

Semantic Analysis of Dynamic Connector Based Architecture Styles

Guoxin Su Mingsheng Ying Chengqi Zhang

Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
University of Technology, Sydney

WICSA/ECSA 2012

Outline

Background: where our problem locates

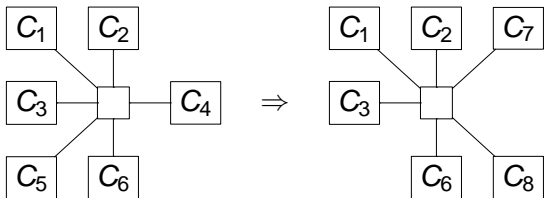
Problem: a motivating example and behavioural properties

Model: formalisation of architectural concepts and properties

Analysis: algorithms for checking desired properties

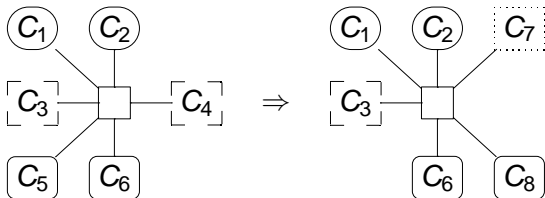
Background

- ▶ Dynamism of connector-based architectural styles: insertion and removal of components
- ▶ Type- vs instance-level descriptions and component instantiation: parameterisation or semantic conformance
- ▶ Behavioural modeling



Background

- ▶ Dynamism of connector-based architectural styles: insertion and removal of components
- ▶ Type- vs instance-level descriptions and component instantiation: parameterisation or semantic conformance
- ▶ Behavioural modeling



Background

- ▶ Dynamism of connector-based architectural styles: insertion and removal of components
- ▶ Type- vs instance-level descriptions and component instantiation: parameterisation or semantic conformance
- ▶ Behavioural modeling

Syntax of textual specification:

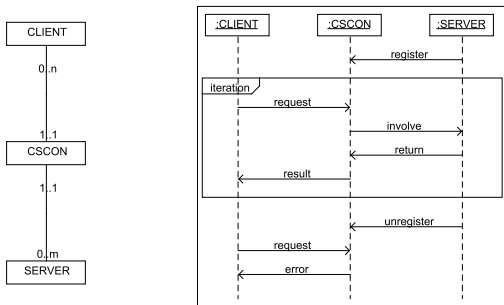
if *state* = *x* **then**

if pre-conditions **then**

input/output **and** effects [**and** *state* := *y*]

A Client-Server System

- ▶ The system is connector-based
- ▶ A structural view and a scenario:



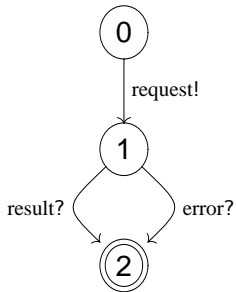
- ▶ Components can join in and disconnect to the system dynamically

A Client-Server System

Type-level specification

Component type $CLIENT(c : clt, s : sev)$:

```
if state = 0 then
  ⟨request, c, s⟩! and state := 1
if state = 1 then
  if true then
    ⟨result, c, s⟩? and state := 2
  if true then
    ⟨error, c, s⟩? and state := 2
```



A Client-Server System

Component type *SERVER*(*s* : *sev*):

if *state* = 0 **then**

$\langle \text{register}, s \rangle!$ **and** *state* := 1

if *state* = 1 **then**

if true **then**

$\langle \text{involve}, x : \text{clt} \rangle?$ **and**

 enqueue(*x*, *Que*)

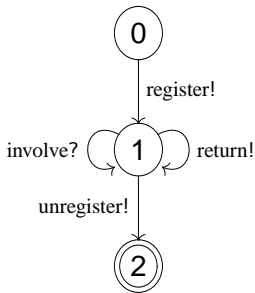
if empty(*Que*) = 'n' **then**

let *y* = head(*Que*) **and**

$\langle \text{return}, y \rangle!$ **and** dequeue(*Que*)

if empty(*Que*) = 'y' **then**

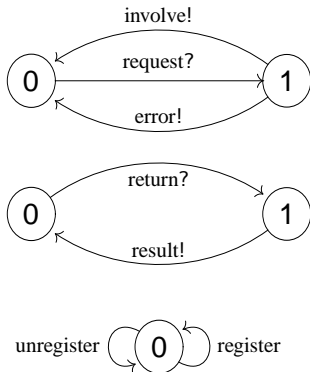
$\langle \text{unregister}, s \rangle!$ **and** *state* := 2



