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> RUU-CS-82-12 July 1982



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Rendezvous with ADA - A Proof Theoretical View

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Abstract

A fragment of ADA abstracting the communication and synchronization part is studied. An operational semantics for this fragment is given, emphasizing the justice and fairness aspects of the selection rechanisms. An appropriate notion of fairness is shown to be equivalent to the explicit entry-queues proposed in the reference manual. Proof rules for invariance and liveness properties are given and illustrated on an example. The proof rules are based on temporal logic.

Introduction

In this paper we conduct a very preliminary investigation of the concurrency and synchronization aspects of the programming language ADA. Our aims in this investigation are the clarification of the issue of fairness in the execution of ADA tasking mechanism, and a development of temporal-logic based formalism for proving liveness (eventuality) and other temporal properties of ADA programs.

With this in view we study an extremely simplified fragment of ADA, retaining just the constructs which are relevant to tasking and synchronization, and not even all of these. For this fragment we define interleaving operational semantics which models the execution of concurrent tasks by a sequential execution of atomic instructions taken one at a time, from a single task each time. Such modelling of concurrency by interleaving has proved most fruitful in the past and will be shown to be valuable in our present investigation of ADA. In developing this semantics we will show that the concept of entry-queues used in the ADA definition

in order to ensure fairness in the selection among tasks waiting on entry-calls for the same entry, is not really necessary. In our definition we will use the more abstract notion of fairness and show that it is equivalent to the one ensured by the queues. Queues in our opinion is a concept more appropriate in a discussion on the implementation level than in a language definition.

Next, we will formulate a very simple invariance principle which will enable us to prove properties of the invariance class [MP1]. We proceed then to define temporal proof principles which are analogous to the ones developed in [MP3] for the shared-variable model of concurrent programs. The principles introduced here, enable proofs of temporal properties of ADA programs. Their utility for such proofs is demonstrated by an example.

We believe that this fragment of semantics and proof-theory, concentrating on the issues of concurrency and communication in ADA would greatly enhance our understanding of these important aspects of the language. Combined with other proof theoretical efforts directed at the intra-task finer structure, it could yield a powerful comprehensive proof methodology for the complete language.

The basic synchronization and communication mechanism in ADA is that of the rendezvous in which one task issues an entry-call while another task reaches an accept statement for the entry named by the caller. This communication mechanism combines and improves on several features existing in previously suggested mechanisms. The actual entry-call, when executed, is similar to the monitor mechanism as introduced in [H] and expanded in [BH]., in that communication of values, is done via parameter transfer between the called and calling task. Also, the caller is suspended until the execution of the accept-body is completed. Similar to CSP [H] and CCS [M], the rendezvous requires coordination of the two tasks, that is, both the caller and called tasks must be actively interested in establishing communication in order for the contact to be established. However, significantly differently from CSP, the naming convention and selection of alternatives is asymmetric between caller and acceptor. The caller has to know the entry name which is restricted to an association with a single task, but the acceptor task need not know by name all its potential callers. In that, the entry concept is similar to that of a CCS channel with the restriction of having only one possible task as acceptor. Another restriction is that while an acceptor may have a selection of accept statements to choose from, being able to pick

The second author's stay at the Weizmann Institute was made possible by a travel grant of the Netherlands Organization of Pure Research Z.W.O. The research was supported in part by a grant from the Israeli Academy of Science, the Basic Research Foundation.

che for which an entry-call is pending, the caller must issue one entry call at a time. This simplifies the implementation by introducing a tie-breaking asymmetry. It enables the selection to be done locally, at the acceptor's site, while the caller plays a more passive role - placing a request for a call and waiting until it is granted. The possibilities of conditional and timed entry calls introduce some more complications to this straightforward description but do not significantly alter the picture.

The ADA report emphasizes several times that the selection between open alternatives of a selective-wait statement is arbitrary and does not imply any fairness assumptions. The only fairness consideration mentioned is when several tasks issue an entry-call for the same entry. Then, the report states, these requests are queued, using one queue for each entry name, and once an accept statement for that entry is selected, the requests are to be honoured in the order of their arrival.

The Language Fragment

In order to concentrate on the basic essentials of the communication mechanism in ADA we restrict ourselves to a minimal stripped down fragment of the language. This fragment is referred to as ACF for "ADA Communication Fragment".

An ACF program P is a block containing a fixed number of tasks. No shared variables are allowed between tasks. New tasks may not be dynamically created. Except for the entries declared within each task, no other procedures, subprograms or nested blocks are allowed. The statements allowed within a task are: assignment statement, if statement, loop statements, entry calls, conditional entry calls and selective waits. Of the selective wait alternatives we only allow accept-statement and terminate. No delay statements are allowed anywhere. The program in Fig. 1 is an example of an ACF program.

