

**Coneris:**

# Modular Reasoning about Error Bounds for Concurrent Probabilistic Programs

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What is the probability I will not have a single internship offer 🙄?

# A sequential probabilistic program

```
let  $l = \text{ref } 0$  in  
 $l \leftarrow (!l + \text{coin}_{3/4})$ ;  
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let  $x = !l$  in  
assert( $x > 0$ )           // fails if both  $\text{coin}_{3/4}$  returns 0
```

$\text{coin}_p$  returns 1 with probability  $p$  and 0 with probability  $1 - p$ .

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**Aim: show *twoAdd* crashes with probability at most  $1/16$**

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### Theorem (Adequacy of Eris)

If  $\{\downarrow(\varepsilon)\} \in \{v.\phi(v)\}$  then  $\Pr[e \downarrow v \wedge v \notin \phi] \leq \varepsilon$ .

## Eris rules

$$\not\downarrow(\varepsilon_1) * \not\downarrow(\varepsilon_2) \dashv\vdash \not\downarrow(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)$$

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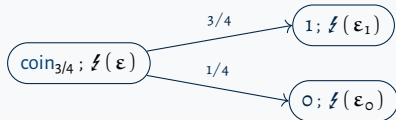
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$$\frac{3/4 \cdot \varepsilon_1 + 1/4 \cdot \varepsilon_0 \leq \varepsilon}{\vdash \{\sharp(\varepsilon)\} \text{coin}_{3/4} \{n . \sharp(\varepsilon_n)\}} \text{HT-COIN-EXP}$$



$$3/4 \cdot \varepsilon_1 + 1/4 \cdot \varepsilon_0 \leq \varepsilon$$

$\{\text{!} (1/16)\}$

let  $l = \text{ref } 0$  in

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let  $x = !l$  in

assert( $x > 0$ )

$\{\text{True}\}$

By adequacy, the probability of the program crashing is at most  $1/16$ .

$\{\text{!}(1/16) * l \mapsto o\}$

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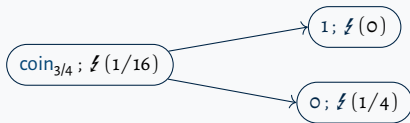
$\{\text{True}\}$

Allocate reference

# Eris in action

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{!} \left( \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1/4 \text{ else } 0 \right) * \\ l \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$l \leftarrow (!l + x);$   
 $l \leftarrow (!l + \text{coin}_{3/4});$   
 $\text{let } x = !l \text{ in}$   
 $\text{assert}(x > 0)$   
 $\{\text{True}\}$



$$3/4 \cdot 0 + 1/4 \cdot 1/4 \leq \frac{1}{16}$$



```
{! (1/4) * l ↦ o}  
  l ← (!l + o);  
  l ← (!l + coin3/4);  
  let x = !l in  
  assert(x > o)  
{True}
```

We continue with the case  $x = o$ ,  
otherwise it is trivial

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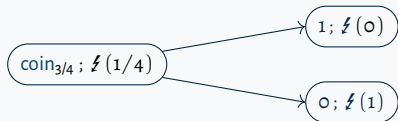
assert( $x > o$ )

$\{\text{True}\}$

More steps...

# Eris in action

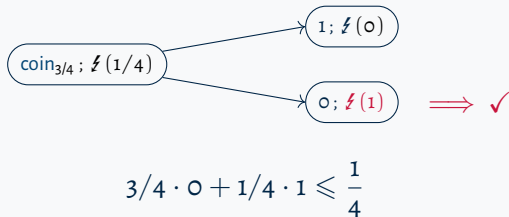
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{! (if  $x = 0$  then 1 else 0) *  $l \mapsto 0$ }  
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$$3/4 \cdot 0 + 1/4 \cdot 1 \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

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  assert( $x > 0$ )  
{True}
```



```
{!l(o) * l ↦ o}  
  l ← (!l + 1);  
  let x = !l in  
  assert(x > o)  
{True}
```

We sampled a 1.

