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1 Introduction

This package lets you create nice sequence diagrams using the CeTZ package.

2 Usage

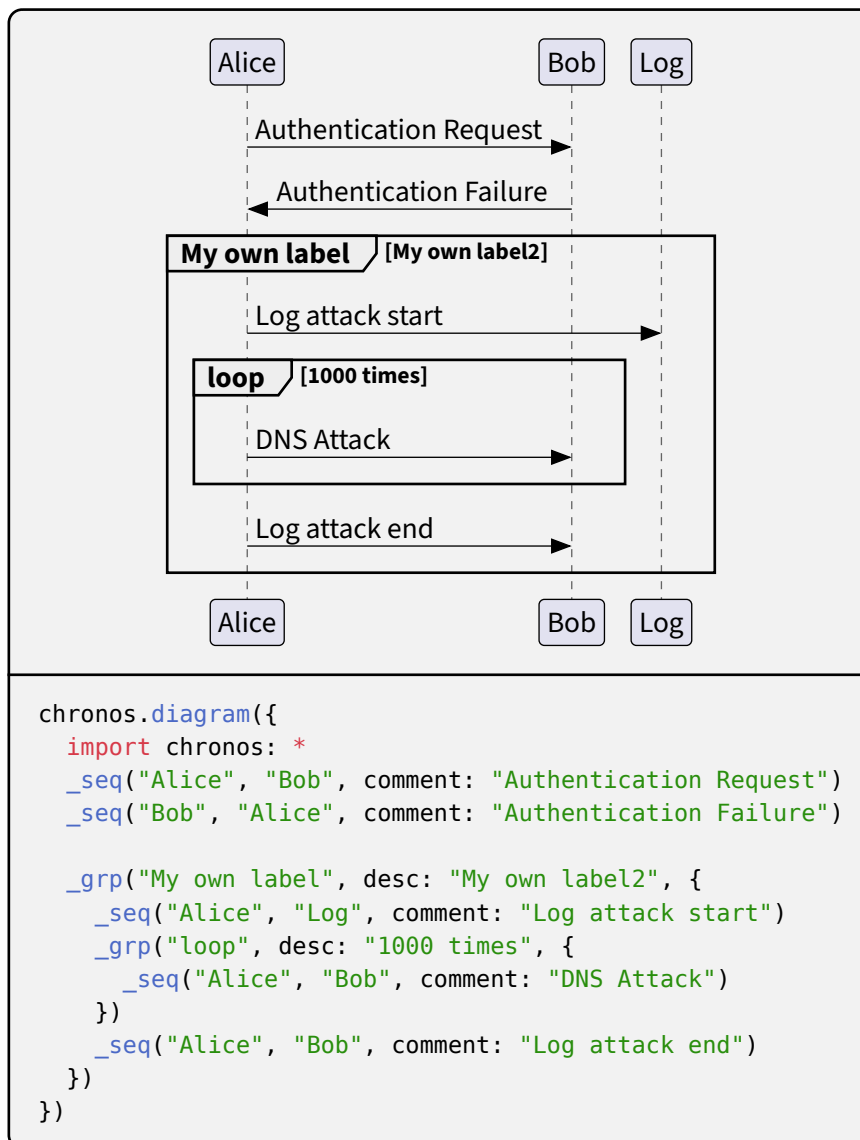
Simply import `chronos` and call the `diagram` function:

```
#import "@preview/chronos:0.1.0"
#chronos.diagram({
  import chronos: *
  ...
})
```

