

## 2. Transition Systems

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# **What are Formal Methods?**

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# What are formal methods?

Formal methods are **techniques** to  
model **complex systems** using  
**rigorous mathematical models**

## Specification

Define part of the system  
using a modelling  
language

## Verification

Prove properties.  
Show correctness.  
Find bugs.

## Implementation

Generate correct code.

All formal models are wrong

All formal models are wrong  
... but some of them are usefull!

- CSS: a simple language for concurrency
  - Syntax
  - Semantics
  - Equivalence
- Timed Automata
  - Syntax
  - Semantics (composition, Zeno)
  - Equivalence
  - UPPAAL tool
    - Specification
    - CTL and Verification
- A simple C-like language
  - Syntax
  - Semantics (operational)
- Hybrid-language: adding differential equations
  - Syntax
  - Semantics
  - Lince tool
    - Specification
    - Analysis
- Monads: semantics with computational effects

## Why transition systems?

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# A Sprinkle of Linguistics

During the module we will encounter two linguistic concepts that every programmer should know:

- **syntax** - the rules used for determining whether a sentence is valid (in a language) or not
- **semantics** - the meaning of valid sentences

## Ex. 2.1: Syntax

The sentence/program  $x := p ; q$  is forbidden by the syntactic rules of most programming languages

## Ex. 2.2: Semantics

The sentence/program  $x := 1$  has the meaning “writes 1 in the memory address corresponding to  $x$ ”



# The need for Semantics in Formal Analysis

How can one prove that a program does what is supposed to do if its semantics (i.e. its meaning) is not established *a priori* ?

## Ex. 2.3:

What is the end result of running  $x := 2 ; (x := x + 1 \parallel x := 0)$  ?



parallelism operator

## Ex. 2.4: Value of $y$ ?

$\text{int } x = 0 ; \text{ int } f() \{ x + 1 ; \text{return } x ; \} \text{ int } g() \{ x - 1 ; \text{return } x ; \} \text{ int } y = f() + g() ;$

Widely used programming languages **still** lack a formal semantics

# Defining Transition System with Functors

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Recalling previous modules ...

## Definition (Functor)

A functor  $F$  sends a set  $X$  into a new set  $FX$  and a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  into a new function  $Ff : FX \rightarrow FY$  such that

$$F(\text{id}) = \text{id} \qquad F(g \cdot f) = Fg \cdot Ff$$

Fix a set  $A$ . The following two functors then naturally arise

- product -  $X \mapsto A \times X$ ,  $f \mapsto \text{id} \times f$
- exponential -  $X \mapsto X^A$ ,  $f \mapsto (g \mapsto f \cdot g)$

## Preliminaries pt. II - the List and Powerset functors

The list functor -  $[X] \mapsto X^*$ ,  $[f] \mapsto \text{map } f$



applies  $f$  to every element of a given list

The powerset functor - almost like the list functor; the difference is that we do not look at the order in which elements appear and how many times they repeat. Formally,

$$P(X) \mapsto \{A \mid A \subseteq X\}, \quad P(f) \mapsto (A \mapsto \{f(a) \mid a \in A\})$$

### Ex. 2.5: Powerset on Booleans

$$P(\text{Bool}) \mapsto \{\emptyset, \{\top\}, \{\perp\}, \{\top, \perp\}\}$$

# A (Generalised) Notion of a Transition System

## Definition (Transition system)

Let  $F$  be a functor. An  $F$ -transition system is a map  $X \rightarrow FX$

Some famous examples of  $F$ -transition systems

- Moore machine -  $X \rightarrow N \times X$
- Deterministic automata -  $X \rightarrow \text{Bool} \times X^N$
- Non-deterministic automata -  $X \rightarrow \text{Bool} \times P(X)^N$
- Markov chain -  $X \rightarrow D(X)$

