

C++ support for better hardware/software co-design in C# with SME

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Compared to the current solutions, I want something that is:

[✓] Faster

[✓] Less bugs

[✓] Easy to use

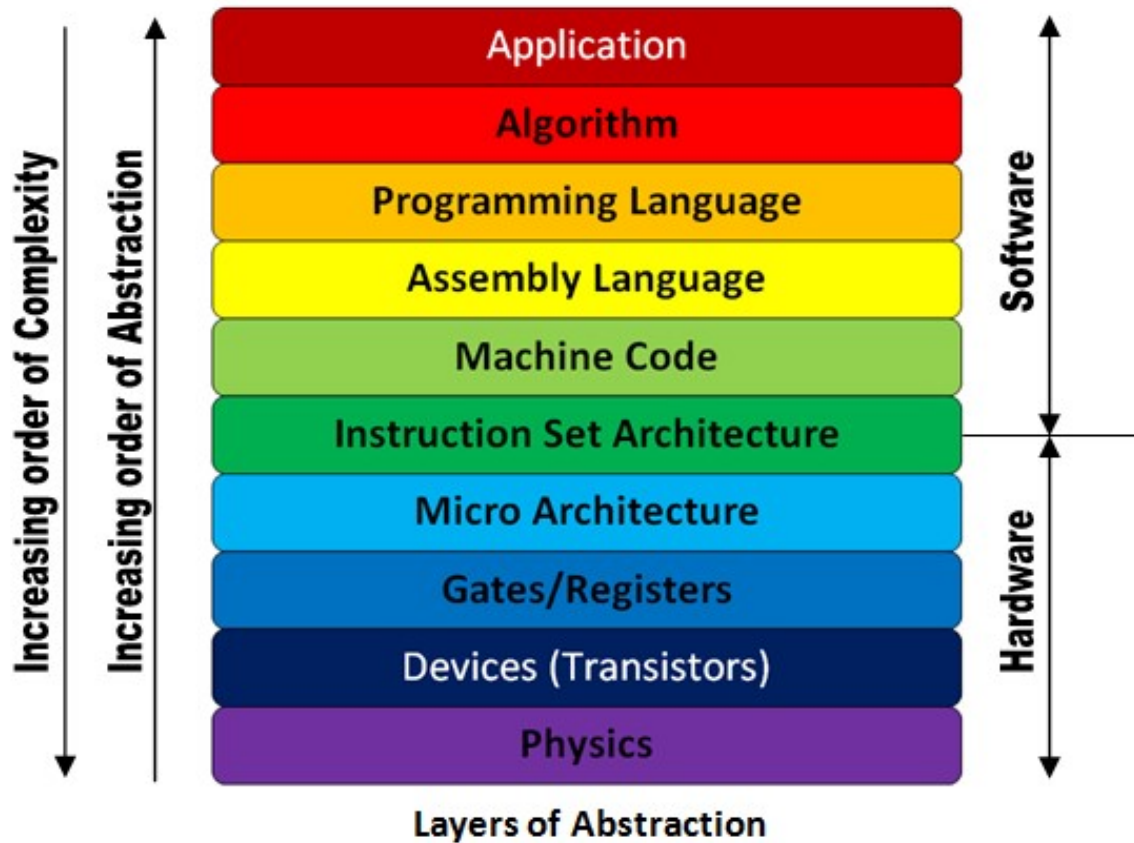
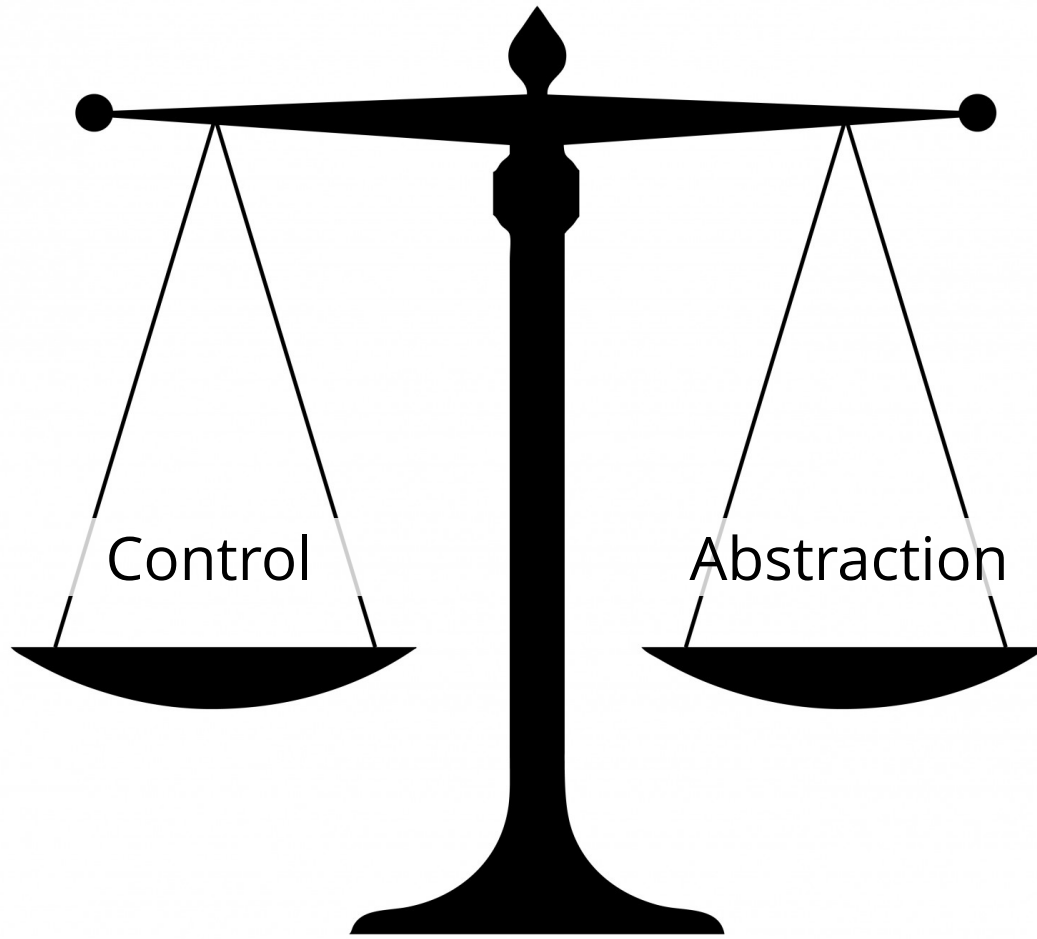


