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

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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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- Transfer deadlock-freedom guarantees, based on strong connections between the core language and its process interpretation.

More concretely:

- ► LAST^{*n*}: A core language with functions and asynchronous concurrency
- ▶ The expressivity of LAST^{*n*}, by example
- ► A session type system for LASTⁿ (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.



- 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

$LAST^n$ Svntax

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

variable M, N ::= x $\begin{array}{c} .= \\ & () \\ & \lambda x.M \\ & M N \\ & (M,N) \\ & \text{let}(x,y) = M \text{ in } N \\ & \text{deconstruct pan} \\ & M\{[N/x]\} \\ \end{array}$

$LAST^n$ 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
	$\mathtt{spawn}M;N$	spawn M in parallel to N
$\lambda x.M$	$\verb+sendMN$	send M along N
M N	$\verb"recv"M$	receive along M
(M,N)	$\texttt{select}\ellM$	select label ℓ along M
${\rm let}(x,y)=M{\rm in}N$	case M of $\{i:M\}_{i\in I}$	offer labels in I along M
$M\left\{ \left\lfloor N/x ight brace ight\}$	$\verb closeM;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:

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

$LAST^n$ Running Example: A Bookshop Scenario

The code for the son, which returns the result:

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Son}_{s',m'} \triangleq \mathsf{let}\, s_1' = \mathsf{send} \; ``\mathsf{Dune''}\; s' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, s_2' = \mathsf{select}\, \mathsf{buy}\, s_1' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, m_1' = \mathsf{send}\, s_2' \, m' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, (\mathsf{book}, m_2') = \mathsf{recv}\, m_1' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{close}\, m_2'; \, \mathsf{book} \end{array}$$

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The code for the mother:

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

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The code for the shop:

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Again, the code for the son:

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Son}_{s',m'} \triangleq \mathsf{let}\, s_1' = \mathsf{send} \ ``\mathsf{Dune''} \ s' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, s_2' = \mathsf{select}\, \mathsf{buy}\, s_1' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, m_1' = \mathsf{send}\, s_2' \, m' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{let}\, (\mathit{book}, m_2') = \mathsf{recv}\, m_1' \, \mathsf{in} \\ \mathsf{close}\, m_2'; \, \mathit{book} \end{array}$$

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

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

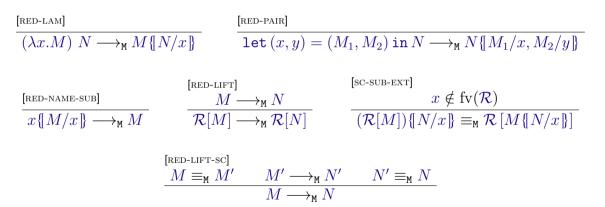
- ▶ Term reduction, noted \longrightarrow_{M} , handles functional operations.
- ► Communicating terms are organized in configurations, equipped with a dedicated reduction relation, noted →_c.
- Hence, parallel threads and asynchronous (i.e., buffered) communication are handled at the level of configurations.

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

 $\phi ::= \blacklozenge | \diamond$ $m, n ::= M | \ell$ $C, D, E ::= \phi M | C || D | (\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m}\rangle y)C | C\{[M/x]\}$

- Reduction uses contexts for terms (\mathcal{R}) , threads (\mathcal{F}) , and configurations (\mathcal{G}) :
 - $$\begin{split} \mathcal{R} &::= \left[\cdot \right] \left| \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{R} \ M \end{array} \right| \operatorname{send} M \mathcal{R} \left| \operatorname{recv} \mathcal{R} \right| \operatorname{let} (x, y) = \mathcal{R} \operatorname{in} M \\ \left| \begin{array}{c} \operatorname{select} \ell \mathcal{R} \end{array} \right| \operatorname{case} \mathcal{R} \operatorname{of} \left\{ i : M \right\}_{i \in I} \left| \operatorname{close} \mathcal{R}; M \right| \mathcal{R} \{\!\! [M/x]\!\! \} \\ \mathcal{F} ::= \phi \mathcal{R} \\ \mathcal{G} ::= \left[\cdot \right] \left| \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{G} \end{array} \right| C \left| (\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m} \rangle y) \mathcal{G} \right| \mathcal{G} \{\!\! [M/x]\!\! \} \end{split}$$