Operational Semantics for ACF

Consider an ACF program P consisting of the tasks T_1, \dots, T_m . Let all the variables declared in all of the tasks be $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ with y_i ranging over D_i $U < undef'> \dots$ A state in the execution of P has the form:

 $s = \langle (T_1 - location) \wedge (T_2 - location) \wedge ...$

$$\Lambda(T_{m}-location); \eta_{1}, \dots, \eta_{n} > 0$$

 $n_i \in D_i$ U <'undef'> is the current value of the variable y_i in state s. Each T_i -location, $i=1,\ldots,m$ is a description of the location of the task T_i in its program (task body). It has the general form: $T_i \xrightarrow{at} S_i$.

In general, S is a sequence of statements which are yet to be executed by T . It is the empty sequence Λ if T has terminated.

We define a succession relation, written $s \rightarrow s'$ and called a transition, to denote that a single computational step can lead from s to s'. The

relation is defined by cases corresponding to the various types of possible statements:

Assignment Transition:

<...
$$(T_i \text{ at } \overline{y}) = f(\overline{y}), S(\Lambda), \overline{\eta} + \cdots + T_i \text{ at } S(\Lambda), \ldots, f(\overline{\eta}) > \cdots$$

For convenience we use simultaneous assignments to all of $\ \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n.$

This succession rule specifies that one possible computation step of the program consists of a single task performing an assignment statement. As a result of this action, T_i moves to the location immediately after tha assignment statement and the value of $f(\overline{n})$ is assigned to the variables \overline{y} .

Additional rules correspond to the local action of \underline{if} and \underline{loop} statements.

If Transition

<... (
$$T_i$$
 at if $p(\overline{y})$ then S_1 else S_2 end if; $S > \dots > T_n > T_n$
 $+ < \dots (T_i$ at S_1 ; $S > \dots > T_n > T_n$

Provided $p(\overline{n}) = true$.

Similarly the 'else' clause may be taken:

<... (T_i at if p(y) then S₁ else S₂ end if; S)
$$\wedge$$
 ...; \overline{n} >
+ <... (T_i at S₂; S) \wedge ...; \overline{n} >

Provided $p(\overline{\eta}) = false$.

Loop Transition

Provided $c(\eta) = true$.

This transition_corresponds to the case that the loop condition $c(\overline{y})$ is true fro the current values of the \overline{y} variables. In such a case, the loop's body B is to be performed first, followed by a repeated execution of the loop.

<... (
$$T_i$$
 at while $c(\overline{y})$ do $B; S \land ...; \overline{\eta} > +$
<... (T_i at $S \land ...; \overline{\eta} >$

Provided $c(\overline{\eta}) = \text{false.}$

This corresponds to the case that the loop's condition is false, in which case the whole loop statement is skipped.

The above transitions correspond to local operations and involve the movement of a single task at a time. Following are joint transitions which involve simultaneous movement of two tasks at the same time. They are associated with communications. We consider next transition effected by communication:

Rendezvous Transition:

Let e be an entry declared within ${\tt T}$. Then we have the following transition:

$$<...(T_i at e(\overline{u}; \overline{v}); S_i) \wedge...$$

(T_j at select...or when
$$c(\overline{y}) \Rightarrow accept e(\overline{f}: \underline{in}; g: \underline{out}); B$$

$$<...(T_i at rendezvous e ; S_i) ...$$

...
$$(T_j \text{ at } f: = u; B; v: = g; \text{end } e; S_j; S) \land ...; n>$$
Provided $c(\overline{n}) = \text{true}$.

Here f and g are all the formal parameters of modes in and out respectively. B is the body of the entry e within the selective wait statement. Sj is the sequence of statements to be performed by T_j after the rendezvous is over. Note that the transition places T_i in a special new state 'rendezvous e', and replaces the accept statement in T_i by elaboration including explicit parameter transfer.

The above rendezvous transition corresponds to a simple entry call of task T_i and a selective wait statement at task T_j . Similar rendezvous transitions are also defined for the cases that T_i is at a conditional entry call of the form:

In this case the $\mathbf{T}_{\underline{i}}$ location descriptor in s' will have the form:

Similarly, a rendezvous transition exists for the case that T_j is at a simple accept statement of the form:

Rendezvous situations are terminated by:

Rendezvous Termination Transition

<...(T_i at rendezvous e; S_i)
$$\wedge$$
... (T_j at end e; S_j) \wedge ...

$$\langle \dots (T_i \text{ at } S_i) \wedge \dots (T_j \text{ at } S_j) \wedge \dots ; \overline{n} \rangle$$

This transition terminates the rendezvous situation in which $\mathbf{T_i}$ is suspended while $\mathbf{T_j}$ executes the body of an entry that was called by $\mathbf{T_i}$.

The following transitions correspond to the option of taking the 'else' clause of a select-statement. In a given state s we define e'COUNT(s) to be the number of tasks currently waiting in front of a simple or conditional entry call for the entry e. Then we have the transitions:

Else Transitions:

<... (T_i at select
$$e(\overline{u}; \overline{v})$$
; S_i

else S'_i

end select; S''_i) $\wedge \dots \wedge \neg > \rightarrow$

<... (T_i at S'_i; S''_i) $\wedge \dots ; \overline{n} >$

Provided no task is currently in front of an accept statement for e or a selective wait with an open alternative of accepting e.

