Reachability in Petri nets with Inhibitor arcs

Klaus Reinhardt

Universität Tübingen

reinhard@informatik.uni-tuebingen.de

Overview

- Multisets, New operators \circ_Q and $*_Q$ on multisets, Semilinearity
- Petri nets, Inhibitor arcs
- The reachability relation for Petri nets with one inhibitor arc
- Nested Petri Nets as normal form for expressions
- new Overview: Decision algorithm, Logic, Automata

Multisets

We write a multiset $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{N}^B$ as a set $\{b \mapsto f(b) \mid b \in B\}$, as a table $\begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_n \\ f(b_1), f(b_2), \dots, f(b_n) \end{bmatrix}$ or as an *n*-ary vector $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f}(b_1) \\ \mathbf{f}(b_2) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}(b_n) \end{pmatrix}$.

$$A \subseteq B \; \Rightarrow \; \mathbb{N}^A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^B$$

 $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{N}^A \land \mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{N}^B \Rightarrow (\mathbf{f} + \mathbf{g}) \in \mathbb{N}^{A \cup B}$

 \emptyset with $\emptyset(x) = 0$ for all x is neutral element for +.

 $\mathbb{N}^A \cap \mathbb{N}^B = \mathbb{N}^{A \cap B}$

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{f}) := \{a \mid \mathbf{f}(a) > 0\}, \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{M}) := \bigcup_{\mathbf{f} \in \mathbf{M}} \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{f}).$$

 $\text{Restriction: } \mathbf{f}|_A := \{ b \mapsto \mathbf{f}(b) \mid b \in A \} \quad \mathbf{f}|_{\overline{A}} := \{ b \mapsto \mathbf{f}(b) \mid b \not\in A \} \text{, thus } \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{f}|_A + \mathbf{f}|_{\overline{A}}.$

A set $\mathbf{M} = {\mathbf{m}_1, ..., \mathbf{m}_k} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^A$ of multi-sets generate linear combinations:

$$\mathbf{M}^* := \{a_1\mathbf{m}_1 + \ldots + a_k\mathbf{m}_k | \forall i \le k \ a_i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

More generally, by $\mathbf{M}^0 := \{\emptyset\}$ and $\mathbf{M}^{i+1} := \mathbf{M}^i + \mathbf{M}$, we can define $\mathbf{M}^* := \bigcup_i \mathbf{M}^i$.

Linear set: $\mathbf{m}_c + \mathbf{M}^*$. Semilinear set: finite union of linear sets.

Semilinear sets: Smallest class of sets of multisets containing all finite sets of multisets and being closed under \cup , + and *.

[GS65],[ES69]: The semilinear sets are also closed under \cap .

New operators \circ_Q and $*_Q$ on multisets

For an unambiguous and injective binary relation Q and two sets of Multisets M and N we define

$$\mathbf{N} \circ_{Q} \mathbf{M} := \left\{ \mathbf{n} \left| \frac{1}{\pi_{1}(Q)} + \mathbf{m} \right| \frac{1}{\pi_{2}(Q)} \right| \mathbf{n} \in \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{m} \in \mathbf{M}, \forall (a, b) \in Q \ \mathbf{n}(a) = \mathbf{m}(b) \right\}.$$

For example,

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 3\\6\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2\\5\\2 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \circ_{\{(b_1, b_2)\}} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 8\\3\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 7\\2\\2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5\\2\\3 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 8\\6\\2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 7\\5\\4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5\\5\\5 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

or
$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 3\\6\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2\\5\\2 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \circ_{\{(b_3, b_3)\}} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 8\\3\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 7\\2\\2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5\\2\\3 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 11\\9 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 9\\7 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

For $\pi_1(Q)$ and $\pi_2(Q)$ disjoint, we define $\mathbf{Id}_Q := \{\{a \mapsto 1, b \mapsto 1\} \mid (a, b) \in Q\}^*$ which is the neutral element for \circ_Q .

Obviously, it holds $\mathbf{N} \circ_{\emptyset} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{N} + \mathbf{M}$ which makes + with the neutral element $\mathbf{I} d_{\emptyset} = \{\emptyset\}$ a special case of the \circ_{O} operator.

Furthermore, for Q with $\pi_1(Q)$ and $\pi_2(Q)$ disjoint, we define $*_Q(\mathbf{M})$ as the closure of $\mathbf{M} \cup \mathbf{Id}_Q$ under \circ_Q and the addition \circ_{\emptyset} .

In other words, $*_Q^0(\mathbf{M}) := \mathbf{I}d_Q$, $*_Q^{i+1}(\mathbf{M}) := *_Q^i(\mathbf{M}) \circ_Q \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{I}d_Q$ and $*_Q(\mathbf{M}) := \bigcup_i *_Q^i(\mathbf{M})$. Again, $*_{\emptyset}(\mathbf{M}) = \mathbf{M}^*$ is a special case. **Properties:** $\mathbf{N} \circ_Q \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M} \circ_{Q^{-1}} \mathbf{N}$

For $\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{M} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^A$ we get $\mathbf{N} \cap \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{N}_{Q'} \mathbf{L}_{Q''} \mathbf{M}$ with $Q' := \{(a, a') \mid a \in A\}, Q'' := \{(a'', a) \mid a \in A\}$ and $\mathbf{L} := \{\{a \mapsto 1, a' \mapsto 1, a'' \mapsto 1\} \mid a \in A\}^*$.

In general, $\mathbb{N}_{Q'} \mathbb{L}_{Q''} \mathbb{M}$ can only be written without brackets because $\pi_1(Q'') \cup (\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbb{M}) \setminus \pi_2(Q''))$ and $\pi_2(Q') \cup (\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbb{N}) \setminus \pi_1(Q'))$ are disjoint.

If, additionally, $\pi_2(Q'')$ and $\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{N})$ are disjoint and $\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{M})$ and $\pi_1(Q'))$ are disjoint, then $\mathbf{N} \circ_{Q'} \mathbf{L} \circ_{Q''} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{L} \circ_{Q'^{-1} \cup Q''} (\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{N})$.