Image from: <http://theembeddedguy.com/2016/05/15/layers-of-abstraction/>



Control

Abstraction

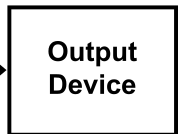
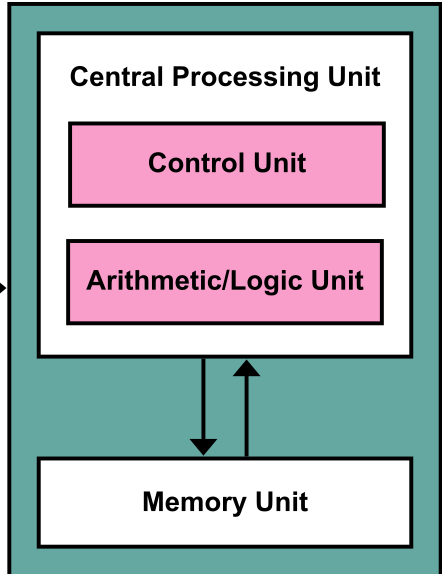
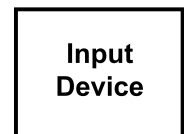
```
int temp;
for(int i2=0; i2<=length; i2++)
{
  for(int j=0; j<length; j++)
  {
    if(array[j]>array[j+1])
    {
      temp=array[j];
      array[j]=array[j+1];
      array[j+1]=temp;
    }
  }
}
```

Bubble sort in C++

Static loop bounds

Map array to HW

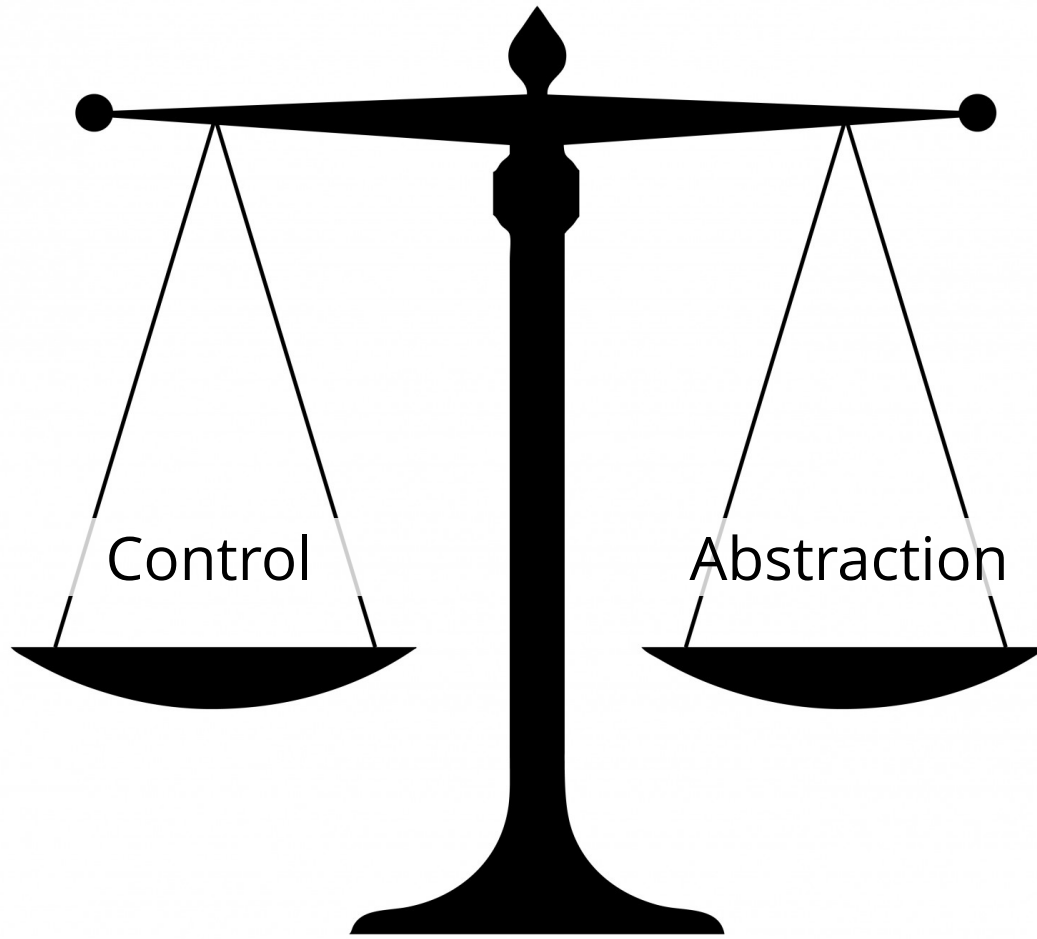
Loop dependencies



If I had asked people
what they wanted,
they would have said
faster horses.

