

Textual Interchange Format for High-level Petri Nets*

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Abstract. In this paper a text format for High-level Petri Net (HLPN) diagrams is presented.

The text format is designed to serve as a platform-independent file format for the Design/CPN tool. It is consistent with the forthcoming standard for High-level Petri Nets. The text format may also be seen as our contribution to the development of an open, tool-independent interchange format for High-level Petri nets.

The text format will make it possible to move *Design/CPN* diagrams between all supported hardware platforms and versions. It is also designed to be a bridge to other Petri Net tools, e.g., other analysis tools which the user may want to use with *Design/CPN* diagrams. The proposed text format does not address any standardisation for the inscription language used in the diagram. It is, however, possible to extend the format to incorporate such a standardisation.

The text format is designed for the exchange of *Hierarchical Coloured Petri Nets* but the structure is general enough to cope with other High-level Petri Nets as well.

The text format presented here has been implemented as part of *Design/CPN* version 3.1.

1 Introduction

Design/CPN is a widely used tool within the Petri Net community and has been developed for more than 10 years. The tool has been used in many projects in a broad range of application areas [8].

Design/CPN supports Hierarchical Coloured Petri Nets (CP-nets or CPNs) [7] with complex data types (colour sets) and complex data manipulations (arc expressions and guards) - both specified in the functional programming language CPN ML [3]. It also supports hierarchical CP-nets, i.e. net diagrams that consist of a set of separate modules (subnets) with well-defined interfaces.

* This paper is a slightly modified version of: R.B Lyngs, T Mailund: Textual Interchange Format for High-level Petri Nets In K.Jensen (ed.): Proceedings of the Workshop on Practical Use of Coloured Petri Nets and Design/CPN, Aarhus 1998, Department of Computer Science, University of Aarhus, PB-532, 47-63 (also available via: <http://www.daimi.aau.dk/CPnets/workshop98/papers/>).

1.1 The Reasons for Choosing a Text Format

Until now *Design/CPN* diagrams have been saved in a binary file format, but there are several reasons why we would prefer to use a text format. The current format is a proprietary file format which poorly supports the possibility of making diagrams distributed in multiple files. With the text format it should be possible to add some sort of modularisation system making modularisation of diagrams easier. This is not possible with the current file format of *Design/CPN*.

Furthermore the current file format of *Design/CPN* has certain limitations when it comes to moving a diagram between different hardware platforms of the tool. Specifically a user might not be able to save a diagram on one hardware platform (e.g., the Intel family) and load it on another (e.g., Macintosh). Another point is compatibility between different versions of *Design/CPN*. With the binary file format it is more difficult to add and remove features to the language than it is with a text format.

We also hope to make it easier to work independently on different parts of a diagram, and then later on put the pieces together. By adding merging/replacing facilities and some sort of version-control we hope to make *Design/CPN* more attractive for groups working on larger projects. The text format should also make it possible to create libraries of commonly used net structures.

Another desirable feature of a text format is readability, since this will ease debugging and inspection by users.

The advantages of having a widely accepted interchange format supported by different Petri Net tools are obvious and well known. With n Petri net tools, each with its own diagram representation, it would be necessary to have $n^2 - n$ tools to translate between all pairs of languages. By using an intermediate language it would only be necessary with $2n$. Furthermore, *each tool* would only need *one* translator to and from the interchange format, instead of the $n - 1$ to be able to load and save each of the different formats.

To fulfil these requirements the text format must necessarily be expandable in such a way that it matches the capabilities of any format used by any Petri Net tool i.e. a loaded diagram must look and behave exactly as the one that was saved. The text format described here is a proposal for such a common format.

To sum up the goals of the text format, which would be either difficult or impossible to achieve by further development of the current binary file format:

- Modularisation (on file basis) allowing development of libraries.
- Hardware independency.
- Compatibility between different versions of the tool.
- Readable by humans.
- Ease of further development/enhancements of the tool.
- Easier communication between different tools.

1.2 Design Decisions

From the very beginning it was decided that the text format should be independent of the inscription language. This decision was made for numerous reasons.

First of all we wanted it to be easy to implement the text format in an existing tool as we have done with *Design/CPN*.

The considerations mentioned earlier concerning different tools interchanging diagrams are of course true for the inscription language as well. The same benefits can be obtained by sharing an inscription language. We believe however that the inscription language is a far more integrated part of each tool than the graphical layout, thus translation to and from a common inscription language was considered beyond the scope of this text format.

On the other hand it was feasible to implement known standards for both naming conventions and syntax in order to make it easier for humans to read the description of the diagram. To that end we have chosen to use the terminology presented in the current version of the committee draft of the HLPN standard [1]. This means that the entities known in *Design/CPN* as arc expressions, colour regions and guards are called arc annotations, type region and transition conditions, respectively. Furthermore we chose to use the SGML (*Standard Generalized Markup Language*) ISO standard, which will be described in Sect. 3.

The structure of the text format is chosen to be based on the semantic properties rather than the graphical appearance. It is thus considered more important to know that a certain object is a place than it is to know that the object has the shape of an ellipse.

We want the text format to be both general enough to be used by various different tools and specific enough to save the same information about a diagram as the binary format used so far. Different tools need to add different kinds of information to the text format, and later versions of *Design/CPN* will probably add to the format as well.

On the other hand, each tool will need certain information, e.g. graphical attributes such as line thickness or fill pattern, which has no counterpart in some other tools. A simulator need no information about the graphical layout. Thus we cannot expect to get all the information needed by one tool from text format exported by another tool.

The solution to these seemingly conflicting goals, was found to be a very simple structure which could be easily parsed and subsequently weeded for unwanted information. Furthermore, it should be possible to describe a diagram with a minimum of extra information, leaving most of the graphical layout and some of the semantics to defaults. The default shape of a place is an ellipse, the default of a condition is true, etc. In our implementation, when loading a diagram, unknown parts are ignored and missing information is substituted by defaults.

We have implemented routines for loading and saving the text format in *Design/CPN*. The load routines, however, are almost tool independent, and it should be fairly easy to incorporate this module into other tools. For further detail we refer to [9].

2 An Example Diagram

In this section we will give an example of a small diagram described in the text format. A description of the text format will follow in the next section.

Figure 1 shows a small diagram with two places and one transition. Example 1 shows the text description of the same diagram. The text description is slightly edited from text generated by the tool.¹ It is followed by an explanation.

