

Petri Nets Tutorial, from Symmetric Nets to Symmetric Nets with Bags (session 3)

Souheib Baarir, Fabrice Kordon, Laure Petrucci

Souheib.Baarir@lrde.epita.fr

Fabrice.Kordon@lip6.fr

Laure.Petrucci@lipn.univ-paris13.fr

LRDE, Epita

LIP6, Université Pierre & Marie Curie

LIPN, Université Paris 13

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Outline

- Symmetries in Symmetric Nets
 - Towards the use of symmetries
 - Symbolic Marking
 - Symbolic Firing
 - Symbolic Reachability Graph (SRG)
- Symmetric nets with Bags (SNB)
 - Syntactic extensions
 - Semantics (Firing rule)
 - “unfolding” into SN (when finite)
- Conclusion



The background of the slide is a stylized illustration. It depicts a Gothic-style building with multiple gables, windows, and architectural details. The building is rendered in a warm, golden-yellow color, suggesting it is illuminated from below. The sky above is a deep, dark blue or black, filled with numerous small white stars. A prominent, swirling nebula in shades of teal and light blue is visible in the upper right portion of the sky. The overall style is reminiscent of a digital painting or a high-quality illustration.

Symmetries in Symmetric Nets

Introduction

At this stage, you know:

- Symmetric Nets with their syntax and semantics
- how to build a Reachability Graph
- how it can be used for system analysis
- how to use CosyVerif platform to practice these concepts and formalisms.

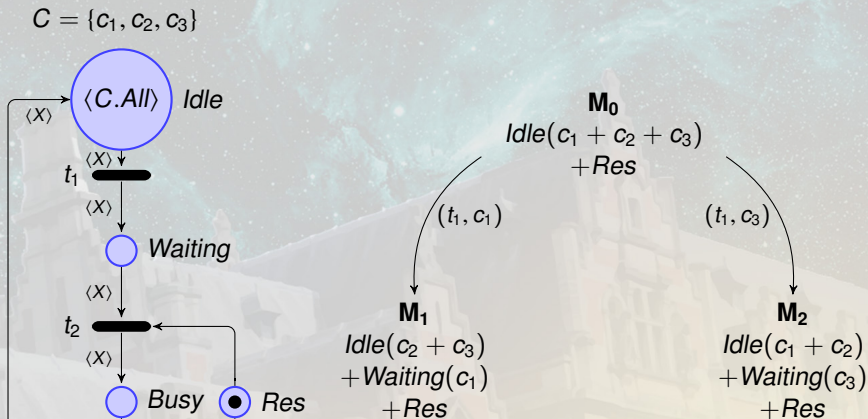
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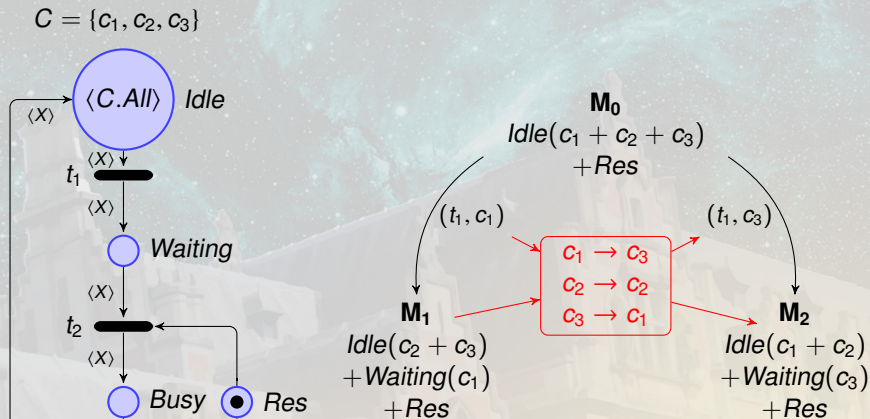
Let's now have an idea about the use of symmetries to reduce the size of the constructed structures.

Towards the use of symmetries (1/2)



- In the initial Marking, t_1 is enabled for each colour instance marking of *Idle*.

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- If we apply **a permutation on the transition colour**, the obtained markings are identical up to this permutation.

Towards the use of symmetries (2/2)

- We can represent this set of firings using variables:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Idle}(x + y + z) + \text{Res} & & x, y, z \in C \\ \downarrow (t_1, z) & & x \neq y \neq z \\ \text{Idle}(x + y) + \text{Waiting}(z) + \text{Res} & & \end{array}$$

- Then, we obtain the actual firings by testing all possible instantiations for x , y and z .

Permutations on Bags

- Let A be a set, s a permutation on A , and a a bag of A .

$$s.a = s\left(\sum_{x \in A} a(x).x\right) = \sum_{x \in A} a(x).s(x)$$

- In particular : $s.a(s.x) = a(x)$ (notation : $s.c = s(c)$)
- Example:
 - Let $a = c_1 + 2.c_2$ be a bag of $A = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$, and
 - s , with $s.c_1 = c_3$, $s.c_2 = c_1$, $s.c_3 = c_2$, be a permutation on A ,
 - then, $s.a = s(c_1 + 2.c_2) = s.c_1 + 2.(s.c_2) = c_3 + 2.c_1$

Conclusion

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Let's now study, formally, these symmetries and their usage for the construction of a reduced reachability graph (next sequence).



Symmetries to reduce the Reachability Graph

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Symmetries and SNs

- Consider a net $N = \langle P, T, C, W^-, W^+, M_0 \rangle$.¹
- Consider the set $S = \{\langle s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle \mid s_i \in S_i\}$, where,
 - With each **unordered** class C_i , we associate the (total) **permutation group** S_i .
 - With each **ordered** class C_i , we associate the (total) **rotation group** S_i .

We call S the set of **symmetries** of a N .

- Useful **properties**: let C_i be a colour class and $f_i : C(t) \rightarrow \text{Bag}(C_i)$ (a colour function) and s_i the associated symmetry.
 - $f_i = X_i^j \Rightarrow s_i \circ f_i = f_i \circ s_i, \forall s_i \in S_i$.
 - $f_i = C_i.\text{All} \Rightarrow s_i \circ f_i = f_i \circ s_i = C_i.\text{All}, \forall s_i \in S_i$.
 - $f_i = X_i^{j++} \Rightarrow r_i \circ f_i = f_i \circ r_i, \forall r_i \in S_i$. (when C_i is ordered).

¹At this step, we consider that transition guards do not reference colors explicitly!

