

Model Checking

EECS 4315

www.cse.yorku.ca/course/4315/

Develop a model (states connected by transitions) of the code and check properties of the model.

Model Checking

Model checking was developed independently by Clarke and Emerson and by Queille and Sifakis in early 1980s.

Edmund M. Clarke and E. Allen Emerson. Design and synthesis of synchronization skeletons using branching time temporal logic. In, Dexter Kozen, editor, *Proceedings of Workshop on Logic of Programs*, volume 131 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 52–71. Yorktown Heights, NY, USA, May 1981. Springer-Verlag.

Jean-Pierre Queille and Joseph Sifakis. Specification and verification of concurrent systems in CESAR. In, Mariangiola Dezani-Ciancaglini and Ugo Montanari, editors, *Proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Programming*, volume 137 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 337–351. Torino, Italy, April 1982. Springer-Verlag.

- Recipient of the Turing Award (2007)
- Recipient of the ACM Paris Kanellakis Award (1999)
- Member of the National Academy of Engineering (2005)
- Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2011)



Source: Dennis Hamilton

- Recipient of the Turing Award (2007)
- Recipient of the ACM Paris Kanellakis Award (1999)
- Recipient of the CMU Newell Medal (1999)



Source: Marsha Miller

- Recipient of the Turing Award (2007)
- Grand officer of France's national order of merit (2008)
- Commander in France's legion of honour (2011)



Source: David Monniaux



Source: unknown

Model of a System

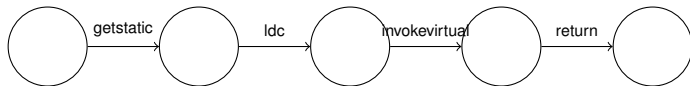
A **model** of a system is an **abstraction** of the system.



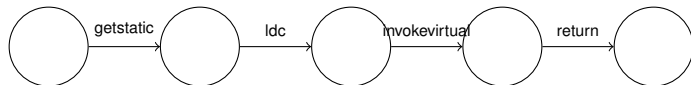
There are many levels of abstraction and, hence, a system can be modelled in many different ways.

A Model of a System

```
public class HelloWorld
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.println("Hello World");
    }
}
```



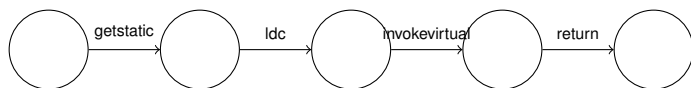
A Model of a System



Question

What are the three entities that make up the above model?

A Model of a System



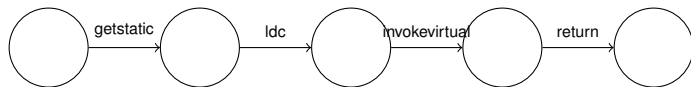
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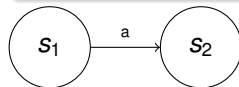
States, transitions and actions (such as `getstatic`, `ldc`, ...).

A Model of a System

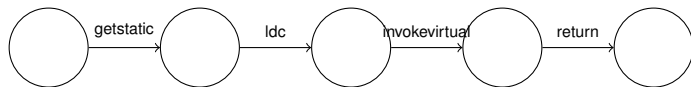


Question

Given a set of states S and a set of actions A , how can we mathematically model a transition from state s_1 to state s_2 labelled with action a ?

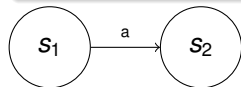


A Model of a System



Question

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Answer

(s_1, a, s_2)

A Model of a System



Question

How can we model all the labelled transitions?

A Model of a System



Question

How can we model all the labelled transitions?

Answer

$\{(s_1, \text{getstatic}, s_2), (s_2, \text{ldc}, s_3), (s_3, \text{invokevirtual}, s_4), (s_4, \text{return}, s_5)\}$

A Model of a System

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is a subset of $S \times A \times S$

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Answer

relation

A Model of a System

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Answer

relation

The relation is usually denoted by \rightarrow and called the **transition relation**.

Systems can be modelled by means of **labelled transition systems**.

Definition

A labelled transition system is a tuple $\langle S, A, \rightarrow \rangle$ consisting of

- a set S of states,
- a set A of actions, and
- a transition relation $\rightarrow \subseteq S \times A \times S$.

