



# Concurrency Theory

Winter Semester 2019/20

Lecture 11: Trace Equivalence

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<https://moves.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-19-20/ct/>

# Introduction

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## Outline of Lecture 11

Introduction

Preliminaries

Requirements on Behavioural Equivalences

Trace Equivalence Revisited

Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

Summary

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## Introduction

- When using process algebras like CCS, an important approach is to model both the **specification and implementation** as CCS processes, say *Spec* and *Impl*.
- This gives rise to the natural question: when are two CCS processes **behaving the same**?
- As there are many different interpretations of “behaving the same”, **different behavioural equivalences** have emerged.

## Behavioural Equivalence

### Implementation

$$CM = \overline{coin}.\overline{coffee}.CM$$

$$CS = \overline{pub}.\overline{coin}.\overline{coffee}.CS$$

$$Uni = (CM \parallel CS) \setminus \{coin, coffee\}$$

## Behavioural Equivalence

### Implementation

$$CM = \overline{coin}.\overline{coffee}.CM$$

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$$Spec = \overline{pub}.Spec$$

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$$Uni = (CM \parallel CS) \setminus \{\text{coin}, \text{coffee}\}$$

### Specification

$$Spec = \overline{\text{pub}}.Spec$$

## Question

Are the specification *Spec* and implementation *Uni* behaviourally equivalent:

$$Spec \stackrel{?}{\equiv} Uni$$



# Preliminaries

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## Equivalence Relations

### Some reasonable required properties

- **Reflexivity:**  $P \equiv P$  for every process  $P$
- **Symmetry:**  $P \equiv Q$  if and only if  $Q \equiv P$
- **Transitivity:**  $Spec_0 \equiv \dots \equiv Spec_n \equiv Impl$  implies that  $Spec_0 \equiv Impl$

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### Definition 11.1 (Equivalence)

A binary relation  $\equiv \subseteq S \times S$  over a set  $S$  is an **equivalence** if

- it is reflexive:  $s \equiv s$  for every  $s \in S$ ,
- it is symmetric:  $s \equiv t$  implies  $t \equiv s$  for every  $s, t \in S$ ,
- it is transitive:  $s \equiv t$  and  $t \equiv u$  implies  $s \equiv u$  for every  $s, t, u \in S$ .

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**Remark:** equivalences induce **quotient structures** with equivalence classes as elements

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## Isomorphism: An Example Behavioural Equivalence

### Definition 11.2 (LTS isomorphism)

Two LTSs  $T_1 = (S_1, Act_1, \longrightarrow_1)$  and  $T_2 = (S_2, Act_2, \longrightarrow_2)$  are **isomorphic**, denoted  $T_1 \equiv_{iso} T_2$ , if there exists a bijection  $f : S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  such that

$$s \xrightarrow{\alpha}_1 t \quad \text{if and only if} \quad f(s) \xrightarrow{\alpha}_2 f(t).$$

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It follows immediately that  $\equiv_{iso}$  is an equivalence. (Why?)

### Example 11.3 (Abelian monoid laws for $+$ and $\parallel$ )

For all CCS processes  $P, Q \in Proc$ ,

1.  $LTS(P + Q) \equiv_{iso} LTS(Q + P)$ ,  $LTS(P \parallel Q) \equiv_{iso} LTS(Q \parallel P)$
2.  $LTS((P + Q) + R) \equiv_{iso} LTS(P + (Q + R))$ ,  $LTS((P \parallel Q) \parallel R) \equiv_{iso} LTS(P \parallel (Q \parallel R))$
3.  $LTS(P + nil) \equiv_{iso} LTS(P \parallel nil) \equiv_{iso} LTS(P)$

## Isomorphism II

### Assumption

From now on, we will consider processes **modulo isomorphism**, i.e., we do not distinguish CCS processes with isomorphic LTSs.



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### Caveat

But: isomorphism is very **distinctive**. For instance,

$$X = a.X \quad \text{and} \quad Y = a.a.Y$$

are distinguished although both can (only) execute infinitely many  $a$ -actions and should thus be considered **equivalent**.

# Requirements on Behavioural Equivalences

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## The Wish List for Behavioural Equivalences

1. **Less distinctive than isomorphism**: an equivalence should distinguish less processes than LTS isomorphism does, i.e.,  $\equiv$  should be coarser than LTS isomorphism:

$$LTS(P) \equiv_{iso} LTS(Q) \implies P \equiv Q.$$

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2. **More distinctive than trace equivalence**: an equivalence should distinguish more processes than trace equivalence does, i.e.,  $\equiv$  should be finer than trace equivalence:

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3. **Congruence property**: the equivalence must be substitutive with respect to all CCS operators (see next slide).
4. **Deadlock preservation**: equivalent processes should have the same deadlock behaviour, i.e., equivalent process can either both deadlock, or both cannot.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Later, we will generalise this to a set of properties that can be expressed in a logic.

