



Theory of concurrency

Seminar 1



<http://spinroot.com/spin/whatispin.html>



GUI

iSPIN

abp.pml

Spin Version 6.2.5 -- 3 May 2013 :: iSpin Version 1.1.0 -- 7 June 2012

Edit/View Simulate / Replay Verification Swarm Run <Help> Save Session Restore Session <Quit>

Open... ReOpen Save Save As... Syntax Check Redundancy Check Symbol Table Find:

```
1 /*
2  * a simple example of the use of inline's
3  * (requires Spin version 3.2 or later)
4  *
5  */
6
7 mtype = { msg0, msg1, ack0, ack1 };
8
9 chan sender = [1] of { mtype };
10 chan receiver = [1] of { mtype };
11
12 inline phase(msg, good_ack, bad_ack)
13 {
14     do
15         :: sender?good_ack -> break
16         :: sender?bad_ack
17         :: timeout ->
18         if
19             :: receiver!msg;
20             :: skip /* lose message */
21         fi,
22     od
23 }
24
25 inline recv(cur_msg, cur_ack, lst_msg, lst_ack)
26 {
27     do
28         :: receiver?cur_msg -> sender!cur_ack; break /* accept */
29         :: receiver?lst_msg -> sender!lst_ack
30     od;
31 }
32
33 active proctype Sender()
34 {
35     do
36         :: phase(msg1, ack1, ack0);
37         phase(msg0, ack0, ack1)
38     od
39 }
```

Automata View zoom in zoom out

Spin Version 6.2.5 -- 3 May 2013
iSpin Version 1.1.0 -- 7 June 2012
TcITK Version 8.5/8.5
1 simulate/replay
2 E:/Lectures/- 2018 Model Checking/spins/hello.pml:1
3 <saved hello.pml>
4 <saved hello.pml>
5 hello.pml:1
6 syntax check
spin: nothing to report
7 redundancies
spin: warning: no slice criteria found (no assertions and no claim)
8 simulate/replay
9 E:/Lectures/- 2018 Model Checking/spins/abp.pml:1
10 syntax check
spin: nothing to report
11 simulate/replay
12 verification
13 simulate/replay

iSPIN

abp.pml

Spin Version 6.2.5 -- 3 May 2013 :: iSpin Version 1.1.0 -- 7 June 2012

Edit/View Simulate / Replay Verification Swarm Run <Help> Save Session Restore Session <Quit>

Mode	A Full Channel	Output Filtering (reg. exps.)	(Re)Run
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Random, with seed: 123 <input type="radio"/> Interactive (for resolution of all nondeterminism) <input type="radio"/> Guided, with trail: abp.pml.trail <input type="button" value="browse"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> blocks new messages <input type="radio"/> loses new messages <input type="checkbox"/> MSC+stmtnt	process ids: <input type="text"/> queue ids: <input type="text"/> var names: <input type="text"/> tracked variable: <input type="text"/> track scaling: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="(Re)Run"/> <input type="button" value="Stop"/> <input type="button" value="Rewind"/> <input type="button" value="Step Forward"/> <input type="button" value="Step Backward"/>

Background command executed: spin -p -s -r -X -v -n123 -l -g -u10000 abp.pml

☒ Track Data Values (this can be slow)

Save in: msc.ps

```

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3  * (requires Spin version 3.2 or later)
4  *
5  */
6
7 mtype = { msg0, msg1, ack0, ack1 };
8
9 chan sender = [1] of { mtype };
10 chan receiver = [1] of { mtype };
11
12 inline phase(msg, good_ack, bad_ack)
13 {
14   do
15     :: sender?good_ack -> break
16     :: sender?bad_ack
17     :: timeout ->
18     if
19       :: receiver!msg;
20       :: skip /* lose message */
21     fi;
22   od
23 }
24
25 inline recv(cur_msg, cur_ack, lst_msg, lst_ack)
  
```

```

0: proc - (.root) creates proc 0 (Sender)
0: proc - (.root) creates proc 1 (Receiver)
1: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:35 (state 25) [DO]
2: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:43 (state 19) [DO]
timeout
3: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 9) [(timeout)]
4: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:18 (state 7) [receiver!3]
5: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:27 (state 6) [receiver?3]
7: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:28 (state 11) [sender!1]
9: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 9) [sender?1]
12: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:31 (state 18) [sub-sequence]
13: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:23 (state 24) [sub-sequence]
timeout
14: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 21) [(timeout)]
15: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:18 (state 19) [(1)]
timeout
18: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 21) [(timeout)]
19: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:18 (state 19) [receiver!4]
21: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:27 (state 15) [receiver?4]
23: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:28 (state 11) [sender!2]
25: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 21) [sender?2]
26: proc 1 (Receiver) abp.pml:43 (state 19) [DO]
28: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:35 (state 25) [DO]
timeout
29: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:14 (state 9) [(timeout)]
30: proc 0 (Sender) abp.pml:18 (state 7) [(1)]
  
