

Types for processes: from CONFER to FOCUS

Davide Sangiorgi

Focus Team, INRIA/University of Bologna

GGJJ 2011



From CONFER...

Esprit 6454 CONFER and WG 21836 CONFER II, 1992-2000

(CONcurrency and Functions: Evaluation and Reduction)

– JJ coordinator

origins: a meeting in Sophia (JJ, GG, Boudol, Curien, ...)

– ‘create the basis for uniting functional and concurrent computation’

– really exciting projects

Sites, CONFER I :

INRIA-Rocquencourt (**JJ**)

INRIA-Sophia Antipolis (G. Boudol, **GG**)

University of Edinburgh (R. Milner)

Imperial College (S. Abramsky)

Ecole Normale Supérieure (P.-L. Curien)

CWI (J.-W. Klop)

SICS (J. Parrow)

ECRC (B. Thomsen)

Università di Pisa (U. Montanari)

Sites, CONFER II:

Università di Bologna (A. Asperti)

University of Sussex (M. Hennesy)

University of Edinburgh (S. Abramsky)

Università di Pisa (U. Montanari)

INRIA-Rocquencourt (J.-J. Lévy)

KTH (J. Parrow)

France Telecom (J.-F. Monin)

University of Cambridge (R. Milner)

CWI, Amsterdam (J.-W. Klop)

Ecole Normale Supérieure (P.-L. Curien)

ICL (Bent Thomsen)

INRIA-Sophia (G. Boudol)

Oxford University (D. Walker)

Sample of CONFER activities

- paths, optimal reductions, and optimal machines in lambda

eg, the relationship among: [Asperti, Danos, Laneve, Regnier]

Levy's family redexes (legal paths)

Lamping-Gonthier's graph reduction algorithm (consistent paths)

Girard's geometry of interaction (regular paths)

- game semantics and full abstraction
- Join and Pict languages
- theory of π -calculus (algebraic, behavioural, denotational, ...)
- action structures (ancestor of bigraphs)
- **types for processes**
-

Types for processes

Before CONFER, in Edinburgh, working on the π -calculus

[with R. Milner]

– The expressive power

* amazing

* several expected behavioural equalities could not be proved

⇒ development of the behavioural and algebraic theory

discouragingly, some equalities false in the available theory

Ordinary bisimulation (μ = an input, output or silent action):

$P \approx Q$ implies

– if $P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'$ then $Q \xrightarrow{\mu} Q'$ and $P' \approx Q'$

– if $Q \xrightarrow{\mu} Q'$ then $P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'$ and $P' \approx Q'$

– Data structures

– Chemical semantics

Example of failure of equality: inlining

Two factorial functions:

$$\text{Fact} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else } (\nu r') (\bar{f} \langle x - 1, r' \rangle . r'(m) . \bar{r} \langle x * m \rangle)$$
$$\text{FactEff} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, r). \\ \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else if } x = 1 \text{ then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else if } x = 2 \text{ then } \bar{r} 2 \\ \text{else } \nu r' (\bar{f} \langle x - 1, r' \rangle \mid r'(m) . \bar{r} \langle x * m \rangle)$$

Fact $\not\approx$ FactEff

Another example: tail-call optimisations

More factorial functions:

$$S1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, y, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} y \\ \text{else } (\nu r') (\bar{f}\langle x - 1, x * y, r' \rangle. r'(m). \bar{r} m)$$
$$S2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, y, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} y \\ \text{else } \bar{f}\langle x - 1, x * y, r \rangle$$

$S1 \not\approx S2$

Example: call-by-value λ -calculus

Milner, R. 1990. *Functions as Processes*. Research Report 1154. INRIA.

$$\begin{aligned} [\lambda x. M]p &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(x, q). [M]q \\ [x]p &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nu q (\bar{x}\langle q \rangle. !q(v). \bar{p}\langle v \rangle) \\ [MN]p &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nu q ([M]q \mid (!q(v). \nu r ([N]r \mid r(w). \bar{v}\langle w, p \rangle))) \end{aligned}$$

An optimisation: $[x]p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{x}\langle p \rangle$

However, with the optimisation [DS92]

$$[(\lambda x. M)\lambda y. N]p \not\approx [M\{\lambda y. N/x\}]p \quad (\text{different even on traces})$$