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



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

 $\frac{}{\mathcal{F}[\texttt{new}] \longrightarrow_{\texttt{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\varepsilon \rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[(x,y)])}$

[RED-SEND]

 $(\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m}\rangle y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[\texttt{send}\,M\,x] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} x[M,\vec{m}\rangle y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[x] \parallel C)$

[RED-RECV]

 $(\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m}, M \rangle y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[\texttt{recv}\, y] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_{\texttt{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m} \rangle y)(\hat{\mathcal{F}}[(M, y)] \parallel C)$

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Additional rules for configuration reduction (\longrightarrow_c) :

 $\frac{[\text{RED-SELECT}]}{(\boldsymbol{\nu}x[\vec{m}\rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[\texttt{select}\,\ell\,x] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu}x[\ell,\vec{m}\rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[x] \parallel C)}$ $[\text{RED-CASE}] \qquad j \in I$ $(\boldsymbol{\nu}x[\vec{m},j\rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[\texttt{case}\,y\,\texttt{of}\,\{i:M_i\}_{i \in I} \parallel C) \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu}x[\vec{m}\rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[M_i,y] \parallel C))$

$LAST^n$ Semantics

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

[RED-CLOSE]

 $(\boldsymbol{\nu} x[\vec{m} \rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[\texttt{close}\, x; M] \parallel C) \longrightarrow_{\texttt{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box [\vec{m} \rangle y)(\mathcal{F}[M] \parallel C)$

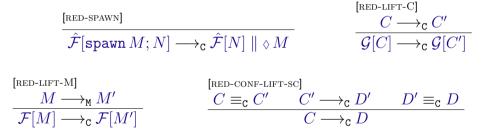
[RED-RES-NIL]

 $(\boldsymbol{\nu}\Box[\epsilon\rangle\Box)C\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}}C$

[RED-PAR-NIL]

$$C \parallel \diamond () \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} C$$

Additional rules for configuration reduction (\longrightarrow_c) :



$LAST^n$ A Simple Example

$$\begin{split} \left(\lambda x.x \; (\lambda y.y) \right) \; \left((\lambda w.w) \; (\lambda z.z) \right) &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \left(x \; (\lambda y.y) \right) \left\{ \left[\left((\lambda w.w) \; (\lambda z.z) \right) / x \right] \right\} \\ &\equiv_{\mathsf{M}} \left(x \left\{ \left((\lambda w.w) \; (\lambda z.z) \right) / x \right\} \right) \; (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \left((\lambda w.w) \; (\lambda z.z) \right) \; (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \left(w \left\{ \left((\lambda z.z) / w \right\} \right) \; (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \left(\lambda z.z \right) \; (\lambda y.y) \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} z \left\{ \left((\lambda y.y) / z \right\} \right\} \\ &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \lambda y.y \end{split}$$

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

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$LAST^n$ The Bookshop Scenario, Revisited

The entire system:

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{Sys} &\triangleq \blacklozenge \mathtt{let}\,(s,s') = \mathtt{new}\,\mathtt{in}\,\mathtt{spawn}\,\mathsf{Shop}_s;\\ \mathtt{let}\,(m,m') &= \mathtt{new}\,\mathtt{in}\,\mathtt{spawn}\,\mathsf{Mother}_m;\\ \mathsf{Son}_{s',m'} \end{split}$$

