

# Semantics and Verification of Software

## Lecture 17: Nondeterminism and Parallelism II (Communicating Sequential Processes)

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1 Recapitulation: Channel Communication

2 CSP Examples

3 Fairness in CSP

- Approach: **Communicating Sequential Processes (CSP)** by T. Hoare and R. Milner
- Models system of **processors** that
  - have (only) **local store** and
  - run a **sequential program** ("process")
- **Communication** proceeds in the following way:
  - processes communicate along **channels**
  - process can send/receive on a channel if another process **simultaneously** performs the complementary I/O operation  
⇒ no buffering (**synchronous** communication)
- New **syntactic domains**:

Channel names:  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots \in \text{Chn}$   
Input operations:  $\alpha?x$  where  $\alpha \in \text{Chn}, x \in \text{Var}$   
Output operations:  $\alpha!a$  where  $\alpha \in \text{Chn}, a \in \text{AExp}$   
Guarded commands:  $gc \in \text{GCmd}$

## Definition (Syntax of CSP)

The syntax of CSP is given by

$$\begin{aligned} a &::= z \mid x \mid a_1 + a_2 \mid a_1 - a_2 \mid a_1 * a_2 \in AExp \\ b &::= t \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 > a_2 \mid \neg b \mid b_1 \wedge b_2 \mid b_1 \vee b_2 \in BExp \\ c &::= \text{skip} \mid x := a \mid \alpha?x \mid \alpha!a \mid \\ &\quad c_1; c_2 \mid \text{if } gc \text{ fi} \mid \text{do } gc \text{ od} \mid c_1 \parallel c_2 \in Cmd \\ gc &::= b \rightarrow c \mid b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c \mid b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c \mid gc_1 \square gc_2 \in GCmd \end{aligned}$$

- In  $c_1 \parallel c_2$ , commands  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  must **not use common variables** (only local store)
- **Guarded command**  $gc_1 \square gc_2$  represents an **alternative**
- In  $b \rightarrow c$ ,  $b$  acts as a **guard** that enables the execution of  $c$  only if evaluated to **true**
- $b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c$  and  $b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c$  additionally require the respective I/O operation to be enabled
- If none of its alternatives is enabled, a guarded command  $gc$  **fails** (state **fail**)
- **if** nondeterministically picks an enabled alternative
- A **do** loop is iterated until its body fails

- Most important aspect: **I/O operations**
- E.g.,  $\langle \alpha?x; c, \sigma \rangle$  can only execute if a parallel command provides corresponding output

⇒ Indicate **communication potential** by labels

$$L := \{\alpha?z \mid \alpha \in Chn, z \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cup \{\alpha!z \mid \alpha \in Chn, z \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

- Yields following **labeled transitions**:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \alpha?x; c, \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle \quad (\text{for all } z \in \mathbb{Z}) \\ \langle \alpha!a; c', \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c', \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{if } \langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z)\end{aligned}$$

- Now both commands, if running in parallel, can **communicate**:

$$\langle (\alpha?x; c) \parallel (\alpha!a; c'), \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c \parallel c', \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle.$$

- To allow communication with **other processes**, the following transitions should also be possible (for all  $z' \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}\langle (\alpha?x; c) \parallel (\alpha!a; c'), \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha?z'} \langle c \parallel (\alpha!a; c'), \sigma[x \mapsto z'] \rangle \\ \langle (\alpha?x; c) \parallel (\alpha!a; c'), \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle (\alpha?x; c) \parallel c', \sigma \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Definition of transition relation

$$\xrightarrow{\lambda} \subseteq (Cmd \times \Sigma) \times (Cmd \times \Sigma) \cup (GCmd \times \Sigma) \times (Cmd \times \Sigma \cup \{\text{fail}\})$$

(see following slides)

- **Marking**  $\lambda$  can be a label or empty:  $\lambda \in L \cup \{\varepsilon\}$
- Again: uniform treatment of configurations of the form  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \in Cmd \times \Sigma$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ :
  - $\sigma$  interpreted as  $\langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle$  with “terminated” command  $\downarrow$
  - $\downarrow$  satisfies  $\downarrow; c = c; \downarrow = \downarrow \parallel c = c \parallel \downarrow = c$