Henry Ford - maybe





Control

Abstraction

SME

Synchronous Message Exchange

Sequential

- Processes
- Busses

Concurrency

```
public class SimpleMockMemory : SimpleProcess
{
    [InputBus, OutputBus]
    IMemoryInterface Interface;

    ulong[] m_data = new ulong[1024];

    protected override void OnTick()
    {
        if (Interface.ReadEnabled)
            Interface.ReadValue = m_data[Interface.ReadAddr];

        if (Interface.WriteEnabled)
            m_data[Interface.WriteAddr] = Interface.WriteValue;
    }
}
```

```
public interface IMemoryInterface : IBus
{
    [InitialValue(false)]
    bool WriteEnabled { get; set; }
    [InitialValue(false)]
    bool ReadEnabled { get; set; }

    uint ReadAddr { get; set; }
    uint WriteAddr { get; set; }

    ulong WriteValue { get; set; }
    ulong ReadValue { get; set; }
}
```

```
public interface IMemoryInterface : IBus
{
    [InitialValue(false)]
    bool WriteEnabled { get; set; }
    [InitialValue(false)]
    bool ReadEnabled { get; set; }

    uint ReadAddr { get; set; }
    uint WriteAddr { get; set; }

    ulong WriteValue { get; set; }
    ulong ReadValue { get; set; }
}
```

```
public class TickCounterMemory : SimpleProcess
{
    [InputBus]
    IInputBus Input;
    [OutputBus]
    IOutputBus Output;

    protected override void OnTick()
    {
        var before = Output.Ticks;
        if (Input.Reset)
        {
            Output.Ticks = 0;
            Output.LastTicks = Output.Ticks;
        }
        else
        {
            Output.Ticks++;
        }

        // before is always the same as after,
        // because the output value is not propagated
        // immediately, but waits for a tick
        var after = Output.Ticks;
    }
}
```

