

Software Design, Modelling and Analysis in UML

Lecture 14: Core State Machines IV

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Contents & Goals

Last Lecture:

- System configuration
- Transformer
- Action language: skip, update

This Lecture:

- **Educational Objectives:** Capabilities for following tasks/questions.
 - What does this State Machine mean? What happens if I inject this event?
 - Can you please model the following behaviour.
 - What is: Signal, Event, Ether, Transformer, Step, RTC.
- **Content:**
 - Action Language: send (create/destroy later)
 - Run-to-completion Step
 - Putting It All Together

Transformer Cont'd

Transformer: Skip

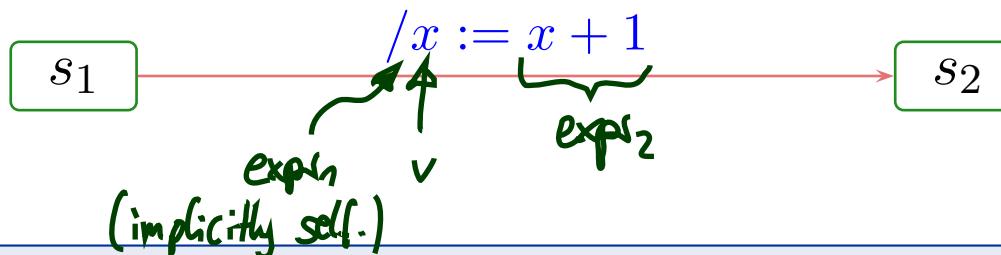
abstract syntax	concrete syntax
skip	<i>skip</i>
intuitive semantics	<i>do nothing</i>
well-typedness	. / .
semantics	$t[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = \{(\sigma, \varepsilon)\}$
observables	$Obs_{\text{skip}}[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = \emptyset$
(error) conditions	

Transformer: Update

abstract syntax	concrete syntax
$\text{update}(\text{expr}_1, v, \text{expr}_2)$	$\text{expr}_1 := \text{expr}_2$
intuitive semantics	
<i>Update attribute v in the object denoted by expr_1 to the value denoted by expr_2.</i>	
well-typedness	
$\text{expr}_1 : \tau_C$ and $v : \tau \in \text{atr}(C)$; $\text{expr}_2 : \tau$; $\text{expr}_1, \text{expr}_2$ obey visibility and navigability !	
semantics	
$t_{\text{update}(\text{expr}_1, v, \text{expr}_2)}[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = \{(\sigma', \varepsilon)\}$ where $\sigma' = \sigma[u \mapsto \sigma(u)[v \mapsto I[\text{expr}_2](\sigma, u_x)]]$ with $u = I[\text{expr}_1](\sigma, u_x)$.	ε does not change change value of v in $\sigma(u)$ object denoted by expr_1 (relative to u_x) value denoted by expr_2 (relative to u_x)
observables	
$Obs_{\text{update}(\text{expr}_1, v, \text{expr}_2)}[u_x] = \emptyset$	
(error) conditions	
Not defined if $I[\text{expr}_1](\sigma, \textcolor{blue}{B})$ or $I[\text{expr}_2](\sigma, \textcolor{blue}{B})$ not defined.	

Update Transformer Example

\mathcal{SM}_C :



$$t_{\text{update}}(expr_1, v, expr_2)[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = (\sigma' = \sigma[u \mapsto \sigma(u)[v \mapsto I[\![expr_2]\!](\sigma, u_x)]], \varepsilon), u = I[\![expr_1]\!](\sigma, u_x)$$

$$I[\![x+1]\!](\sigma, u_x) = I[\![x+1]\!](\sigma, v_1) = 5$$

$$\sigma: \begin{array}{|c|} \hline u_1 : C \\ \hline x = 4 \\ \hline y = 0 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow[t_{\text{update}}]{v_x = u_1} \sigma': \begin{array}{|c|} \hline u_1 : C \\ \hline x = 5 \\ \hline y = 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\varepsilon: \quad v = I[\![\text{self}\beta(\sigma, u_x)]\!] \\ = I[\![\text{self}\beta(\sigma, \{x \mapsto u_x\})]\!] \\ = \beta(\sigma[4]) + u_x + u_1$$

(Stay unchanged)

$$\varepsilon' = \varepsilon$$

Transformer: Send

abstract syntax

$\text{send}(E(expr_1, \dots, expr_n), expr_{dst})$

concrete syntax

$expr_{dst} ! E(expr_1, \dots, expr_n)$

intuitive semantics

Object $u_x : C$ sends event E to object $expr_{dst}$, i.e. create a fresh signal instance, fill in its attributes, and place it in the ether.

