

Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction 1**
 - 1.1 Motivation 1
 - 1.2 Motivation and Contribution 2
 - 1.3 Document Structure 4
 - 1.4 Formatting Conventions 5
- 2 Background 7**
 - 2.1 State of Practice: Reliability Engineering 7
 - 2.1.1 Markov-processes 15
 - 2.1.2 Fault Tree Analysis 19
 - 2.1.3 Petri-Nets 24
 - 2.1.4 Deterministic and Stochastic Petri-Nets 28
 - 2.2 Sequential Fault Tree Analysis 32
 - 2.2.1 First Idea: The priority-AND gate 32
 - 2.2.2 Combination of Fault Trees and Markov-processes 35
 - 2.2.3 Dynamic Fault Trees 39
 - 2.2.4 Temporal Fault Trees 43
 - 2.2.5 State/Event Fault Trees 49
 - 2.2.6 Other Related Approaches 51
 - 2.3 Conclusions 57
- 3 Solution Overview 61**
 - 3.1 State/Event Fault Trees: A Closer Look 61
 - 3.1.1 SEFT modeling 69
 - 3.1.2 Quantitative SEFT Analysis – TimeNet 74
 - 3.2 Qualitative SEFT Analysis 76
- 4 Qualitative SEFT Analysis: A Deeper Explanation 81**
 - 4.1 Running Example 81
 - 4.2 Reachability Graph Development 83
 - 4.2.1 Handling the State-Space Explosion: A Reduction Mechanism 88
 - 4.2.2 Transition Prioritization 94
 - 4.2.3 Handling Simultaneous Determinisms 100
 - 4.2.4 A Further Reduction of the Reachability Graph 104
 - 4.3 Sequential Logic for SEFTs 113
 - 4.4 Well-formed SEFTs 120
 - 4.5 Reachability Graph Development: A Direct Approach 123
- 5 Implementation and Evaluation 135**
 - 5.1 SEFTPlus: Deeper Insights 135
 - 5.2 SEFTPlus: Tool Evaluation 144
 - 5.3 Consistency to Minimal Cut Set Analysis 147
 - 5.4 Consistency to Temporal Fault Trees 156
 - 5.5 Consistency to Dynamic Fault Trees 166
 - 5.6 Case Studies 172

5.6.1	A Cardiac Assist System	172
5.6.2	A Tire Pressure Monitoring System	179
5.6.3	Further Case Studies	185
5.6.4	Observations from the Case Studies	192
5.7	Performance Evaluation.....	193
6	Conclusion.....	197
6.1	Limitations	198
6.2	Future Work	200
6.3	Final Comment	202
7	References.....	203
Appendix A	Gate Dictionary.....	217
Appendix B	Reachability Graph Development.....	221
B.1	Tangible reachability graph of the running example.....	221
B.2	Abbreviations dictionary for DSPN elements	222
B.3	SEFT-model of the simplified redundant fire detection system.....	223
B.4	DSPN model of the simplified redundant fire detection system.....	224
B.5	Priorities of the DSPN transitions of the simplified FDS	225
Appendix C	Sequential logic.....	227
C.1	Proof of the conjunction rule.....	227
C.2	Building rule of the sequential law's permutations.....	228
C.3	Proof of the absorption law.....	228
C.4	Proof of the H& operator's associativity	229
Appendix D	SEFTPlus source code	231
Appendix E	Evaluation.....	237