

# *Software Design, Modelling and Analysis in UML*

## *Lecture 15: Hierarchical State Machines III*

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# Contents & Goals

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## Last Lecture:

- Hierarchical State Machines: partial order, “lca”, orthogonality, ...

## This Lecture:

- **Educational Objectives:** Capabilities for following tasks/questions.
  - What does this **hierarchical** State Machine mean? What **may happen** if I inject this event?
  - What is: AND-State, OR-State, pseudo-state, entry/exit/do, final state, ...
- **Content:**
  - Legal Transitions
  - Exit/Entry, internal transitions
  - History and others
  - Rhapsody Demo

# *Composite States*

*(formalisation follows [Damm et al., 2003])*

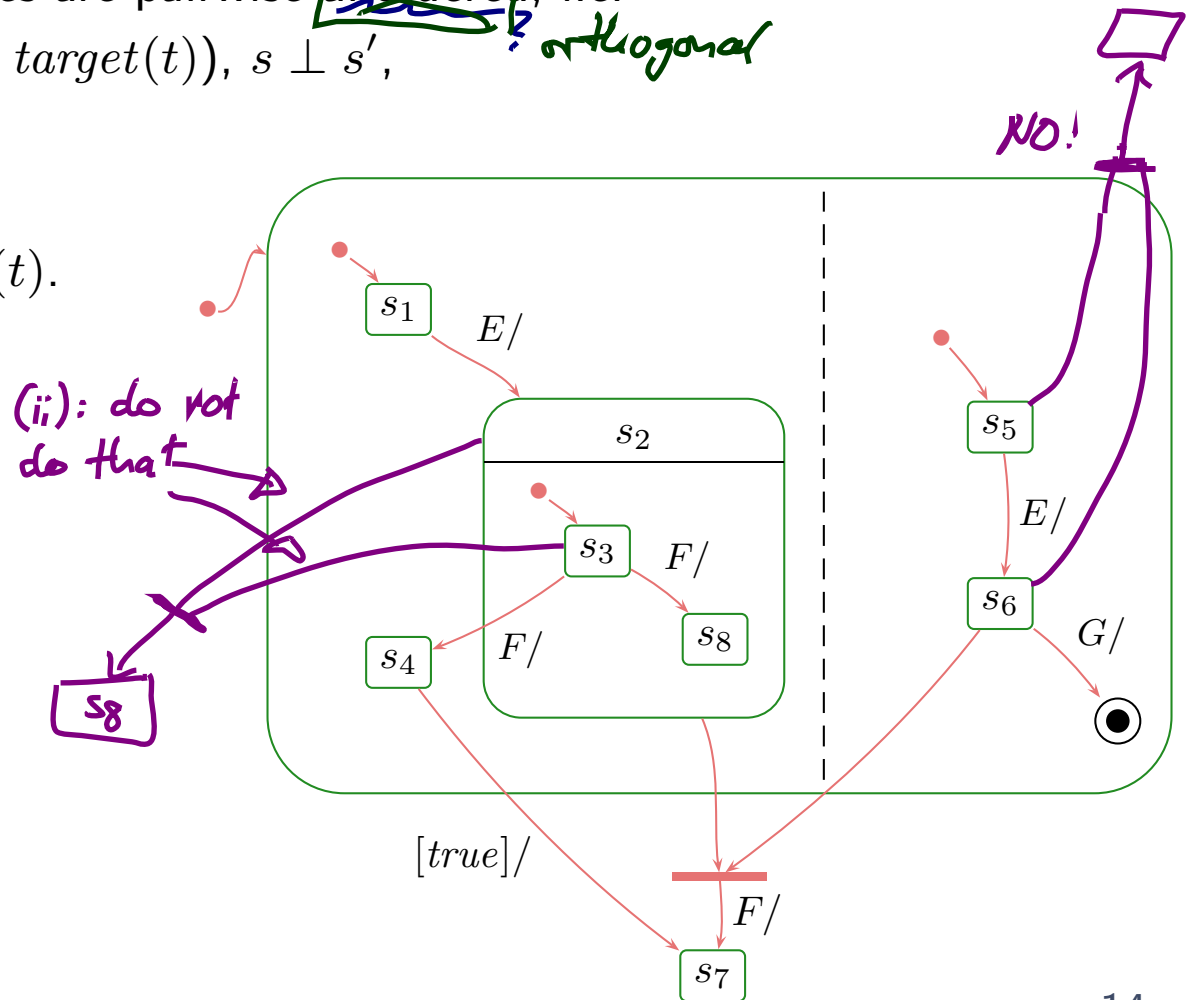
# Legal Transitions

A hierarchical state-machine  $(S, kind, region, \rightarrow, \psi, annot)$  is called **well-formed** if and only if for all transitions  $t \in \rightarrow$ ,

