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Modular Functional Descriptions

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Abstract

The construction of reactive systems often requires the combination of different individual functionalities, thus leading to a complex overall behavior. To achieve an efficient construction of reliable systems, a structured approach to the definition of the behavior is needed. Here, functional modularization supports a separation of the overall functionality into individual functions as well as their combination to construct the intended behavior, by using functional modules as basic paradigm together with conjunctive and disjunctive modular composition.

Keywords: Function, behavior, module, composition, decomposition, refinement, verification

1 Introduction

In many application domains reactive systems are becoming increasingly complex to cope with the technical possibilities and requested functionalities. The behavior provided by the system often is a combination of different functions integrated in an overall functionality; e.g., an embedded controller managing the movement of a car power window combines control of the basic movement, position control to restrict motor overload, as well as power management to avoid battery wear.

Implementing those combinations of individual functions is a complex and error-prone task. Since these functions in general influence each other, a modular development process ensures that the combined functionality respects the restrictions imposed by each individual function. Furthermore, due to the increased demand for possible variants of behavior, in general the development

of reactive systems requires the recombination, restriction and extension of functionalities.

Here, the use of functional modules can improve the development process by supporting the modular definition of the basic functions as well as their combination into the overall functionality.

1.1 Contributions

Modular functional development aims at supporting the development process of multi-functional reactive systems by use of modular composition of functions. To that end, we

- introduce functions as modular units of system construction, which provide a data flow interface describing the values observed and controlled by a function as well as a control interface describing the activation and deactivation of functions.
- use disjunctive and conjunctive composition as a means of combination, which allow to either alternatively or simultaneously combine functional behavior.
- provide automatic proof support to check the refinement between more descriptive and more constructive variants of specifications of functionality.

1.2 Related Approaches

Functions are modules of behavior, used for the construction of complex behavior from basic functionality. They offer interfaces for both data and control flow in a similar fashion to the ports and connectors introduced in [6].

As generally used, e.g., in embedded systems, functions are intended for the description of signal-based reactive systems, using asynchronous communication unlike [5] or [10]. They use a communication paradigm similar to [9], [4], or [3]. Therefore, they provide similar forms of conjunctive and disjunctive compositions as provided for the modules introduced in [4] or the states introduced in [2]. However, while those are targeting the specification of reactive behavior in a constructive fashion, here a more descriptive from is used, using a more generalized form of (conjunctive) composition. In contrast to these constructive approaches, ruling out the introduction of partial behavior either syntactically by restricting compatible alphabets (e.g., [4]) or semantically using interleaving of interactions instead of synchronization (e.g., [2], functions with their less restricted composition allow a more natural modular form of specification.

Due to this form of composition, they are similar to services-oriented de-

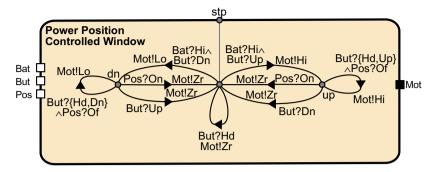


Fig. 1. Refactored Power Position Window Function

scriptions as used in [1]. In contrast to those rather descriptive approaches with a large number of different composition operators, however, functions provide a more constructive form of decomposition. Similar to [8], only conjunction and disjunction are used and a similar semantical models is used; but while there – due to its rather general form of specification without distinction between control and data flow – a more low-level formal form of description is needed, here by means of the explicit introduction ports and locations a more compact form of specification is possible.

Finally, the approach introduced here extends [11] by focusing on refinement rather than refactoring, and providing automated proof support by use of modelchecking.

2 Describing Functions

Functions form the building block of the approach presented here. Basically, functions are capsules of behavior, defined by their (external) interface in terms of data and control flow as well as their (internal) implementation. The data flow between the function and its environment is described in form of data signals exchanged between them, allowing the function to observe and control shared signals. The control flow between the function and its environment is described in form of control locations used to pass control between them, allowing the function to be activated and deactivated.

Figure 1 shows a function Power Position Controlled Window describing the functionality of a power window controller. The capsulated behavior is represented by a box, and identified by a function name (Power Window). Interface elements (e.g., Bat, stp) are attached to its border; its internal structure is depicted inside the box.