This transition corresponds to choosing the 'else' clause of a conditional entry call.

<...(Tj at select

when
$$c(y) \Rightarrow \underline{accept} e(\overline{f}; \overline{g}) \dots$$
:
else S'
end select; S", $\wedge \dots ; \overline{n} > +$

$$\langle \dots (T_j \text{ at } S'_j ; S''_j) \wedge \dots ; \overline{n} \rangle$$

Provided e'COUNT(s) = 0 for every open alternative e. This means that no other task is waiting on an entry call for any of the open alternatives of \mathbf{T}_i .

A special transition allows termination of the complete program.

Termination Transition:

$$\langle \bigwedge_{i} (T_{i} \text{ at } \Lambda) \wedge \bigwedge_{j} (T_{j} \text{ at select...or terminate..})$$
 $; \overline{\eta} \rangle +$
 $\langle \bigwedge_{i} (T_{i} \text{ at } \Lambda) ; \overline{\eta} \rangle.$

Thus, if all tasks that have not terminated yet are waiting at selective-wait statements which contain a 'terminate' alternative, then the whole program is allowed to terminate.

An <u>initialized computation</u> is a sequence of states:

$$\sigma: s_0 \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow s_2 \rightarrow \dots$$

which satisfies the following conditions:

Proper Initialization

The first state s has the form:

$$s_0 = \langle (T_1 \text{ at } P_1) \wedge \dots (T_m \text{ at } P_m) ; \text{undef} \rangle$$

Thus, initially each \mathbf{T}_i is at the beginning of its program \mathbf{P}_i , and all variables are uninitialized.

Proper State to State Transition

Every two consecutive states s_i , s_{i+1} in σ , are related by the succession relation defined above

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Junice and Fairness

or essential restriction that has to be imposed or execution sequences is a consequence of the fact thin we use interleaving in order to model concurting. In real concurrency every task will eventually funish the execution of one instruction and instruction, start the execution of the next one. It can be held up only by communication instructions. To include the same behavior by interleaving executions we introduce the notion of justice [LPS].

A task T_1 is said to move during a transition sets if the location description of T_1 in sets different from its location description in states and an entry elwe denote by FICCLUD(s) the number of tasks currently waiting the entry call for e. A task T_1 is said to be enabled in a state so if one of the following constitutions is met:

- T_i is in front of a local statement, i.e. assignment, if or loop statement.
- T_i is in front of a selective wait statement with an open alternative accepting the entry e while e'COUNT(s) > 0.
- T_{ij} is in front of an end e statement.
- T₁ is in front of a conditional entry call or a selective wait containing an 'else' clause.

Intuitively, a task is enabled if it is in front of an instruction whose eventual termination depends only on the task itself. In particular, a task faiting in front of an entry call is not considered markled. This is because for the call to be accepted, a selection of the particular calling task has to be performed by the task potentially accepting this entry call.

A computation σ is defined to be just if it is anther finite or every task which is continuously enabled from a certain point on in σ , moves infinitely many times in σ .

This captures the notion of eventual movement in each or the tasks. However, it does not guarantee the requirement of honouring different calls for the same entry in their order of arrival. We therefore stipulate also the requirement of fairness.

An execution sequence σ is defined to be fair of no process. T_1 may wait forever on an entry-call for the entry e^- while infinitely many entry calls for e^- are accepted in σ .

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In the section below we will show that under appreciate restrictions the requirement of fairness as equivalent to the discipline of accepting calling lasts in the order of their arrival.

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be all legal computations which are both just and fair.

Fairness vs. Explicit Queues

In the reference manual it is stated that queues are maintained in order to ensure that entry calls are honoured in the order of their arrival. All tasks issuing an entry call for a particular entry are queued on a separate queue dedicated to that entry. Then when a task selects to accept an entry call, the task being first on the queue for that entry is accepted first.

It is straightforward to incorporate the explicit queuing mechanism into our semantics. Let $e_1,\ldots e_r$ be all the entries accepted (and called) in the program. We augment our states by r queues, denoted by q_1,\ldots,q_r respectively. Thus, a state will have now the form:

$$s = \langle (T_1 - location) \wedge ... \wedge (T_m - location); \eta_1, ..., \eta_n; \\ x_1, ..., x_r \rangle$$

where χ_1,\ldots,χ_r are the current values of the queue variables q_1,\ldots,q_r . Each χ_i is a (possibly empty) list of tasks.

All the transitions considered above remain the same with the additional requirement that they retain the current values of the queue variables χ_1, \dots, χ_r .

