
Verification of time-critical systems : abstraction, reduction and distribution based on Timed Aggregate Graph

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Introduction

- Complicated systems routinely built today
- Failures are costly
- Verification techniques needed

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- Failures are costly
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Formal verification

- 1 Mathematical model of the system (*i.e.*: Petri Nets)
- 2 Specification : write correctness requirements
- 3 Analysis and verification : check that model satisfies specification → prove or disprove the correctness claim
→ Model checking

Model checking

Principle

- ➊ Design the system with a model \mathcal{M} and design a property φ
- ➋ $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$? if no, a counter-example σ
- ➌ Analyse the result:
 - If yes, OK
 - If no, refine \mathcal{M} using σ and go to (1).

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- State space traversal

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Approach

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State space explosion problem

Exponential w.r.t size of the description

State space explosion problem

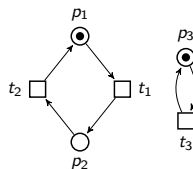
To tackle the state space explosion problem

- On-the-fly construction
- Partial order reduction
- Stuttering equivalence
- Modularity
- Symbolic representations (e.g., BDDs)

Petri Nets

Consists of places and transitions, connected by arcs. Tokens can be placed in places and manipulated by firing of transitions.

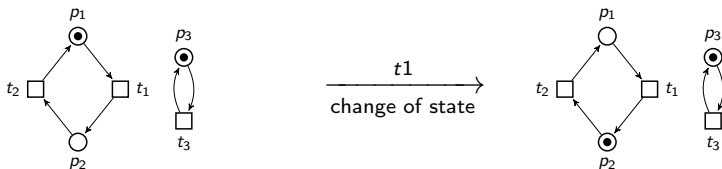
- Places (circles): represent possible states of the system
- Transitions (squares): are events or actions which cause the change of state
- Tokens (black dots): resources
- State/Marking: a distribution of tokens over places



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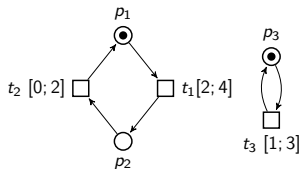
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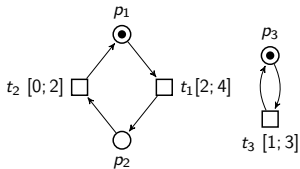
Time Petri Nets (TPN)

Temporal condition of transitions firing

- Each transition is associated with a time interval $[e(t), l(t)]$
- Implicit clock $v(t)$ per enabled transition t
- An enabled transition t is firable if $v(t)$ lies in $[e(t), l(t)]$
- A state of the TPN (configuration) is a couple (m, V)

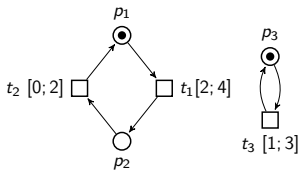


TPN: Change of state (Strong Semantics)



$$\begin{cases} m_0 = (1, 0, 1) \\ V_0 = (0, \perp, 0) \end{cases}$$

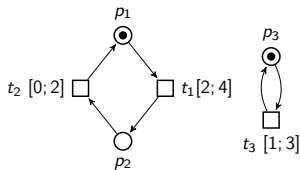
TPN: Change of state (Strong Semantics)



Elapsing of time

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} m_0 = (1, 0, 1) \\ V_0 = (0, \perp, 0) \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{0.5} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1, 0, 1) \\ (0.5, \perp, 0.5) \end{array} \right\}$$

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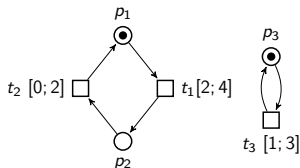


Elapsing of time

Firing of transitions

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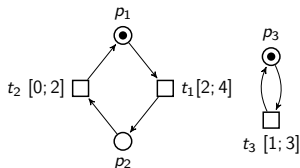
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Newly enabled transition VS persistent transition