```

[queues, step 197]

```

q 1 :: (sender):
q 2 :: (receiver): [msg0]
  
```

iSPIN

abp.pml

Spin Version 6.2.5 -- 3 May 2013 :: iSpin Version 1.1.0 -- 7 June 2012

Edit/View Simulate / Replay Verification Swarm Run <Help> Save Session Restore Session <Quit>

Safety	Storage Mode	Search Mode
<input checked="" type="radio"/> safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> + invalid endstates (deadlock) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> + assertion violations <input type="checkbox"/> + xr/xs assertions	<input checked="" type="radio"/> exhaustive <input type="checkbox"/> + minimized automata (slow) <input type="checkbox"/> + collapse compression <input checked="" type="radio"/> hash-compact <input type="radio"/> bitstate/supertrace	<input checked="" type="radio"/> depth-first search <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> + partial order reduction <input type="checkbox"/> + bounded context switching with bound: 0 <input type="checkbox"/> + iterative search for short trail <input type="radio"/> breadth-first search <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> + partial order reduction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> report unreachable code
<input type="radio"/> non-progress cycles <input type="radio"/> acceptance cycles <input type="checkbox"/> enforce weak fairness constraint	<input type="radio"/> Never Claims <input type="radio"/> do not use a never claim or ltl property <input type="radio"/> use claim claim name (opt):	
	<input type="button" value="Run"/> <input type="button" value="Stop"/>	<input type="button" value="Save Result in"/> pan.out

<input type="button" value="Show Error Trapping Options"/>	<input type="button" value="Show Advanced Parameter Settings"/>
--	---

```

1  /*
2  * a simple example of the use of inline's
3  * (requires Spin version 3.2 or later)
4  *
5  */
6
7  mtype = { msg0, msg1, ack0, ack1 };
8
9  chan sender = [1] of { mtype };
10 chan receiver = [1] of { mtype };
11
12 inline phase(msg, good_ack, bad_ack)
13 {
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25 inline recv(cur_msg, cur_ack, lst_msg, lst_ack)
26 {
27     do
28         :: receiver?cur_msg -> sender!cur_ack; break /* accept */
29         :: receiver?lst_msg -> sender!lst_ack
30     od;
31 }
32
33 active proctype Sender()
34 {
35     do
36         :: phase(msg1, ack1, ack0);
37         phase(msg0, ack0, ack1)
38     od
39 }
40
41 active proctype Receiver()
42 {
43     do
44         :: rcv(msg1, ack1, msg0, ack0);
45         rcv(msg0, ack0, msg1, ack1)
46     od
47 }

```

```

pan: elapsed time 0 seconds
No errors found -- did you verify all claims?
spin -a abp.pml
gcc -DMEMLIM=1024 -O2 -DXUSAFE -DSAFETY -w -o pan pan.c
./pan -m10000
Pid: 9380

(Spin Version 6.2.5 -- 3 May 2013)
+ Partial Order Reduction

Full statespace search for:
  never claim      - (none specified)
  assertion violations +
  cycle checks     - (disabled by -DSAFETY)
  invalid end states +

State-vector 24 byte, depth reached 9, errors: 0
  12 states, stored
   3 states, matched
  15 transitions (= stored+matched)
   0 atomic steps
hash conflicts:    0 (resolved)

Stats on memory usage (in Megabytes):
  0.000  equivalent memory usage for states (stored*(State-vector + overhead))
  0.287  actual memory usage for states
 64.000  memory used for hash table (-w24)
  0.343  memory used for DFS stack (-m10000)
 64.539  total actual memory usage

unreached in proctype Sender
  abp.pml:39, state 28, "-end-"
  (1 of 28 states)
unreached in proctype Receiver
  abp.pml:29, state 5, "sender!2"
  abp.pml:28, state 6, "receiver?3"
  abp.pml:28, state 6, "receiver?4"
  abp.pml:29, state 14, "sender!1"
  abp.pml:28, state 15, "receiver?4"
  abp.pml:28, state 15, "receiver?3"
  abp.pml:47, state 22, "-end-"
  (5 of 22 states)

pan: elapsed time 0.01 seconds
No errors found -- did you verify all claims?

