

Bridging the Gap Between Binary and Multiparty Communications

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Open Problems in Concurrency Theory (OPCT)

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Outline

An Open Problem

This Talk

Some Technical Details

- Preliminaries

- Medium Processes

- Main Results

Concluding Remarks

Large-Scale Software Infrastructures

- Massive collections of heterogeneous, communicating services
- Correctness is a combination of several issues, including:
 - ★ Resource usage policies
 - ★ Security and trustworthiness requirements
 - ★ Conformance to predefined protocols

Large-Scale Software Infrastructures: Protocols

- Rely on advanced forms of mobility, concurrency, and distribution
- Conveniently described as **choreographies**
 - ★ A global description of the overall interactive scenario
 - ★ Descriptions of the local behavior for each participant
 - ★ Ways of ensuring that implementations “respect” global and local descriptions.
- Several **analysis techniques** proposed, including:
 - ★ Models/standards for (semi)formal description/analysis (e.g., BPMN)
 - ★ Automata-based approaches (e.g., MSCs/MSGs, CFSMs)
 - ★ Type-based approaches, such as **session types**

Session Types: A Class of Behavioral Types

Seminal approach to the analysis structured communications

[Honda (1993); Honda, Vasconcelos, Kubo (1998)]

- Communication protocols structured into **sessions**
- Concurrent processes communicating through **session channels**
- Disciplined interactive behavior, abstracted as **session types**

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Correctness **guarantees** for specifications:

- Adhere to their ascribed session protocols - **Fidelity**
- Do not feature runtime errors – **Safety**
- Do not get stuck – **Progress / Lock-Freedom**
- Do not have infinite reduction sequences – **Termination**

STs for Multiparty Communications

- Multiparty Session Types (MPSTs) [Honda, Yoshida, Carbone (2008)]
 - ★ Protocols may involve more than two partners
 - ★ Global and local types, related by a **projection function**
 - ★ Underlying theory is subtle; analysis techniques hard to obtain

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Foundational significance:

Linear logic propositions as session types, in the style of Curry-Howard [Caires and Pfenning (2010); Wadler (2012)]

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 - ★ theoretically insightful
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- Practice suggests that MPSTs are more expressive than BSTs
- **Open problem:** We don't know of any formal results

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This Talk: A Positive Result

We present a **formal, two-way correspondence** between

- MPSTs with labeled communication and parallel composition, following [Honda, Yoshida, Carbone (2008), Deniélou and Yoshida (2013)]
- BSTs based on linear logic, following [Caires and Pfenning (2010)]: fidelity, safety, termination, and (dead)lock-freedom by typing.

Our Approach

- We **decouple** a multiparty communication from p to q :
 - ★ A send action from p to some intermediate entity
 - ★ A forwarding action from the entity to q

Our Approach: Medium Processes

- We **decouple** a multiparty communication from p to q :
 - ★ A send action from p to some intermediate entity
 - ★ A forwarding action from the entity to q
- Given a global type G , extract its **medium process** $M[G]$
 - ★ Intermediate party in all multiparty exchanges
 - ★ Captures sequencing information in G by decoupling interactions
 - ★ Local implementations need not know about the medium

MPSTs and BSTs: A Two-Way Correspondence

1. Let G be a well-formed global type.
 $M[G]$ is well-typed under an environment in which participants are assigned types corresponding to the projections of G .
2. Let $M[G]$ be a well-typed medium process under an environment in which participants are assigned some binary types. Such binary types correspond, in a precise sense, to the projections of G .

A Possible Methodology

Revising the one proposed in [Honda, Yoshida, Carbone (2008)]

- (i) A developer describes an intended interaction scenario as a global type G .
- (ii) She extracts $M[[G]]$ and the set of (local) binary session types representing the projection of G onto all participants.
- (iii) Using logic-based BSTs she checks that $M[[G]]$ is well-typed with respect to the set of (local) binary types just extracted. This ensures deadlock-freedom.
- (iv) She develops code, one for each participant, validating its conformance to the corresponding (local) session type.

