System and Language Support for Timing Constraints

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Goals

- Understand different concepts about temporal constraints.

- Understand how temporal constraints can be incorporated into a programming language.

- Discuss how you would design your language.
Overview of Temporal Constraints

Why Temporal Constraints?

- A number of control applications put temporal constraints on the control software.
  - Engine simulation: 1kHz recording frequency over a distributed system
  - Clock synchronization: down to 1 nanosecond
  - Industrial process control
  - Drive-by-wire
  - Anti-lock brakes
  - Pacemakers
  - Helicopter control
    - 200 Hz pilot stick, 400 Hz sensors, 200 Hz flight control, 1kHz actuator electronics
  - Heating control: 10 seconds
Temporal Constraints

- Real-time is about producing the correct result at the right time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wrong</td>
<td>Too late</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong</td>
<td>On time</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correct</td>
<td>Too late</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correct</td>
<td>On time</td>
<td>Ok</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Temporal constraints are a way to specify, when the value is on time.

Types of Temporal Constraints

- Absolute temporal constraints
  - Measured with respect to a global clock
  - Xmas tree should light up between 5pm and 7am from November 27th 2006 until December 27th 2006

- Relative temporal constraints
  - Measured with respect to a local clock
  - The ventilation task should restart in five seconds

- Timing violation
  - Occurs when a temporal constraint is violated
Types of Temporal Constraints

- Hard temporal constraints
- Soft temporal constraints
- Firm temporal constraints
- Deterministic temporal constraints

Soft Temporal Constraints

- A **soft real-time system** is one where the response time is normally specified as an average value. This time is normally dictated by the business or market.

- A single computation arriving late is not significant to the operation of the system, though many late arrivals might be.

- Ex: Airline reservation system - If a single computation is late, the system’s response time may lag. However, the only consequence would be a frustrated potential passenger.
Hard Temporal Constraints

- A **hard real-time system** is one where the response time is specified as an absolute value. This time is normally dictated by the environment.

- A system is called a hard real-time if tasks always must finish execution before their deadlines or if message always can be delivered within a specified time interval.

- Hard real-time is often associated with safety critical applications. A failure (e.g. missing a deadline) in a safety-critical application can lead to loss of human life or severe economical damage.

Firm Temporal Constraints

- In a **firm real-time system** timing requirements are a combination of both hard and soft ones. Typically the computation will have a shorter soft requirement and a longer hard requirement.

- Ex: Ventilator – The system must ventilate a patient so many times within a given time period. But a few second delay in the initiation of the patient’s breath is allowed, but not more.
Deterministic Temporal Constraints

- In a **temporal deterministic real-time system** timing requirements are a deterministic. An external observer can tell the temporal state at any time.

- A system with deterministic temporal constraints finishes execution exactly at the deadline (not before [hard] and not about [soft]).

- Ex. Similar to hard real-time systems, however, temporal determinism simplifies guaranteeing compositionality.

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Real-Time Spectrum

- No RT
- Soft RT
- Hard RT

- Computer simulation
- User interface
- Internet video, audio
- Cruise control
- Tele communication
- Flight control
- Electronic engine
Terminology of Temporal Constraints

Tasks, Job

- A **task** is a piece of code that can be executed many times with different input data. (thread or process)

- A **job** is an instance of a task.

![Diagram of task and job with release time, start time, finishing time, deadline, and computation]

```plaintext
release time -> job
start time -> job
finishing time -> job
deadline -> job
```

```plaintext
computation
```

---

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Parameters

- **Release or Arrival Time** \( (r_i) \)
  - is the time at which the task becomes ready for execution.

- **Computation time** \( (C_i) \)
  - is the time necessary to the processor for executing the task without interruption.

- **Deadline** \( (d_i) \)
  - is the time before which a task should be complete to avoid damage to the system.
  - **Relative Deadline** (Di): \( D_i = d_i - r_i \)

- **Start time** \( (s_i) \)
  - is the time at which the task starts its execution.

Parameters

- **Finishing time** \( (f_i) \)
  - is the time at which the task finishes its execution.

