

Theoretical Foundations of the UML

Lecture 6: Communicating Finite-State Machines

Joost-Pieter Katoen

Lehrstuhl für Informatik 2
Software Modeling and Verification Group

<http://moves.rwth-aachen.de/i2/uml09100/>

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Communicating Finite-State Machines
- 3 Semantics of Communicating Finite-State Machines
- 4 Emptiness Problem for CFMs

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- Consider an MSGs as **complete** system **specifications**
 - they describe a full set of possible system scenarios
- Can we obtain “realisations“ that exhibit precisely these scenarios?
- Map MSGs, i.e., scenarios onto an executable **model**
 - model each process by a **finite-state automaton**
 - that communicate via **unbounded FIFO channels**

⇒ **Communicating finite-state machines**

The need for synchronisation messages

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- 2 Communicating Finite-State Machines
- 3 Semantics of Communicating Finite-State Machines
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Definition

We fix the following parameters:

- \mathcal{P} a finite set of at least two (sequential) processes
- \mathcal{C} a finite set of message contents

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- $Comm := \{(!(p, q, a), ?(q, p, a)) \mid (p, q) \in Ch, a \in \mathcal{C}\}$

Definition

A **communicating finite-state machine** (CFM) over \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{C} is a structure

$$\mathcal{A} = (((S_p, \Delta_p))_{p \in \mathcal{P}}, \mathbb{D}, s_{init}, F)$$

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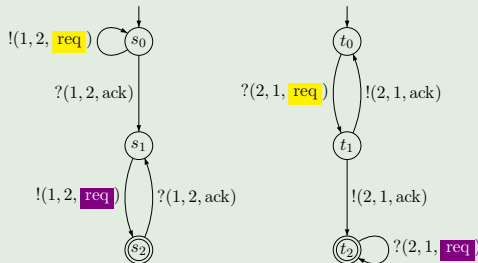
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- $F \subseteq S_{\mathcal{A}}$ is the set of **global final states**

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Communicating finite-state machines

Example

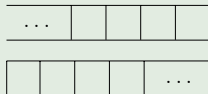
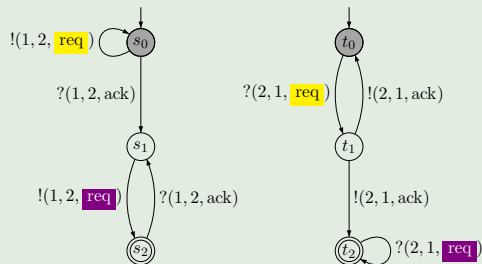


CFM \mathcal{A} over $\mathcal{P} = \{1, 2\}$
and $\mathcal{C} = \{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

- $\mathbb{D} = \{\text{req}, \text{ack}, \text{ } \}$
- $S_1 = \{s_0, s_1, s_2\}$
- $S_2 = \{t_0, t_1, t_2\}$
- $\Delta_1: s_0 \xrightarrow{!(1, 2, \text{req})}_1 s_0 \dots$
- $\Delta_2: t_0 \xrightarrow{?(2, 1, \text{req})}_2 t_1 \dots$
- $s_{\text{init}} = (s_0, t_0)$
- $F = \{(s_2, t_2)\}$

