

Zero-Jitter Task Chains via Algebraic Rings

Enrico Bini, Paolo Pazzaglia, Martina Maggio

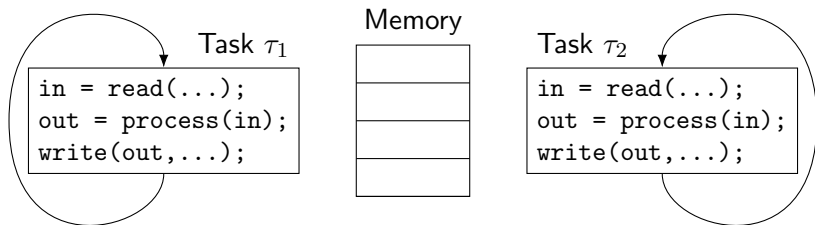
University of Turin

USC, 03/03/2023

Outline

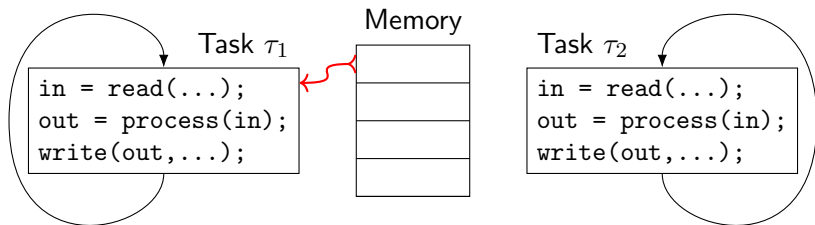
- 1 Model of tasks
- 2 Composing tasks into chains
- 3 Logic Execution Time (LET)
- 4 Analysis of chains of LET tasks

Motivation of shared memory communication



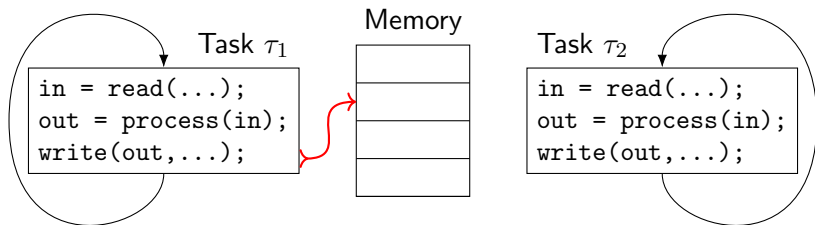
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 - pros: very efficient (just a MOV/LOAD instruction)
 - cons: very basic \Rightarrow risk of inconsistent data
- The story presented today