- (i) source and destination are consistent, i.e.  $\downarrow source(t)$  and  $\downarrow target(t)$ , ] redundant
- (ii) source (and destination) states are pairwise ~~unordered~~, i.e.
  - for all  $s, s' \in source(t) (\in target(t))$ ,  $s \perp s'$ , ? orthogonal
- (iii) the top state is neither source nor destination, i.e.
  - $top \notin source(t) \cup target(t)$ .
- Recall: final states are not sources of transitions.

**Example:**

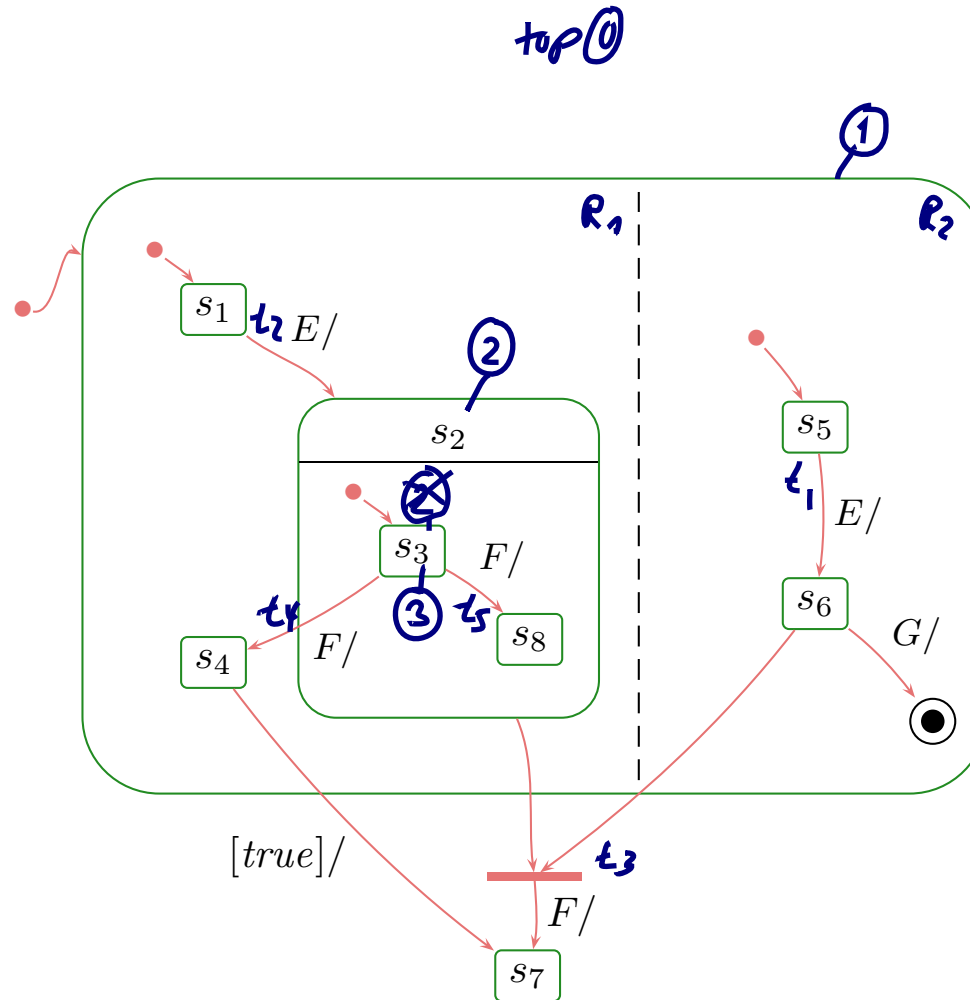
CLAIM:  
(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)



