

HIGH-THROUGHPUT AND DYNAMIC POWER AWARE GLOBAL OPTICAL FLOW METHOD USING CLOCK GATING AND MRP

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ABSTRACT:

Optical Flow (OF) approaches for motion estimation calculate vector fields for the apparent velocities of objects in image sequences. Most very-large-scale integration (VLSI) designs of the global optical flow method focus on reducing external memory accesses due to global and iterative processes for low power operation in mobile systems. However, to achieve this goal, considerable amounts of resources are used and the throughput is decreased. To address these issues, we propose a multi row based propagation approach and an efficient VLSI architecture. This approach divides an image into multiple small sub images. The flow of each sub image is then estimated sequentially using a small amount of internal memory without accessing any external memory. To avoid discontinuity artifacts stemming from the boundaries of the sub images, boundary conditions are imposed based on the smoothness of the optical flow. In addition, the main equations of the global optical flow method are simplified to boost the processing speed. Further this project is enhanced by using clock gating based memory in order to reduce both power and throughput.

Keywords: Clock Gating, artifacts, Optical flow, multi row based propagation, Memory organization

INTRODUCTION: Optical flow estimation is one of the oldest reconstruction problems. This problem which consists of computing the 2D apparent motion field between two consecutive frames of an image sequence, is indeed an inescapable prerequisite in a wide range of applications such as passive navigation, stereovision, image sequence restoration, video compression, etc. Several techniques have been proposed to estimate velocity fields. Among others, one can distinguish spatiotemporal filtering methods,¹³ tensor-based techniques,²⁰ correlation-based techniques¹ or minimizing energy-based techniques.¹⁸ The latter, despite leading to intensive calculations, yields the most accurate flow fields in terms of precision²¹ or in terms of spatial discontinuity estimation.^{5,23} Nevertheless, the ability of such methods to be embedded in real time applications is limited by the amount of computing power needing to solve them. The computation cost is so high that nowadays it is unimaginable to reach that goal on conventional computers.

LITERATURE SURVEY:

A fundamental component in the construction of a machine's vision system is the computation of optical flow which is obtained by estimating a dense motion field corresponding to the displacement of each pixel in consecutive frames of an image sequence. Its reliable calculation comprises one of the main challenges in computer vision. Optical flow can be combined with various computer vision tasks such as video coding, segmentation, tracking [1] and multi view-reconstruction [2]. Some other fields where optical flow has played an important role includes fluid mechanics [3], solar physics [4], autonomous driving [5], biomedical images [6], breast tumors [7], bladder cancer [8] surveillance and traffic monitoring [9], virtual reality [10], face recognition and tracking [11], and action recognition videos [12]. Optical flow is the pattern of the apparent motion of objects in a visual scene caused by the motion of an object or camera or both. When a camera records a scene for a given time, the resulting image sequence can be considered as a function of gray values at image pixel position (x,y) and the time t . If the camera or an object moves within the scene, this motion results in a time-dependent displacement of the gray values in the image sequence. The resulting two-dimensional apparent motion field in the image domain is the Optical Flow Field. At present, optical flow estimation stands at its peak with a steady progress. In last 4 decades, a whole class of various techniques and novel concepts has evolved in this area. Particularly, remarkable development has been witnessed in the last decade. On one hand, the advance level datasets such as Middlebury [13], MPI-Sintel [14] and KITTI [15, 16] presented substantial novel challenges for the optical flow algorithms, on the other hand traditional methods such as LDOF [17], DeepFlow [18], EpicFlow [19], DiscreteFlow [20], FlowFields [21] and MirrorFlow [22] came up with a significant number of novel strategies. These innovations solved the correspondence problem with outstanding performance. However, the enhanced accuracy subsequently increased the evaluation time. Consequently, none of the major traditional methods runs in real time currently.

