

Integer Clocks: Thin Buffers and Thick Wires

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PARKAS team, DIENS & INRIA

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What this is about

Programming streaming applications with:

- ▶ high developer productivity
- ▶ efficient execution on a parallel machine
- ▶ strong safety guarantees
- ▶ modular compilation

The path taken

We'll embrace and extend n-synchrony and LUCY-N.

Outline

n-Synchrony and LUCY-N

- LUCY-N

- Boolean clocks and n-synchrony

- Compiling n-synchrony

Kahn networks on real machines

- Program distribution

- Desynchronization

Integer Clocks

μ NIR: a toy int-synchronous language

- Syntax and semantics

- Causality, and a (small) mystery

Perspectives

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LUCY-N

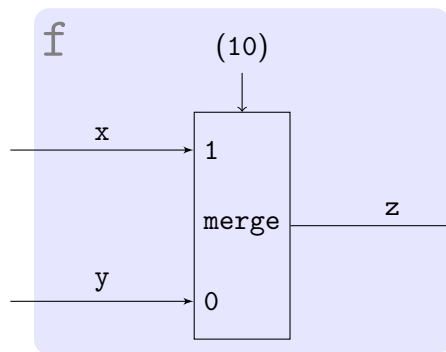
The language [MPP10]

- ▶ minimalistic data-flow synchronous language
- ▶ inspired by LUSTRE and LUCID SYNCHRONE
- ▶ restricted to ultimately periodic sampling/fusion conditions
- ▶ accepts Kahn networks with bounded buffers

The compiler

- ▶ computes sufficient buffer sizes through *clock inference*
- ▶ generate code

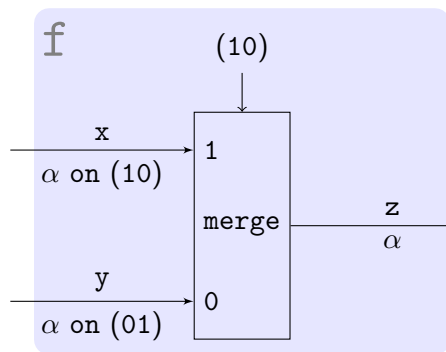
My First LUCY-N Program™



```
let node f (x, y) = z
  where
    rec z =
      merge (10) x y
```

x	x ₀	.	x ₁	.	x ₂	.	x ₃
y	.	y ₀	.	y ₁	.	y ₂	.	y ₃	...
z	x ₀	y ₀	x ₁	y ₁	x ₂	y ₂	x ₃	y ₃	...

My First LUCY-N Program™

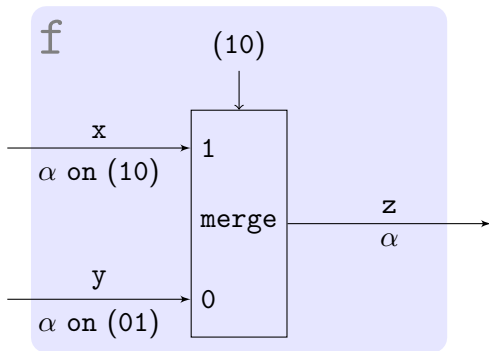


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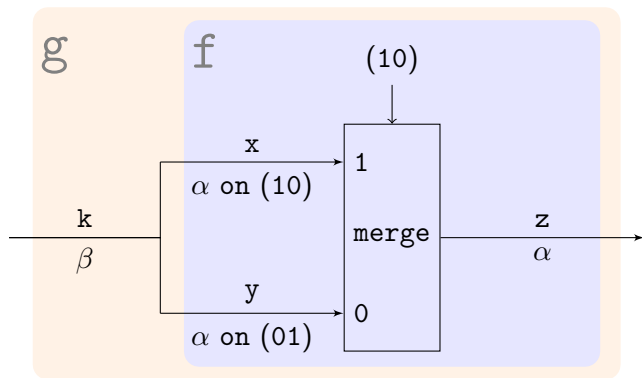
x	x ₀	.	x ₁	.	x ₂	.	x ₃
y	.	y ₀	.	y ₁	.	y ₂	.	y ₃	...
z	x ₀	y ₀	x ₁	y ₁	x ₂	y ₂	x ₃	y ₃	...

```
val f :: forall 'a. ('a on (10) * 'a on (01)) -> 'a
```

