

# Real-Time Systems

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## Real-Time Programming Languages

(ADA and Esterel as Examples)

14/01/13

- Concurrency and Synchronization/Communication
- Time
  - Access to
  - Control over (“timeout”, ...)
- Scheduling/Resource Management
  - Built in
  - Explicit
- Recurrent processes

# RT Language Classes

## Synchronous HLL (tick driven)

- • Esterel
- Lustre
- (State Charts)

## *Imperative* HLL with rt-extensions

- • ADA
- RT-Java
- PEARL
- CHILL
- RT-Euclid (designed to enable static analysis)

## For further study

Gerard Berry,  
Esterel Language Primer

<http://www.esterel-technologies.com/files/primer.zip>



Video of Artist summer school 2008

<http://www.artist-embedded.org/artist/Videos-Slides>

Prof. Christian Hochberger's "Embedded Systems"

## Caveat:

This lecture: introduction into principles only

Ignored: Extensive Tool Chain, Verification, ...

# Synchronous Systems → Synchronous Languages

A light blue rectangular tag with rounded corners and a shadow, containing the name "Gerard Berry" in a dark blue sans-serif font. The tag is positioned in the top right corner of the slide.

Gerard  
Berry

Gerard Berry:

Our approach is based on the standard principle of separation of concerns. First, write the program at the logical level and make use of all the mathematics available there. Then, implement the program using the best available automatic synthesis tools, and check that the result is practically OK.

Ideal Systems produce their outputs synchronously with their inputs.

# BUT: Implementation

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For example, assume we want to trigger a reaction with two inputs A and B present.

We execute the following [compiler generated] C code:

```
M_I_A();
```

```
M_I_B();
```

```
M();
```

If X is emitted by the reaction, the function M() will call an output function M O X() we have to supply. The reaction is subject to an essential atomicity condition: during the execution of the main reaction function M(), it is forbidden to call any input function. This is the software counterpart to the hardware requirement that input voltages must be kept stable during a clock cycle.

# Esterel at a glance

*Most* statements are instantaneous

(starts and terminates at the same instant of time)

Stepwise execution,

everything completes in each step/cycle/tick

Time consumption explicit (e.g., „Pause“)

# Esterel: „Statements“

- Consume no time (unless explicitly said otherwise)
- Await A: „consumes one A“
- Pause: „consumes one time step“ (tick)
  
- $X := Y$ : assigns values to variables
- $S1; S2$
- $S1 \parallel S2$
- Loop S end  
    starts s, repeats if not terminated  
    (s must consume time)

# Esterel „Data“: Variables and Signals

**Variable:** Value

**Signal:** Value and Status  
Value of any type

**Status:** Present/non present  
Newly evaluated at every step  
present when emitted

# Signals

- Emit  $x(y)$ : sets signal  $x$  present, assigns value  $y$
- $?σ$  current value:  
value just emitted (if so) or value of previous instant (otherwise)  
 $pre(?S)$ : previous value
- Present  $σ$  then  $s1$  else  $s2$  end (conditional)
- Abort  $S$  when  $σ$  do  $R$  end abort;  
starts  $S$ , terminates when  $σ$  becomes active, does  $R$
- Suspend  $S$  when  $σ$   
suspends  $S$  when  $σ$  active  
no emission when suspended
- Trap  $σ$  in  $S$  end trap  
starts  $S$ , aborts when  $σ$  present

# Signals vs Variables

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01 Emit Count(pre(?Count) + 1) vs V:= V+1;

Beware:

writing “emit COUNT(?COUNT+1)” is tempting but incorrect. Since ?COUNT is the current value of COUNT, it cannot be incremented and reemitted right away as itself. It is necessary to use the previous value pre(?COUNT).

# More Statements

- halt: loop pause end
- await  $\sigma$  : abort halt when  $\sigma$  end abort
- sustain  $x(t)$ : loop emit  $x(t)$ ; pause end
- loop S each R

restarts S at each occurrence of R

every  $\sigma$  do S end every:

await  $\sigma$  ; loop S each  $\sigma$

# Examples (all by Berry): ABRO

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## Specification ABRO:

Emit an output O as soon as two inputs A and B have occurred.  
Reset this behavior each time the input R occurs.

