

# From Software to Software Systems – New Megatrend: Domain Controller



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# Agenda

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- Why?
  - Complexity as a Challenge
  - Path to Domain Controller
- How
  - Possible Set-up for a Domain Controller (Case Study)
  - Example for Domain Controller

# Complexity as a Challenge



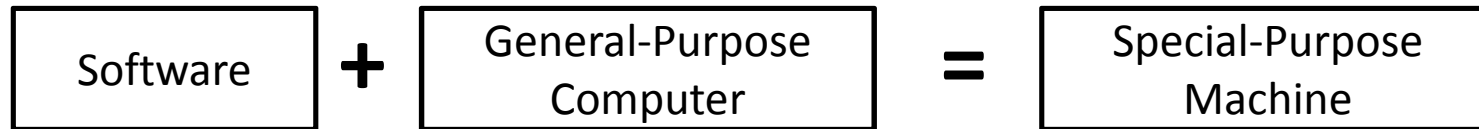
## Complexity as the Challenge

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- In the 1940'ies the US was abuzz with energy to turn the post-war economy to civil use and „do it right“ from scratch. Example: chemical process industry.
- Economy of scale: „*bigger is better, because bigger is cheaper*“.
- However, the bigger the plant, the:
  - More places there were for failure to occur (**number-of-failures**)
  - Harder it was to pinpoint the cause of failure (**time-to-pinpoint**)
  - Harder it was to fix a fault without producing side effects (**time-to-fix**)
  - Greater the loss in productivity each time the plant shut down (**lost-opportunity-cost**)
- These factors multiplied together to raise the cost of scale beyond the economies of scale. **Construction of the largest plants was abandoned.**
- **All these factors are non-linear in nature! Complexity control is crucial.**

## The Software is the Function!

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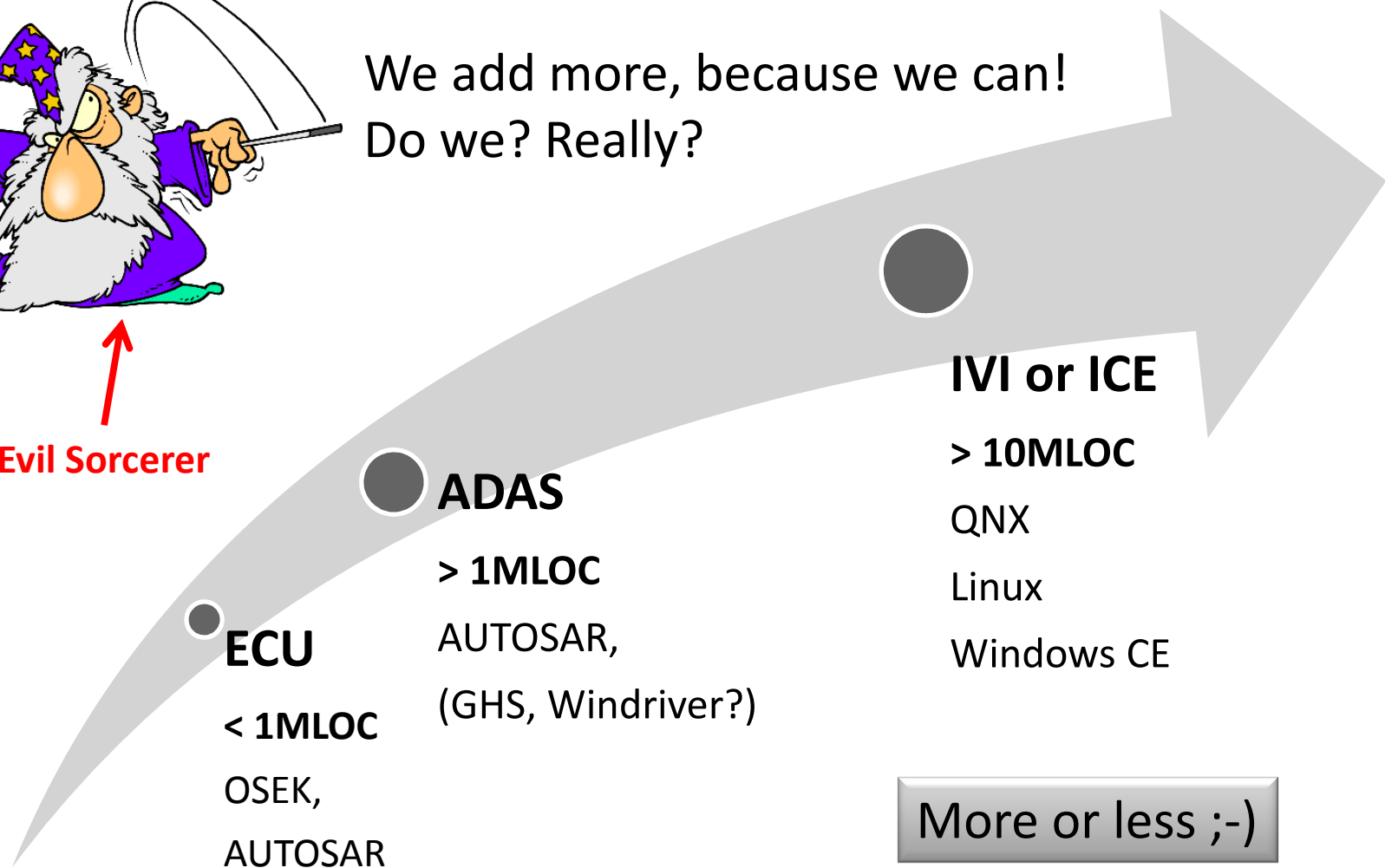
- Software is the *"design of a machine abstracted from its physical realization"*.
- **The most complex systems ever built are all software systems.**
- OEMs don't want to build computers: **OEMs need to create functions for cars.**
- Functional modelling on car or system level is for OEMs.
- Application modelling is area of the OEM and Tier-1.
- **System responsibility (HW and SW) is area of? Tier-1?**

# Increasing Complexity



Evil Sorcerer

We add more, because we can!  
Do we? Really?



