Constructing and Verifying Cyber Physical Systems
Mixed Criticality Scheduling and Real-Time Operating Systems

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Overview

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Overview

Cyclic Executives

Real-Time Operating Systems

The Case for Virtualization

Scheduling Theory 101

Mixed Criticality

Real-Time Systems
Correctness not only depends on computed values, but also on their timeliness.
int main(void) {

    // initialization code
    while (true) {
        task1;
        wait_until(t_2);
        task2;
        wait_until(t_3);
        ...
    }

    cooperative scheduling:
    • tasks finish voluntarily
    • errors or bugs in one task may jeopardize the entire system

}
Example: Arduino Scheduler

typedef void (*task_fn_t)(void);

struct Task {
    task_fn_t function;
    uint16_t interval_ticks;
    uint16_t max_time_micros;
};

Task _tasks[num_tasks];

/* Scheduler *===========
* run one tick; this will run as many scheduler tasks as we can in the specified time *
*/
void AP_Scheduler::run(uint16_t time_available) {
    uint32_t run_started_usec = hal.scheduler->micros();
    uint32_t now = run_started_usec;
    for (uint8_t i = 0; i < num_tasks; i++) {
        uint16_t dt = _tick_counter - _last_run[i];
        uint16_t interval_ticks = pgm_read_word(&_tasks[i].interval_ticks);
        if (dt >= interval_ticks) {
            // this task is due to run. Do we have enough time to run it?
            _task_time_allowed = pgm_read_word(&_tasks[i].max_time_micros);
            if (dt >= interval_ticks*2) {
                // we've slipped a whole run of this task!
                    ...
            }
        }
    }
    // work out how long the event actually took
    now = hal.scheduler->micros();
    uint32_t time_taken = now - _task_time_started;
    if (_task_time_allowed <= time_available) {
        // run it
        _task_time_started = now;
        task_fn_t func = (task_fn_t)pgm_read_pointer(&_tasks[i].function);
        current_task = i;
        func();
        current_task = -1;

        // record the tick counter when we ran. This drives
        // when we next run the event
        _last_run[i] = _tick_counter;
        if (time_taken > _task_time_allowed) {
            // the event overran!
                ...
        } else if (time_taken == time_available) {
            ...
        }
        time_available -= time_taken;
    }
}
Preemptive Scheduling

Priority

(time)

(user mode)

(kernel mode)

(scheduling overhead)

(time)

(minimal) interrelease time $T_i$

(relative deadline $D_i$)
Real-Time Operating Systems

Functionality

Thread / Task / Process: Abstraction for execution
(sometimes also for resources shared by thread)

Scheduling: When to run which task and for how long?

Mutexes / Semaphores: Protection of resource accesses

- Mutex: single thread may enter critical section
- Semaphore: initial count determines how much threads can enter
  (count > 0 => semaphore is free; count <= 0 => semaphore is blocked)

Timers: Used internally for scheduling
Timeouts (e.g., when accessing a device)
Microkernels

Functionality

Isolation

Message passing to overcome isolation boundaries

Address spaces

Inter Process Communication
**Context Switches**

```java
while (true) {
    task1();
    1: wait_until(t2);
    task2();
    2: wait_until(t3);
    ...
}
```

call task1 = push 1f jmp task1

- 1) find state save area of task 1
- 2) store user regs
- 3) find state save area for task 2
- 4) load user regs
- 5) switch address space
- 6) exit from kernel
Context Switches

page table: $f(v) \rightarrow p$

1) find state save area of task 1
2) store user regs
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Context Switches

1. find state save area of task 1
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page table: f(v) -> p

0x1f3dc dab

user kernel

hardware

OS Server
Driver

Microkernel

Hardware

Tasks

Task 1
Reg

Task 2
Reg

App

App

App

Driver

Microkernel

Hardware

0x1f3dc dab

page / translation table
base register
The Case for Virtualization

Extended functionality requires a certain amount of code

- more bugs (approx. 1 / 1000 LOC)
- less predictable timing
  - complexity
  - high-end CPUs to speed up mostly sequential execution
- but, complex applications are often less timing critical
- open issue: is this still true for vision, ...

Diagram:
- App
- App
- Linux
- VMM
- OS Server
- Driver
- Microkernel
- Hardware
- guest
- virtual machine monitor
- host
The Case for Virtualization

Virtualization in a nutshell

- make sure every interesting event (access to registers of virtualized devices, page faults at transparently shared page, …) exit the VM
- prevent guest from unauthorized access to resources

Guest

Guest virtual

Guest physical

Host

Host virtual

Host physical

Virtualization in a nutshell

- make sure every interesting event (access to registers of virtualized devices, page faults at transparently shared page, …) exit the VM
- prevent guest from unauthorized access to resources
Periodic Task Model: $\tau_i = (C_i, P_i, D_i)$

- Task characterized as sequence of jobs (possibly infinite)
- Worst-Case Execution Time (WCET) $C_i$ upper bound on job execution times
- Period $P_i$ subsequent jobs arrive exactly $P_i$ apart
- relative Deadline $D_i$
  - implicit $D_i = P_i$
  - constrained $D_i \leq P_i$
  - arbitrary (also $D_i > P_i$)
- Phase $\phi_i$

- release time $r_{i,j} = jP_i + \phi_i$
- absolute deadline $AD_{i,j} = r_{i,j} + D_i$

Sporadic Task Model: $\tau_i = (C_i, P_i, D_i)$

- Like periodic, except:
  - minimal interrelease time $P_i$
  - between the release of any two subsequent jobs, there is at least $P_i$ time.
Scheduling Theory 101

Scheduling

• Scheduling algorithm: decides when to run which job, where (on which resources, typically on which core), and for how long.