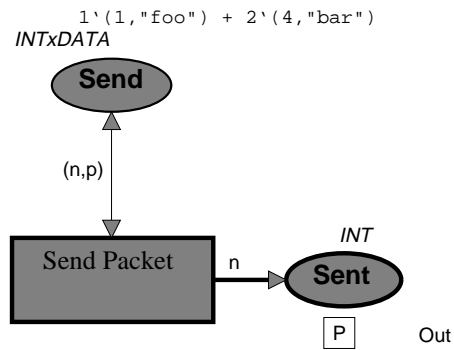


Fig. 1. A simple diagram

Example 1 (Text description of Fig. 1).

```

1  <!-- File /users/cpn/nets/Sender.int -->
2  <page id=id10>
3  <trans id=id34>
4  <text>Send Packet</text>
5  <textattr font=Times size=12 just=Centered colour=Lime>
6  <lineattr type=Solid thick=2 colour=Yellow>
7  <fillattr pattern=White colour=White>
8  <posattr x=-644 y=779>
9  <box h=134 w=321>
10 </trans>
11
12 <place id=id25>
13 <text>Send</text>
14 <textattr font=Helvetica size=12 just=Centered colour=red bold=TRUE>
15 <lineattr type=Solid thick=1 colour=red>
16 <fillattr pattern=White colour=red>
17 <posattr x=-644 y=1090>
18 <ellipse h=84 w=194>
19
20 <type id=id24>

```

¹ A few *Design/CPN* specific attributes have been removed.

```

21     <text>INTxDATA</text>
22     <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Left colour=red italic=TRUE>
23     <posattr x=-722 y=1167>
24     <label>
25 </type>
26
27     <initmark id=id22>
28     <text>1'(1,"foo") + 2'(4,"bar")</text>
29     <textattr font=Courier size=9 just=Left colour=red>
30     <posattr x=-450 y=1200>
31     <label>
32     </initmark>
33 </place>
34
35 <place id=id7>
36 <text>Sent</text>
37 <textattr font=Helvetica size=12 just=Centered colour=navy bold=TRUE>
38 <port type=out>
39 <lineattr type=Solid thick=2 colour=navy>
40 <fillattr pattern=White colour=navy>
41 <posattr x=-275 y=779>
42 <ellipse h=84 w=184>
43
44 <type id=id11>
45 <text>INT</text>
46 <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Left colour=navy italic=TRUE>
47 <posattr x=-260 y=851>
48 <label>
49 </type>
50
51 <portkreg id=id15>
52 <text>P</text>
53 <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Centered colour=navy>
54 <lineattr type=Solid thick=0 colour=navy>
55 <fillattr pattern=None colour=navy>
56 <posattr x=-282 y=694>
57 <box h=49 w=49>
58
59 <portreg id=id14>
60 <text>Out</text>
61 <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Left colour=navy>
62 <lineattr type=None thick=1 colour=navy>
63 <fillattr pattern=None colour=navy>
64 <posattr x=-128 y=694>
65 <box h=52 w=84>
66 </portreg>
67 </portkreg>
68 </place>
69
70 <arc id=id16 orientation=BOTHDIR>

```

```

71     <placeend idref=id25>
72     <transend idref=id34>
73     <lineattr type=Solid thick=0 colour=navy>
74     <fillattr pattern=Black colour=navy>
75     <seg-conn>
76
77     <annot id=id13>
78         <text>(n,p)</text>
79         <posattr x=-686.15289 y=957.00000>
80         <label>
81             <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Left colour=navy>
82         </annot>
83     </arc>
84
85     <arc id=id19 orientation=TtoP>
86         <placeend idref=id7>
87         <transend idref=id34>
88         <lineattr type=Solid thick=2 colour=navy>
89         <fillattr pattern=Black colour=navy>
90         <seg-conn>
91
92         <annot id=id17>
93             <text>n</text>
94             <textattr font=Helvetica size=9 just=Left colour=navy>
95             <posattr x=-447 y=809>
96             <label>
97         </annot>
98     </arc>
99 </page>
100

```

Line 1 is a comment and has no semantic meaning. Line 2 identifies the start of the page. The page ends in line 99. Lines 3–10 represent the transition *Send Packet*. This is done by means of a **trans** block. The **id** in line 3 is a unique identifier which it is possible to refer to the transition. Line 4 describes the contents of the text within the transition, i.e. the text “Send Packet”. Line 5 describes the format of the text. The font name is Times while the font size is 12. The text is Centered and the colour is Lime. Lines 6–7 describes the borderline and the fill pattern within the transition. The borderline is solid, (i.e. a full-drawn line) with thickness 2 and colour Yellow. The fill pattern is White, which is a non-transparent pattern. The fill colour is White. Line 8 describes the position of the centre of the transition, while line 9 describes the shape of the transition, i.e. box shape together with the width and height of the transition.

Line 12–37 represent the place *Send*. This is done by means of a **place** block. Lines 12–18 play a similar role as lines 3–9 in the **trans** block, but the contents are of course different. It can, e.g., be seen that the text is set in Helvetica, that the text style is boldface (line 14), that the line thickness is 1 (line 15), and that the shape is ellipse instead of box (line 18). The colour of the place is red (lines

14, 15 and 16). It can also be seen that the place has the same x coordinate as the transition which means that the two objects are vertically aligned.

Lines 20–25 describes the type (colour set) of the place. The type block is nested within the place block. This corresponds to the fact that in *Design/CPN* the type is declared in a region under the place object. The text in the type block is smaller (font size 9), left justified and italic (line 22). Line 24 indicates that the type region has the shape of a label (i.e. a box where the size is automatically determined by the text). The initial marking of the first place (lines 27–32) is described similar to the type. The text is however set in Courier font.

The second place of the diagram is described in lines 35–68. It is horizontally aligned to the transition, i.e. they have the same y coordinate (line 9 and 41). It is furthermore shaped as an ellipse. This place is also an output port (line 38), hence it contains a `portkreg` block (port key region), which again contains a `portreg` block (port region). These are *Design/CPN* specific and hence will not be described in any detail.

Lines 70–98 describe the arcs of the diagram. The first arc (lines 70–83) is orientated in both directions (line 70) and connects the *Send* place and the *Send Packet* transition, i.e., the `placeend` (line 71) refers to id *id25* which was the id of the *Send* place (line 12), and the `transend` (line 72) refers to the id of the transition, i.e. *id34*. The shape of the arc is `seg-conn`, one of the different connector shapes in *Design/CPN*. The line thickness is 0, which is hairline. The annotation (arc inscription) of the arc is found in the `annot` block, lines 77–82.

The second arc (lines 85–98) is very much like the first. There are, however, a few differences. It connects the transition and the *Sent* place. The orientation is from the transition to the place (line 85) and the line thickness is 2 instead of 0 (lines 88 and 73).

3 Description of the Text Format

The format is based on SGML (*Standard Generalized Markup Language*) [6] for several reasons:

SGML

- is designed specifically to support text interchange,
- has a rigorously described structure which makes it easily understood by both computers and humans,
- represents hierarchies,
- sets a standard for communication between different platforms, versions and tools,
- is a well documented, wide spread and accepted standard,
- is the framework upon which numerous well known markup languages are founded, for instance HTML.

