

K-periodically Routed (extended) Marked/Event Graphs

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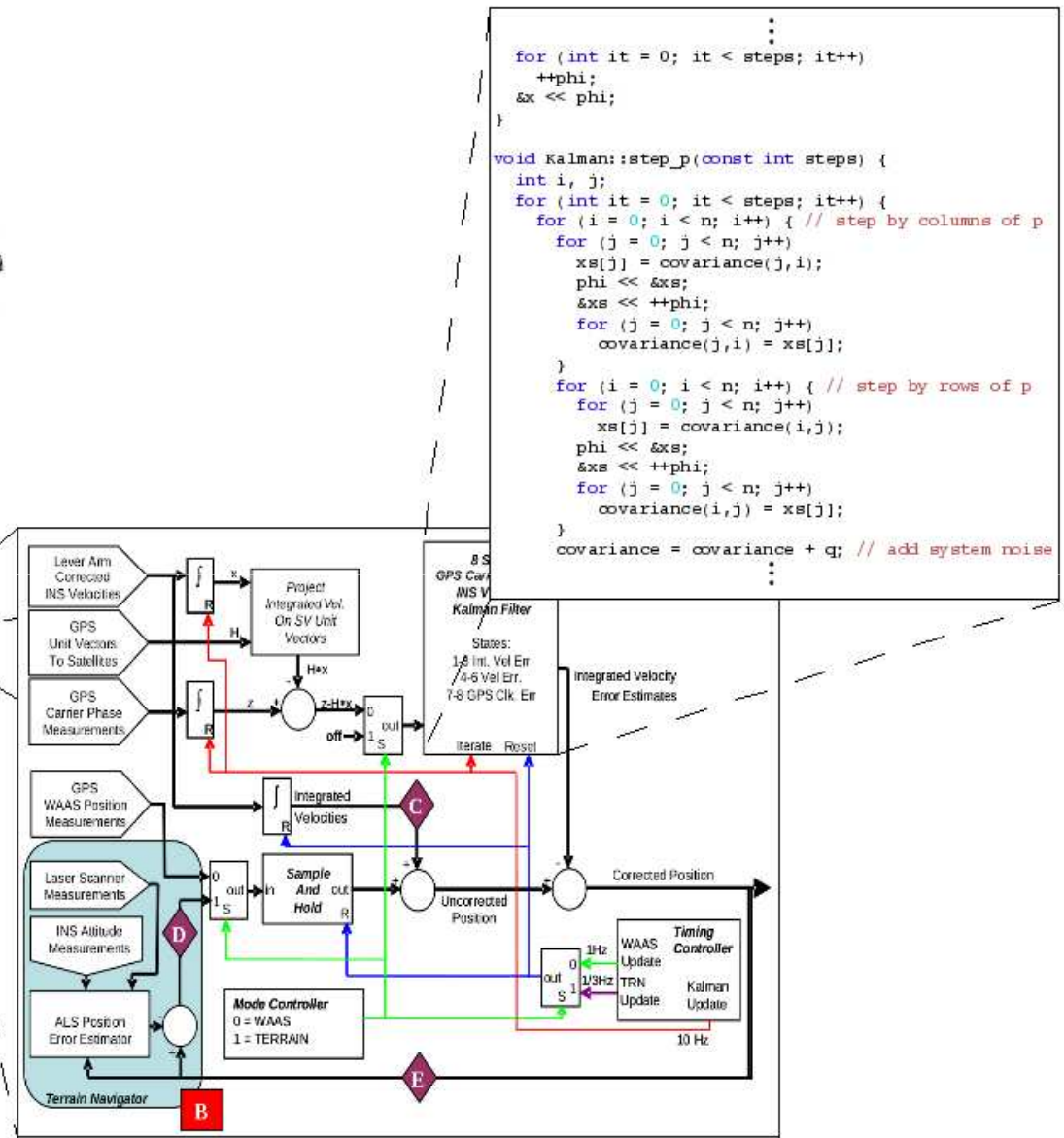
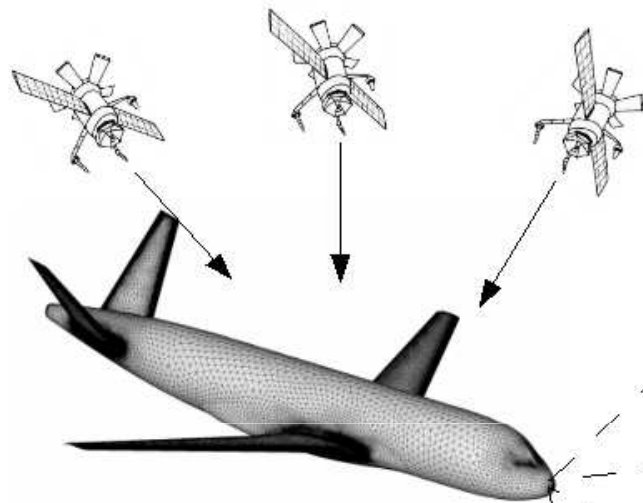
Robert de Simone

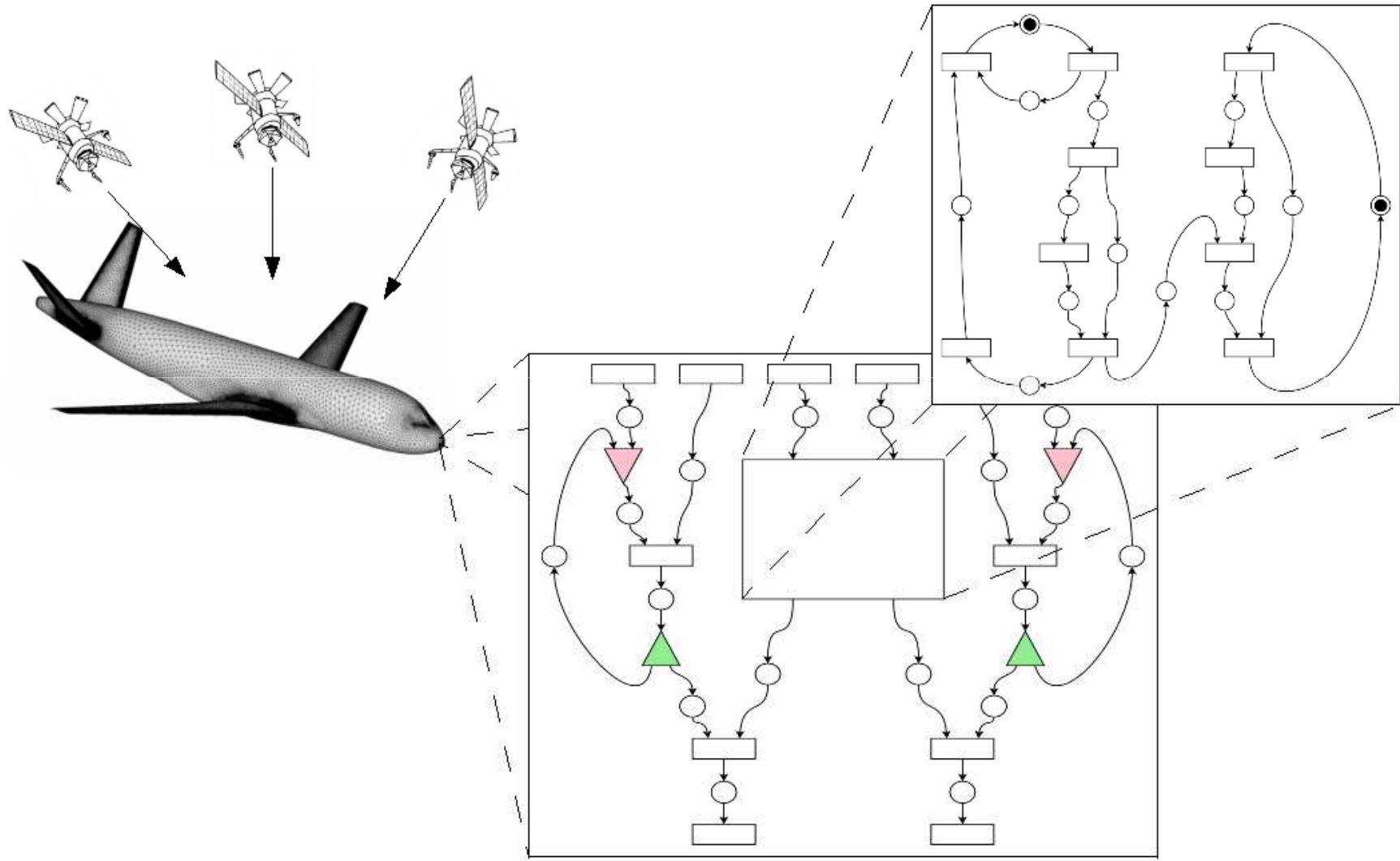
Benoît Ferrero

Introduction

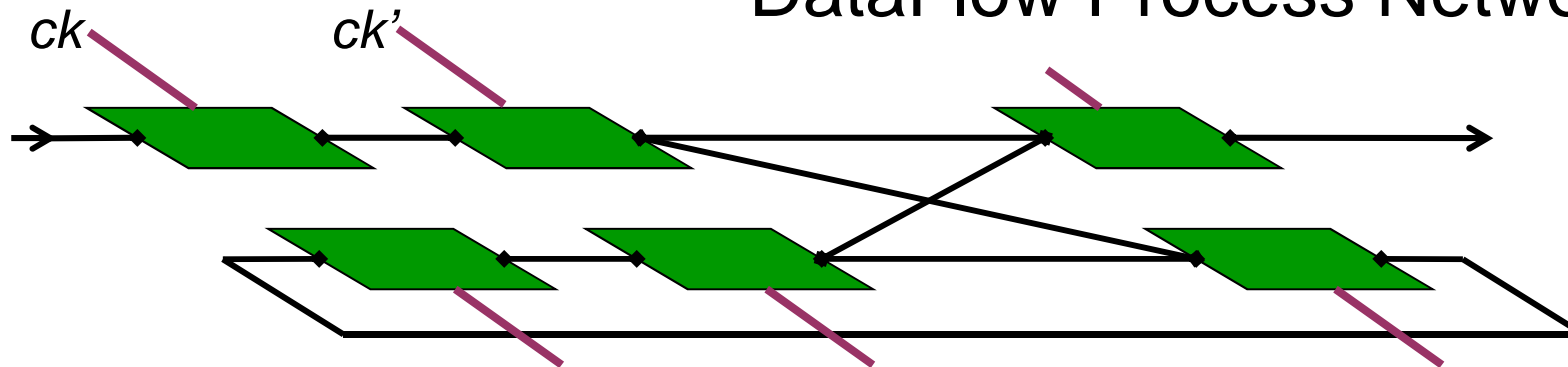
- Modern architectures: multicore, networks of processors, with on-chip network interconnects
- Many modern algorithms (multimedia) described also as streaming dataflow functional networks
- Compilation goal: adjust the application to the architecture (mapping)

Formal models and methods dedicated to this (contemporary) problem ?



