

Theoretical Foundations of the UML

Lecture 8: Communicating Finite-State Machines

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<http://moves.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-1415/uml/>

14. November 2014

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

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Specification to implementation

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⇒ This yields **Communicating Finite-state Machines**

The need for synchronisation messages

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- $Ch := \{(p, q) \mid p, q \in \mathcal{P}, p \neq q\}$ “channels“

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

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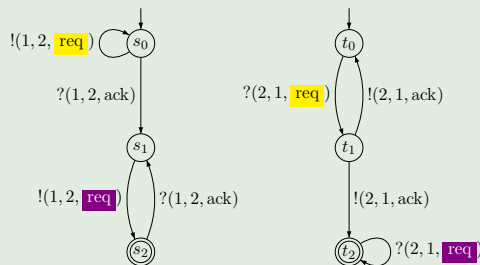
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- $F \subseteq S_{\mathcal{A}}$ is the set of **global final states**

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Example

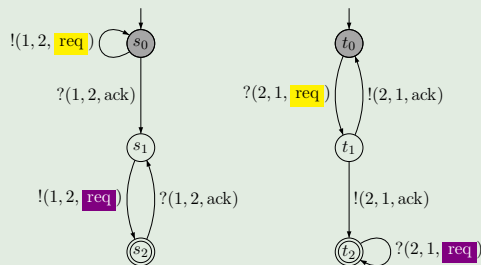


CFM \mathcal{A} over $\mathcal{P} = \{1, 2\}$
and $\mathcal{C} = \{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

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

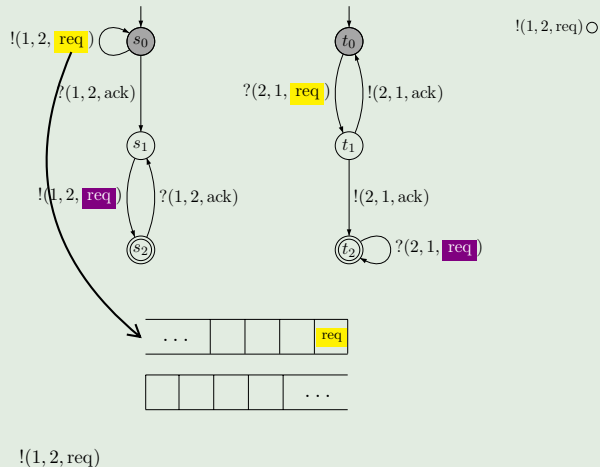
Communicating finite-state machines

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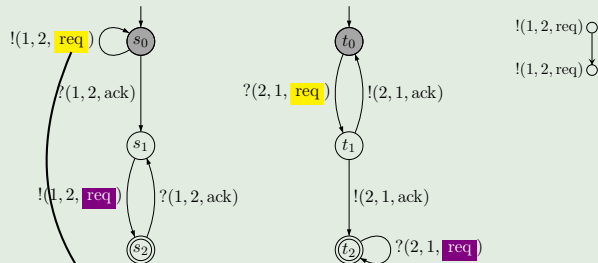
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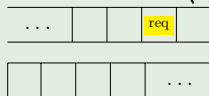
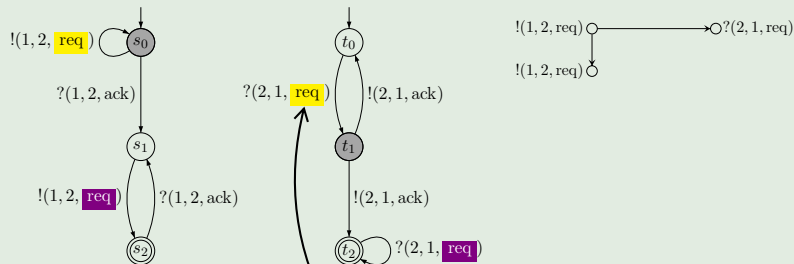
Example



!(1, 2, req) !(1, 2, req)

