Automatic Addition of Fault-Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

Borzoo Bonakdarpour Sandeep S. Kulkarni
Software Engineering and Network Systems Laboratory
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

Abstract

In this paper, we focus on automated addition of fault-tolerance to an existing fault-intolerant real-time program. We consider three levels of fault-tolerance, failsafe, nonmasking, and masking, based on the properties satisfied in the presence of faults. Furthermore, for failsafe and masking fault-tolerance, we introduce two cases, soft and hard, based on satisfaction of timing constraints in the presence of faults. We present sound and complete algorithms with polynomial time complexity in the size of region graphs for the case where soft-failsafe, nonmasking, and soft-masking fault-tolerance is added to an existing real-time program. Furthermore, we propose a sound and complete algorithm with polynomial time complexity in the size of region graphs for adding hard-failsafe fault-tolerance, where the synthesized program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults. Moreover, we show that the problem of adding hard masking fault-tolerance, where the synthesized fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy multiple bounded response properties in the presence of faults, is NP-hard in the size of the region graph. Thus, this work characterizes classes of problems where adding fault-tolerance to real-time programs is expected to be feasible and where the complexity is too high.

Keywords: Fault-tolerance, Real-time, Program synthesis, Program transformation, Formal methods.

1 Introduction

Fault-tolerance and real-time properties are crucial assurance requirements in many computing systems. However, since fault-tolerance and real-time properties often impose conflicting constraints on systems, they are not easy to combine. Meeting real-time properties needs predictability and fault-tolerance requires programs to continue to function even in the presence of unanticipated faults. In other words, while satisfaction of timing constraints requires a priori knowledge of the system’s temporal operation, fault-tolerance is built on the principle that faults occur unexpectedly and that faults must be handled through some recovery mechanism.

Email: {borzoo, sandeep}@cse.msu.edu
Web: http://www.cse.msu.edu/~{borzoo, sandeep}
Tel: +1-517-355-2387, Fax: +1-517-432-1061
This work was partially sponsored by NSF CAREER CCR-0092724, DARPA Grant OSURS01-C-1901, ONR Grant N00014-01-1-0744, NSF grant EIA-0130724, and a grant from Michigan State University.
1. REPORT DATE  
   2006

2. REPORT TYPE

3. DATES COVERED
   00-00-2006 to 00-00-2006

4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE
   Automatic Addition of Fault-Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

5a. CONTRACT NUMBER

5b. GRANT NUMBER

5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER

5d. PROJECT NUMBER

5e. TASK NUMBER

5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER

6. AUTHOR(S)

7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)
   Michigan State University, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, East Lansing, MI, 48824

8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER

9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)

10. SPONSOR/MONITOR’S ACRONYM(S)

11. SPONSOR/MONITOR’S REPORT NUMBER(S)

12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT
   Approved for public release; distribution unlimited

13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

14. ABSTRACT

15. SUBJECT TERMS

16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:
    a. REPORT
       unclassified

    b. ABSTRACT
       unclassified

    c. THIS PAGE
       unclassified

17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT

18. NUMBER OF PAGES
   20

19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Standard Form 298 (Rev. 8-98)
Prescribed by ANSI Std Z39-18
**Automated program synthesis** is the problem of designing an algorithmic method to find a program that satisfies a required set of properties. Such automated synthesis is desirable, as it ensures that the synthesized program is correct by construction even if its required set of properties have conflicting constraints such as fault-tolerance and real-time. In the existing specification-based synthesis methods, a change in the specification requires us to synthesize from scratch. Thus, it would be advantageous, if we could reuse the previous efforts made to synthesize fault-intolerant real-time programs and somehow add fault-tolerance to them. Moreover, such addition is especially useful if the fault-intolerant real-time program is designed manually, e.g., for ensuring that the original program is efficient.

With this motivation, in this paper, we focus on designing synthesis algorithms that solely add fault-tolerance to real-time programs. Such synthesis methods are desirable, as it may not be possible to anticipate all faults that a program may be subject to, at design time. Our goal in this work is to concentrate on algorithms with manageable time and space complexity, i.e., complexity that is comparable to the corresponding complexity of existing model checking techniques for fault-tolerant programs in dense real-time model.

Regarding fault-tolerance, we consider three levels, based on the properties satisfied in the presence of faults. Intuitively, a failsafe fault-tolerant program does not violate its safety specification even in the presence of faults, i.e., a bad thing does not occur when the program is running in the presence of faults. A nonmasking program ensures recovery to its normal behavior after the occurrence of faults. A masking fault-tolerant program has both properties, i.e., in the presence of faults, it does not violate its safety specification while ensuring recovery to its normal behavior. Regarding real-time, we propose two cases, soft and hard, based on satisfaction of timing constraints in the presence of faults (cf. Section 3 for examples).

### 1.1 Related Work

In real-time computing literature, fault-tolerance has mostly been addressed in the context of scheduling algorithms (e.g., [1–5]). In fault-tolerant real-time scheduling, the objective is to find the optimal schedule of a set of tasks on a set of processors dynamically, such that the largest possible set of tasks meet their deadlines. Since time complexity is a critical issue in dynamic scheduling, most of the proposed algorithms are in the form of heuristics designed for specific platforms or architectures and for a special type of faults (e.g., transient, fail-stop, Byzantine, etc.).

The problem of synthesizing untimed fault-tolerant programs has been studied in the literature from different perspectives. In [6–10], the authors propose synthesis methods, heuristics, and enhancement algorithms for adding fault-tolerance and multitolerance to existing programs in the high (respectively, low) atomicity model, where processes can (respectively, cannot) read and write all the program variables in one atomic step. In [11], Attie, Arora, and Emerson study the problem of synthesizing fault-tolerant concurrent untimed programs from temporal logic specification expressed in CTL formulas.

Synthesis of real-time systems has mostly been studied in the context of timed automata from a game-
theoretic perspective [12–19]. In these papers, the common assumption is that the existing program (called a plant) and/or the given specification is deterministic. Moreover, since the authors of the aforementioned work consider highly expressive specifications, the complexity of proposed methods are also very high. For example, algorithms presented in [12–15, 18, 19] are \( \text{EXPTIME} \)-complete. Moreover, deciding the existence of a solution (called a controller) in [16, 17] is \( 2\text{EXPTIME} \)-complete.

Online fault detection in a given dense-timed automaton is studied by Tripakis in [20]. The author proposes a polynomial space online algorithm to design a diagnoser that detects faults in the behavior of the given timed automaton after they occur. In this modeling, it is assumed that (1) the given system is in synchronous model, and (2) faults and errors are the same thing. Bouyer, Chevalier, and D’Souza [21] address the same problem where the diagnoser is supposed to be realizable as a deterministic timed automaton or an event record automaton.

1.2 Contributions

The point of departure of our work from the above related work is as follows. In this paper we (i) consider a generic fault-tolerance framework for real-time programs independent of platform, architecture, and type of faults; (ii) extend the previous work by Kulkarni and Arora [6] for adding fault-tolerance to untimed programs; (iii) consider a general notion of real-time programs that covers both deterministic and nondeterministic programs in both synchronous and asynchronous models; and (iv) consider different levels of fault-tolerance for real-time systems based on satisfaction of properties and timing constraints. Furthermore, we present a class of specifications where we can express typical requirements for specifying real-time and fault-tolerant computing systems and we show that the complexity of synthesis algorithms for this class of specifications is manageable in the sense that they are comparable to existing model checking techniques for real-time programs [22]. The main results in this paper are as follows:

1. We propose a generic formal framework that defines the notions of faults and levels fault-tolerance in the context of real-time programs.

2. We present polynomial time (in the size of the region graphs) sound and complete algorithms that transform fault-intolerant real-time programs into

   (a) soft-failsafe, nonmasking, and soft-masking fault-tolerant programs, and
   (b) hard-failsafe fault-tolerant programs, where the synthesized fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults.

