

The Logical View on Continuous Petri Nets

Michael Blondin

Joint work with Alain Finkel, Christoph Haase, Serge Haddad



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PARIS-SACLAY

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Inria
INVENTORS FOR THE DIGITAL WORLD

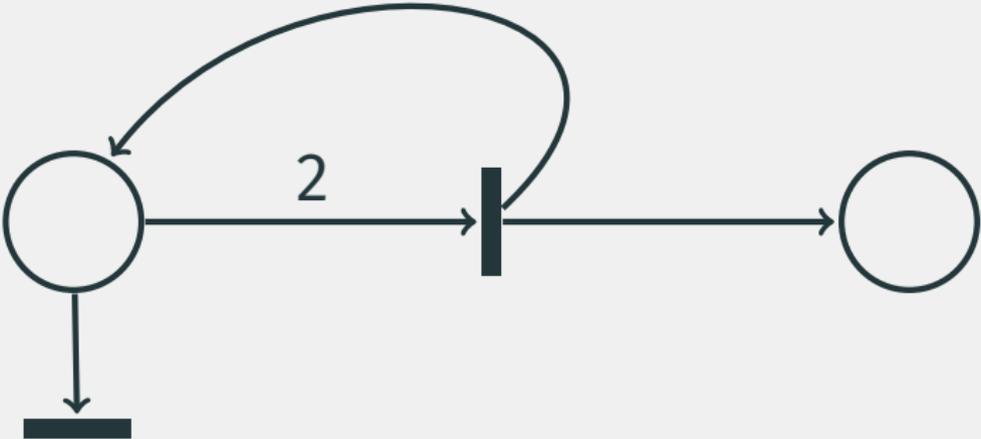


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OXFORD

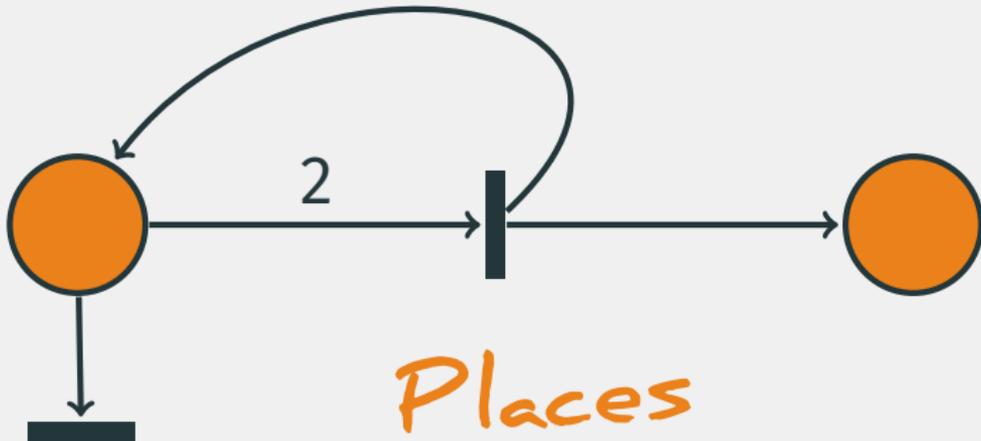
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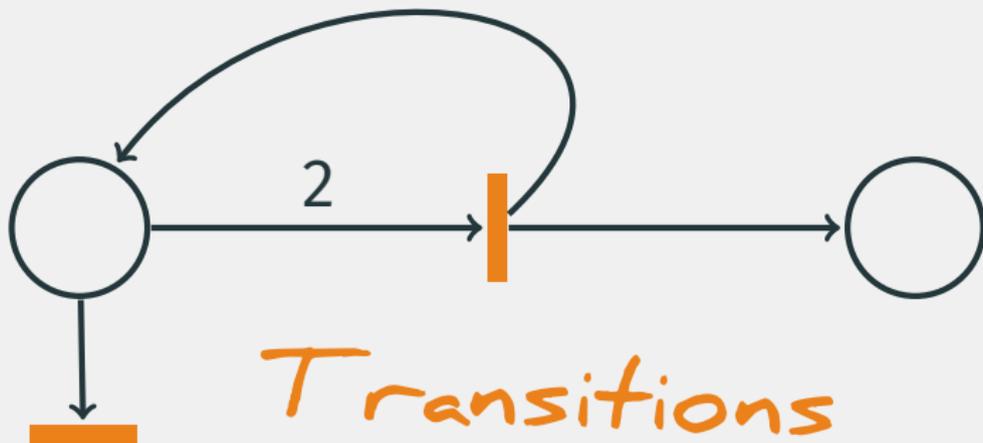
Petri nets



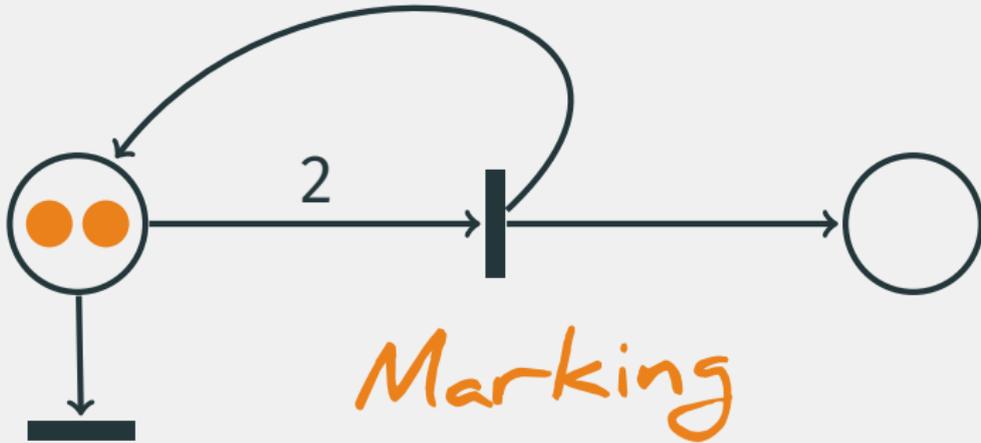
Petri nets



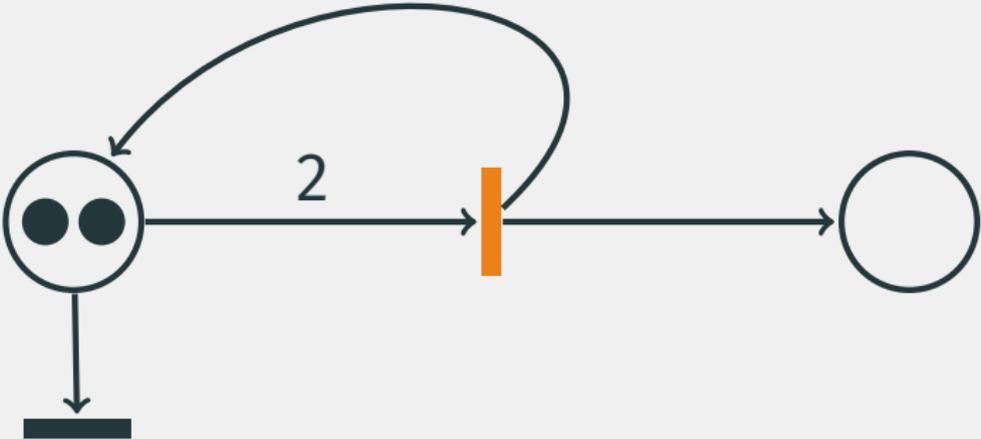
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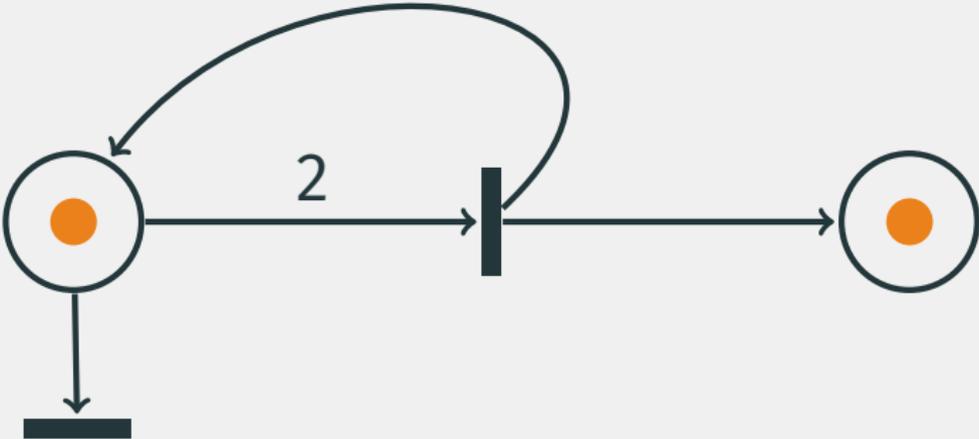
Petri nets



