

# Theoretical Foundations of the UML

## Lecture 6: Communicating Finite-State Machines

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# Outline

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

# Overview

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

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- $\mathcal{P}$  a finite set of at least two (sequential) **processes**
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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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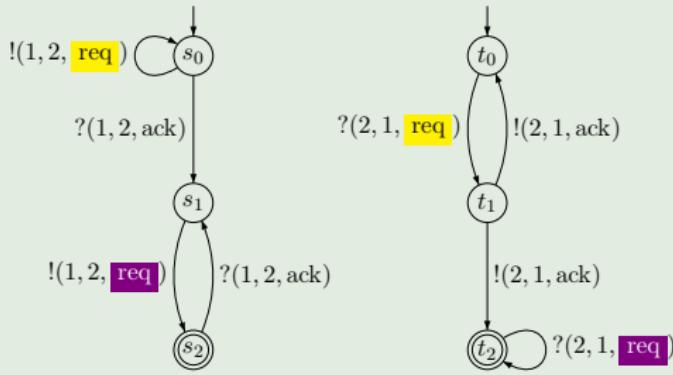
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- $F \subseteq S_{\mathcal{A}}$  is the set of **global final states**

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# Communicating finite-state machines

## Example

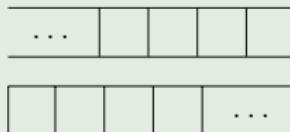
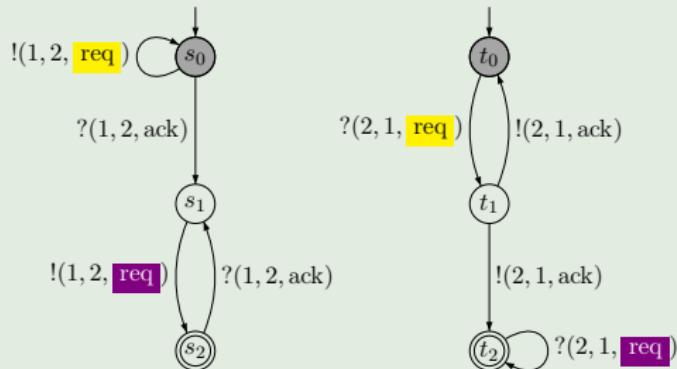


CFM  $\mathcal{A}$  over  $\mathcal{P} = \{1, 2\}$   
and  $\mathcal{C} = \{\text{req, ack}\}$

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

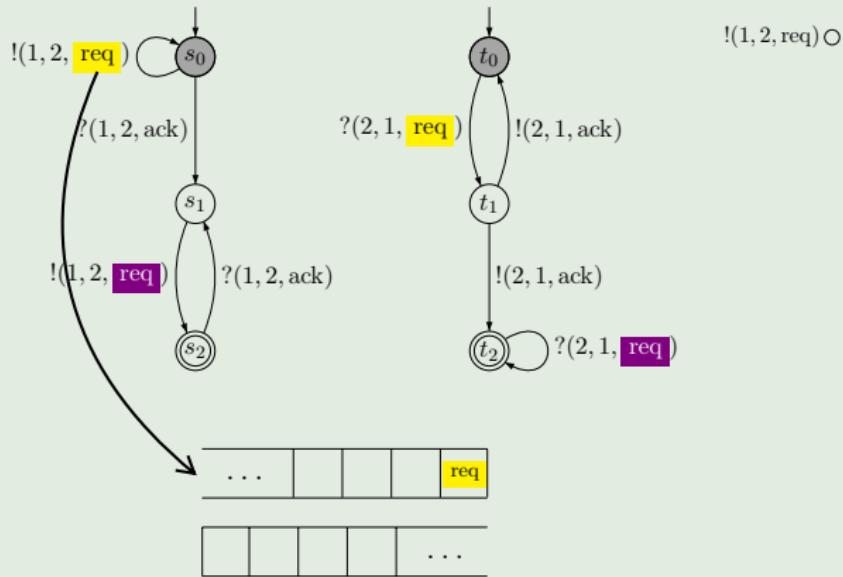
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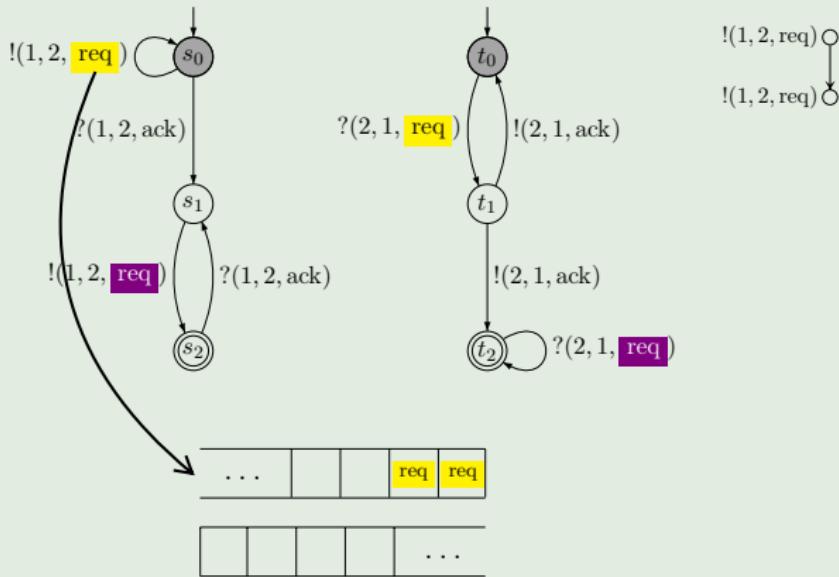
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$!(1, 2, \text{req})$

