

# Lecture 18

## Wrapup

CE346 – Microprocessor System Design  
Branden Ghena – Spring 2021

Some slides borrowed from:  
Josiah Hester (Northwestern), Prabal Dutta (UC Berkeley)

# Administrivia

- This is the last lecture!! 🙏
  - No class on Monday
- Friday: Quiz 4
- Next week: Project Demos
  - See signup and details on Campuswire

# Today's Goals

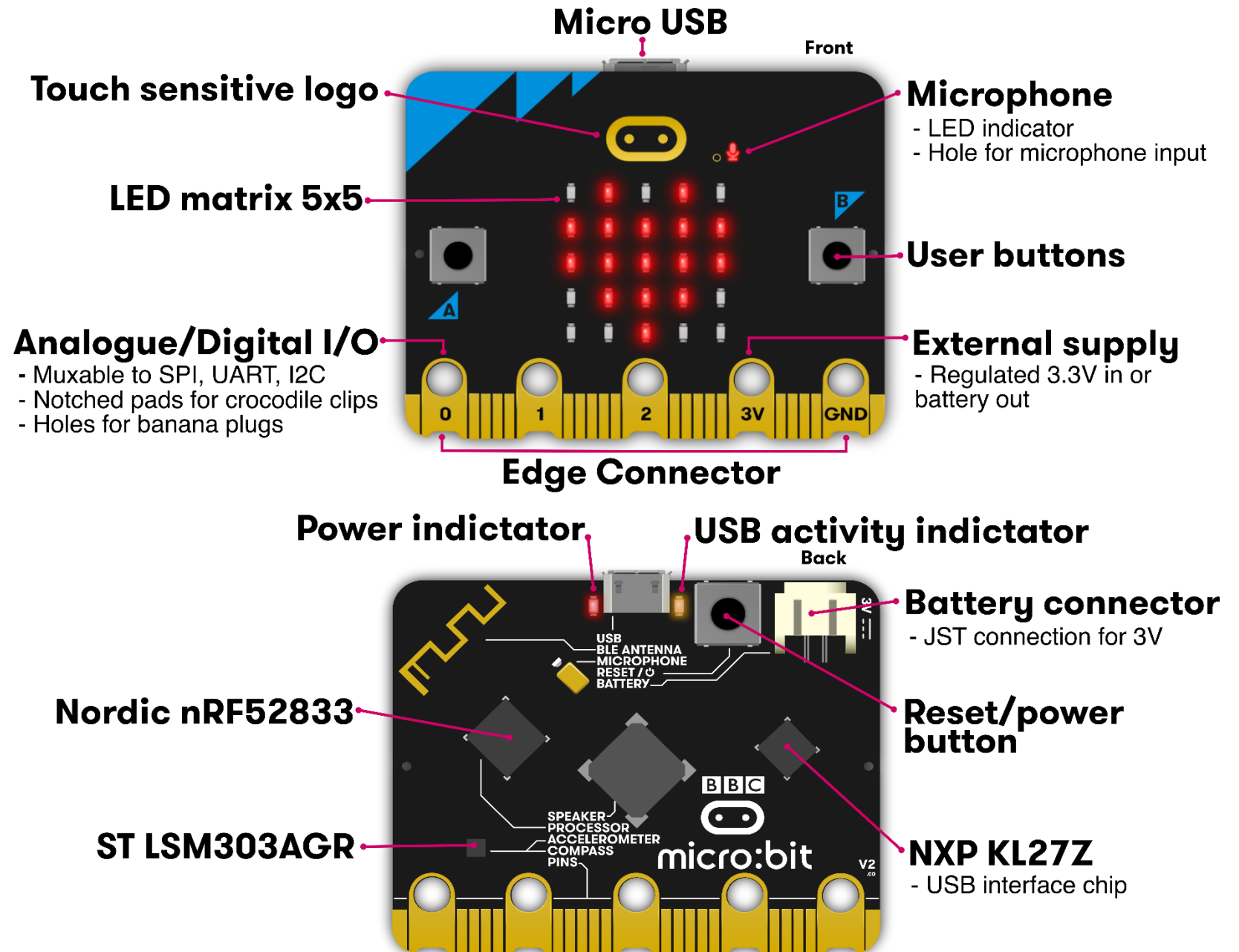
- Discuss remaining parts of the Microbit and nRF52833
  - Realize that we've covered almost everything on the system!!
- Explore sensing systems research

# Outline

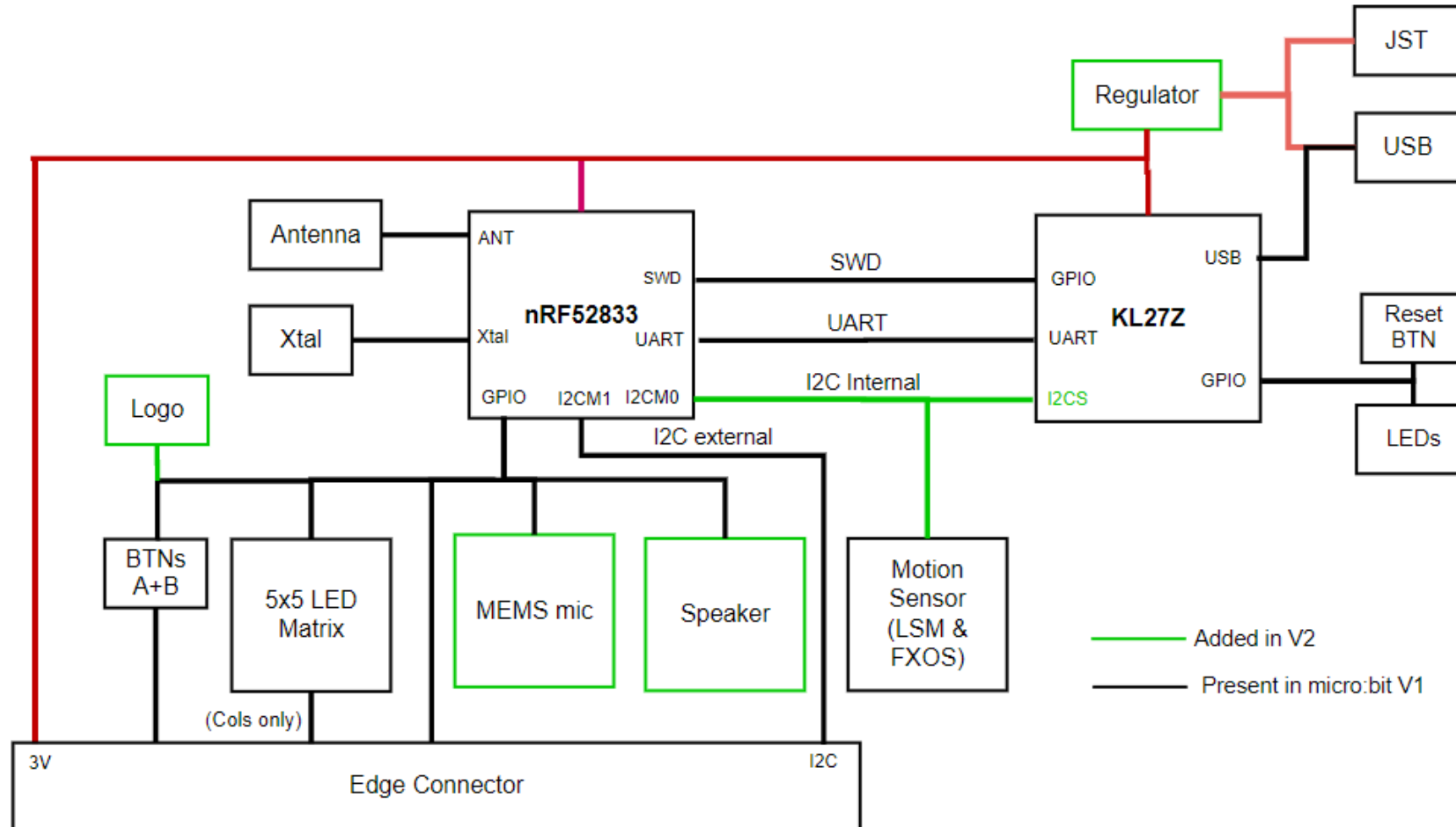
- **What haven't we talked about?**
  - **Microbit**
  - nRF52833
- Sensing Systems Research

# Microbit

- Used almost all of this!
- Remaining:
  - Batteries
  - Wireless
  - KL27Z I2C
  - Touch sensitive pads



# Internal Microbit connections

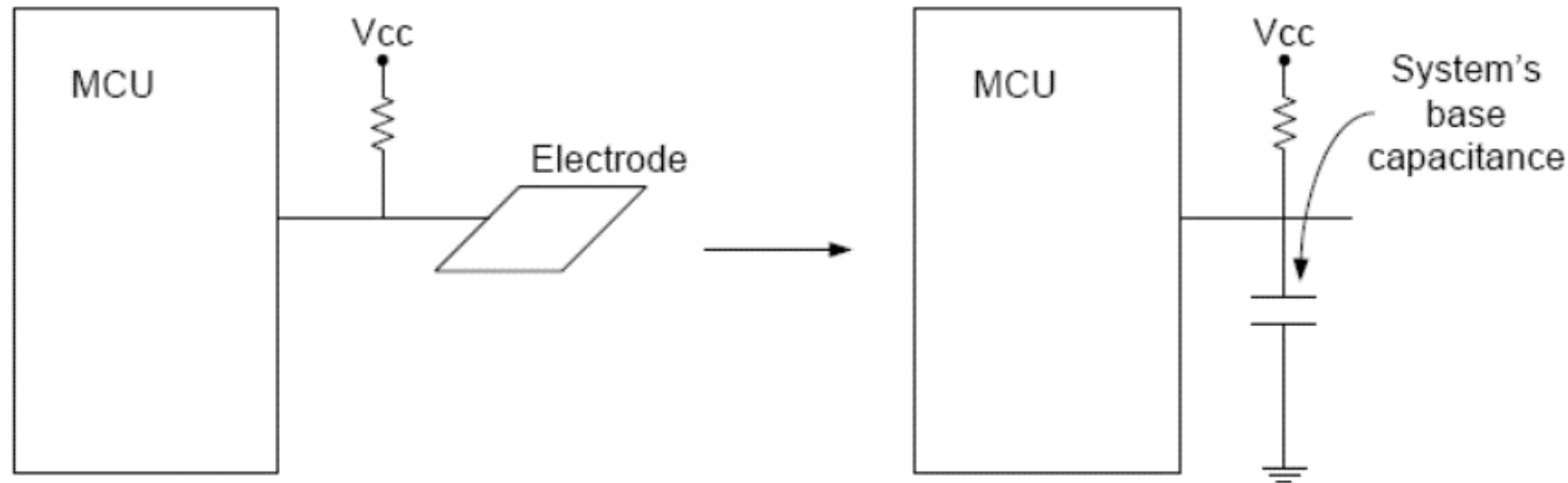
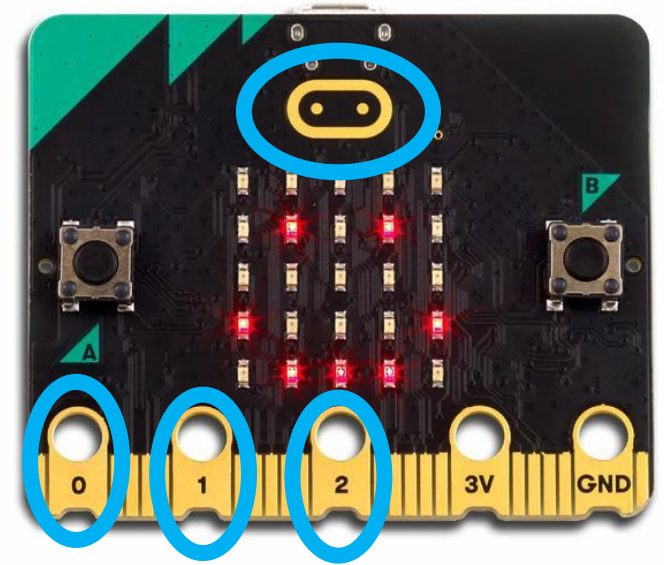


# KL27 I2C Interface

- Device information
  - Version of board and JTAG firmware
  - Power state of board
    - USB, Battery, both
    - Voltage values for battery and VIN
  - USB connection state
  - Disable the power LED!!
- Flash Storage
  - 128 kB of the KL27's Flash is readable/writable over I2C

# Capacitive Touch Sensor

- Pull-up resistors connected to metal pads
  - Also connected to GPIO pin
- Acts as a capacitor connected to ground





# Capacitive touch sensing method

1. Drive GPIO pin low
  - Connects the pad to ground
2. Set GPIO pin as input and enable low-to-high interrupt
  - Pad is pulled high. This takes time based on capacitance
  - Use a timer to determine time until interrupt (order  $\sim 10 \mu\text{s}$ )
3. Repeat periodically

Sudden large increase in rise time  $\Rightarrow$  someone is touching!

- Finger acts as a large capacitor

# Capacitive touch works on any metal surface

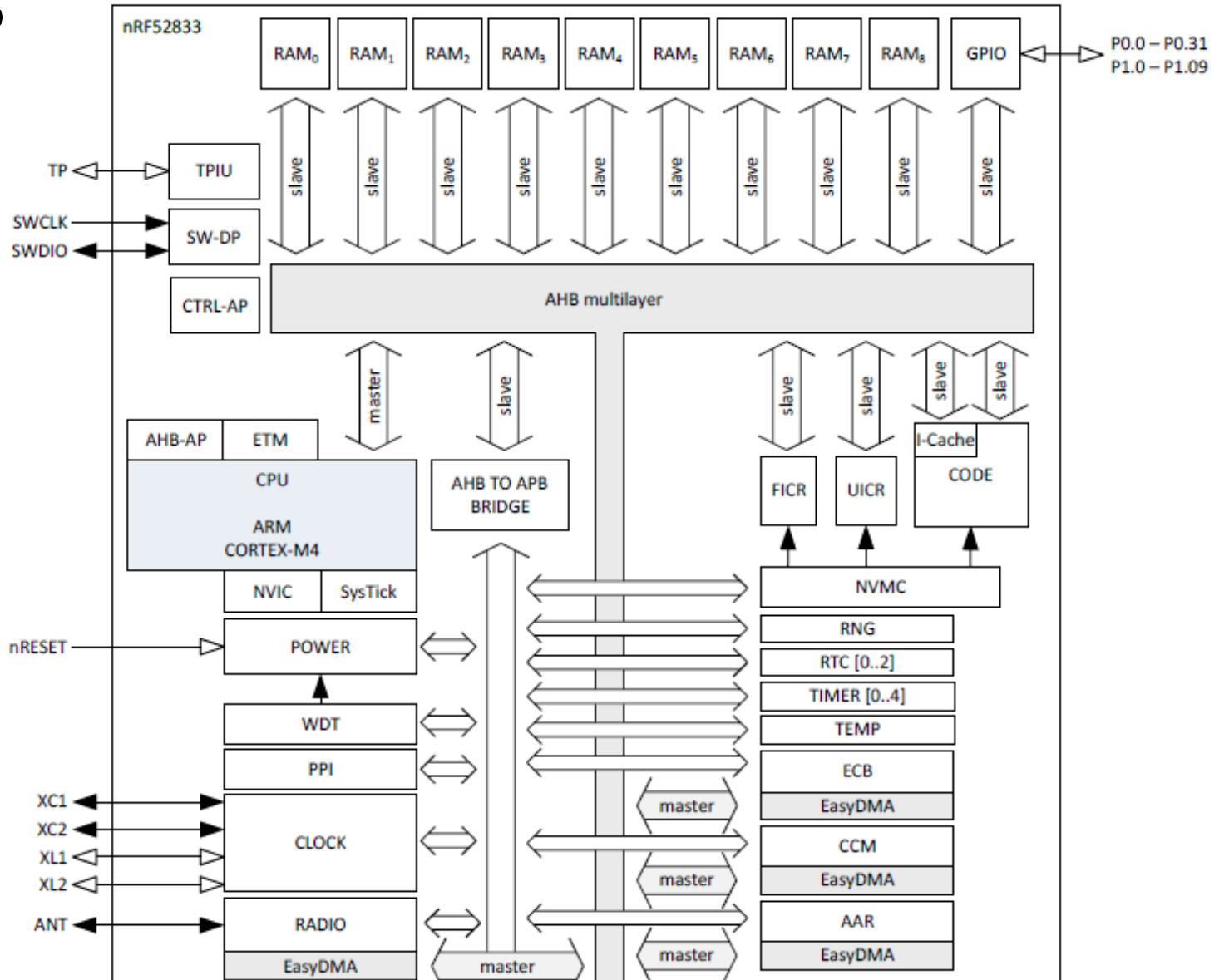
- Idea: Microbit door handle sensor
- Connect a wire and a pull-up resistor to a metal door handle to sense when someone is touching it!
  - Timing will be very different from capacitive pad, but should be repeatable and distinguishable from human touch

# Outline

- **What haven't we talked about?**
  - Microbit
  - **nRF52833**
- Sensing Systems Research

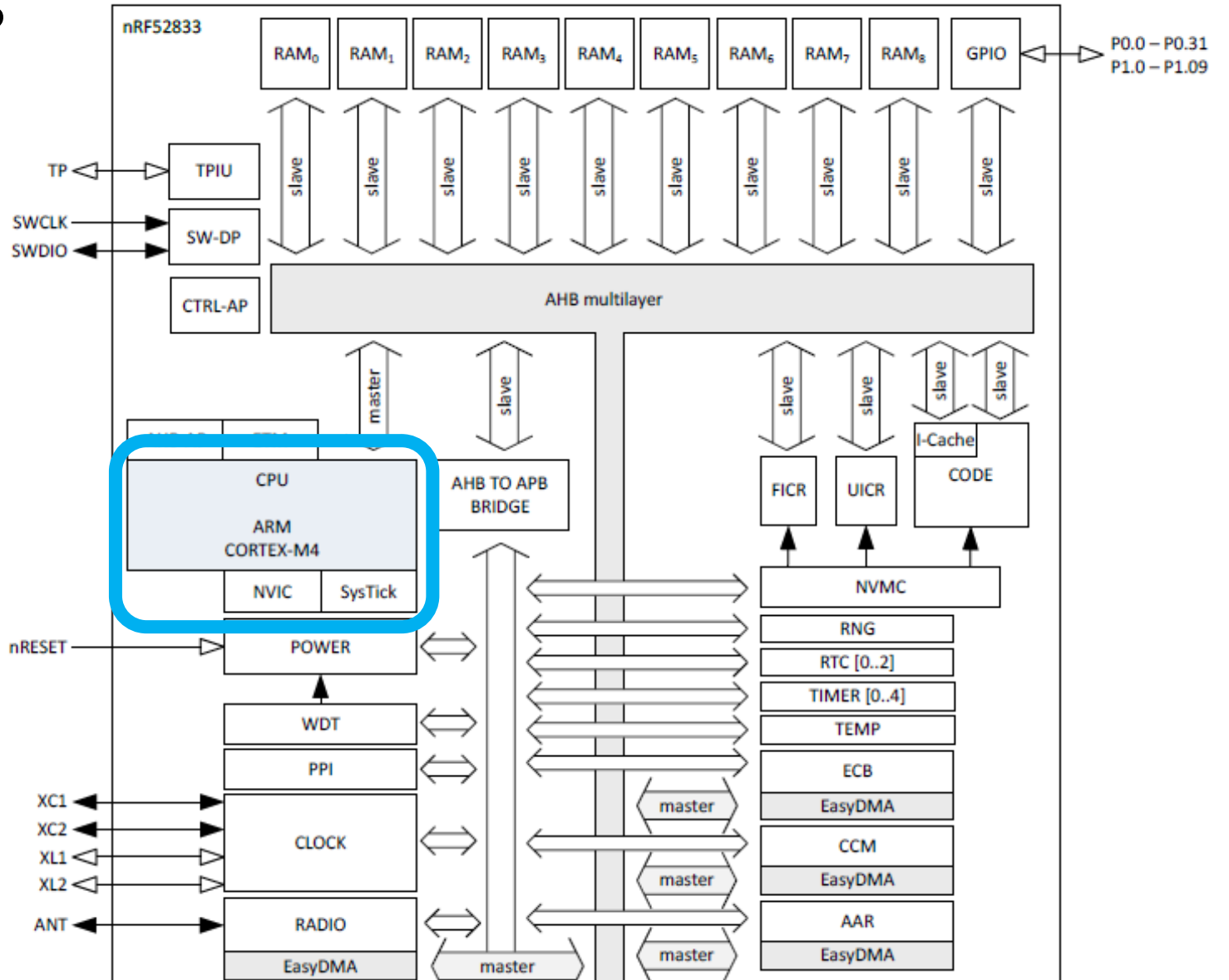
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Tour of the nRF52833 peripherals
- With some details on the ones we haven't talked about
  - Wireless
  - Crypto
  - Audio



