7.b Seeking the lost optimality

DP-FAIR: A Simple Model for Understanding Optimal Multiprocessor Scheduling

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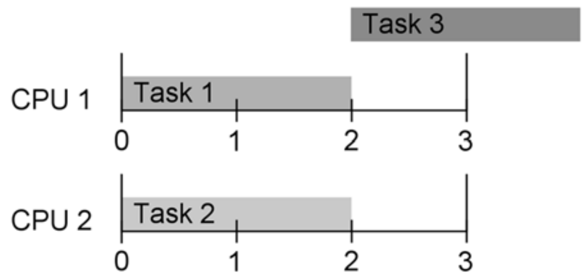
Partitioned Schedulers ≠ Optimal

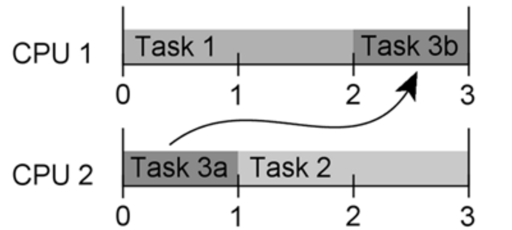
- Example: 2 processors; 3 tasks, each with 2 units of work required every 3 time units: (3,2)



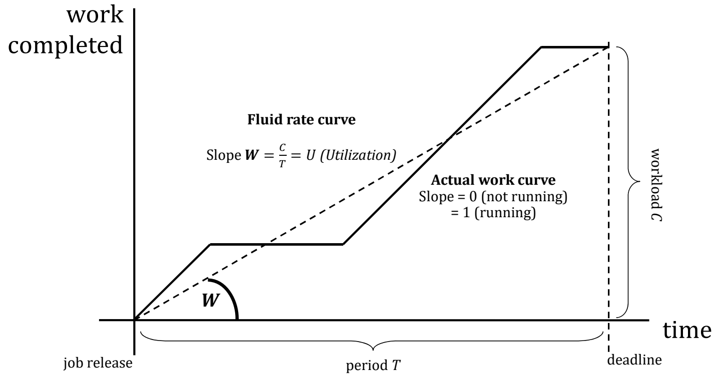
Global Schedulers May Succeed

- Example: 2 processors; 3 tasks, each with 2 units of work required every 3 time units

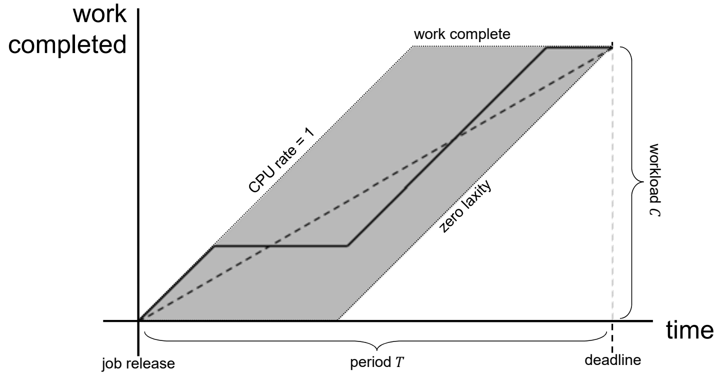
Task 3 *migrates* between processors



Fluid Rate Curve



Feasible Work Region



The Grand Challenge (*Mark 1*)

- Design an *optimal* scheduling algorithm for periodic task sets on *multiprocessors*
  - A task set is *feasible* if there exists a schedule that meets all deadlines
  - A scheduler is *optimal* if it can always schedule any feasible task set

Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

- Any set of (independent) tasks needing at most
  - 1 processor for each task τ_i ($\forall i\ U_i \le 1$)
  - m processors for all tasks ($\sum_i U_i \le m$)

  is feasible
- **Proof**: small scheduling intervals can approximate the fluid rate curve (at what cost?)
  - **Status**: solved. P-Fair (1996) was the first optimal algorithm

Problem

The Grand Challenge (*Mark 2*)

- Design an *optimal* scheduling algorithm with *fewer* context switches and migrations
  - Finding a feasible schedule with *the fewest* migrations is NP-Complete!

Problem

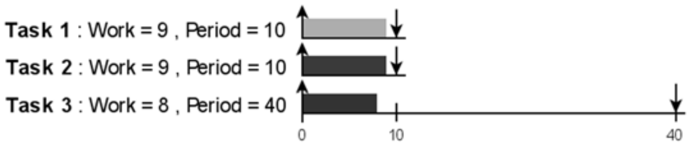
The Grand Challenge (*Mark 2*)

- Design an *optimal* scheduling algorithm with *fewer* context switches and migrations
- Status: *Solved*
  - **BUT** the solutions are complex and confusing
- **Our Contributions:** A *simple, unifying theory* for optimal global multiprocessor scheduling *and* a simple optimal algorithm

