

Reference

- M.R. Lyu, Software Fault Tolerance, John Wiley & Sons (1995)
 - □ Chapter 6: Analyses using Stochastic Reward Nets (SRNs)

Outline:

□ <u>1. Stochastic Reward Nets</u>

<u>2. Fault Tolerant Software Models</u>

□ <u>3. Dependencies in the SRN Models</u>

1. Stochastic Reward Nets

- Stochastic reward nets (SRNs) are a generalization of generalized stochastic Petri nets (GSPNs), which in turn are a generalization of stochastic Petri nets (SPNs).
- SRNs substantially increase the modeling power of the GSPN by adding guard functions, marking dependent arc multiplicities, general transition priorities, and reward rates at the net level.

1. Stochastic Reward Nets

- A guard function is a Boolean function associated with a transition [Cia89, Cia92].
 - \Box Whenever the transition satisfies all the input and inhibitor conditions in a marking M, the guard is evaluated.
 - □ The transition is considered enabled only if the guard function evaluates to *true*.

1. Stochastic Reward Nets

- Marking dependent arc multiplicities allow
 - either the number of tokens required for the transition to be enabled, or
 - \Box the number of tokens removed from the input place, or
 - □ the number of tokens placed in an output place to be a function of the current marking of the PN.
- Such arcs are called *variable cardinality arcs*.

- Stochastic Reward Nets (SRNs) provide the same modeling capability as Markov reward models (MRMs).
- A Markov reward model is a Markov chain with reward rates (real numbers) assigned to each state.
- A state of an SRN is actually a marking
 Isbeled (#(P) #(P) #(P)) if there are p pl

□ labeled (#(P_1), #(P_2), ..., #(P_n)) if there are n places in the net.

- We label the set of all possible markings that can be reached in the net as Ω.
- These markings are subdivided into tangible markings Ω_T and vanishing markings Ω_V.
- For each tangible marking *i* in Ω_T , a reward rate r_i is assigned.
- This reward is determined by examining the overall measures to be obtained.
- In Section 6.5, we examine the reward definitions needed to generate reliability, safety, and performance measures.

- Several measures are obtained using Markov reward models.
- These include:
 - □ **the expected reward rate** both in steady state and at a given time,
 - □ the expected accumulated reward until either absorption (جذب)(بى نىھايت) or a given time, and
 - □ **the distribution of accumulated reward** either until absorption or a given time.

- The expected reward rate in steady state can be computed using the steady state probability of being in each marking *i* for all $i \in \Omega_{T}$.
- For steady state distribution *i*, the expected reward rate is given by

$$E[\mathcal{R}] = \sum_{i \in \Omega au} r_i \pi_i$$

- The *expected reward rate at time* t can be computed by using the transient probability of being in each marking $i \in \Omega_T$, labeled $p_i(t)$.
- The expected reward rate at time *t* is then given by

$$E[\mathcal{R}(t)] = \sum_{i \in O_i} r_i p_i(t)$$

The distribution of reward rate at time t denoted by $P\{R(t) \le x\}$ is given by

$$P\{\mathcal{R}(t) \leq x\} = \sum_{r_i \leq x, i \in \Omega_{\mathcal{T}}} p_i(t)$$

• The *accumulated reward* in (0, t], Y(t), is denoted as

$$Y(t) = \int_0^t \mathcal{R}(u) du.$$

The expected accumulated reward in (0, t] can be computed as

$$E[Y(t)] = E[\int_0^t \mathcal{R}(u) du] = \int_0^t E[\mathcal{R}(u)] du = \sum_{i \in \Omega_T} r_i \int_0^t p_i(u) du$$

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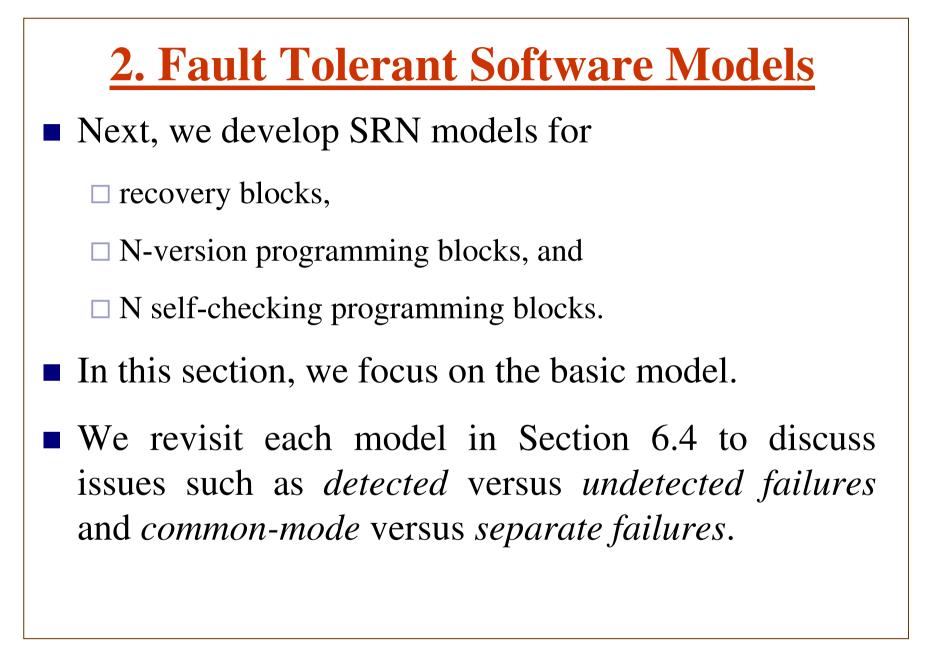
■ The expected accumulated reward until absorption, labeled E[Y(∞)], can be computed as

