#### Business Processes Modelling MPB (6 cfu, 295AA)



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11 - Invariants





#### We introduce two relevant kinds of invariants for Petri nets

Free Choice Nets (book, optional reading) https://www7.in.tum.de/~esparza/bookfc.html

# Puzzle time: tiling a chessboard with dominoes





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#### Invariant

An invariant of a dynamic system is an assertion that holds at every reachable state

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

Which invariants?

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

Which invariants? perimeter

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

#### Which invariants? area

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

Which invariants? number of vertices

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

#### Which invariants? number of sides

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

#### Which invariants? vertex degrees

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

#### Which invariants? convexity

You have a polygon



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it

#### Which invariants? color

You have a polygon

Which invariants?



You can rotate it color You can move it convexity? vertex degrees? You can scale it You can mirror it number of sides? You can stretch it number of vertices? area perimeter

You have a polygon

Which invariants?

perimeter



You can rotate itcolorYou can move itconvexityYou can scale itvertex degrees?You can mirror itnumber of sides?You can stretch itnumber of vertices?

You have a polygon

Which invariants?



You can rotate itcolorYou can move itconvexityYou can scale itvertex degreesYou can mirror itnumber of sides?You can stretch itnumber of vertices?

perimeter

You have a polygon

Which invariants?



You can rotate itcolorYou can move itconveYou can scale itverteYou can mirror itnumbYou can stretch itnumb

convexity vertex degrees number of sides number of vertices? area

perimeter

You have a polygon

Which invariants?



You can rotate it You can move it You can scale it You can mirror it **You can stretch it** 

color convexity vertex degrees number of sides number of vertices area perimeter

### Puzzle: from MI to MU

You can compose words using symbols M, I, U

Given the initial word **MI**, you can apply the following transformations, in any order, as many times as you like:

Add a U to the end of any string ending in I (e.g., MI to MIU).
Double the string after the M (e.g., MIU to MIUIU).
Replace any III with a U (e.g., MUIIIU to MUUU).
Remove any UU (e.g., MUUU to MU).

#### $\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{MI} \xrightarrow{} & \mathbf{MII} \xrightarrow{} & \mathbf{MIIII} \xrightarrow{} & \mathbf{MIIIU} \xrightarrow{} & \mathbf{MIUU} \xrightarrow{} & \mathbf{MI} \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 4 \end{array}$

### Puzzle: from MI to MU

You can compose words using symbols M, I, U

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Add a U to the end of any string ending in I (e.g., MI to MIU).
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Replace any III with a U (e.g., MUIIIU to MUUU).
Remove any UU (e.g., MUUU to MU).

Can you transform **MI** to **MU**? (*Hint*: count the **I**s modulo 3)



Which invariants?



Which invariants? color



Which invariants? P, T, F



Which invariants? number of tokens in p3



Which invariants?

number of tokens in a dead place



Which invariants?

Any property that holds for any reachable marking

# Recall: Liveness, formally

#### $(P, T, F, M_0)$

 $\forall t \in T, \quad \forall M \in [M_0\rangle, \quad \exists M' \in [M\rangle, \quad M' \stackrel{t}{\longrightarrow}$ 

#### Liveness as invariant

#### Lemma

If  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  is live and  $M \in [M_0)$ , then (P, T, F, M) is live.

Let  $t \in T$  and  $M' \in [M\rangle$ .

Since  $M \in [M_0\rangle$ , then  $M' \in [M_0\rangle$ .

Since  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  is live,  $\exists M'' \in [M'\rangle$  with  $M'' \stackrel{t}{\longrightarrow}$ .

Therefore (P, T, F, M) is live.

# Recall: Deadlock freedom, formally

#### $(P, T, F, M_0)$

 $\forall M \in [M_0\rangle, \quad \exists t \in T, \quad M \xrightarrow{t}$ 

# Deadlock freedom as invariant

**Lemma**: If  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  is deadlock-free and  $M \in [M_0\rangle$ , then (P, T, F, M) is deadlock-free.

Let  $M' \in [M\rangle$ .

Since  $M \in [M_0\rangle$ , then  $M' \in [M_0\rangle$ .

Since  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  is deadlock-free,  $\exists t \in T$  with  $M' \stackrel{t}{\longrightarrow}$ .

Therefore (P, T, F, M) is deadlock-free.

#### Exercise

#### Give the formal definition of Boundedness

#### Then prove that Boundedness is an invariant

Or give a counter-example

#### Exercise

#### Give the formal definition of Cyclicity

#### Then prove that Cyclicity is an invariant

Or give a counter-example

#### Structural invariants

In the case of Petri nets, it is possible to compute certain vectors of **rational** numbers<sup>(\*)</sup> (directly from the structure of the net) (independently from the initial marking) which induce nice invariants, called

S-invariants

#### **T-invariants**

(\*) it is not necessary to consider real-valued solutions, because incidence matrices only have integer entries

# Why invariants?

Can be calculated efficiently (polynomial time for a basis)

Independent of initial marking

Structural property with behavioural consequences

However, the main reason is didactical! You only truly understand a model if you think about it in terms of invariants!



