



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DE L'AQUILA



disim



# ATES@AQ Research Group

*Assistive Technologies and Embedded Systems*  
(<https://www.atesaq.it/>)

**University of L'Aquila**

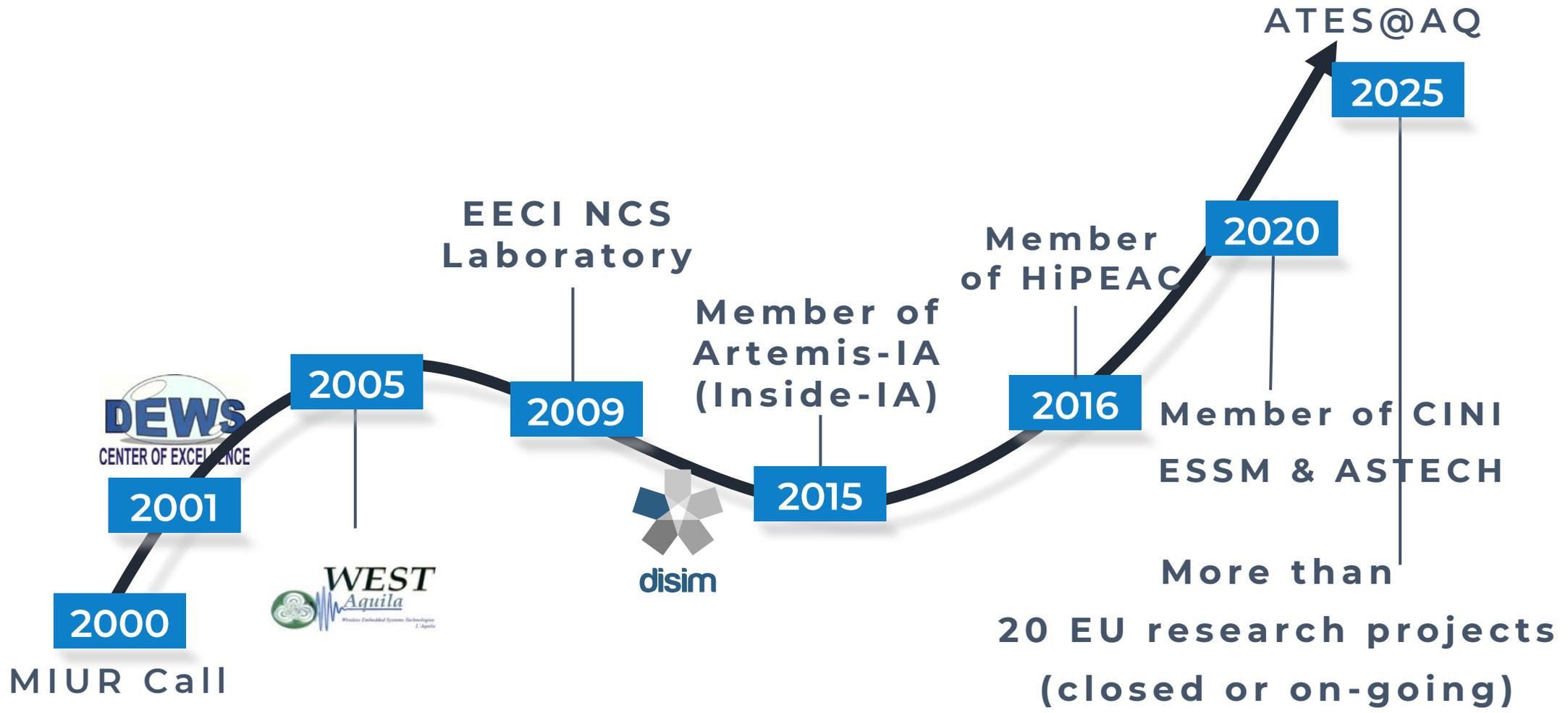
**DISIM Department**

Information Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics

**Center of Excellence DEWS**

Design methodologies for Embedded controllers,  
Wireless interconnect and System-on-chip