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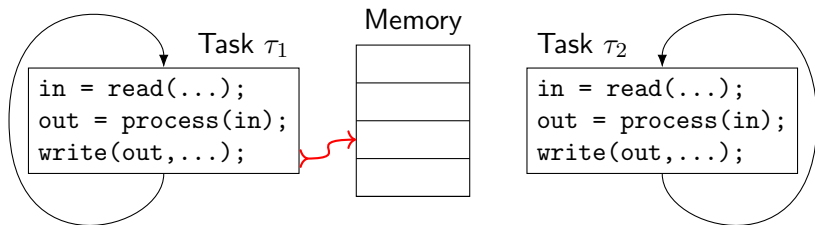
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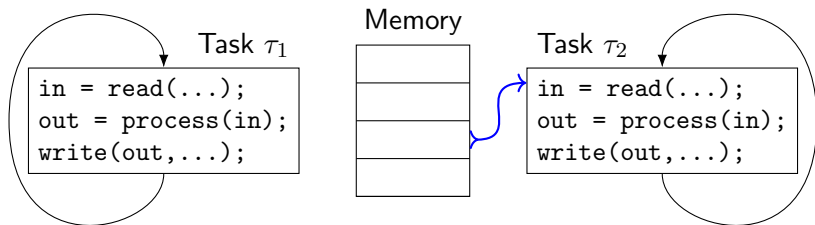
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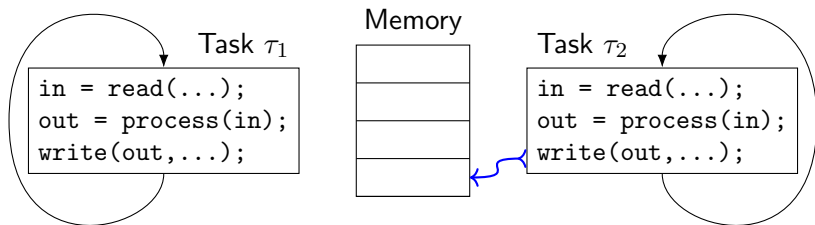
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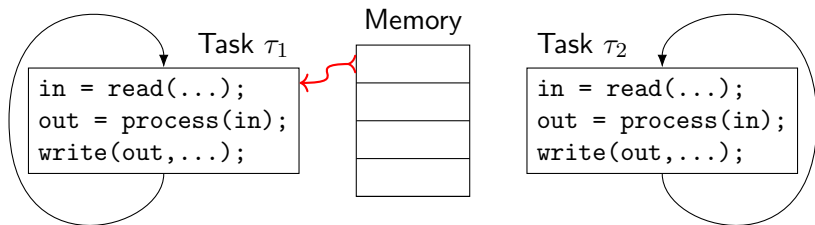
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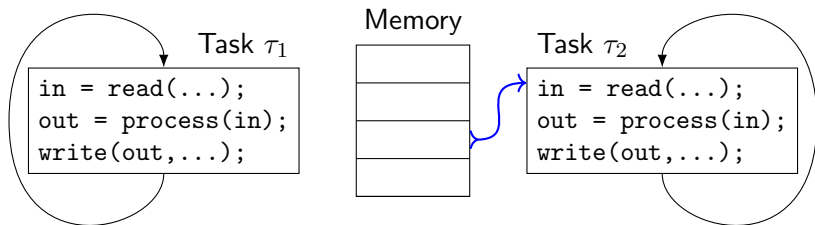
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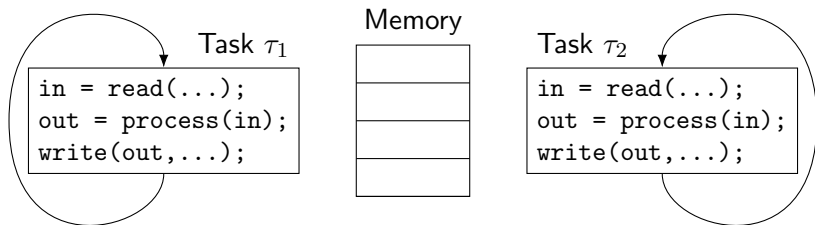
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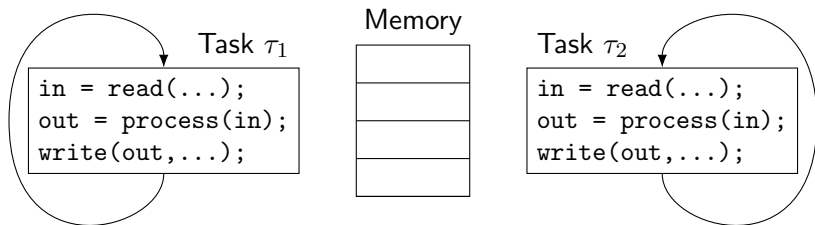
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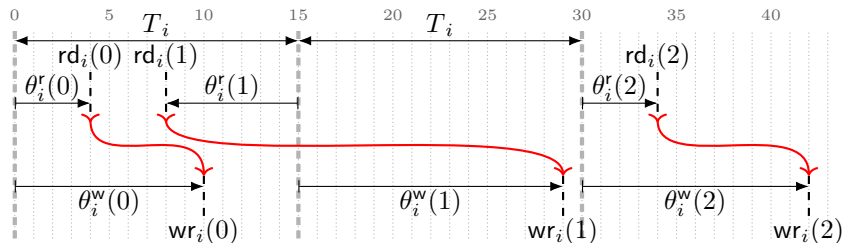
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 - ② “Let us analyze how good/bad things can go” ... and

Motivation of shared memory communication



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 - ① “Let the guys (tasks) go, write and read in freedom (no timestamping, no message queues, or other higher level fancy mechanisms)” ... then
 - ② “Let us analyze how good/bad things can go” ... and
 - ③ “Let’s mitigate (or prevent) issues, if any, if feasible”

Temporal model of a task τ_i



- A task, denoted by τ_i , is composed by recurrent jobs
 - \mathbb{J}_i denotes the set of jobs and is equal to \mathbb{Z}
- Every job $j \in \mathbb{J}_i$ reads, processes, and then writes data (curvy arrow)
- For each job $j \in \mathbb{J}_i$, read/write instants are relative to the *period* T_i

$$\text{rd}_i(j) = j T_i + \theta_i^r(j) \quad \text{read instant of } \tau_i \text{ job } j$$

$$\text{wr}_i(j) = j T_i + \theta_i^w(j) \quad \text{write instant of } \tau_i \text{ job } j$$