$$E[Y(\infty)] = \sum_{i \in \Omega_T} r_i \int_0^\infty p_i(u) du$$

- The *distribution of accumulated reward* is a measure of considerable interest.
- The distribution of accumulated reward until absorption is denoted as

$$\mathcal{Y}(x) = P\{Y(\infty) \leq x\}.$$

□ This distribution was first studied by Beaudry [Bea78] for an underlying CTMC model with strictly positive reward rates, and was extended by Ciardo et al. [Cia90] to allow an underlying semi-Markov model with non-negative reward rates.



- A recovery block (RB) consists of two or more variants and a single acceptance test (AT).
- The variants are ordered with the first variant called the *primary* and the others called *alternates*.
- The primary and the alternate variants are independently developed, based on different algorithms and implemented by different programmers.

- For each input to the recovery block, the primary is executed first and its output is evaluated using the AT.
- If the AT fails to accept the output, a rollback recovery is attempted; this process is repeated for each alternate variant in succession until either
 - 1. a variant produces an output that is accepted by the AT,
 - 2. the rollback recovery fails, or
 - 3. all variants execute without satisfying the AT.
- In the last case, the RB is said to have failed on this input dataset.

The pseudocode for a RB with N variants (a primary and N-1 alternates) is shown below:

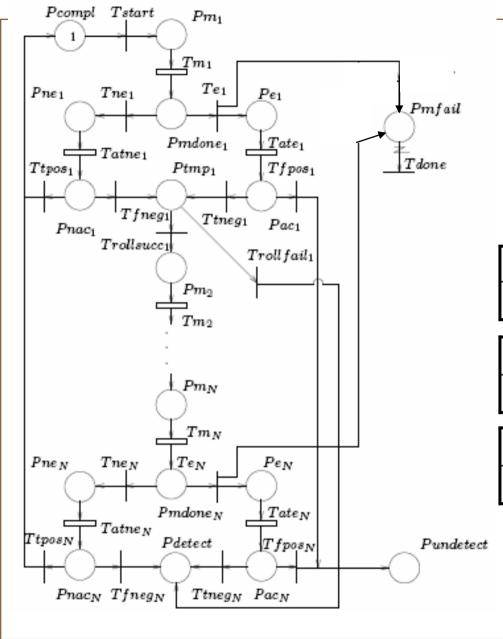
ensure acceptance test by primary variant (#1) else by alternate variant (#2) else by alternate variant (#3)

else by alternate variant (#N) else error

. . .

- The parameters required for a recovery block model are difficult to obtain.
 - Following the categories of Pucci [Puc90, Puc92], events in the recovery blocks are classified into the following four types of events.
 - *I. Variant i* produces correct output which the AT accepts.
 - 2. *Variant i* produces correct output which the AT rejects.
 - *3. Variant i* produces incorrect output which the AT rejects.
 - 4. Variant *i* produces incorrect output which the AT accepts.

- In addition, we will consider both successful and unsuccessful rollback recovery attempts following a negative AT diagnosis.
- The SRN model of a recovery block is shown in Figure 6.1.



Recovery Blocks Transition **Trans. Priority** T_{done} HIGH Transition **Guard Function** T_{done} $\#(P_{compl}) > 0$ **Arc Multiplicity** Arc $max(\#(P_{mfail}),\ 1)$ $P_{mfail} \rightarrow T_{done}$

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- The net is nearly *self-explanatory* (!).
- Place P_{compl} is the starting point of the RB.

 \Box compl => completion

- The firing of transition T_{start} , which places a token in place P_{m_1} , indicates that the recovery block has begun executing the next (or first in this case) dataset.
- A token in place P_{m_1} indicates that the primary variant in the recovery block has begun execution on the current dataset.

- The firing of transition T_{m_j} corresponds to the completion of the execution of the primary variant.
- Transitions T_{ne_1} and T_{e_1} correspond to the events that the output produced by the variant are correct and incorrect respectively.
- Transition T_{ne_1} moves the token from place P_{mdone_1} to place P_{ne_1} indicating that the variant produced a correct output.

- Transition T_{e_1} moves the token from place P_{mdone_1} to both places P_{e_1} and P_{mfail} .
- A token in place P_{e_1} indicates that the first variant produced an incorrect output.
- Place P_{mfail} counts the number of variants producing an incorrect result on the current dataset; this is needed to represent common-mode failures.

- Transition T_{atne_1} represents the execution of the AT after the variant produces a correct output.
- The immediate transitions T_{tpos_1} and T_{fneg_1} , which correspond to a correct positive diagnosis by the AT and a false negative diagnosis by the AT respectively, are then enabled.
- Transition T_{ate_1} represents the execution of the AT after the variant produces an incorrect output.

- The immediate transitions T_{tneg1} and T_{fpos1} , which correspond to correct negative diagnosis by the AT and a false positive diagnosis by the AT respectively, are then enabled.
- A false positive AT diagnosis causes the token to be moved to place $P_{undetect}$ indicating an undetected block failure.
- A true positive AT diagnosis causes the token to be moved to place P_{compl} indicating the block has completed execution on the current dataset.
- The block then begins operation on the next dataset.