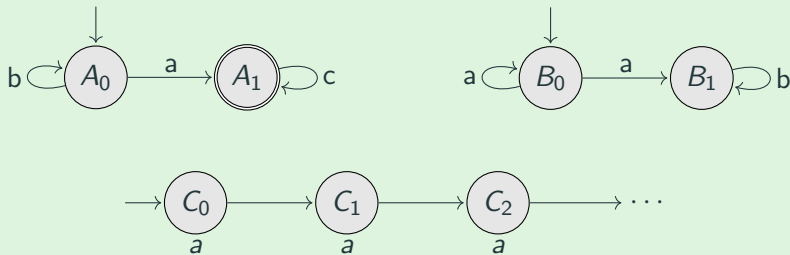


Distribution functor



Powerset functor

## Ex. 2.6: Formalise as an F-transition system



Indeed the idea of working at the level of

## Functors as Transition Types

is a very fruitful one; and which we only barely grasped (yet) —

in essence, it provides a **universal theory** of transition systems that can be instantiated to most kinds of transition system we will encounter in our life

# Process algebra

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## Sequential CCS - Syntax

$$\mathcal{P} \ni P, Q ::= K \mid \alpha.P \mid P + Q \mid \mathbf{0} \mid P[f] \mid P \setminus L \mid P \mid Q$$

where

- $\alpha \in N \cup \{\tau\}$  is an **action**
- $K$  is a collection of **process** names or process constants
- $L \subseteq N$  is a set of **labels**
- $f$  is a function that **renames** actions s.t.  $f(\tau) = \tau$
- **notation:**

$$[f] = [a_1 \mapsto b_1, \dots, a_n \mapsto b_n]$$

## Syntax

$$\mathcal{P} \ni P, Q ::= K \mid \alpha.P \mid P + Q \mid \mathbf{0} \mid P[f] \mid P \setminus L \mid P|Q$$

### Ex. 2.7: Which are NOT syntactically correct? Why?

$$a.b.A + B \quad (1)$$

$$(a.\mathbf{0} + b.A) \setminus \{a, b, c\} \quad (2)$$

$$(a.\mathbf{0} + b.A) \setminus \{a, \tau\} \quad (3)$$

$$a.B + [b \mapsto a] \quad (4)$$

$$\tau.\tau.B + \mathbf{0} \quad (5)$$

$$a.(a + b).A \quad (6)$$

$$(a.B + b.B)[a \mapsto a, \tau \mapsto b] \quad (7)$$

$$(a.B + \tau.B)[b \mapsto a, a \mapsto a] \quad (8)$$

$$(a.b.A + b.\mathbf{0}).B \quad (9)$$

$$(a.b.A + b.\mathbf{0}) + B \quad (10)$$

# CCS semantics - building a transition system

Every  $P$  yields a transition system  $X \rightarrow ???$  with transitions prescribed by the rules below.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(act)} \\ \hline \alpha.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(sum-1)} \\ \frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(sum-2)} \\ \frac{P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2} \end{array}$$
  
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(res)} \\ \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \setminus L \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \setminus L} \quad \alpha \notin L \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(rel)} \\ \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P[f] \xrightarrow{f(\alpha)} P'[f]} \end{array}$$

- **Initial states:** the process being translated
- **Final states:** all states are final
- **Language:** possible sequence of actions of a process

# CCS semantics - building a transition system

Every  $P$  yields a transition system  $X \rightarrow ???$  with transitions prescribed by the rules below.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(act)} \\ \hline \alpha.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(sum-1)} \\ \frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(sum-2)} \\ \frac{P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2} \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(res)} \\ \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \setminus L \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \setminus L} \quad \alpha \notin L \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{(rel)} \\ \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P[f] \xrightarrow{f(\alpha)} P'[f]} \end{array}$$

**Ex. 2.8: Build a derivation tree to prove the transitions below**

1.  $(a.A + b.B) \xrightarrow{b} B$
2.  $(a.b.A + (b.a.B + c.a.C)) \xrightarrow{b} a.B$
3.  $((a.B + b.A)[a \mapsto c]) \setminus \{a, b\} \xrightarrow{c} (B[a \mapsto c]) \setminus \{a, b\}$

