



Stochastic modelling and evaluation using GreatSPN

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Tools for Stochastic Modelling and Evaluation (TOSME)
12 Nov 2021



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GreatSPN v3.0: an overview

The **G**raphical **E**ditor and **A**nalyzer for **T**imed and **S**tochastic **P**etri **N**ets (**GreatSPN**) is a framework for modeling systems as:

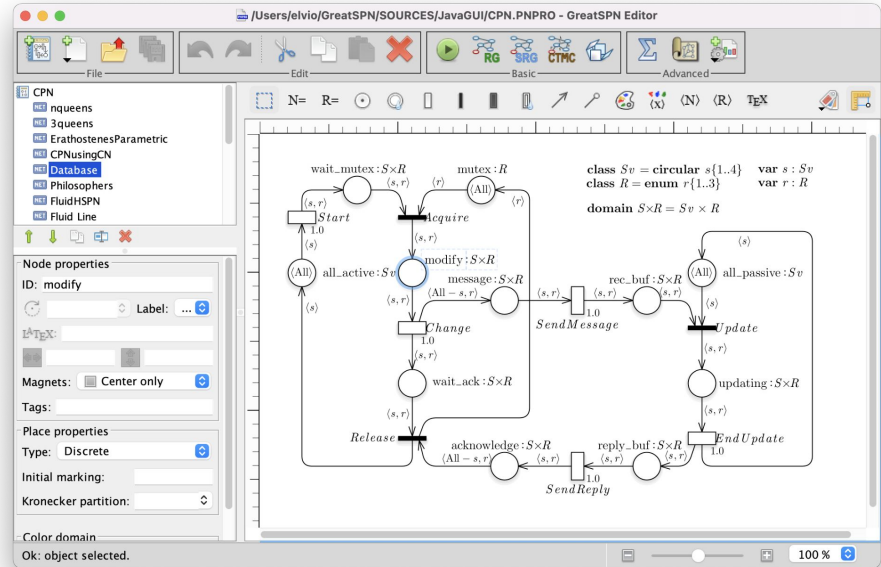
- Generalized **S**tochastic **P**etri **N**ets
- Stochastic **W**ell-formed **N**ets
- Deterministic and **S**tochastic **P**etri **N**ets

Collection of separate tools.

Tools have a command line interface, and are accessible through a GUI.

Designed around a *modeling workflow*.

Open source.



Tools of GreatSPN

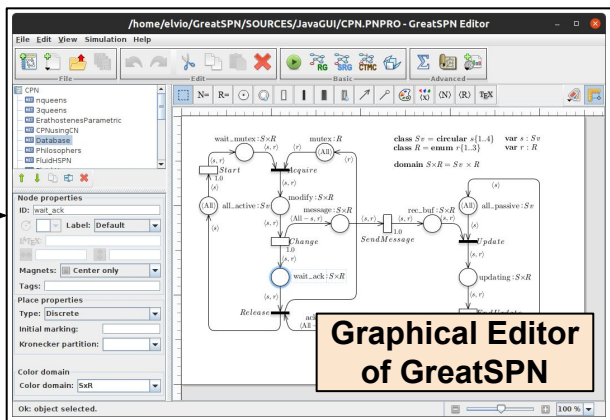


The GreatSPN framework tool collection covers these topics:

- **GUI** for drawing and composing models
- **Translating** various formats
- **Model composition**: model algebra, unfolding
- Analysis of **structural** model properties
- **Markov decision** process support (MDPN)
- **Model checking** using temporal logic specifications
- **Stochastic solutions** using:
 - Reachability Graph (explicit, symbolic or MDD)
 - Simulation
 - Differential equations (ODE/SDE)

Tools of GreatSPN - overview

PNML model



model as
GSPN
SWN
MRGP

specification

gsol PNML rev.2009 to net/def translation	unfolding2 SWN to P/T net translation
ArgoSPE Eclipse UML to Petri net translation	algebra Composition by P/T superposition

