Business Processes Modelling

MPB (6 cfu, 295AA)

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15 - Sound by construction
Object

We show a technique to build sound Workflow nets
Soundness proof by construction

Idea
1. Find a suitable set of "building blocks"
   they are (small) workflow nets
   that can be (easily) proved
to be sound and
to be safe (1-bounded)

2. Define composition patterns so that
by composing safe and sound WF nets
we get safe and sound WF nets
Sound and safe by composition

Let $N$, $N'$ be two safe and sound workflow nets.
Sound and safe by composition

Let $t$ be a task of $N$ with exactly one input and one output place.
Sound and safe by composition

Let $N[N'/t]$ denote the net obtained by replacing the task $t$ in $N$ by $N'$
Sound and safe by composition

The net $N[N'/t]$ is a sound and safe workflow net (proof omitted)
Proof sketch

**Intuitively**
a sound workflow net behaves as a transition:
it takes one token from its input place and
it produces one token to its output place
(but not atomically)

**Formally**
the crux of the proof is showing a bijective correspondence
between
markings of the composed net $N[N'/t]$ and the pairs of markings in $N$ and $N'$
Some Building Blocks 1

- **basic**

- **sequence**

- **implicit XOR**

- **iteration**
Some Building Blocks 2

explicit XOR-split

explicit XOR-join
Some Building Blocks 3

But you can define more blocks on your own
Example: refinement
Example: refinement
Example: refinement
Example: refinement
Example: refinement
Example: refinement
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net

explicit XOR block
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net.
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net.

iteration
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net

sequence
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net

parallel (AND) block
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net
Exercise

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net
Exercise

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net (hint: "desugar" it)
Generalization

We would like to progressively refine transitions with multiple incoming and outgoing arcs.
Two facts

Lemma: Let N be a sound WF net. If \((i,t) \in F\) then the pre-set of t is \{i\}
(otherwise t would be a dead transition)

Lemma: Let N be a sound WF net. If \((t,o) \in F\) then the post-set of t is \{o\}
(otherwise t would be dead or proper completion would not hold)
General replacement

Let $T_{i'} = \{ u \mid \bullet u = \{ i' \} \}$. (initial transitions of $N'$)
Let $T_{o'} = \{ v \mid v\bullet = \{ o' \} \}$. (final transitions of $N'$)

If $(p, t) \in F_N, u \in T_{i'}$ then $(p, u) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$
If $(t, q) \in F_N, v \in T_{o'}$ then $(v, q) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$

The net $N[N'/t]$ is a sound and safe workflow net
General replacement

Let $T_{i'} = \{ u \mid \bullet u = \{i'\} \}$.  (initial transitions of $N'$)
Let $T_{o'} = \{ v \mid v\bullet = \{o'\} \}$.  (final transitions of $N'$)

If $(p, t) \in F_N, u \in T_{i'}$ then $(p, u) \in F_{N[N'/t]$
If $(t, q) \in F_N, v \in T_{o'}$ then $(v, q) \in F_{N[N'/t]$

The net $N[N'/t]$ is a sound and safe workflow net
Some Building Blocks 4

But you can define more blocks on your own

AND (parallel)
Exercise

Prove that the net below is a safe and sound workflow net