Stutter: synchronous composition



Stutter: synchronous composition

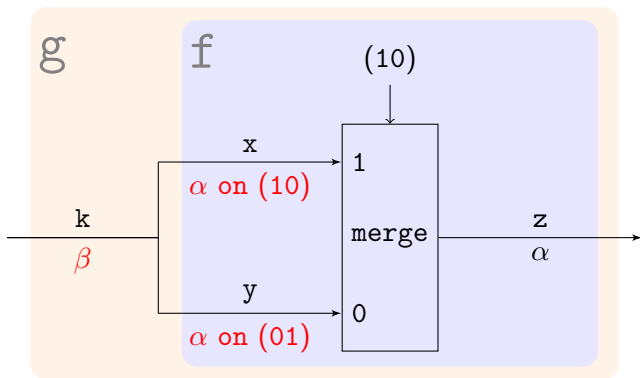


```
let node g k = f (k, k)
```

The program is well-clocked iff:

$$\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{B}^\omega \text{ s.t. } \beta \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (10) \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (01)$$

Stutter: synchronous composition



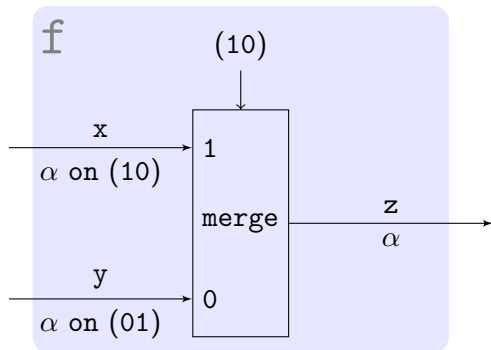
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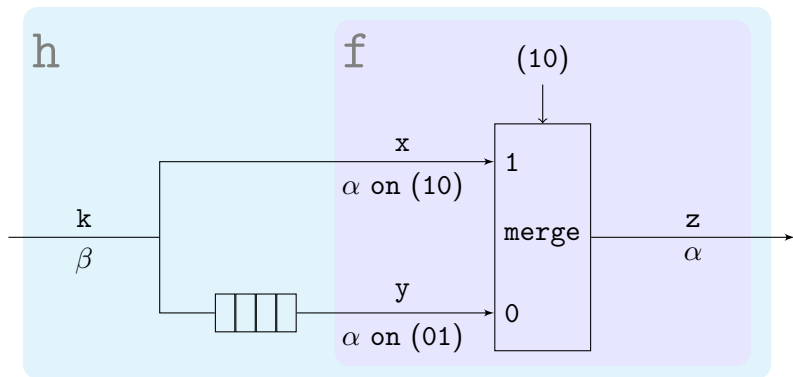
$$\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{B}^\omega \text{ s.t. } \beta \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (10) \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (01)$$

Rejected: no α with equal sets of odd and even instants!

Stutter: n-synchronous composition



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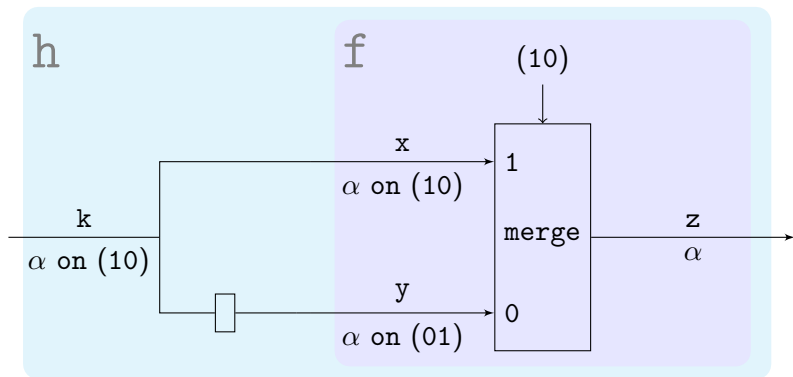


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let node h k = f (k, buffer k)
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The program is well-clocked iff:

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$$\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{B}^\omega \text{ s.t. } \beta \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (10) \text{ and } \beta <: \alpha \text{ on } (01)$$

One solution: any $\alpha, \beta = \alpha$ on (10)

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Boolean clocks 101

$$\mathbb{B}^\omega \triangleq \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$$

$$(0.w_1) \text{ on } w_2 = 0.(w_1 \text{ on } w_2)$$

$$(1.w_1) \text{ on } (b.w_2) = b.(w_1 \text{ on } w_2)$$

Example:

(101)	1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 ...
0(10)	
(101) on 0(10)	

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(101)	1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 ...
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(101)	1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 ...
0(10)	0 . 1 0 . 1 0 . 1 ...
(101) on 0(10) = (001)	0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 ...