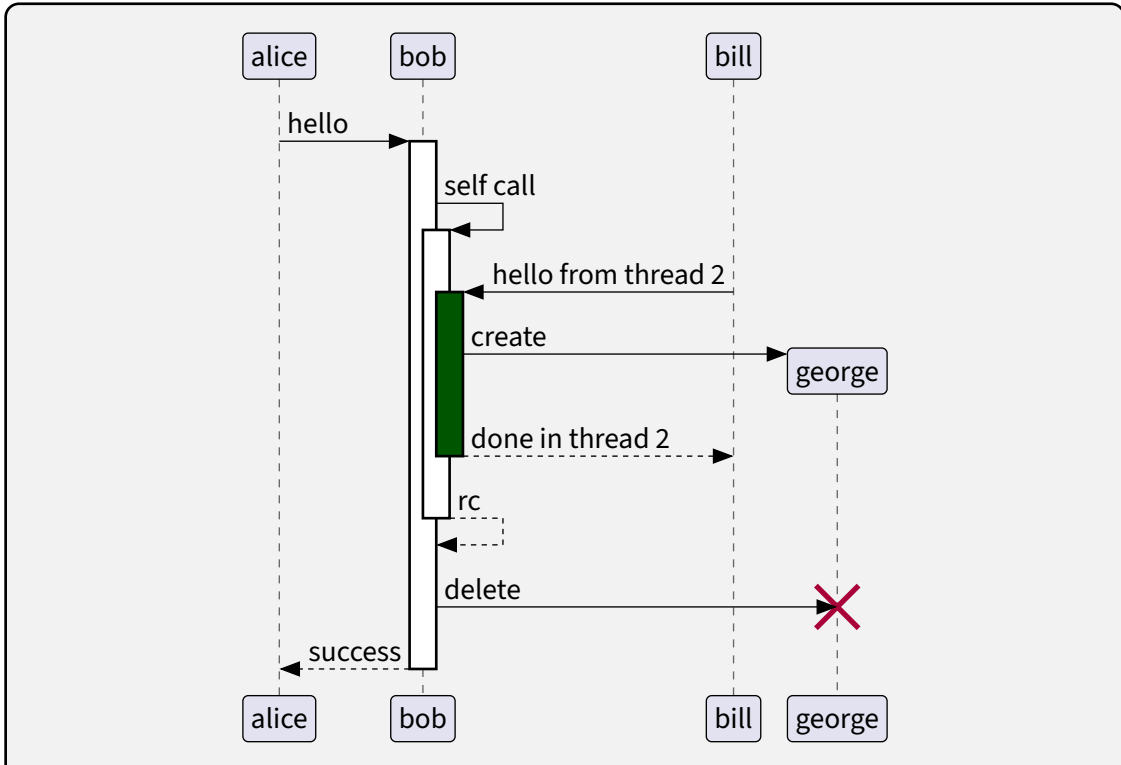
3 Examples

You can find the following examples and more in the [gallery](#) directory

3.1 Some groups and sequences



3.2 Lifelines

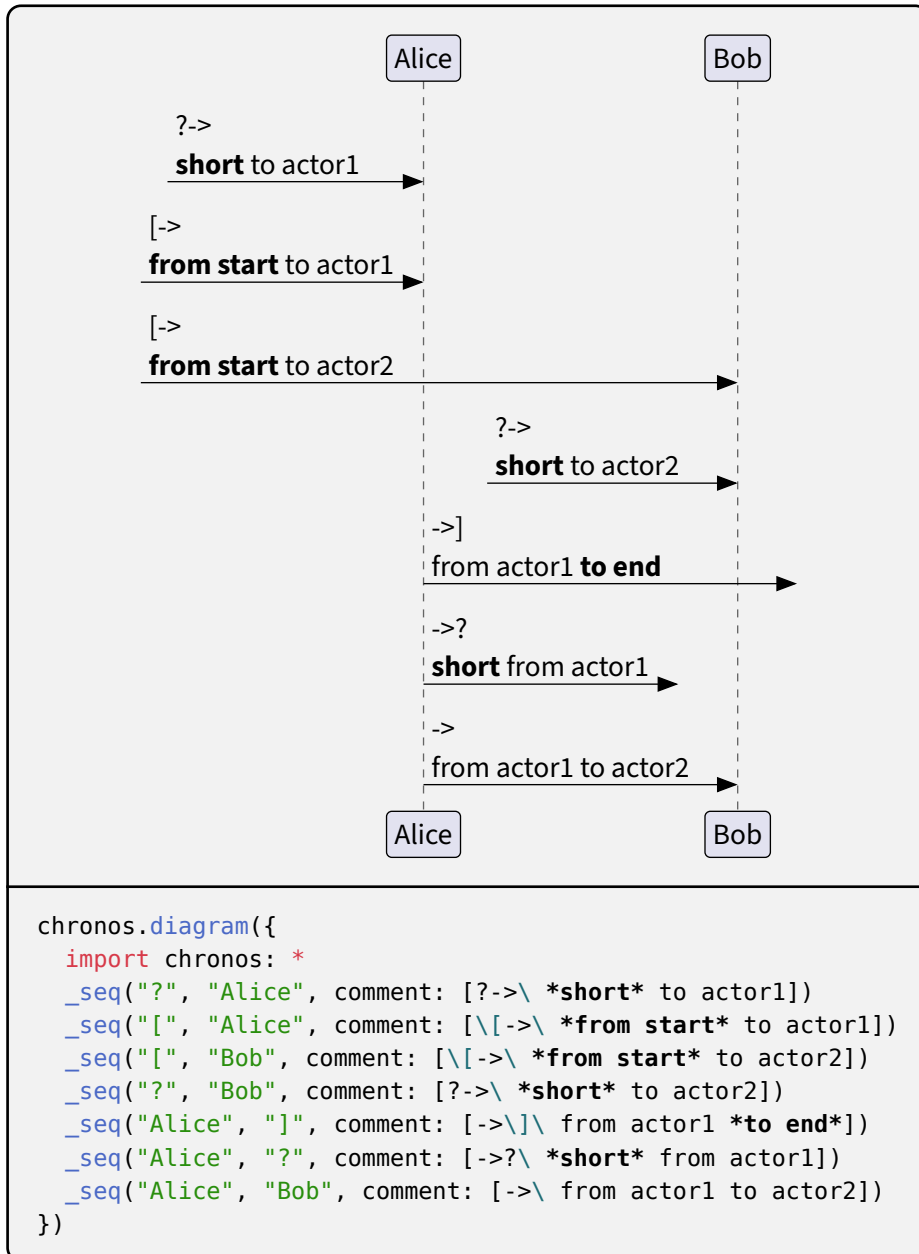


```

chronos.diagram({
  import chronos: *
  _seq("alice", "bob", comment: "hello", enable-dst: true)
  _seq("bob", "bob", comment: "self call", enable-dst: true)
  _seq(
    "bill", "bob",
    comment: "hello from thread 2",
    enable-dst: true,
    lifeline-style: (fill: rgb("#005500"))
  )
  _seq("bob", "george", comment: "create", create-dst: true)
  _seq(
    "bob", "bill",
    comment: "done in thread 2",
    disable-src: true,
    dashed: true
  )
  _seq("bob", "bob", comment: "rc", disable-src: true, dashed: true)
  _seq("bob", "george", comment: "delete", destroy-dst: true)
  _seq("bob", "alice", comment: "success", disable-src: true, dashed: true)
})

```

3.3 Found and lost messages



3.4 Custom images

```

let load-img(path) = image(path, width: 1.5cm, height: 1.5cm, fit:"contain")
let TYPST = load-img("../gallery/typst.png")
let FERRIS = load-img("../gallery/ferris.png")
let ME = load-img("../gallery/me.jpg")

chronos.diagram({
  import chronos: *
  _par("me", display-name: "Me", shape: "custom", custom-image: ME)
  _par("typst", display-name: "Typst", shape: "custom", custom-image: TYPST)
  _par("rust", display-name: "Rust", shape: "custom", custom-image: FERRIS)

  _seq("me", "typst", comment: "opens document", enable-dst: true)
  _seq("me", "typst", comment: "types document")
