

ULTRAS *at Work:*
*Compositionality and Equational Metaresults
for Bisimulation and Trace Metaequivalences*

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Objectives of a Behavioral Metamodel

- **Unifying theory**: offering a uniform view of **existing** behavioral models for a deeper understanding of their similarities and differences.
- **Reuse facilities**: providing general methodologies and tools for the development of **new** models, calculi, languages, ...
- A behavioral metamodel should *reduce* the effort needed for:
 - Defining syntax, semantics, and behavioral relations.
 - Investigating compositionality properties.
 - Studying alternative characterizations (equational, logical, ...).
 - Designing verification algorithms.
- **Which existing models does it capture?**
Which new models may be generated from it?
Which results are valid for all the specific models embodied in it?

Towards Behavioral Metamodels

- Some frameworks may be viewed as metamodels:
 - SOS rule formats.
 - Probabilistic automata.
 - Weighted automata.
- But they were *not* developed with the *explicit* purpose of paving the way to unifying theories and reuse facilities.
- Their focus is on ensuring certain *properties in a general setting* or achieving a *higher level of expressivity*.
- Categorical representations based on coalgebras and bialgebras can be considered metamodels.
- Need for something that is *less abstract* and *easier to use*, hopefully closer to automata and languages.

Some Recent Proposals

- The **WLTS** metamodel by Klin (no internal nondeterminism):
 - *Commutative monoids* to express and combine weights attached to transition labels under a *weight determinacy condition*.
 - Equipped with a notion of *weighted bisimilarity* and a *rule format* guaranteeing the compositionality of bisimulation semantics.
- The **FUTS** metamodel by De Nicola, Massink, Latella & Loreti:
 - *Commutative semirings* for a compositional and compact definition of the *operational semantics*, useful for a precise understanding of similarities and differences among process calculi of the same class.
 - Bisimilarity addressed from a *coalgebraic* viewpoint with De Vink.
- The **ULTRAS** metamodel by Bernardo, De Nicola & Loreti:
 - *Preordered sets equipped with minimum* to describe reachability.
 - Emphasis on bisimulation and trace-based *metaequivalences*.
 - *Rule format* and *coalgebraic* characterization by Miculan & Peressotti.

Definition of the ULTRAS Metamodel

- $(D, \sqsubseteq_D, \perp_D)$ is a preordered set equipped with minimum \perp_D :
 - $d \in D$ represents a *degree of one-step reachability*.
 - \perp_D denotes *unreachability*.
- $\Delta \in (S \rightarrow D)_{\text{nefs}}$ is a *reachability distribution* such that $0 < |\text{supp}(\Delta)| < \omega$ where $\text{supp}(\Delta) = \{s \in S \mid \Delta(s) \neq \perp_D\}$.
- A **uniform labeled transition system** on $(D, \sqsubseteq_D, \perp_D)$, or **D -ULTRAS**, is a triple (S, A, \longrightarrow) where:
 - $S \neq \emptyset$ is an at most countable set of states.
 - $A \neq \emptyset$ is a countable set of transition-labeling actions.
 - $\longrightarrow \subseteq S \times A \times (S \rightarrow D)_{\text{nefs}}$ is a transition relation.
- Given a transition $s \xrightarrow{a} \Delta$:
 - $\Delta(s')$ quantifies the reachability degree of any $s' \in S$.
 - The set of reachable states is $\text{supp}(\Delta)$, which is nonempty and finite.

Generality of the ULTRAS Metamodel

- ULTRAS is much more *parsimonious* than WLTS and FUTS, preordered sets with minimum are enough to represent reachability.
- Algebraic structures are really necessary only when defining *behavioral relations* or process language *semantics*.
- The ULTRAS metamodel is general enough to encompass:
 - Nondeterministic models (LTS).
 - Probabilistic models (ADTMC, MDP, PA).
 - Stochastically timed models (ACTMC, CTMDP, MA).
 - Deterministically timed models (TA, PTA).
- Preordered sets to be used:
 - $(\mathbb{B}, \sqsubseteq_{\mathbb{B}}, \perp)$, where $\perp \sqsubseteq_{\mathbb{B}} \top$, for capturing LTS and TA.
 - $(\mathbb{R}_{[0,1]}, \leq, 0)$ for capturing ADTMC, MDP, PA, PTA, MA.
 - $(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \leq, 0)$ for capturing ACTMC and CTMDP.

