Assessing the Effect of Failure Severity, Coincident Failures and Usage-Profiles on the Reliability of Embedded Control Systems

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# Agenda

→ 
◆ Problem Definition and Motivation

Example Embedded System – The Anti-lock Braking System

Modeling Strategy, SPN Models and SAN Models

Reliability Analysis Results and Discussion

Conclusion and Scope of Future Work



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### Goals

 Model and analyze the Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) of a passenger vehicle.

Model severity of failures, coincident failures and usage-profiles.

 Carry out the *reliability* analysis using different stochastic formalisms – Stochastic Petri Nets (SPNs) and Stochastic Activity Networks (SANs).

Develop an approach that is generic and extensible for this application domain.



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### **Introduction (1)**

Model: An abstraction of a system that includes sufficient detail to facilitate an understanding of system behavior.

Reliability: Probability that a system will deliver intended functionality/quality for a specified period of time, given that the system was functioning properly at the start of this period.

Failure: An observed departure of the external result of operation from requirements or user expectations.



### **Introduction (2)**

*Severity of failure*: The impact the failure has on the operation of the system. An example of a service impact classification is critical, major and minor.

*Coincident failures*: All failures are not independent. Components generally interact with each other during operation and affect the probability of failure of other components.

*Usage-Profiles*: Quantitative characterization of how a system (hardware and software) is used. (a.k.a. operational profiles, workload)



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# Motivation

Reliability analysis of an ABS model to predict/estimate the likelihood and characteristic properties of failures occurring in the system.

- **C** Reliability function & Mean Time To Failure (MTTF).
- The need for a realistic, scalable & extensible model Important to model severity and coincident failures

Important to model usage-profiles

- Comparing results from two stochastic formalisms SPNs and SANs
  - Validation by comparison against actual data beyond the scope of this research.



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### **Anti-lock Braking System (1)**

- An integrated part of the braking system of vehicle.
  - Prevents wheel lock up during emergency stop by modulating wheel pressure.
  - Permits the driver to maintain steering control while braking.

### Main Components

- Wheel speed sensors.
- Electronic control unit (controller).
- Hydraulic control unit (hydraulic pump).
- Valves.







### **Anti-lock Braking System (2)**

### Functioning

- Wheel speed sensors measure wheel-speed.
  - The electronic control unit (ECU) "reads" signals from the wheel speed sensors.
  - If a wheel's rotation suddenly decreases, the ECU orders the hydraulic control unit (HCU) to reduce the line pressure to that wheel's brake.
  - The HCU reduces the pressure in that brake line by controlling the valves present there.
- Once the wheel resumes normal operation, the control restores pressure to that wheel's brake.



### **Top Level Schematic of ABS**



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### **Detailed Schematic**



### **ABS Assumptions**

\* Modes of operation (different levels of degraded performance  $\rightarrow$  *failure severity*)

Normal operation

Degraded mode

Lost stability mode

Lifetime of a vehicle: 300-600 hours/year for an average of 10-15 years (i.e. 3000-9000 hours)

Four-channel four-sensor ABS scheme



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### Failure Rates of Components<sup>†</sup>

Component	# Base Fail		Probability		
		<b>Base Failure Rate</b>	Degraded Operation	Loss of Stability	Loss of Vehicle
Wheel Speed Sensor	4 🔾	2.00E-11	0.38	0.62	- Q
Pressure Sensor	4	1.50E-11	0.64	0.36	-
Main Brake Cylinder		1.00E-11	icastyl Castyl (St.	California - California California - California	1.0
Pressure Limiting Valve	2	6.00E-13	-	0.22	0.78
Inlet Valve	4	6.00E-13	Catalitistical	0.18	0.82
Drain Valve	4	6.00E-13	<u> </u>	0.19	0.81
Toggle Switching Valve	2	6.00E-13	1.0	-	-
Hydraulic Pump	2	6.80E-11	functional forget	-	1.0
Pressure Tank	2	2.00E-12	2. grad-fan s <sup>e</sup> nt Fail	-	1.0
Controller	01	6.00E-12	0.2	0.4	0.4
Tubing	1	3.00E-12	0.33	-	0.67
Piping	1	4.00E-12	0.33	-	0.67

Obtained from DaimlerChrysler. The data has been falsified for publishing as part of this research.

