

System Specification

Extended Petri net Simulator

Group A

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Abstract

This document includes the requirements for the Software Engineering 2 project, which consists of an Extended Petri net software system.

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1 Introduction

Author: *Thibaud, Albert*

Petri nets, as graphical and mathematical tools, provide a uniform environment for modeling, formal analysis, and design of discrete event systems. [?]

Petri nets are used as a means to model systems, but, as they are a mathematical concept, they are not always easy to understand for the ordinary user. Complex systems can be modeled with Petri nets, and usually, this would be an engineer's job. Even though engineers can easily create and understand their own Petri nets, every team member in a company would like to be able to understand what a Petri net is about without having any knowledge of the concepts behind them.

Therefore, the project aims at creating a 3D visualization from a Petri net, to allow non-Petri net experts to actually understand how the model works and validate a system.

However, Petri nets were not intended to have a 3D representation. For instance, there is no graphical concept or way to say that a particular Petri net would look like a train track because it was used to model a railway system.

Thus, our goal for this project is the following: Providing an extension to Petri net models to make their 3D visualization possible. For this purpose, we have thought of a software solution that creates a simple link between a Petri net and a 3D visualization.

This document will describe in details how we are going to make this software. The next section will describe the overall purpose of the software and explain further about Petri nets. In section 3 and 4 the features of the system, with requirements for these, will be described. Section 5 will describe how the user interface of the software is going to be and how the user will use the software. Lastly, section 6 will provide the reader with information about the architecture of the product and the models for the different parts of the final product are shown and explained.

1.1 Audience

The audience of this document are persons affiliated with the company that models and simulates Petri net, developers of the system and final users of the Extended Petri net Simulator.

2 Overall description

This section describes the software and provides a brief explanation on how the system works.

2.1 What are Petri nets?

Petri nets are a graphical and mathematical modeling tool for describing concurrent and distributed systems. Some examples of their applications are work flow management, embedded systems or traffic control. The main advantages of Petri nets are their graphical notation, their simple semantics, and their rich theory for analyzing their behavior. However, using the graphical notation of Petri nets for understanding a complex system is quite hard, and thus a user-oriented visualization is required in a way that is understandable to users which are not necessarily familiar with Petri nets.

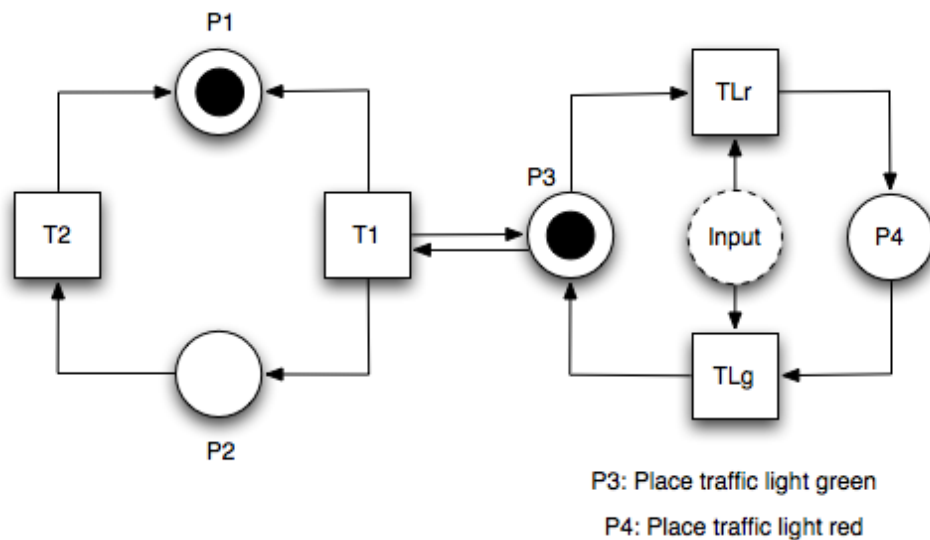


Figure 1: An example of a basic Petri net

Figure 1 presents an example of a basic Petri net. There are four different elements:

- Places: graphically represented by circles, represent conditions.
- Transitions: graphically represented by squares, represent events.
- Arcs: indicate which places are preconditions/postconditions for which transitions.
- Tokens: graphically represented by the dots, represent the elements that are created and deleted in the Petri net along the places through the transitions.

As an example we can see Figure 1 as a model for a railway with a traffic light. The token in Place P1 represents a train moving on a railway. When this train arrives to Place P1, the transition T1 will fire if there is also a token in Place P3. The only condition for a transition to be fired is that a token should be present on each of the incoming places of the transition.

In this scenario, the conditions are met, as the required token is in Place P3. The visualization of this scenario would be a traffic light with a green light. If instead Place P4 had a token on it and no token in P3, it would be a red light and the train would not be able to move.

With the aim of creating a visualization of the scenarios for the above Petri net model, an application tool is needed in order to allow the user to define where each of the elements are represented in the 3D world (geometry editor) as well as how these elements are represented (shape) and how they behave (animation).

2.2 Adding geometry to Petri nets

The problem this project is tackled with is simple: We need a way to link the Petri net model to a 3D visualization, this is, to add extra information so that it can be visualized. Once a Petri net model is created and its real life design is well-designed in the user's mind, what we call a "Geometry" and "Appearance" are created.

Once a Petri net model is created the user will be able to add a geometry and an appearance to it, in order to specify how the Petri net will look in the 3D visualization.

For this purpose, there is a need of a geometry editor which will be used to assign a two dimensional location to the elements defined in the Petri net, and of an appearance editor to take care of the shape of the elements.

2.3 Adding appearance to Petri net objects

Once the geometry for the Petri net is defined, a shape for each object should be defined. For instance, places represent tracks and the 3D object or a shape and a texture should be linked to that place. The same applies to the transitions and tokens.

For this purpose, there is a need of an appearance editor which will be used to assign 3D visualization features to the elements defined in the Petri net.

The next step in visualizing Petri nets is add descriptive visuals. With the information provided by the Petri net, geometry and appearance as defined in the configuration file, the simulation is set up.

2.4 Configuration

Before running the simulation, a definition of how the models discussed above are connected is needed. This is done in the configuration step as well as the validity check for the Petri net's connections to the geometry.