Ingredients for Behavioral Metaequivalences

- Importing **resolutions of nondeterminism** with a formalization inspired by testing theories for nondeterministic and probabilistic processes.
- Adding a **reachability-consistent semiring** structure for:
 - Calculating multistep reachability values.
 - The overall reachability of a set of states.
- Defining **measure schemata**, based on the semiring operations, that consist of a reachability measure function for each resolution.
- Playing with the order of certain universal quantifiers in the definition of the metaequivalences thus obtaining **pre-/post-metaequivalences**.

Importing Resolutions in the ULTRAS Metamodel

- Behavioral metaequivalences on ULTRAS requires calculations that may be hampered by the presence of nondeterminism.
- A **resolution** of a state s belonging to an ULTRAS $\mathcal{U} = (S, A, \longrightarrow)$ is the result of a possible way of resolving choices starting from s .
- As if a *deterministic scheduler* were applied that, at the current state, selects one of its outgoing transitions or no transitions at all.
- Formalized as an acyclic *deterministic* ULTRAS $\mathcal{Z} = (Z, A, \longrightarrow_{\mathcal{Z}})$ obtained by unfolding the graph structure of \mathcal{U} (special case of WLTS).
- Defined through a correspondence function from Z to S inspired by testing theories for probabilistic and nondeterministic processes.
- $Res(s)$ is the set of resolutions of s (for trace semantics).
- $k-Res(s)$ is the set of k -resolutions of s (for bisimulation semantics).

Formal Definition of Resolution of Nondeterminism

- Given an ULTRAS $\mathcal{U} = (S, A, \longrightarrow)$, a **resolution** of $s \in S$ is an ULTRAS $\mathcal{Z} = (Z, A, \longrightarrow_{\mathcal{Z}})$, with no cycles and Z disjoint from S , for which there exists a correspondence function $corr_{\mathcal{Z}} : Z \rightarrow S$ such that $s = corr_{\mathcal{Z}}(z_s)$, for some $z_s \in Z$, and for all $z \in Z$:
 - If $z \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathcal{Z}} \Delta$ then $corr_{\mathcal{Z}}(z) \xrightarrow{a} \Delta'$, with $corr_{\mathcal{Z}}$ being bijective between $supp(\Delta)$ and $supp(\Delta')$ and $\Delta(z') = \Delta'(corr_{\mathcal{Z}}(z'))$ for all $z' \in supp(\Delta)$.
 - At most one transition departs from z .
- In the case of a **k -resolution** for $k \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}$, if z is reachable from z_s with a sequence of less than k transitions then:
 - $z \notin S$;
 - z cannot be part of a cycle;
 - z has at most one outgoing transition;

otherwise z is equal to $corr_{\mathcal{Z}}(z) \in S$ and has the same outgoing transitions that it has in \mathcal{U} .

Adding a Reachability-Consistent Semiring Structure

- The calculations required by ULTRAS behavioral metaequivalences refer to degrees of *multistep reachability* taken from $(D, \sqsubseteq_D, \perp_D)$.
- Need for a *commutative semiring* $(D, \oplus, \otimes, 0_D, 1_D)$ where:
 - \otimes enables the calculation of multistep reachability from values of consecutive single-step reachability along the same trajectory.
 - \oplus is useful for aggregating values of multistep reachability along different trajectories starting from the same state.
- The semiring must be **consistent with the notion of reachability**:
 - $0_D = \perp_D$ (both represent unreachability);
 - $d_1 \otimes d_2 \neq 0_D$ whenever $d_1 \neq 0_D \neq d_2$ (so consecutive steps cannot yield unreachability);
 - the sum via \oplus of finitely many values 1_D is $\neq 0_D$ – *characteristic zero* (it ensures that two nonzero values sum up to zero only if they are one the inverse of the other w.r.t. \oplus , thus avoiding inappropriate zero results when aggregating values of trajectories from the same state; no \mathbb{Z}_n).

