

# Modeling Concurrent and Probabilistic Systems

## Lecture 8: Observation Congruence

Joost-Pieter Katoen    Thomas Noll

Software Modeling and Verification Group  
RWTH Aachen University  
[noll@cs.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:noll@cs.rwth-aachen.de)

<http://www-i2.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/i2/mcps07/>

Winter Semester 2007/08

- 1 Repetition: Weak Bisimulation
- 2 Further Properties of Weak Bisimulation
- 3 Definition of Observation Congruence
- 4 Properties of Observation Congruence

## Definition

- Given  $w \in Act^*$ ,  $\hat{w} \in (N \cup \overline{N})^*$  denotes the sequence of non- $\tau$ -actions in  $w$  (in particular,  $\hat{\tau}^n = \varepsilon$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ).
- For  $w = \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n \in Act^*$  and  $P, Q \in Prc$ , we let

$$P \xrightarrow{w} Q \iff P \xrightarrow{\tau}^* \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \xrightarrow{\tau}^* \dots \xrightarrow{\tau}^* \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} \xrightarrow{\tau}^* Q$$

(and hence:  $\xrightarrow{\varepsilon} = \xrightarrow{\tau}^*$ ).

- A relation  $\rho \subseteq Prc \times Prc$  is called a **weak bisimulation** if  $P \rho Q$  implies, for every  $\alpha \in Act$ ,
  - $P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \implies$  ex.  $Q' \in Prc$  such that  $Q \xrightarrow{\hat{\alpha}} Q'$  and  $P' \rho Q'$
  - $Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q' \implies$  ex.  $P' \in Prc$  such that  $P \xrightarrow{\hat{\alpha}} P'$  and  $P' \rho Q'$
- $P, Q \in Prc$  are called **weakly bisimilar** (notation:  $P \approx Q$ ) if there exists a weak bisimulation  $\rho$  such that  $P \rho Q$ .

## Properties

- ①  $P \sim Q \implies P \approx Q$
- ②  $\approx$  is an equivalence relation
- ③  $LTS(P) = LTS(Q) \implies P \approx Q$
- ④  $P \approx Q \implies \hat{Tr}(P) = \hat{Tr}(Q)$
- ⑤  $\approx$  is (non- $\tau$ ) deadlock sensitive
- ⑥ For every  $P \in Prc$ ,  $P \approx \tau.P$
- ⑦  $\approx$  is **not a congruence**:

It is true that  $b.\text{nil} \approx \tau.b.\text{nil}$

but  $a.\text{nil} + b.\text{nil} \not\approx a.\text{nil} + \tau.b.\text{nil}$

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## Lemma 8.1

For every  $P, Q, R \in \text{Prc}$ ,

- ①  $P + Q \approx Q + P$
- ②  $P + (Q + R) \approx (P + Q) + R$
- ③  $P + \text{nil} \approx P$
- ④  $P \parallel Q \approx Q \parallel P$
- ⑤  $P \parallel (Q \parallel R) \approx (P \parallel Q) \parallel R$
- ⑥  $P \parallel \text{nil} \approx P$

Proof.

similar to Lemma 5.2 (strong bisimulation; omitted)



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**Goal:** introduce an equivalence which has most of the desirable properties of  $\approx$  and which is preserved under all CCS operators

## Definition 8.2

$P, Q \in Prc$  are called **observationally congruent** (notation:  $P \simeq Q$ ) if, for every  $\alpha \in Act$ ,

- ①  $P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \implies$  ex.  $Q' \in Prc$  such that  $Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q'$  and  $P' \approx Q'$
- ②  $Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q' \implies$  ex.  $P' \in Prc$  such that  $P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'$  and  $P' \approx Q'$

**Remark:**  $\simeq$  differs from  $\approx$  only in the use of  $\xrightarrow{\alpha}$  rather than  $\xrightarrow{\hat{\alpha}}$ , i.e., it requires  $\tau$ -actions from  $P$  or  $Q$  to be simulated by at least one  $\tau$ -step in the other process. This only applies to the first step; the successors just have to satisfy  $P' \approx Q'$  (and not  $P' \simeq Q'$ ).

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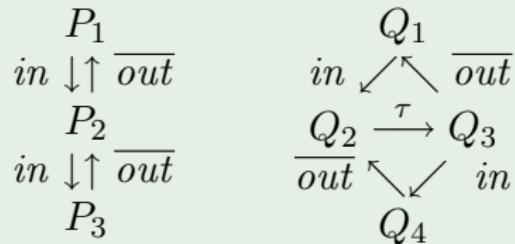
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## Example 8.3

① Sequential and parallel two-place buffer:



$P_1 \simeq Q_1$  since  $P_1 \approx Q_1$  (cf. Example 7.7) and neither  $P_1$  nor  $Q_1$  has initial  $\tau$ -steps

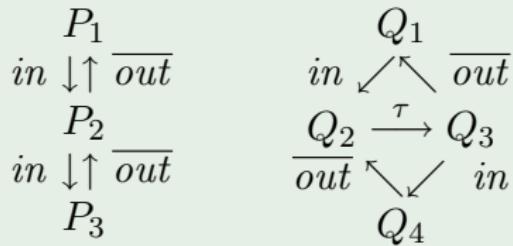
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(since  $\tau.a.nil \xrightarrow{\tau}$  but  $a.nil \not\xrightarrow{\tau}$ )

③  $a.\tau.nil \simeq a.nil$   
(since  $\tau.nil \approx nil$ )

# Definition of Observation Congruence II

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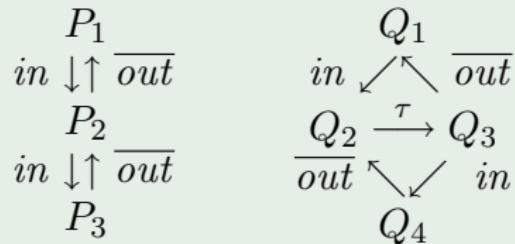
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## Corollary 8.4

For every  $P, Q \in Prc$ ,

- ①  $P \sim Q \implies P \simeq Q$
- ②  $P \simeq Q \implies P \approx Q$

Proof.

① since  $\xrightarrow{\alpha} \subseteq \xrightarrow{\alpha}$  and  $\sim \subseteq \approx$

② since  $\xrightarrow{\alpha} \subseteq \xrightarrow{\hat{\alpha}}$



**Remark:** this implies that

- processes with **identical LTSs** are  $\simeq$ -equivalent,
- $\simeq$ -equivalent processes are (non- $\tau$ ) **trace equivalent**, and
- $\simeq$  is (non- $\tau$ ) **deadlock sensitive**.

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## Theorem 8.5

For every  $P, Q \in Prc$ ,

$$P \simeq Q \iff P + R \approx Q + R \text{ for every } R \in Prc.$$

Proof.

on the board



**Remark:**  $\simeq$  is therefore the largest congruence contained in  $\approx$

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Theorem 8.6

$\simeq$  is an equivalence relation.

Proof.

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Proof.

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Theorem 8.7

$\simeq$  is a CCS congruence.

Proof.

omitted



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$\simeq$  is a CCS congruence.

Proof.

omitted



## Theorem 8.8

For every  $P, Q \in Prc$ ,

$$P \approx Q \iff P \simeq Q \text{ or } P \simeq \tau.Q \text{ or } \tau.P \simeq Q.$$

Proof.

see Exercise 5.3



## Theorem 8.8

For every  $P, Q \in Prc$ ,

$$P \approx Q \iff P \simeq Q \text{ or } P \simeq \tau.Q \text{ or } \tau.P \simeq Q.$$

Proof.

see Exercise 5.3