3.1 Short Introduction to SGML

In SGML the basic element is the *document element*. It is the root of a tree of elements which as a whole makes up the document's *content*.

As stated in Annex B of the SGML ISO standard [6] a cornerstone of a SGML is the Document Type Definition (DTD for short). The following is a light version of the full DTD which describes the structure of the text format.² It will be followed by an in-depth explanation

```
1  <!DOCTYPE cpn [
2
3  <!-- "Macros" -->
4  <!ENTITY % cols          "(Black | Maroon | Gray | Olive |
5                          Purple | Silver | Red | Teal |
6                          Navy | Fucia | Blue | Aqua |
7                          Green | Lime | Yellow | White)">
8  <!ENTITY % arcdirs       "(BOTHDIR | NODIR | PtoT | TtoP">
9  <!ENTITY % linetypes     "(Solid | Dash | None)">
10 <!ENTITY % fillpatterns  "(Black | None | Diamonds)">
11 <!ENTITY % fonts         "(Helvetica | Times | Courier)">
12 <!ENTITY % textjust      "(Centered | Left | Right)">
13 <!ENTITY % porttypes     "(In | Out | InOut | General)">
14
15 <!-- The basic elements of a net -->
16 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN          CONTENT          -->
17 <!ELEMENT cpn          0 0          page*>
18 <!ELEMENT page         - -          (arc | place | trans)*>
19 <!ELEMENT arc          - -          (placeend? & transend? & lineattr?
20 & fillattr? & seg-conn? & annot?)>
21 <!ELEMENT place        - -          (text? & type? & initmark?
22 & portkreg? & port?)>
23 <!ELEMENT trans        - -          (text? & textattr? & lineattr? &
24 fillattr? & posattr? & box?)>
25
26 <!--      ELEMENTS      NAME          VALUE          DEFAULT -->
27 <!ATTLIST page         id             ID             #IMPLIED>
28 <!ATTLIST arc          id             ID             #IMPLIED
29                      orientation    %arcdirs;      #IMPLIED
30 >
31 <!ATTLIST place        id             ID             #IMPLIED>
32 <!ATTLIST trans        id             ID             #IMPLIED>
33
34 <!--      Identifiers related to the look of an object and the
35      corresponding attributes -->
36 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN          CONTENT          -->
37 <!ELEMENT posattr      - 0          EMPTY>
38 <!ELEMENT lineattr     - 0          EMPTY>
39 <!ELEMENT fillattr     - 0          EMPTY>
```

² The full DTD for the *Textual Interchange Format* can be found in the appendix

```

40 <!ELEMENT textattr      - 0          EMPTY>
41
42 <!--      ELEMENTS      NAME          VALUE          DEFAULT -->
43 <!ATTLIST posattr       x          CDATA          #IMPLIED
44                          y          CDATA          #IMPLIED
45 >
46 <!ATTLIST lineattr      type          %linetypes;
47                          thick       CDATA
48                          colour      %colours;
49 >
50 <!ATTLIST fillattr      pattern       %fillpatterns;
51                          colour      %cols;
52 >
53 <!ATTLIST textattr      font          %fonts;        #IMPLIED
54                          size        NUMBER         #IMPLIED
55                          just        %textjust;     #IMPLIED
56                          bold        CDATA          #IMPLIED
57                          italic      CDATA          #IMPLIED
58                          underline   CDATA          #IMPLIED
59                          outline     CDATA          #IMPLIED
60                          shadow      CDATA          #IMPLIED
61                          condense    CDATA          #IMPLIED
62                          extend      CDATA          #IMPLIED
63                          colour      %colours;     #IMPLIED
64 >
65
66
67 <!-- Identifiers related to the shape of an object -->
68 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN          CONTENT          -->
69 <!ELEMENT label         - 0          EMPTY>
70 <!ELEMENT seg-conn     - 0          EMPTY>
71 <!ELEMENT box          - 0          EMPTY>
72 <!ELEMENT ellipse      - 0          EMPTY>
73
74 <!--      ELEMENTS      NAME          VALUE          DEFAULT -->
75 <!ATTLIST box           x          CDATA          #IMPLIED
76                          y          CDATA          #IMPLIED
77 >
78 <!ATTLIST ellipse      x          CDATA          #IMPLIED
79                          y          CDATA          #IMPLIED
80 >
81
82 <!-- Identifiers related to text -->
83 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN          CONTENT          -->
84 <!ELEMENT text         - -          CDATA>
85
86 <!-- Identifiers related to arcs -->
87 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN          CONTENT          -->
88 <!ELEMENT placeend     - 0          EMPTY>
89 <!ELEMENT transend     - 0          EMPTY>

```

```

90 <!ELEMENT annot      - -          (text? & textattr? & posattr?
91                                & label?)>
92
93 <!--      ELEMENTS      NAME      VALUE      DEFAULT -->
94 <!ATTLIST placeend  idref      IDREF      #IMPLIED>
95 <!ATTLIST transend  idref      IDREF      #IMPLIED>
96 <!ATTLIST annot     id       ID        #IMPLIED>
97
98 <!-- Identifiers related to places -->
99 <!--      ELEMENTS      MIN      CONTENT      -->
100 <!ELEMENT type      - -          (text? & textattr? & posattr?
101                                & label?)>
102 <!ELEMENT initmark  - -          (text? & textattr? & posattr?
103                                & label?)>
104 <!ELEMENT portkreg  - -          (text? & textattr? & lineattr?
105                                & fillattr? & posattr? & box?
106                                & portreg?)>
107 <!ELEMENT portreg   - -          (text? & textattr? & lineattr?
108                                & fillattr? & posattr? & box?)>
109 <!ELEMENT port      - -          EMPTY>
110
111 <!--      ELEMENTS      NAME      VALUE      DEFAULT -->
112 <!ATTLIST type      id       ID        #IMPLIED>
113 <!ATTLIST initmark  id       ID        #IMPLIED>
114 <!ATTLIST portkreg  id       ID        #IMPLIED>
115 <!ATTLIST portreg   id       ID        #IMPLIED>
116 <!ATTLIST port      type     %porttype; #IMPLIED>
117 ]>

```

In line 1 of the DTD the type of the document is defined to be `cpn`. On the lines 4–13 a number of “macros” are defined. This means, for example, that the macro `arcdirs` in line 8 is expanded to `(BOTHDIR | NODIR | PtoT | TtoP)` in line 20. Note that a macro substitution is invoked by prepending the macro name with `'%'` and appending `;'`.

