



# On Non-Ergodic Infinite-State Stochastic Petri Nets

---

Falko Bause, LS Informatik IV, Universität Dortmund

- Motivation
- E-sensitive GSPNs
- Detecting e-sensitive GSPNs
- E-sensitivity and non-ergodicity
- Conclusions

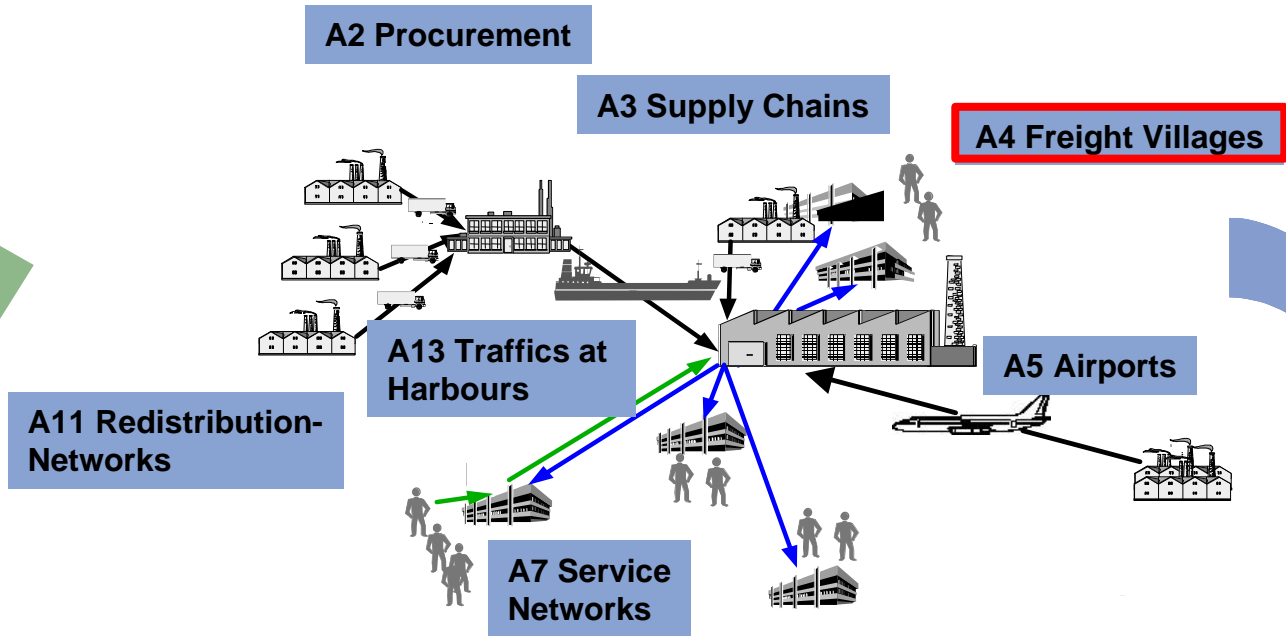


SFB = **Sonderforschungsbereich**  
= Collaborative Research Center

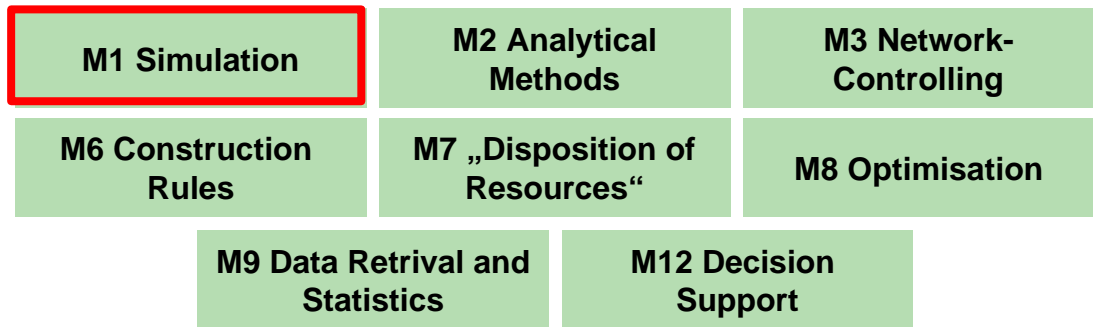


# SFB 559 Modelling of Large Logistics Networks

**Applications**

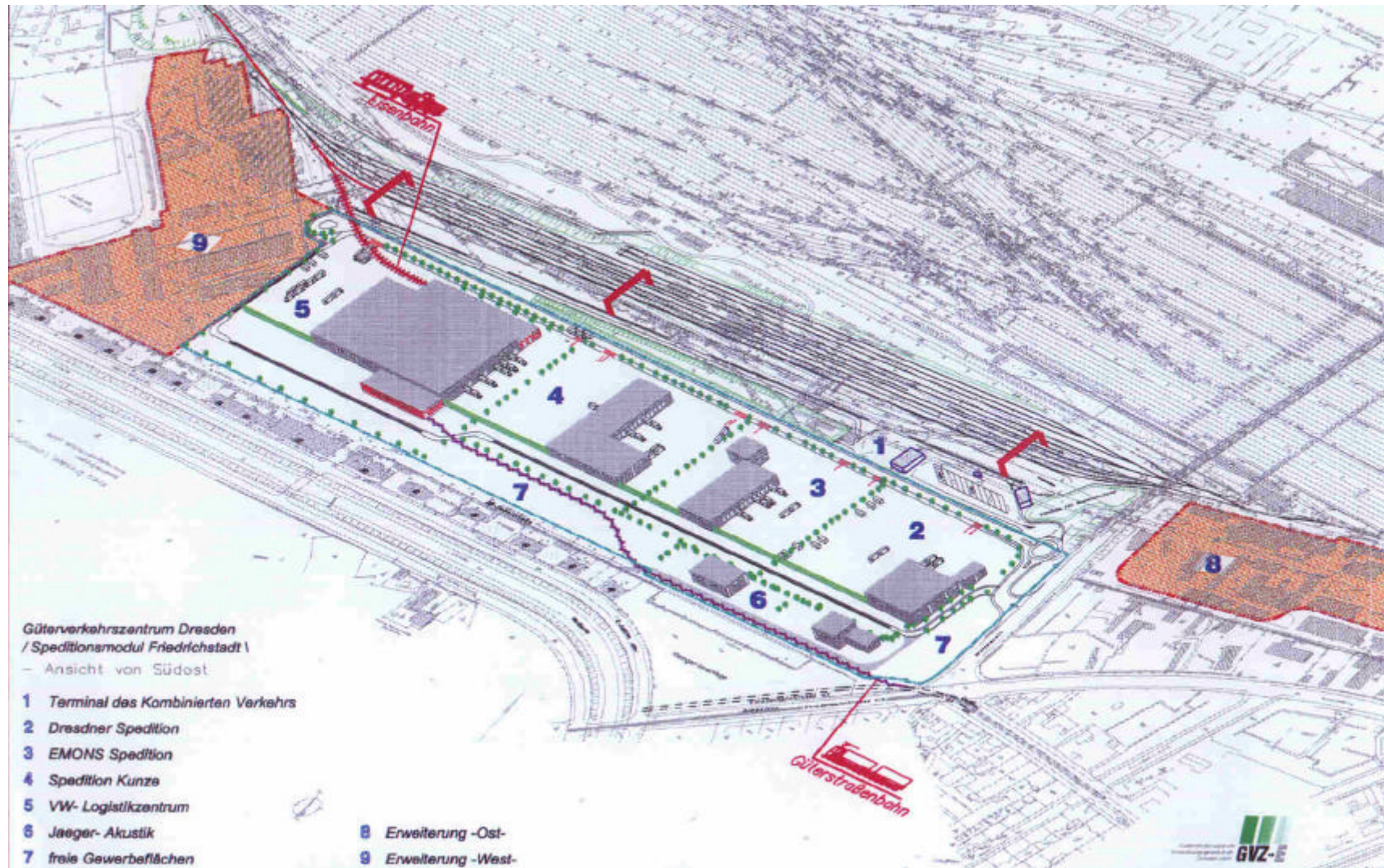


**Methods**





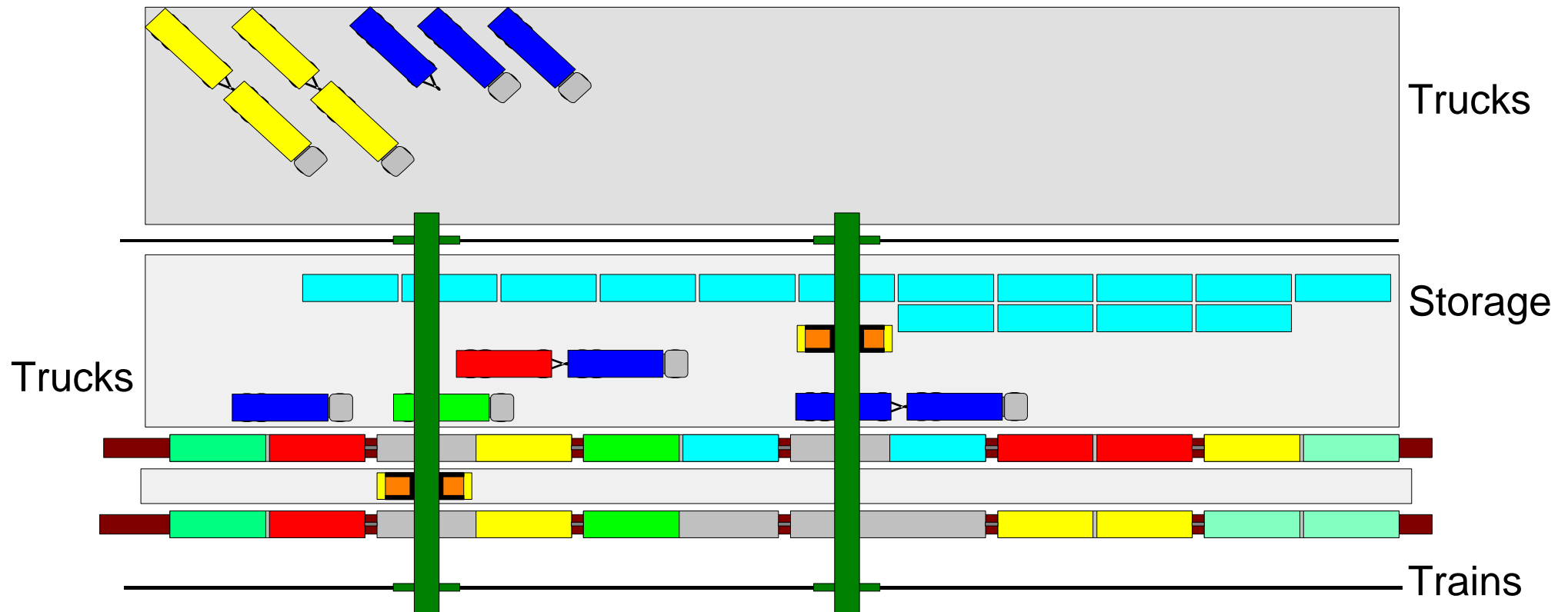
