3. Modelling Dynamic Behavior with Petri Nets

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- 1) Basics
 - 1) Elementary Nets
 - 2) Colored Petri Nets
- 2) Patterns in Petri Nets
- 3) Refactorings
- 4) Composability of Colored Petri Nets
- 5) Parallel Composition with CPN
- 6) Application to modelling

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Literature

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- K. Jensen: Colored Petri Nets. Lecture Slides http://www.daimi.aau.de/~kjensen Many other links and informations, too
 - www.daimi.aau.dk/CPnets the home page of CPN. Contains lots of example specifications. Very recommended
- K. Jensen, Colored Petri Nets. Vol. I-III. Springer, 1992-96. Landmark book series on CPN.
- T. Murata. Petri Nets: properties, analysis, applications. IEEE volume 77, No 4, 1989.
- W. Reisig. Elements of Distributed Algorithms Modelling and Analysis with Petri Nets. Springer. 1998.
- ▶ W. Reisig, G. Rozenberg: Lectures on Petri Nets I+II, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 1491+1492, Springer.
- J. Peterson. Petri Nets. ACM Computing Surveys, Vol 9, No 3, Sept 1977

- **Obligatory Readings**
- Balzert 2.17

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- Or Ghezzi Chap 5
- or (not enough in Pfleeger):
- W.M.P. van der Aalst and A.H.M. ter Hofstede. Verification of workflow task structures: A petri-net-based approach. Information Systems, 25(1): 43-69, 2000.
- Kurt Jensen, Lars Michael Kristensen and Lisa Wells. Coloured Petri Nets and CPN Tools for Modelling and Validation of Concurrent Systems. Software Tools for Technology Transfer (STTT). Vol. 9, Number 3-4, pp. 213-254, 2007.
- J. B. Jörgensen. Colored Petri Nets in UML-based Software Development – Designing Middleware for Pervasive Healthcare. www.pervasive.dk/publications/files/CPN02.pdf
- Web portal "Petri Net World" http://www.informatik.uni-► hamburg.de/TGI/PetriNets/

Relationship of PN and other Behavioral Models

- P.D. Bruza, Th. P. van der Weide. The Semantics of Data-Flow Diagrams. Int. Conf. on the Management of Data. 1989
 - http://citeseer.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.40.9398
 - E.E.Roubtsova, M. Aksit. Extension of Petri Nets by Aspects to Apply the Model Driven Architecture Approach. University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands
 - Other courses at TU Dresden: ►
 - Entwurf und Analyse mit Petri-Netzen
 - Lehrstuhl Alg. u. log. Grundlagen d. Informatik
 - Dr. rer. nat. W. Nauber
 - http://wwwtcs.inf.tu-dresden.de/~nauber/eapn10add.html

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Goals

- Understand untyped and Colored Petri nets (CPN)
 - Understand that CPN are a verifiable and automated technology for safety-critical systems
- PN have subclasses corresponding to finite automata and dataflow graphs
- PN can be refined, then reducible graphs result

The Initial Problem

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▶ You work for PowerPlant Inc. Your boss comes in and says:

Our government wants a new EPR reactor, similarly, in the way Finland has it. How can we produce a verified control software? We need a good modelling language. Assembler would be too bad...

UML does not work...

How do we produce software for safety-critical systems?

Interesting Projects with Safety-Critical, Parallel Embedded Software

- 🕨 🕨 Arial
 - The WITAS UAV unmanned autonomously flying helicopter from Linköping
 - http://www.ida.liu.se/~marwz/papers/ICAPS06_System_Demo.pdf
 - Automotive
 - · Prometheus: driving in car queues on the motorway
 - http://www.springerlink.com/content/j06n312r36805683/
 - Trains
 - www.railcab.de Autonomous rail cabs
 - www.cargocab.de Autonomous cargo metro
 - http://www.cargocap.de/files/cargocap_presse/2005/2005_01_12%20krus e.pdf
 - http://www.rubin-nuernberg.de/ Autonomous mixed metro

Application Areas of Petri Nets

- ▶ Model introduced by C.A. Petri in 1962.
 - Ph.D. Thesis: "Communication with Automata".
 - Over many years developed within GMD (now Fraunhofer, FhG)
 - PNs describe explicitly and graphically: Conflict/non-deterministic choice, concurrency
- Reliable software (quality-aware software)
 - PetriNets can be checked on deadlocks, liveness, fairness, bounded resources
- Safety-critical software that require proofs
 - Control software in embedded systems or power plants
- User interface software
 - Users and system can be modeled as separate components
- Hardware synthesis
 - Software/Hardware co-design

Application Area I: Behavior Specifications in UML

- Instead of describing the behavior of a class with a statechart, a CPN can be used
 - CPN have several advantages:
 - They model parallel systems naturally
 - They are compact and modular, can be reducible
 - They lend themselves to aspect-oriented composition, in particular of parallel protocols
 - They can be used to generate code, also for complete applications
 - UML statecharts, data flow diagrams, and activity diagrams are special instances of CPN
 - Informal: for CPN, the following features can be proven
 - Liveness: All parts of the net do never get into a dead lock, i.e., can always proceed
 - Fairness: all parts of the net are equally "loaded" with activity
 - K-boundedness: the data that flows through the net is bound by a threshold
 - Deadlock-freeness: the net does not stop (deadlock)

3.1 Basics of PN

Petri Net Classes Predicate/Transition Nets: simple tokens, no hierarchy. Place-Transition Nets: multiple tokens High Level Nets: structured tokens, hierarchy There are many other variants, e.g., with timing constraints

Application Area II: Contract checking (Protocol Checking) for Components

- Petri Nets describe behavior of components (dynamic semantics)
 - They can be used to check whether components fit to each other
- Problem: General fit of components is undecidable
 - The protocol of a component must be described with a decidable language
 - Due to complexity, context-free or -sensitive protocol languages are required
- ► Algorithm:

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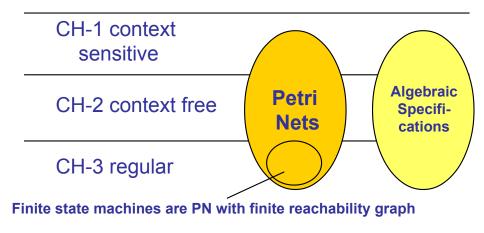
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- Describe the behavior of two components with two CPN
- Link their ports
- Check on liveness of the unified CPN
- If the unified net is not live, components will not fit to each other...
- Liveness and fairness are very important criteria in safety-critical systems