#### S-invariants
# S-invariant (aka place-invariant)

**Definition**: An **S-invariant** of a net N=(P,T,F) is a rational-valued solution **x** of the equation

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{0}$$



### Example



Find some/all S-invariants for the net above



Find some/all S-invariants for the net above  $\mathcal{N}$  $\begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$  $\begin{cases} x_1 -x_2 &= 0 & x_1 = x_2 \\ -x_1 +x_2 +x_3 & -x_5 &= 0 & \checkmark & \\ & -x_3 +x_4 &= 0 & x_3 = x_4 \\ & & -x_4 +x_5 &= 0 & x_4 = x_5 \\ & & x_3 -x_4 &= 0 & \checkmark & [n \ n \ m \ m \ m \ m] \end{cases}$ 

# Fundamental property of S-invariants

**Proposition**: Let I be an invariant of N.

For any  $M \in [M_0]$  we have  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M = \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0$ 



# Fundamental property of S-invariants

**Proposition**: Let I be an invariant of N.

For any  $M \in [M_0\rangle$  we have  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M = \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0$ Since  $M \in [M_0\rangle$ , there is  $\sigma$  s.t.  $M_0 \xrightarrow{\sigma} M$ By the marking equation:  $M = M_0 + \mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ 

Therefore: 
$$\mathbf{I} \cdot M = \mathbf{I} \cdot (M_0 + \mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma})$$
  
 $= \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0 + \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$   
 $= \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0 + \mathbf{0} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$   
 $= \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0$ 



# Place-invariant, intuitively

A place-invariant assigns a **weight to each place** such that the weighted token sum remains constant during any computation

For example, you can imagine that tokens are coins, places are the different kinds of available coins, the S-invariant assigns a value to each coin: the value of a marking is the sum of the values of the tokens/coins in it and it is not changed by firings

# Place-invariant, intuitively

A place-invariant assigns a **weight to each place** such that the weighted token sum remains constant during any computation

For example, you can imagine that tokens are molecules, places are different kinds of molecules, the S-invariant assigns the number of atoms needed to form each molecule:

the overall number of atoms is not changed by firings





















### Linear combination

#### **Proposition:**

Any linear combination of S-invariants is an S-invariant

Take any two S-Invariants  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  and any two values  $k_1, k_2$ . We want to prove that  $k_1 I_1 + k_2 I_2$  is an S-invariant.

$$(k_1 \mathbf{I}_1 + k_2 \mathbf{I}_2) \cdot \mathbf{N} = k_1 \mathbf{I}_1 \cdot \mathbf{N} + k_2 \mathbf{I}_2 \cdot \mathbf{N}$$
$$= k_1 \mathbf{0} + k_2 \mathbf{0}$$
$$= \mathbf{0}$$

# Alternative definition of S-invariant

**Proposition**:

A mapping  $\mathbf{I}: P \to \mathbb{Q}$  is an S-invariant of N iff for any  $t \in T$ :

$$\sum_{p \in \bullet t} \mathbf{I}(p) = \sum_{p \in t \bullet} \mathbf{I}(p)$$

#### Exercise

Prove the proposition about the alternative characterization of S-invariants

# Consequence of alternative definition

Very useful in proving S-invariance!

The check is possible without constructing the incidence matrix

It can also help to build S-invariants directly over the picture




























### Exercises

## Define two (linearly independent) S-invariants for each of the nets below



# S-invariants and system properties

# Semi-positive S-invariants

The **support** of **I** is: 
$$\langle \mathbf{I} \rangle = \{ p \mid \mathbf{I}(p) > 0 \}$$

The S-invariant I is **positive** if  $\mathbf{I} \succ \mathbf{0}$  all entries are positive (i.e.  $\mathbf{I}(p) > 0$  for any place  $p \in P$ ) (i.e.  $\langle \mathbf{I} \rangle = P$ )

A (semi-positive) S-invariant whose coefficients are all 0 and 1 is called **uniform** 

### Note

Notation: 
$$\bullet S = \bigcup_{s \in S} \bullet s$$

### Every semi-positive invariant satisfies the equation

transitions that produce tokens in some places of the support  $\bullet \langle I \rangle = \langle I \rangle \bullet$  transitions that consume tokens from some places of the support

#### pre-sets of support equal post-sets of support

(the result holds for both S-invariants and T-invariants)

# A sufficient condition for boundedness

#### Theorem:

If  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  has a positive S-invariant then it is bounded

Let  $M \in [M_0\rangle$  and let I be a positive S-invariant.

