

Asynchronous Session-Based Concurrency: Deadlock-freedom in Cyclic Process Networks

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UNIFYING
C•RRECTNESS FOR
C•MMUNICATING
S•FTWARE

Context Motivation

Formal verification for message-passing concurrency.

- ▶ Static approach, based on **protocols** expressed as **session types**.
- ▶ An important but elusive problem: **deadlock-freedom**.
Ensuring that message-passing programs that never “get stuck”.
- ▶ Deadlocks are central to many concurrency bugs in practice.

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- ▶ Deadlocks are central to many concurrency bugs in practice.

Case in point: Leesatapornwongsa et al.’s taxonomy of concurrency bugs in cloud-scale distributed systems ([ASPLOS’16](#)).

- ▶ *Bugs linger in concurrent executions of multiple protocols.
Many background protocols beyond user-facing foreground protocols.*
- ▶ *Bugs triggered by an untimely message delivery that commits order violation or atomicity violation.*

Context

Plan for Today

Here: A process calculi approach to correct, deadlock-free programs.

- ▶ Define a core language with concurrency, with a simple typing discipline;
- ▶ Compile programs into process calculi specifications; use this abstract level to enforce deadlock-freedom using advanced types;
- ▶ Transfer deadlock-freedom guarantees, based on strong connections between the core language and its process interpretation.

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More concretely:

- ▶ LAST^n : A core language with functions and asynchronous concurrency
- ▶ The expressivity of LAST^n , by example
- ▶ A session type system for LAST^n (and its limitations)
- ▶ APCP: A typed calculus of concurrency with deadlock-freedom by typing
- ▶ Transference of deadlock-freedom from APCP to LAST^n

Context Origin of the results

- ▶ The PhD thesis of Bas van den Heuvel (currently a postdoc in Germany with Peter Thiemann and Martin Sulzmann).
- ▶ The thesis: “Correctly Communicating Software: Distributed, Asynchronous, and Beyond”. Available [online](#); to be publicly defended on April 2nd.
- ▶ Preliminary results on [ICE'21](#), [EXPRESS/SOS'22](#), and [SCP'22](#).



LASTⁿ Key Ideas

- ▶ A call-by-name variant of LAST (Linear Asynchronous Session Types) by Gay and Vasconcelos (JFP, 2010)
- ▶ Explicit substitutions neatly “delay” substitutions within a term (runtime syntax)
- ▶ Explicit closing of sessions with dedicated garbage collection of buffers
- ▶ Sequential terms can communicate when organized within configurations
- ▶ Types ensure protocol fidelity and communication safety but not deadlock-freedom

LASTⁿ Syntax

The syntax of terms (M, N) combines standard functional constructs (call-by-name) with primitives for communication and concurrency:

$M, N ::= x$	variable
$()$	unit value
$\lambda x.M$	abstraction
$M N$	application
(M, N)	construct pair
$\text{let } (x, y) = M \text{ in } N$	deconstruct pair
$M \{N/x\}$	explicit substitution

LASTⁿ Syntax

The syntax of terms (M, N) combines standard functional constructs (call-by-name) with primitives for communication and concurrency:

$M, N ::= x$	new	create new channel
$()$	$\text{spawn } M; N$	spawn M in parallel to N
$\lambda x.M$	$\text{send } M N$	send M along N
$M N$	$\text{recv } M$	receive along M
(M, N)	$\text{select } \ell M$	select label ℓ along M
$\text{let } (x, y) = M \text{ in } N$	$\text{case } M \text{ of } \{i : M\}_{i \in I}$	offer labels in I along M
$M \{N/x\}$	$\text{close } M; N$	close M

LASTⁿ Running Example: A Bookshop Scenario

A three-party protocol: a mother interacting with a bookshop to buy a book for her son.

- ▶ The shop receives a booktitle and then offers a choice between buying the book or freely accessing its blurb.
- ▶ If the client decides to buy, the shop receives credit card information and sends the book to the client. Otherwise, if the blurb is requested, the shop sends its text.
- ▶ Here the son delegates his session to her mother, who will complete the purchase from the shop.

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- ▶ Here the son delegates his session to her mother, who will complete the purchase from the shop.

We define two different sessions: one connects the son with the shop, another the mother with her son. Using a different term per participant, we have the configuration:

$$\text{Sys} \triangleq \blacklozenge \text{ let } (s, s') = \text{new in spawn Shop}_s; \\ \text{ let } (m, m') = \text{new in spawn Mother}_m; \\ \text{ Son}_{s', m'}$$

LASTⁿ Running Example: A Bookshop Scenario

The code for the son, which returns the result:

$$\text{Son}_{s',m'} \triangleq \text{let } s'_1 = \text{send "Dune"} s' \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \text{let } s'_2 = \text{select buy } s'_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \text{let } m'_1 = \text{send } s'_2 m' \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \text{let } (book, m'_2) = \text{recv } m'_1 \text{ in}$$
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$$\quad \quad \quad \text{let } (\text{book}, m'_2) = \text{recv } m'_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \quad \text{close } m'_2; \text{book}$$