Two Different Worlds, Connected via Mediums

- Multiparty interactions now explained from two different angles
- Half-way between two essentially distinct, foundational theories
- Clean justifications, based on linear logic, for MPSTs concepts:
 - ★ semantics of global types
 - ★ definitions of projection/well-formedness
- Naturally handles name passing, delegation, parallel composition
- Direct connection from choreographies to process implementations
- Techniques for binary processes applicable on global specifications:
 - ★ Deadlock freedom
 - ★ Typed behavioral equivalences

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A Standard Session π -calculus

- Given names (x, y, z, \dots) , processes (P, Q, R) are defined by

$$P ::= \mathbf{0} \quad | \quad P \mid Q \quad | \quad (\nu y)P \\ | \quad \bar{x}y.P \quad | \quad x(y).P \quad | \quad !x(y).P \\ | \quad x \triangleleft \mathbf{1}_i; P \quad | \quad x \triangleright \{\mathbf{1}_i : P_i\}_{i \in I} \quad | \quad [x \leftrightarrow y]$$

- We write $\bar{x}(y)$ to stand for the bound output $(\nu y)\bar{x}y$.
- An associated LTS with expected labels:

$$\lambda ::= \tau \mid x(y) \mid x \triangleleft \mathbf{1} \mid \bar{x}y \mid \bar{x}(y) \mid \overline{x \triangleleft \mathbf{1}}$$

MPSTs: Syntax

- The language of global types subsumes those given in [Honda, Yoshida, Carbone (2008), Deniérou and Yoshida (2013)]
- Define global and local types as

$$\begin{aligned} G & ::= \text{end} \mid p \rightarrow q: \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i \}_{i \in I} \mid G_1 \mid G_2 \\ T & ::= \text{end} \mid p? \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . T_i \}_{i \in I} \mid p! \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . T_i \}_{i \in I} \\ U & ::= \text{bool} \mid \text{nat} \mid \text{str} \mid \dots \mid T \end{aligned}$$

- $G \upharpoonright_{p_i}$ is the (merge-based) projection of G onto participant p_i
- **Well-formedness** of G is defined as correct projectability on all p_i

Choreographies as MPSTs: A Commit Protocol

Structured interaction among three participants p_A , p_B , and p_C :

$$\begin{aligned} G = & p_A \rightarrow p_B: \{ \text{act} \langle \text{int} \rangle. \\ & p_B \rightarrow p_C: \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle. \\ & p_A \rightarrow p_C: \{ \text{comm} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \text{end} \} \} , \\ & \text{quit} \langle \text{int} \rangle. \\ & p_B \rightarrow p_C: \{ \text{save} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \\ & p_A \rightarrow p_C: \{ \text{fin} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \text{end} \} \} \} \end{aligned}$$

The **projections** of G onto p_A and p_C :

$$\begin{aligned} G \upharpoonright p_A = & p_A! \{ \text{act} \langle \text{int} \rangle. p_A! \{ \text{comm} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \text{end} \}, \\ & \text{quit} \langle \text{int} \rangle. p_B! \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle. \text{end} \} \} \\ G \upharpoonright p_C = & p_B? \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle. p_A? \{ \text{comm} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \text{end} \}, \\ & \text{save} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. p_A? \{ \text{fin} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle. \text{end} \} \} \end{aligned}$$

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Medium Process of a Global Type

The **medium** of global type G , noted $M[G]$, is defined inductively as:

- $M[\text{end}] = \mathbf{0}$
- $M[\text{p} \rightarrow \text{q} : \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i \}_{i \in I}] =$
$$c_p \triangleright \{ \mathbf{1}_i : c_p(u) . c_q \triangleleft \mathbf{1}_i ; \overline{c_q}(v) . ([u \leftrightarrow v] \mid M[G_i]) \}_{i \in I}$$
- $M[G_1 \mid G_2] = M[G_1] \mid M[G_2]$

Correspondence Between G and $M[G]$ (Informal)

Let $G = p \rightarrow q: \{1_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i\}_{i \in I}$. Then, we have:

$$M[G] = c_p \triangleright \{1_i : c_p(u) . c_q \triangleleft 1_i; \overline{c_q}(v) . ([u \leftrightarrow v] \mid M[G_i])\}_{i \in I}$$