well-typedness

$expr_{dst} : \tau_D, C, D \in \mathcal{C} \setminus \mathcal{E}; E \in \mathcal{E}; \text{atr}(E) = \{v_1 : \tau_1, \dots, v_n : \tau_n\};$
 $expr_i : \tau_i, 1 \leq i \leq n;$

all expressions obey visibility and navigability in C

disjoint union

semantics

$(\sigma', \varepsilon') \in t_{\text{send}(E(expr_1, \dots, expr_n), expr_{dst})}[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon)$

new signal instance

iff $\sigma' = \sigma \cup \{u \mapsto \{v_i \mapsto d_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}\}; \quad \varepsilon' = \varepsilon \oplus (u_{dst}, u);$

if $u_{dst} = I[\![expr_{dst}]\!](\sigma, u_x) \in \text{dom}(\sigma); \quad d_i = I[\![expr_i]\!](\sigma, u_x)$ for
 $1 \leq i \leq n;$

$u \in \mathcal{D}(E)$ a fresh identity, i.e. $u \notin \text{dom}(\sigma)$,

and where $(\sigma', \varepsilon') = (\sigma, \varepsilon)$ if $u_{dst} \notin \text{dom}(\sigma)$.

do nothing if u_{dst} not above in σ

our choice!
 we could also
 just send,
 or consider
 it an error
 condition

observables

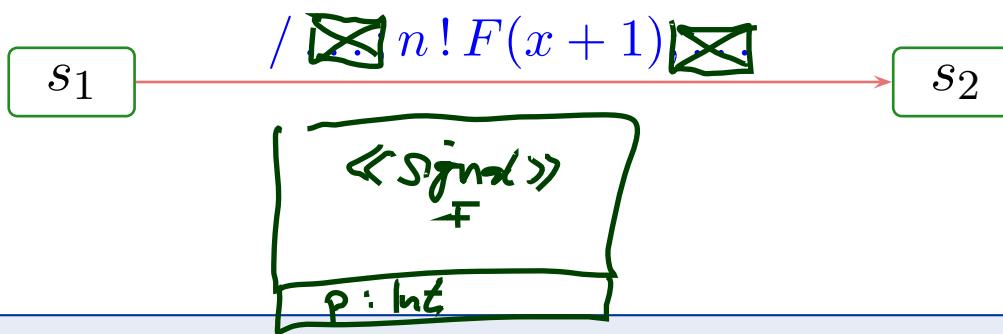
$Obs_{\text{send}}[u_x] = \{(u_x, u, (E, d_1, \dots, d_n), u_{dst})\}$

(error) conditions

$I[\![expr]\!](\sigma, u_x)$ not defined for any
 $expr \in \{expr_{dst}, expr_1, \dots, expr_n\}$

Send Transformer Example

\mathcal{SM}_C :



$t_{\text{send}}(expr_{src}, E(expr_1, \dots, expr_n), expr_{dst})[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) \ni (\sigma', \varepsilon')$ iff $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon \oplus (u_{dst}, u)$;

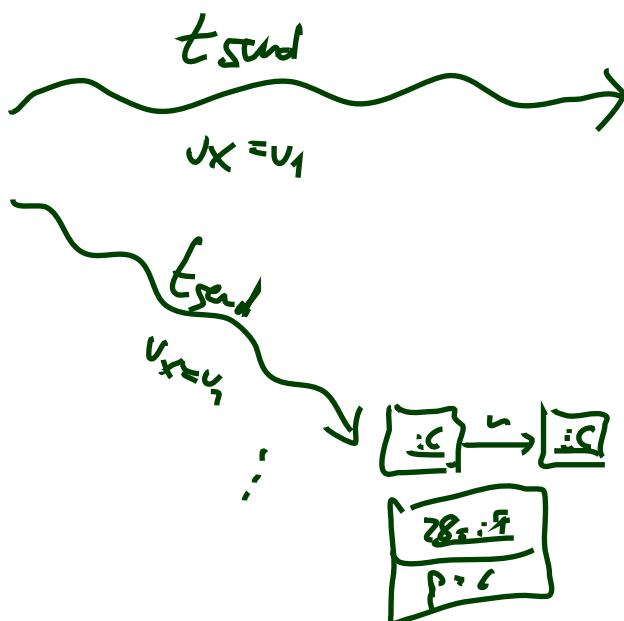
$\sigma' = \sigma \dot{\cup} \{u \mapsto \{v_i \mapsto d_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}\}; u_{dst} = I[\![expr_{dst}]\!](\sigma, u_x) \in \text{dom}(\sigma)$;

$d_i = I[\![expr_i]\!](\sigma, u_x), 1 \leq i \leq n; u \in \mathcal{D}(E)$ a fresh identity;

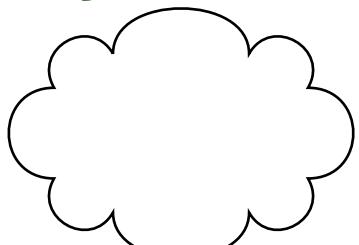
σ :

$$\frac{u_1 : C}{x = 5}$$

$$v_2 : C$$



ε :



$$\frac{u_1 : C}{x = 5} \xrightarrow{n} \frac{u_2 : C}{x = 5}$$

: σ'

$$\frac{22_F : F}{p = 6}$$

$$(v_2, 22_F) \oplus \dots$$

: $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon \oplus (v_2, 22_F)$

Sequential Composition of Transformers

- **Sequential composition** $t_1 \circ t_2$ of transformers t_1 and t_2 is canonically defined as

$$(t_2 \circ t_1)[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = t_2[u_x](t_1[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon))$$

with observation

$$Obs_{(t_2 \circ t_1)}[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) = Obs_{t_1}[u_x](\sigma, \varepsilon) \cup Obs_{t_2}[u_x](t_1(\sigma, \varepsilon)).$$

- **Clear:** not defined if one the two intermediate “micro steps” is not defined.

