Tutorial on SPIN and PROMELA

(as part of the lecture "model checking", WS 2012/13)

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Outline

- 1 Overview
- **2** Repetition
 - Channel systems
 - Guarded command languages
- 3 ProMeLa
- 4 SPIN

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SPIN overview

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- Primer and Reference Manual [Hol03]

SPIN main features

■ modeling language of SPIN is called ProMeLa (Process Meta Language) → the name SPIN stands for Simple ProMeLa Interpreter

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SPIN main features

- modeling language of SPIN is called ProMeLa (Process Meta Language) → the name SPIN stands for Simple ProMeLa Interpreter
- main features of SPIN: 1) on-the-fly verifier for safety and liveness properties and 2) on-the-fly LTL model checking
- properties can be specified as 1) invariants (using assertions), 2) LTL formula, 3) Büchi automaton, or 4) never claims (omega regular)

- modeling language for channel systems with
 - 1) a (finite) number of processes,
 - 2) synchronous and asynchronous channel-based communication, and 3) shared variables

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- featuring nondeterminism (language features and interleaving processes)

- modeling language for channel systems with
 - 1) a (finite) number of processes,
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- guarded-command language [Dij76] (plus embedded C-code)
- featuring nondeterminism (language features and interleaving processes)
- semantics based on program graphs (and hence transition systems)

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PAR-230

representation of data-dependent parallel systems with

- communication over shared variables
- synchronous message passing
- asynchronous message passing

representation of data-dependent parallel systems with

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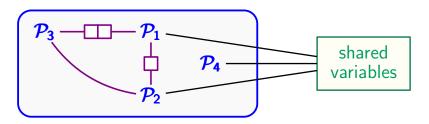
communication over channels

representation of data-dependent parallel systems with

- communication over shared variables
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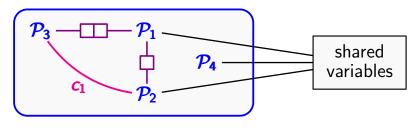
shared variables

- communication over shared variables
- synchronous message passing
 asynchronous message passing
 over channels



channel types: synchronous or FIFO

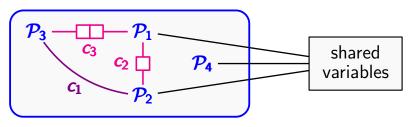
- communication over shared variables
- synchronous message passing ← capacity 0
- asynchronous message passing



channel types: synchronous or FIFO

no buffer (read/write simultaneously)

- communication over shared variables
- synchronous message passing ← capacity 0
- asynchronous message passing $\begin{tabular}{l} \longleftarrow \end{tabular}$ capacity $\geqslant 1$



channel types: synchronous or FIFO

capacity = number of buffer cells

representation of data-dependent parallel systems with

- communication over shared variables
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formalization through program graphs for $\mathcal{P}_1, ..., \mathcal{P}_n$

PAR-232

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formalization through program graphs for $\mathcal{P}_1, ..., \mathcal{P}_n$

* with conditional transitions $\ell_i \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} \ell_i'$ (as before)

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formalization through program graphs for $\mathcal{P}_1, ..., \mathcal{P}_n$

- * with conditional transitions $\ell_i \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} \ell'_i$ (as before)
- * and communication actions

$$\ell_i \xrightarrow{c!v} \ell'_i$$
 sending value v via channel c
 $\ell_i \xrightarrow{c?x} \ell'_i$ receiving a value for variable x via c

Interleaving for program graphs

... modeling parallel systems with processes communicating via shared variables

program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_1$$
 ($Loc_1, \ldots, \hookrightarrow_1, \ldots$)

program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_2$$
 ($Loc_2, \ldots, \hookrightarrow_2, \ldots$)

program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_1$$
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program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_2$$
 ($Loc_2, \ldots, \hookrightarrow_2, \ldots$)

interleaving operator

$$\mathcal{P}_1 ||| \mathcal{P}_2 = (Loc_1 \times Loc_2, \ldots, \hookrightarrow, \ldots)$$

program graph
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program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_2$$
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interleaving operator

$$\mathcal{P}_1 ||| \mathcal{P}_2 = (Loc_1 \times Loc_2, \ldots, \hookrightarrow, \ldots)$$

