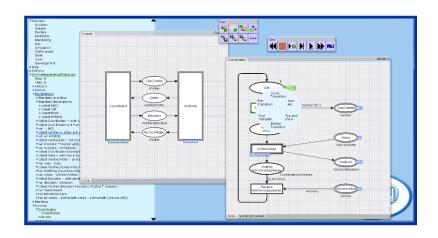
Lecture 6

State Spaces Methods and Verification



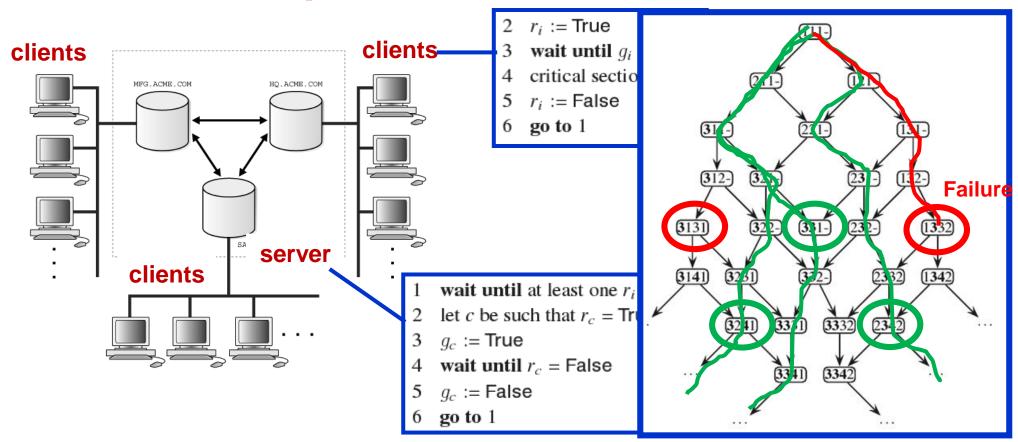
Lars M. Kristensen
Department of Computing, Mathematics, and Physics
Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

Email: lmkr@hvl.no / WWW: home.hib.no/ansatte/lmkr



Complex Behaviour

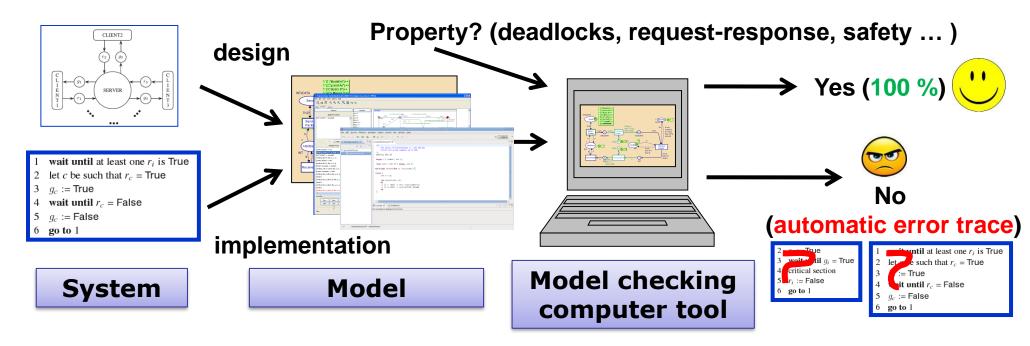
 A server controls access to databases which is to be used by at most one client at a time





Verification

 Executable models can be automatically analysed by computer tools

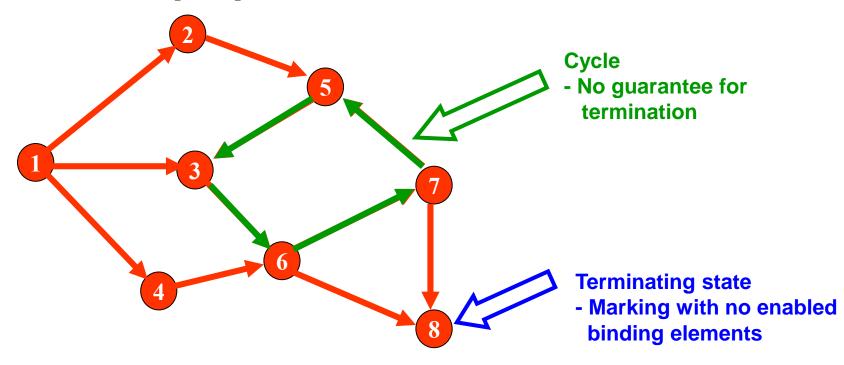


 Facilitates early error-detection and verification of components and systems.



State Spaces

- The state space of a CPN is a directed graph with
 - A node for each reachable marking (state)
 - An arc for each occurring binding element
- State spaces can be used to investigate the behavioural properties of the a model





State spaces

Definition 9.1. A directed graph with arc labels from a set L is a tuple DG = (N,A), where:

- 1. *N* is a set of **nodes**.
- 2. $A \subseteq N \times L \times N$ is a set of **arcs**.

Definition 9.6. The **state space** of a Coloured Petri Net is a directed graph $SS = (N_{SS}, A_{SS})$ with arc labels from BE, where:

- 1. $N_{SS} = \mathcal{R}(M_0)$ is the set of **nodes**.
- 2. $A_{SS} = \{(M, (t,b), M') \in N_{SS} \times BE \times N_{SS} \mid M \xrightarrow{(t,b)} M'\}$ is the set of **arcs**.
- SS is **finite** if and only if N_{SS} and A_{SS} are finite.



