest technology
- Tools and platforms that allow faster iteration

## Simplification and cost reduction

- Empower domain experts
- Open platforms to adapt vertical and emerging standards

## Long term maintenance and support

- Life cycle management
- Services and consulting

# Partnership with Industry

## Continuous innovation

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- Life cycle management
- Services and consulting

# National Instruments

Corporate headquarters: *Austin, Texas*

Year established: *1976*

Revenue: *\$873 million in 2010*

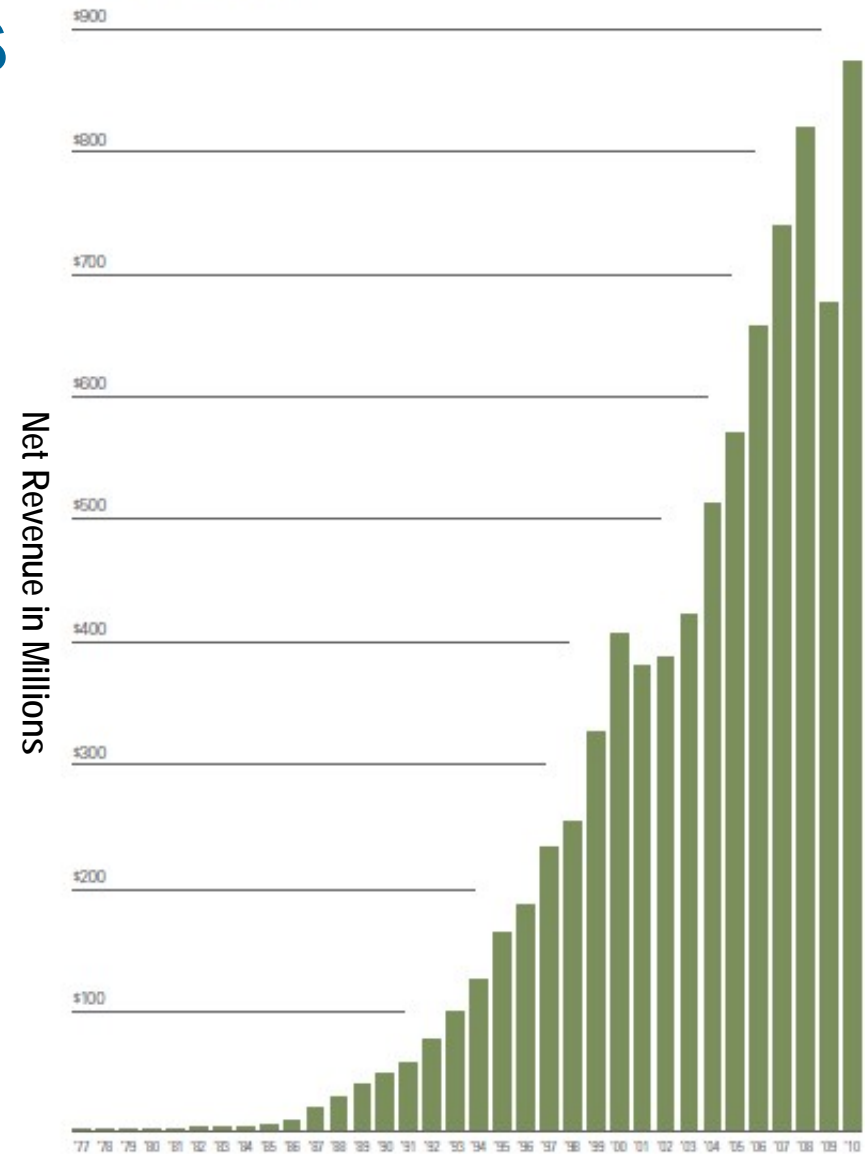
Global operations: *offices in 43 countries*

Investment in R&D: *16% of annual revenue*

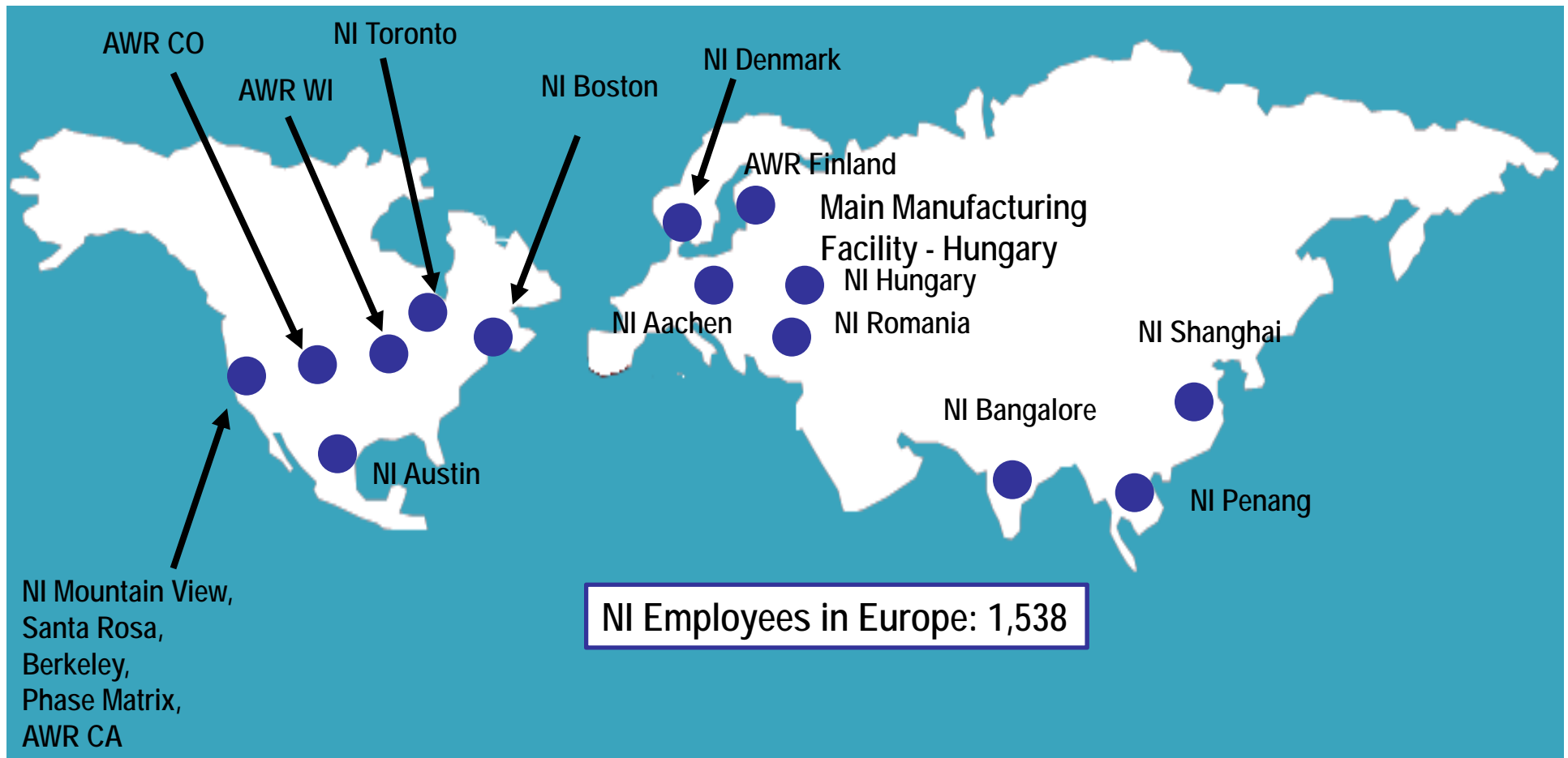
Customer base: *30,000 companies annually*

Network: *More than 600 Alliance Partners*

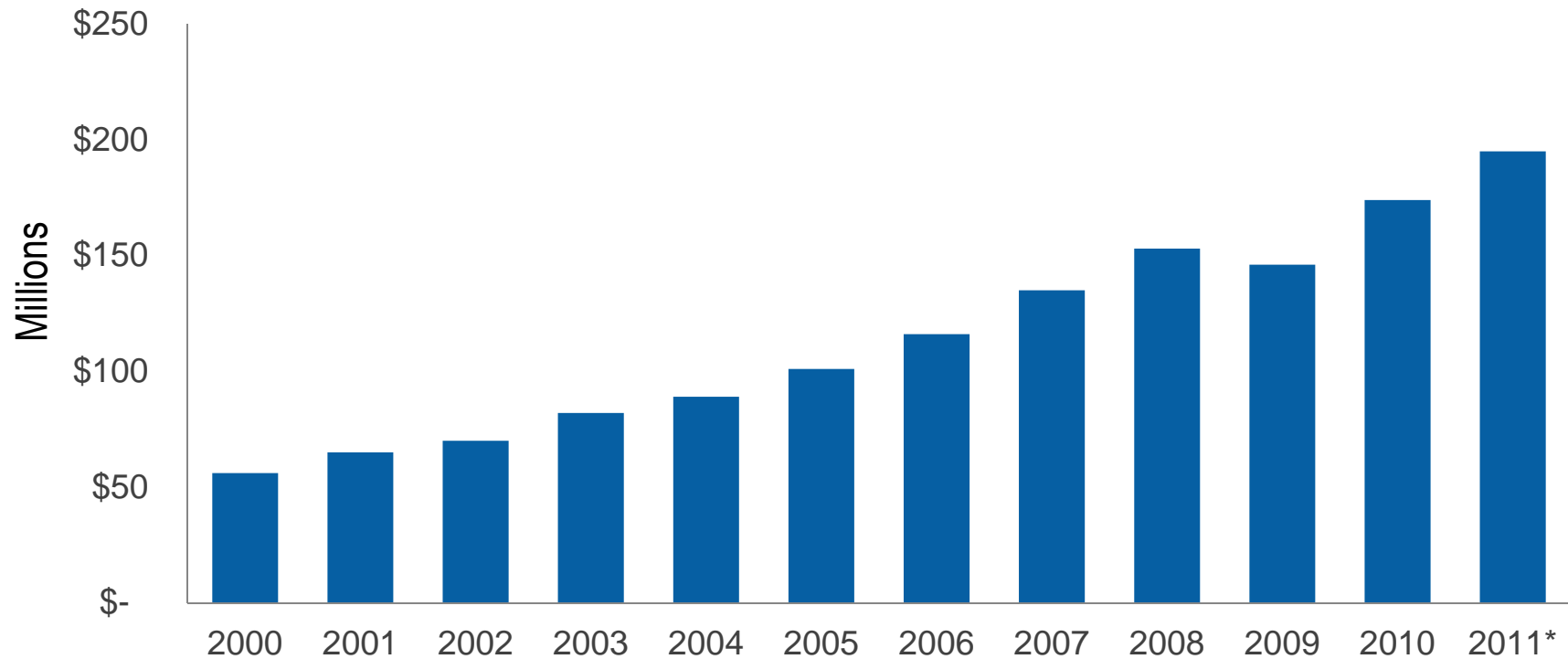
Diversity: *no industry makes up more than 15% of revenue*



# NI Global R&D Organizations



# NI's Increasing Investment in R&D



\*Represents National Instruments expected investment, communicated June 28, 2011.

# Leveraging Industry Relationships

- Apply technologies from wide array of vendors
  - Next generation FPGAs, ADCs, GPUs and processors
- High access to information
  - Regular executive meetings
  - Ability to influence roadmaps



# Adapting To Changing Needs



iPhone 3



2 years



iPhone 4



MacBook Pro



3 years



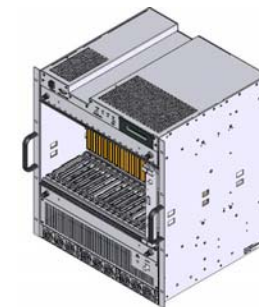
MacBook Air



Custom Design

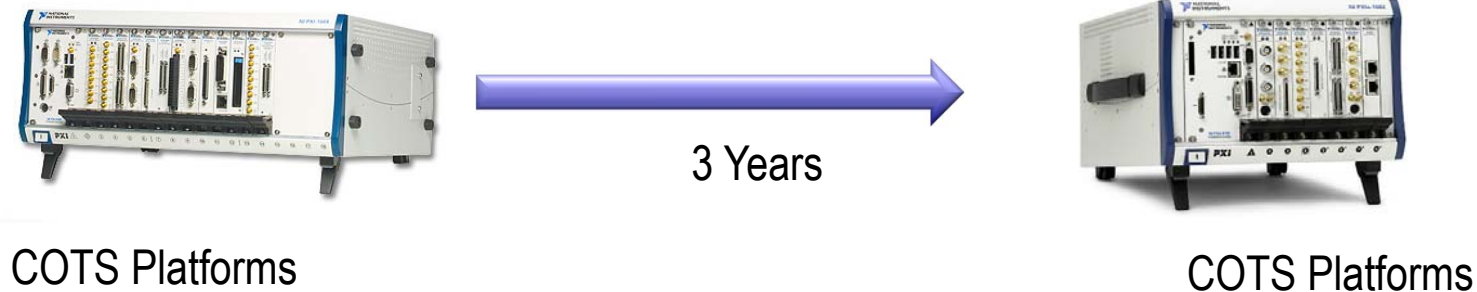
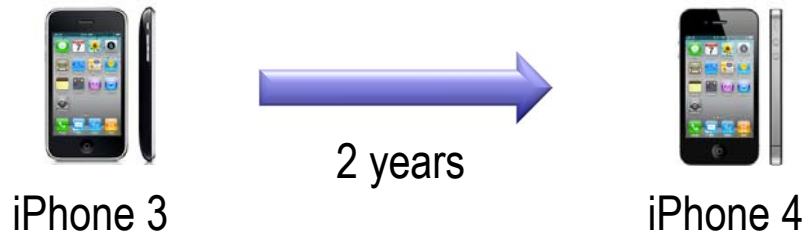


10 years



Custom Design

# Keep Up With Technology While Preserving Investment





# Leveraging R&D Investment

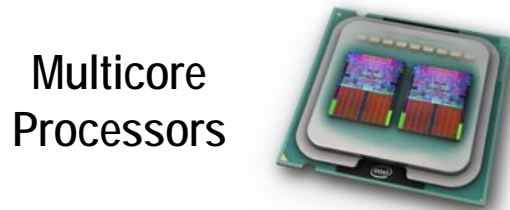
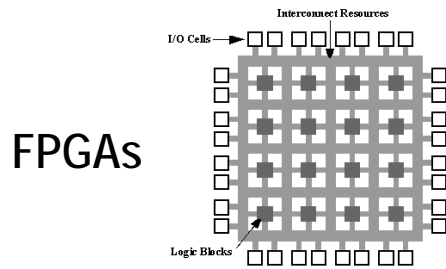
## Investment from Industry

- > \$170M from NI in the year 2010
- >1,600M from Intel in 2010
- >\$500M from Analog Devices

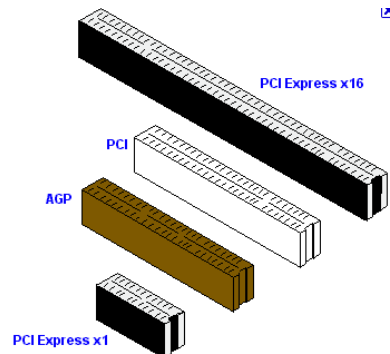
## Combining Laboratory Expertise and off-the-shelf technology

- Custom Front End
- Signal Conditioning
- Algorithm

# Tools From the Industry



Processors



Communication Bus



ADC/DAC

# Putting it together.....



Embedded Controller  
(Processor)



Chassis with T&S  
(Communication Bus)

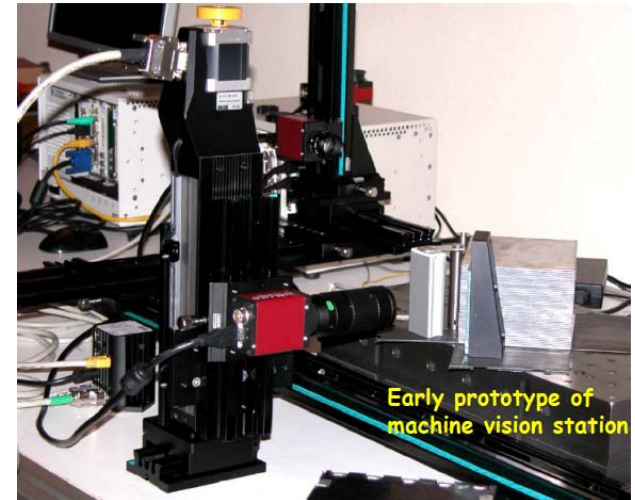


I/O Modules  
(ADC/DAC)