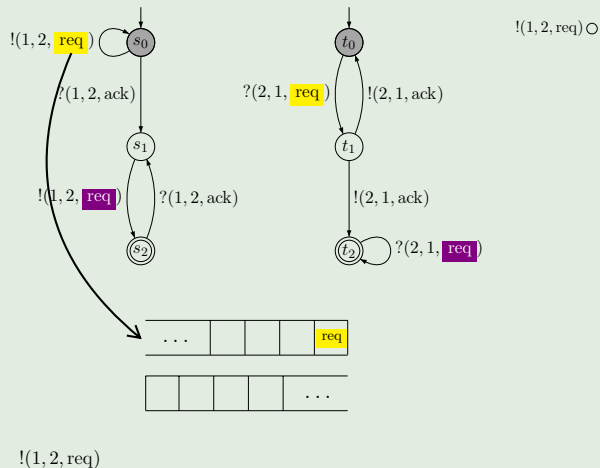
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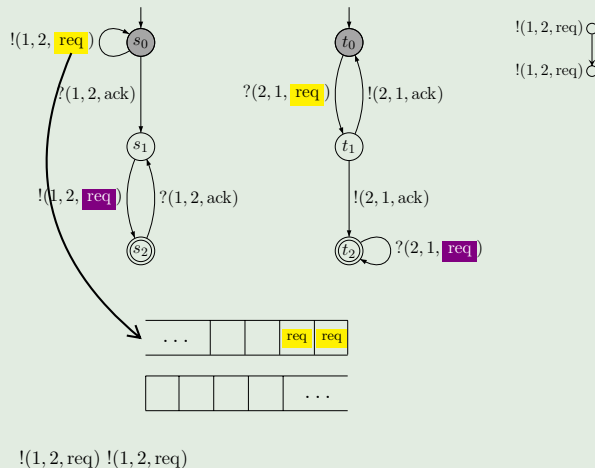
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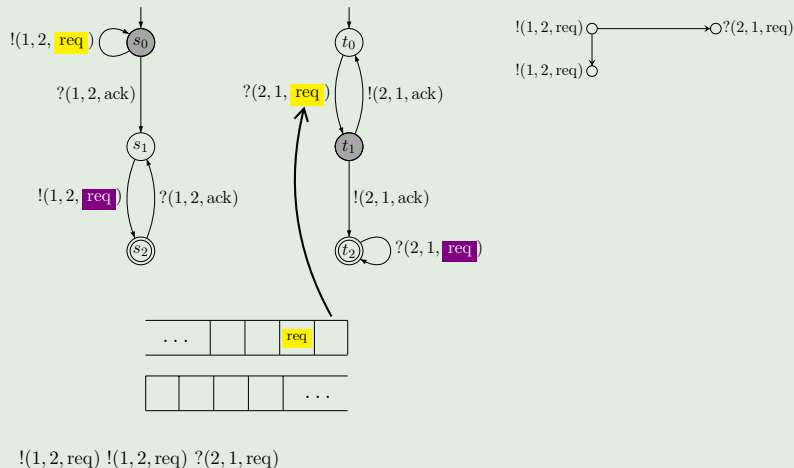
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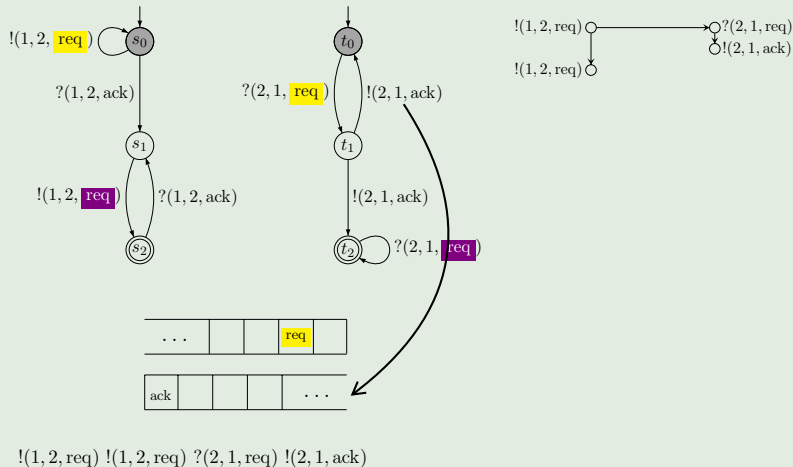
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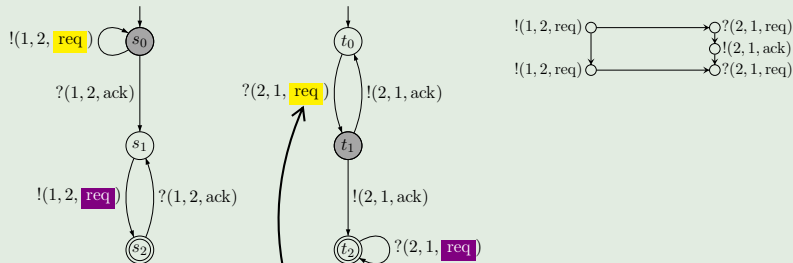
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Communicating finite-state machines