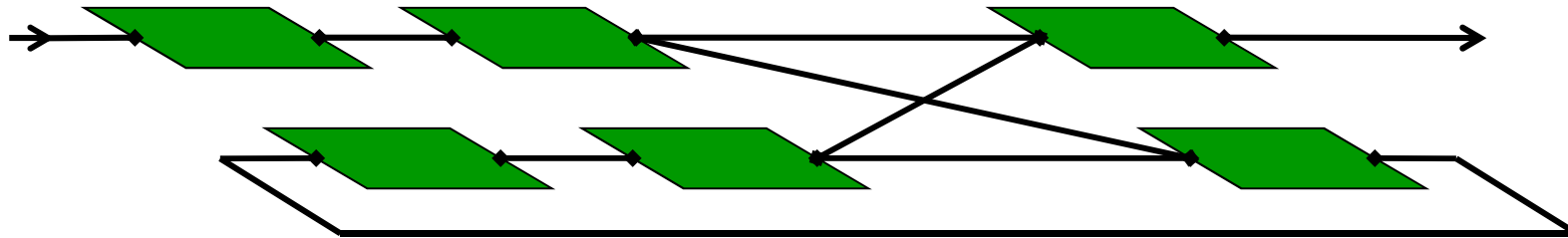


DataFlow Process Networks



- Original intent (first specification semantics, self-timed):
 - Computation blocks executed/performed as soon as they get enough input data
 - But computers usually do not work that way (asynchronous circuits?),
 - so control in the form of activation clocks need to be introduced
- second, scheduled semantics
- Intermediate stages, between self-timed/asynchronous and totally timed (strict order) → **Logical time** (several time threads partially related).
 - optimize** buffer sizes, **optimize** latencies,
- One main property: Conflict Freeness**

DataFlow Process Networks



- Many variants:

- Event Graphs (Petri Net subclass, 1- 1 channels for places)
- SDF extension (packet sizes for consumption/production, equalization issue)
- BDF, CSDF (introducing control variants and switches)
- Kahn PNs (implicit sequential algorithms in computation nodes)
- Internal computations with similar features: nested loops, polyhedral models
- Use in HLS: Pico Express/Synfora, Tensilica
- Historically, several INRIA efforts (cf. other talks)

Process Networks

- Purely data-flow models (no control switches): **Event/Marked Graphs, SDF**

Main issue: **scheduling**

- from self-timed to rigidly clocked (possibly multiclock)
- regular (ultimately k-periodic) ASAP runs
- > optimization according to various criteria

- Models allowing (*conflict-free*) control switches: **BDF, CycloStaticDF, Kahn PN**

Additional issues: **routing**

- optimization: from ideal communication structures to specific network topologies

Conflict-freeness

- Forbids choices based on input token availability.
- entails **monotonicity** (Kahn PNs), **confluence** (CCS), **latency insensitivity**
- all runs are just different ordering of the same partially ordered trace

→ **Not true** of general Petri Nets, Synchronous Languages (instantaneous preemption)

Process Network based tools

- Ptolemy (UC Berkeley)
- Synfora Pico Express
- StreamIt
- AutoPilot
- SDF3
- Compaan
- PN
- K-Passa (EPI Aoste)
- Gaspard2/Array-OL (EPI DaRT)

link with polyedra parallel compiling techniques ???

Determinism ? Conflict-freeness !

- It states that an enabled computation must eventually be performed

Counterexamples:

- Choice between input guards (channels) in CSP
- Absence testing in Esterel (abort await S do P when T); interrupts
- Petri Nets conflicts on a shared places (so not a channel)

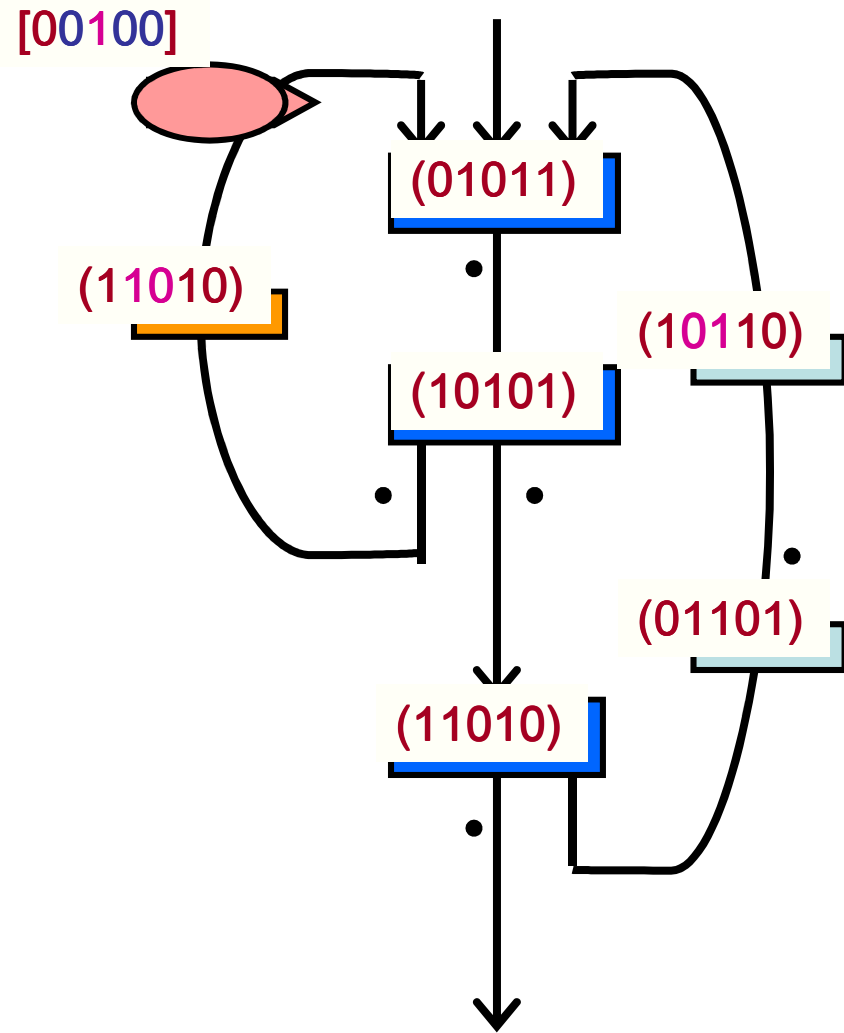
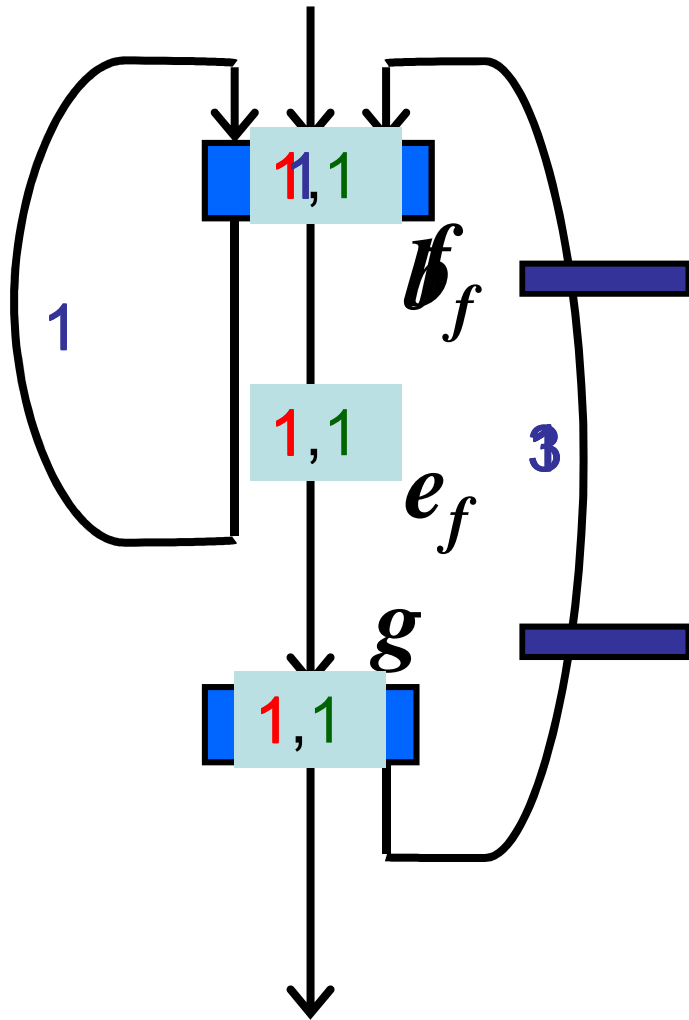
• It provides:

- Confluence (in Process Algebras): diamond property, independence
- Monotonicity (in Kahn Process Networks), compositional
- *Endo/isochrony*
- **Latency Insensitivity**: elastic design, important for modular SoC design

• **In essence, all potential behaviors are just different schedules of same functional one, partially ordered**

- Many theoretical results on static optimal scheduling and buffer sizing (k-periodic modulo scheduling, max-plus algebra, N-synchronous models)

Ultimately k-periodic scheduling



Role of KREGs

- **Data-flow streaming** computations
- **Interconnect networks** with (predictible, static) routing
- Generated from **nested loop programs, NoCs, Kahn networks**

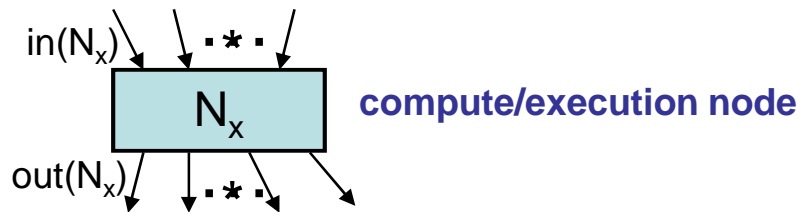
Issues

- **liveness** (absence of deadlocks)
- **safety** (finite buffering of interconnect channels)
- **transformations and optimality** of routing and network topology

