OHB System AG Andreas Wortmann 19-21 June 2018, Lisbon, Portugal





SPACE SYSTEMS

APPLYING FORMAL TIMING ANALYSIS TO SATELLITE SOFTWARE

We. Create. Space.



Agenda

- Introduction and Motivation
- Schedulability Analysis
- Architecture & Engaged Toolchain
- Lessons Learned
- Missions, Summary & Outlook





Introduction and Motivation – Satellite Software

- Central software item that glues together all subsystems
 - sensors, actuators, mechanisms, power …
- Control loops, including
 - Attitude and Orbit Control
 - Thermal Control
- Telecommand and Telemetry Interfaces
 - Full commandability and visibility
- Robustness
 - Failure Detection, Isolation and Recovery
 - Hardware redundancy
- Payload operation
 - Very large spectrum of software functions and performance needs

 \rightarrow Large variety of functions with high reliability requirements



Introduction and Motivation – Mission Critical S/W

- Increasingly large projects
 - Complexity, Size, Cost, Time
- Testing software is very important but
 - Impossible to cover all cases
- Introduction of formal methods
 - Absence of runtime errors, Memory / Stack size analysis …
 - Timing Requirements
 - → Schedulability Analysis

SA Required for flight software qualification by the [ECSS-E-40-1]











How to perform a Schedulability Analysis?



→ Analysis Model Complexity increases with Software/System Complexity





Model-Driven Approach /w design pattern and partial code generation from UML

\rightarrow C language implementation







Timing Analysis

WCET Analysis of Code Snippets (subject to hard real-time constraints)

- Static code analysis using AbsInt a³ suite
- Safe upper bounds for the WCET
- Manually added annotations

#compiler	
compiler "sparc-gcc" ;	
#clock rate	
clock exactly 65.536 MHz;	
#analysis precision	
interproc flexible, max-length=inf, max-unroll=inf, de	f @staticWCET
<pre>#includes include "//ResponseTimeAnalyses/Annotations/DHS</pre>	exported uint32 myFunction2(uint32 l)
# section properties	uint32 x = 0;
area section ".text" is read-only;	if (l > 1000) {
area "hkAccessTable" contains data and is read-only;	l = 1000;
# memory accesses	l if
global accesses restrict to 0x40000000 0x5fffffff;	for (vinter in our official) (
# function specific annotations	TOP $(uint 32 \ 1 = 0; 1 < 1; 1++) $
instruction "HandleThermostatAlert@static@TcsControlle	$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{i}$
area "itsHkRepositoryAccessService" + 0x024 bytes '	it 1
<pre>loop "SwThermostat_SetMode" + 1 loop default-unrol1 =</pre>	6; J TOP
<pre>loop "SwThermostat_HasActiveSets" + 1 loop default-um</pre>	ol roturn v:
<pre>flow "EventReportingServicePUS05_SendErrorEvent" <= 1;</pre>	return x,
loop "GetMinMaxFloat" + 1 loop max 7;	<pre>Main Network (function)</pre>
snippet routine "log" is infeasible;	





Schedulability Calculation and Check

Response Time Calculation

- For simple tasking models: MS Excel and VB scripts
- For more elaborate models: In-house DSL



Alternatives: MAST, Cheddar **Symtavision**

1000





Experiences and Lessons Learned

- Software Development Lifecycle
- Software Requirements
- Software Architecture
- Software Coding / Analysis Tools



"Here is my software,

it's ready,

it's tested,



and we can't change it anymore,

 \rightarrow please prepare the timing analysis report until tomorrow EOB !"

Ok, that's a bit exaggerated, but:

It's about the mindset:

people are focused on function rather than on timing



Experiences and Lessons Learned -- Software Requirements

Non-functional (timing) requirements are essential.

- \rightarrow You have to know your needs early to make the correct design decisions
- \rightarrow You have to be able to verify/validate/test your system in the end

From experience:

- Timing requirements are usually not of high quality and incomplete.
 - Requirement documents
 - User manual and ICDs of used physical devices

\rightarrow A complete set of high quality formal timing requirements is essential



Software Architecture ←→ Computational Model, Mathematical Theory (Response Time Calculation)

Some common design/implementation pattern are in conflict with assumptions or efficient application of the theory !