**ECU**  
**< 1MLOC**  
OSEK,  
AUTOSAR

**ADAS**  
**> 1MLOC**  
AUTOSAR,  
(GHS, Windriver?)

**IVI or ICE**  
**> 10MLOC**  
QNX  
Linux  
Windows CE

More or less ;-)

## Life-cycle management & Engineering

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- LM is a typical system engineering approach which utilizes the holistic view of the life-cycle: definition, realization, deployment and use and product and service life management.
- Mobility as a Service (MaaS) will be the future see seminal paper “MaaS by E. Verhulst)
- High assurance levels require feedback loops during operation which will be monitored and regulated by an independent regulatory agency
  
- ➔ Life-cycle engineering is a requirement
- ➔ Resilience and anti-fragility are the over-arching ideas

## Testing vs. Operating

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- System complexity rises, but consequences are not fully understood or considered: many development and operational activities are highly non-linear in nature, e.g. system verification and assurance, field monitoring, etc.
- Growing gap between testing effort and operational hours
  - Aggravated by standardization of components, e.g. MQB, MLB, etc.
- Lesson from Toyota-case:
  - Pure existence of defect was sufficient
  - Operational hours will eventually trigger the defect with certainty (!)
- Quote from VW: “due to high operational hours of components every defect in software will be triggered”
- Consequence: we produce systems where we don’t know what they do
- Most important effect: unknown unknowns (UNK-UNK)



