

# Composing Reo Connector Animations

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CIC 2006



# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 What do we mean by animating Reo Connectors
- 3 Specifying Animations
- 4 Composing Animations
- 5 Implementing Animations
- 6 Conclusion



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# Motivation

- Simple REO connectors can have complex behaviour
- Formal Semantics exist:
  - Coinductive Calculus for Component Connectors;
  - Constraint Automata;
  - [Connector Colouring](#);

# Motivation

## But

- Often connectors are not very *intuitive*
- Hard to design or debug

Enhance static representations of REO Connectors  
⇒ using **Animations**.

# Motivation

## But

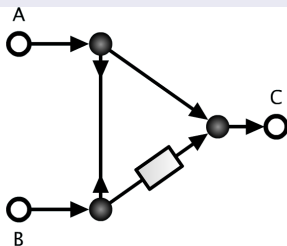
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Enhance static representations of REO Connectors  
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# Example

## Ordering Connector

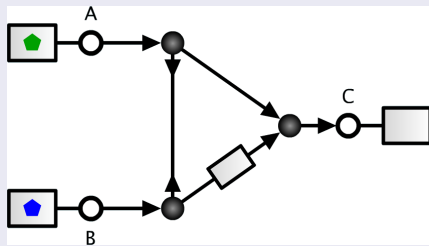
### Connector



# Example

## Ordering Connector

### Connector with components

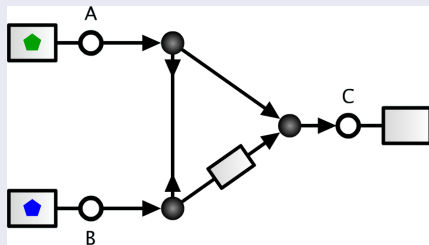




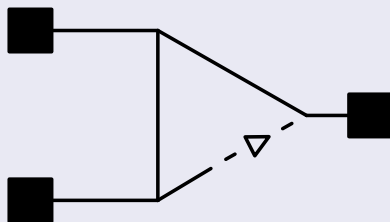
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## Ordering Connector

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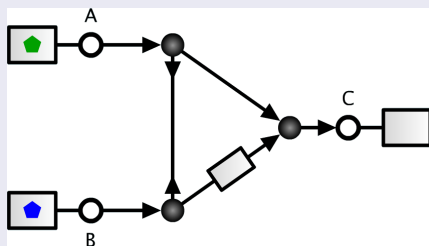
### Colouring



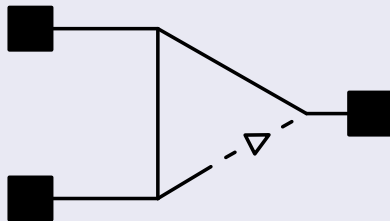
# Example

## Ordering Connector

### Connector with components



### Colouring



*See animation*

# Graphical Elements

## Graphical elements presented in animations:

- data
- synchrony
- exclusion
- buffering
- replication
- discrimination

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Tokens move over channels and components to represent dataflow.

# Graphical Elements

## Graphical elements presented in animations:

- data
- **synchrony**
- exclusion
- buffering
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The part of the connector where dataflow occurs in a synchronous slice is coloured in red.

# Graphical Elements

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A blue triangle represents the propagation of impossibility of dataflow.

# Graphical Elements

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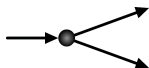


FIFO1 channels can buffer data, which is represented by placing the token inside the channel.

# Graphical Elements

## Graphical elements presented in animations:

- data
- synchrony
- exclusion
- buffering
- **replication**
- discrimination



Data (token) is replicated at each node with more than one output.



# Graphical Elements

## Graphical elements presented in animations:

- data
- synchrony
- exclusion
- buffering
- replication
- **discrimination**



The filter channel allows only the flow of some specific kind of data, which is represented by colouring the center with the same colour of tokens that are *allowed*.

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# The main idea

## Using Domain Specific Languages (DSL)

- Simple DSL's to **draw** and **animate** connectors;
- Conversion to a standard animation tool.

## We can go further:

- using the Connector Colouring semantics
- compositionally build the animations

# The main idea

## Using Domain Specific Languages (DSL)

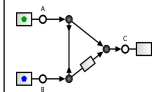
- Simple DSL's to **draw** and **animate** connectors;
- Conversion to a standard animation tool.