  _seq("typst", "rust", comment: "compiles content", enable-dst: true)
  _seq("rust", "typst", comment: "renders document", disable-src: true)
  _seq("typst", "me", comment: "displays document", disable-src: true)
})

```

4 Reference

4.1 Participants

4.1.1 `_par`

Creates a new participant

Parameters

```
_par(  
  name: str,  
  display-name: auto content,  
  from-start: bool,  
  invisible: bool,  
  shape: str,  
  color: color,  
  custom-image: none image,  
  show-bottom: bool,  
  show-top: bool  
) -> array
```

name str

Unique participant name used as reference in other functions

display-name auto or content

Name to display in the diagram. If set to auto, name is used

Default: auto

from-start bool

If set to true, the participant is created at the top of the diagram. Otherwise, it is created at the first reference

Default: true

invisible bool

If set to true, the participant will not be shown

Default: false

shape str

The shape of the participant. Possible values in [SHAPES](#)

Default: "participant"

color `color`

The participant's color

Default: `rgb("#E2E2F0")`

custom-image `none` or `image`

If shape is 'custom', sets the custom image to display

Default: `none`

show-bottom `bool`

Whether to display the bottom shape

Default: `true`

show-top `bool`

Whether to display the top shape

Default: `true`

4.1.2 `_col`

Sets some options for columns between participants

Parameters `p1` and `p2` MUST be consecutive participants (also counting found/lost messages), but they do not need to be in the left to right order

