CS:5810
Formal Methods in Software Engineering

Alloy Modules
Alloy Modules

• Alloys has a module system that allows the modularization and reuse of models

• A module defines a model that can be incorporated as a submodel into another one

• To facilitate reuse, modules may be parametric in one or more signatures
Examples

module util/relation
   -- r is acyclic over the set s
   pred acyclic [r: univ->univ, s: set univ] {
      all x: s | x !in x.^r
   }

module family
   open util/relation as rel
   sig Person {
      parents: set Person
   }
   fact { acyclic[parents, Person] }
Examples

module util/relation
-- r is acyclic over the set s
pred acyclic [r: univ->univ, s: set univ] { all x: s | x !in x.^r }

module fileSystem
open util/relation as rel
sig Object {}
sig Folder extends Object { subFolders: set Folder }
fact { acyclic[subFolders, Folder] }
Module Declarations

- The first line of every module is a `module` header

```
module moduleName
```

- The module can `import` another module with an `open` statement immediately following the header

```
open moduleName
```
Module Definition

• A module A can import a module B which can in turn import a module C, and so on

• You can understand open statements informally as textual inclusion

• No cycles in the import structure are permitted
ModulePathName Definition

• Every module has a path name that must match the path of its corresponding file in the file system.

• The module’s path name can range
  – from just the name of the file (without the .als extension)
  – to the whole path from the root

• The root of the path in the importing module header is the root of the path of every import.
The modulePathName in the module header just specifies the root directory for every imported file.
ModulePathName definition

• Example:

```
module family
open lib/people
```

• If the path of `family.als` is `<p>` in the file system then the Alloy Analyzer will search `people.als` in `<p>/lib/`
ModulePathName definition

• Example:

```plaintext
module myProject/family
open lib/people
```

• If the path of `myProject` is `<p>` in the file system then AA will search `people.als` in `<p>/lib/`
Predefined Modules

• Alloy 4 comes with a library of predefined modules

• Any imported module will actually be searched first among those modules
  – Examples:
    • book/chapter2/addressBook1a
    • util/relation
    • examples/puzzles/farmer

• Failing that, the rules in the previous slides apply
As

• When the path name of an import includes / (i.e. it is not just the name of a file but also a path)

• Then you may give a shorter name to the module with `as`

```bash
open util/relation as rel
```
Name Clashes

• Modules have their own namespaces
• To avoid name clashes between components of different modules, we use qualified names

module family
  open util/relation as rel
  sig Person { parents: set Person }
  fact { rel/acyclic [parents] }
Parametric Modules

• A model $m$ can be parametrized by one or more signature parameters $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$

• Any importing module must instantiate each parameter with a signature name

• The effect of opening $m[S_1, \ldots, S_n]$ is that of importing a copy of $m$ with each signature parameter $x_i$ replaced by the signature name $S_i$
Parametric Modules Example

module graph[node] // 1 signature param
open util/relation as rel

pred dag[r: node -> node] {
    rel/acyclic[r, node]
}

module family
open util/graph[Person] as g
sig Person { parents: set Person }
fact { dag[parents] }
The Predefined Module **Ordering**

- Creates a single linear ordering over the atoms in $S$
  
  \[
  \text{module util/ordering}[S]
  \]

- It also constrains all the atoms to exist that are permitted by the scope on $S$
  - If the scope on a signature $S$ is 5, opening \text{ordering}[S] will force $S$ to have 5 elements and create a linear ordering over those five elements
The Module Ordering

module util/ordering[S]

private one sig Ord {
    First, Last: S,
    Next, Prev: S -> lone S
}

fact {
    // all elements of S are totally ordered
    S in Ord.First.*Next
    ...
}

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The Module Ordering

// constraints that actually define the total order
Ord.Prev = ~(Ord.Next)

one Ord.First  // redundant with signature decl.
one Ord.Last    // redundant with signature decl.
no Ord.First.Prev
no Ord.Last.Next
The Module Ordering

/**
 */
/**
 (one S and no S.(Ord.Prev) and no S.(Ord.Next))
or
/**
 all e: S |
/**
/**
 (e = Ord.First or one e.(Ord.Prev)) and
/**
/**
 (e = Ord.Last or one e.(Ord.Next)) and
/**
 (e !in e.^((Ord.Next)))
The Module Ordering

// either S has exactly one atom,
// which has no predecessors or successors ...
(one S and no S.(Ord.Prev) and no S.(Ord.Next))
or
// or ...
all e: S |
// ... every element except the first has one
// predecessor, and ...
(e = Ord.First or one e.(Ord.Prev)) and

// ... every element except the last has one
// successor, and ...
(e = Ord.Last or one e.(Ord.Next)) and

// ... there are no cycles
(e !$in e.^{(Ord.Next)})
The Module Ordering

```plaintext
//
fun first: one S { Ord.First }
//
fun last: one S { Ord.Last }
//
//
fun prev [e: S]: lone S { e.(Ord.Prev) }
//
//
fun next [e: S]: lone S { e.(Ord.Next) }
//
fun prevs [e: S]: set S { e.^.(Ord.Prev) }
//
fun nexts [e: S]: set S { e.^.(Ord.Next) }
```
The Module Ordering

// first
def first: one S { Ord.First }

// last
def last: one S { Ord.Last }

// return the predecessor of e, or empty set if e is
// the first element
def prev [e: S]: lone S { e.(Ord.Prev) }

// return the successor of e, or empty set of e is
// the last element
def next [e: S]: lone S { e.(Ord.Next) }

// return elements prior to e in the ordering
def prevs [e: S]: set S { e.^/(Ord.Prev) }

// return elements following e in the ordering
def nexts [e: S]: set S { e.^/(Ord.Next) }
The Module Ordering

// e1 is before e2 in the ordering
pred lt [e1, e2: S] { e1 in prevs[e2] }

// e1 is after than e2 in the ordering
pred gt [e1, e2: S] { e1 in nexts[e2] }

// e1 is before or equal to e2 in the ordering
pred lte [e1, e2: S] { e1=e2 || lt [e1,e2] }

// e1 is after or equal to e2 in the ordering
pred gte [e1, e2: S] { e1=e2 || gt [e1,e2] }
The Module Ordering

// returns the larger of the two elements in the ordering
fun larger [e1, e2: S]: S
  { lt[e1,e2] => e2 else e1 }  

// returns the smaller of the two elements in the ordering
fun smaller [e1, e2: S]: S
  { lt[e1,e2] => e1 else e2 }  

// returns the largest element in es or the empty set if es is empty
fun max [es: set S]: lone S
  { es - es.^(Ord.Prev) }  

// returns the smallest element in es or the empty set if es is empty
fun min [es: set S]: lone S
  { es - es.^(Ord.Next) }