The function observes user interactions via the But signal (with Up, Hd, and Dn signaling the up, hold, and down position of the switch), the current

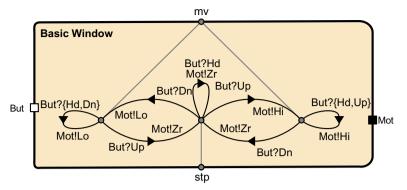


Fig. 2. Basic Window Function

battery status via the Bat signal (with Hi and Lo signaling high and low voltage), and the current position of the window via the Pos signal (with On and Of signaling intermediate or end positions of the window). It controls the motor of the window via the Mot signal (with Hi, Lo, and Zr signaling upward, downward, or no movement). As shown in Figure 1, the input and output signals accessed by a function are indicated by empty and filled boxes at the border of the function.

To control the activation and deactivation of the function, it can be entered and exited via the control location stp. As shown in Figure 1, while interface locations as well as internal control locations are indicated by outlined circles.

In its elementary form, the behavior of the function is described in a state-transition manner. As shown in Figure 1 in case of Power Position Controlled Window, its internal control flow is described via locations dn, stp, and up (with stp being an internal control location as well as an interface location, indicated by the grayed-out line), as well as transitions between these locations. Transitions are influenced by observed signals and influence controlled signals. Furthermore, transitions might be influenced by values of local variables and influence local variables. Thus, if control resides in location stp, value Hi is received via the Bat signal (Bat?Hi), and a value Up is received via the But signal (But?Up), then value Hi is sent via the Mot signal (Mot!Hi) and control is transferred to location up.

As shown in Section 3, a single transition can be understood as the most basic form of a function. Its interface is defined by the observed and controlled signals (and variables) as well as by its start and end locations.

2.1 Decomposing Functionality

The functionality of Power Position Controlled Window shown in Figure 1 can be decomposed in simpler functionalities, addressing special aspects of the com-

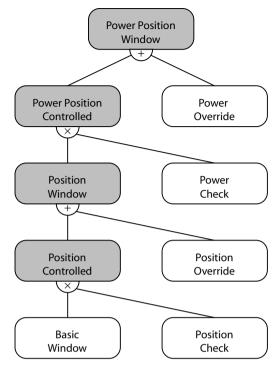


Fig. 3. Functional Decomposition of Power Position Controlled Window

bined behavior: power control, addressing issues of voltage-dependent window movement; position control, addressing issues of end position detection; and basic window control, addressing issues of button-controlled window movement.

As shown by the white boxes in Figure 3, to obtain an equivalent functional decomposition Power Position Window of function Power Position Controlled Window, five basic functions are used:

- (i) Basic Window movement control, moving the window as requested by the interactions of the user,
- (ii) Position Check, restricting window movement to positions in between end positions,
- (iii) Position Override, halting the window if reaching an end position,
- (iv) Power Check, restricting window movement to situations with sufficient initial voltage,
- (v) Power Override, disabling window movement if lacking sufficient voltage.

Obviously, all five functions control the motor movement via the Mot signal, interacting to realize the overall behavior. However, their combined behavior does not support a modularization of the behavior of the controller, failing

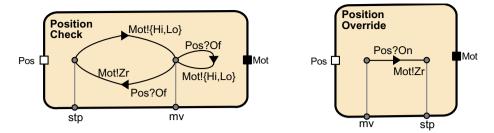


Fig. 4. Position Control Functions

to reflect the separation of concerns into individual functions. Therefore, if restricted to constructive formalisms (like Statecharts [2] or Masaccio [4]), identifying these five functions in a modular fashion is not possible; as a result, ensuring that the overall behavior implements the intended interaction of these functions is requires the use of an additional property-language (e.g., temporal logic).

Figures 2, 4, and 5 show the corresponding basic functionalities.

Function Basic Window provides basic window movement functionality, in form of upward movement caused by a Hi-value for the Mot-signal initiated by a Up-value for the But-signal in location stp; holding (But?Up) or relasing (But?Hd) the button continues the upward movement (Mot!Hi), while changing the button (But?Dn) will stop the movement (Mot!Zr). The functionality for the downward movement is supplied in a similar fashion.