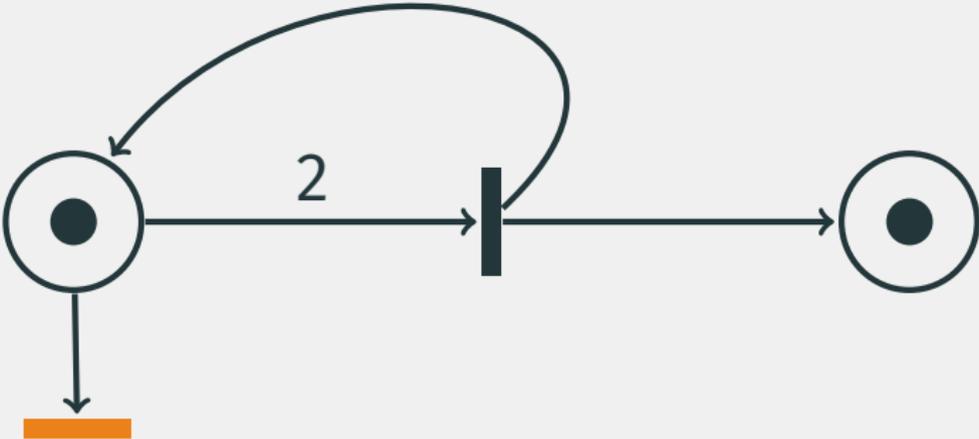
Petri nets



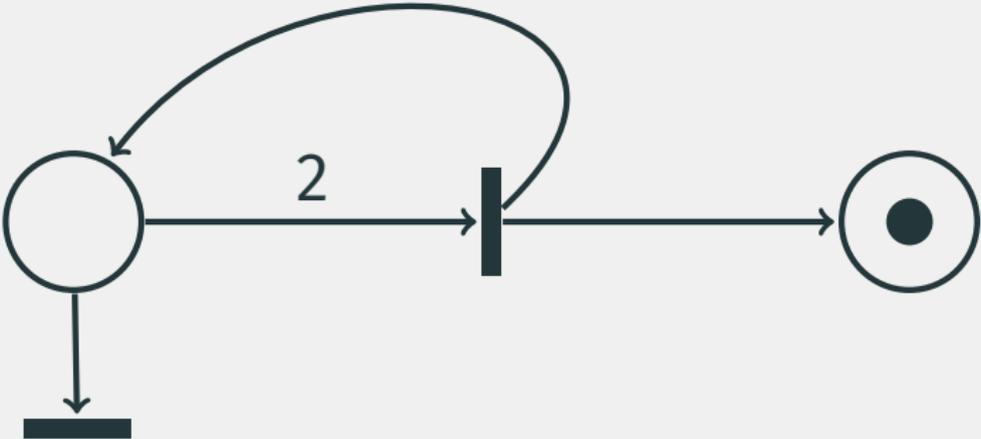
Petri nets



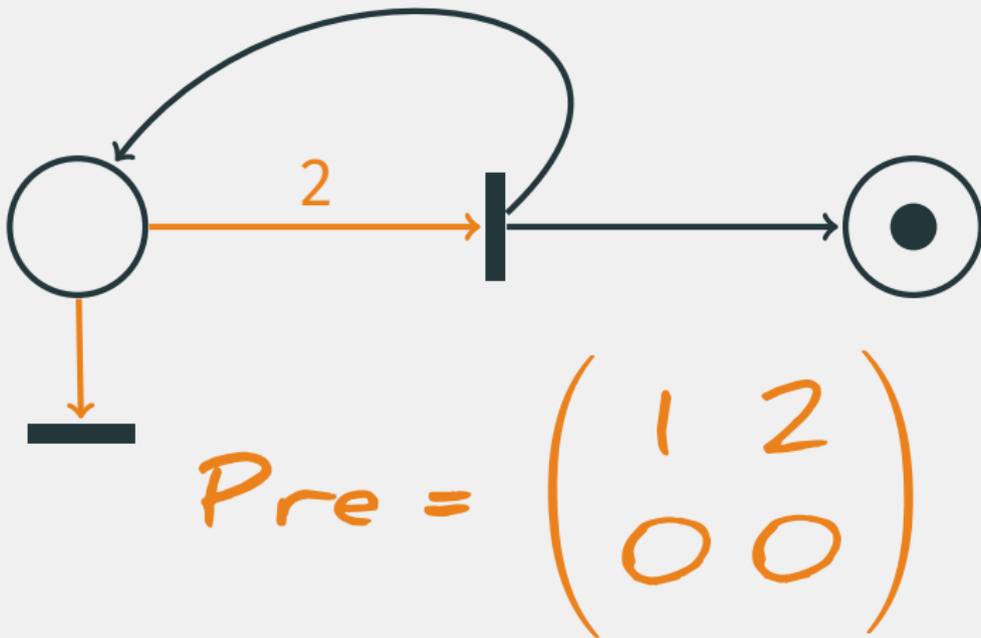
Petri nets



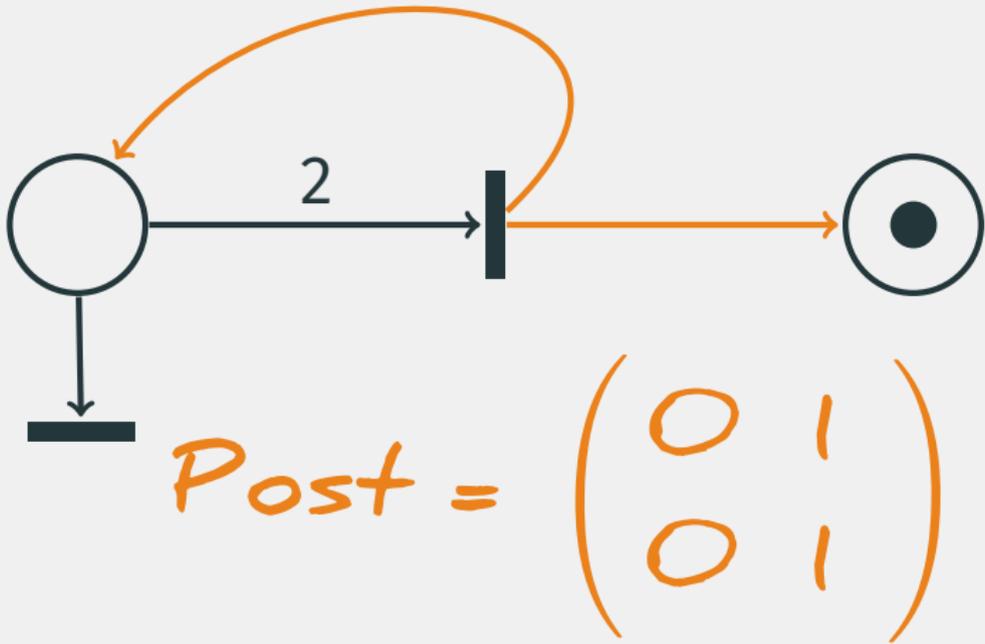
Petri nets



Petri nets



Petri nets

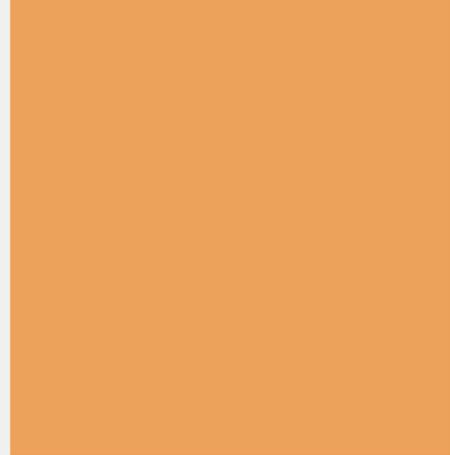


Safety verification with Petri nets

Process 1



Process 2



Safety verification with Petri nets

Process 1

critical section

Process 2

critical section

Safety verification with Petri nets

```
while true:  
  x = true  
  while y: pass  
  # critical section  
  x = false
```

```
while true:  
  ★ y = true  
  if x then:  
    y = false  
    while x: pass  
    goto ★  
  # critical section  
  y = false
```

Lamport mutual exclusion algorithm

Safety verification with Petri nets

```
while true:  
  x = true  
  while y: pass  
  # critical section  
  x = false
```

shared variables: x, y

```
while true:  
  ★ y = true  
  if x then:  
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Safety verification with Petri nets

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Safety verification with Petri nets

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Safety verification with Petri nets

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Safety verification with Petri nets

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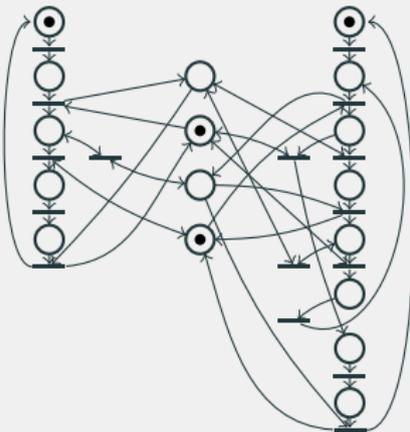
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    goto ★
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```
  y = false
```

Safety verification with Petri nets

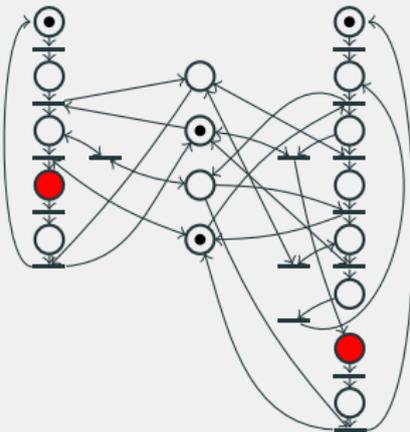
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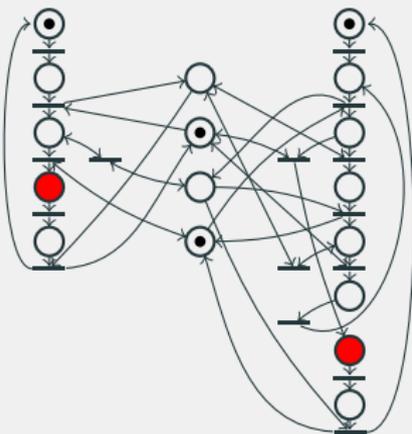
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Safety verification with Petri nets



Processes at both
critical sections

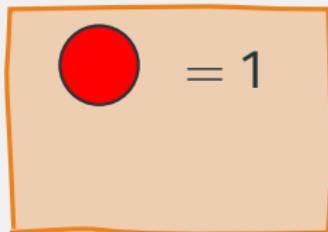


Safety verification with Petri nets



Reachability problem

Processes at both
critical sections



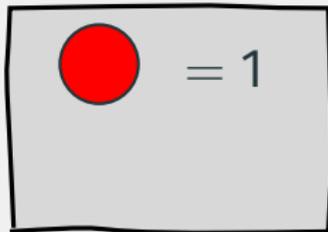


Hyper-Ackermannian!

(Leroux & Schmitz '15)

Reachability problem

Processes at both
critical sections

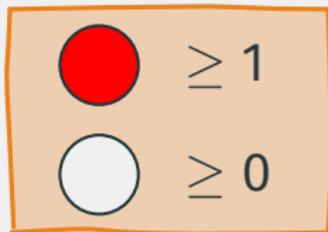


Safety verification with Petri nets



Coverability problem

Processes at both
critical sections

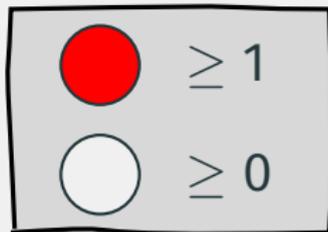


EXPSpace-complete!

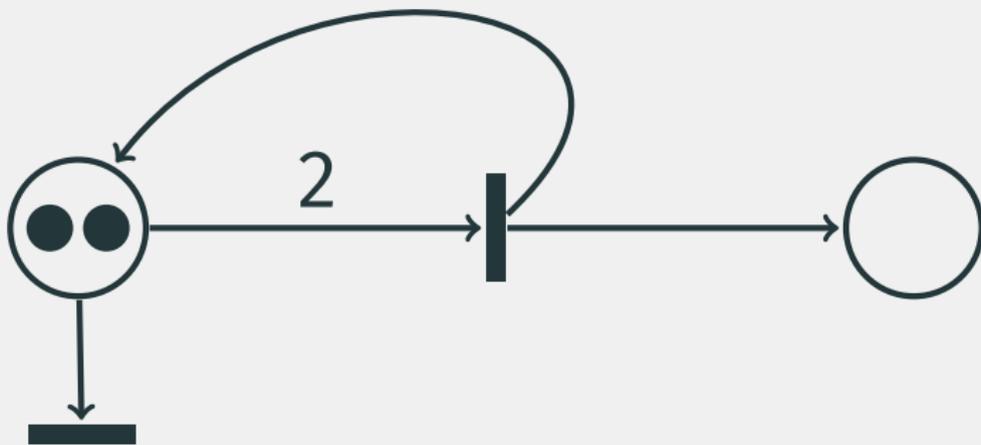
(Lipton '76, Rackoff '78)