(The final MSCS version of Milner's paper was written after finding the counterexample and does not present the optimisation)

Before CONFER, in Edinburgh, working on the π -calculus

[with R. Milner]

- The expressive power
- **Data structures**
 - * could be modeled
 - * tedious in programming
 - * run-time errors
- Chemical semantics

Structured data values and run-time errors

Beyond the monadic communications of the basic π -calculus

A first step: polyadicity

Problem: Run-time errors

$$\underline{\bar{x}\langle y, z \rangle} . P \mid \underline{x(h)} . Q \longrightarrow \text{wrong}$$

$$\bar{x}\langle y \rangle . \bar{y}\langle z_1, z_2 \rangle . P \mid x(h) . h(k) . Q \longrightarrow \underline{\bar{y}\langle z_1, z_2 \rangle} . P \mid \underline{y(k)} . (Q\{y/k\}) \longrightarrow \text{wrong}$$

Milner's sorting (ie, name arities)

as an ad-hoc notion to avoid run-time errors

no connection between arities and classical notions of types

Types, or: taming the untyped π -calculus

- CONFER: at Inria-Rocquencourt, in JJ's Team Para, 1992
many visitors (DS, B. Pierce, C. Talcott, R. Statman...)

[Pierce & DS]

- a discipline on π -calculus names
- use types to make this explicit

Benefits:

- transplant well-studied type systems for the λ -calculus to the pi-calculus
- consequences on behaviour

(cf: the CONFER objectives, putting together functional and concurrency traditions)

A simple discipline: input and output usages

$b(T)$	a channel, carrying values of type T
$r(T)$	input (read) capability
$w(T)$	output (write) capability

⇒ basis for **subtyping**

Example: $x : w(w(T)) \vdash (\nu y : b(T)) (\bar{x} y . !y(z). 0)$
(true, since $b(T) < w(T)$)

N.B.: The recipient of y cannot **interfere** with the existing input.

$r(-)$	⇒	covariance
$w(-)$	⇒	contravariance
$b(-)$	⇒	invariance

Sample of rules for subtyping

Subtyping rules

$$\text{Sub-}\#I \frac{}{\#T \leq r(T)}$$

$$\text{Sub-}\#O \frac{}{\#T \leq w(T)}$$

$$\text{Sub-II} \frac{S \leq T}{r(S) \leq r(T)}$$

$$\text{Sub-OO} \frac{T \leq S}{w(S) \leq w(T)}$$

$$\text{Sub-BB} \frac{T \leq S \quad S \leq T}{b(S) \leq b(T)}$$

Typing rules

$$\text{T-InpS} \frac{\Gamma \vdash a : r(S) \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash P}{\Gamma \vdash a(x). P}$$

$$\text{T-OutS} \frac{\Gamma \vdash a : w(T) \quad \Gamma \vdash w : T \quad \Gamma \vdash P}{\Gamma \vdash \bar{a}w . P}$$

$$\text{Subsumption} \frac{\Gamma \vdash v : S \quad S \leq T}{\Gamma \vdash v : T}$$

Examples typing with I/O

The factorial function

$f : b(\langle \text{Int}, w(\text{Int}) \rangle)$

\vdash

$!f(x, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r}\langle 1 \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad \text{else } (\nu r') \bar{f}\langle x - 1, r' \rangle. r'(m). \bar{r}\langle x * m \rangle$

r/w subtyping validates the subtyping rule for functions:

$$[\lambda x. M]_p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\nu x) \bar{p} x . !x(z, y). [M]_y$$

If $\lambda x. M : S \rightarrow T$, then $p : w(w(\langle [S], w([T]) \rangle))$

which gives this translation on arrow types:

$$[S \rightarrow T] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} w(\langle [S], w([T]) \rangle)$$

where $[S]$ is in **contravariant** position, $[T]$ is in **covariant** position.

The polyadic π -calculus: add the product types

Examples of other additions

- unions
- variants (cf: objects)
- polymorphism
- linearity

Behavioural effects of types

Before CONFER, in Edinburgh, working on the π -calculus

[with R. Milner]

- The expressive power
- Data structures
- **Chemical semantics**

The chemical abstract machine (CHAM)

Berry, G. and Boudol, G., *The Chemical Abstract Machine*, POPL 1990.