# INFN Gran Sossa – CERN

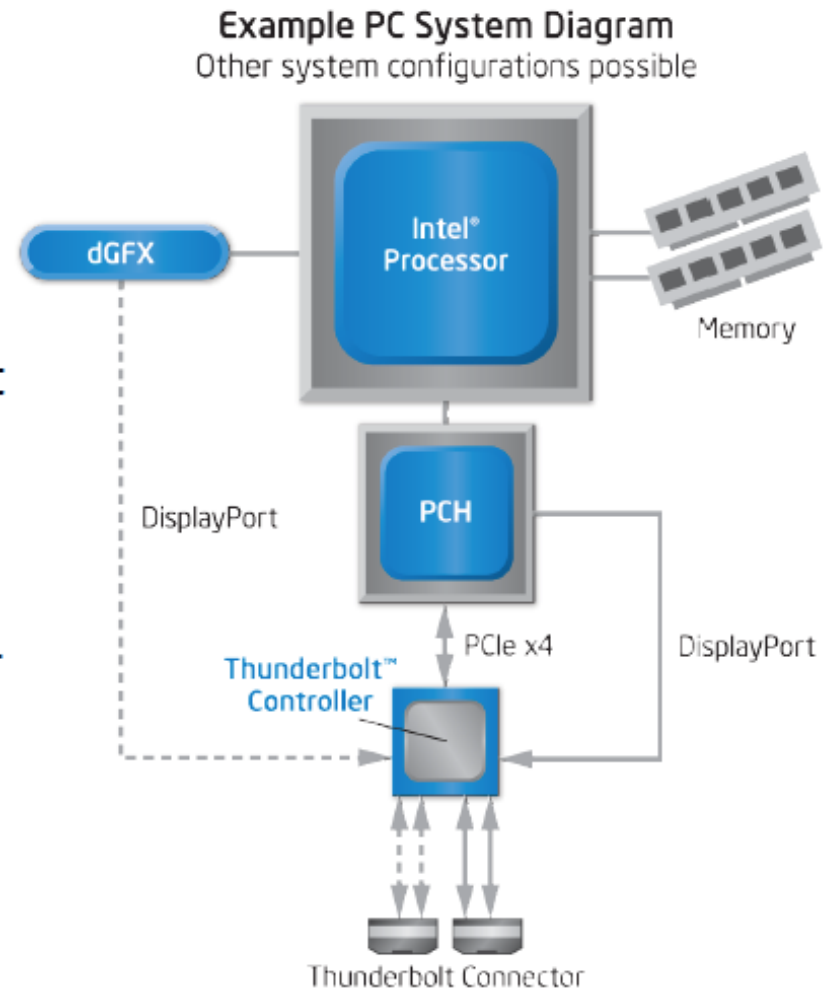
## OPERA Detector for Neutrino Events

- Brick Assembly Machine for the hybrid detector
  - Machine Vision System
  - Dimensional measurements
- NI platforms provide hardware and software
  - LabVIEW programming environment
  - IMAQ Vision Libraries

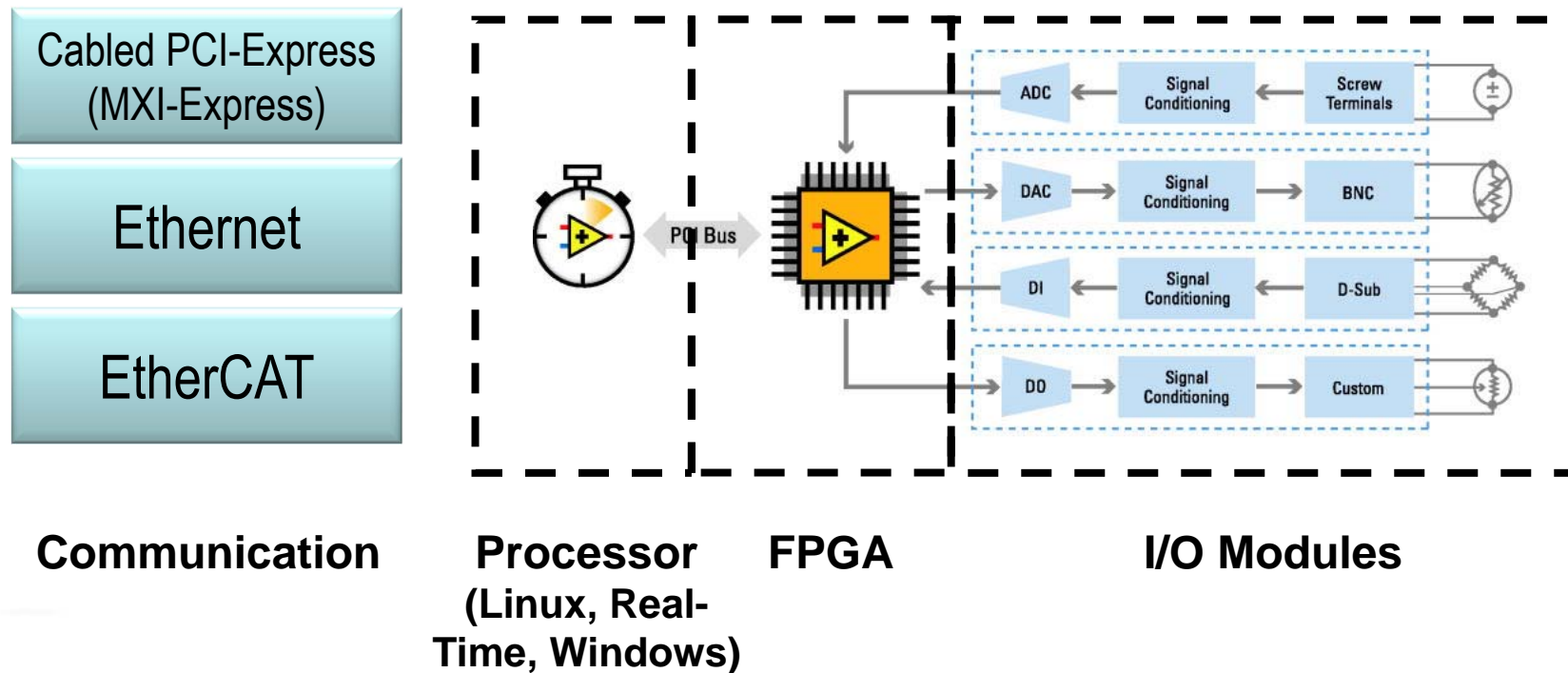


# Technology Architecture

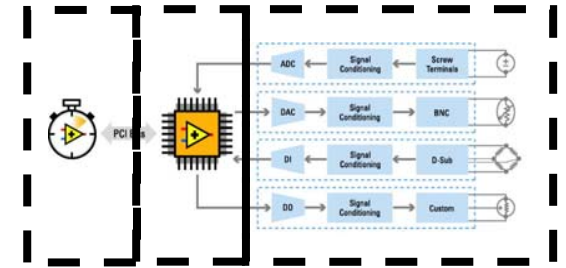
- 10Gbps per channel, bidirectional performance
  - 2 channels per cable
- Native PCIe\* and DisplayPort\* protocols
  - Uses native PCIe and DP drivers
- Compatible with standard DisplayPort
  - Thunderbolt™ ports can operate in native DP mode
- Small connector with cable options
  - Active electrical cable (up to 3m) w/ 10W power, or can be extended with...
  - Active optical cable (up to tens of meters)
- Daisy chain topologies
  - 6 Thunderbolt devices and 1 native DisplayPort display



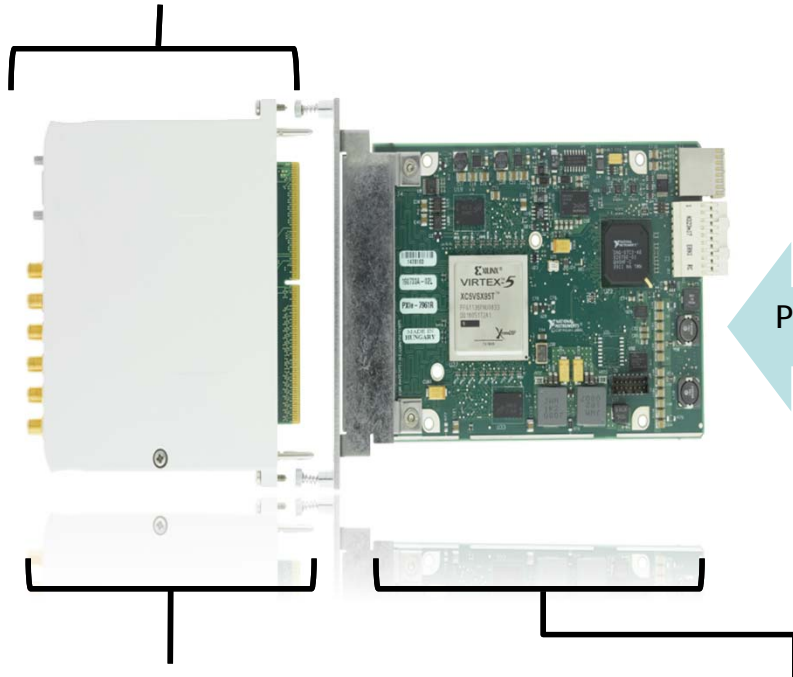
# Combining COTS With Your Design: *RIO Architecture*



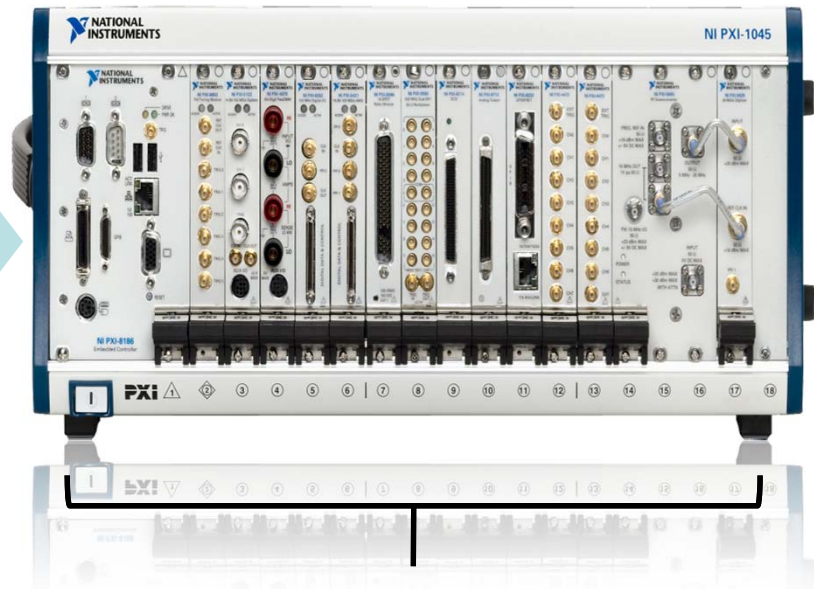
# NI FlexRIO Architecture



Customizable  
Front-End



PXI/PXIe



## NI FlexRIO Adapter Module

- Interchangeable I/O
- Digital or analog
- NI FlexRIO Adapter Module Development Kit (MDK)

## NI FlexRIO FPGA Module

- Virtex-5 FPGA
- 132 digital I/O lines
- Up to 512 MB of DRAM
- Peer-to-peer data streaming

## PXIe Platform

- Data transfer
- Synchronization
- Clocking/triggers
- Power/cooling

# Released NI FlexRIO Adapter Modules

## Digital



100 MHz SE  
DIO



200 MHz  
LVDS DIO



200 MHz  
SE/LVDS DIO



Camera Link



RS-485/422

## Analog



2 ch. 100 MS/s  
AI/AO



32 ch. 50 MS/s  
AI



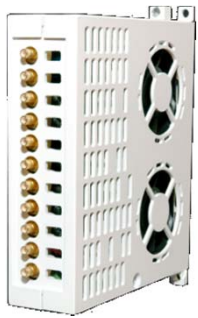
4 ch. 250 MS/s  
AI



16 ch. 50 MS/s  
AI



# NI FlexRIO Partner Modules



100 MHz  
PPMU



Camera Link  
and GigE



Multi-gigabit  
optical



Dual gigabit  
Ethernet



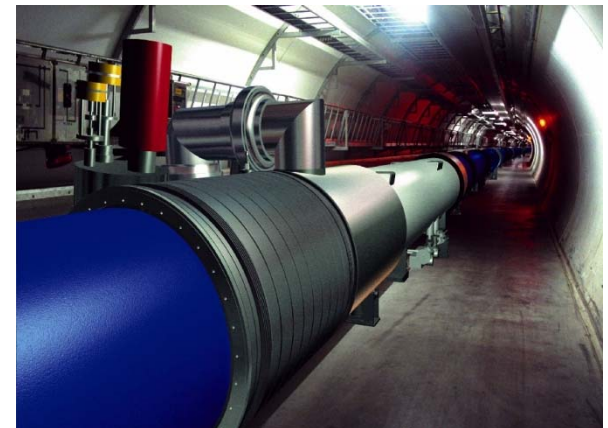
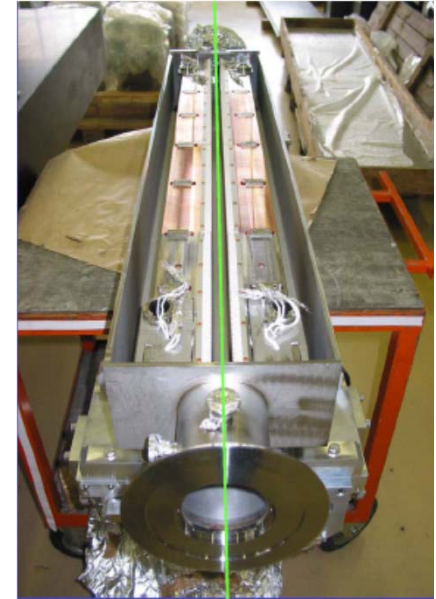
Video and  
Automotive



Time to Digital  
Converter

## Example - CERN Collimator Alignment

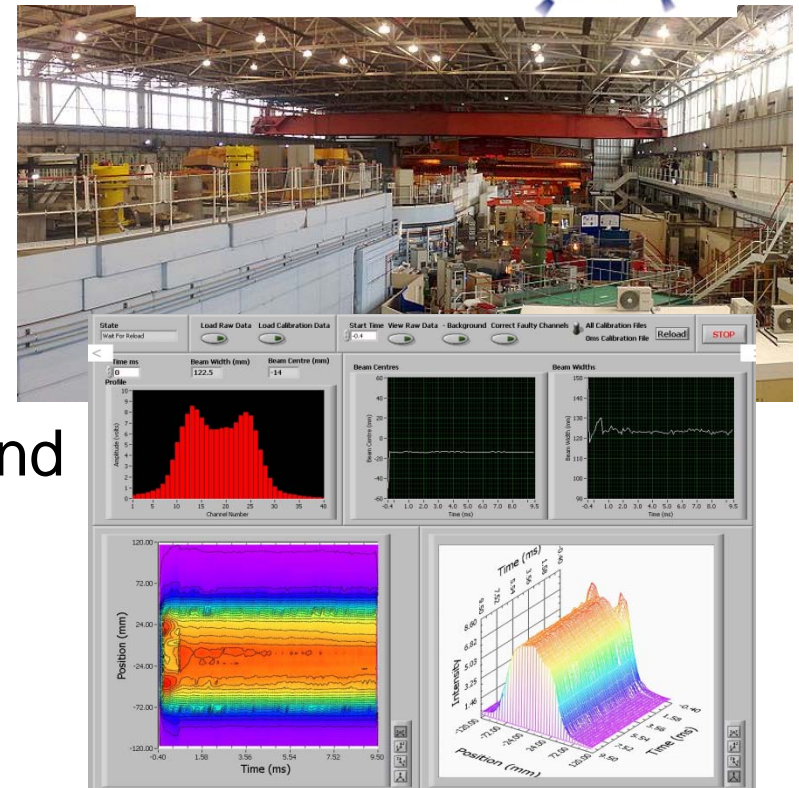
- 550+ axes of motion
- Across 27 km distance
- The jaws have to be positioned with an accuracy which is a fraction of the beam size ( $200\mu\text{m}$ )
- Synchronized to
  - $< 5\text{ms}$  drift over 15 minutes
  - Maximum jitter in  $\mu\text{s}$



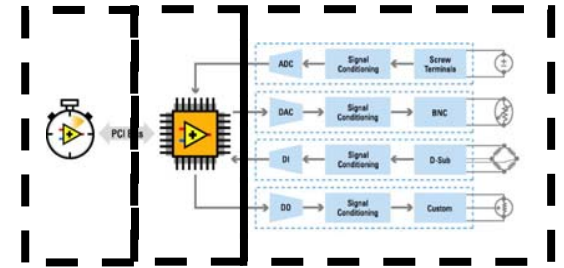
# ISIS Synchrotron, Rutherford Appleton Labs



- Beam data acquisition and analysis
  - Beam loss monitoring
  - Beam position monitoring
  - Multichannel profile monitoring
- Hardware based on PXI platform
  - High speed digitizers
  - Timing and synchronization
- LabVIEW based control system and process display data