The code for the mother:

$$\text{Mother}_m \triangleq \text{let } (x, m_1) = \text{recv } m \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \text{let } x_1 = \text{send visa } x \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \text{let } (\text{book}, x_2) = \text{recv } x_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \text{let } m_2 = \text{send book } m_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \quad \text{close } m_2; \text{close } x_2; ()$$

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The code for the shop:

$$\text{Shop}_s \triangleq \text{let } (title, s_1) = \text{recv } s \text{ in}$$
$$\text{case } s_1 \text{ of } \{\text{buy} : \lambda s_2. \text{let } (card, s_3) = \text{recv } s_2 \text{ in}$$
$$\text{let } s_4 = \text{send book}(title) s_3 \text{ in}$$
$$\text{close } s_4; (),$$
$$\text{blurb} : \lambda s_2. \text{let } s_3 = \text{send blurb}(title) s_2 \text{ in}$$
$$\text{close } s_3; ()\}$$

Again, the code for the son:

$$\text{Son}_{s',m'} \triangleq \text{let } s'_1 = \text{send "Dune"} s' \text{ in}$$
$$\text{let } s'_2 = \text{select buy } s'_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\text{let } m'_1 = \text{send } s'_2 m' \text{ in}$$
$$\text{let } (book, m'_2) = \text{recv } m'_1 \text{ in}$$
$$\text{close } m'_2; book$$

How to give semantics to our language? Our design is in two levels:

- ▶ Term reduction, noted \longrightarrow_M , handles functional operations.
- ▶ Communicating terms are organized in configurations, equipped with a dedicated reduction relation, noted \longrightarrow_C .
- ▶ Hence, parallel threads and asynchronous (i.e., buffered) communication are handled at the level of configurations.

LASTⁿ Semantics

- ▶ We define configurations (C, D, E) building upon terms, using markers (ϕ) and messages (m, n) :

$$\phi ::= \blacklozenge \mid \diamond$$

$$m, n ::= M \mid \ell$$

$$C, D, E ::= \phi M \mid C \parallel D \mid (\nu x[\vec{m}]y)C \mid C\{M/x\}$$

- ▶ Reduction uses contexts for terms (\mathcal{R}) , threads (\mathcal{F}) , and configurations (\mathcal{G}) :

$$\mathcal{R} ::= [\cdot] \mid \mathcal{R} M \mid \text{send } M \mathcal{R} \mid \text{recv } \mathcal{R} \mid \text{let } (x, y) = \mathcal{R} \text{ in } M$$

$$\mid \text{select } \ell \mathcal{R} \mid \text{case } \mathcal{R} \text{ of } \{i : M\}_{i \in I} \mid \text{close } \mathcal{R}; M \mid \mathcal{R}\{M/x\}$$

$$\mathcal{F} ::= \phi \mathcal{R}$$

$$\mathcal{G} ::= [\cdot] \mid \mathcal{G} \parallel C \mid (\nu x[\vec{m}]y)\mathcal{G} \mid \mathcal{G}\{M/x\}$$

LASTⁿ Semantics

Rules for term reduction ($\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}}$) and structural congruence for terms ($\equiv_{\mathbf{M}}$):

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[RED-LAM]} \\ \hline (\lambda x.M) N \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} M \{N/x\} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{[RED-PAIR]} \\ \hline \text{let } (x, y) = (M_1, M_2) \text{ in } N \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} N \{M_1/x, M_2/y\} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[RED-NAME-SUB]} \\ \hline x \{M/x\} \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} M \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{[RED-LIFT]} \\ \hline \frac{M \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} N}{\mathcal{R}[M] \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \mathcal{R}[N]} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{[SC-SUB-EXT]} \\ \hline \frac{x \notin \text{fv}(\mathcal{R})}{(\mathcal{R}[M]) \{N/x\} \equiv_{\mathbf{M}} \mathcal{R}[M \{N/x\}]} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[RED-LIFT-SC]} \\ \hline \frac{M \equiv_{\mathbf{M}} M' \quad M' \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} N' \quad N' \equiv_{\mathbf{M}} N}{M \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} N} \end{array}$$

LASTⁿ Semantics

Some rules for configuration reduction (\longrightarrow_c) use special thread contexts, denoted $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$, which do not affect variables bound by explicit substitutions:

$$\frac{[\text{RED-NEW}]}{\mathcal{F}[\text{new}] \longrightarrow_c (\nu x[\varepsilon]y)(\mathcal{F}[(x, y)])}$$

$$\frac{[\text{RED-SEND}]}{(\nu x[\vec{m}]y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[\text{send } M x] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_c (\nu x[M, \vec{m}]y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[x] \parallel C)}$$

$$\frac{[\text{RED-RECV}]}{(\nu x[\vec{m}, M]y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[\text{recv } y] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_c (\nu x[\vec{m}]y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[(M, y)] \parallel C)}$$