DP-Fair

Why Greedy Algorithms Fail On Multiprocessors

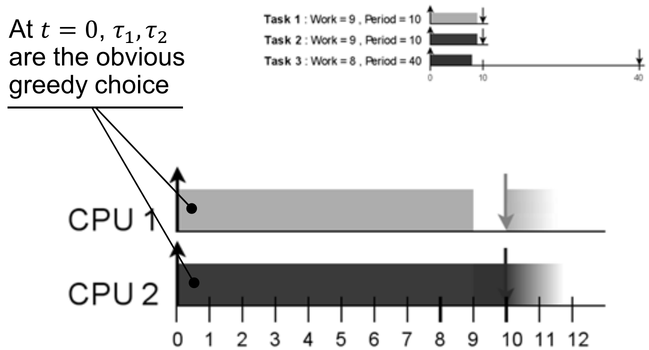
- Example $(n = 3, m = 2)$



Utilization: 9/10 + 9/10 + 8/40 = 2

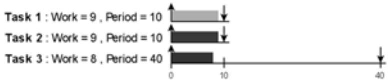
DP-Fair

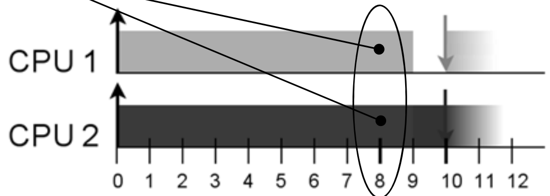
Why Greedy Algorithms Fail On Multiprocessors



Why Greedy Algorithms Fail On Multiprocessors

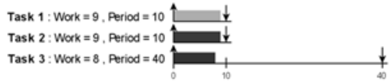
Even at $t = 8$, τ_1, τ_2 are the only "reasonable" greedy choice

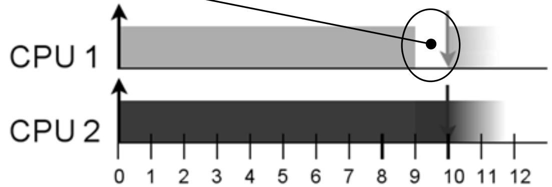




Why Greedy Algorithms Fail On Multiprocessors

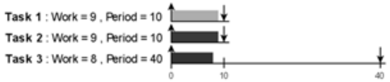
Yet, if τ_3 isn't started by $t = 8$, the residual idle time eventually causes a deadline miss

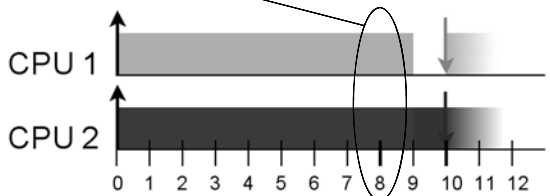




Why Greedy Algorithms Fail On Multiprocessors

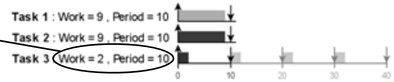
How can we "see" this critical event at $t = 8$?

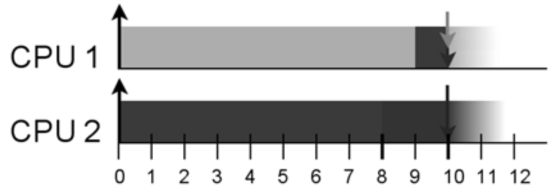




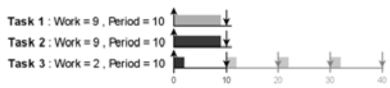
Proportioned Algorithms Succeed On Multiprocessors

Subdivide τ_3 in four subtasks with the same period as τ_1, τ_2

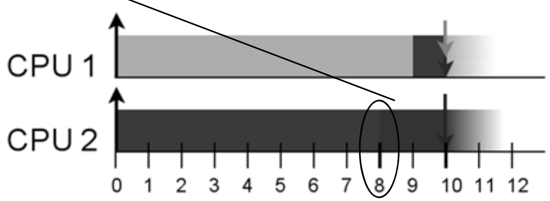




Proportioned Algorithms Succeed On Multiprocessors



Now τ_3 has a *zero-laxity* event at $t = 8$



Proportional Fairness

- **Insight:** scheduling is easier when all jobs have the same deadline

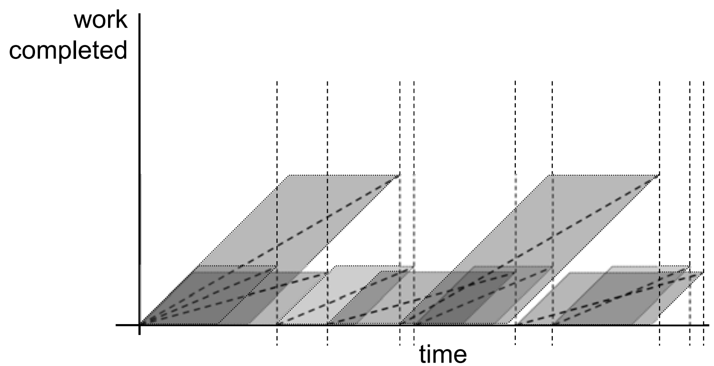
> Theorem [Hong, Leung: RTSS 1988, IEEE TCO 1992]
> *No optimal on-line scheduler can exist for a set of jobs with two or more distinct deadlines on any m multiprocessor system, where m > 1*