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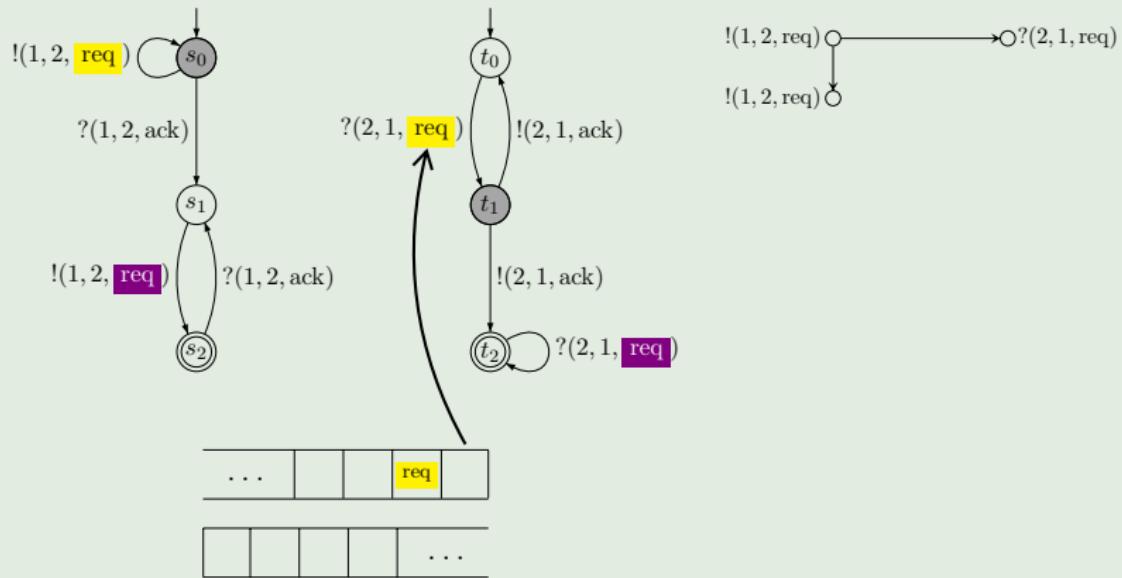
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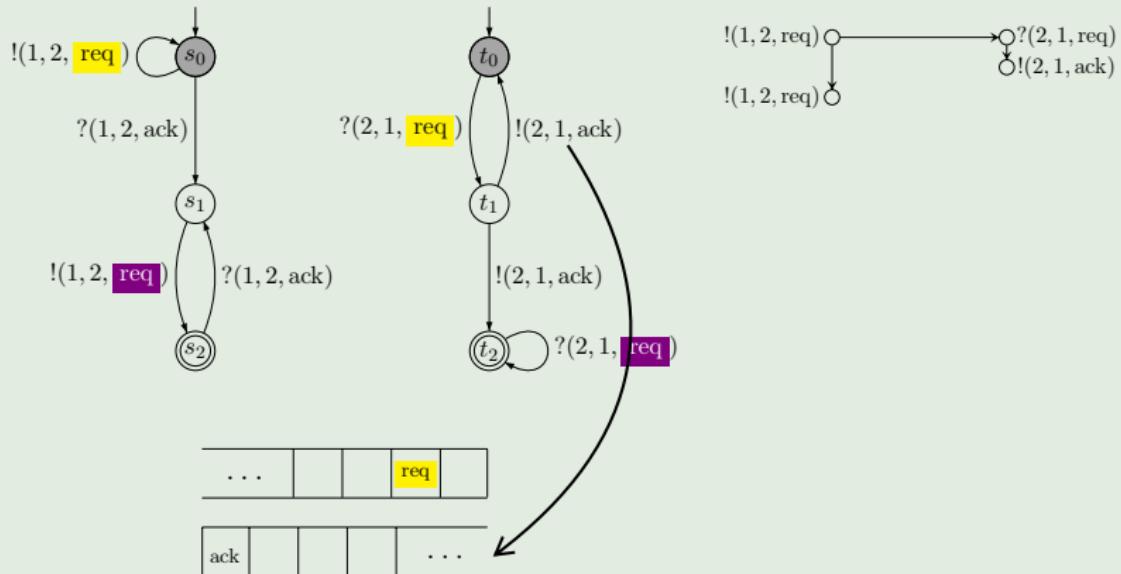
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$!(1, 2, \text{req})$   $!(1, 2, \text{req})$   $?(2, 1, \text{req})$