A Client-Server System

Connector CSCON:

```
if state1 = 0 then
  ⟨request, x : clt, y : sev⟩?
if state1 = 1 then
  if y ∈ RegSev then
    ⟨involve, x, y⟩! and state1 := 0
  else ⟨error, x, y⟩! and state1 := 0
if state2 = 0 then
  ⟨return, z : clt, w : sev⟩? and state2 := 1
if state2 = 1 then
  ⟨result, z, w⟩! and state2 := 0
if state3 = 0 then
  if true then
    ⟨register, v : sev⟩? and
    RegSev := RegSev ∪ {v}
  if true then
    ⟨unregister, u : sev⟩? and
    RegSev := RegSev \ {u}
```



A Client-Server System

Instance-level specification

Component instance $Client_1$ of $CLIENT$:

if $state = 1$ **then**

$\langle request, c_1, s_1 \rangle!$ **and** $state := 2$

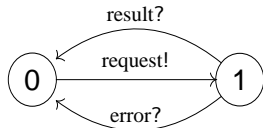
if $state = 2$ **then**

if **true** **then**

$\langle result, c_1, s_1 \rangle?$ **and** $state := 1$

if **true** **then**

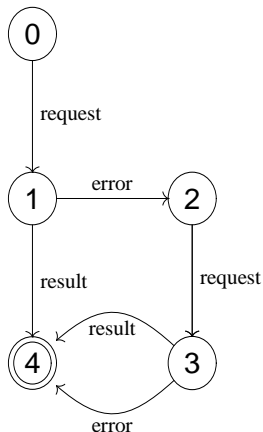
$\langle error, c_1, s_1 \rangle?$ **and** $state := 1$



A Client-Server System

Component instance $Client_2$ of $CLIENT$:

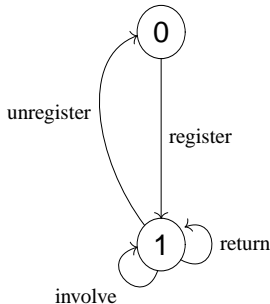
```
if state = 0 then
   $\langle request, c_2, s_1 \rangle?$  and state := 1
if state = 1 then
  if true then
     $\langle result, c_2, s_1 \rangle?$  and state := 4
  if true then
     $\langle error, c_2, s_1 \rangle?$  and state := 2
if state = 2 then
  choose any  $\in sev$  and
   $\langle request, c_2, any \rangle!$  and state := 3
if state = 3 then
  if true then
     $\langle result, clt_2, any \rangle?$  and state := 4
  if true then
     $\langle error, clt_2, any \rangle?$  and state := 4
```



A Client-Server System

Component instance $Server_1$ of *SERVER*:

```
if state = 0 then
  if upgrade = 'done' then
    <register, s1>! and state := 1
if state = 1 then
  if empty(Que) = 'y' and
    upgrade = 'ready' then
    <unregister, s1>! and
    state := 0
  if true then
    <involve, x : clt>? and
    enqueue(x, Que)
  if empty(Que) = 'n' then
    let y = head(Que) and
    <return, y>! and dequeue(Que)
```



Problems

Basic properties for the client-server system:

- ▶ Whether the system is deadlock-free?
 - ▶ Whether each component, if not terminated, will be deprived of the right to interact with the connector?
 - ▶ Whether *CSCON* restricts the system's behaviours?
 - ▶ Whether behaviours of each component, if given a suitable configuration, are realisable?
-
- Can we know the answers to the above questions without exhausting all possibility of runtime system configurations?
 - A pitfall: the semantic variances between component types and instances

Problems

Basic properties for the client-server system:

- ▶ Whether the system is deadlock-free?
 - ▶ Whether each component, if not terminated, will be deprived of the right to interact with the connector?
 - ▶ Whether *CSCON* restricts the system's behaviours?
 - ▶ Whether behaviours of each component, if given a suitable configuration, are realisable?
-
- Can we know the answers to the above questions without exhausting all possibility of runtime system configurations?
 - A pitfall: the semantic variances between component types and instances

Process Algebra

Syntax: \mathcal{N} a set of names, $a_i \in \mathcal{N}$.