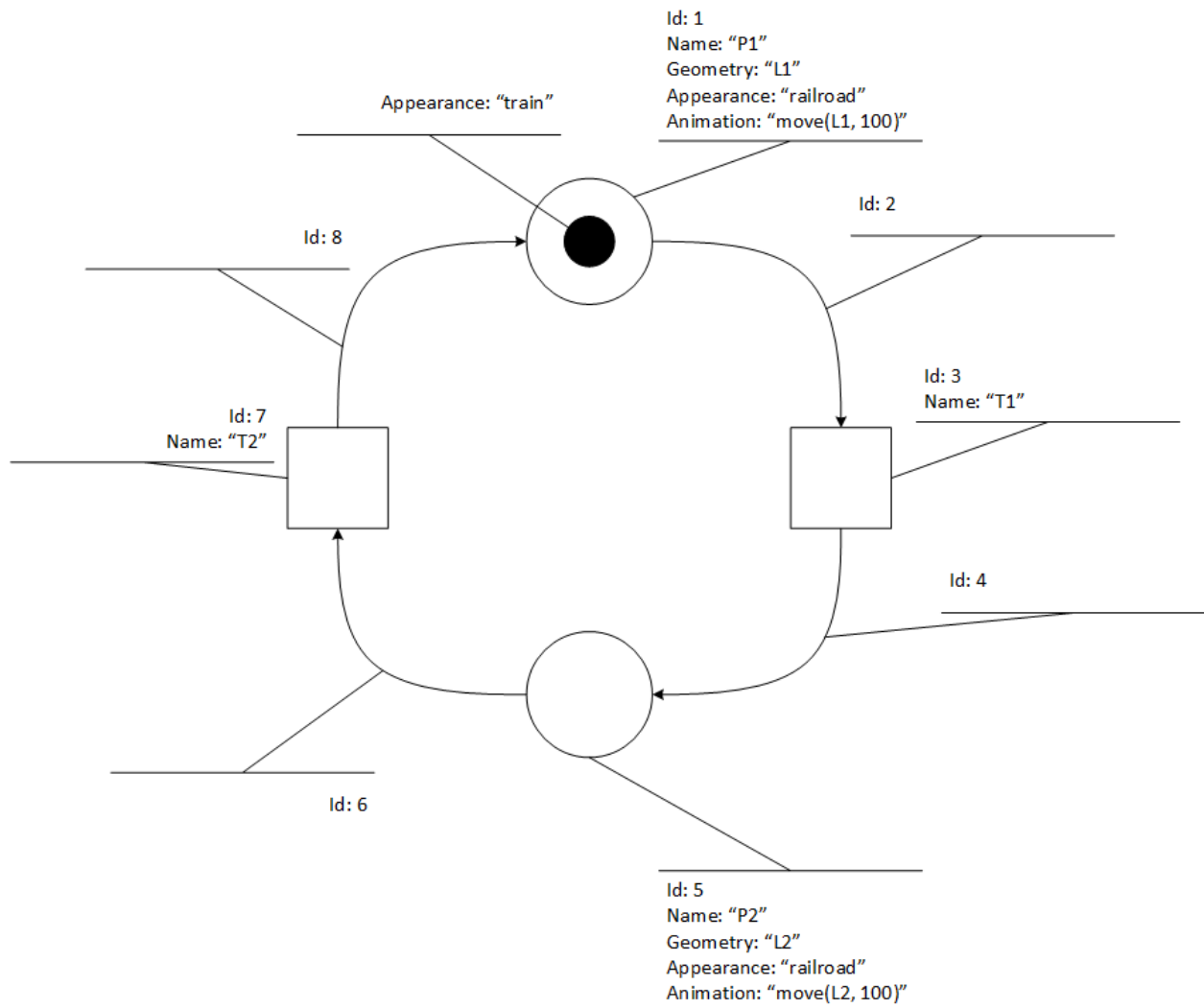


Figure 2: A simple extended Petri net

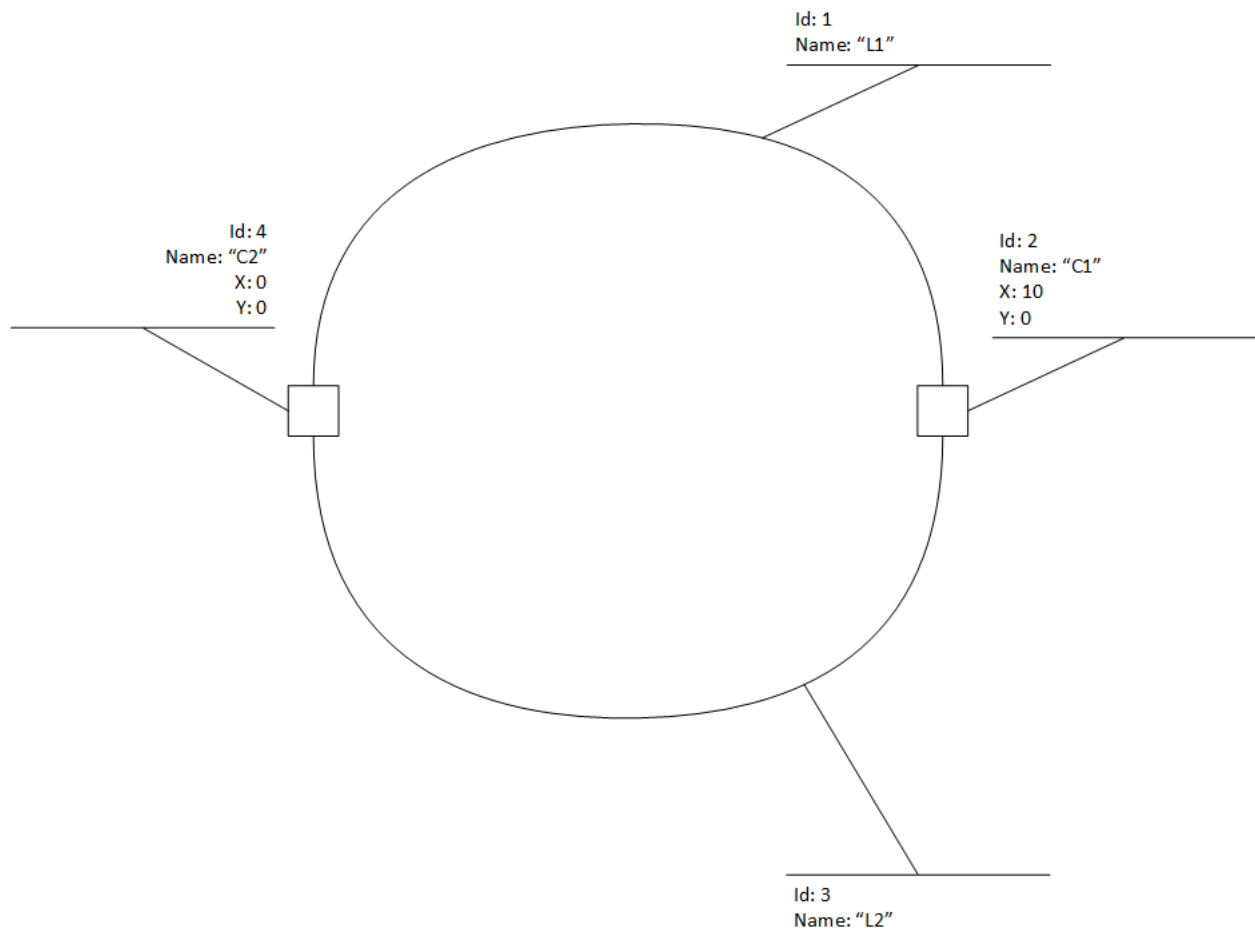


Figure 3: A simple geometry

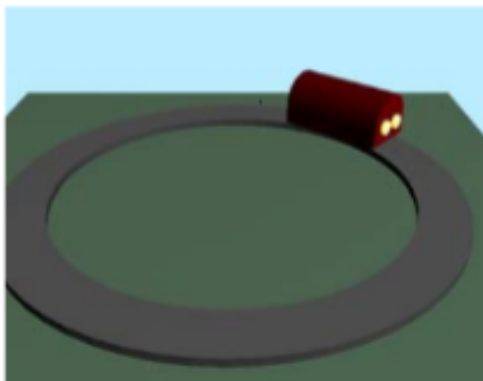


Figure 4: A simple 3D visualization

2.5 Simulating Petri nets

Using 3D models, textures and animations, the Petri net becomes easier to understand for the user. Continuing with the railway example, tokens become trains that move on tracks, which are places. As the tokens move from place to place, the train is animated in the 3D visualization along the tracks.

Figures 2 and 3 show how a simple 3D simulation of a train track and a train (Figure 4) is made out of Petri net model and a simple geometry. For example, in the Petri net model (Figure 2), Place P1 contains a geometry label that references its geometry location L1 in the geometry model (Figure 3).

2.6 Basic functionality

This software allows the engineers to create a Petri net 3D Visualization using a combination of the different editors built for this project. The files created with each of the following editors are to be combined using the configuration editor:

Petri net editor, Geometry editor, Appearance editor.

In order to launch a simulation, an user should perform the following actions:

- Create a Petri net model using the **Petri net Editor**. This editor is used to configure the Petri net.
- Create a Geometry model using the **Geometry editor**. This editor is used to map objects from the Petri net model to a corresponding Geometry. Geometries include informations about positions/paths in the 3D space. They may also keep a reference to an Appearance to define their texture and shape.
- Create an Appearance file using the **Appearance editor**. This editor is used to link appearance labels to 3D models. A label corresponds to a specific 3D model file.

Once these three models have been created, the **Configuration editor** is used by the user to connect every model file previously created in order to be able to start a Simulation. To run the simulation, a specific "Run" button is added to the Configuration editor, which starts the Simulator.

The simulator then initializes the **3D Engine** with all the informations needed for the visualization. The 3D Engine then relies on the simulator to know which next move it should perform on the Petri net.

To interact with the simulation, the user can either click or press certain keyboard buttons in the GUI for the visualization or click on some elements in the 3D visualization.

2.7 General product overview and use

The overall description is a brief introduction to how our software is designed. For this purpose, it contains a description of the actors involved in its use, and also a description of how the software works.

The following persons are all actors of our software:

- Petri net engineer: An engineer whose role is to design and develop a Petri net which suits the company needs.
For instance, this could be an engineer working at a railway company and is in charge of modeling the railway system using Petri nets.
- End user: An actor to whom the Petri net 3D-Visualization would be presented, or an actor who is in charge of presenting the Petri net to another.
For instance, this could be a manager wanting to see what a Petri net represents.

The software is built around three different concepts:

- **Editors:** A component responsible for handling the creation and design of one of our models.
 - A Petri net editor to create a Petri net model.
 - A geometry editor to create and edit the geometry of the Petri net.
 - An appearance editor to set the appearance of the objects.
 - A configuration editor to configure the simulation.

An editor is presented to the user as a GUI in an Eclipse window.

- **Simulator:** A simulator is, as its name says, a component capable of simulating a Petri net. The simulator is handling all the decisions regarding the Petri net and its behaviour. It then communicates the decisions to a 3D Engine responsible for the visualization.
- **3D Engine:** A 3D Engine is responsible for the visualization of a Petri net in three dimensions. It receives input from the Petri net simulator, and also communicates to the simulator when a user performs a certain type of action.
For example: the user clicks on a specific Place of the Petri net, this triggers a message from the 3D Engine to the Petri net simulator

Figure 5. shows the different components of our system and their connections.

Moreover, this project also introduces new concepts related to Petri nets, because we are creating an extension to Petri nets.

Regarding **Petri nets**:

- **Input Places:** An Input place is a place on which a user can create a token on Runtime, by interacting with the GUI in the form of a mouseclick. This token can then be used to trigger a transition for instance.
- **Geometry label:** A geometry label maps a place to a corresponding Geometry, defined later. A geometry label simply consists of an id.
- **Animation label:** An animation label describes the event happening on a place when a token is present. Animation labels refer to either movement actions or trigger actions.

A **Geometry** allows the user to specify details about the 3D Space, in which the Petri net is going to be rendered. It must present informations about the positions of the objects but also informations about their looks. For example when the user creates a line in the geometry editor, the line will have the same position in the 3D simulation.

- **Appearance Label:** An appearance label gives the Geometry object a label that provides information about the appearance of the object in the 3D simulation. The label is used to specify which 3D object should represent the Geometry object. One can find informations about appearances by reading further in this section.

Finally, an **Appearance** file maps **Appearance Labels** to **3D models**. To this end, each appearance label used by a Geometry corresponds to a file on the file system. The file is expected to be a 3D model.

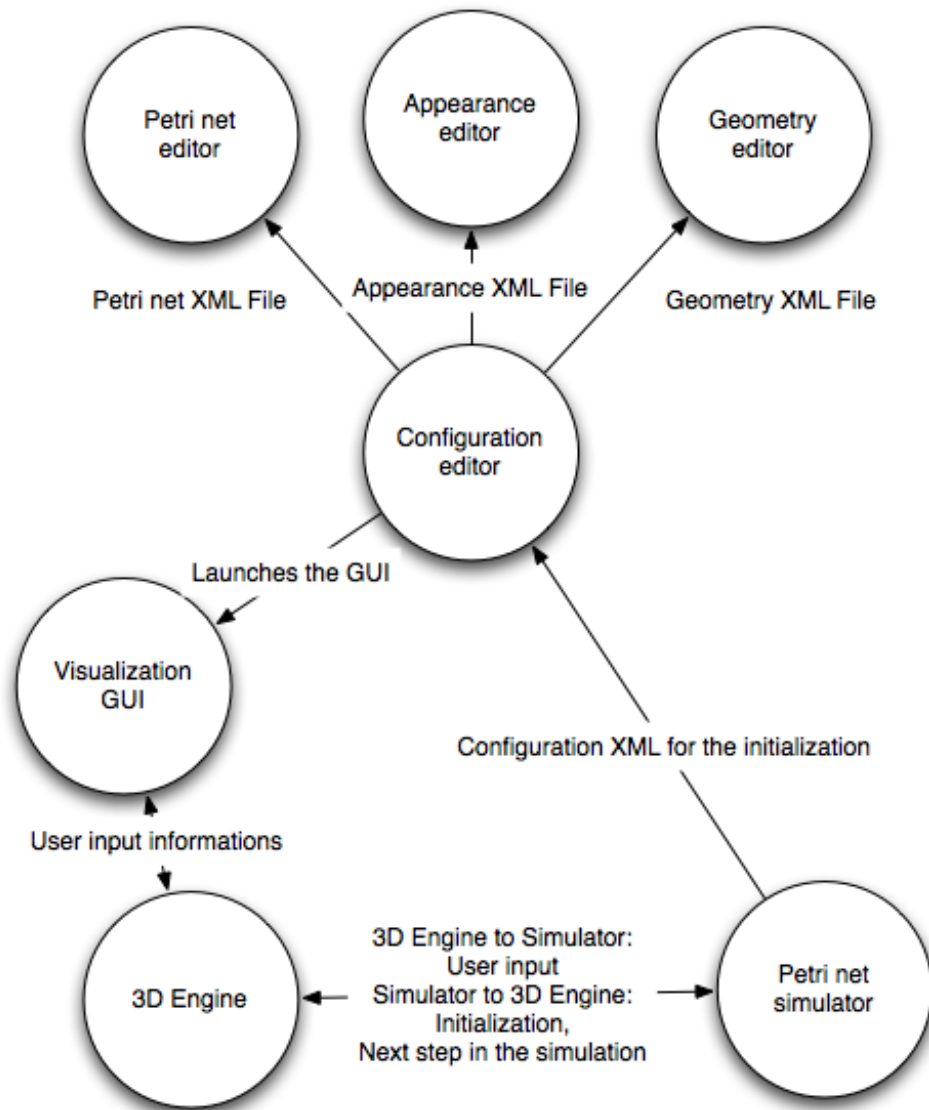


Figure 5: System design

3 System Features

In this section, the main features of the components will be discussed, as well as possible features that may be implemented in future releases of the product. The main functionalities needed by each component in order for the project to work will be discussed into more detail.