In line 17 the Generic Identifier (GI) `cpn` is defined. Since this GI equals the doctype in line 1 an element of this type is the root of the document (file). It is called a root because a SGML document represents a hierarchical structure. By defining the `cpn` GI, two so called *tags* are defined. The first one is a start tag which in a document is `<cpn>`. The second one is `</cpn>` which is an end tag. These two tags indicate the beginning and the end of the whole document. Generally a piece of text delimited by a start tag and an end tag is called a block. Since nothing but comments can come before the `<cpn>` tag it might be omitted. Similarly, the `</cpn>` tag might be omitted since nothing follows it. This is indicated by the two Os just below the MIN in line 16. The Os mean “omit”. The first O indicates that the start-tag might be omitted. The second one that the end-tag might be omitted. By writing `page*` in the content field on the end of line 17 we define that a `cpn`-block might contain zero or more elements of type `page`. The `'*'`-operator means “zero or more”.

In example 1 the `<cpn>` and `</cpn>` tags are omitted. In line 2 of example 1 a `page` block starts. This is legal since, as we just saw, `page` is a valid subelement GI of `cpn`. In line 18 of the DTD the GI `page` is defined. Thereby we define that the beginning of a `page` block is identified by the start tag `<page>`. The end of a `page` block is identified by the corresponding end tag `</page>`. The two dashes in line 18 indicate that the start and end tags can't be omitted. The content field at the end of line 18 of the DTD indicates that a `page` element consists of zero or more elements of type `arc`, `place` or `trans`. The `'|'`-operator means "or". In example 1 the `page` block contains a `trans` block (in lines 3–10), two `place` blocks (in lines 12–33 and lines 35–68), and two `arcs` (in lines 70–83 and lines 85–98). This is legal according to the definition in line 18 of the DTD. Notice that it is perfectly legal to have e.g. an `arc` block between two `trans` blocks. In line 2 of example 1 the start tag of the `page` block also contains the text `id=id10`. This text identifies an attribute. Attributes are only allowed in the start tag. In this case the attribute name is `id` and the attribute value is `id1`. It is defined in line 27 of the DTD that a `page` might have an attribute named `id`. Moreover the value range of this attribute is defined to be `ID`. Line 28 defines that the `arc` GI also can have an attribute whose value range is `ID` (and whose name is also `id`). By defining both value ranges to be `ID` we express that a `page` and an `arc` can't have same `id` value.³ The `id` attribute is a legal attribute of all GIs representing objects. Thus, in the text format the value of each `id` attribute must be unique.

`ID` is a SGML reserved keyword. This uniqueness property of `ID` is defined by the SGML standard. Thus an object has a unique identification within the document. At the end of line 28 the default value of the attribute is defined to be `#IMPLIED`. `IMPLIED` is also a SGML keyword. That the default is `IMPLIED` means that it is implementation dependent what to do when processing a `<page>` tag in which the attribute `id` does not appear. In our implementation the `page` will be created.

The `arc` GI declaration in line 28 of the DTD introduces some new operators for the content declaration. The `'&'`-operator means that all of the operands must appear. The order in which the operands appear is however not determined. The `'?'`-operator means zero or one occurrence. This means that an `arc` block can contain at most one of each of the following blocks: `placeend`, `transend`, `lineattr`, `fillattr`, `seg-conn`, and `annot`. The six blocks are not restricted to appear in the listed order.

The `placeend` GI is defined in line 88 of the DTD. The content field contains the SGML keyword `EMPTY`. This means that a `placeend` has no valid subelement GIs. Hence there is no need for an end tag. In fact an end tag is disallowed in this case. The `O` indicating that the end tag can be omitted is just a reminder. The `placeend` GI has the attribute named `idref` defined. It is used in example 1 in which the value of the `idref` attribute in line 86 refers to the `id` attribute value declared in the `place` start tag in line 35. The value range of this attribute is `IDREF`. `IDREF` is a SGML keyword by which the attribute

³ Even if the attributes had different names, say `pageid` and `arcid`, the common value range `ID` would insure uniqueness

value range is defined to be a reference to an attribute value of the type ID. The attribute value referenced must be declared within the document.

In line 43 of the DTD the attributes of the GI `posattr` are defined. The value range of both attributes is CDATA. This means that the attributes `x` and `y` can assume arbitrary character values, which does not conflict with the markup.

In the definition of the `text` GI in line 85 the content is defined to be CDATA. This means that everything within a `text` block is processed and no markup within the `text` is processed. Hence the sequence `<place></place>` is illegal inside a `trans` block whereas it is legal in a `text`. In the `text` block the sequence is not identified as a block but just as a stream of characters.

The rest of the definitions in this light version of the real DTD make use of the constructs discussed above.

For a thorough description of SGML confer with the ISO 8879 standard [6] or [5] which includes an annotated version of the ISO 8879 standard.

3.2 The Text Format as Description of a Petri Net Diagram

We have now presented and explained how the text format might represent a Petri Net diagram. We have also presented the formalism defining the structure of the text format. We now focus on *how* the structure defined by the DTD corresponds to the structure of a Petri Net diagram. We divide the GIs in two categories: the ones where content is allowed, and the ones where content is not allowed, e.g. the content is defined EMPTY. By using GIs of the first type it is possible to make *blocks*. The GIs with empty content do not define blocks.

The Blocks. In the DTD we defined some GIs with non-empty content, e.g. the definition of `page` in line 18. These GIs with non-empty content corresponds to *blocks* in example 1, e.g. the `page` block in lines 2–99 of the example. We have defined a block type called `ignore`. It is used for comments. These comments may extend over several lines. It may encompass other blocks (and other comments). Hence it can be used to ignore a large contiguous part of a document. The rest of the blocks represent five different types of information about the CP-net.

- Actual objects of the CP-net (pages, transitions, places, etc.).
- The text within an object.
- Additional information about a place, transition or arc (place type, transition condition, arc annotation, etc.).
- The text which is part of the additional information.
- Different kinds of defaults.

The first type is represented in example 1 where lines 3–10 represents the transition of Fig. 1. The `text` block in line 4 of example 1 is of the second type. It represents the text within the transition on Fig. 1. An example of the third type is the `initmark` block in lines 27–32. This block represents the initial marking of the *Send* transition on Fig. 1. In *Design/CPN* the initial marking is a region of the place. The text format does not assume that this is the case. If the `id` attribute in

line 27 was omitted along with the lines 29–31, the `initmark` block would still be valid according to the DTD. If *Design/CPN* parses a block where the attributes are missing it just creates an initial marking region according to the defaults. The `id` is a valid attribute of the `initmark` GI because in *Design/CPN* an initial marking *is* represented by a graphical object. If a connector was created between the initial marking of the *Send* place in Fig. 1 and one of the arc annotation regions we would need to reference the corresponding blocks in the text format in order to represent the connector. The arc between the transition and the *Send* place on Fig. 1 is represented in lines 70–83 in example 1. To identify which place/transition pair is connected by the represented arc, line 71–72 refers to the `ids` introduced by the representation of the place and the transition. A connector connecting two object is represented in a similar way.