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 $Sys = \blacklozenge let(s, s') = new in \dots$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle y') \blacklozenge \operatorname{let}(s, s') = (y, y') \operatorname{in} \ldots$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') \blacklozenge$ spawn Shop_s; ... {[y/s, y'/s']} $\equiv_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\boldsymbol{\bullet} \operatorname{spawn} \operatorname{Shop}_{s}; \ldots) \{ [y/s, y'/s'] \})$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\bullet \operatorname{let}(m, m') = \operatorname{new} \operatorname{in} \dots || \diamond \operatorname{Shop}_{\circ}) \{ [y/s, y'/s'] \})$ $\equiv_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \rangle y') ((\boldsymbol{\bullet} \operatorname{let} (m, m') = \operatorname{new} \operatorname{in} \dots \parallel$ \diamond let (*title*, s_1) = recv ($s\{\{y/s\}\}$) in...){ $\{y'/s'\}\}$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} (\nu y[\varepsilon)y') \big((\blacklozenge \operatorname{let}(m,m') = \operatorname{new}\operatorname{in} \dots \| \diamond \operatorname{let}(\mathit{title},s_1) = \operatorname{recv} y \operatorname{in} \dots) \{ |y'/s'| \} \big)$ $\longrightarrow^2_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\varepsilon) z') (\mathbf{A} \operatorname{spawn} \operatorname{Mother}_m; \operatorname{Son}_{s',m'}) \{ [z/m, z'/m', y'/s'] \} \parallel \diamond \operatorname{Shop}_n)$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\varepsilon) z') (\blacklozenge \operatorname{Son}_{s',m'} \{ [z'/m', y'/s'] \} \parallel \Diamond \operatorname{Mother}_m \{ [z/m] \}) \parallel \Diamond \operatorname{Shop}_n)$ $\equiv_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\varepsilon) z') (\blacklozenge \operatorname{Son}_{s',m'} \{ |z'/m', y'/s'| \} \parallel \diamond \operatorname{let} (x, m_1) = \operatorname{recv} (m \{ |z/m| \}) \operatorname{in} \dots)$ $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon) y') ((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\varepsilon) z') (\diamond \operatorname{Son}_{s',m'} \{ [z'/m', y'/s'] \} \parallel$ $\diamond \operatorname{let}(x, m_1) = \operatorname{recv} z \operatorname{in} \dots) \parallel \diamond \operatorname{Shop}_n)$

 $=(\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\rangle y')\big((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\rangle z')\big(\boldsymbol{\bullet}\operatorname{Son}_{s',m'}\{\!\![z'/m',y'/s']\!\}\parallel \boldsymbol{\diamond}\operatorname{Mother}_z\big)\parallel \boldsymbol{\diamond}\operatorname{Shop}_y\big)=:\operatorname{Sys}^1$

$LAST^n$ Type System

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

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

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

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

$$\overline{!T.S} = ?T.\overline{S} \qquad \overline{?T.S} = !T.\overline{S}$$
$$\overline{\oplus \{i:S_i\}_{i\in I}} = \&\{i:\overline{S_i}\}_{i\in I} \qquad \overline{\&\{i:S_i\}_{i\in I}} = \oplus \{i:\overline{S_i}\}_{i\in I} \qquad \overline{end} = end$$

LASTⁿ Typing Judgments

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

Judgments for terms:

 $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M : T$

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

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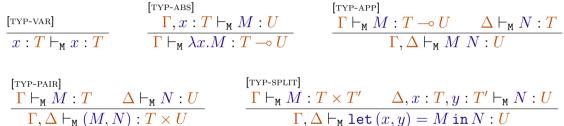
Judgments for configurations:

 $\Gamma \vdash^{\phi}_{\mathsf{C}} C : T$

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

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$I.AST^n$ Typing Rules (1/4)

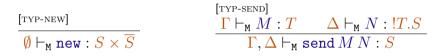


$$\frac{\vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M: T \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} N: U}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} (M, N): T \times U} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M: T \times T'}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} \mathsf{le}}$$

[TYP-UNIT] $\emptyset \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} () : \mathbf{1}$

$$\frac{\prod_{\text{[TYP-SUB]}} \Gamma, x: T \vdash_{M} M: U \quad \Delta \vdash_{M} N: T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{M} M\{[N/x]\}: U}$$

LASTⁿ Typing Rules (2/4)