Measuring Multistep Reachability

- A **measure schema** \mathcal{M} for an ULTRAS $\mathcal{U} = (S, A, \longrightarrow)$ on a reachability-consistent semiring $(D, \oplus, \otimes, 0_D, 1_D)$ is a set of **measure functions** $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{Z}} : Z \times A^* \times 2^Z \rightarrow D$, one for each $\mathcal{Z} = (Z, A, \longrightarrow_{\mathcal{Z}}) \in \text{Res}(s)$ and $s \in S$:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{Z}}(z, \alpha, Z') = \begin{cases} f_{\mathcal{Z}}\left(\bigoplus_{z' \in \text{supp}(\Delta)} (\Delta(z') \otimes \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{Z}}(z', \alpha', Z'))\right), z, a, \Delta & \text{if } \alpha = a \alpha' \text{ and } z \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathcal{Z}} \Delta \\ 1_D & \text{if } \alpha = \varepsilon \text{ and } z \in Z' \\ 0_D & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $f_{\mathcal{Z}} : D \times Z \times A \times (Z \rightarrow D)_{\text{nefs}} \rightarrow D$ provides some flexibility.
- The definition applies to $\mathcal{Z} \in k\text{-Res}(s)$ by restricting to traces $\alpha \in A^*$ such that $|\alpha| \leq k$.
- \mathcal{M}_{nd} denotes the measure schema for $(\mathbb{B}, \vee, \wedge, \perp, \top)$.
- \mathcal{M}_{pb} denotes the measure schema for $(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, +, \times, 0, 1)$.
- \mathcal{M}_{ete} and \mathcal{M}_{sbs} , developed for the stochastic case, also exploit $f_{\mathcal{Z}}$.

Measure Schemata for the Stochastic Case

- The *end-to-end* option originates a measure schema $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ete}}(t)$ that expresses the probability of performing within $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ time units a computation from state z labeled with trace α to a state in Z' (convolution of two probability distributions when $\alpha = a \alpha'$ and $t > 0$ built by taking $x \in \mathbb{R}_{[0,t]}$):

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{ete}}(z, \alpha, Z')(t) = f_{\text{ete}}\left(\sum_{z' \in \text{supp}(\Delta)} (\Delta(z') \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{ete}}(z', \alpha', Z')(t-x)), z, a, \Delta\right)(t)$$

$$f_{\text{ete}}(d, z, a, \Delta)(t) = \int_0^t e^{-E(z) \times x} \times d \, dx$$

- The *step-by-step* option originates a measure schema $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sbs}}(\theta)$ that expresses the prob. of perf. within a sequence of time units $\theta \in (\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0})^*$ a computation from state z labeled with trace α to a state in Z' (product of two probability distributions when $\alpha = a \alpha'$ and $\theta = t \theta'$ with $t > 0$):

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{sbs}}(z, \alpha, Z')(\theta) = f_{\text{sbs}}\left(\sum_{z' \in \text{supp}(\Delta)} (\Delta(z') \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{sbs}}(z', \alpha', Z')(\theta')), z, a, \Delta\right)(t)$$

$$f_{\text{sbs}}(d, z, a, \Delta)(t) = \frac{1 - e^{-E(z) \times t}}{E(z)} \times d$$

Bisimulation Pre-/Post-Metaequivalences

- $\sim_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ are defined in the style of Larsen & Skou and differ for the *position* of the univ. quantif. over sets of equivalence classes.
- *Partially* matching transitions, i.e., with respect to *one* destination.
- An equivalence relation \mathcal{B} over S is an \mathcal{M} -pre-bisimulation iff, whenever $(s_1, s_2) \in \mathcal{B}$, then for all $a \in A$ and for all $\mathcal{G} \in 2^{S/\mathcal{B}}$ it holds that for each $\mathcal{Z}_1 \in 1\text{-Res}(s_1)$ there exists $\mathcal{Z}_2 \in 1\text{-Res}(s_2)$ such that:

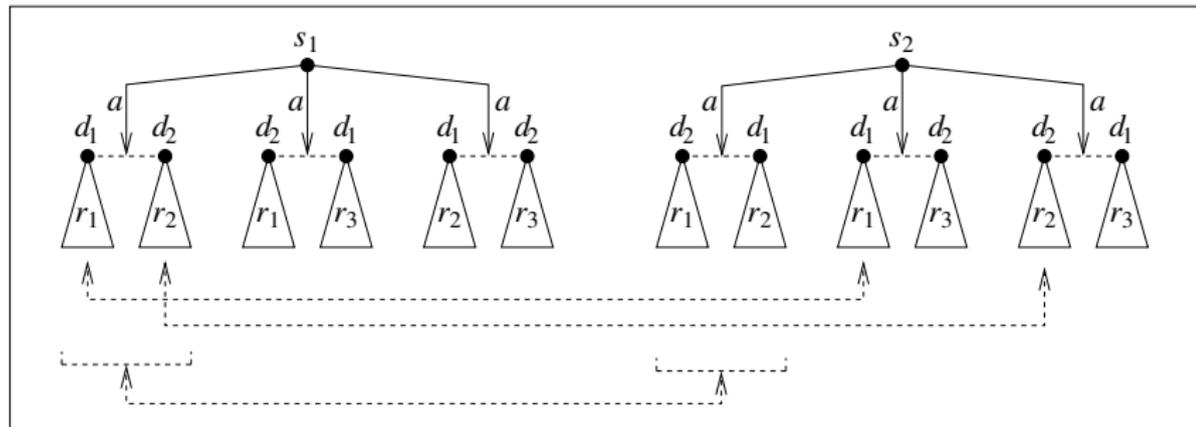
$$\mathcal{M}(z_{s_1}, a, \bigcup \mathcal{G}) = \mathcal{M}(z_{s_2}, a, \bigcup \mathcal{G})$$

