

# Uniform random generation of executions in concurrent programs

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Sorbonne University – LIP6 – Paris

# Outline

The project

Petri nets

Combinatorial interpretation

Uniform sampling of executions

# The project

Long term research project:

O. Bodini, M. Dien, A. Genitrini, F. Peschanski,...

**Operators** of concurrency → combinatorial **interpretation**

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- Quantitative study
  - Combinatorial explosion
  - **Average** number of executions?

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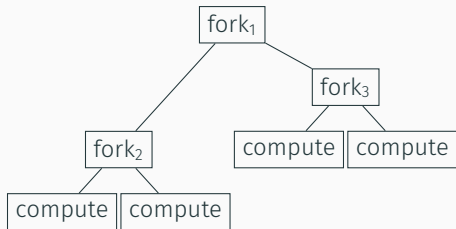
**Operators** of concurrency → combinatorial **interpretation**

- Quantitative study
  - Combinatorial explosion
  - **Average** number of executions?
- Algorithmic applications
  - Counting executions
  - **Uniform** random sampling of executions

# Classical operators of concurrency (1)

$x.P$   
→ Trees [AofA'12]

$P \parallel Q$



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$x.P$        $P \parallel Q$

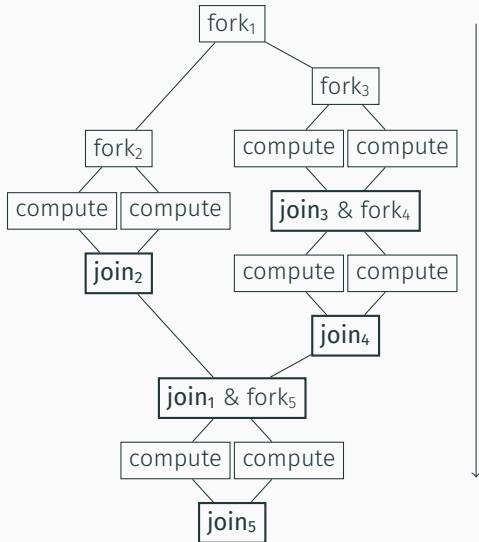
→ Trees [AofA'12]

Synchronization

→ DAGs

Counting is #P-complete  
[Brightwell & Winkler'91]  
(too difficult)

→ Fork-Join graphs [Analco'17]



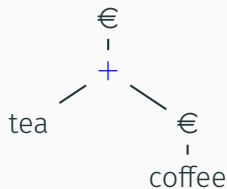
# Classical operators of concurrency (2)

+ (choice operator)

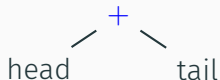
→ In the tree model [FSTTCS'13]

