

# Konfigurierbare Systemsoftware (KSS)

## VL 6 – Generative Programming: The SLOTH Approach

**Daniel Lohmann**

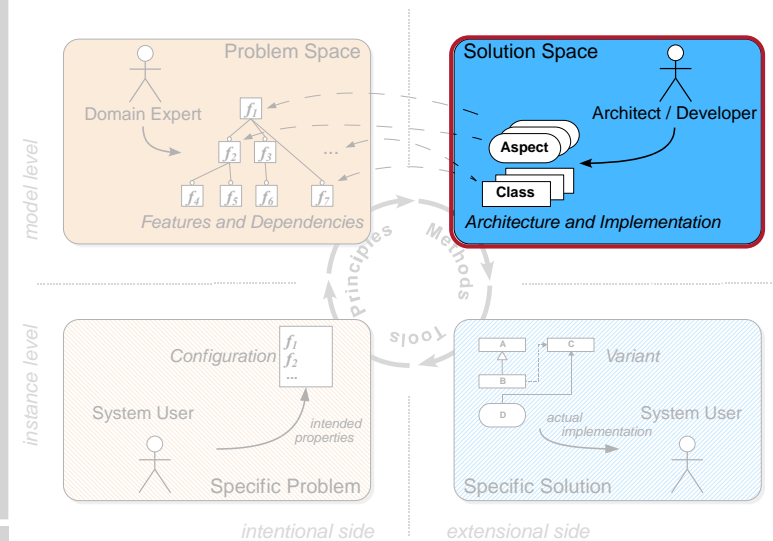
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Verteilte Systeme und Betriebssysteme

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Erlangen-Nürnberg

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## About this Lecture

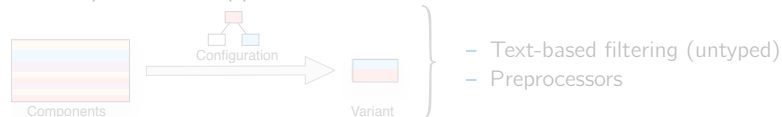


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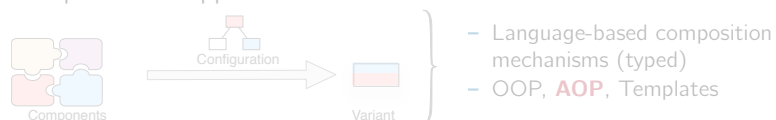
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## Implementation Techniques: Classification

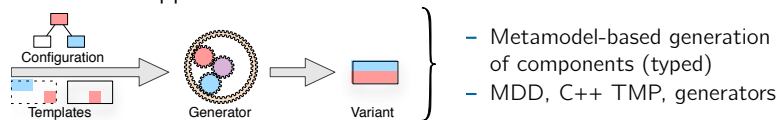
### Decompositional Approaches



### Compositional Approaches



### Generative Approaches

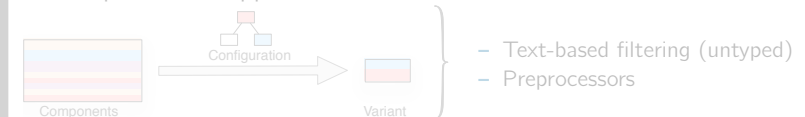


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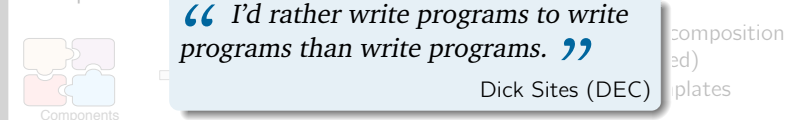
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## Implementation Techniques: Classification

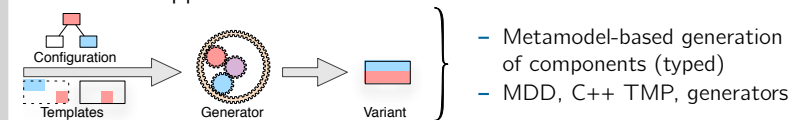
### Decompositional Approaches



### Compositional Approaches



### Generative Approaches



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## Agenda

- 6.1 Motivation: OSEK and Co
- 6.2 SLOTH: Threads as Interrupts
- 6.3 SLEEPY SLOTH: Threads as IRQs as Threads
- 6.4 SLOTH ON TIME: Time-Triggered Laziness
- 6.5 SLOTH\* Generation
- 6.6 Summary and Conclusions
- 6.7 References