Coverability problem

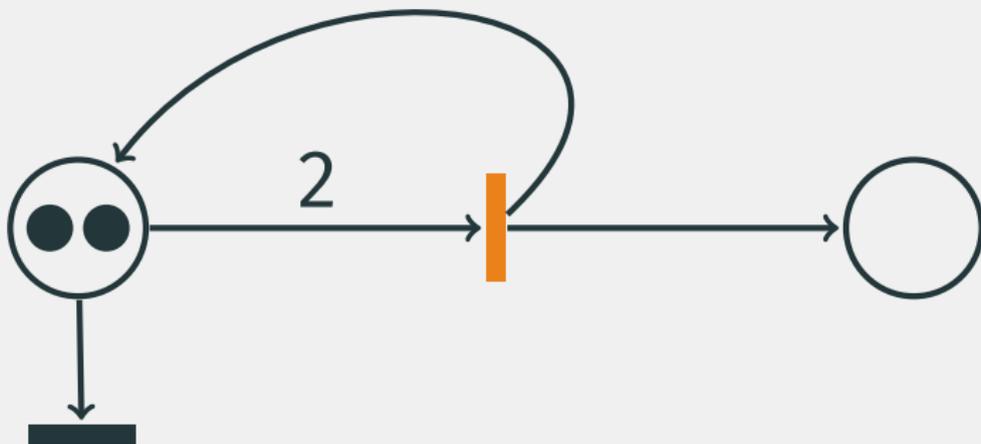
Processes at both
critical sections



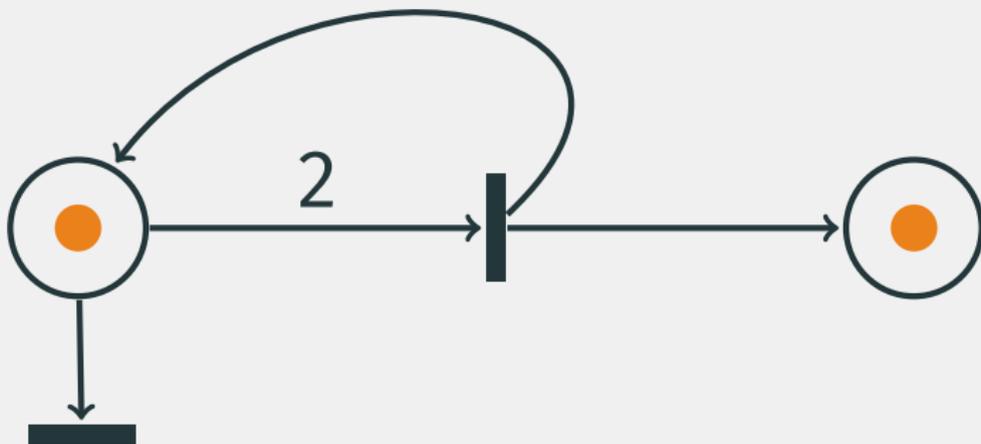
(Discrete) Petri nets



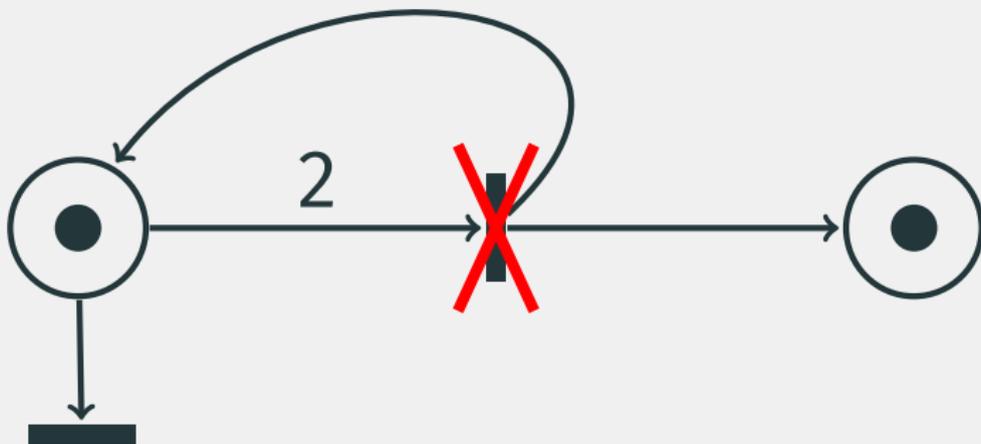
(Discrete) Petri nets

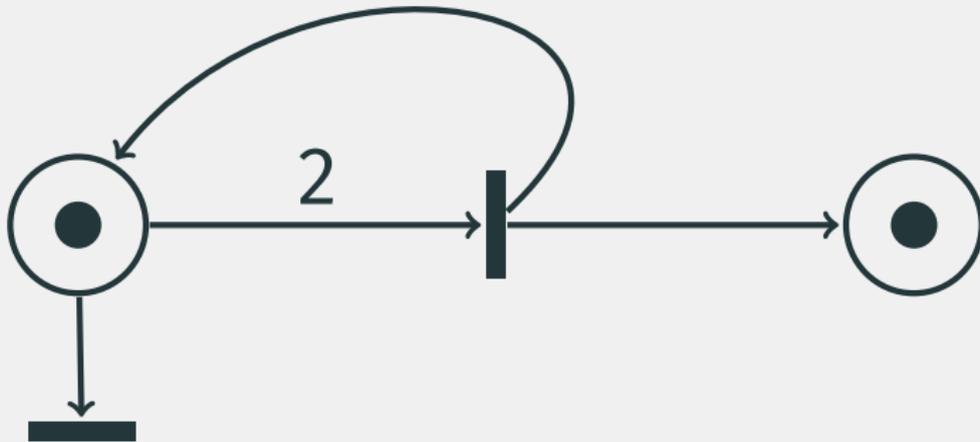


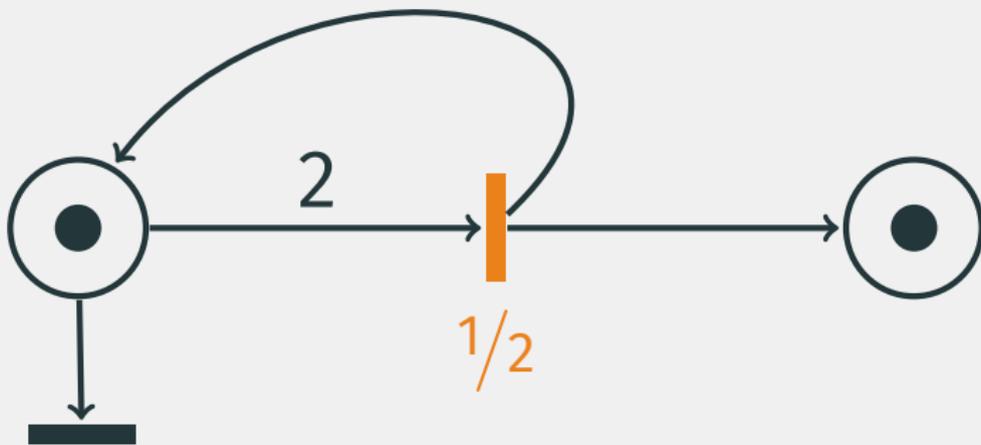
(Discrete) Petri nets

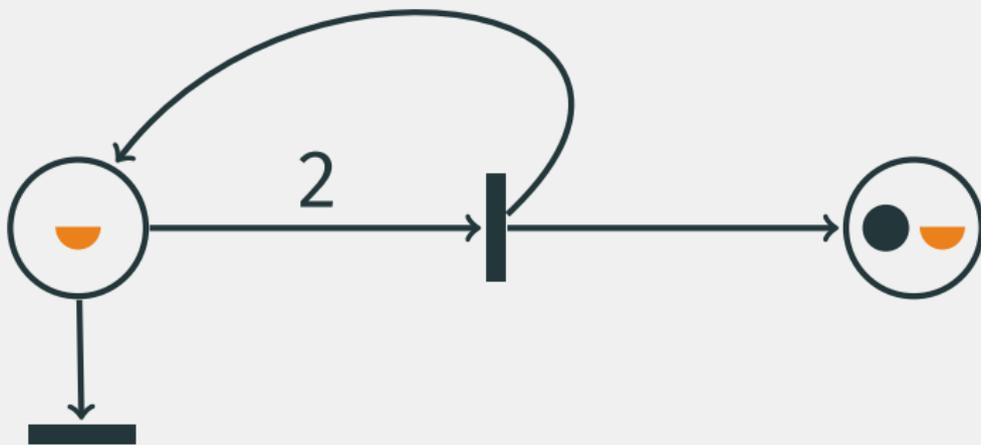


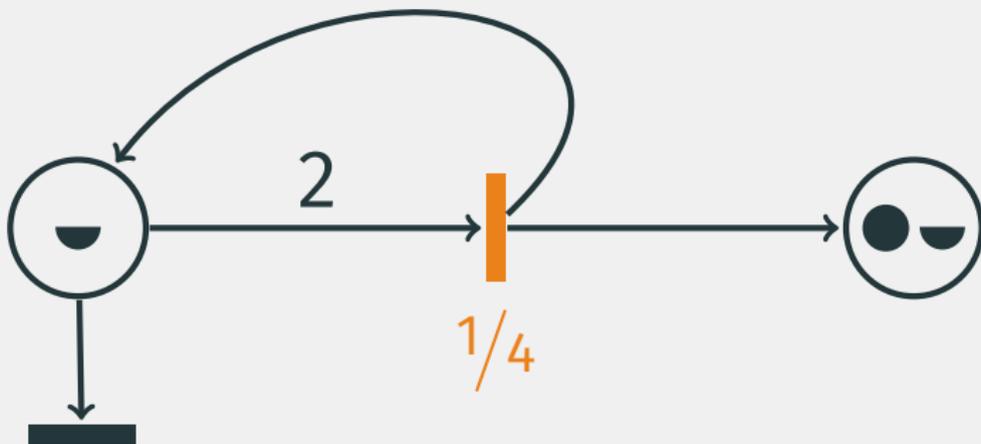
(Discrete) Petri nets

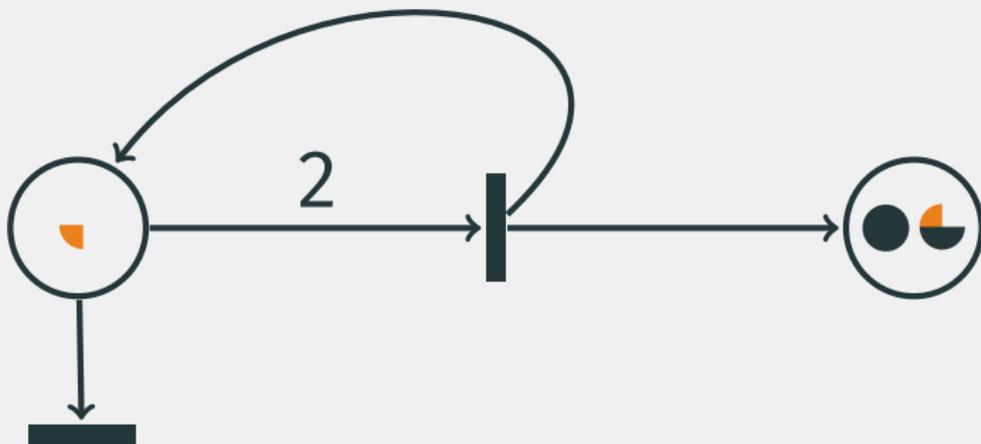


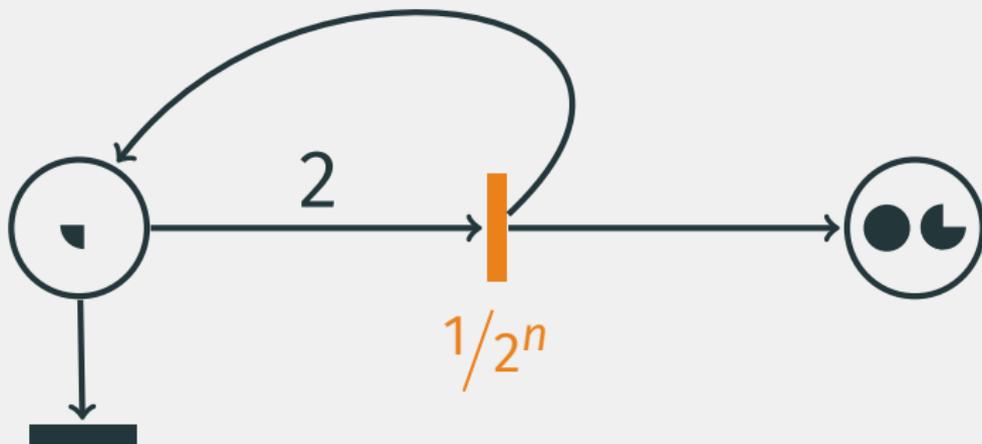


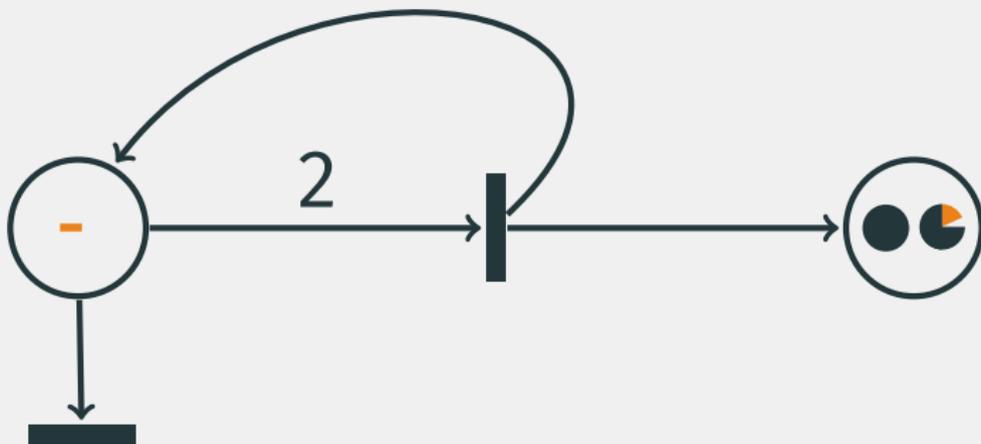












m_{target} reachable from m_{init}



m_{target} \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{init}

m_{target} not reachable from m_{init}

Safety



m_{target} not \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{init}

m_{target} not reachable from m_{init}

Safety



m_{target} not \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{init}

\mathbb{Q} -reachability \in PTIME!
(Fracca & Haddad '13)