- Toy example
- Technical difficulties

Beverage vending machine



Tossing a coin





# In today's talk

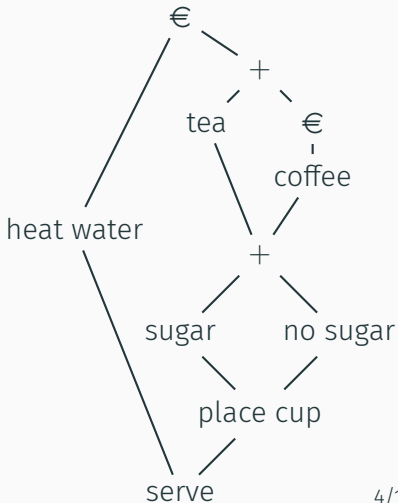
+ . || sync

→ General model: petri nets

→ Tractable subclass:  $SP_+$

→ Uniform random generator of executions

## Beverage vending machine



# Outline



The project

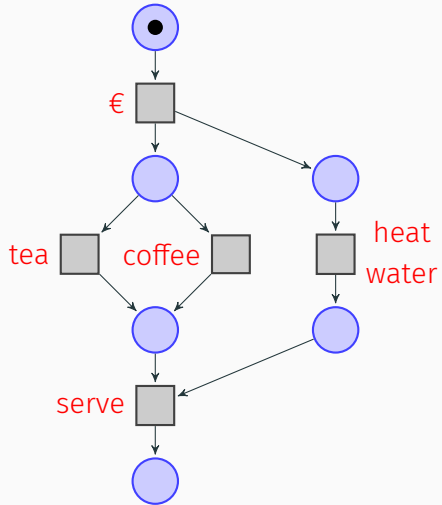
Petri nets

Combinatorial interpretation



Uniform sampling of executions

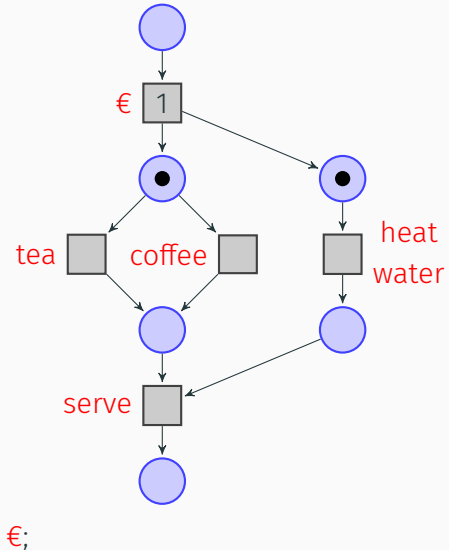
# Petri nets

- Model for concurrent systems
- Places  symbolise states / resources
- Transitions  symbolise actions
- Connected by directed arcs
- Transitions consume and produce tokens





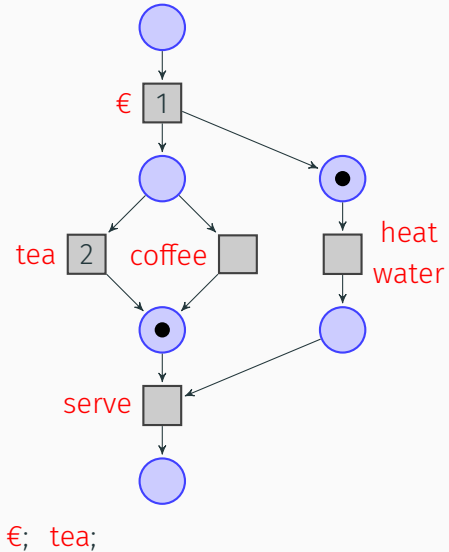
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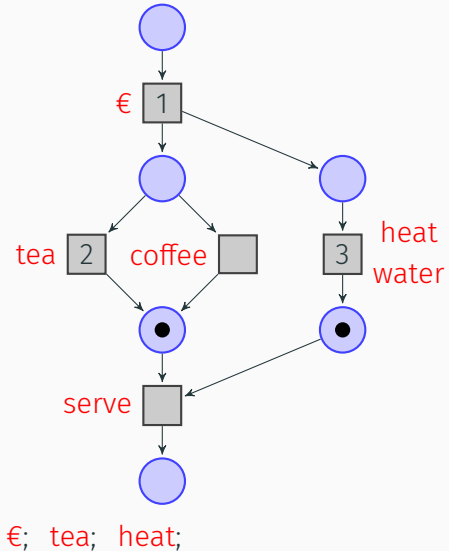
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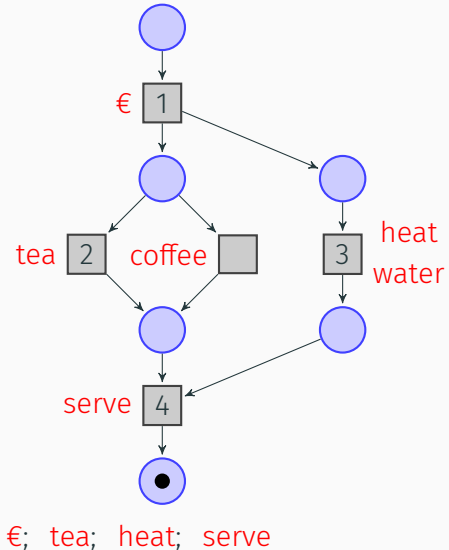
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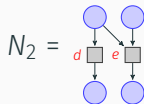
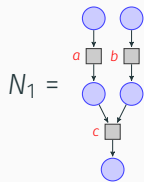


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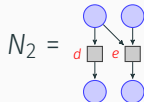
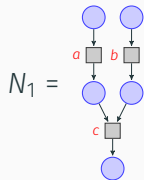


# Construction rules (I)



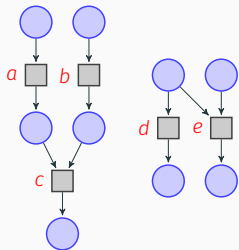


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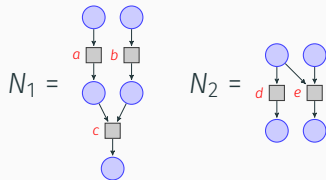