- with bounded phasings (if constant with j , then zero jitter, nice)

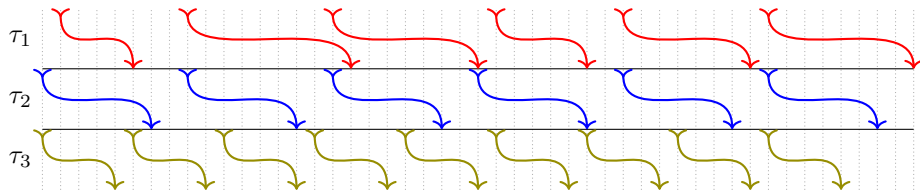
$\theta_i^r(j)$, *phasing of read instants*

$\theta_i^w(j)$, *phasing of write instants*

Outline

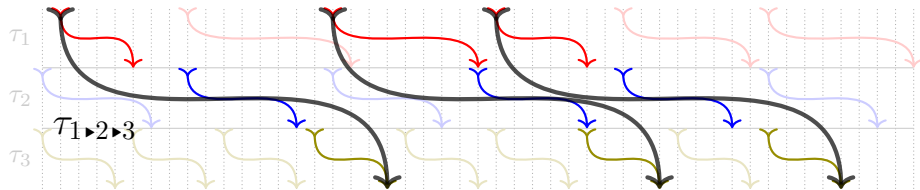
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Model of chains



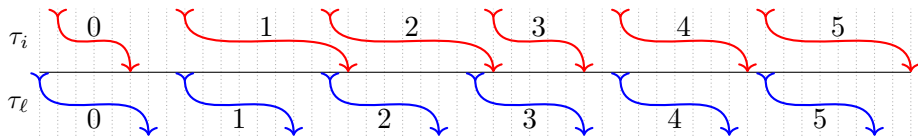
- A chain is the concatenations of tasks (a stack of curvy arrows)
 - a task reads what the preceding task (if any) has written
- Chains perform **the same operations** of tasks, because
 - chains read (the first task does), process (through task processing and communication), and write (the last task does)
 - chains are recurrent

Model of chains



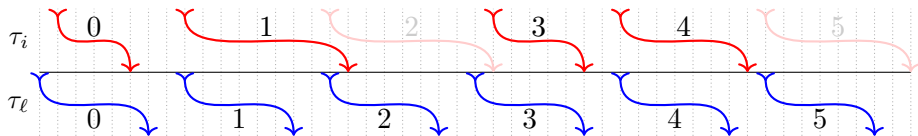
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- Chains perform **the same operations** of tasks, because
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 - chains are recurrent
- We **extend the model**, notations and terminology of tasks to chains
- (Recursive) definition of a *chain*
 - ① A task τ_i is a chain (denoted by the same τ_i)
 - ② The *concatenation* of chains τ_i and τ_ℓ is a chain denoted by $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ (reads “tau i to ℓ ”)
- This research is about
 - determining the parameters of $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ **from the composing chains** τ_i and τ_ℓ

Jobs of the composition of chains: from \mathbb{J}_i and \mathbb{J}_ℓ to $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$



- The jobs of $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ are a subset $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} \subseteq \mathbb{J}_i \times \mathbb{J}_\ell$. A job (j_i, j_ℓ) belongs to $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ if and only if

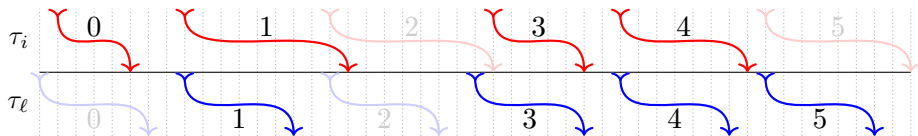
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 - $j_i \in \mathbb{J}_i$ is the **last job to write** for $j_\ell \in \mathbb{J}_\ell$

$$j_i = \max\{j \in \mathbb{J}_i : wr_i(j) \leq rd_\ell(j_\ell)\}$$

Jobs of the composition of chains: from \mathbb{J}_i and \mathbb{J}_ℓ to $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$