# The Depth of States

- $depth(top) = 0$ ,
- $depth(s') = depth(s) + 1$ , for all  $s' \in child(s)$

## Example:



- $\{t_1, t_2\}$  cons.
- $\{t_3, t_4\}$  not cons.
- $\{t_5, t_6\}$  not cons

# Enabledness in Hierarchical State-Machines

- The **scope** (“set of possibly affected states”) of a transition  $t$  is the **least common region** of

$$source(t) \cup target(t).$$

Maximal  
wrt. to  $\subseteq$

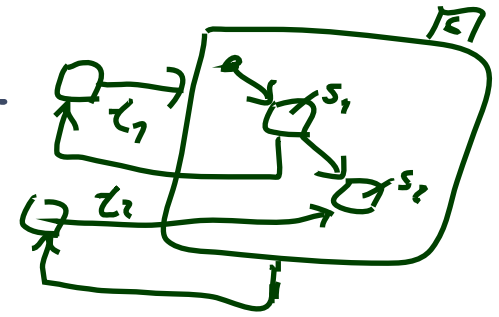
- Two transitions  $t_1, t_2$  are called **consistent** if and only if their scopes are orthogonal (i.e. states in scopes pairwise orthogonal).
- The **priority** of transition  $t$  is the depth of its innermost source state, i.e.

$$prio(t) := \max\{depth(s) \mid s \in source(t)\}$$

- A set of transitions  $T \subseteq \rightarrow$  is **enabled** in an object  $u$  if and only if
  - $T$  is consistent,
  - $T$  is maximal wrt. priority,
  - all transitions in  $T$  share the same trigger,
  - all guards are satisfied by  $\sigma(u)$ , and
  - for all  $t \in T$ , the source states are active, i.e.

$$source(t) \subseteq \sigma(u)(st) (\subseteq S).$$

# Transitions in Hierarchical State-Machines



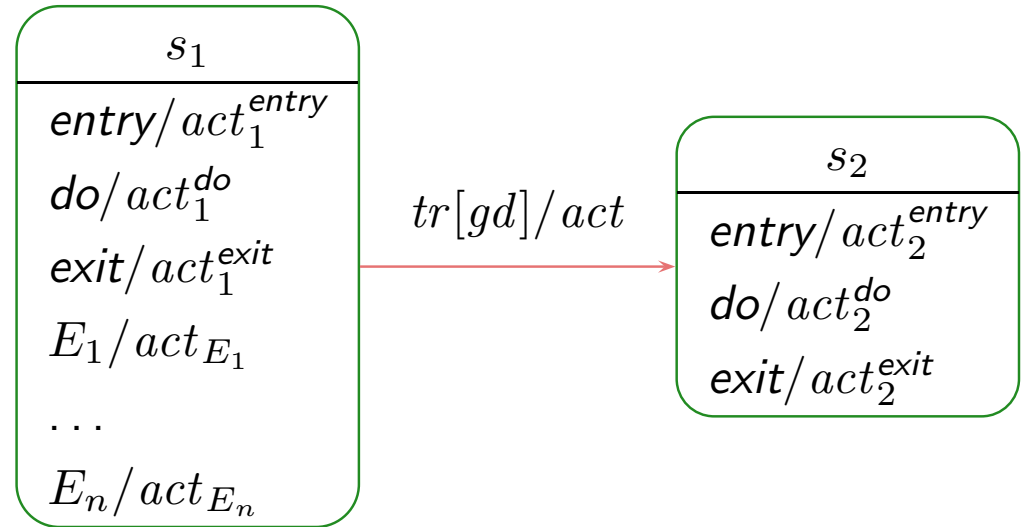
- Let  $T$  be a set of transitions enabled in  $u$ .
  - Then  $(\sigma, \varepsilon) \xrightarrow[\checkmark]{(cons, Snd)} (\sigma', \varepsilon')$  if
    - $\sigma'(u)(st)$  consists of the target states of  $T$ , *(and their recursive parents)*  
i.e. for simple states the simple states themselves, for composite states the initial states,
    - $\sigma'$ ,  $\varepsilon'$ ,  $cons$ , and  $Snd$  are the effect of firing each transition  $t \in T$  **one by one, in any order**, i.e. for each  $t \in T$ ,
      - the exit transformer of all affected states, highest depth first,
      - the transformer of  $t$ ,
      - the entry transformer of all affected states, lowest depth first.
- $\rightsquigarrow$  adjust (2.), (3.), (5.) accordingly.

