

# Supplementary material to the paper “ $K$ -step and Definite Critical Observability in Networked Discrete Event Systems Under Replacement Attacks via Labeled Petri Nets”

Xuya Cong, Zhenhua Yu, Maria Pia Fanti, Agostino Marcello Mangini, and Zhiwu Li

## I. MAIN ALGORITHMS

In this section, three algorithms as well as their explanations are presented.

**Algorithm 1:** Algorithm 1 is used to compute  $R(M, k)$  for given  $M$  and  $k$ .

---

### Algorithm 1 Computation of $R(M, k)$ in an RABRG

---

**Input:** An RABRG  $\mathcal{B}_A = (\mathcal{M}_B, Tr, \delta_A, M_0)$ , a basis marking  $M$ , and an integer  $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$

**Output:**  $R(M, k)$

```

1:  $S_n := \{(M, 0)\}$  and  $R(M, k) := \emptyset$ ;
2: while  $S_n \neq \emptyset$  do
3:   pop a pair  $(M', i) \in S_n$ ;
4:   for all  $(t, \vec{y}_\sigma) \in \Gamma_A(M')$  do
5:     if  $\lambda((t, \vec{y}_\sigma)) \in E$  then
6:        $i := i + 1$  and  $y := \{(\hat{M}', i) | \hat{M}' \in \delta_A(M', (t, \vec{y}_\sigma))\}$ ;
7:     else if  $\lambda((t, \vec{y}_\sigma)) = \varepsilon$  then
8:        $y := \{(\hat{M}', i) | \hat{M}' \in \delta_A(M', (t, \vec{y}_\sigma))\}$ ;
9:     end if
10:    if  $i < k$  then
11:      for all  $(\hat{M}', i) \in y$  do
12:         $S_n := S_n \cup \{(\hat{M}', i)\}$ ;
13:      end for
14:    else if  $i = k$  then
15:       $R(M, k) := R(M, k) \cup UR(\delta_A(M', (t, \vec{y}_\sigma)))$ ;
16:    end if
17:  end for
18: end while

```

---

**Algorithm 2:** Algorithm 2 is used to compute a set of fully-critical basis markings  $\mathcal{F}$ , a set of partially critical basis markings  $\mathcal{P}$ , and a set of non-critical basis markings  $\mathcal{N}$ , which is directly follows from Definition 11 and Proposition 4.

---

**Algorithm 2** Computing the sets  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\mathcal{N}$ 


---

**Input:** The set of basis markings  $\mathcal{M}_B$  of an RABRG and a set of critical markings  $C_R$

**Output:** Sets  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\mathcal{N}$

```

1:  $\mathcal{F} := \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{P} := \emptyset$ , and  $\mathcal{N} := \emptyset$ ;
2:  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_B := \mathcal{M}_B$ ;
3: while  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_B \neq \emptyset$  do
4:   select a basis marking  $M \in \hat{\mathcal{M}}_B$ ;
5:    $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_B := \hat{\mathcal{M}}_B \setminus \{M\}$ ;
6:   if the set of constraints (1) is feasible then
7:     assign  $M$  with tag “1”;
8:   else if the set of constraints (1) is infeasible then
9:     assign  $M$  with tag “2”;
10:  end if
11:  if the set of constraints (2) is feasible then
12:    assign  $M$  with tag “3”;
13:  else if the set of constraints (2) is infeasible then
14:    assign  $M$  with tag “4”;
15:  end if
16: end while
17: while  $\mathcal{M}_B \neq \emptyset$  do
18:   select a basis marking  $M \in \mathcal{M}_B$ ;
19:    $\mathcal{M}_B := \mathcal{M}_B \setminus \{M\}$ ;
20:   if ( $M$  is with tag “1” and “3”)  $\vee$  ( $M$  is with tag “2”  $\wedge$  there exists  $\phi \in (Tr'_u)^*$  such that  $M' \in \delta_A(M, \phi)$ 
      and  $M'$  is with tag “1”)  $\vee$  ( $M$  is with tag “4”  $\wedge$  there exists  $\phi \in (Tr'_u)^*$  such that  $M' \in \delta_A(M, \phi)$  and  $M'$  is
      with tag “3”) then
21:      $\mathcal{P} := \mathcal{P} \cup \{M\}$ ;
22:   else if ( $M$  is with tag “2”  $\wedge$  for all  $\phi \in (Tr'_u)^*$  such that  $M' \in \delta_A(M, \phi)$  and  $M'$  is with tag “2”) then
23:      $\mathcal{F} := \mathcal{F} \cup \{M\}$ ;
24:   else if ( $M$  is with tag “4”  $\wedge$  for all  $\phi \in (Tr'_u)^*$  such that  $M' \in \delta_A(M, \phi)$  and  $M'$  is with tag “4”) then
25:      $\mathcal{N} := \mathcal{N} \cup \{M\}$ ;
26:   end if
27: end while