Language Levels

- 12 PN extend finite automata with indeterminism
 - Asynchronous execution model (partial ordering)

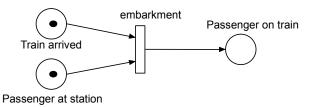
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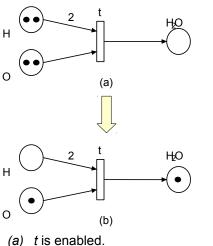
Elementary Nets: Predicate/Transition Nets

- A Petri Net (PN) is a directed, bipartite graph over two kinds of nodes, namely places (circles) and transitions (bars or boxes)
- An elementary PN is with boolean tokens, i.e., one token per place (bound of place = 1)
 - aka basic, predicate/transition nets (PTN), condition/Event nets
 - The presence of a token in a place means that the condition or predicate is true
 - The *firing* of a transition means that from the input predicates the output predicates are concluded
 - Thus elementary PN can model simple forms of logic



Formal Transition Enabling and Firing

- In a PN a state is changed according to the following *transitions firing rule*:
- A transition t is enabled if
 - each input place p of t is marked with at least w(p,t) tokens, where w(p,t) is the weight of the arc from p to t
 - The output place can be filled
- An enabled transition may or may not fire.
- A firing of an enabled transition removes w(p,t) tokens from each input place p to t, and adds w(t,p) tokens to each output place p of t, where w(t,p) is the weight of the arc from t to p.



(b) t has been fired.

Integer Place/Transitions-Nets

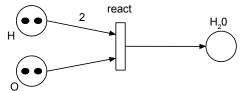
- An *integer PN* is a directed, weighted, bipartite graph over places and transitions with *integer* tokens, i.e., places may contain several tokens, and a *capacity* (*bound* = k)
 - *k* tokens in a place indicate that *k* data items are available
 - *M*(*p*) is the number of tokens in place *p*
 - A marking assigns to each place a nonnegative integer
 - A marking is denoted by *M*, an m-vector where m is the number of places.
 - A PN has a *initial marking*, M₀.
 - Arcs have cardinalities (weights) to show how many tokens they

transfer

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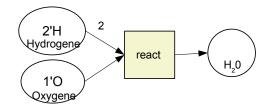
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Here: initial marking M₀(2,2,0)

High-Level Nets

- 16 A high-level PN (colored PN) allows for typed places and arcs
 - For types, any DDL can be used (e.g., UML-CD)
 - High-level nets are modular
 - Places and transitions can be refined
 - A Colored Petri Net is a reducible graph
 - The upper layers of a reducible CPN are called *channel agency* nets
 - Places are interpreted as channels between components