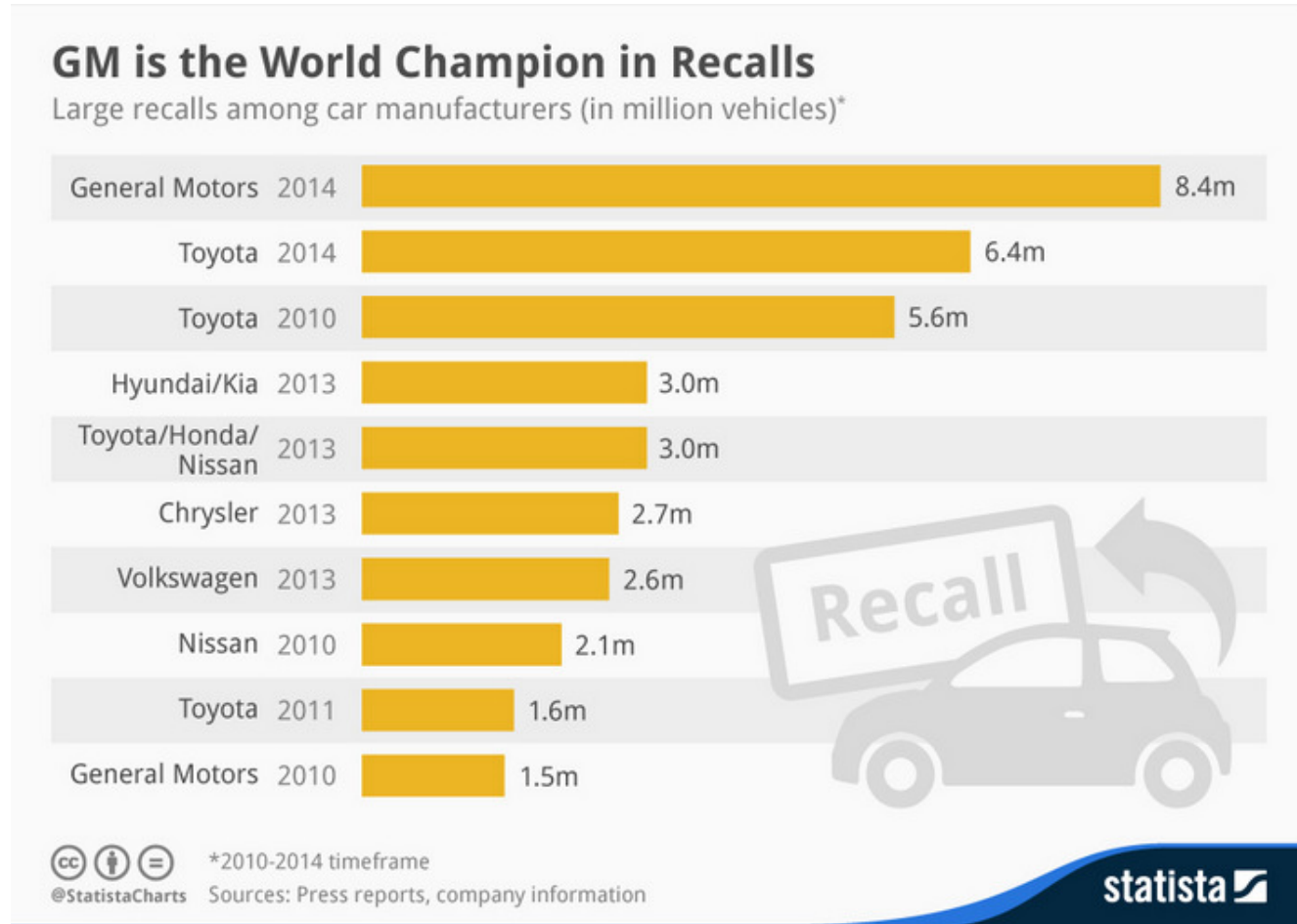
## Different Systems

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- Types of systems: simple != complicated != complex (!)
  - Simple systems: (few) sensor(s) -> single point of control -> (few) actuators
    - Clearly defined system boundaries
    - Clearly defined relationships between in/out, mon/con
  - Complicated systems: MIMO (multiple input, multiple output) with multiple points of control
    - “Muddy” system boundaries
    - Interaction between sub-systems is limited and fixed
    - Sub-systems and their interaction don’t adapt, e.g. to system heuristics
  - Complex systems:
    - No system boundaries, the system is the domain
    - System heuristics steer, but don’t control directly
    - Adaptive sub-systems with adaptive interactions
- ➔ Feedback loop during operation, monitoring and permanent updates

# Latest Recall Numbers

- [Source:](#)  
Statista, 2015



# Path to Domain Controller

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# From Software to Software Systems

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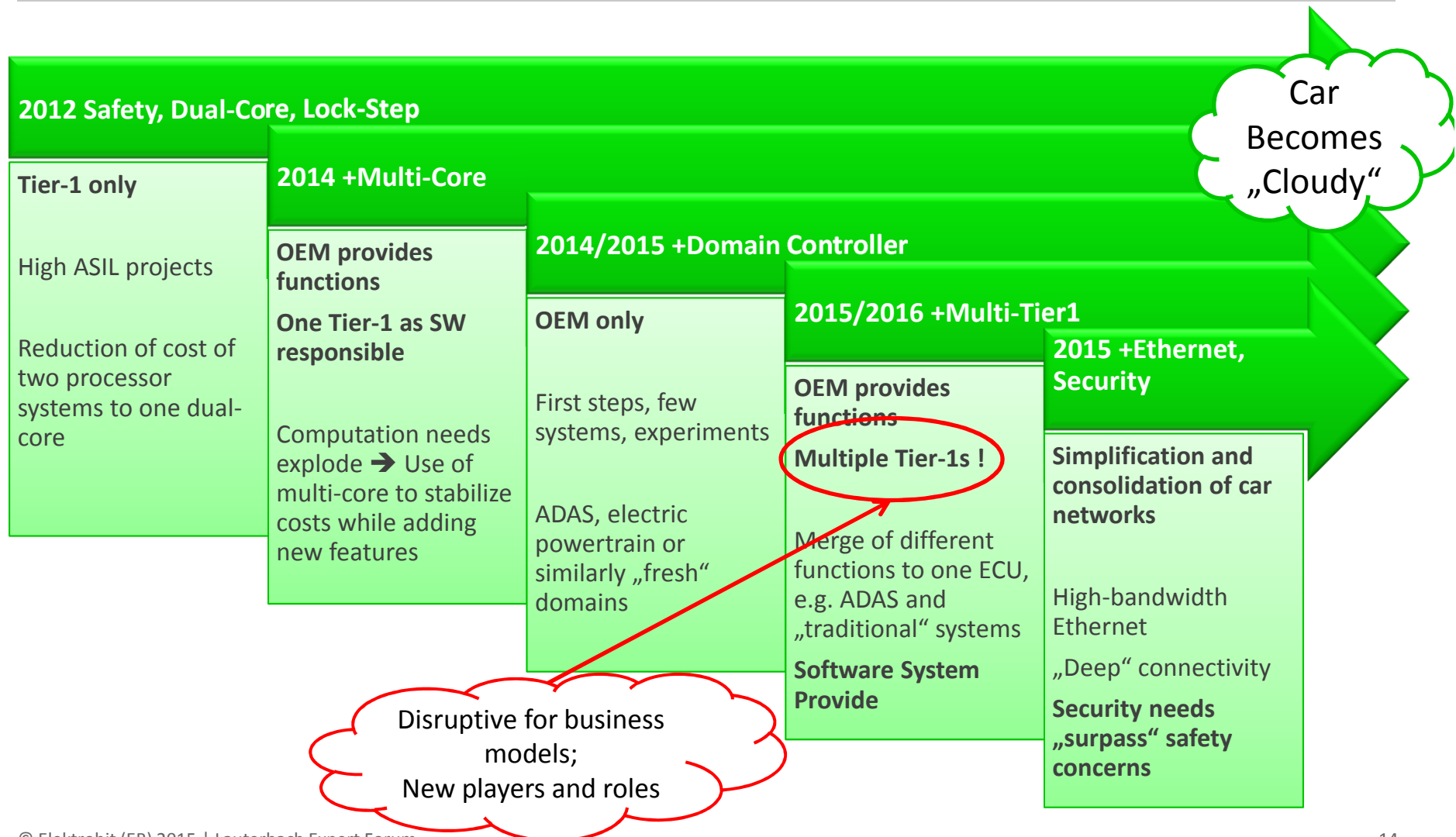
- Complexity in software is controlled by:
  - **Keep the functionality simple:** „*Challenge the requirements*“ (problem space).
  - **Keep the software simple:** software architecture (solution space).
  - Problem space: **highly non-linear effect** on the solution space!
- Real value of EB tresos™ Safety products:
  - Reduce and control complexity
  - **Enable co-existence of different software parts in the same system**
- **Complexity is controlled on a software system level.**  
**We need to understand systems engineering on a software level!**
  - **Software development tools need to adapt to this**
  - **Hardware analyzing (i.e. Debugger) tools need to adapt this**
- **Domain controllers require safety software architectures and safety products.**

## The Path to Domain Controllers

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- Growing computational demand + economy of scale (production).
- Reduce „intelligence“ (and cost) of sensors and actuators to a minimum.
- Replace such „intelligence“ with **centralized software functions**.
- **Leverage multi-core** (application from OEM + **one Tier-1**).
- Introduce **domain controllers** (application from OEM + **multiple Tier-1s**).
- Different domain areas ECU, ADAS and part of IVI will merge as a result.

