

A Co-Designed RTOS and MCU Concept for Dynamically Composed Embedded Systems

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Agenda

1. Introduction
2. MCSmartOS
 - Dynamic Composition
 - Portability
3. The mosartMCU
 - OS-Aware MCU Architecture
 - Security
4. Evaluation Platform



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Introduction

The Future of Embedded Systems

Upcoming technologies

- Car2X communication
- Autonomous cars
- Home automation
- Medicine
- Industry 4.0
- Internet of Things (IoT)

Resulting challenges

- High diversity of
 - Hardware
 - Software
 - Services
- Huge network
- Life-critical applications
- Long-term support after deployment



Introduction

The Future of Embedded Systems

What will be needed

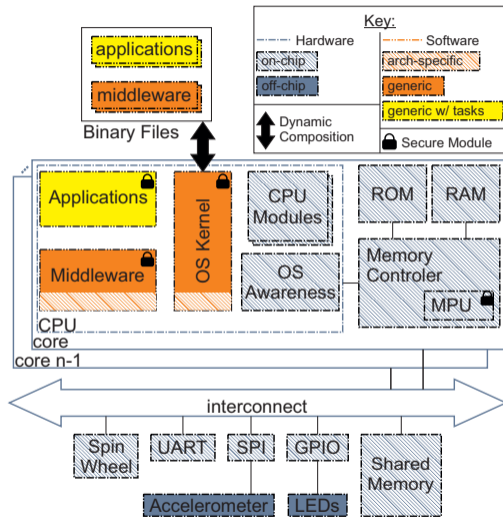
- Computational power
- Dependability
Availability, reliability, safety, integrity, confidentiality, maintainability
- Dynamic composition
- Reconfigurable hardware
- Portability

→ Co-designed hardware-software architecture



Introduction

MCSmartOS and mosartMCU



Introduction

MCSmartOS and *mosartMCU*

Five dissertations:

- L. Ribeiro → Dynamic composition
- R. Gomes → Portability
- F. Mauroner → *mosartMCU*
- M. Malenko → Security
- P. Brungs → Hardware partial reconfiguration



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MCSmartOS

Overview

Multicore RTOS for the IoT and automotive domains

- Dependability
- Portability
- Hard and soft real-time
- Dynamic
 - Module changes
 - Reaction to events
 - Dynamic resource sharing
- Small ROM and RAM footprint



MCSmartOS

Current State

Kernel

- Priority-based scheduling
- Centralized interrupt handling
- Synchronization mechanisms
 - Events
 - Resources
- Time management
- Multi-target toolchain

Support for

- MSP430
- Aurix
- RISC-V (softcore)
- *mosart*MCU (softcore)



MCSmartOS

Dynamic Composition

Remote updates mandatory for bug/security hole fixes, changing requirements and laws, new applications, etc

- Huge number of devices
- Devices in unreachable places
- Variant diversity
- Keep system dependable

→ *Dynamic composition* of software!

MCSmartOS analyzes changes before they happen to guarantee **interoperability**

- Compatibility
- Consistency
- Schedulability



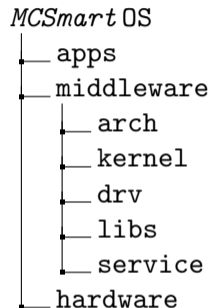
MCSmartOS

Portability

The software environment is built such that it is

- Portable
- Maintainable
- Developer friendly

Building an application is straightforward and the most specific software will automatically be selected by the make environment.



MCSmartOS

Portability

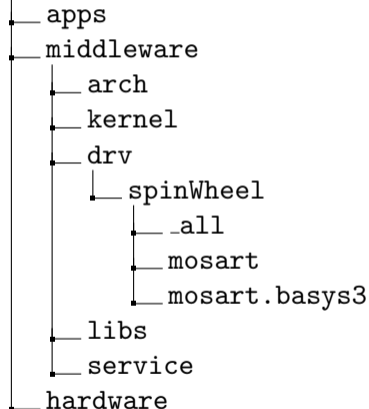
Application's Makefile:

```
BOARDS += mosart.basys3
BOARDS += mosart.nexus4
BOARDS += msp430f5529.LaunchPad
```

```
LIBS += drv.ledWheel
```

- Build for *mosart*MCU on Basys3 board
- Build for *mosart*MCU on Nexus4 board
- Build for MSP430f5529 on LaunchPad board

MCSmart OS



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The *mosart*MCU

Overview

Multicore MCU with OS awareness

- Softcore
- Based on RISC-V/*vscale*
- User-defined on-chip peripherals
 - USART
 - Timer
 - Profiling unit
 - ...
- Partially reconfigurable at runtime



