



Semantics and Verification of Software

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Lecture 17: Nondeterminism and Parallelism II (Channel Communication)

Thomas Noll

Software Modeling and Verification Group

RWTH Aachen University

<http://moves.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-1718/sv-sw/>

Recap: Shared-Variables Communication

The ParWHILE Language

Definition (Syntax of ParWHILE)

$$\begin{aligned} a &::= z \mid x \mid a_1 + a_2 \mid a_1 - a_2 \mid a_1 * a_2 \in AExp \\ b &::= t \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 > a_2 \mid \neg b \mid b_1 \wedge b_2 \mid b_1 \vee b_2 \in BExp \\ c &::= \text{skip} \mid x := a \mid c_1 ; c_2 \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ end} \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end} \mid \\ &\quad c_1 \parallel c_2 \in Cmd \end{aligned}$$

Recap: Shared-Variables Communication

Semantics of ParWHILE

Definition (Small-step execution relation for ParWHILE)

The **small-step execution relation**, $\rightarrow_1 \subseteq (Cmd \times \Sigma) \times (Cmd \times \Sigma)$, is defined by the following rules:

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\langle \text{skip}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle x := a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle \downarrow, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle} \\ \frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1; c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c'_1; c_2, \sigma' \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ end}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c_1, \sigma \rangle} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ end}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end}, \sigma \rangle} \\ \frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c'_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma' \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow_1 \langle c_1 \parallel c'_2, \sigma' \rangle} \end{array}$$

Communicating Sequential Processes

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

Syntax of CSP

Definition 17.1 (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** (configuration **fail**)
- **if** nondeterministically picks an enabled alternative
- A **do** loop is iterated until its body fails

Channel Communication

Semantics of CSP I

- 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

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

- Yields following **labelled transitions**:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \alpha?x; c_1, \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c_1, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle && \text{(for all } z \in \mathbb{Z} \text{)} \\ \langle \alpha!a; c_2, \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle && \text{(if } \langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z \text{)} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\langle (\alpha?x; c_1) \parallel (\alpha!a; c_2), \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c_1 \parallel c_2, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle.$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (\alpha?x; c_1) \parallel (\alpha!a; c_2), \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha?z'} \langle c_1 \parallel (\alpha!a; c_2), \sigma[x \mapsto z'] \rangle \\ \langle (\alpha?x; c_1) \parallel (\alpha!a; c_2), \sigma \rangle &\xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle (\alpha?x; c_1) \parallel c_2, \sigma \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Semantics of CSP II

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** λ 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 $\sigma \in \Sigma$:
 - σ interpreted as $\langle \downarrow, \sigma \rangle$ with “**terminated**” command \downarrow
 - \downarrow satisfies $\downarrow; c = \downarrow \parallel c = c \parallel \downarrow = c$

Channel Communication

Semantics of CSP III

Definition 17.2 (Semantics of CSP – Commands (*Cmd*))

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

Channel Communication

Semantics of CSP IV

Definition 17.2 (Semantics of CSP – Guarded commands (*GCmd*))

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle b \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha?z} \langle c, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha?x \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true} \quad \langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha!z} \langle c, \sigma \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle b \wedge \alpha!a \rightarrow c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}} \\ \frac{\langle gc_1, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle} \qquad \frac{\langle gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \xrightarrow{\lambda} \langle c, \sigma' \rangle} \\ \frac{\langle gc_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail} \quad \langle gc_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}}{\langle gc_1 \square gc_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{fail}} \end{array}$$

CSP Examples

Example 17.3

(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 α and forwards it along β (i.e., a **one-place buffer**)

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

specifies a **two-place buffer** that receives along α and sends along γ (using β for internal communication)

3. Nondeterministic choice between input channels:

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

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

Expected: progress whenever environment provides data on α or β

i. correct

ii. incorrect (can **deadlock**)

Fairness I

- 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 17.4 (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 17.5

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 $\langle \alpha?x \parallel \beta!1, \sigma \rangle$

Fairness II

Definition 17.6 (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 κ_k for all $k \geq k_0$
2. **weakly unfair** if $c_i^{(k)}$ is enabled in κ_k for infinitely many $k \geq k_0$

Fairness III

Example 17.7

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. $\langle \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{skip}; \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{do } \alpha!1 \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \text{do } \alpha?x \rightarrow \text{skip} \text{ od} \parallel \alpha?y, \dots \rangle \rightarrow \dots$

is weakly unfair since $\alpha?y$ is (only) enabled in every third configuration

Summary: Nondeterminism and Parallelism

Summary: Nondeterminism and Parallelism

- Important modelling aspects:
 - **parallelism** (here: interleaving = nondeterminism + sequential execution)
 - **interaction** (here: via shared variables/channels)
- Interleaving requires **small-step execution relation**
- **Communication** between parallel processes is represented by labels on transitions
- Parallelism raises new issues such as **fairness**