

# Coordination of tasks on a Real-Time OS

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Project POCI-01-0145-FEDER-029946

# Real-Time OS



VirtuosoNext™  
(the real-time OS)

Visual Designer  
(the IDE)

# Coordination

Gluing tasks

# Real-Time OS



VirtuosoNext™  
(the real-time OS)

Visual Designer  
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# Coordination

Gluing tasks

Our contribution:  
How to improve this part

# Real-Time OS



Virtu  
(the)  
Visua



Research Center in  
Real-Time & Embedded  
Computing Systems

# Coordination

Gluing tasks

Our contribution:  
How to improve this part

## DaVinci project

Distributed  
architectures:  
Variability and  
interaction in CPS



KURT  
modular  
vehicles

# Outline

Programming  
Real-time systems  
with **VirtuosoNext™**

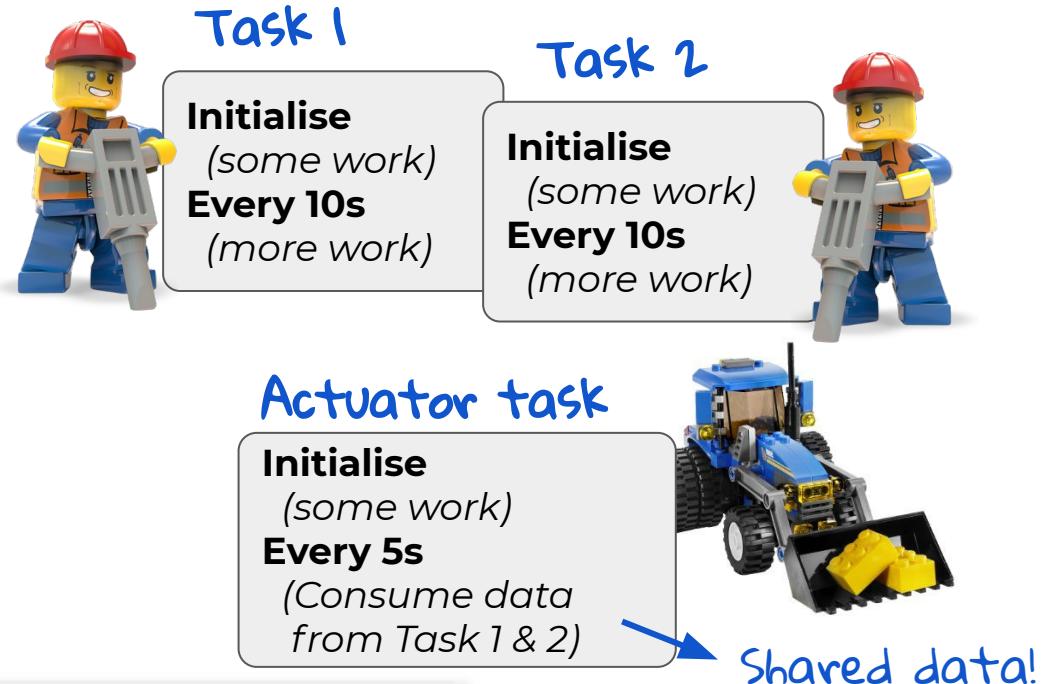
**Building  
interaction  
protocols**

**Understanding  
interactions**  
between tasks

**Online prototype** to  
analyse protocols  
<http://arcatools.org/#virtuoso>

# Programming a RTOS

## The classical way

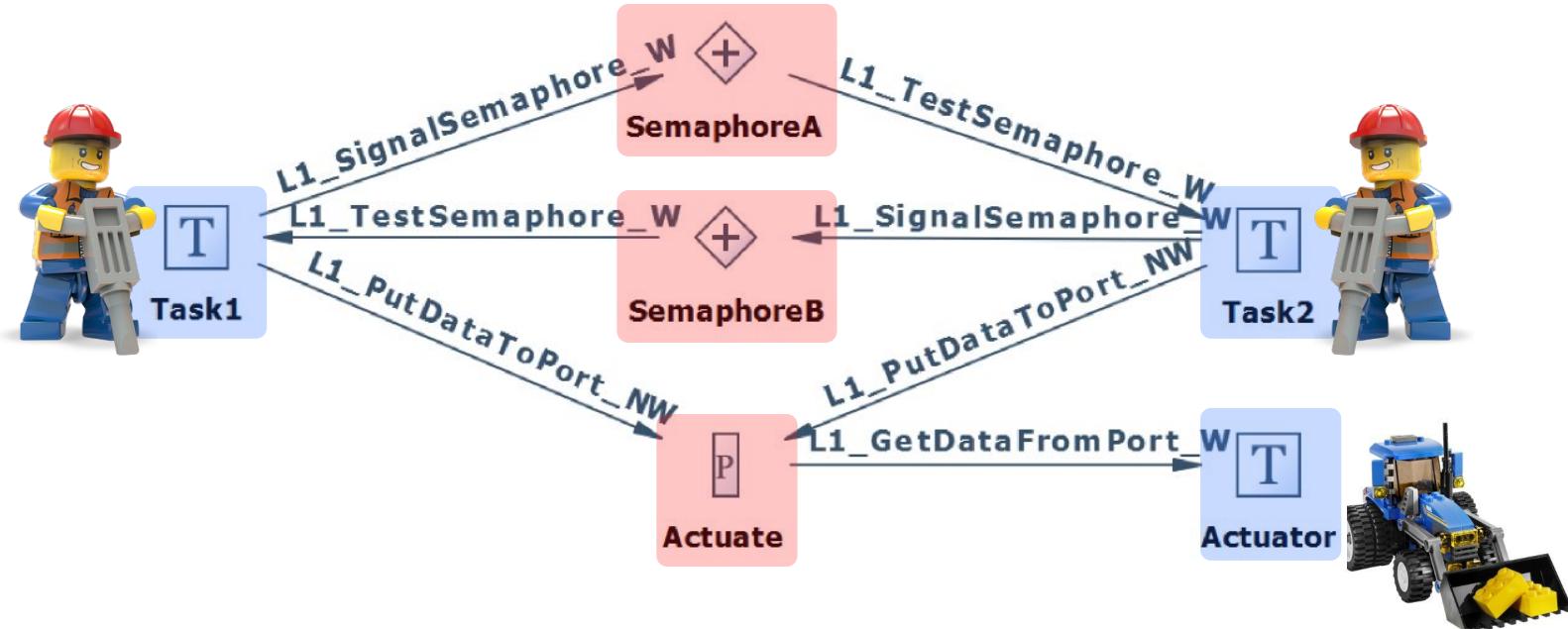


## Scheduler

Deadline?  
Computation time?  
Priority?  
Schedule...