Parameters

```
_col(  
  p1: str,  
  p2: str,  
  width: auto int float length,  
  margin: int float length,  
  min-width: int float length  
)
```

p1 `str`

The first neighbouring participant

p2 `str`

The second neighbouring participant

width `auto` or `int` or `float` or `length`

Optional fixed width of the column

If the column's content (e.g. sequence comments) is larger, it will overflow

Default: `auto`

margin `int` or `float` or `length`

Additional margin to add to the column

This margin is not included in `width` and `min-width`, but rather added separately

Default: `0`

min-width `int` or `float` or `length`

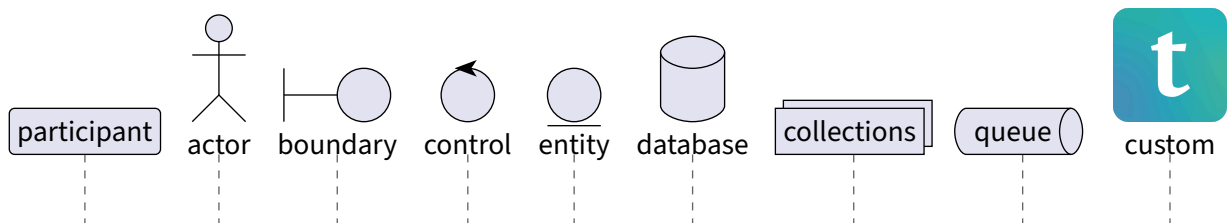
Minimum width of the column

If set to a larger value than `width`, the latter will be overridden

Default: `0`

4.1.3 SHAPES

Possible participant shapes



4.2 Sequences

4.2.1 _evt

Manually adds an event to the given participant

Parameters

```
_evt(  
  participant: str,  
  event: str  
)
```

participant str

The participant concerned by the event

event str

The event type (see [EVENTS](#) for ccepted values)

4.2.2 _seq

Creates a sequence / message between two participants

Parameters

```
_seq(  
  p1: str,  
  p2: str,  
  comment: none content,  
  comment-align: str,  
  dashed: bool,  
  start-tip: str,  
  end-tip: str,  
  color: color,  
  flip: bool,  
  enable-dst: bool,  
  create-dst: bool,  
  disable-dst: bool,  
  destroy-dst: bool,  
  disable-src: bool,  
  destroy-src: bool,  
  lifeline-style: auto dict,  
  slant: none int  
) -> array
```

p1 str

Start participant

p2 `str`

End participant

comment `none` or `content`

Optional comment to display along the arrow

Default: `none`

comment-align `str`

Where to align the comment with respect to the arrow (see `comment-align` for accepted values)

Default: `"left"`

dashed `bool`

Whether the arrow's stroke is dashed or not

Default: `false`

start-tip `str`

Start arrow tip (see `tips` for accepted values)

Default: `" "`

end-tip `str`

End arrow tip (see `tips` for accepted values)

Default: `">"`

color `color`

Arrow's color

Default: `black`

flip `bool`

If true, the arrow is flipped (goes from end to start). This is particularly useful for self calls, to change the side on which the arrow appears

Default: `false`

enable-dst bool

If true, enables the destination lifeline

Default: `false`

create-dst bool

If true, creates the destination lifeline and participant

Default: `false`

disable-dst bool

If true, disables the destination lifeline

Default: `false`

destroy-dst bool

If true, destroys the destination lifeline and participant

Default: `false`

disable-src bool

If true, disables the source lifeline

Default: `false`

destroy-src bool

If true, destroy the source lifeline and participant

Default: `false`

lifeline-style auto or dict

Optional styling options for lifeline rectangles (see CeTZ documentation for more information on all possible values)

Default: `auto`

slant none or int

Optional slant of the arrow

Default: `none`

4.2.3 EVENTS

Accepted values for event argument of `_evt()`

EVENTS = ("create", "destroy", "enable", "disable")

