



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

`assert` *statement*

- defines local invariants
 - properties that must be executed at specific points in the program
- `assert (expr)`
- `expr = true`
 - the `assert` statement has no effect.
- `expr = false`
 - during the simulation, SPIN will display the message “Error: assertion violated”.
 - during verification, violation of `assert` statements is checked on all final calculations.
- In *simulation mode*, only system properties described by the `assert` operator can be checked.
 - the other kinds of property specifications can be checked only in *verification mode*.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

```
#define p 0
#define v 1
chan sem = [0] of { bit };
proctype dijkstra(){
    byte count = 1;
    endpoint: do :: (count == 1) -> sem ! p; count = 0
               :: (count == 0) -> sem ? v; count = 1
    od }
active[3] proctype user(){
    sem ? p;
    CritSection
    sem ! v;
    NonCritSection
end*
```

End-state labels `end*`

- Marks normal final states for the verifier
 - Presence of deadlocks
- Normal final state:
 - some processes have reached the end of their program body, and
 - all message channels are empty.
 - not every process reaches the end of its body.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

Active-state labels `progress*`

- marks operators whose execution is desired
 - progress in model behavior (liveness property)
 - during verification, SPIN checks that any infinite loop passes through at least one `progress*` label
 - in case of violation, SPIN reports the existence of a non-progressive cycle (possible starvation of processes)

```
proctype dijkstra(){  
    byte count = 1;  
    endpnt: do :: (count == 1) ->  
    progresspnt:      sem ! p; count = 0  
                    :: (count == 0) ->  
                    sem ? v; count = 1  
    od }
```

- Progress: the semaphore is necessary for processes infinitely
 - during verification, SPIN will check that in any infinite computation, the semaphore is used an infinite number of times.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

Accept-state labels `accept*`

- labels undesired conditions
 - “Undesired” trajectories pass an infinite number of times accepting state
 - during verification, SPIN checks that there are *no calculations* in the system that pass through the operators labeled with `accept*` infinitely often.

```
proctype dijkstra(){
    byte count = 1;
    endpnt: do :: (count == 1) ->
    progresspnt: sem ! p; count = 0
               :: (count == 0) ->
    acceptpnt: sem ? v; count = 1
    od }
```



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

Process **never**

- makes it possible to define global invariants
 - **assert**, **end**, **accept**, **progress** are not checked in all system states.
- is a description of the behavior that should not occur in the system.
- is used to monitor system behavior:
 - does not affect the state
 - cannot declare variables
 - cannot change the value of a variable
 - cannot manipulate message channels
- in a model, there can only be single process **never**.
- is considered only during verification.
- allows you to check the system property
 - in initial condition and after each calculation step
 - after each statement of any process



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Checking property p at each step of the system:

```
never {  
    do  
        :: !p -> break  
        :: else  
    od }
```

- It is executed at every step of the system.
- If condition p is false
 - the **never** process is aborted, passing to the final state.
 - Termination of **never** is interpreted as erroneous behavior of the system.
- If p is always true,
 - the **never** process remains in the loop
 - there is no error in the system.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Checking property p at each step of the system:
 - without `never`

```
active proctype monitor(){  
    atomic { !p -> assert(false) }  
}
```

- The `monitor` process can initiate the execution of an `atomic` block at any point in the computation of the system.
 - In any reachable state of the system in which the invariant p is violated,
 - `monitor` reports an error using the `assert` statement.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- *Always, if p has become true, then in the future q will become true, and p will remain true until q becomes true.*
 - LTL: $\mathbf{G}(p \rightarrow (p \mathbf{U} q))$
- In model checking, we are not interested in computations in which the property holds
 - for the model, we try to find computations in which the property is violated
 - $\mathbf{!G}(p \rightarrow (p \mathbf{U} q))$
 - p became true, and q is false forever, or p became false before q became true.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Violation of a property with q remains false always
 - only on infinite computations
 - `assert` will not work
 - checked only on finite computations
- In verification mode, in the initial state of the system,
 - SPIN checks the possibility to execute the first operator of the never process.
 - label `s0`: non-deterministic cycle.

```
never { /* !G (p → (p U q)) */  
s0:    do  
        :: p && !q -> break  
        :: true  
    od;  
accept: do  
        :: p && !q  
        :: !(p || q) -> break  
    od  
}
```



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Condition `true`

- always executable and does not affect the computation.
- returns the `never` process to its initial state.
- keeps a progress

```
never { /* !G (p → (p U q)) */  
S0:    do  
        :: p && !q -> break  
        :: true  
    od;  
accept: do  
        :: p && !q  
        :: !(p || q) -> break  
    od  
}
```

- Condition `p&&!q`

- model behavior: p has become true, but q is not true yet.
- from this state, an incorrect path of the analyzed program may begin.



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Incorrect path
 - in all subsequent states p will be true and q will be false
 - infinite stay in label `accept`
 - there is a state in which neither p nor q will be true
 - termination of the `never` process

```
never { /* !G (p → (p U q)) */  
S0:    do  
        :: p && !q -> break  
        :: true  
    od;  
accept: do  
        :: p && !q  
        :: !(p || q) -> break  
    od  
}
```



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- p and q are true
 - none of the selection conditions is satisfiable
 - the **never** process is blocked.
 - blocking is desired behavior
 - is not terminated and
 - does not pass an infinite loop labeled **accept**

```
never { /* !G (p → (p U q)) */
S0:    do
        :: p && !q -> break
        :: true
      od;
accept: do
        :: p && !q
        :: !(p || q) -> break
      od
}
```



Properties of concurrent systems in Promela

- Linear Temporal Logic formulas
 - temporal operators **F** is $\langle \rangle$, **G** is $[]$, **U** and **W**
 - atomic propositions are Promela Boolean expressions with names starting with a lower-case letter
 - Boolean operators $\&\&$, $||$, \rightarrow and $!$
 - `ltl prp {[] (p -> (p U q))}`