

# Software Formal Engineering Methods

(软件形式化工程方法)

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# **The greatest challenge in software engineering**

**How to ensure the correctness and high reliability of software systems?**

# Disastrous consequences of software errors

## 1. Errors With Rocket Launch

**Time:** 1996

**Accident:** a satellite's payload was not delivered into the planned Earth's orbit using a European Ariane 5 rocket. The rocket self-destructed when it started disintegrating.

**Cause:** a bug with the software used in launching the rocket. the problem was caused by the reuse of code from Ariane 4, the rocket's predecessor.

# Disastrous consequences of software errors

## 2. Heathrow Terminal 5 Opening, 2008

**Time:** 2008

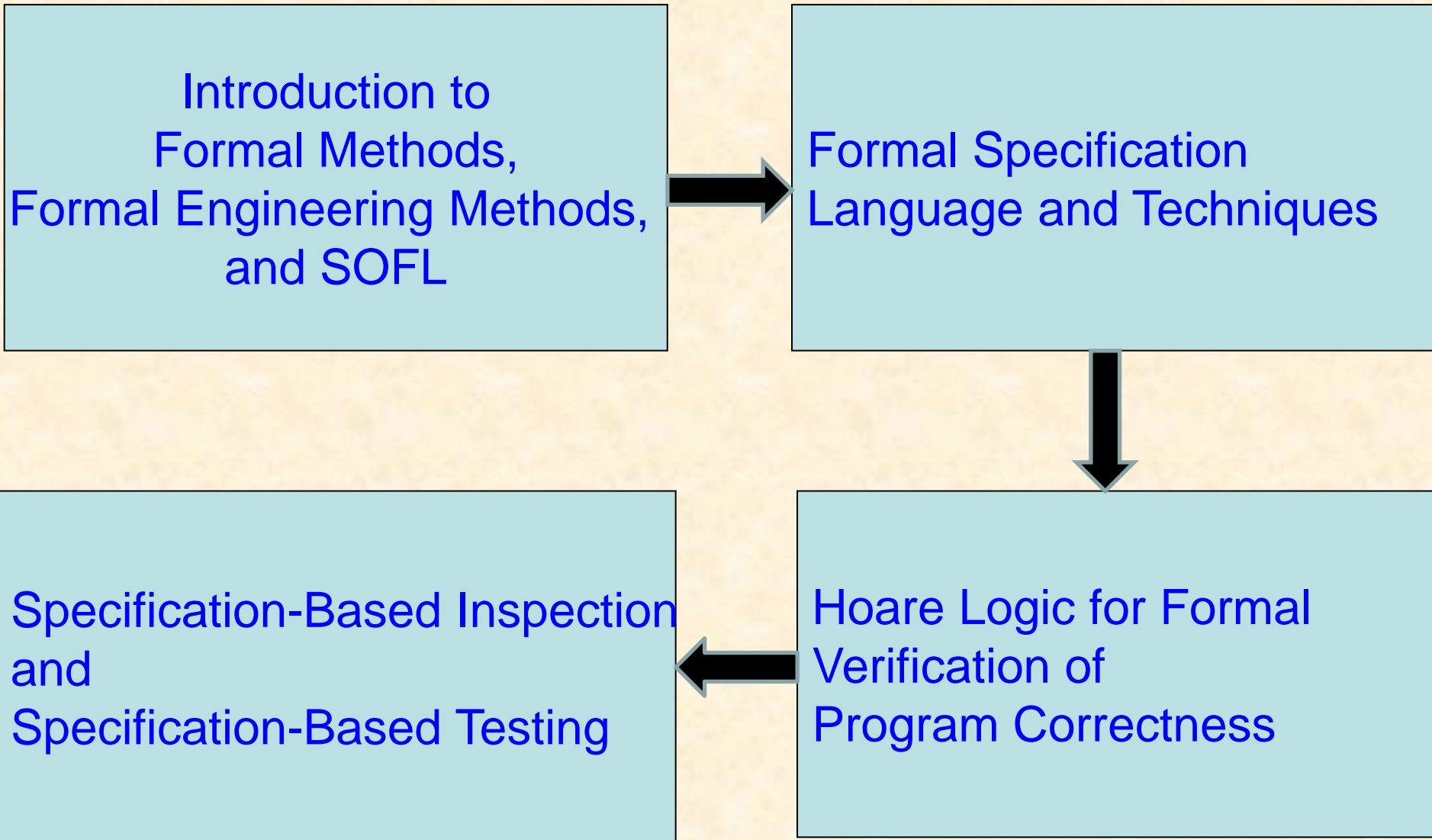
**Accident:** massive disruptions in managing baggage. Some 42,000 bags were lost and more than 500 flights canceled, costing more than £16 million.

**Cause:** a bug in the new baggage handling software system and problems with the wireless network system.

# Goals of the course

- Understand what Formal Engineering Methods are and learn necessary techniques for writing formal specifications
- Understand the concept of program correctness and learn Hoare logic for formally verifying the correctness
- Learn the principles of specification-based inspection and specification-based testing as practical techniques for verifying programs

# Contents of the course



# Reference books

- (1) C.A.R. Hoare and C.B. Jones, ``[Essays in Computing Science](#)”, Prentice Hall, 1989.
- (2) Shaoying Liu, “[Formal Engineering for Industrial Software Development](#)”, Springer-Verlag, 2004.
- (3) Latest publications on specification-based inspection and testing.



# The Textbook

“**Formal Engineering for Industrial Software Development Using the SOFL Method**”,

by **Shaoying Liu**,  
Springer-Verlag, 2004,  
ISBN 3-540-20602-7

软件开发的形式化工程方法  
——结构化+面向对象+形式化  
清华大学出版社





# The ways to learn

- **Attend lectures**
- **Work on class exercises and actively join discussions**
- **Complete a small project**
- **Join the final examination**

# Evaluation of Performance

The evaluation of each student's performance for grading will be done based on a small project and the final examination.

**(1) Small project: 40%**

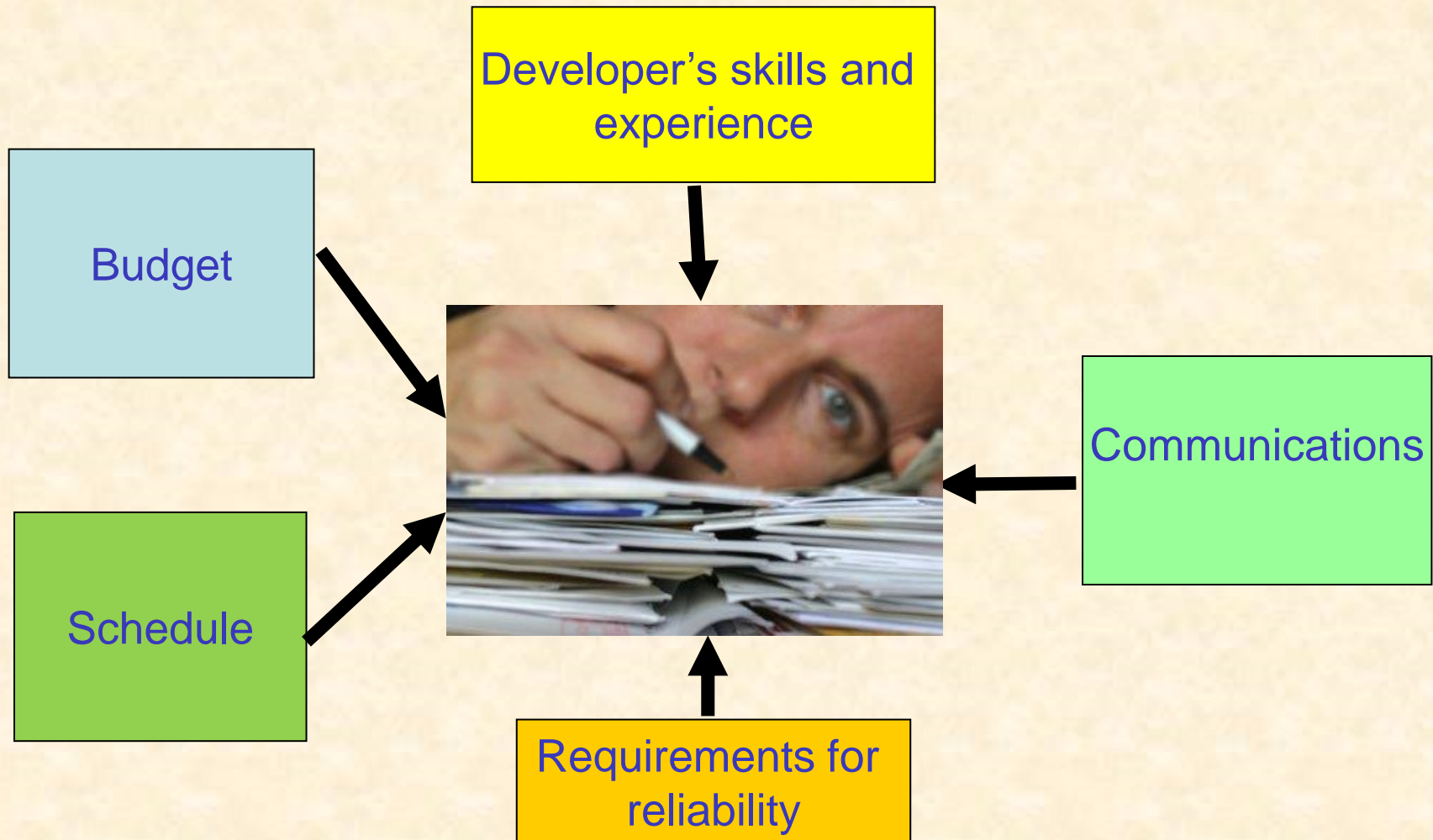
**(2) Examination: 60% (90 minutes)**

# **I. Introduction to Formal Methods, Formal Engineering Methods, and SOFL**

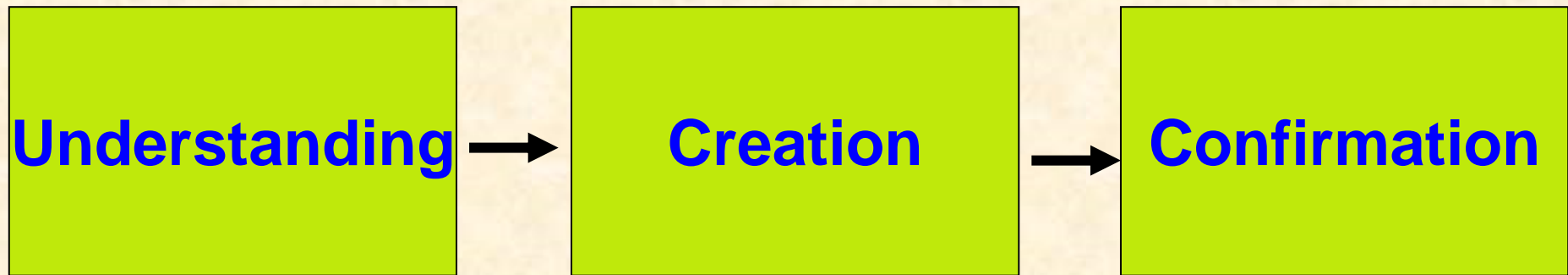
1. Challenges in traditional Software Engineering
2. Formal Methods for improvement
3. Formal Engineering Methods for practicality
4. SOFL

# I.1 Challenges in traditional Software Engineering

The challenges for software projects in traditional software engineering come from many aspects.



# The major tasks in software development:



**Correctness &**

**Reliability!!!**

# What is a reliable system?



**Requirement:** given a piglet as input, the machine will produce sausages automatically.

# An example of unreliable system:



input

Sausage machine



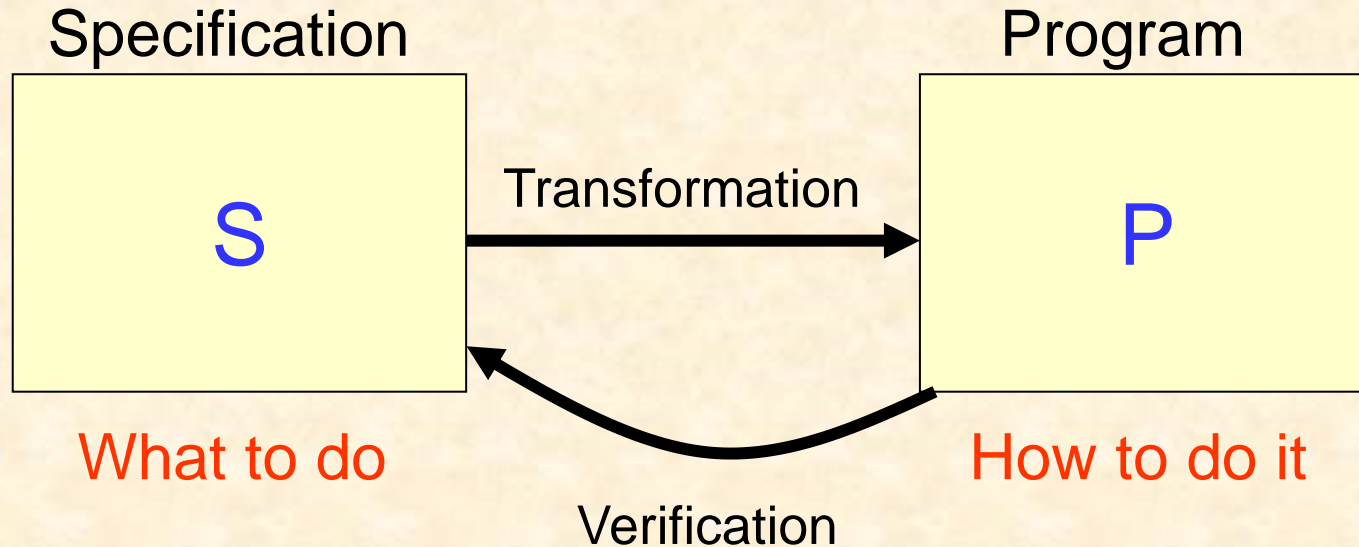
beef

output

**Requirement:** given a piglet, the machine will produce sausages automatically.



# An abstract process model



- How to write **S** so that it can effectively help the developer understand the user's requirements completely and accurately?
- How to ensure that **S** is **not ambiguous** so that it can be correctly understood by all the developers involved?
- How can **S** be effectively used for the **construction** of **program P**, and for the verification (e.g., **proof, inspection, and testing**) of **P**?
- How can software tools effectively support the **analysis of S**, **transformation from S to P**, and **verification of P against S**?

An example of informal specification:

“A software system for an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) is required to provide services on various accounts. The services include operations on current account, operations on savings account, transferring money between accounts, managing foreign currency account, and change password. The operations on a current or savings account include deposit, withdraw, show balance, and print out transaction records.”

A **better** way to write the same specification:

“A software system for an automated teller machine (ATM) is required to provide **services** on **various accounts**.”

The **services include**

- ① operations on **current account**
- ② operations on **savings account**
- ③ **transferring** money between accounts
- ④ **managing foreign currency account,**
- ⑤ **change password.**

The **operations** on a current or savings account **include**

- ① **deposit**
- ② **withdraw**
- ③ **show balance**
- ④ **print out transaction records.”**

## The major problems with informal specifications:

- Informal specifications are usually **ambiguous**, which is likely to cause **misinterpretations**.
- Informal specifications are **difficult** to be used for implementation and for **inspection and testing of programs** because of the **big gap** between the functional descriptions in the specifications and the program structures.
- Informal specifications are **difficult to be analyzed** for their **consistency and validity**.
- Informal specifications are **difficult to be supported by software tools** in their **analysis, transformation, and management** (e.g., search, change, reuse).



2006年  
4月9日の  
朝日新聞



# Reality of software development in practice



## Manager:

Why is the project over budget and behind schedule?

## Client:

Why does the software system behave differently from my requirements?



## Programmer:

Why are there so many bugs remaining in the program?

Why is my own program difficult to understand even by myself?

**A possible solution to these  
problems:**

**Formal Methods!!!**



## I.2 Formal methods for improvement

Formal methods mean **verified design**.

Formal methods =

**Formal Specification** (VDM, Z, B-Method)

+

**Refinement** (Back, Morgan)

+

**Formal Verification** (Floyd-Hoare, Dijkstra)



Set theory, logics, algebra, etc.

# The most commonly used formal notations

- (1) **VDM-SL** (Vienna Development Method – Specification Language),  
IBM Research Laboratory in Vienna

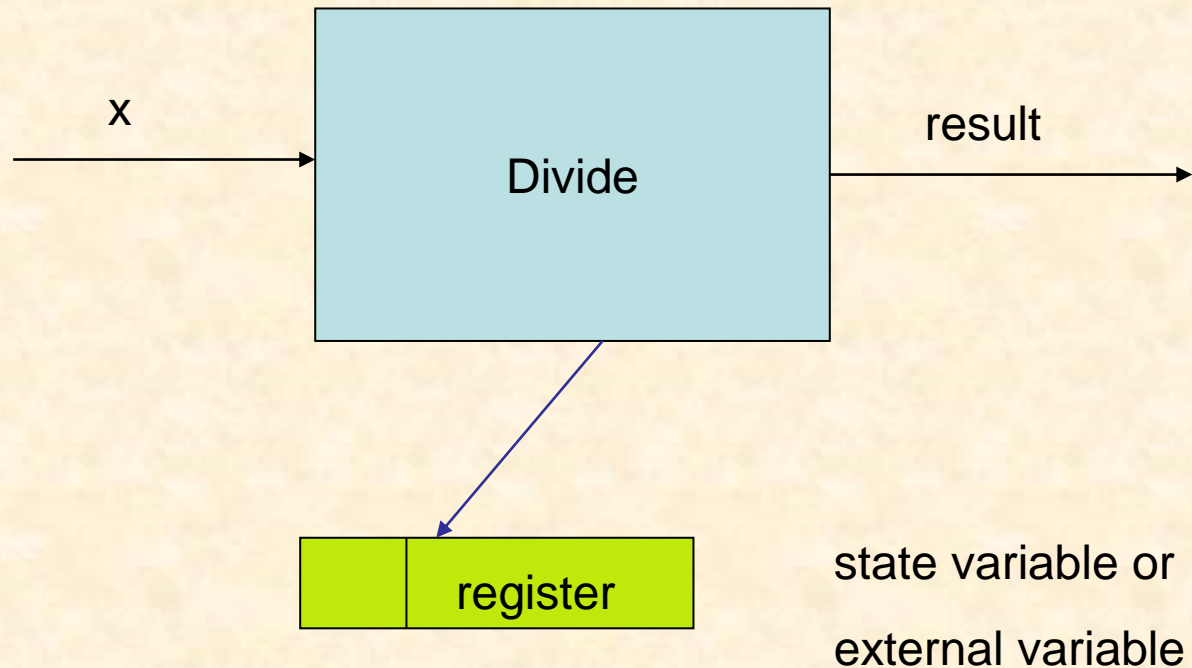
## References:

- (1) “**Systematic Software Development Using VDM**”,  
by Cliff B. Jones, 2nd edition, Prentice Hall, 1990.
- (2) “**Modelling Systems**”, by John Fitzgerald and  
Peter Gorm Larsen, Cambridge University  
Press, 1998.

The major feature of VDM-SL is the technique for  
operation specification.

What is an operation?

# An example of operation: Divide



# Operation specification:

OperationName(input)output

ext State variables

pre pre-condition

post post-condition

## Example:

Divide(x: int) result: real

ext wr register: real

pre  $x \neq 0$

post register = register~ / x

and

result = register

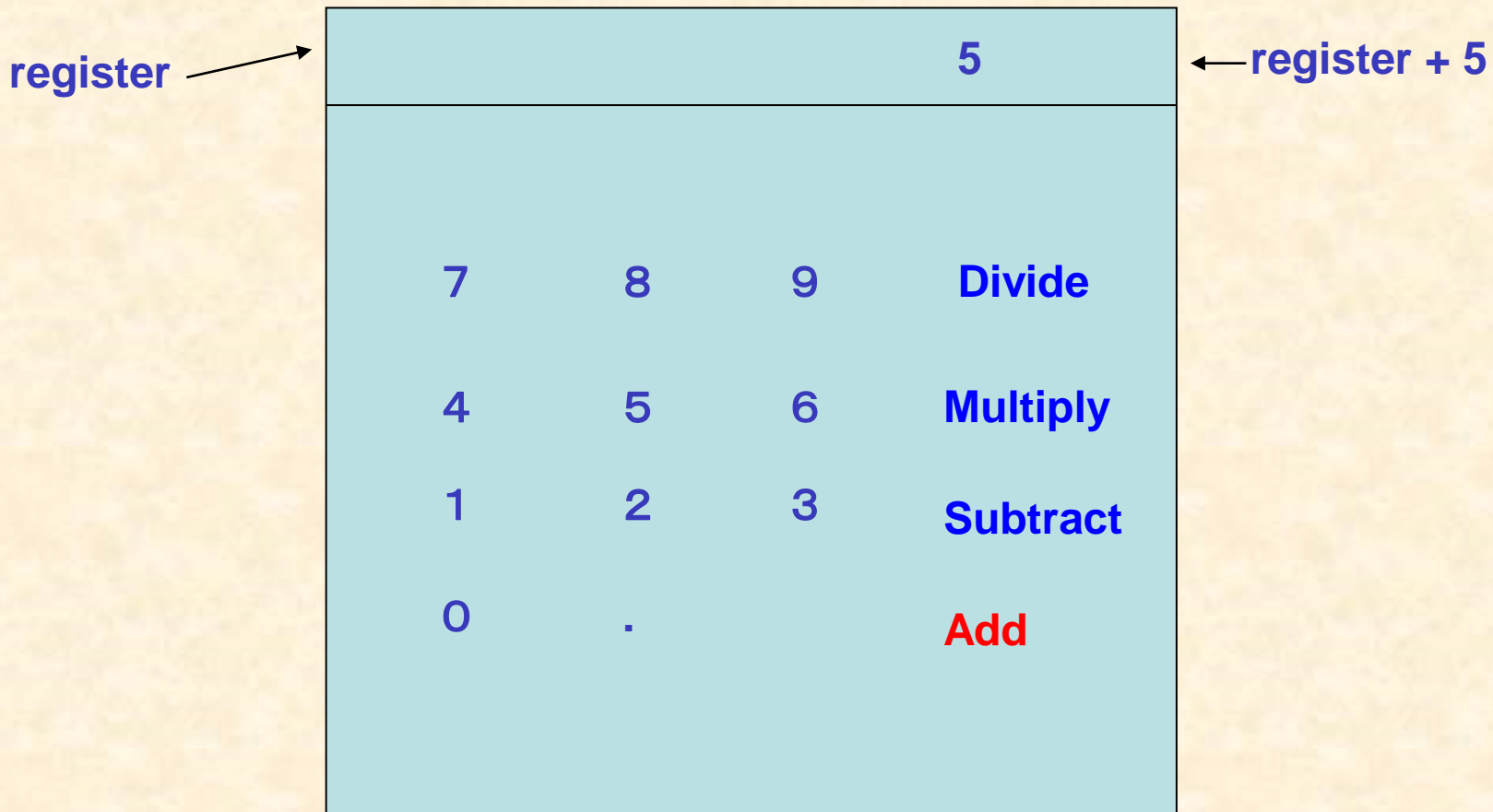
# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program

An example of a simplified calculator:

register →

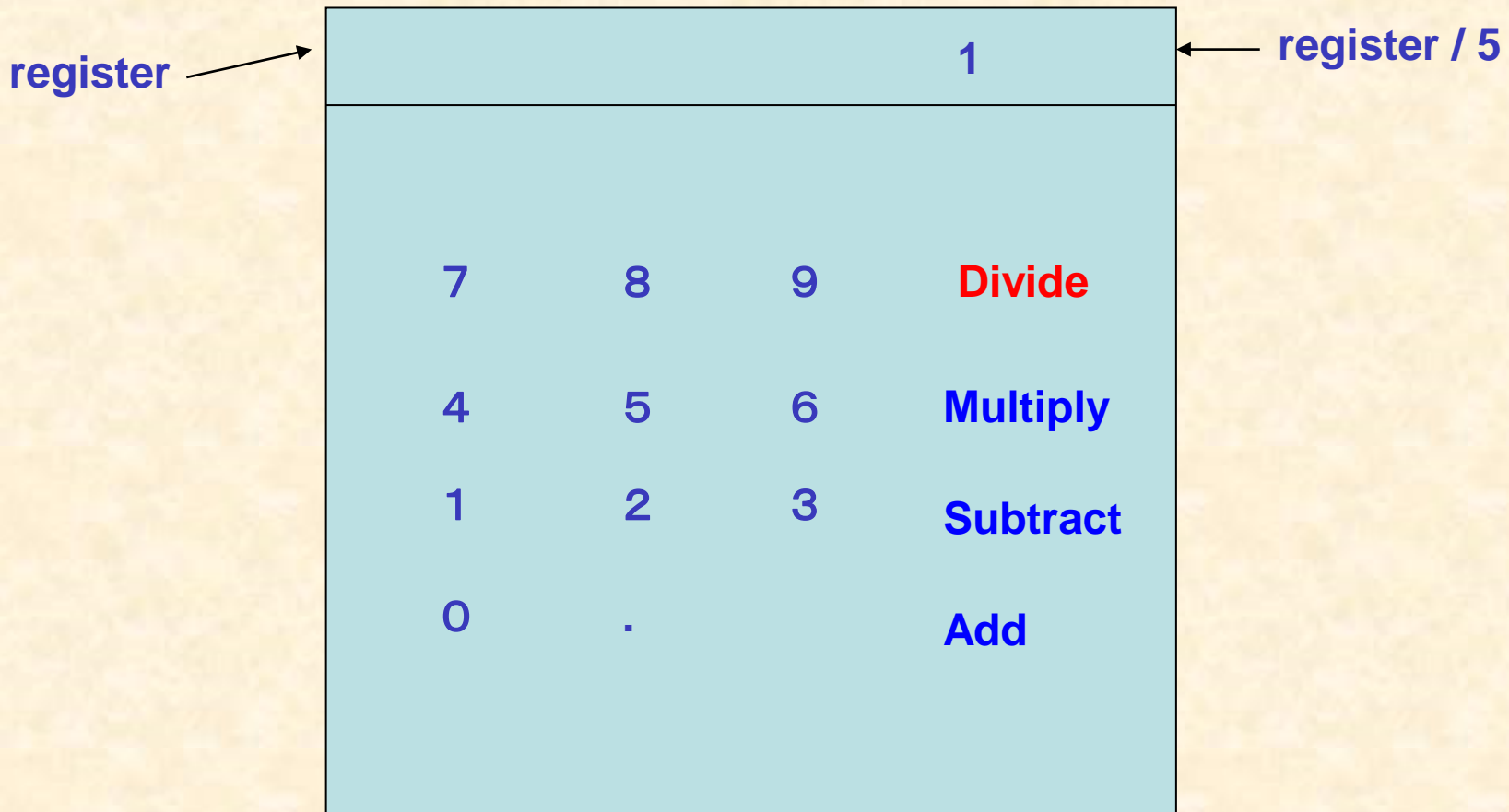
0			
7	8	9	<b>Divide</b>
4	5	6	<b>Multiply</b>
1	2	3	<b>Subtract</b>
0	.		<b>Add</b>

# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program





# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program



# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program

Let's consider the following program:

```
import ...;
```

```
class Calculator {  
  int register := 0;
```

```
  int Add(int x) {  
    register := register + x;  
    return register;  
  }  
}
```

```
  double Divide(int x) {  
    register := register / x;  
    return register;  
  }  
}
```

```
.....  
}
```

```
main(String arg[]) {
```

```
  int input;
```

```
  double divisionResult;
```

```
  Calculator myCal :=
```

```
  new Calculator();
```

```
  read(input); //reading from GUI
```

```
  divisionResult :=
```

```
    myCal.Divide(input);
```

```
  System.out.println("Division result:" +  
  divisionResult);
```

```
} //end of the main method
```

# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program

The specification defines the relation between input and output, while the program defines the process of computing the output from the input.

```
import ...;
```

```
class Calculator {  
  int register := 0;
```

```
.....
```

```
double Divide(int x)
```

```
pre x != 0
```

```
{
```

```
  register := register / x;
```

```
  return register;
```

```
}
```

```
post register = register~ / x and  
      result = register
```

```
}
```

```
main(String arg[]) {
```

```
  int input;
```

```
  double divisionResult;
```

```
  Calculator myCal :=
```

```
  new Calculator();
```

```
  read(input); //reading from GUI
```

```
  divisionResult :=
```

```
    myCal.Divide(input);
```

```
  System.out.println("Division result:" +  
  divisionResult);
```

```
} //end of the main method
```

# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program

Omit the program and only use the specification to define the function of the program.

```
import ...;
```

```
class Calculator {  
  int register := 0;
```

```
.....
```

```
double Divide(int x)
```

```
pre x != 0
```

```
post register ~ / x = register  
    and  
    register = result
```

```
}
```

```
main(String arg[]) {
```

```
  int input;
```

```
  double divisionResult;
```

```
  Calculator myCal :=
```

```
  new Calculator();
```

```
  read(input); //reading from GUI
```

```
  if (input != 0) {
```

```
    divisionResult := myCal.Divide(input);
```

```
    System.out.println("Division result:" +  
    divisionResult);}
```

```
  else
```

```
    System.out.println("The denominator is zero.");
```

```
} //the end of the main method.
```

# The difference and similarity between a VDM operation specification and program

## Specification in VDM-SL:

module Calculator

.....

Divide(x: int) result: real

ext wr register: real

pre  $x \neq 0$

post  $\text{register} = \text{register} \sim / x$

and

$\text{result} = \text{register}$

```
main(String arg[]) {
```

```
    int input;
```

```
    double divisionResult;
```

```
    Calculator myCal :=
```

```
    new Calculator();
```

```
    read(input); //reading from GUI
```

```
    if (input != 0) {
```

```
        divisionResult := myCal.Divide(input);
```

```
        System.out.println("Division result:" +  
        divisionResult);}
```

```
    else
```

```
        System.out.println("The denominator is zero.");
```

```
} //the end of the main method.
```

(2) Z, PRG (Programming Research Group),  
Oxford University, UK

A Z specification is composed of a set of **schemas and possibly their sequential compositions**. A schema can be used to define **global variables, state variables, and operations**.

References:

(1) “**The Z Notation**”, by J.M. Spivey,  
Prentice Hall, 1989.

(2) “**Using Z: Specification, Refinement, and Proof**”, by Jim  
Woodcock and Jim Davies,  
Prentice Hall, 1996.



### (3) B-Method,

Jean-Raymond Abrial, France

#### Reference:

- (1) “[The B-Book: Assigning Programs to Meanings](#)”,  
by J-R Abrial, Cambridge University Press, 1996,

A [B specification](#) is composed of a set of related [abstract machines](#). Each abstract machine is a module that contains a set of [operation](#) definitions. Each operation is defined using pre- and post-conditions.



# Class dicssussion

(1) Tell the difference between the **assignment**

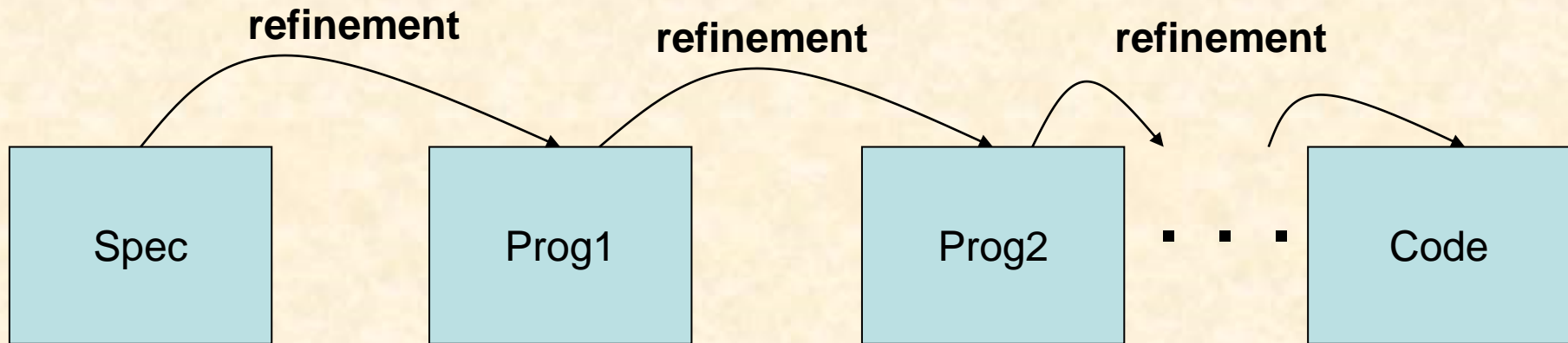
$x := y + z$  (or  $x = y + z$  in Java)

in a program and the **equality in mathematics**:

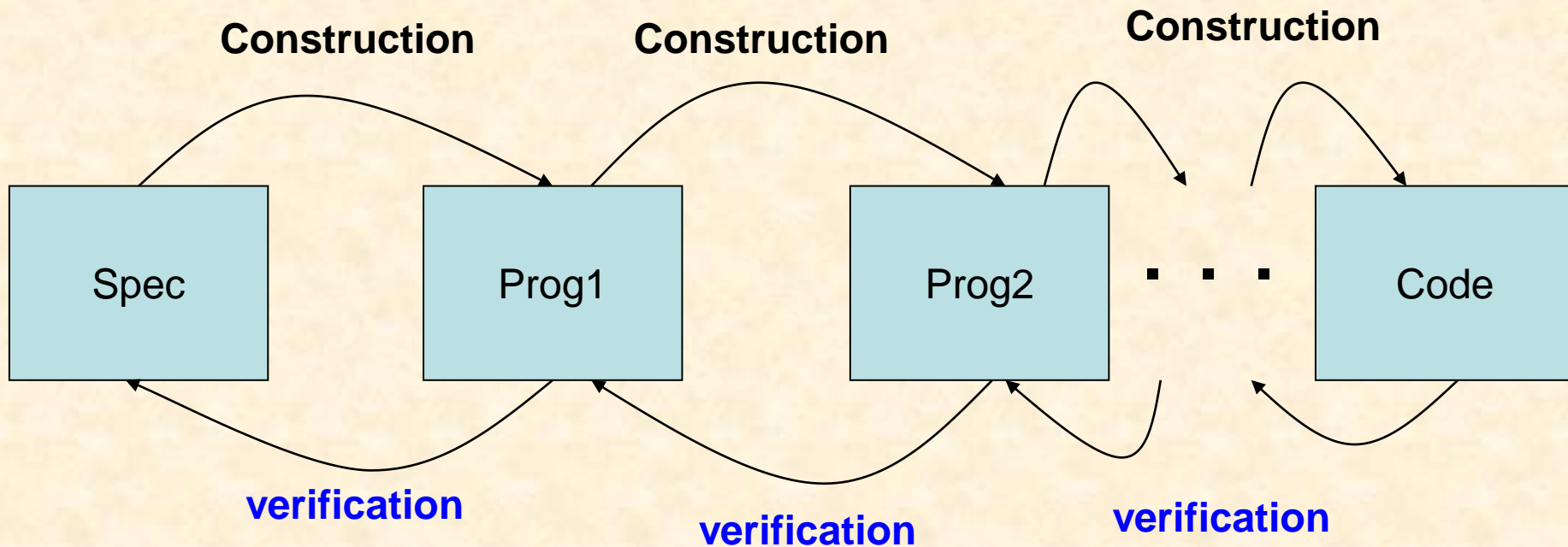
$x = y + z$

(2) What is the relation between them?

# Software development by refinement



# Software development based on formal verification



# Application examples of formal methods

- 1 The company **Praxis** in the UK has used VDM, CSP, and Z to develop a toolset for the **SSADM** development method.
2. The IBM Hursley in the UK has collaborated with the PRG of Oxford university to apply Z to the development of a **Customer Information Control System (CICS)**.
3. The Darlington Nuclear Generator System (Ontario Hydro) in Canada has used Parnas' SCR (Software Cost Reduction) to verify the Shutdown System.
4. The company CSK in Japan has used VDM to develop a stock processing system.
5. The company FeliCa has applied VDM++ to the development of a mobile phone IC chip.

# Challenges for formal methods

- The complexity of formal specifications grows rapidly as their scale increases. This makes evolution of specifications, which is an necessary activity in real projects, **very hard and costly**.
- Formal methods only offer notations and rules, but not tell how each kind of technique (e.g., specification, refinement, verification) can be effectively applied in the context of practical software development.

- Formal verification for program correctness can only be applied to small and simple programs. There is a lack of effective techniques for dealing with large scale systems.
- The tool support is not good enough to make formal methods practical in industry.

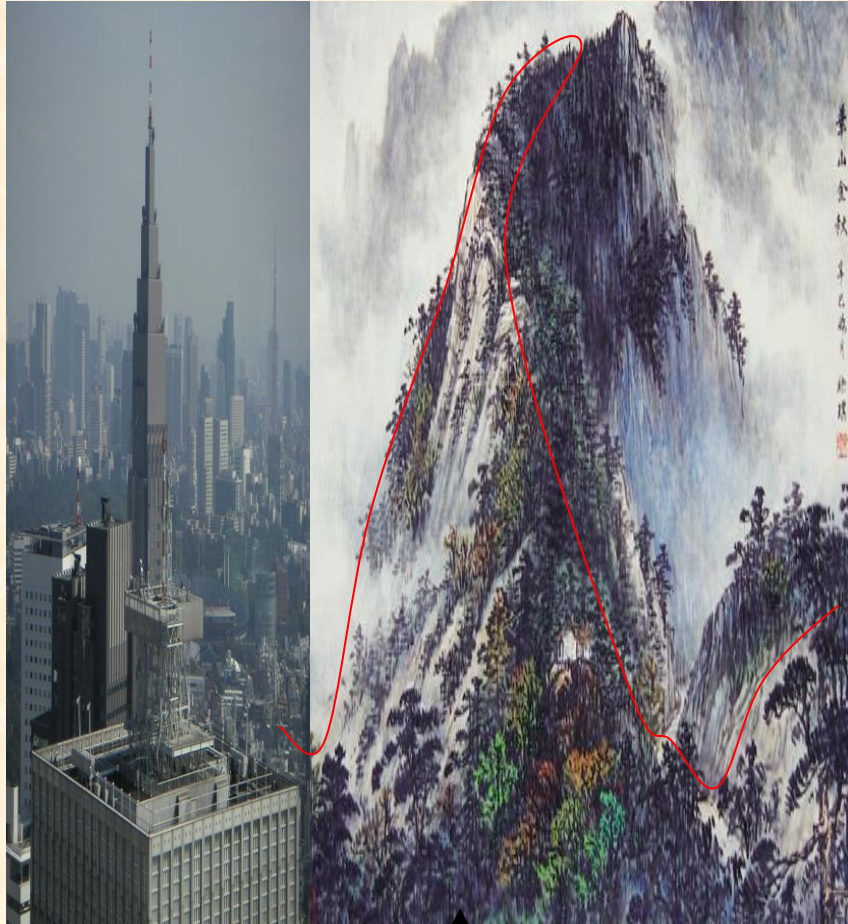
- There are many practical constraints as well.

## Examples:

- (1) Practitioners may lack the skills for abstraction in writing formal specifications.
- (2) Managers may not want to introduce formal methods before seeing hard evidence of the effectiveness of formal methods.
- (3) Budget, schedule, and company's environment may not allow practitioners to use formal methods.



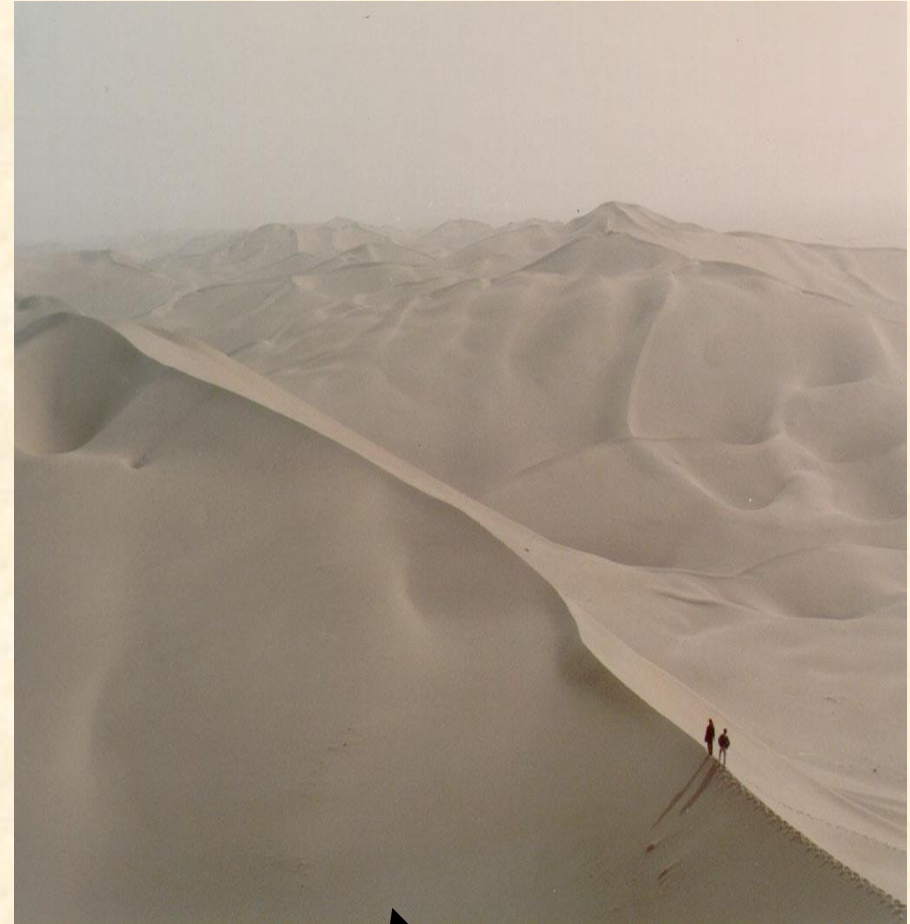
# Software Practitioners' dilemma



↑  
**Happy  
world**

↑  
**Formal  
Methods**

↑  
**Software  
practitioner**



↑  
**Traditional SE**

# I.3 Formal Engineering Methods for Practicality

Formal Engineering Methods (FEM) provide ways to integrate Formal Methods into the commonly used software engineering methods and approaches to improve their rigor, comprehensibility, effectiveness, and tool supportability for software productivity and quality.

