

# Schedulability Analysis of Periodic Tasks Implementing Synchronous Finite State Machines

*Haibo Zeng*, Marco Di Natale  
*McGill University – Montreal, Canada*  
*Scuola Superiore S. Anna – Pisa, Italy*

# Outlines

- Motivations
- Synchronous FSMs
  - actions, not tasks
    - Need to map reactions into tasks
  - Applicability of Existing Task Models
- Schedulability Analysis Overview
- Efficient Calculation of RBF and DBF
  - Execution Request Matrix
  - Periodicity of Execution Request Matrix
- Summary and Future Work

# Model-based Design

- Popular in many application domains of real-time systems
  - Automotive
  - Avionics
- To deal with complexity
  - Model everything for design (engineering) and analysis (science)
  - It is necessary to select a modeling language in the most natural and easy way
- The four tenets on the right are fundamental to model-based design
- ***No program by hand***
- ***Starting point is functional model***
- ***Automatic generation of implementation is key***
- ***Synthesis of tasks, priorities, allocation, communication mechanisms ...***

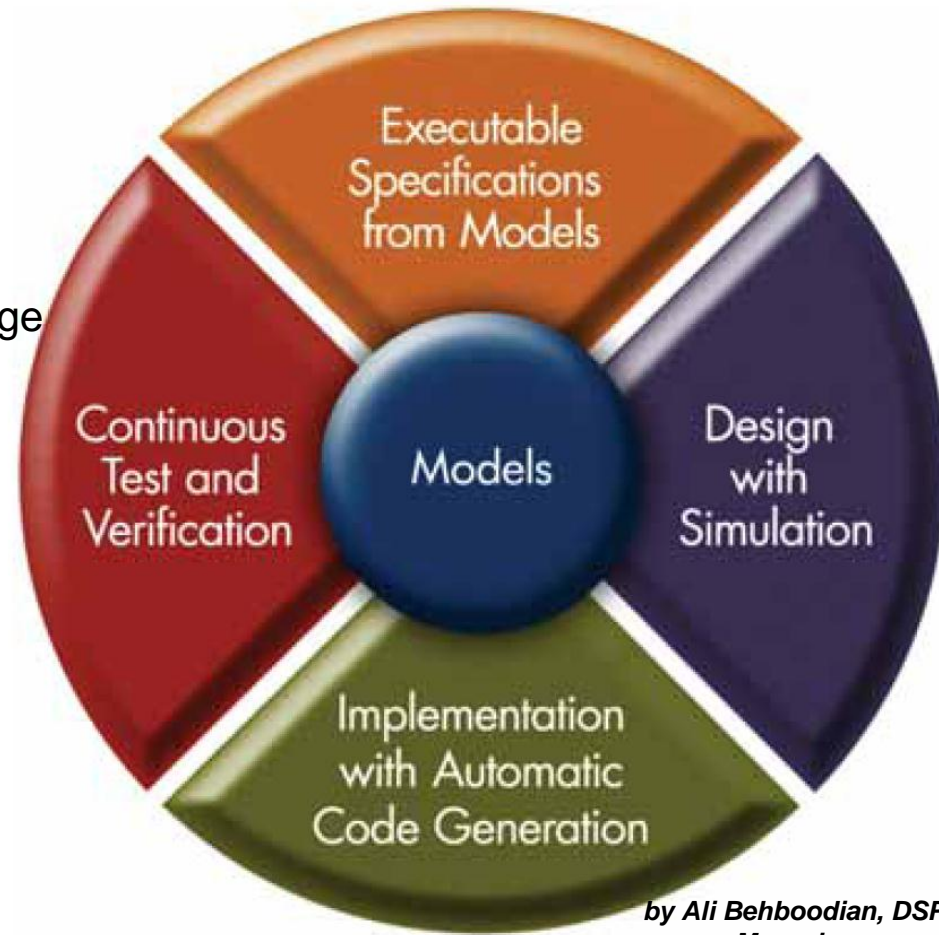
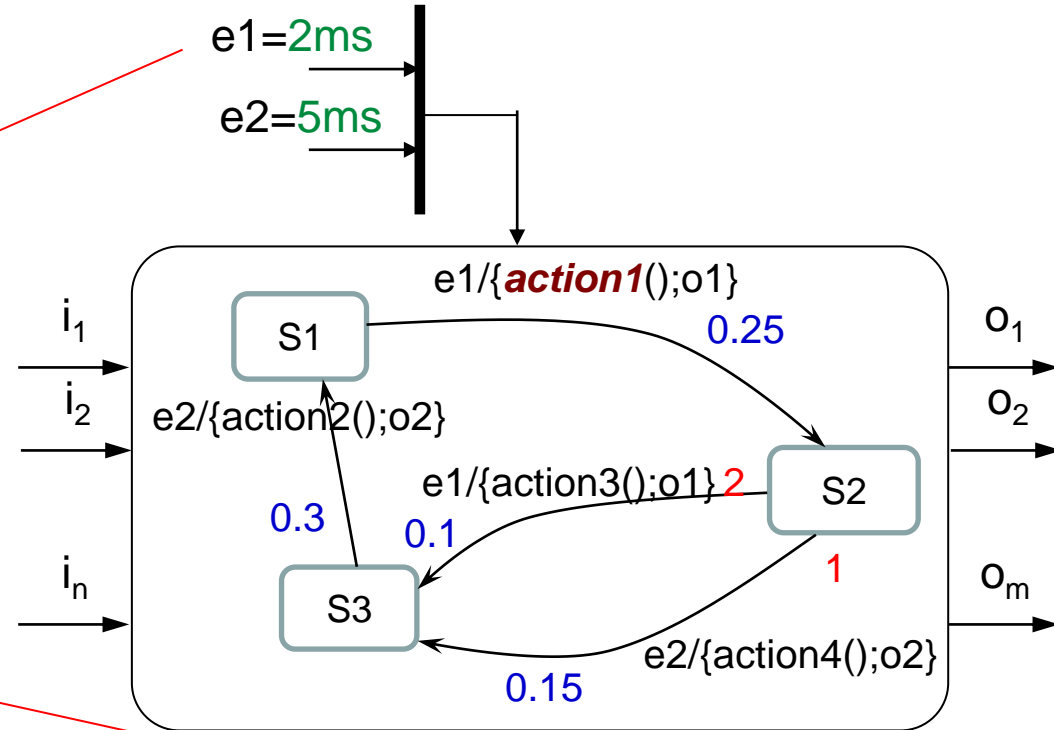
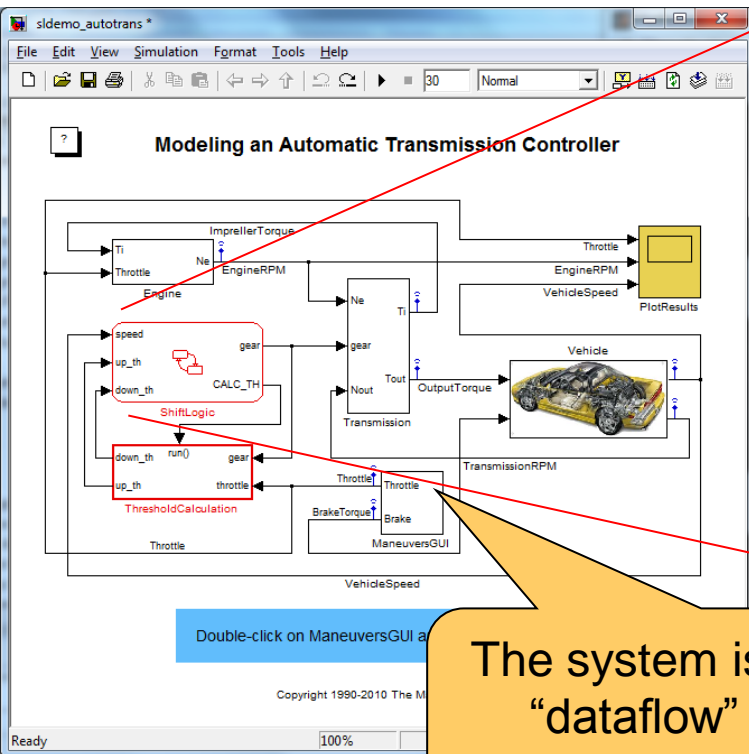