- **Application:** apply all deadlines to all jobs
  - Assign workloads proportional to utilization
  - Work complete matches fluid rate curve at every system deadline

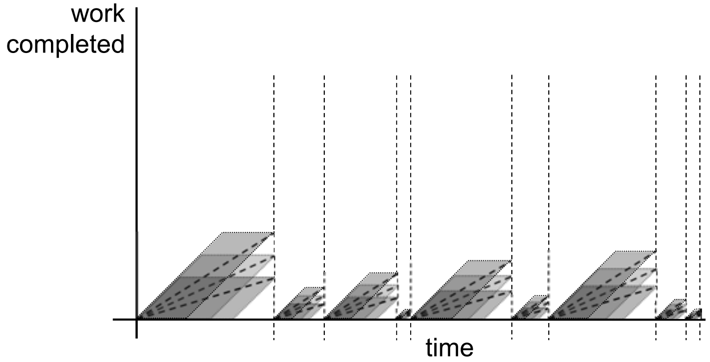
Proportional Fairness is the Key

- All known optimal algorithms enforce proportional fairness at all deadlines
  - **P-Fair** (1996) - *Baruah, Cohen, Plaxton, and Varvel*
    (the extreme: proportional fairness at *all times*)
  - **BF** (2003) - *Zhu, Mossé, and Melhem*
  - **LLREF** (2006) - *Cho, Ravindran, Jensen*
  - **EKG** (2006) - *Andersson, Tovar*
- Why do they all use proportional fairness?

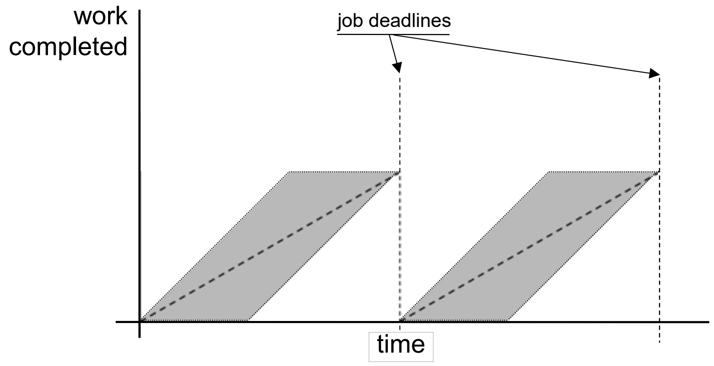
Scheduling Multiple Tasks is Complicated



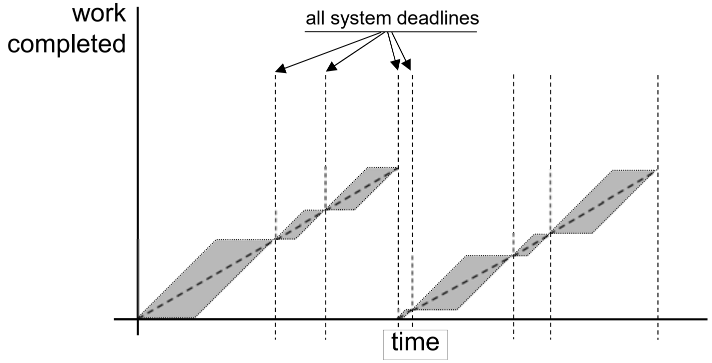
Scheduling Multiple Tasks with Same Deadline is Easy



Actual Feasible Regions



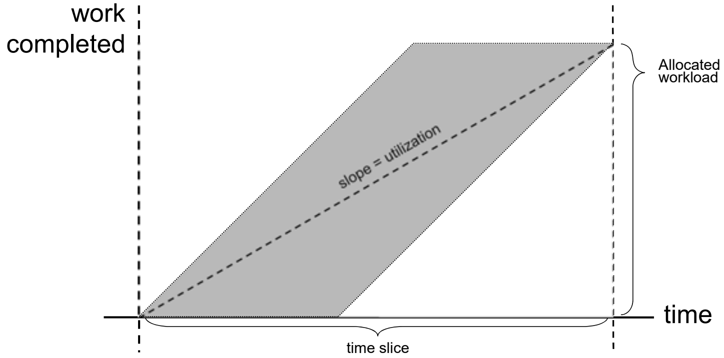
Restricted Feasible Regions Under Deadline Partitioning



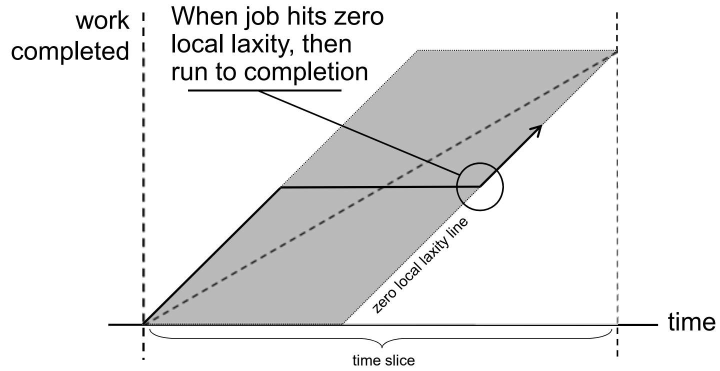
The DP-Fair Scheduling Policy

- Partition time into *slices* based on all system deadlines
- Allocate each job a per-slice workload equal to its *utilization* times the *length of the slice*
- Schedule jobs within each slice in any way that obeys the following three rules:
  1. Always run a job with zero *local laxity*
  2. Never run a job with no workload remaining in the slice
  3. Do not voluntarily allow more idle processor time than $(m - \sum U_i) \times$ (*length of slice*)