```



Promela

Specification language



Objects

Objects: processes, message channels, and variables.

Processes

- Declaration **proctype**
 - at least one process
 - announced globally
 - defines the behavior, but does not run the process
- Instance of process starts
 - Prefix **active** :
 - **active** [2] **proctype** foo() {**printf**("MSC: my pid is:% d \ n", **_pid**) }
 - **run** statement:
 - **active proctype** bar () {**run** foo () }
- **_pid** - the reserved variable for the non-negative value of the unique instance process identifier

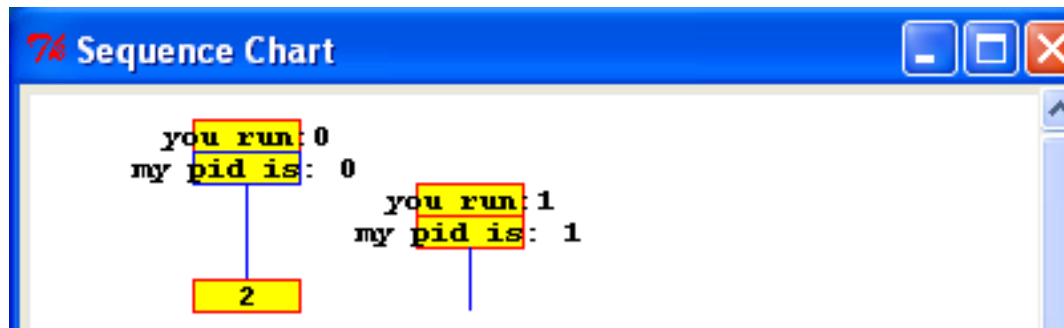


Objects

- Process body:
 - declarations of data and operators (may be empty)
 - operator separators:
 - semicolon ";"
 - empty operator allowed ; ; ; ;
 - arrow "->"
 - for indicating a causal relationship between two operators
- Values of variables or messages in channels
 - changes or is checked only in processes.

Objects

- Simulation window: two processes of type `you_run` are created



```
active [2] proctype you_run() {  
    printf("MSC: my pid is: %d\n", _pid)  
}
```

- Sequence Chart
 - each column displays one running process.



Objects

```
proctype you_run(byte x) {  
    printf("MSC: x is %d\n", x);  
    printf("MSC: my pid is = %d\n", _pid)  
}  
init {  
    run you_run(0);  
    run you_run(1)  
}
```

- `init` is basic process in Promela
 - is always activated in an initial state of the model
 - cannot take parameters or be copied.
 - its identifier `_pid` is always 0.
 - can be unnecessary process which increase the size of the model
- A running process terminates when
 - it reaches the end of its body, but no later than the processes that it run.
- The number of processes in Spin is no more than 256.



Objects

Data type	Range
<code>bit</code>	0,1
<code>bool</code>	false, true
<code>byte</code>	0..255
<code>chan</code>	1..255
<code>mtype</code>	1..255
<code>pid</code>	0..255
<code>short</code>	$-2^{15} .. 2^{15} - 1$
<code>int</code>	$-2^{31} .. 2^{31} - 1$
<code>unsigned</code>	$0 .. 2^{32} - 1$



Objects

- Variables
 - global vars are declared outside the process description
 - local vars are declared in the process description
 - you cannot restrict access to a local variable for a part of the process
 - no block or scope
 - initialized to zeros (**false**).



Objects

- One-dimensional arrays
 - `byte state[N]`
 - `state[0] = state[3] + 5 * state[3*2/n]`
 - `n` – constant or variable.
 - numbering from 0
 - array index is any expression with an integer value
 - out of range `0..N-1` result not defined
- Multidimensional arrays can be specified implicitly using the construct `typedef`.



Objects

- Enumerated type
 - `mtype`
 - symbolic values of variables
 - one or more declarations
 - all variables declared as `mtype` can take all declared values
 - 255 values in `mtype`.

```
mtype = { grandad, grandma, granddaughter, dog, cat, mice, turnip };
mtype = { mammal, vegetable };
init {
    mtype n = grandad; /* initializing n by value grandad */
    printf("MSC: %e ", n);
    n = vegetable; /* assigning n by value vegetable */
    printf("MSC: is not %e\n ", n)
}
```



Objects

- Operator `printf`
 - two arguments: a string and a list of arguments
 - formats of output variables
 - `d` is an integer in decimal format,
 - `i` is an unsigned integer value,
 - `c` is one character,
 - `e` is a constant of type `mtype`.
 - To display a message on the iSpin interaction diagram, the line starts with the characters “**MSC:**”.



