

# Building a basic membrane computer

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**Grupo ID2 (Investigacion y Desarrollo Digital)**

[www.dte.us.es/id2](http://www.dte.us.es/id2)

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# Introduction

Until now, developments have been focused into improving simulation time of P systems:

- Software simulation.-
  - RGNC (USe), Ciobanu, UniVr, ...
- Hardware simulation.-
  - UPM, Petreska, Nguyen, Quiros, ...

# Objective

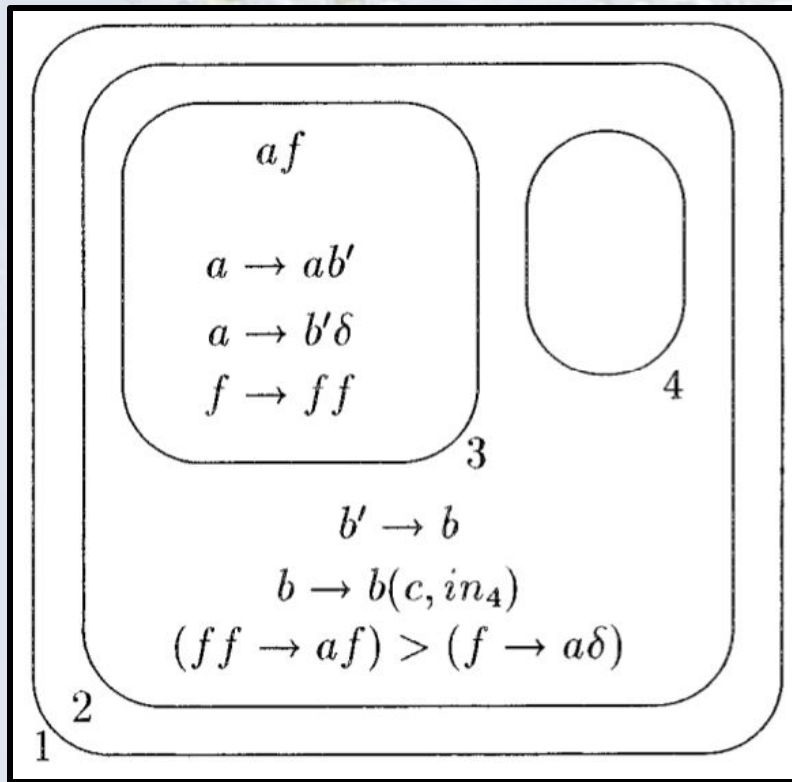
- Build a basic membrane computer.-

# Requisites

- Real machine: not simulated (1 transition/cycle).-
- Non-deterministic.-
- Maximum parallelism (*maxpar* derivation mode).-

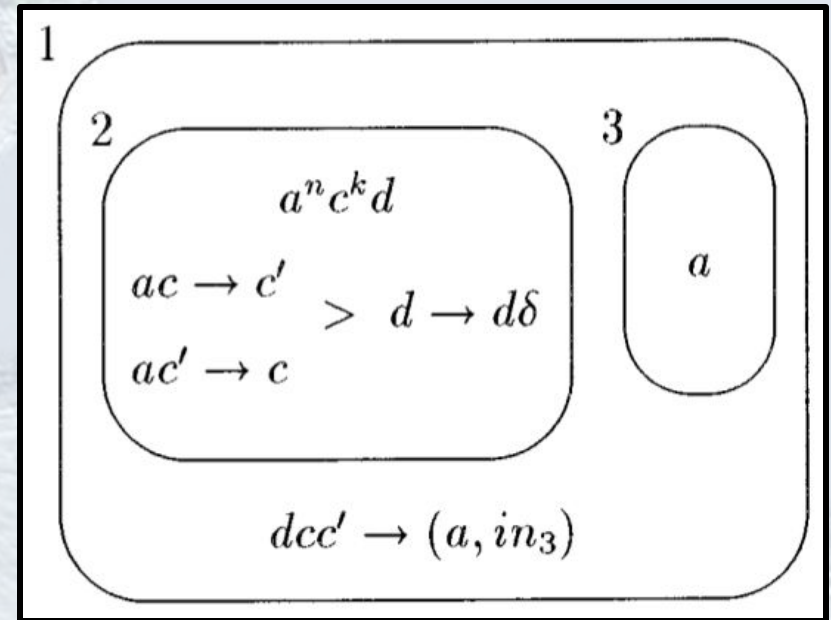
# The chosen P systems [Păun, 2000]