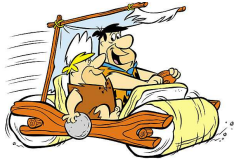


## Agenda

- 6.1 Motivation: OSEK and Co
  - Background
  - OSEK OS: Abstractions
  - OSEK OS: Tailoring and Generation
- 6.2 SLOTH: Threads as Interrupts
- 6.3 SLEEPY SLOTH: Threads as IRQs as Threads
- 6.4 SLOTH ON TIME: Time-Triggered Laziness
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## The OSEK Family of Automotive OS Standards

- **1995** OSEK OS (OSEK/VDX) [8]
  - **2001** OSEKtime (OSEK/VDX) [10]
  - **2005** AUTOSAR OS (AUTOSAR) [1]
- 
- **OSEK OS** → "Offene Systeme und deren Schnittstellen für die Elektronik in Kraftfahrzeugen"
    - **statically configured**, event-triggered real-time OS
  - **OSEKtime**
    - **statically configured**, time-triggered real-time OS
    - can optionally be extended with OSEK OS (to run in slack time)
  - **AUTOSAR OS** → "Automotive Open System Architecture"
    - **statically configured**, event-triggered real-time OS
    - real superset of OSEK OS → backwards compatible
    - additional time-triggered abstractions (schedule tables, timing protection)
    - intended as a successor for both OSEK OS and OSEKtime



## OSEK OS: Abstractions [8]

- **Control flows**
  - **Task**: software-triggered control flow (strictly priority-based scheduling)
    - **Basic Task (BT)** run-to-completion task with strictly stack-based activation and termination
    - **Extended Task (ET)** may suspend and resume execution (→ coroutine)
  - **ISR**: hardware-triggered control flow (hardware-defined scheduling)
    - **Cat 1 ISR (ISR1)** runs below the kernel, may not invoke system services (→ prologue without epilogue)
    - **Cat 2 ISR (ISR2)** synchronized with kernel, may invoke system services (→ epilogue without prologue)
  - **Hook**: OS-triggered signal/exception handler
    - **ErrorHook** invoked in case of a syscall error
    - **StartupHook** invoked at system boot time
    - ...



## OSEK OS: Abstractions [8] (Cont'd)

### ■ Coordination and synchronization

- **Resource:** mutual exclusion between well-defined set of tasks
  - stack-based priority ceiling protocol ([11]):  
GetResource()  $\leadsto$  priority is raised to that of highest participating task
  - pre-defined RES\_SCHD has highest priority ( $\leadsto$  blocks preemption)
  - implementation-optional: task set may also include cat 2 ISRs
- **Event:** condition variable on which ETs may block
  - part of a task's context
- **Alarm:** asynchronous trigger by HW/SW counter
  - may execute a callback, activate a task, or set an event on expiry



## OSEK OS: System Services (Excerpt)

### ■ Task-related services

- ActivateTask(task)  $\leadsto$  task is active ( $\mapsto$  ready), counted
- TerminateTask()  $\leadsto$  running task is terminated
- Schedule()  $\leadsto$  active task with highest priority is running
- ChainTask(task)  $\mapsto$  atomic  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ActivateTask(task)} \\ \text{TerminateTask()} \end{array} \right.$

### ■ Resource-related services

- GetResource(res)  $\leadsto$  current task has res ceiling priority
- ReleaseResource(res)  $\leadsto$  current task has previous priority

### ■ Event-related services (extended tasks only!)

- SetEvent(task, mask)  $\leadsto$  events in mask for task are set
- ClearEvent(mask)  $\leadsto$  events in mask for current task are unset
- WaitEvent(mask)  $\leadsto$  current task blocks until event from mask has been set

### ■ Alarm-related services

- SetAbsAlarm(alarm, ...)  $\leadsto$  arms alarm with absolute offset
- SetRelAlarm(alarm, ...)  $\leadsto$  arms alarm with relative offset