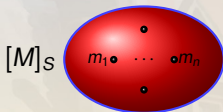
Markings Equivalence and Markings Classes

- Markings **equivalence** (\equiv_S):

$$M \equiv_S M' \Leftrightarrow \exists s \in S, M' = s.M$$

- For each marking M , we define its **marking class (orbit)** with respect to S , $[M]_S$:

$$[M]_S = \{M' \mid \exists s \in S, M' = s.M\}$$



Enabling Equivalence

(t, c_t) is enabled in a marking M



$(t, s.c_t)$ is enabled in the marking $s.M$

- (t, c_t) is enabled in a marking M
 - $\Leftrightarrow M(p) \geq W^-(p, t)(c_t)$
 - $\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in C(p), M(p)(c) \geq W^-(p, t)(c_t)(c)$
 - $\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in C(p), s.M(p)(s.c) \geq s.W^-(p, t)(c_t)(s.c)$
- Since, $s.W^-(p, t)(c_t) = W^-(p, t)(s.c_t)$, then
- $\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in C(p), s.M(p)(s.c) \geq W^-(p, t)(s.c_t)(s.c)$
 - $\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in C(p), s.M(p)(c) \geq s.W^-(p, t)(c_t)(c)$
 - $\Leftrightarrow (t, s.c_t) \text{ is enabled in a marking } s.M$

Firing Equivalence

$$M \xrightarrow{(t, c_t)} M' \Leftrightarrow s.M \xrightarrow{(t, s.c_t)} s.M'$$

- $M \xrightarrow{(t, c_t)} M'$
 $\Leftrightarrow M'(p) = M(p) - W^-(p, t)(c_t) + W^+(p, t)(c_t)$
 $\Leftrightarrow s.M'(p) = s.M(p) - s.W^-(p, t)(c_t) + s.W^+(p, t)(c_t)$
Since, $s.W^-(p, t)(c_t) = W^-(p, t)(s.c_t)$, and
 $s.W^+(p, t)(c_t) = W^+(p, t)(s.c_t)$, then
 $\Leftrightarrow s.M'(p) = s.M(p) - W^-(p, t)(s.c_t) + W^+(p, t)(s.c_t)$
 $\Leftrightarrow s.M \xrightarrow{(t, s.c_t)} s.M'$

Conclusion

At this stage, you know:

- Symmetric Nets with their syntax and semantics,
- the formal definition definition of symmetries in SNs,
- the formal definition of markings and firings equivalences.

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**How to use this notions to derive automatically a quotient reachability graph
(next sequence).**



Dynamic subclasses and Symbolic markings

Introduction

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The definition of an adequate representation for marking classes, first consists in constructing a quotient graph that represents the ordinary reachability graph.

This is achieved through the notions of:

- **Dynamic subclasses.**
- **Symbolic markings.**

Dynamic subclasses for unordered classes

- We group in a set (**dynamic subclass**) the objects of C_i that have the **same marking**.
- Example:
 - $M = Idle(c_1 + c_2) + Waiting(c_3) + Res$

$$\Rightarrow Idle(x + y) + Waiting(z) + Res$$

$$M(x) = M(y) \rightarrow Z^1, |Z^1| = 2$$

$$M(z) \neq M(x) \text{ et } M(z) \neq M(y) \rightarrow Z^2, |Z^2| = 1$$

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$$\Rightarrow \widehat{M} = Idle(Z^1) + Waiting(Z^2) + Res$$
$$|Z^1| = 2, |Z^2| = 1$$

(Symbolic Marking)

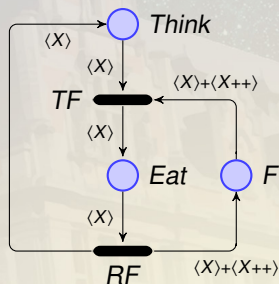
Dynamic subclasses for ordered classes

- A dynamic subclass represents objects that have the same marking and
 - ▶ are consecutive in the class enumeration order, and
 - ▶ the successor of the last element represented by Z^i is represented by Z^{i+1} .

- Example:

- ▶ $Think(c_2 + c_4 + c_5) + Eat(c_1 + c_3) + F(c_5)$
 \Rightarrow A dynamic subclass by object.
- ▶ $Think(Z^2 + Z^4 + Z^5) + Eat(Z^1 + Z^3) + F(Z^5)$,
 $|Z^i| = 1$
- ▶ $Think(c_1 + c_3 + c_5) + Eat(c_2 + c_4) + F(c_1)$
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$$C = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5\}$$



Conclusion

So far, we know:

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To construct directly a [quotient graph](#) that represents the ordinary reachability graph, we need a way to perform a firing rule, but applied directly to the symbolic markings (next sequence).



The background of the slide is a stylized illustration. It depicts a Gothic-style building with multiple towers and windows, rendered in a warm, yellowish-gold color. The building is set against a dark night sky filled with stars and a prominent, swirling teal nebula. The overall aesthetic is artistic and somewhat ethereal.

Symbolic Firing Rule

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The definition of a **symbolic firing rule that applies directly on symbolic representations, constitutes the second and final stage to obtain a **quotient graph**.**

Symbolic Firing rule

- Before firing, we decompose the dynamic subclasses to isolate the objects that are used to instantiate the colour functions.

- Example:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Idle}(Z) + \text{Res} & \longrightarrow & \text{Idle}(Z^1 + Z^{1,0}) + \text{Res} \\ |Z| = 3 & & |Z^1| = 2, |Z^{1,0}| = 1 \end{array}$$

$Z^{1,0}$ contains the chosen object to instantiate X , Z^1 those that are not participating in the firing.

- We then apply the classical firing rule.
- After the firing, we must group the resulting subclasses. . .

Example

Think($Z^1 + Z^3$) + *F*(Z^1) + *Eat*(Z^2)
 $|Z^1| = 3, |Z^2| = |Z^3| = 1$

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Think($Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2} + Z^3$) +

F($Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2}$) + *Eat*(Z^2)

$|Z^i| = 1$

Example

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Think}(Z^1 + Z^3) + F(Z^1) + \text{Eat}(Z^2) & \xrightarrow{(RF, Z^2)} & \text{Think}(Z) + F(Z) \\ |Z^1| = 3, |Z^2| = |Z^3| = 1 & & |Z| = 5 \\ \text{Think}(Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2} + Z^3) + & & \\ F(Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2}) + \text{Eat}(Z^2) & & \\ |Z^i| = 1 & & \end{array}$$

Example

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$(TF, Z^{1,0})$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Think}(Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2} + Z^3) + \\ F(Z^{1,2}) + \text{Eat}(Z^{1,0} + Z^2) \\ \text{Think}(Z^2 + Z^3 + Z^5) + F(Z^3) + \\ \text{Eat}(Z^1 + Z^4) \\ |Z^i| = 1 \end{array}$$