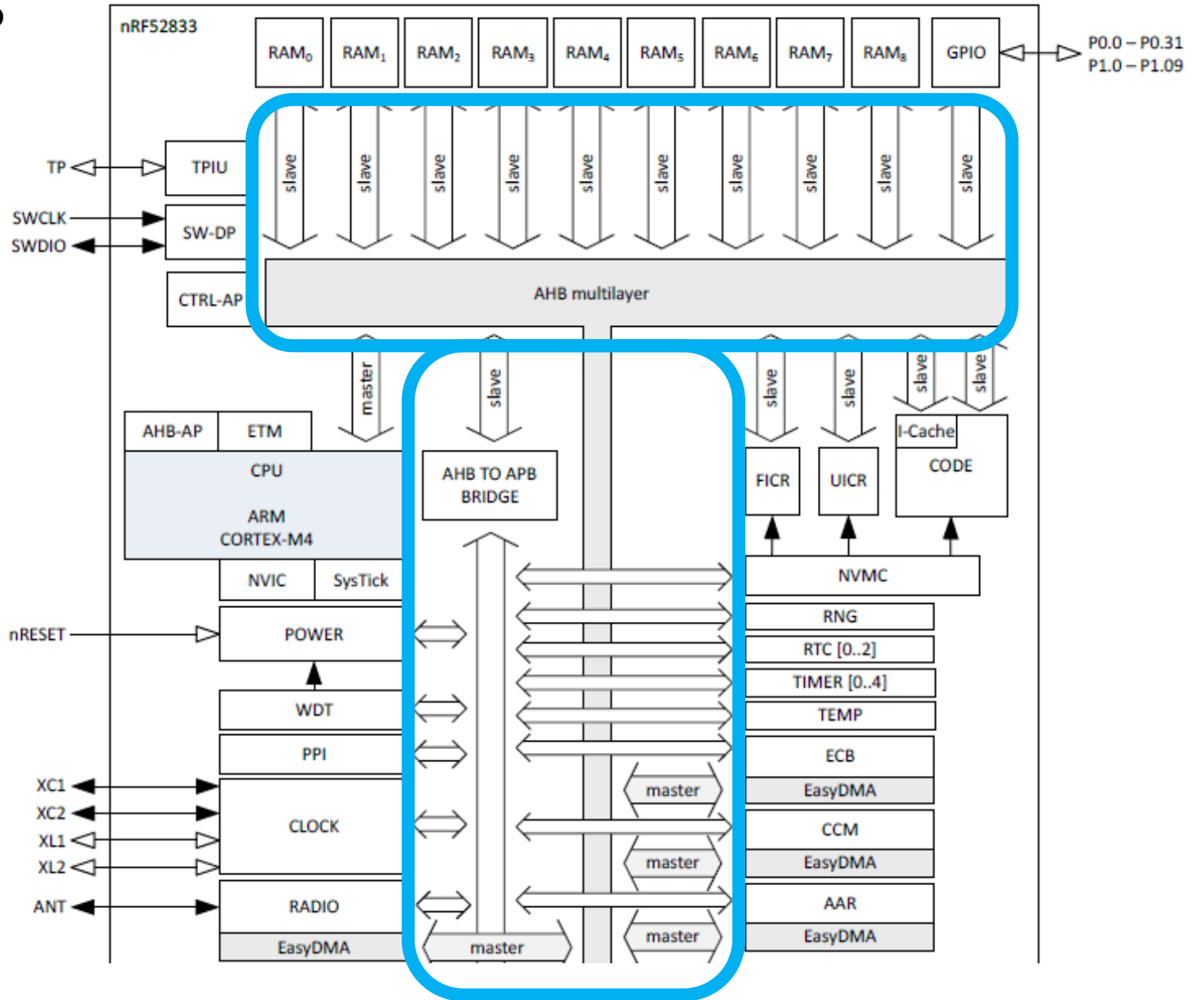
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Cortex-M4F processor
- 32-bit ARM core
- Floating point
- Includes Interrupt control and SysTick (an extra timer)



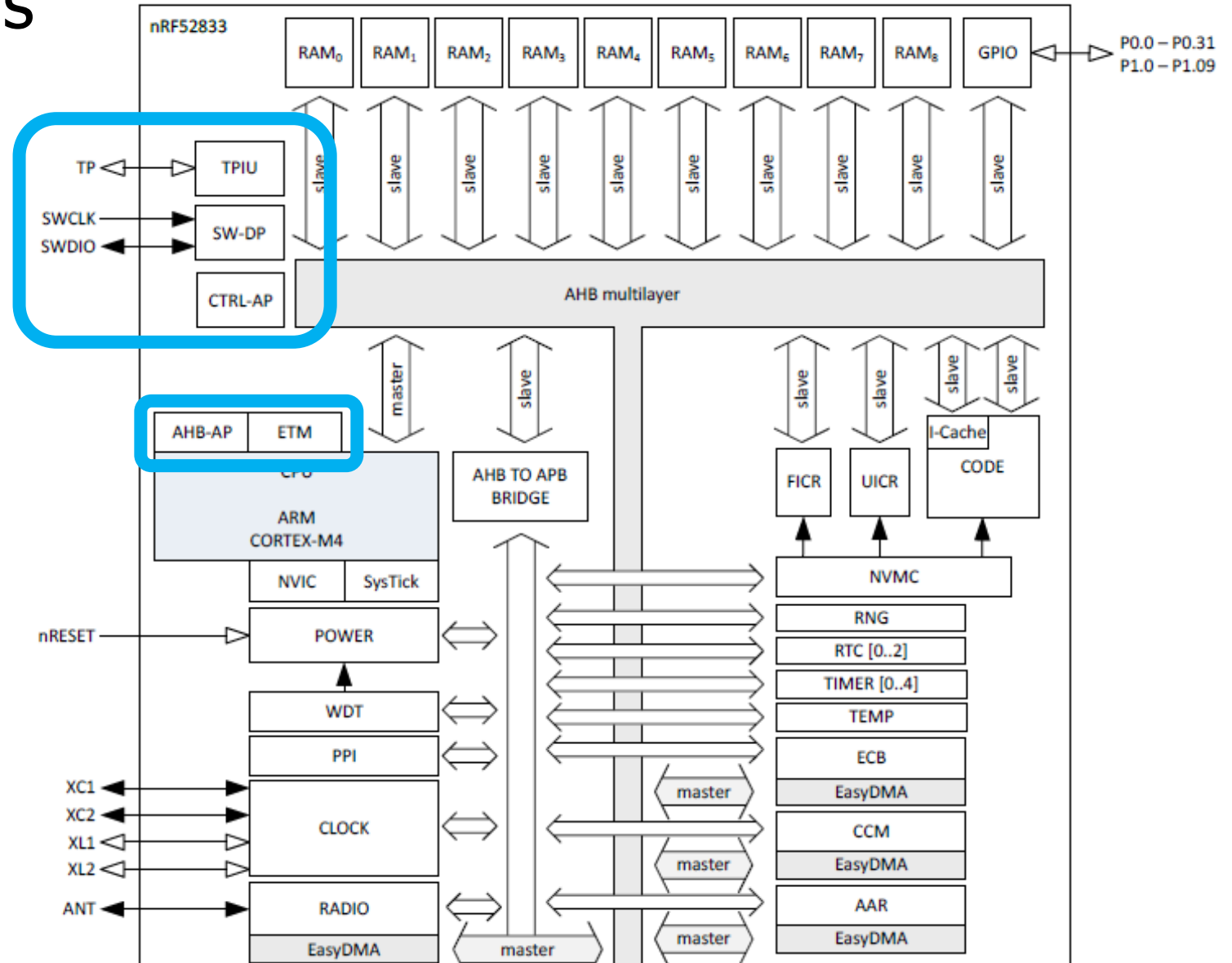
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Memory buses



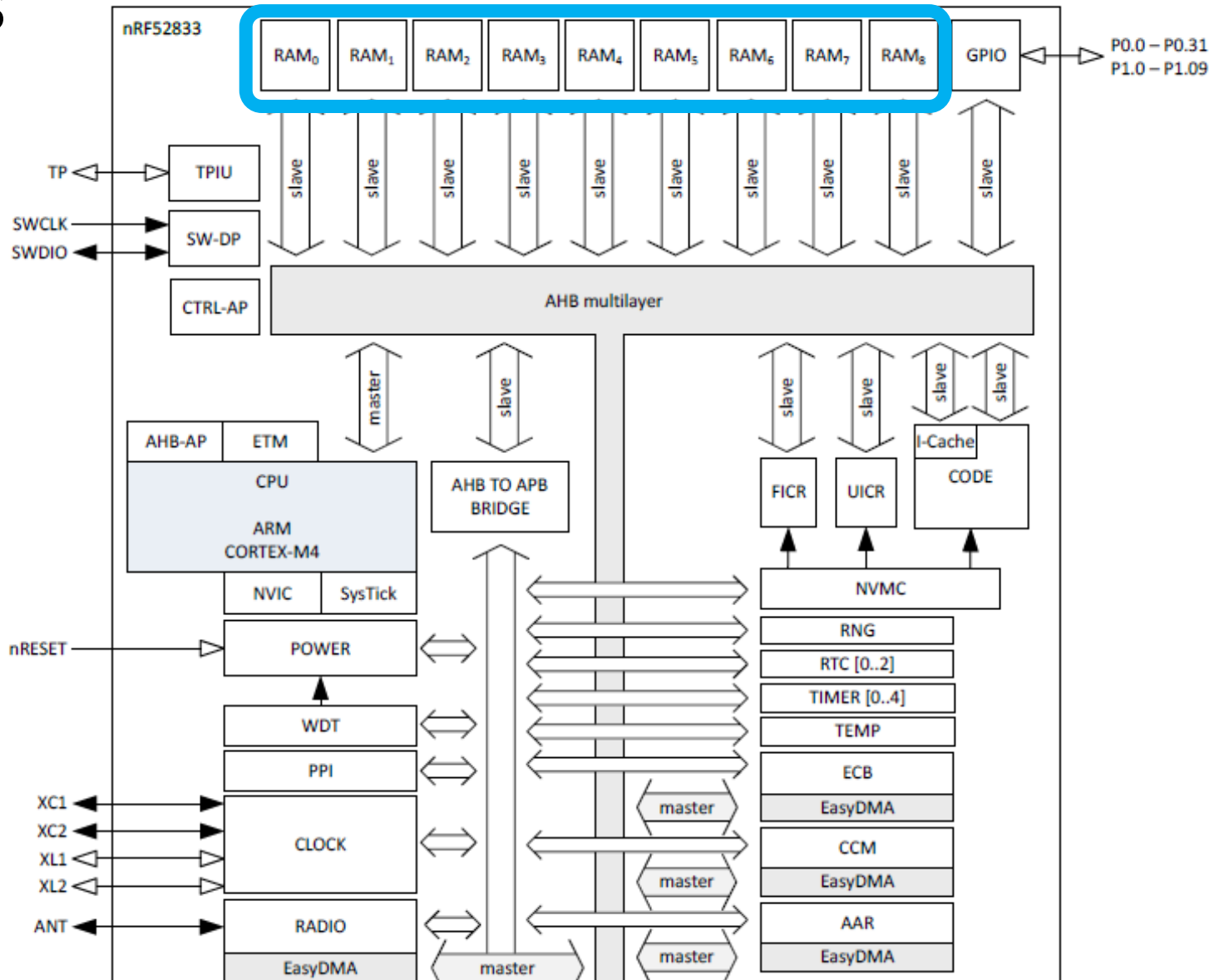
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- JTAG and Debugging
- Allows code updates
- Allows GDB to step through code



# nRF52833 Peripherals

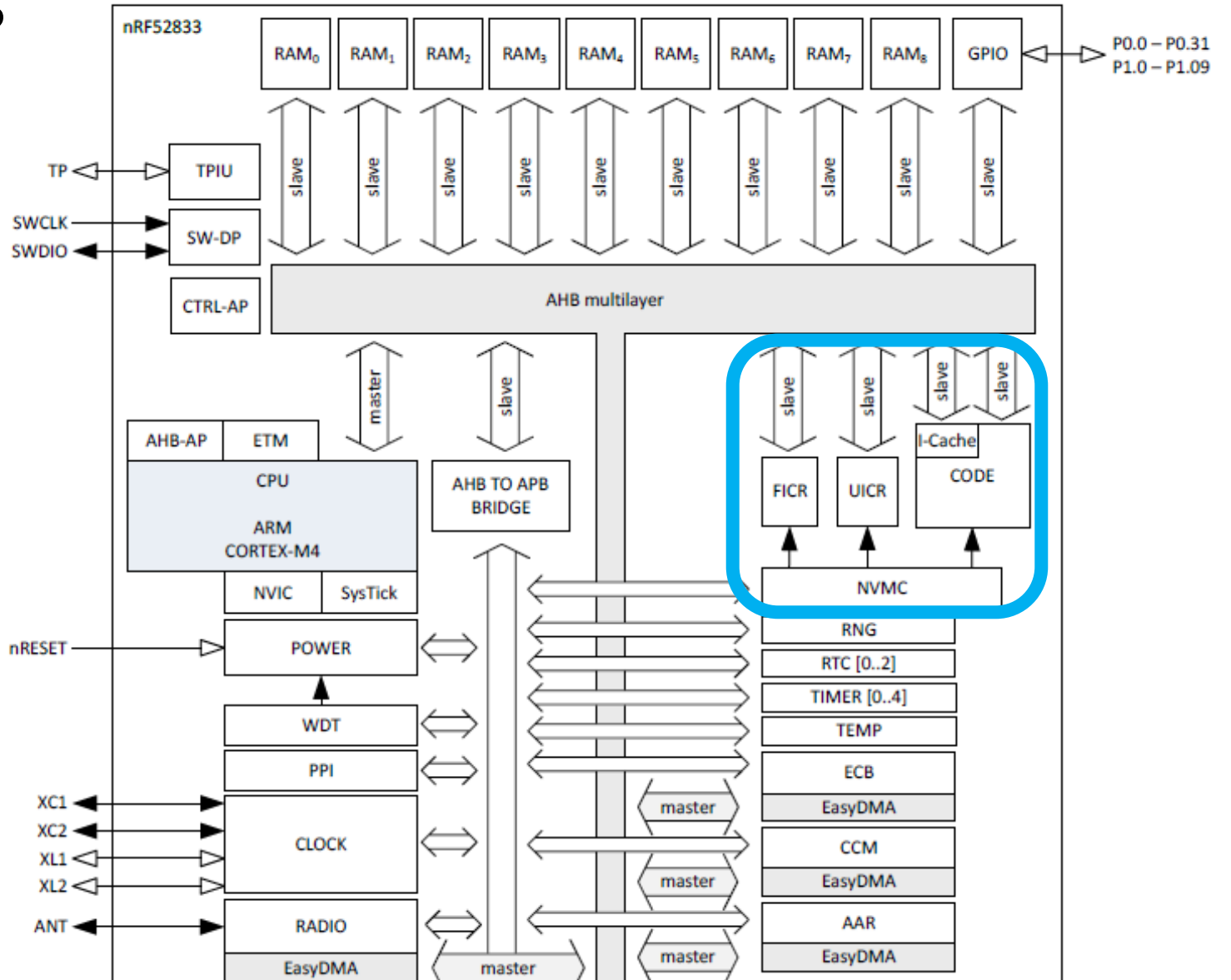
- Volatile memory
- SRAM, 128 kB





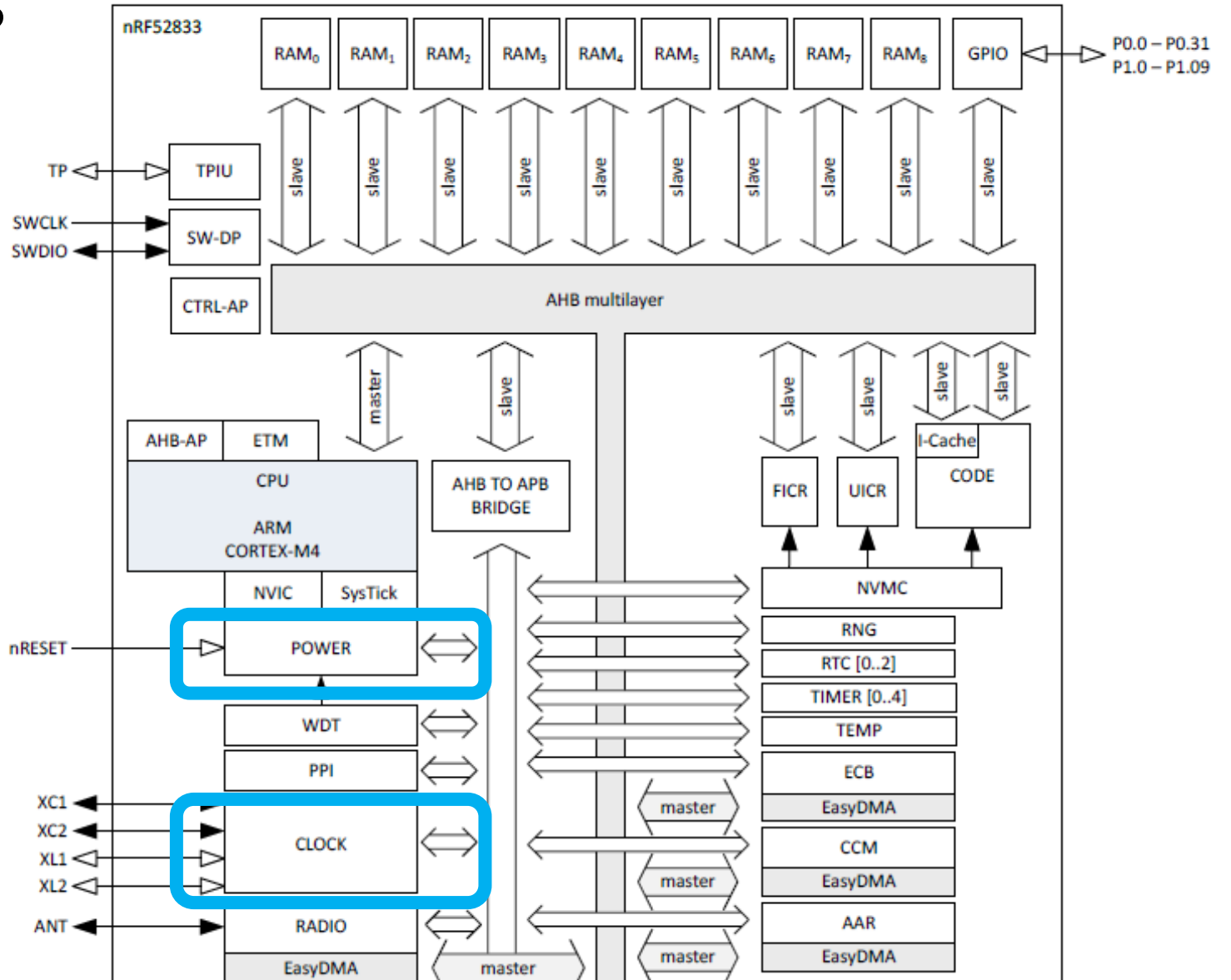
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Nonvolatile memory
- Flash, 512 kB
- Non-Volatile Memory Controller



# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Power and Clock management

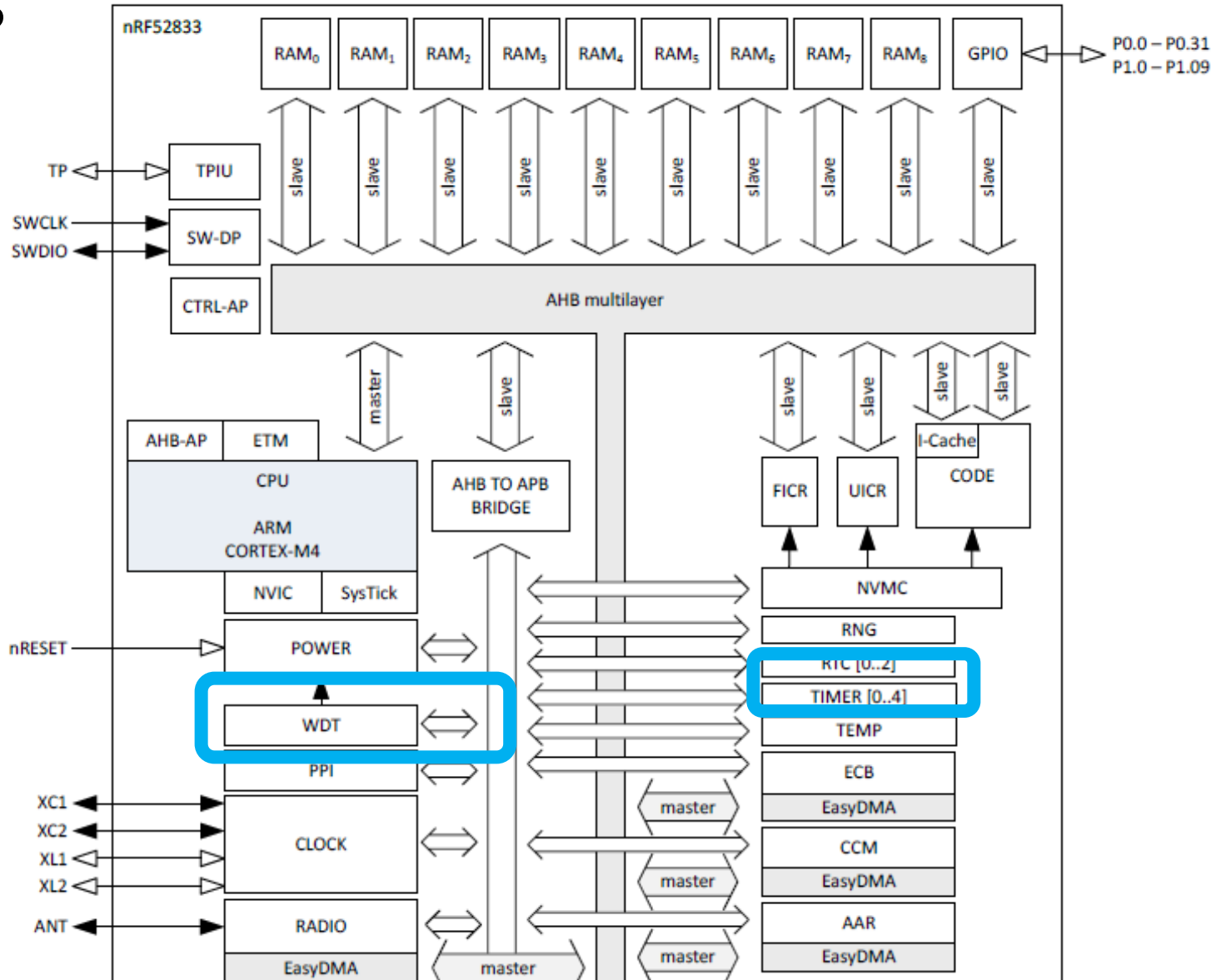


- GPIO pins



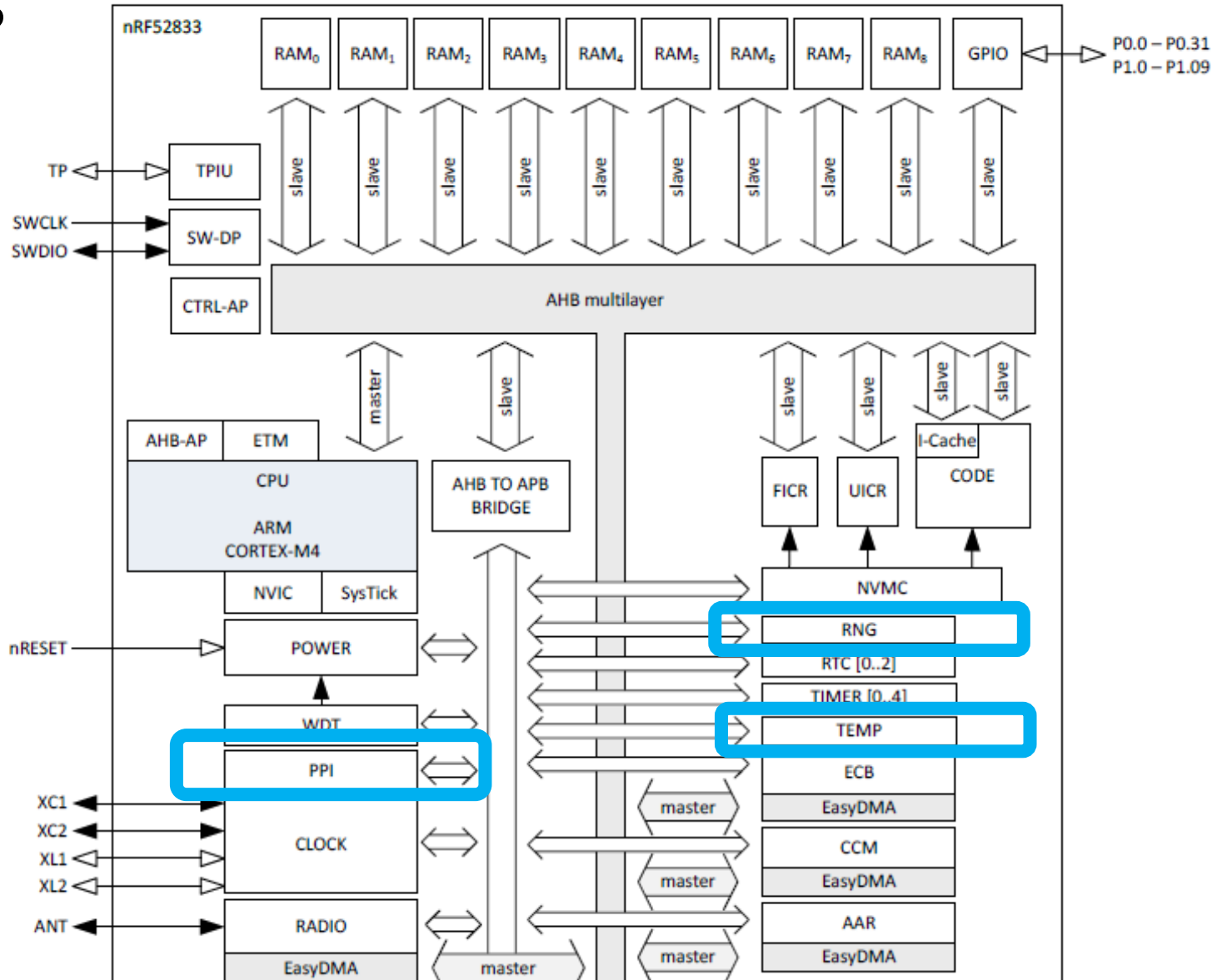
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Various timers
- Watchdog Timer
- Real-Time Counter
- Timer peripheral



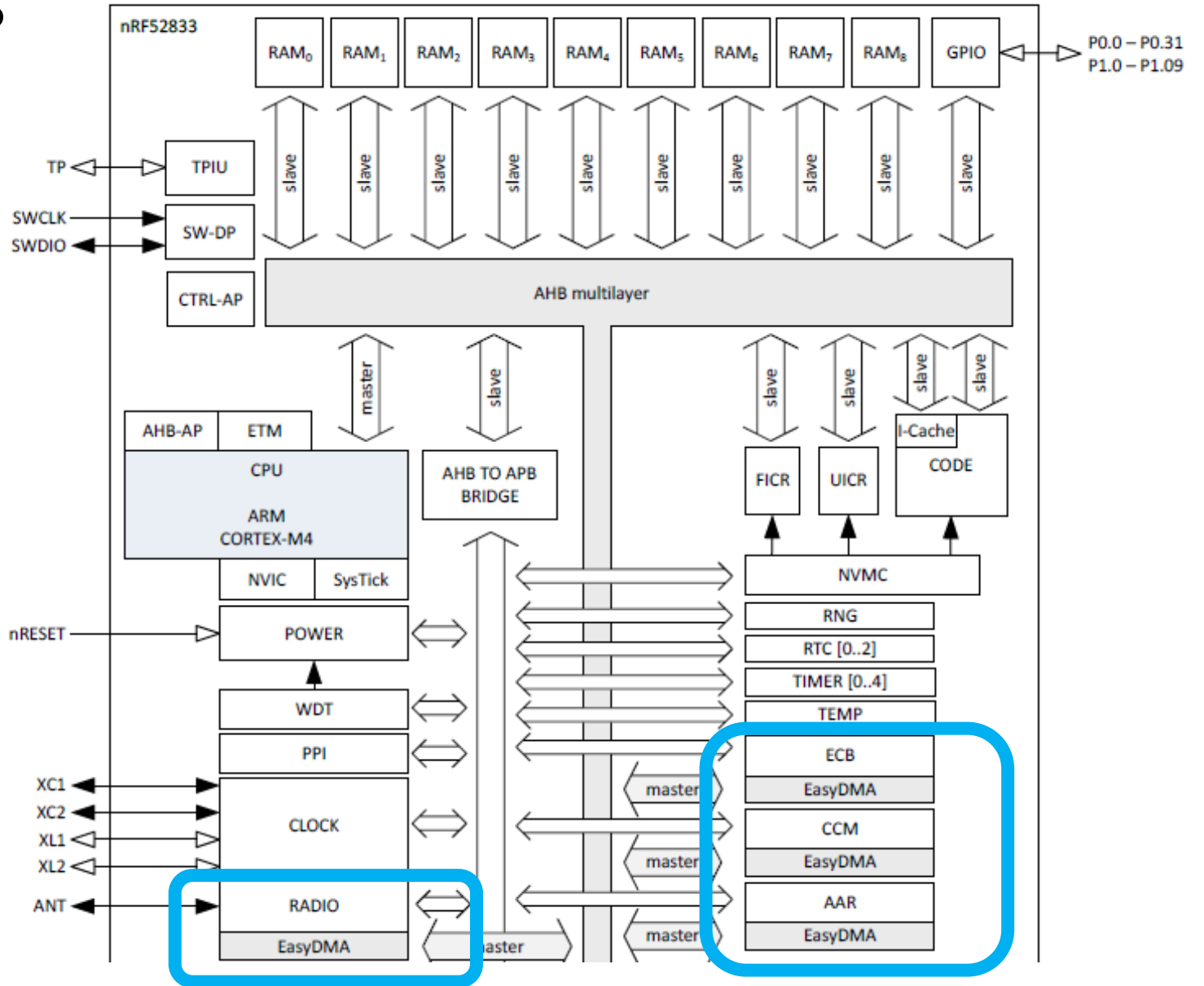
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Programmable Peripheral Interconnect
- Random Number Generator
- Temperature sensor



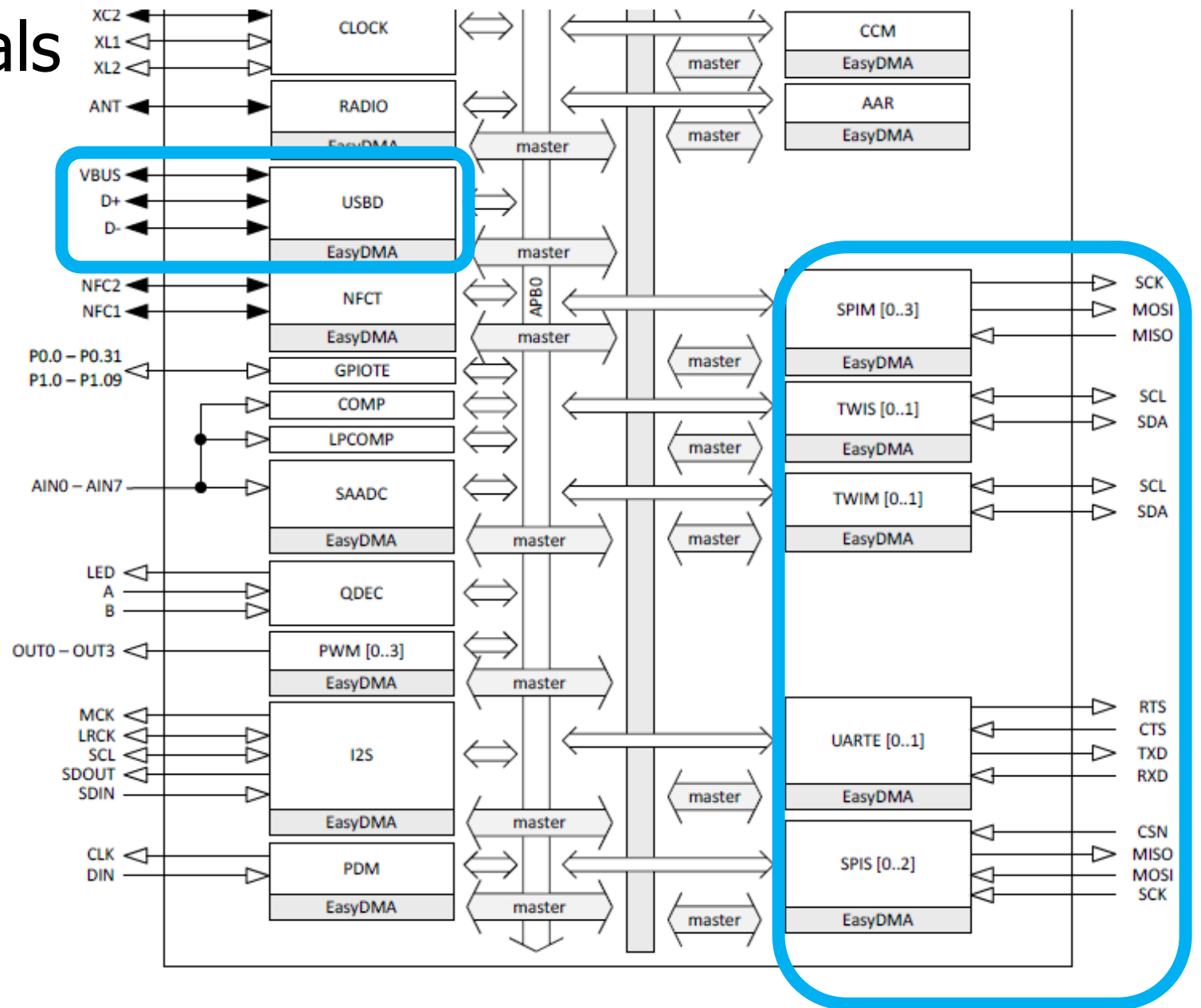
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Wireless radio
  - Bluetooth Low Energy
  - 802.15.4 (Zigbee or Thread)
- Cryptography
  - ECB (AES mode)
  - CCM (AES mode)
- AAR (Accelerated Address Resolver)
  - For BLE random addresses



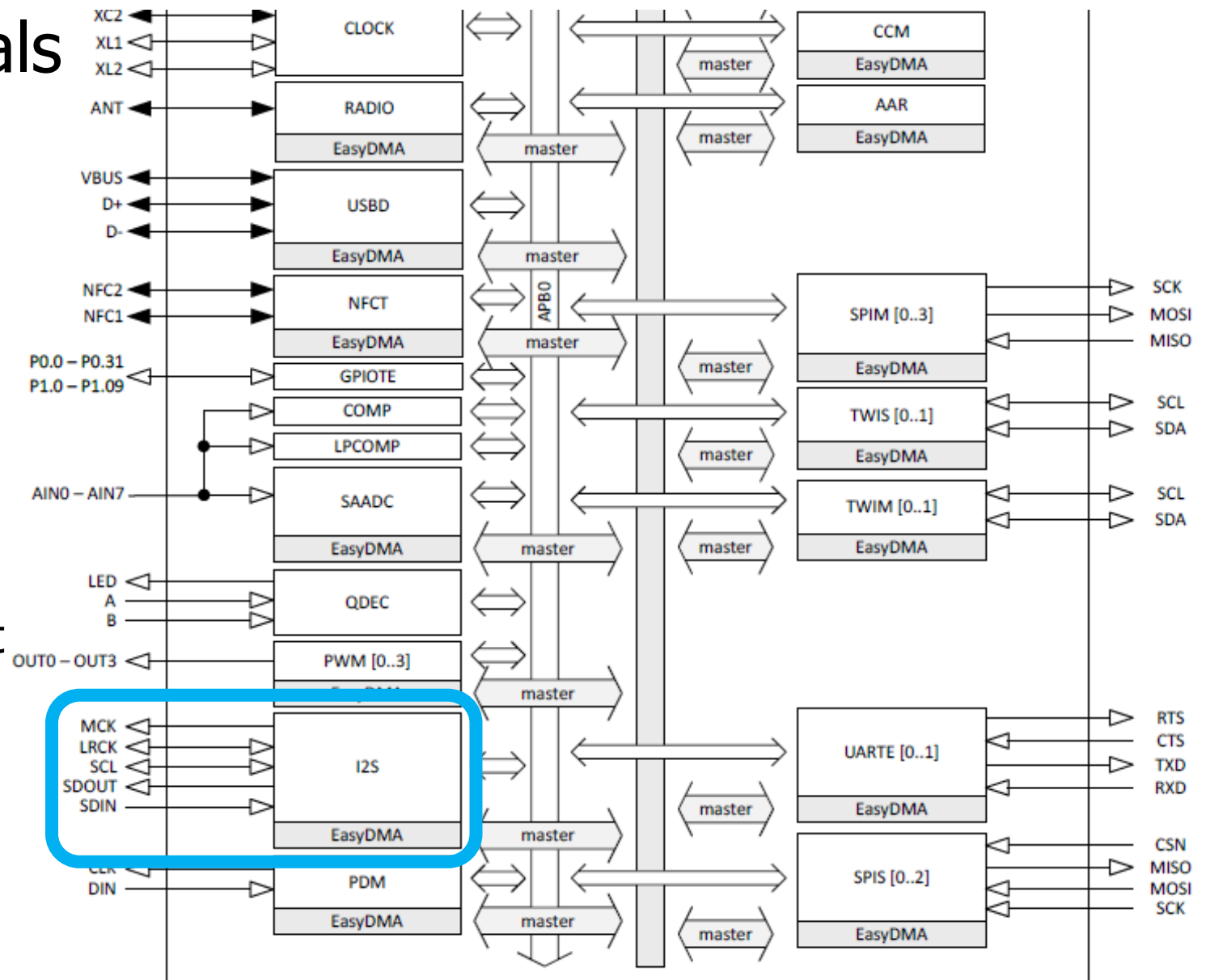
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Wired communication protocols
- USB Device
- SPI
  - Controller/Peripheral
- TWI (I2C)
  - Controller/Peripheral
- UART



