

EECS 222C: System-on-Chip Software Synthesis Lecture 3

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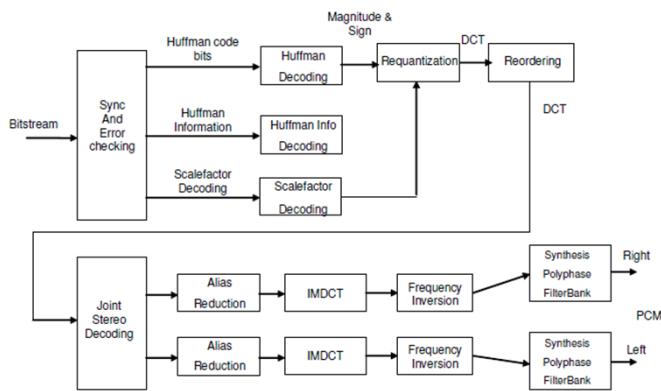
The Henry Samueli School of Engineering
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
University of California, Irvine

Lecture 3: Overview

- Assignment 1
 - Application case study discussion
- The SpecC Language
 - Syntax and Semantics
- The SpecC Compiler and Simulator
 - Tools
- Assignment 2

Application Case Study

- Project Application: MP3 Audio Decoder
 - MP3 decoder block diagram



[Source:
CECS-TR-05-04.pdf]

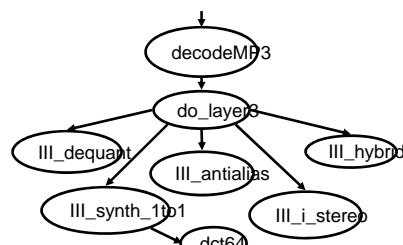
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Application Case Study

- Project Application: MP3 Audio Decoder
 - MP3 decoder C reference code
 - Underbit Technologies Inc.
 - MAD: MPEG Audio Decoder
 - <http://www.underbit.com/products/mad>



Partial function hierarchy in MP3 reference code

[Source: P. Chandraiah]

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Assignment 1

- Administration
 - Linux Servers
 - `alpha.eecs.uci.edu` (NSF client)
 - `gamma.eecs.uci.edu` (NSF client)
 - `mu.eecs.uci.edu` (NSF host)
 - Intel Pentium based PCs
 - RedHat Linux (Fedora Core 12)
 - Access via secure shell protocol (`ssh`)
- Accounts
 - User ID same as your UCI net ID
 - Password as discussed in class
- SpecC Software (© by CECS, UCI)
 - SpecC Compiler and Simulator
 - System-on-Chip Environment (SCE)

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Assignment 1

- Login on Server via SSH
 - Account infos will be emailed
- Install MP3 Decoder example
 - `mkdir eecs222c`
 - `cd eecs222c`
 - `gtar xvzf /home/doemer/EECS222C/mad_C.tar.gz`
 - `cd mad_C`
 - `make clean`
 - `make`
 - `make test`
- Become familiar with the application and its structure
 - Browse and read the source files
 - Draw a block diagram of the major functions

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Assignment 1

- Analyze the given MP3 Decoder application
- Example questions to investigate:
 - Example MP3 streams
 - Do they play?
 - Length in seconds?
 - Number of samples?
 - Application source code
 - How many source files?
 - How many lines of code?
 - How many functions?
 - What are the major functions?
 - How do they relate?
 - Function call graph?
 - What are the most critical functions?
 - Where is the most time spent?
 - What type of operations are performed?
 - Floating point?
 - Others?
 - Where is any potential for parallel execution?

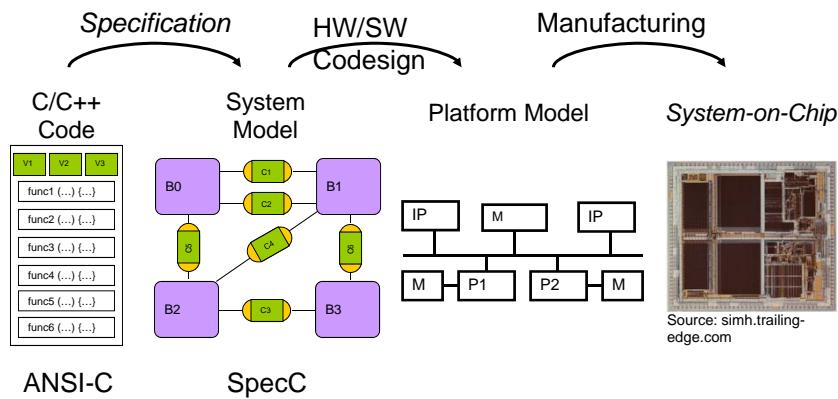
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System-on-Chip Co-Design Flow