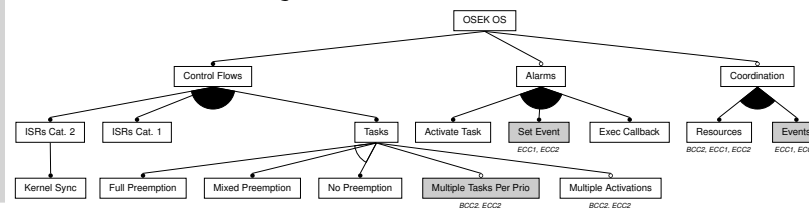


## OSEK OS: Conformance Classes [8]

### ■ OSEK offers predefined tailorability by four **conformance classes**

- **BCC1** only basic tasks, limited to one activation request per task and one task per priority, while all tasks have different priorities
- **BCC2** like BCC1, plus more than one task per priority possible and multiple requesting of task activation allowed
- **ECC1** like BCC1, plus extended tasks
- **ECC2** like ECC1, plus more than one task per priority possible and multiple requesting of task activation allowed for basic tasks

### ■ The OSEK feature diagram



## OSEK OS: System Specification with OIL [9]

### ■ An OSEK OS instance is configured **completely statically**

- all general OS features (hooks, ...)
- all **instances** of OS abstractions (tasks, ...)
- all **relationships** between OS abstractions
- described in a **domain-specific language (DSL)**

### ■ OIL: The OSEK Implementation Language

- standard types and attributes (TASK, ISR, ...)
- vendor/platform-specific **attributes** (ISR source, priority, triggering)
- task types and conformance class is deduced

#### OIL File for Example System (BCC1)

- Three basic tasks: Task1, Task3, Task4
- Category 2 ISR: ISR2 (platform-spec. source/priority)
- Task1 and Task3 use resource Res1  $\leadsto$  ceiling pri = 3
- Alarm Alarm1 triggers Task4 on expiry

```
...
OS ExampleOS {
  STATUS      = STANDARD;
  STARTUPHOOK = TRUE;
};

TASK Task1 {
  PRIORITY    = 1;
  AUTOSTART   = TRUE;
  RESOURCE    = Res1;
};

TASK Task3 {
  PRIORITY    = 3;
  AUTOSTART   = FALSE;
  RESOURCE    = Res1;
};

TASK Task4 {
  PRIORITY    = 4;
  AUTOSTART   = FALSE;
};

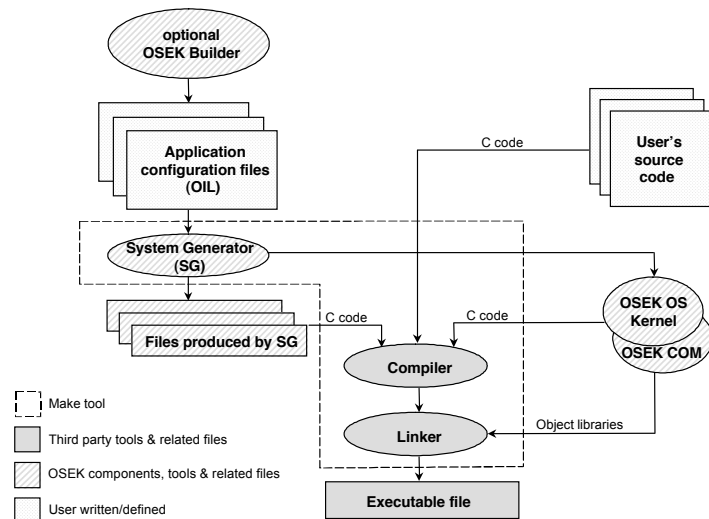
RESOURCE Res1 {
  RESOURCEPROPERTY = STANDARD;
};

ISR ISR2 {
  CATEGORY     = 2;
  PRIORITY     = 2;
};

ALARM Alarm1 {
  COUNTER      = Timer1;
  ACTION       = ACTIVATETASK {
    TASK       = Task4;
  };
  AUTOSTART    = FALSE;
};
```