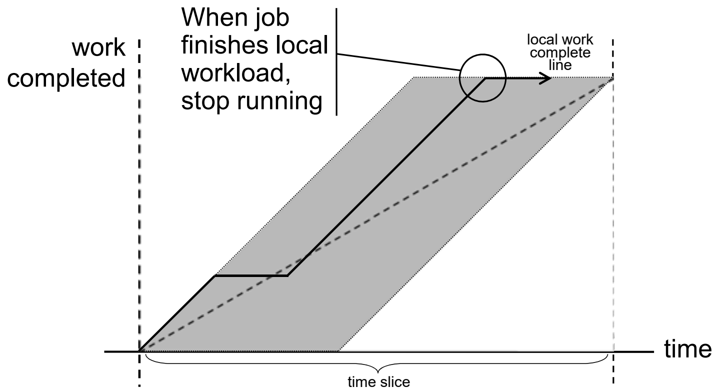
DP-Fair Work Allocation



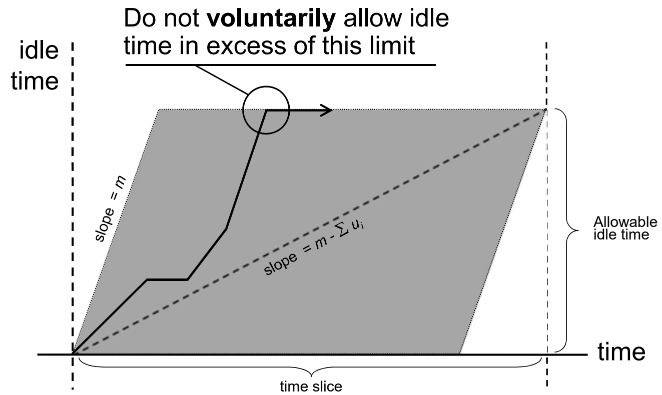
DP-Fair Scheduling Rule #1



DP-Fair Scheduling Rule #2



DP-Fair Scheduling Rule #3



DF-Fair Guarantees Optimality

- We say that a scheduling algorithm is *DP-Fair* if it follows these three rules
- **Theorem:** Any DP-Fair scheduling algorithm for periodic tasks is optimal

DP-Fair Implications

- (Partition time into slices)
  \+ (Assign proportional workloads)

  Optimal scheduling is almost trivial
  - Minimally restrictive rules allow great latitude for algorithm design and adaptability
- What is the simplest possible algorithm?

EXAMPLE OF EXAM ASSIGNMENT: STUDYING THE RUN ALGORITHM

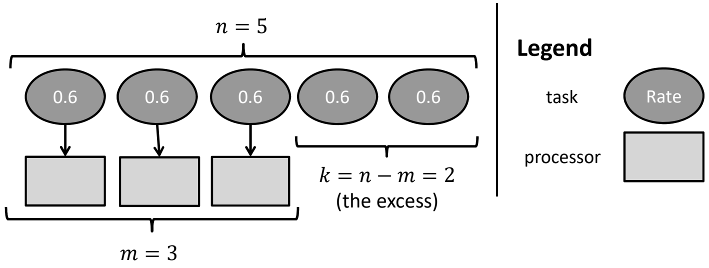
PhD seminar on Real-Time Systems, University of Bologna, July 2014

RUN Assumptions

Model parameters

- m homogeneous (symmetric) processors
- Implicit-deadline independent task $\tau_i, i \in \{1..n\}$
- $n = m + k, k \geq 0$
- Fixed-rate tasks $U_i = \frac{C_i}{T_i}$ $\sum_{i=1}^{n} U_i \leq m$
- Fully utilized system: no idle time (perhaps using fillers)
- *Migration* and *preemption* are assumed to have no additional costs over c_i

Example /1



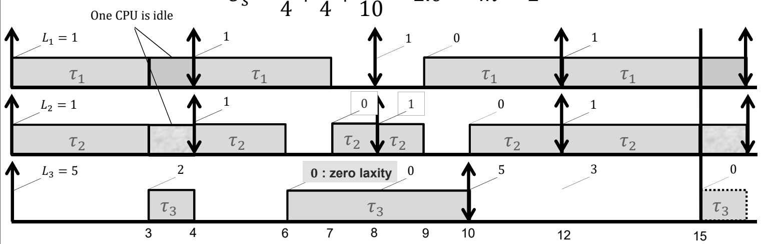
- $U_i = 0.6 \;\; \forall \tau_i, i = \{1, \ldots, n = 5\}$
- $\sum_{i=1}^{n=5} U_i = 3 \Rightarrow m = 3$ (fully utilized system)
- What schedule Σ for $\mathbf{S} = \{\{\boldsymbol{\tau_i}\}, \boldsymbol{m}\}$?

