Formal approach for a verified implementation of Global EDF in Trampoline

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Context Overview	G-EDF Implementation	G-EDF Modeling	Verification approach	Conclusion and perspectives
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Introduction				



- hardware platforms are basically modeled by "m processors"
- implementation constraints are completely abstracted
- computational complexity overheads are neglected

LitmustRT Xenomai RT-Linux RTAI LITMUS^{RT} BOSSA Nucleus RTOS RTEMS RT-THREAD MicroC BeRTOS ERKA LynxDS Apache Mynewt FreeRTDS Trampoline VxWorks DioneDS Real-time operating systems

- scheduler programing at the kernel level is a *difficult task*
- complexity of the physical target
- several implementation constraints (data structure management, interrupt handling, etc.)

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Our contribution				
our goal				



Investigate the implementation of **global** multiprocessor scheduling policies within a **real platform**

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Investigate the implementation of **global** multiprocessor scheduling policies within a **real platform**

To "formally" verify

- that the implementation of the scheduling policy is correct and always produces the expected behavior.
- functional properties of the implemented scheduler

why "formally" ?

we reason on a model that describes exactly the behavior of the system + exploration of all possible cases (not only those given in simulation)

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Our approa	ich			

1 - Implementing G-EDF

- use Trampoline [Béchennec et al.(2006)Béchennec, Briday, Faucou, and Trinquet] for implementation (scheduling policy : FTP + partitioned scheduling)
- adapt Trampoline to support global policies and implement G-EDF in it (As a start)

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2 - Model elaboration

- model the implemented scheduler + Trampoline's components related to the scheduler (based on the source code)
- combine the elaborated models with the existing OS model

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3 - Formal verification

- use model-checking to ensure that the implemented scheduler behaves correctly
- check reachability, safety and liveness properties

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Plan				

G-EDF IMPLEMENTATION

- G-EDF scheduler architecture
- Implementation choices

G-EDF MODELING

- Existing model of Trampoline's RTOS
- Modeling rules using UPPAAL
- Elaborated models

VERIFICATION APPROACH

- Presentation of the approach
- Verified properties
- Case study and results

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G-EDF architecture				

Identify scheduling related components

- the implementation of Trampoline's scheduler is kernel-based ==> determine the scope of the scheduler's action
- add/separate new components to Trampoline :
 - Timer manager : to handle the calculation/comparison of deadlines
 - list functions : gathers the functions used to manipulate task lists



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Implementation choices				

1- Time management :

- circular time representation : 32-bit time variable + 1 μ s resolution
- ActivateTask ==> absolute deadline calculated and stored $d_i = current_time + D_i$
- deadline comparison is performed using ICOTH algorithm [Carlini and Buttazzo(2003)]

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2- Task list management :



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Existing model of Trampoline's OS				

Existing model of Trampoline's kernel [Tigori et al.(2017)Tigori, Béchennec, Faucou, and Roux]

synthesize the source code of the OS => elaboration of a complete model of Trampoline's kernel for single-core :

Extended Finite Automata + UPPAAL Functions

- variables used in the model are the control variables of the system.
- actions and conditions attached to each transition are the same ones of the source code of the system.

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- retrieve the existing model
- follow the same logic
- add/modify the model for global scheduling

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Modeling rules using UPPAAL					





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Elaborated models				

Timer model



- time flows using a shared variable that represents the time in microseconds (as in the real implementation in Trampoline)
- the timer emits a call through a synchronization on a broadcast channel MicroSecondesInc to be executed.
- the OS is executed in zero time

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Elaborated models				

Application model



- the task is synchronized with the timer model
- the execution is constrained by the guard IS_RUNNING() which is true only if the task should be running. If the task is preempted or suspended, this guard returns false.
- the task can run for an execution time between its bcet and wcet



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Presentation of the approach				

- verify the scheduler while it is calculating the scheduling decision
- combine the Timer model, the OS model and the application model
- insert observers that run in parallel with the complete model and observe its behavior.
- properties are tested on the complete model or the observers state using UPPAAL model-checker



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Verified properties				

Reachability

It is used to verify that a Good observer states is reachable by using the path formula : E<> Observer.Good == true

Liveness

"something good eventually happens" used to check if there is a deadlock in the scheduler's model.

Safety

"nothing bad happens" it is checked using the reachability property by verifying that a Bad observer state is never reached (E<> Observer.Bad == false)

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Case study and results				

Task configuration example (first attempt)

Testing the feasibility of our approach : The proposed application uses 20 periodic tasks to be executed on 2 cores, 10 with arbitrary and 10 with implicit deadlines.

erified properties





- activation/termination ==> call the scheduler
- ReadyList always sorted in an increasing deadline order
- two nodes of the ReadyList never have the same key

- deadlines are always calculated correctly
- deadline comparison is always performed correctly according to ICTOH algorithm

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erified properties



- a running task has always a lower deadline than any ready task
- an activated job always ends up running, in the ReadyList Or in a PendingJobList
- there is no idle processor while the ReadyList is not empty
- the scheduler is deadlock free

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the context switch is performed whenever the scheduler indicates it

The whole system

the system is deadlock free

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Runtime

Between 0.69s and 99.04s

Number of states

Between 12452 and 462358 state

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Example of a detected bug

In fixed priority partitioned scheduling

A task is always assigned to the same processor which is specified statically

In dynamic global scheduling scheduling

Tasks can migrate between processors ==> the processor in which a task is executing is not always the same

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Found bug

a statically assigned processor id was retrieved in a high-level function of the API layer

Consequences : the context switching was performed after the scheduling according to this wrong id

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In progress

- conduct reachability tests to all scheduler's states
- identify representative cases in order to specify an application model capable of covering all the cases of treatment of the scheduler
- cover a maximum number of situations the scheduler must deal with

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Achieved

- implementation of G-EDF within Trampoline
- modeling the integrated scheduler and first results of its correctness
- the elaborated models are based on the source code of Trampoline
 => the presented properties does not conclude the complete verification of the scheduler, however it offers a global view on it

Perspectives and future works

- elaborate a complete application model for verification
- extend the same study to other sophisticated scheduling policies

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Thank you for your attention

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Bibliography

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