3. We present a sound polynomial time algorithm that transforms a fault-intolerant real-time program into a hard masking fault-tolerant program, where the synthesized fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults.

4. We note that the problem of adding hard masking fault-tolerance, where the synthesized program is required to satisfy multiple bounded response properties in the presence of faults, is NP-hard.
**Organization of the paper.** In Section 2, we present the preliminary concepts. We formally define the notions of faults and fault-tolerance in the context of real-time programs in Section 3. In Section 4, we formally state the problem of adding fault-tolerance to real-time programs. We present our transformation algorithms and NP-hardness result in Section 5. Then, in Section 6, we answer the potential questions raised about our approach. Finally, in Section 7, we make the concluding remarks and discuss future work.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we present the preliminary concepts and formal definitions of real-time programs, specifications, and region graphs. Programs are specified in terms of their state space and their transitions [23]. The definition of specifications is adapted from Henzinger [24]. Finally, the notion of region graph is due to Alur and Dill [25].

### 2.1 Program

A program includes a finite set \( V \) of *discrete variables* and a finite set \( X \) of *clock variables*. Each discrete variable is associated with a finite domain \( D \) of values. A *location* is a function that maps each discrete variable to a value from its respective domain. For the set \( X \) of clock variables, the set \( \Phi(X) \) of *clock constraints* \( \varphi \) is inductively defined by the grammar:

\[
\varphi ::= x \leq c \mid x \geq c \mid x < c \mid x > c \mid \varphi \land \varphi, \text{ where } x \in X \text{ and } c \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}.
\]

A *clock valuation* is a function \( \nu : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) that assigns a real value to each clock variable. Furthermore, for \( \tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \nu + \tau = \nu(x) + \tau \) for every clock \( x \). Also, for \( \lambda \subseteq X, \nu[\lambda := 0] \) denotes the clock valuation for \( X \) which assigns 0 to each \( x \in \lambda \) and agrees with \( \nu \) over the rest of the clock variables in \( X \).

A *state* of a program (denoted \( \sigma \)) is a pair \((s, \nu)\), such that \( s \) is a location and \( \nu \) is a clock valuation for \( X \) at location \( s \). Since the domain of clock variables ranges over the real numbers, the *state space* of a program (the set of all possible states) is infinite. A *transition* of a program (denoted \((\sigma_0, \sigma_1)\)) is of the form \((s_0, \nu_0) \rightarrow (s_1, \nu_1)\). Transitions are classified into two types:

- **Delay (elapse of time):** for a state \( \sigma = (s, \nu) \) and a time *duration* \( \delta \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) (denoted \((\sigma, \delta)\)), \((s, \nu) \rightarrow (s, \nu + \delta)\).

- **Jump (location switch):** for a state \((s_0, \nu)\), a location \( s_1 \), and a set \( \lambda \) of clock variables, \((s_0, \nu) \rightarrow (s_1, \nu[\lambda := 0])\).

We say a state \( \sigma_1 \) is *passed* by the delay \((\sigma_0, \delta)\) if \( \sigma_1 = \sigma_0 + \epsilon \) for some \( \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) such that \( \epsilon < \delta \).

A *program* \( \mathcal{P} \) is a tuple \((S_p, \psi_p)\), where \( S_p \) is the state space, and \( \psi_p \) is a set of transitions. Let \( \psi^s_p \) and \( \psi^d_p \) denote the set of jump and delay transitions in \( \psi_p \), respectively. A *state predicate* is a Boolean expression over the variables of \( \mathcal{P} \). Note that, in such an expression, a clock constraint must be picked from \( \Phi(X) \), i.e., clock variables can only be compared with nonnegative integers. A state predicate can also be expressed as a subset of \( S_p \) such that it is definable by the above syntax of clock constraints. A state predicate \( S \) is *closed* in the program \( \mathcal{P} \) iff \((\forall (\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \in \psi^s_p : (\sigma_0 \in S \Rightarrow \sigma_1 \in S)) \land (\forall (\sigma, \delta) \in \psi^d_p : (\sigma \in S \Rightarrow \forall \epsilon \leq \delta : \sigma + \epsilon \in S))\), i.e., if a jump transition originates in \( S \) then it must terminate in \( S \), and if a delay transition originates in a state in \( S \) then...
any state passed by the delay plus the target state must be in $S$. A timed state sequence $\langle (\sigma_0, \tau_0), (\sigma_1, \tau_1) \cdots \rangle$, where $\tau_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, is a computation of $P$ iff the following conditions are satisfied: (1) $\forall j > 0 : (\sigma_{j-1}, \sigma_j) \in \psi_p$, (2) if it is finite and terminates in $(\sigma_1, \tau_1)$ then there does not exist state $\sigma$ such that $(\sigma_1, \sigma) \in \psi_p$, and (3) the sequence $\langle \tau_0, \tau_1 \cdots \rangle$ satisfies the following constraints:

Monotonicity: $\tau_i \leq \tau_{i+1}$ for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Divergence: For all $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, there exists $j$ such that $\tau_j \geq t$.

The projection of a set of program transitions $\psi_p$ on state predicate $S$ (denoted $\psi_p|S$) is the set of transitions $\{ (\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \mid (\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \in \psi_p^s \land \sigma_0, \sigma_1 \in S \} \cup \{ (\sigma, \delta) \mid (\sigma, \delta) \in \psi_p^d \land \sigma \in S \land (\forall \epsilon \leq \delta : \sigma + \epsilon \in S) \}$. I.e., $\psi_p|S$ consists of jump transitions of $\psi_p$ that start in $S$ and end in $S$, and delay transitions of $\psi_p$ that start and remain in $S$ continuously.

### 2.2 Specification

A specification (or property), denoted $\Sigma$, is a set of timed state sequences of the form $\langle (\sigma_0, \tau_0), (\sigma_1, \tau_1) \cdots \rangle$. Following Henzinger [24], we require the sequence $\langle \tau_0, \tau_1 \cdots \rangle$ to satisfy monotonicity and divergence. We now define what it means for a program $P$ to satisfy a specification $\Sigma$. Given a program $P$, a state predicate $S$, and a specification $\Sigma$, we write $P \models_S \Sigma$ and say that program $P$ satisfies $\Sigma$ from $S$ iff (1) $S$ is closed in $P$, and (2) every computation of $P$ that starts where $S$ is true is in $S$. If $P \models_S \Sigma$ and $S \neq \emptyset$, we say $S$ is an invariant of $P$ for $\Sigma$.

**Notation.** Whenever the specification is clear from the context, we will omit it; thus, “$S$ is an invariant of $P$” abbreviates “$S$ is an invariant of $P$ for $\Sigma$”.

We say that program $P$ maintains $\Sigma$ iff for all finite timed state sequences $\alpha$ of $P$, there exists a timed state sequence $\beta$ such that $\alpha \beta \in \Sigma$. Similarly, we say that $P$ violates $\Sigma$ iff it is not the case that $P$ maintains $\Sigma$. Note that, the definition of maintains identifies the property of finite timed state sequences, whereas the definition of satisfies expresses the property of infinite timed state sequences.

Following Alpern and Schneider [26] and Henzinger [24], we let the specification consist of a liveness specification and a safety specification. The liveness specification is represented by a set of infinite computations. A program satisfies the liveness specification, if every computation prefix of the program has a suffix that is in the liveness specification.

**Remark 2.1:** In the synthesis problem, we begin with an initial fault-intolerant program that satisfies its specification (including the liveness specification) in the absence of faults. In Section 5, we show that our synthesis algorithms preserve liveness specification. Hence, the liveness specification need not be specified explicitly.