## OSEK OS: System Generation [9, p. 5]



## Agenda

### 6.1 Motivation: OSEK and Co

### 6.2 SLOTH: Threads as Interrupts

Basic Idea  
Design  
Results  
Limitation

### 6.3 SLEEPY SLOTH: Threads as IRQs as Threads

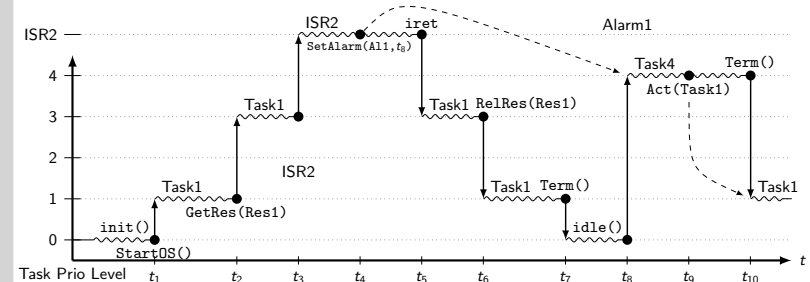
### 6.4 SLOTH ON TIME: Time-Triggered Laziness

### 6.5 SLOTH\* Generation

### 6.6 Summary and Conclusions

### 6.7 References

## OSEK OS: Example Control Flow



- Basic tasks behave much like IRQ handlers (on a system with support for IRQ priority levels)
  - priority-based dispatching with run-to-completion
  - LIFO, all control flows can be executed on a single shared stack
- So why not dispatch tasks as ISRs?
  - Let the hardware do all scheduling!
  - Let's be a SLOTH!



## "SLOTH: Threads as Interrupts"

[5]

- Idea: threads are interrupt handlers, synchronous thread activation is IRQ**

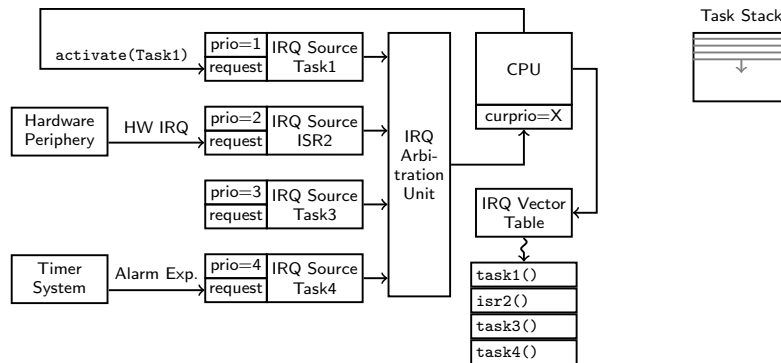
Paper title of [5] is a pun to the approach taken by SOLARIS: "Interrupts as Threads", ACM OSR (1995) [7]

- Let interrupt subsystem do the scheduling and dispatching work
- Applicable to priority-based real-time systems
- Advantage: small, fast kernel with unified control-flow abstraction

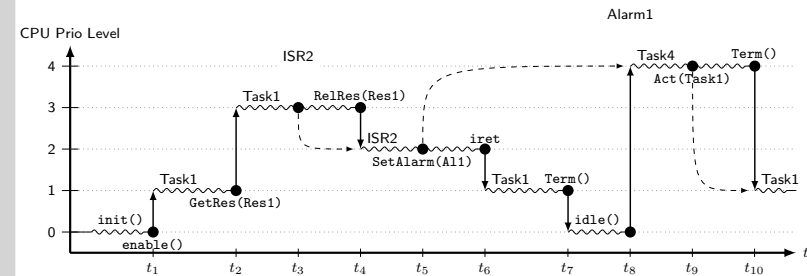


## SLOTH Design

- IRQ system must support priorities and software triggering



## SLOTH: Example Control-Flow



## SLOTH: Qualitative Results

- Concise kernel design and implementation
  - < 200 LoC, < 700 bytes code memory, very little RAM
- Single control-flow abstraction for tasks, ISRs (1/2), callbacks
  - Handling oblivious to how it was triggered (by hardware or software)
- Unified priority space for tasks and ISRs
  - No rate-monotonic priority inversion [2, 3]
- Straight-forward synchronization by altering CPU priority
  - Resources with ceiling priority (also for ISRs!)
  - Non-preemptive sections with RES\_SCHEDULER (highest task priority)
  - Kernel synchronization with highest task/cat.-2-ISR priority