# Time-Line

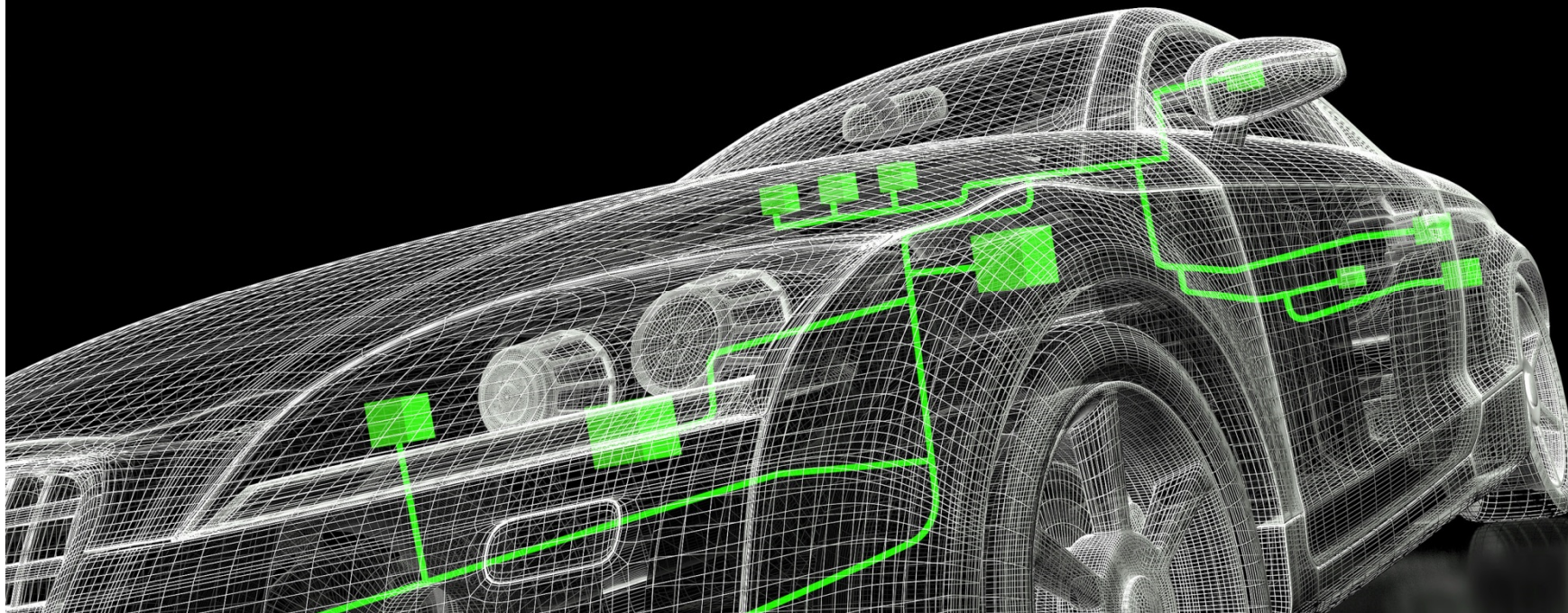


# Possible Set-up for a Domain Controller

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Elektrobit



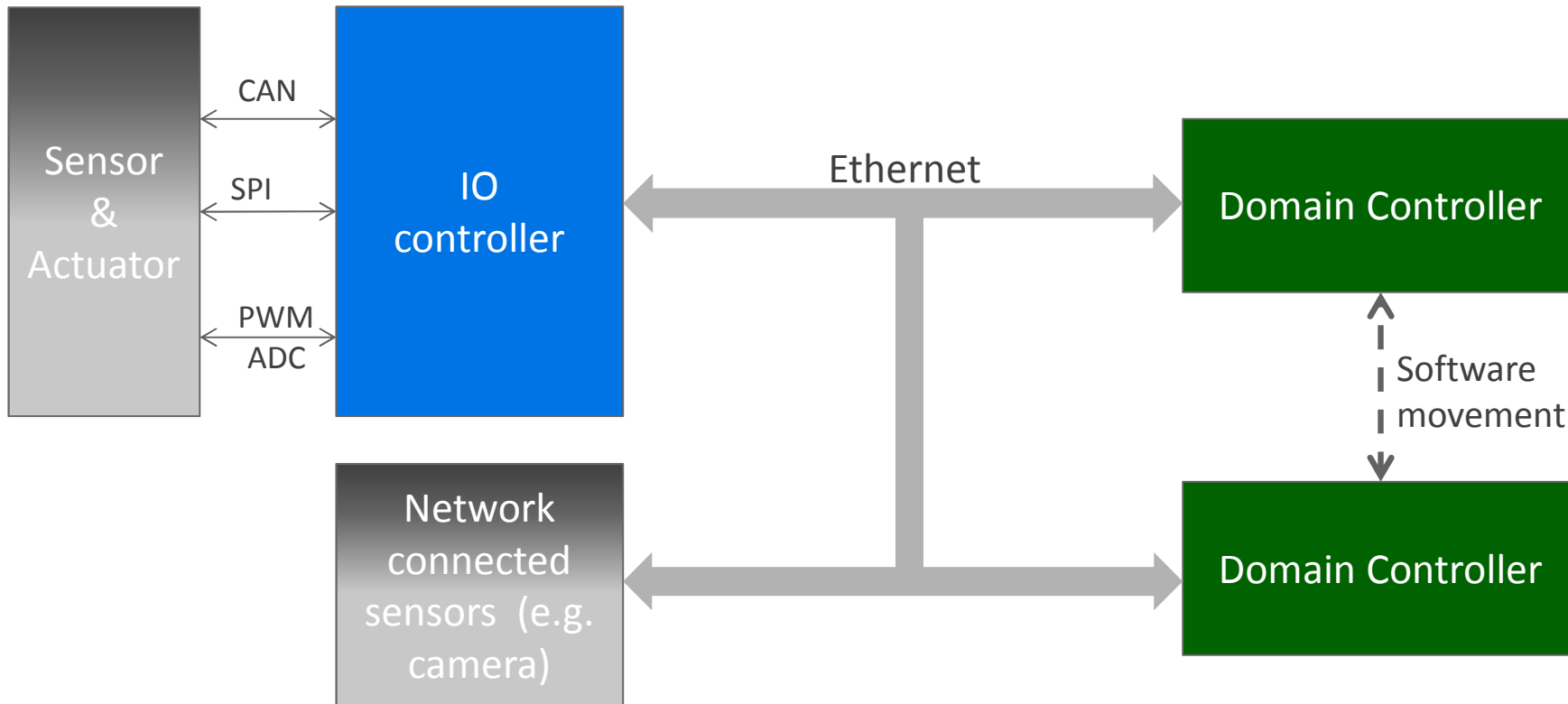
# Vision

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- Dependable System
  - functions can be switched between Central Controllers (cold or hot standby)
- Reloadable functions
  - Updatable, reconfigurable functions
  - “functions in the AppStore” – e.g. race-line in head up display for Brands Hatch circuit



# Remote I/O Architecture



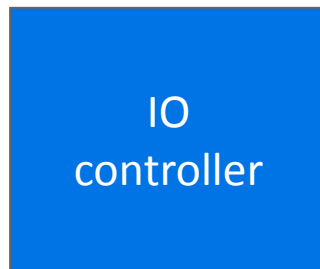
# How to divide the functionalities?

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calculations

- driver assistant functions
- non-high speed functions
- High computation demand
- OTA updates possible