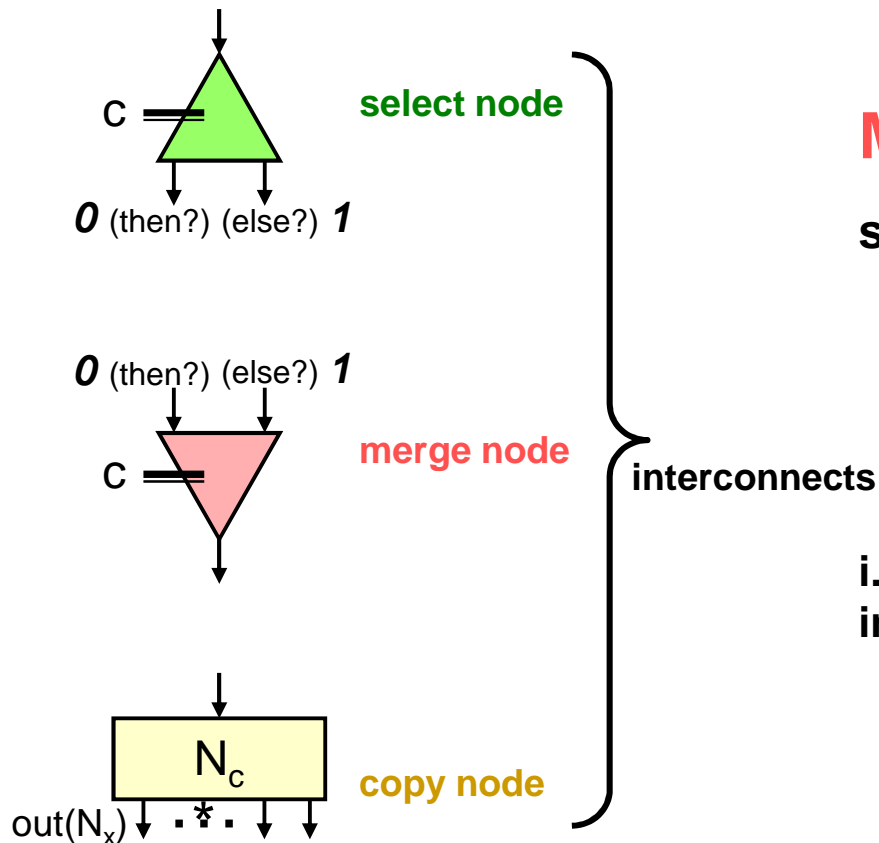
depend on:

- precise mathematical semantic formulation (firing rule)
- initial (and latter) **token allocations**

→ **topic of this talk**



Process network tradition



Main feature: 

switching conditions c are

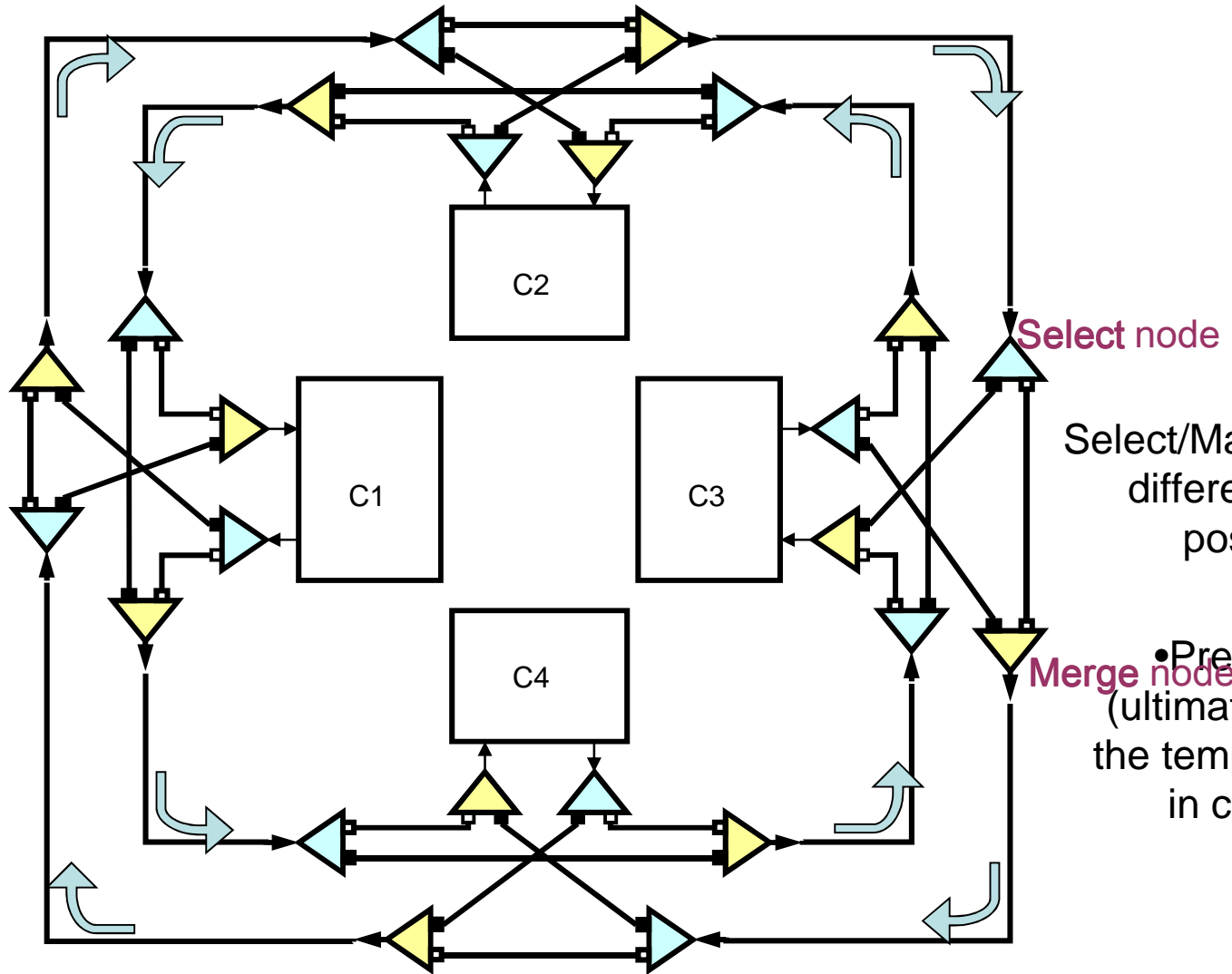
- explicitly computed (off-line)
- ultimately k -periodic

i.e., c is of the form $u.(v)^\omega$ with u, v binary words indicating switching/routing directions,

- u initial/transient part
- v periodic/steady part

ex: 1100.(10000000)

