eMOTE: A Real-time Approach to Model-based Testing of Embedded Software

Dr. Philipp Graf

FZI Forschungszentrum Informatik, Karlsruhe

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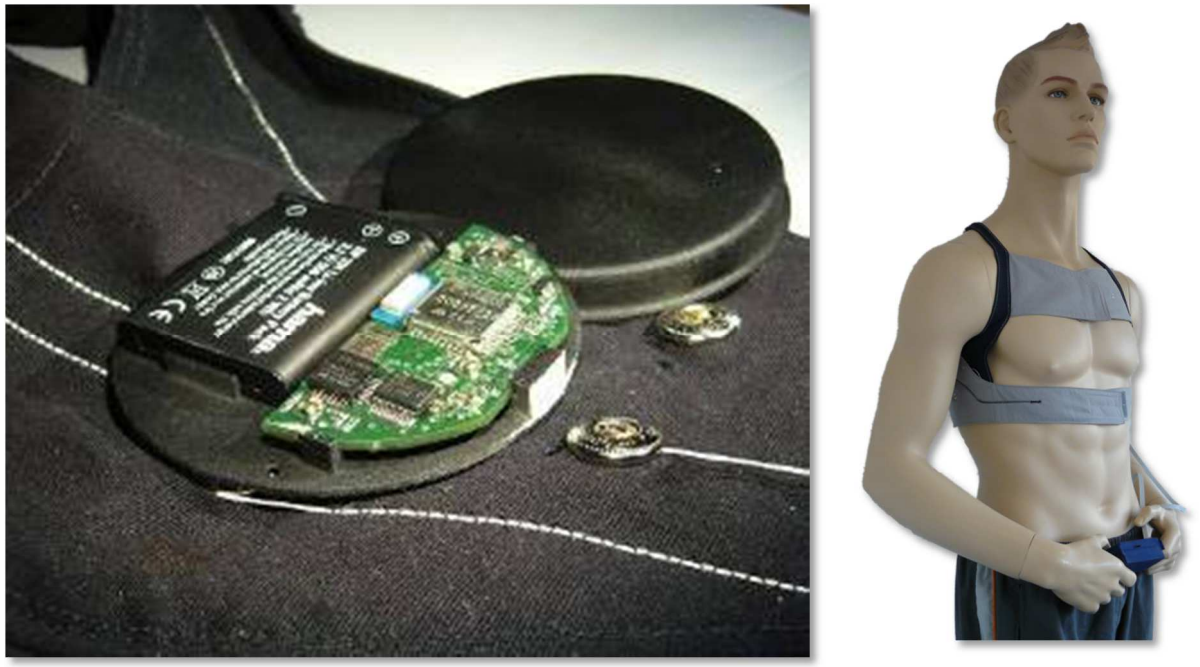
Agenda

- Testing of Embedded Software: The Project eMOTE
- From Unit-Testing to Model-Based Testing
- Hardware-support for Grey- und White-Box Testing