# ATES@AQ - History



# ATES@AQ - People



**TANIA  
DI MASCIO**  
Associate  
Professor



**LUIGI  
POMANTE**  
Assistant Professor  
(Tenured)



**GIACOMO  
VALENTE**  
Assistant  
Professor



**VITTORIANO  
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Assistant  
Professor



**SARA  
PERETTI**  
Post-Doc  
Researcher



**MARCO  
SANTIC**  
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Researcher



**FEDERICA  
CARUSO**  
Post-Doc  
Researcher



**FRANCESCO  
DI BATTISTA**  
Senior  
Graduate



**IVAN  
DE CESARIS**  
Senior  
Graduate



**LEONARDO  
FAZZINI**  
PhD  
Student



**GIULIA  
LAURETI**  
Master's  
Graduate

# ATES@AQ - Research Topics

- **1. Embedded ICT (eICT)**
- **2. On-Chip Monitoring**
- **3. Support on HW reconfiguration**
- **4. AI @ Edge layer**
- **5. Electronic System-Level HW/SW Co-Design**
- **6. Assistive Technologies**

# 1. embedded ICT (eICT)

- Experimentation, analysis, and characterization of all the ICT typically involved in the embedded systems domain (both traditional and high-performance)

## HW

- **uC:** Microchip/Atmel, ST, etc.
- **DSP:** Texas Instruments, etc.
- **FPGA/SoPC:** Xilinx/AMD

## SW

- **Bare-metal C/C++**
- **EOS/RTOS/HPV:** Linux, FreeRTOS, VxWorks, RTEMS, PikeOS, Xtratum

## COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

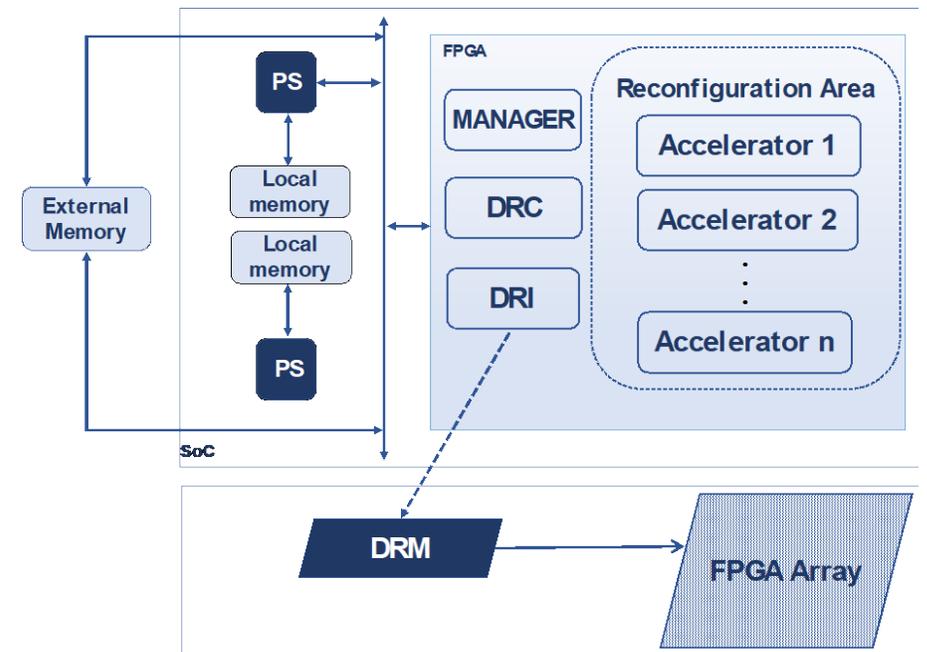
- **Wired:** USB, SPI, I2C, UART, RS485, CAN, etc.
- **Wireless:** IEEE 802.15.11, IEEE 802.15.4, BT, LORA, etc.

## 2. On-Chip Monitoring

- **Automatically finding on-chip monitors from requirements**
  - Design For Monitorability
    - MONICA Tool (<https://monicatool.cloud/>)
- **Support on custom generation of on-chip hardware monitors**
  - Library: JOINTER
    - Unobtrusive tracing
    - Runtime characterization of system behavior
    - Tightly coupled bandwidth regulation

# 3. Support on HW reconfiguration

- **Dynamic Partial Reconfiguration Profitability & Off-Loading**
  - Accurate evaluation of DPR time
    - Reconfiguration Time
    - Multiple DPR requests
  - Support on HW-tasks context-switch



