

Using Unfoldings of Petri Nets for Verification of Systems

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Introduction to System Verification

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- Traditional approach: Create Transition System and do a state space search

Example

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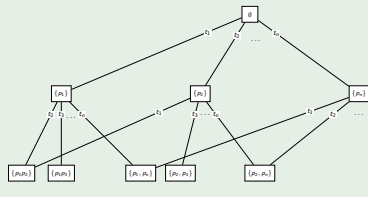


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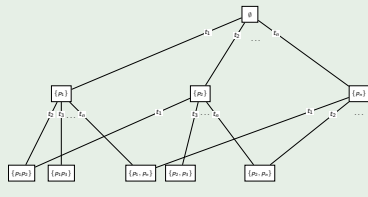


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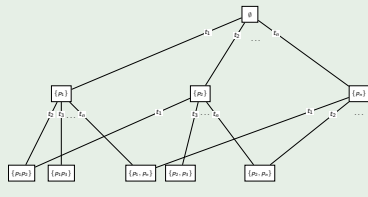


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- Searching for deadlock: Find state with no outgoing transitions which is no terminal state.

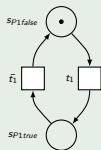
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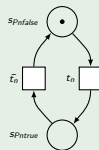


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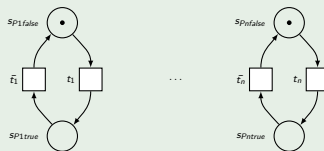


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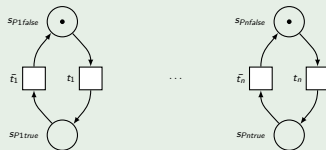


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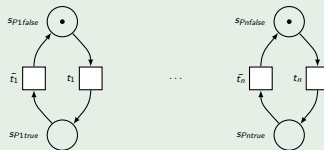


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- Size is linear in n
- How to check for deadlocks?
- Cycles in Petri Nets are problematic

Example

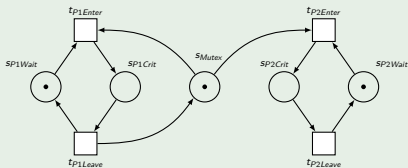


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- An Occurrence Net is a net with a simpler structure
- The labelling functions assigns each node in the occurrence net a label of the original net

- Intuitively: Occurrence Nets can be seen as 1-safe Nets.

Definition

An Occurrence Net is a net $O = (B, E, F)$ with the following properties:

- 1 $|\bullet b| \leq 1$ for all $b \in B$
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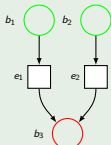


Figure: Counterexample

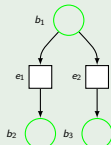


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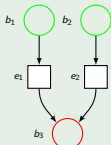


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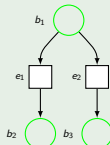


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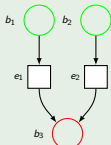


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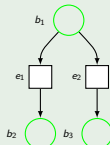


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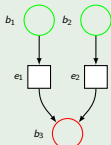


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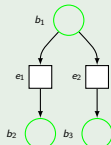


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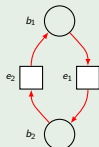


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x is in conflict with y denoted by $x \# y$ iff there exists two paths $p_1 = b, e_1, \dots, x$ and $p_2 = b, e_2, \dots, y$ for $b \in B$ and $e_1 \neq e_2 \in E$.

Example (Property 4)

- Either e_1 or e_2 can fire
- \Rightarrow Either b_2 or b_3 receives a token
- $\Rightarrow e_3$ cannot be fired at any time
- \Rightarrow makes no sense to allow such thing

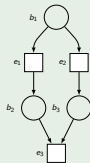


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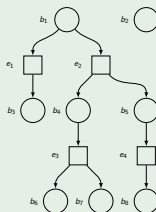
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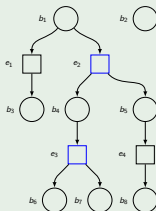
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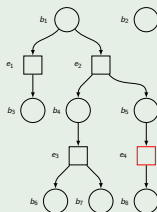
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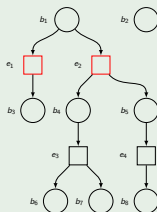
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- $\{e_1, e_2\}$ is not a configuration!