- **Laxity (Slack time)** \( (X_i) \)
  - \( X_i = d_i - r_i - C_i \) is the maximum time a task can be delayed on its activation to complete within its deadline.
Jitter

- Jitter refers to the temporal variation of a periodic event
- E.g. Absolute Finishing
  \[ \text{Jitter} = \max_k (f_{i,k} - r_{i,k}) - \min_k (f_{i,k} - r_{i,k}) \]
- E.g. Relative Finishing
  \[ \text{Jitter} = \max_k |(f_{i,k} - r_{i,k}) - (f_{i,k-1} - r_{i,k-1})| \]

Jitter Types

- Start Jitter
- Completion Jitter, I/O Jitter
## Sampling

- Sample rejection
- Vacant sampling

### Diagram

1. **Process 1**
2. **Process 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Jitter</th>
<th>Sampling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soft RT</td>
<td>Positive and negative</td>
<td>Rejection and vacant sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard RT</td>
<td>Only negative</td>
<td>Rejection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hard DL: only negative</td>
<td>Hard DL: vacant s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deterministic RT</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Temporal Constraint Specifications

Task Types

- A periodic task has invocations within regular time intervals.
  - E.g., reading a heat sensor.
- A sporadic task has unknown arrival times, but have bounds such as maximum frequency.
  - E.g., routinely memory status check.
- An aperiodic task has an unknown arrival time.
  - E.g., an emergency shutoff.
Frequency, Period

- **Period, frequency:**
  - $T_1$: Period=10ms, Frequency=2

- **Period:**
  - $T_2$: Period=10ms

- **Frequency**
  - $T_3$: Frequency=400Hz

---

Additional Terms

- **Execution time:** total time of execution of a specific task
- **Elapse time:** the task’s execution time + all delays
- **Maximum time constraint:** no more than $t$ time units will elapse
- **Minimum time constraint:** no less than $t$ time units will elapse
Hyper-Period

- Hyper-Period is the time span after which the system repeats its behavior.
  - $T_1$: Period=10ms, Frequency=2
  - $T_2$: Period=10ms
  - $T_3$: Frequency=400Hz

  - Hyper period = 10ms

Basic Model

[Diagram showing a basic model with states such as Ready, Start, Running, Suspend, Resume, Completed, and Completion conditions involving $t$, $et$, and $wct$.]
Example

Independent-Digit Clock

- Consider a clock with each digit as an independent task.

- $T_1$: $P=1\text{s}$
- $T_2$: $P=10\text{s}$
- $T_3$: $P=60\text{s}$
- $T_4$: $P=3600\text{s}$
Properties

- Timeliness is key
  - Invalid time value displayed

- Jitter accumulates and causes incorrect display.

- Value outputs need to be synchronized.

- Nearly no computation required.

Implicit Temporal Control
Foreground/Background System

- Using **super-loops** as the main routine with two levels: the task level and the interrupt level.
  - Task level (aka background): executes modules
  - Interrupt level (aka foreground): handles asynchronous events via ISRs.

- Foreground can preempt the background, thus:
  - Critical tasks must be in the foreground part.
  - Task level response = an ISR prepares data for the super-loop.

- Used for small devices (e.g., microcontrollers in microwaves, washers, dryers, radio)
Foreground/Background Model

Code for the Example

```c
void main(void) {
    unsigned short val; unsigned int i;

    while ( 1 ) {
        val = get_curr_sec();
        val++;
        update_display_seconds(val);

        if (val%60 == 0) {
            // update tens
        }
        ...
        // may have nested loops, if too short
        i=WHILE_INSTRUCTIONS_PER_SECOND
        while( --i );
    }
}
```
Foreground/Background Properties

- **Simple system/low overhead**
  - No maintenance, basically no “system” at all

- **Not time deterministic**
  - F/B systems require hand tuning to meet a timing criteria; if the system is not responsive enough, then the developer will optimize the super-loop.

- **Sensitive to changes**
  - Changing a module constantly changes the timing of the super-loop.
  - Changing code in an ISR changes may change the overall timing behavior.

