

Contents

Table of Notation	ix
Preface	xi
1 Introduction	1
2 Background	5
2.1 Introduction	5
2.2 Performance Modelling	5
2.2.1 Queueing Networks	6
2.2.2 Stochastic Extensions of Petri Nets	7
2.3 Process Algebras	9
2.3.1 Timed Extensions of Process Algebras	9
2.3.2 Probabilistic Process Algebras	10
2.4 Process Algebra for Performance Modelling	10
2.4.1 Process Algebras as a Design Methodology	11
2.4.2 The “Cooperator” Paradigm and Hierarchical Models	11
2.4.3 Structure within Models	12
2.4.4 The Work Presented in This Thesis	12
2.5 Related Work	12
2.5.1 Early Work on Protocol Specification	13
2.5.2 TIPP	13
2.5.3 CCS+	14
2.5.4 Relating DEMOS to TCCS and WSCCS	15
2.5.5 Performance Equivalence as a Bisimulation	15
3 Performance Evaluation Process Algebra	17
3.1 Introduction	17
3.2 Design Objectives for PEPA	17
3.3 The PEPA Language	18
3.3.1 Informal Description	18
3.3.2 Syntax	20
3.3.3 Execution Strategies and the Exponential Distribution	23
3.3.4 Examples	24
3.3.5 Passive Activities	26
3.3.6 Some Further Definitions	26

3.3.7	Formal Definition: Operational Semantics	28
3.3.8	Examples	30
3.4	Basic Properties	31
3.5	The Underlying Stochastic Model	32
3.5.1	Generating the Markov Process	32
3.5.2	Some Definitions	33
3.5.3	Stochastic Processes with an Equilibrium Distribution	35
3.5.4	PEPA Models with Equilibrium Behaviour	36
3.5.5	Solving the Markov Process	37
3.5.6	Derivation of Performance Measures: Reward Structures	37
3.5.7	Example	38
3.6	Comparison to other Modelling Paradigms	40
3.6.1	Model Construction	40
3.6.2	Model Manipulation	41
3.6.3	Model Solution	42
4	Modelling Study: Multi-Server Multi-Queue Systems	45
4.1	Introduction	45
4.2	Polling Systems	46
4.2.1	Solution of Polling System Models	48
4.2.2	Example: A PEPA Model of a Polling System	49
4.3	Multi-server Multi-queue Systems	50
4.3.1	Solutions of Multi-Server Multi-Queue Systems	53
4.4	Examples: PEPA Models of MSMQ Systems	54
4.4.1	Introduction	55
4.4.2	MSMQ System with Cyclic Polling, Without Overtaking	55
4.4.3	Asymmetric MSMQ System with Cyclic Polling	56
4.4.4	Asymmetric MSMQ System with Random Polling	59
4.4.5	MSMQ System with Detailed Nodes	62
5	Notions of Equivalence	65
5.1	Introduction	65
5.2	Process Algebras and Bisimulation	66
5.2.1	Bisimulation for Pure Process Algebras	66
5.2.2	Bisimulation for Timed Process Algebras	67
5.2.3	Bisimulation for Probabilistic Process Algebras	67
5.2.4	Bisimulation and Entity-to-Entity Equivalence	68
5.3	Performance Modelling and Equivalences	69
5.3.1	Performance Model Verification	69
5.3.2	Model-to-Model Equivalence	70
5.4	State-to-State Equivalence	71
5.4.1	Aggregation of Markov Processes	71
5.4.2	Lumpability	72
5.4.3	Folding in GSPNs	73
5.5	Notions of Equivalence for PEPA	73

CONTENTS

vii

6	Isomorphism and Weak Isomorphism	75
6.1	Introduction	75
6.2	Definition of Isomorphism	75
6.3	Properties of Isomorphism	76
6.3.1	Equational Laws for Isomorphic Components	76
6.3.2	The Expansion Law	77
6.3.3	Isomorphism as a Congruence	78
6.4	Isomorphism between System Components	80
6.5	Isomorphism and the Markov Process	80
6.6	Definition of Weak Isomorphism	81
6.7	Properties of Weak Isomorphism	85
6.7.1	Preservation by Combinators	86
6.7.2	Equational Laws for Weak Isomorphism	87
6.8	Weak Isomorphism and System Components	88
6.9	Weak Isomorphism and the Markov Process	89
6.9.1	Insensitivity of Reducible Sequences	91
6.10	Weak Isomorphism for Model Simplification	93
6.10.1	An Approach to Model Simplification	94
6.10.2	Simplifying an MSMQ Model using Weak Isomorphism	94
7	Strong Bisimilarity	97
7.1	Introduction	97
7.2	Definition of Strong Bisimilarity	97
7.3	Properties of the Strong Bisimilarity Relation	100
7.3.1	Strong Bisimilarity as a Congruence	100
7.3.2	Isomorphism and Strong Bisimilarity	104
7.4	Strong Bisimilarity and System Components	106
7.5	Strong Bisimilarity and the Markov Process	107
7.6	Strong Bisimilarity for Model Simplification	110
7.6.1	An Approach to Model Simplification	110
7.6.2	Simplifying an MSMQ Model using Strong Bisimilarity	110
8	Strong Equivalence	113
8.1	Introduction	113
8.2	Definition of Strong Equivalence	113
8.3	Properties of the Strong Equivalence Relation	116
8.3.1	Strong Equivalence as a Congruence	116
8.3.2	Isomorphism and Strong Equivalence	121
8.3.3	Strong Bisimilarity and Strong Equivalence	123
8.4	Strong Equivalence and System Components	124
8.5	Strong Equivalence and the Markov Process	125
8.6	Strong Equivalence for Aggregation	127
8.6.1	Basic Application of Strong Equivalence Aggregation	127
8.6.2	Compositional Strong Equivalence Aggregation	130
8.6.3	Aggregating an MSMQ Model using Strong Equivalence	132

9 Conclusions	137
9.1 Introduction	137
9.2 Summary	137
9.3 Evaluation	138
9.4 Further Work and Future Directions	139
9.5 Developments Since the Completion of the Thesis	140
9.5.1 Stochastic Process Algebras	140
9.5.2 Integrating Performance Analysis into System Design	141
9.5.3 Representing Systems as Models	142
9.5.4 Model Tractability	143
 Bibliography	 145
Index	156