Let  $p \in P$ . Then  $\mathbf{I}(p)M(p) \leq \mathbf{I} \cdot M = \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0$ 

Since I is positive, we can divide by I(p):  $M(p) \leq (I \cdot M_0)/I(p)$ 

 $\mathbf{I} \cdot M = \sum_{q \in P} \mathbf{I}(q) M(q)$ 

# Consequences of previous theorem

By exhibiting a positive S-invariant we can prove that the system is **bounded for any initial marking** 

Note that all places in the support of a semi-positive S-invariant are **bounded for any initial marking** 

$$M(p) \le \frac{\mathbf{I} \cdot M_0}{\mathbf{I}(p)}$$

this value is independent from the reachable marking M

# Example

To prove that the system is bounded we can just exhibit a positive S-invariant



# Example

How many tokens are at most in p<sub>3</sub>?



$$I = [1 \ 1 \ 2]$$
$$\frac{\mathbf{I} \cdot M_0}{\mathbf{I}(p_3)} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

### Exercises

#### Find a positive S-invariant for the net below



# A necessary condition for liveness

#### Theorem:

If  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  is live then for every semi-positive invariant I:

$$\mathbf{I} \cdot M_0 > 0$$

Let  $p \in \langle \mathbf{I} \rangle$  and take any  $t \in \bullet p \cup p \bullet$ .

By liveness, there are  $M, M' \in [M_0\rangle$  with  $M \xrightarrow{t} M'$ 

Then, M(p) > 0 (if  $t \in p\bullet$ ) or M'(p) > 0 (if  $t \in \bullet p$ )

If M(p) > 0, then  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M \ge \mathbf{I}(p)M(p) > 0$ If M'(p) > 0, then  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M' \ge \mathbf{I}(p)M'(p) > 0$ 

In any case,  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M_0 = \mathbf{I} \cdot M = \mathbf{I} \cdot M' > 0$ 



# Consequence of previous theorem

If we find a semi-positive invariant such that

$$\mathbf{I} \cdot M_0 = 0$$

Then we can conclude that the system is not live

## Example

the system is not live

It is immediate to check the counter-example



# Markings that agree on all S-invariant

**Definition**: M and M' **agree on all S-invariants** if for every S-invariant I we have  $I \cdot M = I \cdot M'$ 

**Note**: by properties of linear algebra, this corresponds to require that the equation on  $\mathbf{y}$  $M + \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{y} = M'$  has some rational-valued solution

**Remark**: In general, there can exist M and M' that agree on all S-invariants but such that none of them is reachable from the other

# A necessary condition for reachability

Reachability is decidable, but computationally expensive (EXPSPACE-hard)

#### S-invariants provide a preliminary check that can be computed efficiently

Let  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  be a system.

If there is an S-invariant I s.t.  $\mathbf{I} \cdot M \neq \mathbf{I} \cdot M_0$  then  $M \notin [M_0 \rangle$ 

If the equation  $\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{y} = M - M_0$  has no rational-valued solution, then  $M \notin [M_0\rangle$ 

## Example

Prove that the marking M = prod1free + cons1busy is not reachable



## S-invariants: recap

Positive S-invariant => boundedness Unboundedness => no positive S-invariant

Semi-positive S-invariant I and liveness  $=> I \cdot M_0 > 0$ Semi-positive S-invariant I and  $I \cdot M_0 = 0$  => non-live

S-invariant I and M reachable  $= I \cdot M = I \cdot M_0$ S-invariant I and I  $\cdot M \neq I \cdot M_0$  = M not reachable

# S-invariants: pay attention to implication

No positive S-invariant => maybe unbounded

Semi-positive S-invariant I and  $I \cdot M_0 > 0 =>$  maybe live

S-invariant I and I  $\cdot$  M = I  $\cdot$  M<sub>0</sub> => maybe M reachable

### Exercises

#### Can you find a positive S-invariant?



### Exercises

## Prove that the system is not live by exhibiting a suitable S-invariant



### T-invariants

# Dual reasoning

### The S-invariants of a net N are vectors satisfying the equation

#### $\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{0}$

It seems natural to ask if we can find some interesting properties also for the vectors satisfying the equation

$$\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$$

# T-invariant (aka transition-invariant)

**Definition**: A **T-invariant** of a net N=(P,T,F) is a rational-valued solution **y** of the equation

$$\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$$



# Fundamental property of T-invariants

**Proposition**: Let  $M \xrightarrow{\sigma} M'$ .

The Parikh vector  $\vec{\sigma}$  is a T-invariant iff M' = M

 $\Rightarrow$ ) By the marking equation lemma  $M' = M + \mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ Since  $\vec{\sigma}$  is a T-invariant  $\mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \mathbf{0}$ , thus M' = M.