Computer 1



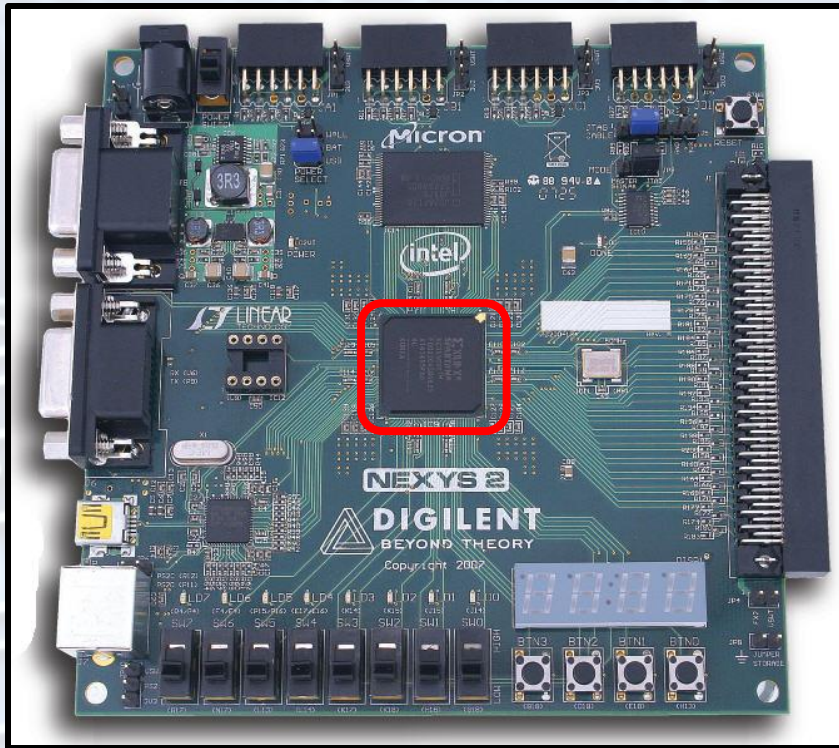
$n^2$  generator ( $n \geq 1$ ).-

Computer 2



Divisor test ( $k$  divides  $n$ ?).-

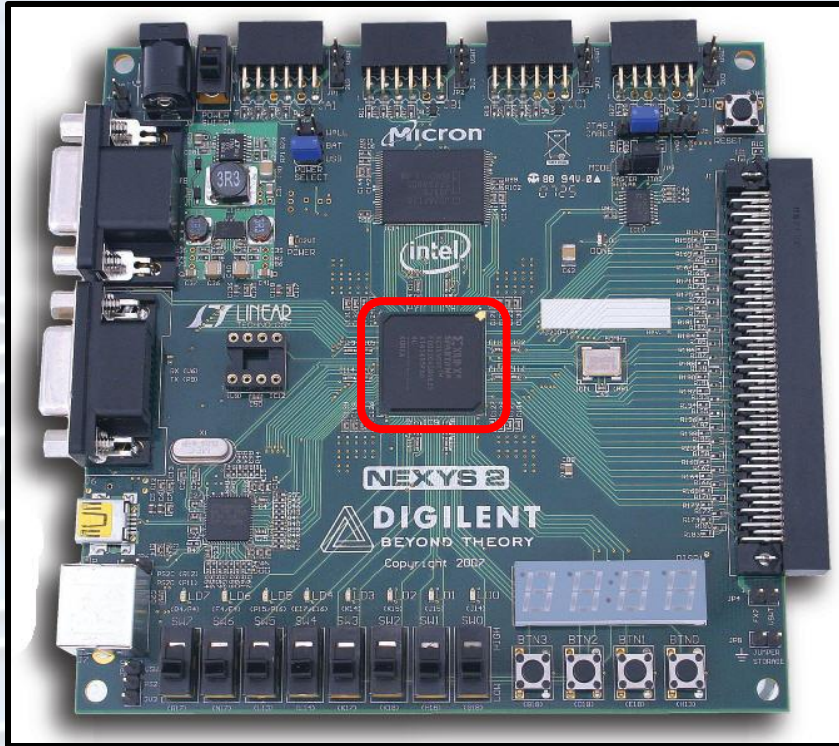
# FPGA Technology (I)



