

Concurrency, Parallelism and Distribution (CPD)

Concurrency: FSP, LTS and Shared Memory

Joaquim Gabarro, gabarro@cs.upc.edu

Computer Science
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Basic Readings

Processes

Modeling Concurrency

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Basic Readings

Readings

Models

Jeff Magee and Jeff Cramer

Concurrency, State Models & Java Programs

John Wiley & Sons, 2006.

<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~jnm/book/>

Processes

Modeling Processes

- ▶ A **process** is the **execution of a sequential program**.
- ▶ As a process executes, it **transforms** its **states** by executing statements.
- ▶ Each statement consists of a sequence of one or more atomic **actions**.

Install the **Labelled Transition System Analyzer**, LTS

<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~jnm/book/>



↓
fine machine state

FSP

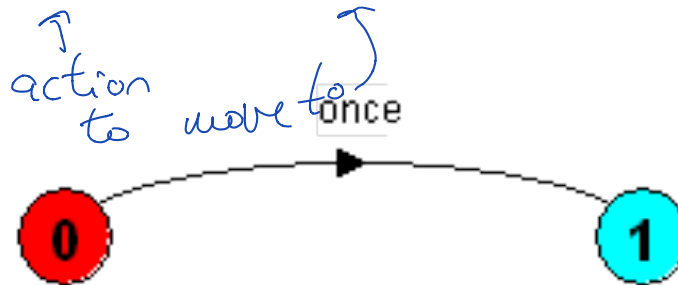
- ▶ We introduce a **simple algebraic notation** called **FSP** (for Finite State Process)
- ▶ Every FSP description has a corresponding Labeled transition System.

inter

FSP-action prefix

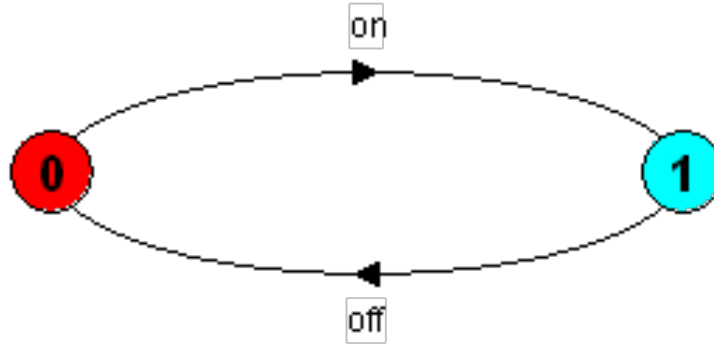
FSP-action prefix: If x is an action and P a process then $(x -> P)$ describes a process that initially engages in the action x and then behaves exactly as described by P .

ONESHOT = $(\overset{\text{action}}{\text{once}} -> \overset{\text{process}}{\text{STOP}})$.



FSP - action prefix & recursion

Consider the following light switch



It is described in FSP as follows:

```
SWITCH = OFF,  
OFF = (on -> ON) ,  
ON = (off-> OFF) .
```

```
SWITCH = OFF,  
OFF = (on -> (off->OFF)) .
```

```
SWITCH = (on->off->SWITCH) .
```

Trace

A **trace** corresponds to an execution of a process.

`SWITCH = (on->off->SWITCH) .`

`on->off->on->off->on->off->...`

FSP - choice

FSP - choice: If x and y are actions then $(x -> P | y -> Q)$ describes a process which initially engages in either of the actions x or y . After the first action has occurred, the subsequent behavior is described by P if the first action was x and Q if the first action was y .

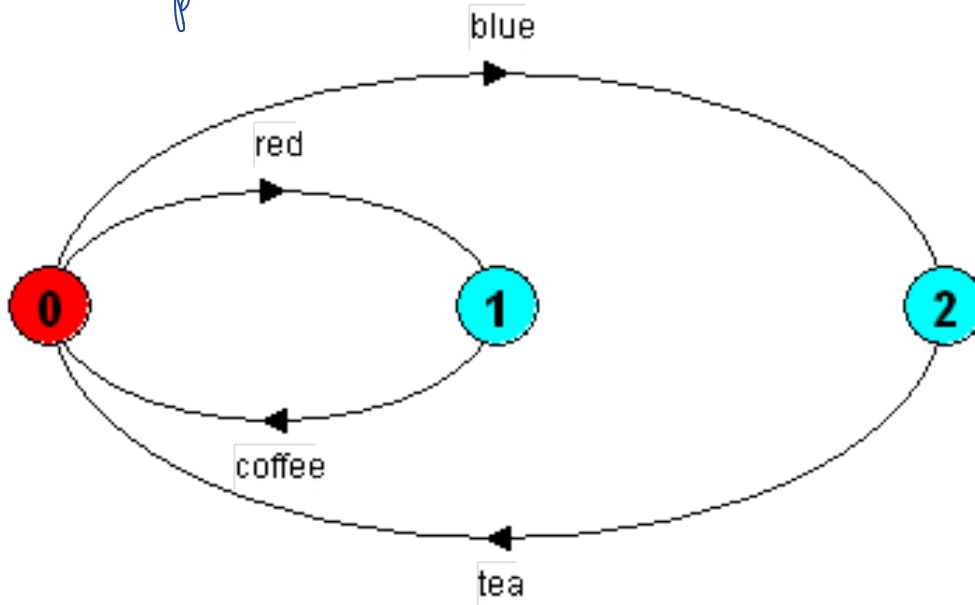
Example: Drinking machine

push red → set cofe

DRINKS = (red->coffee->DRINKS

or ① blue->tea->DRINKS

) . *push blue set tea*



Example: Drinking machine, traces

A process may have **many possible traces**

red->coffee-> blue->tea-> blue->tea->...

