

# Iris Software Radio Architecture

Paul Sutton

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014  
FOSDEM

# Outline

- Iris Overview
- Iris Architecture
- Controllers

# Iris Overview

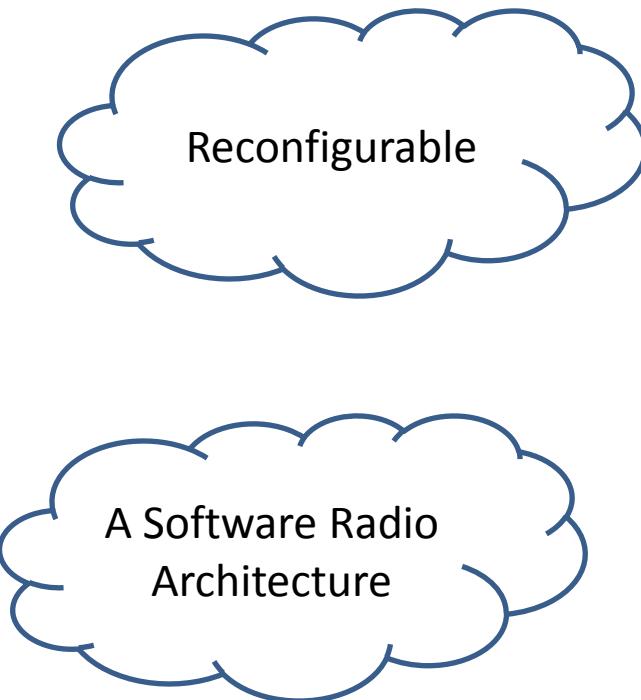
## What is Iris?

## What is Iris?



# Iris Overview

## What is Iris?



# Iris Overview

## What is Iris?

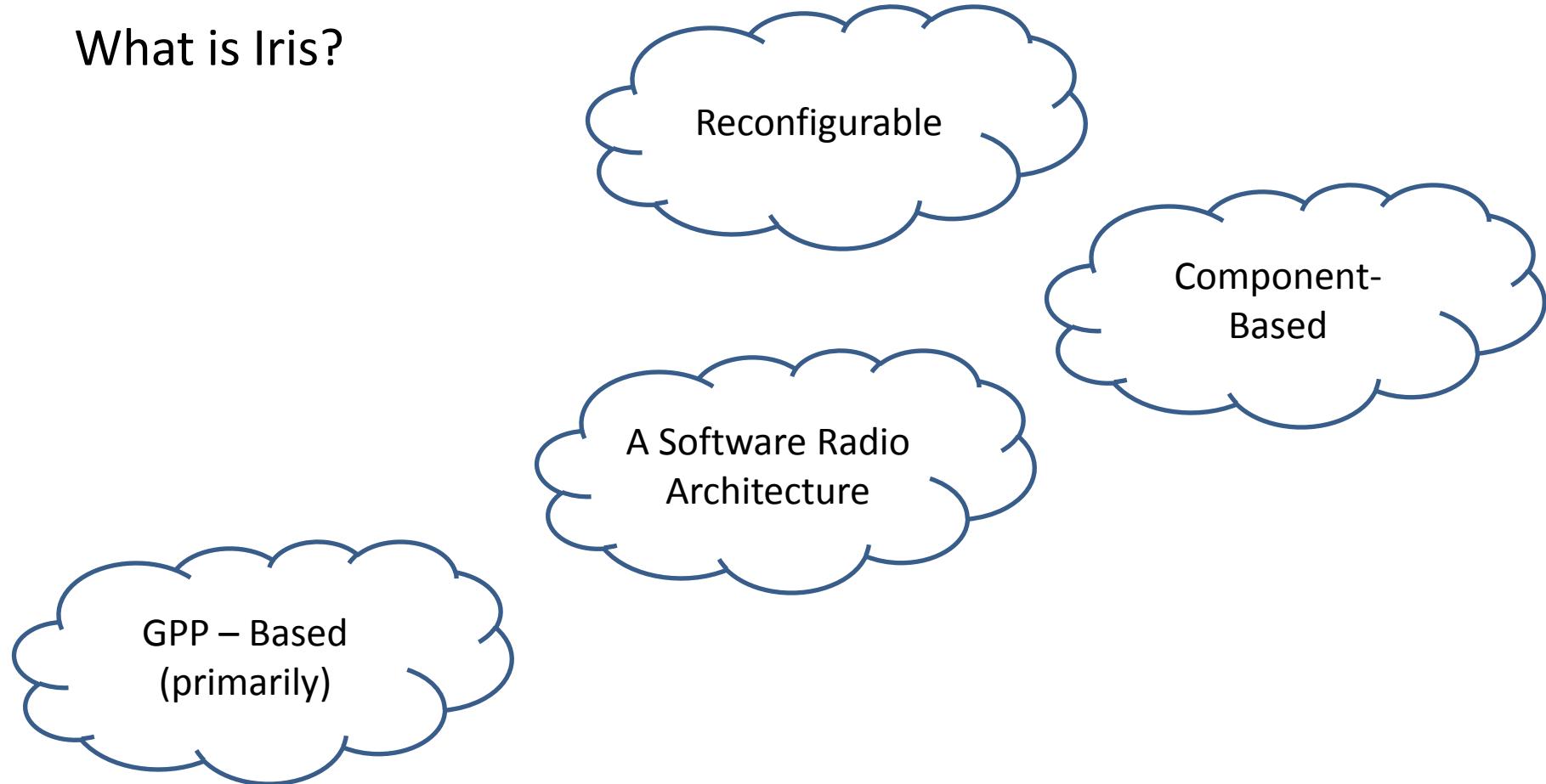
Reconfigurable

A Software Radio  
Architecture

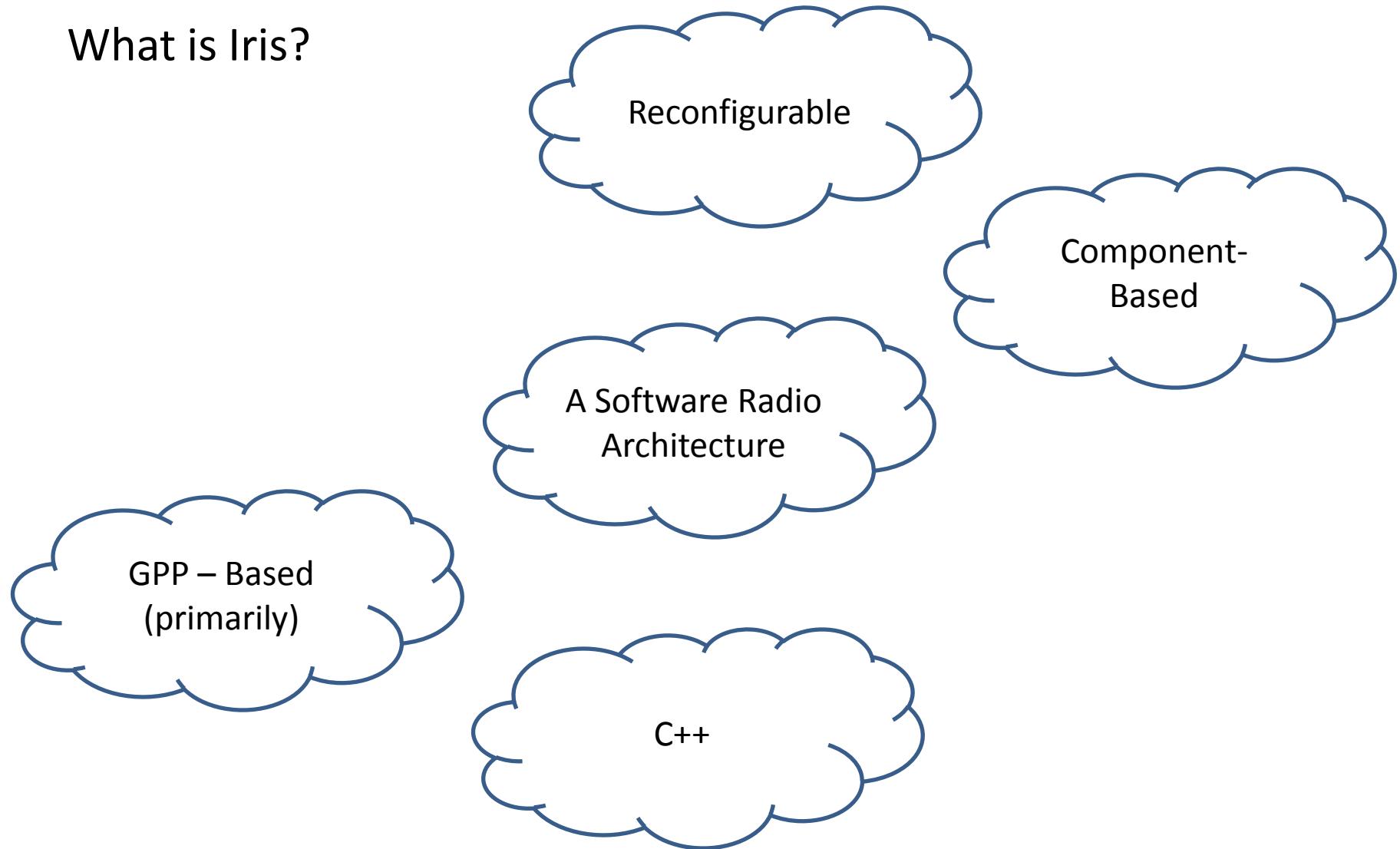
GPP – Based  
(primarily)

# Iris Overview

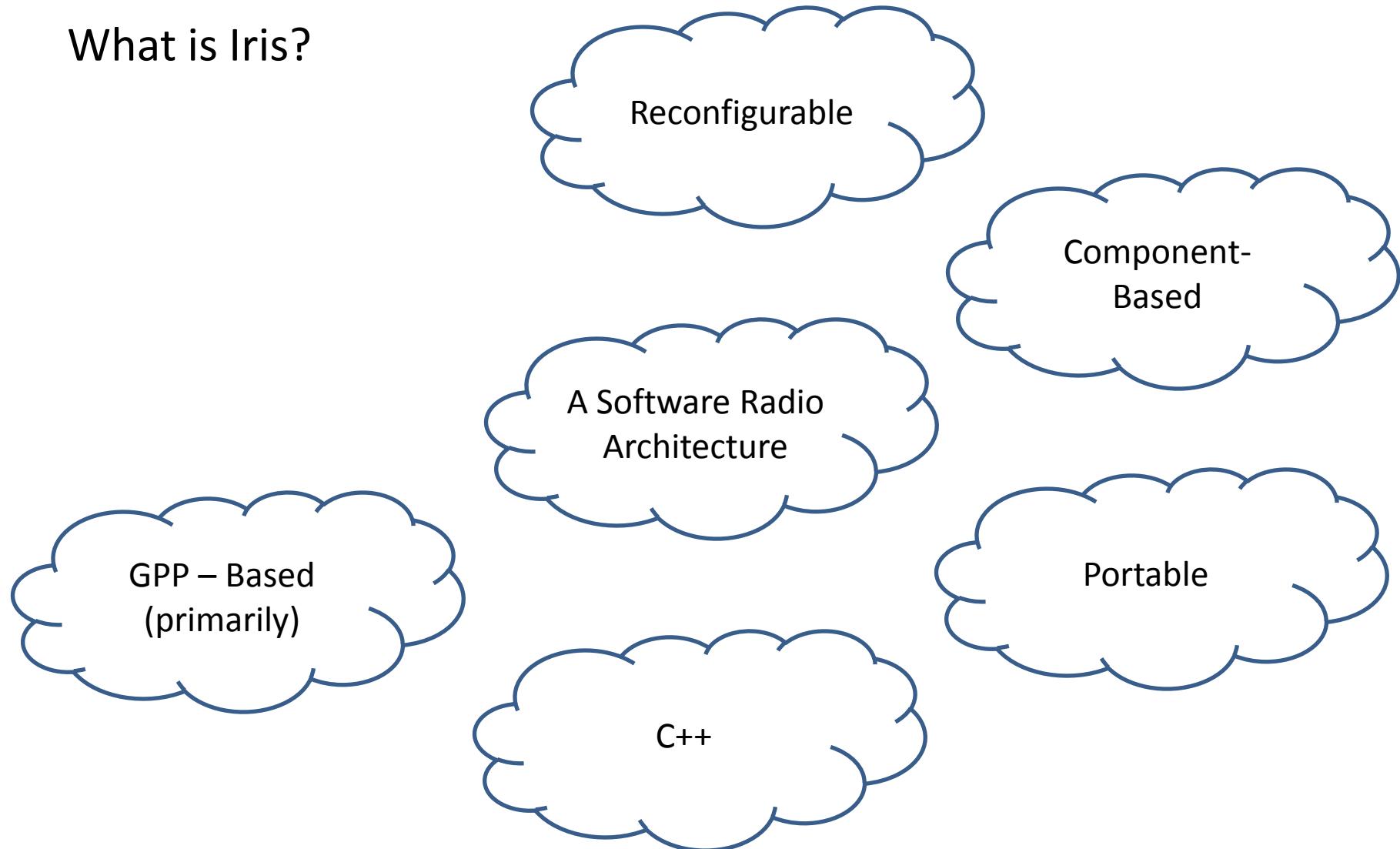
## What is Iris?



