

# Modeling music processes using temporal concurrent constraint programming

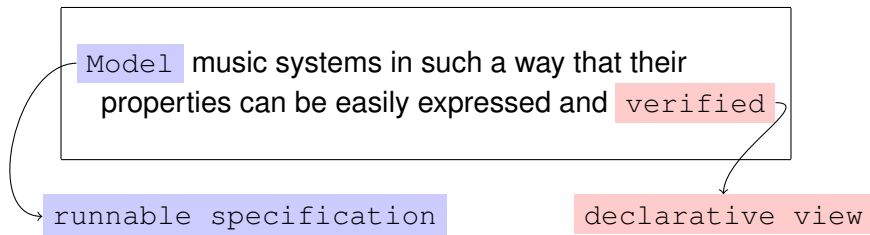
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Frank Valencia, Carlos Olarte

Ircam 2011

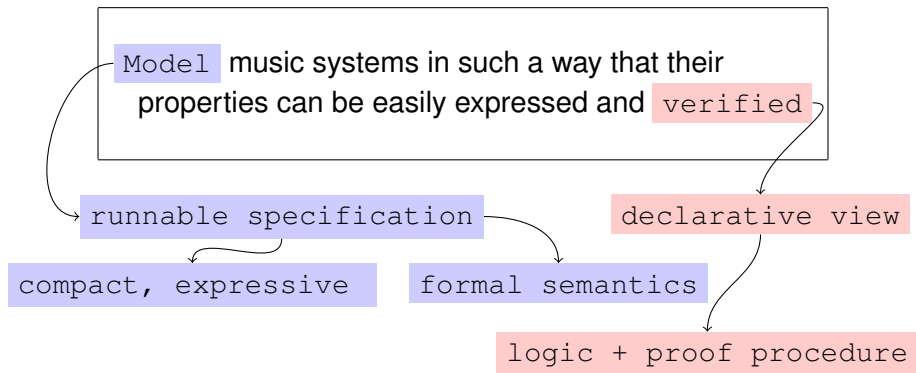
# Motivation: the idea behind using ccp

Model music systems in such a way that their properties can be easily expressed and verified

# Motivation: the idea behind using ccp



# Motivation: the idea behind using ccp



# What types of music systems?

- Reactive: improvisation, interactive performance
- Dynamic: evolving music structures

Those involving complex synchronization patterns

# What constraints are used for

- To communicate **partial information**
- To **synchronize** concurrent processes

The **type of constraints** (constraint system) is a parameter of the model

# Outline

- 1 ccp model
- 2 ntcc
- 3 Modeling examples: rhythm patterns
- 4 Example: Dynamic Interactive Scores
- 5 tools
- 6 Future work

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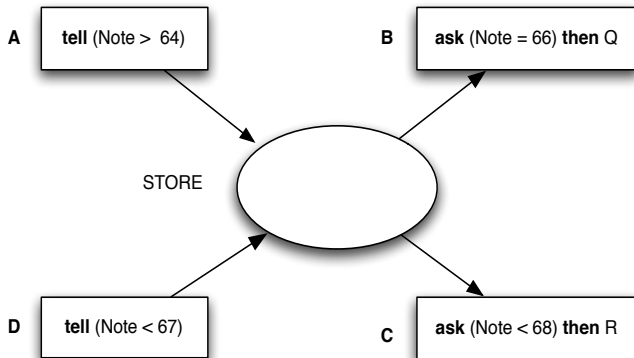


# Components of ccp

- A constraint system
  - A set  $D$  of **tokens**
  - An **entailment** relation,  $A \vdash c$   
A constraint is some subset of  $D$  (closed by entailment)
- A **store** of constraints
- Control mechanisms,
  - **tell( $c$ )**
  - **ask  $c$  then  $P$**
- Some extra logical operators

