

José Luiz Fiadeiro
Pierre-Yves Schobbens (Eds.)

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Recent Trends in Algebraic Development Techniques

18th International Workshop, WADT 2006
La Roche en Ardenne, Belgium, June 2006
Revised Selected Papers



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Preface

This volume contains selected papers from WADT 2006, the 18th International Workshop on Algebraic Development Techniques. Like its predecessors, WADT 2006 focussed on the algebraic approach to the specification and development of systems, an area that was born around the algebraic specification of abstract data types and encompasses today the formal design of software systems, new specification frameworks and a wide range of application areas.

WADT 2006 took place at Chateau Floréal, La-Roche-en-Ardenne, Belgium, June 1–3, 2006, and was organized by Pierre-Yves Schobbens.

The program consisted of invited talks by David Rosenblum (University College London, UK) and Hubert Comon-Lundh (ENS-Cachan, France), and 32 presentations describing ongoing research on main topics of the workshop: formal methods for system development, specification languages and methods, systems and techniques for reasoning about specifications, specification development systems, methods and techniques for concurrent, distributed and mobile systems, and algebraic and co-algebraic foundations.

The Steering Committee of WADT, consisting of Michel Bidoit, José Fiadeiro, Hans-Jörg Kreowski, Till Mossakowski, Peter Mosses, Fernando Orejas, Francesco Parisi-Presicce, and Andrzej Tarlecki, with the additional help of Pierre-Yves Schobbens and Martin Wirsing, selected several presentations and invited their authors to submit a full paper for possible inclusion in this volume. All submissions underwent a careful refereeing process. We are extremely grateful to the following additional referees for their help in reviewing the submissions: A. Borzyszkowski, F. Gadducci, G. Godoy, K. Hölscher, A. Kurz, S. Kuske, A. Lopes, W. Pawłowski, H. Reichel, U. Schmid, L. Schröder, M. Sebag, and H. Wiklicky.

This volume contains the final versions of the ten contributions that were accepted.

The workshop was jointly organized with IFIP WG 1.3 (Foundations of System Specification), and received generous sponsorship from the University of Namur (Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix).

January 2007

José Fiadeiro
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A Temporal Graph Logic for Verification of Graph Transformation Systems[★]

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Abstract. We extend our approach for verifying properties of graph transformation systems using suitable abstractions. In the original approach properties are specified as formulae of a propositional temporal logic whose atomic predicates are monadic second-order graph formulae. We generalize this aspect by considering more expressive logics, where edge quantifiers and temporal modalities can be interleaved, a feature which allows, e.g., to trace the history of objects in time. After characterizing fragments of the logic which can be safely checked on the approximations, we show how the verification of the logic over graph transformation systems can be reduced to the verification of a logic over suitably defined Petri nets.

1 Introduction

Graph Transformation Systems (GTSs) are suitable modeling formalisms for systems involving aspects such as object-orientation, concurrency, mobility and distribution. The use of GTSs for the verification and analysis of such systems is still at an early stage, but there have been several proposals recently, either using existing model-checking tools [10,25] or developing new techniques [20,21]. A recent line of research [1,2,3,4,5] takes the latter approach and proposes a method inspired by abstract interpretation techniques. Roughly speaking, a GTS \mathcal{R} , whose state space might be infinite, is approximated by a finite structure $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{R})$, called *covering* of \mathcal{R} . The covering is a Petri net-like structure, called Petri graph, and it approximates \mathcal{R} in the sense that any graph G reachable in \mathcal{R} has an homomorphic image reachable in $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{R})$. In a sense, this reduces the verification of GTSs to the verification of Petri nets. One central feature of this approach is

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the fact that it is a partial order reduction technique using unfoldings. That is, the interleaving of concurrent events—leading to state explosion—is avoided if possible.

In [5] a logic for the approximation approach is introduced, which is basically a propositional μ -calculus whose atomic predicates are closed formulae in a monadic second-order logic for graphs. Also, fragments of the logic are identified which are reflected by the approximations, i.e., classes of formulae which, when satisfied by the approximation, are satisfied by the original system as well. For the verification of such formulae, the logic is encoded into a μ -calculus whose atomic predicates are formulae over markings of a Petri net, allowing the reuse of existing model checking techniques for Petri nets [12].