*Training board*

- **FPGA = Field-Programmable Gate Array.-**
- **Resources:**
  - Look-Up-Tables (logic).-
  - Flip-Flops (memory).-
  - Arithmetic:
    - Distributed.-
    - Especific (MULT).-

# FPGA Technology (II)



*Training board*

- **Design:**
  - Hardware Description Language (HDL).-
  - Place & Routing.-
  - Reconfigurable.-
- **Applications:**
  - Prototyping.-
  - Quick deployment.-
  - Low production.-

# Object/rule implementation

$$r_1: f \longrightarrow ff$$



# Competition - Case 1 (Algorithm)

$$r_1: a \longrightarrow ab'$$

$$r_2: a \longrightarrow b'\delta$$

1. Randomly let:

$$a = a_1 + a_2$$

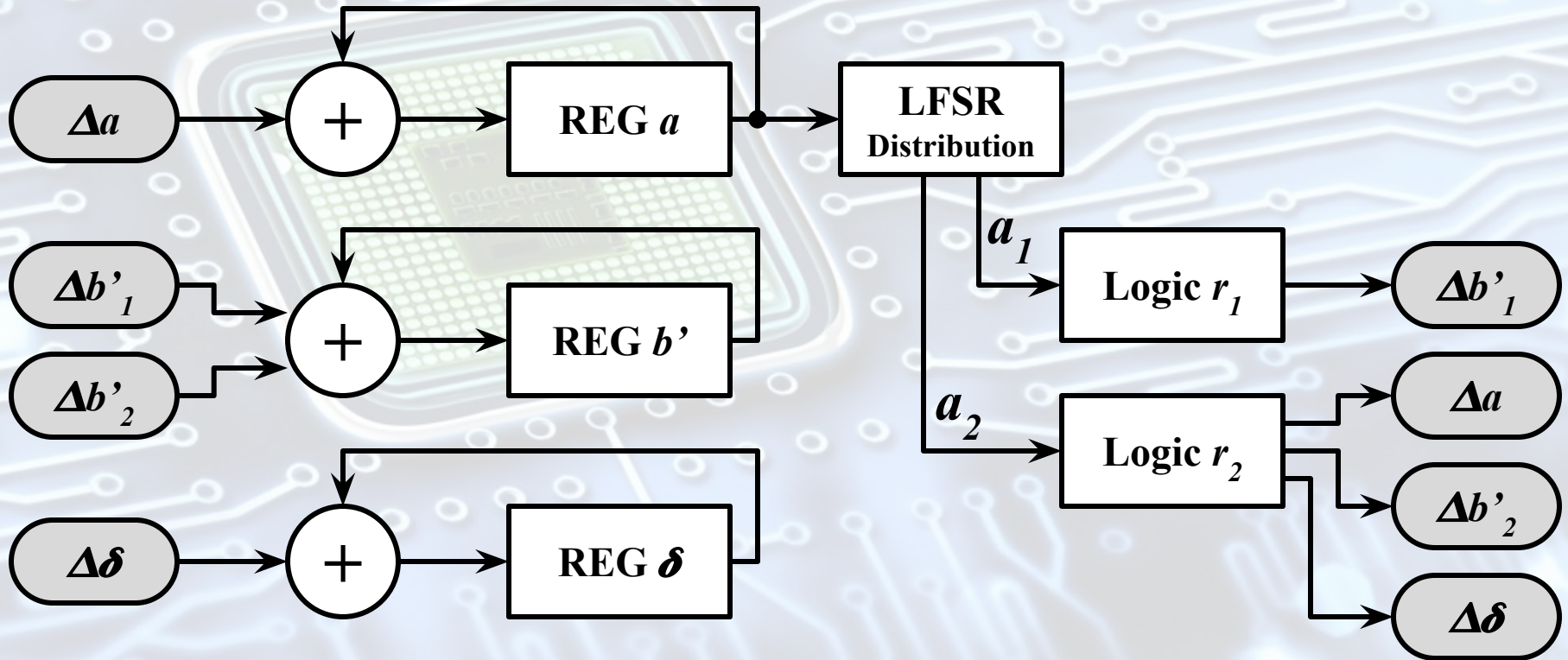
2. Apply  $r_1 \times a_1$  times  
and  $r_2 \times a_2$  times.-