$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M : \bigoplus \{i : S_i\}_{i \in I} \quad j \in I}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} \operatorname{select} j M : S_j} \qquad \qquad \frac{[{}^{\mathsf{TYP-RECV}}]}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} \operatorname{select} j M : S_j}$$

 $\frac{\overset{[\mathrm{TYP-CASE}]}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathrm{M}} M : \&\{i:S_i\}_{i \in I}} \quad \forall i \in I. \ \Delta \vdash_{\mathrm{M}} N_i:S_i \multimap U}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathrm{M}} \mathrm{case} \, M \, \mathrm{of} \, \{i:N_i\}_{i \in I}:U}$

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

LASTⁿ Typing Rules (3/4)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M : \mathsf{end}}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} \mathsf{N} : T}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M: \mathbf{1} \qquad \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} N: T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} \operatorname{spawn} M; N: T}$$

We need rules for buffers and "half-closed" sessions:

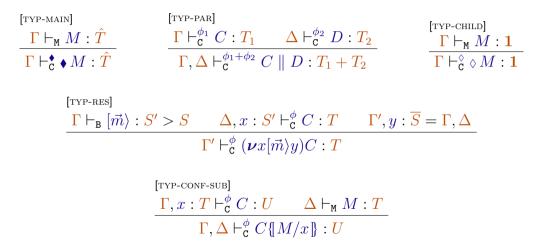
$$\frac{[{}^{\text{TYP-BUF}]}}{\emptyset \vdash_{\mathsf{B}} [\epsilon\rangle : S' > S'} \qquad \qquad \frac{[{}^{\text{TYP-BUF-SEND}]}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{M}} M : T} \quad \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{B}} [\vec{m}\rangle : S' > S}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash_{\mathsf{B}} [\vec{m}, M\rangle : S' > !T.S}$$

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{B}} [\vec{m}\rangle : S' > S_j \quad j \in I}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathsf{B}} [\vec{m}, j\rangle : S' > \oplus\{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}}$

 $\frac{[\text{TYP-BUF-END-L}]}{\emptyset \vdash_{B} [\varepsilon\rangle : \text{end} > \Box} \qquad \frac{[\text{TYP-BU}]}{\emptyset \vdash_{B}}$

[TYP-BUF-END-R]





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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

LASTⁿ The Booking Scenario

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

 $\mathsf{Sys} \longrightarrow^*_{\mathsf{C}} (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle y') \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} z'[\varepsilon \rangle z) \big(\blacklozenge \mathsf{close} \, z'; \mathsf{book}(\, \text{``Dune''} \,) \parallel \diamond \mathsf{close} \, z; \mathsf{close} \, y' \big) \parallel \diamond \mathsf{close} \, y \big)$

 $\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon\rangle y') \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box[\varepsilon\rangle z) \diamond \operatorname{close} z; \operatorname{close} y' \parallel \diamond \operatorname{close} y \big)$

- $\equiv_{\mathbf{C}} \mathbf{\bullet} \mathsf{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle y') \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} z[\varepsilon \rangle \Box) \diamond \operatorname{close} z; \operatorname{close} y' \parallel \diamond \operatorname{close} y \big)$
- $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle y') \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box[\varepsilon \rangle \Box) \diamond \operatorname{close} y' \parallel \diamond \operatorname{close} y \big)$
- $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \blacklozenge \operatorname{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon\rangle y') \big(\diamond \operatorname{close} y' \parallel \diamond \operatorname{close} y\big)$
- $\equiv_{\mathbf{C}} {\mathbf{\bullet}} \operatorname{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel ({\boldsymbol{\nu}} y'[\varepsilon\rangle y) \big(\diamond \,\operatorname{close} y' \parallel \diamond \operatorname{close} y \big)$
- $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} { \bigstar } \operatorname{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel { \diamondsuit } () \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box [\varepsilon \rangle y) { \diamondsuit } \operatorname{close} y$
- $\longrightarrow_{\mathbf{C}} \blacklozenge \operatorname{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box[\varepsilon\rangle y) \Diamond \operatorname{close} y$
- $\equiv_{\mathsf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\text{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle \Box) \Diamond \operatorname{close} y$