```

---

---

**Algorithm 3** Computing maximal  $k$  for  $k$ -CO w.r.t. a replacement attack, a communication delay, and a critical marking set

---

**Input:** A bounded LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  w.r.t. a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$

**Output:** A maximal  $k$  such that  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , or “NA”

```

1: Compute the robust basis  $n$ -extended networked detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n}$ , where  $n = |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ ;
2: find all the negative cycles in the corresponding underlying diagram  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n}$ ;
3: if there exists no negative cycle on any path from  $z'$  to  $z$  for all the states  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$  then
4:   output “def-CO” and exit;
5: end if
6:  $i := 1$  and  $j := |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ ;
7: while  $i \leq j$  do
8:    $k := \lfloor \frac{1}{2}(i + j) \rfloor$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  represents the largest integer not greater than  $x$ ;
9:   compute the robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$ , find all the negative cycles in the corresponding underlying diagram  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$ ;
10:  if there exists a negative cycle on a path from  $z'$  to  $z$  for a state  $z' \in Z_0$  and a state  $z \in Z_v$  then
11:     $j := k - 1$  and  $flag := 1$ ;
12:  else
13:     $i := k + 1$  and  $flag := 2$ ;
14:  end if
15: end while
16: if  $flag = 1$  then
17:   if  $k \neq 1$  then
18:     output  $k - 1$ ; “ $(k - 1)$ -CO” and exit;
19:   else
20:     output “NA” and exit;
21:   end if
22: else
23:   output  $k$ , “ $k$ -CO” and exit;
24: end if

```

---

**Algorithm 3:** Algorithm 3 is used to compute a maximal  $k$  for  $k$ -CO w.r.t. a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$  (if it exists). Now we briefly explain how Algorithm 3 works. First, steps 1 to 5 check def-CO by constructing the robust basis  $(|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1)$ -extended **networked** detector and checking whether there exists no negative cycle on any path from  $z'$  to  $z$  for all the states  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$ . If the LPN is not def-CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , then steps 6 to 24 compute a maximal  $k$  for  $k$ -CO by using the binary search. In particular, step 6 initializes the lower and upper bounds of the search interval as  $i = 1$  and  $j = |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ , respectively. Step 8 computes the midpoint of the interval  $[i, j]$  as  $k$ ; step 9 determines whether the LPN  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ . If  $G$  is not  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , by Proposition 2, it cannot be  $k'$ -CO for any  $k' > k$ . Thus, step 11 sets the upper bound as  $j = k - 1$ . If  $G$  is  $k$ -CO, then step 13 sets the lower bound as  $i = k + 1$ . Steps 7 to 15 execute iteratively until the lower bound is greater than the upper bound. Finally, if  $G$  is verified to be not  $k$ -CO in the final iteration, step 18 outputs  $k - 1$  as the maximal value if  $k \neq 1$ , and step 19 outputs “NA” if  $k = 1$ . If  $G$  is verified to be  $k$ -CO in the final iteration, step 23 outputs  $k$  as the maximal value.

## II. PROOFS FOR THE MAIN RESULTS

*Proposition 1:* If an LPN  $G$  is  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t. a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$ , then  $G$  is  $(k, l')$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  for any  $l' \geq l$ .

