Real space process algebra

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Real Space Process Algebra

by

J.C.M.Baeten and J.A.Bergstra

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The real time process algebra of [BAB91a] is extended to real space by requiring the presence of spatial coordinates for each atomic action, in addition to the required temporal attribute. As it turns out, asynchronous communication cannot easily be avoided. Based on the state operators of [BAB88] and following [BEKT85], asynchronous communication mechanisms are introduced as an additional feature of real space process algebra. The overall emphasis is on the introductory explanation of the features of real space process algebra, and characteristic examples are given for each of these.

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1. INTRODUCTION.
This paper requires familiarity with our paper [BAB91a] that introduces the real time version of the algebra of communicating processes ACP from [BEK84]. The paper collects material from three reports that found their way into various Springer Lecture Notes, [BAB91b, BAB91c, BAB92]. We have not included the Lorentz invariant formulation of real space process algebra of [BAB91b] because its relevance for computing is at present a matter of speculation. The work below is entirely driven by the goal to specify various example systems. Of course these are toy examples, but the authors believe that these examples (in particular 5.18) indeed exemplify important computational mechanisms.

Real space process algebra is a modification of real time process algebra. Its purpose is to allow the description of distributed systems with a known spatial distribution. An important class of such systems are communication protocols that connect stations which are engaged in continuous motion through space. We model real space as $\mathbb{R}^3$ and each action is provided with an additional attribute $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$. Thus, the atomic actions of real space process algebra will be of the form $a(x, t)$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

Once we have defined our real space process algebra $\mathcal{M}$ as a bisimulation model over certain transition systems, we can consider for each $p \in \mathbb{R}^3$ a subalgebra $\mathcal{M}(p)$ consisting of processes that have all their actions located at $p$ only. $\mathcal{M}(p)$ can be viewed as a real time process algebra by forgetting the attribute $p$ for each action. Indeed this subalgebra $\mathcal{M}(p)$ is isomorphic to the real time process algebra of [BAB91a] (only here, we use the slightly more abstract semantics of [KLU91]) via the
mapping induced by $a(t) \mapsto a(p, t)$. This provides a satisfactory connection between the developments in this paper and [BAB91a].

Technically, the point of departure is a finite set $A$ of atomic actions not containing $\delta$. Then $A_\delta = A \cup \{\delta\}$ and $\llcorner : A_\delta \times A_\delta \rightarrow A_\delta$ is a so-called communication function. $a \llcorner b$ is the action that takes place if $a$ and $b$ happen at the same time and place. This rule is captured in the equation $a(x, t) \llcorner b(x, t) = (a \llcorner b)(x, t)$.

What has to be decided when designing a real space process algebra is what happens when simultaneous actions occur at different places. Technically: what is $a(x, t) \llcorner b(y, t)$ if $x \neq y$? Our proposal is to have multi-actions $(a(x) \& b(y))(t)$. These actions entail the simultaneous execution of a set of atomic actions (different from $\delta$) at a set of pairwise different locations. Thus the basic ingredient of real space process algebra is the atomic multi-action $(a_1(x_1) \& \ldots \& a_n(x_n))(t)$ with $x_i \neq x_j$ for $i \neq j$ and all $a_i \in A$. Taking the atomic multi-actions as atomic actions, real space process algebra becomes an instance of real time process algebra with a structured (and uncountable) collection of atomic actions.

We will now survey the contents of the paper and give a few comments.

1. The algebra of actions. Atomic actions, locations, located atomic actions, located atomic multi-actions, timed actions and multi-actions. This is taken from [BAB92].
2. The systems $\text{BPA}_\text{crp}$ and $\text{ACP}_\text{crp}$, real space versions of $\text{BPA}_\text{p}$ and $\text{ACP}_\text{p}$ of [BAB91a], as well as an extension with integration. This is taken from [BAB91b] and [BAB91c].
3. Examples for $\text{ACP}_\text{crp}$. We discuss parallel clocks, connections of channels, and other cases where closed expressions are available for the time and place of output, given time and place of input.
4. Static state operators. A static state operator will change its state depending on actions, only irrespective of the precise timing of these actions. Static state operators are introduced and four examples are given. This section is based on [BAB92].
5. Asynchronous communication modeled via state operators. Based on the asynchronous communication mechanism of [BeKT85] (see also [BOKP92]) and the priority operator of [BABK86], asynchronous communication in real space is developed as an additional feature. Two extensive examples are given. This is based on [BAB91c].
6. Expressing communication channels by means of process creation. In this section it is shown that process creation in the style of [BER90] provides a reasonable technique to describe a wide variety of communication channels. Seven different implementations of such a communication channel are specified.
7. Next, a real space/time version of the mode transfer mechanism of [BER89] is defined. Its use is exemplified by the description of some faulty communication channels.
8. The introduction of asynchronous communication in section 5 required the use of a priority operator. This in turn lead to additional insights concerning the nature of time stops. In this section we review different alternatives in dealing with time stops.
9. Finally, we consider relative time notation. In this section we adapt the relative time notation of [BAB91a] to the real space setting. We introduce the initial abstraction operator that allows to have absolute and relative time notation in a single framework. It turns out that finite space process algebra the case where relative time notation is most useful. An example is provided that illustrates the use of initial abstraction.

Technically, the central issue of this paper is the asynchronous communication mechanism of section 5. For that reason, we provide some additional introductory remarks on this topic.

Although a rigorous proof is absent, it seems impossible to express communication between processes moving in three-dimensional space with the primitives of [BAB91a] and [BAB91b]. The difficulty arises because both papers use synchronous communication whereas motion of processes seems to call for asynchronous communication: if process $P$ at place/time $(x,t)$ sends $d$ to $Q$, then $Q$ may receive $d$ at place/time $(y,r)$ provided $|x - y| = v'(r - t)$. Here $|x - y|$ is the distance between $x$ and
y and v is the message transmission velocity in the medium connecting P and Q. If P and Q are at rest we find \( r = \| x - y \| / v + t \) and this formula can be used in process expressions in the style of \([BAB91a]\) and \([BAB91b]\).

However, if y depends on time, the equation \( \| x(t) - y(r) \| = v \cdot (r - t) \) has to be solved in order to determine the time r at which message d will be received. In general, no closed form can be found for r. Even worse, the motion of Q (and so y) may depend on actions of the system after t (the time at which d is sent).

In order to study communication between moving processes we assume that messages travel with speed v through space in all directions. I.e. after d is sent at \((x,t)\) it travels through space as an expanding spherical wave. For simplicity we assume that the message can be detected at any distance. It is probably not difficult to describe a decrease in loudness of the signal together with a threshold mechanism for receivers.

Now according to \([BEKT85]\) asynchronous communication in process algebra can be modeled using auxiliary operators. Subsequently, these operators have been studied in detail in \([BAB88]\) where they are called state operators. In \([BAB91c]\), it is indicated how any state operator definition of untimed process algebra can be extended to real time process algebra over finitely many locations, provided a partial ordering on locations is given. In chapter 5, we will consider special state operators (as in \([BEKT85]\)) for which the action and effect functions depend on place and time, but that satisfy a commutativity requirement for actions that happen at the same instant of time.

The state operators \( \lambda V \) (state operator \( \lambda \) of asynchronous channel c, e.g. a radio frequency, in state V) are parametrised by finite collections V of triples \((d, x, t)\), d a message in \( D \), x a point in space \((x \in \mathbb{R}^3)\), t a time (a non-negative real, \( t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \)). If \((d, x, t) \in V\), this indicates that \( \lambda V(X) \) provides an environment for X in which along channel c a datum d was sent at place x and time t. The asynchronous send actions \( c \lceil d(x, t) \) will have the effect that \((d, x, t)\) is added to V. In the scope of \( \lambda V \) a process X can perform the action \( c \lfloor d(y, r) \) (asynchronous read along channel c of datum d at place y and time r) provided \( \| y - x \| = v \cdot (r - t) \).

Because the message d, after being sent by \( c \lceil d(x, t) \), travels in a spherical wave, it can be received more than once and hence the communication mechanism is of a broadcasting nature. As pointed out in \([BAW90]\), a broadcasting mechanism in process algebra calls for the use of the priority operator of \([BABK86]\). In the real-time and space case this priority operator will express maximal progress with respect to some actions as well.

We can summarise this discussion as follows: P and Q, traveling through space, can communicate by performing actions \( c \lceil d(x, t) \) and \( c \lfloor d(y, r) \). This works in a context \( \lambda V(P \parallel Q) \). Unsuccessful asynchronous reads are blocked by the action function of the state operator. In order to ensure successful reception of the messages a priority operator \( \theta c \| D \) is needed (here \( c \| D \) contains all effectuated \( c \lfloor d \) actions). This operator gives priority to all asynchronous communications at port c. We will allow synchronous communications as well. Unsuccessful synchronous reads and sends at the port sequence \( \sigma \) are blocked by the encapsulation operator \( \delta_{H(\sigma)} \) (\( H(\sigma) \) contains all synchronous send and receive actions at ports in \( \sigma \)). Thus we are led to process expressions of the form:

\[
\delta_{H(\sigma)} \circ \theta c \| D \circ \lambda V(P \parallel Q).
\]

For instance, a concurrent alternating bit protocol with moving sender and receiver will take the following form:

\[
\delta_{H(\sigma)} \left( \theta_1 \| D \circ \lambda V(P_1 \parallel Q_1) \parallel \theta_2 \| D \circ \lambda V(P_2 \parallel Q_2) \right).
\]

We conclude from our investigations that real space process algebra is an expressive description language that allows very detailed specification of communicating systems that are engaged in (continuous) spatial motion.
In addition, this paper also gives the real time equations for several additional features of ACP:
asynchronous communication, the priority operator, state operators with uncountable state space,
process creation and both mode transfer operators. Except for the mode transfer operators, these
features are all covered in chapter 6 of [BAW90]. The mode transfer operators were not included there,
because their equations are not fully satisfactory in the untimed case. The real time setting provides a
clearer picture and the equations given below seem perfectly adequate to us.

By now, there is much work on process algebras that incorporates notions of time (see e.g.
[RER88], [MOT90], [NiS91]). However, there is not much work that also involves real space or the
use of locations. Besides papers already mentioned, we only know of JEFFREY [JEF91a], MURPHY
[MUR91].

Finally, we remark that we only consider concrete process algebra here: there is no concept of a
silent or empty step.

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earlier version of equation TH3 in 5.7 was incorrect. We thank Alan Jeffrey (Chalmers
University) for stimulating discussions on maximal progress and priority locks and David Murphy (GMD) for a
discussion on time stops. We thank the referees for many helpful remarks and suggestions.

2. REAL SPACE PROCESS ALGEBRA.
We start by describing (classical) real space process algebra. We follow the presentation of [BAB91c].
The algebra was introduced in [BAB91b], but there we use an untimed deadlock. Here, we use a timed
deadlock, as we also did in [BAB91a, BAB91c, BAB92]. We give an operational semantics in the style
of KLUSENER [KLU91].

2.1 ATOMIC ACTIONS.
We start from a set \( A \) of (symbolic) atomic actions. The set \( A \) is a parameter of the theory, in examples
we often have a particular choice for \( A \). Further, we have a special constant \( \delta \), denoting inaction, the
absence of any execution. In particular, \( \delta \) cannot terminate. We put \( A_\delta = A \cup \{ \delta \} \). On \( A_\delta \), we have
given a communication function \( \& \). This function \( \& : A_\delta \times A_\delta \to A_\delta \) is also a parameter of the theory, and
should be commutative, associative and have \( \delta \) as a neutral element:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{C1} & : a \parallel b = b \parallel a \\
\text{C2} & : a \parallel (b \parallel c) = (a \parallel b) \parallel c \\
\text{C3} & : \delta \parallel a = \delta
\end{align*}
\]

The set of atomic actions with space and time, \( \text{AST} \) is

\[
\text{AST} = \{ a(x,t) \mid a \in A, x \in \mathbb{R}^3, t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \} \cup \{ \delta(t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \}.
\]

Note that inaction is not located, and only has a time parameter, i.e. \( \delta(x) = \delta \). It will be useful to
consider also the set of atomic actions with just a space parameter, i.e. the set \( \text{AS} \) defined by

\[
\text{AS} = \{ a(x) \mid a \in A, x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \} \cup \{ \delta \}.
\]

We use \( a(x)(t) \) as an alternative notation for \( a(x,t) \).

2.2 MULTI-ACTIONS.
Multi-actions are process terms generated by actions with a space parameter and the synchronisation
function \&. Multi-actions contain actions that occur synchronously at different locations. MST is the
set of multi-actions, generated by AST and &, MS likewise is the set of multi-actions with space coordinates only, generated by AS and &.

For $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ elements of MS, we have the following conditions on the synchronisation function (table 1). Further, $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $a, b \in A$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Table 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha &amp; \beta = \beta &amp; \alpha$</td>
<td>LO1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha &amp; (\beta &amp; \gamma) = (\alpha &amp; \beta) &amp; \gamma$</td>
<td>LO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\delta &amp; \alpha = \delta$</td>
<td>LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$a(x) &amp; b(x) = \delta$</td>
<td>LO4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 1. Synchronisation function on MS.**

Using the axioms of table 1, each multi-action can be reduced to one of the following three forms:

- $\delta$,
- $a(x)$ (a $\in$ A, $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$).
- $a_1(x_1) \& \ldots \& a_n(x_n)$ with all points $x_i$ different, all $a_i \in A$, $n > 1$.

Next, we define the communication function on multi-actions. In table 2, $a, b \in A$, $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in$ MS. In order to state axiom CL7, we need an auxiliary function locs, that determines the set of points (locations) of a multi-action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Table 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha \vdash \beta = \beta \vdash \alpha$</td>
<td>CL1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha \vdash (\beta \vdash \gamma) = (\alpha \vdash \beta) \vdash \gamma$</td>
<td>CL2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\delta \vdash \alpha = \delta$</td>
<td>CL3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\delta(x) = \delta$</td>
<td>CL4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$a(x) \vdash b(x) = (a \vdash b)(x)$</td>
<td>CL5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$a(x) \vdash (b(x) &amp; \beta) = (a \vdash b)(x) &amp; \beta$</td>
<td>CL6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(a(x) &amp; \alpha) \vdash (b(x) &amp; \beta) = (a \vdash b)(x) &amp; (\alpha \vdash \beta)$</td>
<td>CL7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{locs}(\alpha) \cap \text{locs}(\beta) = \emptyset \implies \alpha \vdash \beta = \alpha &amp; \beta$</td>
<td>CL8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{locs}(\delta) = \emptyset$</td>
<td>LOC1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{locs}(a(x)) = {x}$</td>
<td>LOC2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \in \text{locs}(\alpha), \text{locs}(\alpha) \neq \emptyset \implies \text{locs}(a(x) &amp; \alpha) = \text{locs}(\alpha) \cup {x}$</td>
<td>LOC3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 2. Communication function on MS.**

2.3 TIMED MULTI-ACTIONS.

It is now straightforward to extend the definition of the synchronisation and communication functions to timed multi-actions. In table 3, $\alpha, \beta \in$ MS. We have that $a \vdash b$ denotes the action that takes place if atomic actions $a, b$ are performed at the same place and time, $\alpha \vdash \beta$ denotes the multi-action that takes place if $\alpha, \beta$ are performed at the same time, $\alpha \& \beta$ denotes the multi-action that takes place if $\alpha, \beta$ are performed at the same time provided none of their components are located at the same place.
2.4 Basic process algebra.