blue->tea-> red->coffee-> blue->tea->...

Look at the *Animator* part of the LST.

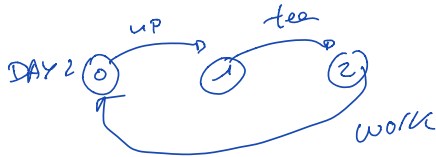
Class Exercise: three DAYS

You should do this exercise by hand first and then check using the LTSA tool.

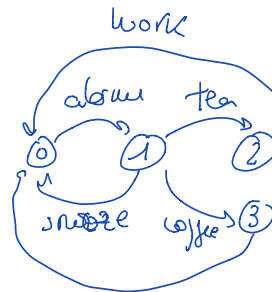
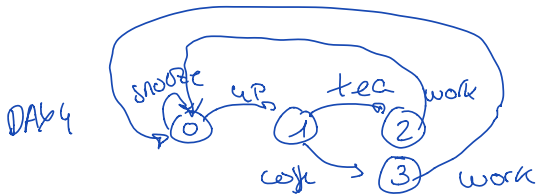
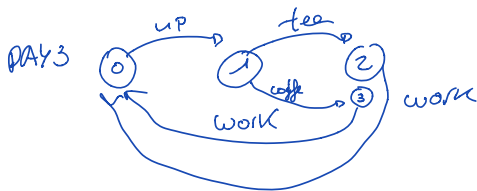
- ▶ Draw the three DAY LTSs, representing the actions of some-one getting up and going to work:
 - ▶ DAY1: get up (action `up`), then have tea (action `tea`), then go to work (action `work`), then stop
 - ▶ DAY2: do DAY1 repeatedly
 - ▶ DAY3: do DAY2, but choose between tea and coffee
- ▶ Write the FSP process definitions for the above. You can check these using the LTSA tool.
- ▶ Extend DAY3 to DAY4 to include the effects of an alarm with a `snooze` button, so prior to the up action, an alarm action is performed. However instead of then doing up you may do a snooze action and go back to the start.



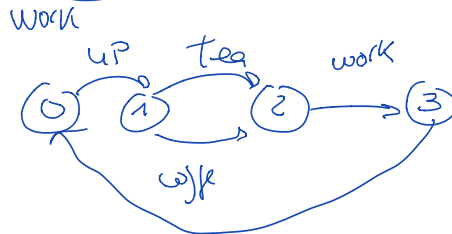
DAY 1 = (up → tea → work → STOP),



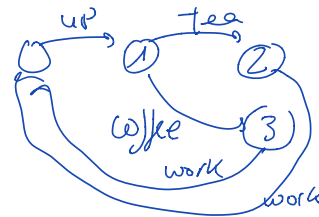
DAY 2 = (up → tea → work → DAY 2)



