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# Universal Constructions that Ensure Disjoint-Access Parallelism and Wait-Freedom\*

Faith Ellen<sup>†</sup>  
University of Toronto  
faith@cs.toronto.edu

Panagiota Fatourou<sup>§</sup>  
University of Crete & FORTH-ICS  
faturu@csd.uoc.gr

Eleftherios Kosmas<sup>¶</sup>  
University of Crete & FORTH-ICS  
ekosmas@csd.uoc.gr

Alessia Milani<sup>#\*\*</sup>  
University of Bordeaux  
milani@labri.fr

Corentin Travers<sup>††</sup>  
University of Bordeaux  
travers@labri.fr

## Abstract

Disjoint-access parallelism and wait-freedom are two desirable properties for implementations of concurrent objects. *Disjoint-access parallelism* guarantees that processes operating on different parts of an implemented object do not interfere with each other by accessing common base objects. Thus, disjoint-access parallel algorithms allow for increased parallelism. *Wait-freedom* guarantees progress for each nonfaulty process, even when other processes run at arbitrary speeds or crash.

A *universal construction* provides a general mechanism for obtaining a concurrent implementation of any object from its sequential code. We identify a natural property of universal constructions and prove that there is no universal construction (with this property) that ensures both disjoint-access parallelism and wait-freedom. This impossibility result also holds for transactional memory implementations that require a process to re-execute its transaction if it has been aborted and guarantee each transaction is aborted only a finite number of times.

Our proof is obtained by considering a dynamic object that can grow arbitrarily large during an execution. In contrast, we present a universal construction which produces concurrent implementations that are both wait-free and disjoint-access parallel, when applied to objects that have a bound on the number of data items accessed by each operation they support.

**Topics:** Distributed algorithms: design, analysis, and complexity; Shared and transactional memory, synchronization protocols, concurrent programming

**Keywords:** concurrent programming, disjoint-access parallelism, wait-freedom, universal construction, impossibility result

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**\*\*Contact Author.** Labri, University of Bordeaux 1, 351, cours de la Liberation F-33405 Talence cedex, France. Tel:+33 (0)5 40 00 35 03. E-mail : milani@labri.fr

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# 1 Introduction

Due to the recent proliferation of multicore machines, simplifying concurrent programming has become a necessity, to exploit their computational power. A *universal construction* [20] is a methodology for automatically executing pieces of sequential code in a concurrent environment, while ensuring correctness. Thus, universal constructions provide functionality similar to Transactional Memory (TM) [22]. In particular, universal constructions provide concurrent implementations of any sequential data structure: Each operation supported by the data structure is a piece of code that can be executed.

Many existing universal constructions [1, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20] restrict parallelism by executing each of the desired operations one after the other. We are interested in universal constructions that allow for increased parallelism by being disjoint-access parallel. Roughly speaking, an implementation is *disjoint-access parallel* if two processes that operate on disjoint parts of the simulated state do not interfere with each other, i.e., they do not access the same base objects. Therefore, disjoint-access parallelism allows unrelated operations to progress in parallel. We are also interested in ensuring strong progress guarantees: An implementation is *wait-free* if, in every execution, each (non-faulty) process completes its operation within a finite number of steps, even if other processes may fail (by crashing) or are very slow.

In this paper, we present both positive and negative results. We first identify a natural property of universal constructions and prove that designing universal constructions (with this property) which ensure both disjoint access parallelism and wait-freedom is not possible. We prove this impossibility result by considering a dynamic data structure that can grow arbitrarily large during an execution. Specifically, we consider a singly-linked unsorted list of integers that supports the operations  $\text{APPEND}(L, x)$ , which appends  $x$  to the end of the list  $L$ , and  $\text{SEARCH}(L, x)$ , which searches the list  $L$  for  $x$  starting from the first element of the list. We show that, in any implementation resulting from the application of a universal construction to this data structure, there is an execution of  $\text{SEARCH}$  that never terminates.

Since the publication of the original definition of disjoint-access parallelism [24], many variants have been proposed [2, 9, 18]. These definitions are usually stated in terms of a conflict graph. A *conflict graph* is a graph whose nodes is a set of operations in an execution. An edge exists between each pair of operations that conflict. Two operations *conflict* if they access the same data item. A *data item* is a piece of the sequential data structure that is being simulated. For instance, in the linked list implementation discussed above, a data item may be a list node or a pointer to the first or last node of the list. In a variant of this definition, an edge between conflicting operations exists only if they are concurrent. Two processes *contend* on a base object, if they both access this base object and one of these accesses is a *non-trivial* operation (i.e., it may modify the state of the object). In a disjoint-access parallel implementation, two processes performing operations  $op$  and  $op'$  can contend on the same base object only if the conflict graph of the minimal execution interval that contains both  $op$  and  $op'$  satisfies a certain property. Different variants of disjoint-access parallelism use different properties to restrict access to a base object by two processes performing operations. Note that any data structure in which all operations access a common data item, for example, the root of a tree, is trivially disjoint access parallel under all these definitions.

For the proof of the impossibility result, we introduce *feeble disjoint-access parallelism*, which is weaker than all existing disjoint-access parallelism definitions. Thus, our impossibility result still holds if we replace our disjoint-access parallelism definition with any existing definition of disjoint-access parallelism.

Next, we show how this impossibility result can be circumvented, by restricting attention to data structures whose operations can each only access a bounded number of different data items. Specifically, there is a constant  $b$  such that any operation accesses at most  $b$  different data items when it is applied sequentially to the data structure, starting from any (legal) state. Stacks and queues are examples of dynamic data structures that have this property. We present a universal construction that ensures wait-freedom and disjoint-access parallelism for such data structures. The resulting concurrent implementations are linearizable [23] and satisfy a much stronger disjoint-access parallelism property than we used to prove the impossibility result.

Disjoint-access parallelism and its variants were originally formalized in the context of fixed size data structures, or when the data items that each operation accesses are known when the operation starts its execution. Dealing with these cases is much simpler than considering an arbitrary dynamic data structure

where the set of data items accessed by an operation may depend on the operations that have been previously executed and on the operations that are performed concurrently.

The universal construction presented in this paper is the first that provably ensures both wait-freedom and disjoint-access parallelism for dynamic data structures in which each operation accesses a bounded number of data items. For other dynamic data structures, our universal construction still ensures linearizability and disjoint-access parallelism. Instead of wait-freedom, it ensures that progress is *non-blocking*. This guarantees that, in every execution, from every (legal) state, *some* process finishes its operation within a finite number of steps.

## 2 Related Work

Some impossibility results, related to ours, have been provided for transactional memory algorithms. Transactional Memory (TM) [22] is a mechanism that allows a programmer of a sequential program to identify those parts of the sequential code that require synchronization as *transactions*. Thus, a transaction includes a sequence of operations on data items. When the transaction is being executed in a concurrent environment, these data items can be accessed by several processes simultaneously. If the transaction commits, all its changes become visible to other transactions and they appear as if they all take place at one point in time during the execution of the transaction. Otherwise, the transaction can abort and none of its changes are applied to the data items.

Universal constructions and transactional memory algorithms are closely related. They both have the same goal of simplifying parallel programming by providing mechanisms to efficiently execute sequential code in a concurrent environment. A transactional memory algorithm informs the external environment when a transaction is aborted, so it can choose whether or not to re-execute the transaction. A call to a universal construction returns only when the simulated code has been successfully applied to the simulated data structure. This is the main difference between these two paradigms. However, it is common behavior of an external environment to restart an aborted transaction until it eventually commits. Moreover, meaningful progress conditions [11, 30] in transactional memory require that the number of times each transaction aborts is finite. This property is similar to the *wait-freedom* property for universal constructions. In a recent paper [11], this property is called *local progress*. Our impossibility result applies to transactional memory algorithms that satisfy this progress property. Disjoint-access parallelism is defined for transactions in the same way as for universal constructions.

*Strict disjoint-access parallelism* [18] requires that an edge exists between two operations (or transactions) in the conflict graph of the minimal execution interval that contains both operations (transactions) if the processes performing these operations (transactions) contend on a base object. A TM algorithm is *obstruction-free* if a transaction can be aborted only when contention is encountered during the course of its execution. In [18], Guerraoui and Kapalka proved that no obstruction-free TM can be strictly disjoint access parallel. Obstruction-freedom is a weaker progress property than wait-freedom, so their impossibility result also applies to wait-free implementations (or implementations that ensure local progress). However, it only applies to this strict variant of disjoint-access parallelism, while we consider a much weaker disjoint-access parallelism definition. It is worth-pointing out that several obstruction-free TM algorithms [17, 21, 25, 28] satisfy a weaker version of disjoint-access parallelism than this strict variant. It is unclear whether helping, which is the major technique for achieving strong progress guarantees, can be (easily) achieved assuming strict disjoint-access parallelism. For instance, consider a scenario where transaction  $T_1$  accesses data items  $x$  and  $y$ , transaction  $T_2$  accesses  $x$ , and  $T_3$  accesses  $y$ . Since  $T_2$  and  $T_3$  access disjoint data items, strict disjoint-access parallelism says that they cannot contend on any common base objects. In particular, this limits the help that each of them can provide to  $T_1$ .

Bushkov *et al.* [11] prove that no TM algorithm (whether or not it is disjoint-access parallel) can ensure local progress. However, they prove this impossibility result under the assumption that the TM algorithm does not have access to the code of each transaction (and, as mentioned in their introduction, their impossibility result does not hold without this restriction). In their model, the TM algorithm allows the external environment to invoke actions for reading a data item, writing a data item, starting a transaction, and

trying to commit or abort it. The TM algorithm is only aware of the sequence of invocations that have been performed. Thus, a transaction can be helped only after the TM algorithm knows the entire set of data items that the transaction should modify. However, there are TM algorithms that do allow threads to have access to the code of transactions. For instance, RobuSTM [30] is a TM algorithm in which the code of a transaction is made available to threads so that they can help one another to ensure strong progress guarantees.

Proving impossibility results in a model in which the TM algorithm does not have access to the code of transactions is usually done by considering certain high-level histories that contain only invocations and responses of high-level operations on data items (and not on the base objects that are used to implement these data items in a concurrent environment). Our model gives the universal construction access to the code of an invoked operation. Consequently, to prove our impossibility result we had to work with low-level histories, containing steps on base objects, which is technically more difficult.

Attiya *et al.* [9] proved that there is no disjoint-access parallel TM algorithm where read-only transactions are wait-free and *invisible* (i.e., they do not apply non-trivial operations on base objects). This impossibility result is proved for the variant of disjoint-access parallelism where processes executing two operations (transactions) concurrently contend on a base object only if there is a path between the two operations (transactions) in the conflict graph. We prove our lower bound for a weaker definition of disjoint-access parallelism and it applies even for implementations with visible reads. We remark that the impossibility result in [9] does not contradict our algorithm, since our implementation employs *visible* reads.

In [26], the concept of *MV-permissiveness* was introduced. A TM algorithm satisfies this property if a transaction aborts only when it is an update transaction that conflicts with another update transaction. An *update transaction* contains updates to data items. The paper [26] proved that no transactional memory algorithm satisfies both disjoint access parallelism (specifically, the variant of disjoint-access parallelism presented in [9]) and MV-permissiveness. However, the paper assumes that the TM algorithm does not have access to the code of transactions and is based on the requirement that the code for creating, reading, or writing data items terminates within a finite number of steps. This lower bound can be beaten if this requirement is violated. Attiya and Hillel [8] presented a strict disjoint-access parallel lock-based TM algorithm that satisfies MV-permissiveness.

More constraining versions of disjoint-access parallelism are used when designing algorithms [5, 6, 24]. Specifically, two operations are allowed to access the same base object if they are connected by a path of length at most  $d$  in the conflict graph [2, 5, 6]. This version of disjoint-access parallelism is known as the *d-local contention property* [2, 5, 6]. The first wait-free disjoint-access parallel implementations [24, 29] had  $O(n)$ -local contention, where  $n$  is the number of processes in the system, and assumed that each operation accesses a fixed set of data items. Afek *et al.* [2] presented a wait-free, disjoint-access parallel universal construction that has  $O(k + \log^* n)$ -local contention, provided that each operation accesses at most  $k$  predetermined memory locations. It relies heavily on knowledge of  $k$ . This work extends the work of Attiya and Dagan [5], who considered operations on pairs of locations, i.e. where  $k = 2$ . Afek *et al.* [2] leave as an open question the problem of finding highly concurrent wait-free implementations of data structures that support operations with no bounds on the number of data items they access. In this paper, we prove that, in general, there are no solutions unless we relax some of these properties.

Attiya and Hillel [7] provide a  $k$ -local non-blocking implementation of  $k$ -read-modify-write objects. The algorithm assumes that double-compare-and-swap (DCAS) primitives are available. A DCAS atomically executes CAS on two memory words. Combining the algorithm in [7] and the non-blocking implementation of DCAS by Attiya and Dagan [5] results in a  $O(k + \log^* n)$ -local non-blocking implementation of a  $k$ -read-modify-write object that only relies on single-word CAS primitives. Their algorithm can be adapted to work for operations whose data set is defined on the fly, but it only ensures that progress is non-blocking.

A number of wait-free universal constructions [1, 15, 16, 19, 20] work by copying the entire data structure locally, applying the active operations sequentially on their local copy, and then changing a shared pointer to point to this copy. The resulting algorithms are not disjoint access parallel, unless vacuously so.

Anderson and Moir [3] show how to implement a  $k$ -word atomic CAS using LL/SC. To ensure wait-freedom, a process may help other processes after its operation has been completed, as well as during

its execution. They employ their  $k$ -word CAS implementation to get a universal construction that produces wait-free implementations of multi-object operations. Both the  $k$ -word CAS implementation and the universal construction allow operations on different data items to proceed in parallel. However, they are not disjoint-access parallel, because some operations contend on the same base objects even if there are no (direct or transitive) conflicts between them. The helping technique that is employed by our algorithm combines and extends the helping techniques presented in [3] to achieve both wait-freedom and disjoint-access parallelism.

Anderson and Moir [4] presented another universal construction that uses indirection to avoid copying the entire data structure. They store the data structure in an array which is divided into a set of consecutive data blocks. Those blocks are addressed by a set of pointers, all stored in one LL/SC object. An adaptive version of this algorithm is presented in [15]. An algorithm is *adaptive* if its step complexity depends on the maximum number of active processes at each point in time, rather than on the total number  $n$  of processes in the system. Neither of these universal constructions is disjoint-access parallel.

Barnes [10] presented a disjoint-access parallel universal construction, but the algorithms that result from this universal construction are only non-blocking. In Barnes' algorithm, a process  $p$  executing an operation  $op$  first simulates the execution of  $op$  locally, using a local dictionary where it stores the data items accessed during the simulation of  $op$  and their new values. Once  $p$  completes the local simulation of  $op$ , it tries to lock the data items stored in its dictionary. The data items are locked in a specific order to avoid deadlocks. Then,  $p$  applies the modifications of  $op$  to shared memory and releases the locks. A process that requires a lock which is not free, releases the locks it holds, helps the process that owns the lock to finish the operation it executes, and then re-starts its execution. To enable this helping mechanism, a process shares its dictionary immediately prior to its locking phase. The lock-free TM algorithm presented in [17] works in a similar way.

As in Barnes' algorithm, a process executing an operation  $op$  in our algorithm, first locally simulates  $op$  using a local dictionary, and then it tries to apply the changes. However, in our algorithm, a conflict between two operations can be detected during the simulation phase, so helping may occur at an earlier stage of  $op$ 's execution. More advanced helping techniques are required to ensure both wait-freedom and disjoint-access parallelism.

Chuong *et al.* [12] presented a wait-free version of Barnes' algorithm that is not disjoint-access parallel and applies operations to the data structure one at a time. Their algorithm is *transaction-friendly*, i.e., it allows operations to be aborted. Helping in this algorithm is simpler than in our algorithm. Moreover, the conflict detection and resolution mechanisms employed by our algorithm are more advanced to ensure disjoint-access parallelism. The presentation of the pseudocode of our algorithm follows [12].

The first software transactional memory algorithm [27] was disjoint-access parallel, but it is only non-blocking and is restricted to transactions that access a pre-determined set of memory locations. There are other TM algorithms [14, 17, 21, 25, 28] without this restriction that are disjoint-access parallel. However, all of them satisfy weaker progress properties than wait-freedom. TL [14] ensures strict disjoint access parallelism, but it is blocking.