# Example: Freight Village





# Example: Freight Village

## Terminal of a Freight Village







# Example: Freight Village

## Terminal of a Freight Village

### design phase:

estimation of volume of traffic, e.g.  
mean number of trains and trucks.

### general analysis objective (here):

dimension resources

### trains:

determine unload volume UV (uniform [50,150])

determine load volume LV (uniform [50,150])

wait until  $((UV + \text{storage}) \leq \text{storage capacity})$

unload

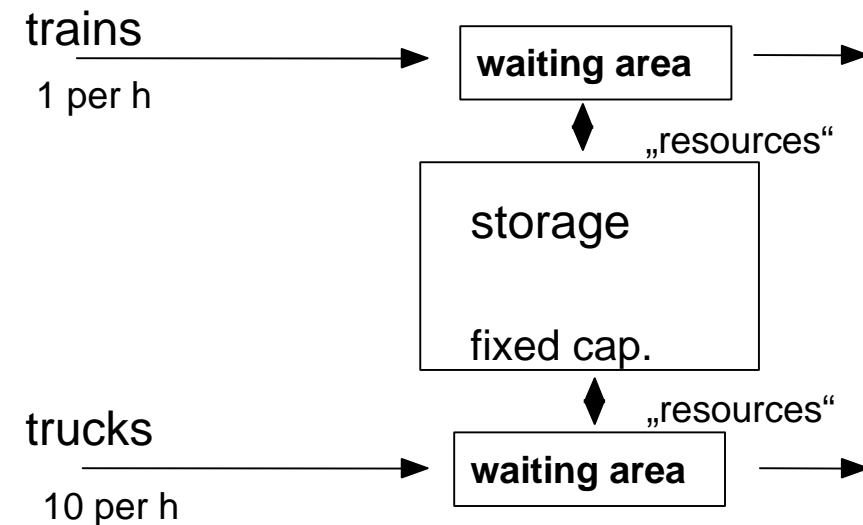
wait until  $((\text{storage} - LV) \geq 0)$

load



leave terminal

## Simplified Model („top-level“)



### trucks:

... UV (uniform [5,15])

