

# Bounded Intention Planning Revisited: Proof

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We claim that each applicable operator partition induces a strong semistubborn set such that the applicable operators are the same as the operators in the partition.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $s$  be a state,  $X \in P_s$  be an applicable partition. Then  $T_s := X \cup \{o \mid o \text{ interferes with } o' \in X\}$  is a strong semistubborn set with the same applicable operators as  $X$ .*

We split the proof for Theorem 1 into three parts, proving the claim for each possible type of operator partitions separately.

We will use the following notation: an operator  $o \in \bar{\mathcal{O}}$  affects a variable  $v \in \bar{\mathcal{V}}$  if and only if  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_o)$  (and hence also  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_o)$ ).

**Proposition 1.** *First case of Theorem 1. Let  $s$  be a state,  $X \in P_s$  be an applicable operator partition of type  $\text{Fire}_o$ , for the original operator  $o \in \mathcal{O}$ . Then the set  $T_s := X \cup \{o' \mid o' \text{ interferes with } o'' \in X\}$  is a strong semistubborn set with the same applicable operators as  $X$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that  $\text{Fire}_o$  contains exactly one operator, namely  $\text{Fire}(o)$ . Wlog. we assume that  $o$  affects  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ , i. e.  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_o)$  and  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_o)$ . Furthermore,  $o$  possibly has a prevail-condition on some variable  $w \in \mathcal{V}$ ,  $w \neq v$ , i. e.  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o)$ . By definition  $\text{Fire}(o)$  has the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v] &= \text{pre}_o[v] \\ \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v] &= \text{eff}_o[v] \\ \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v] &= o \\ \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v] &= \text{free} \\ \text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[w] &= \text{prv}_o[w] \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w] &= \text{frozen} \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w] &= \text{free} \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[C_w] &= v \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[C_w] &= \text{free} \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \end{aligned}$$

Second, note that we know the following about state  $s$ , considering that  $\text{Fire}(o)$  is applicable in  $s$ :

$$\begin{aligned} s[v] &= \text{pre}_o[v] \\ s[w] &= \text{prv}_o[w] \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ s[O_v] &= o \\ s[O_w] &= \text{frozen} \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \\ s[C_w] &= v \quad \forall w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_o) \end{aligned}$$

We show that all operators  $o'$  that interfere with  $\text{Fire}(o)$  are not applicable in  $s$ . Thus  $\text{Fire}(o)$  is the only applicable operator in  $T_s$ . Second, we show that for all these operators  $o' \in T_s$  (except for  $\text{Fire}(o)$ ),  $T_s$  already contains a necessary enabling set for  $o'$  in  $s$ .

Let  $u \neq \text{Fire}(o)$  be an arbitrary operator interfering with  $\text{Fire}(o)$ . Whenever we mention  $o'$  in the following, we refer to an operator  $o' \in \mathcal{O}$ ,  $o' \neq o$ .

1. If  $u$  disables  $\text{Fire}(o)$ , we must distinguish the following cases.

(a)  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[v] \neq \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v]$ . By definition, only fire operators can affect variables in  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . From the definition of augmented operators, a fire operator affecting variable  $v$  also affects  $O_v$ . We conclude  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o' \neq o = s[O_v]$ . Therefore  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .

$\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  in  $s$ : only  $\text{Fire}(o)$  can change  $O_v$  from  $o$  to  $\text{free}$ , which is required because all  $\text{SetO}$  operators (which can set  $O_v$  to  $o'$ ) require  $O_v = \text{free}$  as precondition.

(b)  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_v] \neq \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v]$ . We have to distinguish three possible types for  $u$ :

i.  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , Case 1(a) applies. If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$ , we have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = \text{frozen} \neq o = s[O_v]$ . Thus  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable.  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  for the same reasons as in Case 1(a).

ii.  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[O_v] = \text{free} \neq o = s[O_v]$  and Case 1(a) applies.

iii.  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x)$  for  $x \in \mathcal{D}(v)$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Freeze}(v, x)}[O_v] = \text{free} \neq o = s[O_v]$  and Case 1(a) applies.

(c)  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  for variable  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{eff}_u[w] \neq \text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[w]$ . Only fire operators can affect original variables from  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . We conclude  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_w] = o' \neq \text{frozen} = s[O_w]$ . Therefore  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable.