# NI CompactRIO Architecture



FPGA

Host Processing  
Real-Time

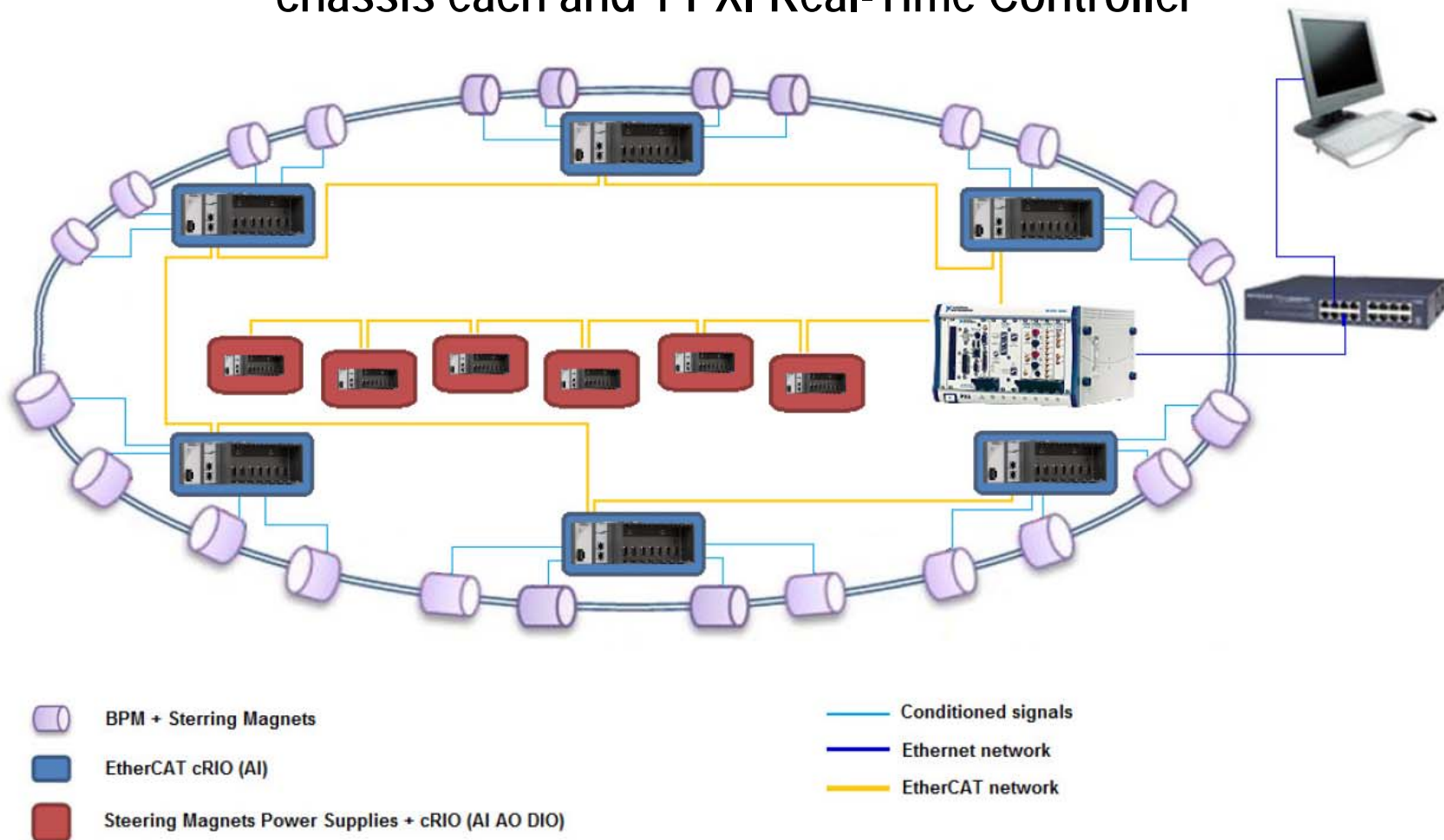
Varied Modular I/O for any signal

# LNLS – Brazilian Synchrotron

## Fast Orbit Feedback Control System

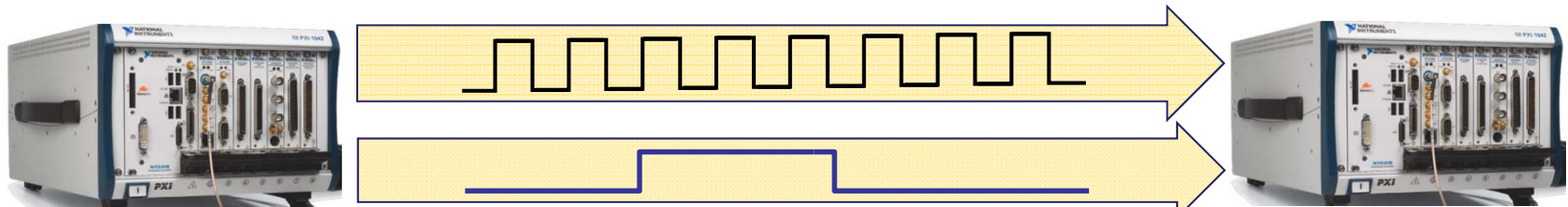


New orbit control system topology: 2 EtherCAT loops with 6 cRIO chassis each and 1 PXI Real-Time Controller



# Signal vs. Time-Based Synchronization

Signal-Based



Share Physical Clocks / Triggers

Time-Based



Generate Signals



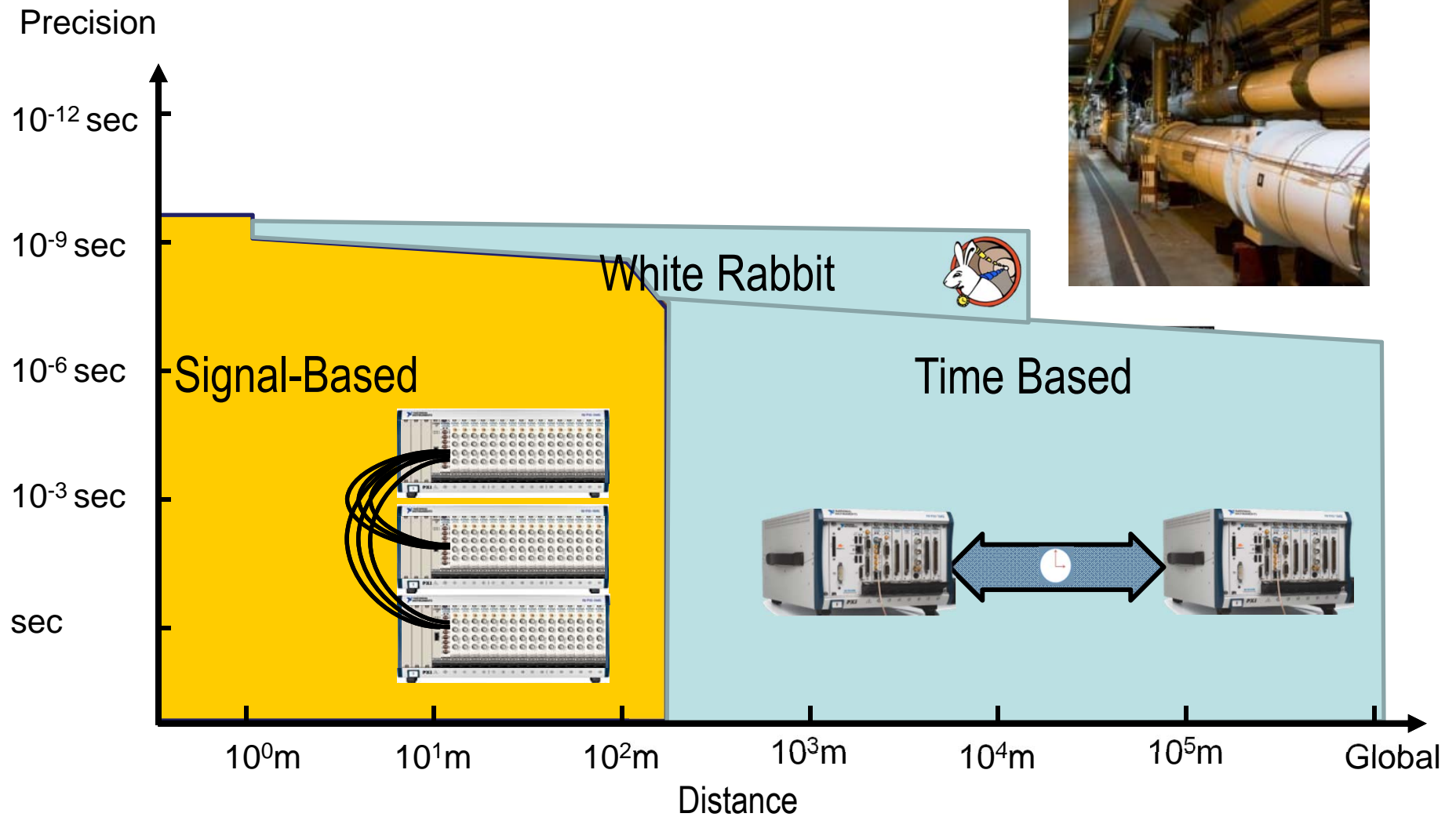
Share Time  
Ethernet (1588)  
IRIG  
GPS  
Etc.



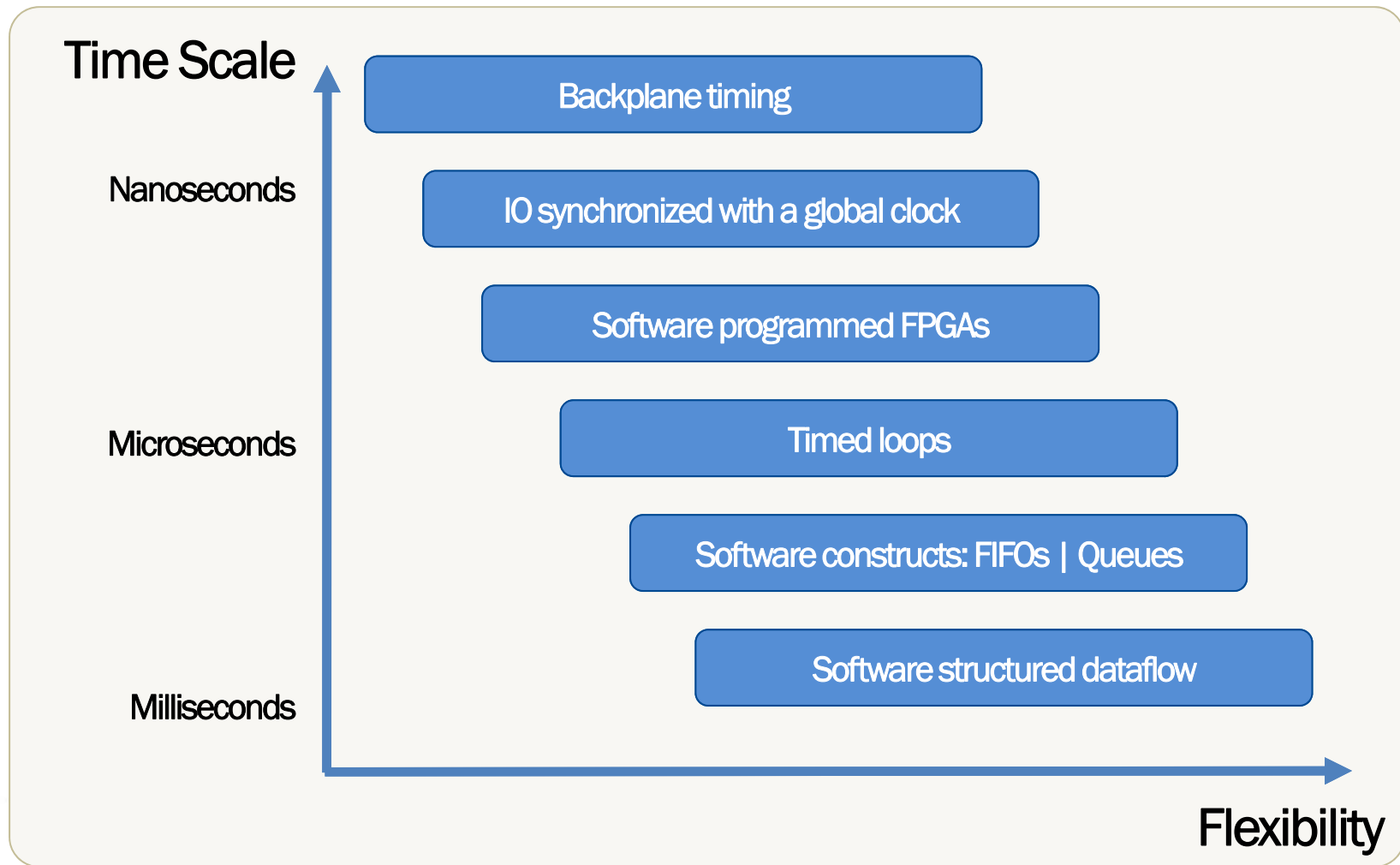
Generate Signals



# White Rabbit: Synchronization over Distance



# Technologies for Time and Concurrency





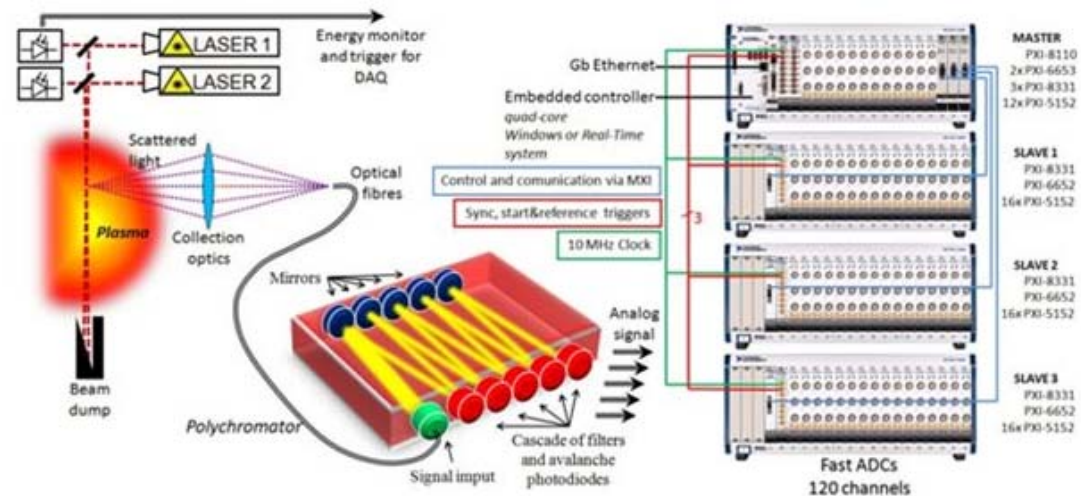
# Example NI and CERN White Rabbit



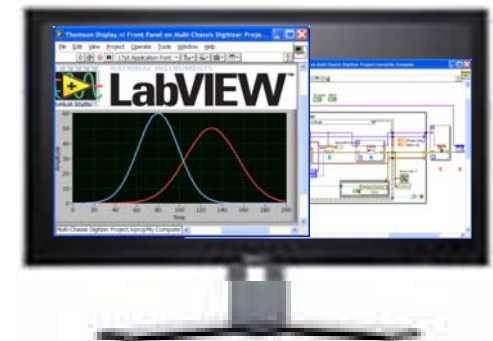
- Partnering with CERN in developing White Rabbit (WR)
- Performance
  - **Distance:** > 10 km
  - **Scale:** > 2000 nodes
  - **Accuracy:** < 1ns skew, < 100 ps jitter
    - Compensates for propagation delay (cable length, temperature variation, etc.)
- Leverage Industry standards (802.x, **IEEE 1588**, SyncE)
  - Gigabit Ethernet communication with deterministic capability
- Generally Applicable
- Leverage for future PXIe modules



# Czech Institute of Plasma Physics



- Thomson scattering system
- Synchronized high speed data acquisition
  - 120 channels running at 1GS/s
  - Tight synchronization over 4 PXI chassis
  - Skew < 500 ps



# Partnership with Industry

## Continuous innovation

- Leverage R&D investment and latest technology
- Tools and platforms that allow faster iteration

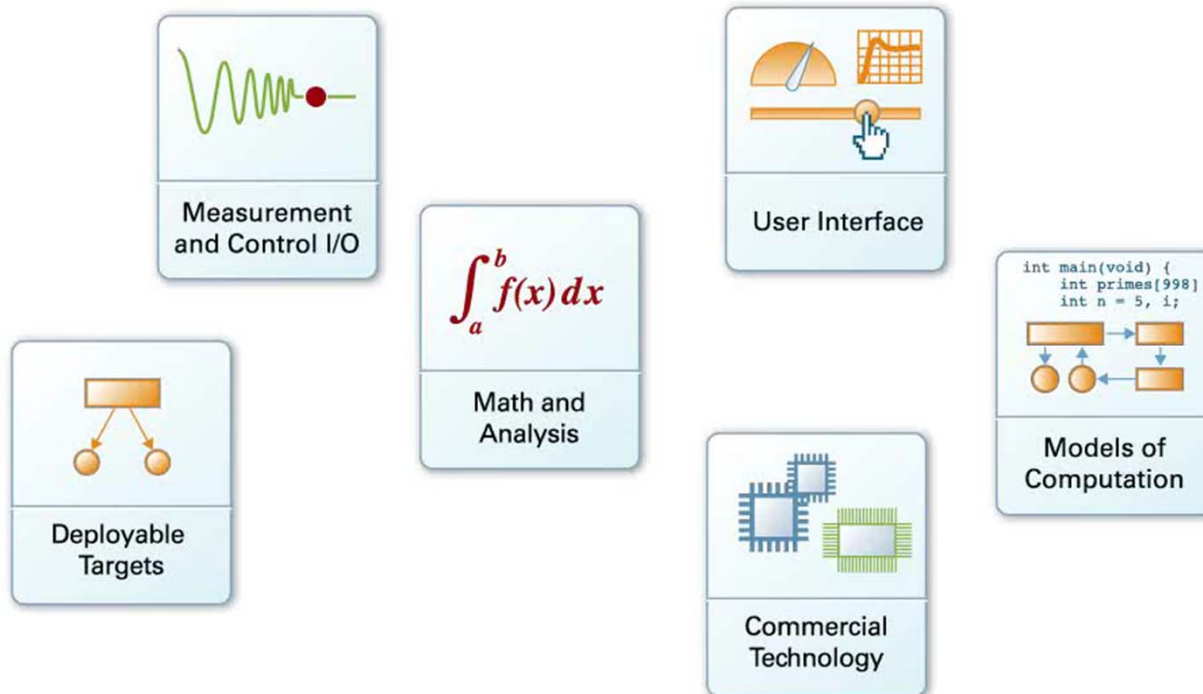
## Simplification and cost reduction

- Empower domain experts
- Open platforms to adapt vertical and emerging standards