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Fix some continuous Petri net $(P, T, \mathbf{Pre}, \mathbf{Post})$

m_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{target} iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Fix some continuous Petri net $(P, T, \mathbf{Pre}, \mathbf{Post})$

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Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^T$ such that

- $m_{\text{target}} = m_{\text{init}} + (\mathbf{Post} - \mathbf{Pre}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$

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- an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Fix some continuous Petri net $(P, T, \mathbf{Pre}, \mathbf{Post})$

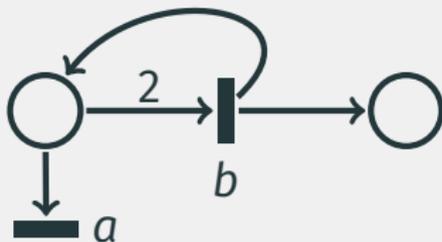
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Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



$$\mathbf{m}_{\text{init}} = (2, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}} = (0, 2)$$

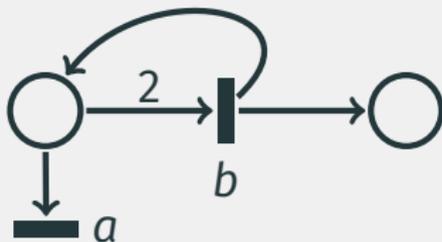
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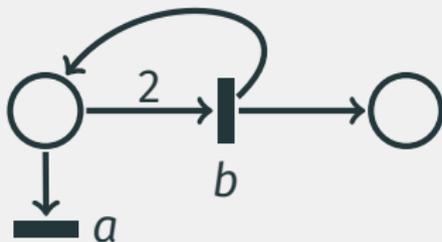
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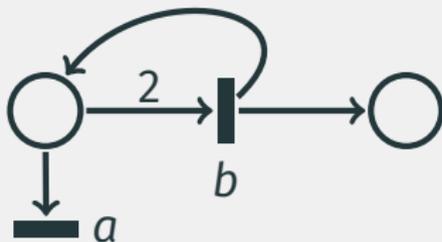
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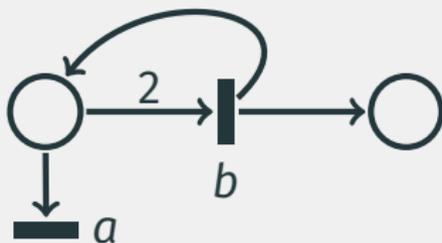
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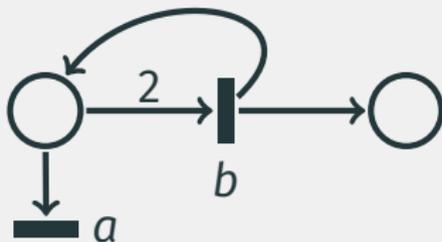
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Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



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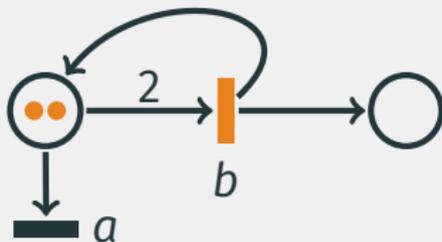
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• an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{b\}$

• an execution to $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ fires exactly $\{b\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



$$\mathbf{m}_{\text{init}} = (2, 0)$$

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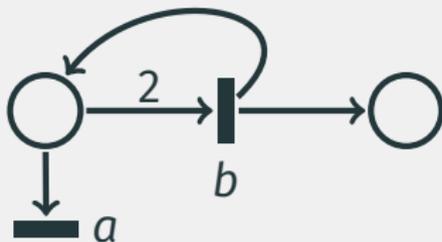
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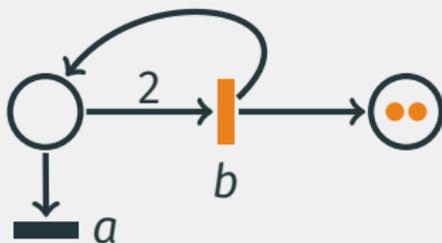
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 $\mathbf{v}_b = 2$
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Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



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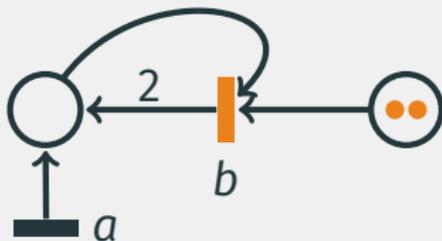
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 $\mathbf{v}_b = 2$
- an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{b\}$ ✓
- an execution to $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ fires exactly $\{b\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



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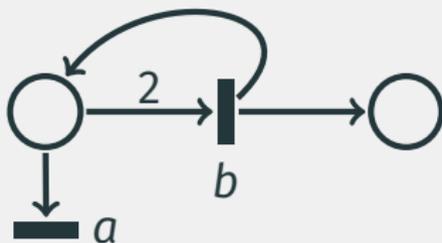
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Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



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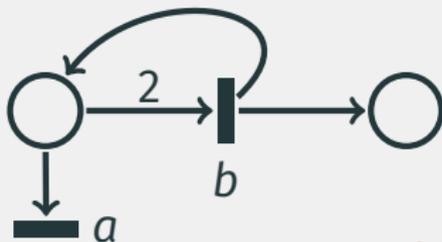
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 $\mathbf{v}_b = 2$
- an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{b\}$ ✓
- an execution to $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ fires exactly $\{b\}$ ✗

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability



$$m_{\text{init}} = (2, 0)$$

$$m_{\text{target}} = (0, 2)$$

Not \mathbb{Q} -reachable from

m_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{target} iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v}_a, \mathbf{v}_b \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad 2 - \mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_b &= 0 & \implies & \mathbf{v}_a = 0, \mathbf{v}_b = 2 & \checkmark \\ \mathbf{v}_b &= 2 & & & \end{aligned}$$

• an execution from m_{init} fires exactly $\{b\}$ \checkmark

• an execution to m_{target} fires exactly $\{b\}$ \times

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Theorem

B., Finkel, Haase & Haddad '16

\mathbb{Q} -reachability definable by linear size formula of

$$\exists \text{FO}(\mathbb{Q}, +, <)$$

\mathbf{m}_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^T$ such that

- $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}} = \mathbf{m}_{\text{init}} + (\mathbf{Post} - \mathbf{Pre}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$
- an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$
- an execution to $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Theorem

B., Finkel, Haase & Haddad '16

\mathbb{Q} -reachability definable by linear size formula of

$$\exists \text{FO}(\mathbb{N}, +, <)$$

Better approximation!

m_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{target} iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^T$ such that

- $m_{\text{target}} = m_{\text{init}} + (\text{Post} - \text{Pre}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$
- an execution from m_{init} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$
- an execution to m_{target} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Theorem

B., Finkel, Haase & Haddad '16

\mathbb{Q} -reachability definable by linear size formula of

$$\exists \text{FO}(\mathbb{Q}, +, <)$$

Testing validity $\in \text{NP}$

\mathbf{m}_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

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\mathbf{m}_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^T$ such that

- $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}} = \mathbf{m}_{\text{init}} + (\text{Post} - \text{Pre}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$ *Straightforward*
- an execution from \mathbf{m}_{init} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$
- an execution to $\mathbf{m}_{\text{target}}$ fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$

Logical characterization of \mathbb{Q} -reachability

Theorem

B., Finkel, Haase & Haddad '16

\mathbb{Q} -reachability definable by linear size formula of

$$\exists \text{FO}(\mathbb{Q}, +, <)$$

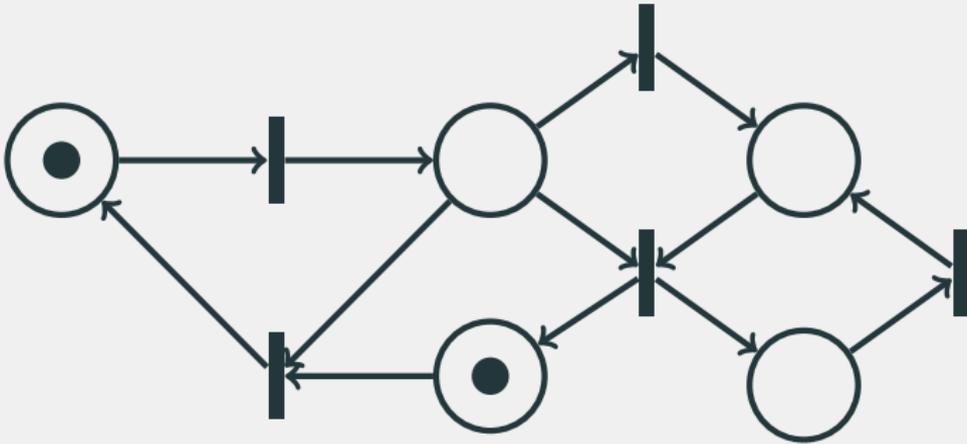
m_{init} is \mathbb{Q} -reachable from m_{target} iff...

Fraca & Haddad '13

there exists $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^T$ such that

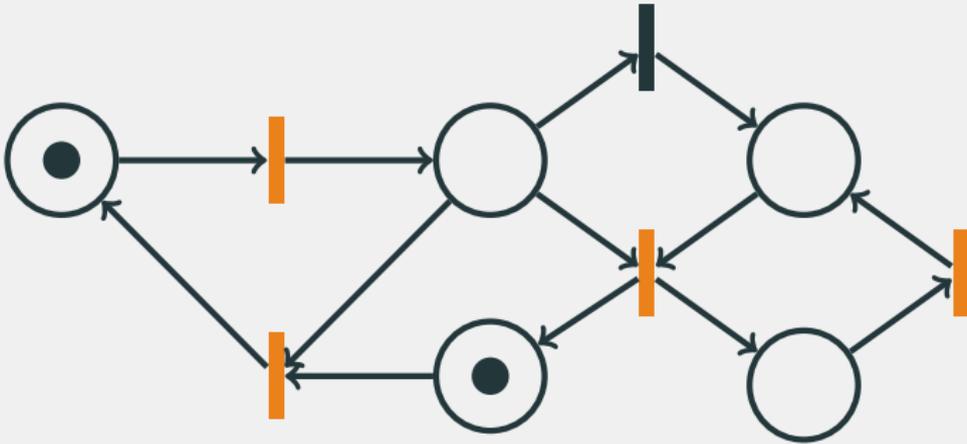
- $m_{\text{target}} = m_{\text{init}} + (\text{Post} - \text{Pre}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$ *More subtle*
- an execution from m_{init} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$
- an execution to m_{target} fires exactly $\{t \in T : \mathbf{v}_t > 0\}$

Encoding the firing set conditions



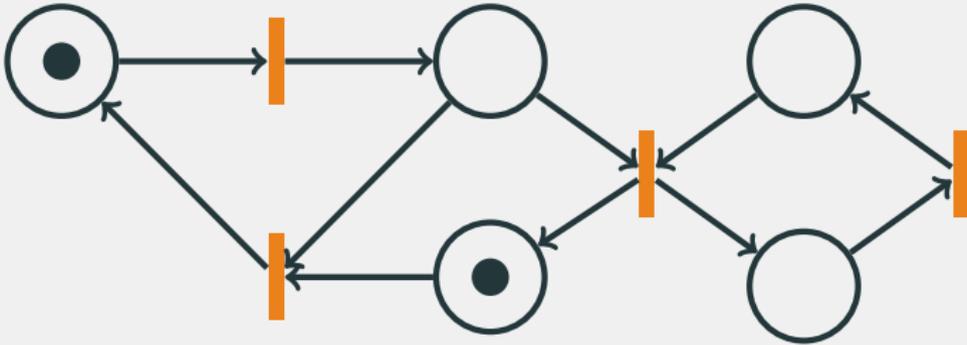
Testing whether some transitions can be fired
from initial marking

