Keynote: Insight, Not (Random) Numbers: An Embedded Perspective

Thomas M. Conte

Center for Embedded Systems Resesrch
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
North Carolina State University

Abstract. Hamming said that the purpose of computing was "insight, not numbers." Yet benchmarking embedded systems is today a numbers game. In this talk, I will dissect Hamming's famous quote and provide some reasons to hope we can making benchmarking of embedded systems into a science. In particular, I will discuss how to model and measure quantities so that one can gain confidence in the results. I will use the industry standard EEMBC benchmark set as an example. Along the way, I will (I hope) give some insight into what the EEMBC benchmarks are trying to test.

K. De Bosschere et al. (Eds.): HiPEAC 2007, LNCS 4367, p. 3, 2007.