## module ABRO:

```
01  input A, B, R;  
02  output O;  
03  loop  
04      [ await A || await B ];  
05      emit O  
06  each R  
07  end module
```

## Specification COUNT:

Count the number of occurrences of the input I seen so far, and broadcast it as the value of a COUNT signal at each new I.

## module COUNT:

```
01  input I;  
02  output COUNT := 0 : integer;  
03  every I do  
04    emit COUNT(pre(?COUNT) + 1)  
05  end every  
06  end module
```

Beware:

“emit COUNT(?COUNT+1)” is tempting but incorrect.

## Specification SPEED:

Count the number of centimeters run per second, and broadcast that number as the value of a Speed signal every second.

## module SPEED:

```
01  input Centimeter, Second;
02  relation Centimeter # Second;
03  output Speed : integer;
04  loop
05      var Distance := 0 : integer in
06          abort
07              every Centimeter do
08                  Distance := Distance+1
09              end every
10          when Second do
11              emit Speed(Distance)
12          end abort
13      end var
14  end loop
15  end module
```

Used intensively, e.g. Military, Aircraft (B777), Space

“most commonly used language in US weapons modernization”

Ada 83 - result of a competition ...

Ada 95 - major redesign (ISO/IEC 8652: 1995)

Ada 2005, includes Ravenscar: subset

Annex: Real-Time Systems

# Few general points

Ada has “Annexes”:

in this lecture: Real-Time Annex

Ada has “profiles”:

relevant for this lecture “Ravenscar”  
reduced functionality for Hard-RT

Ada has “pragmas” (compiler directives)

## **CAVEAT:**

In this lecture: very limited extract relevant for RTS

Especially, not covered explicitly:

Packages, OO, Type-System, Generics, exceptions, ...

we rely on your intuition

## Concurrent and Real-Time Programming in Ada

by

**Alan Burns** and **Andy Wellings**

Cambridge University Press

ISBN 978-0521866972

Most code examples taken from this source.

Many more resources available.

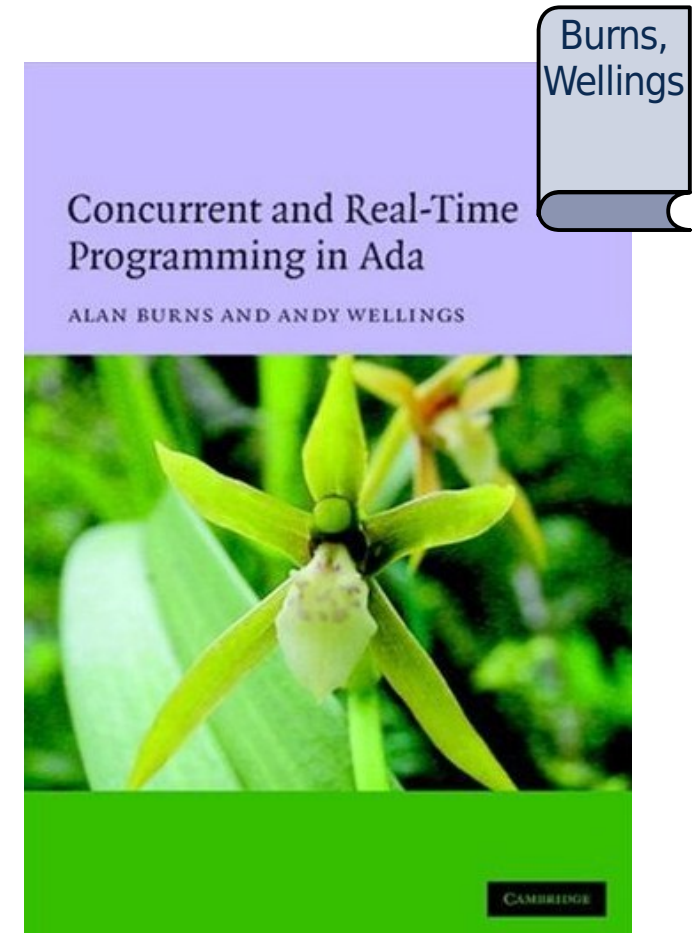


Image Source:  
[amazon.com/dp/B001GS6TBO/](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B001GS6TBO/)

## Tasks

- are entities whose execution may proceed in parallel.
- have a thread of control.
- proceed independently, except at points where they synchronize.
- are created and activated via
  - an object declaration or
  - created dynamically using an “access type”  
Ptr:= new ...