There are other related papers working with graph logics, for instance [14]. However, most of them are based, like [5], on *propositional* temporal logics, that is, logics that do not allow to interleave temporal modalities with graph-related ones. Thus, properties like *a certain edge is never removed* are neither expressible nor verifiable. The only exceptions we are aware of are [20,22].

In this paper we extend the approach of [5] by considering a more expressive logic that allows to interleave temporal and graphical aspects. As we shall see, our temporal graph logic combines a monadic-second order logic of graphs with the μ -calculus. Formulae of our logic are interpreted over *graph transition systems* (GTrS), inspired by algebra transition systems [15] and the formalism of [20], which are traditional transition systems together with a function mapping states into graphs and transitions into partial graph morphisms. Graph transition systems are suitable formalisms for modeling the state space of graph transformation systems and Petri graphs. We introduce a notion of approximation for GTrSs, identifying fragments of the logic whose formulae are preserved or reflected by approximations. Then we show that the GTrS of the covering, as defined in [1], is an approximation of the GTrS of the original graph transformation system, thus providing a concrete way of constructing approximations. Finally, we propose an encoding for a fragment of our logic into a Petri net logic. Our encoding is correct and complete, i.e., a Petri graph satisfies a formula exactly when the encoding of the formula is satisfied by the underlying Petri net.

Putting all this together, given a graph transformation system \mathcal{G} and a formula F in a suitable fragment of our logic, we can construct a Petri graph P which approximates \mathcal{G} , using the algorithm in [1]. Then F can be translated into a Petri net formula $[F]$, such that if N_P is the Petri net underlying P , then $N_P \models [F]$ implies $\mathcal{G} \models F$, i.e., we reduce verification over graph transformation systems to verification over Petri nets.

Section 2 introduces graphs, graph transformation systems and graph transition systems. Section 3 defines syntax and semantics of our temporal graph logic. Section 4 defines Petri graphs, the structures used for approximating graph transformation systems. Section 5 identifies fragments of the logic that are preserved or reflected by approximations. Section 6 proposes an encoding of a fragment of the logic into a Petri net logic. A last section concludes the paper and proposes further work.

2 Graph Transition Systems

An (edge-labeled) *graph* G is a tuple $G = \langle V_G, E_G, s_G, t_G, lab_G \rangle$ where V_G is a set of *nodes*, E_G is a set of *edges*, $s_G, t_G : E_G \rightarrow V_G$ are the *source* and *target* functions, and $lab_G : E_G \rightarrow \Lambda$ is a *labeling function*, where Λ is a fixed set of labels. Nodes and edges are sometimes called *items* and we shall write $X_G = E_G \cup V_G$ for the set of items of G .

The transformation of a graph into another by adding, removing or merging of items is suitably modeled by (partial) graph morphisms.

Definition 1 ((partial) graph morphism). A graph morphism $\psi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a pair of mappings $\psi_V : V_{G_1} \rightarrow V_{G_2}$, $\psi_E : E_{G_1} \rightarrow E_{G_2}$ such that $\psi_V \circ s_{G_1} = s_{G_2} \circ \psi_E$, $\psi_V \circ t_{G_1} = t_{G_2} \circ \psi_E$ and $lab_{G_1} = lab_{G_2} \circ \psi_E$. A graph morphism $\psi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is injective if so are ψ_V and ψ_E ; it is edge-injective if ψ_E is injective. Edge-bijective morphisms are defined analogously. A graph G' is a subgraph of graph G , written $G' \hookrightarrow G$, if $V_{G'} \subseteq V_G$ and $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$, and the inclusion is a graph morphism.

A partial graph morphism $\psi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a pair $\langle G'_1, \psi' \rangle$ where $G'_1 \hookrightarrow G_1$ is a subgraph of G_1 , called the domain of ψ , and $\psi' : G'_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a graph morphism.

Graph transformation is presented in set-theoretical terms, but could be equivalently presented by using the double-pushout [7] or single-pushout [11] approaches. With respect to more general definitions, our rules can neither delete nor merge nodes, and they have a discrete interface, i.e., the interface graph contains only nodes and thus edges are never preserved. Similar restrictions are assumed in [1]. While the condition of having a discrete interface can be relaxed, the deletion and merging of nodes is quite problematic in an unfolding-based approach.

Also observe that, as it commonly happens in the algebraic approaches to graph rewriting, we consider basic graph grammars, without any distinction between terminal and non-terminal symbols and without any high-level control mechanism. We remark that, even in this basic formulation, graph grammars are Turing complete (since they can simulate string rewriting).