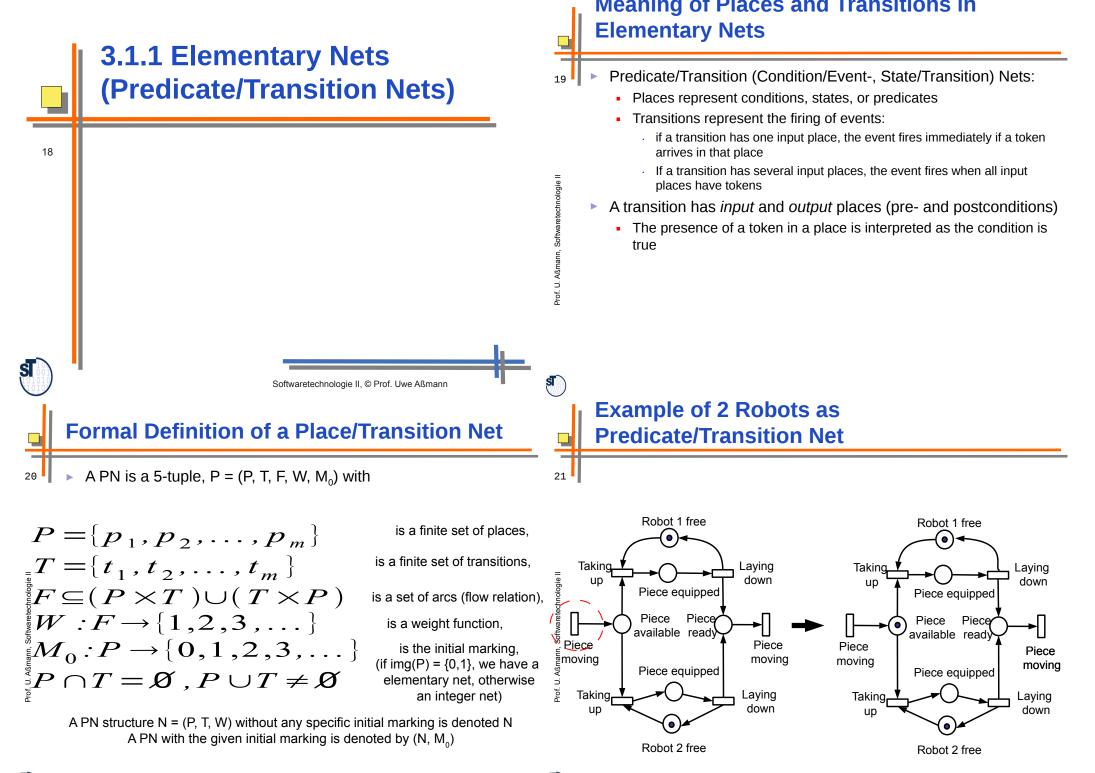
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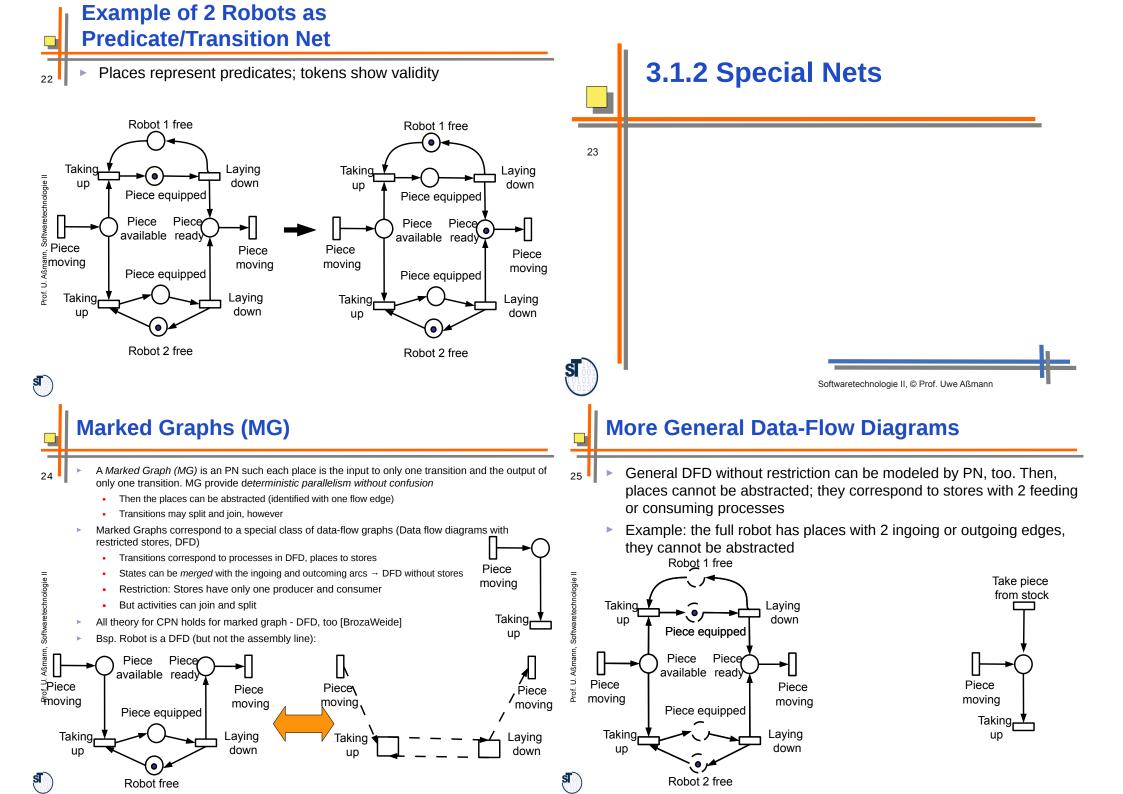
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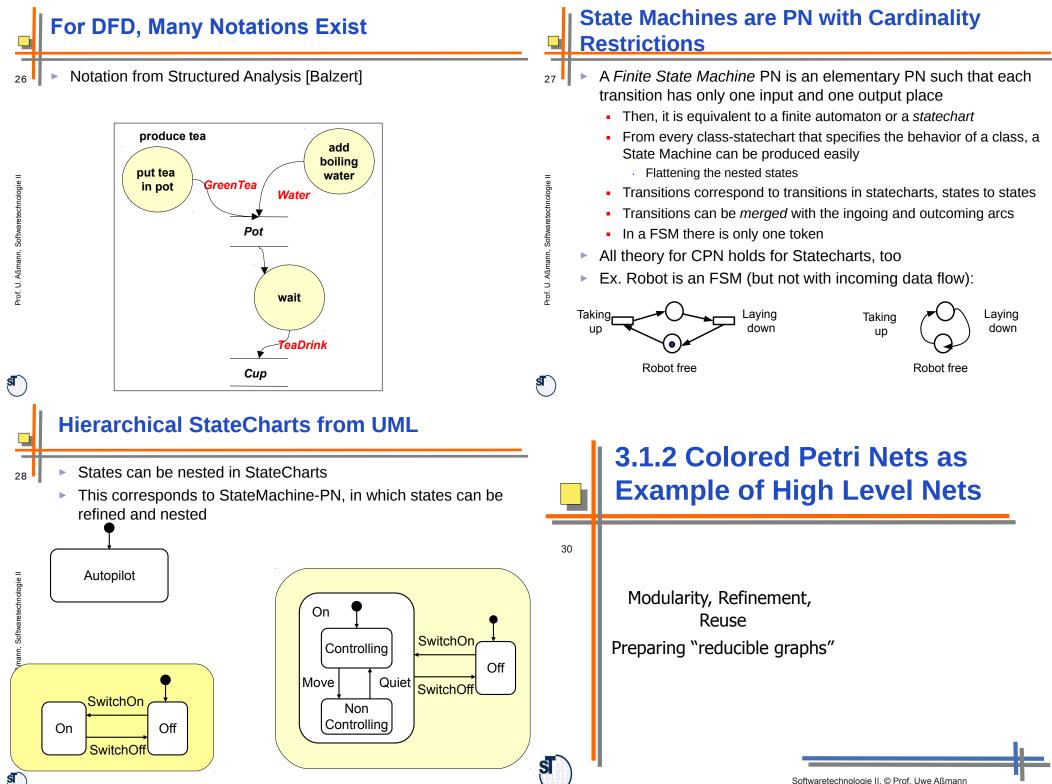
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Colored Petri Nets, CPN

- Colored (Typed) Petri Nets (CPN) refine Petri nets:
 - Tokens are typed (colored)
 - Types are described by data structure language, such as Java, ML, UML class diagrams
 - but may also be data dictionaries, grammars
 - Concept of time can be added
 - Full tool support
 - Fully automated code generation in Java and ML (in contrast to UML), e.g., DesignCPN of Aarhus University http://www.daimi.aau.dk
 - Prover proofs features about the PN
 - Net simulator allows for debugging
- Much better for safety-critical systems than UML, because proofs can be done

Annotations in CPN

- Places are annotated by
 - Token types

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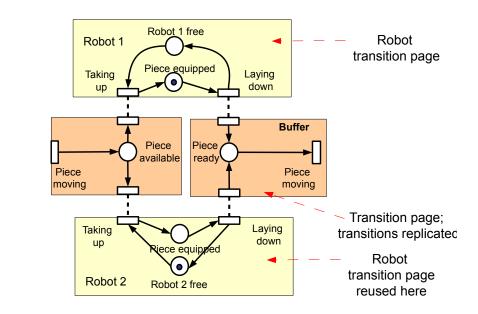
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- (STRING x STRING)
- Markings of objects and the cardinality in which they occur:
 - . 2'("Uwe","Assmann")
- Edges are annotated by
 - Type variables which are unified by unification against the token objects
 - . (X,Y)
 - Guards
 - . [X == 10]
 - if-then-else statements
 - . if X < 20 then Y := 4 else Y := 7
 - switch statements
 - boolean functions that test conditions