... LV (uniform [5,15])

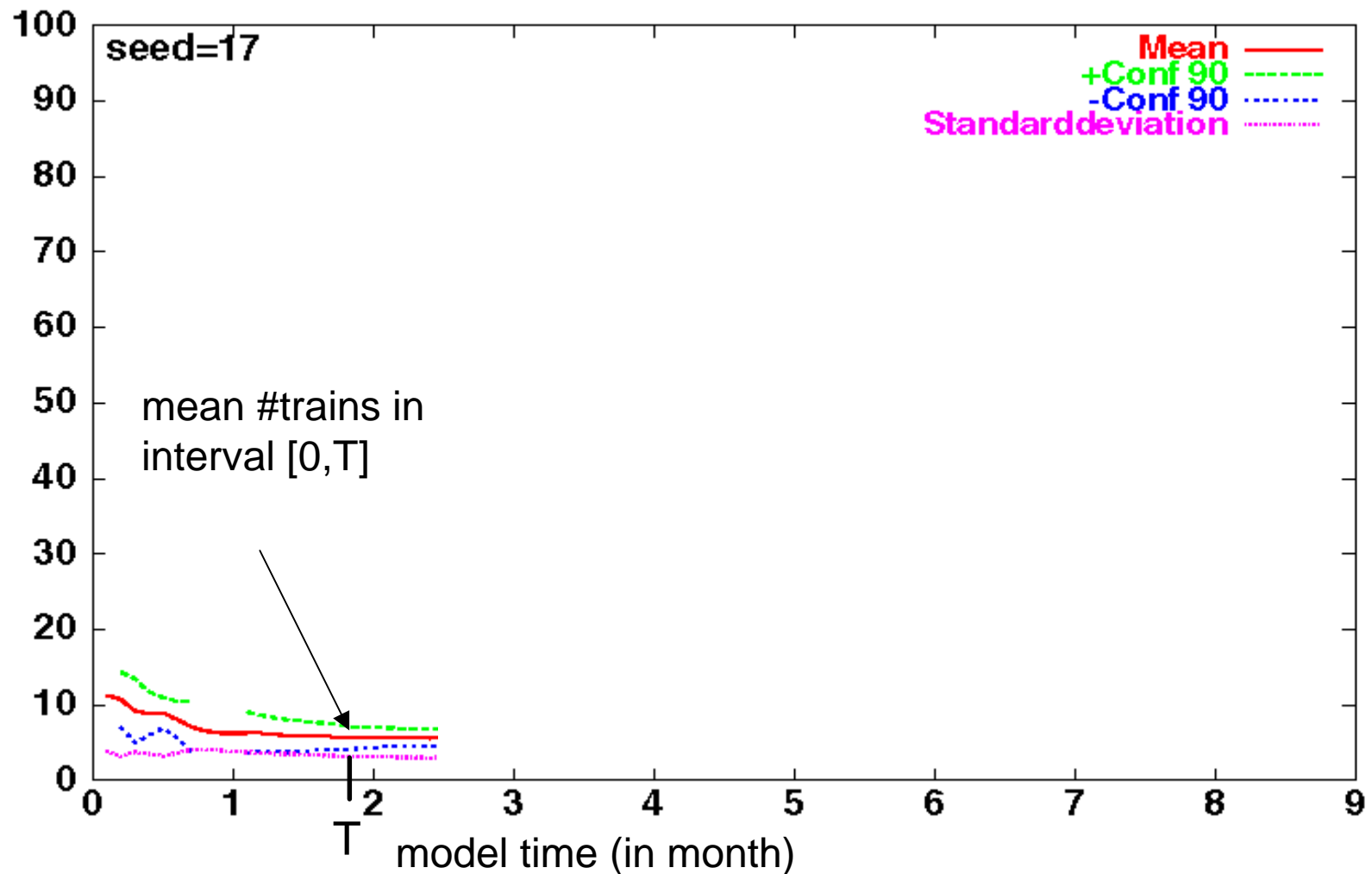
...

Specific Analysis Objective:  
Size of Waiting Areas?