**Formal  
Methods**



**Application  
of Formal  
Methods in  
Software  
Engineering**

**Formal  
Engineering  
Methods**

# The difference between FM and FEM

FM answers the question:

what should we do and why?

FEM answers the question:

what can we do and how?



# I.4 SOFL

SOFL stands for **Structured Object-Oriented Formal Language**

SOFL method is a **specific and representative formal engineering method**. The research on it started at the University of Manchester, UK in 1989.

Completed at Hiroshima City University in 1998.

Finalized at Hosei University in 2002.

Further developments of SOFL technologies after 2002.

# Comparison between FM and the SOFL method

FM

Formal Specification

Formal Refinement

Formal Verification

SOFL

Gradual Formal Specification  
(three-step formal specification)

Transformation  
(from structured specifications to  
object-oriented implementations)

Specification-Based Inspection  
Specification-Based Testing



# The feature of SOFL

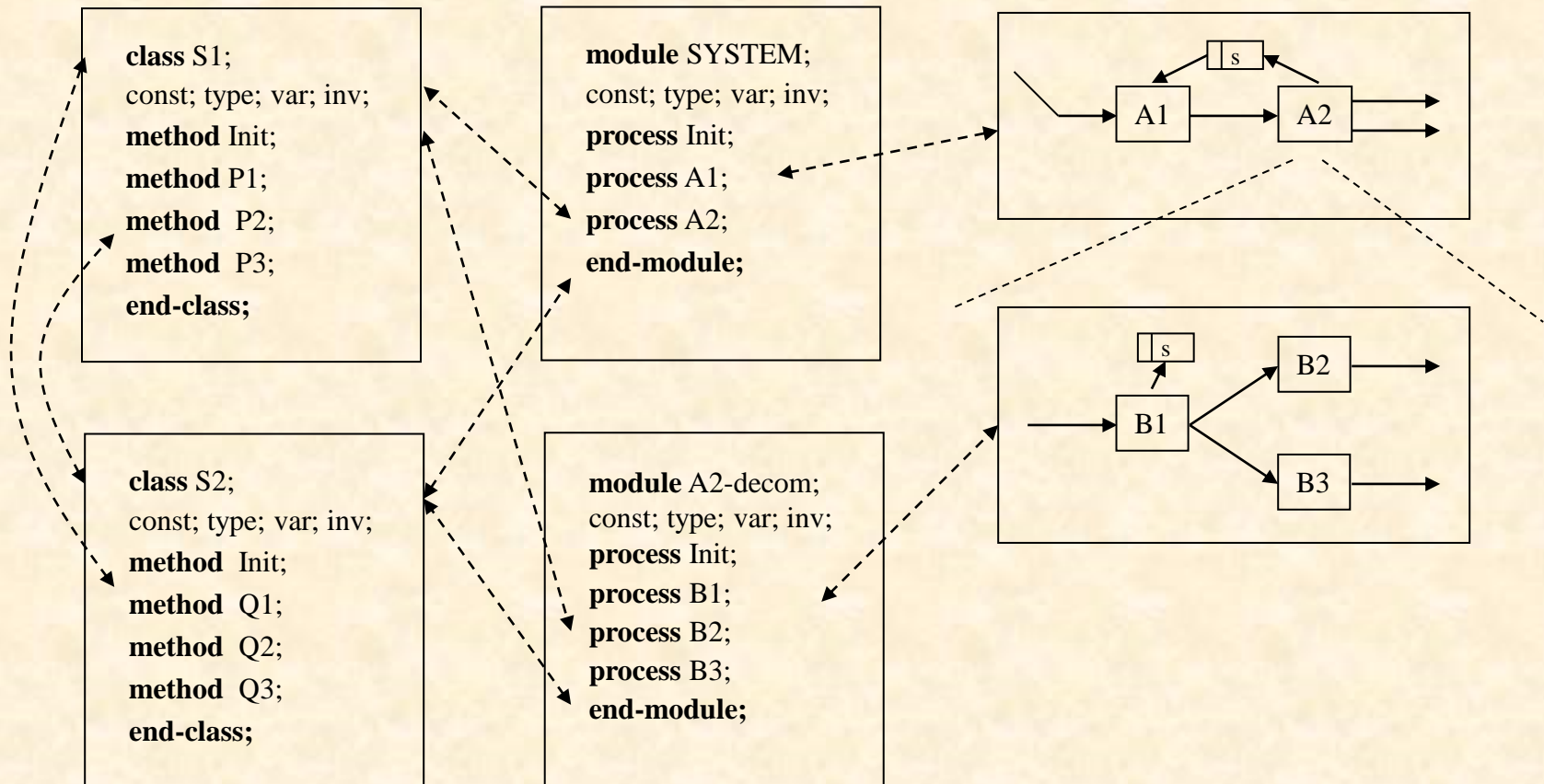
The SOFL method strikes a good balance among the three qualities:

**Simplicity, Visualization, Precision**

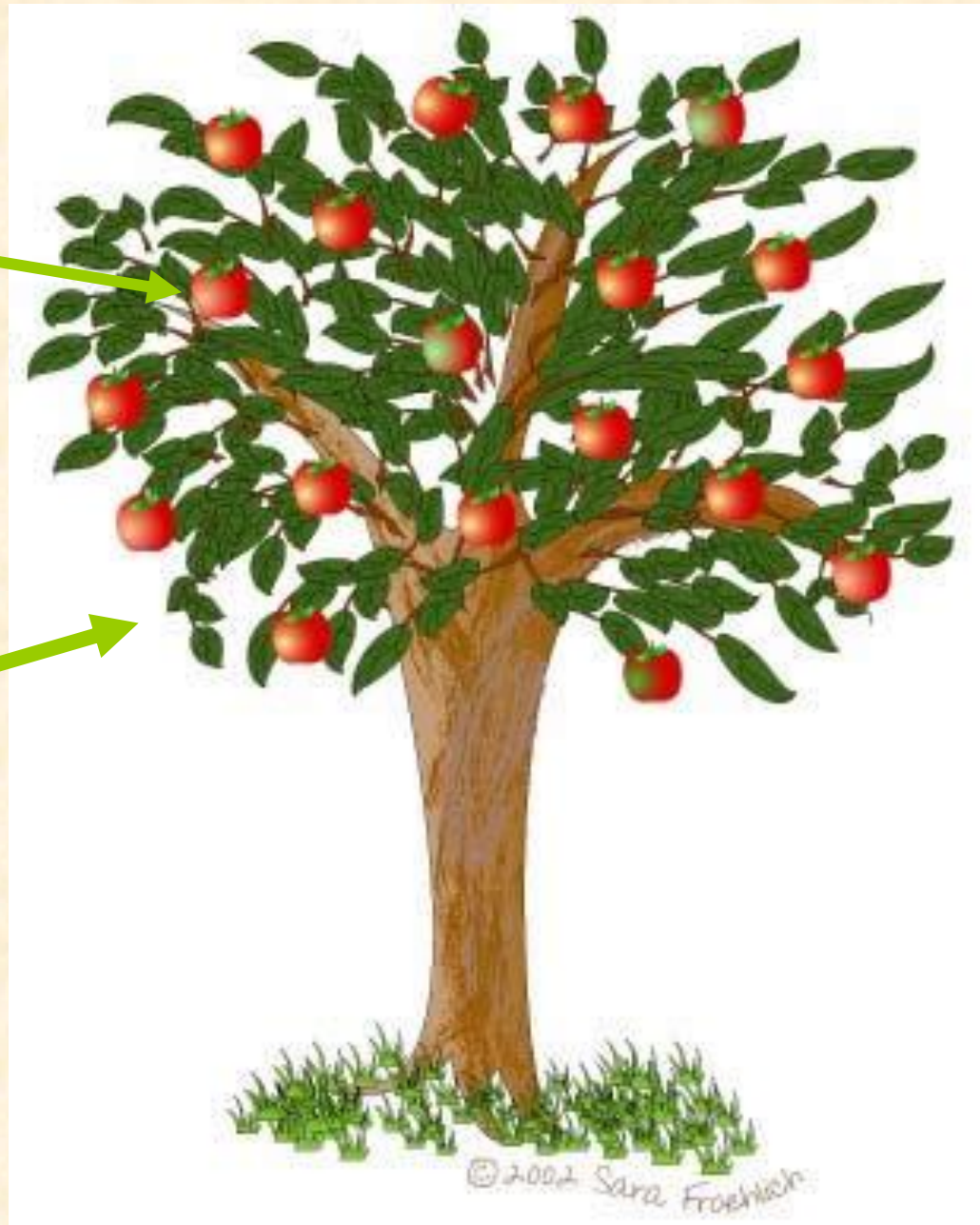


# The structure of a SOFL specification:

## CDFDs + modules + classes



Component



Architecture

# Basic Components of the SOFL Specification Language

- The SOFL logic
- Module
- Condition Data Flow Diagrams
- Process specification
- Function definition and specification
- Data types
- Process decomposition
- Other issues

## II.1 SOFL logic

SOFL logic is an extension of classical propositional logic and predicate logic; it allows “undefined” as a logical value (SOFL adopts the three-value logic used in VDM).

# II.1.1 Propositional logic

**Definition:** A **proposition** is a statement that is either **true** or **false**.

For example, the following statements are propositions:

(1) Tiger is animal (true)

(2) Apple is fruit (true)

(3)  $3 + 5 > 10$  (false)



In contrast, the following statements are not propositions:

(1) Are you happy?

(2) Let's go swimming

(3)  $x := y + 3$  (assignment statement)

**Definition:** The value **true** and **false** are called **truth value**.

In SOFL we use **bool** to represent the boolean type that contains the truth values, that is:

**bool = {true, false}**

Propositions are represented by symbols:

(1) **P: Tiger is animal.**

(2) **Q: Apple is fruit.**

(3) **R:  $3 + 5 > 10$ .**

Such a proposition is called **atomic proposition** (which cannot be decomposed).

Propositions can be connected using logical operators to form propositional expressions (or compound propositions) that describe more complex propositions.

# Propositional operators

operator	read as	priority
not	not	highest
and	and	
or	or	
$\Rightarrow$	implies	
$\Leftrightarrow$	is equivalent to	lowest

# Conjunction

**Definition:** A **conjunction** is a propositional expression whose principal operator is **and**.

For example:

$x > 5$  and  $x < 10$

**Question: How to decide the truth value of a conjunction?**

# Truth table for conjunction

P1	P2	P1 and P2
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	true	false
false	false	false

Examples:

true and true  $\Rightarrow$  true

false and true  $\Rightarrow$  false

false and false  $\Rightarrow$  false



# Disjunction

**Definition:** A **disjunction** is a propositional expression whose principal operator is **or**.

**P1 or P2**

For example:

**$x > 5$  or  $x < 3$**

P1	P2	P1 or P2
true	true	true
true	false	true
false	true	true
false	false	false

# Negation

**Definition:** A **negation** is a propositional expression whose principal operator is **not**.

**not** P1

**Example:**

**not**  $x > 5$

P1	not P1
true	false
false	true

# Implication

**Definition:** An implication is a propositional expression whose principal operator is  $\Rightarrow$ .

$$P1 \Rightarrow P2$$

P1	P2	$P1 \Rightarrow P2$
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	true	true
false	false	true

Example:

$$x > 10 \Rightarrow x > 5$$

In this case we can also say that  $x > 10$  is stronger than  $x > 5$ .



# Equivalence

**Definition:** An **equivalence** is a propositional expression whose principal operator is  **$\Leftrightarrow$** .

$$P1 \Leftrightarrow P2$$

P1	P2	$P1 \iff P2$
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	true	false
false	false	true

Examples:

(1) John is Chris' friend  $\iff$  Chris is John's friend

(2)  $x > 10 \iff \text{not } x = 10 \text{ and not } x < 10$

# The use of parentheses

An expression is interpreted by applying the operator priority order unless parentheses are used.

For example: the expression

$\text{not } p \text{ and } q \text{ or } r \iff p \implies q \text{ and } r$

is equivalent to the expression:

$(((\text{not } p) \text{ and } q) \text{ or } r) \iff (p \implies (q \text{ and } r))$

Parentheses can be used to change the precedence of operators in expressions. For example, the above expression can be changed to:

$\text{not } (p \text{ and } ((q \text{ or } (r \iff p)) \implies q) \text{ and } r)$

# Tautology, contradiction, and contingency

**Definition:** A **tautology** is a proposition that evaluates to **true** in every combination of the truth values of its constituent propositions.

Examples:

(1)  $P \text{ or not } P$

(2)  $x > 10 \text{ or } x \leq 10$

**Definition:** A **contradiction** is a proposition that evaluates to **false** in every combination of the truth values of its constituent propositions.

In other words, a **contradiction** is a **negation** of a **tautology**.

Examples:

(1)  $P$  and not  $P$

(2)  $x > 10$  and  $x < 10$

**Definition:** A **contingency** is a propositional expression that is neither a tautology nor a contradiction.

In other words, a contingency can evaluate to either true or false.

Examples:

(1)  $P$  and  $Q$  ( $P$  and  $Q$  are not related with each other)

(2)  $x > 5$  or  $x < -5$



# Normal forms

**Definition:** A **disjunctive normal form** is a special kind of **disjunction** in which each constituent propositional expression, is a **conjunction** of **atomic propositions** or **their negations**.

Form:

$P_1 \text{ or } P_2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } P_n$

and

$P_i = Q_{i_1} \text{ and } Q_{i_2} \text{ and } \dots \text{ and } Q_{i_m}$

where  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $Q_{i_j}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, m$ ) is an atomic proposition or negation of an atomic proposition.

The characteristic of a disjunctive normal form:

It evaluates to true as long as **one of the constituent expression** evaluates to true.

## II.1.2 Predicate logic

The propositional logic only allows to make statements about specific objects, but it does not allow us to make **universal statements** and **existential statements**.

For example, the following are universal statements:

- (1) Every student of Hiroshima University is happy.
- (2) Nobody knows what to happen tomorrow.

The following are existential statements:

- (1) One of my classmates received an award.
- (2) Some students in my class do not like mathematics.

# Predicates

**Definition:** A **predicate** is a **truth-valued function**.

In other words, a predicate is a function from a set **X** to the boolean type **bool**:

$$p: X \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

For example:

$x > 10$  is a predicate, but not proposition.

$5 > 10$  is a proposition, derived from the predicate  $x > 10$  by substituting 5 for  $x$ .

where  $x$  is an integer variable.



# Basic types (sets) in SOFL

The following are basic types in SOFL:

**nat0**: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, ... (natural numbers including 0)

**nat**: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ... (natural numbers)

**int**: ... -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, ... (integers)

**real**: ... -2.5, -1.4, 0, 1.4, 2.5, ... (real numbers)

**char**: 'a', 'b', 'x', '%', ... (characters)

**bool**: true, false (boolean values)

Example: a predicate ``is\_big” is  
defined as follows:

```
is_big(x: int): bool  
== x > 10
```

Then, the following propositions can be formed:

is\_big(10)    (false)

is\_big(15)    (true)

is\_big(9)     (false)

# Quantifiers

## (1) Universal quantifier

For example:

$\text{is-big}(x) == x > 10$  ( $\text{is-big}$  is a predicate)

Then we can write the conjunction

$\text{is-big}(12)$  and  $\text{is-big}(15)$  and  $\text{is-big}(20)$

as

$\text{forall}[x: \{12, 15, 20\}] \mid \text{is-big}(x)$

In general, the universally quantified expression has the form:

$\text{forall}[x_1: X_1, \dots, x_n: X_n] \mid p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

$\text{forall}$  --- universal quantifier

$x_i: X_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) --- bindings

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  --- bound variables

$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  --- the ranges (sets or types) of the  
bound variables

$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  --- predicate

## (2) Existential quantifier

For example, we can write the disjunction

$\text{is-big}(5) \text{ or } \text{is-big}(12) \text{ or } \text{is-big}(15)$

as

$\text{exists}[x: \{5, 12, 15\}] \mid \text{is-big}(x)$

We call such an expression existentially quantified expression.

$\text{exists!}[x: T] \mid p(x)$

means that there exists a **unique**  $x$  in  $T$  that satisfies condition  $p(x)$ .

In general, the existentially quantified expression has the form:

$\text{exists}[x_1: X_1, \dots, x_n: X_n] \mid p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

$\text{exists}$  --- existential quantifier

$x_i: X_i$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) --- bindings

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  --- bound variables

$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  --- the ranges (sets or types) of the  
bound variables

$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  --- predicate



### (3) The convention

The body of a quantified expression is considered to extend as far as the right possible.

Example: the quantified expression

$\text{forall}[x: \text{nat}] \mid (x > z \text{ and } (\text{exists}[y: \text{nat}] \mid y > x))$

is equivalent to the expression:

$\text{forall}[x: \text{nat}] \mid x > z \text{ and } \text{exists}[y: \text{nat}] \mid y > x$

# Multiple quantifiers

Examples:

$\text{forall}[x: X] \mid \text{forall}[y: Y] \mid p(x,y)$

can be written as:

$\text{forall}[x: X, y: Y] \mid p(x, y)$

$\text{forall}[x: X] \mid \text{exists}[y: Y] \mid p(x, y)$

can be written as:

$\text{forall}[x: X] \text{exists}[y: Y] \mid p(x, y)$

-----

$\text{exists}[x: X] \mid \text{exists}[y: Y] \mid p(x, y)$

can be written as:

$\text{exists}[x: X, y: Y] \mid p(x, y)$

# Examples of multiple quantifiers

$\text{forall}[i: \text{nat}] \text{ exists}[j: \text{nat}] \mid j > i$

This predicate is true, but the inversion of the universal quantifier and the existential quantifier will change the truth of the expression. Consider the following quantified expression, which is not true.

$\text{exists}[j: \text{nat}] \text{ forall}[i: \text{nat}] \mid j > i$

# Treatment of partial predicates

**Definition:** If a predicate may not yield a truth value for some values bound to its free variables, we call the predicate **partial predicate**.

For example,

$$x / 0 > 5$$

is a partial predicate.

The **problem** is that **predicate logic** does not allow undefined “value” to join evaluation of predicates.

One way to deal with this problem is to extend the truth tables of all the logical operators (i.e., **and**, **or**, **not**, **=>**, **<=>**) to allow the special value “**undefined**” to participate in evaluations of predicates. We use **nil** to denote “**undefined**”.

The **extension** is made in the way that a result is given whenever possible, according to the predicate logic.

(and)	true	nil	false
true	true	nil	false
nil	nil	nil	false
false	false	false	false

(or)	true	nil	false
true	true	true	true
nil	true	nil	nil
false	true	nil	false

(not)	
true	false
nil	nil
false	true

Examples:

nil and false  $\leq$  false

nil and true  $\leq$  nil

nil and nil  $\leq$  nil



(=>)	true	nil	false
true	true	nil	false
nil	true	nil	nil
false	true	true	true

(<=>)	true	nil	false
true	true	nil	false
nil	nil	nil	nil
false	false	nil	true

# Class exercise 1

Use predicate expressions to describe the following statements:

- (1) Every integer is greater than 0, equal to 0, or less than 0.
- (2) For any three real numbers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , if  $a$  is greater than  $b$  and  $b$  is greater than  $c$ , then  $a$  will be greater than  $c$ .
- (3) For any natural number  $a$  there must exist another natural number  $b$  such that  $b$  is greater than  $a$ .

## II.2 The Module

**Definition:** A **module** is a functional abstraction: it has a **behavior** represented by a **condition data flow diagram (CDFD)**, and a **structure** to **define data items and processes** occurring in the condition data flow diagram. Each **data item** is defined with an appropriate **type** and each **process** is defined with a **formal, textural notation** using the SOFL logic.

# Module for abstraction

An effective way to gain the understanding of system function is

abstraction and decomposition

**Definition: Abstraction** is a principle of extracting the most important information from implementation details.

The result of an abstraction is usually a concise specification of the system reflecting all the primarily important functions without unnecessary details.

# Example of an ATM functional abstraction

- (1) Provide the functions of **showing balance** and **withdraw** for selection.
- (2) Insert a cash-card and supply a password.
- (3) If **showing balance** is selected, the current balance of the bank account is given.
- (4) If **withdraw** is selected, the requested amount of money is properly provided.

Abstraction may have different levels:

For example, if we refine **function (4)** in the previous abstraction, we get a refinement (concrete version):

(4') If **withdraw** is selected and **the password is correct, the requested amount of the money is provided**; otherwise, if the password is wrong, a message for reentering the correct password is given.



We can **refine (4')** further to get the following concrete version of the functional description by considering how to deal with the situation that the requested amount to be withdrawn is greater than the balance of the account:

(4'') If **withdraw** is selected, the password is correct, and the requested amount is less than the balance of the account, the money of the requested amount will be provided. Otherwise, if either the password is wrong or the requested amount is greater than the balance, an appropriate message is provided.



# Question?

How to express functional abstractions so that they are precise, comprehensible, easy to be verified and validated, and easy to be transformed into programs?

In SOFL we use module for functional abstraction.

Conceptually a module has the following structure:

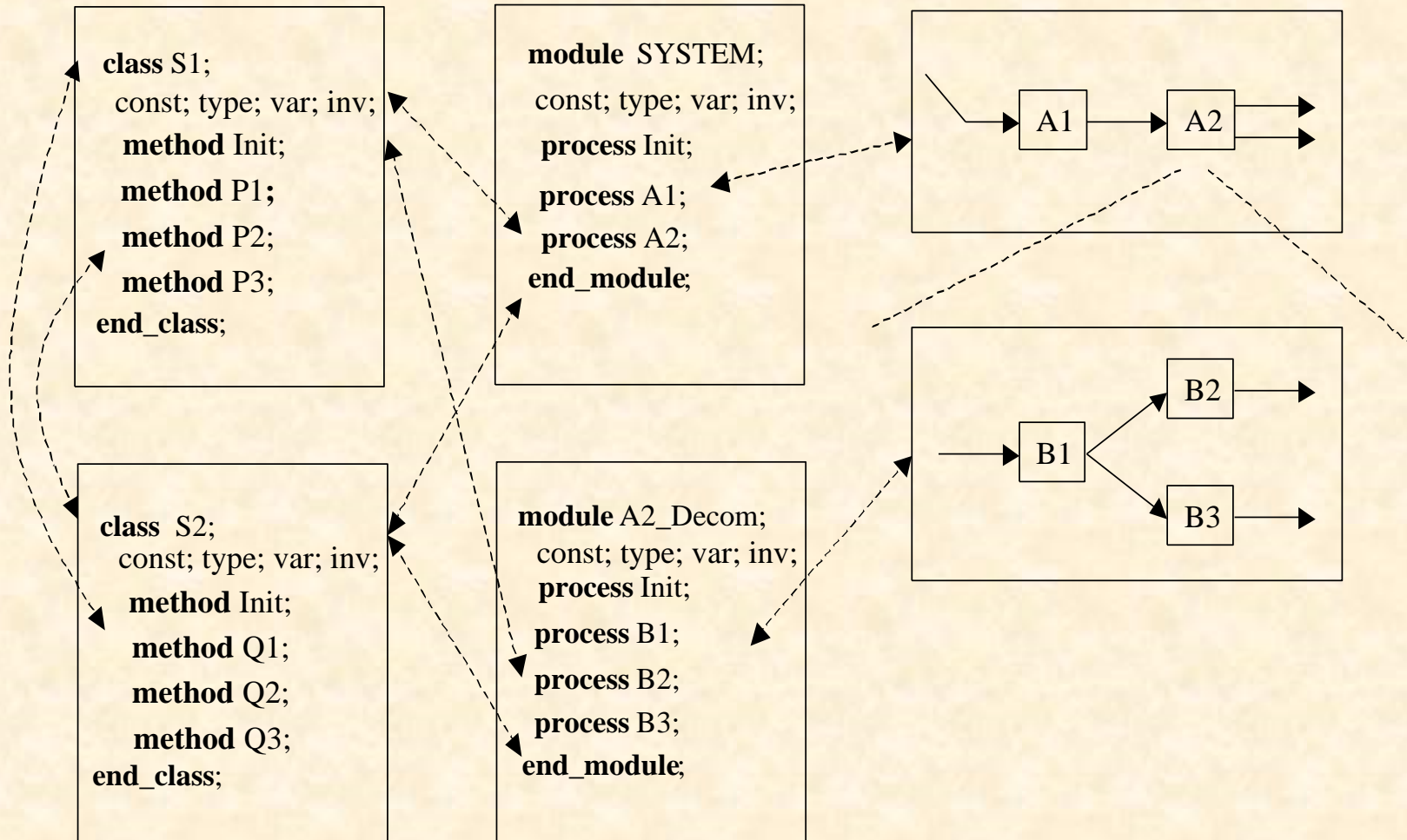
ModuleName

condition data flow diagram

Specification of the components

Specifically, a module has the following structure in general:

# The general structure of a SOFL specification



```
module ModuleName / UpperLevelModule;
```

```
  const ConstantDefinition;
```

```
  type TypeDefinition;
```

```
  var VariableDefinition;
```

```
  inv TypeAndStateInvariants;
```

```
  behav CDFD_Figure No.;
```

```
  process Init(); /* initialize the local store variables of the  
    module. This process can be omitted if there is no local state  
    variable defined in the var section.*/
```

```
  process_1;
```

```
  process_2;
```

```
  ...
```

```
  process_n;
```

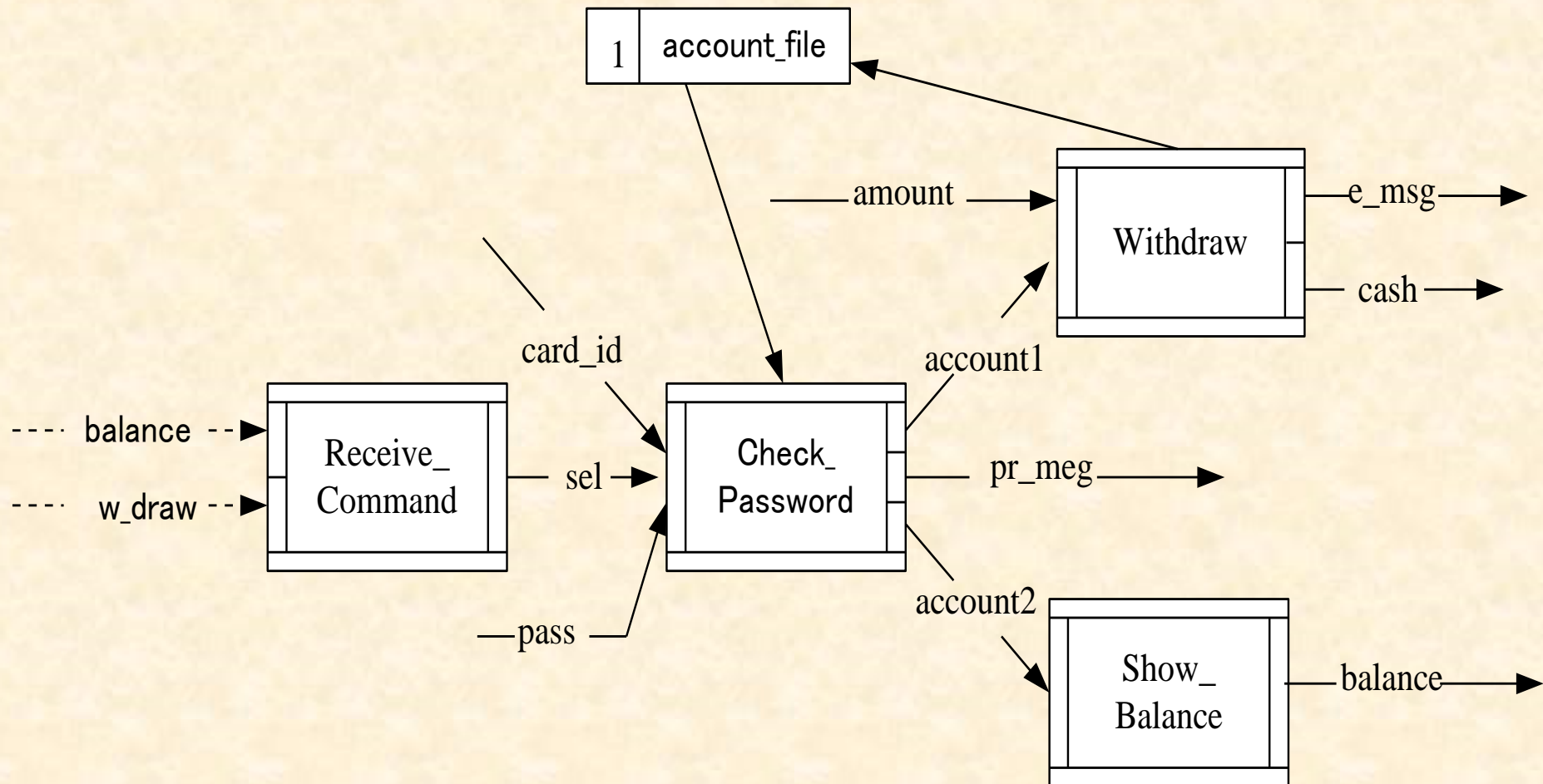
```
  function_1;
```

```
  ...
```

```
  function_m;
```

```
end-module;
```

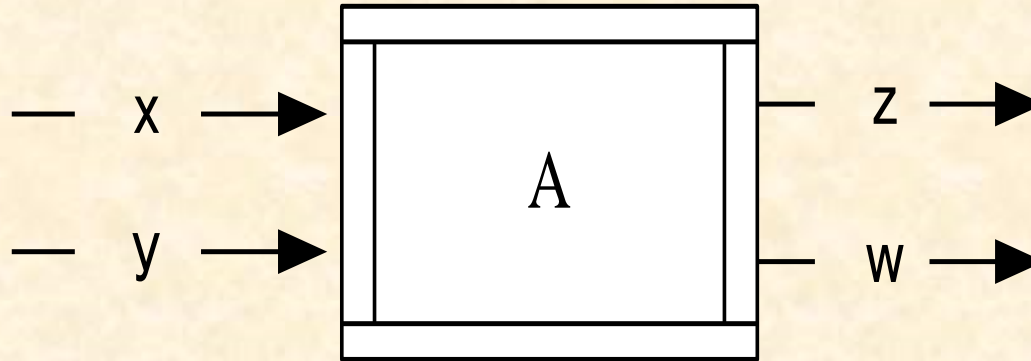
# Condition Data Flow Diagrams (CDFD)



# Process

A process models a transformation from input to output. It is similar to a VDM Operation, a procedure in Pascal, or a method in Java.

## Graphical representation:



The components of a process:

name (A)

input port (receiving **x** and **y**)

output port (sending **z** and **w**)

precondition (indicated by the narrow rectangle at the top)

postcondition (indicated by the narrow rectangle at the bottom)

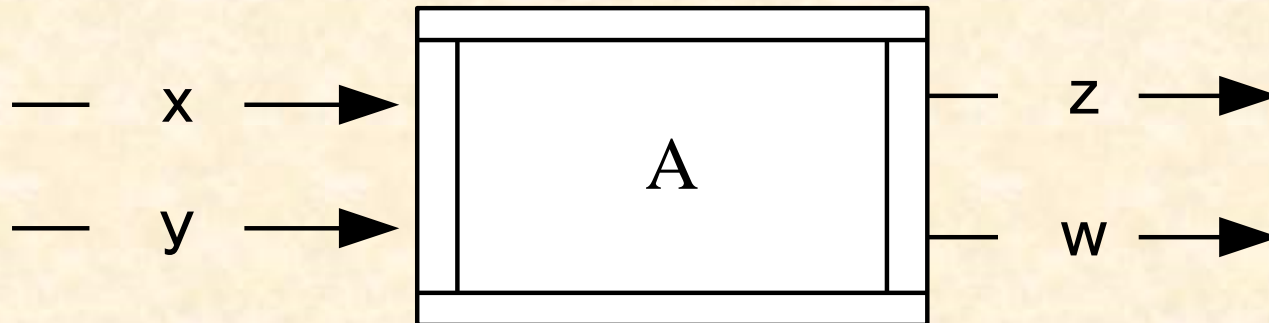


## The meaning of process A:

1. when both the input data flows **x** and **y** are **available**, the process is **enabled**, but it will not execute until the output data flows **z** and **w** become **unavailable**.
2. the execution of the process **consumes the input** data flows **x** and **y**, and **generates the output** data flows **z** and **w**.

The formal specification of process *A*:

```
process A(x: Ti_1, y: Ti_2) z: To_1, w: To_2  
pre P(x, y)  
post Q(x, y, z, w)  
end_process
```



A concrete specification of process **A** can be:

```
process A(x: int, y: int) z: real, w: int
```

```
pre x >= y
```

```
post  $z^2 = x - y$  and  $w > z$ 
```

```
comment
```

```
z is a square root of  $x - y$  and w is greater than z.
```

```
end_process
```

or

```
process A(x, y: int) z: real, w: int
```

```
pre x >= y
```

```
post  $z^2 = x - y$  and  $w > z$ 
```

```
end_process
```

A process specification with no specific precondition or postcondition:

```
process A(x, y: int) z, w: int  
pre true  
post  $z = x + y$  and  $w = x - y$   
end_process
```

```
process A(x, y: int) z, w: int  
pre  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$   
post true  
end_process
```

A process specification with no specific requirements (we call it **choose**):

```
process A(x, y: int) z, w: int  
pre true  
post true  
end_process
```

or with the simplified expression by omitting the pre and postconditions:

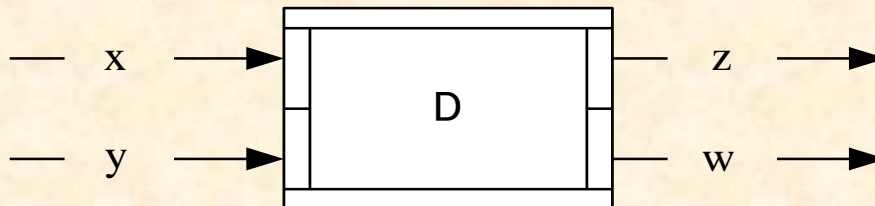
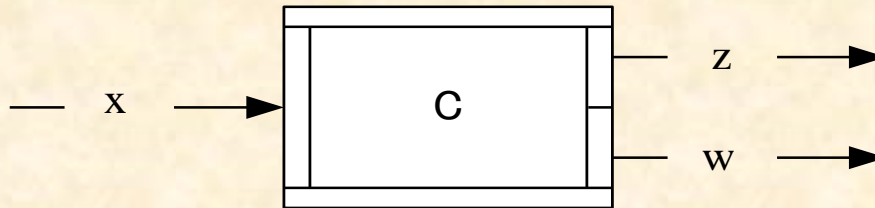
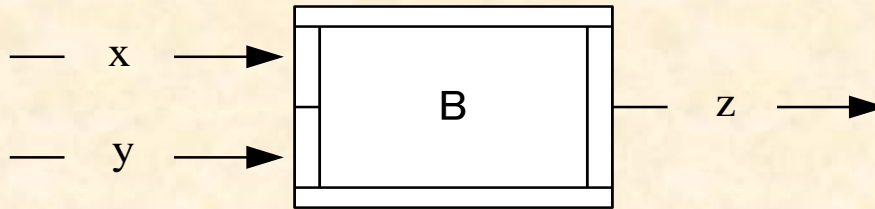
```
process A(x, y: int) z, w: int  
end_process
```

# Class discussion

When a programmer is required to implement the following specification, what do you think the programmer should do?

```
process A(x, y: int) z, w: int
  pre true
  post true
end_process
```

# Processes with multiple ports





# Specifications of process B

```
process B(x: int | y: int) z: real
pre x <> 0 or y >= 0
post z >= (x**2 + 1) / x      or
      z**2 >= y and z >= 0
end_process
```

The following specification is inappropriate:

```
process B(x: int | y: int) z: real
pre x <> 0 and y >= 0
post z >= (x**2 + 1) / x and
      z**2 >= y and z >= 0
end_process
```

# Another possibility of process B

```
process B(x: int | y: int) z: int
pre  x > 0 or bound(y)
post z = x + 1 or z = y - 1
end_process
```

where `bound(y)` is a predicate (not a truth value) defined as follows:

`bound(y) = true` if `y` is available (i.e., `y <> nil`).

`bound(y) = false` if `y` is unavailable (i.e., `y = nil`).

# Specifications of process C

```
process C(x: int) z: real | w: int
pre  x > 0
post z = (x**2 + 1) / x    or
      w**2 >= x and w > 0
end_process
```

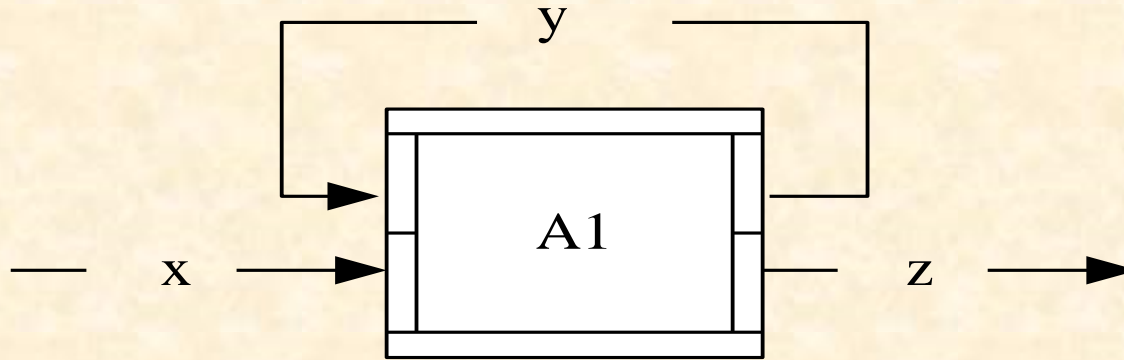
This specification does not tell exactly which of **z** and **w** will be generated as the result of an execution of process **C**. A more deterministic specification is:

```
process C(x: int) z: real | w: int
pre  x > 0
post x < 10 and z = (x**2 + 1) / x or
      x >= 10 and w**2 >= x and w > 0
end_process
```

# The specification of process D

```
process D(x: Ti_1 | y: Ti_2) z: To_1 | w: To_2
  pre  P1(x) or P2(y)
  post bound(x) and Q_1(z, x) or
       bound(y) and Q_2(y, w)
end_process
```

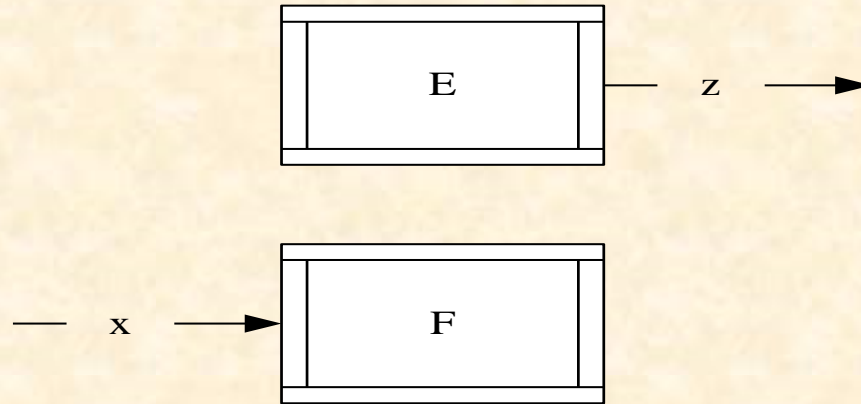
# The specification of a process with a data flow loop



```
process A1(y: nat0 | x: nat0) y: nat0 | z: nat0
pre  x = 0 or bound(y)
post y = x + 1 or
      ~y < 100 and y = ~y + 1 or ~y >= 100 and z = ~y
end_process
```

In the postcondition, the decorated variable  $\sim y$  denotes the input data flow  $y$ , while  $y$  denotes the output data flow  $y$ .

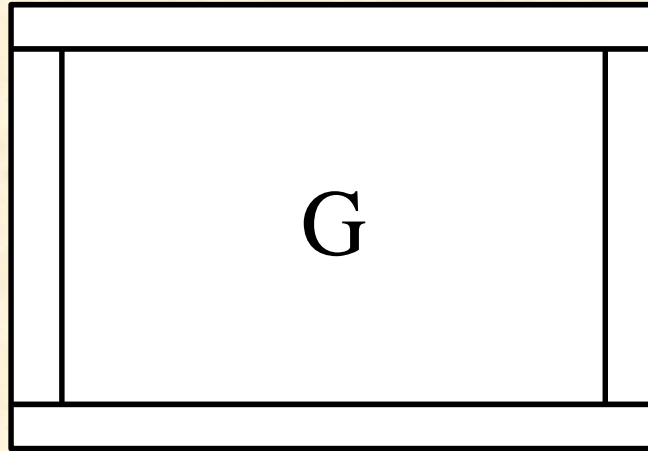
# A process may have no input or output data flow



```
process E() z: nat0
pre true
post z > 10
end_process
```

```
process F(x: nat0)
pre x > 5
post true
end_process
```

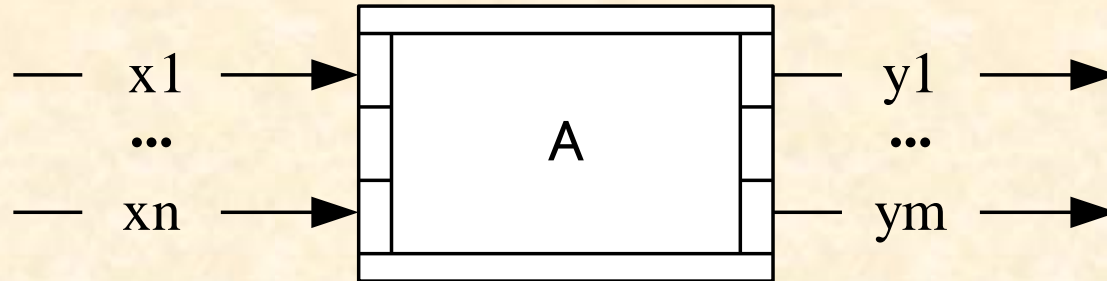
A process with no input and output data flows is **illegal**.