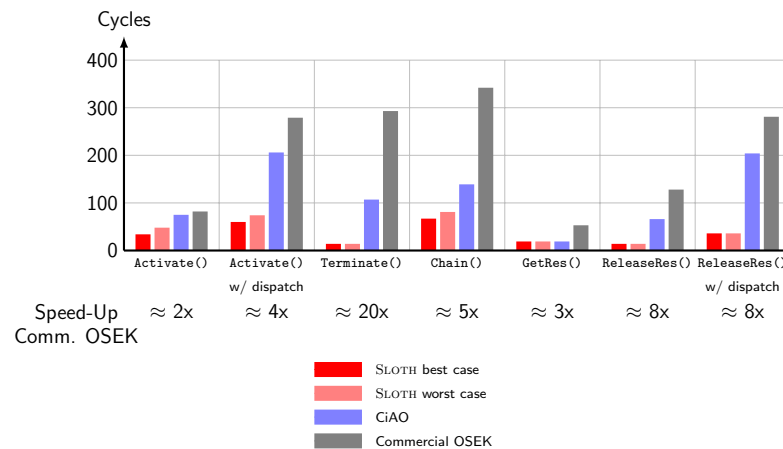


## Performance Evaluation: Methodology

- Reference implementation for Infineon TriCore
  - 32-bit load/store architecture
  - Interrupt controller: 256 priority levels, about 200 IRQ sources with memory-mapped registers
  - Meanwhile also implementations for ARM Cortex-M3 (SAM3U) and x86
- Evaluation of task-related system calls:
  - Task activation
  - Task termination
  - Task acquiring/releasing resource
- Comparison with commercial OSEK implementation and CiAO
- Two numbers for SLOTH: best case, worst case
  - Depending on number of tasks and system frequency



## Performance Evaluation: Results



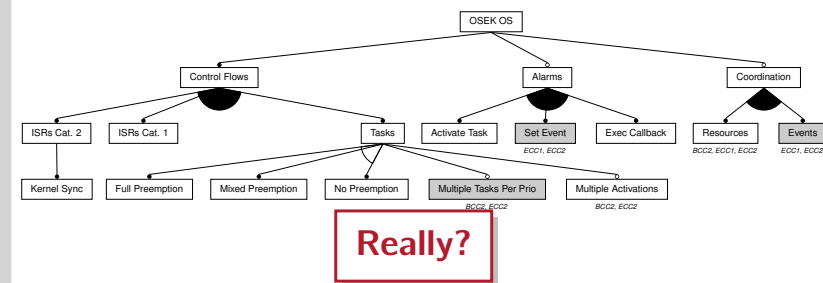
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- 6.2 SLOTH: Threads as Interrupts
- 6.3 SLEEPY SLOTH: Threads as IRQs as Threads
  - Motivation
  - Design
  - Results
- 6.4 SLOTH ON TIME: Time-Triggered Laziness
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## Limitations of the SLOTH Approach

- No extended tasks (that is, events,  $\mapsto$  OSEK ECC1 / ECC2)   
 $\hookleftarrow$  **impossible with stack-based IRQ execution model**
- No multiple tasks per priority ( $\mapsto$  OSEK BCC2 / ECC2)   
 $\hookleftarrow$  execution order has to be the same as activation order



## Control Flows in Embedded Systems

	Activation Event	Sched./Disp.	Semantics
ISRs	HW	by HW	RTC
Threads	SW	by OS	Blocking
SLOTH [5]	HW or SW	by HW	RTC
SLEEPY SLOTH [6]	HW or SW	by HW	RTC or Blocking

(RTC: Run-to-Completion)