Process algebra (see [BEK84, BAW90]) starts from a given action alphabet, here MST. Elements of MST are constants of the sort P of processes. The process $a(x, t)$ can let time progress until $t$, will then execute action $a$ at time $t$ and place $x$, and then terminate successfully. For $a \in MS$, the process $a(t)$ can let time progress until $t$, will then simultaneously execute its set of actions at their respective locations at time $t$, and terminates successfully. The process $\delta(t)$ can also let time progress until $t$, but then nothing more is possible (in particular, time cannot progress anymore). Therefore, the $\delta$ actions are often called time stops.

Time and Space Basic Process Algebra with Deadlock (BPA$_{\delta\sigma}$) has two binary operators $+;: P \times P \to P$; $+$ stands for alternative composition and $;$ for sequential composition. Moreover, there is the additional operator $\triangleright: \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times P \to P$, the initialisation operator. This operator was called the time shift operator in earlier papers. $t \triangleright X$ denotes the process $X$ starting at time $t$. This means that all actions that have to be performed at or before time $t$ are turned into deadlocks because their execution has been delayed too long.

BPA$_{\delta\sigma}$ has the axioms from table 4 and 5 ($\alpha \in MS$).

| $X + Y = Y + X$ | A1   |
| $(X + Y) + Z = X + (Y + Z)$ | A2   |
| $X + X = X$ | A3   |
| $(X + Y) \cdot Z = X \cdot Z + Y \cdot Z$ | A4   |
| $(X \cdot Y) \cdot Z = X \cdot (Y \cdot Z)$ | A5   |
| $X + \delta = X$ | A6   |
| $\delta \cdot X = \delta$ | A7   |

**Table 4. BPA$_{\delta}$**

| $\alpha(0) = \delta(0) = \delta$ | AT1A1 |
| $\delta(t) \cdot X = \delta(t)$ | AT1A2 |
| $t < r \Rightarrow \delta(t) + \delta(r) = \delta(r)$ | AT1A3 |
| $\alpha(t) + \delta(t) = \alpha(t)$ | AT1A4 |
| $\alpha(t) \cdot X = \alpha(t) \cdot (t \triangleright X)$ | AT1A5 |
| $t < r \Rightarrow t \triangleright \alpha(r) = \alpha(r)$ | AT1B1 |
| $t \geq r \Rightarrow t \triangleright \alpha(r) = \delta(t)$ | AT1B2 |
| $t \triangleright (X + Y) = (t \triangleright X) + (t \triangleright Y)$ | AT1B3 |
| $t \triangleright (X \cdot Y) = (t \triangleright X) \cdot Y$ | AT1B4 |

**Table 5. Additional axioms of BPA$_{\delta\sigma}$**
The letter A in the names of the axioms in table 5 refers to absolute time (versions with relative time were also considered in [BAB91a], and are treated here in section 9). The naming of the axioms here and in the sequel may not look very systematic to the reader, but is done in this way in order to achieve maximal consistency with earlier papers.

2.5 ALGEBRA OF COMMUNICATING PROCESSES.

An axiomatization of parallel composition with communication uses the left merge operator \( \ll \), the communication merge operator \( \| \), and the encapsulation operator \( \partial_H \) of [BEK84]. Moreover, two extra auxiliary operators introduced in [BAB91a] are needed: the ultimate delay operator and the bounded initialization operator.

The ultimate delay operator \( U \) takes a process expression \( X \), and returns an element of \( \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \). The intended meaning is that \( X \) can idle before \( U(X) \), but \( X \) can never reach time \( U(X) \) or a later time by just idling. The bounded initialization operator is also denoted by \( \triangleright \), and is the counterpart of the operator with the same name that we saw in the axiomatization of \( BPA_{\eta \delta} \). With \( X \triangleright t \) we denote the process \( X \) with its behaviour restricted to the extent that its first action must be performed at a time before \( t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \).

The axioms of \( ACP_{\eta \delta} \) are in tables 1 through 6. In table 6, \( H \subseteq A, \alpha, \beta \in MS, a \in A_{\delta} \).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Axiom</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( U(\alpha(t)) = t )</td>
<td>ATU1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( U(\delta(t)) = t )</td>
<td>ATU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( U(X + Y) = \max{U(X), U(Y)} )</td>
<td>ATU3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( U(X \cdot Y) = U(X) )</td>
<td>ATU4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( r \geq t \Rightarrow \alpha(r) \triangleright t = \delta(t) )</td>
<td>ATB5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( r &lt; t \Rightarrow \alpha(r) \triangleright t = \alpha(r) )</td>
<td>ATB6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X + Y) \triangleright t = (X \triangleright t) + (Y \triangleright t) )</td>
<td>ATB7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X \cdot Y) \triangleright t = (X \triangleright t) \cdot Y )</td>
<td>ATB8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( X \parallel Y = X \ll Y + Y \ll X + X \ll Y )</td>
<td>CM1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \ll X = (\alpha(t) \triangleright U(X)) \cdot X )</td>
<td>ATCM2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot X \ll Y = (\alpha(t) \triangleright U(Y)) \cdot (X \ll Y) )</td>
<td>ATCM3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X + Y) \ll Z = X \ll Z + Y \ll Z )</td>
<td>CM4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot X | \beta(r) = (\alpha(t) | \beta(r)) \cdot X )</td>
<td>CM5'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) | (\beta(r) \cdot X) = (\alpha(t) | \beta(r)) \cdot X )</td>
<td>CM6'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot (\beta(r) \cdot Y) = (\alpha(t) | \beta(r)) \cdot (X \ll Y) )</td>
<td>CM7'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X + Y) \ll Z = X \ll Z + Y \ll Z )</td>
<td>CM8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( X \ll (Y + Z) = X \ll Y + X \ll Z )</td>
<td>CM9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(a) = a ) if ( a \in H )</td>
<td>D1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(a) = \delta ) if ( a \in H )</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(\alpha &amp; \beta) = \partial_H(\alpha) &amp; \partial_H(\beta) )</td>
<td>ASD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(\alpha(t)) = (\partial_H(\alpha))(t) )</td>
<td>ATD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(X + Y) = \partial_H(X) + \partial_H(Y) )</td>
<td>D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \partial_H(X \cdot Y) = \partial_H(X) \cdot \partial_H(Y) )</td>
<td>D4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 6. Remaining axioms of \( ACP_{\eta \delta} \).
For easy reference, we give a picture of the signature of ACPσ. The unlabeled arrows are embeddings. The communication function on $A$ is not shown, as it is only a partial function.

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 1.**

2.6 OPERATIONAL SEMANTICS.

We describe an operational semantics for ACPσ following KLUSENER [KLu91] and [BAB91c], a reformulation of the original semantics in [BAB91a]. We have a binary relation $\mu \rightarrow$ and a unary relation $\mu \rightarrow \triangleright$ on closed process expressions for each $\mu \in$ MST. In case $\mu \neq \delta(t)$, the extension of the relations is found as the least fixed point of a simultaneous inductive definition.

The inductive rules for the operational semantics are similar to those used in structured operational semantics. We list the rules for non-$\delta$ multi-actions. In table 7, we have $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in$ MS - $\{\delta\}$, $r > 0$ (we never allow timestamp 0 on a transition), $s, t \geq 0$, $x, x', y, y'$ are closed process expressions. $\text{ats}(\alpha)$ is the set of atomic actions occurring in the multi-action $\alpha$.

2.7 DELTA-TRANSITIONS.

Now we construct a transition system for a term as follows: first generate all transitions involving non-$\delta$ actions using the inductive rules of table 7. Then, for every node (term) $p$ in this transition system we do the following: first determine its ultimate delay $U(p) = u$ by means of table 5 and the additional axioms below. Then, if the ultimate delay is larger than the supremum of the time stamps of all outgoing transitions, we add a transition $p \xrightarrow{\delta(u)} \triangleright$. Otherwise, we do nothing (add no transitions).

We see that the action rules for parallel composition, and the determination of $\delta$-transitions, make use of the ultimate delay operator. We add the axioms in table 8 so that the ultimate delay can be syntactically determined for every closed term.
### Table 7. Action rules for non-δ actions for ACPσ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha(r) \vdash x$</td>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha(r) \vdash x'$</td>
<td>$x' \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x + y \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
<td>$x + y \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \cdot y \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
<td>$x \cdot y \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &gt; s$</td>
<td>$s \geq x \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &gt; s$</td>
<td>$s \geq x \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &gt; s$</td>
<td>$s \geq x \vdash \alpha(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
<td>$x \vdash \alpha(r)$, $r &lt; U(y)$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 8. Ultimate delay axioms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Axiom</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$U(t) \geq X$</td>
<td>$\max{t, U(X)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U(X \parallel Y)$</td>
<td>$\min{U(X), U(Y)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U(X \parallel Y)$</td>
<td>$\min{U(X), U(Y)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U(X \parallel Y)$</td>
<td>$\min{U(X), U(Y)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U(X \parallel t)$</td>
<td>$\min{t, U(X)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U(\partial H(X)) = U(X)$</td>
<td>$\bigcup{\alpha(r) \vdash x}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.8 Bisimulations.

A **bisimulation** on is a binary relation $R$ on closed process expressions such that ($\mu \in \text{MST}$):
i. for each \( p \) and \( q \) with \( R(p, q) \): if there is a step \( \mu \) possible from \( p \) to \( p' \), then there is a closed process expression \( q' \) such that \( R(p', q') \) and there is a step \( \mu \) possible from \( q \) to \( q' \).

ii. for each \( p \) and \( q \) with \( R(p, q) \): if there is a step \( \mu \) possible from \( q \) to \( q' \), then there is a closed process expression \( p' \) such that \( R(p', q') \) and there is a step \( \mu \) possible from \( p \) to \( p' \).

iii. for each \( p \) and \( q \) with \( R(p, q) \): a termination step \( \mu \) to \( \top \) is possible from \( p \) iff it is possible from \( q \).

We say expressions \( p \) and \( q \) are bisimilar, denoted \( p \leftrightarrow q \), if there exists a bisimulation on closed process expressions with \( R(p, q) \). In [KLU91] it is shown that bisimulation is a congruence relation on closed process expressions, and that closed process expressions modulo bisimulation determine a model for \( \text{ACP}_{p\sigma} \). Indeed, this model is isomorphic to the initial algebra. The advantage of this operational semantics is, that it allows extensions to models containing recursively defined processes.

It is also possible to give an explicit graph model for \( \text{ACP}_{p\sigma} \) as in [BAB92].

2.9 Graph Model.

It is possible to construct a graph model for \( \text{ACP}_{p\sigma} \). However, we obtain a number of simplifications if we only consider the domain of process trees. Therefore, we will limit our domain to trees.

Process trees are directed rooted trees with edges labeled by timed multi-actions, satisfying the condition that for each pair of consecutive transitions \( s_1 \xrightarrow{a(t_1)} s_2 \xrightarrow{b(t_2)} s_3 \) it is required that \( r < t \) (however, in case \( \beta = \delta \), we also allow \( r = t \)). Moreover, we require that the endnode of a \( \delta \)-transition has no outgoing edges, and that the timestamp of a \( \delta \)-transition is larger than the supremum of the timestamps of its brother edges (edges starting from the same node).

Now \( +, \cdot, \|, \land, \lnot, \partial_H, \top \), \( U \) and \( \Rightarrow \) can be defined on these trees in a straightforward manner:

- For \( + \), take the disjoint union of the trees and identify the roots. If one of the roots has an outgoing \( \partial \)-edge, remove this edge if its timestamp is less than or equal to the supremum of the timestamps of the outgoing edges of the other root (but keep one of the two \( \partial \)-edges, if both roots have a \( \partial \)-edge with the same timestamp).
- \( \Rightarrow \) is obtained by removing every edge from the root with label \( a(r) \) with \( r \leq t \). If this removes all edges starting from the root, add a \( \delta(t) \)-edge to an endpoint.
- \( g \cdot h \) is constructed as follows: identify each non-\( \delta \) endpoint \( s \) of \( g \) (endpoint with no incoming \( \delta \)-edge) with the root of a copy of \( t \Rightarrow h \), where \( t \) is the time of the edge leading to \( s \).
- \( U(g) = \sup \{ r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \mid \text{root}(g) \xrightarrow{a(t)} s \text{ for } a \in A \text{ and certain } s \in g \} \). If \( g \) is the trivial one-node graph, put \( U(g) = \infty \).
- Let for \( s \in g \), \( (g)_s \) denote the subgraph of \( g \) with root \( s \). Then \( g \parallel h \) is defined as follows:
  - the set of states is the cartesian product of the state sets of \( g \) and \( h \), the root the pair of roots.
  - transitions: if \( s \xrightarrow{a(t)} s' \), \( \alpha \neq \delta \) and \( r < U((h)_t) \) then \( \langle s, t \rangle \xrightarrow{a(t)} \langle s', t \rangle \); if \( t \xrightarrow{a(t)} \top \), \( \alpha \neq \delta \) and \( r < U((g)_s) \) then \( \langle s, t \rangle \xrightarrow{a(t)} \langle s, t \rangle \);
  - if \( s \xrightarrow{a(t)} s' \, \text{ and } \, t \xrightarrow{b(t)} \top \, \text{ and } \, \alpha \neq \gamma \neq \delta \) then \( \langle s, t \rangle \xrightarrow{a(t)} \langle s', t \rangle \).

Lastly, if a node \( \langle s, t \rangle \) with \( s \) and \( t \) not both endnodes in \( g \) resp. \( h \) does not have an outgoing edge with timestamp equal to \( t = \min \{ U((g)_s), (h)_t \} \), we add a transition \( \langle s, t \rangle \xrightarrow{\delta(t)} \) to an endpoint.

It is an exercise to show that this construction always yields a tree again.
Real space process algebra

- the construction of $g \parallel h$, $g | h$ and $\partial_H(g)$ is now straightforward.