It is even possible to leave out the `text` block in line 28 of example 1. That block is of the third type according to the block type partitioning above. If it is left out the initial marking is implementation dependent. In *Design/CPN* an initial marking region without any contents is created if such a `initmark` block is parsed

The GIs with no Valid Subelement GIs. A GI which have no valid subelement GIs represents a (named) set of attributes. The attribute sets are primarily used to represent graphical attributes in diagrams. In line 5 of example 1 we have a set of four attributes:

```
<textattr font=Times size=12 just=Centered colour=Lime>
```

In lines 71 and 72:

```
<placeend idref=id25>  
<transend idref=id34>
```

we see examples of attribute sets which have only a single attribute each.

In line 31 we have the empty attribute set `<label>`. This set represents the object represented by the enclosing block has box shape and that the size of that object depends entirely on the text within the object.

Representation of Graphical Layout One of the strengths of the Petri Nets is the graphical representation, which is intuitive and easy to understand. To keep this advantage it is essential that the nets are *drawn* in a readable fashion. Much care must be put into creating the graphical layout, and this work we do not want to lose. Thus we need to be able to represent the graphics in the text format.

First of all we need to be able to specify positions. We use a coordinate system with the x-coordinate running from left to right and the y-coordinate bottom-up. The centre of the diagram is at coordinate (0,0), and the measurement unit used is millimetres and fractions of millimetres. It is not possible to express this requirement in the DTD. In other words, the text format is not described entirely by the DTD.

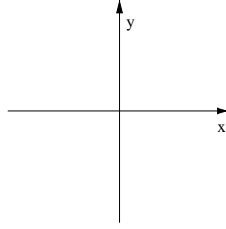


Fig. 2. The coordinates

The position of a object represented by a block is specified in the position attribute set `posattr`. The transition represented in the example is positioned at coordinate $(-644, 779)$ according to line 8 of example 1.

The text format does not make any demands on the shape of net objects. It is thus possible to specify any shape, which a given tool supports, as an attribute set of a block, to keep this information. The transition in the example is box shaped, and the first place has shape ellipse. Line thickness, fill pattern and colours are important. Thus this information is a part of the text format. The first transition in the example has a solid line, yellow coloured, and with line thickness 2pt, as seen in line 6.

4 Benchmarks

When considering a change of the file format used within *Design/CPN* , it is essential that performance is not jeopardised with respect to size and especially speed. To investigate this we have compared the time and space usage when loading and saving two “typical” CP-nets. No systematical benchmarking has been made yet.

Diagram	Binary	Textual	Ratio
Size uncompressed	161 KB	165 KB	1.02
compressed	35 KB	16 KB	0.46
Time save	1 sec	2 secs	2.00
load	1 sec	5 secs	5.00

Fig. 3. 7 pages, 22 places, 12 transitions

As seen in Figs. 3 and 4, the increase in size of the files is not significant, even though the size increases as much as 61%. This is not important, when considering the disk space available on an average workstation. This is especially true since the size of a diagram saved in the text format can be compressed to

Diagram	Binary	Textual	Ratio
Size uncompressed	1371 KB	2221 KB	1.61
compressed	302 KB	137 KB	0.43
Time save	3 secs	39 secs	13.00
load	13 secs	73 secs	5.62

Fig. 4. 33 pages, 237 places, 109 transitions

less than what is possible when using the binary format. This is done by using commonly known compression programs.⁴

When it comes to speed, the text format does not match the binary format. This comes as no surprise since it is possible to do a “memory dump” when using the binary format, whereas the diagram is traversed object-by-object when saved and loaded. Experiments indicate that the time used when saving a diagram in the textual format is linear in the number of objects. If modularisation and/or version control is integrated with the text format a substantial decrease in save times is expected. In that case it is only necessary to save the changed parts of a diagram. The same decrease is expected when editing diagrams. The whole diagram is only needed for simulation.

5 Future Work

The text format presented here makes it possible to save and load (parts of) diagrams within *Design/CPN*. When modelling complex systems two additional features would be feasible: version control and a modularisation system.

5.1 Version Control

The text format opens up for libraries of common net structures and distribution of nets over several files, and thus makes it easier for groups to work on different parts of larger projects. Large projects, however, often demand some sort of version control of files.

Common version control systems, e.g. CVS [2], works well on text but, perhaps surprisingly enough, less than perfect on the text format proposed here. Writing diagrams in a text editor will of course work as well as any source code version control, but when editing the diagrams in HLPN tools, as will often be the case, two major problems arise: we have no guaranty of consistency in identifiers, and different tools might export the objects in a different order.

Tools will have different ways of identifying objects internally which might reflect on the exported identifiers. Editing one file in the project can thus change the identifiers in that file making it inconsistent with the other files. This can of course be solved by simply demanding that blocks should be saved with the same

⁴ The examples in this paper were all compressed using `gzip` [4].

identifier as they were loaded, forcing the tools to remember these “external” identifiers.

Merging two files is easily done with CVS, but different ordering of the blocks will result in conflicts in most of the file, nullifying the advantages of being able to edit separate copies. A solution could be restricting the order of blocks somehow. A better approach could be to add version control to the text format. With a fine-grained version control system as part of the text format it would be possible for different people to edit different parts of a diagram, perhaps in different tools, and then to merge the changes together, fully automatically. This could be done by adding unique time stamps or version numbers to each block. Merging two files would then simply be a matter of comparing these numbers. Whenever the version numbers differ the user could be prompted to take action, or the newest version would simply be selected.

Such a system could be the next step in making *Design/CPN* more attractive to large project groups.

5.2 Modularisation Management System

For the time being, the only way of dividing a diagram in modules is by saving different modules (subpages) in different files and later loading these separately. This is far from optimal. It would be better if it was possible to let the text format manage modularisation of a diagram. It should be possible to specify some sort of modularisation of the diagram, such that modules can be edited independently *without* having to combine all modules manually afterwards.

One solution is to tag substitution transitions as “modules” and to specify a file name for each of these. When saving the diagram, the subdiagram with the tagged substitution transition as root should be saved in a different file, with the specified file name, and only the file name and the substitution transition should be kept in the original diagram. If the tool discovers a “module” tagged transition during load, it simply loads the subdiagram from the file. Although not essential, this is definitely worth considering.