EXISTING METHOD:

MULTIROW-BASED PROPAGATION (MRP):

The global optical flow method can extract dense and accurate flows owing to the aforementioned global and iterative processes. However, it suffers severely from excessive access to external memory caused by the following processes. Before entering the loop in Algorithm 1, the structure tensors, $J_{nm}^{i,j}$, are computed and stored in external memory for global execution. During the execution of the loop, $J_{nm}^{i,j}$, $u_{k+1}^{i,j}$, $v_{k+1}^{i,j}$, and their neighbors are read for the current iteration, and $u_{k+1}^{i,j}$ and $v_{k+1}^{i,j}$ are buffered for the next iteration. These processes continue until the end of the loop, whereas numerous accesses to external memory occur. To reduce this external memory access while using minimal internal memory, we propose the MRP approach. The proposed scheme executes partially in the units of the multirow (r), composed of multiple rows, instead of the entire image, as shown in Algorithm 2. With a small multirow size, the structure tensors ($J_{nm}^{i,j}$) of derivation can be stored using a small amount of internal memory. Then, derivation is also computed iteratively using only the internal memory without accessing external memory. The next multirow starts after

finishing the iteration for the current multirow, and this process is applied sequentially until the last multirow to obtain the optical flow of the entire image. Although this multirow-based approach can significantly reduce external memory access, discontinuity artifacts are caused because of a lack of neighboring flows, i.e., $(u,v)^{k+1}_{r,i-1,j}$ or $(u,v)^k_{r,i+1,j}$, when computing at the upper or lower boundary of the multirow. To alleviate these artifacts, which adopt flows estimated at the previous multirow as the neighboring flows. This is done because the global optical flow method generally assumes smoothness of the flow over

Algorithm 2 Proposed Approach

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1 for  $r = 0, \dots, R - 1$  do
2   for  $i = (r \times H_R) + 0, \dots, (r \times H_R) + (H_R - 1)$  do
3     for  $j = 0, \dots, W - 1$  do
4       Computation of Eq. (7)
5     end
6   end
7   for  $k = 0, \dots, K - 1$  do
8     for  $i = (r \times H_R) + 0, \dots, (r \times H_R) + (H_R - 1)$  do
9       for  $j = 0, \dots, W - 1$  do
10        Computation of Eq. (8) using Eq. (6)
11      end
12    end
13  end
14 end

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Notation: r is the multirow index. R denotes the total number of multirows; i.e., $R = \frac{H}{H_R}$. Here, H_R and H denote the height of the multirow and the height of the image, respectively.

the entire image

$$(u, v)_{r,i-1,j}^{k+1} = (u, v)_{r-1,i-1,j}^{K-1} \quad \text{if } i = (r \times H_R) + 0$$

$$(u, v)_{r,i+1,j}^k = (u, v)_{r,i,j}^k \quad \text{if } i = (r \times H_R) + (H_R - 1)$$

Here, r is the multirow index. k and K denote the index and the number of iterations, respectively, and i and j likewise denote the vertical and horizontal locations in an image. H_R is the multirow height. We use the estimated flows at the bottom row of the $(r-1)$ th multirow as the upper neighboring flows, i.e., N_u and N_v , at the top row of the (r) th multirow, as the first condition of (1). Furthermore, the currently estimated flows at the bottom row of the (r) th multirow during the iterations are used directly as the lower boundary of the (r) th multirow using the second condition. With these conditions, the estimated flows of the previous multirow are propagated indirectly through the subsequent multirows. Consequently, the artifacts derived from the boundaries are substantially mitigated.

As the outputs $((u,v)^{k+1}_{i,j})$ are directly used as inputs $((u,v)^{k+1}_{i,j-1})$ for the next pixel, a waiting delay occurs, and the complex operations lengthen the delay. Furthermore, because the hardware unit used to compute (5) is duplicated and pipelined to accelerate the iterations [30]–[32], the logic is increased proportionally with the complexity of (5). Simplification of (5) is critical to boost the processing speed and reduce the use of logic. We extract some coefficients from the loop body and move them outside of the loop by means of precomputation to simplify

(5), as shown in (7) and the first loop body of Algorithm 2. Because ω , α , $|N_u|$, and $|N_v|$ are constants, they are calculated using $J_{r,i,j}$ in advance and stored in internal

