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Analysis of Crash Recovery Failure Detection with Quality of Services

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Abstract– We develop a probabilistic model of the behavior of a crash-recovery target, i.e. one which has the ability to recover from the crash state. We show that the fail-free and the crash-stop are special cases of the crash-recovery run with mean time to failure (MTTF) approaching to infinity and mean time to recovery (MTTR) approaching to infinity, respectively. We compare the previous work QoS metrics to allow the measurement of the recovery speed, and the definition of the completeness property of a failure detector. Then, the impact of the dependability of the crash-recovery target on the QoS bounds for such a crash-recovery failure detector is analyzed using general dependability metrics, such as MTTF and MTTR, based on an approximate probabilistic model of the two-process failure detection system. Then according to our approximate model, we show how to estimate the failure detector's parameters to achieve a required QoS, based NFD-S algorithm analytically, and how to execute the configuration procedure of this crash-recovery failure detector. Our analysis indicates that variation in the MTTF and MTTR of the monitored process can have a significant impact on the QoS of our failure detector.

Index Terms– Crash recovery, failures, Metrics and QoS

I. INTRODUCTION

THE purpose of failure detection is to discover abnormal software behaviors. Recognizing the occurrence of failures is one of the most important steps towards achieving fault-tolerance and dependability, challenging problem in this research is to tolerate the Byzantine failure also called as arbitrary failure means process may behave in an arbitrary manner and produces responses at an arbitrary time [1]. It is the most difficult failure to detect adopting consensus algorithms. To achieve K fault tolerance, $3K+1$ service replications are needed [2]. In the worst case, the K faulty services may send incorrect values, or incorrectly represent the values of others, but the remaining $2K+1$ services can still return the same. Crash failure detection is the building blocks to achieve a successful consensus. However, detecting crash failures is a difficult problem. In [3], Fischer et al. show the impossibility of separating a crashed process and a very slow one, in a pure asynchronous system, known as the Fischer-Lynch-Paterson's impossibility result. Subsequently, failure detector oracles, which give possibly erroneous

information about the state of the monitored target, have been proposed.

Another approach to consider the crash-recovery is proposed by Guerraoui and Rodrigues [4]. A process can keep crashing and recovering infinitely often and it is eventually always up and running. In theory, a process recovery can be achieved by adopting stable storage and the state information of the process can be stored and retrieved from the storage. After a crash is detected, the recovery procedure can be used to retrieve the latest stored process information. In practice, in order to provide high availability, self-repairing and self-healing mechanisms are widely adopted in fault-tolerant systems to achieve automatic recovery after a crash occurs. Particularly, in middleware systems, many techniques and algorithms have been introduced to achieve the self-repairing or self-healing goal, e.g., [5], [6].

In such systems, it is assumed that the system undergoes periodic crashes. During a crash period, the system is unable to service any requests or send any messages, externally behaving as if the system is unreachable. The end of the crash period is marked by a recovery, after which the system returns to normal service and its internal state is restored to the state before the crash failure occurred.

Crash-recovery failure needs to be considered as a frequently occurring failure type to be detected. However, the crash-recovery case has studied due to the fact that there are more possible discrepancies between the failure detector and the monitored target, increasing the size of the state space of the monitoring process, making the quality of service analysis for such a paradigm more complicated. In this we analyzed the QoS of a crash-recovery failure detector based on a simple time-out algorithm. A crash-recovery target was modeled as an alternating renewal process that the crash-recovery behavior of the monitored target will impact the QoS of such a failure detector, which implied that the crash-recovery paradigm merited further studied. We outlined how to model the failure detection pair in a crash-recovery run and how to configure the failure detector to satisfy a given QoS requirement.

This paper represents a substantial expansion of support the results with analytical results, derived directly from the equations in this paper, are also plotted and compared and able to present a detailed analysis for each of the QoS metrics, which shows the validity of our model.

II. TYPES OF CRASH-RECOVERY FAILURES

A failure occurs when an actual running system deviates from its specified behavior.

A. Muteness Failure

Muteness failures are malicious failures in which a process stops sending messages but might continue to send other messages. When muteness failure occurs the service will stop executing its designed features but might still be able to generate liveness messages such failures cannot be detected by crash failure detectors. Muteness failure is a particular case of omission failure which fails to send [7] only some message but no all detecting process could be an application-specific.

Adopting the muteness failure detecting algorithm in which proposes a protocol that forces the monitored service to send "Iam-not-mute" message to the muteness failure detector periodically when service is not mute but stop sending such messages when a muteness failure occurs.