Robots with Transition Pages, Coupled by Transition Ports



CPN are Modular

- A subnet is called a page (module)
 - Every page has ports which mark in- and out-going transitions (into a place) or in- and outgoing places (into a transition)
 - Transition page: interface contains transitions (transition ports)
 - Place page (state page): interface contains place (place ports)
- Net class: a named page that is a kind of "template" or "class"
 - It can be instantiated to a net "object"
- Reuse of pages and templates possible
 - Libraries of CPN "procedures" possible

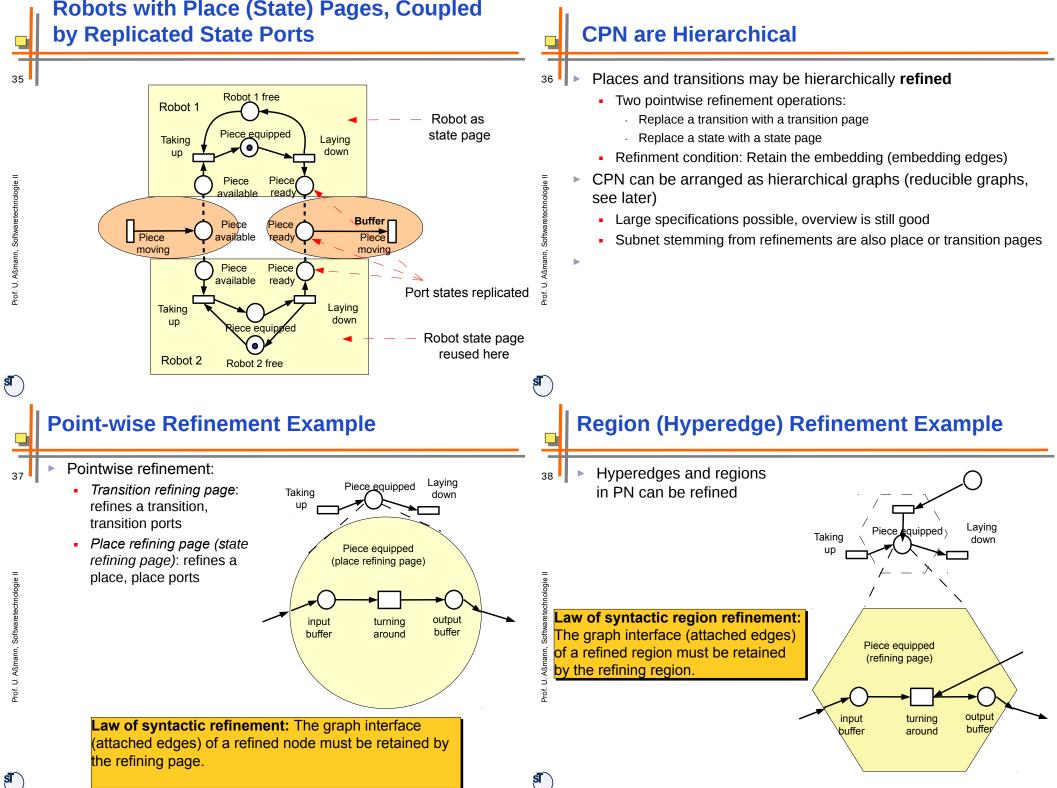
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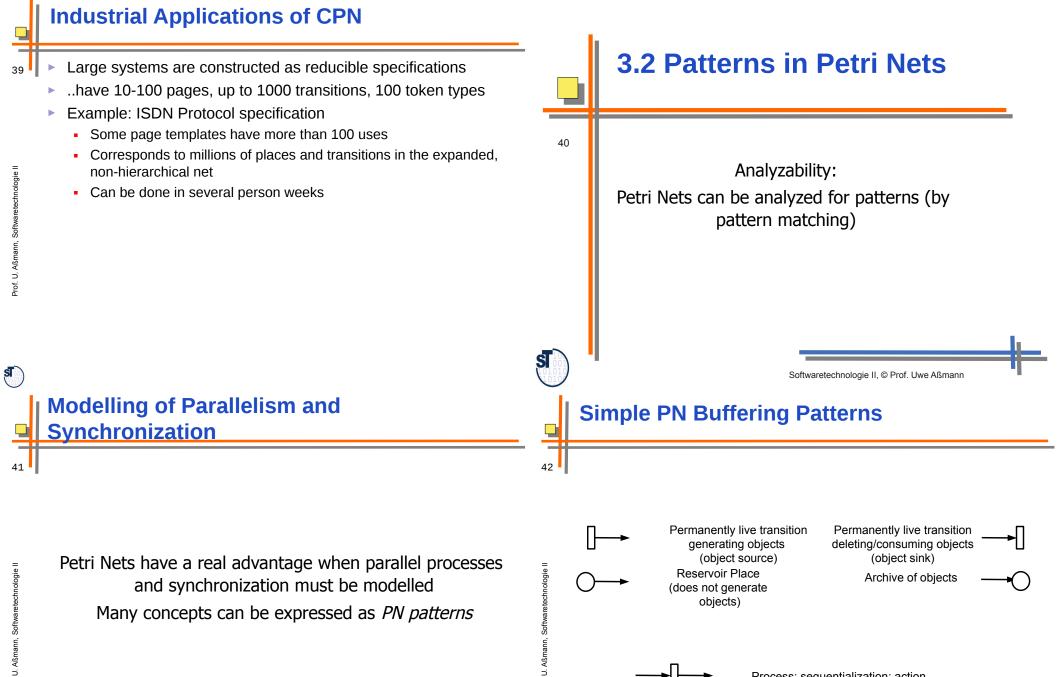
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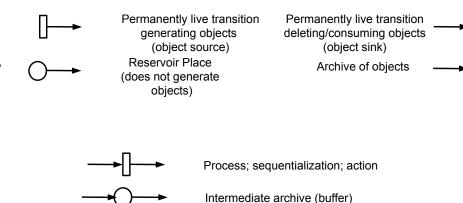
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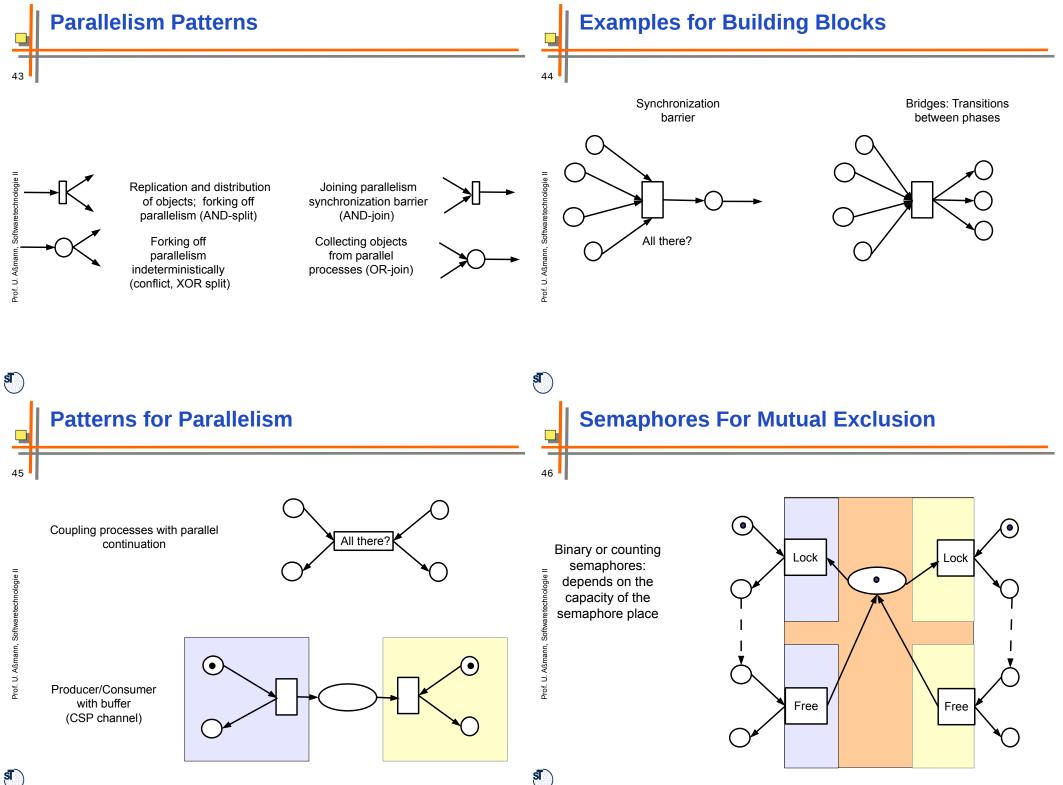
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Many concepts can be expressed as *PN patterns*