In addition we add the following transition:

Queuing Transition

$$<...(\mathtt{T_{\underline{i}}}\ \underline{\mathtt{at}}\ \mathtt{e}_{\underline{\ell}}(\overline{\mathtt{u}};\overline{\mathtt{v}})\ldots)\wedge...;\overline{\mathtt{\eta}}\ ;\chi_{\underline{1}},\ldots,\chi_{\underline{r}}>\rightarrow$$

$$<...(\mathtt{T_{\underline{i}}}\ \underline{\mathtt{at}}\ \mathtt{e}_{\underline{\ell}}(\overline{\mathtt{u}};\overline{\mathtt{v}})\ldots)\wedge..;\overline{\mathtt{\eta}}\ ;\chi_{\underline{1}},\ldots(\chi_{\underline{\ell}}\cdot\mathtt{T_{\underline{i}}}),\ldots\chi_{\underline{r}}>$$

Provided $T_i \notin X_{\ell}$.

This transition corresponds to the step of adding the task $\rm T_i$ to the end of the queue $\rm \,q_{\,2}$ provided it is not already there.

The rendezvous transitions have to be modified so that the first task on the queue will be accepted. We will only present the simplest case where a task $\mathbf{T_i}$ is waiting at an entry call on an entry \mathbf{e}_{ℓ} , $\mathbf{T_i}$ is at the head of the \mathbf{q}_{ℓ} queue and a task $\mathbf{T_j}$ is ready to accept a call for entry \mathbf{e}_{ℓ} .

Rendezvous Transition

<...
$$(T_i \text{ at } e_{\ell}(\overline{u}; \overline{v}); S_i) \wedge ..$$
 $(T_j \text{ at accept } e_{\ell}(\overline{f}; \underline{in}; \overline{g}; \underline{out}); B$
 $\underline{end} e_{\ell}; S_j) \wedge ...; \overline{n}; \chi_1, ... (T_i \cdot \chi_{\ell}), ... \chi_r > A_r$

This corresponds to the initiation of a rendezvous between T_j and $T_{\underline{i}}$ which is the first task on the queue $q_{\underline{i}}$. The transition also removes T_1 from $q_{\underline{i}}$. Similar rules apply to the more general cuscathat $T_{\underline{i}}$ is at a conditional entry call and $q_{\underline{i}}$ as

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The notion of legal computation enables us to study the behavior of a concurrent program starting at an arbitrary observation instant, not necessarily the initial one.

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Justice and Fairness

An essential restriction that has to be imposed on execution sequences is a consequence of the fact that we use interleaving in order to model concurrency. In real concurrency every task will eventually finish the execution of one instruction and inevitably start the execution of the next one. It can be held up only by communication instructions. To model the same behavior by interleaving executions we introduce the notion of justice [LPS].

A task T_i is said to move during a transition s - s', if the location description of T_i in s is different from its location description in s'. Given a state s and an entry e we denote by e'COUNT(s) the number of tasks currently waiting on an entry call for e. A task T_i is said to e enabled in a state s if one of the following conditions is met:

- a) T_i is in front of a local statement, i.e. assignment, if or loop statement.
- t) T_i is in front of a selective wait statement with an open alternative accepting the entry e while e'COUNT(s) > 0.
- c) T_i is in front of an end e statement.
- d) T_i is in front of a conditional entry call or a selective wait containing an 'else' clause.

Intuitively, a task is enabled if it is in front of an instruction whose eventual termination depends only on the task itself. In particular, a task waiting in front of an entry call is not considered enabled. This is because for the call to be accepted, a selection of the particular calling task has to be performed by the task potentially accepting this entry call.

A computation σ is defined to be just if it is either finite or every task which is continuously enabled from a certain point on in σ , moves infinitely many times in σ .

This captures the notion of eventual movement in each of the tasks. However, it does not guarantee the requirement of honouring different calls for the same entry in their order of arrival. We therefore stipulate also the requirement of fairness.

An execution sequence σ is defined to be fair if no process T_i may wait forever on an entry-call for the entry e while infinitely many entry calls for e are accepted in σ .

At first appearance this concept seems weaker than the first-in-first-out discipline required in the reference manual.

In the section below we will show that under appropriate restrictions the requirement of fairness is equivalent to the discipline of accepting calling tasks in the order of their arrival.

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where χ_1,\ldots,χ_r are the current values of the queue variables q_1,\ldots,q_r . Each χ_i is a (possibly empty) list of tasks.

All the transitions considered above remain the same with the additional requirement that they retain the current values of the queue variables x_1, \dots, x_r . In addition we add the following transition:

Queuing Transition

$$< \dots (\mathtt{T_i} \ \underline{\mathtt{at}} \ \mathtt{e_{\ell}}(\overline{\mathtt{u}}; \overline{\mathtt{v}}) \dots) \wedge \dots; \overline{\mathtt{n}} \ ; \ \mathtt{X_1}, \dots, \mathtt{X_r} > \rightarrow \\ < \dots (\mathtt{T_i} \ \underline{\mathtt{at}} \ \mathtt{e_{\ell}}(\overline{\mathtt{u}}; \overline{\mathtt{v}}) \dots) \wedge \dots; \overline{\mathtt{n}} \ ; \ \mathtt{X_1}, \dots (\mathtt{X_{\ell}} \cdot \mathtt{T_i}) \ , \dots \ \mathtt{X_r} > \\ \mathtt{Provided} \ \ \mathtt{T_i} \ \ \mathbf{\&} \ \mathtt{X_\ell}.$$

This transition corresponds to the step of adding the task T_i to the end of the queue q_ℓ provided it is not already there.