Parallel composition

$(N_1 \parallel N_2)$

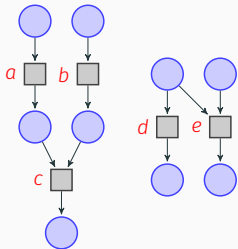


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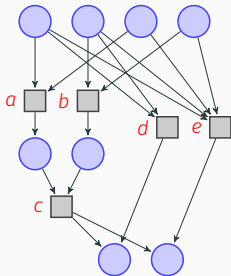
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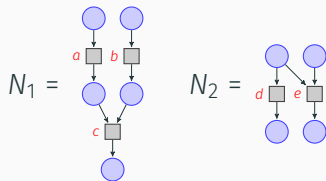


Choice

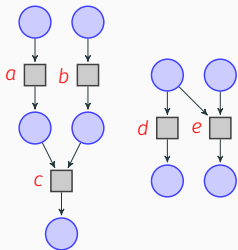
$(N_1 + N_2)$



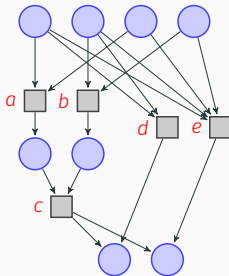
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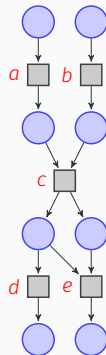
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Choice  
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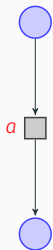
Sequence  
 $(N_1 ; N_2)$



## Construction rules (II)

Atomic action

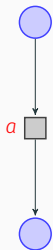
(*a*)



## Construction rules (II)

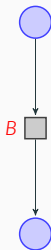
Atomic action

( $a$ )



Barrier

( $B$ )



Synchronisation

( $[N : B]$ )

Merge all the  
transitions labelled  
with  $B$  in  $N$

# Properties

## We know

- ; is associative
- || is associative and commutative
- + is associative and commutative
- Counting the executions is #P-hard

# Properties

## We know

- $;$  is associative
- $\parallel$  is associative and commutative
- $+$  is associative and commutative
- Counting the executions is #P-hard

## We wish to prove

- Petri nets constructed using  $a, B, ;, +, \parallel$  and  $[\cdot : B]$  are one-safe?
- All cycles are deadlocks?
- We can construct any cycle-free petri net that is one-safe???

## Summary

$N, M ::= N \parallel M$

$N + M$

$N ; M$

$a$

$B$

$[N : B]$



## Summary

$N, M ::= N \parallel M$

$N + M$

$N ; M$

$a$

$B$

$[N : B]$

$\rightsquigarrow$

## Non-deterministic series parallel programs ( $SP_+$ )

- Simpler model
- Still expressive
- Tractable:
  - Specifiable
  - Efficient Uniform random generation of executions is possible

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# Analytic combinatorics

## Definition: combinatorial class

A set  $\mathcal{C}$  equipped with a size function  $|\cdot| : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall n, \#\{c \in \mathcal{C}; |c| = n\} < \infty$

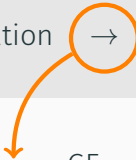
Specification  $\rightarrow$  Generating Function  $\rightarrow$  Asymptotics

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Spec	$\rightarrow$	GF
$\mathcal{A}$	$\rightarrow$	$\sum_n a_n z^n$
$\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$	$\rightarrow$	$A(z) + B(z)$
$\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$	$\rightarrow$	$A(z)B(z)$
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...		

$$A(z) \approx \tau - C \sqrt{1 - \frac{z}{\rho}}$$

$\downarrow$

$$a_n \sim C' n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \rho^{-n}$$

## Informal

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_; \mid \mathcal{S}_{\parallel} \mid \mathcal{S}_+ \mid a$$

$$\mathcal{S}_; = (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_;) ; (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_;) ; \cdots ; (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_;) \quad (\geq 2 \text{ terms})$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\parallel} = (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_{\parallel}) \parallel (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_{\parallel}) \parallel \cdots \parallel (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_{\parallel}) \quad (\geq 2 \text{ terms})$$

$$\mathcal{S}_+ = (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_+) + (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_+) + \cdots + (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_+) \quad (\geq 2 \text{ terms})$$

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## Formal

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{Z} + \mathcal{S}_; + \mathcal{S}_{\parallel} + \mathcal{S}_+$$

$$\mathcal{S}_; = \text{SEQ}_{\geq 2}(\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_;)$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\parallel} = \text{MSET}_{\geq 2}(\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_{\parallel})$$

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symbolic method



system of equations...