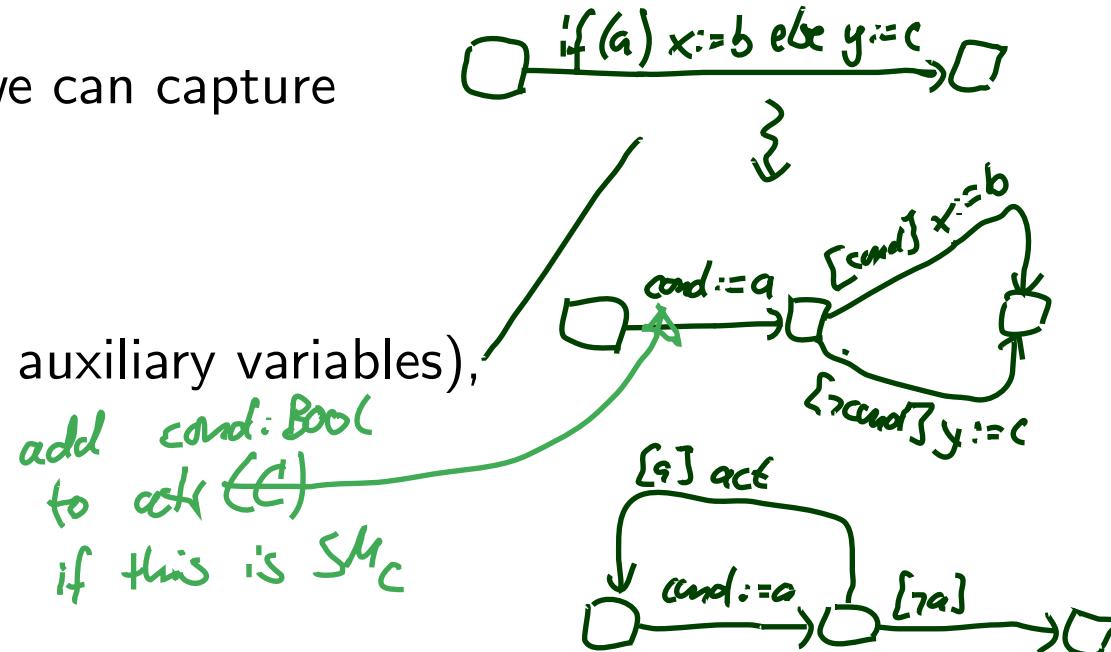
Transformers And Denotational Semantics

Observation: our transformers are in principle the **denotational semantics** of the actions/action sequences. The trivial case, to be precise.

Note: with the previous examples, we can capture

- empty statements, skips,
- assignments,
- conditionals (by normalisation and auxiliary variables),
- create/destroy,

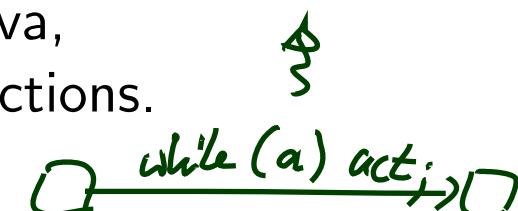
but not **possibly diverging loops**.



Our (Simple) Approach: if the action language is, e.g. Java, then (**syntactically**) forbid loops and calls of recursive functions.

Other Approach: use full blown denotational semantics.

No show-stopper, because loops in the action annotation can be converted into transition cycles in the state machine.



Step and Run-to-completion Step

Transition Relation, Computation

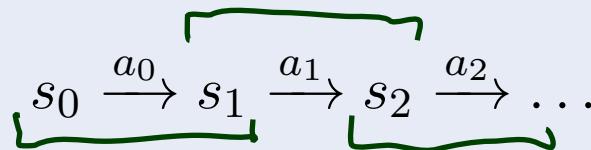
Definition. Let A be a set of **actions** and S a (not necessarily finite) set of **states**.

We call

$$\rightarrow \subseteq S \times A \times S$$

a (labelled) **transition relation**.

Let $S_0 \subseteq S$ be a set of **initial states**. A sequence



with $s_i \in S$, $a_i \in A$ is called **computation** of the **labelled transition system** (S, \rightarrow, S_0) if and only if



- **initiation:** $s_0 \in S_0$
- **consecution:** $(s_i, a_i, s_{i+1}) \in \rightarrow$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

Active vs. Passive Classes/Objects

- **Note:** From now on, assume that all classes are **active** for simplicity.

We'll later briefly discuss the Rhapsody framework which proposes a way how to integrate non-active objects.

- **Note:** The following RTC “algorithm” follows [?] (i.e. the one realised by the Rhapsody code generation) where the standard is ambiguous or leaves choices.