The main use cases of the system components are also provided in each subsection in order to describe how the system will be used by the final user.

3.1 Conventions

The priority of the requirements in Section 3 and 4 will be indicated by the keywords **shall**, **should** and **would be nice**:

- **Shall**: Requirements that must be implemented as a minimum; resources must be allocated to these requirements.
- **Should**: Requirements that add more functionality to the software, but are not the core required to work; if possible, resources will be allocated.
- **Would be nice**: Requirements considered good ideas and would be implemented if there are sufficient resources or in later versions of the software.

3.2 Petri net editor

Author: *Albert*

The Petri net editor is a component that will extend the features provided by the *ePNK*, in order to fulfill the requirements of the project. The extended features include *Input Places* and the definition of links between geometry and animation components, defined as *Labels*.

3.2.1 Functional Requirements

1. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete Places.
2. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete Tokens inside Places.
3. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete Transitions.
4. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete Arcs. An arc **shall** connect a Place to a Transition or vice versa.
5. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to define a Geometry label to a Place.
6. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to define an Input Place label to a Place.
7. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to define an Animation label to a Place.
8. The Petri net editor **shall** allow the user to save and load a Petri net model.

9. The Petri net editor **shall** store the Petri net file in a format that can be read by the Simulator.
10. It **would be nice** that the Petri net editor allowed the user to undo and redo actions.
11. It **would be nice** that the Petri net editor allowed the user to copy and paste.

3.2.2 Use cases

The features described above are shown in Figure 6.

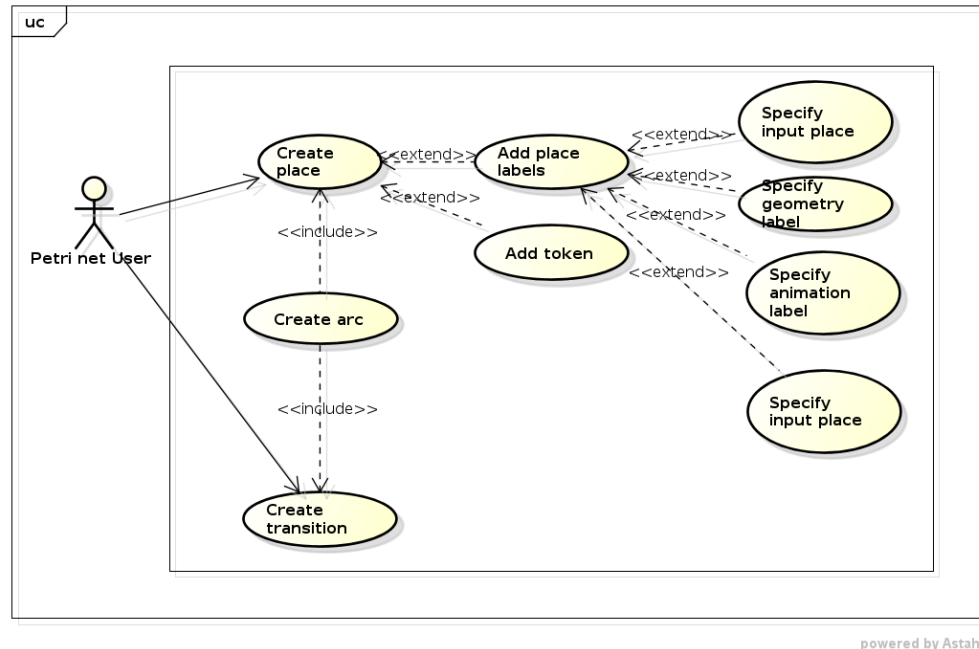


Figure 6: Use cases for the Petri net Editor

3.3 Geometry editor

Author: *Mikko*

The Geometry Editor is a component that will allow the user to create and edit geometry models. Such models consist of geometry objects, namely *lines* and *points* and are defined as a two dimensional representation of the Petri net objects to be simulated. The connection between the geometry and the Petri net objects will be done via the *geometry labels*.

3.3.1 Functional Requirements

1. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete points.

2. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to define points as Input Point, Connector or Bend Point.
3. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to create, edit and delete lines.
4. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to load and save geometry files.
5. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to define labels for geometry objects.
6. The Geometry Editor **shall** allow the user to define appearance labels for Lines and Input Points.
7. The Geometry Editor **should** allow the user to create curved lines.
8. The Geometry Editor **should** allow the user to create, edit and delete bend points for the lines.
9. The Geometry Editor **should** allow the user to use undo and redo.
10. The Geometry Editor **should** allow user to use copy, paste and cut geometry objects.
11. The Geometry Editor **should** have drag and drop interface.
12. It **would be nice** if the Geometry Editor allowed the user to create different kinds of parametric curved lines, such as Catmull-rom spline and Bézier-curves.
13. It **would be nice** if the Geometry Editor allowed the user to zoom and pan the geometry canvas.
14. It **would be nice** if the Geometry Editor allowed the user select multiple geometry objects simultaneously.
15. It **would be nice** if the Geometry Editor allowed the user to load multiple geometries on same canvas.
16. It **would be nice** if the Geometry Editor allowed the user to rotate and scale geometry objects.

3.3.2 Use cases

The features described above are shown in Figure 7.

3.4 Appearance Editor

Author: *Monica*

The Appearance Editor is a component that will allow the user to add visual information such as 3D objects and textures to the Petri net objects to be simulated. The connection between the appearance files and the Petri net objects will be done via the *appearance labels* defined by the user in the Geometry editor (See section 3.3).

Before using the Appearance Editor, the user has to *create* a new or *load* an existing appearance file he/she wants to edit.

3.4.1 Functional Requirements

1. The Appearance Editor **shall** allow the user to create new appearance objects, *AObject*.
2. The Appearance Editor **shall** allow the user to input the name of an appearance label for an *AObject*.
3. It **would be nice** to allow the user to load a Geometry file in order to retrieve all the appearance labels.
4. The Appearance Editor **shall** allow the user to input the path of a predefined 3D object file for an *AObject*.
5. The Appearance Editor **shall** allow the user to input the path of a predefined texture file for an *AObject*.
6. The Appearance Editor **shall** allow the user to save an Appearance file.

3.4.2 Use cases

The features described above are shown in the following use case diagram Figure 8.

3.5 Configuration Editor

Author: *Albert, Monica*

The Configuration Editor is a component that will work as a connector between the Petri net editor (Section 3.2), the Geometry editor (Section 3.3) and the Appearance editor (Section 3.4).

The editor will allow the user to load the corresponding files, created in the previous editors, that will make it possible for the simulation to be started. In order to use the Configuration Editor, the user has to *create* a new or *load* an existing appearance file he/she wants to edit.

3.5.1 Functional Requirements

1. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to load a Petri net doc file as a resource.
2. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to assign the loaded Petri net doc file as a value to the Configuration's Petrinet property.
3. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to load a Geometry file as a resource.
4. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to assign the loaded Geometry file as a value to the Configuration's Geometry property.

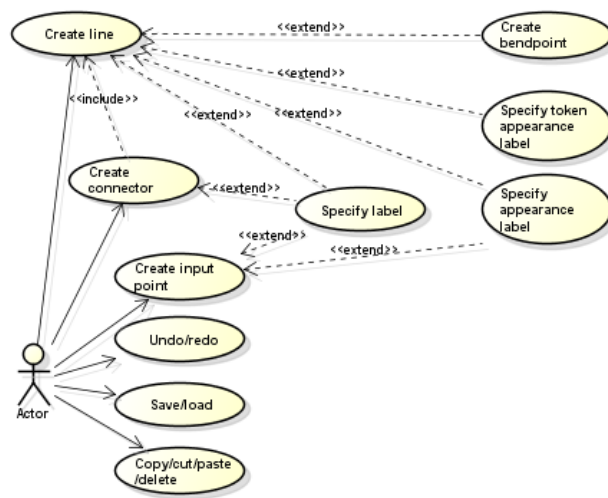


Figure 7: Use cases for the Geometry Editor

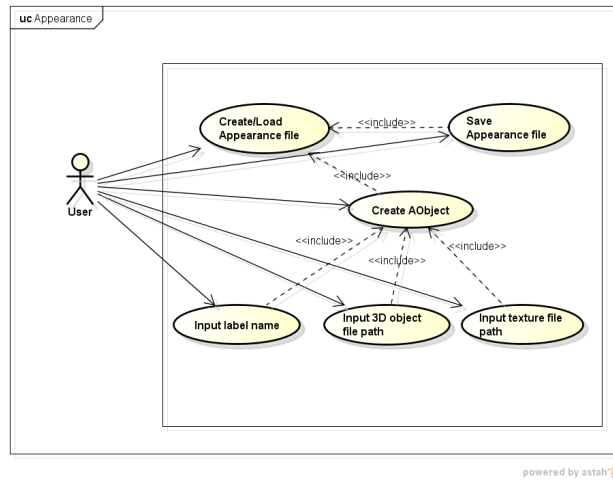


Figure 8: Use cases for the Appearance Editor

5. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to load an Appearance file as a resource.
6. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to assign the loaded Appearance file as a value to the Configuration's Appearance property.
7. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to start a simulation with the referenced Petri net, Geometry and Appearance resources.
8. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to validate that all the needed files have been loaded.
9. The Configuration Editor **shall** allow the user to save a Configuration file.

3.5.2 Use cases

The features described above are shown in the following use case diagram Figure 9.