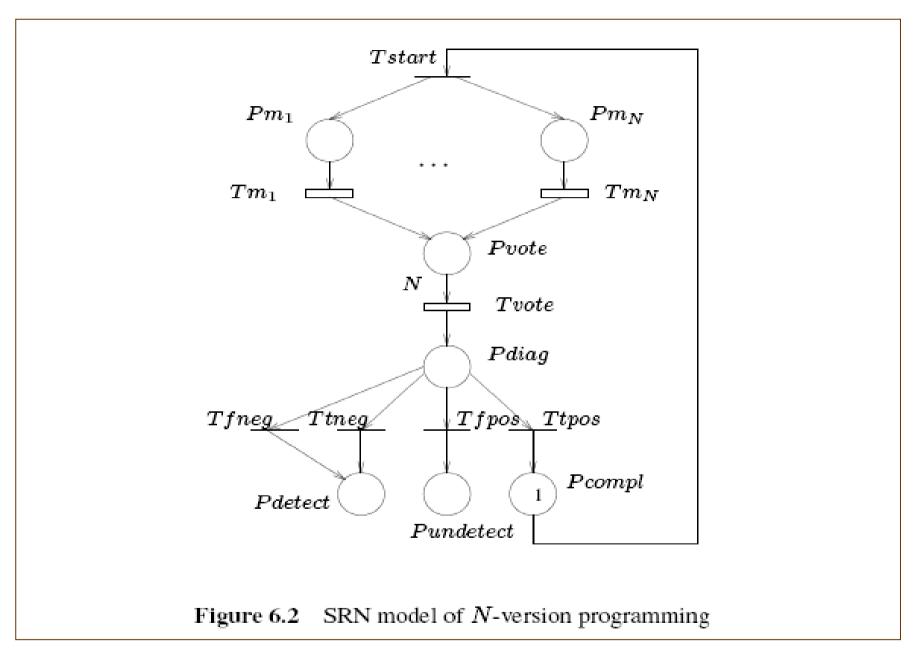
- If an error is discovered, represented by the firing of either T_{fneg_1} and T_{tneg_1} , the system initiates a rollback recovery action.
- Transition $T_{rollsucc_1}$ represents a successful rollback.
- Transition $T_{rollfail_1}$ represents an unsuccessful rollback resulting in an RB failure.
- The output arc from $T_{rollsucc_1}$ leads to P_{m2} , the starting place of the rst alternate variant, while the output arc from $T_{rollfail_1}$ leads to P_{detect} which represents a detected RB failure.

- The alternate variants are similarly modeled by the other places and transitions indexed from 2 to *N*.
- The structure of the last variant is slightly different, since the failure of the last variant automatically results in a detected system failure.
- Thus, the output arcs from transitions T_{fneg_N} and T_{tneg_N} lead to place P_{detect} .

• When the recovery block completes (the token is returned to place P_{m1}) then transition T_{done} fires and all tokens are removed from place P_{mfail} for the next execution of the recovery block.

- In N-version programming (NVP), all variants operate on the same input in parallel.
- The results of all variants are collected and a voter determines the system output [Avi85].
- The reliability of this mechanism is dependent upon individual variant results.
 - If more than half of the variants produce results that are within the required error tolerance, the prevailing result (نتيجه غالب) is declared correct.
 - □ If half or less than half of the variants produce the same result, the result is declared incorrect. In this case, no output would be released by the block.

In Figure 6.2, an SRN model of an N-version programming system is shown...



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- Initially, a single token is in place P_{compl} .
- The software block begins operating on the next input immediately with the firing of transition T_{start} .
- This transition places one token in each of the places $P_{m_1}, P_{m_2}, ..., P_{m_N}$, representing the fact that each variant begins operation on the provided input.
- Transitions T_{m_i} for $i \in 1, 2, ..., N$ represents the completion of execution of variant *i*.

- When all variants have completed, place P_{vote} will contain *N* tokens, enabling transition T_{vote} .
- Transition T_{vote} represents the execution of the voting mechanism.
- When voting is complete, a single token is moved to place P_{diag} where the voting result is diagnosed.
- If less than half of the variants produced correct output, then the voting result can be either a true negative, represented by the firing of transition T_{tneg} , or a false positive, represented by the firing of transition T_{fpos} .

- If at least half of the variants produced correct output, then the voting result can be either a true positive, represented by the firing of transition T_{tpos} , or a false negative, represented by the firing of transition T_{fneg} .
- If the voting result is negative, either transition T_{tneg} or transition T_{fneg} fire, moving the token to place P_{detect} .

□ This represents a detected error.

- If the voting result is a false positive, transition T_{fpos} fires, moving the token to place $P_{undetect}$, indicating an undetected error.
- If the voting result is a true positive, transition T_{tpos} fires, moving the token to place P_{compl} , indicating the software block as successfully completed execution on the current dataset.
- Once the token is returned to place P_{compl} , the *N*-version programming block begins operating on the next input.