Another one:

(101)	1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 ...
(011)	0 . 1 1 . 0 1 . 1 ...
(101) on (011) = (001100101)	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 ...

Boolean clocks and buffers

Cumulative function $\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{B}^\omega \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_w(0) &= 0 \\ \mathcal{O}_{0.w}(i) &= \mathcal{O}_w(i-1) \\ \mathcal{O}_{1.w}(i) &= 1 + \mathcal{O}_w(i-1)\end{aligned}$$

Adaptability relation $<$:

$$w <: w' \Leftrightarrow \exists k \geq 0, \forall i \in \mathbb{N}, 0 \leq \mathcal{O}_w(i) - \mathcal{O}_{w'}(i) \leq k$$

Boolean clocks and buffers

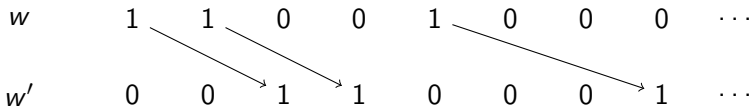
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Example: $(11001000) <: (00110001)$

w	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
w'	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	...
$\mathcal{O}_w - \mathcal{O}_{w'}$	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	...

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Clocking and buffer sizing

Clocking rules:

MERGE

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \Gamma \vdash e_1 :: ck \text{ on } w \\ \Gamma \vdash e_2 :: ck \text{ on } \text{not } w \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{merge } w \ e_1 \ e_2 :: ck}$$

BUFFER

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e :: ck \quad ck <: ck'}{\Gamma \vdash \text{buffer } e :: ck'}$$

...

Induced constraint systems (equations or/and inequations):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_1 \text{ on } w_1 = p'_1 \text{ on } w'_1 \\ \dots \\ p_n \text{ on } w_n <: p'_n \text{ on } w'_n \end{array} \right\}$$

Solved with various linear programming-related techniques.

Causality analysis in LUCY-N

Sufficient condition à la LUSTRE / SCADE

- ▶ We reject feedback loops not crossing a delay. . .

Causality analysis in LUCY-N

Sufficient condition à la LUSTRE / SCADE

- ▶ We reject feedback loops not crossing a delay...
- ▶ ... but what is an n-synchronous delay?!

Causality analysis in LUCY-N

Sufficient condition à la LUSTRE / SCADE

- ▶ We reject feedback loops not crossing a delay...
- ▶ ... but what is an n-synchronous delay?!

Loose buffers

- ▶ A buffer $w <: w'$ is said “loose” when $w \ll: w'$
- ▶ $w \ll: w' \triangleq w <: w'$ and $\forall i \geq 1, \mathcal{O}_w(i-1) \geq \mathcal{O}_{w'}(i)$
- ▶ Thus a loose buffer never ever needs its current input to produce its current output!

Imperative code generation

Handling buffers

- ▶ We translate buffers into `push/pop` pairs
- ▶ For non-loose buffers, `pop` depends on `push`
- ▶ For loose buffers, `push` depends on `pop`!

Translation

We then compile in a standard way [BCHP08]:

- ▶ any topological ordering is now a valid schedule
- ▶ clocks are used to generate control code
- ▶ equations are straightforwardly translated to statements

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- ▶ Well-clocked LUCY-N \Rightarrow well-behaved Kahn network

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- ▶ Naive distribution is easy
 - ▶ only visible data-flow dependencies
 - ▶ no reaction to absence of values

A tale of two FIFOs

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DEMO

- ▶ Naive distribution is easy
 - ▶ only visible data-flow dependencies
 - ▶ no reaction to absence of values
- ▶ Desynchronization is hard:
 - ▶ fine-grained communication encroached in the language
 - ▶ hardware law:
 $| 1 \times \text{push}(c, 2, \&v) | > | 2 \times \text{push}(c, 1, \&v[i]) |$