Regarding safety, in synthesis algorithms presented in this paper, we let the safety specification consist of (1) a set $\Sigma_{bt}$ of bad transitions that should not occur in the program computation, i.e., a subset of $\{ (\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \mid \sigma_0, \sigma_1 \in S_p \}$, and (2) a conjunction of zero or more bounded response properties of the form
\( \Sigma_{br} \equiv ((P_1 \mapsto \leq \delta_1 Q_1) \land (P_2 \mapsto \leq \delta_2 Q_2) \land \ldots \land (P_m \mapsto \leq \delta_m Q_m)), \) i.e., it is always the case that a state in \( P_i \) is followed by a state in \( Q_i \) within \( \delta_i \) time units, where \( P_i \) and \( Q_i \) are state predicates and \( \delta_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \), for all \( i \) such that \( 1 \leq i \leq m \). Observe that it is possible to trivially translate this concise representation of safety into the corresponding set of infinite computations. The same concept is applicable to definitions of maintains and violates.

### 2.3 Region Graph

Given a program \( \mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p) \), in order to reason about properties of \( \mathcal{P} \), one must deal with the infinite state space \( S_p \). Alur and Dill [25] propose construction of a finite quotient as a solution for dealing with the infinite state space. This construction uses an equivalence relation, called region equivalence (denoted \( \cong \)), on the state space that equates two states with the same location, is defined over the set of all clock valuations for \( X \). For two clock valuations \( \nu \) and \( \mu \), \( \nu \cong \mu \) iff:

1. \( \forall x \in X : (\langle \nu(x) \rangle = \lfloor \nu(x) \rfloor) \lor (\langle \nu(x) \rangle, \langle \mu(x) \rangle > c_x) \),
2. \( \forall x, y \in X : (\langle \nu(x) \rangle < c_x \land \nu(y) < c_y) : (\langle \nu(x) \rangle < \langle \nu(y) \rangle \iff \langle \nu(x) \rangle < \langle \mu(y) \rangle) \), and
3. \( \forall x \in X : \nu(x) < c_x : (\langle \nu(x) \rangle = 0 \iff \langle \mu(x) \rangle = 0) \),

where \( c_x \) is the largest integer \( c \), such that \( x \) is compared with \( c \) in a clock constraint, \( \langle \tau \rangle \) denotes the fractional part, and \( \lfloor \tau \rfloor \) denotes the integral part of \( \tau \) and for any \( \tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \). A clock region for \( \mathcal{P} \) is an equivalence class of clock valuations induced by \( \cong \). Note that, there are only finite number of clock regions.

A region is a pair \( (s, \rho) \), where \( s \) is a location and \( \rho \) is a clock region. Using the region equivalence relation, we construct the region graph of \( \mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p) \) (denoted \( R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r) \)) as follows. Vertices of \( R(\mathcal{P}) \) (denoted \( S_p^r \)) are regions. Edges of \( R(\mathcal{P}) \) (denoted \( \psi_p^r \)) are of the form \( (s_0, \rho_0) \rightarrow (s_1, \rho_1) \) iff for some clock valuations \( \nu_0 \in \rho_0 \) and \( \nu_1 \in \rho_1 \), \( (s_0, \nu_0) \rightarrow (s_1, \nu_1) \) is a transitions in \( \psi_p \). We say that a region \( (s_0, \rho_0) \) of region graph \( R(\mathcal{P}) \) is a deadlock region iff for all regions \( (s_1, \rho_1) \), there does not exist an edge of the form \( (s_0, \rho_0) \rightarrow (s_1, \rho_1) \).

A region predicate \( S^r \) with respect to a state predicate \( S \) is defined by \( S^r = \{(s, \rho) : \exists (s, \nu) : (s, \nu) \in S \land \nu \in \rho \} \). Likewise, the region predicate with respect to invariant \( S \) of a program \( \mathcal{P} \) is called region invariant \( S^r \). The projection of a set of edges \( \psi_p^r \) on region predicate \( S^r \) (denoted \( \psi_p^r[S^r] \)) is the set of edges \( \{ (r_0, r_1) | (r_0, r_1) \in \psi_p^r \land r_0, r_1 \in S^r \} \).

Based on the above description to construct a region graph, in our synthesis algorithms in Section 5, we transform a real-time program \( \mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p) \) into its corresponding region graph \( R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r) \) by invoking the subroutine \texttt{ConstructRegionGraph}. We also let this subroutine take state predicates and sets of transitions in \( \mathcal{P} \) (e.g., \( S \) and \( \Sigma_{bd} \)) and return the corresponding regions predicates and sets of edges in \( R(\mathcal{P}) \) (e.g., \( S^r \) and \( \Sigma_{bd}^r \)).

A clock region \( \beta \) is a time-successor of a clock region \( \alpha \) iff for each \( \nu \in \alpha \), there exists \( \tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \), such that \( \nu + \tau \in \beta \), and \( \nu + \tau' \in \alpha \cup \beta \) for all \( \tau' < \tau \). We call a region \( (s, \rho) \) a boundary region, if for each \( \nu \in \rho \)
and for any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $\nu$ and $\nu + \tau$ are not equivalent. A region is open, if it is not a boundary region. A region $(s, \rho)$ is called an end region, if for all $\nu \in \rho$ and for all clocks $x$, $\nu(x) > c_x$.

3 Faults and Fault-Tolerance in Real-Time Programs

In this section, we extend formal definitions of faults and fault-tolerance due to Arora and Gouda [27] and Arora and Kulkarni [28], so that they fit in the context of real-time programs.

The faults that a program is subject to are systematically represented by transitions. A class of faults $f$ for program $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p)$ is a subset of the set $S_p \times S_p$. We use $\psi_p[f]$ to denote the transitions obtained by taking the union of the transitions in $\psi_p$ and the transitions in $f$.

We say that a state predicate $T$ is an $f$-span (read as fault-span) of $\mathcal{P}$ from $S$ iff the following conditions are satisfied: (1) $S \subseteq T$, and (2) $T$ is closed in $\psi_p[f]$. Observe that for all computations of $\mathcal{P}$ that start at states where $S$ is true, $T$ is a boundary in the state space of $\mathcal{P}$ up to which (but not beyond which) the state of $\mathcal{P}$ may be perturbed by the occurrence of the transitions in $f$. Similar to the notion of region invariant (cf. Subsection 2.3), the region predicate with respect to fault-span $T$ of a program $\mathcal{P}$ is called region fault-span $T^r$. Likewise, $f^r$ denotes the set of faults edges in $R(\mathcal{P})$ that correspond to fault transitions $f$ in $\mathcal{P}$.

As we defined the computations of $\mathcal{P}$, we say that a timed state sequence, $(((\sigma_0, \tau_0), (\sigma_1, \tau_1), \cdots),$ is a computation of $\mathcal{P}$ in the presence of $f$ iff the following four conditions are satisfied: (1) $\forall j > 0 : (\sigma_j, \tau_j) \in (\psi_p \cup f)$, (2) if $((\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \cdots)$ is finite and terminates in state $(\sigma_i, \tau_i)$ then there does not exist state $\sigma$ such that $(\sigma_i, \sigma) \in \psi_p$, (3) $(\tau_0, \tau_1 \cdots)$ satisfies monotonicity and divergence, and (4) $\exists n \geq 0 : (\forall j > n : (\sigma_{j-1}, \sigma_j) \in \psi_p)$.

In this paper, we consider three levels of fault-tolerance, failsafe, nonmasking, and masking, based on the properties satisfied in the presence of faults. For failsafe and masking fault-tolerance, we propose two cases, soft and hard, based on satisfaction of timing constraints in the presence of faults. To motivate the idea of soft and hard fault-tolerance let us consider the railroad crossing problem. Suppose that a train is approaching a railroad crossing. The safety specification requires “if the train is crossing, the gate should be closed”. Also, the bounded response property requires that “once the gate is closed, it should reopen within 5 minutes”. In this example, it may be catastrophic if the train is crossing while the gate is open due to occurrence of faults. On the other hand, if the gate remains closed for more than 5 minutes due to occurrence of faults, the outcome is not disastrous. Thus, depending upon the outcome of violation of a safety specification, the desired fault-tolerance requirement changes. Hence, in the railroad crossing problem the desired requirement is the system must tolerate faults that cause the gate to be open while the train is crossing and, hence, this system must be soft fault-tolerant. Intuitively, a soft fault-tolerant real-time program is not required to satisfy its timing constraints in the presence of faults.