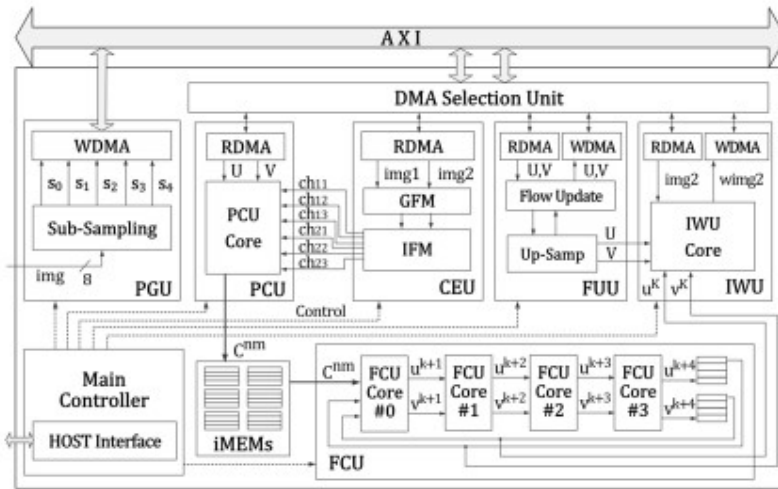


Fig 1: Overall block diagram of the proposed VLSI architecture. Memory

$$C_{r,i,j}^{nm} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega & -C_{r,i,j}^{11} J_{r,i,j}^{12} & -C_{r,i,j}^{11} J_{r,i,j}^{13} \\ \frac{|N_u| + \frac{1}{\alpha} J_{r,i,j}^{11}}{\omega} & \alpha & \alpha \\ \omega & -C_{r,i,j}^{21} J_{r,i,j}^{21} & -C_{r,i,j}^{21} J_{r,i,j}^{23} \\ \frac{|N_v| + \frac{1}{\alpha} J_{r,i,j}^{22}}{\omega} & \alpha & \alpha \end{bmatrix}.$$

In this equation, C_{nm} denotes the component (n, m) of the above matrix. For the definitions of the other notations, readers can refer to (5). Consequently, (5) is simplified, as shown in (8) and the second loop body of Algorithm 2. With this simplification, five divisions of the loop body related to k are removed entirely. Furthermore, the six multiplications and eight additions are reduced to three and six, respectively

$$u_{r,i,j}^{k+1} = (1 - \omega)u_{r,i,j}^k + C_{r,i,j}^{11} \left(\sum N_u \right) + C_{r,i,j}^{12} (v_{r,i,j}^k) + C_{r,i,j}^{13}$$

$$v_{r,i,j}^{k+1} = (1 - \omega)v_{r,i,j}^k + C_{r,i,j}^{21} \left(\sum N_v \right) + C_{r,i,j}^{22} (u_{r,i,j}^{k+1}) + C_{r,i,j}^{23}.$$

We propose a VLSI design based on our MRP approach. The proposed design shown in Fig. 2 consists of six units, a main controller, and internal multirow memories (iMEMs). The channel extension unit (CEU) is designed for converting a single-channel gray image into three channels. Using the three outputs from the CEU, flows are computed recursively and optimized by the precomputation unit (PCU) and flow calculation unit (FCU), which implement the first and second loop bodies of Algorithm 2, respectively. To support the coarse-to-fine warping approach, the image warping unit (IWU) warps an original image using computed flows, and these flows are enlarged by the flow upsampling unit (FUU) for a finer scale. In addition, the pyramid generation unit (PGU) generates an input image pyramid with five scales in parallel and writes them to external memory independent of the flow computation. The main controller handles the operational sequence of all units and has a host interface module to receive parameters