- Great source for discussions
- Know the assumptions
 - \rightarrow And show that they are obeyed !



• Design for Analyzability

 \rightarrow Design the architecture according to timing needs and keep it simple !



Software Modularity

Common Pattern:

- Define modules according to functionality
- Modules are independent from each other
- Support module reusability
- → Each module defines a set of tasks

Efficient Application of Theory:

- Keep task interaction scenarios simple
- \rightarrow Limit the set of tasks

Reduce number of tasks and their communication



Software Modularity

- When first establishing Timing Analysis, we
 - Reduced the number of tasks from 50 to 10 (5 being subject to hard constraints)
 - Reduced the monitors (to protect critical sections) from 50 to 15
- Functionality is assigned to tasks according their timing needs

Temporal Characteristics		
	Aperiodic	Periodic
Hard	TC reception,	AOCS & Thermal control loops,
Soft	TM generation,	Monitoring of parameter values,

- Software Modularity (for reuse)
 - Passive modules only according to pattern
 - Specific tasks that invoke operations





Self-Suspending Tasks

Common Pattern:

- Tasks suspend during resource accesses
- Suspensions may be hidden to provide a "user-friendly" API (Libraries, Legacy Code, Operating System ...)
- Suspensions to implement temporal sequences (wait statement)
- \rightarrow Invisible delays and additional (hidden) ISR invocations
- \rightarrow Unknown (but hopefully bounded) delays

Assumption of Theory:

• Each task has a single point of suspension

Eliminate task self-suspensions in tasks subject to hard real-time constraints.



Self-Suspending Tasks

- Introduction of "Helper Tasks" executing self-suspending
 - I/O accesses
 - Low-Level Driver API calls
 - (+ Globally account for "hidden" ISRs)
- Temporal sequences are implemented in event-driven state machines







Data flow constraints

Common Pattern:

- A single task prepares data items for different data sinks
- Some data is required before the task completes



Theory:

Doesn't specifically address this need

Augment the analysis model with "virtual" tasks and "internal" deadlines.



Data flow constraints

Define Internal Deadlines



- Calculate response times of task until respective data is prepared
- And compare with respective deadline



Experiences and Lessons Learned -- Coding Rules

Coding Rules $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ (static) WCET Analysis



Mind-set

- Algorithms: Worst Case Time (WCET) vs Average Time (AET) \rightarrow loops!
- Avoid dynamic structures and data dependent control flow

 \rightarrow Code for efficient WCET analyzability!



Missions

The presented analysis has been and is carried out successfully in multiple missions

- Small Geo Platform
 - Hispasat AG1 Telecom Satellite
 - European Data Relay Satellite C
- Galileo
- Meteosat 3rd Generation
- ... Method will be applied to all future missions ...







Evaluation and Summary

Is it worth doing Formal Timing Analysis ?



- -- We have to do it as it is part of the Flight Software Qualification
- -- We can do it as the technology is available

Is it worth spending all the effort and money ?

→ Well, we'll have to become way more efficient

-- and there are many options to improve in



Experiences

- Engineers (Requirements and Software) are not used to consider timing essential
 - → Intensify training, Increase awareness
- Modern WCET analysis tools are complex to use correctly
 - \rightarrow Ease utilization by restricting the programming language (MBSE, pattern ...)
- Tools and analysis are not (yet) well integrated in the workflow
 - → We want a "Push-Button Solution"
- SA and static WCET analysis provides orthogonal view on the software
 - \rightarrow Nice Side-effect ... helps us finding bugs early



Outlook – future processor hardware

Right now:

Leon2 single core @ 65Mhz under maximum load conditions 30% CPU utilization

If more processing power is needed:

Distributed Systems

- Increasing Interest by Systems Engineering
- Multi-Core Processors
 - First hardware is on the (Space) Market

→ Flight Software Engineering should get ready to address these upcoming challenges

ightarrow Need input from academia and tool vendors

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