The reason is that such a process does not provide any useful functionality.



# The general form of a process



```
process A(x1_dec | x2_dec | ... | xn_dec)
```

```
    y1_dec | y2_dec | ... | ym_dec
```

```
pre    P(x1, x2, ..., xn)
```

```
post   Q(x1, x2, ..., xn, y1, y2, ..., ym)
```

```
end_process
```

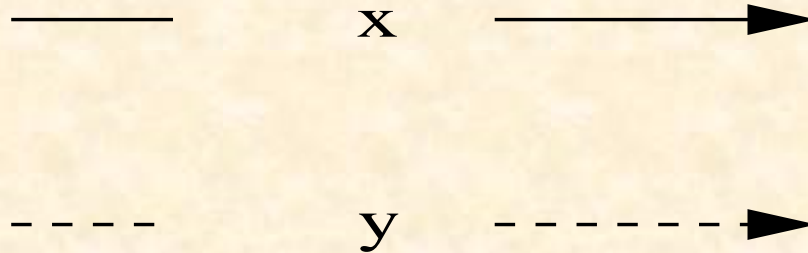
Each  $xi\_dec$  ( $i = 1..n$ ) is a set of input variable declarations separated by comma, such as:

$$xi\_1: Ti\_1, xi\_2: Ti\_2, \dots, xi\_n: Ti\_n$$

where  $xi\_1, xi\_2, \dots, xi\_n$  are the data flow variables connecting to input port  $xi$ , and  $Ti\_1, Ti\_2, \dots, Ti\_n$  are their types, respectively.

# Data flows

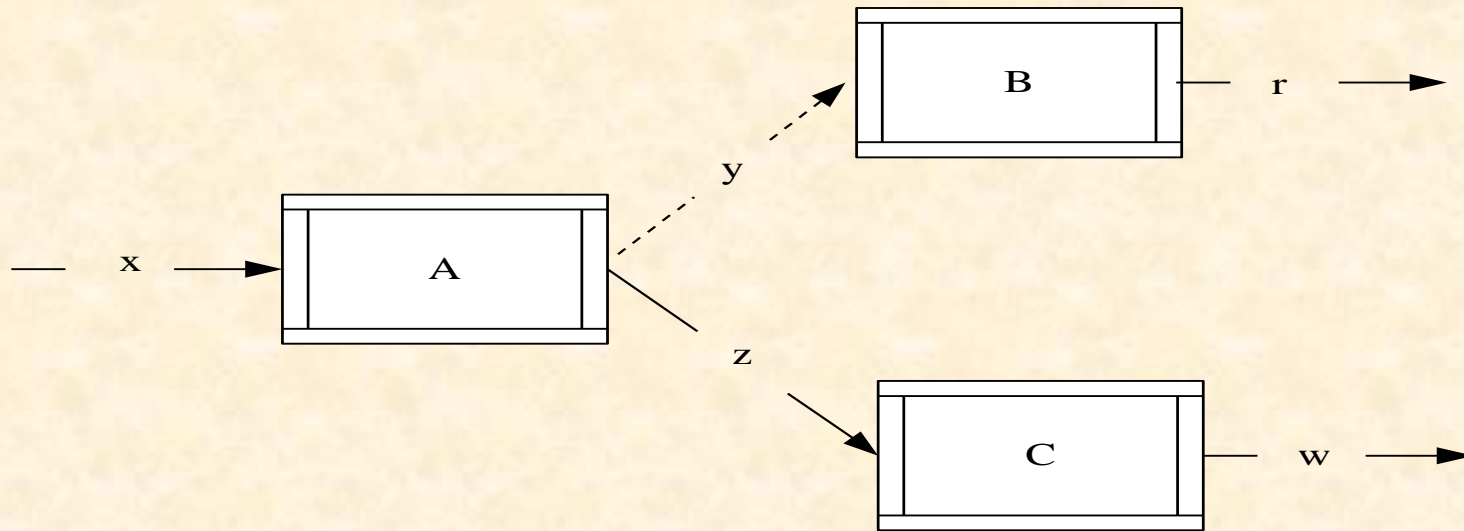
A data flow represents a **data transmission** from one **process** to **another**.



A data flow has a **name**, denoted by an identifier, and indicates the **direction** in which the data are transmitted.

Two kinds of data flows are available for use. One is called **active data flow**, such as **x**, and another is called **control data flow**, such as **y**.

# An example showing the necessity of the two kinds of data flows



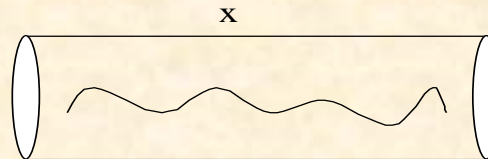
**Active data flow:** (1) provide useful value, (2) enable processes.

**Control data flow:** (1) enable processes.

In fact, a data flow name is a variable, not necessarily represents a specific value. When it is bound to a value, we say the variable is defined or available.

# Data flow availability

**Definition:** Let  $x$  be a data flow variable of type  $T$ . Then,  $x$  is **defined** or **available** if a value of  $T$  is bound to  $x$ . Otherwise,  $x$  is **undefined** or **unavailable**.



In general, a data flow variable is declared with a type in the form:

$x: T$

# Special type for a control data flow variable

A control data flow variable **must** be declared with the special type: **sign**, which means **signal**.

**sign = {!}**

An active data flow must not be declared with the type **sign**.

# Expression of an available data flow

Let  $x$  be a data flow variable. Then, that  $x$  is available can be expressed using any one of the following two expressions:

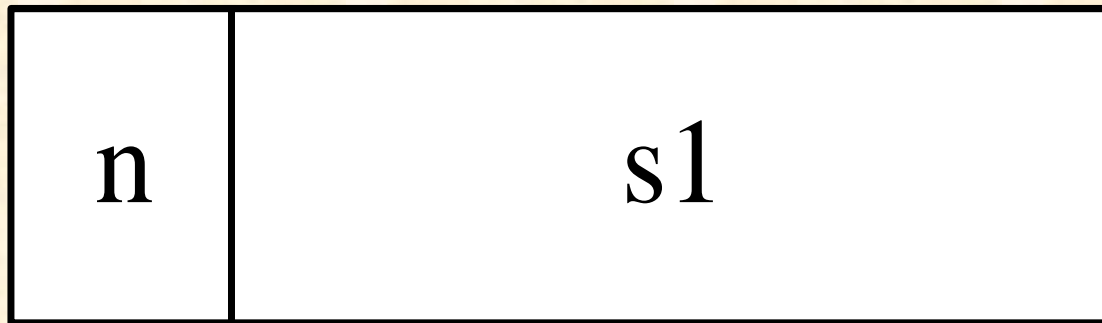


$\text{bound}(x)$



# Data stores

**Definition:** A data store, or store, is a variable holding data in **rest**.



**s1** is the name of the store.

**n** is the number of the store, which may be useful in distinguishing stores with the same name.

For example, suppose the following two stores are designed by different persons, but they are used in the same specification.

1	my_file
---	---------

2	my_file
---	---------

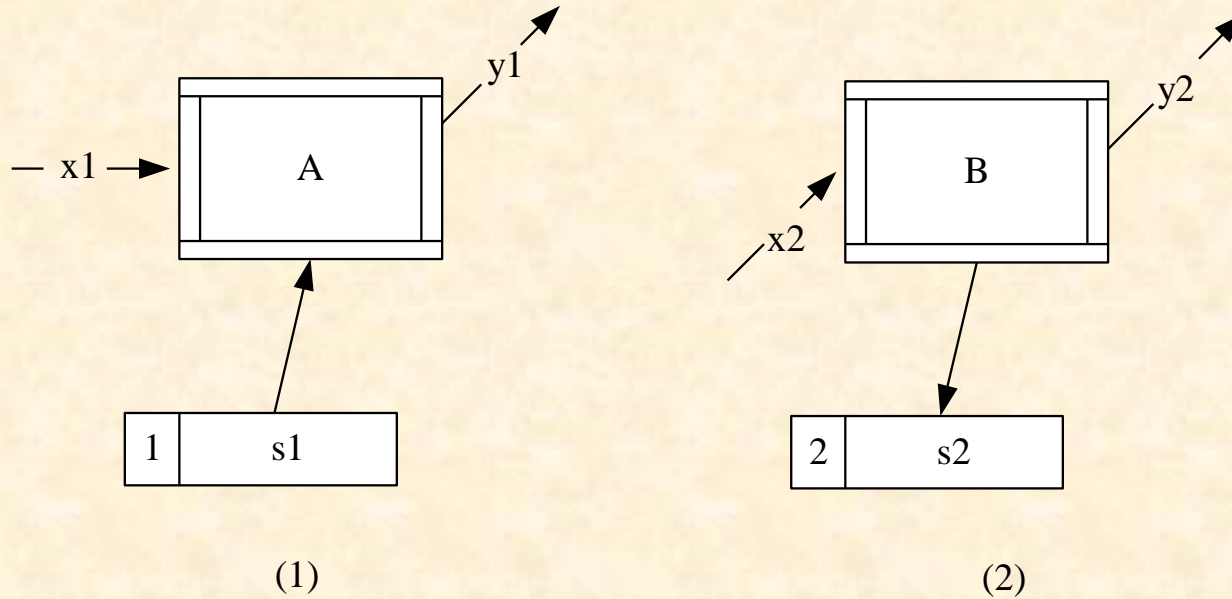
To distinguish them, we may use the following names to represent these two stores in the formal specification:

`my_file_1` --- the store on the left  
`my_file_2` --- the store on the right

# The characteristics of stores

- A store is **passive**; it does not actively send any data item to any process, but always makes its value ready for any related process to **read** and **write**.
- A store can only be connected, by directed lines, to processes. **Syntactically, the directed lines from or to a store can only be connected to either the bottom or top edge of the graphical symbol of a process.** It cannot be connected to data flows or other data stores.
- A store can be either **read** or **written** (updated) by a process, which is represented by a **directed line pointing to the process from the store or pointing to the store from the process.**

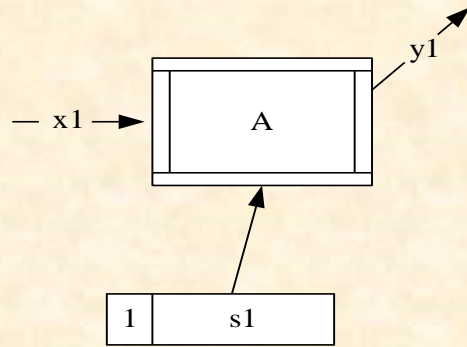
For example,



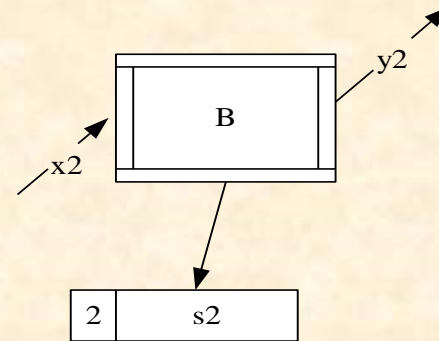
Process **A** reads data from store **s1**, which is called an external variable of process **A**.

Process **B** writes data to store **s2**, which is an external variable of process **B**.

# Formal specification of a process connecting to a store



(1)



(2)

```
process A(x1: int) y1: int
ext rd s1: int
pre  x1 > 0 and s1 > x1
post y1 = s1 - x1
end_process
```

```
process B(x2: int) y2: int
ext wr s2: int
pre  x2 > 0
post y2 = ~s2 + x2 and
      s2 = ~s2 - x2
end_process
```

Decorated state variables in the postcondition:

$\sim s2$  denotes the value of variable  $s2$  before the execution of process  $B$ . Such a value is known as the initial value of variable  $s2$ .

$s2$  denotes the value of variable  $s2$  after the execution of process  $B$ . Such a value is called the final value of variable  $s2$ .

**Convention:** if a state variable is  $rd$  type of variable, then in the postcondition we use the non-decorated variable to denote both the initial value and final value of the variable, because they are the same in this case.

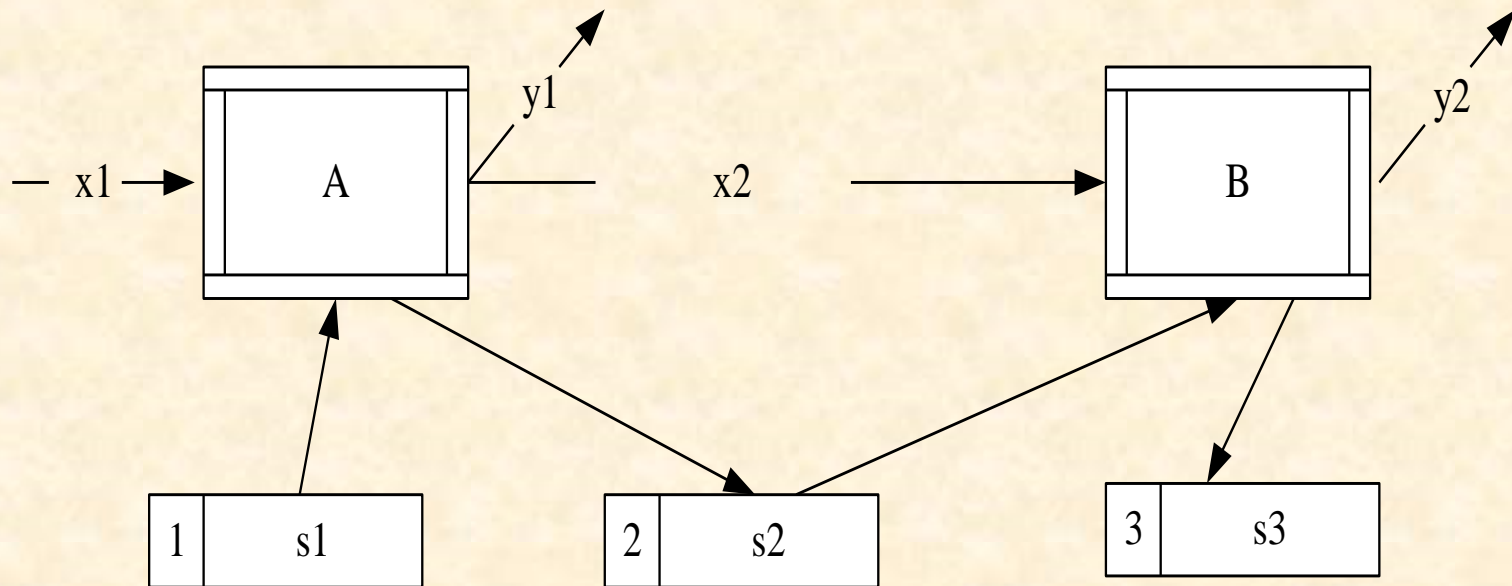
# Class discussion

In the following specification, is it possible for external variable **s2** to be involved in the pre-condition?

```
process B(x2: int) y2: int
ext wr s2: int
pre  x2 > 0
post y2 = ~s2 + x2 and
      s2 = ~s2 - x2
end_process
```



# Multiple connections between processes and stores



# The general structure of a process specification

```
process A(x_1: Ti_1 | x_2: Ti_2 | ... | x_n: Ti_n)
    y_1: To_1 | y_2: To_2 | ... | y_m: To_m
ext acc_1 z_1: Te_1
    acc_2 z_2: Te_2
    ...
    acc_q z_q: Te_q
pre    P(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n, z_1, z_2, ..., z_q)
post   Q(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n, y_1, y_2, ..., y_m,
        ~z_1, ~z_2, ..., ~z_q, z_1, z_2, ..., z_q)
end_process
```

# Convention for names

The names of processes, data flows, and stores are denoted by identifiers that should indicate their potential meanings for readability.

An **identifier** is a string of

- English letters
- digits
- underscore mark

but the first character must be a letter.

An **identifier is case sensitive**, so  
**Student\_1** is different from **student\_1**.

- The name of a process is usually written with an upper case letter for the first character of each English word and lower case letters for the rest of characters. If more than one English word are involved in a name, those words are separated by the underscore mark.

Example: `Receive_Command, Check_Password`

- The name of a data flow or store is usually written using lower case letters for all the characters.

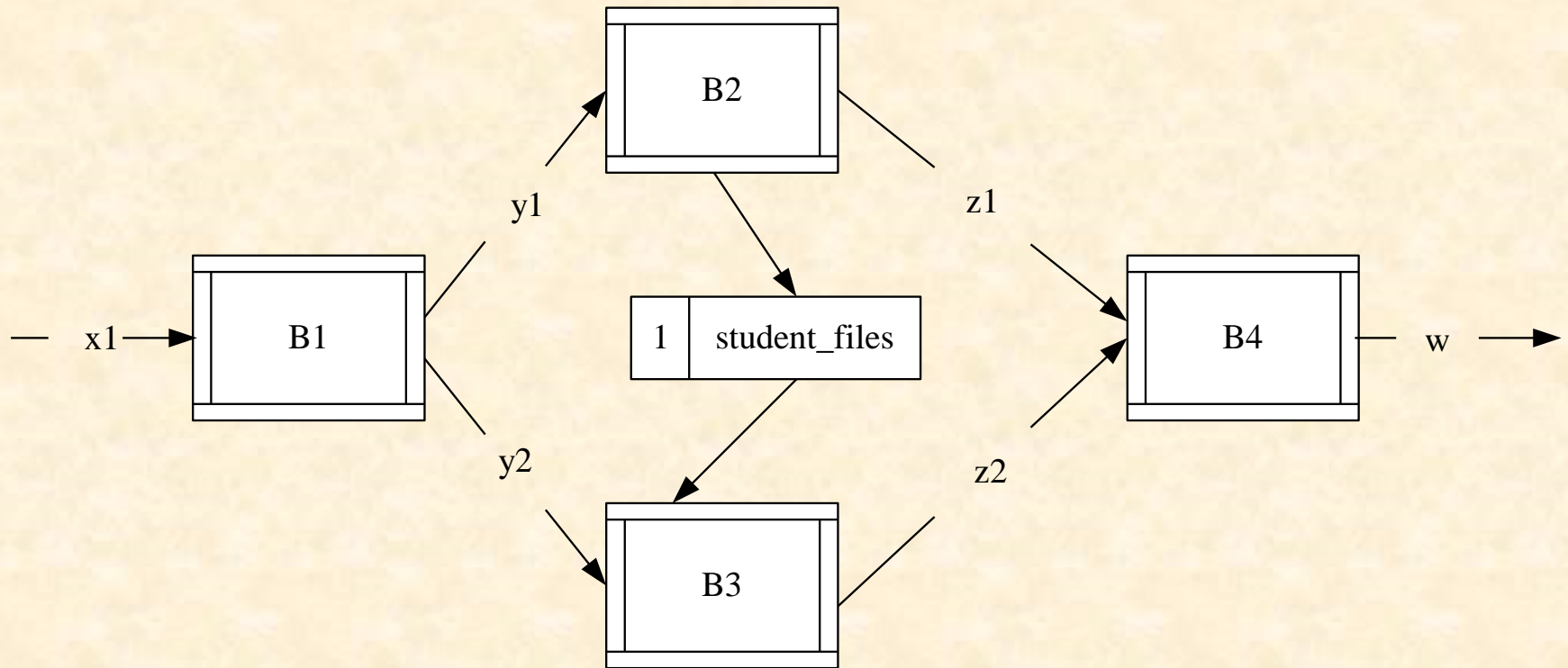
Example: `card_id, pass, w_draw`

# Restriction on parallel processes

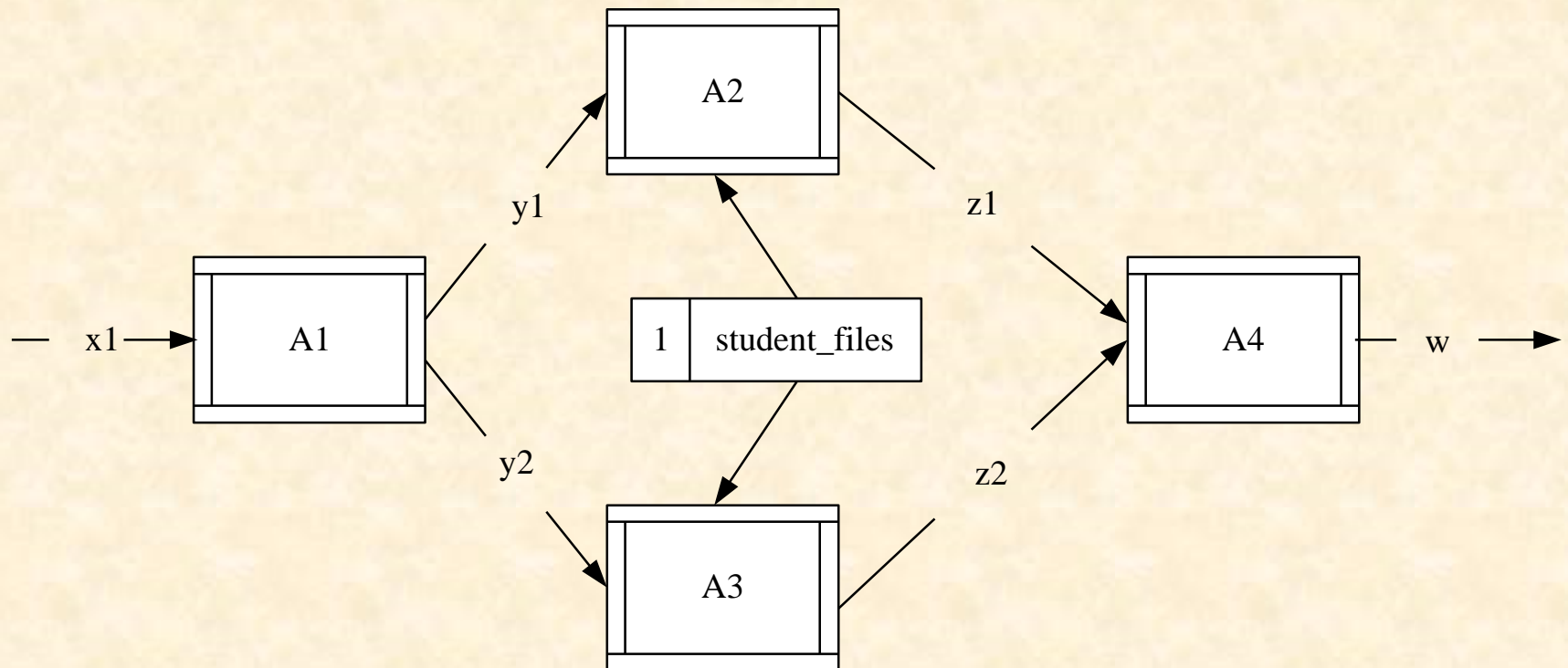
Two parallel processes cannot read from and write to the same data store. Thus, we can avoid possible confusion in operation on the data store.

However, this does not disallow two parallel processes to read from the same data store.

Example: the CDFD below is not allowed.

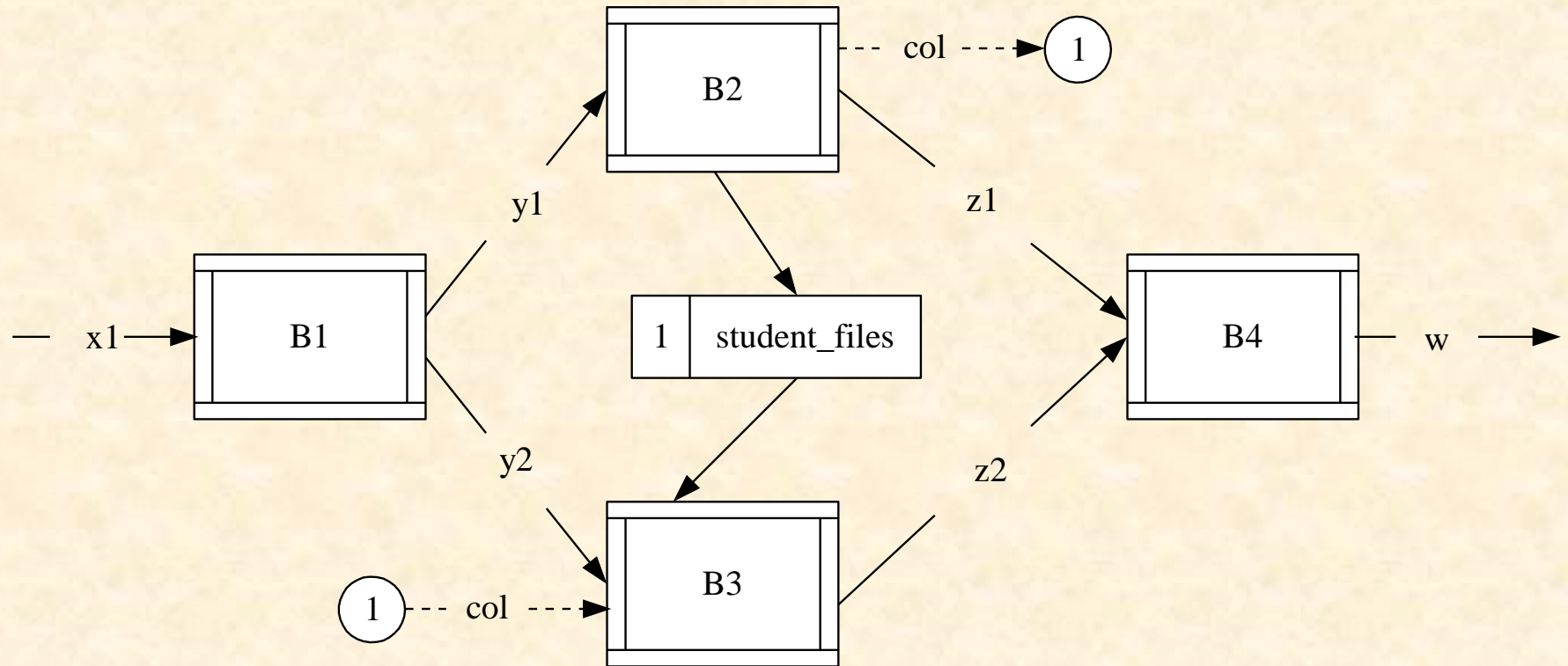


Example: the CDFD below is allowed.

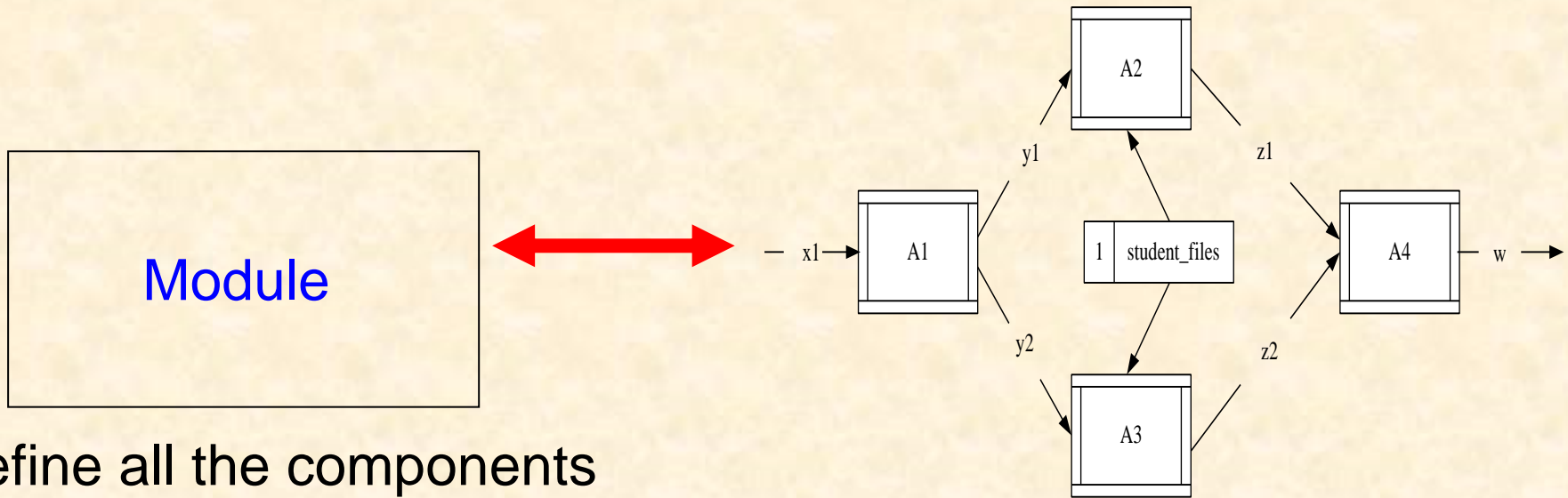




Example: if we really want to describe that process **B2** first writes to store `student_files` and then **B3** reads from the same store, we can draw a control data flow from **B2** to **B3**, as shown in the CDFD below.



# Associating CDFD with Module



Define all the components of the CDFD, such as processes, data flows, and stores.

```
module ModuleName / ParentModuleName;
  const ConstantDeclaration;
  type TypeDeclaration;
  var VariableDeclaration;
  inv TypeandStateInvariants;
  behav CDFD_no;
  Process Init;    /*for initialization of the local state variables */
  Process_1;
  Process_2;
  ...
  Process_n;
  Function_1;
  Function_2;
  ...
  Function_m
end_module
```

# Constant declaration

A constant with a special meaning may be frequently used in process specifications, but it may subject to change for whatever reason (e.g., to fit requirements changes or module version changes for different systems).

The form of constant declaration:

```
ConstIdentifier_1 = Constant_1;  
ConstIdentifier_2 = Constant_2;  
...  
ConstIdentifier_q = Constant_q;
```

Example:

```
const  
    age = 20;
```

# Type declaration

The form of type declaration:

type

  TypeIdentifier\_1 = Type\_1;

  TypeIdentifier\_2 = Type\_2;

  ...

  TypeIdentifier\_w = Type\_w;

Example:

type

  Address = string;

  Employee = given; /\*Employee is treated as a set  
                    of values that are not defined  
                    precisely, because it is unnecessary at  
                    this stage \*/

# Variable declaration

All the variables declared in the **var** section are data store variables occurring in the associated CDFD.

The form of variable declaration:

**var**

Variable\_1: Type\_1;

Variable\_2: Type\_2;

...

Variable\_u: Type\_u;

Example:

var

x1, x2, x3: int; /\* local stores \*/

student\_files: set of Account; /\*local  
store \*/

ext x1, x2 : int; /\*external stores passed  
over from the high  
level CDFD \*/

ext x1, #x2 : int; /\*x1 is an external store  
passed from the high level  
CDFD, while x2 is an external store  
exists independently of the system  
under construction, e.g., file,  
database. \*/



# Type and state invariant

A **type invariant** is a predicate (usually a quantified predicate expression) that defines a constraint on the type and must be sustained throughout the entire system operation.

A **state invariant** is also a predicate that defines a constraint on the current state (i.e., on **store variables**).

The form of invariants:

inv

Invariant\_1;

Invariant\_2;

...

Invariant\_v;

Example:

inv

forall[x: Address] | len(x) <= 50;

card(student\_files) <= 1000;

Thus, any variable declared with type **Address** must be constrained by the type invariant. For example,

place: Address;

Then, “place” can only hold an address with up to 50 characters.

# The behavior of the module

The behavior of a module is defined by the associated CDFD.

The expression that indicates the association between a module and its CDFD is:

```
behav CDFD_10; /* assuming that the  
                associated CDFD is  
                numbered 10 */
```

# Process specification

The general form of a process specification:

**process** ProcessName(input) output

**ext** ExternalVariables

**pre** PreCondition

**post** PostCondition

**decom** LowerLevelModuleName

**explicit** ExplicitSpecification

**comment** InformalExplanation

**end\_process**

We will focus on **decom**, **explicit**, and **comment** sections.

# decom section

decom ProcessName\_decom;

ProcessName\_decom is the name of a lower level module that is a decomposition of the current process. ProcessName is the name of the current process, while decom is a conventional word, indicating the related module is the decomposition of the process ProcessName.

# explicit section

explicit

local variable declaration;  
statement;

Example:

explicit

x: int, y: real;

if x > 5

then

y := (x + 1) / 2;

else

y := x / 2;

More discussions on explicit specifications will be given later.

# How to write comment

There are two kinds of comments. One is used to explain any necessary component in any place of a specification, such as a **type**, **variable**, and an **invariant**. Such a comment is written between a pair of slash-asterisk symbols

**/\* ... \*/.**

Example:

**var**

**student\_files: set of Address; /\*student\_files is  
defined as a  
collection of  
home addresses,  
and each address is  
represented by a string. \*/**



Another kind of comment is written after the keyword **comment** in a process specification, interpreting the meaning of the formal specification of the process.

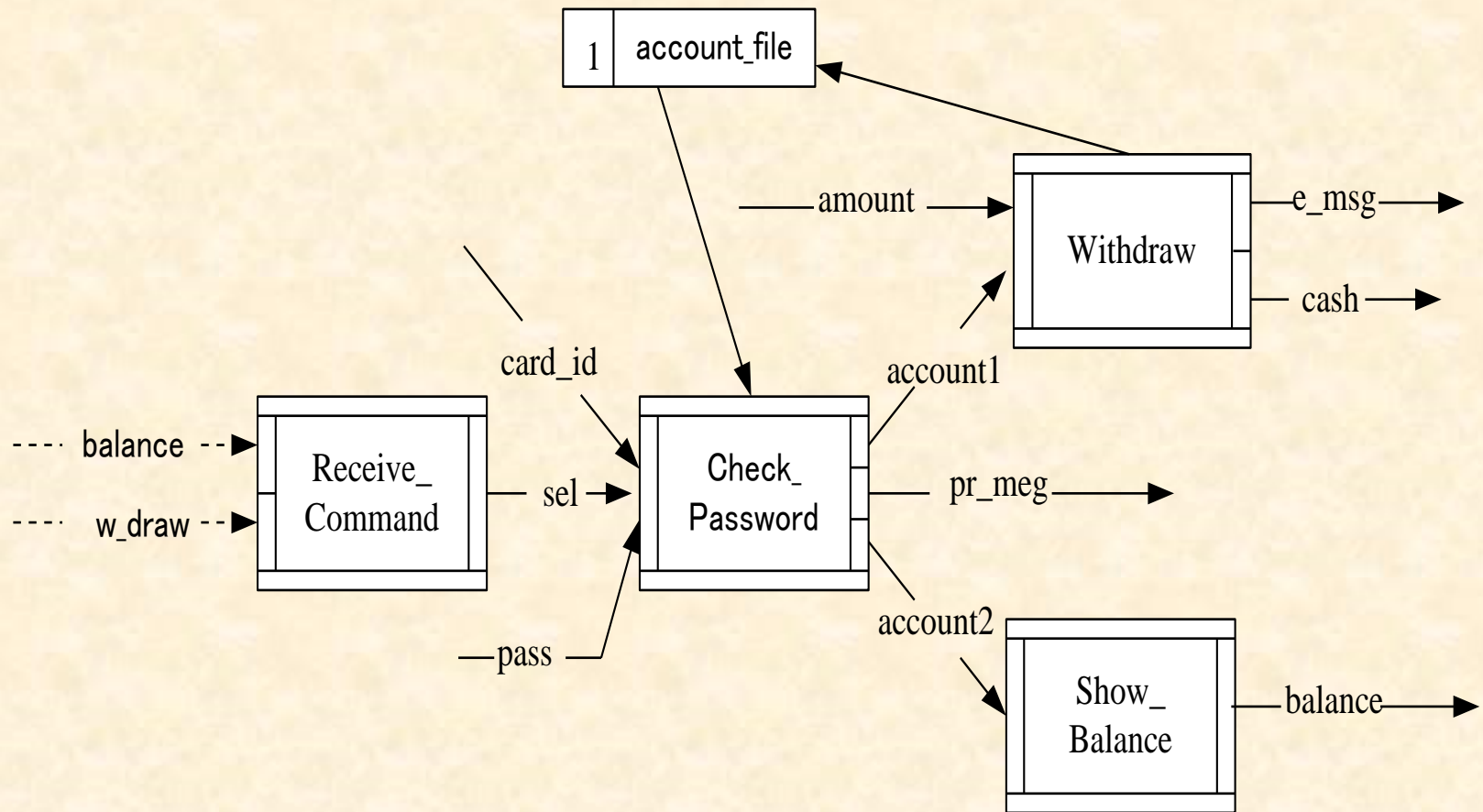
Example:

```
process Add(x, y: int) z: int
post  $z = x + y$ 
comment
```

The precondition is true, while the postcondition requires that the output **z** be the sum of the inputs **x** and **y**.

```
end_process
```

# A module for the ATM



```
module SYSTEM_ATM /* This module has no parent
  module.*/
```

```
type Account = composed of
    account_no: nat
    password: nat
    balance: real
end
```

```
var ext #account_file: set of Account; /* the
    account_file is an external store that
    exists independently of the cash
    dispenser. */
```

```
inv
```

```
forall[x: Account] | 1000 <= x.password <= 9999;
/* The password of every account must be a
    a restricted natural number. */
```

```
behav CDFD_1; /* Assume the ATM CDFD is numbered 1. */
```

```
process Init()
end_process; /* The initialization process does
               nothing because there is no
               local store in the CDFD to initialize. */
process Receive_Command(balance: sign |
                        w_draw: sign) sel: bool
post bound(balance) and sel = true or bound(w_draw)
and sel = false
comment
```

This process recognizes the input command: show balance or withdraw cash. The output data flow sel is set to true if the command is showing balance; otherwise if the command is withdrawing cash, sel is set to false.

```
end_process;
```

```
process Check_Password(card_id: nat, sel: bool, pass: nat)
    account1: Account |
    pr_meg: string |
    account2: Account
ext rd account_file /*The type of this variable is omitted because
    this external variable has been declared in
    the var section. */
post sel = false and
    (exists![x: account_file] | x.account_no = card_id and
        x.password = pass and account1 = x) or
    sel = true and
    (exists![x: account_file] | x.account_no = card_id and
        x.password = pass and account2 = x) or
    not (exists![x: account_file] | x.account_no = card_id and
        x.password = pass) and pr_meg = "Reenter your password or insert the
correct card"
comment
    If sel is false and the input card_id and pass are correct with respect to the exiting
    information in account_file, the account information is passed to the output
    account1. If sel is true and the input card_id and pass are correct, the account
    information is passed to the ouput account2. However, if neither the card_id nor
    pass is correct, a prompt message pr_meg is given.
end_process;
```

```
process Withdraw(amount: real, account1: Account)
    e_msg: string | cash: real
ext wr account_file
pre account1 inset account_file /*input account1 must exist in the
    account_file*/
post (exists[x: account_file] | x = account1 and
    x.balance >= amount and
    cash = amount) and
    account_file = union(diff(~account_file, {account1}),
        {modify(account1, balance -> account1.balance - amount)})
or
    not exists[x: account_file] | x = account1 and
        x.balance >= amount and
        e_meg = "The amount is too big")
```

### comment

The required precondition is that input account1 must belong to the account\_file. If the request amount to withdraw is smaller than the balance of the account, the cash will be withdrawn. On the other hand, if the request amount is bigger than the balance of the account, an error message "The amount is too big" will be issued.

```
end_process;
```



```
process Show_Balance(account2: Account)
    balance: real
post balance = account2.balance;
end_process;
end_module;
```



## Class exercise 2

1. Define a calculator as a module. Assume that **reg** denotes the register that should be initialized to 0 and accessed by all the operations defined. The operations include **Add**, **Subtract**, **Multiply**, and **Divide**. Each operation is modeled by a process.

```
module Calculator;
```

```
var
```

```
  reg: real;
```

```
process Init()
```

```
ext ? reg:?
```

```
pre ?
```

```
post ?
```

```
end_process;
```

```
process Add(x:?)
```

```
ext ? reg: ?
```

```
pre ?
```

```
post ?
```

```
end_process;
```

```
process Multiply(x:?)
```

```
ext ? reg: ?
```

```
pre ?
```

```
post ?
```

```
end_process;
```

```
process Divide(x:?)
```

```
ext ? reg: ?
```

```
pre ?
```

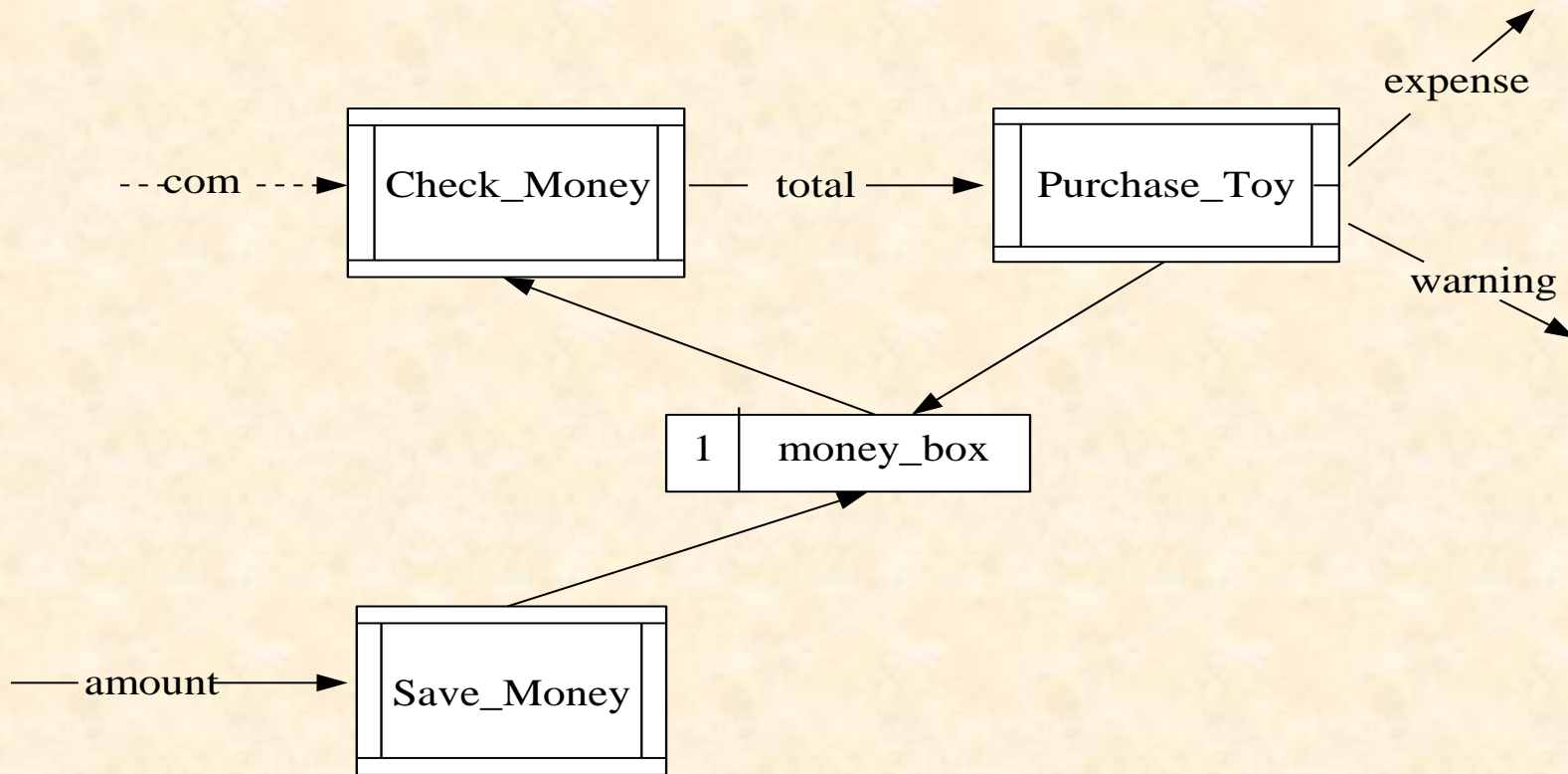
```
post ?
```

```
end_process
```

```
end_module
```

# Homework 1

Write a module to define all the data flows, stores, and processes of the CDFD in Figure 4, assuming all the data flows and stores are integers, and all the processes perform arithmetic operations.



com: command for checking the total amount of the money in the money-box

amount: the amount of money to be saved in the money\_box

total: the total amount of the money in the money\_box

expense: the sufficient amount for purchasing a toy

warning: a warning message for the shortage of the money in the money\_box

Figure 4

```
module Money-Box;
  const
    toy_price = 1000;
  var
    money_box: ?

  process Save_Money(?)
  ext ?
  pre ?
  post ?
  end_process;
  process Check_Money (?) ?
  ext ?
  pre ?
  post ?
  end_process;
  process Purchase_Toy(?)
  ext ?
  pre ?
  post ?
  end_process
end_module
```

# Compound expressions for process specifications

## 1. The if-then-else expression

The general format is:

if B then E\_1 else E\_2

Let result denote the conditional expression.