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# **Stochastic Modeling**

- Mathematical (numerical solution) method
- Defined over a given probability space and indexed by the parameter *t* (time).

### Markov Processes

- Memory-less property: Future development depends only on the current state and not how the process arrived in that state.
  - Markov Reward Models (MRM): Associate reward rates with state occupancies in Markov processes.
- Common solution method for performability.



### **Challenges in Modeling**

### Practical Issues

- Obtaining reliability data
- Limited ability of capturing interactions b/w components
- Need to estimate fault correlation b/w components
- Incorporating usage information
  - Direct validation of results
- Problems in stochastic modeling
  - Large state space: Size of the Markov model grows exponentially with no. of components in the model.
    Stiffness: Due to the different orders of magnitude of failure rates.





# **Stochastic Petri Nets (SPNs)**

- Graphical and mathematical tool for describing and studying concurrent, asynchronous, distributed, parallel, non-deterministic and/or stochastic systems.
- Concise description of the system, which can be automatically converted to underlying Markov chains.
- Bipartite directed graph whose nodes are divided into two disjoint sets: *places* and *transitions*.



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Places (	drawn as o	circles)	represent	conditions.
I IIICES		cherces)	represent	conditions.

*Transitions* (drawn as bars) represent events. *Timed* transitions and *Immediate* transitions.

*Arcs* (drawn as arrows) signify which combination of events must hold before/after an event. *Input* arcs and *Output* arcs.

*Inhibitor arcs* (drawn as circle-headed arcs)
 test for zero marking condition.

*Tokens* (drawn as small filled circles) denote the conditions holding at any given time.

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### **Stochastic Petri Net Package**

- Stochastic Petri Net Package (SPNP) allows specification of Stochastic Reward Nets (SRNs) and the computation of steady-state, transient, cumulative, time-averaged measures.
- SRNs are specified using CSPL (C-based Stochastic Petri net Language).
- Sparse Matrix techniques are used to solve the underlying Markov Reward Model (MRM).
- Version 6

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### **SPN Models Representing Severity** and Coincident Failures (1)





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Pressure

Tank

 $\rightarrow$  Modeled

 $\rightarrow$  Not modeled

### **SPN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (2)**



- All ABS components represented in the global model.
- Components grouped according to their cardinality.
- degraded\_operation, loss\_of\_stability and loss\_of\_vehicle places model severity of failure.
- Next slide shows controller
   detail...

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### **SPN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (3)**



- Every component either functions "normally" as shown by *controllerOp* or "fails" as shown by *controllerFail*.
- Failed component may cause degraded-operation, loss-ofstability or loss-of-vehicle.
- Degraded-operation/ loss-ofstability: component continues to operate with increased failure rate (by 2 and 4 orders of magnitude respectively).



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### **SPN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (4)**

double controllerRate()

```
double controller_rate = 0.0000006;
```

if (mark("controllerLOS") > 0) return controller\_rate \* 10000;

```
if ((mark("controllerDegraded") > 0) ||
mark("tubingDegraded") > 0))
return controller_rate * 100;
```

```
return controller_rate;
```

Variable Rate to Model Coincident Failures

- Each failure transition has a variable rate determined by a corresponding function.
- Failure of component B affects failure rate of component A by including the condition:
   if *failedB* then

*failureA* = *failureA* \* *order* where *order* is 100 in case of degraded operation and 10000 in case of loss of stability.



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### **SPN Models Representing Usage-Profiles (1)**

User's interact with the system in an intermittent fashion, resulting in operational workload profiles that alternate between periods of "active" and "passive" use.

- Assumptions
  - Exponential Failure Rates to allow Markov chain analysis.
  - Infinite repair rate  $\rightarrow$  all repairs occur instantaneously.
  - Exponentially distributed workload.
  - Two usage-profiles: Low usage and High usage which are *two* orders of magnitude different.