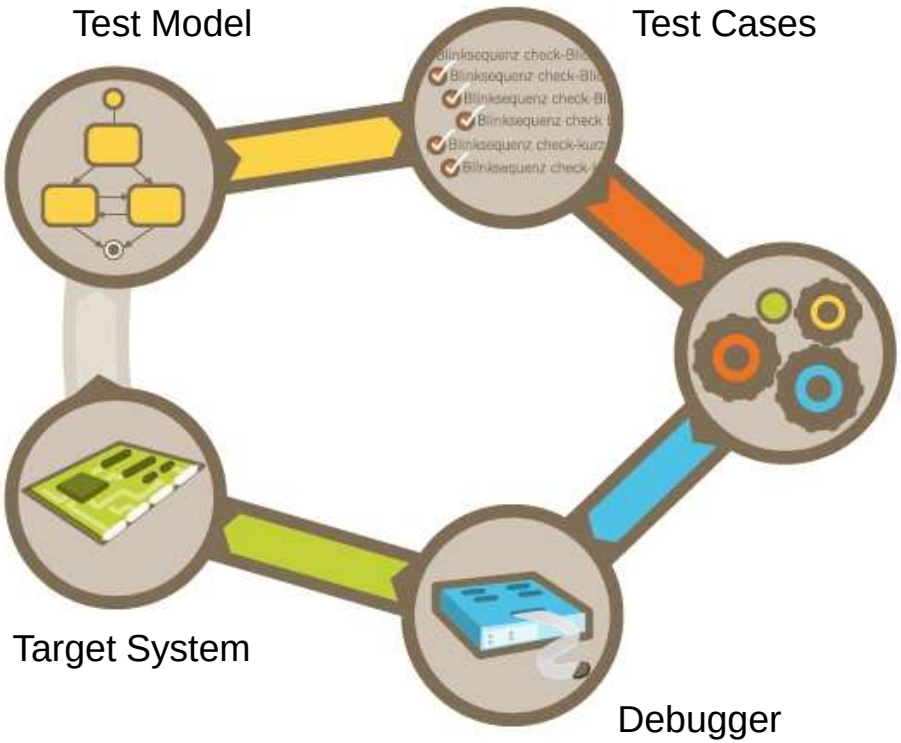
Embedded Software



Textile-integrated ECG and wearable defibrillator

- Innovation in Embedded Systems increasingly driven by Embedded Software
  - Often safety relevant, updates expensive
- Software-QA vital, testing the most important tool

The Project eMOTE

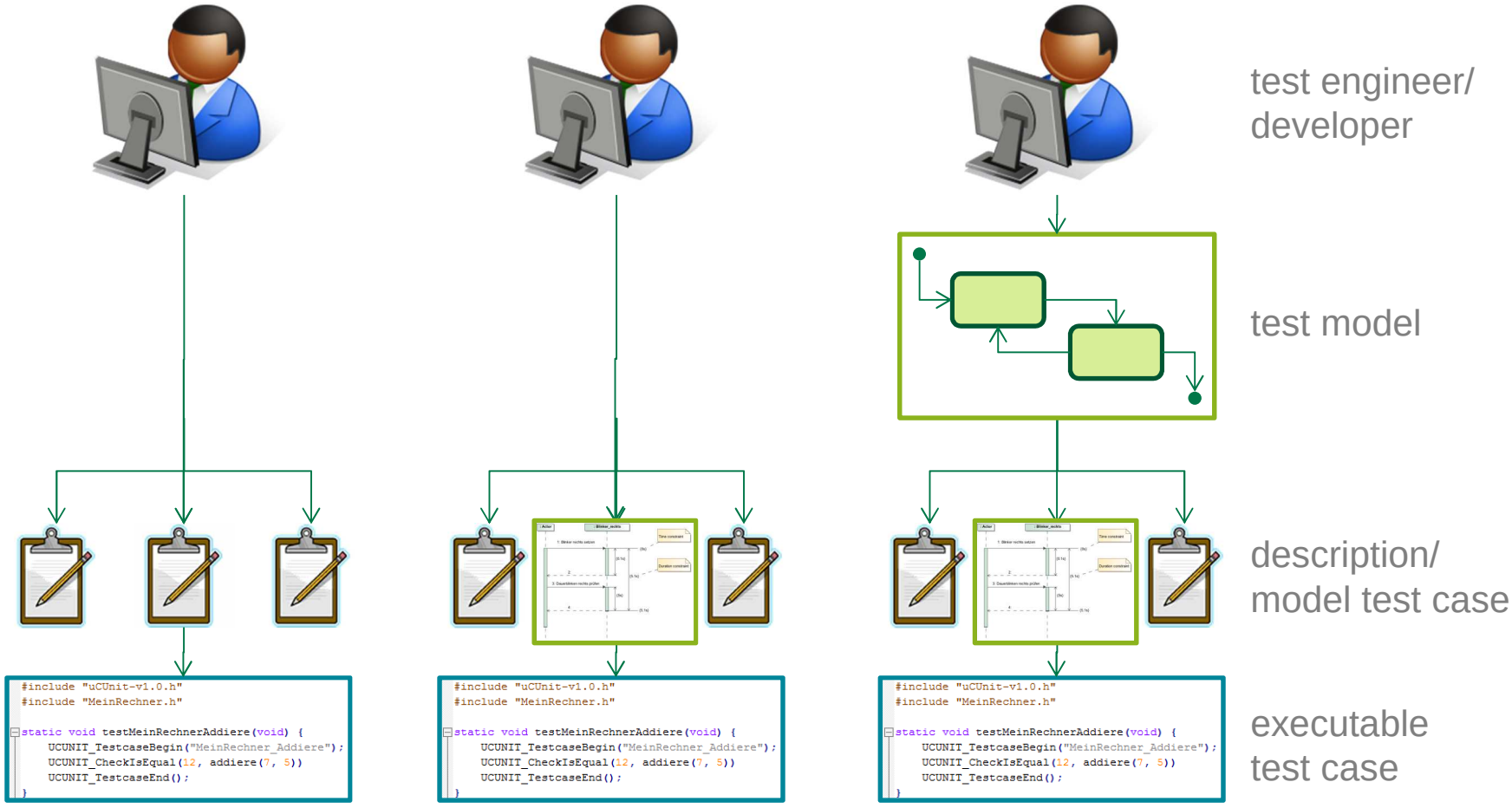


- Generation of test cases from a test model
- Test execution directly on the target microcontroller
- No influence on run-time behavior or target code
- Testing advanced properties like timing, code coverage

What are the main project goals?

