NETS WITH BOUNDARIES

Pawel Sobocinski, University of Southampton IFIP WG2.2, Lisbon, 24/09/2013

joint work with R. Bruni, H. Melgratti, U. Montanari, J.Rathke, O. Stephens

ABOUT ME

- Undergraduate at Sydney Uni, worked with RFC Walters and Steve Lack
- PhD (2004) at BRICS, Aarhus, supervised by Mogens Nielsen. Thesis on adhesive categories and relative pushouts for deriving LTS semantics from reduction semantics.
- **Keywords**: Concurrency, process calculi, graph transformation, semantics of programming languages, category theory, model checking, concurrent programming

THIS TALK



- RFC Walters
 - in concurrency, what is important is to discover the right algebra



- Robin Milner
 - in concurrency, what is important is the notion of process

ROADMAP

- Automata as model of concurrency Span(Graph)
- Nets with boundaries
- Application to model checking
- Work in progress and future work

AUTOMATA AS MODEL OF CONCURRENCY

Nivat's processes and their synchronization

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Maurice Nivat, André Arnold

Span(Graph) algebra - RFC Walters



SYNCHRONISATION



SYNCHRONISATION



 $\frac{P \xrightarrow{\vec{a}} Q \qquad R \xrightarrow{\vec{c}} S}{\frac{\vec{c}}{P}; R \xrightarrow{\vec{a}} Q; S} (CUT)$

SYNCHRONISATION





B_E; B_E: (1,1)



B_E : (1,1)





B_E : (1,1)



 $\frac{P \xrightarrow{\vec{a}} Q \qquad R \xrightarrow{\vec{c}} S}{\vec{b} \overrightarrow{d}} Q \qquad R \xrightarrow{\vec{c}} S \qquad (\text{TEN})$ $\frac{P \otimes R \xrightarrow{\vec{a} \overrightarrow{c}} Q \otimes S}{\vec{b} \overrightarrow{d}} Q \otimes S$



 $\frac{P \xrightarrow{\vec{a}} Q \qquad R \xrightarrow{\vec{c}} S}{\vec{b} \overrightarrow{d}} Q \qquad (\text{TEN})$ $\frac{P \otimes R \xrightarrow{\vec{a} \overrightarrow{c}} Q}{\overrightarrow{b} \overrightarrow{d}} Q \otimes S$

















d ; (id \otimes (B_F ; B_E ; B_E)) ; e : (0,0)

PROS AND CONS

• Pros

- Algebra with formal semantics
- Compositional, reasonable equivalences are congruences
- Syntax has close correspondence with geometry of systems
- Cons

Automata hide concurrency

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NETS AS STRING DIAGRAMS





- places drawn with in-port and out-port
- transitions are undirected and simply connect a set of ports

(1 BOUNDED) NETS WITH BOUNDARIES

- add boundary ports
- transitions can connect also to boundary ports
- step semantics



COMPOSING NETS

- Nets are composed in a "geometrically obvious" way
- Two or more transitions connected to a boundary port is a simple way of including nondeterminism in components













COMPOSITIONALITY

The following diagram always commutes



Moreover, all "reasonable equivalences" are congruences

WHY STEP SEMANTICS?

Interleaving would not be compositional!



NETS WITH BOUNDARIES

- Algebra with formal semantics
- Compositional, reasonable equivalences are congruences
- Syntax has close correspondence with geometry of systems
- Evident concurrency

GENERATORS



 $\mathsf{I}: 1 \to 1 \qquad \mathsf{X}: 2 \to 2$

The resulting algebraic theory can be studied using category theoretical machinery (PROPS) - some initial results reported at CALCO `13

WHAT ABOUT P/T NETS?

- Very similar algebra available for infinite state nets
 - in particular, for P/T nets we have the same generators
- Both algebras can be understood as certain process calculi
 - passing from bounded to unbounded nets is particularly easy from the point of view of process algebra, essentially one adds one new SOS rule:

$$\frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha_1}{\beta_1} R \qquad R \xrightarrow{\alpha_2}{\beta_2} Q}{P \xrightarrow{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}{\beta_1 + \beta_2} Q}$$
(WEAK*)

ROADMAP

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- Reachability in 1-bounded nets is PSPACE-complete
- most "real" systems are quite modular can we exploit this?



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DECOMPOSING



"synchronisation policies"

N₂ can reach desired local after firing t₂ twice, after which it can be fired an arbitrary additional number of times

INTERACTION IS WHAT MATTERS



• in concurrency, what is important is the notion of **process**

 ie. can throw away unnecessary local state and keep only the minimal amount of information necessary to express communication with environment









































{/1}

abreed

(v)



left



Penrose tool
http://users.ecs.soton.ac.uk/os1v07/Penrose_CALCO13/

joint work with Owen Stephens

	$\min \#$	Time [s]		
n	firing sequence	right	left	balanced
16	136	0.000	0.020	0.008
32	528	0.000	0.140	0.024
64	2080	0.000	1.108	0.172
128	8256	0.000	12.597	2.954
256	32896	0.000	-	74.737
65536	2147516416	0.228	-	-

PHILOSOPHERS



PHILOSOPH





 $d_2: 0 \to 4$





 $fk:2\to 2$

 $e_2: 4 \to 0$

 $PhRow_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk$ $PhRow_{k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk ; PhRow_k$

 $Ph_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d_2 ; (i_2 \otimes PhRow_n) ; e_2$

PHILOSOPH





 $PhRow_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk$ $PhRow_{k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk ; PhRow_k$





 $fk: 2 \rightarrow 2$

 $e_2: 4 \to 0$

 $Ph_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d_2 ; (i_2 \otimes PhRow_n) ; e_2$



ANALYSING PHILOSOPHERS



 $PhRow_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk$ $PhRow_{k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ph ; fk ; PhRow_k$

- Minimization reaches a fixpoint at PhRow₂
 - a nice example of when a model-checking technique gives a proof for all n.

CORBETT'S ELEVATORS



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WHEN DOES THE TECHNIQUE WORK?

• When the net can be "decomposed well"

- we don't want too many places in the leaves (# of states is exponential wrt places)
- we don't want big boundaries (# of labels is exponential wrt boundary size)
- AND when the state-space "grows slowly" as we recompose

- A decomposition has width k when
 - all leaves have max(#places,boundary)≤k
 - all complete subtrees have boundary size≤k
 - e.g. the composition on the right has width 4



• e.g. cliques





• e.g. cliques











related to rank width of graphs

SYNCHRONISATION AS OO PROGRAMMING PRIMITIVE



RELATED WORK

- Body of work on compositional model checking via interface theories going back to Clarke
- Work on compositional algebras of Petri nets going back to Mazurkiewicz
- Work on reachability in bounded nets using unfolding going back to McMillan
- Body of work on algebraic approaches to nets, including the Petri box calculus of Koutny, Esparza and Best

THE END