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Programming-Language Timing Control
Type of Specification

- **Program-based temporal constraints**
  - Programmed in the target language.
  - Often mix program logic and temporal behavior

- **Specification-based temporal constraints**
  - Temporal constraints are specified in a separate language (=> Coordination language)
  - Can be high-level, e.g., *task A freq 0.2*

**PEARL**
PEARL Overview

- Acronym for Process Automation Real-time Language
- Aimed to be a high-level programming language with elaborate constructs for programming temporal constraints.
- Developed at the same time as PASCAL, so both share similar syntax.
- PEARL forbids recursive procedures to eliminate out-of-memory errors.
- Strong emphasis on the I/O part, because of its target domain.
- Standardized as DIN 66253
- PEARL-90 is the revised version

PEARL Task Life Cycle
Timing Specification

StartCondition ::= 
AT Expression$Time [ Frequency ]
| AFTER Expression$Duration [ Frequency ]
| WHEN Name$Interrupt [ AFTER Expression$Duration ] [ Frequency ]
| Frequency

Frequency ::= 
ALL Expression$Duration [ { UNTIL Expression$Time } ]
| { DURING Expression$Duration } |

Examples:
- ALL 0.00005 SEC ACTIVATE Highspeedcontroller;
- AT 12:00 ALL 4 SEC UNTIL 12:30 ACTIVATE lunchhour;
- WHEN fire ACTIVATE extinguish;

PEARL Example

WHEN start ALL 1 sec UNTIL stop ACTIVATE clock_sec;
WHEN start ALL 10 sec UNTIL stop ACTIVATE clock_tsec;
WHEN start ALL 60 sec UNTIL stop ACTIVATE clock_min;
WHEN start ALL 600 sec UNTIL stop ACTIVATE clock_tmin;

clock_tsec:TASK PRIO 2;
DCL ctr INTEGER;
BEGIN
  GET ctr FROM DISPLAY_T_ONES;
  ctr := (ctr+1)%6;
  PUT ctr TO DISPLAY_T_ONES;
END
Temporal Scopes

- Source: [Lee1985], the Distributed Programming System (DPS).
- Temporal scopes and DPS describes a system to specify generic temporal constraints at the statement level.
- The main goals for temporal scopes are:
  - Provide language constructs for specifying timing constraints,
  - Apt for distributed systems,
  - Extend an existing language, and
  - Run-time monitoring and exception handling.
- Its properties are:
  - The program is configured offline.
  - All processes are created before start-up.
    - No dynamic create of RT processes.
  - The system has two modes: initialization and operation.
- Timing support is specification-based.
Timing Specification

- **Deadline.** The latest time in which the execution of a temporal scope can be completed.
- **Minimum delay.** The minimum amount of time that should pass before starting the execution of a temporal scope.
- **Maximum delay.** The maximum amount of time that should pass before starting the execution of a temporal scope.
- **Maximum execution time.** The maximum computation time necessary for the execution of a temporal scope.
- **Maximum elapse time.** The maximum execution time plus all user-defined delay during the execution of a temporal scope.

Max. execution time = WCET
The Temporal Scope

- start <delay-part> [ <exe-part> ] [ <dl-part> ]
  do
  <start-body>
  [ <exceptions> ]
  end

- <delay-part>:==new|at <abs-time>|after <rel-time>
- <exe-part>:==execute <rel-time>|elapse <rel-time>
- <dl-part>:==by <abs-time>|within <rel-time>

Examples:
- Start after 10 sec do ... end
- Start at (9h:00m) within 10 sec do ... end

Repetitive Temporal Scope

- from <start_time> to <end_time> every <period>
  execute <exec_time> within <deadline> do
  <stmts>
  [ <exceptions> ]
  end

Example:
- from (8h:00m) to (18h:00m) every (0h:30m) within 10 sec do
  destress_eyes()
  end
### Consecutive Temporal Scope

- `cstart <delay₁> [execute₁] [deadline₁] do
  <stmts₁>
  [exceptions₁]
- `cstart <delay₂> [execute₂] [deadline₂] do
  <stmts₂>
  [exceptions₂]
- `cstart <delayₙ> [executeₙ] [deadlineₙ] do
  <stmtsₙ>
  [exceptionsₙ]
- `end

**Example:**
- `cstart within 2 sec do fill glass with water()
- `cstart after 2 sec do empty glass() end

### Temporal Scopes Task Life Cycle
Temporal Scopes Example

from 00:00 to 59:59 every 10s execute 20ms within 1s
    do
        var ctr;
        ctr=get_cur_tsecs();
        ctr=(ctr+1)%6;
        set_cur_tsecs(ctr);
        
        exception
            display_warning_light();
        end

The ARTS Kernel &
The Time Fence Protocol
Time Fence in the ARTS Kernel

- Source: [Tokuda, Mercer, 1998].
- The time-fence protocol allows for temporal constraints in a distributed real-time system. The time-fence protocol is built into the ARTS kernel.
- The ARTS kernel aims at distributed real-time systems.