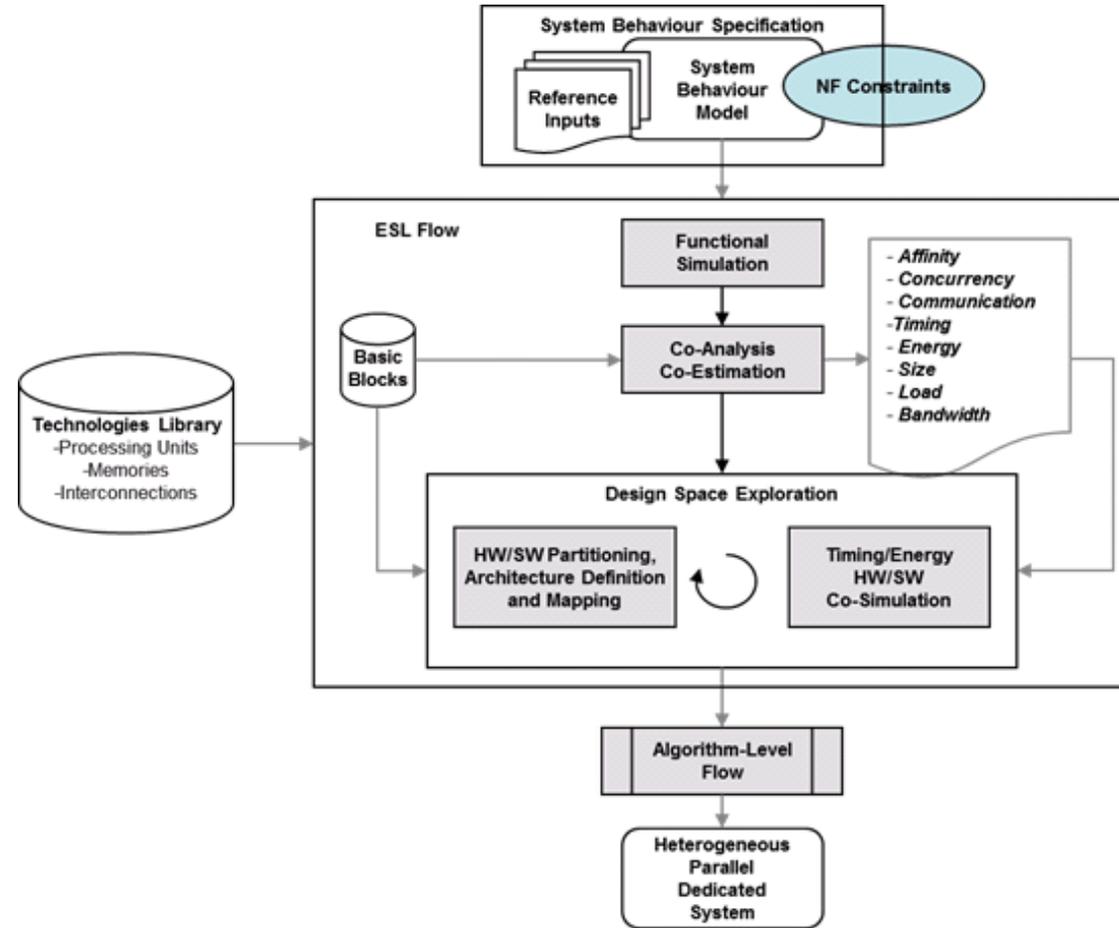
# 4. AI @ Edge layer

- **AI inference at the Edge**
  - Support to the designers in the analysis of the trade-offs provided by acceleration alternatives of CNNs on embedded/edge platforms
    - Acceleration on FPGAs, GPUs and dedicated cores
    - Optimization for constrained devices

# 5. ESL HW/SW Co-Design

**H**epsy  
code

HW/SW Co-Design of  
Heterogeneous Parallel  
Dedicated/Embedded  
Systems



<http://www.hepsycode.com>

# 6. Assistive Technologies

- **The CrazySquare Project**

- A Gamified smartphone application for music education learning targeting pre-adolescents attending Italian Middle Schools

- **The VirtuOR Project**

- Immersive Virtual Environments for Pain Management in operative rooms

- **The SeriousGXcraft Project**

- A comprehensive Framework for the design, implementation, and evaluation of Video Games and Serious Games

- **DeeJay**

- An action research-based methodological approach oriented to multidisciplinary Technology-Enhanced Learning projects