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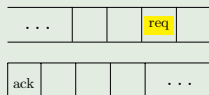
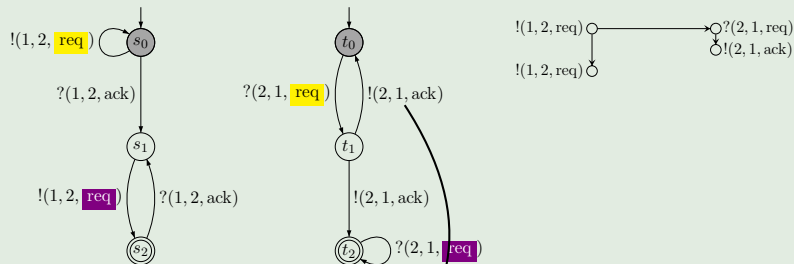
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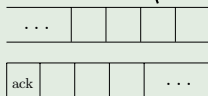
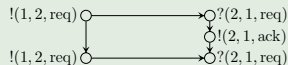
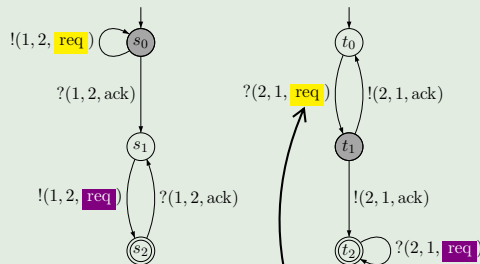
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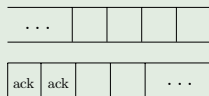
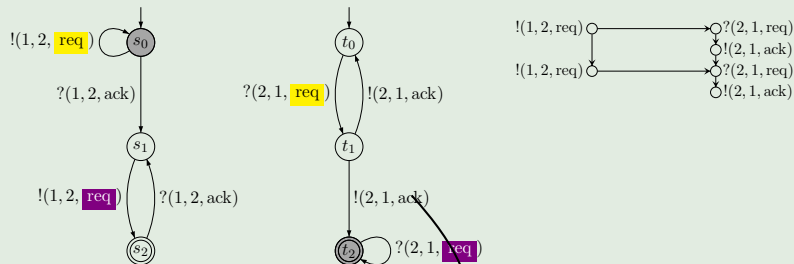
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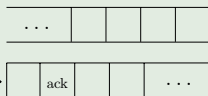
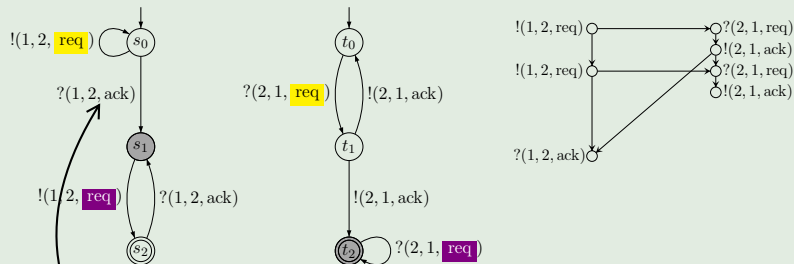
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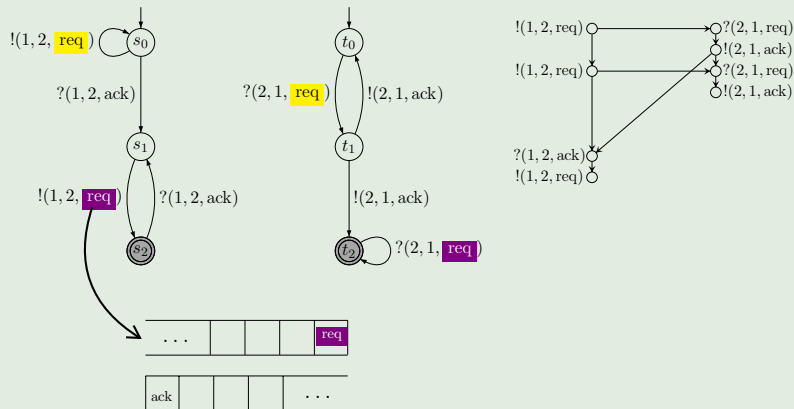
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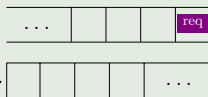