## What is Iris?



## What is Iris?



# Iris Overview

## What is Iris?

Extensible

Reconfigurable

Component-Based

GPP – Based  
(primarily)

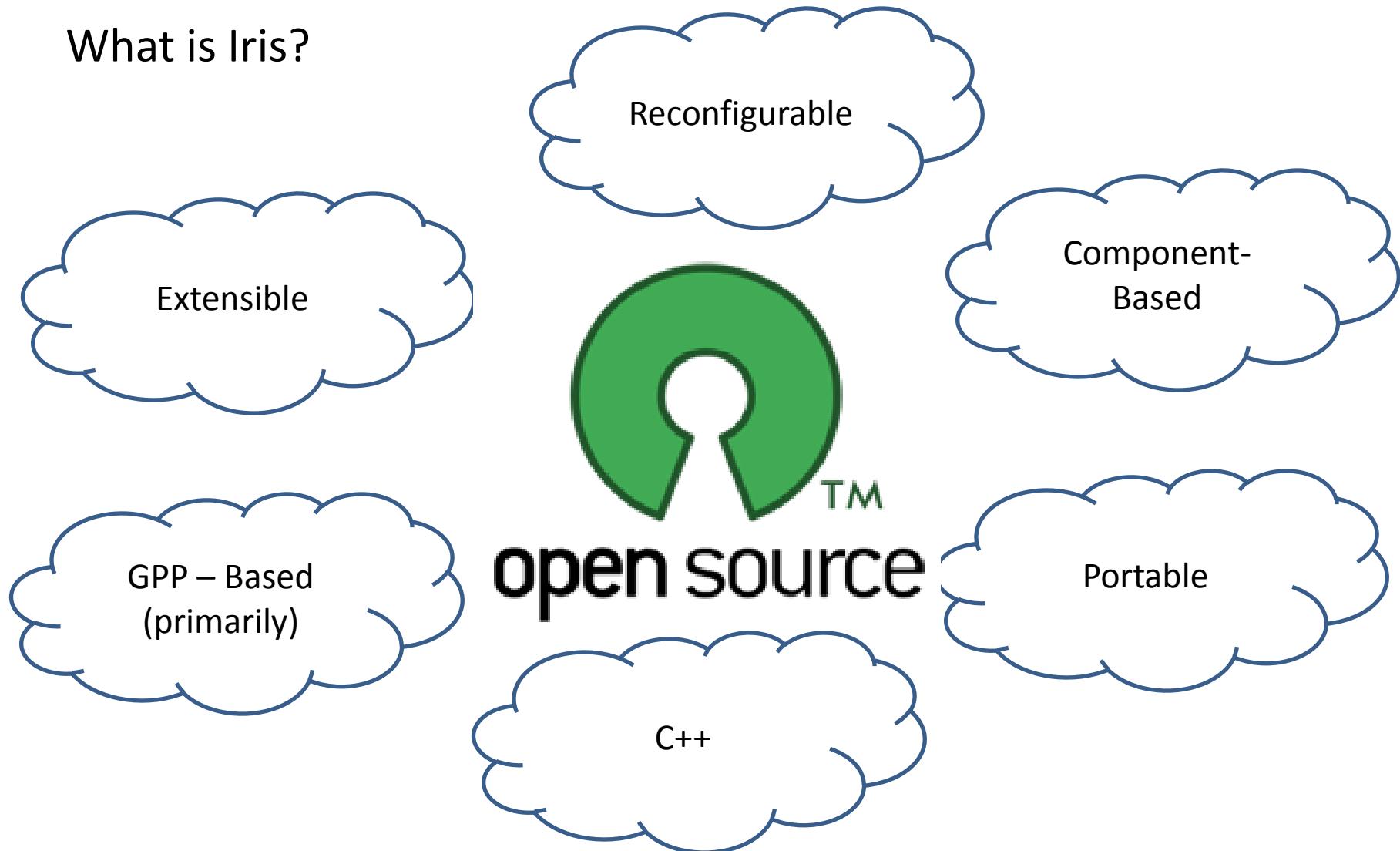
A Software Radio  
Architecture

Portable

C++

# Iris Overview

## What is Iris?

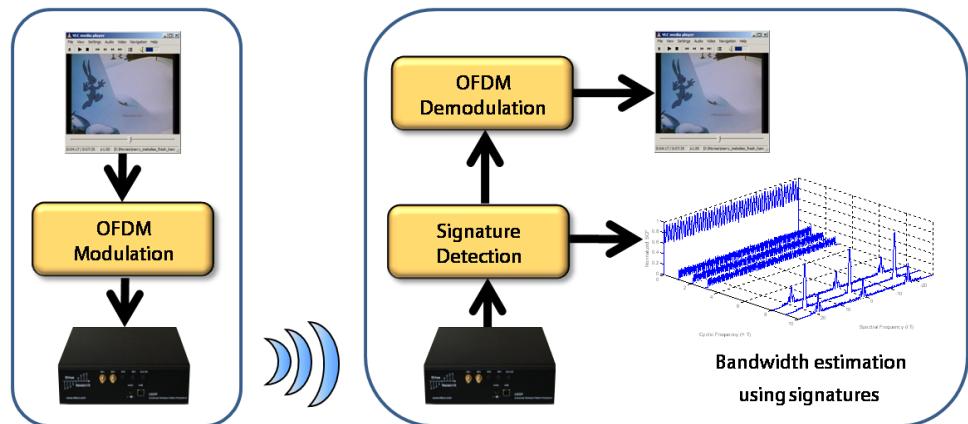


# Iris Overview

What can I do with Iris?

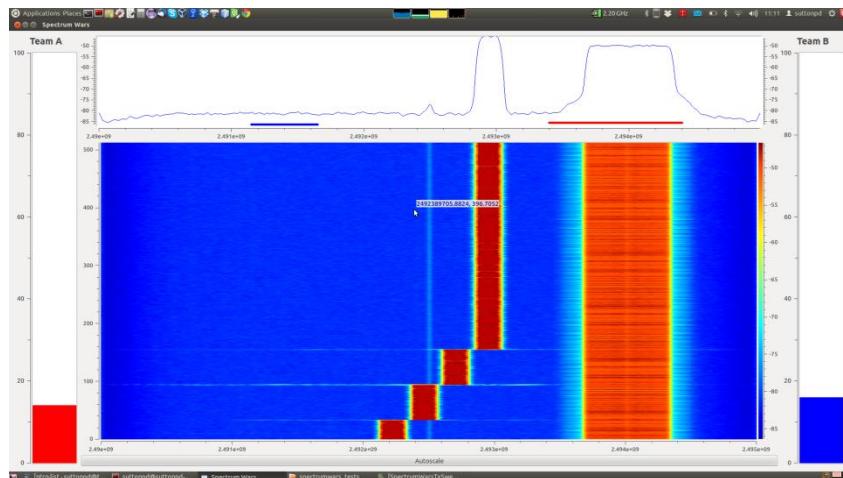
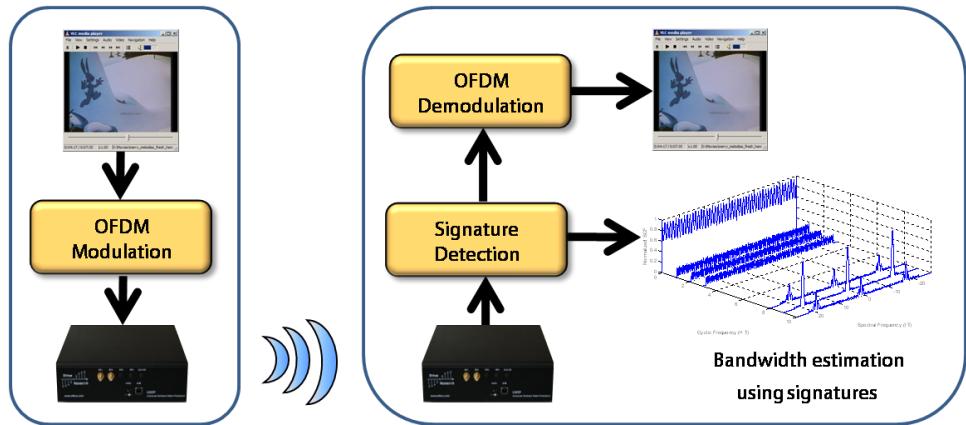
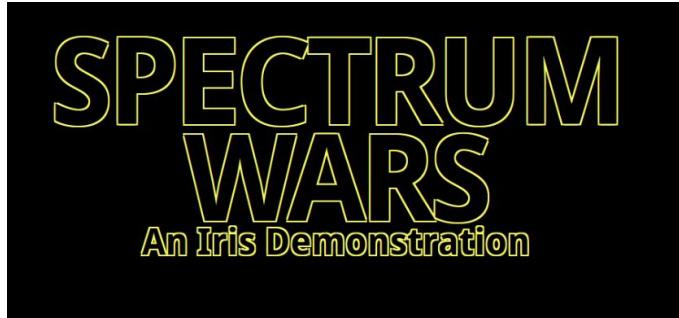
# Iris Overview

What can I do with Iris?



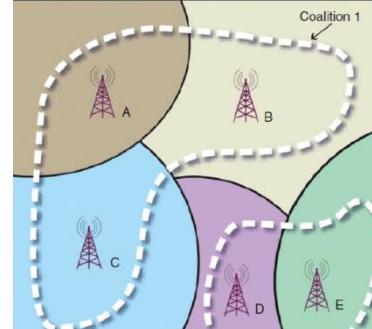
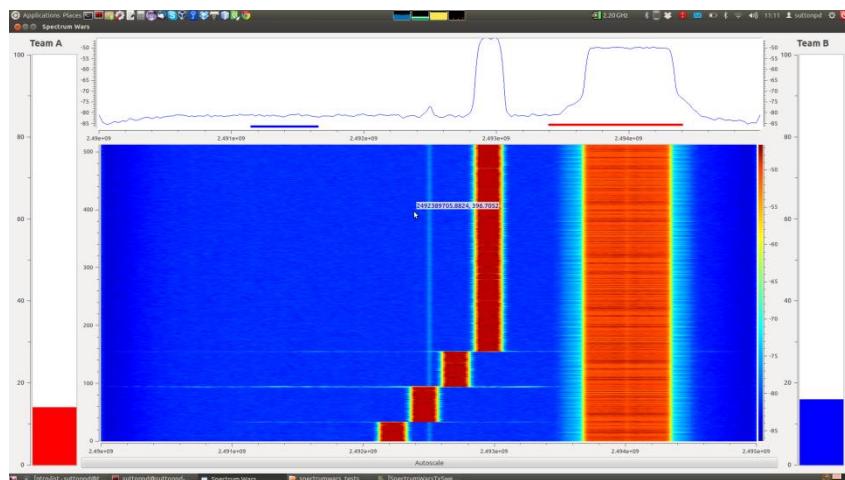
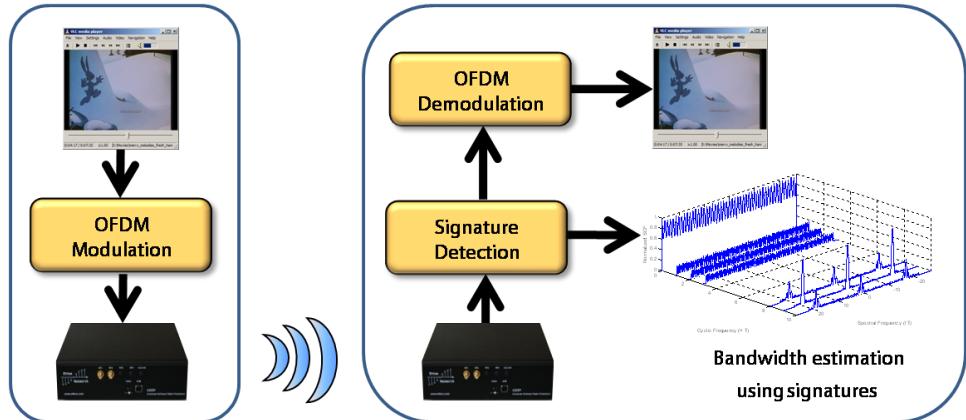
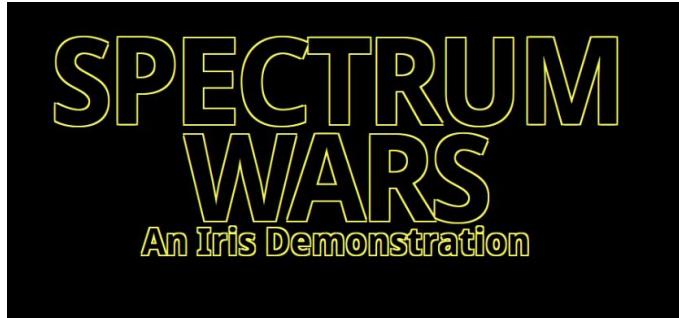
# Iris Overview

What can I do with Iris?