- Non-invasive testing
  - Test-cases should not influence temporal run-time behavior of program execution.
- Testing of time constraints
  - Anotate time constraints and verify them during test execution.
- Linking test methodology with code-coverage
  - Information about completenes of the test strategy based on measuring code-coverage.
- Combining external data sources with software tests
  - Including Hardware-in-the-Loop approaches allows mixed test of software and electronic signals.

Testing: Manually and Model-Based

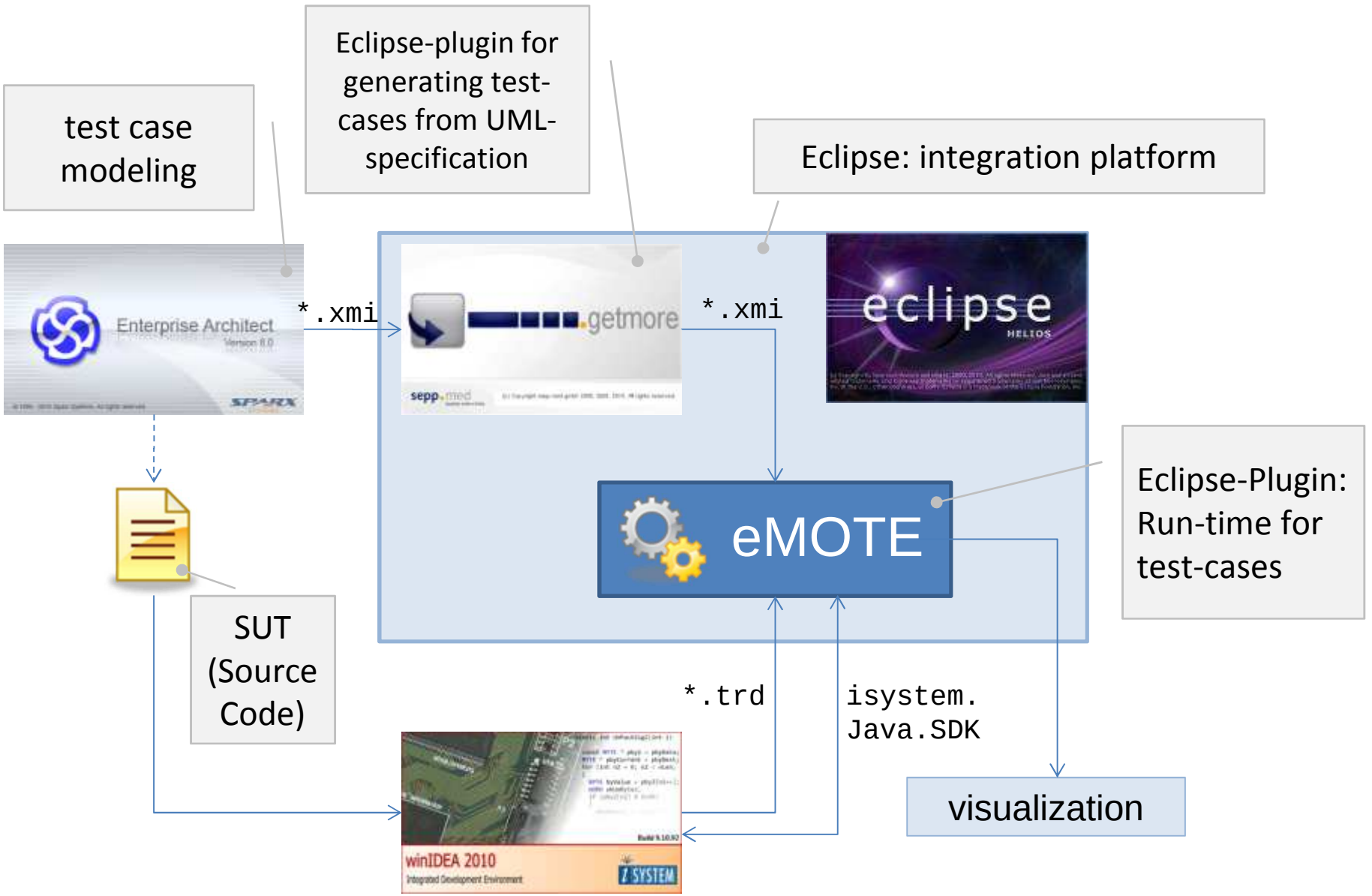


manual programming of test case

