

Software Design, Modelling and Analysis in UML

Lecture 17: Reflective Description of Behaviour, Live Sequence Charts I

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Prof. Dr. Andreas Podelski, Dr. Bernd Westphal

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany

Contents & Goals

Last Lecture:

- Constructive description of behaviour completed:
 - Remaining pseudo-states, such as shallow/deep history.

This Lecture:

- **Educational Objectives:** Capabilities for following tasks/questions.
 - What does this LSC mean?
 - Are this UML model's state machines consistent with the interactions?
 - Please provide a UML model which is consistent with this LSC.
 - What is: activation, hot/cold condition, pre-chart, etc.?
- **Content:**
 - Brief: methods/behavioural features.
 - Reflective description of behaviour.
 - LSC concrete and abstract syntax.
 - LSC intuitive semantics.
 - Symbolic Büchi Automata (TBA) and its (accepted) language.

And What About Methods?

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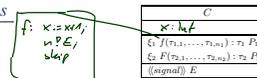
- In the current setting, the (local) state of objects is only modified by actions of transitions, which we abstract to transformers.
- In general, there are also **methods**.
- UML follows an approach to separate
 - the **interface declaration** from
 - the **implementation**.
 In C++ lingo: distinguish **declaration** and **definition** of method.

- In UML, the former is called **behavioural feature** and can (roughly) be
 - a **call interface** $f(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_{n_1}) : \tau_1$
 - a **signal name** E

C
$\xi_1 f(\tau_{1,1}, \dots, \tau_{1,n_1}) : \tau_1 P_1$
$\xi_2 F(\tau_{2,1}, \dots, \tau_{2,n_2}) : \tau_2 P_2$
$\langle\langle \text{signal} \rangle\rangle E$

Note: The signal list can be seen as redundant (can be looked up in the state machine) of the class. But: certainly useful for documentation (or sanity check).

Behavioural Features



Semantics:

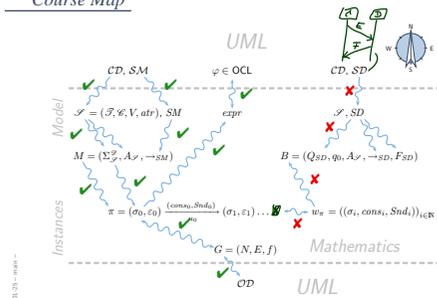
- The **implementation** of a behavioural feature can be provided by:
 - An **operation**.
 - In our setting, we simply assume a transformer like T_f .
 - It is then, e.g. clear how to admit method calls as actions on transitions: function composition of transformers (clear but tedious: non-termination).
 - In a setting with Java as action language: operation is a method body.
 - The class' **state-machine** ("triggered operation").
 - Calling F with n_2 parameters for a **stable** instance of C creates an auxiliary event F and dispatches it (bypassing the ether).
 - Transition actions may fill in the return value.
 - On completion of the RTC step, the call returns.
- For a non-stable instance, the caller blocks until stability is reached again.

Behavioural Features: Visibility and Properties

- **Visibility:**
 - Extend typing rules to sequences of actions such that a well-typed action sequence only calls visible methods.
- **Useful properties:**
 - **concurrency**
 - **concurrent** — is thread safe
 - **guarded** — some mechanism ensures/should ensure mutual exclusion
 - **sequential** — is not thread safe, users have to ensure mutual exclusion
 - **isQuery** — doesn't modify the state space (thus thread safe)
- For simplicity, we leave the notion of steps untouched, we construct our semantics around state machines. Yet we could explain pre/post in OCL (if we wanted to).

You are here.

Course Map



Motivation: Reflective, Dynamic Descriptions of Behaviour

What Can Be Purposes of Behavioural Models?

Example: Pre-Image (the UML model is supposed to be the blue-print for a software system). **Image**

A description of behaviour could serve the following purposes:

- Require Behaviour.** "System definitely does this"

"This sequence of inserting money and requesting and getting water must be possible."
(Otherwise the software for the vending machine is completely broken.)
- Allow Behaviour.** "System does subset of this"

"After inserting money and choosing a drink, the drink is dispensed (if in stock)."
(If the implementation insists on taking the money first, that's a fair choice.)
- Forbid Behaviour.** "System never does this"

"This sequence of getting both, a water and all money back, must not be possible."
(Otherwise the software is broken.)