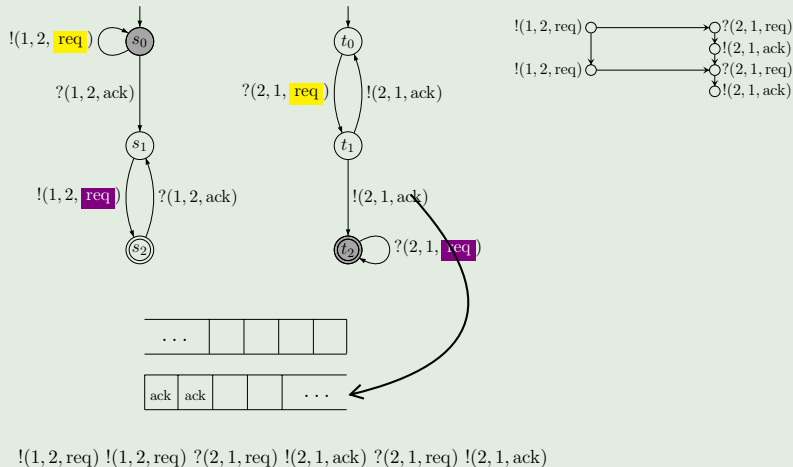
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$!(1, 2, \text{req})$ $!(1, 2, \text{req})$ $?(2, 1, \text{req})$ $!(2, 1, \text{ack})$ $?(2, 1, \text{req})$