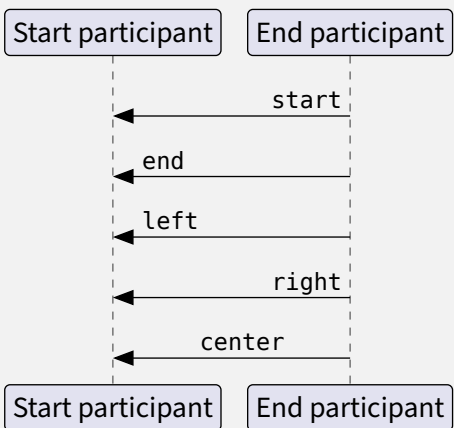
4.2.4 tips

Accepted values for start-tip and end-tip arguments of `_seq()`

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding-bottom: 5px;"> Alice Bob </div> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Various tips</p> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;"> Alice Bob </div>	<pre> let _seq = _seq.with(comment-align: "center") _seq("a", "b", comment: "Various tips", end-tip: "") _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ">", comment: `->`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ">>", comment: `->>`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: "\\", comment: `-\`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: "\\\", comment: `-\`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: "/", comment: `-/`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: "//", comment: `-//`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: "x", comment: `->x`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: "x", comment: `x->`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: "o", comment: `o->`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", ">"), comment: `->o`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: "o", end-tip: ("o", ">"), comment: `o->o`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: ">", end-tip: ">", comment: `<->`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: ("o", ">"), end-tip: ("o", ">"), comment: `o<->o`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: "x", end-tip: "x", comment: `x<->x`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", ">>"), comment: `->>o`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", "\\"), comment: `-\o`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", "\\\"), comment: `-\o`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", "/"), comment: `-/o`) _seq("a", "b", end-tip: ("o", "//"), comment: `-//o`) _seq("a", "b", start-tip: "x", end-tip: ("o", ">"), comment: `x->o`) </pre>
--	--

4.2.5 comment-align

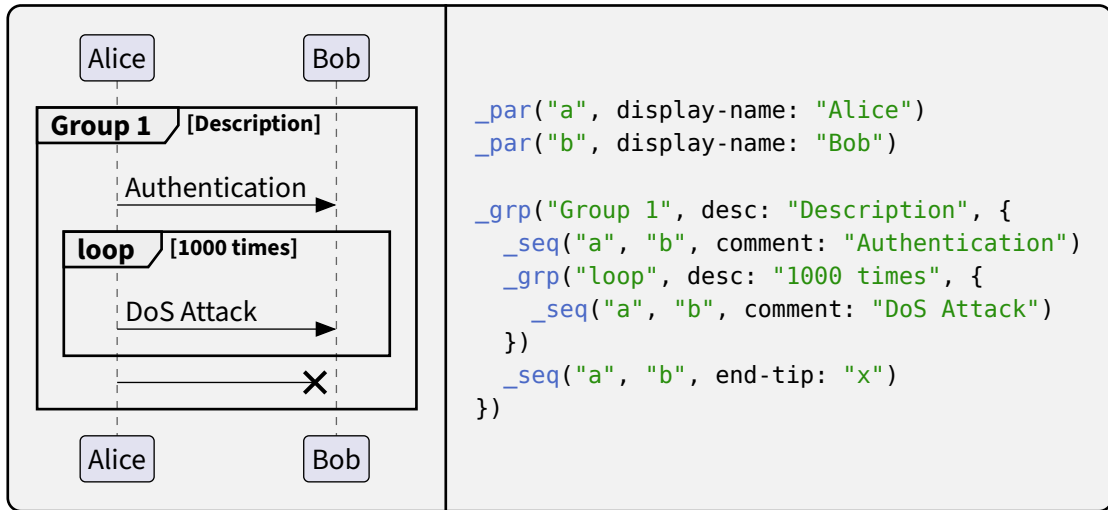
Accepted values for comment-align argument of `_seq()`

 <p>The diagram illustrates the alignment options for two participants, 'Start participant' and 'End participant'. Two vertical dashed lines represent the participants. Five horizontal arrows point from the 'End participant' line to the 'Start participant' line, labeled 'start', 'end', 'left', 'right', and 'center' from top to bottom. The 'start' arrow is aligned with the top of the 'End participant' box. The 'end' arrow is aligned with the bottom of the 'End participant' box. The 'left' arrow is aligned with the left edge of the 'Start participant' box. The 'right' arrow is aligned with the right edge of the 'Start participant' box. The 'center' arrow is aligned with the center of the 'Start participant' box.</p>	<pre><code>_par("p1", display-name: "Start participant") _par("p2", display-name: "End participant") let alignments = ("start", "end", "left", "right", "center") for a in alignments { _seq("p2", "p1", comment: raw(a), comment-align: a) }</code></pre>
--	--

