

PhD Progress Report

1st year

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- ▶ Analysis of assembly lines
- ▶ A hybrid technique for MRP transient analysis
- ▶ Other projects
 - ▶ the LINFA project
 - ▶ Activity Recognition for Ambient Assisted Living
- ▶ Research plan for the next year

Analysis of assembly lines

Assembly line

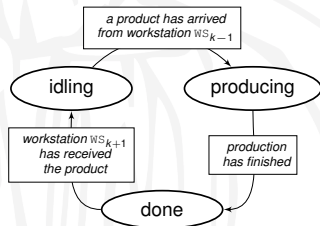


N sequential workstations WS_1, \dots, WS_N

- ▶ with transfer blocking
- ▶ and no buffering capacity

Workstation WS_k can be in one of three states

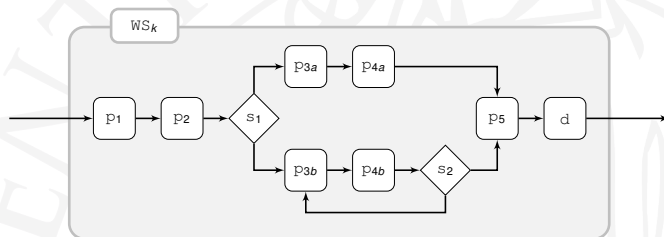
- ▶ *producing*: WS_k is working on a product
- ▶ *done*: WS_k is done working on a product
- ▶ *idling*: WS_k is waiting for a new product



Workstation

Each workstation WS_k

- ▶ has no internal parallelism
 - ▶ at most one item being processed in each workstation
- ▶ can implement complex workflows
 - ▶ sequential/alternative/cyclic phases with random choices
- ▶ and has GEN phases' durations



The last phase has no duration and encodes the *done* state

Underlying stochastic process

The underlying stochastic process of each isolated workstation is a Semi Markov Process (SMP)

- ▶ due to GEN durations
- ▶ and the absence of internal parallelism

The whole assembly line finds a renewal in any case where

- ▶ every *done* station is in a queue before a bottleneck
- ▶ and everything else is *idling*



Inspection with partial observability

The assembly line can be inspected by external observers

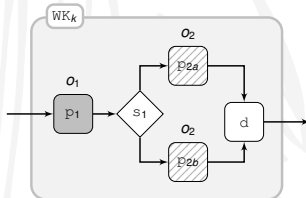
- ▶ the line can be considered at steady-state at inspection
- ▶ there can be ambiguity about the current phase

An observation is a tuple $\omega = \langle \omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_N \rangle$

- ▶ ω_0 indicates if a new product is ready to enter the line or not
- ▶ $\omega_k = \langle \sigma_k, \phi_k \rangle$ refers to WS_k
 - ▶ σ_k indicates if WS_k is *idle/producing/done*
 - ▶ ϕ_k identifies the set of possible current phases

Two kinds of uncertainty

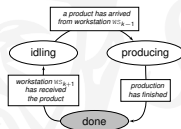
- ▶ about the actual current phase
 - ▶ discrete
- ▶ about the remaining time in the current phase
 - ▶ continuous



Performance measures

Time To Done

- ▶ The remaining time until workstation k , according to observation ω , reaches the *done* state



Time To Idle

- ▶ The remaining time until workstation k , according to observation ω , reaches the *idling* state



Time To Start Next

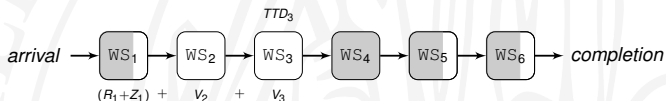
- ▶ The remaining time until workstation k , according to observation ω , starts the production of a new product