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Instead of $(s_1, a, s_2) \in \rightarrow$, we usually write $s_1 \xrightarrow{a} s_2$.

Labelled Transition System



Question

Give the corresponding labelled transition system.

Labelled Transition System



Question

Give the corresponding labelled transition system.

Answer

$$\langle \{S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4, S_5\}, \\ \{\text{getstatic}, \text{ldc}, \text{invokevirtual}, \text{return}\}, \\ \{(S_1, \text{getstatic}, S_2), (S_2, \text{ldc}, S_3), (S_3, \text{invokevirtual}, S_4), (S_4, \text{return}, S_5)\} \rangle$$

Concurrency.

Threads can exchange information by accessing and updating shared attributes.

Question

One thread executes

```
v = 1;
```

```
v = v + 1;
```

and another thread executes

```
v = 0;
```

What is the final value of v?

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Answer

0, 1 or 2.

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How can the final value of v be 1?

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The assignment $v = v + 1$ is not **atomic**.

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0: `getstatic`

3: `iconst_1`

4: `iadd`

5: `putstatic`

Question

One thread executes

```
v = 0;
```

and another thread executes

```
v = Long.MAX_VALUE;
```

How many different final values can v have?

Question

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```
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```
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```

How many different final values can v have?

Answer

4.

Question

How can v have 4 different final values?

Question

How can `v` have 4 different final values?

Answer

The assignments `v = 0` and `v = Long.MAX_VALUE` may not be **atomic**.

Problem

Implement the class `Counter` with

- attribute `value`,
- initialized to zero, and
- the methods `increment` and `decrement`.

Counter Class

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Can multiple threads share a **Counter** object and use methods such as **increment** and **decrement** concurrently?

Counter Class

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- attribute `value`,
- initialized to zero, and
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Question

Can multiple threads share a `Counter` object and use methods such as `increment` and `decrement` concurrently?

Answer

No, as before, if two threads invoke `increment` concurrently, the counter may only be incremented by one (rather than two).

Synchronized Methods

Methods such as `increment` should be executed atomically. This can be accomplished by declaring the method to be `synchronized`.

A lock is associated with every object. For threads to execute a synchronized method on such the object, first its lock needs to be acquired.

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```
public synchronized void increment ()
{
    this.value++;
}
```

Problem

Implement the class `Resource` with

- attribute `available`,
- initialized to true, and
- the methods `acquire` and `release`.

Wait and Notify

The Object class contains the following three methods:

- **wait**: causes the current thread to wait until another thread wakes it up.
- **notify**: wakes up a single thread waiting on this object's lock; if there is more than one waiting, an arbitrary one is chosen; if there are none, nothing is done.
- **notifyAll**: wakes up all threads waiting on this objects lock.

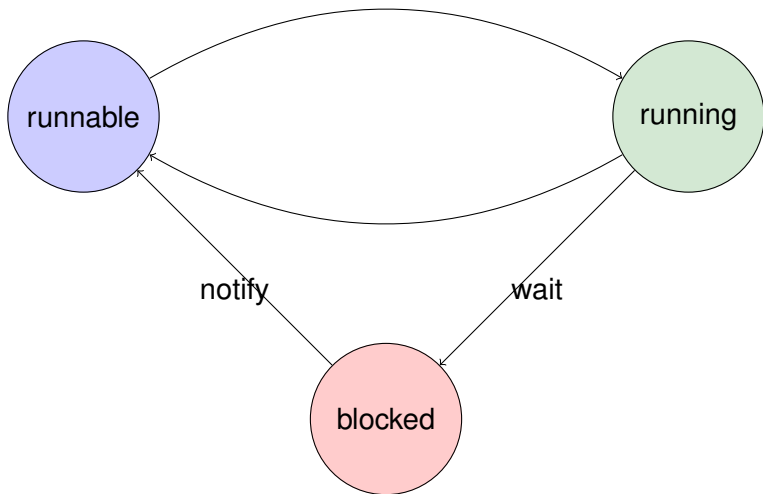
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Since every class extends the class Object, these methods are available to every object.

States of a Thread



On Monday February 1, 2016, as part of the accreditation visit for our Software Engineering program, there will be a meeting of the visitors with Software Engineering students from 16:30 until 17:30. It would be great if you could be part of this meeting.