Now, consider a system that controls internal pressure of a boiler. Suppose that in this system, the safety specification requires that once a pressure gauge reads 30 pounds per square inch, the controller must issue a command to open a valve within 20 seconds. In such a system, if occurrence of faults causes the controller not
to respond within the required time, the outcome may be disastrous. Thus, our boiler controller must satisfy its timing constraints even in the presence of faults. In other words, the boiler controller must be hard fault-tolerant. Intuitively, a hard fault-tolerant real-time program must satisfy its timing constraints in the presence of faults.

We now present formal definitions of different levels of fault-tolerance. Let specification $\Sigma$ consist of $\Sigma_{bt}$ and $\Sigma_{br}$. We say that $\mathcal{P}$ is soft-failsafe $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ iff the following conditions hold: (1) $\mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma_{bt}$, (2) $\mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma_{br}$, and (3) there exists $T$ such that $T$ is an $f$-span of $\mathcal{P}$ from $S$, and $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ maintains $\Sigma_{bt}$ from $T$. A program $\mathcal{P}$ is hard-failsafe $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ iff $\mathcal{P}$ is soft-failsafe $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ and $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ maintains $\Sigma_{br}$ from $T$.

Since a nonmasking fault-tolerant program need not satisfy safety in the presence of faults, $\mathcal{P}$ is nonmasking $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ with recovery time $\delta$, where $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, iff the following conditions hold: (1) $P \models_S \Sigma_{bt}$, (2) $\mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma_{br}$, and (3) there exists $T$ such that $T$ is an $f$-span of $\mathcal{P}$ from $S$, and every computation of $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ that starts from a state in $T$, reaches a state in $S$ within $\delta$ time units.

A program $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p)$ is soft-masking $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ with recovery time $\delta$, where $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, iff the following conditions hold: (1) $\mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma_{bt}$, (2) $\mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma_{br}$, (3) there exists $T$ such that $T$ is an $f$-span of $\mathcal{P}$ from $S$ and $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ maintains $\Sigma_{bt}$ from $T$, and (4) every computation of $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ that starts from a state in $T$, reaches a state in $S$ within $\delta$ time units. A program $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p)$ is hard-masking $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ with recovery time $\delta$, where $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, iff $\mathcal{P}$ is soft-masking $f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$ with recovery time $\delta$, and $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p[f])$ maintains $\Sigma_{br}$ from $T$.

**Notation.** Whenever the specification $\Sigma$ and the invariant $S$ are clear from the context, we omit them; thus, “$f$-tolerant” abbreviates “$f$-tolerant from $S$ for $\Sigma$”.

**Assumption 3.1:** Since the program $\mathcal{P}$ satisfies $\Sigma_{br} \equiv ((P_1 \rightarrow_{\delta_1} Q_1) \land (P_2 \rightarrow_{\delta_2} Q_2) \land \ldots \land (P_m \rightarrow_{\delta_m} Q_m))$ in the absence of faults (cf. Remark 2.1), without loss of generality, we assume that for each bounded response property $(P_i \rightarrow_{\delta_i} Q_i)$, where $1 \leq i \leq m$, the intolerant program already has a clock variable that is reset on transitions that go from a state in $\neg P_i$ to a state in $P_i$. This assumption simplifies dealing with the given bounded response property, as we are ensured that the program itself keeps track of time when $P_i$ becomes true.

In case such a clock does not exist, we can simply add it without changing semantics of the given program.

**Assumption 3.2:** We assume that faults are immediately detectable and that given a state of the program, we can determine the number of faults that have occurred in reaching that state. (For example, one can achieve this if the program has a variable that stores how many faults have occurred in a program computation.) This assumption is needed only for hard fault-tolerance.

**Assumption 3.3:** We assume that the number of occurrence of faults in a program computation is bounded by a pre-specified value $n$. This assumption is required since for commonly considered faults, it can be shown that bounded-time recovery in the presence of unbounded occurrence of faults is impossible.
4  Problem Statement

Given are a fault-intolerant real-time program \( \mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p) \), its invariant \( S \), a set of faults \( f \), and a safety specification \( \Sigma \) such that \( \mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma \). Our goal is to synthesize a real-time program \( \mathcal{P}'(S_p, \psi'_p) \) with invariant \( S' \) such that \( \mathcal{P}' \) is \( f \)-tolerant from \( S' \) for \( \Sigma \).

As mentioned in the introduction, our synthesis method obtains \( \mathcal{P}' \) from \( \mathcal{P} \) by adding fault-tolerance alone to \( \mathcal{P} \), i.e., \( \mathcal{P}' \) does not introduce new behaviors to \( \mathcal{P} \) when no faults have occurred. We now describe how we formulate the problem. Observe that:

1. If \( S' \) contains states that are not in \( S \) then, in the absence of faults, \( \mathcal{P}' \) may include computations that start outside \( S \). Since \( \mathcal{P}' \models_{S'} \Sigma \), it would imply that \( \mathcal{P}' \) is using a new way to satisfy \( \Sigma \) in the absence of faults (since \( \mathcal{P} \) satisfies \( \Sigma \) only from \( S \)). Therefore, we require that \( S' \subseteq S \).

2. If \( \psi'_p|S' \) contains a transition that is not in \( \psi_p|S' \) then \( \mathcal{P}' \) can use this transition in order to satisfy \( \Sigma \) in the absence of faults. Since this was not permitted in \( \mathcal{P} \), we require that \( \psi'_p|S' \subseteq \psi_p|S' \).

Thus, the synthesis problem is as follows (This definition will be instantiated for (soft and hard) failsafe, nonmasking, and (soft and hard) masking \( f \)-tolerance):

**Problem Statement 4.1.** Given \( \mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p), S, \Sigma, \) and \( f \) such that \( \mathcal{P} \models_S \Sigma \).

Identify \( \mathcal{P}'(S_p, \psi'_p) \) and \( S' \) such that

\[ C1 \quad S' \subseteq S \]
\[ C2 \quad \psi'_p|S' \subseteq \psi_p|S', \text{ and} \]
\[ C3 \quad \mathcal{P}' \text{ is } f \text{-tolerant from } S' \text{ for } \Sigma. \]

5  Adding Fault-Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

In this section, we present our synthesis algorithms and NP-hardness result for adding fault-tolerance to an existing real-time program. In particular, in Subsection 5.1, we describe our algorithms for adding (soft and hard) failsafe fault-tolerance. In Subsection 5.2, we describe how we add nonmasking fault-tolerance. In Subsection 5.3, we describe automated addition of (soft and hard) masking fault-tolerance. Finally, in Subsection 5.4, we consider the case of hard masking fault-tolerance where two or more timing constraints must be met in the presence of faults.

5.1  Automated Addition of Failsafe Fault-Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

In this subsection, we first present our algorithm for adding soft-failsafe fault-tolerance. Then, we describe our algorithm for adding hard-failsafe, where the synthesized program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults. As mentioned in Subsection 2.2, the safety specification identifies a set \( \Sigma_{bt} \) of bad transitions that should not occur in any program computation, and a conjunction \( \Sigma_{br} \) of multiple bounded response properties. Also, recall that in the presence of faults, a soft-failsafe program is required to maintain only \( \Sigma_{bt} \), whereas a hard-failsafe program should maintain both \( \Sigma_{bt} \) and \( \Sigma_{br} \).
5.1.1 Adding Soft-Failsafe Fault-Tolerance

In order to synthesize a soft-failsafe program, we should generate a program $P'$, such that a bad transition $(\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \in \Sigma_{bt}$ does not occur in any computation of $P'$ in the presence of faults. Towards this end, we adapt the proposed algorithm in [6] that adds failsafe fault-tolerance to untimed programs.