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An Example: The Commit Protocol

$$G = p_A \rightarrow p_B : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{act} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_B \rightarrow p_C : \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle . p_A \rightarrow p_C : \{ \text{comm} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle . \text{end} \} \} , \\ \text{quit} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_B \rightarrow p_C : \{ \text{save} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle . p_A \rightarrow p_C : \{ \text{fin} \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle . \text{end} \} \} \end{array} \right\}$$

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- The medium process $M[G]$:

$$\begin{aligned} a \triangleright \{ & \text{act} : a(v).b \triangleleft \text{act}; \bar{b}(w).([w \leftrightarrow v] \mid \\ & b \triangleright \{ \text{sig} : b(n).c \triangleleft \text{sig}; \bar{c}(m).([n \leftrightarrow m] \mid \\ & a \triangleright \{ \text{comm} : a(u).c \triangleleft \text{comm}; \bar{c}(y).([u \leftrightarrow y] \mid \mathbf{0}) \} \}) \} , \\ \text{quit} : & a(v).b \triangleleft \text{quit}; \bar{b}(w).([w \leftrightarrow v] \mid \\ & b \triangleright \{ \text{save} : b(n).c \triangleleft \text{save}; \bar{c}(m).([n \leftrightarrow m] \mid \\ & a \triangleright \{ \text{fin} : a(u).c \triangleleft \text{fin}; \bar{c}(y).([u \leftrightarrow y] \mid \mathbf{0}) \} \} \} \} \end{aligned}$$

An Example: The Commit Protocol

- The projections of G – the interface of local implementations:

$$G \upharpoonright p_A = p_A! \{ \text{act} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_A! \{ \text{comm} \langle 1 \rangle . \text{end} \}, \text{quit} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_B! \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle . \text{end} \} \}$$

$$G \upharpoonright p_B = p_A? \{ \text{act} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_B! \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle . \text{end} \}, \text{quit} \langle \text{int} \rangle . p_B! \{ \text{save} \langle 1 \rangle . \text{end} \} \}$$

$$G \upharpoonright p_C = p_B? \{ \text{sig} \langle \text{str} \rangle . p_A? \{ \text{comm} \langle 1 \rangle . \text{end} \}, \text{save} \langle 1 \rangle . p_A? \{ \text{fin} \langle 1 \rangle . \text{end} \} \}$$

- The medium process $M \llbracket G \rrbracket$:

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Correspondence between MPSTs and BSTs

- Conditions under which a medium $M[[G]]$ is well-typed in the logically motivated BSTs of [Caires & Pfenning (2010)]
- A bidirectional correspondence that relates
 - (a) binary session types associated to $M[[G]]$
 - (b) the local types for G

MPSTs and BSTs: Two-Way Correspondence (1)

- The type judgment $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash P :: z:C$ (from [Caires & Pfenning (2010)]): P provides behavior C at channel z , building on “services” in $\Gamma; \Delta$

MPSTs and BSTs: Two-Way Correspondence (1)

- The type judgment $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash P :: z:C$ (from [Caires & Pfenning (2010)]): P provides behavior C at channel z , building on “services” in $\Gamma; \Delta$
- A compositional typing gives a binary type for all participants.
- Mapping $\langle\langle \cdot \rangle\rangle$ from local types T to binary session types A

Theorem (From Well-Formedness To Typed Mediums)

Let G be a global type, with $\text{part}(G) = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$.

If G is well-formed then

$$\Gamma; c_1:\langle\langle G \upharpoonright p_1 \rangle\rangle, \dots, c_n:\langle\langle G \upharpoonright p_n \rangle\rangle \vdash M[G] :: -:1$$

is a compositional typing for $M[G]$, for some Γ .

MPSTs and BSTs: Two-Way Correspondence (2)

- The type judgment $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash P :: z:C$ (from [Caires & Pfenning (2010)]): P provides behavior C at channel z , building on “services” in $\Gamma; \Delta$
- A compositional typing gives a binary type for all participants.
- Mapping $\langle\langle \cdot \rangle\rangle$ from local types T to binary session types A
- Ordering \preceq^\sqcup relates local branching types (akin to subtyping)

Theorem (From Well-Typedness To WF Global Types)

Let G be a global type. If

$$\Gamma; c_1:A_1, \dots, c_n:A_n \vdash M[G] :: -:1$$

is a compositional typing for $M[G]$ then there exist local types T_1, \dots, T_n s.t. $G \upharpoonright r_j \preceq^\sqcup T_j$ and $\langle\langle T_j \rangle\rangle = A_j$, for all $r_j \in G$.

