LINGI2143 — Concurrent Systems

Lab Session 2 – Modelling processes

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1 Composing processes

1. Start from the client-server example (File / Examples / chapter3 / client_server).

```
CLIENT = (call -> wait -> continue -> CLIENT).
SERVER = (request -> service -> reply -> SERVER).

||CLIENT_SERVER = (CLIENT || SERVER) / {call/request, reply/wait}.
```

Modify it in order to model two new behaviours. The client has now a timeout that is started after a new call and if the timeout expires, the client is again ready to make a new call. The server can now have some failure that occurs whenever it receives a new request. If such a failure occurs, the service is not performed and the server is again ready to receive new request.

- (a) Build the parallel composition of the new CLIENT and SERVER.
- (b) The composition exhibits a deadlock. Can you identify in which situation (run) such a deadlock occurs?
- (c) How can you modify the model(s) in order to avoid deadlocks? Is your solution consistent with the real intuition of the CLIENT-SERVER model? Explain.
- (d) Now, we would like to get an abstract version of the system, so, hide timeout and failure. What can you observe?
- 2. A garbage dispatcher system is composed of several parts operating concurrently. There are two kind of garbage: paper and other. The dispatcher receives a garbage (get.paper or get.other) and can throw the garbage in the corresponding bin according to the type of garbage (throw.paper or throw.other). Before throwing a garbage in the corresponding bin, the dispatcher can empty the two bins (empty) simultaneously.

The two bins have the same limited capacity (defined by a constant). A bin can accept a garbage (throw.paper or throw.other depending on the bin) whenever its maximal capacity is not reached. It can be emptied (empty) at any time.

Model the garbage dispatcher system as an FSP process SYSTEM which is the composition of a DISPATCHER process, two processes for the bins (PAPER_BIN and OTHER_BIN) and a USER process which will feed the dispatcher with garbages. The alphabet should be:

{empty, {get, throw}.{other, paper}}.

3. A drinks dispensing machine charges 15p for a can of Sugarola. The machine accepts coins with denominations 5p, 10p and 20p and gives change. Model the machine as an FSP process, DRINKS.

[MK] exercise 2.5 (p.34)

Consider the following variations. Can the machine distribute different drinks with different prices? Is there a limit on the number of coins the machine can keep before an order is made? Is it possible to model the amount of money (and the exact number of coins for each different value) that is inside the machine? Is it possible to model an algorithm so that the machine always gives back the minimal amount of the coins?

Model a USER who wants a sugarola can and inserts two 20p coins. Examine the composed behaviour of the DRINKS machine with the USER. How can you model all the possible USER?

2 Bonus question

For each process you defined for the questions above, find the number of states and transitions of the corresponding LTS. If the process is parametrized, express the number of states and transitions in terms of the parameter.

[MK] refers to the reference book:

Concurrency: State Models & Java Programs by Jeff Magee & Jeff Kramer.