# Competition - Case 1 (Design)

$$r_1: a \longrightarrow ab'$$

$$r_2: a \longrightarrow b'\delta$$



# Competition - Case 2 (Algorithm)

1. Randomly let:

$$a = a_1 + a_2$$

2. Let:

$$\lambda_1 = \max\{0; a_1 - c\}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \max\{0; a_2 - c'\}$$

$$\tau_1 = \min\{c; a_1 + \lambda_2\}$$

$$\tau_2 = \min\{c'; a_2 + \lambda_1\}$$

3. Apply  $r_1 \times \tau_1$  times

and  $r_2 \times \tau_2$  times.-

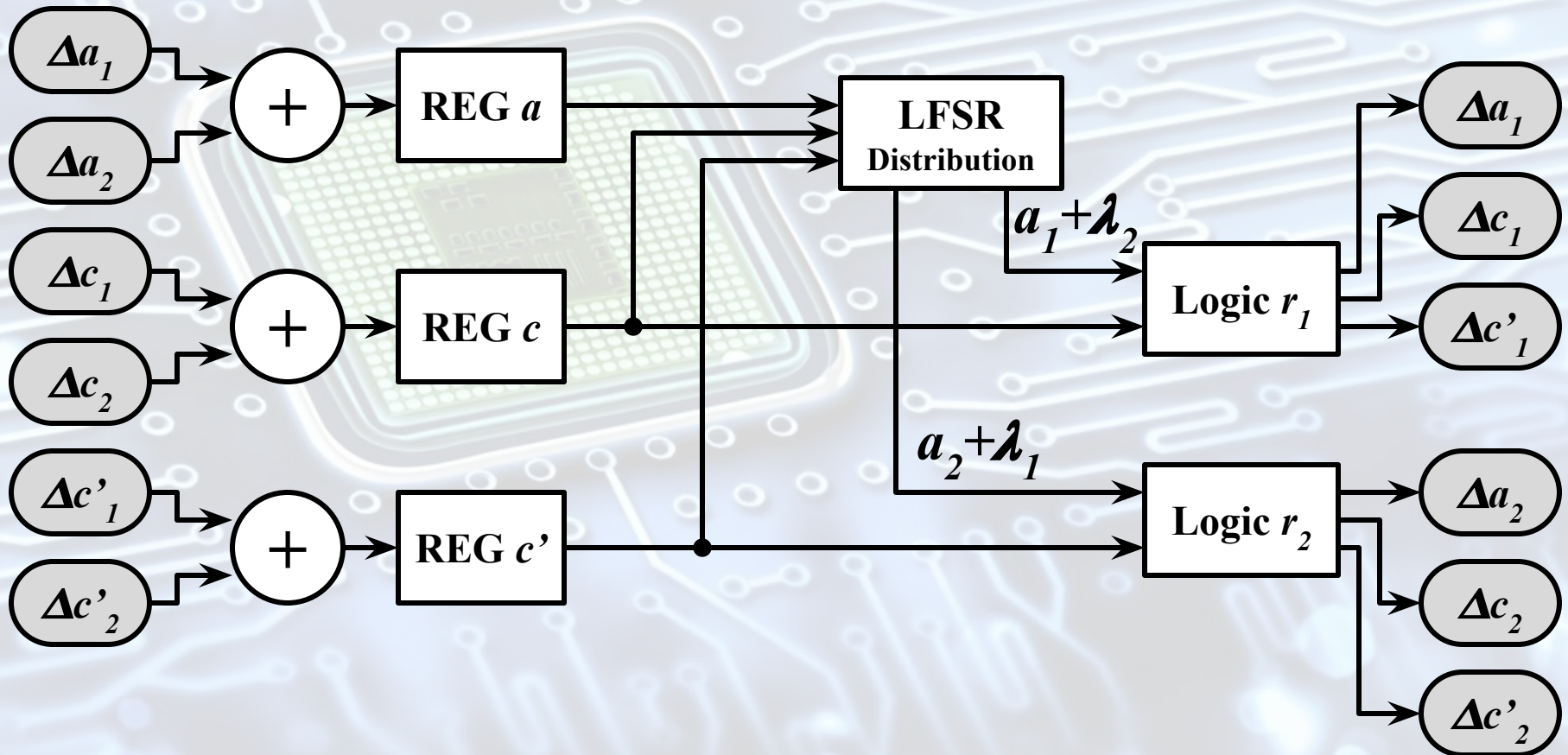
$$r_1: ac \longrightarrow c'$$

$$r_2: ac' \longrightarrow c$$

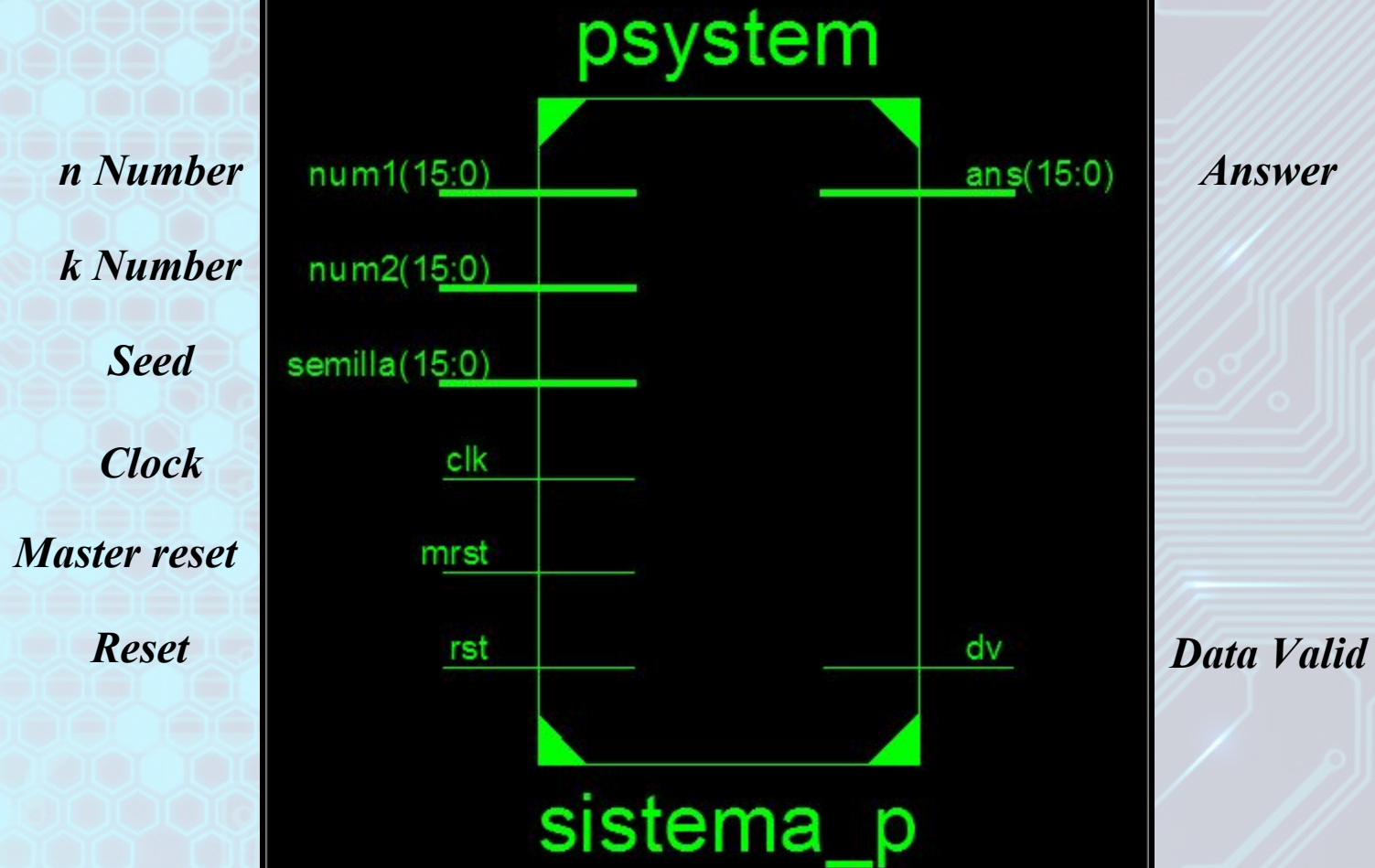
# Competition - Case 2 (Design)