 $\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\texttt{``Dune''}) \parallel (\boldsymbol{\nu} \Box[\varepsilon\rangle \Box) \Diamond() \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\texttt{``Dune''}) \parallel \Diamond() \longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} \blacklozenge \mathsf{book}(\texttt{``Dune''})$

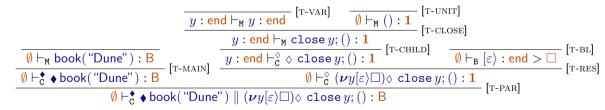
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LASTⁿ Example of Typing

We illustrate the typing of half-closed sessions on the configuration

$\bullet \operatorname{book}(\operatorname{``Dune''}) \parallel (\mathbf{\nu} y[\varepsilon \rangle \Box) \diamond \operatorname{close} y$

We write B (book) to denote a primitive non-linear type that can be weakened/contracted at will and is self-dual. We have:



LASTⁿ Guarantees Derived From Typing

Theorem (Type Preservation for LASTⁿ) Given $\Gamma \vdash^{\phi}_{c} C : T$, if $C \equiv_{c} D$ or $C \longrightarrow_{c} D$, then $\Gamma \vdash^{\phi}_{c} D : T$.

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

LASTⁿ Typing Does Not Exclude Deadlocks

Consider the term:

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

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{split} M_{x,y} &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \big(\operatorname{let} (v, y_{1}) = \operatorname{recv} y \operatorname{in} \dots \big) \{ \left| \operatorname{send} () x/x_{1} \right| \right\} =: M'_{x,y} \not\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \\ M_{y',x'} &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \big(\operatorname{let} (v', x'_{1}) = \operatorname{recv} x' \operatorname{in} \dots \big) \{ \left| \operatorname{send} () y'/y'_{1} \right| \right\} =: M'_{y',x'} \not\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{M}} \\ C &\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}}^{9} (\boldsymbol{\nu} s[\varepsilon\rangle s') (\boldsymbol{\nu} t[\varepsilon\rangle t') \big(\diamond M'_{x,t} \{ \left| s/x \right| \} \parallel \blacklozenge M'_{y',s'} \{ \left| t'/y' \right| \} \big) \not\longrightarrow_{\mathsf{C}} \end{split}$$

