

# ECE 298: System-on-Chip Description and Modeling Lecture 6

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## Lecture 6: Overview

- Homework Assignment 3
  - Group presentations
  - Discussion
- SoC Exploration and Refinement
  - Architecture Exploration
  - Communication Exploration
  - Implementation Exploration
  - Refinement Decisions
  - Example

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## Homework Assignment 3

- Tasks
  - Task 1:
    - Complete the MPEG-Audio Specification Model such that the model ...
      - ... contains all necessary code for the decoder
      - ... contains a test bench with stimulator, DUT, and monitor
      - ... compiles successfully with the SpecC compiler
      - ... simulates successfully
  - Task 2:
    - For the decoder (DUT), create the behavioral hierarchy necessary for a well-defined Specification Model
      - Granularity: each function becomes a behavior
      - Hierarchy: try to mimic the given functional hierarchy
      - Concurrency: add explicit concurrency wherever possible
      - Communication: use standard channels or local variables

## Homework Assignment 3

- Group presentations, Discussion
    - Task 1:
      - Complete the MPEG-Audio Specification Model such that the model ...
- STATUS**
- Task 1a:** – ... contains all necessary code for the decoder
  - Task 1b:** – ... contains a test bench with stimulator, DUT, and monitor
  - Task 1c:** – ... compiles successfully with the SpecC compiler
  - Task 1d:** – ... simulates successfully
- Task 2:
    - For the decoder (DUT), create the behavioral hierarchy necessary for a well-defined Specification Model
- Task 2a:** – Granularity: each function becomes a behavior
  - Task 2b:** – Hierarchy: try to mimic the given functional hierarchy
  - Task 2c:** – Concurrency: add explicit concurrency wherever possible
  - Task 2d:** – Communication: use standard channels or local variables

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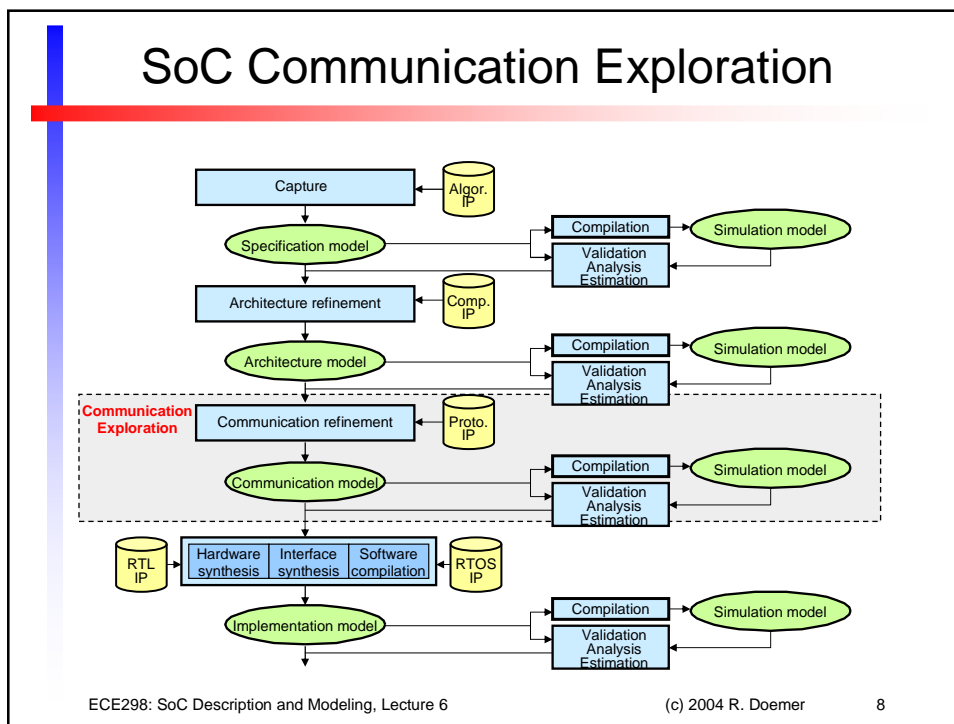
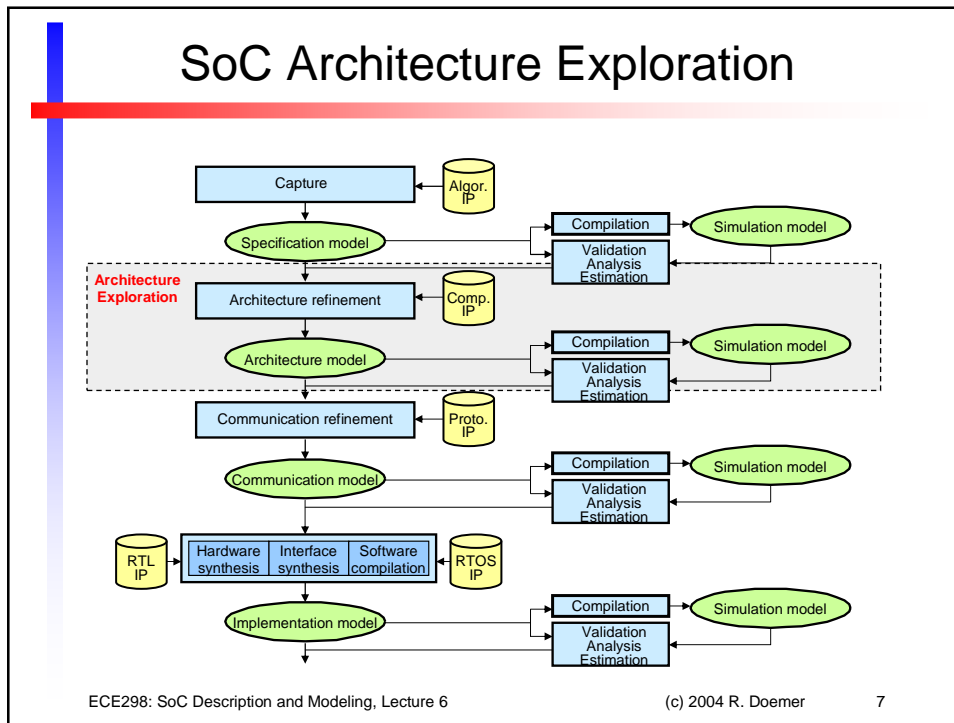
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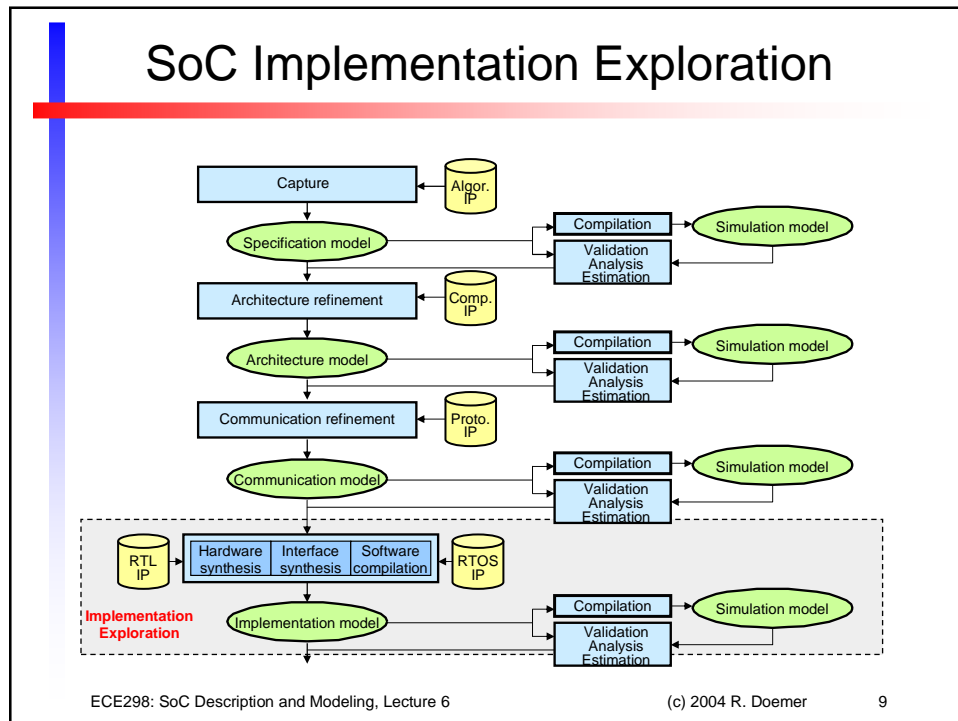
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## Refinement Decisions

