

Project-based learning in the Embedded Systems Masters

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Date 24.09.2025 – 26.09.2025

Brief Introduction to the speaker

- **Teaching experience in Software Engineering (>20 years)**

- **Research interests:**

- Digital Twins
- Applied AI
- System Verification
- Reliability of cyber-physical systems

- **International Experience (>10 years):**

- Coordinator of the Erasmus CBHE projects
- Coordinator Erasmus KA 171
- Participation in DAAD projects

- **Publications**

- More than 150 publications.
- Scopus h-index – 9
- Researcher Id h-index – 7
- Author Profiles
 - SCOPUS authorId=56007319800
 - ResearcherID V-1838-2017
 - ORCID orcid.org/0000-0003-1429-5180



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Plan

- Context: FH Dortmund international projects with Ukraine
- Project Based Learning approach for “Applied Embedded Systems” course

ViMaCs: Virtual Master Cooperation Data Science

Project-ID: 57513461 (Phase 1), 57602060 (Phase 2)

The project creates the necessary conditions for the Ukrainian partners for digital and virtual teaching and learning infrastructure in the area of data science, which is very important for digital transformation. In relation to the funding objectives of the call for proposals, ViMaCs contributes to establishing the model of the virtual cross-border Master School as a cooperation and internationalization instrument in Ukraine.

The core of the project is the development and implementation of a digital teaching and learning offer in the field of the versatile and highly up-to-date "Data Science" by developing an innovative and inherently digitized structure of a Master School.

FH Dortmund international projects with Ukraine



About the project

Scope, goals and outcomes

Project partners

Working space

Consortium events and meetings

News

WORK4CE digital portal

WELCOME TO WORK4CE:

Cross-domain competences for
healthy and safe work in the 21st
century

Project Reference: 619034-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPKAZ-CBHE-JP

Work4CE addresses the need for educational resources in order to prepare for the future workplace (work 4.0). Interdisciplinary curricula and modules are developed and new forms of (virtual) university-enterprise collaboration are deployed to improve the practical value of the curricula and the employability of the graduates. With the implementation of the successful co-production

About the project

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Professional associations new, job-related

developed,

Industry in the partner countries and
formation of working environments, to
(strategy), to transform into a sustainable
health and environmental protection,

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News & Events

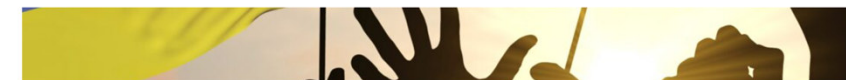
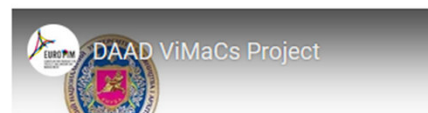


Erasmus+ WORK4CE Pilot
Training in WUNU

November 20, 2024 | News

As part of pilot training under the
Erasmus+ KA2: Capacity Building in
Higher Education "Cross-domain

More →



Welcome to UA4PIM:

Project and Innovation Management
for Ukraine

Project Reference: 57808575

For over 15 years, Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts has worked closely with three Ukrainian universities – **National University "Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic" (NUZP)**, **Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture (KNUCA)**, and **West Ukrainian National University (WUNU) in Ternopil**. Within the framework of the German-Ukrainian Higher Education Network (DUHN), this long-standing collaboration is to be secured, expanded, and developed into a University Alliance (UA) focusing on project management, digitalisation, innovation, and sustainability.