Example

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$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Think}(Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2} + Z^3) + \\ F(Z^{1,0} + Z^{1,1} + Z^{1,2}) + \text{Eat}(Z^2) \\ |Z^i| = 1 \end{array}$$

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$(TF, Z^{1,1})$

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Conclusion

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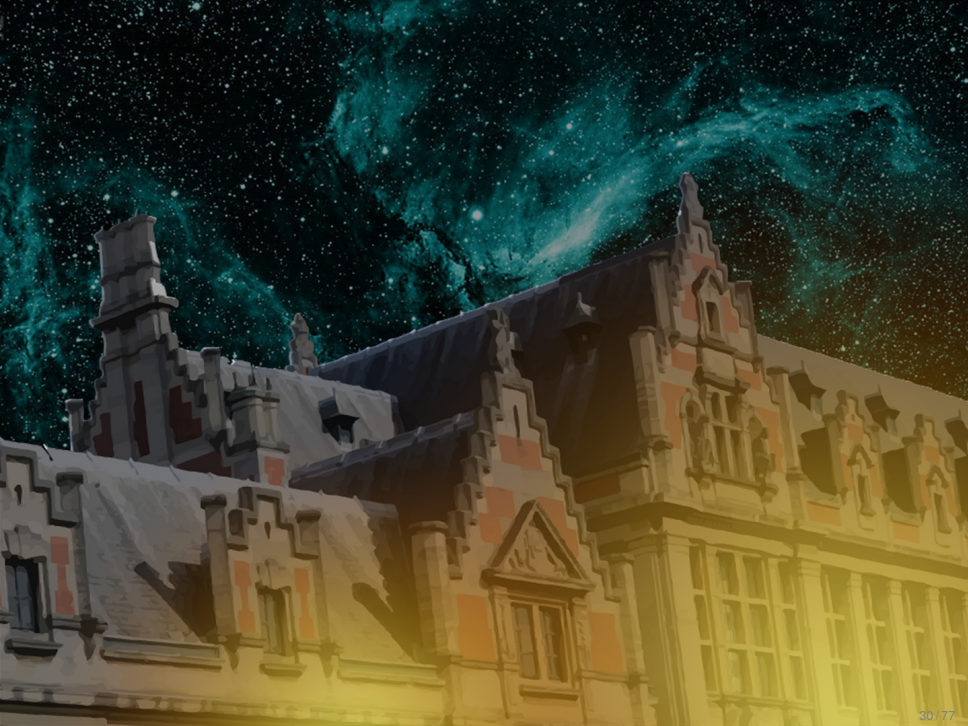
- how to represent, in symbolic and unique way, the marking classes,
- how to fire from a symbolic marking, a symbolic instance, to obtain the symbolic successor.

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We are ready to derive an algorithm to construct the symbolic reachability graph (next sequence).



Symbolic Reachability Graph

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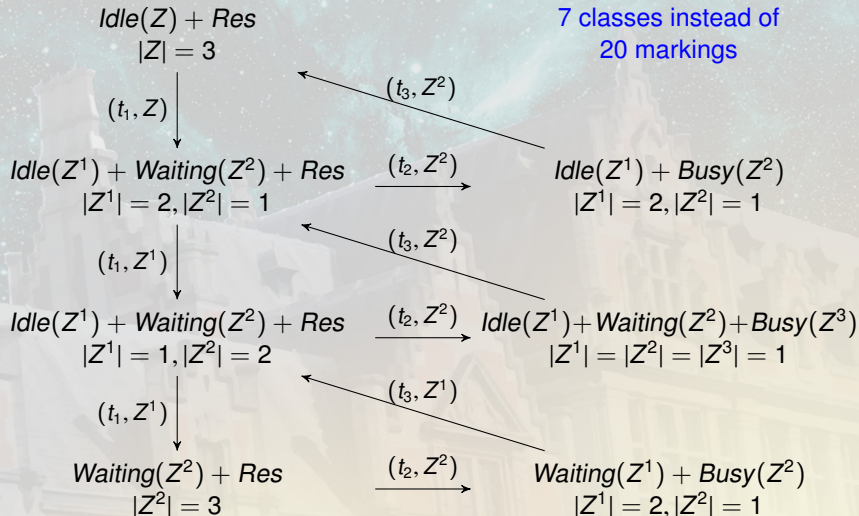
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SRG construction Algorithm

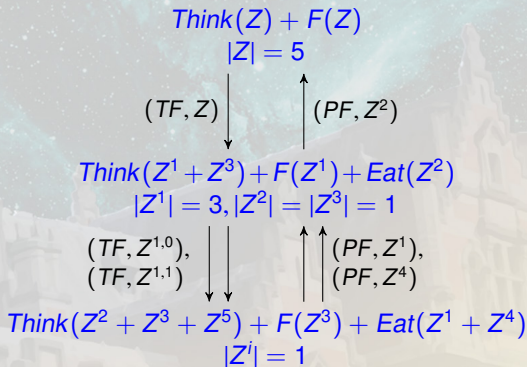
```
SRG_Construction( $N = \langle P, T, C, W^-, W^+, M_0 \rangle$ )  
   $SRG.Q = \{\hat{M}_0\}$ ;  $SRG.\delta = \emptyset$ ;  
   $SRG.q_0 = \hat{M}_0$ ;  $sStates = \{\hat{M}_0\}$ ;  
  While ( $sStates \neq \emptyset$ ) {  
     $\hat{s}$  = pick a state in  $sStates$  ;  
     $sStates = sStates \setminus \{\hat{s}\}$ ;  
    for each  $t \in T, \hat{c} \in \hat{C}(t)$  {  
      if ( $\hat{s}[(t, \hat{c})]$ ) {  
         $\hat{s}[(t, \hat{c})] \hat{n}s$ ;  
        if ( $\hat{n}s \notin SRG.Q$ ) {  
           $SRG.Q = SRG.Q \cup \{\hat{n}s\}$  ;  
           $sStates = sStates \cup \{\hat{n}s\}$ ;  
        }  
         $SRG.\delta = SRG.\delta \cup \{(\hat{s}, \hat{n}s)\}$ ;  
         $SRG.\lambda(\hat{s}, \hat{n}s) = (t, \hat{c})$ ;  
      }  
    }  
  }  
  return  $SRG$ ;
```


Example: SRG of the critical section access model

7 classes instead of
20 markings



Example: SRG of the dining philosophers problem



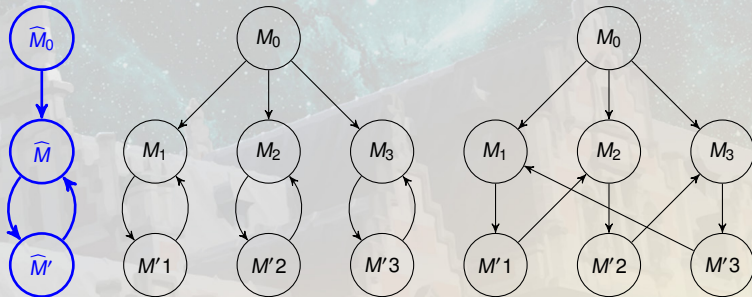
3 symbolic markings instead of 11 markings

What does the Symbolic Reachability Graph preserve?