Semilinearity

 $◦_Q$ preserves semilinearity: Assume **N** and **M** are semilinear sets over *A*. **N**' semilinear set over *A* \ $π_1(Q) ∪ π_1(Q)'$. **M**' semilinear set over *A* \ $π_2(Q) ∪ π_2(Q)'$.

 $\mathbf{E}_Q' := \{\{a' \mapsto 1, b' \mapsto 1\}, \{c \mapsto 1\} \mid (a, b) \in Q, c \in A\}^* = \{\mathbf{f} \mid \forall (a, b) \in Q \ \mathbf{f}(a') = \mathbf{f}(b')\}$ semilinear sets over the set $A \cup \pi_1(Q)' \cup \pi_1(Q)'$.

Thus, $\mathbb{N} \circ_Q \mathbb{M} = ((\mathbb{N}' + \mathbb{M}') \cap \mathbb{E}'_Q) |_{\pi_1(Q)' \cup \pi_1(Q)'}$ is semilinear.

 $*_Q$ does not preserve semilinearity:

Let
$$\mathbf{M} := \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}^*$$
, then $\mathbf{*}_{\{(b_3, b_2)\}}(\mathbf{M}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} \middle| c \le b2^a \right\}$ not semilinear.

Petri net

We describe a *Petri net* as the triple N = (P, T, W) with the places *P*, the transitions *T* and the weight function $W \in \mathbb{N}^{P \times T \cup T \times P}$. A transition $t \in T$ can fire from a marking $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N}^{P}$ to a marking $\mathbf{m}' \in \mathbb{N}^{P}$, denoted by $\mathbf{m}[t\rangle \mathbf{m}'$, if

$$\mathbf{m} - W(.,t) = \mathbf{m}' - W(t,.) \in \mathbb{N}^{P}.$$

A firing sequence $w = t_1...t_n \in T^*$ can fire from \mathbf{m}_0 to \mathbf{m}_n , denoted by $\mathbf{m}_0[w\rangle \mathbf{m}_n$, if $\mathbf{m}_1,...\mathbf{m}_{n-1}$ exist with $\mathbf{m}_0[t_1\rangle \mathbf{m}_1[t_2\rangle...[t_n\rangle \mathbf{m}_n$.

Reachability problem: given net *N* with start- and end markings $\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e \in \mathbb{N}^P$, decide if there is a $w \in T^*$ with $\mathbf{m}_0[w \rangle \mathbf{m}_e$.

[May84][Kos84][Lam92]: decidable.

Let $P^+ := \{p^+ \mid p \in P\}$ and $P^- := \{p^- \mid p \in P\}$ be copies of the places and $\hat{P} := \{(p^+, p^-) \mid p \in P\}$. For **m** define the corresponding copies $\mathbf{m}^- := \{p^- \mapsto \mathbf{m}(p) \mid p \in P\}$ and $\mathbf{m}^+ := \{p^+ \mapsto \mathbf{m}(p) \mid p \in P\}$.

Reachability relation for a transition *t*:

$$\mathbf{R}(t) := \left\{ \mathbf{m}^{-} + \mathbf{m}'^{+} \middle| \mathbf{m}[t\rangle \mathbf{m}' \right\} \\ = \left\{ \mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{N}^{P^{+} \cup P^{-}} \middle| \forall p \in P \mathbf{r}(p^{-}) - W(p,t) = \mathbf{r}(p^{+}) - W(t,p) \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Reachability relation for a set of transitions *T* as $\mathbf{R}(T) := \bigcup_{t \in T} \mathbf{R}(t)$.

Monotonicity: Whenever $\mathbf{m}[w \rangle \mathbf{m'}$, then also $(\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n})[w \rangle (\mathbf{m'} + \mathbf{n})$ for any $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^{P}$.

This corresponds to adding $\mathbf{I}d_P := \mathbf{I}d_{\hat{P}}$ and $\mathbf{R}(t) = \mathbf{c}_t + \mathbf{I}d_P$ is a linear set using \mathbf{c}_t with $\mathbf{c}_t(p^-) = W(p,t)$ and $\mathbf{c}_t(p^+) = W(t,p)$ for all $p \in P$.

Concatenation of two firing sequences described by the operator $\circ_P := \circ_{\hat{P}}$

iteration described by $*_P := *_{\hat{P}}$.

The reachability relation of the petri net N is $\mathbf{R}(N) := \mathbf{R}(T^*) := \mathbf{k}_P(\mathbf{R}(T))$.

The reachability problem: $(\mathbf{m}_0^- + \mathbf{m}_e^+) \in \mathbf{R}(N)$.

Corollary 1 There is a firing sequence $w \in T^*$ with $\mathbf{m}_0[w] \mathbf{m}_e$ in N if and only if

$$\mathbf{m}_{0}^{+} \circ_{P} \mathbf{R}(N) \circ_{P} \mathbf{m}_{e}^{-} = (\mathbf{m}_{0}^{-} + \mathbf{m}_{e}^{+}) \circ_{A} \mathbf{R}(N) = \{\emptyset\}$$

for $A := \{(p^-, p^-), (p^+, p^+) \mid p \in P\}$. In the other case $(\mathbf{m}_0^- + \mathbf{m}_e^+) \circ_A \mathbf{R}(N) = \emptyset$.

Inhibitor arcs

We describe such a Petri net as the 6-tuple $(P, T, W, I, \mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e)$ with the places P, the transitions T, the weight function $W \in \mathbb{N}^{P \times T \cup T \times P}$, the inhibitor arcs $I \subseteq P \times T$ and, the start and end markings $\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e \in \mathbb{N}^P$. We will denote an inhibitor arc in the pictures by — •.

 $\mathbf{m}[t]\mathbf{m}'$ only if $\forall p \in P \ (p,t) \in I \to \mathbf{m}(p) = 0$.

Lemma 1 Each Petri net $(P,T,W,I,\mathbf{m}_0,\mathbf{m}_e)$ can be changed in such a way that the condition $\forall p \in P, t \in T \ (p,t) \in I \rightarrow W(t,p) = 0$ holds without changing the inhibitor arcs or the reachability problem.