Bisimulation on these graphs is defined as e.g. in [BEK84]. One may prove in a standard fashion that bisimulation is a congruence for all operators of ACP$\pi$. Thus, we can define the operators on the set of bisimulation equivalence classes. We obtain a model of ACP$\pi$ that we will call $M_A$.

2.10 INTEGRATION.

An extension of ACP$\pi$ (called ACP$\pi$I) that is very useful in applications is the extension with the integral operator, denoting a choice over a continuum of alternatives. That is, if $V$ is a subset of $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and $v$ is a variable over $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, then $\int P$ denotes the alternative composition of alternatives $P[t/v]$ for $t \in V$ (expression $P$ with nonnegative real $t$ substituted for variable $v$). In this expression, a free occurrence of $v$ in $P$ becomes bound. Alpha conversion must be allowed to avoid name clashes. For more information, we refer the reader to [BAB91a] and [KLU91]. The operational semantics is straightforward (table 9, $\mu \in$ MST). Delta-transitions are generated exactly as before.

$$x(t) \xrightarrow{\mu} x', \ t \in V \quad \int x(v) \xrightarrow{\mu} x' \quad \int x(v) \xrightarrow{\mu} \top$$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\int x(v) \xrightarrow{\mu} x'$</th>
<th>$\int x(v) \xrightarrow{\mu} \top$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


Of course, we cannot give a complete axiomatisation of general integration because the general theory is undecidable, but the following axioms INT1-7 are very useful in derivations (for a complete axiomatisation of a subtheory, see [KLU91]). We also give an extra axiom for the ultimate delay operator (ATU11), in order to derive $\delta$-transitions also for expressions with integrals.

$$\begin{align*}
\int P = P[t/v] & \quad \text{(INT1)} \\
v \notin FV(P) & \text{ and } V \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \int P = P & \quad \text{(INT2)} \\
\int P = \delta & \quad \text{(INT3)} \\
\int P = \int P + \int P & \quad \text{(INT4)} \\
\frac{P + Q}{v \in V} & \quad \text{(INT5)} \\
v \notin FV(Q) & \Rightarrow \frac{(P-Q)}{v \in V} = \frac{P-Q}{v \in V} & \quad \text{(INT6)} \\
\text{for all } t \in V & \Rightarrow (P[t/v]) = \frac{P}{v \in V} & \quad \text{(INT7)} \\
\text{U}(\int P) = \sup\{U(P[t/v]) : t \in V\} & \quad \text{(ATU11)}
\end{align*}$$

| TABLE 10. Axioms for integration. |
In the graph model, the graph of $\int P$ is constructed by first identifying the roots of the graphs $P[v/v]$ for $t \in V$. Next, remove all $\delta$-edges that do not satisfy the condition above (i.e. its timestamp is not larger than the supremum of the timestamps of its brother edges). Add again a $\delta$-edge with timestamp $t$, if the ultimate delay $t$ of the first graph is larger than the supremum of the timestamps of the remaining edges.

As an example, notice that the graph of $\int \delta(v)$ only has one edge, with label $\delta(1)$. We obtain the same result in the operational semantics.

2.11 REMARK.

A consequence of the addition of the integral construct is that the model $MA$ becomes very large. Inspection of the term $\int \alpha(t)$ shows that the cardinality of a transition system can become $2^{\aleph_0}$. Also, we will have at least $2^{\aleph_0}$ different processes in $MA$. This is shown by the following example: let, for $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, the process $p(V)$ be defined by

$$p(V) = \int_{t \in V} \alpha(t).$$

It now follows that $p(V) \not\leftrightarrow p(W) \not\leftrightarrow V = W$, so all processes $p(V)$ are in a different bisimulation class, and since there are $2^{\aleph_0}$ subsets of the positive reals, there are at least that many elements in $MA$.

3. EXAMPLES.

3.1 CLOCKS.

This example is adapted from [BAB91a]. We assume $a \parallel b = \delta$ for all $a, b \in A$. We describe three clocks placed at position $x$.

i. $C_1(x, t) = \text{tick}(x, t) \cdot C_1(x, t+1)$

Process $C_1(x, 1)$ will start ticking at time $1$ and continue to do so each time unit with absolute precision. This is a stable exact clock.

ii. The second clock allows some fluctuations of the ticks.

$$C_2(x, t) = \int_{v \in [-0.01, t+0.01]} \text{tick}(x, v) \cdot C_2(x, t+1).$$

iii. The third clock cumulates the errors:

$$C_3(x, t) = \int_{v \in [-0.01, t+0.01]} \text{tick}(x, v) \cdot C_3(x, v+1).$$

Now let $x_0, \ldots, x_{n-1}$ be pairwise different locations. Define

$$C_i^n(t) = C_i(x_0, t) \parallel \ldots \parallel C_i(x_{n-1}, t),$$

then $C_1^n(1), C_2^n(1), C_3^n(1)$ are three systems each having $n$ clocks running in parallel.

The real space aspect mainly consists of the fact that nothing can prevent clocks at different locations to tick at the same time. Thus multi-actions like $\text{tick}(x_0) \& \ldots \& \text{tick}(x_{n-1})$ are needed. Finally, $C_1(x_0, 1) \parallel C_2(x_1, 1) \parallel C_3(x_2, 1)$ is a parallel composition of the three types of clocks.
3.2 DATA COMMUNICATION.

In this example, we use the communication function that is standard in the setting of ACP. This means, that the alphabet A contains actions \( r_i(d), s_i(d), c_i(d) \) for \( i \in I \) and \( d \in D \), where \( I \) is a finite set of port names and \( D \) a finite set of data elements. The communication function has \( r_i(d) \uparrow s_i(d) \uparrow c_i(d) \uparrow \delta \) in all other cases. The intuitive meaning of \( r_i(d) \) is 'receive datum \( d \) along port \( i \)', and \( s_i(d), c_i(d) \) are send, communicate respectively.

We describe data communication from \( X_t \) to \( X_3 \) via a static intermediate station \( X_2 \). \( X_1 \) is the location of the sender \( S \), \( X_3 \) the location of the receiver \( R \) and \( X_2 \) the location of the transmitter \( T \). We split the transmitter into a receiving part \( T_R \) at \( X_2 - \varepsilon \) and a sending part \( T_S \) at \( X_2 + \varepsilon \). The media \( Q \) pass on messages. See fig. 2.

![Figure 2](image)

The example is made more complicated than needed in order to allow an interesting modular decomposition. We proceed to give the specifications of the components.

\[
S = \sum_{d \in D} r_1(d)(x_1, t) \cdot s_2a(d)(x_1, t + w_1) \cdot ((t + 2w_1) \Rightarrow S)
\]

\[
T_R = \sum_{d \in D} r_2b(d)(x_2 - \varepsilon, t) \cdot s_3(d)(x_2, t + w_2) \cdot ((t + 2w_2) \Rightarrow T_R)
\]

\[
T_S = \sum_{d \in D} r_3(d)(x_2, t) \cdot s_4a(d)(x_2 - \varepsilon, t + w_3) \cdot ((t + 2w_3) \Rightarrow T_S)
\]

\[
R = \sum_{d \in D} r_4b(d)(x_3, t) \cdot s_5(d)(x_3, t + w_4) \cdot ((t + 2w_4) \Rightarrow R)
\]

\[
Q^2 = \sum_{d \in D} r_2a(d)(x_1, t) \cdot s_2b(d)(x_2 - \varepsilon, t + \frac{x_2 - \varepsilon - x_1}{v}) \cdot ((t + c_2) \Rightarrow Q^2)
\]

\[
Q^4 = \sum_{d \in D} r_4a(d)(x_2 + \varepsilon, t) \cdot s_4b(d)(x_2, t + \frac{x_3 - (x_2 + \varepsilon)}{v}) \cdot ((t + c_4) \Rightarrow Q^4)
\]

Here, \( w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, c_2, c_4 \) are delay constants, and \( v \) is the transmission speed of the data elements. The (static) composition \( SYS_{st} \) of these components can now be found using ACP. In section 5, we will allow \( x_3 \) to be mobile and a 'dynamic' composition can be given.

\[
SYS_{st} = H(2a, ab, 4a, 4b)(S \parallel Q^2 \parallel H(3)(T_R \parallel T_S) \parallel Q^4 \parallel R).
\]

Here, if \( \sigma \) is a list over \( I \), then \( H(\sigma) = \{ r_i(d), s_i(d) : d \in D, i \in \sigma \} \).

In the bisimulation model, it can be found that \( SYS_{st} \) can also be modularised as follows:
SYS_{st} = \partial_H(3)(\partial_H(2a,2b)(S \parallel Q2 \parallel TR) \parallel \partial_H(4a,4b)(TS \parallel Q4 \parallel R)).

An equational proof of this identity can be found by means of a straightforward real time/space adaptation of conditional alphabet axioms and techniques (see e.g. [BAW90]).

For this protocol to work properly (i.e. to be deadlockfree and to transmit all data) it is necessary and sufficient that $2w_1 \geq c_2 \geq 2w_2 \geq 2w_3 \geq c_4 \geq 2w_4$.

4. STATE OPERATOR.

This section is based on [BAB92]. The state operator was introduced in [BAB88]. It keeps track of the global state of a system, and is used to describe actions that have a side effect on a state space. The state operator has showed itself useful in a range of applications, e.g. in the translation of programming or specification languages into process algebra (see e.g. [VAA90b]).

The state operator comes equipped with two functions: given a certain state and an action to be executed from that state, the function action gives the resulting action and the function effect the resulting state. Here, the actions we start from are the single actions in AST (not multi-actions), so the action and effect functions are defined on actions in time and space.

Things become more difficult if we consider multi-actions: in order to calculate the resulting global state, we need to apply the effect function to the component actions in a certain order. How is this order determined? We will assume that we have a partial ordering on located actions, and if we apply the effect function, we do so in the order determined by this ordering. We make this precise in the following definition.

4.1 DEFINITION.

Again, $A$ is the set of atomic actions, $AS$ the set of located actions and $AST$ the set of located and timed actions. Let $S$ be a set of states. Assume we have functions

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{action: } & \, AST \times S \rightarrow AST \\
\text{effect: } & \, AST \times S \rightarrow S
\end{align*}
\]

such that $\text{action}(\delta(t), s) = \delta$ and $\text{effect}(\delta(t), s) = s$ for all $s \in S$, $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ (we say: $\delta$ is inert).

Let $<$ be a partial ordering on located actions $AS$. If $\alpha \in MS$, we write $\text{TO}(\alpha)$ if the set of located actions of $\alpha$ is totally ordered by $<$, and we write $a(x) < \alpha$ if $a(x) < b(y)$ for all constituents $b(y)$ of $\alpha$. Then we define the extension of the functions action and effect to multi-actions as follows ($\alpha \in MS$).

\[
\begin{align*}
- \text{TO}(\alpha) & \Rightarrow \text{action}(\alpha(t), s) = \delta(t) \\
- \text{TO}(\alpha) & \Rightarrow \text{effect}(\alpha(t), s) = s \\
\text{TO}(\alpha) \wedge a(x) < \alpha & \Rightarrow \text{action}((a(x) \wedge \alpha)(t), s) = \\
& \text{action}(a(x,t), \text{effect}(\alpha(t),s)) \wedge \text{action}(\alpha(t),s) \\
\text{TO}(\alpha) \wedge a(x) < \alpha & \Rightarrow \text{effect}((a(x) \wedge \alpha)(t), s) = \\
& \text{effect}(a(x,t), \text{effect}(\alpha(t),s))
\end{align*}
\]

TABLE 11. Action and effect on multi-actions.
4.2 Definition.
The defining equations for the state operator are now straightforward (cf. [BAB88]). If $S$ is a set of states, then for each $s \in S$ we have an operator $\lambda_s: P \rightarrow P$. In table 12, $s \in S$, $\mu \in \text{MST}$, $t \geq 0$, $X,Y$ processes, $P$ an expression possibly containing a free time variable $v$.

### Table 12. State operator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_s(\mu) = \text{action}(\mu, s)$</td>
<td>SO1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_s(\mu \cdot X) = \text{action}(\mu, s) \cdot \lambda_{\text{effect}}(\mu, s)(X)$</td>
<td>SO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_s(X + Y) = \lambda_s(X) + \lambda_s(Y)$</td>
<td>SO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_s(\bigcup P) = \bigcup \lambda_s(P)$</td>
<td>SO4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is equally straightforward to give action rules for the operational semantics ($\mu \in \text{MST}$, $\mu \neq \delta(t)$).

### Table 13. Action relations for the state operator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$x \xrightarrow{\mu} x'$, $\text{action}(\mu,s) = v = \delta(t)$</td>
<td>$x \xrightarrow{\mu} v$, $\text{action}(\mu,s) = v \neq \delta(t)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\lambda_s(x) \xrightarrow{v} \lambda_{\text{effect}}(\mu,s)(X'))</td>
<td>$\lambda_s(x) \xrightarrow{v} \sqrt{\cdot}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to deal with $\delta$-transitions, we add the axiom

\[ U(\lambda_s(x)) = U(x) \]

Then, we determine the existence of $\delta$-transitions as before (in 2.7).

4.3 Ordering located actions.
As we saw, the definition of the state operator requires an ordering on located actions. If we have a partial ordering $<_L$ on $\mathbb{R}^3$, and a partial ordering $<_A$ on atomic actions, we can define an ordering $<$ on $\text{AS}$ as follows:

\[ a(x) < b(y) \iff a <_A b \text{ or } (x <_L y \text{ and either } a = b \text{ or } a,b \text{ incomparable}). \]

In all our examples, we will be dealing with an ordering that can be generated in this way. There are two extremes of this, viz. $<_A = \emptyset$, $<_L = \emptyset$. In the examples in this section, we will always have $<_A = \emptyset$, and in the following section, on asynchronous communication, we have $<_L = \emptyset$.

4.4 Example.
We specify a clock. The state space keeps track of time. Suppose we have a fixed point in space $x$.
Define, for each $s \in \mathbb{N}$, $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$,

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{effect}(\text{tick}(x,t), s) &= s + 1 \\
\text{action}(\text{tick}(x,t), s) &= \text{tick}(x,t).
\end{align*}
\]

Then a clock is given by the process $\lambda_0(P(0))$, where $P(t) = \text{tick}(x, t+1) \cdot P(t+1)$. 


4.5 Example.
We use the clock of the previous example in order to list the time when action $a$ occurs at point $y$ (measured in discrete time). The state space is $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{L}$, where $\mathbb{L}$ denotes the set of lists over $\mathbb{N}$. Look at the process $\lambda_0 \sigma (Q \parallel P(0))$, where $P(t)$ is as in example 4.3 and $Q$ is given by $Q = \bigcup_{t \geq 0} a(y, t) \cdot Q$.