Then it is equivalent to:

B and result = E\_1 or not B and result = E\_2

Example:

if  $x > 5$  then  $x + z$  else  $z - x$

is equivalent to

$x > 5$  and result =  $x + z$  or not  $x > 5$  and result =  $z - x$

## 2. The **let** expression

The let expression has the format:

**let**  $v\_1 = E\_1, v\_2 = E\_2, \dots, v\_n = E\_n$   
**in**  $P(v\_1, v\_2, \dots, v\_n)$

In this expression each  $v\_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) is an **identifier** that serves as a **pattern** rather than a variable (whose value may change). This **let** expression is equivalent to the expression:

$P[E\_1/v\_1, E\_2/v\_2, \dots, E\_n/v\_n]$



Example:

let  $x_1 = y + z * 2$ ,  $x_2 = y - z * 5$

in

$$a * x_1 ** 2 + b * x_1 + c > a * x_2 ** 2 + b * x_2 + c$$

This expression is equivalent to:

$$a * (y + z * 2) ** 2 + b * (y + z * 2) + c >$$

$$a * (y - z * 5) ** 2 + b * (y - z * 5) + c$$

# The case expression

A case expression is a multiple conditional expression. Its format is as follows:

```
case x of  
  ValueList_1 -> E_1;  
  ValueList_2 -> E_2;  
  ...  
  ValueList_n -> E_n;  
  default -> E_n + 1  
end_case
```

# Example:

```
case x of  
  1, 2, 3 -> y + 1;  
  4, 5, 6 -> y + 2;  
  7, 8, 9 -> y + 3;  
  default -> y + 10  
end_case
```

# Robust process specification

A process specification is robust if it can deal with any input value in the domain of the process. In other words, it defines a **total relation** rather than a partial relation.

For example, the process **Get** is not robust.

```
process Get(z : nat, a : nat) c : nat
ext wr mbox : nat
pre  z >= a
post c = a and mbox = z - a
end_process
```

The reason why **Get** is not a robust specification is that **Get** may not deal with the inputs that do not satisfy the precondition:  
 $z \geq a$ .

The robust specification of process **Get** is:

```
process Get(z : nat, a : nat) c : nat
ext wr mbox : nat
pre  true
post if z >= a
      then c = a and mbox = z - a
      else c = 0 and mbox = ~mbox
end_process
```

# Function definitions

A function provides a mapping from its domain to its range.

A function differs from a process in several ways:

- A function does not allow nondeterministic inputs and outputs whereas a process does.
- A function yields only one group of output whereas a process allows many groups.
- A function does not access to external variables (denoting stores in CDFDs) whereas a process may do so.

Example:

```
process P(x1, x2, x3: int) y1: int | y2: int
  pre is_greater(x1, x2)
  post if is_greater(x1, x3)
    then y1 = x1 * double(x3, x2)
    else y2 = x2 * Increase(x3, x1)
  end_process;
```



## Function definitions:

```
function is_greater(a, b: int): bool  
  == a > b  
end_function
```

```
function double(a, b: int): int  
  == 2 * (a + b)  
end_function;
```

```
function Increase(a, b: int): int  
  pre true  
  post Increase = a + b + a * b  
end_function;
```

There are two kinds of specifications for functions: **explicit** and **implicit** specifications.

1. Explicit specification:

```
function Name(InputDeclaration) : Type  
== E  
end_function
```

Example:

```
function add(x, y: int) : int  
== x + y  
end_function
```

## 2. Implicit specification

```
function Name(InputDeclaration) : Type  
pre Pre  
post Post(Name)  
end_function
```

Example:

```
function add(x, y: int) : int  
pre true  
post add > x + y  
end_function
```

# Undefined function

If function **A** cannot be defined for some reason, it can be written as:

```
function A(x, y: int) : int  
    == undefined  
end_function
```

This means that function **A** will be defined later in the development process (e.g., implementation).

# Recursive functions

A recursive function is a function that applies itself during the computation of its body.

When writing a specification for a recursive function, two points are important:

- the body of the function (for explicit specification) or the postcondition of the function (for implicit specification) must contain an application of the same function.
- an exit is necessary to ensure that any application of the function terminates.

Example: the factorial function is:

$$n! = n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * \dots * 3 * 2 * 1$$

Let **fact** denote **n!**. Then its explicit specification is:

```
function fact(n: nat) : nat
== if n = 1
    then n
    else n * fact(n - 1)
end_function
```

The implicit specification of **fact** is:

```
function fact(n: nat) : nat
```

```
  post if n = 1
```

```
    then fact = n
```

```
    else fact = n * fact(n - 1)
```

```
end_function
```



# Class exercise 3

Write both the explicit and implicit specifications for the function Fibonacci:

$$\text{Fibonacci}(0) = 0;$$

$$\text{Fibonacci}(1) = 1;$$

$$\text{Fibonacci}(n) = \text{Fibonacci}(n - 1) + \text{Fibonacci}(n - 2)$$

where  $n$  is a natural number of type `nat0`.

## II.3 Data types

A data type (or simply type) consists of a set of values and a set of operators:

**Type = a set of values + a set of operators**

# Basic data types

This part explains all the basic data types available in SOFL.

The outline:

- The numeric types
- The character type
- The enumeration types
- The boolean type
- An example of using basic types

# Numeric types

The numeric types include:

**nat0** --  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  naturals containing zero.

**nat** --  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  naturals

**int** --  $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  integers

**real** --  $\{\dots, -2.5, -1.4, 0.0, 1.4, 2.5, \dots\}$   
real numbers

The operations on the numeric types are given on the next slide.

Operator	Name	Type
- x	Unary minus	real --> real
abs(x)	Absolute value	real --> real
floor(x)	Floor	real --> int
x + y	Addition	real * real --> real
x - y	Subtraction	real * real --> real
x * y	Multiplication	real * real --> real
x / y	Division	real * real --> real
x div y	Integer division	int * int --> int
x rem y	Remainder	int * int --> nat0
x mod y	Modulus	nat0 * nat0 --> nat0
x ** y	Power	real * real --> real

Examples: let  $x = 9$ ,  $y = 4.5$ ,  $z = 3.14$ ,  $a = -4$ ,  $b = 3$ .

Then

$$-z = -3.14$$

$$\text{abs}(a) = 4$$

$$\text{floor}(y) = 4$$

$$x + z = 12.14$$

$$x - y = 4.5$$

$$a * b = -12$$

$$x / y = 2.0$$

$$a \text{ div } b = -2$$

$$a \text{ rem } b = 2 \text{ (quotient} = -2\text{)}$$

$$x \bmod b = 0$$

$$x ** b = 729$$

The relational operators on numeric types are:

Operator	Name	Type
$x < y$	Less than	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x > y$	Greater than	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x \leq y$	Less or equal	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x \geq y$	Greater or equal	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x < y < z$	Less-between	$\text{real} * \text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x \leq y \leq z$	Less-equal-between	$\text{real} * \text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x \geq y \geq z$	greater-equal-between	$\text{real} * \text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x = y$	Equal	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
$x \neq y$	Unequal	$\text{real} * \text{real} \rightarrow \text{bool}$



# Character type

char

A value of char type: 'x'

Examples:

'a' 'B' '|' ')' ':' '@' '7'

All the characters:

English letters:

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z A  
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V  
W X Y Z

Other characters:

, . : ; \* + - / \_ ~ | ¥ ( ) [ ] { } @ ^ ` ' & % \$ # " ! < >  
= ?

Newline

White space

Two characters can only be compared to see if they are the same (=) or different (<>).

# Enumeration types

An enumeration type is a finite set of special values, usually with the feature of describing a systematic phenomena.

For example:

Week = {<Monday>, <Tuesday>,  
          <Wednesday>, <Thursday>,  
          <Friday>, <Saturday>, <Sunday>}

Except that two values of an enumeration type can be compared to be the same (=) or different (<>), there is no other operator on the enumeration type.

If we declare a variable weekday with the type **Week** as

**weekday: Week;**

then the variable can take any value of the type, that is, **weekday** can take **<Monday>**, **<Tuesday>**, **<Wednesday>**, and so on.

**<Tuesday> = <Tuesday> <=> true**

**<Tuesday> <> < Wednesday > <=> true**

# Boolean type

`bool = {true, false}`

Operator	Name
<code>and</code>	<code>and</code>
<code>or</code>	<code>or</code>
<code>not</code>	<code>not</code>
<code>=&gt;</code>	<code>implies</code>
<code>&lt;=&gt;</code>	<code>is equivalent to</code>

These operators also apply to undefined value `nil`.

# An example of using basic types

A simple process telling fares of railway tickets for different kinds of passengers:

```
process Tell_Fare(passenger: {<STUDENT>,
    <ORDINARY>, <PENSIONER>}) fare: real
ext rd normal_fare: real
post fare = case passenger of
    <STUDENT> —> normal_fare - 0.25 * normal_fare;
    <ORDINARY> —> normal_fare;
    <PENSIONER> —> normal_fare - 0.30 * normal_fare
    end_case
end_process;
```

# Class exercise 4

Assume that the courses to teach on weekdays are: "Software Engineering" on Monday, "Program Design" on Tuesday, "Discrete Mathematics" on Wednesday, "Programming Language" on Thursday, and "Formal Engineering Methods" on Friday. Write a formal specification for the process that gives the corresponding course title for an input weekday.

(**Hint:** define a type **Course** as an enumeration type)



# Set types

The set types are one of the compound types available in SOFL, and usually used for the abstraction of data items that have a **collection of elements**.

The outline of this part:

- What is a set?
- Set type constructors
- Constructors and operators on sets
- Specification with set types

# What is a set?

A set is an **unordered** collection of **distinct** objects where each object is known as an element of the set.

For example:

- (1) A class is a set of students.
- (2) A car park is a set of cars.

A set of values is enclosed with braces. For example,

- (1) {5, 9, 10}
- (2) {"John", "Chris", "David", "Jeff"}
- (3) {"Java", "Pascal", "C", "C++", "Fortran"}

**Notice:** {a, a, b} is not a legal set.

# Set type declaration

Let  $T$  be an arbitrary type,  $A$  be a set type to be defined. Then, the declaration of  $A$  has the form:

$$A = \text{set of } T$$

where  $T$  is called “element type”.

Formally,  $A$  is the power set of  $T$ :

$$A = \{x \mid \text{subset}(x, T)\}$$

where  $\text{subset}(x, T)$  means that  $x$  is a subset of  $T$ .

For example: let  $A$  be defined as follows:

type

$A = \text{set of } \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{CAT} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}$

This means:

$A = \{ \{ \}, \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle \}, \{ \langle \text{CAT} \rangle \}, \{ \langle \text{COW} \rangle \},$   
 $\{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{CAT} \rangle \}, \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \},$   
 $\{ \langle \text{CAT} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}, \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{CAT} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \} \}$

# Set variable declaration:

Let  $s$  be a variable of type  $A$ , which is declared as:

$s: A;$

then,  $s$  can take any value of  $A$ :

$s = \{ \}$	(empty set) or
$s = \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{CAT} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{CAT} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{CAT} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}$	or
$s = \{ \langle \text{DOG} \rangle, \langle \text{CAT} \rangle, \langle \text{COW} \rangle \}$	

# Constructors and operators on sets

## 1. Constructors

A **constructor of set types** is a special operator that **constitutes** a set value from the elements of an element type.

There are two set constructors:

**set enumeration** and **set comprehension**.

A set enumeration has the format:

$$\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$$

where  $e_i$  ( $i=1..n$ ) are the elements of the set  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ .

Examples:

$$\{5, 9, 10, 50\}$$
$$\{'a', 't', 'l'\}$$



A set comprehension has the form:

$$\{e(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1: T_1, x_2: T_2, \dots, x_n: T_n \ \& \ P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}$$

or

$$\{e(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}$$

where  $n \geq 1$ .

The set comprehension defines a collection of values resulting from evaluating the expression  $e(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) under the condition that the involved variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  take values from sets (or types)  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$ , respectively, and satisfies property  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

## Examples:

$$\{x \mid x: \text{nat} \ \& \ 1 < x < 5\} = \{2, 3, 4\}$$

$$\{y \mid y: \text{nat0} \ \& \ y \leq 5\} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$\{x + y \mid x: \text{nat0}, y: \text{nat0} \ \& \ 1 < x + y < 8\} = \\ \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$$

$$\{i \mid i \text{ inset } \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\} = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

We can also use the following special notation to represent a set containing an interval of integers:

$$\{i, \dots, k\} = \{j \mid j: \text{int} \ \& \ i \leq j \leq k\}$$

Thus:

$$\{1, \dots, 5\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$\{-2, \dots, 2\} = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$$

## 2. Operators

### 2.1 Membership (**inset**)

**inset**:  $T * \text{set of } T \rightarrow \text{bool}$

Examples:

$7 \text{ inset } \{4, 5, 7, 9\} \Leftrightarrow \text{true}$

$3 \text{ inset } \{4, 5, 7, 9\} \Leftrightarrow \text{false}$

## 2.2 Non-membership (**notin**)

**notin:  $T * \text{set of } T \rightarrow \text{bool}$**

Examples:

**$7 \text{ notin } \{4, 5, 7, 9\} \Leftrightarrow \text{false}$**

**$3 \text{ notin } \{4, 5, 7, 9\} \Leftrightarrow \text{true}$**

## 2.3 Cardinality (`card`)

`card: set of T --> nat0`

Examples:

$$\text{card}(\{5, 7, 9\}) = 3$$

$$\text{card}(\{'h', 'o', 's', 'e', 'i'\}) = 5$$

## 2.4 Equality and inequality ( $=$ , $\neq$ )

$=$ : set of  $T$  \* set of  $T \rightarrow \text{bool}$

$s1 = s2$

$== \text{forall}[x: s1] \mid x \text{ inset } s2 \text{ and } \text{card}(s1) = \text{card}(s2)$

$==$  means “defined as”.

$\neq$ : set of  $T$  \* set of  $T \rightarrow \text{bool}$

$s1 \neq s2$

$== (\text{exists}[x: s1] \mid x \text{ notin } s2) \text{ or } (\text{exists}[x: s2] \mid x \text{ notin } s1)$

Examples:

$\{5, 15, 25\} = \{25, 15, 5\} \Rightarrow \text{true}$

$\{5, 15, 25\} \neq \{5, 20, 30\} \Rightarrow \text{true}$

## 2.5 Subset (subset)

subset: set of T \* set of T --> bool

subset(s1, s2) == forall[x: s1] | x inset s2

Examples:

Let  $s1 = \{5, 15, 25\}$ ,  $s2 = \{5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30\}$ .

Then:

subset(s1, s2) <=> true	subset(s2, s1) <=> false
subset({ }, s1) <=> true	subset(s1, s1) <=> true



## 2.6 Proper subset (`psubset`)

`psubset`: set of T \* set of T --> bool

`psubset(s1, s2) == subset(s1, s2) and s1 <> s2`

Examples:

let `s1 = {5, 15, 25}` and `s2 = {5, 10, 15, 25, 30}`.

Then:

`psubset(s1, s2) <=> true`

`psubset(s1, s1) <=> false`

`psubset(s2, s1) <=> false`

`psubset({ }, s1) <=> true`

## 2.7 Member access (**get**)

**get**: set of T --> T

**get(s) ==** if s <> { } then x else nil

where x inset s.

Examples: assume **s** = {5, 15, 25}, then

**get(s) = 5** or

**get(s) = 15** or

**get(s) = 25**

And **s** still remains the same as before:

**s = {5, 15, 25}.**

## 2.8 Union (union)

union: set of T \* set of T --> set of T

$\text{union}(s1, s2) == \{x \mid x \text{ inset } s1 \text{ or } x \text{ inset } s2\}$

Examples:

$\text{union}(\{5, 15, 25\}, \{15, 20, 25, 30\}) =$   
 $\{5, 15, 25, 20, 30\}$

$\text{union}(\{15, 20, 25, 30\}, \{5, 15, 25\}) =$   
 $\{5, 15, 25, 20, 30\}$

The union operator is commutative. Thus,  
 $\text{union}(s1, s2) = \text{union}(s2, s1).$

It is also associative, that is,  
 $\text{union}(s1, \text{union}(s2, s3)) =$   
 $\text{union}(\text{union}(s1, s2), s3).$

Due to these properties, the operator **union** can be extended to deal with more than two sets:

$\text{union: set of } T * \text{ set of } T * \dots * \text{ set of } T \rightarrow \text{ set of } T$   
 $\text{union}(s1, s2, \dots, sn) == \{x \mid x \text{ inset } s1 \text{ or } x \text{ inset } s2$   
 $\text{or } \dots \text{ or } x \text{ inset } sn\}$

## 2.9 Intersection (**inter**)

**inter**: set of T \* set of T --> set of T

**inter**(s1, s2) == {x | x inset s1 and x inset s2}

For example, let **s1** = {5, 7, 9},  
                  **s2** = {7, 10, 9, 15},  
                  **s3** = {8, 5, 20}.

Then

**inter**(s1, s2) = {7, 9}

**inter**(s1, s3) = {5}

**inter**(s2, s3) = { }

The **inter** operator is commutative and associative.  
That is,

$$\text{inter}(s1, s2) = \text{inter}(s2, s1),$$

$$\text{inter}(s1, \text{inter}(s2, s3)) = \text{inter}(\text{inter}(s1, s2), s3).$$

We can also extend the **inter** operator to deal with more than two operands:

**inter**: set of T \* set of T \* ... \* set of T --> set of T

**inter**(s1, s2, ..., sn)

== {x | x inset s1 and x inset s2 and ... and x inset sn}

## 2.10 Difference (diff)

diff: set of T \* set of T --> set of T

$\text{diff}(s1, s2) == \{x \mid x \text{ inset } s1 \text{ and } x \text{ notin } s2\}$

For example, let  $s1 = \{5, 7, 9\}$

$s2 = \{7, 10, 9, 15\}$

$s3 = \{8, 12\}$ .

Then

$\text{diff}(s1, s2) = \{5\}$

$\text{diff}(s1, s3) = \{5, 7, 9\}$

$\text{diff}(s2, s1) = \{10, 15\}$

$\text{diff}(s1, \{ \}) = s1$



## 2.11 Distributed union (**dunion**)

A set can be a set of sets, and the distributed union of such a set is an operation that obtains the union of all the member sets of the set.

**dunion**: set of set of  $T \rightarrow$  set of  $T$   
**dunion**( $s$ ) == **union**( $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$ )

where  $s = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ .

Example:

Let  $s_1 = \{\{5, 10, 15\}, \{5, 10, 15, 25\}, \{10, 25, 35\}\}$

Then

**dunion**( $s_1$ ) = **union**( $\{5, 10, 15\}, \{5, 10, 15, 25\}, \{10, 25, 35\}$ )  
=  $\{5, 10, 15, 25, 35\}$

## 2.12 Distributed intersection (**dinter**)

**dinter**: set of set of  $T \rightarrow$  set of  $T$

**dinter**( $s$ ) == **inter**( $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$ )

where  $s = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ .

For example, let

$s = \{\{5, 10, 15\}, \{5, 10, 15, 25\}, \{10, 25, 35\}\}$ .

Then

$\text{dinter}(s) = \text{inter}(\{5, 10, 15\}, \{5, 10, 15, 25\},$   
 $\{10, 25, 35\}) = \{10\}$

## 2.13 Power set (**power**)

Given a set, we can apply the operator **power** to yield its power set that contains all the subsets of the set, including the empty set.

**power: set of T --> set of set of T**

**$\text{power}(s) == \{ s1 \mid \text{subset}(s1, s) \}$**

Example: let  **$s = \{5, 15, 25\}$** . Then

**$\text{power}(s) = \{ \{ \}, \{5\}, \{15\}, \{25\}, \{5, 15\}, \{15, 25\}, \{5, 25\}, \{5, 15, 25\} \}$**

# Specification with set types

An Email\_Address\_Book

```
module Email_Address_Book;  
  type  
    EmailAddress = given;  
  var  
    email_book: set of EmailAddress;  
  behav: CDFD_1;
```

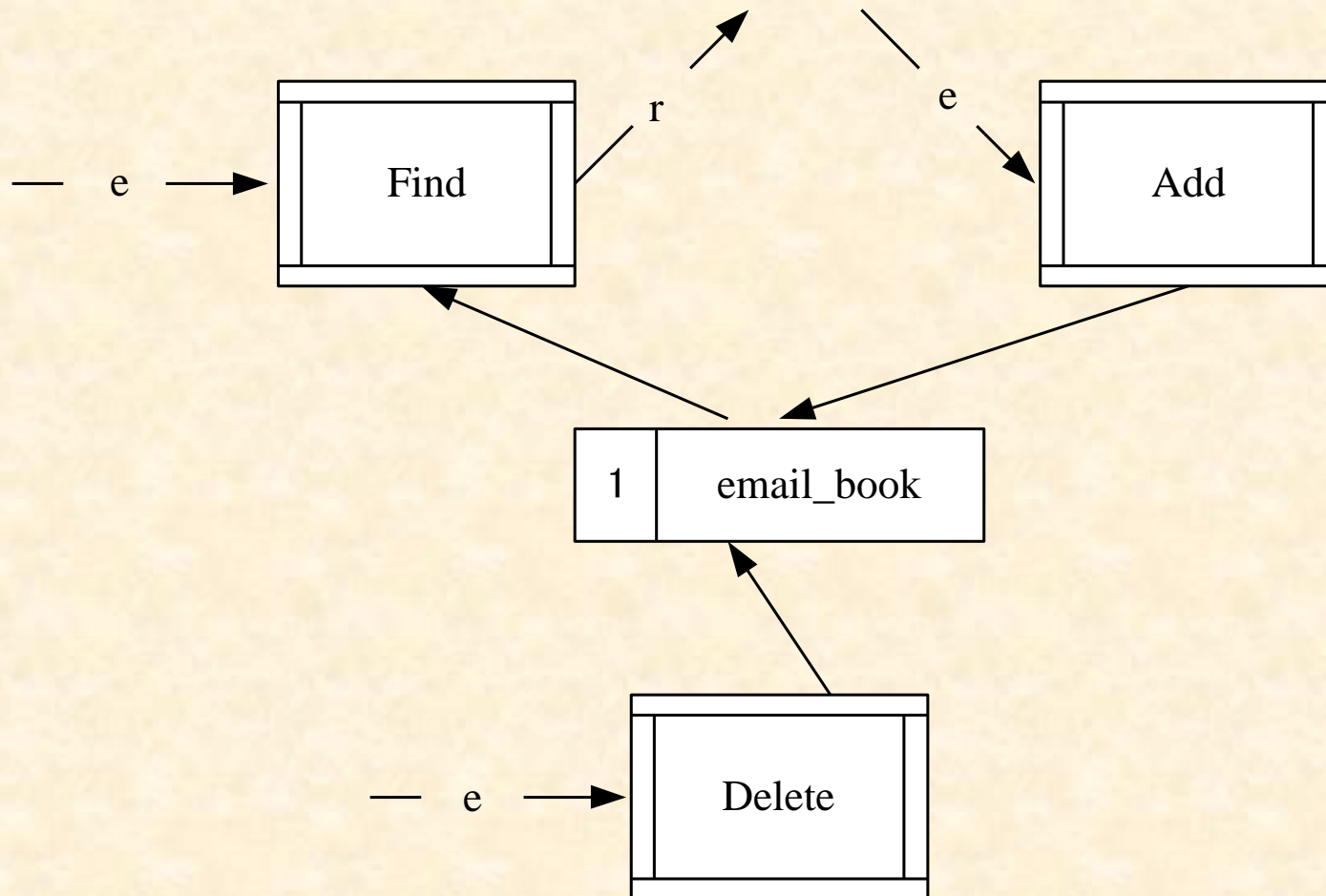


Figure 1

```
process Find(e: EmailAddress) r: bool
ext rd email_book
post r = (e inset email_book)
end_process;
```

```
process Add(e: EmailAddress)
ext wr email_book
pre e notin email_book
post email_book = union(~email_book, {e})
end_process;
```

```
process Delete(e: EmailAddress)
ext wr email_book
post email_book = diff(~email_book, {e})
end_process;
end_module;
```

# Class exercise 5

1. Let  $s1 = \{5, 15, 25\}$ ,  $s2 = \{15, 30, 50\}$ ,  
 $s3 = \{30, 2, 8\}$ , and  $s = \{s1, s2, s3\}$ .

Evaluate the expressions:

- a.  $\text{card}(s1)$
- b.  $\text{card}(s)$
- c.  $\text{union}(s1, s2)$
- d.  $\text{diff}(s2, s3)$
- e.  $\text{inter}(\text{union}(s2, s3), s1)$
- f.  $\text{dunion}(s)$
- g.  $\text{dinter}(s)$
- h.  $\text{inter}(\text{union}(s1, s3), \text{diff}(s2, \text{union}(s1, s3)))$



2. Construct a module to model a telephone book containing a set of telephone numbers. The necessary processes are **Add**, **Find**, **Delete**, and **Update**. The process **Add** adds a new telephone number to the book; **Find** tells whether a given telephone number is available or not in the book; **Delete** eliminates a given telephone number from the book; and **Update** replaces an old telephone number with a new number in the book.
3. Write a specification for a process **Merge**. The process takes two groups of students and merge them into one group. Since the merged group will be taught by a different professor, the students from both groups may drop from the merged group (but exactly which students will drop is unknown).

# Sequence and string types

## Contents:

- What is a sequence?
- Sequence type declarations
- Constructors and operators on sequences
- Specifications using sequences

# What is a sequence?

A sequence is an **ordered** collection of objects that allows **multiple occurrences of the same object**. As with sets, the objects are known as **elements** of the sequence.

Examples:

(1) [5, 15, 15, 5, 35]

(2) ['u', 'n', 'i', 'v', 'e', 'r', 's', 'i', 't', 'y']

(3) [20.5, 40.5, 85.5]

# The “string” type

A string is a special sequence in the sense that its all elements are only characters. In other words, a string is a sequence of characters.

We use the keyword `string` to denote the type that contains all the possible strings.

Examples of strings:

`"university"`

`"sofl@yahoo.ac.jp"`

`"Formal Engineering Methods"`

# Sequence type declarations

A sequence type **A** is declared based on an element type **T** in the following format:

**A = seq of T**

Example:

**Ages = seq of nat**

Then, we can declare a variable of type Ages:

**student\_ages: Ages**

# Constructors and operators on sequences

A sequence can be created using either sequence constructors or operators.

## 1. Constructors

There are two constructors: `sequence enumeration` and `sequence comprehension`.

## (2.1) Sequence enumeration

A sequence enumeration has the format:

$[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$

where  $a_i$  ( $i=1..n$ ) are the elements of the sequence.

Example:

$[5, 9, 8, 9, 5]$

The order and the occurrences of the elements are significant. Thus:

$[5, 9] \neq [9, 5]$  and

$[5, 9, 5] \neq [5, 9]$



## (2.2) Sequence comprehension

A sequence comprehension takes the format:

$$[e(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1: T_1, x_2: T_2, \dots, x_n: T_n \\ \& P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)]$$

The sequence comprehension defines a sequence whose elements are derived from the evaluation of expression  $e(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  under the condition that  $x_1$  takes values from type  $T_1$ ,  $x_2$  from  $T_2$ , ...,  $x_n$  from  $T_n$ , and all of these values satisfy property  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

Note that all the types  $T_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are countable numeric types and the elements of the sequence must occur in the **ascending** order. For example,

$$[i * j \mid i: \text{nat}, j: \text{nat} \& 1 \leq i + j \leq 3] = [1, 2, 2]$$

As with the set notation, we also use the following special notation to represent a sequence of integer interval from  $i$  to  $j$ :

$$[i, \dots, j] = [x \mid x: \text{int} \ \& \ i \leq x \leq j]$$

Thus:

$$[3, \dots, 6] = [3, 4, 5, 6]$$

$$[-2, \dots, 2] = [-2, -1, 0, 1, 2]$$

$$[0, \dots, 4] = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]$$

However, if index  $j$  is smaller than  $i$ ,  $[i, \dots, j]$  will represents the empty sequence  $[ ]$ . For example,

$$[9, \dots, 2] = [ ]$$

## 2. Operators

All the operators are applicable to variables of **string** type as well.

### 2.1 Length (**len**)

The length of a sequence means the number of its elements.

**len: seq of T --> nat0**

**len(s) == the number of its elements.**

Examples: let **s1 = [4, 9, 10]**, **s2 = [{3, 9}, {6}]**,  
**s3 = [10, 9, 4, 25]**, and **s4 = "university"**.

Then:

**len(s1) = 3**

**len(s2) = 2**

**len(s3) = 4**

**len(s4) = 10**

## 2.2 Sequence application

A sequence can apply to an index, a natural number, to yield the element occurring at the position indicated by the index.

Let  $s$  be a sequence of type  $\text{seq of } T$ . Then,  $s$  can be regarded as a function from  $\text{nat}$  to  $T$ :

$$\text{seq of } T * \text{nat} \rightarrow T$$
$$s(i) == \text{the } i\text{th element of sequence } s$$

The precondition for applying  $s$  to an index  $i$  (i.e.,  $s(i)$ ) is that index  $i$  is within the range of  $1$  to  $\text{len}(s)$ . Otherwise, if  $i$  is beyond this range, the sequence application  $s(i)$  is **undefined**.

Examples: let  $s1 = [4, 9, 10]$ ,  $s2 = [\{3, 9\}, \{6\}]$ ,  
 $s3 = [10, 9, 4, 25]$ , and  $s4 = \text{"university"}$ .

Then:

$$s1(1) = 4$$

$$s1(2) = 9$$

$$s2(1) = \{3, 9\}$$

$$s3(4) = 25$$

$$s4(5) = 'e'$$

## 2.3 Subsequence

A subsequence of a sequence is part of the sequence.

Let  $s$  be a sequence of type  $\text{seq of } T$ , and  $i$  and  $j$  are two indexes. Then the subsequence of  $s$  that keeps the elements in the same order as they are in  $s$  is denoted as:

$$\text{seq of } T * \text{nat} * \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{seq of } T$$
$$s(i, j) == [s(i), s(i + 1), \dots, s(j - 1), s(j)]$$

Examples:

$$s1(2, 3) = [9, 10] \quad s1(1, 3) = s1$$
$$s3(2, 4) = [9, 4, 25] \quad s4(2, 8) = \text{"niversi"}$$

## 2.4 Head (hd)

The head of a non-empty sequence is its first element.

hd(s: seq of T) he: T

pre s <> []

post he = s(1)

If s is the empty sequence, hd(s) is undefined.

For example, let s1 = [4, 9, 10], s2 = [{3, 9}, {6}],  
s3 = [10, 9, 4, 25], and s4 = "university".

hd(s1) = 4,    hd(s2) = {3, 9},    hd(s3) = 10,  
hd(s4) = 'u'



## 2.5 Tail (tl)

The tail of a non-empty sequence is its subsequence resulting from eliminating its head.

$tl(s: \text{seq of } T) \text{ ts: seq of } T$

$\text{pre } s \neq []$

$\text{post ts} = s(2, \text{len}(s))$

The application of the operator **tl** to the empty sequence is undefined, that is,  $tl([]) = \text{nil}$ .

For example: let  $s1 = [4, 9, 10]$ ,  $s2 = [\{3, 9\}, \{6\}]$ ,  
 $s3 = [10, 9, 4, 25]$ , and  $s4 = \text{"university"}$ .

$tl(s1) = [9, 10]$ ,  $tl(s2) = [\{6\}]$ ,

$tl(s3) = [9, 4, 25]$ ,  $tl(s4) = \text{"niversity"}$

## 2.6 Elements (**elems**)

The operator for obtaining the set of all the elements of a sequence is **elems** that is defined as:

**elems**: seq of T --> set of T

**elems**(s) == {x | x: T &  
(exists[i: {1, ..., len(s)}] | x = s(i))}

Since the result of **elems**(s) is a set, not a sequence, no duplication of elements of **s** is allowed.

For example, let **s1** = [4, 9, 10], **s2** = [{3, 9}, {6}],  
**s3** = [10, 9, 4, 25], and **s4** = "university".

Then,

**elems**(s1) = {4, 9, 10}    **elems**(s2) = {{3, 9}, {6}}

**elems**(s3) = {10, 9, 4, 25}

**elems**([5, 10, 5, 10, 15]) = {5, 10, 15}

**elems**(s4) = {'u', 'n', 'i', 'v', 'e', 'r', 's', 'i', 't', 'y'}

**elems**([ ]) = { }.

## 2.7 Indexes (**inds**)

A sequence corresponds to a set of natural numbers that indicates the positions of the elements of the sequence. Such a set is known as index set.

**inds**: seq of T --> set of nat

**inds**(s) == {i | i: nat & exists[ x: elems(s)] | s(i) = x}

It is obvious that the index set of the empty sequence is the empty set.

Furthermore, the cardinality of **inds**(s) is equal to the length of sequence **s**, but may be greater than the number of the elements of set **elems**(s) due to the possibility of having duplicated elements in **s**.

For example, let  $s1 = [4, 9, 10]$ ,  
 $s2 = [\{3, 9\}, \{6\}]$ ,  
 $s3 = [10, 9, 4, 25]$ ,  
 $s4 = \text{"university"}$ .

Then:

$$\text{inds}(s1) = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\text{inds}(s2) = \{1, 2\}$$

$$\text{inds}(s3) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$\text{inds}(s4) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$$

The index set is often used when describing a property of a sequence. Consider the example:

$$\text{exists}[i: \text{inds}(s)] \mid s(i) > 5$$

This quantified expression describes a property of sequence  $s$ , requiring that  $s$  has at least one element greater than 5.

## 2.8 Concatenation (`conc`)

Sequences can be concatenated to form another sequence.

```
conc(s_1: seq of T, s_2: seq of T) cs: seq of T
post (forall[i: inds(s_1)] | cs(i) = s_1(i)) and
      (forall[j: inds(s_2)] | cs(j + len(s_1)) = s_2(j)) and
      len(cs) = len(s_1) + len(s_2)
```

The concatenation of sequences `s_1` and `s_2` is formed by appending `s_2` to the end of `s_1`.

Examples:

$\text{conc}(s_1, s_3) = [4, 9, 10, 10, 9, 4, 25]$

$\text{conc}(s_4, s_4) = \text{"universityuniversity"}$

The concatenation of sequences is not commutative. Thus:

$\text{conc}(s_1, s_3) \neq \text{conc}(s_3, s_1)$

The concatenation operator **conc** can be extended to deal with more than two sequences.

Thus:

$\text{conc}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) = \text{conc}(s_1, \text{conc}(s_2, \text{conc}(s_3, \dots)))$

For example, let  $s1 = [5, 15, 25]$ ,  
 $s2 = [10, 20, 30, 40]$ ,  
 $s3 = [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]$ .

Then:

$\text{conc}(s1, s2, s3) = [5, 15, 25,$   
 $10, 20, 30, 40,$   
 $2, 4, 6, 8, 10]$



## 2.9 Distributed concatenation (**dconc**)

Let **S** be a sequence of sequences:

$$\mathbf{S} = [s\_1, s\_2, \dots, s\_n]$$

where each  $s\_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) is a sequence.

**dconc**: seq of seq of T --> seq of T

$$\mathbf{dconc}(\mathbf{S}) == \mathbf{conc}(s\_1, s\_2, \dots, s\_n)$$

Example: let  $\mathbf{S1} = [[5, 15, 25], [10, 20, 30, 40],$   
 $[2, 4, 6, 8, 10]]$

Then

$$\mathbf{dconc}(\mathbf{S1}) = [5, 15, 25, 10, 20, 30, 40,$$
  
 $2, 4, 6, 8, 10]$

## 2.10 Equality and inequality (= and <>)

Sequences can be compared to determine whether they are identical or not.

$$s\_1 = s\_2 \iff (\text{len}(s\_1) = \text{len}(s\_2) \text{ and } \text{forall}[i: \text{inds}(s\_1)] \mid s\_1(i) = s\_2(i))$$
$$s\_1 \neq s\_2 \iff \text{not } s\_1 = s\_2$$

Examples: let  $s1 = [5, 15, 25]$ ,  $s2 = [10, 20, 30, 40]$ ,  
 $s3 = [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]$ .

Then:

$$s1 = s1 \iff \text{true} \quad s1 \neq s2 \iff \text{true}$$
$$s2 = s3 \iff \text{false}$$

# Specifications using sequences

## 1. Sorting of an integer sequence

Example:  $\sim\text{list} = [3, 5, 8, 5, 9, 3, 10, 5]$

$\text{list} = [3, 3, 5, 5, 5, 8, 9, 10]$

```
module SortingOfIntegerSequence;
```

```
var
```

```
  list: seq of int;
```

```
process Sort()
```

```
ext wr list: seq of int
```

```
pre true
```

```
post Is_Permutation( $\sim\text{list}$ , list) and Is_Ordered(list)
```

```
comment
```

After the sorting, the final list must maintain the same elements including their all occurrences and keep their elements in the ascending order.

```
end_process;
```

```
function Is_Permutation(l1, l2: seq of int): bool
== forall[e: union(elems(l1), elems(l2))] |
    card({i | i: inds(l1) & l1(i) = e}) =
    card({i | i: inds(l2) & l2(i) = e})
end_function;
```

```
function Is_Ordered(l: seq of int): bool
== forall[i,j: inds(l)] | i < j => l(i) <= l(j)
end_function;
```

The characteristic of this specification is that it **says nothing about how to sort the integer sequence list**, but focuses on the **relation between the initial list (i.e., ~list) and the final list**.

## 2. Membership Management System

```
module MembershipManagementSystem;
```

```
  type
```

```
    Member = string; /* A member is denoted by its name  
                        which is a string of characters */
```

```
  var
```

```
    all_members: seq of Member;
```

```
  process Register(m: Member)
```

```
  ext wr all_members
```

```
  post all_members = conc(~all_members, [m])
```

```
  comment
```

The function of recording the member  $m$  in the member list  $all\_members$  is specified by defining the  $all\_members$  after the process as the concatenation of the  $all\_members$  before the process and the sequence composed of member  $m$ .

```
  end_process;
```

```
process Search(m: Member) pos: set of nat
```

```
ext rd all_members
```

```
post pos = {i | i: nat & all_members(i) = m}
```

```
comment
```

Finding all the positions of member m in the member list all\_members is modeled by a set comprehension.

```
end_process;
```



```
process Exchange(pos1, pos2: nat)
ext wr all_members
pre pos1 inset inds(all_members) and pos2
    inset inds(all_members)
post all_members(pos1) = ~all_members(pos2) and
    all_members(pos2) = ~all_members(pos1) and
    forall[i | i: inds(all_members)] &
        i <> pos1 and i <> pos2 =>
        all_members(i) = ~all_members(i)
comment This process only exchanges the
members at position pos1 and pos2, and keeps the
rest of the members unchanged in the list.
end_process;
end_module.
```



# Class exercise 6

1. Given a set  $T = \{1, 2, 5\}$ , declare a sequence type based on  $T$ , and list up to 5 possible sequence values in the type.
2. Evaluate the sequence comprehensions:
  - a.  $[x \mid x: \text{nat} \ \& \ 3 < x < 8]$
  - b.  $[y \mid y: \text{nat0} \ \& \ y \leq 3]$
  - c.  $[x * x \mid x: \text{nat}, y: \text{nat} \ \& \ 1 \leq x \leq 3]$
3. Let  $s1 = [5, 15, 25]$ ,  $s2 = [15, 30, 50]$ ,  $s3 = [30, 2, 8]$ , and  $s = [s1, s2, s3]$ . Evaluate the expressions:
  - a.  $\text{hd}(s1)$
  - b.  $\text{hd}(s)$
  - c.  $\text{len}(\text{tl}(s1)) + \text{len}(\text{tl}(s2)) + \text{len}(\text{tl}(s3))$
  - d.  $\text{len}(s1) + \text{len}(s2) - \text{len}(s3)$
  - e.  $\text{union}(\text{elems}(s1), \text{elems}(s2))$
  - f.  $\text{inter}(\text{union}(\{\text{hd}(s2)\}, \text{elems}(s3)), \text{elems}(s1))$
  - g.  $\text{union}(\text{inds}(s1), \text{inds}(s2), \text{inds}(s3))$
  - h.  $\text{elems}(\text{conc}(s1, s2, s3))$
  - i.  $\text{dconc}(s)$

4. Construct a module to model a queue of integers with the processes: **Append**, **Eliminate**, **Read**, and **Count**. The process **Append** adds a new element to the queue; **Eliminate** deletes the top element of the queue; **Read** tells what is the top element; and **Count** yields the number of the elements in the queue.