Interconnect modeling and optimization

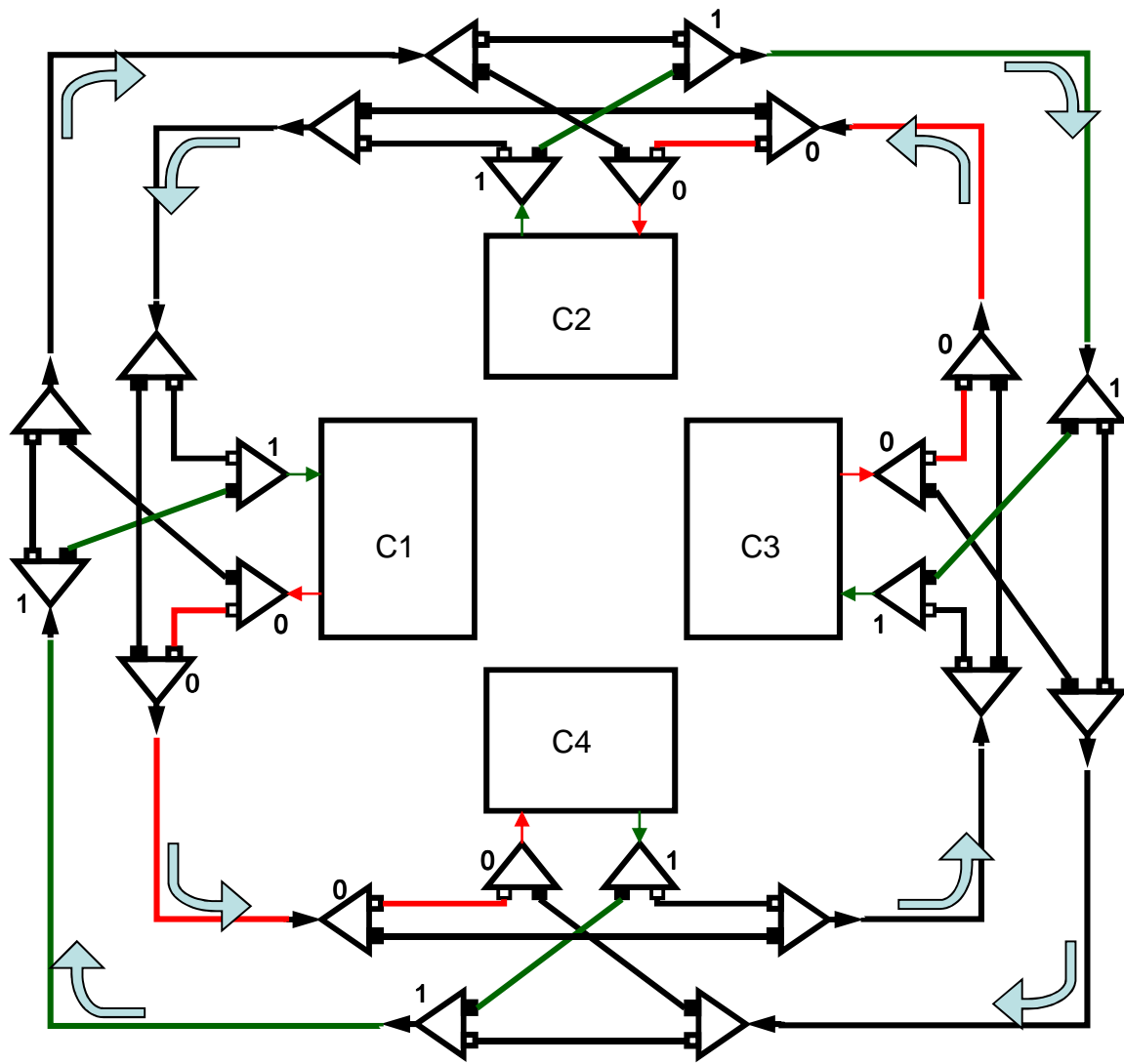


- On-Chip Networks

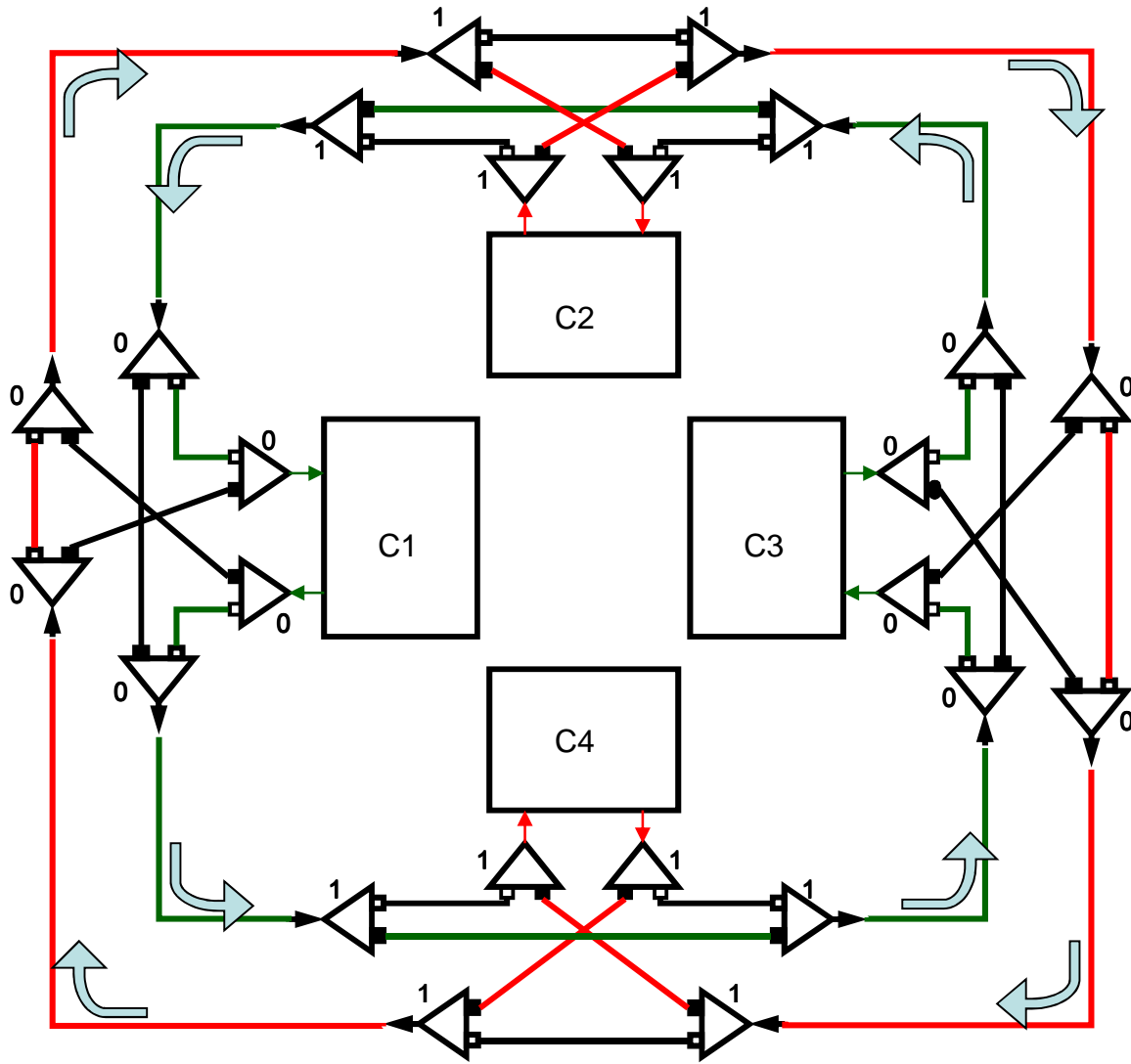
- Switching conditions of Select/Merge nodes can configure different communication paths, possibly overlapping in time

- Predictable routing schemes (ultimately k-periodic) will match the temporal schedules obtained in classical Process Network scheduling theory

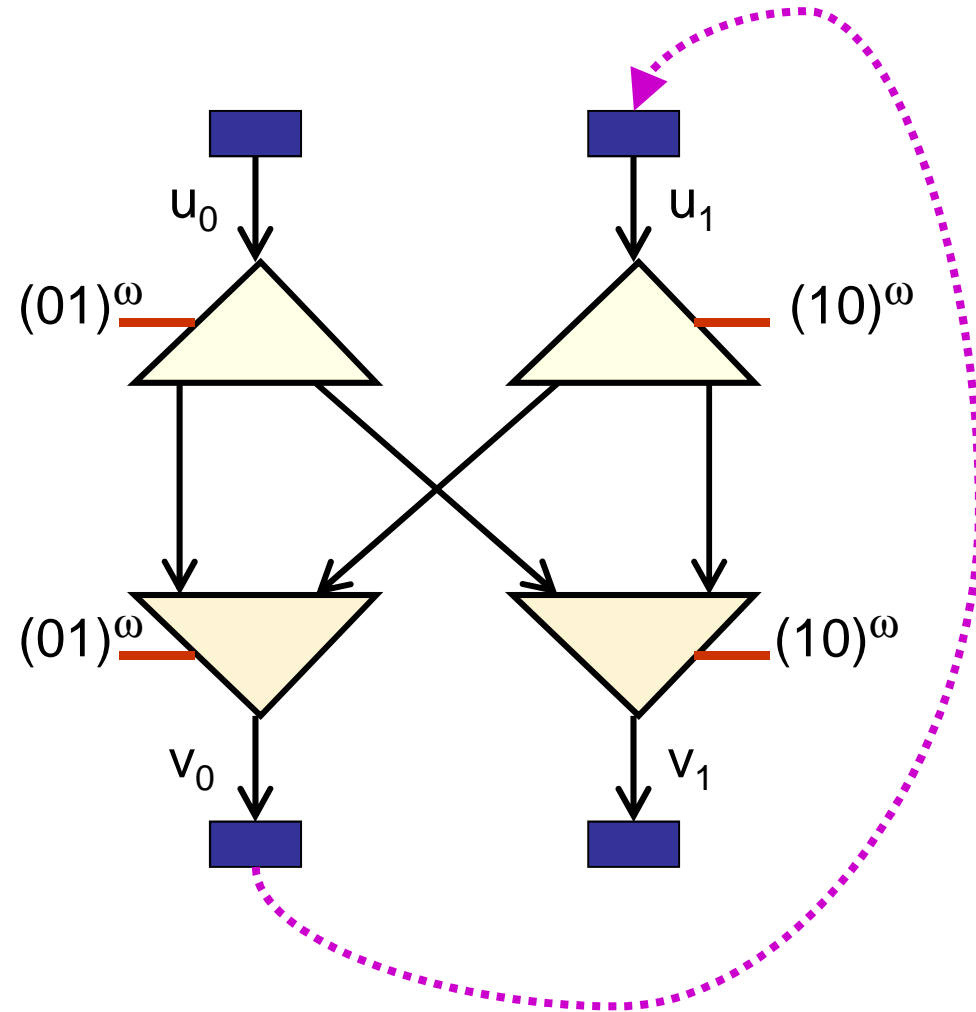
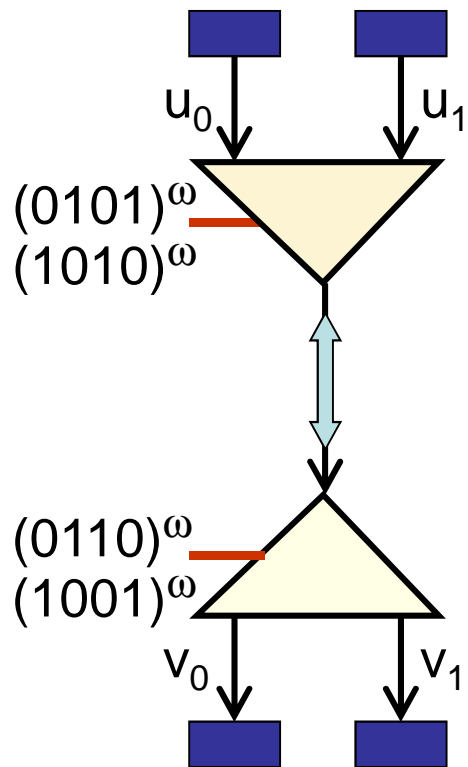
one possible routing configuration



another possible configuration



Interconnect transformation illustrated



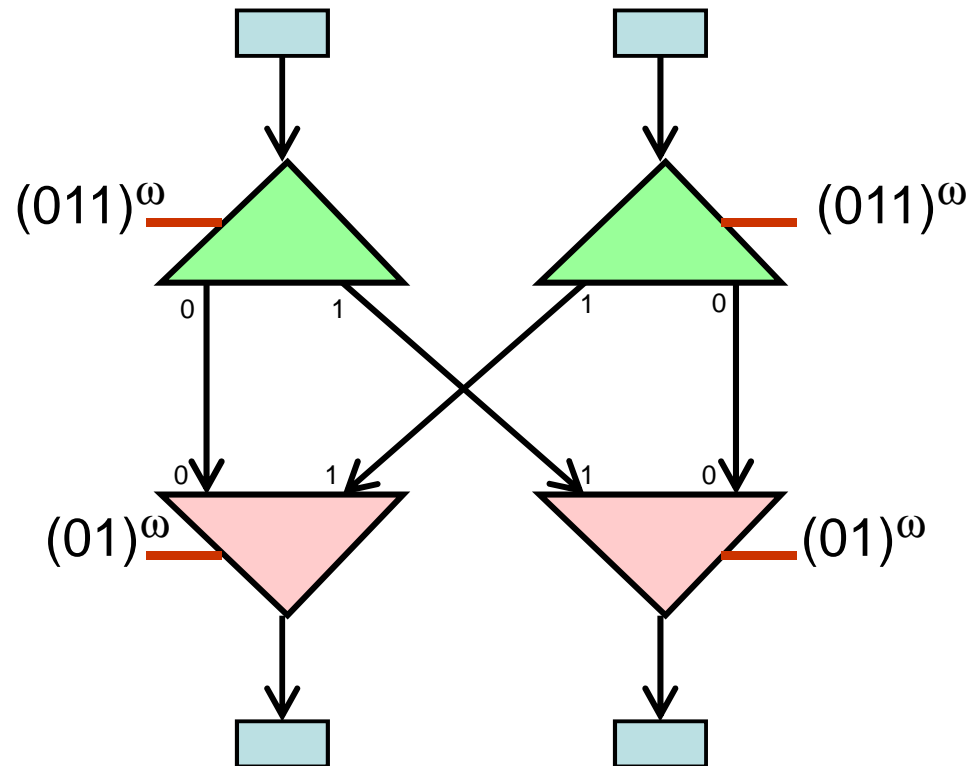


Facts

- **KREG traffic balance (token production = token consumption)** can be checked by **abstraction into SDF** over a hyperperiod.
→ Through this, **safety can be checked**