A hybrid approach between transactional memory and universal constructions has been presented by Crain *et al.* [13]. Their universal construction takes, as input, sequential code that has been appropriately annotated for processing by a TM algorithm. Each transaction is repeatedly invoked until it commits. They use a linked list to store all committed transactions. A process helping a transaction to complete scans the list to determine whether the transaction has already completed. Thus, their implementation is not disjoint-access parallel. It also assumes that no failures occur.

### 3 Preliminaries

A *data structure* is a sequential implementation of an abstract data type. In particular, it provides a representation for the objects specified by the abstract data type and the (sequential) code for each of the operations it supports. As an example, we will consider an unsorted singly-linked list of integers that supports the operations  $\text{APPEND}(v)$ , which appends the element  $v$  to the end of the list (by accessing a pointer  $end$  that points to the last element in the list, appending a node containing  $v$  to that element, and updating the pointer to point to the newly appended node), and  $\text{SEARCH}(v)$ , which searches the list for  $v$

starting from the first element of the list.

A *data item* is a piece of the representation of an object implemented by the data structure. In our example, the data items are the nodes of the singly-linked list and the pointers *first* and *last* that point to the first and the last element of the list, respectively. The *state* of a data structure consists of the collection of data items in the representation and a set of values, one for each of the data items. A *static* data item is a data item that exists in the initial state. In our example, the pointers *first* and *last* are static data items. When the data structure is dynamic, the data items accessed by an instance of an operation (in a sequential execution  $\alpha$ ) may depend on the instances of operations that have been performed before it in  $\alpha$ . For example, the set of nodes accessed by an instance of SEARCH depends on the sequence of nodes that have been previously appended to the list.

An operation of a data structure is *value oblivious* if, in every (sequential) execution, the set of data items that each instance of this operation accesses in any sequence of consecutive instances of this operation does not depend on the values of the input parameters of these instances. In our example, APPEND is a value oblivious operation, but SEARCH is not.

We consider an *asynchronous shared-memory* system with  $n$  processes  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  that communicate by accessing shared objects, such as *registers* and LL/SC objects. A register  $R$  stores a value from some set and supports the operations `read( $R$ )`, which returns the value of  $R$ , and `write( $R, v$ )`, which writes the value  $v$  in  $R$ . An LL/SC object  $R$  stores a value from some set and supports the operations LL, which returns the current value of  $R$ , and SC. By executing `SC( $R, v$ )`, a process  $p_i$  attempts to set the value of  $R$  to  $v$ . This update occurs only if no process has changed the value of  $R$  (by executing SC) since  $p_i$  last executed LL( $R$ ). If the update occurs, `true` is returned and we say the SC is successful; otherwise, the value of  $R$  does not change and `false` is returned.

A *universal construction* provides a general mechanism to automatically execute pieces of sequential code in a concurrent environment. It supports a single operation, called PERFORM, which takes as parameters a piece of sequential code and a list of input arguments for this code. The algorithm that implements PERFORM applies a sequence of operations on shared objects provided by the system. We use the term *base objects* to refer to these objects and we call the operations on them *primitives*. A primitive is *non-trivial* if it may change the value of the base object; otherwise, the primitive is called *trivial*. To avoid ambiguities and to simplify the exposition, we require that all data items in the sequential code are only accessed via the instruction `CREATEDI`, `READDI`, and `WRITEDI`, which create a new data item, read (any part of) the data item, and write to (any part of) the data item, respectively.

A *configuration* provides a global view of the system at some point in time. In an *initial configuration*, each process is in its initial state and each base object has its initial value. A *step* consists of a primitive applied to a base object by a process and may also contain local computation by that process. An *execution* is a (finite or infinite) sequence  $C_i, \phi_i, C_{i+1}, \phi_{i+1}, \dots, \phi_{j-1}, C_j$  of alternating configurations ( $C_k$ ) and steps ( $\phi_k$ ), where the application of  $\phi_k$  to configuration  $C_k$  results in configuration  $C_{k+1}$ , for each  $i \leq k < j$ . An execution  $\alpha$  is *indistinguishable* from another execution  $\alpha'$  for some processes, if each of these processes takes the same steps in  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha'$ , and each of these steps has the same response in  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha'$ . An execution is *solo* if all its steps are taken by the same process.

From this point on, for simplicity, we use the term operation to refer to an instance of an operation. The *execution interval* of an operation starts with the first step of the corresponding call to PERFORM and terminates when that call returns. Two operations *overlap* if the call to PERFORM for one of them occurs during the execution interval of the other. If a process has invoked PERFORM for an operation that has not yet returned, we say that the operation is *active*. A process can have at most one active operation in any configuration. A configuration is *quiescent* if no operation is active in the configuration.

Let  $\alpha$  be any execution. We assume that processes may experience *crash failures*. If a process  $p$  does not fail in  $\alpha$ , we say that  $p$  is *correct* in  $\alpha$ . *Linearizability* [23] ensures that, for every completed operation in  $\alpha$  and some of the uncompleted operations, there is some point within the execution interval of the operation called its *linearization point*, such that the response returned by the operation in  $\alpha$  is the same as the response it would return if all these operations were executed serially in the order determined by their linearization points. When this holds, we say that the responses of the operations are *consistent*. An implementation is

*linearizable* if all its executions are linearizable. An implementation is *wait-free* [20] if, in every execution, each correct process completes each operation it performs within a finite number of steps.

Since we consider linearizable universal constructions, every quiescent configuration of an execution of a universal construction applied to a sequential data structure defines a state. This is the state of the data structure resulting from applying each operation linearized prior to this configuration, in order, starting from the initial state of the data structure.

Two operations *contend* on a base object  $b$  if they both apply a primitive to  $b$  and at least one of these primitives is non-trivial. We are now ready to present the definition of disjoint-access parallelism that we use to prove our impossibility result. It is weaker than all the variants discussed in Section 2.

**Definition 1. (Feeble Disjoint-Access Parallelism).** *An implementation resulting from a universal construction applied to a (sequential) data structure is feebly disjoint-access parallel if, for every solo execution  $\alpha_1$  of an operation  $op_1$  and every solo execution  $\alpha_2$  of an operation  $op_2$ , both starting from the same quiescent configuration  $C$ , if the sequential code of  $op_1$  and  $op_2$  access disjoint sets of data items when each is executed starting from the state of the data structure represented by configuration  $C$ , then  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  contend on no base objects. A universal construction is feebly disjoint-access parallel if all implementations resulting from it are feebly disjoint-access parallel.*

We continue with definitions that are needed to define the version of disjoint-access parallelism ensured by our algorithm. Fix any execution  $\alpha = C_0, \phi_0, C_1, \phi_1, \dots$ , produced by a linearizable universal construction  $U$ . Then there is some linearization of the completed operations in  $\alpha$  and a subset of the uncompleted operations in  $\alpha$  such that the responses of all these operations are consistent. Let  $op$  be any one of these operations, let  $I_{op}$  be its execution interval, let  $C_i$  denote the first configuration of  $I_{op}$ , and let  $C_j$  be the first configuration at which  $op$  has been linearized. Since each process has at most one uncompleted operation in  $\alpha$  and each operation is linearized within its execution interval, the set of operations linearized before  $C_i$  is finite. For  $i \leq k < j$ , let  $S_k$  denote the state of the data structure which results from applying each operation linearized in  $\alpha$  prior to configuration  $C_k$ , in order, starting from the initial state of the data structure. Define  $DS(op, \alpha)$ , the data set of  $op$  in  $\alpha$ , to be the set of all data items accessed by  $op$  when executed by itself starting from  $S_k$ , for  $i \leq k < j$ .

The *conflict graph* of an execution interval  $I$  of  $\alpha$  is an undirected graph, where vertices represent operations whose execution intervals overlap with  $I$  and an edge connects two operations  $op$  and  $op'$  if and only if  $DS(op, \alpha) \cap DS(op', \alpha) \neq \emptyset$ . The following variant of disjoint-access parallelism is ensured by our algorithm.

**Definition 2. (Disjoint-Access Parallelism).** *An implementation resulting from a universal construction applied to a (sequential) data structure is disjoint-access parallel if, for every execution containing a process executing  $\text{PERFORM}(op_1)$  and a process executing  $\text{PERFORM}(op_2)$  that contend on some base object, there is a path between  $op_1$  and  $op_2$  in the conflict graph of the minimal execution interval containing  $op_1$  and  $op_2$ .*

The original definition of disjoint-access parallelism in [24] differs from Definition 2 in that it does not allow two operations  $op_1$  and  $op_2$  to read the same base object even if there is no path between  $op_1$  and  $op_2$  in the conflict graph of the minimal execution interval that contains them. Also, that definition imposes a bound on the step complexity of disjoint-access parallel algorithms. Our definition is a slightly stronger version of the disjoint-access parallel variant defined in [9] in the context of transactional memory. This definition allows two operations to contend, (but not *concurrently* contend) on the same base object if there is no path connecting them in the conflict graph. This definition makes the lower bound proved there stronger, whereas our definition makes the design of an algorithm (which is our goal) more difficult. Our definition is obviously weaker than strict disjoint-access parallelism [18], since our definition allows two processes to contend even if the data sets of the operations they are executing are disjoint.



## 4 Impossibility Result

To prove the impossibility of a wait-free universal construction with feeble disjoint-access parallelism, we consider an implementation resulting from the application of an arbitrary feebly disjoint-access parallel universal construction to the singly-linked list discussed in Section 3. We show that there is an execution in which an instance of SEARCH does not terminate. The idea is that, as the process  $p$  performing this instance proceeds through the list, another process,  $q$ , is continually appending new elements with different values. If  $q$  performs each instance of APPEND before  $p$  gets too close to the end of the list, disjoint-access parallelism prevents  $q$  from helping  $p$ . This is because  $q$ 's knowledge is consistent with the possibility that  $p$ 's instance of SEARCH could terminate successfully before it accesses a data item accessed by  $q$ 's current instance of APPEND. Also, process  $p$  cannot determine which nodes were appended by process  $q$  after it started the SEARCH. The proof relies on the following natural assumption about universal constructions. Roughly speaking, it formalizes that the operations of the concurrent implementation resulting from applying a universal construction to a sequential data structure should simulate the behavior of the operations of the sequential data structure.

**Assumption 3** (Value-Obliviousness Assumption). *If an operation of a data structure is value oblivious, then, in any implementation resulting from the application of a universal construction to this data structure, the sets of base objects read from and written to during any solo execution of a sequence of consecutive instances of this operation starting from a quiescent configuration do not depend on the values of the input parameters.*

We consider executions of the implementation of a singly-linked list  $L$  in which process  $p$  performs a single instance of SEARCH( $L, 0$ ) and process  $q$  performs instances of APPEND( $L, i$ ), for  $i \geq 1$ , and possibly one instance of APPEND( $L, 0$ ). The sequential of the singly-linked list code is given in Appendix A. We may assume the implementation is deterministic: If it is randomized, we fix a sequence of coin tosses for each process and only consider executions using these coin tosses.

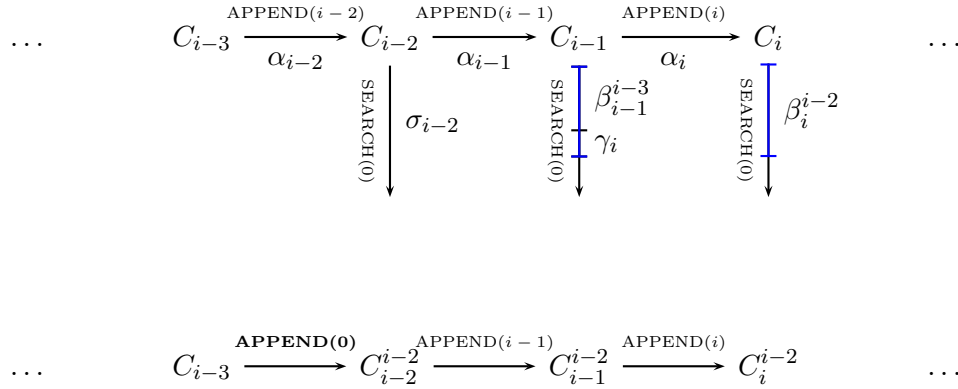


Figure 1: Configurations and Sequences of Steps used in the Proof

Let  $C_0$  be the initial configuration in which  $L$  is empty. Let  $\alpha$  denote the infinite solo execution by  $q$  starting from  $C_0$  in which  $q$  performs APPEND( $L, i$ ) for all positive integers  $i$ , in increasing order. For  $i \geq 1$ , let  $C_i$  be the configuration obtained when process  $q$  performs APPEND( $L, i$ ) starting from configuration  $C_{i-1}$ . Let  $\alpha_i$  denote the sequence of steps performed in this execution. Let  $B(i)$  denote the set of base objects written to by the steps in  $\alpha_i$  and let  $A(i)$  denote the set of base objects these steps read from but do not write to. Notice that the sets  $A(i)$  and  $B(i)$  partition the set of base objects accessed in  $\alpha_i$ . In configuration  $C_i$ , the list  $L$  consists of  $i$  nodes, with values  $1, \dots, i$  in increasing order.

For  $1 < j \leq i$ , let  $C_i^j$  be the configuration obtained from configuration  $C_0$  when process  $q$  performs the first  $i$  operations of execution  $\alpha$ , except that the  $j$ 'th operation, APPEND( $L, j$ ), is replaced by APPEND( $L, 0$ );

namely, when  $q$  performs  $\text{APPEND}(L, 1), \dots, \text{APPEND}(L, j - 1), \text{APPEND}(L, 0), \text{APPEND}(L, j + 1), \dots, \text{APPEND}(L, i)$ . Since  $\text{APPEND}$  is value oblivious, the same set of base objects are written to during the executions leading to configurations  $C_i$  and  $C_i^j$ . Only base objects in  $\cup\{B(k) \mid j \leq k \leq i\}$  can have different values in  $C_i$  and  $C_i^j$ .

For  $i \geq 3$ , let  $\sigma_i$  be the steps of the solo execution of  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  by  $p$  starting from configuration  $C_i$ . For  $1 < j \leq i$ , let  $\beta_i^j$  be the longest prefix of  $\sigma_i$  in which  $p$  does not access any base object in  $\cup\{B(k) \mid k \geq j\}$  and does not write to any base object in  $\cup\{A(k) \mid k \geq j\}$

**Lemma 4.** For  $i \geq 3$  and  $1 < j \leq i$ ,  $\beta_i^j = \beta_{i+1}^j$  and  $\beta_{i+1}^{i-1}$  is a prefix of  $\beta_{i+2}^i$ .

*Proof.* Only base objects in  $B(i + 1)$  have different values in configurations  $C_i$  and  $C_{i+1}$ . Since  $\beta_i^j$  and  $\beta_{i+1}^j$  do not access any base objects in  $B(i + 1)$ , it follows from their definitions that  $\beta_i^j = \beta_{i+1}^j$ . In particular,  $\beta_{i+2}^i = \beta_{i+1}^i$ , which, by definition contains  $\beta_{i+1}^{i-1}$  as a prefix.  $\square$

For  $i \geq 3$ , let  $\gamma_{i+2}$  be the (possibly empty) suffix of  $\beta_{i+2}^i$  such that  $\beta_{i+1}^{i-1}\gamma_{i+2} = \beta_{i+2}^i$ . Figure 1 illustrates these definitions.

Let  $\alpha' = \alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4\beta_4^2\alpha_5\gamma_5\alpha_6\gamma_6 \dots$ . We show that this infinite sequence of steps gives rise to an infinite valid execution starting from  $C_0$  in which there is an instance of  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  that never terminates. The first steps of this execution are illustrated in Figure 2.

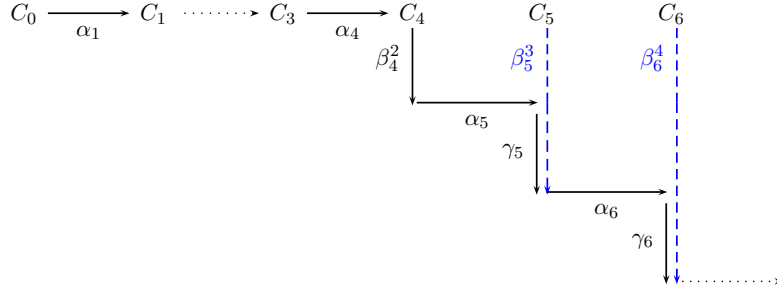


Figure 2: An Infinite Execution with a Non-terminating  $\text{SEARCH}$  Operation

Since  $\beta_4^2$  does not write to any base objects accessed in  $\alpha_2\alpha_3 \dots$  and, for  $i \geq 4$ ,  $\beta_{i+1}^{i-1} = \beta_i^{i-2}\gamma_{i+1}$  does not write to any base object accessed in  $\alpha_{i-1}\alpha_i \dots$ , the executions arising from  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha'$  starting from  $C_0$  are indistinguishable to process  $q$ . Furthermore, since  $\beta_{i+1}^{i-1}$  and, hence,  $\gamma_{i+1}$  does not access any base object written to by  $\alpha_{i-1}\alpha_i \dots$ , it follows that  $\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4\beta_4^2\alpha_5\gamma_5 \dots \alpha_j\gamma_j$  and  $\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4 \dots \alpha_j\beta_j^{j-2}$  are indistinguishable to process  $p$  for all  $j \geq 4$ . Thus  $\alpha'$  is a valid execution.