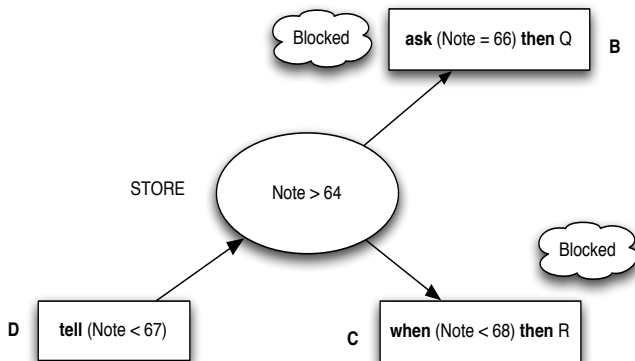
# Computation in ccp

ccp's store-as-constraint vs Von Neumann's store-as-valuation



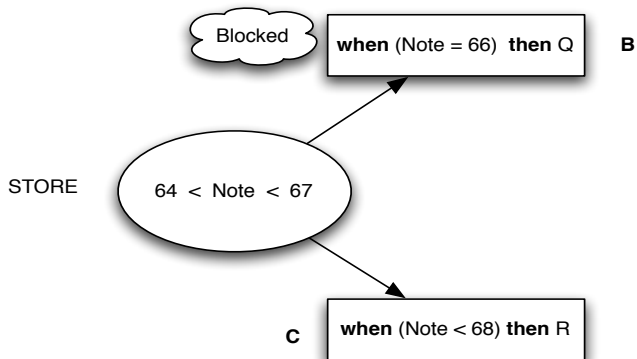
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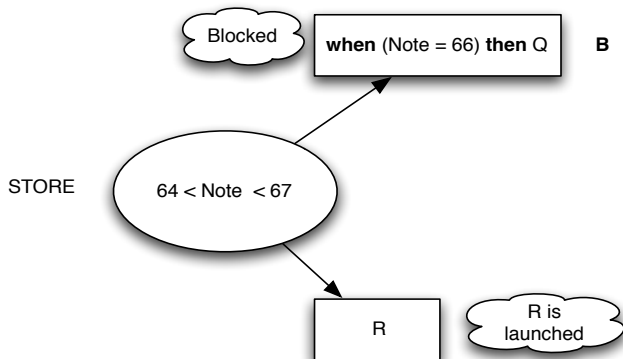
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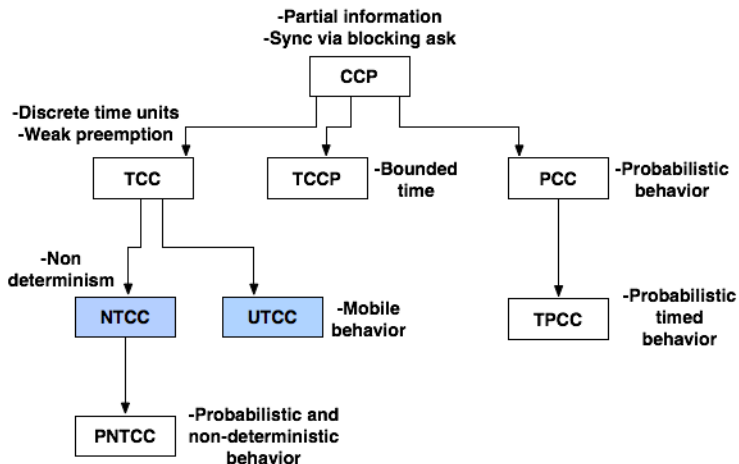


# Computation in ccp

ccp's store-as-constraint vs Von Neumann's store-as-valuation



# ccp a family of calculi



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For specifying **timed reactive** systems

Concurrent processes communicating  
via asynchronous channels

- ccp + ideas from synchronous languages:
  - computation proceeds in discrete time units
- Considers **negative information**, “an event did not happen”
- and **choice**, “select one of a given set of actions”

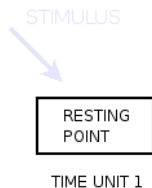


# The ntcc Model



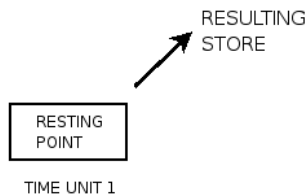
- 1 Receives a **stimulus** (i.e a constraint) from the environment.