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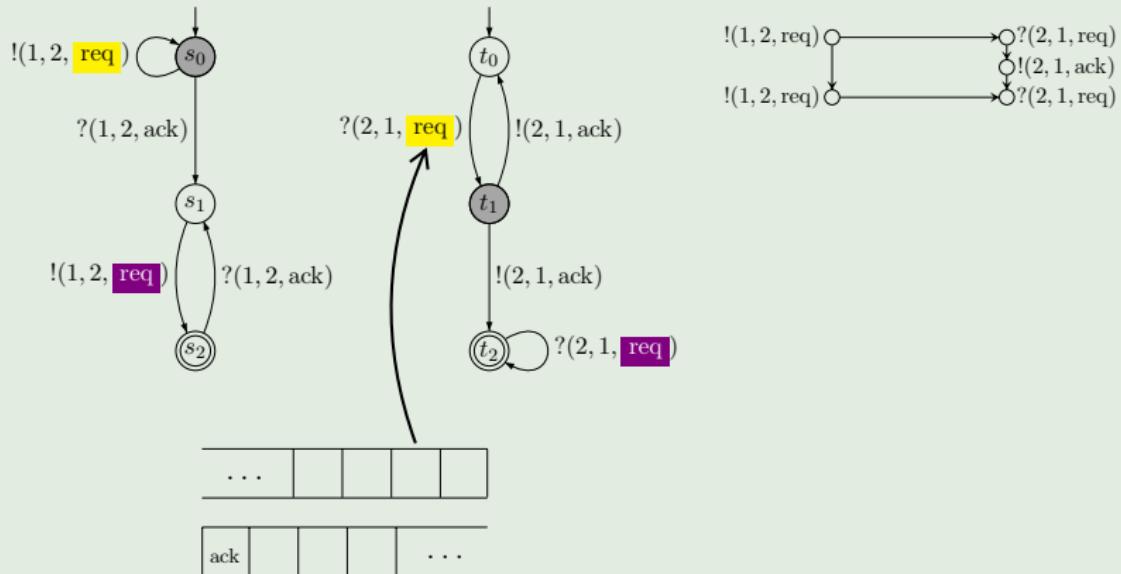
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$!(1, 2, \text{req}) \quad !(1, 2, \text{req}) \quad ?(2, 1, \text{req}) \quad !(2, 1, \text{ack})$