We have the following definitions:
- $\text{effect}(\text{tick}(x, t), (n, \sigma)) = (n+1, \sigma)$
- $\text{action}(\text{tick}(x, t), (n, \sigma)) = \text{tick}(x, t)$
- $\text{effect}(a(y, t), (n, \sigma)) = (n, \sigma+n)$
- $\text{action}(a(y, t), (n, \sigma)) = a(y, t)$.

Moreover, assume $y \ll x$. As a consequence, we have e.g.
- $\text{effect}((a(y) \& \text{tick}(x))(t), (n, \sigma)) = (n+1, \sigma+(n+1))$.

4.6 Example.
Serial switch. We can draw the following picture of a serial switch (fig. 3).

![Diagram of a serial switch]

The switches $A$ and $B$ are given by the equations
- $A = \bigcup_{t \geq 0} \text{switch(left, t)} \cdot A$
- $B = \bigcup_{t \geq 0} \text{switch(right, t)} \cdot B$

(here, the switches are located at points left, right). We have state space $S = \{\text{on}, \text{off}\}$. E.g. in figure 2, the lamp is in state off. We define the action and effect functions as follows.
- $\text{action} \left( \text{switch}(x, t), \text{off} \right) = \text{turnon}(x, t)$
- $\text{action} \left( \text{switch}(x, t), \text{on} \right) = \text{turnoff}(x, t)$
- $\text{effect} \left( \text{switch}(x, t), \text{on} \right) = \text{off}$
- $\text{effect} \left( \text{switch}(x, t), \text{off} \right) = \text{on}$

Starting in state off (as in the figure) we have the process
- $P = \lambda_{\text{off}}(A \parallel B)$.

(We assume no communication occurs.)

An interesting situation occurs if both switches are turned at the same time. Suppose we have the ordering right $\ll$ left. Let $t_0$ be a fixed time. Then we have
- $\lambda_{\text{off}}(\text{switch(left, } t_0) \cdot A \parallel \text{switch(right, } t_0) \cdot B) = (\text{turnon(left)} \& \text{turnoff(right)})(t_0) \cdot \lambda_{\text{off}}(A \parallel B)$,
- $\lambda_{\text{on}}(\text{switch(left, } t_0) \cdot A \parallel \text{switch(right, } t_0) \cdot B) = (\text{turnoff(left)} \& \text{turnon(right)})(t_0) \cdot \lambda_{\text{on}}(A \parallel B)$.
4.7 Example.

As a larger example, we present a version of the Concurrent Alternating Bit Protocol. We base our description on the specification in VAN GLABBEEK & VAANDRAGER [GLV89]. Other descriptions can be found in KOYMANS & MULDER [KOM90], LARSEN & MILNER [LAM87].

In figure 4, elements of a finite data set $D$ are sent from port 1 to port 2. From A to B, frames consisting of a data element and an alternating bit are sent, from C to D, independently, acknowledgements. We assume port i is located at point $x_i$.

\[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{FIGURE 4.}
\end{array} \]

$K$ and $L$ are unbounded faulty queues, that can lose data. It was shown in [GLV89] that we can assume that loss of data only occurs at the top of the queue. In example 3.2, we introduced separate processes in order to deal with data transmission. Here, we model the queues by means of a state operator. For the queue $K$, we allow elements to enter the queue at $x_5$, and to leave the queue at $x_6$, and similarly for $L$. We present the specification first, and then define the state operator.

In the specification, there are two parameters: $w_0$ is the amount of time that a sender allows to pass before a message is sent into the queue again, and $w_1$ is the amount of time after which a receiver checks the queue again after an unsuccessful attempt. Put another way, $\frac{1}{w_0}$ is the retransmission frequency, and $\frac{1}{w_1}$ is the polling frequency. These parameters can be filled in arbitrarily, and do not affect the correctness of the protocol. Moreover, in the specification, we use a system delay constant $1$.

The specification of the senders and receivers now looks as follows:

\[ A = A(0) \]
\[ A(b) = \sum_{d \in D} r_1(d)(x_1, t) \cdot \text{enq}(db)(x_5, t+1) \cdot A(d, b, t+2) \quad \text{for each } b \in \{0, 1\} \]
\[ A(d, b, t) = \text{enq}(db)(x_5, t+w_0) \cdot A(d, b, t+w_0) + \sum_{v \in \{1, w_0\}} r_3(\text{next})(x_3, v) \cdot A(1-b) \quad \text{for each } b \in \{0, 1\}, d \in D, t \geq 0. \]

\[ B = B(0, 0) \]
\[ B(b, t) = \left( \text{deq}(L)(x_6, t+w_1) + \sum_{d \in D} \text{deq}(d(1-b))(x_6, t+w_1) \right) \cdot B(b, t+w_1) + \]
\[ + \sum_{d \in D} \text{deq}(db)(x_6, t+w_1) \cdot B(d, b, t+w_1) \quad \text{for each } b \in \{0, 1\}, t \geq 0. \]
\[ B(d, b, t) = s_2(d)(x_2, t+1) \cdot s_4(\text{next})(x_4, t+2) \cdot B(1-b, t+2) \quad \text{for each } b \in \{0, 1\}, d \in D, t \geq 0. \]

\[ C = C(1, 0) \]
\[ C(b, t) = \text{enq}(b)(x_7, t+w_0) \cdot C(b, t+w_0) + \]
\[ + \sum_{v \in \{1, t+w_0\}} r_{\text{next}}(x_4, v) \cdot \text{enq}(b)(x_7, v+1) \cdot C(1-b, v+2) \]
for each \( b \in \{0, 1\}, t \geq 0 \).

\[ D = D(0, 0) \]
\[ D(b, t) = \left( \text{deq}(\bot)(x_8, t+w_1) + \text{deq}(1-b)(x_8, t+w_1) \right) \cdot D(b, t+w_1) + \]
\[ + \text{deq}(b)(x_8, t+w_1) \cdot s_{\text{next}}(x_3, t+w_1+1) \cdot D(1-b, t+w_1+1) \]
for each \( b \in \{0, 1\}, t \geq 0 \).

\[ E = \bigcup_{t>0} \text{error}(x_6, t) \cdot E \quad F = \bigcup_{t>0} \text{error}(x_8, t) \cdot F \]

Now the Concurrent Alternating Bit Protocol is defined by:

\[ \text{CABP} = \partial_H(\lambda_\mathcal{O}(A \parallel E \parallel B) \parallel \lambda_\mathcal{O}(C \parallel F \parallel D)) \]

Here, the encapsulation set is
\[ H = \{ s_k(\text{next}), r_k(\text{next}) : k = 3, 4 \}. \]

In the process \( \text{CABP} \), we are actually dealing with two state operators: the state operator for processes \( A, E, B \) has a state space consisting of lists of frames, the state operator for \( C, F, D \) has a state space consisting of lists of booleans. We have the following ordering on places: \( x_6 > x_5 \) and \( x_8 > x_7 \). This makes it impossible to add an element to an empty queue and read it out at the same instant of time: an element needs a positive amount of time to propagate through the queue.

We define the action and effect function for both state operators at the same time. Since the action and effect functions are independent of space and time, we will not list these coordinates, in order to save space. We have \( f \in D \times B, b \in B, \) and \( \sigma \in (D \times B)^*, \beta \in B^* \):

- \( \text{action}(\text{enq}(f), \sigma) = c_5(f) \)
- \( \text{effect}(\text{enq}(f), \sigma) = \sigma^*f \)
- \( \text{action}(\text{deq}(\bot), \emptyset) = i \)
- \( \text{action}(\text{deq}(\bot), \emptyset) = j \)
- \( \text{action}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \delta \)
- \( \text{effect}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \text{tail}(\emptyset) \)

Now we believe that this specification constitutes a correct protocol, if the queues behave fairly (i.e. data do not get lost infinitely many times in a row). At this point, we will not state explicitly what this statement means, so we will not give a specification that process \( \text{CABP} \) satisfies after abstraction of internal actions (the internal actions are the \( c_k \) actions and \( i,j \)).

Note that multi-actions can occur in this protocol also: we can add to a non-empty queue and read from it at the same time.
5. ASYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION.

5.1 DEFINITION.

Let C be a finite collection of port names, and let D be a finite set of data. As special symbolic atomic actions we introduce, following [BEKT85], for c ∈ C, d ∈ D:

- c!d: potential send of message d along asynchronous channel c
- c?d: effectuated send of message d along asynchronous channel c
- c↓d: potential receive of message d along asynchronous channel c
- c↑d: effectuated receive of message d along asynchronous channel c.

We define c↑D = {c↑d | d ∈ D}, and likewise for the other actions.

Besides these asynchronous communication actions, we have the standard synchronous communication actions s_k(d), r_k(d), c_k(d) as above.

5.2. STATE OPERATOR.

For asynchronous communication along a channel c, we define a special state operator λ_c. Here, the action and effect function will depend on the place and time of an action.

For each asynchronous channel c ∈ C, we will have a state operator λ_c. The set of states V is the collection of all finite subsets of D × R^3 × R_{≥0}. Moreover, v is a given constant, the traveling speed of messages.

The state operator λ_c(V ∈ V) has functions

- action_c: AST × V → AST
- effect_c: AST × V → V

given by:

- action_c(c!d(x,t), V) = c!d(x,t)
- effect_c(c!d(x,t), V) = V ∪ {(d, x, t)}

- action_c(c↓d(y,r), V) = c↓d(y,r) if there is (d, x, t) ∈ V such that |y - x| = v(r - t) and r ≠ t
- action_c(c↓d(y,r), V) = δ(r) otherwise
- effect_c(c↓d(y,r), V) = V

- action_c(a(x,t), V) = a(x,t) for all a not of the form c!d or c↓d
- effect_c(a(x,t), V) = V for all a not of the form c!d or c↓d.

Now these functions are extended to multi-actions as given in section 4. This extension is given by an ordering on located actions, but in fact it is immaterial which ordering is used. We leave it as an exercise to the reader to verify this fact. This means that we can write in general:

- action_c((a(x) & α)(t), V) = action_c(a(x,t), V) & action_c(α(t), V)
- effect_c((a(x) & α)(t), V) = effect_c(a(x,t), effect_c(α(t), V)).
5.3 EXAMPLE.
Let us consider two processes $S$ and $R$ at fixed locations, communicating through an asynchronous channel 2 (see fig. 5). 1 and 3 are synchronous ports. $w_0$ and $w_1$ are system delay constants. Suppose the distance between $S$ and $R$ is equal to the distance a message travels in 1 time unit.

![Figure 5.](image)

We have the following specifications:

$$S = \sum_{t \geq 0} r_1(d)(x, t) \cdot 2^{\uparrow}d(x, t + w_0) \cdot ((t + 2w_0) \geq S)$$

$$R = \sum_{t \geq 0} r_2(y, t) \cdot s_3(d)(y, t + w_1) \cdot ((t + 2w_1) \geq R).$$

The system is now described by the expression $\lambda^2(S \parallel R)$.

After a certain $2^{\uparrow}d(x, t_0)$-action at time $t_0$, the triple $(d, x, t_0)$ is added to the state. Then, action $2^{\downarrow}d(y, t_0+1)$ is transformed into $2^{\downarrow}d(y, t_0+1)$, and all other $2^{\downarrow}d(y, t)$ for $t \neq t_0+1$ are renamed to $\delta(t)$. However, the presence (in a sum context) of $\delta(t)$ with $t > t_0+1$ allows $R$ to bypass the option $2^{\downarrow}d(y, t_0+1)$, wait too long before trying to receive, and then it is too late, and no further action will be possible. Thus, we have to enforce that the action $2^{\downarrow}d$ occurs as soon as it is possible.

This is a kind of maximal progress or maximal liveness assumption (cf. [RER88]). We will ensure that communication takes place as soon as possible by use of the priority operator of [BABK86]. A similar operator was used by Jeffrey [JEF91b].

5.6. PRIORITIES.
Let us start by recalling the priority axioms from [BABK86]. There, an operator $\theta$ is defined, that cancels out all actions in a sum context, that do not have maximal priority. Priorities are given by a partial ordering on actions. Here, we have a very simple ordering: we have a certain set $H \subseteq A$, and all actions from $H$ have priority over actions from outside $H$. In example 5.5, $H$ is the set $2^{\uparrow}D$.

Thus, on atomic actions $A$ we have the following ordering:

$h >_H a \iff h \in H, a \in A \setminus H$.

We extend this ordering to located actions in a straightforward way:

$h(x) >_H a(y) \iff h >_H a & x = y$.

It gets more complicated when we go to multi-actions: if $\alpha, \beta \in MS$, then $\alpha$ has priority over $\beta$, $\alpha >_H \beta$, if $\alpha$ contains all $H$-actions of $\beta$, and at least one more, so suppose $\alpha$ is of the form

$$\alpha = h_0(x_0) & \ldots & h_n(x_n) & a_0(y_0) & \ldots & a_k(y_k),$$

with $n > 0$, $k \geq 0$, $h_i \in H (i \leq n)$, $a_j \in A \setminus H (j \leq k)$, all $x_i, y_j$ different, then there is $m < n$ such that we can write

$$\beta = h_0(x_0) & \ldots & h_m(x_m) & b_0(z_0) & \ldots & b_L(z_L),$$

with $m + l > 0$, $b_j \in A \setminus H (j \leq l)$, all $x_i, z_j$ different.

5.7 DEFINITION.
Let a set $H \subseteq A$ be given. The priority operator $\theta_H$ has the axioms in table 14 ($\alpha \in MS$).