# Experiment: Infinite Waiting Areas

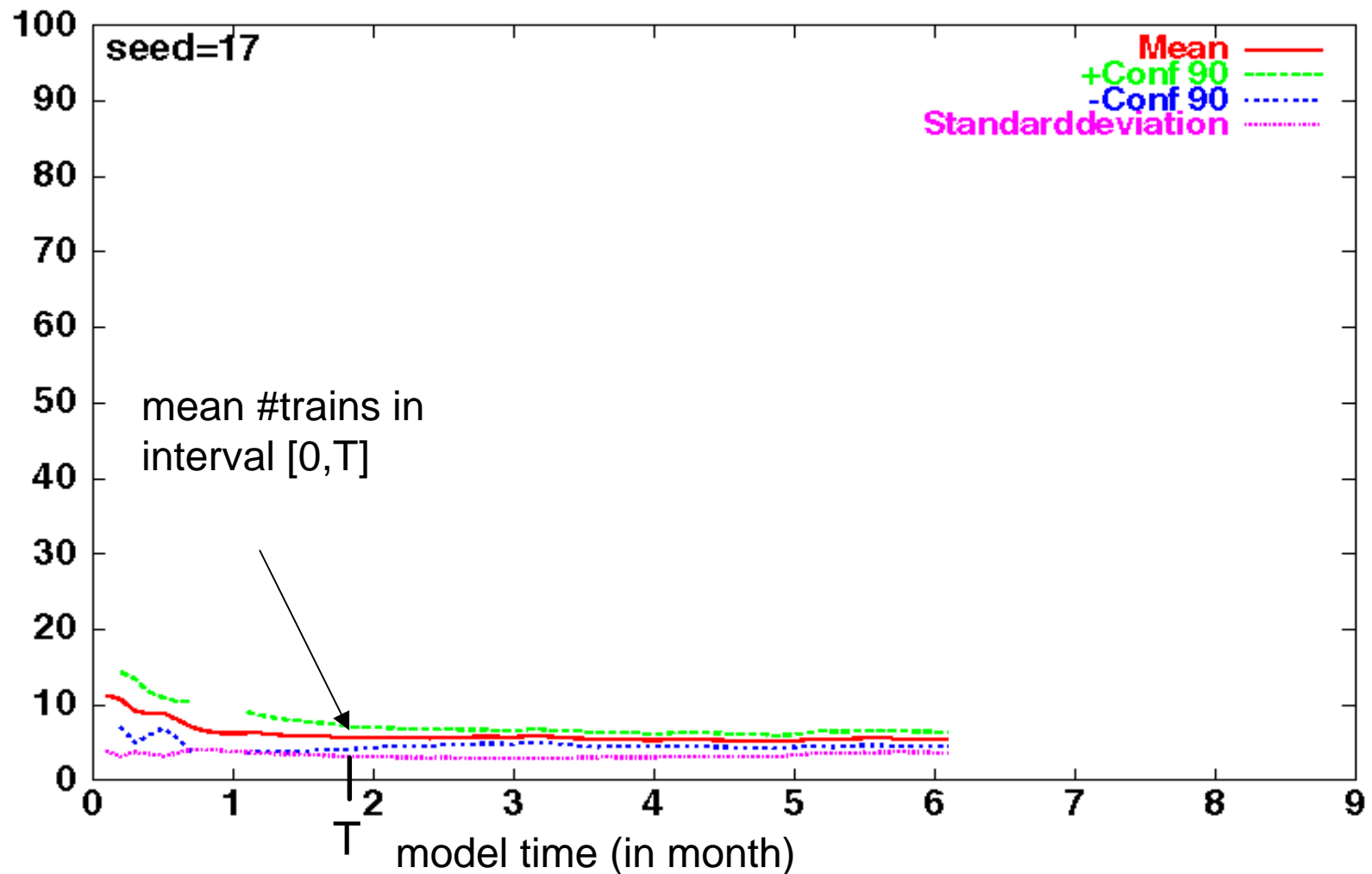
Mean Number of Trains at Terminal





# Experiment: Infinite Waiting Areas

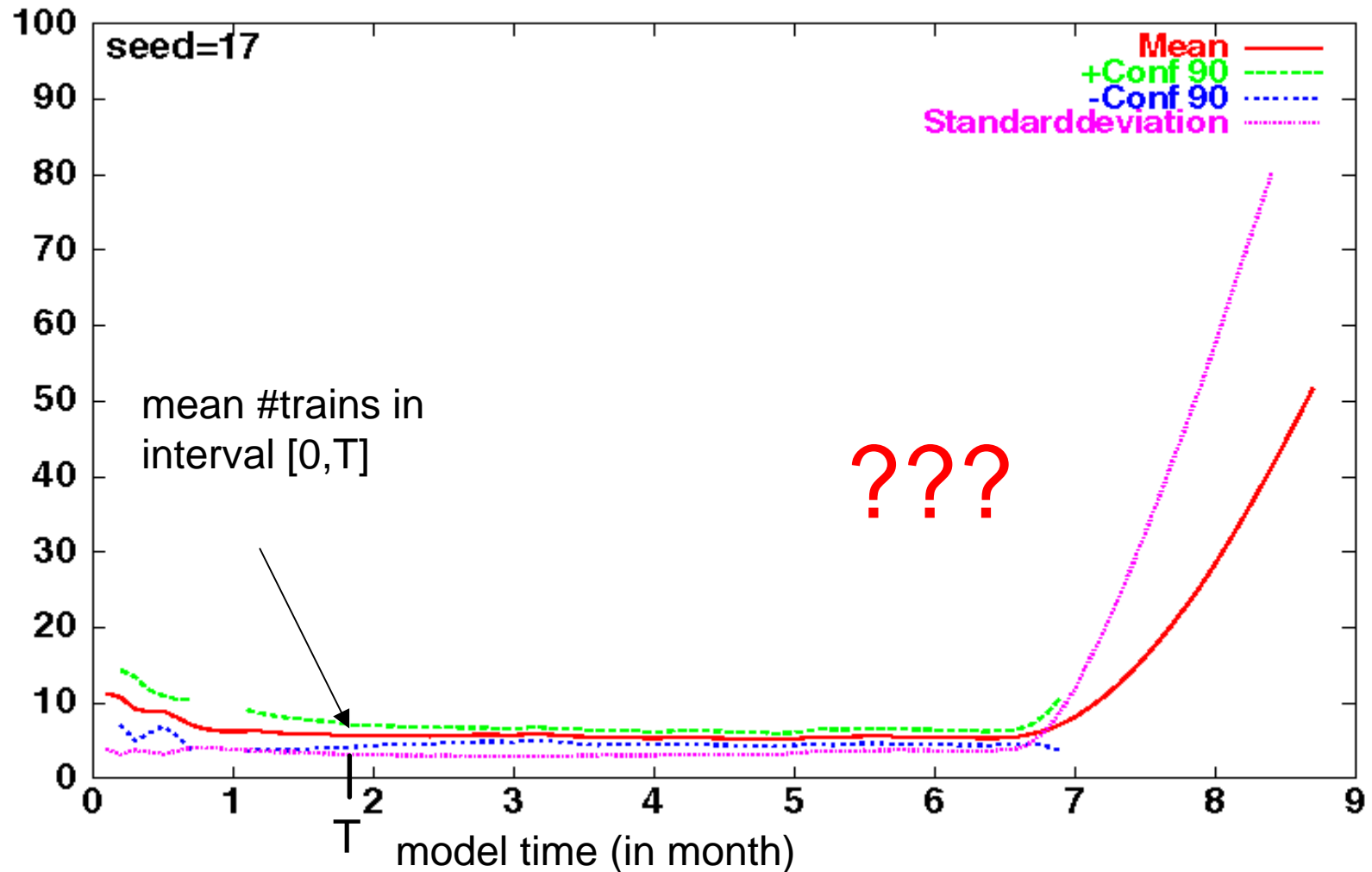
Mean Number of Trains at Terminal





# Experiment: Infinite Waiting Areas

Mean Number of Trains at Terminal

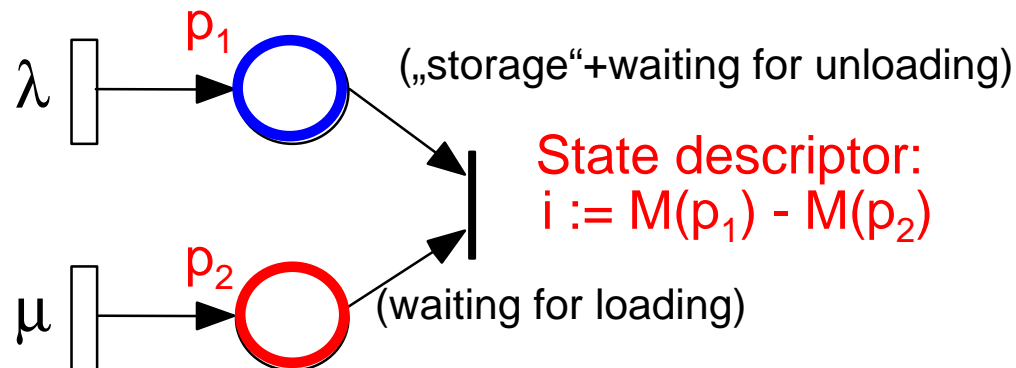




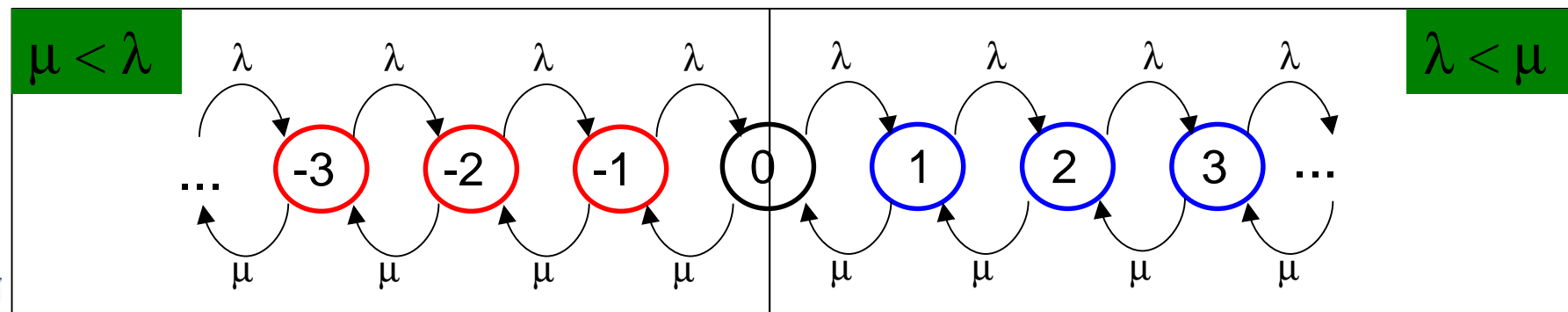
## Analytical Investigation:

### Simplifications:

- only one type of carrier
- each carrier either unloads or loads just 1 storage unit
- Poisson arrival streams
  - with parameters  $\lambda$  („unload“) and  $\mu$  („load“)
- all other activities (parking+unloading/loading+leaving) are viewed as an elementary, immediately occurring step



Markov model has  
**NO** steady-state distribution  
for all  $\lambda, \mu$ !





# GSPN Definition

A Petri net (PN) is a 4-tuple  
 $PN = (P, T, C^-, C^+)$  with  
 $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}, T = \{t_1, \dots, t_m\},$   
 $P \cap T = \emptyset,$   
 $C^- = (c_{ij}^-), C^+ = (c_{ij}^+) \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n \times m}.$

$C^+$ : forward incidence matrix  
 ("arcs from  $t$  to  $p$ ")  
 $C^-$ : backward incidence matrix  
 ("arcs from  $p$  to  $t$ ")  
 Incidence matrix:  
 $C := C^+ - C^-$