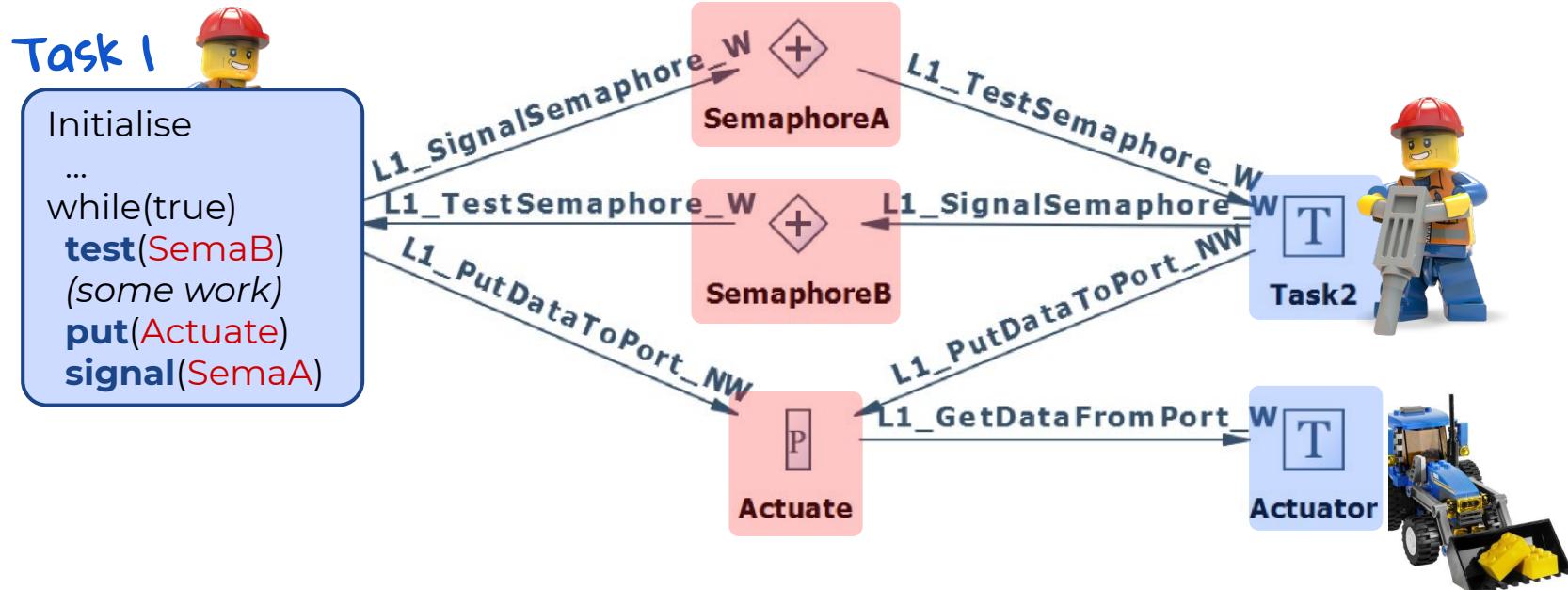
# Programming a RTOS

## The *VirtuosoNext™* way



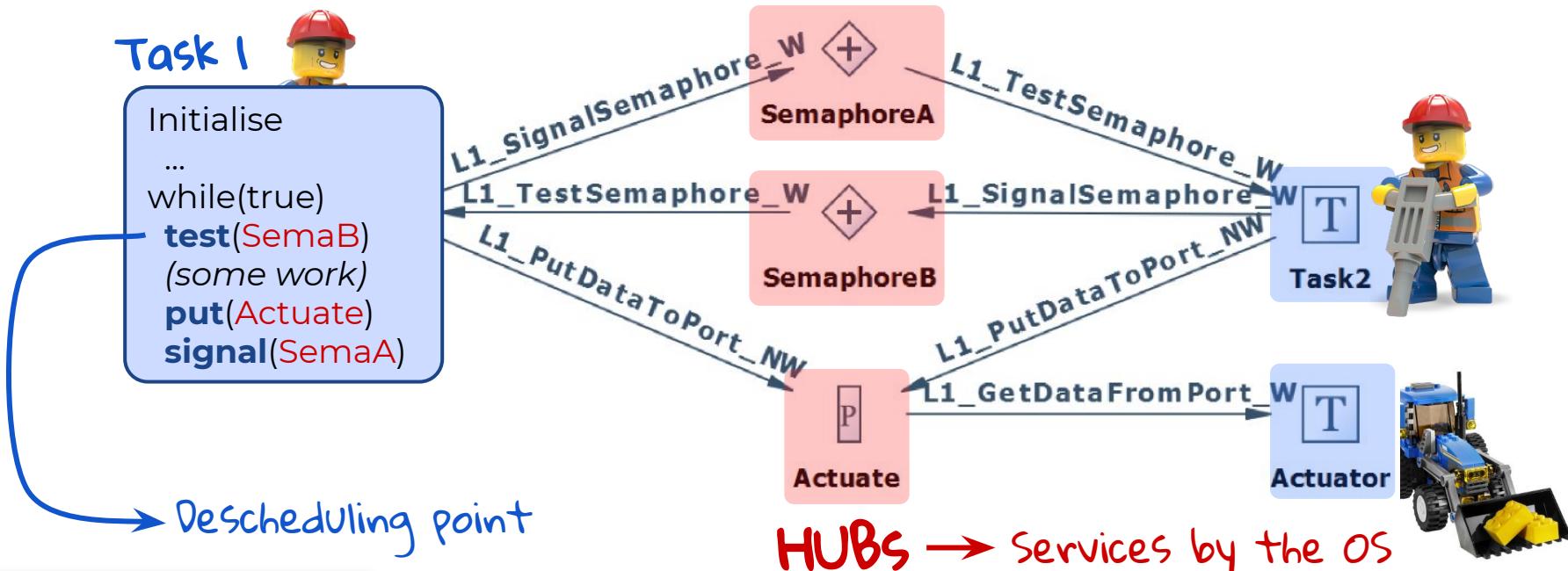
# Programming a RTOS

## The *VirtuosoNext™* way

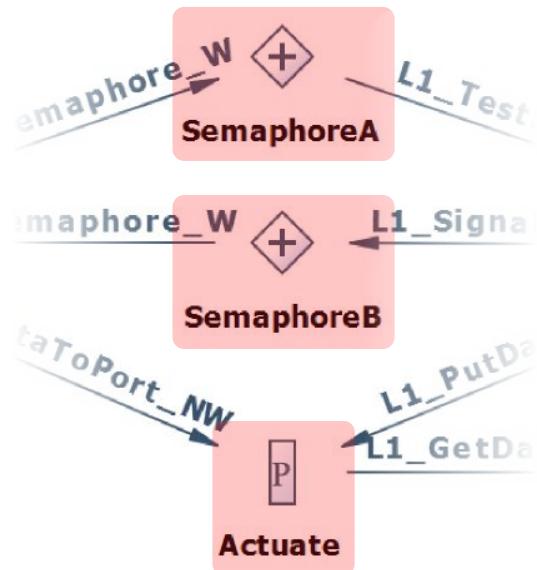