Encoding the firing set conditions



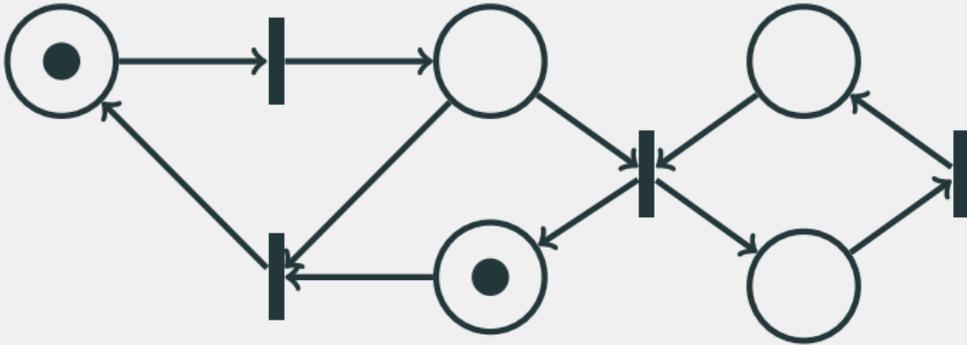
Testing whether some transitions can be fired
from initial marking

Encoding the firing set conditions



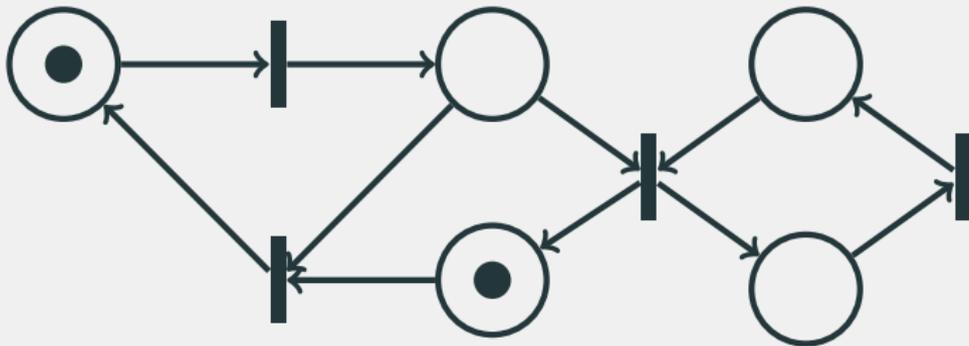
Testing whether some transitions can be fired
from initial marking

Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing

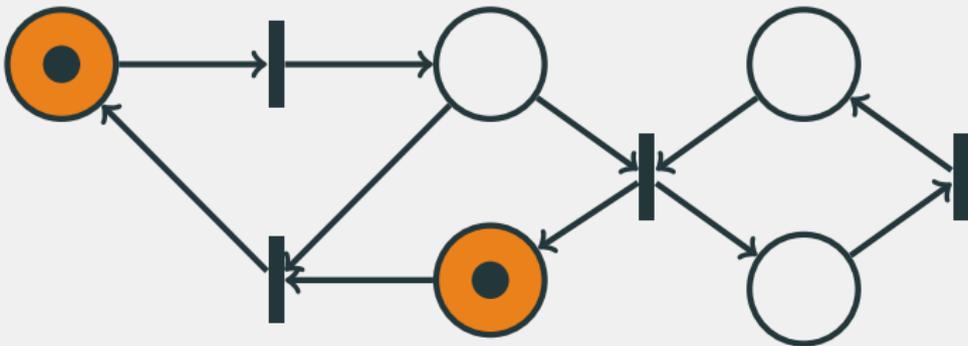
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

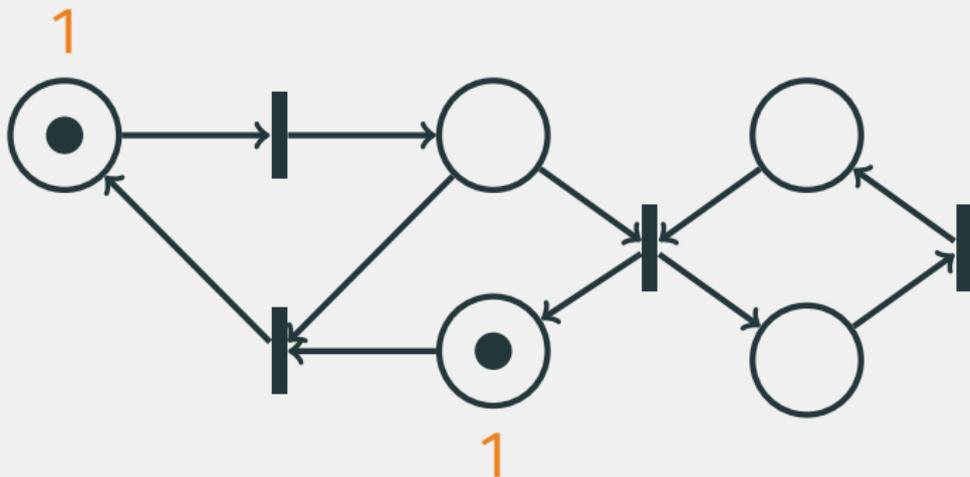
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
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Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

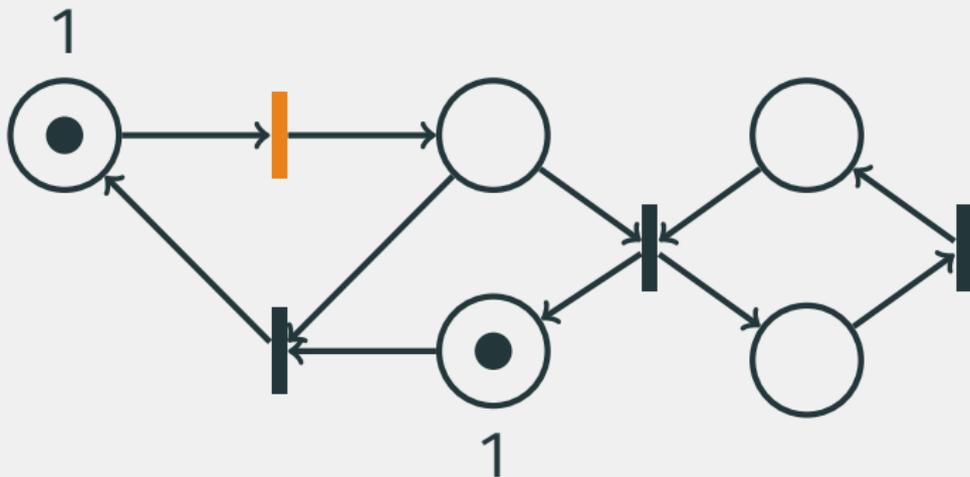
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

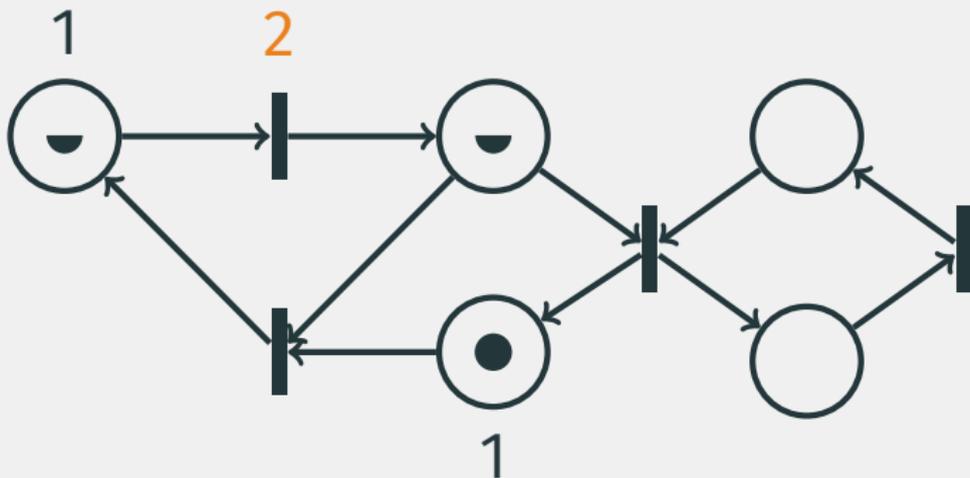
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

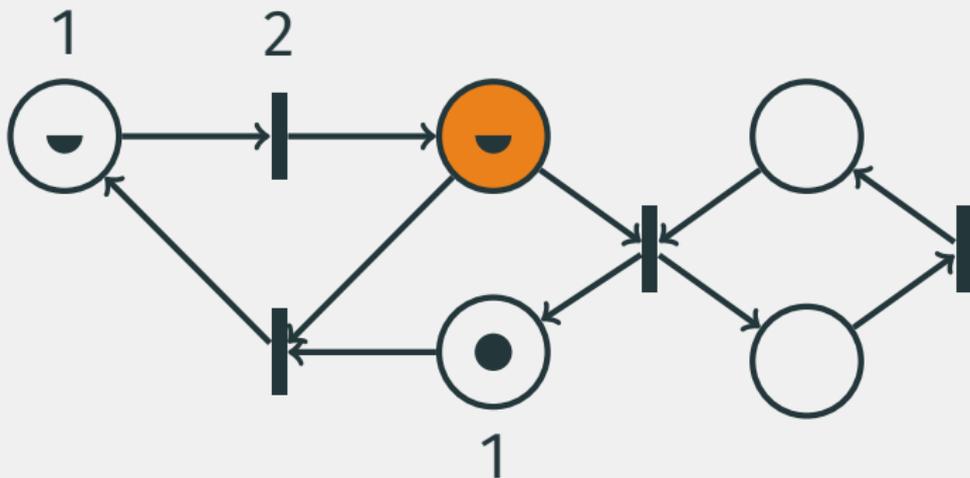
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

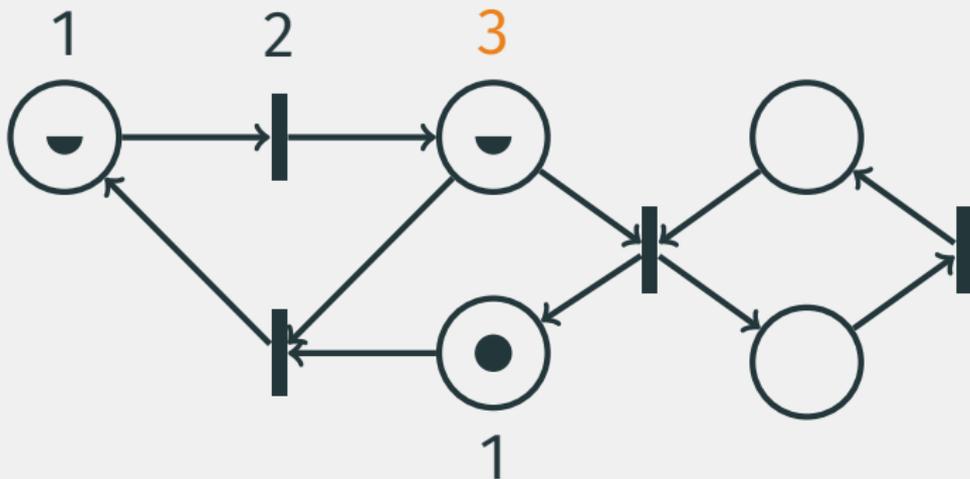
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

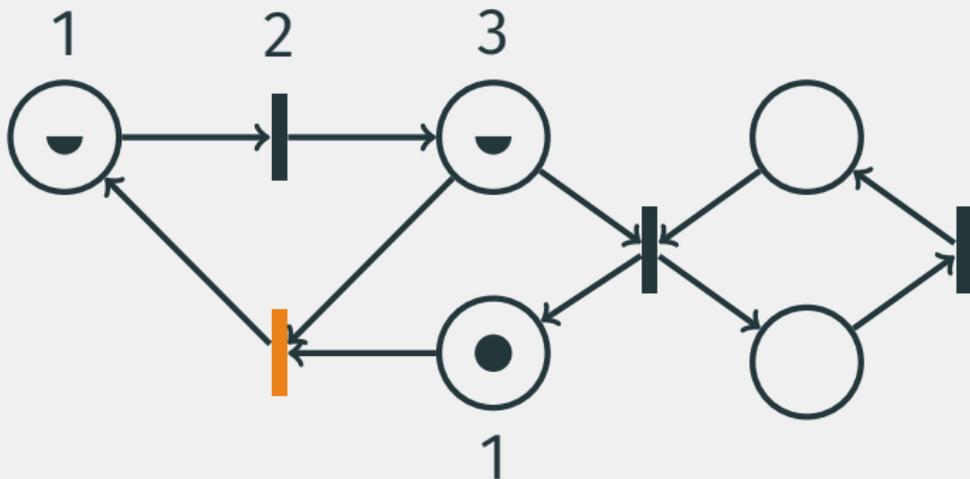
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