# nRF52833 Peripherals

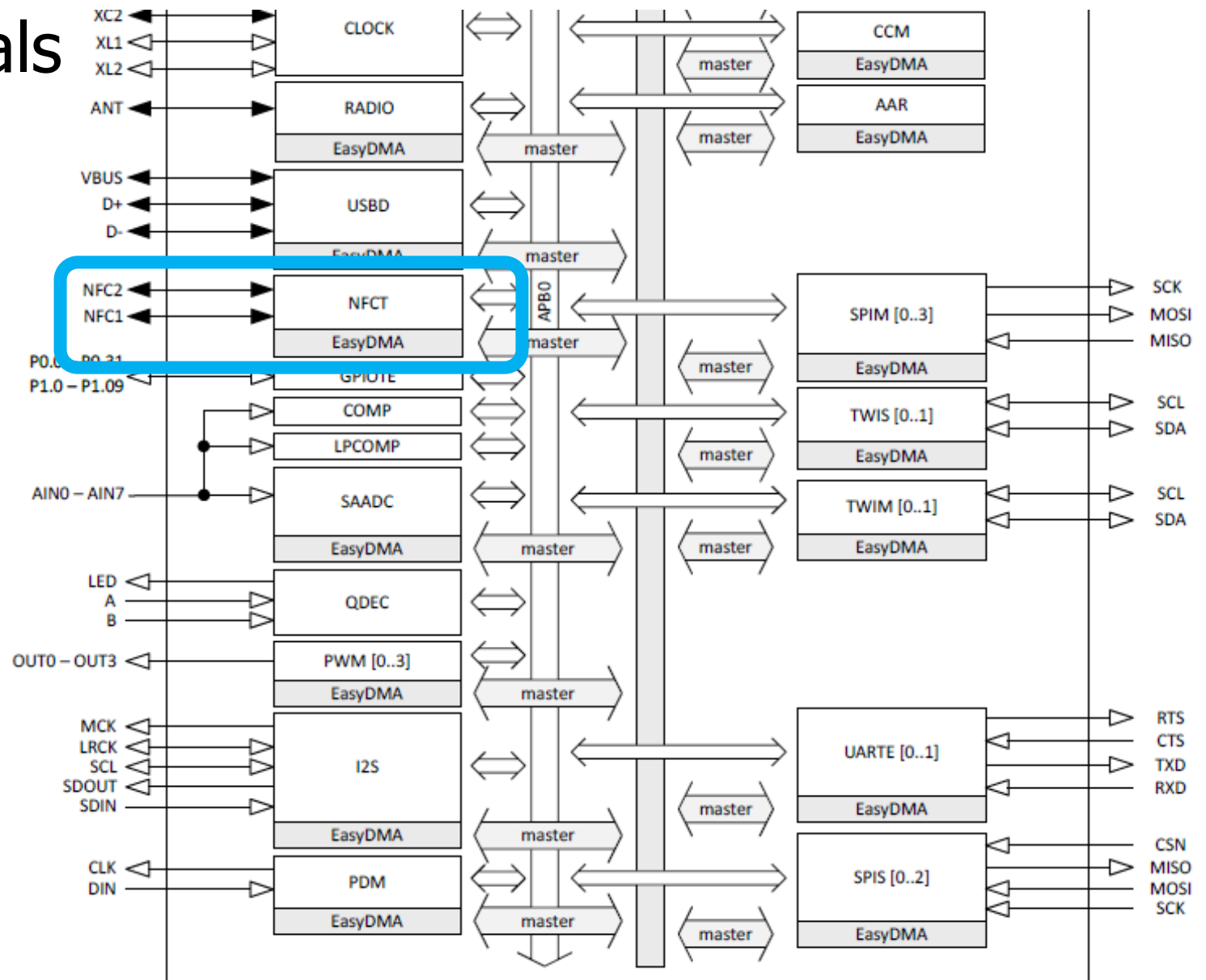
- Inter-IC Sound (I2S)
  - Wired communication bus explicitly for audio data
  - Unrelated to I2C
- Like a synchronous UART
  - Clock, data in, data out
- Additional signals
  - MCK – synchronization
  - LRCK – left/right channel select





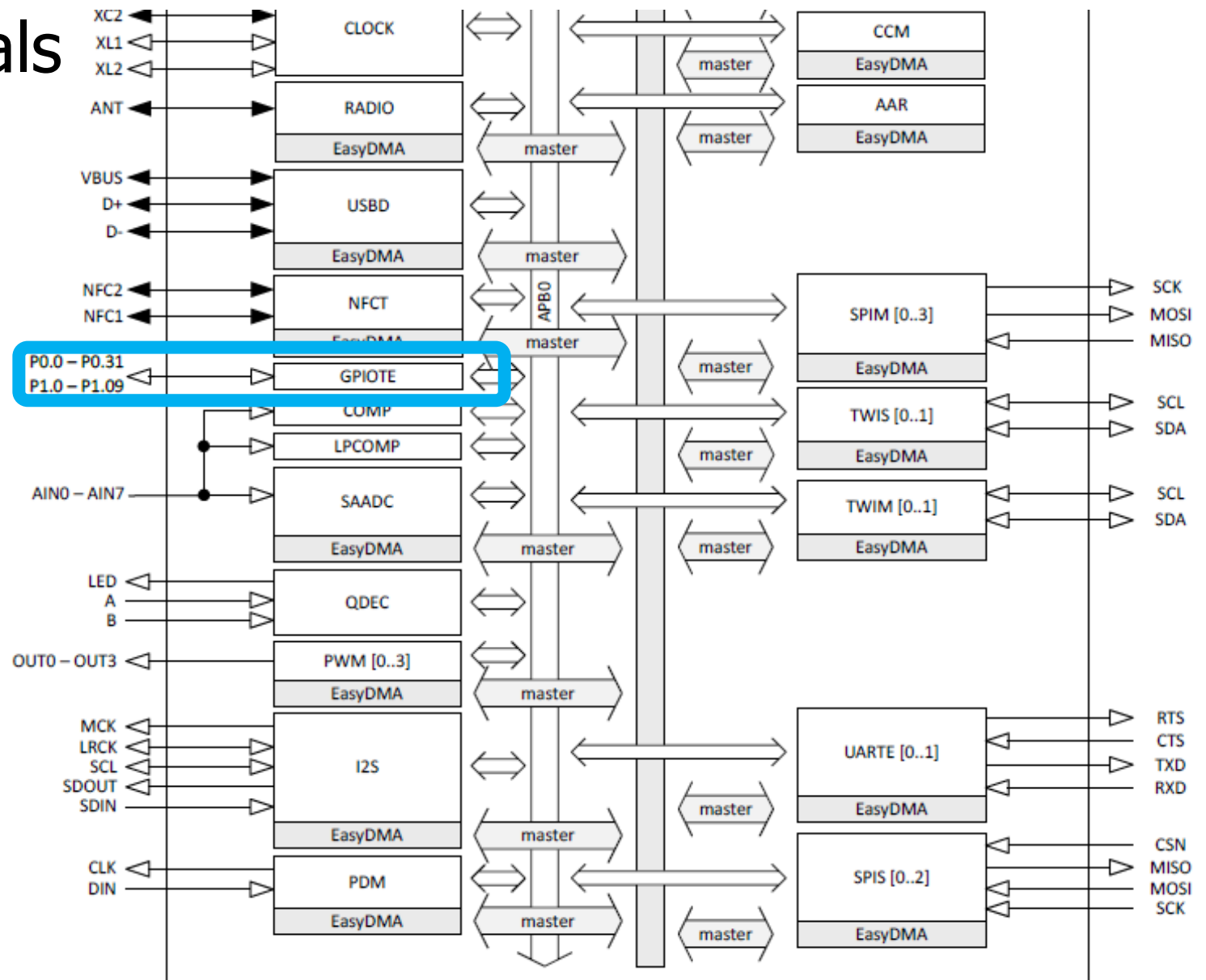
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- NFC
  - Near-Field Communication
- Close-range wireless communication protocol
- “Tap-to-pay” systems



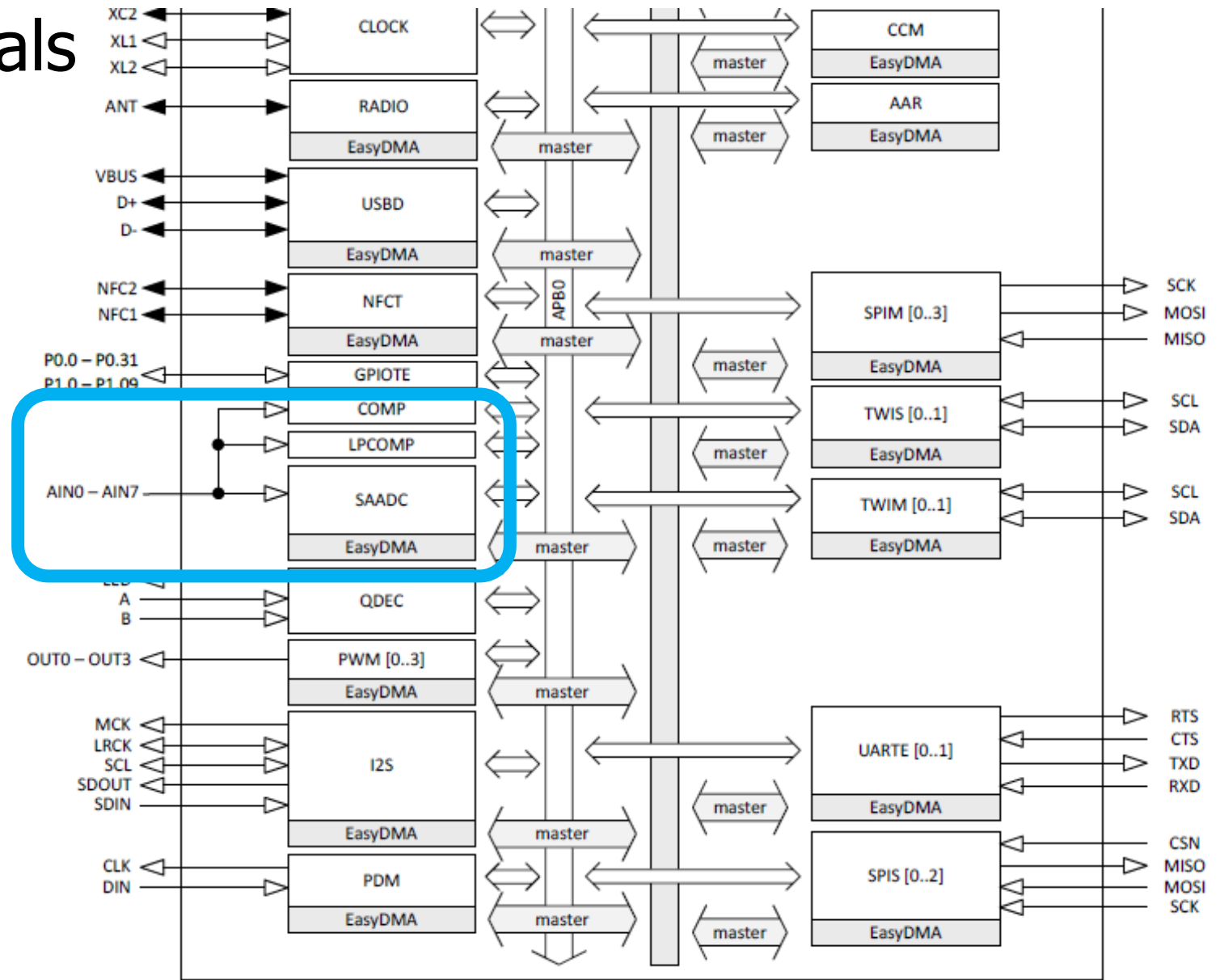
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- GPIOTE
  - GPIO interrupts



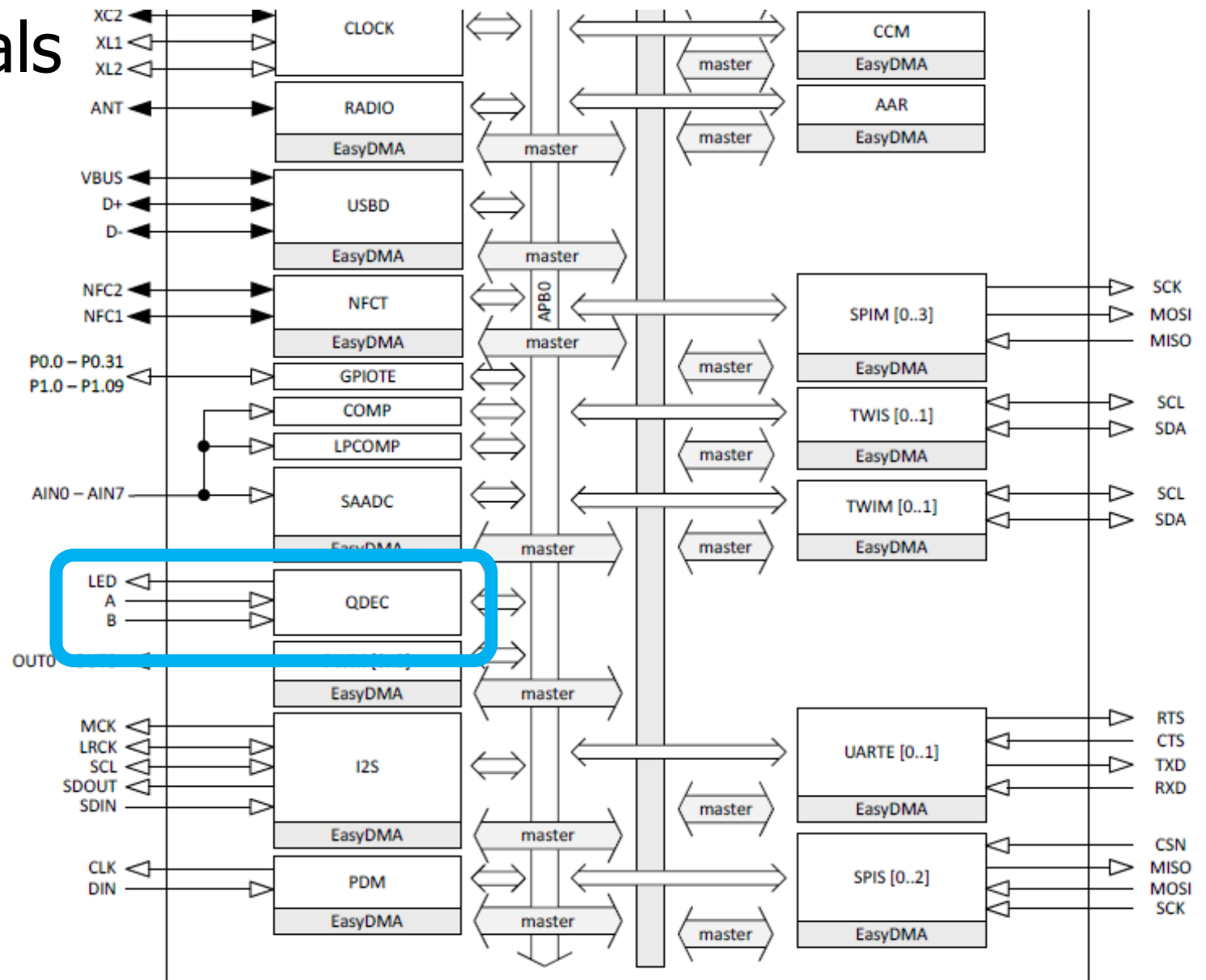
# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Analog inputs
- Comparator
- Low-Power Comparator
- Successive Approximation Analog-to-Digital Converter

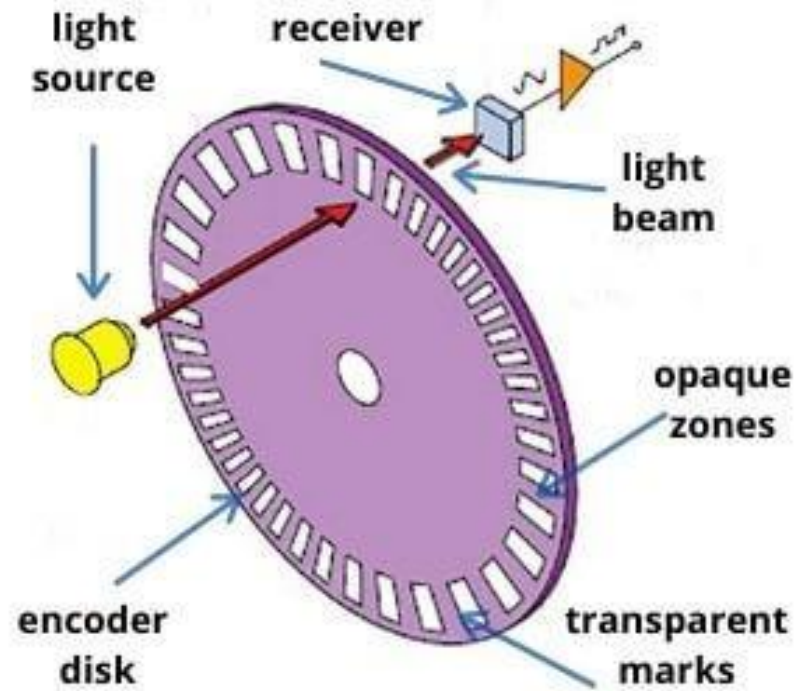


# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Quadrature Decoder peripheral
  - Usually for motors

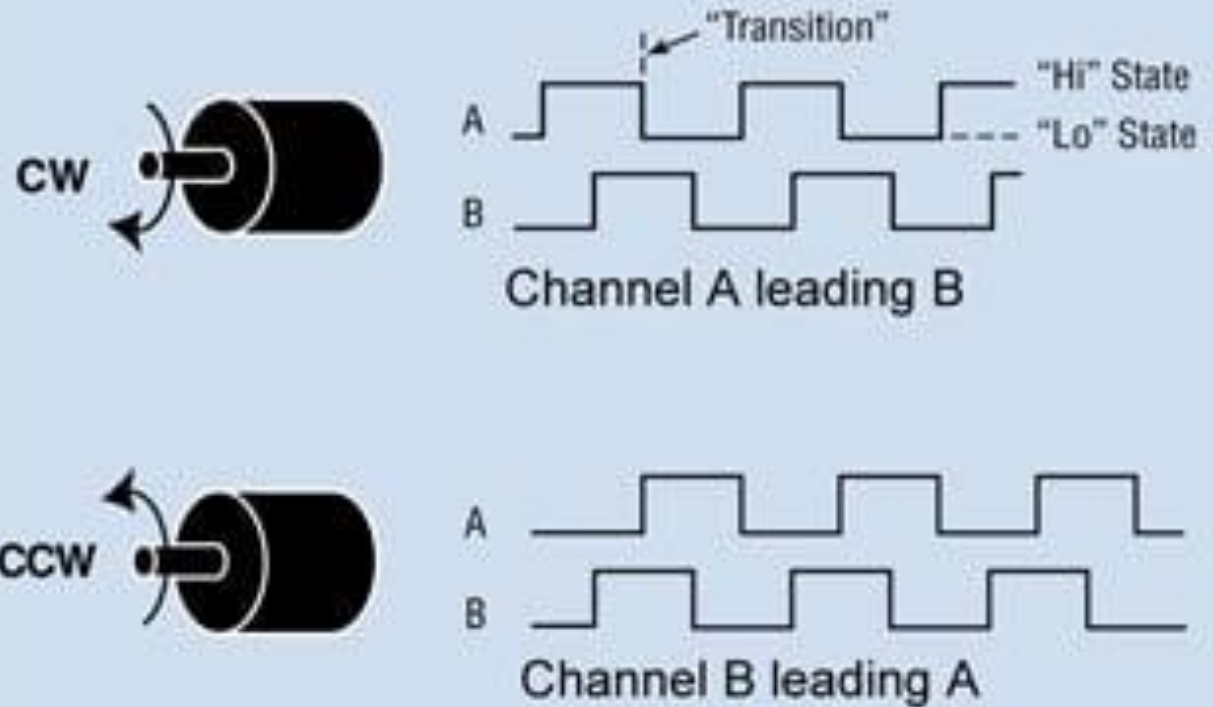


# Quadrature Encoding



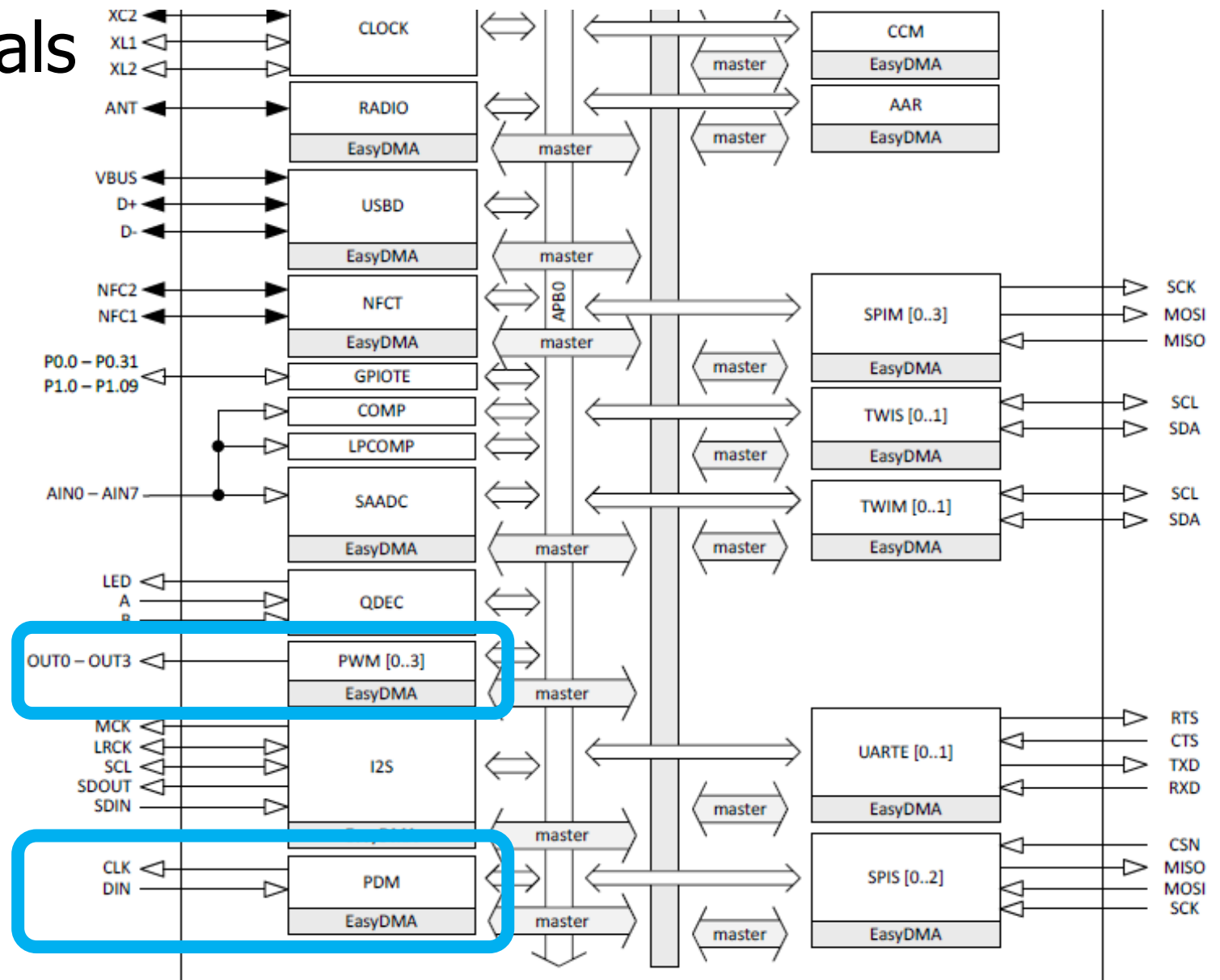
Optical encoder working principle

## Quadrature



# nRF52833 Peripherals

- Pulse Width Modulation
- Pulse Density Modulation
  - Similar idea to PWM
  - Input-only peripheral
  - Targets microphones