Objects

Channels

- Model data transfer from one process to another.
- Declared locally or globally with reserved word **chan**:
 - **chan** **qname** = [16] **of** {**short**}
 - **qname** channel with buffer 16 for **short** messages
- Send messages in FIFO order: first in - first out.
- The operator of sending messages “**!**”:
 - **qname ! expr**
 - adds this value to the end of the queue in the channel
 - executed if the destination channel is not full, otherwise it is blocked.
- The operator of receiving the message “**?**”:
 - **qname ? msg**
 - saves the value from the beginning of the queue in the channel to the **msg** variable
 - executed if the destination channel is not empty, otherwise it is blocked.



Objects

- Composed messages
 - a finite number of fields
 - `chan pname = [16] of {byte, int, chan}`
 - one eight-bit value (of type `byte`)
 - one 32-bit value (of type `int`)
 - channel name.
- Sending a channel identifier from one process to another
 - in the message
 - as a parameter to a process instance
- No arrays in message fields.
- Sending multiple values in a single message
 - `pname ! expr1, expr2, expr3`
- Receive such a message
 - `pname ? var1, var2, var3`



Objects

- Using the first message field to specify the type of message
 - In channels, `mtype` data is always interpreted symbolically, not numerically.

```
/* the declaration of message type */  
mtype = { ack, nak, err, next, accept }  
/* the declaration of variable of this type */  
mtype msgtype1, msgtype2;
```

- `chan` tname = [4] of { `mtype`, `int`, `bit` };
- tname ! msgtype (data, b)
 - tname ! msgtype, data, b



Objects

- Sending or receiving constants:

```
tname ! ack, var, 0  
tname ? ack (data, 1)
```

- The operator of receiving a message with constants is executable,
 - only if the message at the beginning of the channel buffer in the corresponding fields has the values of the specified constants.
 - Otherwise, it will be blocked.
 - The operator of receiving a message is not executed if
 - the message `<ack, 15, 0>` is at the beginning of the buffer.
- Unexecuted statements pause the process until they become executable.
 - In this case, operations on channels may simulate point-to-point communication of several processes connected by one channel.



Objects

- Channel functions
 - `len`, `empty`, `nempty`, `full`, `nfull`.
- `len(qname)`
 - the number of messages in channel `qname`
 - unexecuted if used as an operator on the right side of the assignment and the channel is empty,
 - because it returns a null result, which by definition means that the statement is temporarily unexecuted.
- Sending `msgtype` messages if the `qname` channel is not full:
 - `(len(qname) < MAX) -> qname ! msgtype`
 - If access to the `qname` channel is shared by several processes, the execution of the second statement will not necessarily occur immediately after the execution of the first test statement.



Objects

Rendezvous interaction

- `chan port = [0] of {byte}`
- Rendezvous channel
 - the rendezvous channel buffer is zero: can transmit but cannot store messages.
 - Process interactions on rendezvous channels are synchronous by definition

```
#define msgtype 1
chan name = [0] of { byte, byte };
proctype A() {
    name ! msgtype(4);
    name ! msgtype(1) }
proctype B() {
    byte state;
    name ? msgtype(state) }
init {
    atomic { run A(); run B() }
}
```



Objects

- The channel **name** is declared as a global rendezvous channel.
- Two processes will synchronously execute their first statements:
 - handshake according to **msgtype** message
 - passing the value 13 to the local variable **state**.
- The second send statement in process **A** is not executed.
 - there is no corresponding message receiving operation in process **B**.

```
#define msgtype 1
chan name = [0] of { byte, byte };
proctype A() {
    name ! msgtype(13);
    name ! msgtype(1) }
proctype B() {
    byte state;
    name ? msgtype(state) }
init {
    atomic { run A(); run B() }
}
```



Objects

```
#define msgtype 1
chan name = [0] of { byte, byte };
proctype A() {
    name ! msgtype(4);
    name ! msgtype(1) }
proctype B() {
    byte state;
    name ? msgtype(state) }
init { atomic { run A(); run B() }}
```

- The size of buffer **name** is 2
 - **A** may terminate execution before **B** starts working.
- The size of buffer **name** is 1
 - Process **A** may terminate its first sending action
 - blocked on the second action, because now the channel is full.
 - Process **B** reads the first message and terminates.
 - At this point, **A** becomes executed again and terminates, leaving its last message on the channel.
- Binary rendezvous interactions:
 - only two processes, sender and receiver, can be synchronized.