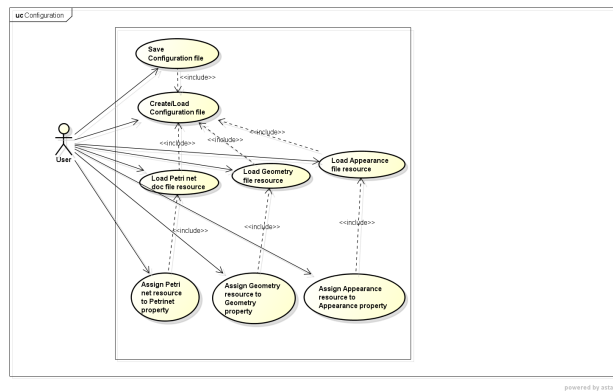


Figure 9: Use cases for the Configuration Editor

3.6 3D Simulator

Author: *Anders*

The 3D Simulator will show the animated Petri net, while allowing the user to control start/stop the simulation, the camera perspective of the simulation, add tokens to the simulation and control the speed. The functionality of the 3D simulator can be specified using the following statements.

3.6.1 Functional Requirements

1. The Simulator **shall** allow the user to start the simulation.
2. The Simulator **shall** allow the user to pause the simulation.
3. The Simulator **shall** allow the user to reset the simulation.

4. The Simulator **shall** allow the user to add tokens on input places by interaction with the 3D animation.
5. The Simulator **shall** allow the user to exit the simulation.
6. The Simulator **should** allow the user to change the perspective of the view.
7. It **would be nice** if the Simulator allowed the user to take screenshots.
8. It **would be nice** if the Simulator allowed the user to forward the simulation.
9. It **would be nice** if the Simulator allowed the user to rewind the simulation.

3.6.2 Use cases

The features described above are shown in Figure 10.

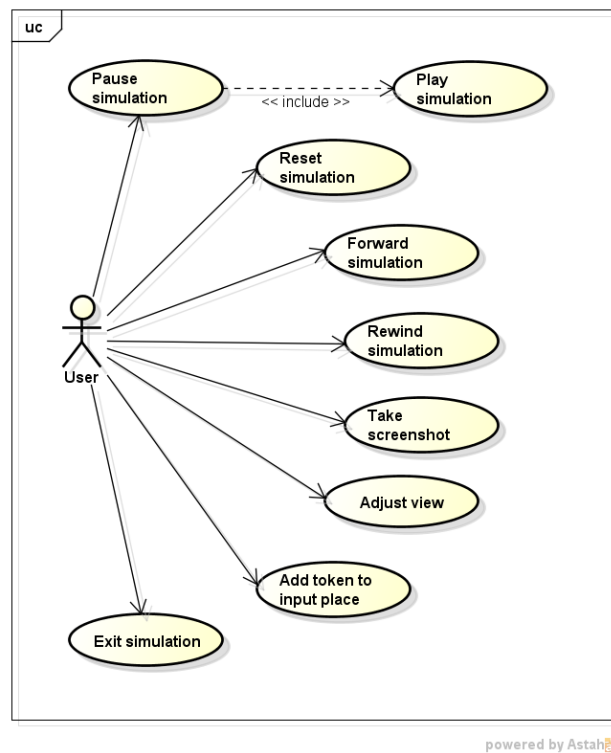


Figure 10: Use cases for the 3D Simulator

4 Non functional requirements

Author: *Mikko*

In addition to implementing the required functionality of the product, a number of non-functional requirements were also taken into account. This sections describes into more detail the latter.

4.1 Implementation constraints

The software must be implemented as plug-in to the Eclipse framework and it is based on the following technologies:

1. Eclipse Modeling Framework, EMF v. 2.91
2. Graphical Modeling Framework, GMF 3.91
3. Graphical Editing Framework, GEF 1.70
4. ePNK v. 1.0.0
5. JMonkey v. 3.0

4.2 Documentation

Development must be documented and documentations must be delivered according to the following deadlines:

1. Project definition, week 39
2. UML diagrams, week 41
3. System specification, week 44
4. Handbook, draft, week 47
5. Test documentation, week 51
6. Final documentation, week 51

4.3 Quality Assurance

The procedures that ensure the quality of this software product are described in the following section.

1. Quality of documentation
 - (a) Each part of the document is realized by multiple persons in order to decrease the amount of typical errors.

- (b) Each part of the documentation is reviewed and feedback is given by each member of the team. Depending on the feedback, appropriate measures are taken and the documentation is edited.
 - (c) Internal deadlines for documentation are set, so that there is enough time allocated for internal reviews before the real deadline.
2. Quality of implementation
- (a) Each implementation is reviewed by at least two persons in order to decrease the amount of typical errors.
 - (b) Commenting on manually generated code shall use the Javadoc standard.
 - (c) A test strategy shall be developed to test the implementation. It will consist of component and functional testing. Component testing will be performed by doing unit tests on manually created methods. Functional testing will be done by performing common user cases and compare the result to the expected results.

4.4 Performance requirements

The software can be expected to fulfill following performance requirements.

1. Satisfactory response times for geometry and PetriNet editor related commands are immediate.
2. Satisfactory response time for simulator related commands should be immediate for small models. No upper boundary for the size of the model is made. Thus response time for larger models will gradually approach infinity depending on the size of the model.
3. Generally the amount of user request as scale of time is small. When the relative amount of requests is large they are simple, such as writing in editors, and when the relative amount of requests is small they are more advanced, such as play command for 3D simulator.
4. The number of user per software will be one.

4.5 Usability requirements

The software can be expected to fulfill following usability or ease of use requirements.

1. Editors and simulator should have familiar interfaces, so that learning to use them is efficient as possible.
2. The less the user needs to know about software and still be able to use it effectively the less technical oriented the user needs to be. Thus increasing the availability to the software.
3. The software is divided into multiple parts in order to enable users with different levels of expertise to contribute in working with the software.
4. User input should tend towards point-and-click style of usage.

5 User Interface

Author: *Morten*

The following section will describe how the Graphical User Interface (GUI) of the Petri net editor, Geometry editor, Appearance editor, Configuration editor and the Simulation tool should look like. How to execute different tasks in the editors, such as creating and editing Geometries and Petri nets, will be described in the handbook.

The different editors will strive towards being intuitive for the targeted user, e.g. the Geometry editor should be easy to use for the non-technical user, while the Petri net editor should be intuitive for the Petri net engineer.

We are not that far in the actual implementation process to show concrete examples of the GUI. Instead, illustrations of the expected GUI will be shown.

5.1 Technologies

The editors will be implemented as extensions to Eclipse, which allows us to use the different functionalities that comes with Eclipse. The functionalities listed below are all part of Eclipse and will be used for this software.

- **Editor:** Used for the Petri net editor and the Geometry editor. Gives the user the ability to create and edit Petri nets and geometries.
- **View:** Used to show properties of the object selected in the editor and the project files.
- **Dialog:** A pop-up window used when the user has to specify a property of an object or to select textures or 3D files in the Appearance editor.
- **Wizard:** A pop-up window with several pages that guides the user to fill out information correctly. Used to set up the configuration for the simulator.

The use of these features will be further explained in the user handbook.

5.2 Graphical User Interface

This section will describe the GUI for the editors and the simulation tool.

5.2.1 Petri net editor & Geometry editor

The Petri net and Geometry editors are very much alike. They have the same composition and only the objects that can be drawn on the canvas are different. Both editors consist of a toolbar, a view with the project files, a view with the properties of the selected object, a canvas and an object toolbar belonging to the canvas. Illustrations of the Petri net and Geometry editors can be seen in figure 11 and figure 12 respectively.

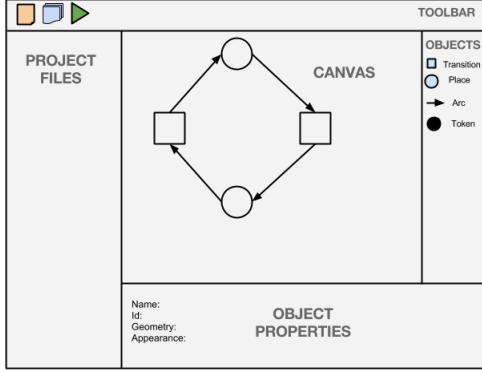


Figure 11: An illustration of the Petri net editor GUI.

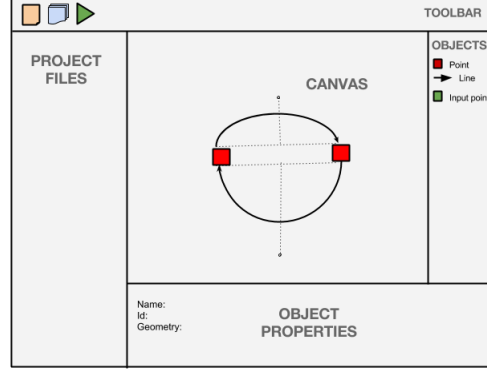


Figure 12: An illustration of the Geometry editor GUI.

5.2.2 Toolbar

The toolbar on top allows the user to **Load** and **Save** Petri nets as well as Geometries. The **Play** button allows the user to run the simulation tool anytime he or she wants to, given that the configuration is set up correctly.

5.2.3 Project files

On the left side, the user will have a view where all the files associated to the project are shown. This view will be able to identify the type of each file and, when the user opens one of the files, the editor associated to the file type will open accordingly.

5.2.4 Canvas

The canvas is the place where the user can draw the Petri net and Geometry models respectively. The user drags an object from the Object toolbar and places it on the canvas. The user can edit the position of the different objects by dragging them around the canvas. Furthermore, the connections between the objects can be edited by dragging lines between two objects (while following the rules of the Petri net). The user will be able to see the graphical representation of the Petri net in the Petri net Editor and the graphical representation of the geometry in the Geometry Editor.

5.2.5 Objects

To create and modify the Petri net and/or the geometry, the user will be able to drag objects from the toolbar into the canvas. The toolbar will only contain the objects that correspond to the current editor (e.g. *places* in the Petri net Editor and *lines* in the Geometry Editor). Each object will have a dedicated icon in order to increase the usability of the GUIs.

5.2.6 Object properties

Each object has different properties that can be defined by the user. The user can modify these properties in the properties view whenever an object is selected. More details about the properties of the objects in each editor are specified in the (Section 3).

5.2.7 Appearance editor

Figure 13 is an illustration of how the appearance editor will look like. The user has previously specified, in the Petri net editor, the appearance labels for each object. The appearance can either be a texture to a surface or a 3D object. In the appearance editor, the user will be able to specify which files should be associated to which label.