A GSPN is a tuple

$GSPN = ((PN, M_0), T_1, T_2, \Gamma)$  where

- $PN = (P, T, C^-, C^+)$  is the underlying Petri net,
- $M_0$  is the initial marking,
- $T_1 \subseteq T$  is the set of **timed** transitions,  $T_1 \neq \emptyset,$
- $T_2 \subseteq T$  denotes the set of **immediate** transitions,  
 $T_1 \cap T_2 = \emptyset, T = T_1 \cup T_2,$
- $\Gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{|T|})$  is a vector with components
  - $\gamma_i \in \mathbb{R}^+ := \{x | x \in \mathbb{R}, x > 0\},$  where  $\gamma_i$ 
    - is the **rate** of a negative exponential distribution specifying the firing delay, if  $t_i \in T_1,$  or
    - is a **firing weight**, if  $t_i \in T_2.$





Marking at time  $z$  :  $M(z)$

Firing vector at time  $z$  :  $N(z)$

- The marking process is ergodic iff

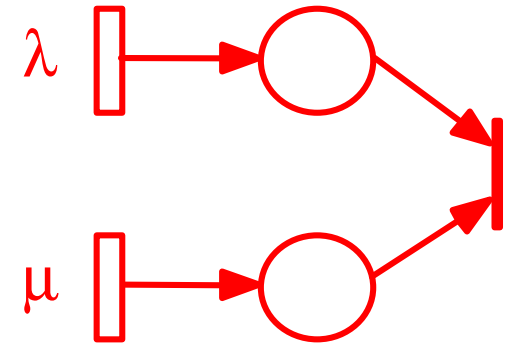
$$\exists M^* \in (\mathbb{R}_0^+)^{|P|} : M^* = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} E[M(z)].$$

$M^*$  steady-state mean marking.

- The firing process is ergodic iff

$$\exists N^* \in (\mathbb{R}_0^+)^{|T|} : N^* = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{E[N(z)]}{z}.$$

$N^*$  mean firing flow vector.



If the marking and the firing processes  
are ergodic then  $C \times N^* = 0$   
(Florin, Natkin)