Next, for each  $i \geq 4$ , we prove that there exists  $j > i$  such that  $\gamma_j$  is nonempty. By the value obliviousness assumption, only base objects in  $B(i - 2) \cup B(i - 1) \cup B(i)$  can have different values in  $C_i$  and  $C_i^{i-2}$ . Since  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  does not access any of these base objects,  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  is also a prefix of  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from  $C_i^{i-2}$ . Since  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from  $C_i^{i-2}$  is successful, but starting from  $C_i$  is unsuccessful,  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  is not completed after  $\beta_i^{i-2}$ . Therefore  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  is a proper prefix of  $\sigma_i$ . Let  $b$  be the base object accessed in the first step following  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  in  $\sigma_i$ . For  $j \geq i + 1$ , only base objects in  $\cup\{B(k) \mid i + 1 \leq k \leq j\}$  can have different values in  $C_i$  and  $C_j$ . Therefore the first step following  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  in  $\sigma_j$  is the same as the first step following  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  in  $\sigma_i$ .

To obtain a contradiction, suppose that  $\beta_i^{i-2} = \beta_{i+3}^{i+1}$ . Then  $b$  is the base object accessed in the first step following  $\beta_{i+3}^{i+1}$  in  $\sigma_{i+3}$ . By definition of  $\beta_{i+3}^{i+1}$ , there is some  $\ell \geq i + 1$  such that the first step following  $\beta_{i+3}^{i+1}$  in  $\sigma_{i+3}$  is either an access to  $b \in B(\ell)$  or a write to  $b \in A(\ell)$ .

Let  $S$  denote the state of the data structure in configuration  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$ . In state  $S$ , the list has  $\ell - 1$  nodes and the third last node has value 0. Thus, the set of data items accessed by  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from state  $S$  consists of  $L.\text{first}$  and the first  $\ell - 3$  nodes of the list. This is disjoint from the set of data items

accessed by  $\text{APPEND}(L, \ell)$  starting from state  $S$ , which consists of  $L.\text{last}$ , the last node of the list, and the newly appended node. Hence, by feeble disjoint access parallelism, the solo executions of  $\text{APPEND}(L, \ell)$  and  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$  contend on no base objects.

By the value obliviousness assumption,  $B(\ell)$  is the set of base objects written to in the solo execution of  $\text{APPEND}(L, \ell)$  starting from  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$  and  $A(\ell)$  is the set of base objects read from, but not written to in that execution.

By the value obliviousness assumption, only base objects in  $B(\ell-3) \cup B(\ell-2) \cup B(\ell-1)$  can have different values in  $C_{\ell-1}$  and  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$ . Since  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  does not access any of these base objects,  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  is also a prefix of  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$  and the first step following  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  in this execution is the same as the first step following  $\beta_i^{i-2}$  in  $\sigma_i$ . Recall that this is either an access to  $b \in B(\ell)$  or a write to  $b \in A(\ell)$ . Thus, the solo executions of  $\text{APPEND}(L, \ell)$  and  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$  starting from  $C_{\ell-1}^{\ell-3}$  contend on  $b$ . This is a contradiction. Hence,  $\beta_i^{i-2} \neq \beta_{i+3}^{i+1}$  and it follows that at least one of  $\gamma_{i+1}$ ,  $\gamma_{i+2}$ , and  $\gamma_{i+3}$  is nonempty.

Therefore  $\gamma_j$  is nonempty for infinitely many numbers  $j$  and, in the infinite execution  $\alpha'$ , process  $p$  never completes its operation  $\text{SEARCH}(L, 0)$ , despite taking an infinite number of steps. Hence, the implementation is not wait-free and we have proved the following result:

**Theorem 5.** *No feebly disjoint-access parallel universal construction is wait-free.*

## 5 The DAP-UC Algorithm

To execute an operation  $op$ , a process  $p$  locally simulates the execution of  $op$ 's instructions without modifying the shared representation of the simulated state. This part of the execution is the simulation phase of  $op$ . Specifically, each time  $p$  accesses a data item while simulating  $op$ , it stores a copy in a local dictionary. All subsequent accesses by  $p$  to this data item (during the same simulation phase of  $op$ ) are performed on this local copy. Once all instructions of  $op$  have been locally simulated,  $op$  enters its modifying phase. At that time, one of the local dictionaries of the helpers of  $op$  becomes shared. All helpers of  $op$  then use this dictionary and apply the modifications listed in it. In this way, all helpers of  $op$  apply the same updates for  $op$ , and consistency is guaranteed.

```

1  type varrec
2      value val
3      ptr to oprec A[1..n]
4  type statrec
5      { (simulating),
6        (restart, ptr to oprec restartedby),
7        (modifying, ptr to dictionary of dictrec changes,
8          value output)
9      }
10     } status
11 type oprec
12     code program
13     process id owner
14     value input
15     value output
16     ptr to statrec status
17     ptr to oprec tohelp[1..n]
18 type dictrec
19     ptr to varrec key
20     value newval

```

Figure 3: Type definitions

The algorithm maintains a record for each data item  $x$ . The first time  $op$  accesses  $x$ , it makes an announcement by writing appropriate information in  $x$ 's record. It also detects conflicts with other operations that are accessing  $x$  by reading this record. So, conflicts are detected without violating disjoint access parallelism. The algorithm uses a simple priority scheme, based on the process identifiers of the owners of

the operations, to resolve conflicts among processes. When an operation  $op$  determines a conflict with an operation  $op'$  of higher priority,  $op$  helps  $op'$  to complete before it continues its execution. Otherwise,  $op$  causes  $op'$  to restart and the owner of  $op$  will help  $op'$  to complete once it finishes with the execution of  $op$ , before it starts the execution of a new operation. The algorithm also ensures that before  $op'$  restarts its simulation phase, it will help  $op$  to complete. These actions guarantee that processes never starve.

We continue with the details of the algorithm. The algorithm maintains a record of type **oprec** (lines 11-17) that stores information for each initiated operation. When a process  $p$  wants to execute an operation  $op$ , it starts by creating a new **oprec** for  $op$  and initializing it appropriately (line 22). In particular, this record provides a pointer to the code of  $op$ , its input parameters, its output, the status of  $op$ , and an array indicating whether  $op$  should help other operations after its completion and before it returns. We call  $p$  the *owner* of  $op$ . To execute  $op$ ,  $p$  calls **HELP** (line 23). To ensure wait-freedom, before  $op$  returns, it helps all other operations listed in the *tohelp* array of its **oprec** record (lines 24-25). These are operations with which  $op$  had a conflict during the course of its execution, so disjoint-access parallelism is not violated. The algorithm also maintains a record of type **varrec** (lines 1-3) for each data item  $x$ . This record contains a *val* field, which is an LL/SC object that stores the value of  $x$ , and an array  $A$  of  $n$  LL/SC objects, indexed by process identifiers, which stores **oprec** records of operations that are accessing  $x$ . This array is used by operations to announce that they access  $x$  and to determine conflicts with other operations that are also accessing  $x$ .

The execution of  $op$  is done in a sequence of one or more *simulation phases* (lines 34-53) followed by a *modification phase* (lines 54-62). In a simulation phase, the instructions of  $op$  are read (lines 36, 37, and 50) and the execution of each one of them is simulated locally. The first time each process  $q$  helping  $op$  (including its owner) needs to access a data item (lines 38, 43), it creates a local copy of it in its (local) dictionary (lines 42, 46). All subsequent accesses by  $q$  to this data item (during the current simulation phase of  $op$ ) are performed on this local copy (line 48). During the modification phase,  $q$  makes the updates of  $op$  visible by applying them to the shared memory (lines 56-62).

The *status* field of  $op$  determines the execution phase of  $op$ . It contains a pointer to a record of type **statrec** (lines 4-10) where the status of  $op$  is recorded. The status of  $op$  can be either *simulating*, indicating that  $op$  is in its simulation phase, *modifying*, if  $op$  is in its modifying phase, *done*, if the execution of  $op$  has been completed but  $op$  has not yet returned, or *restart*, if  $op$  has experienced a conflict and should re-execute its simulation phase from the beginning. Depending on which of these values *status* contains, it may additionally store another pointer or a value.

To ensure consistency, each time a data item  $x$  is accessed for the first time,  $q$  checks, before reading the value of  $x$ , whether  $op$  conflicts with other operations accessing  $x$ . This is done as follows:  $q$  announces  $op$  to  $x$  by storing a pointer  $opr$  to  $op$ 's **oprec** in  $A[opr \rightarrow owner]$ . This is performed by calling **ANNOUNCE** (line 39). **ANNOUNCE** first performs an LL on  $var_x \rightarrow A[p]$  (line 68), where  $var_x$  is the **varrec** for  $x$  and  $p = opr \rightarrow owner$ . Then, it checks if the status of  $op$  (line 69) remains *simulating* and, if this is so, it performs an SC to store  $op$  in  $var_x \rightarrow A[p]$  (line 70). These instructions are then executed one more time. This is needed because an obsolete helper of an operation, initiated by  $p$  before  $op$ , may successfully execute an SC on  $var_x \rightarrow A[p]$  that stores a pointer to this operation's **oprec**. However, we prove in Section 6 that this can happen only once, so executing the instructions on lines 68-70 twice is enough to ensure consistency.

After announcing  $op$  to  $var_x$ ,  $q$  calls **CONFLICTS** (line 40) to detect conflicts with other operations that access  $x$ . In **CONFLICTS**,  $q$  reads the rest of the elements of  $var_x \rightarrow A$  (lines 76-77). Whenever a conflict is detected (i.e., the condition of the **if** statement of line 78 evaluates to **true**) between  $op$  and some other operation  $op'$ , **CONFLICTS** first checks if  $op'$  is in its modifying phase (line 82) and, if so, it helps  $op'$  to complete. In this way, it is ensured that, once an operation enters its modification phase, it will complete its operation successfully. Therefore, once the status of an operation becomes *modifying*, it will next become *done*, and then, henceforth, never change. If the status of  $op'$  is *simulating*,  $q$  determines which of  $op$  or  $op'$  has the higher priority (line 84). If  $op'$  has higher priority (line 89), then  $op$  helps  $op'$  by calling **HELP**( $op'$ ). Otherwise,  $q$  first adds a pointer  $opr'$  to the **oprec** of  $op'$  into  $opr \rightarrow tohelp$  (line 85), so that the owner of  $op$  will help  $op'$  to complete after  $op$  has completed. Then  $q$  attempts to notify  $op'$  to restart, using **SC** (line 87) to change the status of  $op'$  to *restart*. A pointer  $opr$  is also stored in the status field of  $op'$ . When  $op'$

```

21 value PERFORM(prog, input) by process p:
22   opptr := pointer to a new oprec record
23   opptr → program := prog, opptr → input := input, opptr → output := ⊥
24   opptr → owner := p, opptr → status := simulating, opptr → tophelp[1..n] := [nil, . . . , nil]
25   HELP(opptr)
26   for p' := 1 to n excluding p do
27     if (opptr → tohelp[p'] ≠ nil) then HELP(opptr → tohelp[p'])
28   return(opptr → output)
29
30 HELP(opptr) by process p:
31   opstatus := LL(opptr → status)
32   while (opstatus ≠ done)
33     if opstatus = (restart, opptr') then
34       HELP(opptr')
35       SC(opptr → status, ⟨simulating⟩)
36       opstatus := LL(opptr → status)
37     if opstatus = (simulating) then
38       dict := pointer to a new empty dictionary of dictrec records
39       ins := the first instruction in opptr → program
40       while ins ≠ return(v)
41         if ins is (WRITEDI(x, v) or READDI(x)) and (there is no dictrec with key x in dict)
42           then
43             ANNOUNCE(opptr, x)
44             CONFLICTS(opptr, x)
45             if ins = READDI(x) then valx := x → val else valx := v
46             add new dictrec ⟨x, valx⟩ to dict
47           else if ins is CREATEDI() then
48             x := pointer to a new varrec record
49             x → A[1..n] := [nil, . . . , nil]
50             add new dictrec ⟨x, nil⟩ to dict
51           else
52             execute ins, using/changing the value in the appropriate entry of dict if necessary
53             if ¬VL(opptr → status) then break
54             ins := next instruction of opptr → program
55           /* end while */
56         if ins is return(v) then
57           SC(opptr → status, ⟨modifying, dict, v⟩)
58           opstatus := LL(opptr → status)
59         if opstatus = (modifying, changes, out) then
60           opptr → outputs := out
61           for each dictrec ⟨x, v⟩ in the dictionary pointed to by changes do
62             LL(x → val)
63             if ¬VL(opptr → status) then return
64             SC(x → val, v)
65             LL(x → val)
66             if ¬VL(opptr → status) then return
67             SC(x → val, v)
68           /* end for */
69           SC(opptr → status, done)
70           opstatus := LL(opptr → status)
71         /* end while */
72   return
73
74
75 CONFLICTS(opptr, x) by process p:
76   for p' := 1 to n excluding opptr → owner do
77     opptr' := LL(x → A[p'])
78     if (opptr' ≠ nil) then
79       opstatus' := LL(opptr' → status)
80       if ¬VL(opptr → status) then return
81       if (opstatus' = ⟨modifying, changes, output⟩)
82         then HELP(opptr')
83       else if (opstatus' = ⟨simulating⟩) then
84         if (opptr → owner < p') then
85           /* op has higher priority than op', restart op' */
86           opptr → tohelp[p'] := opptr'
87           if ¬VL(opptr → status) then return
88           SC(opptr' → status, ⟨restart, opptr'⟩)
89           if (LL(opptr' → status) = ⟨modifying, changes, output⟩) then
90             HELP(opptr')
91           else HELP(opptr')
92         /* opptr → owner > p' */
93   return

```

Figure 4: The code of PERFORM, HELP, ANNOUNCE, and CONFLICTS.

restarts its simulation phase, it will help  $op$  to complete (lines 30-33), if  $op$  is still in its simulation phase, before it continues with the re-execution of the simulation phase of  $op'$ . This guarantees that  $op$  will not cause  $op'$  to restart again.

Recall that each helper  $q$  of  $op$  maintains a local dictionary. This dictionary contains an element of type `dictrec` (lines 18-20) for each data item that  $q$  accesses (while simulating  $op$ ). A dictionary element corresponding to data item  $x$  consists of two fields, `key`, which is a pointer to  $var_x$ , and `newval`, which stores the value that  $op$  currently knows for  $x$ . Notice that only one helper of  $op$  will succeed in executing the `SC` on line 52, which changes the status of  $op$  to `modifying`. This helper records a pointer to the dictionary it maintains for  $op$ , as well as its output value, in  $op$ 's `status`, to make them public. During the modification phase, each helper  $q$  of  $op$  traverses this dictionary, which is recorded in the status of  $op$  (lines 54, 56). For each element in the dictionary, it tries to write the new value into the `varrec` of the corresponding data item (lines 57-59). This is performed twice to avoid problems with obsolete helpers in a similar way as in `ANNOUNCE`.

**Theorem 6.** *The DAP-UC universal construction (Figures 3 and 4) produces disjoint-access parallel, wait-free, concurrent implementations when applied to objects that have a bound on the number of data items accessed by each operation they support.*

## 6 Proof of the DAP-UC Algorithm

### 6.1 Preliminaries

The proof is divided in three parts, namely consistency (Section 6.2), wait-freedom (Section 6.3) and disjoint-access parallelism (Section 6.4). The proof considers an execution  $\alpha$  of the universal construction applied to some sequential data structure. The configurations referred to in the proof are implicitly defined in the context of this execution. We first introduce a few definitions and establish some basic properties that follow from inspection of the code.

Observe that an `oprec` is created only when a process begins `PERFORM` (on line 22). Thus, we will not distinguish between an operation and its `oprec`.

**Observation 7.** *The status of each `oprec` is initially `simulating` (line 22). It can only change from `simulating` to `modifying` (lines 34,52), from `modifying` to `done` (lines 54,63), from `simulating` to `restart` (lines 83,87), and from `restart` to `simulating` (lines 30,32).*

Thus, once the status of an `oprec` becomes `modifying`, it can only change to `done`.