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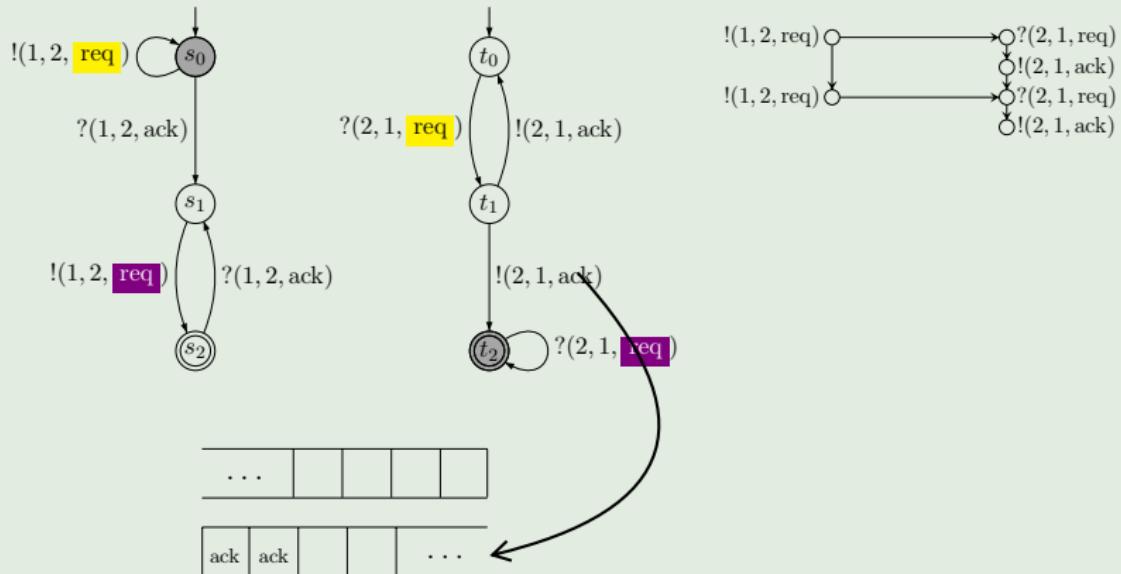
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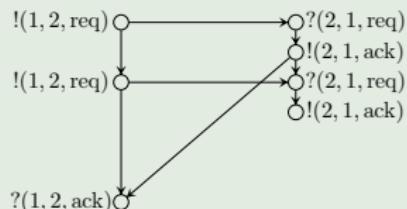
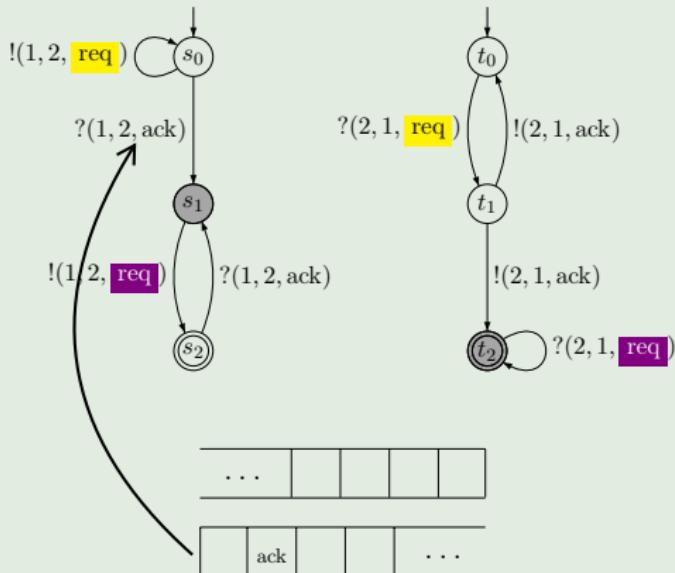
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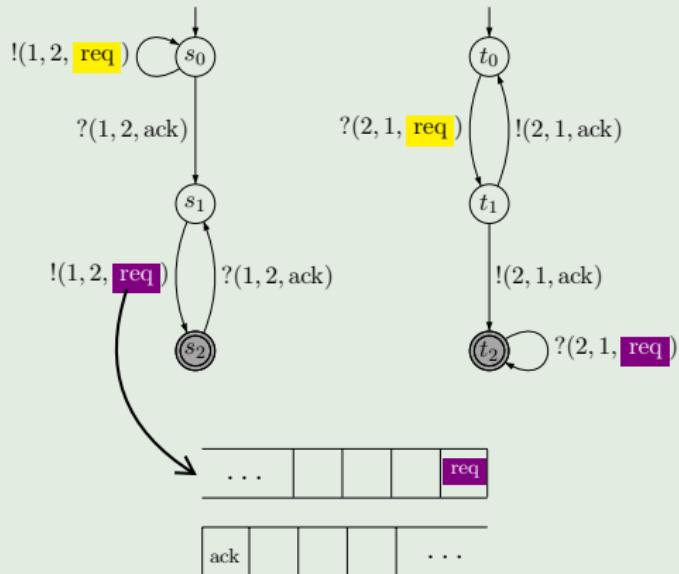
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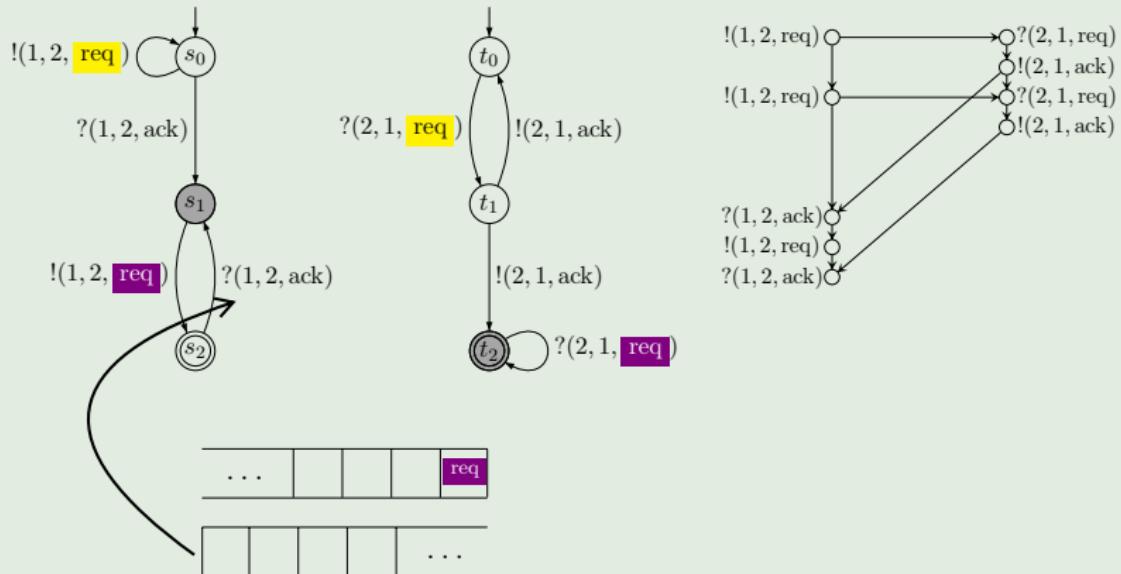
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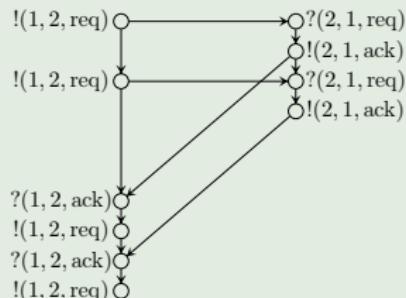