# Example: Operator/Subscriber

```
01  task type Subscriber;
02
03  task type Telephone_Operator is
04      entry Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name; Addr : in Address;
05                               Num : out Number);
06  end Telephone_Operator;
07
08  S1, S2, S3 : Subscriber; -- friends of Stuart Jones
09  An_Op : Telephone_Operator;
10
11  task body Subscriber is
12      Stuarts_Number : Number;
13  begin
14      ...
15
16
17
18
19  end Subscriber;
```

# Termination of Tasks

Every task has a “master” and “depends” on it:

block, subprogram etc.

containing the declaration of the task object or  
of the access object type

Before leaving the master, the parent task waits for all  
dependent tasks to terminate.

# Communication

- Protected objects  
for synchronized access to shared data
- Rendezvous  
for synchronous communication between tasks
- Unprotected access to shared data (global variables)

# The Rendezvous

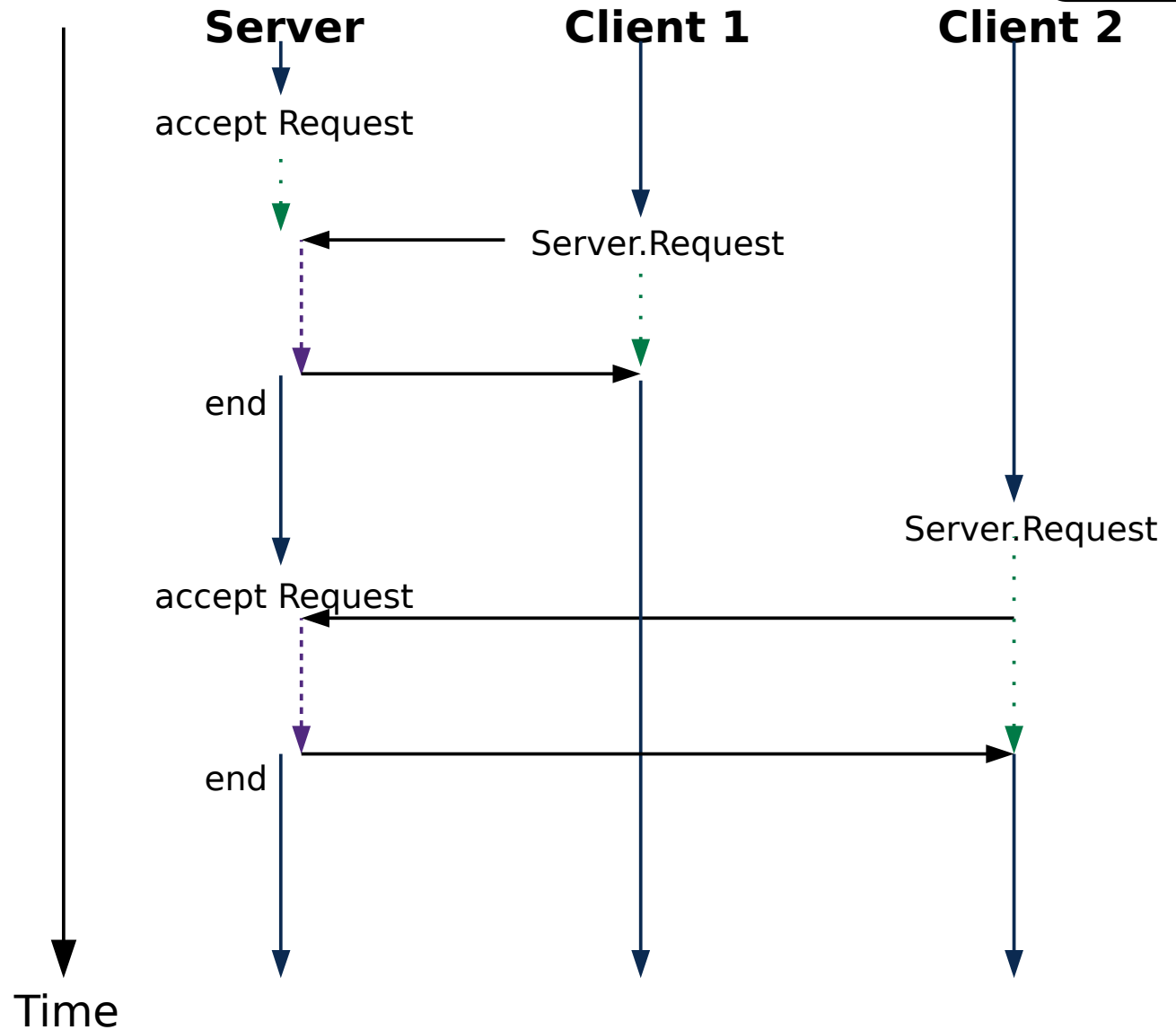
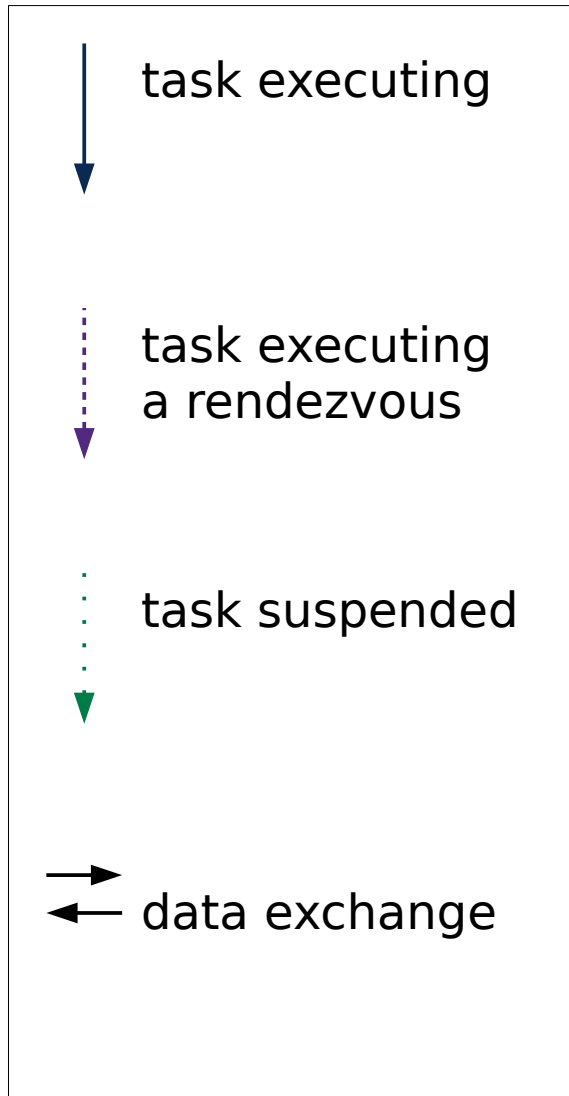
Based on client/server model:

- One task (client) calls an entry of an other task
- Other task accepts a call (Server)
- Calling task placed on a queue

# Example: Operator/Subscriber

```
01  task body Subscriber is
02      Stuarts_Number : Number;
03  begin
04      --.AD ...
05      An_Op.Directory_Enquiry("STUART JONES",
06          "10 MAIN STREET, YORK", Stuarts_Number);
07      -- phone Stuart
08      --.AD ...
09  end Subscriber;
```

```
01  task body Telephone_Operator is
02  begin
03      loop
04          -- prepare to accept next call
05          accept Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name;
06              Addr : in Address; Num : out Number) do
07              -- look up telephone number and
08              -- assign the value to Num
09              null; --.RM
10          end Directory_Enquiry;
11          -- undertake housekeeping such as logging all calls
12      end loop;
13  end Telephone_Operator;
```



# Select Statement

A task can have multiple entries:

```
01  select
02      when (expression) =>
03      accept E1 do bla end E1;
04  or
05      when (expression) =>
06      accept E2 do bla end E2;
07  or ...
08  end select;
09
```

# Select Statement

- Arbitrary entry, whose expression is evaluated to true, is called.
- Exception if no expression evaluates to true.
- The Boolean expression is evaluated only once per execution of select  
(do not use global variables in when clause !)

