

Distributed synthesis, well-quasi-orders, and memory for games

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Joint work with Anca Muscholl and Igor Walukiewicz

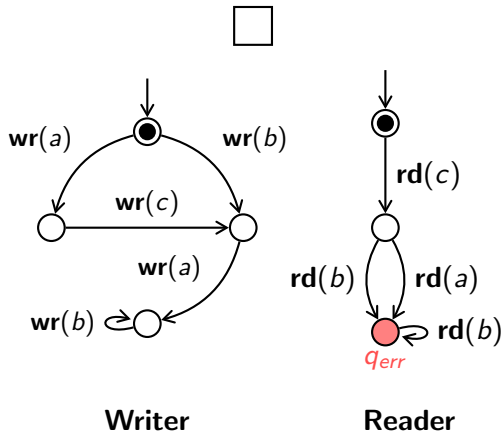
Highlights 2025

Asynchronous distributed systems

- ▶ Several processes running asynchronously

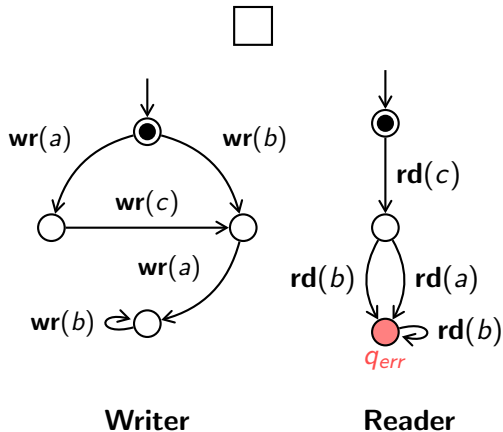
Asynchronous distributed systems

- ▶ Several processes running asynchronously
- ▶ Execution = sequence of local steps



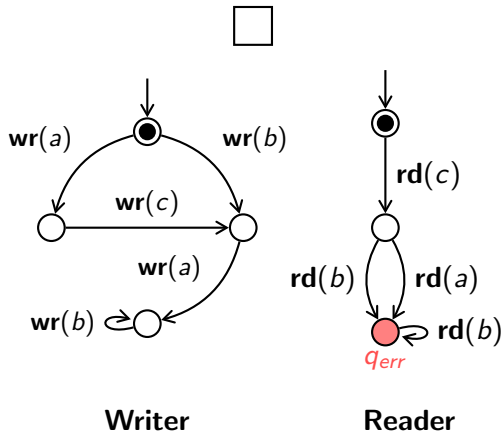
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- ▶ Execution = sequence of local steps
- ▶ Constraint on scheduling: Shared memory, locks, broadcast, rendez-vous, token-passing, ...