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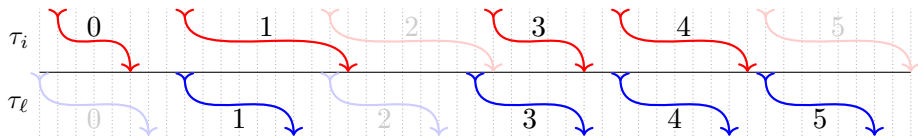
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- $j_\ell \in \mathbb{J}_\ell$ is the **first job to read** from $j_i \in \mathbb{J}_i$

$$j_\ell = \min\{j \in \mathbb{J}_\ell : wr_i(j_i) \leq rd_\ell(j)\}.$$

Jobs of the composition of chains: from \mathbb{J}_i and \mathbb{J}_ℓ to $\mathbb{J}_{i \triangleright \ell}$



- The jobs of $\tau_{i \triangleright \ell}$ are a subset $\mathbb{J}_{i \triangleright \ell} \subseteq \mathbb{J}_i \times \mathbb{J}_\ell$. A job (j_i, j_ℓ) belongs to $\mathbb{J}_{i \triangleright \ell}$ if and only if
 - $j_i \in \mathbb{J}_i$ is the **last job to write** for $j_\ell \in \mathbb{J}_\ell$

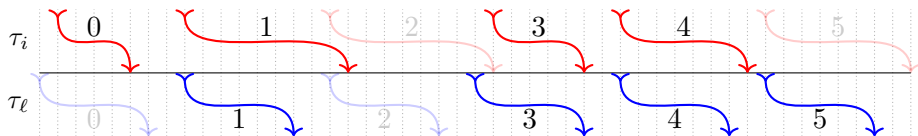
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- $j_\ell \in \mathbb{J}_\ell$ is the **first job to read** from $j_i \in \mathbb{J}_i$

$$j_\ell = \min\{j \in \mathbb{J}_\ell : wr_i(j_i) \leq rd_\ell(j)\}.$$

- called “last-to-first” semantic: widely used, linked to Sample-and-Hold

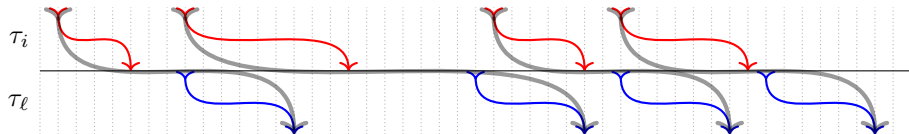
Jobs $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ of a chain $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ are isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}



- Theorem: $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z} (by induction)
 - ① (base case) if τ_i is a task, easy
 - ② (inductive step, sketch) ...
- We interchangeably use $(j_i, j_\ell) \in \mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ or $j_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} \in \mathbb{Z}$
 - when using $(j_i, j_\ell) \in \mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$, we mean to underline the writer/reader jobs $j_i \in \mathbb{J}_i$ and $j_\ell \in \mathbb{J}_\ell$
 - when using $j_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} \in \mathbb{Z}$, we mean to highlight the position of the job $j_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ w.r.t. other earlier/later jobs in $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$
- The set $\mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ is **totally ordered**

$(j_i, j_\ell) \in \mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$	$j_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} \in \mathbb{Z}$
(0, 1)	0
(1, 3)	1
(3, 4)	2
(4, 5)	3

Read/write instants of $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$



- For any $(j_i, j_\ell) \in \mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$
 - the read instant is $\text{rd}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}(j_i, j_\ell) = \text{rd}_i(j_i)$
 - the write instant is $\text{wr}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}(j_i, j_\ell) = \text{wr}_\ell(j_\ell)$
- Period of $\tau_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$
 - (existence) Is there any period $T_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ that for any $j \in \mathbb{J}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ allows us writing?

$$\text{rd}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}(j) = j T_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} + \theta_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}^r(j)$$

$$\text{wr}_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}(j) = j T_{i \blacktriangleright \ell} + \theta_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}^w(j)$$

with bounded phasings $\theta_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}^r(j)$ and $\theta_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}^w(j)$

- If it exists, what is the relation of $T_{i \blacktriangleright \ell}$ with T_i and T_ℓ ? (question to the audience)
- In this research, we investigate these questions in the case of *Logic Execution Time (LET)*

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LET tasks



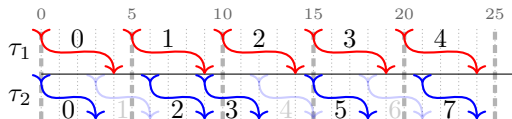
- In LET, reads and writes happen at pre-determined instants, **indep. of schedule**

phasings are constant $\forall j \in \mathbb{J}_i, \quad \theta_i^r(j) = \theta_i^r, \quad \theta_i^w(j) = \theta_i^w$

- Logic Execution Time (LET): the execution time is logic (and **constant**)
 - it is independent of scheduling decisions
 - it becomes a constraint for the scheduler
- LET requires a (lightweight) copying mechanism
- LET eliminates the jitter
- LET introduces some additional delay
- What happens to chains of LET tasks? Are they LET chains (with zero jitter)?