## Ex. 2.9: Draw the automata

$$CM = \text{coin.coffee}.CM$$

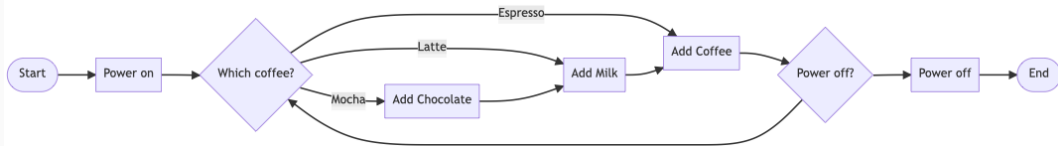
$$CS = \text{pub.}(\text{coin.coffee}.CS + \text{coin.tea}.CS)$$

## Ex. 2.10: What is the language of the process $A$ ?

$$A = \text{goLeft}.A + \text{goRight}.B$$

$$B = \text{rest}.0$$

# Exercise



**Ex. 2.11: Write the process of the flowchart above**

$P = \text{powerOn}.Q$

$Q = \text{selMocha.addChocolate}.Mk + \text{selLatte}.Mk + \dots$

$Mk = \text{addMilk} \dots$

# Concurrent Process algebra

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## Recall

1. Non-deterministic Finite Automata ( $X \rightarrow \text{Bool} \times \mathcal{P}(X)^N$ ):



2. (Sequential) Process algebra:  $P = a.Q$      $Q = b.Q$
3. Meaning of (2) using (1)

## Still missing

- **Interaction** between processes
- Enrich (2) and (3)



## CCS - Updated Syntax

$$\mathcal{P} \ni P, Q ::= K \mid \alpha.P \mid P + Q \mid \mathbf{0} \mid P[f] \mid P \setminus L \mid P|Q$$

where

- $\alpha \in N \cup \overline{N} \cup \{\tau\}$  is an action
- $K$  is a collection of process names or process constants
- $L \subseteq N$  is a set of labels
- $f$  is a function that renames actions s.t.  $f(\tau) = \tau$  and  $f(\overline{a}) = \overline{f(a)}$
- notation:

$$[f] = [a_1 \mapsto b_1, \dots, a_n \mapsto b_n] \quad \text{where } a_i, b_i \in N \cup \{\tau\}$$

## Syntax

$$\mathcal{P} \ni P, Q ::= K \mid \alpha.P \mid P + Q \mid \mathbf{0} \mid P[f] \mid P \setminus L \mid P|Q$$

### Ex. 2.12: Which are syntactically correct?

$$a.\bar{b}.A + B \quad (11)$$

$$(a.\mathbf{0} + \bar{a}.A) \setminus \{\bar{a}, b\} \quad (12)$$

$$(a.\mathbf{0} + \bar{a}.A) \setminus \{a, \tau\} \quad (13)$$

$$(a.\mathbf{0} + \bar{\tau}.A) \setminus \{a\} \quad (14)$$

$$\tau.\tau.B + \bar{a}.\mathbf{0} \quad (15)$$

$$(\mathbf{0}|\mathbf{0}) + \mathbf{0} \quad (16)$$

$$(a.B + b.B)[a \mapsto a, \tau \mapsto b] \quad (17)$$

$$(a.B + \tau.B)[b \mapsto a, b \mapsto a] \quad (18)$$

$$(a.B + b.B)[a \mapsto b, b \mapsto \bar{a}] \quad (19)$$

$$(a.b.A + \bar{a}.\mathbf{0})|B \quad (20)$$

$$(a.b.A + \bar{a}.\mathbf{0}).B \quad (21)$$

$$(a.b.A + \bar{a}.\mathbf{0}) + B \quad (22)$$

# CCS semantics - building an NFA

$$\frac{(\text{act})}{\alpha.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P}$$

$$\frac{(\text{sum-1}) \quad P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}$$

$$\frac{(\text{sum-2}) \quad P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}$$

$$\frac{(\text{res}) \quad P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \setminus L \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \setminus L} \quad \alpha, \bar{\alpha} \notin L$$

$$\frac{(\text{rel}) \quad P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P[f] \xrightarrow{f(\alpha)} P'[f]}$$

$$\frac{(\text{com1}) \quad P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'|Q}$$

$$\frac{(\text{com2}) \quad Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P|Q'}$$

$$\frac{(\text{com3}) \quad P \xrightarrow{a} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{\bar{a}} Q'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P'|Q'}$$