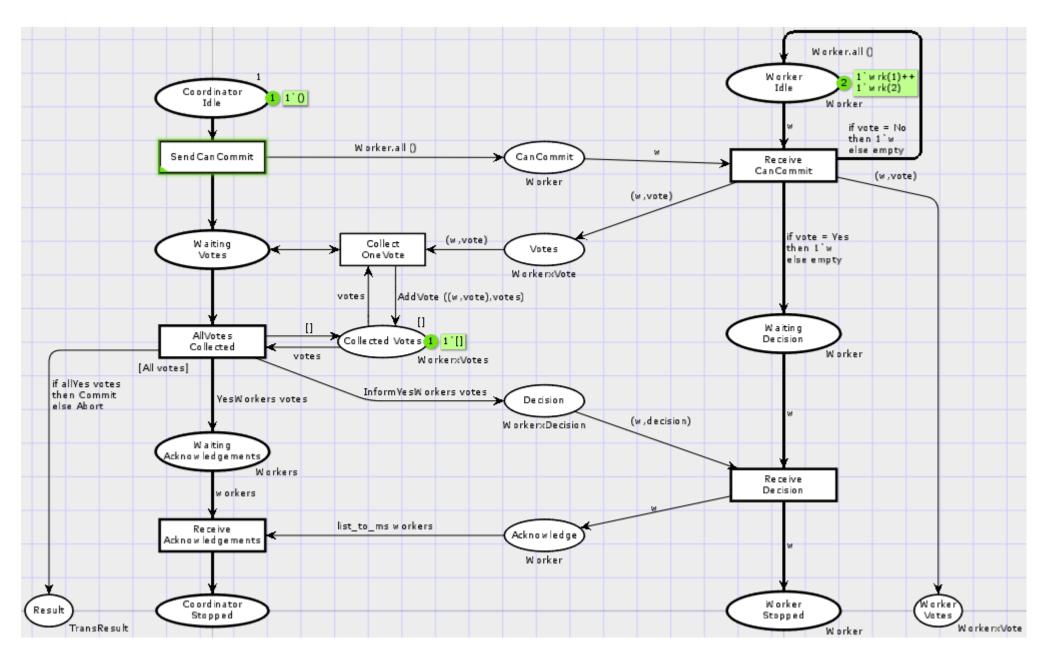
CPN Tools Demo

State space exploration of CPN models

- Variant of the two-phase commit protocol model where coordinator and workers do not return to their initial state
- Calculation of state spaces
- Stop options
- Visualisation of fragments of state spaces

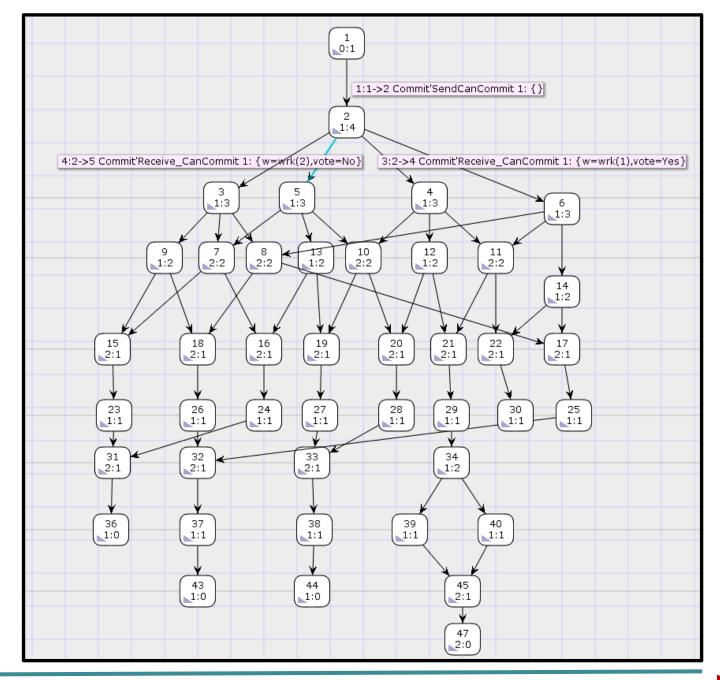








State SpaceCommit Protocol W = 2



Construction Algorithm

```
1: Nodes \leftarrow \{M_0\}
 2: Unprocessed \leftarrow \{M_0\}
 3: ARCS \leftarrow \emptyset
 4: while Unprocessed \neq \emptyset do
        Select a marking M in UNPROCESSED
        Unprocessed \leftarrow Unprocessed -\{M\}
        for all binding elements (t,b) such that M \xrightarrow{(t,b)} \mathbf{do}
 7:
           Calculate M' such that M \xrightarrow{(t,b)} M'
 8:
            ARCS \leftarrow ARCS \cup \{(M,(t,b),M')\}
            if M' \not\in \text{Nodes then}
10:
               Nodes \leftarrow Nodes \cup \{M'\}
11:
               Unprocessed \leftarrow Unprocessed \cup {M'}
12:
13:
            end if
14:
        end for
15: end while
```



Strongly Connected Components

 A strongly connected component (SCC) is a maximal subgraph in which all nodes are reachable from each other.