physics

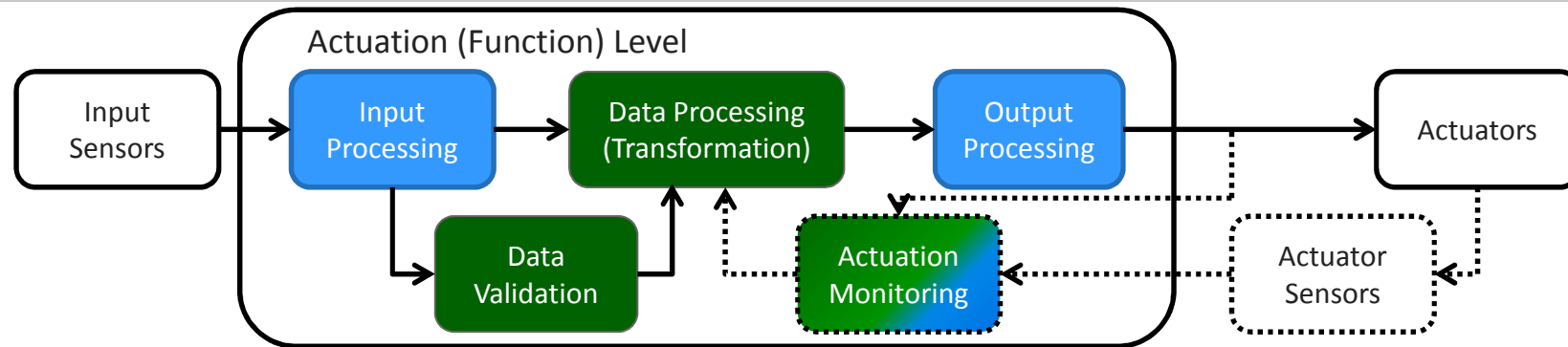
- high speed functions
- filter processing
- Calculation with strong timing constraints (e.g. no jitter)

## Basic considerations

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- IO Controller shall put every qualified signal on the network
  - Pro: enables easy integration of new/changed functionality on Central Controller
  - Pro: reduced complexity, due to low dependency between ECUs
  - Con: high busload
- IO Controller shall work time sliced
  - Pro: ease verification and validation
  - Pro: synchronization to time triggered bus
  - Pro: reduced scheduling overhead cause by preemptions
  - Con: latencies
- Domain Controller
  - Large processing capabilities
  - Multiple operating systems (e.g. Embedded Linux, AUTOSAR) with hypervisor