- Each marking represented by a class (a symbolic marking) is reachable.
- Each reachable marking is represented by a class.
- Each firing sequence of the RG is represented in the SRG.
- To each sequence of the symbolic graph corresponds a sequence of the RG.

Then, what is missing?

- We cannot distinguish between the following situations:

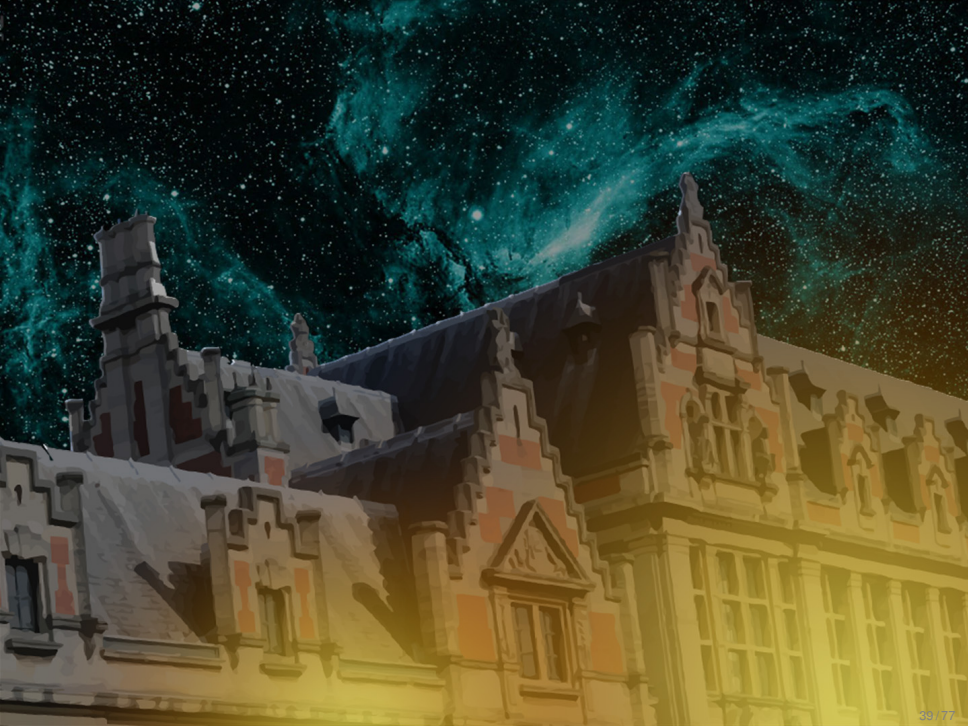


Conclusion

- So far, the approach presented imposes that all objects of the same class behave identically.
 - ▶ A class groups a set of objects that have the same nature.
 - ▶ The obtained reduction, SRG vs. RG, is maximal.
- How to deal with the case where objects have the same nature, *but with potentially different behaviours?*
 - ▶ Example: a class that represents a set of processors divided in two subsets: fast and slow.

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- Use of static subclasses...
 - ▶ Each class is partitioned into cells, called static subclasses, where the objects of the same cell behave identically.
 - ▶ Symmetries of nets easily extend as follows... (next sequence)



Static subclasses

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 - ▶ Each class is partitioned into cells, called static subclasses, where the objects of the same cell behave identically.
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Symmetries, static subclasses and SNs

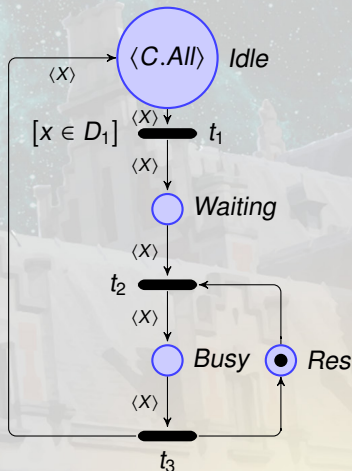
- Consider a net $N = \langle P, T, C, W^-, W^+, M_0 \rangle$, where,
 - Each class C_i is partitioned into n_i cells.

$$C_i = \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_i} D_{i,j}, \text{ such that } \begin{cases} \forall 0 < j \leq n_i, |D_{i,j}| > 0, \\ \forall 0 < j' \leq n_i, j \neq j' \Rightarrow D_{i,j} \cap D_{i,j'} = \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

- $D_{i,j}$ is called a **static subclass**.
- The symmetries of N are defined by the set $\mathcal{S} = \{\langle s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle \mid s_i \in S_i\}$, where:
 - With each **unordered** class C_i , we associate a **permutation subgroup** S_i ,
 - With each **ordered** class C_i , we associate a **rotation subgroup** S_i ,
 - $\forall D_{i,j}, \forall s_i \in S_i : s_i(D_{i,j}) = D_{i,j}$.
- Additional syntax constraints:
 - Broadcast functions are defined w.r.t. subclasses (e.g. $D_{i,j}.All$)
 - Transition Guards are defined w.r.t. subclasses (e.g. $[x \in D_{i,j}]$)

Example of SN with static subclasses

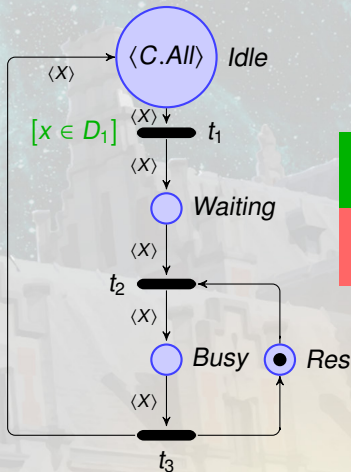
$C = D_1 \cup D_2$ where
 $D_1 = \{c_1, c_2\}$, $D_2 = \{c_3, c_4\}$



- Colour class C is partitioned into two static subclasses: D_1 and D_2 .
- Transition t_1 can be enabled (and fired) only by elements of D_1 .