**Proof:** Since  $G$  is  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , for all  $s' = uvw' \in L_G(k, l') \subseteq L_G(k, l)$  with  $|v| = k$  and  $|w'| \geq l'$ , Condition (1) or (2) holds. Thus,  $G$  is also  $(k, l')$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .  $\square$

*Proposition 2:* If an LPN  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t. a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$ , then  $G$  is  $k'$ -CO for any  $k' \leq k$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $G$  is  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , i.e., for any  $s = uvw \in L(G)$  with  $|v| = k$  and  $|w| \geq l$ , Condition (1) or (2) in Definition 2 holds. Let  $k' \in \mathbb{N}$  be an integer less than or equal to  $k$ . Due to  $L_G(k, l) = L_G(k', l + (k - k'))$ , Condition (1) or (2) holds for any  $s = uvw = uw'w' \in L_G(k', l + (k - k'))$  with  $|v'| = k'$  and  $|w'| \geq l + (k - k')$ .  $\square$

*Proposition 3:* Given an LPN  $G$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , let  $\mathcal{B}_A = (\mathcal{M}_B, Tr, \delta_A, M_0)$  be the RABRG w.r.t.  $\pi = (T_E, T_I)$  with  $T_E \supseteq T_o$ . The following two statements are equivalent:

1) there is a path in the RABRG  $\mathcal{B}_A$ :

$$M_0 \xrightarrow{(t_1, \vec{y}_{\sigma_1})} M_1 \xrightarrow{(t_2, \vec{y}_{\sigma_2})} \dots \xrightarrow{(t_n, \vec{y}_{\sigma_n})} M_n;$$

2) there exists a marking  $M$  and a firing sequence  $\sigma = \sigma_1 t'_1 \dots \sigma_n t'_n \sigma_{n+1}$ , where  $\sigma_i \in T_I^*$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n+1\}$ , and  $t'_i \in T_E$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $M_0[\sigma]M$ ,  $M \in R_I(M_n)$ ,  $\lambda(t'_1) \in A(\lambda(t_1))$ ,  $\dots$ , and  $\lambda(t'_n) \in A(\lambda(t_n))$ .

**Proof:** This result follows from Theorem 1 in [1] by considering the transition function assignment in Definition 7.  $\square$

*Proposition 4:* Given an LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a basis partition  $\pi = (T_E, T_I)$  with  $T_E \supseteq T_o$ , its RABRG  $\mathcal{B}_A = (\mathcal{M}_B, Tr, \delta_A, M_0)$  w.r.t.  $\pi$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R = \{M_c^1, \dots, M_c^q\}$ , a basis marking  $M \in \mathcal{M}_B$  satisfies  $R_I(M) \setminus C_R \neq \emptyset$  (resp.,  $R_I(M) \cap C_R \neq \emptyset$ ) if and only if integer constraint set (1) (resp., integer constraint set (2)) is feasible:

$$\begin{cases} \bigwedge_{M_c^k \in C_R} M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_\sigma \neq M_c^k, \\ M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_\sigma \geq \vec{0}, \\ \vec{y}_\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{|T_I|} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{cases} \bigvee_{M_c^k \in C_R} M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_{\sigma'} = M_c^k, \\ M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_{\sigma'} \geq \vec{0}, \\ \vec{y}_{\sigma'} \in \mathbb{N}^{|T_I|}. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

**Proof:** It follows from the proof of Proposition 1 in [2] by regarding the implicit transitions as the unobservable transitions.  $\square$

Note that a critical marking set  $C_R$  can be also described as a GMEC  $C_R = \{M \in \mathbb{N}^m | w^T \cdot M \leq k\}$ , where  $w \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of integer numbers). In this case, for a basis marking  $M \in \mathcal{M}_B$ , the first constraint in (1) and (2) can be rewritten as  $w^T \cdot (M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_\sigma) \geq k+1$  and  $w^T \cdot (M + C_I \cdot \vec{y}_{\sigma'}) \leq k$ , respectively.

*Theorem 1:* Given an LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a set of critical markings  $C_R$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and two nonnegative integers  $k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $G$  is  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  if and only if for all  $z \in D_l(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k})$ ,  $z \in Z_s$  holds.