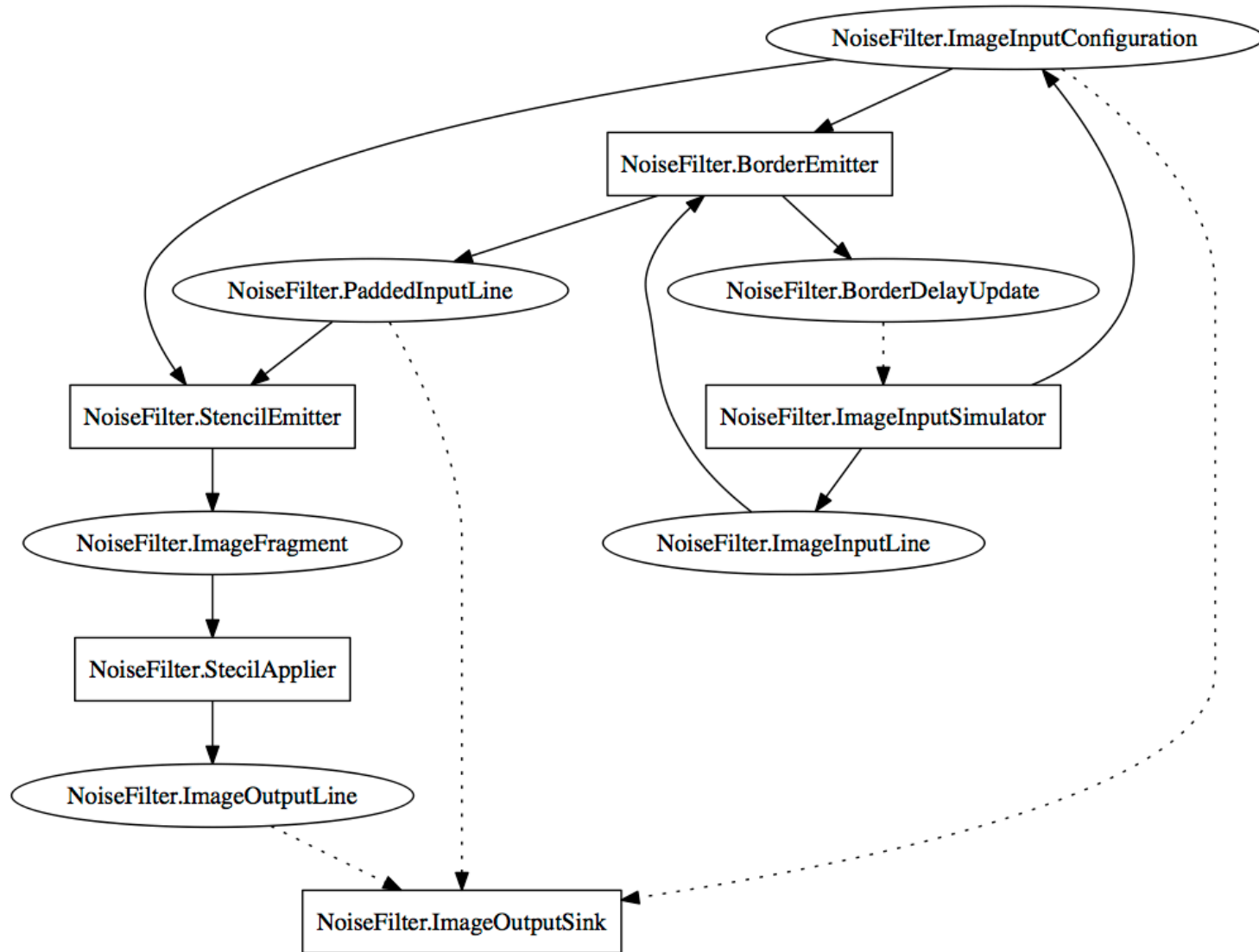
```
public class TickCounterMemory : SimpleProcess
{
    [InputBus]
    IInputBus Input;
    [OutputBus]
    IOutputBus Output;

    protected override void OnTick()
    {
        var before = Output.Ticks;
        if (Input.Reset)
        {
            Output.Ticks = 0;
            Output.LastTicks = Output.Ticks;
        }
        else
        {
            Output.Ticks++;
        }

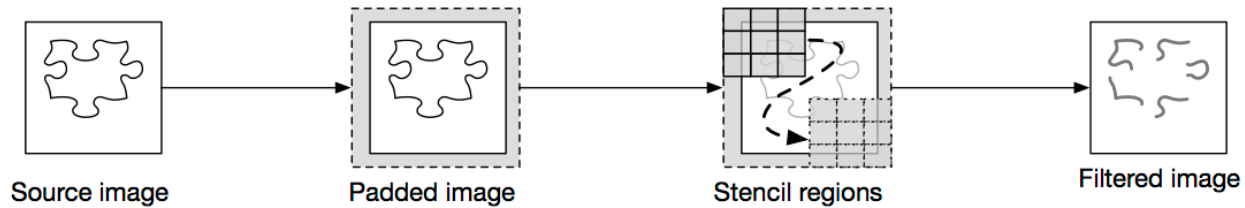
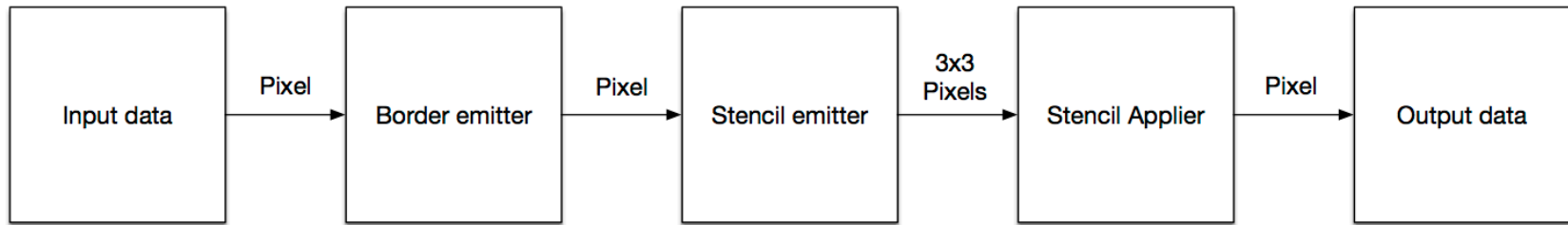
        // before is always the same as after,
        // because the output value is not propagated
        // immediately, but waits for a tick
        var after = Output.Ticks;
    }
}
```

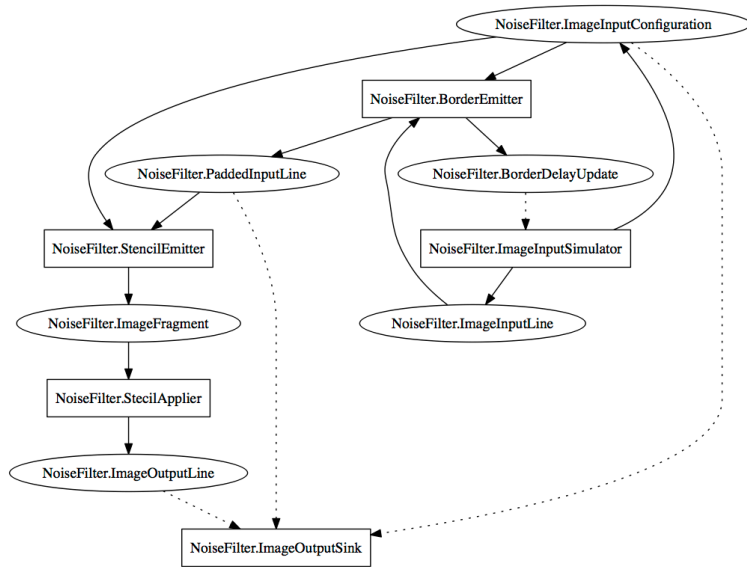
Like CSP in that
the collection of
busses is
communicated
as a single
channel action