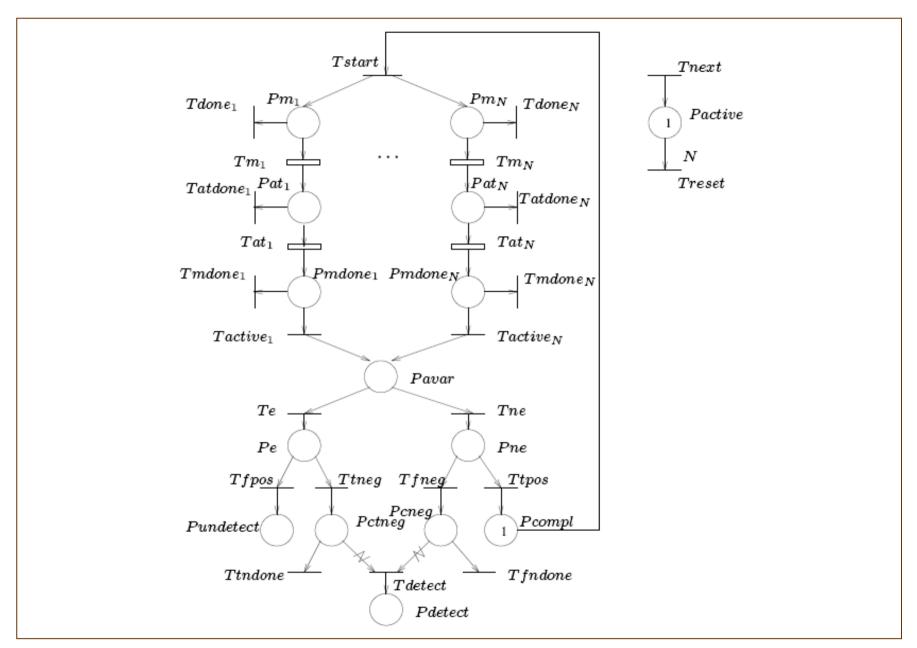
N Self-Checking Programming

- In N self-checking programming (NSCP), all variants operate in parallel on the same input.
- There are two possible decision mechanisms [Lap90] using this technique:
 - □ The first possibility is that each variant has its own **acceptance test.**
 - □ The second possibility is that each pair of variants is compared using a **comparison algorithm** associated with the pair.

N Self-Checking Programming

- In each of the above possibilities, the acceptance test associated with each variant or comparison algorithm associated with a pair of variants can be identical or independently derived ().
- One variant is always considered to be the active variant.
 - □ If the active variant produces an output that is diagnosed as correct, then that output is the block output.
 - □ If the active variant diagnoses its output to be incorrect, then the status of active variant is passed to one of the **alternate variants**.

- First, we study the case where each variant diagnoses the correctness or incorrectness of its output using an acceptance test as shown in Figure 6.3.
- The transition priorities, guard functions, and arc multiplicities associated with this model are given in Figure 6.4.



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	Transition	Trans. Priority	
	Tnext	LOW	
	Treset	HIGH	
	Tstart	LOW	
	$Tactive_i$, for $i \in [1, N]$	HIGH	
	Tdetect	HIGH	
	$Tdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N]$	HIGH	
	$Tatdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N]$	HIGH	
	$Tmdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N]$	HIGH	
	Ttndone	HIGH	
	Tfndone	HIGH	
Transition	Guard Function		
Tnext Treset $Tactive_i, \text{ for } i \in [1, N]$ Tdetect $Tdone_i, \text{ for } i \in [1, N]$ $Tatdone_i, \text{ for } i \in [1, N]$ $Tmdone_i, \text{ for } i \in [1, N]$ Tfndone Tfndone	$\begin{array}{c} \#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfn) \\ \#(Pcompl) + \#(Pdet) \\ \#(Pcompl) + \#(P$	(Pundetect) (Pundetect) (Pundetect) + #(Pundetect) + #(Pun	(p + #(Pcompl)) == 0 (p + #(Pcompl)) = 0 (p +
		Multiplicity	4
		Pctneg) Pcfneg)	
		x(#(Pctneg), 1)	
		x(#(Pcfneg), 1) x(#(Pcfneg), 1)	

- Initially, there is a single token in both places P_{compl} and *Pactive*.
- The software block begins operating on the next input immediately with the firing of transition *Tstart*.
- This transition places one token in each of places *Pm1*, *Pm2*, ..., *PmN*, representing the fact that each variant begins operation on the provided input.

- Transitions *Tmi* for $i \in 1, 2, ..., N$ represents the execution of each variant *i*.
- As each variant completes execution, a token is placed in *Pati* (for variant *i*).
- The self-checking procedure (acceptance test execution) is modeled by transition *Tati*.
- When the acceptance test completes, the token is moved from place *Pati* to place *Pmdonei* (for variant *i*).

- Place *Pactive* contains the number of tokens representing the number of the active variant (a number between 1 and *N*).
- When the active variant completes its acceptance test, then a token is in place *Pmdonei* enabling transition *Tactivei*, where i is the number of tokens in place *Pactive*.
- The firing of transition *Tactivei* moves the token to place *Pavar*.

- This enables transitions *Te*, representing the fact that the active variant has produced incorrect output, and transition *Tne*, representing the fact that the variant has produced correct output.
- If the variant produced incorrect output, the firing of transition *Te* moves the token to place *Pe*.
- The diagnosis of incorrect output can be either a false positive diagnoses or a true negative diagnosis represented by transitions *Tfpos* and *Ttneg* respectively.

- If a false positive diagnosis occurs, the token is moved to place *Pundetect*, representing an undetected error.
- If a true negative diagnosis is detected, the token is moved to place *Pctneg*.
- Place *Pctneg* counts the number of incorrect variant outputs which are diagnosed as true negative.
- The tokens remain in place *Pctneg* until either all variants are diagnosed as incorrect or the block completes execution without detecting a failure.