# Programming a RTOS

## The *VirtuosoNext™* way



# Hubs in VirtuosoNext™

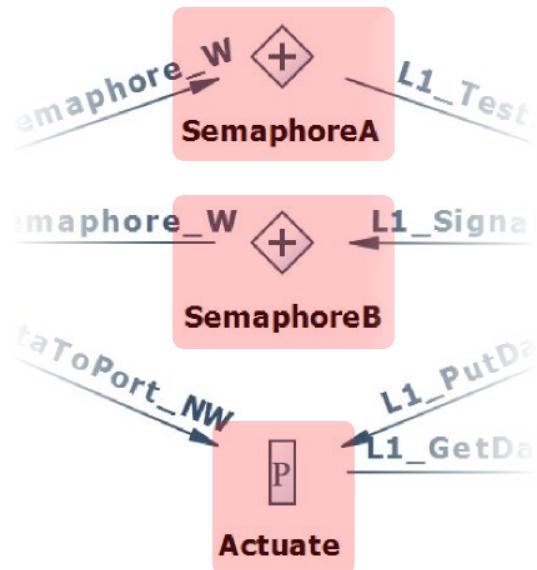


Executed by a  
dedicated  
**Kernel Task**

Decide who can  
be scheduled

May have state

# Hubs in VirtuosoNext™



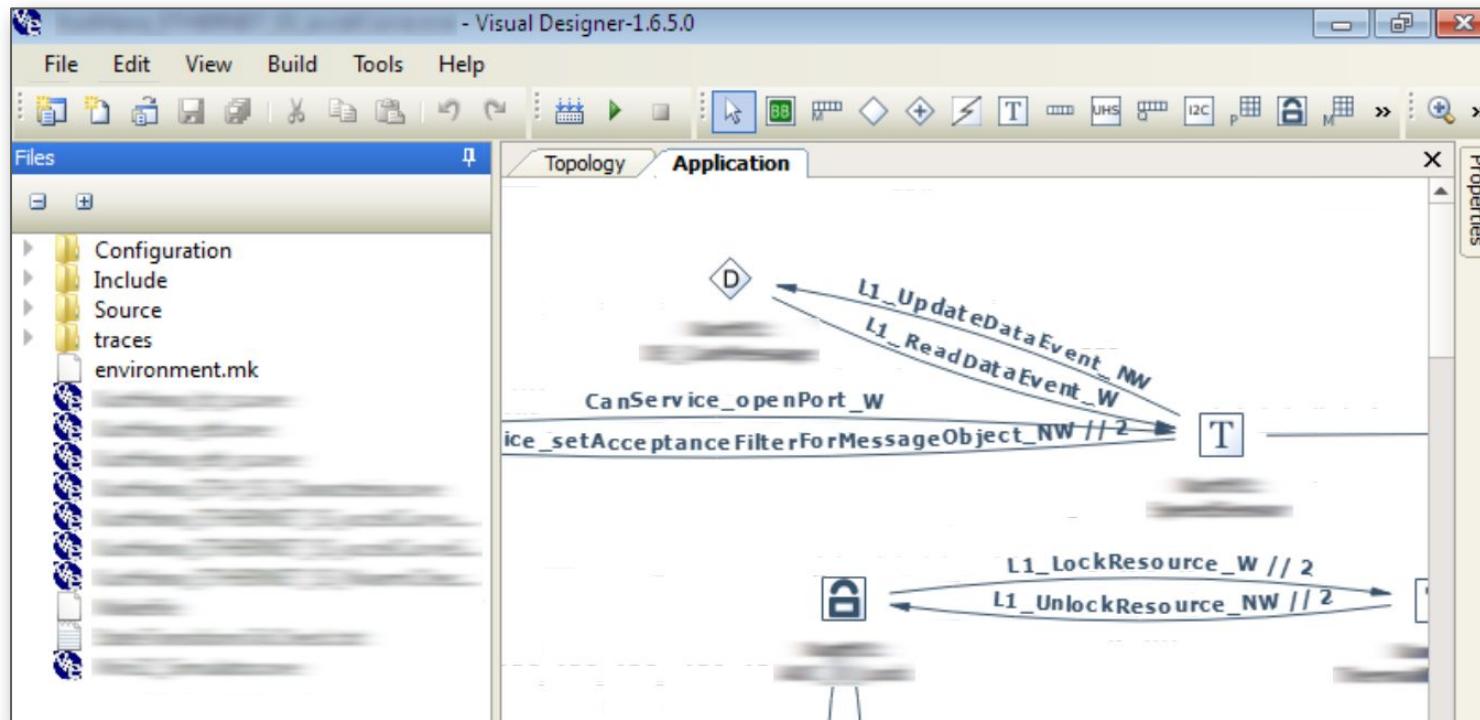
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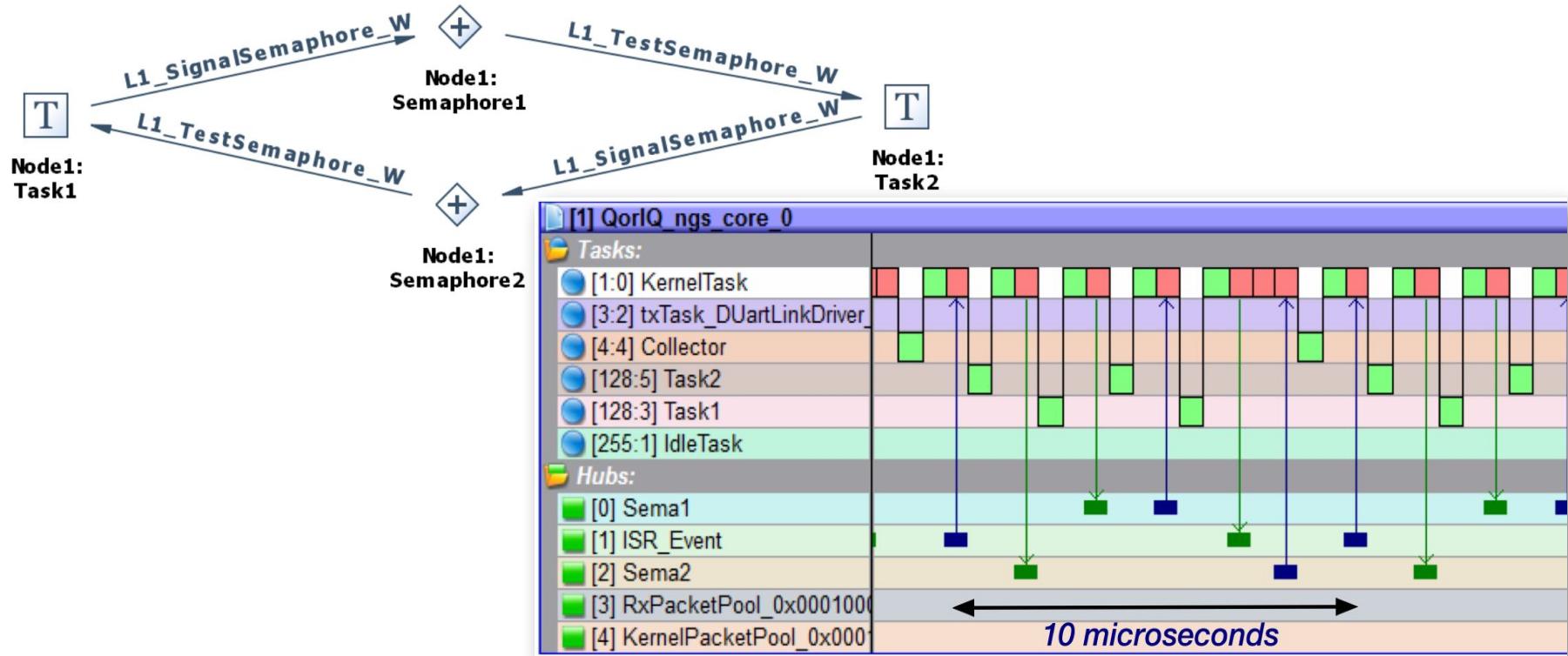
May have state