More on “select” later (timings)

# Protected Objects

have:

- functions
  - read-only access to shared data
  - functions can be executed concurrently
- procedures
  - read/write access to shared data
  - Procedures: executed under mutual exclusion
- entries
  - procedures with barriers (boolean expressions)
  - synchronization operations automatic
  - evaluate barriers
  - at each call to and at each return from an entry

# Example: Resource with Locking

```
01  protected type Resource is
02      entry      lock;
03      procedure unlock; Release;
04      private   Locked: Boolean := False;
05  end Resource;
06
07  protected body Resource is
08      entry lock when not Locked is
09      begin
10          Locked := True;
11      end lock;
12
13      procedure unlock is begin Locked := False end unlock;
14  end Resource;
```

# Tasks ./ Protected Objects

```
01  protected type Shared_Integer(Initial_Value : Integer) is
02      function Read return Integer;
03      procedure Write(New_Value : Integer);
04      procedure Increment(By : Integer);
05  private
06      The_Data : Integer := Initial_Value;
07  end Shared_Integer;
```

```
01  protected body Shared_Integer is
02      function Read return Integer is
03      begin
04          return The_Data;
05      end Read;
06
07      procedure Write(New_Value : Integer) is
08      begin
09          The_Data := New_Value;
10      end Write;
11
12      procedure Increment(By : Integer) is
13      begin
14          The_Data := The_Data + By;
15      end Increment;
16  end Shared_Integer;
```

# Tasks ./ Protected Objects

```
01  task body Shared_Integer is
02      The_Data : Integer := Initial_Value;
03  begin
04      loop
05          select
06              accept Read(New_Value : out Integer) do
07                  New_Value := The_Data;
08              end Read;
09          or
10              accept Write(New_Value : Integer) do
11                  The_Data := New_Value;
12              end Write;
13          or
14              accept Increment(By : Integer) do
15                  The_Data := The_Data + By;
16              end Increment;
17          or
18              terminate;
19          end select;
20      end loop;
21  end Shared_Integer;
```

```
01  pragma task_dispatching_policy(policy identifier);
```

Supported by ADA 205:

- Preemptive fixed priority
- Non-Preemptive fixed priority
- Round robin
- EDF
- And mixtures thereof

# Fixed Priorities

- task (type) T is pragma Priority(P); ....
- Distinct Run Queue per (active) priority  
released tasks at the end of queue  
preempted tasks at the beginning
- Such priorities are called the base priorities of the task  
in contrast to active priority

# Priority Ceiling

```
01 Pragma Locking_Policy(Ceiling_Locking);  
02 Protected object is pragma priority(...) ... ;
```

Implements the “immediate ceiling protocol”

- The object ceiling priority must be maximum priority of any calling task
- the task executing a protected operation executes at the ceiling priority of the protected object

# Active Priority

Base priority or

- Ceiling priority if calling a protected object
- The creating task's priority if higher than the base  $p$
- During rendezvous:  
the priority of the task executing the accept statement  
inherits the priority of the calling task

# Run-Time Priorities

```
01  procedure Set_Priority(Priority: Any_Priority;  
02                        T: Task_ID := Current_Task);  
03  
04  
05  function Get_Priority(T: Task_ID := Current_Task)  
06                        return Any_Priority;  
07
```

Resets base priority.


How to set deadlines:

```
01 Package ada.dispatching.EDF is  
02 procedure set_deadline (D: in deadline,  
03                       T: in TaskId)  
04 Procedure DelayUntilAndSetDeadline(...)  
05 Procedure GetDeadline (...)
```

Or

```
01 Pragma Relative_Deadline(Milliseconds(3))  
02 & Explicit call to set first deadline of periodic task
```

# EDF and Ceiling

- Implements “Preemption Level Control Protocol”  
look forward to: lecture on resource access control  
separates:
  - Urgency (EDF)
  - Preemption level
- Using Priority Ceiling of Protected Objects as Preemption Level
- Details: see Ted Baker(91) and  (complicated)