# Composite and product types

## Contents:

- Composite types
  - Constructing a composite type
    - Constructor
  - Operators
  - Comparison
- Product types
- Examples of specification

# Composite types

A composite object usually contains several fields, each describing the different aspect of the object. A composite object is like a record in Pascal and structure in C. A composite type provides a set of composite objects.

A composite type is constructed using the type constructor: **composed of ... end.**

The general form of a composite type declaration:

```
A = composed of  
    f_1: T_1  
    f_2: T_2  
    ...  
    f_n: T_n  
end
```

where  $f_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are variables called **fields** and  $T_i$  are their types. Each field represents an attribute of the composite object of the type. A value of a composite type is called **composite object** (or **composite value**).

A variable **co** of composite type **A** can be declared in one of the following forms:

(1) **co: A**

(2) **co: composed of**

**f\_1: T\_1**

**f\_2: T\_2**

**...**

**f\_n: T\_n**

**end**

Example: type declaration:

```
Account = composed of  
    account_no: nat  
    password: nat  
    balance: real  
end
```

Variable declaration:

```
account: Account
```



## (1) Constructor

Only one constructor known as **make-function** is available for composite types. The format:

$$\text{mk\_A}(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

The make-function yields a composite value of composite type **A** whose field values are **v<sub>i</sub>** (**i = 1, ..., n**) that corresponds to fields **f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>, ..., f<sub>n</sub>**, respectively. For example,

$$\text{account} = \text{mk\_Account}(1073548, 1234, 5000)$$

## (2) Operators

### (2.1) Field select

Let **co** be a variable of composite type **A**.  
Then, we use

**co.f<sub>i</sub>**

to represent the field **f<sub>i</sub>** ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) of the composite object **co**.

Examples:

**account.password**  
**account.balance**

## (2.2) Field modification (`modify`)

Given a composite value, say `co`, of type `A`, we can apply the field modification operator `modify` to create another composite value of the same type.

`modify(co, f_1 -> v_1, f_2 -> v_2, ..., f_n -> v_n)`

Example:

let `account = mk_Account(1073548, 1234, 5000)`

Then, we can have the expression:

`account1 = modify(account, password -> 4321)`

### (3) Comparison

Two composite values can be compared to determine whether they are identical or not.

Examples:

```
mk_Account(1073548, 1234, 5000) =  
    mk_Account(1073548, 1234, 5000)
```

```
mk_Account(1073548, 1234, 5000) <>  
    mk_Account(1073548, 4321, 5000)
```

# Product types

A product type defines a set of tuples with a fixed length.

Let  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  be  $n$  types.

Then, a product type  $T$  is declared as follows:

$$T = T_1 * T_2 * \dots * T_n$$

A value of  $T$  is created using the make-function:

$$\text{mk}_T(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

Example:

Suppose type **Date** is declared as:

$$\text{Date} = \text{nat0} * \text{nat0} * \text{nat0}$$

Then

**mk\_Date(1999, 7, 25)**

**mk\_Date(2000, 8, 30)**

**mk\_Date(2001, 7, 10)**

are the values of type **Date**.

# Examples: the use of tuples:

d: Date;

d = mk\_Date(1999, 7, 25)

d = mk\_Date(2000, 8, 30)

d = mk\_Date(2001, 7, 10)



There are two operators on tuples: **tuple application** and **tuple modification**.

(1) A tuple application yields an element of the given position in the tuple, whose general format is:

$$a(i): T * \text{nat} \rightarrow T_i$$

where **a** is a variable of product type **T**; **i** is a natural number indicating the position of the element referred to in tuple **a**; and **T<sub>i</sub>** denotes the **ith** type in the declaration of **T**.

For example, let

`date1 = mk_Date(1999, 7, 25)`

`date2 = mk_Date(2000, 8, 30)`

Then, the following results can be derived:

`date1(1) = 1999`

`date1(2) = 7`

`date1(3) = 25`

`date2(1) = 2000`

`date2(2) = 8`

`date2(3) = 30`

A tuple can also be directly used in applications.

Examples:

`mk_Date(2000, 8, 30)(2) = 8`

`mk_Date(2000, 8, 30)(3) = 30`

(2) A tuple modification is similar to a composite value modification. The same operator **modify** is also used for tuple modification, but with slightly different syntax:

$$\text{modify: } T * T\_1 * T\_2 * \dots * T\_n \rightarrow T$$
$$\text{modify}(tv, 1 \rightarrow v\_1, 2 \rightarrow v\_2, \dots, n \rightarrow v\_n)$$

where  $T$  is a product type,  $T\_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ ) are the element types. This operation yields a tuple of the same type based on the given tuple  $tv$ , with the first element being  $v\_1$ , the second element being  $v\_2$ , and so on.

Examples:

$$\text{modify}(\text{mk\_Date}(2000, 8, 30), 1 \rightarrow 2001, 3 \rightarrow 20) =$$
$$\text{mk\_Date}(2001, 8, 20)$$
$$\text{modify}(\text{mk\_Date}(2001, 8, 20), 2 \rightarrow 15) =$$
$$\text{mk\_Date}(2001, 15, 20)$$

# An example of specification

Suppose we want to build a table to record students' credits resulting from two courses:

personal data	course1	course2	total
Helen,0001,A3	2	2	4
John, 0002,A2	0	2	2
...	...	...	...

We aim to build several processes on this kind of table.

This table can be perceived as a sequence of student data. That is,

$$T = [\text{OneStudent1}, \text{OneStudent2}, \dots, \text{OneStudentn}]$$

```
module Students_Record;
```

type

CourseCredit = nat0;

TotalCredit = nat0;

```
PersonalData = composed of
    name: string
    id: nat0
    class: string
end;
```

```
OneStudent = PersonalData * CourseCredit * CourseCredit *
              TotalCredit;
```

```
StudentsTable = seq of OneStudent;
```

var

```
students_table: StudentsTable;
```

inv

```
forall[i, j: inds(students_table)] | i <> j => students_table(i)(1).id <>
students_table(j)(1).id);
```



```
process Search(search_id: nat0)
    info: OneStudent
ext rd students_table
pre exists[i: inds(students_table)] |
    students_table(i)(1).id = search_id
post exists[i: inds(students_table)] |
    students_table(i)(1).id = search_id and
    info = students_table(i)]
end_process;
```

```
process Update(one_student: OneStudent, credit1,  
               credit2: CourseCredit)  
ext wr students_table  
pre exists[i: inds(students_table)] |  
    students_table(i) = one_student  
post len(students_table) = len(~students_table) and  
    forall[i: inds(~students_table)] |  
        (~students_table(i) = one_student =>  
            students_table(i) =  
                modify(~students_table(i), 2 -> credit1,  
                    3 -> credit2,  
                    4 -> credit1 + credit2)) and  
        (~students_table(i) <> one_student =>  
            students_table(i) = ~students_table(i))  
end_process;  
end_module;
```

# Class exercise 7

1. Let  $a = \text{mk\_Account}(010, 300, 5000)$ , where the type Account is defined as follows:

```
Account = composed of
    account_no: nat1
    password: nat1
    balance: real
end
```

Then evaluate the expressions:

- a.  $a.\text{account\_no} = ?$
- b.  $a.\text{password} = ?$
- c.  $a.\text{balance} = ?$
- d.  $\text{modify}(a, \text{password} \rightarrow 250) = ?$
- e.  $\text{modify}(\text{mk\_Account}(020, 350, 4050), \text{account\_no} \rightarrow 100, \text{balance} \rightarrow 6000) = ?$

3. Let  $x$  be a variable of the type `Date` defined as follows:

$\text{Date} = \text{nat0} * \text{nat0} * \text{nat0}$

Let  $x = \text{mk\_Date}(2002, 2, 6)$ .

Then evaluate the expressions:

- a.  $x(1) = ?$
- b.  $x(2) = ?$
- c.  $x(3) = ?$
- d.  $\text{modify}(x, 1 \rightarrow 2003)$
- e.  $\text{modify}(x, 2 \rightarrow 5, 3 \rightarrow 29)$
- f.  $\text{modify}(x, 1 \rightarrow x(1), 2 \rightarrow x(2))$

4. Define a composite type **Student** that has the fields: **name**, **date\_of\_birth**, **college**, and **grade**. Write specifications for the processes: **Register**, **Change\_Name**, **Get\_Info**. The **Register** takes a value of **Student** and adds it to the external variable **student\_list**, which is a sequence of students. **Change\_Name** updates the name of a given student with a new name in **student\_list**. **Get\_Info** provides all the available field values of a given student in **student\_list**.

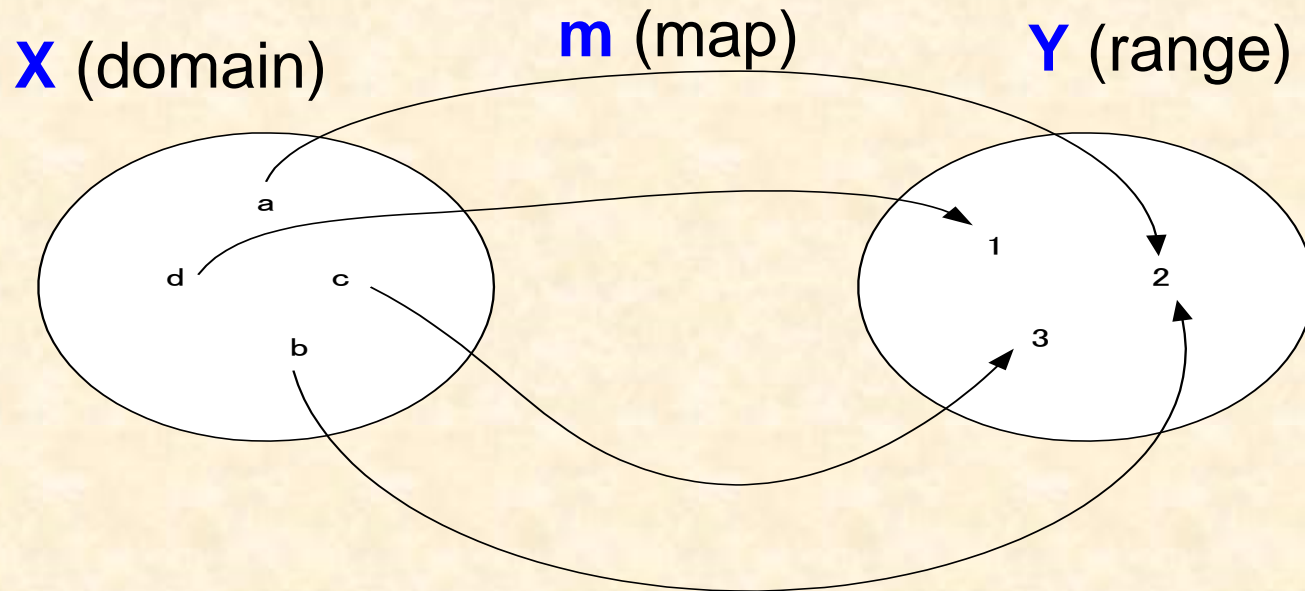
# Map types

## Contents:

- What is a map?
- The type constructor
- Operators
- Specification using maps

# What is a map?

A **map** is a **finite set of pairs**, describing an association between two sets. It is a special **function**.



**forall** $[x1, x2: X] \mid x1 \neq x2 \text{ and } m(x1) \in Y \text{ and } m(x2) \in Y$   
**=>**  $m(x1) \neq m(x2)$

A **map** (or sometimes we call it "**map value**") is represented with a notation similar to the set notation:

$$\{a_1 \rightarrow b_1, a_2 \rightarrow b_2, \dots, a_n \rightarrow b_n\}$$

Each  $a_i \rightarrow b_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) denotes a pair which is known as **maplet**.

For example, the map illustrated in the Figure on the previous slide is expressed as follows:

$$\{a \rightarrow 2, b \rightarrow 2, c \rightarrow 3, d \rightarrow 1\}$$

An **empty map** is expressed as:

$$\{->\}$$



## Important property:

A map usually describes a **many-to-one** association: it allows the mapping from many elements in the domain to the same element in the range, but **does not allow the mapping from the same element in the domain to different elements in the range.**

# The type declaration

A map type **T** is declared based on the **domain type T1** and the **range type T2** in the following format:

**T = map T1 to T2**

**T** contains all the possible maps that associate values in **T1** with the values in **T2**.

Another example:

$A = \text{map nat to char}$

declares a map type  $A$  whose domain type is  $\text{nat}$  and range type is  $\text{char}$ .

Examples: possible  $\text{maps}$  (or map values) of type  $A$ :

$\{1 \rightarrow 'a', 2 \rightarrow 'b', 3 \rightarrow 'c', 4 \rightarrow 'd'\}$

$\{5 \rightarrow 'u', 15 \rightarrow 'v', 25 \rightarrow 'w'\}$

$\{10 \rightarrow 'x', 20 \rightarrow 'y'\}$

$\{50 \rightarrow 'r'\}$

$\{- \rightarrow \}$

Note that: **domain type** and **range type** of a map type **can be an infinite set**, although **a concrete map value** derived from the map type **must** contain only **finite maplets** (elements of a map).

# Operators

## (1) Constructors

Two constructors: `map enumeration` and `map comprehension`.

### (1.1) Map enumeration

The general format:

`{a_1 -> b_1, a_2 -> b_2, ..., a_n -> b_n}`

Examples:

`{3 -> 'a', 8 -> 'b', 10 -> 'c'}`

`{"Beijing Jiaotong University" -> "China", "Hosei University" -> "Japan",  
"University of Manchester" -> "U.K."}`

`{1 -> s(1), 2 -> s(2), 3 -> s(3)}`

## (1.2) Map comprehension

$\{a \rightarrow b \mid a: T1, b: T2 \ \& \ P(a, b)\}$                       or

$\{a \rightarrow b \mid P(a, b)\}$

Example:

$\{x \rightarrow y \mid x: \{5, 10, 15\}, y: \{10, 20, 30\} \ \& \ y = 2 * x\} =$   
 $\{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$

defines a map.

The following map comprehension defines an illegal map:

$\{x \rightarrow y \mid x: \{1, 2, 3\}, y: \{5, 10, 15, 20\} \ \& \ y > x * 5\} =$   
 $\{1 \rightarrow 10, 1 \rightarrow 15, 1 \rightarrow 20, 2 \rightarrow 15, 2 \rightarrow 20, 3 \rightarrow 20\}$

Why?

## (2) Other operators

### (2.1) Map application

Let  $m$  be a map:

$m: \text{map } T1 \text{ to } T2;$

Then,  $m$  can be applied to an element in its domain to yield an element in its range.

Example:

$m(a)$

denotes an application to element  $a$  in its domain.



Example: let

$$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$$

Then

$$m1(5) = 10$$

$$m1(10) = 20$$

$$m1(15) = 30$$

Note that when  $m1$  applies to number 2, for example, the result of the application is undefined:

$$m1(2) = \text{undefined}.$$

## (2.2) Domain and range ( $\text{dom}$ , $\text{rng}$ )

Let  $m$  be a map:

$m$ : map  $T1$  to  $T2$ ;

Then, the  $\text{domain}$  of  $m$  is a  $\text{subset}$  of  $T1$  and its  $\text{range}$  is a  $\text{subset}$  of  $T2$ , which can be obtained by applying the operators  $\text{dom}$  and  $\text{rng}$ , respectively.

$\text{dom}$ : map  $T1$  to  $T2 \rightarrow \text{set of } T1$

Example:

let  $m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$

Then

$\text{dom}(m1) = \{5, 10, 15\}$

The range operator **rng** yields, when applied to a map, the set of the second elements of all the maplets in the map.

**rng: map T1 to T2 --> set of T2**

**$\text{rng}(m) == \{m(a) \mid a \text{ inset } \text{dom}(m)\}$**

Example: let  **$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$** .

Then,

**$\text{rng}(m1) = \{10, 20, 30\}$**

### (2.3) Domain and range restriction to (domrt, rngrt)

Given a map and a set, sometimes we may want to obtain the submap of the map whose domain or range is restricted to the set. Such operations are known as **domain restriction to** and **range restriction to**, respectively.

domrt: set of T1 \* map T1 to T2 --> map T1 to T2

$\text{domrt}(s, m) == \{a \rightarrow m(a) \mid a \text{ inset } \text{inter}(s, \text{dom}(m))\}$

rngrt: map T1 to T2 \* set of T2 --> map T1 to T2     $\text{rngrt}(m, s)$   
 $== \{a \rightarrow m(a) \mid m(a) \text{ inset } \text{inter}(s, \text{rng}(m))\}$

Examples: let

$$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$$

$$s1 = \{5, 10\}.$$

Then,

$$\text{domrt}(s1, m1) = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20\}$$

$$\text{rngrt}(m1, s1) = \{5 \rightarrow 10\}$$

## (2.4) Domain and range restriction by (domrb, rngrb)

In contrast to "domain restriction to" and "range restriction to" operations, sometimes we may want to derive a submap of a map whose domain or range is the subset of the domain or range of the map that is **disjointed with a given set**. Such operations are called **domain restriction by** and **range restriction by**, respectively.

domrb: set of T1 \* map T1 to T2 --> map T1 to T2  
 $\text{domrb}(s, m) == \{a \rightarrow m(a) \mid a \text{ inset diff}(\text{dom}(m), s)\}$

rngrb: map T1 to T2 \* set of T2 --> map T1 to T2  
 $\text{rngrb}(m, s) == \{a \rightarrow m(a) \mid m(a) \text{ inset diff}(\text{rng}(m), s)\}$

Examples: let

$$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$$

$$s1 = \{5, 10\}.$$

Then,

$$\text{domrb}(s1, m1) = \{15 \rightarrow 30\}$$

$$\text{rngrb}(m1, s1) = \{10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\}$$



## (2.5) Override (**override**)

Overriding is an operation for a union of two maps **m1** and **m2**, denoted by **override(m1, m2)**, with the restriction: if a maplet in map **m2** shares the first element with a maplet in **m1**, the resulting map only includes the maplet in **m2** as its element.

**override: map T1 to T2 \* map T1 to T2 -->**  
**map T1 to T2**

**override(m1, m2) == {a -> b |**  
**a: union(dom(m1), dom(m2)) &**  
**a inset dom(m2) => b = m2(a) and**  
**a notin dom(m2) => b = m1(a)}**

Example: let

$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20, 15 \rightarrow 30\},$

$m2 = \{10 \rightarrow 5, 15 \rightarrow 50, 4 \rightarrow 20\}.$

Then,

$\text{override}(m1, m2) =$

$\{10 \rightarrow 5, 15 \rightarrow 50, 4 \rightarrow 20, 5 \rightarrow 10\}$

Notice: **override** is not commutative, that is,

$\text{override}(m1, m2) \neq \text{override}(m2, m1)$

holds in general.

Example: compare **override**(m1, m2) to the following:

$\text{override}(m2, m1) = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 10 \rightarrow 20,$   
 $15 \rightarrow 30, 4 \rightarrow 20\}$

## (2.6) Map inverse (**inverse**)

Map inverse is an operation that yields a map from a given map by exchanging the first and second elements of every maplet of the given map.

**inverse: map T1 to T2 --> map T2 to T1**

**inverse(m) == {a --> b | a: rng(m), b: dom(m)  
& a = m(b)}**

Example: let  $m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 8 \rightarrow 20, 2 \rightarrow 30\}$

Then,

$$\text{inverse}(m1) = \{10 \rightarrow 5, 20 \rightarrow 8, 30 \rightarrow 2\}$$

However, if the map defines a **many-to-one** rather than **one-to-one** association between its domain and range, the application of the **inverse** operator is **undefined**.

## (2.7) Map composition (**comp**)

Map composition is an operation that forms a another map from two given maps.

**comp: map T1 to T2 \* map T2 to T3 -->  
map T1 to T3**

**comp(m1, m2) == {a -> b | a: dom(m1),  
b: rng(m2) &  
exists[x: rng(m1)] |  
x inset dom(m2) and  
x = m1(a) and b = m2(x)}**

Example: let

$$m1 = \{5 \rightarrow 10, 8 \rightarrow 20, 2 \rightarrow 4\},$$

$$m2 = \{10 \rightarrow 5, 15 \rightarrow 5, 4 \rightarrow 20\},$$

Then, the composition of  $m1$  and  $m2$  is:

$$\text{comp}(m1, m2) = \{5 \rightarrow 5, 2 \rightarrow 20\}$$

## (2.8) Equality and inequality ( $=$ , $\neq$ )

We use  $m1 = m2$  to mean  $m1$  is identical to  $m2$ ,  
and  $m1 \neq m2$  to mean  $m1$  is different from  $m2$ .

Formally,

$$\begin{aligned} m1 = m2 \iff & \text{dom}(m1) = \text{dom}(m2) \text{ and} \\ & \text{rng}(m1) = \text{rng}(m2) \text{ and} \\ & \text{forall}[a: \text{dom}(m1), b: \text{rng}(m1)] \mid \\ & \quad b = m1(a) \iff b = m2(a) \end{aligned}$$

$$m1 \neq m2 \iff \text{not } m1 = m2$$



# Specification using maps

Let us reconsider defining the type **Account** with a map type. Since **every customer's account number is unique** and it is common to allow **one customer to have only one account of the same kind in the same bank**, the **customer account can be modeled as a map** from the account number to the account data including password and balance.

Account = map AccountNumber to AccountData;

AccountNumber = nat;

AccountData = composed of  
                    password: nat  
                    balance: real  
                    end;

We then redefine the processes

Check\_Password, Withdraw, and Show\_Balance  
as follows:

```
process Check_Password(card_id: AccountNumber, pass: nat)
    confirm: bool

ext rd account_file: Account
post card_id inset dom(account_file) and
    account_file(card_id).password = pass and
    confirm = true
or
    card_id notin dom(account_file) and
    confirm = false

comment
    If the given account number card_id and password pass
    matches with the account_file, the output confirm becomes
    true; otherwise, it becomes false.

end_process;
```

```
process Withdraw(card_id: AccountNumber, amount: real)
    cash: real
    ext wr account_file: Account
    pre card_id inset dom(account_file) and amount <=
        account_file(card_id).balance
    post account_file = override(~account_file, {card_id ->
        mk_AccountData(~account_file(card_id).password,
            ~account_file(card_id).balance - amount)} and
        cash = amount
```

### comment

The precondition requires that the provided card\_id be registered in the account\_file and the requested amount to withdraw be less than or equal to the current balance. The updating of the current balance of the account with the account number card\_id is expressed by a map overriding operation: the updated balance is the result of subtracting the requested amount from the current balance.

```
end_process;
```

```
process Show_Balance(card_id:  
                        AccountNumber) bal: real  
ext rd account_file: Account  
pre card_id inset dom(account_file)  
post bal = account_file(card_id).balance  
comment
```

The account number card\_id must exist in the account\_file before the execution of the process. The assignment of the current balance to the output variable bal is reflected by a map application in the postcondition.

```
end_process;
```

# Class exercise 8

1. Let  $m1$  and  $m2$  be two maps of the map type from  $\text{nat0}$  to  $\text{nat0}$ ;

$m1 = \{1 \rightarrow 10, 2 \rightarrow 3, 3 \rightarrow 30\},$

$m2 = \{2 \rightarrow 40, 3 \rightarrow 1, 4 \rightarrow 80\},$  and  $s = \{1, 3\}.$

Then, evaluate the expressions:

a.  $\text{dom}(m1) = ?$

b.  $\text{dom}(m2) = ?$

c.  $\text{rng}(m1) = ?$

d.  $\text{rng}(m2) = ?$

e.  $\text{domrt}(s, m1) = ?$

f.  $\text{domrt}(s, m2) = ?$

g.  $\text{rngrt}(m1, s) = ?$

h.  $\text{rngrt}(m2, s) = ?$



- i.  $\text{domrb}(s, m1) = ?$
- j.  $\text{domrb}(s, m2) = ?$
- k.  $\text{rngrb}(m1, s) = ?$
- l.  $\text{rngrb}(m2, s) = ?$
- m.  $\text{override}(m1, m2) = ?$
- n.  $\text{override}(m2, m1) = ?$
- o.  $\text{inverse}(m1) = ?$
- p.  $\text{inverse}(m2) = ?$
- q.  $\text{comp}(m1, m2) = ?$
- r.  $\text{comp}(m2, m1) = ?$
- s.  $m1 = m2 \iff ?$
- t.  $m1 \nleftrightarrow m2 \iff ?$



2. Define **BirthdayBook** as a map type from the type **Person** (with the fields: **id**, **name**, and **age**) to the type **Birthday**, and specify the processes: **Register**, **Find**, **Delete**, and **Update**. All the processes access or update the external variable **birthday\_book** of the type **BirthdayBook**. The process **Register** adds a person's birthday to **birthday\_book**. **Find** detects the birthday for a person in **birthday\_book**. **Delete** eliminates the birthday of a person from **birthday\_book**. **Update** replaces the wrong birthday registered in **birthday\_book** with a correct birthday.

# The union types

A compound object may come from different types. For example, a component of a [world wide web home page](#) may contain normal text, pictures, audio data, and so on, each belonging to a different category. The [union types](#) allow us to define such compound objects.

The outline of this part:

- [Union type declaration](#)
- [Is function](#)
- [A specification with union types](#)

# Union type declaration

Let  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  be  $n$  types. Then, a union type  $T$  constituted from these types is declared in the format:

$$T = T_1 \mid T_2 \mid \dots \mid T_n$$

A value of  $T$  can come from one of the types  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$ .

It is important to keep  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  **disjoint** so that any value of type  $T$  can be precisely determined to belong to which constituent type.

Example:

Color = {<Red>, <Blue>, <Yellow>}

Key = char

Digits = set of nat

the union type Hybrid can then be declared as:

Hybrid = Color | Key | Digits

the following values belong to the type Hybrid:

<Red>

<Blue>

'b'

'5'

{10, 20, 100}

No operators can be built on a union type except the equality (=) and inequality (<>).

For example,

<Red> = <Blue> <=> false

<Red> <> {3, 5, 8} <=> true

'b' = 'b' <=> true

# is function

When writing specifications there may be a situation that requires a precise type of a given value. Such a type can be determined by applying a built-in function known as **is** function:

**is\_T(x)**

This function is a predicate that yields **true** when the type of value **x** is **T** (any type is possible); otherwise, it yields **false**.

Examples:

**is\_Color(<Red>) <=> true**

**is\_Hybrid(<Red>) <=> true**

# Specification with a union type

Suppose we want to write a program that scans a specification in SOFL and records different kinds of **tokens** in different tables. We first declare **Token** as a union type:

**Token = EnglishLetter | Identifier | SpecialCharacter**

where **EnglishLetter**, **Identifier**, and **SpecialCharacter** are supposed to have been declared before.



We then build a process `Record-Token` to record different tokens obtained by scanning the current text in different tables.

```
process Record-Token(token: Token)
  ext wr english_char_table: seq of EnglishLetter
    wr identifier_table: seq of Identifier
    wr special_char_table: seq of SpecialCharacter
  post (is_EnglishLetter(token) =>
    english_char_table = conc(~english_char_table, [token])) and
    (is_Identifier(token) =>
    identifier_table = conc(~identifier_table, [token])) and
    (is_SpecialCharacter(token) =>
    special_char_table = conc(~special_char_table, [token]))
  comment
    The token is recorded in the corresponding table.
end_process
```

# Class exercise 9

1. Define a union type **School** with the constituent types **ElementarySchool**, **JuniorHighSchool**, **HighSchool**, and **University**, assuming that all the constituent types are given types.
2. Let **s1** and **s2** be two variables of the type **set of Hybrid**. Let **s1** = {<Red>, 3, 'b'} and **s2** = {<Blue>, 'a', 'b', 9}. Evaluate the expressions:
  - a. **card(s1) = card(s2) <=> ?**
  - b. **union(s1, s2) = ?**
  - c. **inter(s1, s2) = ?**
  - d. **diff(s1, s2) = ?**

# Hierarchical CDFDs and Modules

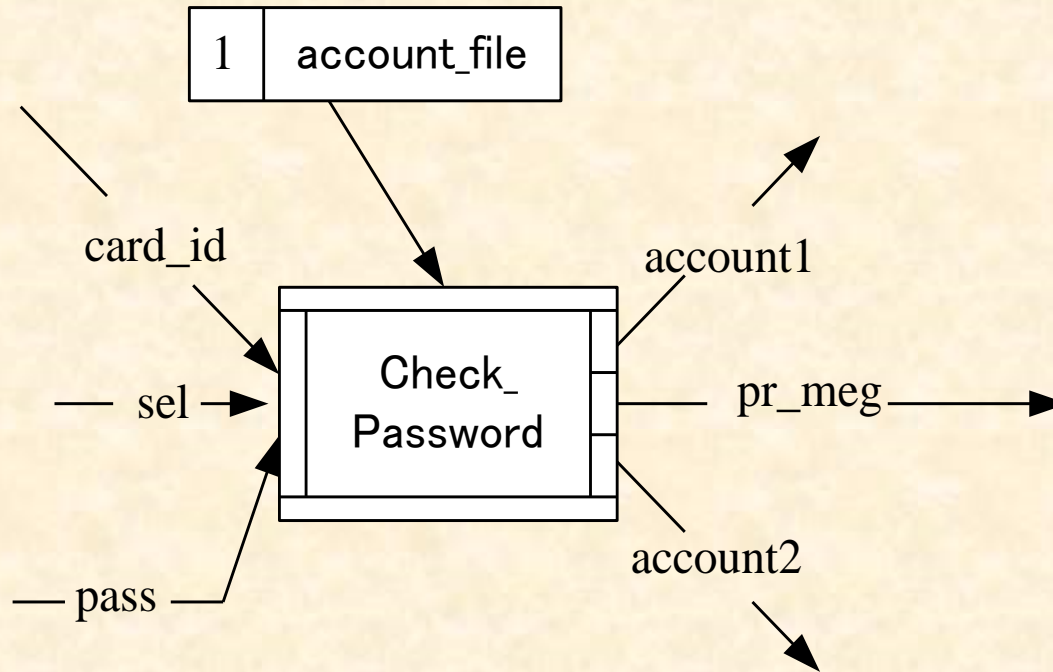
The motivation for building hierarchical CDFDs:

- It is almost impossible to construct only one level CDFD and module for a complex system.
- It is necessary to organize the developers within a team so that each of them can concentrate on a single part of the entire system independently and all the developers can conduct their activities concurrently.

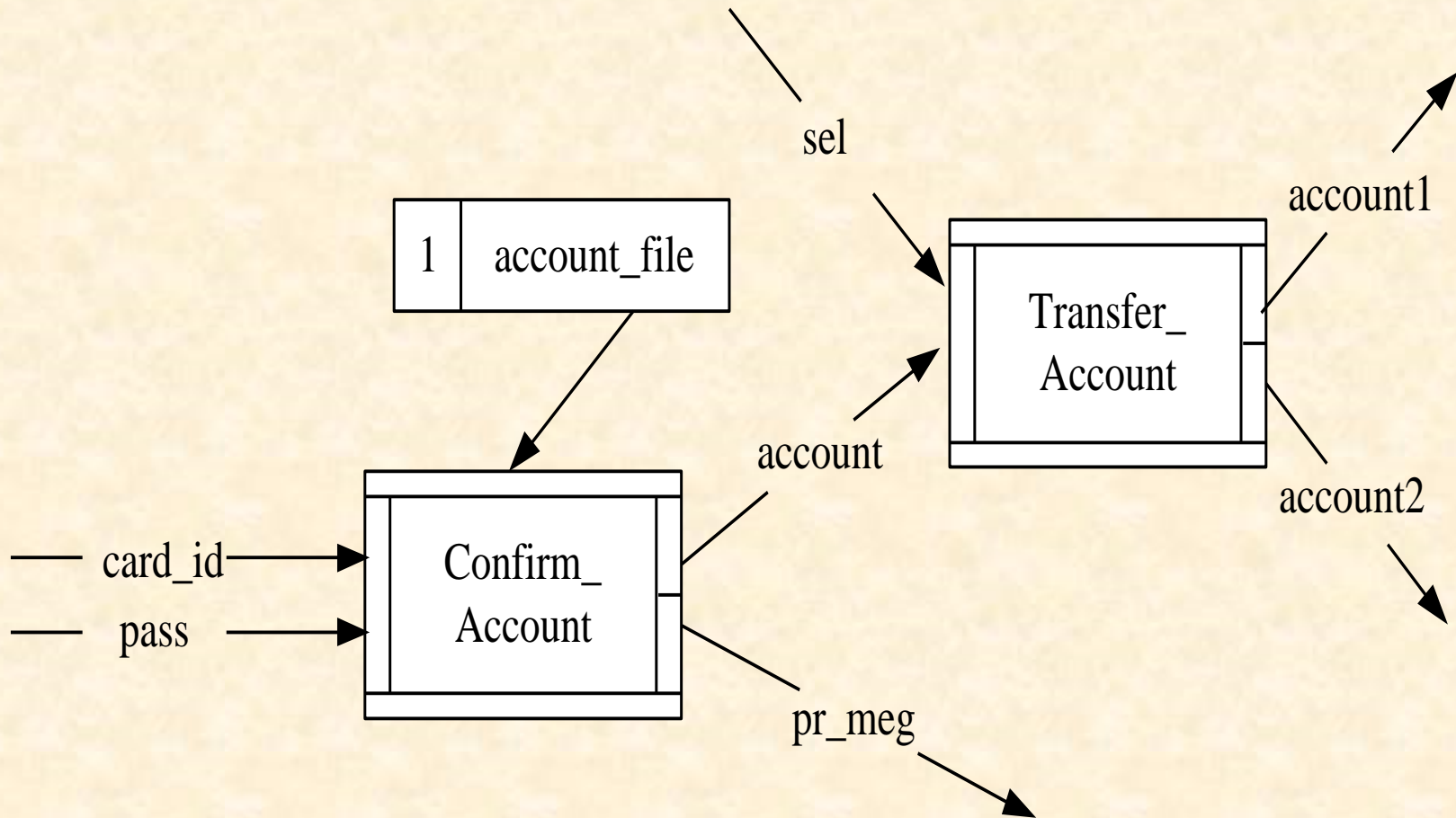
# Process decomposition

Process decomposition is an activity to break up a process into a lower level CDFD.

Example:



This process can be decomposed into the CDFD on the next slide:



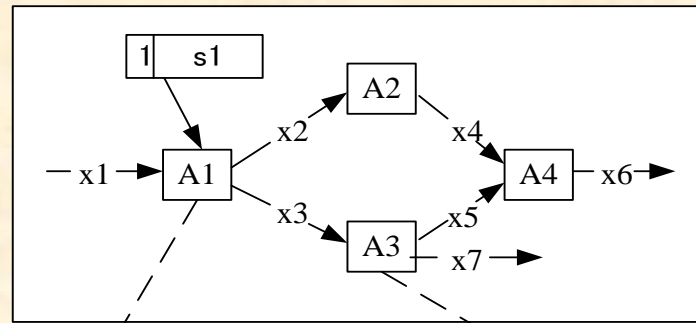
```
module Check_Password_decom / SYSTEM_ATM;
var  ext  account_file: set of Account;
behav CDFD_2; /* Assume the CDFD in Figure 2 is numbered
  2. */
process Init()
end_process;

process Confirm_Account(card_id: nat0, pass: nat0)
    account: Account | pr_meg: string
    ...
end_process;
process Transfer_Account(sel: bool, account: Account)
    account1: Account | account2: Account
    ...
end_process;
end_module;
```

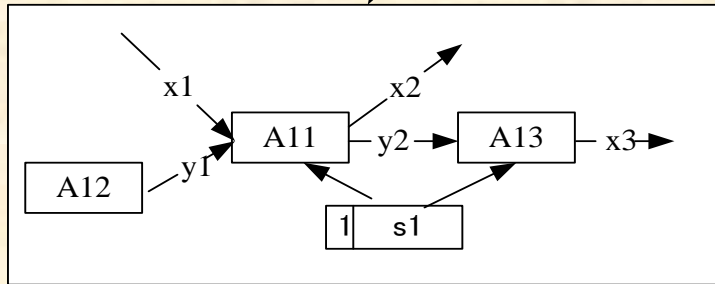
**Definition** If process **A** is decomposed into a CDFD, we call the CDFD the **decomposition** of process **A** and process **A** the **high level process** of the CDFD.

Decompositions can be carried out until all the lowest level processes are simple enough to be formally defined. As a result, a hierarchical CDFDs will be constructed.

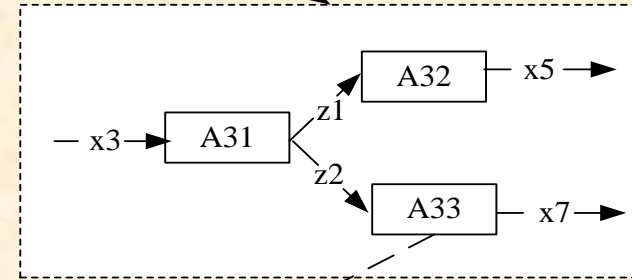




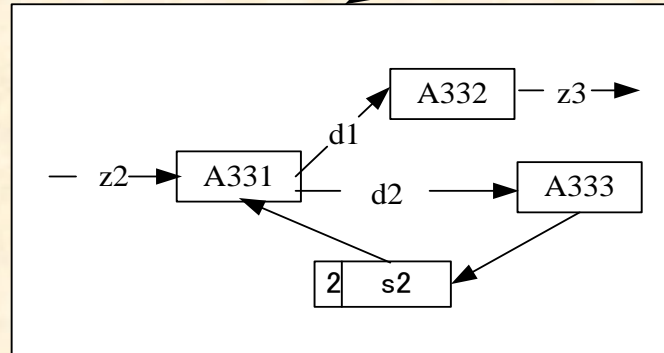
1



2



3



4

The associated module hierarchy of this CDFD hierarchy is outlined as follows:

```
module SYSTEM_Example;
```

```
...
```

```
var  s1: Type1;
```

```
behav CDFD_1;
```

```
process Init;
```

```
process A1
```

```
    decom: A1_decom; /*Module A1_decom is associated with the  
                      decomposition of A1. */
```

```
end_process;
```

```
process A2;
```

```
process A3
```

```
    decom: A3_decom; /*Module A3_decom is associated with the  
    decomposition          of A3. */
```

```
end_process;
```

```
process A4;
```

```
end_module;
```

```
module A1_decom;
```

```
...
```

```
var ext s1: Type1;
```

```
behav CDFD_2;
```

```
process Init;
```

```
process A11;
```

```
process A12;
```

```
process A13;
```

```
end_module;
```

```
module A3_decom;
```

```
...
```

```
behav CDFD_3;
```

```
process Init;
```

```
process A31;
```

```
process A32;
```

```
process A33
```

```
  decom: A33_decom; /*Module A33_decom is associated with the  
                    decomposition of A33. */
```

```
end_process;
```

```
end_module;
```

```
module A33_decom;
```

```
...
```

```
var s2: Type1;
```

```
behav CDFD_4;
```

```
process Init;
```

```
process A331;
```

```
process A332;
```

```
process A333;
```

```
end_module.
```

# Handling stores in decomposition

Generally speaking, a store accessed by a high level process must also be drawn in the decomposition of the process, and must be accessed in the same way, probably by several processes.

**Definition** An **external store** of a CDFD is a store that is accessed by a high level process of the entire specification.

There are two kinds of external stores:

- (1) **a store local to a high level CDFD**. Usually it is declared after the keyword **ext**.
- (2) **existing external store** that is global to all the CDFD in the hierarchy. Usually such stores are declared with the sharp mark, such as  
**ext #file: int**

**Definition** A **local store** of a CDFD is a store that is introduced for the first time in the CDFD.

# Scope

When defining a module, we may need to refer to some type or function or any components defined in another module. In this case, we need a scope rule to constrain the reference of those components.

To give a formal definition of the scope rule, we need the following definitions.



**Definition** Let process  $A$  be defined in module  $M1$ . If  $A$  is decomposed into a CDFD associated with module  $M2$ , we say that process  $A$  is decomposed into module  $M2$ .

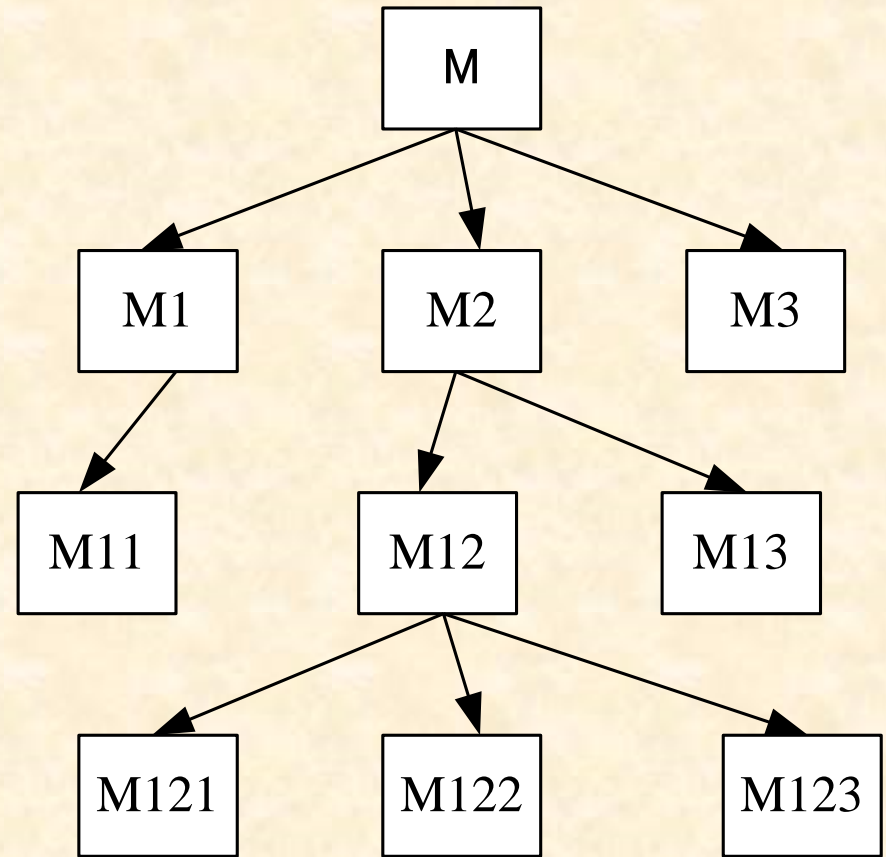
**Definition** If process  $A$  defined in module  $M1$  is decomposed into module  $M2$ ,  $M2$  is called child module of  $M1$ , while  $M1$  is called parent module of  $M2$ .

