Periodic task scheduling

Optimality of rate monotonic scheduling (among static priority policies) Utilization bound for EDF Optimality of EDF (among dynamic priority policies) Tick-driven scheduling (OS issues)







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 - Optimality (Trial #2): If any other fixed-priority scheduling policy can meet deadlines in the worst case scenario, so can RM.
- How do we prove it?
 - Consider the worst case scenario
 - Show that if someone else can schedule then RM can

The worst-case scenario

- Q: When does a periodic task, *T*, experience the maximum delay?
- A: When it arrives together with all the higher-priority tasks (critical instance)
- Idea for the proof
 - If some higher-priority task does not arrive together with *T*, aligning the arrival times can only increase the completion time of *T*.

Critical instant theorem





Case 1: Higher priority task 1 is running when task 2 arrives.



Proof

Case 1: higher priority task 1 is running when task 2 arrives \rightarrow shifting task 1 right will increase completion time of 2





Proof (Case 2)



Case 2: processor is idle when task 2 arrives → shifting task 1 left cannot decrease completion time of 2

Proof (Case 2)



Optimality of the RM policy

• If any other fixed-priority policy can meet deadlines so can RM



Policy X meets deadlines?

Optimality of the RM policy

• If any other policy can meet deadlines so can RM







- Why is it 100%?
- Consider a task set where:

$$\sum_{i} \frac{C_i}{P_i} = 1$$

• Imagine a policy that reserves for each task *i* a fraction f_i of each clock tick, where $f_i = C_i / P_i$



• Imagine a policy that reserves for each task *i* a fraction f_i of each time unit, where $f_i = C_i / P_i$



- This policy meets all deadlines, because within each period P_i it reserves for task *i* a total time
 - Time = $f_i P_i = (C_i / P_i) P_i = C_i$ (i.e., enough to finish)

 Pick any two execution chunks that are not in EDF order and swap them



 Pick any two execution chunks that are not in EDF order and swap them



• Still meets deadlines!

 Pick any two execution chunks that are not in EDF order and swap them



- Still meets deadlines!
- Repeat swap until all in EDF order
 - → EDF meets deadlines





Tick-based scheduling within an OS

- A real-time library for periodic tasks on Linux or Windows
 - There is need to provide approximate real-time guarantees on common operating systems (as opposed to specialized real-time OSes)
 - A high-priority "real-time" thread pool is created and maintained
 - A higher-priority scheduler is invoked periodically by timerticks to check for periodic invocation times of real-time threads. The scheduler resumes threads whose arrival times have come.
 - Resumed threads execute one invocation then block.
 - Scheduling is preemptive
 - The scheduler can implement arbitrary scheduling policies including EDF, RM, etc.
 - An admission controller is responsible for spawning new periodic threads if the new task set can meet its deadlines.



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 - Scheduler implements wrappers for blocking primitives



The time-driven scheduler

- /* N is the number of periodic tasks */
- For i=1 to N
- if (current_time = next_arrival_time of task i)
- put task i in ready_queue
- /* ready_queue is a priority queue that implements
- the desired scheduling policy. */
- Inspect top task from ready queue, call it j
- If (a task is running and its priority is higher than priority of j) return
- Else resume task j (and put the running task into the ready queue if applicable); return

















Admission controller

Implements schedulability analysis

- If $U+C_{new}/P_{new} < U_{bound}$ admit task
- Must account for various practical overheads. How?
- Examples of overhead:
 - How to account for the overhead of running the time-driven scheduler on every time-tick?
 - How to account for the overhead of running the scheduler after task termination?
- If new task admitted
 - $U = U + C_{new}/P_{new}$
 - Create a new thread
 - Register it with the scheduler



Library with lock primitives

- Lock (S) {
- Check if semaphore S = locked
- If locked
- enqueue running tasks in semaphore queue
- Else
- let semaphore = locked
- }
- Unlock (S) {
- If semaphore queue empty then
- semaphore = unlocked
- Else
- Resume highest-priority waiting task
- }



Problem: some threads may execute blocking OS calls (e.g., disk or network read/write and block without calling your lock/unlock!)