We claim that  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  in  $s$ : we observe that in order to apply  $\text{Fire}(o')$ ,  $O_w$  must not have the value  $\text{frozen}$ . Consider an operator  $\tilde{o}$  that changes the value of  $O_w$  from  $\text{frozen}$  to  $\text{free}$ . Note that only a fire operator  $\tilde{o} := \text{Fire}(o'')$  with  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o''})$  can achieve this, because exactly for such fire operators, we have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o'')}[O_w] = \text{frozen}$  and  $\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o'')}[O_w] = \text{free}$ . If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o'')})$ , then  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o'')}[O_v] = o'' \neq o = s[O_v]$  and thus  $\text{Fire}(o)$  must be applied first, as argued in Case 1(a). If  $v \notin \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{\tilde{o}})$ , then for some variable  $v', v' \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o'')})$ . By definition of  $\text{Fire}(o'')$ ,  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o'')}[C_w] = v' \neq v = s[C_w]$ . All operators that set  $C_w$  from  $v$  to  $\text{free}$  also affect  $v$  and thus have a precondition on  $O_v$ , and thus  $\text{Fire}(o)$  needs to be applied before them.

(d)  $O_w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  for variable  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_w] \neq \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w]$ . We have to distinguish two possible types for  $u$  (freeze operators for variable  $w$  do not disable  $\text{Fire}(o)$ ):

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- i.  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . If  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , we have  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o')})$  and Case 1(c) applies. If  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$ , there must be a variable  $v' \in \mathcal{V}$  for which  $v' \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ . If  $v' = v$ , then  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o' \neq o = s[O_v]$  and  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set in  $s$  for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  as argued in Case 1(a). If  $v' \neq v$ , then  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[C_w] = v' \neq v = s[C_w]$  and thus  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$ , because all operators that set  $C_w$  from  $v$  to  $\text{free}$  also affect  $v$  and thus have a precondition on  $O_v$ , and thus  $\text{Fire}(o)$  needs to be applied before them, because  $s[O_v] = o$ .
  - ii.  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[O_w] = \text{free} \neq \text{frozen} = s[O_w]$  and thus  $\text{SetO}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{SetO}(o')$ : Case 1(c) applies.
- (e)  $C_w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  for variable  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{eff}_u[C_w] \neq \text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[C_w]$ . We have to distinguish two possible types for  $u$ :
- i.  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . We know that  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[C_w] = v'$  for some variable  $v' \in \mathcal{V}$ . The case reduces to Case 1(d)i, the case “If  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$ ”.
  - ii.  $u = \text{SetC}(w, c)$  for some  $c \in \text{CG}(w)$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{SetC}(w, c)}[C_w] = \text{free} \neq v = s[C_w]$  and thus  $\text{SetC}(w, c)$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{SetC}(w, c)$ , because only fire operators affecting  $v$  can change  $C_w$  from  $v$  to  $\text{free}$  and  $s[O_v] = o$  (see also Case 1(d)i, second case “If  $v' \neq v$ ”).

2. If  $\text{Fire}(o)$  disables  $u$ , we must distinguish the following cases.

- (a)  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  and  $\text{pre}_u[v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v]$ . Only fire operators  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$  can have original variables from  $\mathcal{V}$  as a precondition. From the definition of fire operators, we conclude  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o' \neq o = s[O_v]$ . Hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  because only  $\text{Fire}(o)$  can change  $O_v$  from  $o$  to  $\text{free}$ , which is precondition for all  $\text{SetO}$  operators, which are in turn needed to set  $O_v$  to  $o'$  (see also Case 1(a)).
- (b)  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_u)$  and  $\text{prv}_u[v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v]$ . We must distinguish three possible types for  $u$ :
  - i.  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . From  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$ , we know that  $\text{pre}_{o'}[O_v] = \text{frozen} \neq o = s[O_v]$ . Hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . Furthermore,  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  because only  $\text{Fire}(o)$  can change  $O_v$  from  $o$  to  $\text{free}$ , which is required because all  $\text{Freeze}$  operators (which can set  $O_v$  to  $\text{frozen}$ ) require  $O_v = \text{free}$  as precondition.
  - ii.  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . From the definition of  $\text{SetO}$  operators, we know that  $\text{pre}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[O_v] = \text{free} \neq o = s[O_v]$ . Hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . Furthermore,  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  because only  $\text{Fire}(o)$  can change  $O_v$  from  $o$  to  $\text{free}$ , which is the condition for  $\text{SetO}(o')$  to become applicable.
  - iii.  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x)$  for some  $x \in \mathcal{D}(v)$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Freeze}(v, x)}[O_v] = \text{free} \neq o = s[O_v]$  and thus Case 2(b)ii applies.
- (c)  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  and  $\text{pre}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v]$ . As  $\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v] = \text{free}$ , only fire operators  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$  can be disabled (and not operators of type  $\text{SetO}$  or  $\text{Freeze}$ , as these

could only have preconditions  $O_v = \text{free}$ ). If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , Case 2(a) applies. If  $v \notin \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ ,  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$  and Case 2(b)i applies.