The priority operator is axiomatised by means of the unless operator $\prec_H$. In $X \prec_H Y$, a starting action in $Y$ containing a component from $H$ will cancel all starting actions in $X$ with a later timestamp,
and all starting actions with the same timestamp that it has priority over. The unless operator is now axiomatised as shown in table 15. In the axioms PI4, we use the set
\[ W = \{ w \geq t : \exists s \in V \alpha(t) \prec_H P[s/v] = \delta(w) \}. \]

Returning to example 5.5, we see that the correct expression for the system is as follows:
\[ \theta_2 \parallel \delta_2^0 (S \parallel R). \]

| \( \theta_H(\alpha(t)) = \alpha(t) \) | TH1 |
| \( \theta_H(X + Y) = \theta_H(X) \prec_H Y + \theta_H(Y) \prec_H X \) | TH2 |
| \( \theta_H(\alpha(t) \cdot X) = \alpha(t) \cdot \theta_H(\alpha(t) \cdot X) \) | TH3 |
| \( \theta_H(\bigcup_{v \in V} = \bigcup_{v \in V} (\theta_H(P[v/v]) \prec_H \bigcup_{v \in V} \{ P[v/v] \}) \) | TH4 |

**TABLE 14. Priority operator.**

| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H \beta(t) = \delta(t) \) if \( \beta \succ_H \alpha \) | P1= |
| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H \beta(t) = \alpha(t) \) if not \( \beta \succ_H \alpha \) | P2= |
| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H \beta(s) = \delta(s) \) if \( \text{ats}(|\beta|) \prec_H \phi \) and \( s < t \) | P1# |
| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H \beta(s) = \alpha(t) \) if \( \text{ats}(|\beta|) \prec_H \phi \) or \( s > t \) | P2# |
| \( X \prec_H Y \cdot Z = X \prec_H Y \) | P3 |
| \( X \prec_H (Y + Z) = (X \prec_H Y) \prec_H Z \) | P4 |
| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H (\bigcup_{v \in V} = \delta(\inf W) \) if \( W \neq \emptyset \) | PI4# |
| \( \alpha(t) \prec_H (\bigcup_{v \in V} = \alpha(t) \) if \( W = \emptyset \) | PI4= |
| \( X \cdot Y \prec_H Z = (X \prec_H Z) \cdot Y \) | P5 |
| \( (X + Y) \prec_H Z = (X \prec_H Z) + (Y \prec_H Z) \) | P6 |
| \( (\bigcup_{t \in T} = (\bigcup_{t \in T} (P \prec_H X) \) | PI6 |

**TABLE 15. Unless operator.**

5.8 Operational Semantics.
We now proceed to give action rules for the priority operator and the unless operator. In table 16, we have \( \alpha, \beta \in MS\{-\delta\}, t, r > 0 \). The expression \( x^{\beta(t)}_t \) is a shorthand for: \( x^{\beta(t)}_t \) for some \( x^n \) or \( x^{\beta(t)}_t \).

In order to determine the existence of \( \delta \)-transitions, we need the ultimate delay of expressions with a priority or unless operator. Here, we cannot do this by means of axioms, and we are forced to infer the ultimate delay of such expressions by considering the transition system of simpler expressions. We get the rules of table 17 (\( \alpha, \beta \in MS \), so they may be \( \delta \)).

\[
x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} x', \; \beta(t) \rightarrow \Rightarrow \alpha > H \beta, \; \forall t \in S (x \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset)
\]

\[
\theta_H(x) \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \theta_H(x')
\]

\[
x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \forall, \; \beta(t) \rightarrow \Rightarrow \alpha > H \beta, \; \forall t \in S (x \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset)
\]

\[
\theta_H(x) \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \exists
\]

\[
x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} x', \; \beta(t) \rightarrow \Rightarrow \alpha > H \beta, \; \forall t \in S (y \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset)
\]

\[
x \xleftarrow{H} y \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} x'
\]

\[
x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \forall, \; \beta(t) \rightarrow \Rightarrow \alpha > H \beta, \; \forall t \in S (y \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset)
\]

\[
x \xleftarrow{H} y \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \exists
\]

TABLE 17. Ultimate delay for priorities.

\[
U(\theta_H(x)) = \sup \{ t : x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)}, \; \forall t \in S (x \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset) \}
\]

if this set is nonempty, \( \inf \{ t : x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \} \) otherwise

\[
U(x \leftarrow H y) = \sup \{ t : x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)}, \; \forall t \in S (y \xrightarrow{\beta(t)} \Rightarrow ats(\beta) \cap H = \emptyset) \}
\]

if this set is nonempty, \( \inf \{ t : x \xrightarrow{\alpha(t)} \} \) otherwise

5.9 PRIOITY LOCK.

A consequence of axioms TH4 and PI4 is that we have the following identity: \( \theta_H(\text{\{h(t)\}}) = \delta(1) \), if \( h \in H \). This is because each \( h \) action is canceled by one with lesser timestamp. We can call this phenomenon a priority lock.

It can be argued that the terms \( \theta_H(\text{\{h(t)\}}) \) and \( \delta(1) \) are not really the same, as the first term allows time to progress up to and including 1, whereas the second term allows time to progress up to but not including 1. Indeed, in the original semantics of [BAB91a], these two terms will be distinguished. However, the semantics we use here, based on [KLU91], is a little bit more abstract, and the two terms will be identified. If we allow a generalised merge operator, we have in both semantics that \( \theta_H(\text{\{h(t)\}}) = \parallel \delta(w) \parallel \). Thus, in the original semantics of [BAB91a], axiom PI4# should read:

\[
\alpha(t) \leftarrow H (\bigvee_{v \in V} P) = \bigvee_{v \in W} \delta(w) \quad \text{if } W \neq \emptyset.
\]

For more on this issue, see section 8.

5.10 DATA TRANSMISSION VIA A MOBILE INTERMEDIATE STATION.

We now discuss a larger example, a protocol transmitting data via a mobile intermediate station. Essentially, this is example 3.2, but now we allow the transmitter to move with time.
In Figure 6, we have a sender $S$ at location $x_1$, a receiver $R$ at location $x_3$, and a transmitter $T$ that is moving on a line between locations $y_1$ and $y_2$, starting at $y_1$ at time $t=0$. The location of the transmitter is given by the following formula:

$$x_2(t) = y_1 + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\cos(\omega t)\right)(y_2 - y_1).$$

The transmitter consists of two parts, a receiving part and a sending part, located at $x_2(t)-\epsilon$ and $x_2(t)+\epsilon$, respectively. These parts are interconnected by a synchronous communication port $3$. 1 and 5 are also synchronous ports, and 2 and 4 are asynchronous channels. We have system delay constants $W_1$, $W_2$, $W_3$, $W_4$.

The components are now given by the following specification:

$$S = \sum_{t>0} r_1(d)(x_1, t) \cdot 2 \uparrow d(x_1 + t + W_1) \cdot ((t + 2W_1) \triangleright S)$$

$$T_R = \sum_{t>0} 2 \downarrow d(x_2(t)-\epsilon, t) \cdot s_3(d)(x_2(t)+W_2, t+W_2) \cdot ((t + 2W_2) \triangleright T_R)$$

$$T_S = \sum_{t>0} r_3(d)(x_2(t), t) \cdot 4 \uparrow d(x_2(t)+W_3+\epsilon, t+W_3) \cdot ((t + 2W_3) \triangleright T_S)$$

$$R = \sum_{t>0} 4 \downarrow d(x_3, t) \cdot s_5(d)(x_3, t+W_4) \cdot ((t + 2W_4) \triangleright R).$$

Now the system is given by the identity:

$$SYS_{dy} = \partial_{H(3)}(\theta_{2\uparrow D^2\lambda^2_{D}(T_R \parallel T_S \parallel R)}).$$

The protocol works well if the data enter at a sufficiently low frequency.

5.11 THE SPATIAL REPLACEMENT OPERATOR: STRUCTURED NOTATION FOR A MOBILE PROCESS.

Example 5.10 demonstrates a process $T$ that is mobile in the sense that its actions take place at locations that vary in time. In this section, we will have a closer look at the description of such mobile processes.

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a continuous function. The operator $\rho_f$ modifies each action $a(x, t)$ of a process $P$ into $a(f(x, t), t)$. Thus, at time $t$, all spatial coordinates are translated according to the mapping
The equations for $\rho_t$ are very simple (table 18). It is equally easy to come up with action rules for the replacement operator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\rho_t(\delta(t)) = \delta(t)$</th>
<th>RRN1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\rho_t(a(x,t)) = a(f(x,t), t)$</td>
<td>RRN2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\rho_t((\alpha &amp; \beta)(t)) = \rho_t(\alpha(t)) &amp; \rho_t(\beta(t))$</td>
<td>RRN3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\rho_t(x + y) = \rho_t(x) + \rho_t(y)$</td>
<td>RRN4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\rho_t(xy) = \rho_t(x) \cdot \rho_t(y)$</td>
<td>RRN5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\rho_t(\int X) = \int \rho_t(X)$</td>
<td>RRN6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 18. Replacement operator.**

$\rho_t$ is a renaming but in fact it affects spatial coordinates only, and not action labels. We prefer to call $\rho_t$ a (spatial) replacement operator.

In example 5.10, we can rephrase the definition of $T$ as follows: let $X$ be a point in space. Then we can define

$$f(x, t) = x + \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cos(\omega t) \right) (y_2 - y_1).$$

Now put

$$T_R(x) = \int_{\tau \geq 0} \sum_{e \in E} 2d(x-e, t) \cdot s_3(d)(x, t+w_2) \cdot (t + 2w_2) \Rightarrow T_R^*(x),$$

$$T_S(x) = \int_{\tau \geq 0} \sum_{e \in E} s_3(d)(x, t) \cdot 4d(x+e, t+w_3) \cdot (t + 2w_3) \Rightarrow T_S^*(x).$$

Now the processes in 5.10 are given by: $T_R = \rho_t(T_R^*(y_1)), T_S(t) = \rho_t(T_S^*(y_1)).$

Using this notation we obtain a better modular structure. The system specification becomes:

$$SYS = \partial_{H(3)}(\theta_2 \cdot d^2 \cdot \lambda_3(S \parallel \rho_t(T_R^*(y_1)) \parallel \theta_4 \cdot d^2 \cdot \lambda_3(\rho_t(T_S^*(y_1)) \parallel \xi)).$$

Now suppose that the intermediate process $T$ oscillates in a direction perpendicular to the segment $(y_1, y_2)$ as well: let two points $z_1, z_2$ be given such that $(y_1, y_2) \perp (z_1, z_2)$. Define

$$g(x, t) = x + \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cos(\omega t) \right) (z_2 - z_1),$$

then the combined motion of $T$ is given by the expressions $\rho_g \circ \rho_t(T_R^*(y_1)), \rho_g \circ \rho_t(T_S^*(y_1)).$

Thus, superposition of motions corresponds to composition of the corresponding replacement operators.

### 5.12 SIGNAL INTENSITY.

We proceed by discussing some variations in the communication mechanism. First of all, suppose we want to describe asynchronous communication with a decrease in signal intensity.

Assume that data are sent with intensity $i_0$ and that intensity decreases proportionally to the square of the distance traveled. So if $i_0$ is the signal intensity at distance $l$ from the source, the signal intensity at distance $\lambda$ is $a \cdot i_0 \cdot \lambda^{-2}$ for some constant $a \geq 0$. Let the receiving actions be equipped with an additional real parameter $j$ that indicates at which intensity a signal can be received. Then the action function will allow $g \cdot d(c, j)(y, r)$ provided there exist $x, t$ such that $d$ was sent at $(x, t)$ and $i$.

1. $|y-x| = v \cdot (r-t)$
2. $a \cdot i_0 \cdot |y-x|^{-2} = j$.

A receiver that allows to receive messages between intensities $i_0, i_2$ and between times $i_1, i_2$ will show integration over the intensity interval:
5.13 IMPENETRABLE OBJECTS.

Next, we look at how to model a signal transmission space with an impenetrable object. Let $B(2, z)$ be the closed ball with radius 2 and center $z$. In this case, the action and effect functions work as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action/Effect</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\text{action}_c(c \uparrow d(x,t), V) = \delta(t)$</td>
<td>if $x \in B(2, z)$ (i.e. if $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{action}_c(c \uparrow d(x,t), V) = c \uparrow d(x,t)$</td>
<td>if $x \notin B(2, z)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{effect}_c(c \uparrow d(x,t), V) = V$</td>
<td>if $x \in B(2, z)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{effect}_c(c \uparrow d(x,t), V) = V \cup {(d,x,t)}$</td>
<td>if $x \notin B(2, z)$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As usual, $c \uparrow d$ actions have no effect on the state, so the effect function does not change the state.

5.14 REFLECTION.

A more complex example is obtained if one allows reflection of the signal. Carrying on with the previous example, we allow the signal to be reflected at the surface of the ball $B(2, z)$. We assume perfect reflection without loss of signal intensity. Like before, we allow that a signal (or various signals) is simultaneously delivered at $(y,r)$ through different paths. This can happen even with one source. It is possible that a signal $d$ is sent by executing $c \uparrow d(x,t)$ and it reaches $(y,r)$ along two different paths, both containing a reflection. In the case of the ball $B(2, z)$ this is not possible of course, but with two balls this could happen indeed. The action function remains the same in the case of $c \uparrow d(x,t)$ but for $c \downarrow (d,j)(y,r)$ we get:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action/Effect</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\text{action}_c(c \downarrow (d,j)(y,r), V) = c \downarrow d(y,r)$</td>
<td>if there is $(d, x, t) \in V$ such that $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{action}_c(c \downarrow (d,j)(y,r), V) = \delta(r)$</td>
<td>otherwise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A state operator based on this action function describes an environment in which asynchronous communication through a non-trivial physical medium is supported. We remark that if the sending process also receives reflected signals, we are dealing with remote sensing, rather than asynchronous communication.

Interesting complications arise if we intend to model an asynchronous communication where, firstly, there are several independently moving objects that are impenetrable for signals but that do allow reflections with varying reflection coefficients, and, secondly, these objects have their motion guided by actions (in a discontinuous way) and by laws of classical mechanics between actions. This is in fact what happens if a sensor is used to assist a robot in navigating through a number of independently moving objects, each having its own surface characteristics.

It is our impression that the language of classical real space process algebra with priority and state operators is not sufficient to model the sensors needed for robot navigation in a dynamic environment.
We finish this section by specifying, in a number of steps, a more complicated version of example 5.9. We make the change that the communication between the sender and the transmitter, and also between the transmitter and the receiver, is sometimes blocked by an impenetrable object. This requires a communication protocol on both sides. For this, we use a Positive Acknowledgement with Retransmission (PAR) protocol. At no time, both communication links are open, so buffering is required in the transmitter. This situation occurs for instance when we want to describe communication to a place on the other side of the earth via an orbiting communication satellite. We make a couple of simplifying assumptions, but nevertheless, all necessary ingredients for this situation are present. In this way, we think we make a genuine contribution towards specification of real-life protocols.