Note: the latter two are trivially satisfied by doing nothing...

Constructive vs. Reflective Descriptions

[Harel, 1997] proposes to distinguish constructive and reflective descriptions:

- "A language is **constructive** if it contributes to the dynamic semantics of the model. That is, its constructs contain information needed in executing the model or in translating it into executable code."

A constructive description tells **how** things are computed (which can then be desired or undesired).
- "Other languages are **reflective** or **assertive**, and can be used by the system modeler to capture parts of the thinking that go into building the model – behavior included –, to derive and present views of the model, statically or during execution, or to set constraints on behavior in preparation for verification."

A reflective description tells **what** shall or shall not be computed.

Note: No sharp boundaries!

Constructive UML

UML provides two visual formalisms for constructive description of behaviours:

- Activity Diagrams
- State-Machine Diagrams

We (exemplary) focus on State-Machines because

- somehow "practice proven" (in different flavours),
- prevalent in embedded systems community,
- indicated useful by [Dobing and Parsons, 2006] survey, and
- Activity Diagram's intuition changed from transition-system-like to petri-net-like...

Recall: What is a Requirement?

Recall:

- The semantics of the UML model $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{D})$ is the transition system (S, \rightarrow, S_0) constructed according to discard/dispatch/commence-rules.
- The computations of \mathcal{M} , denoted by $[\mathcal{M}]$, are the computations of (S, \rightarrow, S_0) .

Now:

A reflective description tells **what** shall or shall not be computed.

More formally: a requirement ϑ is a property of computations, sth. which is either satisfied or not satisfied by a computation

$$\pi = (\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow{(cons_0, Snd_0)} (\sigma_1, \varepsilon_1) \xrightarrow{(cons_1, Snd_1)} \dots \in [\mathcal{M}],$$

denoted $\pi \models \vartheta$ and $\pi \not\models \vartheta$.

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OCL as Reflective Description of Certain Properties

• **invariants:**

$$\forall \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] \forall i \in \mathbb{N} : \pi^i \models \vartheta,$$

• **non-reachability of configurations:**

$$\nexists \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] \nexists i \in \mathbb{N} : \pi^i \models \vartheta$$

$$\iff \forall \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] \forall i \in \mathbb{N} : \pi^i \not\models \vartheta$$

• **reachability of configurations:**

$$\exists \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] \exists i \in \mathbb{N} : \pi^i \models \vartheta$$

$$\iff \neg(\forall \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] \forall i \in \mathbb{N} : \pi^i \not\models \vartheta)$$

where

- ϑ is an OCL expression or an object diagram and
- " \models " is the corresponding OCL satisfaction or the "is represented by object diagram" relation.

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In General Not OCL: Temporal Properties

Dynamic (by example)

• **reactive behaviour**

- "for each C instance, each reception of E is finally answered by F "
- $$\forall \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] : \pi \models \vartheta$$

• **non-reachability of system configuration sequences**

- "there mustn't be a system run where C first receives E and then sends F "
- $$\nexists \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] : \pi \models \vartheta$$

• **reachability of system configuration sequences**

- "there must be a system run where C first receives E and then sends F "
- $$\exists \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] : \pi \models \vartheta$$

But: what is " \models " and what is " ϑ "?

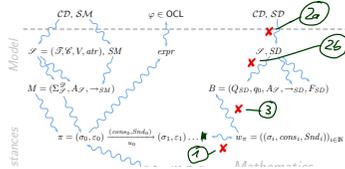
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Interactions: Problem and Plan

In general: $\forall (\exists) \pi \in [\mathcal{M}] : \pi \models (\not\models) \vartheta$
Problem: what is " \models " and what is " ϑ "?