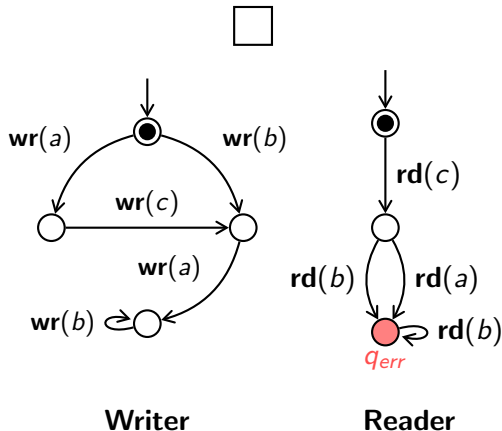
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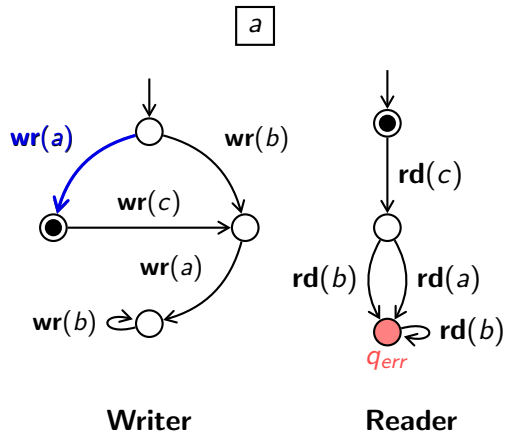
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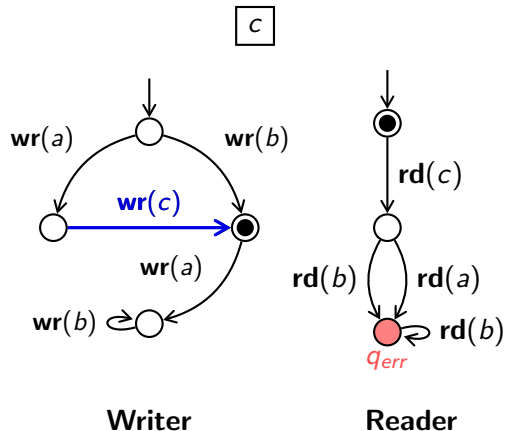
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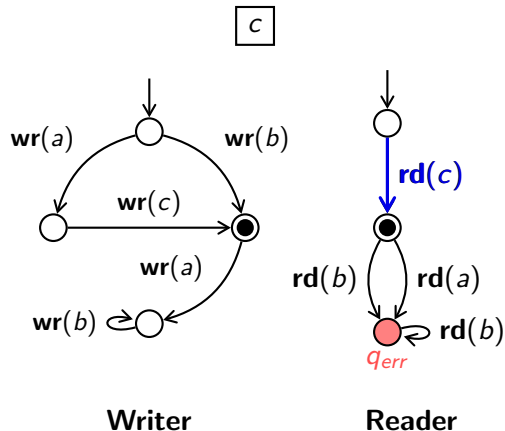
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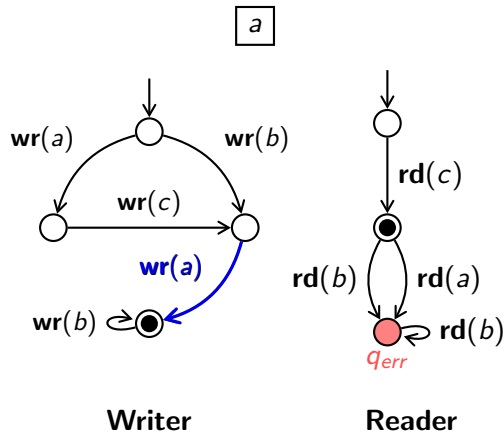
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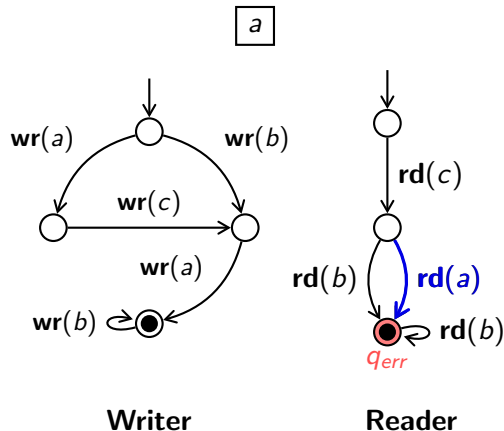
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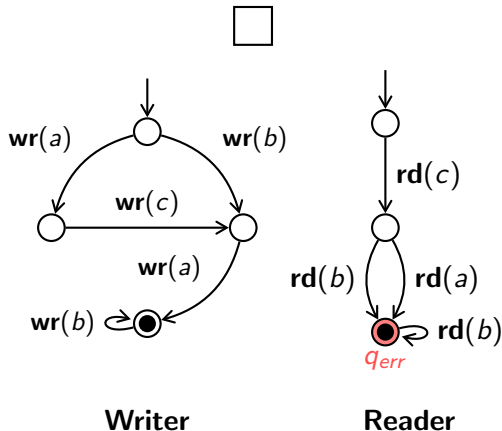
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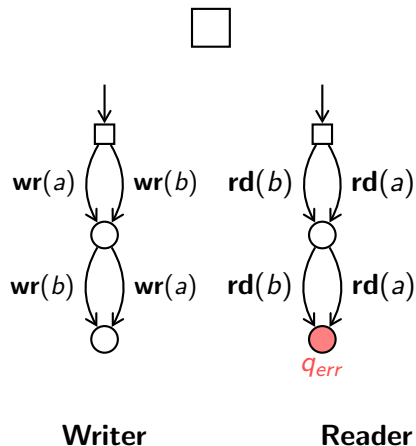


*Local runs of writer and reader can be combined whenever the sequence read by Reader is a **subword** of the sequence written by Writer.*

Ex: *bab* is a subword of *abbaba*.