Impact of static subclasses on the SRG (1/2)

$C = D_1 \cup D_2$ where
 $D_1 = \{c_1, c_2\}$, $D_2 = \{c_3, c_4\}$



$$Idle(Z) + Res$$

$$|Z| = 4$$

$$(t_1, Z)$$

$$Idle(Z^1) + Waiting(Z^2) + Res$$

$$|Z^1| = 3, |Z^2| = 1$$

$$Idle(c_1 + c_3 + c_4) + Waiting(c^2) + Res$$

$$Idle(c_2 + c_3 + c_4) + Waiting(c^1) + Res$$

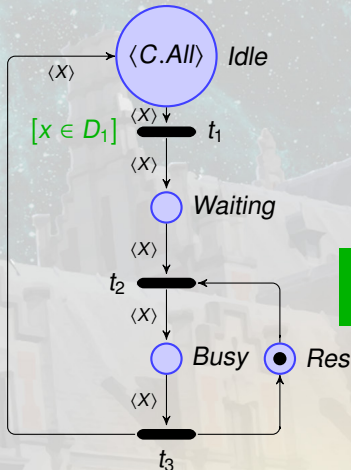
$$Idle(c_1 + c_2 + c_3) + Waiting(c^4) + Res$$

$$Idle(c_1 + c_2 + c_4) + Waiting(c^3) + Res$$

- The symbolic marking defined assumes that all colours of a class are symmetric. So, the instantiation is trivial!
- This is **no more correct** when static subclasses are introduced.

Impact of static subclasses on the SRG (2/2)

$C = D_1 \cup D_2$ where
 $D_1 = \{c_1, c_2\}$, $D_2 = \{c_3, c_4\}$



$Idle(Z^1 + Z^2) + Res$
 $|Z^1| = 2, |Z^2| = 2$
 $Z^1 \subseteq D_1, Z^2 \subseteq D_2$

$((t_1, Z^1))$

$Idle(Z^1 + Z^3) + Waiting(Z^2) + Res$
 $|Z^1| = |Z^2| = 1, |Z^3| = 2$
 $Z^1, Z^2 \subseteq D_1, Z^3 \subseteq D_2$

$Idle(c_1 + c_3 + c_4) + Waiting(c^2) + Res$
 $Idle(c_2 + c_3 + c_4) + Waiting(c^1) + Res$

- A dynamic subclass must refer to the static subclass to which it belongs (i.e. to which the elements it represents belong).

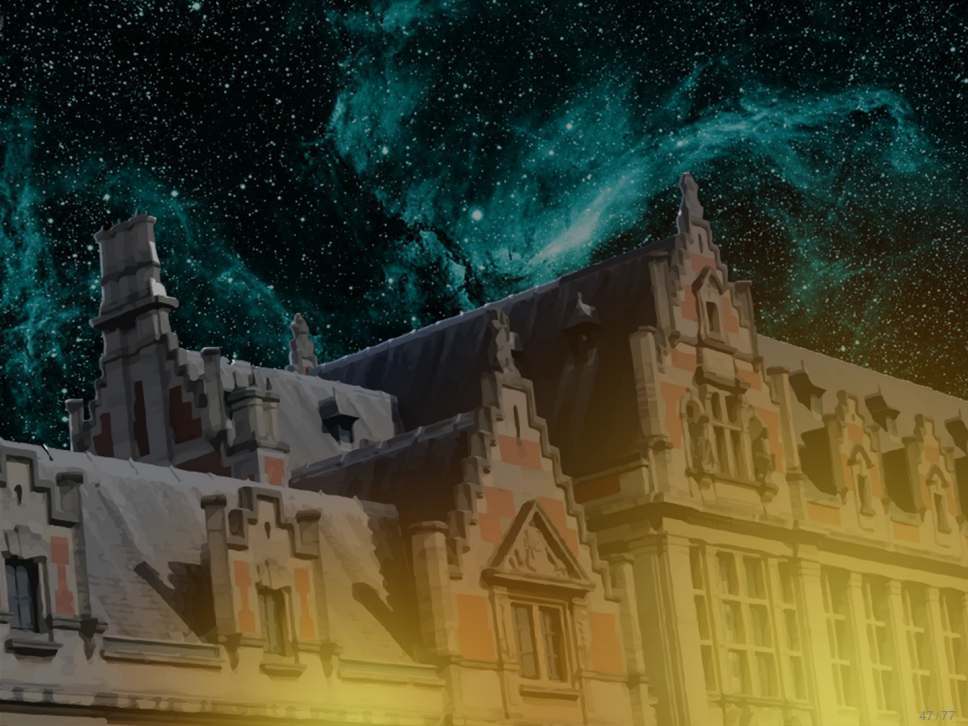
Conclusion

- Static subclasses are needed to model complex algorithms in a compact way.
- A symbolic marking must refer, in its definition, to these static subclasses, otherwise the underlying represented markings will be **spurious!**
- The efficiency of the constructed SRG (the reduction factor) depends on these static subclasses:
 - ▶ When each class of the net contains only one static subclass, **the reduction is maximal.**
 - ▶ When the classes of the net are partitioned into static subclasses with only one element, **there is no reduction.**

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How to deal with this last case (next sequence).



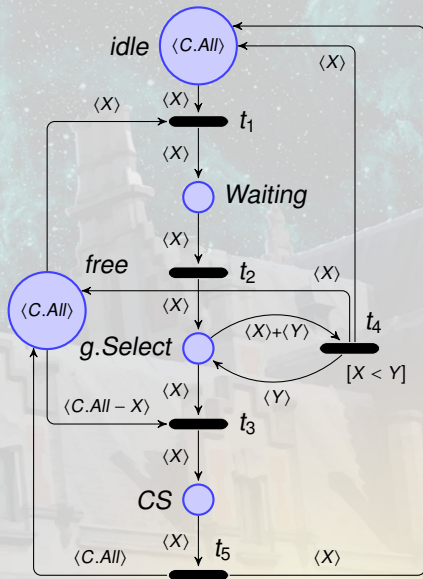
SN and Local Symmetries

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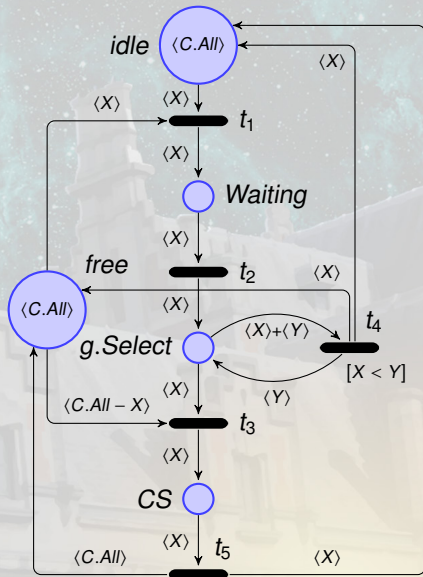
We will now see how to deal with this last case.