Chain of 2 LET tasks

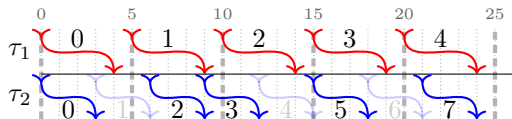
	T_i	θ_i^r	θ_i^w
τ_1	5	0	4
τ_2	3	0	3



$(j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^r(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$
(0, 2)	0	0	9
(1, 3)	1	0	7
(2, 5)	2	0	8
(3, 7)	3	0	9

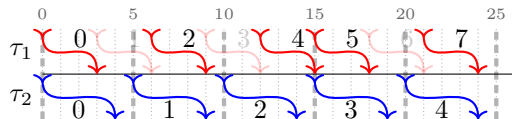
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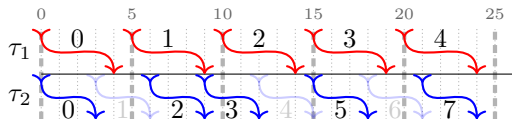
	T_i	θ_i^r	θ_i^w
τ_1	3	0	3
τ_2	5	0	4



$(j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^r(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$
(-1, 0)	0	-3	4
(0, 1)	1	-5	4
(2, 2)	2	-4	4
(4, 3)	3	-3	4

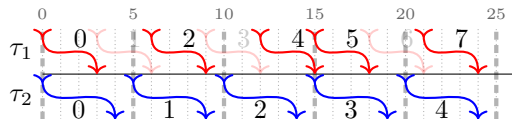
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(3, 7)	3	0	9

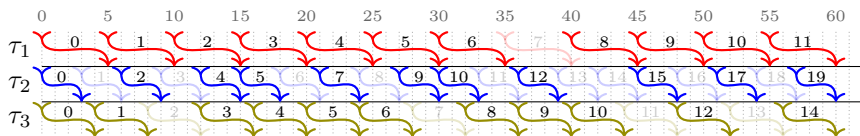
	T_i	θ_i^r	θ_i^w
τ_1	3	0	3
τ_2	5	0	4



$(j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^r(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \blacktriangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \blacktriangleright 2})$
(-1, 0)	0	-3	4
(0, 1)	1	-5	4
(2, 2)	2	-4	4
(4, 3)	3	-3	4

- $T_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} = \max\{T_1, T_2\}$, we cannot expect any lower value
- the phasings are not constant: a chain of 2 LET tasks is not a LET chain
 - however, we have a fix for this

Chain of 3 LET tasks



- Example with $T_1 = 5$, $T_2 = 3$, $T_3 = 4$ illustrated above
- The pattern repeats every $\text{lcm}(T_1, T_2, T_3) = 60$
- One job of the larger period task ($j_1 = 7$ above) is canceled!!
- Only 11 jobs in $\mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2 \blacktriangleright 3}$ released every 60

$(j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2 \blacktriangleright 3}$
(0, 2, 3)
(1, 4, 4)
(2, 5, 5)
(3, 7, 6)
(4, 9, 8)
(5, 10, 9)
(6, 12, 10)
(8, 15, 12)
(9, 17, 14)
(10, 19, 15)
(11, 20, 16)

$$T_{1 \blacktriangleright 2 \blacktriangleright 3} = \frac{60}{11} > 5 = \max\{T_1, T_2, T_3\}.$$

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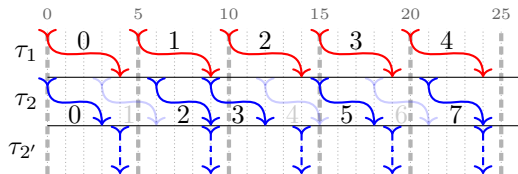
Contribution

- Summary of discoveries, so far
 - ① Communication through shared memory is popular in embedded systems
 - ② Timing of communication needs to be studied
 - ③ LET eliminates jitter for tasks
 - ④ However, chains of LET tasks may be slower than the slowest task (bad)
- Our contribution
 - ▶ When composing two tasks, we add a third task that regularizes the pattern, making the chain phasings constant
 - ★ such a composition preserves the period of the largest task
 - ▶ Chains of LET tasks can then be composed arbitrarily, preserving the constant phasing (zero-jitter)

