Type and Proof Structures for Concurrency

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Applying programming ideas to proofs

Most approaches: automate spurious proof obligations.

Our approach: avoid proof obligations by hiding, abstraction & reuse.

Curry-Howard isomorphism: *proofs = programs*

- for purely-functional programs

Goal: new foundations for concurrent progs, specs & proofs

- Linguistic & math concepts that make proofs scale
- Do for proofs what structured programming did for programming

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Concurrent programs & their formal proofs

In programs

In formal proofs

Information hiding

Proof of component *depends* on state of another

Code abstraction

Proofs overwhelmingly detailed

Code reuse

Must *redo* proofs for every new

use context

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Outline

- 1. Subjective state
- 2. Specifying ADTs
- 3. State transition systems as types
- 4. Function types

Starting point: Owicki-Gries auxiliary (ghost) state

Notation: < e > - lock; execute e; unlock.

Prove without enumerating all thread interleaving

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Proofs depend on thread topology

Say we want to show that a 3-way increment adds 3 to x.

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{l} x := x+1; \\ a := a+1 \end{array} \right\rangle \parallel \left\langle \begin{array}{l} x := x+1; \\ b := b+1 \end{array} \right\rangle \parallel \left\langle \begin{array}{l} x := x+1; \\ c := c+1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

Requires a new resource invariant: $V=x\mapsto a+b+c$.

Problem: The two-thread subproof can't be reused because it relies on $V=x\mapsto a+b$.

⁷ **7**

Starting point: Owicki-Gries auxiliary (ghost) state

Resource invariant: $V = x \mapsto a + b$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{x=0\} \\ \left\langle \begin{array}{l} x:=x+1; \\ a:=a+1 \end{array} \right\rangle \parallel \left\langle \begin{array}{l} x:=x+1; \\ b:=b+1 \end{array} \right\rangle \\ \left\{ x=2 \right\}$$

Type-theoretic move

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Proofs depend on thread topology

How to hide thread topology?

Idea: let's turn Hoare triples into types

- dependent monads
- not a mere syntactic change

 $e:[x_1eX, \mathcal{S}_1] \longrightarrow V$

"logical" variables

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What is Hoare type for increment?

$$\langle x := x+1; \ a := a+1 \rangle \colon \boldsymbol{ST} \ \{a\!=\!0\} \{a\!=\!1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b)$$

$$\langle x := x+1; \ b := b+1 \rangle \colon \boldsymbol{ST} \ \{b\!=\!0\} \{b\!=\!1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b)$$

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What is Hoare type for increment?

$$\langle x := x+1; \ a := a+1 \rangle : \ \mathbf{ST} \ \{a=0\} \{a=1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b)$$

 $\langle x := x+1; \ b := b+1 \rangle : \ \mathbf{ST} \ \{b=0\} \{b=1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b)$

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What is Hoare type for increment?

$$\forall ab$$
, $\langle x := x+1; \ a := a+1 \rangle$: $ST \ \{a=0\} \{a=1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b) \}$ $\langle x := x+1; \ b := b+1 \rangle$: $ST \ \{b=0\} \{b=1\} @ (x \mapsto a+b) \}$

Subjective ghost variables

Each thread and type should have two local variables.

- $oldsymbol{a}_{\mathcal{S}}$ how much " $oldsymbol{\textit{we}}$ " added to \mathcal{X}
- $alpha_o$ how much "others" added to x (novel kind of variable)

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Remodeling parallel composition

parent'

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Relating to old ghosts

In 3-way increment:

	left thread	middle thread	right thread	
a_s	a	b	c	
a_o	b+c	c+a	a+b	Ī

Resource invariant $V = x \mapsto (a_s + a_o)$ is same in all threads

The variables a_s and a_o are local but not independent.

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Remodeling parallel composition

parent
$$\{a_s=b_1+b_2,\, oldsymbol{a_o}=c \} \ \{a_s=b_1,\, oldsymbol{a_o}=b_2+c \} \ \mathsf{child_1} \ egin{pmatrix} \{a_s=b_2,\, oldsymbol{a_o}=c+b_1 \} \ \mathsf{child_2} \ \end{pmatrix}$$

parent'

Once forked, *child*₁ is part of *child*₂'s environment, and vice-versa.

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Remodeling parallel composition

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & \mathsf{parent} \\ \{ \ a_s = b_1 + b_2, \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = c \ \} \\ \{ \ a_s = b_1, \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = b_2 + c \ \} \\ & \mathsf{child_1} \\ \{ \ a_s = b_1', \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = c_1' \} \end{array} \right. \left. \begin{array}{c|c} \{ \ a_s = b_2, \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = c + b_1 \ \} \\ \mathsf{child_2} \\ \{ \ a_s = b_2', \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = c_2' \} \end{array} \right. \\ \left. \{ \ a_s = b_1' + b_2', \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = c_1' - b_2' = c_2' - b_1' \ \} \\ \mathsf{parent}' \end{array}$$

Once forked, *child*₁ is part of *child*₂'s environment, and vice-versa.