```
{⚡(o) * l ↦ 1}  
  assert(1 > o)  
{True}
```

And the assert goes through!

We can reason about error bounds of  
sequential **probabilistic** programs.

Nobody applies for internships sequentially.



# A concurrent probabilistic program

```
let  $l = \text{ref } 0$  in  
  ( $\text{faa } l(\text{coin}_{3/4}) \parallel \text{faa } l(\text{coin}_{3/4})$ );  
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$\text{faa } l\ x$  reads from reference  $l$  and increments it by  $x$  *atomically*

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Error credits and concurrency rules are the same, e.g. HT-COIN-EXP, parallel composition.

Operational semantics of language extended to thread pools;  
decision of which thread to step is decided by a scheduler

## *Theorem (Adequacy of Coneris)*

*If  $\{\downarrow(\varepsilon)\} e \{v.\Phi(v)\}$  then **for all possible schedulers**  $\mathfrak{s}$ ,  
 $\Pr[e \Downarrow_{\mathfrak{s}} v \wedge v \notin \Phi] \leq \varepsilon$*

## First attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd*

$\{\neg (1/16)\}$

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let l = ref 0 in  
(faa l (coin3/4) ||| faa l (coin3/4));  
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By adequacy, for all possible interleavings, probability of the program crashing is at most 1/16.

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HT-PAR-COMP

$$\frac{\{P_1\} e_1 \{v_1. Q_1 v_1\} \quad \{P_2\} e_2 \{v_2. Q_2 v_2\}}{\{P_1 * P_2\} e_1 \parallel e_2 \{(v_1, v_2). Q_1 v_1 * Q_2 v_2\}}$$



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1. We need to share the  $l \mapsto o$  resource between the two threads
2. Splitting  $\text{!}(1/16)$  into  $\text{!}(1/32) * \text{!}(1/32)$  is not enough for each thread to avoid sampling  $o$

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Invariants allow us to share resources between threads

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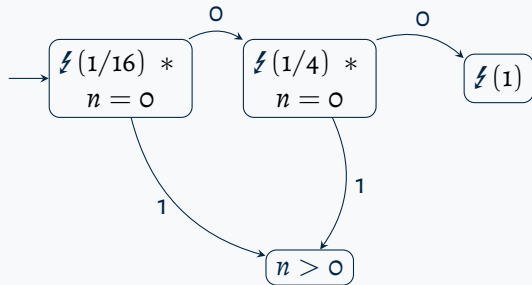
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and we have to reestablish the invariant at the end of the atomic step

**Key idea:** we store both error credit and reference resource in an *invariant*

# Coming up with an invariant

$$I \triangleq \exists n. l \mapsto n *$$



```
{ [I] * ... }  
  (faa l (coin3/4) ||| faa l (coin3/4))) ;  
  let x = !l in  
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We can reason about error bounds of sequential  
**concurrent** probabilistic programs.



## Now let's refactor stuff into a randomized concurrent counter

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```

```
create  $\triangleq$   $\lambda\_.$  ref 0  
read  $\triangleq$   $\lambda l.$  !l  
incr  $\triangleq$   $\lambda l.$  faa l (coin3/4)  
  