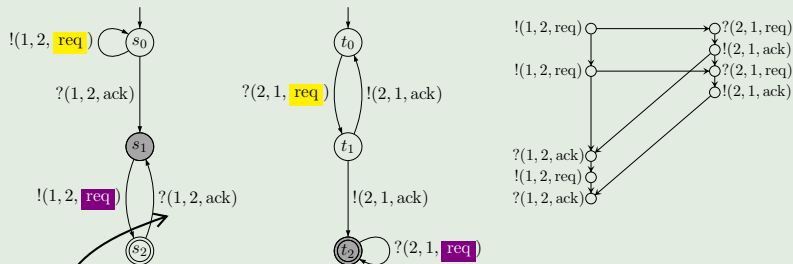
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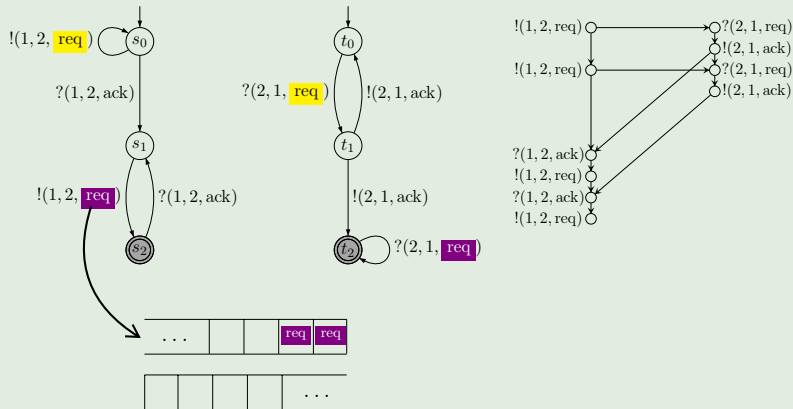
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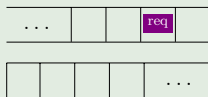
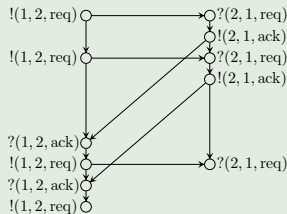
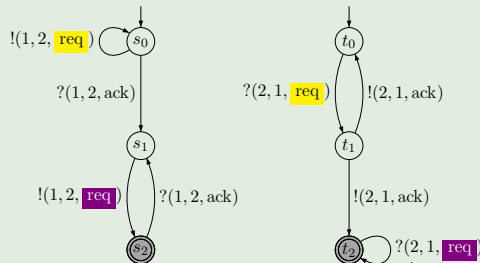
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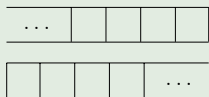
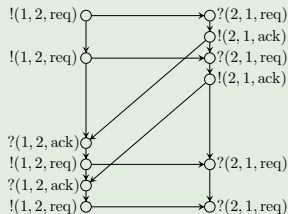
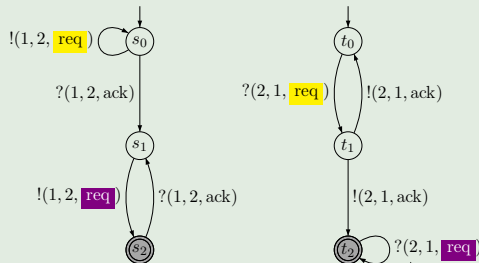
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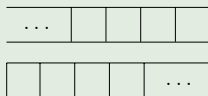
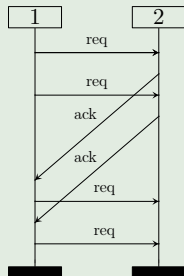
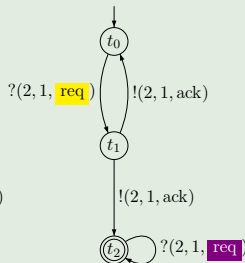
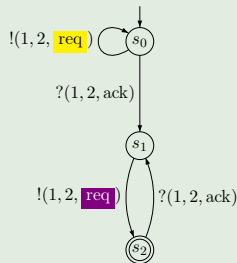
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Formal semantics of CFMs