- SCC-graph contains
 - A node for each SCC.
 - An arc from S_i to S_j for each state space arc from a node n_i∈S_i to a node n_i∈S_i (i≠j).
- The SCCs are mutually disjoint.
- Each node is in exactly one SCC.
- The SCC-graph is acyclic.

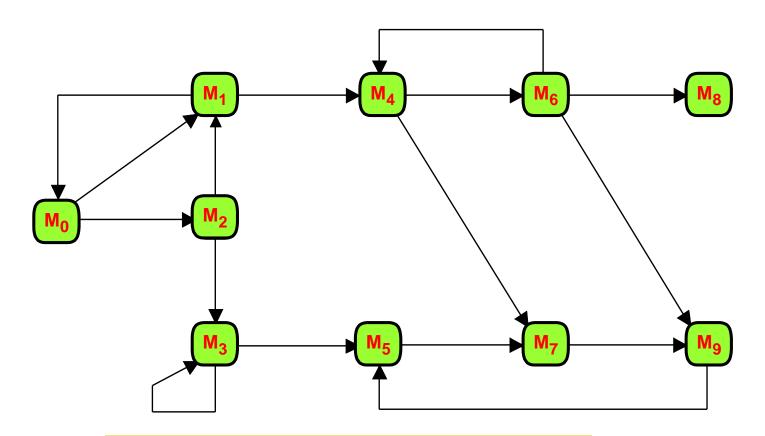


Terminal SCC (no outgoing arcs)



Example: State space

10 nodes and 16 arcs

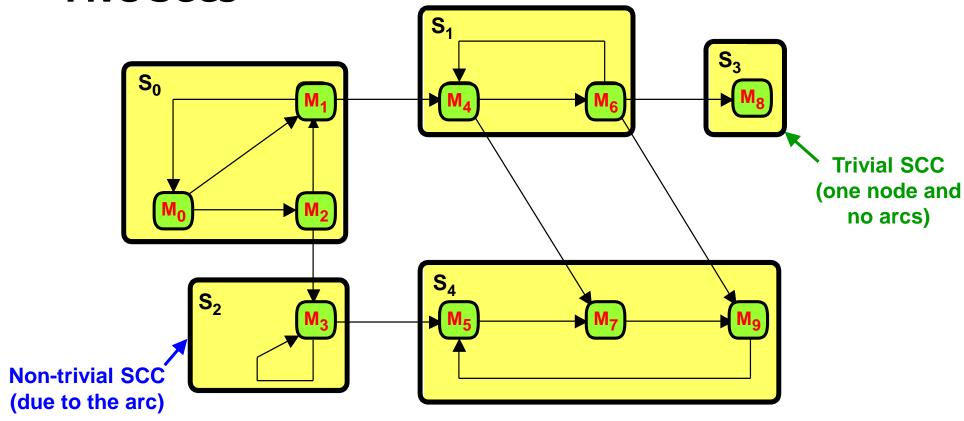


Strongly connected components?



SCC Example

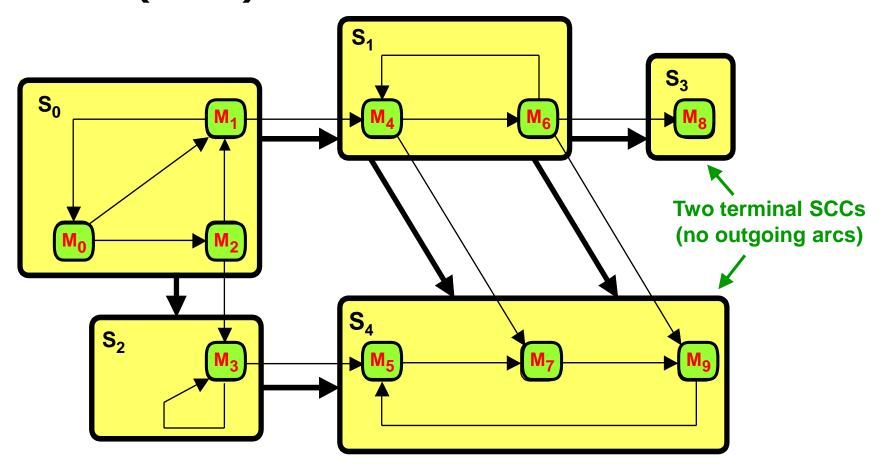
Five SCCs





SCC graph

5 nodes (SCCs) and 6 arcs





State Space Analysis

- State spaces may be very large and we need computer tools to construct and analyse them.
- Analysis of the state space typically starts with the generation of the state space report
 - Textual report that can be generated fully automatically
 - Contains information about standard behavioural properties of the CPN model
 - Useful for locating errors or increase confidence in the correctness of the system



State Space Report - Content

- The state space report contains information about standard behavioural properties
 - Size of the state space and the time used to generate it
 - Bounds for the number of tokens on each place and information about the possible token colours
 - Home markings *
 - Dead markings
 - Dead and live transitions

Strongly connected components used for checking these properties

- Fairness properties for transitions
- The state space report can be generated for any CPN models with a finite state space.



CPN Tools Demo

- State space analysis of CPN models
 - Generation of the strongly connected components
 - Generation and inspection of the state space report





Size and Exploration Time

State Space Statistics

State Space Scc Graph

Nodes: 23,497 Nodes: 23,497

Arcs: 52,192 Arcs: 52,192

Secs: 76 Secs:

Status: Full

- The state space has status Full: it contains all reachable markings.
- The SCC graph and the state space has the same number of nodes and arcs: no cycles.