modeling of test cases

test model and test case generation

eMOTE Architecture



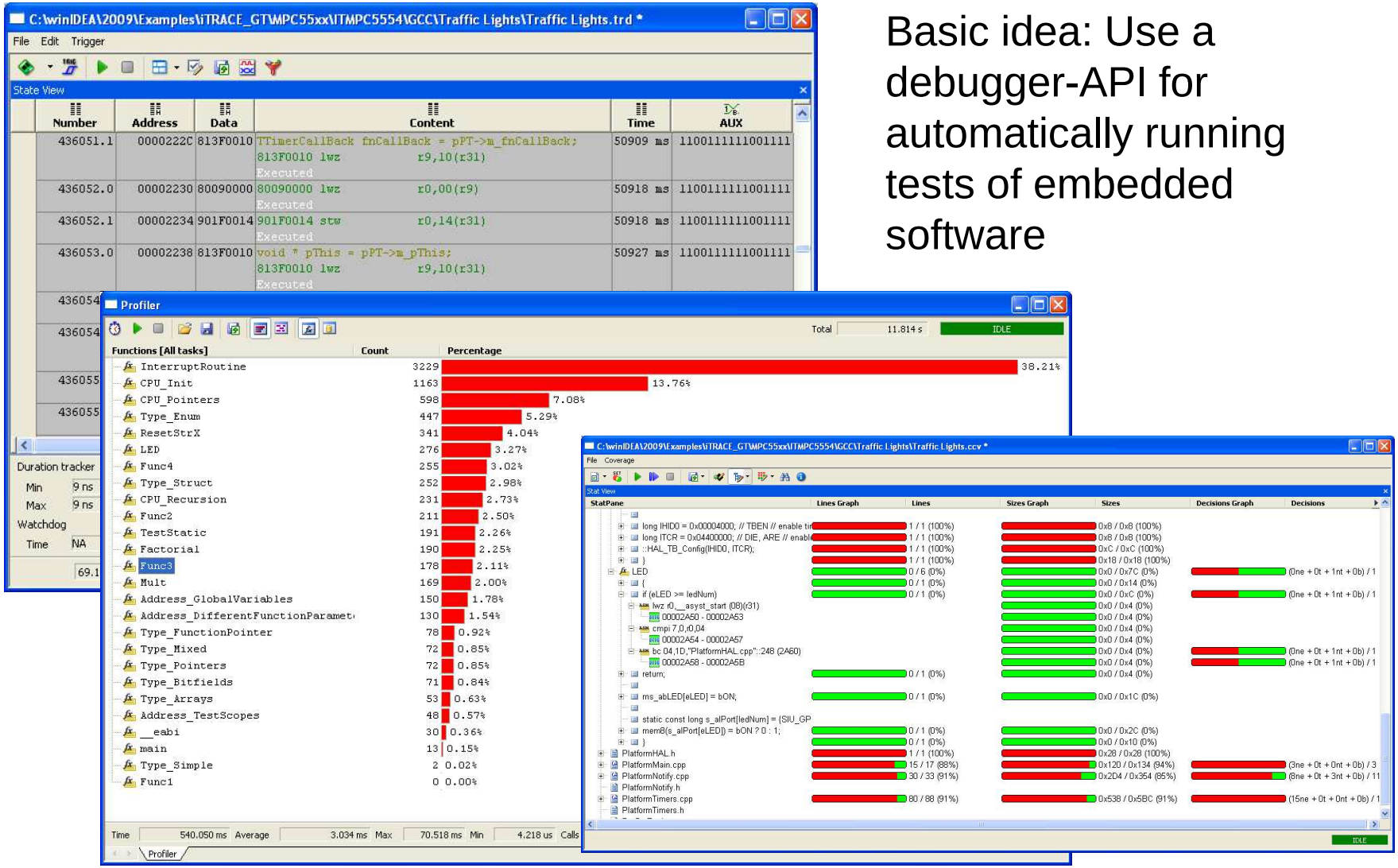
Test-Execution in Embedded Systems: Technical Specifics

- Tests can be executed on…
  - development computer
    - Plattform and periphery have to be emulated
  - target platform (mikrocontroller, SoC,…)
    - Integration and test-execution more complex
    - Testing of boundary cases can be impossible
- Aspects
  - Real-time
  - Communication with periphery / external chips
  - Often hard to bring system/software into initial state
  - Often strongly coupled software-components (performance!)