# *Entry/Do/Exit Actions, Internal Transitions*



# Entry/Do/Exit Actions

- In general, with each state  $s \in S$  there is associated
  - an **entry**, a **do**, and an **exit** action (default: skip)
  - a possibly empty set of trigger/action pairs called **internal transitions**, (default: empty).  $E_1, \dots, E_n \in \mathcal{A}$ , 'entry', 'do', 'exit' are reserved names!



- Recall: each action's supposed to have a transformer. Here:  $t_{act_1^{entry}}$ ,  $t_{act_1^{exit}}$ ,  $\dots$
- Taking the transition above then amounts to applying

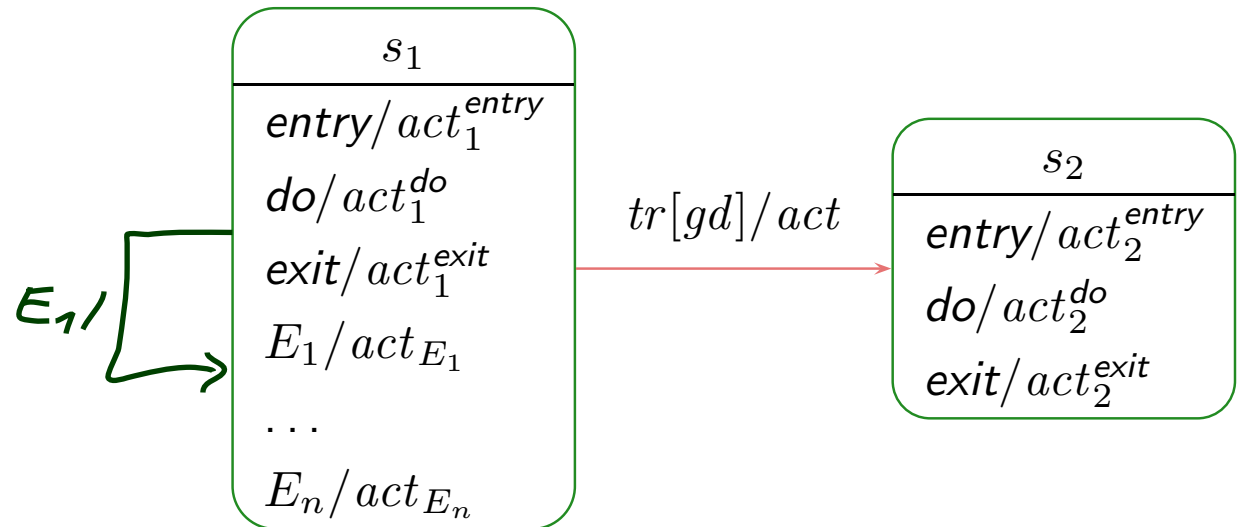
$$t_{act_{s_2}^{entry}} \circ t_{act} \circ t_{act_{s_1}^{exit}}(s) \sim t_{s_2}^{entry}(t_{act}(t_{s_1}^{exit}(s)))$$