- (d)  $O_w \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  for some  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{pre}_u[O_w] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w]$ . As  $\text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w] = \text{free}$ , only fire operators  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$  can be disabled (and not operators of type  $\text{SetO}$  or  $\text{Freeze}$ , as these could only have preconditions  $O_w = \text{free}$ ). If  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , Case 2(a) applies. If  $w \notin \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ ,  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$  and Case 2(b)i applies.
  - (e)  $C_w \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  for some  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{pre}_u[C_w] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[C_w]$ . Only a fire operator  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$  can be disabled by  $C_w = \text{free}$  (and no  $\text{SetC}$  operator, because they have  $\text{free}$  as precondition). Let  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[C_w] := v'$ . If  $v' = v$ , then we have  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')})$  and thus Case 2(a) applies. If  $v' \neq v$ , then  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[C_w] = v' \neq v = s[C_w]$  and hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable. Furthermore,  $\{\text{Fire}(o)\}$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$ , because any (fire) operator that can change  $C_w$  from  $v$  to  $\text{free}$  (which is required for  $\text{SetC}$  operators to set  $C_w$  to  $v'$ ) must also affect  $v$  and thus  $O_v$ . As  $s[O_v] = o$ ,  $\text{Fire}(o)$  must necessarily be applied before  $\text{Fire}(o')$ .
3. If  $\text{Fire}(o)$  and  $u$  have conflicting effects, we must distinguish the following cases.

- (a)  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[v]$ . This case mirrors Case 1(a).
- (b)  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_v]$ . This case mirrors Case 1(b), with the exclusion of sub-case i., because  $\text{Fire}(o)$  and  $\text{Fire}(o')$  cannot disable each other via (intention) variables, as both set such variables to  $\text{free}$ .
- (c)  $O_w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  for some variable  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_w] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w]$ . Same case as the previous one, i.e. Case 3(b).
- (d)  $C_w \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  for some variable  $w \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o)})$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_w] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Fire}(o)}[O_w]$ . This case mirrors Case 1(e), with the exclusion of sub-case i., because  $\text{Fire}(o)$  and  $\text{Fire}(o')$  cannot disable each other via (intention) variables, as both set such variables to  $\text{free}$ .

□

**Proposition 2.** *Second case of Theorem 1. Let  $s$  be a state,  $X \in P_s$  be an applicable operator partition of type  $\text{SetO}_{v=x}$  for a variable  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ . Then the set  $T_s := X \cup \{o' \mid o' \text{ interferes with } o'' \in X\}$  is a strong semistubborn set with the same applicable operators as  $X$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that  $\text{SetO}_{v=x}$  contains operators  $\text{SetO}(o)$  for operators  $o \in \mathcal{O}$  with  $\text{pre}_o[v] = x$  and one operator  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$ . By definition, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{pre}_{\text{SetO}(o)/\text{Freeze}(v, x)}[O_v] &= \text{free} \\
\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o)/\text{Freeze}(v, x)}[v] &= x \\
\text{eff}_{\text{SetO}(o)}[O_v] &= o \\
\text{eff}_{\text{Freeze}(v, x)}[O_v] &= \text{frozen}
\end{aligned}$$

Second, note that we know the following about state  $s$ , considering that  $\text{SetO}(o)$  and  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  are applicable in  $s$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
s[v] &= x \\
s[O_v] &= \text{free}
\end{aligned}$$

We show that all operators  $o'$  that interfere with the operators from the partition  $X$  are not applicable in  $s$ . Thus the operators from  $X$  are the only applicable operators in  $T_s$ . Second, we show that for all these operators  $o' \in T_s$ ,  $T_s$  already contains a necessary enabling set for  $o'$  in  $s$ .

Let  $u \neq \text{SetO}(o)$ ,  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  be an arbitrary operator interfering with  $\text{SetO}(o)$  or  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$ .