Net structure gives:  
GSPN has ergodic marking  
and firing processes

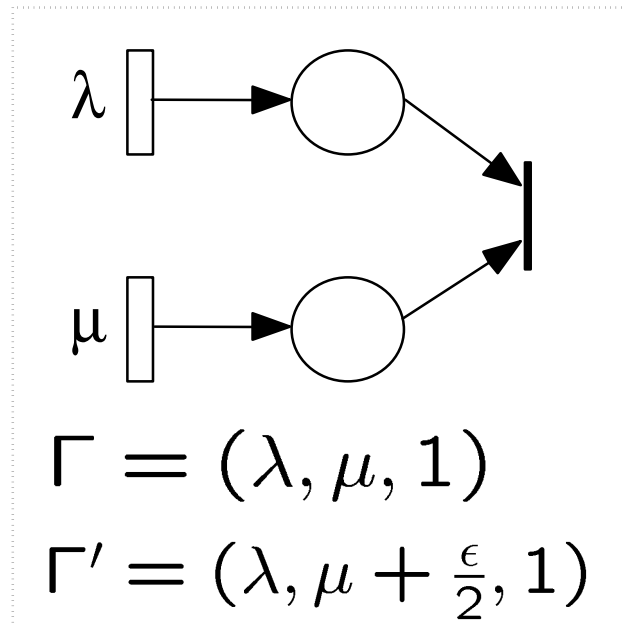
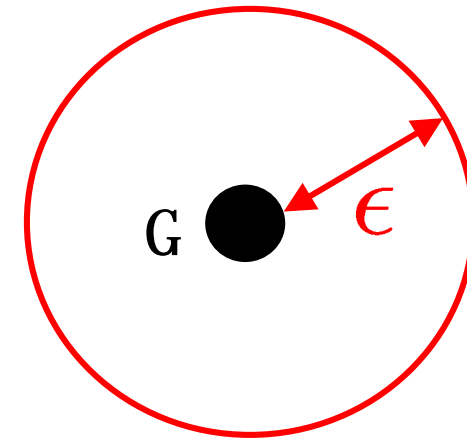
→  $\lambda = \mu$

→ Condition is sensitive  
towards (even small)  
changes of parameters



## E-sensitive GSPNs

$\Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^m, \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . ( $|T| = m$ )  
 $\Gamma + \bar{\epsilon}_m$  is the set of vectors,  
 which are in an  $\epsilon$ -area around  
 the point  $\Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .



A  $GSPN = ((PN, M_0), T_1, T_2, \Gamma)$   
 is called **e-insensitive**  
 iff there exists  $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  
 $GSPN(\Gamma') := ((PN, M_0), T_1, T_2, \Gamma')$  has  
**ergodic marking and firing processes**  
 for all  $\Gamma' \in \Gamma + \bar{\epsilon}_m$ ,  
 the GSPN is called  
**e-sensitive** otherwise.



## E-sensitive GSPNs

$$C \times N^* = 0$$

- Let GSPN be e-insensitive. Then

$$\exists \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^+ : \forall \Gamma' \in \Gamma + \bar{\epsilon}_m : \quad C \times N^*(\Gamma') = 0$$

where  $N^*(\Gamma')$  denotes the mean firing flow vector of GSPN( $\Gamma'$ ).

- If

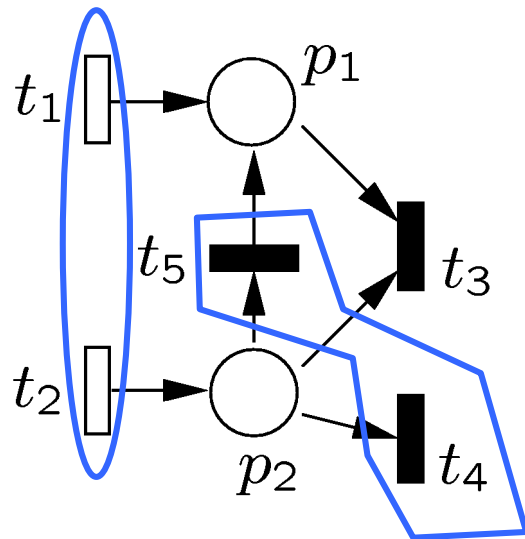
$$\forall \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^+ : \exists \Gamma' \in \Gamma + \bar{\epsilon}_m : \quad C \times N^*(\Gamma') \neq 0$$

then the GSPN is e-sensitive.

**Problem: Determine  $N^*(\Gamma')$ .**



## Partial Equal Conflict (PEC)



$$N_1^* = \gamma_1$$

$$N_2^* = \gamma_2$$

$$\frac{N_4^*}{N_5^*} = \frac{\gamma_4}{\gamma_5}$$

$$N_4^* \gamma_5 = N_5^* \gamma_4$$

$$N_1^* \gamma_2 = N_2^* \gamma_1$$

All transitions in  $\tilde{T}$  are either timed or immediate

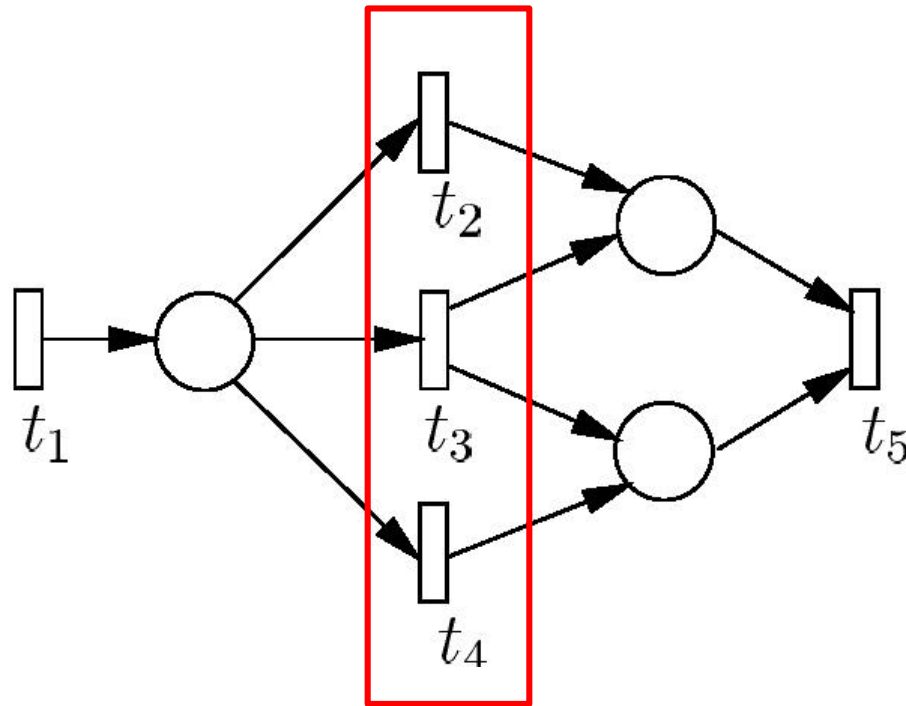
A set of transitions  $\tilde{T} \subseteq T$ ,  $\tilde{T} \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\tilde{T} \subseteq T_1$  or  $\tilde{T} \subseteq T_2$ , is in **Partial Equal Conflict (PEC)** iff

$$\forall t_i, t_j \in \tilde{T} : C^-(\bullet, i) = C^-(\bullet, j)$$



$C^-$  backward incidence matrix ("arcs from  $p$  to  $t$ ")





$\{t_2, t_3, t_4\}$  in PEC

$$N_2^* \gamma_3 = N_3^* \gamma_2$$

$$N_3^* \gamma_4 = N_4^* \gamma_3$$

$$N_2^* \gamma_4 = N_4^* \gamma_2$$



$N_2^*, N_3^*, N_4^*$  are dependent!

$$C \times N^* = 0 \quad N^* \text{ is in kernel}(C)$$

Basis for kernel C:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1, 0, 1, 0, 1 \\ 2, 1, 0, 1, 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rank of **submatrix**

(= columns of kernel C for  $t_2, t_3, t_4$ )

$$= 2$$

< number of elements in set  $\{t_2, t_3, t_4\}$

Rank of submatrix < |PEC set|  
gives (here):

$N_2^*, N_3^*, N_4^*$  are dependent!