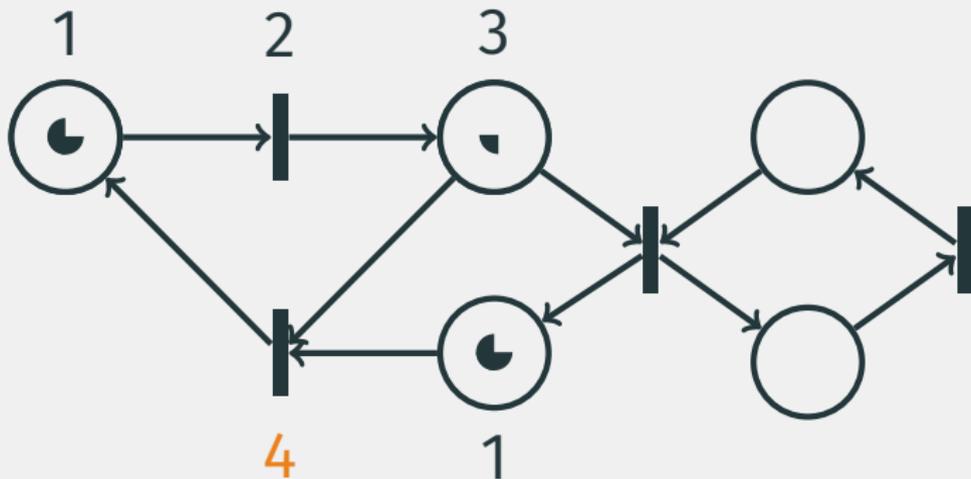
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

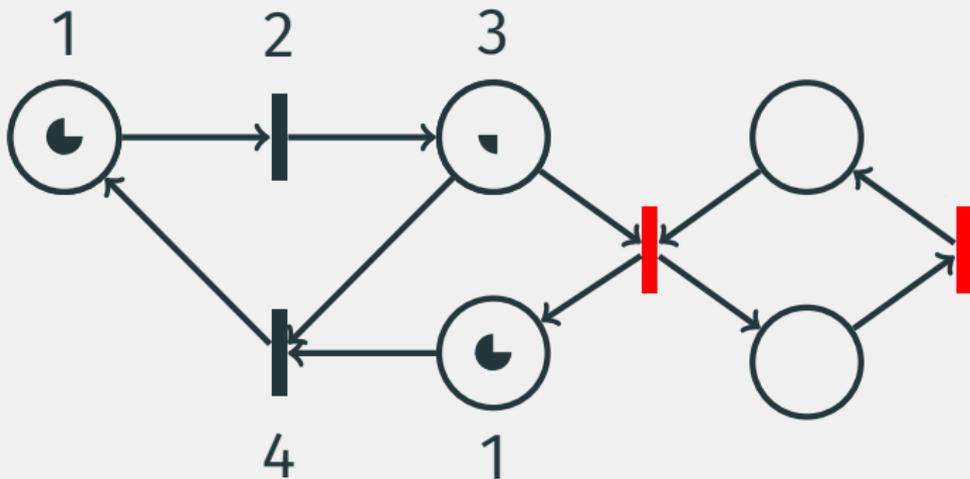
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

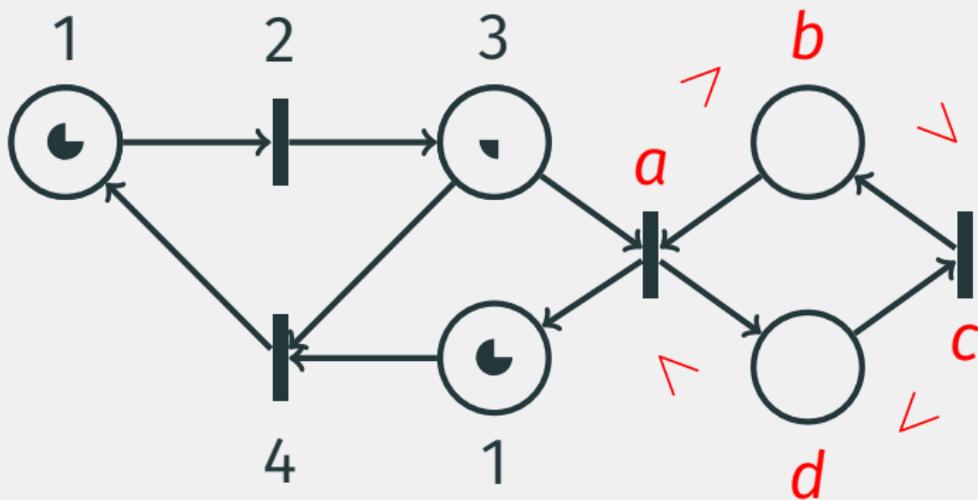
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

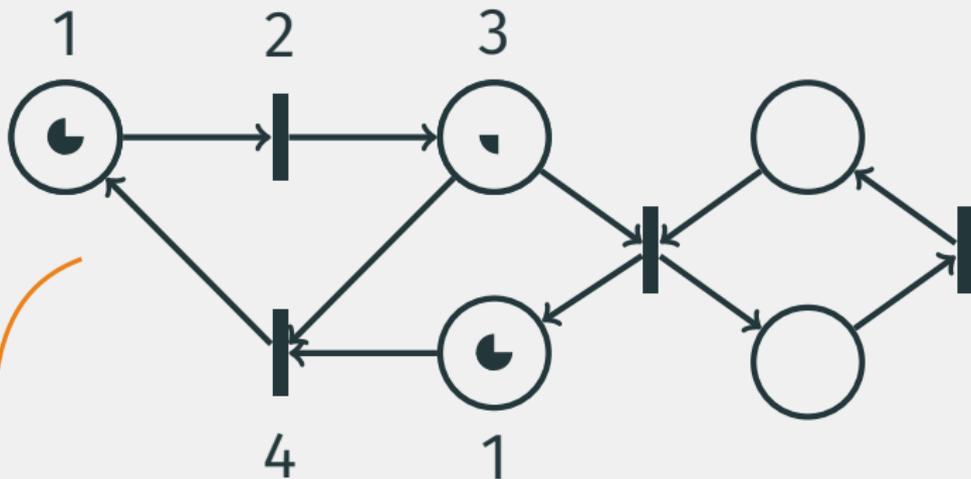
Encoding the firing set conditions



Simulate a "breadth-first" transitions firing
by numbering places/transitions

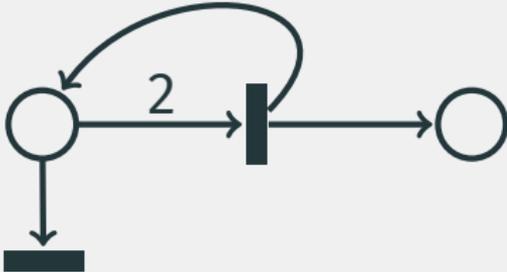
Verma, Seidl & Schwentick '05

Encoding the firing set conditions

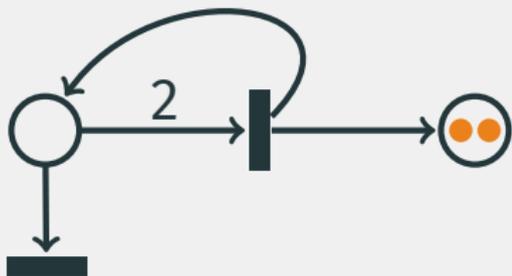


$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \exists \mathbf{y} : \bigwedge_{p \in P} \mathbf{y}(p) > 0 \rightarrow \bigwedge_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{y}(t) < \mathbf{y}(p) \dots$$

From continuous to discrete coverability

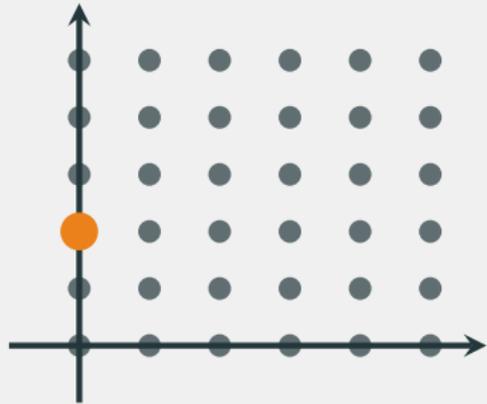
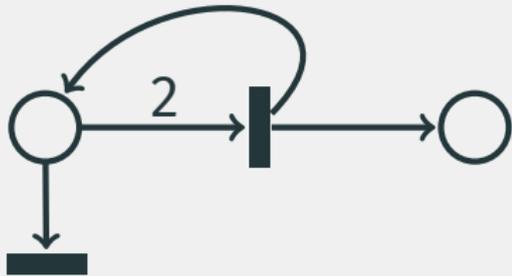


From continuous to discrete coverability



Can $(0, 2)$ be covered from m_{init} ?

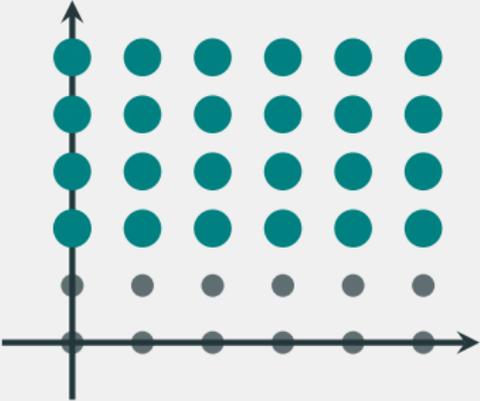
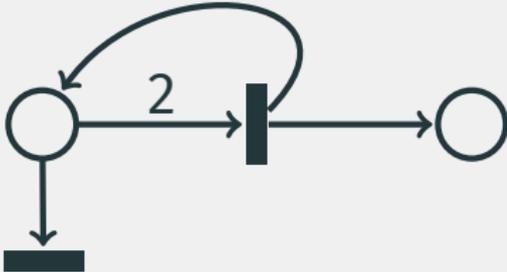
From continuous to discrete coverability



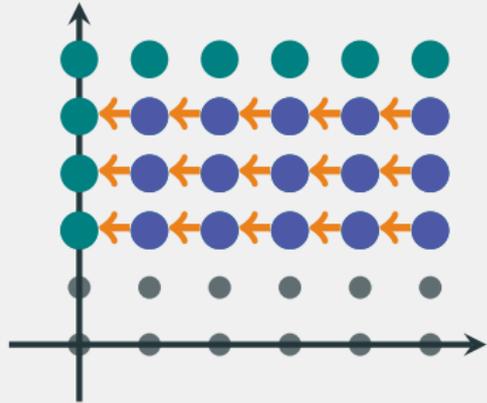
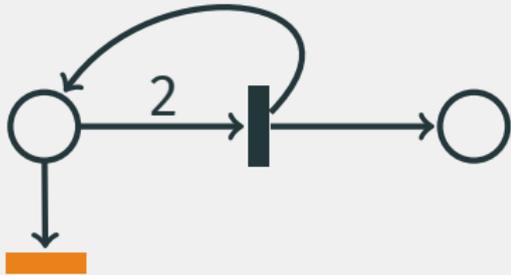
Backward algorithm

(Arnold & Latteux '78, Abdulla et al. '96)

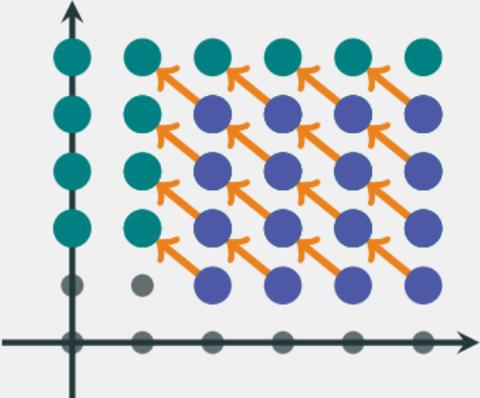
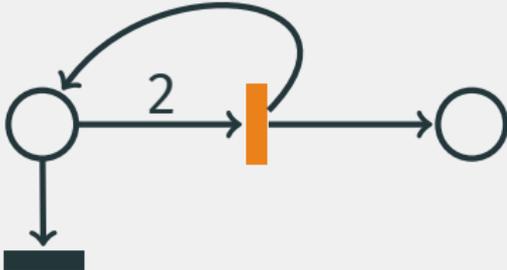
From continuous to discrete coverability