DAY 3 = (up → (tea → work | coffee → work), DAY 3),



DAY 3 = (up → (tea → work → DAY 3 | coffee → work → DAY 3),

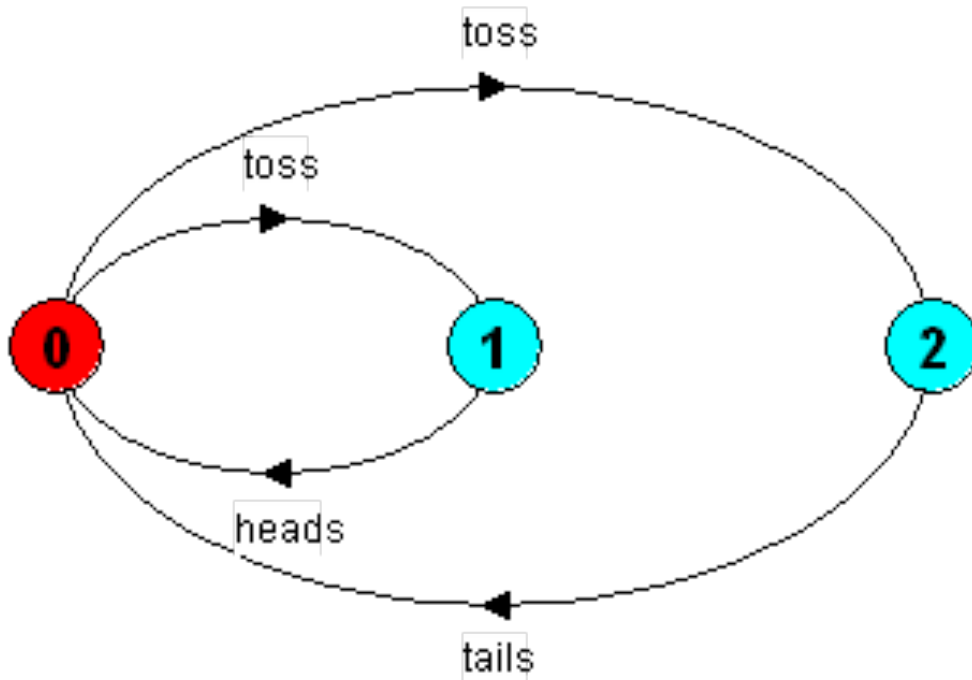


DAY 4 = (alarm (snooze → DAY 4 | up → (tea → work | coffee → work),
work = (work → DAY 4),

Non-deterministic choice

Non-deterministic choice: Process $(x \rightarrow P \mid x \rightarrow Q)$ describes a process which engages in x and then behaves as P or Q .

```
COIN = (toss->HEADS | toss->TAILS),  
HEADS = (heads->COIN),  
TAILS = (tails->COIN).
```



Modeling failure

How do we model an **unreliable communication channel** which accepts `in` actions and if a failure occurs produces no output, otherwise performs an `out` action?

```
CHAN = (in->CHAN  
        | in->out->CHAN) .
```

FSP - indexed processes and actions

Single slot buffer that inputs a value in the range 0 to 3 and then outputs that value.

```
BUFF = (in[i:0..3]->out[i]-> BUFF) .
```

equivalent to

```
BUFF = (in[0]->out[0]->BUFF  
      | in[1]->out[1]->BUFF  
      | in[2]->out[2]->BUFF  
      | in[3]->out[3]->BUFF  
      ) .
```

Indexed actions generate labels of the form **action.index**

FSP - indexed processes and actions

```
const N = 1
range T = 0..N
range R = 0..2*N

SUM = (in[a:T][b:T]->TOTAL[a+b]),
      TOTAL[s:R] = (out[s]->SUM) .
```

Process Parameters

Using a process parameter with default value:

$\text{BUFF}(N=3) = (\text{in}[i:0..N] \rightarrow \text{out}[i] \rightarrow \text{BUFF}) .$

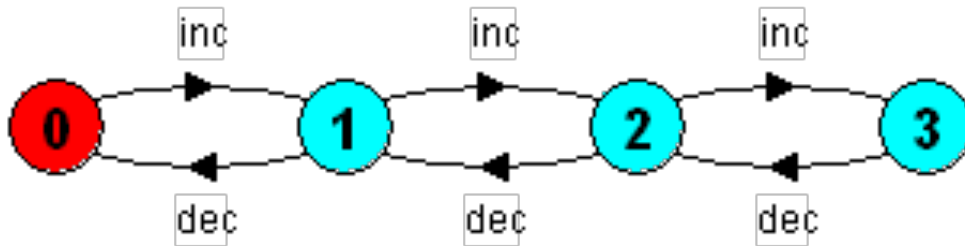
↖
buff parametrized by N
to have a picture, give N a value

FSP - guarded actions

if

FSP - guarded actions: The choice (**when** $Bx \rightarrow P \mid y \rightarrow Q$) means that when the guard B is true then the actions x and y are both eligible to be chosen, otherwise if B is false then the action x cannot be chosen.

Example:



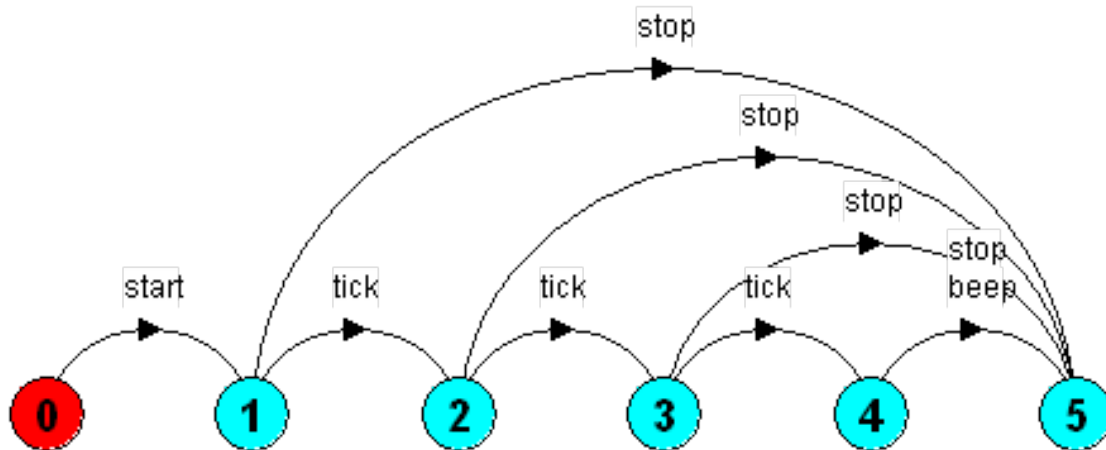
```
COUNT (N=3) = COUNT[0],  
COUNT[i:0..N] = (when (i<N) inc->COUNT[i+1]  
                  | when (i>0) dec->COUNT[i-1]  
                  ) .
```

Example

A countdown timer which beeps after N ticks, or can be stopped.