**Observation 8.** *Let  $op$  be any operation and let  $opptr$  be the pointer to its `oprec`. When a process returns from `HELP(opptr)` (on line 58, 61 or 65),  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$ .*

This follows from the exit condition of the `while` loop (line 29) and the fact that, once the status of an `oprec` becomes `modifying`, it can only change to `done`.

**Observation 9.** *In every configuration, there is at most one `oprec` owned by each process whose status is not `done`.*

This follows from the fact that, when a process returns from `PERFORM` (on line 26), has also returned from a call to `HELP` (on line 23), so the status of the `oprec` it created (on line 22) has status `done`, and the fact that a process does not call `PERFORM` recursively, either directly or indirectly.

**Observation 10.** *For every `varrec`,  $A[i]$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is initially `nil` and is only changed to point to `oprecs` with owner  $i$ .*

This follows from the fact that  $A[i]$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is initialized to `nil` when the `varrec` is created (on line 44) and is updated only on lines 70 or 73.

## 6.2 Consistency

An *attempt* is an endeavour by a process to simulate an operation. Formally, let  $op$  be any operation initiated by process  $q$  in  $\alpha$  and let  $opptr$  be the pointer to its  $oprec$ , i.e.,  $opptr \rightarrow owner = q$ .

**Definition 11.** An attempt of  $op$  by a process  $p$  is the longest execution interval that begins when  $p$  performs a LL on  $opptr \rightarrow status$  on line 28, 33, or 53 that returns *simulating* and during which  $opptr \rightarrow status$  does not change.

The first step after the beginning of an attempt is to create an empty dictionary of `dictrecs` (line 35). So, each dictionary is uniquely associated with an attempt. We say that an attempt is *active* at each configuration  $C$  contained in the execution interval that defines the attempt.

Let  $p$  be a process executing an attempt  $att$  of  $op$ . If immediately after the completion of  $att$ ,  $p$  successfully changes  $opptr \rightarrow status$  to  $\langle modifying, chgs, val \rangle$  (by performing a SC on  $opptr \rightarrow status$  on line 52), then  $att$  is *successful*. Notice that, in this case,  $chgs$  is a pointer to the dictionary associated with  $att$ .

By Observation 7, only one process executing an attempt of  $op$  can succeed in executing the SC that changes the status of  $op$  to  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  (on line 52). Next observation then follows from the definition of a successful attempt:

**Observation 12.** For each operation, there is at most one successful attempt.

In  $att$ ,  $p$  *simulates* instructions on behalf of  $op$  (lines 34 - 52). The simulation of an instruction  $ins$  starts when  $ins$  is fetched from  $op$ 's *program* (on lines 36 or 50) and *ends* either just before the next instruction starts simulated, or just after the execution of the SC on line 52 if  $ins$  is the last instruction of  $opptr \rightarrow program$ .

When  $p$  simulates a `CREATEDI()` instruction, it allocates a new `varrec` record  $x$  in its own stripe of shared memory (line 44) and adds a pointer to it in the dictionary associated with  $att$  (line 46); in this case, we also say that  $p$  *simulates the creation of*, or *creates*  $x$ . Notice that  $x$  is initially *private*, as it is known only by  $p$ ; it may later become *public* if  $att$  is successful. Next definition captures precisely the notion of public `varrec`.

We say that a `varrec`  $x$  is *referenced* by operation  $op$  in some configuration  $C$ , if  $opptr \rightarrow status = \langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ , where  $chgs$  is a pointer to a dictionary that contains a `dictrec` record whose first component, *key*, is a pointer to  $x$ .

**Definition 13.** A `varrec`  $x$  is *public* in configuration  $C$  if and only if it is *static* or there exists an operation that *references*  $x$  in  $C$  or in some configuration that precedes it.

We say that  $p$  *simulates an access of* (or *access*) some `varrec`  $x$  by (for)  $op$ , if it either simulates an  $ins \in \{\text{READDI}(x), \text{WRITEDI}(x, -)\}$ , or creates  $x$ . Observe that if  $x$  is public in configuration  $C$ , it is also public in every configuration that follows. Also, before it is made public,  $x$  cannot be accessed by a process that has not created it.

**Observation 14.** If, in  $att$ ,  $p$  starts the simulation of an instruction  $ins \in \{\text{WRITEDI}(x, -), \text{READDI}(x)\}$  at some configuration  $C$ , then either  $x$  is created by  $p$  in  $att$  before  $C$ , or there exists a configuration preceding the simulation of  $ins$  in which  $x$  is *public*.

Notice that each time  $p$  accesses for the first time a `varrec`  $x$  during  $att$ , a new `dictrec` record is added for  $x$  to the dictionary associated with  $att$  (on lines 42 or 46). From this and by inspecting the code lines 38, 42, 43 and 46 follows the observation below.

**Observation 15.** If a `varrec`  $x$  is accessed by  $p$  during  $att$  for  $op$ , then the first time that it accesses  $x$ , the following hold:

1.  $p$  executes either lines 38 to 42 or lines 43 to 46 exactly once for  $x$ ,
2.  $p$  inserts a `dictrec` record for  $x$  in the dictionary associated with  $att$  exactly once, i.e., this record is *unique*.

We say that  $p$  announces  $op$  on a `varrec`  $x$  during  $att$ , if it successfully executes an `SC` of line 70 or line 73 on  $x.A[q]$  (recall that  $opptr \rightarrow owner = q$ ) with value  $opptr$ , during a call of `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` (on line 39). Distinct processes may perform attempts of the same operation  $op$ . However, once an operation has been announced to a `varrec`, it can only be replaced by a more recent operation owned by the same process (i.e., one initiated by  $q$  after  $op$ 's response), as shown by the next lemma.

**Lemma 16.** *Assume that  $p$  calls `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` in  $att$ . Suppose that in the configuration  $C_A$  immediately after  $p$  returns from that call,  $att$  is active. Then, in configuration  $C_A$  and every configuration that follows in which  $opptr \rightarrow status \neq done$ ,  $(x.A[opptr \rightarrow owner]) = opptr$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $att$  is active when  $p$  returns from `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )`, the tests performed on lines 69 and 72 are successful. So,  $p$  performed `LL( $x \rightarrow A[q], opptr$ )` on lines 68 and 71 respectively. Let  $C_{LL1}$  and  $C_{LL2}$  be the configurations immediately after  $p$  performed line 68 and 71, respectively.

Let  $C$  be a configuration after  $p$  has returned from the call of `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` in which  $opptr \rightarrow status \neq done$ . Assume, by contradiction, that  $(x.A[q]) = opptr'$  in  $C$ , where  $opptr'$  is a pointer to an operation  $op' \neq op$ . Let  $p'$  be the last process that changes the value of  $x.A[q]$  to  $opptr'$  before  $C$ . Therefore  $p'$  performed a successful `SC( $x.A[q], opptr'$ )` on line 70 or line 73. This `SC` is preceded by a `VL( $opptr' \rightarrow status$ )` (on line 69 or line 72), which is itself preceded by a `LL( $x \rightarrow A[q]$ )` (on line 68 or line 71). Denote by  $C'_{SC}, C'_{VL}$  and  $C'_{LL}$ , respectively, the configurations that immediately follow each of these steps. Since the `VL` applied by  $p'$  on  $(opptr' \rightarrow status)$  is successful,  $opptr' \rightarrow status = simulating$  in configuration  $C'_{VL}$ .

By Observation 10,  $opptr' \rightarrow owner = q$ . By Observation 9, in every configuration, there is only one operation owned by  $q$  whose status is not *done*. Since  $op$  has status *simulating* when  $p$  started its attempt and the status of  $op$  is not equal to *done* in  $C$ , it then follows from Observation 7 that the status of  $op'$  is *done* when the attempt  $att$  of  $op$  by  $p$  started. Therefore, configuration  $C'_{VL}$ , in which the status of  $op'$  is *simulating*, must precede the first configuration in which  $att$  is active. In particular,  $C'_{VL}$  precedes  $C_{LL1}$  and thus  $C'_{LL}$  precedes  $C_{LL1}$ .

We consider two cases according to the order in which  $C_{LL2}$  and  $C'_{SC}$  occur:

- $C'_{SC}$  occurs before  $C_{LL2}$ . In that case, no process performs a successful `SC( $x \rightarrow A[q], opptr''$ )`, where  $opptr''$  is a pointer to an operation  $op'' \neq op$ , after  $C'_{SC}$  and before  $C$ ; this follows from the definition of  $p'$ . Notice that the second `SC( $x \rightarrow A[q], opptr$ )` performed by  $p$  on line 73 is executed after  $C'_{SC}$ , so it cannot be successful. However, this `SC` is unsuccessful only if a process  $\neq p$  performs a successful `SC` on  $x \rightarrow A[q]$  after  $C_{LL2}$  and before it, thus between  $C'_{SC}$  and  $C$ , which is a contradiction.
- $C_{SC'}$  occurs after  $C_{LL2}$ . Notice that  $C'_{LL}$  precedes  $C_{LL1}$  and  $p$  performs a `SC( $x.A[q], opptr$ )` (on line 70) between  $C_{LL1}$  and  $C_{LL2}$ . If this `SC` is successful, then the `SC( $x.A[q], opptr'$ )` performed by  $p'$  immediately before  $C_{SC'}$  cannot be successful, which is a contradiction. Otherwise, another process performs a successful `SC` on  $x.A[q]$  after  $C_{LL1}$  and before  $p$  performs the `SC( $x.A[q], opptr$ )` on line 70, which also prevents the `SC` performed by  $p'$  from being successful, which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Attempts of distinct operations may access the same `varrecs`. When an attempt  $att$  of  $op$  accesses a `varrec`  $x$  for the first time by simulating `READDI( $x$ )` or `WRITEDI( $x, \_$ )`, the operation is first announced to  $x$  (on line 39) and then `CONFLICTS( $opptr, x$ )` is called (on line 40,  $opptr$  is a pointer to  $op$ ) to check whether another attempt  $att'$  of a distinct operation  $op'$  is concurrently accessing  $x$ . If this is the case (line 78),  $op'$  is either restarted (on line 87) or helped (on lines 82, 88 or 89). Since when `HELP( $op'$ )` returns, the status of  $op'$  is *done* (Observation 8), in both cases attempt  $att'$  is no longer active when the call to `CONFLICTS( $opptr, x$ )` returns. This is precisely what next Lemma establishes.

**Lemma 17.** *Let  $att, att'$  be two attempts by two processes denoted  $p$  and  $p'$ , respectively, of two operations  $op, op'$  owned by  $q, q'$ , where  $q \neq q'$ , respectively. Let  $x$  be a `varrec`. Denote by  $opptr$  and  $opptr'$  two pointers to  $op$  and  $op'$  respectively. Suppose that:*

- in  $att$ ,  $p$  calls `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` and returns from that call,



- in  $att'$ ,  $p'$  calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  (on line 40) and returns from that call; denote by  $C'_D$  the configuration that follows the termination of  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  by  $p'$ .
- $p'$  returns from  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$  after  $p$  returns from  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, x)$ .

Then, if  $att'$  is active in  $C'_D$ , the following hold:

1.  $att$  is not active in  $C'_D$ ;
2. if  $att$  is successful,  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  in  $C'_D$ .

*Proof.* Let  $C_A$  denote the configuration immediately after  $p$  returns from  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, x)$ . Similarly, denote by  $C'_A$  the configuration immediately after  $p'$  returns from  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$ . We have that  $C'_A$  occurs after  $C_A$ , and  $C'_A$  occurs before  $p'$  calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$ .

The proof is by contradiction. Let us assume that  $att'$  is active in  $C'_D$  and either  $att$  is active in  $C'_D$  or  $att$  is successful and  $opptr \rightarrow status \neq done$  in  $C'_D$ . Consider the execution by  $p'$  of the call  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$ , which ends at configuration  $C'_D$ . In particular, as  $q' = op' \rightarrow owner \neq op \rightarrow owner = q$ , process  $p'$  checks whether an operation owned by  $q$  has been announced to the  $\text{varrec}$  pointed to by  $x$  (on line 76). We derive a contradiction by examining the steps taken by process  $p'$  in the iteration of the **for** loop in which  $x \rightarrow A[q]$  is examined.

Let  $C$  be a configuration that follows  $C_A$  and precedes  $C'_D$  or is equal to  $C'_D$ . We show that  $x \rightarrow A[q] = opptr$  in  $C$ . On one hand,  $att$  is active in configuration  $C_A$  and thus  $opptr \rightarrow status = simulating$  in this configuration. On the other hand, either  $att$  is still active in  $C'_D$ , or  $att$  is successful, but  $opptr \rightarrow status \neq done$  in  $C'_D$ . Therefore, by Observation 7, the status of  $op$  does not change between  $C_A$  and  $C'_D$  or is changed to  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$ . Hence,  $opptr \rightarrow status \in \{simulating, \langle modifying, -, - \rangle\}$  in  $C$ .

In particular the configuration  $C'_{RA}$  that immediately precedes the read of  $x.A[q]$  by  $p'$  (LL on line 77) occurs after  $C_A$  and before  $C'_D$ .  $C'_{RA}$  thus occurs after the call of  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, x)$  by  $p$  returns, and the status of  $op$  is not done in this configuration. Therefore, by applying Lemma 16, we have that  $A[q] = opptr$  in  $C'_{RA}$ .

As attempt  $att'$  is active in  $C'_D$ , it is active when  $p'$  performs  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$ . In particular, each VL on  $opptr' \rightarrow status$  performed by  $p'$  (on line 80 or 86) in the execution of  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  returns **true**. Therefore,  $p'$  reads the status of the operation pointed to by  $opptr$  (LL( $opptr \rightarrow status$ ) on line 79). In the configuration to which this LL is applied, which occurs between  $C_A$  and  $C'_D$ , the status of  $op$  is either  $simulating$  or  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  for what above stated.

We consider two cases, according to the value read from  $opptr \rightarrow status$  by  $p'$ :

- The read of  $opptr \rightarrow status$  by  $p'$  returns  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$ . In that case,  $p'$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  (line 82). In the configuration  $C$  in which  $p'$  returns from this call,  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  (Observation 8). As  $C$  is  $C'_D$  or occurs prior to  $C'_D$ , but after  $C_A$ , and the status of  $op$  is never changed to  $done$  between  $C_A$  and  $C'_D$ , this is a contradiction.
- The read of  $opptr \rightarrow status$  by  $p'$  returns  $simulating$  (line 83). We distinguish two sub-cases according to the relative priorities of  $op$  and  $op'$ :
  - $q' < q$ , i.e.,  $op'$  has higher priority than  $op$ . In this case,  $p'$  tries to change the status of  $op$  to  $\langle restart, - \rangle$  by performing a SC on  $opptr \rightarrow status$  with parameter  $\langle restart, opptr' \rangle$  (line 87). The SC is performed in a configuration that follows  $C_A$  and that precedes  $C'_D$ . The SC cannot succeed. Otherwise there is a configuration between  $C_A$  and  $C'_D$  where  $opptr \rightarrow status$  is  $\langle restart, opptr' \rangle$ . This contradicts the fact that the status of  $op$  is  $simulating$  or  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  in every configuration between  $C_A$  and  $C'_D$ . Therefore,  $opptr \rightarrow status$  has been changed to  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  before the SC is performed by  $p'$ . Thus,  $p'$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  (on line 88) after performing the unsuccessful SC. When this call returns,  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  (Observation 8) which is a contradiction.

- $q < q'$ . In that case,  $p'$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$ . As in the previous case, a contradiction can be obtained, since when  $p'$  returns from this call,  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  (Observation 8), and  $p'$  returns from the call to  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  before  $C'_D$ .  $\square$

In an attempt of  $op$ , a new **varrec** is created each time a  $\text{CREATEDI}()$  instruction is simulated on line 44. For such a **varrec** to be later accessed in another attempt, a pointer to it must be either written to the *val* field of another **varrec**, or passed as an input parameter to an operation. Moreover, when the **varrec** is accessed, the status of the operation  $op$  is done.