Lemma 2 Each Petri net $(P,T,W,I,\mathbf{m}_0,\mathbf{m}_e)$ can be changed in a way such that the condition $\forall p \in P, t \in T \ (p,t) \in I \rightarrow \mathbf{m}_0(p) = \mathbf{m}_e(p) = 0$ holds by changing neither the inhibitor arcs, the condition in Lemma 1 nor the reachability problem.

The reachability relation for Petri nets with one inhibitor arc

Given a Petri-net $(P, T, W, \{(p_1, \hat{t})\}, \mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e).w \in (T \setminus \{\hat{t}\})^*$.

$$\mathbf{R}_1 = \mathbf{R}((P, T \setminus {\hat{t}}, W)) = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{R}(T \setminus {\hat{t}}))$$

$$\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_1 \cap \{ \mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{N}^{P^-, P^+} \mid \mathbf{r}(p_1^-) = \mathbf{r}(p_1^+) = 0 \}$$

 $\mathbf{R}_3 = \mathbf{R}_2 \cup \mathbf{R}(\hat{t})$

 $\mathbf{R}_4 = \bigstar_{P \setminus \{p_1\}}(\mathbf{R}_3)$

Lemma 3 Given a Petri-net $(P, T, W, \{(p_1, \hat{t})\}, \mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e)$ with only one inhibitor arc (p_1, \hat{t}) having the property of lemmata 1 and 2, then there is a firing sequence $w \in T^*$ with $\mathbf{m}_0[w]\mathbf{m}_e$ if and only if

 $\mathbf{m}_{0}^{+} \circ_{P \setminus \{p_{1}\}} \mathbf{R}_{4} \circ_{P \setminus \{p_{1}\}} \mathbf{m}_{e}^{-} = (\mathbf{m}_{0}^{-} + \mathbf{m}_{e}^{+}) \circ_{A} \mathbf{R}_{4} = \{\emptyset\}$ $A := \{(p^{-}, p^{-}), (p^{+}, p^{+}) \mid p \in P \setminus \{p_{1}\}\}. \text{ In the other case } (\mathbf{m}_{0}^{-} + \mathbf{m}_{e}^{+}) \circ_{A} \mathbf{R}_{4} = \emptyset$



Example:

with the start marking $\{p_2 \mapsto 4, p_3 \mapsto 2\}$ and the end marking $\{p_2 \mapsto 4, p_3 \mapsto 3\}$. We have $\mathbf{R}(t_7) = \{p_2^- \mapsto 1, p_1^+ \mapsto 3\} + \mathbf{I}d_P$, $\mathbf{R}(t_8) = \{p_1^- \mapsto 2, p_3^+ \mapsto 1\} + \mathbf{I}d_P$ and $\mathbf{R}(\hat{t}) = \{p_3^- \mapsto 7, p_2^+ \mapsto 5\} + \mathbf{I}d_{P \setminus \{p_1\}}$. This yields

$$\mathbf{R}_{1} = \mathbf{R}((P, \{t_{7}, t_{8}\})) = \bigstar_{P}\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{+}\\1, 3\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{1}^{-}, p_{3}^{+}\\2, 1\end{bmatrix}\right\}\right) = \left\{\begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{+}\\1, 3\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{1}^{-}, p_{3}^{+}\\2, 1\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{+}, p_{3}^{+}\\1, 1, 1\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{-}, p_{3}^{+}\\1, 1, 2\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{+}, p_{3}^{+}\\2, 2, 2\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{1}^{+}, p_{3}^{+}\\2, 2\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix}p_{2}^{-}, p_{3}^{+}\\2, 3\end{bmatrix}\right\} + \mathbf{I}d_{P}$$

and
$$\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_1 \circ_{\{(p_1^-, x), (p_1^+, y)\}} \{\emptyset\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^+ \\ 2^-, 3^- \end{bmatrix} \right\}^* + \mathbf{I}d_{\{p_2, p_3\}}.$$

We can cut the firing sequences in $(t_7 + t_8 + \hat{t})^* = ((t_7 + t_8)^* + \hat{t})^*$ into parts in $(t_7 + t_8)^*$ and \hat{t} all starting and ending with no token on p_1 . This yields $\mathbf{R}_3 = \mathbf{R}_2 \cup \mathbf{R}(\hat{t})$ and $\mathbf{R}_4 = \mathbf{*}_{\{p_2, p_3\}}(\mathbf{R}_3) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^+ \\ 2^-, g_3^+ \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, p_2^+ \\ 7^-, 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_2^+ \\ 2^-, 4^-, 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_2^+ \\ 4^-, 1^-, 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^+ \\ 7^-, 3^-, 3^- \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^+ \\ 7^-, 1^-, 6 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \right\}$ $\begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_3^+ \\ 4^-, 2^-, 8^- \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^+ \\ 7^-, 1^-, 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^- \\ 7^-, 1^-, 6 \end{bmatrix}, \dots,$

Nested Petri Nets as normal form for expressions

For every expression *e*, there is a *carrier set* $C(e) \supseteq sgn(\mathbf{R}(e))$. $\mathbf{R}(e) \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{C(e)}$.

R is the evaluation function for an expression defined in a way such that is always commutes with the expression operators $*_{P}, \circ_{Q}, \cup$ and +, and the additional operator \cap .

Expression for an elementary transition: $t = L_t$ is an expression for the linear set $\mathbf{L}_t = \mathbf{R}(L_t) = \mathbf{c}_t + \Gamma_t^*$.

Example: $\Gamma_t = \{\{p^- \mapsto 1, p^+ \mapsto 1\} \mid p \in P\}$ leading to $\Gamma_t^* = \mathbf{I}d_P$. $C(t) := P^- \cup P^+ \cup sgn(\{c_t\} \cup \Gamma_t)$.

Expression for sets of transitions: $T = t_1 \cup t_2 \dots \cup t_l$ for expressions $t_i \in T$.

Expression for a *sub-net*. $N = *_{P_T}(T)$ for *N* consisting of P_T and *T*.

Let $C(N) := C(T) := \bigcup_{t \in T} C(t)$.