Figure 1 – Elements of model-based design

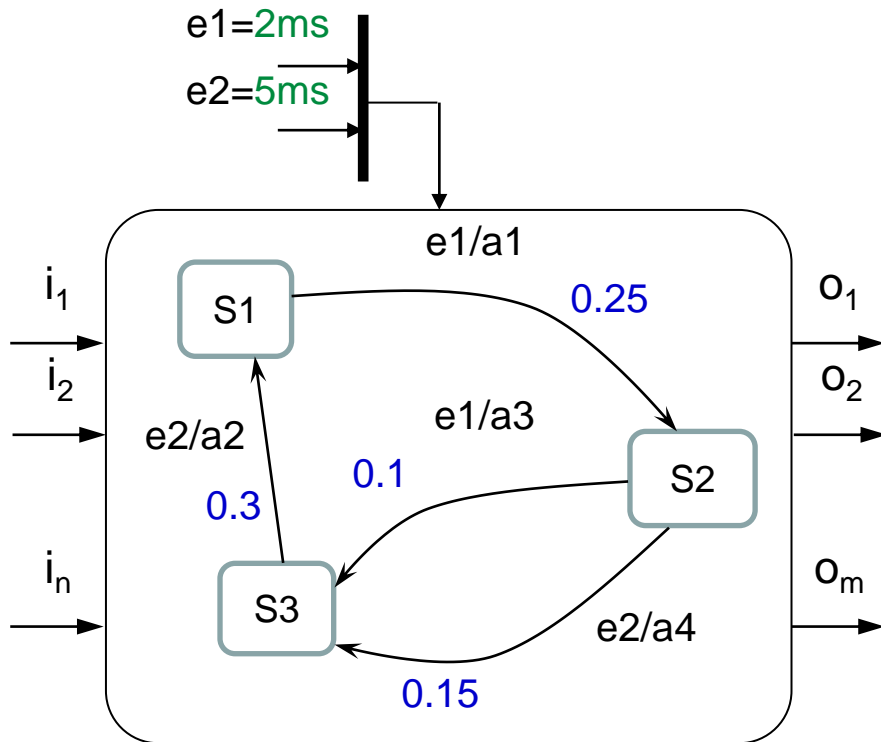
# Motivations

- Synchronous FSMs are used in the most popular model-based design tools
  - SCADA
  - Simulink/Stateflow



The system is a network of “dataflow” blocks and Stateflow (EFSM) blocks

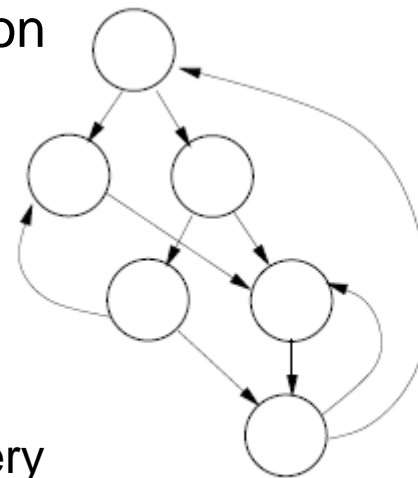
# Synchronous Finite State Machines



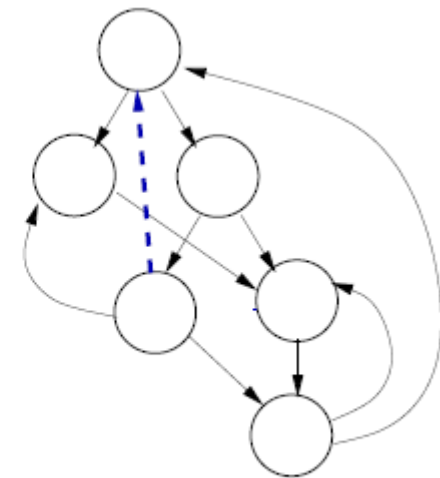
- Event  $e_i$ :
  - Period  $T_i$
  - **Offset = 0**
- State  $S_i$
- Transition  $S_i \rightarrow S_j$ 
  - Trigger event
  - Action  $a_k$ :
    - WCET  $C_k$
  - guard, priority
- Hyperperiod  $H = \text{lcm}$  of event periods
- Scheduled with **static priority**
  - As in commercial code generators (Simulink Coder, dSPACE TargetLink)