instead of only

$$t_{act}$$

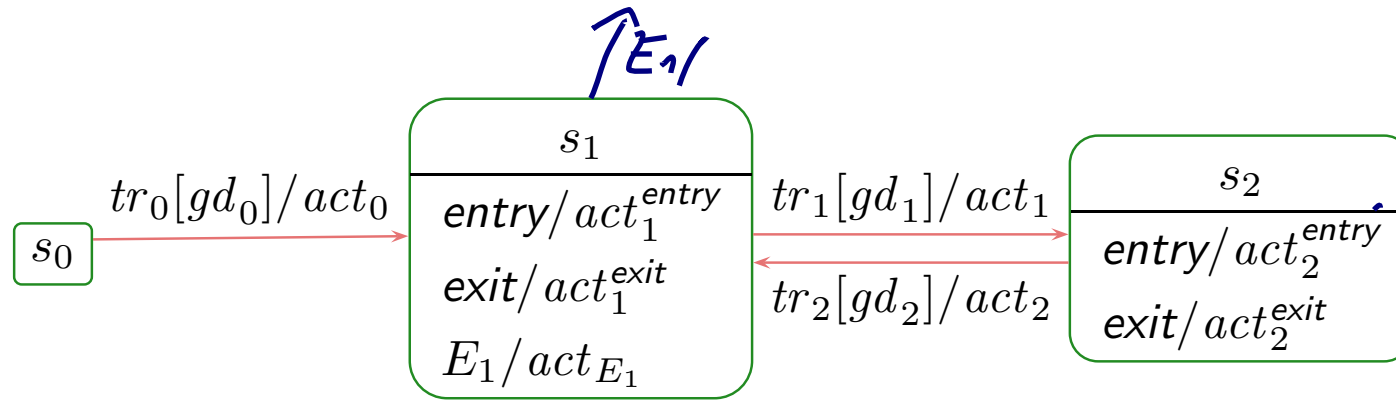
$\rightsquigarrow$  adjust (2.), (3.) accordingly.

# Internal Transitions

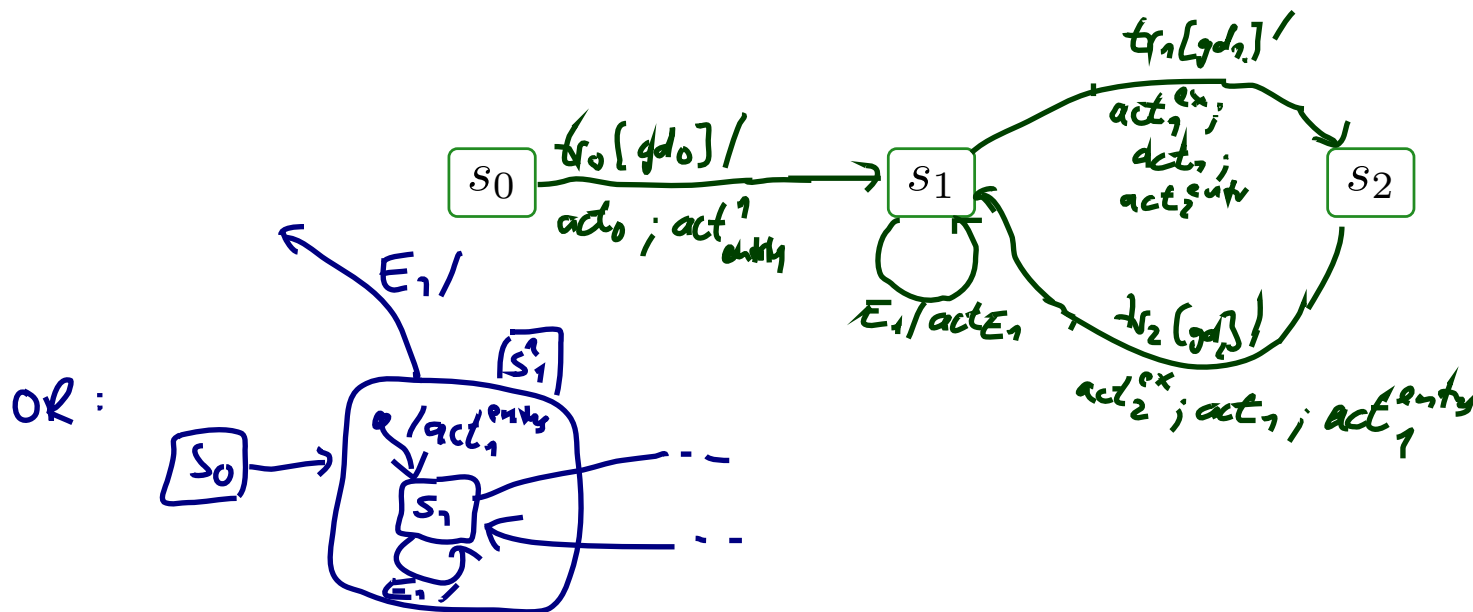


- For **internal transitions**, taking the one for  $E_1$ , for instance, still amounts to taking **only**  $t_{act_{E_1}}$ .
- Intuition: The state is neither left nor entered, so: no exit, no entry.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  adjust (2.) accordingly.
- Note: internal transitions also start a run-to-completion step.
- Note: the standard seems not to clarify whether internal transitions have **priority** over regular transitions with the same trigger at the same state.  
Some code generators assume that internal transitions have priority!