- Application Case Study, Project Status:
 - Given: Reference source code (`mad_C.tar.gz`)
 - Next: Specification of System Model (`mad_SpecC.tar.gz`)



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The SpecC Language

- Overview
 - Foundation
 - Types
 - Structural and behavioral hierarchy
 - Concurrency
 - State transitions
 - Exception handling
 - Communication
 - Synchronization
 - Timing
 - (RTL)

The SpecC Language

- Foundation: ANSI-C
 - Software requirements are fully covered
 - SpecC is a true superset of ANSI-C
 - Every C program is a SpecC program
 - Leverage of large set of existing programs
 - Well-known
 - Well-established

The SpecC Language

- Foundation: ANSI-C
 - Software requirements are fully covered
 - SpecC is a true superset of ANSI-C
 - Every C program is a SpecC program
 - Leverage of large set of existing programs
 - Well-known
 - Well-established
- SpecC has extensions needed for hardware
 - Minimal, orthogonal set of concepts
 - Minimal, orthogonal set of constructs
- SpecC is a real language
 - Not just a class library

The SpecC Language

- ANSI-C
 - Program is set of functions
 - Execution starts from function `main()`

```
/* HelloWorld.c */

#include <stdio.h>

void main(void)
{
    printf("Hello World!\n");
}
```

The SpecC Language

- ANSI-C

- Program is set of functions
- Execution starts from function `main()`

```
/* HelloWorld.c */
#include <stdio.h>

void main(void)
{
    printf("Hello World!\n");
}
```

- SpecC

- Program is set of behaviors, channels, and interfaces
- Execution starts from behavior `Main.main()`

```
// HelloWorld.sc
#include <stdio.h>

behavior Main
{
    void main(void)
    {
        printf("Hello World!\n");
    }
};
```

The SpecC Language

- SpecC types

- Support for all ANSI-C types
 - predefined types (`int`, `float`, `double`, ...)
 - composite types (arrays, pointers)
 - user-defined types (`struct`, `union`, `enum`)
- Boolean type: Explicit support of truth values
 - `bool b1 = true;`
 - `bool b2 = false;`
- Bit vector type: Explicit support of bit vectors of arbitrary length
 - `bit[15:0] bv = 1111000011110000b;`
- Event type: Support of synchronization
 - `event e;`
- Buffered and signal types: Explicit support of RTL concepts
 - `buffered[clk] bit[32] reg;`
 - `signal bit[16] address;`

The SpecC Language

- Bit vector type
 - signed or unsigned
 - arbitrary length
 - standard operators
 - logical operations
 - arithmetic operations
 - comparison operations
 - type conversion
 - type promotion
 - concatenation operator
 - $a @ b$
 - slice operator
 - $a[1:r]$

```

typedef bit[7:0] byte; // type definition
byte a;
unsigned bit[16] b;

bit[31:0] BitMagic(bit[4] c, bit[32] d)
{
    bit[31:0] r;

    a = 11001100b; // constant
    b = 111000011110000ub; // assignment

    b[7:0] = a; // sliced access
    b = d[31:16];

    if (b[15]) // single bit
        b[15] = 0b; // access

    r = a @ d[11:0] @ c // concatenation
        @ 11110000b;

    a = ~ (a & 11110000); // logical op.
    r += 42 + 3*a; // arithmetic op.

    return r;
}

```

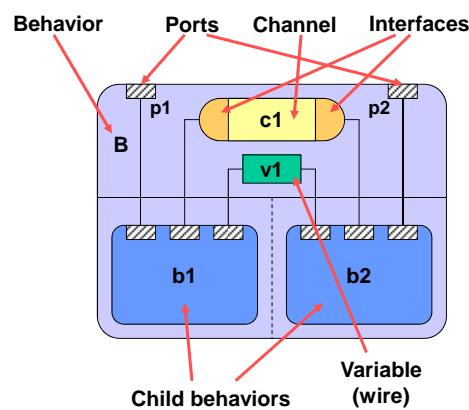
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The SpecC Language

- Basic structure
 - Top behavior
 - Child behaviors
 - Channels
 - Interfaces
 - Variables (wires)
 - Ports