- *Fully* matching transitions, i.e., with respect to *all* destinations.
- An equivalence relation \mathcal{B} over S is an \mathcal{M} -post-bisimulation iff, whenever $(s_1, s_2) \in \mathcal{B}$, then for all $a \in A$ it holds that for each $\mathcal{Z}_1 \in 1\text{-Res}(s_1)$ there exists $\mathcal{Z}_2 \in 1\text{-Res}(s_2)$ such that for all $\mathcal{G} \in 2^{S/\mathcal{B}}$:

$$\mathcal{M}(z_{s_1}, a, \bigcup \mathcal{G}) = \mathcal{M}(z_{s_2}, a, \bigcup \mathcal{G})$$

Pre-Metaequivalences vs. Post-Metaequivalences

- D -ULTRAS models identified by $\sim_{B, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ but distinguished by $\sim_{B, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ for $d_1 \neq d_2$ and inequivalent continuations:



- Internal nondeterminism due to three initial a -transitions.
- Continuations and their D -values are the same in both models.
- Continuations and their D -values are *shuffled within* each model.
- Only D -values are *shuffled across* the two models too.

Generality of Bisimulation Metaequivalences

- Specific bisimulation equivalences captured by both metaequivalences:
 - Park/Milner bisimilarity for LTS.
 - Giacalone, Jou & Smolka bisimilarity for ADTMC.
 - Larsen & Skou bisimilarity for MDP.
 - Hillston bisimilarity for ACTMC.
 - Neuhäuser & Katoen bisimilarity for CTMDP.
- Differences emerge in the case of specific models in which there are internal nondeterminism & probabilities/stochasticity.
- Only $\sim_{B, \mathcal{M}_{pb}}^{\text{post}}$ coincides with the strong bisimulation equivalence of Segala & Lynch for PA.
- $\sim_{B, \mathcal{M}_{pb}}^{\text{pre}}$ coincides with a new bisimulation equivalence for PA, which is logically characterized by Larsen & Skou PML (like in the case of fully prob. processes, reactive prob. processes, alternating PA).

Trace Pre-/Post-Metaequivalences

- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ differ for the *position* of the universal quantifiers over traces w.r.t. the computations of the challenger and the defender.
- *Partially* matching resolutions, i.e., with respect to *one* trace.
- $s_1 \sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}} s_2$ iff for all $\alpha \in A^*$ it holds that for each $Z_1 \in \text{Res}^c(s_1)$ there exists $Z_2 \in \text{Res}^c(s_2)$ such that:

$$\mathcal{M}(z_{s_1}, \alpha, Z_1) = \mathcal{M}(z_{s_2}, \alpha, Z_2)$$

and symmetrically ... for each $Z_2 \in \text{Res}^c(s_2)$ there exists $Z_1 \in \text{Res}^c(s_1)$...

- *Fully* matching resolutions, i.e., with respect to *all* traces.
- $s_1 \sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}} s_2$ iff for each $Z_1 \in \text{Res}^c(s_1)$ there exists $Z_2 \in \text{Res}^c(s_2)$ such that for all $\alpha \in A^*$:

$$\mathcal{M}(z_{s_1}, \alpha, Z_1) = \mathcal{M}(z_{s_2}, \alpha, Z_2)$$

and symmetrically ... for each $Z_2 \in \text{Res}^c(s_2)$ there exists $Z_1 \in \text{Res}^c(s_1)$...

Coherent Resolutions for Trace Semantics

- ULTRAS submodels rooted in the support of the target distribution of a transition:
 - are not necessarily distinct;
 - can have several outgoing transitions.
- The scheduler thus has the freedom of making *different* decisions in different occurrences of the *same* submodel.
- Overdiscriminating trace metaequivalences (violation of desirable properties).
- **Coherent resolutions** are resolutions in which the *same* decisions are made in different occurrences of the *same* submodel.
- If two states in the target distribution of a transition of \mathcal{U} possess the same traces of a certain length, then so do the two states to which they correspond in \mathcal{Z} .
- $Res^c(s)$ is the set of coherent resolutions of s .