From Core State Machines to LTS

Definition. Let $\mathcal{S}_0 = (\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{C}_0, V_0, atr_0, \mathcal{E})$ be a signature with signals (all classes **active**), \mathcal{D}_0 a structure of \mathcal{S}_0 , and $(Eth, ready, \oplus, \ominus, [\cdot])$ an ether over \mathcal{S}_0 and \mathcal{D}_0 .

Assume there is one core state machine M_C per class $C \in \mathcal{C}$.

We say, the state machines **induce** the following labelled transition relation on states $S := \underbrace{(\sum_{\mathcal{S}}^{\mathcal{D}} \dot{\cup} \{\#\} \times Eth)}_{(\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{\mathcal{D}} \times Eth) \cup \{\#\}}$ with actions $A := \left(2^{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})} \times (\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}) \dot{\cup} \{\perp\}) Evs(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) \times \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})\right)^2 \times_{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})} (\sum_{\mathcal{S}}^{\mathcal{D}} \times Eth) \cup \{\#\}$

- $(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$ if and only if
 - (i) an event with destination u is discarded,
 - (ii) an event is dispatched to u , i.e. stable object processes an event, or
 - (iii) run-to-completion processing by u commences,
i.e. object u is not stable and continues to process an event,
 - (iv) the environment interacts with object u ,
- $s \xrightarrow{(cons, \emptyset)} \#$ if and only if
 - (v) $s = \#$ and $cons = \emptyset$, or an error condition occurs during consumption of $cons$.

(i) Discarding An Event

$$(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[u]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$$

if

- an E -event (instance of signal E) is ready in ε for object u of a class \mathcal{C} , i.e. if

$$u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) \wedge \exists u_E \in \mathcal{D}(E) : u_E \in \text{ready}(\varepsilon, u)$$

- u is stable and in state machine state s , i.e. $\sigma(u)(stable) = 1$ and $\sigma(u)(st) = s$,
- but there is no corresponding transition enabled (all transitions incident with current state of u either have other triggers or the guard is not satisfied)

$$\forall (s, F, expr, act, s') \in \rightarrow(SMC) : F \neq E \vee I[\![expr]\!](\sigma, u) = 0$$

current state assumed above

see (ii)

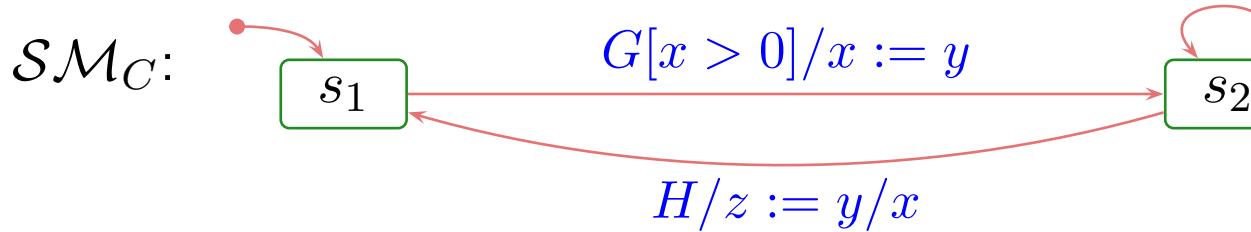
and

- the system configuration ~~doesn't~~ changes i.e. $\sigma' = \sigma \setminus \{u_E \mapsto \sigma(u_E)\}$
- the event u_E is removed from the ether, i.e.

$$\varepsilon' = \varepsilon \ominus u_E,$$

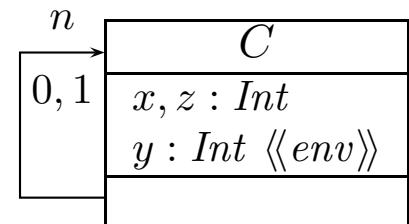
Example: Discard

$$[x > 0]/x := x - 1; n!J$$



$\langle\langle signal, env \rangle\rangle$

$\langle\langle signal \rangle\rangle$
 G, J



<u>$c : C$</u>
$x = 1, z = 0, y = 2$
$st = s_1$
$stable = 1$

(v, E) , \emptyset 

not charged

Handwritten notes showing the addition of 10 to 12, resulting in 22.

10 + 12 = 22

5

ready(ε, c) $\xrightarrow{\varepsilon:} J \text{ for } c,$
 $G \text{ for } c$

(c, g)

$$\text{ready}(\varepsilon; c) = \emptyset$$

- $\exists u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) \checkmark$
 - $\exists u_E \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}) : u_E \in \text{ready}(\varepsilon, u) \checkmark$
 - $\forall (s, F, \text{expr}, \text{act}, s') \in \rightarrow (\mathcal{SM}_C) : F \neq E \vee I[\![\text{expr}]\!](\sigma) = 0 \checkmark$

- $\sigma(u)(stable) = 1 \checkmark \sigma(u)(st) = s \checkmark$
 - $\sigma' = \sigma, \varepsilon' = \varepsilon \ominus u_E$
 - $cons = \{(u, (E, \sigma(u_E)))\}, Snd = \emptyset$