Definition 2 (graph transformation system). A graph transformation system (GTS) \mathcal{R} is a pair $\langle G_0, R \rangle$, where G_0 is a start graph and R is a set of rewriting rules of the form $r = \langle G_L, G_R, \alpha \rangle$, where G_L and G_R are left- and right-hand side graphs, respectively, and $\alpha : V_L \rightarrow V_R$ is an injective function.

A match of a rule r in a graph G is a morphism $\psi : G_L \rightarrow G$ that is edge-injective. The application of a rule r to a match ψ in G , resulting in a new graph H , is called a direct derivation and is written $G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H$, where H is defined as follows. The set V_H is $V_G \uplus (V_R \setminus \alpha(V_L))$ and E_H is $(E_G \setminus \psi(E_L)) \uplus E_R$, where \uplus denotes disjoint union. The source, target and labeling functions are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} s_H(e) &= s_G(e) & t_H(e) &= t_G(e) & lab_H(e) &= lab_G(e) & \text{if } e \in (E_G \setminus \psi(E_L)), \\ s_H(e) &= \bar{\psi}(s_R(e)) & t_H(e) &= \bar{\psi}(t_R(e)) & lab_H(e) &= lab_R(e) & \text{if } e \in E_R, \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{\psi} : V_R \rightarrow V_H$ satisfies $\bar{\psi}(\alpha(v)) = \psi(v)$ if $v \in V_L$ and $\bar{\psi}(v) = v$, otherwise.

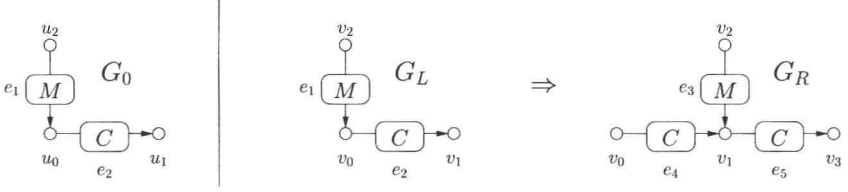


Fig. 1. A graph transformation system

Intuitively, the application of r to G at the match ψ first removes from G the image of the edges of L . Then the graph G is extended by adding the new nodes in G_R and the edges of G_R . All nodes in L are preserved.

A direct derivation $G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H$ induces an obvious partial graph morphism $\tau_{G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H} : G \rightarrow H$, injective and total on nodes, which maps items which are not deleted in G to corresponding items in H .

A *derivation* is a sequence of direct derivations starting from the start graph G_0 . We write $G_0 \xrightarrow{*} H$ if there is a derivation ending in graph H , and we denote by $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{R}}$ the set of all graphs reachable in \mathcal{R} , i.e., $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{R}} = \{G \mid G_0 \xrightarrow{*} G\}$.

Example 1. Figure 1 depicts a GTS $\mathcal{G} = \langle G_0, \{r = \langle G_L, G_R, \alpha \rangle\} \rangle$ describing a simple message passing system. The start graph G_0 consists of three nodes u_0, u_1, u_2 , one M -labeled edge e_1 , representing a *message*, and one C -labeled edge e_2 , representing a *connection*. The only rule consists of graphs G_L and G_R , and function α , which is the identity on V_L . The rule consumes the message and the connection, shifts the message to the successor node and recreates the connection. Furthermore a new C -labeled edge e_5 is created, along which the message can be passed in the next step. Note also that the source node of the message, representing its “identity”, is preserved by the rule. In the rest of the paper we shall use this as a running example.

The state space of a GTS can be represented in a natural way as a transition system where the states are the reachable graphs and a transition between two states G and H exists whenever there is a direct derivation $G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H$, as in [3]. However, such a structure would not be sufficient to interpret the logic introduced in the next section. Informally, since temporal modalities can be interleaved with quantification (over edges), the logic allows to trace the evolution of graph items over time and thus we need to represent explicitly which items of a graph are preserved by a rewriting step. To this aim, after recalling the standard definition of transition systems, we introduce below an enriched variant called *graph transition systems*.

Definition 3 (transition system). A transition system is a tuple $M = \langle S_M, T_M, in_M, out_M, s_0^M \rangle$ where S_M is a set of states, T_M is a set of transitions, $in_M, out_M : T_M \rightarrow S_M$ are functions mapping each transition to its start and end state, and $s_0^M \in S_M$ is the initial state. We shall sometimes write $s \xrightarrow{t} s'$

if $in_M(t) = s$ and $out_M(t) = s'$, and $s \xrightarrow{*} s'$ if there exists a (possibly empty) sequence of transitions from s to s' .