1. If  $u$  disables  $\text{SetO}(o)$  and  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$ , we only have one case:  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_v] \neq \text{pre}_{\text{SetO}(o)/\text{Freeze}(v,x)}[O_v]$ . Note that the case  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[v] \neq \text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o)/\text{Freeze}(v,x)}[v]$  can be reduced to the same case, because only fire operators can affect variables  $v \in \mathcal{V}$  and if they affect variable  $v$ , they also affect  $O_v$ .

We must distinguish three possible types for  $u$ .

- (a)  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o' \neq \text{free} = s[O_v]$  and hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . Furthermore,  $\text{SetO}(o')$  must be applied before  $\text{Fire}(o')$  can be applied. We claim that  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$ : either  $\text{SetO}(o') \in X$  in which case we are done or  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$  for  $x' \neq x$  and thus any operator  $\text{SetO}(o)$  from  $X$  must be applied in order to allow to change the value of  $v$  through the intended operator  $o$ . Note that it is possible that  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  is required to allow the application of an operator which in turn fulfills a prevail-condition of  $\text{Fire}(o')$ . It is therefore not enough to choose the subset  $\text{SetO}(o) \subseteq X$  as a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  in  $s$ , but the set  $X$  is.
- (b)  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We know  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$ . If  $x' = x$ ,  $\text{SetO}(o')$  is applicable in  $s$  and  $\text{SetO}(o') \in X$ . If  $x' \neq x$ ,  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x' \neq x = s[v]$  and hence  $\text{SetO}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . In the latter case,  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{SetO}(o')$  in  $s$  for the same arguments as shown in the previous Case 1(a).
- (c)  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x')$  (By assumption  $u \neq \text{Freeze}(v, x)$  and hence  $x' \neq x$ ). We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{Freeze}(v,x')}[v] = x' \neq x = s[v]$  and thus  $\text{Freeze}(v, x')$  is not applicable in  $s$ .  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Freeze}(v, x')$  in  $s$  for the same reasons shown in Case 1(a).

2. If  $\text{SetO}(o)$  disables  $u$ , we only have one case:  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  and  $\text{pre}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{SetO}(o)}[O_v]$ . We must distinguish three possible types for  $u$ .

- (a)  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , Case 1(a) applies. If  $v \notin \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ ,  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$  and we have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = \text{frozen} \neq \text{free} = s[O_v]$  and thus  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable. We claim that  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for  $\text{Fire}(o')$  in  $s$ . We observe that  $\text{Freeze}(v, x')$  for  $x' = \text{prv}_{o'}[v]$  must be applied before  $\text{Fire}(o')$  can be applied. If  $x' = x$ ,  $\text{Freeze}(v, x') \in X$  and we are done. If  $x' \neq x$ , we must first apply  $\text{SetO}$  operators in  $X$  to enable other operators to change  $v$  to  $x'$  eventually, which is prevail-condition for applying  $\text{Freeze}(v, x')$ , in turn requirement for application of  $\text{Fire}(o')$ .
- (b)  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$  and thus Case 1(b) applies.
- (c)  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{Freeze}(v,x')}[v] = x'$  and Case 1(c) applies.

3. If  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  disables  $u$ , we only have one case:  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{pre}_u)$  and  $\text{pre}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{SetO}(o)}[O_v]$ . We must distinguish three possible types for  $u$ .

- (a)  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . If  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ , Case 1(a) applies. If  $v \notin \text{vars}(\text{eff}_{o'})$ ,  $v \in \text{vars}(\text{prv}_{o'})$  and we have  $\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[v] = x'$ . If  $x' = x$ ,  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  does not disable  $\text{Fire}(o')$ . If  $x' \neq x$ , we have  $\text{prv}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[v] = x' \neq x = s[v]$  and hence  $\text{Fire}(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . For  $\text{Fire}(o')$  to become applicable,  $v$  must change its value from  $x$  to  $x'$ . The remaining argumentation mirrors the one of Case 2(a).

- (b)  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$  and thus Case 1(b) applies.

- (c)  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{Freeze}(v,x')}[v] = x'$  and Case 1(c) applies.

4. If  $\text{SetO}(o)$  and  $u$  have conflicting effects, we only have one case:  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{SetO}(o)}[O_v]$ . We must distinguish three possible types for  $u$ .

- (a)  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o'$ . This case mirrors Case 1(a).