# Existing Task Models

- Actions and tasks:
  - Assumption: all actions are executed by a single task
  - *Other options are possible*
- Digraph task model [1] and its extension [2]
  - Accuracy issue
    - Arbitrary offsets
    - Dynamic priority scheduling (EDF)
  - Efficiency issue
    - Patterns of trigger events repeat every hyperperiod
    - Further periodicity by max-plus algebra



digraph model



digraph model with interframe separation

[1] M. Stigge et al. "The digraph real-time task model," in Proc. the 16th IEEE Real-Time and Embedded Technology and Applications Symposium, 2011.

[2] M. Stigge et al. "On the Tractability of Digraph-Based Task Models," in Proc. the 23rd Euromicro Conference on Real-Time Systems, 2011.

# Schedulability Analysis Overview

## Schedulability Analysis for Task $i$

FOR each priority level- $i$  busy period  $[s, f)$

IF  $\exists t \in [s, f), \forall t' \in [s, t]$  such that

$$\tau_i \cdot dbf[s, t] + \sum_{j \in hp(i)} \tau_j \cdot rbf[s, t') > t' - s$$

THEN return **unschedulable**

ENDFOR

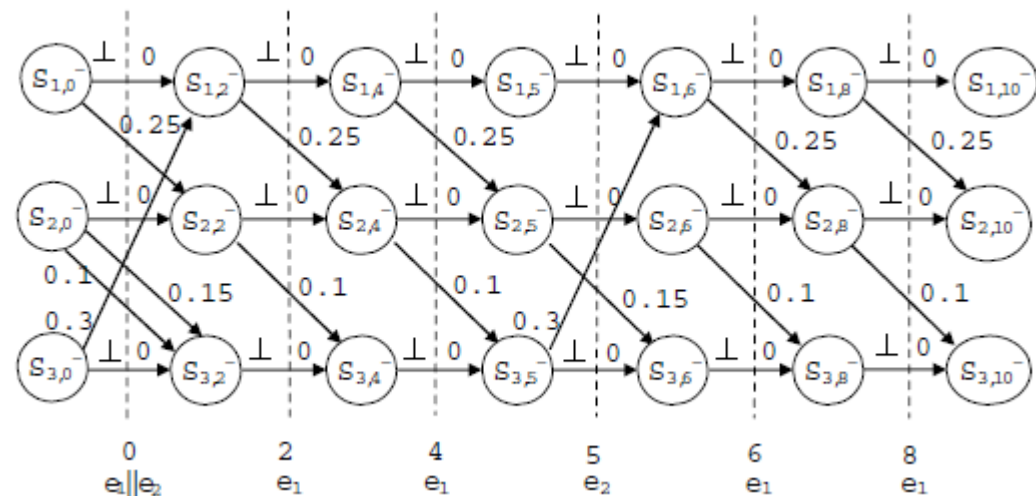
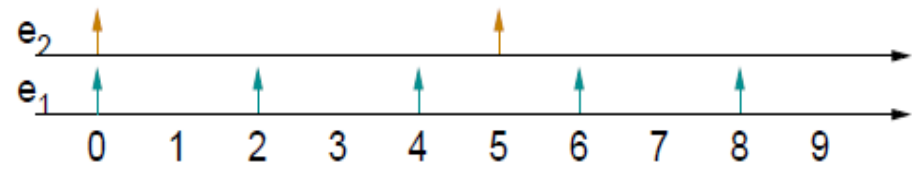
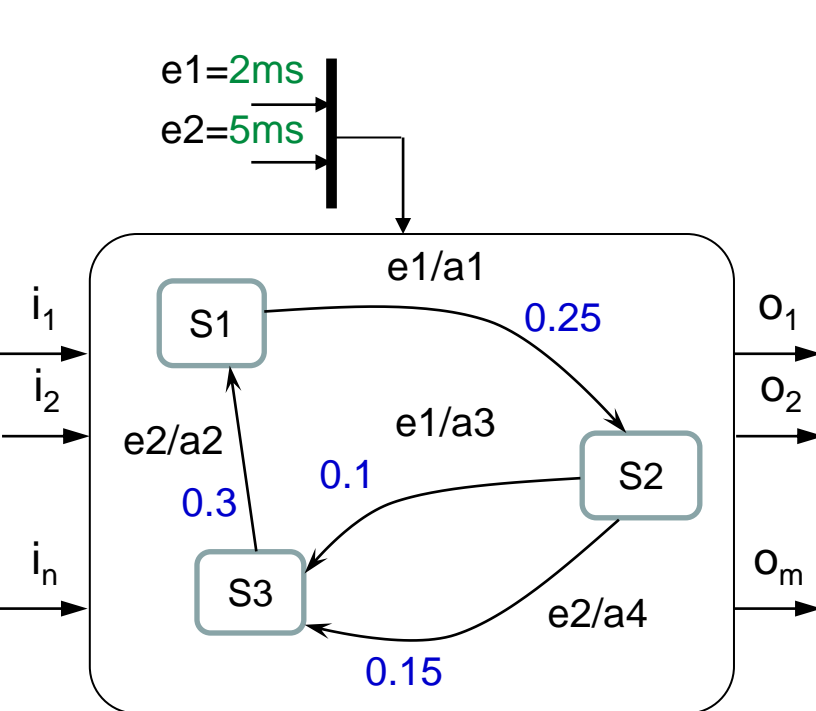
Return **schedulable**