The rendezvous transitions have to be modified so that the first task on the queue will be accepted. We will only present the simplest case where a task T_j is waiting at an entry call on an entry \mathbf{e}_{ℓ} , T_i is at the head of the \mathbf{q}_{ℓ} queue and a task T_j is ready to accept a call for entry \mathbf{e}_{ℓ} .

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<...
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$$e_{\ell}$$
; S_{i}) \wedge ... (T_j at \overline{f} := \overline{u} ; B ; \overline{v} := \overline{g} ; end e_{ℓ} ; S_{j}) \wedge ...; \overline{n} ; X_{1} ,..., X_{ℓ} ,..., X_{r} >

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This transition corresponds to the step of adding the task T_i to the end of the queue q_{ℓ} provided it is not already there.

The rendezvous transitions have to be modified so that the first task on the queue will be accepted. We will only present the simplest case where a task T_i is waiting at an entry call on an entry e_l , T_i is at the head of the q_l queue and a task T_j is ready to accept a call for entry e_l .

Rendezvous Transition

<... (
$$T_i$$
 at rendezvous e_ℓ ; S_i) \wedge ... (T_j at $\overline{f} := \overline{u}$; B ; $\overline{v} := \overline{g}$; end e_ℓ ; S_j) \wedge ...; \overline{n} ; $X_1, \dots, X_\ell, \dots, X_r$ >

This corresponds to the initiation of a rendezvous between T_j and T_i which is the first task on the queue $q_{\mathfrak{g}}$. The transition also removes T_i from queue $\mathbf{q}_{\underline{I}}$. The transition also removes $\mathbf{T}_{\underline{I}}$ from $\mathbf{q}_{\underline{I}}$. Similar rules apply to the more general cuses that T_i is at a conditional entry call and q_2 is

currently empty, or when \mathbf{T}_{i} is at a selective wait and selects to accept an entry call for \mathbf{e}_{q} .

We refer to this extended model of computation as the explicit queuing model. In defining admissible computations for this model we only require legality and justice since fairness is implemented by the explicit queuing mechanissm.

Next we will show that under very general conditions our restricted model requiring both justice and fairness is equivalent to the explicit queuing model.

Theorem

Let P be an ACF program which does not refer explicitly to any e'COUNT attribute. Then the class of admissible computations of P is equivalent to the class of admissible computations of P under the explicit queuing model.

Proof (Sketch)

Let σ be a computation under the explicit queuing model. Each state in σ has the form

$$s = \langle \bigwedge_{i} (T_{i}-location); \overline{\eta}; \overline{\chi} \rangle$$

We construct from σ a computation σ' which is admissible under the fairness requirement by replacing each state such as σ above by

$$s' = \langle \bigwedge_{i} (T_{i} - location; \overline{\eta} \rangle$$

This replacement consists simply of omitting the $\overline{\chi}$ component from all states. In addition we have to delete from σ' all transitions corresponding to queuing steps. Since such steps only change the $\overline{\chi}$ component in a state s, they give rise in σ' to trivial transitions of the form

$$s' \rightarrow s'$$
.

To see that σ' is a fair computation consider any task T_i waiting in front of an entry call for the entry e_i . This situation is also duplicated in σ . By justice, it will eventually be placed in q_i . If there are infinitely many calls accepted for e_i , each moving T_i one position closer to the top of q_i , eventually T_i will be accepted. This fact is certainly copied into σ' as well. Thus, a task waiting for e_i while infinitely many calls for e_i are accepted will eventually be served.

Let now σ stand for an admissible computation under the fairness requirement. States in σ have the form $s = \bigwedge_i (T_i \text{-location}); \overline{\eta} > .$ We construct a corresponding σ' by first replacing each state such as s above by:

$$s' = \langle \bigwedge_{i} (T_i - location); \overline{\eta}; \Lambda, ..., \Lambda \rangle$$
.

That is, we uniformly add to each state a list of empty queues.

In addition we make the following two modifications in σ^{\prime} .

 a) We replace each rendezvous transition currently having the form: (for simplicity we omit parameters)

<...(T_i at e_i...)
$$\wedge$$
...(T_j at accept e_i; B;...) \wedge ..; \overline{n} ; $\chi_1, \dots, \Lambda, \dots, \chi_r > \rightarrow$

<...(T_i at rendezvous
$$e_{\ell}$$
...) \(\Lambda...\) (T_j at B;...) \(\Lambda...\), \(\bar{\eta}_i\);
$$X_1, ..., A_i, ..., X_r >$$

by the pair of transitions as follows:

<...
$$(T_i \text{ at } e_\ell) \wedge ... (T_j \text{ at accept } e_\ell; B; ...) \wedge ...; \overline{\eta};$$

$$X_1, ..., \lambda, ..., X_r > + (queuing step)$$

<...
$$(T_i \text{ at } e_i) \wedge ... (T_j \text{ at accept } e_i; B; ...) \wedge ..; n;$$

$$X_1, ... (T_i), ..., X_r > + \text{ (rendezvous transition)}$$

<...(T_i at rendezvous
$$e_1$$
...) \wedge ...(T_j at B_7 ...) \wedge ...; \overline{n} ;
$$\chi_1, \dots, \chi_r >$$

This pair of transitions places T_i on the queue, which is assumed to be empty, just one step before T_i accepts. It certainly satisfies the requirement that under the explicit queuing model only tasks which are at the head of the q_i queue are accepted. It also defers the act of queuing to the last moment possible.

b) If σ' contains a task T_i which is waiting in front of an e_i call at a state s such that no calls on e_i are accepted beyond s, then obviously T_i is stuck at that position forever. We insert anywhere following the state s the queuing transition.

<...
$$(T_i \text{ at } e_\ell..) \wedge ... ; \overline{n} ; X_1, ... X_\ell, ... X_r > +$$
<... $(T_i \text{ at } e_\ell..) \wedge ... ; \overline{n} ; X_1, ... (X_\ell \cdot T_i), ... X_r >$

All components χ_ℓ following this transition should be modified accordingly. Thus, with stuck tasks, we defer their being queued to the point beyond which there are no more calls accepted for the entry e_ℓ .

This transformation will construct an admissible explicit queuing computation out of every fair admissible computation.

Supported by this theorem we will proceed to study ACF without explicit queuing mechanisms. We use instead the concept of admissible computations, being fair and just legal computations.

However, as shown above, our treatment is easily extendable to accomodate explicit queuing as well.

Proof Theory

We use temperal logic in order to describe properties of admissible computations of an ACF program P. In describing state properties we use predicates over the program variables y_4,\ldots,y_n and the task location descriptors. State properties are then combined into temporal formulas using the temporal operators: O (always), < (sometimes), O (next) and U (until). We refer the interested reader to [MP1] for an introduction to temporal logic and its usage for proving properties of programs. The proof system that we would outline here is based on the basic approach presented in [MP3].

Let τ be any of the transitions presented above in the semantic definition of computations. We observe that in a given program P there are only finitely many transitions corresponding to

each of the statements in any of the tasks. Joint transitions such as rendezvous correspond to a pair of matching statements in two different tasks, but there are only finitely many of them.

We say that a transition τ leads from ϕ to ψ , where ψ and ψ are state properties, if for every pair of states s and s' such that s $\stackrel{T}{\longrightarrow}$ s it follows that $\varphi(s) \supset \psi(s')$ holds. This implies that if ϕ was true before the transition then ψ will hold after the transition. For every type of transition t it is possible to write a formula involving the program and location variables and the predicates ϕ and ψ which will be valid iff t loads from ϕ to ψ .

For example consider the case that τ is a transition of T_i from the location $\overline{y}:=f(\overline{y})$; S_i to the location S_i . Let $\phi=\phi(\pi_1,...\pi_m;y_1,...y_n)$, $\vdots=\psi(\pi_1,...\pi_m;y_1,...y_n)$ where π_i , i=1,...m are the location variables describing the current location tion of the tasks T_i , i=1,...m respectively. Then τ leads from ϕ to ψ iff the following implication is valid:

$$\begin{split} \varphi(\tau_1, \dots [\overline{y}; = f(\overline{y}); S_{\underline{i}}], \dots \pi_m; \overline{y}) \supset \\ \psi(\pi_1, \dots [S_{\underline{i}}], \dots \pi_m; f(\overline{y})) \end{split}$$

Similarly, for the case that τ is a conditional statement we have that τ leads from ϕ to ψ iff:

A transition τ is said to be related to task au_i if it is either a local statement in the task Ti, or a joint transition which involves Ti as one of its active participants.

We say that a task T_i leads from ϕ to ψ if all transitions τ related to T_i lead from ϕ to ψ . The complete program P is said to lead from ϕ to ψ if each of its tasks $\mathtt{T}_1, \ldots \mathtt{T}_m$ leads from ϕ to $\psi.$

We are ready now to formulate several proof principles which are used to derive temporal properties of ACF programs. We present here only some derived principles adequate for most of the needed applications. We refer the reader again to [MP3] for the more basic axioms. The principles presented here are adequate for proving invariance and liveness properties.

The Invariance Rule: (IINV) Let ϕ be a state property.

$$\vdash \varphi(P_1, ..., P_m; \overline{y})$$
 $\vdash P \text{ leads from } \varphi \text{ to } \varphi$

This rule states that if ϕ is such that it holds initially for the initial state where each task T_i is at the beginning of its program P_i . Also it is assumed that every transition in P preserves ϕ . Then we may conclude that ϕ is invariantly true for all admissible computations.

The following two rules are useful for establishing liveness properties.

Let ψ , ψ be two state properties and T_k one of

the tasks.