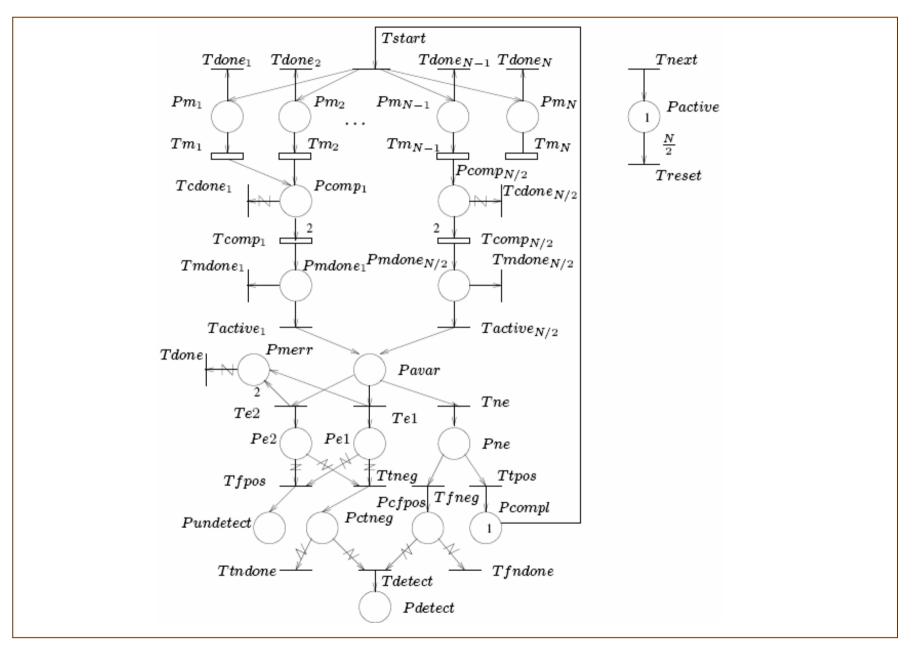
- If the variant produced incorrect output, transition
 Tne fires moving the token from place *Pavar* to place
 Pne.
- The diagnosis of correct output can be either a false negative or a true positive represented by transitions *Tfneg* and *Ttpos*.
- Transition *Tfneg* moves the token from place *Pne* to place *Pcfpos*.
- Place *Pcfpos* counts the number of correct variant outputs which are diagnosed as false negative.

- The tokens remain in place *Pcfpos* until either all variants are diagnosed as incorrect or the active variant pair diagnoses its output to be correct.
- If the sum of the number of tokens in place *Pctneg* and *Pcfpos* is equal to *N*, all variants have been diagnosed as incorrect.

- This enables transition *Tdetect*, which removes all tokens from places *Pctneg* and *Pcfpos* and places a single token in place *Pdetect*; this represents a detected failure.
- If the diagnosis of the correct output is a true positive, transition *Ttpos* fires, moving the token from place *Pne* to place *Pcompl*.

- A token in place *Pcompl* satisfies the guard function for transitions *Tdonei*, *Tatdonei*, and *Tmdone_i* for *i* ∈ [1, *N*] and transitions *Ttndone* and *Tfndone*.
- All tokens in these places are removed from the net, effectively resetting the net to its initial state.
- After this reset, the N self-checking programming block begins execution of the next input.

- Now, we study the case where the outputs of pairs of variants are diagnosed by a comparison algorithm as shown in Figure 6.5.
- The transition priority, guard, and arc multiplicity functions are given in Figure 6.6.



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	Г	Transition	Trans. Priority			
		Tnext	LOW			
		Treset	HIGH			
		Tstart	LOW			
		$Tactive_i$, for $i \in [1, N/2]$	HIGH			
		Tdetect	HIGH			
		$Tdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N]$	HIGH			
		$Tcdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N/2]$	HIGH			
		$Tmdone_i$, for $i \in [1, N/2]$	HIGH			
		Ttndone	HIGH			
		Tfndone	HIGH			
		Tedone	HIGH			
Transition	n	Guard Function				1
Tnext		$\#(Pm_{i\times 2}) + \#(Pcomp_i)$	$+ #(Pmdone_i)$) + #(Pa)	var) + #(Pe) +	1
		#(Pne) + #(Pdetect) +	#(Pundetect) +	+ #($Pcon$	(pl) == 0	
		where $i = \#(Pactive)$			- /	
Treset		#(Pactive) > N/2				
$Tactive_i$, for $i \in$	[1, N/2]	#(Pactive) == i				
Tfpos		#(Pe1) + #(Pe2) > 0				
Ttneg		#(Pe1) + #(Pe2) > 0				
Tdetect	- -	#(Pctneg) + #(Pcfneg)	== N/2			
$Tdone_i$, for $i \in$		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)				
$Tcdone_i$, for $i \in$		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)				
$Tmdone_i$, for $i \in$		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)				
Ttndone		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)				
Tfndon		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)				
Tedone		#(Pcompl) + #(Pdetect)) + #(Pundetec	(t) > 0		
		Arc	Arc Multiplicit	ty		
		$Pctneg \rightarrow Tdetect$	#(Pctneg)			
		$Pcfneg \rightarrow Tdetect$	#(Pcfneg)			
		$Pctneg \rightarrow Ttndone$	max(#(Pctn)			
		$Pcfneg \rightarrow Tfndone$	max(#(Pcf))	· / /		
		$\rightarrow Tcdone_i, \text{ for } i \in [1, N/2]$	max(#(Pcon	$np_{i}), 1)$		
		$\rightarrow Tfpos, \text{ for } i = 1, 2$	$\#(Pe_i)$			
	Pei	$i \rightarrow Ttneg$, for $i = 1, 2$	$\#(Pe_i)$			

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- This model is very similar to the previously discussed NSCP with acceptance test model.
- Initially, there is a single token in both places
 Pcompl and *Pactive*.
- The software block begins operating on the next input immediately with the firing of transition *Tstart*.
- This transition places one token in each of places *Pm1*, *Pm2*, ..., *PmN*, representing the fact that each variant begins operation on the provided input.