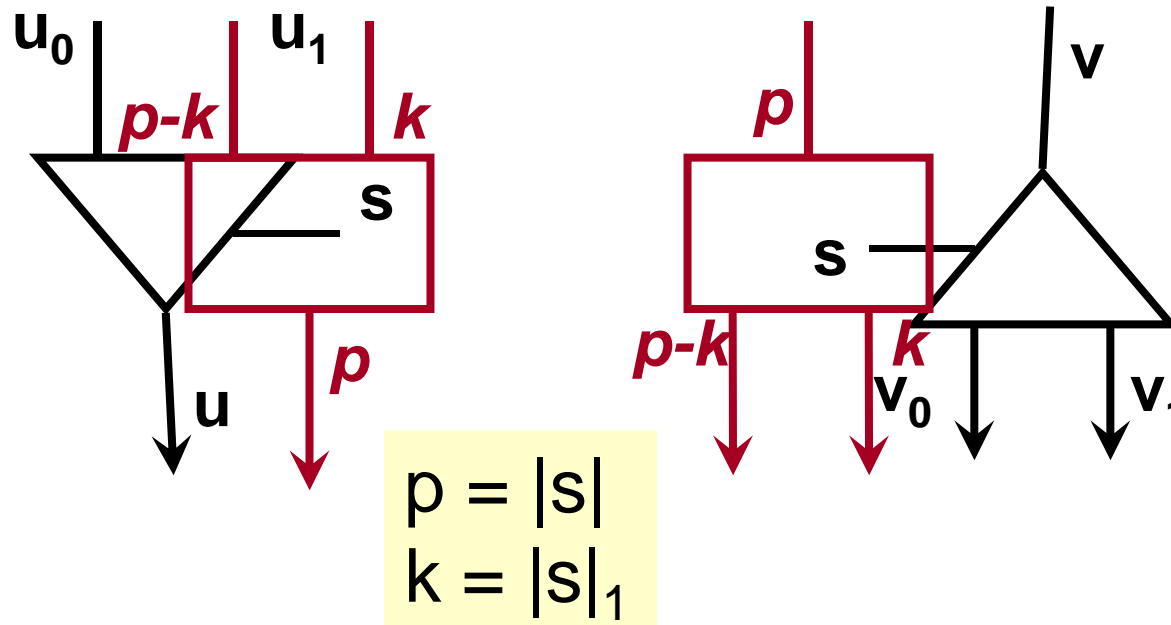
for this presentation we shall ignore copy nodes, and assume that every cycle in the original KRG graph crosses a compute node (not essential restrictions, just make the presentation simpler)

Counter-example: production/consumption mismatch



Tokens accumulate in the “1” channels (to-third production, one half consumption)

SDF abstraction



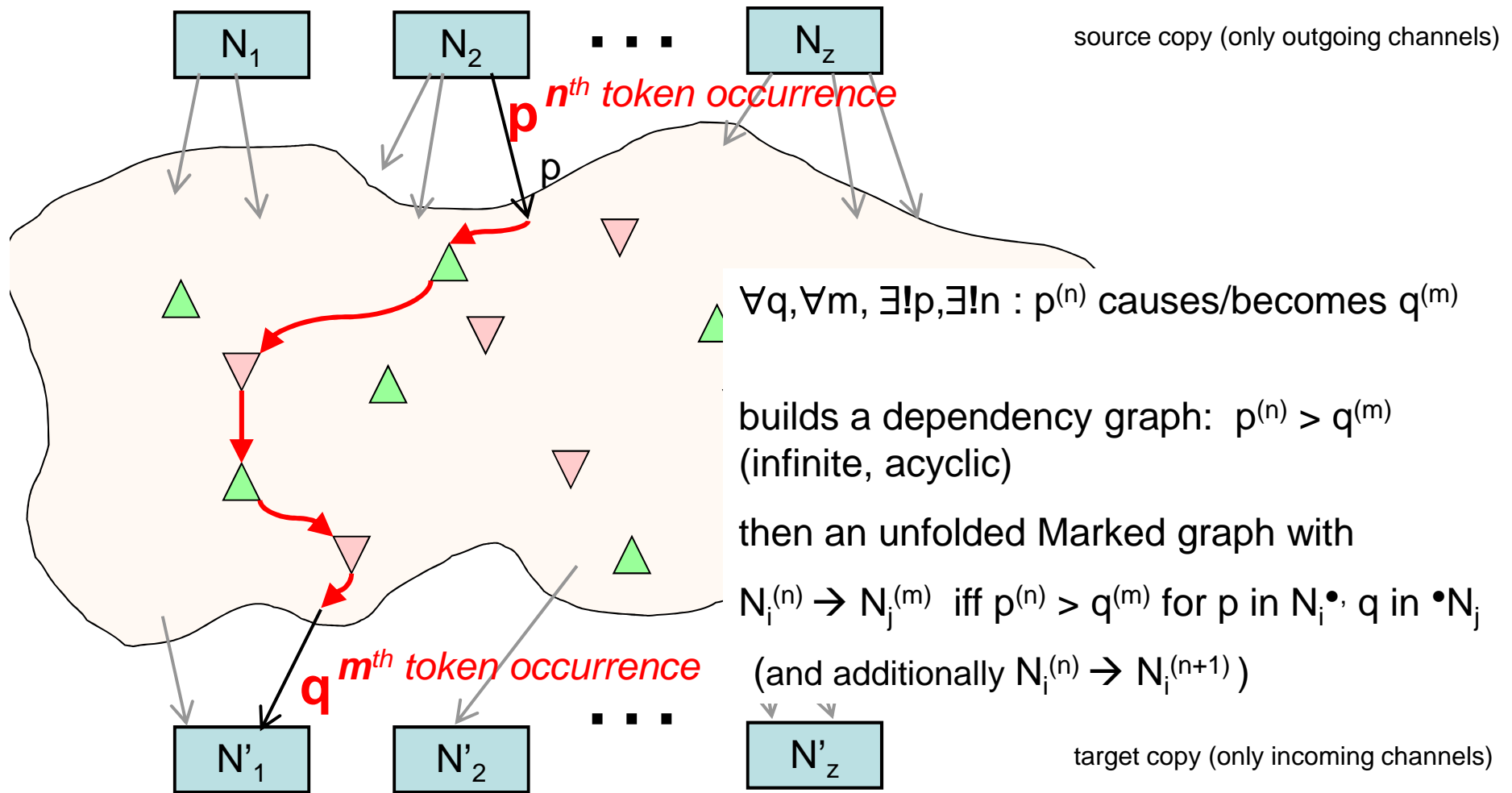
- Keep the EventGraph parts unchanged (computation/transportation nodes)
- Replace merge/select nodes by weighted nodes averaging consumption production on the period of the switching pattern s



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- **KREG traffic balance (token production = token consumption)** can be checked by **abstraction into SDF** over a hyperperiod.
→ Through this, **safety can be checked**
- **KREG networks can be unfolded into infinite Marked Graphs** expanding computation node occurrences.
Works by collecting exhaustively every executions in a single model. Not only structural, depends heavily on the initial markings).

Tracing the flow of successive tokens

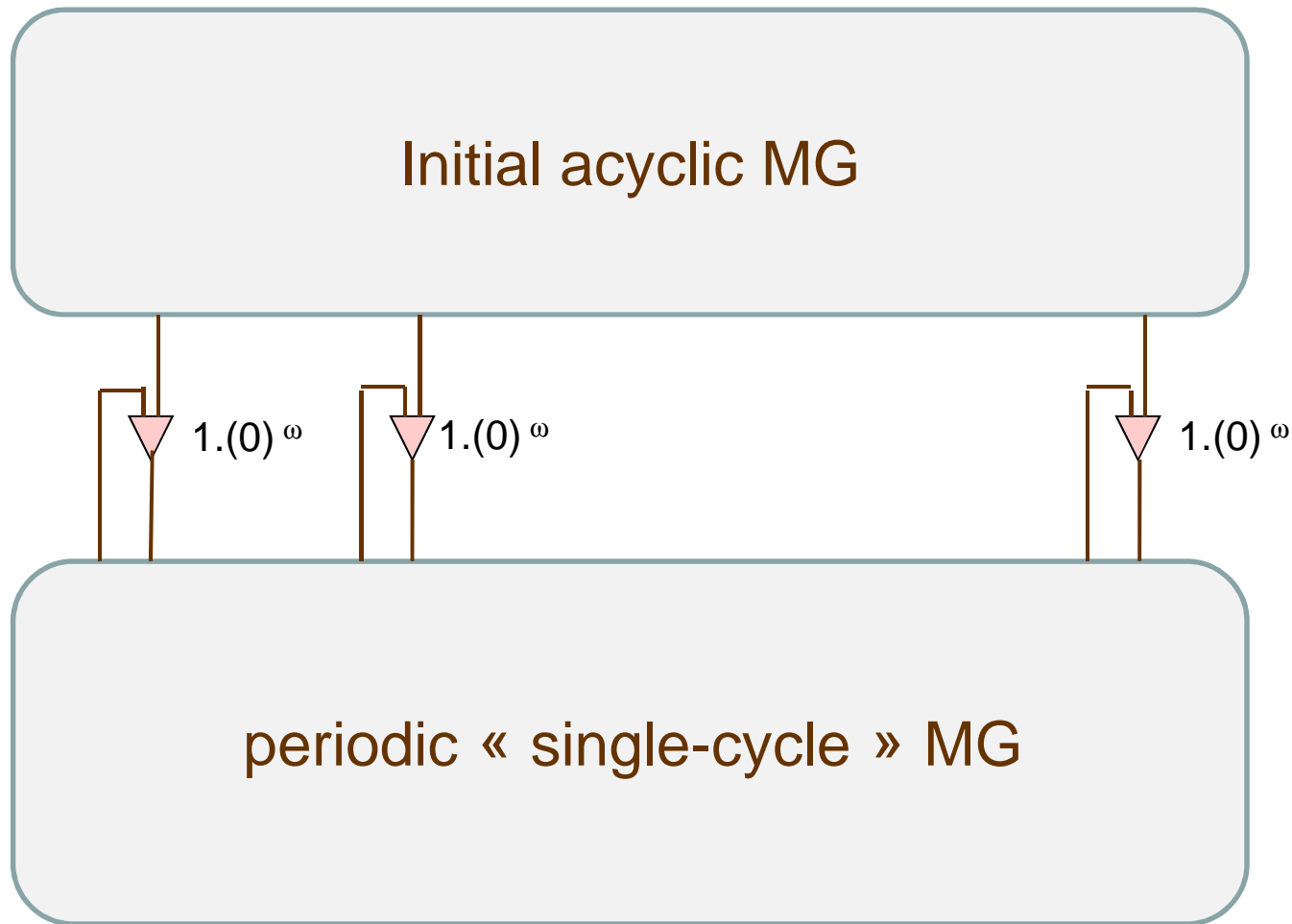




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Resulting quasi-marked graph