**Proof:** (If) By contrapositive, suppose that  $G$  is not  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ . There exist two event sequences  $s = uvw \in L(G)$  and  $s' = u'v'w' \in L(G)$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_D(s) \cap C_R \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{C}_D(s') \cap R(PN, M_0) \setminus C_R \neq \emptyset$  with  $|v| = |v'| = k$ ,  $|w| = |w'| \geq l$ ,  $u' \in A(u)$ , and  $w' \in A_D(w)$ . Then, we have two sequences  $\sigma_1\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma'_1\sigma'_2$  such that  $M_0[\sigma_1]M_1[\sigma_2]M_2 \in C_R$ ,  $M_0[\sigma'_1]M'_1[\sigma'_2]M'_2 \notin C_R$  with  $\lambda(\sigma_1) = uv$ ,  $\lambda(\sigma'_1) = u'v'$ ,  $w \in \lambda_D(\sigma_2)$ , and  $w' \in \lambda_D(\sigma'_2)$ . Since all confusable pairs of basis markings in  $\mathcal{B}_A$  are in  $R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$  as soon as the communication loss stage completes, there exists a state  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1)$  in  $R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$  such that  $M_1 \in R_I(\hat{M}_1)$  and  $M'_1 \in R_I(\hat{M}'_1)$  based on Proposition 3. Moreover, by the construction of a robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detector, there exists a path  $z \xrightarrow{\phi} z'$  such that  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in z$ ,  $(\hat{M}_2, \hat{M}'_2) \in z'$ ,  $M_2 = R_I(\hat{M}_2)$  and  $M'_2 = R_I(\hat{M}'_2)$  with  $|\phi| \geq l$ ,  $w \in \phi_{-i}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , and  $w' \in A_D(w)$  based on Proposition 3. Thus, we have  $z' \in Z_v$ .

(Only if) By contrapositive, suppose that there exists a state  $z \in D_l(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k})$  with  $z \in Z_v$ . Then, we have  $(\hat{M}, \hat{M}') \in z'$ , and one of the following two conditions hold: 1)  $\hat{M} \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\hat{M}' \in \mathcal{N}$ ; 2)  $\hat{M} \in \mathcal{P}$  based on Definition 12.

For the first case, there exists a path  $z \xrightarrow{\phi} z'$  with  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in z$ ,  $(\hat{M}, \hat{M}') \in z'$ , and  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$  such that  $M \in R_u(\hat{M}) \cap C_R$  and  $M' \in R_u(\hat{M}') \cap (R(PN, M_0) \setminus C_R)$  according to Definition 11 and the condition  $T_I \subseteq T_u$ . Based on Proposition 3 and the construction of a robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detector, we have  $\hat{M}_1[\sigma]M$  and  $\hat{M}'_1[\sigma']M'$  such that  $w \in \lambda_D(\sigma)$ ,  $w' \in \lambda_D(\sigma')$ ,  $|w| = |w'| \geq l$ , and  $w' \in A_D(w)$ . Moreover, since  $R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$  contains all confusable pairs in  $\mathcal{B}_A$  as soon as the communication loss stage completes, there exist two event sequences  $s = uv$  and  $s' = u'v'$  such that  $\hat{M}_1 \in \mathcal{C}(s)$  and  $\hat{M}'_1 \in \mathcal{C}(s')$ . Based on Proposition 3, we have two sequences  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma'_1$  such that  $\lambda(\sigma_1) = uv$ ,  $\lambda(\sigma'_1) = u'v'$ ,  $|v| = |v'| = k$ , and  $u' \in A(u)$ . By Definition 2,  $G$  is not  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .

For the second case, there exists a path  $z \xrightarrow{\phi} z'$  with  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in z$ ,  $(\hat{M}, \hat{M}') \in z'$ , and  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$  such that  $M \in R_u(\hat{M}) \cap C_R$  and  $M' \in R_u(\hat{M}) \cap (R(PN, M_0) \setminus C_R)$  according to Definition 11 and the condition  $T_I \subseteq T_u$ . Based on Proposition 3 and the construction of a robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detector, we have  $\hat{M}_1[\sigma]M$  and  $\hat{M}_1[\sigma']M'$  such that  $w \in \lambda_D(\sigma)$ ,  $w' \in \lambda_D(\sigma')$ ,  $|w| = |w'| \geq l$ , and  $w' \in A_D(w)$ . Moreover, due to  $(\hat{M}_1, \hat{M}'_1) \in R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$ , there exist two event sequences  $s = uv$  and  $s' = u'v'$  such that  $\hat{M}_1 \in \mathcal{C}(s)$  and  $\hat{M}_1 \in \mathcal{C}(s')$ . Based on Proposition 3, we have two sequences  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma'_1$  such that  $\lambda(\sigma_1) = uv$ ,  $\lambda(\sigma'_1) = u'v'$ ,  $|v| = |v'| = k$ , and  $u' \in A(u)$ . By Definition 2,  $G$  is neither  $(k, l)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2:** Given an LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a set of critical markings  $C_R$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , an integer  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , a critical marking set  $C_R$ , and its robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k} = (Z, Tr', \zeta, Z_0)$ ,  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  if and only if  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$  satisfies the following condition: for all  $z \in Z_v$  and  $z' \in Z_0$ , there exists no negative cycle on any path from  $z'$  to  $z$ .