4.3 Groups

4.3.1 `_grp`

Creates a group of sequences



Parameters

```
_grp(
  name: content,
  desc: none content,
  type: str,
  elmts: array
)
```

name `content`

The group's name

desc `none` or `content`

Optional description

Default: `none`

type `str`

The groups's type (should only be set through other functions like `_alt()` or `_loop()`)

Default: `"default"`

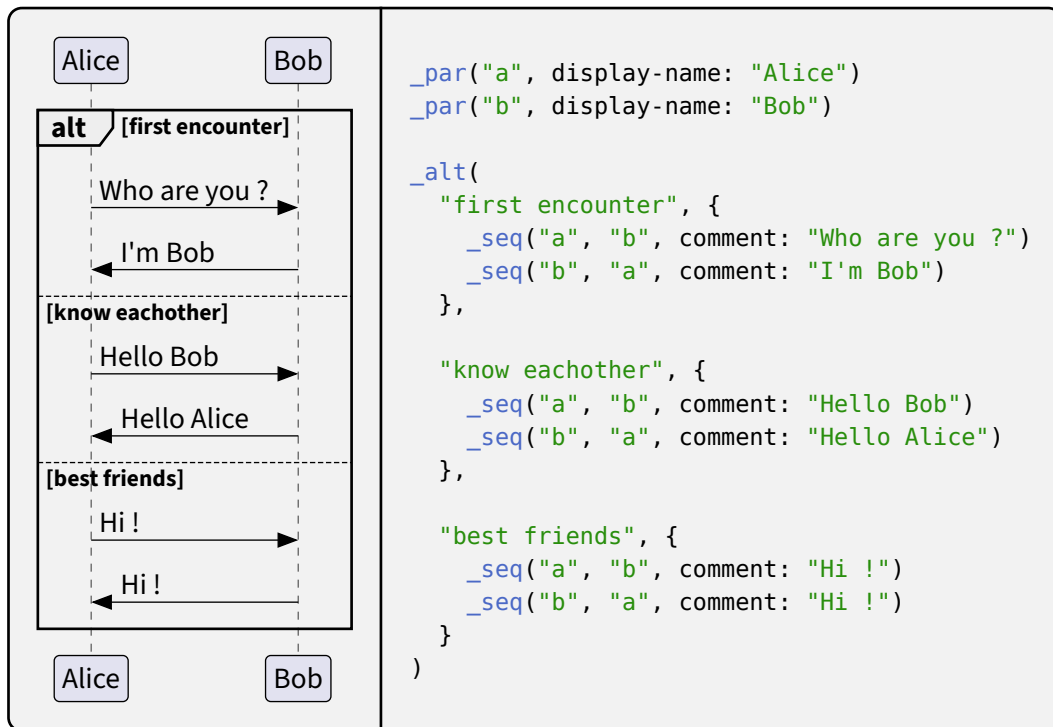
elmts `array`

Elements inside the group (can be sequences, other groups, notes, etc.)

4.3.2 `_alt`

Creates an alt-else group of sequences

It contains at least one section but can have as many as needed



Parameters

```

_alt(
  desc: content,
  elmts: array,
  ..args: content array
)

