inf456 - Real-Time Systems

Module label: Real-Time Systems
Module code: inf456
Credit points: 6.0 KP
Workload: 180 h

Used in course of study:
- Master’s Programme Computing Science > Theoretische Informatik
- Master’s Programme Embedded Systems and Microrobotics > Akzentsetzungsmodul
- Master’s Programme Engineering of Socio-Technical Systems > Embedded Brain Computer Interaction
- Master’s Programme Engineering of Socio-Technical Systems > Systems Engineering

Contact person:
Module responsibility:
- Ernst-Rüdiger Olderog

Authorized examiners:
- Die im Modul Lehrenden
- Ernst-Rüdiger Olderog

Entry requirements:
Skills to be acquired in this module:

Professional competence:
The students:
- Learn about different models of time and real-time properties
- Specify and verify real-time systems
- Model real-time systems using Timed Automata and PLC-Automata
- Apply the model checker UPPAAL for the verification of real-time properties
- Specify real-time systems using the Duration Calculus
- Learn about decidability and undecidability results for real-time systems

Methodological competence:
The students:
- Recognize logic and automata as adequate forms for describing real-time systems

Social competence:
The students:
- Work together in small groups to solve problems
- Present their solutions to groups of other students

Self-competence:
The students:
- Learn persistence in pursuing difficult tasks
- Learn precision in specifying problems

Module contents:
Examples of time-critical systems are railway control systems, robots, or even gas burners. It is essential for these systems to comply with certain timing conditions. For example, the control of a railway crossing must close the gates not later than 4 seconds after the sensors have reported an approaching train. If the gates are open, they should stay that way for at least 15 seconds to allow for a safe crossing of vehicles.

Different specification methods have been developed to describe such timing conditions.

The Duration Calculus developed by Zhou Chaochen in 1991 is one attractive method. It is a logic combined with a calculus, in which the duration of states can be described. The course will introduce the Duration Calculus and will explain its application by means of examples. As further specification method Timed Automata introduced by Alur & Dill in 1994 will be presented. After the specification of real-time system requirements the verification of programs implementing these requirements will
follow. The specification methods of the Duration Calculus and Timed Automata are used to describe
the real-time behaviour of these programs. The correctness is then proven on the basis of these
behavioral descriptions.

Topics:

- discrete and continuous model of time
- logics and automata models for the specification of real-time systems (predicate logic,
  Duration Calculus, Timed CTL, Timed Automata, PLC-Automata)
- decidability and undecidability results for real-time systems
- model checker UPPAAL for Timed Automata
- formal specification of real-time systems using Duration Calculus as well as Timed Automata
  and PLC-Automata
- verification of concrete Timed Automata using the model checker UPPAAL,
- transformation of Duration Calculus for discrete time into regular languages
- implementability of real-time systems on PLC-like hardware

Reader’s advisory

essential:

  Verification, Cambridge University Press, 2008

recommended:


Links

Languages of instruction: German, English
Duration (semesters) 1 Semester
Module frequency: irregular
Module capacity  Unlimited
Modullevel: AS (Akzentsetzung / Accentuation)
Modulart: Pflicht o. Wahlpflicht / compulsory or optional
Lern-/Lehrform / Type of program: V+Ü
Vorkenntnisse / Previous knowledge: Theoretical Computer Science I and II

Examination Time of examination Type of examination Exercises and written or oral exam
Final exam of module At the end of the lecture period

Course type Comment SWS Frequency Workload attendance
Lecture 3.00 SuSe or WiSe 42 h
Exercises 1.00 SuSe or WiSe 14 h

Total time of attendance for the module

56 h