**Lemma 18.** *Suppose that in  $att$ ,  $p$  creates a **varrec**  $x$ . If an instruction  $\text{READDI}(x)$  or  $\text{WRITEDI}(x, -)$  is simulated in an attempt  $att'$  of an operation  $op' \neq op$ , then  $op \rightarrow status = done$  in the configuration preceding the beginning of the simulation of this instruction.*

*Proof.* Recall that  $x$  is allocated to a new shared memory slot (on line 44) and then a **dictrec** with key a pointer to  $x$  is added to the dictionary associated with  $att$  (on line 46). While  $att$  is active, the dictionary associated with it is private. Hence, in order for a  $\text{WRITEDI}()$  or  $\text{READDI}()$  with parameter  $x$  to be simulated in  $att'$ , the dictionary associated with  $att$  has to be made public, which can occur only if  $att$  is successful. Moreover, there is a **varrec**  $x'$  created by  $att$  such that  $x'$  is written to a **varrec** that is not created by  $att$ , or it is returned by  $op$ . This is so, since otherwise, no **varrecs** created in  $att$  can be accessed in any attempt other than  $att$ , which contradicts the fact that  $x$  is accessed by  $att'$ . In the second case, the code (lines 23 and 26) and Observation 8 imply that  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  before a pointer to  $x$  is passed as a parameter to  $op'$ , that is before  $att'$  simulates an access on  $x$ ; so, the claim holds. We continue with the first case. Denote by  $W$  the set of **varrecs** that are written by  $att$  but have not been created by it.

In  $att'$ , an instruction  $\text{WRITEDI}(x, -)$  or  $\text{READDI}(x)$  is simulated. Since  $x$  is a dynamic **varrec**, this instruction is preceded by a simulation of a  $\text{READDI}()$  instruction on some data item not created by  $att'$  that returns a pointer to  $x$ . Assume that the first such instruction  $R$  has parameter  $y$ . We argue that  $R$  is the first access of  $y$  by  $att'$ . This is so since a copy of  $y$  is inserted into the dictionary of  $att'$  the first time it is accessed by  $att'$  and any subsequent access of  $y$  by  $att'$  returns the value written in the dictionary.

1.  $y \in W$ . Note that  $y$  is neither created in  $att$  nor in  $att'$  but accessed in both attempts. Therefore, Observation 15 implies that the first time it is accessed in  $att$ ,  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, y)$  and  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, y)$  are called (lines 39–40). Both calls terminate, as  $att$  is successful. Denote by  $C_A$  and  $C_D$  the configurations that follow the termination of  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, y)$  and  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, y)$ , respectively. Notice that  $att$  is active in  $C_D$ . This is due to the fact that  $att$  remains active until the **SC** on line 52 that changes the status of  $op$  to  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$  is applied.

Similarly, Observation 15 implies that  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', y)$  and  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', y)$  are called when  $att'$  simulates  $\text{READDI}(y)$ . Both calls terminate, since the simulation of  $\text{READDI}(y)$  by  $att'$  returns a value. Denote by  $C'_A$  and  $C'_D$  the configurations that follow the termination of  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', y)$  and  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', y)$ , respectively. Note that  $att'$  is active in  $C'_D$  since another instruction, namely,  $\text{READDI}(x)$  or  $\text{WRITEDI}(x, -)$ , is simulated later, and the status of  $op'$  is validated before a new instruction is simulated (line 49).

If  $C_A$  occurs before  $C'_A$ , it follows from Lemma 17 that  $opptr \rightarrow status = done$  in  $C'_D$ . Therefore, by Observation 7, the status of  $op$  is *done* when the simulation of  $\text{READDI}(x)$  or  $\text{WRITEDI}(x, -)$  starts in  $att'$ . Otherwise,  $C'_A$  occurs before  $C_A$ . In that case, it follows from Lemma 17 that  $att'$  is not active in  $C_D$ . Since the **SC** on line 52 by  $att$  is executed after  $C_D$  and  $x$  becomes visible to other attempts only after this **SC**, it is not possible for  $att'$  to access  $x$ , which is a contradiction.

2.  $y \notin W$ . In this case, a pointer  $ptr_x$  to  $x$  is written to  $y.val$  before  $y.val$  is read in  $att'$ . This means that in an attempt  $att'' \notin \{att, att'\}$ , an instruction  $\text{WRITEDI}(y, ptr_x)$  is simulated. Moreover, as in  $att'$ , this instruction is preceded by the simulation of a  $\text{READDI}()$  instruction that returns  $x$ . We apply inductively the same reasoning to  $att''$  to prove the Lemma. In each induction step, the number of configurations between the creation of  $x$  (in  $att$ ) and the first time a  $\text{READDI}()$  that returns  $x$  is simulated in the attempt considered strictly decreases. This ensures the termination of the induction process.  $\square$

Next lemma establishes that in every configuration, no two operations that are in their modifying phase reference the same `varrec`. This lemma plays a central role in the definition of the state of the data structure at the end of a prefix of the (concurrent) execution.

**Lemma 19.** *Let  $op, op'$  denote two distinct operations, and let  $C$  be a configuration. Suppose that in  $C$ ,  $op \rightarrow status = \langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$  and  $op' \rightarrow status = \langle modifying, chgs', - \rangle$ , where  $chgs$  and  $chgs'$  are pointers to dictionaries  $d$  and  $d'$  respectively. Then there is no `dictrec` with the same key in both  $d$  and  $d'$ .*

*Proof.* Assume, by contradiction, that dictionaries  $d$  and  $d'$  have a `dictrec` whose `key` field points to the same `varrec`  $x$  in configuration  $C$ . Since every process owns at most one operation with  $status \neq done$  in every configuration (Observation 9),  $op \rightarrow owner \neq op' \rightarrow owner$ .

Consider a process that changes the status of  $op$  to  $\langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ . This occurs when this process performs a `SC` on  $op \rightarrow status$  (on line 52). Since once the status of an operation is  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$ , it can only change to `done` (Observation 7), and for this `SC` to be successful, the status of  $op$  must be `simulating` in the configuration in which it is applied, there is a unique such process. Denote by  $p$  this process. Before changing the status of  $op$  to  $\langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ ,  $p$  performs a (successful) attempt of  $op$  (lines 36 - 50). Denote  $att$  this attempt. Note that the dictionary associated with  $att$  is  $d$ . Hence, a `dictrec`  $\langle x, - \rangle$  is added to  $d$  during  $att$ . Define similarly attempt  $att'$  by process  $p'$ , the successful attempt of  $op'$  that ends with the `SC` that changes the status of  $op'$  to  $\langle modifying, chgs', - \rangle$ . As in  $att$ , a `dictrec`  $\langle x, - \rangle$  is added to  $d'$  in  $att'$ .

We consider two cases, according to the instructions simulated when a `dictrec` with a pointer  $ptr_x$  to  $x$  is added in  $att$  or  $att'$ .

- In both  $att$  and  $att'$ , some `dictrec` with key  $x$  is added to  $d$  when a `READDI(x)` or `WRITEDI(x, -)` is simulated. By the code,  $p$  calls in  $att$  `ANNOUNCE(opptr, x)` and `CONFLICTS(opptr, x)` (on lines 39 and 40, respectively) before adding a `dictrec`  $\langle ptr_x, - \rangle$ , to its dictionary (on line 42), where  $opptr$  is pointing to  $op$ . Similarly,  $p'$  calls in  $att'$  `ANNOUNCE(opptr', x)` and `CONFLICTS(opptr', x)`, where  $opptr'$  is a pointer to  $op'$ , and  $p'$  returns from both calls. Assume without loss of generality that  $p'$  returns from `ANNOUNCE(opptr', x)` after  $p$  returns from `ANNOUNCE(opptr, x)` by  $p$ . Denote by  $C'_D$  the configuration immediately after  $p'$  returns from `CONFLICTS(opptr', x)`. As  $att'$  is a successful attempt, whose end occurs when  $p'$  changes the status of  $op'$  to  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$ ,  $att'$  is active in  $C'_D$ .

Therefore, by Lemma 17,  $att$  is not active in  $C'_D$  and, since  $att$  is a successful attempt, the status of  $op$  is `done` in this configuration. This contradicts the fact that the status  $op$  and  $op'$  is  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  at  $C$  that follows  $C'_D$ .

- A `dictrec` with key  $x$  is added to  $d$  or  $d'$  when a `CREATEDI()` is simulated. Whenever a new `varrec` is created (on line 44), a distinct shared memory slot is allocated to this `varrec`. A `dictrec` record  $\langle ptr_x, - \rangle$  cannot thus be added in both  $d$  and  $d'$  at line 46 when a `CREATEDI()` instruction is simulated.

Suppose without loss of generality that, in  $att$ ,  $\langle x, - \rangle$  is added to  $d$  on line 46, as a result of the simulation of a `CREATEDI()` instruction.  $ptr_x$  is thus added to  $d'$  the first time a `READDI(x)` or `WRITEDI(x, -)` instruction for  $op'$  is simulated by  $p'$  in  $att'$ . By Lemma 18,  $op$  status is `done` in the configuration immediately before the simulation of this instruction begins. Therefore there is no configuration in which the status of  $op$  and  $op'$  is  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$ : a contradiction.  $\square$

Suppose that  $att$  is a successful attempt of  $op$ . Hence, the status of  $op$  is changed just after  $att$  to  $\langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ . The changes resulting from the instructions simulated in  $att$  are stored in the dictionary pointed to by  $chgs$ . While the status of  $op$  is  $\langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ , some processes try to apply these changes by modifying the value of the `varrecs` referenced by  $op$  (on lines 54–64). Next lemma establishes that the changes described by the dictionary pointed to by  $chgs$  are successfully applied by the time that the status of  $op$  is changed to `done`.

**Lemma 20.** *Suppose that  $C_M$  is the last configuration in which the status of  $op$  is  $\langle modifying, chgs, - \rangle$ , where  $chgs$  is a pointer to a dictionary  $d$  of `dictrecs`. Let  $C$  be a configuration that follows  $C_M$ . For every `dictrec`  $\langle ptr_x, v \rangle$  in  $d$ , where  $ptr_x$  is a pointer to a `varrec`  $x$ ,  $ptr_x \rightarrow val = v$  in  $C$  or there exists a configuration  $C'$  following  $C_M$  and preceding  $C$  and an operation  $op'$  such that  $op'$  is referencing  $x$  in  $C'$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be the process that successfully performs  $\text{SC}(op \rightarrow \text{status}, \text{done})$  on line 63 just after  $C_M$ . Suppose that in every configuration  $C'$  following  $C_M$  and preceding  $C$ , no operation references  $x$ . Assume, by contradiction, that  $\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val} = v' \neq v$  in  $C$ .

Consider the steps performed by  $p$  in the execution of the iteration of the **for** loop (lines 57 - 62) that corresponds to the **dictrec**  $\langle \text{ptr}_x, v \rangle$ . Notice that these steps precede  $C_M$ . In this iteration,  $p$  tries to change the  $\text{val}$  of  $x$  to  $v$ . Since  $p$  is the process that changes the status of  $op$  to  $\text{done}$ , it follows that  $p$  does not return on lines 58 and 61. Thus,  $p$  executes two **SC** instructions  $\text{SC}_1$  and  $\text{SC}_2$  on lines 59 and 59, respectively; let  $\text{LL}_1$  and  $\text{LL}_2$  be the matching **LL** instructions to these **SC**. Notice that, for each  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , there is a successful **SC** between  $\text{LL}_i$  and  $\text{SC}_i$ . Let  $\text{SC}'_i$  be this successful **SC** (notice that  $\text{SC}'_i$  may be  $\text{SC}_i$  if  $\text{SC}_i$  is successful).

Since  $\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val} = v' \neq v$  in configuration  $C$ , some process changes  $\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val}$  to  $v'$ . Let  $p'$  be the last process that changes  $\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val}$  to  $v'$  prior to  $C$ . By the code,  $p'$  performs successfully  $\text{SC}(\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val}, v')$  on line 59 or 62; denote by  $\text{SC}'$  this **SC** and let  $\text{LL}'$  and  $\text{VL}'$  be its matching **LL** and **VL** (which are executed on lines 57 and 58 or 60 and 61), respectively. Since  $\text{ptr}_x \rightarrow \text{val} = v' \neq v$  in  $C$ , either  $\text{SC}' = \text{SC}'_2$  or  $\text{SC}'$  occurs after  $\text{SC}'_2$ .

The status of  $op'$  when  $\text{VL}'$  is executed is  $\langle \text{modifying}, \text{chgs}', \_ \rangle$ , where  $\text{chgs}'$  is a pointer to a dictionary that includes a **dictrec**  $\langle x, v' \rangle$ , thus  $op'$  references  $x$  when  $\text{VL}'$  is executed. Since we have assumed that no operation references  $x$  in any configuration between  $C_M$  and  $C$ ,  $\text{VL}'$  precedes  $C_M$ . By Lemma 19,  $x$  cannot be referenced by two operations at the same time. Hence,  $\text{VL}'$  occurs before the status of  $op$  is changed to  $\langle \text{modifying}, \text{chgs}, \_ \rangle$ . In particular,  $\text{VL}'$ , and therefore also  $\text{LL}'$  precedes  $\text{LL}_1$ . Since  $\text{SC}'$  is realized at  $\text{SC}'_2$  or after it,  $\text{SC}'_1$  occurs between  $\text{LL}'$  and  $\text{SC}'$ . Thus,  $\text{SC}'$  is not successful. This is a contradiction.  $\square$

Recall that the state of a sequential data structure is a collection of pairs  $(x, v)$  where  $x$  is a data item and  $v$  is a value for that data item. The state of the data structure we consider does not depend on where its data items are stored, so by the value of a pointer we mean which object it points to and not the location of that object in shared memory. The initial state of a sequential data structure consists of its static data items and their initial values.

Initially, there is one **varrec** for each static data item of the data structure. Each **varrec** that is created (on line 44) becomes a public dynamic data item if the attempt that creates it is successful. The *current value* of a **varrec** in a configuration is the value of its  $\text{val}$  field, unless the **varrec** is referenced by an operation  $op$ , in which case it is the  $\text{newval}$  field in **dictrec**, the dictionary contained in  $op$ 's  $\text{status}$ , whose  $\text{key}$  points to this **varrec**. Note that, by Lemma 19, in each configuration, each **varrec** is referenced by at most one operation.

Recall that a **varrec** is public in configuration  $C$  if it corresponds to a **varrec** of a static data item or there exists a configuration  $C'$  equal to  $C$  or preceding it in which it is referenced by an operation. For every configuration  $C$  in  $\alpha$ , denote by  $D_C$  the set of pairs  $(x, v)$ , where  $x$  is a public **varrec** and  $v$  is its current value in  $C$ . Notice that  $D_0 = S_0$ , where  $S_0$  is the initial state of the data structure. We establish in Theorem 24 that, after having assign linearization points to operations,  $D_C$  is the state of the data structure that results if the operations linearized before  $C$  are applied sequentially, in order, starting from the initial state, i.e., that  $D_C = S_C$ .

If an attempt by  $p$  of an operation  $op$  is active in configuration  $C$ , we define the *local state* of the data structure in  $C$  for the operation and the process that performs the attempt as follows.

**Definition 21.** For every configuration  $C$  and every operation  $op$ , if an attempt  $\text{att}$  by  $p$  of  $op$  is active in  $C$ , the local state  $LS(C, p, op)$  of the data structure in configuration  $C$  for  $\text{att}$  is the set of pairs  $(x, v)$  such that, in configuration  $C$ :

- the dictionary associated with  $\text{att}$  contains a **dictrec**  $\langle x, v \rangle$  or,
- the dictionary associated with  $\text{att}$  does not contain any **dictrec** with key  $x$  and  $(x, v) \in D_C$ .

The goal is to capture the state of the data structure after the instructions simulated so far in  $\text{att}$  are applied sequentially to  $D_C$ . We will indeed establish in Theorem 24 that  $LS(C, p, op)$  is the state of the data

structure, resulting from the sequential application of the instructions of  $att$  simulated thus far by  $p$  to  $S_C$ . Operations are linearized as follows:

**Definition 22.** *Each operation is linearized at the first configuration in the execution at which its status is  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$ .*

By the code and the way the linearization points are assigned, it follows that:

**Lemma 23.** *The linearization point of each operation is within its execution interval.*

We continue with our main theorem which proves consistency.

**Theorem 24** (Linearizability). *Let  $C$  be any configuration in execution  $\alpha$ . Then, the following hold:*

1.  $D_C = S_C$ .
2. *Let  $att$  be an attempt of an operation  $op$  by a process  $p$  that is active in  $C$  and let  $\tau$  be the sequence of instructions of  $op$  that have been simulated by  $p$  until  $C$ . Denote by  $\rho$  the sequence of the first  $|\tau|$  instructions in a sequential execution of  $op$  starting from state  $S_C$ . Then,  $\rho = \tau$  and  $LS(C, p, op) = S_C\tau$ , where  $S_C\tau$  is the state of the data structure if the instructions in  $\tau$  are applied sequentially starting from  $S_C$ .*

The proof of Theorem 24 relies on the following lemma.