## We can go further:

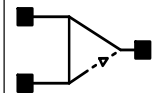
- using the Connector Colouring semantics
- compositionally build the animations

# Generating Animations

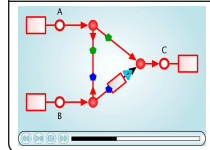
Connector Graph



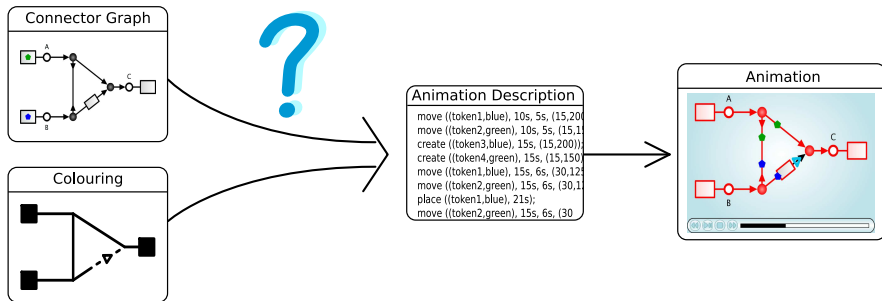
Colouring



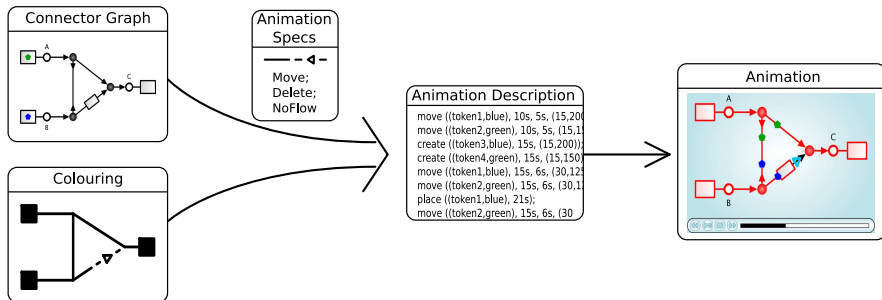
Animation



# Generating Animations



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# Animation Specifications

## Definition

Let  $C$  be a connector:


$$\text{Colouring}_{CT(C)} \rightarrow \text{Set} [\text{ActionSpec}]$$

*ActionSpec* = *Move Location Location*  
 | *Place Location*  
 | *Delete Location*  
 | *Create Location*  
 | *Copy Location*  
 | *NoFlow Location Location*

# Animation Specifications

## Example

### Synchronous Drain Channel

$(n_1^i, n_2^i)_{\text{SyncDrain}}$    $\{c_1: \text{————}, c_2: \text{--}\triangleright\text{--}, c_3: \text{--}\triangleleft\text{--}\}$

### Animation Specification

```
anim(c1) = { [ Move n1 SyncDrain
               , Delete SyncDrain
               , Move n2 SyncDrain
               , Delete SyncDrain ] }
```

```
anim(c2) = { [ NoFlow n1 n2 ] }
```

```
anim(c3) = { [ NoFlow n2 n1 ] }
```

# Animation Specifications

## Example

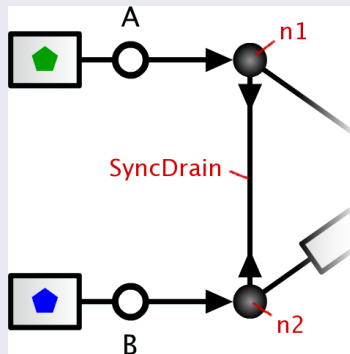
### Synchronous Drain Channel

$$(n_1^i, n_2^i)_{\text{SyncDrain}} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \{c_1: \text{———}, c_2: \text{--}\triangleright\text{--}, c_3: \text{--}\triangleleft\text{--}\}$$

### Animation Specification

$$\text{anim}(c_1) = \{ [ \text{Move } n1 \text{ SyncDrain} \\ \text{, Delete SyncDrain} \\ \text{, Move } n2 \text{ SyncDrain} \\ \text{, Delete SyncDrain} ] \}$$

$$\text{anim}(c_2) = \{ [ \text{NoFlow } n1 \text{ } n2 ] \}$$

$$\text{anim}(c_3) = \{ [ \text{NoFlow } n2 \text{ } n1 ] \}$$


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# Composing Animation Specifications