Plan:

- Define the language $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M})$ of a model \mathcal{M} — basically its computations. Each computation $\pi \in [\mathcal{M}]$ corresponds to a word w_π .
- Define the language $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{I})$ of an interaction \mathcal{I} — via Büchi automata.
 - Then (conceptually) $\pi \models \vartheta$ if and only if $w_\pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{I})$.



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Words over Signature

Definition. Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{V}, \text{atr}, \mathcal{D})$ be a signature and \mathcal{D} a structure of \mathcal{S} . A word over \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{D} is an infinite sequence

$$(\sigma_i, cons_i, Snd_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0}$$

$$\in \left(\underbrace{\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{C}}}_{\text{sender}} \times \underbrace{2^{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})} \times \text{Evs}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})}_{\text{data}} \times \underbrace{2^{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})} \times \text{Evs}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) \times \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})}_{\text{KCS/MS}} \right)^{\omega}$$

infinite sequence

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The Language of a Model

Recall: A UML model $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{D})$ and a structure \mathcal{D} denotes a set $[\mathcal{M}]$ of (initial and consecutive) computations of the form

$$(\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow{a_0} (\sigma_1, \varepsilon_1) \xrightarrow{a_1} (\sigma_2, \varepsilon_2) \xrightarrow{a_2} \dots$$

$$a_i = (cons_i, Snd_i, u_i) \in \underbrace{2^{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})} \times \text{Evs}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) \times 2^{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})} \times \text{Evs}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) \times \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{V})}_{=A} \times \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C}).$$

For the connection between models and interactions, we disregard the configuration of the ether and who made the step, and define as follows:

Definition. Let $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{D})$ be a UML model and \mathcal{D} a structure. Then

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}) := \{ (\sigma_i, cons_i, Snd_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0} \in (\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{C}} \times \hat{A})^{\omega} \mid \exists (\varepsilon_i, u_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0} : (\sigma_0, \varepsilon_0) \xrightarrow[un]{(cons_0, Snd_0)} (\sigma_1, \varepsilon_1) \dots \in [\mathcal{M}] \}$$

is the language of \mathcal{M} .

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Model Consistency wrt. Interaction

- We assume that the set of interactions \mathcal{I} is partitioned into two (possibly empty) sets of **universal** and **existential** interactions, i.e.

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_\forall \cup \mathcal{I}_\exists.$$

Definition. A model

$$M = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I})$$

is called **consistent** (more precise: the constructive description of behaviour is consistent with the reflective one) if and only if

$$\forall I \in \mathcal{I}_\forall : \mathcal{L}(M) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(I)$$

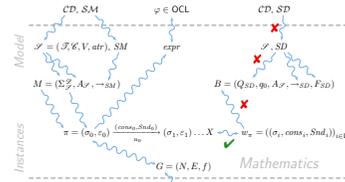
and

$$\forall I \in \mathcal{I}_\exists : \mathcal{L}(M) \cap \mathcal{L}(I) \neq \emptyset.$$

Interactions: Plan

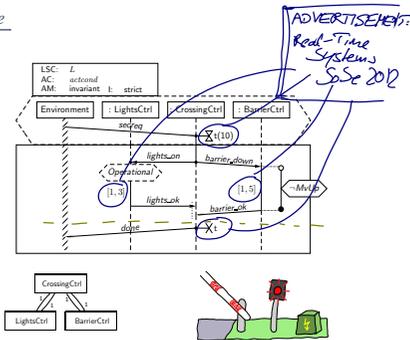
- In the following, we consider **Sequence Diagrams** as **interaction \mathcal{I}** ,
- more precisely: **Live Sequence Charts** [Damm and Harel, 2001],
- We define the **language $\mathcal{L}(I)$** of an LSC — via Büchi automata.
- Then (conceptually) $\pi \models \vartheta$ if and only if $w_\pi \in \mathcal{L}(I)$.

Why LSC, relation LSCs/UML SDs, other kinds of interactions: **later**.