## Detecting e-sensitive GSPNs

Projection of  $v$  on  $\tilde{T}$  is denoted by  $Proj(v, \tilde{T}) \in \mathbb{R}^m$   
and defined by

$$(Proj(v, \tilde{T}))_i := \begin{cases} v_i & \text{if } t_i \in \tilde{T} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

"projection gives submatrix"

Given a GSPN with ergodic firing process and  $N^* = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{E[N(z)]}{z}$ .  
Let  $k_1, \dots, k_r, k_i \in \mathbb{R}^m, k_i \neq 0$ , be a basis of  $\text{kernel}(C)$ .  
If there exists  $\tilde{T} \subseteq T$  with  $\tilde{T}$  in PEC and

$$\text{rank} \left( \left( Proj(k_1, \tilde{T}) \dots Proj(k_r, \tilde{T}) \right) \right) < |\tilde{T}|$$

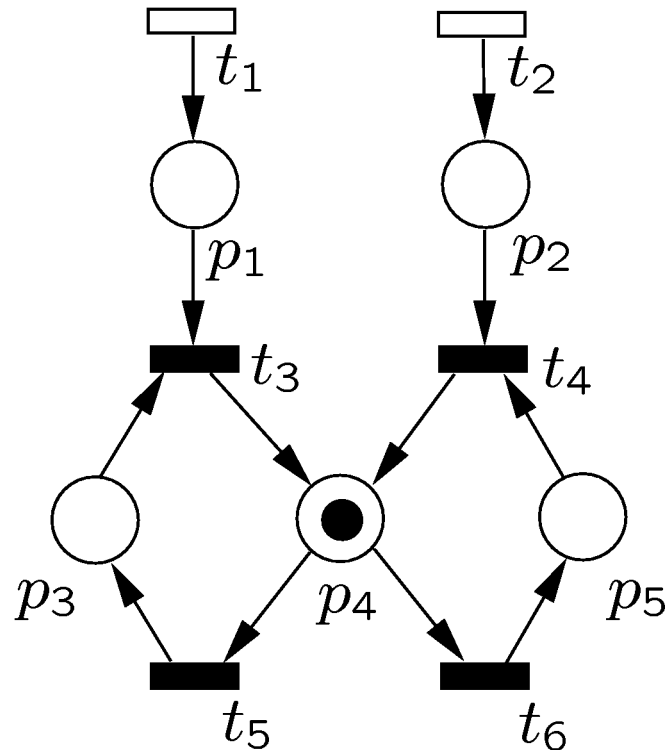
then the GSPN is e-sensitive or  $Proj(N^*, \tilde{T}) = 0$ .

polynomial complexity, only maximal PEC sets need to be tested!  
( $T'$  in PEC,  $\tilde{T} \subseteq T' \Rightarrow \tilde{T}$  in PEC.)

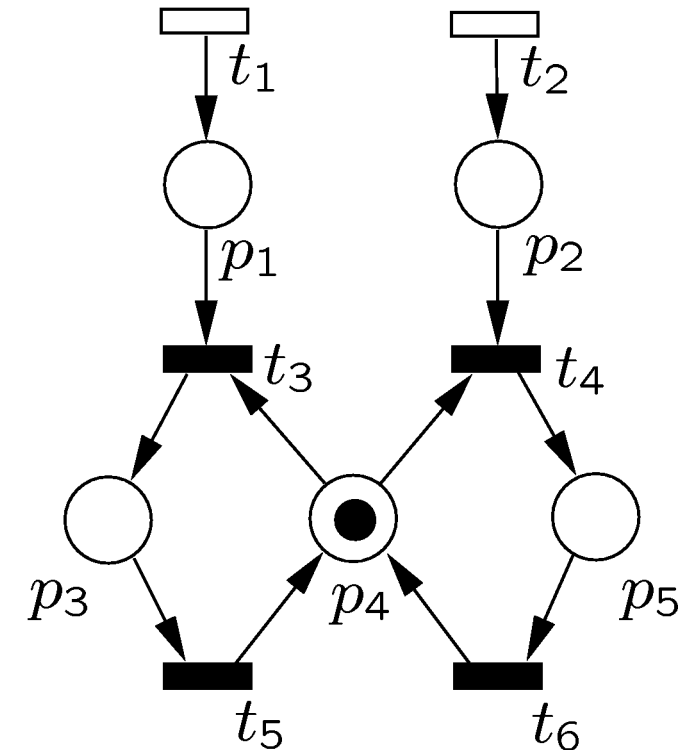




# Limits



E-sensitive (non-ergodic)



E-insensitive (ergodic)

(„M/M/1 two classes“)

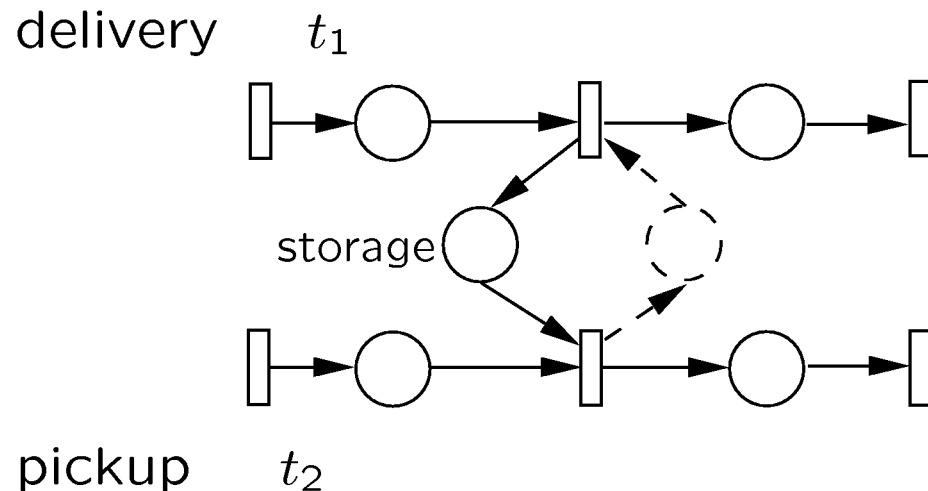
Same kernel( $C$ )!