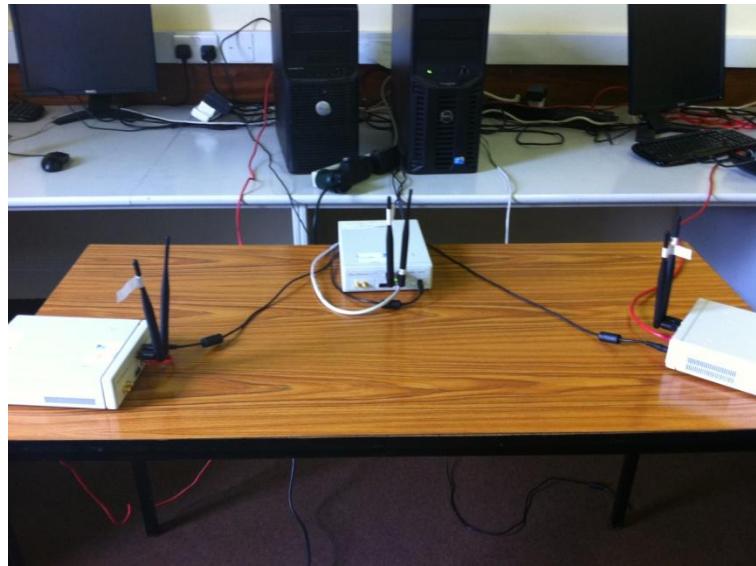
# Iris Overview

What can I do with Iris?



# Iris Overview

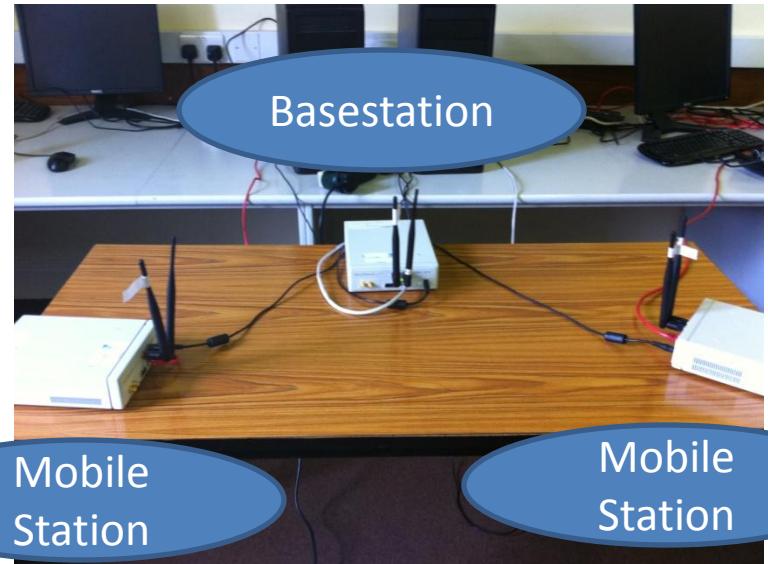
## What can I do with Iris?



- Jacek Kibilda
- COST Short-Term Scientific Mission
- 2 weeks (no prior knowledge of Iris)
- DSA demo (primary user avoidance)

# Iris Overview

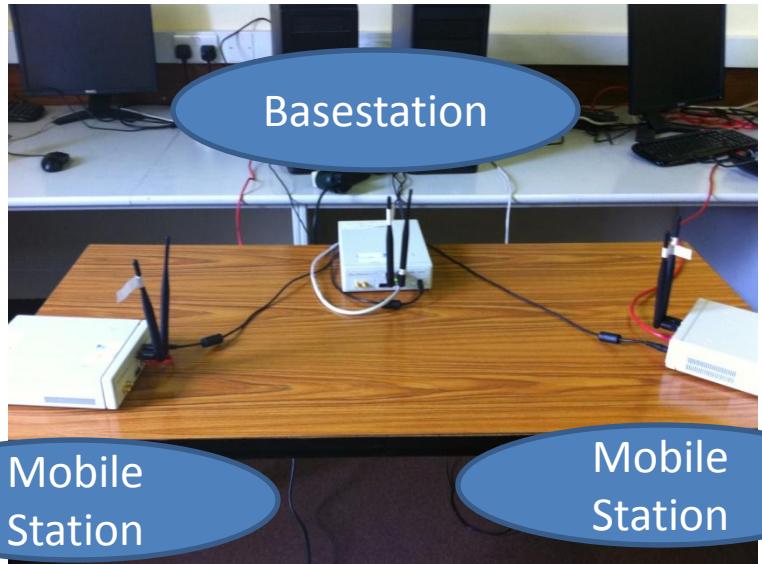
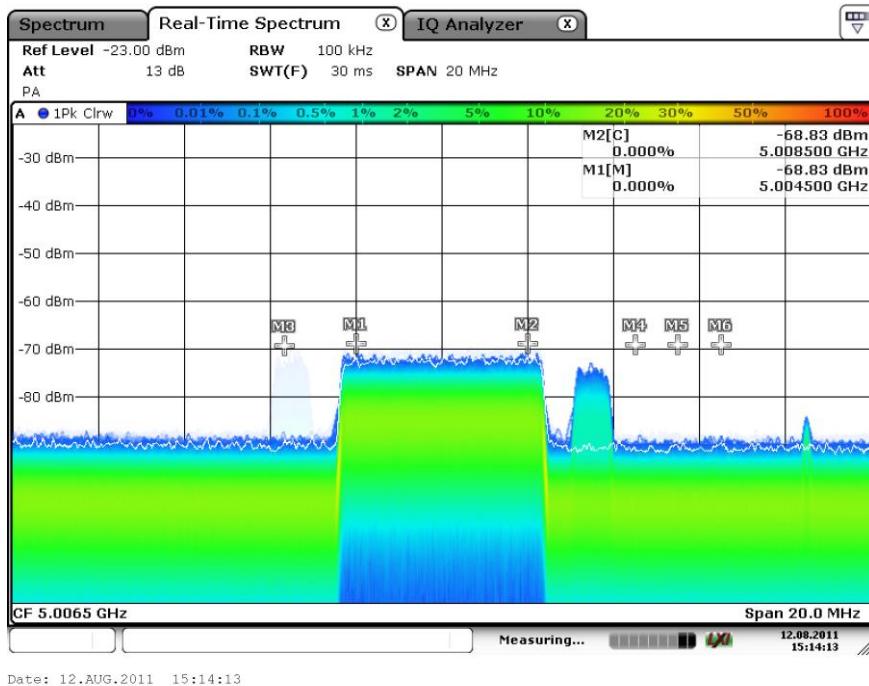
## What can I do with Iris?



- Jacek Kibilda
- COST Short-Term Scientific Mission
- 2 weeks (no prior knowledge of Iris)
- DSA demo (primary user avoidance)

# Iris Overview

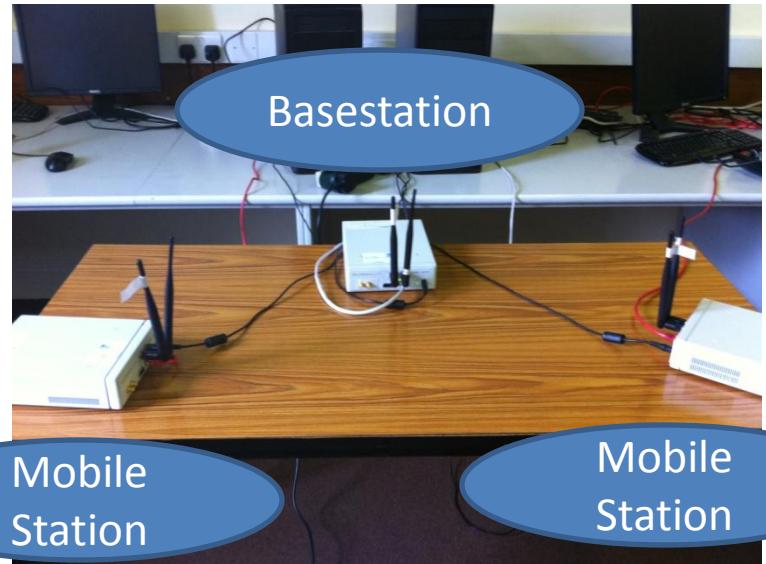
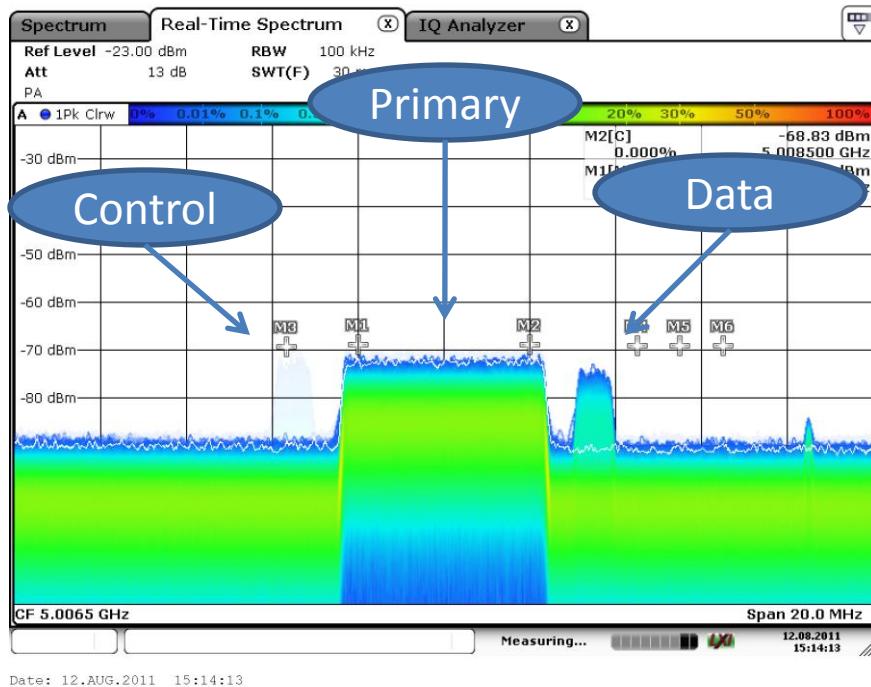
## What can I do with Iris?



- Jacek Kibilda
- COST Short-Term Scientific Mission
- 2 weeks (no prior knowledge of Iris)
- DSA demo (primary user avoidance)

# Iris Overview

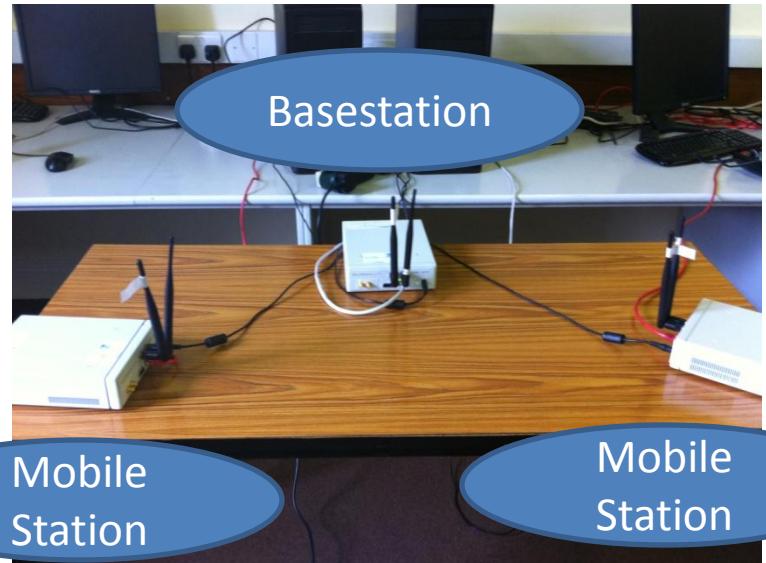
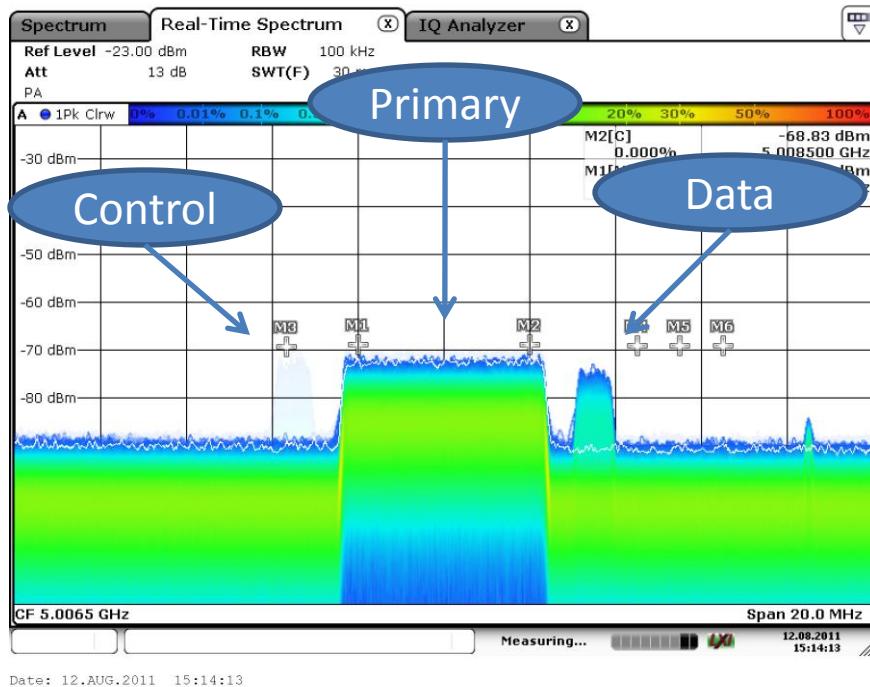
## What can I do with Iris?