## Long term maintenance and support

- Life cycle management
- Services and consulting

# Integrating Elements



# Software

## COMMUNITY

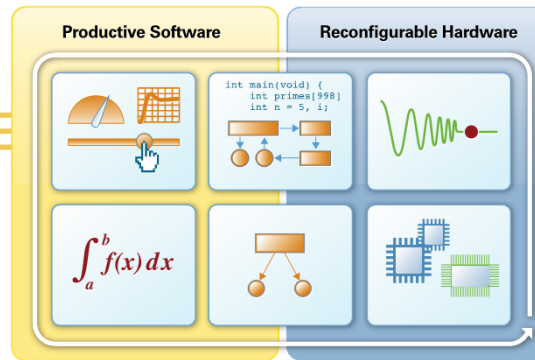
140,000+ online members  
250+ registered user groups  
1000+ job postings online  
400K+ children through LEGO

## CONNECTIVITY

9000+ instrument drivers  
8000+ example programs  
1000+ motion drives  
1000+ smart sensors  
1000+ Third-party PAC devices

## COLLABORATION

280+ third-party add-ons  
400+ Solution partners  
1000+ value added resellers  
35+ training courses



# Hardware

## PROCESSOR

Intel, Microsoft, Freescale, Wind River  
Multi-core and real-time technology

## FPGA

Xilinx Virtex & Spartan  
Reconfigurable hardware

## IP

Control & signal processing IP & I/O  
drivers  
Built-in graphical IP, integrate user IP

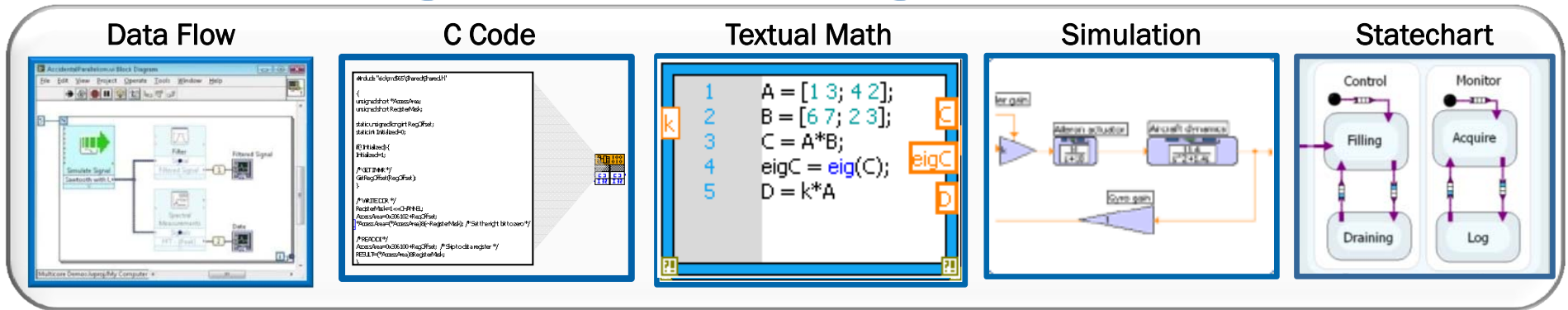
## I/O

Analog Devices, Texas Instruments  
Connect to any sensor & actuator

## BUS

PCI/PCIe, Enet, USB, wireless,  
deterministic Enet, Open architecture

# High-Level Design Models

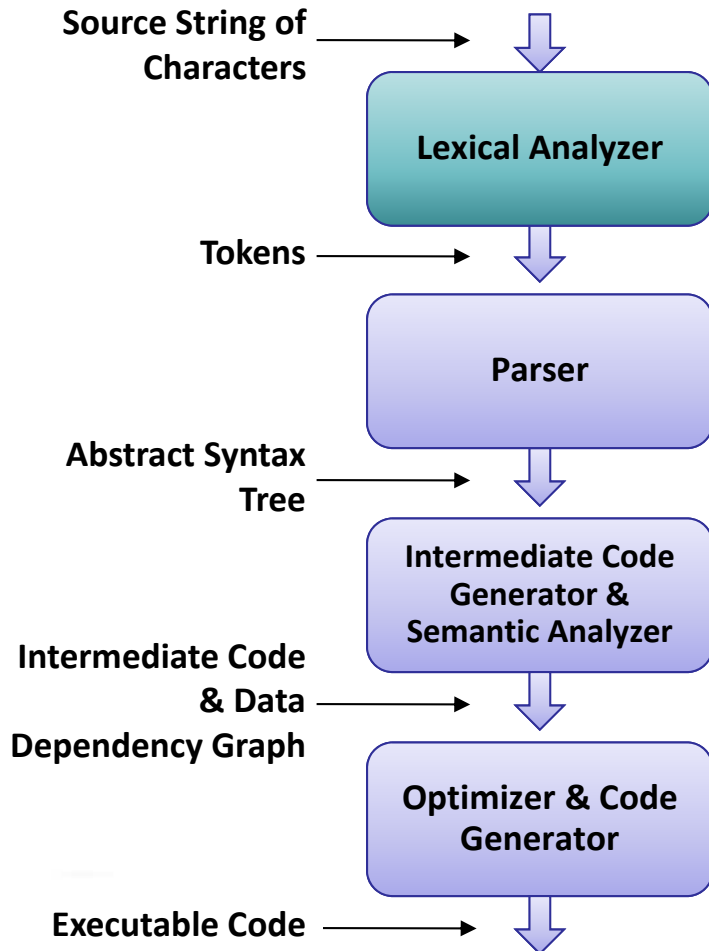


Graphical System Design Platform

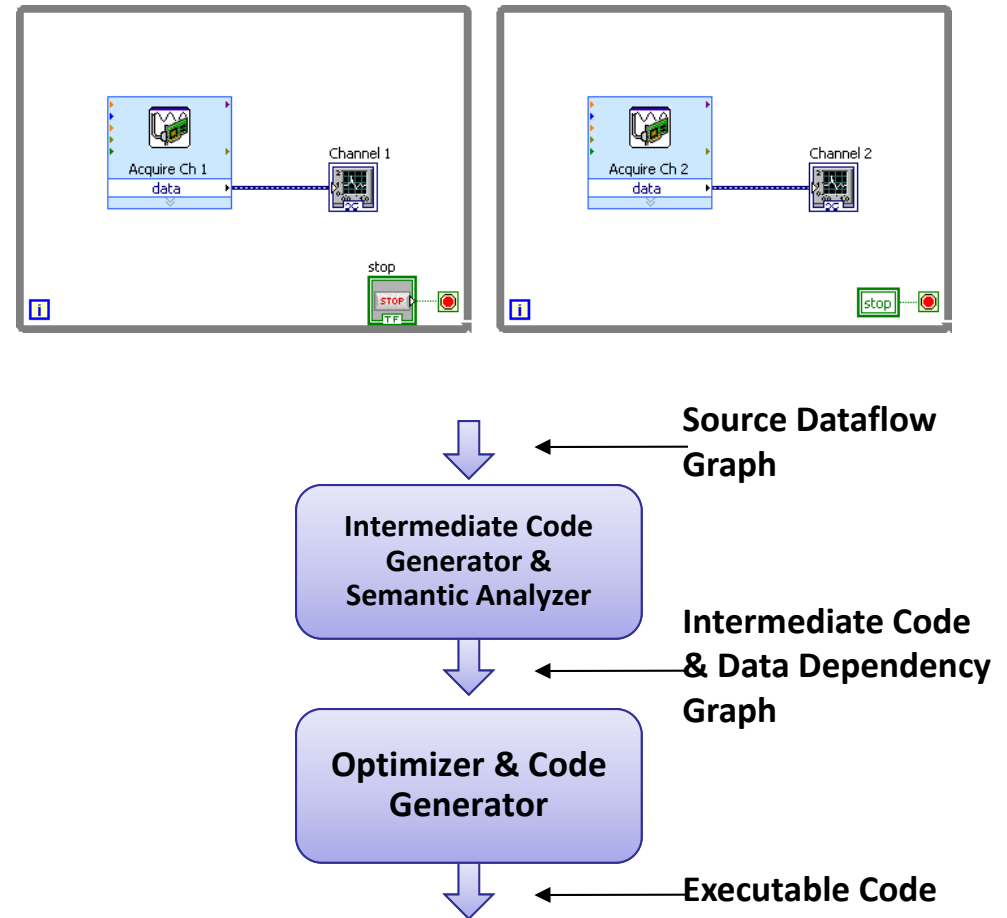


# Eliminating Artificial Complexity

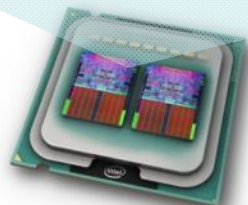
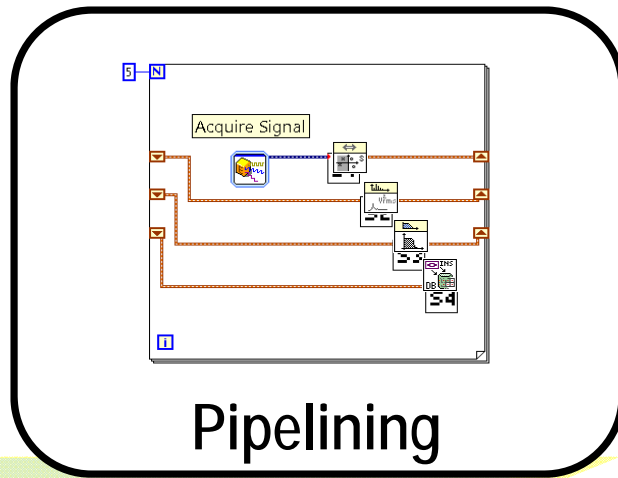
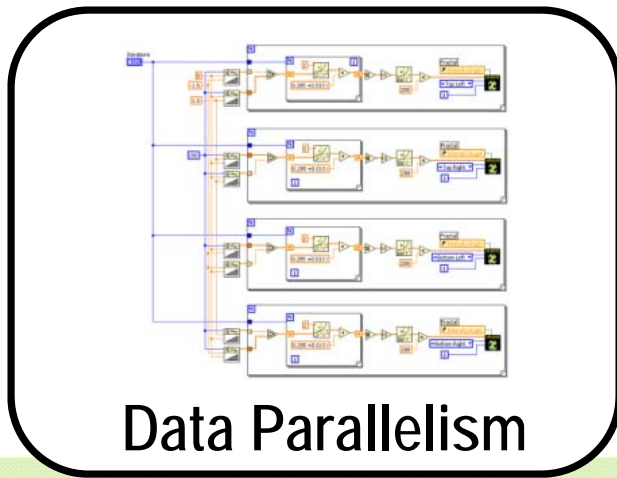
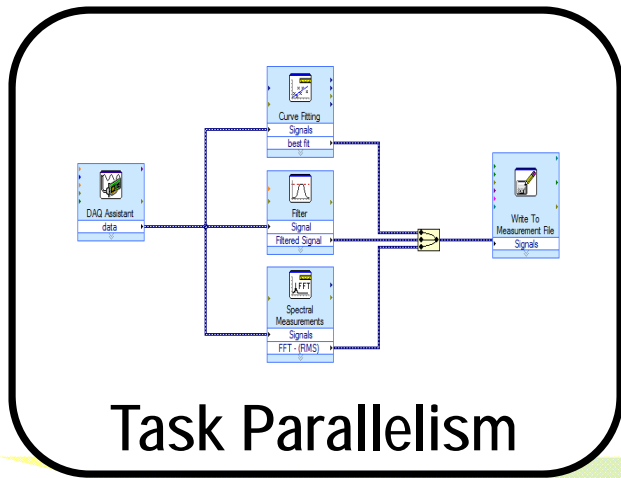
## Text-based Compiler



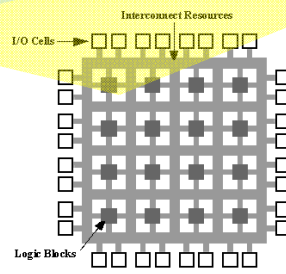
## LabVIEW Compiler



# Parallel Programming with LabVIEW



**Multicore Processors**

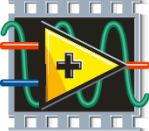


**FPGAs**

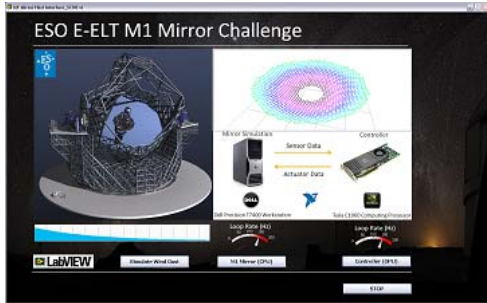


# LabVIEW's GPU Computing Module

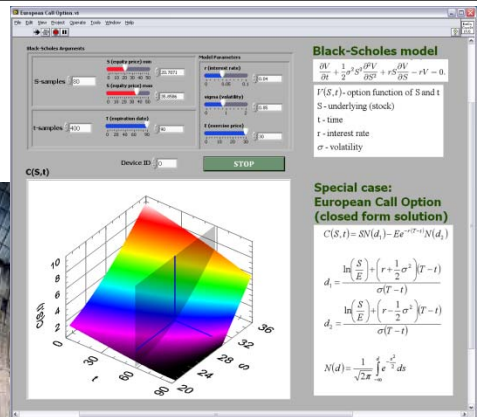
POWERED BY



NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS  
**LabVIEW™**




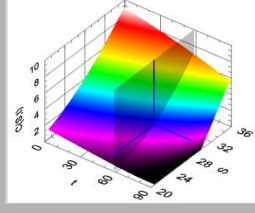
ESO E-ELT M1 Mirror Challenge





Black-Scholes model

LV CUDA












**C  
C++**



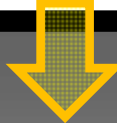
**OpenCL™**




**DirectX  
Compute**



**FORTRAN**

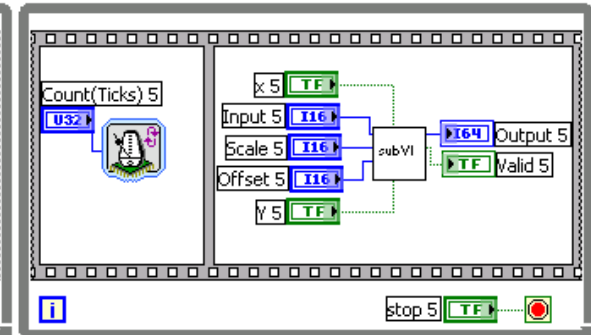
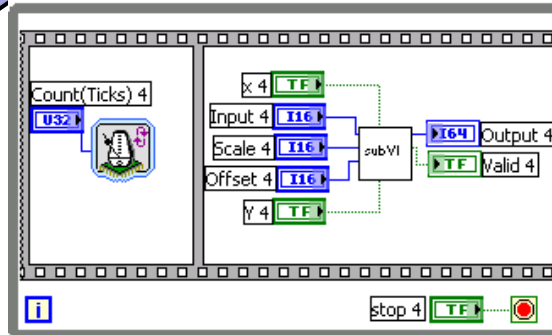
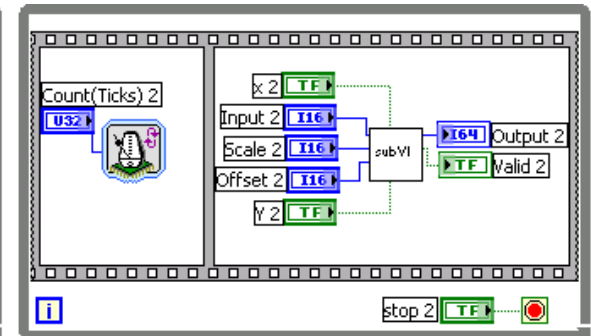
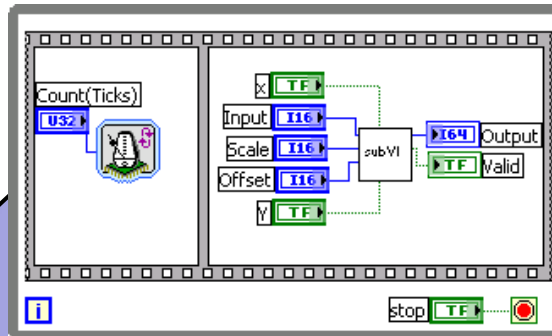
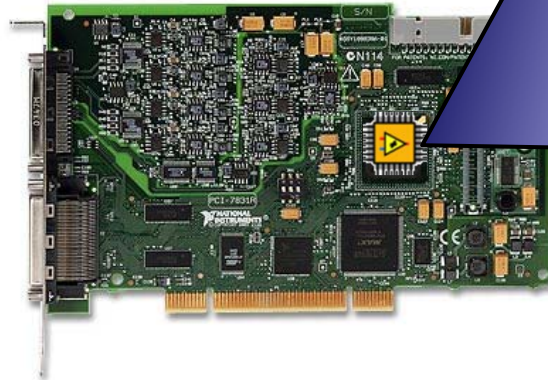