# Pattern: Protected Single Channel

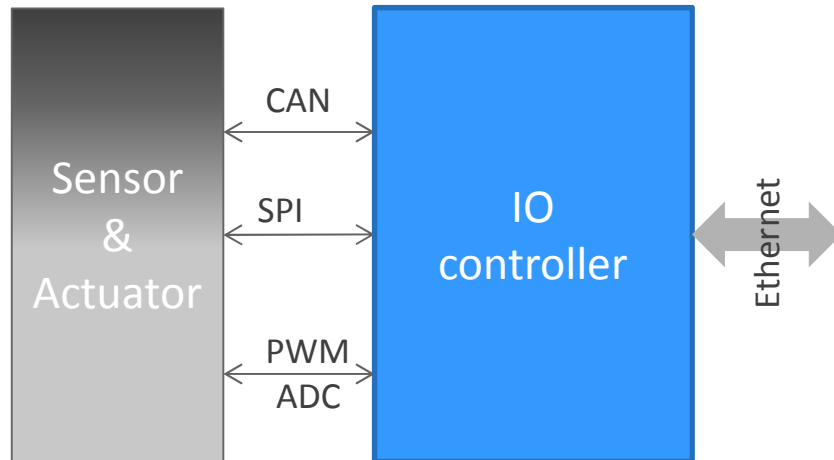


- Data validation: HW check, plausibility check, “smoothing”, etc.
- Data integrity
  - local: redundant storage or checksum
  - Communication: Alive counter & checksum or security algorithm (e.g. CMAC)
- Dotted lines: measuring the final result – Goal: a closed-loop system

Domain Controller

IO controller

# IO controller



- AUTOSAR as base architecture
  - Reuse of existing SW-C
  - Safety concepts available
  - Full support of diagnostics
  - IO driver available
  - Complex driver non standard IO connections

## Assumptions:

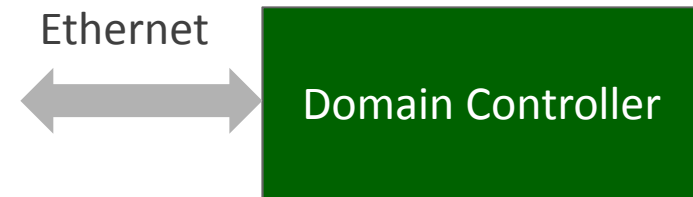
- Sensor cycle times between 100 us and 100ms
- Actuator response times is critical
- Support of different safety requirements (QM – ASIL D)

# Domain Controller

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Multi Core CPU with focus on performance

- Support of “dynamics”
  - Start/stop applications
  - Memory management
- Support of high-level requirements libraries e.g.
  - OpenGL
  - Qt
- Support of automotive standard functions
  - Integration of AUTOSAR software components
  - Reuse of diagnostic software modules e.g. UDS, OBD



Proposal: Hypervisor controlling multiple operating systems

# Domain Controller

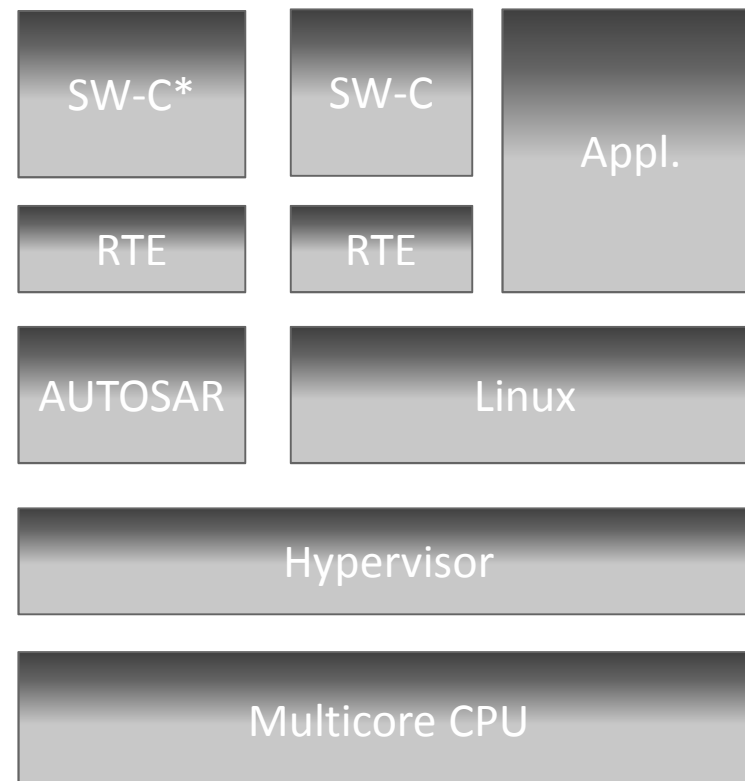
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Hypervisor concept shall

- Ensure spatial and temporal separation to show that the real-time application is not impacted by the non-real-time applications
- Enable migration /reuse of existing software

AUTOSAR SW-C\* can be integrated on

- Standard AUTOSAR environment
- RTE running on a Linux



\*) AUTOSAR software component

# Communication

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## Requirements

- High and guaranteed bandwidth for sensor data streams
- Low latency
- Global Time Sync for global time and synchronous task execution
- Timestamps for application data elements
- Quality of Service
- Fault tolerance

## Proposal: Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN)\* on Ethernet

- 802.1AS: Timing and Synchronization for Time-Sensitive Applications
- 802.1Qav: Forwarding and Queuing for Time-Sensitive Streams (Guaranteed bandwidth & latency)