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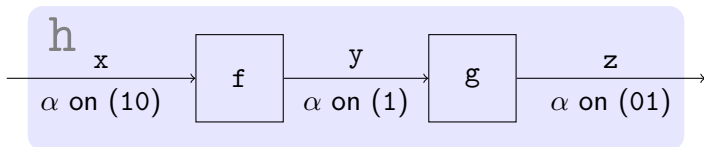
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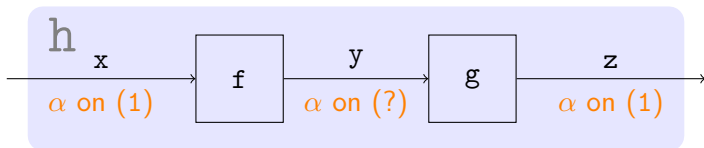
```
int a, b;
unsigned int i = 0;
f_mem mem;
while(1) {
    if(i++ % 2 == 0)
        pop(x, 1, &a);
    b = f_step(a, mem);
    push(y, 1, &b);
}
```

```
int a, b;
unsigned int i = 0;
g_mem mem;
while(1) {
    pop(y, 1, &a);
    b = g_step(a, mem);
    if(i++ % 2 == 1)
        push(z, 1, &b);
}
```

Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:

1/2

Desynchronization: a simple idea



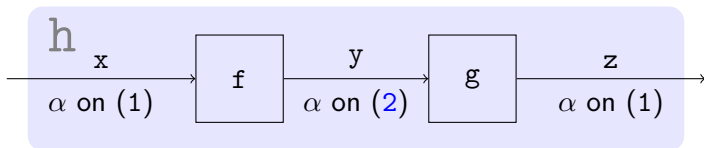
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    if(i++ % 2 == 1)
        push(z, 1, &b);
}
```

Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:

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Desynchronization: a simple idea



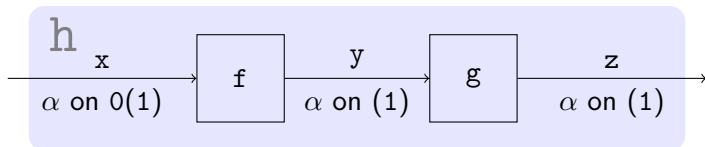
```
int a, b[2];
unsigned int i = 0;
f_mem mem;
while(true) {
    a = pop(x);
    for(i = 0; i < 2; i++)
        b[i] = f_step(a, mem);
    push(y, 2, &b);
}
```