Correspondingly, a transition system morphism $h : M \rightarrow M'$ is a pair of functions $\langle h^S : S_M \rightarrow S_{M'}, h^T : T_M \rightarrow T_{M'} \rangle$ such that the initial state as well as the start and end states of all transitions are preserved, i.e., $h^S(s_0^M) = s_0^{M'}$, $h^S \circ in_M = in_{M'} \circ h^T$, and $h^S \circ out_M = out_{M'} \circ h^T$.

A *graph transition system* is defined as a transition system together with a mapping which associates a graph with each state, and an injective partial graph morphism with each transition. We use the same name that is used in [20] for different, but closely related structures. The main difference is that in our case there is a clear distinction between the states and the graphs associated to the states: This leads below to a natural notion of morphism between graph transition systems, which will play a basic role in our definition of abstraction.

Definition 4 (graph transition system). A graph transition system (*GTrS*) \mathcal{M} is a pair $\langle M, g \rangle$, where M is a transition system and g is a pair $g = \langle g^S, g^T \rangle$, where $g^S(s)$ is a graph for each state $s \in S_M$, and $g^T(t) : g^S(in_M(t)) \rightarrow g^S(out_M(t))$ is an injective partial graph morphism for each transition $t \in T_M$.

Note that the result of the application of a rule to a given match in a graph is determined only up to isomorphism, because of the use of disjoint union in the definition. Therefore, formally speaking, the state space of a GTS contains for each reachable graph G all graphs isomorphic to G as well. The next definition shows how to represent the state space of a GTS with a graph transition system (GTrS), where we get rid of such useless redundancy. Note that since the resulting GTrS is usually infinite-state, this construction is non-constructive and useless for practical purposes. We need the GTrS in order to define the semantics of the logic, but verification itself is done using a different method.

Definition 5 (graph transition system of a graph transformation system). Given a GTS $\mathcal{R} = \langle G_0, R \rangle$, a GTrS representing its state space, denoted by $\text{GTrS}(\mathcal{R})$, can be obtained as follows.

1. Consider first the graph transition system $\langle M, g \rangle$, where: $S_M = \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{R}}$ (set of all graphs generated by \mathcal{R}); $s_0^M = G_0$; $T_M = \{G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H \mid G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H \text{ is a direct derivation of } \mathcal{R}\}$; and the mapping $g = \langle g^S, g^T \rangle$ is defined as follows: $g^S(G) = G$ and $g^T(G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H) = \tau_{G \xrightarrow{r, \psi} H} : G \hookrightarrow H$.
2. Next, for each state G in S_M and for each pair $\langle r, \psi \rangle$ where r is a rule applicable to match ψ in G , choose one among the transitions leaving from G and using r and ψ , and delete from T_M all the remaining ones.
3. Finally, $\text{GTrS}(\mathcal{R})$ is defined as the graph transition sub-system reachable from the start graph.

Example 2. Figure 2 depicts a GTrS of the GTS depicted in Figure 1. Since state identities coincide with their corresponding graphs, the figure is simplified and we directly depict the graphs and partial graph morphisms. The leftmost state is

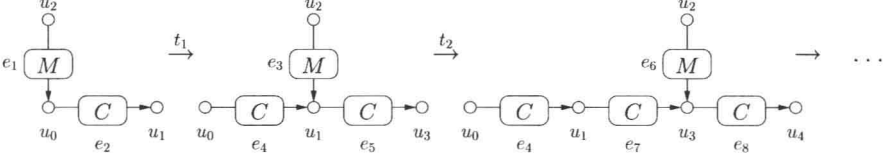


Fig. 2. A graph transition system

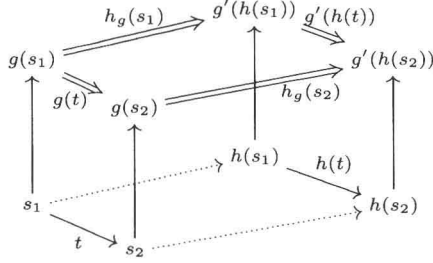
G_0 , the initial state of both the GTS and its GTrS. Observe that for the second transition t_2 , $g^T(t_2)_V$ (the component on nodes of $g^T(t_2)$) is an inclusion, while $g^T(t_2)_E$ is partial and is only defined on the edge e_4 . All transitions correspond to different instances of the same rule.