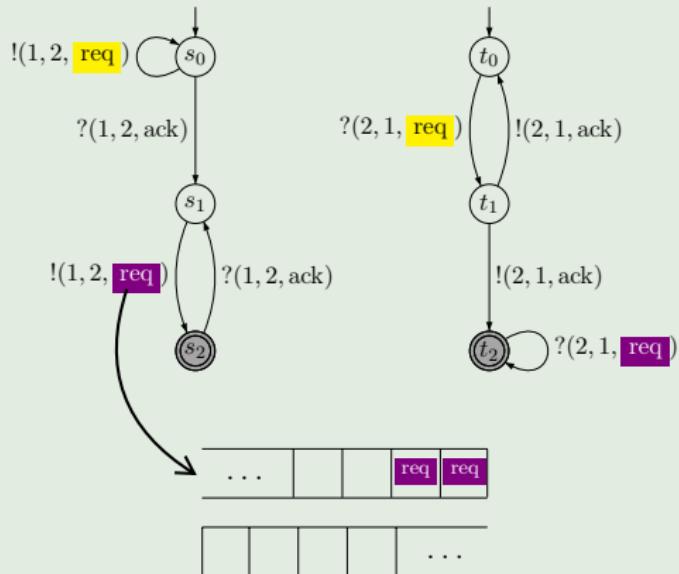
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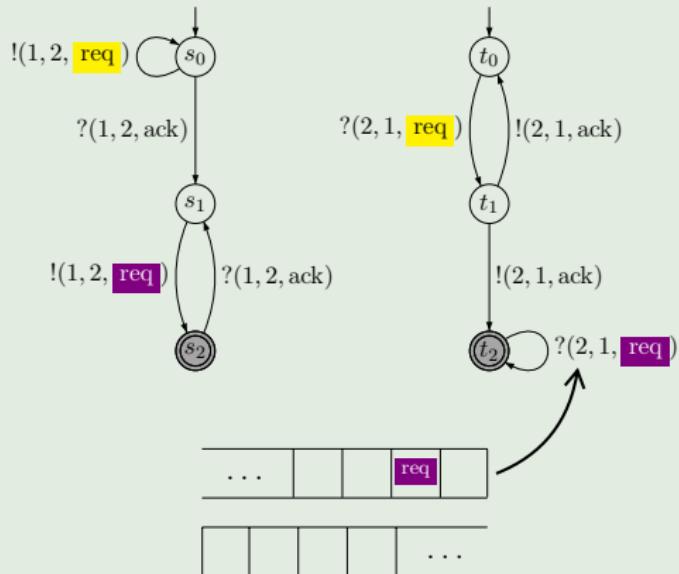
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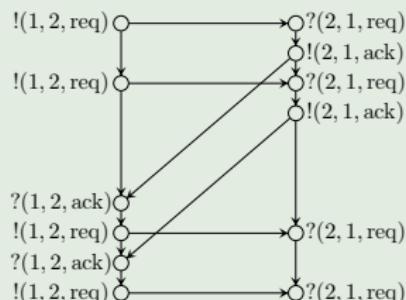
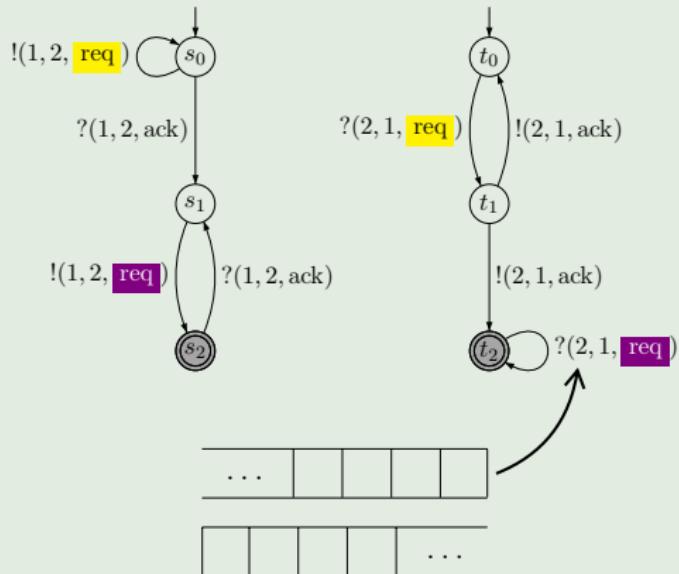
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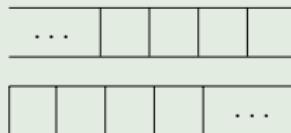
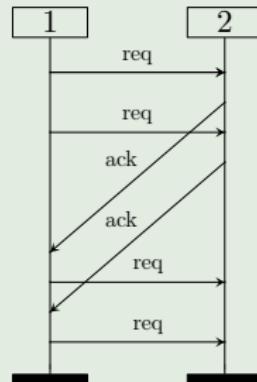
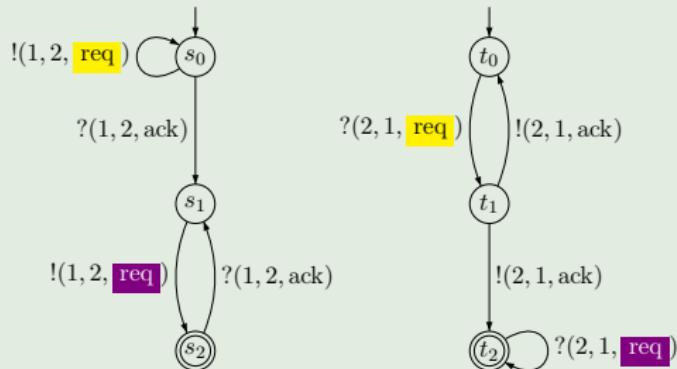
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## Definition (configurations)