- Very influential paper in concurrency (1153 citations, Google Scholar)
- Revised by Milner into the **reduction semantics**
- Axioms for a **structural congruence** relation break a ‘geometrical’ vision of concurrency
- Simple **reduction rules** where redexes are subterms

Example of reduction semantics: the π -calculus

Structural congruence The smallest congruence \equiv s.t.:

1. $P \equiv Q$ if P and Q are alpha convertible
2. $P \mid 0 \equiv P$, $P \mid Q \equiv Q \mid P$, $P \mid (Q \mid R) \equiv (P \mid Q) \mid R$
3. $\nu x 0 \equiv 0$, $\nu x \nu y P \equiv \nu y \nu x P$
4. $\nu x (P \mid Q) \equiv (\nu x P) \mid Q$, if x not free in Q
5. $!P \equiv P \mid !P$

Reduction relation (\longrightarrow)

$$\text{R-INTER} \quad \frac{}{(\bar{x} y . P_1) \mid (x(z) . P_2) \longrightarrow P_1 \mid P_2\{y/z\}}$$

$$\text{R-PAR} \quad \frac{P_1 \longrightarrow P'_1}{P_1 \mid P_2 \longrightarrow P'_1 \mid P_2}$$

$$\text{R-RES} \quad \frac{P \longrightarrow P'}{\nu z P \longrightarrow \nu z P'}$$

$$\text{R-STRUCT} \quad \frac{P_1 \equiv P_2 \longrightarrow P'_2 \equiv P'_1}{P_1 \longrightarrow P'_1}$$

Essentially the same reduction semantics for the Higher-Order π -calculus (just make processes values in the syntax)

Contrast that with the labeled transition semantics

$$\text{inp: } a(b).P \xrightarrow{a(b)} P \qquad \text{out: } \bar{a}b.P \xrightarrow{\bar{a}b} P$$

$$\text{parL: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} P' \mid Q} \text{bn}(\alpha) \cap \text{fn}(Q) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{comL: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{a(x)} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{\bar{a}b} Q'}{P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P'\{b/x\} \mid Q'} \qquad \text{closeL: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{a(x)} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{\nu b \bar{a}b} Q'}{P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\tau} \nu b (P'\{b/x\} \mid Q')} \quad b \notin \text{fn}(P)$$

$$\text{res: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{\nu a P \xrightarrow{\alpha} \nu a P'} \quad a \notin \text{n}(\alpha) \qquad \text{open: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\bar{a}b} P'}{\nu b P \xrightarrow{\nu b \bar{a}b} P'} \quad a \neq b$$

$$\text{rep: } \frac{P \mid !P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'}{!P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'} \qquad \text{alpha: } \frac{P =_{\alpha} Q \quad Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q'}{P \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q'}$$

... or with the LTS for the Higher-Order π -calculus :

$$\text{alp: } \frac{P' \xrightarrow{\mu} Q \quad P \text{ and } P' \text{ are } \alpha\text{-convertible}}{P \xrightarrow{\mu} Q}$$

$$\text{out: } \bar{x}\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle . P \xrightarrow{\bar{x}\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} P$$

$$\text{inp: } x(\widetilde{U}) . P \xrightarrow{x\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} P\{\widetilde{K}/\widetilde{U}\}, \text{ if } \widetilde{K} : \widetilde{U}$$

$$\text{sum: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}{P + Q \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}$$

$$\text{par: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}{P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\mu} P' \mid Q} \quad \text{bn}(\mu) \cap \text{fn}(Q) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{com: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{(\nu \widetilde{y})\bar{x}\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} P' \quad Q \xrightarrow{x\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} Q'}{P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\tau} \nu \widetilde{y} (P' \mid Q')} \quad \widetilde{y} \cap \text{fn}(Q) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{match: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}{[x = x]P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}$$

$$\text{const: } \frac{P\{\widetilde{K}/\widetilde{U}\} \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}{D\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}, \text{ if } D \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\widetilde{U})P$$

$$\text{res: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{\mu} P'}{\nu x P \xrightarrow{\mu} \nu x P'} \quad x \notin \text{n}(\mu)$$

$$\text{open: } \frac{P \xrightarrow{(\nu \widetilde{y})\bar{z}\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} P'}{\nu x P \xrightarrow{(\nu x, \widetilde{y})\bar{z}\langle \widetilde{K} \rangle} P'} \quad x \in \text{fn}(\widetilde{K}) - \widetilde{y}$$