- Jacek Kibilda
- COST Short-Term Scientific Mission
- 2 weeks (no prior knowledge of Iris)
- DSA demo (primary user avoidance)

# Iris Overview

## What can I do with Iris?



- Jacek Kibilda
- COST Short-Term Scientific Mission
- 2 weeks (no prior knowledge of Iris)
- DSA demo (primary user avoidance)

<http://ledoyle.wordpress.com/2011/08/14/speedy-creation-of-a-cognitive-radio-demo/>



## The Basics...

- A GPP-based software radio architecture
  - Fundamental block is the **component**



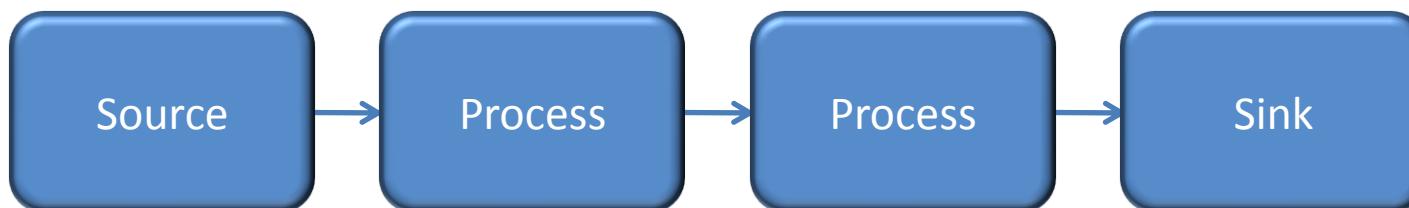
## The Basics...

- A GPP-based software radio architecture
  - Fundamental block is the **component**
- Most basic configuration :
  - A source component
  - A sink component
  - Some processing components



## The Basics...

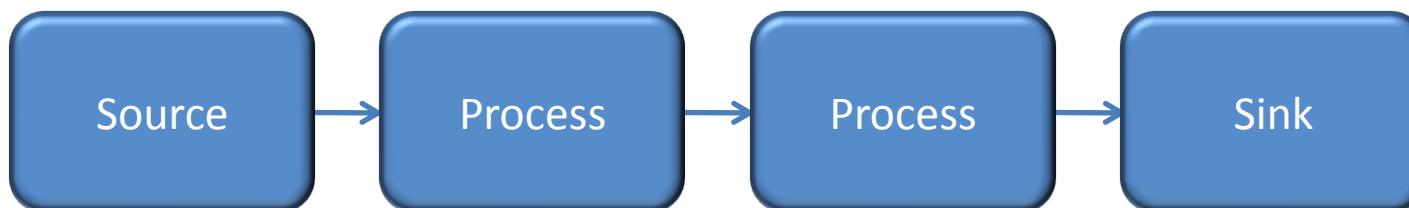
- A GPP-based software radio architecture
  - Fundamental block is the **component**
- Most basic configuration :
  - A source component
  - A sink component
  - Some processing components





## The Basics...

- A GPP-based software radio architecture
  - Fundamental block is the **component**
- Most basic configuration :
  - A source component
  - A sink component
  - Some processing components



- XML document describes radio structure

# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```



# Iris Architecture - The Basics



```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />

</softwareradio>
```

# Iris Architecture - The Basics



```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```

# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">  
  
    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">  
  
        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">  
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>  
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>  
        </component>  
  
        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">  
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>  
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>  
        </component>  
  
        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">  
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>  
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>  
        </component>  
  
        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">  
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>  
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>  
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>  
        </component>  
  
    </engine>  
  
    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />  
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />  
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```



# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```



# Iris Architecture - The Basics



```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```

# Iris Architecture - The Basics



```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```

# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```



# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />
```



# Iris Architecture - The Basics

```
<softwareradio name="Radio1">

    <engine name="phyengine1" class="phyengine">

        <component name="filerawreader1" class="filerawreader">
            <parameter name="filename" value="testdata.txt"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="ofdmmmod1" class="ofdmmmodulator">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="signalscaler1" class="signalscaler">
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
            <port name="output1" class="output"/>
        </component>

        <component name="usrptx1" class="usrptx">
            <parameter name="frequency" value="5010000000"/>
            <parameter name="rate" value="1000000"/>
            <port name="input1" class="input"/>
        </component>

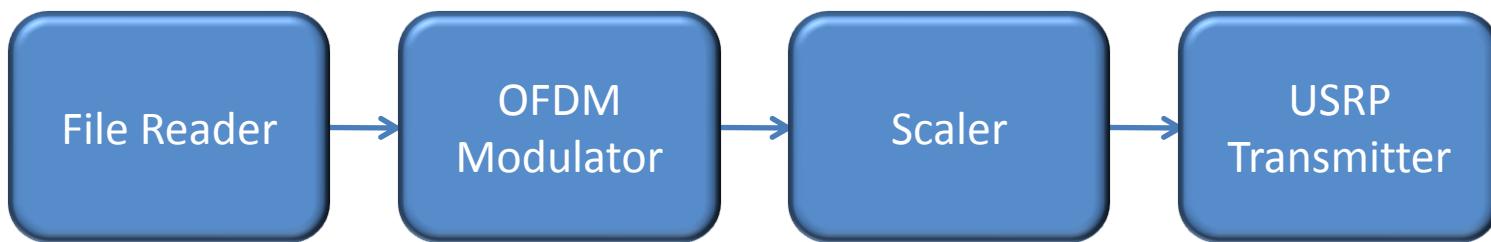
    </engine>

    <link source="filerawreader1.output1" sink="ofdmmmod1.input1" />
    <link source="ofdmmmod1.output1" sink="signalscaler1.input1" />
    <link source="signalscaler1.output1" sink="usrptx1.input1" />

```



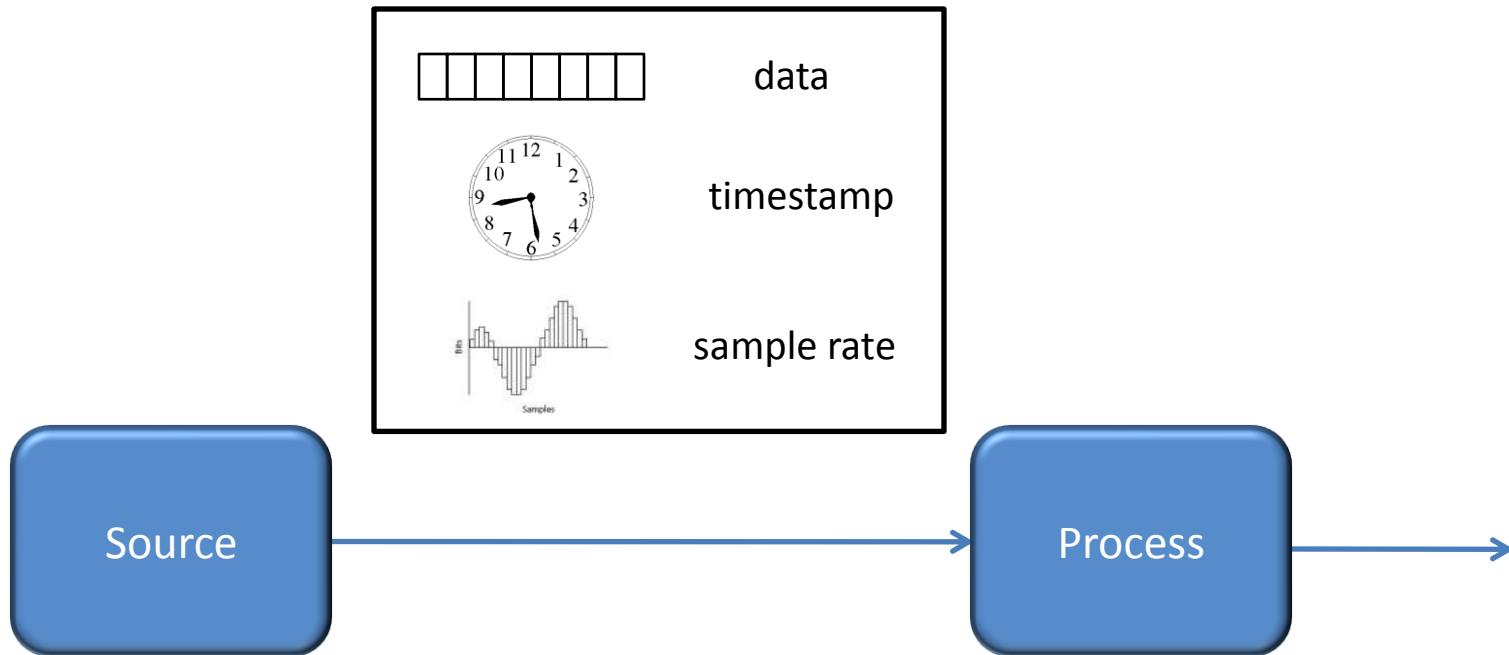
# Iris Architecture - The Basics



# Iris Architecture - The Basics



# Iris Architecture - The Basics

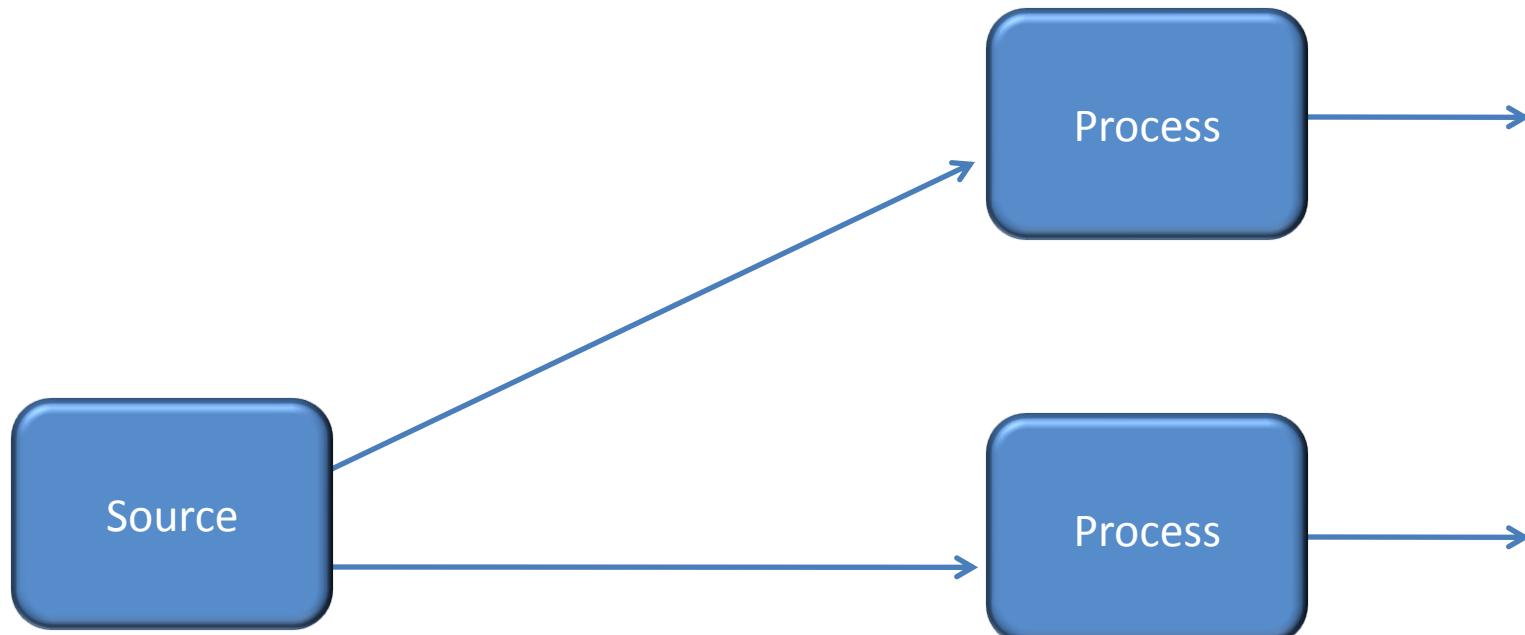


- Data is passed between components in blocks – a **DataSet**
- Vector of data samples
- Metadata – e.g. timestamp, sample rate