# ATES@AQ - Figures

- **2010/2024**
  - More than 15 funded EU/National research projects
  - More than 10 industrial research contracts
    - Thales Alenia Space Italy, Thales Italy and several SMEs
  - Member of several international/national associations
    - INSIDE-IA, HiPEAC, ESSM & AT CINI National Laboratories

# EMBEDDED SYSTEMS DESIGN: FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **VISION (ERC-2009-StG 240555) [CLOSED]**
  - Video-oriented UWB-based Intelligent Ubiquitous Sensing
- **SMILING (RIDITT 2009, national project) [CLOSED]**
  - SMart In home LIvING
- **PRESTO (Artemis-JU ASP 2010-269362) [CLOSED]**
  - ImProvements of industrial Real Time Embedded SysTems develOpment process
- **CRAFTERS (Artemis-JU ASP 2011-295371) [CLOSED]**
  - ConstRaint and Application-driven Framework for Tailoring Embedded Real-time Systems
- **EMC2 (Artemis-JU AIPP 2013-621429) [CLOSED]**
  - Embedded Multi-Core systems for Mixed Criticality applications in dynamic and changeable real-time environments
- **CASPER (H2020-MSCA-RISE-2014) [CLOSED]**
  - User-centric MW Architecture for Advanced Service Provisioning in Future Networks
- **SAFECOP (ECSEL-JU RIA-2015) [CLOSED]**
  - Safe Cooperating Cyber-Physical Systems using Wireless Communication
- **MEGAM@RT2 (ECSEL-JU RIA-2016) [CLOSED]**
  - MegaModelling at Runtime - scalable model-based framework for continuous development and runtime validation of complex systems
- **AQUAS (ECSEL-JU RIA-2016) [CLOSED]**
  - Aggregated Quality Assurance for Systems

# EMBEDDED SYSTEMS DESIGN: FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **FITOPTIVIS (ECSEL-JU RIA-2017) [CLOSED]**
  - From the cloud to the edge - smart Integration and OPTimization Technologies for highly efficient Image and Video processing Systems
- **AFARCLOUD (ECSEL-JU RIA-2017) [CLOSED]**
  - Aggregate Farming in the Cloud
- **COMP4DRONES (ECSEL-JU RIA-2018) [CLOSED]**
  - Framework of key enabling technologies for safe and autonomous drones' applications
- **FRACTAL (ECSEL-JU RIA- 2019) [CLOSED]**
  - A Cognitive Fractal and Secure EDGE based on an unique Open-Safe-Reliable-Low Power Hardware Platform Node
- **IREL 4.0 (ECSEL-JU IA- 2019) [CLOSED]**
  - Intelligent Reliability
- **OPTIMIST (H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019) [RUNNING]**
  - OPTIMised video content delivery chains leveraging data analysis over joint multi-access edge computing and 5G radio network infrastructures
- **AIDOART (H2020-ECSEL-2020-2-RIA) [CLOSED]**
  - AI-augmented automation for efficient DevOps, a model-based framework for continuous development At RunTime in cyber-physical systems
- **Resilient Trust (KDT-JU RIA 2022) [RUNNING]**
  - Trusted SMEs for Sustainable Growth of Europeans Economical Backbone to Strengthen the Digital Sovereignty

# EMBEDDED SYSTEMS DESIGN: INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTS

- **LE**
  - Thales Alenia Space Italy
    - Hypervisors and on-board SW
      - Xtratum HPV Qualification
      - RTEMS over XtratuM HPV Qualification
      - CFDP over specific OBC with PUS-C compliance
    - Satellite Simulation Framework
    - Advanced processing
      - SDR on RAD-hard many-core processor
      - On-board AI
  - Thales Italy
    - Advanced multi-core platforms
    - Embedded profiling mechanisms for multi-core platforms

# EMBEDDED SYSTEMS DESIGN: INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTS

- **SME**
  - Tekne (Italy)
    - Embedded profiling mechanisms
  - RoTechnology (Italy)
    - Wireless Sensor Networks Security
    - Embedded Systems Security
  - Kondor CS (Italy)
    - CNN for Age&Gender estimation
  - HIPPEROS (Belgium)
    - Experimentation of the HIPPEROS ARIA software stack
  - TEcnoJest
    - CNN for noise&sound classification

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