Expression for a *generalized transition*: $t = L_t \circ_{Q_A} K_t$, where L_t again expresses a linear set, and K_t is a set of sub-nets and interpreted as expression $K_t = \sum_{N_i \in K_t} N_i$ where the $C(N_i)$ are pairwise disjoint.

Using $Q_A := \{(a,a) \mid a \in A\}$ with $A = \bigcup_{N_i \in K_t} C(N_i)$, we define $C(t) := \{a \mid (\mathbf{c}_t + \sum_{g \in \Gamma_t} \mathbf{g})(a) > 0\} \setminus A$. This means that the behavior of *t* is mainly described by the linear set $\mathbf{c}_t + \Gamma_t^*$ but it is additionally controlled by the reachability in the sub-nets N_i .

Example (continued): We identify $t_7 = \{\hat{p}_2^- \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_1^+ \mapsto 3\} + \mathbf{I}d_{\{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3\}}, t_8 = \{\hat{p}_1^- \mapsto 2, \hat{p}_3^+ \mapsto 1\} + \mathbf{I}d_{\{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3\}} \text{ and } \hat{t} = \{p_3^- \mapsto 7, p_2^+ \mapsto 5\} + \mathbf{I}d_{\{p_2, p_3\}}.$ This yields the expressions $T_1 = t_7 \cup t_8$ and $N_1 = *_{\{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3\}}(T_1)$. On the next level, we get the generalized transition $t_2 =$

$$\left(\emptyset + \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-\\ 1, 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, \hat{p}_3^-\\ 1, 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_2^+, \hat{p}_2^+\\ 1, 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^+, \hat{p}_3^+\\ 1, 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}^* \right) \circ_{\{(\hat{p}_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-), (\hat{p}_3^-, \hat{p}_3^-), (\hat{p}_2^+, \hat{p}_2^+), (\hat{p}_3^+, \hat{p}_3^+)\}} N_1,$$

which we visualize as



$$T_2 = t_2 \cup \hat{t} \text{ and } N_2 = \bigstar_{\{p_2, p_3\}}(T_2).$$
 On the top level, we get
 $T_3 = t_3 = \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^+ \\ 4, 2, 4, 3 \end{bmatrix} \circ_{\{(p_2^-, p_2^-), (p_3^-, p_3^-)\}} N_2,$

which we visualize as







- The property ${\mathscr T}$
- The size of an expression
- Additional operators working on expressions, Logic with mTC
- The main algorithm establishing property ${\mathscr T}$
- The reachability relation for Petri nets with inhibitor arcs
- Priority-Multicounter-Automata
- Restricted Priority- Multipushdown- Automata

The property \mathscr{T}

Definition 1 An expression *T* has the property \mathscr{T} if $\forall t \in T, \forall N_i = *_{P_{T_i}}(T_i) \in K_t$ the following 5 conditions hold:

- 1. In recursive manner, T_i has
 - (a) the property \mathcal{T} , and

(b) For all
$$t' \in T_i$$
 it holds $\forall \mathbf{g} \in {\mathbf{c}_{t'}} \cup \Gamma_{t'} \exists w_{\mathbf{g}} \in C(t') \ \mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{g}}) = 1$,
 $\forall \mathbf{g}' \in \bigcup_{t' \in T_i} {\mathbf{c}_{t'}} \cup \Gamma_{t'} \setminus {\mathbf{g}} \ \mathbf{g}'(w_{\mathbf{g}}) = 0.$

2.
$$\forall \mathbf{g} \in {\mathbf{c}_t} \cup \Gamma_t, \forall p \in P_{T_i} \mathbf{g}(p^-) - \operatorname{ind}(\mathbf{g})(p^-) = \mathbf{g}(p^+) - \operatorname{ind}(\mathbf{g})(p^+)$$
, where
 $\operatorname{ind}(\mathbf{g}) := \sum_{t' \in T_i, \mathbf{g}' \in {\mathbf{c}_{t'}} \cup \Gamma_{t'}} \mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{g}'})\mathbf{g}'$

3.
$$\forall w \in C(N_i) \setminus (P_{T_i}^+ \cup P_{T_i}^-) \sum_{g \in \Gamma_t} \mathbf{g}(w) > 0.$$

4. There are multisets $\exists \mathbf{m}_+, \mathbf{m}_- \in \mathbf{R}(N_i)$ with $\forall p \in P_{T_i}$

$$\mathbf{m}_{+}|_{P_{T_{i}}^{-}} \in (\mathbf{c}_{t} + \Gamma_{t}^{*})|_{P_{T_{i}}^{-}} \wedge ((\forall \mathbf{g} \in \Gamma_{t} \ \mathbf{g}(p^{-}) = 0) \to \mathbf{m}_{+}(p^{+}) > \mathbf{m}_{+}(p^{-})) \wedge \mathbf{m}_{-}(p^{+}) = 0) \to \mathbf{m}_{-}(p^{-}) > \mathbf{m}_{-}(p^{+})).$$

5. $\mathbf{c}_t |_{C(t)} \in \mathbf{R}(t)$.

Theorem 1 For every expression *T*, we can effectively construct a *T'* with $\mathbf{R}(T) = \mathbf{R}(T')$ such that *T'* has property \mathscr{T} .

Corollary 2 The reachability problem for a Petri net with one inhibitor arc is decidable.

The size of an expression

 $\mathbf{m} :< \mathbf{m'}$ if there is an e with $\mathbf{m}(e) < \mathbf{m'}(e)$ and $\mathbf{m}(e') = \mathbf{m'}(e')$ for all e' > e.

[DM79]: Noetherian order on e's \Rightarrow Noetherian order on m's.

$$S(T) := \sum_{t \in T} \{ S(t) \mapsto 1 \}$$
.