Operators

A loop of wait:

```
while (a != b) -> skip  
(a == b)
```

The rule of executability

- Executability provides the foundation for modeling process synchronization.
- Any statement is either executable or blocked.
- The main types of operators:
 - `printf` variable output statement (always executable),
 - assignment operator (always executable),
 - S/R operators (when transmitting data over channels),
 - expression operators.
- If the process reaches the code point with the unexecuted statement, then the process is blocked.
 - An operator can become executable if another active process performs actions that allow the operator blocked in this process to execute further.



Operators

- Two processes share access to the global variable `state`.
- Processes await the condition `(state == 1)`.
- If program terminates, then `state` can have a value: 0, 1, or 2.
- If one of the processes changes the value of `state` before the condition is checked by another process, then the other process will be blocked.

```
byte state = 1;
active proctype A() {
    byte tmp;
    (state==1) -> tmp = state;
    tmp = tmp+1;
    state = tmp }
active proctype B() {
    byte tmp;
    (state==1) -> tmp = state;
    tmp = tmp-1;
    state = tmp }
```



Operators

Expressions

- Expressions in Promela are statements
 - tested for true/false in any context.
- Expression executable iff
 - its boolean value is true
 - equivalent to any nonzero value.

Operators	
() []	brackets, array brackets
! ++ --	negation, plus 1, minus 1
* / %	multiplication, division, modulo division
+ -	addition, subtraction
<< >>	left shift, right shift
< <= > >=	comparison
== !=	equality, non-equality
&	bitwise and
^	bitwise xor
	bitwise or
&&	logical and
	logical or
-> :	if operator
=	assignment



Operators

The assignment operator

- **variable = expression**
 - is not an statement, just like the `print` operator
 1. the expression to the right is evaluated
 2. the result of the expression is converted to the variable type
 3. variable gets this value.
- Increment and decrement
 - only postfix (`a++`, not `++a`)
 - only in the expression, but not in the assignment operator.



Operators

Sending/Receiving operators

- is executable if message sending/receiving is possible
 - otherwise the process is blocked.
- How to test the ability to send/receive without execution.
 - take operator arguments in square brackets
 - the operator is not executed, but its value is computed as an expression
 - `qname ? [ack, var, 0]`
 - test that the next message in the `qname` channel is a structure consisting of
 - the mnemonic value `ack`, some value of the `var` variable, and 0.
 - If the statement is executable, then 1 is returned, otherwise 0 is returned.



Operators

- Invalid expressions of the form
 - `(qname ? var == 0) or (a > b && qname ! 123)`
 - cannot be computed without side effects
 - attempts to perform S/R operations
- The sending and receiving operators are not expressions.
- Operator `printf`
 - output of variable values or text
 - `printf` and `skip` do not change the state of the system
 - used when an executable step is necessary
 - text output is only in simulation mode
 - is a side effect of the operator.



Control Flow

Composition operators: `atomic`, `d_step`, *choice* and *repetition*.

Block `atomic`

- `atomic` {`op1` `op2` ... `opn`}
- block `op1`, `op2`, ..., `opn` is executed as an indivisible module, not alternating with other processes.
- similar to using semaphore.
- other processes “see” shared global variables and channels used in the `atomic` block, either *before* or *after* the execution of the entire sequence of statements.
- if the statement inside `atomic` is not executable, then the whole block is not executable and *another process may act*.
- reducing the complexity of models
 - decreasing the number of global states
 - `atomic` blocks limit the number of interleavings
 - Ensure the correct implementation of `atomic` blocks.



Control Flow

- `atomic` prevents a competing process from accessing a global variable.
- The final value of `state` is 0 or 2.

```
byte state = 1;
active proctype A(){
    atomic {
        (state==1) -> state = state+1 } }
active proctype B(){
    atomic {
        (state==1) -> state = state-1 } }
```




Control Flow

Block of deterministic steps `d_step`

- `d_step` {`op1 op2 ... opn`}
 - block `op1, op2, ..., opn` is executed as an indivisible module, not alternating with other processes.
 - other processes “see” shared global variables and channels used in the `d_step` block, either *before* or *after* the execution of the entire sequence of statements.
 - if the statement inside `d_step` is not executable, then the whole block is not executable and this is a *modeling error*.
 - more powerful decreasing verification complexity
 - for a sequence in `atomic` Spin generates transitions for other processes, unlike `d_step`.



