CO₂CoDe: Towards Carbon-Aware Hardware/Software Co-Design for Intermittently-Powered Embedded Systems

July 9th, 2024

Phillip Raffeck, Sven Posner, Peter Wägemann

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg





Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Faculty of Engineering



Target Systems





Lucia, ACM SIGARCH Blog, 2022



PR Ganapathy, CC BY-SA 4.0, 2015

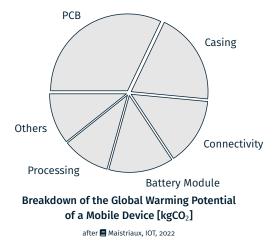


🗏 de Winkel, MobiSys, 2022



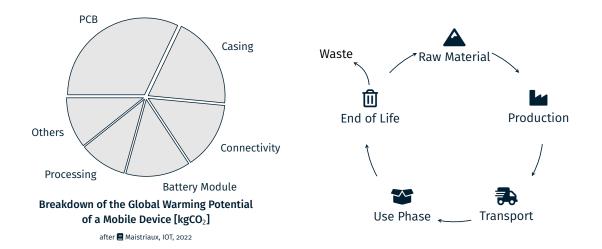
Ecological Footprint





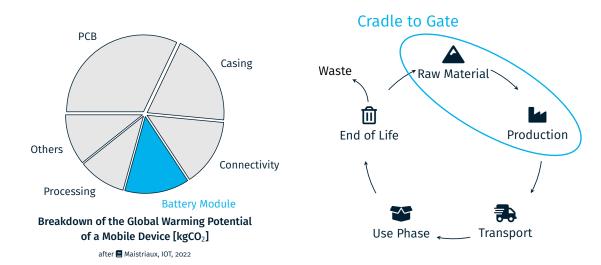
Ecological Footprint





Ecological Footprint



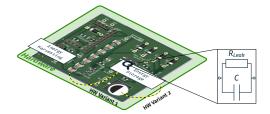






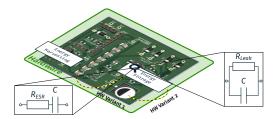


Leakage resistance

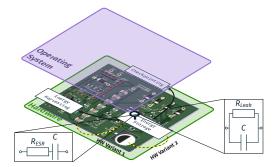




- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)

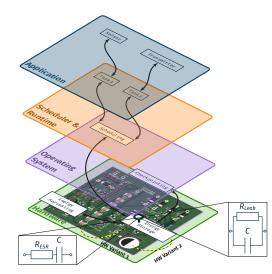






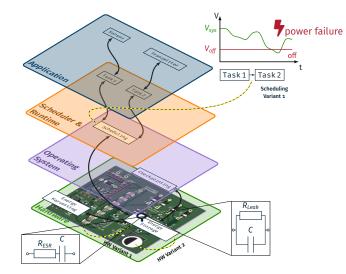
- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)
- Leakage resistance affects checkpointing





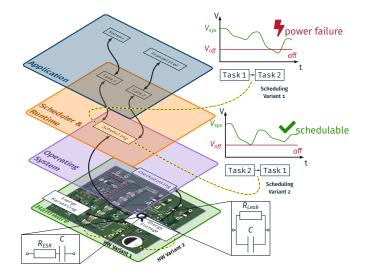
- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)
- Leakage resistance affects checkpointing
- ESR affects scheduling





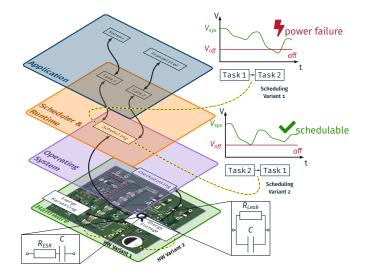
- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)
- Leakage resistance affects checkpointing
- ESR affects scheduling





- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)
- Leakage resistance affects checkpointing
- ESR affects scheduling





- Leakage resistance
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR)
- Leakage resistance affects checkpointing
- ESR affects scheduling
- Effects propagate throughout the system stack



Problems

- Propagation throughout whole system stack
 - Hardware \mapsto Software
 - Software \mapsto Hardware
- Multi-objective design choices
- Lack of proper abstractions

Goals

- HW/SW co-design framework for carbon-conscious design
- Achieve sustainable designs of battery-free systems

CO₂CoDe Case Study

\odot

Multiple Objectives

- Minimizing the embodied carbon of the designed system
- Maximizing the available energy for execution

Multiple Objectives

- Minimizing the embodied carbon of the designed system
- Maximizing the available energy for execution

- Undersizing threatens ability to make meaningful progress
- **Oversizing** leads to longer charging times to reach target voltage



Multiple Objectives

- Minimizing the embodied carbon of the designed system
- Maximizing the available energy for execution

- Undersizing threatens ability to make meaningful progress
- **Oversizing** leads to longer charging times to reach target voltage
- Minimize ESR
- Minimize carbon footprint



Multiple Objectives

- Minimizing the embodied carbon of the designed system
- Maximizing the available energy for execution

Capacitor Selection

- Undersizing threatens ability to make meaningful progress
- Oversizing leads to longer charging times to reach target voltage
- Minimize ESR