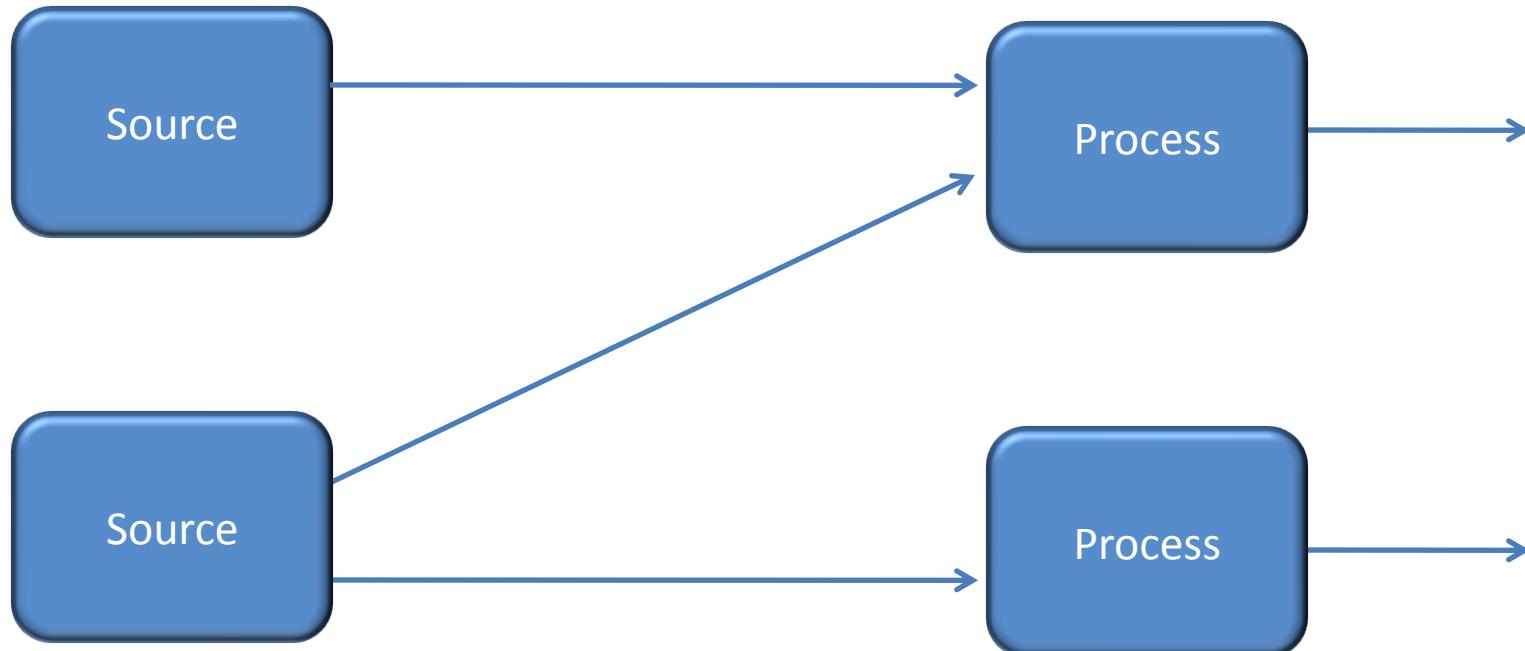
# Iris Architecture - The Basics



# Iris Architecture - The Basics



# Iris Architecture - The Basics



## Engines



## Engines

- An *engine*
  - The environment within which one or more components operates
  - Defines its own data-flow mechanism
  - Defines its own reconfiguration mechanisms
  - Runs one or more of its own threads
  - Provides a clean interface for the Iris system



## Engines

- An *engine*
  - The environment within which one or more components operates
  - Defines its own data-flow mechanism
  - Defines its own reconfiguration mechanisms
  - Runs one or more of its own threads
  - Provides a clean interface for the Iris system



Executes a section of the flow graph

Completely up to the engine how  
that's done



# Iris Architecture - Engines

- Two engine types:
  - PHY Engine
  - Stack Engine



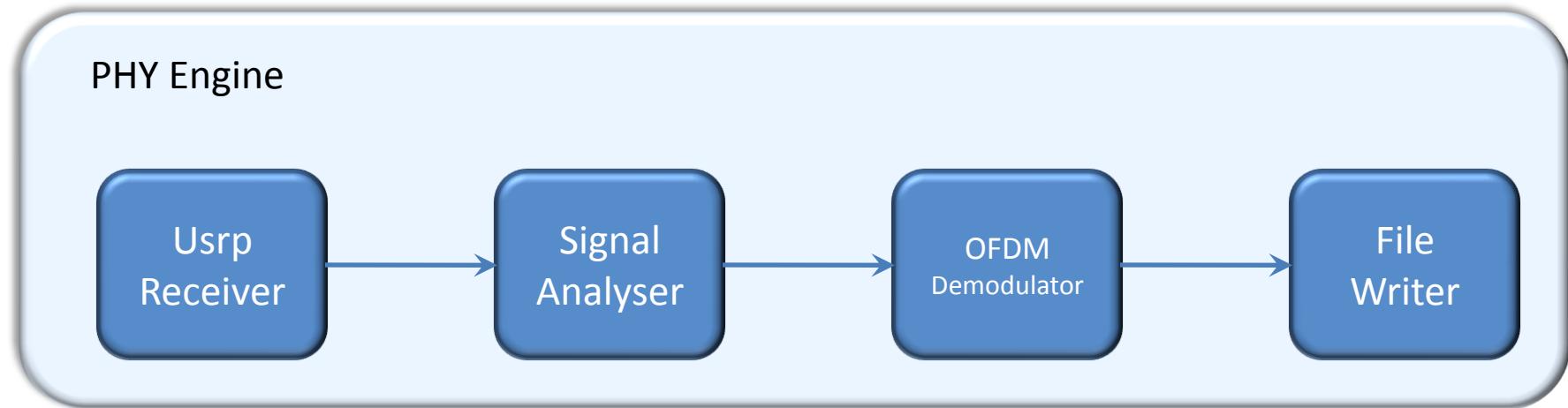
# Iris Architecture - Engines



- **PHY Engine**

- Maximum flexibility
- One thread per engine
- Data-driven execution
- One or more components per engine
- Multiple component inputs / outputs
- Unidirectional data flow
- No fixed relationship between the inputs and outputs of a component
- Flexible blocksizes

# Iris Architecture - Engines

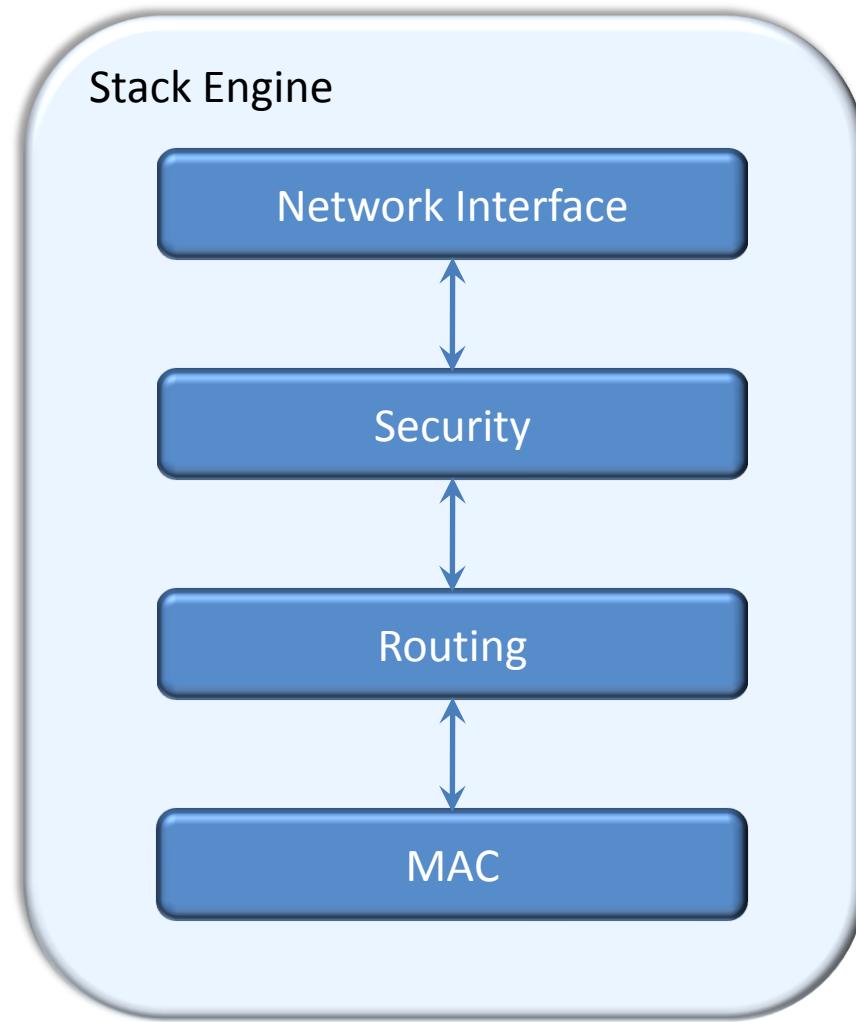


# Iris Architecture - Engines

- Stack Engine
  - Network stack architecture
  - Components are layers within the stack
  - Each component runs its own thread
  - Bidirectional data flow
  - Supports e.g. MAC layer implementations