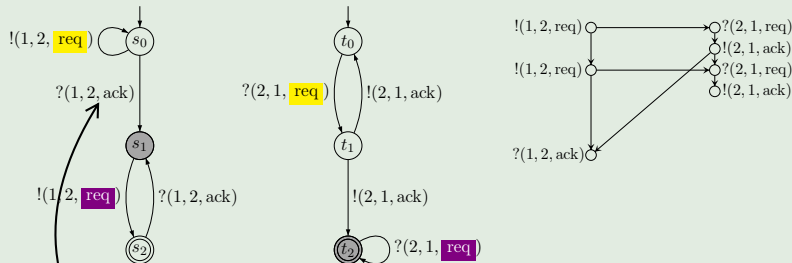
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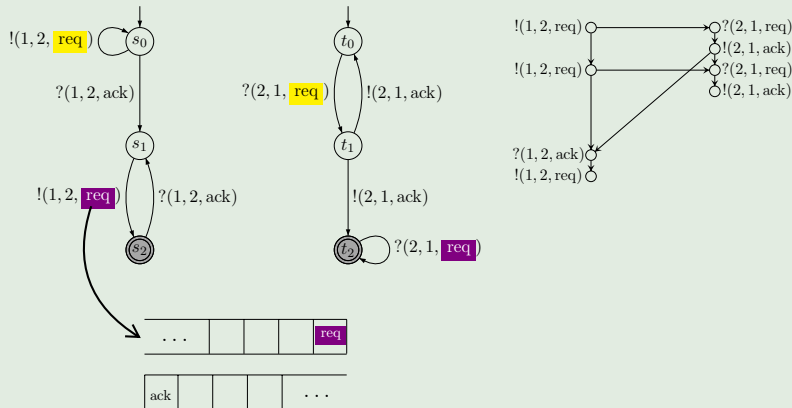
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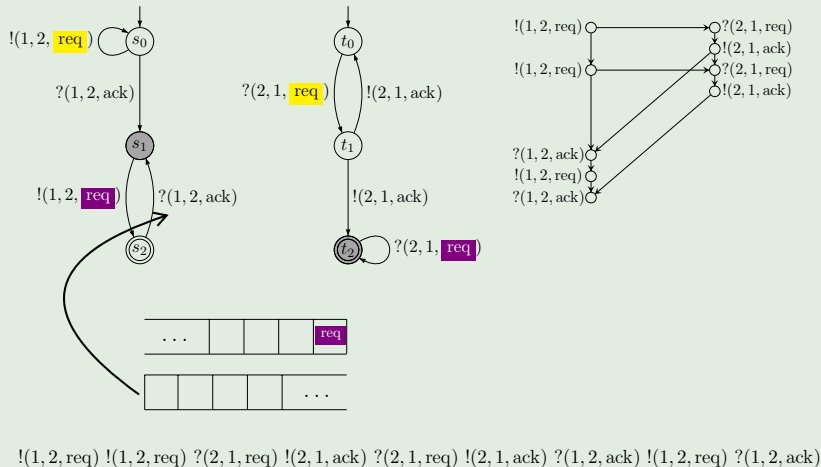
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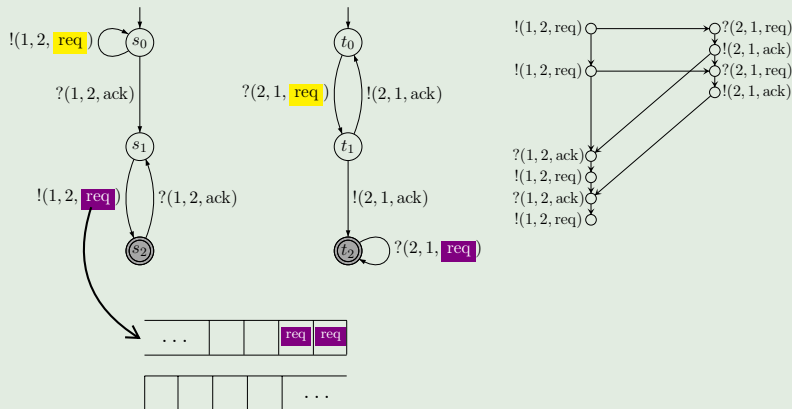
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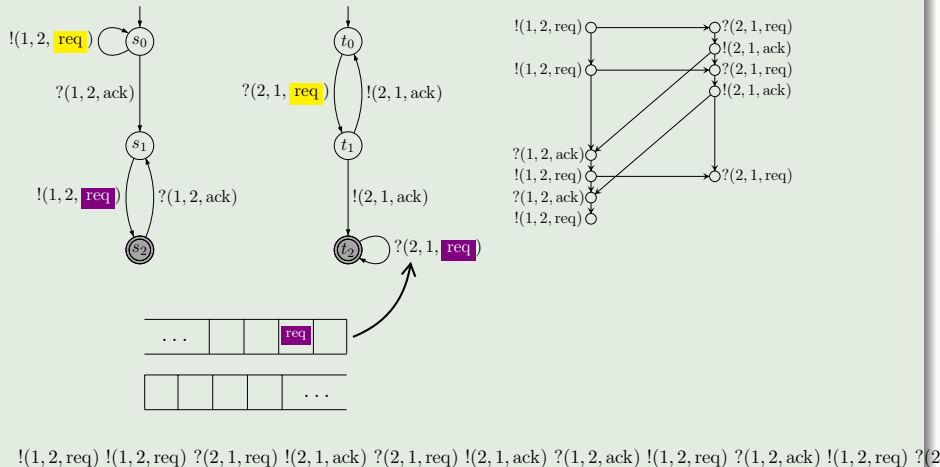
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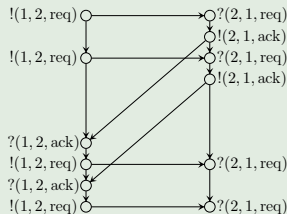
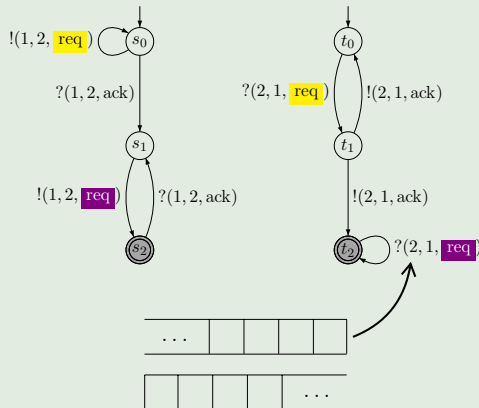
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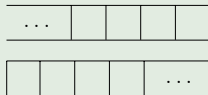
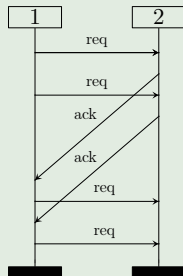
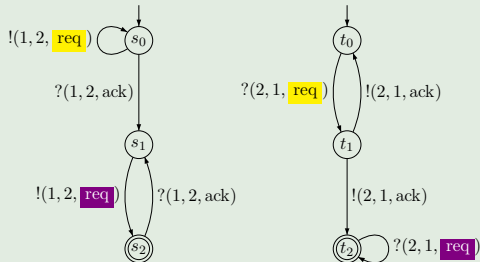
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Formal semantics of CFMs

