Structure Preserving Bisimilarity, Supporting an Operational Petri Net Semantics of CCSP

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[Olderog & Hoare '86]

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Goltz & Mycroft Winskel van Glabbeek & Vaandrager:



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but no treatment of recursion.

Degano, De Nicola and Montanari:



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including a treatment of recursion. But initial concurrency is not respected.



Olderog, 1987:



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including a treatment of recursion. Concurrency is fully respected.



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$$\llbracket (ad \| b) + c \rrbracket_{op}^{\text{Old}} =$$



This is the same result as for the denotational Petri net semantics found in the literature.

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So instead one shows $\llbracket P \rrbracket_{op} \approx \llbracket P \rrbracket_{den}$ for a suitable relation \approx .

Aim: propose a relation \approx between nets, and show $\llbracket P \rrbracket_{op} \approx \llbracket P \rrbracket_{den}$.

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Which requirements to impose on \approx ?

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Which requirements to impose on \approx ?

1. $[P]_{op} \approx [P]_{den}$ for any P for which both sides are defined.

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2. \approx respects concurrency.

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Which requirements to impose on \approx ?

- 1. $\llbracket P \rrbracket_{op} \approx \llbracket P \rrbracket_{den}$ for any P for which both sides are defined.
- 2. \approx respects concurrency.
- 3. \approx is a congruence relation for CCSP.



Olderog proposes a relation \equiv between nets, called *strong bisimulation*.

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This is not a problem, because \equiv can be seen as just a tool to proof things about *causal equivalence* \equiv_{caus} .

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 \equiv_{caus} respects concurrency.

 \equiv_{caus} is a *linear time* equivalence:

$$\llbracket a(b+c) \rrbracket_{op} \equiv_{caus} \llbracket ab+ac \rrbracket.$$

This is less good for capturing phenomena like *deadlock behaviour*.

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My contribution today is the proposal of a new branching time equivalence that can play the rôle of \equiv_{caus} .

I call it structure preserving bisimilarity $\Delta _{sp}$.

Structure Preserving Bisimulation



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2. It should capture concurrency. $a \| b \neq ab + ba$ causality

- 8. It should be a congruence for CCSP.
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- 3. It should respect *inevitability*.

b + ba causality
[Mazurkiewicz]

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BRANCHING TIME

LINEAR TIME

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I will show you Petri nets featuring a transition b. I will ask you by a show of hands whether you hold b to be inevitable.

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I will show you Petri nets featuring a transition b. I will ask you by a show of hands whether you hold b to be inevitable.

Question 0: Are you insufficiently familiar with Petri nets to answer such questions, or decline to answer for any other reason?

Question 1:



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(CCSP expression: b)

Question 2:



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(CCSP expression: a + b)

Question 3:



(CCSP expression: E with $E \stackrel{def}{=} a.E + b.$)

Question 4:



(CCSP expression: E' with $E' \stackrel{def}{=} a.c.E' + b.$)
Inevitability

Question 5:



In the literature I found only 4 meaningful types of fairness assumptions:

- 1. Progress
- 2. Justness
- 3. Weak Fairness
- 4. Strong Fairness

These form a hierarchy, thus creating 5 assumptional states.

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Shop with 2 customers.

When in the shop, a customer is waiting expectantly to be served. Upon being served, the customer leaves the shop, but usually returns right away to buy something else.

A customer may leave the shop anytime, and possibly return later.

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Failure of strong fairness: Customer A occasionally leaves the shop, but always returns in the hope to get served. Yet, this never occurs, because the clerk is always busy serving customer B. Failure of progress: Customer A remains forever in the shop, ready to be served, but no-one is ever served. The clerk stares pathetically at the customer(s) without doing anything. Failure of justness: There are two counters with a clerk each. Customer A is the only customer at counter 1, yet never is served, while customer B is being served repeatedly at counter 2.

Assuming nothing progr. justness wk. f. str. fair. b a + b E with $E \stackrel{def}{=} a.E + b.$ E' with $E' \stackrel{def}{=} a.c.E' + b.$ $A \parallel b$ with $A \stackrel{def}{=} a.A$

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Assuming	nothing	progr.	justness	wk.f.	str. fair.
b	—				
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b	_	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
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a + b	—	_	_	_	—
E with $E \stackrel{def}{=} a.E + b.$	_				
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b	_	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
a + b	_	_	_	_	_
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Fairness in process algebra

Strong or weak fairness can be

 indispensable for certain applications, such as a correctness proof of the alternating bit protocol.

patently wrong when used where not appropriate.

E with $E \stackrel{def}{=} a.E + b.0.$

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- patently wrong when used where not appropriate.
- E with $E \stackrel{def}{=} a.E + b.0.$
 - could be a spec. of a mobile phone
 - b is a successful dialling attempt
 - *a* is an unsuccessful dialling attempt.

Fairness amounts to saying that if you try often enough, dialling will succeed.

This is wishful thinking.

The real world is not fair.

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 - b is a successful dialling attempt
 - *a* is an unsuccessful dialling attempt.

Fairness amounts to saying that if you try often enough, dialling will succeed.

This is wishful thinking.

The real world is not fair.

When assuming strong or weak fairness, we loose the ability to finitely specify a system like E above that does allow an infinite sequences of as without a b.

Semantic equivalences on Petri nets



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HP bisimilarity does not respect inevitability



HP bisimilarity does not respect inevitability



Causal equivalence does not respect inevitability



The causal nets of both systems are the infinite one above, and all its finite prefixes.

Conclusion

- 1. I proposed 9 requirements on semantic equivalences on Petri nets.
- 2. None of the existing equivalences satisfies all (or almost all) of these requirements.

- 3. I propose a new equivalence that does.
- 4. A major motivation of this equivalence is its suitability in establishing agreement between the denotational and operational Petri net semantics of CCSP.