**Definition** Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  be a sequence of modules where  $n > 1$ . If  $A_1$  is the parent module of  $A_2$ , and  $A_2$  is the parent module of  $A_3$ , ..., and  $A_{n-1}$  is the parent module of  $A_n$ , then we call  $A_1$  ancestor module of  $A_n$  and  $A_n$  descendant module of  $A_1$ .

**Definition** If module **A** is neither ancestor module nor descendant module of module **B**, **A** and **B** are called **relative modules**.

Example:

- (1) **M2** is the parent module of **M12**.
- (2) **M2** is an ancestor module of **M122**.
- (3) **M11** and **M13** are relative modules. **M13** and **M121** are relative modules.



## Scope rules:

- Let  $M\_c$  be a type or constant identifier declared in module  $M1$ . Then, the scope of the effectiveness of this declaration is  $M1$  and its all descendant modules.
- Let  $M\_c$  be declared in both module  $M1$  and its ancestor module  $M$ . Then,  $M\_c$  declared in  $M1$  has **higher priority in its scope** than the same  $M\_c$  declared in  $M$ .
- Let  $M\_f$  be a function defined in  $M1$ . Then, the scope of  $M\_f$  is  $M1$  and its all descendant.
- Let  $M\_c$  be a type, constant identifier, or function declared in module  $M1$ . Then, if  $M\_c$  is used in its relative module  $M2$ , it must be used in the form:

$M1.M\_c$

# Approaches to constructing specifications

The outline of this part:

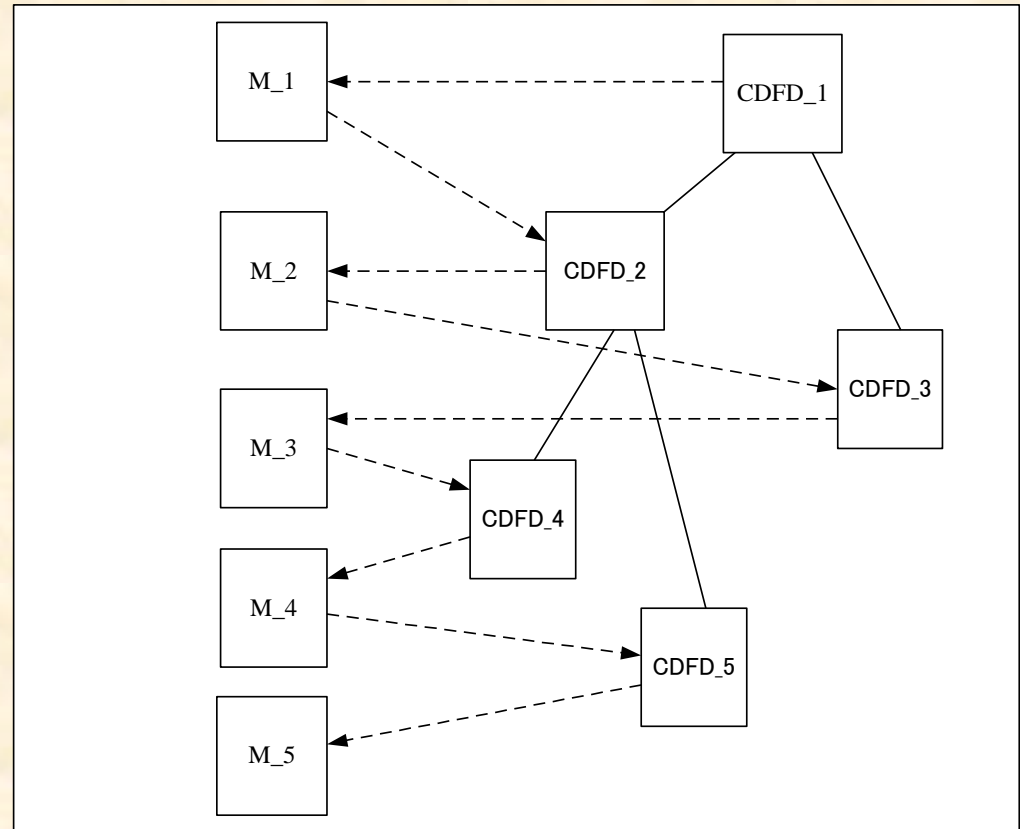
- The top-down approach
- The bottom-up approach
- The middle-out approach
- Comparison of the approaches

# The top-down approach

Two strategies can be taken in the top-down approach: the CDFD-module-first strategy and the CDFD-hierarchy-first strategy

# (1) The CDFD-module-first strategy

The fundamental idea of this strategy is that after a CDFD is constructed, its associated module must be defined precisely, before any decomposition of processes in this CDFD takes place. After both the CDFD and module are finalized, another decomposition can take place. Such a process goes on until no process needs further decomposition.





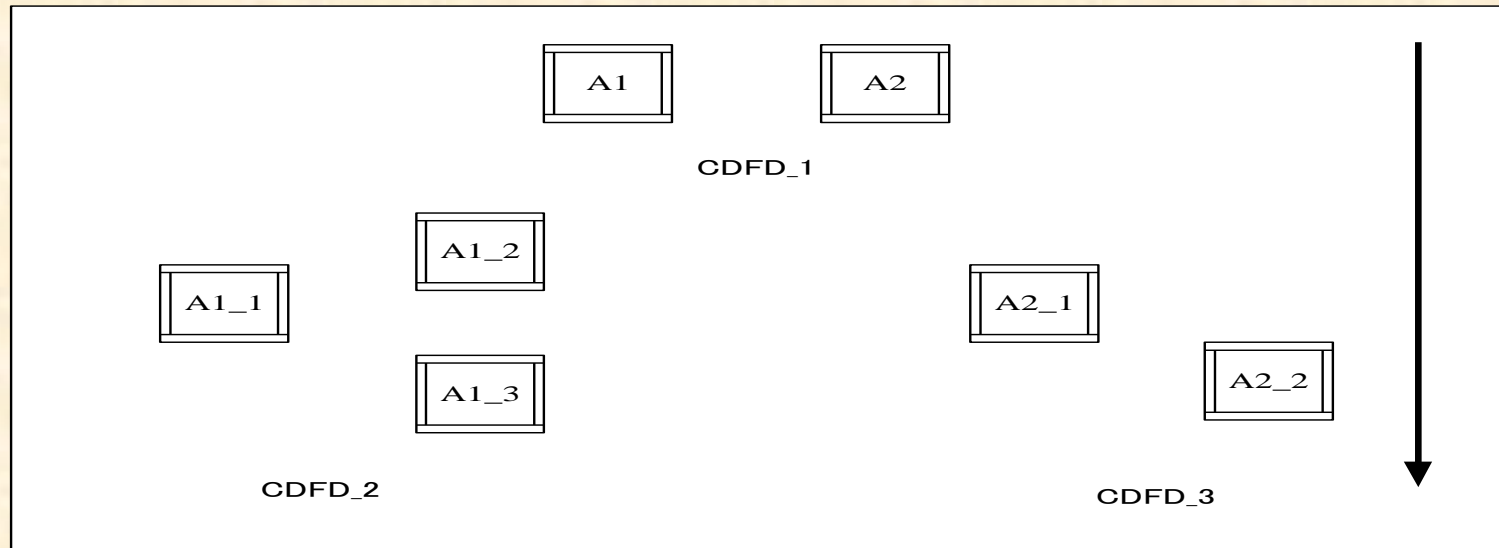
The following guidelines may be useful in determining whether a process needs a decomposition:

1. If the relation between the input and output data flows of a process cannot be expressed without further information, the decomposition of this process should be considered.
2. If the behavior of a process involves a sequence of actions, this process needs to be decomposed.
3. If the postcondition of a process is too complex to be written in a concise manner, it may need decomposition.

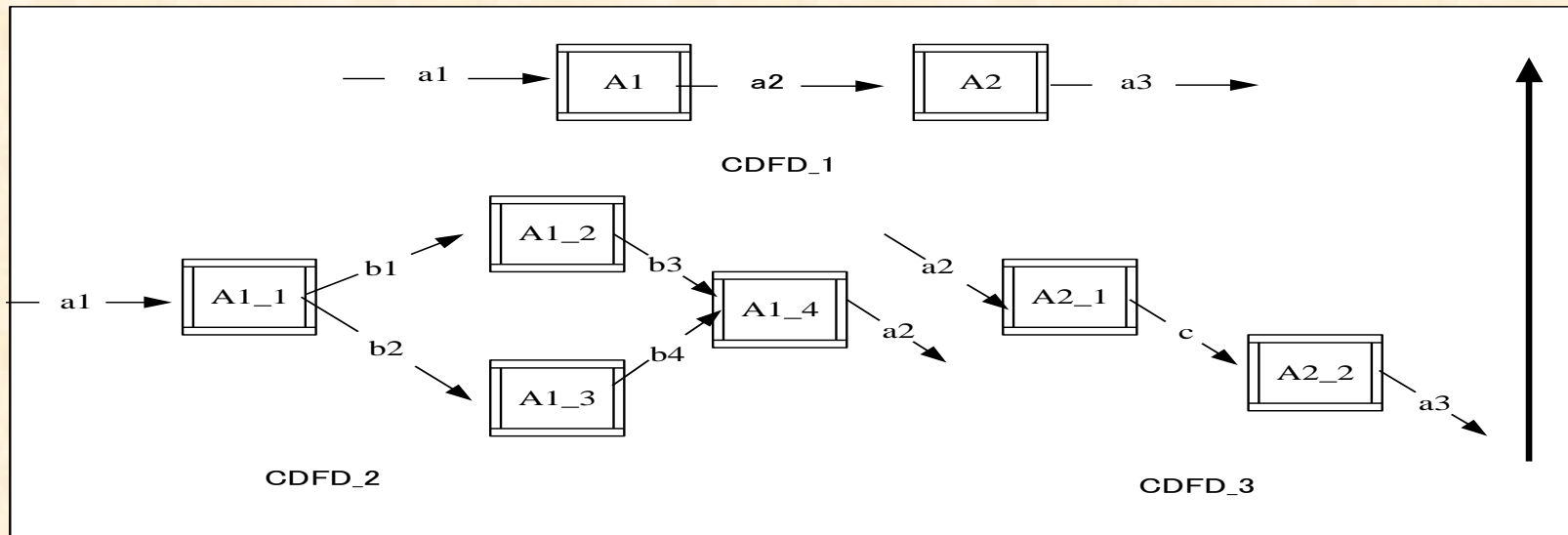


## (2) The CDFD-hierarchy-first strategy

Building a specification using the CDFD-hierarchy-first strategy starts with the construction of the CDFD hierarchy by decomposition of processes, and then proceeds to define the modules of the CDFDs involved in the CDFD hierarchy, after it is completed.



(a) Top-down for processes

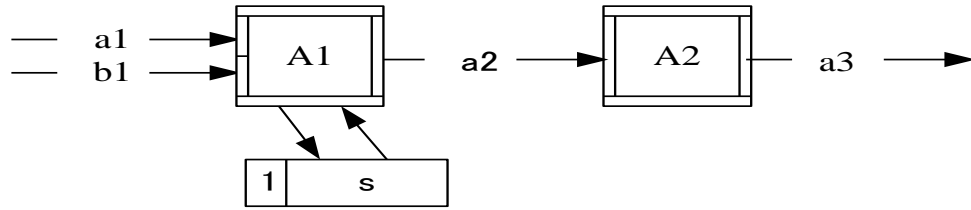


(b) Bottom-up for data flows and stores

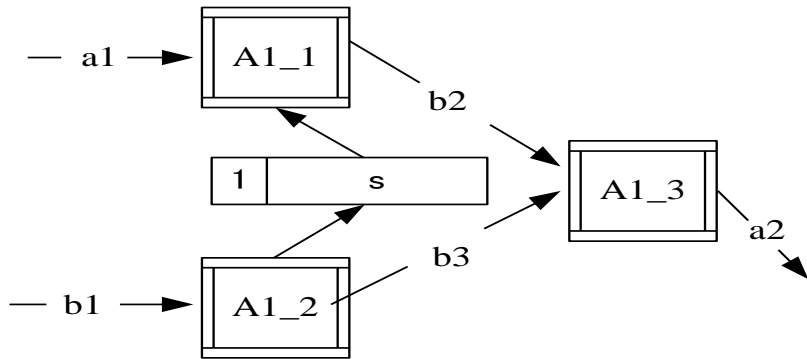
# The middle-out approach

Constructing a specification by the middle-out approach usually **starts with** the building of the CDFDs and **modules** modeling the functions that are **most familiar to the developer and crucial to the system**. Then, the system is built by

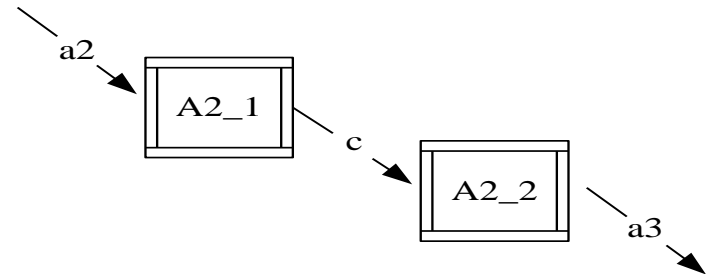
- **decomposing some of the introduced processes**
- **synthesizing some of those processes to form high level processes.**



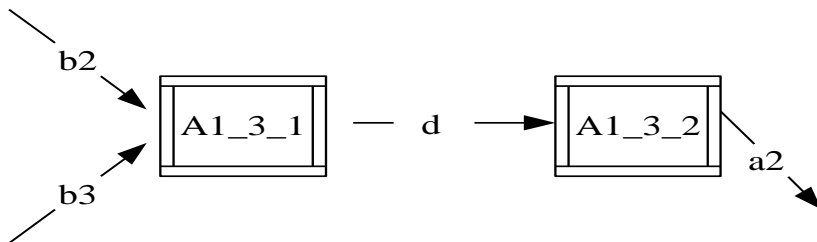
CDFD\_1



CDFD\_2



CDFD\_3



CDFD\_4

When synthesizing CDFDs into high level processes, we can follow the following guidelines:

- If there are more than two input data flows to different starting processes of a CDFD, the CDFD needs to be abstracted into a high level process that defines precisely the relationship among those input data flows.
- If two processes in a CDFD access the same store in both reading and writing manner, this CDFD needs to be considered for abstraction to define that concurrent execution of the two processes is impossible (e.g., processes A1\_1 and A1\_2 in CDFD\_2).
- If two CDFDs have relations in terms of data flows, they need to be abstracted into high level processes and the connections between these processes need to be formed in the high level CDFD (e.g., process A1\_3 in CDFD\_2 and process A2\_1 in CDFD\_3 share the same data flow a2).

# Comparison of the approaches

## 1. The advantages and weakness of the top-down approach:

### (1) Advantages:

- It is **effective and intuitive in providing sub-goals or sub-tasks to support the current goal or task**, and in developing ideas with little information (abstraction) into ideas with more information (decomposition).
- It **provides a good global view of data flows and stores** that may be used across CDFDs at different levels, thus the consistency in using data flows and stores can be well managed during the decomposition of high level processes.

## (2) Weakness:

It may cause frequent modifications of high level processes, data flows, stores, and even the entire CDFDs, as with the progress of decomposition of high level processes, due to the lack of sufficient knowledge about what data flows and stores will be used or produced by the processes in the lower level CDFDs.



## 2. The advantages and weakness of the middle-out approach

### (1) Advantages:

- It may be more **effective and natural than the top-down approach**, because it always starts with modeling the most familiar and crucial functions.
- It also takes a **flexible way to utilize the top-down and the bottom-up approaches**.  
Taking which approach usually stems from natural demands during the construction of the entire specification.

## (2) Weakness:

The developer may not be easy to take a global view of the specification in the early stage, thus data flows, stores, and processes created in different CDFDs may overlap or defined inconsistently.

### 3. How to use the top-down and the middle-out approach?

- Use the middle-out approach for requirements analysis and requirements specification constructions, especially for the semi-formal ones, because the most familiar and important functional requirements are often focused in the early stage of requirements analysis.
- Use the top-down approach for design, because the designer usually has a fair understanding of the functional requirements after studying the semi-formal requirements specification, and needs to take a global view in structuring the entire system.

# Class exercise 10

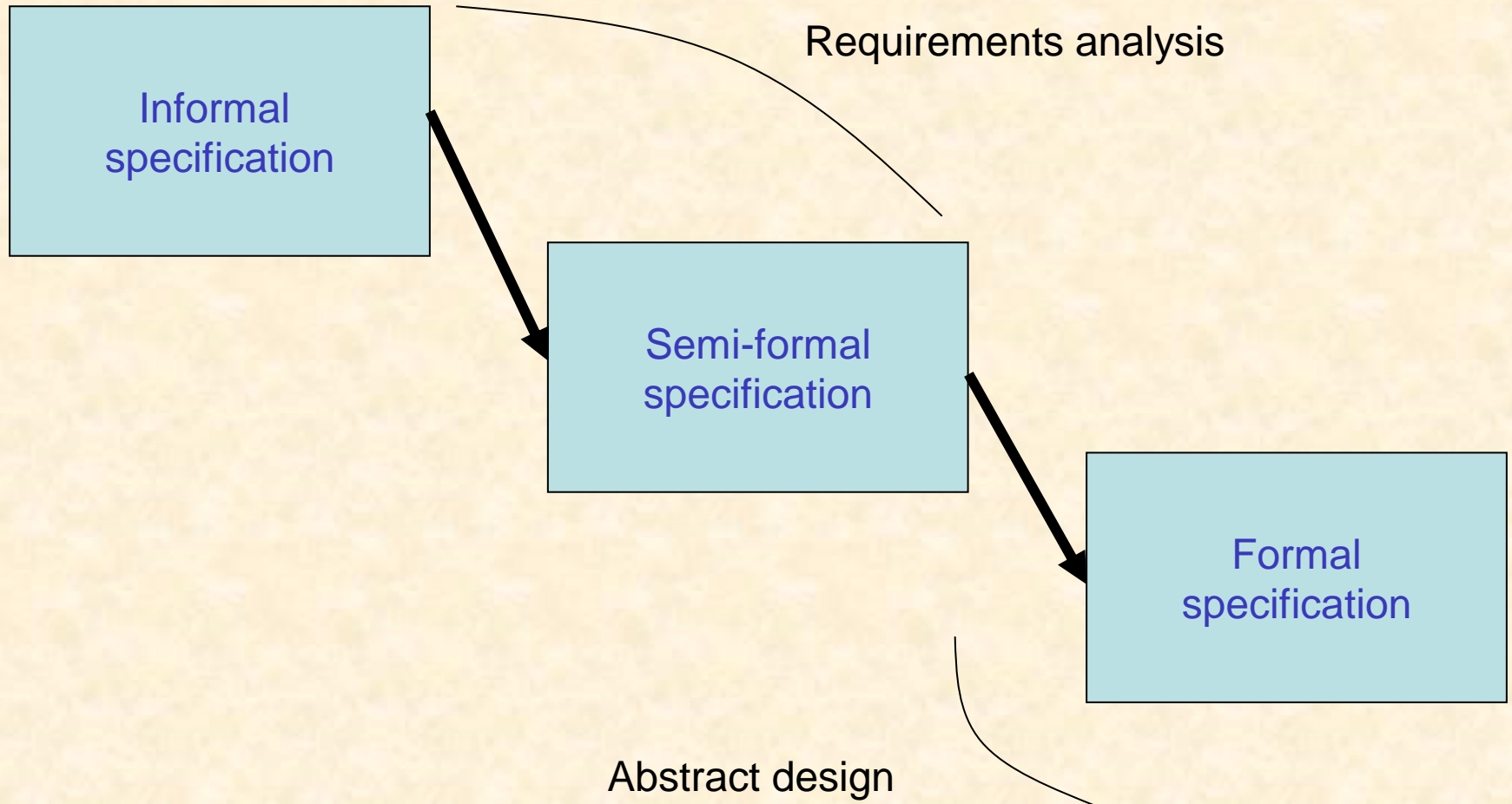
1. Answer the questions:
  - a. what is a hierarchy of CDFDs?
  - b. what is a hierarchy of modules?
  - c. what is the relation between module hierarchy and CDFD hierarchy?
  - d. what is the relation between a CDFD and its high level process in a CDFD hierarchy?
  - e. what does it mean by saying that modules M1 and M2 are relative modules?
  - f. what is the scope of a variable, type identifier, constant identifier, invariant, function, and a process?

## II.5 The SOFL Three-Step Approach to Writing Formal Specifications

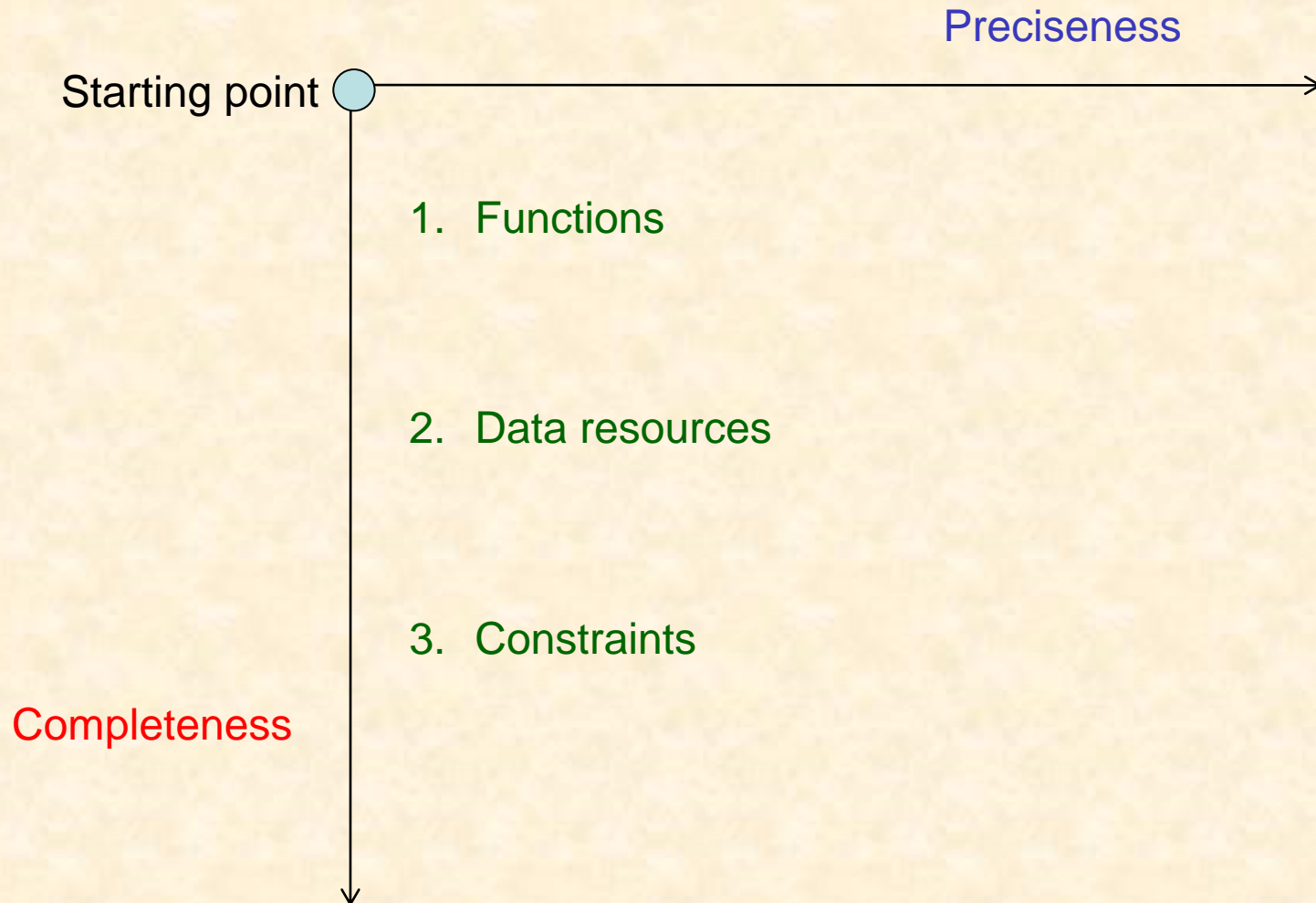
**Question:** how can a formal specification be effectively constructed with good qualities (completeness, consistency, validity)?

The SOFL three-step approach is a solution!

# Three-step formal specification:

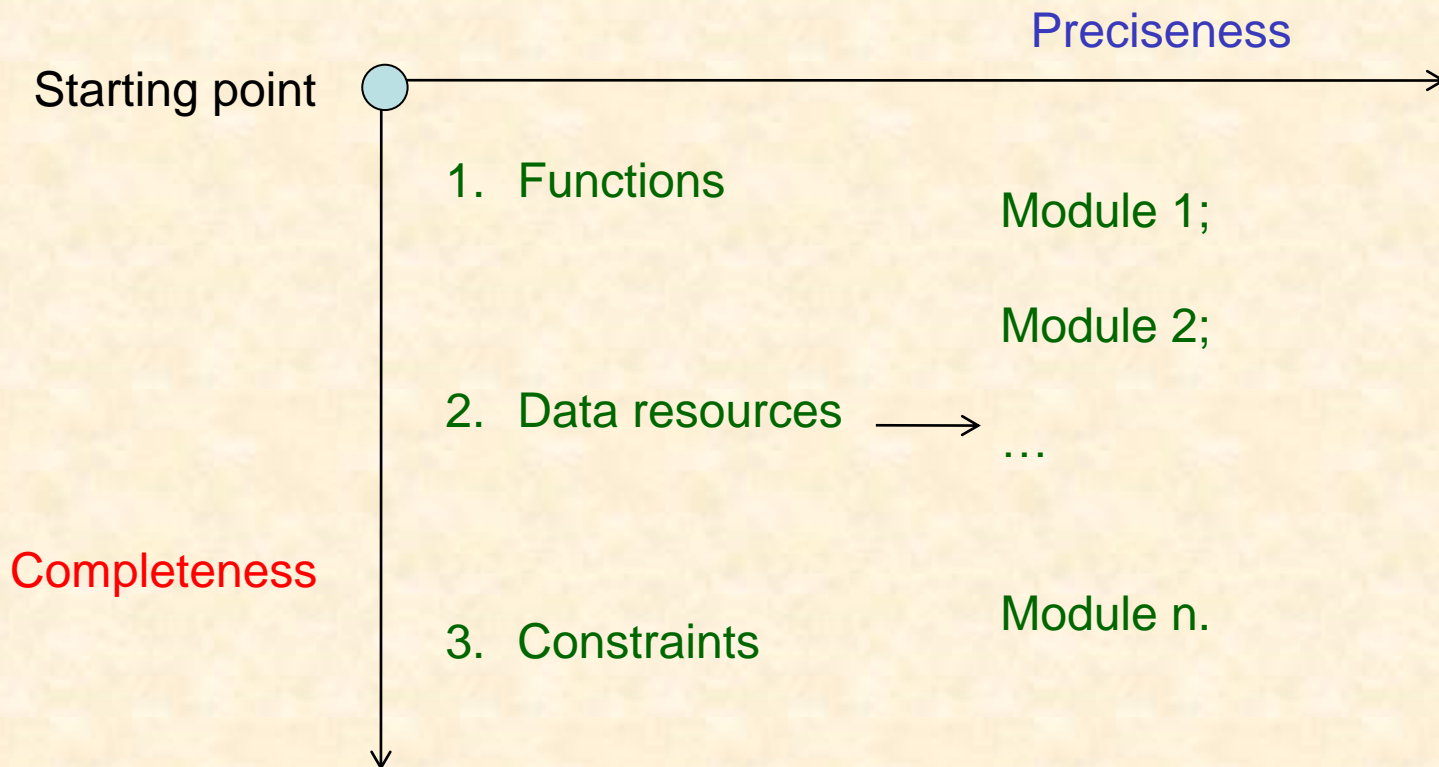


**Tasks for informal specification:** Capture desired functions, necessary data resources, and constraints on both functions and data resources.

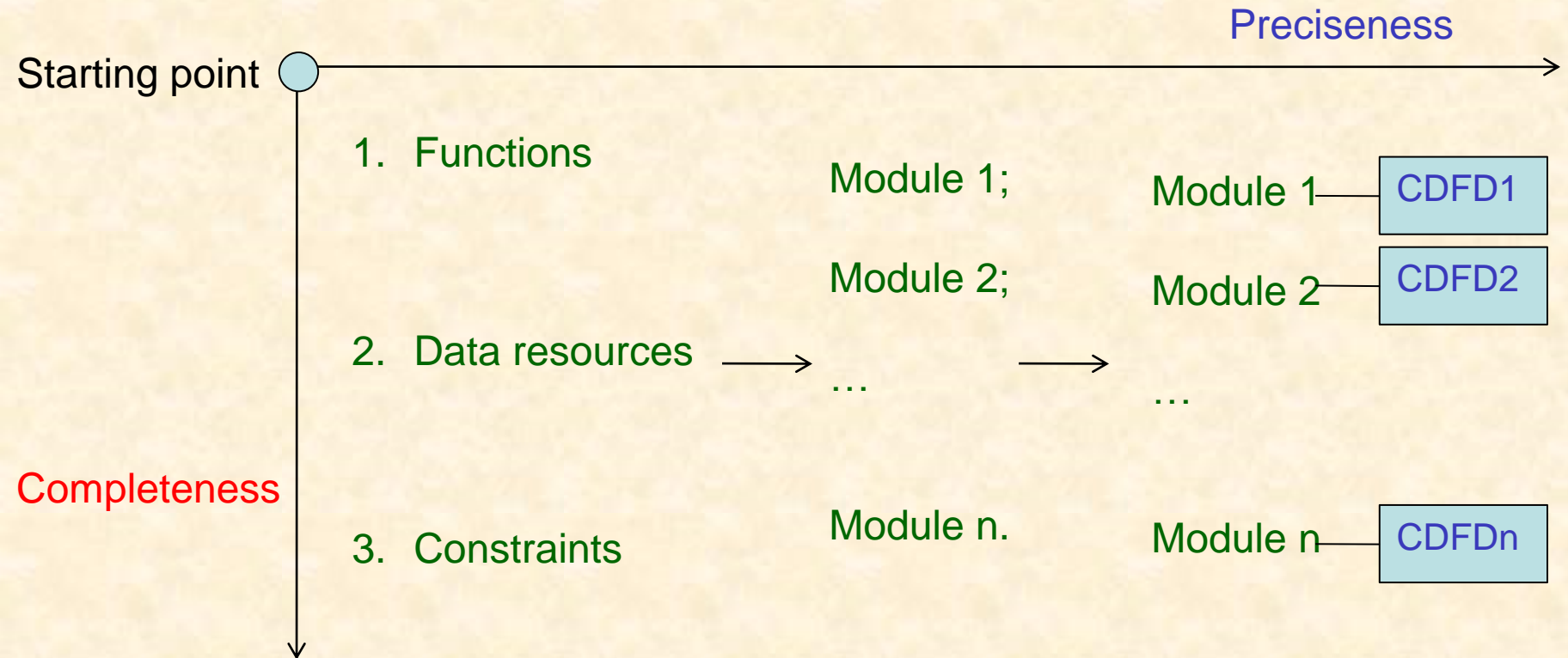




**Tasks for semi-formal specification:** (1) **Grouping** related functions, data resources, and constraints into SOFL modules. (2) **Defining** necessary data types and variables. (3) **Defining** the function of each process using pre- and post-conditions at informal level.



**Tasks for formal specification:** (1) **Describe system architecture** using hierarchical CDFDs (condition data flow diagram). (2) **Formalize** the specification of each process in pre- and post-conditions.



# A simplified ATM software

## 1. Informal specification (requirements analysis)

### (1) Functions:

- Receive commands from the customer
- Confirm the customer's card id and password
- Withdraw
- Inquire about the customer's account balance

## **(2) Data resources:**

- Customers' account information

## **(3) Constraints:**

- A customer can only access to his or her own account.
- No customer is allowed to borrow money from the bank.

# Hierarchy of informal specification:

## 1. The functions of the system:

(1) F1

(2) F2

(3) F3

(4) F4

### 1.1 F1

(1) F11

(2) F12

(3) F13

### 1.2 F2

(1) F21

(2) F22

● ● ● ● ● ●

## 2. Recourses:

## 3. Constraints:

## 2. Semi-formal specification (requirements analysis):

```
module SYSTEM_ATM
```

```
  type
```

```
    Account = composed of
```

```
      account_no: nat
```

```
      password: nat
```

```
      balance: real
```

```
    end
```

```
  var
```

```
    account_file: set of Account;
```

```
  inv
```

```
    Account balance must be greater than or equal to zero.
```

```
  behav CDFD_No1;
```

```
  ...
```

```
process Withdraw(amount: real, account1: Account)
    e_msg: string | cash: real
ext wr account_file
pre account1 is a member of account_file
post if amount is not greater than the balance of account1
    then supply cash with the same amount as amount, and
        reduce the amount from the balance of the account.
    else output an appropriate error message.
end_process;

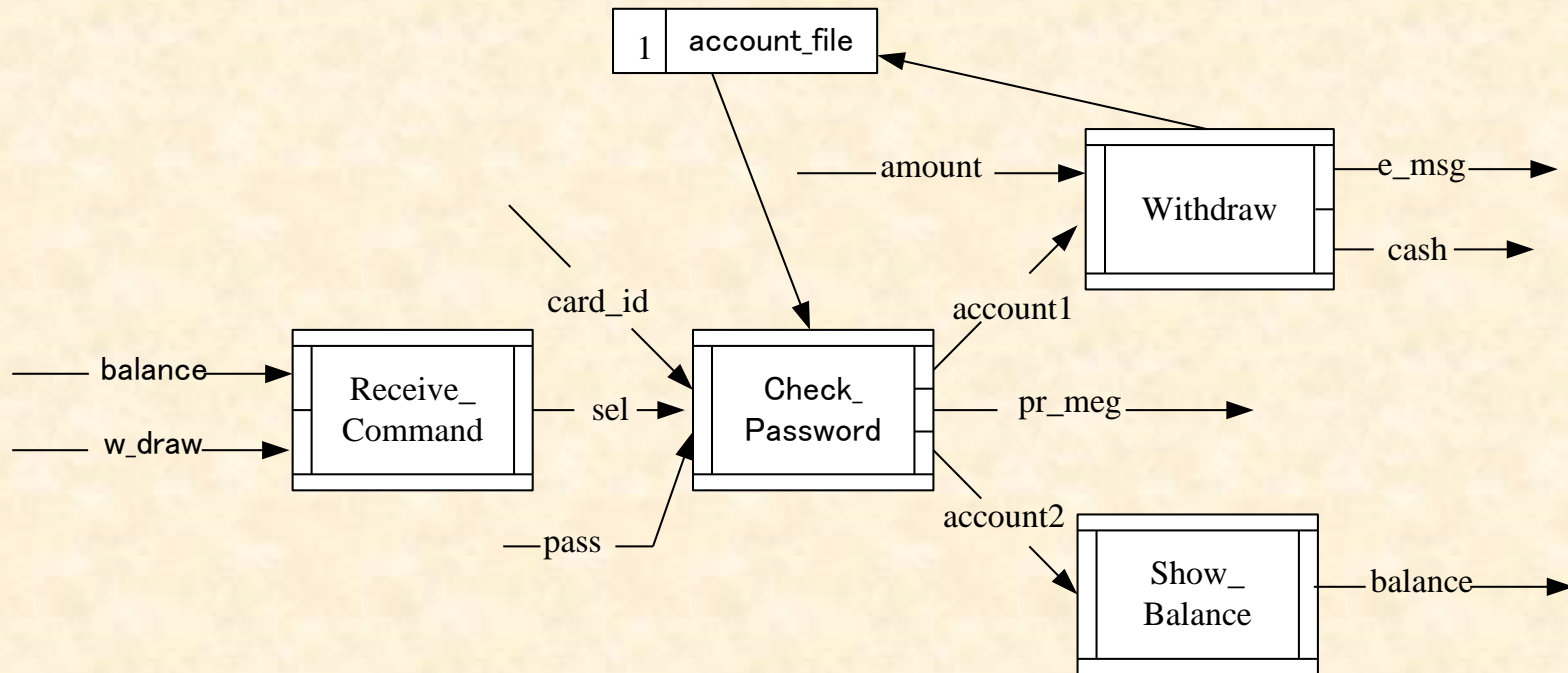
...

end_module
```



### 3. Formal specification (abstract design)

The top level CDFD:



```
module SYSTEM_□ATM
```

```
  type
```

```
    Account = composed of
```

```
      account_□no: nat
```

```
      password: nat
```

```
      balance: real
```

```
    end
```

```
  var
```

```
    account_□file: set of Account;
```

```
  inv
```

```
    forall[x: Account] | x.balance >= 0;
```

```
  behav CDFD_□No1;
```

```
  ...
```

```
process Withdraw(amount: real, account1: Account)
    e_msg: string | cash: real
ext wr account_file
pre account1 inset account_file
post if amount <= account1.balance
    then
        cash = amount and
        let Newacc =
            modify(account1, balance -> account1.balance – amount)
        in
            account_file = union(diff(~account_file, {account1}), {Newacc})
    else
        e_meg = "The amount is over the limit. Reenter your amount."
comment
...
end_process;
end_module
```

# Small Project (40%)

A stock reservation and purchase system is required to have the following functions and constraints:

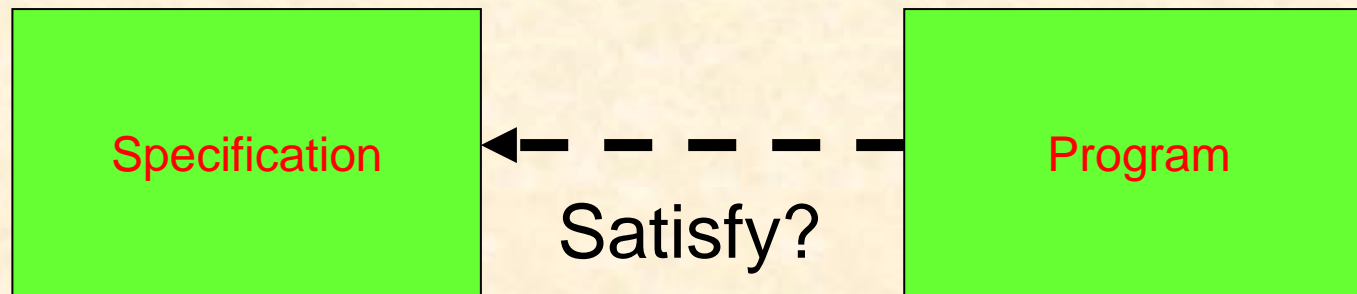
1. Register a customer (name, age, bank account, address, email address, telephone number, and purchased stocks)
2. Register a stock (name, price, unit for sale, limit for selling to one customer)
3. Cancel the information of a registered customer
4. Cancel the information of a registered stock

5. Purchase a stock (the purchased stock details should be recorded in the customer's information and the payment for the stock should be made from the customer's bank account)
6. Sell a stock by a customer (the money resulted from the sale of stock should be put into the customer's bank account)
7. For each kind of stock, a customer can only buy at most 1000 units of the stock.
8. A stock name is unique.
9. A customer's name is also unique.
10. The currency used in the system is RMB.

# Requirements for students

- (1) Take the SOFL three-step approach to construct a formal specification for the stock system. That is, write an informal specification, semi-formal specification, and formal specification.
- (2) Independently finish this small project and submit it to Dr. Wang Ying before 27th December 2022.

# III. Hoare Logic for Formal Verification of Program Correctness



## Formal verification or proof

- How to ensure that **the program** is correct with respect to **the specification**?
- What does the **correctness** of **the program** mean?



# Partial and total correctness

## (1) Partial correctness

Consider the Hoare triple:

$$\{P\} S \{R\}$$

It shows the partial correctness of program **S** with respect to **P** and **R**. **This means that If the precondition **P** is true before initiation of a program **S**, then the postcondition **R** will be true on its completion, we say that **S** is correct with respect to **P** and **R**.**

**Note that the termination of **S** is assumed.**

## (2) Total correctness

Program  $S$  is totally correct with respect to predicates  $P$  and  $R$  iff  $S$  is partially correct and  $S$  terminates; that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total correctness of } S = \\ \{P\} S \{R\} + \\ \text{Termination of } S \end{aligned}$$

Hoare logic is designed for the proof of partial correctness of a program. It is established on the basis of first order logic, but includes additional axioms for reasoning about programs.

The key of proving the termination of program S requires finding a loop variant, a mathematical function indicating that each repetition of a loop statement (e.g., while-loop) changes the loop-variable towards making the loop condition evaluate to *false*.

# Program execution

One of the most **important properties** of a program is **whether it carries out its intended function.**

This property is known as

**functional property of program.**

Two ways to express the functional property of a program:

- (1) List every initial state before the execution of the program and the corresponding final state after the execution terminates.