let l = create () in  
(incr l ||| incr l);  
let x = read l in  
assert(x > 0)
```

## Problem 1: interaction with invariants

$$\{ \boxed{I} * \dots \}$$

$$incr\,l \triangleq ( \lambda l. \text{faa } l(\text{coin}_{3/4}) ) \, l$$

$$\{ \dots \}$$

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HT-INV-OPEN

$$\frac{e \text{ atomic} \quad \{I * P\} e \{I * Q\}}{\{\boxed{I} * P\} e \{Q\}}$$

Challenge: specification should be expressive enough to open invariants (twice!)

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Intuitively, all operations appear to take place atomically.

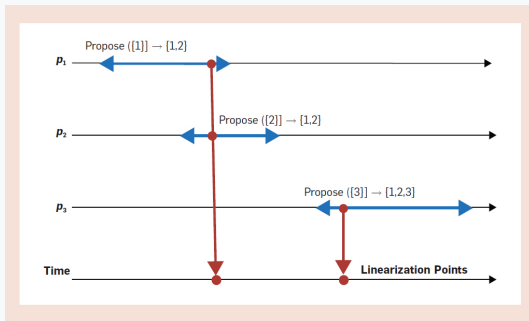


Figure from "A Linearizability-based Hierarchy for Concurrent Specifications"

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But this is not enough when we also have probability...

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$$\begin{aligned} incr_3 &\triangleq \\ &\text{rec } fl = \text{let } x = \text{unif}\{0, \dots, 7\} \text{ in} \\ &\quad \text{if } x < 4 \text{ then } (\text{if } x > 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } 0) \text{ else } fl \end{aligned}$$



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Challenge: our specification should be satisfied by all three implementations above

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Intuitively describes how modules commit to probabilistic choices in a logically atomic manner

Here in Coneris, we capture this notion with a novel **probabilistic update modality**  $\boxRightarrow P$ ;  
it allows you to update error credits in addition to opening invariants

## Case study

We implement a thread-safe idealized hash function:

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$$\rightsquigarrow \exists v \in V. \text{hashKey } h \ k \ v \ * \ (v \in X \ * \ \text{!}(\varepsilon_1)) \vee (v \notin X \ * \ \text{!}(\varepsilon_0))$$

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We use this to implement a concurrent Bloom filter and  
we prove tight bound on probability of false positives (new result)

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P.P.S. My advisor, Lars, is recruiting interns / PhD students / postdocs :)



# Presampling tapes I

$$\sigma \in State \triangleq (Loc \xrightarrow{\text{fin}} Val) \times (Label \xrightarrow{\text{fin}} Tape)$$

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$$\text{step}(\text{tape } N, \sigma) = \text{ret}(\kappa, \sigma[\kappa := (N, \epsilon)], []) \quad (\text{where } \kappa \text{ is fresh w.r.t. } \sigma)$$

$$\text{step}(\text{rand } \kappa N, \sigma) = \lambda(n, \sigma, []) \cdot \frac{1}{N+1} \quad \text{if } \sigma[\kappa] = (N, \epsilon) \wedge n \in \{0, \dots, N\} \quad \text{and } 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

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There are no steps in operational semantics to *write* contents into a tape!

# Rewriting randomized concurrent counter module

$create \triangleq \lambda_. \text{ref } 0$

$read \triangleq \lambda l. !l$

$incr \triangleq \lambda l. \text{faa } l (\text{rand } 3)$

$conTwoAdd \triangleq \text{let } l = \text{create } () \text{ in}$

$(incr\ l \parallel incr\ l);$

$read\ l$

# Rewriting randomized concurrent counter module

$create \triangleq \lambda\_ . \text{ref } 0$

$read \triangleq \lambda l . !l$

$incr \triangleq \lambda l . \text{faa } l (\text{rand } 3)$

$\Rightarrow$

$conTwoAdd \triangleq \text{let } l = \text{create } () \text{ in}$

$(incr\ l \parallel incr\ l);$

$read\ l$

$create \triangleq \lambda\_ . \text{ref } 0$

$read \triangleq \lambda l . !l$

$createCtape \triangleq \lambda(). \text{tape } 3$

$incr \triangleq \lambda l\ \kappa . \text{faa } l (\text{rand } \kappa\ 3)$