Minimize carbon footprint Minimize carbon footprint



Multiple Objectives

- Minimizing the embodied carbon of the designed system
- Maximizing the available energy for execution

Capacitor Selection

- Undersizing threatens ability to make meaningful progress
- **Oversizing** leads to longer charging times to reach target voltage
- Minimize ESR

Minimize carbon footprint
 in conflict

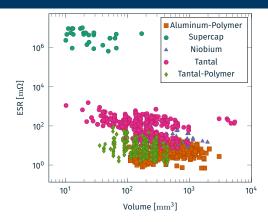
Maximizing Available Energy Through Task Schedules

- Order tasks while taking maximum power demand into account
- \Rightarrow Diminish impacts of ESR-related voltage drop

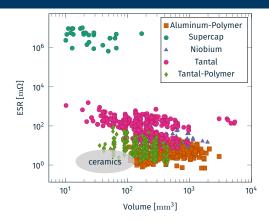


Results

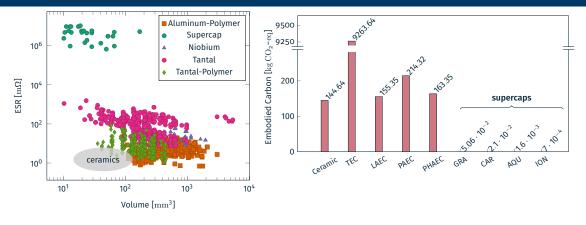




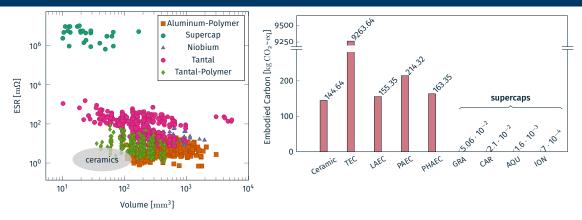








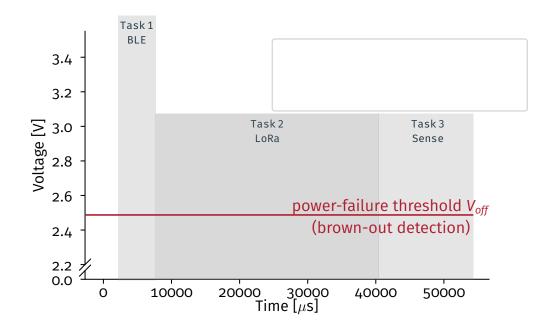




Chosen Capacitors: ceramics and supercaps

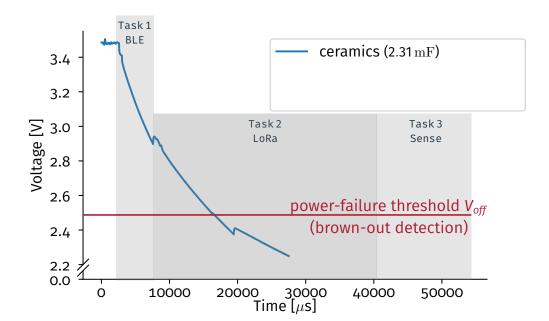
- Low carbon footprint
- Ceramics: low ESR but low energy density
- Supercaps: high energy density but high ESR



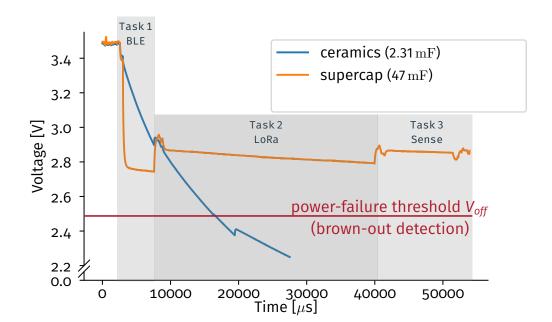


Voltage Trace



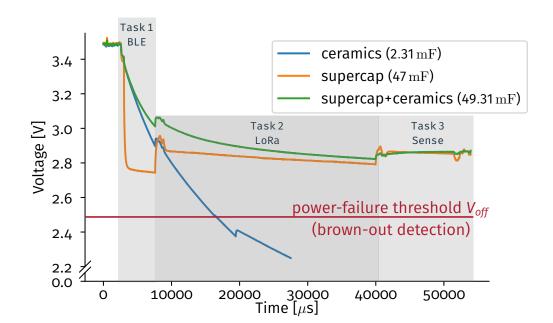






Voltage Trace





Conclusion

Conclusion



Recap

- Multi-objective, contradicting design choices
- Current lack of proper abstractions
- Case study: capacitor selection with **conflicting properties**
- Energy-storage design **propagates** through entire system stack

Conclusion



Recap

- Multi-objective, contradicting design choices
- Current lack of proper abstractions
- Case study: capacitor selection with **conflicting properties**
- Energy-storage design **propagates** through entire system stack

Future Work

- Create a hardware/software co-design framework for carbon-conscious design decisions
- Bridge gap between system-level functionality and carbon awareness
- Sustainable design of carbon-aware and battery-free systems

CO₂CoDe's project repository: https://gitos.rrze.fau.de/co2code