$\lambda ::= \langle a_1, \dots, a_k \rangle$	<i>messages</i>
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma ::= \lambda? \mid \lambda! \mid \tau$	<i>actions</i>
$P, Q ::= X \mid \text{nil} \mid P \times Q \mid P \parallel Q$	<i>processes</i>
$M, M' ::= M + M' \mid \lambda?.P \mid \lambda!.P$	

Operation semantics:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\alpha.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P} \quad \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \quad X \doteq M}{X \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'} \\
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P + Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'} \quad \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \times Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \times Q} \\
 \frac{P \xrightarrow{\tau} P'}{P \parallel Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P' \parallel Q} \quad \frac{P \xrightarrow{\lambda!} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{\lambda?} Q'}{P \parallel Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P' \parallel Q'}
 \end{array}$$

where M is '||'- and '×'-free.

- ▶ From behavioural specification to PA processes
- ▶ *CSCON*, *CLIENT*, *SERVER*, *client*₁, ect. as PA processes

*Recursive equations for *Server*₁

(1) if $Que = \epsilon$ and $update = \text{'ready'}$, then

$$X[2, \epsilon] \doteq \sum_{a \in clt} \langle involve, a \rangle?. X[3, a] + \langle unregister, s \rangle!. X[3, \epsilon]$$

(2) if $Que \neq \epsilon$, then

$$X[2, Que] \doteq \sum_{a \in clt} \langle involve, a \rangle?. X[2, Que_a] + \langle return, c \rangle!. X[2, Que']$$

where $Que_a = \text{enqueue}(a, Que)$ such that $a \in clt$, $c = \text{head}(Que)$, and $Que' = \text{dequeue}(Que)$.

Main Concepts

An informal glimpse

- ▶ an architecture type = component types + a connector
- ▶ an architecture (instance) = components + a connector

Definition (Components, connectors, component types)

Components are '||'-free processes and *connectors* are '||'- and '×'-free processes. *Component types* are '||'-free abstract processes of the form

$$\mathcal{I} = Q(x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_m : A_m)$$

where (1) $A_i \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ ($1 \leq i \leq m$) are name spaces, and (2) x_i ($1 \leq i \leq m$) are formal parameters of \mathcal{I} with x_1 being a distinguished one (which, informally speaking, is reserved for the name of an instance of \mathcal{I}).

Main Concepts

An informal glimpse

- ▶ an architecture type = component types + a connector
- ▶ an architecture (instance) = components + a connector

Definition (Components, connectors, component types)

Components are ‘||’-free processes and *connectors* are ‘||’- and ‘×’-free processes. *Component types* are ‘||’-free abstract processes of the form

$$\mathcal{I} = Q(x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_m : A_m)$$

where (1) $A_i \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ ($1 \leq i \leq m$) are name spaces, and (2) x_i ($1 \leq i \leq m$) are formal parameters of \mathcal{I} with x_1 being a distinguished one (which, informally speaking, is reserved for the name of an instance of \mathcal{I}).

Main Concepts

Definition (Architecture types and instances)

A (dynamic, connector-based) *architecture type* is represented as the tuple

$$\mathcal{A}^t = \langle \mathcal{I}_1, \dots, \mathcal{I}_n, \mathcal{C} \rangle$$

An *architecture instance* of \mathcal{A}^t is the tuple

$$\mathcal{A} = \langle P_1^1, \dots, P_1^{m_1}, \dots, P_n^{m_n}, \mathcal{C} \rangle$$

where P_i^j conforms to \mathcal{I}_i .