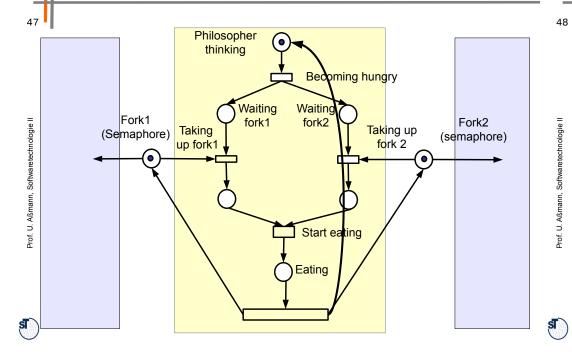


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Dining Philosophers



3.3 Refactorings (Reduction Rules) for Petri Nets

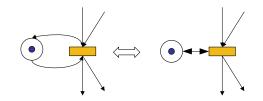
.. in the form of graph rewrite rules

Advantage

- Patterns can be used to model specific requirements
 - PN can be checked for patterns by Pattern Matching (Graph Rewriting)
 - Patterns can be restructured (refactorings)
 - Patterns can be composed (composition)
 - Further semantic analysis of PN: Parallel, indeterministic systems can be checked for
 - Absence of deadlocks: will the parallel system run without getting stuck?
 - Liveness: will all parts of the system work forever?
 - Fairness: will all parts of the system be loaded equally?
 - Bounded resources: will the system use limited memory, and how much? (important for embedded systems)
 - Whether predicates hold in certain states (model checking)

Special Restructuring Patterns (Refactorings)

- Source transitions are always enabled, i.e., generate tokens (token generator)
 - Sink transitions are always enabled and swallow tokens (token sink)
 - A self-loop is a pair of a place p and a transition t if p is both output and input place of t
 - A PN without any self-loops is *pure*. Its arc relation is irreflexive