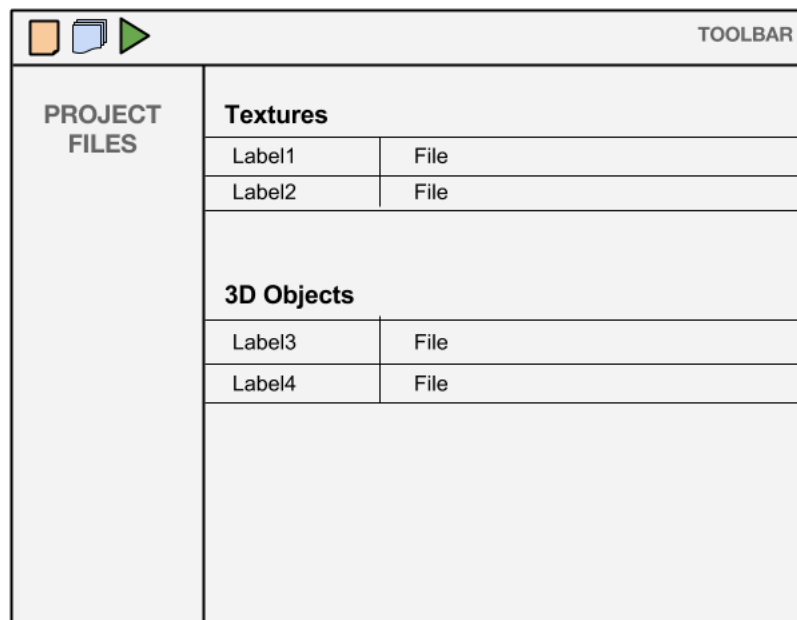


Figure 13: An illustration of the Appearance editor GUI.

5.2.8 Configuration wizard

The configuration wizard tool helps the user to set up the simulation. The configuration wizard will be a pop-up window with several pages where the user has to specify a file for: Petri net, Geometry and Appearance models. The wizard will then validate whether these files match each other. If they do, the user will be able to run the 3D simulation.

5.2.9 Simulation tool

When the user has run the Configuration wizard successfully he will be able to run the 3D simulation. The 3D simulation opens in a new window. This window has a **play/pause** button that changes according to the play state; if the simulation state is play the button will be a pause symbol and the other way around. The window also has a **reset** button that allows the user to reset the simulation. The user will be able to interact with the simulation, therefore the user will be able to use the mouse to click on different objects. The user will also be able to use the mouse to change the camera perspective.

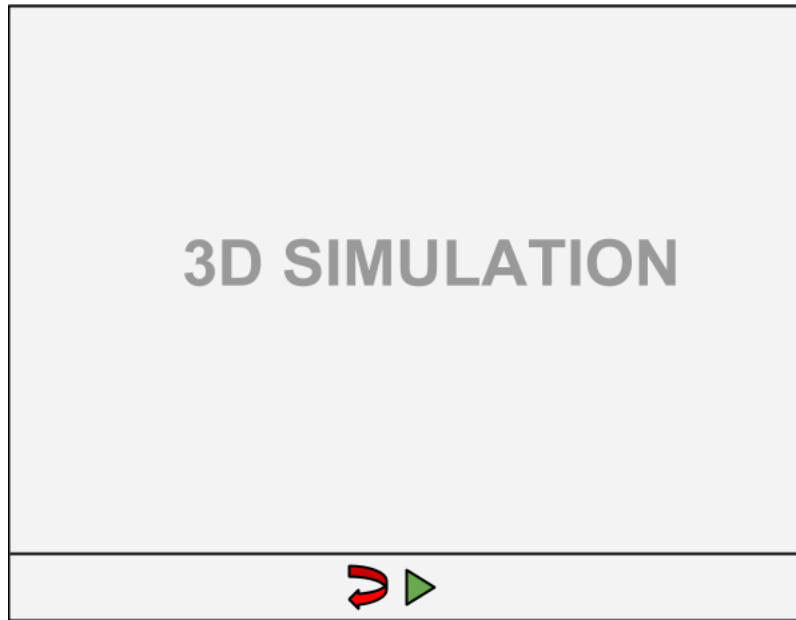


Figure 14: An illustration of the Simulation tool.

5.3 Handbook

Since the implementation of this software is only in the beginning stages, the following topics will be an estimation of how the mentioned tasks will be executed. The actual implementation of the software will strive towards being able to do the tasks in this handbook. The handbook is a list of typical questions a user will have to the most important parts of this software. A step-by-step guide to solve each of these questions is provided to the reader.

5.3.1 How do I create a Petri net?

In the Project files explorer Right-click and choose New > Petri net File A pop-up window will appear where the user can specify the file name. The new Petri net file will appear in the Project files explorer.

5.3.2 How do I create a geometry?

In the Project files explorer Right-click and choose New > Geometry File

A pop-up window will appear where the user can specify the file name.

The new geometry file will appear in the Project files explorer.

5.3.3 How do add a transition/place to the Petri net?

Select the transition/place object from the object toolbar on the right. Click and drag the transition/place to the canvas.

The transition/place will now appear on the canvas.

The user can change the position of the object by click and drag to the new position.

5.3.4 How do add a point to the geometry?

Select the point object from the object toolbar on the right. Click and drag the point to the canvas.

The point will now appear on the canvas.

The user can change the position of the point by click and drag to the new position.

5.3.5 How do I create a connection between two objects?

Select the arc/line object from the object toolbar on the right.

Click on the object that is the source and drag the mouse to the target object.

The arc/line will now appear on the canvas.

5.3.6 How do add a bendpoint to a line?

Select the line you want to add a bendpoint to.

Right-click on the canvas where you want the bendpoint to be and select **Add bendpoint**.

The position of bendpoint can be changed by dragging it with the mouse.

5.3.7 How do I add an appearance to an object?

Select an object on the canvas in the Petri net editor / Geometry editor.

In the object properties view in the bottom of the editor, change the name in the appearance label for the object.

Open the appearance editor. Find the appearance label given in the last step.

Click on the **File..** button next to the label.

A pop-up window will appear with a list of the project files. Choose the file you want for the appearance (e.g. a texture file or a 3D object file).

When you run the simulation the texture or 3D model will appear for the specific object.

5.3.8 How do I delete an object in the Petri net editor and Geometry editor?

Select and mark the object in the canvas and press Delete.

5.3.9 How do I save a Petri net model / a geometry model?

In the editor - click on the **Save** button in the top toolbar.

5.3.10 How do I load a Petri net model / a geometry model?

In the project files explorer - double-click on the model file you want to open.
The Petri net editor and geometry editor will open respectively.

The model can also be opened by clicking the **Load** button in the top toolbar. A pop-up window will appear with the project files. Select the file you want to open from the list of project files and press Load.

5.3.11 How do I run the Configuration wizard?

Click on the **Configuration** button on the top toolbar. A pop-up wizard will appear. On the first page in the wizards, select the Petri net file from the project files. On the next page select the geometry model file from the project files. On the third page select the appearance model file. The wizard will now validate whether the 3 files match. If they do the configuration is complete.

5.3.12 How do I run the 3D simulation?

When you have run the Configuration wizard (see steps in section 5.3.11) correctly, you will be able to run the simulation.
Press the simulation button in top toolbar to run the 3D simulation.

6 Architecture

Author: *Albert and Monica*

The architecture of this **Extended Petri net Simulator** has been designed as modular, meaning that the system is divided in different components which are connected through interfaces. In this way, components are independent of each other and can be developed by different members of the team. In addition, the modular design is an advantage for easily testing each component as well as the entire system in a hierarchical structure.

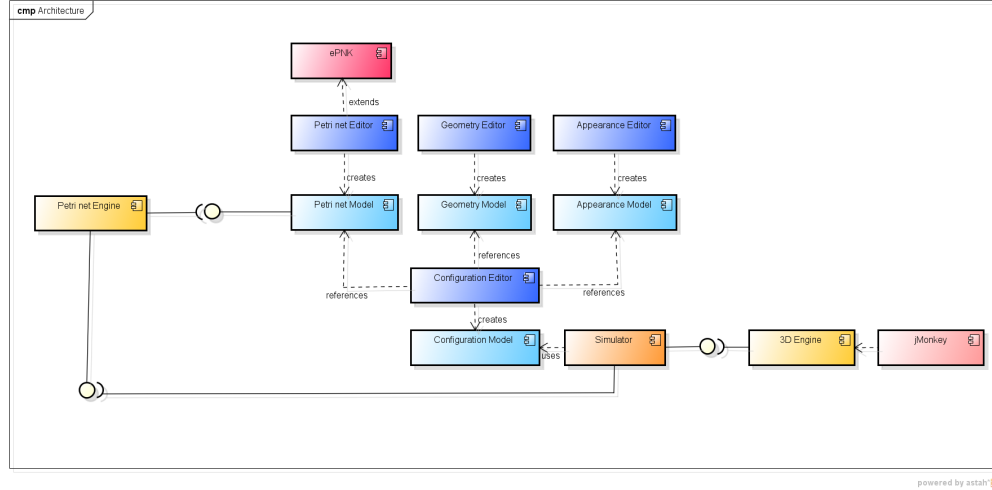


Figure 15: Architecture of the System

6.1 Petri net editor

Author: *Albert*

The Petri net editor is a component which consists of an extension of the ePNK editor. It contains all the functionality that ePNK provides and also adds the features described previously in this document, and that can be summarized in Figure 16. Its actual implementation is shown in Figure 17.

6.1.1 Petri net editor classes

A description of the classes shown in Figure 17 is provided.

Place The class Place extends from Place in the *pnmlcoremodel*, and contains the following attributes:

- **Token:** an ePNK string label to indicate the presence of one or more tokens in this Place.
- **AppearanceLabel:** an ePNK string label to indicate the shape and texture of the Place.