$conTwoAdd \triangleq \text{let } c = \text{create } () \text{ in}$

$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{let } \kappa = \text{createCtape } () \text{ in} \\ incr\ c\ \kappa \end{array} \parallel \dots \right);$

$read\ c$

# Presampling tapes II

HT-ALLOC-TAPE

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$$\{\text{True}\} \text{ tape } N \{ \kappa. \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \epsilon) \}$$

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$$\overline{\{ \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, n \cdot \vec{n}) \} \text{ rand } \kappa \in N \{ x. x = n * \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \vec{n}) \}}$$

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*Wait?! How do you presample onto a tape in the logic?*



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*Wait?! How do you presample onto a tape in the logic?*

We do it with the probabilistic update modality!

# Rules of the probabilistic update modality

$\mathcal{E}_1 \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{E}_2$   $P$  denotes a resource together with the invariants in  $\mathcal{E}_1$ , can perform a *randomized logical atomic* operation and split into two parts:  $P$  and one satisfying invariants in  $\mathcal{E}_2$

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PUPD-RET

$$\frac{P}{\rightsquigarrow_{\mathcal{E}} P}$$

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PUPD-BIND

$$\frac{\varepsilon_1 \rightsquigarrow \varepsilon_2 P \quad P \multimap \varepsilon_2 \rightsquigarrow \varepsilon_3 Q}{\varepsilon_1 \rightsquigarrow \varepsilon_3 Q}$$

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$$\frac{\kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \vec{n}) \quad \not\vdash(\varepsilon) \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{U}N}[\mathcal{F}] \leq \varepsilon}{\rightsquigarrow_{\varepsilon} (\exists n. \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \vec{n} \cdot n) * \not\vdash(\mathcal{F}(n)))}$$

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$\forall \iota, c. \{ \text{counter } \iota \ c \} \text{ createCtape}() \{ \kappa. \text{ctape } \kappa \in \}$

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$$\forall \mathcal{E}, \iota, c, n, \vec{n}, Q.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{counter } \iota \ c * \text{ctape } \kappa \ (n \cdot \vec{n}) * \\ (\forall z. \text{cauth } z \multimap \models_{\mathcal{E}} \text{cauth } (z + n) * Qz) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{incr } c \ \kappa$$

$$\{ z. \text{ctape } \kappa \ \vec{n} * Qz \}_{\mathcal{E} \uplus \{ \iota \}}$$

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$$\forall \mathcal{E}, \varepsilon, \mathcal{F}, \vec{n}, \kappa.$$

$$(\not\downarrow(\varepsilon) * (\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{U}_3}[\mathcal{F}] \leq \varepsilon) * \text{ctape } \kappa \ \vec{n} \multimap \approx_{\mathcal{E}} \exists n \in \{0..3\}. \not\downarrow(\mathcal{F}(n)) * \text{ctape } \kappa \ (\vec{n} \cdot [n]))$$

# HOCAP specification of *create* and *read*

$\{\text{True}\} \text{create}() \{c. \exists \iota. \text{counter } \iota \ c * \text{cfrag } \iota \ \circ\}$

$\forall \mathcal{E}, \iota, c, Q.$

$\{\text{counter } \iota \ c * (\forall z. \text{cauth } z \multimap \models_{\mathcal{E}} \text{cauth } z * Qz)\}$

$\text{read } c$

$\{z. Qz\}_{\mathcal{E} \uplus \{\iota\}}$

- *counter*  $\iota \ c$  captures the fact that  $c$  is a counter with invariant name  $\iota$

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# HOCAP specification of *create* and *read*

$\{\text{True}\} \text{create}() \{c. \exists \iota. \text{counter } \iota \ c * \text{cfrag } \iota \ 0\}$