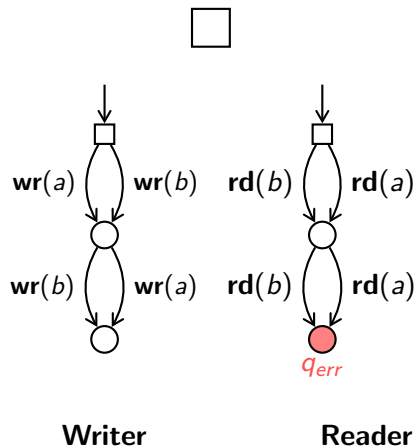
Distributed synthesis

- Each process has Controller and Environment states.



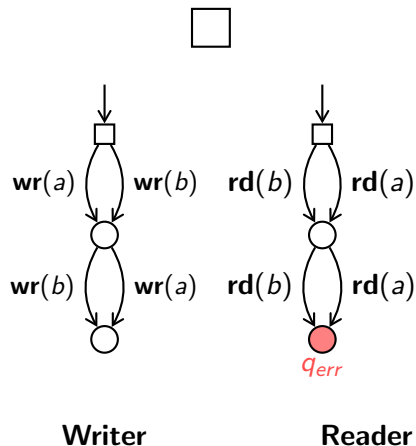
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- ▶ One *local strategy* for each process:
 σ_w, σ_r
- ▶ Local strategy = function
 $\sigma_w : Paths_w \rightarrow Transitions_w$ that chooses the next transition from controllable states based on past transitions.



Invariants

Lemma

Local strategies (σ_w, σ_r) successfully avoid q_{err}



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*there exists an **invariant** $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ such that*

- 1. Every local σ_w -run of the writer writes a sequence in $\mathcal{I}$*
- 2. Every local σ_r -run of the reader reaching q_{err} reads a sequence $\notin \mathcal{I}$*
- 3. $\mathcal{I}$ is subword-closed*

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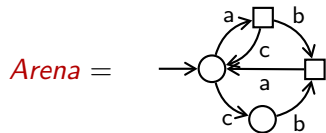


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- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ a priori arbitrarily large
- ▶ If we were given $\mathcal{I} \rightarrow$ reduces to *regular two-player safety game*

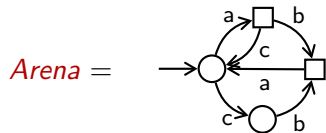
Objective-independent memory



Safety objective = $W \subseteq \{a, b, c\}^*$

Strategy is *winning* if all runs stay in W

Objective-independent memory



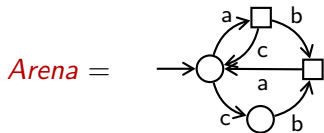
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Theorem

Let W be a subword-closed objective and $\mathcal{G}$ an arena.

If Controller has a winning strategy for W in $\mathcal{G}$, then she has one with memory $\leq |\mathcal{G}|!$.

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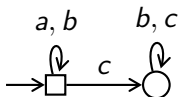


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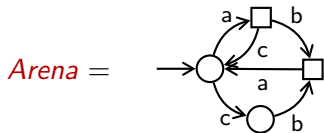
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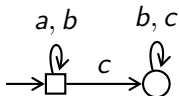
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$\mathcal{C} \subseteq 2^{\Sigma^*}$ has *objective-independent memory* if
 $\exists f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, \forall \text{ arena } \mathcal{G} \text{ and } W \in \mathcal{C},$
 if Controller has a winning strategy for W in
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"Easy" extension: everyone can read and write, but the process writing can change $\leq K$ times.

Theorem

The distributed synthesis problem is NEXPTIME-complete for shared-memory systems with bounded writer switches.

Burning questions

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Thank you for your attention!