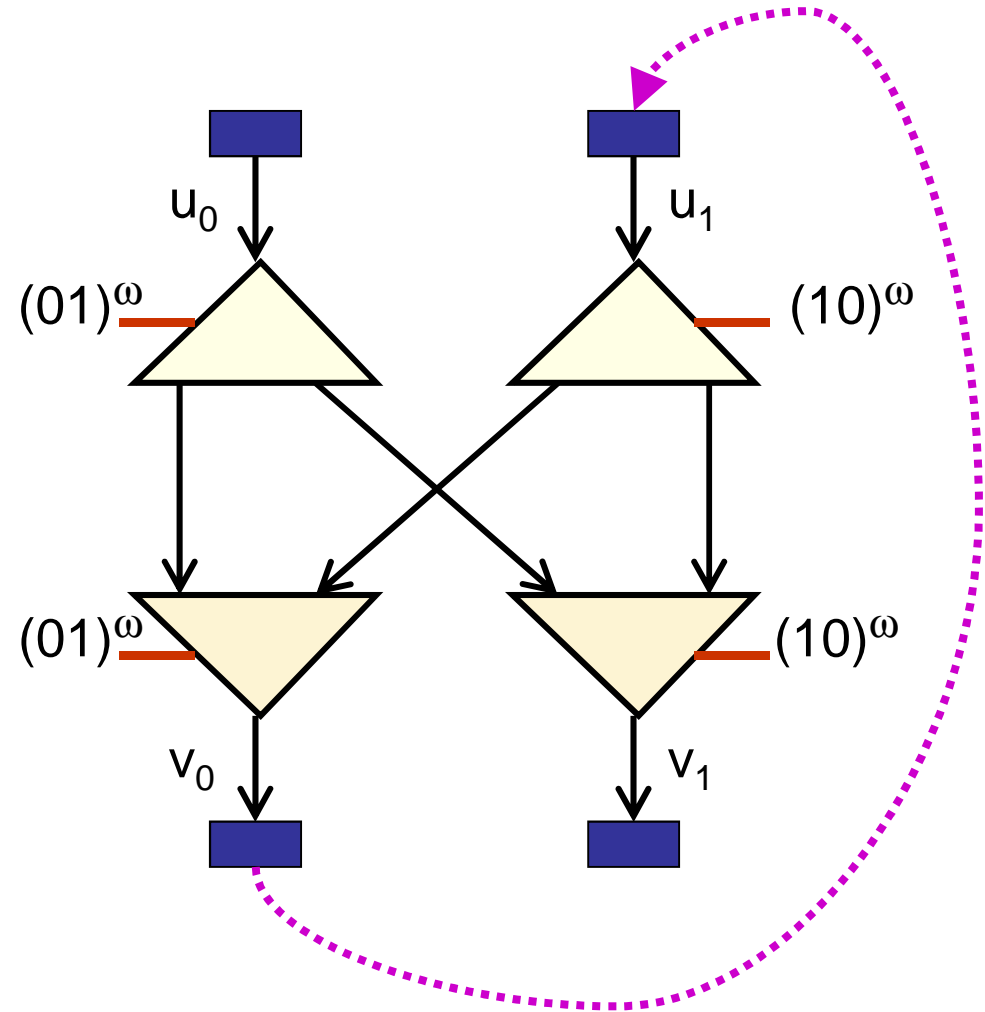
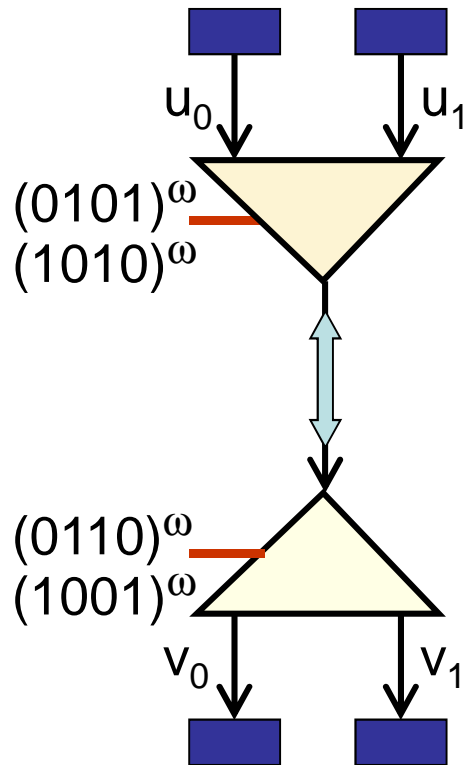




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- **Two notions of equivalences** can be defined, one equates the external token flows, one takes into consideration the internal traffic interleavings in addition **(second one is a congruence)**

Interconnect transformation illustrated



Two equivalences

- First one directly based on isomorphism of expanded Event Graphs
- Second uses a more refined dependency graph, with:

$$p^{(n)} \gg q^{(m)} \quad \text{if} \quad \exists r, i, j, \quad p^{(n)} > r^{(i)} \quad \wedge \quad q^{(m)} > r^{(i+j)}$$

(sequentiality of token traffic in intermediate channels, so that data precedence and interleavings are preserved)



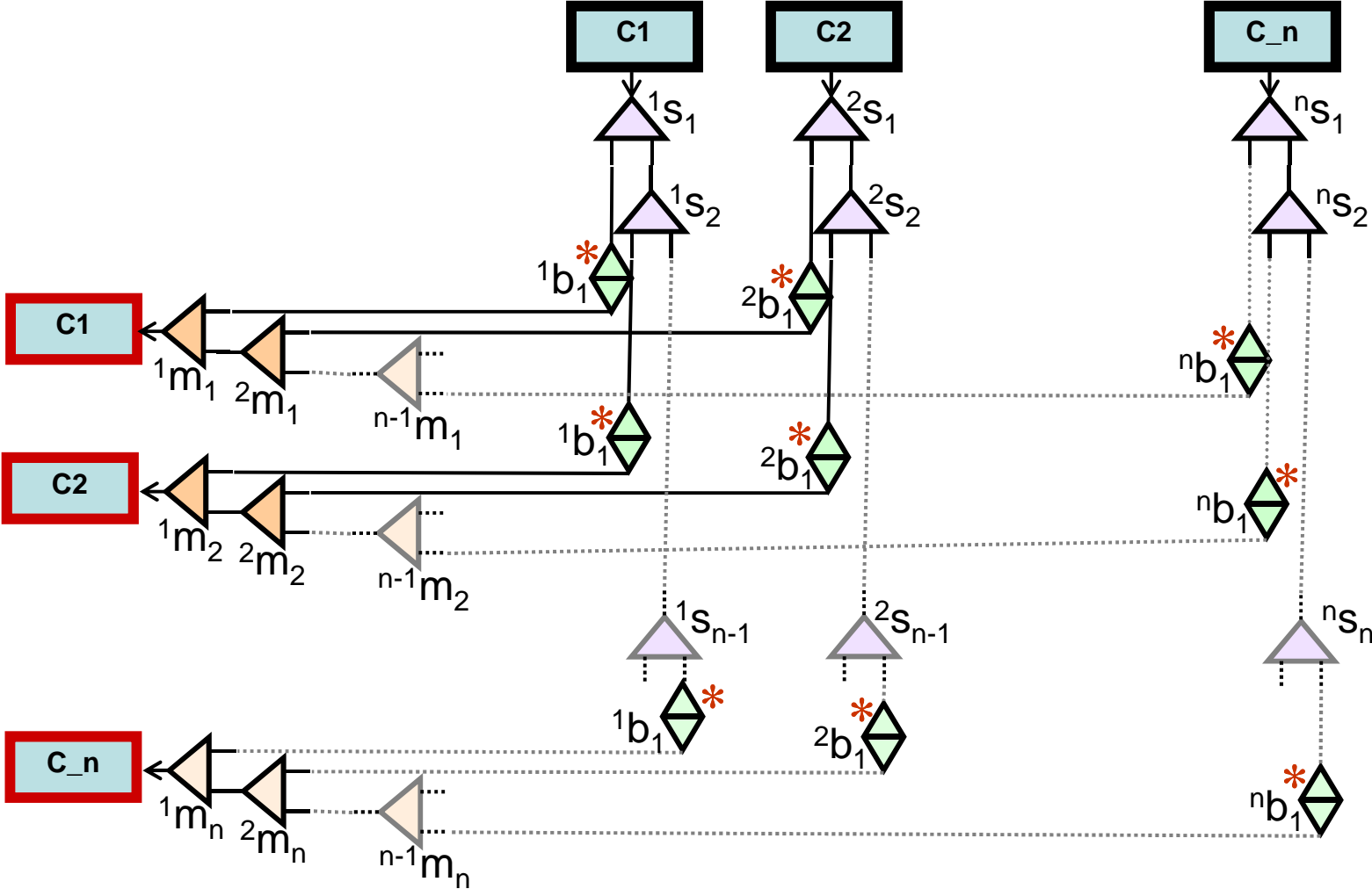
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- **Two notions of equivalences** can be defined, one equates the external token flows, one takes into consideration the internal traffic interleavings in addition (**second one is a congruence**)
- **Normal forms and complete axiomatisation** can be defined for the first equivalence (so a network can be transformed in any equivalent one in a finite number of steps)

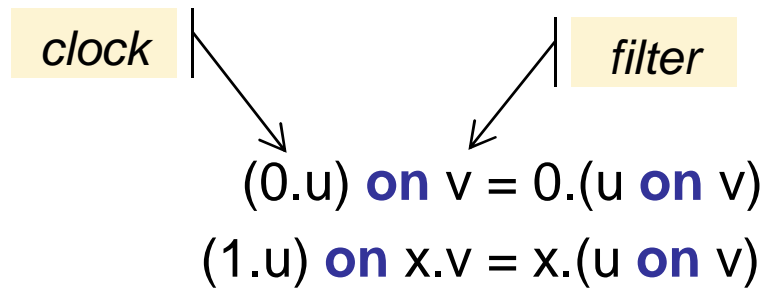
Algebraic rules and axiomatisation

- We shall define transformations which preserve functionality but not the timing (similar to retiming/recycling)
- The main goal is to figure the proper auxiliary transformations on switching patterns which will realize the same data transport (through a different link topology)
- Normal forms can be defined (but large, by expansion)
- We first introduce transformations on switching patterns (On / When) and their properties
- We then introduce the transformations on Merge/Select patterns