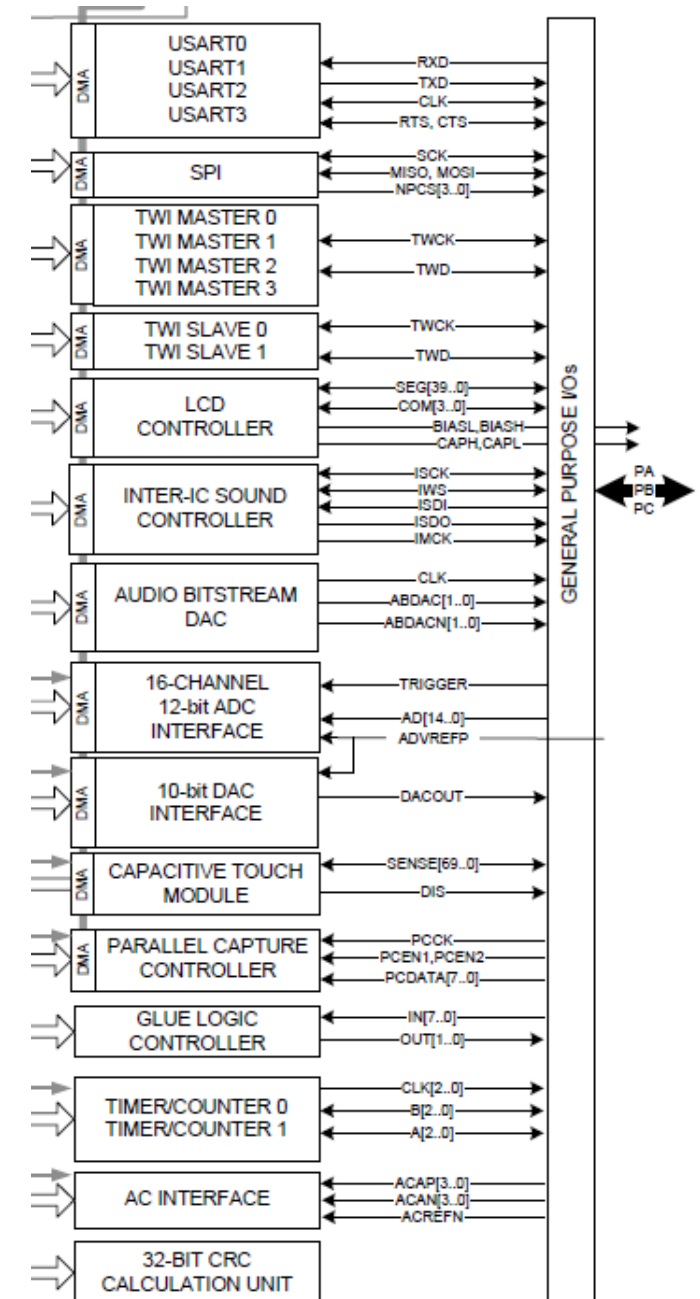
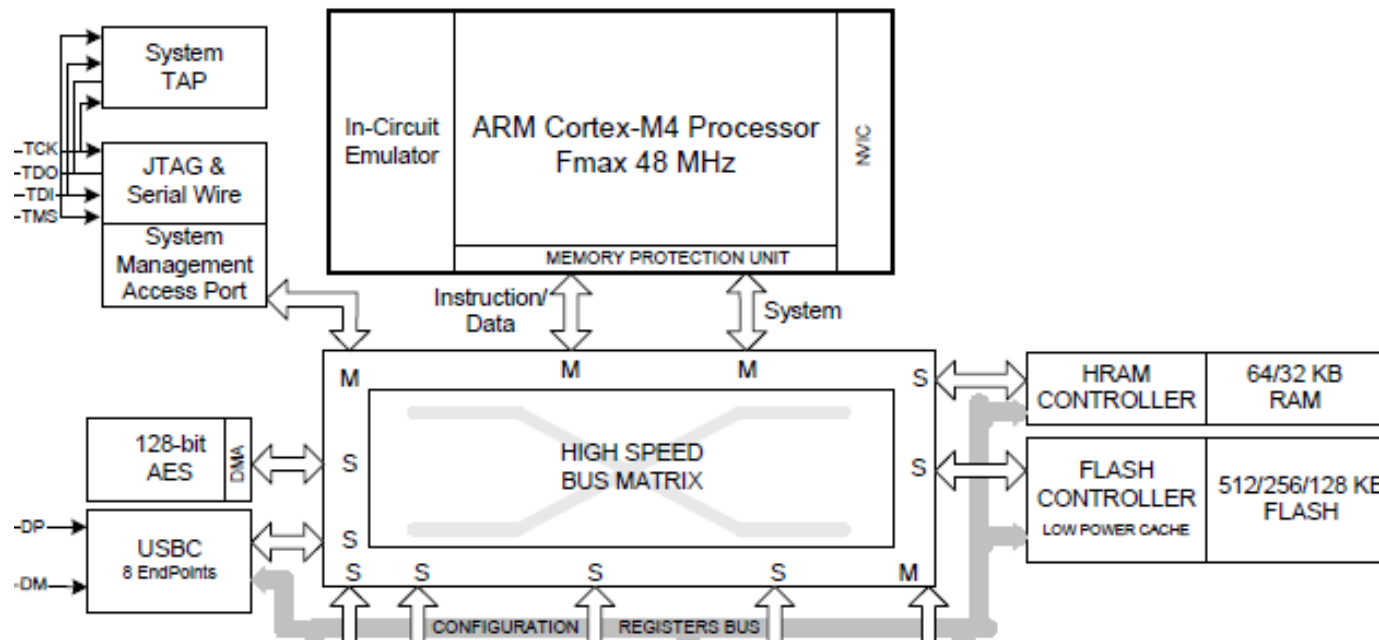


# nRF52833 is complete

- That's just about everything!
- First 550 out of 600 pages of nRF52833 datasheet
  - Remaining 50 are hardware details
    - Pinout for different packages
    - Recommended circuit layout
    - Soldering details

# This knowledge is transferrable!

- Example: SAM4L datasheet
  - Atmel Cortex M4F
  - Various peripherals
    - USART, SPI, TWI, I2S, DAC, ADC, Timer, ...





# Outline

- What haven't we talked about?
  - Microbit
  - nRF52833
- **Sensing Systems Research**

# Conferences for sensing systems research

- [SenSys](#)
  - Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems
- [IPSN](#)
  - Conference on Information Processing in Sensor Networks
- [MobiCom](#)
  - Conference on Mobile Computing and Networking
- [UbiComp](#)
  - Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing
- Various other systems or HCI venues
  - Occasionally Electrical or Civil Engineering venues too

# Sensing systems research

- Combination of engineering and exploration
- Generally divides into two different focuses
  - Often projects will mix some of each domain
- Platforms
  - How to improve the capabilities of sensing systems
  - Examples: lower power, better wireless, new sensors
- Applications
  - How to use sensing systems to meet some desired goal
  - Examples: track human interactions, measure household energy use

# Sensing systems research

- **Platforms**

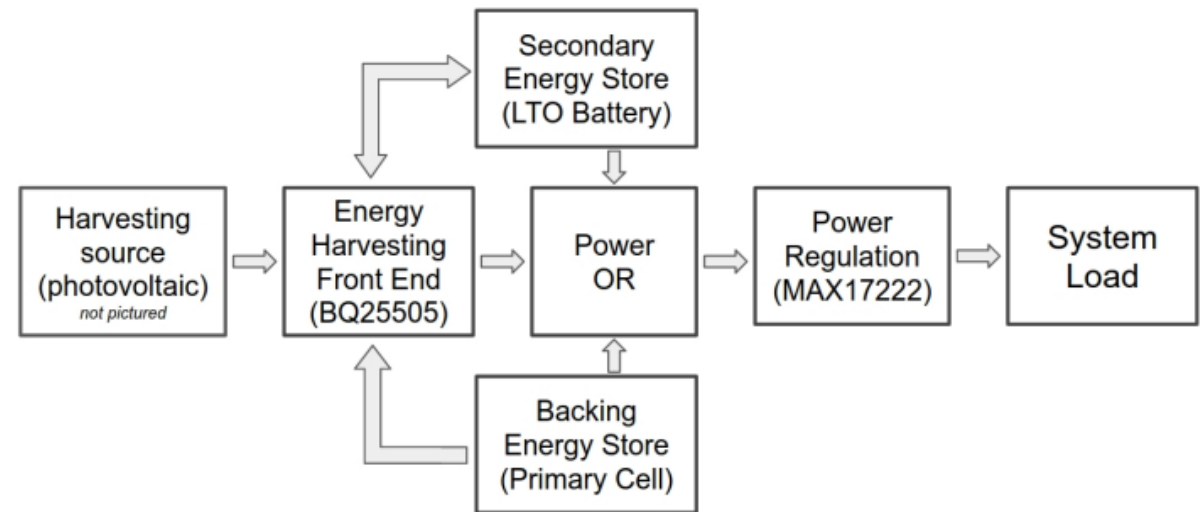
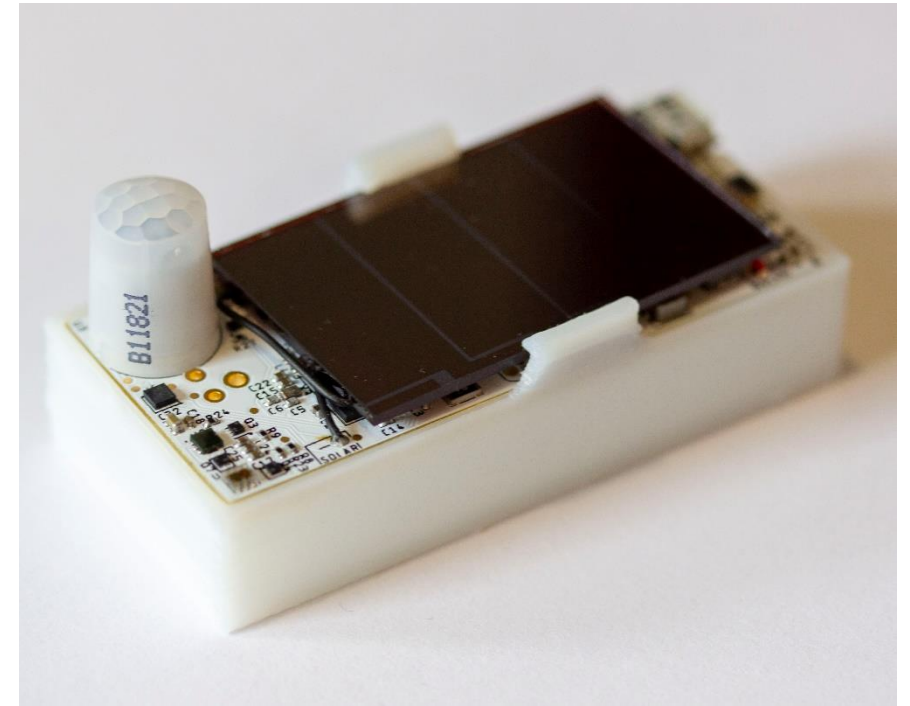
- How to improve the capabilities of sensing systems
- Examples: lower power, better wireless, new sensors

- **Applications**

- How to use sensing systems to meet some desired goal
- Examples: track human interactions, measure household energy use

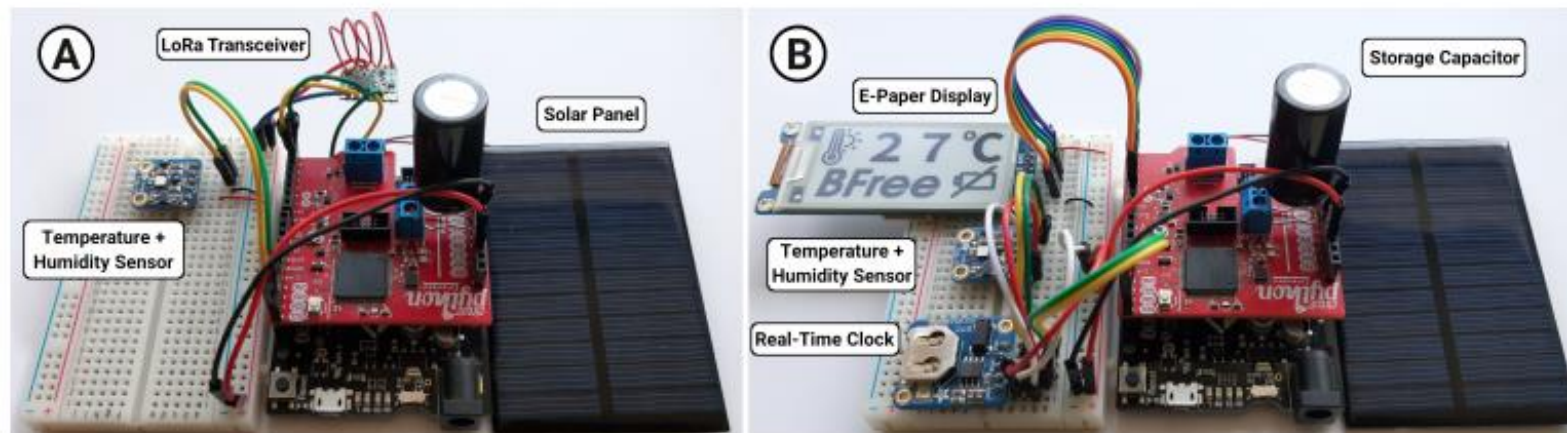
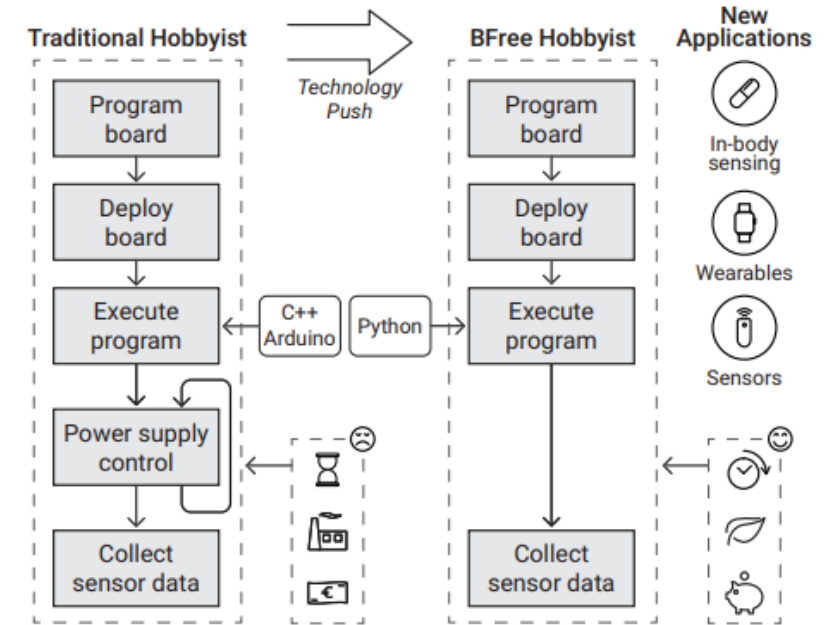
# Permamote (Jackson, Adkins, Dutta)

- Goal: create a 10-year wireless sensor
- Solutions
  - Modern sensors and microcontroller
  - Energy harvesting combined with rechargeable battery
  - Non-rechargeable battery as backup power



# Bfree (Kortbeek, Bakar, Cruz, Yildirim, Pawelczak, Hester)

- Goal: hobbyist intermittent systems
- Solutions
  - Automatic checkpointing in python runtime
  - Hardware module for easy prototyping
  - User studies to demonstrate improvements

