

State-changing systems

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Vending machine example

Consider an example state-changing system: a **vending machine** which dispenses drinks in a university department.

- ▶ The machine has several components, including at least the following: a **storage space** for storing and preparing drinks, a **box** for dispensing drinks and a **coin slot** for putting coins in.
- ▶ When the machine is operating, it goes through several states depending on the behavior of the current **customer**.
- ▶ Each action undertaken by the customer or by the machine itself may **change the state** of the machine. For example, when the customer inserts a coin in the coin slot, the amount of money stored in the slot changes.
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Modeling state-changing systems

To build a **formal model** of a particular state-changing system, we should define

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2. What are the possible **values** of the state variables.
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Transition systems

A **transition system** is a tuple $\mathbb{S} = (S, In, T, \mathcal{X}, dom)$, where

1. S is a finite non-empty set, called the set of **states** of \mathbb{S} .
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Transition systems

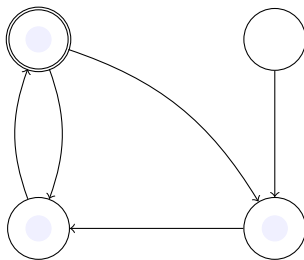
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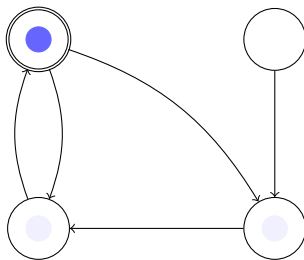


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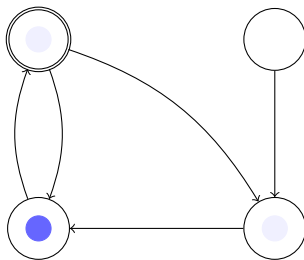


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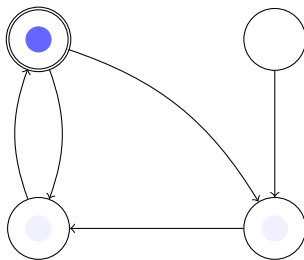


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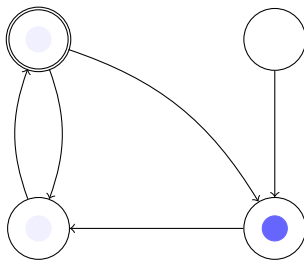


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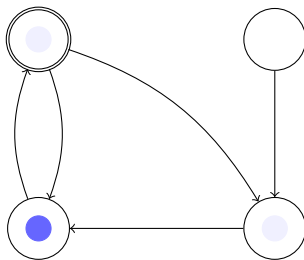


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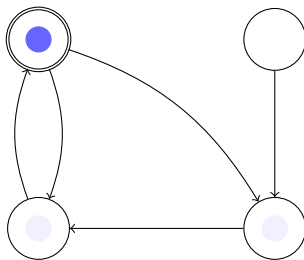


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- ▶ dom is a mapping from \mathcal{X} such that for every state variable $v \in \mathcal{X}$ $dom(v)$ is a non-empty set, called the **domain for v** .

Denote the set of all interpretations for this instance of PLFD by \mathbb{I} .

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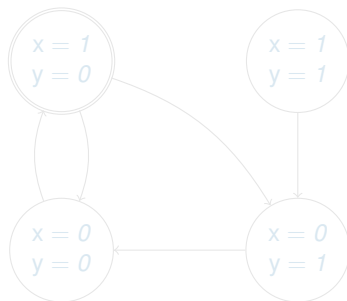
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Assume two boolean-valued variables x, y .



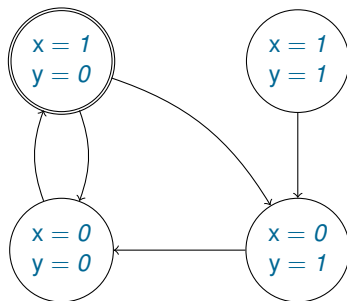
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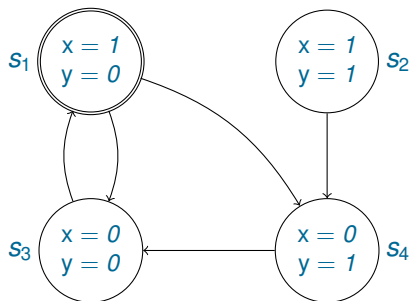
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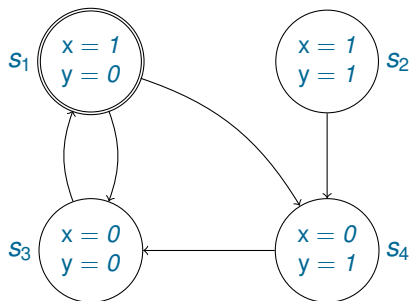
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States as Interpretations



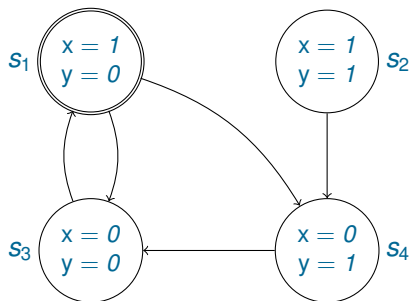
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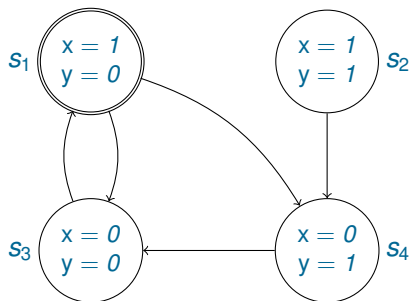
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Transitions

When we model systems, we will usually represent the transition relation as a union of so-called transitions.