Generality of Trace Metaequivalences

- Specific trace equivalences captured by both metaequivalences:
 - Brookes, Hoare & Roscoe trace equivalence for LTS.
 - Jou & Smolka trace equivalence for ADTMC.
 - Seidel trace equivalence for MDP.
 - Wolf, Baier & Majster-Cederbaum trace equiv. for ACTMC (ete option).
 - Bernardo trace equivalence for ACTMC (sbs option).
- Differences again emerge in the case of specific models in which there are internal nondeterminism & probabilities/stochasticity.
- Only $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}_{pb}}^{\text{post}}$ coincides with the strong trace-distribution equivalence of Segala for PA.
- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}_{pb}}^{\text{pre}}$ coincides with a new trace equivalence for PA, which is a congruence with respect to parallel composition (this is not the case with any other probabilistic trace equivalence).

Discriminating Power of the Metaequivalences

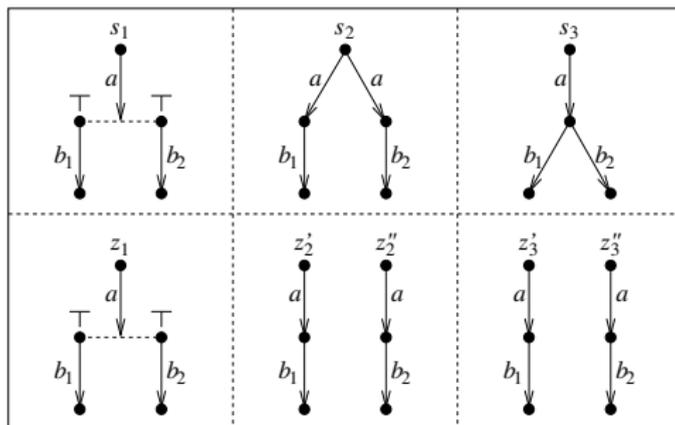
- $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is finer than $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ (obvious from their definitions).
 - $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is finer than $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ (obvious from their definitions).
 - $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is finer than $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ (requires coherent resolutions).
 - $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}} / \sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ are incomparable if there is internal nondet.
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- $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ and $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ coincide on ULTRAS without internal nondet.
 - $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ and $\sim_{T,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ may not coincide even if there is no internal nondet.
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- Weighted bisimilarity for WLTS coincides with both $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ when the same commutative monoid is considered.
- Bisimilarity for FUTS coincides with both $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{B,\mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ when the same commut. semiring is considered (deterministic state spaces).

Strictness of Inclusions and Internal Nondeterminism

- Three \mathbb{B} -ULTRAS models and their maximal resolutions ($b_1 \neq b_2$):



- $s_1 \sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{pre}} s_2$ but $s_1 \not\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_2 \mid s_1 \not\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{pre}} s_3$ hence $s_1 \not\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_3$
(s_2 and s_3 have different maximal 1-resolutions).
- $s_1 \sim_{\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{pre}} s_2$ but $s_1 \not\sim_{\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_2 \mid s_1 \sim_{\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{pre}} s_3$ but $s_1 \not\sim_{\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_3$
(s_1 and s_3 have no internal nondeterminism, but s_1 is *not* the canonical representation of any LTS).
- $s_2 \sim_{\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_3$ but $s_2 \not\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{nd}}^{\text{post}} s_3$.

A Process Algebraic View of ULTRAS

- Search for **metaresults** for behavioral metaequivalences.
- UPROC – *uniform process calculus* over $(D, \oplus, \otimes, 0_D, 1_D)$.
- Syntax of the set \mathbb{P} of *process terms*:

$$P ::= \underline{0} \mid a.\mathcal{D} \mid P + P \mid P \parallel_L P$$

where $a \in A$ and $L \subseteq A$.

- Syntax of the set \mathbb{D} of *distribution terms*:

$$\mathcal{D} ::= d \triangleright P \mid \mathcal{D} \oplus \mathcal{D}$$

where $d \in D \setminus \{0_D\}$.

- Operator $+$ describes a nondeterministic choice.
- A probabilistic choice like in $P' \underset{p}{+} P''$, where $p \in \mathbb{R}_{]0,1[}$, is rendered as $\tau.(p \triangleright P' \oplus (1 - p) \triangleright P'')$ with τ invisible action.

