

Appendix: alphabet extension

- ◆ Remember that an alphabet is implicitly associated with each process
- ◆ If an action appears in alphabets of multiple processes, it is shared and always has to happen concurrently in all those processes ie. the processes synchronize on that action.
- ◆ In the *Garden* example, we wanted to prevent any free action by the variable `VAR` alone, such as `write[0]`, from ever occurring.
- ◆ This could be done by extending the alphabet of `TURNSTILE` with the required action, ie `+{write[0]}`.
- ◆ This was actually done by extending the alphabet of the turnstiles with the full alphabet set of the shared variable `{VarAlpha}`.

Example of extending alphabet (1)

```
WORKER = (work -> WORKER | play -> WORKER) .  
MANAGER = STOP .  
||COMPANY = (WORKER || MANAGER) .
```

- ◆ COMPANY consists of a worker (who can either work or play) and a manager (who does nothing!)
- ◆ Therefore, the composed process COMPANY can do either work or play actions
- ◆ Problem: we don't want the COMPANY to play, ever!

Example of extending alphabet (2)

```
WORKER = (work -> WORKER | play -> WORKER) .  
MANAGER = STOP + {play} .  
||COMPANY = (WORKER || MANAGER) .
```

- ◆ Solution: we extend the alphabet of **MANAGER** to include action **play**
- ◆ **play** is now a shared action and can only occur if both **WORKER** and **MANAGER** do it
- ◆ ...and since **MANAGER** never does so, neither can the **WORKER**.

Example of extending alphabet (3)

- ◆ Having decided that play is an undesirable action, we can use the **ERROR** state to check for it. The following finds an error trace:

```
WORKER = (work -> WORKER | play -> WORKER) .  
MANAGER = STOP .  
TEST = (play -> ERROR) .  
||COMPANY = (WORKER || MANAGER || TEST) .
```

- ◆ while extending the alphabet fixes it:

```
WORKER = (work -> WORKER | play -> WORKER) .  
MANAGER = STOP + {play} .  
TEST = (play -> ERROR) .  
||COMPANY = (WORKER || MANAGER || TEST) .
```

Garden example

- ◆ Back in the Garden example, by adding `write[0]` to the alphabet of `INCREMENT`, we ensured that any `write[0]` action in `VAR` would have to happen in `INCREMENT` as well.
- ◆ But, since `INCREMENT` only does `write[x+1]`, for `x:0..4`, this can never happen
- ◆ What this prevented is the `write[0]` defined in `VAR` from occurring autonomously!