Through the DAAD-funded project, the University Alliance for Project and Innovation Management (UA4PIM) will be established and directly integrated into the **European Partnership for Project and**

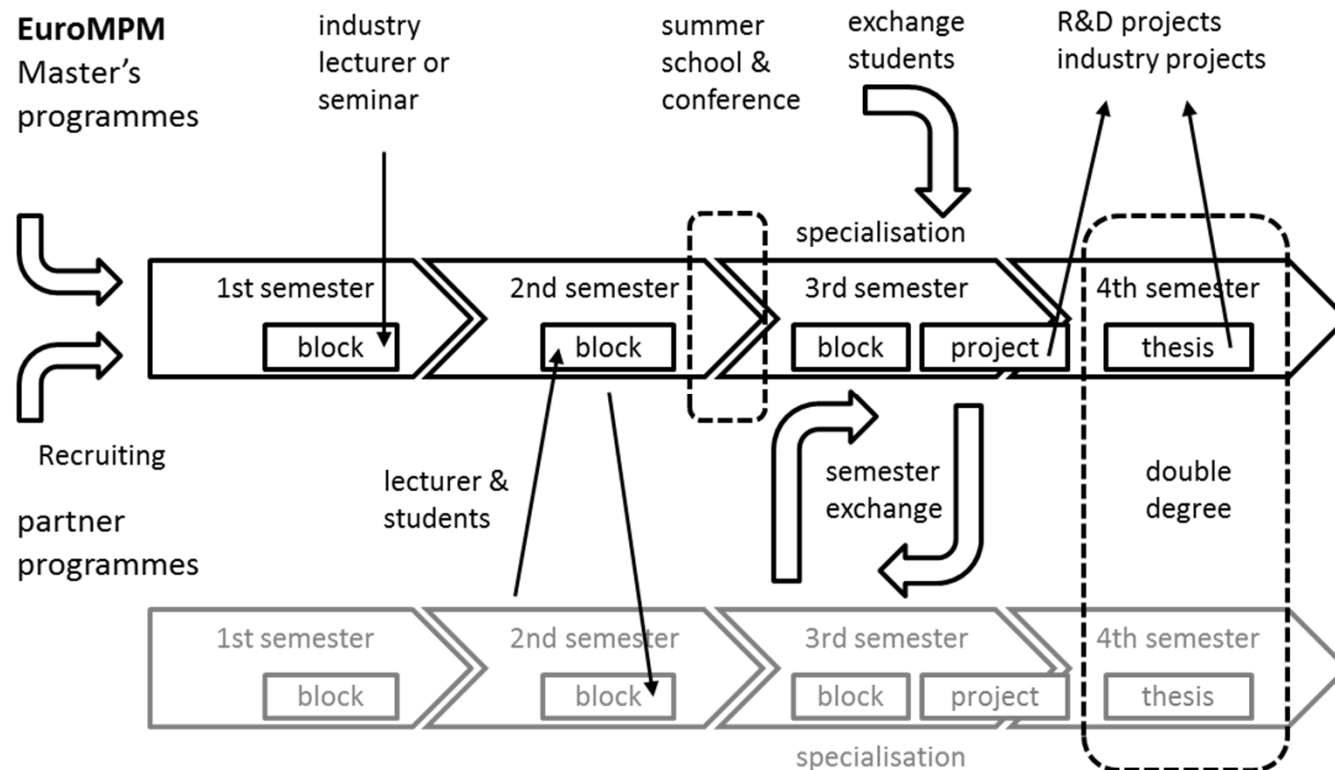
Funded by



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



Virtual Master School



How to integrate
in one course:

- students with different background
- students with different English language level
- students located in different countries?

Project Based Learning



Pilot teaching: use case FH Dortmund



Block week in FH
Dortmund



Pitch of the concept



Processing E-learning
material



Uploading solution to
the DEE



Erasmus+ KA2, CBHE „WORK4CE“ project
619034-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Embedded Systems Engineering - ESE

