Design methods and tools for real-time (automotive) embedded systems

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- Automotive architecture trends and challenges
- Platform-based system-level design and timing evaluation metrics
- Issues with model-based design
- From analysis to synthesis
- Activation models and end-to-end latencies
- Problem definition
 - Example
- MILP Optimization
- Case Study

Active and Passive Safety



by Leen and Effernan – IEEE Computer

AS - ACC (from Continental web site)

 Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC) – Chassis Electronics Combined with Safety Aspects



As with conventional cruise control, the driver specifies the desired velocity - ACC consistently maintains this desired speed.

In addition, the driver can enter the desired distance to a vehicle driving in front. If the vehicle now approaches a car travelling more slowly in the same lane, ACC will recognize the diminishing distance and reduce the speed through intervention in the motor management and by braking with a maximum of 0.2 to 0.3 g until the preselected distance is reached. If the lane is clear again, ACC will accelerate to the previously selected desired tempo.

AS-LDW (from Continental web site)

Lane Departure Warning System (LDW)



LDW wil warn the driver if he or she is on the verge of inadvertently drifting out of the lane. Using a CMOS Camera and an image processing algorithm, this driver assistance system registers the course of the lane in relation to the vehicle. The system "sees", as it were, the course of the road and where the car is going. If the warning algorithm detects an imminent leaving of the current driving lane, the system warns the driver with haptic, kinestatic, or acoustical feedback. Possible warning alerts can be a trembling in the steering wheel, a vibrating seat or a virtual washboard sound. Series production is planned for 2005.

Evolution of Integrated Functions

Post- 2014	function17														
	function16														
	function15														
	function14														
to 2012/1 4	function13														
	function12														
	function11														
	function10														
to 2010/1 2	function9														
	function8														
	function7														
	function6														
	function5														
Pre-	ACC														
2004	Stabilitrak 2														
	Onstar emergency notification														
	Speed-dependant volume														
	Subsysten	Brake	HVAC	Body	Steering	Suspensio	Object detection	Environm. sensing	Infotainm	Occ. protection	n Exterior lighting	Occupant Informatic	Engine	Transmiss	Telematic
	3					2			-					O	v,

Automotive architecture trends

- Horizontally-integrated functions are becoming key differentiators and are gaining increasing authority
- An increasing number of functions will be distributed on a decreasing number of ECUs and enabled through an increasing number of smart sensors and actuators
 - today: > 5 buses and > 30 ECUs
- 90% of innovation in cars for the foreseeable future will be enabled through the Electronic Vehicle Architecture
- Transition from single-ECU Black-box based development processes to a system-level engineering process
 - System-level methodologies for quantitative exploration and selection,
 - From Hardware Emulation to Model Based Verification of the System
- Architectures need to be defined years ahead of production time, with incomplete information about (future) features
- Multiple non-functional requirements can be defined



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Deployment Design Process



Functional model



Architecture model





Deployment model



Tool integration platform



Design Process and Requirement



Functional Model: An example



Architecture Model: An example



Deployment: An example



Periodic Activation Model







$$L_{1,3} = T_1 + r_1 + T_2 + r_2 + T_3 + r_3$$
¹⁸

Data Driven Activation Model



- Shorter end to end latencies
- Large interference intervals with bursty activations



Where Approx.

$$w_{i} = C_{i} + \sum_{j \in hp(i)} \left[\frac{w_{i} + J_{j}}{T_{j}} \right] C_{j}$$

 $L_{1,3} = w_1 + w_2 + w_3$

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Case study 1



- By transmitting messages "on event", the worst case latency can be reduced in most cases
- By properly allocating functions to ECUs the end-2end latency can be improved

Stochastic and simulation-based analysis

- Simulation
 - Built C++ simulator for can message analysis (at bit level – only arbitration)
 - Currently being expanded to end-to-end computations, periodic sampling model for latency analysis
- Stochastic analysis
 - Approximate analysis of pmf of message latencies in CAN bus (complete - target ?)
 - Future work
 - End-to-end analysis of sampling model
 - Regression-based analysis to define pmf from general information (such as load or loads at harmonic rates)

Stochastic and simulation-based analysis



Figure 5. Latency *cdf*s of two high priority representative messages in the test set





Figure 6. Latency *cdf*s of two low priority representative messages in the test set

62 msg set (subset of chassis bus). Low priority msg – Distributions of latencies



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Issues with model-based development

- Model-based design methodologies
 - improve the quality and the reusability of software.
 - The possibility of defining components (subsystems) at higher levels of abstraction and with well defined interfaces allows separation of concerns and improves modularity and reusability.
 - The availability of verification tools (often by simulation) gives the possibility of a design-time verification of the system properties.
- However, most modern tools for modelbased design have a number of shortcomings

Issues with model-based development

- Lack of separation between the functional model and the architecture model
- Lack of support for the definition of the task and resource model
- Insufficient support for the specification of timing constraints and attributes
- Lack of modeling support for the analysis and the back-annotation of schedulingrelated delays
- Issue of semantics preservation