**Lemma 25.** *Let  $att$  denote an attempt by  $p$  of some operation  $op$ . Suppose that in  $att$ ,  $x \rightarrow val$  is read by  $p$  while an instruction  $READDI(x)$  is simulated (line 41), let  $r$  be this read of  $x \rightarrow val$ , let  $v$  be the value returned by  $r$ , and denote by  $C_r$  the configuration immediately before this read. Then, in every configuration  $C$  such that  $C$  is  $C_r$  or some configuration that follows  $C_r$  and  $att$  is active at  $C$ ,  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in  $D_C$ .*

*Proof.* Assume, by contradiction, that in some configuration  $C_b$  between  $C_r$  and  $C$ , the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C_b}$  is not  $v$ . Denote by  $C'$  the first such configuration, and let  $v'$  be the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}$ . Note that  $C'$  may be configuration  $C_r$ .

By definition of  $S_{C'}$ ,  $v'$  is the current value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}$  if either there exists an operation  $op'$  whose status is  $\langle \text{modifying}, chgs', - \rangle$  where  $chgs'$  is pointing to a dictionary that contains a `dictrec` with key  $x$  or no such operation exists and  $v' = x \rightarrow val$ .

In configuration  $C_r$ , which is equal to  $C'$  or precedes  $C'$ ,  $x \rightarrow val = v \neq v'$ . Since in every configuration  $C''$  between  $C_r$  and  $C'$  (if any), the value of  $x$  is  $v$  in  $S_{C''}$ , there exists an operation  $op'$  whose status is  $\langle \text{modifying}, chgs', - \rangle$  where  $chgs'$  is pointing to a dictionary that contains a `dictrec` with key  $x$ . By Lemma 19,  $op'$  is unique.

Let  $p'$  be the process that changes the status of  $op'$  from *simulating* to  $\langle \text{modifying}, chgs', - \rangle$ . Notice that this occurs before  $C'$ . By the code, it follows that  $p'$  calls  $ANNOUNCE(opptr', x)$  and  $CONFLICTS(opptr', x)$  where  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op'$ . Denote by  $C'_A$  and  $C'_D$  the configurations in which  $p'$  returns from  $ANNOUNCE(opptr', x)$  and  $CONFLICTS(opptr', x)$ , respectively. Notice that  $C'_A$  and  $C'_D$  precede  $C'$ .

By the code it follows that before reading  $x \rightarrow val$ ,  $p$  calls  $ANNOUNCE(opptr, x)$  and  $CONFLICTS(opptr, x)$  where  $opptr$  is pointing to  $op$ . Denote by  $C_A$  and  $C_D$  the configurations in which  $p$  returns from  $ANNOUNCE(opptr, x)$  and  $CONFLICTS(opptr, x)$ , respectively. Notice that  $C_A$  and  $C_D$  precede  $C_R$  and therefore also  $C'$ .

We consider two cases based on the order in which  $C_A$  and  $C'_A$  occur.

- $C'_A$  occurs after  $C_A$ . By Lemma 17,  $att$  is not active in  $C'_D$ . This is a contradiction, since  $att$  is active in configurations  $C_A$  and  $C$ , and  $C'_D$  occurs between  $C'_A$  (which, by assumption, follows  $C_A$ ) and  $C$ .
- $C_A$  occurs after  $C'_A$ . The attempt of  $op'$  by  $p'$  in which it calls  $ANNOUNCE(opptr', x)$  and  $CONFLICTS(opptr', x)$  is successful, since  $p'$  is the process that changes the status of  $op'$  to  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$ . Thus, it follows from Lemma 17 that the status of  $op'$  in  $C_D$  is *done*, contradicting the fact that  $op'$  status is  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$  at  $C'$  that occurs later.  $\square$

We finally prove Theorem 24.

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on the sequence of configurations in  $\alpha$ . The claims are trivially true for the initial configuration  $C_0$ . Suppose that the claims is true for configuration  $C$  and every configuration that precedes it. Let  $C'$  be the configuration that immediately follows  $C$  in  $\alpha$ .

We first prove claim 1. If no operation has its status changed to  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$  between  $C$  and  $C'$ , then  $D_{C'} = D_C = S_C$ . This follows from the definition of  $D_C$ , Lemma 20, and the induction hypothesis (claim 1). Otherwise, denote by  $op$  the operation whose status is changed to  $\langle \text{modifying}, \text{chgs}, - \rangle$  in  $C'$ . The status of  $op$  is changed by a SC performed by some process  $p$  on line 52. This SC ends a (successful) attempt  $att$  of  $op$  by  $p$ . Then, in configuration  $C'$ , the dictionary pointed to by  $\text{chgs}$  is the dictionary associated with  $att$ . Hence, by definition of  $D_{C'}$  and  $LS(C, p, op)$ ,  $D_{C'} = LS(C, p, op)$ . By the inductive hypothesis (claim 2),  $LS(C, p, op) = S_C\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is the sequence of instructions simulated by  $att$  until  $C$ . Notice that the last instruction of  $\tau$  is the last instruction of  $op$  and  $op$  is the only operation that is linearized at  $C'$ . Thus, by definition of  $S_{C'}$ , it follows that  $S_C\tau = S_{C'}$ . Since  $LS(C, p, op) = S_C\tau$ , and  $D_{C'} = LS(C, p, op)$ , it follows that  $D_{C'} = S_{C'}$ , as needed by claim 1.

Since by claim 1,  $D_{C'} = S_{C'}$ , it follows that for each data item in  $S_{C'}$  there is a unique **varrec** in  $D_{C'}$  that corresponds to this data item and vice versa. So, in the rest of proof, we sometimes abuse notation and use  $x$  to refer either to a **varrec** in  $D_{C'}$  or to a data item in  $S_{C'}$ .

We now prove claim 2. Let  $att$  be an attempt by  $p$  of some operation  $op$ . If  $att$  is not active in  $C$  but is active in  $C'$ , the step preceding  $C'$  is a LL that reads the status of  $op$  (on lines 28, 33, 53 or 64). In that case, no step of  $op$  has been simulated until  $C'$ , so  $\rho$  and  $\tau$  are empty and by definition,  $LS(C', p, op) = S_{C'}$ . So, claim 2 holds trivially in this case.

In the remaining of the proof, we assume that  $att$  is active in both  $C$  and  $C'$ . Denote by  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$  the sequences of instructions of  $op$  simulated in  $att$  until  $C$  and  $C'$ , respectively. Let  $d_C$  and  $d_{C'}$  be the values of the dictionary  $d$  that is associated with attempt  $att$ , in configurations  $C$  and  $C'$ , respectively.

We argue below that two properties, called P1 and P2 below, which are important ingredients of the proof, are true:

P1 Let  $C_i$  be either  $C$  or a configuration that precedes  $C$  in which  $att$  is active. Let  $\tau_i$  be the sequence of instructions that have been simulated in  $att$  until  $C_i$ . If  $x$  is a **varrec** such that  $\text{READDI}(x)$  is the first access of  $x$  in  $\tau_i$  then the value of  $x$  is the same in states  $S_{C_i}$  and  $S_{C'}$ .

To prove P1, denote by  $v$  the value returned by the simulation of the first  $\text{READDI}(x)$  in  $\tau_i$ . Notice that this is also the value read on line 41 when  $\text{READDI}(x)$  is simulated in  $att$ . Also, since  $\text{READDI}(x)$  has been simulated by  $C_i$ , it follows that this read precedes  $C_i$ . Since  $att$  is active in configurations  $C_i$  and  $C'$ , Lemma 25 implies that  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in both states  $S_{C_i}$  and  $S_{C'}$ .

P2 Let  $C_i$  be either  $C$  or a configuration that precedes  $C$  in which  $att$  is active. Denote by  $d_{C_i}$  the value of  $d$  in  $C_i$  and by  $\tau_i$  the sequence of instructions that have been simulated in  $att$  until  $C_i$ . A **dictrec**  $\langle x, v \rangle$  is contained in  $d_{C_i}$  if and only if  $x$  has been accessed in  $\tau_i$  and  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C_i\tau_i}$ .

To prove P2, notice that by the code, a **dictrec** with key  $x$  is added to  $d$  if and only if an instruction accessing  $x$  is simulated (on lines 42 or 46). By the induction hypothesis for  $C_i$  (claim 2),  $S_{C_i\tau_i}$  is well defined and  $LC(C_i, p, op) = S_{C_i\tau_i}$ . Thus, by the definition of  $LC(C_i, p, op)$ ,  $\langle x, v \rangle$  is contained in  $d_{C_i}$  if and only if  $x$  has been accessed in  $\tau_i$  and  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C_i\tau_i}$ .

Fix any  $x$  that  $att$  has accessed for the first time by performing  $\text{READDI}(x)$ . Property P1 implies that  $x$  has the same value in  $S_C$  and  $S_{C'}$ . Since we have assumed that operations are deterministic and the state of the data structure does not depend on where its data items are stored, it follows that the first  $|\tau|$  instructions of  $op$  are the same and return the same values, independently of whether they are applied in a sequential execution starting from  $S_C$  or from  $S_{C'}$ . Since, by the induction hypothesis (claim 2),  $\tau$  is the same sequence as that containing the first  $|\tau|$  instructions of  $op$  executed sequentially starting from state  $S_C$ ,  $\tau$  is also the same as the sequence of first  $|\tau|$  instructions of  $op$  executed sequentially starting from state  $S_{C'}$ . Thus, if  $\tau = \tau'$ , claim 2 follows.

Assume now that  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$  differ, i.e.,  $\tau' = \tau \cdot \text{ins}$ . Let  $C''$  be the configuration immediately before the simulation of  $\text{ins}$  starts. If the simulation of  $\text{ins}$  starts on line 36, that is,  $\tau$  is the empty sequence and thus  $\tau' = \text{ins}$  and  $\text{ins}$  is the first instruction of  $op$  executed. Thus,  $\text{ins}$  is the first instruction of  $op$  when executed sequentially starting from state  $S_{C''}$ . Otherwise, the simulation of  $\text{ins}$  starts on line 50. In  $C''$ , the sequence of instructions of  $op$  that have been simulated is  $\tau$ . The fact that it is instruction  $\text{ins}$  that is simulated next depends on the input of  $op$ , the value  $d_{C''}$  of the dictionary  $d$  in configuration  $C''$  and  $op$ 's program. On the other hand, in a sequential execution, the instruction of  $op$  that follows  $\tau$  depends only on the input of  $op$ , the value of each data item accessed in  $\tau$  after  $\tau$  has been applied, and  $op$ 's program. By property P2 applied to  $C''$ ,  $d$  contains in  $C''$  a `dictrec`  $\langle x, v \rangle$  if and only if  $x$  is accessed in  $\tau$  and  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C''}\tau$ . Therefore  $\text{ins}$  is the instruction of  $op$  that follows  $\tau$  in any sequential execution in which  $op$  is applied to  $S_{C''}$ .

Moreover, in a sequential execution of  $op$  starting from state  $S_{C'}$ ,  $\tau$  is also the sequence of the first instructions of  $op$ . Hence, the same data items are accessed by the first  $|\tau|$  instructions of  $op$ , regardless of whether  $op$  is applied to  $S_{C''}$  or  $S_{C'}$ . Moreover, by property P1 applied to  $C''$  and the fact that program of  $op$  is deterministic, each of these data items have the same value in  $S_{C''}\tau$  and  $S_{C'}\tau$ . Therefore,  $\text{ins}$  is also the next instruction of  $op$  following  $\tau$  in any sequential execution in which  $op$  is applied to  $S_{C'}$ . We thus conclude that the first  $|\tau'|$  instructions of  $op$  when executed starting from state  $S_{C'}$  in a sequential execution is  $\tau'$ .

By the code, a `dictrec` with key  $x$  is added to  $d$  if and only if an instruction accessing  $x$  is simulated (on lines 42 or 46). Hence, in configuration  $C'$ , there is a `dictrec` with key  $x$  in  $d$  if and only if  $x$  is accessed in  $\tau'$  when  $op$  is applied to  $S_{C'}$  in a sequential execution. Therefore, the set of `varrecs` in  $LC(C', p, op)$  is the same as the set of data items in the state  $S_{C'}\tau'$ . Consider two pairs  $(x, v) \in LC(C', p, op)$  and  $(x, u) \in S_{C'}\tau'$ . To complete the proof that  $LC(C', p, op) = S_{C'}\tau'$ , we show that  $u = v$ :

- There is no `dictrec` with key  $x$  in  $d$  in configuration  $C'$ , or equivalently,  $x$  is not accessed by any instruction of  $\tau'$  when  $op$  is applied to  $S_{C'}$  in a sequential execution. Then the value of  $x$  in  $LC(C', p, op)$  is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}$  which is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}\tau'$ .
- $\tau' = \tau$  or  $\tau' = \tau \cdot \text{ins}$  but  $x$  is not accessed by  $\text{ins}$ . In that case, the value  $v$  of  $x$  in  $LC(C', p, op)$  is also the value of  $x$  in  $LC(C', p, op)$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $v$  is also the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}\tau$ . Since  $\tau = \tau'$  or  $\text{ins}$  is not accessing  $x$ ,  $v$  is also the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}\tau'$ .
- $\tau' = \tau \cdot \text{ins}$  and  $x$  is accessed by  $\text{ins}$ . If  $\text{ins}$  is `READDI`( $x$ ) and  $x$  is not accessed in  $\tau$ , it follows from Lemma 25 and the fact that  $\text{att}$  is active in  $C'$  that  $v$  is the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}$ . Thus  $v$  is also the value of  $x$  in  $S_{C'}\tau'$ . If  $\text{ins}$  is `READDI`( $x$ ) but  $x$  is accessed in  $\tau$ ,  $x$  has the same value in  $LS(C, p, op)$  and in  $LS(C', p, op)$ . Since  $x$  has also the same value in  $S_{C'}\tau'$  and  $S_{C'}\tau$ , it follows by the induction hypothesis that  $x$  has the same value in  $LS(C', p, op)$  and  $S_{C'}\tau'$ .

Finally, if  $\text{ins} = \text{WRITEDI}(x, v)$  or  $\text{ins}$  is a `CREATEDI`() that creates  $x$ ,  $x$  has the same value ( $v$  or  $\text{nil}$  if  $\text{ins} = \text{CREATEDI}()$ ) in both  $LC(p, C', op)$  and  $S_{C'}\tau'$ .

□

### 6.3 Wait Freedom

Consider any sequential data structure and suppose there is a constant  $M$  such that every sequential execution of an operation applied to the data structure starting from any (legal) state accesses at most  $M$  data items. Then we will prove that, in any (concurrent) execution  $\alpha$  of our universal construction, DAP-UC, applied to the data structure, every call of `PERFORM` by a nonfaulty process eventually returns.

**Observation 26.** *For every `oprec`,  $\text{tohelp}[p']$  is initially  $\text{nil}$  and is only changed to point to `oprecs` with owner  $p'$ .*

This follows from the fact that  $\text{tohelp}[p']$  is initialized to  $\text{nil}$  when the `oprec` is created (on line 22) and when it is updated (on line 85),  $\text{opptr}'$  points to an `oprec` whose owner is  $p'$ , by Observation 10 (line 77).

We say that  $op$  restarts  $op'$  in an execution if some process calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$ , where  $opptr$  points to  $op$  and  $x$  points to a  $\text{varrec}$ , and successfully performs  $\text{SC}(opptr' \rightarrow \text{status}, \langle \text{restart}, opptr \rangle)$  (on line 87), where  $opptr'$  points to  $op'$ . Note that, by line 84, this can only happen if the owner of  $op$  has higher priority (i.e. smaller identifier) than the owner of  $op'$ . Thus, an operation cannot restart another operation that has the same owner. Next, we show that an operation cannot restart more than one operation owned by each other process.

**Lemma 27.** *For any operation  $op$  and any process  $p$  other than its owner, there is at most one time that  $op$  restarts an operation owned by  $p$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose operation  $op$  has restarted operation  $op'$  owned by process  $p$ . Before any process can change the status of  $op'$  from  $\langle \text{restart}, opptr \rangle$  back to  $\text{simulating}$  (on line 32), where  $opptr$  is a pointer to  $op$ , it performs  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  on line 31. When this returns, the status of  $op$  is  $\text{done}$ , by Observation 8.

Consider any process  $q$  performing  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  with  $opptr$  pointing to  $op$ , after the status of  $op$  has been set to  $\text{done}$ . If, when it performs LL on line 79,  $q$  sees that  $op'$  has status  $\text{simulating}$ , it will see that the status of  $op$  is  $\text{done}$ , when it performs line 86. Hence,  $q$  will not restart  $op'$  on line 87.  $\square$

Conversely, we show that an operation cannot be restarted more than twice by operations owned by a single process.