B. Timing Failure

Timing failure occurs when a service response lies outside the specified time interval. Example if the service-hosting machine or network is overloaded or some other resources on which the service depends are overloaded then the service response might be delayed and a timing failure [7] might occur. Detection of timing failure should be based on the specified deadline or time constraints. In order to detect a timing failure recording the time when the conversation between a service pair starts can be adopted. If the service instance cannot return the answer before the specified deadline is regarded as a timing failure. Moreover there are more sophisticated timing failure detectors such as the one reported in which uses group communication to detect timing failure in a quasi-synchronous system or the timely computing base model can [9] deal with timeliness requirements without synchronized clocks.

C. Omission Failure

When a service fails to send a response or receive a message an omission failure occurs behaves as a communication failure will cause message transmission fail.

The simplest way to detect omission failures is to enable the service to provide failure information. If the service can throw a fail to send or fail to receive message exception or send this information to the failure detector then the failure is regarded as an omission failure.

D. QoS Failure

A service even if it provides a correct result might still fail to meet the consumers desired level of service fails to satisfy a specified property by the service consumer by a certain level of QoS constraints. Example 95% [8] confidence that the mean time to get results is smaller than 10 seconds assuming that initially 99% confidence of this property. QoS failure can be tracked by matching the given QoS specification with the QoS delivered by the service.

E. Response Failure

Response failure occurs when a service response is incorrect. In general, response failures can be separated into two types. The first type is value failure: the response value is wrong; the second type is state transition failure: the service deviates from the [8] correct flow of control [9]. To detect value failure, voting algorithms can be adopted if multiple service replications are deployed. To detect state transition failure, the service design specification should be available to check whether a service has deviated from its expected state or not.

F. Partial Failure

For a composed application, a component failure may result in a partial failure of the composed service. Identifying such a partial service failure still remains challenging. Here we regard a component of a service as atomic and consider dependencies among these components. Failure of a component might potentially cause other failures of the composed service or the failure of the composing procedure. For a composed service, due to service internal fault-tolerance policies, partial failure might not be visible externally by a failure detector, which only observes the composed service. In order to discover such partial failures, sensors must be implemented at the atomic component level to track the status information of each atomic component of a composed service. The implementation of the sensor for a component should be based on the failure mode that the sensor is concerned with.

G. Composition Failure

Service composition is an important characteristic of web services. Any service partial failure or unmatched composition requirements would result in a service composition failure. To detect such failures in a composing service, each composition step should be checked and tested. If the current composition procedure is verified without any mistake having occurred and the composition conditions are satisfied, then proceed to the next step, otherwise a composition failure might have occurred.

H. Byzantine Failure

The Byzantine failure is also sometimes called the arbitrary failure. It means a service may behave in an arbitrary manner, produce arbitrary responses at arbitrary time [9]. It is the most complicated failure to detect. According to the detection, Byzantine failures can be separated into undetectable and detectable failures [10]. Undetectable Byzantine failures refer to failures that are unobservable by other processes based on the messages they receive or failures that are undiagnosable. Detectable Byzantine failures have two categories:

Commission (Response) failures: the service does not behave correctly according to its semantics.

Omission failure: the service behaves correctly but fails to send or receive messages.

B. Quality of Service Metrics for Crash Recovery

In order to measure the speed with which a FDS can discover a recovery of the CR-TS, Recovery detection time (TDR): represents the time that elapses from CR-TS's recovery time to the time when the FDS discovers the recovery. If the recovery is not detected, then $TDR = +1$. Since in a crash-recovery run there is no eventual behavior of a CR-TS, a fast recovery could make a failure undetectable by a FDS. Under such circumstances, the completeness property of a failure detector proposed in [11] cannot be always satisfied. In order to reflect this situation, we refine the definition of completeness as follows:

- Strong completeness: every crash failure of a recoverable process will be detected.
- Weak completeness: a proportion of crash failures of recoverable process will be detected, satisfying a specified requirement.

To measure the completeness of a crash recovery failure detector, another new QoS metric:

Detected failure proportion (RDF): the ratio of the detected failures over the occurred failures ($0 \leq RDF \leq 1$). When no crash failure is detected, $RDF = 0$. When all crash failures occurrences are detected, $RDF = 1$. The strong completeness property of a FDS's requires that $E(RDF) = 1$. The weak completeness property requires $E(RDF) \geq RLDF$, where $RLDF$ is the required lower bound on the detected failure proportion and $0 < RLDF < 1$.

