

The invention of the network camera

and the VLSI technology behind

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Axis Mission





Axis

- > Founded in 1984 at IDEON in Lund
- > IT company focused on Network Video Solutions
- > 2788 employees (Q2, 2017)
- > Sales 2016, 7400 MSEK
- > Listed on NASDAQ OMX under acquisition by Canon
- > Head office in Lund, close to LTH
- > Own presence in more than 50 countries
- > 90000 partners in 179 countries







Original products







The market's broadest portfolio







AXIS Q3709-PVE Network Camera



Multi-sensor, multi-megapixel - 180° overview. One camera.

- > 180° panoramic **overview**
- > Smooth video of movements at up to **30 fps in 3 x 4K**
- > Efficient one-camera installation



Small business – AXIS Camera Companion

Video surveillance made simple

- > Optimized solution for 1-4 camera systems, with support for up to 16 cameras
- > Recording on SD cards, removes the need for central recording
- > Mobile app for freedom of use
 - Axis Secure Remote Access for a secure and easy-to-install way to access the system remotely
 - Axis Mobile Streaming for efficient bandwidth usage
- > VMS and mobile viewing app free for download







AXIS A8004-VE Network Door Controller



Reliable audio visual identification and entry control

- > A perfect complement to any surveillance installation to effectively control entry:
 - Identify and talk to visitors
 - Record what happens at the entrances
- > Suitable for small- and mid-size installations as well as advanced enterprise systems





AXIS D2050-VE Network Radar Detector







Why a radar? What's the problem

- > Many customers are searching for a solution that can minimize repeatedly false detections.
- > Video Motion Detection (VMD) can be challenging to use outdoor.
 - During night time and
 - Bad weather conditions
 - Spiders and bugs are present.
- > Radar can serve as a complement to video surveillance
 - Suitable for area protection and makes it possible to positively detect movement with high accuracy





PTZ live autopilot

- > Radar data can control Pan-Tilt-Zoom cameras
 - Enables PTZ camera to be pre-positioned when operator take control
 - Follows object during day, night or bad weather conditions





30+ years of intelligent networks







Our business model







Why is the sales model so important ?

- > Everyone can trust Axis
- > Integrators never compete with their main partner
 - But they do compete with each other
 - Axis never "steals from the channel"
- > Distributors always make money
 - Axis often has no set-up to bypass
- > Rebate system to ensure correct pricing
 - Deal pricing, partner pricing, etc.
- > Make sure this model fits
 - Analytics, use partners
 - ACS use for low end, not large systems





Axis regional update

Market share in revenues for security camera, security network camera and video encoder

Americas

> # 1 in all categories**

> 52 percent of sales*

EMEA

- > # 1 in all categories**
- > 37 percent of sales*

Asia (excluding China)

- > # 1 in video encoders**
- > # 3 in network security cameras**
- > # 6 in security cameras**
- > 11 percent of sales*

*Axis sales 2015

**Results based on IHS Technology Video Surveillance Intelligence Service, 2016. Results are not an endorsement of Axis Communications. Any reliance on these results is at the third party's own risk. Visit www.technology.ihs.com for more details.

Source: IHS Video Surveillance Intelligence Service, 2016





Regional development Q2, 2017







Taking long-term responsibility by thinking big

Sustainability highlights

- > Continued to enhance and reduce product packaging
- > Optimized logistics
- > Energy-efficient, more environmentally friendly products
- > Anti-Corruption policy





Axis – continuously driving innovation





20 years of network cameras 1996-2016



Axis invented the world's first network camera

Technology leader with many industry firsts

Continuing to drive innovation for a smarter, safer world



The fourth phase - the invention of the network camera







1996 - AXIS NetEye 200

- > The world's first network camera
- > Launched at Interop Atlanta, September 18th, 1996
- > Performance
 - 1 image/second in 352*288 pixel
 - 3 frames/minute in 0.4 Mpixel







More than 10,000 sold!



One of our first camera customers...

- > Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple
- > Was in a car accident during a tech support call
- > No injuries and problem was solved





World's first video encoder in 1998

- > AXIS 240 the world's first video encoder
- > Andy Rubin, CTO & founder of Android at Google, in 1997 when he was testing AXIS 240

nera Server 240

prototypes





Lightfinder technology, Wall Street Journal Technology Innovation Award







In-house R&D – where the coming successes are made

- > Substantial R&D investment
 - 15% of revenue
- > Strong network camera patent portfolio
- > Canon is very strong on patents
- > 3 corner stones
 - Innovation
 - Openness
 - Quality





More than 800 engineers work in Lund



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"ASIC" stands for "Application Specific Integrated Circuit".





