

EECS498-003 Formal Verification of Systems Software

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Administrivia

- Midterm exam on Thursday, 10/17
 - 6-8pm
 - No lecture that day
 - Sample exams coming soon[™]
- Closed books
 - Allowed one double-sided cheat-sheet, 10pt minimum
- Covers everything up to Chapter 4 (i.e. excluding distributed systems)
- Problem set 2 (Chapters 3 and 4) due today!
- Problem set 3 (Chapter 5) will be released tomorrow



Introduction to distributed systems

What is a distributed system?

A collection of distinct processes that:

- are spatially separated
- communicate with one another by exchanging messages
- have non-negligible communication delay
- do not share fate
- have separate, imperfect, unsynchronized physical clocks



Leader election

...as a distributed, asynchronous system





Other examples of distributed systems







A distributed system



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Modeling distributed systems

A distributed system is composed of multiple hosts



```
Distributed System: attempt #1
module DistributedSystem {
   datatype Variables =
    Variables(hosts:seq<Host.Variables>)
```

```
predicate Next (v:Variables, v':Variables, hostid: nat)
```

```
&& Host.Next(v.hosts[hostid],v'.hosts[hostid]))
&& forall otherHost:nat | otherHost != hostid ::
    v'.hosts[otherHost] == v.hosts[otherHost]
```



New Dafny syntax: modules

Modules allow us to break up our code into multiple parts

```
module A {
    predicate MyPredicate() { ... }
}
module B {
    import A
    predicate MySecondPredicate() { A.MyPredicate() }
}
```

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Defining the network



Network module

```
module Network {
```

```
datatype Variables =
```

Variables(sentMsgs: set<Message>)

```
predicate Next(v, v', msg0ps:Message0ps) {
```

```
// can only receive messages that have been sent
```

```
&& (msgOps.recv.Some? ==> msgOps.recv.value in v.sentMsgs)
```

```
// Record the sent message, if there was one
```

&& v'.sentMsgs ==



A distributed system is composed of multiple hosts and a network



```
Distributed system: attempt #2
module DistributedSystem {
   datatype Variables =
     Variables(hosts:seq<Host.Variables>,
        network: Network.Variables)
```

```
predicate HostAction(v, v', hostid, msgOps) {
    && Host.Next(v.hosts[hostid],v'.hosts[hostid],msgOps))
    && forall otherHost:nat | otherHost != hostid ::
        v'.hosts[otherHost] == v.hosts[otherHost]
```

```
predicate Next(v, v', hostid, msgOps: MessageOps) {
   && HostAction(v, v', hostid, msgOps)
   && Network.Next(v, v', msgOps)
   Binding variable
}
```



A distributed system is composed of multiple hosts, a network and clocks



Administrivia

- Problem set 3 (Chapter 5) will be released later today
- Start looking for partners for Project 1 (released after PS3)
- Midterm evaluations are up
 - Please provide feedback!
 - Note the additional questions



Atomic Commit (Problem Set 3)



-Do you take each other?

-I do.

-I do.

-I now pronounce you atomically committed.



Atomic Commit: the objective

Preserve data consistency for distributed transactions

Example: book a hotel and flight on Expedia

Atomic Commit: the setup

- One coordinator
- A set of participants
 - Allowed to be empty in our model
- Every participant has an "input" value, called vote/preference $vote_i \in \{Yes, No\}$
- Every participant/coordinator has an "output" value, called decision $decision_i \in \{Commit, Abort\}$
- We are ignoring the possibility of failures

Atomic Commit: the spec (simplified to ignore failures)

- AC-1: All processes that reach a decision reach the same one
- AC-3: The Commit decision can only be reached if all processes vote Yes
- AC-4: If there are no failures and all processes vote Yes, then the decision must be Commit

AC-2 and AC-5 ignored



Two Phase Commit (2PC)



A "distributed" system

```
module DistributedSystem {
   datatype Variables =
    Variables(fs: FileSystem.Variables,
        disk: Disk.Variables)
```



```
predicate Next(v, v') {
    || (exists io ::
        && FileSystem.Next(v.fs, v'.fs, io)
        && Disk.Next(v.disk, v'.disk, io) Binding variable
    || ( // Crash!
        && FileSystem.Init(v'.fs)
        && v'.disk == v.disk
    )
```

Trusted vs proven

SPECIFICATION: the systems specification sandwich

image: pixabay