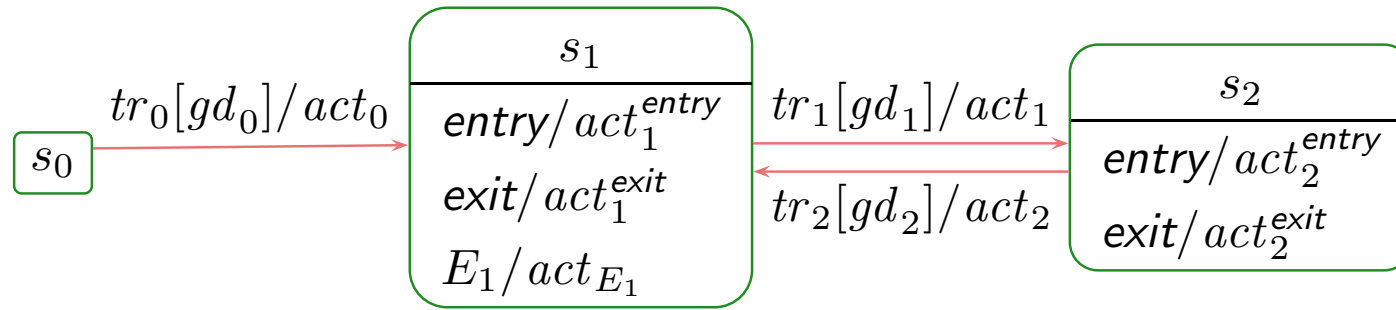
# Alternative View: Entry/Exit/Internal as Abbreviations



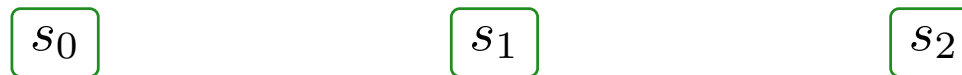
- ... as abbreviation for ...



# Alternative View: Entry/Exit/Internal as Abbreviations

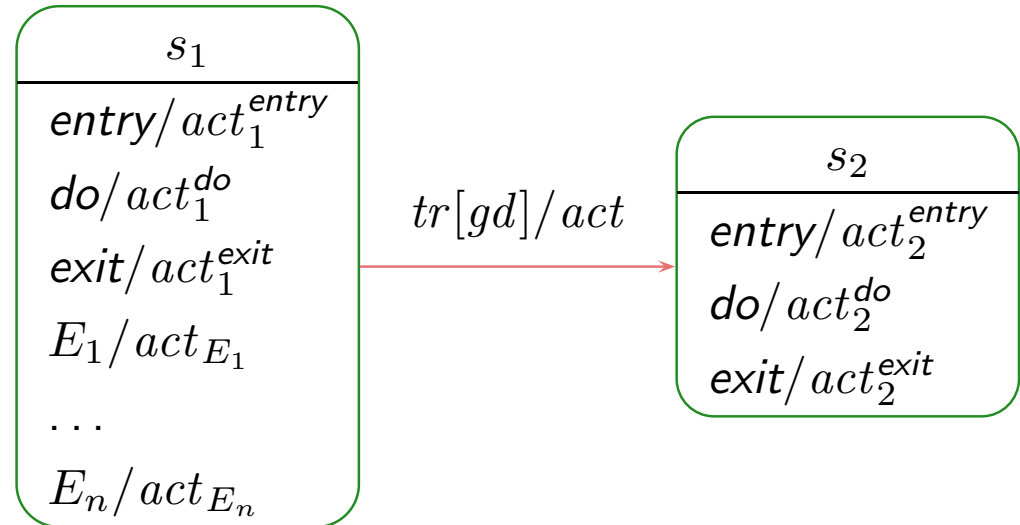


- ... as abbreviation for ...