$\forall \mathcal{E}, \iota, c, Q.$

$\{\text{counter } \iota \ c * (\forall z. \text{cauth } z \multimap \models_{\mathcal{E}} \text{cauth } z * Qz)\}$

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- *counter*  $\iota \ c$  captures the fact that  $c$  is a counter with invariant name  $\iota$
- *cauth* and *cfrag* provides *authoritative* and *fragmental* views of the counter
- Many conditions of these abstract predicates not shown,  
e.g.  $\text{cauth } n * \text{cfrag } q \ m \vdash \models_{\mathcal{E}} \text{cauth } (n + p) * \text{cfrag } q \ (m + p)$



## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd*

$\{\neg (1/16) * l \mapsto 0\}$

$(\text{faa } l(\text{rand } 3) \parallel \text{faa } l(\text{rand } 3));$

$!l$

$\{v.v > 0\}$

Where we left off...

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd*

$$\left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_o}^{\gamma_1} * \boxed{\circ S_o}^{\gamma_2} \right\}$$

$$(faal(rand\,3) \parallel faal(rand\,3));$$

$$!l$$

$$\{v.v > o\}$$

Allocating invariants and resources:

$$\not\vdash (1/16) * l \mapsto o \multimap$$

$$\models \exists \gamma_1 \gamma_2. I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) * \boxed{\circ S_o}^{\gamma_1} * \boxed{\circ S_o}^{\gamma_2}$$

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd*

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_0}^{\gamma_1} \right\} \text{faa } l(\text{rand } 3) \left\{ \exists n. \boxed{\circ S_2(n)}^{\gamma_1} \right\} \\
 & \left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_0}^{\gamma_2} \right\} \text{faa } l(\text{rand } 3) \left\{ \exists n. \boxed{\circ S_2(n)}^{\gamma_2} \right\} \\
 & \left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_1)}^{\gamma_1} * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_2)}^{\gamma_2} \right\} !l\{v. v > 0\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying HT-PAR-COMP

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd* – First two Hoare triples

$$\left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_o}^{\gamma_1} \right\}$$

$\text{faal}(\text{rand } 3)$

$$\left\{ \exists n. \boxed{\circ S_2(n)}^{\gamma_1} \right\}$$

First Hoare triple

(second Hoare triple is proven similarly)

Recall invariant opening rule:

HT-INV-OPEN

$$\frac{e \text{ atomic} \quad \{I * P\} e \{I * Q\}}{\{\boxed{I} * P\} e \{\boxed{I} * Q\}}$$

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd* – First two Hoare triples

$$\left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^{\iota} * \boxed{\circ S_1(n)}^{\gamma_1} \right\}$$

*faa l n*

$$\left\{ \exists n. \boxed{\circ S_2(n)}^{\gamma_1} \right\}$$

*rand 3* is atomic

We can open invariants temporarily and  
update ghost resources to track *n* sampled

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd* – First two Hoare triples

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*faa l n*

$$\left\{ \exists n. \boxed{\circ S_2(n)}^{\gamma_1} \right\}$$

*rand 3* is atomic

We can open invariants temporarily and  
update ghost resources to track *n* sampled

We can do the same again with *faa l n*

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd* – last Hoare triples

Last Hoare triple

$$\left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_1)}^{\gamma_1} * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_2)}^{\gamma_2} \right\}$$

$!l$

$$\{v.v > 0\}$$

## Second attempt in verifying *conTwoAdd* – last Hoare triples

Last Hoare triple

- But nothing too surprising!

$$\left\{ \boxed{I(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}^l * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_1)}^{\gamma_1} * \boxed{\circ S_2(n_2)}^{\gamma_2} \right\}$$