Like a KPN because
there is no blocking



Stencil network example





```

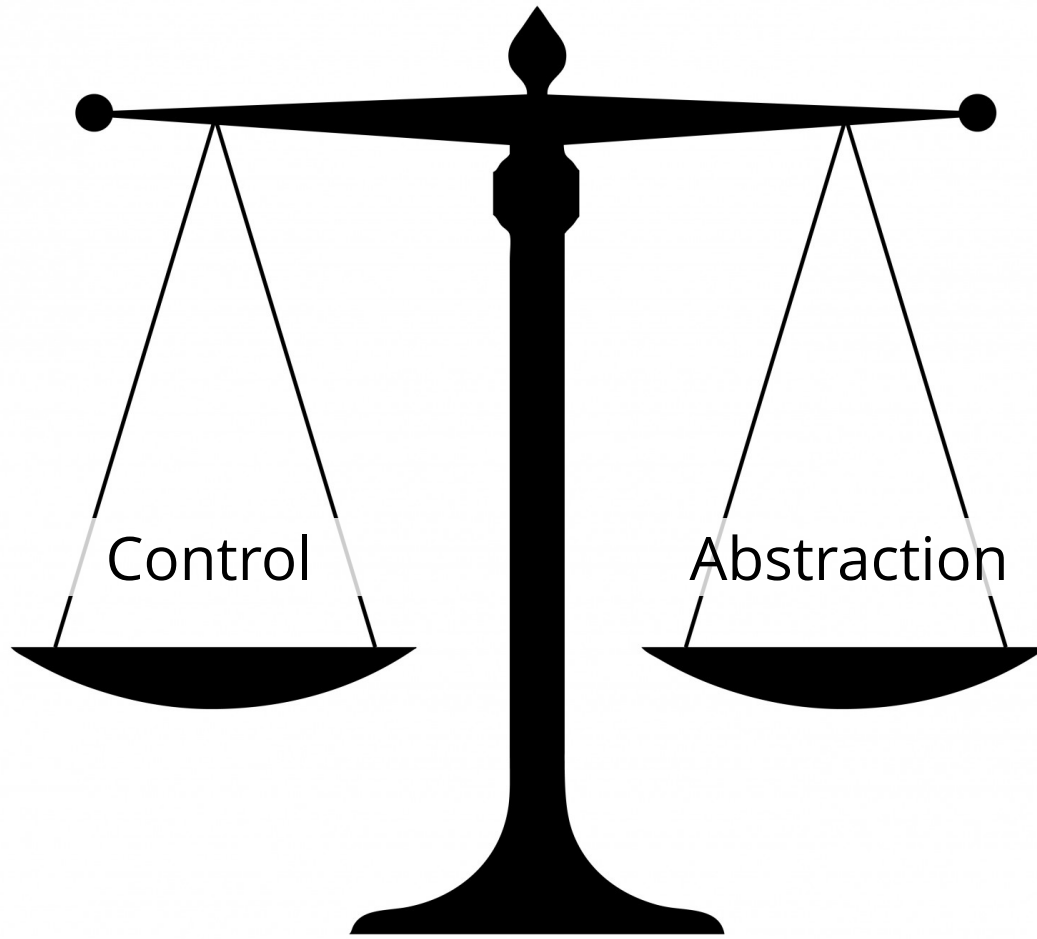
[InputBus] ImageFragment Input;
[OutputBus] ImageOutputLine Output;
static readonly byte[] FILTER = new byte[] {
    1,1,1, 1,1,1, 1,1,1,
    1,1,1, 1,1,1, 1,1,1,
    1,1,1, 1,1,1, 1,1,1
};

```

```

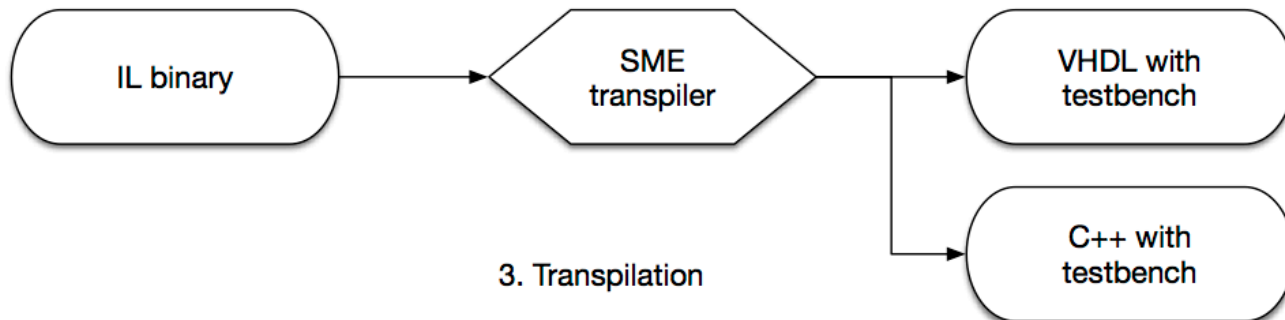
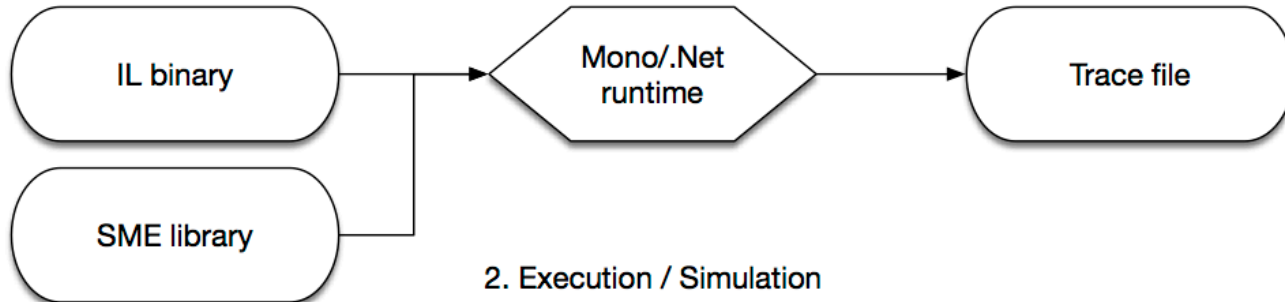
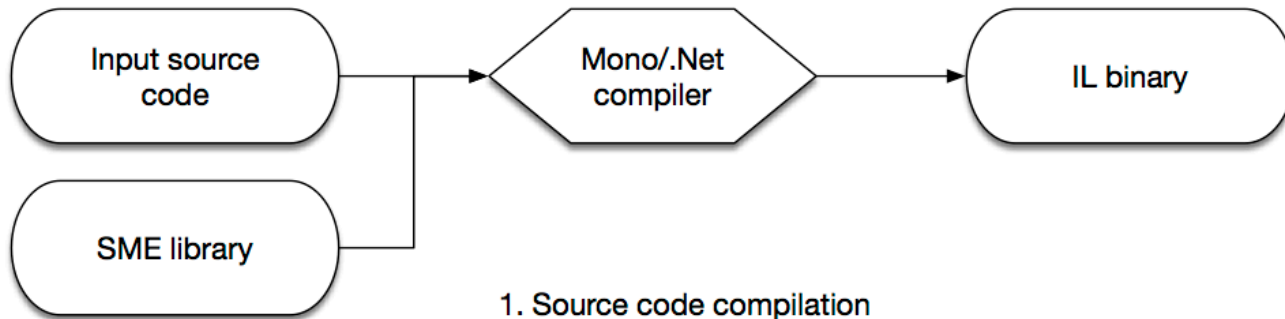
protected override void OnTick()
{
    Output.IsValid = false;
    for (var i = 0; i < COLOR_WIDTH; i++)
        Output.Color[i] = 0;
    for (var i = 0; i < m_buffer.Length; i++)
        m_buffer[i] = 0;
    if (Input.IsValid)
    {
        for (var i = 0; i < Input.Data.Length; i += COLOR_WIDTH)
            for (var j = 0; j < m_buffer.Length; j++)
                m_buffer[j] += FILTER[i + j] * Input.Data[i + j];
        for (var i = 0; i < m_buffer.Length; i++)
            Output.Color[i] = (byte)(m_buffer[i] / FILTER_SUMS[i]);
        Internal.Index++;
        Output.IsValid = true;
    }
}