6 Conclusions

What we have presented here is not just a file format for *Design/CPN* but a framework for representing *High-level Petri Nets*. The benefits of this is that the format is easily changed/enhanced without losing the opportunity to develop a given diagram further in another tool (or another version of a given tool). Furthermore the format makes it possible to split diagrams into different files. This makes it easier for groups to work on the same diagram and also makes it possible to have standard libraries which can be used in different diagrams. The drawbacks of the format are mainly related to the speed for saving and loading a diagram. With current technology these penalties are not considered severe and are believed to become less significant within a short time frame due to hardware development.

We believe that SGML provides a robust framework for representing *High-Level Petri Nets*. The format presented here has proved that it is indeed possible to use SGML to represent *High-level Petri Nets*. The text format will evolve due to future development of *Design/CPN* and hopefully due to input from the Petri Net community.

7 Acknowledgements

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Appendix

A Full DTD for *Design/CPN* 3.1

```
1 <!-- DTD for Textual Interchange Format for Design/CPN ver. 3.1 -->
2
3 <!-- Base element -->
4 <!DOCTYPE cpn [
5
6 <!-- Possible shapes for objects: rbox is a rounded box -->
7 <!ENTITY % shape      "(box | ellipse | poly | line | label | wedge | rbox
8                        | seg-conn)">
9
10 <!-- Legal attributes for objects -->
11 <!ENTITY % atts       "%shape;? & posattr? & fillattr? & lineattr? &
12                       textattr? & flags? & layering?">
13
14 <!-- Line types: -->
15 <!ENTITY % lintyps   "(Solid | Dashed | DotDash | GroupInd |
16                       FlashInd | None | Null | Dotted)">
17
18 <!-- Colours. These colours corresponds to the standard colours of
19      HTML: -->
20 <!--
21 Name and RGB value:
22     Black = #000000   Green = #008000
23     Silver = #COCOCO   Lime = #00FF00
24     Gray = #808080    Olive = #808000
25     White = #FFFFFF    Yellow = #FFFF00
26     Maroon = #800000   Navy = #000080
27     Red = #FF0000     Blue = #0000FF
28     Purple = #800080   Teal = #008080
29     Fuchsia = #FF00FF  Aqua = #00FFFF
30 -->
31 <!ENTITY % cols      "(Black | Maroon | Gray | Olive |
32                       Purple | Silver | Red | Teal |
33                       Navy | Fucia | Blue | Aqua |
34                       Green | Lime | Yellow | White)">
35
36 <!-- The possible orientations of an arc:
37     BOTHDIR = Bidirectional arc: 0<->[]
38     NODIR = Arc without arrows: 0-[]
39     PtoT = Arc from Place to Transition: 0->[]
40     TtoP = Arc from Transition to Place: []->0
41 -->
42 <!ENTITY % arcs      "(BOTHDIR | NODIR | PtoT | TtoP)">
43
44 <!-- Possible types of fusion sets:
45     Global = Global fusion set.
46     Page = Page Fusion set.
```

```

47     Instance = Instance Fusion Set -->
48 <!ENTITY % fustyps      "(Global | Page | Instance)">
49
50 <!-- Possible orientations of an auxiliary connector: -->
51 <!-- BOTHDIR = Bidirectional connector.
52     NODIR = Nondirectional connector.
53     1to2 = Connector from object1 to object2
54     2to1 = Connector from object2 to object1 -->
55 <!ENTITY % orients      "(BOTHDIR | NODIR | 1to2 | 2to1)">
56
57 <!-- Possible fill patterns for objects -->
58 <!ENTITY % pats          "(None | Solid | AlmostSolid | InverseHeavyDotted |
59     Chessboard | InverseOrderedDotted |
60     NarrowVertical | FilledDiagonals
61     | WideVertical | Speckled | RandomDotted |
62     NarrowGrid | Bricks | SparselyDotted |
63     ShortDiagonals | Lightbubbles | PieTop |
64     Buttercups | Waffles |
65     LightDotted | MediumDotted | LightGray |
66     OrderedDotted | NarrowHorizontal |
67     NarrowDiagonal | WideHorizontal | WideDiagonal
68     | DottedBoxes | WideGrid | DiagonalBricks |
69     Holiday | Carrots | DiagonalScales |
70     RoundScales | Mountains | HeavyBubbles |
71     Diamonds)">
72
73 <!-- Possible font names. -->
74 <!ENTITY % fonts        "(Chicago | Courier | Geneva | Helvetica | Monaco
75     | Times | Symbol)">
76
77 <!-- The justification of text (left aligned, centered or right
78     aligned. -->
79 <!ENTITY % justs        "(Left | Centered | Right)">
80
81 <!-- Possible porttypes: -->
82 <!-- In = Input Port.
83     Out = Output Port.
84     InOut = Input/Output Port
85     General = General Port -->
86 <!ENTITY % prttyps      "(In | Out | InOut | General)">
87
88 <!-- Possible layering of object -->
89 <!-- Copy -->
90 <!-- IOR = Inclusive OR -->
91 <!-- XOR = Exclusive OR -->
92 <!-- INV = Inverse the objects covered -->
93 <!ENTITY % laytyps      "(Copy | IOR | XOR | INV)">
94
95 <!-- Possible attributes of objects: -->
96 <!--

```

```

97     posattr = Position attributes
98     fillattr = Fill Attributes
99     lineattr = Line Attributes
100    textattr = Text Attributes
101    flags = Various flags (see definition of flags)
102    layering = Layering logic of object -->
103 <!ENTITY % objatts      "posattr | fillattr | lineattr | textattr |
104                          flags | layering">
105
106 <!-- Objects legal within a page: -->
107 <!-- place = Place
108     trans = Transition
109     tempdecl = Temporary Declaration Node
110     globdecl = Global Declaration Node
111     locdecl = Local Declaration Node
112     aux = Auxiliary Object
113     aux-conn = Auxiliary Connector -->
114 <!ENTITY % pageobs      "place | trans | tempdecl | globdecl | locdecl
115                          | arc | aux | aux-conn">
116
117 <!-- Blocks legal within a place block: -->
118 <!-- name = Name block.
119     type = Type declaration block.
120     initmark = Initial marking block.
121     aux-endp = Auxiliary endpoint block
122     aux-std = Auxiliary region block
123     fus-key = Fusion key region block
124     portkreg = Port key region block
125     mark-key = Marking key region block -->
126
127 <!ENTITY % placeob      "name | type | initmark | aux-endp | aux-std |
128                          fus-key | portkreg | mark-key">
129
130 <!-- Blocks legal within a place block: -->
131 <!-- name = Name block
132     cond = Condition block
133     code-key = Code key region block
134     log-key = Log key region block
135     time = Time block
136     aux-endp = Auxiliary endpoint region block
137     hier-key = Hierarchy key region block.
138     aux-enab = Enabling region. -->
139 <!ENTITY % transob      "name | cond | code-key | log-key | time |
140                          aux-endp | hier-key | aux-enab">
141
142 <!-- Elements recognised on outermost level of a cpn-document:
143     Information about generator tool.
144     One or more ordinary pages.
145     Zero or one hierarchy page -->
146 <!ELEMENT cpn           0 0                ((page)* & hierpage? & generator?)>