Let $\mathcal{A} = (((S_p, \Delta_p))_{p \in \mathcal{P}}, \mathbb{D}, s_{init}, F)$ be a CFM over \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{C} .

Definition (configurations)

Configurations of \mathcal{A} : $Conf_{\mathcal{A}} := S_{\mathcal{A}} \times \{\eta \mid \eta : Ch \rightarrow (\mathcal{C} \times \mathbb{D})^*\}$

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$\Rightarrow_{\mathcal{A}} \subseteq Conf_{\mathcal{A}} \times Act \times \mathbb{D} \times Conf_{\mathcal{A}}$ is defined as follows:

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- sending a message: $((\bar{s}, \eta), !(p, q, a), m, (\bar{s}', \eta')) \in \Longrightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}$ if
 - $(\bar{s}[p], !(p, q, a), m, \bar{s}'[p]) \in \Delta_p$
 - $\eta' = \eta[(p, q) := (a, m) \cdot \eta((p, q))]$
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- receipt of a message: $((\bar{s}, \eta), ?(p, q, a), m, (\bar{s}', \eta')) \in \Longrightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}$ if
 - $(\bar{s}[p], ?(p, q, a), m, \bar{s}'[p]) \in \Delta_p$
 - $\eta(q, p) = w \cdot (a, m) \neq \epsilon$ and $\eta' = \eta[(q, p) := w]$
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Example

Linearizations of a CFM

Let $\mathcal{A} = (((S_p, \Delta_p))_{p \in \mathcal{P}}, \mathbb{D}, s_{init}, F)$ be a CFM over \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{C} .

Definition (accepting runs)

A **run** of \mathcal{A} on $\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n \in Act^*$ is a sequence $\rho = \gamma_0 m_1 \gamma_1 \dots \gamma_{n-1} m_n \gamma_n$ such that

- $\gamma_0 = (s_{init}, \eta_\varepsilon)$ with η_ε mapping any channel to ε
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Run ρ is **accepting** if $\gamma_n \in F \times \{\eta_\varepsilon\}$.

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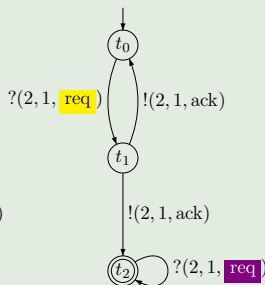
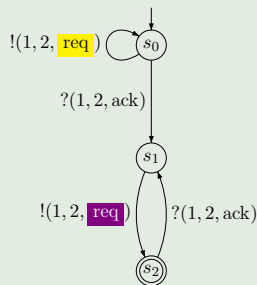
Definition (linearization of a CFM)

The set of **linearizations** of CFM \mathcal{A} :