ASIC development at AXIS

Axis – continuously driving innovation in network video







AXIS ASIC history

- > AXIS has developed SoC ASICs since late 80ths
- > 80s ASICs
 - where used for network protocol converting
- > 90s ASICs



- In-house developed RISC CPU (ARM-style) where added and the proprietary Canon printer protocol Page 21 where added forming the ETRAX chip family.
- A separate image processing ASIC ARTPEC was developed for the camera business.
- > During 2000 to 2010 the ASICs became large unified SoC where more and more external IPs where.
- > Today AXIS is focusing on development of differentiating functions such as image processing, analytics, scaling, overlay and the overall specification of the SoC.





AXIS ASIC history

- > From start all functionality was developed in-house by a few designers
- > There where no market for general building blocks (IP blocks) such as CPUs, Memory Ctrl, Interfaces etc but this has changed over the years,
- > Today we need about 60 man years and still half of the functionality is developed by external parties.
- Number of transistors has multiplied by 2500 since then.
 - Moores Law: Number of transistors doubles every 18th months
 - AXIS has historically been one to two step behind latest technology
 - > But are now closing in to be able to fulfill requirements





Typical Axis SoC content

- > Embedded CPU running Linux
- > Image processing pipeline
- > Image scaler with dewarping
- > Image compression subsystem
- > Crypto accelerator
- > Ethernet controller
- > I/O controller
- > Interfaces etc



An ASIC often combines the different functions needed for a complete system on one single chip. This is called "System on a Chip" or "SoC".





ARTPEC 1 - 6







ARTPEC-1

- > Worlds first network camera ASIC
- > uCLinux on ETRAX CPU
- > CCD/CMOS IPP, MJPEG compression
- > Latch based design, 2-phase clocking
 - Clock gating to save power
- > 160 pin PQFP







ARTPEC-1 product







ARTPEC-2

- > Worlds first dualstream MPEG-4/MJPEG network camera ASIC
- > CCD/CMOS IPP
- > Latch based design, 2-phase clocking
 - Clock gating to save power
- > 208 pin PQFP






- > Worlds first HDTV/H.264 network camera SoC
- > HDTV 1080p30
- > LFBGA400 17x17mm







- > Lowlight/WDR network camera SoC
- > HDTV 1080p30
- > MIPS CPU
- > 400 ball TFBGA







- > Faster general purpose CPU
 - Dual core
 - Independent execution units
 - Dual hw threads per core
 - Parallel computing architecture
- > Higher memory throughput
- > Faster Video Analytics
- > New camera features
 - Improved image quality
 - WDR
- > Zipstream







- > High quality 4k30 products
- > Faster general purpose CPU
 - ARM
- > Higher memory throughput
- > Faster Video Analytics
- > Faster Graphics
- > New camera features
 - Improved image quality
 - Forensic WDR
- > HDMI





Electronic design obstacles, history and future





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Why ASIC development?

- > Benefits:
 - Product performance
 - Product size and power (Size 70 to 100 times less than FPGA in same technology)
 - Unique features (hard to copy by competitors)
 - Secured access to technology (still there are not many external "Platforms" for video market)
 - Unit cost reduction
- > Challenges:
 - Time to market
 - Development costs
 - Complexity
 - Project risk (Size/Time/Spec)
 - Technology risk





Description of AXIS ASIC development

- > We use partners/ASIC vendors for the back-end design and manufacturing of our ARTPEC chips. We have used both partners that has their own fab and fabless companies.
- > Design and verification (VCS) using SystemVerilog, main reason to SystemVerilog is verification but we are also using advanced structures that makes design work more effective.
- > We have done VMM based random verification since 2005 and are now moving to UVM. Modelling is TLM2.0 and C based
- > We do Verilog netlist handoff with timing constraints to our partner. We do both synthesis (DC) and floorplan (DC Graphical) to ensure quality and decrease number of iterations



Chip development

- > The written code will be translated by running a synthesis tool to a specific cell of the selected library of a specific process (e.g 28nm TSMC Low power library)
- > When all functionality is described in System Verilog and synthesized we call it a Netlist.
- > We can simulate functionality, performance (speed), power (dynamic and static) and do an approximate placement and routing (connection).

module ff (q, d, clk) output q; input d, clk; reg q; always @(posedge clk) q = d; endmodule





EDA tools

- > Tool supplier
 - We have been using Synopsys tools for a long time.
 - The license model is Time Based License with pool of tools
 - Mix changed based on project flow
- > Design & Implementation SystemVerilog
- > Synthesis Design Compiler
- > Verification VCS
- > Floor planning DC Graphical
- > STA Primetime
- > DFT we do not do DFT but we prepare our design for DFT
- > Using other point tools for specific design purposes
 - Power Power Compiler
 - High-level modulation QUEMU, TLM2.0
- > Continually evaluation tools and vendors





How to handle risk and development cost?