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)

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- sending a message: $((\bar{s}, \eta), !(p, q, a), m, (\bar{s}', \eta')) \in \Longrightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}$ if
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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** ρ of CFM \mathcal{A} on word $w = \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n \in Act^*$ is an alternating sequence $\rho = \gamma_0 m_1 \gamma_1 \dots \gamma_{n-1} m_n \gamma_n$ such that

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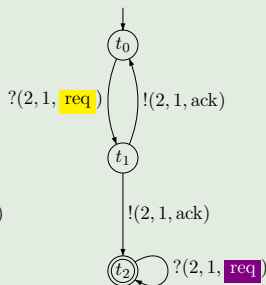
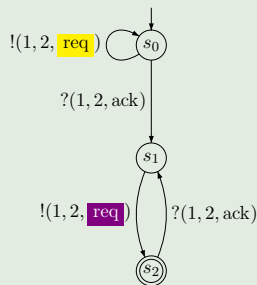
Definition (linearization of a CFM)

The **(word) language** of CFM \mathcal{A} is defined by:

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

Linearizations of an example CFM

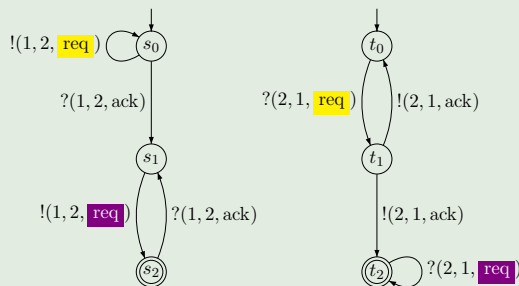
Example



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

Linearizations of an example CFM

Example



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

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

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

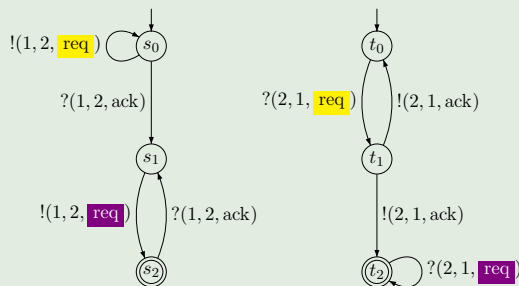
$$w \upharpoonright 2 = (? (2, 1, \text{req}) !(2, 1, \text{ack}))^n (? (2, 1, \text{req}))^n$$

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

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

Linearizations of an example CFM

Example

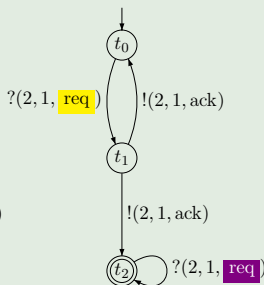
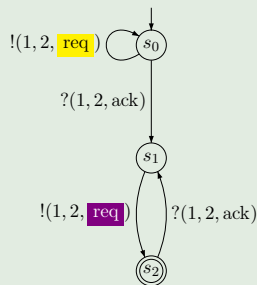


CFM \mathcal{A} over
 $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{\text{req}, \text{ack}\}$

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

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

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

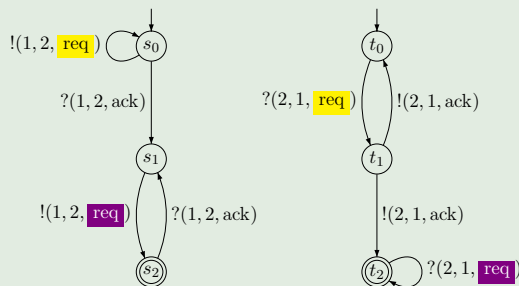
$$w \upharpoonright 2 = (?(2, 1, \text{req}))^n (!(2, 1, \text{ack}))^n (?(2, 1, \text{req}))^n$$

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

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Linearizations and MSCs of an example CFM

Example



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

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

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

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

- 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

Emptiness of CFMs is undecidable

[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 $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ empty?

Elementary questions are undecidable for CFMs

Emptiness of CFMs is undecidable

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Proof (sketch)

Reduction from the halting problem for Turing machine

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

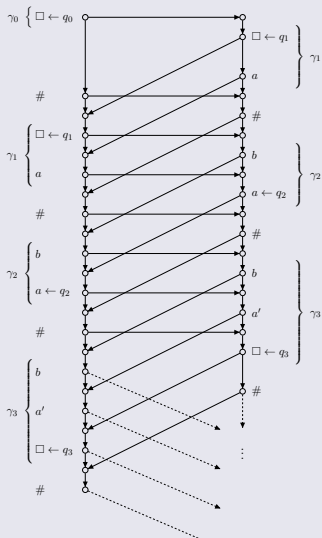
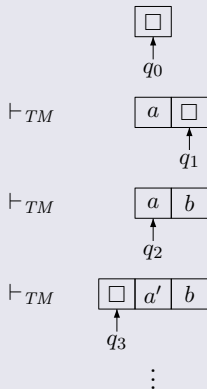
Build CFM $\mathcal{A} = ((\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2), \mathbb{D}, s_{init}, F)$ over $\{1, 2\}$ and some singleton set \mathcal{C} such that $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) \neq \emptyset$ iff TM can reach q_f , i.e., TM accepts.

- Process 1 sends current configurations to process 2
- Process 2 chooses successor configurations and sends them to 1

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

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
 - receives $\#$ so that the symbol $\square \leftarrow q_3$ has to be inserted before returning $\#$

Proof (contd.)

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