Examples:

$\{(x, 5), (y, 1)\}$

initial state 1

int tem = 0;

tem := x;

Swap program

x := y;

y := tem;

$\{(x, 1), (y, 5)\}$

final state 1

$\{(x, 9), (y, 3)\}$

initial state 2

int tem = 0;

tem := x;

Swap program

x := y;

y := tem;

$\{(x, 3), (y, 9)\}$

final state 2

---

$\{(x, 20), (y, 10)\}$

initial state 3

int tem = 0;

tem := x;

Swap program

x := y;

y := tem;

$\{(x, 10), (y, 20)\}$

final state 3

...

many others

(2) Use pre- and post-assertions (conditions) –  
Hoare triple:

$$\{P\} S \{R\}$$

If the assertion **P** is true before initiation of a program **S**, then the assertion **R** will be true on its completion.

### Questions:

- (1) Who is supposed to write **P** and **R**?
- (2) What **axioms and inference rules** do we need for a formal proof of the validity of a specific Hoare triple?



# Axioms for Program Proving

To prove the correctness of program **S**, we first need to establish necessary axioms to define the semantics of each program construct.

## Program constructs:

- (1) Assignment     **$x := f$**
- (2) Sequence       **$S1; S2$**
- (3) Alternation    **if B then S1**  
                         **if B then S1 else S2**
- (4) Iteration      **while B do S**
- (5) Block          **begin...end**

# Concepts and notations used in expressing axioms and rules:

(1)  $Q[e/x]$  where  $Q$  is an expression or formula,  $x$  is a variable, and  $e$  is an expression. **Explanation:** the result of replacing all free occurrences of  $x$  in  $Q$  by  $e$ .

**Example:**

$$(x + y * z > y * u)[t+1/y] =$$

$$x + (t + 1) * z > (t + 1) * u$$

(2)

$$\frac{A, B}{C}$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are predicate formulae. **Explanation:** a rule of inference which states that if  $A$  and  $B$  have been proved, then  $C$  can be deduced.

This expression is equivalent to:

$$A \text{ and } B \Rightarrow C$$

(3)

$$\frac{A, B \vdash C}{D}$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  are predicate formulae. **Explanation:** a rule of inference which states that if  $A$  has been proved and  $C$  is deduced from  $B$ , then  $D$  can be deduced.

This expression is equivalent to:

$$A \text{ and } (B \vdash C) \Rightarrow D$$

## Axiom 1: Axiom of assignment

$$\frac{}{\{P[f/x]\} \ x := f \ \{P\}} \quad \text{Ass-D0}$$

where

$x$  is a variable identifier

$f$  is an expression of a programming language  
without side effects, but possibly containing  $x$ .

$P[f/x]$  is a predicate resulting from  $P$  by substituting  $f$   
for all occurrences of  $x$  in  $P$ .

## Examples:

(1)

$\{(x + y) * 5 > z\}$        $\{P\}$

$x := x + y$        $S$

$\{x * 5 > z\}$        $\{Q\}$

(2)

$\{\text{add}(x, z) + y * \text{fact}(z) > z\}$

$y := \text{add}(x, z) + y * \text{fact}(z)$

$\{y > z\}$

# Class exercise

Derive the pre-assertion for each of the following two assignment statements based on their post-assertion:

(1)

$x := x + y;$

$\{x > y\}$

(2)

$y := x + y * (x + 5)$

$\{x = 2 \text{ and } y * x = 10\}$

## Two rules of consequence

(1)

$$\frac{\{P\} S \{R\}, R \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} S \{Q\},} \quad \text{Con-D1}$$

If the execution of program **S** ensures the truth of the assertion **R** under the pre-assertion **P**, then it also ensures the truth of every assertion logically implied by **R**.



(2)

$$\frac{\{P\} S \{R\}, Q \Rightarrow P}{\{Q\} S \{R\},} \quad \text{Con-D2}$$

If  $P$  is known to be a pre-assertion for a program  $S$  to produce result  $R$ , then so is any other assertion that logically implies  $P$ .

## Axiom 2: Axiom of composition

$$\frac{\{P\} S1 \{R1\}, \{R1\} S2 \{R\}}{\{P\} S1; S2 \{R\}} \text{ Com-D3}$$

If the proven result of the first part of a program is identical with the precondition under which the second part of the program produces its intended result, then the whole program will produce the intended result, provided that the precondition of the first part is satisfied.

Take the following two steps to use the rule of composition:

Step 1: Set the target Hoare triple for proof:

$$\{P\} S1; S2 \{R\}$$

Step 2: Try to **find** a predicate **R1** such that the following two Hoare triples hold:

$$\{P\} S1 \{R1\} \text{ and } \{R1\} S2 \{R\}$$

**Challenge:** how to **find** **R1**

Example:

The target Hoare triple for proof:

$\{x = 5 \text{ and } y = 1\} \ x := x + 1; y := x + y \ \{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 7\}$

Proof:

Step 1:  $\{x = 6 \text{ and } x + y = 7\}$  (**Ass-D0**)

$y := x + y$   
 $\{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 7\}$

This is equivalent to

$\{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 1\}$   
 $y := x + y$   
 $\{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 7\}$

Step 2:

$\{x + 1 = 6 \text{ and } y = 1\}$  (**Ass-D0**)

$x := x + 1$

$\{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 1\}$

This is equivalent to:

$\{x = 5 \text{ and } y = 1\}$

$x := x + 1$

$\{x = 6 \text{ and } y = 1\}$

Step 3:

{  $x = 5$  and  $y = 1$  }      (**Com-D3**)

$x := x + 1;$

$y := x + y$

{ $x = 6$  and  $y = 7$ }

# Class exercise

Prove the validity of the following Hoare triple:

$\{x = 5 \text{ and } y = 2\}$

$x := x * y;$

$y := x + y * (x + 5)$

$\{x = 10 \text{ and } y = 40\}$



# Answer for the exercise

$\{x = 5 \text{ and } y = 2\}$

$\{x * y = 10 \text{ and } 10 + 10 * y + y * 5 = 40\}$

$\{x * y = 10 \text{ and } x * y + y * (x * y + 5) = 40\}$

$x := x * y;$

$\{x = 10 \text{ and } x + y * (x + 5) = 40\}$

$y := x + y * (x + 5)$

$\{x = 10 \text{ and } y = 40\}$

### Axiom 3: Axioms of alternation (selection, choice)

(1) if B then S1

$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R\}, P \wedge \neg B \Rightarrow R}{\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \{R\}} \text{Alt-D4}$$

If the execution of **S1** ensures the truth of **R** under the condition that both **P** and **B** are true, and the conjunction of **P** and the negation of **B** implies **R**, then the alternation statement will ensure the truth of **R** under the pre-assertion **P**.

(2) if B then S1 else S2

$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R\}, \{P \wedge \neg B\} S2 \{R\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \text{ else } S2 \{R\}}$$

Alt-D5

$$\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \text{ else } S2 \{R\}$$

If the execution of **S1** ensures the truth of **R** under the condition that both **P** and **B** are true, and the execution of **S2** ensures the truth of **R** under the condition that the conjunction of **P** and the negation of **B**, then the alternation statement will ensure the truth of **R** under the pre-assertion **P**.

## Important points on the rules of alternation:

(1) The same post-assertion  $R$  is used. The following case is incorrect:

$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R1\}, \{P \wedge \neg B\} S2 \{R2\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \text{ else } S2 \{R\}}$$

where neither  $R1$  nor  $R2$  is equivalent to  $R$ .

(2) The following alternative rule can be used.

$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R1\}, \{P \wedge \neg B\} S2 \{R2\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \text{ else } S2 \{R1 \vee R2\}} \text{Alt-D6}$$

where neither  $R1$  nor  $R2$  is equivalent to  $R$ .

**Proof:**

H:  $\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R1\}$

Infer:  $\{P \wedge B\} S1 \{R1 \vee R2\}$

(**Con-D1**,  $R1 \Rightarrow R1 \vee R2$ )

H:  $\{P \wedge \neg B\} S2 \{R2\}$

Infer:  $\{P \wedge \neg B\} S2 \{R1 \vee R2\}$

(**Con-D1**,  $R2 \Rightarrow R1 \vee R2$ )

Infer:  $\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } S1 \text{ else } S2 \{R1 \vee R2\}$

(**Alt-D5**)

Example:

The target Hoare triple for proof:

$\{x \neq y\}$

if  $x > y$

then  $x := y - 1$

else  $x := y;$

$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$

## Proof:

Step 1: Prove

$$\{x \neq y \wedge x > y\} x := y - 1 \{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

Step 2: Prove

$$\{x \neq y \wedge x \leq y\} x := y \{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

Step 3: Prove the target Hoare triple.



Step 1: Prove

$$\{x \neq y \wedge x > y\} \ x := y - 1 \ \{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

**Proof:**

$$\{y - 1 = y \vee y - 1 < y\} \quad (\mathbf{Ass-D0})$$

$$x := y - 1$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\{y < y + 1\}$$

$$x := y - 1$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

Now the main task is to prove:

$$x < y \wedge x > y \Rightarrow y < y + 1 \quad (\text{L1})$$

This can be easily proved, because

$$y < y + 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{true}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\{x < y \wedge x > y\} \quad (\text{L1, Con-D2})$$

$$x := y - 1$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

## Step 2: Prove

$$\{x <> y \wedge x \leq y\} x := y \{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

**Proof:**

$$\{y = y \vee y < y\} \quad (\mathbf{Ass-D0})$$

$$x := y$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\{\text{true}\}$$

$$x := y$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

Now the main task is to prove:

$$x <> y \wedge x \leq y \Rightarrow \text{true} \quad (\text{L2})$$

This is true according to the rule of  $\Rightarrow$ .

Therefore, we have

$$\{x <> y \wedge x \leq y\} \quad (\text{L2, Con-D2})$$

$$x := y$$

$$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$$

Step 3: Prove the target Hoare triple:

$\{x \neq y\}$

if  $x > y$

then  $x := y - 1$

else  $x := y;$

$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$

**Proof:**

$\{x \neq y\}$

if  $x > y$

then  $x := y - 1$

else  $x := y;$

$\{x = y \vee x < y\}$

(step 1, step 2, Alt-D5)

# Class exercise

Prove the validity of the following Hoare triple:

$\{x > 0\}$

if  $x > y + 10$

then  $x := y + 20$

else  $y := x + 10$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

# Answer for the exercise

Step 1:

$$\{x > 0 \wedge x > y + 10\}$$

$$x := y + 20$$

$$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$$

Step 2:

$$\{x > 0 \wedge x \leq y + 10\}$$

$$y := x + 10$$

$$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$$



Step 3:

$\{x > 0\}$

if  $x > y + 10$

then  $x := y + 20$

else  $y := x + 10$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

Proof:

Step 1:

$\{y + 20 = y + 20 \vee y + 20 < y\}$  Ass-D0

$x := y + 20$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

$x > 0 \wedge x > y + 10 \Rightarrow$  (L1)

$y + 20 = y + 20 \vee y + 20 < y$

$\{x > 0 \wedge x > y + 10\}$

(L1, Con-D2)

$x := y + 20$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

Step 2:

$\{x = x + 30 \vee x < x + 10\}$

(Ass-D0)

$y := x + 10$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

$x > 0 \wedge x \leq y + 10 \Rightarrow$

(L2)

$x = x + 30 \vee x < x + 10$

$\{x > 0 \wedge x \leq y + 10\}$  (L2, Con-D2)

$y := x + 10$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

Step 3:

$\{x > 0\}$  (Step 1, Step 2, Alt-D5)

if  $x > y + 10$

then  $x := y + 20$

else  $y := x + 10$

$\{x = y + 20 \vee x < y\}$

## Axiom 4: Axiom of iteration (while B do S)

$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} S \{P\}}{\{P\} \text{ while } B \text{ do } S \{P \wedge \neg B\}} \quad \text{Ite-D7}$$

If  $P$  holds and  $B$  is true before the execution of statement  $S$  and its execution sustains the truth of  $P$ , then the execution of the iteration statement under the precondition  $P$  will sustain the truth of  $P$  and makes  $B$  false.

$P$  is called **invariant of the loop**.

## Important points on the rule of iteration:

- (1) Deriving the invariant  $P$  is a process of abstracting the while-loop statement into a predicate expression that expresses its meaning (or function).
- (2) For the same while-loop, there may be more than one invariant. For example, `true` can be an invariant for any while-loop.
- (3) Deriving appropriate invariant  $P$  is the most challenging task in program proving, and there is no systematic method for this.

## Example:

A program of finding the quotient  $q$  and remainder  $r$  obtained on dividing  $x$  by  $y$ , where both  $x$  and  $y$  are non-zero natural numbers.

```
r := x;  
q := 0;  
while y <= r do  
  begin  
    r := r - y;  
    q := 1 + q  
  end
```



S



An **important property** of this program is when it terminates, we can recover the numerator **x** by adding to the remainder **r** the product of the divisor **y** and the quotient **q** (i.e.,  **$x = r + y \times q$** ). **Furthermore**, the **remainder is less than the divisor**. These properties can be expressed formally:

$$\{\text{true}\} S \{x = r + y \times q \wedge \neg y \leq r\}$$

where **S** represents the program displayed above.

The proof can be conducted in two steps:

Sept 1:  $\{\text{true}\} \ r := x; \ q := 0; \ \{x = r + y \times q\}$

Step 2:

$\{x = r + y \times q\}$

while  $y \leq r$  do

begin

$r := r - y;$

$q := 1 + q$

end

$\{x = r + y \times q \wedge \neg y \leq r\}$

## A formal proof of the correctness of program S:

- 1  $\text{true} \Rightarrow x = x + y \times 0$  Lemma 1
- 2  $\{x = x + y \times 0\} r := x \{x = r + y \times 0\}$  Ass-D0
- 3  $\{x = r + y \times 0\} q := 0 \{x = r + y \times q\}$  Ass-D0
- 4  $\{\text{true}\} r := x \{x = r + y \times 0\}$  Con-D2(1,2)
- 5  $\{\text{true}\} r := x; q := 0 \{x = r + y \times q\}$  Com-D3(4,3)
- 6  $x = r + y \times q \wedge y \leq r \Rightarrow$   
 $x = (r - y) + y \times (1 + q)$  Lemma 2
- 7  $\{x = (r - y) + y \times (1 + q)\} r := r - y$   
 $\{x = r + y \times (1 + q)\}$  Ass-D0
- 8  $\{x = r + y \times (1 + q)\} q := 1 + q$   
 $\{x = r + y \times q\}$  Ass-D0

9  $\{x = (r - y) + y \times (1 + q)\} r := r - y; q := 1 + q$   
     $\{x = r + y \times q\}$  **Com-D3(7, 8)**

10  $\{x = r + y \times q \wedge y \leq r\} r := r - y; q := 1 + q$   
     $\{x = r + y \times q\}$  **Con-D2(6,9)**

11  $\{x = r + y \times q\}$   
    while  $y \leq r$  do  
        begin  
             $r := r - y; q := 1 + q$   
        end  
     $\{x = r + y \times q \wedge \neg y \leq r\}$  **Ite-D7(10)**

```
12 {true} r := x; q := 0;  
    while y <= r do  
    begin  
        r := r - y; q := 1 + q  
    end
```

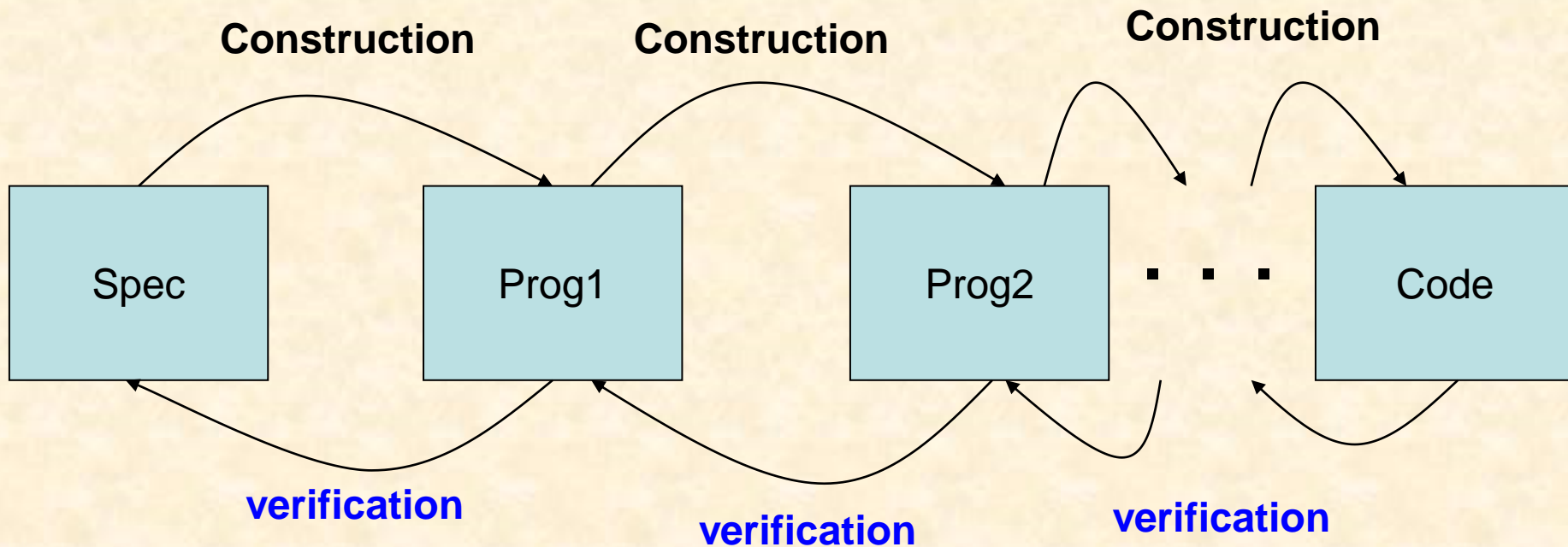
$\{x = r + y \times q \wedge \neg y \leq r\}$

**Com-D3(5, 11)**

## Observation:

This program should have used  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$  in the pre-assertion, but since it only ensures the termination of the **while loop**, its absence in the pre-assertion does not affect the proof of the partial correctness.

# Software development based on formal verification



# **IV. Specification-Based Inspection and Testing**

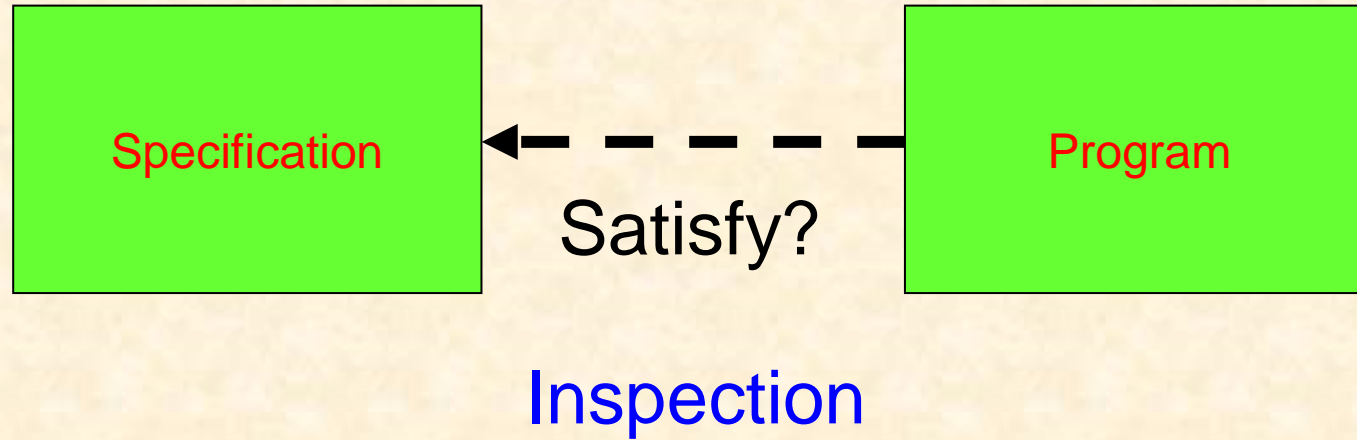
In this part, we will learn two practical techniques for program verification.

**(1) Specification-based program inspection**

**(2) Specification-based program testing**



# IV.1 Specification-Based Program Inspection



(analyze program based on a checklist to find bugs)

Why inspection before testing?

- (1) A test may not be carried out effectively due to either crash in execution or non-termination of the program.
- (2) Not necessarily all the program paths can be tested.
- (3) Even if every path is tested, there is no guarantee that every functional scenario defined in the specification is correctly implemented.

# Scenario-based inspection: a strategy for “divide and conquer”

## Specification

```
process A(x: int) y: int
pre  x > 0
post x > 10 and y = x + 1 or
     x <= 10 and y = x - 1
end_process
```

**Functional scenario:**

$A_{pre} \wedge G_i \wedge D_i$

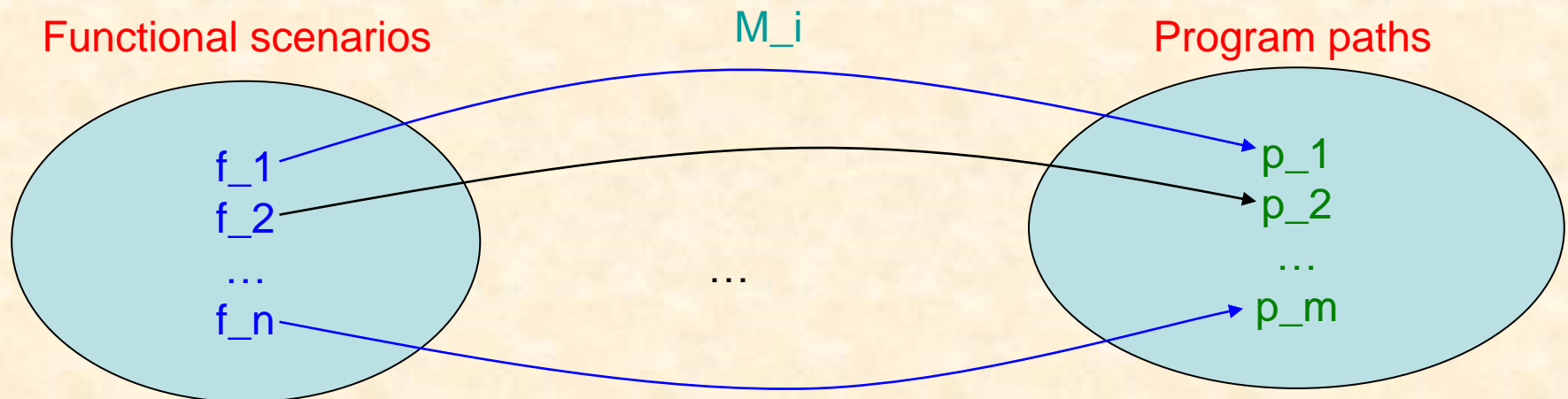
( $i=1, \dots, n$ )

Functional scenarios

## Program

```
int A(int x) {
  If (x > 0) {
    if (x > 10) y = x + 1;
    else y = x - 1;
    return y; }
  else System.out.println("the
    pre is violated") }
```

**Satisfy?**



# The principle of scenario-based inspection:

- (1) Check whether every functional scenario defined in the specification is correctly implemented by a set of program paths in the program.
- (2) Every program path contributes to the implementation of some scenario.

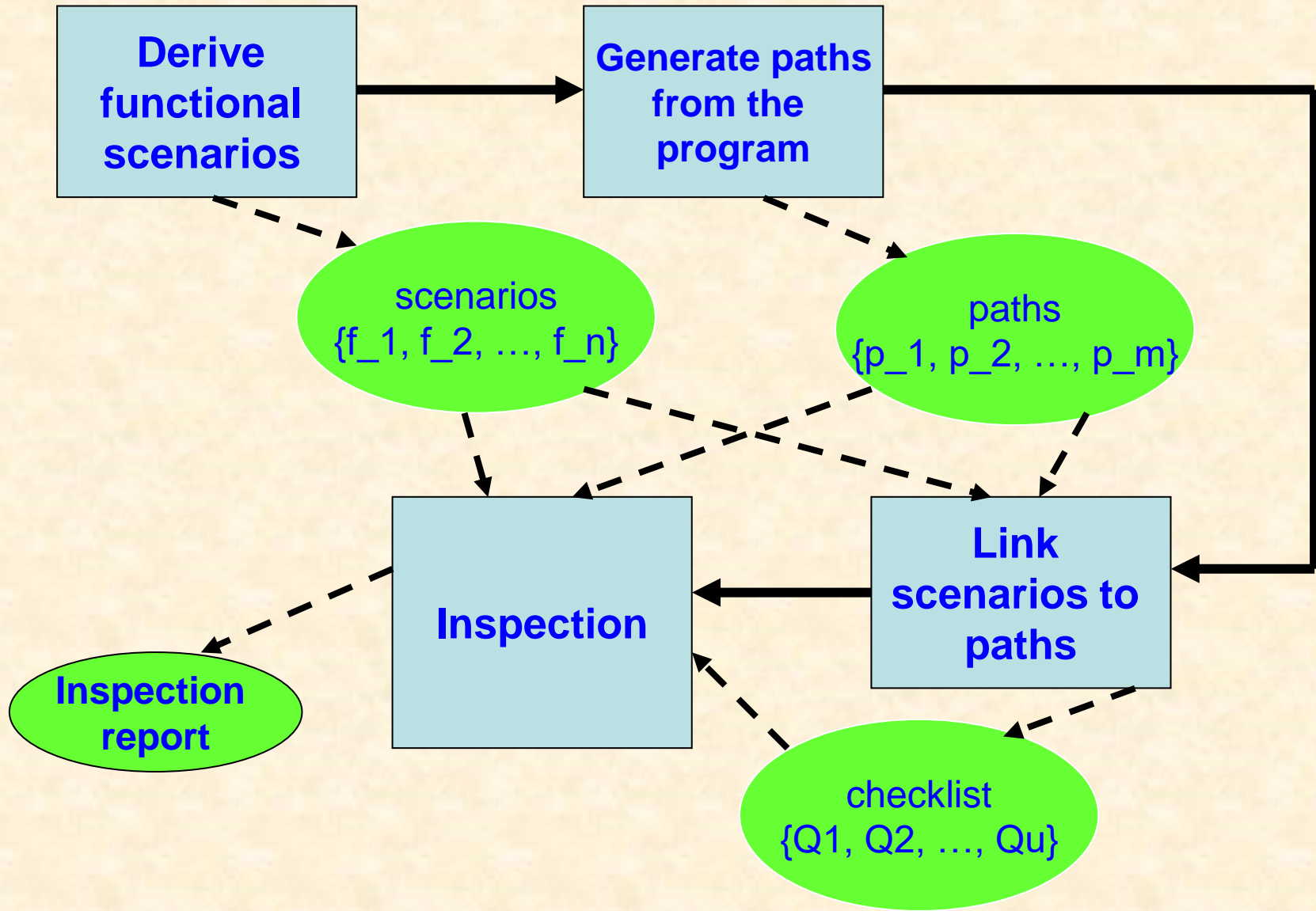
Formally, the principle is described as follows:

$M: S \rightarrow \text{power}(P)$

$(\forall f \in S \exists q \in \text{power}(P) \cdot M(f) = q \wedge q \neq \{\}) \wedge$

$(\forall p \in P \exists f \in S \cdot p \in M(f))$

# A Process for Scenario-Based Inspection



# (1) Derivation of functional scenarios from a specification

Definition 1. Let  $OP$  be an operation,  
 $pre\_OP$  denote its pre-condition, and  
 $post\_OP = G\_1 \text{ and } D\_1 \text{ or}$   
 $G\_2 \text{ and } D\_2 \text{ or} \dots \text{or}$   
 $G\_n \text{ and } D\_n$

be its post-condition,  
where  $G\_i (i \in \{1, \dots, n\})$  is a guard condition and  $D\_i$  is  
a defining condition. Then, a functional scenario  $f_s$  of  
 $OP$  is a conjunction  $pre\_OP \text{ and } G\_i \text{ and } D\_i$ , and  
such a form of pre-post conditions is called **functional scenario**  
**form** or **FSF** for short. That is,

$(pre\_OP \text{ and } G\_1 \text{ and } D\_1) \text{ or } (pre\_OP \text{ and } G\_2 \text{ and } D\_2) \text{ or}$   
 $\dots \text{ or } (pre\_OP \text{ and } G\_n \text{ and } D\_n)$

For example,

```
process A(x: int) y: int
```

```
pre   $x > 0$ 
```

```
post  $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$  or
```

```
      $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$ 
```

```
end_process
```

Guard  
condition



Defining  
condition

# The steps for deriving scenarios

- No.1 Transform **post\_OP** into a disjunctive normal form.
- No.2 Transform the disjunctive normal form into a functional scenarios form.
- No.3 Obtain the set of functional scenarios from the functional scenario form and the **pre\_OP**.



For example, suppose

```
process A(x: int) y: int
pre  x > 0
post x > 10 and y = x + 1 or
     x <= 10 and y = x - 1
end_process
```

No.1 Transform **post-condition** into a disjunctive normal form:

$x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$  or

$x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$

**No.2** Transform the disjunctive normal form into the functional scenario form:

$x > 0$  and  $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$  or  
 $x > 0$  and  $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$  or  
not  $x > 0$

**No. 3** Obtain the following functional scenarios:

f\_1:  $x > 0$  and  $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$

f\_2:  $x > 0$  and  $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$

f\_3: not  $x > 0$

# More complicated example

## Formal specification

```
process M(x, y: int) z: int
ext wr w: real
pre x <> y
post
x > 0 and
z = y / x and
w > ~w**2 and
x >= y or
x > 0 and
z = x * y and
x < y and
w = z * ~w or
x = 0 and
z = y and
w = ~w or
x < 0 and
z = x + y + ~w and
w < ~w
```

## FSF of the specification

```
pre_M and C1 and D1
or
pre_M and C1 and D1
or
...
or
pre_M and C1 and D1
```

**C1**: guard condition

**D1**: defining condition

**~pre\_M**: pre-condition

# Example

## Formal specification

```
M(x, y: int)z: int
ext wr w: real
pre x <> y
post
x > 0 and
z = y / x and
w > w~**2 and
x >= y or
x > 0 and
z = x * y and
x < y and
w = z * w~ or
x = 0 and
z = y and
w = w~ or
x < 0 and
z = x + y + w~ and
w < w~
```

## Formal specification

$\sim\text{pre\_M}$   $G1$

$D1$   $x \neq y \text{ and } x > 0 \text{ and } x \geq y \text{ and } z = y / x \text{ and } w > \sim w^{**2}$

or

$X \neq y \text{ and } x > 0 \text{ and } x < y \text{ and } Z = x * y \text{ and } w = z * \sim w$

or

$x \neq y \text{ and } x = 0 \text{ and } z = y \text{ and } w = \sim w$

or

$x \neq y \text{ and } x < 0 \text{ and } z = x + y + \sim w \text{ and } w < \sim w$

## (2) The Generation of execution paths from a program

For example,

```
int A(int x) {  
    if (x > 0) {  
        if (x > 10) y = x + 1;  
        else y = x - 1;  
        return y;  
    }  
    else  
        System.err.println("the pre is violated") }  
}
```

Generation of  
paths



<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
x > 0; x > 10; y = x + 1; return y;	x > 0; x <= 10; y = x - 1; return y;
<b>3</b>	
x <= 0; System.err.println("the pre is violated");	

### **(3) Linking functional scenarios to their execution paths**

**Two strategies:**

- **Forward linking:** from scenarios to paths.
- **Backward linking:** from paths to scenarios.

# Techniques for the linking

- Identifying paths by testing, provided that the program can terminate normally.
- Identifying paths by comparing the logical expression of the functional scenario to the statements and conditions in the paths.



## Functional scenarios in specification

f\_1:  $x > 0$  and  $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$

f\_2:  $x > 0$  and  $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$

f\_3:  $x \leq 0$

## Execution paths

1

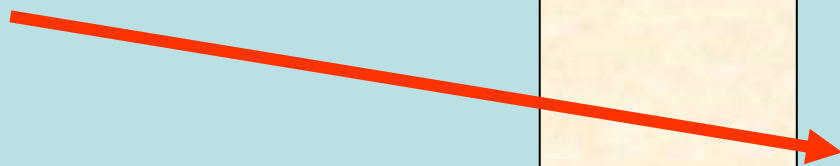
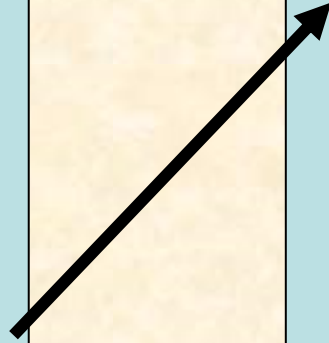
```
x > 0;  
x > 10;  
y = x + 1;  
return y;
```

2

```
x > 0;  
x ≤ 10;  
y = x - 1;  
return y;
```

3

```
x ≤ 0;  
System.err.println(  
    "the pre is violated");
```



## (4) Analyzing paths (two techniques)

### ● **Static checking based on a checklist.**

Example questions on the checklist:

- (1) Is the guard condition in the scenario implemented accurately in the paths?
- (2) Is every defining condition in the scenario implemented correctly in the paths?
- (3) Is every input, output, and external variable used in the scenario implemented properly in terms of its name, type, and use in the paths?

### ● **Walkthrough with test cases.**

$x = 15$

f\_1:  $x > 0$  and  $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$

f\_2:  $x > 0$  and  $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$

f\_3:  $x \leq 0$

1  
 $x > 0;$        $x = 15$   
 $x > 10;$   
 $y = x + 1;$   
return  $y$ ;

2  
 $x > 0;$   
 $x \leq 10;$   
 $y = x - 1;$   
return  $y$ ;

3  
 $x \leq 0;$   
System.err.println("the pre is violated");

# (5) A Prototype Software Tool

Automatic transformation from a SOFL specification to a set of functional scenarios.

The screenshot displays the SPRT (Specification-based Program Review Tool) interface. The main window is titled "SPRT: Specification-based Program Review Tool". It features a menu bar with "File" and "Run", and a toolbar with icons for "Spec", "Parse spec", "Source", "Save", "Save defect", "Draw image", and "Highlight path".

The interface is divided into several panes:

- Spec Pane:** Displays a SOFL specification for a process named "Savings-Withdraw". The specification includes a "notice2" variable, a "warning5" string, and a "w\_amount" variable. It describes a process where a withdrawal is performed based on the balance of a savings account.
- Source Pane:** Displays the source code for the "Savings-Withdraw" process, showing the implementation of the specification.
- DNF Pane:** Displays a table of functional scenarios (DNF - Disjunctive Normal Form) derived from the specification. The table has columns for "No", "DNF", and "Review".
- CFD Pane:** Displays a table of functional scenarios (CFD - Conjunctive Normal Form) derived from the specification.

The DNF table contains the following data:

No	DNF	Review
1	{w_amount <= ~savings_accounts(savings_i...	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	{not (w_amount <= ~savings_accounts(savin...	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	{not (w_amount <= ~savings_accounts(savin...	<input type="checkbox"/>

The CFD pane is currently empty.

At the bottom of the interface, there is a status bar with the text "The row of No1 is selected" and a message box containing the text "{w\_amount <= ~savings\_accounts(savings\_inf3).withdraw\_application\_amount and w\_amount <= ~savings\_accounts(savings\_inf3)}".

## Automatic derivation of program paths from a Java method.

SPRT: Specification-based Program Review Tool

File Run

Spec Parse spec Source Save Save defect Draw image Highlight path

Path 0  
Path 1

Spec Source

```
addWindowListener(new WindowAdapter() {  
    public void windowClosing(WindowEvent e) { clear(); }  
});  
  
private void savings_withdraw(){  
    CustomerInf ci = new CustomerInf(acc, pass);  
    SavingsAccountFile saf = new SavingsAccountFile();  
    SavingsAccountInf sai = new SavingsAccountInf();  
    Date date = new Date();  
    Time time = new Time();  
    Notice notice2 = new Notice();  
  
    try{  
        w_amount = Integer.parseInt( money_text.getText());  
        sai = saf.get_AccountInf(ci);  
  
        /*judgement of the over amount as one trade */  
        if(w_amount <= sai.get_balance() && w_amount <= sai.get_balance()){  
            /*if it is below amount, delete it from the balance*/  
            sai.Decrease_Balance ( w_amount );  
            date.set_Current_Date ();  
            time.set_Current_Time ();  
            sai.Update_Transaction_History ( new Transaction...  
            saf.override ( ci , sai );  
            notice2.Make_Notice ( w_amount , sai.get_balance...  
            new Savings_Display_Information ( notice2 );  
        }  
    }  
}
```

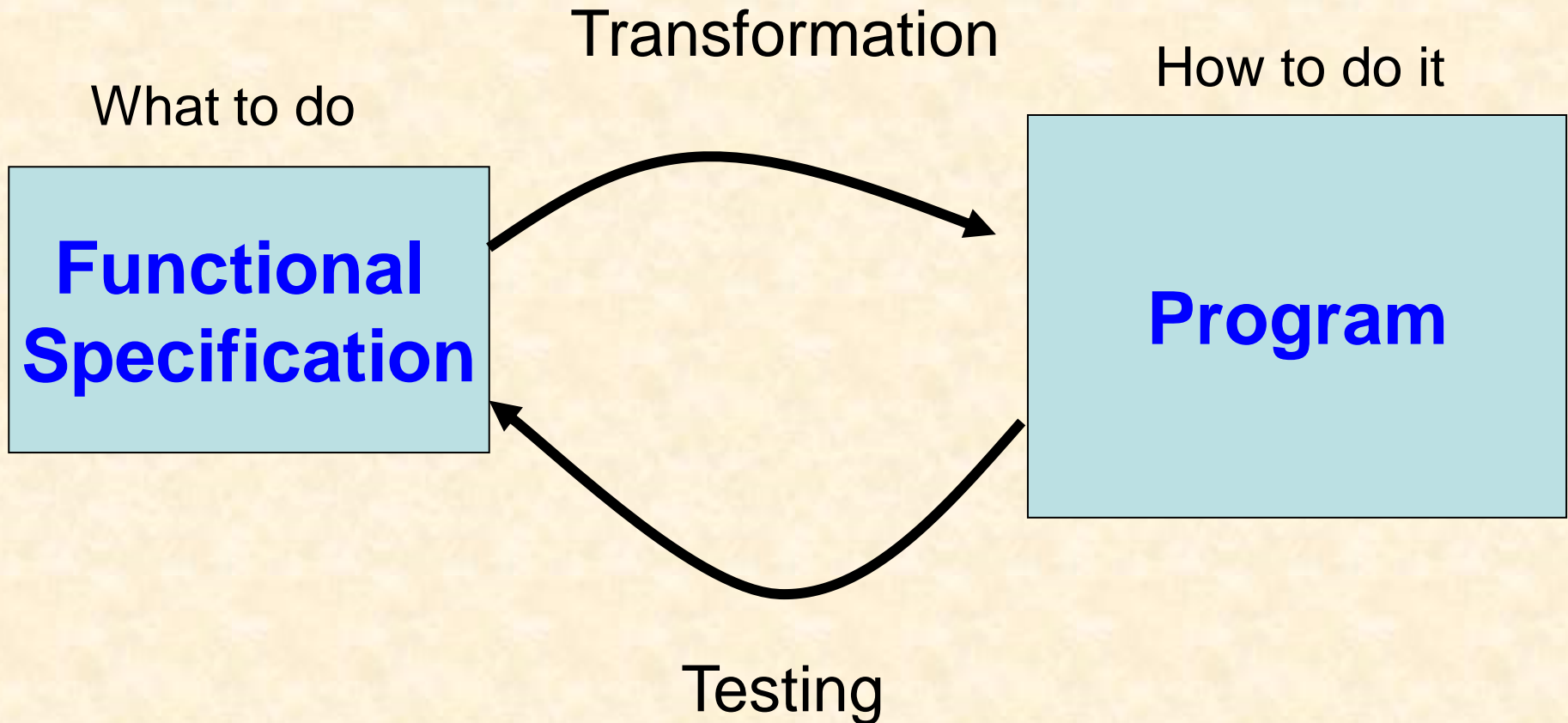
DNF CDF

Time time = new Time ();  
Notice notice2 = new Notice ();  
w\_amount = Integer.parseInt ( money\_text.getText  
sai = saf.get\_AccountInf ( ci );  
w\_amount <= sai.get\_balance () && w\_amount <= sai.get  
sai.Decrease\_Balance ( w\_amount );  
date.set\_Current\_Date ();  
time.set\_Current\_Time ();  
sai.Update\_Transaction\_History ( new Transactio...  
saf.override ( ci , sai );  
notice2.Make\_Notice ( w\_amount , sai.get\_balanc...  
new Savings\_Display\_Information ( notice2 );

The row of No1 is selected  
{w\_amount <= ~savings\_accounts(savings\_inf3).withdraw\_application\_amount and w\_amount <= ~savings\_accounts(savings\_inf3).balance and savings

Outline Path extra Link

# IV.2 Specification-Based Program Testing



The goal:

Dynamically check whether the functions defined in the specification are ``correctly'' implemented by the program.