Additional rules for configuration reduction (\longrightarrow_c):

$$\frac{[\text{RED-SELECT}]}{(\nu x[\vec{m}])y(\mathcal{F}[\text{select } \ell x] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_c (\nu x[\ell, \vec{m}])y(\mathcal{F}[x] \parallel C)}$$

$$\frac{[\text{RED-CASE}] \quad j \in I}{(\nu x[\vec{m}, j])y(\mathcal{F}[\text{case } y \text{ of } \{i : M_i\}_{i \in I}] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_c (\nu x[\vec{m}])y(\mathcal{F}[M_j y] \parallel C)}$$

Rules for configuration reduction (\longrightarrow_c) that enforce garbage-collection of closed sessions:

$$\frac{[\text{RED-CLOSE}]}{(\nu x[\vec{m}]y)(\mathcal{F}[\text{close } x; M] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_c (\nu \square[\vec{m}]y)(\mathcal{F}[M] \parallel C)}$$

$$\frac{[\text{RED-RES-NIL}]}{(\nu \square[\epsilon]\square)C \longrightarrow_c C}$$

$$\frac{[\text{RED-PAR-NIL}]}{C \parallel \diamond () \longrightarrow_c C}$$

Additional rules for configuration reduction ($\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}}$):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{[RED-SPAWN]} \\
 \hline
 \hat{\mathcal{F}}[\text{spawn } M; N] \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \hat{\mathcal{F}}[N] \parallel \diamond M
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{[RED-LIFT-C]} \\
 \hline
 \frac{C \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} C'}{\mathcal{G}[C] \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \mathcal{G}[C']}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{[RED-LIFT-M]} \\
 \hline
 \frac{M \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} M'}{\mathcal{F}[M] \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \mathcal{F}[M']}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{[RED-CONF-LIFT-SC]} \\
 \hline
 \frac{C \equiv_{\mathbf{C}} C' \quad C' \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} D' \quad D' \equiv_{\mathbf{C}} D}{C \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} D}
 \end{array}$$

LASTⁿ A Simple Example

$$\begin{aligned}(\lambda x.x (\lambda y.y)) ((\lambda w.w) (\lambda z.z)) &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} (x (\lambda y.y)) \{((\lambda w.w) (\lambda z.z))/x\} \\ &\equiv_{\mathbf{M}} (x \{((\lambda w.w) (\lambda z.z))/x\}) (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} ((\lambda w.w) (\lambda z.z)) (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} (w \{(\lambda z.z)/w\}) (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} (\lambda z.z) (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} z \{(\lambda y.y)/z\} \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \lambda y.y\end{aligned}$$

Observe how β -reduction induces explicit substitutions, which are “pushed inside” reduction contexts.

LASTⁿ The Bookshop Scenario, Revisited

The entire system:

$$\text{Sys} \triangleq \blacklozenge \text{let } (s, s') = \text{new in spawn Shop}_s;$$
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The code for the shop:

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$$\quad \quad \text{close } s_4; (),$$
$$\quad \text{blurb} : \lambda s_2. \text{let } s_3 = \text{send blurb}(title) s_2 \text{ in}$$
$$\quad \quad \text{close } s_3; ()\}$$

Sys = \blacklozenge let $(s, s') = \text{new in} \dots$

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') \blacklozenge$ let $(s, s') = (y, y')$ in \dots

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') \blacklozenge$ spawn Shop_s; \dots $\{\{y/s, y'/s'\}\}$

$\equiv_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\blacklozenge \text{ spawn Shop}_s; \dots) \{\{y/s, y'/s'\}\})$

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\blacklozenge \text{ let } (m, m') = \text{new in} \dots \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Shop}_s) \{\{y/s, y'/s'\}\})$

$\equiv_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\blacklozenge \text{ let } (m, m') = \text{new in} \dots \parallel$

$\blacklozenge \text{ let } (title, s_1) = \text{recv } (s \{\{y/s\}\}) \text{ in} \dots) \{\{y'/s'\}\})$

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\blacklozenge \text{ let } (m, m') = \text{new in} \dots \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ let } (title, s_1) = \text{recv } y \text{ in} \dots) \{\{y'/s'\}\})$

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}^2$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\nu z[\varepsilon]z') (\blacklozenge \text{ spawn Mother}_m; \text{Son}_{s', m'}) \{\{z/m, z'/m', y'/s'\}\} \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Shop}_y)$

$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\nu z[\varepsilon]z') (\blacklozenge \text{ Son}_{s', m'} \{\{z'/m', y'/s'\}\} \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Mother}_m \{\{z/m\}\}) \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Shop}_y)$

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$\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}$ $(\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\nu z[\varepsilon]z') (\blacklozenge \text{ Son}_{s', m'} \{\{z'/m', y'/s'\}\} \parallel$

$\blacklozenge \text{ let } (x, m_1) = \text{recv } z \text{ in} \dots) \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Shop}_y)$

$= (\nu y[\varepsilon]y') ((\nu z[\varepsilon]z') (\blacklozenge \text{ Son}_{s', m'} \{\{z'/m', y'/s'\}\} \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Mother}_z) \parallel \blacklozenge \text{ Shop}_y) =: \text{Sys}^1$

LASTⁿ Type System

Types include functional types (T, U) and session types for communication (S):

$T, U ::= T \times U$	pair	$S ::= !T.S$	send
$T \multimap U$	function	$?T.S$	receive
$\mathbf{1}$	unit	$\oplus\{i : T\}_{i \in I}$	select
S	session	$\&\{i : T\}_{i \in I}$	branch
		end	

Aligned with our semantics, we use ' \square ' to denote the session type for endpoints that have been already closed.