Lets look at an example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (n_1^i, n_2^i)_{\text{SyncDrain}} \\
 (m_1^i, m_2^o)_{\text{Sync}}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \longrightarrow \longleftarrow \\
 \longrightarrow
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \{c_1 : \text{---}, c_2 : - \triangleright - -, c_3 : - - \triangleleft - -\} \\
 \{c_4 : \text{---}, c_5 : - \triangleright - -, c_6 : - - \triangleleft - -\}
 \end{array}$$

## Example

```

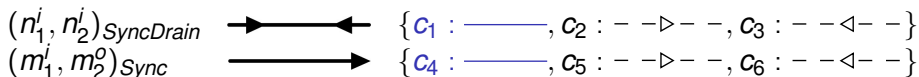
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anim(c4) = { [ Move m1 m2 ] }

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$anim(c_7) = ?$

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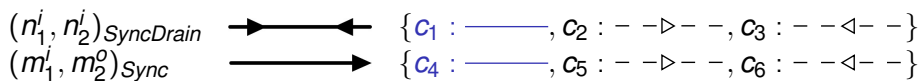
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# Composing Animation Specifications

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## General rule

$$anim(c_1 \cup \dots \cup c_n) = anim(c_1) \cup \dots \cup anim(c_n)$$

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# Animation Description

- Lower lever:

What tokens	When
How long	Where

- Multiple Steps, each derived from a colouring;
- Steps can be combined, by incrementing the **When** value;
- Each Animation Step:  
actions, absence of flow, changes to the environment

*Action* = *move* (*Token, When, Duration, From, To*)  