The function is activated and deactivated via interface location stp – corresponding to the internal control location representing a stopped motor – or via interface location mv – corresponding to two internal control locations representing either downward or upward movement of the motor – shown at the interface of Basic Window.

Position control as shown in Figure 4, consists of Position Check, ensuring that the motor is restricted to intermediate positions, and Position Override, ensuring that the motor is stopped if an end-position is reached. Once activated by a motor movement (Mot!{Hi,Lo}), Position Check enforces that further movement requires a non-end position (Pos?Of:Mot!{Hi,Lo}) until deactivation (Pos?Of:Mot!Zr). Interface locations stp and mv correspond to a stopped a moving motor. Position Override provides an override functionality to stop a window movement when an end-position signal is detected.

Similarly, power control consists of Power Check, ensuring that starting the motor movement requires sufficient voltage, and Power Override, ensuring that the motor is not activated in case of insufficient voltage.

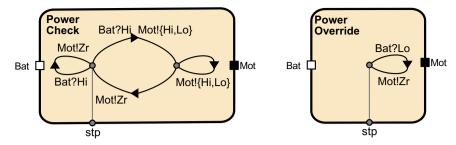


Fig. 5. Power Control Functions

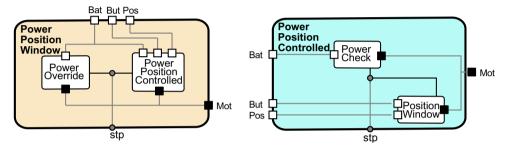


Fig. 6. Power Position Window and Controled Position Window Functions

2.2 Composing Functionality

To obtain the overall behavior of the controller of the power window, the functions introduced in Section 2.1 are combined. Figure 3 also shows, how Power Position Window is composed to obtain an equivalent functionality like Power Position Controlled Window: Basic Window and Position Check are combined by *conjunctive* composition – indicated by × – to function Position Controlled, which in turn is combined by *disjunctive* composition with function Position Override to function Position Window. Using the same pattern of composition, Position Window is combined by conjunctive composition with Power Check to obtain function Power Position Controlled, which in turn is combined by conjunctive composition with Power Override to function Power Position Window.

Intuitively, disjunctive composition corresponds to the alternative use of composed functions, while conjunctive composition corresponds to the simultaneous use of the composed functions. Obviously, disjunctive composition is not sufficient to obtained the intended functionality, since position control and power control are supposed to restrict basic window movement. Similarly, simple conjunctive composition does not lead to a reasonable behavior, since basic movement, position control, and power control as defined above are in conflict to each other. Therefore, a more sophisticated form of combination is needed, describing the priorities between these (sub-)functions.

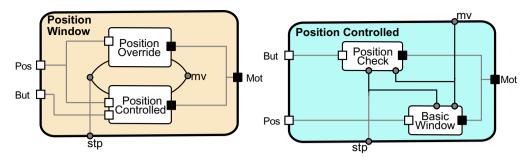


Fig. 7. Position Window and Controled Window Functions

Figures 6 and 7 describe these prioritized compositions. As shown in the left-hand side of Figure 6, at the top level, the Power Position Window is realized by disjunctive composition — indicated by a light background used inside the box representing a function — of the Power Override function together with the Controlled Position Window, ensuring that a lack of voltage does result in a blocked window movement. Activation and deactivation of the disjunctive composition Power Position Window via the stp interface location corresponds to the activation and deactivation of either sub-function via stp. Furthermore, as Power Override and Power Position Controlled share the interface location stp, activation may pass from one to other and back. As the signal interfaces (Bat, But, Pos, and Mot) are linked to the corresponding interfaces of the sub-functions, signals are passed between the environment of Power Position Window and the currently activated sub-function.

As Controlled Position Window is obtained by *conjunctive composition* — indicated by a dark background used inside the box representing a function — of Power Check and Position Window, any window movement is only initialized in case of sufficient voltage. Activation and deactivation of the conjunctive composition Power Position Controlled via interface location stp corresponds to the simultaneous activation and deactivation of both sub-functions via stp. Furthermore, the signal interfaces (Bat, But, Pos, and Mot) of Power Position Controlled Power Check and Position Windoware simultaneously observed and controlled by the sub-functions via their corresponding linked signal interfaces.