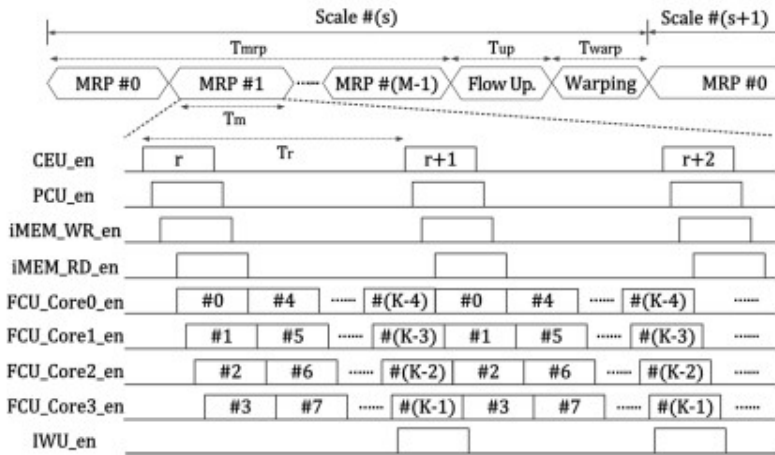


Fig 2: Main timing diagram to control the operation.

such as ω and α from the host CPU. Furthermore, write direct memory access (WDMA) and read direct memory access (RDMA) modules are placed to access the external memory. To share one advanced extensible interface (AXI) channel, the direct memory access (DMA) selection unit controls the DMA modules using a round-robin strategy. We describe the operation of the aforementioned units in detail as follows.

PROPOSED EXTENSION:

MEMORY DESIGN USING CLOCK GATING:

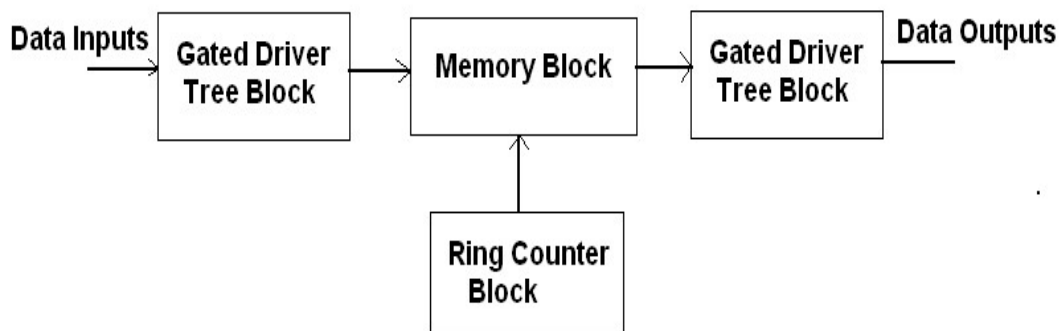


Fig 3: Block Diagram For Proposed Delay Buffer

GATED DRIVER THREE:

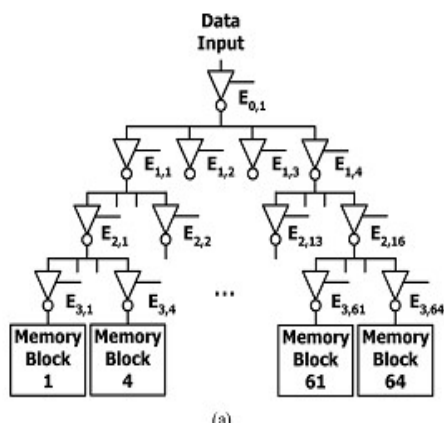


Fig 4: Gated Driver Tree

Gated driver tree derived from the same clock gating signals of the blocks that they drive. Thus, in a quad-tree clock distribution network, the “gate” signal of the gate driver at the level (CKE) should be asserted when the active DET flip-flop
MODIFIED RING COUNTER:

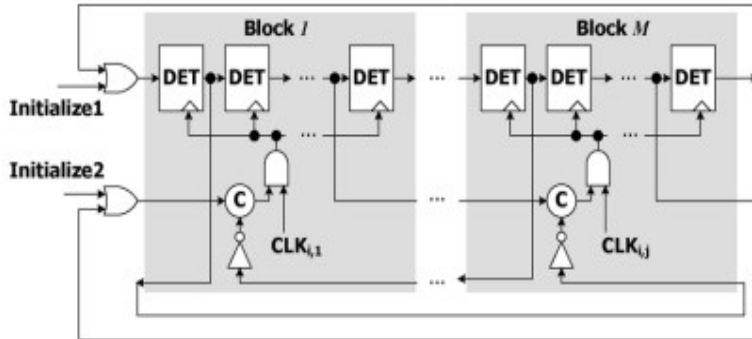


Fig 5: Modified Ring Counter

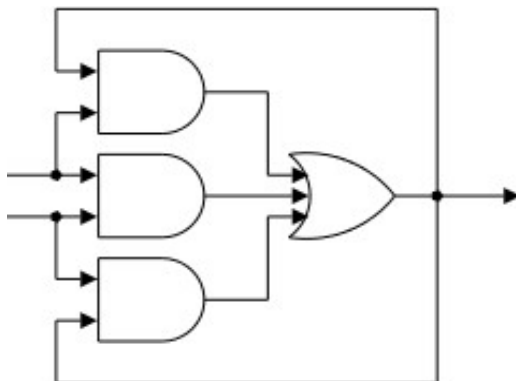
DET (Double edge triggered flip-flops:

Double-edge-triggered (DET) flip-flops are utilized to reduce the operating frequency by half. The logic construction of a double-edge-triggered (DET) flip-flop, which can receive input signal at two levels the clock, is analyzed and a new circuit design of CMOS DET . by transmission gates

C ELEMENT:

The Muller C-element, or Muller C-gate, is a commonly used asynchronous logic component originally designed by David E. Muller. It applies logical operations on the inputs and has hysteresis.

Here is the truth table for a 2-input c-gate. Y_{n-1} denotes a "no change" condition.



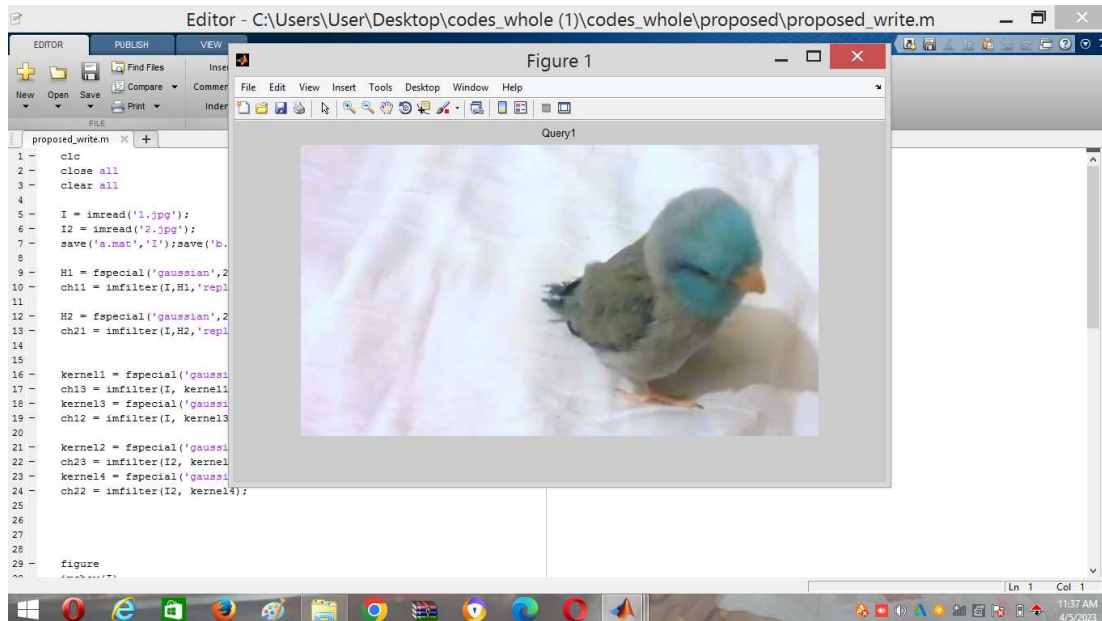
A	B	Q
0	0	0
0	1	Q(t-1)
1	0	Q(t-1)
1	1	1

Fig 6: C- Element

Table 1: Truth Table For C-Element

The C-element stores its previous state with two cross-coupled inverters, similar to an SRAM cell. One of the inverters is weaker than the rest of the circuit, so it can be overpowered by the pull-up and pull-down networks.