# The symbolic method for executions

We can do the same for counting the possible executions

Specification       $\rightarrow$       Exponential generating function

$$\mathcal{A} \quad \rightarrow \quad A(z) = \sum_n a_n \frac{z^n}{n!}$$

$$\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B} \quad \rightarrow \quad A(z) + B(z)$$

$$\mathcal{A} \star \mathcal{B} \quad \rightarrow \quad A(z)B(z)$$

$$\mathcal{A} \boxtimes \mathcal{B}^1 \quad \rightarrow \quad \int_0^z A'(z-u)B(u)du + A(0)B(z)$$

<sup>1</sup>Ordered product [Analco'17]

## Expected results

(★) Number of programs

Should be of the form  $C \cdot n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \rho^{-n}$

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(Numerically, in the non commutative case:  $B \approx 1.11678$ )

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- (★) Average number of **global choices**  
Should be of the form  $A \cdot B^n$  for small  $B$ .  
(Numerically, in the non commutative case:  $B \approx 1.11678$ )
- (★★★) Average number of executions  
(very ugly equations)

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Sampling executions **uniformly at random** in a given  $SP_+$  program.

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↪ **[CSR'17]** gives an algorithm for the choice-free case



Sampling executions **uniformly at random** in a given  $SP_+$  program.

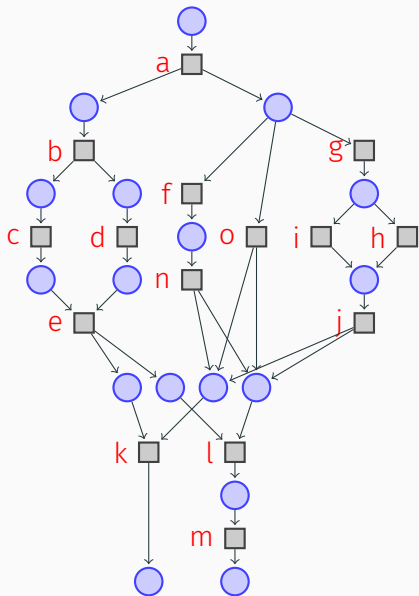
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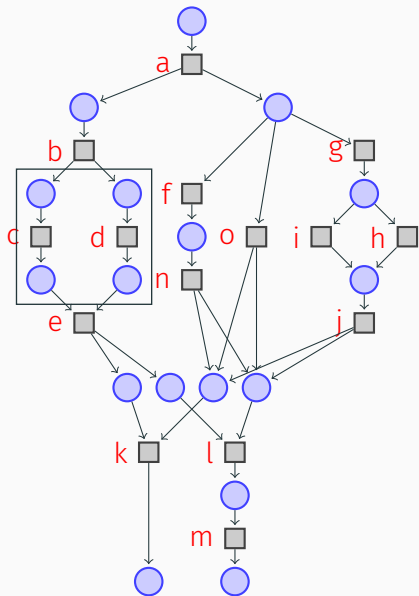
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**Solution:** use the symbolic method to select a global choice  
(next slides)