# The ntcc Model



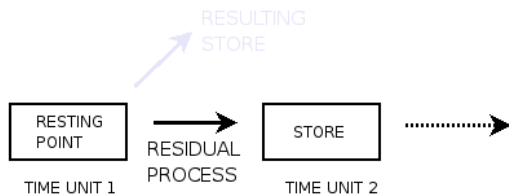
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- 2 Computes a CCP process in the current **time-unit** and wait for stability.

# The ntcc Model



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- 2 Computes a CCP process in the current **time-unit** and wait for stability.
- 3 **Responds** with the resulting store.

# The ntcc Model



- 1 Receives a **stimulus** (i.e a constraint) from the environment.
  - 2 Computes a CCP process in the current **time-unit** and wait for stability.
  - 3 **Responds** with the resulting store.
  - 4 Executes the **Residual** process in the *next* time-unit.
- \* **Note:** Stores **are not automatically transferred** from a time unit to the next one.

# The ntcc calculus

## Syntax

$$P, Q := \text{skip} \mid \text{tell}(c) \mid P \parallel Q \mid \sum_{i \in S} \text{when } c_i \text{ do } P_i \mid (\text{local } \vec{x}) P \mid \\ \text{next } P \mid \text{unless } c \text{ next } P \mid \star P \mid !P$$

- **tell**( $c$ ): adds constraint  $c$  to the store in the current time interval.
- $P \parallel Q$  is the concurrent execution of  $P$  and  $Q$
- $\sum_{i \in S} \text{when } c_i \text{ do } P_i$ : chooses some  $P_i$  such that  $c_i$  can be deduced from the current store.
- **(local**  $\vec{x}; c$ )  $P$ : behaves like  $P$  but the information about variables in  $\vec{x}$  is local to  $P$

# The ntcc calculus

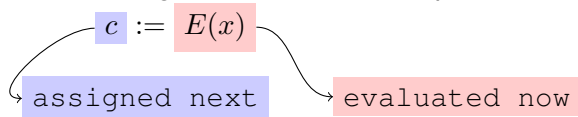
## Syntax

$$P, Q := \text{skip} \mid \text{tell}(c) \mid P \parallel Q \mid \sum_{i \in S} \text{when } c_i \text{ do } P_i \mid (\text{local } \vec{x}) P \mid \\ \text{next } P \mid \text{unless } c \text{ next } P \mid \star P \mid !P$$

- **next**  $P$ : executes  $P$  in the next time unit.
- **unless**  $c$  **next**  $P$ : executes  $P$  in the next time unit if  $c$  cannot be entailed now.
- $\star P$ : executes  $P$  eventually.
- $!P$ : executes  $P$  now and in the future.

## Some derived constructs

- Cells: assignable variables with persistent values



- Procedure definition:

$$f(i) = P$$

restriction: recursive calls within a **next** construct

## An example

- A system observing occurrence of events
- At some beat, if the waited for event occurs,  $k$  actions spaced  $m$  beats are launched,
- if the event does not occur, actions are launched at the next beat



## Simple example: launching a group of actions

$$Set\_tempo = !(\mathbf{when} \ st = 0 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{tell}(st := tempo) \\ \quad \quad \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{tell}(beat) \ \parallel \ \mathbf{tell}(bc := bc + 1) \\ \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{when} \ st > 0 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{tell}(st := st - 1))$$

$$Group(i, k, m) = !\mathbf{when} \ beat \wedge bc = i \ \mathbf{do} \\ \quad \quad \mathbf{when} \ event \ \mathbf{do} \ Launch(i, 0, k, m) \\ \quad \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{unless} \ event \ \mathbf{next} \ Launch(i + 1, 0, k, m)$$