```
int a[2], b;
unsigned int i = 0;
g_mem mem;
while(true) {
    pop(y, 2, &a);
    for(i = 0; i < 2; i++)
        b = g_step(a[i], mem);
    push(z, 1, &b);
}
```

Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:

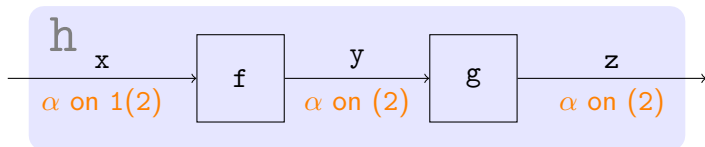
1

Desynchronization: no free beer



Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio: 1

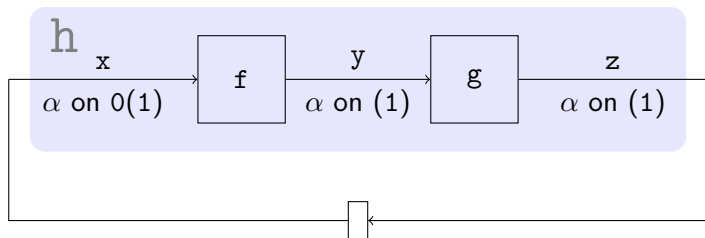
Desynchronization: no free beer



Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:

2?

Desynchronization: no free beer



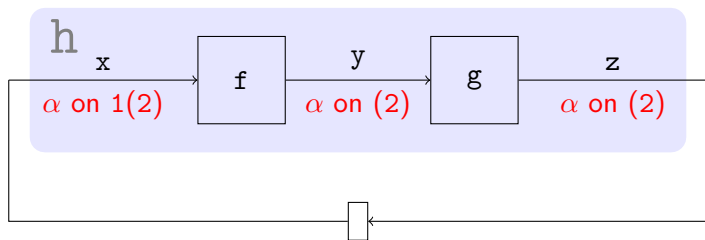
Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:

1

Buffer:

Loose

Desynchronization: no free beer



Computation-to-bulk transfer ratio:
Buffer:

×
Tight

DEADLOCK

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$$(p.w_1) \text{ on } (n_1 \dots n_n.w_2) = (\sum_{1 \leq i \leq p} n_i).(w_1 \text{ on } w_2)$$

Example:

(103)	1 0 3 1 0 3 ...
0(10)	
(103) on 0(10)	

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Integer clocks and buffers

Cumulative function $\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{N}^\omega \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_w(0) &= 0 \\ \mathcal{O}_{n.w}(i) &= n + \mathcal{O}_w(i-1)\end{aligned}$$

Adaptability relation $<$:

$$w <: w' \Leftrightarrow \exists k \geq 0, \forall i \in \mathbb{N}, 0 \leq \mathcal{O}_w(i) - \mathcal{O}_{w'}(i) \leq k$$

Integer clocks and buffers

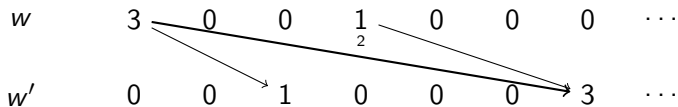
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w'	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	...
$\mathcal{O}_w - \mathcal{O}_{w'}$	3	3	2	3	3	3	0	...

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Integer clocks: strict adaptability

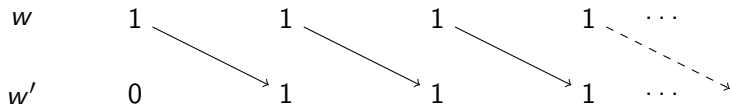
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Example: $(1) \ll 0(1)$ but $(2) \not\ll 1(2)$



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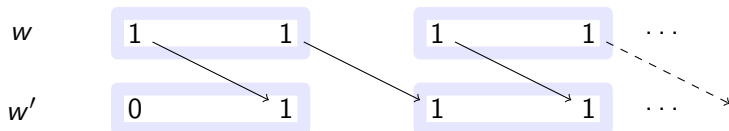
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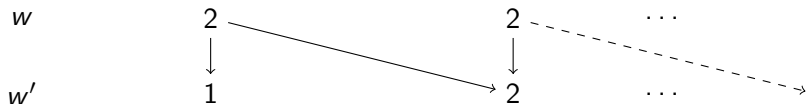
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Outline

n-Synchrony and LUCY-N

- LUCY-N

- Boolean clocks and n-synchrony

- Compiling n-synchrony

Kahn networks on real machines

- Program distribution

- Desynchronization

Integer Clocks

μ NIR: a toy int-synchronous language

- Syntax and semantics

- Causality, and a (small) mystery

Perspectives

μ NIR syntax

e	$::=$	c	constant
		x	variable
		$f(e, \dots, e)$	application
		merge bw e e	fusion
		e when bw	sampling
		buffer e	buffer
bw	$::=$	$b^*(b^+)$	UP binary word
nw	$::=$	$n^*(n^+)$	UP integer word
ck	$::=$	α	clock variable
		ck on nw	clock sampling
eq	$::=$	$(x, \dots, x) = e$	equation
		eq and eq	parallel composition
d	$::=$	let node $f(x, \dots, x) = e$	node definition

Denotational semantics

- ▶ As usual, of two kinds: Kahn and (int-)synchronous

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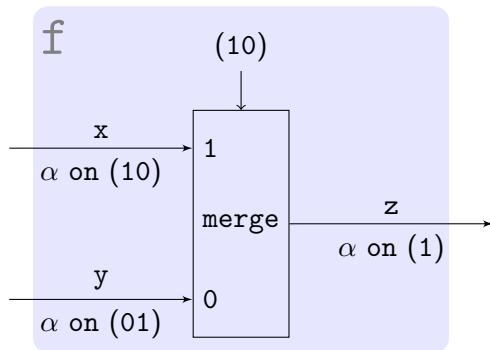
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`HASKELL` types

- ▶ Kahn semantics: `type Stream a = [a]`
- ▶ int-synchronous semantics: `type Stream a = [SList a]`

Revisiting stutter

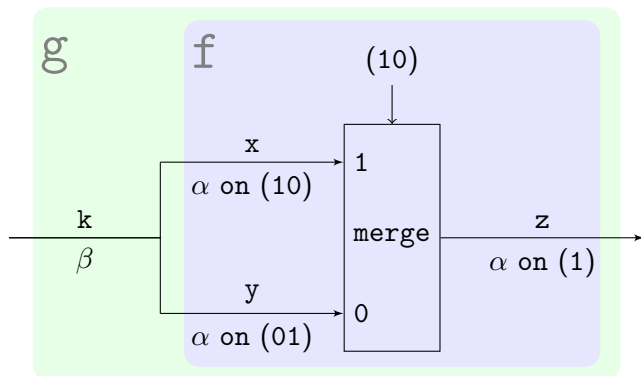


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let node g k = f (k, k)
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The program is well-clocked iff:

$$\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}^\omega \text{ s.t. } \beta \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (10) \equiv \alpha \text{ on } (01)$$

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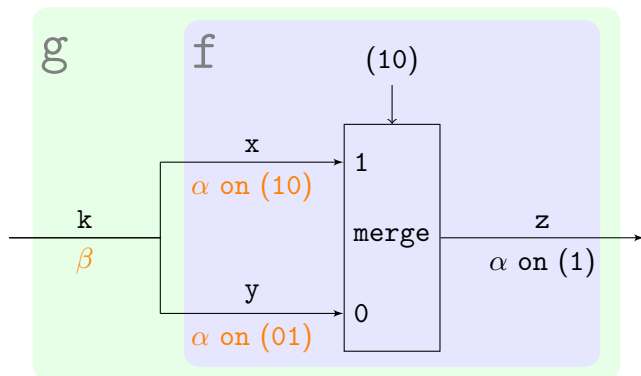


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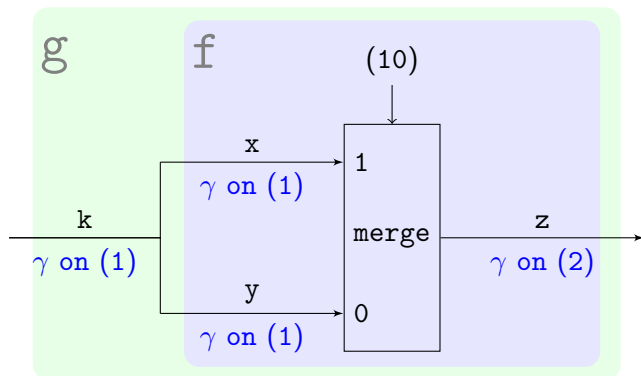


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Causality and modularity (1/2)