RESULTS:



Flig : Proposed Write input image

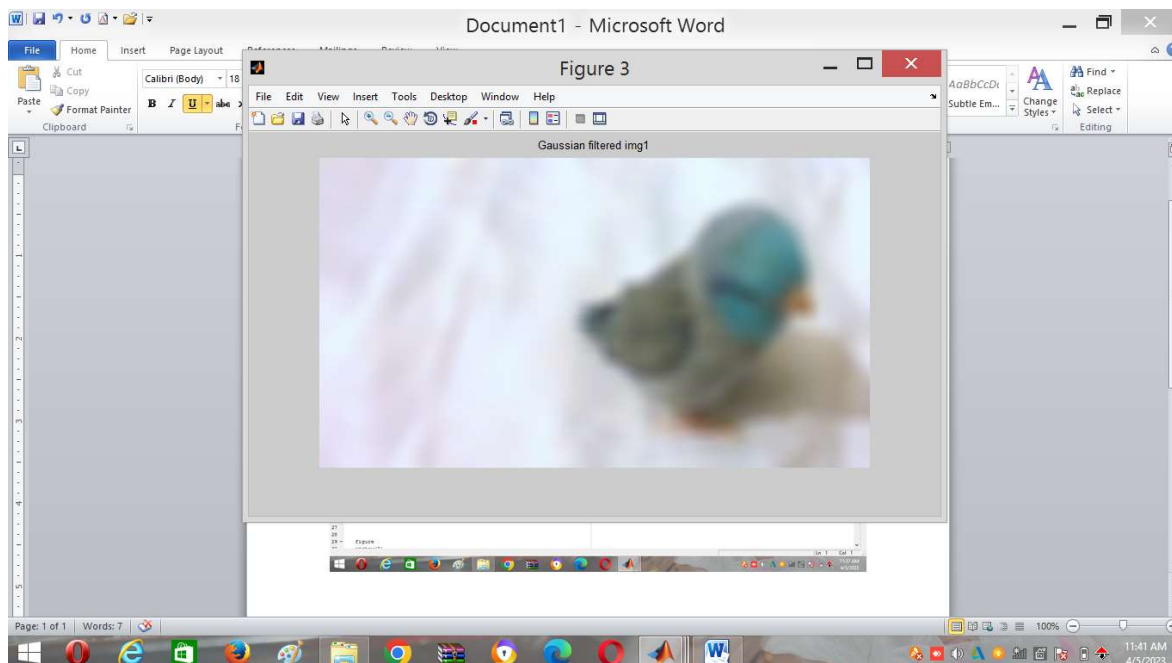


Fig: proposed Gaussian filtering image

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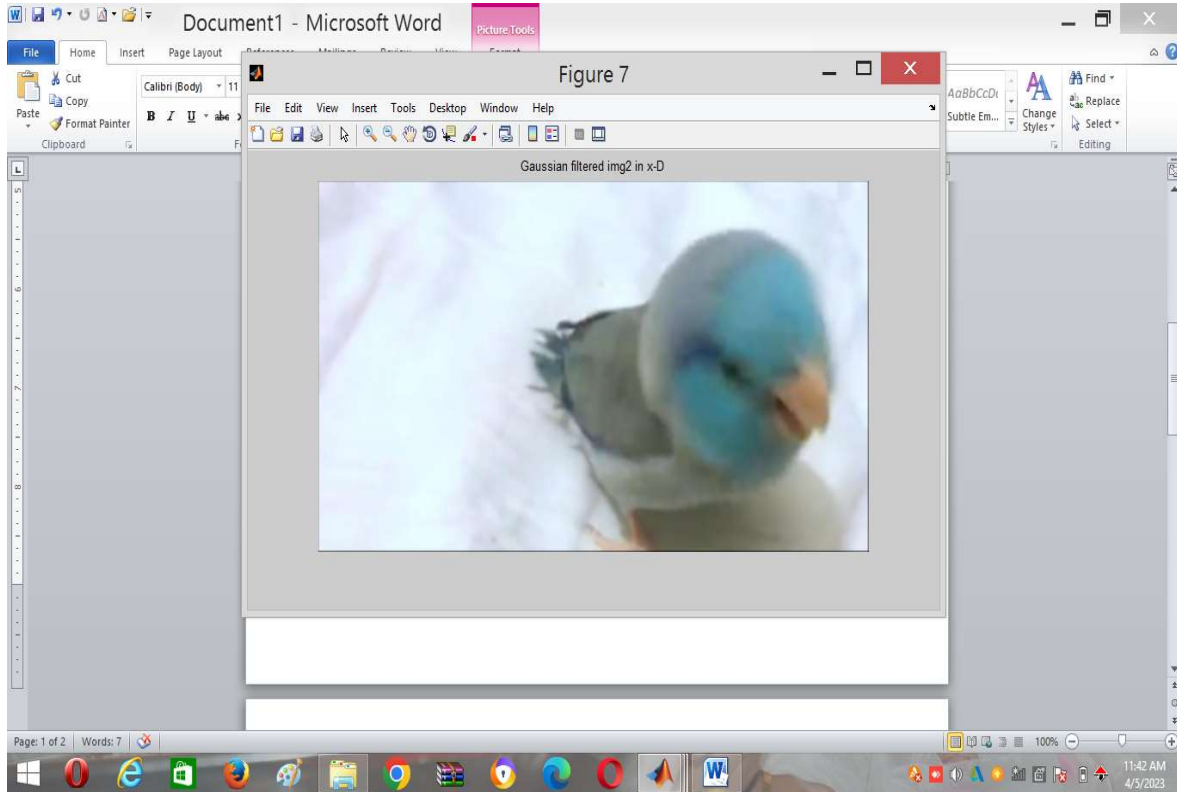