$$Launch(i, c, k, m) = \\ \quad \mathbf{when} \ beat \ \mathbf{do} \\ \quad \quad \mathbf{when} \ bc = i + c * m \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{tell}(launched) \\ \quad \quad \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{unless} \ c = k \ \mathbf{next} \ Launch(i, c + 1, k, m) \\ \quad \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{unless} \ bc = i + c * m \ \mathbf{next} \ Launch(i, c, k, m) \\ \quad \parallel \ \mathbf{unless} \ beat \ \mathbf{next} \ Launch(i, c, k, m)$$

$$System = Set\_tempo \ \parallel \ \mathbf{tell}(st = 0) \ \parallel \ \mathbf{tell}(bc = 0) \ \parallel \ Group(3, 2, 2)$$

# Formal semantics of ntcc

- Operational semantics: reduction rules over configurations.

$$R_T \frac{}{\langle \mathbf{tell}(c), d \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, d \wedge c \rangle}$$

- Denotational semantics:

- What is observed of a process: the sequence of its output stores (constraints)  $\alpha = c_1 c_2 \dots$
- Semantics of  $P$ : all sequences it outputs for any input

$$sp(P) = \{ \alpha' \mid P \xrightarrow{(\alpha, \alpha')}^\omega \text{ for some } \alpha \}$$

# Proving properties of processes

- View processes as formulae in **linear temporal logic** (LTL)

$$A, B, \dots := c \mid A \Rightarrow A \mid \neg A \mid \exists_x A \mid \circ A \mid \square A \mid \diamond A$$

- Then, for a property  $F$  to be verified of a process  $P$ , prove  $P \models_{LTL} F$ .

# Proving properties of processes

- View processes as formulae in **linear temporal logic** (LTL)

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- Then, for a property  $F$  to be verified of a process  $P$ , prove  $P \models_{LTL} F$ .

There is a **proof procedure** to verify properties expressed as LTL formulae

... but only for “locally independent processes”

## ntcc proof system (partial)

$$\text{tell}(c) \vdash c$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in I \quad P_i \vdash A_i}{\sum_{i \in I} \text{when } c_i \text{ do } P_i \vdash \bigvee_{i \in I} (c_i \dot{\wedge} A_i) \dot{\vee} \bigwedge_{i \in I} \dot{\neg} c_i}$$

$$\frac{P \vdash A \quad Q \vdash B}{P \parallel Q \vdash A \dot{\wedge} B}$$

$$\frac{P \vdash A}{(\text{local } x) P \vdash \dot{\exists}_x A}$$

$$\frac{P \vdash A}{\text{next } P \vdash \circ A}$$

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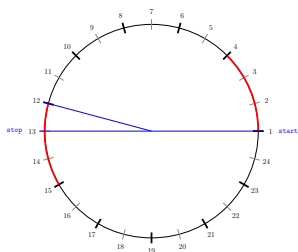
# Music example: rhythm patterns

Rhythmic patterns of Central African Republic (M. Chemillier).

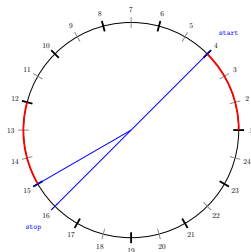
Patterns: two-beat groups separated by 3-beat elements:

3 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 2 2 2

Playing can be started at any position in the sequence:



(a)



(b)

## ntcc example: the model

$$Beatp \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(beat) \parallel \prod_{i \in I_1} \mathbf{next}^i \mathbf{tell}(beat)$$

$$Startp \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(start) + \sum_{i \in I_2} \mathbf{next}^i (\mathbf{tell}(start))$$

$$Check \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{!when} \mathit{start} \mathbf{do} \mathbf{next}^{12} (\mathbf{tell}(stop))$$

$$System \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Beatp \parallel Startp \parallel Check$$

where  $I_1 = \{3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22\}$

and  $I_2 = \{3, 5, 7, 9, 11\}$

Asymmetry property:

“cannot break the circle of the pattern in two equal parts”