Integer Bounds

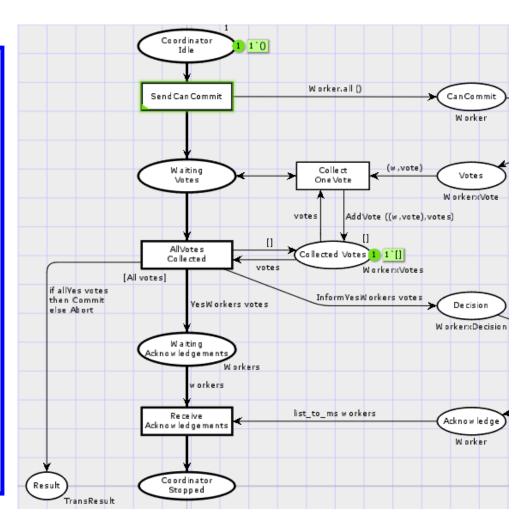
- The integer bounds considers the number of tokens on a place
 - The best upper integer bound for a place is the maximal number of tokens on the place in a reachable marking
 - The best lower integer bound for a place is the minimal number of tokens on the place in a reachable marking

- Places with an upper integer bound are bounded.
- Places with no upper integer bound are unbounded.



Integer Bounds - Coordinator

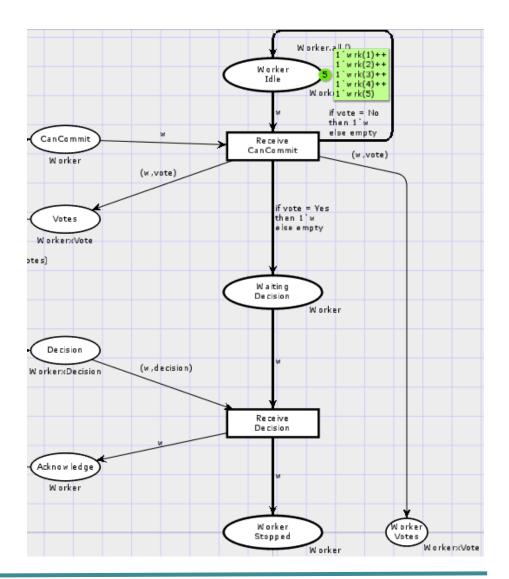
Best Integers Bounds Upper Lower				
opi	ber	TOMET		
CoordinatorIdle	1	0		
CanCommit	5	0		
WaitingVotes	1	0		
CollectedVotes	1	1		
Decision	5	0		
Waiting				
Acknowledgements	1	0		
CoordinatorStopped	1	0		
Result	1	0		





Integer Bounds - Workers

Best Integers Bounds				
	Upper	Lower		
WorkerIdle	5	0		
Votes	5	0		
WaitingDecisio	n 5	0		
Acknowledge	5	0		
WorkerStopped	5	0		
WaitingDecisio	n 5	0		





Definition - Integer bounds

Definition 9.9. Let a place $p \in P$ and a non-negative integer $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be given.

1. n is an **upper integer bound** for p if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathcal{R}(M_0) : |M(p)| \leq n$$

2. n is a **lower integer bound** for p if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) : |M(p)| \ge n$$

3. *p* is **bounded** if and only if an upper integer bound for *p* exists. Otherwise, *p* is **unbounded**.



Multiset Bounds

- Integer bounds considers the number of tokens
 ignores the token colours.
- Multiset bounds considers the possible token colours.
- The best upper multiset bound for a place is a multiset over the colour set of the place
 - the coefficient for a colour c is the maximal number of occurrences of tokens with colour c in a reachable marking
- The best lower multiset bound for a place is a multiset over the colour set of the place
 - the coefficient for a colour c is the minimal number of occurrences of tokens with colour c in a reachable marking



Upper Multiset - Coordinator

```
Best Upper Multiset Bounds
                     1`()
CoordinatorIdle
CanCommit
                    1'wrk(1) ++ 1'wrk(2) ++ 1'wrk(3) ++
                     1'wrk(4) ++ 1'wrk(5)
Decision
                     1 (wrk(1), abort) ++ 1 (wrk(1), commit) ++
                     1 (wrk(2), abort) ++ 1 (wrk(2), commit) ++
                     1 (wrk(3), abort) ++ 1 (wrk(3), commit) ++
                     1 (wrk(4), abort) ++ 1 (wrk(4), commit) ++
                     1 \( (wrk(5), abort) ++ 1 \( (wrk(5), commit) \)
CoordinatorStopped 1`()
Result
                     1 Abort ++ 1 Commit
```



Upper Multiset - Workers



Lower Multiset Bounds

Best Lower Multiset Bounds					
CoordinatorIdle	empty	WorkerIdle	empty		
CanCommit	empty	Votes	empty		
WaitingVotes	empty	WaitingDecision	empty		
CollectedVotes	empty	Acknowledge	empty		
Decision	empty	WorkerVotes	empty		
WaitingAcknowledgements	empty	WorkerStopped	empty		
CoordinatorStopped	empty				
Result	empty				

 All are equal to the empty multi-set: all minimal coefficients are zero – no token is always present.



Definition: multi-set bounds

Definition 9.11. Let a place $p \in P$ and a multiset $m \in C(p)_{MS}$ be given.