Behavioural equivalences in the CHAM setting

[Milner & DS, 1992]

$P \Downarrow_a \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P$ is capable of performing an input or output at a

barbed congruence

(**barbed bisimulation**, $\dot{\simeq}$): $P \dot{\simeq} Q$ implies:

1. if $P \Longrightarrow P'$ then $Q \Longrightarrow Q'$ and $P' \dot{\simeq} Q'$;

2. $\forall a$, if $P \Downarrow_a$ then also $Q \Downarrow_a$.

Barbed congruence $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{the induced congruence.}$

- coinductive
- contextually defined, and therefore language dependent

Theorem In CCS and π -calculus, barbed congruence coincides with the ordinary bisimulation congruences

Types and the CHAM approach

Bisimilarity of processes

“match” each other **reductions**, in all contexts
rather than : match each other actions

Types: contracts between a process and its environment
⇒ reduces the number of ‘legal’ contexts
⇒ more process equalities

$$P \approx_{\Gamma} Q \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Gamma \vdash P, Q \\ \text{if the language is untyped, } \Gamma \text{ is trivial} \end{array} \right.$$

The surrounding context must respect the types in Γ

Example: inlining on the factorial function

$$\text{Fact} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else } (\nu r') (\bar{f} \langle x - 1, r' \rangle . r'(m) . \bar{r} \langle x * m \rangle)$$

$$\text{FactEff} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, r). \\ \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else if } x = 1 \text{ then } \bar{r} 1 \\ \text{else if } x = 2 \text{ then } \bar{r} 2 \\ \text{else } \nu r' (\bar{f} \langle x - 1, r' \rangle \mid r'(m) . \bar{r} \langle x * m \rangle)$$

In the polyadic π -calculus:

$\text{Fact} \not\approx_{\Gamma} \text{FactEff}$ (for all legal Γ)

With r/w types:

$\text{Fact} \approx_{f \leftarrow w} \text{FactEff}$ ($\approx_{f \leftarrow w} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ observers have only the output capability on f)

Example, tail-call on the factorial

$$S1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, y, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} y \\ \text{else } (\nu r') (\bar{f}\langle x - 1, x * y, r' \rangle. r'(m). \bar{r} m)$$
$$S2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !f(x, y, r). \quad \text{if } x = 0 \quad \text{then } \bar{r} y \\ \text{else } \bar{f}\langle x - 1, x * y, r \rangle$$

$S1 \approx_{\Gamma} S2$ (with r/w types + linearity)

Another example: validity of the optimisation in the encoding of call-by-value λ -calculus

Types: other developments

- to control access rights (i.e., how information available in a certain site or process can be used by others),
- to control process mobility (i.e., in systems where processes and sites move, obtaining guarantees about where a process can be run),
- to control the usage of resources,
- to obtain systems of processes that are deadlock-free or livelock-free,
- to underpin new proof techniques,
- to improve the efficiency of verification algorithms,
- to guarantee integrity and confidentiality of data (as well as other security properties)
- “behavioural types” to specify interfaces and possible interactions among processes.
- session types

CHAM + Join (GG + JJ) : a functional semantics of processes

1. **CHAM** (reduction style)
2. **the Join calculus** (function application)

```
def spooler⟨printer⟩ & job⟨file⟩ ▷  $\overline{\text{printer}}$ ⟨file⟩
```

Also:

- type inference á la ML
- a bridge towards Petri Nets
- a clear meaning of state
- distributed implementation

[Fournet, Gonthier, JJ, Maranget, Remy, Le Fessant, ...]