**Java and  
Python**



**NVIDIA GPU**  
with the CUDA Parallel Computing Architecture

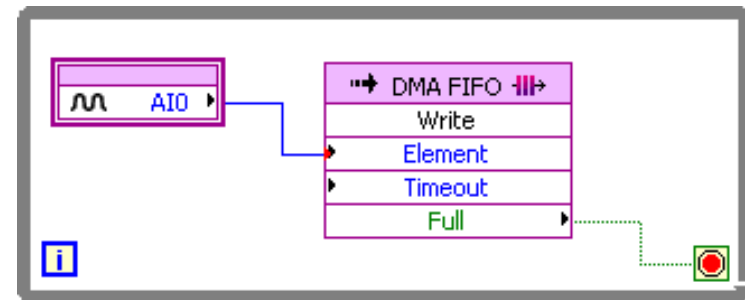
# FPGA Programming: Multicore, Multiprocessor Development



# Abstraction to the Pin



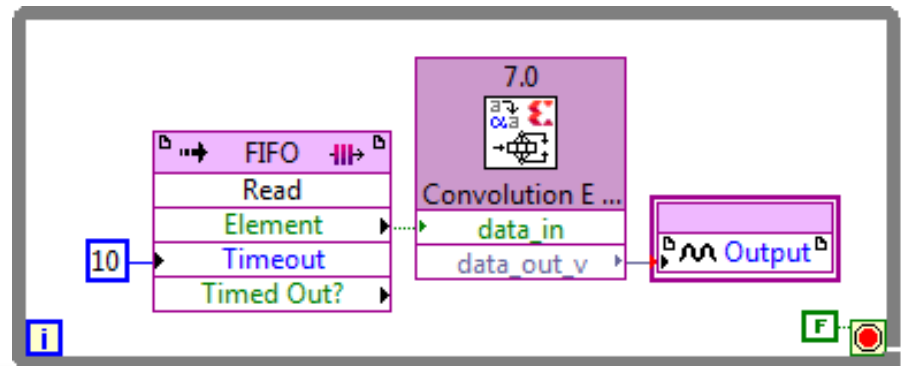
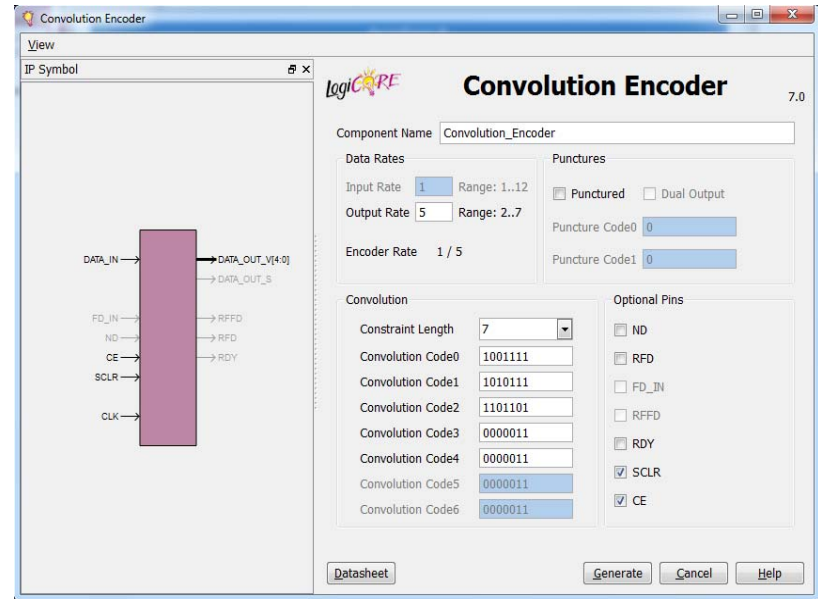
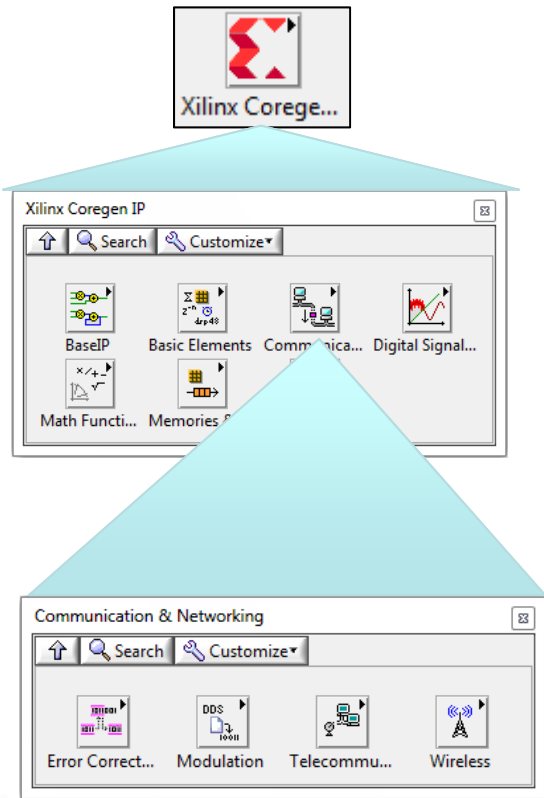
VHDL



LabVIEW FPGA

# LabVIEW FPGA

## Direct Access to Preexisting Xilinx CORE Generator IP Libraries



# LabVIEW FPGA IP Integration Node

1

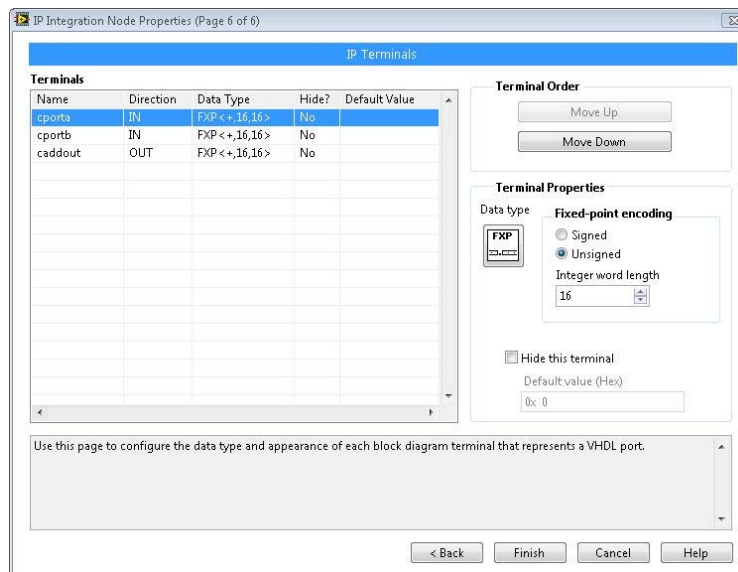
Use Core Generator or Custom VHDL



```
aclr : in   std_log
clk  : in   std_log
a    : in   std_log
b    : in   std_log
q    : out  std_log
```

2

Configure IP Integration Node and Generate Simulation Model

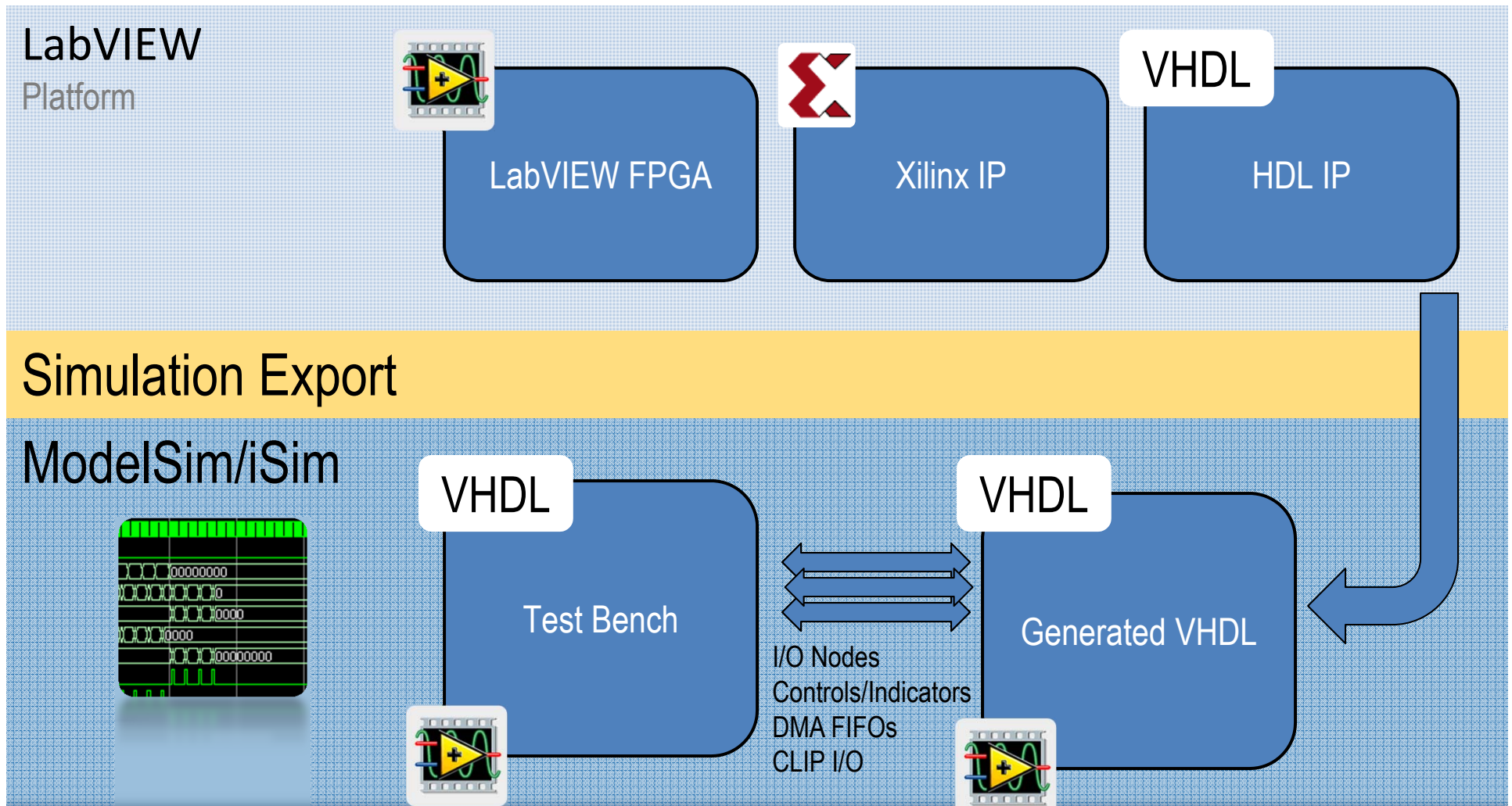


3

Use the IP Block Using Standard LabVIEW I/O Interfaces



# Cycle-Accurate Simulation with ModelSim



# Lawrence Livermore National Labs

Developed automated maintenance process for world's largest laser array at the National Ignition Facility using NI LabVIEW and PXI

- LabVIEW increased productivity by 3X over Java and C++
- Developed complex application consisting of over 1,000 VIs

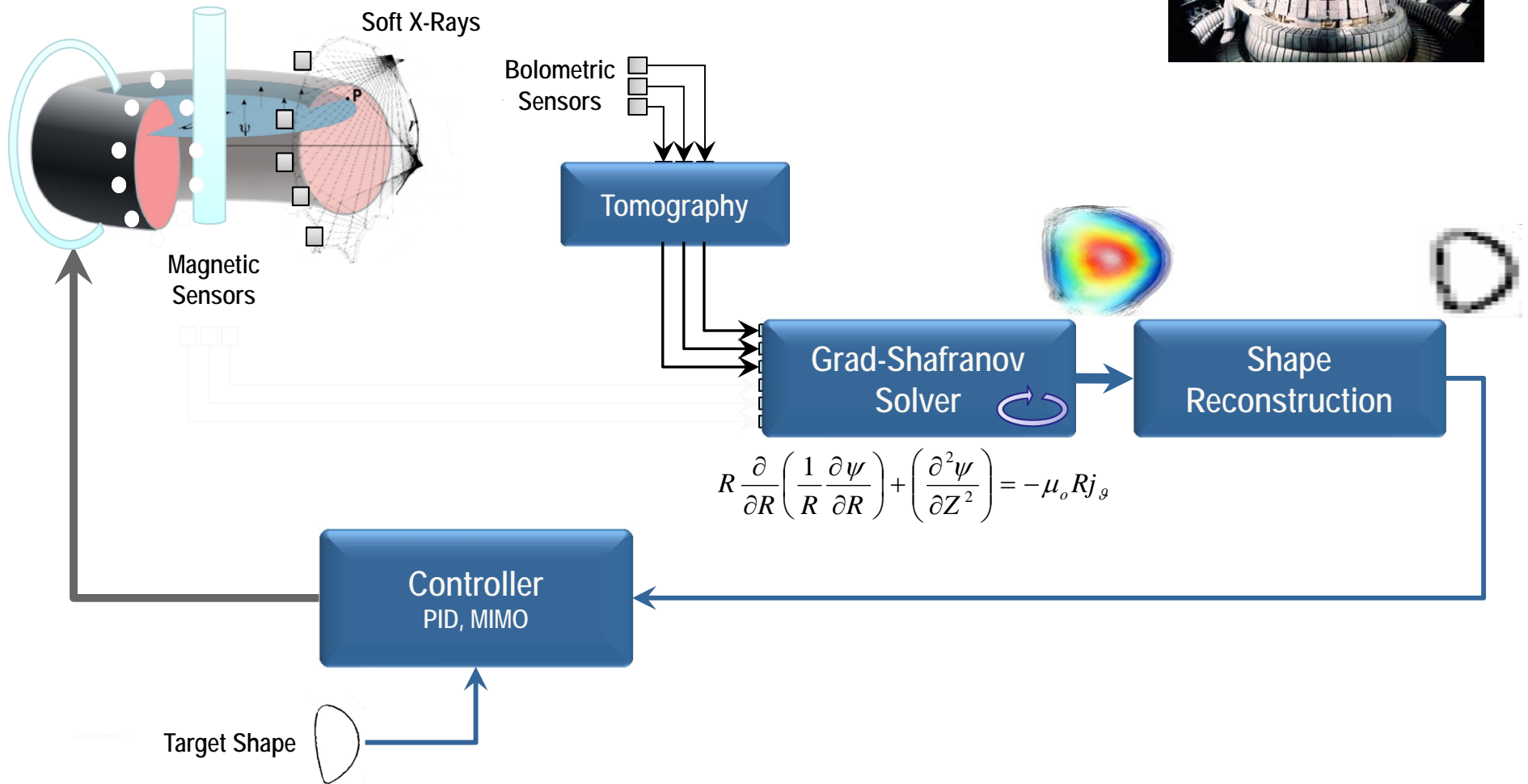


*An overhead view of one of the main laser chambers*

*“The value in using the graphical dataflow language is the speed in which a team can deliver a robust solution while still using proper software engineering practices.*