1. m is an **upper multiset bound** for p if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) : M(p) \ll = m$$

2. *m* is a **lower multiset bound** for p if and only if

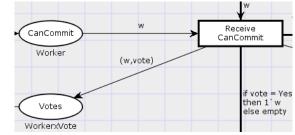
$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) : M(p) \gg = m$$



Integer and Multiset bounds

- The two kinds of bounds supplement each other and provides different kinds of information.
- Integer bounds

Votes	5	0
-------	---	---



Tells us that Votes has at most five tokens and as little as zero tokens, but gives us no information about the token colours.

Multi-set bounds

```
1`(wrk(1),Yes)++1`(wrk(1),No)++1`(wrk(2),Yes)++1`(wrk(2),No)++
1`(wrk(3),Yes)++1`(wrk(3),No)++1`(wrk(4),Yes)++1`(wrk(4),No)++
1`(wrk(5),Yes)++1`(wrk(5),No)
```

Tells us that Votes can have ten different tokens and as little as zero of each, but not how many can be present simultaneously.



Liveness Properties

- A marking M is dead if M has no enabled transition bindings.
- A transition t is dead if t never can occur
 - is disabled in all reachable markings.
- A transition t is live if we from any reachable marking can reach a state where t is enabled



- Liveness tells that it is possible for t to occur.
- No guarantee that this will happen.
- It is possible to be non-dead without being live.



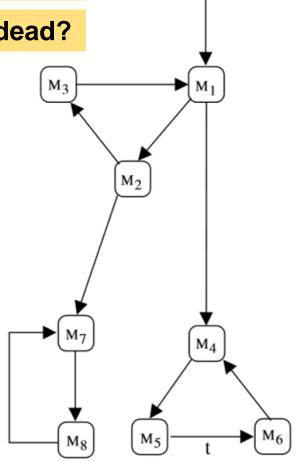
Liveness Properties

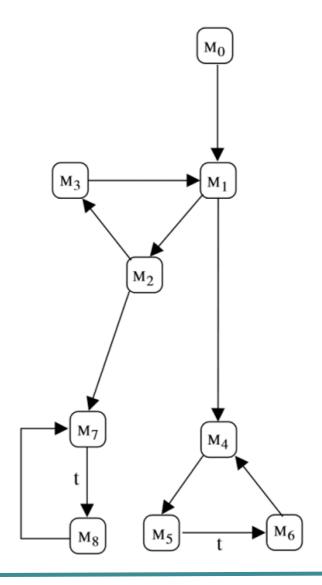
 M_0

Dead markings?

Transition t live?

Transition t dead?







Definition - Liveness Properties

Definition 9.19. Let a transition $t \in T$ and a marking M be given.

1. *M* is a **dead marking** if and only if

$$\forall t \in T : \neg (M \xrightarrow{t})$$

2. t is **dead in** M_0 if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) : \neg (M \stackrel{t}{\longrightarrow})$$

3. t is **live in** M_0 if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) \; \exists M' \in \mathscr{R}(M) : M' \stackrel{t}{\longrightarrow}$$



Liveness Properties

```
Liveness Properties

Dead Markings: 32 [23497,23376,23375,23374,23373,...]

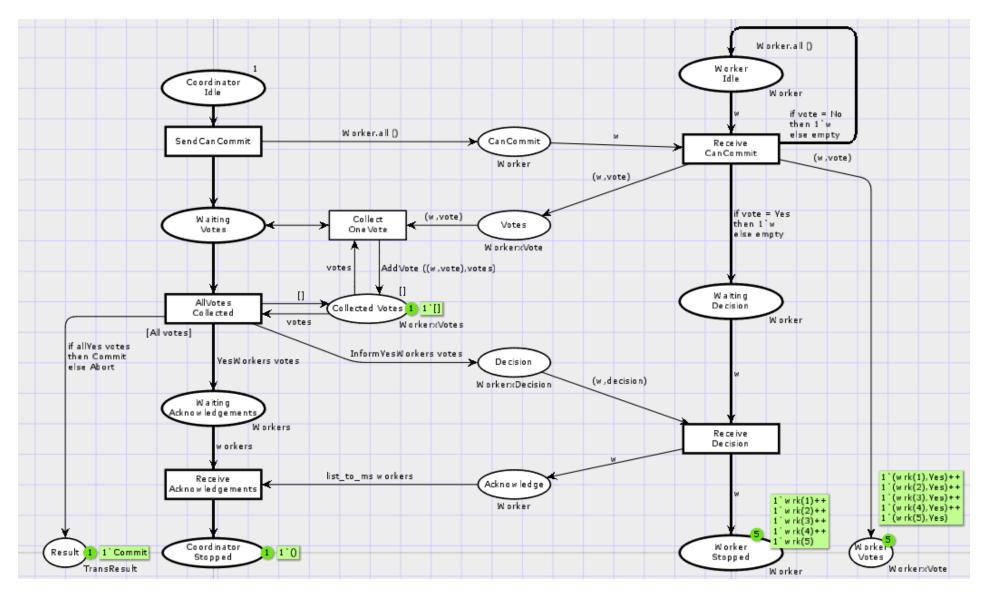
Dead Transitions: None

Live Transitions: None
```

- There are 32 dead markings represented by the nodes numbered: 23497, 23376, 23375,...
- There are no dead transitions
 - All transitions have the possibility of becoming enabled
- There are no live transitions
 - Consequence of the existence of a dead markings



State 23497





Home Properties

 A home marking is a marking M_{home} which can be reached from any reachable marking