A program **P** correctly implements a specification **S** iff

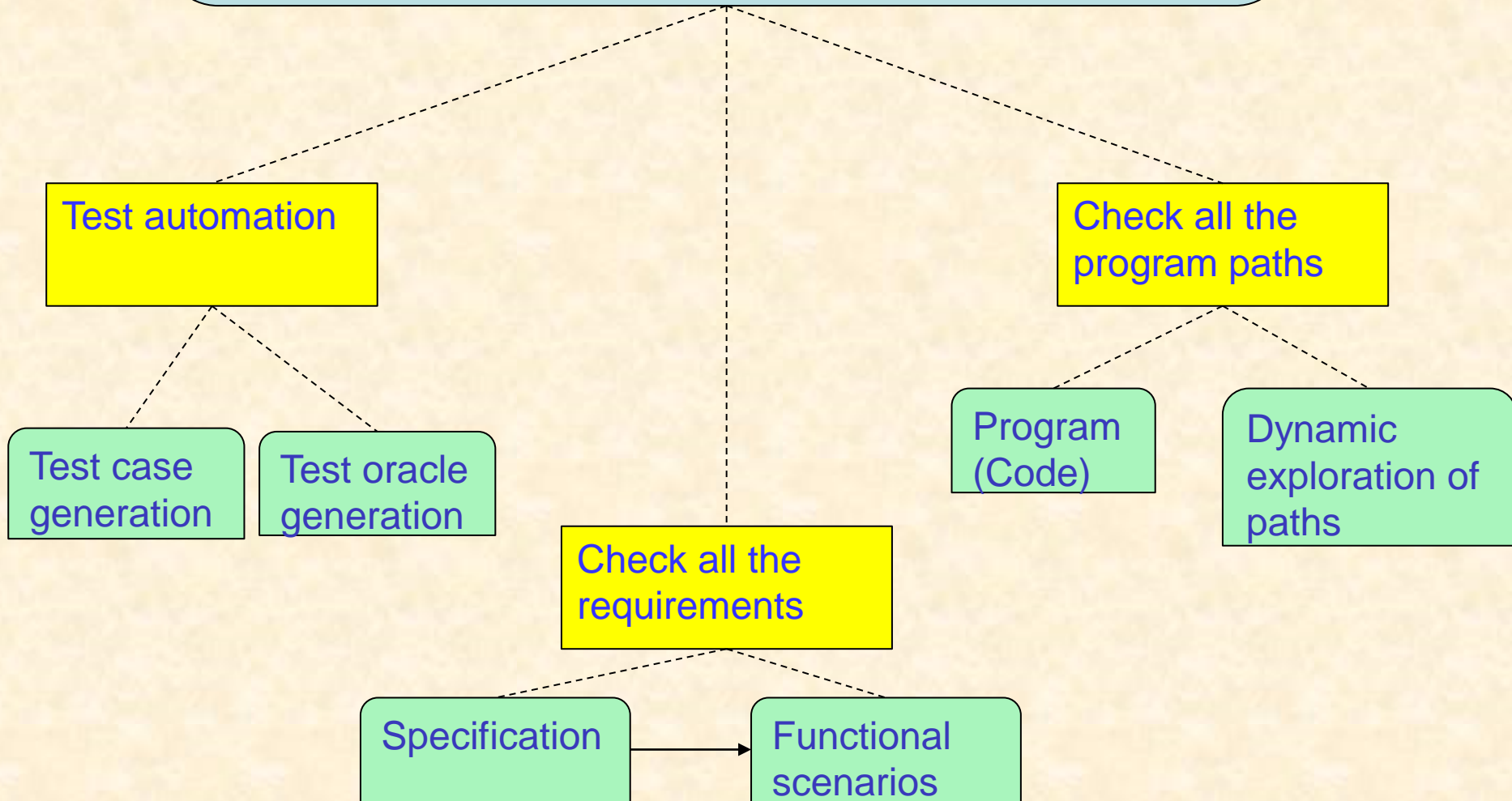
$$\forall \sim\sigma \in \Sigma \cdot S_{\text{pre}}(\sim\sigma) \Rightarrow S_{\text{post}}(\sim\sigma, P(\sim\sigma))$$



## The features of specification-based testing:

- (1) Test cases are generated based on the specification.
- (2) The program is executed using the test cases.
- (3) Decisions about the existence of bugs in the program are made based on the test cases, execution results, and the specification.

How to **automatically test** a program to ensure that **all the requirements** in the specification and **all the program paths** are checked in **specification-based testing**.



# Functional scenario-based testing

**Specification** (in SOFL)

```
process A(x: int) y: int
pre  x > 0
post (x > 10 and y = x + 1) or
      (x <= 10 and y = x - 1)
end_process
```

**Functional scenario:**

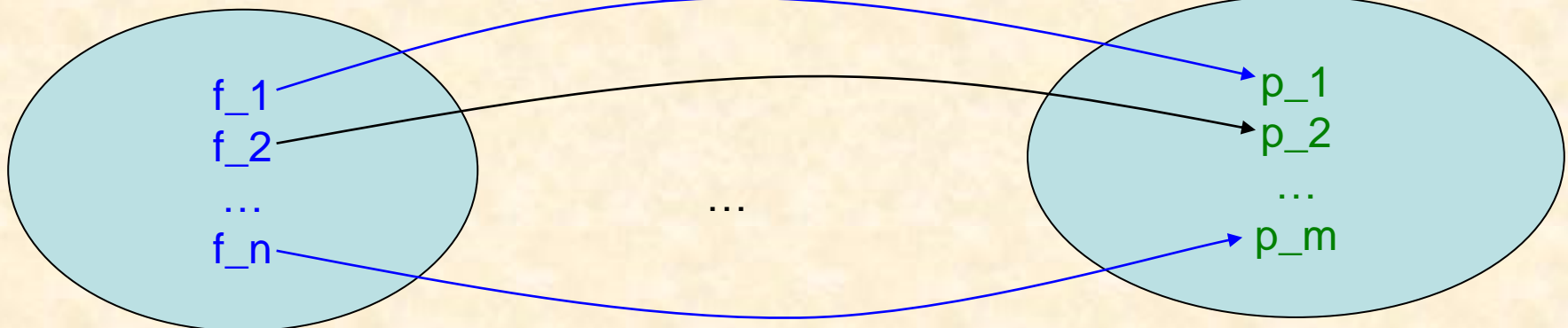
$A_{pre} \wedge G_i \wedge D_i$

$(i=1, \dots, n)$

**Functional scenarios**

**M**

**Program paths**



**Program**

```
int A(int x) {
  If (x > 0) {
    if (x > 10) y := x * 1;
    else y := x - 1;
    return y; }
  else System.out.println("the
    pre is violated") }
```

## Specification:

```
process A(x: int) y: int
```

```
pre   $x > 0$ 
```

```
post ( $x > 10$  and  $y = x + 1$ ) or
```

```
    ( $x \leq 10$  and  $y = x - 1$ )
```

```
end_process
```

Derivation

## Functional scenarios

f\_1

f\_2

...

f\_n

## Program:

statement

C1

statement

C2

C3

statement

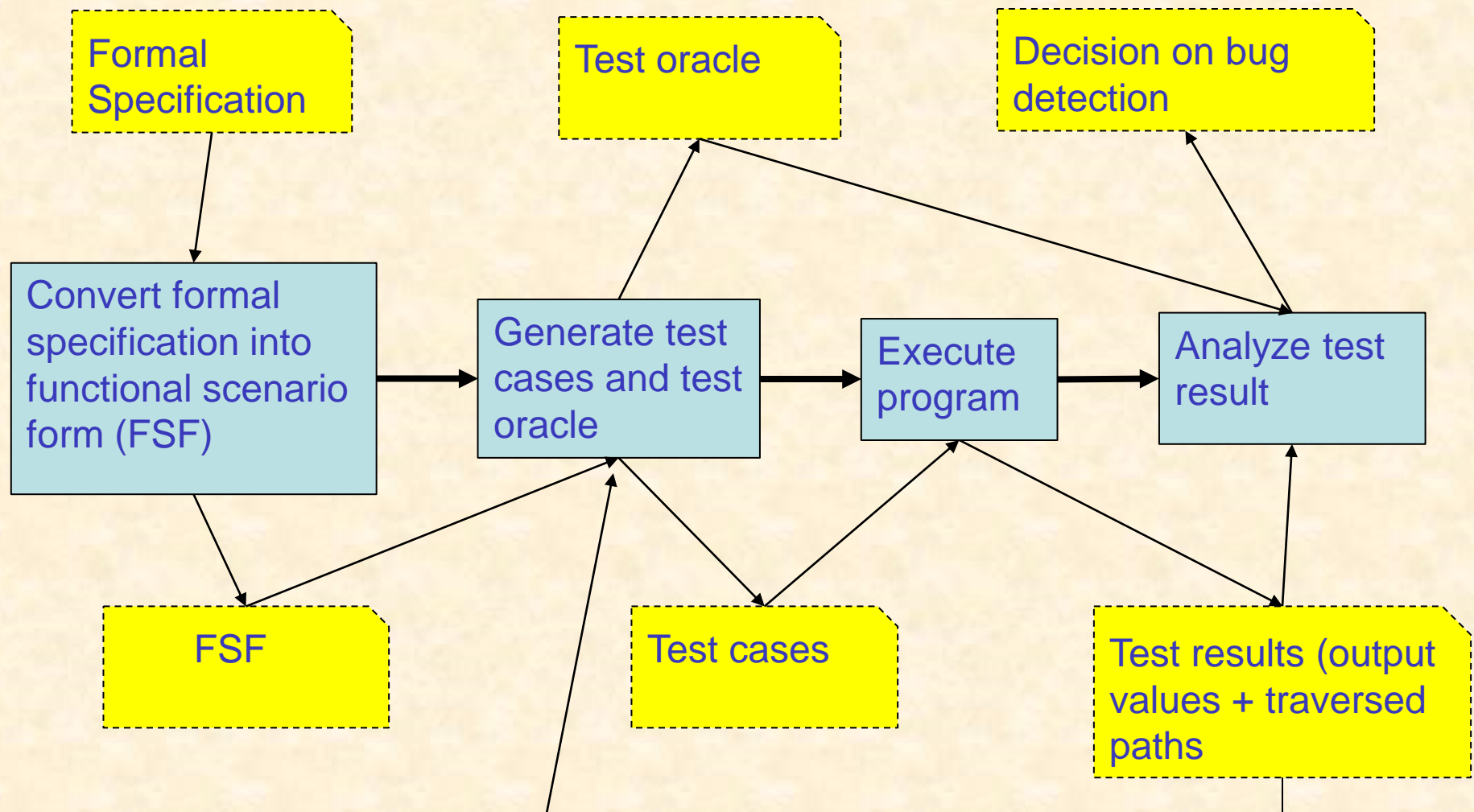
C4

C5

C6

C7

# The framework for functional scenario-based testing (V-Method)



# Functional scenario form (FSF) and functional scenario

Let



denote a process specification. A set of functional scenarios can be derived from the specification, each defining an independent function in terms of input-output relation.

**Definition (FSF)** Let

$$S_{\text{post}} \equiv (G_1 \wedge D_1) \vee (G_2 \wedge D_2) \vee \dots \vee (G_n \wedge D_n),$$

where  $G_i$  is a **guard condition** and

$D_i$  is a **defining condition**,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Then, a **functional scenario form (FSF)** of  $S$  is:

$$(S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_1 \wedge D_1) \vee (S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_2 \wedge D_2) \vee \dots \vee (S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_n \wedge D_n)$$

where  $G_i$  differs from  $G_j$  if  $i$  differs from  $j$ .

$f_i = S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_i \wedge D_i$  is called a **functional scenario**

$S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_i$  is called a **test condition**



**Definition (complete specification)** Let

$(S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_1 \wedge D_1) \vee (S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_2 \wedge D_2) \vee \dots \vee$   
 $(S_{\text{pre}} \wedge G_n \wedge D_n)$  be an FSF of specification S.

Then, S is said to be complete if and only if the following condition holds:

$$S_{\text{pre}} \Rightarrow G_1 \vee G_2 \vee \dots \vee G_n$$

The completeness of a specification is a necessary condition for the scenario-based testing method to work effectively.

# Example

```
process Tell_Railway_Fare(status : string; fare : nat0)
```

```
    actual_fare : real
```

```
  ext wr card: Card
```

```
  pre fare * 0.5 <= card.buffer
```

```
  post case status of
```

```
    “Infant” → actual_fare = 0 and card = ~card;
```

```
    “Student” → actual_fare = fare * 0.5 and
```

```
        card = modify(~card, buffer → ~card.buffer – actual_fare);
```

```
    “Normal” → actual_fare = fare and
```

```
        card = modify(~card, buffer → ~card.buffer – actual_fare);
```

```
    “Pensioner” → actual_fare = fare – fare * 0.3 and
```

```
        card = modify(~card, buffer → ~card.buffer – actual_fare);
```

```
    “Disable” → actual_fare = fare - fare * 0.3 and
```

```
        card = modify(~card, buffer → ~card.buffer – actual_fare);
```

```
  default → actual_fare = -1 and card = ~card
```

```
    end
```

```
end_process
```

# Functional scenarios of the process Tell\_Railway\_Fare specification

- S1: fare \* 0.5 <= card.buffer and  
status = "Infant" and actual\_fare = 0 and card = ~card
- S2: fare \* 0.5 <= card.buffer and  
status = "Student" and actual\_fare = fare \* 0.5 and  
card = modify(~card, buffer -> ~card.buffer - actual\_fare)
- S3: fare \* 0.5 <= card.buffer and  
status = "Normal" and actual\_fare = fare and  
card = modify(~card, buffer -> ~card.buffer - actual\_fare)
- S4: fare \* 0.5 <= card.buffer and  
status = "Pensioner" and actual\_fare = fare - fare \* 0.3 and  
card = modify(~card, buffer -> ~card.buffer - actual\_fare)

S5:  $\text{fare} * 0.5 \leq \text{card.buffer}$  and  
status = "Disable" and  $\text{actual\_fare} = \text{fare} - \text{fare} * 0.3$  and  
card = modify( $\sim\text{card}$ , buffer  $\rightarrow \sim\text{card.buffer} - \text{actual\_fare}$ )

S6:  $\text{fare} * 0.5 \leq \text{card.buffer}$  and  
status notin {"Infant", "Student", "Normal", "Pensioner",  
"Disable"} and  
 $\text{actual\_fare} = -1$  and card =  $\sim\text{card}$

# Test Case Generation Criteria

Generate a test set  $T$  based on the  $FSF$  of specification  $S$   $(S_{pre} \wedge G_1 \wedge D_1) \vee (S_{pre} \wedge G_2 \wedge D_2) \vee \dots \vee (S_{pre} \wedge G_n \wedge D_n)$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) For every functional scenario  $Sc$ , there must exist a test case  $tc$  in  $T$  such that  $tc$  satisfies the test condition of  $Sc$ . Precisely,

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \exists tc \in T \cdot S_{pre}(tc) \wedge G_i(tc)$$

(2) If  $G_1 \vee G_2 \vee \dots \vee G_n$  is not a tautology, there must exist a test case  $tc$  in  $T$  such that  $tc$  satisfies the condition:

$$S_{pre}(tc) \wedge \neg(G_1 \vee G_2 \vee \dots \vee G_n)(tc)$$

(3) There must exist a test case  $tc$  in  $T$  such that it satisfies the condition:

$$\neg S_{pre}(tc)$$

(4) For every path  $p$  in the representative path set  $R_{PP}$ , there must exist a test case  $tc$  in  $T$  such that the following condition is satisfied:

$$\text{traversed}(p, tc)$$

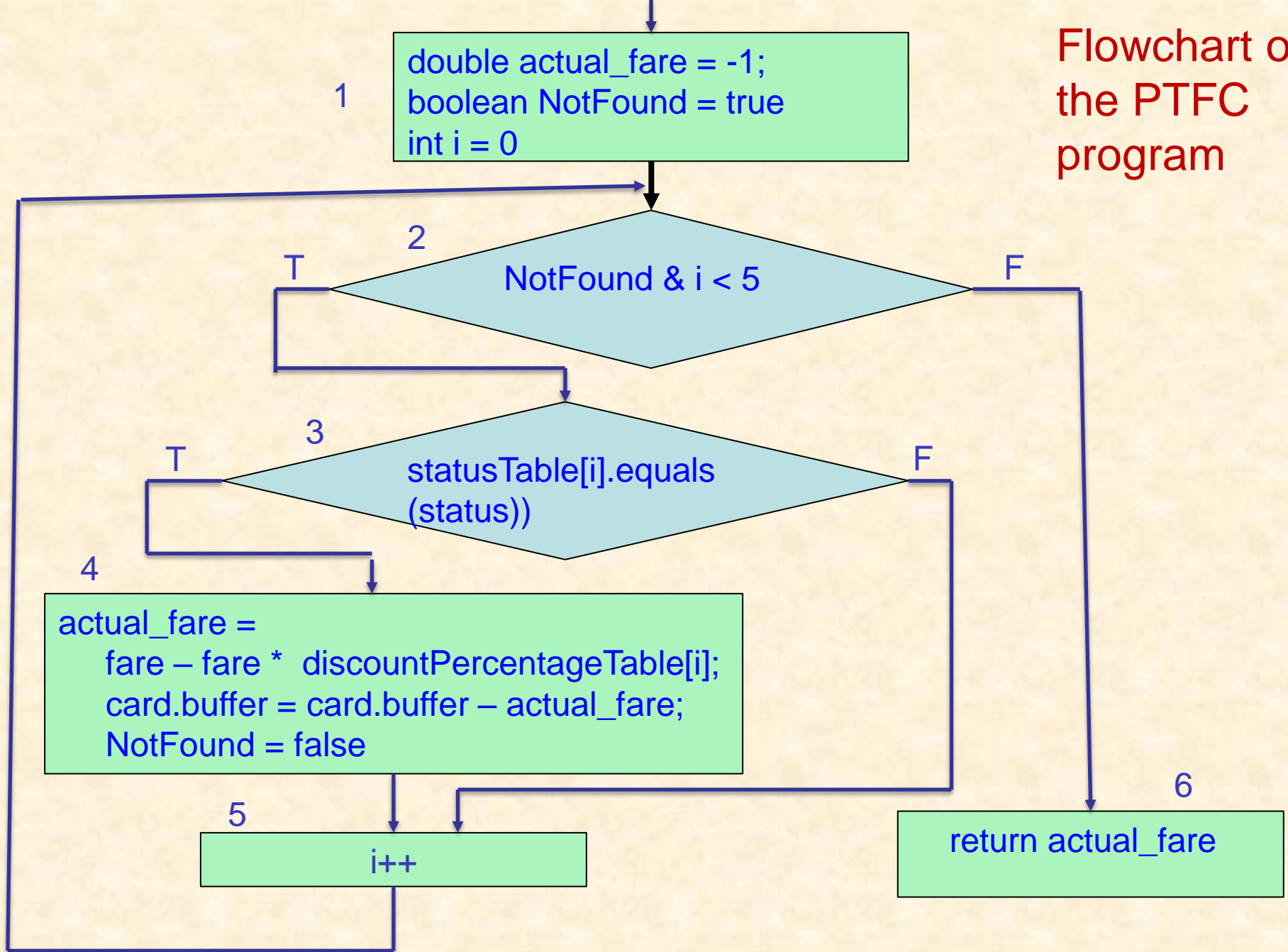


# Example

```
public double Tell_Raiway_Fare(String status, double fare) {  
    double actual_fare = -1;  
    boolean NotFound = true;  
  
    for(int i = 0; NotFound & i < 5; i++) {  
        if(statusTable[i].equals(status)) {  
            actual_fare =  
                fare – fare * discountPercentageTable[i];  
            card.buffer = card.buffer – actual_fare;  
            NotFound = false;  
        }  
    }  
    return actual_fare;  
}
```



# Flowchart of the PTFC program



# Representative paths (Branch sequences)

We have the following representative paths:

p1: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, -2, 6]

p2: [1, 2, -3, 5, ..., -2, 6]

p3: [1, -2, 6] (infeasible)

# Example of test cases satisfying the Criterion

tc	status	fare	~card. buffer	actual_ fare	card. buffer	coverage
1	380	"infant"	1500	0	1500	S1 & p1
2	1200	"student"	2300	600	1700	S2 & p2
3	530	"normal"	3800	530	3270	S3 & p2
4	960	"pensioner "	4300	672	3128	S4 & p2
5	130	"disable"	4100	91	4009	S5 & p2
6	240	"superman "	5205	-1	5205	S6 & p2
7	1500	"anything"	1200	-1	1200	$\neg$ pre- & p2

# Test oracle generation for test result analysis

Let  $S_{pre} \wedge G \wedge D$  be a functional scenario and  $T$  be a test set generated from its test condition  $S_{pre} \wedge G$ . If the condition

$$\exists tc \in T \cdot S_{pre}(tc) \wedge G(tc) \wedge \neg D(tc, P(tc))$$

holds, it indicates that a bug in program  $P$  is found by  $tc$  (also by  $T$ ).

## Test case generation

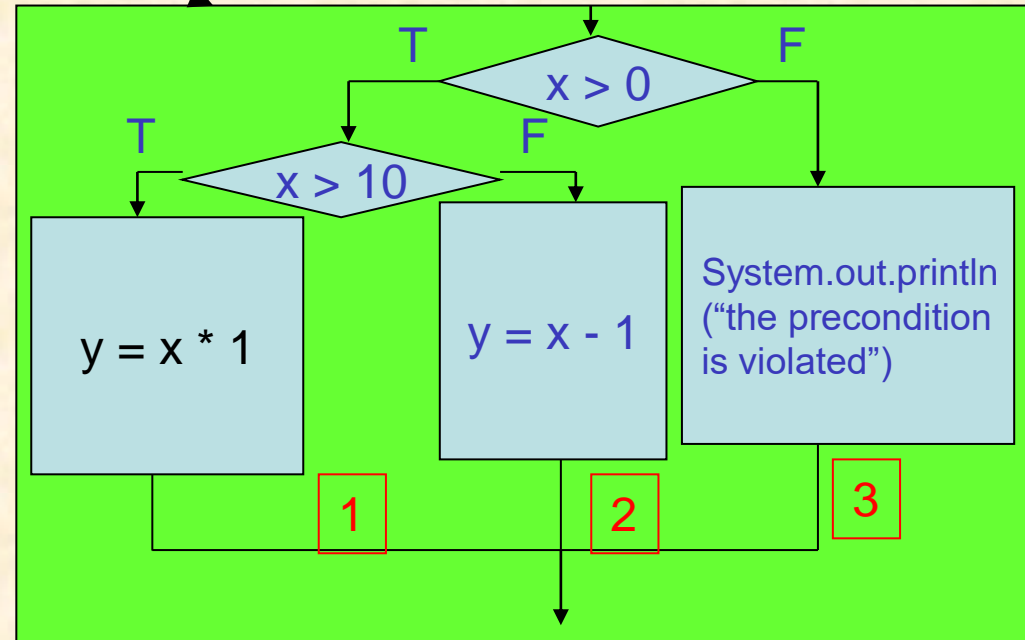
### Specification

$A(x: \text{int}) y: \text{int}$   
 $\text{pre } x > 0$   
 $\text{post } x > 10 \wedge y = x + 1 \vee$   
 $\quad x \leq 10 \wedge y = x - 1$

### Functional scenarios:

- (1)  $x > 0 \wedge x > 10 \wedge y = x + 1$
- (2)  $x > 0 \wedge x \leq 10 \wedge y = x - 1$
- (3)  $x \leq 0$  (optional)

### Program



## Test result analysis

x	y	$A_{\text{pre}} \wedge G(\text{tc})$	$D(\text{tc})$	$A_{\text{pre}} \wedge G(\text{tc}) \wedge \neg D(\text{tc})$
15	15	true	false	true
5	4	true	true	false

# Algorithms for automatic test data generation

We need to provide algorithms for test case generation from (1) atomic predicates, (2) conjunctions, and (3) disjunctions, respectively.

The algorithms should also be able to deal with both numeric values and compound values, such as sets, sequences, composite objects, and maps.

# Algorithms for generating test data from atomic predicates

Atomic predicate:  $Q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_q)$

Relational operator:  $\Theta \in \{=, >, <, >=, <=, <>\}$

Format of the atomic predicate:

(1)  $x \Theta E$ , where  $E$  is a constant

(2)  $E_1 \Theta E_2$ , where  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  involves only variable  $x_1$ .

(3)  $E_1 \Theta E_2$ , where  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  may involve  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_q$ .



# (1) Algorithms for atomic predicates: $x \ominus E$

Algorithm No.	Relational operator	Algorithm of generating a value for $x_1$	Algorithm of generating a value for the remaining variables $x_i$ ( $i = 2, \dots, q$ )
1	=	$x_1 := E$	$x_i := \text{any } \in \text{Type}(x_i)$
2	>, >= , <>	$x_1 := E + \delta$	$x_i := \text{any } \in \text{Type}(x_i)$
3	<, <=	$x_1 := E - \delta$	$x_i := \text{any } \in \text{Type}(x_i)$

where  $\delta > 0$

## (2) Algorithm for generating test data from atomic predicate:

$$(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1)$$

**Step 1:** Transform  $(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1)$  into the format  $x_1 = E$ , where  $E$  is a constant.

**Step 2:** Apply the corresponding algorithm for generating test data from  $x_1 \ominus E$  given previously.

### (3) Algorithm for generating test data from atomic predicate:

$$(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_q)$$

**Step 1:** Transform  $(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_q)$  into the format  $(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1)$  by first randomly generating test data for each of  $x_2, \dots, x_q$ .

**Step 2:** Apply the corresponding algorithm for generating test data from  $(E_1 \ominus E_2)(x_1)$  given previously.

# Algorithms for generate test data from atomic predicates involving variables of compound data types

Compound types:

Set types

Sequence types

Composite types

Algorithms for generating test data from atomic predicates involving variables of the above compound types can be found in our paper.

# Algorithms for generate test data from a conjunction

Let  $Q$  be a conjunction of predicates:

$$Q_1 \wedge Q_2 \wedge \dots \wedge Q_n$$

**(1) A primitive algorithm (PA) for generating test data from  $Q$ :**

**Step 1:** Generate a test data  $tc$  satisfying  $Q_1$

**Step 2:** Check whether  $tc$  satisfies the remaining predicates  $Q_2, \dots, Q_n$ . If yes, then  $tc$  will be treated as a qualified test data. Otherwise, replace  $Q_1$  with another predicate to repeat the two steps until a qualified test data is found or a termination condition is met.

# The problem with PA

## Example:

$$x + y > 10 \wedge x > 5 \wedge y < 7$$

If we start generating test data from the first atomic predicate  $x + y > 10$ , then it might fail to generate a qualified test data:

Let  $x = 4$ ,  $y = 7$ . Then, this test data will fail to satisfy  $x > 5$  and  $y < 7$ .

If we start with  $x > 5$  and  $y < 7$ . Then, the success of generating a qualified test data will be higher.

Let  $x = 6$ ,  $y = 6$ . Then, it satisfies all predicates.

## (2) A more efficient algorithm (EA):

**Definition** (predicate dependency). Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be two predicate expressions. If  $\text{Var}(E_1) \subset \text{Var}(E_2)$ ,  $E_2$  is said to be dependent on  $E_1$ , which is represented as  $E_1 \sqsubset E_2$ .

$\text{Var}(E)$  denotes the set of all free variables occurring in expression  $E$ .

For example,  $\text{Var}(x * y > 20) = \{x, y\}$ .

For example, predicate  $x * y > 20$  is dependent on  $x > 0$ ; that is,  $x > 0 \sqsubset x * y > 20$



**Definition** (ordered partition). Let  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_u\}$  be a set of predicate sets. If it satisfies the following two conditions:

$$(1) \forall i \in [1..u-1] \forall E_1 \in R_i \exists E_2 \in R_{i+1} \cdot R_i \sqsubset R_{i+1}$$

$$(2) \forall i \in [1..u-1] \forall E_1, E_2 \in R_i \cdot \neg(E_1 \sqsubset E_2)$$

$\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_u\}$  is said to be an ordered partition on  $\sqsubset$ .

# Algorithm EA

No.1. Construct an ordered partition  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_u\}$  for  $\{Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n\}$ .

No.2.  $t_0 := \{\}$ ;  $i := 1$ ;  $\text{flag} := 0$ ; /\*initializing  
 $t_0$  representing the generated test data\*/

No.3. while (  $i \leq u$  &  $\text{flag} \leq \text{NoOfFailure}$  ) {

$A := \text{ObtainInstantiatedPredicates}(R_i, t_{i-1})$ ;

/\* $A$  is an array of predicates\*/

$t_i := \text{GenerateTestData}(A)$ ; /\* $t_i$  is a new test  
data (possibly incomplete) generated based on  
the predicates in  $A$ \*/

```
if (ti == {}){  
    if (i > 1) {  
        i := i - 1; }  
    flag := flag + 1;}  
else {  
    i := i + 1;}  
} //while loop ends
```

```
No.4. if (flag > NoOfFailure) {  
    Display a test data generation failure message}  
    else {  
        Display a test data generation success  
message and ti is treated as the test data}
```

```
No.5. End.
```

# Algorithm for generating test data from disjunctions

Let  $P_1 \vee P_2 \vee \dots \vee P_m$  be a disjunction of predicate expressions. Let  $T(P_i)$  denote the test set generated from  $P_i$ . Then, an algorithm for generating a test set from the disjunction is as follows:

$$T(P_1 \vee P_2 \vee \dots \vee P_m) = T(P_1) \cup T(P_2) \cup \dots \cup T(P_m)$$

# Challenge

A challenge is how to automatically generate test cases from the specification so that all the representative paths of the program can be traversed at least once.

The reason why we face this challenge is that each functional scenario in the specification is usually refined into many paths in the code and it is extremely difficult to establish a theory that tells how test cases generated only from the specification can ensure that all the paths can be traversed.

**Example:** the functional scenario:

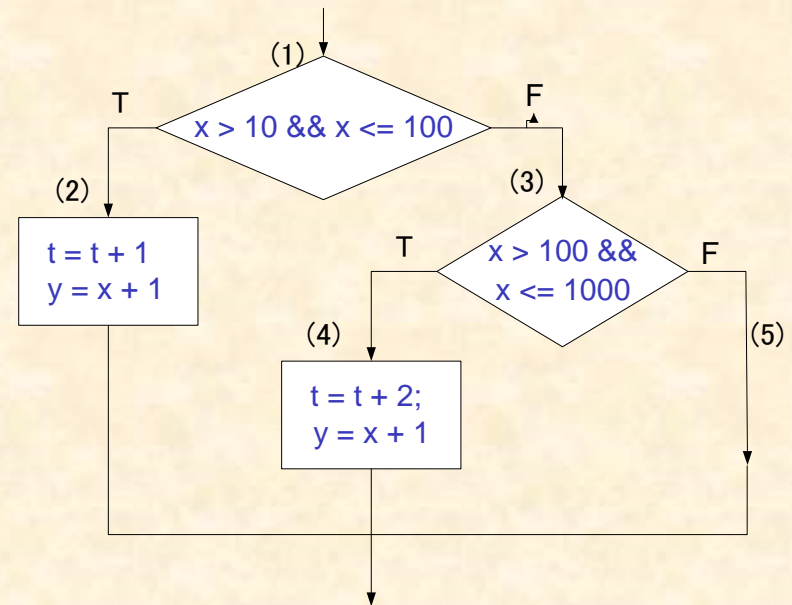
$x > 10 \wedge x \leq 1000 \wedge$

$y = x + 1$

$x$  is input

$y$  is output

int t; //global variable declared before



Three paths:  $[(1), (2)]$ ,  
 $[(1), (3), (4)]$   
 $[(1), (3), (5)]$



# A “Vibration” method (V-Method) for test set generation

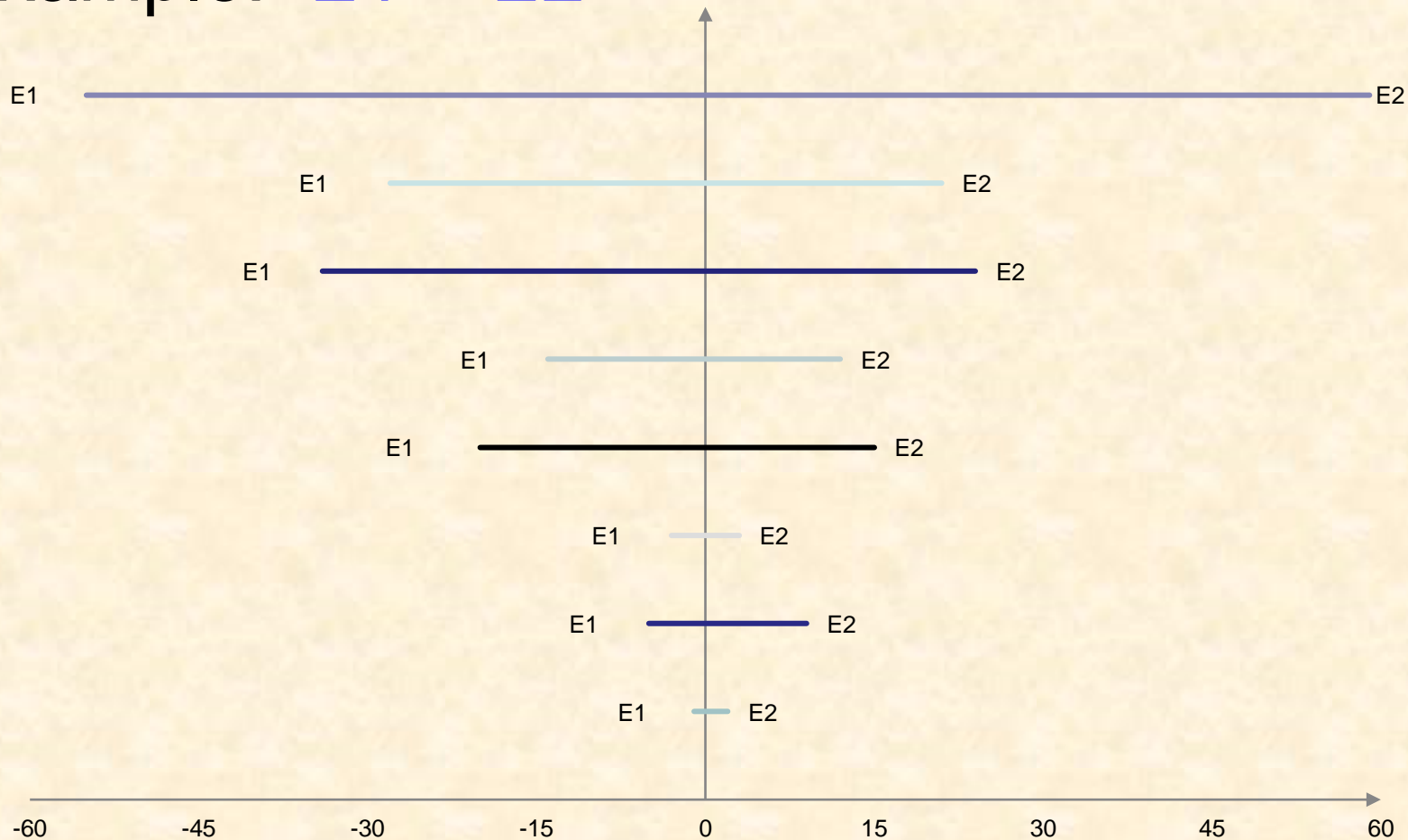
Let  $E_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) R E_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  denote that expressions  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  have relation  $R$ , where  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are all input variables involved in these expressions.

**Question:** how test cases can be generated based on the relation so that they can quickly cover all the paths refining the functional scenario involving the relation in the specification?

## V-Method:

We first produce values for  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  such that the relation  $E_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) R E_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  holds with an initial "distance" between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ , and then repeatedly create more values for the variables such that the relation still holds but the "distance" between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  "vibrates" (changes repeatedly) between the initial "distance" and the maximum "distance".

Example:  $E1 > E2$



# Example

int t; //global variable declared before

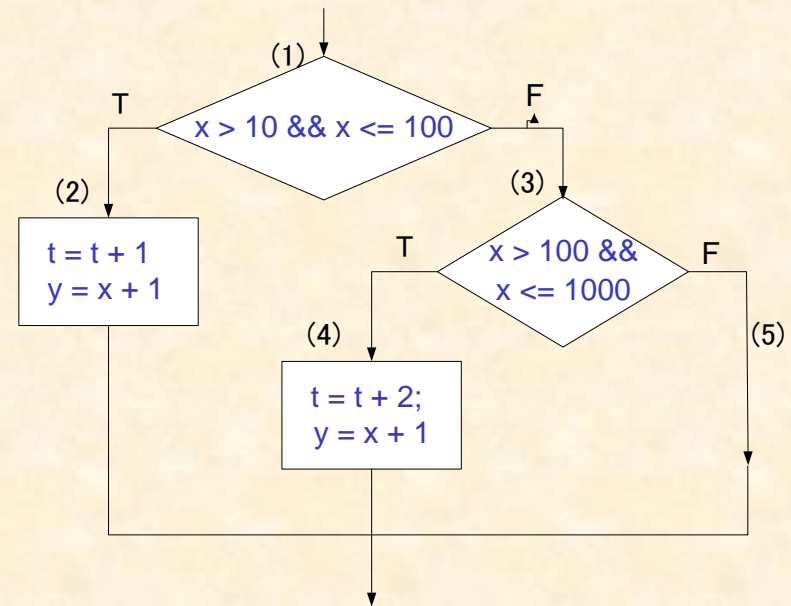
**Example:** the functional scenario:

$x > 10 \wedge x \leq 1000 \wedge$

$y = x + 1$

$x$  is input

$y$  is output



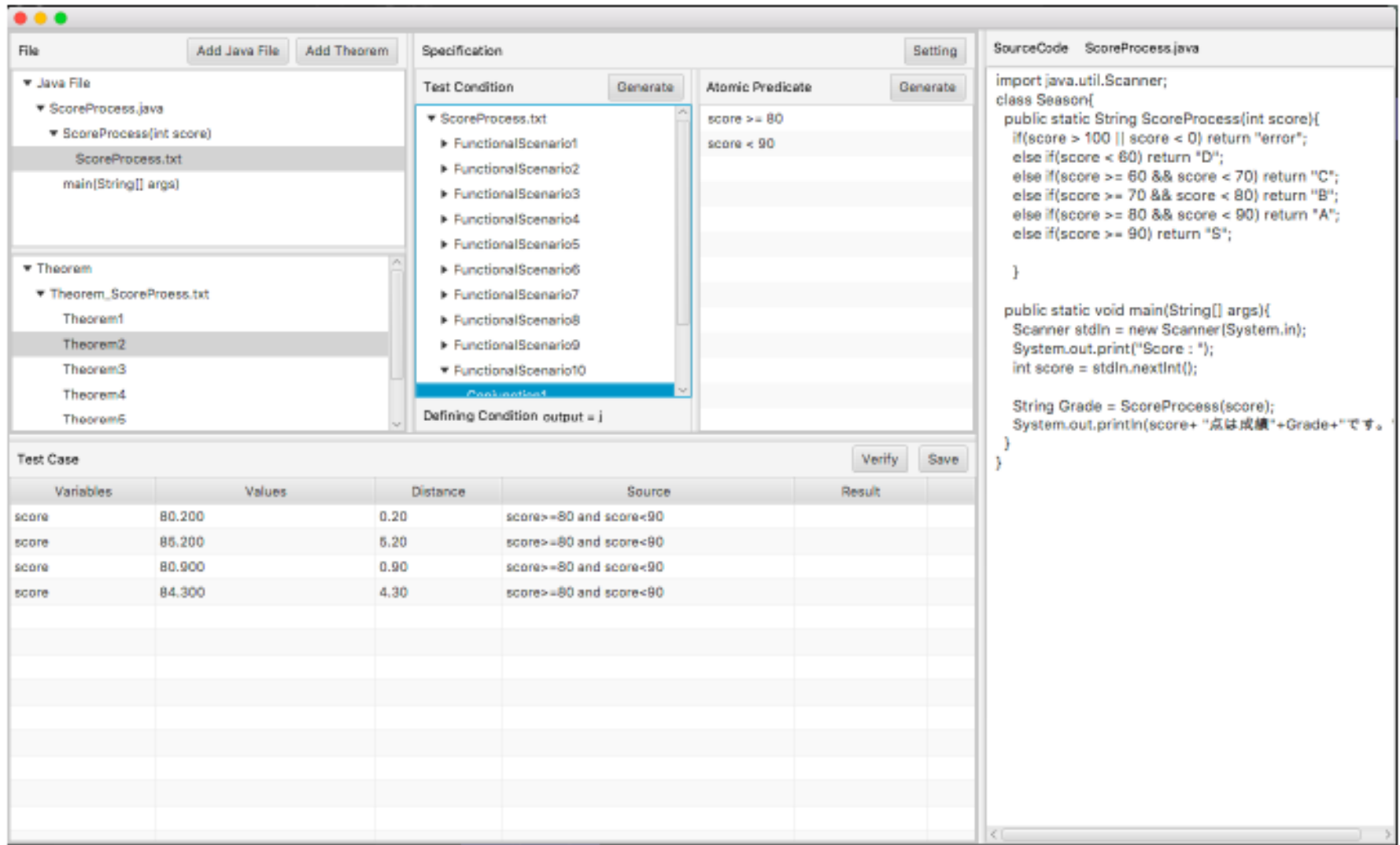
Three paths: [(1), (2)],  
[(1), (3), (4)]  
[(1), (3), (5)]

No.1. Let  $d$  (distance) = 8. Generate  $x > 10 + 8 = 19$ . This test traverses the path: [(1), (2)].

No.2. Let  $d = 100$ . Generate  $x > 10 + 100 = 111$ . It traverses the path: [(1), (3), (4)]

No.3. Let  $d = 200$ . Generate  $x > 10 + 200 = 211$ . It traverses the same path: [(1), (3), (4)]

# Prototype tools for V-Method



K. Saiki, S. Liu, H. Okamura, T. Dohi, “A Tool to Support Vibration Testing Method for Automatic Test Case Generation and Test Result Analysis”, The 21<sup>st</sup> IEEE International Conference on Software Quality, Reliability, and Security (QRS 2021), IEEE CPS, pp. 149-156, Dec. 6-10, 2021, doi: 10.1109/QRS54544.2021.00026.

# Conclusions

- The V-Method is characterized by using **functional scenarios** as the foundation for test case and test oracle generation and using “**vibration**” **step** to gain more path coverage in the program. It is **unique** among the existing specification-based testing techniques.
- Automatic testing based on specifications is an **efficient way to reduce cost and avoid mistakes** in the generation of test cases and test oracles, but the **specification must be written in a formal notation**.
- The capability of our V-Method indicates the **value of writing a formal specification** properly for software projects.



# Future work

- Try to establish a theory to improve our V-Method to ensure that both functional scenarios in the specification and the corresponding paths in the program can be efficiently covered by the generated test cases (e.g., by utilizing genetic algorithms and/or symbolic execution)
- Continue to improve the prototype tool for the V-Method to support test case generation from more complex data structures.
- Integrate the V-Method with Hoare logic to support testing-based formal verification(TBFV)



**The end!**

**Thank you!**