 $S(t) := (S(K_t), b_2, b_5 + |\Gamma_t|)$. Here, $b_i = 0$ if Condition $\mathscr{T}.i$ is fulfilled, and $b_i = 1$ otherwise.

$$S(K_t) = \sum_{N_i \in K_t} \{ S(N_i) \mapsto 1 \}.$$

 $S(N_i) := (\mathbf{s}_m + \{ |P_{T_i}| \mapsto 1 \}, S(T_i), b_{1b}, |C(N_i)|) \text{ with } \\ \mathbf{s}_m := max\{\mathbf{s} \mid \exists \mathbf{s}' \; \mathbf{s}'((\mathbf{s}, ., ., .)) > 0, S(T_i)((\mathbf{s}', ., .)) > 0 \}.$

Example (continued): $S(t_7) = S(t_8) = (\emptyset, 0, 3), S(T_1) = \{(\emptyset, 0, 3) \mapsto 2\},$ $S(N_1) = (\{3 \mapsto 1\}, \{(\emptyset, 0, 3) \mapsto 2\}, 1, 6), S(t_2) = (\{S(N_1) \mapsto 1\}, 1, 4),$ $S(T_2) = \{S(t'_2) \mapsto 1, (\emptyset, 0, 2) \mapsto 1\}, S(N_2) = (\{3 \mapsto 1, 2 \mapsto 1\}, S(T_2), 1, 4).$

Lemma 4 The ordering on S defined above is Noetherian

Additional operators working on expressions

Lemma 5 Let $t = L_t \circ_Q K_t$ be an expressions for a transition and L be (an expression for) a semi linear set. Then, we can construct an expression $T' := t|_L$ (with $\mathbf{R}(T') = (\mathbf{R}(L_t) \cap \mathbf{R}(L)) \circ_Q \mathbf{R}(K_t)$) where the occurring sizes S(t') with $t' \in T'$ increase relatively to S(t) only in the last position in the triple.

Lemma 6 Let *T* and *T'* be expressions for sets of transitions, and *Q* be a relation. Then, we can construct an expression $T'' := T \circ_Q T'$ (with $\mathbf{R}(T'') = \mathbf{R}(T) \circ_Q \mathbf{R}(T')$) where the occurring sizes S(t) increase only in the last position in the triple and sum up in the first position.

Lemma 7 Let *N* be an expression for a subnet. Then, we can construct an equivalent expression for a transition t(N) with $\mathbf{R}(t(N)) = \mathbf{R}(N)$ and $t_{P'}(N)$ with $\mathbf{R}(t_{P'}(N)) = \{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbf{R}(N) \mid \forall p \in P' \ \mathbf{m}(p^-) = \mathbf{m}(p^+) = 0\}.$

Logic

Given a formula $\phi(x_1, ..., x_k, x'_1, ..., x'_k)$, then mTC(ϕ) denotes the smallest set $S \subset \mathbb{N}^{2k}$ containing all of the following:

- $(x_1,...,x_k,x_1,...,x_k)$ for $(x_1,...,x_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k$ (this stands for the identity),
- $(x_1, ..., x_k, x'_1, ..., x'_k)$ for $\phi(x_1, ..., x_k, x'_1, ..., x'_k)$
- $(x_1, ..., x_k, x_1'', ..., x_k'')$ for $(x_1, ..., x_k, x_1', ..., x_k'), (x_1', ..., x_k', x_1'', ..., x_k'') \in S$, and
- $(x_1 + x_1'', ..., x_k + x_k'', x_1' + x_1'', ..., x_k' + x_k'')$ for a $(x_1, ..., x_k, x_1', ..., x_k') \in S$ and $(x_1'', ..., x_k'') \in \mathbb{N}^k$.

Corollary 3 The emptiness and satisfiability is decidable for formulas with an FO+PLUS-formula inside and \land,\lor,\exists and mTC operators outside.

 \land corresponds to \cap expressible with \circ_Q Lemma 6

 \lor corresponds to \cup expressible since *T* is already a union

 \exists remove the element

mTC is done by using Lemma 7.

The main algorithm establishing property ${\mathscr T}$

```
function reacheq(T):

begin

repeat

i:= 1

while i \le 5 and \forall t \in T, \forall N \in K_t Condition \mathscr{T}.i fulfilled

do i:=i+1 od

if i=6 then return T

else T:=T' for T' according to treatment of Condition \mathscr{T}.i

until i=6

end reacheq
```

in each step S(T) decreases (S(reacheq(T)) < S(T) if $T \neq reacheq(T)$); due to Lemma 4 the algorithm terminates.

Change of size S(t) during the treatment of Condition \mathcal{T} .i:



Condition 1 Recursion and introducing witnesses

Let Condition 1 be not fulfilled by T_i ; let $T'_i := reacheq(T_i)$, which terminates by induction since $S(T_i) < S(T)$. Construct T' from T by adding witnesses inside as for $T = T_2 = T_2 \cup \hat{t}$ in following continued example:

Replace
$$t_7$$
 and t_8 by $t_7' = \{\hat{p}_2^- \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_1^+ \mapsto 3, w_{\mathbf{c}_{t_7'}} \mapsto 1\} + \mathbf{I}d_{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3}$ and $t_8' = \{\hat{p}_1^- \mapsto 2, \hat{p}_3^+ \mapsto 1, w_{\mathbf{c}_{t_8'}} \mapsto 1\} + \mathbf{I}d_{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3} \Rightarrow T_1'' = t_7' \cup t_8'$ and $N_1'' = *_{\{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3\}}(T_1'').$

 $t_{2}' = (\emptyset + \{\{p_{2}^{-} \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_{2}^{-} \mapsto 1\}, \{p_{3}^{-} \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_{3}^{-} \mapsto 1\}, \{p_{2}^{+} \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_{2}^{+} \mapsto 1\}, \{p_{3}^{+} \mapsto 1, \hat{p}_{3}^{+} \mapsto 1\}, \{w_{c_{t_{8}'}} \mapsto 1\}\}^{*}), \circ_{\{(\hat{p}_{2}^{-}, \hat{p}_{2}^{-}), (\hat{p}_{3}^{-}, \hat{p}_{3}^{-}), (\hat{p}_{3}^{+}, \hat{p}_{3}^{+})\}}N_{1}'' \text{ and } T_{2}' = t_{2}' \cup \hat{t}.$

The new sizes are now
$$S(t'_7) = S(t'_8) = (\emptyset, 0, 3) = S(t_7)$$
,
 $S(T''_1) = \{(\emptyset, 0, 3) \mapsto 2\} = S(T_1)$,
 $S(N''_1) = (\{3 \mapsto 1\}, \{(\emptyset, 0, 3) \mapsto 2\}, 0, 8) < S(N_1)$,
 $S(t'_2) = (\{S(N''_1) \mapsto 1\}, 1, 6) < S(t_2)$,
 $S(T'_2) = \{S(t'_2) \mapsto 1, (\emptyset, 0, 2) \mapsto 1\} < S(T_2)$.