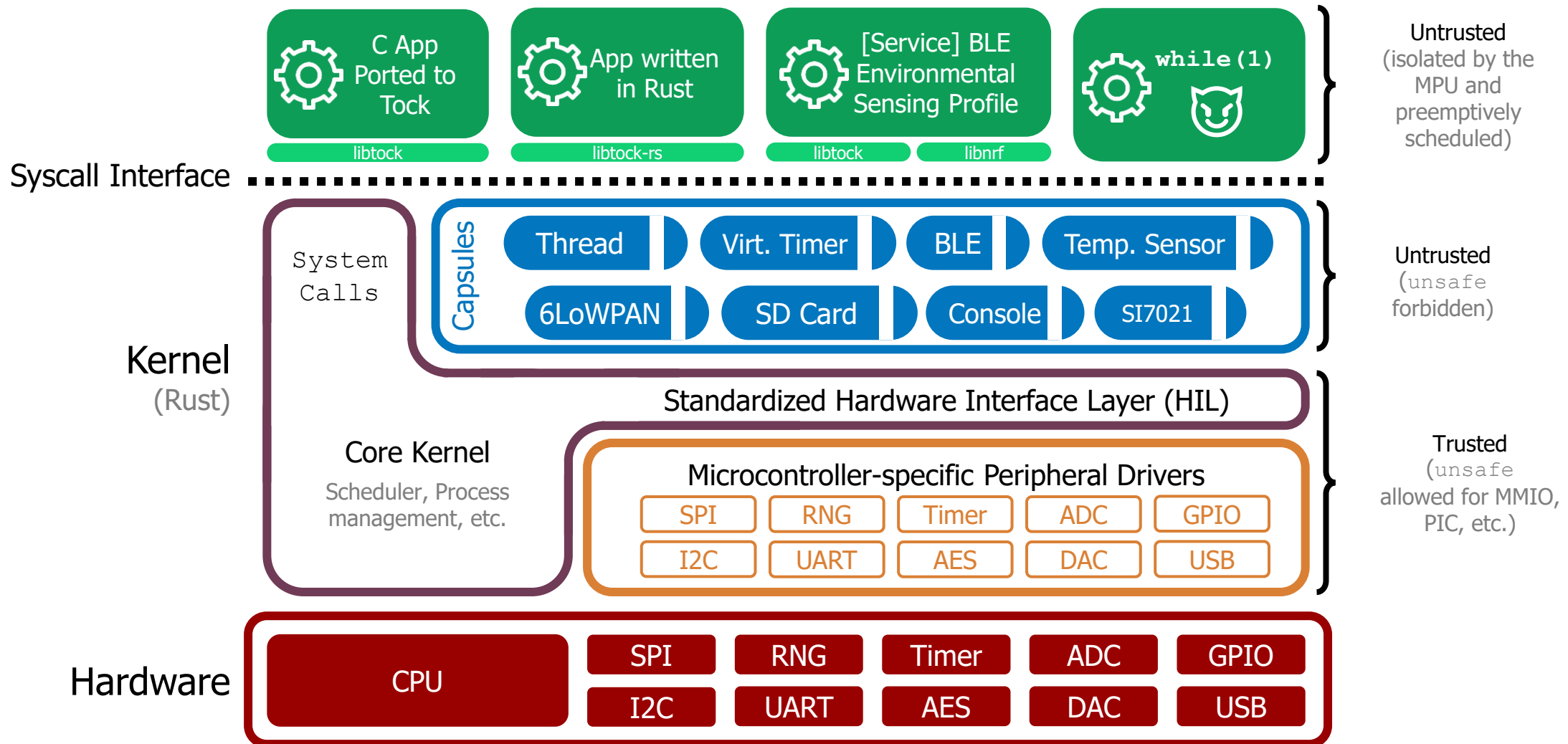


# Tock (Levy, Campbell, Ghena, Giffin, Pannuto, Dutta, Levis)

- Goal: safe and reliable embedded OS
  - Demonstrate this is possible on small embedded platforms
- Solutions
  - Dedicated OS kernel with separate applications
  - Protect applications with hardware features
    - Memory Protection Unit
  - Protect kernel with language features
    - Rust programming language

<https://lab11.eecs.berkeley.edu/content/pubs/levy17multiprogramming.pdf>

# Tock software organization



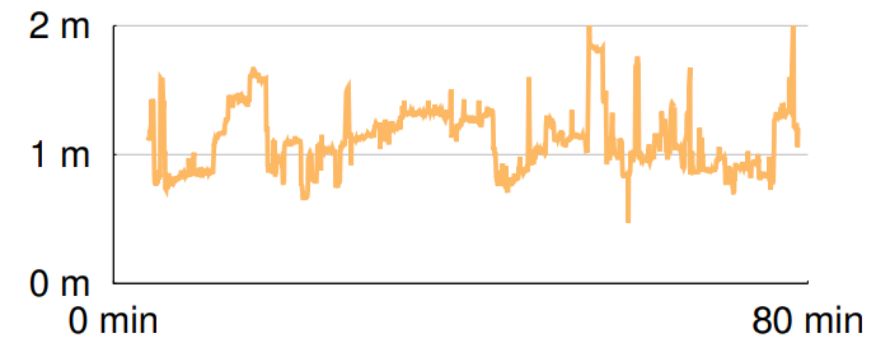


# Sensing systems research

- Platforms
  - How to improve the capabilities of sensing systems
  - Examples: lower power, better wireless, new sensors
- **Applications**
  - How to use sensing systems to meet some desired goal
  - Examples: track human interactions, measure household energy use

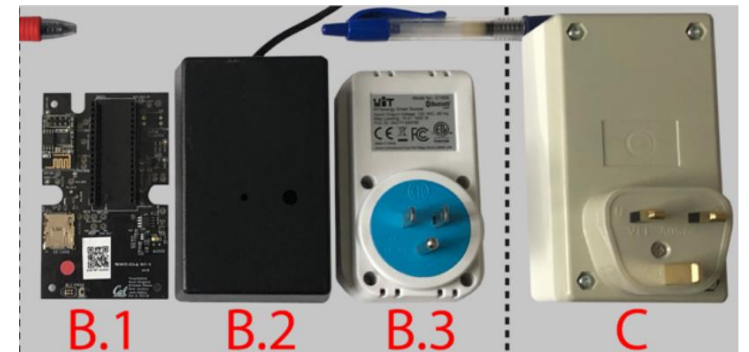
# Opo (Huang, Kuo, Pannuto, Dutta)

- Goal: sense distance of human interactions
  - Real-time, high accuracy, deployable
- Solutions
  - Ultrasonic allows for low-power detection of nearby devices
  - Also provides directionality
  - Measure difference in arrival time of RF and Ultrasonic to determine distance



# Powerwatch (Klugman, Adkins, et al.)

- Goal: measure electric grid reliability in developing regions
- “Access alone is insufficient. Reliability matters too.”
- Solutions:
  - Wall-powered sensor with battery-backup to detect outages and report over cellular
  - Infrastructure to collect measurements and cross-correlate
  - Create a team to manage the deployment



# Outline

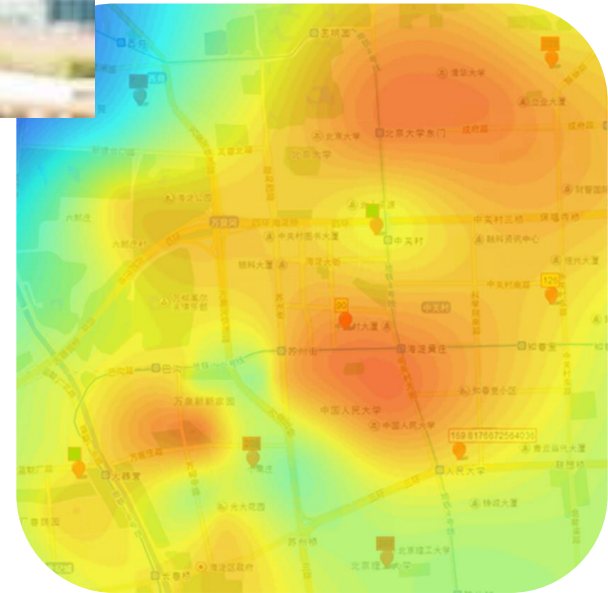
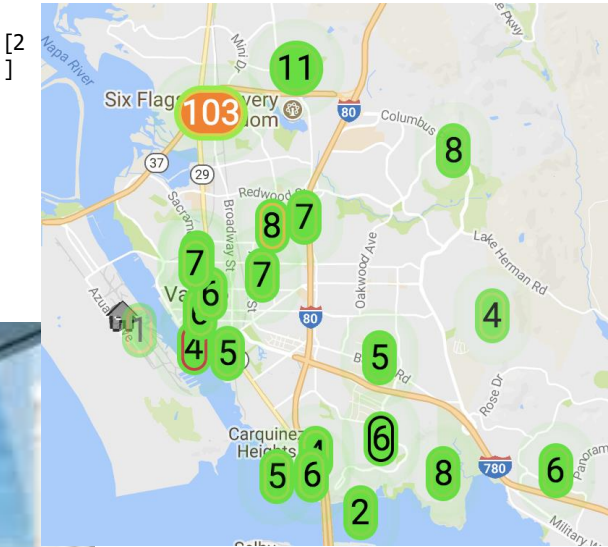
- What haven't we talked about?
  - Microbit
  - nRF52833
- Sensing Systems Research

- Bonus: Signpost  
(Adkins, Ghena, Jackson, Pannuto, Rohrer, Campbell, Dutta)

<https://lab11.eecs.berkeley.edu/content/pubs/adkins18signpost.pdf>

What things might we want to sense at  
the scale of a city?

# Air quality monitoring

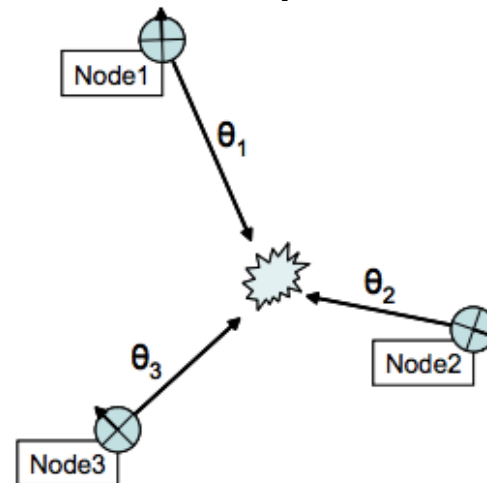
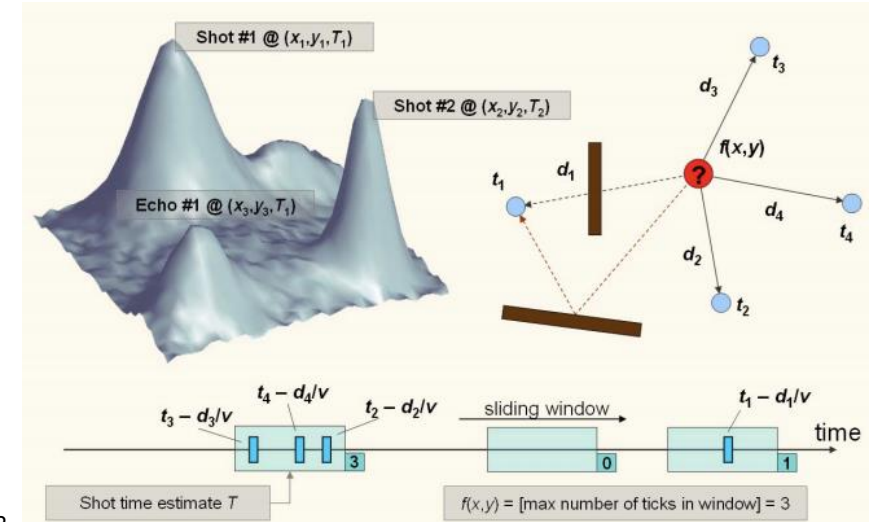
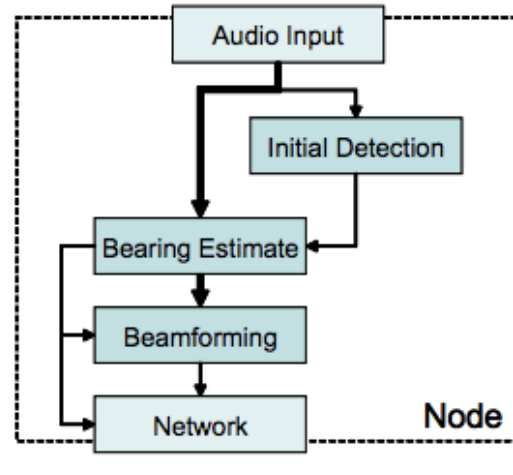


[1] Cheng et al. AirCloud: a cloud-based air-quality monitoring system for everyone. 2014.

[2] Purple Air. 2018.

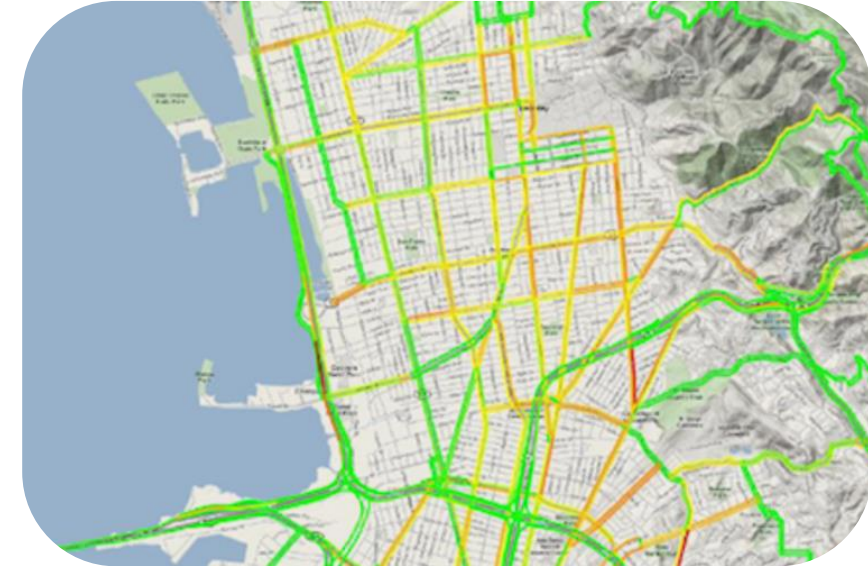
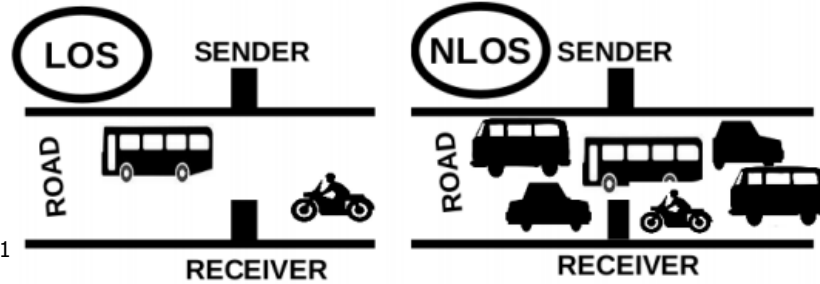


# Audio detection, classification, and localization





# Traffic queue sensing and congestion control



NIST



THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**

Enjoy Jakarta

am smart erdam  
city



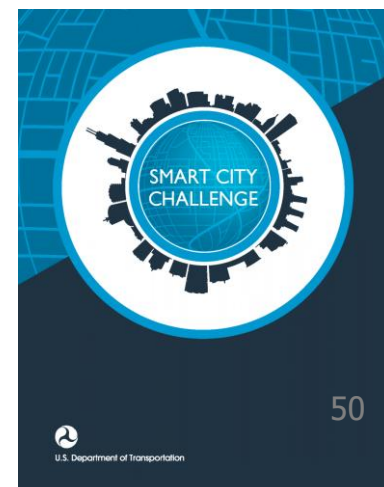
SMART  
DUBLIN



Smart Nation  
SINGAPORE  
Many Smart Ideas • One Smart Nation

The City of

**SAN DIEGO**



# 1. City-Scale Sensing Introduction

## 2. **Signpost**

- **Motivation**
- Shared Resources
- Deployability
- Implementation
- Evaluation



# Air Quality Monitoring



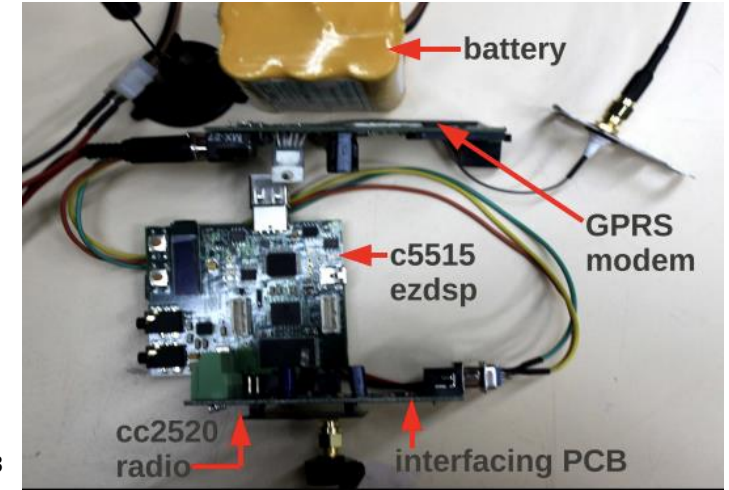
[1]  
]

# Urban Noise Classification



[2]  
]

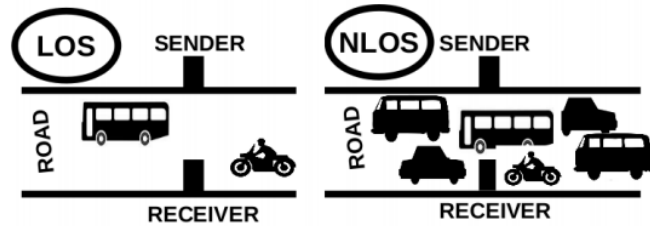
# Traffic Queue Sensing



[3]  
]

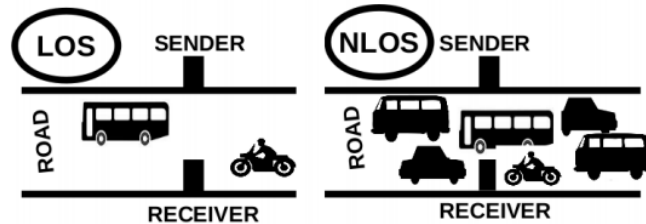
Lots of interesting applications and interested parties.  
But let's look at the process of actually creating and deploying an application.

# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware

# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



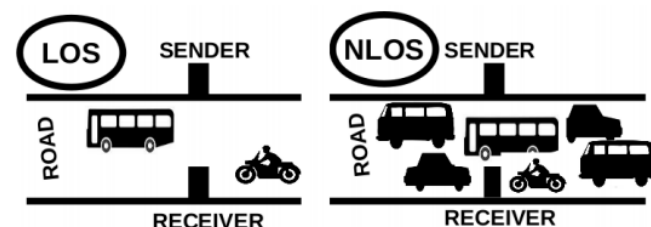
Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Networking

Networking  
Driver

# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware

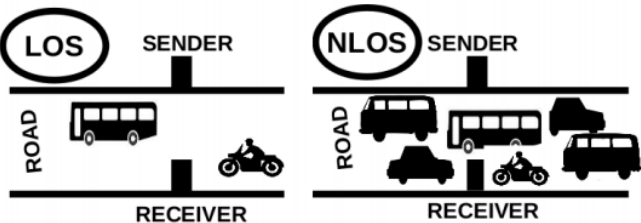


Networking      Networking  
Driver



Storage      Storage  
Driver

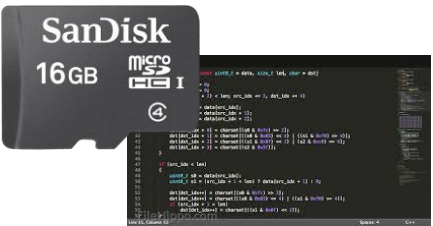
# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Networking      Networking  
Driver



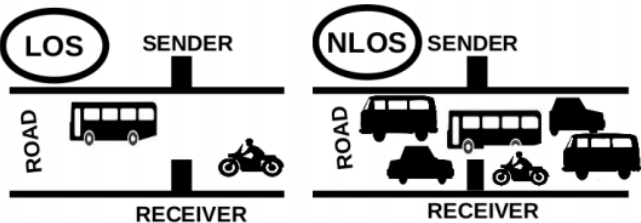
Storage      Storage  
Driver



Sustainable  
Power



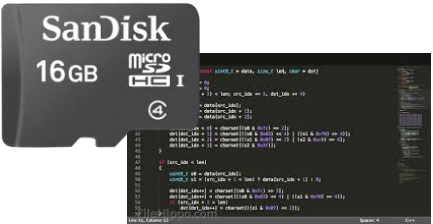
# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Networking      Networking  
Driver



Storage      Storage  
Driver

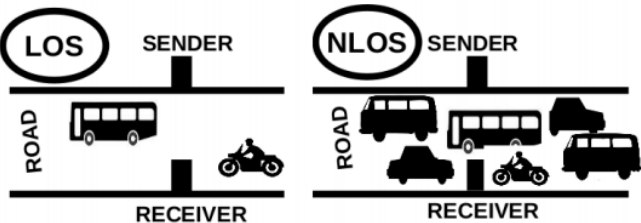


Sustainable  
Power



Weatherproof  
Casing

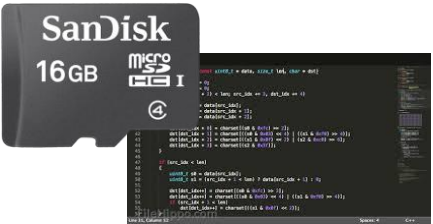
# Many steps to building traffic queue sensing