# Mixed Scheduling Policies, example

Specify “priority partitions” to set scheduling disciplines

```
01  Pragma Priority_Specific_Dispatching
02  (Fifo_Within_Priorities, 10, 16)
03
04
05  Pragma Priority_Specific_Dispatching
06  (EDF_Across_Priorities, 2, 9)
07
08
09  Pragma Priority_Specific_Dispatching
10  (RoundRobin_Within_Priorities, 1, 1)
```

# Entry Queuing: Implicit Policies

Standard: FIFO

```
01  pragma Queuing_Policy(Priority_Queueing);
```

“the user can override the default FIFO policy with the pragma Queuing\_Policy”

per partition (not per entries or tasks)

passing of dynamic priorities as implicit parameters

# Explicit Request Ordering: Requeue

Explicit treatment of request orders, example:

- A request enters entry or barrier

- Parameters inspected in body code

- Possible decision: requeue at different entry

Action:

- Requeue a request of a caller to some entry or barrier

Not easy to use !!!

# Example

```
01  protected body AirportGate is
02      entry EnterGateBusiness(Ticket)
03      begin
04          if Ticket.Economy then
05              requeue EnterGateEconomy;
06          end if;
07          HandleBusinessPassenger
08      end EnterGateBusiness;
09
10      entry EnterGateEconomy(Ticket)
11      when AllBusinessPassengersHaveEntered
12      begin HandleEconomyPassenger end EnterGateEconomy
13  end AirportGate;
14
```

# Timing events

```
01  Package Ada.Real_time.Timing_events is
02  - - - - -
03
04  Procedure Set_Handler(Event: in out Timing_Event;
05  At-Time: Time; Handler: Timing_Event_Handler);
06  - - - - -
07  Procedure Set_Handler(Event: in out Timing_Event;
08  At-Time: Time_Span; Handler: Timing_Event_Handler);
```

Causes Handler to be called at chosen times.

Handlers are called by Clock\_Interrupt Handler

Must not block.

Used for periodic action and watchdogs

# Example: Watchdog

```
01  protected Watchdog is
02      pragma Interrupt_Priority (Interrupt_Priority'Last);
03      entry Alarm_Control;
04          -- Called by alarm handling task.
05      procedure Call_In;
06          -- Called by application code every 50ms if alive.
07      procedure Timer(Event : in out Timing_Event);
08          -- Timer event code, ie the handler.
09  private
10      Alarm : Boolean := False;
11  end Watchdog;
12
13  Fifty_Mil_Event : aliased Timing_Event;
14  TS : Time_Span := Milliseconds(50);
15
16  Set_Handler(Fifty_Mil_Event, TS, Timer);
```

# Example: Watchdog

```
01  protected body Watchdog is
02    entry Alarm_Control when Alarm is
03    begin
04      Alarm := False;
05    end Alarm_Control;
06
07    procedure Timer(Event : in out Timing_Event) is
08    begin
09      Alarm := True;
10      -- Note no use is made of the parameter in this example
11    end Timer;
12
13    procedure Call_in is
14    begin
15      Set_Handler(Fifty_Mil_Event, TS, Timer);
16      -- This call to Set_Handler cancels the previous call
17    end Call_in;
18  end Watchdog;
```

# Execution Time Timers

```
01  Package Ada.Execution_Time.Timers is
02  -- ...
03
04  Procedure SetHandler(TM : in out Timer;
05  In_Time: Time_Span; Handler: Timer_Handler);
06
07  Procedure SetHandler(TM : in out Timer;
08  At_Time: CPU_Time; Handler: Timer_Handler);
09  -- ...
10
```

Timers are strongly linked to tasks!

# Time: Delay Statement

```
01  delay
02      duration
03      point in time
04
05  delay 5.0;           -- delay for at least 5 seconds
06  delay until A_Time; -- delay at least until A_Time
```

specifies minimum delay

# Delay and Select, server side

```
01  select
02      accept An_Entry do bla
03      end An_Entry;
04  or
05      delay 10.0;
06      Put("An_Entry: timeout");
07  end select;
```

Select terminates if entry is not called within 10 time units.

# Delay and Select, client side(1)

```
01  select
02      Operator.Enquiry()
03  or
04      delay 10;
05  end select;
```

Select terminates if entry is not accepted within 10 time units.