Operational Semantics of Dynamic Process Operators

- The operational semantic rules generate a D -ULTRAS $(\mathbb{P}, A, \longrightarrow)$.
- Action prefix:

$$\frac{\mathcal{D} \mapsto \Delta}{a.\mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{a} \Delta}$$

- Alternative composition:

$$\frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta} \quad \frac{P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta}{P_1 + P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta}$$

Operational Semantics of Distribution Operators

- Singleton support distribution:

$$d \triangleright P \longmapsto \{(P, d)\}$$

- $\{(P, d)\}$ is a shorthand for the reachability distribution identically equal to 0_D except in P where its value is d .
- Distribution composition:

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \longmapsto \Delta_1 \quad \mathcal{D}_2 \longmapsto \Delta_2}{\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus \mathcal{D}_2 \longmapsto \Delta_1 \oplus \Delta_2}$$

- $(\Delta_1 \oplus \Delta_2)(P) = \Delta_1(P) \oplus \Delta_2(P)$.
- Whenever $\mathcal{D} \longmapsto \Delta$, we let $\text{supp}(\mathcal{D}) = \text{supp}(\Delta)$.

Operational Semantics of Static Process Operators

- Parallel composition:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_1 \quad a \notin L}{P_1 \parallel_L P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_1 \otimes \delta_{P_2}} \quad \frac{P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_2 \quad a \notin L}{P_1 \parallel_L P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \delta_{P_1} \otimes \Delta_2} \\ \frac{P_1 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_1 \quad P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_2 \quad a \in L}{P_1 \parallel_L P_2 \xrightarrow{a} \Delta_1 \otimes \Delta_2} \end{array}}$$

- $(\Delta_1 \otimes \Delta_2)(P_1 \parallel_L P_2) = \Delta_1(P_1) \otimes \Delta_2(P_2)$.
- δ_P is identically equal to 0_D except in P where its value is 1_D .

Compositionality Metaresults

- Investigating whether the behavioral metaequivalences are *compositional* with respect to the various operators of UPROC.
- Search for congruence results *independent from specific models*.
- Achieved for distribution operators and dynamic process operators.
- Confirm the existence, between bisimulation and trace semantics, of a foundational difference with respect to **parallel composition**, which shows up in the presence of internal nondeterminism:
 - **Bisimilarity**: only the **post**-metaequivalence is always a congruence.
 - **Trace**: it is the **pre**-metaequivalence that is always a congruence.
- *Is there a semantics for which both pre- and post-metaequivalences are always congruences with respect to parallel composition?*

Compositionality of Bisimulation Metaequivalences

- $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ are both congruences with respect to distribution operators, action prefix, alternative composition.
- $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is a congruence with respect to parallel composition too, hence so is $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ in the absence of internal nondeterminism.
- $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}_{\text{nd}}}^{\text{pre}}$ is a congruence with respect to parallel composition, because in the only reachability-consistent semiring with $|D| = 2$, which is $(\mathbb{B}, \vee, \wedge, \perp, \top)$, parallel composition cannot generate values different from \perp and \top .
- $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ is *not* a congruence with respect to parallel composition when $|D| \geq 3$ and there is internal nondeterminism.
- $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is the **coarsest congruence** contained in $\sim_{\mathbb{B}, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ w.r.t. parallel composition in the case of an *image-finite* ULTRAS on a reachability-consistent *field* (algebraic and topological properties of vector spaces).

Compositionality of Trace Metaequivalences

- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ and $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ are both congruences with respect to distribution operators, action prefix, alternative composition (action prefix requires coherent resolutions).
- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ is a congruence with respect to parallel composition too.
- The proof is based on the alternative characterization of $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$, which associates with each state the *set of traces* it can perform in the various resolutions, each extended with its *degree of executability*.
- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}_{\text{nd}}}^{\text{post}}$ is a congruence with respect to parallel composition if we rule out ULTRAS that are not canonical representations of LTS.
- $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is *not* a congruence with respect to parallel composition whenever it does *not* coincide with $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$ (due to internal nondeterminism).
- A coarsest congruence result is not possible for trace semantics because $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{post}}$ is finer than $\sim_{T, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{pre}}$.