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



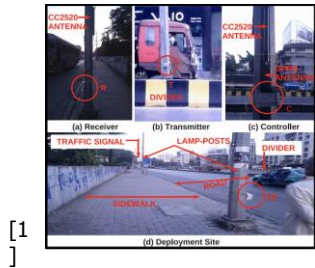
Networking  
Driver



Storage  
Driver



Weatherproof  
Casing



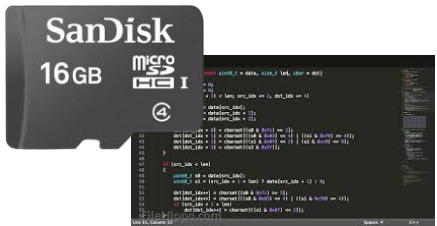
Deploy

# Key functions are repeated



[1]

Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Storage  
Storage  
Driver



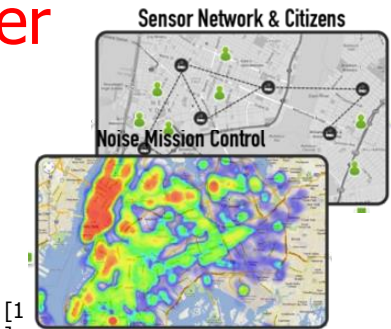
Sustainable  
Power



Networking  
Networking  
Driver



Weatherproof  
Casing



[1]

Deploy

# Key functions are repeated

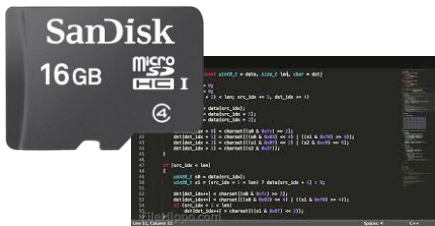


Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Networking

Networking  
Driver



Storage

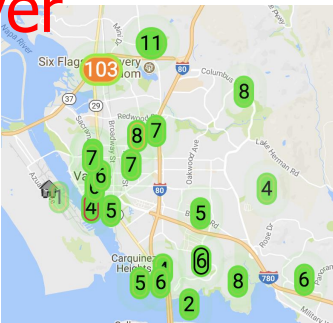
Storage  
Driver



Sustainable  
Power



Weatherproof  
Casing

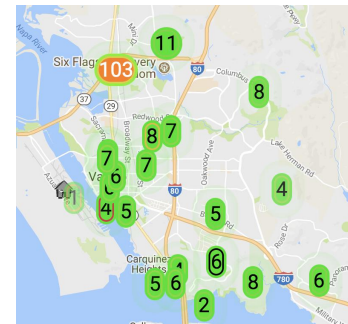


Deploy

# Signpost Enables City-Scale Sensing



[1]  
Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



[1]  
Deploy

Integrate with Signpost

Joshua Adkins, **Branden Ghena**, Neal Jackson, Pat Pannuto, Samuel Rohrer, Bradford Campbell, and Prabal Dutta  
"The Signpost Platform for City-Scale Sensing." *IPSN'18*

# 1. City-Scale Sensing Introduction

## 2. **Signpost**

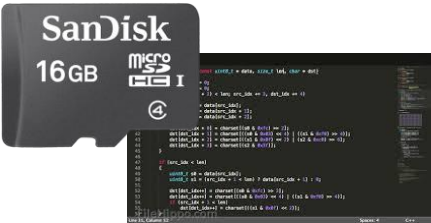
- Motivation
- **Shared Resources**
- Deployability
- Implementation
- Evaluation



# Key functions are repeated



Sensing  
Hypothesis/Hardware



Storage  
Storage  
Driver



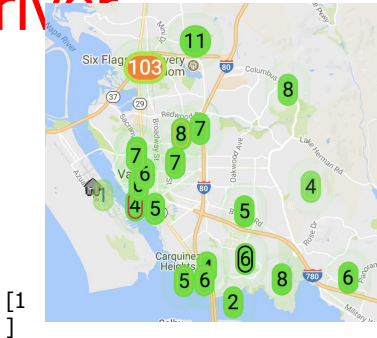
Sustainable  
Power



Networking  
Networking  
Driver



Weatherproof  
Casing



Deploy

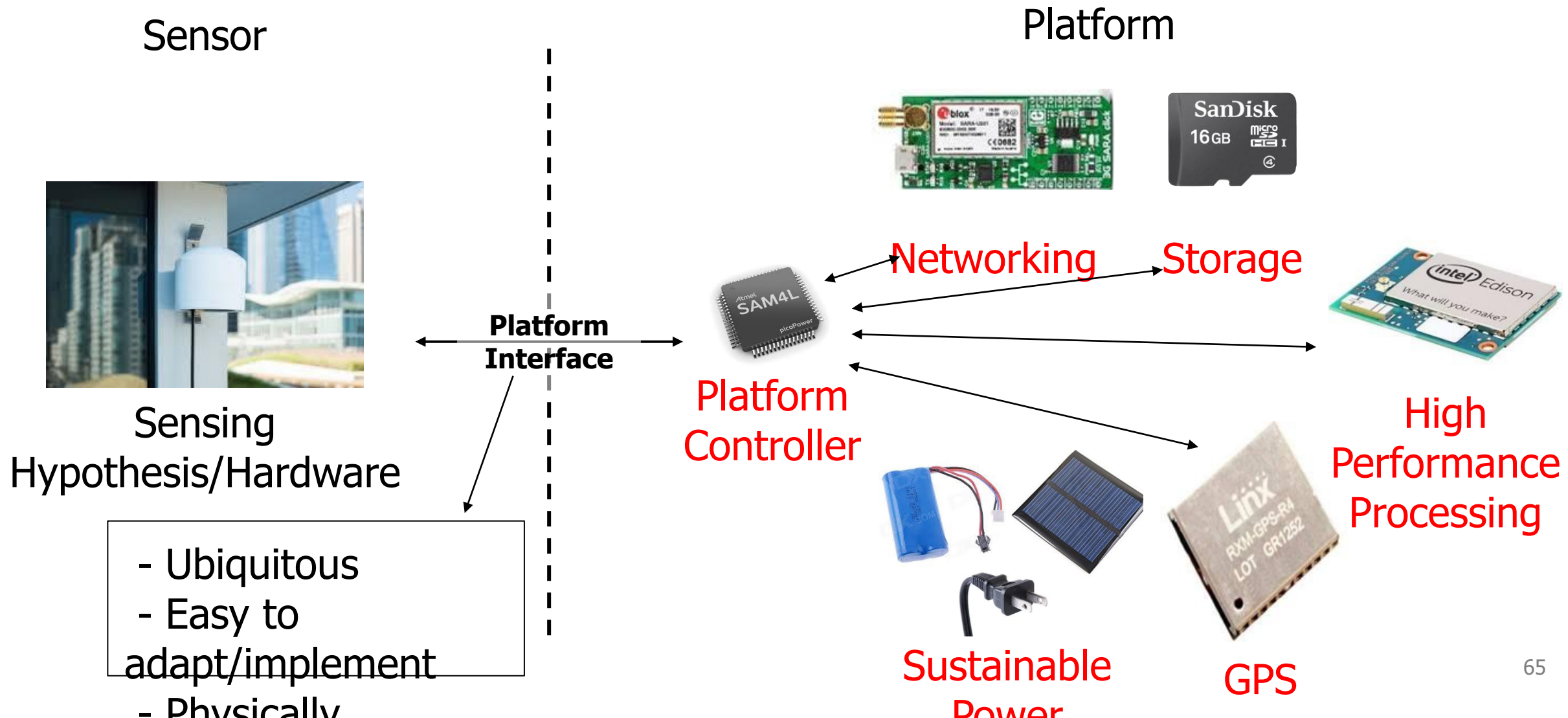
**Higher  
power/linux  
class  
processing**

**Can be  
provided with  
a GPS**

Deployment	Services Needed						
	Power	Networking	Processing	Storage	Time	Synch	Location
Caraoke [3]							
Bouillet et al. [4]							
Aircloud [5]							
Girod et al. [6]							
Ledeczi et al. [7]							
SenseFlow [8]							
Argos [9]							
SONYC [1]							
Kyun Queue [10]							
Micronet [11]							



# Software abstraction through a single interface



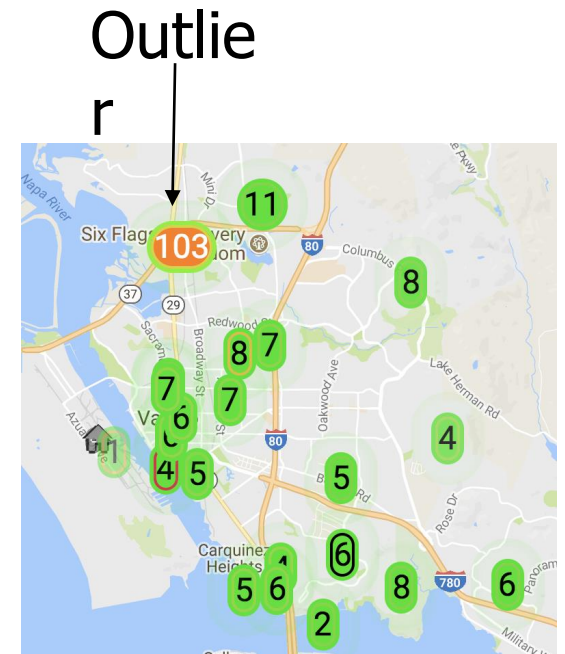
# 1. City-Scale Sensing Introduction

## 2. **Signpost**

- Motivation
- Shared Resources
- **Deployability**
- Implementation
- Evaluation

# Some applications require granularity

## Data can change greatly in low distances



# Deployment overhead drives cost

- Expensive to work with the city
- Time consuming
- Not conducive to experimentation!

## Do not rely on wired infrastructure

- No wired power
  - Solar provides more power density than batteries
- No wired networking
- Should not modify existing infrastructure



# Multi-tenancy is beneficial to testbeds

One deployment can enable many stakeholders simultaneously

- Need to ensure that they do not conflict

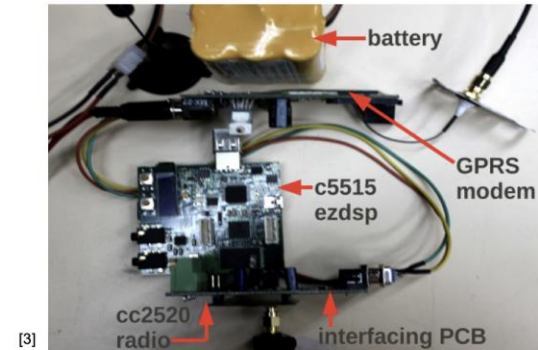
## Air Quality Monitoring



## Urban Noise Classification



## Traffic Queue Sensing



# 1. City-Scale Sensing Introduction

## 2. **Signpost**

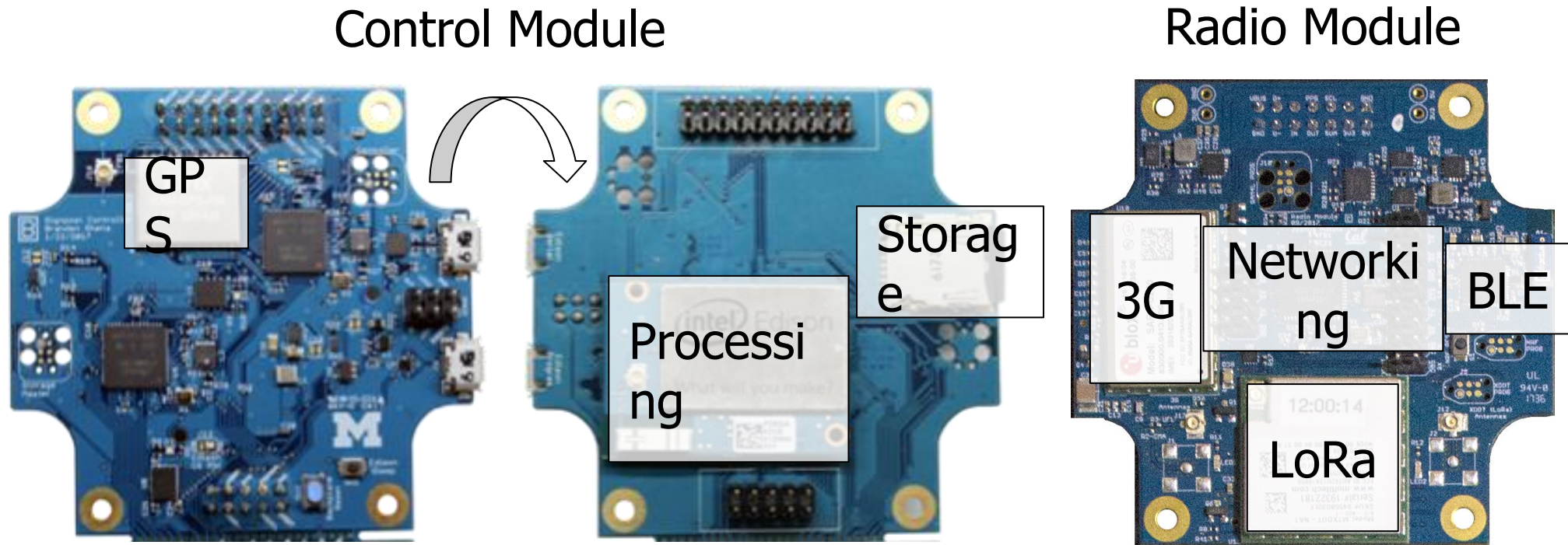
- Motivation
- Shared Resources
- Deployability
- **Implementation**
- Evaluation



# The Signpost Platform



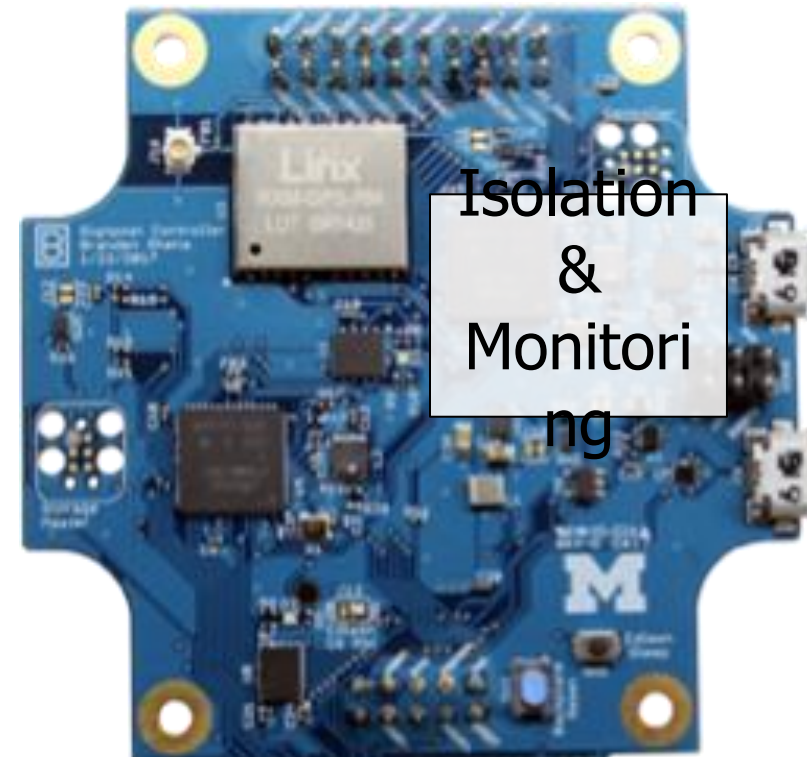
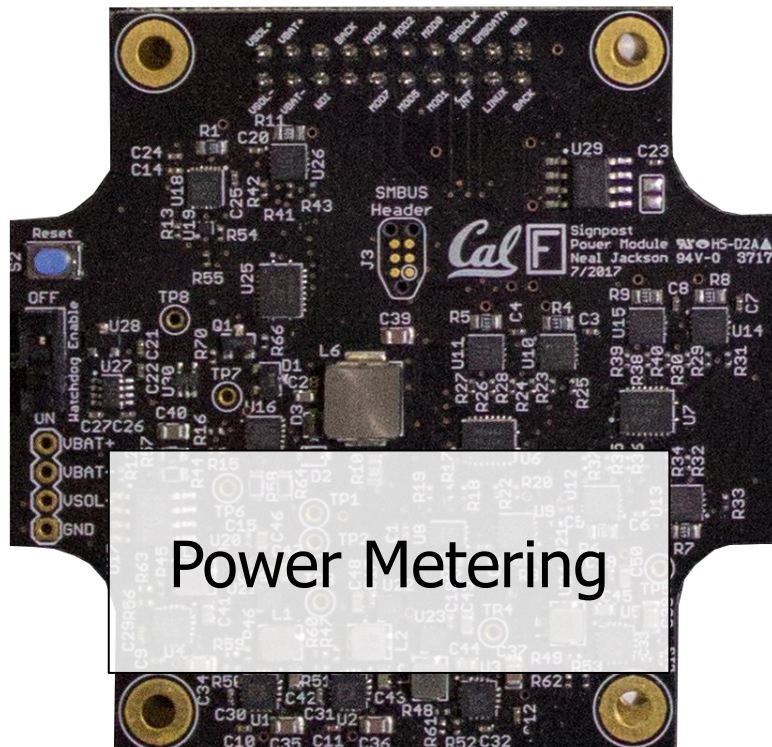
# Core modules provide shared resources



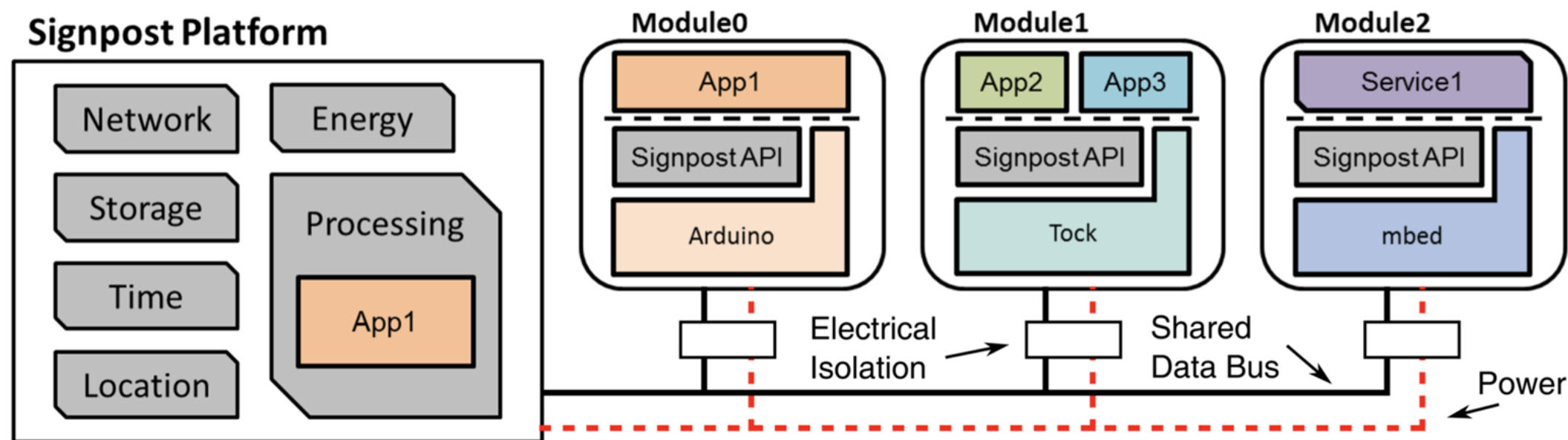
Making the platform modular supports upgradeability



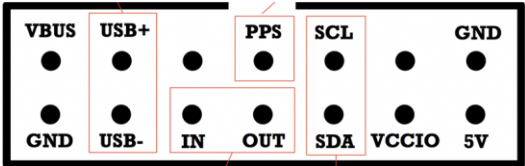
# Measurement and isolation support multi-tenancy