Only one call alternative allowed

# Client side (2): “Asynchronous” Select

```
01  select trigger
02
03  triggering_alternative --- (entry-call or delay)
04
05  then abort
06
07  abortable_part
08
09  end select;
10
```

- If delay or entry-call complete before the abortable part, the abortable part is aborted
- abortable\_part must not an accept statement

# Example

```
01  select
02      delay 5.0;                -- triggering alternative
03  then abort
04      CalculationComplete:= false;
05      Invert_Giant_Matrix(M);  -- abortable part
06      CalculationComplete:= true;
07  end select;
```

Careful: notice the race condition !

# Example: Watchdog

```
01  task type Watchdog is
02      entry All_Is_Well;
03  end Watchdog;
04
05  task body Watchdog is
06  begin
07      loop
08          select
09              accept All_Is_Well;
10          or
11              delay 10.0;
12              -- signal alarm, potentially the client has failed
13              exit;
14          end select;
15      end loop;
16      -- any further required action
17  end Watchdog;
```

# Example: Operator/Subscriber

```
01  task type Telephone_Operator is
02      entry Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name; Addr: in Address;
03          Num : out Number);
04      entry Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name;
05          Zip : in Postal_Code; Num : out Number);
06      entry Report_Fault(Num : Number);
07  private
08      entry Allocate_Repair_Worker(Num : out Number);
09  end Telephone_Operator;
```

# Example: Operator/Subscriber

```
01  task body Telephone_Operator is
02      Workers : constant Integer := 10;
03      Failed : Number;
04  begin
05      loop
06          -- prepare to accept next request
07      select
08          accept Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name;
09              Addr : in Address; Num : out Number) do
10              -- look up telephone number and assign the value to Num
11          end Directory_Enquiry;
12      or
13          accept Directory_Enquiry(Person : in Name;
14              Zip : in Postal_Code; Num : out Number) do
15              -- look up telephone number and assign the value to Num
16          end Directory_Enquiry;
17      or
18          accept Report_Fault(Num : Number) do
19              Failed := Num;
20          end Report_Fault;
21          -- log faulty line and allocate repair worker
22      end select; -- undertake housekeeping such as logging all calls
23  end loop;
24  end Telephone_Operator;
```

# Example: Operator/Subscriber

```
01  task type Subscriber;
02
03  task body Subscriber is
04      Stuarts_Number : Number;
05  begin
06      loop
07          --....
08          select
09              An_Op.Directory_Enquiry("STUART JONES",
10                  "10 MAIN STREET, YORK", Stuarts_Number);
11              -- log the cost of a directory enquiry call
12          or
13              delay 10.0;
14              -- phone up his parents and ask them,
15              -- log the cost of a long distance call
16          end select;
17          --....
18      end loop;
19  end Subscriber;
```

# Simple Periodic Task With Static Priority

Burns,  
Wellings  
Ch. 14.3  
Page 345

```
01  task A is
02      pragma Priority(5);
03  end A;
04
05  task body A is
06      Next_Release: Real_Time.Time;
07  begin
08      Next_Release := Real_Time.Clock;
09      loop
10          -- code
11          Next_Release := Next_Release + Real_Time.Milliseconds(10);
12          delay until Next_Release;
13      end loop
14  end A;
```

# Recurrent Tasks (1)

```
01  with Ada.Task_Identification; use Ada.Task_Identification;
02  with Ada.Real_Time; use Ada.Real_Time;
03  package Periodic_Scheduler is
04      procedure Set_Characteristic(T : Task_Id; Period : Time_Span;
05          First_Schedule : Time);
06      procedure Wait_Until_Next_Schedule; -- potentially blocking
07  end Periodic_Scheduler;
08
09  with Ada.Task_Attributes;
10  package body Periodic_Scheduler is
11      Start_Up_Time : Time := Clock;
12      type Task_Information is
13          record
14              Period : Time_Span := Time_Span_Zero;
15              Next_Schedule_Time : Time :=
16                  Time_Of(100_000, Time_Span_Zero);
17  end record;
18      Default : Task_Information;
19      -- a default object needs to be provided
20      -- to the following package instantiation
21
22  package Periodic_Attributes is new
23      Ada.Task_Attributes(Task_Information, Default);
24  use Periodic_Attributes;
```