```
let node nat () = o where
  rec
    o = merge 0(1) 0 (1 + b)
  and
    b = buffer o
```

```
void f_step(f_mem *mem,
            int *out) {
  int b, o;
  if(mem->cpt > 0)
    b = mem->b;
  if(mem->cpt == 0)
    o = 0;
  else
    o = 1 + b;
  mem->b = o;
  mem->cpt++;
  *out = o;
}
```

- ▶ Same causality criterion
- ▶ Can we have o on some clock α on (2)?

Causality and modularity (2/2)

- ▶ Clock desynchronization \equiv Loop distribution
- ▶ Impossible here: tight dependency
- ▶ Once scheduled, can be freely called with any clock!

```
void f_step(f_mem *mem, int *out) {
    int b, o;
    for(int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        if(mem->cpt > 0)
            b = mem->b;
        o = (mem->cpt == 0 ? 0 : 1 + b);
        mem->b = o;
        mem->cpt++;
        *out++ = o;
    }
}
```

Sketch of software code generation

Same principles...

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- ▶ Clock-based control code
- ▶ Equations to statement
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- ▶ Control code: `for` loops

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Related work

Lots of related work, from synchronous programming to automatic parallelization:

- ▶ Tangentially related: distribution of synchronous programs
 - ▶ lots of work from the SIGNAL community
 - ▶ quasi-synchronous model from Caspi et al.
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ Desynchronization of synchronous programs
 - ▶ OCREP (Girault)
 - ▶ Reactive domains in REACTIVEML (Pasteur)
 - ▶ Futures in HEPTAGON (Gérard)
- ▶ STREAMIT and *DF (SDF, CSDF...) models in general
- ▶ Automatic parallelization of loop nests (polyhedral model)
- ▶ ...

Conclusion

Take-home points

- ▶ Uniform theory of modular data-flow desynchronization
- ▶ Now completely understood thanks to n-synchronous theory
- ▶ Not restricted to ultimately periodic fusion/sampling

Saved for future talk

- ▶ Full definition of the HASKELL operators (ask me!)
- ▶ Complete NIR language, clock calculus, block construct
- ▶ Compilation to software and circuits

Next questions

- ▶ Program transformations enabled by integer clocks
- ▶ Semantic characterization of the effect of scheduling

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Darek Biernacki, Jean-Louis Colaco, Grégoire Hamon, and Marc Pouzet, Clock-directed Modular Code Generation of Synchronous Data-flow Languages, ACM International Conference on Languages, Compilers, and Tools for Embedded Systems (LCTES) (Tucson, Arizona), June 2008.



Louis Mandel, Florence Plateau, and Marc Pouzet, Lucy-n: a n-synchronous extension of Lustre, Tenth International Conference on Mathematics of Program Construction (MPC 2010) (Québec, Canada), June 2010.