- > Luckily specification of mobile devices is more similar to Surveillance Camera than old Mobile phone i.e. always "On", which gives us benefit from using same IP
- > Increased design complexity must be managed
 - Improved design tools and design methods
 - Modularization and reuse
 - Make use of External competence for Top Level integration and General System implementation
 - Make use of external chips for parts of our product portfolio that has specific needs
- > NRE (external design and manufacturing cost) cost increase dramatically with newer technologies
 - Carefully specify new designs to reach enough volumes
- > Make use of external chips in some products to ensure second source





Two teams

> Chip Platforms

- Manager Lars Branzen
- Product Manager
- Project Manager
- > Competence Groups
 - Backend group
 - System Architecture group
 - FPGA

> Chip Platforms IP

- Manager
- Architect
- Project Manager
- > Competence Groups
 - Front End Design Group
 - Verification Group



Responsibilities

- > ASIC and FPGA methodology for System-On-Chip
- > Models for early SW development (TLM/System-C)
- > Suggest chip platform technology solutions
- > Chip platform roadmap
- > Chip product ownership
 - User documentation
 - HW support during lifetime
- > ASIC and IP purchasing
- FPGA development for early SW development, algorithm validation and product functionality extensions





Chip Project

Chip development

- > Axis develop critical functionality
- > ASIC Vendor integrate CPU subsystem
- > The netlist is then assembled by the ASIC Vendor who will add functionality for test and manufacturing followed by exact placement and routing.
- > After iterations between Axis and Vendor (changing floorplan, RTL, specification etc.) the final version of the circuit will be written out in GDSII format which will be used for producing production Masks.
- > Prototype production
- > Engineering Samples sent to to Axis





Chip development as a Program







Chip IP project

A parallel project develop new specific functions (IP)

- > Driven by CP-IP team
 - ~15 ASIC design engineers + 5-10 consultants
- > Assisted by
 - Core Technologies Imaging Systems (CTIS)
 - Core Technologies Analytics&System (CTAS)
 - Core Product Platforms team (CPP)
 - HW/SW interface reviews
 - Linux driver development
 - Prototype/sample validation
 - Core Technologies Media and Graphics (CTMG)



Chip project

Vendor selection and integration

- > Driven by our Chip Platforms team
 - ~7 ASIC design engineers
- > Assisted by:
 - Tech-Ref and PCB-CAD
 - Electronics
 - Package (ball-out)
 - PCB layout (incl. X-talk and SIanalysis)
 - Mechanics
 - Thermal design and analysis







Chip project

- > Modular design flow
 - Design implemented in the RTL (Register Transfer Level) language System Verilog
 - Parallel processes
 - Synchronous design style
 - Fully verified sub-designs, comprehensive random testing (UVM/VMM)
 - Synthesis, STA and DFT clean sub-designs
 - Design guidelines and checklists
 - Documentation and reviews
 - Predictable integration in ASIC project



Chip Project - Typical ASIC project organization



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ILCATION:

Chip project - Cooperation with ASIC vendor/design house

> Generally 3 main phases in project

- 0.5 initial netlist
- 0.9 trial netlist
- 1.0 final netlist
- > Traditional ASIC design flow for ARTPEC
 - Verilog netlist and SDC (Static timing Design Constraints) handover

> Joint work on

- Package / pinout
- Power simulations
- IP integration
- DFT
- Floorplanning
- Timing closure







Deep learning



Definitions – machine learning

Machine learning - In 1959, <u>Arthur Samuel</u> defined machine learning as a "Field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed".

Picture -> algorithm -> "It's a cat!"

Variation is the problem: Viewport, Scale, Deformation, Occlusion, Illumination, Background clutter, Intra-class differences



Input





Definitions – deep learning

Deep learning: Inspired by how the human brain learns to see.

Hand-crafted features

Data-driven features







Deep learning – framework, architecture, model

- Framework The tools used to create and train and execute Deep Convolutional Neural Networks (DCNN)
- > Architecture A description of the algorithm, the "blueprint"
- > Model A realization of the architecture. That is, the architecture with the trained weights of its internal filters, needed to make predictions.