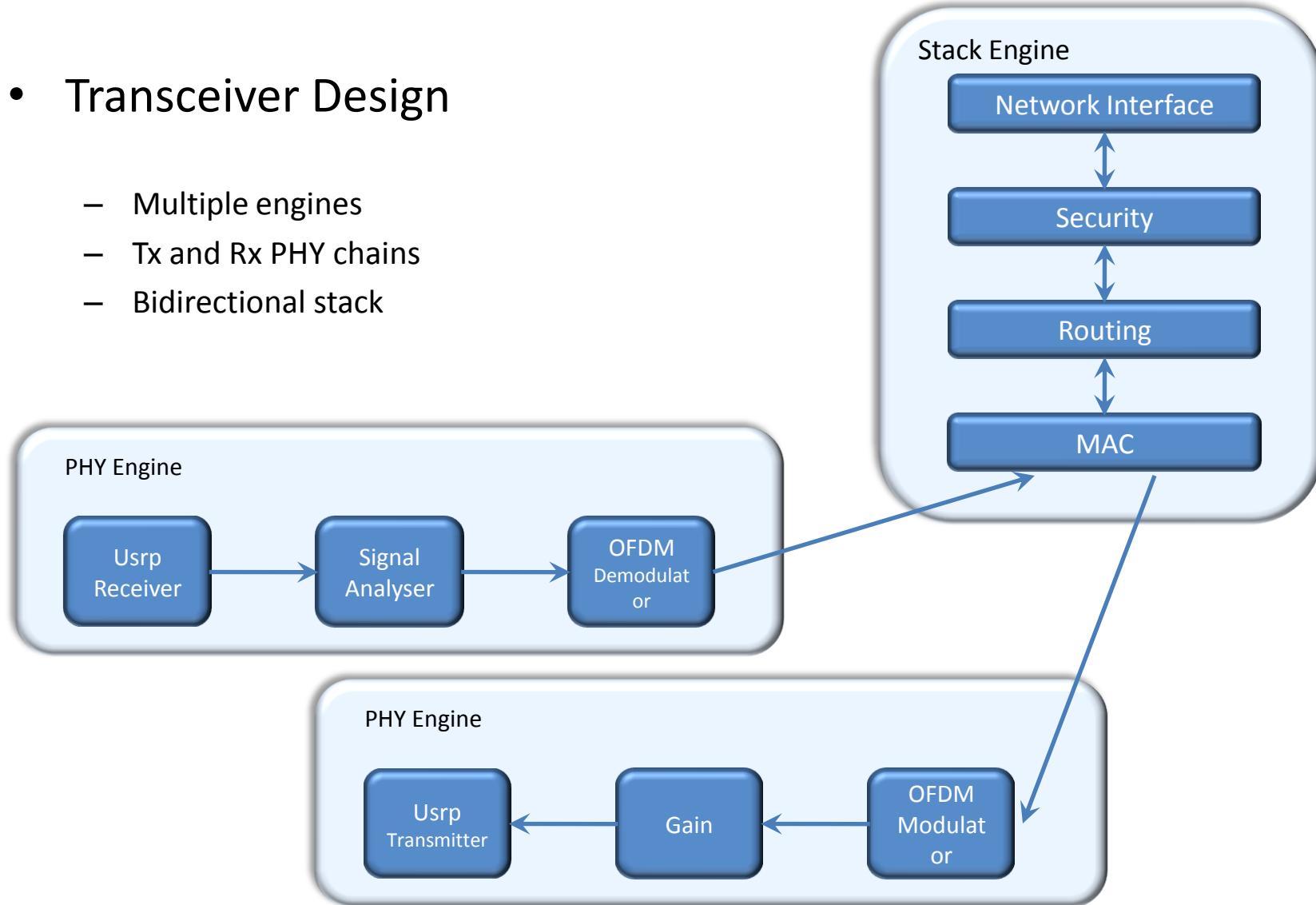
# Iris Architecture - Engines



# Iris Architecture - Engines

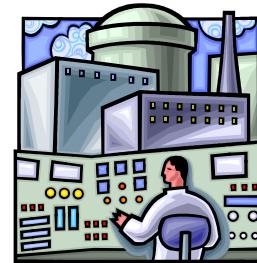
- Transceiver Design

- Multiple engines
- Tx and Rx PHY chains
- Bidirectional stack



# Controllers

- So far...
  - We can create a radio
  - and reconfigure it manually

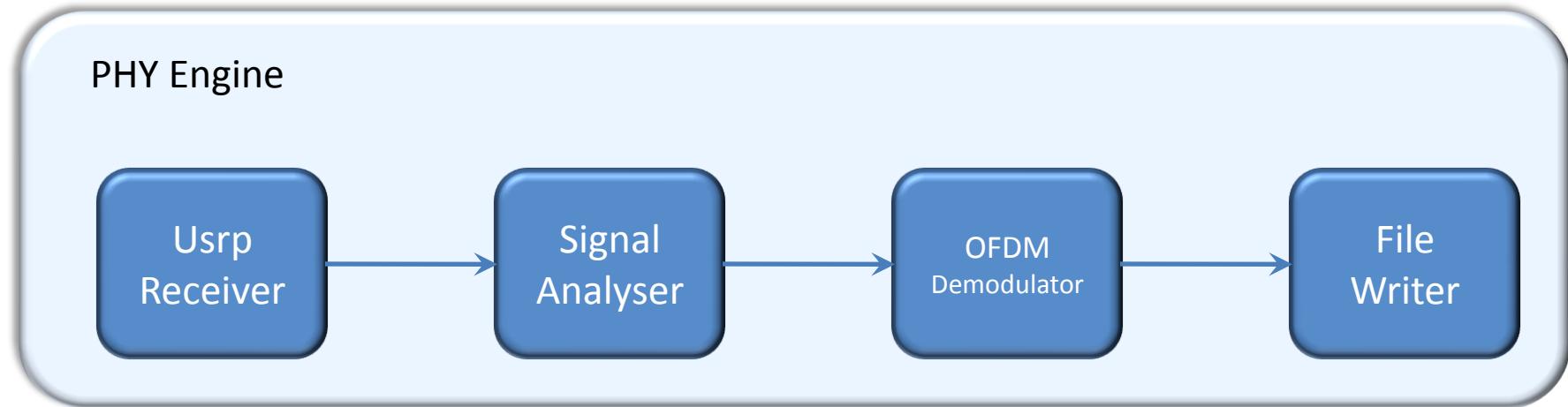
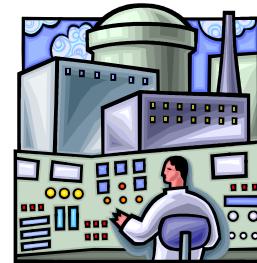


# Controllers

- So far...
  - We can create a radio
  - and reconfigure it manually
- How to reconfigure **dynamically**?