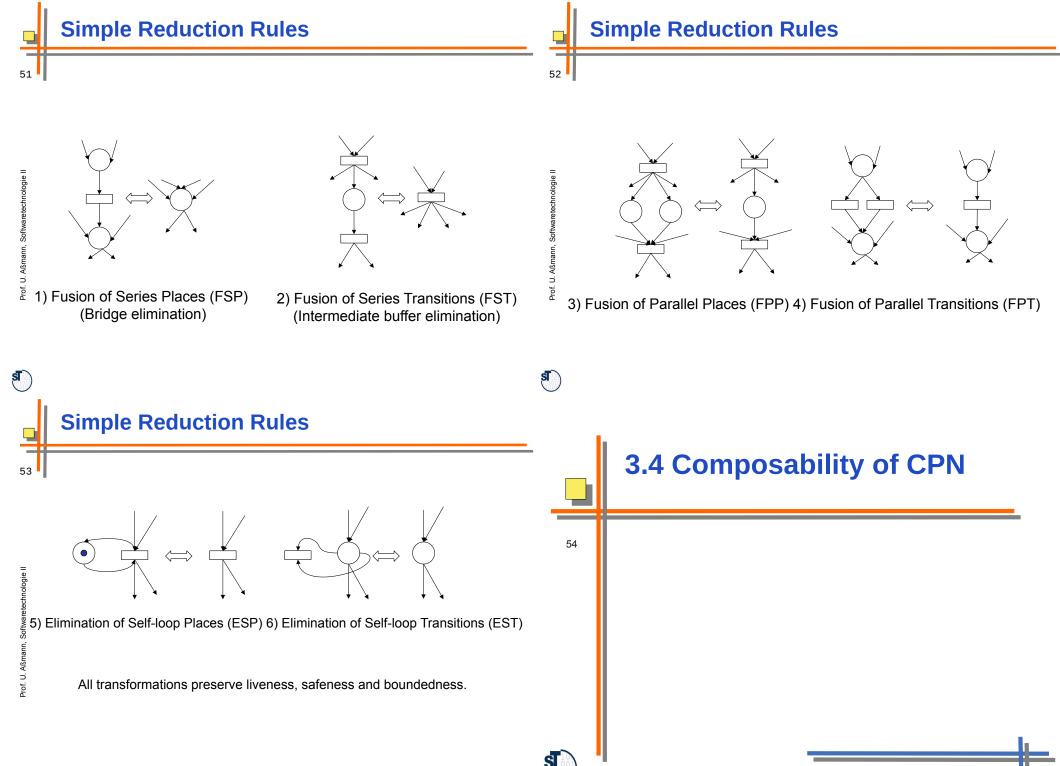




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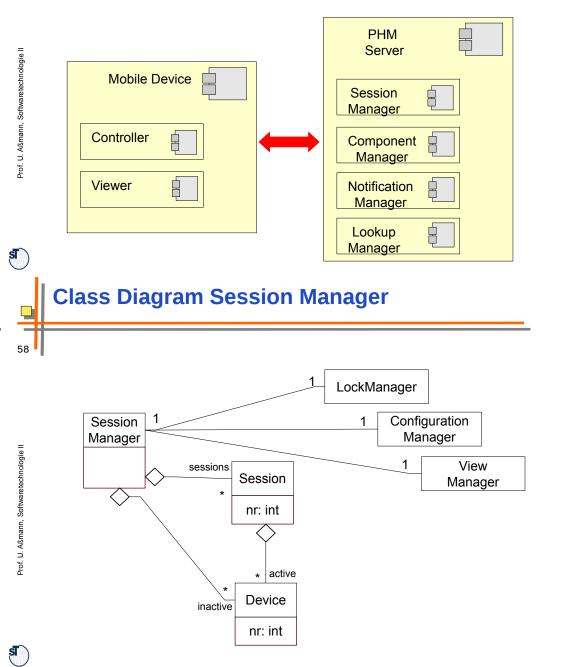
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Case Study for Composition: Pervasive Healthcare Middleware (PHM)

- in development at the Pervasive Computing Center, University of Aarhus
 - Basic idea:
 - Specify the structure of an application with UML
 - and the behavior with CPN, describing the behavior of the classes/objects (object lifecycle)
 - Glue behavior together with page glueing mechanism
 - Electronic patient records (EPR) replace the papers
 - First version in 2004, on stationary PC
 - Next versions for pervasive computing (PDA, wireless):
 - Hospital employees will have access to the patient's data whereever they go, from Xray to station to laboratories
 - For instance, medication plans are available immediately