$$\frac{\ell_1 \stackrel{\mathbf{g}: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow_1} \ell'_1}{\langle \ell_1, \ell_2 \rangle \stackrel{\mathbf{g}: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} \langle \ell'_1, \ell_2 \rangle}$$

program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_1$$
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program graph
$$\mathcal{P}_2$$
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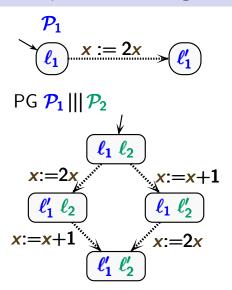
$$\mathcal{P}_1 ||| \mathcal{P}_2 = (Loc_1 \times Loc_2, \dots, \hookrightarrow, \dots)$$

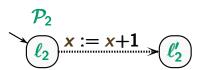
$$\frac{\ell_1 \stackrel{g: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow}_1 \ell'_1}{\langle \ell_1, \ell_2 \rangle} \stackrel{g: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow}_2 \langle \ell'_1, \ell_2 \rangle} \qquad \frac{\ell_2 \stackrel{g: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow}_2 \ell'_2}{\langle \ell_1, \ell_2 \rangle} \stackrel{g: \alpha}{\longleftrightarrow}_2 \langle \ell_1, \ell'_2 \rangle}$$

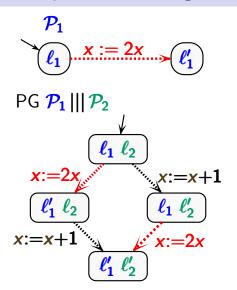
Example: interleaving for PG

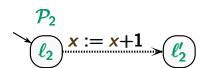
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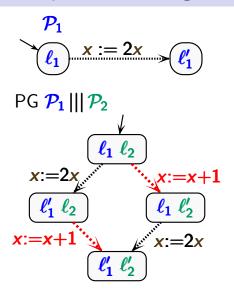


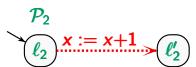


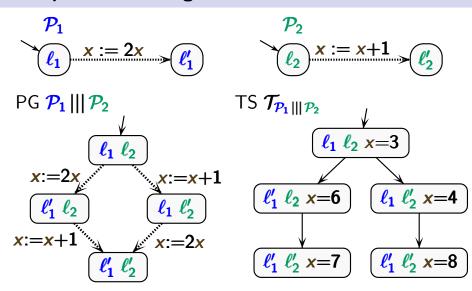


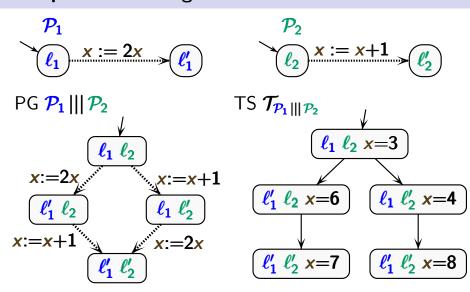






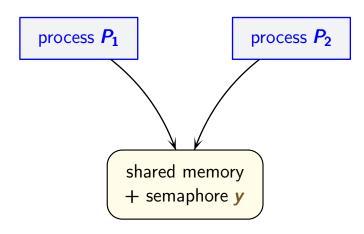






note: $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{P}_1} ||| \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{P}_2} \neq \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{P}_1 ||| \mathcal{P}_2}$

Mutual exclusion with semaphore



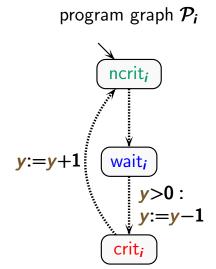
Mutual exclusion with semaphore

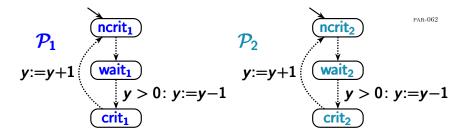
protocol for process P_i

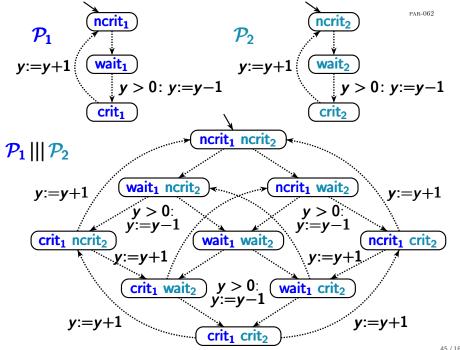
```
LOOP FOREVER
   noncritical actions;
   AWAIT y > 0 DO
           y := y - 1
   0D
   critical actions;
   y := y + 1
   END LOOP
```