Model translation / composition

struct / bounds
Place bounds, conflict sets

ilp-bounds
Place bounds using integer LP

invariants2
P/T flows, semiflows, basis, traps, siphons

Structural Analysis

MDWN
MDP from Markov Decision Petri nets

mdwnsolve
MDP solution

mdwn2prism
MDWN to Prism conversion

Decision Processes

MC4CSLTA
Stochastic model checker for CSLTA

STARMC
Symbolic CTL* model checker

Model checking

(GSPN|WN|WNS)RG
Reachability graph generation

(GSPN|WN|WNS)SIM
Monte Carlo simulation

sc / trs
Stationary/Transient solution computation

DSPN-Tool
Steady-state MRGP solution

PN2ODE
Ordinary/Stochastic Differential Equations solver

Stochastic solution

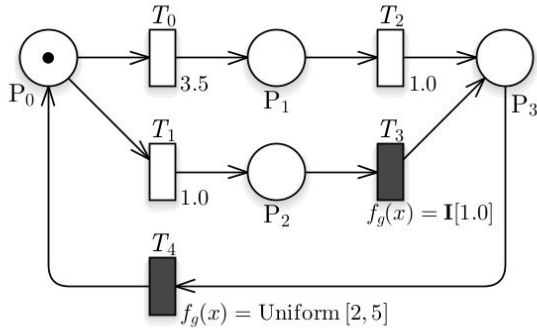
Input formats



- Imports and exports **PNML**[1] models.
 - Supports both P/T and Symmetric Nets
 - Unfortunately PNML does not encode stochastic info
- Core format: **net/def** and **PNPRO** (Petri Net Project)
- Other model formats: **APNN, GrML, NetLogo, UML, ...** and **PDF/PNG**

The modelling workflow

Designed to simplify the learning curve of the framework.



1. Draw model

using one of the supported extensions (GSPN, SWN, DSPN) + model composition



2. Verify structural integrity

P/T invariants and (semi)flows, siphons, traps, token game, deadlock analysis, CTL/LTL/CTL*

3. Specify & compute performance indices

run solver with a set of target measures



4. Export data or draw plot

CSV, Excel, PDF, PNG, ...

Drawing models

functions organized in groups

net drawing tools

selected object's properties

The screenshot shows the GreatSPN Editor interface. The title bar reads "/Users/elvio/GreatSPN/SOURCES/JavaGUI/aTest1.PNPRO - GreatSPN Editor". The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Basic, Advanced), a toolbar with drawing tools, and a left sidebar with a component palette. The main workspace displays a Petri net diagram with nodes and transitions. The "Node properties" panel is open, showing the selected node is a "Queue" with ID "Queue".

Component Palette (Left Sidebar):

- NET FMS
- NET ReaderWriter
- CTL Measures
- NET Fork-JoinParam
- GreatSPN measures
- TRG and RG
- NET structPT
- SymCPN

Node properties (Left Panel):

- ID: Queue
- Label:
- Label:
- Label:
- Magnets: Cent...
- Tags:
- Place properties
- Type: Discrete
- Initial marking: n
- Kronecker partition:

Petri Net Diagram (Main Workspace):