```



Control

Abstraction



Supported

- Control - if, switch, fixed iteration loops
- Structure - functions
- Data - anything static, 2-bit ... n-bit
- Boolean logic - and, or, xor, etc
- Bitwise - shifts, and, or, xor
- Integer arithmetics - add, sub, mul, div
- Arrays - fixed length

Not supported

(supported in modelling, but not in transpiler)

- Anything dynamic - strings, lists, objects
- Floating point - single, double, decimal
- IP needs simulation implementation

```
private static uint SubByte (uint a) {
  uint value = 0xff & a;
  uint result = SBox[value];
  value = 0xff & (a >> 8);
  result |= (uint)SBox[value] << 8;
  value = 0xff & (a >> 16);
  result |= (uint)SBox[value] << 16;
  value = 0xff & (a >> 24);
  return result | (uint)(SBox[value] << 24);
}
```

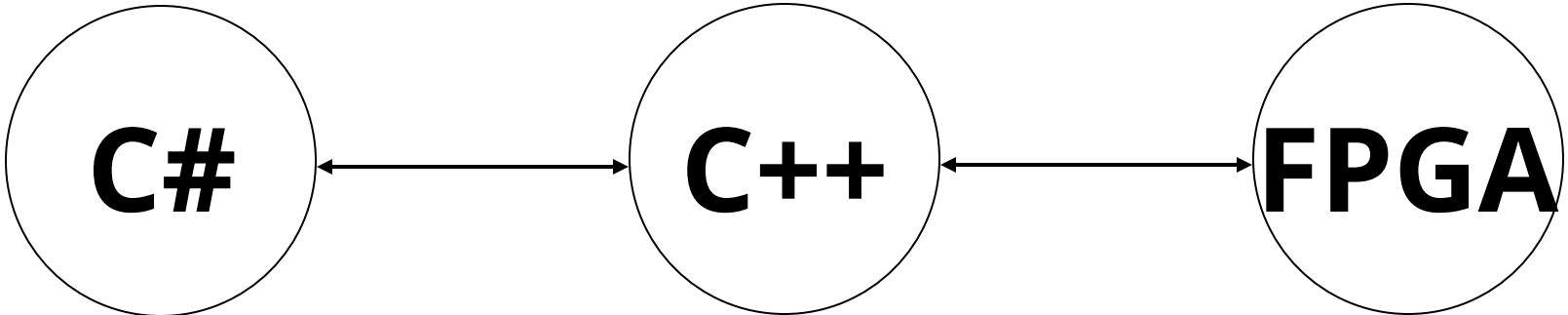
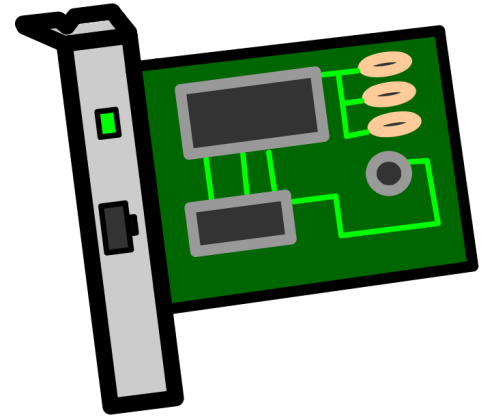
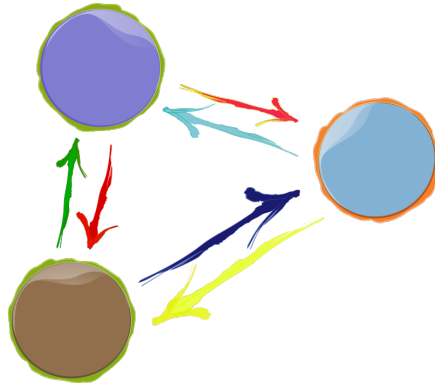
C# version

```
system_uint32 AESCore::SubByte(system_uint32 a) {
  system_uint32 num = 0;
  system_uint32 num2 = 0;

  num = 255 & a;
  num2 = (system_uint32)AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox[(system_int32)num];
  num = 255 & (a >> 8);
  num2 |= (system_uint32)
  ((system_uint32)AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox[(system_int32)num] << 8);
  num = 255 & (a >> 16);
  num2 |= (system_uint32)
  ((system_uint32)AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox[(system_int32)num] << 16);
  num = 255 & (a >> 24);
  return num2 | (system_uint32)
  ((system_uint32)AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox[(system_int32)num] << 24);
}
```