### **SPN Models Representing Usage-Profiles (2)**



- When a component fails, check if it was in "active" use or not.
- The parameter 1/mu indicates the mean duration of active use while the parameter 1/alpha indicates the mean duration of passive use.
- Failure of component in "active" mode only affects reliability.

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### **SPN Models Representing Usage-Profiles (3)**

```
double controllerRate()
```

```
double controller_rate = 0.0000006;
```

```
// usage parameter
controller_rate += controller_rate * mu;
```

```
if (mark("controllerLOS") > 0)
  return controller_rate * 10000;
```

```
if ((mark("controllerDegraded") > 0) ||
(mark("tubingDegraded") > 0))
return controller_rate * 100;
```

return controller\_rate;

```
Variable Rate to Model usage-profiles
```

- State explosion problem due to increased number of states.
- Work-around: The model was simplified to incorporate the usage parameters while calculating the failure rate itself for each component.
- The value of *mu* was assumed to be 2.5 for infrequent use periods and 250 for frequent use periods.

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### **SPN Reliability Measure**

```
double reliab()
```

```
double reward:
if((mark("loss_of_vehicle") >= 1) \parallel
     (mark("loss of stability") \ge 3) \parallel
       (mark("degraded operation") >= 5))
     reward = 0:
```

else

```
reward = 1;
return reward:
```

Function to calculate reliability reward

- Reliability measure expressed in terms of expected values of reward rate functions.
- The reliab() function defines a single set of 0/1 rewards.
- Used as an input argument to

void pr\_expected(char\* string, double (\*func)())

provided by SPNP that computes the expected value of the measure returned by func.

```
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```



### **SPN Halting Condition**