We now describe our algorithm $\text{Add\_SoftFailsafe}$ (cf. Figure 1) in detail. First, we transform the real-time program $\mathcal{P}(S_p, \psi_p)$, invariant $S$, a set $f$ of fault transitions, and a set $\Sigma_{bt}$ of bad transitions into a region graph $R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r)$, region invariant $S^r$, fault edges $f^r$, and bad edges $\Sigma_{bt}^r$ (Line A1). This is achieved by invoking the subroutine $\text{ConstructRegionGraph}$, as described in Subsection 2.3. Then, the algorithm adds failsafe fault-tolerance to $R(\mathcal{P})$, so that no edge of $\Sigma_{bt}^r$ occurs in computations of $R(\mathcal{P})$. This is achieved by invoking the subroutine $\text{Add\_UntimedFailsafe}$ (Line A2).

The subroutine $\text{Add\_UntimedFailsafe}$ (cf. Figure 1) first finds the set $ms$ of regions and the set $mt$ of edges from where safety of $\mathcal{P}$ may be violated by faults alone (lines C1, C2). Next, it removes such regions (respectively, edges) from the region invariant $S^r$ (respectively, set of edges $\psi_p^r$) of $R(\mathcal{P})$. This removal may create deadlock regions. Hence, next, the subroutine removes deadlock regions from $S^r$ (Line C3), ensures closure of $S^r$ in $\psi_p^r$ (Line C5), and returns a failsafe region graph $R(\mathcal{P}')(S_p^r, \psi_p^r)$ (Line C6).

Finally, The algorithm $\text{Add\_SoftFailsafe}$ transforms the region graph $R(\mathcal{P}')$ back into a real-time program $\mathcal{P}'$ (Line A3).

**Theorem 5.1.** The algorithm $\text{Add\_SoftFailsafe}$ is sound and complete.

For reasons of space, we refer the reader to [29] for proofs of all theorems in this paper. □

**Theorem 5.2.** The problem of adding soft-failsafe fault-tolerance to a real-time program is in $\text{PSPACE}$. □

5.1.2 Adding Hard-Failsafe Fault-Tolerance with a Single Bounded Response Property

In this subsection, we consider the case that a hard-failsafe fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults. In other words, $\Sigma_{br} \equiv P \leftrightarrow_{\leq \delta} Q$. Towards this end, we need to generate a program $\mathcal{P}'$, such that it maintains both $\Sigma_{bt}$ and $\Sigma_{br}$ in the presence of faults. In other words, a bad transition $(\sigma_0, \sigma_1) \in \Sigma_{bt}$ occurs in no computation of $\mathcal{P}'$. Moreover, if a computation of $\mathcal{P}'$ reaches a state in $P$ then it reaches a state in $Q$ within $\delta$ units of time even in the presence of faults. To this end, we first add soft-failsafe fault-tolerance to $R(\mathcal{P})$ to ensure that $\mathcal{P}'$ maintains $\Sigma_{bt}$ in the presence of faults. Then, we transform $R(\mathcal{P})$ to an ordinary weighted directed graph (called $\text{MaxDelay}$ digraph). To ensure that the maximum delay to reach a state in $Q$ from each state in $P$ is at most $\delta$ time units in the presence of faults, we extract a subgraph of the $\text{MaxDelay}$ digraph, such that the longest distance between the vertices that correspond to the states in $P$ and $Q$ is at most $\delta$. Before we present our algorithm for adding hard-failsafe fault-tolerance in detail, we reiterate how to construct a $\text{MaxDelay}$ digraph from [30].

**Construction of $\text{MaxDelay}$ digraph.** We now describe the subroutine $\text{ConstructMaxDelayGraph}$ that transforms a region graph to a $\text{MaxDelay}$ digraph. The subroutine takes a region graph $R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r)$ and a...
Add_SoftFailsafe(\(P(S_p, \psi_p)\)) \(=\) real-time program \(f\) : transitions, \(S\) : state predicate, \(\Sigma_{dt}\) : specification)
\[
\begin{aligned}
R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p), S', \; f', \; \Sigma_{dt} & := \text{ConstructRegionGraph}(P(S_p, \psi_p), S, f, \Sigma_{dt}); \\
\psi'_p, S', \; mt & := \text{Add_UntimedFailsafe}(R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p), f', S', \; \Sigma_{dt}); \\
P'(S_p, \psi_p, \psi'_p) & := \text{ConstructRealTimeProgram}(R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p), S'');
\end{aligned}
\] (A1)

Add_HardFailsafe(\(P(S_p, \psi_p)\)) \(=\) real-time program \(f\) : transitions, \(S, P, Q\) : state predicate, \(\Sigma_{dt}\) : specification, \(n, \delta\) : integer)
\[
\begin{aligned}
R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p), S', P', Q', f', \; \Sigma_{dt} & := \text{ConstructRegionGraph}(P(S_p, \psi_p), S, P, Q, f, \Sigma_{dt}); \\
\psi'_p, S', \; mt & := \text{Add_UntimedFailsafe}(R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p), f', S', \; \Sigma_{dt});
\end{aligned}
\] (B1)

repeat

**IsQRemoved** := \(false\);

\(\psi'_p := \psi'_p \cup \{(s_0, \rho_0), (s_1, \rho_1)\} | (s_0, \rho_0) \notin S' \land \exists \rho_2 \mid \rho_2 \text{ a time-successor of } \rho_0 : (\exists \lambda \subseteq X : \rho_1 = \rho_2[\lambda := 0])\); (B4)

\(\psi'_p, \; ns \mid \exists \text{Add_BoundedRecovery}(R(P)(S'_p - ms, \psi'_p - mt), f', P', Q', n, \delta);\) (B5)

\(rs := \{(r_0, r_1) \mid r_1 \in \psi'_p \land r_1 \in rs\};\) (B7)

\(S' := \text{RemoveDeadlocks}(S' - \{ns \cup rs\}, Q', \psi'_p - rt);\) (B8)

if \((S' = \{\})\) then declare no hard-failsafe \(f\)-tolerant program \(P'\) exists; **exit**;

**IsQRemoved** := \(true\);

\(S' := S'';\) (B12)

\(Q' := Q'';\) (B13)

\(\psi'_p := \psi'_p \setminus \{(r, r_0), (r_0, r) \mid r \in S'\};\) (B14)

until \((\text{IsQRemoved} = false)\)

\(\psi''_p := \text{EnsureClosure}(\psi''_p, S''');\) (B15)

\(P'(S_p, \psi_p, \psi''_p) := \text{ConstructRealTimeProgram}(R(P)(S''_p, \psi''_p), S''');\) (B16)

\] (A2)

Add_UntimedFailsafe(R(P)(S'_p, \psi'_p)) \(=\) region graph, \(f'\) : set of edges, \(S'\) : region predicate, \(\Sigma_{dt}\) : specification)
\[
\begin{aligned}
ms := \{r_0 \mid \exists r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_n : (\forall j : 0 \leq j < n : (r_j, r_{j+1}) \in f') \land (r_{n-1}, r_n) \in \Sigma_{dt}\};
mt := \{(r_0, r_1) \mid (r_1 \in ms) \lor ((r_0, r_1) \in \Sigma_{dt})\};
S' := RemoveDeadlocks(S' - ms, \psi'_p - mt);
\end{aligned}
\] (C1)

if \((S' = \{\})\) then declare no soft/hard-failsafe \(f\)-tolerant program \(P'\) exists; **exit**;

\(\psi'_p := \text{EnsureClosure}(\psi'_p - mt, S');\) (C5)

\(\text{return } \psi'_p, S', \; mt;\) (C6)

RemoveDeadlocks(S', Q' : region predicate, \(\psi'_p\) : set of edges)
// Returns the largest subset of \(S'\) from where all computations of \(R(P)\) are infinite
\[
\begin{aligned}
\text{while } (\exists r_0 \mid r_0 \in S' \land (\forall r_1 \in S' : (r_0, r_1) \notin \psi'_p)) \\
S' := S' - \{r_0\}; \\
\text{if } (r_0 \in Q') \text{ then break;}
\end{aligned}
\] (C4)

\(\text{return } S';\) (C6)

EnsureClosure(\(\psi'_p\) : set of edges, \(S'\) : region predicate)
\[
\{ \text{return } \psi''_p := \{(r_0, r_1) \mid r_0 \in S' \land r_1 \notin S'\}; \}
\] (B14)

Figure 1: Addition of Failsafe Fault-Tolerance
set \( f^R \) of fault edges as input, and constructs a MaxDelay digraph \( G(V,A) \) as follows. Vertices of \( G \) consists of the regions in \( R(P) \).