**Proof:** (If) If there is no negative cycle from  $z'$  to  $z$  with  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$ , then there is a shortest path from  $z'$  to  $z$ , and its length is denoted as  $d(Z_0, z)$ . Assume that  $d(Z_0, z) \leq -l$  with  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ , by Proposition 6, we have  $z \in D_l(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k})$ . Thus,  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  according to Theorem 1 and Definition 2.

(Only if) By contrapositive, suppose that there exists a negative cycle from  $z'$  to  $z$  with  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$ . Based on Definition 14, for all  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a path  $z' \xrightarrow{\phi} z$  such that  $|\phi| \geq l$ . Based on Definition 2 and Theorem 1,  $G$  is not  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3:** Given an LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a basis partition  $\pi = (T_E, T_I)$  with  $T_E \supseteq T_o$ , its RABRG  $\mathcal{B}_A = (\mathcal{M}_B, Tr, \delta_A, M_0)$  w.r.t.  $\pi$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$ , let  $k' > k \geq |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ .  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  if and only if  $G$  is  $k'$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .

**Proof:** The if-part follows immediately from Proposition 2. Thus, we only need to prove that  $G$  is  $k'$ -CO under replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $G$  is  $k$ -CO under the same replacement attack. In the following, we prove that if  $G$  is  $n$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , then  $G$  is  $(n+1)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ , where  $n \geq |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ .

Suppose that  $G$  is  $n$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ . By Proposition 2,  $G$  is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  for all  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\}$ . By Theorem 2, for all robust basis  $k$ -extended networked detectors  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k} = (Z, E, \zeta, Z_0)$  where  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\}$ , it holds: for all the states  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$ , there is no negative cycle on any path from  $z'$  to  $z$ . Note that  $Z_0 = \{z_{i_1}, \dots, z_{i_{|X_{d,0}|}}\}$  with  $z_{i_j} = \bar{R}(x_{i_j}, N)$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x_{i_j} \in R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), k)$ . According to the construction of  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$  has at most  $|\mathcal{M}_B|^2$  states, and the length (without considering the weights) of the longest elementary path<sup>1</sup> in  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k}$  is  $|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ . Suppose that  $z = \bar{R}(x, N) \in Z$  is reachable from  $z' = \bar{R}(x', N) \in Z$  through a path with length  $n_1 > |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ . Obviously, there exists a cycle between  $z'$  and  $z$ . Therefore,  $z$  is also reachable from  $z'$  through a path with length  $n' < n + 1$ , i.e.,  $R(x, n + 1) = R(x, n')$ . Accordingly, for  $n \geq |\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1$ , there necessarily

<sup>1</sup>An elementary path is a path such that no node appears more than once in the path.

exists  $n' \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\}$  such that  $R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), n+1) = R(\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A), n')$ . Hence, the initial states of  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n+1}$  are equal to that of  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n'}$ , and  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n+1}$  is the same as  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n'}$ , which implies that there exists no negative cycle on any path from  $z'$  to  $z$  for all the states  $z' \in Z_0$  and  $z \in Z_v$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,n+1}$ . By Theorem 2,  $G$  is  $(n+1)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .  $\square$

*Corollary 1:* Given an LPN  $G = (PN, M_0, E, \lambda)$  under a replacement attack  $\mathcal{A}$ , a basis partition  $\pi = (T_E, T_I)$  with  $T_E \supseteq T_o$ , its RABRG  $\mathcal{B}_A = (\mathcal{M}_B, Tr, \delta_A, M_0)$  w.r.t.  $\pi$ , a labeling function  $\lambda_D$  associated with a delay upper bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a set of critical markings  $C_R$ ,  $G$  is  $(|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1)$ -CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  if and only if  $G$  is def-CO w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$ .

**Proof:** (If) It immediately follows from Proposition 2 and Theorem ??.

(Only if) Suppose that  $G$  is def-CO under  $\mathcal{A}$ . By Definition ??,  $G$  is also  $(|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 - 1)$ -CO.  $\square$

### III. VERIFYING $k$ -STEP AND DEFINITE CRITICAL OBSERVABILITY: GENERAL CASES

In this section, we present the procedure to apply the proposed method in [3] recursively to the case where there exists more than one communication loss stage.

The construction of the extended networked detector is the following.