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



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$$N \parallel M$$

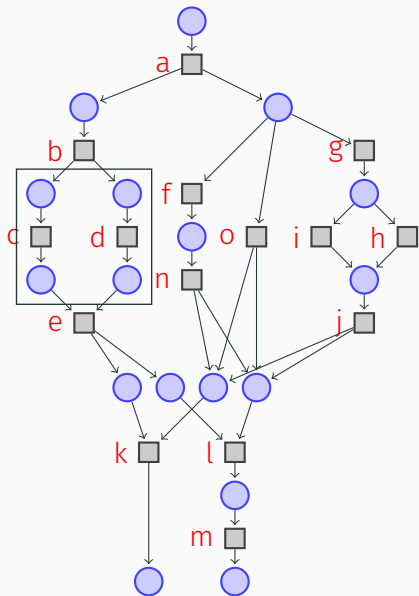
↓

$$\mathcal{N} \star \mathcal{M}$$

↓

$$N(z)M(z)$$

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$c \parallel d$

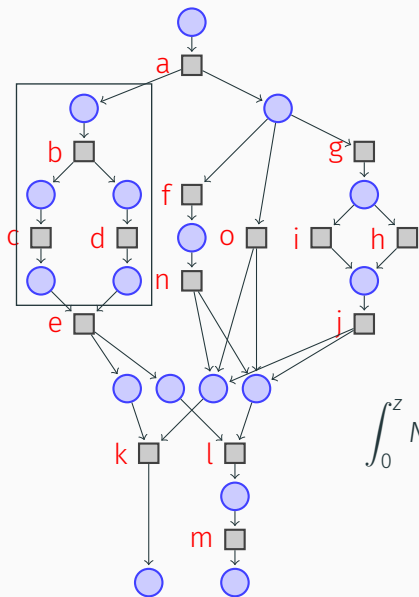
$\downarrow$

$\mathcal{Z} \star \mathcal{Z}$

$\downarrow$

$$z \cdot z = 2 \cdot \frac{z^2}{2!}$$

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$N; M$

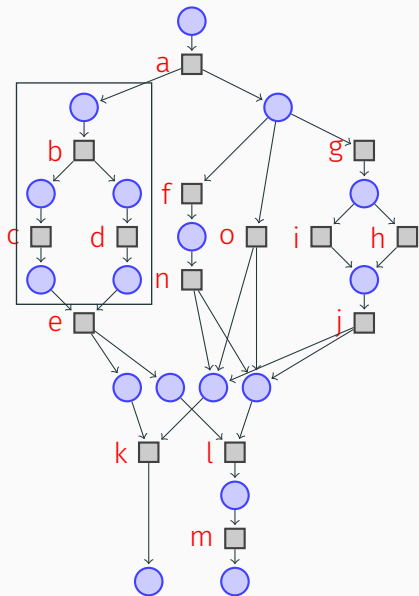
↓

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↓

$$\int_0^z N'(z-u)M(u)du + N(0)M(z)$$

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$b; (c \parallel d)$

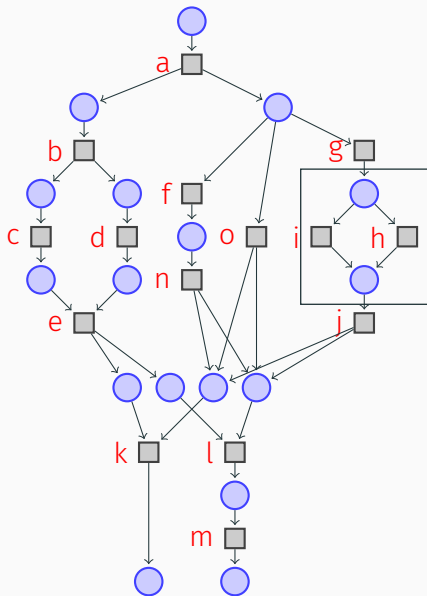
↓

$\mathcal{Z} \star (\mathcal{Z} \star \mathcal{Z})$

↓

$$\int_0^z u^2 du = 2 \cdot \frac{z^3}{3!}$$

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$N + M$

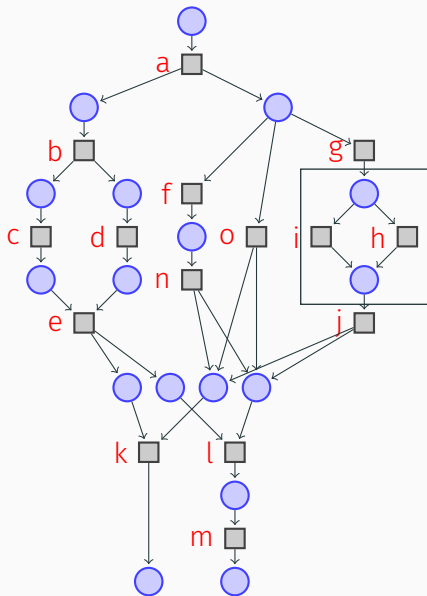
$\downarrow$

$(\mathcal{N} + \mathcal{M})$

$\downarrow$

$N(z) + M(z)$

# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$$N + M$$

↓

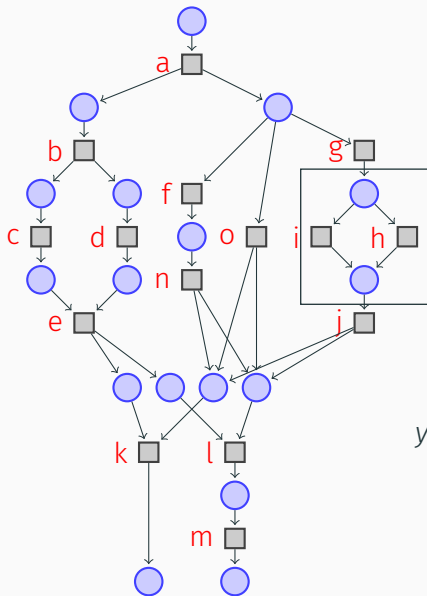
$$(\mathcal{Y}_i \mathcal{N} + \mathcal{Y}_h \mathcal{M})$$

