Moving MATLAB® Algorithms into Complete Designs with Fixed-Point Simulation and Code Generation

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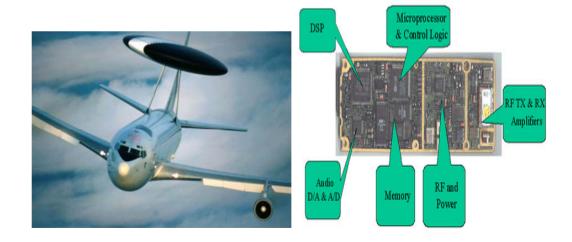
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Outline

- Challenges in fixed-point signal processing
- Traditional design workflow
- Advantages of Model-Based Design workflow
 - Streamlined Float-to-fixed conversion
 - Acceleration of fixed-point simulation
 - Automatic C code generation
- Demo
- Summary

Fixed-point signal processing applications

- Tasks
 - Design and analyze fixed-point algorithms
 - Verify fixed point implementations
- Hardware targets
 - FPGA or ASIC
 - Fixed-point DSP chip



Traditional Development flow

Requirements and **Specifications**



Implementation

Test and Verification







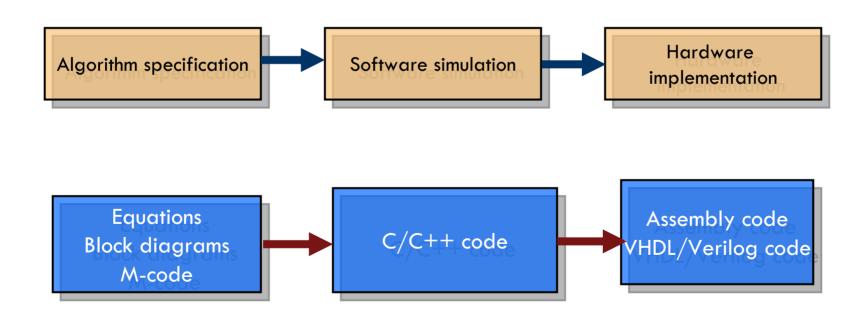






Multiple truths in traditional workflows

Re-implement as you go down the level of abstraction



Examine a fixed-point algorithm design

Traditional workflow

1. Set-up simulation flow

MATLAB

- 2. Express your floating-point algorithm
 - Focus on algorithmic integrity, proof of concept
- 3. Simulate (floating-point)
 - Iterate on algorithm trade-offs
 - Validate against requirements
- 4. Convert design to fixed-point



- Focus of design viability based on implementation constraints
- 5. Simulate (fixed-point)
 - Iterate on implementation trade-offs
 - Validate against original requirements
- 6. Generate code for implementation
- 7. Validate and verify design after deployment

Assembly or HDL



Problems with traditional workflow

- Multiple truths (Copies of same algorithm)
 - Floating-point M code
 - Floating-point C code
 - Fixed-point C code
 - Assembly code
 - Verilog/VHDL code
- Error-prone process
 - Using different tools
 - Exchange data across tools
 - Multiple update/test of code

Model-Based Design Workflow

Requirements and **Specifications**



Design



Implementation



Test and Verification



Continuous Verification



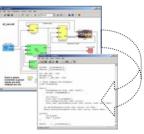
Executable models

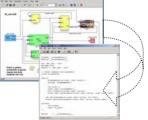
- Unambiguous

- Only "one truth"



Model Elaboration





Test with Design - Detects errors

Total Party

earlier

Simulation

- Reduces "real" prototypes
- Systematic "what-if" analysis

Automatic code generation

Minimizes coding errors

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Examine a fixed-point algorithm design

Model-based Design workflow

- 1. Set-up simulation flow
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MATLAB & Simulink

Advantages of Model-Based Design workflow

- Maintain One Truth
- One integrated design environment
- MATLAB benefit:
 - Integrated visualization, analysis & design
- No sacrifice of simulation speed
- Automatic path to implementation

How does Model-Based Design makes fixed-point design faster and easier?

- Streamline process of converting your MATLAB algorithms to fixedpoint
- Simulate fixed-point algorithms with large data sets at compiled-C-code speed
- Integrate with system-level design in Simulink
- Generate embeddable C code for implementation with Real-Time Workshop®



Streamlined floating-to-fixed conversion: introducing Data-type override

- Turn on the logging mode
- Set data type override parameters
- Observe dynamic range of variables in your M-code
- Set the best fixed-point attributes to avoid overflow/underflow & large quantization errors

```
🔥 MATLAB 7.4.0 (R2007a)
                                                                                                                 _ | D | X |
      Edit Debug Desktop Window
  To get started, select MATLAB Help or Demos from the Help menu.
  >> reset(fipref);
  >> fipref('LoggingMode','on');
  >> fipref('DataTypeOverride','ScaledDoubles');
  >> logreport(b,a,x,v,acc)
                                                                                         noverflows
                                                                                                         nunderflows
                          minlog
                                          maxlog
                                                       lowerbound
                                                                        upperbound
                      0.2929077
                                       0.5857849
                                                                         0.9999695
                                                                          1.999939
                     -0.9999507
                                                                - 1
                                       0.9999695
                                                                         0.9999695
                     -0.9555664
                                       0.9640198
                                                                -1
                                                                         0.9999695
                                                                                                   n
                               -1
                                       0.9999695
                                                                -1
                                                                         0.9999695
                                                                                                  17
             acc
  >>
Mathyvorks
```