The construction described in Definition 5 is clearly non-deterministic, because of step 2. Among the possible GTrSs associated with the GTS of Figure 1, the one drawn above enjoys some desirable properties: the partial injective morphisms associated with transitions are *partial inclusions* (i.e., every item preserves its name along rewriting), and edge and node names are not reused again in the computation after they have been deleted. The interpretation of the logic of Section 3 will be defined only over GTrSs satisfying such properties, and called *unraveled GTrSs*. For any GTrS \mathcal{M} not satisfying these properties we shall consider an unraveled one which is behaviorally equivalent to \mathcal{M} , called its *unraveling*.

In order to characterize the unraveling of a GTrS we first need to introduce GTrS morphisms, which will also be used later for relating a system and its approximation. A morphism between two GTrSs consists of a morphism between the underlying transition systems, and, in addition, for each pair of related states, of a graph morphism between the graphs associated with such states. Furthermore, these graph morphisms must be consistent with the partial graph morphisms associated to the transitions.

Definition 6 (graph transition system morphism). A graph transition system morphism $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}'$ from $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, g \rangle$ to $\mathcal{M}' = \langle M', g' \rangle$ is a pair $\langle h_M, h_g \rangle$, where $h_M : M \rightarrow M'$ is a transition system morphism, and for each state $s \in S_M$, $h_g(s)$ is a graph morphism from $g^S(s)$ to $g'^S(h_M^S(s))$, such that the following condition is satisfied: for each transition $s_1 \xrightarrow{t} s_2 \in T_M$, $g'^T(h_M^T(t)) \circ h_g(s_1) = h_g(s_2) \circ g^T(t)$.

The diagram below illustrates the situation. The bottom square represents transition $s_1 \xrightarrow{t} s_2$ in M and its image through h_M in M' (sub- and super-scripts are avoided for the sake of readability). The vertical arrows of the left front square show how transition t is associated to a graph morphism via the g component of \mathcal{M} , and similarly for the back right square. Finally, the back left and front right sides of the top square are the components of the GTrS morphism associated to states s_1 and s_2 , and the top square is required to commute.



Definition 7 (unraveled graph transition system). A GTrS $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, g \rangle$ is unraveled whenever M is a tree, for each $t \in T_M$ the morphism $g^T(t) : g^S(in_M(t)) \rightarrow g^S(out_M(t))$ is a partial inclusion, and item names are not reused, i.e., for all $s', s'' \in S_M$, if $x \in X_{g^S(s')} \cap X_{g^S(s'')}$ there exists $s \in S_M$ such that

$$x \in X_{g^S(s)} \wedge s \xrightarrow{*} s' \wedge s \xrightarrow{*} s'' \wedge g^T(s \xrightarrow{*} s')(x) = x \wedge g^T(s \xrightarrow{*} s'')(x) = x,$$

where $g^T(s \xrightarrow{*} s')$ is the composition of the partial morphisms associated with the transitions in $s \xrightarrow{*} s'$, which is uniquely determined since M is a tree.

An unraveling of a GTrS $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, g \rangle$ is a pair $\langle \mathcal{M}', h \rangle$ where \mathcal{M}' is an unraveled GTrS and $h = \langle h_M, h_g \rangle : \mathcal{M}' \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is a GTrS morphism, satisfying:

1. for each $s \in S_{M'}$, $h_g(s) : g'^S(s) \rightarrow g^S(h_M^S(s))$ is an isomorphism;
2. for each $s \in S_{M'}$ and transition $h_M^S(s) \xrightarrow{t'} s''$ in M , there is a transition $s \xrightarrow{t} s'$ in M' such that $h_M^T(t) = t'$ (and thus $h_M^S(s') = s''$).

Proposition 1 (unraveling of a GTrS). Any GTrS admits an unraveling.