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The SpecC Language

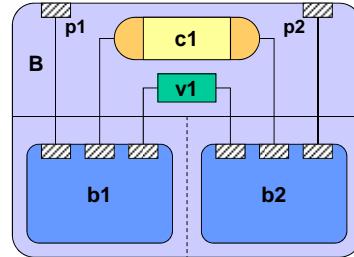
- Basic structure

```
interface I1
{
    bit[63:0] Read(void);
    void Write(bit[63:0]);
};

channel C1 implements I1;

behavior B1(in int, I1, out int);
behavior B(in int p1, out int p2)
{
    int v1;
    C1 c1;
    B1 b1(p1, c1, v1),
    b2(v1, c1, p2);

    void main(void)
    { par {
        b1;
        b2;
    }
    }
};
```



SpecC 2.0:
if *b* is a behavior instance,
b; is equivalent to *b*.main();

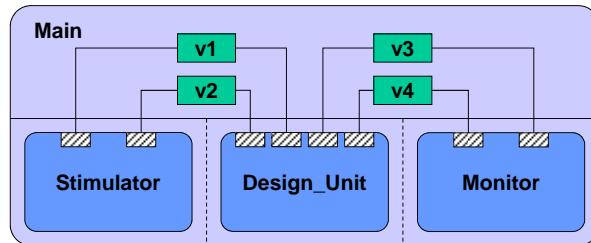
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The SpecC Language

- Typical test bench
 - Top-level behavior: Main
 - Stimulator provides test vectors
 - Design unit under test
 - Monitor observes and checks outputs



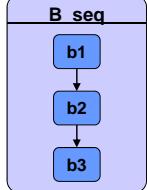
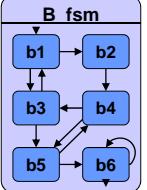
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The SpecC Language

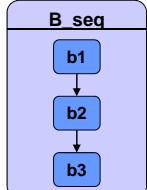
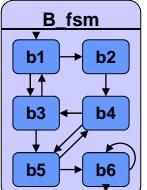
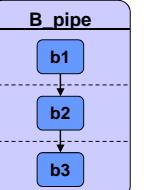
- Behavioral hierarchy

Sequential execution	FSM execution	Concurrent execution	Pipelined execution
B_seq	B fsm		
			
<pre>behavior B_seq { B b1, b2, b3; void main(void) { b1; b2; b3; } };</pre>	<pre>behavior B_fsm { B b1, b2, b3, b4, b5, b6; void main(void) { fsm { b1:{...} b2:{...} ... } } };</pre>		

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The SpecC Language

- Behavioral hierarchy

Sequential execution	FSM execution	Concurrent execution	Pipelined execution
B_seq	B fsm	B_par	B_pipe
			
<pre>behavior B_seq { B b1, b2, b3; void main(void) { b1; b2; b3; } };</pre>	<pre>behavior B_fsm { B b1, b2, b3, b4, b5, b6; void main(void) { fsm { b1:{...} b2:{...} ... } } };</pre>	<pre>behavior B_par { B b1, b2, b3; void main(void) { par{ b1; b2; b3; } } };</pre>	<pre>behavior B_pipe { B b1, b2, b3; void main(void) { pipe{ b1; b2; b3; } } };</pre>

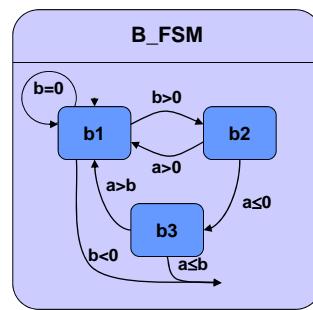
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The SpecC Language

- Finite State Machine (FSM)
 - Explicit state transitions
 - triple < *current_state*, *condition*, *next_state* >
 - **fsm** { <*current_state*> : { **if** <*condition*> **goto** <*next_state*> } ... }
 - Moore-type FSM
 - Mealy-type FSM

```
behavior B_FSM(in int a, in int b)
{
  B b1, b2, b3;

  void main(void)
  { fsm { b1:{ if (b<0) break;
                if (b==0) goto b1;
                if (b>0) goto b2; }
        b2:{ if (a>0) goto b1; }
        b3:{ if (a>b) goto b1; }
      };
  }
};
```