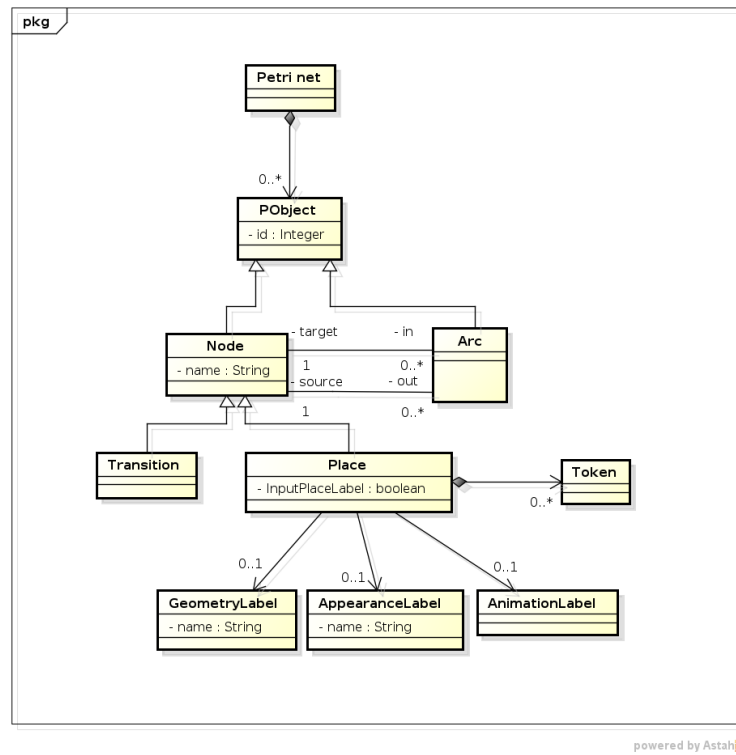


Figure 16: UML for the Petri net Editor

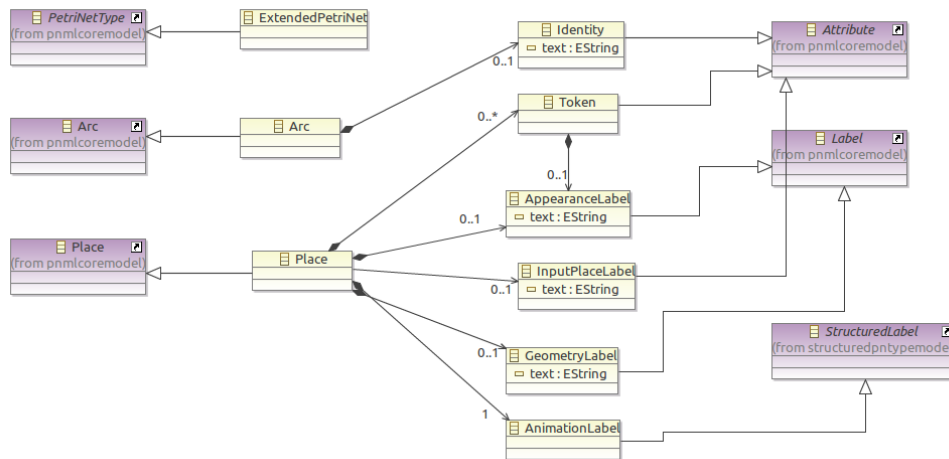


Figure 17: Petri net editor domain model

- **InputPlaceLabel**: an ePNK boolean attribute to indicate if the place is interactive for the user or not (if tokens can be added by the user during runtime).
- **GeometryLabel**: an ePNK string label to indicate the geometry location of the Place in the simulation.
- **AnimationLabel**: : an ePNK structured label which contains an Animation object and that contains all the information of the animation or sequence of animations executed when a Token is in this Place.

Arc The class Arc extends from Arc in the *pnmlcoremodel*, and contains the following attributes:

- **Identity**: an ePNK integer label to indicate the id of an arc, which is required for proper visualization of the Token "movement" during the simulation.

6.2 Geometry editor

Author: *Mikko*

The Geometry editor is the component used to define lines and points in two dimensional plane which will then define the shape of the visualized simulation. Figure 18 describes the geometry model used by the Geometry Editor.

Geometry The Geometry class is an abstract definition of a geometry object.

GObject The GObject is a geometry object, which can be either a line or a point. It has attribute **name**. It is used to name individual geometry objects, so that user can easily tell them apart. Furthermore, it is used as identifier for all geometry objects.

Point Point is a location in the two dimensional plane. It has attributes **xLocation** and **yLocation** which refer to the horizontal and vertical coordinates respectively.

InputPoint Class InputPoint refers to objects that will be clickable for the user in the 3D simulation. **AppearanceLabel** is used to identify the 3d appearance of InputPoint, such as traffic light, tree, planet etc, within simulation.

Connector Class Connector is either the beginning or the ending parametric point of a line. Therefore, lines that end at a Connector are **in** and lines that start from a Connector are **out**.

BendPoint Class BendPoint is the type of parametric point that defines the curvature of the line.

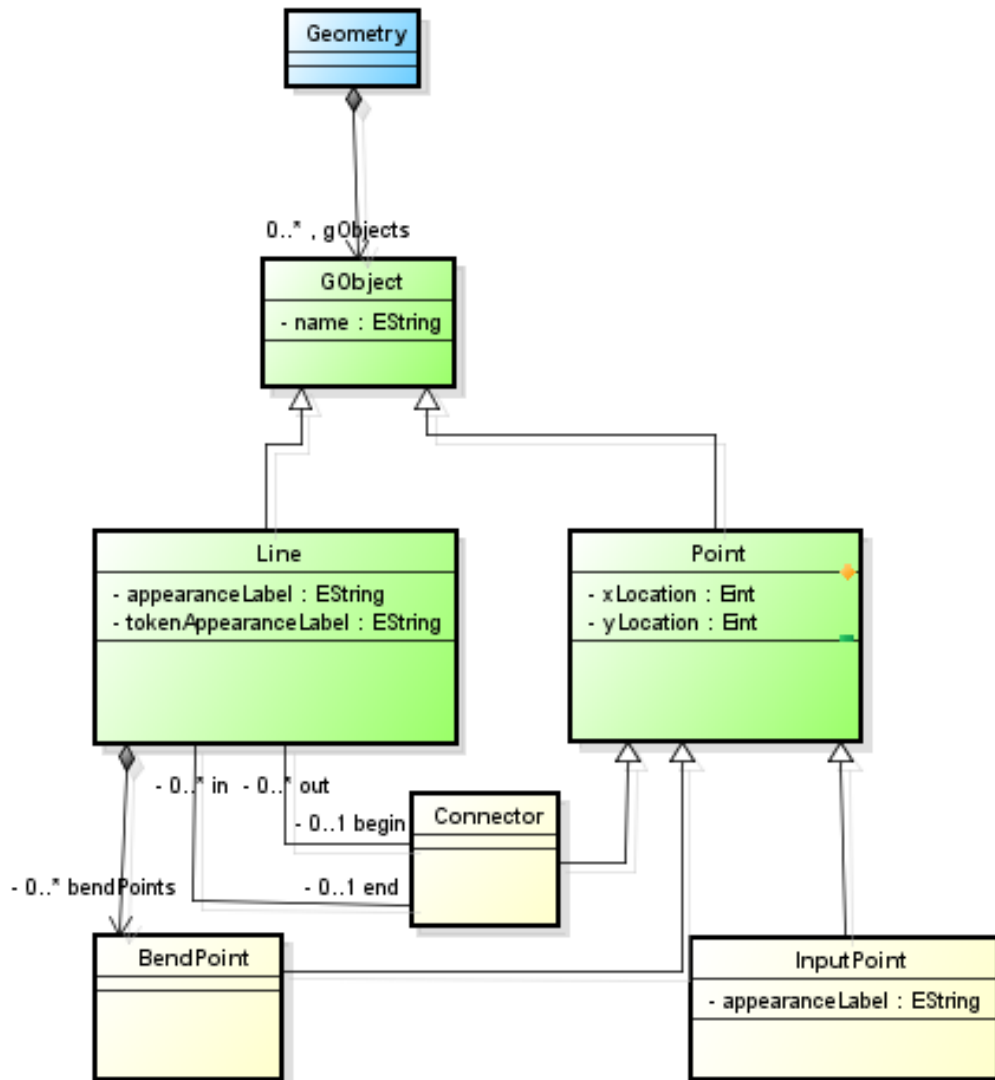


Figure 18: Geometry domain model

Line Class Line is a parametric curve in a two dimensional plane. The line begins at a point location **begin** and it ends at a point location **end**. A **BendPoint** is a point location which parametrically defines the curvature of the line, unless it doesn't have one, thus the line would be straight. **AppearanceLabel** Is used to define the 3d shape of the line within 3d simulator. The appearance will be extrapolated along the length of the line, thus the appearance could for instance be track, road, empty space, etc. On the other hand, the **tokenAppearanceLabel** defines 3D models, that are animated along the line. They could be for instance train, bike, space ship, etc.

6.3 Appearance editor

Author: *Monica*

The Appearance Editor is the component which allows the user to associate a visual representation to the Petri net elements so that they can be represented in the 3D simulation. The editor can be used by both technical and non-technical users as it only implies linking *Appearance Labels* previously defined in the Petri net with predefined 3D or texture files.

Figure 19 shows the model used by the Appearance Editor component.

6.3.1 Appearance Editor classes

Next, the model will be described into more detail.

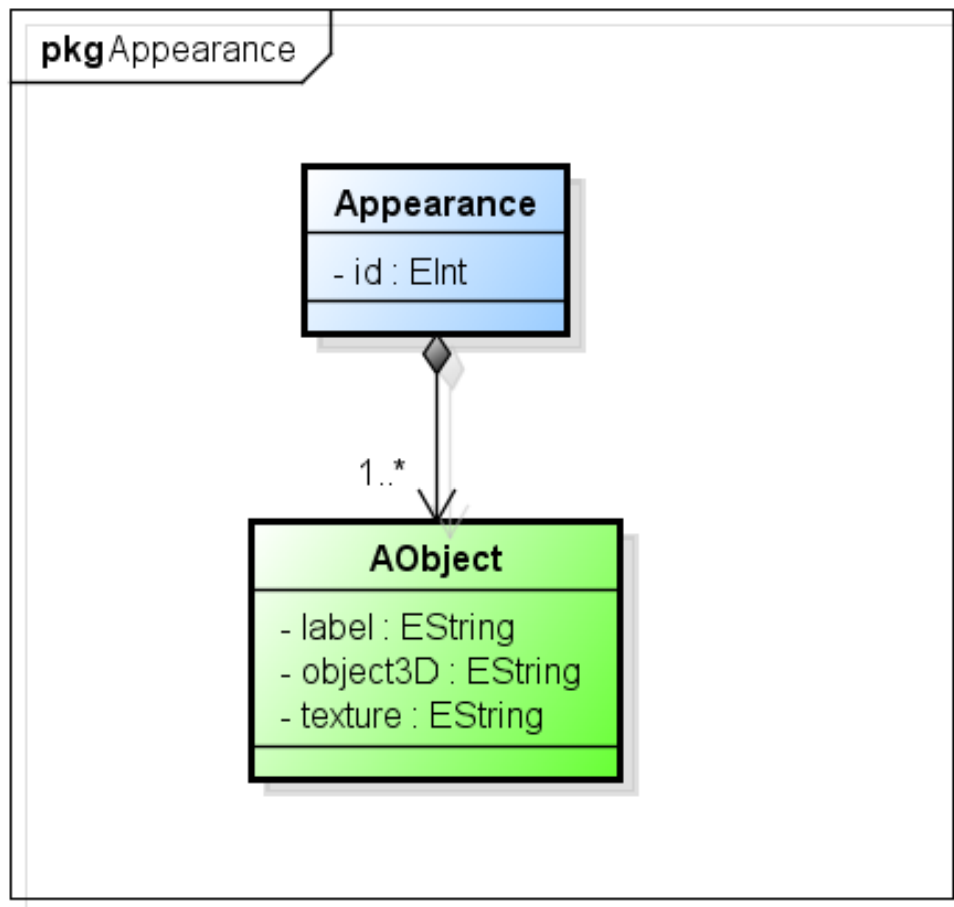
Appearance The Appearance class is simply an abstract definition of an Appearance object.