LASTⁿ Type System

Given a session type S , its dual type \bar{S} characterizes compatible behaviors.
In defining duality, only the continuations of send and receive types are dualized.

$$\begin{array}{l} \overline{!T.S} = ?T.\bar{S} \qquad \overline{?T.S} = !T.\bar{S} \\ \overline{\oplus\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}} = \&\{i : \bar{S}_i\}_{i \in I} \qquad \overline{\&\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}} = \oplus\{i : \bar{S}_i\}_{i \in I} \qquad \overline{\text{end}} = \text{end} \end{array}$$

LASTⁿ Typing Judgments

The type system has three layers: typing for terms, for buffers, and for configurations.

- ▶ Judgments for terms:

$$\Gamma \vdash_M M : T$$

where the typing context Γ is a list of variable-type assignments $x : T$.

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- ▶ Judgments for configurations:

$$\Gamma \vdash_C^\phi C : T$$

where ϕ says whether C contains the main thread ($\phi = \blacklozenge$) or child threads ($\phi = \blacklozenge$).

LASTⁿ Typing Rules (1/4)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-VAR]} \\ \hline x : T \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} x : T \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-ABS]} \\ \hline \Gamma, x : T \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : U \\ \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \lambda x.M : T \multimap U \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-APP]} \\ \hline \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T \multimap U \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : T \\ \Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M N : U \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-PAIR]} \\ \hline \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : U \\ \Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} (M, N) : T \times U \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-SPLIT]} \\ \hline \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T \times T' \quad \Delta, x : T, y : T' \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : U \\ \Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{let } (x, y) = M \text{ in } N : U \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-UNIT]} \\ \hline \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} () : \mathbf{1} \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{[TYP-SUB]} \\ \hline \Gamma, x : T \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : U \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : T \\ \Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M \{N/x\} : U \end{array}$$

[TYP-NEW]

$$\frac{}{\emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{new} : S \times \bar{S}}$$

[TYP-SEND]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : !T.S}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{send } M N : S}$$

[TYP-SEL]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \oplus\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I} \quad j \in I}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{select } j M : S_j}$$

[TYP-RECV]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : ?T.S}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{recv } M : T \times S}$$

[TYP-CASE]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \&\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I} \quad \forall i \in I. \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N_i : S_i \multimap U}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{case } M \text{ of } \{i : N_i\}_{i \in I} : U}$$

LASTⁿ Typing Rules (3/4)

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-CLOSE}] \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \text{end} \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{close } M; N : T}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-SPAWN}] \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \mathbf{1} \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} N : T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} \text{spawn } M; N : T}$$

We need rules for buffers and “half-closed” sessions:

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF}] \quad}{\emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\epsilon] : S' > S'}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF-SEND}] \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\vec{m}] : S' > S}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\vec{m}, M] : S' > !T.S}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF-SEL}] \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\vec{m}] : S' > S_j \quad j \in I}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\vec{m}, j] : S' > \oplus\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF-END-L}] \quad}{\emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\epsilon] : \text{end} > \square}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF-END-R}] \quad}{\emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\epsilon] : \square > \text{end}}$$

LASTⁿ Typing Rules (4/4)

Below, \hat{T} denotes a non-session type:

[TYP-MAIN]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \hat{T}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{C}} \blacklozenge M : \hat{T}}$$

[TYP-PAR]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi_1} C : T_1 \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi_2} D : T_2}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi_1 + \phi_2} C \parallel D : T_1 + T_2}$$

[TYP-CHILD]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : \mathbf{1}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{C}} \blacklozenge M : \mathbf{1}}$$

[TYP-RES]

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} [\vec{m}] : S' > S \quad \Delta, x : S' \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi} C : T \quad \Gamma', y : \bar{S} = \Gamma, \Delta}{\Gamma' \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi} (\nu x[\vec{m}]y)C : T}$$

[TYP-CONF-SUB]

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : T \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi} C : U \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{M}} M : T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathbf{C}}^{\phi} C\{M/x\} : U}$$

LASTⁿ The Booking Scenario

Consider the system where all session interactions have taken place, and all three threads are ready to close their sessions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sys} &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}}^* (\nu y[\varepsilon]y')((\nu z'[\varepsilon]z)(\blacklozenge \text{close } z'; \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } z; \text{close } y') \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y[\varepsilon]y')((\nu \square[\varepsilon]z)\blacklozenge \text{close } z; \text{close } y' \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\equiv_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y[\varepsilon]y')((\nu z[\varepsilon]\square)\blacklozenge \text{close } z; \text{close } y' \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y[\varepsilon]y')((\nu \square[\varepsilon]\square)\blacklozenge \text{close } y' \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y[\varepsilon]y')(\blacklozenge \text{close } y' \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\equiv_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y'[\varepsilon]y)(\blacklozenge \text{close } y' \parallel \blacklozenge \text{close } y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel \blacklozenge () \parallel (\nu \square[\varepsilon]y)\blacklozenge \text{close } y \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu \square[\varepsilon]y)\blacklozenge \text{close } y \\ &\equiv_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu y[\varepsilon]\square)\blacklozenge \text{close } y \tag{*} \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel (\nu \square[\varepsilon]\square)\blacklozenge () \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \parallel \blacklozenge () \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{c}} \blacklozenge \text{book}(\text{"Dune"}) \end{aligned}$$

LASTⁿ Guarantees Derived From Typing

Theorem (Type Preservation for LASTⁿ)

Given $\Gamma \vdash_c^\phi C : T$, if $C \equiv_c D$ or $C \longrightarrow_c D$, then $\Gamma \vdash_c^\phi D : T$.