Live Sequence Charts — Concrete Syntax

Example



Building Blocks

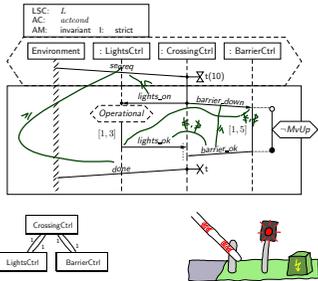
- Instance Lines:** Diagram showing Environment and C components with vertical lines representing their lifelines.
- Messages:** (asynchronous or synchronous/instantaneous) Diagram showing a message 'a' being sent from Environment to C.
- Conditions and Local Invariants:** ($expr_1, expr_2, expr_3 \in Expr_{\mathcal{I}}$) Diagram showing a message 'a' with associated expressions $expr_1$ and $expr_2$.

Intuitive Semantics: A Partial Order on Simclasses

- (i) **Strictly After:** Diagram showing event 'a' followed by event 'b'. Handwritten notes: 'strictly after / lower down' and 'reads & happens strictly after reading'.
- (ii) **Simultaneously:** (simultaneous region) Diagram showing events 'a' and 'b' occurring within a single 'expr_1' region.
- (iii) **Explicitly Unordered:** (co-region) Diagram showing events 'a' and 'b' occurring in separate regions.

Intuition: A computation path **violates** an LSC if the occurrence of some events doesn't adhere to partial order obtained as the transitive closure of (i) to (iii).

Example: Partial Order Requirements



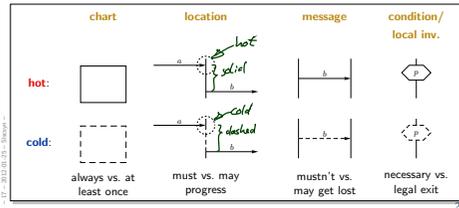
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LSC Specialty: Modes

With LSCs,

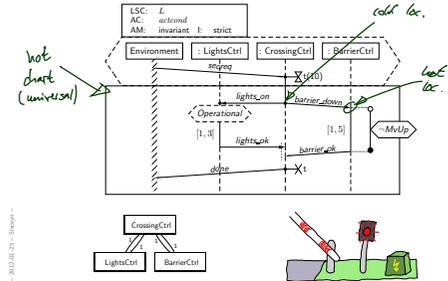
- whole charts,
- locations, and
- elements

have a **mode** — one of **hot** or **cold** (graphically indicated by outline).



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Example: Modes

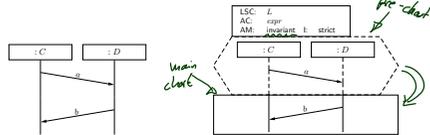


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LSC Specialty: Activation

One major defect of MSCs and SDs: they don't say **when** the scenario has to/may be observed.

LSCs: Activation condition (AC ∈ Expr_φ), activation mode (AM ∈ {init, inv}), and pre-chart.

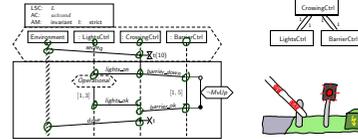


Intuition: (universal case)

- given a computation π , whenever $expr$ holds in a configuration (σ_i, ϵ_i) of ξ
 - which is initial, i.e. $k = 0$, or (AM = initial)
 - whose k is not further restricted, (AM = invariant)
- and if the pre-chart is observed from k to $k+n$,
- then the main-chart has to follow from $k+n+1$. (otherwise system not consistent with invariants)

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Example: What Is Required?



- Whenever the CrossingCtrl has consumed a 'secreq' event
- then it shall finally send 'lights_on' and 'barrier_down' to LightsCtrl and BarrierCtrl,
- if LightsCtrl is **not** 'operational' when receiving that event, the rest of this scenario doesn't apply; maybe there's another sequence diagram for that case.
- if LightsCtrl is operational when receiving that event, it shall reply with 'lights_ok' within 1-3 time units,
- the BarrierCtrl shall reply with 'barrier_ok' within 1-5 time units, during this time (dispatch time not included) it shall not be in state 'MvUp',
- 'lights_ok' and 'barrier_ok' may occur in any order.
- After having consumed both, CrossingCtrl replies with 'done' to the environment.

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Live Sequence Charts — Abstract Syntax

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