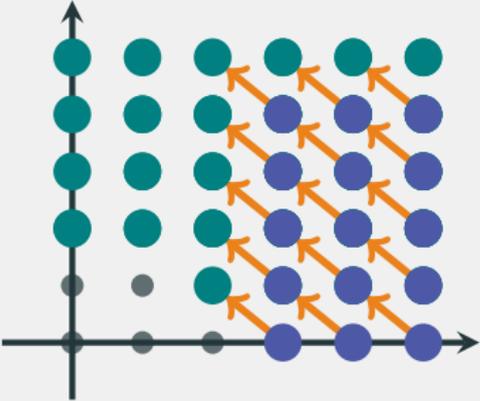
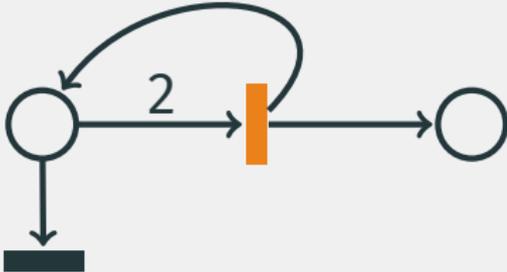
From continuous to discrete coverability



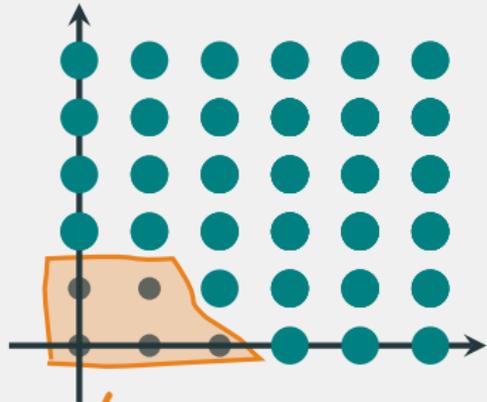
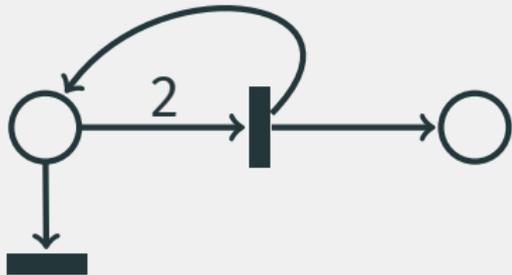
From continuous to discrete coverability



From continuous to discrete coverability

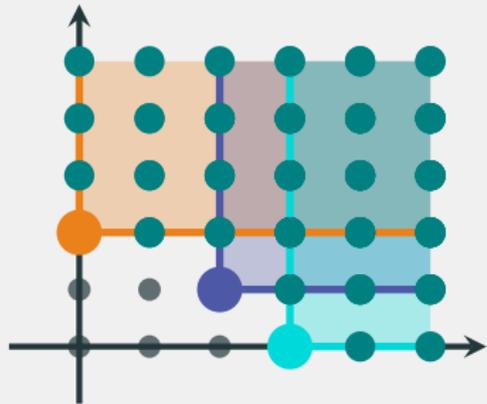
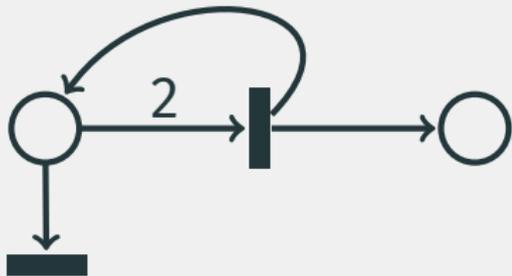


From continuous to discrete coverability



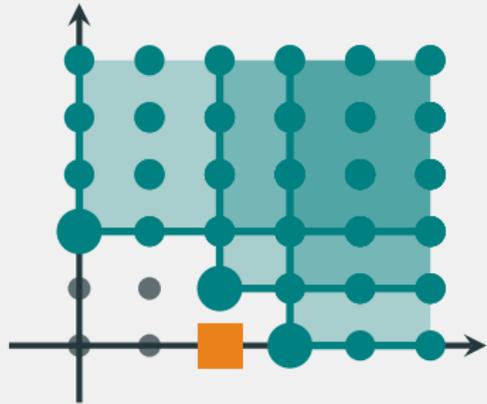
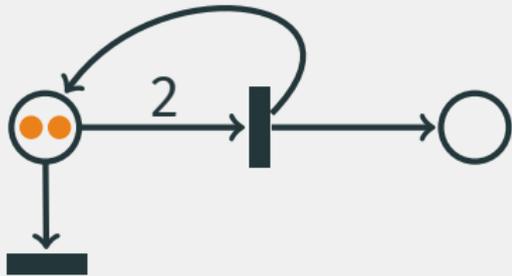
*Cannot cover
target marking*

From continuous to discrete coverability



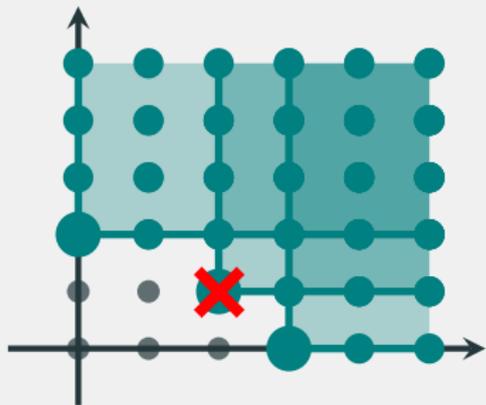
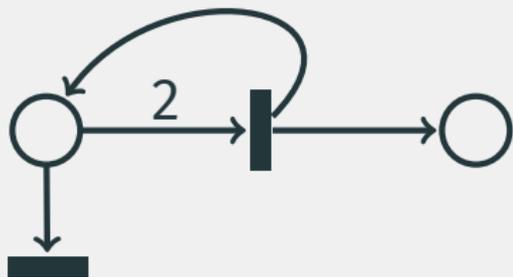
Basis size may become doubly exponential
(Bozzelli & Ganty '11)

From continuous to discrete coverability



We only care about m_{init}

From continuous to discrete coverability



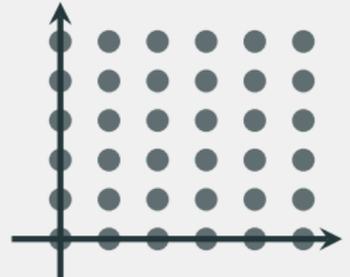
We only care about m_{init}
Prune basis with \mathbb{Q} -reachability!

Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

Polynomial time



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

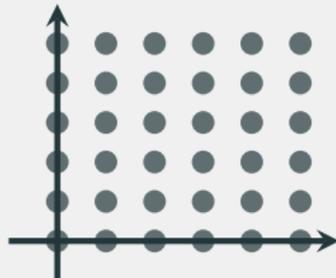
$B = B \setminus \{b \in B : \neg\varphi(b)\}$

if $B = \emptyset$: **return** false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

$X = X \cup B$

return true



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

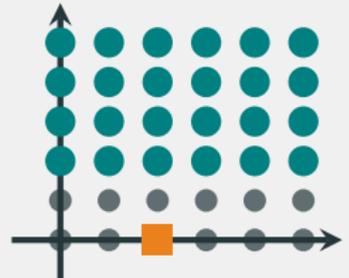
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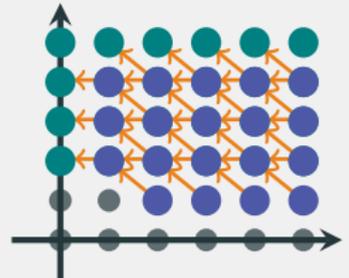
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if $B = \emptyset$: return false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

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return true



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

$B = B \setminus \{b \in B : \neg \varphi(b)\}$

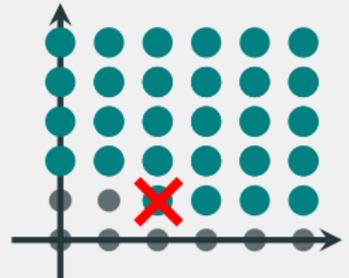
if $B = \emptyset$: return false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

$X = X \cup B$

return true

*\mathbb{Q} -coverability pruning
(better than poly. time)*



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

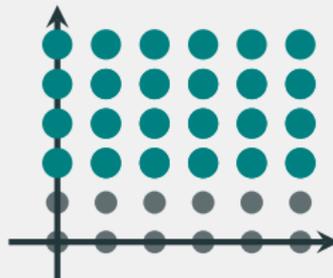
$B = B \setminus \{b \in B : \neg\varphi(b)\}$

if $B = \emptyset$: return false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

$X = X \cup B$

return true



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

$B = B \setminus \{b \in B : \neg\varphi(b)\}$

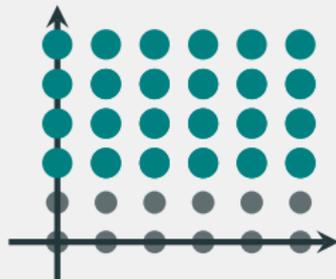
if $B = \emptyset$: return false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

$X = X \cup B$

return true

SMT solver guidance



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

return false

$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

$B =$ markings obtained from X one step backward

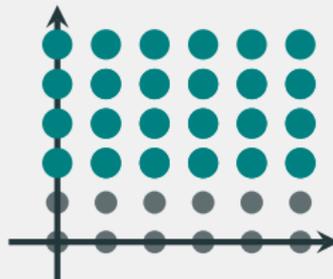
$B = B \setminus \{b \in B : \neg\varphi(b)\}$

if $B = \emptyset$: return false

$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{\text{pruned } b} x \not\geq b$

$X = X \cup B$

return true



Backward coverability modulo \mathbb{Q} -reachability

if m_{target} is not \mathbb{Q} -coverable:

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$X = \{m_{\text{target}}\}$

while (m_{init} not covered by X):

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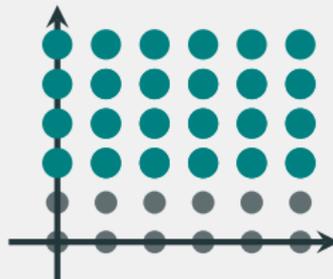
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$X = X \cup B$

return true



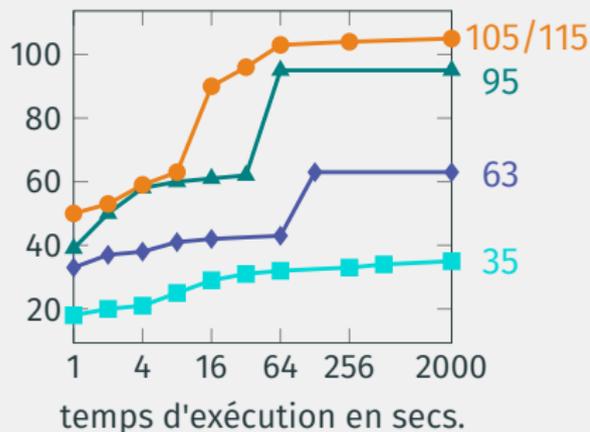
 python™ + SMT Solver Z3 (Microsoft Research)

<https://github.com/blondimi/qcover>

Benchmarked on...

- 176 Petri nets (avg. 1054 places, 8458 trans.)
- multi-threaded C programs with shared-memory
- Erlang concurrent programs
- Protocols : mutual exclusion, communication, etc.
- Messages provenance analysis : medical and bug-tracking sys.