This theorem entails protocol fidelity and communication safety, but not deadlock-freedom.

LASTⁿ Typing Does Not Exclude Deadlocks

- ▶ Consider the term:

$$M_{a,b} := \text{let } a_1 = \text{send } () \text{ in} \\ \text{let } (v, b_1) = \text{recv } b \text{ in} \\ \text{close } a_1; \text{close } b_1; v$$

- ▶ $M_{a,b}$ sends on a , receives on b , and then closes both sessions.

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- ▶ $M_{a,b}$ sends on a , receives on b , and then closes both sessions. Now consider C :

$$C := \blacklozenge \text{let } (x, x') = \text{new in} \\ \text{let } (y, y') = \text{new in} \\ \text{spawn } M_{x,y}; M_{y',x'}$$

- ▶ Intuitively, we would like the two threads to communicate. However, they get stuck:

$$M_{x,y} \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \left(\text{let } (v, y_1) = \text{recv } y \text{ in } \dots \right) \{\{\text{send } () x/x_1\}\} =: M'_{x,y} \not\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \\ M_{y',x'} \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \left(\text{let } (v', x'_1) = \text{recv } x' \text{ in } \dots \right) \{\{\text{send } () y'/y'_1\}\} =: M'_{y',x'} \not\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{M}} \\ C \longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}}^9 (\nu s[\varepsilon]s')(\nu t[\varepsilon]t')(\blacklozenge M'_{x,t} \{\{s/x\}\} \parallel \blacklozenge M'_{y',s'} \{\{t'/y'\}\}) \not\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}}$$

LASTⁿ Typing Does Not Exclude Deadlocks

Clearly, there are deadlock-free alternatives to $M_{a,b}$. For instance:

$$N_{a,b} := \text{let } a_1 = \text{send } () a \text{ in} \\ \quad \text{close } a_1; \\ \quad \quad \text{let } (v, b_1) = \text{recv } b \text{ in} \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{close } b_1; v$$

We would like a general technique that excludes deadlocked configurations such as C . We could either

1. Strengthen the type system of LASTⁿ so as to exclude deadlocks
2. Transfer the deadlock-freedom guarantee from an external type system

APCP Asynchronous Priority-based Classical Processes

- ▶ In prior work, we developed APCP: a session type system for π -calculus processes.
- ▶ Key features: *cyclic process networks*, *asynchronous communication*, and *recursion*.
- ▶ Extends the Curry-Howard correspondences between linear logic and session types.
- ▶ Priorities on types are used to rule out **circular dependencies** in processes (Kobayashi, 2006; Padovani, 2014; Dardha and Gay, 2018).
- ▶ Key properties: *session fidelity*, *communication safety*, and *deadlock-freedom*.
- ▶ APCP is expressive enough for a decentralized analysis of Multiparty Session Types (cf. our journal paper at [SCP'22](#)).

APCP Syntax

Process syntax:

$P, Q ::= x[a, b]$	send	$x(y, z); P$	receive
$x[b] \triangleleft \ell$	selection	$x(z) \triangleright \{i : P\}_{i \in I}$	branch
$(\nu xy)P$	restriction	$P \mid Q$	parallel
$\mathbf{0}$	inaction	$[x \leftrightarrow y]$	forwarder
$\mu X(\tilde{z}); P$	recursive definition	$X\langle \tilde{z} \rangle$	recursive call

Derivable constructs We use the following syntactic sugar:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}[y] \cdot P &:= (\nu ya)(\nu zb)(x[a, b] \mid P\{z/x\}) & \bar{x} \triangleleft \ell \cdot P &:= (\nu zb)(x[b] \triangleleft \ell \mid P\{z/x\}) \\ x(y); P &:= x(y, z); P\{z/x\} & x \triangleright \{i : P_i\}_{i \in I} &:= x(z) \triangleright \{i : P_i\{z/x\}\}_{i \in I} \end{aligned}$$

[RED-SEND-RECV]

$$\frac{}{(\nu xy)(x[a, b] \mid y(z, y'); Q) \longrightarrow Q\{a/z, b/y'\}}$$

[RED-SEL-BRA]

$$\frac{j \in I}{(\nu xy)(x[b] \triangleleft j \mid y(y') \triangleright \{i : Q_i\}_{i \in I}) \longrightarrow Q_j\{b/y'\}}$$