Time To Done

$$\text{TTD}(k, \omega) := \begin{cases} \sum_{\gamma \in \phi_k} P_{k, \gamma, \omega} \cdot (R(k, \gamma) + Z(k, \gamma)), & \text{if } \sigma_k = \textit{producing} \\ \text{TTD}(k-1, \omega) + V(k), & \text{if } \sigma_k = \textit{idling} \\ 0, & \text{if } \sigma_k = \textit{done} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $P_{k, \gamma, \omega}$ probability weight that WS_k is in phase γ according to ω
- ▶ $R(k, \gamma)$ remaining time in phase γ of WS_k
- ▶ $Z(k, \gamma)$ execution time of phases of WS_k that follow γ
- ▶ $V(k)$ production time of WS_k

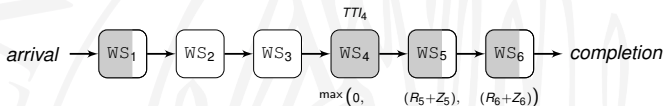


Backward recursive evaluation

Time To Idle

$$TTI(k, \omega) := \begin{cases} \max\{TTD(k, \omega), TTI(k+1, \omega)\}, & \text{if } \sigma_k \in \{\textit{producing}, \textit{done}\} \\ 0, & \text{if } \sigma_k = \textit{idling} \end{cases}$$

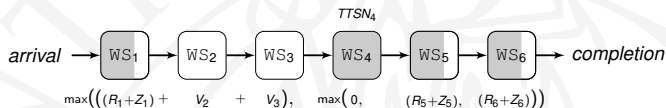
- ▶ $TTI(k, \omega) = \max\{TTD(k, \omega), \dots, TTD(k+n, \omega)\}$
 - ▶ WS_j producing/done $\forall j \in [k, k+n]$
 - ▶ either WS_{k+n} last workstation or WS_{k+n+1} idling
- ▶ WS_k becomes idle when the bottleneck finishes its production



Forward recursive evaluation

Time To Start Next

$$TTSN(k, \omega) := \max\{TTI(k, \omega), TTD(k-1, \omega)\}$$



Forward and backward recursive evaluation

Disambiguation of observed phases

Resolve observed (producing) phases' ambiguity

- ▶ steady-state probability that WS_k is in phase γ according to ω

Given observation ϕ_k for workstation WS_k

- ▶ we compute probability $P_{k,\gamma,\omega}$
- ▶ that it was actually γ that produced ϕ_k

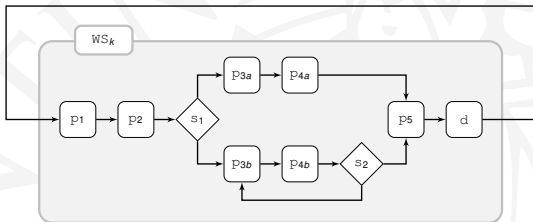
$$P_{k,\gamma,\omega} = \frac{\tilde{\pi}(\gamma)}{\sum_{\gamma' \in \phi_k} \tilde{\pi}(\gamma')}$$

- ▶ $\tilde{\pi}(\gamma)$ steady-state probability of phase γ in an isolated model of WS_k

Isolated workstation model

The isolated workstation model represents a workstation repeatedly processing a product

- ▶ one product being processed
- ▶ after its production, it's moved back to the entry point of the workstation



It can be used for two reasons

- ▶ steady-state probabilities of producing phases are independent
- ▶ the inspection is at steady-state
 - ▶ arrivals and productions can be considered in equilibrium

Remaining time

Evaluation of $F_{R(k,\gamma)}(t)$ = CDF of $R(k,\gamma)$

- ▶ $R(k,\gamma)$ *remaining time* in phase γ of WS_k

Problem!