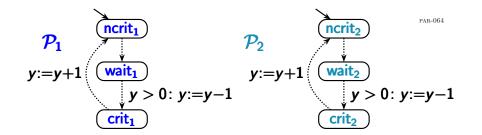
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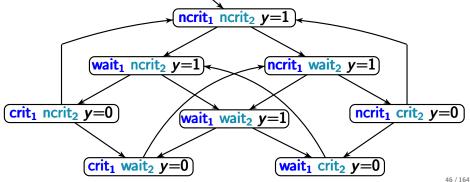


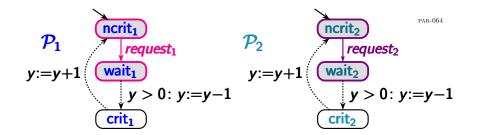




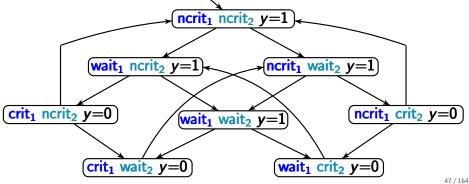


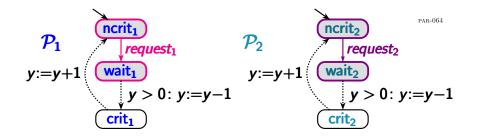
reachable fragment of the transition system $T_{P_1||P_2}$



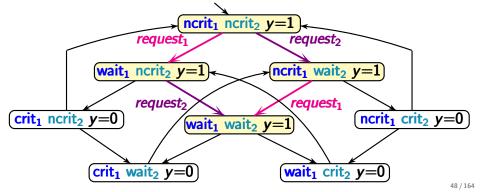


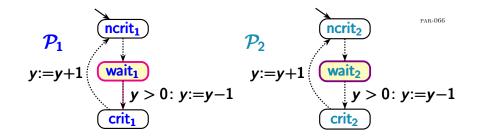
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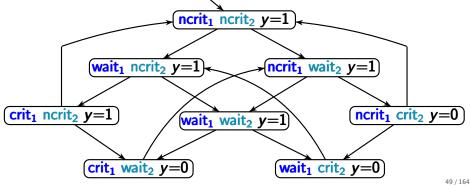


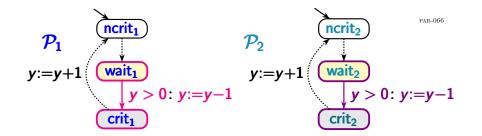
interleaving of the independent request actions



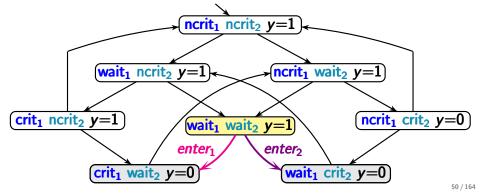


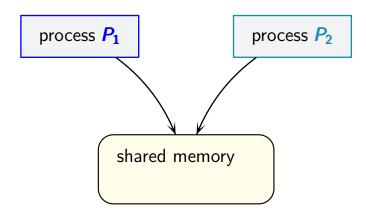
competition between the waiting processes

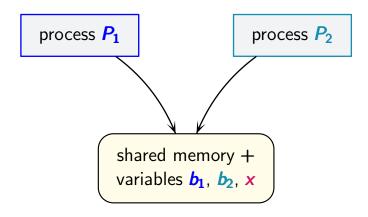




competition between the waiting processes







where b_1 , $b_2 \in \{0, 1\}$ and $x \in \{1, 2\}$

for competing processes P_1 , P_2 with additional shared variables:

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protocol for P_1 :