EUROPIM

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About EuroPIM

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ACADEMIC DEGREE

**Master of Engineering (M.Eng.)
issued by FH Dortmund**

LOCATION

Dortmund, Germany

STANDARD PROGRAMME

DURATION

4 Semesters, starts in Winter

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

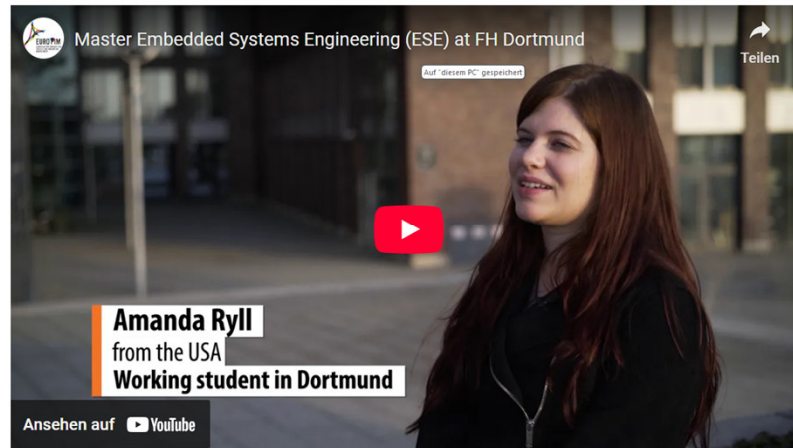
ADMISSION

Unrestricted with pre-check

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR NON- EU CITIZEN

**From 1 April to 15 June
(Application process)**

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR EU



Embedded Systems Engineering - ESE

From university to high-tech industry.

Applied Embedded Systems

Knowledge

Knows standards and platforms for specific domain

Knows target systems

Has acquired overview of target domain

Skills

Can describe relevant characteristics and challenges of application domain

Can model mechatronic systems for the domain

Can apply methodology and state of the art tools on real use cases

Can select tools and define tool chains and design flows

Competence - attitude

Can structure a real mechatronic systems design project

Can communicate and find solutions with domain experts

Understands issues from application domains and can integrate solutions into a holistic design

Module Handbook Master Embedded Systems Engineering

Number	MOD-Eo1
Title	Applied Embedded Systems
Language	English

Applied Embedded Systems

- 6 Lab sessions to gain practical skills
- Capstone project – research component of the course
- Course success rate
 - 2023 80 %
 - 2024 75%
- Project topics examples:
 - Neural Networks on FPGA
 - FPGA-Based CNN Acceleration for Autonomous Driving
 - FPGA-based acceleration for CNN in Image classification
 - FPGA in IoT Edge Computing

Task and student project outcome

The aim of the project to provide the literature research.

Outcome:

- students learn how to provide the literature research
- students understand the current state of fields of implementation of FPGA
- students have the systematic overview of possibilities of ML application on FPGA

Criteria	Ratings			
	Excellent 50-40 points	Good 40-30 points	Fair 30-25 points	Need improvement
Quality of the material	The topic is completely covered, content are according the requirement, in the research there were analysed from 5 to 6 high quality sources (IEEE, ACM, Springer).	The topic is generally covered, content are mostly according the requirement, in the research there were analysed from 3 to 4 high quality sources (IEEE, ACM, Springer) and Internet resources	The topic is generally covered, content are mostly according the requirement, in the research there were analysed from 1 to 2 high quality sources (IEEE, ACM, Springer) and Internet resources	Sources are only from the Internet, text is AI generated
Quality of presentation	Presentation contains all information with the usage of graphical and table views. There are some missed information in the slides: Some errors in spelling and grammar	Presentation contains all information with the usage of graphical and table views. There are some missed information in the slides: Some errors in spelling and grammar	Presentation contains a lot of unstructured text . There are some missed information in the slides. Fewer errors in spelling and grammar	Presentation contains a lot of unstructured text . Required information missed at the slides. A lot of errors in spelling and grammar

Applied Embedded Systems



Presentation

- Title
- Team presentation
- Research hypothesis and tasks
- Paper1: Task, Input data, output data, solution(methods and tools), results
- Paper2: Task, Input data, output data, solution(methods and tools), results
- Paper2: Task, Input data, output data, solution(methods and tools), results
- Summary
- List of references

AI Generated Reviews:

1. Non existing referencing
2. Incorrect description of the task
3. Absent analysis of the solutions

Paper Title and Reference	Application Domain	Neural Network Type	FPGA Platform	Performance Metrics	Notable Findings
Paper 1: Fixed-point FPGA Implementation of ECG Classification Using Artificial Neural Networks	ECG Classification	ANN	Xilinx Zynq	1.856 µs classification time, 100% accuracy	Direct face of pre-processed ECG signals, 8-bit fixed-point arithmetic, real-time capability
Paper 2: FPGA Implementation of a Convolutional Neural Network for Image Classification	Image Classification	CNN	PYNQ-Z1	78.20% accuracy (Fruit Classifier)	Fixed-point arithmetic, significant speed and resource efficiency improvements
Paper 3: Runtime Classification Using Quantized Neural Networks for FPGA-Based Low-Power IoT Devices	IoT Devices	QNN, BNNs	Xilinx Zynq 7020	Competitive accuracy, reduced energy consumption	Emphasis on lightweight
Paper 4: FPGA Implementation of a Complex-Valued Neural Network for Polar-Represented Image Classification	Image Classification	CVNN	Not specified		
Paper 5: An Efficient FPGA-Based Convolutional Neural Network for Classification: Ad-MobileNet	Image Classification	Enhanced CNN (Ad-MobileNet)	Not specified		

Conclusions

FPGA Implementation

- Frameworks and Tools :
 - High-Level Synthesis (HLS): Use HLS tools to write CNN models in high-level languages like C/C++ or OpenCL, which are then converted to HDL (Hardware Description Language)
 - FINN: Xilinx's framework for deploying quantized neural networks
 - Xilinx Vivado HLS: For Xilinx FPGAs
 - Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL: For Intel FPGAs
- Deep Learning Libraries:
 - hls4ml: High-level synthesis library for machine learning

Overview of FPGA-based deep learning accelerators

FPGAs can be 40x more efficient than CPUs, 11.5x over GPUs

Techniques: parallelism, optimized memory, Roofline model

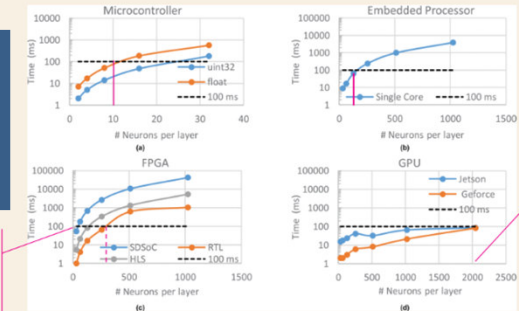
Challenges: complex programming, runtime re-configuration
Conclusion: High potential, but tool improvement needed



FPGA-Based CNN Acceleration for Autonomous Driving

PAPER 3: COMPUTING IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE: CURRENT POSSIBILITIES FOR EDGE COMPUTING AND HARDWARE-AGNOSTIC PROGRAMMING

Performance results for the studied platforms:



(a) microcontroller, (b) embedded processor
(c) FPGA RTL, HLS and SDSoc implementations, (d) Jetson TX2 and GForce GPUs.

Pipelined implementation to reach parallelism between layers => achieves the highest performance

maximum performance and the best ratio of computation performance to power consumption

[3] M. H. Ghasemi, O. Lucia and S. Lucia, "Computing in the Blink of an Eye: Current Possibilities for Edge Computing and Hardware-Agnostic Programming," in IEEE Access, vol. 8, pp. 41626-41636, 2020, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2977087.

Neural Networks Implementation for Classification on FPGA

OBJECTIVE: DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR EFFICIENT AND ACCURATE SATELLITE IMAGE CLASSIFICATION USING FPGA

Importance: Satellite image classification helps in weather forecasting, environmental monitoring, and disaster management.

Challenges: High computational demands and power constraints of satellite systems.

The paper discusses how to build a system that can quickly and efficiently classify satellite images into different categories (like identifying clouds or non-cloud areas) using FPGA.

STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION



FPGA-BASED FOR EDGE COMPUTING APPLICATIONS

CAPSTONE PROJECT

**Fachhochschule
Dortmund**

University of Applied Sciences and Arts

IDIAL Institute for the Digital Transformation
of Application and Living Domains

**Thank you
for your attention!!!!**