Making a zero jitter chain of 2 LET tasks: add a copier task

- if $T_1 \geq T_2$ then we add $\tau_{2'}$ after τ_2

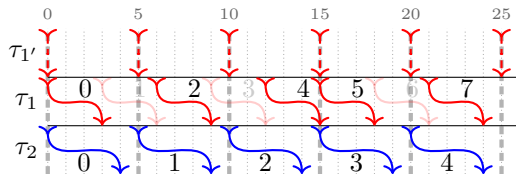
	T_i	θ_i^r	θ_i^w
τ_1	5	0	4
τ_2	3	0	3
$\tau_{2'}$	5	9	9



$j_{1 \triangleright 2}$	$\theta_{1 \triangleright 2}^r(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \triangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \triangleright 2 \triangleright 2'}^w(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$
0	0	9	9
1	0	7	9
2	0	8	9
3	0	9	9

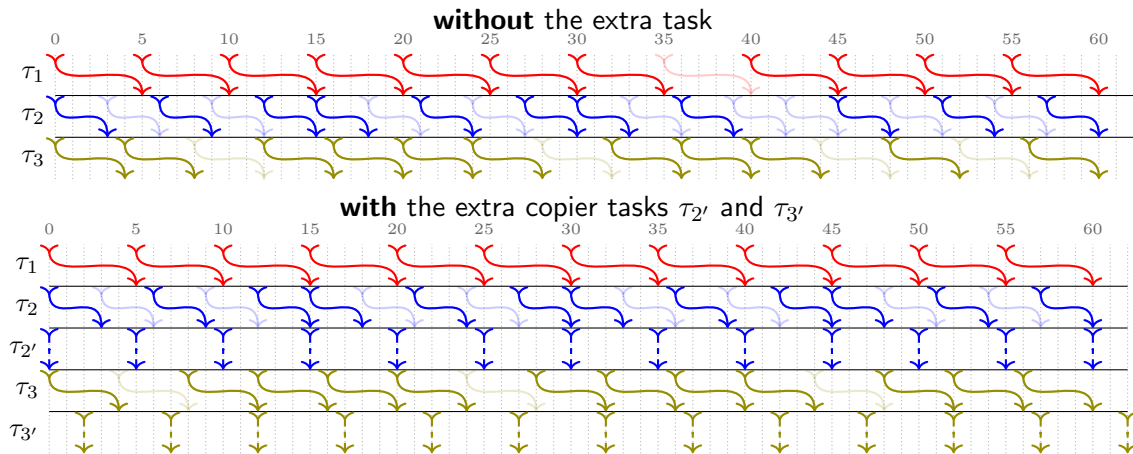
- if $T_1 \leq T_2$ then we add $\tau_{1'}$ before τ_1

	T_i	θ_i^r	θ_i^w
$\tau_{1'}$	5	-5	-5
τ_1	3	0	3
τ_2	5	0	4



$j_{1 \triangleright 2}$	$\theta_{1 \triangleright 2}^r(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1 \triangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$	$\theta_{1' \triangleright 2 \triangleright 2}^w(j_{1 \triangleright 2})$
0	-3	4	-5
1	-5	4	-5
2	-4	4	-5
3	-3	4	-5

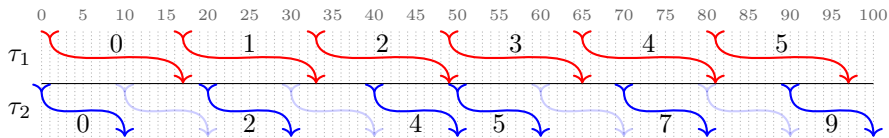
Chain of 3 LET tasks (revised)



- Now 12 jobs in $\mathbb{J}_{1,2,2',3,3'}$ exists in $\text{lcm}(T_1, T_2, T_3) = 60$
- The period then is: $T_{1,2,2',3,3'} = \max\{T_1, T_2, T_3\} = 5$
- Phasings are constant (zero jitter): $\theta_{1,2,2',3,3'}^r = 0$, $\theta_{1,2,2',3,3'}^w = 17$

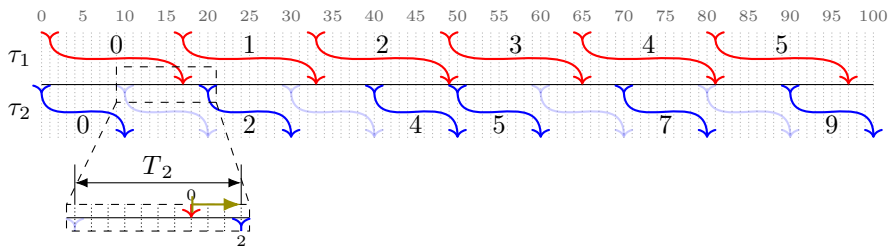
Parameters of the copier task

- Need to find the right phasing of the copier task
- Through enumeration or (better) via modular arithmetic. Example: $T_1 = 16$, $T_2 = 10$