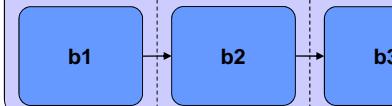
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The SpecC Language

- Pipeline
 - Explicit execution in pipeline fashion
 - **pipe** { <*instance_list*> };

Pipeline

```
behavior Pipeline
{
  Stage1 b1;
  Stage2 b2;
  Stage3 b3;

  void main(void)
  {
    pipe
    {
      b1;
      b2;
      b3;
    }
  };
};
```

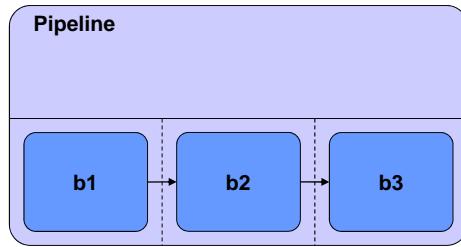
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The SpecC Language

- Pipeline
 - Explicit execution in pipeline fashion
 - `pipe { <instance_list> };`
 - `pipe (<init>; <cond>; <incr>) { ... }`

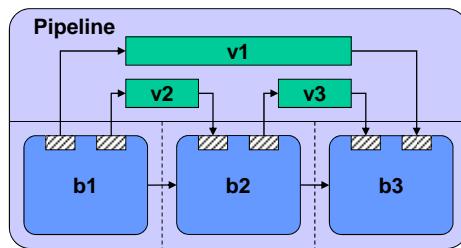


```
behavior Pipeline
{
    Stage1 b1;
    Stage2 b2;
    Stage3 b3;

    void main(void)
    {
        int i;
        pipe(i=0; i<10; i++)
        {
            b1;
            b2;
            b3;
        }
    }
};
```

The SpecC Language

- Pipeline
 - Explicit execution in pipeline fashion
 - `pipe { <instance_list> };`
 - `pipe (<init>; <cond>; <incr>) { ... }`
 - Support for automatic buffering



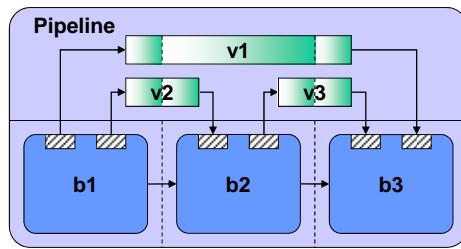
```
behavior Pipeline
{
    int v1;
    int v2;
    int v3;

    Stage1 b1(v1, v2);
    Stage2 b2(v2, v3);
    Stage3 b3(v3, v1);

    void main(void)
    {
        int i;
        pipe(i=0; i<10; i++)
        {
            b1;
            b2;
            b3;
        }
    }
};
```

The SpecC Language

- Pipeline
 - Explicit execution in pipeline fashion
 - `pipe { <instance_list> };`
 - `pipe (<init>; <cond>; <incr>) { ... }`
 - Support for automatic buffering
 - `piped [...] <type> <variable_list>;`



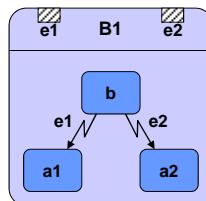
```
behavior Pipeline
{
    piped piped int v1;
    piped int v2;
    piped int v3;

    Stage1 b1(v1, v2);
    Stage2 b2(v2, v3);
    Stage3 b3(v3, v1);

    void main(void)
    {
        int i;
        pipe(i=0; i<10; i++)
        {
            b1;
            b2;
            b3;
        }
    };
}
```

The SpecC Language

- Exception handling
 - Abortion
 - Interrupt



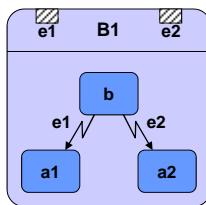
```
behavior B1(in event e1, in event e2)
{
    B b, a1, a2;

    void main(void)
    {
        try { b; }
        trap (e1) { a1; }
        trap (e2) { a2; }
    }
};
```

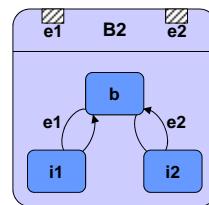
The SpecC Language

- Exception handling

 - Abortion



 - Interrupt



```
behavior B1(in event e1, in event e2)
{
    B b, a1, a2;

    void main(void)
    { try { b; }
      trap (e1) { a1; }
      trap (e2) { a2; }
    }
};
```

