${\sf StreamGraph}$

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Overview

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Idea & Goals

- Visualize parallel programming
- Graphical layer on top of a textual language
- StreamIt: subset representation

StreamIt

- Developed for streaming applications
- Pipeline-based structure

Base constructs

- Filter: "The Workhorse of StreamIt"; work-, init-functions
- Pipeline: linear succession of StreamIt constructs
- Split-Join: creating parallel paths
 - Split: split single data stream into multiple data streams
 - Join: join previously splitted streams together

For further information on StreamIt see [1].

Parallelism in StreamIt

Split-Join

Splitting (or duplicating) of data:

■ Paths independent between *split* and *join*

As result paths may be processed in parallel

Pipeline

Continuous data stream through filters:

- *Work*-functions are constantly recalculated.
- Filters can be processed independently.

Therefore filters in pipelines can be parallelised.

StreamGraph GUI

- Minimalistic and clear design
- Mouse control via pop-up menus
- Intuitive control

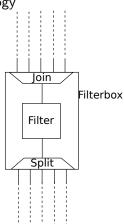
Elements

- Menu bar
- Working surface
- Notification bar
- Property window

StreamGraph GUI

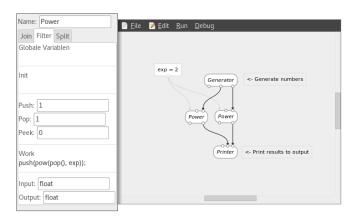
Visual abstractions of StreamIt toplogy

- Split & join integrated into filters
- Implicit pipelines



Demo

DEMO: demoPower.str



StreamGraph View

- Based on Gtk2::Ex::MindMapView [2]
- Gnome Canvas used as engine
- Item \rightarrow border \rightarrow content
- Handle keyboard and mouse events
- Many other changes

Model

Program structures modeled in two ways:

Graphical: Node

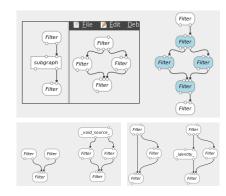
- Node types (Filter, Subgraph, Parameter, Comment)
- Factory

Textual: CodeObject

- StreamIt types (Pipeline, Splitjoin, Parameter)
- CodeObjects derived from Nodes

Graph Transformation

- Load subgraphs
- Add void sources and -sinks
- Add identities for empty pipelines
- Test for graph errors



Code Generation

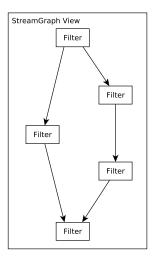
General procedure

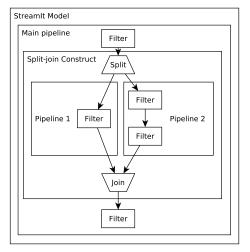
- Generate code for all filters
- Build pipeline-based structure
- Generate code for topology in recursive manner

Filter generation

- Make name unique
- Get parameters
- Build init- and work- function

StreamIt pipeline-based structure





Code Generation

Building the structure

- Begin with pipeline (main)
- If split is detected start building of split-join Build a pipeline for every Path.
- Continue with generation of pipeline.

Indirect recursive method guarantees StreamIt-type hierarchical structure

Get the code by generating from inside out.

Results

- Working prototype
- Limited StreamIt representation
- Complete toolchain from "empty" to "running"

Improvements

- Ordered splitjoin (currently only commutative use of results)
- More StreamIt constructs (e.g. message passing, feedback-loop)
- UI
 - Group-to-subgraph
 - In-graph error highlighting
 - Data visualization
 - ...
- More automatic compatability
- StreamIt+Java1.5+Perl-packages auto setup
- Code quality & style

Future

Possible research and development directions

- Different background language
- More general graphical environment

Bibliography



William Thies, Michael Karczmarek, and Saman Amarasinghe, *Streamlt: A Language for Streaming Applications*, Laboratory for Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139.



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