Condition 2 Quantitative consistency

Let Condition 2 be not fulfilled by T_i . The set L :=

$$\left\{ \mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{N}^{C_{\mathbf{L}}} \middle| \forall p \in \bigcup_{N_i \in K_t} P_{T_i} \mathbf{g}(p^-) - \operatorname{ind}(\mathbf{g})(p^-) = \mathbf{g}(p^+) - \operatorname{ind}(\mathbf{g})(p^+) \right\}$$

is a Presburger set. Construct $T' := T \setminus \{t\} \cup t|_L$ using Lemma 5. In the example *L* is characterized by the following three equations:

 $2\mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_8}}) = 3\mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_7}}), \ \mathbf{g}(\hat{p}_2^-) - \mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_7}}) = \mathbf{g}(\hat{p}_2^+), \ \mathbf{g}(\hat{p}_3^-) = \mathbf{g}(\hat{p}_3^+) - \mathbf{g}(w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_8}}).$ Their solutions are described by the linear set $L_{t''_2} = L_{t'_2} \cap L =$

$$\emptyset + \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-, p_2^+, \hat{p}_2^+ \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, \hat{p}_3^-, p_3^+, \hat{p}_3^+ \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_7}}, w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'_8}}, p_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-, \hat{p}_3^-, \hat{p}_3^- \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} *$$

$$\Rightarrow t_2'' = L_{t_2''} \circ_{\{(a,a)|a \in \{\hat{p}_2^-, \hat{p}_2^+, \hat{p}_3^-, \hat{p}_3^+\}\}} N_1'' \text{ with } S(t_2'') = (\{S(N_1'') \mapsto 1\}, 0, 3) < S(t_2').$$

Adding the witnesses leads to $L_{t_2''} =$

$$\emptyset + \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-, p_2^+, \hat{p}_2^+, w_1\\ 1^-, 1^-, 1^- \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_3^-, \hat{p}_3^-, p_3^+, \hat{p}_3^+, w_2\\ 1^-, 1^-, 1^- \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'}}, w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'}}, \frac{w_{\mathbf{c}_{t'}}}{3}, \frac{p_2^-, \hat{p}_2^-, p_3^-, \hat{p}_3^-, w_3}{3}, \frac{p_3^-, w_3}{3} \end{bmatrix} \right\} *$$
(we omit the witness for \emptyset .) with $S(t_2'') = S(t_2'') = (\{S(N_1'') \mapsto 1\}, \mathbf{0}, 3).$

Defining
$$T_2''' = t_2''' \cup \hat{t}'$$
 with $S(T_2''') = S(T_2'')$ and $N_2''' = *_{\{\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3\}}(T_2''')$ with $S(N_2''') = (\{3 \mapsto 1, 2 \mapsto 1\}, S(T_2'''), 1, 4)$ we get
 $t_3' = \left(\begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_3^-, p_2^+, p_3^+ \\ 4, 2, 4, 3 \end{bmatrix} + \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} w_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}^* \right) \circ_{\{(a,a)|a \in \{p_2^-, p_3^+, p_3^+\}\}} N_2'''.$

Condition 3 Elimination of witnesses

Let Condition 3 be not fulfilled by witness $w \in C(N_i) \setminus (P_{T_i}^+ \cup P_{T_i}^-)$. Replace N_i by some expression \hat{T} with $\mathbf{R}(\hat{T}) = \mathbf{R}(N_i) \circ_{(w,w)} \mathbf{c}_t|_w$ since for all $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbf{L}_t$, we have $\mathbf{m}(w) = \mathbf{c}_t(w)$. Then, we can replace in

$$T' := T \setminus \{t\} \cup (L_t \mid_{\overline{\{w\}}} \circ_{Q \setminus Q_{C(N_i)}} (K_t \setminus \{N_i\})) \circ_{Q_{C(N_i) \setminus \{w\}}} \hat{T}$$

Example: Consider *t* with $\mathbf{c}_t = \begin{bmatrix} w, p^-, p^+ \\ 2, 4^-, 5^- \end{bmatrix}$, $\forall \mathbf{g} \in \Gamma_t \ \mathbf{g}(w) = 0$, $K_t = \{ \bigstar_{\{p\}}(v \cup t_j) \}$, and $\mathbf{c}_{t_j} = \begin{bmatrix} w, p^-, p^+, q^-, q^+ \\ 1, 6^-, 7^-, 8^-, 9^- \end{bmatrix}$, $K_{t_j} = \{ \bigstar_{\{q\}}(u) \}$.



Then *t'* is defined such that $\mathbf{c}_{t'} = \begin{bmatrix} p_0^-, p_0^+, q_1^-, q_1^+, p_1^-, p_1^+, q_2^-, q_2^+, p_2^-, p_2^+ \\ 4, 6, 8, 9, 7, 6, 8, 9, 7, 6, 8, 9, 7, 7, 6 \end{bmatrix}$, furthermore, $\begin{bmatrix} p_1^-, p_0^+ \\ 1, 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_2^-, p_1^+ \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \Gamma_{t'}$ and $K_t = \{ \star_{\{p_0\}}(v_0), \star_{\{q_1\}}(u_1), \star_{\{p_1\}}(v_1), \star_{\{q_2\}}(u_2), \star_{\{p_2\}}(v_2) \}$, where p_i, q_i, v_i and u_i are replacements caused by disjointness condition in Lemma 6.



The variables *x* and *y* illustrate the effect of the periods in $\Gamma_{t'}$ which originate from the (omitted) periods of t_j .