**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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  - $\eta' = \eta[(\textcolor{red}{p}, \textcolor{blue}{q}) := (a, m) \cdot \eta((\textcolor{red}{p}, \textcolor{blue}{q}))]$
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- receipt of a message:  $((\bar{s}, \eta), ?(\textcolor{red}{p}, \textcolor{blue}{q}, a), m, (\bar{s}', \eta')) \in \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}$  if
  - $(\bar{s}[\textcolor{red}{p}], ?(\textcolor{red}{p}, \textcolor{blue}{q}, a), m, \bar{s}'[\textcolor{red}{p}]) \in \Delta_p$
  - $\eta(\textcolor{blue}{q}, \textcolor{red}{p}) = w \cdot (a, m) \neq \epsilon$  and  $\eta' = \eta[(\textcolor{blue}{q}, \textcolor{red}{p}) := w]$
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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  $\eta_\varepsilon$  mapping any channel to  $\varepsilon$
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# Linearizations of a CFM

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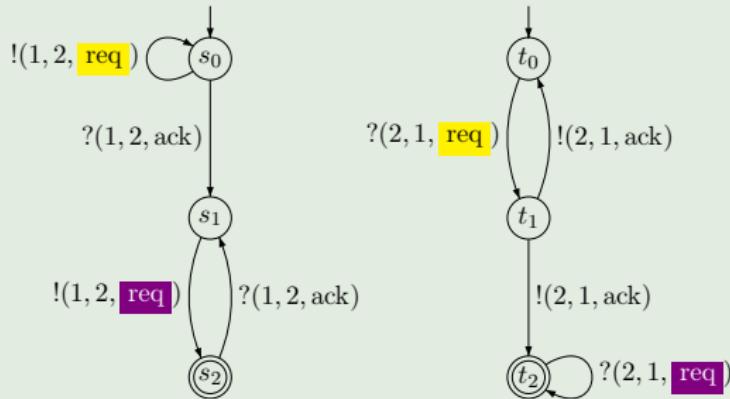
## Definition (linearization of a CFM)