Example: critical section with priorities (1/2)



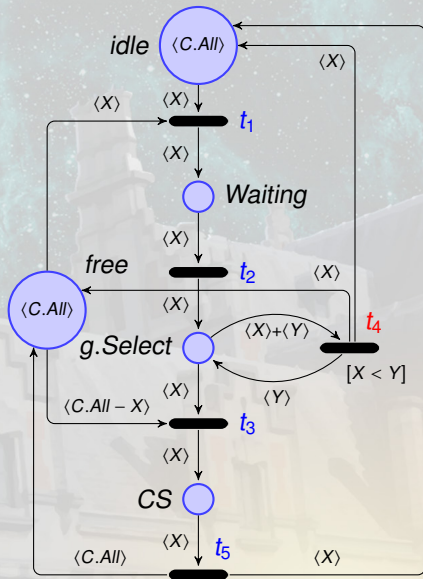
- All places have $C = \{p_1, p_2, p_3\}$ as colour domain.
- Because of the guard $[X < Y]$ on transition t_4 , C has to be partitioned into 3 static subclasses:
 $C = D_1 \cup D_2 \cup D_3$, where $D_i = \{p_i\}$, for $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.
- The guard $[X < Y]$ is written:
 $\bigvee_{i < j} (X \in D_i \wedge Y \in D_j)$

Example: critical section with priorities (2/2)



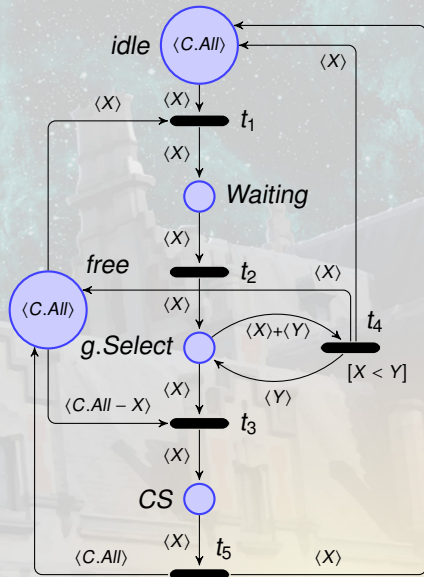
- Since all defined static subclasses are singletons, and
- the symmetries of a SN are defined according to these subclasses (i.e. only objects of the same subclass are symmetrical),
- then, the constructed SRG of this SN has the same size as the RG, i.e. no reduction is possible!
- Is it possible to deal with this problem?

SN and partial symmetries: observation

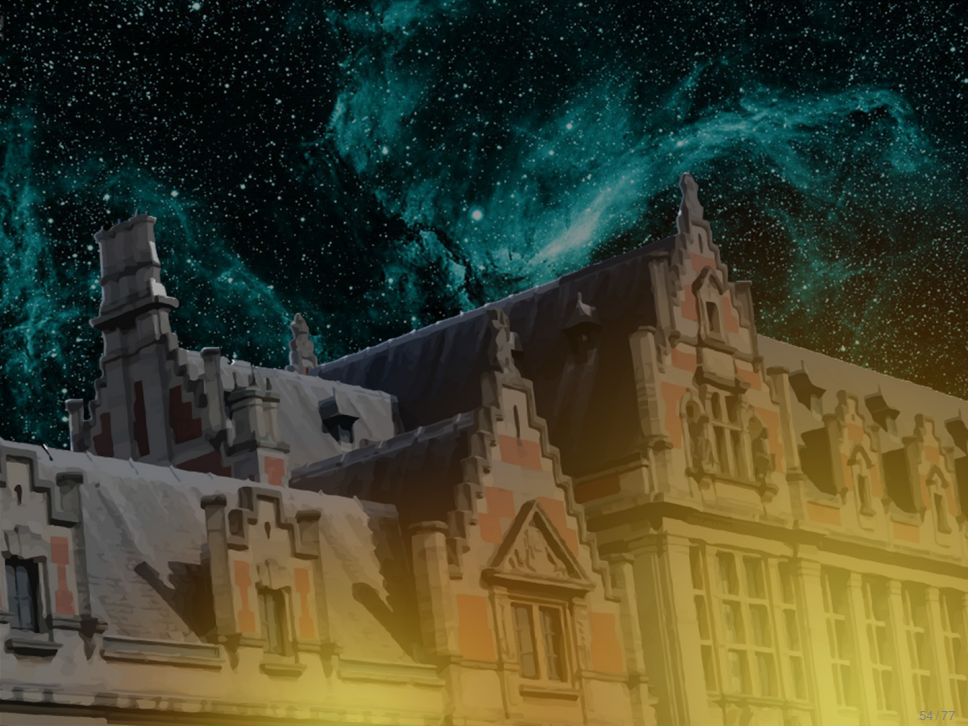


- The problem (**asymmetry**) comes from a single transition (t_4) and is propagated in the whole net!
- The guard and the firing of t_4 distinguish the objects \Rightarrow **objects are asymmetrical**.
- The enabling and the firing of transitions t_1 , t_2 , t_3 and t_5 do not need information about the identity of the objects \Rightarrow **objects are symmetrical**.

SN and partial symmetries: idea



- **Forget** the asymmetries (static subclasses) while not needed to test the enabling of a transition.
- **Reintroduce** the static subclasses while testing the enabling of asymmetric transitions (transitions that refer to static subclasses).
- This way, the propagation of asymmetries will be contained in small parts.



Symmetric Nets with Bags

Introduction

- SN do not avoid the interleaving inherent to distributed systems (that could be avoided by partial order-based techniques)
- SN do not easily model multiple data association with a single “identifier”

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SNB (B=bags) bring a solution to these problems

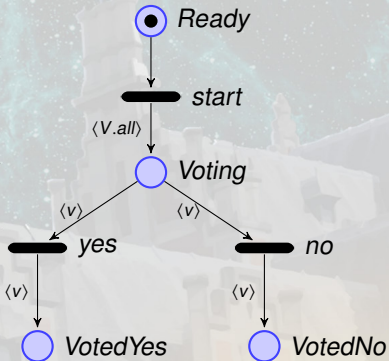
- Suppression of spurious intermediate states
- Possibility to associate items as bags themselves
- Models are even more compact and parametrisable than with SNs

The voting system example (1/2)