A Behavioral Characterization of Swapping

- The **swap relation**, written \simeq_{sw} , enables safe transformations over global types [Carbone and Montesi (2013)]. For instance:

$$\frac{\{p_1, q_1\} \# \{p_2, q_2\}}{p_1 \twoheadrightarrow q_1: \{l_i \langle U_i \rangle . p_2 \twoheadrightarrow q_2: \{l'_j \langle U'_j \rangle . G_{ij}\}_{j \in J}\}_{i \in I} \simeq_{\text{sw}} p_2 \twoheadrightarrow q_2: \{l'_j \langle U'_j \rangle . p_1 \twoheadrightarrow q_1: \{l_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_{ij}\}_{i \in I}\}_{j \in J}}$$

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- On logic-based BSTs, we have **prefix commutations** on processes.

To justify such transformations, we use **context bisimilarity**.

Two typed processes P and Q , are context bisimilar, denoted $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash P \approx Q :: x:A$ if, once composed with requirements Γ and Δ , they perform the same actions on x (as described by A).

A Behavioral Characterization of Swapping

Theorem

If $G_1 \simeq_{sw} G_2$ then $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash M[G_1] \approx M[G_2] :: -:1$.

- A semantic justification of key structural identities on global types
- Useful to relax sequential constraints induced by process structure
- The converse does not hold in general. Example:

$$G = p \rightarrow q: \{ 1_i \langle U_i \rangle . r \rightarrow p: \{ 1'_j \langle U'_j \rangle . G_{ij} \}_{j \in J} \}_{i \in I}$$

It cannot be swapped and yet prefixes for q and r in $M[G]$ could be commuted.

Operational Correspondence

- A formal connection between MPSTs and mediums.
Intuition: the medium faithfully mirrors the choreography.
- The **annotated medium** of a global type G , denoted $\mathcal{M}[[G]]_k$, uses a session on fresh name k to mimic each action of G .
- The correspondence can then be recasted as follows:
If G is well-formed then we have the type judgment, for some Γ :

$$\Gamma; c_1:\langle\langle G \upharpoonright p_1 \rangle\rangle, \dots, c_n:\langle\langle G \upharpoonright p_n \rangle\rangle \vdash \mathcal{M}[[G]]_k :: k:(\downarrow G)$$

$(\downarrow G)$ denotes a binary type that captures the sequentiality in G .

- Let $S = (\nu \tilde{c})(P_1 \mid \dots \mid P_n \mid \mathcal{M}[[G]]_k)$ be a system realizing G .
- Every move of G can be mimicked by an action of S on k .

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Concluding Remarks (1)

- Medium processes define a **simple characterization** of the multiparty interactions that underlie actual choreographic protocols
- They offer a **formal connection** between typed frameworks for multiparty and binary communications
- Not merely a pleasant reduction: our approach establishes a **natural bridge** between session types and well-established theories

Concluding Remarks (2)

- Logically motivated BSTs reveal **strong** and **tight correspondences** between typed mediums and the local projections of a global type.
- These correspondences are useful! **Key guarantees**
 - ★ preservation
 - ★ progress / lock-freedom
 - ★ termination
 - ★ behavioral equivalencescan be **transferred** from BSTs to MPSTs.

Concluding Remarks (2)

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 - ★ progress / lock-freedom
 - ★ termination
 - ★ behavioral equivalencescan be **transferred** from BSTs to MPSTs.
- Moreover, logically motivated theories of BSTs with
 - ★ recursion [Toninho et al., 2014]
 - ★ asynchrony [DeYoung et al., 2012]
 - ★ dependent types [Toninho et al., 2011]
 - ★ parametric polymorphism [Caires et al., 2013]
 - ★ ...can be **lifted** to MPSTs!