The *mosart*MCU

OS-Aware MCU Architecture

Goals

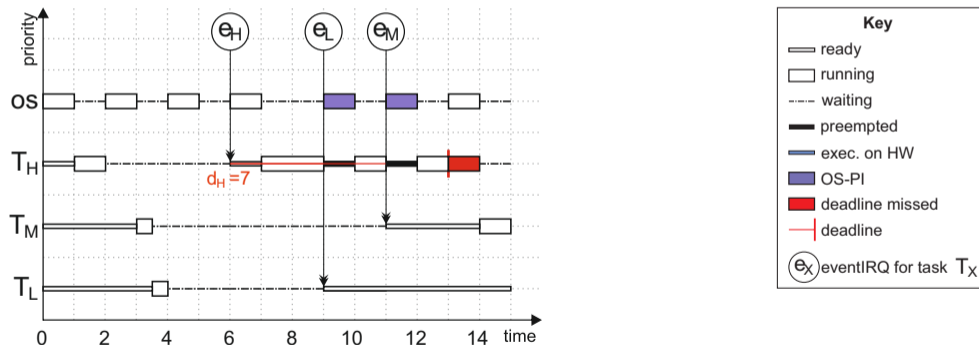
- Increase overall efficiency
- Support the RTOS
 - Task awareness
 - Event/IRQ handling
 - Resource awareness
- Direct access to OS data structures
 - OS housekeeping in hardware
 - Unbounded number of tasks and resources



The *mosart*MCU

OS-Aware MCU Architecture - Example

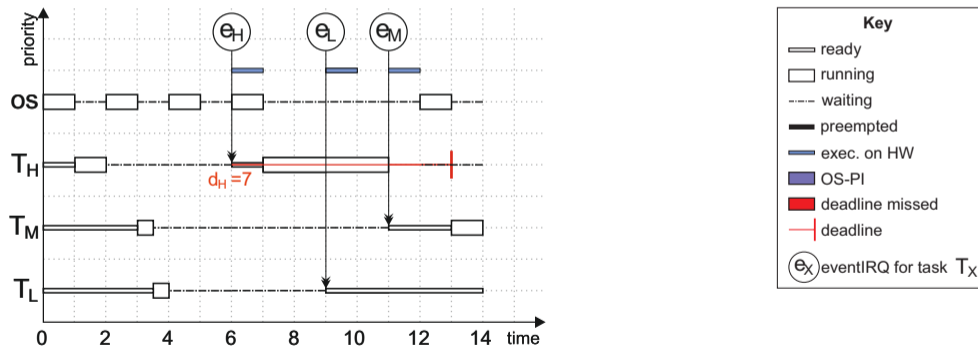
Problem: kernel priority inversion when handling interrupts and events



The *mosart*MCU

OS-Aware MCU Architecture - Example

EventIRQ: avoid kernel priority inversion when handling interrupts and events



Accepted paper DSD/2017 - EventIRQ: An Event based and Priority aware IRQ handling for Multi-tasking Environments

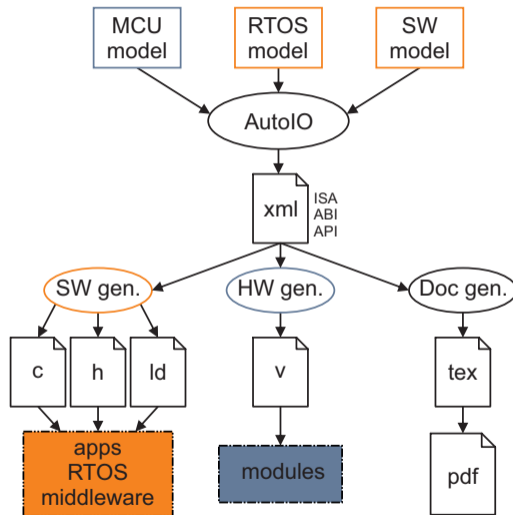
The *mosart*MCU

Interface - Auto IO

Tool to generate the interface between MCU and OS

- Model hardware and its peripherals
- Model RTOS and applications
- Generate hardware and software modules, and documentation

→ Firmware and bitstream

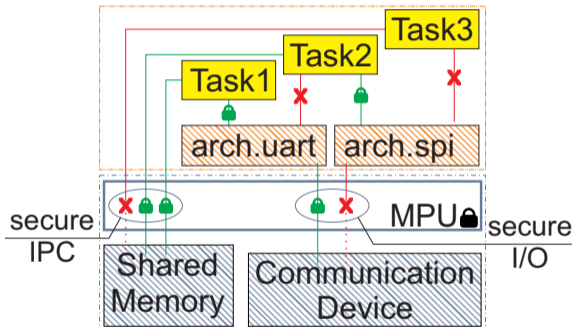


The *mosart*MCU

Security

Kernel manages a tailored MPU. Tasks can only access their own code and data, and addresses they share with other tasks.

- Isolate tasks
- Secure inter-process communication (IPC)
- Secure access to I/O devices



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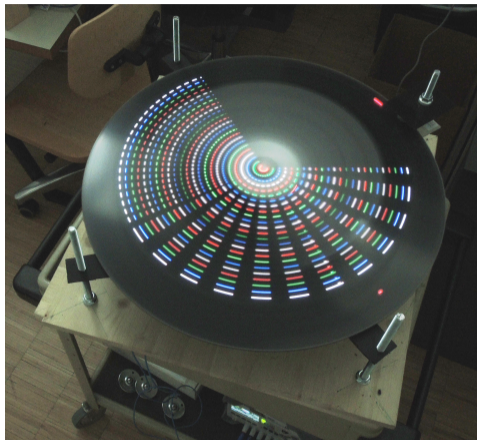


Evaluation Platform

Circular LED Display

Test platform for our concepts

- *MCSmartOS* + *mosartMCU* (On Artix-7 FPGA)
- External interferences
- Dynamic composition
- Security attacks
- Real-time guarantees



Thank you!