[RED-FWD]

$$\frac{y \neq z}{(\nu xy)([x \leftrightarrow z] \mid P) \longrightarrow P\{z/y\}}$$

[RED-CONG]

$$\frac{P \equiv P' \quad P' \longrightarrow Q' \quad Q' \equiv Q}{P \longrightarrow Q}$$

[RED-RES]

$$\frac{P \longrightarrow Q}{(\nu xy)P \longrightarrow (\nu xy)Q}$$

[RED-PAR]

$$\frac{P \longrightarrow Q}{P \mid R \longrightarrow Q \mid R}$$

APCP Reduction Semantics

Consider process P :

$$P \triangleq (\nu zu) \left((\nu xy) \left((\nu ax') (x[v_1, a] \mid x'[v_2, b]) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \mid (\nu cz') (z[v_3, c] \mid y(w_1, y'); y'(w_2, y''); Q) \right) \right. \\ \left. \mid u(w_3, u'); R \right)$$

Or, using the sugared syntax:

$$P = (\nu zu) \left((\nu xy) (\bar{x}[v_1] \cdot \bar{x}[v_2] \cdot \mathbf{0} \mid \bar{z}[v_3] \cdot y(w_1); y(w_2); Q') \mid u(w_3); R' \right)$$

where $Q' \triangleq Q\{y/y''\}$ and $R' \triangleq R\{u/u'\}$.

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where $Q' \triangleq Q\{y/y''\}$ and $R' \triangleq R\{u/u'\}$.

We have:

$$P \longrightarrow (\nu zu) \left((\nu xy) (\bar{x}[v_2] \cdot \mathbf{0} \mid \bar{z}[v_3] \cdot y(w_2); Q'\{v_1/w_1\}) \mid u(w_3); R' \right)$$

$$P \longrightarrow (\nu xy) (\bar{x}[v_1] \cdot \bar{x}[v_2] \cdot \mathbf{0} \mid y(w_1); y(w_2); Q') \mid R'\{v_3/w_3\}$$

Note: There is no reduction involving from P the send on x' , since x' is connected to the continuation name of the send on x and is thus not (yet) paired with a dual receive.

APCP Type System

APCP types processes by assigning binary session types to names.

- ▶ We write \circ, π, ρ, \dots to denote priorities.
- ▶ Also, we use ω to denote the ultimate priority that is greater than all other priorities and cannot be increased further. That is, $\forall \circ \in \mathbb{N}. \omega > \circ$ and $\forall \circ \in \mathbb{N}. \omega + \circ = \omega$.
- ▶ Session types (linear logic propositions) include priorities:

$$A, B ::= A \otimes^\circ B \mid A \wp^\circ B \mid \oplus^\circ \{i : A\}_{i \in I} \mid \&^\circ \{i : A\}_{i \in I} \mid \bullet \mid \mu X.A \mid X$$

where \bullet denotes the self-dual type for ‘end’.

- ▶ The *dual* of session type A , denoted \overline{A} , is defined inductively as follows:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \overline{A \otimes^\circ B} \triangleq \overline{A} \wp^\circ \overline{B} & \overline{\oplus^\circ \{i : A_i\}_{i \in I}} \triangleq \&^\circ \{i : \overline{A_i}\}_{i \in I} & \overline{\bullet} \triangleq \bullet & \overline{\mu X.A} \triangleq \mu X.\overline{A} \\ \overline{A \wp^\circ B} \triangleq \overline{A} \otimes^\circ \overline{B} & \overline{\&^\circ \{i : A_i\}_{i \in I}} \triangleq \oplus^\circ \{i : \overline{A_i}\}_{i \in I} & & \overline{X} \triangleq X \end{array}$$

APCP Type System

The typing rules ensure that prefixes with lower priority are not blocked by prefixes with higher priority.

Essential laws:

1. Sends and selections with priority \circ must have continuations/payloads with priority strictly larger than \circ ;
2. A prefix with priority \circ must be prefixed only by receives and branches with priority strictly smaller than \circ ;
3. Dual prefixes leading to a synchronization must have equal priorities.

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3. Dual prefixes leading to a synchronization must have equal priorities.

Judgments are of the form $\Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma$, where:

- ▶ P is a process;
- ▶ Γ is a context that assigns types to channels ($x : A$);
- ▶ Ω is a context that assigns tuples of types to recursion variables ($X : (A, B, \dots)$).

APCP Typing Rules (Selected)

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-SEND}] \quad \circ < \text{pr}(A), \text{pr}(B)}{\Omega \vdash x[y, z] :: x : A \otimes^\circ B, y : \bar{A}, z : \bar{B}}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-RECV}] \quad \Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, y : A, z : B \quad \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{\Omega \vdash x(y, z); P :: \Gamma, x : A \wp^\circ B}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-END}] \quad \Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma}{\Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, x : \bullet}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-PAR}] \quad \Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma \quad \Omega \vdash Q :: \Delta}{\Omega \vdash P \mid Q :: \Gamma, \Delta}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-RES}] \quad \Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, x : A, y : \bar{A}}{\Omega \vdash (\nu xy)P :: \Gamma}$$

$$\frac{[\text{TYP-SEND}\star] \quad \Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, y : A, x : B \quad \circ < \text{pr}(A), \text{pr}(B)}{\Omega \vdash \bar{x}[y] \cdot P :: \Gamma, x : A \otimes^\circ B}$$

