

Module Code	EEU33C11
Module Name	Sensors
ECTS Weighting¹	5 ECTS
Semester taught	Semester 2
Module Coordinator/s	Prof. Friedrich Wetterling
Module Learning Outcomes with reference to the Graduate Attributes and how they are developed in discipline	<p>On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <p>LO 1: Apply the fundamentals of quasi-static electromagnetic field theory to the design of active and passive sensors including simulation and visualisation of electric and magnetic fields</p> <p>LO 2: Apply frequency domain characterisation methods to sensors</p> <p>LO 3: Specify requirements for sensor signal conditioning with respect to power resourcing, amplification, A/D conversion and filtering</p> <p>LO 4: Develop, specify, and critically review calibration and test methods for active and passive sensors</p> <p>LO 5: Critically evaluate aspects of sensor designs related to security, privacy, and society and select applicable design standards</p> <p>Graduate Attributes: levels of attainment</p> <p>To act responsibly - Enhanced</p> <p>To think independently - Enhanced</p> <p>To develop continuously - Enhanced</p> <p>To communicate effectively - Enhanced</p>
Module Content	<p>This module introduces sensor techniques and the signal conditioning electronics required to obtain useful information from sensors in both analogue and digital form.</p> <p>The module is particularly focussed on the use of sensors in practice in the MHz to GHz frequency range. Students obtain an understanding of sensor principles, capabilities and limitations.</p> <p>Objectives:</p>

¹ [TEP Glossary](#)

- Understand the operation and limitations of various sensors/transducers system, and design suitable circuits to convert the analogue electric signals to digital data.
- Apply signal processing and calibration methods that relate the sensor data to useful information.
- Test the accuracy and precision of the sensor information in reference to gold standard measurements.
- Synchronise multiple measurements in time and apply signal processing techniques to the data.

Syllabus

1. Introduction to sensors
 - a. sensor classification (passive / active, absolute / relative, changing quantity)
 - b. sensing principle (biological, chemical, electromagnetic, heat/temperature etc)
 - c. sensor metrics: linearity, noise, sensitivity, accuracy, resolution
 - d. Examples: pressure sensor, light-based sensors, temperature sensors, magnetic field sensor
2. Electronic circuits and electromagnetism for sensors
 - a. Resistors, Capacitors and Inductors
 - b. Numerical modelling of magnetic fields created by electric circuits using Matlab
 - c. Sensor characterisation using frequency response and transfer functions
 - d. Example: the LC resonator and emerging sensors (MEMS, wearables etc)
3. Safety aspects for sensors
 - a. Specific Absorption Rate (SAR)
 - b. Electrical Safety
 - c. Magnetic Safety
 - d. Example: Sensors for Magnetic Resonance Imaging
4. Power Supply

- a. Low power design
 - b. Energy harvesting
 - c. Digital to Analogue Conversion
 - d. radiofrequency transducers used for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and piezo-electric transducers used for ultrasound
5. Signal Conditioning and filtering
- a. Need for Amplification, Filtering, Linearisation
 - b. Converting resistance change to voltage / current changes
 - c. Instrumentation amplifier, Schmitt trigger, Phased Locked Loop
 - d. low-pass, bandpass, high pass-filtering
 - e. Example: MEMS sensor signal conditioning chain
6. Sensor design
- a. Edge processing versus centralised processing
 - b. Calibration
 - c. Gold standard reference
 - d. Medical Device standard - ISO 13485
 - e. Medical Device Software standard - IEC 62304
 - f. Testing, validation, and verification
7. Security, Privacy and Society
- a. Who owns the data?
 - b. Implications for privacy, surveillance, AI considerations
 - c. Sensors for the environment

Sustainable Development Goals Addressed

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

- No Poverty
- Zero Hunger
- Good Health and Well-Being
- Quality Education
- Gender Equality
- Clean Water and Sanitation
- Affordable and Clean Energy
- Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Responsible Consumption and Production
- Climate Action
- Life Below Water
- Life On Land
- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Partnerships for the Goals

**UNESCO Sustainable
Development Key
Competencies Covered**
[UNESCO Competencies
Explained](#)

- Systems thinking
- Anticipatory
- Normative
- Strategic
- Collaboration
- Critical thinking
- Self-awareness
- Integrated problem-solving

**Pedagogical Approaches
Used**
[TCD Pedagogies](#)

- Critique
- Case base learning
- Experiential/ Practice based learning
- Problem based learning
- Project based learning
- Team based learning
- Fieldwork

**Teaching and Learning
Methods**

This module will be taught via lectures and a laboratory

Assessment Details²

Please include the following:

- **Assessment Component**
- **Assessment description**
- **Learning Outcome(s) addressed**
- **% of total**
- **Assessment due date**

Assessment Component	Assessment Description	LO Addressed	% of total	Week due
Exam	In-person Exam	LO1-5	70	End of Semester
Labs	Report	LO4	20	[TBD]
Continuous assessment	Homework	LO1-3	10	

Reassessment Requirements

In-person Exam (70 %), Lab report (20%), and Homework (10%)

Contact Hours and Indicative Student Workload²

Contact hours: 30 hours
 Independent study (preparation for course and review of materials): 60 hours
 Independent study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment): 10 hours

Recommended Reading List

Dominik, Weishaupt; Victor D., Köchli; Brut, Marincek; "How does MRI work? An Introduction to the Physics and Function of Magnetic Resonance Imaging"

Griffith, David J.; "Introduction to electrodynamics"

Longren, Karl E.; Savov, Sava V.; Jost Randy J.; "Fundamentals of Electromagnetics with MATLAB, 2nd edition"

Mispelter, Jol; "NMR probeheads for biophysical and biomedical experiments: theoretical principles & practical guidelines"

Module Pre-requisite

EEU22E06 – Electronics or equivalent
 PYU11E04 – Introduction to Electricity and Magnetism or equivalent

Module Co-requisite

None

Module Website	Blackboard
Are other Schools/Departments involved in the delivery of this module? If yes, please provide details.	No.
Module Approval Date	
Approved by	
Academic Start Year	Semester 2 2024/25
Academic Year of Date	2024/25