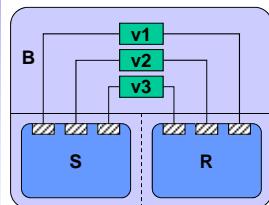
```
behavior B2(in event e1, in event e2)
{
    B b, i1, i2;

    void main(void)
    { try { b; }
      interrupt (e1) { i1; }
      interrupt (e2) { i2; }
    }
};
```

The SpecC Language

- Communication

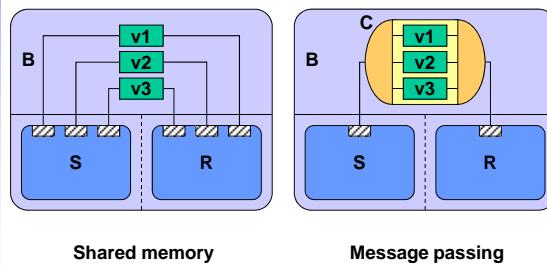
 - via shared variable



Shared memory

The SpecC Language

- Communication
 - via shared variable
 - via virtual channel



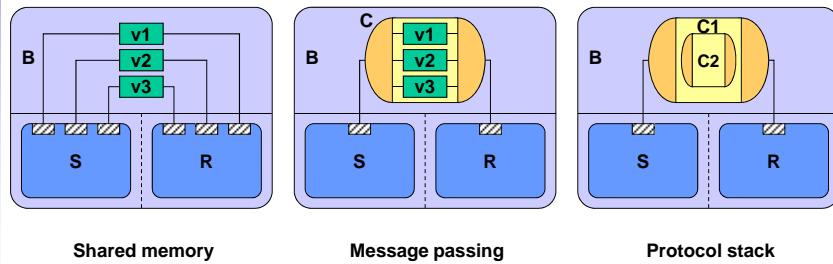
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The SpecC Language

- Communication
 - via shared variable
 - via virtual channel
 - via hierarchical channel



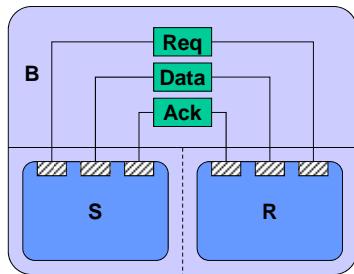
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The SpecC Language

- Synchronization
 - Event type
 - **event <event_List>;**
 - Synchronization primitives
 - **wait <event_list>;**
 - **notify <event_list>;**
 - **notifyone <event_list>;**



```

behavior S(out event Req,
           out float Data,
           in event Ack)
{
  float X;
  void main(void)
  {
    ...
    Data = X;
    notify Req;
    wait Ack;
    ...
  }
}

behavior R(in event Req,
           in float Data,
           out event Ack)
{
  float Y;
  void main(void)
  {
    ...
    wait Req;
    Y = Data;
    notify Ack;
    ...
  }
}

```

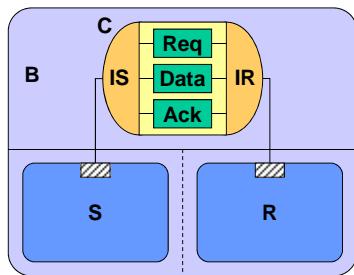
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The SpecC Language

- Communication
 - Interface class
 - **interface <name>**
 $\{ \langle declarations \rangle \};$
 - Channel class
 - **channel <name>**
implements <interfaces>
 $\{ \langle implementations \rangle \};$



```

interface IS
{
  void Send(float);
}
interface IR
{
  float Receive(void);
}

channel C
  implements IS, IR
{
  event Req;
  float Data;
  event Ack;

  void Send(float X)
  {
    Data = X;
    notify Req;
    wait Ack;
  }

  float Receive(void)
  {
    float Y;
    wait Req;
    Y = Data;
    notify Ack;
    return Y;
  }
}

```

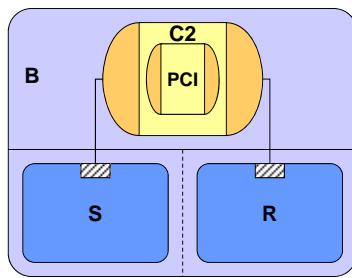
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The SpecC Language