Hardware-Based Debugging-Tools

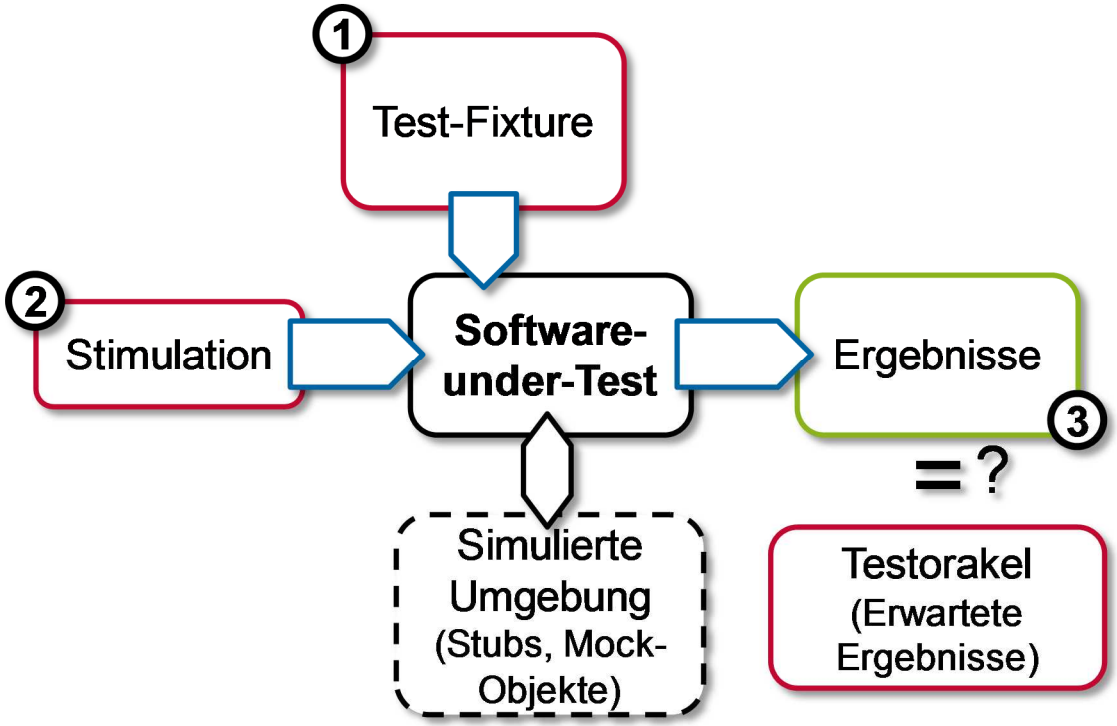
- Debugger
  - Tool for finding, diagnosing and eliminating defects in software
  - Allows run-control and inspection of program state
- Hardware-based tools for Embedded Systems
  - Access via processor interfaces or emulation
- Trace
  - Recording program flow and changes to data (variables, registers,…) without influencing timing
  - Analyse recording later

Using Hardware-Debuggers as Testing Tools



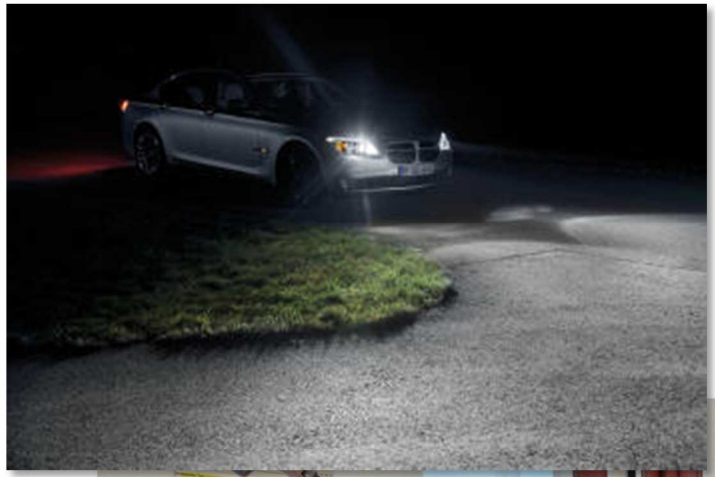
Basic idea: Use a debugger-API for automatically running tests of embedded software

