The main feature of the proposed system

Easy and effective programming in Java with speed and fast response inherent to C

System description

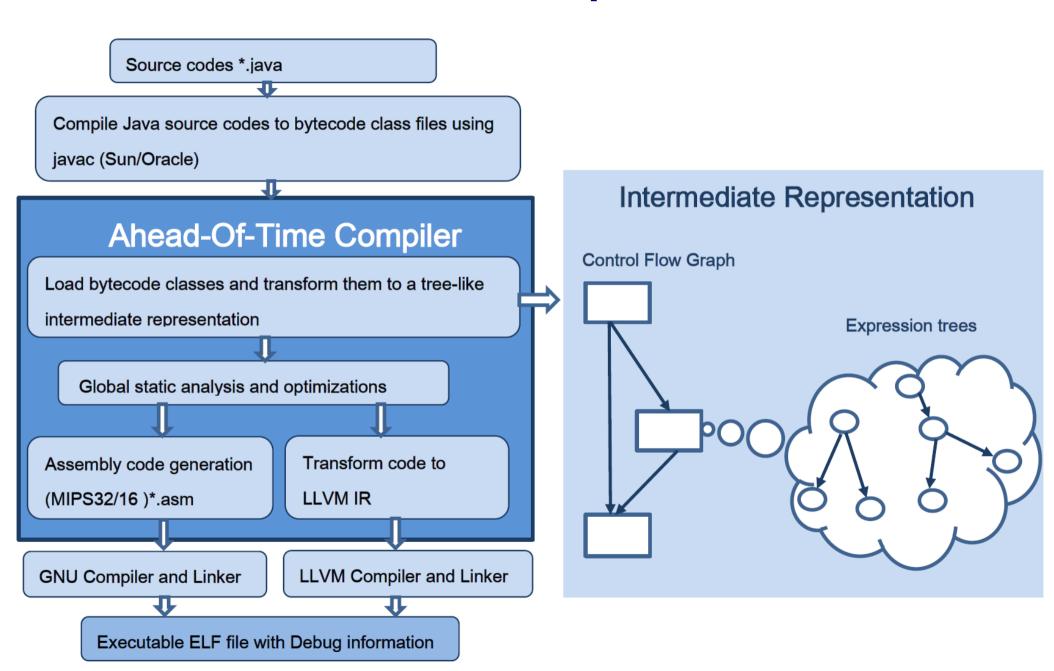
The system consists of the following main parts

Fully static compiler

The compact and efficient runtime

 The GUI design can be extended with industry standard frameworks and APIs

Ahead-Of-Time compiler structure



Fully static compiler

- Translation of Java programs directly to the MIPS assembler
- Seamless integration of Java programs with C programs in the same project
- Global static analysis in the compiler
- Fully static garbage collection

Translation of Java programs directly to the MIPS assembler

The system contains the original compiler, which uses *.class files, generated by javac as input.

The compiler generates intermediate file in MIPS assembly language (MIPS 32 and MIPS 16).

The compiler also can generate code in the form of intermediate representation for LLVM, which then can be translated into an efficient assembly code for MIPS.

Seamless integration of Java programs with C programs in the same project

- Methods of the Java classes have a direct correspondence to the C functions, no intermediate layer like JNI;
- The project could be a mix of Java code and C code, there is Java subtree and C subtree in the main project;
- Building the project will be done by simple pressing a key, as is common in C projects;
- Debugger is easy to use, it shows breakpoints and debug info in Java and C sources;
- MPLAB X could be easily extended with presented system.

Global static analysis in the compiler

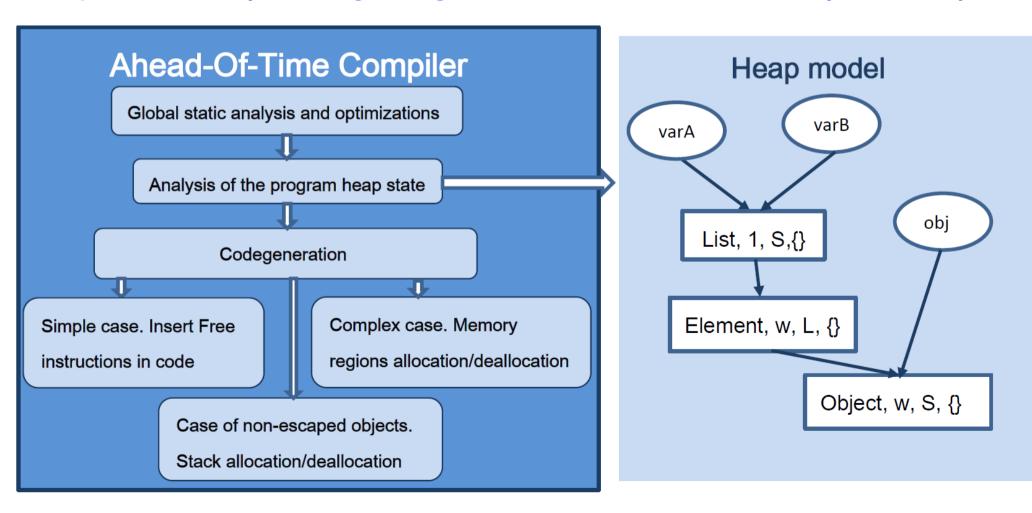
The compiler performs a series of global static analysis of the code. There are some analysis results:

- Removing unused virtual method calls;
- Eliminating redundant monitors in synchronized methods, etc; Such code transformations improves performance and reduces

code size, which is very important for embedded systems.