- Hierarchical channel
 - Virtual channel implemented by standard bus protocol
 - example: PCI bus



```

interface PCI_IF
{
    void Transfer(
        enum Mode,
        int NumBytes,
        int Address);
};

behavior S(IS Port)
{
    float X;
    void main(void)
    {
        ...
        Port.Send(X);
        ...
    };
};

behavior R(IR Port)
{
    float Y;
    void main(void)
    {
        ...
        Y=Port.Receive();
        ...
    };
};

channel PCI
    implements PCI_IF;

channel C2
    implements IS, IR
{
    PCI Bus;
    void Send(float X)
    {
        Bus.Transfer(
            PCI_WRITE,
            sizeof(X),&X);
    }

    float Receive(void)
    {
        float Y;
        Bus.Transfer(
            PCI_READ,
            sizeof(Y),&Y);
        return Y;
    };
};

```

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The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - introduced with SpecC Language Version 2.0
 - includes support for
 - mutex
 - semaphore
 - critical section
 - barrier
 - token
 - queue
 - handshake
 - double handshake
 - ...

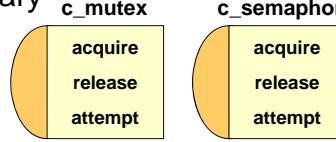
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The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel



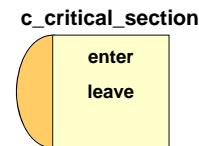
```
interface i_semaphore
{
  void acquire(void);
  void release(void);
  void attempt(void);
};
```

```
channel c_mutex
  implements i_semaphore;
```

```
channel c_semaphore(
  in const unsigned long c)
  implements i_semaphore;
```

The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel
 - critical section

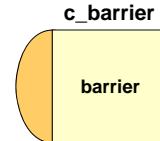


```
interface i_critical_section
{
  void enter(void);
  void leave(void);
};
```

```
channel c_critical_section
  implements i_critical_section;
```

The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel
 - critical section
 - barrier

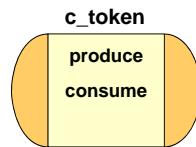


```
interface i_barrier
{
    void barrier(void);
};
```

```
channel c_barrier(
    in unsigned long n)
implements i_barrier;
```

The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel
 - critical section
 - barrier
 - token



```
interface i_token
{
    void consume(unsigned long n);
    void produce(unsigned long n);
};
```

```
interface i_consumer
{
    void consume(unsigned long n);
};
```

```
interface i_producer
{
    void produce(unsigned long n);
};
```

```
channel c_token
implements i_consumer,
          i_producer,
          i_token;
```

The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel
 - critical section
 - barrier
 - token
 - queue

```

interface i_tranceiver
{
    void receive(void *d, unsigned long l);
    void send(void *d, unsigned long l);
};

interface i_receiver
{
    void receive(void *d,
                 unsigned long l);
};

interface i_sender
{
    void send(void *d,
              unsigned long l);
};

channel c_queue(
    in const unsigned long s)
implements i_receiver,
           i_sender,
           i_tranceiver;
  
```

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The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library
 - mutex channel
 - semaphore channel
 - critical section
 - barrier
 - token
 - queue
 - handshake

```

interface i_receive
{
    void receive(void);
};

interface i_send
{
    void send(void);
};

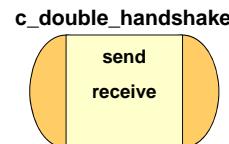
channel c_handshake
implements i_receive,
           i_send;
  
```

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The SpecC Language

- SpecC Standard Channel Library

- mutex channel
- semaphore channel
- critical section
- barrier
- token
- queue
- handshake
- double handshake



```
interface i_traceceiver
{
    void receive(void *d, unsigned long l);
    void send(void *d, unsigned long l);
};
```

```
... interface i_receiver
{
    void receive(void *d,
                 unsigned long l);
};
```

```
interface i_sender
{
    void send(void *d,
              unsigned long l);
};
```

```
channel c_double_handshake
implements i_receiver,
i_sender;
```

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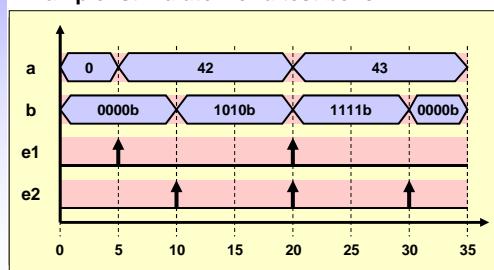
41