Definition

Let $\mathcal{N} = (P, T, W, M_0)$ be a Petri net. A Branching Process is a labelled occurrence net $\beta = (O, \rho) = (B, E, F, \rho)$ where ρ is the labelling function with the following properties:

- ① $\rho(B) \subseteq P$ and $\rho(E) \subseteq T$
- ② For every $e \in E$, the restriction of ρ to $\bullet e$ is a bijection between $\bullet e$ (in β) and $\bullet \rho(e)$ (in \mathcal{N})
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Example (Property 1: Preservation of the nature of nodes)

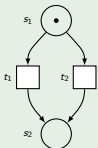


Figure: $\mathcal{N} = (P, T, W, M_0)$

- $\rho(b_1) = s_1 \in P$
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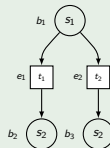


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Example (Property 2: Preservation of transition environment)

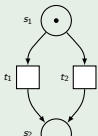


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- $\rho(e_1) = t_1$
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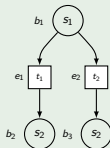


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Example (Property 3: β starts at M_0)

- $M_0 = \{s_1, s_1, s_2\}$
- β has three minimal nodes b_1, b_2, b_3 without incoming edges.
- $\rho(b_1) = s_1$, $\rho(b_2) = s_1$ and $\rho(b_3) = s_2$

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Example (Property 4: β does not duplicate transitions)

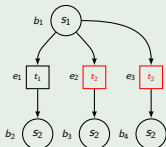


Figure: Counterexample

- What is the marking reached by a configuration?

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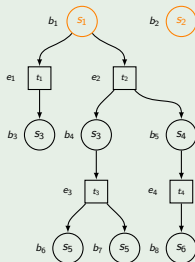
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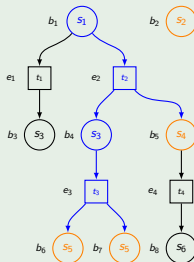
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- $Mark(\{e_2, e_3\}) = p(\{b_2, b_5, b_6, b_7\}) = \{s_2, s_4, s_5, s_5\}$



Example

- Given: The Petri Net \mathcal{N} which models mutual exclusion

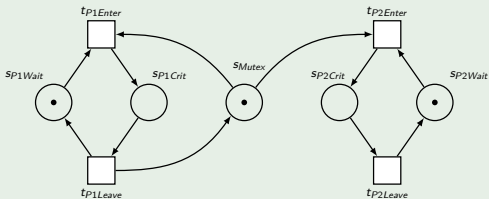


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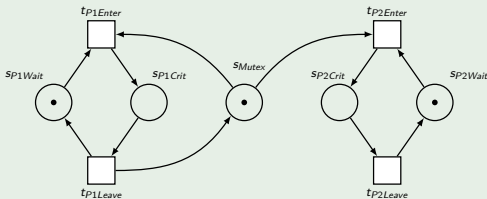


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- Goal: Compute Unfolding of \mathcal{N}

Example

- Given: The Petri Net \mathcal{N} which models mutual exclusion

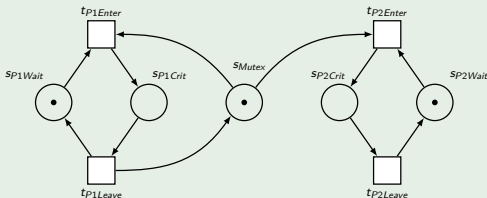


Figure: Petri Net \mathcal{N}

- Goal: Compute Unfolding of \mathcal{N}
- Unfolding is a Branching Process where:
 - All reachable markings are present
 - All transitions enabled by a marking are present

Definition (Occurrence Net
 $O = (B, E, F)$)

- 1 $|\bullet b| \leq 1$ for all $b \in B$
- 2 O is acyclic
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- 4 No backward conflicts

Definition (Labelling function ρ)

- 1 $\rho(B) \subseteq P$ and $\rho(E) \subseteq T$
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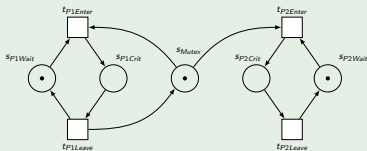


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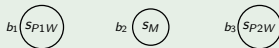


Figure: Current State while unfolding

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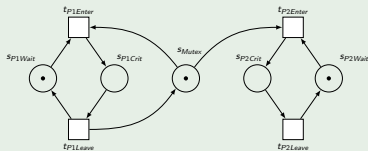