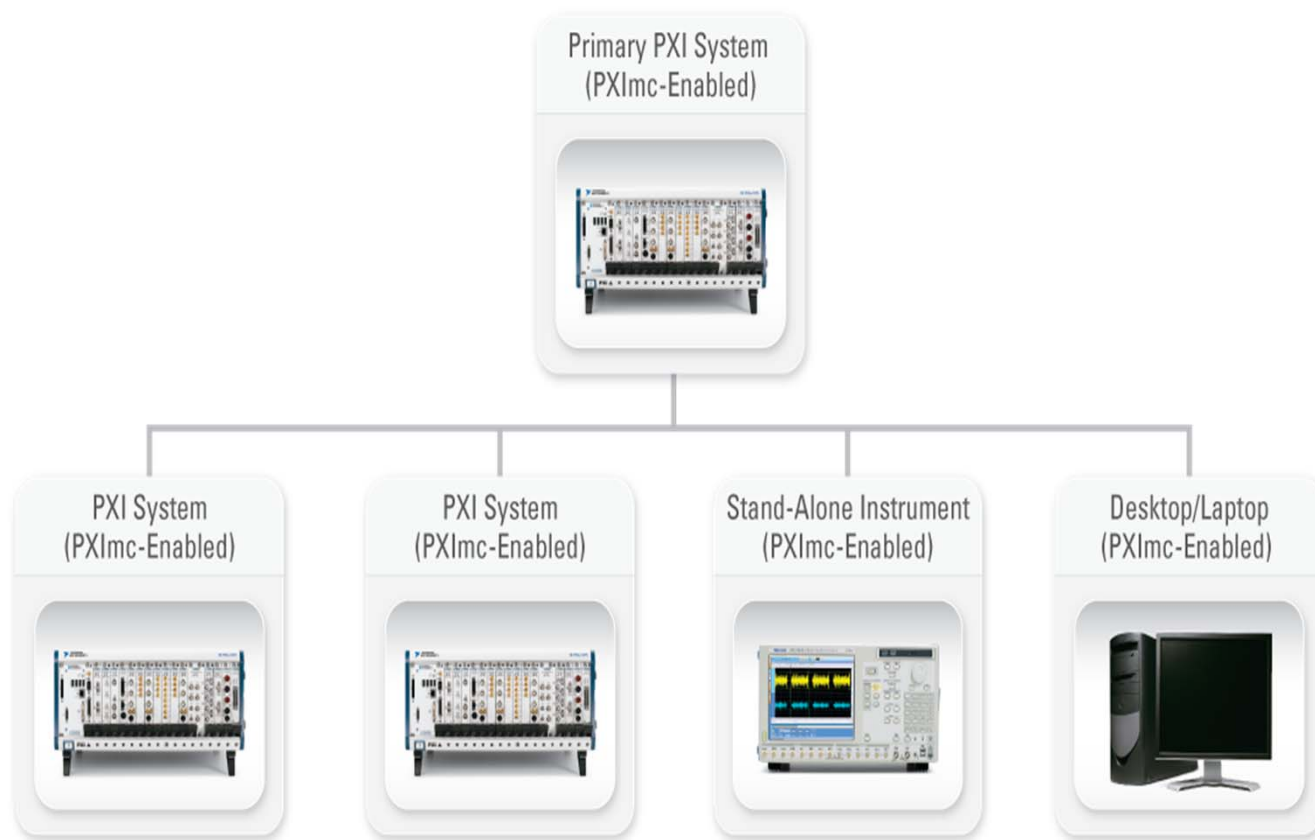
- Glenn Larkin, LLNL

# Example -Tokamak – Shape Control





# PXI Multi-Controller (PXImc)



One Way Latency = 6  $\mu$ S, Throughput = 670 MB/S

# Plasma Diagnostics & Control with NI LabVIEW RT

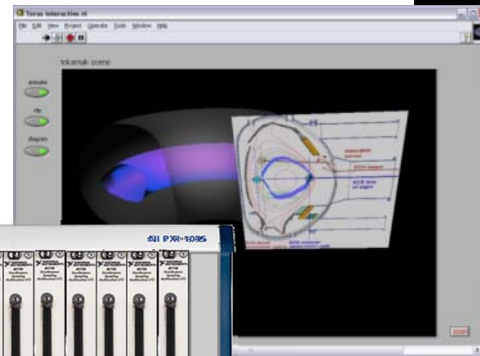
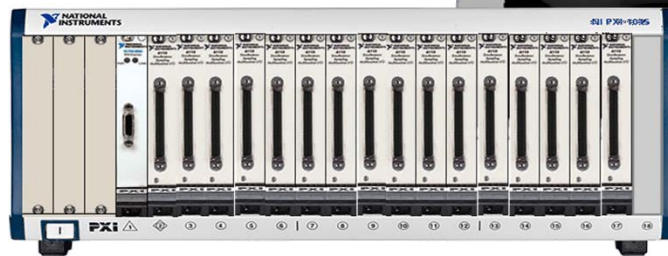


Max-Planck-Institut  
für Plasmaphysik

- Max Planck Institute
- Plasma control in nuclear fusion Tokamak with LabVIEW on an eight-core real-time system

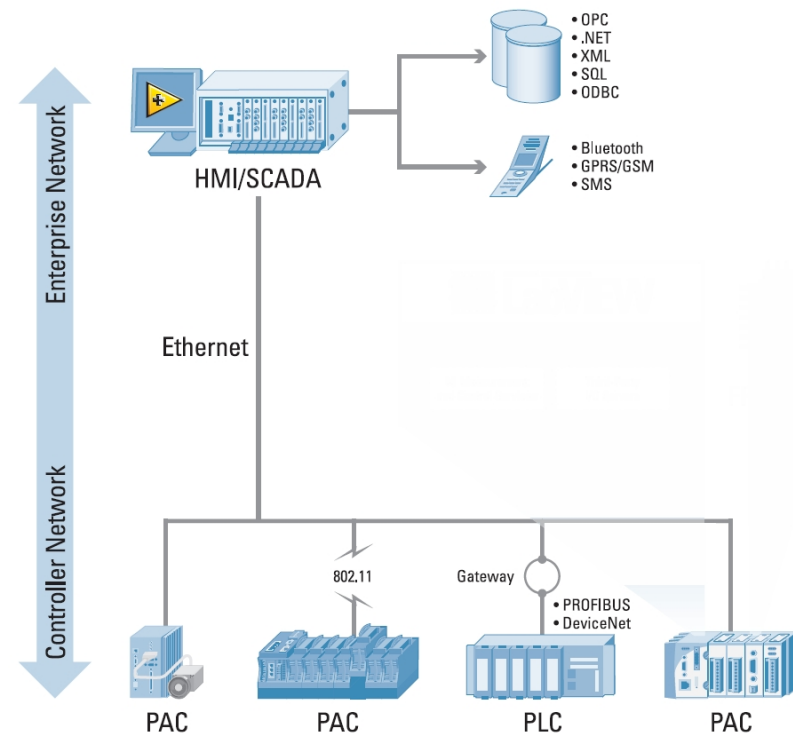
*"...with LabVIEW, we obtained a 20X processing speed-up on an octal-core processor machine over a single-core processor..."*

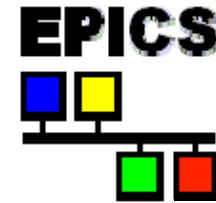
Louis Giannone  
Lead Project Researcher  
Max Planck Institute



# Open Architecture

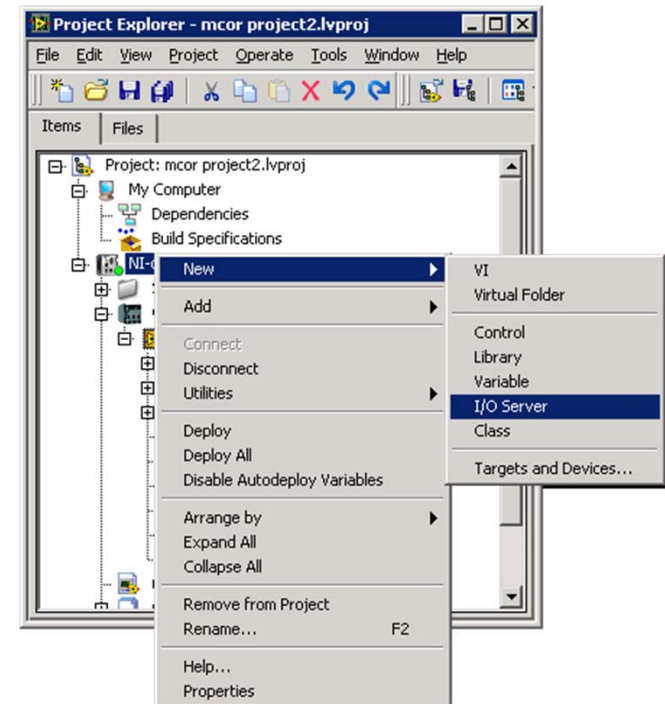
- Controls standards
  - EPICS, TANGO, CORBA, TINE, C
- Connectivity to different devices
  - OPC, Modbus, TCP/IP, UDP, EtherCAT, Serial
- Flexibility
  - Windows, RTOS, FPGA





# EPICS Integration With LabVIEW

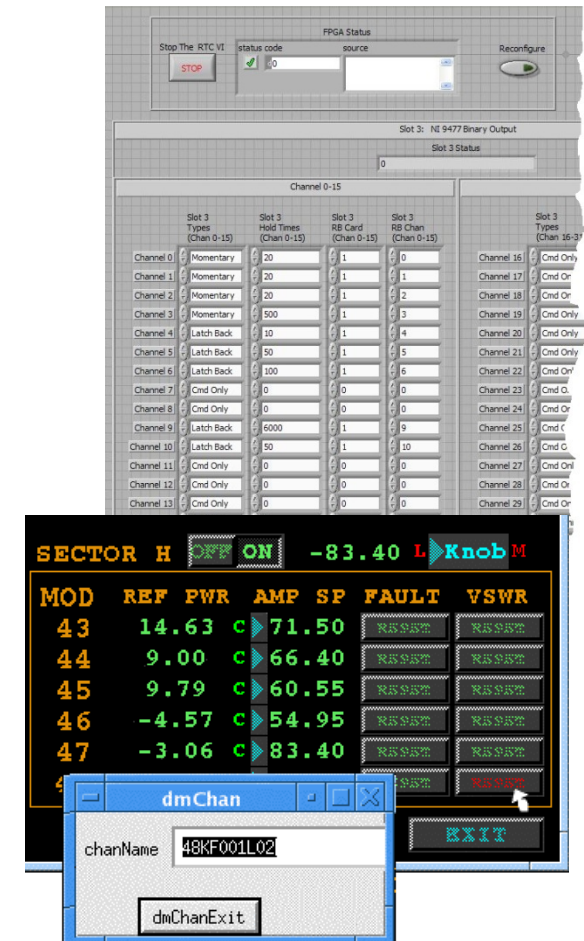
- Native LabVIEW support for Channel Access server and client
  - Windows
  - RT - VxWorks & Pharlap (Server only)
- Option to run full EPICS IOC server side by side with LabVIEW RT
  - Custom option for CompactRIO
- Prototype EPICS device driver support for FPGA-based products
  - Linux
- Linux support with Hypervisor



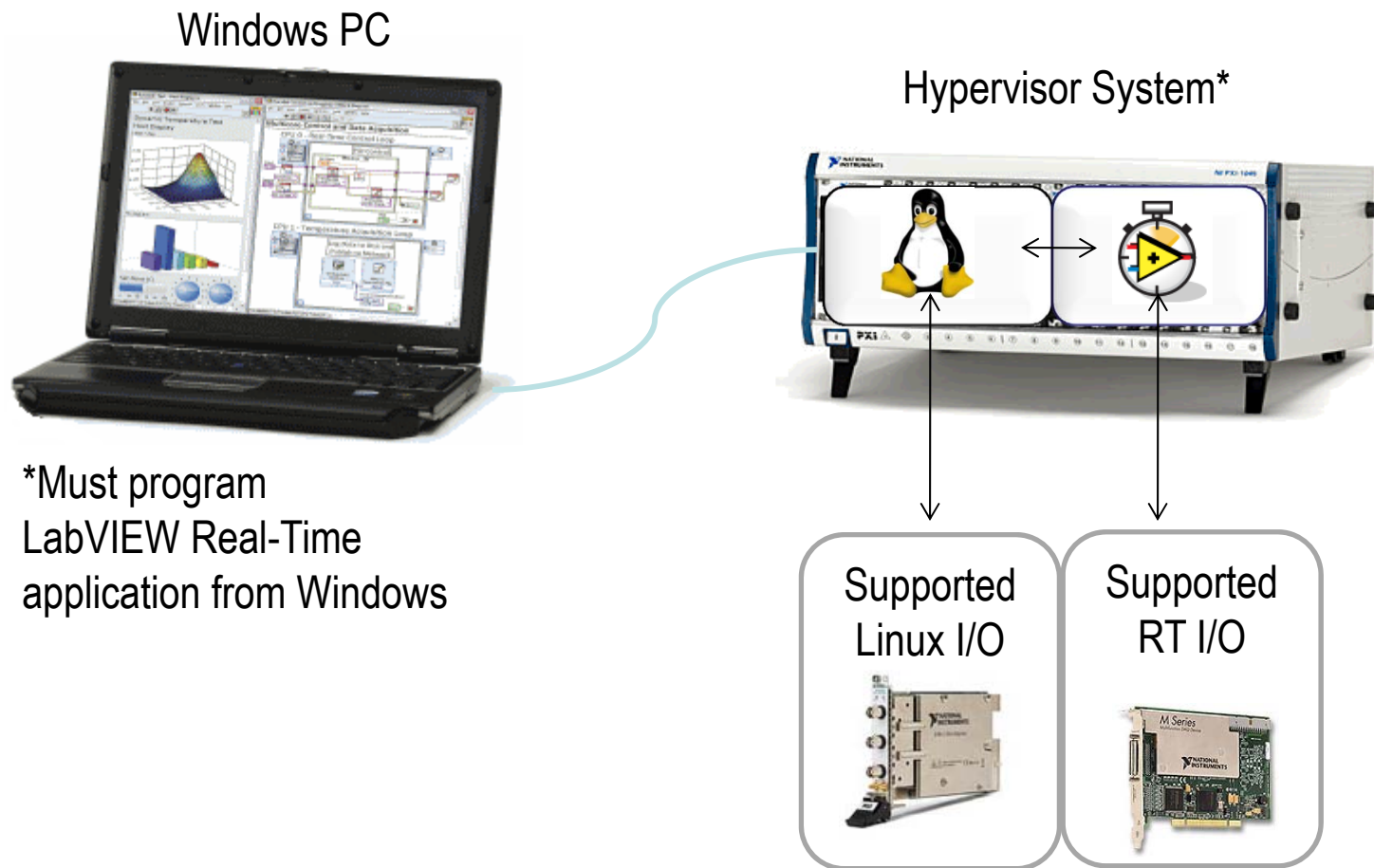
# Example – Los Alamos LANSCE



- Ongoing migration to a cRIO system with embedded EPICS
- Full IOC functionality
- Maximum flexibility for partitioning the problem
  - LabVIEW for beam diagnostic
  - EPICS for industrial control



# NI Real-Time Hypervisor for Linux





# Examples – FPGA Interface C API for Linux

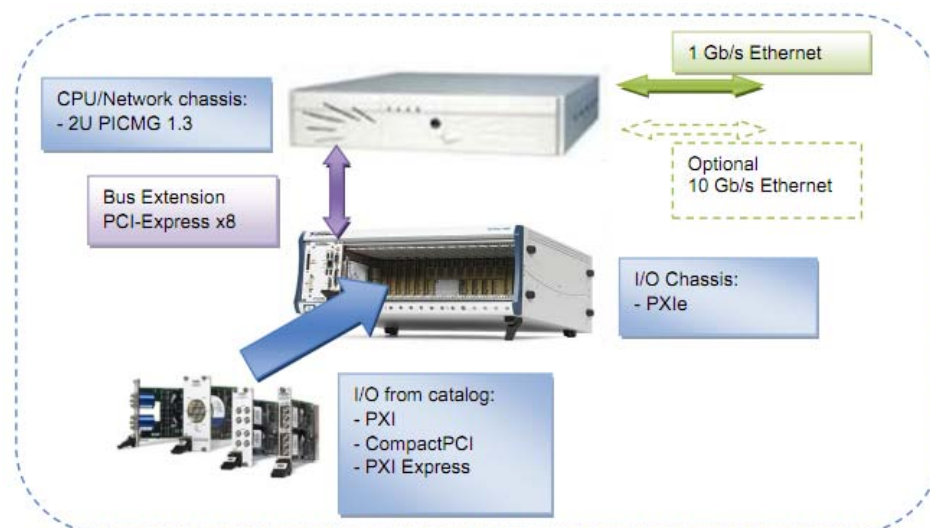


Figure 1 – A General Purpose Fast Controller

Courtesy: [www.ITER.org](http://www.ITER.org)

- Prototype for ITER Fast Controller
  - PXI FlexRIO
- Prototype for ITER Interlocks
  - CompactRIO expansion chassis

- Project under work at
  - SPring8
  - NIFS
  - PSI



# Partnership with Industry

## Continuous innovation

- Leverage R&D investment and latest technology
- Tools and platforms that allow faster iteration

## Simplification and cost reduction

- Empower domain experts
- Open platforms to adapt vertical and emerging standards

## Long term maintenance and support

- Life cycle management
- Services and consulting

# Local Support around the Globe

## Direct Operations in more than 40 Countries

- Global team of technical sales engineers
- Local technical support worldwide
- Systems engineers to assist with reference and application designs
- Active online user community and extensive online support 24 hours a day



## NI Services

Minimize Project Risk | Save Development Time | Reduce Deployment Costs

Software Services  
Software Subscriptions  
Volume Programs

Hardware Services  
Warranty and Repair  
Calibration  
System Services

Training and Certification  
Product Training  
Custom Training Plans  
Professional Certifications

Value-Added Services  
Technical Support Programs  
Professional Services  
Partner-Provided Services

# Alliance Partners Program



NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS  
Alliance Partners

Worldwide network with 600+ companies in 40+ countries offering:

## Services

Consulting, programming, integration, and project management

## Products

Toolkits, sensors, cameras, motors, add-ons, and more

## Systems

customized turn-key solutions, productized systems, and more

# NI & Physics Community

## *35 Years of Successful Cooperation*

### Continuous innovation

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# NI & Physics Community

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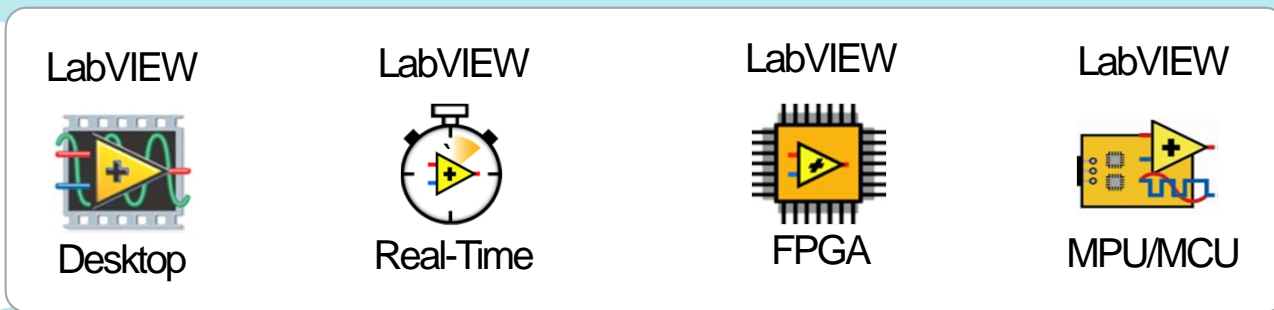
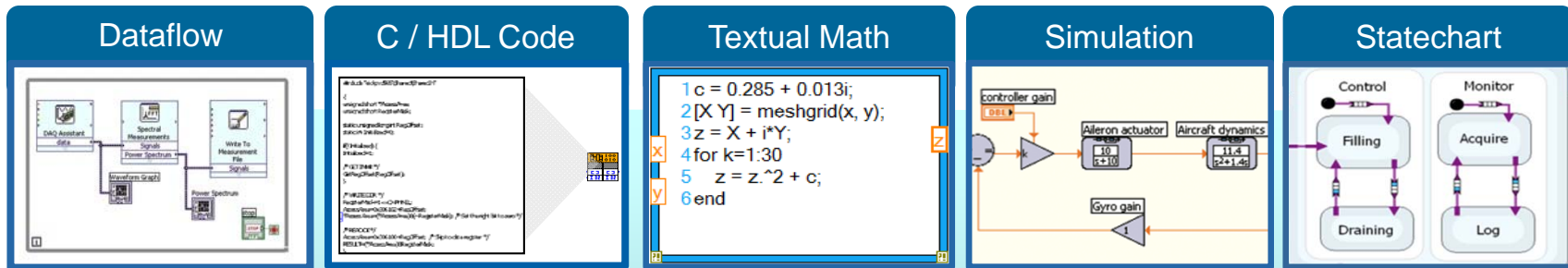
### Simplification and cost reduction

- Empower domain experts
- Open platforms to adapt vertical and emerging standards

### Long term maintenance and support

- Life cycle management
- Services and consulting

# System Design to Deployment





# Abstract

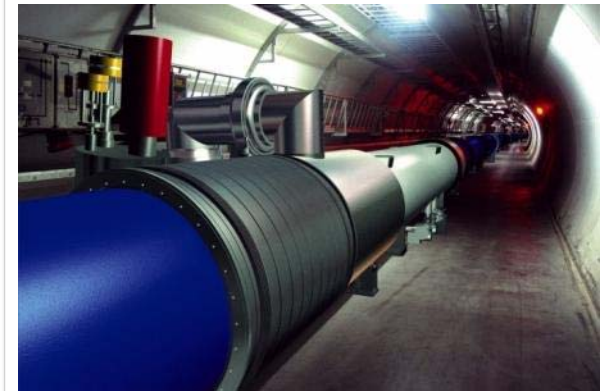
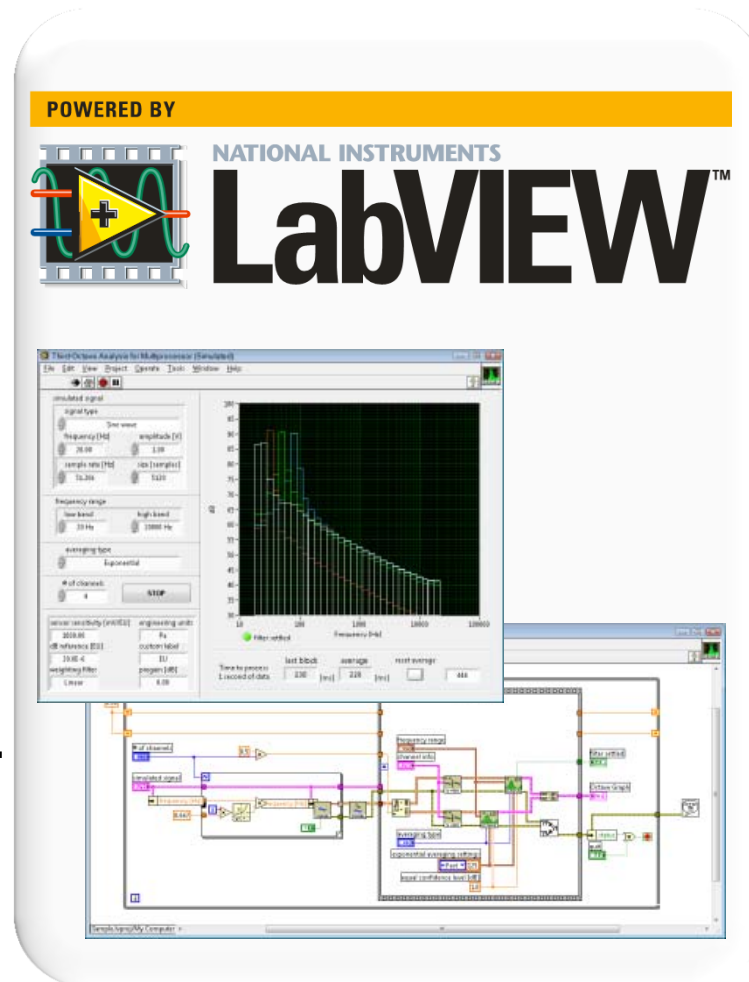
The current economic climate has put even more focus on keeping projects under budget and on time while using the latest technology to meet the needs of measurement, diagnostic, and control systems. Commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) systems take advantage of innovations in the computer industry and the hundreds of millions of dollars devoted to R&D – domain experts can now benefit from FPGAs as well as multicore CPUs and GPUs without being specialists on these technologies. Through collaborations between industry and research facilities, engineers can customize these technologies while keeping costs low to achieve faster computing and loop rates.

With every project lasting 15 to 20 years, obsolescence management is yet another key benefit of industry-research collaborations. At this session, examine the technological and business benefits of this type of partnership.

# Graphical System Design



**LEGO®  
MINDSTORMS® NXT**  
*“the smartest, coolest  
toy of the year”*



**CERN Large  
Hadron Collider**  
*“the most powerful  
instrument on earth”*

# The Parallel Programming Challenge



**Microsoft**<sup>®</sup>

"The concurrency revolution is likely to be more disruptive than the OO revolution..."

- Herb Sutter, CEO, Microsoft, The Free Lunch is Over



"Parallel programming is perhaps the largest problem in computer science today"

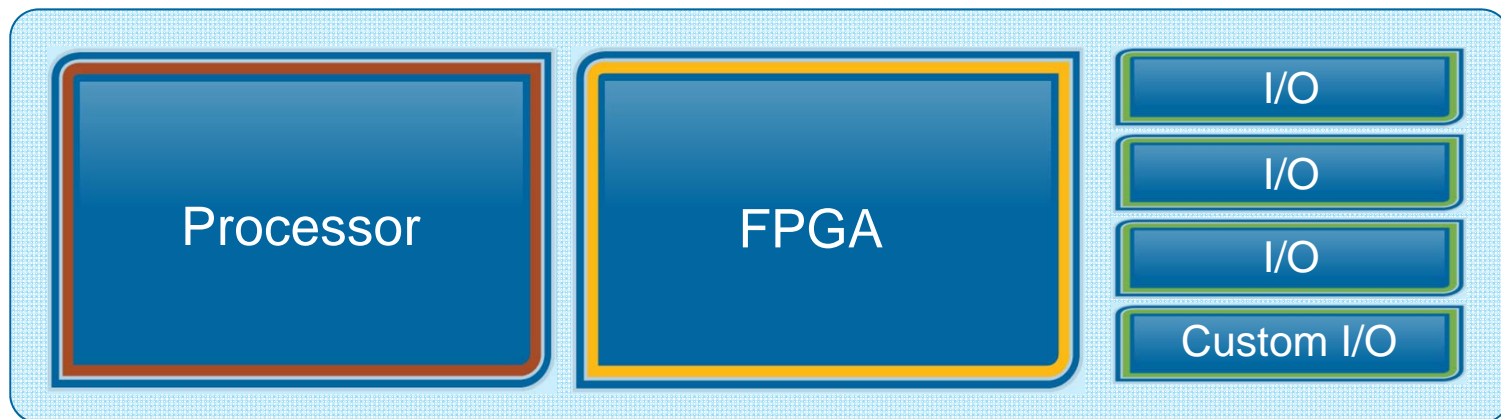
- Stanford CS Department chair Bill Dally



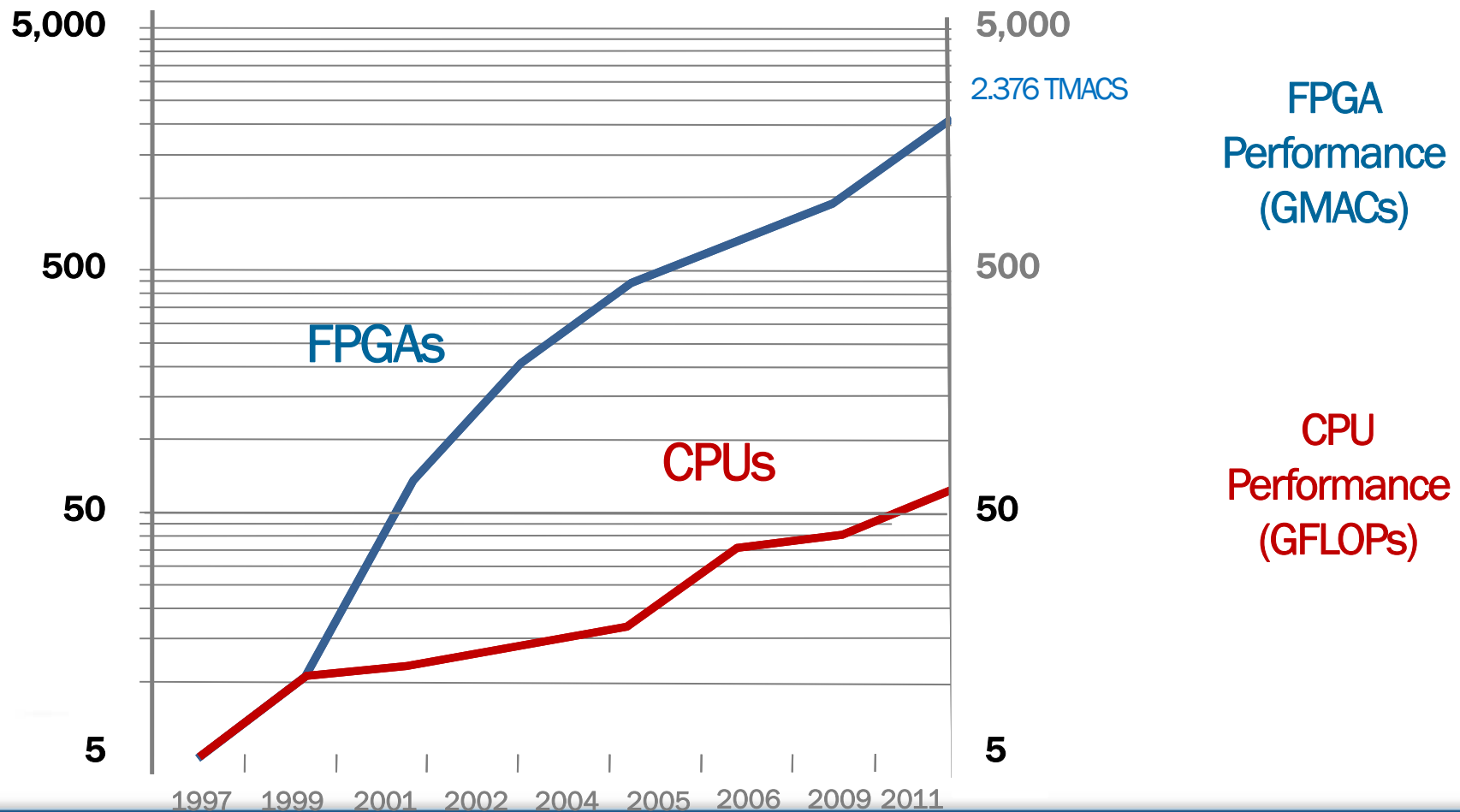
"Nobody knows how to program those things"

- Steve Jobs talking about multicore processors

# Reconfigurable I/O (RIO) Architecture

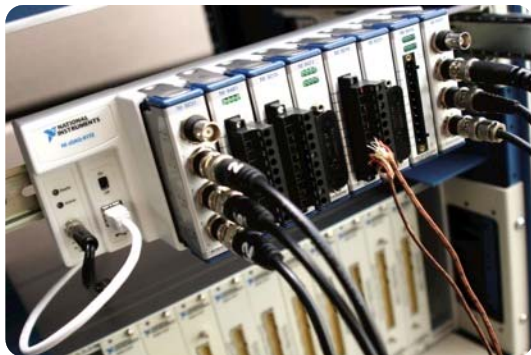


# Parallel Architectures Drive Performance



# Accelerating Innovation and Discovery with Graphical System Design

# Build Better Systems Faster



Better  
Integration



Lower  
Costs



Higher  
Performance

# Challenges to Engineering and Science

## Grand Challenges

Closer relationship between industry and academia

Maximum Profit

Less Resources

Shorter time to market

Competitive Pressure



# Challenges to Individual Engineers

**Globalization**  
Limiting tools Deadline pressures  
**Collaboration** Satisfaction of true impact  
Reliance on domain expertise  
**Integration (code/system)**  
Individual competitive pressures  
ROI and longevity of tools



NI 1976



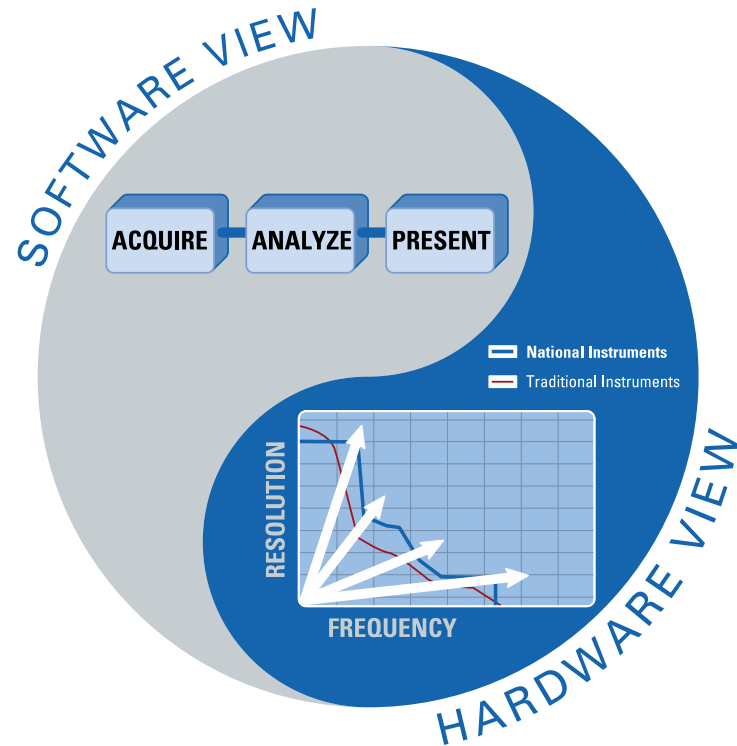
Innovation



Discovery

Sometimes tools get in the way.

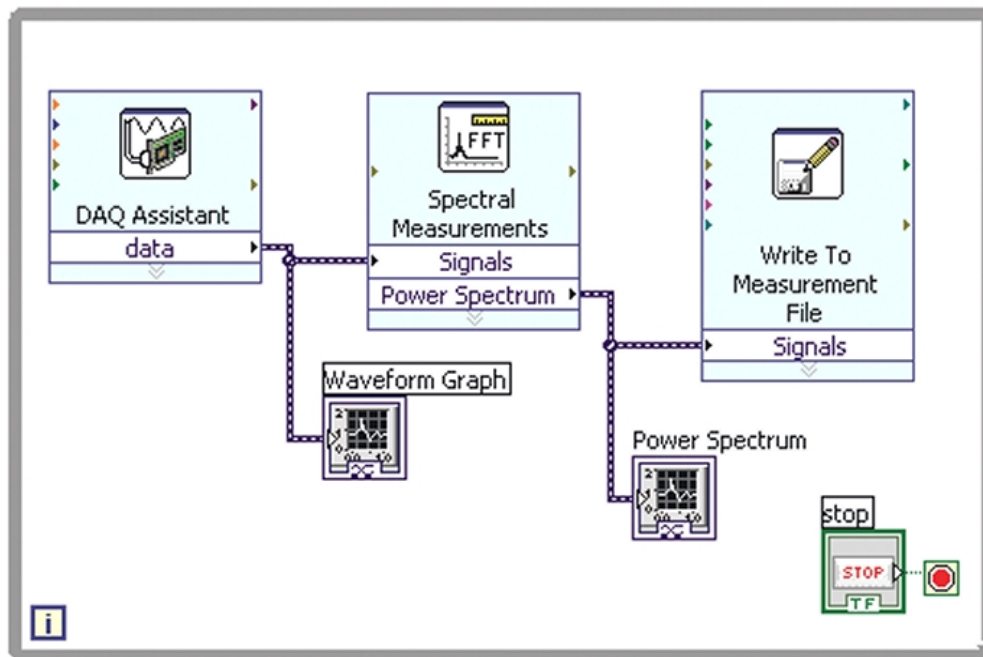
# The Virtual Instrumentation Approach



*The Software Is the Instrument*

# Virtual Instrumentation

*The Software is the Instrument*



PC-Based DAQ

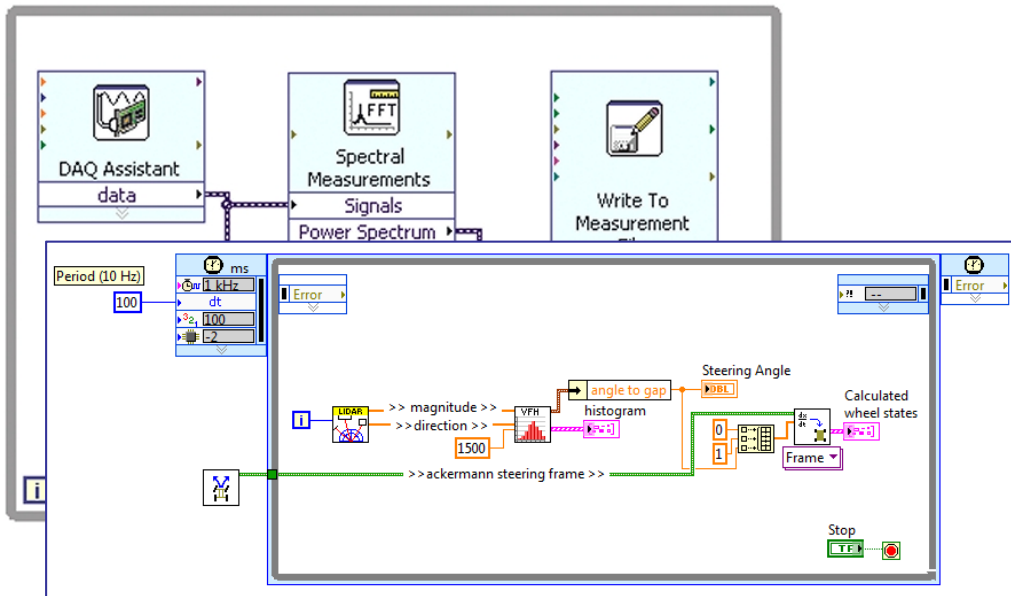


Modular Instruments

Test, measurement, data acquisition systems.