```

```

147
148
149 <!-- Text blocks are recognised to contain Character Data -->
150 <!ELEMENT text      - - CDATA>
151
152 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a page -->
153 <!ELEMENT page      - - (text? & (%pageobs; | %shape; | pageattr | fillattr |
154         lineattr | posattr | winattr | modeattr | mult)*)>
155 <!ATTLIST page      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
156
157 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a place -->
158 <!ELEMENT place     - - (text? & (%placeob; | %shape; | %objatts; | port)*)>
159 <!ATTLIST place     id          ID          #IMPLIED>
160
161 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a name block -->
162 <!ELEMENT name      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
163 <!ATTLIST name      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
164
165 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a type block -->
166 <!ELEMENT type      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
167 <!ATTLIST type      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
168
169 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an initial marking block -->
170 <!ELEMENT initmark - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
171 <!ATTLIST initmark id          ID          #IMPLIED>
172
173 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a transition block -->
174 <!ELEMENT trans     - - (text? & (%transob; | %shape; | %objatts; | modeattr |
175         subst)*)>
176 <!ATTLIST trans     id          ID          #IMPLIED>
177
178 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a condition block -->
179 <!ELEMENT cond      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
180 <!ATTLIST cond      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
181
182 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a code key region block -->
183 <!ELEMENT code-key  - - (text? & (aux-std | code | %shape; | %objatts;
184         | regattr)*)>
185 <!ATTLIST code-key  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
186
187 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a code region block -->
188 <!ELEMENT code      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
189 <!ATTLIST code      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
190
191 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a log key region block -->
192 <!ELEMENT log-key   - - (text? & (aux-std | log | %shape; | %objatts;
193         | regattr)*)>
194 <!ATTLIST log-key   id          ID          #IMPLIED>
195
196 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a log region block -->

```

```

197 <!ELEMENT log      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
198 <!ATTLIST log      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
199
200 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a time block -->
201 <!ELEMENT time      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
202 <!ATTLIST time      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
203
204 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a hierarchy key region block -->
205 <!ELEMENT hier-key  - - (text? & (aux-std | hierarch | %shape; |
206                      %objatts; | regattr)*)>
207 <!ATTLIST hier-key  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
208
209 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a hierarchy region block -->
210 <!ELEMENT hierarch  - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
211 <!ATTLIST hierarch  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
212
213 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a fusion key region block -->
214 <!ELEMENT fus-key   - - (text? & (aux-std | fusion | %shape; |
215                      %objatts; | regattr)*)>
216 <!ATTLIST fus-key   id          ID          #IMPLIED>
217
218 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a fusion region block -->
219 <!ELEMENT fusion    - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
220 <!ATTLIST fusion    id          ID          #IMPLIED
221                      type        %fustyps;  #IMPLIED
222 >
223
224 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an arc block -->
225 <!ELEMENT arc       - - (text? & (annot | aux-std | %shape; | lineattr |
226                      placeend | transend | textattr | flags | connattr |
227                      fillattr | layering)*)>
228 <!ATTLIST arc       id          ID          #IMPLIED
229                      orientation  %arcors;  #IMPLIED
230 >
231
232 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an arc annotation block -->
233 <!ELEMENT annot     - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
234 <!ATTLIST annot     id          ID          #IMPLIED>
235
236 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an local declaration block -->
237 <!ELEMENT locdecl   - - (text? & (aux-endp | aux-std | %shape; | %objatts;)*>
238 <!ATTLIST locdecl   id          ID          #IMPLIED>
239
240 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a temporary declaration block -->
241 <!ELEMENT tempdecl  - - (text? & (aux-endp | aux-std | %shape; | %objatts;)*>
242 <!ATTLIST tempdecl  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
243
244 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a global declaration block -->
245 <!ELEMENT globdecl  - - (text? & (aux-endp | aux-std | %shape; | %objatts;)*>
246 <!ATTLIST globdecl  id          ID          #IMPLIED>

```

```

247
248 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an auxiliary object block -->
249 <!ELEMENT aux      - - (text? & (aux-endp | aux-std | %shape; | %objatts;)*>
250 <!ATTLIST aux      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
251
252 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an auxiliary connector block -->
253 <!ELEMENT aux-conn - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | lineattr | node1 |
254     node2 | textattr | flags | connattr | fillattr |
255     layering)*>
256 <!ATTLIST aux-conn id          ID          #IMPLIED
257     orient      %orients;  #IMPLIED
258 >
259
260 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an auxiliary standard region
261     block -->
262 <!ELEMENT aux-std  - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*>
263 <!ATTLIST aux-std  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
264
265 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an auxiliary endpoint region
266     block -->
267 <!ELEMENT aux-endp - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*>
268 <!ATTLIST aux-endp id          ID          #IMPLIED>
269
270 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a port key region block -->
271 <!ELEMENT portkreg - - (text? & (aux-std | portreg | %shape; |
272     %objatts; | regattr)*>
273 <!ATTLIST portkreg id          ID          #IMPLIED>
274
275 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a port region block -->
276 <!ELEMENT portreg  - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*>
277 <!ATTLIST portreg  id          ID          #IMPLIED>
278
279 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a marking key region block -->
280 <!ELEMENT mark-key - - (text? & (aux-std | mark | %shape; | %objatts;
281     | regattr)*>
282 <!ATTLIST mark-key id          ID          #IMPLIED>
283
284 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a marking region block -->
285 <!ELEMENT mark      - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*>
286 <!ATTLIST mark      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
287
288 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an auxiliary enabling
289     region block -->
290 <!ELEMENT aux-enab - - (text? & (%shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*>
291 <!ATTLIST aux-enab id          ID          #IMPLIED>
292
293 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a hierarchy page block. -->
294 <!ELEMENT hierpage - - (text? & (aux | aux-conn | pagenode | substcon
295     | %shape; | pageattr | fillattr | lineattr |
296     posattr | winattr)*>