Duality

- The problem of scheduling $\boldsymbol{S = \{\tau_1 = (c_1, T_1), \ldots, \tau_n = (c_n, T_n)\}, m}$ has a *dual* problem that consists of scheduling $\boldsymbol{S' = \{\tau'_1 = (T_1 - c_1, T_1), \ldots, \tau'_n = (T_n - c_n, T_n)\}, (n - m)}$
- With this definition of duality
  - Laxity in primal is work remaining in the dual
  - A work-complete event in the primal is zero-laxity in the dual
  - And viceversa
- **Corollary**: any scheduling problem with $\boldsymbol{m}$ processors and $\boldsymbol{n = m + 1}$ tasks and $\sum_1^n U_i = \boldsymbol{m}$ may be scheduled by applying EDF to its uniprocessor dual
  - If I can schedule n tasks on m processors, then I can also schedule the same n tasks on $n - m$ processors
  - This is so because the scheduling events in the dual map to scheduling events in the primal

The G-LLF example at page 372 …

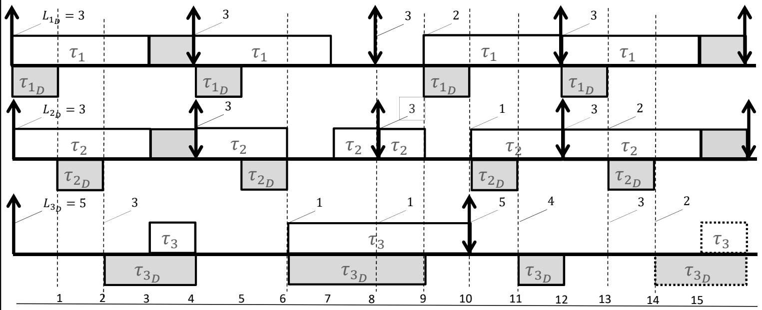
$$S = \{\tau_1 = (3{,}4), \tau_2 = (3{,}4), \tau_3 = (5{,}10)\}, H_S = 20$$
$$U_S = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{10} = 2.0 \;\rightarrow m = 2$$



- At $t = 15$ the CPU time remaining is $T_R = m \times (H_S - t) = \mathbf{10}$
- Yet, the time needed is $T_N = e_1 + e_2 + e_3 = \mathbf{11}$

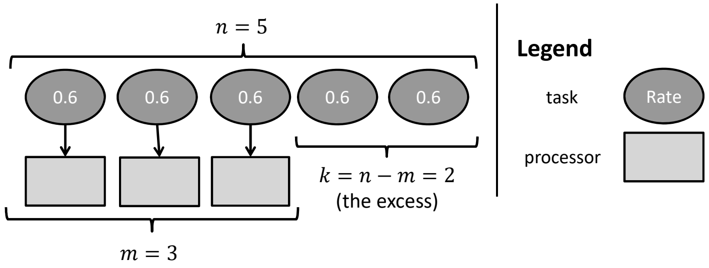
Applying duality

$$S = \{\tau_1 = (3{,}4), \tau_2 = (3{,}4), \tau_3 = (5{,}10)\}, U_s = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{10} = 2.0 \;\rightarrow m = 2$$
$$\boldsymbol{S_D = \{\tau_{1_D} = (1, 4), \tau_{2_D} = (1, 4), \tau_{3_D} = (5, 10)\}, U_{S_D} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{5}{10} = 1.0 \rightarrow m_D = 1}$$



The dual (LLF) schedule leaves no idle time

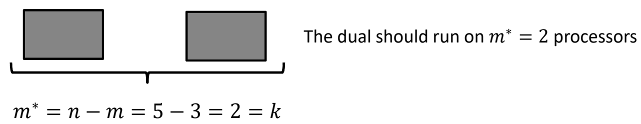
Example /1



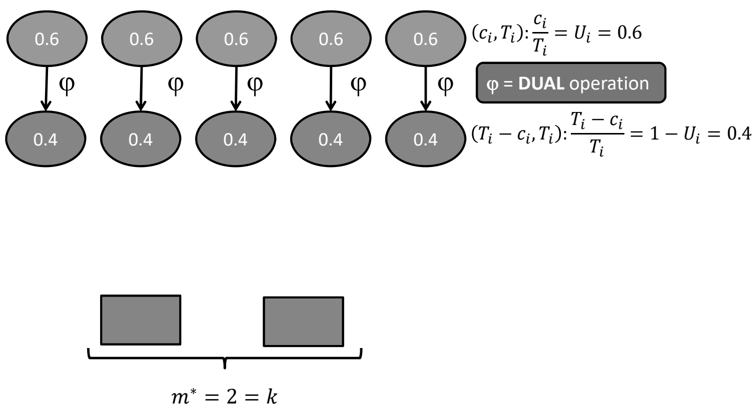
- $U_i = 0.6\ \ \forall \tau_i, i = \{1, \dots, n = 5\}$
- $\sum_i^n U_i = 3 \Rightarrow m = 3$ (fully utilized system)
- What schedule Σ for $\mathbf{S} = \{\{\boldsymbol{\tau_i}\}, \boldsymbol{m}\}$?