- That is: Entry/Internal/Exit don't add expressive power to Core State Machines. If internal actions should have priority,  $s_1$  can be embedded into an OR-state (see later).
- Abbreviation may avoid confusion in context of hierarchical states (see later).

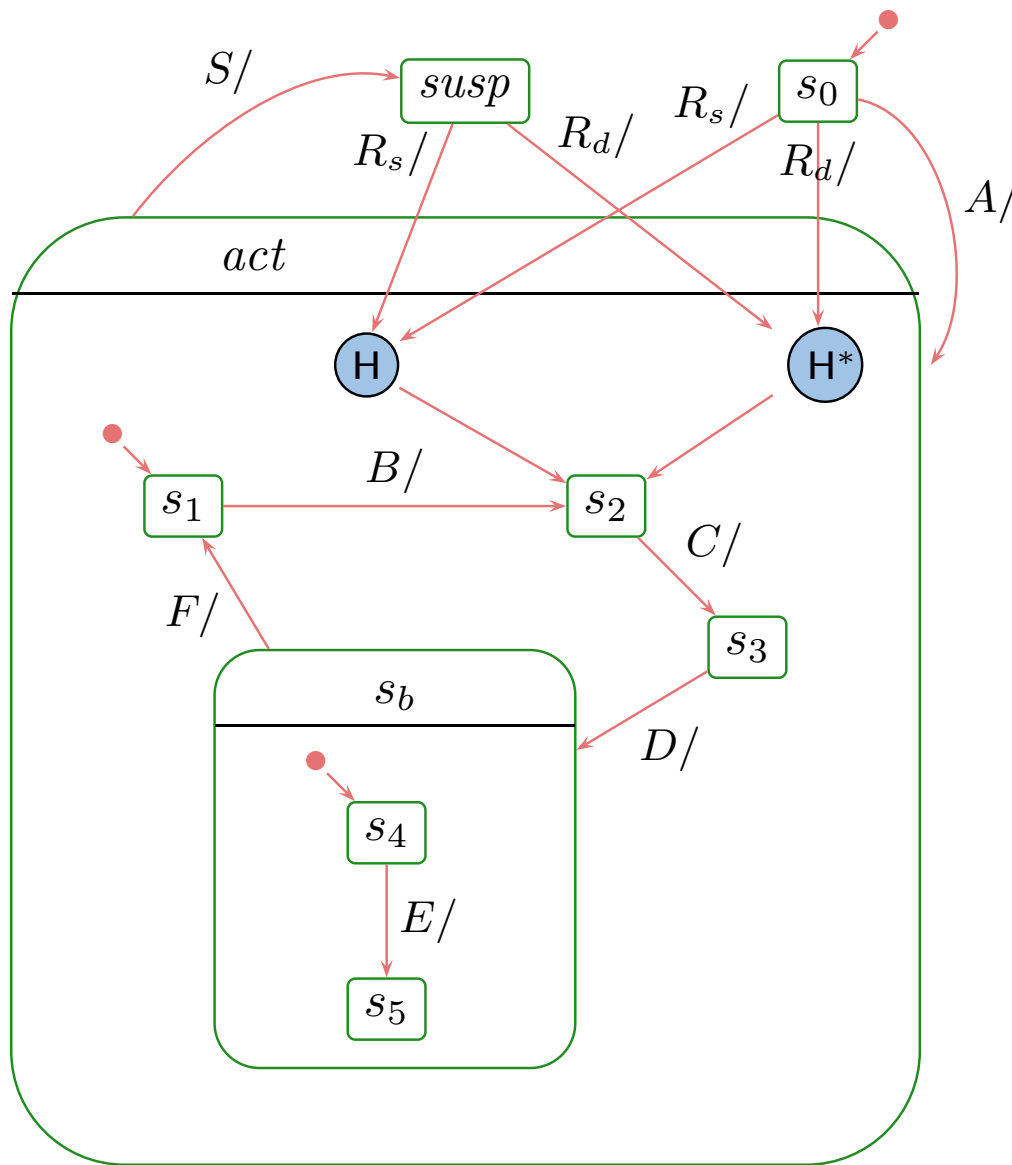
# Do Actions



- **Intuition:** after entering a state, start its do-action.
- If the do-action terminates,
  - then the state is considered **completed**,
- otherwise,
  - if the state is left before termination, the do-action is stopped.
- Recall the overall UML State Machine philosophy:
  - **“An object is either idle or doing a run-to-completion step.”**
- Now, what is it exactly while the do action is executing...?