- Semaphore
- Port
- Event
- DataEvent
- Resource
- Fifo
- Blackboard

# Running Visual Designer



# Timing executions



# Hubs Semantics



Semaphore

**signal** – signals the semaphore, incrementing an internal counter  $c$ . Succeeds if  $c < \text{MAX}$ .

**test** – checks if  $c > 0$ , in which case succeeds, and decrements  $c$ .



Port

**put** – signals some data entering the port  
**get** – signals some data leaving the port

*Both must synchronize to succeed.*

# Hubs Semantics



DataEvent

**update** – sets an event and buffers some data, **overriding** any previous data. **Always succeeds**.

**read** – reads the data. Succeeds if the event is set.

**clear** – clears the buffer and the event.



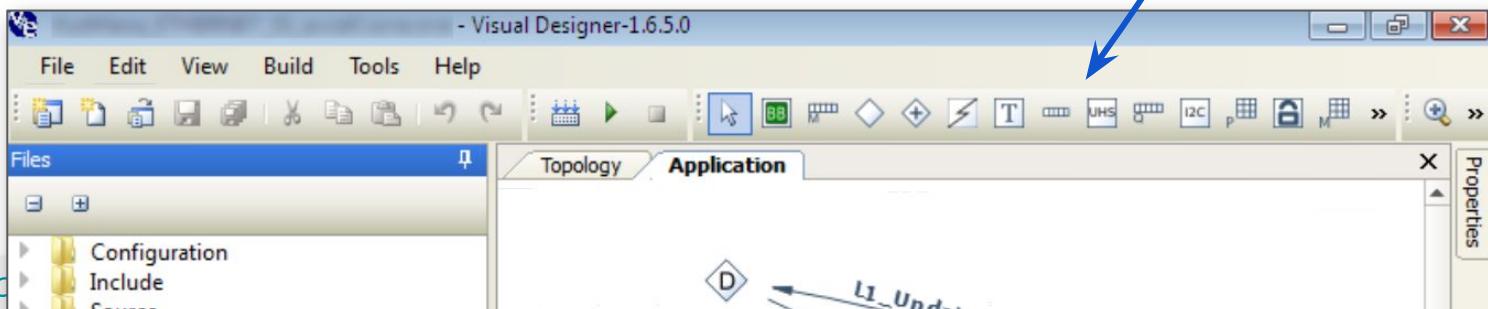
FIFO

**enqueue** – buffers some data in the queue.  
**Succeeds if** the queue is not full.

**dequeue** – reads the next data. Succeeds if the queue is not empty.

# Challenge

How to **add**  
new Hubs?

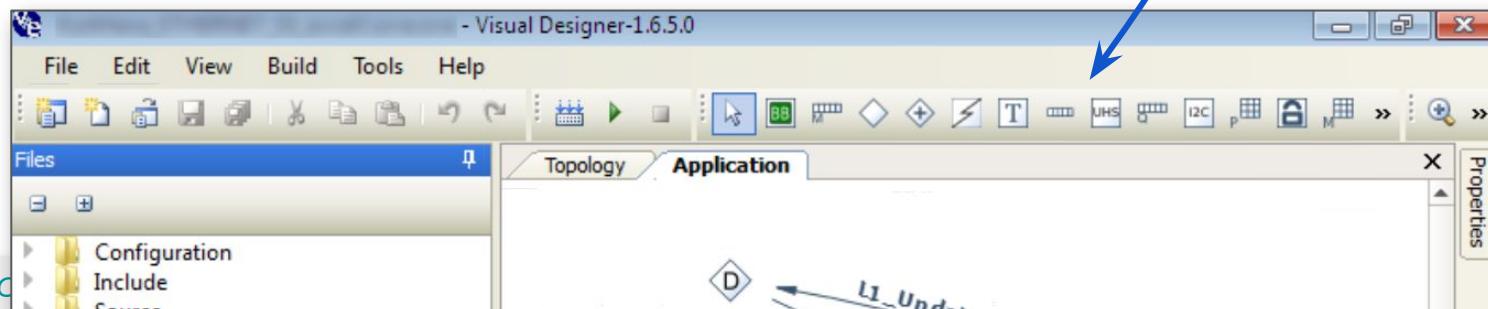


# Challenge

How to

- **generalise** Hubs
- **build** complex (and useful) Hubs
- **analyse** Hubs (trust Hubs)

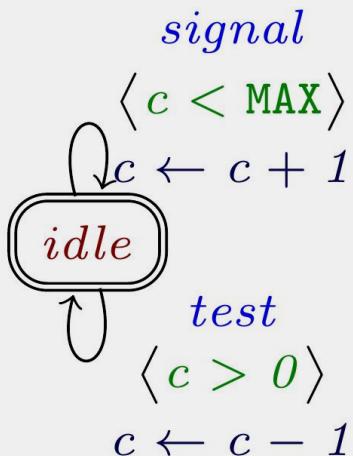
How to **add**  
new Hubs?