Normal forms (point-to-point links)



on/when operators



$(u \text{ on } v)$ is a subclock of u

$$(x.u) \text{ when } (0.v) = u \text{ when } v$$

$$(x.u) \text{ when } (1.v) = x.(u \text{ when } v)$$

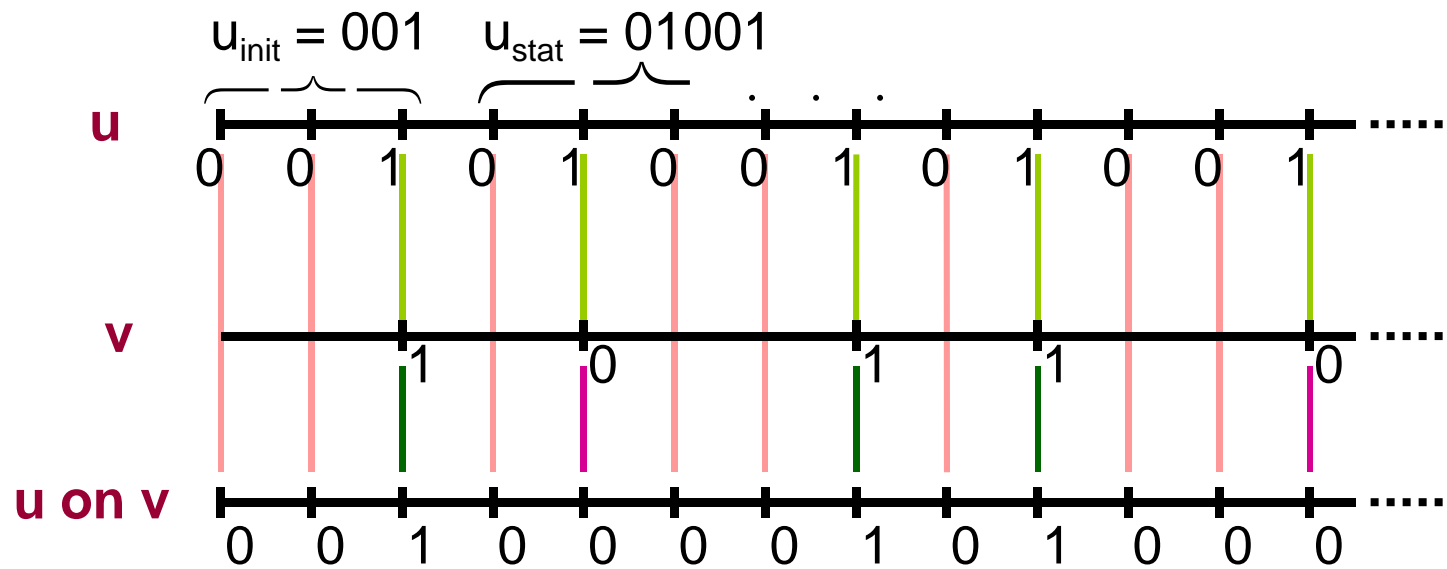
when u subclock of v , returns the filter

$$((u \text{ on } v) \text{ when } u) = v$$

if u subclock v , then $u = (v \text{ on } (u \text{ when } v))$

on effects

$$(0.u) \text{ on } v = 0.(u \text{ on } v)$$
$$(1.u) \text{ on } x.v = x.(u \text{ on } v)$$

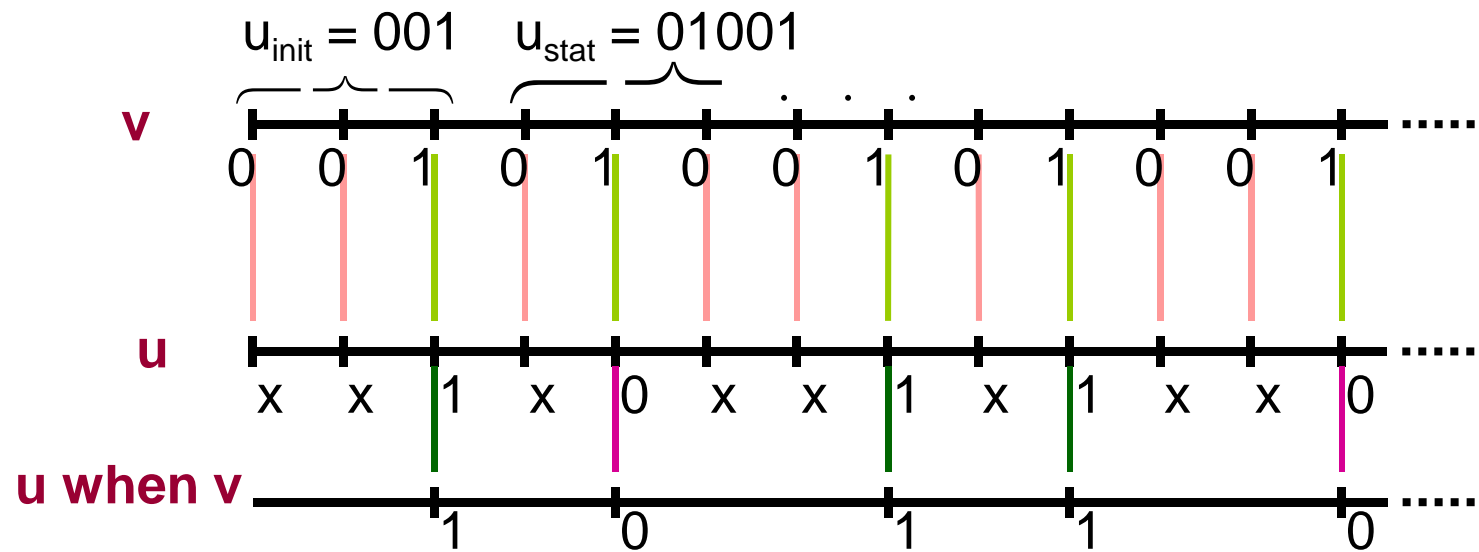


when effects

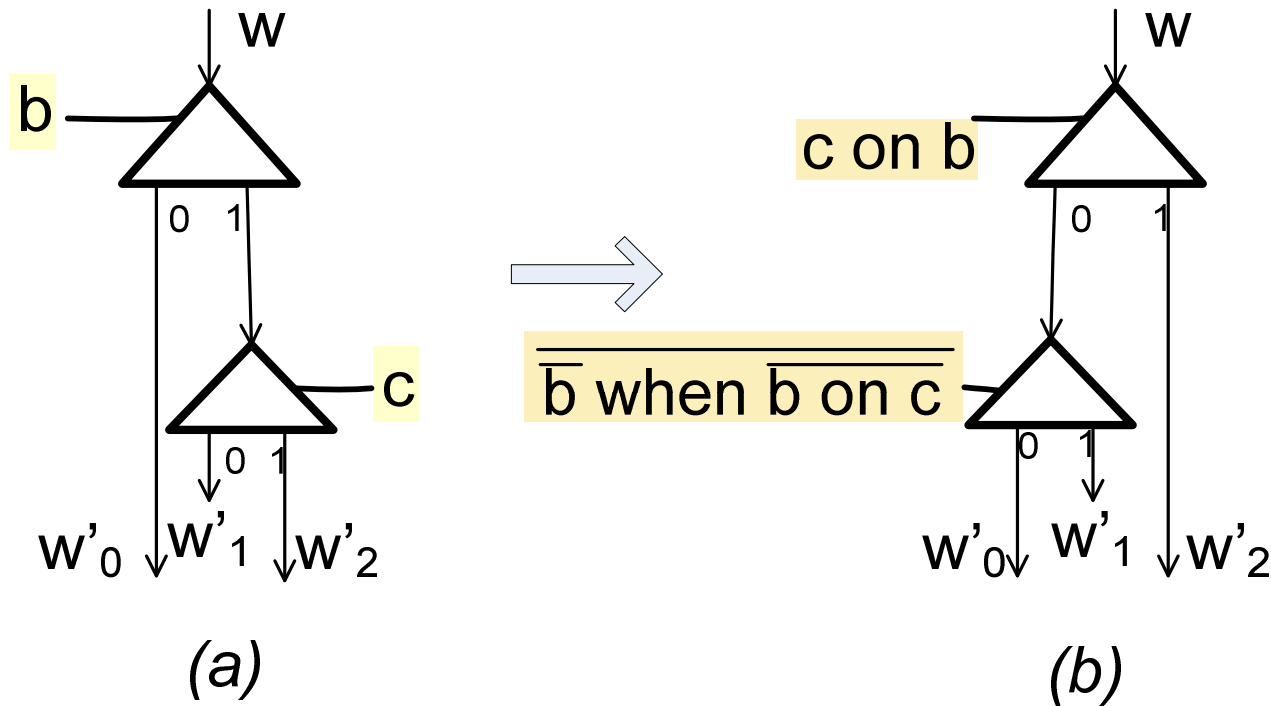
most meaningful
whenever u subclock of
v

$$(x.u) \text{ when } (0.v) = u \text{ when } v$$

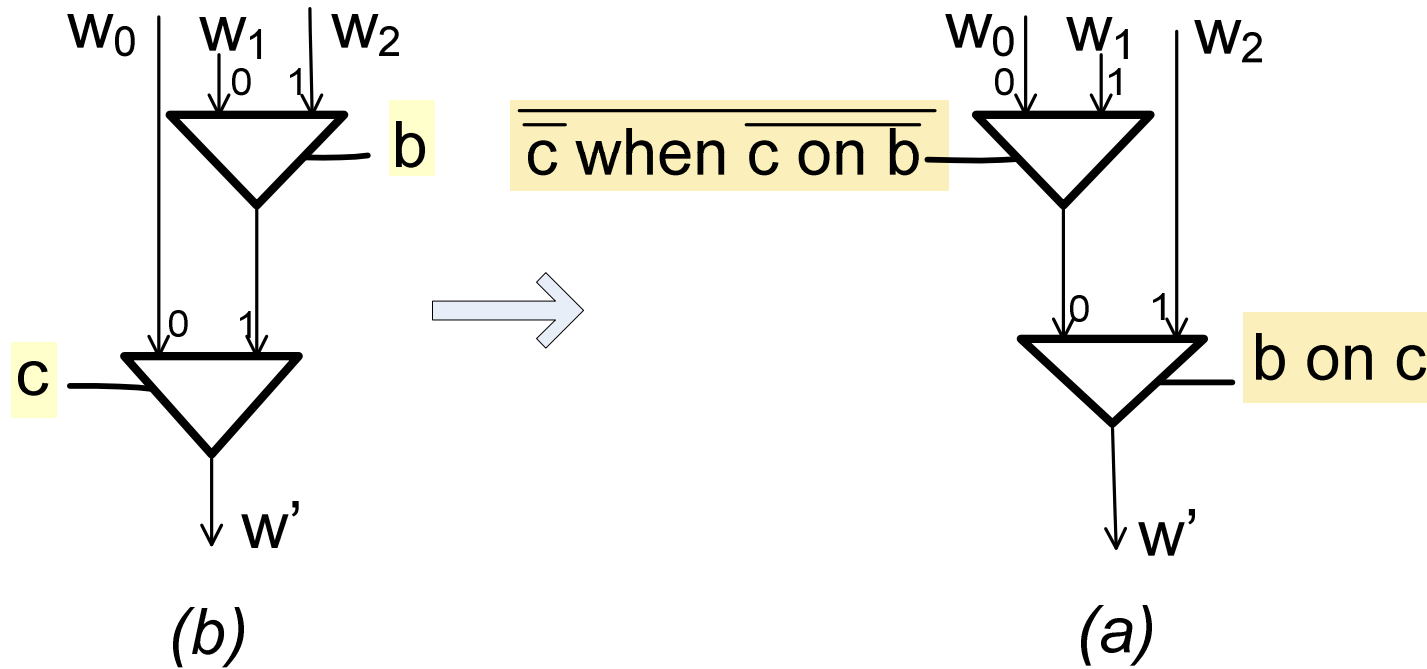
$$(x.u) \text{ when } (1.v) = x. (u \text{ when } v)$$