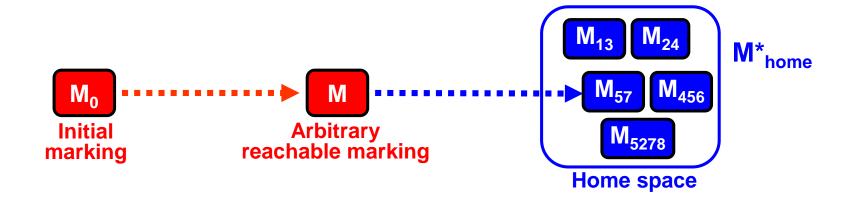


- Impossible to have an occurrence sequence which cannot be extended to reach M_{home}
 - The home property tells that it is possible to reach M_{home}
 - No guarantee that this will happen.



Home Space

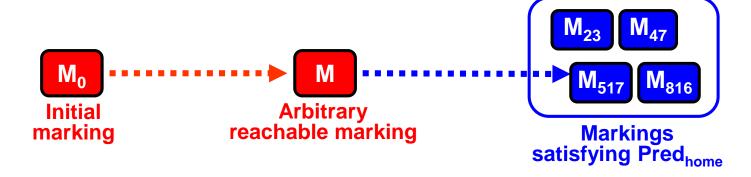
 A home space is a set of markings M*_{home} such that at least one marking in M*_{home} can be reached from any reachable marking





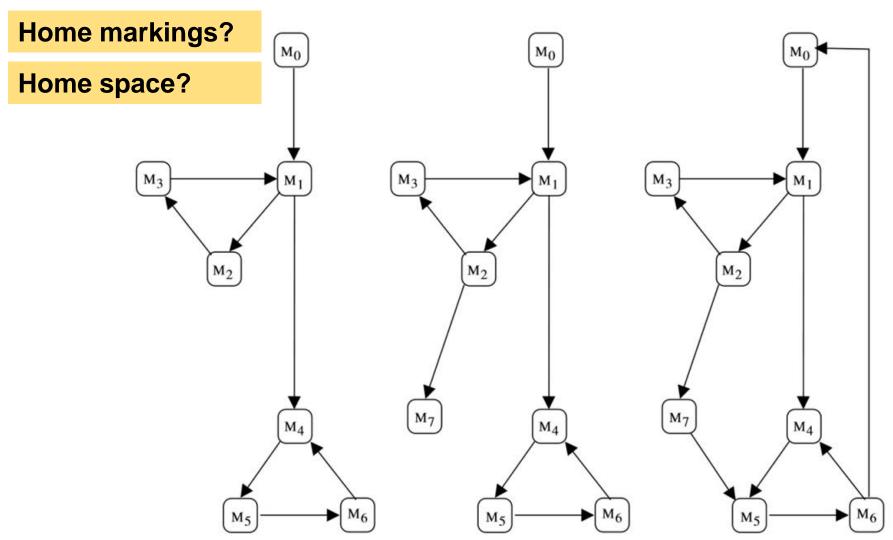
Home Predicate

 A home predicate is a predicate on markings Pred_{home} such that at least one marking satisfying Pred_{home} can be reached from any reachable marking





Home Properties





Definition: home properties

Definition 9.17. Let M_{home} be a marking and M_{home}^* a set of markings.

1. M_{home} is a **home marking** if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) : M_{home} \in \mathscr{R}(M)$$

2. M_{home}^* is a **home space** if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) \; \exists M' \in \mathscr{R}(M) : M' \in M_{home}^*$$

3. A predicate ϕ on markings is a **home predicate** if and only if

$$\forall M \in \mathscr{R}(M_0) \; \exists M' \in \mathscr{R}(M) : \phi(M')$$



Home Markings

 There is are no home markings in the twophase commit protocol CPN model

Home Properties

Home Markings: None

A consequence of having more than one (32) dead markings.



Query Functions

- The state space report contains information about standard behavioural properties
 - Useful for validating the basic operation of model
 - Modelling errors are often evident from the state space report
- Non-standard behavioural properties can also be investigated by means of queries written in the Standard ML language
 - provide arguments to a predefined query function e.g. to check whether a set of markings constitute a home space
 - write your own query functions using the Standard ML programming language



What does it mean for the two-phase commit protocol model to be correct?



Example – can we commit?

- Want to check whether one of the dead markings corresponds to a commit state.
- Predicate checking the marking of the Result place in the coordinator

```
fun hasCommit n = Mark.Commit'Result 1 n == 1`Commit
```

Check whether we have a commit in one of the dead markings

```
List.exists hasCommit (ListDeadMarkings ())
```



Consistent Termination States

The protocol commits iff all workers votes yes

```
fun correctTermination n =
  let
      val votes = Mark.Commit'Worker Votes 1 n
      val votecount = size votes
      val yescount = List.length (yesVotes votes)
      val result = ms to col (Mark.Commit'Result 1 n)
  in
      (votecount = W) andalso
       ((result = Commit) andalso (yescount = W)) orelse
       ((result = Abort) andalso (yescount < W))
  end
```

List.all correctTermination (ListDeadMarkings ())



Ability to Correctly Terminate?

- Established that all terminating states of the protocol are consistent with the commit criteria.
- Does the dead markings constitute a home space?

```
HomeSpace (ListDeadMarkings ())
```

- The SCC-graph and the state space are equal for the two-phase commit protocol
 - One of the dead markings will always be reached
- Conclusion: the protocol eventually terminates in a state consistent with the commit criteria.