- ▶ A **transition** t is any set of pairs of states.
- ▶ A transition t is **applicable** to a state s if there exists a state s' such that $(s, s') \in t$.
- ▶ A transition t is **deterministic** if for every state s there exists at most one state s' such that $(s, s') \in t$.

Vending machine

1. The vending machine contains a drink storage, a coin slot, and a drink dispenser. The drink storage stores drinks of two kinds: beer and coffee. We are only interested in whether a particular kind of drink is currently being stored or not, but not interested in the amount of it.
2. The coin slot can accommodate up to three coins.
3. The drink dispenser can store at most one drink. If it contains a drink, this drink should be removed before the next one can be dispensed.
4. A can of beer costs two coins. A cup of coffee costs one coin.
5. There are two kinds of customers: students and professors. Students drink only beer, professors drink only coffee.
6. From time to time the drink storage can be recharged.

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Formalization: Variables and Domains

variable	domain	explanation
st_coffee	$\{0, 1\}$	drink storage contains coffee
st_beer	$\{0, 1\}$	drink storage contains beer
disp	$\{\textit{none}, \textit{beer}, \textit{coffee}\}$	content of drink dispenser
coins	$\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$	number of coins in the slot
customer	$\{\textit{none}, \textit{student}, \textit{prof}\}$	customer

Transitions for the Vending Machine

1. *Recharge* which results in the drink storage having both beer and coffee.
2. *Customer_arrives*, after which a customer appears at the machine.
3. *Customer_leaves*, after which the customer leaves.
4. *Coin_insert*, when the customer inserts a coin in the machine.
5. *Dispense_beer*, when the customer presses the button to get a can of beer.
6. *Dispense_coffee*, when the customer presses the button to get a cup of coffee.
7. *Take_drink*, when the customer removes a drink from the dispenser.

Symbolic Representation of Sets of States

Let $\mathbb{S} = (S, In, T, \mathcal{X}, dom)$ be a finite-state transition system. Then every formula F defines a set states:

$$\{s \mid s \models F\}.$$

We say that F (symbolically) represent this set of states.

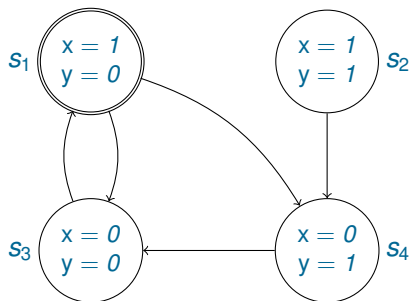
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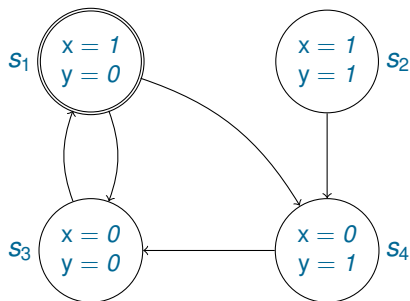
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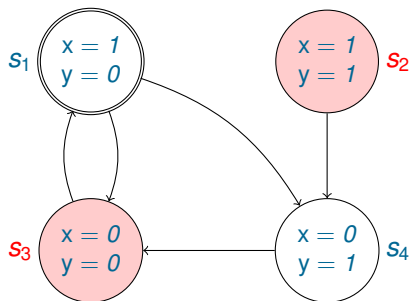


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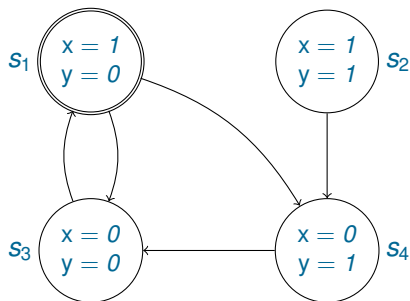


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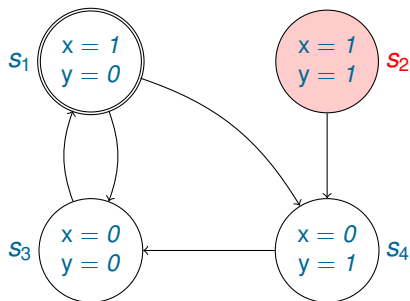
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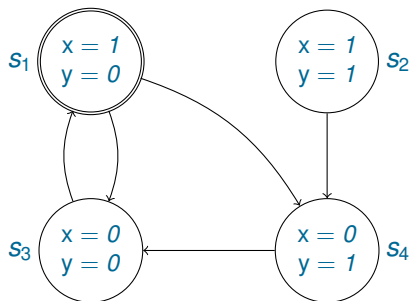
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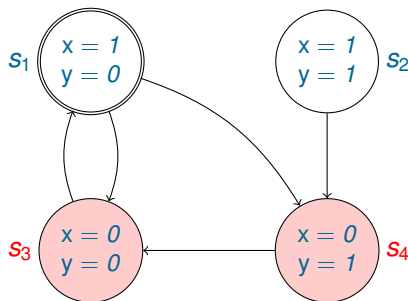
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Example

Let us represent the set of states in which the machine is ready to dispense a drink. In every such state, a drink should be available, the drink dispenser empty, and the coin slot contain enough coins.