- The artsobject is the abstraction for computation:
  - The artsobject has a WCET.
  - The artsobject minimizes inter-module dependence.
  - It provides time-encapsulation (however, the designer must guarantee this).
- Timing support is specification-based.

Thread Life Cycle
Function Life Cycle

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Specification

```c
// An example of a real-time thread
Thread Sample._Artobject::RT_Thread( )
// # priority, stack_size, wcet, period, phase, delay
{ //thread body ...
    ThreadExit( );
}
```

The implementation also allows for object methods:

```c
  type opt1 (type arg .... );//# within time except opr()
```
Stopwatch Example

```
Thread Minutes::RT_Thread() // 2, _, 10ms, 10s, 0, 0s
{
    // thread body
    int tens_seconds = get_cur_tens_seconds();
    tens_seconds = (tens_seconds + 1) % 6;
    set_cur_seconds(tens_seconds);
    ThreadExit(); // reincarnate this thread
}
```

The Time Fence Protocol

- The system scheduler checks for transient overloads (not enough CPU cycles) and rejects tasks in case of such an overload.

- Each RT computation has a WCET.
- The time fence uses the deadline to set a timer.
- The scheduler checks schedulability using the time fence and the WCET.

\[
\text{Callee}_{\text{wrtv}} < \text{Caller}_{\text{ctv}} - 2*\text{comm} + \text{clockdrift}
\]

- Comm can include communication overhead for the distributed system.
Esterel

Synchronous Model

Scheduled Model

- Event
- Deadline
- Scheduled Computation
- Response Time

Synchronous Model

- Event
- Synchronous Computation
Synchronous Model

Scheduled Implementation    Synchronous Implementation

Event  Deadline  Event  Event

Response Time               Response Time

Basic Concepts

- **Specification language** has been specialized for reactive systems.
- **Reactive system:**
  - In continuous interaction with its environment.
  - A reaction begins when the system receives an input event and ends when it generates the corresponding output event.
- **Black-box approach**
  - Inputs produce outputs, continuously.
    - Only define relationships between input and output events.
    - A task may be complex, but: you don’t care.
Basic Concepts

- **Based on synchronous model of time (synchrony hypothesis)**
  - The underlying machine is infinitely fast and, hence, the reaction of the system to an input event is instantaneous; in between reactions, the system is idle.
  - No reaction intervals → only reaction instants → reactions do not overlap.
  - The synchrony hypothesis simplifies the behavioral specification of reactive systems (see the example later on).
  - Looks flawed, but the machine must react to an input event before the next input event arrives.

```
Event

Response

Time
```

- **Determinism**
  - A non-deterministic system does not have a unique response to a given input event → the external observer cannot predict the response.
  - Example:
    - Waiting for 60 seconds and then(??) signal "minute".
    - Broadcasting the signal, timing delays.
      ```
      loop
      delay 60; B.MINUTE; (C.MINUTE)
      end
      ```
  - Esterel guarantees determinism
    - All statements and constructs are well defined (syntax and semantics).
    - A compiler checks the program and ensures determinism.
Signal Handling: Example

- Example program:

```plaintext
pause;
etit A;
etit B;
present B then emit C; end
pause;
etit C;
```

---

Example StopWatch

```plaintext
module SW1:
inpt START, STOP, MS;
output TIME(integer);
relation START # STOP;
var count := 0 : integer
in
  exit immediate START;
  % weak abort
  abort
every immediate MS do
    count := count + 1;
etimr TIME(count);
end when STOP
  % pause;
sustain TIME(count);
end var
end module
```
Programmable Logic Controllers

Introduction

- Source: [Bliesener, Ebel, Loeffler, … 1998]
- Created in 1968 by General Motors with the following goals in mind:
  - Replace relays,
  - Simple programming (no CS required),
  - Software instead of hard wiring,
  - Smaller, cheaper, more reliable than relays, and
  - Simple and cheap maintenance.
- 5 standardized languages (IEC_61131-3):
  - FBD (Function Block Diagram), LD (Ladder Diagram), ST (Structured Text, Pascal type language), IL (Instruction List) and SFC (Sequential Function Chart)
The Look of an PLC

- Internals are similar to a workstation.