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- $!l$  is atomic, so we can open invariants and do a case split on value of  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ .

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$!l$

$$\{v.v > 0\}$$

Last Hoare triple

- But nothing too surprising!
- $!l$  is atomic, so we can open invariants and do a case split on value of  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ .
- If both are 0, we get  $\neg(1)$  and can derive  $\perp!$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{wp } e_1 \{ \Phi \} &\triangleq \forall \sigma_1, \epsilon_1. S(\sigma_1, \epsilon_1) \multimap \text{step}_{\emptyset} \sigma_1 \epsilon_1 \{ \sigma_2, \epsilon_2. \\
 &\quad (e_1 \in \text{Val} * \text{step}_{\top} S(\sigma_2, \epsilon_2) * \Phi(e_1)) \vee \\
 &\quad (e_1 \notin \text{Val} * \text{pstep}(e_1, \sigma_2) \epsilon_2 \{ e_2, \sigma_3, l, \epsilon_3. \\
 &\quad \triangleright \text{step}_{\top} \sigma_3 \epsilon_3 \{ \sigma_4, \epsilon_4. \text{step}_{\top} S(\sigma_4, \epsilon_4) * \text{wp } e_2 \{ \Phi \} * \bigstar_{e' \in l} \text{wp } e' \{ \text{True} \} \} \} \} ) \}
 \end{aligned}$$

# State and program step precondition

STATE-STEP-ERR-1

$$\frac{1 \leq \varepsilon}{\text{sstep } \sigma \ \varepsilon \ \{\Phi\}}$$

STATE-STEP-RET

$$\frac{\Phi(\sigma, \varepsilon)}{\text{sstep } \sigma \ \varepsilon \ \{\Phi\}}$$

STATE-STEP-CONTINUOUS

$$\frac{\forall \varepsilon'. \ \varepsilon < \varepsilon' \rightarrow \text{sstep } \sigma \ \varepsilon' \ \{\Phi\}}{\text{sstep } \sigma \ \varepsilon \ \{\Phi\}}$$

STATE-STEP-EXP

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}_\mu[\mathcal{F}] \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{schErasable}(\mu, \sigma_1) \quad \forall \sigma_2. \ 0 < \mu(\sigma_2) \rightarrow \text{sstep } \sigma_2 \ (\mathcal{F}(\sigma_2)) \ \{\Phi\}}{\text{sstep } \sigma_1 \ \varepsilon \ \{\Phi\}}$$

PROG-STEP-EXP

$$\frac{\text{red}(e_1, \sigma_1) \quad \mathbb{E}_{\text{step}(e_1, \sigma_1)}[\mathcal{F}] \leq \varepsilon \quad \forall (e_2, \sigma_2, l). \ 0 < \text{step}(e_1, \sigma_1)(e_2, \sigma_2, l) \rightarrow \Phi(e_2, \sigma_2, l, \mathcal{F}(e_2, \sigma_2, l))}{\text{pstep } (e_1, \sigma_1) \ \varepsilon \ \{\Phi\}}$$

# Probabilistic update modality

$$\varepsilon_1 \dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon_2} P \triangleq \forall \sigma_1, \varepsilon_1. S(\sigma_1, \varepsilon_1) \multimap \varepsilon_1 \Rightarrow_{\emptyset} \text{sstep } \sigma_1 \varepsilon_1 \{ \sigma_2, \varepsilon_2. \emptyset \Rightarrow_{\varepsilon_2} S(\sigma_2, \varepsilon_2) * P \}$$

PUPD-ELIM

$$\frac{\{P * Q\} e \{R\}_{\varepsilon}}{\{(\dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon} P) * Q\} e \{R\}_{\varepsilon}}$$

PUPD-RET

$$\frac{P}{\dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon} P}$$

PUPD-BIND

$$\frac{\varepsilon_1 \dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon_2} P \quad P \multimap \varepsilon_2 \dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon_3} Q}{\varepsilon_1 \dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon_3} Q}$$

PUPD-FUPD

$$\frac{\varepsilon_1 \Rightarrow_{\varepsilon_2} P}{\varepsilon_1 \dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon_2} P}$$

PUPD-PRESAMPLE-EXP

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{U}N}[\mathcal{F}] \leq \varepsilon \quad \not\prec(\varepsilon) \quad \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \vec{n})}{\dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon} (\exists n. \kappa \hookrightarrow (N, \vec{n} \cdot n) * \not\prec(\mathcal{F}(n)))}$$

PUPD-ERR

$$\frac{}{\dot{\rightsquigarrow}_{\varepsilon} (\exists \varepsilon. 0 < \varepsilon * \not\prec(\varepsilon))}$$