 | *place* (*Token, When, Where*)  
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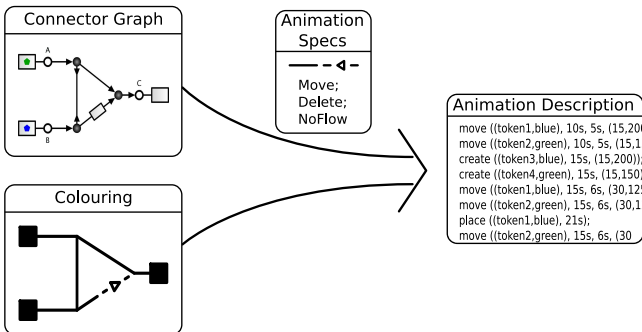
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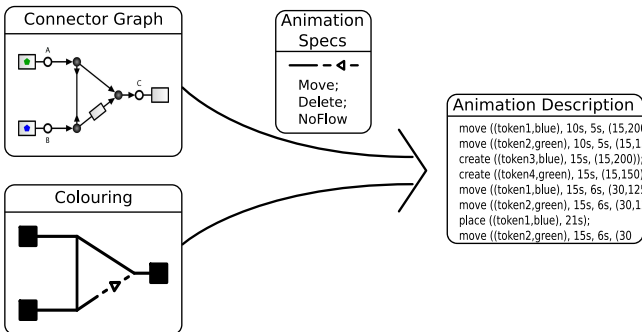
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Missing  
time information

Parameterised transformation on:  
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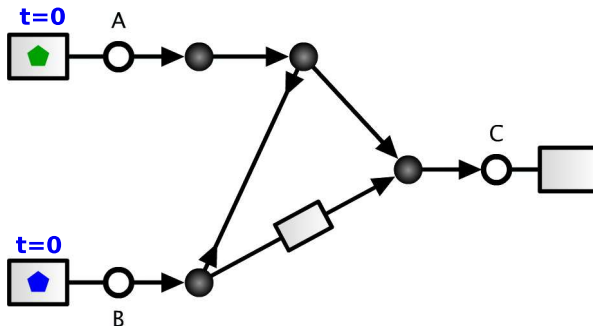


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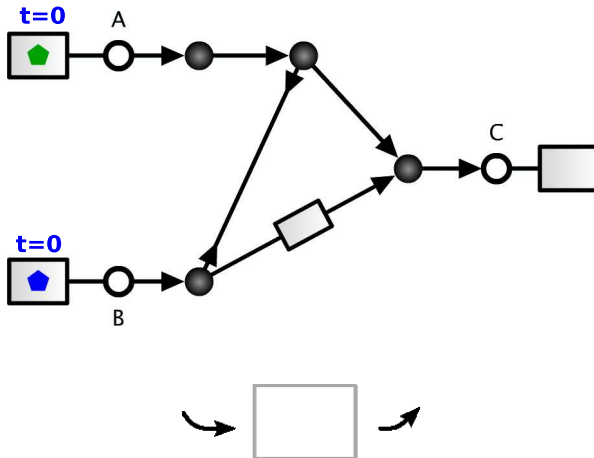
# The Algorithm

A breath-first traversal

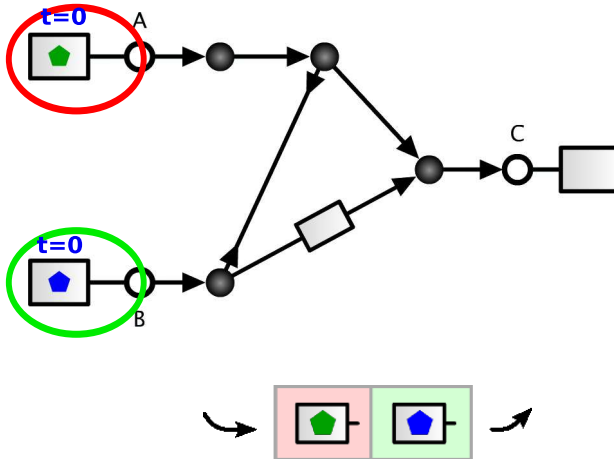


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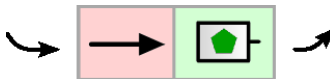
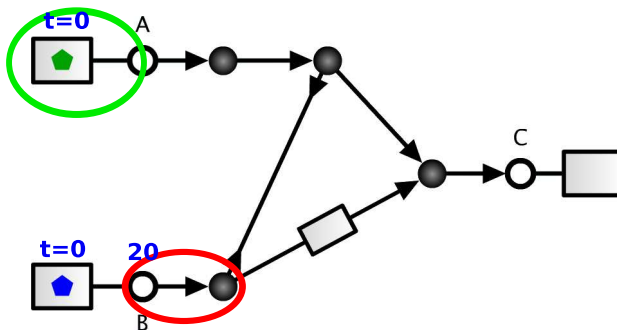


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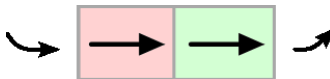
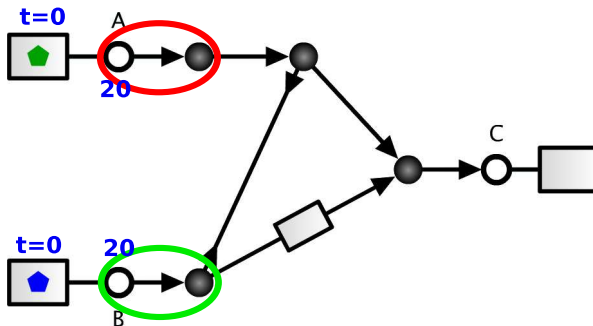
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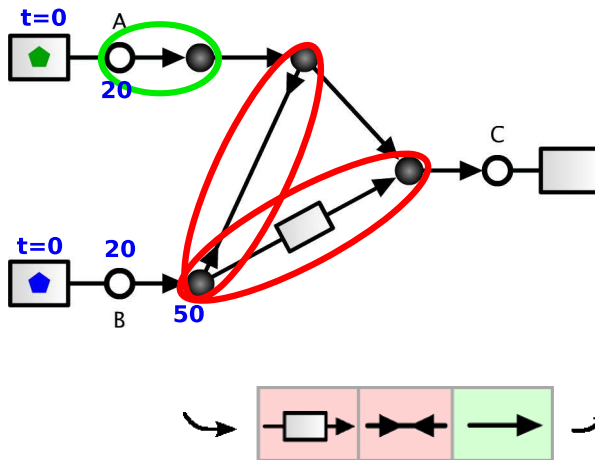
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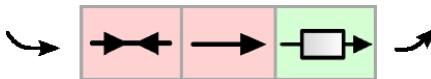
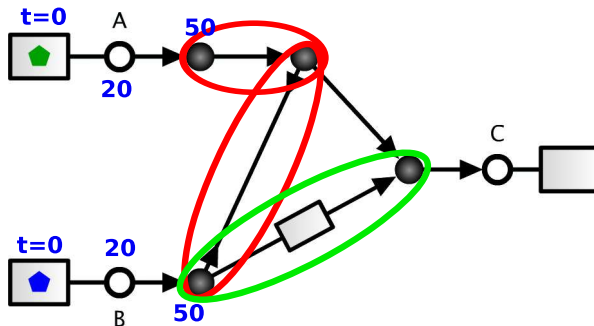






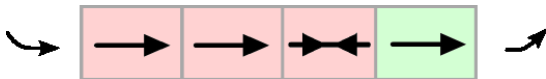
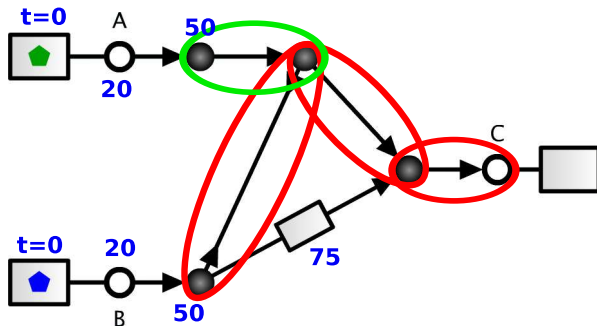
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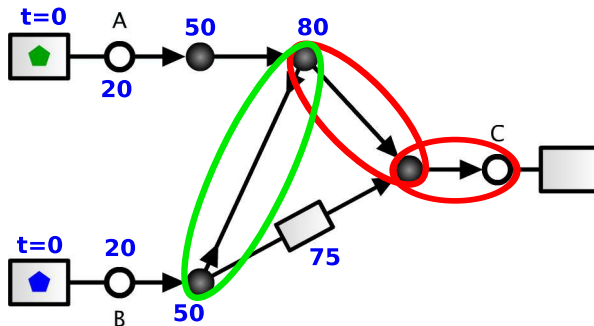