# CCS semantics - building an NFA

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(act)} \\
 \hline
 \alpha.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(sum-1)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(sum-2)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2}
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(res)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \setminus L \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \setminus L}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \alpha, \bar{\alpha} \notin L
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(rel)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P[f] \xrightarrow{f(\alpha)} P'[f]}
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(com1)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'|Q}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(com2)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P|Q'}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(com3)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{a} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{\bar{a}} Q'}{P|Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P'|Q'}
 \end{array}$$

## Ex. 2.13: Draw the transition systems

$CM = \text{coin}.\overline{\text{coffee}}.CM$

$CS = \text{pub}.\overline{\text{coin}}.\text{coffee}.CS$

$SmUni = (CM|CS) \setminus \{\text{coin}, \text{coffee}\}$

**Ex. 2.14:** Let  $A = b.a.B$ . Show that:

1.  $(A \mid \bar{b}.0) \setminus \{b\} \xrightarrow{\tau} (a.B \mid 0) \setminus \{b\}$
2.  $(A \mid b.a.B) + ((b.A)[b \mapsto a]) \xrightarrow{a} A[b \mapsto a]$

**Ex. 2.15:** Draw the NFAs  $A$  and  $D$

$$A = x.B + x.x.C$$

$$B = x.x.A + y.C$$

$$C = x.A$$

$$D = x.x.x.D + x.E$$

$$E = x.F + y.F$$

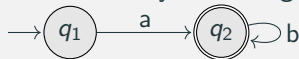
$$F = x.A$$

# Observational Equivalence

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## Recall

1. F-transition systems, e.g., Non-deterministic Finite Automata:



2. Process algebra:  $P = a.Q$     $Q = b.Q$     $P|Q$
3. Interaction between processes
4. Meaning of CCS using transition systems

## Still missing

- When is a process  $P$  **equivalent** to a process  $Q$ ?
- When can a process  $P$  be **safely replaced** by a process  $Q$ ?

# Observational Equivalence Informally

Two programs are **observationally equivalent** if it is impossible to **observe any difference** in their **behaviour**

Here behaviour is described in terms of transition systems

... and therefore behaviour/equivalence needs to be pinned down to them



## EQ1 – Language equivalence

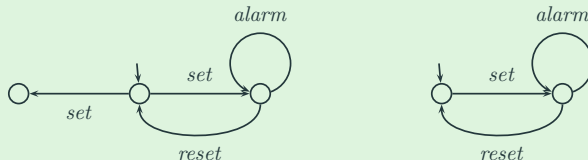
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# Language equivalence

## Definition

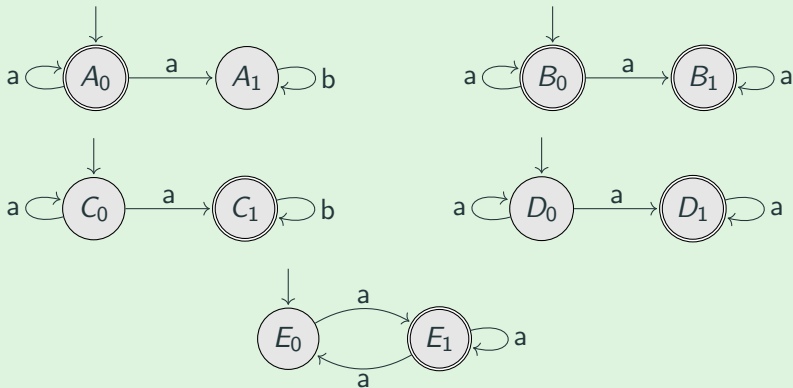
Two automata  $A, B$  are **language equivalent** iff  $L_A = L_B$   
(i.e. if they can perform the same finite sequences of transitions)

## Example



**Language equivalence** applies when one can neither interact with a system, nor distinguish a slow system from one that has come to a stand still.