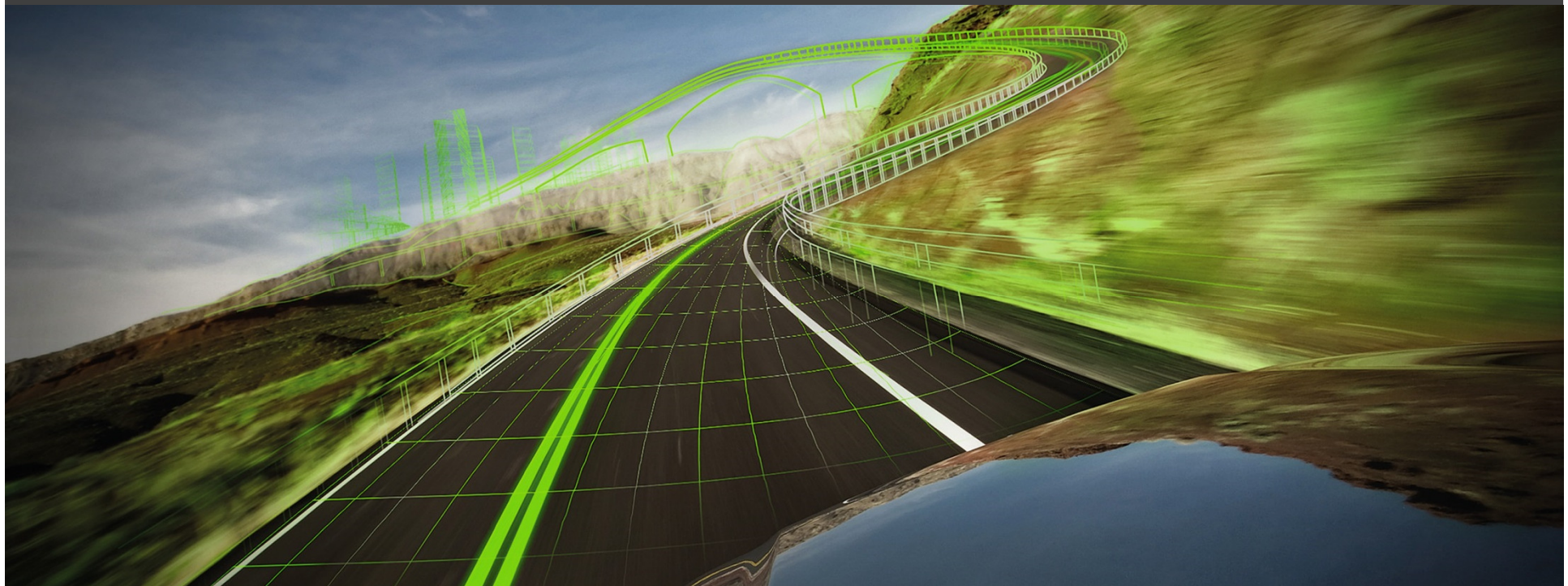
Experience: Concept validated with ASR 4.2.1 +RfCs in a demonstrator project

\* Previously known as Audio Video Bridging (AVB)



# Example function – race track assistant

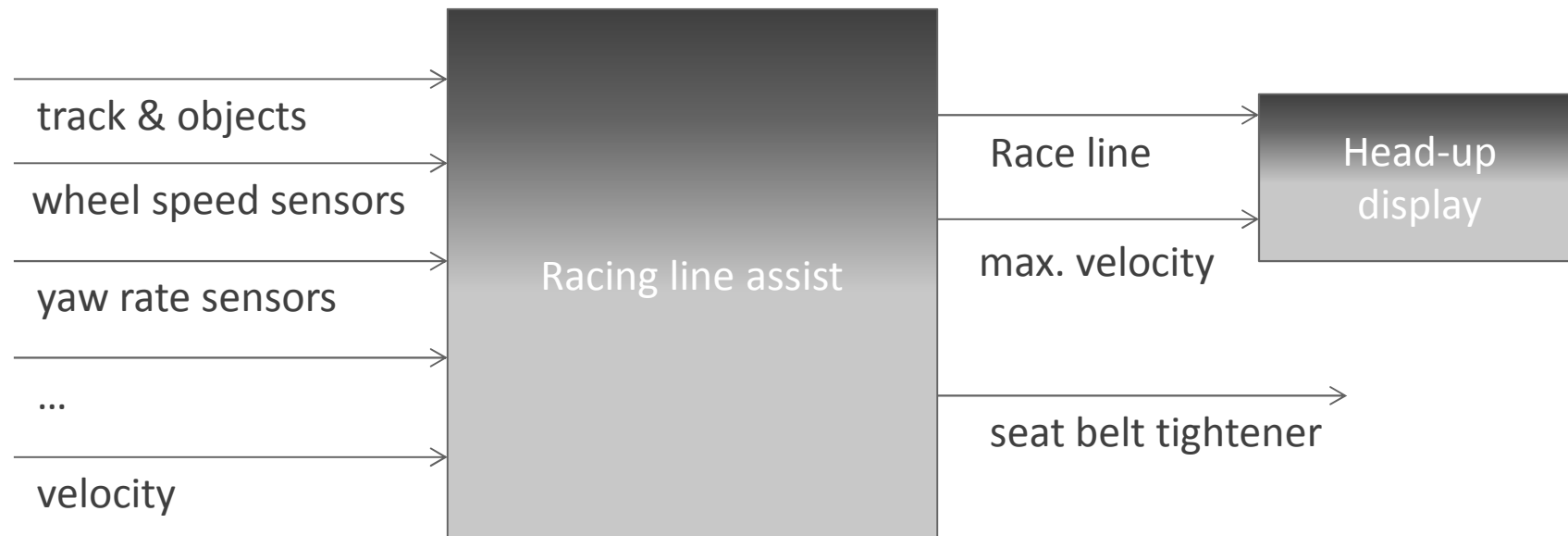
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## Top-level view