A similar construction is applied to ensure position control. As Position Window is realized by disjunctive composition of Position Override and Controled Window, detection of an end position stops the movement of the window. By conjunctive composition of Position Check and Basic Window to form Controled Window, the basic window movement is restricted to intermediate positions of the window.

3 Modeling Functions

In this section, *functions* are introduced as building blocks for the construction of reactive behavior. Since functions are a generalization of components, the difference between functions and components from a methodical perspective is discussed, before giving a formal and compositional definition of functions based on [4].

3.1 Components and Functions

A component communicates with its environment via its interface. A component has a completely specified behavior: for each behavior of the environment (in form of a history of input messages received by the component) its reaction (in terms of histories of output messages) is defined. In approaches like [9], [4], or [12] this is defined as *input enabledness*, *input permissiveness*, or *input completeness*. As introduced in [12], in contrast to a component, a function behavior needs not be totally defined. For a partial specification, it is possible to have a behavior of the environment where no behavior of the function is defined by the specification.

This distinction plays an important role when combining components or functions. Generally, syntactic restrictions (e.g., disjointness of output interfaces and data states), ensure that the composition of components results in a component (with input total behavior); e.g., [4] uses such a restriction. Due to their more general nature, such a restriction is not required for functions [12]. However, as a result, the combinations of functions (e.g., manual window control, position control) may lead to conflicts (e.g., upward movement of window by manual control vs. stop of movement by position control) resulting in undefined behavior.

To define a formal framework for the construction of functions, in the following subsection we introduce a basic model, and then supply some operators for the construction of complex functions from basic ones.

3.2 Semantics: State-Based Functions

Since functions are intended for the modular specification of components with input complete behavior, as semantical basis in the following we use a formalization similar to [4] to introduce a set Fun of functional descriptions as well as its interpretation; however in contrast to the former, we generalize it to support the description of functions with their partially defined behavior, especially allowing the introduction of new partially by simultaneous combination as defined in Subsection 3.2.4. In the following, Fun corresponds to

the set of function terms, starting from basic functions and using operators to form more complex descriptions.

3.2.1 Basics

The structural aspects of a function are defined by its input ports In, its output ports Out – with $In \cap Out = \emptyset$ –, its variables Var – with $In \cup Out \subseteq Var$ as special monitored and controlled variables – as well as its control locations Loc. To describe the behavior of a function, we use the concepts

State: A state $s \in \overrightarrow{Var} = Var \rightarrow Val$ maps variables to their current values.

Observation: An observation is either a triple (a, t, b) consisting of a finite sequence t of states corresponding to an execution starting at location a and ending at location b, changing variables according to t; or it is a pair (a, t) consisting of a finite sequence t of states, corresponding to a partial execution, starting at location a. Since in the following only continuous functions are introduced, a restriction to finite observations is sufficient.

Behavior: The behavior of a function is the set Obs of all its observations. Consequently, Obs is prefix-closed, i.e., $(a, t, b) \in Obs$ implies $(a, t) \in Obs$, and $(a, t) \in Obs$ implies $(a, s) \in Obs$ for any prefix s of t.

For a state $s: Var \to Val$ with $Var' \subseteq Var$ we use notation $s \uparrow Var'$ for restrictions $(s \uparrow Var')(v) = s(v)$ for all $v \in Var'$. This restriction is extended to sequences of states through point-wise application. For sequences r and t we use the notation $r \circ t$ to describe the concatenation of r and t; furthermore, $\langle \rangle$ describes the empty sequence.

3.2.2 Basic Functions

The most basic function performs only one step of computation. When entered through its entry location, it reads the currently available input; it produces some output, depending on its current variable state and the available input, and changes its variable state; it then terminates by exiting via its exit location. To describe a basic function, we use the notation described in [6]. Figure 4 shows such a basic function Position Override with input port Pos and output port Mot, entry location mv, and exit location stp. Its behavior is described by a labeled transition from mv to stp with a structured label Pos?On: Mot!Zr. The first part of the label, its pre-part, states that whenever signal On is received via port Pos, then the transition is enabled. The second part of the label, its post-part, states that, whenever the transition is triggered, in the next state signal Zr is sent via output port Mot. These parts correspond to terms 'But = Stp and Mot' = Zr using variables 'v with $v \in Var$ for values

of v prior to execution of the transition, and variables v' with $v \in Var$ for values of v after its execution. The interface of Position Override is defined by $In = \{But\}$, $Out = \{Mot\}$, its variables by $Var = In \cup Out$, and its locations by $Loc = \{mv, stp\}$. Abstracting from a concrete graphical representation, a basic function is described as the structure (a, pre, post, b) with entry location a, exit location b, pre-condition pre over \overrightarrow{Var} , and post-condition post over $\overrightarrow{Var} \times \overrightarrow{Var}$. pre and post are obtained from the corresponding terms by interpretation over var and var, resp. Its behavior is the set containing all elements