```

```

297 <!ATTLIST hierpage      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
298
299 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within an hierarchy page node block. -->
300 <!ELEMENT pagenode - - (text? & (aux-std | pgmodkey | %shape; | %objatts;)*)>
301 <!ATTLIST pagenode      id          ID          #IMPLIED
302                      pageref      IDREF       #IMPLIED>
303
304 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a page mode key region
305      block -->
306 <!ELEMENT pgmodkey - - (text? & (pagemode | aux-std | %shape; |
307                      %objatts; | regattr)*)>
308 <!ATTLIST pgmodkey      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
309
310 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a page mode region block -->
311 <!ELEMENT pagemode - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
312 <!ATTLIST pagemode      id          ID          #IMPLIED>
313
314 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a substitution connector block -->
315 <!ELEMENT substcon - - (text? & (aux-std | substtag | %shape; | lineattr |
316                      sup-page | sub-page | textattr | flags | connattr |
317                      fillattr | layering)*)>
318 <!ATTLIST substcon      id          ID          #IMPLIED
319                      orient        %orients;   #IMPLIED>
320 >
321
322 <!-- Elements and attributes recognised within a substitution tag block -->
323 <!ELEMENT substtag - - (text? & (aux-std | %shape; | %objatts; | regattr)*)>
324 <!ATTLIST substtag      id          ID          #IMPLIED
325                      transref      IDREF       #IMPLIED>
326 >
327
328 <!-- Name and version of tool which generated file -->
329 <!ELEMENT generator      - O EMPTY>
330 <!ATTLIST generator      tool      CDATA
331                      version    CDATA>
332
333 <!-- Position attributes: -->
334 <!-- x : x coordinate in mm
335      y: x coordinate in mm
336
337 SGML doesn't allow a definition of numbers which might be negative,
338 hence the use of CDATA as type for the coordinates.
339
340 The coordinate system looks like this:
341      ^
342      | y
343      |
344      |
345      |          x
346  -----\

```

```

347     |      /
348     |
349     |
350     |
351 -->
352
353 <!ELEMENT posattr - 0 EMPTY>
354 <!ATTLIST posattr      x          CDATA      #IMPLIED
355                       y          CDATA      #IMPLIED
356 >
357
358 <!-- Definition of various shapes.
359
360 The attributes:
361     h = height (in mm)
362     w = width (in mm)
363
364 These are declared as CDATA since SGML has no way of defining real
365 numbers.
366
367 Decimal seperator is '.'.
368
369     curv = curvature (0-360)
370     stangle = start angle (0-360)
371     endangle = end angle (0-360)
372     points = sequence of points "(x1,y1)(x2,y2)...(xn,yn)"
373 -->
374
375
376 <!ELEMENT box      - 0 EMPTY>
377 <!ATTLIST box      h          CDATA      #IMPLIED
378                  w          CDATA      #IMPLIED
379 >
380
381 <!ELEMENT ellipse - 0 EMPTY>
382 <!ATTLIST ellipse h          CDATA      #IMPLIED
383                  w          CDATA      #IMPLIED
384 >
385
386 <!ELEMENT poly      - 0 EMPTY>
387 <!ATTLIST poly      points     CDATA      #IMPLIED>
388
389 <!ELEMENT line      - 0 EMPTY>
390 <!ATTLIST line      points     CDATA      #IMPLIED>
391
392 <!ELEMENT label     - 0 EMPTY>
393
394 <!ELEMENT wedge     - 0 EMPTY>
395 <!ATTLIST wedge     h          CDATA      #IMPLIED
396                  w          CDATA      #IMPLIED

```



```

447             size          NUMBER          #IMPLIED
448 >
449
450 <!-- Object flags -->
451 <!-- All flags attributes might assume values TRUE or FALSE.
452     mask - object pickable or not.
453     omit - object showable or not
454     nobound - object boundary visible or not
455     visible - visible or not -->
456
457 <!ELEMENT flags      - 0 EMPTY>
458 <!ATTLIST flags     mask          CDATA          #IMPLIED
459                      omit          CDATA          #IMPLIED
460                      nobound       CDATA          #IMPLIED
461                      nosizing      CDATA          #IMPLIED
462                      visible       CDATA          #IMPLIED
463 >
464
465 <!-- Place end of an arc.
466     idref is a reference to the id of the place to connect to.
467     endpoint is a reference to the object that the arc physically
468     connects to.
469     Since only one IDREF is recognised inside an ATTLIST, endpoint
470     is declared to be CDATA.
471 -->
472 <!ELEMENT placeend - 0 EMPTY>
473 <!ATTLIST placeend  idref          IDREF          #IMPLIED
474                      endpoint      CDATA          #IMPLIED
475 >
476
477 <!-- Transition end of an arc. Same reasoning as for the placeend -->
478 <!ELEMENT transend - 0 EMPTY>
479 <!ATTLIST transend  idref          IDREF          #IMPLIED
480                      endpoint      CDATA          #IMPLIED
481 >
482
483 <!-- First object connected by a connector -->
484 <!ELEMENT node1     - 0 EMPTY>
485 <!ATTLIST node1     idref          IDREF          #IMPLIED>
486
487 <!-- Second object connected by a connector -->
488 <!ELEMENT node2     - 0 EMPTY>
489 <!ATTLIST node2     idref          IDREF          #IMPLIED>
490
491 <!-- Attributes for a page -->
492 <!-- name - name of page.
493     number - the number of the page (this is NOT the id of the page)
494     visbor - borders visible (TRUE/FALSE)
495 -->
496 <!ELEMENT pageattr - 0 EMPTY>

```



```

547             interact      CDATA      #IMPLIED
548             execcode      CDATA      #IMPLIED
549 >
550
551 <!-- For substitution transitions -->
552 <!-- subpage - The ID of the corresponding subpage
553     portsock - List of port/socket assingments on the form:
554     "(port1ID, socket1ID)(port2ID, socket2ID)...(portNID,
555     socketID)"
556 -->
557 <!ELEMENT subst      - 0 EMPTY>
558 <!ATTLIST subst      subpage      IDREF      #IMPLIED
559     portsock      CDATA      #IMPLIED
560 >
561
562 <!-- Port type -->
563 <!ELEMENT port      - 0 EMPTY>
564 <!ATTLIST port      type          %prttyps;    #IMPLIED>
565
566 <!-- Superpage end of substitution connectors -->
567 <!ELEMENT sup-page - 0 EMPTY>
568 <!ATTLIST sup-page  idref          IDREF      #IMPLIED>
569
570 <!-- Subpage end of substitution connectors -->
571 <!ELEMENT sub-page - 0 EMPTY>
572 <!ATTLIST sub-page  idref          IDREF      #IMPLIED>
573
574 <!-- Multiplicity of page -->
575 <!-- insts - number of instances -->
576 <!ELEMENT mult      - 0 EMPTY>
577 <!ATTLIST mult      insts          NUMBER     #IMPLIED>
578
579 <!ELEMENT layering - 0 EMPTY>
580 <!ATTLIST layering  type          %laytyps;    #IMPLIED>
581 ]>

```