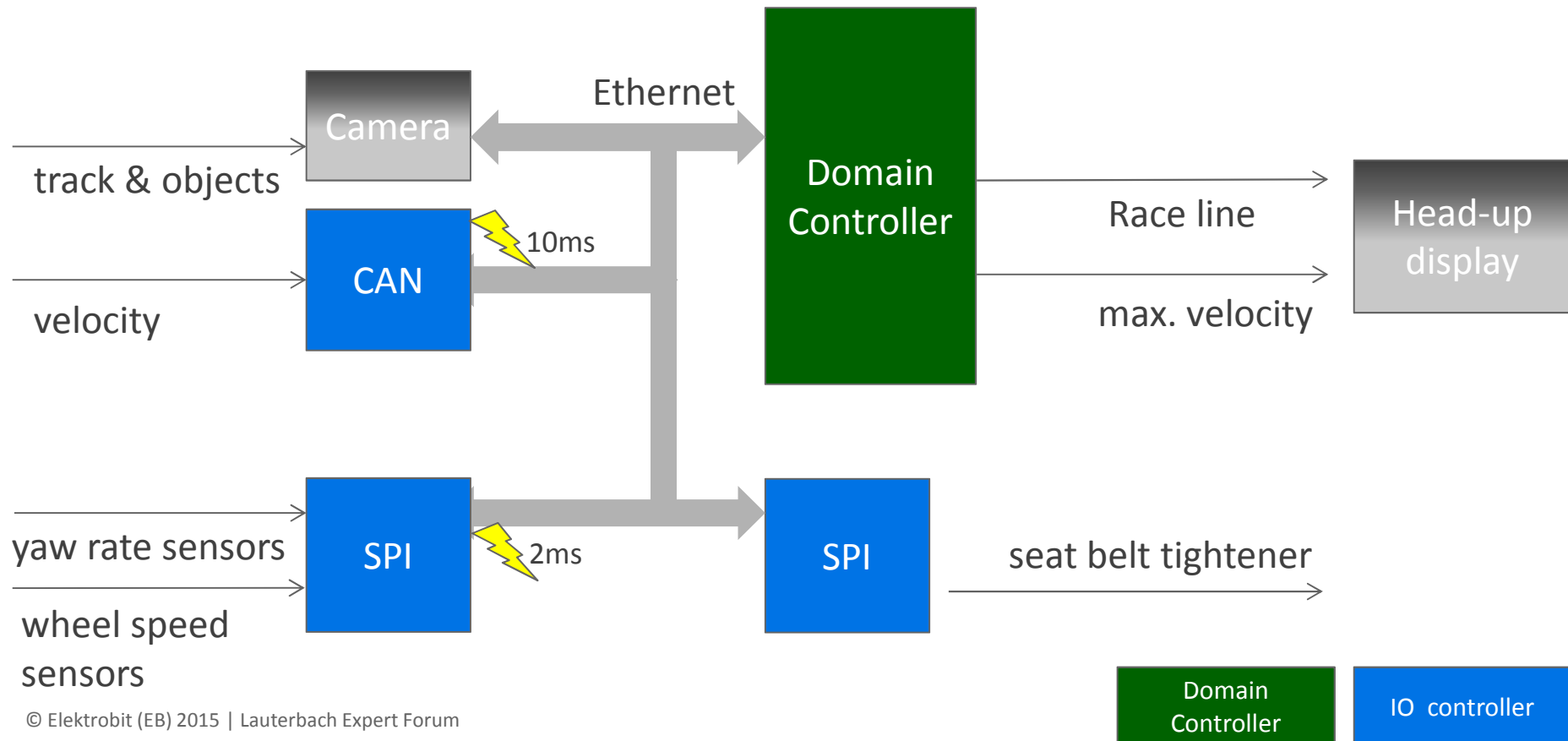
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- Advises driver for best racing line
- controls seat belt tightener (pre-crash)



# Data Flow

- Advises driver for best racing line
- In pre-crash situation the system activates the seat belt tightener



## Tasks IO controller

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### Task 500us:

- Read yaw rate and
- Calculate filtered yaw rate
- Read wheel speed sensors
- Calculate filtered wheel speed values

### Task 2 ms:

- Perform plausibility checks on wheel speed and yaw rates
- Send qualified measures on Ethernet

### Task 10ms:

- Perform plausibility checks wheel speed and velocity
- Gateway CAN messages to Ethernet

### Perform L3 checks (SystemDiagnosis):

- Temporal monitoring
- Voltage monitoring
- Build in self test

### Task 1ms:

- Act on pre-crash calculations

# Tasks Domain Controller

## Common function

- Read data from communication bus
- Perform street and object recognition from camera picture

## Comfort functions:

- Calculate driver information
- Forward driver information to head-up display



## Safety function:

- Calculate possible object impact
- Initiate pre-crash actions (e.g seat belt tightener)

## Outlook: reading the „crystal ball“

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- **Multi-Core ECUs** are now in development for mass market: More functions per ECU, but usually the same supplier.
- **Domain-controllers** will follow:  
Even **more functions** per ECU, from **different suppliers** and the **OEM**.
  - This changes the software supplier structure
  - New **business and cooperation** models needed, e.g. software integrators?
  - **OTA** updated and Apps will be among the next big things with Domain controllers
- **Re-use** of standardized software architectures that support safety and multi-core is a **key success factor**.
- **Effective Tools** and using them in the right way will be basis for you success
- During this period: **reliability** is re-discovered as important quality aspect and more ECUs have **availability** requirements.
- After that **security** will be the next **hot topic**:
  - Ethernet, the connected car, autonomous driving, etc.

Questions?  
Contact us!

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