```
int halt()
      if((mark("loss of vehicle") \geq 1) ||
         (mark("loss of stability") >= 3) \parallel
         (mark("degraded operation") >= 5))
          return 0;
      else
           return 1;
        *When this function evaluates to zero, the
         marking is considered to be absorbing.
Function to evaluate for Halting Condition
```

- Necessary to explicitly impose a halting condition because the developed SPN models recycle tokens.
- The system is assumed to fail when
  - > 5 components function in a degraded mode, or
  - > 3 components cause loss of stability, or
  - the failure of an important component causes loss of vehicle.





### **Stochastic Activity Networks (SANs)**

A generalization of SPNs, permit the representation of concurrency, fault tolerance, and degradable performance in a single model.

- Use graphical primitives, are more compact and provide greater insight into the behavior of the network.
- Permit both the representation of complex interactions among concurrent activities (as can be represented in SPNs) and non-determinism in actions taken at the completion of some activity.



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### **Stochastic Activity Network Symbols**

*Places* (drawn as circles) represent the state of the modeled system

*Activities* (drawn as ovals) represent events. *Timed* and *Instantaneous* activities. *Case probabilities* (as circles on right of activity).

*Input Gates* (triangles with point connected to activity) control the enabling of activities.

*Output Gates* (triangles with flat side connected to activity) define the marking changes that occur when activity completes.



# An X-windows based software tool for evaluating systems represented as SANs.

- Three main tools: SAN editor, composed model editor, performance model editor.
  - Analytical solvers as well as simulators available.
- Steady-state and transient solutions are possible.
- Reduced base model construction used to overcome largeness of state-space problem.
- Version 3.5

**UltraSAN** 



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### **SAN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (1)**

# Exponential Failure Rates to allow Markov chain analysis Levels of failure severity: degraded mode, loss of stability (LOS) and loss of vehicle (LOV) Impact of failure on failure rates: Degraded – two orders of magnitude LOS – four orders of magnitude Limited number of inter-dependencies modeled





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Assumptions



### **SAN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (2)**



Three individual SAN submodels: Central\_1, Central\_2 and Wheel (replicated four times).

The division into three subcategories done to facilitate representation of coincident failures.

Avoid replication of subnets where unnecessary.

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### SAN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (3)



- All subnets share common places: *degraded*, *LOS*, *LOV* and *halted*.
- Presence of tokens in degraded, LOS, and LOV places indicates degraded operation, loss of stability and loss of vehicle resp.
- Output cases of an activity have different probabilities to model conflict between the outcome of failure.

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### **SAN Models Representing Severity and Coincident Failures (4)**

Activity	Poto	Probability		
	Rale	Case1	Case2	Case3
controllerFail	MARK(controllerLOS) !=0? controllerRate*10000: (MARK(controllerDegraded) !=0    MARK(tubingDegraded) !=0 ?controllerRate*100 :controllerRate)	0.4	0.4	0.2
hydraulicPump Fail	MARK(controllerLOS) !=0? hydraulicPumpRate*10000: (MARK(controllerDegraded) !=0 ?hydraulicPumpRate*100 :hydraulicPumpRate)	1.0	-	-

### Activity Rates Model Severity and Coincident Failures

Degraded-operation/ loss-ofstability: failure rate increases (by 2 and 4 orders of magnitude respectively). Failure of component A to degraded mode causes the failure rate of component B to increase by 2 orders. Failure of component A to a loss of stability mode causes the failure rate of component

B to increase by 4 orders.



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Activity	Pata	Probability		
Activity	Rale	Case1	Case2	Case3
controllerFail	MARK(controllerLOS) !=0? controllerRate*10000: (MARK(controllerDegraded) !=0    MARK(tubingDegraded) !=0 ?controllerRate*100 :controllerRate)	0.4	0.4	0.2
hydraulicPump Fail	MARK(controllerLOS) !=0? hydraulicPumpRate*10000: (MARK(controllerDegraded) !=0 ?hydraulicPumpRate*100 :hydraulicPumpRate)	1.0	-	-

### **Activity Rates Model Severity and Coincident Failures**

### **SAN Models Representing Usage-Profiles (1)**

- Assumptions
  - Exponential Failure Rates to allow Markov chain analysis.
    - Infinite repair rate: all repairs occur instantaneously.
    - Exponentially distributed workload.
    - Two usage-profiles: Low usage and High usage which are *one* order of magnitude different.





### **SAN Models Representing Usage-Profiles (2)**



State Diagram for reliability evaluation

- When a component fails, check if it was in "active" use or not.
- Failure of component in "active" mode only affects reliability.
- Work around the state explosion problem by incorporating the usage parameters while calculating the failure rate of component (lambda+mu).



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### **SAN Reliability Measure**

*Predicate*: MARK(halted)==0

Function:

1.0/(1+MARK(degraded)+MARK(LOS) +MARK(LOV))

**Reward Rate to Calculate Reliability** 

Reward rates specified using a predicate and function.

If the system is not in an absorbing state (system failed), reliability is a function of the number of tokens in *degraded*, *LOS* and *LOV*.

 For normal operation, the function evaluates to 1.
 Reliability is 0 when the predicate evaluates to false, by default.

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### **SAN Halting Condition**



Input condition on each activity states that it is enabled only if there is no token in *halted* place (common to all subnets).

Presence of token in halted place indicates an absorbing state.

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### **SPN Reliability Analysis Results**

 Transient Analysis carried out using SPNP (Stochastic Petri Net Package) version 6 on a Sun Ultra 10 (400 MHz) with 500 MB memory.

• 164,209 tangible markings of which 91,880 were absorbing.