TPN: Change of state (Strong Semantics)



Elapsing of time

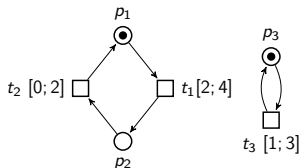
Firing of transitions

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Newly enabled transition VS persistent transition

Infinite State Space Systems

TPN: Change of state (Strong Semantics)



Elapsing of time

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Newly enabled transition VS persistent transition

Infinite State Space Systems

- Build a finite abstraction of the infinite state space
 - State Class Graph (SCG) [Berthomieu'83] — **TINA**
 - Region Graph (RG) [Alur'93] \rightarrow Zone Based Graph (ZBG) [Gardey'03] — **Romeo**

Timed Aggregate Graph (TAG)

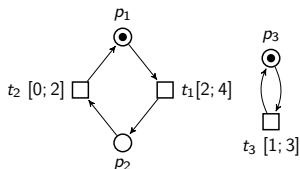
Principle

- Nodes are aggregates: elapsing of time is hidden
- A **dynamic** time interval for each enabled transition
 - $\delta(a)$ =minimum time at a
 - $\Delta(a)$ =maximum time at a
- Arcs are labeled with transitions only

Timed Aggregate $a = (m, E, \mathbb{M}_a)$

- 1 m : current marking
- 2 $E = \{(t, \alpha_t, \beta_t), \text{tenabledtransitionby } a.m\}$
- 3 $\mathbb{M}_a(t_i, t_j) = [\alpha_{(t_i, t_j)}, \beta_{(t_i, t_j)}]$ when t_i met t_j for the last time

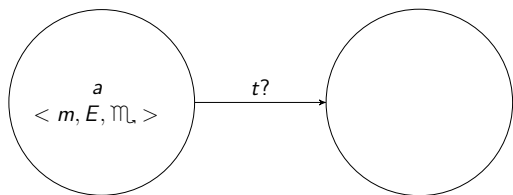
Timed aggregate



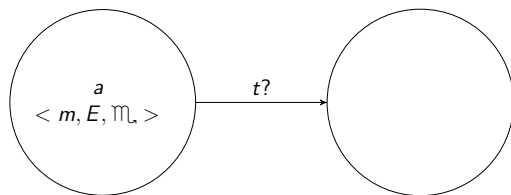
$$a_0 : \begin{cases} m = (1, 0, 1) \\ E = \{(t_1, 2, 4), (t_3, 1, 3)\} \\ Meet = \begin{pmatrix} - & [2 : 4] \\ [1 : 3] & - \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m_0 = (1, 0, 1) \\ V_0 = (0, \perp, 0) \end{cases} \xrightarrow{0.5} \begin{cases} (1, 0, 1) \\ (0.5, \perp, 0.5) \end{cases} \xrightarrow{1} \begin{cases} (1, 0, 1) \\ (1.5, \perp, 1.5) \end{cases} \cdots \begin{cases} (1, 0, 1) \\ (3, \perp, 3) \end{cases}$$

Fireability



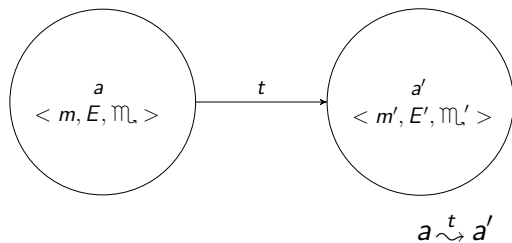
Fireability



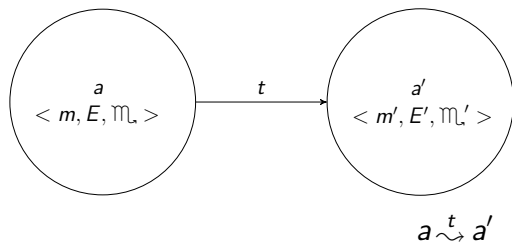
$$(t, \alpha_t, \beta_t) \in a.E$$

- $\mathfrak{M}_a(t, t') = [\alpha \mathfrak{M}_a(t, t') : \beta \mathfrak{M}_a(t, t')]$
- t is firable at a , denoted by $a \stackrel{t}{\sim}$, iff
 - $\forall t' \text{ enabled by } a, \alpha \mathfrak{M}_a(t, t') \leq \beta \mathfrak{M}_a(t', t)$