(ii) Dispatch

$$(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[u]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon') \text{ if}$$

- $u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) \wedge \exists u_E \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}) : u_E \in \text{ready}(\varepsilon, u)$
- u is stable and in state machine state s , i.e. $\sigma(u)(\text{stable}) = 1$ and $\sigma(u)(st) = s$,
- a transition is enabled, i.e.

$$\exists (s, F, expr, act, s') \in \rightarrow (\mathcal{SM}_C) : F = E \wedge I[\![expr]\!](\tilde{\sigma}) = 1$$

where $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma[u.\text{params}_E \mapsto u_E]$.

and

- (σ', ε') results from applying t_{act} to (σ, ε) and removing u_E from the ether, i.e.

$$(\sigma'', \varepsilon') \leftarrow t_{act}^{[u]}(\tilde{\sigma}, \varepsilon \ominus u_E),$$

$$\sigma' = (\sigma''[u.st \mapsto s', u.stable \mapsto b, u.\text{params}_E \mapsto \emptyset])|_{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \{u_E\}}$$

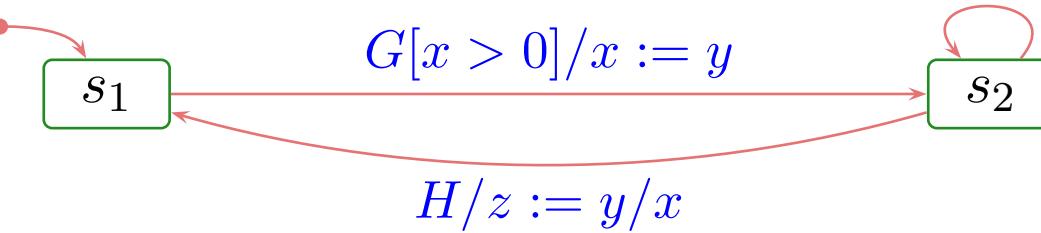
where b **depends**:

- If u becomes stable in s' , then $b = 1$. It **does** become stable if and only if there is no transition **without trigger** enabled for u in (σ', ε') .
- Otherwise $b = 0$.
- Consumption of u_E and the side effects of the action are observed, i.e.

$$cons = \{(u, (E, \sigma(u_E)))\}, Snd = Obs_{t_{act}}^{[u]}(\tilde{\sigma}, \varepsilon \ominus u_E).$$

Example: Dispatch

\mathcal{SM}_C :



$$[x > 0]/x := x - 1; n! J$$

$\langle\langle \text{signal}, \text{env} \rangle\rangle$
H

$\langle\langle \text{signal} \rangle\rangle$
G, J

n
C
$x, z : \text{Int}$
$y : \text{Int} \langle\langle \text{env} \rangle\rangle$

σ :

$c : C$
$x = 1, z = 0, y = 2$
$st = s_1$
$stable = 1$

$(c, G), \theta$

c

$c' : C'$
$x = 2, z > 0, y = ?$
$st = s_2$
$stable = 0$

$: \sigma'$

ε :

G for c

$\tilde{\sigma} \cdot G$

$\text{ready}(\varepsilon, \sigma) = y$

empty FIFO

$\varepsilon' = \varepsilon$

- $\exists u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) \checkmark$
- $\exists u_E \in \mathcal{D}(E) : u_E \in \text{ready}(\varepsilon, u) \checkmark$
- $\exists (s, F, expr, act, s') \in \rightarrow (\mathcal{SM}_C) : F = E \wedge I[\![expr]\!](\tilde{\sigma}) = 1 \checkmark$
- $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma[u.\text{params}_E \mapsto u_E]$.

- $\sigma(u)(stable) = 1 \checkmark \sigma(u)(st) = s, \checkmark$
- $(\sigma'', \varepsilon') = t_{act}(\tilde{\sigma}, \varepsilon \ominus u_E)$
- $\sigma' = (\sigma''[u.st \mapsto s', u.stable \mapsto b, u.\text{params}_E \mapsto \emptyset])|_{\mathcal{D}(C) \setminus \{u_E\}}$
- $cons = \{(u, (E, \sigma(u_E)))\}, Snd = Obs_{t_{act}}(\tilde{\sigma}, \varepsilon \ominus u_E)$

(iii) Commence Run-to-Completion

$$(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[u]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$$

if

- there is an unstable object u of a class \mathcal{C} , i.e.

$$u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) \wedge \sigma(u)(stable) = 0$$

- there is a transition without trigger enabled from the current state $s = \sigma(u)(st)$, i.e.

$$\exists (s, -, expr, act, s') \in \rightarrow (\mathcal{SM}_C) : I[\![expr]\!](\sigma) = 1$$

↗ $\notin \sigma$

and

- (σ', ε') results from applying t_{act} to (σ, ε) , i.e.