Condition 4 Elimination of bounded places

Condition 4 is decidable by two *covering graph* constructions for every *i*: Every node in the covering graph $CG_{(i,+)}$ ($CG_{(i,-)}$, respectively) has a marking from $(\mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\})^{P_{T_i}^-}$ ($(\mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\})^{P_{T_i}^+}$, respectively). The root of the covering graph $CG_{(i,+)}$ has the marking $\mathbf{c}_t|_{P_{T_i}^-} + \omega^{\{p^-|\exists \mathbf{g} \in \Gamma \mathbf{g}(p^-) > 0\}}$.

For a node in $CG_{(i,+)}$ marked with **m**, we construct T'_i with $\mathbf{R}(T'_i) = \{\mathbf{g} \in \mathbf{R}(T_i) \mid \mathbf{g}|_{P_{T_i}} \leq \mathbf{m}\}$ using Lemma 5 as $T'_i := \{t'|_{\{\mathbf{g} \in \mathbf{L}_{t'} \mid \mathbf{g}|_{P_{T_i}} \leq \mathbf{m}\}} \mid t' \in T_i\}$. Compute $T''_i := reacheq(T'_i)$ recursively.

For every $t'' \in T_i''$, add to the covering graph $CG_{(i,+)}$ a new node $\mathbf{m}' := \mathbf{m} - \mathbf{c}_{t''}|_{P_{T_i}^-} + \{p^- \mapsto (\mathbf{c}_{t''}(p^+) + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathbf{g} \in \Gamma_{t''}}(p^+)) \mid p \in P_{T_i}\}$ If $\mathbf{m}' > \mathbf{m}''$ for an \mathbf{m}'' on the path from the root to \mathbf{m} , then we set $\mathbf{m}' := \mathbf{m}' + \omega(\mathbf{m}' - \mathbf{m}'')$.

If for all *i* a node marked with $\omega^{P_{T_i}^-}$ is in $CG_{(i,+)}$ and, analogously, a node marked with $\omega^{P_{T_i}^+}$ is in $CG_{(i,-)}$, then the Condition 4 is fulfilled. Otherwise, we calculate

$$k := \min_{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \{+,-\}} \max_{path \subseteq CG_{(i,\sigma)}} \min_{p \in P_{T_i}} \max_{\boldsymbol{m} \in path} \boldsymbol{m}(p^{\boldsymbol{\sigma}})$$

and construct $T' := T \setminus \{t\} \cup \bigcup_{p \in P_{T_i}} U(p)$ (restrict place p to k).

$$U(p) = (L_t \mid_{\overline{\{p^-, p^+\}}} \circ_{\mathcal{Q} \setminus \mathcal{Q}_{C(N_i)}} (K_t \setminus \{N_i\})) \circ_{\mathcal{Q}_{C(N_i) \setminus \{p^-, p^+\}}} T_{\mathbf{c}_t(p^-), \mathbf{c}_t(p^+)}^k$$

 $T_{j,h}^{l-1}$ describes firing sequences in N_i with the following property: They start with a marking \mathbf{m}_0 with $\mathbf{m}_0(p) = j$, end with a marking \mathbf{m}_1 with $\mathbf{m}_1(p) = h$, and meanwhile the number tokens on p is always less than l.

Example: Let $t = (\mathbf{c} + \Gamma^*) \circ_{\{p\} \cup P} \bigstar_{\{p\} \cup P}(N_i\})$ with $\mathbf{c}(p^-) = 1$, $N_i = v \cup w \cup t_j$ and $t_j = (\mathbf{c}_j + \Gamma_j^*) \circ_{\{q\} \cup Q} \bigstar_{\{q\} \cup Q}(u)$ with $\mathbf{c}_j(p^+) = 1$, $\mathbf{c}_j(q^-) = 8$ and $\mathbf{c}_j(q^+) = 9$



 $k = 1 \Rightarrow$ firing sequences are restricted to the regular expression $((wv^*t_j) + v)^*wv^*$.

 $T_{0,0}^{-1}$ and $T_{1,1}^{-1}$ only consist of a copy of v, $T_{1,0}^{-1}$ only of a copy of w and $T_{0,1}^{-1}$ only of a copy of t_j .

 $T_{0,0}^{0} = t(\bigstar_{P}(T_{0,0}^{-1})) \text{ correponds to } v^{*}, \ T_{1,1}^{0} = T_{1,0}^{-1} \circ_{P} T_{0,0}^{0} \circ_{P} T_{0,1}^{-1} \cup T_{1,1}^{-1} \text{ corresponds to } v^{*}t_{j} + v \text{ and } T_{1,0}^{1} = T_{1,1}^{1} \circ_{P} T_{1,0}^{0} = t(\bigstar_{P}(T_{1,1}^{0})) \circ_{P} T_{1,0}^{-1} \circ_{P} T_{0,0}^{0}$

Every t' in $(\mathbf{c} + \Gamma^*) |_{\overline{\{p^-, p^+\}}} \circ_{\mathcal{Q}_{C(N_i) \setminus \{p^-, p^+\}}} T^1_{1,0}$ looks like



Corollary 4 If the conditions 1 - 4 hold for t, then it holds

$$\forall \mathbf{f} \in \sum_{\mathbf{g} \in \Gamma_t} \mathbf{g} + \Gamma_t^* \exists k \ge 2 \ (\mathbf{c}_t + k\mathbf{f}) \mid_{C(t)} \in \mathbf{R}(t)$$

This immediately follows from:

Lemma 8 If the conditions 1 - 4 hold for t, then it holds

$$\forall \mathbf{f} \in \sum_{\mathbf{g} \in \Gamma_t} \mathbf{g} + \Gamma_t^* \forall \mathbf{e} \in (\Gamma_t \cup -\Gamma_t)^* \exists k \ge 2 \left\{ (\mathbf{c}_t + k\mathbf{f}) \mid_{C(t)}, (\mathbf{c}_t + k\mathbf{f} + \mathbf{e}) \mid_{C(t)} \right\} \subseteq \mathbf{R}(t)$$