# Hubs ++



Semaphore



## Automata semantics

entry point

guard

update  $u := x \leftarrow e \mid u; u \mid u|u$

state

# Hubs ++



Semaphore

*signal*

$\langle c < \text{MAX} \rangle$

*idle*



*test*

$\langle c > 0 \rangle$

$c \leftarrow c - 1$

Automata semantics

**with data + synchronisation**

many entry points



Port

*idle*

$\widehat{\text{get}} \leftarrow \widehat{\text{put}}$

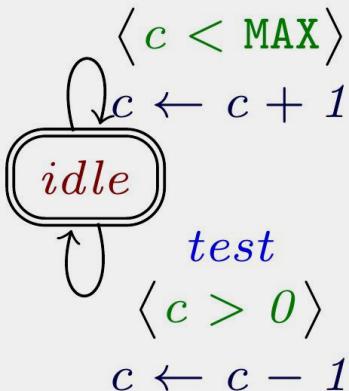
*put|get*

# Hubs ++



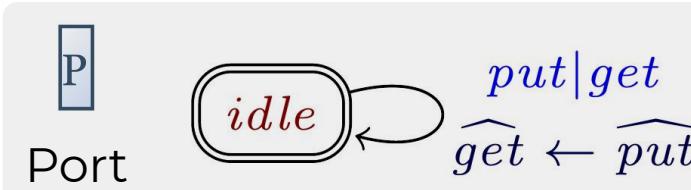
Semaphore

*signal*



Based on  
Constraint  
Automata

Automata semantics  
with data + synchronisation  
**with composition**

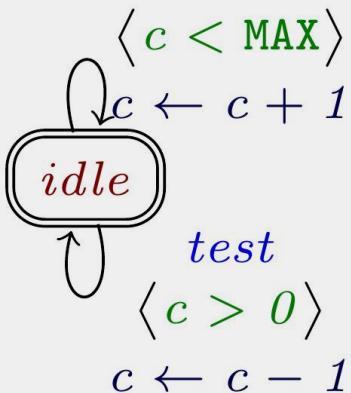


# Hubs ++



Semaphore

*signal*



Based on  
Constraint  
Automata

Automata semantics  
with data + synchronisation

with composition

**- online tool -**

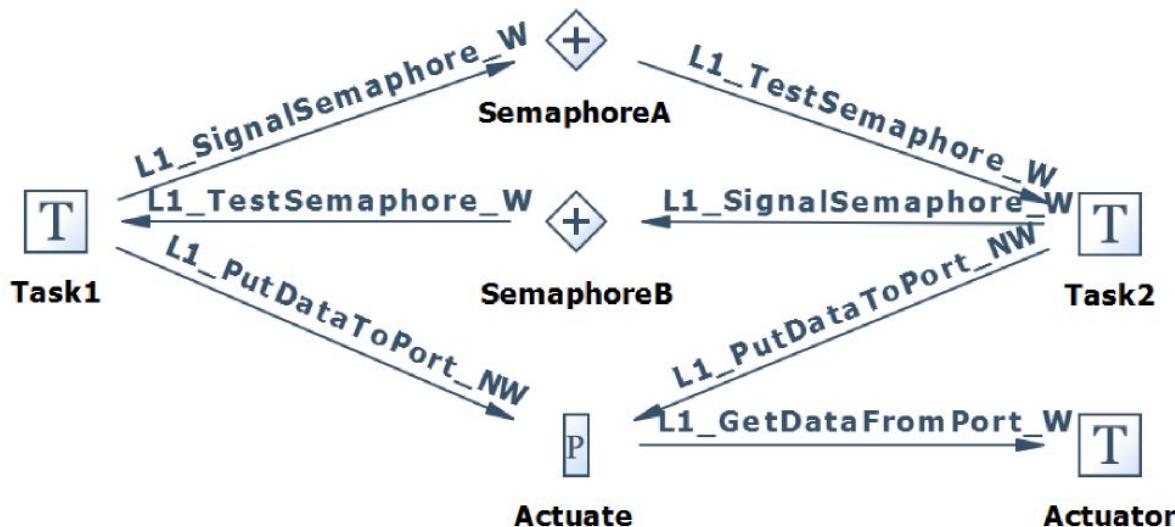


JavaScript



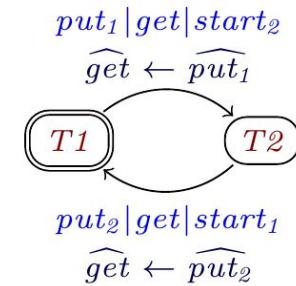
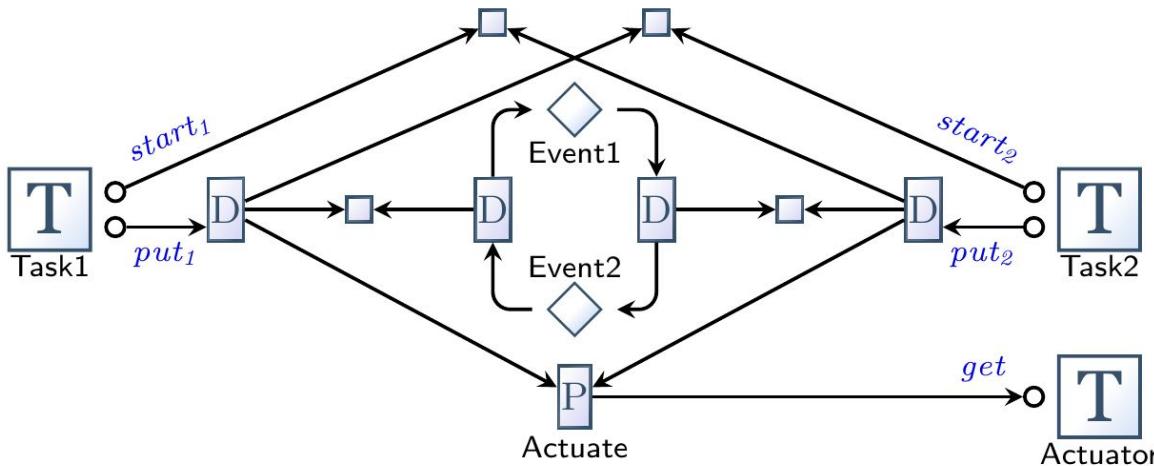
<http://arcatools.org/#virtuoso>

# Example 1



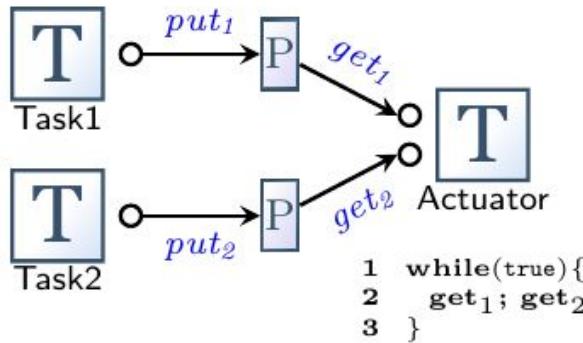
Tasks 1 & 2 alternate between **signal**, **test**, and **put**

