# Problem and Users Lightning Talk

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## **Project Overview**

- Design a microcontroller with radio communication capabilities
- Open-source
- Can be fabricated
- Will be used by ISU ChipForge group
- Designed using the Caravel platform from Efabless
- Inspired by the TI CC1352P (block diagram shown to the right)

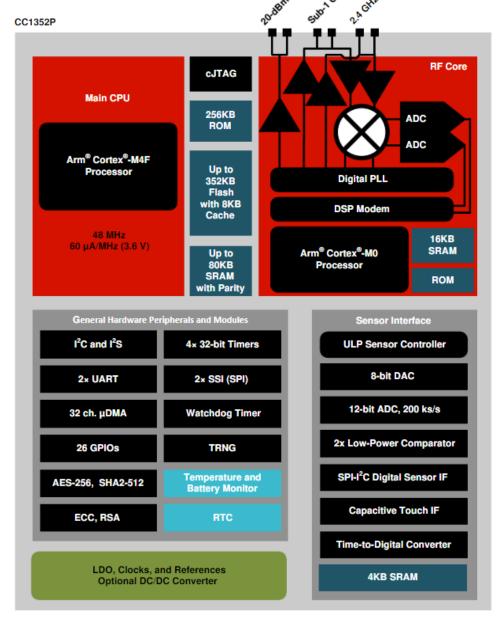


Figure 4-1. CC1352P Block Diagram

#### **Problem Statement**

Create an open-source microcontroller with an integrated radio that can be used in a wide variety of applications tailored to a user's specific needs. It should interface with various devices both with physical connections and wirelessly. The end goal is to create a design that can be fabricated.

### Users



- Primary Users
  - Students in ISU ChipForge co-curricular
  - ISU student researchers (grad or undergrad)
  - Lab instructors
- Secondary Users
  - Hobbyists interested in open-source radio MCU
  - Open-source project leads and developers



MCU: Microcontroller Unit

ISU Image Source: https://www.brandmarketing.iastate.edu/wordmark/primary/

### **User Needs**

- Radio MCU that can be used for testing and research
- Adequate documentation for easy development and use
- Ability to integrate the MCU with wired and wireless devices
- Project to be entirely open-source
- Ease of programming and debugging
- Design that can be fabricated





### Conclusions

- Need to consider user experience level (especially for undergrads)
- We need to provide excellent documentation
- Project needs to function for the Efabless process for it to serve as a research tool