- ▶ remaining times of enabled GEN transitions are *dependent*
- ▶ joint probabilities don't allow for a compositional approach

1/3 *Immediate* approximation

- ▶ assume that phase γ is inspected at its ending
 - ▶ $\tilde{F}_{R(k,\gamma)}(t) = 1 \quad \forall t$
- ▶ represents an *upper bound*

2/3 *Newly enabled* approximation

- ▶ assume that phase γ is inspected at its beginning
 - ▶ $\tilde{F}_{R(k,\gamma)}(t) = F_\gamma(t)$
 - ▶ $F_\gamma(t)$ original CDF of the duration of γ
- ▶ represents a *lower bound*

Remaining time

$3/3$ Independent remaining times approximation

- ▶ consider the remaining times of ongoing phases as *independent*
- ▶ represents a (better) *lower bound*

Theorem: positive correlation & stochastic order

If \hat{R} is an independent version of vector R of positively correlated remaining times of ongoing phases, then $\hat{R} \geq_{st} R$

Steady-state distribution of $\hat{R}(k, \gamma)$

computed according to the Key Renewal Theorem¹

$$\tilde{F}_{R(k, \gamma)}(t) = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^t [1 - F_\gamma(s)] ds$$

- ▶ μ expected value of $F_\gamma(t)$

¹Serfozo, R., 2009. Basics of applied stochastic processes. Springer Science & Business Media.

Execution and production time

Evaluation of $F_{Z(k,\gamma)}(t)$ and $F_{V(k)}$

- ▶ $Z(k, \gamma)$ *execution time* of phases of WS_k that follow γ
- ▶ $V(k)$ *production time* of WS_k

CDFs of $Z(k, \gamma)$ and $V(k)$ are computed as transient probabilities

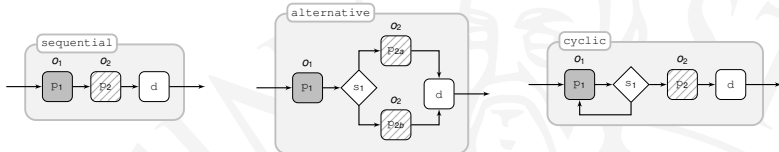
- ▶ $F_{Z(k,\gamma)}$ transient probability from phase after γ to final phase of WS_k
- ▶ $F_{V(k)}$ transient probability from first phase to final phase of WS_k

Upper/lower bounds for TTD , TTI and $TTSN$ can be evaluated

- ▶ *convolution* and *max* operations maintain stochastic order

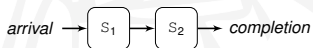
Case study assembly lines

Sequential, alternative and cyclic workstations



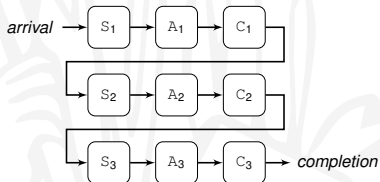
Simple assembly line

- ▶ two sequential workstations
- ▶ both in phase p_1 at inspection



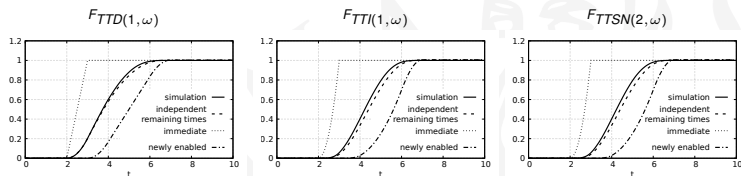
Complex assembly line

- ▶ three repetitions
- ▶ of sequential/alternative/cyclic ws
- ▶ all observed in *producing*



Simple assembly line

TTDone, TTIdle, TTStartNext



TTD , TTI and $TTSN$ computed in

- ▶ 41/45/42 min for simulation
- ▶ 0.15/0.18/0.10 s for bounds

Very good approximation results

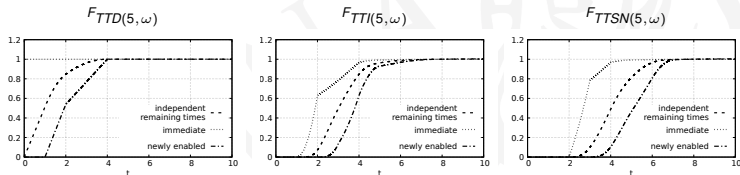
- ▶ especially for *independent remaining times*