- $(a, before \circ after, b)$
- $(a, before \circ after)$
- (*a*, *before*)
- $(a,\langle\rangle)$

with $pre(before) \land post(before, after)$. Consequently, the behavior of Position Override is the set consisting of all observations (mv, before \circ after, stp), (mv, before \circ after), (mv, before), and (mv, $\langle \rangle$), such that before(But) = Stp as well as after(Mot) = Zr.

3.2.3 Alternative Combination

Similar, e.g., to Or-combination used in Statecharts [2], we use alternative combination to describe sequential behavior. The behavior of an alternative combination of two functions corresponds to the behavior of either function. Function Position Window in the left-hand side of Figure 7 shows the alternative combination of functions Position Override and Position Controled. It shares all the structural aspects of either function, and thus uses input ports But and Pos, as well as output port Mot. Furthermore, by means of the common interface location stp, either Position Override or Position Controlled can be activated and deactivated. Furthermore, by means of the shared internal control location mv, activation may be passed from Position Controlled to Position Override. Formally, the alternative combination of two functions A and B results in a function described by A + B that

- uses the input and output ports as well as variables of either function: $In(A+B) = In(A) \cup In(B)$, $Out(A+B) = Out(A) \cup Out(B)$, $Var(A+B) = Var(A) \cup Var(B)$
- accesses their control locations: $Loc(A + B) = Loc(A) \cup Loc(B)$
- exhibits the behavior of either function: $(a,t,b) \in Obs(A+B)$ if $(a,t \uparrow Var(A),b) \in Obs(A)$ or $(a,t \uparrow Var(B),b) \in Obs(B)$; $(a,t) \in Obs(A+B)$ if $(a,t \uparrow Var(A)) \in Obs(A)$ or $(a,t \uparrow Var(B)) \in Obs(B)$

Intuitively, the combined function offers observations that can be entered and exit via one of its sub-functions. If the sub-functions share a common entry location, observations of either function starting at that entry location are possible; similarly, if they share a common exit location, observations ending at that common exit location are possible. To ensure a well-defined function, we require that for two functions A and B conditions $In(A) \cap Out(B) = \emptyset$ and $In(B) \cap Out(A) = \emptyset$ must hold to be alternatively composable. Obviously, functions A + B and B + A and A + A are equivalent in the sense of having the same interface and behavior.

3.2.4 Simultaneous Composition

Besides alternative combination, functions can be combined using simultaneous combination. The behavior of a simultaneous combination of two functions corresponds to the joint behavior of both functions. Function Position Controlled in the right-hand side of Figure 7 shows the simultaneous combination of functions Position Check and Basic Window. Its interface consists of input ports $In = \{\text{But}\}$ of Position Check and $In = \{\text{Pos}\}$ of Basic Window as well as output port $Out = \{\text{Mot}\}$ of both sub-functions; its locations $Loc = \{\text{stp}, \text{mv}\}$ are the shared locations of these functions. Formally, the simultaneous combination of two functions A and B results in a function described by $A \times B$ that

- use the input and output ports as well as variables of each function: $In(A \times B) = In(A) \cup In(B) \setminus Out(A \times B)$, $Out(A \times B) = Out(A) \cup Out(B)$, $Var(A \times B) = Var(A) \cup Var(B)$
- accesses their shared control locations: $Loc(A \times B) = Loc(A) = Loc(B)$
- exhibits the combined behavior of each function: $(a,t,b) \in Obs(A \times B)$ if $(a,t \uparrow Var(A),b) \in Obs(A)$ and $(a,t \uparrow Var(B),b) \in Obs(B)$; $(a,t) \in Obs(A \times B)$ if $(a,t \uparrow Var(A)) \in Obs(A)$ and $(a,t \uparrow Var(B)) \in Obs(B)$