5.15 PAR protocol, symbolic synchronous case.

We start from the description of the untimed (symbolic) PAR protocol as given in [VAA90a] (with some notational changes). See figure 7. In order to avoid duplicates, messages from a set D labeled with an alternating bit from B = {0,1}. The channels K2, L2 may lose messages, or send them on correctly. Upon timeout, the sender A will resend a message. Receiver B sends acknowledgement ack.

\[ A = A(0) \]
\[ A(b) = \sum_{d \in D} r_{11}(d) \cdot A(b,d) \quad b = 0,1 \]
\[ A(b,d) = s_{211}(db) \cdot (r_{222}(ack) \cdot A(1-b) + \text{timeout} \cdot A(b,d)) \quad b = 0,1, d \in D \]
\[ K2 = \sum_{f \in D \times D} r_{11}(f) \cdot (s_{212}(f) + \text{error}_k) \cdot K2 \]
\[ L2 = r_{221}(ack) \cdot (s_{222}(ack) + \text{error}_l) \cdot L2 \]
\[ B = B(0) \]
\[ B(b) = \sum_{d \in D} r_{212}(db) \cdot s_{3}(d) \cdot B^{*}(1-b) + \sum_{d \in D} r_{212}(d(1-b)) \cdot B^{*}(b) \quad b = 0,1 \]
\[ B^{*}(b) = s_{221}(ack) \cdot B(b) \quad b = 0,1. \]

Then, the symbolic synchronous PAR protocol is defined by

\[ \text{ssPAR} = \partial_{H}(211,212,221,222)(A \parallel K2 \parallel L2 \parallel B). \]

This protocol is not correct. If timeouts are raised too early, no acknowledgements can get through. This problem can be solved in the symbolic case by using a priority operator (see [VAA90a]). In the real time version in [BAB91a], the problem was solved by making the timeout period larger than the duration of one complete cycle.

5.16 PAR protocol, symbolic asynchronous case.

The next step is that we replace the channels with synchronous communication by asynchronous channels. We combine the asynchronous communication of example 5.5 with the error mechanism of example 4.7. We give the symbolic (untimed) version.
The symbolic asynchronous PAR protocol is now given by

\[ \text{saPAR} = \lambda_{\varnothing, \varnothing}^{1,22}(A \parallel E \parallel B). \]

Here, the state operator has state space \((\{\varnothing\} \cup \{db : d \in D, b \in B\}) \times \{\varnothing, \text{ack}\}\), and functions given by:

- \(\text{action}(c_{21}\uparrow db, (p,q)) = c_{21}\uparrow db\)  
  \(\text{effect}(c_{21}\uparrow db, (p,q)) = (db,q)\)
- \(\text{action}(c_{22}\uparrow \text{ack}, (p,q)) = c_{22}\uparrow \text{ack}\)  
  \(\text{effect}(c_{22}\uparrow \text{ack}, (p,q)) = (p,\text{ack})\)
- \(\text{action}(c_{21}\downarrow db, (p,q)) = \text{if } p=\text{db} \text{ then } c_{21}\downarrow db \text{ else } \delta\)  
  \(\text{effect}(c_{21}\downarrow db, (p,q)) = (\varnothing,q)\)
- \(\text{action}(c_{22}\downarrow \text{ack}, (p,q)) = \text{if } p=\text{ack} \text{ then } c_{22}\downarrow \text{ack} \text{ else } \delta\)  
  \(\text{effect}(c_{22}\downarrow \text{ack}, (p,q)) = (p,\varnothing)\)
- \(\text{action}(\text{error}_K, (p,q)) = \text{if } q=\varnothing \text{ then } \delta \text{ else } \text{error}_K\)  
  \(\text{effect}(\text{error}_K, (p,q)) = (\varnothing,q)\)
- \(\text{action}(\text{error}_L, (p,q)) = \text{if } q=\varnothing \text{ then } \delta \text{ else } \text{error}_L\)  
  \(\text{effect}(\text{error}_L, (p,q)) = (p,\varnothing)\).

All other actions are inert (i.e. \(\text{action}(a,s) = a, \text{effect}(a,s) = s\)). The resulting protocol is very similar to \(\text{ssPAR}\). In particular, it is incorrect in the same way. Indeed, if we have a renaming function \(\text{f}\) that has

\[ f(c_{21}\uparrow db) = c_{211}(db), f(c_{22}\uparrow \text{ack}) = c_{221}(\text{ack}), f(c_{21}\downarrow db) = c_{212}(db), f(c_{22}\downarrow \text{ack}) = c_{222}(\text{ack}), \]

(and leaves other actions fixed), then we have \(\text{f}(\text{saPAR}) = \text{ssPAR}\)

(for an explanation of the renaming operator, see e.g. [BAB88] or [BAW90]).

5.17 PAR PROTOCOL, TIMED ASYNCHRONOUS CASE.

Now we add timing information to the asynchronous protocol of 5.16. The way we implement this, is that we will have the sender periodically check port 1, to see if new messages are available. If no message is available, an error will be read and discarded. Moreover, we will raise a transmission failure if the path through space the message should travel intersects a solid object, as in example 5.13. The sender is located at \(u_1\), the receiver at \(u_2\). Later on, these locations will vary with time, using a spatial replacement operator as in 5.11. The solid object, a screen, is a line segment between locations \(z_1\) and \(z_2\) (fixed in space). See figure 8.
\[ A = A(0,0) \]
\[ A(b,t) = r_1(\text{error}_A)(u_1, t+w_1)A(b, t+w_1) + \sum_{d \in D} r_1(d)(u_1, t+w_1)A^*(b, d, t+w_1) \quad b=0,1, t \geq 0 \]
\[ A^*(b, d, t) = \sum_{c \in \mathbb{C}} c_{21} \uparrow \text{db}(u_1+\varepsilon_1, t+w_1) \cdot A(1-b, \nu) + \sum_{c \in \mathbb{C}} c_{22} \downarrow \text{ack}(u_1-\varepsilon_1, \nu)A(1-b, \nu) \]
\[ + \text{timeout}(u_1, t+w_1+\nu) \cdot A^*(b, d, t+w_1+c) \quad b=0,1, t \geq 0, d \in D \]
\[ B = B(0) \]
\[ B(b) = \sum_{d \in D} \sum_{v \geq 0} c_{21} \downarrow \text{db}(u_2+\varepsilon_2, \nu) \cdot s_3(d)(u_2, \nu+w_2) \cdot B^*(1-b, \nu+w_2) + \]
\[ \sum_{d \in D} \sum_{v \geq 0} c_{21} \downarrow \text{db}(1-b)(u_2+\varepsilon_2, \nu) \cdot B^*(b, \nu) \]
\[ B^*(b, t) = c_{22} \uparrow \text{ack}(u_2-\varepsilon_2, t+w_2) \cdot B(b) \]
\[ \text{taPAR} = \theta_{21} || D^2 \theta_{21} \cdot \theta_{22} || D^2 \theta_{22}(A \ || B) \]

5.18 DATA TRANSMISSION VIA A MOBILE INTERMEDIATE STATION USING AN UNRELIABLE MEDIUM.

Strengthening from example 5.10, we will put two screens in the picture, and use the timed asynchronous PAR protocol for the communication between \( S \) and \( T_R \), and also for the communication between \( T_S \) and \( R \). We obtain the required variants of the protocol by using the spatial replacement operator of 5.11, together with a simple renaming of port names. Since always one of the two links is blocked, we need buffering capacity in the transmitter. We picture the whole system in figure 9.
We start with the specification of the buffer. We assume it has input location $u-E_3$ and output location $u+E_3$. It is always ready to accept input and it is always ready to supply an output (if empty, it will supply an error message). We have to mention explicitly the possibility that both actions happen at the same time.

$$
\text{Buf}(u) = \text{Buf}(u, 0)
$$

$$
\text{Buf}(u, 0) = J_{\{d\}}(E_3, 1) \cdot \text{Buf}(u, d) + t_{\{d\}}(\text{error}_B)(u+E_3, 1) \cdot \text{Buf}(u, 0) +
$$

$$
\text{Buf}(u, \sigma d) = J_{\{e\}}(E_3, 1) \cdot \text{Buf}(u, \sigma e d)
$$

Now we put the whole thing together. First the PAR protocol between the sender and the transmitter. We start by giving the spatial replacements.

Sender: 
$$f_S(x, t) = x + x_1 \cdot u_1$$

Transmitter: 
$$f_T(x, t) = x + y_1 \cdot u_2 - e_2 - e_3$$

$$f_M(x, t) = x + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\cos(\omega t)\right) \cdot (y_2 - y_1)$$

(The sender is at fixed position $x_1$.)

(Starting position).

(Movement).
We need an action renaming operator in order to change port name 3 into 31. The function $g$ has $g(s_3(d)) = s_{31}(d)$, and leaves all other action names, and all times and places fixed. We get

$$S = p_{ls}(A)$$

$$T_R = p_{g_3} \circ p_{\mu_3} \circ p_{TR}(B)$$

$$\text{leftPAR} = \theta_{21} \cup p_3 \cup \theta_{22} \cup p_3 \cup 2 \cup (S \parallel T_R).$$

Here, $A, B$, the priority operators and the state operators are as in 5.17. We can take

$$q = \frac{1}{v} |x_{1+\varepsilon_1} - y_2 - \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3| + \frac{1}{v} |x_{1+\varepsilon_1} - y_2 - \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3| + 2w_2 + w_1,$$

Next, the PAR protocol between the transmitter and the receiver. The spatial replacements:

Receiver: $f_R(x, t) = x + x_3 - u_2$

Transmitter: $f_T(x, t) = x + y_1 - u_1 - \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_3$, $f_M$ as above.

This time, we need a more elaborate action renaming function $h$, given by

$$h(r_1(error_A)) = r_{32}(error_B), h(r_1(d)) = r_{32}(d), h(s_3(d)) = s_{31}(d).$$

$$h(c_{21} \uparrow f) = c_{41} \uparrow f, h(c_{21} \downarrow f) = c_{41} \downarrow f, h(c_{22} \uparrow \text{ack}) = c_{42} \uparrow \text{ack}, h(c_{22} \downarrow \text{ack}) = c_{42} \downarrow \text{ack}.$$  

The function $h$ leaves all other action names, and all times and places fixed. We get

$$R = p_{h_3} \circ p_{h_3}(A)$$

$$T_S = p_{h_3} \circ p_{h_3} \circ p_{TS}(B)$$

$$\text{rightPAR} = \theta_{41} \cup p_3 \cup \theta_{42} \cup p_3 \cup 2 \cup (T_S \parallel R).$$

The operators are as above, but in the definition of the action function, we have to replace $z_1, z_2$ by $z_3, z_4$. We can take

$$q = \frac{1}{v} |x_3 + \varepsilon_2 - y_1 - \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_3| + \frac{1}{v} |x_3 + \varepsilon_2 - y_1 - \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_3| + 2w_2 + w_1,$$

For the buffer, we only have to put in the initial position and the movement, so the total system is now specified by:

$$\text{SYSTEM} = \partial_H(31, 32)(\text{leftPAR} \parallel p_{\mu_3}(\text{Buf}(y_1)) \parallel \text{rightPAR}).$$

The transmitter can be in two modes: when it is in the receiving window (the bottom part of the picture), it can receive messages from the sender. Buffer capacity must be large enough to accommodate the maximum number of messages that can be sent during a single pass through the receiving window. When the transmitter is in the sending window (the top part of the picture) it will send as many messages as possible from the buffer to the receiver. Care must be taken that the sending window is as large as the receiving window, so that all messages received in the receiving window can be sent on. Otherwise, the buffer can become fuller at each pass, and (in practice, but not in our specification) capacity will run out at some point.

6. ASYNCHRONOUS MESSAGE PASSING EXPRESSED USING PROCESS CREATION.

In many cases, asynchronous message passing can be expressed using the available synchronous communication mechanism of $ACP\rho\sigma$. In this approach, which appears in many forms throughout the literature, a process is introduced that represents the medium through which the data are being transported.

In this section we will provide various examples of such processes, representing an asynchronous transport medium. It turns out that a real time version of the process creation mechanism of [BER90] is useful to define a variety of such processes in a uniform way. For that purpose we describe process creation first, a mechanism which is of independent interest also.

It should be noted that the use of the state operator in the previous sections has been motivated by our inability to describe the particular form of asynchronous message transfer of example 5.10 in the
more traditional fashion of this section. This in no way excludes that an elegant description of example 5.10 based on synchronous communication is possible, but our search has been without success.

6.1 PROCESS CREATION.

For the description of process creation, we assume that we have special disjoint subsets \( \text{cr}(D) = \{ \text{cr}(d) \mid d \in D \} \) and \( \text{cr}(D) = \{ \text{cr}(d) \mid d \in D \} \) within the set of symbolic atomic actions \( A \), with \( \text{cr}(d) \upharpoonleft a = \text{cr}(d) \upharpoonleft a = \delta \) for all \( d \in D \) and \( a \in A_s \).

Further, we assume the existence of a function \( \phi \colon D \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to P \), and we require \( \phi \) to be defined by means of guarded recursion equations. Like in [BER90], the function \( \phi \) determines a process to be created from action \( \text{cr}(d) \). In the real time case, \( \phi(d, x, t) \) represents the process created from the timed action \( \text{cr}(d)(x, t) \).

Next we use, as in the symbolic case, an operator \( E_\phi \) which enforces process creation from \( \text{cr}(d) \) actions occurring in its scope. The equations of \( E_\phi \) are in table 19. In order to state these axioms, we need some extra notation. We need to be able to determine the set \( \text{CR}(a) = \{ (d, x) \in D \times \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \text{cr}(d) \text{ occurs in } a \} \) for a multi-action \( a \). This set can be defined recursively as follows:

\[
\text{CR}(a(x) \& 0.) = \text{CR}(0.) \quad \text{if } a \notin \text{cr}(D)
\]

\[
\text{CR}(\text{cr}(d)(x) \& 0.) = \{ (d, x) \} \cup \text{CR}(a).
\]

Also, we need the notation \( \bar{a} \) for the multi-action \( a \), where all \( \text{cr}(d) \) actions are changed into \( \text{cr}(d) \) actions, i.e.

\[
\bar{a}(x) = a(x) \quad \text{if } a \notin \text{cr}(D)
\]

\[
\bar{a}(d)(x) = \text{cr}(d)(x) \quad \text{if } a \in \text{cr}(D).
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(\alpha(t)) = \alpha(t) )</td>
<td>if ( \text{CR}(\alpha) = \emptyset ) PCT1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(\alpha(t)) = \bar{\alpha}(t) \cdot E_\phi(\text{cr}(d)(x), t) )</td>
<td>otherwise PCT2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(\alpha(t) \cdot X) = \alpha(t) \cdot E_\phi(X) )</td>
<td>if ( \text{CR}(\alpha) = \emptyset ) PCT3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(\alpha(t) \cdot X) = \bar{\alpha}(t) \cdot E_\phi(X \mid (d, x) \in \text{CR}(\alpha)) )</td>
<td>otherwise PCT4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(x + y) = E_\phi(x) + E_\phi(y) )</td>
<td>PCT5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( E_\phi(\int_{t \in T} X) = \int_{t \in T} E_\phi(X) )</td>
<td>PCT6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 19. Process creation.**

The operational semantics of the process creation operator now follows easily on the basis of the axioms. Note that the process creation mechanism can be used in real time (without space) just as well. All examples of [BER90] can be adapted to a real time setting. We concentrate here on examples concerning message transport media.