- (b)  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$ . This case mirrors Case 1(b).

- (c)  $u = \text{Freeze}(v, x')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Freeze}(v,x')}[v] = x'$ . This case mirrors Case 1(c).

5. If  $\text{Freeze}(v, x)$  and  $u$  have conflicting effects, we only have one case:  $O_v \in \text{vars}(\text{eff}_u)$  and  $\text{eff}_u[O_v] \neq \text{eff}_{\text{Freeze}(v,x)}[O_v]$ . We must distinguish two possible types for  $u$  (there is only one  $\text{Freeze}$  operator per variable and  $\text{Freeze}$  operators for different variables cannot interfere).

- (a)  $u = \text{Fire}(o')$ . We have  $\text{pre}_{\text{Fire}(o')}[O_v] = o'$ . This case mirrors Case 1(a).

- (b)  $u = \text{SetO}(o')$ . We have  $\text{prv}_{\text{SetO}(o')}[v] = x'$ . This case mirrors Case 1(b).

□

**Proposition 3.** *Third case of Theorem 1. Let  $s$  be a state,  $X \in P_s$  be an applicable operator partition of type  $\text{SetC}_v$  for a variable  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ . Then the set  $T_s := X \cup \{o' \mid o' \text{ interferes with } o'' \in X\}$  is a strong semistubborn set with the same applicable operators as  $X$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that  $\text{SetC}_v$  contains operators  $\text{SetC}(v, c)$  for  $c \in \text{CG}(v)$ . By definition, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pre}_{\text{SetC}(v,c)}[C_v] &= \text{free} \\ \text{eff}_{\text{SetC}(v,c)}[C_v] &= c \end{aligned}$$

Second, note that we know the following about state  $s$ , considering that  $\text{SetC}(v, c)$  is applicable in  $s$ :

$$s[C_c] = \text{free}$$

We show that all operators  $o'$  that interfere with the operators from the partition  $X$  are not applicable in  $s$ . Thus the operators from  $X$  are the only applicable operators in  $T_s$ . Second, we show that for all these operators  $o' \in T_s$ ,  $T_s$  already contains a necessary enabling set for  $o'$  in  $s$ .

We first observe that for an operator  $\text{SetC}(v, c) \in X$ , only other  $\text{SetC}$  operators for the same variable  $v$  and  $\text{Fire}$  operators may share the variable  $C_v$  with  $\text{SetC}(v, c)$ . Furthermore, all operators

$SetC(v, c')$  for all  $c' \in CG(v)$  are already included in  $X$  (and applicable). We thus only need to consider  $Fire$  operators for possible interference in the following.

Let  $Fire(o')$  be an arbitrary operator interfering with  $SetC(v, c)$ . We observe that  $Fire(o')$  cannot disable  $SetC(v, c)$  because it could only set  $C_v$  to *free*. There are two remaining cases.

1. If  $SetC(v, c)$  disables  $Fire(o')$ , we have only one case:  $C_v \in vars(pre_{Fire(o')})$  and  $pre_{Fire(o')}[C_v] \neq eff_{SetC(v, c)}$ . We have  $pre_{Fire(o')}[C_v] = c'$  for a variable  $c' \in vars(prv_{o'})$ . If  $c' = c$ ,  $SetC(v, c)$  does not disable  $Fire(o')$ . If  $c' \neq c$ , we have  $pre_{Fire(o')}[C_v] = c' \neq free = s[C_v]$  and hence  $Fire(o')$  is not applicable in  $s$ . We observe that  $SetC(v, c')$  must be applied before  $Fire(o')$  can be applied, and because  $SetC(v, c') \in X$ ,  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for  $Fire(o')$  in  $s$ .
2. If  $SetC(v, c)$  and  $Fire(o')$  have conflicting effects, we know  $pre_{Fire(o')}[C_v] = c'$  for a variable  $c' \in vars(prv_{o'})$ . Hence Case 1 applies.

□

We have shown for all operators  $o'$  that interfere with the operators of an operator partition  $X$  applicable in  $s$  that they are not applicable in  $s$ . Furthermore,  $X$  is a necessary enabling set for all such  $o'$  in  $s$ . The criteria for  $T_s = X \cup \{o \mid o \text{ interferes with } o' \in X\}$  to be a strong semistubborn set in  $s$  are thus met. The overall proof for Theorem 1 follows from Propositions 1, 2, and 3.

□