Example

$$CStype = \langle CLIENT, SERVER, CSCON \rangle$$

$$CSsystem = \langle Client_1, Client_2, \dots, Server_1, \dots, CSCON \rangle$$

Main Concepts

Definition (Canonical components)

If $a \in A_1$, we call

$$\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle = \sum_{a_2 \in A_2, \dots, a_m \in A_m} Q\langle a, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle$$

a *canonical component* of \mathcal{I} .

Definition (Component conformance)

P conforms to $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle$, denoted $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P$, if there is $R \subseteq Proc \times Proc$ such that $\langle \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle, P \rangle \in R$ and for each $\langle P_1, P_2 \rangle \in R$:

- ▶ if $P_1 = nil$ then $\langle \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle, P_2 \rangle \in R$ or $P_2 = nil$;
- ▶ if $P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1$ and $P_1 \neq \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle$ and $P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2$ and $\langle P'_1, P'_2 \rangle \in R$ for some P'_2 ;
- ▶ if $P_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_2$ then $P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_1$ and $\langle P'_1, P'_2 \rangle \in R$ for some P'_1 .

Main Concepts

Theorem (Properties of \vdash)

1. $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle$,
2. $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P_1 \ \& \ \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P_2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P_1 + P_2$,
3. $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P_1 \ \& \ P_1 \simeq P_2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P_2$,
4. $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P \Rightarrow \mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P^*$,
5. \vdash is decidable.

Example

$CLIENT\langle c_1 : clt \rangle \vdash Client_1$

$CLIENT\langle c_2 : clt \rangle \vdash Client_2$

$SERVER\langle s_1 : sev \rangle \vdash Server_1$

Main Concepts

Definition (Component configurations)

A *component configuration* of \mathcal{A}^t is a process of the form

$$F = P_1\langle a_1 \rangle \times \dots \times P_n\langle a_n \rangle$$

such that, for each $1 \leq i \neq j \leq n$, $a_i \neq a_j$ and $\mathcal{I}_i\langle a_i \rangle \vdash P_i$ for some interface \mathcal{I}_i of \mathcal{A}^t .

Definition (Architectures revisited)

The semantics of an architecture \mathcal{A} can be considered as the process $F \parallel C$.

Example

$$CSsystem = (client_1 \times client_2 \times \dots \times server_1 \times \dots) \parallel CSCON$$

Properties

Definition (Deadlock-freedom)

(1) An architecture instance $\mathcal{A} = F \parallel C$ is *deadlock-free*, if the following proposition holds: if $\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{*} F' \parallel C'$ and $F' \longrightarrow$, then $F' \parallel C' \longrightarrow$. (2) An architecture type \mathcal{A}^t is deadlock-free if each instance of \mathcal{A}^t is deadlock-free.

Definition (Non-starvation)

$\mathcal{A} = (F \times P) \parallel C$ is *non-starving*, if the following holds: if $\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{*} (F' \times P') \parallel C'$ and $P' \longrightarrow$, then there are F'' and C'' such that $F' \parallel C' \xrightarrow{*} F'' \parallel C''$ and $P' \parallel C'' \longrightarrow$. (2) An architecture type \mathcal{A}^t is non-starving if each instance of \mathcal{A}^t is non-starving.

Lemma

Non-starvation implies deadlock-freedom.

Properties

Conservation: behaviours of architecture instances are refined by the connector.

Definition (Conservation)

An architecture type \mathcal{A}^t is *conservative*, if, for each $\tilde{\alpha}$ such that $C \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$, there is a configuration F such that $F \xrightarrow{\# \tilde{\alpha}}$ where $\# \tilde{\alpha}$ is the dual sequence of $\tilde{\alpha}$ w.r.t. $\{?, !\}$.

Completeness: the connector does not exclude behaviours of components.

Definition (Completeness)

\mathcal{A}^t is complete if the following proposition holds: for each component P and $P' \in Proc(P)$, if $P' \xrightarrow{\alpha}$, then $(F \times P) \parallel C \xrightarrow{*} (F' \times P') \parallel C'$ for some F, F', C' such that $C' \xrightarrow{\# \alpha}$.