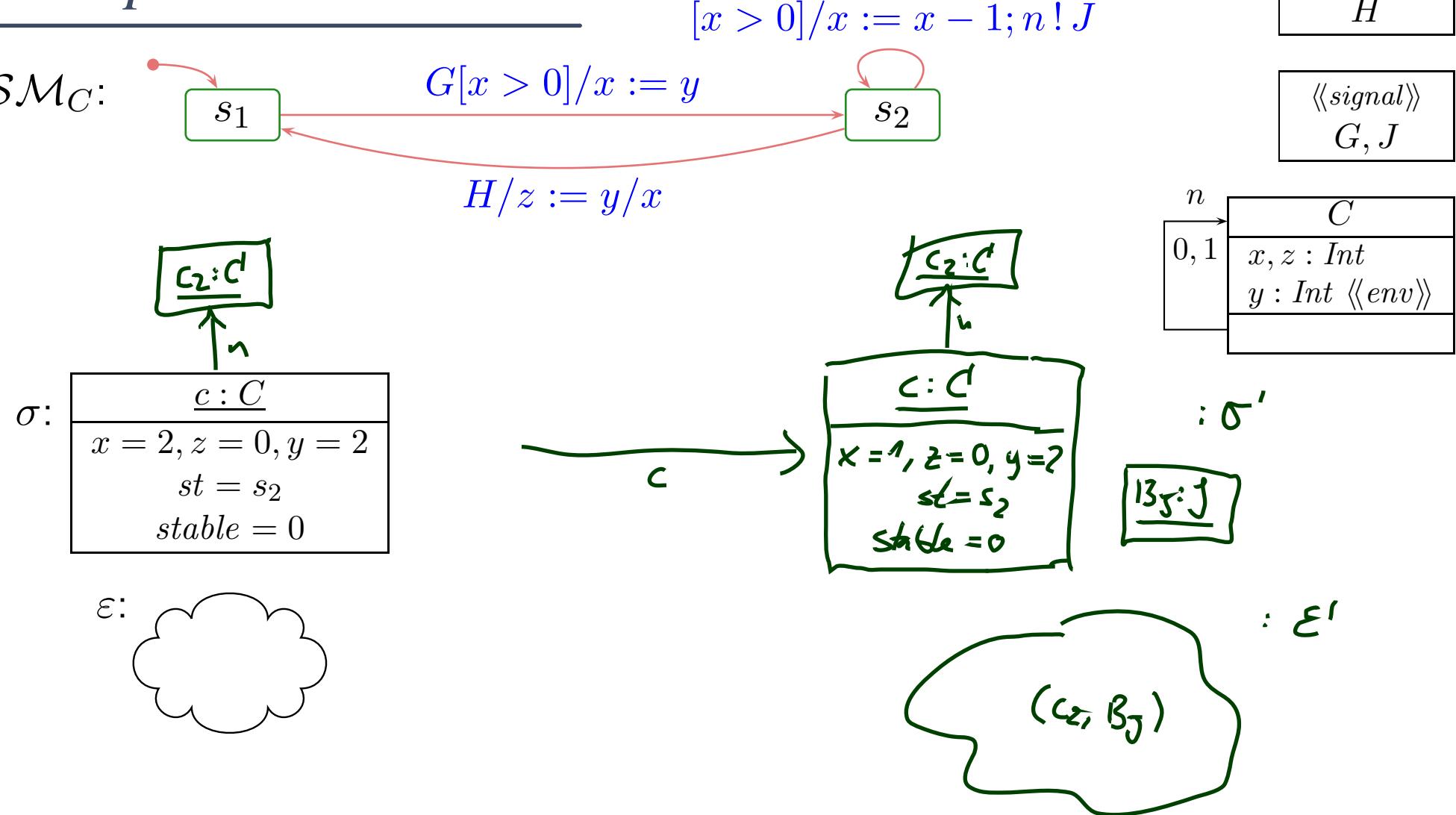
$$(\sigma'', \varepsilon') \in t_{act}[u](\sigma, \varepsilon), \quad \sigma' = \sigma''[u.st \mapsto s', u.stable \mapsto b]$$

where b **depends** as before.

- Only the side effects of the action are observed, i.e.

$$cons = \emptyset, Snd = Obs_{t_{act}}(\sigma, \varepsilon).$$

Example: Commence



- $\exists u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \cap \mathcal{D}(C) : \sigma(u)(stable) = 0$
- $\exists (s, -, expr, act, s') \in \rightarrow (\mathcal{SM}_C) : I[\![expr]\!](\sigma) = 1$
- $\sigma(u)(stable) = 1 \quad \sigma(u)(st) = s,$
- $(\sigma'', \varepsilon') = t_{act}(\sigma, \varepsilon),$
 $\sigma' = \sigma''[u.st \mapsto s', u.stable \mapsto b]$
- $cons = \emptyset, Snd = Obs_{t_{act}}(\sigma, \varepsilon)$

(iv) Environment Interaction

Assume that a set $\mathcal{E}_{env} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ is designated as **environment events** and a set of attributes $v_{env} \subseteq V$ is designated as **input attributes**.