Fig : proposed gaussian filtering img XD

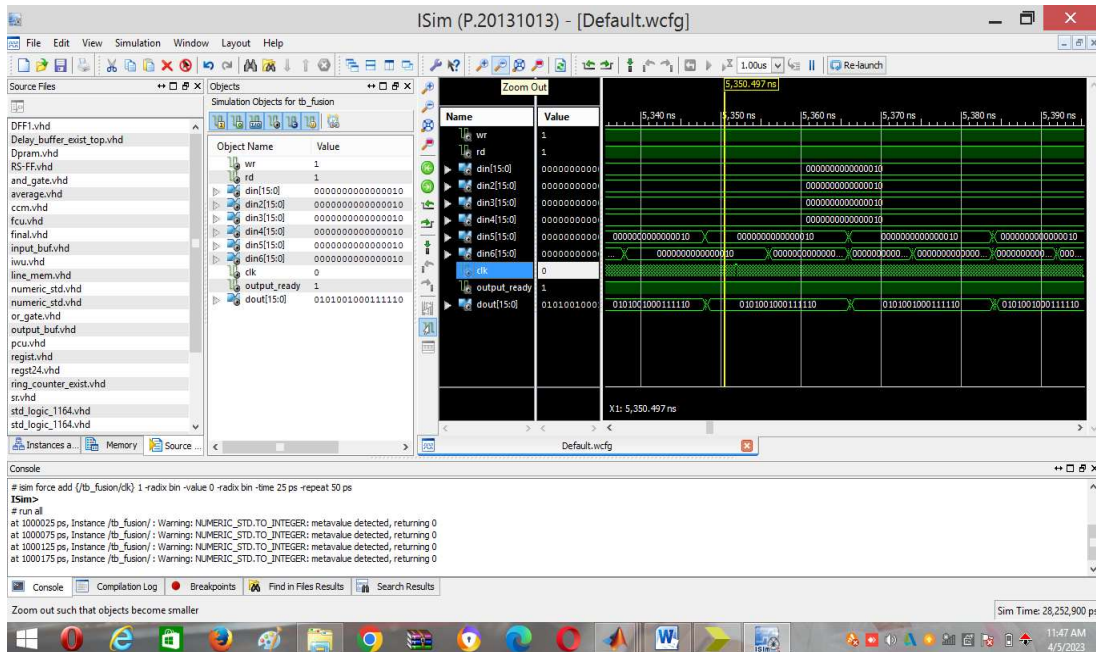


Fig 7: proposed simulation result

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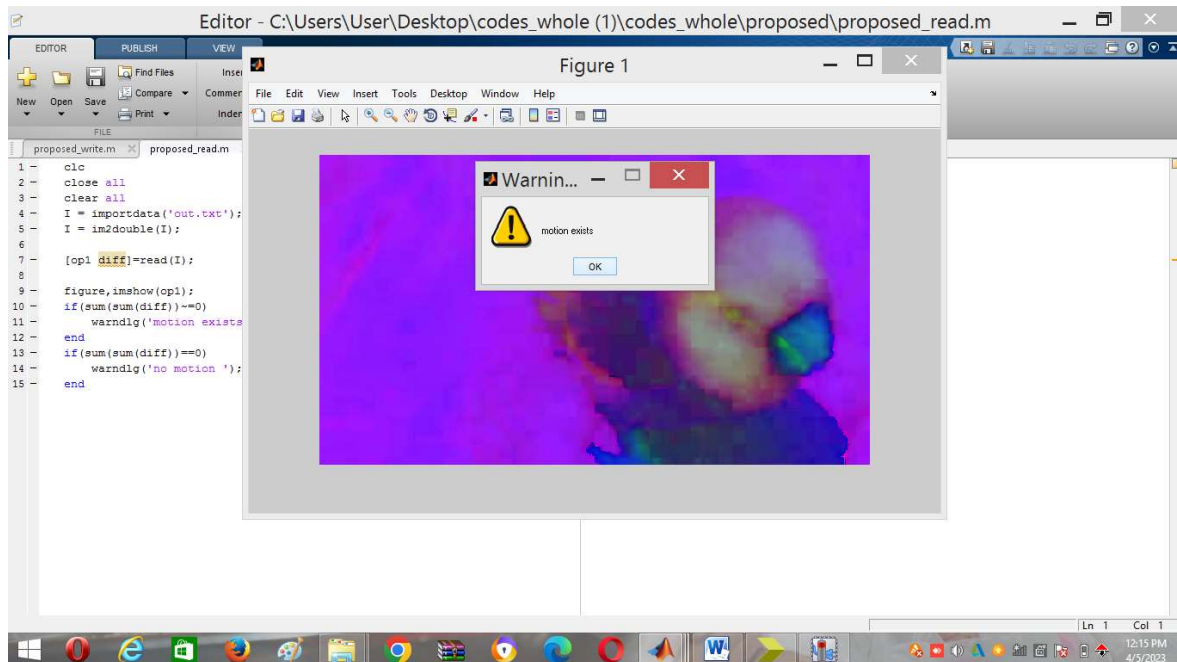


Fig : Motion Exit

	EXISTING With out clock gating technique	PROPOSED With clock gating technique
POWER (mW)	266	125
THROUGHPUT(Mbps)	13	23

Table 2: Comparison table

CONCLUSION and FUTURE SCOPE:

Finally, proposed MRP approach for reducing excessive access to external memory caused by the global and iterative process of the global optical flow method while using internal memory resources minimally. The proposed approach divides an image into multiple small sub images consisting of multiple rows, i.e., multirow, to iteratively compute the flows using a small amount of internal memory instead of using external memory. The flows of each multi row were sequentially estimated without any overlap between multirows to avoid any degradation of the speed. In particular, to avoid discontinuity artifacts deriving from the boundaries of multirow, we introduced effective boundary conditions that exploited the estimated flows at the bottom row of the previous multirow for the flow estimation of the current multirow. In addition, the complex main equations of the global method are simplified using

precomputations to boost the processing speed and reduce the complexity. The proposed system can be modified further to detect and classify objects with very high speed. Adoption of recent numerical optimization and implementation techniques will be explored for future research.

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