Equational Characterization Metaresults

- Sound and complete axiom systems *independent from specific models*.
- Core axioms valid for all metaequivalences and measure schemata:

$$(\mathcal{A}_1) \quad (P_1 + P_2) + P_3 = P_1 + (P_2 + P_3)$$

$$(\mathcal{A}_2) \quad P_1 + P_2 = P_2 + P_1$$

$$(\mathcal{A}_3) \quad P + \underline{0} = P$$

$$(\mathcal{A}_4) \quad (\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus \mathcal{D}_2) \oplus \mathcal{D}_3 = \mathcal{D}_1 \oplus (\mathcal{D}_2 \oplus \mathcal{D}_3)$$

$$(\mathcal{A}_5) \quad \mathcal{D}_1 \oplus \mathcal{D}_2 = \mathcal{D}_2 \oplus \mathcal{D}_1$$

- \mathcal{A}_1 , \mathcal{A}_2 , \mathcal{A}_3 are typical of nondeterministic process calculi.
- \mathcal{A}_4 , \mathcal{A}_5 are typical of probabilistic process calculi:
 - $P' \cdot_p + P'' = P'' \cdot_{1-p} + P'$.
 - $(P' \cdot_p + P'') \cdot_q + P''' = P' \cdot_{p \cdot q} + (P'' \cdot_{(1-p) \cdot q / (1-p \cdot q)} + P''')$.

Idempotency Axioms for \sim_B^{post}

- Additional axioms for \sim_B^{post} :

$$\begin{array}{l} (\mathcal{A}_{B,1}^{\text{post}}) \quad P + P = P \\ (\mathcal{A}_{B,2}^{\text{post}}) \quad d_1 \triangleright P \oplus d_2 \triangleright P = (d_1 \oplus d_2) \triangleright P \end{array}$$

- $\mathcal{A}_{B,1}^{\text{post}}$ is typical of bisimilarity over nondeterministic process calculi.
- $\mathcal{A}_{B,2}^{\text{post}}$ encodes bisimilarity axioms such as:
 - $P_p + P = P$ typical of probabilistic process calculi.
 - $\lambda_1 \cdot P + \lambda_2 \cdot P = (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \cdot P$ typical of stochastic process calculi.
- *Sum normal form* of a process term $P \in \mathbb{P}$ for studying completeness:
 - either $\underline{0}$,
 - or $\sum_{i \in I} a_i \cdot (\sum_{j \in J_i} d_{i,j} \triangleright P_{i,j})$ with every $P_{i,j}$ in sum normal form.

Shuffling Axiom for \sim_B^{pre}

- Additional axiom for \sim_B^{pre} (all index sets are nonempty and finite):

$$(\mathcal{A}_{B,1}^{\text{pre}}) \quad \sum_{i \in I_1} a \cdot (\sum_{j \in J_{1,i}} d_{1,i,j} \triangleright P_{1,i,j}) = \sum_{i \in I_2} a \cdot (\sum_{j \in J_{2,i}} d_{2,i,j} \triangleright P_{2,i,j})$$

- For all $i_1 \in I_1$ and $\emptyset \neq J_1 \subseteq J_{1,i_1}$ containing the indices of *all* the occurrences of any process indicated by an index in J_1 itself, there exist $i_2 \in I_2$ and $\emptyset \neq J_2 \subseteq J_{2,i_2}$ containing the indices of *all* the occurrences of any process indicated by an index in J_2 itself, s.t.:
 - $\forall j_1 \in J_1. (\exists j_2 \in J_2. P_{1,i_1,j_1} = P_{2,i_2,j_2} \vee \nexists j_2 \in J_2. P_{1,i_1,j_1} = P_{2,i_2,j_2})$.
 - $\{P_{1,i_1,j} \mid j \in J_1\} \supseteq \{P_{2,i_2,j} \mid j \in J_2\}$.
 - $\bigoplus_{j \in J_1} d_{1,i_1,j} = \bigoplus_{j \in J_2} d_{2,i_2,j}$.
- Symmetric condition obtained by exchanging I_1, J_1 with I_2, J_2 .
- $\mathcal{A}_{B,1}^{\text{pre}}$ subsumes:
 - Both idempotency axioms $\mathcal{A}_{B,1}^{\text{post}}$ and $\mathcal{A}_{B,2}^{\text{post}}$.
 - $a \cdot \mathcal{D}_1 + a \cdot \mathcal{D}_2 = a \cdot (\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus \mathcal{D}_2)$ under the same constraints.