## SLEEPY SLOTH: Main Goal and Challenge

### Main Goal

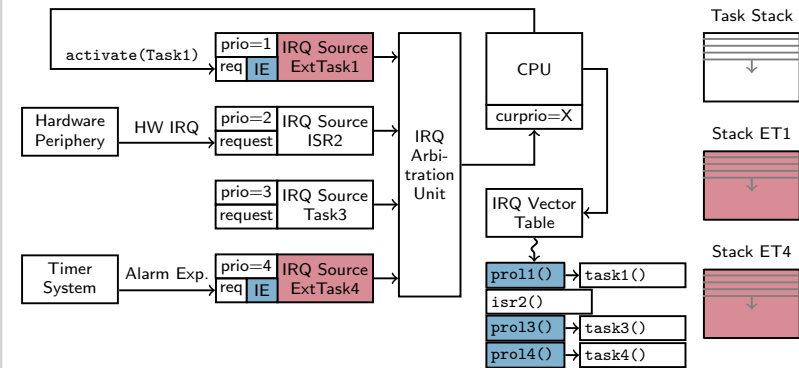
Support **extended blocking tasks** (with stacks of their own), while preserving SLOTH's **latency benefits** by having threads run as ISRs

### Main Challenge

IRQ controllers do not support **suspension and re-activation** of ISRs



## SLEEPY SLOTH Design: Task Prologues and Stacks

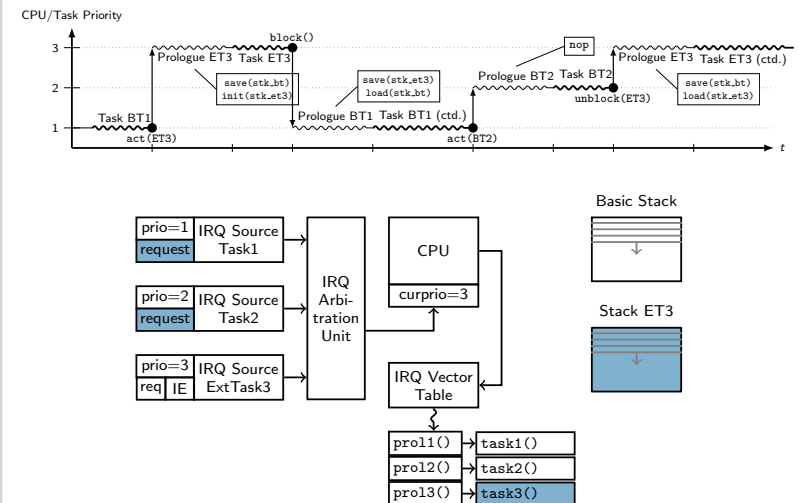


## SLEEPY SLOTH: Dispatching and Rescheduling

- Task prologue: switch stacks if necessary
  - Switch *basic task*  $\leftrightarrow$  *basic task* omits stack switch
  - On job start: initialize stack
  - On job resume: restore stack
- Task termination: task with next-highest priority needs to run
  - Yield CPU by setting priority to zero
  - (Prologue of *next* task performs the stack switch)
- Task blocking: take task out of “ready list”
  - Disable task’s IRQ source
  - Yield CPU by setting priority to zero
- Task unblocking: put task back into “ready list”
  - Re-enable task’s IRQ source
  - Re-trigger task’s IRQ source by setting its pending bit



## SLEEPY SLOTH: Example Control Flow

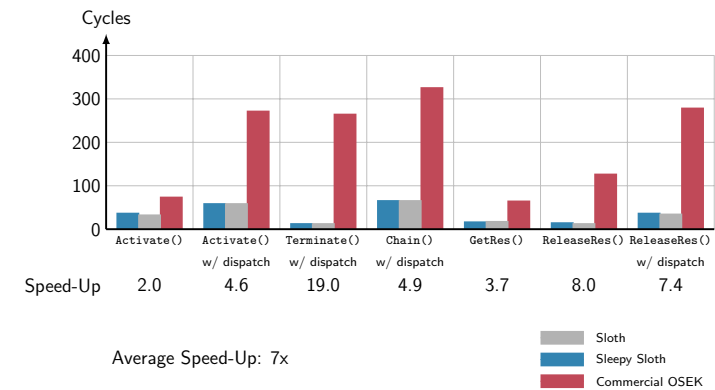


## SLEEPY SLOTH: Evaluation

- Reference implementation on Infineon TriCore microcontroller
- Measurements: system call latencies in 3 system configurations, compared to a leading commercial OSEK implementation
  - Only basic run-to-completion tasks
  - Only extended blocking tasks
  - Both basic and extended tasks