LOOP FOREVER

noncritical actions;

$$b_1 := 1; x := 2;$$

AWAIT $x=1 \lor \neg b_2$ DO critical section OD

$$b_1 := 0$$

- $b_1, b_2 \in \{0, 1\}$
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protocol for P_1 :

LOOP FOREVER

noncritical actions;

 $atomic\{b_1 := 1; x := 2\} \leftarrow atomic region$

AWAIT $x=1 \lor \neg b_2$ DO critical section OD

 $b_1 := 0$

- $b_1, b_2 \in \{0, 1\}$
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protocol for P_1 :

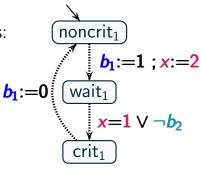
LOOP FOREVER

noncritical actions;

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- $b_1, b_2 \in \{0, 1\}$
- $x \in \{1, 2\}$

protocol for P_1 :

LOOP FOREVER

noncritical actions;

atomic{
$$b_1 := 1$$
; $x := 2$ }

AWAIT $x=1 \lor \neg b_2$ DO critical section OD

$$b_1 := 0$$

END LOOP

 $b_1:=0$ wait₁ $x=1 \lor \neg b_2$ $crit_1$ A decomposition wait₁ $x=1 \lor \neg b_2$

noncrit₁

 $b_1:=1$; x:=2

symmetric protocol for P_2

- $b_1, b_2 \in \{0, 1\}$
- $x \in \{1, 2\}$

protocol for P_2 :

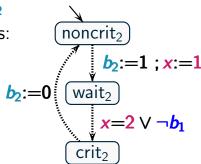
LOOP FOREVER

noncritical actions;

$$atomic\{b_2 := 1; x := 1\} \leftarrow atomic region$$

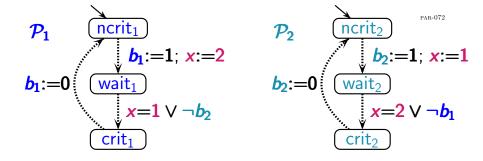
AWAIT $x=2 \lor \neg b_1$ DO critical section OD

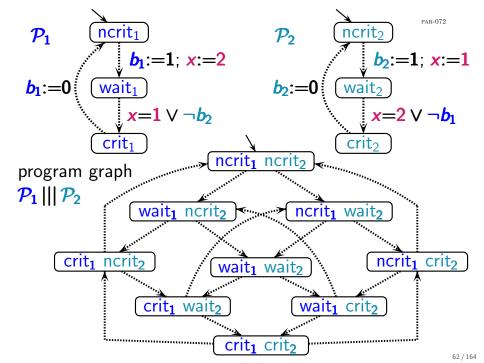
$$b_2 := 0$$

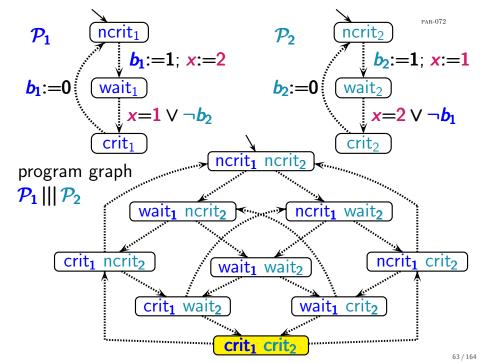


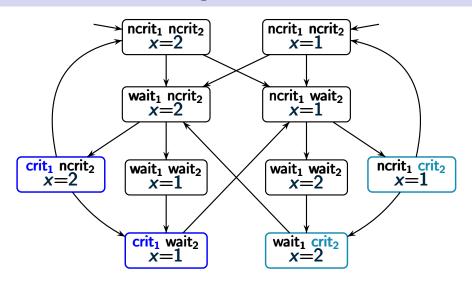
Program graph for Peterson algorithm

program graph for Peterson algorithm results from the interleaving of the program graphs for P_1 , P_2