- 1) No communication failure state N: compute the set  $\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A)$  of all confusable basis marking pairs under  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 2) Communication loss stage L1: compute the  $k_1$ -step reach  $L_1 = R(\mathcal{B}_A, k_1)$ .
- 3) Communication recover state R1: construct the robust basis  $k_1$ -extended detector  $\mathcal{B}_{d,k_1}$  starting from the set of initial markings  $L_1$ , and then compute the  $l_1$ -step reach of  $L_1$  in  $\mathcal{B}_{d,k_1}$ , denoted as  $R_1 = R(L_1, l_1)$ .
- 4) Communication loss stage L2: compute the  $k_2$ -step reach  $L_2 = R(R_1, k_2)$ .
- 5) Communication recover stage R2: construct the robust basis  $k_2$ -extended detector  $\mathcal{B}_{d,k_2}$  starting from the set of initial markings  $L_2$ , and then compute the  $l_2$ -step reach of  $L_2$  in  $\mathcal{B}_{d,k_2}$ , denoted as  $R_2 = R(L_2, l_2)$ .
- 6) ...
- 7) Communication loss stage Lm: compute the  $k_m$ -step reach  $L_m = R(R_{m-1}, k_m)$ .
- 8) Communication delay stage D: construct the robust basis  $k_m$ -extended networked detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k_m}$  starting from the set of initial markings  $L_m$ .

For brevity, after constructing the set  $\Omega(\mathcal{B}_A)$ , we iteratively compute the corresponding  $k_i$ -step reach for  $m$  times, and the  $l_i$ -step reach in the corresponding robust basis extended detector for



$m - 1$  times, and check if the final robust basis extended networked detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,k_m}$  satisfies the condition in Theorem 1.

*Example 1:* Let us take the LPN in Fig. 1 as an Example and verify its critical observability w.r.t. the same  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\lambda_D$ , and  $C_R$  in Example 5. Assume that the communication loss occur twice and  $k_1 = 1$ ,  $k_2 = 2$ ,  $l_1 = 1$ , and  $l_2 = 2$ .

- 1) No communication failure state to Recover stage R1: According to the robust basis 1-extended detector shown in Fig. 2, we obtain  $R_1 = R(X_{d,0}, 1) = \{(M_2, M_2), (M_2, M_4), (M_4, M_2), (M_4, M_4), (M_3, M_3), (M_2, M_3), (M_3, M_2), (M_4, M_3), (M_3, M_4)\}$ , i.e., after observing one observable event, the set of confusable basis marking pairs are collected in  $R_1$ .
- 2) Communication loss stage L2: compute  $L_2 = R(R_1, 2) = R_1$ , i.e., the set of confusable basis marking pairs are collected in  $L_2$  after losing two observable events.
- 3) Communication delay state D: construct the robust basis 2-extended detector  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{d,2}$  shown in Fig. 3. By Theorem 1, the plant is not critically observable.

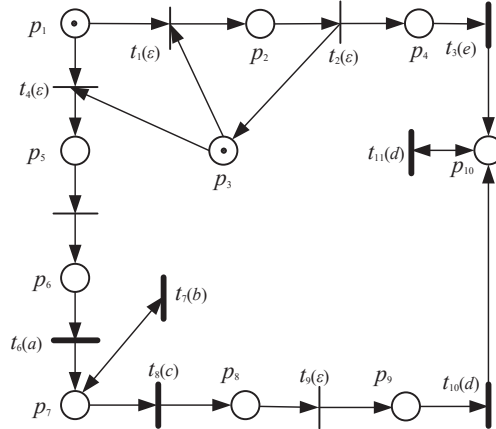


Fig. 1: A bounded LPN under a replacement attack.

#### IV. CASE STUDY

Some experimental results are provided in this section about the application of the proposed methodology for the  $k$ -CO verification in NDESs under replacement attacks. The results are obtained by a computer under Windows 10 operating system with Intel CPU 2.3 GHz, 16-GB memory.