## ntcc example: proofs

## Encoding

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket \text{Beatp} \rrbracket &= \text{beat} \dot{\wedge} \bigwedge_{i \in I_1} \circ^i \text{beat} \\
\llbracket \text{Startp} \rrbracket &= \text{start} \dot{\vee} \bigvee_{i \in I_2} \circ^i \text{start} \\
\llbracket \text{Check} \rrbracket &= \square(\text{start} \Rightarrow \circ^{12} \text{stop}) \\
\llbracket \text{System} \rrbracket &= \llbracket \text{Beat} \rrbracket \dot{\wedge} \llbracket \text{Start} \rrbracket \dot{\wedge} \llbracket \text{Check} \rrbracket
\end{aligned}$$

Asymmetry property:

$$\llbracket \text{System} \rrbracket \models \diamond(\text{start} \dot{\wedge} \circ^{11}(\text{beat} \dot{\wedge} \circ \text{stop}))$$

## ntcc example: a refinement

Explore the relation between the placement of the 3 in the beat pattern and the asymmetry property.

$$Beat' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(beat) \parallel \mathbf{next}^3 \sum_{i \in I_3} (\mathbf{tell}(pos = i) \parallel Beat\_Aux(i - 1))$$

$$Beat\_Aux(N) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(beat) \parallel \\ \mathbf{when} \ N = 1 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{next}^3 Beat\_Aux(0) \\ + \mathbf{when} \ N \neq 1 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{next}^2 Beat\_Aux(N - 1)$$

$$System' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Beat' \parallel Start \parallel Check$$

where  $I_3 = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

## ntcc example: properties

Explore the relation between the placement of the 3 in the beat pattern and the asymmetry property ( $I_3 = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Beat}' &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(\text{beat}) \parallel \mathbf{next}^3 \sum_{i \in I_3} (\mathbf{tell}(\text{pos} = i) \parallel \text{Beat\_Aux}(i - 1)) \\
 \text{Beat\_Aux}(N) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(\text{beat}) \parallel \\
 &\quad \mathbf{when} \ N = 1 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{next}^3 \text{Beat\_Aux}(0) \\
 &\quad + \mathbf{when} \ N \neq 1 \ \mathbf{do} \ \mathbf{next}^2 \text{Beat\_Aux}(N - 1) \\
 \text{System}' &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Beat}' \parallel \text{Start} \parallel \text{Check}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\llbracket \text{System}' \rrbracket \models \diamond((\text{pos} = x) \Rightarrow \diamond(\text{stop} \wedge \circ \text{beat}))$$

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# Dynamic interactive structures

Movable hierarchical structures containing interaction points

“mobility” is understood as in the  $\pi$ -calculus: communication of links (private variables) between processes.

This cannot be expressed in ntcc

## A ntcc with mobility: utcc

The `utcc` calculus (C. Olarte) replaces `ntcc` construct when `c do P` by  $(\mathbf{abs} \vec{x}; c) P$

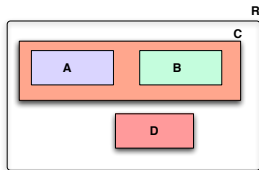
$(\mathbf{abs} \vec{x}; c) P$ : executes  $P[\vec{t}/\vec{x}]$  for each  $\vec{t}$  s.t.  $c[\vec{t}/\vec{x}]$  can be deduced from the current store.

Communicating private link  $a$  thru channel  $ch$ :

$$(\mathbf{local} a) \mathbf{tell}(ch(a)) \parallel (\mathbf{abs} \vec{x}; ch(x)) P$$

# Interactive Scores

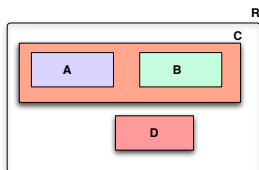
(M. Desainte-Catherine)



Allen relations:

Relation	Illustration	Interpretation
$X < Y$ $Y > X$		X takes place before Y
$X m Y$ $Y m i X$		X meets Y ( <i>i</i> stands for <i>inverse</i> )
$X o Y$ $Y o i X$		X overlaps with Y
$X s Y$ $Y s i X$		X starts Y
$X d Y$ $Y d i X$		X during Y
$X f Y$ $Y f i X$		X finishes Y
$X = Y$		X is equal to Y

# Interactive Scores



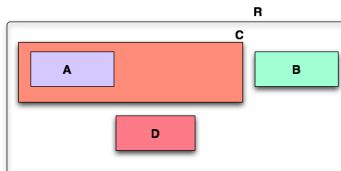
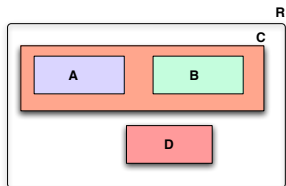
Score relations:

*A* precedes *B*      *A* meets *D*  
*D* overlaps *B*      *R* contains *C*  
*R* contains *D*      *C* contains *A*

- An **Interactive Score** is a pair composed of **temporal objects** and **structural and temporal (Allen) relations**.
- Each object is comprised of a start-time, a duration, and a procedure (operational meaning).
- The idea: **Dynamic** changes in the hierarchy. E.g., if an interaction does not occur, the composer may **move the interval** to a similar musical context.



# Dynamic Interactive Scores



Dynamic Reconfiguration:

- Moving boxes.
- Adding/deleting intervals.

# The Model

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{BoxOp} &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\text{abs } id, d; \text{mkbox}(id, d)) (\text{local } s) \text{tell}(\text{box}(id, d, s)) \\
 &\parallel (\text{abs } id; \text{destroy}(id)) \\
 &\quad (\text{abs } x, sup; \text{in}(x, id) \wedge \text{in}(id, sup)) \\
 &\quad \quad \text{unless } \text{play}(id) \text{ next } \text{tell}(\text{in}(x, sup)) \\
 &\parallel (\text{abs } x, y; \text{before}(x, y)) \text{ when } \exists_z (\text{in}(x, z) \wedge \text{in}(y, z)) \text{ do} \\
 &\quad \text{unless } \text{play}(y) \text{ next } \text{tell}(\text{bf}(x, y)) \\
 &\parallel (\text{abs } x, y; \text{into}(x, y)) \text{ unless } \text{play}(x) \text{ next } \text{tell}(\text{in}(x, y)) \\
 &\parallel (\text{abs } x, y; \text{out}(x, y)) \text{ when } \text{in}(x, y) \text{ do} \\
 &\quad \text{unless } \text{play}(x) \text{ next } (\text{abs } z, \text{in}(y, z); \text{tell}(\text{in}(x, z)))
 \end{aligned}$$

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 &\parallel (\text{abs } x, y; \text{out}(x, y)) \text{ when } \text{in}(x, y) \text{ do} \\
 &\quad \text{unless } \text{play}(x) \text{ next } (\text{abs } z, \text{in}(y, z); \text{tell}(\text{in}(x, z))) \\
 \\
 \text{Const} &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\text{abs } x, y; \text{in}(x, y)) (\text{abs } d_x, s_x; \text{box}(x, d_x, s_x)) \\
 &\quad (\text{abs } d_y, s_y; \text{box}(y, d_y, s_y)) \\
 &\quad \quad \text{tell}(s_y \leq s_x) \parallel \text{tell}(d_x + s_x \leq d_y + s_y) \\
 &\parallel (\text{abs } x, y; \text{bf}(x, y)) (\text{abs } d_x, s_x; \text{box}(x, d_x, s_x)) \\
 &\quad (\text{abs } d_y, s_y; \text{box}(y, d_y, s_y)) \text{tell}(s_x + d_x \leq s_y)
 \end{aligned}$$