This can be expressed by:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{st_coffee} \vee \text{st_beer}) \wedge \\ & \text{disp} = \text{none} \wedge \\ & ((\text{coins} = 1 \wedge \text{st_coffee}) \vee \text{coins} = 2 \vee \text{coins} = 3). \end{aligned}$$

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Symbolic Representation of Transitions

A transition is a relation on **pairs** of states. It brings the system to the **current state** and the **next state**. Formulas of PLFD can only express properties of a **single state**. How can we represent transitions using formulas?

- ▶ In addition to the set of propositional variables $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$, introduce a set of **next state variables** $\mathcal{X}' = \{x'_1, \dots, x'_n\}$.
- ▶ **Pairs of states as interpretations.** For every variable $x \in \mathcal{X}$ define

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Frame problem

One has to express explicitly, maybe for a large number of state variables, that the values of these variables do not change after a transition. For example,

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{coins} = 0 \leftrightarrow \text{coins}' = 0) \wedge \\ &(\text{coins} = 1 \leftrightarrow \text{coins}' = 1) \wedge \\ &(\text{coins} = 2 \leftrightarrow \text{coins}' = 2) \wedge \\ &(\text{coins} = 3 \leftrightarrow \text{coins}' = 3). \end{aligned}$$

This **frame problem** arises in artificial intelligence, knowledge representation, and reasoning about actions.

Notation for the frame formula

Abbreviations (we assume $\text{dom}(x) = \text{dom}(y)$):

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Preconditions and postconditions

When we represent a transition symbolically using a formula F of variables $\mathcal{X} \cup \mathcal{X}'$, the formula F is usually represented as the conjunction $F_1 \wedge F_2$ of two formulas:

1. F_1 expresses some conditions on the variables \mathcal{X} which are necessary to execute the transition (**precondition**);
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Preconditions and postconditions

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Transitions for the Vending Machine

1. *Recharge* which results in the drink storage having both beer and coffee.
2. *Customer_arrives*, after which a customer appears at the machine.
3. *Customer_leaves*, after which the customer leaves.
4. *Coin_insert*, when the customer inserts a coin in the machine.
5. *Dispense_beer*, when the customer presses the button to get a can of beer.
6. *Dispense_coffee*, when the customer presses the button to get a cup of coffee.
7. *Take_drink*, when the customer removes a drink from the dispenser.

Transitions: Symbolic Representation

Recharge
Customer_arrives
Customer_leaves
Coin_insert

Recharge $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} = \text{none} \wedge$
 $\text{st_coffee}' \wedge \text{st_beer}' \wedge$
 $\text{only}(\text{st_coffee}, \text{st_beer}).$

Customer_arrives $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} = \text{none} \wedge \text{customer}' \neq \text{none} \wedge$
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Coin_insert $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} \neq \text{none} \wedge \text{coins} \neq 3 \wedge$
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Transitions

Dispense_beer
Dispense_coffee
Take_drink

Dispense_beer $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} = \text{student} \wedge \text{st_beer} \wedge$
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 $\text{disp}' = \text{beer} \wedge$
 $(\text{coins} = 2 \rightarrow \text{coins}' = 0) \wedge$
 $(\text{coins} = 3 \rightarrow \text{coins}' = 1) \wedge$
 $\text{only}(\text{st_beer}, \text{disp}, \text{coins}).$

Dispense_coffee $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} = \text{prof} \wedge \text{st_coffee} \wedge$
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 $\text{disp}' = \text{coffee} \wedge$
 $(\text{coins} = 1 \rightarrow \text{coins}' = 0) \wedge$
 $(\text{coins} = 2 \rightarrow \text{coins}' = 1) \wedge$
 $(\text{coins} = 3 \rightarrow \text{coins}' = 2) \wedge$
 $\text{only}(\text{st_coffee}, \text{disp}, \text{coins}).$

Take_drink $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ $\text{customer} \neq \text{none} \wedge \text{disp} \neq \text{none} \wedge$
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Transitions

Model checkers often use a convention that the variables that can change are those variables x such that x' occurs in the problem. Under this convention we can remove *only*(...) from all transitions and change *Dispense_beer* and *Dispense_coffee* as follows:

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Temporal properties of transition systems

1. There is **no state** in which professor and student are both customers.
2. Students **never** drink coffee.
3. The machine cannot dispense drinks **forever** without recharging.

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