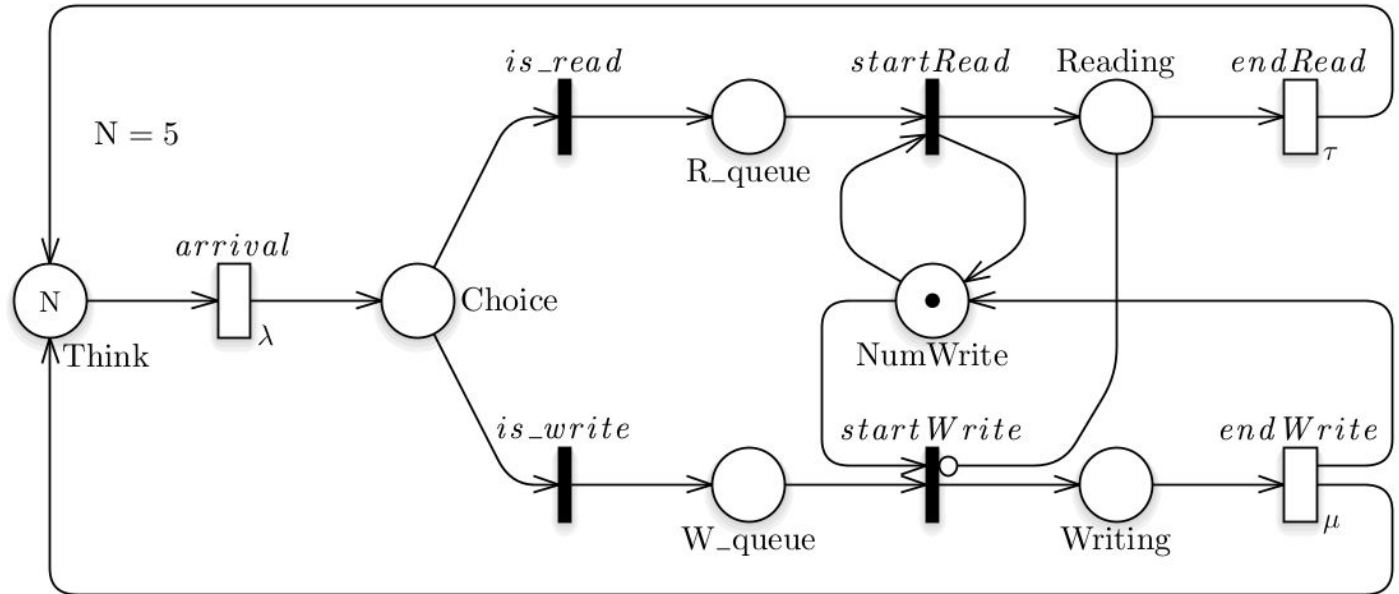
- Initial marking: $\langle n \rangle$
- Initial marking: $\langle t \rangle$
- Places: Queue (n), Spares (2), Wait₁, Wait₂, Finish₁, Finish₂, Interm, T₀.
- Transitions: Fork (λ), work₁ (μ), work₂ (μ), select (μ), Join (1.0).
- Parameters: $\lambda = 3.4$, $\mu = 2.0$, $\rho = 0.6$.