V. ESTIMATION OF QUALITY OF SERVICE & NFD-S ALGORITHM IN A CRASH-RECOVERY RUN

In a crash-recovery run, the state of CR-TS can switch between Alive and Crash. There is a sequence of regeneration points for the CRTS, each of which is the recovery time of the CR-TS. In the following these are also regeneration points of the system consisting of the failure detection pair. In order to study the steady state behavior of CR-TS throughout its lifetime, only need to observe the time period between two consecutive recovery times of the CR-TS. Fig shows the relationship between a FDS [10] and CR-TS on the interval t_2 $[t_0, t_3)$, where both t_0 and t_3 are regeneration points. Obviously, the mean time between t_0 and t_3 is the MTBF. We split $[t_0, t_3)$ into $[t_0, t_1)$, $[t_1, t_2)$, $[t_2, t_3)$,

- t_1 is the time when the FDS detects the recovery of the CR-TS from the Crash state to the Alive state,
- t_2 is the time when the service crashes,
- S_s is the first liveness message sending time after a recovery,
- S_f is the sending time of the last liveness message before a crash,
- S_i is the sending time of a liveness message between s_s and s_f ,
- h is the liveness sending interval; t_s is the first decision time after recovery,
- t_b is the last decision time before crash,
- t_f is the freshness point according to s_f ,
- TDR is the time to detect a recovery.

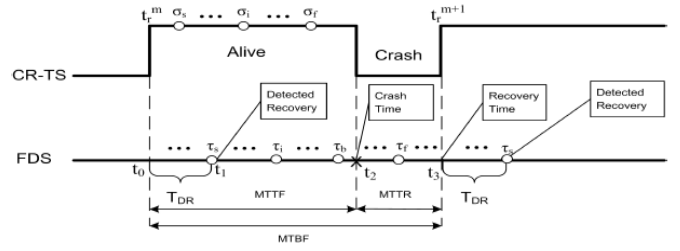


Fig. 3: Analysis of the Crash-Recovery NFD-S Algorithm

Let t_r be a recovery time of the current MTBF period. The following definitions are based on the NFD-S algorithm.

For the fail-free duration $[t_1, t_2)$ within each MTBF period 1. K : for any $i \geq 1$, let k be the smallest integer such that, for all $j \geq i+k$, m_j is sent at or after time t_i .

For any $i \geq 1$, let $p_i, j(x)$ be the probability that the FDS does not receive just the $(i+j)$ th message m_{i+j} by time t_{i+x} , for every $j \geq 0$ and every $x \geq 0$; let $p_{i0} = p_{i0(0)}$.

For any $i \geq 2$, let q_0^i be the probability that the FDS receives message m_i before time t_i .

A. Comparative Study

Previous work focused on the QoS of crash failure detectors is based on the crash stop at that time or fail-free assumption. The fail-free assumption assumes that failures do not occur. The crash-stop assumption assumes that there is only one failure and the monitoring procedure terminates once that crash failure is detected. The algorithms based on these assumptions focus on how to estimate the probabilistic message arrival time and a suitable time-out period for a failure detector to ensure a required QoS.

We have drawbacks with previous work. In such systems, it is assumed that the system undergoes periodic crashes. During a crash period, the system is unable to service any requests or send any messages, externally and behaving as if the system is unreachable.

The end of the crash period is marked by a recovery, after which the system returns to normal service and its internal state is restored to the state before the crash failure occurred.

For such systems, crash-recovery failure needs to be considered as a frequently occurring failure type to be detected in the Proposed System by means of QoS.

Proposed system show how to remove the fail-free or crash-stop assumption and model the probabilistic behavior of a failure detector with respect to a crash-recovery target, taking into consideration general dependability metrics, such as mean time to failure (MTTF) and mean time to recovery (MTTR). We outline how the QoS of a failure detector is limited by [9] the dependability of the monitored target. Moreover, we establish that the crash-stop or fail-free models are special cases of the crash-recovery model.

In order to effectively assess the QoS of the failure detector in a crash-recovery run, we have defined new QoS metrics to measure the recovery detection speed and the proportion of the failures of the monitored target which are detected.

To make an accurate estimation of the failure detector's parameters needed to achieve a required QoS, a configuration procedure for a crash-recovery failure detector analyze how to

achieve the QoS from a given set of requirements based on the NFD-S algorithm.

V. CONCLUSION

The crash-recovery target and its failure detector are analyzed as stochastic processes. We redefined previous work QoS metrics to be applicable to crash recovery failure detection and metrics to measure the recovery detection speed and the completeness property of a failure detector.

Monitored target's crash-recovery behavior on each QoS metric and showed that if a failure detector's parameters are to be accurately estimated, these dependability characteristics must be taken into account. Thus, we showed how to configure the failure detector to satisfy a given set of requirements based on the dependability characteristics in addition to the QoS of message transmission based on the NFD-S algorithm. Our analysis shows that the QoS analysis is a particular case of a crash-recovery run. Furthermore, if the recovery of the monitored target needs to be detected, future work extends with novel failure detection algorithms.

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