The conditions defining an unraveled GTrS \mathcal{M} ensure that taking the union of all the graphs associated to the states in S_M , we obtain a well-defined graph. In fact, given any two states s and s' and an edge $e \in E_{g^S(s)} \cap E_{g^S(s')}$, the source, target and label of e coincide in $g^S(s)$ and $g^S(s')$. We shall denote the components of this “universe” graph as $\langle V_{\mathcal{M}}, E_{\mathcal{M}}, s_{\mathcal{M}}, t_{\mathcal{M}}, lab_{\mathcal{M}} \rangle$, where $V_{\mathcal{M}} = \bigcup_{s \in S_M} V_{g^S(s)}$, $E_{\mathcal{M}} = \bigcup_{s \in S_M} E_{g^S(s)}$, $s_{\mathcal{M}}(e) = s_{g^S(s)}(e)$ if $e \in g^S(s)$, and similarly for $t_{\mathcal{M}}$ and $lab_{\mathcal{M}}$.

3 A Temporal Graph Logic for Graph Transformation Systems

We now define syntax and semantics of our temporal graph logic, that extends the logic $\mu\mathcal{L}2$ of [3]. The logic is based both on the μ -calculus [6] and on second-order graph logic [8]. Let V_x, V_X, V_Z be sets of first- and second-order edge variables and propositional variables, respectively.

Definition 8 (syntax). The logic $\mu\mathcal{G}2$ is given by the set of all formulae generated by:

$$F ::= \eta(x) = \eta'(y) \mid x = y \mid l(x) = a \mid \neg F \mid F \vee F \mid \exists x.F \mid \exists X.F \mid \\ x \in X \mid Z \mid \Diamond F \mid \mu Z.F$$

where $\eta, \eta' \in \{s, t\}$ (standing for source and target), $x, y \in V_x$, $X \in V_X$, $a \in A$ and $Z \in V_Z$. Furthermore $\Diamond F$ is the (existential) next-step operator. The letter μ denotes the least fixed-point operator. As usual the formula $\mu Z.F$ can be formed only if all occurrences of Z in F are positive, i.e., they fall under an even number of negations. In the following we will use some (redundant) connectives like \wedge , \forall , \Box and ν (greatest fixed-point), defined as usual. We denote by $\mu\mathcal{G}1$ its first-order fragment, where second-order edge variables and quantification are not allowed.

Definition 9 (semantics of $\mu\mathcal{G}2$). Let $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, g \rangle$ be an unraveled $G\text{Tr}S$. The semantics of temporal graph formulae is given by an evaluation function mapping closed formulae into subsets of S_M , i.e., the states that satisfy the formula. We shall define a mapping $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\mathcal{M}} : \mu\mathcal{G}2 \rightarrow 2^{S_M}$, where σ is an environment, i.e., a tuple $\sigma = \langle \sigma_x, \sigma_X, \sigma_Z \rangle$ of mappings from first- and second-order edge variables into edges and edge sets, respectively, and from propositional variables into subsets of S_M . More precisely, $\sigma_x : V_x \rightarrow E_{\mathcal{M}}$, $\sigma_X : V_X \rightarrow 2^{E_{\mathcal{M}}}$ and $\sigma_Z : V_Z \rightarrow 2^{S_M}$, where $E_{\mathcal{M}}$ is the set of all edge names used in \mathcal{M} . When \mathcal{M} is implicit, we simply write $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\sigma}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \eta(x) = \eta'(y) \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \llbracket \eta_{\mathcal{M}}(\sigma_x(x)) = \eta'_{\mathcal{M}}(\sigma_x(y)) \rrbracket & \llbracket x = y \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \llbracket \sigma_x(x) = \sigma_x(y) \rrbracket \\ \llbracket l(x) = a \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \llbracket lab_{\mathcal{M}}(\sigma_x(x)) = a \rrbracket & \llbracket y \in Y \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \llbracket \sigma_x(y) \in \sigma_X(Y) \rrbracket \\ \llbracket \neg F \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= S_M \setminus \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma} & \llbracket F_1 \vee F_2 \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \llbracket F_1 \rrbracket_{\sigma} \cup \llbracket F_2 \rrbracket_{\sigma} \\ \llbracket Z \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \sigma_Z(Z) & \llbracket \mu Z.F \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \text{lfp}(\lambda v. \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma[v/Z]}) \\ \llbracket \Diamond F \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \{s \in S_M \mid \exists s', t. s \xrightarrow{t} s' \wedge s' \in \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma}\} \\ \llbracket \exists x.F \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \{s \in S_M \mid \exists e \in E_{g(s)}. s \in \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma[e/x]}\} \\ \llbracket \exists X.F \rrbracket_{\sigma} &= \{s \in S_M \mid \exists E \subseteq E_{g(s)}. s \in \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma[E/X]}\} \end{aligned}$$

where $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ maps true and false to S_M and \emptyset , respectively, $v \in 2^{S_M}$, and $\text{lfp}(f)$ denotes the least fixed-point of the function f .