6.2 MESSAGE HANDLER.

The following recursive specification defines a process that, upon receiving an input, creates a message handler to take care of the input.

\[
M = \sum_{d \in D} \sum_{t \geq 0} \text{cr}(d)(x(t), t) \cdot \text{cr}(d)(x(t+t_1), t+t_1) \cdot ((t+t_1+t_0) \geq M).
\]

Here \( t_0 \) is a parameter that determines a minimum delay between the creation of the message handler and reception of a new input, whereas \( t_1 \) determines the delay between reception of a datum and creation of the corresponding handler. \( x(t) \) is some function from \( \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) to \( \mathbb{R}^3 \) that determines the input
location of the medium. We assume that the handler is created at that very same logical location but with a delay of \( t_1 \) (i.e. at \( x(t+ t_1) \)).

Next, we provide possible functions \( \phi_{n}: D \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \) that determine the handler created. This leads to an asynchronous message transport medium \( M_n = E_{\phi_{n}}(M) \) for each case. In all cases, \( y(x, r) \) is the output location of the medium at time \( t + r \) if at time \( t \) the input location is \( x \). Thus, input at \((x, t)\) leads to output at \((y(x, \Delta), t+ \Delta)\) for some \( \Delta > 0 \).

**CASE 1:** \( \phi_1(d, x, t) = s(d)(y(x, \Delta_1), t+\Delta_1) \).

In this case data need a constant time \( \Delta_1 \) to travel through the medium. Moreover, the medium introduces no errors or omissions.

**CASE 2:** \( \phi_2(d, x, t) = s(d)(y(x, \Delta_2(t)), t+\Delta_2(t)) \).

In this case, the transmission time depends on \( t \). This happens e.g. if the output location is moving relative to the input location. Notice that the difference with example 5.10 is that there, due to the broadcasting nature of the mechanism, the output location is not known in the same way. In particular, the function \( \Delta_2(t) \) is not easy to define in that example, even if one assumes that broadcasting is irrelevant and each message is received exactly once. This is caused by the fact that in example 5.10 the output location (i.e. location \((x, t)\) at which an action \( cUd(x, t) \) happens) must be derived from the combined behavior of two processes.

**CASE 3:** \( \phi_3(d, x, t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} s(d)(y(x, r-t), r). & \text{if } r \leq \Delta_1 + \epsilon_1 \\
 & \\
& M_3 \text{ is like } M_1, \text{ be it that there is a tolerance } \epsilon_1 \text{ in the arrival time. If } \epsilon_1 > \frac{1}{2}(t_0 + t_1), \text{ complications can arise because } M_3 \text{ may deliver different messages at the same time and place. Assuming } \epsilon_1 < \frac{1}{2}(t_0 + t_1), \text{ this unwanted interference is not possible.} \\
& \\
& M_3 \text{ keeps track where a datum gets lost. In the next example, } M_6 \text{ will not deliver lost data.} \\
& \\
& \text{This example adds an arrival time tolerance to example 2.} \\
\end{array} \right. \)

Next, we assume that the orbit of a message \( d \) traveling from \((x, t)\) to \((y(x, \Delta), t+\Delta)\) is given by \((z(r-t), r)\), so in particular, we have \((x, t) = (z(0), t+0)\) and \((y(x, \Delta), t+\Delta) = (z(\Delta), t+\Delta)\).

**CASE 5:** \( \phi_5(d, x, t) = s(d)(y(x, \Delta_1), t+\Delta_1) + \int_{r \in (0, \Delta_1)} \text{lost}(z(r), t+r) \cdot s(L)(y(x, \Delta_1), t+\Delta_1) \).

This example allows the datum to be changed into \( \perp \) anywhere during transmission. In particular, \( M_5 \) keeps track where a datum gets lost. In the next example, \( M_6 \) will not deliver lost data.

**CASE 6:** \( \phi_6(d, x, t) = s(d)(y(x, \Delta_1), t+\Delta_1) + \int_{r \in (0, \Delta_1)} \text{lost}(z(r), t+r) \).

**CASE 7:** \( \phi_7(d, x, t) = s(d)(y(x, \Delta_1), t+\Delta_1) + \int_{r \in (0, \Delta_1)} \text{lost}(z(r), t+r) \cdot \text{cr}(d)(x(t+r+\epsilon_2), t+r+\epsilon_2) \).

\( M_7 \) will spontaneously retransmit lost data (very unlikely in practice). Note that this protocol can lead to collisions of different cr actions.
7. ASYNCHRONOUS MESSAGE PASSING USING MODE TRANSFER.

7.1 A FAULTY QUEUE FOR ASYNCHRONOUS MESSAGE TRANSFER.
In this section we will start out from the following description of a queue, that transports data in \( D \) from \( x \) to \( y \) in time \( \Delta \).

\[
Q = \sum_{t \in \mathbb{D}} r(d)(x,t) \cdot (s(d)(y, t+\Delta) \parallel Q)
\]

This queue is the classical real space absolute time version of example 10.1 of [BAB91a], with port names 1,2 replaced by locations \( x,y \).

We intend to describe a related queue that shows faults. In order to do this, the mode transfer operators \( \to \) and \( \leftrightarrow \) of [BER89] are casted in a real time and space setting. Informally, \( X \to Y \) is a process that behaves like \( X \) but can at any time start behaving like \( Y \) (provided it decides to do so before \( X \) has terminated). \( X \leftrightarrow Y \) is like \( X \to Y \) with the additional constraint that its first action must be taken from \( X \).

Using the mode transfer operator (to be discussed in detail below), a faulty version of the queue can be given as follows: let \( r \in \mathbb{R} \), \( n \in \mathbb{N} \), define

\[
Y(r, n) = s(l)(y, n' r) \cdot V(r, n+1).
\]

\( Y(r, n) \) will produce erroneous signals at regular intervals. Now define \( Q' \) by

\[
Q' = Q \to \sum_{n \in \omega} Y(r, n).
\]

This process allows the queue to transmit data until it switches to mode \( Y \).

Finally, we describe a queue that can be put back in the original mode by means of an action \( \text{restart}(z, t) \). Here, \( z \) is a location from which the queue is controlled.

\[
Q'' = Q \to \left( \sum_{n \in \omega} Y(r, n) \leftrightarrow \sum_{t \in \mathbb{D}} \text{restart}(z, t) \cdot Q'' \right).
\]

7.2 MODE TRANSFER.
The equations for the mode transfer operators are given in table 20 (\( \alpha \in MS \)).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( \alpha(t) \to X )</th>
<th>( \alpha(t) + (X \triangleright t) )</th>
<th>MTT1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot X \to Y )</td>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot (X \to Y) + (Y \triangleright t) )</td>
<td>MTT2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X + Y) \to Z )</td>
<td>( (X \to Z) + (Y \to Z) )</td>
<td>MTT3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} Y )</td>
<td>( \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} (X \to Y) ) (t not free in ( Y ))</td>
<td>MTT4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \leftrightarrow X )</td>
<td>( \alpha(t) )</td>
<td>DMTT1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot X \leftrightarrow Y )</td>
<td>( \alpha(t) \cdot (X \leftrightarrow Y) )</td>
<td>DMTT2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( (X + Y) \leftrightarrow Z )</td>
<td>( (X \leftrightarrow Z) + (Y \leftrightarrow Z) )</td>
<td>DMTT3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} Y )</td>
<td>( \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} (X \leftrightarrow Y) ) (t not free in ( Y ))</td>
<td>DMTT4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 20. Mode transfer.

Action rules for the mode transfer operators can be given as shown in table 21 (\( \alpha \in MS-\{8\} \)). In order to derive \( \delta \)-transitions, we add the identity

\[
U(X \to Y) = U(X \leftrightarrow Y) = U(X).
\]
### 7.3 Remark.

The equations for mode transfer in [BER89] are as follows:

\[ a \rightarrow X = a + X \]
\[ \delta \rightarrow X = \delta \]
\[ a \cdot X \rightarrow Y = a \cdot (X \rightarrow Y) + Y \]
\[ (X + Y) \rightarrow Z = (X \rightarrow Z) + (Y \rightarrow Z). \]

In particular the equation \( \delta \rightarrow X = \delta \) is not obvious. However, if a system has deadlocked, it seems impossible to recover from that deadlock in a context \( X \rightarrow Y \). In the real time case, we see a more differentiated picture:

\[ \delta(2) \rightarrow a(3) \cdot b(4) = \delta(2) \]

while

\[ \delta(2) \rightarrow a(1) \cdot b(4) = \delta(2) + a(1) \cdot b(4). \]

Likewise

\[ c(2) \rightarrow a(3) \cdot b(4) = c(2) \]
\[ c(2) \rightarrow a(1) \cdot b(4) = c(2) + a(1) \cdot b(4). \]

### 8. On the Variety of Semantic Options for Time Stops.

The description of deadlocks (time stops) in real time or real time and space process algebra shows a degree of freedom, as hinted at in 5.9. Within the setting of bisimulation semantics several semantic options exist. In this section we will survey several of these options and motivate our present choice.

#### 8.1 A Taxonomy.

We have the following processes in real time process algebra (disregarding space for the moment).

- \( \delta \): full time stop. No activity is possible, time cannot progress.
- \( \delta(t) \): open time stop. No action can take place, and time can progress up to time \( t \), but time \( t \) itself cannot be reached.
- \( \delta(t) \): closed time stop. No action can take place, and time can progress up to and including time \( t \).
- \( a(t) \cdot \delta \): dead termination. Action \( a \) is executed at time \( t \), and the process immediately terminates unsuccessfully.

#### 8.2 Semantics of [BAB91a].

The real time process algebra as described in [BAB91a] has the full time stop, open time stop and dead termination. Moreover, we have the following identification:

\[ \delta = \delta(0) \]

**full time stop = open time stop at 0.**

The closed time stop does not occur in the setting of real time ACP. However, several expressions can be found that equal \( \delta(t) \) in the model of [BAB91a] (see 5.9):
\[
\| \delta(r) = \delta(t) \\
r \triangleright t
\]
\[
\theta_{\{a\} \triangleright t} \{ a(r) \} = \delta(t).
\]
These equations are both plausible. In the operational semantics, we have the following axioms for time stops:
\[
t < s < r \Rightarrow \langle \delta(r), t \rangle \rightarrow \langle \delta(r), s \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad t < s \leq r \Rightarrow \langle \delta(r), t \rangle \rightarrow \langle \delta(r), s \rangle
\]
On the basis of this semantics, we can derive the following laws:
\[
\begin{align*}
\delta(0) &= \delta(0) \\
r > t \Rightarrow a(r) + \delta(t) &= a(r) \\
\delta(t) + \delta(t) &= \delta(t) \\
\delta(t) &= \delta(t) \cdot \delta \\
a(t) \cdot \delta &= a(t) \cdot \delta(t) \\
\delta(t) \triangleright a(t) &= \delta(t) \triangleright \delta(t) \\
\delta(t) &= \delta(t) \\
\delta_H(\delta(t)) &= \delta(t).
\end{align*}
\]

8.3 NEGATIVE TIME.
In the presence of negative time stamps (as e.g. in [BAB91b]) the identification full time stop = open time stop at 0 is not justified. And consequently, the very presence of a full time stop becomes an option.

8.4 SEMANTICS OF THE PRESENT PAPER.
In the present paper we have the full time stop, open time stop and dead termination. The operational semantics, following [KLU91], has the following identifications:
\[
\begin{align*}
\delta &= \delta(0) & \text{full time stop} &= \text{open time stop at 0}. \\
\delta(t) &= \delta(t) & \text{open time stop} &= \text{closed time stop}.
\end{align*}
\]
The identification of closed and open time stops is a useful simplification, though certainly not a necessary one. As we saw no advantage in distinguishing open and closed time stops, we have adopted the model of [KLU91] which identifies them. Next, three further semantic alternatives can be mentioned. As none of these further identifications present immediate benefits in our setting, we have not imposed these identifications on our model.

8.5 FURTHER OPTIONAL IDENTIFICATIONS.
1. \( a(t) = \delta(t) \) \quad \text{time stop = full time stop.} \\
This simplifies dealing with time stops somewhat. It brings the theory closer to that of symbolic ACP. This option was adopted in [BAB91b].
2. \( a(t) \cdot \delta = \delta(t) \) \quad \text{dead termination = time stop.} \\
This is a possible conceptual simplification. However, it brings the theory further apart from ACP.
3. Zero process. This is what we get if time stop = full time stop and dead termination = time stop are combined:
\[
a(t) \cdot \delta = \delta(t) = \delta.
\]
Thus, \( \delta \) acts as a zero (i.e. \( x \cdot \delta = \delta \cdot x = \delta \)), see [BAB91b].

8.6 REAL SPACE: LOCATED CLOSED TIME STOPS.
In the real space setting, the introduction of closed time stops adds more options. Indeed, if one accepts closed time stops \( \delta(t) \) then these may just as well be located: \( \delta(x, t) \). The identification \( \delta(x, t) = \delta(t) \)
expresses the semantic assumption that closed time stops are not located. If one distinguishes the various \( \delta(x, t) \) for \( x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \), new multi-actions appear, such as

\[
(\delta(x_0) & a(x_1) & b(x_2) & \delta(x_3))(t).
\]

The difference between \( \delta(x_0) & a(x_1) \) and \( a(x_1) \), comes about as follows:

\[
(\delta(x_0) & a(x_1)) \quad b(x_0) = \delta(x_0) & a(x_1) = \delta
\]

\[
a(x_1) \quad b(x_0) = a(x_1) & b(x_0).
\]

As said above, at the time of writing this paper, we see no clear advantage in distinguishing open and closed time stops, let alone in distinguishing various located closed time stops.

9. Relative Time Notation.

9.1 Relative Time in Real Time, No Real Space.

First we concentrate on the real time case, without space parameters.

In some cases, relative time notation is profitable. In [BAB91a], we have introduced a relative time notation as follows: \( a[t] \) denotes action \( a \) \( t \) time units after the previous atomic action or, if such action doesn't exist, after system initialisation. In this section, we will deal with relative time in a different way. The basis for this approach to relative time notation is the initial abstraction operator. Let for \( t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \), \( F(t) \) be a process in \( P \), then

\( \sqrt{t} F(t) \)

denotes a process that, when started at time \( t \), proceeds as \( F(t) \). Semantically, \( \sqrt{t} F(t) \) is just a function \( f \) from \( \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) into \( P \) that satisfies \( f(t) = t \gg f(t) \). We make things more precise in the following.