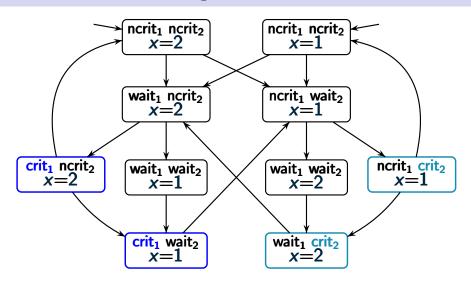






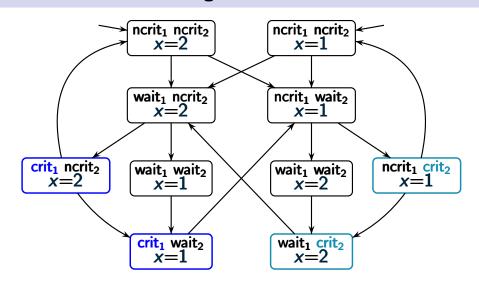


value of b_i is given by wait₁ \lor crit_i

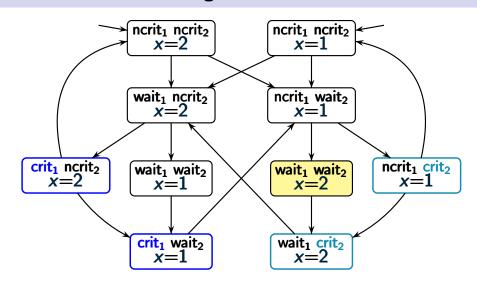


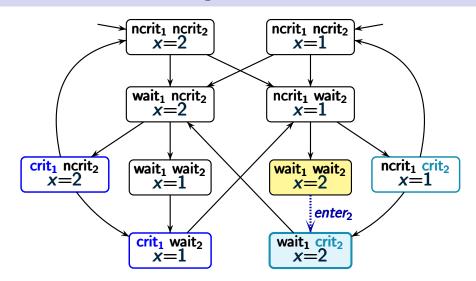
value of b_i is given by $wait_1 \lor crit_i$

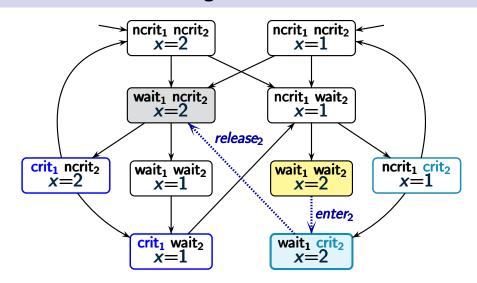
62 states are unreachable

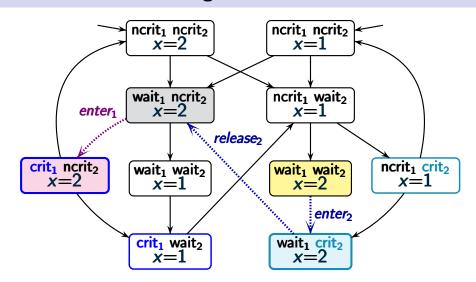


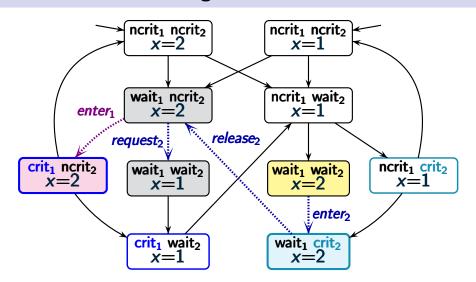
mutual exclusion property is satisfied as no state $\langle \text{crit}_1, \text{crit}_2, \mathbf{x} = ... \rangle$ is reachable

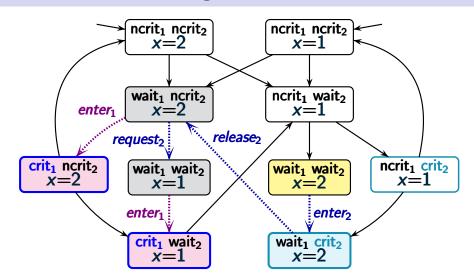




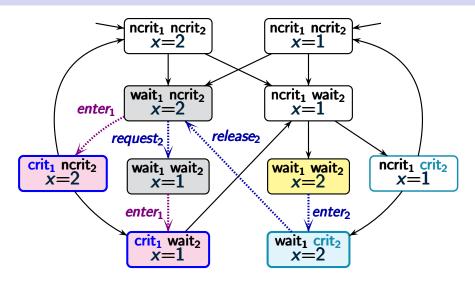








TS for the Peterson algorithm



liveness: the process that waits longer will enter its critical section first

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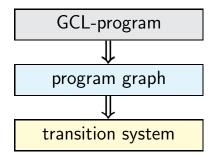
 high-level modeling language that contains features of imperative languages and nondeterministic choice

by Dijkstra, ca. 1975

- high-level modeling language that contains features of imperative languages and nondeterministic choice
- provides the basis for many modeling languages,
 e.g., input language of model checker SPIN