<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~jnm/>

[book/book_applets/CountDown.html](http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~jnm/book/book_applets/CountDown.html)



```
COUNTDOWN (N=3) = (start->COUNTDOWN[N]) ,  
COUNTDOWN[i:0..N] =  
  (when (i>0) tick->COUNTDOWN[i-1]  
   | when (i==0) beep->STOP  
   | stop->STOP) .
```

Class Exercise: SENSOR

You should do this exercise by hand first and then check using the LTSA tool.

A sensor measures the water level of a tank. The level (initially 5) is measured in units 0::9. The sensor outputs a `low` signal if the level is less than 2, a `high` signal if the level is greater than 8 and otherwise it outputs `normal`. Model the sensor as an **FSP** process, `SENSOR`.

Hint: The alphabet of `SENSOR` is

```
{level[0 :: 9]; high; low; normal}
```

When the sensor receives a new level it should output low, normal or high as required. This can be done either via a choice, or by specifying that each level input is followed by the appropriate output.

Modeling Concurrency

Modeling Concurrency

- ▶ How should we model process execution speed?
 - ▶ Arbitrary speed.
We abstract away time.
- ▶ How do we model concurrency?
 - ▶ Arbitrary relative order of actions from different processes.
[Interleaving](#) but preservation of each process order.
- ▶ What is the result?
 - ▶ Provides a general model independent of scheduling.
Asynchronous model of execution.

Parallel composition - action interleaving

Parallel Composition: If P and Q are processes then $(P||Q)$ represents the concurrent execution of P and Q . The operator $||$ is the parallel composition operator.

```
ITCH = (scratch->STOP) .
```

```
CONVERSE = (think->talk->STOP) .
```

```
||CONVERSE_ITCH = (ITCH || CONVERSE) .
```

Possible traces as a result of action interleaving.

```
think->talk->scratch
```

```
think->scratch->talk
```

```
scratch->think->talk
```

Modeling Interaction

Modeling Interaction

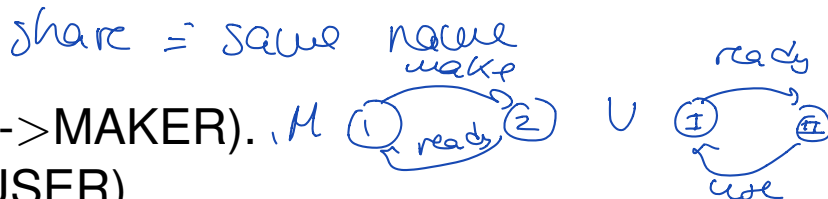
Shared actions: If processes in a composition have actions in common, these actions are said to be **shared**.

- ▶ Unshared actions may be arbitrarily interleaved.
- ▶ **shared action** must be executed at the same time by all processes that participate in the shared action.

Maker user example

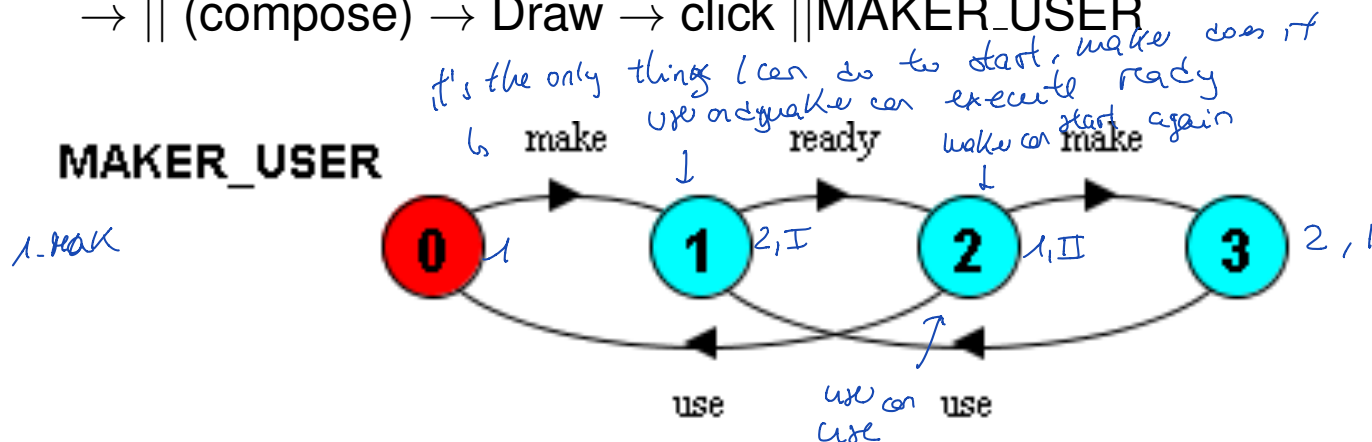
A MAKER manufactures an item (action make) and signals to the process USER that the item is ready (by a shared action **ready**). The USER process can only use the item (action use) after the signal.