Tools for scaling a fixed-point variable

Data logging

Steps involved with dynamic range analysis to convert a design into fixed-point

- 1. Compute the range based on the min/max logs
- 2. Compute the integer part to fit variable within range
- Compute the fraction length as the rest of bit budget
- 4. Construct the fixed-point numeric type object

```
#MATLAB 7.4.0 (R2007a)

File Edit Debug Desktop Window Help

↑ To get started, select MATLAB Help or Demos from the Help menu.

>> fipref('loggingmode','on');

>> A = max(abs(double(minlog(x))), abs(double(maxlog(x)));

>> integer_part = ceil(log2(A));

>> word_length = 32; is_signed=1;

>> fraction_length = word_length - integer_part - double(logical(is_signed));

>> T = numerictype(is_signed, word_length, fraction_length);

>> |

◆ Start
```

Fixed-point acceleration: introducing new emlmex function

- Fast simulation through code generation
- Automatic generation of C-MEX function from M-function
- M-code confined to embedded MATLAB language subset
- Compile C-code execution speed (beyond 100x acceleration in MATLAB)

```
MATLAB 7.4.0 (R2007a)

File Edit Debug Desktop Window Help

To get started, select MATLAB Help or Demos from the Help menu.

emlmex foo -eg { single(0), double(0) }

To create a C-MEX function from an M-function bar.m which does not take any inputs, naming the output file xbar, use:

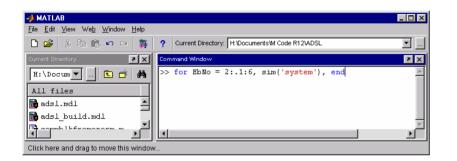
emlmex -o xbar bar

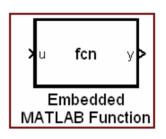
See also mex.
```

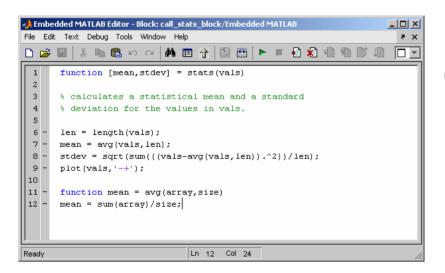


Integrate MATLAB design with Simulink

Embedded MATLAB Function block







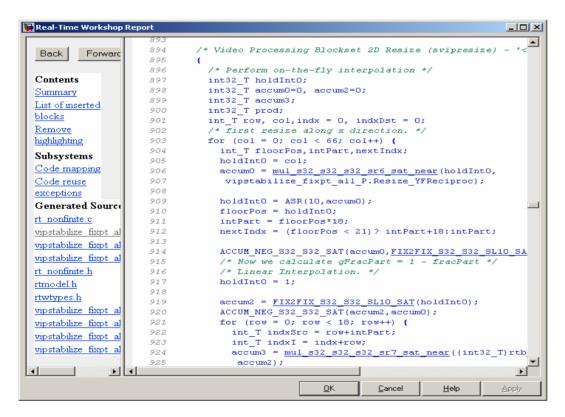
Change parameters and run Simulink® simulations from MATLAB

Embedded MATLAB Function

Integration of Embedded MATLAB Functions in Simulink

Automatic fixed-point C code generation

Real-Time Workshop



Enabled via Simulink Fixedpoint

Real-Time Workshop®

Real-Time Workshop® Embedded Coder

Supports up to 32-bit fixedpoint numbers

Uses only native C integer data types

Hands-on Demonstration

- 1. Implement the algorithm with floating-point data types in M.
- Convert to fixed-point data types in M and run with default settings; observe scaling issues!
- 3. Log the full numerical range of variables (data logging and data type override)
- Use the logged minimum and maximum values to set the fixed-point scaling.
- 5. Validate the fixed-point solution interactively.
- 6. Convert M to MEX using EMLMEX function for fast simulation and large test-set verification.
- 7. Convert M to C in Simulink Embedded MATLAB Function block with Real-Time Workshop for embedded implementation.

For more information

- Fixed-point signal processing webinars
 - Fixed-Point Programming in MATLAB
 - http://www.mathworks.com/cmspro/reg11440.html?eventid=32477
 - Fixed-Point Signal Processing with MATLAB and Simulink
 - http://www.mathworks.com/cmspro/req12157.html?eventid=35522
- About MATLAB and Simulink signal processing products

http://www.mathworks.com/products/product_listing/index.html

- Relevant product demos
 - http://www.mathworks.com/products/demos/index.html
- User-contributed examples in MATLAB Central
 - http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral

Summary

Model-based design

 Single-truth, integrated design environment for development of a design from idea all the way to realizable implementation

Benefits

- Integrated modeling, simulation and prototyping for signal processing systems
- Easy conversion to fixed-point data types and trade-off analyses
- Automatic generation of C-code for DSPs
- Construct test harnesses for real-time hardware verification