APCP Typing by Example

We give the typing of the two consecutive sends on x (omitting the context Ω):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\circ < \text{pr}(A_1), \pi}{\vdash x[v_1, a] :: x : A_1 \otimes^\circ A_2 \otimes^\pi B,} \text{ [TYP-SEND]} \quad \frac{\pi < \text{pr}(A_2), \text{pr}(B)}{\vdash x'[v_2, b] :: x' : A_2 \otimes^\pi B,} \text{ [TYP-SEND]} \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash x[v_1, a] \mid x'[v_2, b] :: v_1 : \overline{A_1}, a : \overline{A_2} \otimes^\pi \overline{B},} \text{ [TYP-PAR]} \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash (\nu ax')(x[v_1, a] \mid x'[v_2, b]) :: v_1 : \overline{A_1}, v_2 : \overline{A_2}, b : \overline{B}, x : A_1 \otimes^\circ A_2 \otimes^\pi B,} \text{ [TYP-RES]} \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash (\nu ax')(x[v_1, a] \mid x'[v_2, b]) :: v_1 : \overline{A_1}, v_2 : \overline{A_2}, b : \overline{B}, x : A_1 \otimes^\circ A_2 \otimes^\pi B}
 \end{array}$$

APCP Typing by Example

Let us type the consecutive inputs on y , i.e., the subprocess $y(w_1, y'); y'(w_2, y''); Q$.
Because x and y are dual names in P , the type of y should be dual to the type of x :

$$\frac{\frac{\vdash Q :: \Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1}, w_2 : \overline{A_2}, y'' : \overline{B} \quad \pi < \text{pr}(\Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1})}{\vdash y'(w_2, y''); Q :: \Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1}, y' : \overline{A_2} \wp^\pi \overline{B}} \text{[TYP-RECV]}}{\vdash y(w_1, y'); y'(w_2, y''); Q :: \Gamma, y : \overline{A_1} \wp^\circ \overline{A_2} \wp^\pi \overline{B}} \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma) \text{[TYP-RECV]}$$

These two derivations tell us that

$$\circ < \pi < \text{pr}(A_1), \text{pr}(A_2), \text{pr}(B), \text{pr}(\Gamma)$$

APCP Properties Derived From Typing

In APCP, type preservation corresponds to the elimination of (top-level) applications of Rule [TYPE-RES].

Theorem (Subject Reduction, Simplified)

If $\Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma$ and $P \longrightarrow Q$, then there exists Γ' such that $\Omega \vdash Q :: \Gamma'$.

APCP Properties Derived From Typing

- ▶ We say a process is **deadlocked** if it is not the inactive process and cannot reduce.
- ▶ Following Dardha and Gay, we target the elimination of [TYPE-RES].
- ▶ In APCP, Rule [TYPE-RES] is key in our sugared notation to bind asynchronous sends/selections and their continuations.
These occurrences of [TYPE-RES] cannot be eliminated via reduction.

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These occurrences of [TYPE-RES] cannot be eliminated via reduction.

To formulate deadlock-freedom, we use two auxiliary notions:

- ▶ The **active names** of P , denoted $\text{an}(P)$:
the set of (free) names that are used for non-blocked communications (send, receive, selection, branch)
- ▶ **Evaluation contexts**, denoted \mathcal{E} .

APCP Properties Derived From Typing

Definition (Live Process)

A process P is *live*, denoted $\text{live}(P)$, if

1. there are names x, y and process P' such that $P \equiv (\nu xy)P'$ with $x, y \in \text{an}(P')$, or
2. there are names x, y, z and process P' such that $P \equiv \mathcal{E}[(\nu yz)([x \leftrightarrow y] \mid P')]$ and $z \neq x$ (i.e., the forwarder is independent).

Lemma

If $\emptyset \vdash P :: \emptyset$ and P is not live, then P must be $\mathbf{0}$.

Theorem (Progress)

If $\emptyset \vdash P :: \Gamma$ and $\text{live}(P)$, then there is a process Q such that $P \longrightarrow Q$.

Theorem (Deadlock-freedom)

If $\emptyset \vdash P :: \emptyset$, then either $P \equiv \mathbf{0}$ or $P \longrightarrow Q$ for some Q .

Translating $LAST^n$ into APCP

Key Ideas

To translate $LAST^n$ into APCP, we follow Milner's translation of the lazy λ -calculus.

- ▶ In $LAST^n$, variables are (i) placeholders for future substitutions and (ii) access points to buffered channels.
- ▶ Accordingly, we translate variables as APCP endpoints that (i) enable the translation of explicit substitutions and (ii) enable interaction with the translation of buffers

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Given a configuration C , we define an APCP process $\llbracket C \rrbracket z$, where z is a fresh name. We also define translations of types and buffers.

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Given a configuration C , we define an APCP process $\llbracket C \rrbracket z$, where z is a fresh name. We also define translations of types and buffers.