MAKER = (make-**ready**->MAKER).
USER = (**ready**->use->USER).
||MAKER_USER = (MAKER || USER).



LTS Analyzer → Edit (write the program) → C (Compile)

→ || (compose) → Draw → click ||MAKER_USER



Manual construction of the LTS (1)

1) Unfolding the processes in the initial **state 0** we get

$(\text{MAKER} \parallel \text{USER})$

$= (\text{make-} \rightarrow \text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{use-} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

2) As **ready** needs to be executed by both processes "at the same time", the only possible transition from the initial state is to the **state 1**

$(\text{MAKER} \parallel \text{USER}) \xrightarrow{\text{make}} (\text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{use-} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

3) Both processes execute (at the same time) **ready** and go to **state 2**:

$(\text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{ready-} \rightarrow \text{use-} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

$\xrightarrow{\text{ready}} (\text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use-} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

Manual construction of the LTS (2)

4) Unfolding **state 2** we get

$(\text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER}) = (\text{make} \rightarrow \text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

Two transitions are available going to **states 3 and 0**:

$(\text{make} \rightarrow \text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

$\xrightarrow{\text{make}} (\text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

$(\text{make} \rightarrow \text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER})$

$\xrightarrow{\text{use}} (\text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{USER})$

5) From **state 3** the following transition moves to **state 1**:

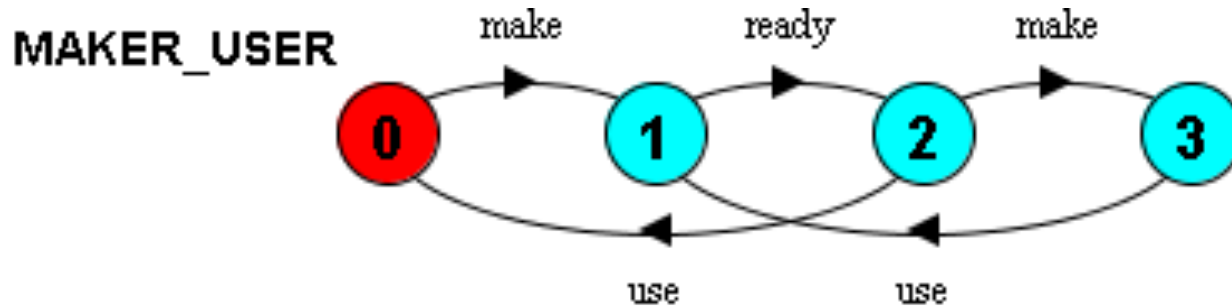
$(\text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{use} \rightarrow \text{USER}) \xrightarrow{\text{use}} (\text{ready} \rightarrow \text{MAKER} \parallel \text{USER})$

Manual construction of the LTS (3)

Give a **fine grained description** of the states using unfolding when needed.

state	description
0	(MAKER USER) = (make-> ready ->MAKER USER)= (make-> ready ->MAKER ready ->use->USER)
1	(ready ->MAKER USER)= (ready ->MAKER ready ->use->USER)
2	(MAKER use->USER)= (make-> ready ->MAKER use->USER)
3	(ready ->MAKER use->USER)

Traces



As expected

make->ready->use->make->ready->use-> ...

Also

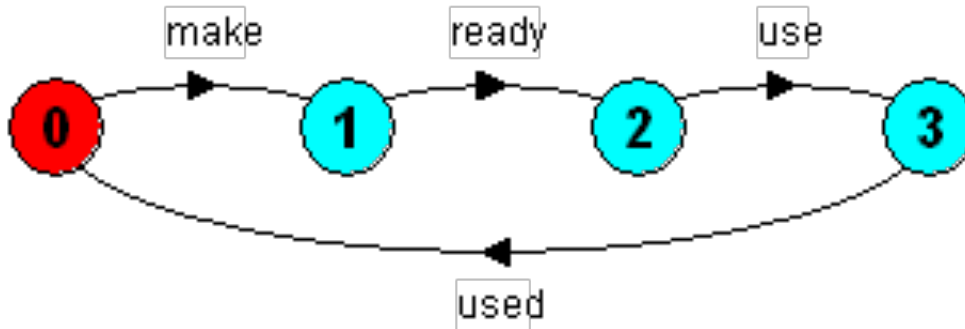
make->ready->make->use->ready->use->make-> ...

Handshake

MAKERv2 = (make->**ready**->**used**->MAKERv2).

USERv2 = (**ready**->use->**used** ->USERv2).

||MAKER_USERv2 = (MAKERv2 || USERv2).



make->ready->use->used->make->ready->use->use-> ...