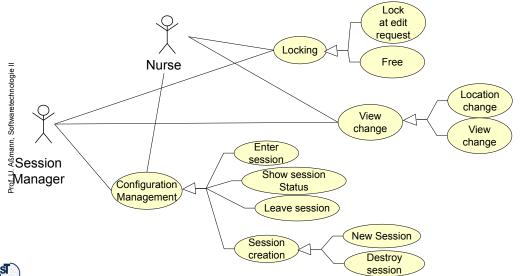
The PHM Architecture

56 A session is entered by several mobile devices that collaborate



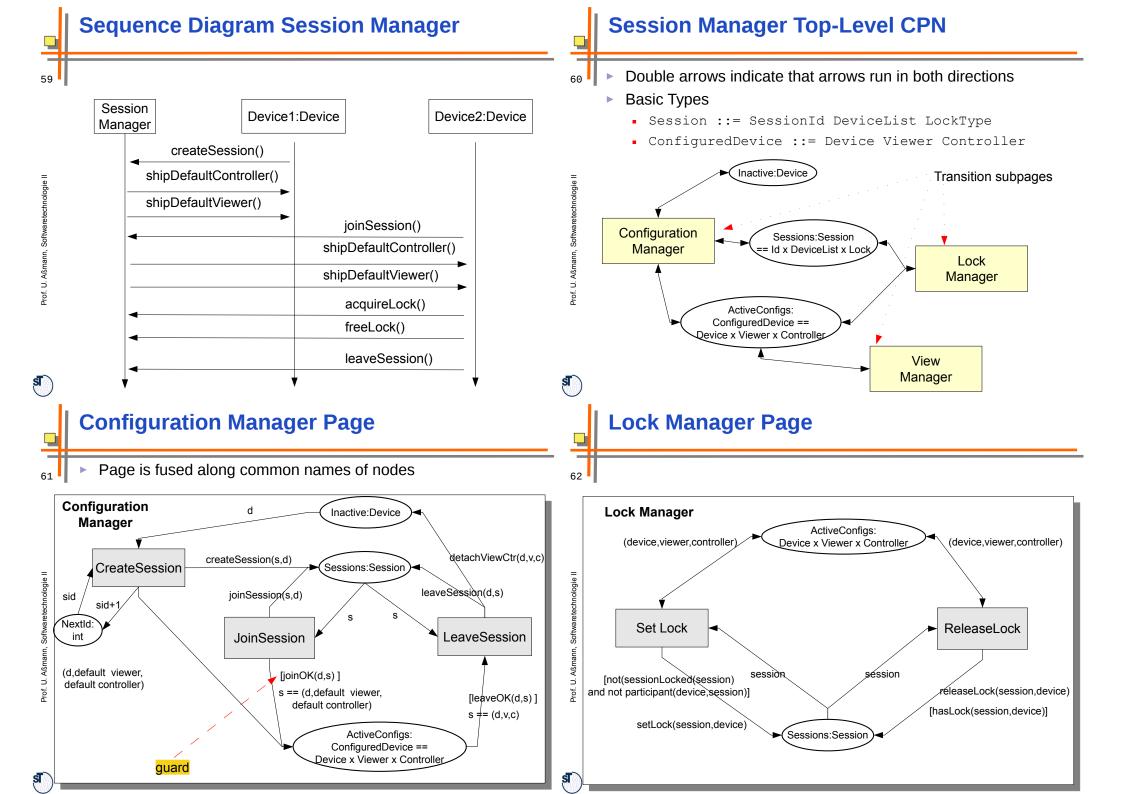
Session Manager Use Cases

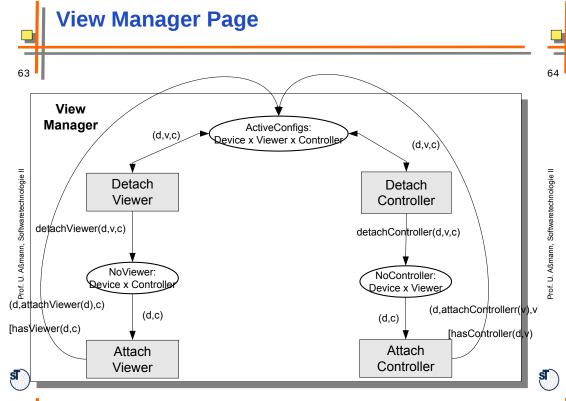
⁵⁷ The session manager manages all mobile devices that collaborate in a certain scenario



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Coupling of Place and Transition Pages

- Port state coupling (or fuse, merge, composition): Place pages are coupled to other place pages via common states (port states)
 - The union of the pages is steered by OR, i.e., the pages add behavior, but do not destroy behavior of other pages
 - Port transition coupling: Transition pages are coupled to other transition pages via common transitions (port transitions)
 - The union of the pages is steered by AND, and every page changes the behavior of other page
 - Events must be available on every incoming edge of a transition
 - The transitions of the combined net only fire if the transitions of the page components fire

Remarks

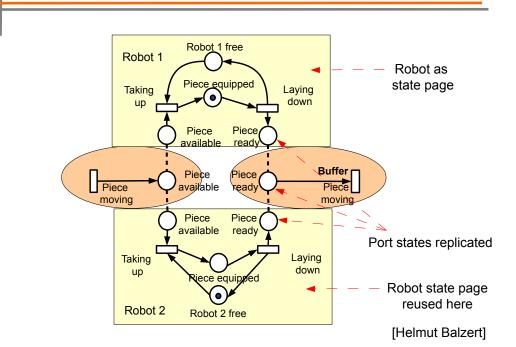
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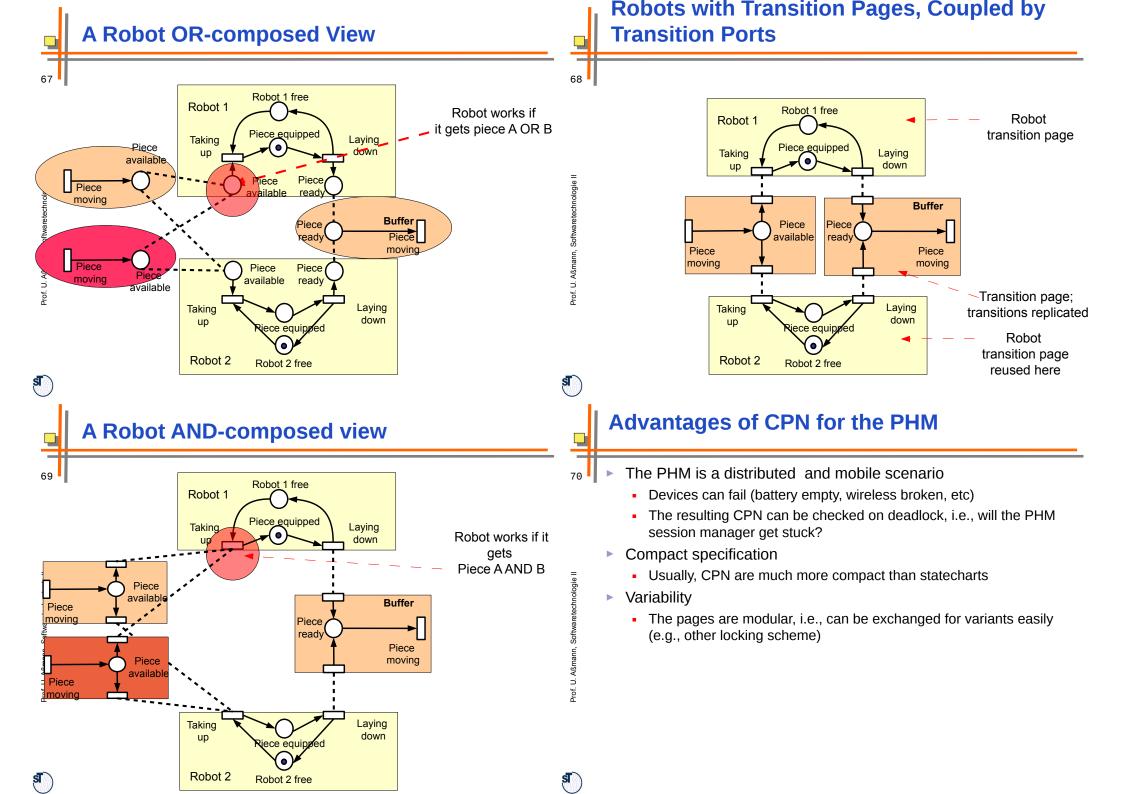
- The CPN pages are attached to UML classes, i.e., describe their behavior
 - States and transitions are marked by UML types
 - Every subpage is coupled to others (composed with others)
 - via common states (fusing/join states)
 - The union of the pages via join states is steered by OR, i.e., the pages add behavior, but do not destroy behavior of other pages
 - Via common transitions (fusing/join transitions)
 - The union of the pages via join transitions is steered by AND, i.e., the pages add behavior and synchronize with transitions of other pages
 - Transitions are interpreted as coarse-grain events
 - On the edges, other functions (actions) are called
 - Hence, CPN are open: if something is too complicated to model as a PN, put it into functions