Then

$$(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[env]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$$

if

- environment event $E \in \mathcal{E}_{env}$ is spontaneously sent to an alive object $u \in \mathcal{D}(\sigma)$, i.e.

$$\sigma' = \sigma \dot{\cup} \{u_E \mapsto \{v_i \mapsto d_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}, \quad \varepsilon' = \varepsilon \oplus u_E$$

where $u_E \notin \text{dom}(\sigma)$ and $atr(E) = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

- Sending of the event is observed, i.e. $cons = \emptyset$, $Snd = \{(env, E(\vec{d}))\}$.

or

- Values of input attributes change freely in alive objects, i.e.

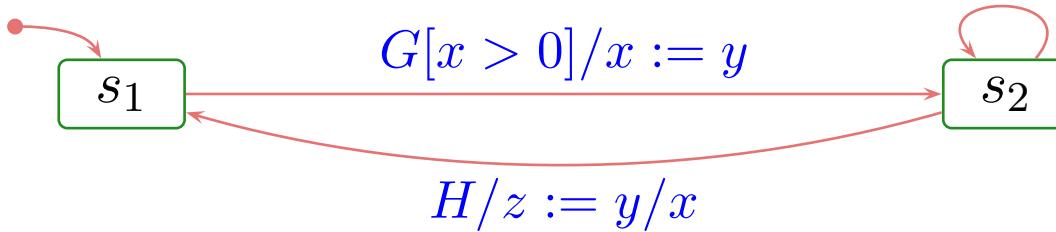
$$\forall v \in V \ \forall u \in \text{dom}(\sigma) : \sigma'(u)(v) \neq \sigma(u)(v) \implies v \in V_{env}.$$

and no objects appear or disappear, i.e. $\text{dom}(\sigma') = \text{dom}(\sigma)$.

- $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon$.

Example: Environment

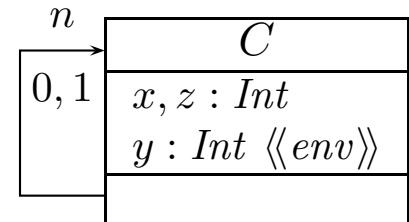
\mathcal{SM}_C :



$[x > 0]/x := x - 1; n! J$

$\langle\langle \text{signal}, \text{env} \rangle\rangle$
H

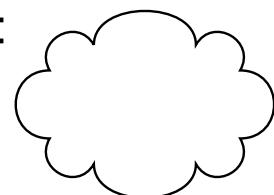
$\langle\langle \text{signal} \rangle\rangle$
G, J



σ :

$c : C$
$x = 0, z = 0, y = 2$
$st = s_2$
$stable = 1$

ε :



- $\sigma' = \sigma \dot{\cup} \{u_E \mapsto \{v_i \mapsto d_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$
- $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon \oplus u_E$ where $u_E \notin \text{dom}(\sigma)$
and $atr(E) = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

- $u \in \text{dom}(\sigma)$
- $cons = \emptyset$,
 $Snd = \{(env, E(\vec{d}))\}$.

(v) Error Conditions

$$s \xrightarrow[u]{(cons,Snd)} \#$$

if, in (ii) or (iii),

- $I[\![expr]\!]$ is not defined for σ , or
- t_{act} is not defined for (σ, ε) ,

and

- consumption **is observed** according to (ii) or (iii), but $Snd = \emptyset$.

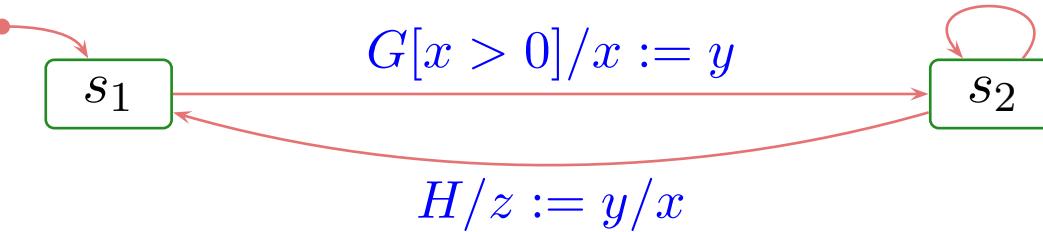
Examples:

- ```
graph LR; s1[s1] -- "E[x/0]/act" --> s2[s2]; s1 -- "E[true]/act" --> s3[s3]
```
- ```
graph LR; s1[s1] -- "E[expr]/x := x/0" --> s2[s2]
```

Example: Error Condition

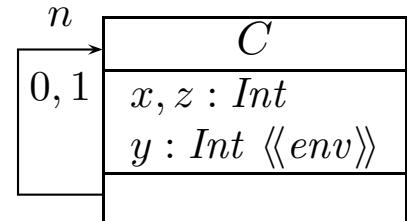
$[x > 0]/x := x - 1; n! J$

\mathcal{SM}_C :



$\langle\langle \text{signal}, \text{env} \rangle\rangle$
H

$\langle\langle \text{signal} \rangle\rangle$
G, J



$c : C$
$x = 0, z = 0, y = 27$
$st = s_2$
$stable = 1$

ε :
Cloud shape containing "H for c"

- $I[\text{expr}]$ not defined for σ , or
- t_{act} is not defined for (σ, ε)
- consumption according to (ii) or (iii)
- $Snd = \emptyset$

Notions of Steps: The Step

Note: we call one evolution $(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[u]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$ a **step**.