AObject The AObject class is general class from which different appearance objects will inherit. Its only attribute, **name**, refers to the name of the object that is represented by this appearance (e.g. *"train"*).

3DObject The 3DObject class consists of only one attribute, **file**, of type String, which represents the path of the 3D model on the hard disk. Also, 3DObject will inherit from AObject.

SurfaceObject The SurfaceObject class consists of only one attribute, **type**, of type String, which represents the shape of the object to be visualized (e.g. *"rectangular"*). SurfaceObject will also inherit from AObject.

Texture The Texture class consists of only one attribute, **file**, of type String, which represents the path of the texture model on the hard disk.



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Figure 19: Appearance Domain Model

6.4 Configuration editor

Author: *Monica*

The Configuration Editor is the component which allows the user to create a link between all the models that have been previously created by using the other editors. The editor can be used by both technical and non-technical users since its main functionality is connecting the Petri net, the Geometry and the Appearance models.

Figure 20 shows the model behind the Configuration Editor.

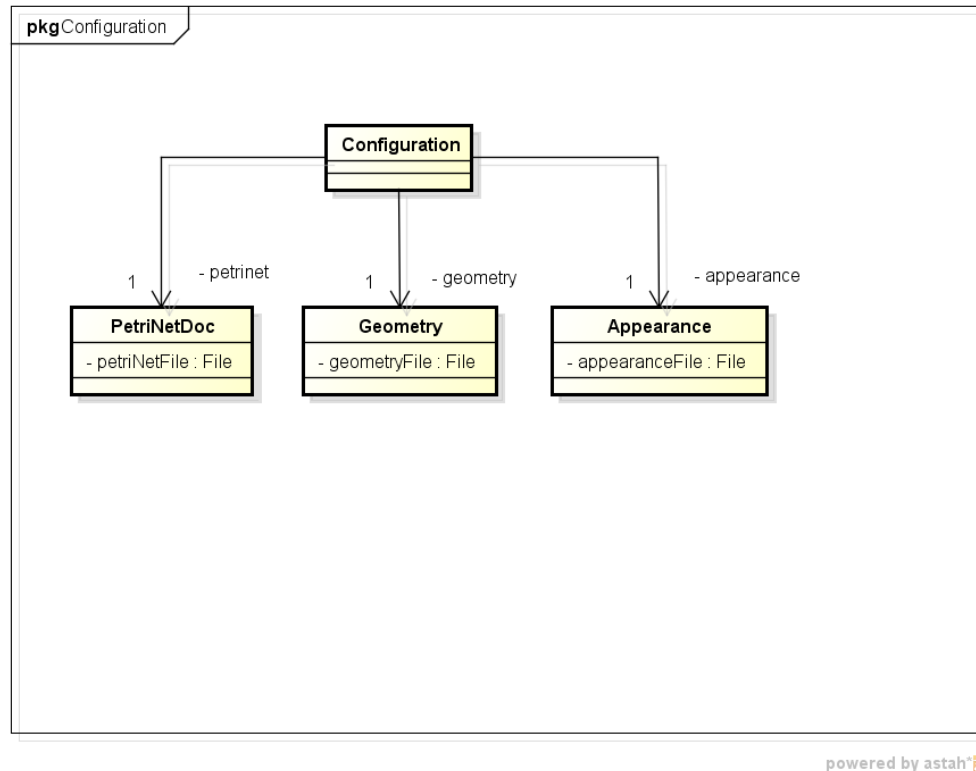


Figure 20: UML for the Configuration Editor

6.4.1 Configuration editor classes

Next, a more detailed description of the model is provided.

ConfigurationModel The ConfigurationModel class has only one attribute, **configurationFile**, of type File, which will include all the information provided by the *PetriNetModel*, *GeometryModel* and *AppearanceModel* objects.

PetriNetModel The PetriNetModel class has only one attribute, **petriNetFile**, of type File, which represents the output file of the Petri net Editor. This file will include the description of all the objects in the petri net and their attributes.

GeometryModel The GeometryModel class has only one attribute, **geometryFile**, of type File, which represents the output of the Geometry Editor. This file will include the description of all geometry objects and their attributes.

AppearanceModel The AppearanceModel class has only one attribute, **appearanceFile**, of type File, which represents the output of the Appearance Editor. This file will include the associations between appearance labels of the Petri net objects and their corresponding 3D objects or textures.

6.5 Petri net engine

Author: *Thibaud*

Figure 21 shows the model behind the Petri net Engine.

The **Petri net engine** is responsible for handling the behavior of a Petri net at Runtime.

The engine is initialized by the Simulator when a Simulation is launched, using a Petri net model passed as an argument in the Petri net Engine's constructor.

A Petri net engine possesses a **Marking** which is modeled by a HashMap mapping Places to the Tokens present in those places. There is also a specific Token class introduced which is the **RuntimeToken**. This class was introduced to know whether a Token's animation was finished.

The simulator can then interact with the engine by calling one these three methods to simulate the Petri net:

- **fireTransitions**: This method is called by the simulator whenever an animation is finished. The Petri net engine fires all the transition currently possible and returns a list of **Animation** objects
- **markTokenAsFinished**: This method is called once an animation corresponding to a Token is finished. It is therefore marked as finished so that the method **fireTransitions** can know which transitions are possible to execute right away.
- **createToken**: This method is called by the simulator after an user input on an InputPlace. It creates a Token on the Place clicked by the user.

6.6 Simulator

Author: *Albert*

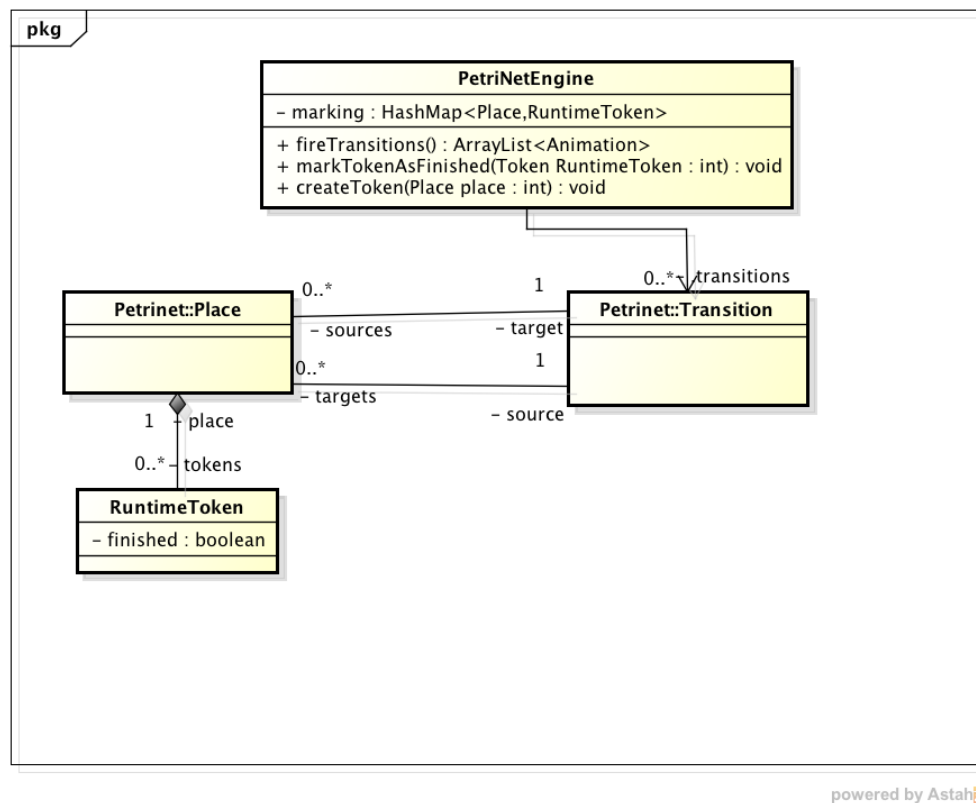


Figure 21: UML for the Petrinet Engine

The simulator is the main component of the system, it reads the initial configuration and works as a controller between the Petri net Engine and the 3D Engine.

In order to implement this, we will use the Observer pattern (Figure 22) so that the Simulator can keep track and receive notifications from the 3D engine when some events happen, such as an animation finished or a user interaction.

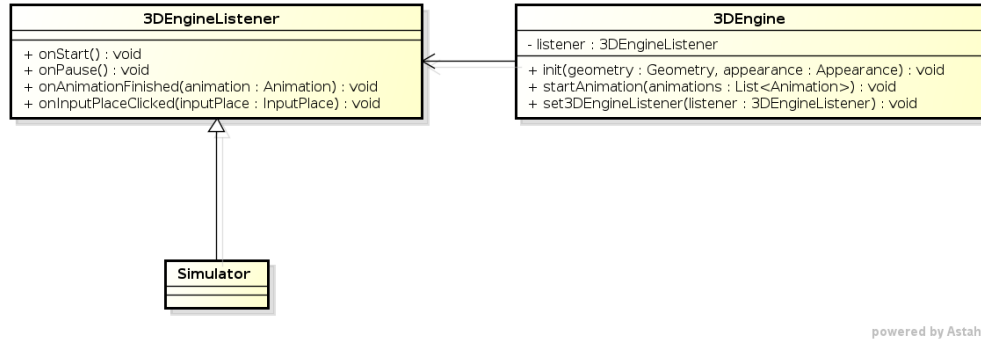


Figure 22: Simulator with the Observer Pattern

Figure 23 shows the interaction between the three components involved. The simulator starts by reading the configuration, and initializing the Petri net engine with the initial Petri net model as well as the 3D engine with the geometry and the appearance models.