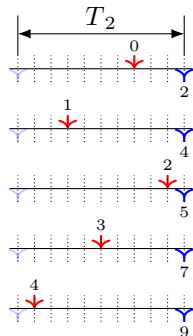
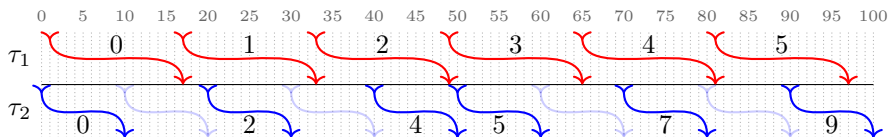
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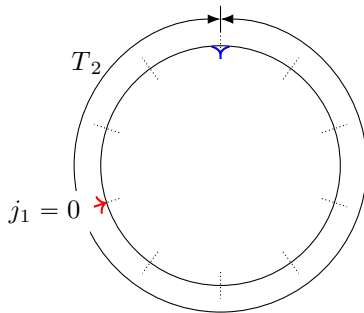
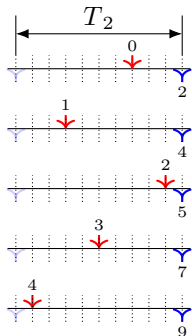
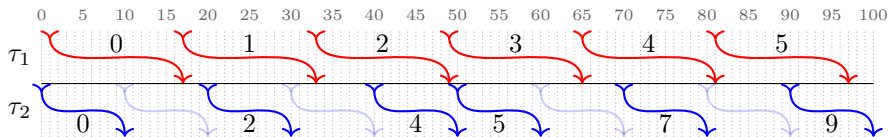
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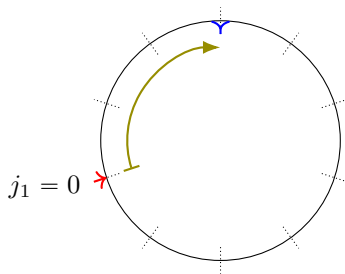
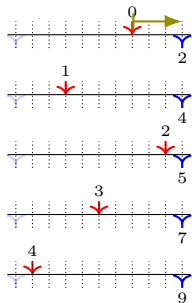
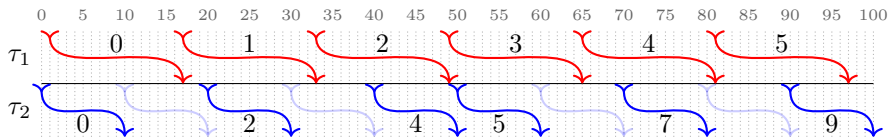
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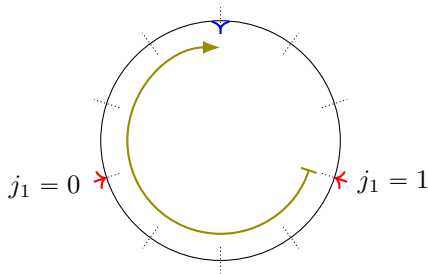
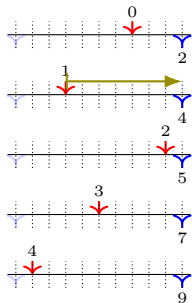
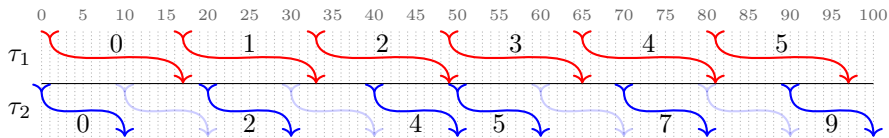
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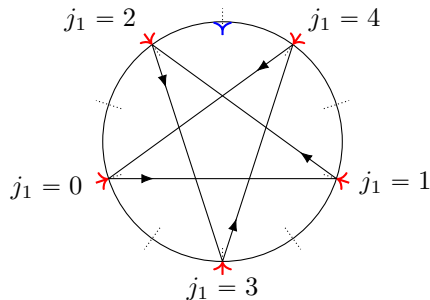
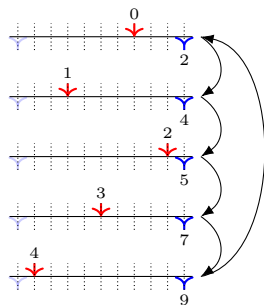
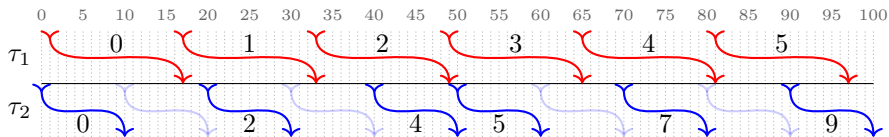
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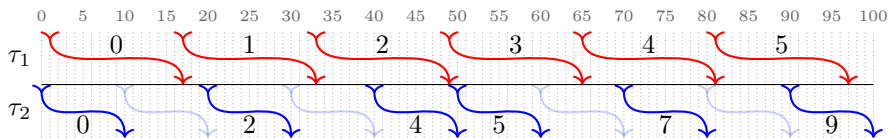
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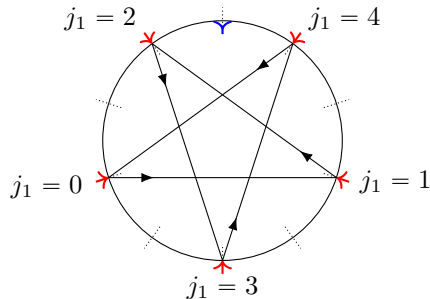
$$\theta_2^r(j_2) - \theta_1^w(j_1) : 3, 7, 1, 5, 9, 3, 7, \dots$$