# Applications

- stockkeeping scenario:



Basis for  $\text{kernel}(C) = \{(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1)\}$   
 $\{t_1, t_2\}$  in PEC.

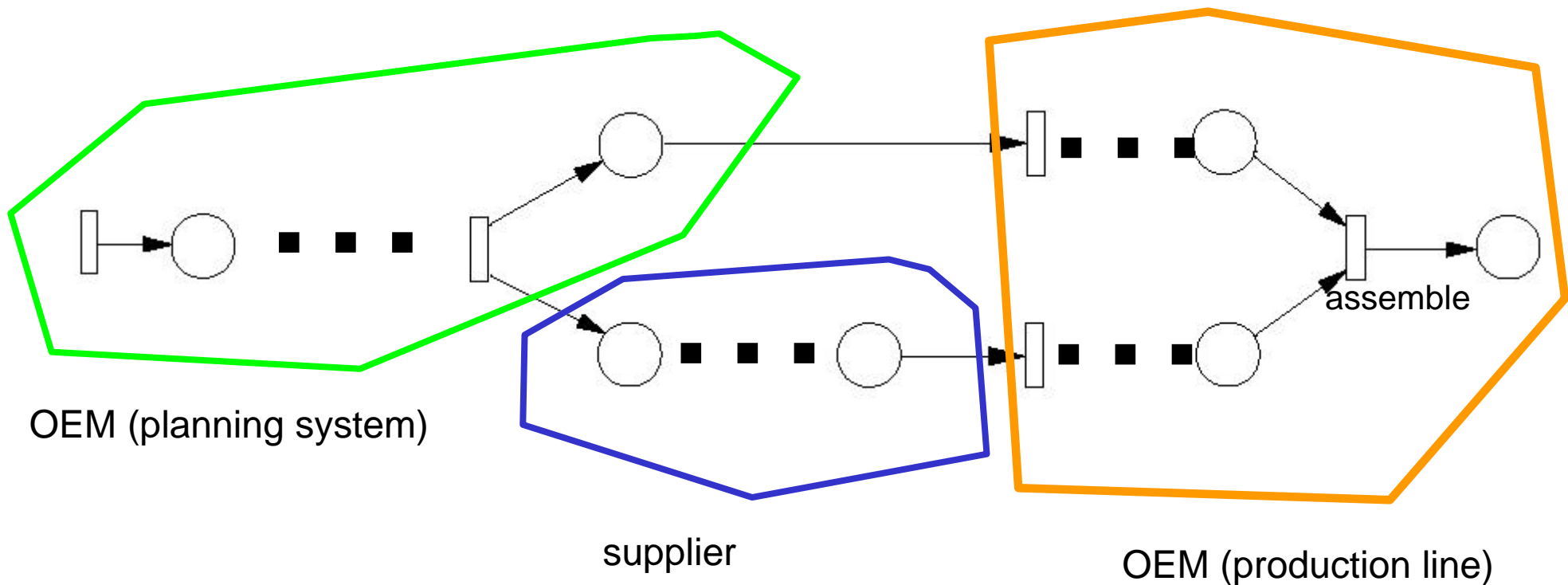
$\Rightarrow$  GSPN is e-sensitive.





# Applications (cont'd)

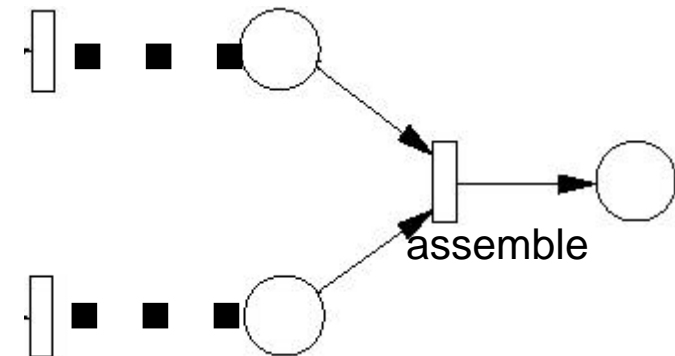
- procurement channel:





# Applications (cont'd)

- procurement channel:



⇒ GSPN is e-sensitive.

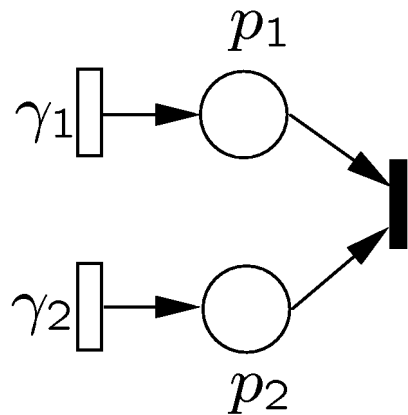






## Does e-sensitivity imply non-ergodicity?

Consider GSPN with **marking-dependent (+ parameter  $x$ )** firing rates:



$i := M(p_1) - M(p_2)$  state descriptor

$$\gamma_1(x, i) = e^{\frac{1}{2}(V(x, i) - V(x, i+1))}$$

$$\gamma_2(x, i+1) = e^{\frac{1}{2}(V(x, i+1) - V(x, i))}$$

$$V(x, i) := |i| - x^2 i^2$$

$$\pi(x, i) = \frac{e^{-V(x, i)}}{\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-V(x, j)}} < \infty \text{ iff } x = 0$$

$x = 0$  gives

$$M^* = \frac{e}{e^2 - 1} (1, 1)$$

$$N^* = 2 \frac{\sqrt{e}}{e+1} (1, 1, 1)$$

$\exists$  similar examples for GSPNs  
with "fixed" firing parameters ?





# Conclusions

- E-sensitivity
- Some e-sensitive GSPNs can be efficiently detected by inspection of the net structure

$$\text{rank} \left( \left( \text{Proj}(k_1, \tilde{T}) \dots \text{Proj}(k_r, \tilde{T}) \right) \right) < |\tilde{T}| \quad \tilde{T} \text{ in PEC}$$

- Open question:  
Does e-sensitivity imply non-ergodicity for GSPNs with „fixed“ firing parameters?
- E-sensitive GSPNs are especially **problematic when simulating** the net („finite number representation“, perturbed chain)