$$r_1: ac \longrightarrow c'$$

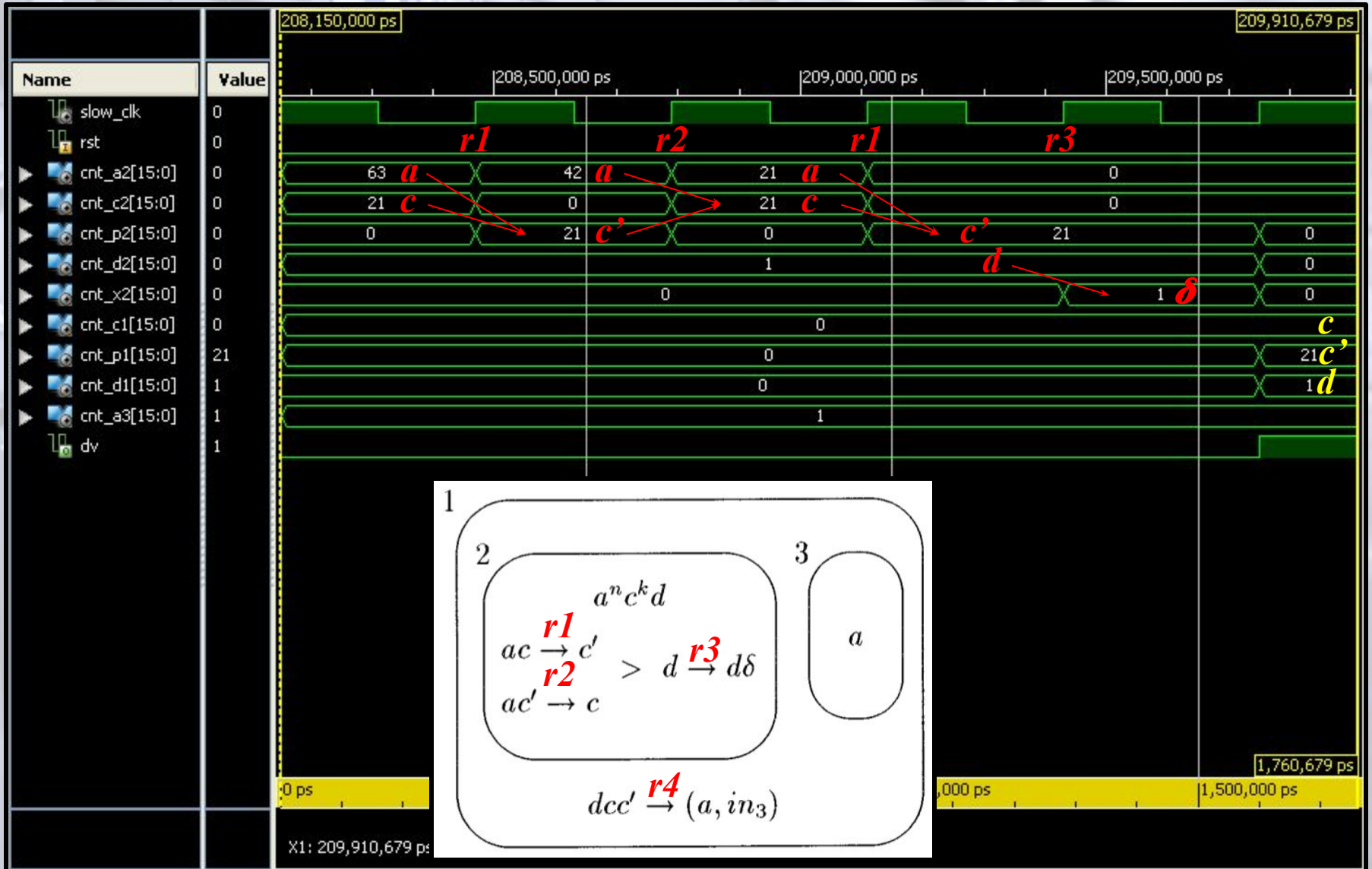
$$r_2: ac' \longrightarrow c$$



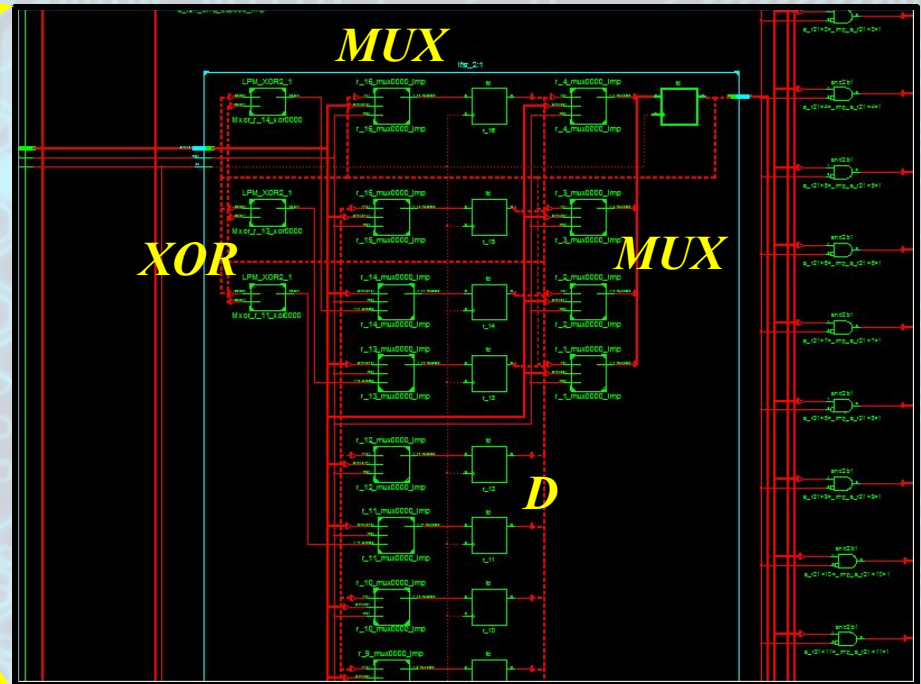
# System interface - Computer 2



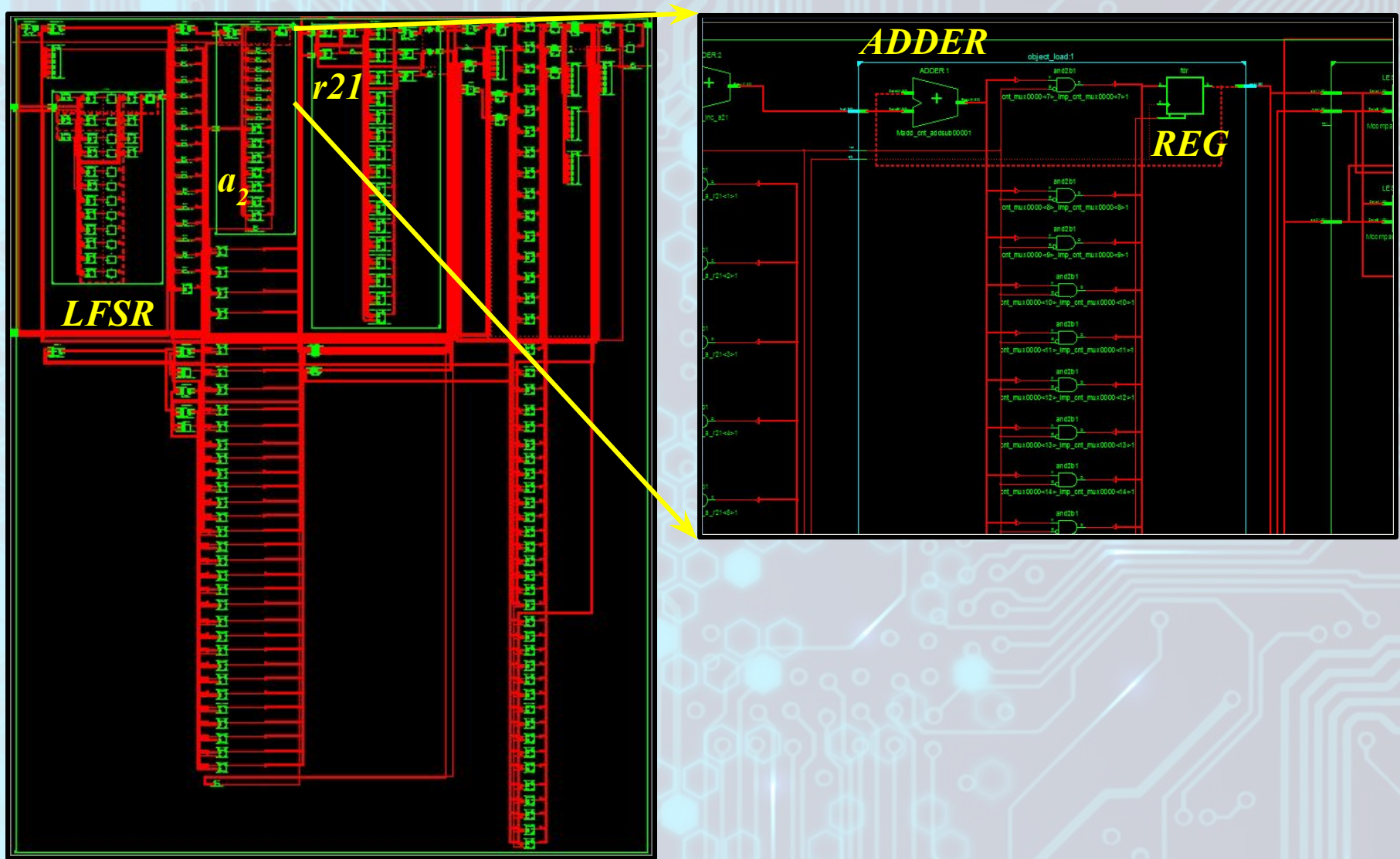
# Operation detail - Computer 2



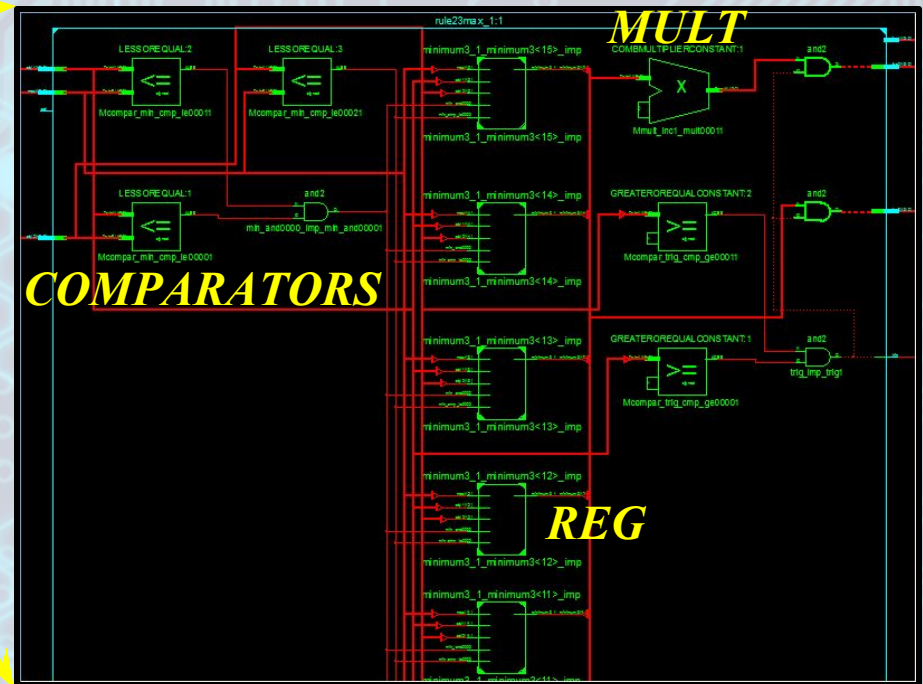
# Schematic - Computer 2 (LFSR)



# Schematic - Computer 2 (object $a$ )



# Schematic - Computer 2 (rule $r21$ )





# Implementation information

<b>FPGA Model</b>	<b>Spartan 3E-1200</b>
<b>Clock frequency</b>	<b>50 MHz</b>
<b>Performance</b>	<b>50 Mtransition/s</b>
<b>Register width</b>	<b>16-bit</b>
<b>FPGA Occupation</b>	<b>2% / 5% slices</b>

# Future work

- Test architectures in more powerful FPGAs.-
  - 50 MHz >>> 500 MHz.-
  - 20 K logic c. >>> 2 M logic c.-
- Build membrane computers for another P systems.-
  - More object competition.-
  - Consider rule probability (e.g. for PDP).-
  - Any suggestions?