We establish correctness for our translation following Gorla's correctness criteria:

Completeness Given $\Gamma \vdash_c^\phi C : T$, if $C \longrightarrow_c D$, then $\llbracket C \rrbracket z \longrightarrow^* \llbracket D \rrbracket z$.

Soundness Given $\Gamma \vdash_c^\phi C : T$, if $\llbracket C \rrbracket z \longrightarrow^* Q$, then there exists D such that $C \longrightarrow_c^* D$ and $Q \longrightarrow^* \llbracket D \rrbracket z$.

Soundness is critical to transfer deadlock-freedom from APCP to LAST^n

Translating $LAST^n$ into APCP Translating Types

Our typed translation takes a typed term $\Gamma \vdash_M M : T$ and returns a typed process

$$\vdash^* \llbracket M \rrbracket z :: (\Gamma), z : \llbracket T \rrbracket.$$

where \vdash^* indicates typability in APCP ignoring priorities and priority checks.

Translation of types:

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket T \rrbracket &\triangleq \bullet \otimes \overline{\llbracket T \rrbracket} \quad (\text{if } T \neq \square) \\ \llbracket T \times U \rrbracket &\triangleq \overline{\llbracket T \rrbracket} \otimes \overline{\llbracket U \rrbracket} & \llbracket T \multimap U \rrbracket &\triangleq \llbracket T \rrbracket \wp \llbracket U \rrbracket & \llbracket \mathbf{1} \rrbracket &\triangleq \bullet \\ \llbracket !T.S \rrbracket &\triangleq \bullet \otimes \llbracket T \rrbracket \wp \overline{\llbracket S \rrbracket} & \llbracket \oplus\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I} \rrbracket &\triangleq \bullet \otimes \&\{i : \overline{\llbracket S_i \rrbracket}\}_{i \in I} & \llbracket \text{end} \rrbracket &\triangleq \bullet \otimes \bullet \\ \llbracket ?T.S \rrbracket &\triangleq \overline{\llbracket T \rrbracket} \otimes \overline{\llbracket S \rrbracket} & \llbracket \&\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I} \rrbracket &\triangleq \oplus\{i : \overline{\llbracket S_i \rrbracket}\}_{i \in I} & \llbracket \square \rrbracket &\triangleq \langle \square \rangle \triangleq \bullet \end{aligned}$$

Intuitively, session types such as ‘ $\bullet \otimes \dots$ ’ codify the enabling of an interaction (with an explicit substitution or with a buffer). A kind of “announcement” for interacting parties.

Translating LAST^n into APCP

Translating Terms (Selection)

Below, we write ‘ $_$ ’ to denote a fresh name of type \bullet ; when sending names denoted ‘ $_$ ’, we omit binders ‘ $(\nu _)$ ’.

[TYP-VAR]	$\llbracket x \rrbracket z \triangleq x[_ , z]$	
[TYP-ABS]	$\llbracket \lambda x.M \rrbracket z \triangleq z(x, a); \llbracket M \rrbracket a$	receive x , then run body
[TYP-APP]	$\llbracket M N \rrbracket z \triangleq (\nu ab)(\nu cd)(\llbracket M \rrbracket a$ $\quad b[c, z]$ $\quad d(_, e); \llbracket N \rrbracket e)$	run abstraction trigger function body parameter as future substitution
[TYP-SUB]	$\llbracket M \{ N/x \} \rrbracket z \triangleq (\nu xa)(\llbracket M \rrbracket z$ $\quad a(_, b); \llbracket N \rrbracket b)$	run body block until body is variable

- ▶ Well-typed APCP processes that are typable under empty contexts ($\vdash P :: \emptyset$) are deadlock-free.
- ▶ We transfer this result to LAST^n configurations by appealing to the **operational correctness** of our translation (completeness and soundness properties).

Each deadlock-free configuration in LAST^n thus obtained satisfies two requirements:

- ▶ The configuration is typable $\emptyset \vdash_{\diamond}^c C : \mathbf{1}$, i.e., it needs no external resources and has no external behavior.
- ▶ The typed translation of the configuration satisfies priority requirements in APCP.

Theorem (Deadlock-freedom for LAST^n)

Given $\emptyset \vdash_{\diamond}^c C : \mathbf{1}$, if $\vdash \llbracket C \rrbracket z :: \Gamma$ for some Γ , then $C \equiv \diamond ()$ or $C \longrightarrow_c D$ for some D .

Conclusion

Summary:

- ▶ Two different formal systems (LAST^n and APCP) that express asynchronous message-passing concurrency
- ▶ They are defined at different levels of abstraction, and are connected via a correct translation
- ▶ The design of LAST^n builds upon the best features of APCP
- ▶ Transference of deadlock-freedom allows us to exploit already developed machinery (for APCP) and also keep the formulation of LAST^n within "familiar territory"

Future work:

- ▶ Recursive types in LAST^n
- ▶ Behavioral theory for LAST^n (by leveraging APCP)

Asynchronous Session-Based Concurrency: Deadlock-freedom in Cyclic Process Networks

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UNIFYING
C•RRECTNESS FOR
C•MMUNICATING
S•FTWARE