The Justice Rule: (JUST)

- ⊢ P leads from φ to φνψ
- 2. $\vdash T_k$ leads from φ to ψ
- 3. $\vdash \varphi \supset (\psi \lor \text{Enabled}(T_k))$

F 4 > OLLY

This rule states that if every transition in P leads from ϕ to $\phi v \psi$, every transition in ${\mathbb T}_k$ leads from ϕ to ψ and ϕ implies that either ψ is already true or that T_k is enabled, then ψ is guaranteed to eventually happen and ϕ will continuously hold until then. Assume that we have an admissible computation whose first state satisfies ϕ . By the first premise ϕ will hold continuously until ψ is realized, if ever. By the third premise the continuous holding of ϕ implies that ψ will happen or that T_k is continuously enabled. By justice T_k must be eventually moved which by the second premise must produce ψ immediately.

The following liveness rule is more specific and relies on the fairness assumption applied to tasks waiting on entry calls.

The Fairness Rule: (FAIR)

- 1. \vdash P leads from φ to $\varphi v \psi$ 2. \vdash T_k leads from φ to ψ 3. \vdash $\varphi \supset$ T_k at $e(\overline{u}; \overline{v})$;S
 4. \vdash $\varphi \supset \diamondsuit(\overline{\psi} \lor after accept e)$

- ⊢ o ⊃ oUv

The difference between this and the previous rule lies in premises 3. and 4. Premise 3. assures that while ϕ holds T_{k} is waiting in front of an entry call on the entry e. Premise 4. states that ϕ implies that eventually either ψ will be realized or a call for entry e will be accepted. Thus if T_k is stuck and ϕ maintained forever, an infinite number of e-calls would be accepted. By fairness T_k must eventually be accepted, leading to ψ .

An Example

As illustration of a proof of a liveness property we consider the program in Figure 1.

We wish to prove termination of the whole program.

That is:

$$\vdash \bigwedge_{i=0}^{3} (T_{i} \underline{\text{at }} P_{i}) \supset \diamondsuit (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{3} T_{i} \underline{\text{at }} \Lambda)$$

A crucial stage in the termination of the program

Lemma A
$$\vdash$$
 $(T_1 \text{ at } P_1) \supset \Leftrightarrow (n=0)$

To prove this we will attempt to prove

1.
$$\vdash T_1 \text{ at } e_1(1,a) \supset \Leftrightarrow (n=0 \lor [(T_0 \text{ after accept } e_1) \land e_1(1,a)]$$

Note the abbreviation of T_0 after accept e_1 standing for the more detailed description.

This will be a conclusion of the fairness rule by taking

$$\phi_1: T_1 = \Phi_1(1,a) \text{ and}$$
 $\psi_1: n=0 \lor [(T_0 = \text{after accept } e_1) \land (T_1 = \text{at rendezvous } e_1)]$

It only remains to establish the three premises to the FAIR rule. The first premise is:

$$\vdash$$
 P leads from ϕ_1 to $\phi_1 v \psi_1$.

Coviously any transition in P which does not involve T_1 leaves T_1 at $e_1(1,a)$.

$$\vdash$$
 T₁ leads from φ_1 to ψ_1

The only possible transition involving \mathbf{T}_1 is the acceptance of the e_1 call of \mathbf{T}_1 by \mathbf{T}_0^1 which leads immediately to $\boldsymbol{\psi}_1$.

$$\vdash \varphi \supset T_1 \text{ at } e_1(1,a)$$
 - Obvious.

The only premise requiring further proving is the last one, namely:

$$\vdash \phi_1 \supset \diamondsuit(\psi_1 \lor T_0 \underbrace{after \ accept}_{} e_1)$$

Lemma B
$$\vdash \phi_1 \supset \langle \psi_1 \lor [\phi_1 \land T_0 \text{ at select}] \rangle$$

That is, given that T_1 is waiting at the e_1 entry call, then either n will be zero, the T_1 entry call will be accepted or T_0 will reach once more the location immediately in front of the select statement. This is proved by considering all the possible locations in which T_0 might currently be and using justice following its execution to the beginning of the loop.

Lemma C
$$\vdash$$
 [T₀ at select \land n = u] $\supset \Leftrightarrow$ (n=0 \lor

$$T_0$$
 after accept $e_1 \vee (T_0 \text{ at select } \land n < u)$

This states that T_0 being at the beginning of the select statement with a certain value of n, then either n will be set to zero, an e_1 entry accepted or T_0 will return to the beginning of the select with a strictly lower value of n. By considering the different entries that T_0 may choose to select, it is obvious that either e_1 is accepted or e_2 is accepted which inevitably decrements the value of n. By applying induction on the value of n to Lemma C we obtain

$$\vdash [T_0 \text{ at select } \land n = u] \supset$$

This certainly establishes the last premise for the FAIR rule and proves Lemma $\mbox{\bf A}.$

To proceed from $\,n=0\,\,$ to total termination is straightforward.