**Notation:** We denote the weight of an arc \((v_0,v_1)\) by \( \text{Weight}(v_0,v_1) \). Let \( \gamma \) denote a bijective function that maps each region \( r \in S^r_p \) to its corresponding vertex in \( G \); i.e., \( \gamma(r) \) is a vertex of \( G \) that represents region \( r \) of \( R(P) \). Also, let \( \gamma^{-1} \) denote the inverse of \( \gamma \); i.e., \( \gamma^{-1}(v) \) is the region of \( R(P) \) that corresponds to vertex \( v \) in \( V \). Let \( \Gamma \) be a function that maps a region predicate in \( R(P) \) to the corresponding set of vertices of \( G \) and let \( \Gamma^{-1} \) be its inverse. Finally, for a boundary region \( r \) with respect to clock variable \( x \), we denote the value of \( x \) by \( r.x \) (equal to some constant in \( \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \)).

Arcs of \( G \) consists of the following:

- Arcs of weight 0 from \( v_0 \) to \( v_1 \), if \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0) \rightarrow \gamma^{-1}(v_1) \) represents a jump transition in \( R(P) \).
- Arcs of weight \( c' - c \), where \( c, c' \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \) and \( c' > c \), from \( v_0 \) to \( v_1 \), if \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0) \) and \( \gamma^{-1}(v_1) \) are both boundary regions with respect to clock variable \( x_i \), such that \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0).x_i = c \), \( \gamma^{-1}(v_1).x_i = c' \), and there is a path in \( R(P) \) from \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0) \) to \( \gamma^{-1}(v_1) \), which does not reset \( x_i \).
- Arcs of weight \( c' - c - \epsilon \), where \( c, c' \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \), \( c' > c \), and \( \epsilon \ll 1 \), from \( v_0 \) to \( v_1 \), if (1) \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0) \) is a boundary region with respect to clock \( x_i \), (2) \( \gamma^{-1}(v_1) \) is an open region whose time-successor \( \gamma^{-1}(v_2) \) is a boundary region with respect to clock \( x_i \), (3) \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0) \rightarrow \gamma^{-1}(v_1) \) represents a delay transition in \( R(P) \), and (4) \( \gamma^{-1}(v_0).x_i = c \) and \( \gamma^{-1}(v_2).x_i = c' \).
- Self-loop arcs of weight \( \infty \) at vertex \( v \), if \( \gamma^{-1}(v) \) is an end region.

In order to compute the maximum delay between regions in \( P^r \) and \( Q^r \), it suffices to find the longest distance between \( \Gamma(P^r) \) and \( \Gamma(Q^r) \) in \( G \). Note that, strongly connected components reachable from \( \Gamma(P^r) \) containing an arc of nonzero weight cause maximum delay of infinity.

We now describe our algorithm AddHardFailsafe (cf. Figure 1) in detail. The algorithm takes a real-time program \( P \) with invariant \( S \), a set of fault transitions \( f \), a set of bad transitions \( \Sigma_{bt} \), a bounded response property \( \Sigma_{br} \equiv P \rightarrow_{\leq \delta} Q \), the maximum number of occurrence of faults \( n \) (cf. Assumption 3.3), and returns a hard-failsafe program \( P'(S_p, \psi'_p) \) with invariant \( S' \). First, we transform \( P \) into its region graph \( R(P) \) (Line B1). Let \( P^r \) and \( Q^r \) be region predicates with respect to state predicates \( P \) and \( Q \), respectively. Then, to ensure that \( P' \) maintains \( \Sigma_{bt} \), we add soft-failsafe fault-tolerance to \( R(P) \) (Line B2). Next, we modify \( R(P) \), such that any computation that starts from a region in \( P^r \), reaches a region in \( Q^r \) in at most \( \delta \) time units even in the presence of faults. Towards this end, we compute the set of regions and edges from where \( \Sigma_{br} \) is maintained (lines B3-B14). In particular, to ensure that \( Q \) is reachable from the states in \( P \land \neg S \), we add edges that start from each region in \( S^r_p - S^r \) and go to regions where the time monotonicity condition is preserved (Line B4). Now, we invoke the subroutine AddBoundedRecovery to ensure that \( P \rightarrow_{\leq \delta} Q \) is maintained in the presence of faults (Line B5).
Figure 2: Addition of Bounded-Time Recovery in the Presence of Faults

The subroutine Add_BoundedRecovery (cf. Figure 2) adds bounded-time recovery to a given region graph as follows. First, it transforms the given region graph $R(\mathcal{P})$ to a MaxDelay digraph $G(V, A)$ (Line D1). Recall that, by Assumption 3.2, faults are detectable and $\mathcal{P}$ already has a variable that shows how many faults have occurred in a computation. Thus, let $G^i(V^i, A^i)$ be the portion of $G$, in which $n - i$ faults have occurred, where $0 \leq i \leq n$. More specifically, initially, a computation starts from portion $G^n$, where no faults have occurred. If a fault occurs in a computation that is currently in portion $G^i$, the computation will proceed in portion $G^{i-1}$. Obviously, if $n$ faults occur then the computation proceeds in portion $G^0$ and no faults will occur.
in that computation. We use these portions to see whether it is possible to reach a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)$ from each vertex in $\Gamma(P^r)$ within $\delta$ time units.

Next, we rank vertices of all portions of $G$ using a modified Dijkstra’s shortest path algorithm, which takes fault perturbations into account (lines D2-D9 and D22-D23). More specifically, since no faults occur in $G^0$, we first let the rank of all vertices $v \in V^0$ be the length of Dijkstra’s shortest path from $v$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^0$ (Line D2). Now, let $v_0$ be a vertex in $V^i$, where $1 \leq i \leq n$, and let $v_1$ be a vertex in $V^{i-1}$, such that $(\gamma^{-1}(v_0), \gamma^{-1}(v_1))$ is a fault edge in $R(P)$ and both $v_0$ and $v_1$ are on a path from $\Gamma(P^r)$ to $\Gamma(Q^r)$. There exist two cases: (1) the fault edge $(\gamma^{-1}(v_0), \gamma^{-1}(v_1))$ decreases or does not change the computation delay, i.e., the shortest distance from $v_1$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^{i-1}$ is less than or equal to the shortest distance from $v_0$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^i$, and (2) the fault edge $(\gamma^{-1}(v_0), \gamma^{-1}(v_1))$ increases the computation delay, i.e., the shortest distance from $v_1$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^{i-1}$ is greater than the shortest distance from $v_0$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^i$ (cf. Figure 3). While the former case does not cause violation of $\Sigma_{br}$ in the presence of faults, the later may do. Hence, the rank of $v_0$ must be at least the rank of $v_1$ in $V^{i-1}$. Moreover, if there exist multiple fault edges at $\gamma^{-1}(v_0)$ then we take the maximum rank (Line D7). After computing the rank of vertices from where faults may occur, we adjust the rank of the rest of vertices from where faults do not occur by invoking the subroutine **AdjustShortestPath** (Line D9). Figure 3 illustrates how vertex rankings work.