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3. **Congruence property**: the equivalence must be substitutive with respect to all CCS operators (see next slide).
4. **Deadlock preservation**: equivalent processes should have the same deadlock behaviour, i.e., equivalent process can either both deadlock, or both cannot.<sup>1</sup>
5. Optional: the **coarsest** possible equivalence: there should be no less discriminating equivalence satisfying all these requirements.

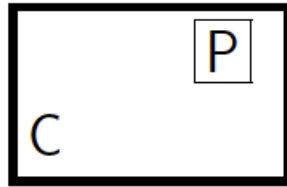
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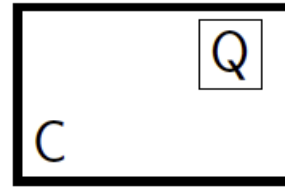
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## What is a Congruence?



$C(P)$



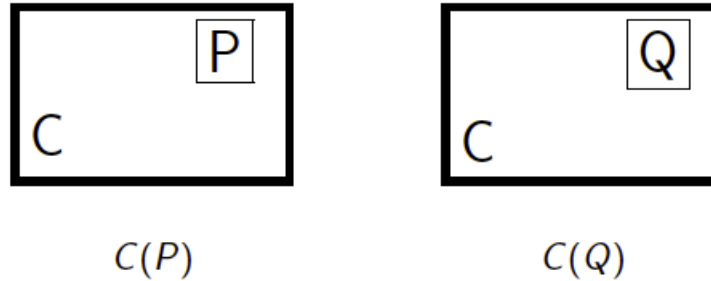
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# Requirements on Behavioural Equivalences

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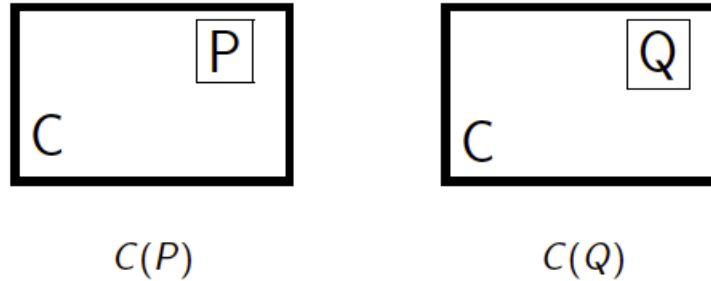


## CCS contexts informally

A **CCS context** is a CCS process fragment with a “hole” in it (examples on the board).

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A **CCS context** is a CCS process fragment with a “hole” in it (examples on the board).

### CCS congruences informally

Relation  $\equiv$  is a **CCS congruence** whenever  $P \equiv Q$  implies  $C(P) \equiv C(Q)$  for every CCS context  $C$ .

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### Example 11.4 (Congruence)

Let  $a \equiv b$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  whenever  $a \bmod k = b \bmod k$ , for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}_+$ .  
Equivalence relation  $\equiv$  is a congruence for addition and multiplication.

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Equivalence relation  $\equiv$  is a congruence for addition and multiplication.

Important motivations of requiring  $\equiv$  to be a congruence on processes:

1. **Model-based development through refinement**: replacing an abstract model  $Spec$  by a more detailed model  $Impl$
2. **Optimisation**: replacing an implementation  $Impl$  by a more efficient implementation  $Impl'$ .

# Requirements on Behavioural Equivalences

## CCS Congruences Formally

### Definition 11.5 (CCS congruence)

An equivalence relation  $\equiv \subseteq Proc \times Proc$  is a **CCS congruence** if it is preserved by all CCS constructs, i.e., if  $P, Q \in Proc$  with  $P \equiv Q$  then:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha.P &\equiv \alpha.Q && \text{for every } \alpha \in Act \\ P + R &\equiv Q + R && \text{for every } R \in Proc \\ P \parallel R &\equiv Q \parallel R && \text{for every } R \in Proc \\ P \setminus L &\equiv Q \setminus L && \text{for every } L \subseteq A \\ P[f] &\equiv Q[f] && \text{for every } f : A \rightarrow A \end{aligned}$$

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Thus, a CCS congruence is **substitutive** for all possible CCS contexts.