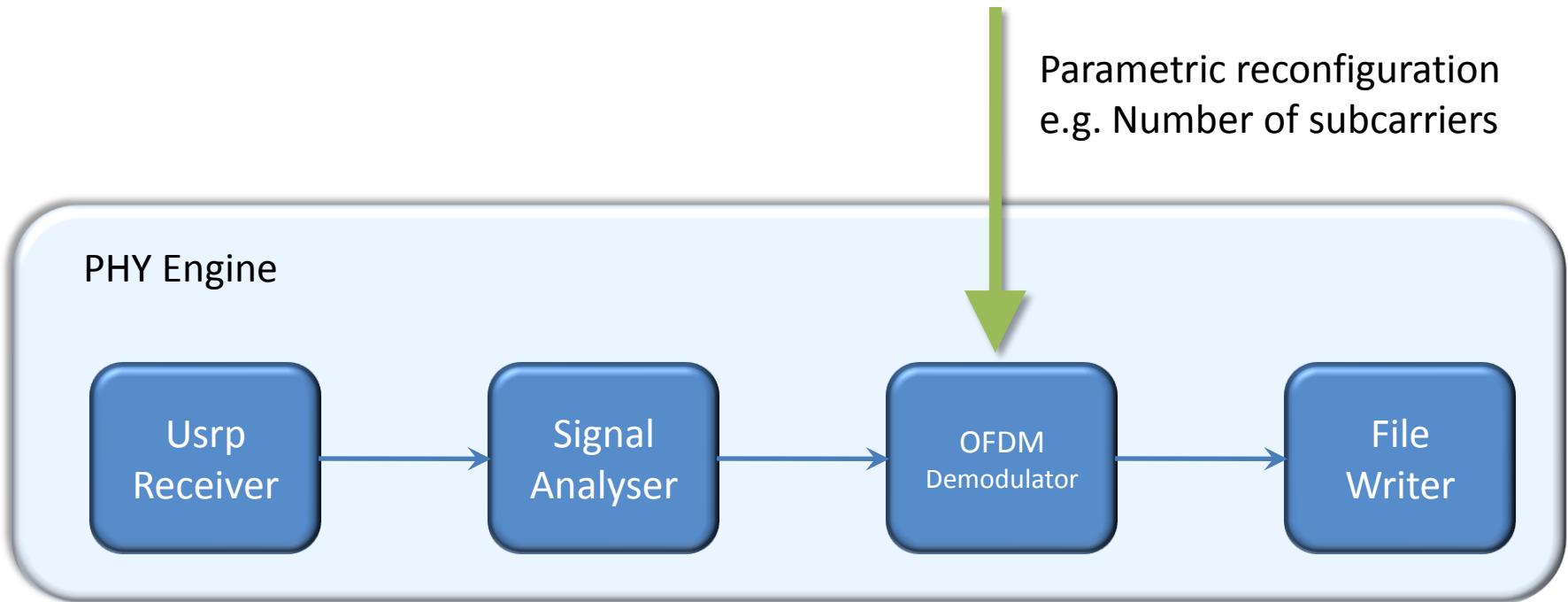


# Controllers



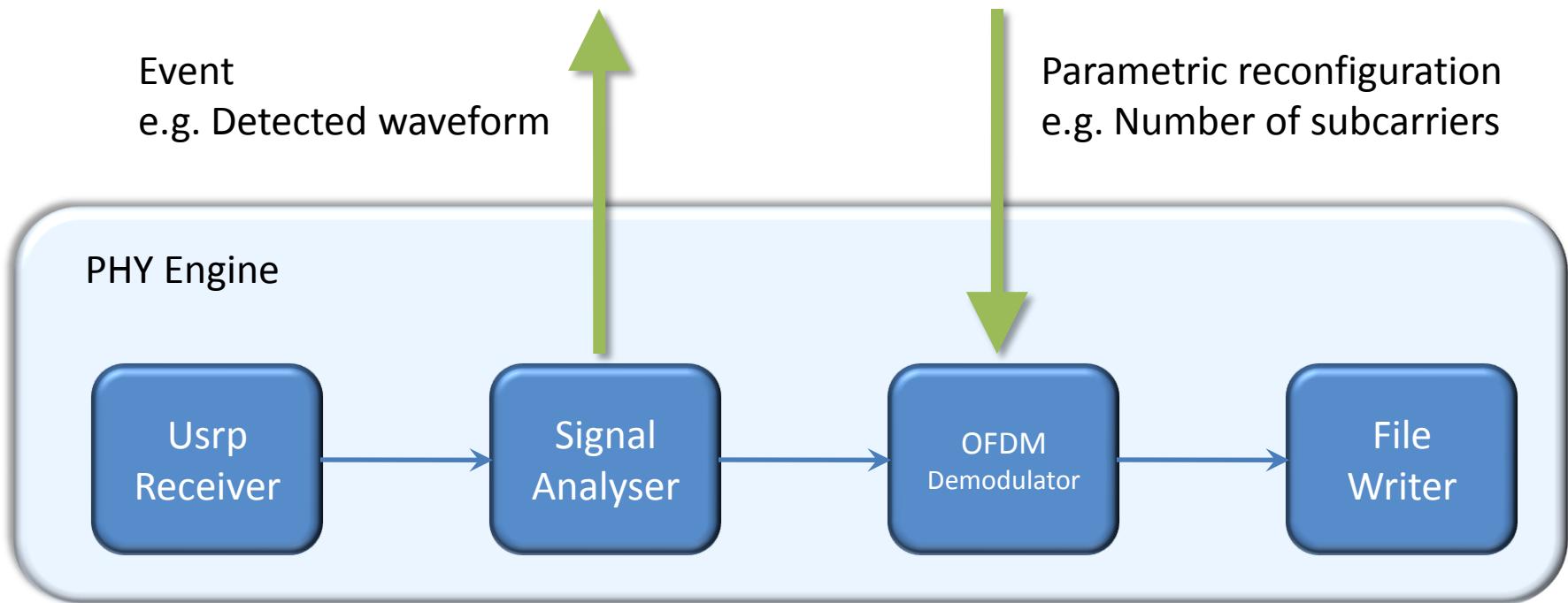
# Controllers

- Parameters

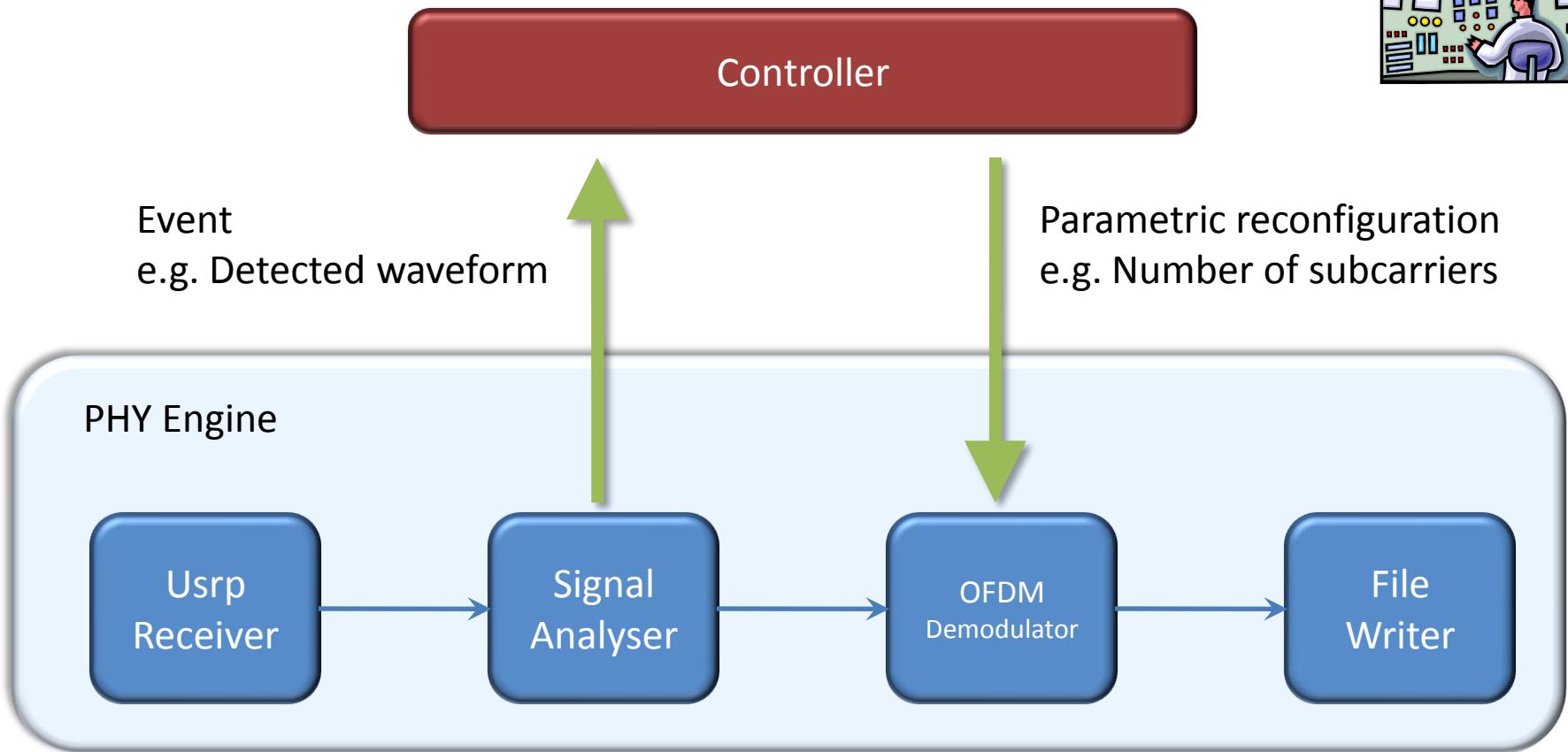


# Controllers

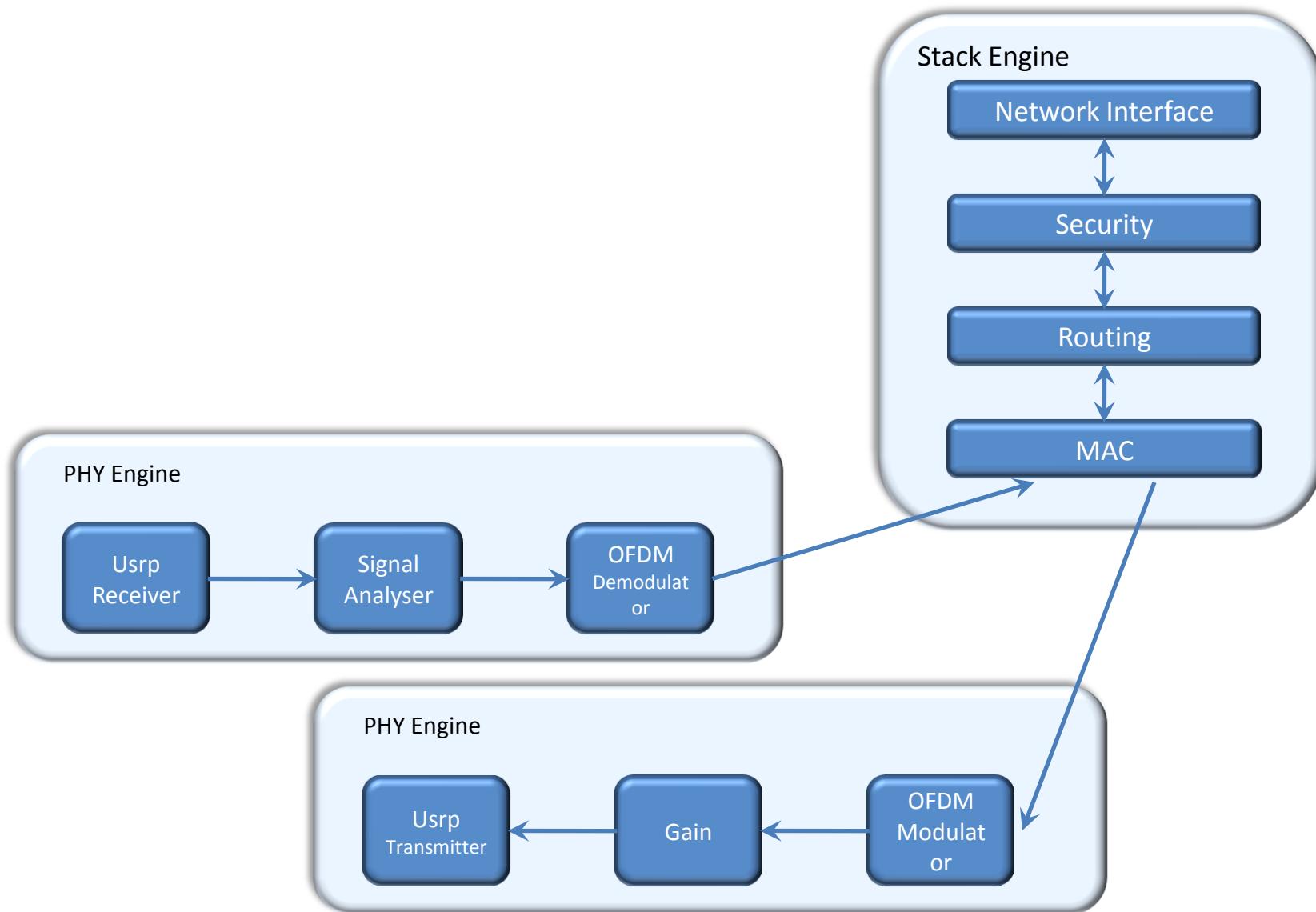
- Events



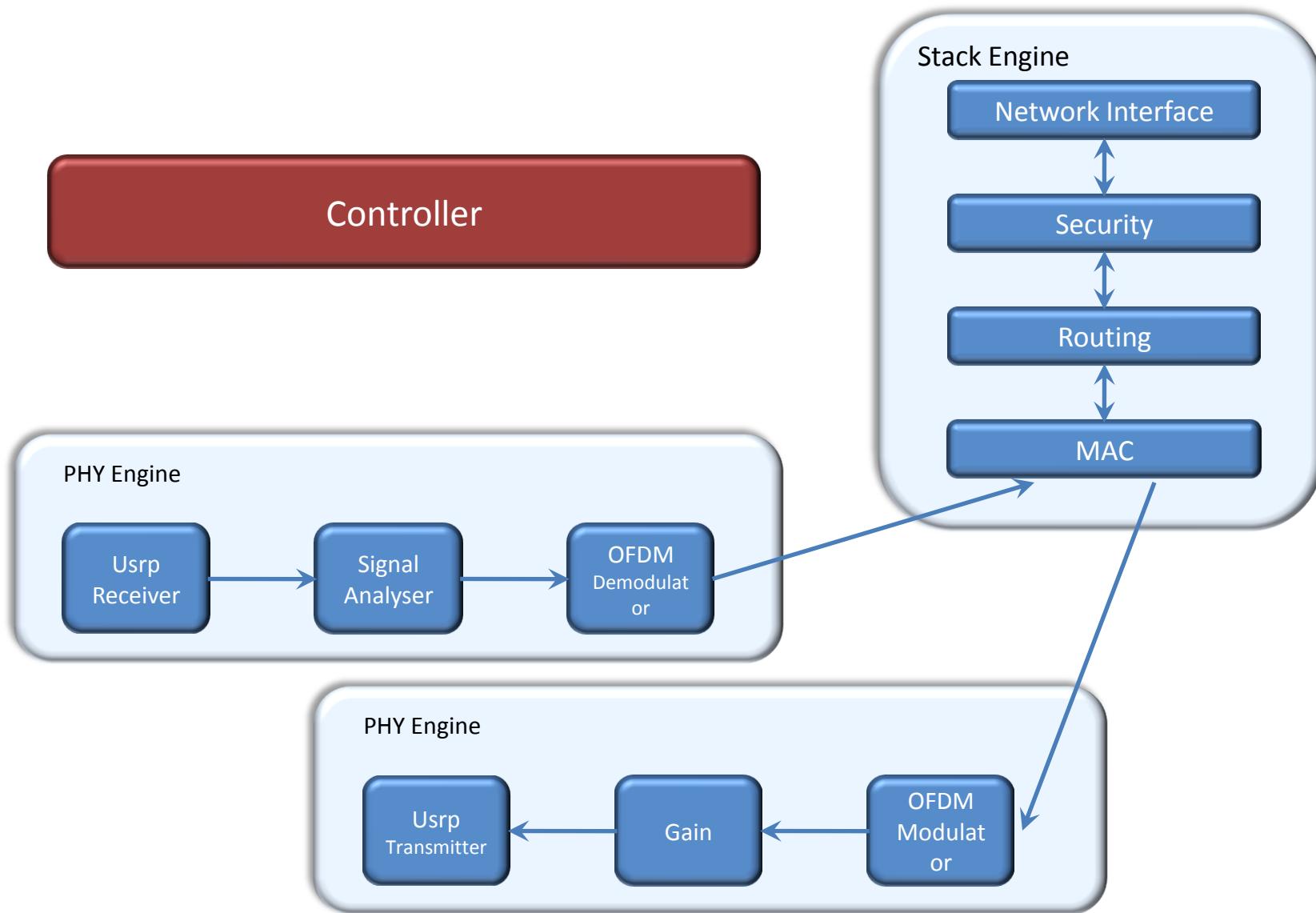
# Controllers



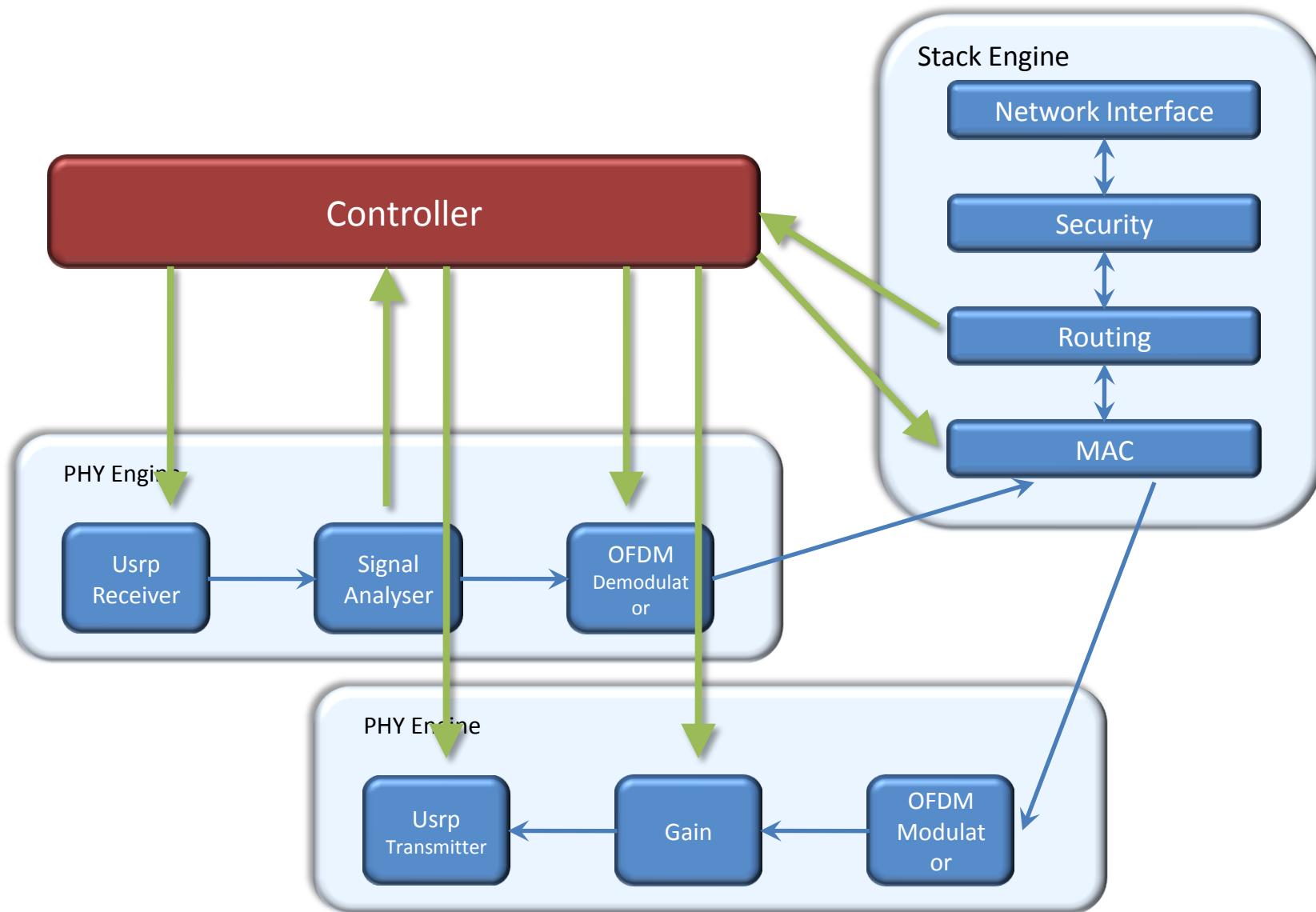
# Controllers



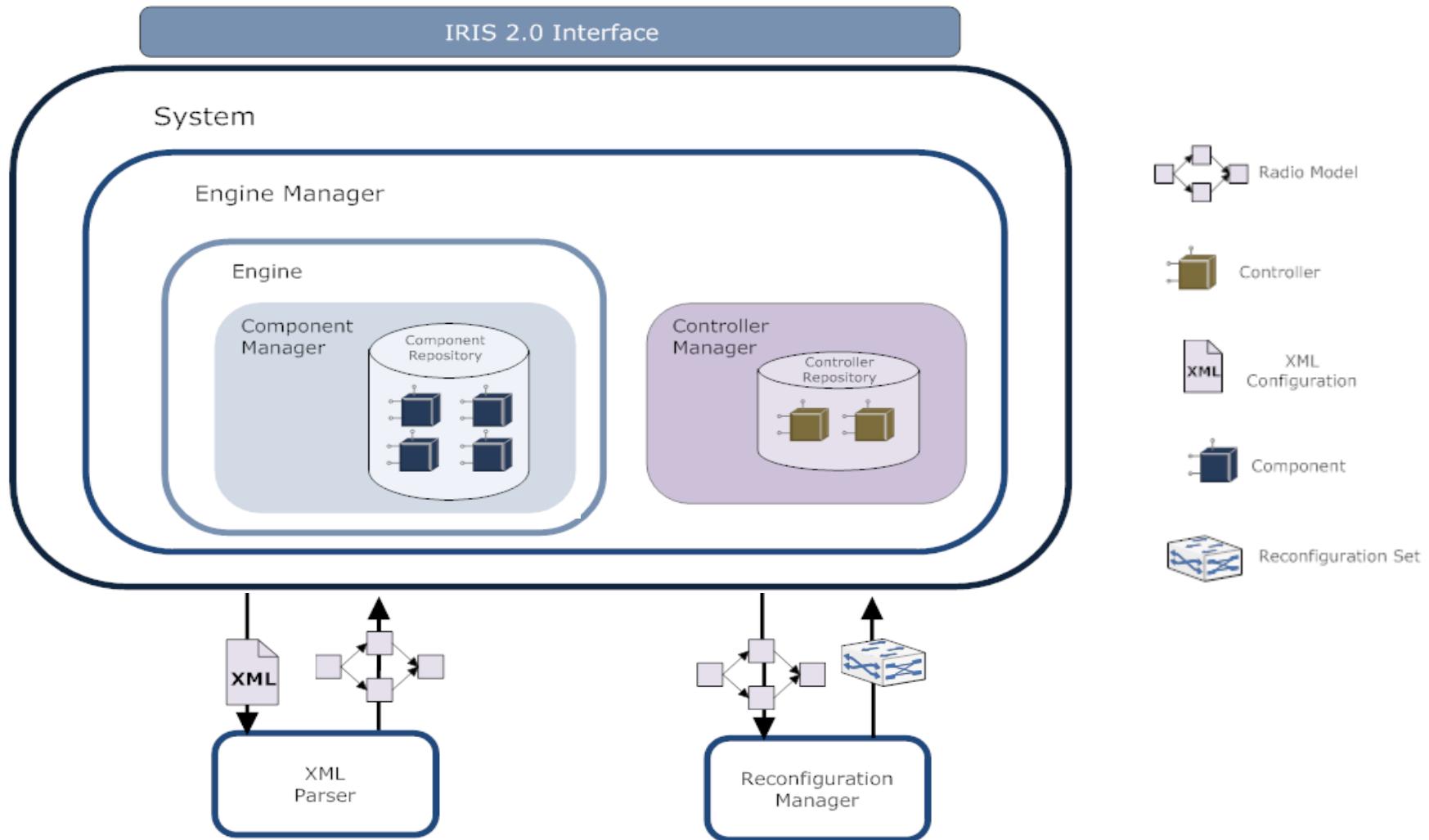
# Controllers



# Controllers

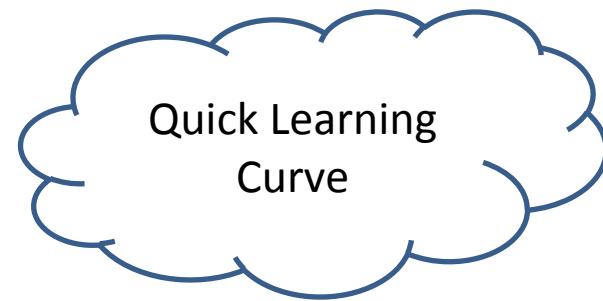


# Iris Architecture - Core

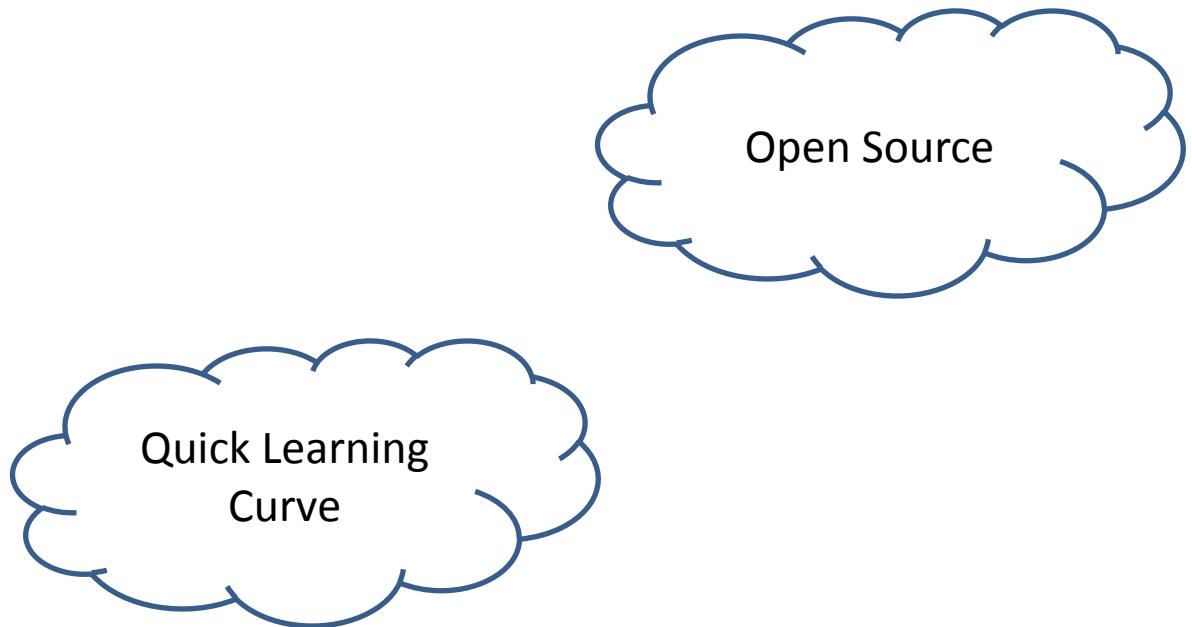


# Why use Iris?

# Why use Iris?



# Why use Iris?



# Why use Iris?

Easy to Contribute

Quick Learning Curve

Open Source

# Why use Iris?

Easy to Contribute

Quick Learning Curve

Open Source

Small Project

## Why use Iris?

Quickly  
Implement  
Complex Systems

Open Source

Quick Learning  
Curve

Easy to  
Contribute

Small Project

# Getting Started

- Code: <https://github.com/softwareradiosystems>
- Redmine: <http://www.softwareradiosystems.com/redmine/projects/iris>
- Mailing Lists: <http://www.softwareradiosystems.com/mailman/listinfo>