Feasible approach

- ▶ very fast bounds evaluation
- ▶ compared to simulation

Complex assembly line

TT_{Done} , TT_{Idle} , $TT_{StartNext}$



TTD , TTI and $TTSN$ computed in

- ▶ 0.126/0.123/0.75 s for bounds

Scalable solution

- ▶ in a complex scenario
- ▶ simulation would be infeasible

A hybrid technique for MRP transient analysis

A hybrid technique for MRP transient analysis

Transient analysis of Markov Regenerative Processes (MRP) employing different techniques for different epochs

The basics:

- ▶ Exact techniques require specific conditions to be met
 - ▶ different techniques require different conditions
- ▶ Kernel rows of different epochs can be evaluated independently

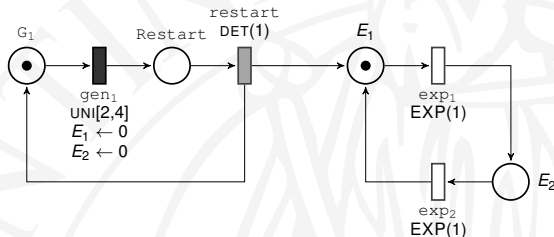
The idea:

- ▶ Evaluate each kernel row with a different technique
 - ▶ corresponding to the condition enabled in that epoch
 - ▶ eventually with an approximate technique, if no conditions are met
- ▶ Compute transient probabilities with Markov Renewal Equations

Analysis under enabling restriction²

Enabling restriction

- ▶ at most one GEN enabled in each state

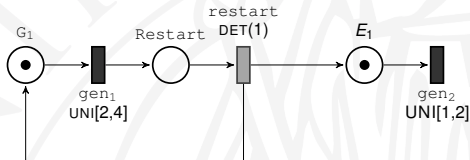


²German, R., Logothetis, D., & Trivedi, K. S. (1995, October). Transient analysis of Markov regenerative stochastic Petri nets: A comparison of approaches. In Petri Nets and Performance Models, 1995., Proceedings of the Sixth International Workshop on (pp. 103-112). IEEE.

Analysis with stochastic state classes³

Bounded regeneration restriction

- ▶ a regeneration is always reached within a bounded number of events
- ▶ i.e. there are no cycles without regenerations



³Horváth, A., Paolieri, M., Ridi, L., & Vicario, E. (2012). Transient analysis of non-Markovian models using stochastic state classes. *Performance Evaluation*, 69(7), 315-335.

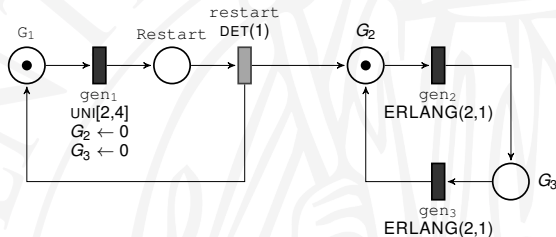
Approximate analysis with stochastic state classes

No restriction

- usable when no conditions are met

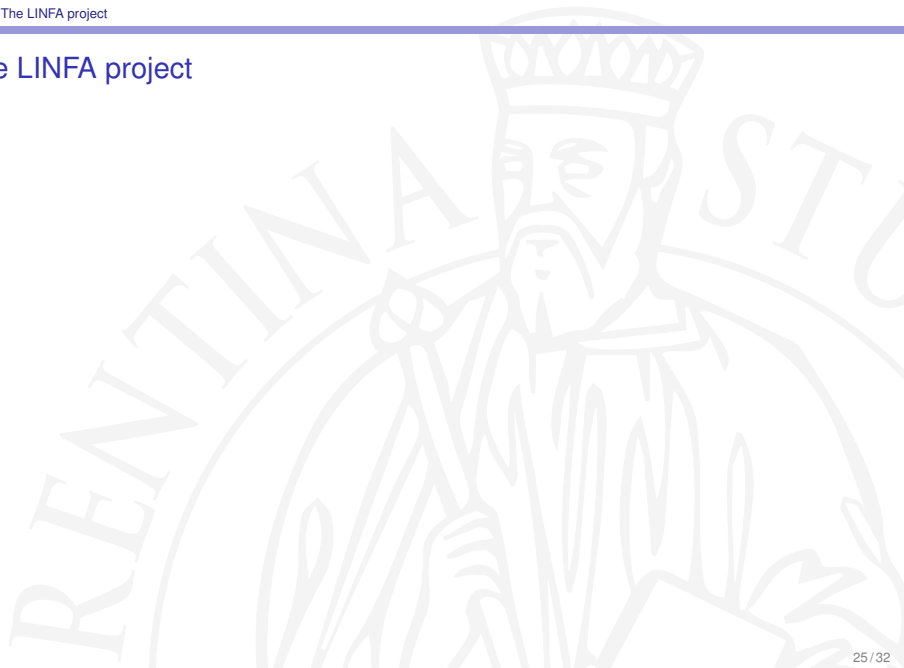
Based on analysis with stochastic state classes