# The Model(2)

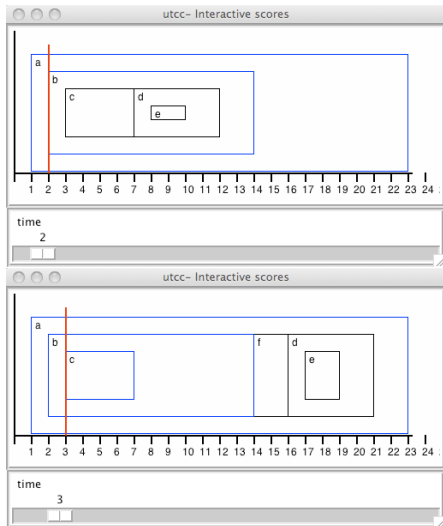
$$Clock(t, v) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{tell}(t = v) \parallel \mathbf{next} Clock(t, v + 1)$$

$$Play(x, t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{when} t \geq 1 \mathbf{do} \mathbf{tell}(\mathbf{play}(x)) \parallel \\ \mathbf{unless} t \leq 1 \mathbf{next} Play(x, t - 1)$$

$$Init(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbf{wait} x; \mathbf{init}(x)) \mathbf{do} \\ (\mathbf{abs} d_x, s_x; \mathbf{box}(x, d_x, s_x)) \\ Clock(t, 0) \parallel \mathbf{tell}(s_x = t) \parallel \\ !(\mathbf{wait} y, d_y, s_y; \mathbf{box}(y, d_y, s_y) \wedge s_y \leq t) \mathbf{do} Play(y, d_y)$$

$$System \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbf{local} t) Init(t) \parallel !Constraints \parallel !BoxOp \parallel UsrBoxes$$

# An Example



*UsrBoxes*<sup>def</sup>

```

tell(mkbox(a, 22)) ||
tell(mkbox(b, 12)) ||
tell(mkbox(c, 4)) ||
tell(mkbox(d, 5))
tell(mkbox(e, 2)) ||
tell(into(b, a)) ||
tell(into(c, b)) ||
tell(into(d, b)) ||
tell(into(e, d)) ||
tell(before(c, d)) ||
whenever play(b) do
  unless signal next
    tell(out(d, b)) ||
    tell(mkbox(f, 2)) ||
    tell(into(f, a)) ||
    tell(before(b, f)) ||
    tell(before(f, d))

```

# Declarative Interpretation of `utcc`

- Processes defined by the user may lead to inconsistent stores:  
E.g. placing a box that **exceeds the boundaries** of the container.
- The idea: Using the **declarative** view of `utcc` processes as FLTL formulae to **verify** the model.

## Definition (`utcc` logic characterization)

$\llbracket \text{skip} \rrbracket$	$= \text{true}$	$\llbracket \text{tell}(c) \rrbracket$	$= c$
$\llbracket P \parallel Q \rrbracket$	$= \llbracket P \rrbracket \wedge \llbracket Q \rrbracket$	$\llbracket (\text{abs } \vec{y}; c) P \rrbracket$	$= \forall \vec{y} (c \Rightarrow \llbracket P \rrbracket)$
$\llbracket (\text{local } \vec{x}; c) P \rrbracket$	$= \exists \vec{x} (c \wedge \llbracket P \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \text{next } P \rrbracket$	$= \circ \llbracket P \rrbracket$
$\llbracket \text{unless } c \text{ next } P \rrbracket$	$= c \vee \circ \llbracket P \rrbracket$	$\llbracket ! P \rrbracket$	$= \square \llbracket P \rrbracket$

