

**SE 2AA4, CS 2ME3 (Introduction to Software
Development)**

Winter 2017

09 Module Interface Specification (H&S Ch. 7, Ghezzi Ch. 4)

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Module Interface Specification

- Administrative details
- Overview of MIS
- MIS Template
 - ▶ Syntax
 - ▶ Semantics
- Sequence example

Administrative Details

- Assignment 1
 - ▶ Files due by midnight January 28
 - ▶ E-mail partner files by January 28
 - ▶ Lab report due February 2
 - ▶ Using Python 2.7, doxygen, make, LaTeX, git
 - ▶ Make sure everything runs on mills
 - ▶ Use the folder structure and filenames given!

Sequences

- A sequence is an ordered collection of elements of the same type
 - ▶ Elements can occur more than once
 - ▶ Sometimes referred to as a list
 - ▶ Similar to an array
- Declare a sequence of type T by *sequence of T*
- $\langle x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ for $n \geq 0$ for a sequence with elements x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n
- $\langle \rangle$ is the empty sequence
- Position in a sequence is zero relative

Overview of MIS

- The MIS precisely specifies the modules observable behaviour - what the module does
- The MIS does not specify the internal design
- The idea of an MIS is inspired by the principles of software engineering
- Advantages
 - ▶ Improves many software qualities
 - ▶ Programmers can work in parallel
 - ▶ Assumptions about how the code will be used are recorded
 - ▶ Test cases can be decided on early, and they benefit from a clear specification of the behaviour
 - ▶ A well designed and documented MIS is easier to read and understand than complex code
 - ▶ Can use the interface without understanding details

Overview of MIS

- Options for specifying an MIS
 - ▶ Trace specification
 - ▶ Pre and post conditions specification
 - ▶ Input/output specification
 - ▶ Before/after specification - module state machine
 - ▶ Algebraic specification
- Best to follow a template

MIS Template

- Uses
 - ▶ Imported constants, data types and access programs
- Syntax
 - ▶ Exported constants and types
 - ▶ Exported functions (access routine interface syntax)
- Semantics
 - ▶ State variables
 - ▶ State invariants
 - ▶ Assumptions
 - ▶ Access routine semantics
 - ▶ Local functions
 - ▶ Local types
 - ▶ Local constants
 - ▶ Considerations

MIS Uses Section

- Specify imported constants
- Specify imported types
- Specify imported access programs
- The specification of one module will often depend on using the interface specified by another module
- When there are many modules the uses information is very useful for navigation of the documentation
- Documents the use relation between modules

MIS Syntax Section

- Specify exported constants
- Specify exported types
- Specify access routine names, the input and output parameter types and exceptions
- Show access routines in tabular form
 - ▶ Important design decisions are made at this point
 - ▶ The goal is to have the syntax match many implementation languages

Syntax of a Sequence Module

Exported Constants

MAX_SIZE = 100

Syntax of a Sequence Module Continued

Exported Access Programs

Routine name	In	Out	Exceptions
seq_init			
seq_add	integer, integer		FULL, POS
seq_del	integer		POS
seq_setval	integer, integer		POS
seq_getval	integer	integer	POS
seq_size		integer	

MIS Semantics Section

- State variables
 - ▶ Give state variable(s) name and type
 - ▶ State variables define the state space
 - ▶ If a module has state then it will have “memory”
- State invariant
 - ▶ A predicate on the state space that restricts the “legal” states of the module
 - ▶ After every access routine call, the state should satisfy the invariant
 - ▶ Cannot have a state invariant without state variables
 - ▶ Just stating the invariant does not “enforce” it, the access routine semantics need to maintain it
 - ▶ Useful for understandability, testing and for proof

Semantics Section Continued

- Local functions, local types and local constants
 - ▶ Declared for specification purposes only
 - ▶ Not available at run time
 - ▶ Helpful to make complex specifications easier to read
- Considerations
 - ▶ For information that does not fit elsewhere
 - ▶ Useful to tell the user if the module violates a quality criteria

Sequence MIS Semantics

State Variables

What type should the state variable have?

State Invariant

What state invariant should we have?

Assumptions

seq_init() is called before any other access program

Sequence MIS Semantics

State Variables

s: sequence of integer

State Invariant

What state invariant should we have?

Assumptions

`seq_init()` is called before any other access program

Sequence MIS Semantics

State Variables

s : sequence of integer

State Invariant

$|s| \leq \text{MAX_SIZE}$

Assumptions

`seq_init()` is called before any other access program

Sequence MIS Semantics Continued

Access Routine Semantics

`seq_init()`:

- transition: What should the state transition be?
- exception: none

`seq_add(i, p)`:

- transition: $s := s[0..i - 1] || < p > || s[i..?]$
- exception: $exc := (|s| = ?)$ What exceptions? How characterized?

Sequence MIS Semantics Continued

Access Routine Semantics

seq_init():

- transition: $s := \langle \rangle$
- exception: none

seq_add(i, p):

- transition: $s := s[0..i-1] || \langle p \rangle || s[i..|s|-1]$
- exception: $exc := (|s| = ?)$ What exceptions? How characterized?

Sequence MIS Semantics Continued

Access Routine Semantics

seq_init():

- transition: $s := \langle \rangle$
- exception: none

seq_add(i, p):

- transition: $s := s[0..i-1] || \langle p \rangle || s[i..|s|-1]$
- exception:
 $exc := (|s| = \text{MAX_SIZE} \Rightarrow \text{FULL} \mid i \notin [0..|s|] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

Access Routine Semantics Continued

seq_del(i):

- transition: $s := ?$
- exception: $exc := ?$

seq_setval(i, p):

- transition: ?
- exception: ?

seq_getval(i):

- output: ?
- exception: ?

Access Routine Semantics Continued

`seq_del(i):`

- transition: $s := s[0..i - 1] || s[i + 1..|s| - 1]$
- exception: $exc := ?$

`seq_setval(i, p):`

- transition: ?
- exception: ?

`seq_getval(i):`

- output: ?
- exception: ?

Access Routine Semantics Continued

seq_del(i):

- transition: $s := s[0..i-1] || s[i+1..|s|-1]$
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

seq_setval(i, p):

- transition: ?
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

seq_getval(i):

- output: ?
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

Access Routine Semantics Continued

seq_del(i):

- transition: $s := s[0..i-1] || s[i+1..|s|-1]$
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

seq_setval(i, p):

- transition: $s[i] := p$
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

seq_getval(i):

- output: ?
- exception: $exc := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

Access Routine Semantics Continued

$\text{seq_del}(i)$:

- transition: $s := s[0..i-1] || s[i+1..|s|-1]$
- exception: $\text{exc} := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

$\text{seq_setval}(i, p)$:

- transition: $s[i] := p$
- exception: $\text{exc} := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

$\text{seq_getval}(i)$:

- output: $\text{out} := s[i]$
- exception: $\text{exc} := (i \notin [0..|s|-1] \Rightarrow \text{POS})$

Access Routine Semantics Continued

seq_size():

- output: ?
- exception: ?

Access Routine Semantics Continued

seq_size():

- output: $out := |s|$
- exception: none