- truncated after enough precision is met

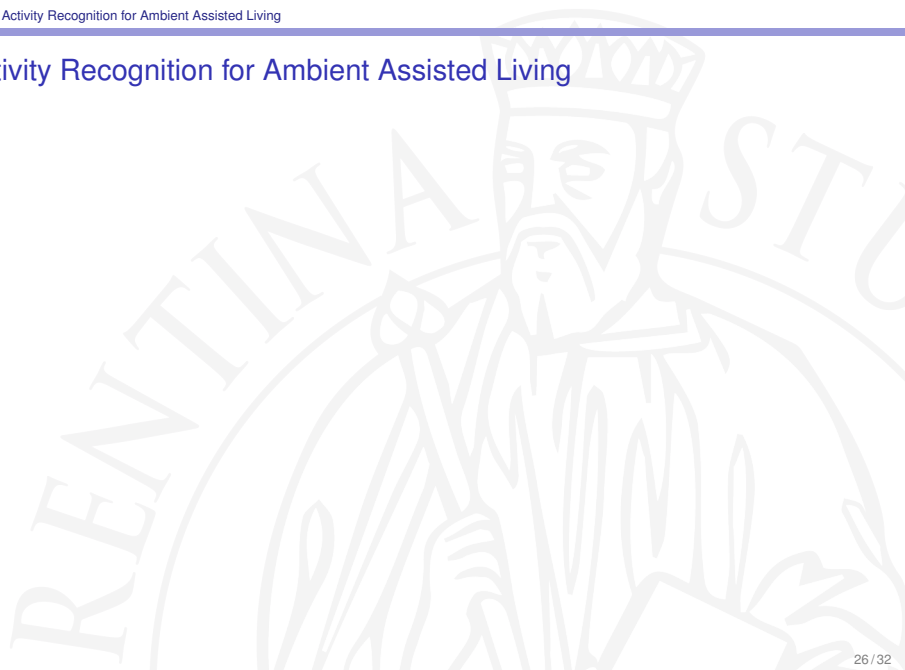


Other projects

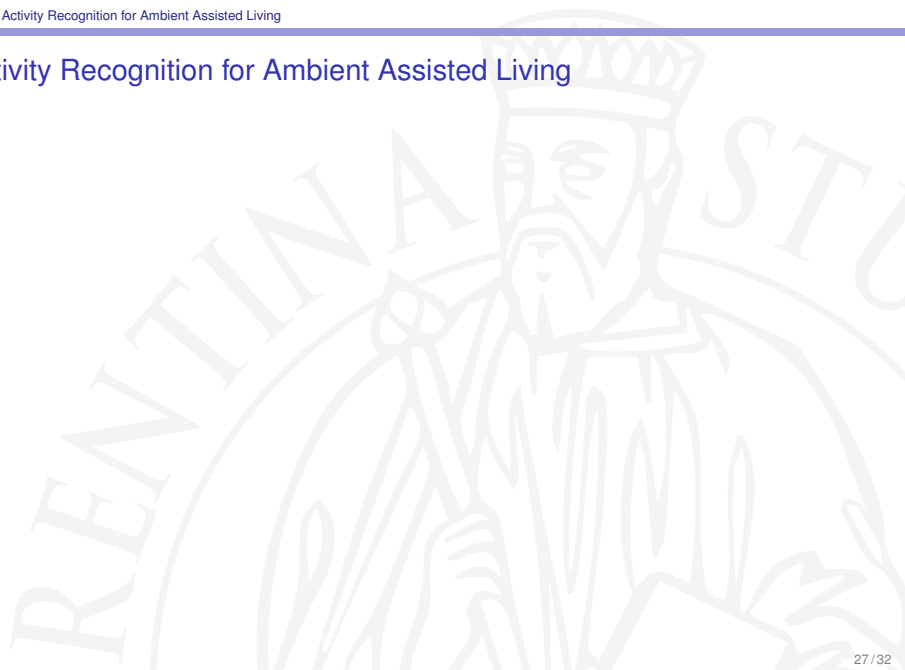
The LINFA project



Activity Recognition for Ambient Assisted Living

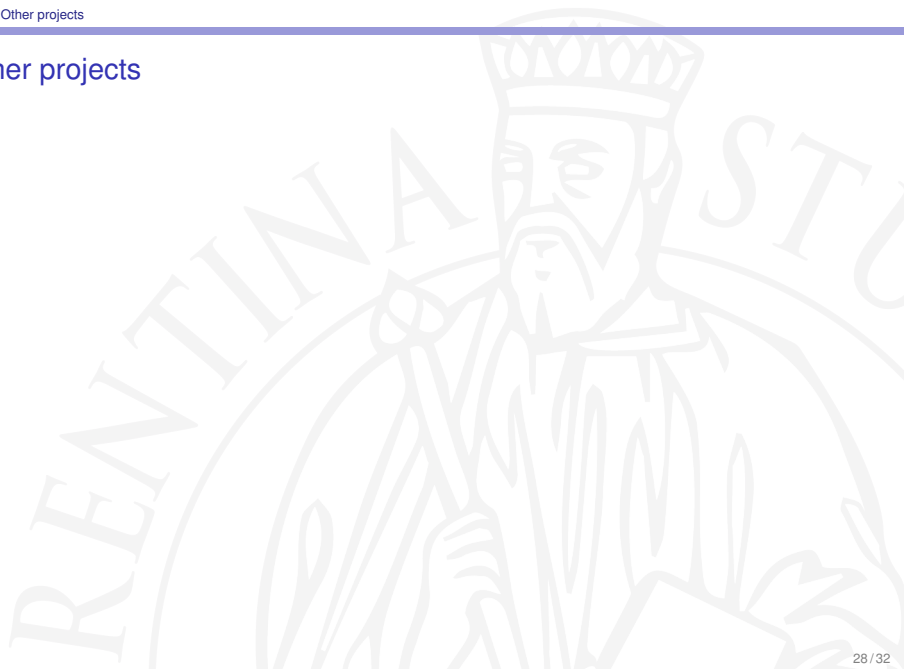


Activity Recognition for Ambient Assisted Living



- └ Other projects
- └ Other projects

Other projects



Research plan for the next year

Research plan for the next year

Analysis of assembly lines

Introduction of buffering capacity

- ▶ with fixed/variable capacity
- ▶ so to model more realistic scenarios

Derivation of additional performance measures

- ▶ in the same compositional fashion
- ▶ e.g. production time of a certain product in the line
- ▶ or of the next N products

Derivation of a more educated *upper bound*

Research plan for the next year

The LINFA project

Model more aspects to refine the ward model

- ▶ introduce personalised healthcare protocols
- ▶ employ process mining techniques

State-space optimisation

- ▶ avoid state-space explosion
- ▶ investigate other tools
 - ▶ Storm

Research plan for the next year

Activity Recognition for Ambient Assisted Living

Refine model based AR

- ▶ exploit fuzzy logic to include support for continuous sensors
 - ▶ accelerometer/thermometer/...

Identify good AR datasets for AAL

- ▶ investigate the literature
- ▶ generate new datasets

In order to apply process mining techniques