To this aim, we take into account two groups of LPNs with fixed numbers of places and transitions. For each group of the nets, we consider the same net structure with two different

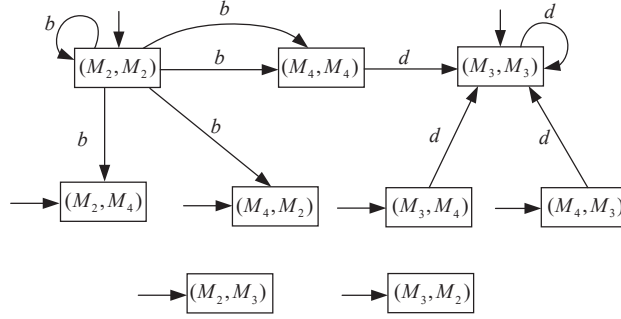


Fig. 2: The robust basis 1-extended detector.

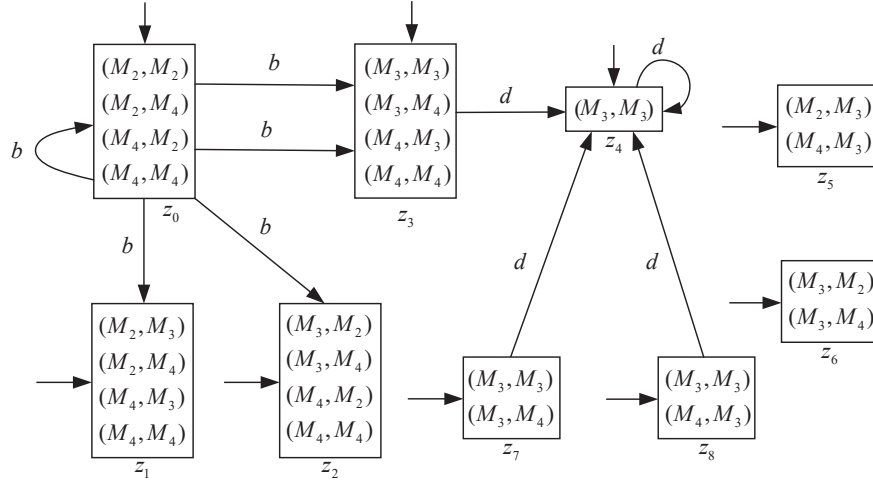


Fig. 3: The robust basis 2-extended networked detector.

initial markings. In particular, the net systems presented in this section can model two different communication systems [4]. More precisely, each place of LPNs 1–4 can represent the replay station that implements the information transfer. Each marking  $M(p_i) = 1$  ( $M(p_i) = 0$ ) indicates the busy (free) status of each relay station. For the safety of the information transfer in the system, the situations of some important information shared by some particular stations are regarded as the critical states in the system.

The net structure of the first group of LPNs is shown in Fig. 4, which has 19 places and 11 transitions (five observable transitions and six unobservable transitions). There are four labels in this net structure. Assuming the set of critical markings for LPNs 1 and 2 is  $C_R = \{M \in \mathbb{N}^{19} | M(p_2) + M(p_4) + M(p_6) + M(p_{19}) \geq 1\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \{(a, b)\}$ ,  $k = 1$ , and  $\lambda_D$  is a labeling function associated with a delay upper bound  $N = 1$ .

The net structure of the second group of LPNs is shown in Fig. 5, which has 23 places and 23 transitions (four observable transitions and 19 unobservable transitions). There are four labels in this net structure. Assuming the set of critical markings for LPNs 3 and 4 is  $C_R = \{M \in \mathbb{N}^{23} | M(p_5) + M(p_6) \geq 1\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \{(a, b)\}$ ,  $k = 1$ , and  $\lambda_D$  is a labeling function associated with a delay upper bound  $N = 1$ .

Table I shows the performance of the proposed method applied to LPNs 1–4: column two represents the number of tokens in  $p_1$  for LPNs 1–4, columns three and four represent the number of basis markings and that of arcs in the replacement attack basis reachability graphs (RABRGs) that associate with LPNs 1–4, respectively. Column five and six represent the number of markings and that of arcs in the reachability graphs of LPNs 1–4 under replacement attacks by using the PN analysis software TINA [5], and the last column shows whether the LPN is  $k$ -CO w.r.t.  $\lambda_D$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$ , and  $C_R$ . From the experimental results shown in Table I, we can see that the proposed method is more efficient than the one generating the full state space.