Voting machine example

$$V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$$

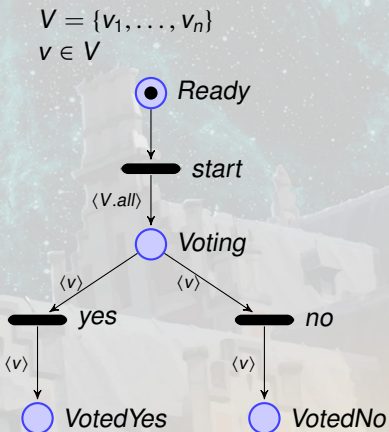
$$v \in V$$



The voting system example (1/2)

Voting machine example

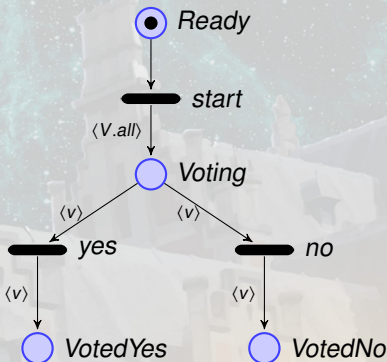
- Reachability graph shows **all possible votes**



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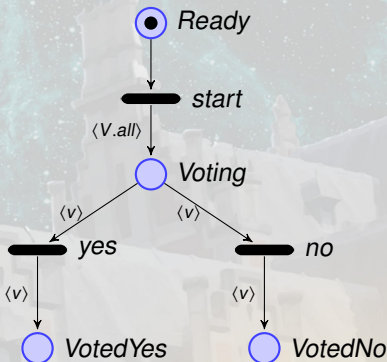
Voting machine example

- Reachability graph shows **all possible votes**
- High **complexity**:
 - ▶ $3^{|V|} + 1$ **states**
 - ▶ $\binom{|V| + 2}{2} + 1$ **symbolic states**

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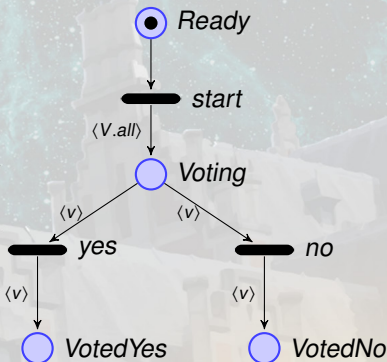
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Incurring problems

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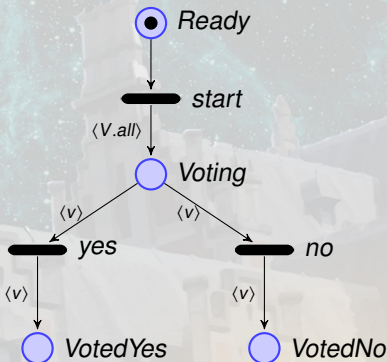
Incurring problems

- $2^{|V|}$ possible vote results

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Incurring problems

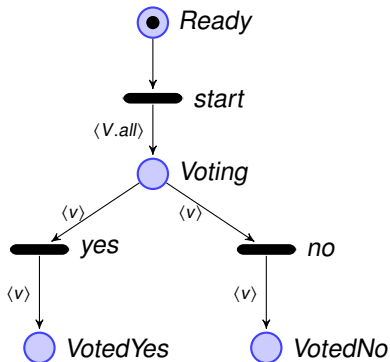
- $2^{|V|}$ possible vote results
- **no symbolic firing to produce all possible votes**:
 - ▶ Vote categories **cannot be computed symbolically**
 - ▶ Limit of Symmetric Nets

The voting system example (2/2)

Symmetric Net Model

$$V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$$

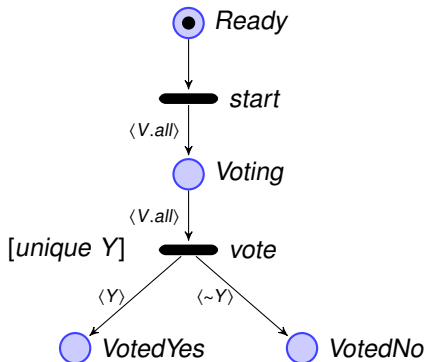
$$v \in V$$



Symmetric Net with Bags Model

$$V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$$

$$Y \in Bag(V)$$



Conclusion

At this stage:

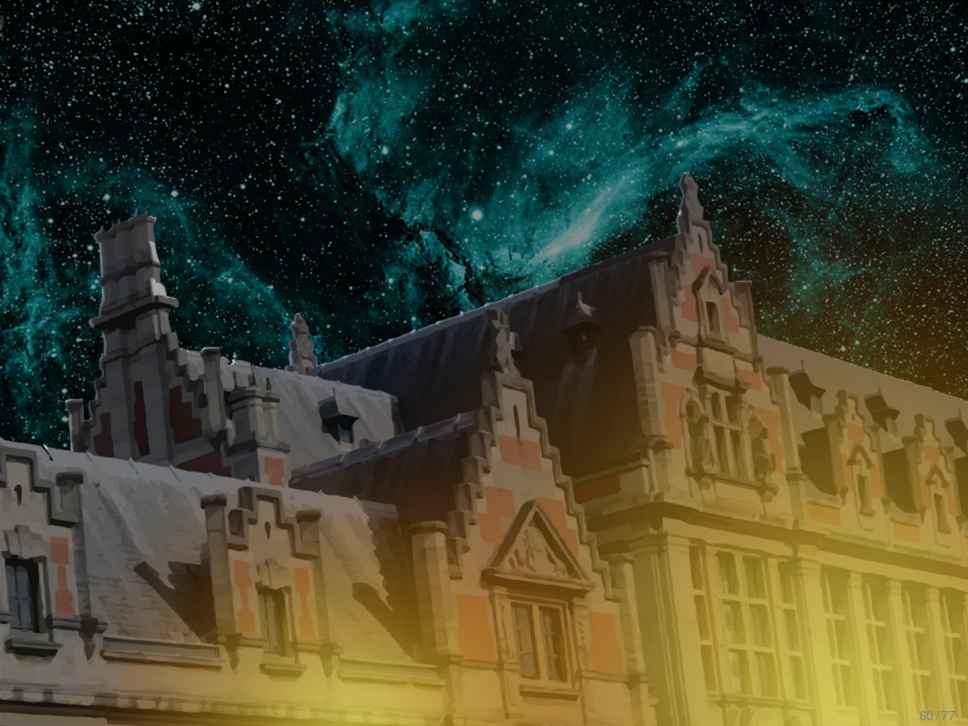
- you have seen a basic illustration of SNBs
- you know that SNBs capture bags of values

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At this stage:

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- you know that SNBs capture bags of values

**Let's present the functions manipulated in SNBs
and the firing rule (next sequence)**



Functions used in SNBs and firing rule

Introduction

Now you know:

- the basic underlying features of SNBs
- that SNBs capture bags of values

Introduction

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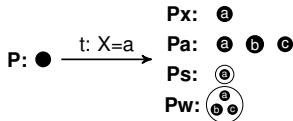
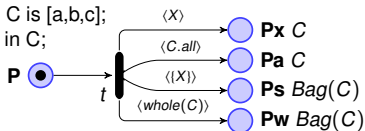
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Let's present the functions manipulated in SNBs and the firing rule

Functions and their use in firings

Basic functions (colours and bags)

Class C is [a,b,c];
Var X in C;

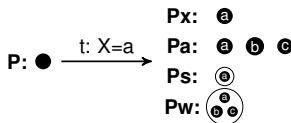
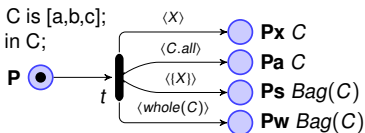


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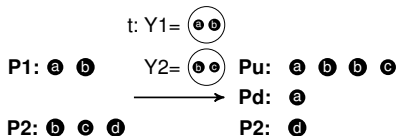
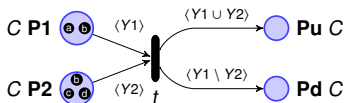
Var X in C;



Bag manipulations

Class C is [a,b,c,d];

Var Y1,Y2 in Bag(C);



Bags functions used in guards

$\text{ord}(x)$: the rank of element x in an ordered set

$\text{Unique } Y$: true iff elements appear at most once in Y

$\text{card}(Y)$: the cardinality of bag Y

Conclusion

At this stage:

- you know the functions that operate on bags
- you know the additional functions used in guards

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Let's present a more complete example (next sequence)



Second example of SNB

Introduction

Now you know:

- the functions that operate on bags
- the additional functions used in guards

Introduction

Now you know:

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- the additional functions used in guards

Let's present a more complete example

The global allocation mechanisms

A way to avoid deadlocks in systems

Make one of the four necessary conditions fail

Principle

When a program enters a *critical section*, it must own all the resources it will need in this piece of code

Modeling the problem (1/6)

Entering in the critical section

Class

Proc is [p1, p2, p3];

Res is 1..6;

Domain

BagR is Bag(Res);

P_BagR is <Proc, BagR>;

Var

p in Proc;

R, R2 in BagR;

Modeling the problem (2/6)

States of the system

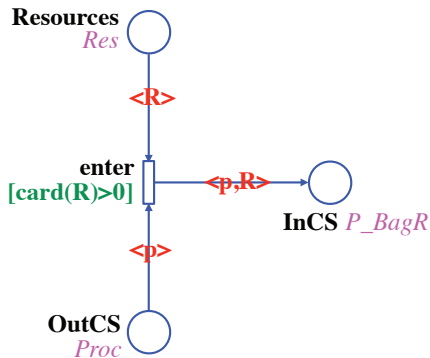
Resources
Res 


InCS *P_BagR*

OutCS
Proc 

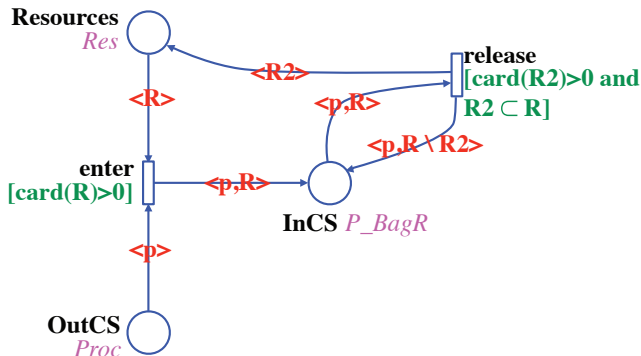
Modeling the problem (3/6)

Entering in the critical section



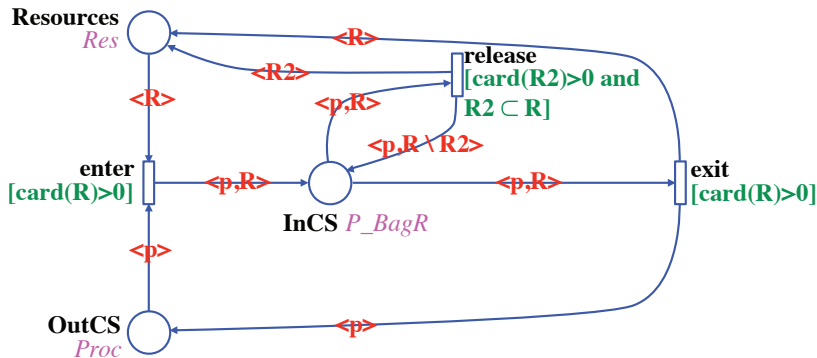
Modeling the problem (4/6)

Releasing some resources (and staying in the critical section)



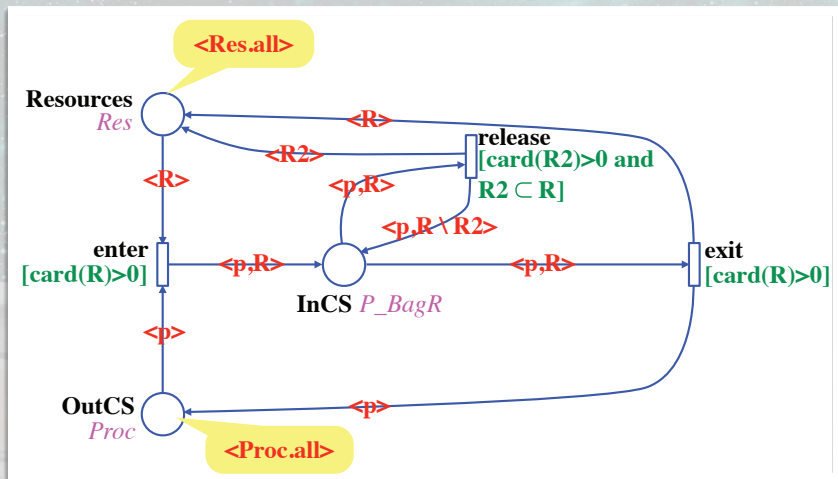
Modeling the problem (5/6)

Exiting the critical section



Modeling the problem (6/6)

Initial marking of the system



Conclusion

This tutorial has presented:

- Symmetric Nets with their syntax and semantics
 - how to build the Reachability Graph
 - how to use them for system analysis
- How to use the CosyVerif platform to practice these concepts and formalisms
- The use of global symmetries to reduce the Reachability Graph
 - dynamic and static subclasses
 - the symbolic firing rule
 - the Symbolic Reachability Graph
 - The notion of partial symmetries (the idea of it)
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and next, back to practice (how to model a system with SNB)