The model does not distinguish which process instigates a shared action even though it is natural to think of the MAKER instigating the **ready** and the USER instigating the **used** action.

Multi-party synchronization

```
MAKE_A =(makeA->ready->used->MAKE_A).  
MAKE_B = (makeB->ready->used->MAKE_B).  
ASSEMBLE = (ready->assemble->used->ASSEMBLE).  
||FACTORY = (MAKE_A || MAKE_B || ASSEMBLE).
```

Class Exercise: ||MICROWAVE

(1) Draw (at hand and check with the program) the LTS:

```
MICROWAVE = (put_food_in -> SETTINGS),  
SETTINGS = (set_heat_level -> set_time -> COOK  
            | set_time -> set_heat_level -> COOK),  
COOK = (cook -> take_food_out -> MICROWAVE).
```

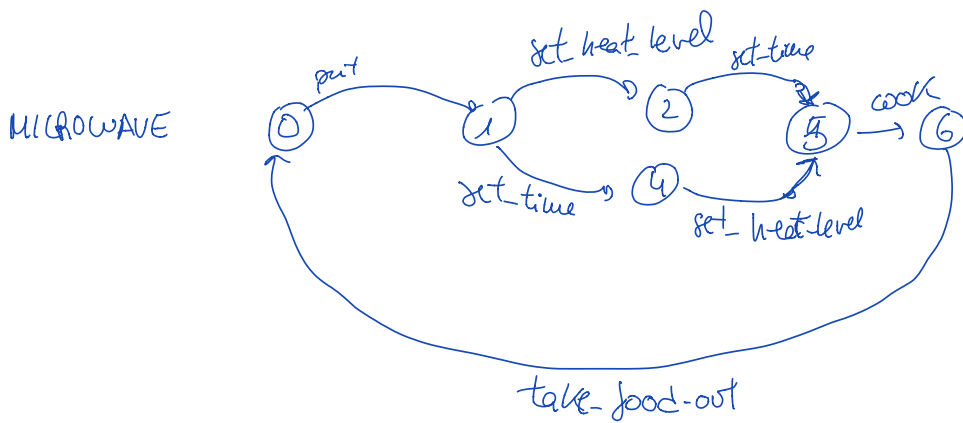
(2) Model again the MICROWAVE using parallel composition.

Hint: You will need to use handshaking with shared actions, so that it is not possible to produce silly action traces. eg to cook after take food out.

```
COOK = ( put_food_in -> .... -> take_food_out -> COOK ).  
SET_HEAT = ( put_food_in -> ... -> cook -> SET_HEAT ).  
SET_TIME = ...
```

such that

```
||MICROWAVE = ( COOK || SET_HEAT || SET_TIME ).
```



COOK = (put-food-in, food-introduced,

set-heat = (put-food-in, food-introduced, set-heat

set-time = (put-food-in, food-introduced, set-time

COOK = (put-food-in → cook → take food-out → cook)

set-heat = (put-food-in, set-heat-level, → cook →
set-heat)

set-time = (put-food-in → set-time → cook → ~~set-time~~)

$S = (on \wedge o) \rightarrow S$

$S_2 = (on \rightarrow o) \rightarrow S_2$

$(S \parallel S_2) = (on \rightarrow o) \rightarrow (S \parallel S_2)$

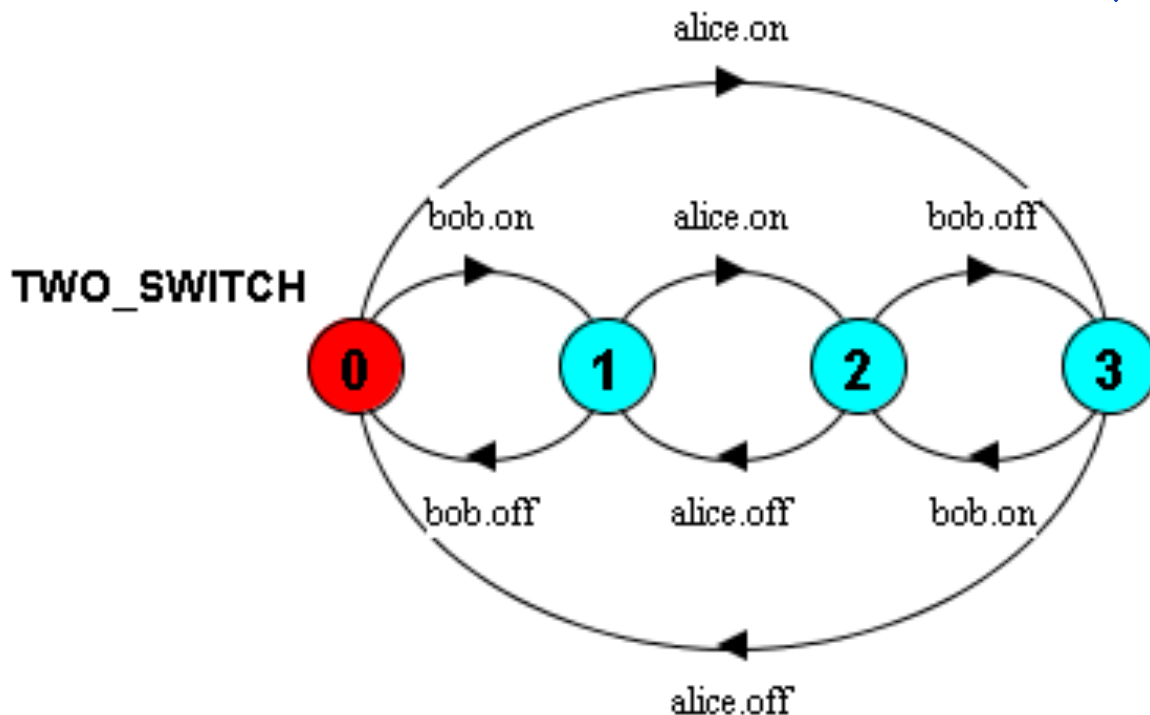
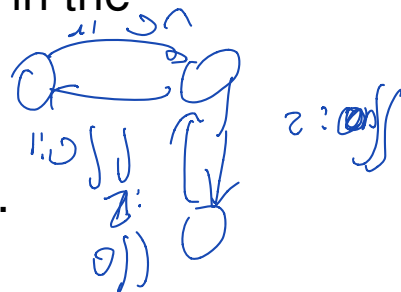
~ we need to
give names