9.2 Definition.

Let \( P \) be the sort of processes. Put

\[ P^* = \{ f : f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow P \text{ such that } f(t) = t \gg f(t) \} \]

We introduce the initial abstraction operator \( \sqrt{t} : T \times P^* \rightarrow P^* \), where \( T \) is a set of variables ranging over \( \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) called time variables. In the expression \( \sqrt{t} F \), free occurrences of \( t \) in \( F \) become bound. Semantically, we have the following. Let \( M_A \) be the bisimulation model of sections 2.9-11. We extend this model to a model \( M_A^* \) with domain

\[ | M_A^* | = \{ f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow | M_A | : \text{ for all } t \geq 0 \text{ we have } f(t) = t \gg f(t) \} \]

The operators are defined on this domain as follows. We use \( \lambda \)-notation for functions. Note that for each \( F \in | M_A^* | \), the function application \( F(t) \in | M_A | \) is an equivalence class of process trees.

\[
\begin{align*}
a(t) &= \lambda r. r \gg a(t) \\
a[t] &= \lambda r. a(r + t) \\
F \mathbin{\square} G &= \lambda t. (F(t) \mathbin{\square} G(t)) \\
F \cdot G &= \lambda t. (\lambda r. F(r) \cdot G(t)r) \text{ where } F(t) \cdot G \text{ is the process obtained as follows:}
\end{align*}
\]

after each successfully terminating branch of \( F(t) \), say ending in \( a(r) \), append a process tree for \( G(r) \).

\[ t \gg F = F(t) \]

\[ F \gg t = \lambda r. r \gg (F(r) \gg t) \]

\[ U(F) = U(F(0)) \]

Here, \( a[t] \) is the square bracket notation of [BAB91a].

9.3 Axioms.

All axioms of real time and space process algebra with integration presented before remain valid, with the exception of axioms ATCM2,3 of table 6, that have to be adapted slightly to the present setting.
Note that the new axioms \( \text{ATCM2*}, \text{ATCM3*} \) reduce to the old axioms if we limit ourselves to expressions not involving initial abstraction operators.

On top of the old axioms, we have the extra axioms in table 22, governing the use of initial abstraction. In all axioms in table 22, it is assumed that \( t \) is not free in \( G \). Axiom \( \text{IA0} \) is the definition of the square bracket notation, axiom \( \text{IA1} \) gives \( \alpha \)-conversion, axiom \( \text{IA2} \) achieves \( \beta \)-conversion, i.e. function application. \( \text{IA4} \) gives the embedding of absolute time notation processes in the extended domain. \( \text{IA5} \) is an extensionality axiom.

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha(t) \triangleright X &= \forall r. (\alpha(t) \triangleright U(r \triangleright X)) \cdot (r \triangleright X) \quad \text{ATCM2*} \\
\alpha(t) \triangleright X \triangleright Y &= \forall r. (\alpha(t) \triangleright U(r \triangleright Y)) \cdot (X \parallel (r \triangleright Y)) \quad \text{ATCM3*} \\
\alpha[r] &= \forall t. a(t + r) \quad \text{IA0} \\
\forall s. G &= \forall t. G[t/s] \quad \text{IA1} \\
\forall v. F &= \forall t. F[t/v] \quad \text{IA2} \\
\forall t. \forall r. F &= \forall t. F[t/r] \quad \text{IA3} \\
G &= \forall t. G \quad \text{IA4} \\
\forall t \geq 0 \triangleright X = \forall t \triangleright Y \Rightarrow X = Y \quad \text{IA5} \\
(\forall t. F) + G &= \forall t. (F + \triangleright G) \quad \text{IA6} \\
(\forall t. F) \cdot G &= \forall t. (F \cdot G) \quad \text{IA7} \\
(\forall t. F) \triangleright G &= \forall t. (F \parallel \triangleright G) \quad \text{IA8} \\
G \triangleright (\forall t. F) &= \forall t. (G \parallel \triangleright F) \quad \text{IA9} \\
G \parallel (\forall t. F) &= \forall t. (G \parallel \triangleright F) \quad \text{IA10} \\
G \parallel (\forall t. F) &= \forall t. G[t/v] \quad \text{IA11} \\
\forall t. \forall H(v.t. F) &= \forall t. \forall H(F) \quad \text{IA12} \\
(\forall t. F) \triangleright r &= \forall t. (F \triangleright r) \quad \text{IA13} \\
U(F) &= U(0 \triangleright F) \quad \text{IA14} \\
\forall v \in V \forall v \in V \forall v \in V \\
\phi t.(\forall t. F) &= \forall t. \phi t(F) \quad \text{IA16}
\end{align*}
\]

**Table 22.** Axioms for initial abstraction.

9.4 EXAMPLES.
1. \( a(3) \cdot (\forall v. \forall r. a(t + r + 1)) = a(3) \cdot (3 \triangleright \forall v. a(t + r + 1)) = a(3) \cdot (3 \triangleright \forall r. a(r + 4)) = a(3) \cdot (3 \triangleright a(7)) = a(3) \cdot a(7) \).
2. \( a(t) \cdot b[r] = a(t) \cdot (\forall s. b(r + s)) = a(t) \cdot (t \triangleright \forall s. b(r + s)) = a(t) \cdot (t \triangleright b(r + t)) = a(t) \cdot b(r + t) \).
3. We can calculate that \( a(t) \cdot \partial H(b[r] \cdot X \parallel Y) = a(t) \cdot \partial H(b[t+r] \cdot X \parallel Y) \). Choose a fresh variable \( v \) (i.e. a time variable not occurring in \( X \) or \( Y \)). Then
\[
\begin{align*}
\forall t \triangleright v. b[r] \cdot X \parallel Y &= a(t) \cdot \partial H((\forall v. b(v+r)) \cdot X \parallel Y) = a(t) \cdot \partial H((\forall v. b(v+r)) \cdot X \parallel Y) = a(t) \cdot (t \triangleright v. H(b(v+r)) \cdot X \parallel Y) = a(t) \cdot (t \triangleright v. H(b(v+r)) \cdot X \parallel Y) = a(t) \cdot (t \triangleright H(b(t+r) \cdot X \parallel Y)).
\end{align*}
\]
4. We can prove for all closed terms that \( s \triangleright s \triangleright X = s \triangleright X \). We can use this to prove the following identity:
\( \forall t. F = \forall t. (t \triangleright F) \).

For, take \( s \geq 0 \), then \( s \triangleright \forall t. F = s \triangleright F[s/t] = s \triangleright (s \triangleright F[s/t]) = s \triangleright (\forall t. t \triangleright F) \). The result follows by extensionality (\( \text{IA5} \)).

9.5 EXAMPLE.
We consider again a couple of clocks. First a perfect clock, that can stop at any moment:
Next, we initialise $C_1$ so that it always starts at an integer time value. $\lfloor t \rfloor$ is the integer of $t$, the largest integer less than or equal to $t$.

$$C_2 = (\forall t. \text{start}([t] + 1)) \cdot C_1.$$
1. In real time process algebra and in finite space real time process algebra the relative time notation is often superior because it leads to simpler process descriptions (e.g., the alternating bit protocol in [BAB91a]) and is particularly useful in verification. The advantage of relative time notation is a modest one however, and absolute time notation will be workable as well.

2. For theoretical work, relative time notation becomes indispensible if concepts concerning finite state and regular processes in real time have to be developed and analysed.

3. In the case of (continuous) real space process algebra the absolute time notation becomes more practical. We illustrated this with the example of the moving clock in 9.7. There, a spatial replacement operator is needed, which requires an absolutely timed argument process. In the case of relativistic space/time, where space and time cannot be separated (see [BAB91b]), we cannot see how a relative space/time notation can be formulated.

9.10 EXAMPLE: USER INTERACTION WITH A COMPUTER AND A PRINTER.
Consider a static system consisting of a user U, a machine M and a printer P. We have communication ports 1,2,3,4,5,6 at locations x1,x2,x3,x4,x5,x6. See figure 10.

The user will switch on the system, send a sequence of 5 messages, and will then request that this sequence is printed. After this has been completed, he switches off the system. The machine can, after switch on, receive messages which it stores in a buffer. The maximal capacity of this buffer is 100 messages. Upon receiving a print request, the machine reads the time (measured in whole hours). It then causes the printer to print the time, the sequence of messages and the largest value it has received during any session. After successful completion of the print, the machine is ready for switch off.

U = ( \left\{ s_1(sw\_on)(x_1)(t) \cdot \sum_{d \in D} s_2(d)(x_2) \cdot \bigotimes_{\Delta_1} \right\} \cdot s_3(req\_print)(x_3) \cdot \left\{ r_2(print\_ok)(x_3)(t) \cdot s_1(sw\_off)(x_1) \cdot U \right\} \\
M = X_{\text{store}} (\text{Session})^o
(Here, a process X^o is defined by the recursive equation X^o = X \cdot X^o.)
Session = SW\_ON::INPUT::PRINT::SW\_OFF
SW\_ON = \left\{ r_1(sw\_on)(x_1)(t) \right\}
INPUT = \left\{ \sum_{d \in D} r_2(d)(x_2)(t) \cdot \text{store}(d)(x_4) \cdot \bigotimes_{\Delta_4} \right\} \cdot \text{INPUT} + \left\{ r_3(req\_print)(x_3)(t) \right\}
PRINT = \forall t. \text{read\_time}(t + \Delta_5) \cdot \text{mod} 24)(x_4)(t + \Delta_5) \cdot \text{ss}((t + \Delta_5) \cdot \text{mod} 24)(x_5)(\Delta_6) \cdot \text{send\_printer}(\text{seq}, \text{max})(x_5) \cdot \text{ss}(\text{print})(x_5) \cdot \text{ss}(\text{print})(x_5) \cdot \left\{ r_5(\text{print})(x_5)(t) \cdot \text{ss}(\text{print}\_\text{ok})(x_3)(\Delta_9) \right\}
SW\_OFF = \left\{ r_1(sw\_off)(x_1)(t) \right\}
\[ P = \sum_{t \geq 0} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{24}} r_5(n)(x_5)[t] \cdot [r_6(\text{print})(x_6)[t] \cdot \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\Delta_10} \sum_{\sigma, \varepsilon \in \mathcal{D}} r_5(\sigma, \varepsilon)(x_5)[t+\Delta_1] \cdot \text{print}(n, \sigma, \varepsilon)(x_5)[\Delta_11] \cdot s_5(\text{printed})(x_5)[\Delta_12]. \]

Now let \( I(1,2,3,5) = \{ c_i(m) : i \in \{1,2,3,5\}, m \in D \cup D^* \times D \cup \mathbb{Z}_{24} \cup \{ \text{sw_on}, \text{req_print}, \text{print_ok}, \text{print}, \text{printed}, \text{sw_off} \} \} \).

This set contains all successful communications at ports 1,2,3,5. Likewise, \( H(1,2,3,5) \) contains all send and receive actions at these ports. Now the system is specified by the equation

\[ \text{SYSTEM} = \theta_{I(1,2,3,5)} \circ \varnothing_{H(1,2,3,5)(U \parallel M \parallel P)}. \]

The relative time notation makes it clear that there is exactly one place where the absolute time is read and used (rounded off to whole hours on a 24-hour clock), so in particular the user and the printer need have no access to an external clock. This example is formulated in a finite space. The only added value of the use of space coordinates is in the occurrence of multi-actions.

It remains to specify the action and effect functions of the state operator. The set of states is

\[ S = \{ \sigma \in D^* : \text{length}(\sigma) \leq 100 \} \times D. \]

We assume that the set \( D \) is totally ordered. In a pair \((\sigma, e) \in S\), \( \sigma \) will contain the values in \( D \) that have been input during a session and \( e \) is the maximum value that has been input since the first session. At the end of each session, \( \sigma \) is reset to the empty sequence \( \emptyset \), but \( e \) is kept in store. There are two actions interacting with the state operator \( \lambda^\text{store}_S \). All other actions are inert.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{action}(\text{store}(d)(x_4,t), (\sigma, e)) &= \text{store}(d)(x_4,t) \\
\text{effect}(\text{store}(d)(x_4,t), (\sigma, e)) &= (\sigma, \max(d, e)) \quad \text{if length}(\sigma) < 100 \\
&= (\sigma, \max(d, e)) \quad \text{if length}(\sigma) = 100 \\
\text{action}(\text{sendprinter}(\text{seq, max})(x_5,t), (\sigma, e)) &= s_5(\sigma, e)(x_5,t) \\
\text{effect}(\text{sendprinter}(\text{seq, max})(x_5,t), (\sigma, e)) &= (\emptyset, e).
\end{align*}
\]

10. CONCLUSION.

We conclude that we have introduced real space process algebra, based on Cartesian coordinates. We leave it to future research to investigate applications of variants based on relativistic space/time (as in [BAB91b]). We have obtained a setting in which asynchronous communication can be adequately described. This allows to describe communication between processes moving in space (e.g. communication with a satellite). We have motivated our approach by specifying several small scale examples.

11. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH.

We will mention several suggestions for further research.

i. Logical analysis of the real space process algebra: complete axiomatisations.

ii. Development of an appropriate property language that allows to express system properties at a more abstract level. It seems likely that process algebra itself cannot be used (unlike to the untimed case) and some form of temporal logic will be needed.

iii. On the basis of a high level service specification, expressed in an appropriate property language, verification of the protocols given in our paper becomes a research problem.

iv. Remote sensing. We want to mention one particular direction of future research in some more detail. As was said in section 5.14, we think that our setup is not sufficiently expressive to describe remote control and remote sensing, in particular remote sensing. Let us focus on radar as a remote
sensing mechanism, the research problem being how to model this in a process algebra setting. We will just outline a possible extension of the process algebra that can be used to describe radar communication. A solid object is described as a subset of $\mathbb{R}^3$. Motion corresponds to a continuous function $f: \mathbb{R}_0 \rightarrow P(\mathbb{R}^3)$. Solid objects (in motion) are added as time dependent signals, where signals are exactly as in [BAW90]. Then the state operator is equipped with a so-called signal inscription mechanism that allows a state operator to track the signals emitted by objects in its scope. Let the moving object be a ball (its motion depending on system actions). Now the state operator can also arrange for signal reflection on this ball like in section 5.14. In this way, a radar like remote sensing system can be modeled. Getting the details of this program worked out is a non-trivial further project.

Referencing Experience with protocol description in the untimed case has shown that the availability of a simulation facility is very helpful if not simply necessary in order to get protocol descriptions free of faults to the extent that a subsequent costly verification effort is justified. If we assume that this experience is valid for real time/space process algebra as well, the need for simulation occurs. But this is not so easy. We expect that simulation requires discretisation. Here, discretisation is some transformation that turns a real time/space process description into a discrete time/space description. Discretisation replaces the real numbers by some finite domain. The research problem here is to develop a discrete time/space process algebra that facilitates discretisation and subsequently, effective simulation.

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