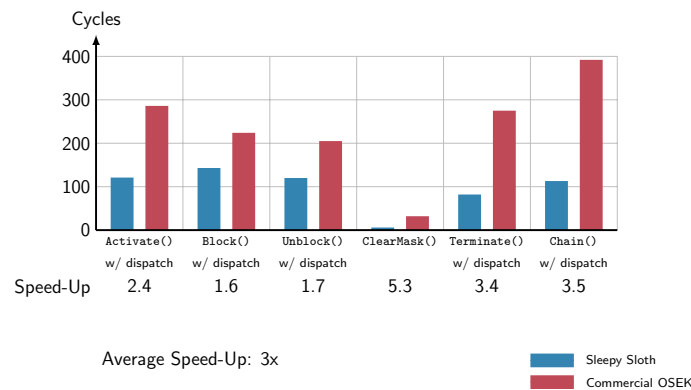


## Evaluation: Only Basic Tasks



- SLEEPY SLOTH outperforms commercial kernel with SW scheduler
- SLEEPY SLOTH as fast as original SLOTH

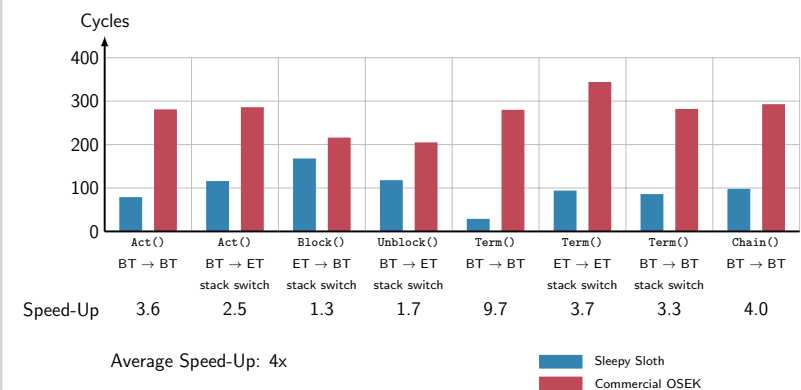
## Evaluation: Only Extended Tasks



- Still faster than commercial kernel with SW scheduler
- SLEEPY SLOTH: Extended switches slower than basic switches



## Evaluation: Extended and Basic Tasks



- Basic switches in a mixed system only slightly slower than in purely basic system





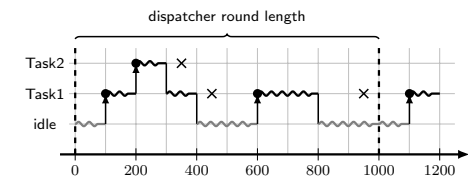
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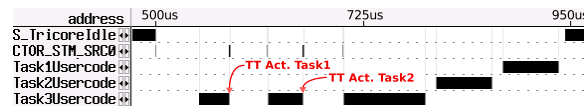
## SLOTH ON TIME: Time-Triggered Laziness [4]

- Idea: use hardware timer arrays to implement schedule tables
- TC1796 GPTA: 256 timer cells, routable to 96 interrupt sources
  - use for task activation, deadline monitoring, execution time budgeting, time synchronization, and schedule table control
- SLOTH ON TIME implements OSEKtime [10] and AUTOSAR OS schedule tables [1]
  - combinable with SLOTH or SLEEPY SLOTH for mixed-mode systems
  - up to 170x lower latencies compared to commercial implementations

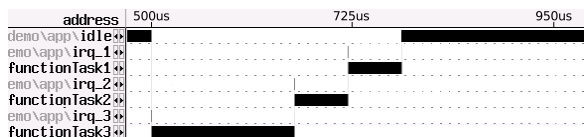


## Qualitative Evaluation: AUTOSAR

Commercial AUTOSAR: **Priority inversion** with time-triggered activation (2,075 cycles each)



SLOTH ON TIME: avoids this *by design!*



“ Interrupts are perhaps the biggest cause of priority inversion in real-time systems, causing the system to not meet all of its timing requirements. ”