# Graphical System Design

*A Platform-Based Approach for Measurement and Control*



PC-Based DAQ



CompactRIO



Modular Instruments



Single Board RIO

Virtual instrumentation, embedded control, monitoring, robotics and more.

# Graphical System Design

*A Platform-Based Approach*

Test



Monitor



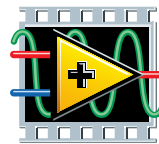
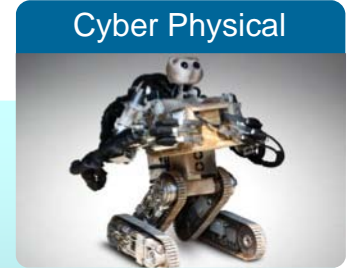
Embedded



Control



Cyber Physical



NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

# LabVIEW™



Desktops and  
PC-Based DAQ



PXI and Modular  
Instruments



RIO and Custom  
Designs



Open Connectivity  
with 3<sup>rd</sup> Party I/O

# Integration of Modular I/O and Commercial Technology



Box Instruments



PXI Modular Instruments







ms  
1 kHz  
1000  
100  
-2

Timing

DAQ Assistant  
data

Measurement and Control I/O

Spectral Measurements  
Signals  
FFT - (RMS)  
Phase

Math and Analysis

Waveform Graph

Frequency Graph

User Interface

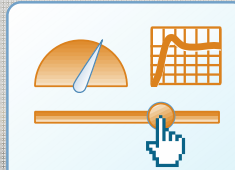
# of logical processors  
# of workers  
Normalize Scale & Offset

```
1 x=y^2+5;  
2 z=x*3.14;  
3 p=sin(z);  
4
```

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

Math and  
Analysis

Acoustic Sound  
Pressure Level



User Interface

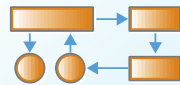
Operator &  
Program Interfaces



Measurement  
and Control I/O

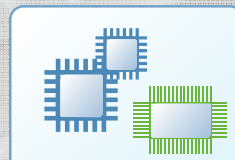
Microphones  
Data Interfaces

```
int main(void) {  
    int primes[998]  
    int n = 5, i;
```



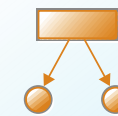
Models of  
Computation

Structured  
Dataflow (G)



Commercial  
Technology

Dual-core

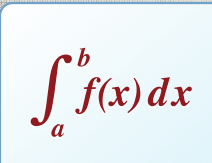


Deployable  
Targets

PXI

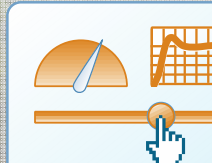
# Semiconductor Test

Analog Devices



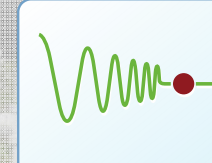
Math and Analysis

Kalman Filter  
Offset & Noise



User Interface

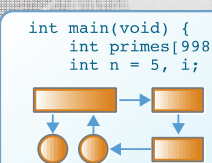
Velocity, Position  
GPS Waypoints



Measurement and Control I/O

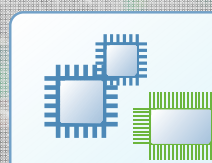
GPS  
Brushed DC Motor  
20 other sensors

```
int main(void) {
  int primes[998]
  int n = 5, i;
```



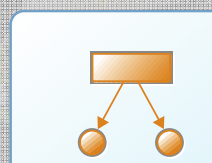
Models of Computation

Structured Dataflow (G)



Commercial Technology

FPGA  
Real-Time

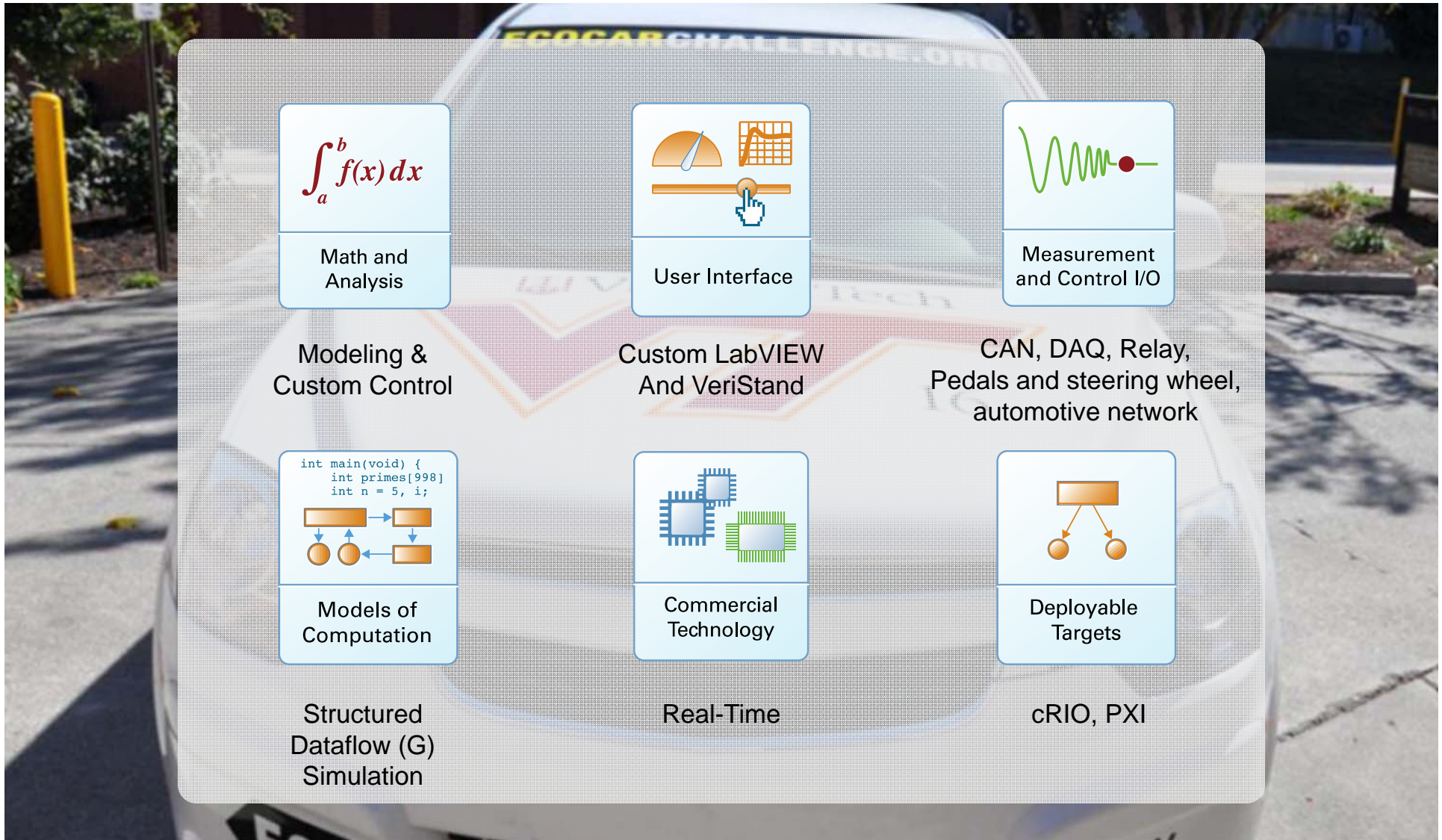


Deployable Targets

cRIO

# Pipeline Test and Validation

# Inertial Pipeline Inspection Gauge

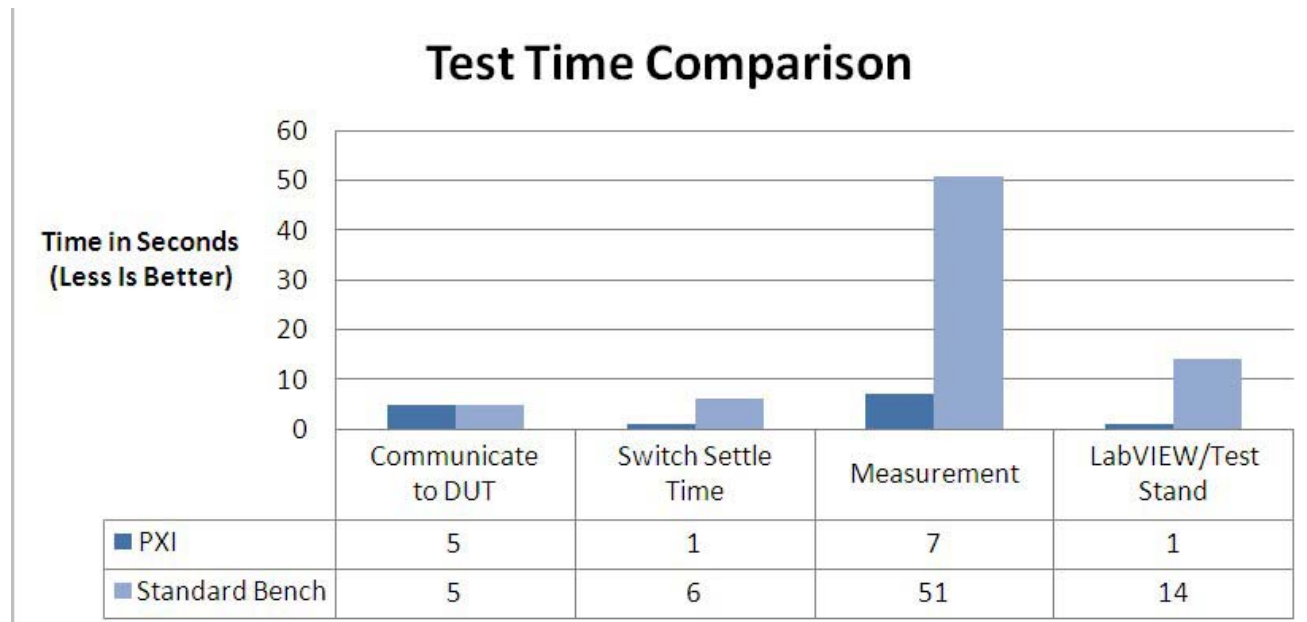


# EcoCAR Challenge

Virginia Tech – 1<sup>st</sup> Place 2011

# Maximize the Platform

# Abstract Complexity AND Gain Higher Performance



“Using the National Instrument PXI platform, we were able to **reduce test time by almost six times** and develop a cost-effective, long-term RF test bench solution.”

Min Xu - Texas Instruments

# Leverage a Framework AND Significantly Reduce Costs



"It previously cost us as much as **\$1.5 million USD** to build a console, but with the LabVIEW Real-Time and PXI framework, the most complex console **now costs us only \$250,000 USD** to build. In addition, our application development time dropped from two years to less than eight months."

Royal Cook, Parker Hannifin



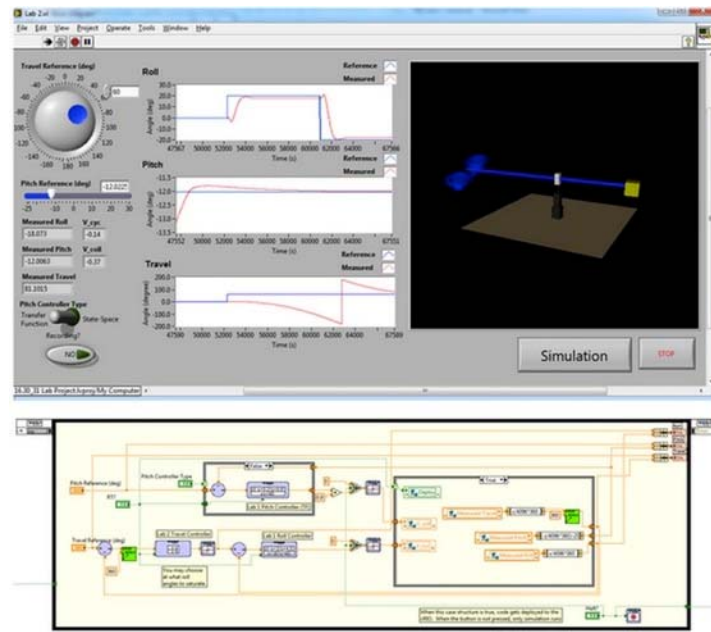
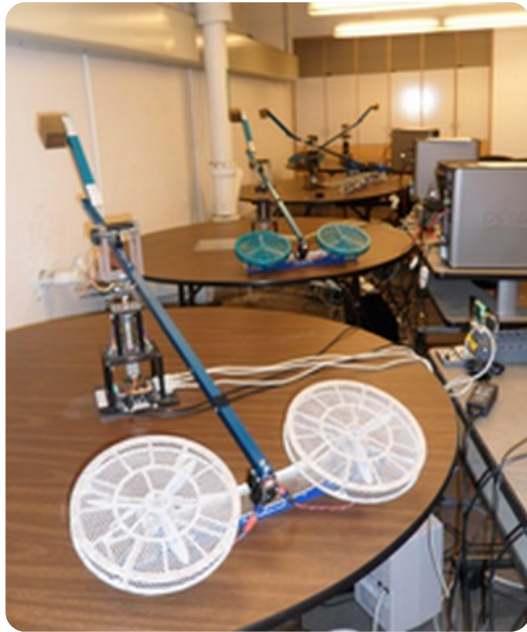
# Gain Flexibility AND Focus on Functionality



“We found that the combination of LabVIEW and NI hardware was **infinitely configurable** to meet our needs, leading to rapid development, continuous improvements throughout the life cycle of the product, and, **most importantly, a compact and simple controller architecture.**”

Daniel Giroux - PBS Biotech, Inc.

# Focus on the Design, Not the Tools



“Overall, the LabVIEW framework gave students the freedom to take **greater control of the hardware controller design process.**”

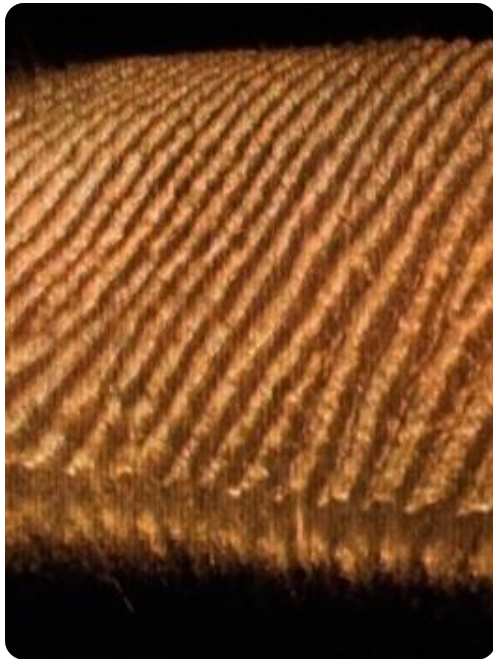
Professor Jonathan How - Massachusetts Institute of Technology

# Graphical System Design is Your Competitive Advantage

“In the past, we would have needed a team of four people – a controls expert, a mechanical engineer, an electrical engineer, and a programmer, now it takes only one person.”

Sean Dougherty, Mechatronics Supervisor for MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates – U.S.

# Innovate. Discover. Invent. *Faster.*



“...World’s first real-time 3D optical coherence tomography imaging system...”

Dr. Kohji Ohbayashi, Kitasato University