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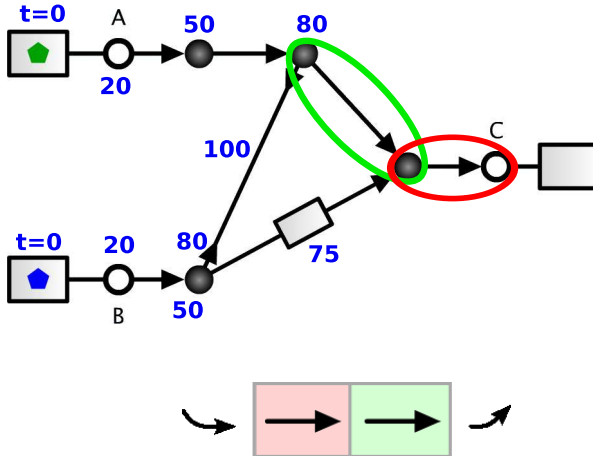
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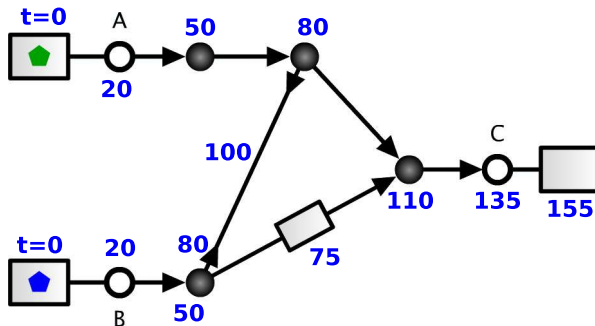
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# Conclusion and Future Work

- Precise and *intuitive* representation of the behaviour of circuits;
  - Animations produced by composing Animation Steps;
  - Steps can be composed.
- 
- Framework for developing Reo Connectors;
  - Interaction: choosing existing components and non-deterministic choices during animation.

See animations online: [www.cwi.nl/~proenca/webreo](http://www.cwi.nl/~proenca/webreo)





# Conclusion and Future Work

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## Related work

- David Harel's statecharts (Statemate and Rhapsody tools)  
*Reactive Animations* — Flash animations interacting via TCP/IP with Rhapsody executing statecharts.
- *Animation of Behaviour Models*, by Magee et al.;  
extension of LTS with mappings from labels to actions and conditions;  
based on Timed Automata to allow composition;  
resulting XML used to generate JavaBeans.
- *Goal-Oriented Requirements Animation*, by Tran Van, van Lamsweerde, Massonet, Ponsard;  
good way to communicate with stakeholders;  
integrated in the FAUST formal analysis suite;  
multiple stakeholders can interact with the animation over the Internet.

