Energy-Aware Synthesis of Fault-Tolerant Schedules for Real-Time Distributed Embedded Systems

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Reliability-Aware Energy Optimisation for Fault-Tolerant Embedded MP-SoCs

Summary

- Design optimisation tool for distributed embedded real-time systems
- Decides mapping, fault-tolerance policy and fault-tolerant schedule
  - Hard real-time, Hard reliability goal, Static schedule for processes and messages, Fault-tolerance for transient/soft faults
- Optimise for minimal energy consumption
- While considering impact of lowering voltages on the probability of faults
- Constraint logic programming (CLP) based implementation

Fault-tolerant scheduling

- More complex scheduling schemes yield more slack for energy management
  - Trade-off transparency for performance
  - Performance, and hence the obtainable energy savings are greatly increased
- More complex schemes demand larger schedule tables to be stored in the processing elements, and more sophisticated online schedulers

Reliable energy management

- System reliability is affected by use of energy management
  - The use of DVS increases the probability of faults, thus damaging the system reliability
- Reliability must be considered in the optimisation process
  - Considering reliability in the optimisation process allows for finding the minimum energy schedule that meets the reliability goal
  - Reliability is imposed as a constraint
- Reliability can be met at very little energy cost
  - Considering the reliability while optimising enables us to find reliable schedules with comparable energy savings

Comparison of FT schemes

- Fully Transparent Scheduling
- Slack Sharing Scheduling
- Conditional Scheduling

Energy vs. Faults

- Recent research shows that the probability of transient/soft faults increases dramatically when decreasing the voltage of a circuit
- Many modern designs use dynamic voltage scaling (DVS) to minimise energy consumption
- Fault-tolerant systems that use power management techniques may prove to be fault-tolerant but unreliable due to increase in faults
- Relation between faults and voltage is given by:

\[ \frac{dN}{dt} = A \frac{N}{V^2} \]


Comparison of energy savings

Comparison of system reliability