





## Network Medicine Petri Nets: Properties

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http://lacl.fr/~sivanov/doku.php?id=en:pn-biomodelling

## Petri Nets: Reminder



	(stu	dents, t)	(aogs, t)	( <i>t</i> , treasu	re)
W	3		1	4	
		students	o dogs	treasure	
	$M_0$	2	1	0	

## The Spirit of the Lecture

- What? Formal descriptions of what we (would like to) see.
  - Why? To properly formulate queries to computers.
- Feels like? A kind of mind games.

## Outline

## 1. Behavioural Properties

## 2. Structural Properties

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## **Behavioural Properties**

#### Dynamical Properties

#### Properties of the state graph.

- how does the net evolve?
- which markings may it attain?

May depend on the evolution mode.





the state graph under asynchronous mode

## Reachability

Given a marking (state) M, can the net reach it from its initial marking  $M_0$ ?

Depends on the mode.



Markings  $p_1^2$ ,  $p_1p_2$ ,  $p_1p_3$ ,  $p_2^2$ ,  $p_2p_3$ ,  $p_3^2$  are reachable. Are there any markings this net cannot reach under asyn?  $p_1^3$ ,  $p_1^2p_2$ ,  $p_2^2p_3$ , etc.

#### Reachability set = all states listed in the state graph



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Answer:  $\{p^2, p^1, p, \lambda\} \leftarrow \lambda$  is the empty marking

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Does the choice of the evolution mode matter?







Answer: 
$$\{p^k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}, k \ge 2\}$$

#### Does the choice of the evolution mode matter?







Answer:  $\{d^2a, dat, at^2, ft^2\}$ 



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Does the choice of the evolution mode matter?

## Sidenote: Asyn is Often Used in Modelling

The asynchronous mode well represents arbitrary interleaving of process interactions.

Ensuring a certain behaviour under the asynchronous mode means proper synchronisation.

## Reachability is Hard

#### Reachability is decidable.

 ∃ a Turing machine deciding whether a marking is reachable or not.

#### Reachability is EXPSPACE-hard.

- A Turing machine needs at least exponential space on the band in order to decide whether a marking is reachable or not.
- Essentially, one needs to look over almost all of the reachability graph.

## Coverability: "Lighter" Reachability

Given a marking M, can the net reach a marking M' such that M' covers M?

• M' covers M if all places in M' contain at least as many tokens as in  $M(M' \ge M)$ .

Markings  $p_2$  and  $p_3$ 

- are coverable under both syn and asyn
- are not reachable



Is a Marking Coverable?



Which of these markings are coverable: dt, af, df?

## Boundedness

A Petri net is bounded if the number of tokens in every place never exceeds a fixed constant.



#### Unbounded



The number of tokens in the net increases at every step. Unboundedness  $\implies$  Cycles?

#### Do all unbounded Petri nets have cycles?

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t produces new tokens all the time.

## Is This Net Unbounded? 1/2



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## Is This Net Unbounded? 1/2



Answer: Yes

The token may get into  $p_3$ .

## Is This Net Unbounded? 2/2



## Is This Net Unbounded? 2/2



## Is This Net Unbounded? 2/2



No tokens ever get into  $p_3$ .

#### Liveness

A Petri net is live if, starting from any reachable marking, any transition in the net can be eventually fired.

 $\forall M \in \text{Reachable}(M_0), \forall t \in \text{Transitions},$  $\exists M' \in \text{Reachable}(M)$  such that t is enabled at M'.





#### Is this net live?





#### Is this net live?



## Deadlocks





Answer: No

Deadlock = a state in which no transitions are enabled. What are the deadlocks of this net?

## Summary of Behavioural Properties

- Reachability and coverability
  - Can a given marking be reached/covered?
- Boundedness
  - Is there a fixed upper bound on the number of tokens in all places?
- Liveness and deadlocks
  - Can any transition fire arbitrarily often?

## Outline

## 1. Behavioural Properties

## 2. Structural Properties

## **Bipartite Graphs**

A graph is bipartite if its vertices can partitioned into two sets U and V such that every edge connects a vertex from Uto a vertex from V (or a vertex from V to a vertex from U).



no edges within U or V

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bipartite\_graph

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Petri nets are bipartite graphs.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bipartite\_graph

#### Structural Properties

#### Properties depending only on the graph structure.

- independent of the dynamic states
- ▶ induced by loops, cycles, SCC, etc.

#### Properties that hold independently of the initial marking.

#### Traps

Trap = a subset of places S such that all transitions consuming tokens from S also put tokens into S.



Once a trap contains tokens, it will always contain tokens.

Traps do not include transitions.

## Where Is the Trap? 1/2



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Answer:  $\{p\}$ 

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## Where Is the Trap? 2/2

 $\bigcirc \begin{array}{ccc} p_1 & p_2 \\ \bigcirc & \bigcirc \end{array}$ 

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## Where Is the Trap? 2/2

# $\bigcirc \begin{array}{ccc} p_1 & p_2 \\ \bigcirc & \bigcirc \end{array}$

## Answer: $\{p_1\}$ , $\{p_2\}$ , $\{p_1, p_2\}$

The property of being a trap is satisfied vacuously.

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## Siphons

Siphon = a subset of places S such that all transitions putting tokens into S also consume tokens from S.



Siphons are duals (the opposite) of traps.

Once a siphon contains no tokens, it will never contain tokens again.







## Answer: $\{p_1\}$ , $\{p_2\}$ , $\{p_1, p_2\}$



## Answer: $\{p_1\}$ , $\{p_2\}$ , $\{p_1, p_2\}$

#### Can you think of other examples of siphons?

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## Petri Nets as Linear Operators

The incidence matrix *M* of a Petri net contains

- one row per place
- one column per transition

Cell (p, t) contains the value by which the number of tokens in p changes when t fires.



$$M = \begin{array}{ccc} t_1 & t_2 \\ \hline p_1 & -1 & 0 \\ p_2 & -1 & 0 \\ p_3 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

## Petri Nets as Linear Operators: Dynamics



## Petri Nets as Linear Operators: Dynamics



Current marking:  $p_1^1 p_2^1 p_3^1 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ The firing vector:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - t_1$  fires once,  $t_2$  does not fire

Next marking:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\-1 & 0\\1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1\\0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1\\-1\\1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\0\\2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Petri Nets $\neq$ Linear Operators



Note:  $t_2$  cannot fire if  $p_2$  is empty.

Cells  $(p_1, t_2)$ ,  $(p_2, t_2)$  both contain 0, but  $t_2$  actually depends on the number of tokens in  $p_2$ !

 Petri nets cannot be completely reduced to linear operators.

## Two Matrix-based Structural Properties

Transition invariant = a firing vector F such that  $M \cdot F = 0$ .

- F describes how to fire transitions such that the contents of the places does not change.
- for any marking!

Place invariant = a vector Y such that  $M^T \cdot Y = 0$ 

 Existence of place invariants with all components non-negative conservation of tokens (like in chemistry).

## Structural Properties and Behaviour

#### Structural properties = strong properties

- derived from the structure of the network
- holding for any possible state

For some types of Petri nets, behavioural properties can be described purely structurally:

- place invariants may describe boundedness
- traps and siphons may describe liveness

#### Structural properties are easier to handle.

no need to look at the state graph

## Summary of Structural Properties

#### Traps

- Once non-empty, always non-empty.
- Siphons
  - Once empty, always empty.
- Matrix-based
  - Properties of the incidence matrix.