Computing the successor aggregate



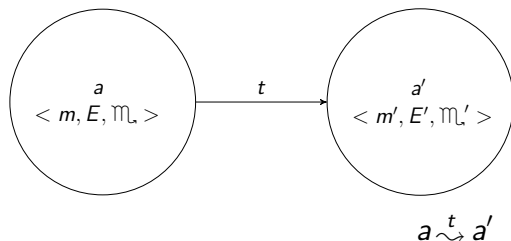
Computing the successor aggregate



New marking

$$m' = m - \text{Pre}(t) + \text{Post}(t)$$

Computing the successor aggregate



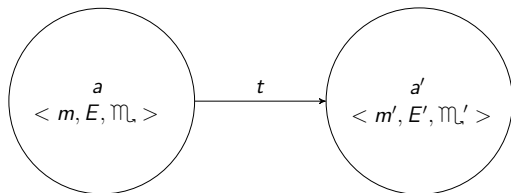
New marking

$$m' = m - \text{Pre}(t) + \text{Post}(t)$$

Dynamic firing intervals

- if t' is **newly** enabled at a'
 - $\alpha_{t'} \leftarrow t'_{\min}$
 - $\beta_{t'} \leftarrow t'_{\max}$

Computing the successor aggregate



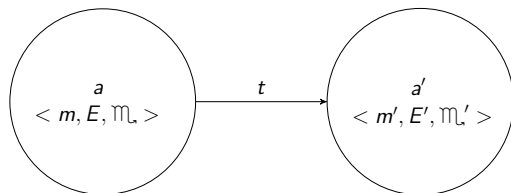
Dynamic firing intervals

if t' is **not** newly enabled at a'

The more the system can stay at a , the less it can stay at a'

- $\alpha'_{t'} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t' \text{ firable at } a \\ \text{Max}(\alpha^{\mathfrak{M}_a(t', t'')} - \beta^{\mathfrak{M}_a(t'', t')}), & \text{otherwise} \\ \forall t'' \text{ enabled at } a \end{cases}$
- $\beta'_{t'} = \text{Min}(\beta_{t'}, (\beta^{\mathfrak{M}_a(t', t)} - \alpha^{\mathfrak{M}_a(t, t')}))$

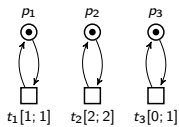
Computing the successor aggregate



\mathfrak{M}_\perp

$$\mathfrak{M}'_\perp(t_1, t_2) \leftarrow \begin{cases} [t_{1,\min} : t_{1,\max}] & \text{if } t_1 \text{ is newly enabled} \\ [\alpha'_{t_1} : \beta'_{t_1}] & \text{if } t_1 \text{ is old and } t_2 \text{ is new} \\ \mathfrak{M}_\perp(t_1, t_2) & \text{if } t_1 \text{ and } t_2 \text{ are both old} \end{cases}$$

Fireability

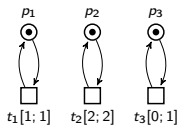


Fireability

$a = (m, E, Meet)$

$\{(t_1, 1, 1), (t_2, 2, 2), (t_3, 0, 1)\}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1 : 1] & [1 : 1] \\ [2 : 2] & - & [2 : 2] \\ [0 : 1] & [0 : 1] & - \end{pmatrix}$$