... to FOCUS

(a joint Research Team INRIA/Univ. Bologna)

An activity in FOCUS: liveness properties via types

- **safety** properties (absence of communication errors, interferences, deadlock, ...) intensively studied since the CONFER times
 - * safety expressed in the subject reduction
- **liveness** properties
 - * notoriously hard in concurrency, in mobile processes even harder
 - * **termination, lock-freedom**

Termination in concurrency

- why? (big concurrent systems are supposed to run forever...)
- same reasons as in sequential languages
- applets, imported code
- sessions in SOC
- can be combined with other analysis

Lock-freedom

A **lock-free process**: certain selected input/output actions will eventually succeed (under fair scheduling)

```
! fib( $n, r$ ).  if  $n < 2$  then  $\bar{r}\langle n \rangle$ 
               else
                  $\nu r_1$ 
                   (  $\overline{\text{fib}}\langle n - 1, r_1 \rangle$ 
                     |  $\overline{\text{fib}}\langle n - 2, r_1 \rangle$ 
                     |  $r_1(x). r_1(y). \bar{r}\langle x + y \rangle$  )
                 |  $\overline{\text{fib}}\langle 10, \text{reply} \rangle$  |  $\text{reply}(x). \overline{\text{print}}\langle x \rangle$ 
```

↑

↑

the selected prefixes

A Fibonacci server

1st rec. call

2nd rec. call

computes result

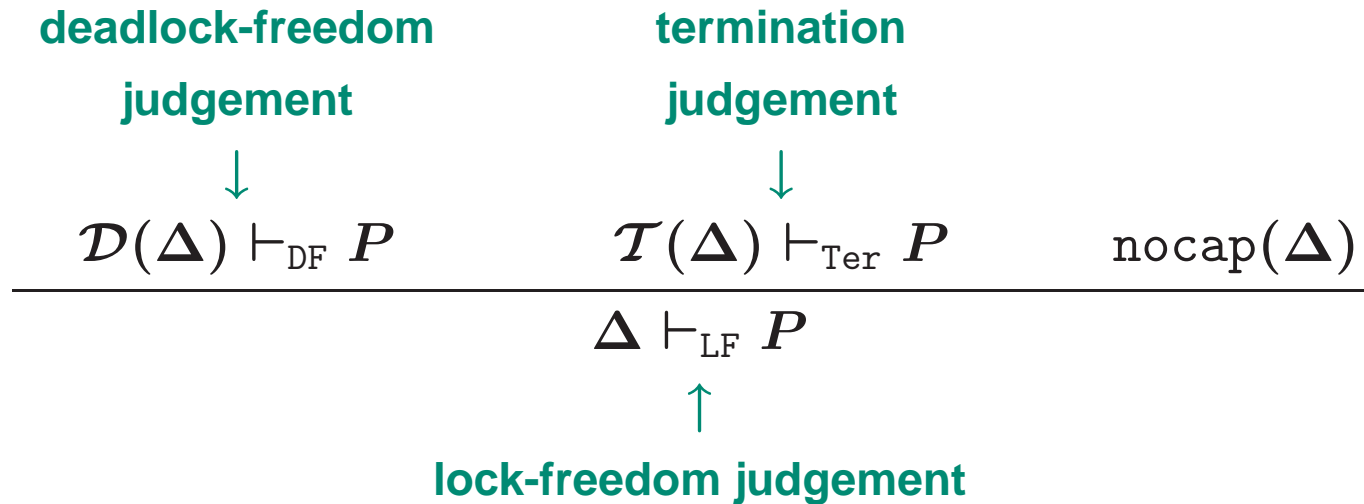
Most liveness properties can be turned into the lock-freedom property

- Access to a resource eventually granted?
- A server will eventually accept a client's request?
- If so, will the server eventually send a reply to the client?
- Can a process eventually acquire a lock?
- If so, will the process eventually release the lock?

Also: Information flow analysis, program slicing (dependency analysis),

Lock-freedom: Example of rules

[Kobayashi& DS, TOPLAS'10]



- **local** reasoning
- **implemented** in Kobayashi's TyPiCal tool (types inferred)

Types for termination of processes

Separate functional and imperative names

- A functional name:

(it is always available, unique continuation)

$$\nu a (!a(x). P \mid Q)$$

- a not in P

- only output capability on a in Q

Logical relation techniques

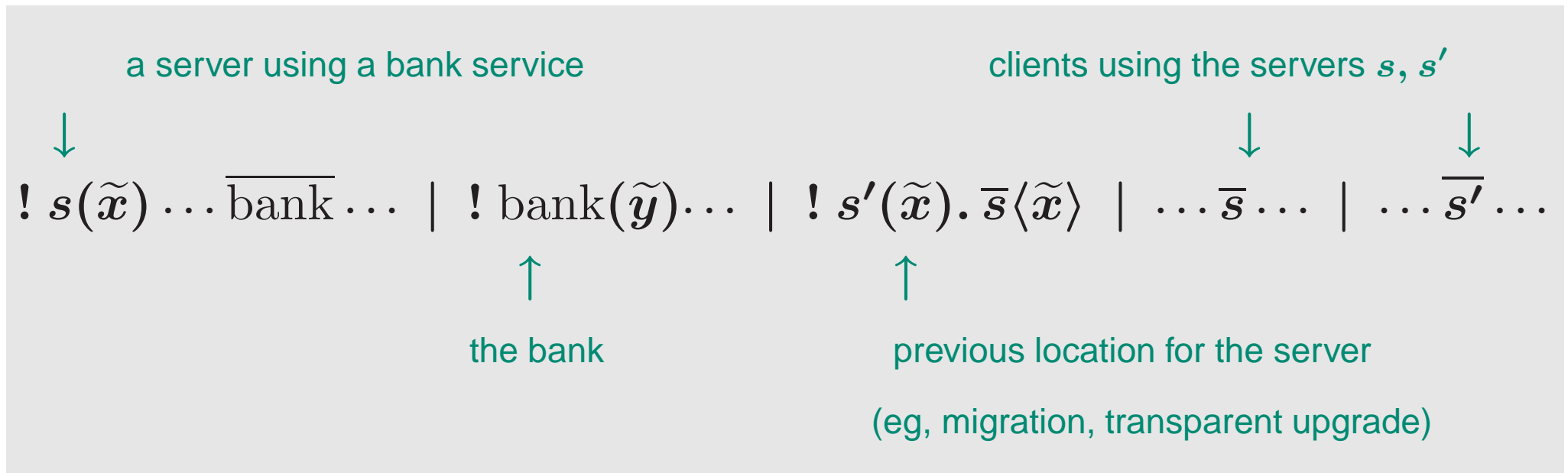
Theorem The simply-typed π -calculus, with all names functional, is terminating

- Other names: imperative

Term-rewriting techniques

- weight-based
- weight of a process eventually decreases under reduction

Example of hybrid system



- the server and the bank have a **state**
- s, s', bank are **functional**

To handle termination, we need the power of both **logical relation** (for the functional parts) and of **measure-based techniques** (for the imperative parts)

Idea of typing:

check that in $!a(x). P$:

- a **imperative** $\Rightarrow \text{weight}(a) > \text{weight}(P)$ (as before)
- a **functional** $\Rightarrow \text{weight}(a) \geq \text{weight}(P)$

- Functional names: imperative effects, but not at higher levels
(no violations of the stratification on the imperative names)
- The measure assignment also captures divergent terms
- Termination holds if the purely functional sublanguage is terminating
This can be established separately (eg, logical relations, but possibly other techniques)

[Demangeon, Hirschhoff, DS ; CONCUR'10, FSEN'11]

Proof of termination

1. If P well typed, and $P \longrightarrow P'$ via an **imperative redex** then $\text{weight}(P') < \text{weight}(P)$
2. If $P \uparrow$ then $P \uparrow$ also if **functional names have priority**
(a functional reduction does not affect the imperative redexes)
3. Hence P diverges in a computation where in any **two consecutive imperative reductions**

$$P \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow P_i \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow P_j \longrightarrow \dots$$

we have $\text{weight}(P_i) > \text{weight}(P_j)$

4. Hence: from some point onwards, say P_k , **all reductions are functional**

In P_k strip off all imperative prefixes (subterms $a(x).P'$, and $\bar{a}\langle v \rangle$, with a imperative)

What remains is **a divergent functional process**

5. A **contradiction**, as the functional subcalculus is terminating (**logical relation or other techniques**)

Note: we separately apply imperative and functional techniques for termination

Applications to other languages

A λ -calculus with references

- proving termination here using only logical relation is difficult
our system subsumes [Boudol 07, Amadio 09]
- references treated using the term-rewriting techniques, akin to the imperative channels in π

Future work

- **Implicit computational complexity** in impure languages
when there exist complexity bounds on the core functional language