 $\Leftarrow ) \text{ If } M \xrightarrow{\sigma} M, \text{ by the marking equation lemma } M = M + \mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ Thus  $\mathbf{N} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = M - M = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\vec{\sigma}$  is a T-invariant

# Transition-invariant, intuitively

A transition-invariant assigns a **number of occurrences to each transition** such that any occurrence sequence comprising exactly those transitions leads to the same marking where it started (independently from the order of execution)



# Alternative definition of T-invariant

**Proposition**:

A mapping  $\mathbf{J}: T \to \mathbb{Q}$  is a T-invariant of N iff for any  $p \in P$ :

$$\sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) = \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Which of the following are T-invariants?



$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$



$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Which of the following are T-invariants?





$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Which of the following are T-invariants?





$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Which of the following are T-invariants? t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub> t<sub>3</sub> t<sub>4</sub> t<sub>5</sub> 1 [1 0 0 1 1] [1 1 2 1 2] p2 t1 t2 p5 [1 1 1 0 2] 1 [1 1 1 1 2] t5 р3 t4 t3 p4 [0 1 1 0 1]

$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Which of the following are T-invariants? t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub> t<sub>3</sub> t<sub>4</sub> t<sub>5</sub> [1 0 0 1 1] [1 1 2 1 2] p2 t1 t2 p5 [1 1 1 0 2] [1 1 1 1 2] t5 р3 t3 t4 p4 1

$$\forall p \in P, \ \sum_{t \in \bullet p} \mathbf{J}(t) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{t \in p \bullet} \mathbf{J}(t)$$

# T-invariants and system properties

# Pigeonhole principle

If n items are put into m slots, with n > m, then at least one slot must contain more than one item



# Reproduction lemma

**Lemma**: Let  $(P, T, F, M_0)$  be a bounded system. If  $M_0 \xrightarrow{\sigma}$  for some infinite sequence  $\sigma$ , then there is a semi-positive T-invariant J such that  $\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle \subseteq \{ t \mid t \in \sigma \}$ .

Assume 
$$\sigma = t_1 t_2 t_3 \dots$$
 and  $M_0 \xrightarrow{t_1} M_1 \xrightarrow{t_2} M_2 \xrightarrow{t_3} \dots$ 

By boundedness:  $[M_0\rangle$  is finite.

By the pigeonhole principle, there are  $0 \le i < j$  s.t.  $M_i = M_j$ Let  $\sigma' = t_{i+1}...t_j$ . Then  $M_i \xrightarrow{\sigma'} M_j = M_i$ 

By the marking equation lemma:  $\vec{\sigma'}$  is a T-invariant. (fund. prop. of T-inv.) It is semi-positive, because  $\sigma'$  is not empty (i < j). Clearly,  $\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle$  only includes transitions in  $\sigma$ .

# Boundedness, liveness and positive T-invariant

## **Theorem:** If a bounded system is live, then it has a positive T-invariant

By boundedness:  $[M_0\rangle$  is finite and we let  $k = |[M_0\rangle|$ .

By liveness:  $M_0 \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} M_1$  with  $\vec{\sigma_1}(t) > 0$  for any  $t \in T$ Similarly:  $M_1 \xrightarrow{\sigma_2} M_2$  with  $\vec{\sigma_2}(t) > 0$  for any  $t \in T$ Similarly:  $M_0 \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} M_1 \xrightarrow{\sigma_2} M_2 \dots \xrightarrow{\sigma_k} M_k$ 

By the pigeonhole principle, there are  $0 \le i < j \le k$  s.t.  $M_i = M_j$ Let  $\sigma = \sigma_{i+1}...\sigma_j$ . Then  $M_i \xrightarrow{\sigma} M_j = M_i$ 

By the marking equation lemma:  $\vec{\sigma}$  is a T-invariant. (fund. prop. of T-inv.) It is positive, because  $\vec{\sigma}(t) \ge \vec{\sigma_j}(t) > 0$  for any  $t \in T$ .
# Corollary of previous theorem

Every live and bounded system has:

a reachable marking M and an occurrence sequence  $M \xrightarrow{\sigma} M$ 

such that all transitions of N occur in  $\sigma.$ 

### T-invariants: recap

Boundedness + liveness => positive T-invariant

No positive T-invariant => non (live + bounded) No positive T-invariant => non-live OR unbounded No positive T-invariant + liveness => unbounded No positive T-invariant + boundedness => non-live No positive T-inv. + positive S-inv. => non-live

# T-invariants: pay attention to implication

No positive T-invariant

=> maybe non live

#### Exercises

#### Exhibit a system that has a positive T-invariant but is not live and bounded

Exhibit a live system that has a positive T-invariant but is not bounded