# Verification of the Model

We can verify, for example,

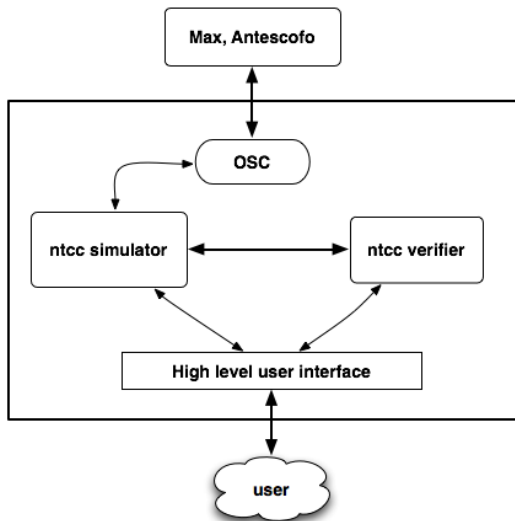
- $\llbracket P \rrbracket \models \Diamond \exists_{x,d_x,s_x,y,d_y,s_y} (\text{box}(x, d_x, s_x) \wedge \text{box}(y, d_y, s_y) \wedge \text{in}(x, y) \wedge s_x + d_x > s_y + d_y)$ : The end time of the box  $y$  is less than the end time of the inner box  $x$ . I.e., the box  $y$  **cannot contain**  $x$ .
- $\llbracket P \rrbracket \models \forall_x (\exists_{d_x,s_x} (\text{box}(x, d_x, s_x) \Rightarrow \Diamond \text{play}(x)))$ : All the musical structures are **eventually played**.
- $\llbracket P \rrbracket \models \Diamond \forall_x (\exists_{d_x,s_x} (\text{box}(x, d_x, s_x) \Rightarrow \text{play}(x)))$ : At some point all the boxes are playing simultaneously.

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# Tools: as in the “concurrency workbench”



# Simulators

- **sntcc**, written in Mozart-Oz
  - Constraints: finite domains, reals (interval arithmetic)
  - `ask`, `tell` constructs: derived directly from Oz instructions
  - Concurrency: Oz threads
  - Interface with music tools: none. In progress: OSC
- **ntccrt** (M. Toro), written in C++, with Gecode
  - Constraints: finite domains, finite sets
  - `tell`: directly in Gecode. `ask`: reified constraints.
  - Concurrency: threads as Gecode propagators
  - Interface with music tools: Max/MSP

(*sntcc* has been used in an application with 1, 000, 000 time units)

## sntcc simulator

```

player(i) = when beat do (tell(note(Ni)) + skip)
              || next player(i + 1)
              || unless beat next player(i)

```

```

Player = fun lazy {$ I}
  par(when( proc{$ V} V.current.beat =: 1 end
           par(sum(tell( proc {$ V} V.current.note =: N.I end)
                   tell( proc {$ V} 1 =: 1 end)))
         next({Player I+1})))
  unless(proc{$ V} V.current.beat =: 1 end {Player I}))
end

```

```

Vars = var(beat: {FD.int 0#1}  note: FD.decl)
Res = {SNTCC.simulate [ {Player 0} ] Vars 100}

```

# Model checkers

## Strategies

- Translation of ntcc processes and LTL formula to Buchi automata
- Use appropriate bisimulation relation

## Model checkers: Buchi automaton

Since each (restricted) ntcc process is equivalent to a Buchi automaton, to prove  $P \models F$ :

- 1 Encode LTL formula  $F$  as a ntcc process  $R_F$
- 2 translate  $P$  and  $(R_F \parallel P)$  to Buchi automata,  $B(P), B(R_F)$
- 3 check language equivalence of both automata

Problems:

works for ntcc “locally independent processes”

Only a restricted form of negation is admitted for  $F$

(current) complexity of translation algorithm is hyper-exponential

# Model checkers: Bisimulation

- 1 define a suitable bisimulation relation for ntcc (done)
- 2 define the property as a ntcc process (done),
- 3 use an algorithm to verify bisimilarity

# Outline

- 1 ccp model
- 2 ntcc
- 3 Modeling examples: rhythm patterns
- 4 Example: Dynamic Interactive Scores
- 5 tools
- 6 Future work**

# Future work

- Model in ntcc some synchronization strategies for Antescofo. Identify desirable properties.
- Integrate interfaces (OSC) to music applications for the Oz ntcc simulator
- Develop efficient Buchi translations for “bounded” versions of ntcc constructs
- Devise an algorithm for the ntcc process bisimilarity
- Develop a user “programming language” for the ntcc simulator+verifier



Thanks!