Remaining Question:

how to efficiently calculate  $rbf(\Delta)$  and  $dbf(\Delta)$  for a given time interval  $\Delta$ ?

# Event Sequence Pattern and Reachability Graph

Need to compute the request bound function





# Refinement of rbf

- $rbf_{i,j}(\Delta)$ :
  - source state of the first transition is  $S_i$
  - sink state of the last transition is  $S_j$
- $rbf_{i,j}(\Delta)$  is **additive** (but  $rbf(\Delta)$  is not)
  - $rbf_{i,j}[s, f) = \max_m (rbf_{i,m}[s, t) + rbf_{m,j}[t, f))$
  - $rbf_{i,j}[s, f)$  for a long interval  $[s, f)$  can be computed from its values for shorter intervals  $[s, t)$  and  $[t, f)$

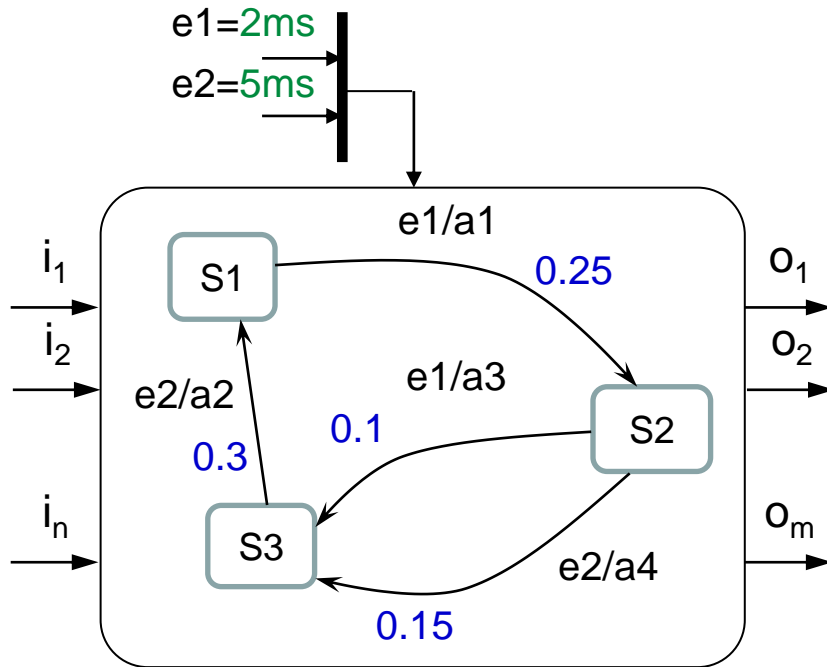
Key property to enable dynamic programming techniques