# Requirements on Behavioural Equivalences

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## Deadlocks

### Definition 11.6 (Deadlock)

Let  $P, Q \in Prc$  and  $w \in Act^*$  such that  $P \xrightarrow{w} Q$  and  $Q \not\rightarrow$ . Then  $Q$  is called a  **$w$ -deadlock** of  $P$ .



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### Example 11.7

$P = a.b.nil + a.nil$  has an  $a$ -deadlock, whereas  $Q = a.b.nil$  has not.

Such properties are important as it can be crucial that a certain action is eventually possible.

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### Definition 11.8 (Deadlock sensitivity)

Relation  $\equiv \subseteq Prc \times Prc$  is **deadlock sensitive** whenever:

$P \equiv Q$  implies  $(\forall w \in Act^*. P \text{ has a } w\text{-deadlock iff } Q \text{ has a } w\text{-deadlock})$ .

# Trace Equivalence Revisited

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## Trace Equivalence

### Trace language (Definition 3.2)

The **trace language** of  $P \in Prc$  is defined by:

$$Tr(P) := \{w \in Act^* \mid \exists P' \in Prc. P \xrightarrow{w} P'\}.$$

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$P, Q \in Prc$  are called **trace equivalent** iff  $Tr(P) = Tr(Q)$ .

Trace equivalence is evidently an equivalence relation and is less discriminative than isomorphism.

# Trace Equivalence Revisited

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## Trace Equivalence is a Congruence

### Theorem 11.9

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- Then for  $R \in \text{Prc}$  it holds:

$$\text{Tr}(P + R) = \text{Tr}(P) \cup \text{Tr}(R) = \text{Tr}(Q) \cup \text{Tr}(R) = \text{Tr}(Q + R).$$

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- Thus,  $P + R$  and  $Q + R$  are trace equivalent.

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- Thus,  $P + R$  and  $Q + R$  are trace equivalent.

For the other CCS constructs, the proof goes along similar lines.

Exercise: do the proof for  $\parallel$ . □

## Two Coffee/Tea Machines

### Example 11.10

Consider the coffee/tea machines  $CTM$  and its variant  $CTM'$ :

$$CTM = coin. (\overline{coffee}.CTM + \overline{tea}.CTM)$$

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Are we satisfied?



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Are we satisfied? No, as  $CTM$  and  $CTM'$  differ in the context:

$$C(\cdot) = (\underbrace{\cdot}_{\text{hole}} \parallel CA) \setminus \{coin, coffee, tea\} \text{ with } CA = \overline{coin}.coffee.CA.$$

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Why?  $C(CTM')$  may yield a deadlock, but  $C(CTM)$  does not.

# Trace Equivalence Revisited

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## Checking Trace Equivalence

### Traces by automata

For finite-state  $P$ , the trace language  $Tr(P)$  of process  $P$  is accepted by the (non-deterministic) finite automaton obtained from the LTS of  $P$  with initial state  $P$  and making all states accepting (final).

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### Proof.

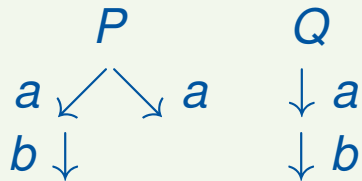
Checking whether  $Tr(P) = Tr(Q)$ , for finite-state  $P$  and  $Q$ , boils down to deciding whether their non-deterministic automata accept the same language. As this problem in automata theory is PSPACE-complete, it follows that checking  $Tr(P) = Tr(Q)$  is PSPACE-complete. □

# Trace Equivalence Revisited

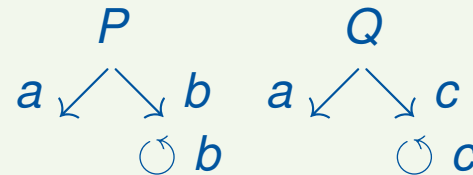
## Traces and Deadlocks

### Example 11.12 (Traces and deadlocks)

Traces and deadlocks are independent in the following sense:



same traces  
different deadlocks



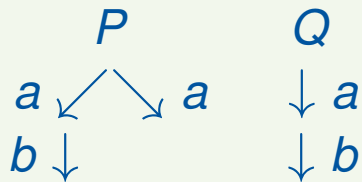
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same deadlocks

# Trace Equivalence Revisited

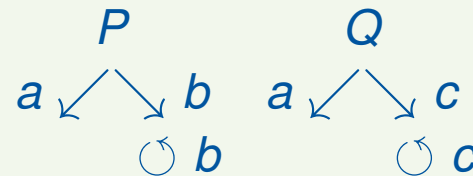
## Traces and Deadlocks

### Example 11.12 (Traces and deadlocks)

Traces and deadlocks are independent in the following sense:



same traces  
different deadlocks



different traces  
same deadlocks

**But:** processes with **finite trace sets** and identical deadlocks are trace equivalent (since every trace is a prefix of some deadlock).

# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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## Outline of Lecture 11

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**Other Forms of Trace Equivalence**

Summary



# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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## Completed Trace Equivalence

### Definition 11.13 (Completed traces)

A **completed trace** of  $P \in Prc$  is a sequence  $w \in Act^*$  such that:

$$P \xrightarrow{w} Q \quad \text{and} \quad Q \not\rightarrow$$

for some  $Q \in Prc$ .

# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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for some  $Q \in Prc$ .

The completed traces of process  $P$  may be seen as capturing its **deadlock behaviour**, as they are precisely the action sequences that can lead to a process from which no transition is possible (i.e., is a deadlock).

# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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for some  $Q \in Prc$ .

The completed traces of process  $P$  may be seen as capturing its **deadlock behaviour**, as they are precisely the action sequences that can lead to a process from which no transition is possible (i.e., is a deadlock).

### Exercise

Check whether completed trace equivalence is a congruence for restriction.

# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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## Further Variations of Trace Equivalence

Definition 11.14 (Ready trace equivalence)

(Baeten et al.)

A sequence  $A_0\alpha_0A_1\alpha_1\dots\alpha_nA_n$  with  $A_i \subseteq Act$  and  $\alpha_i \in Act$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a **ready trace** of process  $P$  if  $P = P_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} P_n$  such that  $A_i = \{\alpha \in Act \mid P_i \xrightarrow{\alpha}\}$ . Processes  $P$  and  $Q$  are **ready-trace equivalent** if they have exactly the same set of ready traces.

## Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

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### Further Variations of Trace Equivalence

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A sequence  $A_0\alpha_0A_1\alpha_1\dots\alpha_nA_n$  with  $A_i \subseteq Act$  and  $\alpha_i \in Act$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a **ready trace** of process  $P$  if  $P = P_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} P_n$  such that  $A_i = \{\alpha \in Act \mid P_i \xrightarrow{\alpha}\}$ . Processes  $P$  and  $Q$  are **ready-trace equivalent** if they have exactly the same set of ready traces.

Definition 11.15 (Failure trace equivalence)

(Reed and Roscoe)

A sequence  $A_0\alpha_0A_1\alpha_1\dots\alpha_nA_n$  with  $A_i \subseteq Act$  and  $\alpha_i \in Act$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a **failure trace** of process  $P$  if  $P = P_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} P_n$  such that  $A_i \cap \{\alpha \in Act \mid P_i \xrightarrow{\alpha}\} = \emptyset$ . Processes  $P$  and  $Q$  are **failure-trace equivalent** if they have exactly the same set of failure traces.

# Other Forms of Trace Equivalence

## Further Variations of Trace Equivalence

Definition 11.14 (Ready trace equivalence)

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A sequence  $A_0\alpha_0A_1\alpha_1\dots\alpha_nA_n$  with  $A_i \subseteq Act$  and  $\alpha_i \in Act$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a **ready trace** of process  $P$  if  $P = P_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} P_n$  such that  $A_i = \{\alpha \in Act \mid P_i \xrightarrow{\alpha}\}$ . Processes  $P$  and  $Q$  are **ready-trace equivalent** if they have exactly the same set of ready traces.

Definition 11.15 (Failure trace equivalence)

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### Example 11.16

$P := a.b + a.c$  and  $Q := a.(b + c)$  are

- trace equivalent:  $Tr(P) = \{\varepsilon, a, ab, ac\} = Tr(Q)$ , but
- not ready equivalent:  $\{a\} a \{b, c\} b \emptyset \in rTr(Q) \setminus rTr(P)$

# Summary

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## Summary

1. Behavioural equivalences should be
  - i. less distinctive than isomorphism
  - ii. more distinctive than trace equivalence
  - iii. a CCS congruence
  - iv. deadlock sensitive



## Summary

1. Behavioural equivalences should be
  - i. less distinctive than isomorphism
  - ii. more distinctive than trace equivalence
  - iii. a CCS congruence
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2. Trace equivalence
  - i. equates processes that have the same traces, i.e., action sequences
  - ii. is implied by LTS isomorphism
  - iii. is a CCS congruence
  - iv. is **not** deadlock sensitive
  - v. checking trace equivalence is PSPACE-complete

# Summary

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## Summary

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  - i. less distinctive than isomorphism
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  - i. equates processes that have the same traces, i.e., action sequences
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  - v. checking trace equivalence is PSPACE-complete
3. Variations: completed, ready, and failure traces