TABLE I: Experimental results for the LPNs 1–4

	$k$	$ \mathcal{M}_B $	$ \delta_A $	$ R_A(PN, M_0) $	$ \bar{\delta}_A $	$K$ -CO
LPN1	1	33	90	513	2562	Yes
LPN2	2	276	1071	20196	134806	Yes
LPN3	1	7	14	63	129	Yes
LPN4	2	55	185	1683	6159	Yes

## REFERENCES

- [1] Ma, Z., Tong, Y., Li, Z., & Giua, A. (2017). Basis marking representation of Petri net reachability spaces and its application to the reachability problem. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 62(3), 1078–1093.
- [2] Cong, X., Fanti, M. P., Mangini, A. M., & Li, Z. (2023). Critical observability verification and enforcement by using basis markings. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 68(12), 8158–8164.
- [3] Cong, X., Yu, Z., Fanti, M. P., Mangini, A. M., & Li, Z. (2024).  $K$ -step and definite critical observability in [networked](#) discrete event systems under replacement attacks via labeled Petri nets, submitted to *Automatica*.

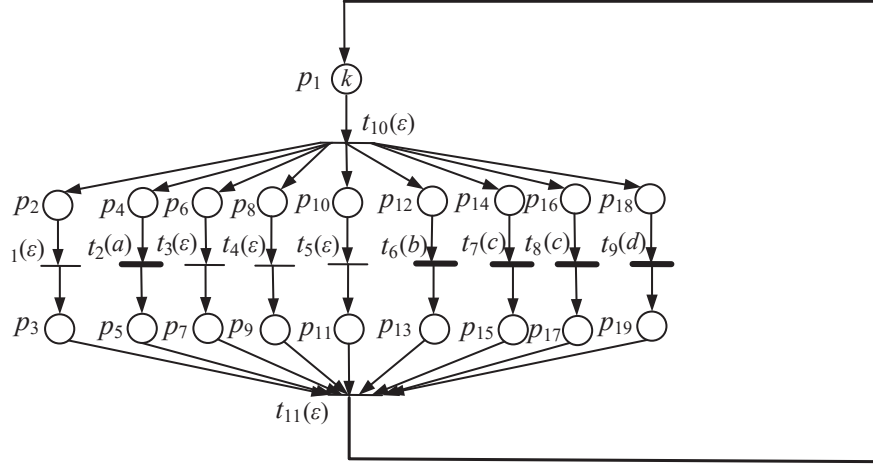


Fig. 4: Net structure of LPNs 1 and 2.

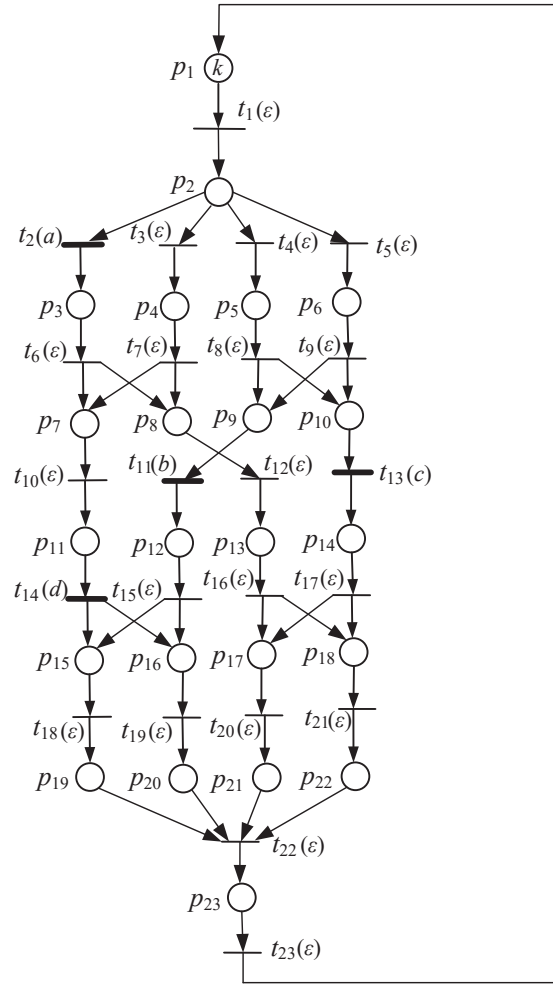


Fig. 5: Net structure of LPNs 3 and 4.

- [4] Cong, X., Fanti, M. P., Mangini, A. M. & Li, Z. (2022). Critical observability of discrete-event systems in a Petri net framework. *IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems*, 52(5), 2789–2799.
- [5] TINA (Version 3.5.0): Time Petri Net Analyzer 2019. [Online]. Available: <http://projects.laas.fr/tina/download.php>