The SpecC Language

- Timing

- Exact timing
 - `waitfor <delay>;`

Example: stimulator for a test bench



```
behavior Testbench_Driver
(inout int a,
 inout int b,
 out event e1,
 out event e2)
{
    void main(void)
    {
        waitfor 5;
        a = 42;
        notify e1;

        waitfor 5;
        b = 1010b;
        notify e2;

        waitfor 10;
        a++;
        b |= 0101b;
        notify e1, e2;

        waitfor 10;
        b = 0;
        notify e2;
    }
};
```

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The SpecC Language

- Timing
 - Exact timing
 - `waitfor <delay>;`
 - Timing constraints
 - `do { <actions> }`
 - `timing {<constraints>}`

Example: SRAM read protocol

```

Specification
bit[7:0] Read_SRAM(bit[15:0] a)
{
    bit[7:0] d;

    do { t1: {ABus = a; }
        t2: {RMode = 1;
              WMode = 0; }
        t3: { }
        t4: {d = Dbus; }
        t5: {ABus = 0; }
        t6: {RMode = 0;
              WMode = 0; }
        t7: { }

        timing { range(t1; t2; 0; );
                  range(t1; t3; 10; 20);
                  range(t2; t3; 10; 20);
                  range(t3; t4; 0; );
                  range(t4; t5; 0; );
                  range(t5; t7; 10; 20);
                  range(t6; t7; 5; 10);
        }
    }
    return(d);
}

```

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The SpecC Language

- Timing
 - Exact timing
 - `waitfor <delay>;`
 - Timing constraints
 - `do { <actions> }`
 - `timing {<constraints>}`

Example: SRAM read protocol

```

Implementation 1
bit[7:0] Read_SRAM(bit[15:0] a)
{
    bit[7:0] d;

    do { t1: {ABus = a; waitfor( 2);}
        t2: {RMode = 1;
              WMode = 0; waitfor(12);}
        t3: { waitfor( 5);}
        t4: {d = Dbus; waitfor( 5);}
        t5: {ABus = 0; waitfor( 2);}
        t6: {RMode = 0;
              WMode = 0; waitfor(10);}
        t7: { }

        timing { range(t1; t2; 0; );
                  range(t1; t3; 10; 20);
                  range(t2; t3; 10; 20);
                  range(t3; t4; 0; );
                  range(t4; t5; 0; );
                  range(t5; t7; 10; 20);
                  range(t6; t7; 5; 10);
        }
    }
    return(d);
}

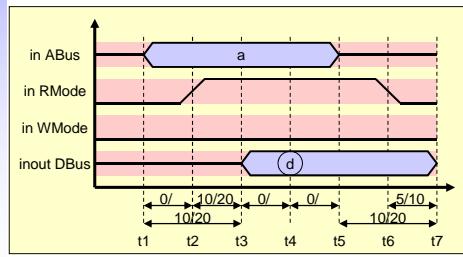
```

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The SpecC Language

- Timing
 - Exact timing
 - **waitfor <delay>;**
 - Timing constraints
 - **do { <actions> }**
 - timing {<constraints>}**

Example: SRAM read protocol



```

Implementation 2

bit[7:0] Read_SRAM(bit[15:0] a)
{
    bit[7:0] d;           // ASAP Schedule

    do { t1: {ABus = a; }   t2: {RMode = 1;
        WMode = 0; waitfor(10);} }
        t3: { }
        t4: {d = Dbus; }
        t5: {ABus = 0; }
        t6: {RMode = 0;
            WMode = 0; waitfor(10);} }
        t7: { }

    timing { range(t1; t2; 0; );
        range(t1; t3; 10; 20);
        range(t2; t3; 10; 20);
        range(t3; t4; 0; );
        range(t4; t5; 0; );
        range(t5; t7; 10; 20);
        range(t6; t7; 5; 10);
    }
    return(d);
}

```

The SpecC Language

- Library support
 - Import of precompiled SpecC code
 - **import <component_name>;**
 - Automatic handling of multiple inclusion
 - no need to use **#ifdef - #endif** around included files
 - Visible to the compiler/synthesizer
 - not inline-expanded by preprocessor
 - simplifies reuse of IP components

```

// MyDesign.sc

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

import "Interfaces/I1";
import "Channels/PCI_Bus";
import "Components/MPEG-2";

...