Control Flow

The guarded choice

■ `if`

- contains at least two sequences of operators.
- only one sequence from the list of executable is performed.
 - a sequence is executable if its first statement is executable.
 - the first statement is called a *guard* or *condition*.
- if several operators are executable, one is chosen nondeterministically
 - the order of listing alternatives does not matter
- if all conditions are not true, then the process will be blocked until one of the conditions becomes true.
- There are no restrictions on the types of expressions for conditions.

```
if
  :: (a != b) -> option1
  :: (a == b) -> option2
fi
```



Control Flow

- `option1` is executable if the channel contains message `a`.
- `option2` is executable if the channel contains message `b`.
- Which operator will be executed depends on the relative speeds of the processes.

```
#define a 1
#define b 2
chan ch = [1] of { byte };
proctype A(){ ch ! a }
proctype B(){ ch ! b }
proctype C(){
    if
        :: ch ? a -> option1
        :: ch ? b -> option2
    fi }
init{
    atomic {
        run A(); run B(); run C() } }
```



Control Flow

- The process for changing the value of variable `count`.
- Both expressions in the example are always executable.
 - the choice between them is completely non-deterministic.

```
byte count;  
proctype counter() {  
    if  
        :: count = count + 1  
        :: count = count - 1  
    fi  
}
```



Control Flow

The loop operator

- only one option can be chosen for execution
- after terminating the selected option, control moves to the beginning of the loop
- exit the loop with using the **break** statement
- In the example
 - the loop will be terminated when `count == 0`.
 - two other statements are always executable
 - the result is non-deterministic

```
byte count;  
proctype counter() {  
    do  
        :: count = count + 1  
        :: count = count - 1  
        :: (count == 0) -> break  
    od  
}
```



Control Flow

- Guarantee of termination of the loop under the desirable condition.

```
byte count;
proctype counter() {
    do
        :: (count != 0) ->
            if
                :: count = count + 1
                :: count = count - 1
            fi
        :: (count == 0) -> break
    od
}
```



Control Flow

- `else` condition.
 - is executable in choice or loop statements only if no other condition is executable.

```
byte count;
proctype counter() {
    do
        :: (count != 0) ->
            if
                :: count = count + 1
                :: count = count - 1
            fi
        :: else -> break
    od
}
```

- the `else` condition is true when
 - $!(\text{count} \neq 0) \cong (\text{count} == 0).$



Control Flow

- Unconditional jump statement `goto`
 - is always executable if there is a label to which the jump is made.
- Euclidean algorithm for finding GCD:

```
proctype Euclid (int x, y){  
    do  
        :: (x > y) -> x = x - y  
        :: (x < y) -> y = y - x  
        :: (x == y) -> goto done  
    od;  
    done: skip  
}
```

- The *label* can only be placed before the operator.
 - empty `skip` statement
 - is always executable, but has no effect.



Example: Message filter

- It receives messages from channel `ch`
- It divides them into two channels `large` and `small`
- `ch` channel is empty: the process is blocked

```
#define N 128
#define size 16
chan ch = [size] of { short };
chan large = [size] of { short };
chan small = [size] of { short };
proctype split(){
    short data;
    do :: ch ? data ->
        if
            :: (data >= N) -> large ! data
            :: (data < N) -> small ! data
        fi
    od }
init{ run split() }
```



Example: split and merge

```
#define N 128
#define size 16
chan ch = [size] of { short };
chan large = [size] of { short };
chan small = [size] of { short };
proctype split(){
    short data;
    do :: ch ? data ->
        if :: (data >= N) -> large ! data
            :: (data < N) -> small ! data
        fi
    od }
proctype merge(){
    short data;
    do :: if :: large ? data
        :: small ? data
        fi;
        ch ! data
    od }
init{
    ch ! 345; ch ! 13; ch ! 6777; ch!32; ch ! 0;
    run split(); run merge() }
```

- Nonterminating processes for splitting and merging.



Example: a recursive process

- The return value is passed back to the calling process in a global variable or message.

```
proctype fact( int n; chan p) {
    chan child = [1] of { int };
    int result;
    if
        :: (n <= 1) -> p ! 1
        :: (n >= 2) -> run fact(n-1, child);
                        child ? result;
                        p ! n*result
    fi }

init{
    chan child = [1] of { int };
    int result;
    run fact(7, child);
    child ? result;
    printf("MSC: result: %d\n", result) }
```