# Execution Request Matrix

- The request bound function in one hyperperiod
  - $X=(x_{i,j})$ , where  $x_{i,j}=rbf_{i,j}[0,H)$

$$\implies X = \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.9 & 1.0 \\ 0.45 & 0.7 & 0.8 \\ 0.95 & 1.2 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

event sequence in one hyperperiod



$$S1 \xrightarrow{e1/a1} S2 \xrightarrow{e1/a3} S3 \xrightarrow{e2/a2} S1 \xrightarrow{e1/a1} S2 \xrightarrow{e1/a3} S3$$

$$\implies x_{1,3} = 1.0$$

$$\implies X = \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.9 & 1.0 \\ 0.45 & 0.7 & 0.8 \\ 0.95 & 1.2 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

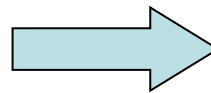
# Execution Request Matrix

- The request bound function over several hyperperiods

- $X^{(k)} = (x_{i,j}^{(k)})$ , where  $x_{i,j}^{(k)} = rbf_{i,j}[0, kH)$

- $\forall i, j, \forall 1 \leq l < k \quad x_{i,j}^{(k)} = \max_m (x_{i,m}^{(l)} + x_{m,j}^{(k-l)})$

- $X^{(k+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.9 & 1.0 \\ 0.45 & 0.7 & 0.8 \\ 0.95 & 1.2 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} + k \times 1.3$



This indicates some additional periodicity

# Basics on Max-Plus Algebra

- Operations maximum (denoted by the max operator  $\oplus$ ) and addition (denoted by the plus operator  $\otimes$ )

$$- a \oplus b = \max(a, b) \quad a \otimes b = a + b$$

- Multiplication of two square matrices

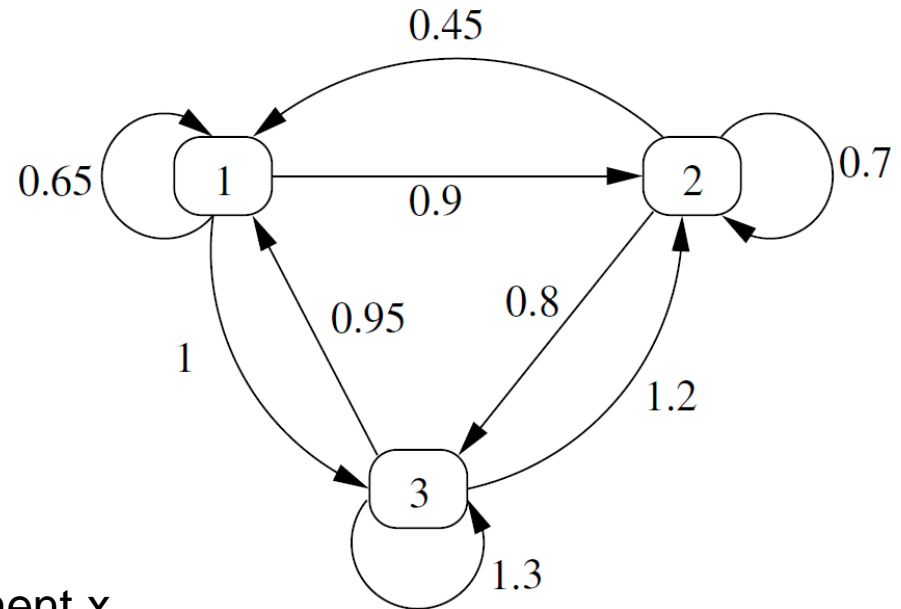
$$- A \otimes B = C, \text{ where}$$

$$c_{i,j} = \oplus (a_{i,m} \otimes b_{m,j}) = \max_m (a_{i,m} + b_{m,j})$$

# Periodicity of Matrix Power in Max-Plus Algebra

- Studied by its corresponding digraph  $\mathcal{G}(X)$

$$X = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.9 & 1.0 \\ 0.45 & 0.7 & 0.8 \\ 0.95 & 1.2 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