Status Bar: Ok: object selected. 125%

model being drawn

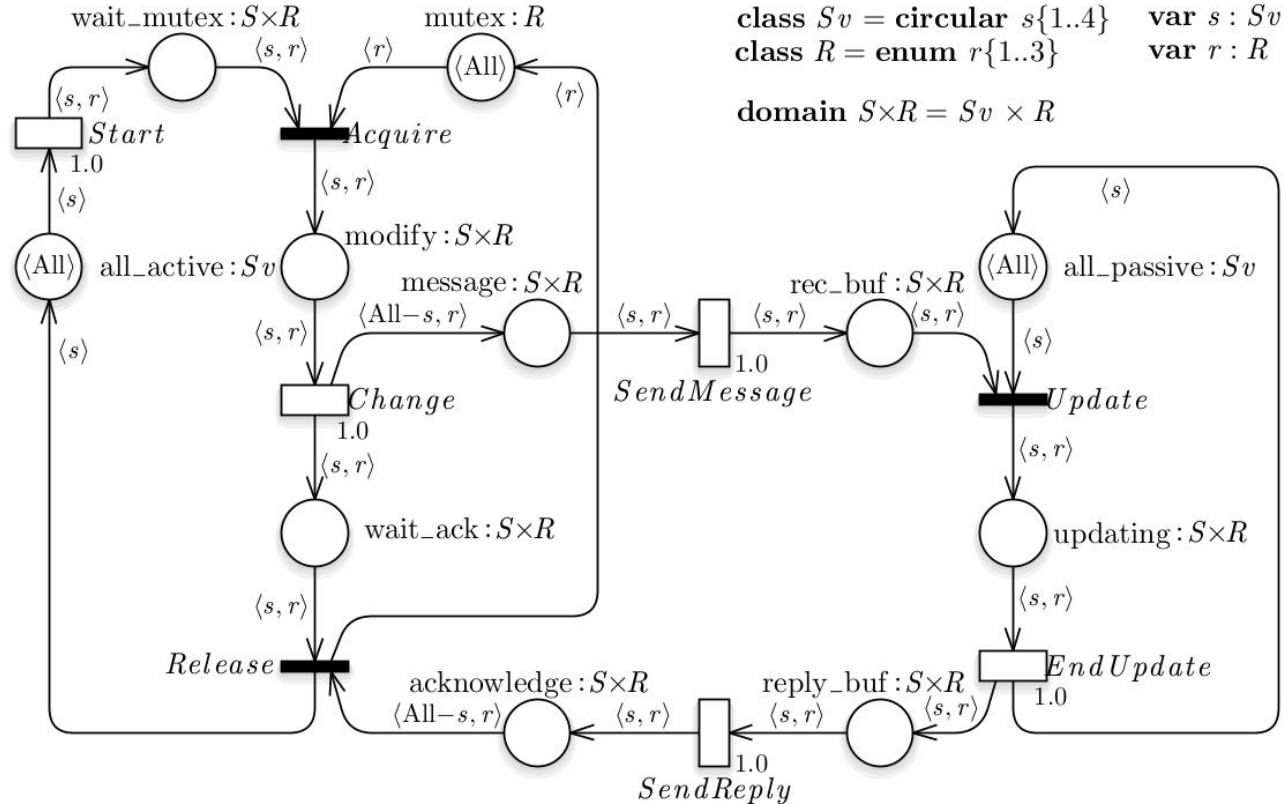
GSPN Example

Reader-Writer synchronization model



SWN Example

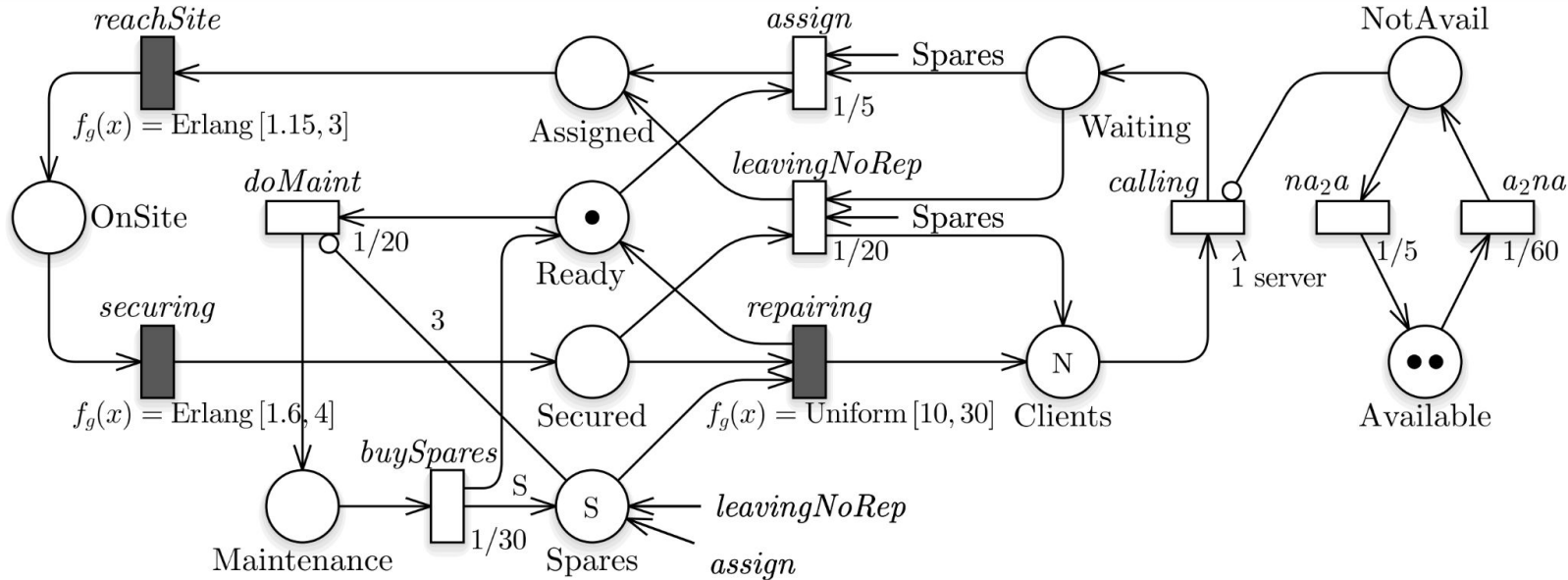
Database server model