Example /2

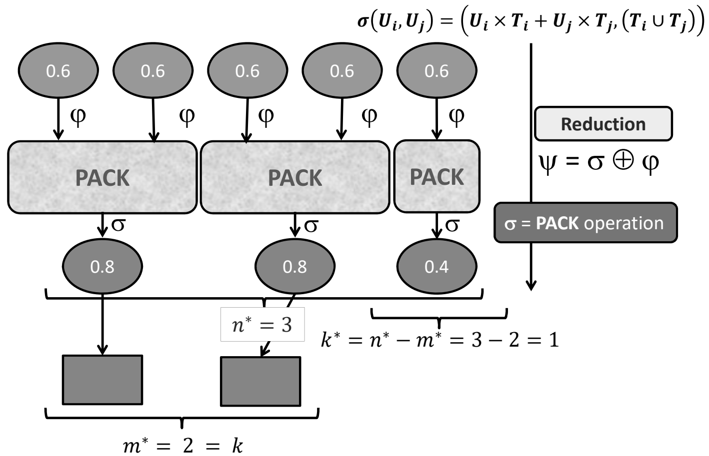
- Consider the dual of this $\{n = 5, m = 3\}$ system



Example /3

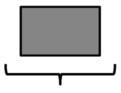


Example /4

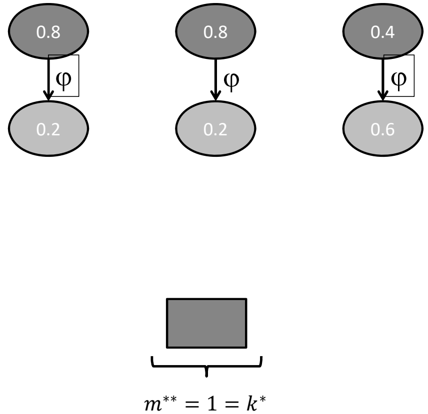


Example /5

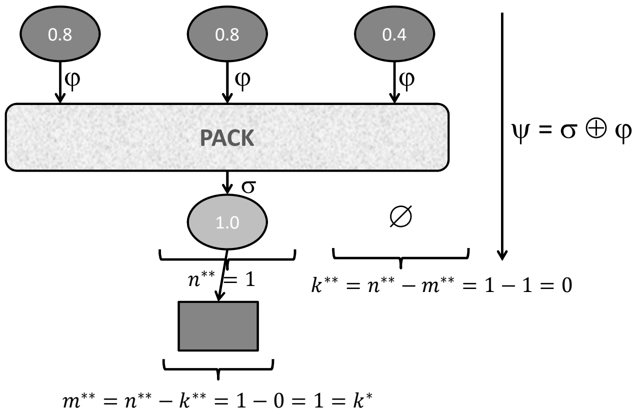
The $(n^* = 3, m^* = 2)$ system still cannot be partitioned feasibly
Yet, applying duality to it seems promising since the dual would need $n^* - m^* = 1$ processor, which would REDUCE the problem TO a UNIPROCESSOR case



Example /6

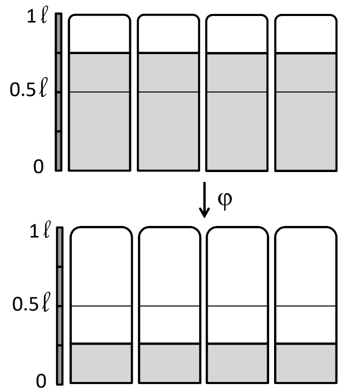


Example /7



Why does reduction terminate? /1

Lemma: $\psi = \left| \sigma \circ \varphi \left(\cup_1^4 \tau_i \right) \right| \leq \left\lceil \frac{|\tau|+1}{2} \right\rceil$



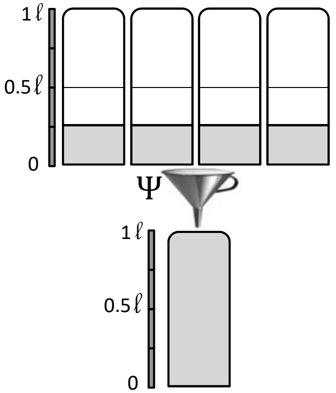
Intuition

$\sum_1^4 U_i = 3 \Rightarrow m = 3$
$n = 4$
$\boldsymbol{k} = n - m = 1$

In the dual system
$\sum_1^4 U_i^* = n - m = 1 \Rightarrow$
$m^* = 1 = \boldsymbol{k}$
$n^* = 1$ after packing
$k^* = 0$ no leftover

Why does reduction terminate? /2

Lemma: $\psi = \left|\sigma \circ \varphi\,(U_1^4 \tau_i)\right| \leq \left\lceil \frac{|\tau|+1}{2} \right\rceil$



- Reduction ψ = (σ⊕φ) terminates as every step of it lowers the residual workload and the # of processors needed to run it
- The packing operation (at least) halves the number of tasks to schedule
- **Termination theorem:** after a finite number ***p*** of reduction steps, the system is reduced to a uniprocessor with full workload