- Transitions *Tmi* for $i \in 1, 2, ..., N$ represents the execution of each variant *i*.
- As each variant completes execution, a token is placed in $T_{comp \lceil i/2 \rceil}$ (for variant *i*).
- The self-checking procedure (comparison algorithm execution) is modeled by transition *Tcompi*.
- This transition is enabled only when both variants in a pair have completed execution (when two tokens are in place *Pcompi*).

- When the comparison test completes, the token is moved from place *Pcompi* to place *Pmdonei* (for variant pair *i*).
- Place *Pactive* contains the number of tokens representing the number of the active variant pair (a number between 1 and *N*/2).

- When the active variant pair completes its comparison algorithm, a token is in place *Pmdonei*, enabling transition *Tactivei*, where *i* is the number of tokens in place *Pactive*.
- The firing of transition *Tactivei* moves the token to place *Pavar*.
- This enables transitions *Te1*, *Te2*, and *Tne*.

- The firing of transition *Te1* means one of the two variants produced an incorrect output and therefore the comparison test result should be negative.
- The firing of transition *Te2* means both of the two variants produced an incorrect output and therefore the comparison test result should be negative.
- The firing of transition *Tne* means neither of the two variants produced an incorrect output and therefore the comparison test result should be positive.

- The firing of transition *Te1* moves a token to place *Pe1* and to place *Pmerr*.
- The firing of transition *Te2* moves a token to place *Pe2* and two tokens to place *Pmerr*.
- The number of tokens in place *Pmerr* represents the number of variants that produced an incorrect output on the current dataset.

- A token in place *Pe1*, indicating one of the variant pair produced an incorrect output.
- A token in place *Pe2* indicates that both of the variants in the pair produced an incorrect output.
- A token in either *Pe1* or *Pe2* enables transitions *Tfpos* and *Ttneg*, which indicate a false positive diagnoses and a true negative diagnoses respectively.

- A false positive diagnoses causes the token to move to place *Pundetect*, indicating an undetected error.
- If a true negative diagnosis is detected, the token is moved to place *Pctneg*.
- Place *Pctneg* counts the number of incorrect variant pair outputs which are diagnosed as true negative.
- The tokens remain in place *Pctneg* until either all variants pairs are diagnosed as incorrect or the active variant pair diagnoses its output to be correct.

- If both variants in the pair produced incorrect output, transition *Tne* fires, moving the token from place *Pavar* to place *Pne*.
- The diagnosis of correct output can be either a false negative or a true positive represented by transitions *Tfneg* and *Ttpos*.
- Transition *Tfneg* moves the token from place *Pne* to place *Pcfneg*.
- Place *Pcfneg* counts the number of correct variant pair outputs diagnosed as false negative.

- The tokens remain in place *Pcfneg* until either all variants are diagnosed as incorrect or the active variant diagnoses its output as correct.
- If the sum of the number of tokens in place *Pctneg* and *Pcfpos* is equal to N/2, all variant pairs have been diagnosed as incorrect.

- This enables transition *Tdetect*, which removes all tokens from places *Pctneg* and *Pcfpos* and places a single token in place *Pdetect*; this represents a detected failure.
- If the diagnosis of the correct output is a true positive, transition *Ttpos* fires, moving the token from place *Pne* to place *Pcompl*.

- A token in place *Pcompl* satisfies the guard function for transitions *Tdonei* for i ∈ [1, N], transitions *Tcdonei* and *Tmdonei* for i ∈ [1,N/2], and transitions *Ttndone*, *Tfndone*, and *Tedone*.
- All tokens in these places are removed from the net, effectively resetting the net to its initial state.
- After this reset, the N self-checking programming block begins execution of the next input.

3. Dependencies in the SRN Models

- **Dependencies** in fault tolerant systems are generally classified according to the **source of the failure**.
- Laprie [Lap90] classified failures in fault tolerant software systems using two criteria:

□ Separate or common-mode

• A *common-mode fault* is a fault which occurs simultaneously in two or more redundant components.

□ Detected or undetected

3. Dependencies in The SRN Models

- First, failures are classified as either *separate* or *common-mode*.
- Sources of common-mode failures include
 - □ *design faults* from shared specification or implementation,
 - □ *similar errors* from independent faults, and
 - \Box the inherent difficulty of *shared input*.

■ در ادامه تعریف خواهند شد...

■ Next, failures can either be *detected* or *undetected*.

3. Dependencies in The SRN Models

- It is most important in the development of a model to account for these dependencies.
- In our SRN models, these dependencies are accounted for
 - \Box by the structure of the model, and
 - □ by judicious (قابل قضاوت) definition of the immediate transition probabilities.