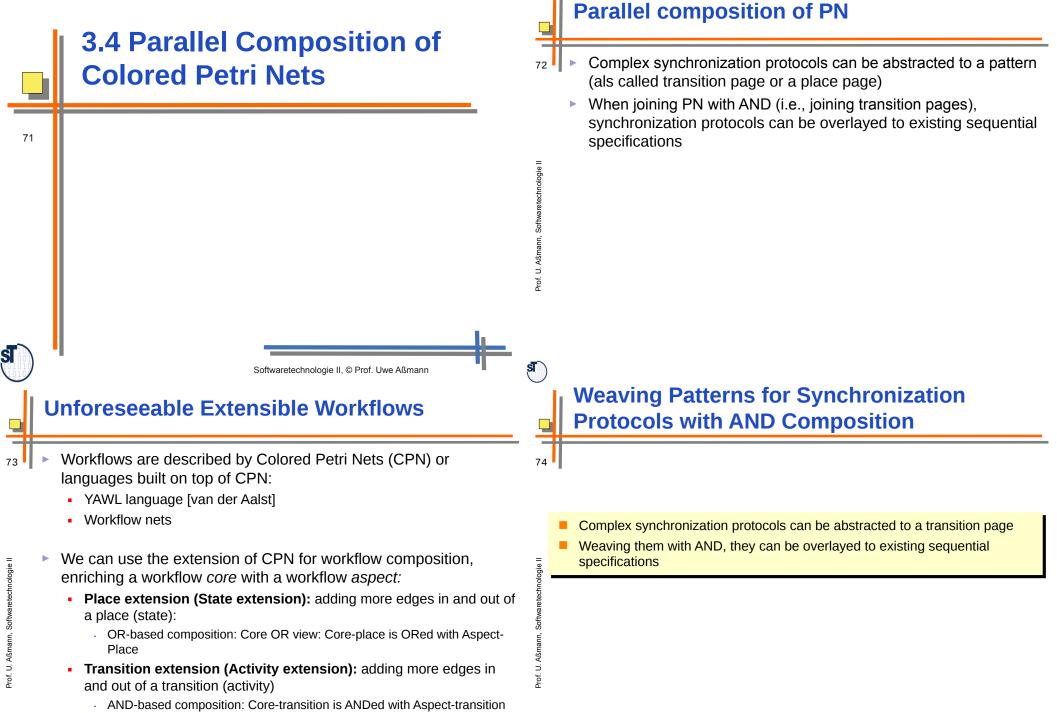
Robots with State Pages, Coupled by Replicated State Ports



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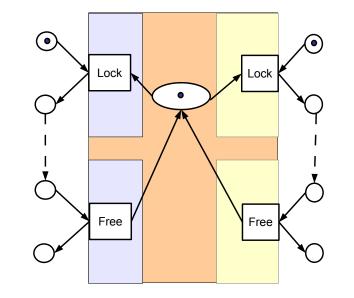
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Semaphores For Mutual Exclusion Revisited

Forms a synchronisation aspect via ANDed Lock transitions



Transaction Protocols as AND-Aspects

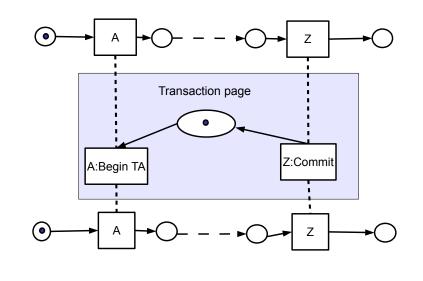
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⁷⁶ Crosscut between processes (cores) and transaction protocol (aspect)



Insight

 AND-Merge and OR-Merge of CPN are sufficient basic composition operators for building complex aspect weavers for workflow languages built on CPN

AND-weaving for synchronization

OR-weaving for functional extension

3.5 The Application to Modelling

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Petri Nets Generalize UML Behavioral Diagrams

79 Activity Diagrams

- Activity Diagrams are similar to PN, but not formally grounded
 - Without markings
 - No liveness analysis
 - No resource consumption analysis with boundness
 - No correspondence to UML statechart, although for PN holds that PN with finite reachability graphs correspond to finite automata
- I.e., it is difficult to prove something about activity diagrams, and difficult to generate (parallel) code from them.

Data-flow diagrams

 DFD are special form of activity diagrams, and correspond to Marked Graphs

Statecharts

- Finite automata are restricted form of Petri nets
- The hierarchical structuring in Statecharts is available in High-Level Petri Nets (e.g., CPN)

A Simple Modelling Process for Safety-Critical Software with CPN

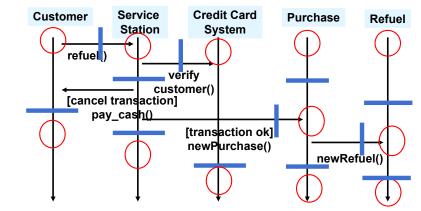
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- **Elaboration**: Identify active and passive parts of the system
 - Active become transitions, passive to places
 - Elaboration: Find the relations between places and transitions
- Elaboration: How should the tokens look like: boolean? Integers? Structured data?
 - Use UML class diagrams as token type model
- Restructure: Group out subnets to separate "pages"
- Refactor: Simplify by reduction rules
- Verify: Analyse the specification on liveness, boundedness, reachability graphs, fairness. Use a model checker to verify the CPN
- TransformRepresentation: Produce views as statecharts, sequence, collaboration, and activity diagrams..

Petri Nets Generalize UML Sequence Diagrams

- ⁸⁰ The object life lines of a sequence diagram can be grouped into state such that a PN results
 - All of a sudden, liveness conditions can be studied
 - Is there a deadlock in the sequence diagram?
 - Are objects treated fair?



How to Solve the Reactor Software Problem?

- ▶ Specify with UML and CPN
 - Verify it with a model checker
 - Let a prototype be generated
 - Test it

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- Freeze the assembler
- Then, verify the assembler, because you should not trust the CPN tool nor the compiler
 - Any certification agency in the world will require a proof of the assembler!
- However, this is much simpler than programming reactors by hand...

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The Gloomy Future of PN

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- PN will become the major tool in a future CASE tool or integrated development environment
 - Different views on the PN: state chart view, sequence view, activity view, collaboration view!
- Many isolated tools for PN exist, and the world waits for a full integration into UML
- CPN will be applied in scenarios where parallelism is required
 - Architectural languages
 - Web service langauges (BPEL, BPMN, ...)
 - Workflow languages
 - Coordination languages

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 Thanks to Björn Svensson for help in making slides, summarizing [Murata]