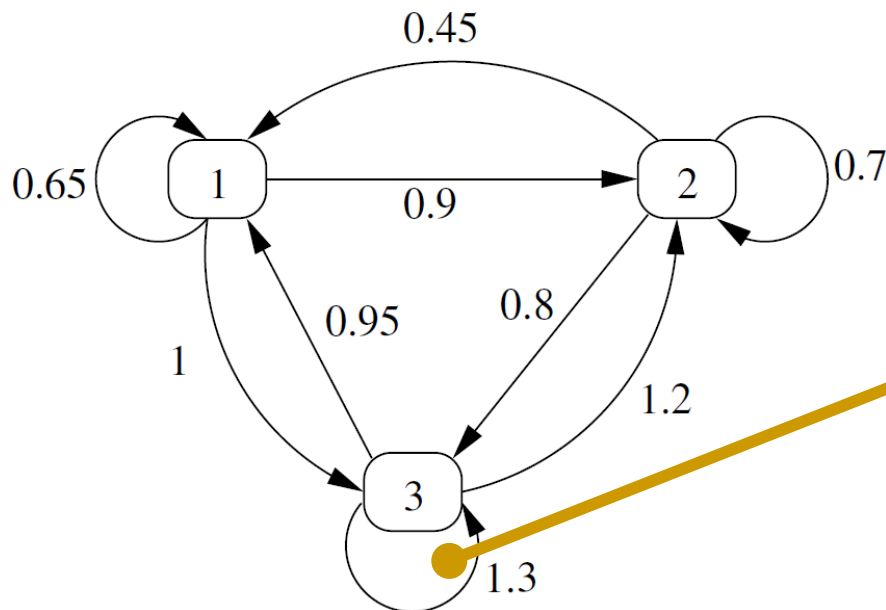


$\mathcal{G}(X)$

Edge  $(i,j)$  has weight equal to matrix element  $x_{i,j}$

# Periodicity of Matrix Power in Max-Plus Algebra

- If the digraph  $\mathcal{G}(X)$  is strongly connected
  - $X^{(k+p)} = X^{(k)} + p \times q$  for sufficiently large  $k$
  - $p = \text{maximum cycle mean of } \mathcal{G}(X)$
  - $q = \text{lcm of all the cycles with mean equal to } p$

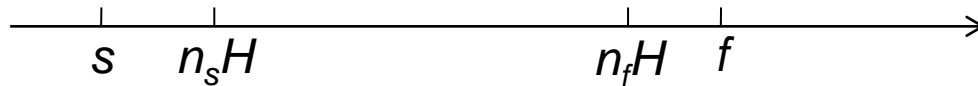


$$p=1.3, q=1 \implies$$

$$X^{(k+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.9 & 1.0 \\ 0.45 & 0.7 & 0.8 \\ 0.95 & 1.2 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} + k \times 1.3$$

# The Efficient Way of Calculating rbf

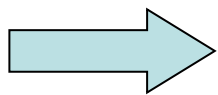
- For small intervals



$$\begin{aligned} rbf_{i,j}[s, f) &= \max_{k,l} (rbf_{i,k}[s, n_s H) + rbf_{k,l}[n_s H, n_f H) \\ &\quad + rbf_{l,j}[n_f H, f)) \\ &= \max_{k,l} (rbf_{i,k}[s, n_s H) + x_{k,l}^{(n_f - n_s)} \\ &\quad + rbf_{l,j}[0, f - n_f H)) \end{aligned}$$

- For large intervals: the above equation applies, but

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k,l}^{(n_f - n_s)} &= x_{k,l}^{(n)} + (n_f - n_s - n) \times q_{k,l}(k) \\ \text{where } n &\leq d \text{ and } n + p > d, \quad n_f - n_s \equiv n \equiv k \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$



Asymptotic complexity independent  
from length of interval

# Summary and Future Work

- Efficient and accurate schedulability analysis
  - Event sequence pattern within one hyperperiod
  - Max-plus algebra for evaluating the periodicity of the execution request matrix
- Multi-task implementation of an FSM
  - Issues with single task implementation
    - all actions executed at the same priority level
    - tight deadline (equal to the gcd of event periods)
    - inflexible for avoiding overhead from communication
- Extension of periodicity of *rbf* and *dbf* to generic digraph task models



Thank you!



[haibo.zeng@mcgill.ca](mailto:haibo.zeng@mcgill.ca)