class $Sv = \text{circular } s\{1..4\}$ var $s : Sv$
class $R = \text{enum } r\{1..3\}$ var $r : R$
domain $S \times R = Sv \times R$

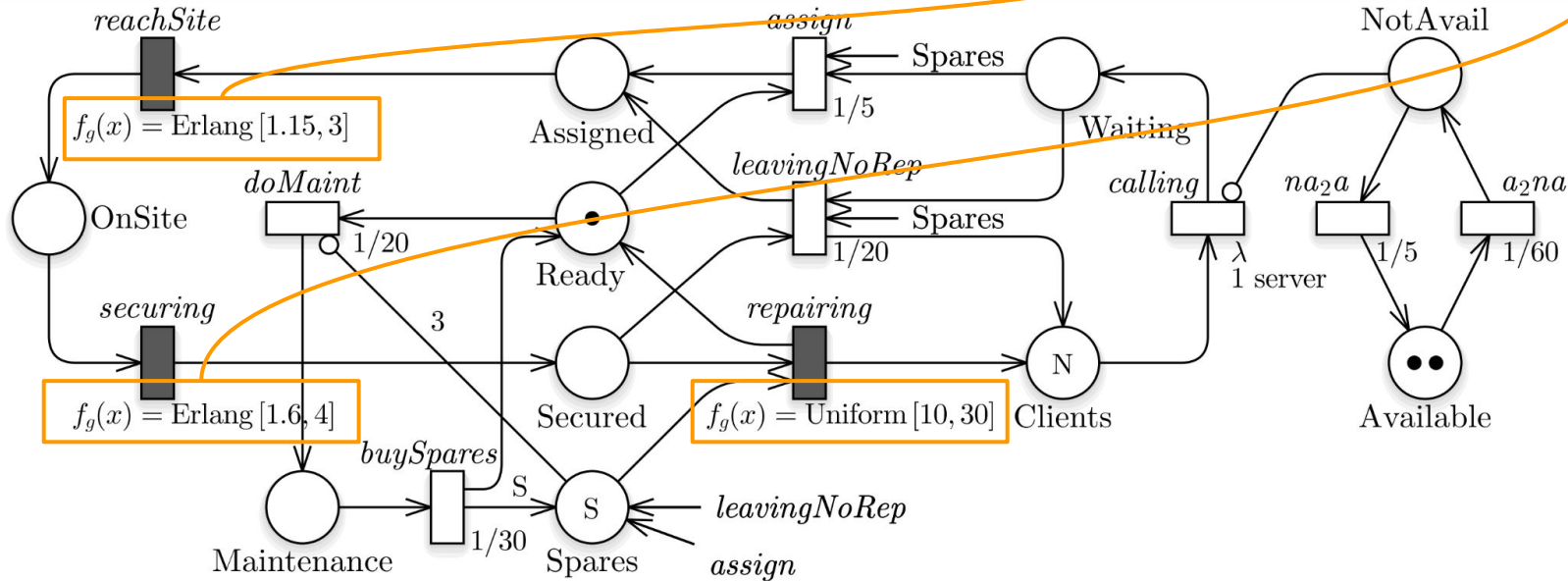
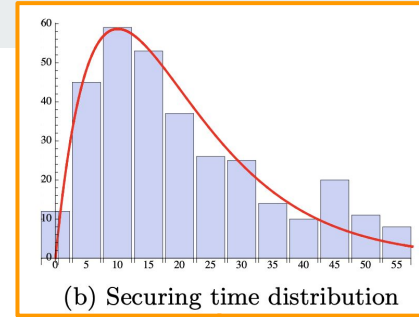
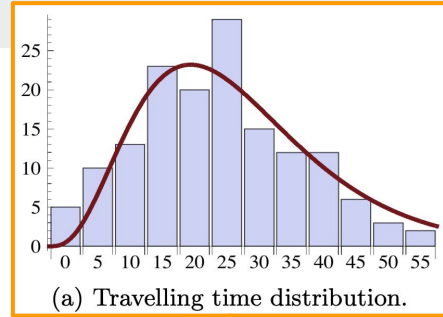
DSPN Example