# *The Concept of History, and Other Pseudo-States*

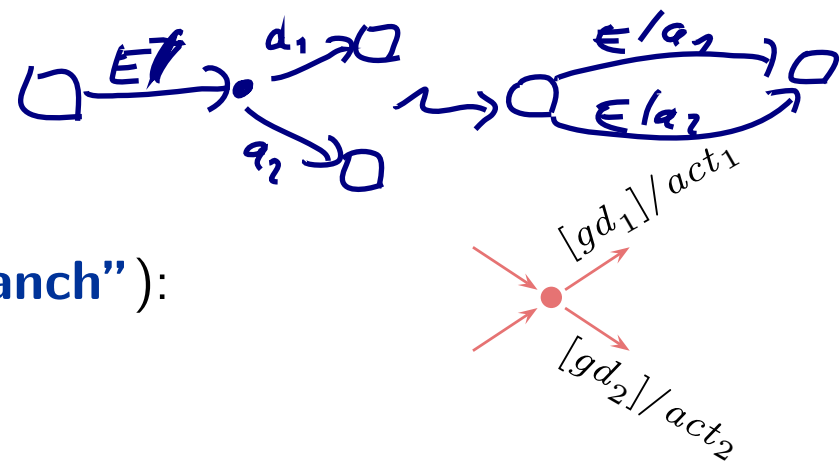
# History and Deep History: By Example



What happens on...

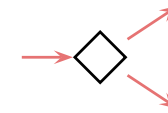
- $R_s?$   
 $s_0, s_2$
  - $R_d?$   
 $s_0, s_2$
  - $\underline{A}, B, C, S, R_s?$   
 $s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, susp, s_3$
  - $A, B, S, R_d?$   
 $s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, susp, s_3$
  - $A, B, C, D, E, R_s?$   
 $s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, susp, s_4$
  - $A, B, C, D, R_d?$   
 $s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, susp, s_5$
- $\Delta$   
 $\downarrow$   
 / 0  
 deep  
 w.  
 shallow

# Junction and Choice



- Junction (“**static conditional branch**”):
  - **good**: abbreviation
  - unfolds to so many similar transitions with different guards, the unfolded transitions are then checked for enabledness
  - at best, start with trigger, branch into conditions, then apply actions

- Choice: (“**dynamic conditional branch**”)



- **evil**: may get stuck
- enters the transition **without knowing** whether there’s an enabled path
- at best, use “else” and convince yourself that it cannot get stuck
- maybe even better: **avoid**

Note: not so sure about naming and symbols, e.g.,  
**I’d guessed** it was just the other way round...

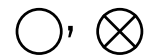


# Entry and Exit Point, Submachine State, Terminate

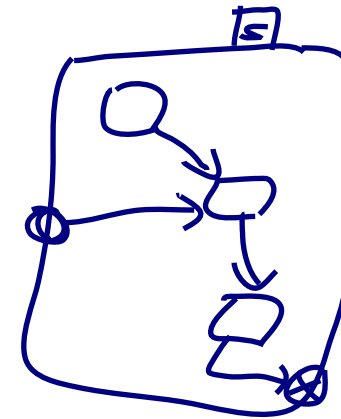
- Hierarchical states can be **“folded”** for readability.  
(but: this can also hinder readability.)
- Can even be taken from a different state-machine for re-use.



- **Entry/exit points**



- Provide connection points for finer integration into the current level, than just via initial state.
- Semantically a bit tricky:
  - **First** the exit action of the exiting state,
  - **then** the actions of the transition,
  - **then** the entry actions of the entered state,
  - **then** action of the transition from the entry point to an internal state,
  - and **then** that internal state's entry action.



- **Terminate Pseudo-State**

- When a terminate pseudo-state is reached, the object taking the transition is immediately killed.



# *Contemporary UML Modelling Tools*

# *References*

# References

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