Error Detection and Counter Examples



Property Violations

- If a property is violated then state space methods can provide error-traces.
- Example: two-phase commit with a wrong implementation of the allYes predicate

```
fun allYes votes = (List.length (yesVotes votes) = W-1)
```

Results of running the queries

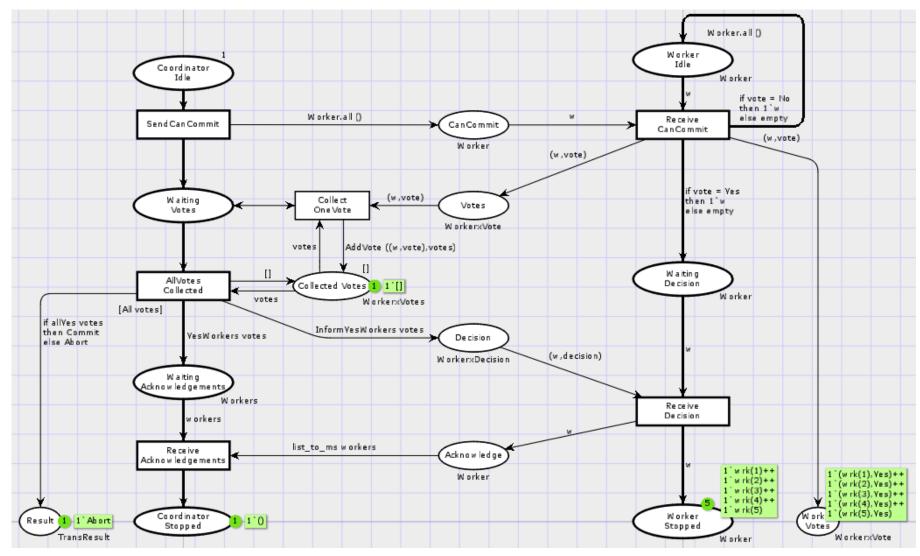
```
List.all correctTermination (ListDeadMarkings ())
val it = false : bool
```

Find a dead marking with inconsistent termination

```
List.find (not o correctTermination) (ListDeadMarkings ())
val it = SOME 23497 : Node option
```



State 23497





Counter Example Generation

 Find the arcs in a path from the initial state (node 1) to state 23497

```
val path = ArcsInPath (1,23497)

val path = [1,11,93, 591, ...] Arc list
```

 Obtain the sequence of transition bindings corresponding to the arcs in the path

val errortrace = List.map ArcToBE path



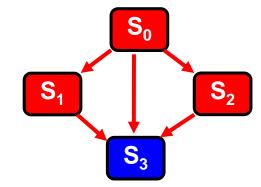


Checking Home Properties using Strongly Connected Components

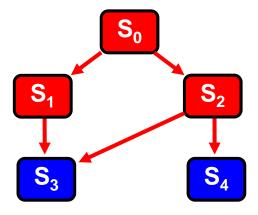


Home Markings and SCCs

- The existence of home markings can be determined from the number of terminal SCCs.
- Only one terminal SCC
 - All markings in the terminal SCC are home markings
 - No other markings are home markings



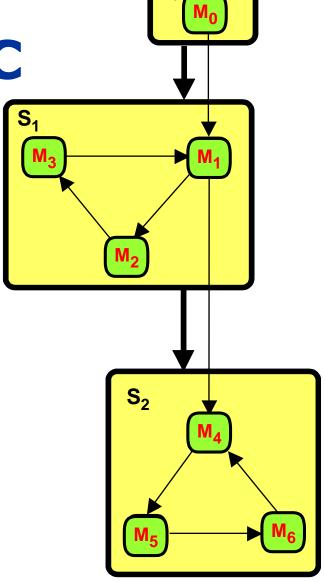
- More than one terminal SCC
 - No home markings





Example: Single Terminal SCC

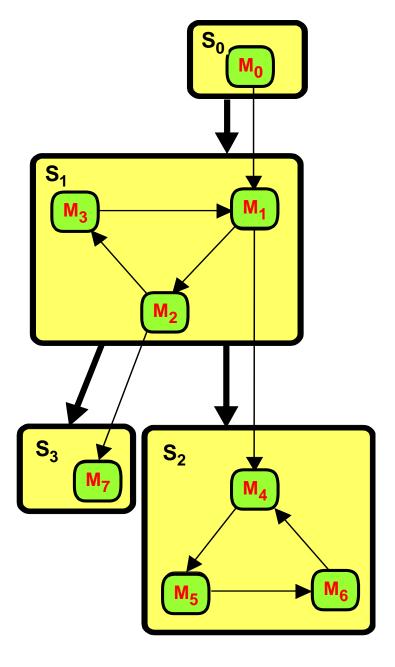
- All markings in the terminal SCC
 S₂ are home markings.
- No other markings are home markings.