↓

$$y_i N(z) + y_h M(z)$$



# Algorithm (step 1): specify the executions of the program



$$i + h$$

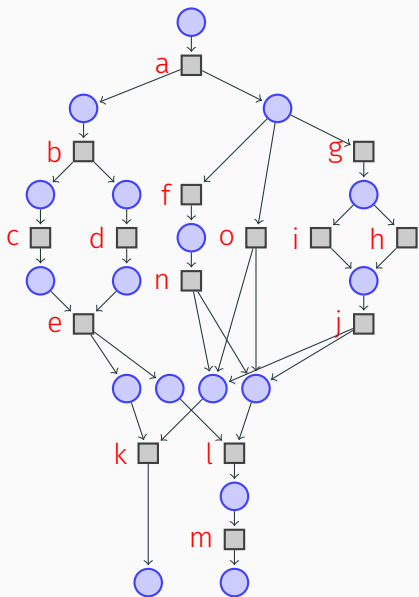
$$\downarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{Y}_i \mathcal{Z} + \mathcal{Y}_h \mathcal{Z})$$

$$\downarrow$$

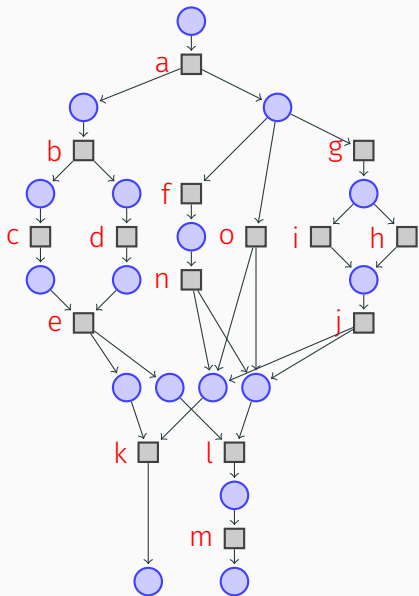
$$y_i z + y_h z = (1 \cdot y_i + 1 \cdot y_h) \frac{z^1}{1!}$$

# Algorithm (step 2): backward symbolic method



$$30y_o \frac{z^9}{9!} + 90y_f \frac{z^{10}}{10!} + 210y_g(y_h + y_i) \frac{z^{11}}{11!}$$

# Algorithm (step 2): backward symbolic method

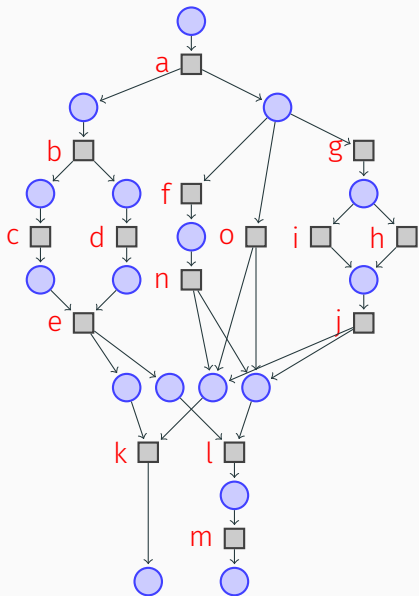


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$$\downarrow y_{\dots} \leftarrow 1$$

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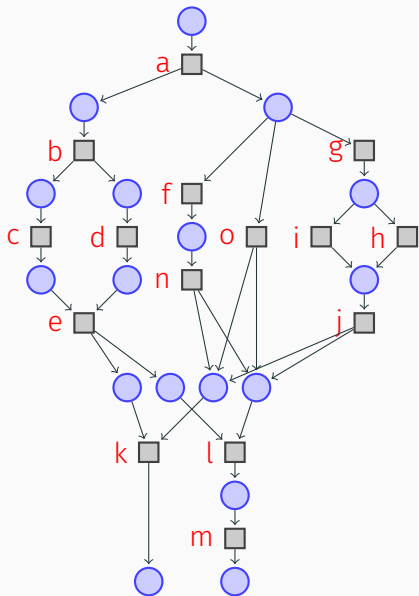
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$$30 \frac{z^9}{9!} + 90 \frac{z^{10}}{10!} + 420 \frac{z^{11}}{11!}$$