• Schedule is feasible for a set of tasks if:
  1) no job \( \tau_{i,j} \) executes before \( r_{i,j} \)
  2) all jobs receive at least \( C_i \) time in between \( r_{i,j} \) and \( r_{i,j} + D_i \)

• Scheduling algorithm is optimal (wrt. schedulability) if it finds a feasible schedule whenever there exists one.

(Classic) sporadic task model:
A set of sporadic tasks is schedulable if it is schedulable at the synchronous arrival sequence, that is, when the first job of all tasks arrives at the same time and when subsequent jobs are exactly \( P_i \) apart.

!!! Does not hold for mixed-criticality tasks !!!
Fixed Task Priority (Uniprocessor)

- assign priority to task and use the same priority for all jobs
  - simultaneous release produces worst schedule
  - critical instant

- e.g., Rate Monotonic Scheduling
  - assign priorities inverse proportional to $P_i$
  - if phase = 0, $D_i = P_i$ and jobs are independent (must not wait for others):
    - optimal if periods are harmonic (integer multiples)
    - optimal in the class of fixed task priority algorithms

- Liu Layland Criterion:
  - n periodic tasks are schedulable with RMS if
    \[
    \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{c_i}{P_i} \leq n \cdot (\sqrt{2} - 1) \approx 0.69 \quad \text{as } n \to \infty
    \]
Scheduling Theory 101

Fixed Job Priority (Uniprocessor)

• assign fixed priority to job (once it is released)
• don’t change priorities of running jobs
• e.g., Earliest Deadline First
  • job priority proportional to absolute deadline
  • optimal if jobs are independent, phase = 0

\[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{c_i}{p_i} \leq 1 \]

Optimal multiprocessor scheduling algorithms require jobs to change priorities and assigned processors (migrate) while they run.

(trivial extensions of EDF – partitioned / global EDF have utilization bound of \(\frac{m+1}{2}\))
Why learn scheduling theory?

- Get an idea when and how your control tasks will be executed?
- Is your system strong enough to schedule all tasks or do you need additional processors?
- Understand choices and tradeoffs when selecting a system:
  - cyclic executive
  - time partitioned system (scheduling like cyclic ex. but with isolation)
  - dynamic scheduling in RTOS / RT-Microkernel

2 runs in between here: may happen between two device register accesses

mutex locked by 3 while preempted will be unavailable to 2 (priority inversion)

preemption leaves task with cold caches must be considered when determining WCET
Mixed criticality scheduling

Consolidate safety-critical tasks of different importance into a single system

- to share resources (most notably the CPU), even across criticality levels
- to safe costs, weight, energy

- Tasks: \( \tau_i = (l_i, \overline{C_i}, P_i, D_i) \), e.g., \( l_i \in \{LO, HI\} \)

**Definition: (MC-feasibility)**

A set \( T \) of tasks is mixed-criticality feasible if every job \( \tau_{i,j} \) receives \( \overline{C_i}(l_i) \) time in between \( r_{i,j} \) and \( r_{i,j} + D_i \), provided the following rely condition holds: all jobs \( \tau_{h,k} \) of higher criticality tasks \( \tau_h \) (with \( l_h > l_i \)) complete within \( \overline{C_h}(l_i) \) units time.
Mixed criticality scheduling

Definition: (MC-feasibility)

A set $T$ of tasks is mixed-criticality feasible if every job $\tau_{i,j}$ receives $\overrightarrow{C_i}(l_i)$ time in between $r_{i,j}$ and $r_{i,j} + D_i$, provided the following rely condition holds: all jobs $\tau_{h,k}$ of higher criticality tasks $\tau_h$ (with $l_h > l_i$) complete within $\overrightarrow{C_h}(l_i)$ units time.
Mixed criticality scheduling

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Criticality Monotonic Scheduling

Higher criticality tasks are higher prioritized than all lower criticality tasks. Use classical algorithm within criticality band (e.g., RMS)
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Higher criticality tasks are higher prioritized than all lower criticality tasks. Use classical algorithm within criticality band (e.g., RMS)

lower criticality job executes at higher priority than high criticality job to guarantee its completion in case the rely condition holds.
Sacrificing tasks for more critical functionality

Examples

Flight
Drive / Break
Image Processing
Car Entertainment

DO 178c Certification

IEC EN 61508: Safety Certification
Probability for Faults per Hour (continuous operation)

A: Catastrophic
B: Hazardous
C: Major
D: Minor
E: No Safety Effect

SIL 1: $10^{-5} - 10^{-6}$ PFH
SIL 2: $10^{-6} - 10^{-7}$ PFH
SIL 3: $10^{-7} - 10^{-8}$ PFH
SIL 4: $10^{-8} - 10^{-9}$ PFH
Examples: Autonomous Driving

Urmson et al., 2008, “Autonomous driving in urban environments: Boss and the Urban Challenge”
Design for Mixed Criticality

Bounded interference in independent development

- How to limit the interference a low task may cause without having to rely on an analysis of this task?
- How to limit cross core interference in such a way?
Design for Mixed Criticality

Catchup / Restart after dropping

If the new job proceeds with fresh data anyway, prepare to discharge intermediate results of the previous job.
Real-Time Systems
Correctness not only depends on computed values, but also on their timeliness.

Overview

- Cyclic Executives
- Real-Time Operating Systems
- The Case for Virtualization
- Scheduling Theory 101
- Mixed Criticality
The Big Picture

Control

Computer

Control

Control

Control
The Big Picture
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