Now, for each portion $G^i$, we construct a subgraph of $G^i$ whose longest distance from each vertex in $\Gamma(P^r)^i$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^i$ is at most $\delta$ as follows (lines D11-D16). To this end, we begin with an empty digraph $G'^i(V'^i, A'^i)$ and we first include shortest paths from each vertex $v \in \Gamma(P^r)^i$ to a vertex in $\Gamma(Q^r)^i$, provided \( \text{Rank}(v) \leq \delta \) (lines D13-D16). Note that, adding such shortest paths does not create new paths of length greater than $\delta$. Next, we include the remaining arcs and vertices in $G'^i$, so that no arcs of the form $(v_0, v_1)$, where $v_0$ is on a path from $\Gamma(P^r)^i$ to $\Gamma(Q^r)^i$ are added (lines D17, D18).

Now, we transform the digraph $G'$ back into a region graph (Line D19). Finally, we return the set $\psi_{br}'$ of edges from where $\Sigma_{br}$ may not be violated even in the presence of faults, and the set $ns$ of regions from where $\Sigma_{br}$ may be violated in the presence of faults (lines D20, D21).

After adding bounded-time recovery, the algorithm **Add_Hard_Failsafe** first identifies the set $rs$ of regions and the set $rt$ of edges from where faults alone may violate $\Sigma_{br}$ (lines B6, B7 in Figure 1). Then, it removes...
such regions and edges along with the deadlock regions from $S^r$ (due to pruning some vertices and arcs in step B5) in the same fashion that we did for adding soft-failsafe fault-tolerance (Line B8). However, while removing deadlock regions, we need to consider a special case where a region $r_0 \in Q^r$ becomes a deadlock region. In this case, it is possible that all the regions along the paths that start from a region in $P^r$ and end in $r_0$ become deadlock regions. Hence, we need to find another path from the region in $P^r$ to a region in $Q^r$ other than $r_0$. Hence, in this case, we remove $r_0$ from $S^r$ and $Q^r$ and start over (lines B10-B14). Finally, the algorithm ensures closure of the invariant (Line B15) and transforms the synthesized region graph $R(P')$ back to a real-time program $P'$ (Line B16).

**Theorem 5.3.** The algorithm Add_HardFailsafe is sound and complete.

**Theorem 5.4.** The problem of adding hard-failsafe fault-tolerance to a real-time program, where the synthesized program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults, is in PSPACE.

### 5.2 Automated Addition of Nonmasking Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

To derive a nonmasking $f$-tolerant program $P'$, we ensure that if the state of $P'$ is perturbed by faults in $f$ then it recovers to a state in $S$ within a pre-specified recovery time $\delta$. Since a nonmasking program is not required to satisfy its safety specification in the presence of faults, to provide bounded-time recovery, it suffices to invoke the subroutine Add_BoundedRecovery for state predicates $S_p - S$ and $S$. Since an algorithm for adding nonmasking fault-tolerance is very simple and, in Subsection 5.3, we describe how we add bounded-time recovery from fault-span to invariant, we do not present the algorithm in a formal fashion.

### 5.3 Automated Addition of Masking Tolerance to Real-Time Programs

As mentioned in Section 3, in masking fault-tolerance the program is required to satisfy its safety specification in the presence of faults and if the state of a program is perturbed by faults then it recovers to its invariant within a bounded amount of time. In Subsection 5.3.1, we present our synthesis algorithm for adding soft-masking fault-tolerance to an existing real-time program. Then, in Subsection 5.3.2, we discuss the issues in addition of hard-masking fault-tolerance, where the synthesized program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults.

#### 5.3.1 Adding Soft-Masking Fault-Tolerance

In order to synthesize a soft-masking program, we should generate a program $P'$ with invariant $S'$ and fault-span $T'$, such that it never violates its safety specification and if a fault perturbs the state of a program to a state in $T'$, it recovers to $S'$ within a pre-specified recovery time $\delta$. To this end, we extend the algorithm proposed in [6] for adding masking fault-tolerance to untimed programs, such that it provides bounded time recovery.

Now, we describe the algorithm Add_SoftMasking (cf. Figure 4) in detail. First, we construct the region graph $R(P)$ (Line E1). Our first estimate of a soft-masking program is a soft-failsafe program. Hence, we let our first estimate $S^r_1$ be the region invariant of its soft-failsafe fault-tolerant program. Likewise, we estimate
Add_SoftMasking(\(P\), \(S_p, \psi_p\)) : real-time program \(f\) : transitions, \(S\) : state predicate, \(\Sigma_{id}\) : specification, \(n, \delta\) : integer)

\[
\begin{align*}
R(P)(S^r_p, \psi^r_p, S^f, f^r, \Sigma_{id}) & := \text{ConstructRegionGraph}(P(S_p, \psi_p), S, f, \Sigma_{id}); \quad \text{(E1)} \\
\text{Define } ms & \text{ and } mt \text{ as in Add_UnlimitedSafe.} \quad \text{(E2)} \\
S^r_i, T^r_i & := \text{RemoveDeadlocks}(S^r - ms, \psi^r - mt), S^r_i - ms; \quad \text{(E3)} \\
\text{repeat} \\
T^r_j, S^r_j := T^r_i, S^r_i; \quad \text{(E4)} \\
\psi^r_p := \psi^r_p|S^r_i \cup \{(s_0, p_0), (s_1, p_1) \mid (s_0, p_0) \in T^r_i \land (s_0, p_0) \notin S^r_i \land (s_1, p_1) \in T^r_i \land 3p_2 \mid p_2 \text{ is a time-successor of } p_0: (\exists \lambda \subseteq X : p_1 = p_2[\lambda := 0]) \} - mt; \quad \text{(E5)} \\
T^r_i := \text{ConstructFaultSpan}(T^r_i - (r \mid S^r_i \text{ is not reachable from } r \text{ using } \psi^r_p), f^r); \quad \text{(E6)} \\
S^r_i := \text{RemoveDeadlocks}(S^r_i \land T^r_i, \psi^r_p); \quad \text{(E7)} \\
\text{if } (S^r_i = \{\} \lor T^r_i = \{\}) \text{ then declare no soft-masking } f\text{-tolerant program } P' \text{ exists; exit;} \quad \text{(E8)} \\
\text{else } \psi^r_p := \text{EnsureClosure}(\psi^r_p - rt, S^r_i - rs); \quad \text{(E9)} \\
S^r_i, T^r_i := S^r_i - rs, T^r_i - ns; \quad \text{(E10)} \\
P'(S^r_p, \psi^r_p), S', T' := \text{ConstructRealTimeProgram}(R(P')(S^r_p, \psi^r_p), S^r, T^r) \quad \text{(E11)}
\end{align*}
\]

\(\text{ConstructFaultSpan}(T^r) : \text{ region predicate, } f^r : \text{ set of edges})\)

\(T^r\) to be \(T^r_i\) where \(T^r_i\) includes all the regions in the region space minus the regions from where safety of \(R(P)\) may be violated (lines E2, E3). Next, we compute the set of edges \(\psi^r_p\), region fault-span \(T^r_i\), and region invariant \(S^r_i\) of \(R(P)\) in a loop as follows (lines E4-E11):

1. In order to compute the set of edges \(\psi^r_p\), we first include edges in \(\psi^r_p|S^r_i\). Then we consider edges that start from a region \((s_0, p_0)\), where \((s_0, p_0) \in T^r_i - S^r_i\), and end at a region \((s_1, p_1) \in T^r_i\) (by closure of fault-span), such that the time monotonicity condition is preserved, i.e., there exists \(\rho_2\), where \(\rho_2\) is a time-successor of \(\rho_0\) and \(\rho_1 = \rho_2[\lambda := 0]\), such that \(\lambda\) is any subset of the set \(X\) of clock variables of \(P\). Finally, we remove the transitions \(mt\) from this set (Line E6).

2. We recompute the region fault-span by first removing the regions from where \(S^r_i\) is not reachable using the edges in \(\psi^r_p\). Then, we remove regions from where closure of fault-span may be violated through a fault edge, by invoking the subroutine \text{ConstructFaultSpan} (Line E7).
3. Since $S_r^1$ must be a subset of $T_r^1$, we recompute the region invariant by invoking the subroutine RemoveDeadlocks for $S_r^1 \land T_r^1$ (Line E8) and jump back to step 1.