# Example 2

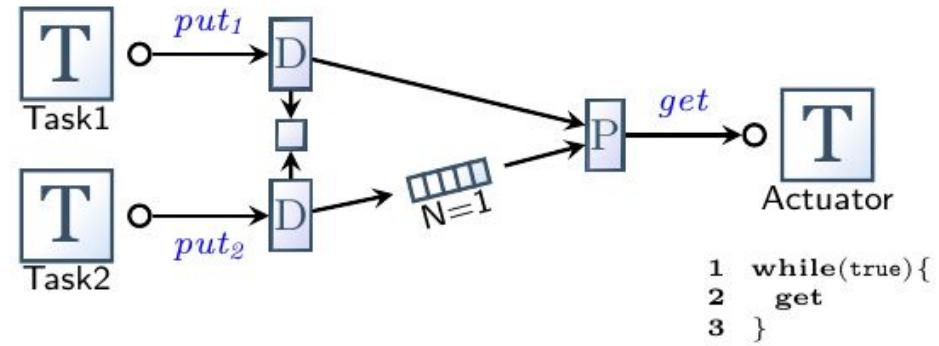


Tasks 1 & 2 can **start** and eventually **put** a value

# Examples 3 & 4



Actuator  
alternates  
between tasks



Hub imposes  
alternation

# Insights gained

## Performance (1000 rounds)

Example 1 - *40ms*

Run complex example (2)

- as a **user task** - *60ms*
- as simpler **native hub** - *30ms*

Simplest (example 3) - *20ms*

Coordination burden often moved to tasks

*The devil is in the details*

## Nr. Context Switches

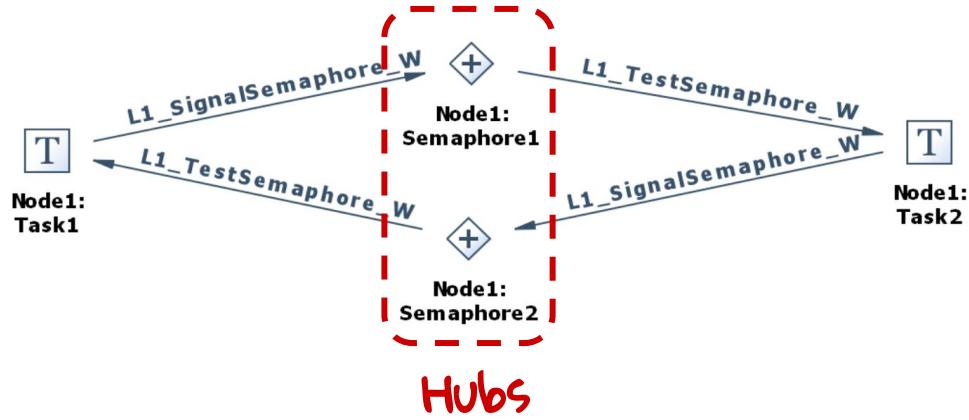
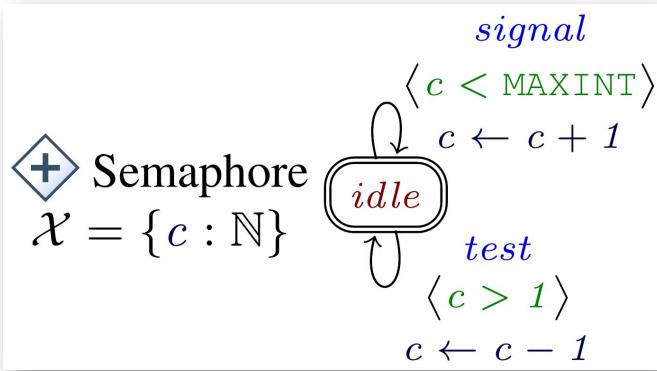
Ex. 1 - *17* / Ex. 2 - *13* / Ex. 3&4 - *9*

Blackbox tasks:  
harder to reason



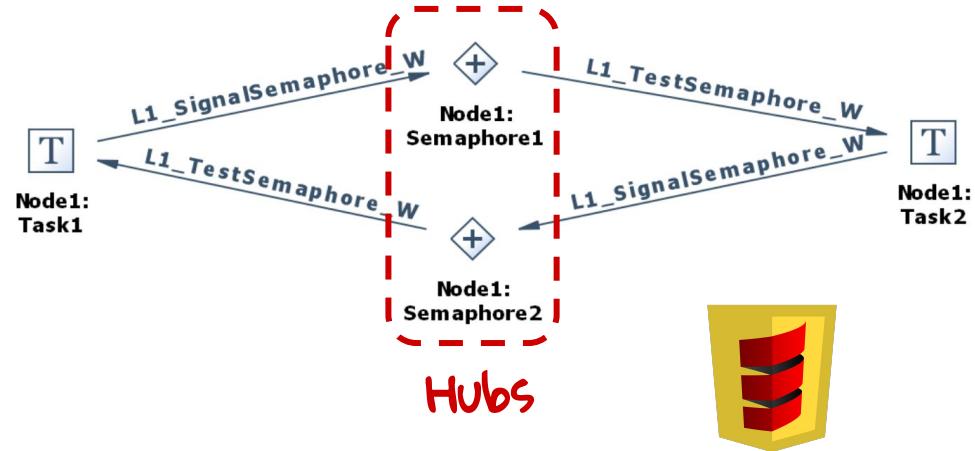
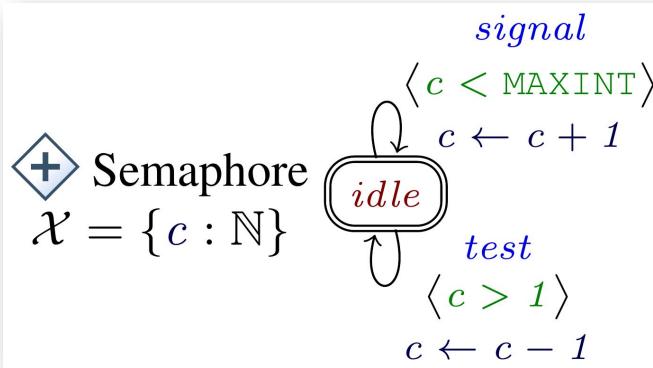
# Wrap up