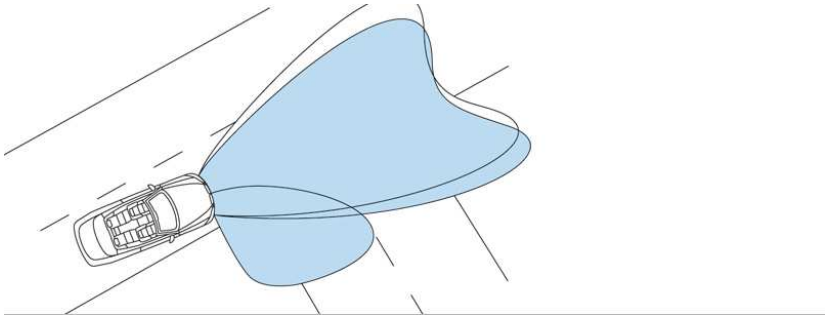
Apprach for Grey-Box Testing

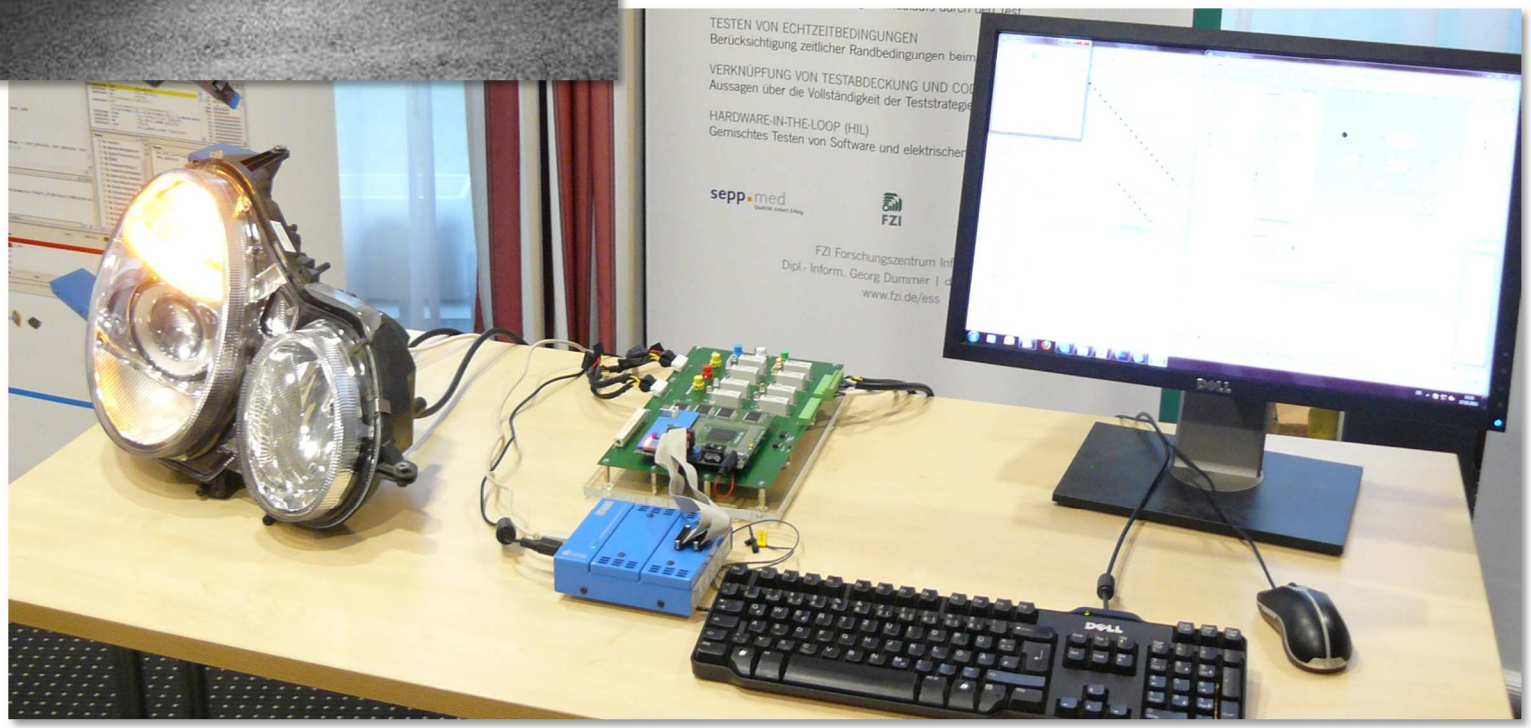


- Use run-control and read-out of variables/memory/registers
  1. Bring software into defined state
  2. Trigger test excution
  3. Read/Reconstruct results and global variables for evaluationg tests