Upon the termination of the repeat-until loop, recovery from $T_r^1$ to $S_r^1$ is provided, but not in $\delta$ time units. Hence, we need to ensure that any computation of the soft-masking program $\mathcal{P}'(S_p, \psi_p^r)$ that starts from a state in the fault-span $T'$, reaches its invariant $S'$ within $\delta$ time units, even in the presence of faults. In fact, we need bounded-time recovery from each state in $T' - S'$ to a state $S'$, which is in turn the bounded response property $(T - S) \rightarrow_{\leq \delta} S$. To this end, we invoke the subroutine Add_BoundedRecovery with parameters $R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r), f^r, T_r^1, S_r^1, S_0^r, n, and \delta$ (Line E12). Since $S_r^1$ is closed in $\psi_p^r$, unlike adding hard-failsafe, we do not need to worry about removal of regions in $S_r^1$. However, if there exists a region $r_0 \in S_r^1$ that may reach a region $r_1 \in ns$ by taking faults alone, where $ns$ is the set of regions from where recovery from $T_r^1$ is not possible, $r_0$ becomes a region from where a program computation goes to the fault-span, but cannot recover to the invariant in $\delta$ time units. Hence, we remove the regions (respectively, edges), from where by taking faults alone a computation may reach a region in $ns$, from $S_r^1$ (respectively, $\psi_p^r$) (lines E13-E17). Finally, we construct the real-time program $\mathcal{P}'(S_p, \psi_p^r)$ with invariant $S'$ out of its region graph $R(\mathcal{P})(S_p^r, \psi_p^r)$ and region invariant $S'^r$ (lines E18, E19).

**Theorem 5.5.** The algorithm Add_SoftMasking is sound and complete.

**Theorem 5.6.** The problem of adding soft-masking fault-tolerance to a real-time program is in PSPACE.

### 5.3.2 Adding Hard-Masking Fault-Tolerance with a Single Bounded Response Property

To design a hard-masking fault-tolerant program $\mathcal{P}'$ from an intolerant program $\mathcal{P}$ for the case where $\Sigma_{br} \equiv P \rightarrow_{\leq \delta} Q$, we ensure that $\mathcal{P}'$ is soft-masking fault-tolerant and it maintains $P \rightarrow_{\leq \delta} Q$ even in the presence of faults. Note that, since $\mathcal{P}'$ is supposed to be a soft-masking program, it must provide bounded-time recovery, which is in turn the bounded response property $(T - S) \rightarrow_{\delta} S$. In other words, $\mathcal{P}'$ must satisfy two bounded response properties simultaneously. A possible solution seems to be adding the bounded response properties one after another. Note, however, that during the addition of the first property, we may unnecessarily remove a transition that should have been kept in order to be able to add the second property. Hence, such a solution is sound but not complete.

In this context, we note that in [31], the authors show that adding two unbounded response (leads-to) properties to an untimed program is NP-hard in the state space. While there are subtle differences between the problem considered in [31] and the problem of adding hard-masking (e.g., $P, Q \subseteq T$), based on [31], we conjecture that the time complexity of adding hard-masking fault-tolerance even with a single bounded response property is exponential in the size of the region graph.

### 5.4 Adding Hard Masking Fault-Tolerance with Multiple Bounded Response Properties

In this subsection, we note that if $\Sigma_{br}$ consists of multiple bounded response properties then adding hard masking fault-tolerance to a real-time program is NP-hard.
Theorem 5.7. The problem of adding hard masking fault-tolerance to a real-time program where the resulting program is required to satisfy multiple bounded response properties in the presence of faults, is NP-hard in the size of region graph.

While we omit the proof of this theorem for reasons of space, we note that in [31], we have shown that the problem of adding two (unbounded) response properties to a given program (in the absence of faults) is NP-hard. The same proof can be extended to this problem, as adding hard fault-tolerance requires that bounded liveness properties are preserved in the presence of faults. For reasons of space, we refer the reader to [29] for proofs.

6 Discussion

In this section, we justify our assumptions and effect of them on our approach.

Modeling safety specification. We choose to model the untimed part of safety specifications by a set of bad transitions due to the recent results on time complexity of synthesis algorithms that deal with more general class of specifications. In [32], Kulkarni and Ebnenasir show that the problem of adding masking fault-tolerance to untimed programs, where the safety specification is specified in terms a set of bad pairs of transitions, is NP-hard. Furthermore, as mentioned in Subsection 5.4, if the safety specification consists of multiple bounded response properties, the problem of adding hard masking fault-tolerance is also NP-hard in size of region graph. Therefore, we argue that automated synthesis of both soft and hard fault-tolerant real-time programs is likely to be more successful if one focuses on problems where the untimed part safety can be represented by a set of bad transitions. Moreover, we argue that automated synthesis methods for adding hard fault-tolerance is more successful, if timing constraints of safety is represented by at most one bounded response property.

Safety specification in the absence and presence of faults. In many systems, the safety requirements in the presence of faults may be weaker than that in the absence of faults. In this case, during synthesis, one should specify the properties that should be met in the presence of faults. Since we begin with a fault-intolerant program that meets the specification in the absence of faults and no new behaviors are added in the absence of faults, the fault-tolerant program would continue to satisfy the stronger specification in the absence of faults.

Unbounded number of faults. In our work, for hard fault-tolerance we assumed that the number of fault occurrences in a computation is bounded. Note that if the number of faults are unbounded then for most interesting scenarios, the synthesis is not feasible. To illustrate this, observe that for most faults considered in practice, the occurrence of faults causes a delay in satisfaction of a bounded response property. Thus, if unbounded number of faults occur then hard fault-tolerance cannot be satisfied unless we ensure that the program does not reach states where faults cannot occur.

State space explosion problem. Region graph is usually not the most efficient finite representation of a real-time program. By contrast, zone automata [33] is considered as a more efficient model used in model checking techniques. In this paper, since our goal was to investigate the possibility of synthesizing fault-tolerant
real-time programs and to evaluate the classes of complexity of such algorithms, we focused on detailed region graphs. However, an interesting improvement step is modifying the algorithms presented in Section 5, so that manipulate a zone automaton rather than a region graph during synthesis.

7 Conclusion and Future Work

In this paper, we focused on the problem of automatic addition of fault-tolerance to real-time programs. We considered three levels of fault-tolerance, failsafe, nonmasking, and masking. For failsafe and masking, we proposed two cases, soft and hard, based on satisfaction of timing constraints in the presence of faults. In our approach, we begin with an existing program rather than specification and, hence, the previous efforts made for synthesizing the input program are reused.

We first introduced a generic framework to formally define the notions of faults and fault-tolerance in the context of real-time programs. Then, we presented sound and complete algorithms for transforming fault-intolerant real-time programs into soft-failsafe, nonmasking, and soft-masking fault-tolerant programs. We also proposed a sound and complete algorithm that synthesizes hard-failsafe fault-tolerant real-time programs, where the fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy at most one bounded response property in the presence of faults. The complexity of our algorithms are in polynomial time in the size region graphs. We also showed that the problem of adding hard masking fault-tolerance to real-time programs, where the fault-tolerant program is required to satisfy multiple bounded response properties in the presence of faults, is NP-hard. Thus, this work characterizes classes of problems where adding fault-tolerance to real-time programs is expected to be feasible and where the complexity is too high.

Since the complexity of the aforementioned algorithms is comparable to that of existing model checking techniques, we believe that the proposed algorithms can be used in tools for synthesizing fault-tolerant real-time programs in practice. More specifically, as future work, we plan to extend our tool FTSyn \(^2\) (which is currently capable to synthesize fault-tolerant untimed programs), so that it synthesizes fault-tolerant real-time programs as well.

References


\(^2\)For more information, visit http://www.cse.msu.edu/~ebnenasi/research/tools/ftsyn.htm.