Condition 5 Making the constant firing

If Condition 5 is not fulfilled for *t* then, according to Corollary 4, for $\mathbf{f} = \sum_{\mathbf{g} \in \Gamma} \mathbf{g}$, there exists a (smallest) *k* such that $(c + k\mathbf{f})|_{C(t)} \in \mathbf{R}(t)$. So we decompose L_t such that $\mathbf{R}(L_t) = \mathbf{R}(L_t + k\mathbf{f}) \cup \bigcup_{\mathbf{g} \in \Gamma} \bigcup_{j \le k} \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{c}_t + j\mathbf{g} + (\Gamma_t \setminus \{\mathbf{g}\})^*)$. Set

$$T' := T \setminus \{t\} \quad \cup \{t' \mid K_{t'} = K_t, \Gamma'_t = \Gamma_t \wedge \mathbf{c}_{t'} = \mathbf{c}_t + k\mathbf{f}\} \\ \cup \{t' \mid \exists j \le k, \mathbf{g} \in \Gamma \ \Gamma'_t = \Gamma_t \setminus \{\mathbf{g}\}) \wedge \mathbf{c}_{t'} = \mathbf{c}_t + j\mathbf{g}\}.$$

The size S(t') is smaller than S(t) since b_5 is now zero or $|\Gamma \setminus \{g\}| < |\Gamma|$.

The reachability relation for Petri nets with inhibitor arcs

Theorem 2 In a Petri-net $(P, T, W, I, \mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e)$ with

 $\exists \mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{N}^{P}_{+} \forall p, p' \in P \ \mathbf{g}(p) \leq \mathbf{g}(p') \rightarrow (\forall t \in T \ (p', t) \in I \rightarrow (p, t) \in I),$

we can construct an expression T_g such that there is a firing sequence $w \in T^*$ with $\mathbf{m}_0[w \rangle \mathbf{m}_e$ if and only if $\mathbf{R}(T_g)$ is (= {0} and) not empty.

With Theorem 1 we derive the following:

Corollary 5 The reachability problem for a Petri net $(P, T, W, I, \mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_e)$ with $\exists \mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{N}^P_+ \ \forall p, p' \in P \ \mathbf{g}(p) \leq \mathbf{g}(p') \rightarrow (\forall t \in T \ (p', t) \in I \rightarrow (p, t) \in I),$ is decidable. **Example:** Start marking: $\{p_3 \mapsto 3, p_4 \mapsto 2\}$, end marking $\{p_4 \mapsto 27\}$



We find **g** with $\mathbf{g}(p_1) = 1$, $\mathbf{g}(p_2) = 2$ and $\mathbf{g}(p_3) = \mathbf{g}(p_4) = 3$ and construct $T_1 = \{t_6, t_7\}$ with $\mathbf{R}(T_1) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} p_4^-, p_1^+, p_3^+ \\ 3, 2^-, 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} p_1^-, p_3^-, p_2^+, p_4^+ \\ 1, 1^-, 2^-, 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} + \mathbf{I}d_P$, as innermost net of



This enables the firing sequence $w = t_6 t_7 t_7$ from $\begin{bmatrix} p_3 & p_4 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ to $\begin{bmatrix} p_2 & p_4 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ on the innermost level as $\begin{bmatrix} p_3^- & p_4^- & p_2^+ & p_4^+ \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}(\bigstar_{P_{T_1}}(T_1)) = \mathbf{R}(t_2) \subseteq \mathbf{R}(T_2)$. Together with

 $\begin{bmatrix} p_{2}^{-}, p_{3}^{+} \\ 5, 2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}(T_{2}) \text{ for } t_{8}, \text{ we get the firing sequence } w' = (w)(w)t_{8}(w)t_{$

Priority-Multicounter-Automata

A *priority-multicounter-automaton* is a one-way automaton described by the 6-tuple

$$A = (k, Z, \Sigma, \delta, z_0, E)$$

with the set of states Z, the input alphabet Σ , the transition relation

$$\delta \subseteq (Z \times (\Sigma \cup \{\lambda\}) \times \{0 \dots k\}) \times (Z \times \{-1, 0, 1\}^k),$$

initial state z_0 , the accepting states $E \subseteq Z$, the set of configurations $C_A = Z \times \Sigma^* \times \mathbb{N}^k$, the initial configuration $\sigma_A(x) = \langle z_0, x, \underbrace{0, ..., 0}_k \rangle$ and configuration transition relation

$$\langle z, ax, n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle \mid_{\overline{A}} \langle z', x, n_1 + i_1, \dots, n_k + i_k \rangle$$

if and only if $z, z' \in Z, a \in \Sigma \cup \{\lambda\}, \langle (z, a, j), (z', i_1, ... i_k) \rangle \in \delta, \forall i \leq j \ n_i = 0.$

Recognized language:

 $L(A) = \{ w \mid \exists z_e \in E \ \exists n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N} \ \langle z_0, w, 0, \dots, 0 \rangle \ \mid \overset{*}{A} \ \langle z_e, \lambda, n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle.$

Alternatively $L(A) = \{ w \mid \langle z_0, w, 0, ..., 0 \rangle \mid \overset{*}{A} \langle z_e, \lambda, 0, ..., 0 \rangle \}.$

Using Theorem 2, we get:

Theorem 3 The emptiness problem for priority-multicounter-automata is decidable.

The same holds for the halting problem by constructing an automaton which contains its input in the states.

Restricted Priority- Multipushdown- Automata

Different treatment of one of the two pushdown symbols $\{0,1\}$:

A 0 can be pushed to and popped from every pushdown store independently, but a 1 can only be pushed to or popped from a pushdown store if all pushdown stores with a lower order are empty.

Restriction: If a 1 is popped from a pushdown store, then a 1 cannot be pushed anymore to this store until it is empty.

Theorem 4 The emptiness problem for restricted priority-multipushdown-automata is decidable. This generalizes the result in [JKLP90] that $\underline{LIN}\% D_1'^*$ (the class of languages generated by linear grammar and deletion of semi Dyck words) is recursive.

Conjecture: Decidability still holds in the unrestricted case.

Open problem: Pushdown automaton with additional weak counters (without zero-test).