## Definition (Semantics of CSP)

Rules for **commands**:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\langle \text{skip}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle \alpha?x, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle \downarrow, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle}{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle c_1; c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c'_1; c_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle gc, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle \text{do } gc \text{ od}, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c; \text{do } gc \text{ od}, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c'_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c'_2, \sigma \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{}{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c'_1 \parallel c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle x := a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \downarrow, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle \alpha!a, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle gc, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{if } gc \text{ fi}, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle gc, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}{\langle \text{do } gc \text{ od}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c_1 \parallel c'_2, \sigma' \rangle} \\[10pt]
 \frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c'_1, \sigma \rangle \quad \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c'_1 \parallel c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

## Definition (Semantics of CSP; continued)

Rules for **guarded commands**:

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle b \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true} \quad \langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c, \sigma \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}$$

$$\frac{\langle gc_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle gc_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail} \quad \langle gc_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}$$

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## Example 17.1

(on the board)

①  $\text{do } (\text{true} \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow \beta!x) \text{ od}$

describes a process that repeatedly receives a value along  $\alpha$  and forwards it along  $\beta$  (i.e., a **one-place buffer**)

②  $\text{do true} \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow \beta!x \text{ od} \parallel \text{do true} \wedge \beta?y \rightarrow \gamma!y \text{ od}$

specifies a **two-place buffer** that receives along  $\alpha$  and sends along  $\gamma$  (using  $\beta$  for internal communication)

③ Nondeterministic choice between input channels:

①  $\text{if } (\text{true} \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c_1 \square \text{true} \wedge \beta?y \rightarrow c_2) \text{ fi}$

②  $\text{if } (\text{true} \rightarrow (\alpha?x; c_1) \square \text{true} \rightarrow (\beta?y; c_2)) \text{ fi}$

Expected: progress whenever environment provides data on  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$

① correct

② incorrect (can **deadlock**)

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- Informally: **unfair** behaviour excludes processes from being executed
- Here: consider parallel composition of  $n \geq 1$  sequential programs with executions of the form  $\kappa_0 \rightarrow \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2 \rightarrow \dots$  where  $\kappa_j = \langle c_1^{(j)} \parallel \dots \parallel c_n^{(j)}, \sigma_j \rangle$  and, for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $c_i^{(k)} = c_i^{(k_0)}$  for all  $k \geq k_0$
- But: only unfair if  $c_i$  not enabled

## Definition 17.2 (Enabledness)

$c_i$  is **enabled** in configuration  $\kappa = \langle c_1 \parallel \dots \parallel c_n, \sigma \rangle$  if there exists  $\kappa' = \langle c'_1 \parallel \dots \parallel c'_n, \sigma' \rangle$  with  $\kappa \rightarrow \kappa'$  and  $c'_i \neq c_i$ .

## Example 17.3

- ①  $x := 0$  enabled in  $\langle x := 0 \parallel y := 1, \sigma \rangle$  (actually always enabled)
- ②  $\alpha?x$  enabled in  $\langle \alpha?x \parallel \alpha!0, \sigma \rangle$
- ③  $\alpha?x$  not enabled in  $\langle \alpha?x \parallel \beta!1, \sigma \rangle$

## Definition 17.4 (Fairness)

An execution  $\kappa_0 \rightarrow \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2 \rightarrow \dots$  where  $\kappa_j = \langle c_1^{(j)} \parallel \dots \parallel c_n^{(j)}, \sigma_j \rangle$  and, for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $c_i^{(k)} = c_i^{(k_0)}$  for all  $k \geq k_0$  is called

- ① **strongly unfair** if  $c_i^{(k)}$  is enabled in  $\kappa_k$  for all  $k \geq k_0$
- ② **weakly unfair** if  $c_i^{(k)}$  is enabled in  $\kappa_k$  for infinitely many  $k \geq k_0$

## Example 17.5

- ①  $\langle \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel y := y + 1, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle x := x + 1; \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel y := y + 1, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel y := y + 1, \dots \rangle \rightarrow \dots$   
is strongly unfair since  $y := y + 1$  is always enabled
- ②  $\langle \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel \alpha!1 \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle x := x + 1; \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel \alpha!1 \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{do true} \rightarrow x := x + 1 \text{ od} \parallel \alpha!1 \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle \rightarrow \dots$   
is strongly unfair since both I/O operations are always enabled
- ③  $\langle \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle \rightarrow \dots$   
is weakly unfair since  $\alpha?y$  is enabled in every third configuration