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

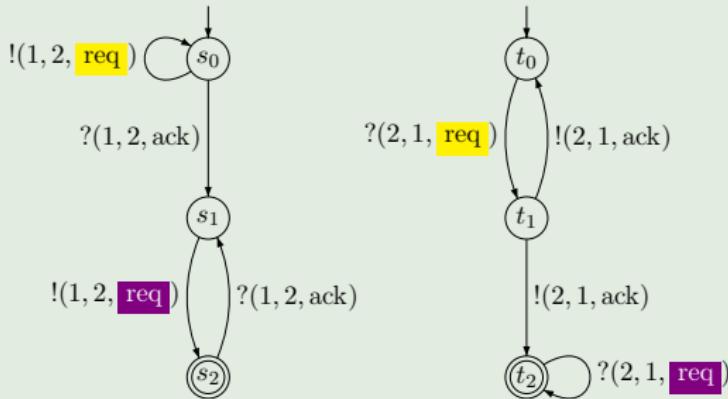
## Example



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

# Linearizations of an example CFM

## Example



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

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

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

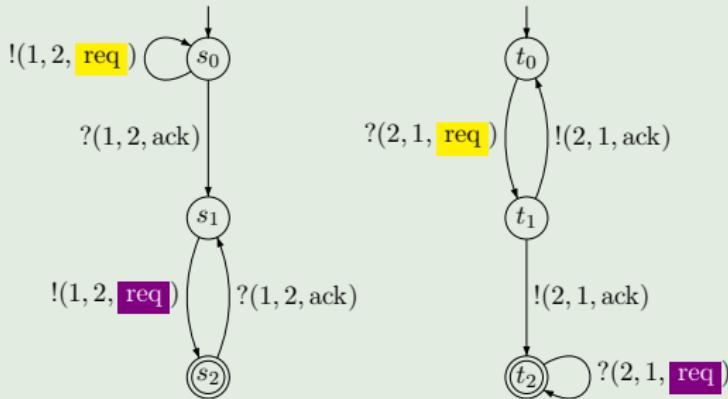
$$w \upharpoonright 2 = ?(2, 1, \text{req}) \ !(2, 1, \text{ack})^n \ ?(2, 1, \text{req})^n$$