In particular, if F is a closed formula, we say that \mathcal{M} satisfies F and write $\mathcal{M} \models F$, if $s_0 \in \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma}$, where σ is the empty environment. Finally, we say that a $G\text{Tr}S \mathcal{R} = \langle G_0, R \rangle$ satisfies a closed formula F , written $\mathcal{R} \models F$, if the unraveling of $G\text{Tr}S(\mathcal{R})$ satisfies F .

The restriction to formulae where all occurrences of propositional variables are positive guarantees every possible function $\lambda v. \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\sigma[v/Z]}$ to be monotonic. Thus, by Knaster-Tarski theorem, fixed-points are well-defined.

Note that using unravelled $G\text{Tr}S$ is crucial for the definition of the semantics of the logic: items can be easily tracked since their identity is preserved and names are never reused. This allows to remember also the identities of deleted items, differently from what happens in the semantics given in [20,22].

Example 3. The following formula states that no M -labeled message edge is preserved by any transition: **M-consumed** $\equiv \neg \exists x.(l(x) = M \wedge \Diamond \exists y.x = y)$. The fact that this property holds in any reachable state is expressed by the formula: **always-M-consumed** $\equiv \nu Z.(\mathbf{M-consumed} \wedge \Box Z)$. It is easy to see that **M-consumed** is satisfied by any state of the unraveled GTrS in Fig. 2, and thus $\mathcal{G} \models \mathbf{always-M-consumed}$, where \mathcal{G} is the GTS of Fig. 1.

The formula **M-moves** $\equiv \neg \exists x.(l(x) = M \wedge \Diamond (\exists y.(l(y) = M \wedge t(y) = t(x) \wedge s(y) = s(x))))$ states that messages always move, i.e., there is no message edge such that in the next state there is another message edge with the same identity (i.e., source nodes coincide) attached to the same target node. And we can require this property to hold in every reachable state: **always-M-moves** $\equiv \nu Z.(\mathbf{M-moves} \wedge \Box Z)$. Again, the GTS \mathcal{G} satisfies this property. A GTS in which the message would at some point cross a “looping connection” or with more than one message would violate the formula.

4 Approximating GTSs with Petri Graphs

In the verification approach proposed in [1,3,4,5] *Petri graphs*, structures consisting of a Petri net and a graph component, have been introduced. They are used to represent finite approximations of the (usually infinite) unfolding of a GTS, on which to verify certain properties of the original system. Furthermore they provide a bridge to Petri net theory, allowing to reuse verification techniques developed for nets: a property expressed as a formula in the graph logic can be translated into an equivalent multiset formula to be verified on the net underlying the Petri graph. Here we shall concentrate on this latter aspect. We will not treat instead the construction of finite Petri graphs over-approximating GTSs, presented in [1,4] also for varying degrees of precision, recently enriched with a technique for counterexample-guided abstraction refinement [18], and for which the verification tool AUGUR (http://www.ti.inf.uni-due.de/research/augur_1/) has been developed.

Before introducing Petri graphs we need some definitions. Given a set A we will denote by A^\oplus the free commutative monoid over A , whose elements will be called *multisets* over A . In the sequel we will sometimes identify A^\oplus with the set of functions $m : A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that the set $\{a \in A \mid m(a) \neq 0\}$ is finite. E.g., in particular, $m(a)$ denotes the multiplicity of an element a in the multiset m . Sometimes a multiset will be identified with the underlying set, writing, e.g., $a \in m$ for $m(a) \neq 0$. Given a function $f : A \rightarrow B$, by $f^\oplus : A^\oplus \rightarrow B^\oplus$ we denote its monoidal extension, i.e., $f^\oplus(m)(b) = \sum_{f(a)=b} m(a)$ for every $b \in B$.

Definition 10 (Petri nets and Petri graphs). A (Place/Transition) Petri net is a tuple $N = \langle S_N, T_N, \bullet(\), (\)^\bullet, m_0 \rangle$, where S_N is a set of places, T_N is a set of transitions, $\bullet(\), (\)^\bullet : T_N \rightarrow S_N^\oplus$ determine for each transition its pre-set and post-set, and $m_0 \in S_N^\oplus$ is the initial marking. A transition t is enabled at a