## Ex. 2.16: Find pairs of automata with the same language



**Ex. 2.17: Check if the processes are language equivalent**

$$P = \text{coin}.\overline{\text{coffee}}.P + \overline{\text{tea}}.P$$

$$Q = \text{coin}.\overline{\text{coffee}}.Q + \text{coin}.\overline{\text{tea}}.Q$$

## EQ2 – Similarity

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the quest for a **behavioural equality**:

able to identify states that cannot be distinguished by any **realistic** form of observation

## Simulation

A state  $q$  **simulates** another state  $p$  if

every transition from  $q$  is corresponded by a transition from  $p$  and

this capacity is kept along the whole life of the system to which state space  $q$  belongs to.

# Simulation of NFA ( $X \rightarrow P(X)^N$ )

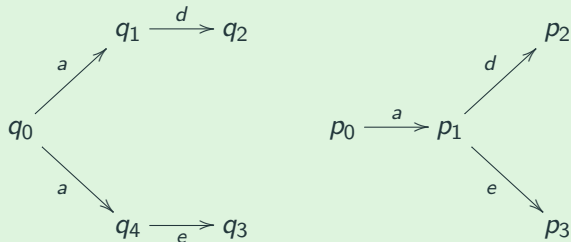
## Definition

Given NFA  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  over  $N$  with states  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  respectively, a relation  $R \subseteq S_1 \times S_2$  is a **simulation** iff, for all  $\langle p, q \rangle \in R$  and  $a \in N$ ,

$$(1) \quad p \xrightarrow{a}_1 p' \Rightarrow \langle \exists q' : q' \in S_2 : q \xrightarrow{a}_2 q' \wedge \langle p', q' \rangle \in R \rangle$$

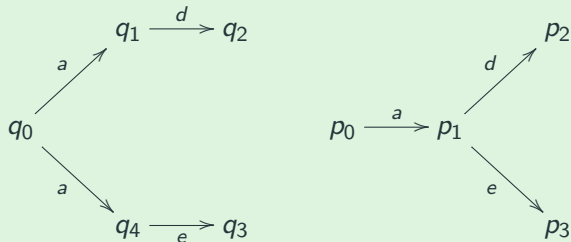


## Ex. 2.18: Find simulations





## Ex. 2.18: Find simulations



$$q_0 \lesssim p_0 \quad \text{cf.} \quad \{\langle q_0, p_0 \rangle, \langle q_1, p_1 \rangle, \langle q_4, p_1 \rangle, \dots\}$$

## Definition

$$p \lesssim q \equiv \langle \exists R :: R \text{ is a simulation and } \langle p, q \rangle \in R \rangle$$

We say *p is simulated by q*.

## Lemma

The similarity relation is a preorder  
(ie, reflexive and transitive)

## EQ3 – Bisimilarity

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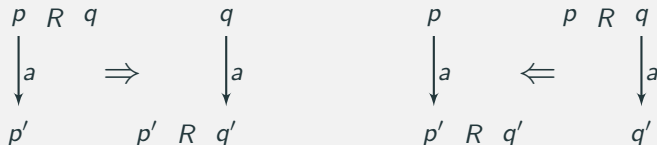
## Definition

Given NFA  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  over  $N$  with states  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  respectively, relation  $R \subseteq S_1 \times S_2$  is a **bisimulation** iff both  $R$  and its converse  $R^\circ$  are simulations.

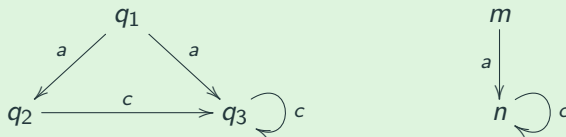
I.e., whenever  $\langle p, q \rangle \in R$  and  $a \in N$ ,

$$(1) \quad p \xrightarrow{a}_1 p' \Rightarrow \langle \exists q' : q' \in S_2 : q \xrightarrow{a}_2 q' \wedge \langle p', q' \rangle \in R \rangle$$

