Matching Activity Conditions to States

Matching conditions of an activity to a state depends on how containment and connectivity are defined in both.

Matching is done as follows:

1. Conditions in an activity are converted into Bigraph objects.
   1. The definition of a condition follows the one described by the incident meta-model.
   2. XML representation of a condition is converted to JSON object, which is then converted to Bigraph object.
2. The Bigraph object of a condition is compared against the signature of the Bigraph.
   1. If a condition has ***more connections*** for an entity than that in the signature (i.e. the number of defined *outernames* in a condition is more than that in the signature), then ***matching fails for all states***.
      1. For example, if in a condition an entity (or child) defines *three outernames* (i.e. connections) and in the bigraph signature the corresponding control to this entity defines only two outernames, then matching fails for all states. In the Bigraph object representation of the condition, the three outernames are defined, however, only two outernames are associated with controls, the rest (of outernames) are left empty i.e. outerName3:o <- {}
   2. If a condition has less connections for an entity, then:
      1. If **knowledge** about the connections is ***complete***, then ***matching fails for all states***.
      2. If **knowledge** is ***partial***, then the rest are defined as links (i.e. XX:**e**) in the bigraph object of the condition. In this case, matching moves to step 3.
3. Each condition is then compared against each state (already converted to Bigraph objects) using the bigraph matching, which is implemented by the method *match* that is provided by the *LibBig* library.
4. If the *match* method returns any object in the iterator (it returns an iterator, which shows where in a state the condition is match. Currently we are interested if there are anything return, we are not interested how many and where in a state), then ***there is a match*** and the state number is added to the condition (i.e. *predicate* object). Otherwise (i.e. if the iterator is empty) then ***there is no match*** between the condition and the current state.

Using the [match] function in the *LibBig* library:

The function depends in matching mainly on the containment relationships between the different entities. So it is important to specify *sites* where knowledge is not exact. For example, if a *Room* is an entity but we have no exact knowledge on what is inside the *Room* except a *SmartLight*, then it is necessary to add a *site* when creating a condition using the incident pattern meta-model.

For connectivity, matching is partial. For example:

* if an entity has 4 outernames (as arity in the signature) and in a condition there are 2 outernames defined and knowledge is partial and the rest are not *closed*, then defining only the 2 outernames by the Bigraph object will make the other two outernames *links* (i.e. XX:**e**), hence, it ***won’t match*** with the states that specify all 4 outernames.
  + Outernames by signature: 4
  + Outernames defined in condition: 2
  + Knowledge: partial, then:
    - we can define the other two outer name when creating the Bigraph object. In this situation, the condition ***will match*** with all states that define the 4 outernames as such (non are closed). It won’t matter that in a state outernames of an entity is associated with others. **What if in a state some outernames are closed (not found in the bigraph object)?** Probably this is not a possible case since closing an outername after adding it to a control will make the control representation a link i.e. XX:**e** in the link graph.
    - If the remaining two outernames are not defined then they are defined automatically by the Bigraph class as links (i.e. XX:**e**). in this case, they ***will not match*** with states that define outernames as XX:**o** (i.e. as outernames).
    - If we define the remaining outernames as ***closed*** (**before** adding them to controls or entities), then they will not match to states that define their outernames since they will not show in the Bigraph object. If we ***close*** outernames (**after** adding them to controls or entities), then they will be represented in the Bigraph object as links i.e. XX:**e.** **Will they match with states that close two of their outernames?** If they are represented as links, then yes(logically, needs testing).