Fully static garbage collection

The garbage collection is a very important problem in the embedded systems, traditional methods creates too many non-determinism in program behavior. This problem is solved in presented system, garbage collection is made entirely statically.



The compact and efficient runtime system

 Ultra compact runtime core, which contains Java basic functionality (memory allocation, multitasking management, exceptions, ...)

Library of Java classes, for the various PIC32 peripheral devices

Compact runtime core

The kernel size is less then 1 Kb minimum and is about 8-14 Kb typical of flash memory. All basic functions are implemented directly over CPU without any intermediate level. For example:

- Multitasking is implemented as native methods java.lang.Thread;
- Synchronization is a direct implementation of the function enter to monitor or exit;
- Notification waiting is implemented as native methods java.lang.Object.wait/notify.

So, typical kernel size is about few Kb and this is not overhead cased by using Java, because in fact, there is a special equivalent of the built-in RTOS is provided.

Library of Java classes, for the abstraction of various PIC32 peripheral devices

System provides an easy work with peripheral devices. Library of Java classes contains classes for different cases:

- Various Java classes for standard PIC32 peripherals(USART, SPI, I2C, ADC, Timer, Inputs/Outputs, Interrupted Inputs, PWM, Input Capture);
- Special classes for other devices(Matrix Keyboard, Lightweight Timer), including devices from the robotics (Servo Motor, Wheel Encoder, Ultrasonic Range Meter);
- The work with interrupts is comfortable, low-level part is hidden form user by default and a practical interrupt handling uses abstraction like DPC or interrupt listeners;

All these features makes easy to create devices, for example based on Arduino, but is much more convenient to create actual complex projects.

The GUI design can be extended with industry standard frameworks and APIs

 Creating a GUI with common IDE, depending on the class of devices - J2ME or Android

 Compiling a GUI declarative structures in MIPS assembler and linking with the rest part of the project

Using of specially adapted graphical runtime library

System Use-Cases

MICROCHIP	J2ME		ANDROID	
PIC32	Without	Low Resolution	Low Resolution	High Resolution
Microcontroller Families	Display	Display	Display	Display
PIC32MX				
Families 1,2				
PIC32MX				
Families 3,4				
PIC32MX Families 5,6,7				
PIC32MZ				
T TOSZIVIZ				
PIC32MZ				
Ext. SDRAM				

Not suitable	Less suitable	Suitable	Most suitable

Meteo station example

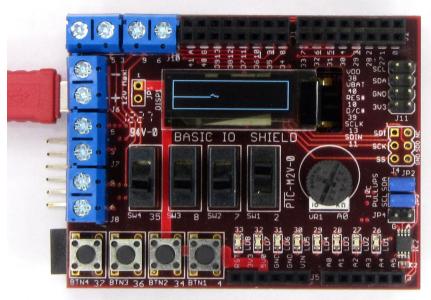
The application example is a simple meteo station. The meteo application reads current temperature and time shows temperature on display and stores data in EEPROM. There are two boards by Digilent - chipKIT Uno32 and chipKIT Basic I/O Shield. The Uno32 board has PIC32MX320F128 with 128K of flash program memory and 16K of SRAM. The Basic I/O Shield provides EEPROM, RTC and OLED 128*32 display.

The application consists of several parts:

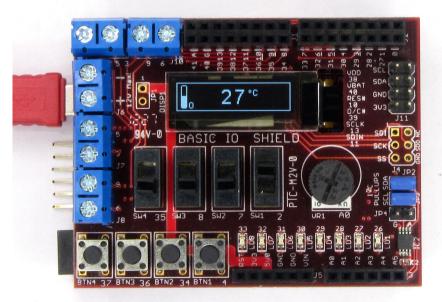
- Screen;
- Key handler;
- Temperature archive;
- UART terminal.
 The application uses multitasking with several threads.

Application memory using: Used heap size — 3550(SRAM consumption for dynamic heap objects)

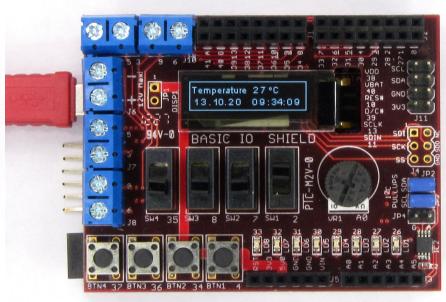
Meteo station example



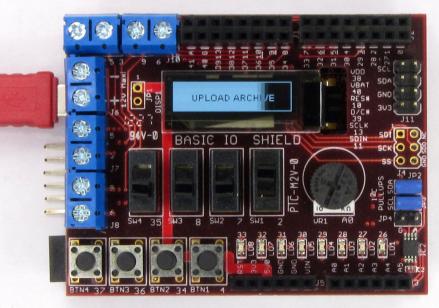
Graph screen



Main screen



Archive screen



Archive uploading by UART