Stewart 1999: “Twenty-Five Most Common Mistakes with Real-Time Software Development” [12]



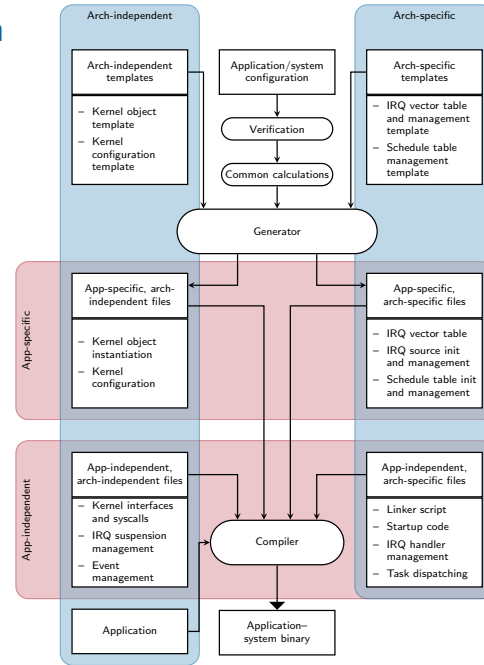
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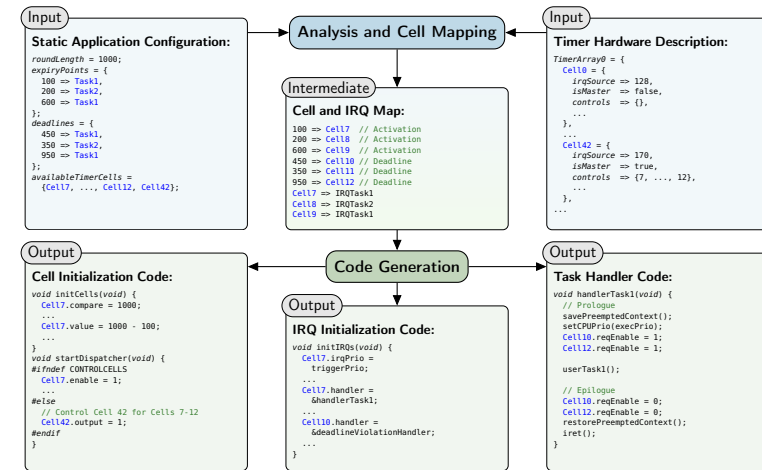


## SLOTH\* Generation

- Two generation dimensions
  - Architecture
  - Application
- Generator is implemented in Perl
  - Templates
  - Configuration



## SLOTH ON TIME Generation



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## Summary: The SLOTH\* Approach

- Exploit standard interrupt/timer hardware to delegate core OS functionality to hardware
  - scheduling and dispatching of control flows
  - OS needs to be tailored to application *and* hardware platform
    - generative approach is necessary
- Benefits
  - tremendous latency reductions, very low memory footprints
  - unified control flow abstraction
    - hardware/software-triggered, blocking/run-to-completion
    - no need to distinguish between tasks and ISRs
    - no rate-monotonic priority inversion
    - reduces complexity
  - less work for the OS developer :-)



## Referenzen

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- [2] Luis E. Leyva-del Foyo, Pedro Mejia-Alvarez, and Dionisio de Niz. "Integrated Task and Interrupt Management for Real-Time Systems". In: *Transactions on Embedded Computing Systems* 11.2 (July 2012), 32:1–32:31. ISSN: 1539-9087. DOI: 10.1145/2220336.2220344. URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2220336.2220344>.
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- [11] Lui Sha, Ragunathan Rajkumar, and John P. Lehoczky. "Priority Inheritance Protocols: An Approach to Real-Time Synchronization". In: *IEEE Transactions on Computers* 39.9 (1990), pp. 1175–1185. ISSN: 0018-9340. DOI: 10.1109/12.57058.
- [12] David B. Stewart. "Twenty-Five Most Common Mistakes with Real-Time Software Development". In: *Proceedings of the 1999 Embedded Systems Conference (ESC '99)*. 1999.