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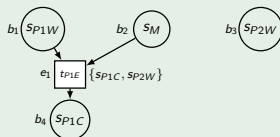


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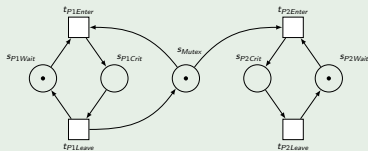


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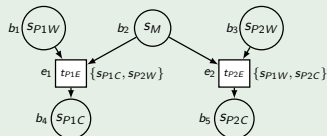


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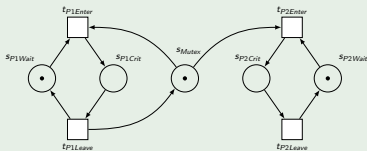


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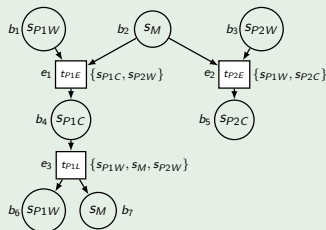


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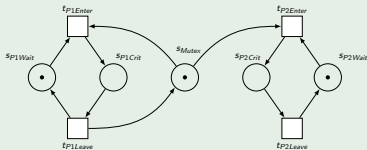


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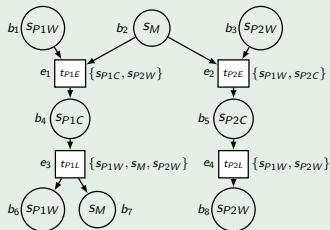


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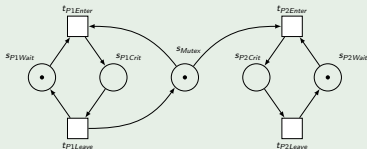
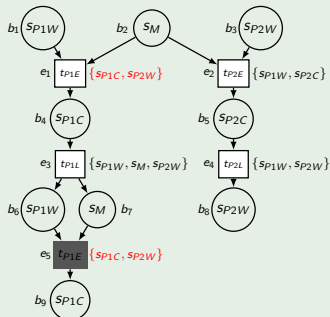


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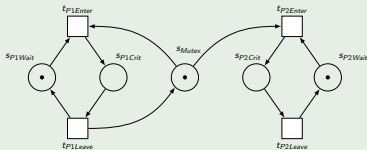
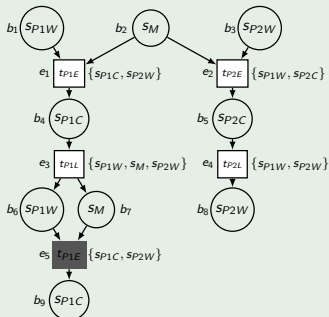


Figure: Petri Net \mathcal{N}



Definition (Deadlock: Petri Net vs Unfolding)

Let \mathcal{N} be a Petri Net and β its Unfolding.

\mathcal{N} has a deadlock if there exists a reachable marking M which is no terminal marking and no transition is enabled.

\Leftrightarrow There exists a configuration C in β for which $Mark(C) = M$ and M is no terminal marking of \mathcal{N} and C is in conflict with all cutoff events.

- Configuration $C = \{e_2, e_4\}$ with $Mark(C) = \{sp_{1W}, sp_{2W}\}$ is a deadlock!
- Search techniques:
 - Backtracking search
- Exponential time complexity for search

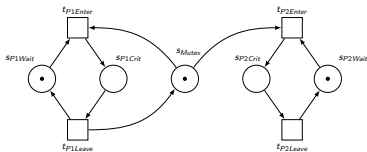


Figure: Petri Net \mathcal{N} with deadlock

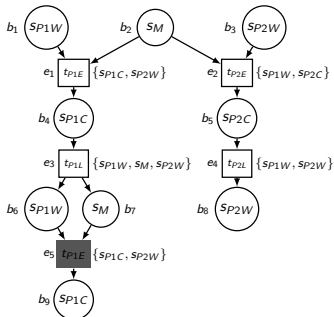


Figure: Unfolding of \mathcal{N}

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- Search in Unfolding exponential running time in its size
- Overall verification speed is increased

- Using Unfoldings to avoid the State Explosion Problem - K.L. McMillan
- An improvement of McMillans Net Unfolding - J. Esparza, S. Römer, W. Vögler