Model of a multi-utility company

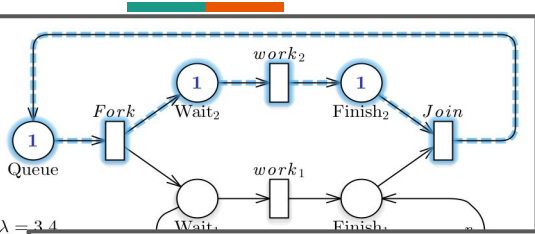


DSPN Example

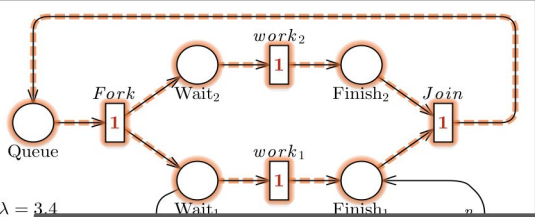
Model of a multi-utility company



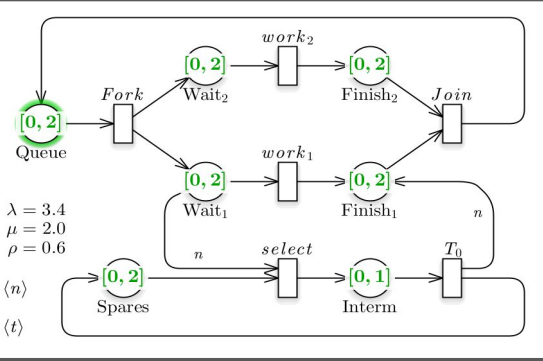
Verifying structural properties



$\lambda = 3.4$
 $\mu =$
 $\rho =$
 $\langle n \rangle$
 $\langle t \rangle$



$\lambda = 3.4$
 $\mu =$
 $\rho =$
 $\langle n \rangle$
 $\langle t \rangle$

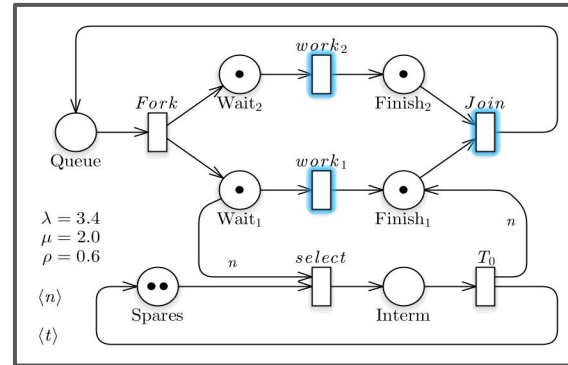


$\lambda = 3.4$
 $\mu = 2.0$
 $\rho = 0.6$
 $\langle n \rangle$
 $\langle t \rangle$