# of executions =  
540

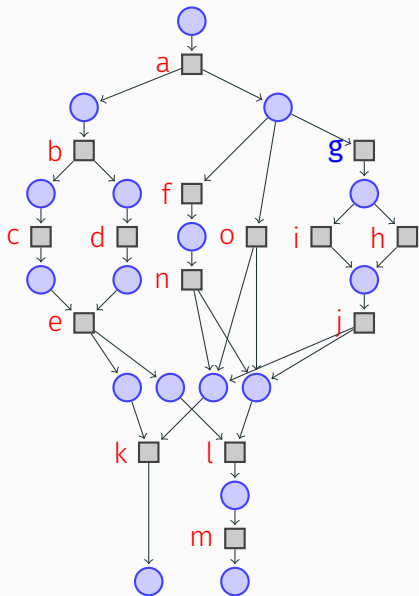


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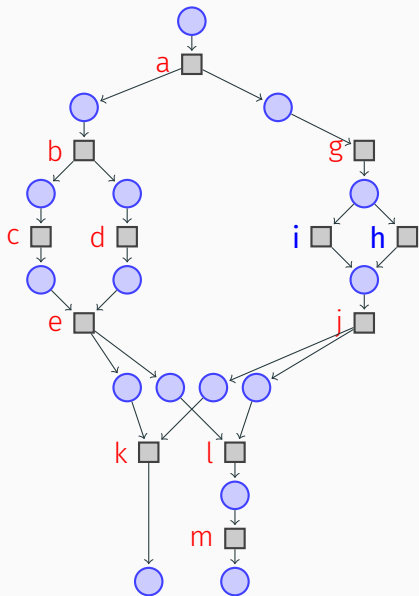
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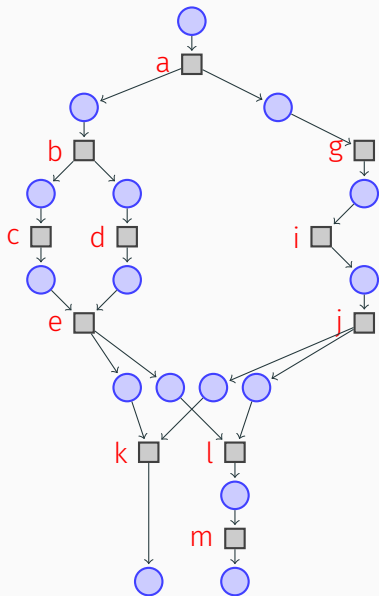
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## Algorithm (step 2): backward symbolic method



$$210y_g(y_h + y_i) \frac{z^{11}}{11!}$$



# Analysis of the algorithm

**Correction:** symbolic method

**Worst case complexity** ( $n =$  size of the graph):

- Step 1: size of the polynomial:  $O(n^2)$
- Step 2: number of arithmetic operations on big integers:  $O(n^2)$
- Choice-free algorithm [CSR'17]:  $O(n^2)$

# Conclusion

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## In the future:

- Quantitative results
- Beyond  $SP_+$ : unfold **some** choices? Modelling loops?
- Recognize that a petri net is in  $SP_+$
- Implement a statistical model checker based on our random generation techniques

Thank you!

Questions?

## Sampling in a choice-free graph

**Input:** A choice-free  $SP_+$

**Output:** A uniform execution of this program (list of actions)

```
function SAMPLE_CF( $P$ )
```

```
  if  $P = a$  then
```

```
    return [a]
```

```
  else if  $P = P_1 \parallel P_2$  then
```

```
    return SHUFFLE(SAMPLE_CF( $P_1$ ), SAMPLE_CF( $P_2$ ))
```

```
  else if  $P = P_1; P_2$  then
```

```
    return CONCAT(SAMPLE_CF( $P_1$ ), SAMPLE_CF( $P_2$ ))
```







Olivier Bodini, Matthieu Dien, Antoine Genitrini, and Frédéric Peschanski.

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