Choice-Deferring Axioms for \sim_T^{post}

- Additional axioms for \sim_T^{post} with respect to \sim_B^{post} :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathcal{A}_{T,1}^{\text{post}}) \quad & a_1 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus d_1 \triangleright (P_1 + a_2 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_2 \oplus d_2 \triangleright (\dots \triangleright (P_{n-1} + a_n \cdot (\mathcal{D}_n \oplus d_n \triangleright P')) \dots)))) \\
 & + \\
 & a_1 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus d_1 \triangleright (P_1 + a_2 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_2 \oplus d_2 \triangleright (\dots \triangleright (P_{n-1} + a_n \cdot (\mathcal{D}_n \oplus d_n \triangleright P'')) \dots)))) \\
 & = \\
 & a_1 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_1 \oplus d_1 \triangleright (P_1 + a_2 \cdot (\mathcal{D}_2 \oplus d_2 \triangleright (\dots \triangleright (P_{n-1} + a_n \cdot (\mathcal{D}_n \oplus d_n \triangleright (P' + P'')) \dots)))) \\
 & \quad \text{where } P', P'' \notin \text{supp}(\mathcal{D}_n) \\
 (\mathcal{A}_{T,2}^{\text{post}}) \quad & a \cdot (\mathcal{D} \oplus d_1 \triangleright (\sum_{j \in J} b_j \cdot \mathcal{D}_{1,j}) \oplus d_2 \triangleright (\sum_{j \in J} b_j \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,j})) \\
 & = \\
 & a \cdot (\mathcal{D} \oplus d' \triangleright (\sum_{j \in J} b_j \cdot (\mathcal{D}'_{1,j} \oplus \mathcal{D}'_{2,j}))) \\
 & \quad \text{if } d' = d_1 \oplus d_2 \text{ and for } 1 \leq i \leq 2 \text{ there exists } d'_i \in D \text{ such that } d' \otimes d'_i = d_i \\
 & \quad \text{where } \mathcal{D}'_{i,j} \text{ is obtained from } \mathcal{D}_{i,j} \text{ by multiplying each of its } D\text{-values by } d'_i
 \end{aligned}$$

- Simplest instance of $\mathcal{A}_{T,1}^{\text{post}}$, typical of nondeterministic process calculi:
 $a \cdot (d \triangleright P') + a \cdot (d \triangleright P'') = a \cdot (d \triangleright (P' + P''))$.
- Application of $\mathcal{A}_{T,2}^{\text{post}}$, typical of probabilistic process calculi:
 $a \cdot (d_1 \triangleright (b \cdot (1_D \triangleright P_1))) \oplus d_2 \triangleright (b \cdot (1_D \triangleright P_2)) =$
 $a \cdot (1_D \triangleright b \cdot (d_1 \triangleright P_1 \oplus d_2 \triangleright P_2))$ where $d_1 \oplus d_2 = 1_D$.

Expansion Law for Parallel Composition

- The validity of this law (for all the behavioral metaequivalences) stems from the operational semantic rules.
- Let P_1 and P_2 be in sum normal form (with I_1 and I_2 possibly empty):

$$\sum_{i \in I_1} a_{1,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{j \in J_{1,i}} d_{1,i,j} \triangleright P_{1,i,j} \right)$$
$$\sum_{i \in I_2} a_{2,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{j \in J_{2,i}} d_{2,i,j} \triangleright P_{2,i,j} \right)$$

- The axiom (where any empty summation yields 0):

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 \parallel_L P_2 &= \sum_{i \in I_1}^{a_{1,i} \notin L} a_{1,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{j \in J_{1,i}} d_{1,i,j} \triangleright (P_{1,i,j} \parallel_L P_2) \right) \\ &+ \sum_{i \in I_2}^{a_{2,i} \notin L} a_{2,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{j \in J_{2,i}} d_{2,i,j} \triangleright (P_1 \parallel_L P_{2,i,j}) \right) \\ &+ \sum_{i \in I_1}^{a_{1,i} \in L} \sum_{i' \in I_2}^{a_{2,i'} = a_{1,i}} a_{1,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{j \in J_{1,i}} \sum_{j' \in J_{2,i'}} (d_{1,i,j} \otimes d_{2,i',j'}) \triangleright (P_{1,i,j} \parallel_L P_{2,i',j'}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

is sound with respect to all considered metaequivalences.

- Keep putting ULTRAS at work on behavioral metaequivalences to further extend the resulting **unifying process theory**:
 - Logical characterization metaresults.
 - Metaresults for other bisimulation-/trace-based metaequivalences.
 - Metaresults for testing metaequivalences.
 - The spectrum of metaequivalences.
- Defining and studying properties of:
 - Behavioral metapreorders.
 - Weak variants of behavioral metarelations.
 - Approximate variants of behavioral metarelations.
- On the metamodel side, capturing also:
 - Interleaving models with continuous state spaces.
 - Truly concurrent models such as Petri nets and event structures.

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