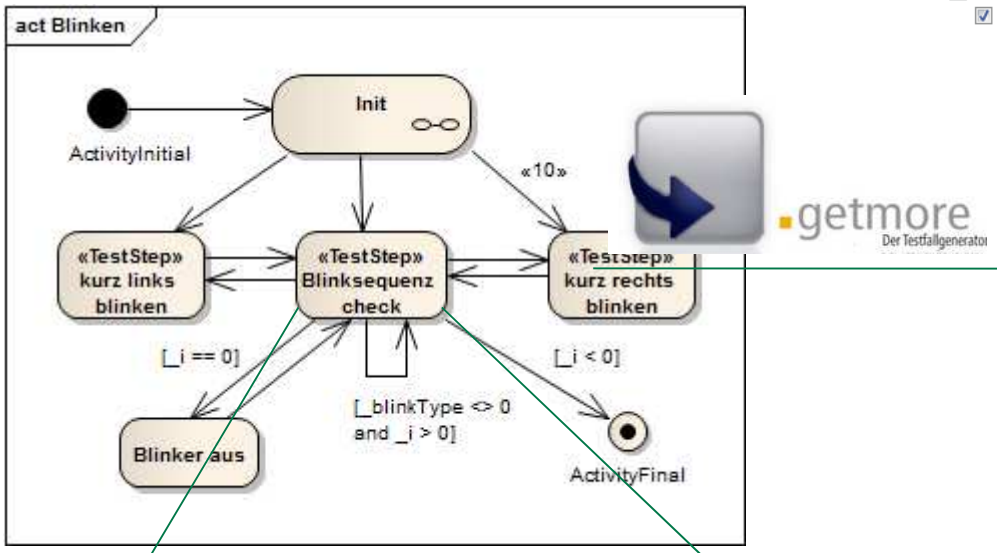
Case Study: Headlamp / Cornering Lights

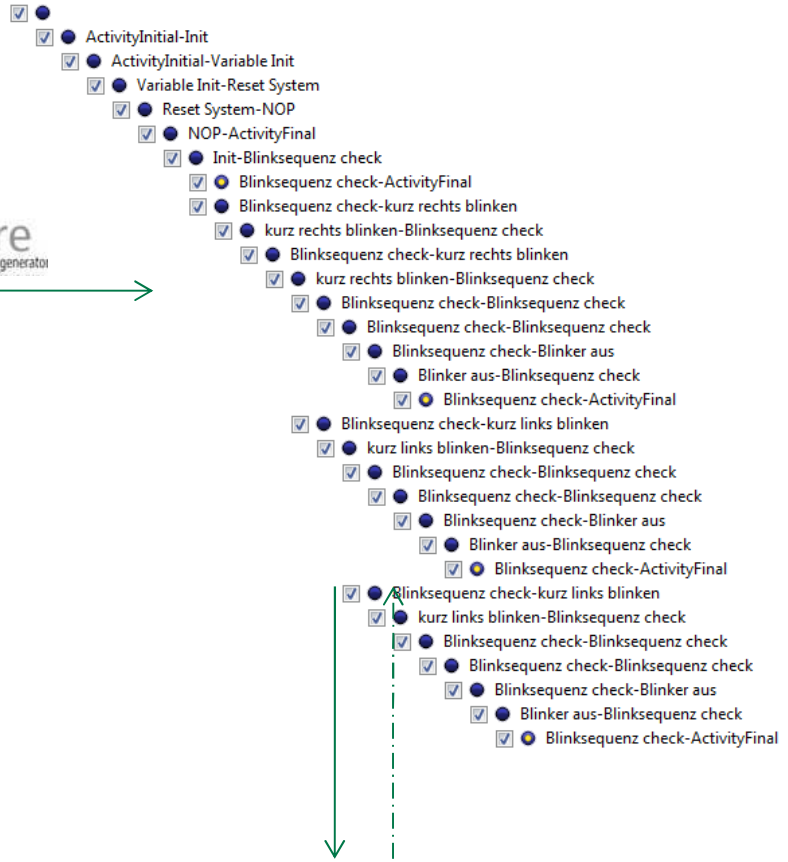




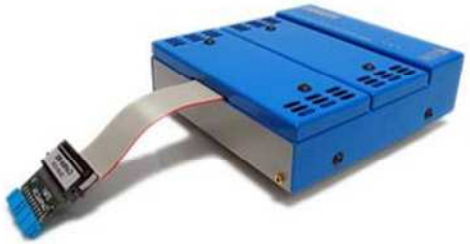


Case Study: Workflow in eMOTE






```
- func: [doBlink, [0,0,0,1], rv]
  expect:
  - blinkType == ${_blinkType}
  - blinkRestart == 0
```