## Automata semantics

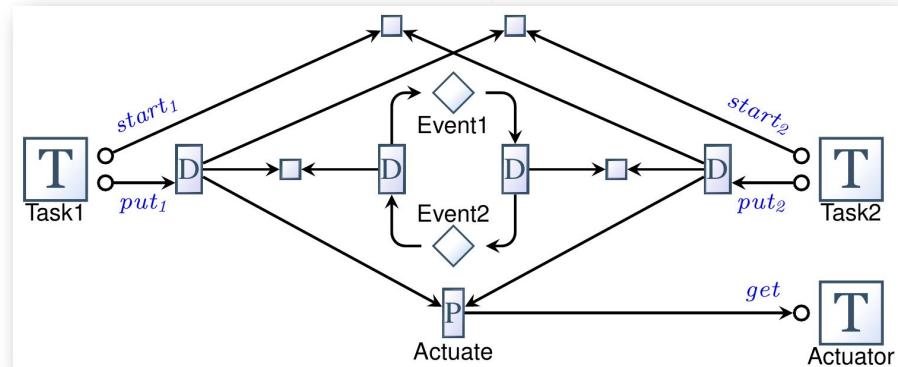


# Wrap up

## Automata semantics

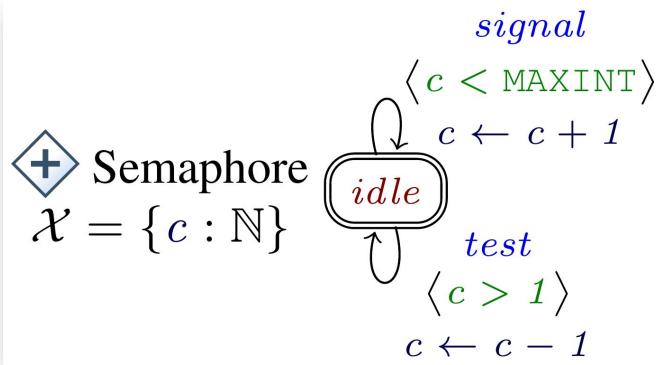


Complex hubs by composition

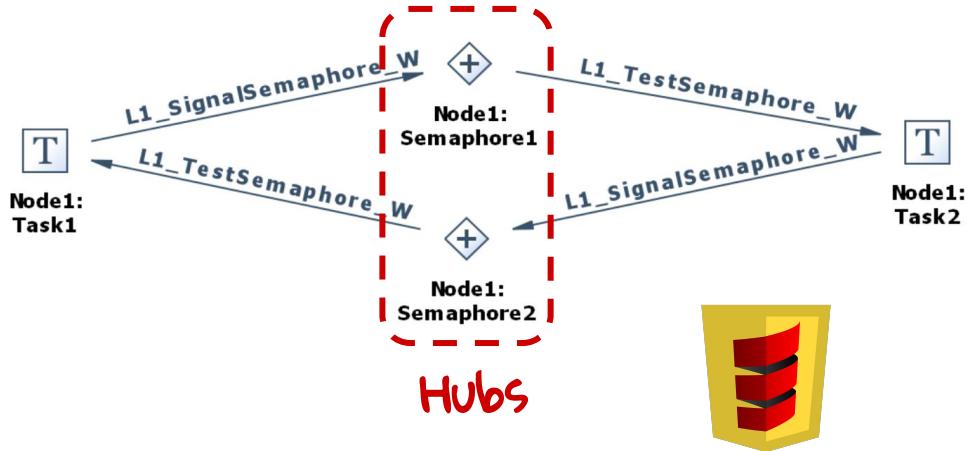


# Wrap up

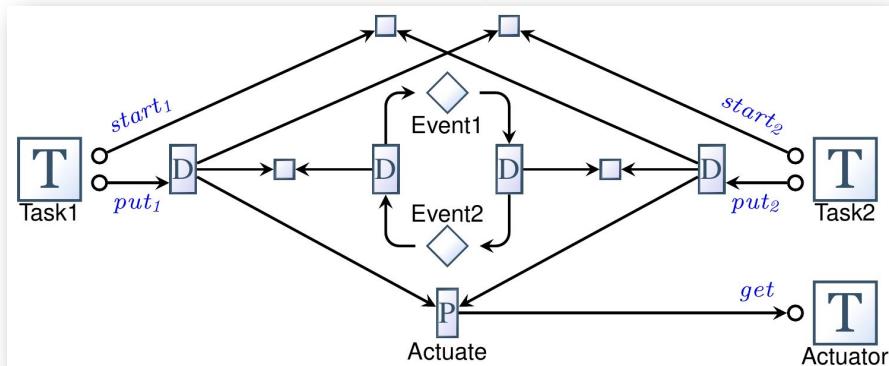
## Automata semantics



- Ongoing work:
- DSL for tasks  
 (Funct. React. Prog + hubs)
  - Commun. across nodes



Complex hubs by composition



Thank you!