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

LASTⁿ Typing Does Not Exclude Deadlocks

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

```
N_{a,b} := \operatorname{let} a_1 = \operatorname{send} () a \operatorname{in}

\operatorname{close} a_1;

\operatorname{let} (v, b_1) = \operatorname{recv} b \operatorname{in}

\operatorname{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 $LAST^n$ 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:

Derivable constructs We use the following syntactic sugar:

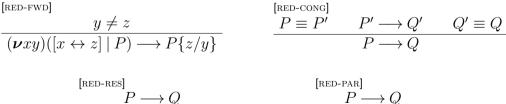
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APCP Reduction Semantics

[RED-SEND-RECV]

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

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



$$\frac{P \longrightarrow Q}{(\boldsymbol{\nu} x y) P \longrightarrow (\boldsymbol{\nu} x y) Q}$$

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

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

APCP Reduction Semantics

Consider process *P*:

$$P \triangleq (\boldsymbol{\nu} z u) \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} x y) \big((\boldsymbol{\nu} a x') (x[v_1, a] \mid x'[v_2, b]) \\ \mid (\boldsymbol{\nu} c z') (z[v_3, c] \mid y(w_1, y'); y'(w_2, y''); Q) \big) \\ \mid u(w_3, u'); R \big)$$

Or, using the sugared syntax:

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

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

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We have:

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

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

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.

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APCP Type System

APCP types processes by assigning binary session types to names.

- We write \circ, π, ρ, \ldots 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:

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

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

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

$$\overline{A \otimes^{\circ} B} \triangleq \overline{A} \ \mathfrak{N}^{\circ} \overline{B} \qquad \overline{\oplus^{\circ}\{i:A_i\}_{i \in I}} \triangleq \&^{\circ}\{i:\overline{A_i}\}_{i \in I} \quad \overline{\bullet} \triangleq \bullet \quad \overline{\mu X.A} \triangleq \mu X.\overline{A} \\
\overline{A \ \mathfrak{N}^{\circ} B} \triangleq \overline{A} \otimes^{\circ} \overline{B} \quad \overline{\&^{\circ}\{i:A_i\}_{i \in I}} \triangleq \oplus^{\circ}\{i:\overline{A_i}\}_{i \in I} \quad \overline{X} \triangleq X$$

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

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

- \blacktriangleright *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 $(X : (A, B, \ldots))$.

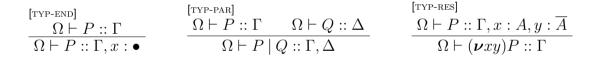
APCP Typing Rules (Selected)

[TYP-SEND]

$$\circ < \operatorname{pr}(A), \operatorname{pr}(B)$$

$$\overline{\Omega \vdash x[y, z]} :: x : A \otimes^{\circ} B, y : \overline{A}, z : \overline{B}$$

 $\frac{\Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, y : A, z : B \quad \circ < \operatorname{pr}(\Gamma)}{\Omega \vdash x(y, z); P :: \Gamma, x : A \, \mathfrak{P}^{\circ} B}$



$$\frac{\Omega \vdash P :: \Gamma, y : A, x : B \quad \circ < \operatorname{pr}(A), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{\Omega \vdash \overline{x}[y] \cdot P :: \Gamma, x : A \otimes^{\circ} B}$$

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APCP Typing by Example

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

$$\begin{array}{c} \circ < \operatorname{pr}(A_{1}), \pi & \frac{\pi < \operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{\vdash x[v_{1}, a] :: x : A_{1} \otimes^{\circ} A_{2} \otimes^{\pi} B} & \frac{\pi < \operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{\vdash x'[v_{2}, b] :: x' : A_{2} \otimes^{\pi} B} & \frac{\operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{\vdash x'[v_{2}, b] :: x' : A_{2} \otimes^{\pi} B} & \frac{\operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{v_{2} : \overline{A_{2}}, b : \overline{B}} & \frac{\operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(B)}{v_{2} : \overline{A_{2}}, b : \overline{B}} & \frac{\operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}(A_{2}), \operatorname{pr}($$

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:

$$\frac{\vdash Q :: \Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1}, w_2 : \overline{A_2}, y'' : \overline{B} \qquad \pi < \operatorname{pr}(\Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1})}{\vdash y'(w_2, y''); Q :: \Gamma, w_1 : \overline{A_1}, y' : \overline{A_2} \ \mathfrak{N}^{\pi} \overline{B}} \qquad \circ < \operatorname{pr}(\Gamma) \\ \vdash y(w_1, y'); y'(w_2, y''); Q :: \Gamma, y : \overline{A_1} \ \mathfrak{N}^{\circ} \ \overline{A_2} \ \mathfrak{N}^{\pi} \ \overline{B}} \qquad (\mathsf{ryp-recv})$$