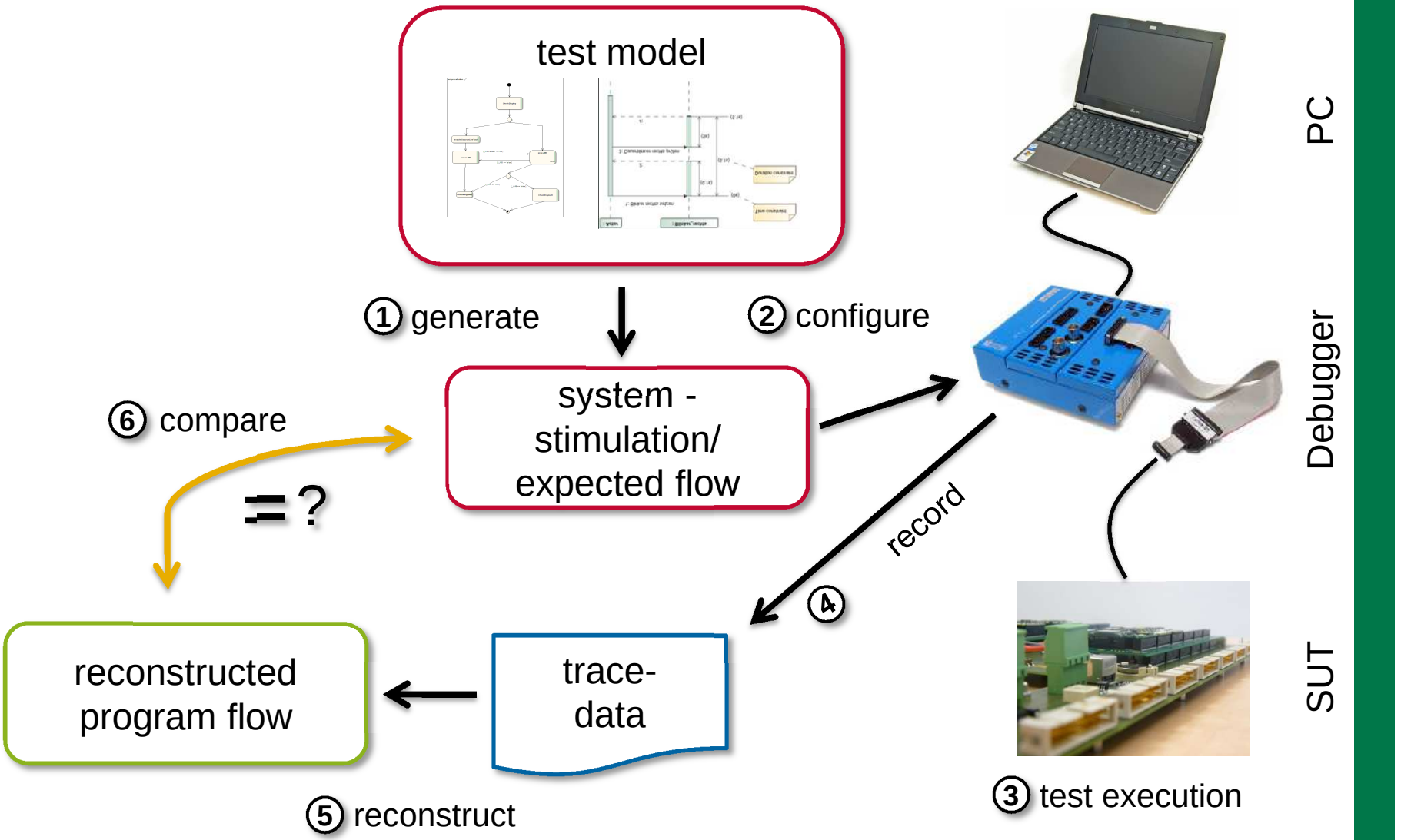
isystem.connect

passed/failed

Next Step: White-Box Test

- Detailed recording of events (control flow, data flow) when executing a test case (tracing)
  - Include recorded events in test evaluation
- Leads to interesting scenarios:
  - Recursive calling-sequences of (sub-)functions
    - Considering order, point in time and parameters
  - Following variables and input-/output-signals over time
    - Recording and testing „signal sequences“
  - Properties and performance of the embedded operating systems

White-Box Test
Test Execution (Calling-Sequences)



Thank you!

Dr. Philipp Graf
Department Manager
Embedded Systems & Sensors Engineering (ESS)

FZI Forschungszentrum Informatik
Haid-und-Neu-Str. 10-14
D-76131 Karlsruhe
Tel.: +49-721-9654-180
Fax: +49-721-9654-181
http://www.fzi.de