Operation of an PLC

- Inputs, which are shorter than one cycle, are omitted.
- A reaction to an input can be two cycles late.
- The PLC program executes sequentially, so the instructions’ ordering is relevant.
- Some new PLCs support direct value access.
Sequential Function Charts

SFC Selection Branch

SFC Simultaneous Branch

SFC Sequential configuration

Action Qualifiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Qualifier</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Nonstored. Terminate when the step becomes inactive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Set (stored). Continue after the step is deactivated, until the action is reset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Reset. Terminate the execution of an action previously started with the S, SD, SL, or DS qualifier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Time Limited. Start when step becomes active and continue until the step goes inactive or a set time passes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Time Delayed. Start a delay timer when the step becomes active. If the step is still active after the time delay, the action starts and continues until deactivated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pulse. Start when the step becomes Active/Deactive and execute the action only once.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Stored and time Delayed. Action starts after time delay, continues until reset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS</td>
<td>Delayed &amp; Stored. If step is still active, action starts after time delay, continues until reset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Stored &amp; timeLimited. Action starts when step becomes active, continues for a set time or until reset.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Timing Specification

[Diagram showing two timing specifications with steps labeled 'Step' and 'SD T#10s %QX12' and 'DS T#10s %QX12'].

Timing Specification

[Diagram showing another timing specification with steps labeled 'Step' and 'SL T#20s %QX12']
Time-Triggered Message-Triggered Object

Introduction

- Source: [K.H. Kim, 1999]
- Developed in the early 1990s.
- Vision: Future RT computing must be realized in the form of a generalization of the non-RT computing, rather than in a form looking like an esoteric specialization. (=> same as RTSJ)
- Uses object orientation for strong modularity characteristics.
- Specification-based timing constraints.
- Side note: started with H. Kopetz (TT domain)
Overview

- **TMO = (ODS, EAC, SpM, SvM)**
  - **ODS** ... object-data-store section sec.
  - **EAC** ... environment access-capability sec.
  - **SpM** ... spontaneous-method sec.
  - **SvM** ... service-method sec.

- **Interesting for this discussion:**
  - **SpM** ... time-triggered execution by the RT system
  - **SvM** ... event-triggered (e.g., service request msg)
  - **TMO** incorporates deadlines; the designer guarantees and advertises ET windows by start time and completion time

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**Overview**

- **A TMO object**
  - **TC** : Timing Constraints
  - **Object Data Store (ODS)**
  - **SpM1**
  - **SpM2**
  - **SvM1**
  - **SvM2**
  - **Concurrency**
  - **Lack/Condition/CREW for Concurrent Access**
  - **Time-triggered (TT) Spontaneous Methods (SpMs)**
  - **Finish Deadlines**
  - **Message-triggered (MT) Service Methods (SvMs)**
Time-Triggered Actions

- Time-constraint specification

  ab "timing specification begin"
  for <time-var> = from <activation-time> to <deactivation-time>
  [every <period>]
  start-during (<earliest-start-time, latest-start-time>)
  finish-by <deadline>
  ae "timing specification end"

- Examples
  
  o {"start-during (10am, 10:05am) finish-by 10:10am", "start-during (10:30am, 10:35am) finish-by 10:40am"}
  o for t = from 10am to 10:50am every 30min
     start-during (t, t+5min) finish-by t+10min

Possible computations can be:
  o Statements,
  o Blocks,
  o Function & procedures, and
  o Object methods

TMO implementations so far only handle SpM’s and SvM’s (i.e., object methods).
Introduction

- The correct name is: Real-Time Specification for Java (RTSJ).
- Guiding Principles:
  - Applicability to Java Environments: The RTSJ shall not include specifications that restrict its use to particular Java environments.
  - Backward Compatibility: The RTSJ shall not prevent existing, properly written, non-real-time Java programs from executing on implementations of the RTSJ.
  - Write Once, Run Anywhere.
  - Current Practice vs. Advanced Features: The RTSJ should address current real-time system practice as well as allow future implementations to include advanced features.
  - Predictable Execution: The RTSJ shall hold predictable execution as first priority in all trade-offs.
  - No Syntactic Extension.
  - Allow Variation in Implementation Decisions.
Overview