# Recurrent Tasks (2)

```
25  procedure Set_Characteristic(T : Task_Id; Period : Time_Span;  
26                               First_Schedule : Time) is  
27  begin  
28      Set_Value((Period, First_Schedule), T );  
29  end Set_Characteristic;  
30  
31  procedure Wait_Until_Next_Schedule is  
32      Task_Info : Task_Information := Value;  
33      Next_Time : Time;  
34  begin  
35      Next_Time := Task_Info.Period +  
36                  Task_Info.Next_Schedule_Time;  
37      Set_Value((Task_Info.Period, Next_Time));  
38      delay until Next_Time;  
39  end Wait_Until_Next_Schedule;  
40  end Periodic_Scheduler;
```

# Recurrent Tasks (3)

Periodic tasks can now be encoded as

```
01 task Periodic_Task;  
02 task body Periodic_Task is  
03  
04 begin  
05   loop  
06     -- statements to be executed each period  
07     Periodic_Scheduler.Wait_Until_Next_Schedule  
08   end loop;  
09 end Periodic_Task;
```

# Example EDF

```
01 task A is
02     pragma Priority(5);
03     pragma Relative_Deadline(10);
04         -- gives an initial relative
05         -- deadline of 10 milliseconds
06 end A;
07
08 task body A is
09     Next_Release: Real_Time.Time;
10 begin
11     Next_Release := Real_Time.Clock;
12     loop
13         -- code
14         Next_Release := Next_Release + Real_Time.Milliseconds(10);
15         Delay_Until_And_Set_Deadline(Next_Release,
16                                     Real_Time.Milliseconds(10));
17     end loop
18 end A;
```

Finally the dispatching policy must be changed from

```
01 pragma Task_Dispatching_Policy(FIFO_Within_Priorities);
    to
01 pragma Task_Dispatching_Policy(EDF_Across_Priorities);
```

# Example

```
01  protected Overrun is
02      pragma Priority(Min_Handler_Ceiling);
03      entry Stop_Task;
04      procedure Handler(TM : in out Timer);
05      procedure Reset(C1, C2 : Time_Span);
06  private
07      Abandon : Boolean := False;
08      First_Occurence : Boolean := True;
09      WCET : Time_Span;
10      WCET_Overrun : Time_Span;
11  end Overrun;
```

# Example

```
01  protected body Overrun is
02      entry Stop_Task when Abandon is
03      begin
04          Abandon := False;
05          First_Occurence := True;
06      end Stop_Task;
07  procedure Reset(C1, C2 : Time_Span) is
08      begin
09          Abandon := False;
10          First_Occurence := True;
11          WCET := C1;
12          WCET_Overrun := C2;
13      end Reset;
14  procedure Handler(TM : in out Timer) is
15      begin
16          if First_Occurence then
17              Set_Handler(TM,WCET_Overrun,Handler);
18              Set_Priority(2, TM.T.all);
19              First_Occurence := False;
20          else
21              Abandon := True;
22          end if;
23      end Handler;
24  end Overrun;
```

# Example

```
01  task Hard_Example;  
02  
03  task body Hard_Example is  
04      ID : aliased Task_ID := Current_Task;  
05      WCET_Error : Timer(ID);  
06      WCET : Time_Span := Microseconds(1250);  
07      WCET_Overrun : Time_Span := Microseconds(250);  
08      Bool : Boolean := False;  
09      ...
```

# Example

```
10 begin
11   -- initialisation
12   loop
13     Overrun.Reset(WCET, WCET_Overrun);
14     Set_Handler(WCET_Error, WCET_Overrun.Handler);
15     select
16       Overrun.Stop_Task;
17       -- handle the error if possible
18     then abort
19       -- code of the application
20       null; --.RM
21     end select;
22     Cancel_Handler(WCET_Error, Bool);
23     Set_Priority(14);
24     delay until ...
25   end loop;
26   ...
27 end Hard_Example;
```

# Missing in this RT-HLL lecture

- RT-Java and RT-Garbage Collection
- Language with built-in periodic processes

# To take away ...

- Principles of synchronous languages
- Mechanisms to explicitly handle timing
- Mechanisms to handle asynchronous events
- “scheduling” of processes, queues, ...