Detected versus Undetected Failures

- First, consider the distinction between detected and undetected failures.
- In the previous section, we developed the SRN model of each software fault tolerance technique which included places P_{detect} , for detected failures, and $P_{undetect}$, for undetected failures.
- Defining separate places for detected and undetected failures, rather a single place (to indicate any type of failure), allows numerical study of several additional measures of interest.

Detected versus Undetected Failures

- Safety measures include both steady state and transient measures.
 - □ A **steady state measure** of interest is the probability the system will eventually fail due to an unsafe failure.
 - An unsafe failure is indicated by the existence of a token in place $P_{undetect}$.
 - □ A **transient measure** of interest is S(t), the safety distribution, defined to be the probability the system does not enter an unsafe state by time *t*.

Detected versus Undetected Failures

- Reliability measures can be obtained by considering block failure as the existence of a token in either place P_{detect} or $P_{undetect}$.
- Mean time to failure is a cumulative measure of the expected time until a token arrives in either place P_{detect} or $P_{undetect}$.
- The transient reliability function, R(t), is the probability that there are no tokens in either place P_{detect} or $P_{undetect}$ at time t.

Common-Mode versus Separate Failures

- Next, consider the distinction between separate and common-mode failures.
 - □ Separate failures result from independent faults with distinct errors.
 - □ **Common-mode failures** result from related faults or independent faults subject to similar errors.

Common-Mode versus Separate Failures

 Measurements have shown that software variants do not exhibit separate failures.

توضیحی که چرا این طور است نداده و مرجعی هم برای اندازه گیریهای مورد نظر نداده است.

- Measurements provide a **probability mass function** $p_N(.)$ where $p_N(i)$ is the probability that *i* of the *N* variants produce incorrect output.
- If all variant failures are separate, then $p_N(.)$ is a **binomial** (ception probability mass function.

Common-mode variant failures can be easily accounted for in the SRN model by carefully structuring the model to retain tokens in places which provide needed information;

□ state dependent transition probabilities can then be defined to use this information.

- The state information needed to model commonmode variant failures includes
 - \Box n_{vdone} , the number of variants in the program block which have completed execution, and
 - \square *n_{fail}*, the number of the variants which have completed and produced incorrect results.

- In addition, to simplify the probability functions needed in the SRN models, we include in the state information n_{totfail}, the number of variants out of N producing incorrect output.
- This variable is computed using probability mass function $p_N(.)$ each time a new dataset begins processing.

- Using the assumption that variants are stochastically identical, we can compute several probabilities of interest in fault tolerant software systems.
- The probability a variant produces incorrect output is given by

$$prob(variant failure) = \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}}$$

The probability that less than N/2 variants produce incorrect output is given by

 $prob(no. variants fail < N/2) = 1_{n_{totfail} < N/2}$

• where 1_x is an **indicator function** which evaluates to 1 if x is *true* and 0 otherwise.

- If we consider a pair of variants, we can compute the probabilities that one, both, or neither of the pair of variants fail.
- The probability both variants produce correct output is

$$prob(\text{neither variant fails}) = \left(1.0 - \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}}\right) \times \left(1.0 - \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - (n_{vdone} + 1)}\right)$$

The probability both variants produce incorrect output is

 $prob(\text{both variants fail}) = \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}} \times \frac{n_{totfail} - (n_{fail} + 1)}{N - (n_{vdone} + 1)}$

The probability that one of the two variants produce incorrect output and the other produces correct output is

prob(one of two variants fail) = 1.0 - (prob(neither variant fails) +prob(both variants fail))

Figure 6.7 shows a subnet that is added to each previously described SRN model to simplify the incorporation of common-mode failures...

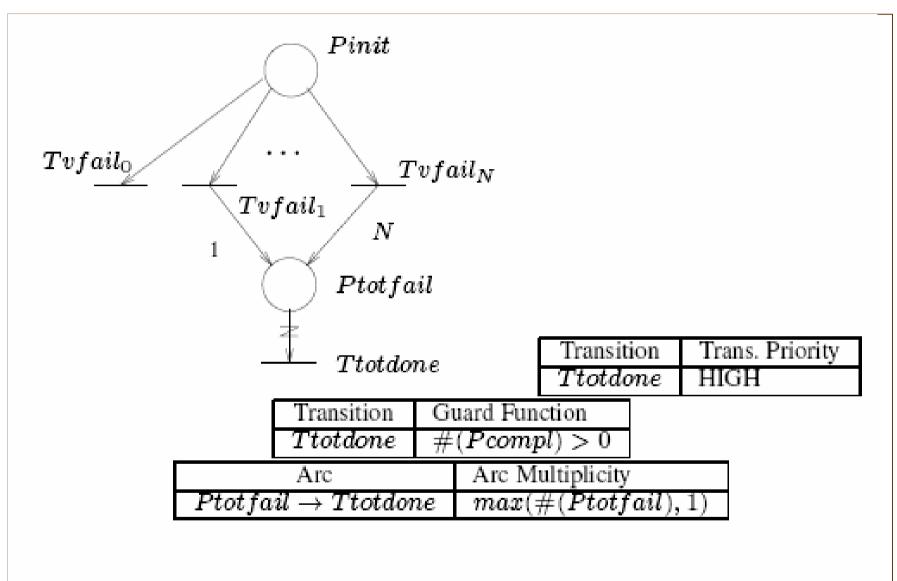


Figure 6.7 Subnet added to SRN models for common-mode failures

- A token arrives in transition P_{init} as a result of the firing of transition T_{start} .
- Transition *Tstart* (which is part of each previously developed SRN model) is modified to include another output arc associated with place P_{init} .
- When a token arrives in place P_{init} , the software block is ready to operate on a new dataset.
- Transitions $Tvfail_0$, $Tvfail_1$, ... $Tvfail_N$ become enabled.