- Step 1: Architecture Refinement
  - Allocation of Processing Elements (PE)
    - Type and number of processors
    - Type and number of custom hardware blocks
    - Type and number of system memories
  - Mapping to PEs
    - Map each behavior to a PE
    - Map each channel to a PE
    - Map each variable to a PE
  - Result:
 

System architecture of concurrent PEs  
with abstract communication in channels

## Refinement Decisions

- **Step 2: Scheduling Refinement**
  - For each PE, serialize the execution of behaviors to a single thread of control
  - Option (a): Static scheduling
    - For each set of concurrent behaviors, determine fixed order of execution
  - Option (b): Dynamic scheduling by RTOS
    - Choose scheduling policy, i.e. Round-robin or priority-based
    - For each set of concurrent behaviors, determine scheduling priority
  - Result:  
System model with abstract RTOS scheduler inserted in each PE

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## Refinement Decisions

- **Step 3: Communication Refinement**
  - Allocation of system busses
    - Type and number of system busses
    - Type of bus protocol for each bus (if applicable)
    - Number of transducers (if applicable)
    - System connectivity
  - Mapping of channels to busses
    - Map each communication channel to a system bus (or multiple busses, if applicable)
  - Result:  
Bus-functional model of the system

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## Refinement Decisions

- Step 4: Hardware Refinement (for HW PE)
  - Allocation of RTL components
    - Type and number of functional units
    - Type and number of storage units
    - Type and number of interconnecting busses
  - Scheduling
    - Basic blocks assigned to super-states
    - Operations assigned to clock cycles
  - Binding
    - Bind functional operations to functional units
    - Bind variables to storage units
    - Bind transfers to busses
  - Result:  
Clock-cycle accurate model of each HW PE
  - Output: Synthesizable Verilog description

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## Refinement Decisions

- Step 5: Software Refinement (for SW PE)
  - C code generation
    - For selected target processor
    - For selected target RTOS
  - Compilation to Instruction Set
    - for Instruction Set Simulation (ISS)
  - Assembly
  - Result:  
Clock-cycle accurate model of each SW PE
  - Output: downloadable object code

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## SoC Exploration and Refinement

- Example:
  - GSM Vocoder design in SCE
- Online demonstration ...