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guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt$

g : guard, i.e., Boolean condition on the program variables

guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt \leftarrow$ enabled if g holds

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repetitive command/loop:

DO :: $g \Rightarrow stmt$ OD

g : guard, i.e., Boolean condition

on the program variables

guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt \leftarrow$ enabled if g holds

repetitive command/loop:

DO ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt$$
 OD \longleftarrow WHILE g DO $stmt$ OD

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repetitive command/loop:

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conditional command:

IF ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt_1$$

:: $\neg g \Rightarrow stmt_2$
FI

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Guarded Command Language (GCL)

guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt \leftarrow$ enabled if g holds

repetitive command/loop:

DO ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt$$
 OD \longleftarrow WHILE g DO $stmt$ OD

conditional command:

IF ::
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:: $\neg g \Rightarrow stmt_2$

FI

IF g stmt₁ ELSE stmt2 guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt \leftarrow$ enabled if g holds

repetitive command/loop:

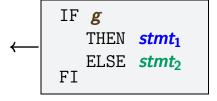
DO ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt$$
 OD \longleftrightarrow WHILE g DO $stmt$ OD

conditional command:

IF ::
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:: $\neg g \Rightarrow stmt_2$

FΙ



symbol :: stands for the nondeterministic choice between enabled guarded commands

guarded command $g \Rightarrow stmt \leftarrow$ enabled if g holds

repetitive command/loop:

DO ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt$$
 OD \longleftrightarrow WHILE g DO $stmt$ OD

conditional command:

IF ::
$$g \Rightarrow stmt_1$$

:: $\neg g \Rightarrow stmt_2$
FI

GCL: nondeterministic choices between arbitrary guarded commands in DO ... OD and IF ... FI

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

```
stmt \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ FI}
\vdots
```

where x is a typed variable and expr an expression of the same type

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

```
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D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
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semantics of a GCL-program: program graph

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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\vdots
```

semantics of a GCL-program: program graph

- locations are statements
- plus auxiliary location for termination

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

$$stmt \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid$$

$$D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}$$

$$\vdots$$

conditional transition for assignment:

$$x := expr \stackrel{true:\alpha}{\hookrightarrow} exit$$

where α has the effect of "x := expr"

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Guarded Command Language (GCL)

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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\vdots
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conditional transition for assignment:

$$x := expr \stackrel{true:\alpha}{\hookrightarrow} exit$$

analogously: multiple assignments in an atomic step

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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stmt \stackrel{\mathsf{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
\vdots
```

two SOS-rules for the PG-semantics of sequential composition

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

$$stmt \stackrel{\mathsf{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid$$

$$D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} stmt_1 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & stmt_1' \\ \hline stmt_1; stmt_2 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & stmt_1'; stmt_2 \end{array}$$

$$exit \neq stmt'_1$$

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

```
stmt \stackrel{\mathsf{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
DO :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
\vdots
```

$$\begin{array}{cccc} stmt_1 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & stmt_1' \\ stmt_1; stmt_2 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & stmt_1'; stmt_2 \\ & stmt_1 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & exit \\ stmt_1; stmt_2 & \stackrel{g:\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & stmt_2 \end{array}$$

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```

single SOS-rule for the PG-semantics of conditional statements

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```

Let *cstmt* be an IF -FI -statement as above.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} stmt_i & \stackrel{h:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} & stmt' \\ \hline cstmt & \stackrel{g_i \wedge h:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} & stmt' \end{array}$$

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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stmt \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
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```

SOS-rules for the PG-semantics of loops

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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stmt \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
\vdots
```