Thus in our setting, **a step directly corresponds** to

one object (namely u) takes **a single transition** between regular states.

(We have to extend the concept of “single transition” for hierarchical state machines.)

That is: We’re going for an interleaving semantics without true parallelism.

Notions of Steps: The Step

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(We have to extend the concept of “single transition” for hierarchical state machines.)

That is: We’re going for an interleaving semantics without true parallelism.

Remark: With only methods (later), the notion of step is not so clear.

For example, consider

- c_1 calls $f()$ at c_2 , which calls $g()$ at c_1 which in turn calls $h()$ for c_2 .
- Is the completion of $h()$ a step?
- Or the completion of $f()$?
- Or doesn’t it play a role?

It does play a role, because **constraints/invariants** are typically (= by convention) assumed to be evaluated at step boundaries, and sometimes the convention is meant to admit (temporary) violation in between steps.

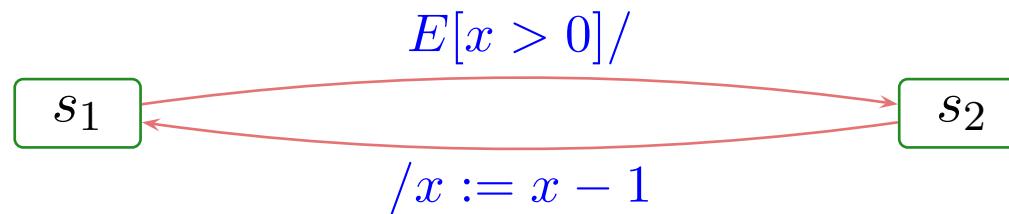
Notions of Steps: The Run-to-Completion Step

What is a **run-to-completion** step...?

- **Intuition:** a maximal sequence of steps, where the first step is a **dispatch** step and all later steps are **commence** steps.
- **Note:** one step corresponds to one transition in the state machine.

A run-to-completion step is in general not syntactically definable — one transition may be taken multiple times during an RTC-step.

Example:



$\sigma:$

$:C$
$x = 2$

$\varepsilon:$

A cloud-shaped bubble containing the text "E for u".

Notions of Steps: The RTC Step Cont'd

Proposal: Let

$$(\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow[u_0]{(cons_0, Snd_0)} \dots \xrightarrow[u_{n-1}]{(cons_{n-1}, Snd_{n-1})} (\sigma_n, \varepsilon_n), \quad n > 0,$$

be a finite (!), non-empty, maximal, consecutive sequence such that

- object u is alive in σ_0 ,
- $u_0 = u$ and $(cons_0, Snd_0)$ indicates dispatching to u , i.e. $cons = \{(u, \vec{v} \mapsto \vec{d})\}$,
- there are no receptions by u in between, i.e.

$$cons_i \cap \{u\} \times Evs(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) = \emptyset, i > 1,$$

- $u_{n-1} = u$ and u is stable only in σ_0 and σ_n , i.e.

$$\sigma_0(u)(stable) = \sigma_n(u)(stable) = 1 \text{ and } \sigma_i(u)(stable) = 0 \text{ for } 0 < i < n,$$

Notions of Steps: The RTC Step Cont'd

Proposal: Let

$$(\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow[u_0]{(cons_0, Snd_0)} \dots \xrightarrow[u_{n-1}]{(cons_{n-1}, Snd_{n-1})} (\sigma_n, \varepsilon_n), \quad n > 0,$$

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Let $0 = k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_N = n$ be the maximal sequence of indices such that $u_{k_i} = u$ for $1 \leq i \leq N$.

Notions of Steps: The RTC Step Cont'd

Proposal: Let

$$(\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow[u_0]{(cons_0, Snd_0)} \dots \xrightarrow[u_{n-1}]{(cons_{n-1}, Snd_{n-1})} (\sigma_n, \varepsilon_n), \quad n > 0,$$

be a finite (!), non-empty, maximal, consecutive sequence such that

- object u is alive in σ_0 ,
- $u_0 = u$ and $(cons_0, Snd_0)$ indicates dispatching to u , i.e. $cons = \{(u, \vec{v} \mapsto \vec{d})\}$,
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$$cons_i \cap \{u\} \times Evs(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) = \emptyset, i > 1,$$

- $u_{n-1} = u$ and u is stable only in σ_0 and σ_n , i.e.

$$\sigma_0(u)(stable) = \sigma_n(u)(stable) = 1 \text{ and } \sigma_i(u)(stable) = 0 \text{ for } 0 < i < n,$$

Let $0 = k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_N = n$ be the maximal sequence of indices such that $u_{k_i} = u$ for $1 \leq i \leq N$. Then we call the sequence

$$(\sigma_0(u) =) \quad \sigma_{k_1}(u), \sigma_{k_2}(u) \dots, \sigma_{k_N}(u) \quad (= \sigma_{n-1}(u))$$

a (!) **run-to-completion computation** of u (from (local) configuration $\sigma_0(u)$).