Conclusions and Discussions

In this short paper we have outlined a proof theoretical approach to the semantic definition and verification of a fragment of the ADA language. We have concentrated in particular on the synchroniza-

tion and tasking mechanism for which the literature contains much less established formal techniques than for sequential programs. We have also shown that for programs obeying some restrictions, both the semantic definition and proof principles become simpler. This has been demonstrated for programs which do not explicitly test the size of entry queues (e'COUNT). For such programs the whole concept of explicit queues which does have an implementation flavor and may appear as a strange incruder in the formal definition of a language, can be replaced by the much more liberal notion of fairness. This may hint that programs obeying these restrictions are somewhat more well-constructed in much the same way that structured programs, leading to a simpler proof theory, are considered better constructed.

In order that this preliminary investigation will not remain an academic exercise, one should seriously consider the extension of this approach to cover all of the ADA language. In trying to do so there are two types of extensions one has to make. The first type should consider many additional details that we have omitted for the sake of simplicity. Providing rules both on the operational semantic level and on the temporal level, for treating these additional features of the language may require ingenuity but is still a standard extension of the approach suggested here. This includes the sequential features of the language such as blocks, declarations, procedures, packages and data structures. The second type of feature is much more challenging since it seems to question the adequacy of temporal logic for its expression. These are all the features that relate to real time and its measurement such as the delay statements of different forms. Statements claiming that a certain block of code will be terminated within a certain number of time units since its initiation seem to be out of the scope of temporal logic which by nature is qualitative rather than quantitative. One development that this seems to call for is the extension of temporal logic into some more quantitative time logic in which such statements can be expressed.

Within the framework presented here, we would like to point to another approach which may yet be able to manage these features without having to extend the time logic. This approach is to add to the state some additional artifacts which will enable to capture quantitative time in increasing degrees of accuracy.

For example, in the simplest approximation we could describe the location of a delayed task by a state such as:

$$\langle ...(T_{i_1} \text{ at delay } (n_1)) \wedge ... (T_{i_2} \text{ at delay } (n_2)) \wedge ... \rangle$$

Then we would introduce a special time-step transition which will transform a state such as the above into

$$\langle ... (T_{i_1} \xrightarrow{\text{delay}} (n_1^{-1})) \wedge ... (T_{i_2} \xrightarrow{\text{delay}} (n_2^{-1})) \wedge ... \rangle$$

and explicitly require that this transition be applied with justice and all components of the form

"T $_{i}$ at delay (0)" are resolved before the next time step is taken.

Such a device will ensure a correct synchronization among all the delay statements, which for many applications is quite sufficient. On the other hand it does not assure a correct compatability between explicit delay statements and the timing of execution of other instructions such as assignment, communication, etc. The report itself does not say anything about this since it is evidently implementation dependent.

For a hint how even these requirements can to some degree be incorporated into our model, one could introduce a master clock into the state. This will be a global variable which is incremented on each time step transition. Intuitively this clock should count in "big" units, much bigger than the timing of a single instruction. In addition we could introduce instruction counters c, ... c we could introduce instruction counters $c_1,\ldots c_m$, one for each task. These will count the number of operations, measured in some basic units, performed by the task T. since the last time-step transition. They are reset to zero on each time-step transition, and incremented whenever task $\mathbf{T}_{\hat{\mathbf{i}}}$ performs a transition. We may now add to our semantics the restriction that none of these counters ever exceeds 1000, say. This implies that no task performs more than a 1000 elementary operations in a "big" time slot. On the other hand we may also require that no time step transition is allowed when there exists a c_i such that c_i <500. This could provide a lower bound on the rate of speeds of the different tasks.

By adding such a timing mechanism into the operational semantics itself - states and transitions, we are now assured that the temporal logic approach is still applicable and can even deal with real time analysis.

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9.
```

```
task To is
       entry e<sub>1</sub> (id<sub>1</sub> : in INTEGER ; ret<sub>1</sub> : out BOOLEAN) ;
        entry e<sub>2</sub> (id<sub>2</sub> : in INTEGER ; ret<sub>2</sub> : out BOOLEAN)
end To
task body To is
    n : INTEGER : = 1 ;
begin
       <u>100p</u>
              select
                       accept e<sub>1</sub> (id<sub>1</sub> ; ret<sub>1</sub>) ;
                                  \underline{\text{if id}}_1 = 1 \underline{\text{then }} n : = 0
                                  elsif n>0 then n := n+1
                                  ret_1 := (n>0)
                       end e
              or
                       accept e<sub>2</sub> (id<sub>2</sub> ; ret<sub>2</sub>) ;
                                 if n>0 then n := n-1;
                                 ret<sub>2</sub> : = (n>0)
                       end e2
              or
                       terminate
              end select
        end loop
end To
\underline{\mathtt{task}} \ \underline{\mathtt{body}} \ \mathtt{T}_1 \ \underline{\mathtt{is}}
    a : BOOLEAN ;
\underline{\text{begin e}}_1 (1,a) \underline{\text{end }}_1;
task body T2 is
    b : BOOLEAN : = true ;
begin while b do
             \underline{100p} e_1 (2,b) \underline{end} \underline{100p}
end T2
task body T3 is
     c : BOOLEAN : = true
begin while c do
              loop e_2 (3,c) end loop
end T3
```