Bridging the Gap Between Binary and Multiparty Communications

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Session types as linear logic propositions

The type syntax coincides with **dual intuitionistic linear logic**:

$$A, B \quad ::= \mathbf{1} \mid A \otimes B \mid A \multimap B \mid !A \\ \mid \&\{\mathbf{1}_i : A_i\}_{i \in I} \mid \oplus\{\mathbf{1}_i : A_i\}_{i \in I}$$

[No atomic formulas, \top , $\mathbf{0}$]

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Types are assigned to **names** and describe their session behavior:

$x : A \otimes B$	Output an A along x and behave as B on x
$x : A \multimap B$	Input an A along x and behave as B on x
$x : !A$	Persistently offer A along x
$x : \&\{\mathbf{1}_i : A_i\}_{i \in I}$	Offer a choice between an A_i along x
$x : \oplus\{\mathbf{1}_i : A_i\}_{i \in I}$	Select one of the A_i along x
$x : \mathbf{1}$	Terminated interaction on x

Local Types and Logic-Based Types

Definition

The mapping $\langle\langle \cdot \rangle\rangle$ from local types T into binary session types A is inductively defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\langle \text{end} \rangle\rangle &= \mathbf{1} \\ \langle\langle \mathbf{p}! \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . T_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle\rangle &= \oplus \{ \mathbf{1}_i : U_i \otimes \langle\langle T_i \rangle\rangle \}_{i \in I} \\ \langle\langle \mathbf{p}? \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . T_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle\rangle &= \& \{ \mathbf{1}_i : U_i \multimap \langle\langle T_i \rangle\rangle \}_{i \in I}\end{aligned}$$

Annotated Mediums

Definition

Let G be a global type. Also, let k be a fresh name.

The **annotated medium** of G with respect to k , denoted $\mathcal{M}[[G]]_k$, is defined inductively as follows:

- $\mathcal{M}[[\text{end}]]_k = \mathbf{0}$
- $\mathcal{M}[[p \rightarrow q : \{1_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i\}_{i \in I}]]_k =$
 $c_p \triangleright \{ 1_i : k \triangleleft 1_i ; c_p(u) . \bar{k}(p) . (\mathbf{0}_p \mid$
 $c_q \triangleleft 1_i ; k \triangleright \{ 1_i : \bar{c}_q(v) . ([u \leftrightarrow v] \mid k(q) . \mathcal{M}[[G_i]]_k) \}_{i \in I}) \}_{i \in I}$

where p and q are names assumed distinct from any other name c_{p_i} .

Global Types and Logic-Based Types

Definition

Let $\sigma(\cdot)$ denote a mapping from participants to logic-based types. The mapping $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ from global types G into binary session types A is inductively defined as:

$$\llbracket \text{end} \rrbracket = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\llbracket \text{p} \rightarrow \text{q} : \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i \}_{i \in I} \rrbracket = \bigoplus \{ \mathbf{1}_i : \sigma(\text{p}) \otimes \& \{ \mathbf{1}_i : \sigma(\text{q}) \multimap \llbracket G_i \rrbracket \}_{\{i\}} \}_{i \in I}$$

Medium of a Global Type with Recursion

Definition

Let G be a global type with recursion $\mu\mathcal{X}.G$. Also, let $\mathbf{1}$ be a label. The *medium* of G with respect to $\mathbf{1}$, noted $M[G]^\mathbf{1}$, is defined inductively as follows:

- $M[\text{end}]^\mathbf{1} = k \triangleleft \mathbf{1}; \mathbf{0}$
- $M[\text{p} \rightarrow \text{q}; \{ \mathbf{1}_i \langle U_i \rangle . G_i \}_{i \in I}]^{\mathbf{1}'} =$
 $c_p \triangleright \{ \mathbf{1}_i : c_p(u).c_q \triangleleft \mathbf{1}_i; \overline{c_q}(v).([u \leftrightarrow v] \mid M[G_i]^{1_i}) \}_{i \in I}$
- $M[\mu\mathcal{X}.G]^\mathbf{1} = (\text{corec } \mathcal{X}(k).M[G]^\mathbf{1}) k$
- $M[\mathcal{X}]^\mathbf{1} = k \triangleleft \mathbf{1}; \mathcal{X}(k)$

where name k is assumed to be distinct from any other name c_{p_i} .