These two derivations tell us that

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

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Deadlock-free Asynchronous Functional Sessions

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 resources of [TYPE PEG] connect here limitated a is undertised.

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 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 $\mathit{live},$ denoted $\operatorname{live}(P),$ if

- 1. there are names x, y and process P' such that $P \equiv (\nu xy)P'$ with $x, y \in an(P')$, or
- 2. there are names x, y, z and process P' such that $P \equiv \mathcal{E}[(\nu y z)([x \leftrightarrow y] | P')]$ 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 **0**.

Theorem (Progress) If $\emptyset \vdash P :: \Gamma$ and 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 LASTⁿ into APCP Key Ideas

To translate LASTⁿ into APCP, we follow Milner's translation of the lazy λ -calculus.

- In LASTⁿ, 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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We establish correctness for our translation following Gorla's correctness criteria: Completeness Given $\Gamma \vdash^{\phi}_{c} C : T$, if $C \longrightarrow_{c} D$, then $\llbracket C \rrbracket z \longrightarrow^{*} \llbracket D \rrbracket z$. Soundness Given $\Gamma \vdash^{\phi}_{c} C : T$, 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 LASTⁿ 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:

 $\begin{array}{c} (T) \triangleq \bullet \otimes \overline{[T]} \quad (\text{if } T \neq \Box) \\ [T \times U] \triangleq \overline{(T)} \otimes \overline{(U)} \quad [T \multimap U] \triangleq (T) \stackrel{\mathcal{P}}{} [U] \quad [1] \triangleq \bullet \\ [!T.S] \triangleq \bullet \otimes (T) \stackrel{\mathcal{P}}{} \overline{(S)} \quad [\oplus \{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}] \triangleq \bullet \otimes \& \{i : \overline{(S_i)}\}_{i \in I} \quad [\text{end}] \triangleq \bullet \otimes \bullet \\ [?T.S] \triangleq \overline{(T)} \otimes \overline{(S)} \quad [\& \{i : S_i\}_{i \in I}] \triangleq \oplus \{i : \overline{(S_i)}\}_{i \in I} \quad [\Box] \triangleq (\Box) \triangleq \bullet \\ \end{array}$

Intuitively, session types such as '• \otimes ...' codify the enabling of an interaction (with an explicit substitution or with a buffer). A kind of "announcement" for interacting parties.

Translating LASTⁿ into APCP Translating Terms (Selection)

Below, we write '_' to denote a fresh name of type •; when sending names denoted '_', we omit binders '(ν_{--})'.

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

Translating	g LAST n into APCP	Translating ⁻	Terms (Selection)
[TYP-NEW]	$\llbracket \texttt{new} \rrbracket z \triangleq (\boldsymbol{\nu} ab)(a[_,$	z]	activate buffer
	$\mid b(_,c);(oldsymbol{ u} dx)(oldsymbol{ u} ey)($		block until activated
	$\llbracket [arepsilon angle bracket] d angle$	e	prepare buffer
	$ $ $\llbracket (x, y)$	()] c))	return pair of endpoints
[TYP-SEND]	$\llbracket \texttt{send} \ M \ N \rrbracket z \triangleq (\boldsymbol{\nu} ab)(\boldsymbol{\nu} cc)$	$d)(a(_,e);\llbracket M rbracket e$	block payload until received
	$ \llbracket N rbracket c$	run cha	annel term to activate buffer
	$\mid d(_,f)$	$(oldsymbol{ u}gh)($	wait for buffer to activate
	f[b,g]		send to buffer
	$\mid h[_,z]$])) prepar	e returned endpoint variable
[TYP-RECV]	$\llbracket \texttt{recv} M \rrbracket z \triangleq (\pmb{\nu} a b)(\llbracket M$]a run cha	annel term to activate buffer
	$\mid b(c,d);$		receive from buffer
$(\boldsymbol{\nu} e f)(z[c,e] \mid f(_,g); d[_,g]))$ returned			

Translating LASTⁿ into APCP Deadlock-Free LASTⁿ

- Well-typed APCP processes that are typable under empty contexts (⊢ P :: Ø) are deadlock-free.
- We transfer this result to LASTⁿ 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 $\emptyset \vdash_{c}^{\bullet} C : \mathbf{1}$, 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 LASTⁿ) Given $\emptyset \vdash^{\bullet}_{c} C : 1$, if $\vdash [\![C]\!] z :: \Gamma$ for some Γ , then $C \equiv \bullet ()$ or $C \longrightarrow_{c} D$ for some D.

Conclusion

Summary:

- Two different formal systems (LASTⁿ and APCP) that express asynchronous message-passing concurrency
- They are defined at different levels of abstraction, and are connected via a correct translation
- \blacktriangleright The design of LASTⁿ 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 LASTⁿ within "familiar territory"

Future work:

- ▶ Recursive types in LASTⁿ
- Behavioral theory for LASTⁿ (by leveraging APCP)

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

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