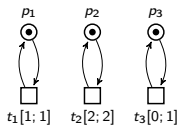


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t_2 is not fireable

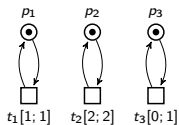


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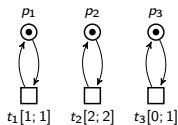
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Firing



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t_3

$$\{(t_1, 0, 1), (t_2, 1, 2), (t_3, 0, 1)\}$$

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Timed Aggregate Graph: Construction example

$$\{(t_1, 1, 1), (t_2, 2, 2), (t_3, 0, 1)\}$$

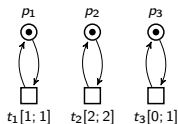
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$\downarrow t_3$

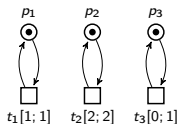
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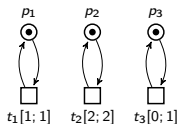
t_1

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Timed Aggregate Graph: Construction example

t_2 is firable now



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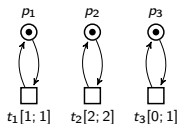
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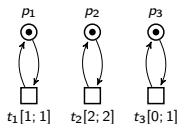
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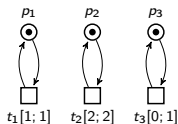
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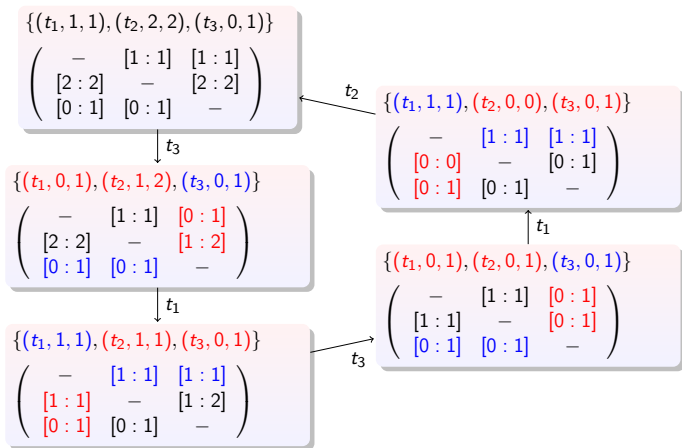
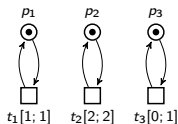
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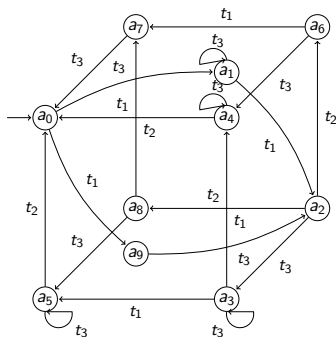
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Timed Aggregate Graph: Construction example



Timed Aggregates Graph: Example

aggregate	E	Meet
a_0	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 2, 2 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [2:2] & - & [2:2] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_1	$\{\langle t_1, 0, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 1, 2 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [0:1] \\ [2:2] & - & [1:2] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_2	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [1:1] & - & [1:2] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_3	$\{\langle t_1, 0, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 0, 1 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [0:1] \\ [1:1] & - & [0:1] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_4	$\{\langle t_1, 0, 0 \rangle, \langle t_2, 2, 2 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [0:0] & [0:1] \\ [2:2] & - & [2:2] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_5	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 0, 0 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 1 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [0:0] & - & [0:1] \\ [0:1] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_6	$\{\langle t_1, 0, 0 \rangle, \langle t_2, 2, 2 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 0 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [0:0] & [1:1] \\ [2:2] & - & [2:2] \\ [0:1] & [0:0] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_7	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 2, 2 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 0 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [2:2] & - & [2:2] \\ [0:0] & [0:0] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_8	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 0, 0 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 0 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [0:0] & - & [1:2] \\ [0:0] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$
a_9	$\{\langle t_1, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_2, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle t_3, 0, 0 \rangle\}$	$\begin{pmatrix} - & [1:1] & [1:1] \\ [1:1] & - & [2:2] \\ [0:0] & [0:1] & - \end{pmatrix}$