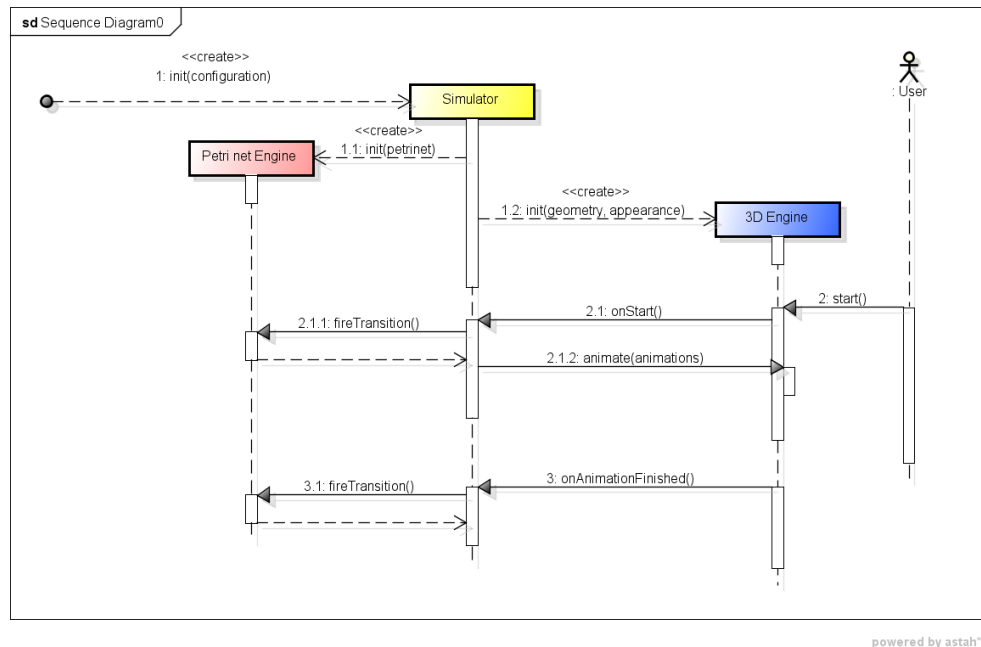


Figure 23: Sequence diagram of the Simulator, Petri net Engine and 3D engine

Then, the 3D engine tells the Simulator that it has received a *start simulation* input from the user, and thus, awaits for new animations to be played. The simulator asks the Petri net engine to fire

transitions and to give back the next sequence of animations to be played by the 3D engine.

6.7 3D Engine

The 3D Engine is the component of the application that handles the animation of objects and displays it on the screen for the user. Its main functions are:

- handling the window in which the graphical simulation is shown to the user
- take care of the user interactions with the window buttons (*Play*, *Pause*, *Stop*).
- take care of the user inputs in the case of *Input Places*
- draw the graphical objects
- maintain the communication with the *Simulator*
- update the animations according to the information sent by the *Simulator*

In order to build a system that is not technology dependent in terms of its 3D visualization, Interfaces and the Factory design pattern are employed. In this way, the 3D Engine can be easily changed from **jMonkey** to **Java3D** or any other technology desired at some point by the customer.

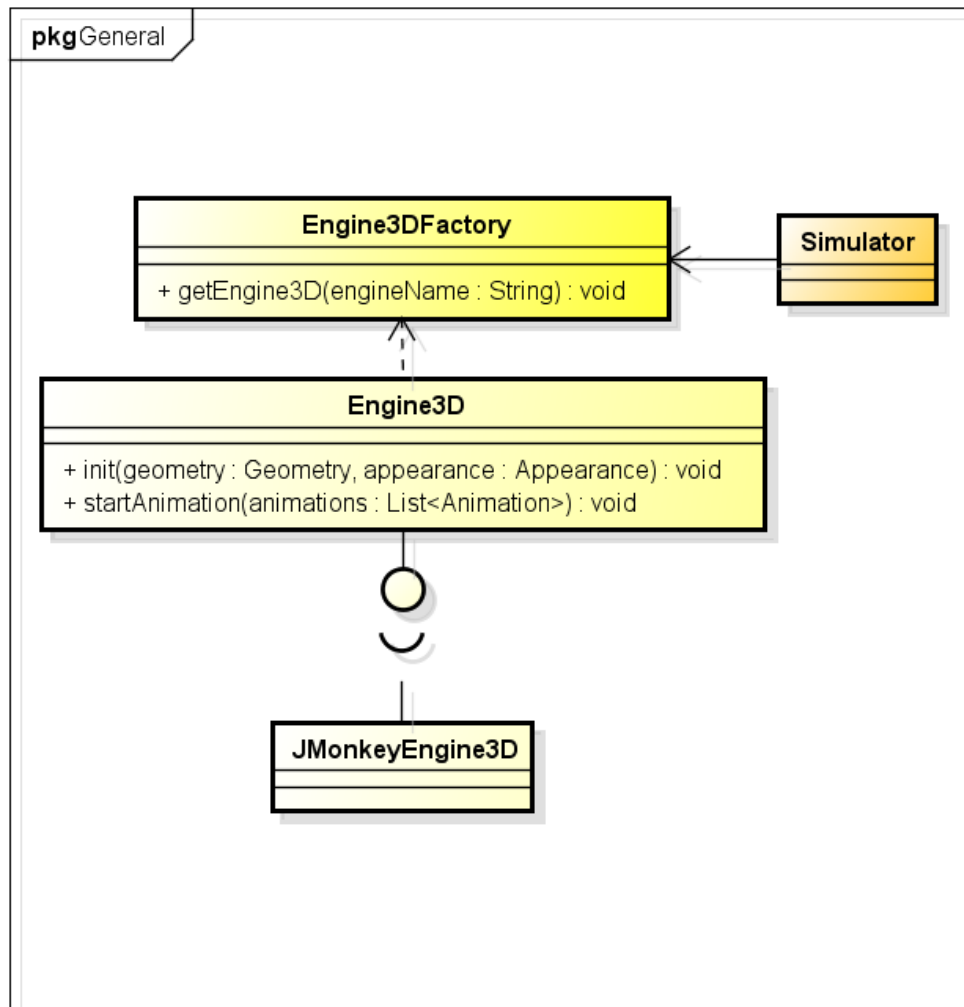
Figure 24 shows the defined classes in the implementation of the Factory pattern.

Engine3DFactory The Engine3DFactory class will be in charge of creating 3D Engine classes according to the engine name sent as a parameter of the method *getEngine3D()*. This method will be called from the Simulator in the initialization phase, when both the 3D Engine and the Petri net Engine are created.

Engine3D Engine3D is an Interface which will be implemented by the actual 3D Engine of the application, in our case **JMonkeyEngine**. The following methods will be provided by the Engine3D interface:

- *init(Geometry geometry, Appearance appearance)* - used to initialize the geometry and appearance models;
- *startAnimation(List<Animation> animations)* - used by the Simulator to send the list of animations to be performed by the 3D Engine;

JMonkeyEngine3D As stated before, the JMonkeyEngine3D class will implement all the methods of the Engine3D interface and will perform all the animations. This class will be described into more details in the next section.



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Figure 24: 3D Engine Factory Pattern

6.8 The jMonkeyEngine

The interface described in Section 6.7 will be implemented using the jMonkey libraries. In the following, the implementation of the interface will be described.

init(Geometry geometry, Appearance appearance) The initialization will put all information about the geometry and appearance into a list of SObjects. An SObject is a line segment, or using Petri Net terms: two transitions and a place. This list of SObjects is then used to set up the animations that will be playable in the simulation. The animations are created using the MotionPath and MotionEvent classes inherited from jMonkey. For each SObject, a MotionPath is created using the points that make up the line segment; this could be a beginning point, a few bend points and an end point. The MotionPath is then used to set up the MotionEvent, which besides needing a MotionPath, also needs some geometry, which in this case will be a shape defined by the SObject. The shape will be the shape of the token on the line segment. All tokens have need to be prepared as jMonkey geometries before creating the MotionEvents.

When all animations are set up in a list of MotionEvents, the paths will have their shape applied. This will make the Petri Net visible to the user. It will require stretching and duplication of the shapes and textures. Also, the camera will be positioned and oriented to its default position, and default background geometry will be created.

The simulator will produce a list of animations for jMonkey to play. Animations may be added to this list at any time. When animations finish, jMonkey will tell the simulator. This is the main interaction between the simulator and jMonkey. So when the system allows users to play, pause and reset the simulation, the play and pause will be handled by jMonkey alone. The simulator will need to know when the user resets the simulation, because it needs to tell the Petri Net engine to reset. But most of the time, the simulator will just wait for information about which animations have finished, and pass that on to the Petri Net engine, which in return will tell the simulator which animations jMonkey should play.

onStart() The MotionEvent system used to set up the animations allows jMonkey to know the status of each animation. When the user opens the simulator, he will need to press play for the animation to begin. This action will cause jMonkey to run the animations that it was instructed to run by the simulator. If the user is pressing play, while the simulation was paused, jMonkey will simply continue playing all the paused MotionEvents.

onPause() When the user presses pause, jMonkey will find the animations that are currently running, and pause them. The pause function is already integrated in the MotionEvent class.

onReset() If the simulation is asked to reset, jMonkey will report to the simulator that it needs to reset the Petri Net engine. This is to ensure that the list of animations is correct.

onUserClick() When a user clicks, a jMonkey listener will pick it up, and the position determined. If the click was on an input place, the name of the input place will be sent to the simulator, which will tell the Petri Net engine. The Petri Net engine will then determine how this affects the logic.

animate(List<Animation> animations) The animations in the simulator are started according to the current list of animations waiting to be played. If the simulator is running, all animations

arriving in the list of animations will be started instantly.

onAnimationFinished(Animation animation) The simulator needs to know as soon as animations have finished, in order to quickly get the next animation. The state of all animations is checked 60 times per second, and the delay between one animation finishing and the next starting should be low.

7 Glossary

Bendpoint Bendpoint is a point, which functions as a control point for parametric curves allowing “bending” of said curve.

Bézier-curve Bézier-curve is a parametric curve, where shape is defined by blend of different control points.

Canvas The graphical view of the editors.

Catmull-rom Catmull-rom splines are a family of cubic interpolating splines formulated such that tangent at each point of the spline is calculated using the previous and next point on the spline.

Connector Connector serves as either first or the last point of line.

Eclipse Eclipse is a integrated development environment, with extensive plug-in system for environment customization.

Editor Is a program used to manipulate information.

ePNK Eclipse Petri Net Kernel.

Factory design pattern Pattern where objects are created, so that the interface that calls the factory will decide which class to create.

Geometry object Geometry object can be either point or line.

GUI Graphical User Interface

Hashmap Hashmap is a data structure where values are mapped to keys.

Input Point Input Point is a point, where user is allowed to add tokens during the simulation.

Interface Interface is an abstract type that classes must implement.

Javadoc standard Format used by Javadoc is the industry standard for documenting Java classes.

JMonkey JMonkey is a 3D game engine written in and for java.

Parametric curve Parametric curve is a mathematical curve defined by point locations.

Petri net A mathematical and graphical model for the description of distributed systems. It is a directed bipartite graph, in which nodes represent transitions and places. The directed arcs describe which places are pre- and/or post-conditions for which transitions.

Point Point is a coordinate location in a two dimensional plane.

Plug-in Plug-in is a software component that adds specific feature to an existing software application.

Simulation Simulation is the imitation of operation of a real world process or system.

Token Petri net element which moves along the Petri net places through transitions.

UML Unified Modeling Language - standardized, general-purpose modeling language in the field of software engineering.

Use case A list of steps defining interactions between a role (e.g. "technical user"), also known as an actor, and a system for achieving a goal. The actor can be a human or an external system.

Tool palette A view on the graphical editors that has all the available editing tools for the editors.

Technical/non-technical user User either has or doesn't have prior technical knowledge of the subject.