How does RUN work /1

- A pair of basic operators
  - DUAL (φ)
  - PACK (σ)
- The REDUCE (ψ = σ ⊕ φ) operation lowers (~ halves) the size of the problem at every step
- **Theorem** (validity of the dual): Σ valid ⇔ Σ^* valid
- Since every dual task represents the idle time of its primary, finding a feasible schedule for the dual (which is easier) determines a feasible schedule for its primary

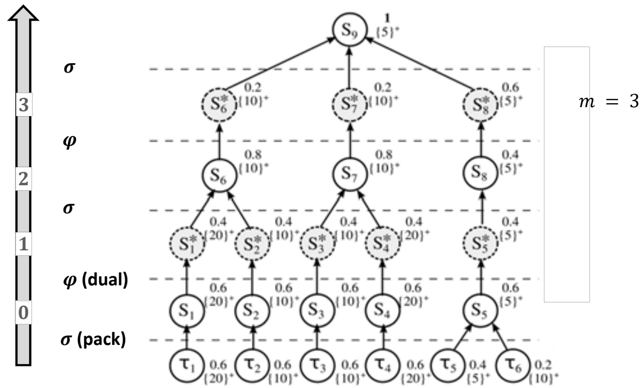
How does RUN work /2

Algorithm 1: Outline of the RUN algorithm

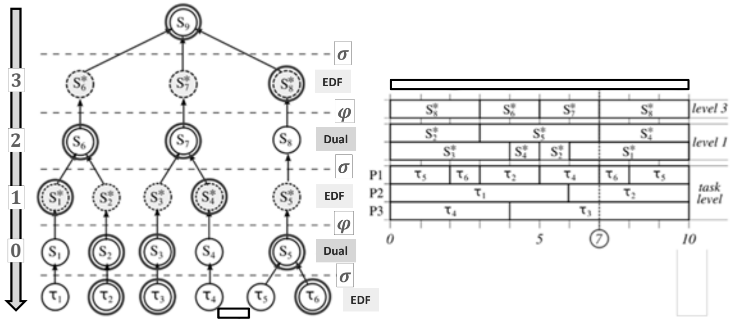
I. OFF-LINE;
  A. Generate a reduction sequence for $\mathcal{T}$;
  B. Invert the sequence to form a server tree;
  C. For each proper subsystem $\mathcal{T}'$ of $\mathcal{T}$;
    Define the client/server at each virtual level;
II. ON-LINE;
Upon a scheduling event: ;
  A. If the event is a job release event at level 0 ;
    1. Update deadline sets of servers on path up to root;
    2. Create jobs for each of these servers accordingly;
  B. Apply Rules 1 & 2 to schedule jobs from root to leaves, determining the m jobs to schedule at level 0;
  C. Assign the m chosen jobs to processors, according to some task-to-processor assignment scheme;

Example: off-line phase

$S_5 = \sigma(U_4, U_5) = \big((0.4 + 0.2) \times \min(5{,}10)),(5 \cup 10)\big) = (0.6, 5), C_{S_5} = 3$



Example: on-line phase (at time $t = 7$)



Putting RUN into practice

Implementation and evaluation

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University of Padua, Italy

26th EUROMICRO Conference on Real-time Systems (ECRTS)
Madrid, 9 July 2014

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www.proxima-project.eu

RUN implementation

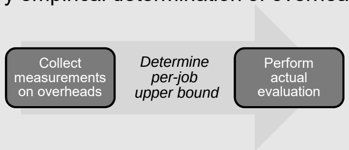
- **For real**
  - On top of **LITMUS^{RT}** Linux test-bed (UNC, now MP-SWI)
  - Relying on *standard* RTOS support
- Main implementation choices and challenges
  - *Scheduling on the reduction tree*
    - How to organize the data structure
    - How to perform virtual scheduling and trigger tree updates
    - Intrinsic influence of the packing policy
  - *Mixing global and local scheduling*
    - Global release event queue vs. local *level-0* ready queue
    - Handling simultaneous scheduling events
      - Job release, budget exhaustion (possibly from different sub-trees)
  - *Meeting the full-utilization requirement*
    - Variability of tasks' WCET and less-than-full utilization

Empirical evaluation

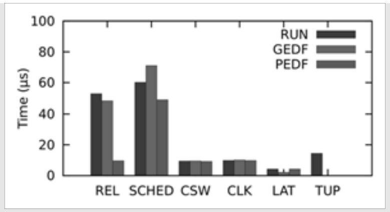
- **Empirical evaluation** instead of simulation-based
- Focus on **scheduling interference**
  - Cost of scheduling primitives
  - Incurred preemptions and migrations
- RUN compared against **P-EDF** and **G-EDF**
  - RUN shares something in common with both
  - Much better than **Pfair** (S-PD^2 in LITMUS^{RT})
    - RUN has superior performance for preemptions and migrations

Experimental setup

- LITMUS[RT] on an 8-core AMD Opteron[TM] 2356
- Collected measurements for RUN, P-EDF, G-EDF
  - Hundreds of automatically generated task sets
  - Harmonic and non-harmonic, with global utilization @ 50%-100%
  - Representative of small up to large tasks
- **Two-step process**
  - Preliminary empirical determination of overheads