Instances proven safe



● QCOVER

▲ PETRINIZER

◆ BFC

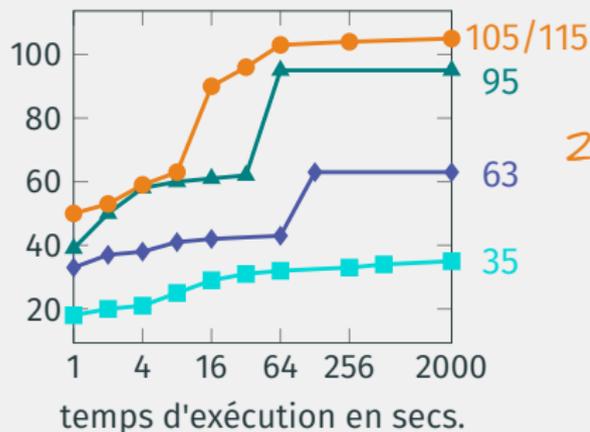
■ MIST

(Esparza et al. '14)

(Kaiser et al. '12)

(Ganty et al. '07)

Instances proven safe



Largest nets proven safe:

*21143 places
7150 trans.*

42 secs.

*6690 places
11934 trans.*

21 secs.

*754 places
27370 trans.*

3 secs.

● QCOVER

▲ PETRINIZER

◆ BFC

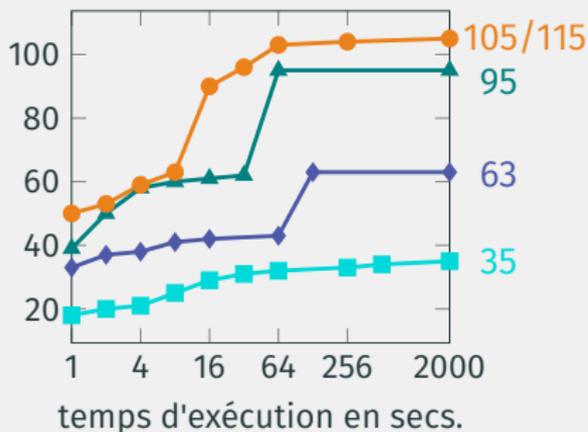
■ MIST

(Esparza et al. '14)

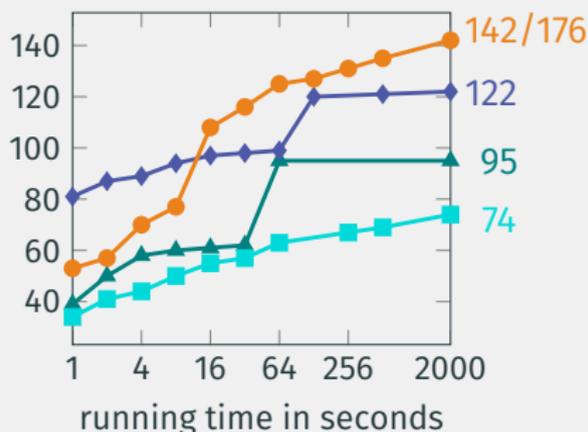
(Kaiser et al. '12)

(Ganty et al. '07)

Instances proven safe



Instances proven safe or unsafe



● QCOVER

▲ PETRINIZER

◆ BFC

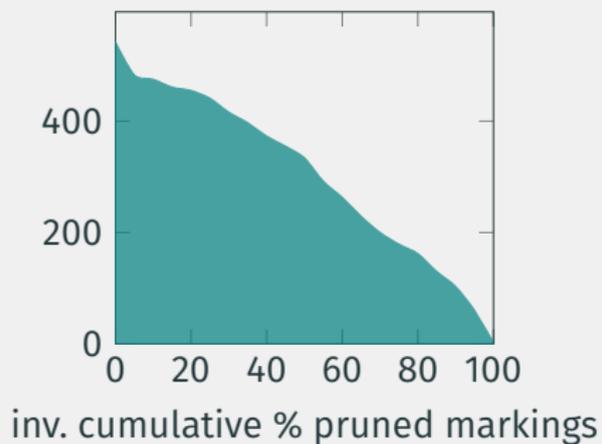
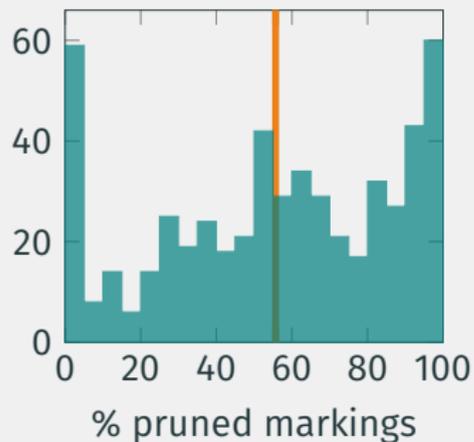
■ MIST

(Esparza et al. '14)

(Kaiser et al. '12)

(Ganty et al. '07)

Markings pruning efficiency across all iterations



Another application : from logic to complexity

Continuous

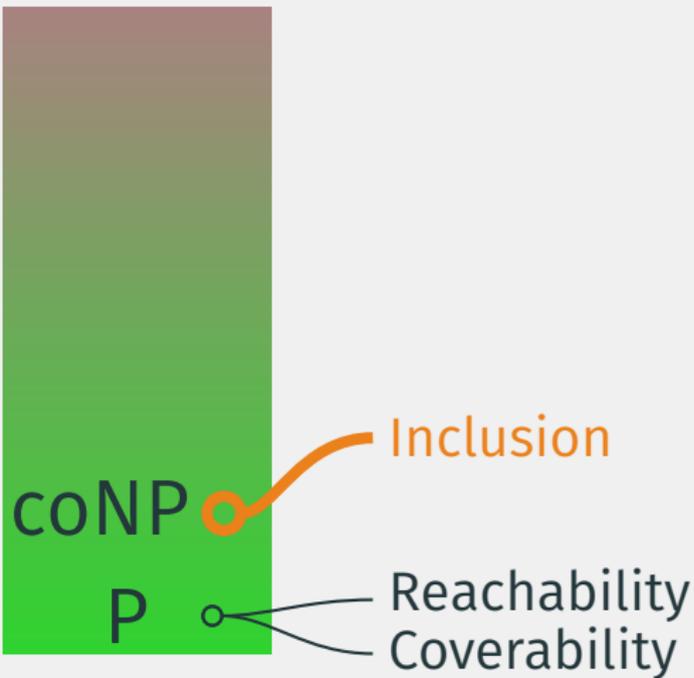


Reachability
Coverability

(Fracca & Haddad '13)

Another application : from logic to complexity

Continuous



Another application : from logic to complexity

Continuous

$$\forall \mathbf{m} \varphi(\mathbf{m}_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{m}) \rightarrow \varphi'(\mathbf{m}'_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{m})$$

+ bounds on sys. linear inequalities

coNP

Inclusion

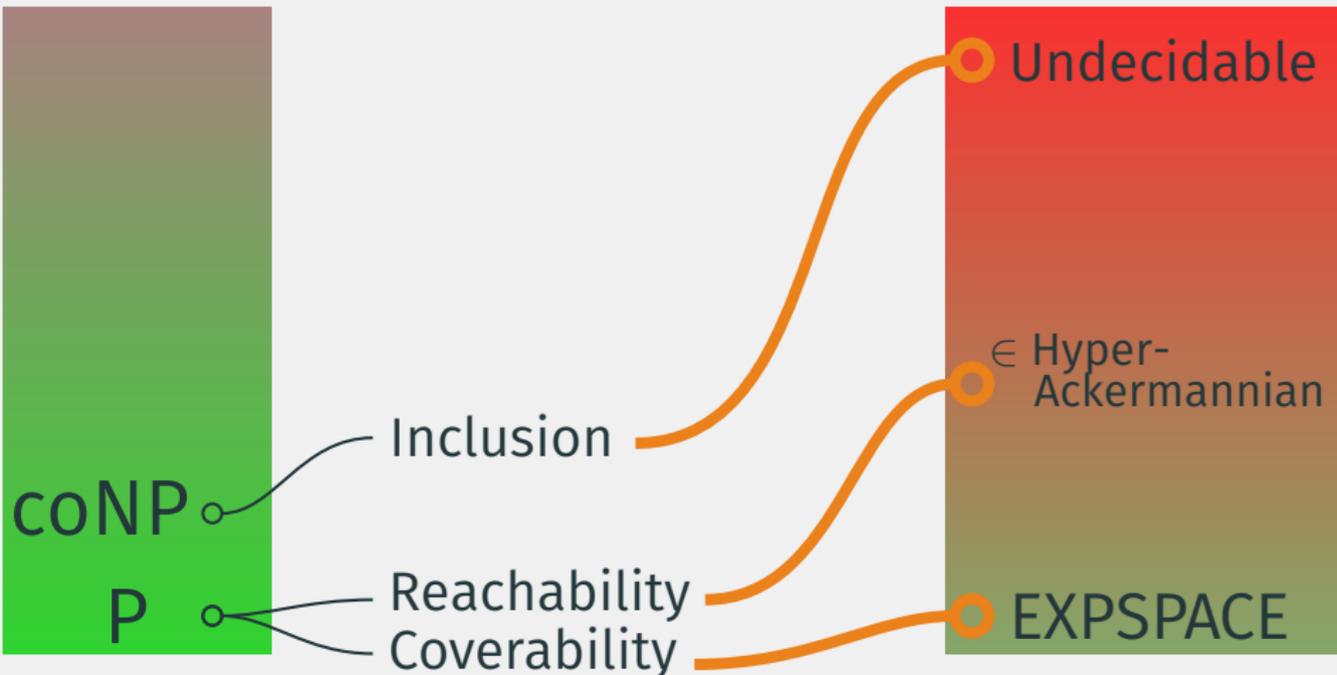
P

Reachability
Coverability

Another application : from logic to complexity

Continuous

Discrete



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Continuous

Discrete

PSPACE

$\in \Sigma_3^P$

$\in \Sigma_2^P$

coNP

P

Struct. liveness

Liveness

Exst. home state

Home state

Inclusion

Reachability

Coverability

Boundedness

○ Undecidable

○ Decidable

○ \in Hyper-Ackermannian

○ EXPSPACE

Future work

- Support Petri net extensions : transfers/resets
- Combine our approach with a forward algorithm
- Use upward closed sets data structures
(e.g. sharing trees Delzanno *et al.* '04)
- Continuous vector addition systems with states (VASS)

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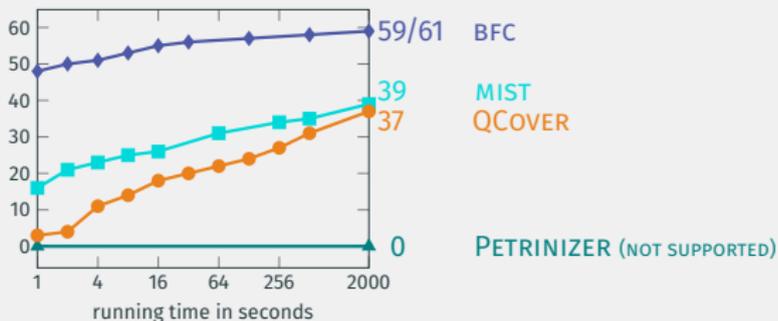
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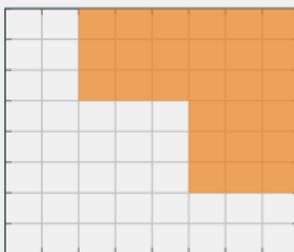
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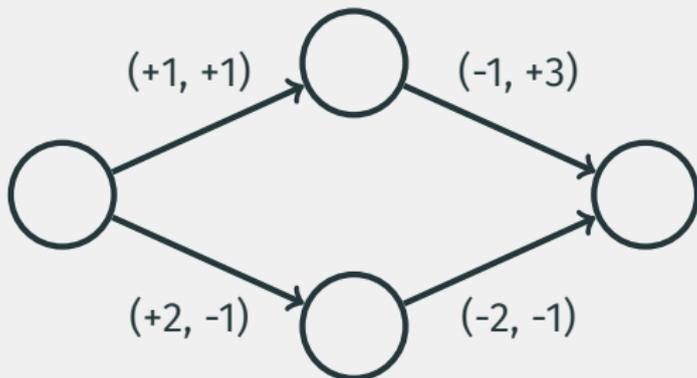
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Thank you!
Vielen Dank!