$Lin(\mathcal{A}) := \{w \in Act^* \mid \text{there is an accepting run of } \mathcal{A} \text{ on } w\}$

Linearizations of an example CFM

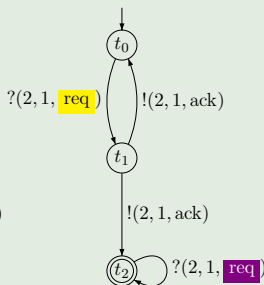
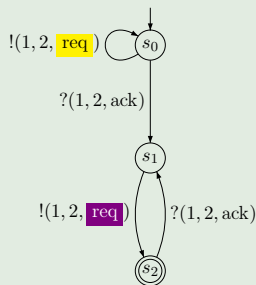
Example



CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

Linearizations of an example CFM

Example



CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

$\text{Lin}(\mathcal{A}) = \{w \in \text{Act}^* \mid \text{there is } n \geq 1 \text{ such that:}$

$$w \upharpoonright 1 = !(1, 2, \text{req}))^n \text{?(1, 2, ack)} !(1, 2, \text{req}))^n$$

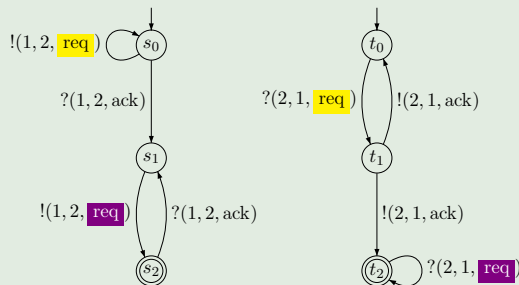
$$w \upharpoonright 2 = \text{?(2, 1, req)} !(2, 1, \text{ack}))^n \text{?(2, 1, req))^n$$

for any $u \in \text{Pref}(w)$ and $(p, q) \in \text{Ch}$:

$$\sum_{a \in C} |u|_{!(p, q, a)} - \sum_{a \in C} |u|_{?(q, p, a)} \geq 0 \}$$

Linearizations of an example CFM

Example

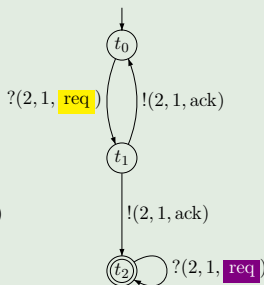
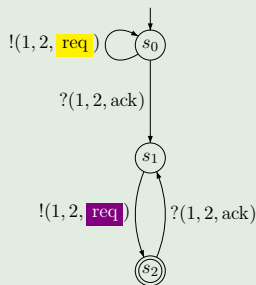


CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

- $!(1, 2, \text{req})$ and $!(2, 1, \text{ack})$ are always independent.
 - $!(1, 2, \text{req})$ and $?(1, 2, \text{ack})$ are always dependent.
 - $!(1, 2, \text{req})$ and $?(2, 1, \text{req})$ are **sometimes** independent.
- ↪ non-regular (word) languages

Linearizations and MSCs of an example CFM

Example



CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

$Lin(\mathcal{A}) = \{w \in Act^* \mid \text{there is } n \geq 1 \text{ such that:}$

$$w \upharpoonright 1 = (!(1, 2, \text{req}))^n (?(1, 2, \text{ack}) !(1, 2, \text{req}))^n$$

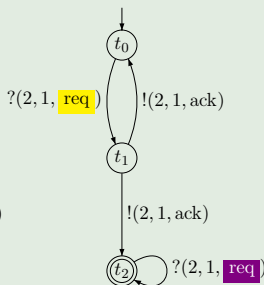
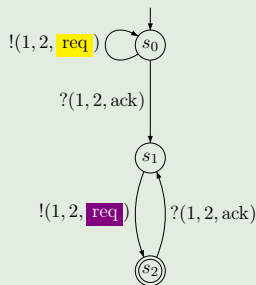
$$w \upharpoonright 2 = (?(2, 1, \text{req}) !(2, 1, \text{ack}))^n (?(2, 1, \text{req}))^n$$