- RT Java consists of an RTJVM and the RTSJ class library.
- RTSJ-compliant JVMs can be considered Real-Time Java Virtual Machines (RTJVMs).
- Resides in the packet `javax.realtime` with modifications to the non RT Java such as
  - A RT Thread class extending `java.lang.Thread`
  - Sophisticated scheduling support
  - No mandatory RT garbage collection, instead memory partitioning
  - Raw memory access for device drivers

Handling of Time

- Clock:
  - A clock marks the passing of time.
  - `System.getRealtimeClock()` for singletons.
  - Can have an arbitrary resolution (see `RelativeTime`).
- Based on the clock, a number of classes dealing with time exist:
  - `HighResolutionTime`: is an abstract class and the base class for all time-related classes. Used to express time with nanosecond accuracy.
  - `AbsoluteTime`: represents a specific point in time given by milliseconds plus nanoseconds past some point in time fixed by the clock.
  - `RationalTime`: represents a time interval that is divided into subintervals by some frequency. Used to periodic events, threads, and feasibility analysis.
  - `RelativeTime`: is generally used to represent a time relative to now
- All time objects must maintain nanosecond precision.
Real-Time Threads

- Two types of threads:
  - NoHeapRealtimeThread
  - RealtimeThread
- Release parameters specify the thread’s behavior in the time domain:
  - PeriodicParameters: indicates that the schedulable object is released on a regular basis.
  - SporadicParameters: notes that the associated schedulable object's run method will be released aperiodically but with a minimum time between releases.
  - AperiodicParameters: characterizes a schedulable object that may be released at any time.

Task Life Cycle

[Diagram showing the task life cycle with states: Init, Released, Ready, Running, Completed, Suspended, and transitions between these states with conditions such as \( t + \), \( t = 0 \), and \( t = \text{period} \).]
Stopwatch Example

```java
public class TSec extends RealTimeThread {
    public void run() {
        while (true) {
            int val = getCurrentTSecValue();
            val = (val + 1) % 6;
            setCurrentTSecValue(val);
            waitForNextPeriod();
        }
    }

    TMin createInstance() {
        PeriodicParameters pp = new PeriodicParameters(offset,
                new RelativeTime(10.0*SECONDS),       // the period
                new RelativeTime(5.0),                  // the cost
                new RelativeTime(10.0*SECONDS),       // the deadline
                null, null);

        return new TSec(priority, pp);
    }
}
```

Giotto
Overview

- Source: [T. Henzinger et al, 2002]
- One of the main issues was to create verifiable RT programs.
- Rigid control of the system’s behavior.
  - Input/output values are buffered in ports (similar to the process image with PLCs)
  - Value determinism
  - Time determinism
- An embedded machine controls the task’s execution.

Logical Execution Time

Source: Logical execution time = Logical computation time

- Release
- Task t
- Terminate
- t
- t + T
- Reading input ports
- Writing output ports
- Start
- Suspend
- Resume
- Stop
**Task Life Cycle**

- Completed
- Waiting
- Ready
- Running
- Suspended
- Resume
- Start
- Release

**Example**

- Task
- P
- Q
- t+10ms
- t+10ms

Slide by C.M. Kirsch et al.
Runtime Environment

- E code
- Application object code

Drives:
- E machine
- Driver

Platform:
- Sensor
- Environment
- Actuator

- Call: executes drivers
- Schedule: enqueues tasks
- Future: schedules a resume
- Return: exists the interpreter

E-Code controls the execution behavior

```
lbl1:
  call d [ t1 ]
  call d [ t2 ]
  schedule t1
  schedule t2
  future, 200, lbl2
  return

lbl2:
  call d[ t2 ]
  schedule t2
  future, 200, lbl1
  return
```

Timing Specification

- Only allows periodic tasks.
- Defined by period and frequency.
- Each mode has a period.
- Each task has a frequency within the mode.

```c
mode Flight ( ) period 10ms
{
    actfreq 1 do Actuator ( actuating ) ;
    taskfreq 1 do Control ( input ) ;
    taskfreq 2 do Navigation ( sensing ) ;
}
```