$$\theta_2^r(j_2) - \theta_1^w(j_1) = 1 + G(1 - j_1 p_1 \bmod p_2)$$

with $G = \text{GCD}(T_1, T_2)$

$$T_1 = p_1 G, T_2 = p_2 G$$

Example: $G = 2, p_1 = 8, p_2 = 5$



“Beautiful math... but just complicated: a short summary?”

- Easy case of two LET tasks with
 - no read offset: $\theta_1^r = \theta_2^r = 0$
 - deadline equal to period: $\theta_1^w = T_1, \theta_2^w = T_2$
- $G = \gcd(T_1, T_2)$ and p_1, p_2 such that $T_1 = p_1 G, T_2 = p_2 G$. Notice that $\gcd(p_1, p_2) = 1$
- $\lfloor x \rfloor_m = x - \lfloor \frac{x}{m} \rfloor m$ [modulo operator, possibly over reals]

case $T_1 \geq T_2$

- $\mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} = \left\{ \left(j_1, \left\lceil \frac{(j_1+1)T_1}{T_2} \right\rceil \right) : j_1 \in \mathbb{J}_1 \right\} \equiv \mathbb{J}_1$
- $\theta_2^r \left(\left\lceil \frac{(j_1+1)T_1}{T_2} \right\rceil \right) - \theta_1^w(j_1) = \lfloor -(j_1+1)p_1 \rfloor_{p_2} G$
- $\max \tau_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} \text{ latency} = T_1 + 2T_2 - G$
 - when $j_1 \equiv p_1^{-1} - 1 \pmod{p_2}$
- $\min \tau_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} \text{ latency} = T_1 + T_2$
 - when $j_1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p_2}$

case $T_2 \geq T_1$

- $\mathbb{J}_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} = \left\{ \left(\left\lfloor \frac{j_2 T_2}{T_1} \right\rfloor - 1, j_2 \right) : j_2 \in \mathbb{J}_2 \right\} \equiv \mathbb{J}_2$
- $\theta_2^r(j_2) - \theta_1^w \left(\left\lfloor \frac{j_2 T_2}{T_1} \right\rfloor - 1 \right) = \lfloor j_2 p_2 \rfloor_{p_1} G$
- $\max \tau_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} \text{ latency} = 2T_1 + T_2 - G$
 - when $j_2 \equiv -p_2^{-1} \pmod{p_1}$
- $\min \tau_{1 \blacktriangleright 2} \text{ latency} = T_1 + T_2$
 - when $j_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p_1}$

Conclusions

- Summary
 - proposed a common model for tasks and concatenation of tasks (chains)
 - recalled the LET task model
 - realized that chains of LET tasks
 - ★ may have jitter
 - ★ may have period larger than the largest among tasks
 - full characterization of a chain of two LET tasks via modular arithmetic
 - demonstrated that the introduction of a copier task makes a zero jitter chain
- The presented material is under submission to IEEE Transactions on Computers