C++ version

```
pure function SubByte(constant a: in T_SYSTEM_UINT32) return T_SYSTEM_UINT32 is
  variable tmpvar_1: T_SYSTEM_UINT32;
  variable num: T_SYSTEM_UINT32;
  variable num2: T_SYSTEM_UINT32;
begin
  num := STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(TO_UNSIGNED(255, T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length)) and a;
  num2 := STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(resize(UNSIGNED(AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox(TO_INTEGER(SIGNED(num)))), T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length));
  num := STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(TO_UNSIGNED(255, T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length)) and STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_right(UNSIGNED(a), 8)));
  num2 := num2 or STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_left(UNSIGNED(STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(resize(UNSIGNED(AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox(TO_INTEGER(SIGNED(num))),
    T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length))), 8)));
  num := STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(TO_UNSIGNED(255, T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length)) and STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_right(UNSIGNED(a), 16)));
  num2 := num2 or STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_left(UNSIGNED(STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(resize(UNSIGNED(AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox(TO_INTEGER(SIGNED(num))),
    T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length))), 16)));
  num := STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(TO_UNSIGNED(255, T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length)) and STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_right(UNSIGNED(a), 24)));
  tmpvar_1 := num2 or STD_LOGIC_VECTOR((shift_left(UNSIGNED(STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(resize(UNSIGNED(AES256CBC_AESCore_SBox(TO_INTEGER(SIGNED(num))),
    T_SYSTEM_UINT32'length))), 24)));
  return tmpvar_1;
end SubByte;
```