Process relabeling

Process naming: $a : P$ prefixes each action label in the alphabet of P with a .

$\text{SWITCH} = (\text{on} \rightarrow \text{off} \rightarrow \text{SWITCH}).$

$||\text{TWO_SWITCH} = (\text{alice}:\text{SWITCH} || \text{bob}:\text{SWITCH}).$

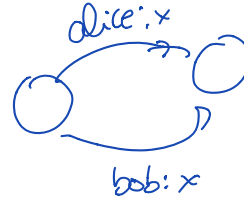


An array of instances of processes

$||\text{SWITCHES}(N=3) = (\text{forall}[i:1..N] \text{ s}[i]:\text{SWITCH}).$

$||\text{SWITCHES}(N=3) = (\text{s}[i:1..N]:\text{SWITCH}).$

Process labeling by a set of prefix labels



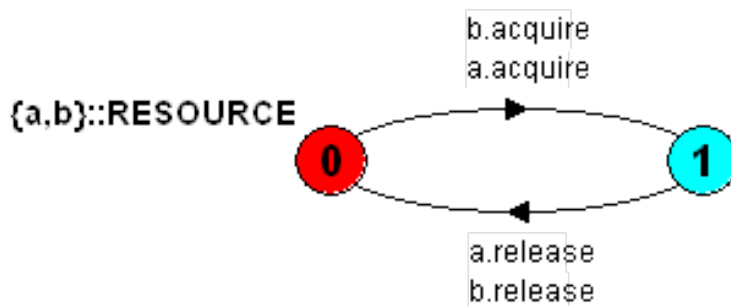
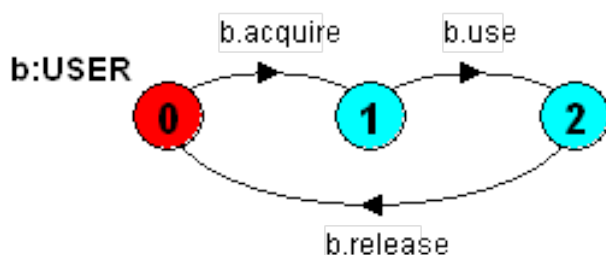
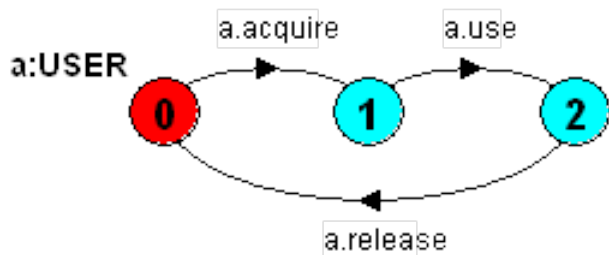
Process labeling by a set of prefix labels: Given P ,

- ▶ $\{a1, \dots, ax\} :: P$ replaces **every action** label n with the labels $a1.n, \dots, ax.n$. \therefore
- ▶ Further, **every transition** $(n \rightarrow X)$ in the definition of P is replaced with the transitions $(\{a1.n, \dots, ax.n\} \rightarrow X)$.