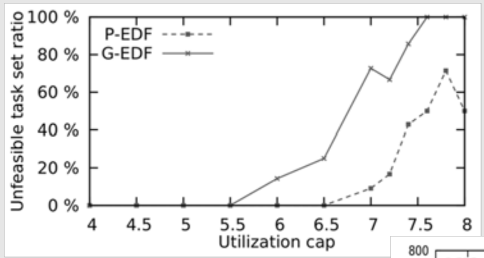
Primitive overheads and empirical bound



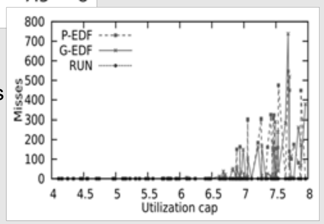
- Expectations confirmed
  - P-EDF needs lighter-weight scheduling primitives
- **Tree update** (TUP) triggered upon
  - *Budget exhaustion* event
  - Job release → REL includes TUP
- Empirical upper bound on RUN scheduling overhead
  - $OH^{Job}_{RUN} = REL + \widehat{SCHED} + CLK + k \times (TUP + \widehat{SCHED} + max(PRE, MIG))$

$k = \lceil (3p+1)/2 \rceil$ and $\widehat{SCHED} = SCHED + CSW + LAT$

Empirical schedulability

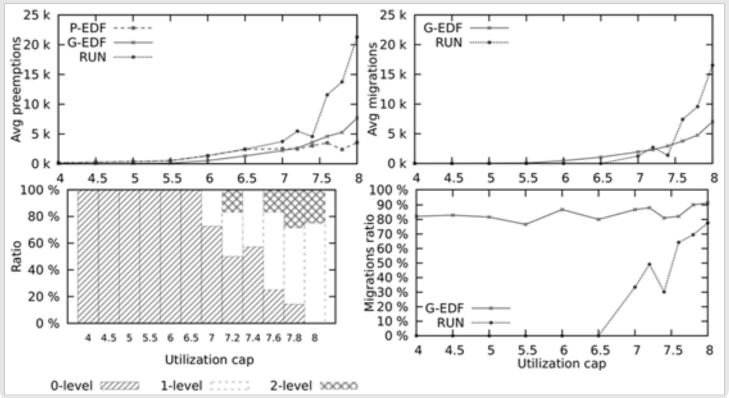


- Task sets exhibiting at least one miss
- RUN suffered **no misses**
  - Optimality and tailored overhead



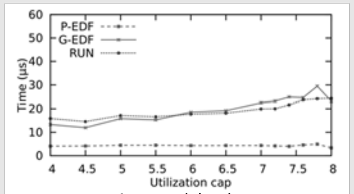
Kernel interference

- Observing average preemptions and migrations

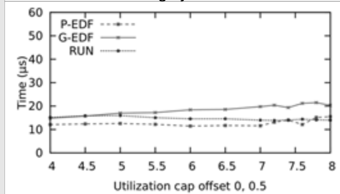


Scheduling cost

- Average cost of core scheduling primitives

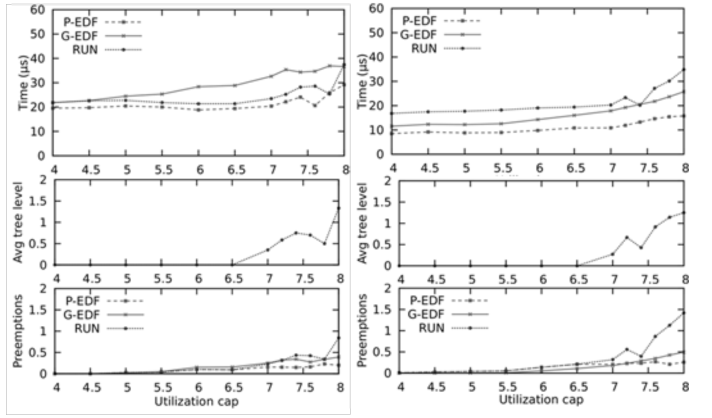


Average job release



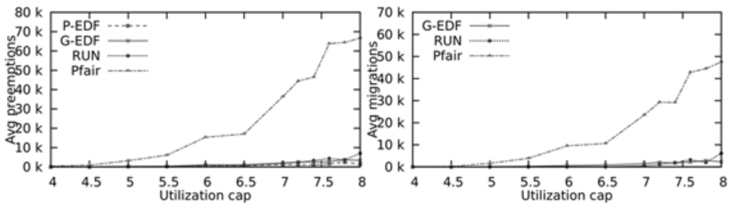
Average schedule

Per-job scheduling overhead

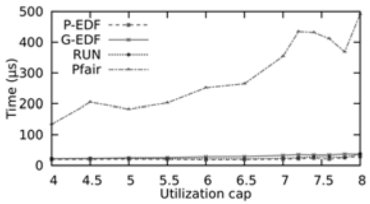


Harmonic task set *Non-harmonic task set*

Evaluation against S-PD²



Observed preemptions and migrations



Per-job kernel overhead