Approximate running time of the solver was 144-168 hours.

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### **SPN Reliability Analysis Results for Coincident Failures and Severity (1)**



The Y-axis gives the measure of interest i.e. reliability, the time range (0 to 50K hrs) is along X-axis.

MTTF for the model with coincident failures (784,856.4 hrs) is approximately 421 hours less than the model without coincident failures (785,277.6 hrs).

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### **SPN Reliability Analysis Results for Coincident Failures and Severity (2)**



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# **SPN Reliability Analysis Results for Usage Profiles**



MTTF for the high usage case is 771,022.9 hrs as opposed to 775,111.7 hrs for the low usage case, a difference of ~ 4089 hrs

Reliability of the system with heavy usage decreases alarmingly (!) within the first 1K hrs, while the reliability of the system with low usage decreases perceptibly (!!) only after 2.5K hours of operation and then steadily thereafter



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### **SAN Reliability Analysis Results**

Transient Analysis carried out using UltraSAN version 3.5 on a Sun Ultra 10 (400 MHz) with 500 MB memory.

859,958 states generated.

Approximate running time of the solver (transient solver trs) was 120-144 hours.

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### **SAN Reliability Analysis Results for Coincident Failures and Severity**



#### SAN Reliability Analysis Results for Coincident Failures and Severity

- The reliability functions diverge perceptibly after around 1K hours of operation, difference continues to increase with time.
- After 5K hours the difference is 0.025, after 10K hours it is 0.049.
- Time to failure for model with coincident failures is 25,409 hours, for model without coincident failures is 29,167 hours (diff. of 3,758 hours).

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# **SAN Reliability Analysis Results for Usage Profiles**



Reliability of the system with heavy usage starts decreasing *alarmingly* after 100 hrs, while the reliability of the system with low usage decreases only *perceptibly* after 100 hours of operation.

At the extreme end of average lifetime (9K hours) of the vehicle, reliability has dropped to almost 0 for heavy usage and to ~ 0.4 for low usage.

• Time to failure for model with low usage is 12,262 hrs, for model with high usage is 1,687 hrs (diff. of 10,575 hrs).

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### **Comparing the SPN & SAN Results (1)**

- Because it is beyond the scope of this research to validate the results from the analytic experiments against *real data*, ...
- we compare the results from SPN & SAN analyses.
   The difference in the range of actual reliability values between the SPN and SAN models may be attributed to the different ways in which the reliability reward is defined.
  - See the plots where both curves are in the same graph
  - Severity and Coincident Failures
    - □ SPNs The curves for the two cases completely overlapped.
    - □ SANs The curves diverge after 1K hours of operation.







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### **Comparing the SPN & SAN Results (2)**

### Usage Profiles

- SPNs Reliability for high usage decreases alarmingly within first 1K hrs, for low usage only after 2.5K hrs.
- □ SANs Reliability for high usage decreases alarmingly after 100 hrs, for low usage only perceptibly after 100 hours.
- Results from both models agree on the fact that failure severity, coincident failures and usage-profiles contribute significantly to predicting system reliability.
- Which of these results is more realistic?
- Comparing results does not make up for validation against real data.



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### **Comparing the SPN & SAN Results (3)**

Criteria	SPN Models	SAN Models	
Assumptions	Same	Same	
Reliability measure	Different	Different	
Number of states	164,209	859,958	
Solvers' Running time	144-168 hours	120-144 hours	
Reliability at 9Khours (severity & co.failures)	9.5792578e-01 vs. 9.5792653e-01	7.3672e-01 vs. 7.8600e-01	
Reliability at 9Khours (usage-profiles)	8.9621556e-01 vs. 7.6658329e-01	4.455167e-01 vs. 3.130521e-03	







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# **Conclusions (1)**

Modeling and Analysis: The Anti-lock Braking System of a passenger vehicle was modeled (with emphasis on failure severity, coincident failures and usage profiles) and analyzed.

- Realistic Models: The models were built incrementally to achieve the best balance between faithfulness to the real system and keeping the model tractable at the same time.
- Extensible Models: The models developed can be easily extended to incorporate different levels of severity, other coincident failures and usage levels.



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# **Conclusions (2)**

Two stochastic formalisms: Stochastic Petri Nets & Stochastic Activity Networks, were used to analyze the developed models for reliability measures.

Results justified the modeling strategy adopted and highlighted the importance of modeling severity, coincident failures and usage-profiles while examining system reliability.

This research has successfully established a framework for investigating system reliability and the basis for further investigations in this application domain.



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### Future Work (1)

Sensitivity Analysis: The analysis of the effect of small variations in system parameters on the output measures and can be studied by computing the derivatives of the output measures with respect to the parameter.

Model the entire system: The ABS is a small part of the DDR (Dynamic Driving Regulation) system which consists of other subsystems like the Electronic Steering Assistance (ESA) and the traction control (TC).



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# Future Work (2)

Simulation: Evaluate the (complex) model numerically in order to *estimate* the desired true characteristics of the system.

Validation: Results from experiments on the real system to validate analysis results to incrementally arrive at a realistic model.

Generalization of modeling strategy for modeling both software and hardware components and the way of representing severity, coincident failures and usage profiles.



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The End