Intuitively, the combined functions offers observations that can be offered by both functions. To ensure a well-defined function, we require condition Loc(A) = Loc(B) for functions A and B to be simultaneously composable. Note that unless we require the standard interface constraint $(Var(A)\backslash In(A))\cap (Var(B)\backslash In(B)) = \emptyset$ imposed for the composition of components, simultaneous combination of functions may result in output or variable conflicts, leading to the introduction of (additional) partiality in the behavior of the combined functions. Obviously, $A \times B$ and $B \times A$ are equivalent in the sense of exhibiting

Note that this differs essentially from And-composition in Statecharts describing interleaved composition.

the same interface and behavior.

3.2.5 Hiding Locations

Hiding a location of a function renders the location inaccessible from the outside. At the same time, when reaching a hidden location the function does immediately continue its execution along an enabled transition linked to the hidden location. In Function Position Window in the left-hand side of Figure 7, control location \mathbf{mv} is hidden to enable immediate position override. Formally, by hiding a location l from a function A we obtain a function described by $A \setminus l$ that

- uses the input and output ports and variables of A: $In(A \setminus l) = In(A)$, $Out(A \setminus l) = Out(A)$, $Var(A \setminus l) = Var(A)$
- accesses the control locations of A excluding l: $Loc(A \setminus l) = Loc(A) \setminus \{l\}$
- exhibits the behavior of A if entered/exited through locations excluding l and continuing execution at l: $(a, t_1 \circ s_1 \dots s_{n-1} \circ t_n, b) \in Obs(A \setminus l)$ if $(a, t_1 \circ s_1, l), (l, s_{n-1} \circ t_n, b) \in Obs(A)$ as well as $(l, s_{i-1} \circ t_i \circ s_i, l) \in Obs(A)$ for $i = 2, \dots, n-1, t_j \in S^*$, and $s_j \in S$; $(a, t_1 \circ t_2 \circ \dots) \in Obs(A \setminus l)$ if $(a, t_1, l) \in Obs(A)$ and $(l, t_i, l) \in Obs(A)$ for i > 1.

Obviously, $(S\backslash a)\backslash b$ and $(S\backslash b)\backslash a$ are equivalent in the sense of exhibiting the same interface and behavior. We write $A\backslash \{a,b\}$ for $(A\backslash a)\backslash b$.

3.2.6 Renaming Locations

Renaming a location of a function changes the interface of the function, possibly unifying control locations. As, e.g., shown in the left-hand side of Figure 2, the distinct control locations corresponding to the upward and downward movement of the window are renamed to the unique control location mv.

Formally, by renaming a location l in a function A to location m we obtain a function described by A[l/m] that

- uses the input and output ports and variables of A: In(A[l/m]) = In(A), Out(A[l/m]) = Out(A), Var(A[l/m]) = Var(A)
- accesses the control locations of A excluding l and including m: $Loc(A[l/m]) = Loc(A) \setminus \{l\} \cup \{m\}$
- exhibits the behavior of A after renaming: for $a, b \neq l$, $(a, t, b) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(a, t, b) \in Obs(A)$ as well as $(a, t) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(a, t) \in Obs(A)$. Furthermore for $a, b \neq l$, $(a, t, m) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(a, t, l) \in Obs(A)$ and $(m, t, b) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(l, t, b) \in Obs(A)$, $(m, t, m) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(l, t, l) \in Obs(A)$, and finally $(m, t) \in Obs(A[l/m])$ if $(l, t) \in Obs(A)$.

3.2.7 Hiding Variables

Hiding a variable of a function renders the variable unaccessible from the outside. Formally, by hiding a variable v from a function A we obtain a function described by $A \setminus v$ that

- uses the input and output ports and variables of A excluding v: $In(A \setminus v) = In(A) \setminus \{v\}$, $Out(A \setminus v) = Out(A) \setminus \{v\}$, $Var(A \setminus v) = Var(A) \setminus \{v\}$
- accesses the control locations of A: $Loc(A \setminus v) = Loc(A)$
- exhibits the behavior of A for arbitrary v: $(a, t \uparrow Var(A), b) \in Obs(A \setminus v)$ if $(a, t, b) \in Obs(A)$; $(a, t \uparrow Var(A)) \in Obs(A \setminus l)$ if $(a, t) \in Obs(A)$.