Illustration – building a house





Illustration – Definitions for Deep Learning





Nearest Neighbor Classifier (Not a CNN)

Problem: Based on N measures, sort into **fixed** number of classes

- > Measure the difference
 - Pixel-wise distance (L1)
 - Euclidean distance (L2)
- > K-Nearest Neighbor classifier
 - Use more than the best match
 - Example k=3, uses the 3 best matches to better classify the data
- > How to select k or other basic option? (Tune the hyperparameters)
- > Divide the data training set into parts, with different usage
 - Training set, fake test set (validation set)
- > Problem: We need to keep the training set and run through all new data every time.





Linear classification

- > Linear classification
 - Score function is a weighted sum of all values
 - Write as a Matrix multiplication f(x1;W,b)
 - 2-dim example:
 - On a plane: straight lines will be the borders for each class
 - Loss function
 - To measure the error (eg how bad is this classification)
 - SVM classification (hinge loss)
 - Soft-max classification (cross-entropy loss)
 - Provides probabilities
- > Major benefit: When the parameters (W,b) is known the dataset might be discarded





Optimization

- > How to find W (and b)
- > Random search (bad idea)
- > Follow the gradient (good idea)
 - Numerical gradient
 - Analytic gradient
- > Algorithm:
 - Start with random set
 - Refine parameters using iteration and a step-size
 - Use the analytics gradient and a gradient descent algorithm
- > Backpropagation
 - Use a network with simple nodes where you can solve the gradient





The architecture: Alexnet, Resnet, GoogLeNet...







Neural network architectures

- > Neural networks are neurons in a graph
 - Input layer
 - Hidden layer(s)
 - Output layer
- > No loops
- > Reason to use layers
 - Express them as vector matrix multiplications
 - Groups of neurons will approximate non-linear function
- > Good properties
 - Cheap to use
 - Difficult to train
- > Modern CNN have 10-20 layers and 100M parameters
 - Deep learning





The architecture: Feature extraction

Simple filters get combined into more complex shapes in later layers













The architecture: Example, modified Alexnet (ZF-5)





Training phase (in principle)







Deployment (in principle)






On chip CNN

- > Easy to build the forward path
- > Requires a lot of memory storage and bandwidth
- > Currently a parameter movement problem
- > Hot research area
- > Algorithm optimizations
 - Pruning
 - Compression
 - Retraining







Learn more about CNN

Stanford CS class CS231n:

Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition

http://cs231n.github.io



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CRIS

CRIS CPU architecture



CRIS architecture history

- > Development started in 1991.
- > First implementation in silicon in ETRAX 1 (1993).
- > GCC backend
- > C/C Cache added in ETRAX 100 (1998).
- > MMU and multiply added in ETRAX 100LX (2000).
- > Part of the official Linux distribution
- > Will be used in AXIS new camera controller chip (2001).



CRIS Block Diagram





Future of the CRIS architecture

- > ASIC technology improvements will finally make the original architecture obsolete.
- > Alternatives for future high end products:
 - Select a commercial core. (high cost, low flexibility).
 - Design a new architecture.
 - Improve the existing architecture. (Add more pipelining, multiple issue etc.)
 - Multi-processor approach. (Will have large impact on software design.)
- > CRIS will still have a long life in low end applications. (e.g. man CPU offloading).



What to do if you start today

- > Embedded processor market has matured.
 - You can find suitable and well supported cores for most applications today.
 - License and royalty fees are still rather expensive.
- > Gate count is no longer critical.
 - The high gate count of the commercial alternatives can be accepted today, because the total area will still be small.
- > Embedded memories change the scenario.
 - Large memories on-chip open up new architecture possibilities.





Security electronics



Example of security electronics

- > Alarm systems
 - Property protection
 - Loss prevention
- > Fire
 - Detection
- > Gates
 - Automatic gates
 - Toll systems
- > Communications equipment
 - Sound
 - Radio
 - Datacom
- > Law enforcement

- > Lighting
 - Visible
 - IR
- > Camera systems
 - CCTV
 - IP Cameras
- > Access control
 - ID's, badges and readers
 - Door ctrl
- > Vehicles
 - Equipment
 - Protection
- > Locks
 - Doors
 - Safe

- > IT security
 - Computer security
 - Network security
- Home automation
 IoT
- > Personal emergency
- > Public safety
- > Special equipment
 - Gas detectors
 - Radar
- > Services



Trade shows

- > IFSEC London
 - http://www.ifsec.events/international/
- > ISCWest LasVegas
 - http://www.iscwest.com
- > Security Essen Germany
 - http://www.security-essen.de/
- > Conference/Seminars
 - Education
 - Certifications
- > Exhibit
 - Meet the vendors
 - See the equipment





CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION





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Alarm systems

- > Technology
- > Equipment
 - Detectors
 - Panels
 - Keypads
 - Wireless modules
 - GSM/3G callers
 - Lights/Sirens
 - Smoke generators
 - etc
- > Vendors
 - 1000+ far east
 - Large western
 - Like www.dsc.com











New requirements

- > Wireless
- > App controlled
- > email, whatsapp notifications
- > Facebook/Google login
- > alarm.com compatible
- > ifttt.com/recipes (If this, then that)











Developing electronics





Development challenges

- > Distance to production
- > China
- > Open source
- > Free information
- > Crowd founding (Kickstarter etc)
- > Time to market
- > Quality



Mandatory certifications

> UL

- Certification for professional US market
- The "Underwriters laboratories"
- American safety and certification company
- > CE-marking
 - Mandatory conformity marking for the European economic area
 - Conformité Européenne, meaning European Conformity
- > FCC compliance statement
 - Mandatory marking for all electronics
 - Federal communications Commission





Other certifications

- > Consumer technology
 - HDMI, USB
 - WiFi
 - SD-Card
- > 2G/3G/4G/5G
 - Carrier certification
- > Vendor specific requirements
 - Apple Lightning
 - Apple App Review
 - Windows hardware certification
- > Non mandatory testing
 - Technischer Überwachungsverein TÜV
 - Technical Research Institute of Sweden SP

- > Technology license
 - Dolby
 - H.265



- > Known difficult areas:
 - Onboard equipment for train and aircrafts
 - Vehicles







Trends



Consumer Electronics Trends

- > Staying Connected
 - Consumers want to stay connected, at home and while traveling.
 - Portable equipment with the latest features (More important than ever)
 - Pokémon Go Who is the real winner?

> Media and Data Convergence

- Media-centric TV and the data-centric computer will merge.
- New gadgets has to handle both types of tasks and be synchronized

> In-Home Entertainment

- 1080p will be replaced by 4K
- Video/Movies/Music on demand
- User interface centric equipment

> Smart home

- Embedded devices for everything
- Smart/Cost-efficient device integration





More trends

> IT

- Cheaper and better tablets and computers
- Moving to App-oriented business models
- Corporate cloud solutions
- Wider use of P2P/streaming media

> Mobile communications

- Phone will be user-interface for everything
- Mobile payments (ApplePay/SamsungPay/Swish)
- IPv6
- Wearable devices (Google Glass failure, Apple Watch...)
- Real time automatic voice translation
- > Other
 - 3D printing going mature and disappearing!
 - Autonomous cars and flying robots (Drones)
 - Screen technology (Large, Unbreakable, Bendable)





Industry Trends in Consumer Electronics

- > Difficult to earn money on software
 - App-centric world
 - Customer lock-in
 - Force customer to the cloud
- > Business critical technology development
 - Vertically oriented business trend
 - Apple, Microsoft...
 - Outsourced development is now moved home
- > IPR
 - Patents





Ultra high definition

- Aggressive 4K rollout
- Old pixel technology (TFT, TN, IPS, etc)
- OLED is finally arriving, yield issues
- Quantum dots are enhancing LCD technology
- QLED = LCD + Quantum dot + LED backlight
- Every manufacturer has now 4K in production
- 50" and bigger
- 50% higher panel cost
- Apple is leading the hires conversion





Ultra high definition / 4K

- Easy in store demo:
 - Visible difference 0.5-2m from the screen
- Lack of content has never stopped set makers before
- Up scaling looks great
- Blu-ray benefit from 4K up scaling
- Ultra Blu-ray player launched at IFA 2015
- PC and consoles will soon be 4K
- Consumers want to be future proof
- Still images on 4K display is perfect
- 4K production is much more easy than 3D
- 4K display with proper content gives 3D feeling







Axis view on 4K / Ultra-HD







Innovative product portfolio



AXIS D2050-VE





Axis' Zipstream technology – More video, less storage

- > Reduce storage and bandwidth by an average 50% or more
 - Optimized for video surveillance
 - Fully compatible with H.264
 - New unique method
 - Acts on motion, details and noise
 - Radically lowering bandwidth and storag
 - Keep the essence







How much do I gain?



City surveillance: Street level recording with small movements most of the time





Outdoor VMD triggered recording: Night time, average reduction for 12h surveillance.







Lightfinder technology – an Axis innovation



Extreme light sensitivity



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Thermal network cameras – an Axis innovation

24/7 detection in tough conditions

- > Bright lights
- > Deep shadows
- > Rain, snow and fog
- > Smoke









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