for any $u \in Pref(w)$ and $(p, q) \in Ch$:

$$\sum_{a \in C} |u|_{!(p,q,a)} - \sum_{a \in C} |u|_{?(q,p,a)} \geq 0 \}$$

Linearizations and MSCs of an example CFM

Example



CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

$L(\mathcal{A}) = \{M \in \mathbb{M} \mid \text{there is } n \geq 1 \text{ such that:}$

$$M \upharpoonright 1 = (!(1, 2, \text{req}))^k (?(1, 2, \text{ack}) !(1, 2, \text{req}))^n$$

$$M \upharpoonright 2 = (?(2, 1, \text{req}) !(2, 1, \text{ack}))^n (?(2, 1, \text{req}))^k \}$$

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Communicating Finite-State Machines
- 3 Semantics of Communicating Finite-State Machines
- 4 Emptiness Problem for CFMs

Elementary questions are undecidable for CFMs

Proposition ([Brand & Zafiropulo 1983])

The following problem is undecidable (even if \mathcal{C} is a singleton):

INPUT: CFM \mathcal{A} over processes \mathcal{P} and message contents \mathcal{C}

QUESTION: Is $L(\mathcal{A})$ empty?

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Proof (sketch)

Reduction from halting problem for Turing machine

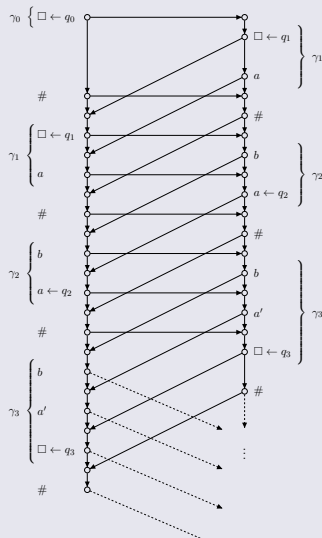
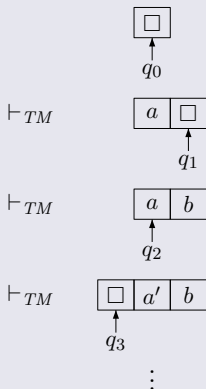
$TM = (Q, \Sigma, \Delta, \square, q_0, q_f)$ to emptiness for a CFM with two processes.

Build CFM $\mathcal{A} = ((\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2), \mathbb{D}, s_{init}, F)$ over $\{1, 2\}$ and some singleton set such that $L(\mathcal{A}) \neq \emptyset$ iff TM can reach q_f .

- Process 1 sends current configurations to process 2
- Process 2 chooses successor configurations and sends them to 1
- $\mathbb{D} = \left((\Sigma \cup \{\square\}) \times (Q \cup \{_ \}) \right) \cup \{\#\}$

A CFM simulating a Turing machine

Proof (contd.)



A CFM simulating a Turing machine

Proof (contd.)

- **Left or standstill transition:** Process 2 may just wait for a symbol containing a state of TM and to alter it correspondingly. In the example, the left-moving transition (q_2, a, a', L, q_3) is applied so that process 2
 - sends b unchanged back to process 1
 - detects (receives) $a \leftarrow q_2$
 - sends a' to process 1 entering a state indicating that the symbol to be sent next has to be equipped with q_3
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- **Right transition:** Process 2 has to guess what the position right before the head is. For example, provided process 2 decided in favor of (q_2, a, a', R, q_3) while reading b , it would have to
 - send $b \leftarrow q_3$ instead of just b , entering some state $t(a \leftarrow q_2)$
 - receive $a \leftarrow q_2$ (no other symbol can be received in state $t(a \leftarrow q_2)$)
 - send a' back to process 1

Proof (contd.)

- Introduce local final states s_f and t_f , one for process 1 and one for process 2, respectively (i.e., $F = \{(s_f, t_f)\}$ and \mathcal{A} is locally accepting).

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- As process 2 modifies a configuration of TM locally, finitely many states are sufficient in \mathcal{A} . □