The Method

The method is to construct a specific architecture instance which can mimic just all behaviours of possible components.

Definition (Construction procedure)

For any given component P , we choose a new process identifier X_P . The *iteration* of P , denoted by P^* , is obtained by substituting nil in P by X_P , and the recursive equation for X_P is $X_P \doteq P^*$. A canonical configuration and a canonical architecture instance are respectively defined as

$$F_C^* = X_{P_{C,1}} \times \dots \times X_{P_{C,k}} \quad \mathcal{A}_C^* = F_C^* \parallel C$$

where $P_{C,1}, \dots, P_{C,k}$ enumerate all canonical components of \mathcal{A}^t .

The Method

N.B. The number of canonical components of an architecture type is the number of *possible* components. For example, the number of canonical components of $CStype$ is $|clt| + |sev|$. But the number of possible configurations for $CStype$ is $2^{|clt|+|sev|}$.

The following lemma says that the iteration of a canonical component's behaviours are just enough to mimic all of its components' behaviours in some sense.

Lemma

- ▶ If $P \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$ and $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P$, then $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle^* \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$;
- ▶ If $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle^* \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$, then there is P such that $P \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$ and $\mathcal{I}\langle a \rangle \vdash P$.

Deadlock-Freedom

Theorem

\mathcal{A}^t is deadlock-free if and only if the depth-first search algorithm on the right returns 'yes'.

Significance

It searches in \mathcal{A}_c^* 's state space but verifies \mathcal{A}^t 's property.

Data: \mathcal{A}_c^*

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $(P_1 \times \dots \times P_k) \parallel C' \in Proc(\mathcal{A}_c^*)$ **do**

if $P_1 \times \dots \times P_k = F_c^*$ **then**

if $X_{P_{c,i}} \parallel C' \not\rightarrow, \exists 1 \leq i \leq k$ **then**

$bool := 0$

break

else

 Let $P'_i = P_i \{nil / X_{I_i(a)}\}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq k$

if $(P'_1 \times \dots \times P'_k) \parallel C' \not\rightarrow$ **then**

$bool := 0$

break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Non-Starvation

Data: \mathcal{A}_C^*

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $(P_1 \times \dots \times P_k) \parallel C' \in Proc(\mathcal{A}_C^*)$ **do**

Let $P'_i = P_i \setminus \{nil/X_{\mathcal{I}_i(a)}\}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq k$

foreach $1 \leq i \leq k$ **do**

Let $F_i = P'_1 \times \dots \times P'_{i-1} \times P'_{i+1} \times \dots \times P'_k$

if there are F'_i and C'' such that

$F_i \parallel C' \xrightarrow{*} F'_i \parallel C''$

$P_i \parallel C'' \rightarrow$

then

skip

else

$bool := 0$

break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Theorem

\mathcal{A}^t is non-starving if and only if the depth-first search algorithm on the left returns 'yes'.

Significance

$\mathcal{A}_C^* \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}^t$.

Conservation (I)

Definition (Determinism)

An architecture type \mathcal{A}^t is *deterministic* if its connector and all of its canonical components are deterministic.

Theorem

Suppose \mathcal{A}^t is deterministic. \mathcal{A}^t is conservative if and only if the depth-first search algorithm on the right returns 'yes'.

Significance

$\mathcal{A}_c^* \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}^t$.

Data: \mathcal{A}_c^*

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $(P_1 \times \dots \times P_k) \parallel C' \in Proc(\mathcal{A}_c^*)$
do

foreach α s.t. $C' \xrightarrow{\alpha}$ **do**

if $(P_1 \times \dots \times P_k) \not\xrightarrow{\alpha}$ **then**

$bool := 0$

break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Completeness (I)

Theorem

Suppose \mathcal{A}^t is deterministic. \mathcal{A}^t is complete if and only if the algorithm on the right returns 'yes'.