More than one terminal SCC

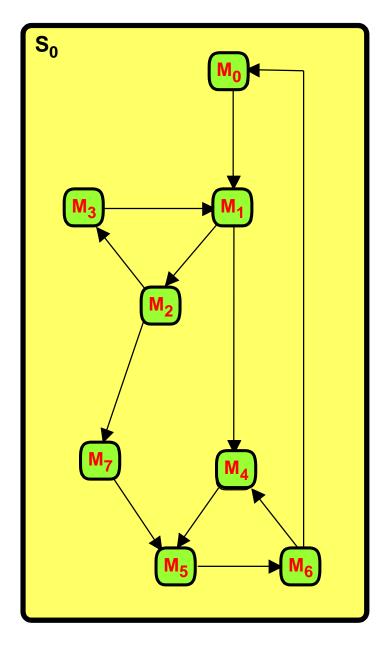
- No home markings.
- When one of the terminal SCCs S₂ and S₃ has been reached, it is impossible to leave it again.





Single SCC

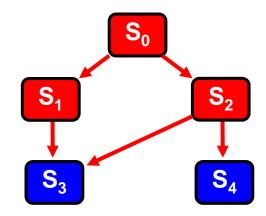
- All reachable markings are home markings.
- They are mutually reachable from each other.





Home Spaces and SCCs

- Home spaces can also be determined from the terminal components in the SCC graph.
- A set of markings is a home space if and only if it contains a node from each terminal SCC.
- Home spaces must have at least as many elements as there are terminal SCCs.



- A system may have home spaces without having home markings.
- Each home marking is a home space with only one element.

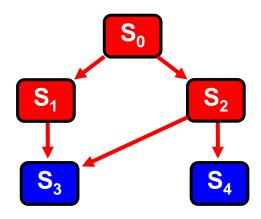


Checking Liveness Properties using Strongly Connected Components



Liveness Properties and SCCs

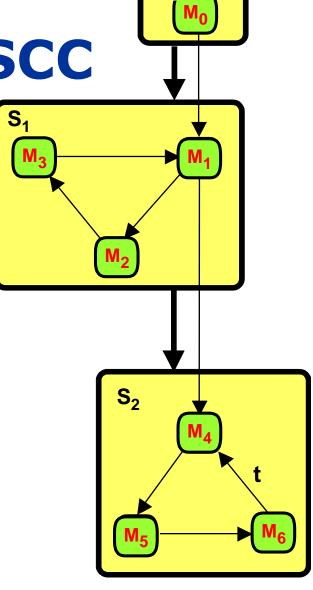
- Liveness properties of transitions can be determined from the SCC graph.
- A transition/binding element is live if and only if it appears on at least one arc in each terminal SCC.





Example: Single Terminal SCC

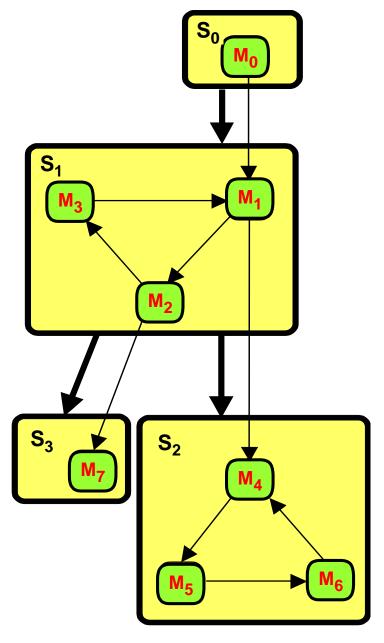
 A transition is live if it appears on an arc in the terminal SCC S₂.





More than one terminal SCC

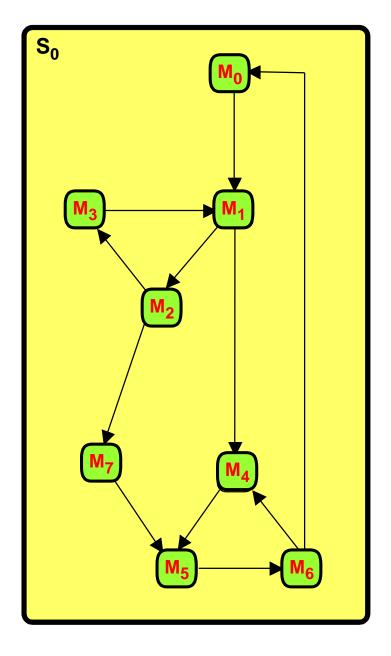
- A transition is live if it appears on an arc in each terminal SCC.
- No live transitions.
- S₃ is terminal and trivial.
- M_7 is a dead marking.





Single SCC

- A transition is live if it appears on an arc in the SCC.
- In <u>this case</u> we have that a transition is live if and only if it is non-dead.





State Spaces - Wrap up



System Configurations

- Basic state spaces analyses a system for a particular configuration of its parameters
 - in practice it is often sufficient to consider a few rather small configurations
 - we cannot be totally sure that larger configurations will have the same properties
- As system parameters increase the size of the state space often increases exponentially
- This phenomenon is also known as the space explosion problem
 - one of the most severe limitations of state space methods



Is it worthwhile?

- It takes many hours (or days) to generate the state spaces and verify the desired properties
 - it is fully automatic and hence requires little human work
- A relatively small investment compared to
 - the total number of resources used in a system development project
 - cost of implementing, deploying and correcting a system with errors that could have been detected in the design phase



Summary

- State spaces are powerful and easy to use
 - construction and analysis can be automated
 - the user do not need to know the underlying mathematics
- The main drawback and limitation for practical use is the state explosion problem
 - the present CPN state space tool can handle state spaces with up to several million states
 - for many systems this is not sufficient
 - efficient state space methods is an active area of research
 - an abundance of sophisticated techniques exists for alleviating the state explosion problem