P/T (semi)flows,
 place bounds,
 siphons, traps,
 basis

	<i>Fork</i>	<i>work₁</i>	<i>work₂</i>	<i>Join</i>	<i>select</i>	<i>T₀</i>	m₀
Queue	1	0	0	-1	0	0	n
Wait ₁	-1	1	0	0	(<i>n</i>)	0	0
Wait ₂	-1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Finish ₁	0	-1	0	1	0	<i>n</i>	0
Finish ₂	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0
Spares	0	0	0	0	1	-1	2
Interm	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0

incidence matrix



$\lambda = 3.4$
 $\mu = 2.0$
 $\rho = 0.6$
 $\langle n \rangle$
 $\langle t \rangle$

interactive token game

Model checking:
 deadlock,
 reachability,
 CTL, LTL,
 fair CTL, CTL*

Specify & compute performance indices

The screenshot shows a software interface for configuring a simulation. It includes sections for target model, template parameters, solver parameters, and measures. Callouts point to various elements: 'model' points to the target model dropdown; 'model parameters' points to the template parameters table; 'solver parameters' points to the solver mode and CTMC solution options; 'target measures' points to the measures table; and 'steady state or transient time' points to the CTMC solution options.

model

model parameters

solver parameters

target measures

steady state or transient time

solver

Target model: Fork-JoinParam Solver: GreatSPN Legacy

Template parameters:

Name:	Assigned Value:
$\langle n \rangle$	= 2
$\langle t \rangle$	= 2

Solver parameters:

Solver mode: [state space] SWN Ordinary

CTMC solution is computed in: Steady state Transient at:

Epsilon: 1.0e-7 Max iterations: 10000

Max. markings in RG plot: 80

Measures:

Pos:	Measure:
1° <input type="checkbox"/> STAT	Tool statistics. Compute
2° <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RG	Plot of the Reachability Graph with vanishing markings. Compute
3° <input type="checkbox"/> ALL	All place distributions and transition throughputs. Compute

View log... Compute All

Core Solvers

Solvers that generate the RG:

- **GSPNRG**: basic RG of **GSPN** models.
- **WNRG**: RG of **SWN** models, i.e. supporting colored transition firings.
- **WNSRG**: Symbolic RG of **SWN** models, exploiting model symmetries.
- **DSPN-Tool**: steady state solution of **DSPN** models..
- **STARMC**: RG encoded using Decision Diagrams. Only limited stochastic solutions (steady state with Jacobi method) are possible, but very large state spaces (10^{100} and beyond) can be encoded.

Non-RG solvers:

- **WNSIM**: Monte Carlo simulation using batch simulation.
- **WNSSYM**: simulation using symbolic markings.
- **PN2ODE**: solution using ODE/SDE.

External solvers:

- **Cosmos** (cosmos.lacl.fr/) - statistical model checker
- **NSolve** (ls4-www.cs.tu-dortmund.de/APNN-TOOLBOX/) - Kronecker representation (GSPN/DSPN)
- **Storm** (www.stormchecker.org/) - model checker