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 of an example CFM

## Example



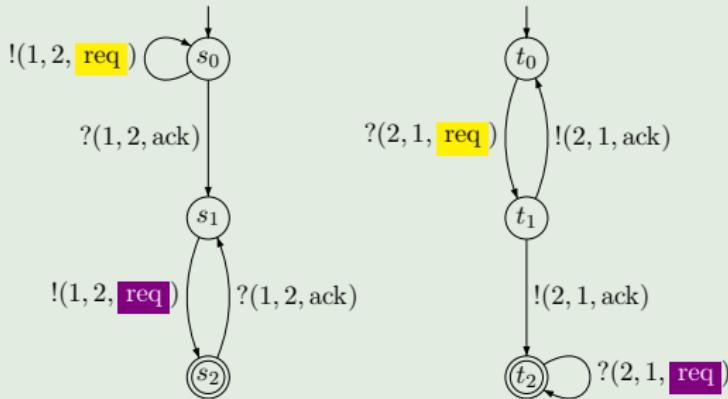
CFM  $\mathcal{A}$  over  
 $\{1, 2\}$  and  $\{\text{req, ack}\}$

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

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

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

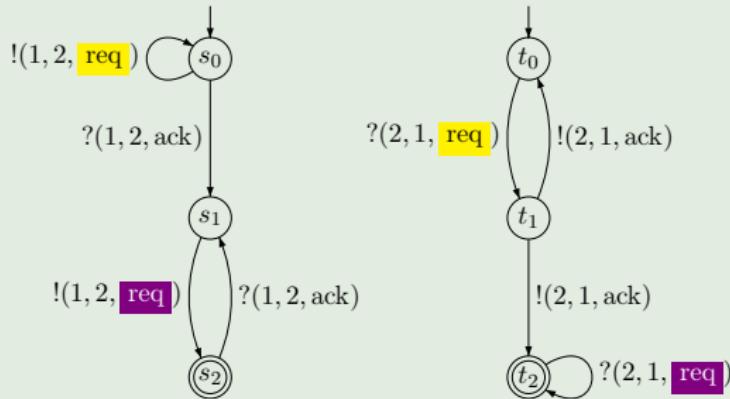
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# Linearizations and MSCs of an example CFM

## Example



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

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

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

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

# Overview

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

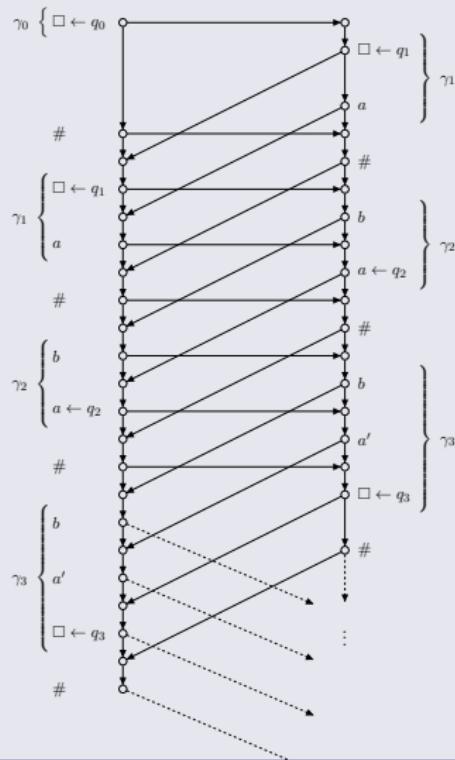
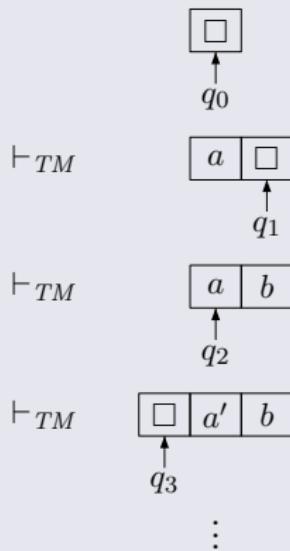
$TM = (Q, \Sigma, \Delta, \square, q_0, q_f)$  to emptiness for a CFM with two processes.

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
- $\mathbb{D} = ((\Sigma \cup \{\square\}) \times (Q \cup \{\_\})) \cup \{\#\}$

# A CFM simulating a Turing machine

## Proof (contd.)



## 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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- Process 2 is allowed to move into  $t_f$  and to empty the channel  $(1, 2)$  as soon as it receives a letter  $c \leftarrow q_f$  for some  $c$ .

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