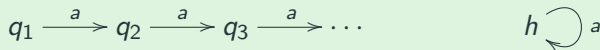
$$(2) \quad q \xrightarrow{a}_2 q' \Rightarrow \langle \exists p' : p' \in S_1 : p \xrightarrow{a}_1 p' \wedge \langle p', q' \rangle \in R \rangle$$



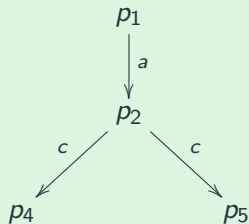
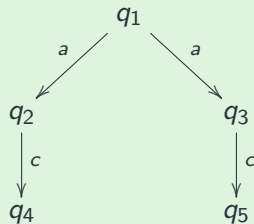
**Ex. 2.19:** Find bisimulations that include  $\langle q_1, m \rangle$



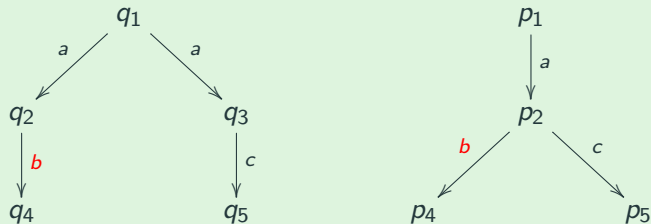
**Ex. 2.20:** Find bisimulations that include  $\langle q_1, h \rangle$



**Ex. 2.21:** Check if there is a bisimulation that include  $\langle q_1, p_1 \rangle$



**Ex. 2.22:** Check if there is a bisimulation that include  $\langle q_1, p_1 \rangle$



**Ex. 2.23:** Check if there is a bisimulation that include  $\langle P, Q \rangle$

$$P = \text{coin}.\overline{\text{coffee}}.P + \overline{\text{tea}}.P$$

$$Q = \text{coin}.\overline{\text{coffee}}.Q + \text{coin}.\overline{\text{tea}}.Q$$

## Definition

$$p \sim q \equiv \langle \exists R :: R \text{ is a bisimulation and } \langle p, q \rangle \in R \rangle$$

We say *p is bisimilar to q*.

## Lemma

Two processes  $P$  and  $Q$  are bisimilar if there is a bisimulation that includes  $\langle P, Q \rangle$ .

## Lemma

The bisimilarity relation is an equivalence relation  
(ie, symmetric, reflexive and transitive)



# Generalising Observational Equivalences

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# F-Transition Systems and Observational Equivalence

## Definition

Fix a functor  $F$  and consider two transition systems  $f : X \rightarrow FX$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow FY$ . Two states  $x \in X$ ,  $y \in Y$  are observationally equivalent if there exists a relation  $R \subseteq X \times Y$  with  $(x, y) \in R$  and there exists a transition system  $b : R \rightarrow FR$  such that the diagram below commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xleftarrow{\pi_1} & R & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & Y \\ f \downarrow & & b \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ FX & \xleftarrow{F\pi_1} & FR & \xrightarrow{F\pi_2} & FY \end{array}$$

If such is the case we write  $x \sim y$

# Observational Equivalence for Moore Automata

Given  $\langle o_1, n_1 \rangle : X \rightarrow A \times X$  and  $\langle o_2, n_2 \rangle : Y \rightarrow A \times Y$  we obtain from the previous slide that  $x \sim y$  iff

- $o_1(x) = o_2(y)$
- $n_1(x) \sim n_2(y)$

# Observational Equivalence for Labelled Transition Systems

Recall that we used systems of type  $X \rightarrow P(X)^L$  for establishing the **semantics** of **CCS processes**. This means that ...

notions of observational behaviour/equivalence for such transition systems directly impact our concurrent language

Given  $\bar{t}_1 : X \rightarrow P(X)^L$  and  $\bar{t}_2 : Y \rightarrow P(Y)^L$ ,  $x \sim y$  iff for all  $l \in L$

- $\forall x' \in t_1(x, l). \exists y' \in t_2(y, l). x' \sim y'$
- $\forall y' \in t_2(y, l). \exists x' \in t_1(x, l). x' \sim y'$