Visualize computed results

Rechability Graph

Variables binding:

n	t
2	2.000000

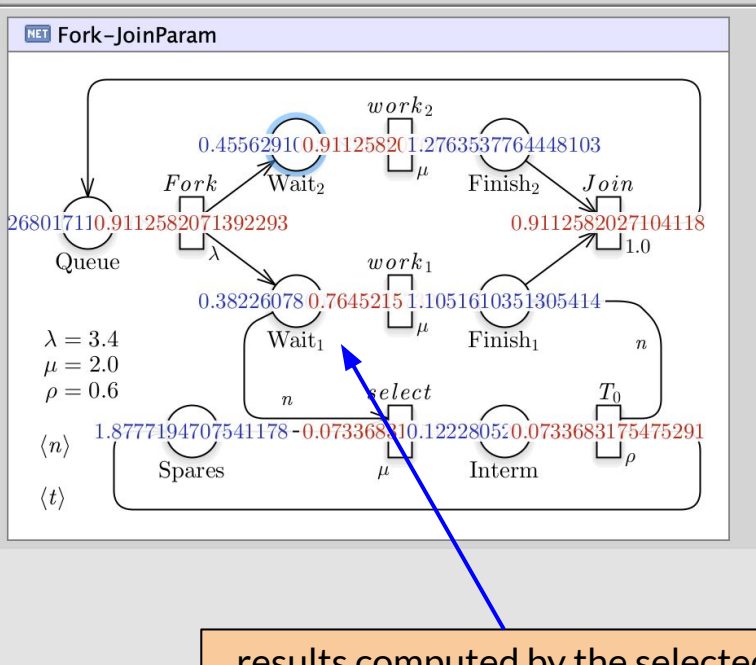
Distribution:

Place: Wait₂

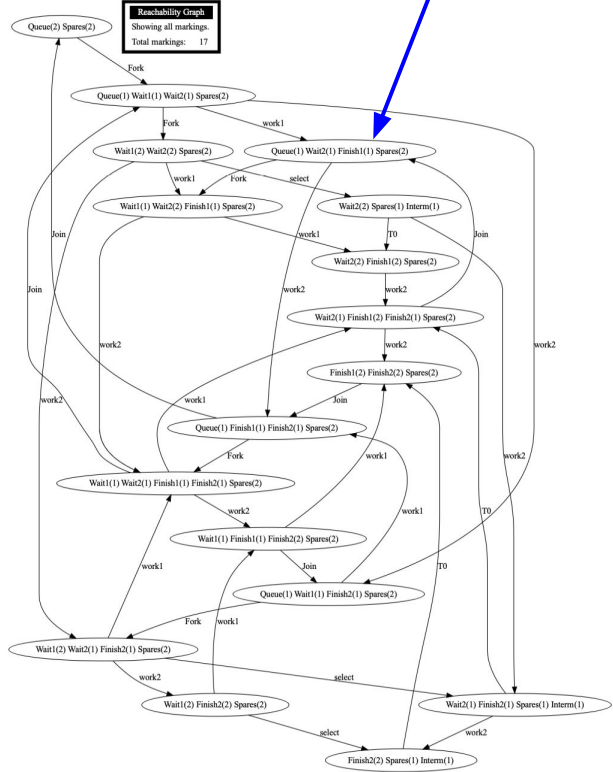
Average token count: 0.45562910380835

Token distribution:

000:	0.601726573162982
001:	0.3409177498656786
002:	0.0573556769713394



results computed by the selected solver shown on the net objects



Recent GreatSPN features



While GreatSPN started its development in 1986, 35 years ago, it is still actively developed.

Some features added in the last few years:

- The model checker **STARMC** - Decision Diagrams to verify properties expressed in CTL/LTL/fair CTL /CTL*.
- The new Java **GUI** with the streamlined workflow.
- The **DSPN** solver.
- Support for the **PNML** format.
- **GreatMod**: dedicated platform for System Biology models (<https://qbioturin.github.io/epimod/>).

Availability



- GreatSPN is **open source** (GPLv2)
- Runs on all major platforms (Linux, Windows, macOS)
- **Sources:** <https://github.com/greatspn/SOURCES>
- **Pre-installed VM:** <http://www.di.unito.it/~greatspn/VBox/>