```

desc `content`

The alt's label

elmts `array`

Elements inside the alt's first section

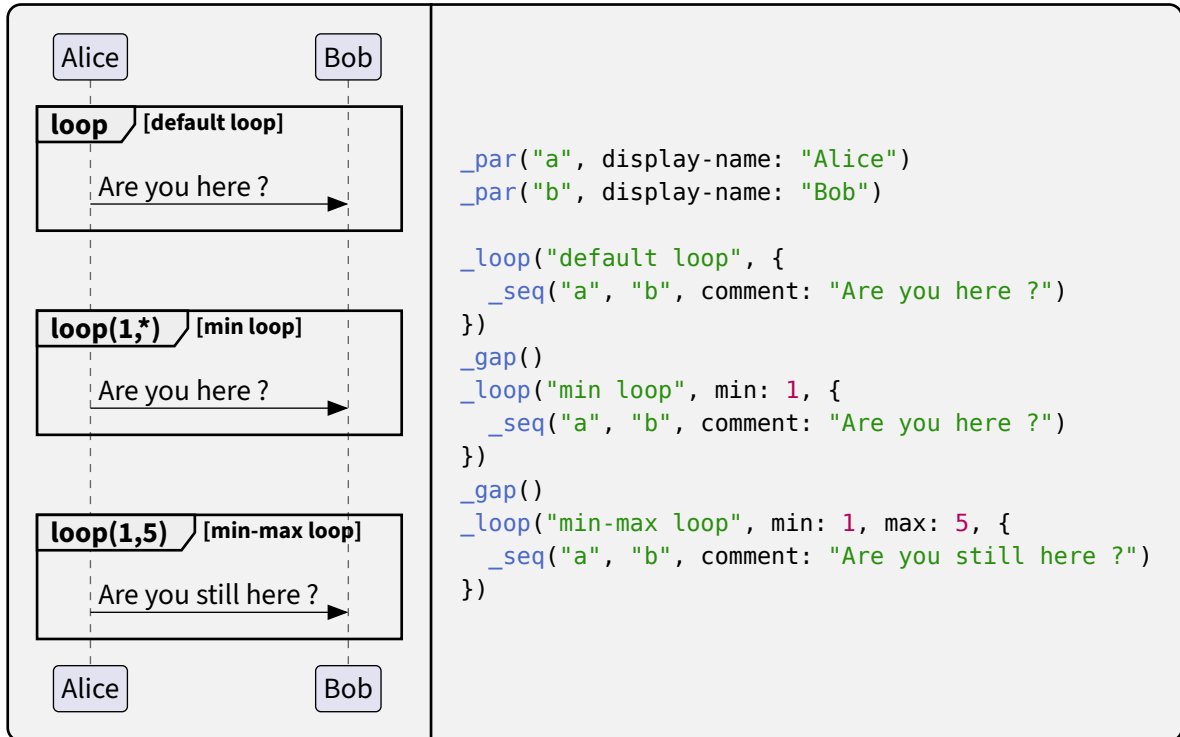
..args `content` or `array`

Complementary "else" sections.

You can add as many else sections as you need by passing a content (else section label) followed by an array of elements (see example)

4.3.3 `_loop`

Creates a looped group of sequences



Parameters

```

_loop(
  desc: content,
  min: none or number,
  max: auto or number,
  elmts: array
)

```

desc `content`

Loop description

min `none` or number

Optional lower bound of the loop

Default: `none`

max `auto` or number

Upper bound of the loop. If left as `auto` and `min` is set, it will be infinity (`'*`)

Default: `auto`

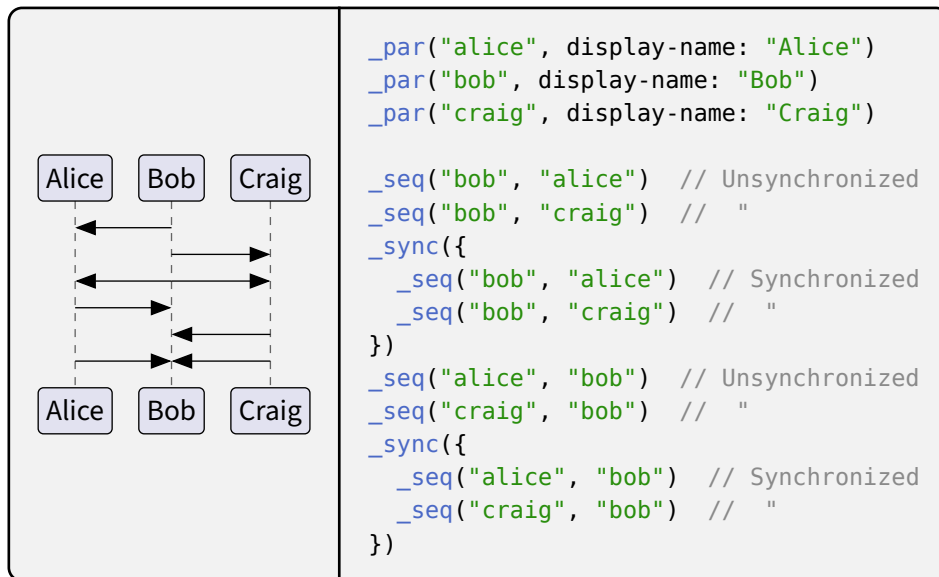
elmts `array`

Elements inside the group

4.3.4 `_sync`

Synchronizes multiple sequences

All elements inside a synchronized group will start at the same time



Parameters

`_sync`(`elmts`: array)

elmts array

Synchronized elements (generally sequences or notes)