Shared SME source code

	Wall-clock time	Time pr. cycle
C++	4s	0.011ms
C#	30s	0.085ms
GHDL	1m 14s	0.210ms

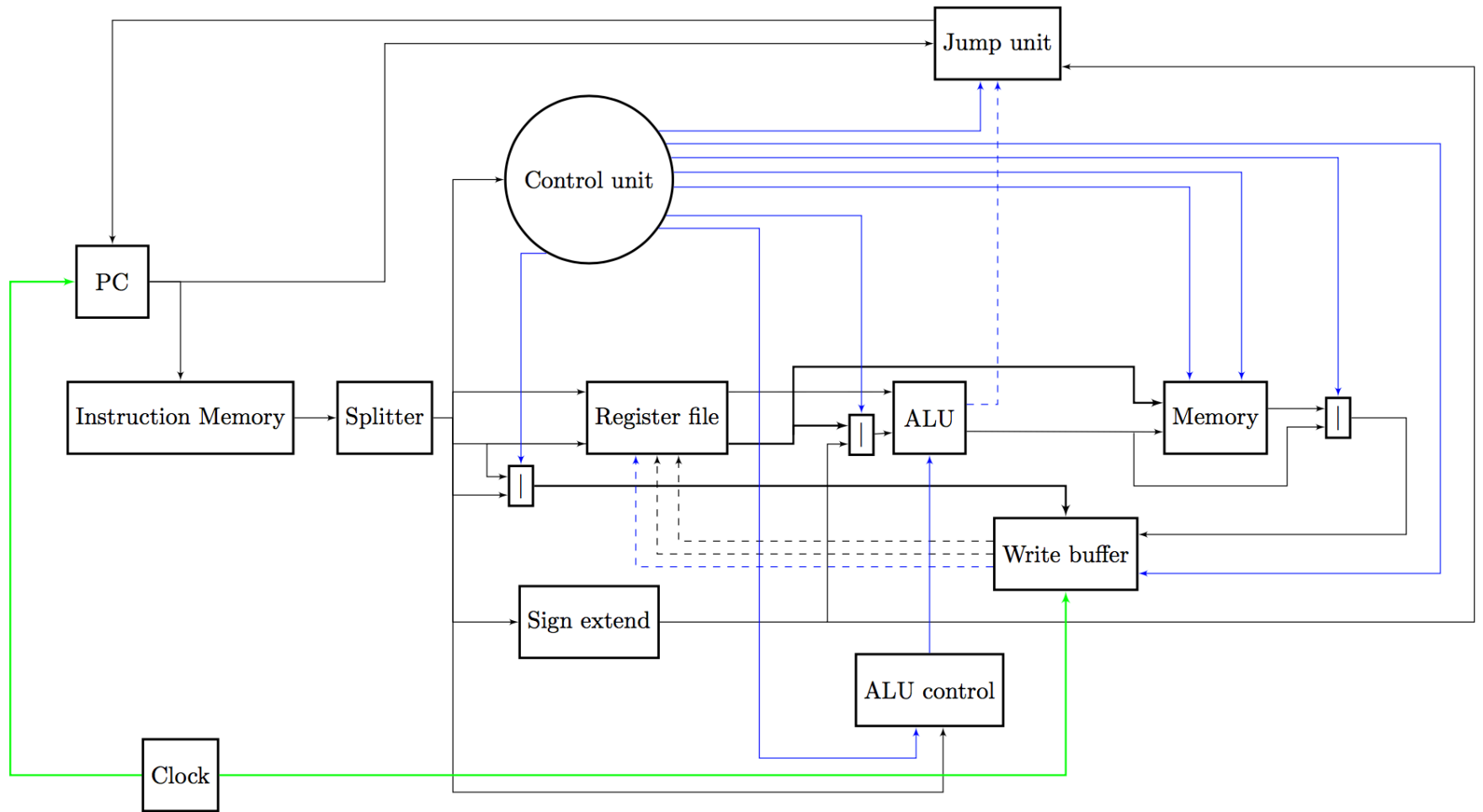
ColorBin execution times

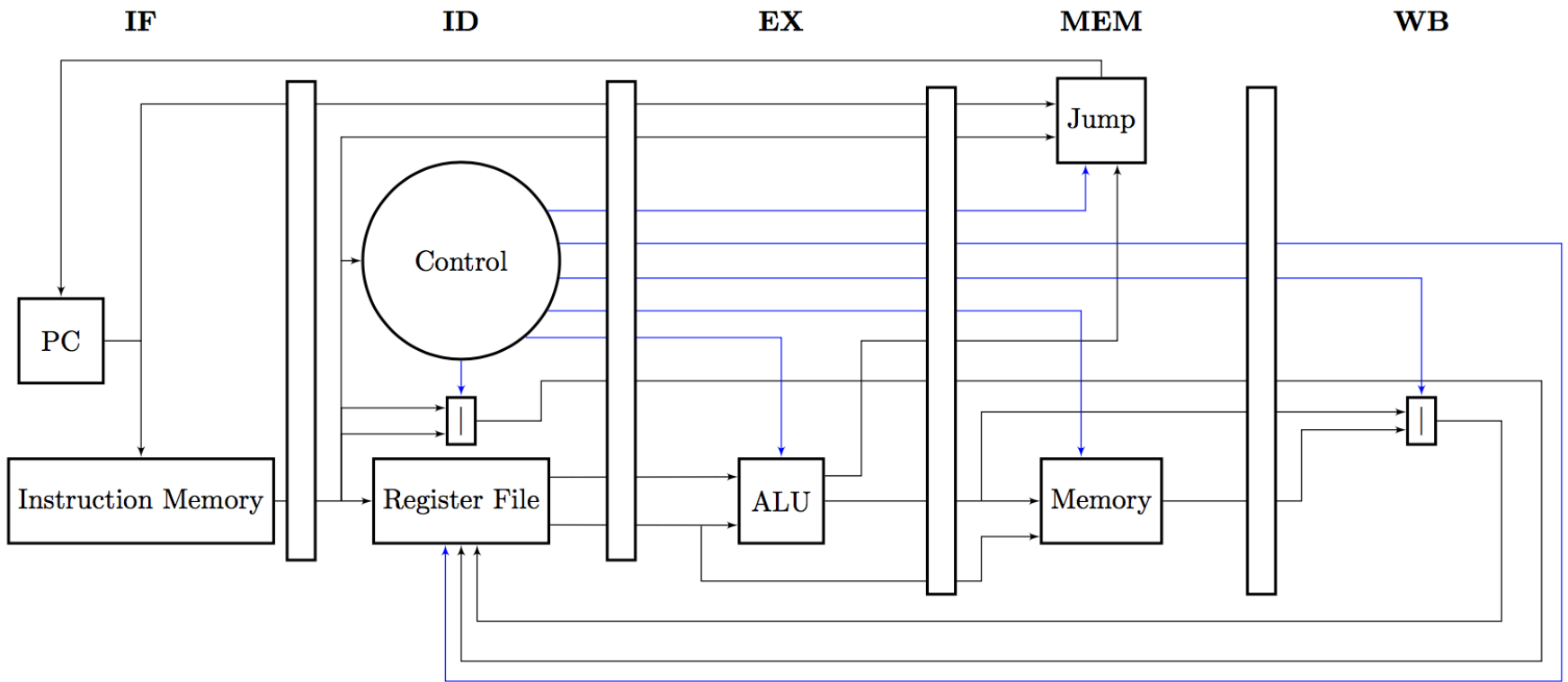
	Wall-clock time	Time pr. cycle
C++	11s	0.031ms
C#	1m 56s	0.325ms
GHDL	35m 19s	5.949ms

Stencil execution times

	Wall-clock time	Time pr. cycle
C++	450ms	0.449ms
C#	1s 251ms	1.249ms
GHDL	4s 946ms	4.936ms

10,000 AES CBC rounds





Planned work

- Communication links
 - C# <-> C++ via memory or pipes
 - C# <-> FPGA via AXI, DRAM or ACP
- Components
 - VGA driver
 - Block RAM
 - DSP
- PySME equivalence
 - Shared transpiler