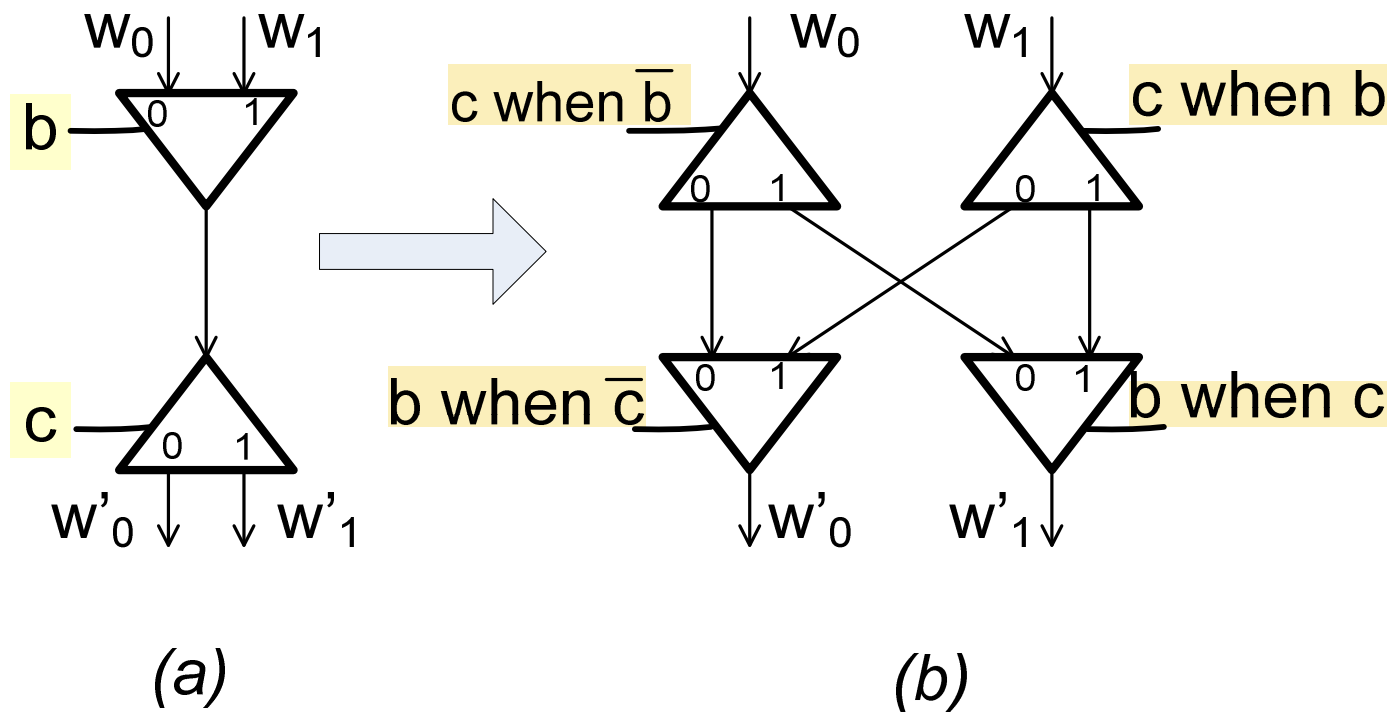
Transitivity of Selects



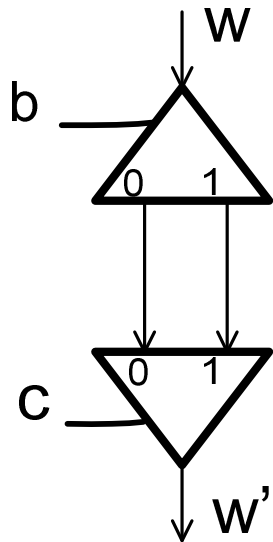
Transitivity of Merges



Selects up across Merges



A basic form



- Simplest, and disposable, when $b=c$ (and initially empty inside)
- If throughputs match on the (hyper)-period, but order differ, may require buffering

→ then tokens are bypassed by others

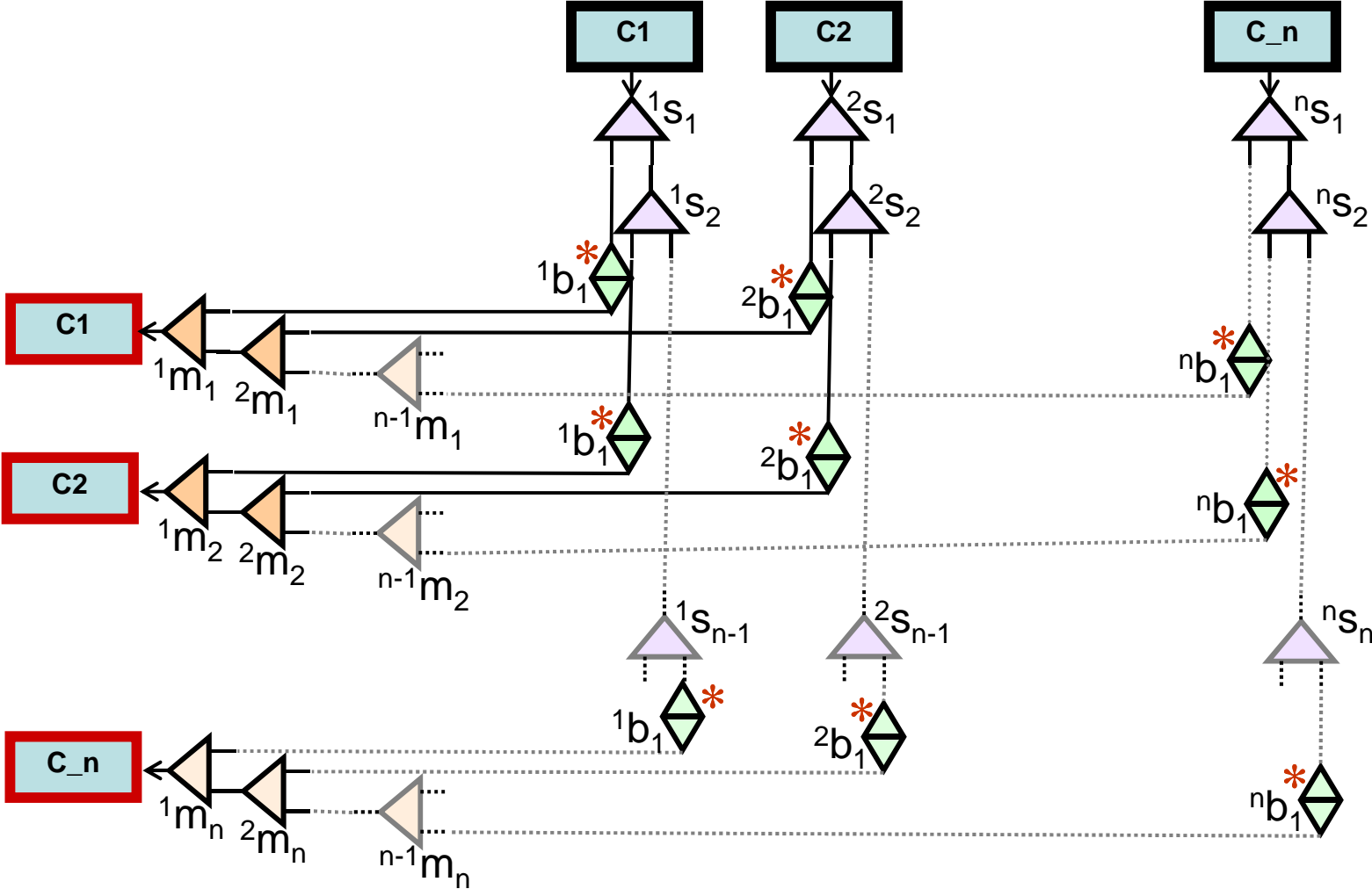
- Buffering remains bounded and predictable if ever b and c fixed and known.

- General permutations may require a sequence (or a combination) of such elements

→ **Even & Pnueli Permutation Graphs (1971)**

→ Optimization of the physical realization of the permutation using basic forms.

Normal forms (point-to-point links)





Facts

- **KREG traffic balance (token production = token consumption)** can be checked by **abstraction into SDF** over a hyperperiod.
→ Through this, **safety can be checked**
- **KREG networks can be unfolded into infinite Marked Graphs** (*construction sketch later*)
- Regularity of switching patterns allows to detect cyclicity, to **fold back into finite (quasi)-Marked Graphs**
→ **transient and steady phase can be expanded** into MGs, **remaining issue is to glue them back** together.
- **Two notions of equivalences** can be defined, one equates the external token flows, one takes into consideration the internal traffic interleavings in addition (**second one is a congruence**)
- **Normal forms and complete axiomatisation** can be defined for the first equivalence

for this presentation we shall ignore copy nodes, and assume that every cycle in the original KRG graph crosses a compute node (not essential restrictions, just make the presentation simpler)

Remaining issues

- Smoothness
 - Schedules with binary words as close as possible to the mean throughput (mechanical words) are feasible. Desirable ?
 - Extension to smooth routings ? How to report that data following a same route in burst mode may be beneficial ?
- Dependencies brought back to inputs: contracts ?
- Extension of the conflict-freeness property in the case of Esterel ?
 - Start P when S
 - Suspend P from S_begin to S_end
 - Abort P when S

Thank you !!

Questions ?

Process Networks

- **Conflict–freeness**

Usual important requirement.

Forbids choice between alternative local computations based on input token availability.

Consequences: *monotonicity* (Kahn PNs), *confluence* (CCS), *latency insensitivity* (once enable, a behavior will eventually be performed, w/ a natural fairness assumption)

Not true of general Petri Nets, Synchronous Languages (instantaneous preemption) → explicit absence notification in distributed implementations

- **Scheduling**

Because of conflict-freeness, all computation traces are essentially the same partial-order under different timings. One specific **ASAP** representative.

Rich theory of static regular scheduling (*k-periodic schedules*)

Self-timed → clocked