Obviously, $(S \setminus v) \setminus w$ and $(S \setminus w) \setminus v$ are equivalent in the sense of exhibiting the same interface and behavior. We write $A \setminus \{v, w\}$ for $(A \setminus v) \setminus w$.

4 Applying Functions

As introduced in the previous sections, functions are intended to support the modular construction of complex functionalities in the development process by combining individual pieces of reactive behavior. However, while the descriptive form of general functional descriptions eases the combination and reuse of functions and the reasoning about the overall functionality, for the final implementation of the intended behavior in general more constructive forms of descriptions are used, as provided, e.g., by corresponding tools like or [2], [3], or [6]. As stated in Section 1, these descriptions correspond to a restricted form of functions, avoiding the introduction of partiality and ensuring input enabledness. On this constructive level, input enabledness is either established implicitly by completion (as, e.g., in [6]) or explicitly by analysis (as, e.g., in [3]).

However, to integrate these different applications of functional descriptions are integrated in a function-based development process, the more descriptive and more constructive forms must linked by an implementation relation, introduced in the following.

4.1 Implementation

While using the general descriptive form supports a structured development of the overall functionality, a more compact and constructive variant is generally more preferable for its effective implementation.

As shown in the examples, the definition of Power Position Window from the basic functions (Basic Window, Position Check, Position Override, Power Check, Power Override) leads to a more structured description. In contrast, the defi-

nition of Power Position Controlled Window is more suited for implementation using state-of-the-art tools. Thus, in a function-based development process, the former should be used in the early stages of defining the function under development, while the latter should be used in the latter stages. However, for a sound and integrated development process, it is furthermore necessary to establish an implementation relation between those functions.

Formally, a function F_1 is said to *implement* a function F_2 iff

- they provide the same closed signal interface: $In(F_1) = In = In(F_2)$ and $Out(F_1) = Out = Out(F_2)$ and $Var(F_1) = In \cup Out = Var(F_2)$
- they provide the same control interface: $Loc(F_1 = Loc(F_2))$
- every possible observation of F_1 is also a possible observation of F_2 : $Obs(F_1) \subseteq Obs(F_2)$

Basically, functional refinement corresponds to standard trace inclusion. Since here continuous reactive systems are considered with simultaneous input/output actions using a signal-based communication with input enabledness, partial execution traces provide a suitable semantical basis. Obviously, this notion of implementation is transitive and reflexive. Furthermore, the operators introduced in Section 3 are monotonic with respect to this implementation relation.

Using this notion of implementation, Power Position Controlled Window is an implementation of Power Position Window and vice versa.

4.2 Proof Support

To effectively use the implementation relation in a sound development process, (automatic) support for the verification of the implementation relation between two functions is necessary. Since the behavior of functions is defined by (possibly infinite) sets of finite traces, and the implementation relation is defined by the inclusion relation over those sets, a trace-based formalism is best-suited.

Therefore, here WS1S (weak second order monadic structure with one successor function) is used to implement automatic proof support. This formalism is, e.g., supported by the modelchecker Mona [7]. Using WS1S, functions are specified by predicates over sets of traces. The operators introduced in Section 3 can be directly implemented, allowing a compositional construction of the corresponding trace sets. Similarly, the implementation relation can be defined as a relation on trace sets. Besides proving the refinement relation between two functions, Mona can be used to generate a counter-example for functions violating the refinement relation.

5 Conclusion

The increasing complexity of reactive behavior integrating different interacting functionalities requires a construction process supporting the modular description of individual functions as well as their composition into the overall behavior.

Therefore, we suggest functional modular development using functions as construction units, with transitions as the most basic form, as well as disjunctive and conjunctive composition to combine modules. Offering separation of concern by modular composition of functions, reasoning about the overall behavior is simplified by conjunctive and disjunctive construction of functionalities. Additionally, reuse of modular functionalities is simplified when constructing variants of reactive behavior. Finally, using automatic proof support, the implementation of the integrated modular behavior through a more-constructive form of functional description can be established.

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