- The probability associated with each transition Tvfaili is $p_N(i)$, the probability that *i* out of the *N* variants produce an incorrect result.
- The firing of transition *Tvfail_i* causes *i* tokens to be placed in *Ptotfail*.
- Place *Ptotfail* represents the number of variants that will produce incorrect output on the current dataset.
- The number of tokens in place *Ptotfail* is used to determine the variant failure probabilities in each SRN model.

- This is discussed in detail for each SRN model in the next section.
- When the software block completes execution on the current dataset (a token is moved to place *Pcompl*), all tokens in place *Ptotfail* are removed by the firing of transition *Ttotdone*.
- This resets this subnet prior to the arrival of the next dataset.

Recovery Block SRN Model

- In the SRN model of the RB scheme, transitions T_{nei} and T_{ei} are immediate transitions representing the correctness or incorrectness of variant *i*.
- These transitions are enabled only after *i*-1 variants have completed execution.
- Of these *i*-1 variants, $\#(P_{mfail})$ produced incorrect results.

Recovery Block SRN Model

The immediate transition probabilities for T_{ei} and T_{nei} incorporating common-mode failures are given by

$$prob(Te_i) = \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}}$$
$$= \frac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pmfail)}{N - (i - 1)}$$

and

$$prob(Tne_i) = 1 - prob(Te_i)$$

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- In the SRN model of the NVP scheme, out of the N available variants $#(P_{totfail})$ variants produce incorrect results.
- The voter diagnosis is dependent on the number of the *N* variants producing incorrect output.
- If less than half of the variants produce correct output (that is if $\#(P_{totfail}) < N/2$), then the vote should be positive.
- However, similar errors may cause the voter to diagnose a false positive when less than half of the variants produce a correct output.

In addition, the implementation of the voter may be incorrect (e.g. the voter's variant error tolerance may be too small) and the voter may diagnose a false negative even though more than half of the variants produced a correct output.

- $prob(Tfpos) = prob(at least half of variants were incorrect) \times$ prob(diagnosis on incorrect input is positive)
- $prob(Ttneg) = prob(at least half of variants were incorrect) \times$ (1.0 - prob(diagnosis on incorrect input is positive))
- $prob(Tfneg) = prob(less than half of variants were incorrect) \times$ prob(diagnosis on correct input is negative)
- $prob(Ttpos) = prob(less than half of variants were incorrect) \times$ (1.0 - prob(diagnosis on correct input is negative))

The variant probabilities used in the above equations are given by

 $prob(at least half of variants are incorrect) = 1_{\#(Ptotfail) > = N/2}$

prob(less than half of variants are incorrect $) = 1_{\#(Ptotfail) < N/2}$



NSCP with AT SRN Model

- In the SRN model of the NSCP with acceptance test, a token in place P_{avar} enables transitions T_e , which indicates an incorrect variant result, and transition T_{ne} , which indicates a correct variant result.
- The number of previously completed and diagnosed variants is $\#(P_{ctneg}) + \#(P_{cfneg})$.
- The number of these variants which produced incorrect results is $\#(P_{ctneg})$.

NSCP with AT SRN Model

The probability that the variant represented by a token in place P_{avar} produces an incorrect result is

$$prob(Te) = rac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}} \ = rac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pctneg)}{N - (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfneg))}$$

and

$$prob(Tne) = 1 - prob(Te)$$

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- Similarly, in the SRN model of the NSCP with comparison tests, a token in place *Pavar* enables transitions *Te1*, *Te2*, and *Tne*.
- The firing of transition *Te1* indicates that one variant in the pair produced an incorrect output while the other variant produced a correct output.
- The firing of transition *Te2* indicates that both variants in the pair produced incorrect output.
- The firing of transition *Tne* indicates that both of the variants in the pair produced correct output.

The number of variant pairs that have completed execution and diagnosis is given by #(Pctneg)+#(Pcfneg);

□ the number of variants that have completed execution is therefore $2 \times (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfpos))$.

Of the variant pairs that have completed, the number of pairs where at least one variant did not produce correct output is given by #(*Pmerr*).

The probability neither variant produces incorrect output is

$$\begin{aligned} prob(Tne) &= \left(1.0 - \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}}\right) \times \left(1.0 - \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - (n_{vdone} + 1)}\right) \\ &= \left(1.0 - \frac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pmerr)}{N - 2 \times (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfneg))}\right) \times \\ &\left(1.0 - \frac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pmerr)}{N - 2 \times (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfneg)) - 1}\right) \end{aligned}$$

The probability both variants produce incorrect output is

$$\begin{array}{lll} prob(Te2) &=& \displaystyle \frac{n_{totfail} - n_{fail}}{N - n_{vdone}} \times \frac{n_{totfail} - (n_{fail} + 1)}{N - (n_{vdone} + 1)} \\ &=& \displaystyle \frac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pmerr)}{N - 2 \times (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfneg))} \times \\ &=& \displaystyle \frac{\#(Ptotfail) - \#(Pmerr) - 1}{N - 2 \times (\#(Pctneg) + \#(Pcfneg)) - 1} \end{array}$$

The probability that one of the two variants produce incorrect output and the other produces correct output is

$$prob(Te1) = 1.0 - prob(Tne) - prob(Te2)$$