Theoretical results

- The TAG associated with a **bounded** TPN is finite
- Each timed sequence of a TPN corresponds to an untamed sequence of the TAG, and vice versa
- Algorithm for building an explicit run from a path on the TAG
- The maximal and the minimal access time /firing time of a marking/transition
- On-The-Fly verification of reachability timed properties by exploring the TAG

Experimental results

Parameters	SCG (with Tina) (nodes / arcs)	ZBG (with Romeo) (nodes / arcs)	TAG-TPN (nodes / arcs)
Nb. prod/cons	TPN model of producer/consumer		
1	34 / 56	34 / 56	34 / 56
2	748 / 2460	593 / 1 922	740 / 2438
3	4604 / 21891	3240 / 15200	4553 / 21443
4	14086 / 83375	9504 / 56038	13878 / 80646
5	31657 / 217423	20877 / 145037	30990 / 207024
6	61162 / 471254	39306 / 311304	60425 / 449523
7	107236 / 907 708	67224 / 594795	106101 / 856050

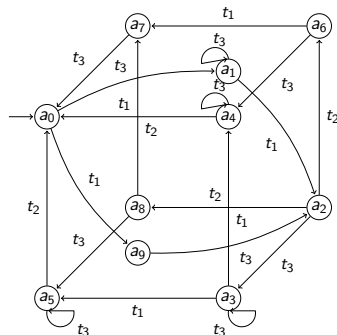
Experimental results

Parameters	SCG (with Tina) (nodes / arcs)	ZBG (with Romeo) (nodes / arcs)	TAG-TPN (nodes / arcs)
Nb. processes	Fischer protocol		
1	4 / 4	4 / 4	4 / 4
2	18 / 29	19 / 32	20 / 32
3	65 / 146	66 / 153	74 / 165
4	220 / 623	221 / 652	248 / 712
5	727 / 2536	728 / 2 615	802 / 2825
6	2378 / 9154	2379 / 10098	2564 / 10728
7	7737 / 24744	7738 / 37961	8178 / 39697
8	25080 / 102242	25081 / 139768	26096 / 144304

Experimental results

Parameters	SCG (with Tina) (nodes / arcs)	ZBG (with Romeo) (nodes / arcs)	TAG-TPN (nodes / arcs)
Nb. processes	Train crossing		
1	11 / 14	11 / 14	11 / 14
2	123 / 218	114 / 200	123 / 218
3	3101 / 7754	2817 / 6944	2879 / 7280
4	134501 / 436896	122290 / 391244	105360 / 354270

Partial-order reduction



- exploiting the commutativity of concurrently executed transitions
- result in the same state when executed in different orders
- reducing the size of the state-space

Modularity and Distribution

- Two (or many) TPNs sharing many transitions = one joint TPN
- Modular construction of the TAG : a TAG for each modular TPN \Rightarrow one synchronized TAG for the joint TPN
- In multicore systems, distributing the whole construction based on modularity

Conclusion and Perspectives

- Timed Aggregate Graph
 - A finite abstraction for bounded Time Petri nets state space
 - Preserves reachable markings and timed traces
 - Allowing on the fly verification of **timed** reachability properties
 - Comparable to Tina/Romeo Tools performances

Conclusion and Perspectives

- Timed Aggregate Graph

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- Next Steps

- Improve the implementation w.r.t. construction time
- Develop dedicated verification algorithms
 - Reachability properties
 - Full TCTL ?
- Further reductions
 - Depending on the property
 - Partial Order
 - Aggregate the TAG's aggregates ?
- Extend to Timed automata

THANK YOU