Action can be executed by Alice or Bob

Class Exercise: RESOURCE_SHARE

```
RESOURCE=(acquire->release->RESOURCE) .  
USER=(acquire->use->release->USER) .  
||RESOURCE_SHARE=(a:USER || b:USER || {a,b}::RESOURCE) .
```



Give a picture of the LTS corresponding to RESOURCE_SHARE

Action relabeling

combination of formal parameters & values

Action relabeling: Relabeling functions are applied to processes to change the names of action labels. The general form of the relabeling function is:

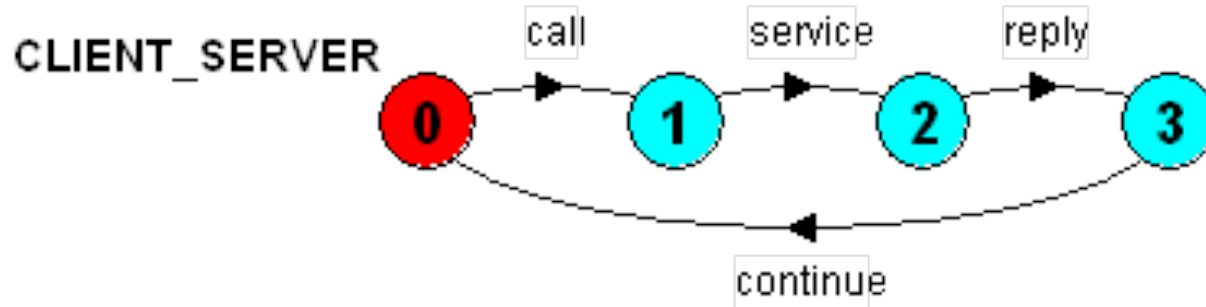
$$/\{newlabel_1/oldlabel_1, \dots newlabel_n/oldlabel_n\}$$

Example: A SERVER process that provides some service and a CLIENT process that invokes the service.

CLIENT = (call->wait->continue->CLIENT).

SERVER = (request->service->reply->SERVER).

||CLIENT_SERVER = (CLIENT || SERVER)/{call/request, reply/wait}.



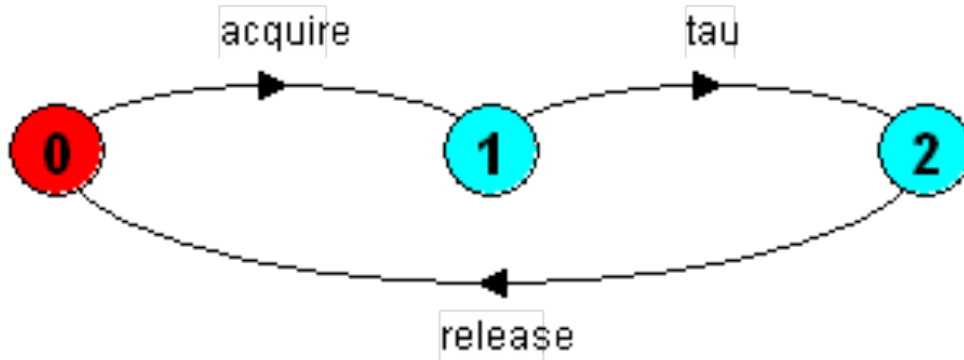
Action hiding

Action hiding: When applied to a process P , the hiding operator $\backslash\{a_1, \dots, a_x\}$ removes the action names a_1, \dots, a_x from the alphabet of P and makes these concealed actions **silent**.

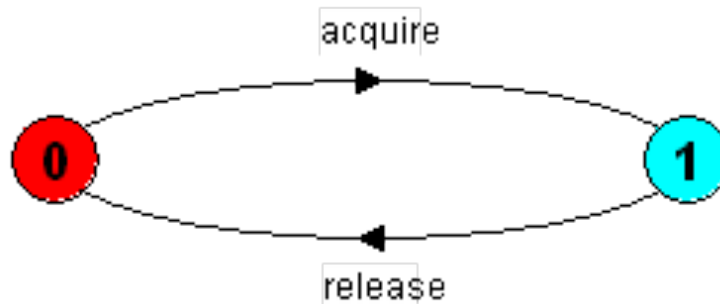
- ▶ These silent actions are labeled **tau**.
- ▶ Silent actions in different processes are not shared.

Hiding example

$\text{USER} = (\text{acquire} \rightarrow \text{use} \rightarrow \text{release} \rightarrow \text{USER}) \setminus \{\text{use}\}.$



Minimizing



Class Exercise: ||FACTORY

Consider the following `FACTORY` assembling three parts `make_A`, `make_B` and `make_C` into a final output:

```
MAKER_A=(make_A->ready->restart->MAKER_A) .
MAKER_B=(make_B->ready->restart->MAKER_B) .
ASSEMBLER_A_B =
    (ready->assemble_A_B->ready_two->ASSEMBLER_A_B) .
ASSEMBLER=
    (ready_two->make_C->assemble_A_B_C
    ->output->restart->ASSEMBLER) .

||FACTORY= (MAKER_A||MAKER_B||ASSEMBLER_A_B
            ||ASSEMBLER)\{ready,ready_two}.
```

Give a picture the LST corresponding to `FACTORY`. Comment briefly the result.

Give a picture of the preceding LST after minimising (pressing the button \mathcal{M}). Explain intuitively the result.