4.3.5 `_opt`

Creates an optional group

This is a simple wrapper around `_grp()`

Parameters

```

_opt(
  desc: content,
  elmts: array
)

```

desc content

Group description

elmts array

Elements inside the group

4.3.6 `_break`

Creates a break group

This is a simple wrapper around `_grp()`

Parameters

```
_break(  
  desc: content,  
  elmts: array  
)
```

desc `content`

Group description

elmts `array`

Elements inside the group

4.4 Gaps and separators

4.4.1 `_gap`

Creates a gap before the next element

Parameters

`_gap(size: int)`

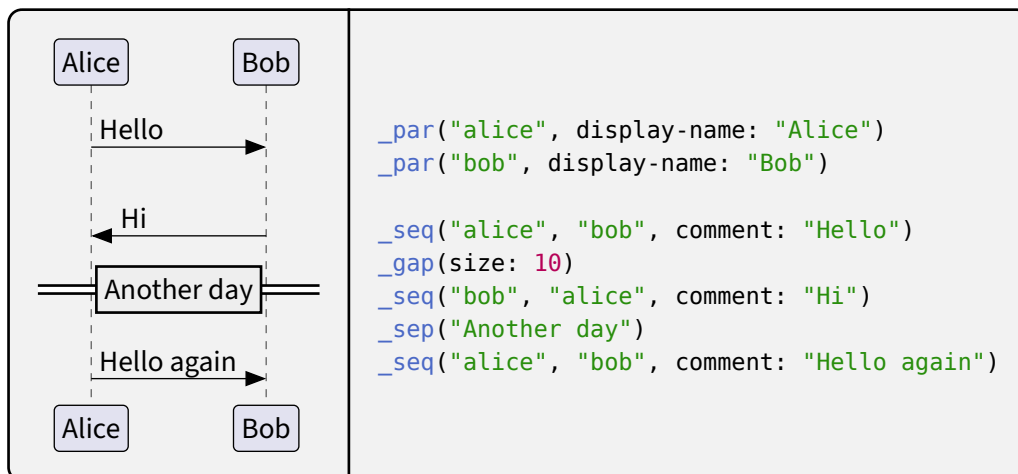
size `int`

Size of the gap

Default: `20`

4.4.2 `_sep`

Creates a separator before the next element



Parameters

`_sep(name: content)`

name `content`

Name to display in the middle of the separator

4.5 Notes

4.5.1 `_note`

Creates a note

Parameters

```
_note(  
    side: str,  
    content: content,  
    pos: none | str | array,  
    color: color,  
    shape: str,  
    aligned: bool  
)
```

side `str`

The side on which to place the note (see [SIDES](#) for accepted values)

content `content`

The note's content

pos `none` or `str` or `array`

Optional participant(s) on which to draw next to / over. If `side` is "left" or "right", sets next to which participant the note is placed. If `side` is "over", sets over which participant(s) it is placed

Default: `none`

color `color`

The note's color

Default: `rgb("#FEFFDD")`

shape `str`

The note's shape (see [SHAPES](#) for accepted values)

Default: `"default"`

aligned `bool`

True if the note is aligned with another note, in which case `side` must be "over", false otherwise

Default: `false`

4.5.2 SHAPES

Accepted values for shape argument of `_note()`

```

_par("alice", display-name: "Alice")
_par("bob", display-name: "Bob")
_note("over", `default`, pos: "alice")
_note("over", `rect`, pos: "bob", shape: "rect")
_note("over", `hex`, pos: ("alice", "bob"), shape: "hex")
    
```

4.5.3 SIDES

Accepted values for side argument of `_note()`

```

_par("alice", display-name: "Alice")
_par("bob", display-name: "Bob")
_par("charlie", display-name: "Charlie")
_note("left", [ `left` of Alice], pos: "alice")
_note("right", [ `right` of Charlie], pos: "charlie")
_note("over", [ `over` Alice and Bob], pos: ("alice", "bob"))
_note("across", [ `across` all participants])
_seq("alice", "bob")
_note("left", [linked with sequence])
_note("over", [A note], pos: "alice")
_note("over", [Aligned note], pos: "charlie", aligned: true)
    
```