

Concurrency Semantics

Week 7

Course Notes 2005
EPFL – I&C

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6 Value-Passing CCS

6.1 Notation We use the following sets of entities with corresponding meta-variables:

\mathcal{I}	process identifiers	$A, B \dots$
\mathcal{N}	(channel) names	$a, b, c \dots$
\mathcal{V}	values	v, w
\mathcal{X}	variables	x, y, z
\mathcal{A}	actions	$\mu ::= \bar{a}\langle v \rangle \mid a(x) \mid \tau$

“**negative**” actions $\bar{a}\langle v \rangle$: send name v over channel a .

“**positive**” actions $a(x)$: receive any value, say v , over channel a and “bind the result” to variable x .

Binding results in substitution $\{v/x\}$ of the formal parameter x by the actual parameter v .

6.2 Definition (Value-Passing Processes) The set \mathcal{P}^{VP} is defined by the same grammar as the set \mathcal{P} except that actions μ are now interpreted as in Notation 6.1.

6.3 Definition (Free and Bound Names)

The sets $\text{fn}(P)$ and $\text{bn}(P)$ are defined inductively precisely as for concurrent process expressions, except for the base cases of actions.

$$\text{fn}(\mu) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \{a, \vec{v}\} & \text{if } \mu = \bar{a}\langle \vec{v} \rangle \\ \{a\} & \text{if } \mu = a(\vec{x}) \\ \emptyset & \text{if } \mu = \tau \end{cases}$$

$$\text{bn}(\mu) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } \mu = \bar{a}\langle \vec{v} \rangle \\ \{\vec{x}\} & \text{if } \mu = a(\vec{x}) \\ \emptyset & \text{if } \mu = \tau \end{cases}$$

α -conversion now includes also the consistent renaming of input variables.

Substitution is defined accordingly, avoiding name-clashes via silent α -conversion wherever necessary.

6.4 Definition (Operational Semantics) The LTS $(\mathcal{P}^{\text{VP}}, \mathcal{T})$ of sequential process expressions over \mathcal{A} has \mathcal{P}^{VP} as states, and its transitions \mathcal{T} are precisely generated

6.9 Proposition The halting problem for Turing machines can be reduced to the existence of infinite sequences of internal transitions.

7 Pi Calculus

7.1 Notation We use the following sets of entities with corresponding meta-variables:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{N} & \text{names } a, b, c, \dots, x, y, z \\ \mathcal{A} & \text{actions } \pi ::= \bar{x}(y) \mid x(y) \mid \tau \end{array}$$

7.2 Definition (Mobile Processes)

The set \mathcal{P}^π of π -calculus process expressions is defined (precisely) by the following syntax:

$$\begin{array}{l} P ::= A(\vec{a}) \mid M \mid P|P \mid (\nu a)P \mid !P \\ M ::= \mathbf{0} \mid \pi.P \mid M + M \end{array}$$

7.3 Definition (Process Contexts) A π calculus process context $C[\cdot]$ is (precisely) defined by the following syntax:

$$\begin{array}{l} C[\cdot] ::= [\cdot] \mid \pi.C[\cdot] + M \mid M + \pi.C[\cdot] \\ \quad \mid P|C[\cdot] \mid C[\cdot]|P \mid (\nu a)C[\cdot] \mid !C[\cdot] \end{array}$$

The elementary process contexts are

$$\begin{array}{lll} (\nu a)[\cdot] & \pi.[\cdot] + M & M + \pi.[\cdot] \\ ![\cdot] & [\cdot]|P & P|[\cdot] \end{array}$$

7.4 Definition (Process Congruence)

Let \cong be an equivalence relation over \mathcal{P}^π .

Then \cong is said to be a process congruence, if it is preserved by all elementary contexts; i.e., $P \cong Q$ implies all of the following:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \pi.P + M \cong \pi.Q + M & P|R \cong Q|R \\ M + \pi.P \cong M + \pi.Q & R|P \cong R|Q \\ !P \cong !Q & (\nu a)P \cong (\nu a)Q \end{array}$$

7.5 Proposition An arbitrary equivalence relation \cong over processes \mathcal{P}^π is a process congruence if and only if, for all contexts $C[\cdot]$, $P \cong Q$ implies $C[P] \cong C[Q]$.

7.6 Definition (Structural congruence)

Structural congruence, written \equiv , is the (smallest) process congruence over \mathcal{P}^π determined by the following equations.

1. $=_\alpha$ (now for two binding operators!)
2. commutative monoid laws for $(\mathcal{M}^\pi, +, \mathbf{0})$
3. commutative monoid laws for $(\mathcal{P}^\pi, |, \mathbf{0})$
4. $(\nu a)(P|Q) \equiv P | (\nu a)Q$, if $a \notin \text{fn}(P)$
 $(\nu ab)P \equiv (\nu ba)P$
 $(\nu a)\mathbf{0} \equiv \mathbf{0}$
5. $A\langle \vec{b} \rangle \equiv \{\vec{b}/\vec{a}\}M$, if $A(\vec{a}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M$.
6. $!P \equiv P|!P$

7.7 Definition (Standard Form)

A π -calculus process expression

$$(\nu \vec{a})(M_1 | \cdots | M_m | !Q_1 | \cdots | !Q_n)$$

where each M_i is a non-empty sum, is said to be in *standard form*, if each Q_j is itself in standard form.

If $m = 0$ then $M_1 | \cdots | M_m$ means $\mathbf{0}$.

If $n = 0$ then $!Q_1 | \cdots | !Q_n$ means $\mathbf{0}$.

If \vec{a} is empty then there is no restriction.

7.8 Theorem Every π -calculus process expression is structurally congruent to some standard form.

7.9 Definition The reaction relation \rightarrow over \mathcal{P}^π is generated precisely by the following rules:

$$\text{TAU: } \tau.P + M \rightarrow P$$

$$\text{REACT: } \bar{y}\langle z \rangle.P + M | y(x).Q + N \rightarrow \{z/x\}P | Q$$

$$\text{PAR: } \frac{P \rightarrow P'}{P|Q \rightarrow P'|Q} \quad \text{RES: } \frac{P \rightarrow P'}{(\nu a)P \rightarrow (\nu a)P'}$$

$$\text{STRUCT: } \frac{P \rightarrow P'}{Q \rightarrow Q'} \text{ IF } P \equiv Q \text{ AND } P' \equiv Q'$$