**Lemma 28.** *For any operation  $op'$  and for any process  $p$  other than its owner, at most two operations owned by  $p$  can restart  $op'$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be the set containing those operations initiated by  $p$  that restart  $op'$ , which is owned by process  $p' \neq p$ . Let  $opptr'$  be a pointer to the  $\text{oprec}$  record of  $op'$ . Let  $|S| = k$  and assume, by the way of contradiction, that  $k > 2$ . Let  $op_i \in S$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , be the  $i$ -th operation that restarts  $op'$  when a process  $q_i$  executing an attempt of  $op_i$  successfully executes the SC on line 87 for  $op'$ ; let  $opptr_i$  be a pointer to the  $\text{oprec}$  record of  $op_i$ . Before doing so,  $q_i$  set  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p'] = opptr'$  (on line 85) and then checked that the status of  $op_i$  was still  $\text{simulating}$  (on line 86); thus,  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p']$  is written before the completion of  $op_i$ .

Lemma 27 implies that  $op_i$  will not restart any other operation owned by process  $p'$ . Recall that  $p$  does not call  $\text{PERFORM}$  recursively, either directly or indirectly; so, before  $op_{i+1}$  is initiated by  $p$ ,  $p$ 's call of  $\text{PERFORM}(opptr_i)$  should respond (on line 26). Before this response,  $p$  reads  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p']$  on line 25. Since, the call of  $\text{HELP}(opptr_i)$  by  $p$  (on line 23) has responded before this read, Observation 8 implies that this read is performed after the status of  $op_i$  changed to  $\text{done}$ ; thus, it is performed after  $q_i$  set  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p'] = opptr'$ .

If in the meantime the value of  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p']$  has not changed, then  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$ . By Observation 8, the status of  $op'$  is  $\text{done}$  when this call responds. Thus, any subsequent operation owned by  $p$  will see the status of  $op'$  is  $\text{done}$  and will not restart it. So, it should be that in the meantime some process  $q'_i$  set  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p'] = opptr'_i$ , where  $opptr'_i \neq opptr'$ , while executing an attempt of  $opptr_i$ . Observation 26 implies that  $opptr'_i$  points to the  $\text{oprec}$  record of some operation  $op'_i$  initiated by  $p'$ ;  $op'_i$  should be initiated by  $p'$  before  $op'$ , since otherwise Observation 9 implies that the status of  $op'$  has changed to  $\text{done}$  (so, any subsequent operation owned by  $p$  will see the status of  $op'$  is  $\text{done}$  and will not restart it). Observation 26 implies that the status of any operation initiated by  $p'$  before  $opptr'$  (including  $opptr'_i$ ), changed to  $\text{done}$  before the initiation of  $opptr'$ , that is before  $q_i$  sets  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p'] = opptr'$ , that is before  $p$  reads  $opptr_i \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p']$  (on line 25), that is before  $p$  initiates  $opptr_{i+1}$ .

Now consider any  $j$ ,  $1 < j \leq k$ . Notice that  $q'_j$  reads  $opptr'_j$  on line 77 and before it executes line 85, which sets  $opptr_j \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p'] = opptr'_j$ , it reads the status of  $opptr'_j$  (on line 79) and checks whether it is still  $\text{simulating}$  (on line 83). Since, this read is performed after the initiation of  $opptr_j$ , it follows that before it the status of  $opptr'_j$  has changed to  $\text{done}$ . So, the check fails and line 85 is not executed; that is a contradiction.  $\square$

From Lemmas 27 and 28, we get the following result.



**Corollary 29.** *An operation can be restarted at most  $2 * (n - 1)$ .*

Next, we bound the depth of recursion that can occur.

**Lemma 30.** *Suppose that, while executing  $\text{HELP}(opptr_i)$ , a process calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr_{i+1})$ , for  $1 \leq i < k$ . Then  $k \leq n$ .*

*Proof.* Process  $p$  may perform recursive calls to  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on lines 31, 82, 88, and 89. If  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  recursively on line 82 or 88, then, by Observation 7,  $opptr' \rightarrow status$  is either *modifying* or *done*, so, this recursive call will eventually return without itself making recursive calls to  $\text{HELP}$ .

By line 77 and Observation 10, when line 84 is performed,  $opptr' \rightarrow owner = p'$ . From line 84, if  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  recursively on line 89, then  $opptr \rightarrow owner > optr' \rightarrow owner$ .

If  $opptr' \rightarrow status = \langle restart, opptr' \rangle$ , then, from lines 87 and 84,  $opptr \rightarrow owner < optr' \rightarrow owner$ . Hence, if  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  recursively on line 31,  $opptr \rightarrow status = \langle restart, opptr' \rangle$ , so, again,  $opptr \rightarrow owner > optr' \rightarrow owner$ .

Thus, in any recursively nested sequence of calls to  $\text{HELP}$ , the process identifiers of the owners of the operations with which  $\text{HELP}$  is called is strictly decreasing, except for possibly the last call. Therefore  $k \leq n$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 31.** *Every call of  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  by a nonfaulty process eventually returns.*

*Proof.* Consider any call of  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  by a nonfaulty process  $p$  where  $opptr$  points to  $op$ . Immediately prior to every iteration of the **while** loop on lines 29–63 during  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$ , process  $p$  performs  $\text{LL}(opptr \rightarrow status)$  on line 28, 33, 53, or 64.

If  $op$  has status *done* at the beginning of an iteration,  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  returns immediately. If  $opptr$  has status *modifying*, no recursive calls to  $\text{HELP}$  are performed during the iteration. Then, Observation 15 and Theorem 24 (item 1) imply that the **dictrecs** in a dictionary have different keys (i.e. point to different **varrecs**) and correspond to different data items accessed by a sequential execution of  $op$  applied to the data structure (lines 38, 42, and 46). Thus, the total number of **dictrecs** in a dictionary is bounded above by  $M$  and, so, at most  $M$  iterations of the **for** loop on lines 56–62 are performed. Hence  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  eventually returns.

If  $opptr$  has status *restart*, then, during an iteration of the **while** loop,  $p$  performs one recursive call to  $\text{HELP}$  (on line 31) and, excluding this, performs a constant numbers of steps.

Finally, suppose that  $opptr$  has status *simulating* at the beginning of an iteration. Theorem 24 (item 2) implies that  $p$  simulates a finite number of instructions while it is executing an active attempt of  $op$ . After this attempt becomes inactive, the test on line 49 evaluates to true during this iteration, so  $p$  may simulate at most one more instruction during this iteration; so, the number of instructions is finite. For each instruction in its program,  $p$  performs one iteration of the **while** loop on lines 37–50, in which it takes a constant number of steps, excluding calls to **CONFLICTS**. Observation 15, Theorem 24 (item 2), and the definition of  $M$ , imply that **CONFLICTS** can be called at most  $M$  times during an active attempt of  $op$ . Then, Theorem 24 (item 2) imply that process  $p$  performs a constant number of steps and at most one recursive call to  $\text{HELP}$  (on line 82, 88, or 89) each time it calls **CONFLICTS**. Thus, excluding the recursive calls to  $\text{HELP}$ , this iteration of the **while** loop on lines 29–63 eventually completes.

If  $p$  does not return on line 65 after exiting from the **while** loop or on line 58 or 61, it tries to change  $opptr \rightarrow status$  via an **SC** on line 32, 52, or 63. Therefore, each time  $p$  performs an iteration of the **while** loop on lines 29–63,  $opptr \rightarrow status$  changes. It follows from Observation 7 and Corollary 29 that  $p$  performs at most  $2n$  complete iterations of this **while** loop during  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$ .

By Lemma 30, the depth of recursion of calls to  $\text{HELP}$  is bounded. Therefore, the call of  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  by  $p$  eventually returns.  $\square$

Finally, we prove wait freedom:

**Theorem 32.** *Every call of **PERFORM** by a nonfaulty process eventually returns.*

*Proof.* Consider any call of `PERFORM` by a nonfaulty process. In `PERFORM`, the process calls `HELP` at most  $n$  times (excluding recursive calls), each time for an `oprec` owned by a different process. It follows from Lemma 31 that all these instances of `HELP` eventually return. Thus, this call of `PERFORM` eventually returns.  $\square$

## 6.4 Disjoint access parallelism

As in the other part of the proof, we consider an execution  $\alpha$  of our universal construction applied to some data structure. Recall that the execution interval  $I_{op}$  of an operation  $op$  starts with the first step of the corresponding call to `PERFORM()` and terminates when this call returns. In the following to simplify the presentation we denote `PERFORM( $op$ )` the call to `PERFORM` corresponding to operation  $op$ .

Let  $C_{op}$  be the configuration immediately after  $p$  performs line 22, that is, immediately after an `oprec` has been initialized for  $op$ , and let  $C'_{op}$  be the first configuration at which the status of  $op$  is  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$ . Note that  $C_{\nu}$  is the configuration at which  $op$  is linearized, see Definition 22.

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{S_C \mid C \text{ is between } C_{op} \text{ and } C'_{op}\}$ . Then, for the data set  $DS(op)$  of  $op$ , it holds that  $DS(op) = \cup_{S_C \in \mathcal{S}} \{\text{set of data items accessed by } op \text{ when executed sequentially starting from } S_C\}$ .

We recall also the definition of the conflict graph of an execution interval  $I$ . The conflict graph is an undirected graph, where vertices represent operations whose execution interval overlaps  $I$  and an edge connects two operations whose data sets intersect. Given two operations  $op$  and  $op'$ , we denote by  $CG(op, op')$  the conflict graph of the minimal execution interval that contains  $I_{op}$  and  $I_{op'}$ . Finally, recall that we say that two processes contend on a base object  $b$  if they both apply a primitive on  $b$ , and at least one of these primitives is non-trivial.

Recall that an *attempt* of an operation  $op$  by a process  $p$  is a longest execution interval that begins when  $p$  performs `LL` on  $op \rightarrow \text{status}$  on line 28, 33, 53 or 64 that returns *simulating* and during which  $op \rightarrow \text{status}$  does not change.

**Lemma 33.** *When `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` is called, the data item  $x$  is in the data set of the operation to which  $opptr$  points.*

*Proof.* Let  $C$  be the configuration before  $p$  calls `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` at which  $p$  last performs an `LL` or a successful `VL` on  $opptr \rightarrow \text{status}$  (on lines 28, 33, or 49). By the code, such a configuration  $C$  exists, and if  $p$  performs an `LL` at  $C$ , this `LL` returns *simulating*. Hence, an attempt  $att$  of  $op$  by  $p$ , the operation pointed to by  $opptr$ , is active in configuration  $C$ . It thus follows from Theorem 24(2) that the sequence of instructions  $\tau$  of  $op$  that have been simulated before  $C$  is the same as in a sequential execution of  $op$  applied to  $S_C$ . Hence, as in the concurrent execution, `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` is called in a simulation of a write to or of a read from  $x$  following  $\tau$ ,  $x$  is also accessed in the sequential execution of the first instructions  $\tau$  of  $op$  applied to  $S_C$ . Therefore,  $x \in DS(op)$ .  $\square$

Inspecting the code of `ANNOUNCE`, we then obtain:

**Corollary 34.** *If  $x \rightarrow A[p] \neq \text{nil}$ , then the data item  $x$  is in the data set of the operation to which  $x \rightarrow A[p]$  points.*

**Observation 35.** *If a process executes a successful `VL( $opptr \rightarrow \text{status}$ )` while performing `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` or `CONFLICTS( $opptr, x$ )`, then the `oprec` to which  $opptr$  is pointing has status *simulating*.*

This is because a process only calls `ANNOUNCE( $opptr, x$ )` (on line 39) and `CONFLICTS( $opptr, x$ )` (on line 40) if  $opptr \rightarrow \text{status}$  was *simulating* (line 34) when  $p$  last executed `LL( $opptr \rightarrow \text{status}$ )` (on line 28, 33, or 53).

When helping an operation  $op$ , process  $p$  may start helping another operation  $op'$ . This occurs for example when a conflict between the two operations is discovered by  $p$ , that is, when the two operations access the same `varrec`. Next Lemma shows that indeed, when  $p$  calls `HELP( $op'$ )` while executing `HELP( $op$ )`, the datasets of  $op$  and  $op'$  share a common element.

Suppose that  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  and  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$ , where  $opptr$  and  $opptr'$  are pointers to operations  $op$  and  $op'$ , respectively. Denote by  $I$  the execution interval of  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$ . We say that  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is *directly called by  $p$  after  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$*  if  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  in  $I$  and every other call to  $\text{HELP}$  previously made in by  $p$  in  $I$  has returned when  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is called by  $p$ .

**Lemma 36.** *If  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  with  $opptr'$  pointing to  $op'$  is called directly by  $p$  after calling  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  with  $opptr$  pointing to  $op$ , then  $DS(op) \cap DS(op') \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* In an instance of  $\text{HELP}(opptr)$  by  $p$ , where  $opptr$  is pointing to  $op$ ,  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  with  $opptr'$  pointing to  $op'$  may be called on line 31, when  $p$  discovers that  $op$  has been restarted, or in the resolution of the conflicts for some  $\text{varrec } x$ , when  $p$  executes  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$  (lines 82, 88 or 89). We consider these two cases separately:

- $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is called in the execution of  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$ . Before calling  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$ ,  $p$  calls  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, x)$  (line 39). Therefore, it follows from Lemma 33 that  $x \in DS(op)$ . For  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  to be called in  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$ ,  $opptr'$  is read from  $x \rightarrow A[q']$ , where  $q'$  is the owner of  $op'$  (LL on line 77). Hence,  $op'$  has been previously announced to  $x$ , from which we conclude by corollary 34 that  $x \in DS(op')$ .
- $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is called on line 31. This means that some process  $p'$  has changed the status of  $op$  to  $\langle \text{restart}, opptr' \rangle$  (SC on line 87).  $p'$  thus calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  for some  $\text{varrec } x$  in which it applies a successful  $\text{SC}(opptr, \langle \text{restart}, opptr' \rangle)$ . By the code of  $\text{CONFLICTS}$ , this implies that  $opptr$  is read from  $x \rightarrow A[q]$ , where  $q$  is the owner of  $op$  (LL on line 77). Thus,  $op$  has been announced to  $x$ , from which we have by Corollary 34 that  $x \in DS(op)$ . Moreover,  $p'$  calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  after returning from a call to  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$ . Hence, by Lemma 33,  $x \in DS(op')$ .  $\square$

When a process  $p$  is performing an operation  $op$ , i.e.,  $p$  has called  $\text{PERFORM}(op)$  but has not yet returned from that call, it may access  $\text{oprecs}$  of operations  $op' \neq op$ . We show that if  $p$  applies a non-trivial primitive to an  $\text{oprec } op' \neq op$  then the execution interval  $I_{op'}$  of that operation overlaps the execution interval  $I_{op}$  of  $op$ .

**Lemma 37.** *If  $p$  applies a non-trivial primitive to an  $\text{oprec } op'$  in  $I_{op}$ ,  $I_{op'} \cap I_{op} \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* A non-trivial primitive may be applied to  $\text{oprec } op'$  on line 32, 52, 55, 63 in the code of  $\text{HELP}$  or on lines 85 or 87 in the code of  $\text{CONFLICTS}$ . The non-trivial primitive applied by  $p$  on line 32, 52 or 63 is a SC that aims at changing the status of  $op'$  to *simulating*,  $\langle \text{modifying}, -, - \rangle$  or *done* respectively. On line 55, the *output* of  $op'$  is changed. Any of these steps, if applied by  $p$ , is preceded by an  $\text{LL}(opptr' \rightarrow \text{status})$  by  $p$  (on lines 28, 33, 53 or 64), where  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op'$ . The value returns by this LL is  $\neq \text{done}$ . Therefore, in the configuration at which this LL is applied, the call of  $\text{PERFORM}(op')$  has not yet returned. Hence,  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .

In the remaining case,  $p$  writes  $opptr'$  to  $opptr \rightarrow \text{tohelp}[p']$  on line 85 or applies  $\text{SC}(opptr' \rightarrow, \langle \text{restart}, - \rangle)$  on line 87. Here also, before these steps, an  $\text{LL}(opptr' \rightarrow \text{status})$  by  $p$  occurs (on line 79) and this LL returns a value  $\neq \text{done}$ . As above, we then conclude that  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 38.** *If  $p$  applies a primitive to a  $\text{varrec } x$  in  $I_{op}$ , there exists an operation  $op'$  such that  $x \in DS(op')$ ,  $I_{op'} \cap I_{op} \neq \emptyset$  and  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  where  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op'$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x$  denote a  $\text{varrec}$  accessed by  $p$ . By the code,  $x$  is accessed in one of the following cases:

- The step in which  $p$  accesses  $x$  occurs in a call to  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$  (lines 68, 70, 71, or 73), in a call to  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  (line 77) where  $opptr'$  is pointing to some operation  $op'$ , or in the simulation of  $\text{READDI}(x)$  on behalf of  $op'$  (line 41). Each of these accesses to  $x$  occurs after  $p$  has called  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$ . Therefore, by Lemma 33,  $x \in DS(op')$ . Moreover, before applying any of these steps,  $p$  has verified that the status  $op'$  is  $\neq \text{done}$  (by applying a LL on  $opptr' \rightarrow \text{status}$  on line 28, 33 or 53). More precisely, consider the last configuration  $C$  at which  $p$  applies  $\text{LL}(opptr' \rightarrow \text{status})$

before accessing  $x$ . Such a step occurs since the first step following a call to  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is a LL on  $opptr' \rightarrow status$  (line 28). This last LL must return *simulating* since  $p$  has to pass the test on line 34 before applying any step considered in the present case. Therefore, in  $C$ , the call to  $\text{PERFORM}(op')$  has not returned, from which we have  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .

- The step in which  $p$  accesses  $x$  is a LL, VL or SC on the *val* field of  $x$  (lines 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 or 62). Before applying any of these steps,  $p$  performs a LL( $opptr' \rightarrow status$ ) (on lines 28, 33 or 53), where  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op'$ , which returns  $\langle modifying, chgs', - \rangle$  since the test on line 54 is passed. In the configuration in which this LL is applied, the calls to  $\text{PERFORM}(op)$  and  $\text{PERFORM}(op')$  have not returned, hence  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .

Consider the dictionary  $d'$  pointed to by  $chgs'$ . Note that  $x$  is the key of a *dictrec* in  $d'$ . Hence, in a successful attempt of  $op'$  by some process  $p'$ , a *dictrec* with key  $x$  is added to the dictionary associated with that attempt (on line 42 or 46) when an instruction of  $op'$  is simulated. Therefore, it follows from Theorem 24 that  $x \in DS(op')$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 39.** *If  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  in  $I_{op}$ , where  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op'$ , then  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Process  $p$  can only call  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on line 23, line 25, line 31, line 82, line 88 or line 89. If  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on line 23,  $op' = op$  and the Lemma holds.

If  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on line 25, a conflict with  $op'$  has been detected by some process  $q$  and  $q$  has tried to restart  $op'$ . More precisely, there exists some process  $q$ , and a *varrec*  $x$  such that  $q$  calls  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  and, before returning from that call, writes  $opptr'$  to  $opptr \rightarrow tohelp[p]$  (line 85), where  $opptr$  is pointing to  $op$ . By the code, before calling  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$ ,  $q$  verifies that the status of  $op$  is *simulating* by applying a LL on  $opptr \rightarrow status$ . Denote by  $C_{LL}$  the last configuration that precedes the call to  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  at which a LL( $opptr \rightarrow status$ ) is applied by  $q$ .  $opptr \rightarrow status = simulating$  at  $C$ . Moreover, it follows from the code of  $\text{CONFLICTS}$  that before writing to  $opptr \rightarrow tohelp[p]$ ,  $q$  performs a successful VL( $opptr \rightarrow status$ ) on line 80. Let  $C_{VL}$  denote the configuration at which this step is applied. By observation 35,  $opptr \rightarrow status = simulating$  in  $C_{VL}$  and has not changed since  $C_{LL}$ . In its previous step,  $q$  reads  $opptr' \rightarrow status$  (line 79), and the value it gets back is *simulating*, since the test on line 83 is later passed. Therefore, there exists a configuration between  $C_{LL}$  and  $C_{VL}$  in which  $opptr' \rightarrow status = simulating$ , from which we conclude that  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .

$\text{HELP}(opptr')$  is called on line 31. As in the previous case, a process  $q'$  performs the successful SC that changes  $opptr \rightarrow status$  to  $\langle restart, opptr' \rangle$  (on line 87). This occurs when  $q'$  is executing  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  for some *varrec*  $x$ . The same reasoning as in the previous case (inverting  $opptr$  and  $opptr'$ ) can be used to establish the existence of a configuration in which  $opptr \rightarrow status = opptr' \rightarrow status = simulating$ , from which it follows that  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .

Otherwise, process  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on line 82, 88 or 89. Before calling  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on any of these lines,  $p$  has read the status of  $op'$  (LL( $opptr' \rightarrow status$ ) on line 79), and this LL returns a value  $\neq done$  (By the tests on line 82 or line 83,  $opptr' \rightarrow status$  has to be *simulating* or  $\langle modifying, -, - \rangle$  in order for  $p$  to call  $\text{HELP}(opptr')$  on line 82, 88 or 89). As this occurs before  $p$  returns from the call of  $\text{PERFORM}(op)$ ,  $I_{op} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 40.** *Suppose that  $p$  applies a primitive operation to an *oprec*  $op'$  after calling  $\text{HELP}(op)$  and before returning from that call. Denote by  $C$  and  $C'$  the configuration at which  $\text{HELP}(op)$  is called and the primitive is applied respectively. If every call by  $p$  to  $\text{HELP}()$  that occurs between  $C$  and  $C'$  returns before  $C'$  then  $op = op'$  or  $DS(op) \cap DS(op') \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $op \neq op'$ . By the code,  $p$  accesses  $op$  while executing  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  where  $x$  is a *varrec* and  $opptr'$  is pointing to  $op$ . Since every call to  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr', x)$  is preceded by a call to  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr', x)$  (lines 39 and 40), it follows from Lemma 33 that  $x \in DS(op)$ .  $op'$  is accessed by  $p$  via the announce array  $x \rightarrow A$ . Hence  $op'$  has been announced to  $x$  and thus by corollary 34,  $x \in DS(op')$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 41.** *Let  $b$  be a base object and let  $op, op'$  be two operations. Suppose that  $p$  and  $p'$  apply a primitive on  $b$  in  $I_{op}$  and  $I_{op'}$  respectively. Then, if at least one of the primitives is non-trivial, there is a path between  $op$  and  $op'$  in  $CG(op, op')$ .*

*Proof.* Base object  $b$  is a field of either an **oprec** or a **varrec**, a **dictrec** or a **statrec**. A **statrec** can only be accessed through the unique **oprec** that points to it. A **dictrec** can only be accessed through the unique **statrec** that points to the unique dictionary that contains it. Thus to access  $b$ ,  $p$  and  $p'$  have to access the same **oprec** or the same **varrec**. We consider these two cases separately:

- $p$  and  $p'$  access the same **oprec**  $op^*$ . Suppose that  $op^*$  is accessed by  $p$  and  $p'$  while in some instances of  $\text{HELP}()$ . That is, there exists an operation  $op_1$  such  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr_1)$ , where  $opptr_1$  is pointing to  $op_1$ , and has not returned from that call when  $op^*$  is accessed. Moreover, when it accesses  $op^*$ ,  $p$  has returned from each of its calls to  $\text{HELP}$  that are initiated after the call to  $\text{HELP}(opptr_1)$  and before the access of  $op^*$ .

This also holds for  $p'$  for some operation  $op'_1$ . Thus, there exists two chains of operations  $\langle op = op_k, \dots, op_1 \rangle$  and  $\langle op = op'_{k'}, \dots, op'_1 \rangle$  such that:

- $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq k, \forall i', 1 \leq i' \leq k' : p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr_i)$  and  $p'$  calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr'_{i'})$  where  $opptr_i$  and  $opptr'_{i'}$  are pointing to  $op_i$  and  $op'_{i'}$  respectively;
- $\forall i, 2 \leq i \leq k, \forall i', 2 \leq i' \leq k' : \text{after calling } \text{HELP}(opptr_i), \text{ and before returning from this call, } p$  calls directly  $\text{HELP}(opptr_{i-1})$ . Similarly, after calling  $\text{HELP}(opptr'_{i'})$ , and before returning from this call,  $p'$  calls directly  $\text{HELP}(opptr'_{i'-1})$ .

It thus follows from the second property that for each  $i, 2 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $\text{HELP}(opptr_{i-1})$  is called directly in an attempt of  $op_i$ , from which we derive by Lemma 36 that  $DS(op_i) \cap DS(op_{i-1}) \neq \emptyset$ . Moreover, it follows from Lemma 39 that  $I_{op} \cap I_{op_i} \neq \emptyset$ , for each  $i, 1 \leq i \leq k$ . Therefore, operations  $op = op_k, \dots, op_1$  are vertexes of the graph  $CG(op, op')$  and there is path from  $op = op_k$  to  $op_1$ . Similarly,  $op = op'_{k'}, \dots, op'_1$  are vertexes of the graph  $CG(op, op')$  and there is path from  $op' = op'_{k'}$  to  $op'_1$ .

$op^*$  is also a vertex of  $GC(op, op')$  because, as  $p$  or  $p'$  applies a non-trivial primitive to  $op^*$ ,  $I_{op} \cap I_{op^*} \neq \emptyset$  or  $I_{op'} \cap I_{op^*} \neq \emptyset$  by Lemma 37.  $p$  applies a primitive to  $op^*$  after calling  $\text{HELP}(opptr_1)$  and before returning from this call. Moreover, when this step is applied, every call to  $\text{HELP}()$  by  $p$  that follows the call of  $\text{HELP}(opptr_1)$  has returned. Hence by Lemma 40,  $op_1 = op^*$  or  $DS(op_1) \cap DS(op^*) \neq \emptyset$ . Similarly,  $op'_1 = op^*$  or  $DS(op'_1) \cap DS(op^*) \neq \emptyset$ . We conclude that there is a path between  $op$  and  $op'$  in  $GC(op, op')$ .

If  $op^* = op$  or  $op^* = op'$ , one chain consists in a single operation, namely  $op^*$ . The reasoning above is still valid.

Finally,  $op^*$  may be accessed by  $p$  or  $p'$  on line 25, when  $p$  or  $p'$  helps an operation that may have been restarted by some process helping  $op$  or  $op'$  respectively. Without loss of generality, assume that  $op^*$  is accessed in this way, that is  $p'$  accesses  $op^*$  by reading  $tohelp[p^*]$ , where  $p^*$  is the owner of  $op^*$ . As  $p$  next calls  $\text{HELP}(opptr^*)$ , where  $opptr^*$  is pointing to  $op^*$ , it follows from Lemma 39 that  $I_{op} \cap I_{op^*} \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $op^*$  is a vertex of the graph  $CG(op, op')$ . Consider the step in which  $opptr^*$  is written to  $opptr \rightarrow tohelp[p^*]$  (line 85). This occurs while  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$  is executed, for some **varrec**  $x$ . By Lemma 33 and the fact that the call  $\text{CONFLICTS}(opptr, x)$  is preceded by a call to  $\text{ANNOUNCE}(opptr, x)$ ,  $x \in DS(op)$ . Moreover, by the code of  $\text{CONFLICTS}()$ ,  $op^*$  has been announced in to  $x$ , and thus by corollary 34,  $x \in DS(op^*)$ . Hence  $op$  and  $op^*$  are connected in  $CG(op, op')$ . Depending on how  $op^*$  is accessed by  $p'$ , the same reasoning or the reasoning above can be used to show that there is a path between  $op^*$  and  $op'$  in  $CG(op, op')$ . Therefore, there is a path between  $op$  and  $op'$  in  $CG(op, op')$ .

- $p$  and  $p'$  access the same **varrec**  $x^*$ . By Lemma 38, there exists  $op_1, op'_1$  such that (1)  $p$  calls  $\text{HELP}(op_1)$  and  $p'$  calls  $\text{HELP}(op'_1)$ , (2)  $x^* \in DS(op_1) \cap DS(op'_1)$  and (3)  $I_{op} \cap I_{op_1} \neq \emptyset$  and  $I_{op'} \cap I_{op'_1} \neq \emptyset$ .

If  $op'_1 = op_1 = op^*$ ,  $p$  and  $p'$  access the same `oprec`  $op^*$ . In the proof of the previous item, we use the fact that  $p$  or  $p'$  applies a non-trivial primitive to  $op^*$  only to show that  $I_{op^*} \cap I_{op} \neq \emptyset$  or  $I_{op^*} \cap I_{op'} \neq \emptyset$ . Here, we already know that this holds. Therefore, by the same argument as in the first case, we conclude that there is a path between  $op$  and  $op'$  in  $CG(op, op')$ .

If  $op'_1 \neq op_1$ , we consider the two chains of operations  $\langle op = op_k, \dots, op_1 \rangle$  and  $\langle op = op'_k, \dots, op'_1 \rangle$  defined as in the first case. By the same reasoning as in the first case, each of these operations is a vertex and  $(op_i, op_{i-1})$ ,  $(op'_{i'}, op'_{i'-1})$  are edges of  $CG(op, op')$ , for each  $i, i' : 2 \leq i \leq k, 2 \leq i' \leq k'$ . Since  $DS(op_1) \cap DS(op'_1) \neq \emptyset$ , we conclude that  $op$  and  $op'$  are connected by a path in  $CG(op, op')$ .  $\square$

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## A Sequential code for singly-linked list

Figure 5 present the sequential implementation of APPEND and SEARCH. Figure 6 presents the enhanced code of APPEND and SEARCH where CREATEDI READDI and WRITEDI have been incorporated in the code of Figure 5.

According to the enhanced sequential code, we have three types of operations: INITIALIZELIST, APPEND, and SEARCH. INITIALIZELIST ( $\mathcal{L}$ ) initializes two previously declared pointers,  $L.start$  and  $L.end$ , to  $nil$ . APPEND( $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $num$ ) appends the element  $num$  to the end of the list  $\mathcal{L}$  by appending a node containing  $num$  as the next element of that pointed to by  $end$ , and updating  $end$  to point to the newly appended node. SEARCH( $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $num$ ) searches  $\mathcal{L}$  for the first occurrence of  $num$ , starting from the element pointed to by  $start$ . SEARCH returns **true** if  $num$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$  and **false** otherwise. Throughout this code, if  $T$  is a type with some field  $f$ , then **ptr to  $T$   $t$**  declares that  $t$  is a pointer to an object of type  $T$  and  $t \rightarrow f$  denotes the  $f$  field of that object. CREATEDI( $T$ ) creates a new data item of type  $T$  and returns a pointer to it. READDI() and WRITEDI() are used when accessing a data item or a field of a data item.

```
1  struct {
2      int key: initially 0;
3      ptr to Node next: initially nil;
4  } Node;

5  struct {
6      ptr to Node start: initially nil;
7      ptr to Node end: initially nil;
8  } List;

9  List L;
10 APPEND(List L, int value) {
11     ptr to Node new := allocate new Node;          /* create a new Node, return a pointer to it */
12     ptr to Node e := L.end;
13     new → key := value;
14     new → next := nil;
15     if (e ≠ nil) then e → next := new
16     else L.start := new;
17     L.end := new;
18 }

18 Boolean SEARCH(List L, int value) {
19     ptr to Node s := L.start;
20     if (s = nil) then return false;
21     while (s → key ≠ value AND s → next ≠ nil)
22         s := s → next);
23     if (s → key = value) then return true;
24     else return false;
25 }
```

Figure 5: Sequential implementation of a singly-linked list data structure that supports APPEND and SEARCH.

```

1  struct {
2      int key: initially 0;
3      ptr to Node next: initially nil;
4  } Node;

5  struct {
6      ptr to Node start: initially nil;
7      ptr to Node end: initially nil;
8  } List;

/* Initialization of the access points of the data structure as static data items */
9  List L;
10 L.start := CREATEDI(ptr to Node): initially nil
11 L.end := CREATEDI(ptr to Node): initially nil;

/* Programs for the operations passed to the universal construction */
12 APPEND(List L, int value) {
13     ptr to Node new := CREATEDI(Node); initially  $\langle value, nil \rangle$ ;
14     ptr to Node e := READDI(L.end);
15     if (e  $\neq$  nil) then WRITEDI(e  $\rightarrow$  next, new)
16     else WRITEDI(L.start, new);
17     WRITEDI(L.end, new);
18     return
19 }

20 Boolean SEARCH(List L, int value) {
21     int k;
22     ptr to Node s := READDI(L.start);
23     if (s = nil) then return false;
24      $\langle k, s \rangle$  := READDI(s);
25     while(k  $\neq$  value and s  $\neq$  nil)
26          $\langle k, s \rangle$  := READDI(s);
27     if (k = value) then return true;
28     else return false;
29 }

```

Figure 6: Enhanced version of the pseudocode of Figure 5 that includes calls to CREATEDI, READDI, and WRITEDI.