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Opportunities for synthesis



Periodic Activation Model



Event-based Activation Model



Activation modes: latency tradeoffs



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Model Definition

• Selection of the activation event and link groups



Latencies of OSEK Tasks and CAN Messages



Linear Approximation



	$L_{o_{14},o_{15}}$	$L_{o_{16},o_{17}}$	$L_{o_{18},o_{19}}$
Linear _ upper	44.36	130.86	507.03
Fixed _ point	40	88	312
Linear_lower	38.91	79.43	294.96

A linear combination of linear upper and lower bounds can be sufficiently accurate to be used as an estimator of actual e2e latency





Sets	 V: Set of objects implementing the computation and communication functions E: Set of links connecting schedulable objects R: Set of resources (CAN, ECUs)
Parameters	π_i : Priority of object o_i T_i : Period of object o_i C_i : Worstcase execution/transmission time of object o_i
Variables	$r_{i}: \text{Worst case response time of object } o_{i}$ $J_{i}: \text{Release Jitter of object } o_{i}$ $w_{i}: \text{Worst case runnable queueing time of object } o_{i}$ $L_{s,t}: \text{End to end latency between object } o_{s} \text{ and } o_{t}$ $y_{h,k} = \begin{cases} 1, \text{ If activation of } o_{k} \text{ is event-driven by } o_{h} \\ 0, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$

Feasibility Constraints 1

Jitter Inheritance Rule







Possible Objective Function





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Experimental vehicle case study



Case study results

Before Optimization (all periodic)

- Worst case = 577ms was found for paths with deadline 300ms
- Worst case = 255.5ms found for paths with deadline 200ms
- Worst case = 145.4ms found for paths with deadline 100ms

Problem characterization

- 38 ECUs, 6 Buses
- Bus speed between 25 and 500 kb/s
- Bus utilization between 30% to 50%
- CPU utilization between 5% to 60%
- 100 tasks, 322 messages
- Number of links in the functional dataflow is 507
- 184 Paths analyzed between 10 pairs of functional nodes

Optimization results

- A feasible solution is found if using the largest lateness path metric
- after changing 24 groups
- 294.8 for paths with d=300
- 158.1 for paths with d=200
- 95.46 for paths with d=100 (61.57 average slack)
- the solution was improved with 5 extra branches
- (76.79 average slack)
- α practically constant =0.465 with weighted sum of path latencies (evaluating all nodes) no solution found

Time to solve is

- 2.6 s for the exact analysis
- 7 s for the linear approx
- (on a 1.4GHz PC)

Approach

- Mathematical programming
 - Modifying an object period affects multiple paths
 - Additional constraints due to legacy tasks and messages
- Geometric Programming: Poly-time optimization
 - Standard Form:

minimize $f_0(x)$ subject to $f_i(x) \le 1$ i = 1, ..., m $g_i(x) = 1$ i = 1, ..., p

- $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ are positive real-valued variables
- g is a set of monomial functions

$$m(x) = cx_1^{a_1}x_2^{a_2}\dots x_n^{a_n} \qquad c > 0, a_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

- *f* is a set of posynomial functions
 - Sum of monomials

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Geometric programming formulation

Approximate the response time r_i with s_i

$$-0 \le a_i \le 1$$

- If all
$$a_i = 1$$
, $s_i \ge r_i$

$$s_i = c_i + \sum_{j \in hp(i)} \left(\frac{s_i}{t_j} + \alpha_i\right) c_j \quad \forall o_i \in \mathcal{T}$$



Iterative Procedure to Reduce Error



Case Study: Advanced Safety Vehicle

- From GM Research
- E.g. enhanced cruise control, lane departure warning, parallel parking assist
- Architecture
 - 38 ECUs
 - 4 buses
- Functionality
 - 92 tasks
 - 196 messages



- End-to-end latency constraints
 - Over 12 source-sink task pairs
 - 222 total paths
 - Deadlines range from 100ms to 300ms

Experiments



Latency Before and After Period Synthesis

- Maximum error reduced from 58% to 0.56% in 15 iterations
- Average error (not shown) reduced from 6.98% to 0.009%

- GP optimization meets all deadlines in 1st iteration
- Solution time: 24s



Concluding remarks

- Quantitative analysis offers opportunities for architecture exploration and selection
- Domains of cost, dependability and time have been identified as prime candidates
 - not considering, for example, power
- Analysis techniques are at different levels of maturity
- Uncertainty challenge
 - Some required information is typically not available in the early development stages
 - Requirements extraction process is not mature
- Synthesis to be extended to other domains
 - leveraging MILP or GP formulations of the placement, priority assignment and period definition problems₄₆



Concluding remarks

- Worst case timing analysis can be applied to design optimization problems
- With respect to end-to-end latencies in distributed architectures there are multiple dimensions that can be explored
 - task allocation
 - period assignment
 - priority assignment
 - ...
- Also, most active safety functions are not truly hard real-time and worst case analysis may be pessimistic
 - end-to-end stochastic analysis
 - design optimizations based on stochastic analysis ²/₇





Thank you!





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