```

The SpecC Language

- Persistent annotation
 - Attachment of a key-value pair
 - globally to the design, i.e. **note** <key> = <value>;
 - locally to any symbol, i.e. **note** <symbol>. <key> = <value>;
 - Visible to the compiler/synthesizer
 - eliminates need for pragmas
 - allows easy data exchange among tools

The SpecC Language

- Persistent annotation
 - Attachment of a key-value pair
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 - Visible to the compiler/synthesizer
 - eliminates need for pragmas
 - allows easy data exchange among tools

```

/* comment, not persistent */

// global annotations
note Author = "Rainer Doemer";
note Date = "Fri Feb 23 23:59:59 PST 2001";

behavior CPU(in event CLK, in event RST, ...)
{
    // local annotations
    note MinMaxClockFreq = {750*1e6, 800*1e6};
    note CLK.IsSystemClock = true;
    note RST.IsSystemReset = true;
    ...
}

```

SpecC 2.0:
 <value> can be a
 composite constant
 (just like complex
 variable initializers)

SpecC Summary

- SpecC model
 - Hierarchical network of behaviors and channels
 - Separation of communication and computation
- SpecC language
 - Support for software design
 - True superset of ANSI-C
 - Support for hardware design
 - RTL extensions (FSMD, bit vectors, signals, etc.)
 - Support for system design
 - Structural hierarchy
 - Behavioral hierarchy
 - State transitions
 - Exception handling
 - Communication
 - Synchronization
 - Timing

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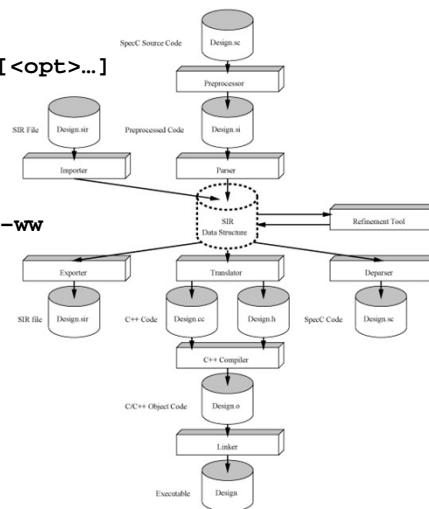
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The SpecC Compiler and Simulator

- SpecC Compiler
 - Command line interface
 - Usage: `scc <design> [<cmd>] [<opt>...]`
 - Help: `scc -h`
`man scc`
 - Example:


```
% scc HelloWorld -sc2out -v -ww
scc: SpecC Compiler V 2.2.1
(c)2010 CECS, UC Irvine
Preprocessing...
Parsing...
Translating...
Compiling...
Linking...
Done.
```



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The SpecC Compiler and Simulator

- SpecC Simulator
 - Execution as regular program
 - Example: % ./HelloWorld
Hello World!
 - Simulation library
 - Access via inclusion of SpecC header files
 - Example: Print the current simulation time

```
#include <sim.sh>
...
sim_time t;
sim_delta d;
sim_time_string buffer;
...
t = now(); d = delta();
printf("Time is now %s pico seconds.\n", time2str(buffer, t));
printf("(delta count is %s)\n", time2str(buffer, d));
waitfor 10 NANO_SEC;
printf("Time is now %s pico seconds.\n", time2str(buffer, t));
...
```

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The SpecC Compiler and Simulator

- SpecC Command Line Tools
 - Tools working with SpecC Internal Representation (SIR) files
 - Example:

```
% scc Adder -sc2sir -o Adder.sir
% sir_list -t Adder.sir
behavior ADD8
behavior AND2
behavior FA
behavior HA
behavior Main
behavior XOR2
% sir_tree -bt Adder.sir FA
behavior FA
|----- HA hal
|   |----- AND2 and1
|   \----- XOR2 xor1
|----- HA ha2
|   |----- AND2 and1
|   \----- XOR2 xor1
\----- OR2 or1
```

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Assignment 2

1. Practice the use of SpecC Command Line Tools
 - Setup
 - `source /opt/sce-20100908/bin/setup.csh`
 - Examine simple examples
 - `mkdir simple_tests`
 - `cd simple_tests`
 - `cp $SPECC/examples/simple/* .`
 - `ls`
 - `vi HelloWorld.sc`
 - Practice the compiler
 - `man scc`
 - `scc HelloWorld -sc2out -vv -ww`
 - Practice the simulator
 - `./HelloWorld`
 - Practice the tools
 - `man sir_tree`
 - `scc Adder -sc2sir -o Adder.sir`
 - `sir_tree -bt Adder.sir FA`