- Blog: <http://irissoftwareradio.wordpress.com/>

Try it out

<https://github.com/softwareradiosystems>

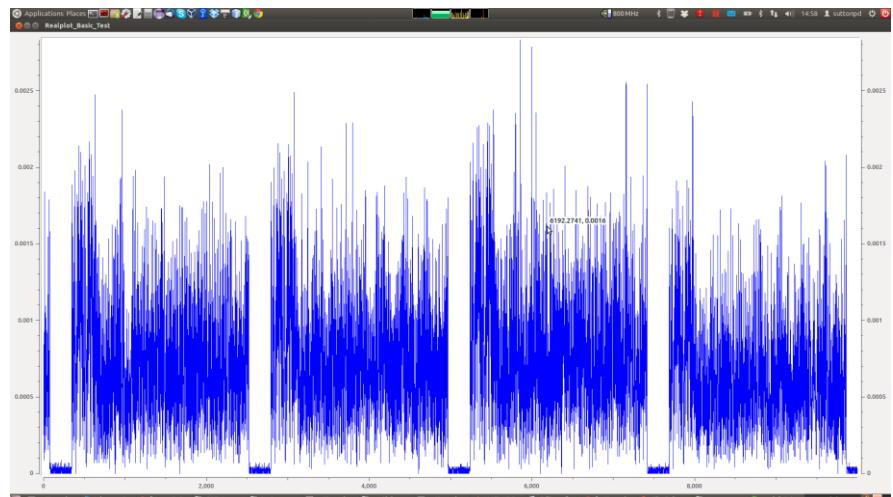
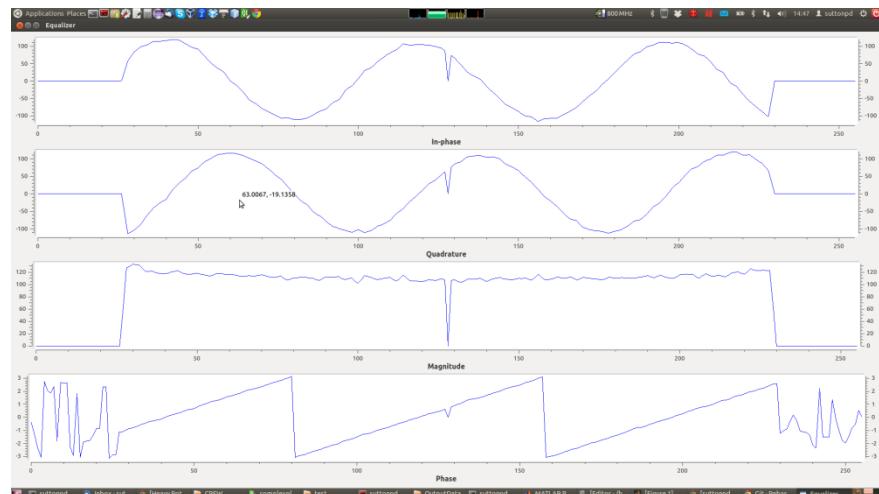
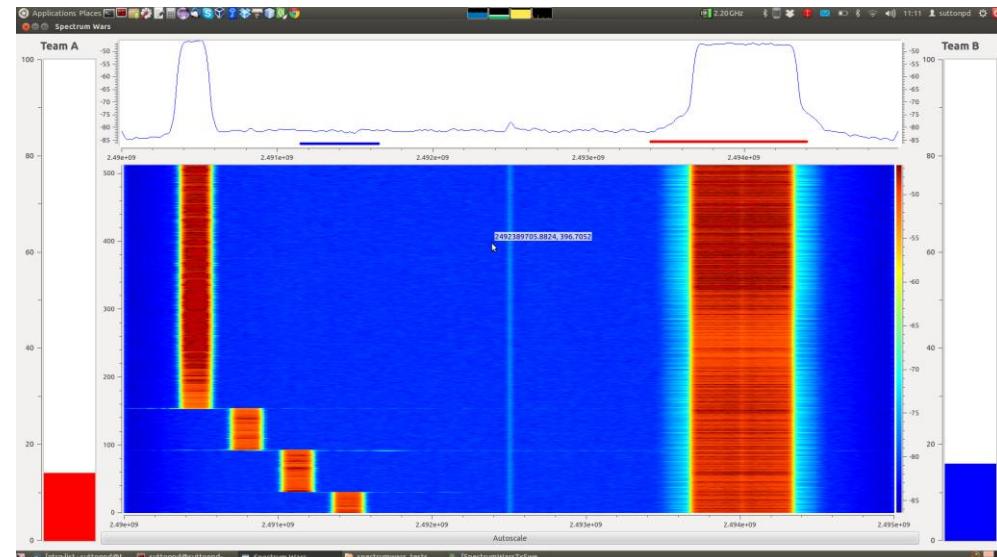
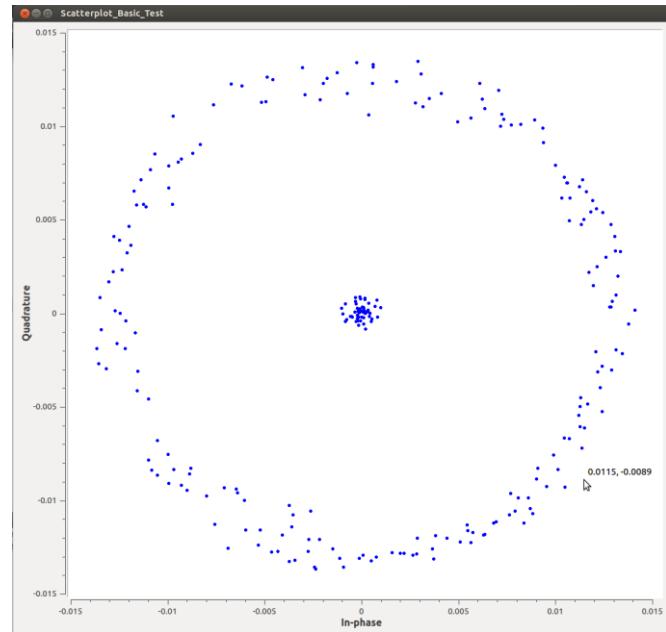
Thank you

[suttonpd@tcd.ie](mailto:suttonpd@tcd.ie)

[paul@softwareradiosystems.com](mailto:paul@softwareradiosystems.com)

# Additional Material

# Release 1.1.0



- Liquid-DSP Components

☰ README.md

---

# liquid-dsp

---

Software-Defined Radio Digital Signal Processing Library

liquid-dsp is a free and open-source digital signal processing (DSP) library designed specifically for software-defined radios on embedded platforms. The aim is to provide a lightweight DSP library that does not rely on a myriad of external dependencies or proprietary and otherwise cumbersome frameworks. All signal processing elements are designed to be flexible, scalable, and dynamic, including filters, filter design, oscillators, modems, synchronizers, and complex mathematical operations.