# Standard interface for accessing shared resources



Any software framework can be used for modules

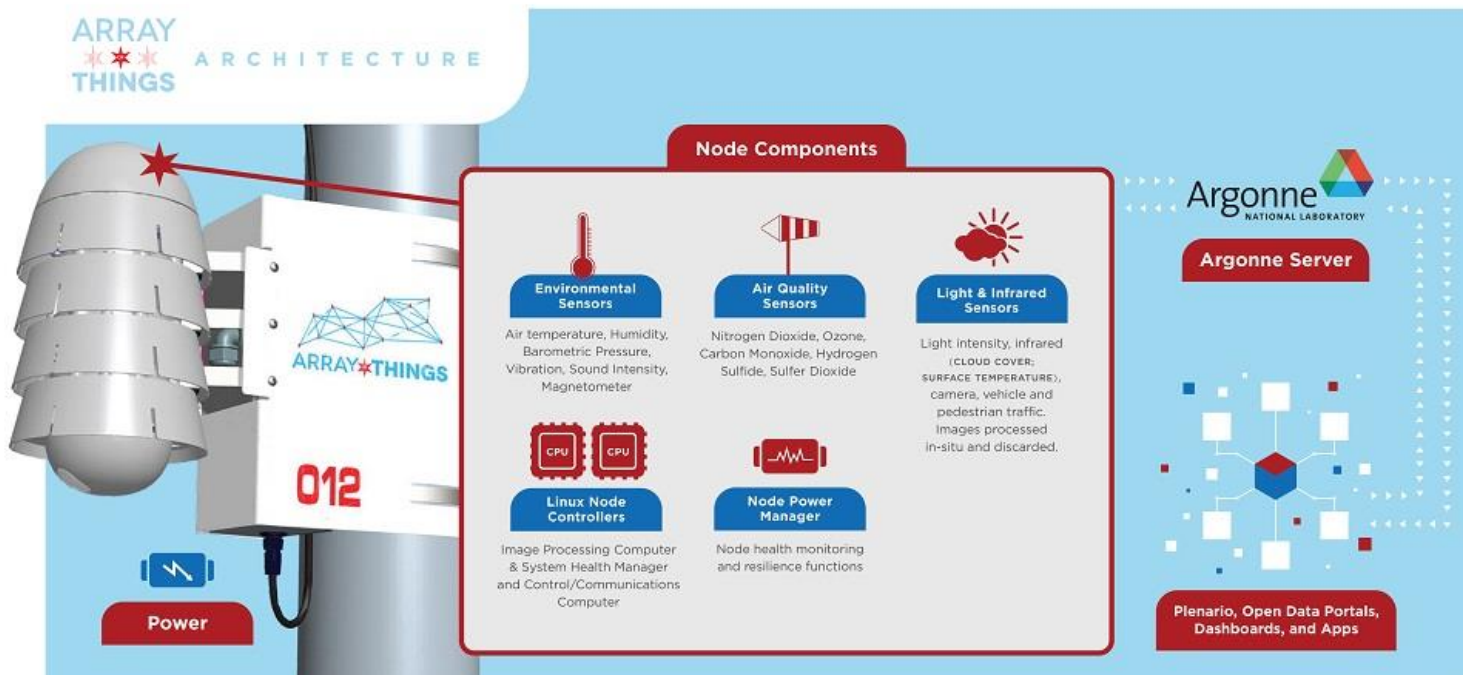


Only I2C and GPIO required

Optional  
PPS 100ns global synchronisation  
USB

# Array of Things is one platform approach

- Include sensors as platform resources
- Applications are software that act on sensor data
- High-power hardware and expensive to deploy



# Signpost explores the other end of the spectrum

What can we do with less?

- Low-power, low-capability, extremely deployable
- Limited provided resources, but lots of extensibility

Focus on modularity

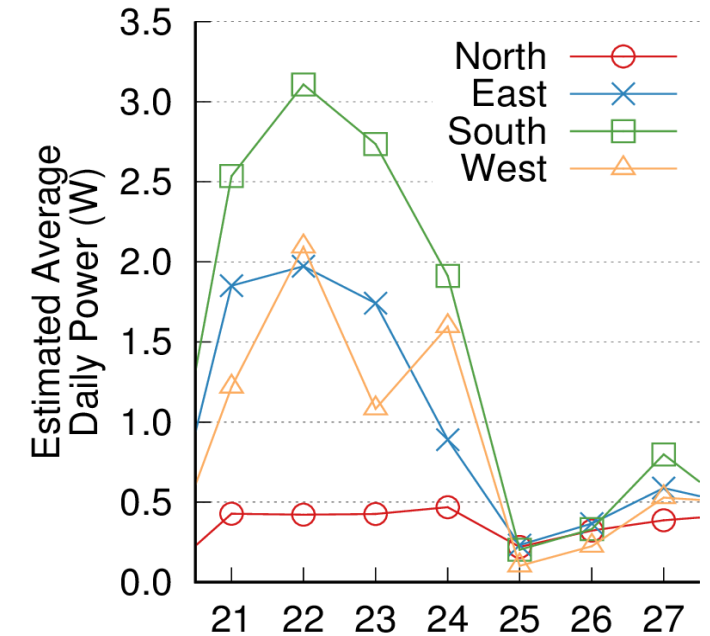
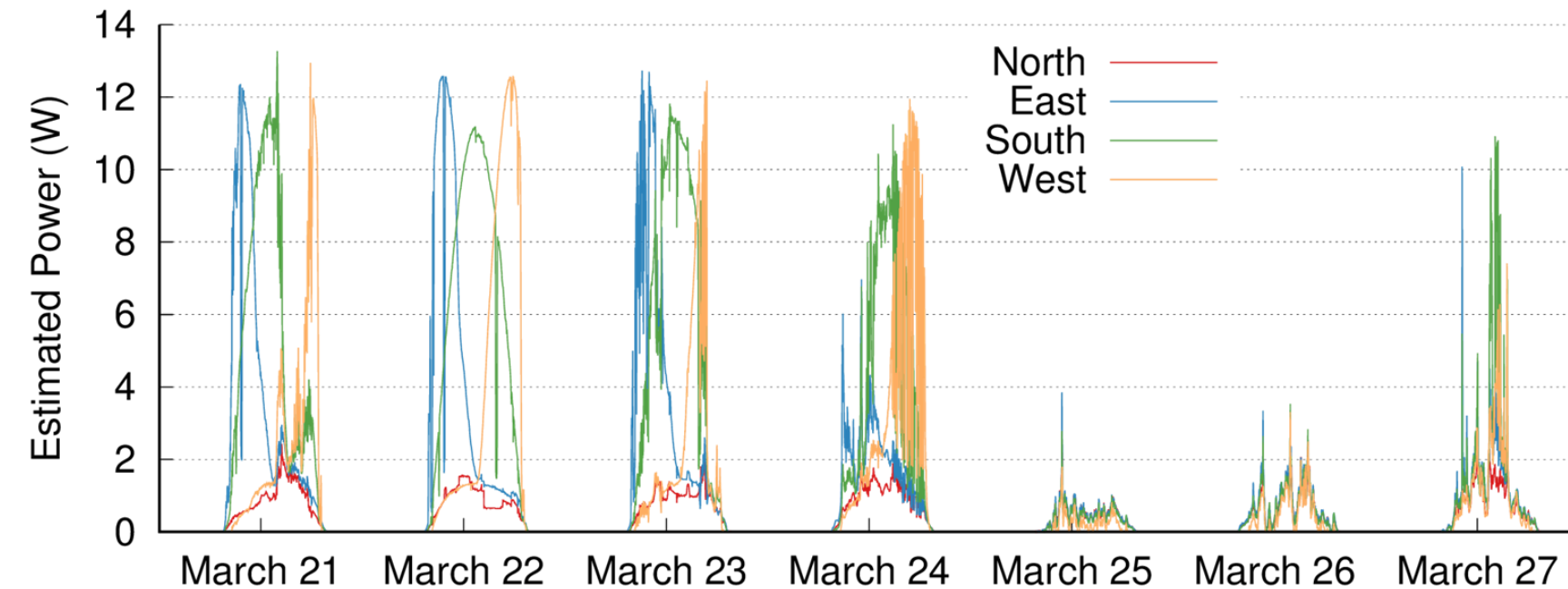
- Too difficult to start from scratch for every upgrade/change
  - Components are more expensive
  - Deployments is more difficult
- The platform should be viewed as shared infrastructure!
  - Amortize cost with multiple sensors and applications

# 1. City-Scale Sensing Introduction

## 2. **Signpost**

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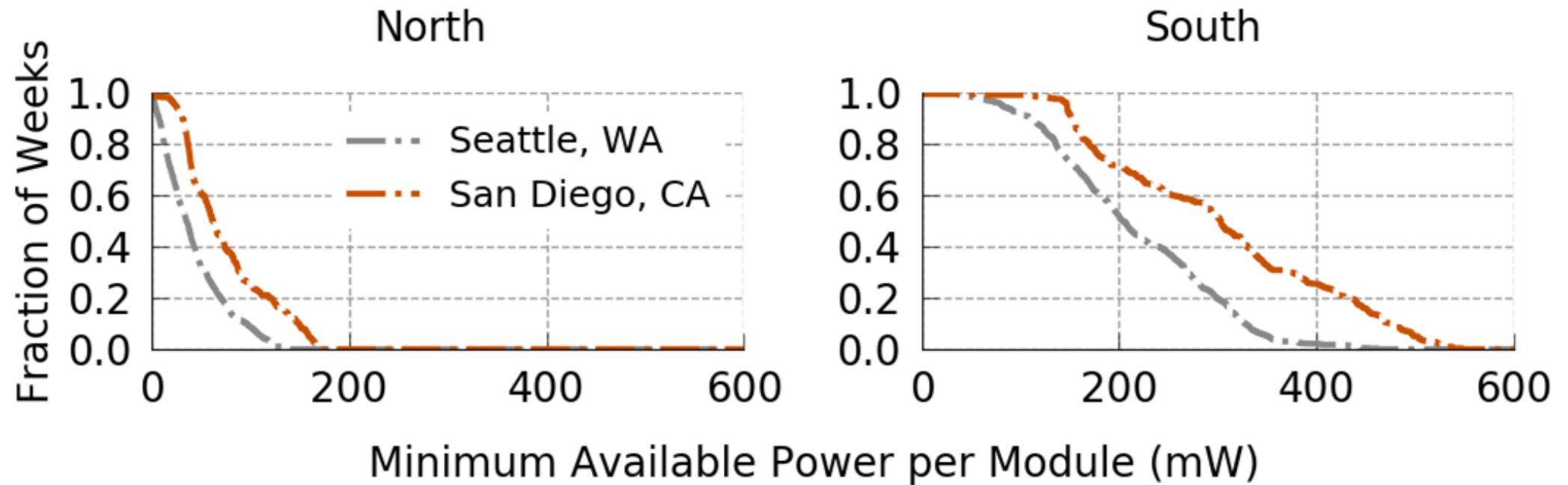
# How much power does a Signpost harvest?



Higher daily variations than directional variations

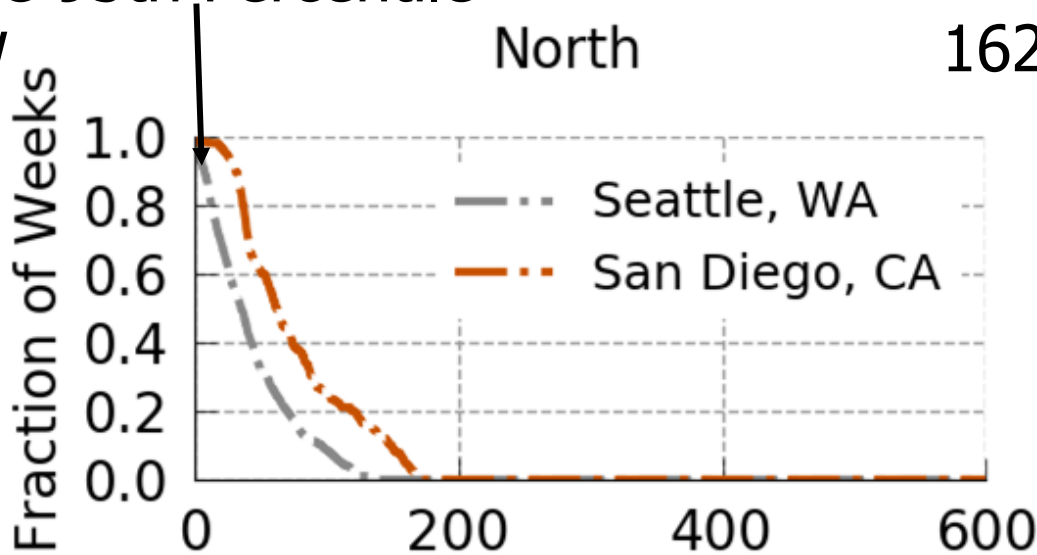


# How much power can each module draw?

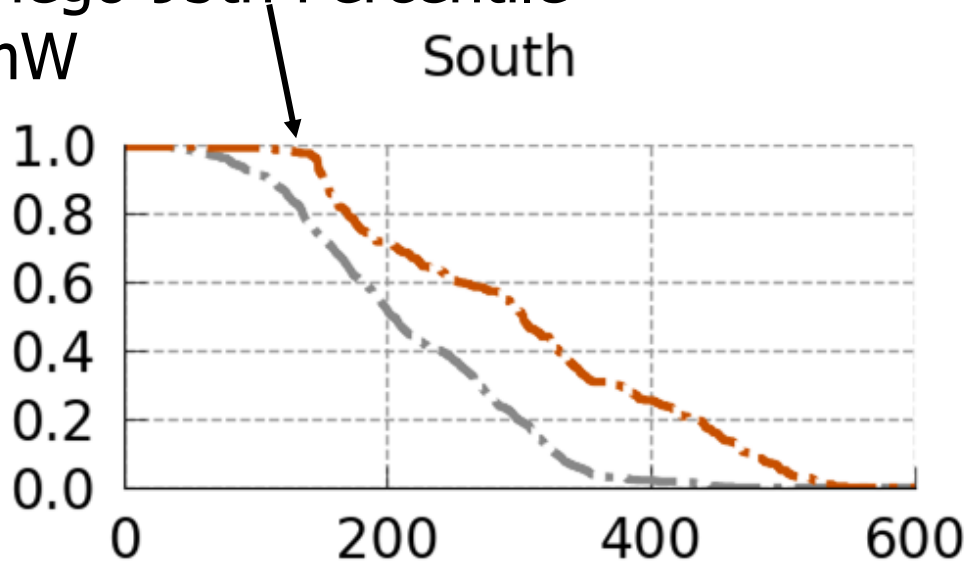


# How much power can each module draw?

Seattle 95th Percentile =  
3 mW



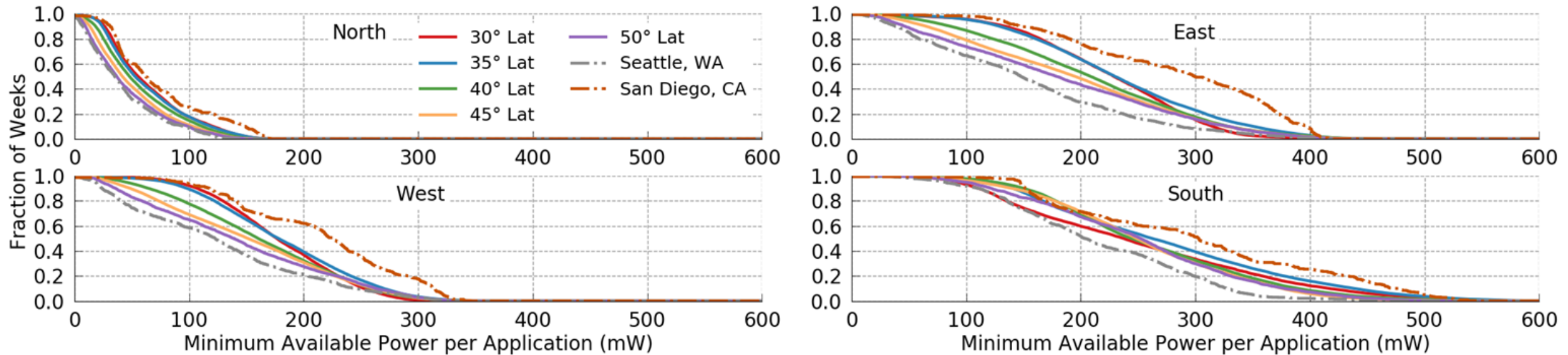
San Diego 95th Percentile =  
162 mW



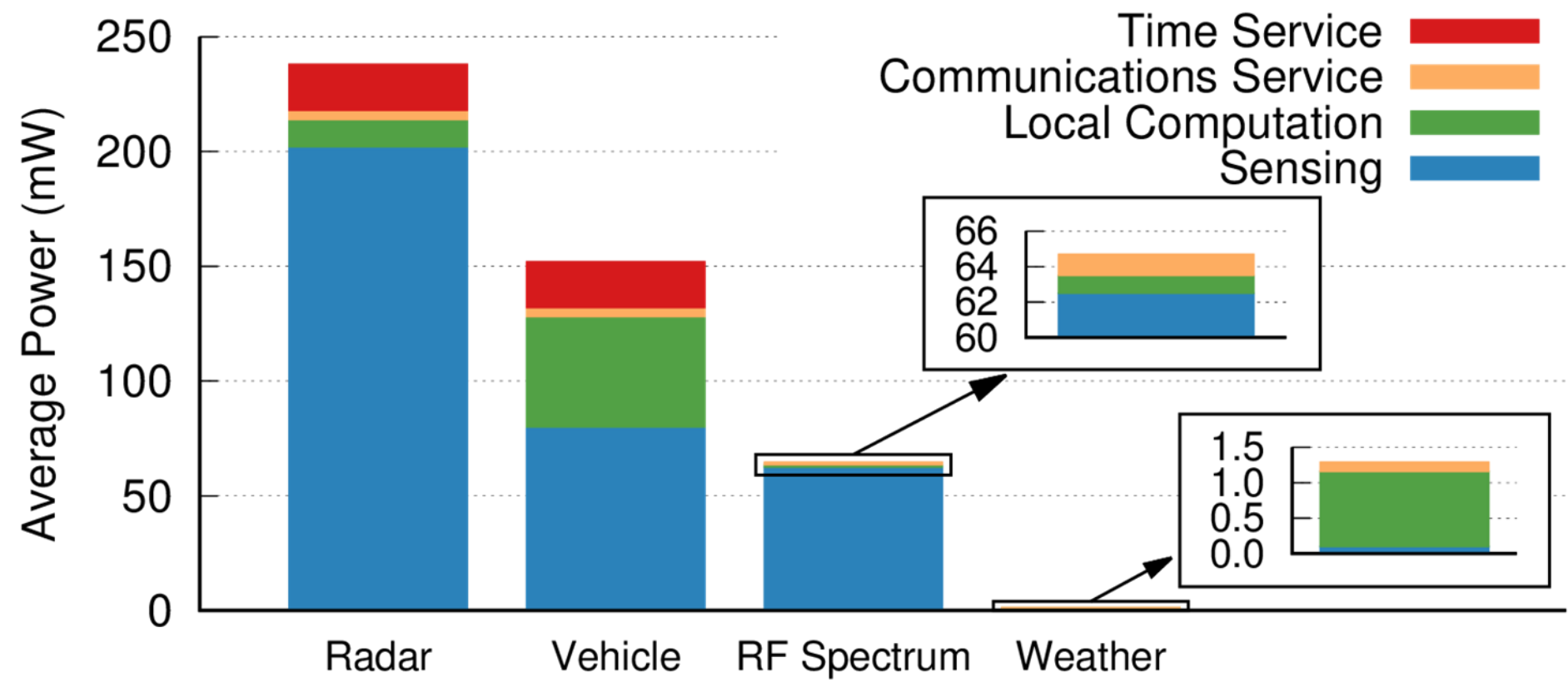
Minimum Available Power per Module (mW)



# How much power can each module draw?



# Resources are charged to modules which use them



# Applications running on Signpost

- Environmental monitoring (posting to Weather Underground)
- Vehicle counting (and bell tower)
- TV whitespace sensing