Let *loop* be a DO –OD -statement as above.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} stmt_i & \stackrel{h:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} & stmt' \\ \hline loop & \stackrel{g_i \wedge h:\alpha}{\longleftrightarrow} & stmt'; loop \end{array}$$

exit; loop ≘ loop

modeling language with nondeterministic choice

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stmt \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD}
\vdots
```

Let *loop* be a DO –OD -statement as above.

Outline

- 1 Overview
- **2** Repetition
 - Channel systems
 - Guarded command languages
- 3 ProMeLa
- 4 SPIN

ProMeLa model consists of...

type declarations,e.g., mtype = {MSG, ACK};

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 e.g., bool flag = true;

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Data types (for global and local variables)

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basic data types:
boolean 1 Bit bool flag = true;
bytes 8 Bit byte answer = 42;
shorts 16 Bit short value = 7;
integer 32 Bit int i = 99;
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```
structured data types:
    arrays int myarray[12];
    records typedef myrec{int r<sub>1</sub>; int r<sub>2</sub>;}
```

Things to know about variables and data types

variables must be declared

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- variables are strictly typed (conflicts are found at on-the-fly state-space generation)
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 passing via channels
- default initial value is 0
- expressions include most arithmetic, relational and logical operators of C

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Channel declarations:

```
chan name = [capacity] of \{T_1, T_2, \ldots, T_k\};
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name : name of the channel

capacity : capacity of the FIFO channel

 T_i , $1 \le i \le k$: type of transmittable data (tuples)

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Communication:

synchronous message passing ← capacity 0

• asynchronous message passing \leftarrow capacity $\geqslant 1$

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 T_i , $1 \le i \le k$: type of transmittable data (tuples)

Communication actions:

• sending: $name!expr_1, expr_2, \dots, expr_k$;

• receiving: name? $x_1, x_2, ..., x_k$;

Things to know about channels

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- synchronous communication: sending can happen iff there is a corresponding receive that can be executed simultaneously.
- asynchronous communication: reading blocks when the channel is empty, writing is either blocking or losing (SPIN option) when the channel is full.

rule for a **lossy write**: $c!expr \xrightarrow{full(c):skip} exit$

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ProMeLa model consists of...

```
process declarations,e.g., proctype Sender(args){...};
```

• the init process (optional), e.g., **init** (args){...};

Processes

Processes

```
proc ::= [active] proctype name(args){stmt}

stmt ::= x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid \dots \mid

DO :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD } \mid

IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ FI}
```

active : marks the process active

name : name of the process

args : process parameter variables

stmt : statement

Things to know about processes

■ there can be **more than one** process

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Things to know about processes

- there can be **more than one** process
- initially: init process and all active processes (together at least one)
- creation at any point inside the model using the **run** statement (max. 255 processes)
- processes execute concurrently
- process termination: control flow reaches exit location
- program termination: all processes reached their exit location

Statements

```
stmt ::= x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid \dots \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ OD } \mid
IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 \dots :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \text{ FI}
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Statements

```
stmt ::= x := expr \mid stmt_1; stmt_2 \mid ... \mid
D0 :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 ... :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \ DD \mid
IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 ... :: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n \ FI
```

where g_i are guards, i.e., boolean expressions:

$$bexpr ::= x \odot expr \mid c!expr \mid c?x \mid \dots \mid$$

$$\neg bexpr \mid bexpr_1 \sim bexpr_2$$

with
$$\odot \in \{<, \leq, =, \geq, >\}$$
 and $\sim \in \{\land, \lor, \rightarrow, \ldots\}$

Simple statements

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skip statement: **skip true**

Simple statements

skip statement: skip true goto statement: goto ℓ true

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expressions: expr $expr \neq 0$

Simple statements

skip statement:	skip	true
goto statement:	goto ℓ	true
assignments:	x := expr	true
expressions:	expr	$expr \neq 0$
run statement:	run P()	if possible

Simple statements

skip statement: skip true goto statement: goto ℓ true assignments: true x := exprexpressions: $expr \neq 0$ expr run P()if possible run statement: ch!expr, ch?x if enabled sending/ receiving:

Simple statements

skip statement:	skip	true
goto statement:	goto ℓ	true
assignments:	x := expr	true
expressions:	<i>expr</i>	$expr \neq 0$
run statement:	$\operatorname{run} P()$	if possible
sending/ receiving:	ch!expr, ch?x	if enabled
atomic statements:	$atomic{stmt}$	first statement

Simple statements

```
skip statement:
                     skip
                                                  true
                     goto \ell
goto statement:
                                                  true
assignments:
                     x := expr
                                                  true
expressions:
                                             expr \neq 0
                     expr
                     run P()
                                            if possible
run statement:
sending/ receiving:
                     ch!expr, ch?x
                                            if enabled
                     atomic{stmt}
                                       first statement
atomic statements:
printf statement:
                     printf ...
                                                  true
                     assert(bexpr)
assert statement:
                                                  true
```

Conditional commands

```
IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1

: : g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n

:: else \Rightarrow stmt_0
```

Conditional commands

```
IF :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1

:: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n

:: else \Rightarrow stmt_0

FI
```

two-step semantics!

possible interleaving between

evaluation of guard **g**_i and the

execution of statement **stmt**_i

Conditional commands

Things to know about if-statements

- nondeterministic choice between enabled guards
- else case if none of the guards is enabled
- if-statement is executable if there is at least one enabled guard and blocked otherwise

Loop commands

```
DO :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1

: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n

:: else \Rightarrow stmt_0
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again two-step semantics and loop statement has **blocking semantics**, meaning that the loop exits on **break** only!

Loop commands

```
DO :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1

:: g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n

:: else \Rightarrow stmt_0
```

again two-step semantics and loop statement has **blocking semantics**, meaning that the loop exits on **break** only!

standard GCL semantics:

ProMeLa semantics:

$$\frac{f = \neg g_1 \land \dots \land \neg g_n}{loop \stackrel{f:skip}{\longleftrightarrow} exit} \quad \frac{break}{loop \stackrel{g_i:skip}{\longleftrightarrow} exit} \quad exit$$

$$\frac{f = \neg g_1 \land \dots \land \neg g_n}{loop \stackrel{g_i:skip}{\longleftrightarrow} exit} \quad (stmt_i = break)$$

Loop commands

```
DO :: g_1 \Rightarrow stmt_1 again loop : g_n \Rightarrow stmt_n semant: else \Rightarrow stmt_0 loop : g_n \Rightarrow
```

again two-step semantics and loop statement has **blocking semantics**, meaning that the loop exits on **break** only!

Things to know about do-statements

- nondeterministic choice between enabled guards
- else case if none of the guards is enabled
- do-statement is executable if there is at least one enabled guard and blocked otherwise

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■ the choice of different possible actions within each process (IF ... FI and DO ... OD)

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- non-deterministic scheduling of processes (interleaving). Use **atomic**{stmt₁; ...; stmt_n} statements to avoid interleaving.

Nondeterminism occurs because of

- the choice of different possible actions within each process (IF ... FI and DO ... OD)
- non-deterministic scheduling of processes (interleaving). Use **atomic**{stmt₁; ...; stmt_n} statements to avoid interleaving.

Things to know about atomic regions

- execution in a single step instead of interleaved
- executable if the first statement is executable
- atomicity is broken if any of the statements is blocking

```
bool b1, b2;
int x;
bool incrit1, incrit2;
```

```
bool b1, b2;
int x:
bool incrit1, incrit2;
active proctype p1(){
 DO
    :: atomic{b1 = true; x = 2};
    IF
       :: atomic \{(b2 == false \mid | x == 1) \Rightarrow incrit1 = true\};
        atomic{incrit1 = false; b1 = false};
    FT
 OD
```

```
bool b1, b2;
int x:
bool incrit1, incrit2;
active proctype p1(){
 D0
    :: atomic{b1 = true; x = 2};
    TF
      :: atomic \{(b2 == false \mid | x == 1) \Rightarrow incrit1 = true\};
        atomic{incrit1 = false; b1 = false};
    FT
 OD
active proctype p1(){ ... symmetric ... }
```

Outline

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The model checker SPIN

will be part of the lecture in January 2013



A Discipline of Programming. Prentice-Hall, 1976.



G. Holzmann.

The SPIN Model Checker, Primer and Reference Manual. Addison Wesley, 2003.