Stopwatch Example

```c
start Started { 

    mode Started() period 3600 { 
        actfreq 3600 do act_sec(a_sec_driver); 
        taskfreq 3600 do comp_sec(sec_driver); 

        actfreq 60 do act_tsec(a_tsec_driver); 
        taskfreq 60 do comp_tsec(tsec_driver); 

        actfreq 10 do act_min(a_min_driver); 
        taskfreq 10 do comp_min(min_driver); 

        actfreq 1 do act_tmin(a_tmin_driver); 
        taskfreq 1 do comp_tmin(tmin_driver); 
    }
}
```
Overview

- Source: [Davidson et al. 1991]
- Motivation: Atomic commitment is necessary for a number of applications. For real-time systems, time constraints need to be part of the algorithm.

- Example: Two robot arms together lift defective containers from a conveyor belt.
- Timing specification bases on temporal scopes.
Overview

- Three possible outcomes:
  - Commit: action done
  - Abort: no action done
  - Exception: something done, need recovery function
- TAC has the following correctness criteria:
  - TAC1: All participants, which reach a decision, reach the same one.
  - TAC2: The decision is to commit only if all participants vote YES.
  - TAC3: At the deadline, the local state either reflects the completed action or is EXCEPTION.
  - TAC4: (minimum success criterion)
    - All participants reach a decision.
    - If all participants vote YES, then the decision is to commit.
    - All participants complete the decided-upon action by the deadline.
    - At the deadline, the local state reflects the completed action.

Two Algorithms

Centralized Timed 2 Phase Commit (CT2PC)

Distributed Timed 2 Phase Commit (DT2PC)
Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Granularity</th>
<th>Task model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Constr.</th>
<th>Err. handling</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEARL-90</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>per, sus</td>
<td>Spec.</td>
<td>Abs.&amp;rel.</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Temp. scopes</td>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>off, per, dl(a)</td>
<td>Spec.(^b)</td>
<td>Abs.&amp;rel.</td>
<td>Exceptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTS kernel</td>
<td>Task, fun.(^c)</td>
<td>ph, off, per(^d)</td>
<td>Spec.(^b)</td>
<td>Rel.</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Task</td>
<td>off, per, dl</td>
<td>Prgm.</td>
<td>Abs.&amp;rel.</td>
<td>Exceptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esterel</td>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>Prgm.</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giotto</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>per</td>
<td>Spec.</td>
<td>Rel.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Also timing control for one-time execution (e.g., statement blocks) with offset.
\(^b\) Although it is specification-based, it intertwines code and timing specification.
\(^c\) Arts provides different temporal control elements for tasks and functions.
\(^d\) Also offers deadlines for function calls.

Take Away Messages

- Timing constraints in programming languages are a topic since at least 1968.
  - What are the right abstractions? (Modules, tasks, statements)
  - What is the right notion of time? (Zero, continuous, discrete time)
  - Who checks timing constraints? (Offline, online)
  - How to you specify timing? (Specification-based vs. programming)
  - How to ensure timing constraints? (Verification, runtime checking, offline, online)
Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Abstraction level</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Guarantee</th>
<th>Enforcement</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Prog.</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Simple</td>
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<td>Statement level</td>
<td>Spec.</td>
<td>Impl.</td>
<td>Runtime</td>
<td>Exceptions</td>
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<td>Stmt.</td>
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<td>Exact</td>
<td>Compiler</td>
<td>Toolchain</td>
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<td>Block</td>
<td>Spec.</td>
<td>Best eff.</td>
<td>Runtime</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
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<td>Runtime</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Prog.</td>
<td>Best eff.</td>
<td>Runtime</td>
<td>By popular demand</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Exact (?)</td>
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<td>E-Code</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Spec</td>
<td>Impl.</td>
<td>Runtime</td>
<td>Bases on temporal sc.</td>
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</table>

Personal Note & Observations

- PLCs & Sequential Function Charts are a rock solid method, sold billion times, defeats many theoretic and academic models.
- Synchronous languages are about to become a huge industry-strength concept: Airbus uses SCADE.
- Temporal scopes present a general abstraction, but did not catch on.
- Simple, but effective solutions - or - a complete tool chain.
- Retrofitting does not work - it did not for security, it will not for RT systems.
Bibliography


Bibliography