Data: \mathcal{A}_C^*

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $P \in Proc(P_{c,i}), 1 \leq i \leq k$ **do**

let $S = \{C' \mid F_C^* \parallel C \xrightarrow{*} F \parallel C', F[i] = P\}$

if there exists α s.t. $P \xrightarrow{\alpha}$ and $C' \not\xrightarrow{\alpha}$ for all

$C' \in S$ **then**

$bool := 0$

break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Significance

- ▶ $\mathcal{A}_C^* \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}^t$,
- ▶ Compositionality: it checks the canonical components on the one-by-one basis.

Assumptions, Definitions, Theorems

Two further *assumptions* :

- ▶ Different canonical components share no actions
($Act(P_{c,i}) \cap Act(P_{c,j}) = \emptyset$ if $i \neq j$);
- ▶ Actions of components are dual to actions of the connector,
and vice versa ($\bigcup_{i=1}^k Act(P_{c,i}) = \{\#\alpha \mid \alpha \in Act(C)\}$).

Let $\tilde{\alpha}|A$ be the projection of $\tilde{\alpha}$ on $A \subseteq Act$. $Q \xrightarrow{\tilde{\gamma}}_A Q'$ if and only if there is $\tilde{\alpha}$ such that $Q \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} Q'$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = \tilde{\alpha}|A$.

Definition

(1) $C \preceq P_{c,i}$ if $C \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}_{Act(P_{c,i})}$ implies $P_{c,i}^* \xrightarrow{\#\tilde{\alpha}}$; (2) $C \succcurlyeq P_{c,i}$ if $P_{c,i}^* \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}}$ implies $C \xrightarrow{\#\tilde{\alpha}}_{Act(P_{c,i})}$.

Theorem

A^t is conservative (resp. complete) if and only if $C \preceq P_{c,i}$ (resp. $C \succcurlyeq P_{c,i}$) for each canonical component $P_{c,i}$ of A^t .

Conservation (II)

Theorem

With the previous three assumptions, $C \preceq P_{c,i}$ if and only if the algorithm on the right returns 'yes'.

Significance

- ▶ $\mathcal{A}_c^* \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}^t$,
- ▶ Compositional checking.

Data: $C, P_{c,i}$

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Construct a graph $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E} \rangle$ such that

- ▶ $\mathbf{V} = Proc(P_{c,i}^*) \times Proc(C)$
- ▶ $\mathbf{E} = \{ \langle \langle P_1, C_1 \rangle, \langle P_2, C_2 \rangle \rangle \mid P_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} P_2, C_1 \xrightarrow{\# \alpha}_{Act(P_{c,i})} C_2, \alpha \in Act(P_{c,i}) \}$

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $\langle P, C' \rangle$ reachable from $\langle P_{c,i}^*, C \rangle$ in \mathbf{G} **do**

if there is γ such that

- ▶ $P \xrightarrow{\gamma}$
- ▶ $C' \not\xrightarrow{\# \gamma}_{Act(P_{c,i})}$

then

$bool := 0$
 break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Completeness (II)

Data: $C, P_{c,i}$

Output: 'yes' or 'no'

Construct a graph $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E} \rangle$ as in the previous algorithm

Let $bool = 1$

foreach $\langle P, C' \rangle$ reachable from $\langle P_{c,i}^*, C \rangle$

in \mathbf{G} **do**

if there is γ such that

 ▶ $P \xrightarrow{\gamma}$

 ▶ $C' \xrightarrow{\# \gamma} Act(P_{c,i})$

then

$bool := 0$

break

if $bool = 1$ **then return** 'yes'

else return 'no'

Theorem

With the previous three assumptions plus the conservation of \mathcal{A}^t , $C \succcurlyeq P_{c,i}$ if and only if the algorithm on the left returns 'yes'.

Significance

- ▶ $\mathcal{A}_c^* \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}^t$,
- ▶ Finer-grained compositional checking.

Summary

- ▶ We propose a semantic model for the dynamic connector-based architecture styles;
- ▶ We show that the analysis of several basic properties of these architecture styles depends on architecture instances with fixed configurations, reducing the verification state space.

Outlook: the bridge between our semantic model and a mature ADL?