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Subjective conjunction

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Subjective conjunction

$$\begin{array}{c|c} e_1:ST \ \{P_1\} \ \{Q_1\} & e_2:ST \ \{P_2\} \ \{Q_2\} \\ \hline e_1 \parallel e_2:ST \ \{P_1 \circledast P_2\} \ \{Q_1 \circledast Q_2\} \\ \end{array}$$

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Subjective conjunction

Works for every (partial) commutative, associative operation with unit (PCM)

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Relationship to separation logic

$$\frac{\{P_1\} e_1 \{Q_1\} \qquad \{P_2\} e_2 \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 * P_2\} e_1 \parallel e_2 \{Q_1 * Q_2\}}$$

$$a_s \models P_1 * P_2$$
 iff

$$\exists a_1 \ a_2. \ a_s = a_1 \ orall \ a_2$$
 and

$$a_1 \vDash P_1$$
 and $a_2 \vDash P_2$

Where a_s is a heap variable and U is disjoint heap union.

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Framing in our system

if

$$e: ST \{a_s = a \land \mathbf{a_o} = c\} \{a_s = b \land \mathbf{a_o} = d\}$$

then

$$e: ST \{a_s = a+r \land a_o = c-r\} \{a_s = b+r \land a_o = d-r\}$$

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Framing in separation logic

if

 $e: ST \{P\} \{Q\}$

then

 $e: ST \{P *R\} \{Q *R\}$

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Fault avoidance

In separation logic:

Verified programs don't fault if starting state satisfies precondition

In our setting:

Well-typed programs don't go wrong

Conclusion: separation logic = type theory of state

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One program/ghost state/proof for all contexts

$$\left\{ a_s = 0, \mathbf{a_o} = - \right\} \\
 \left\langle \begin{array}{l} x := x + 1; \\ a_s := a_s + 1 \end{array} \right\rangle \\
 \left\{ a_s = 1, \mathbf{a_o} = - \right\} \\
 \end{array}$$

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Code/proof reuse

$$\begin{array}{lll} & \text{incr } 0 & = & \{a_s = 0, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \text{ skip } \{a_s = 0, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \\ & \{a_s = 1, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \\ & \{a_s = n + 1, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \\ \\ & \{a_s = n + 1, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \\ \\ & \{a_s = n + 1, \textcolor{red}{a_o} = -\} \\ \\ \\ \end{and}$$

Same code/proof can be substituted into any context

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Code/proof reuse

$$\{a_{s} = 0, \mathbf{a_{o}} = -\}$$

$$\{a_{s} = 1, \mathbf{a_{o}} = -\}$$

$$\{a_{s} = 1, \mathbf{a_{o}} = -\}$$

$$\{a_{s} = 2, \mathbf{a_{o}} = -\}$$

Same code, ghost code, proof on both sides of II.

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Abstraction and information hiding

$$\{a_s=0, \color{red} \color{blue} a_{\color{blue} o}=-\}$$
 incr n $\{a_s=n, \color{blue} a_{\color{blue} o}=-\}$

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Abstraction and information hiding

incr
$$n$$
: ST $\begin{cases} a_s = 0, \mathbf{a_o} = - \} \\ \{a_s = n, \mathbf{a_o} = - \} \end{cases}$

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Abstraction and information hiding

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} x := x + n; \\ a_s := a_s + n \end{array} \right\rangle : ST \begin{cases} \{a_s = 0, \mathbf{a_o} = -\} \\ \{a_s = n, \mathbf{a_o} = -\} \end{cases}$$

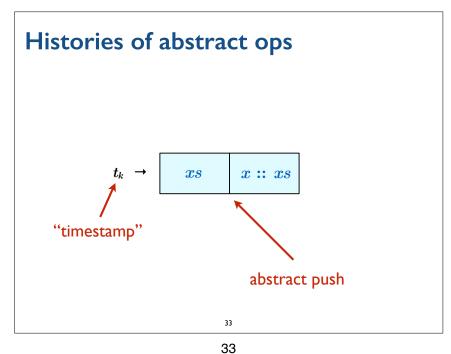
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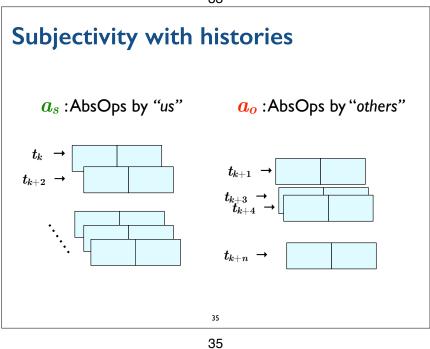
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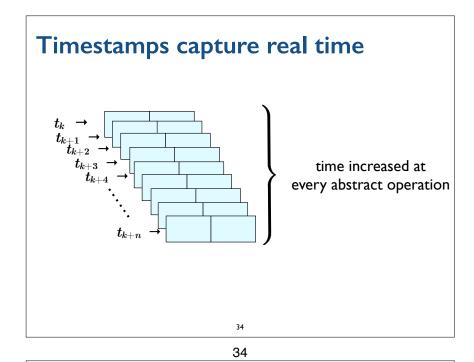
How to specify stacks?

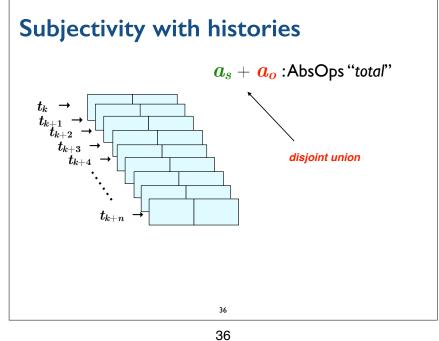
```
	ext{push(x):} [xs]. \ ST \ \{a_s = xs\} \ \{a_s = x :: xs\} 	ext{pop():} [xs]. \ ST \ \{a_s = xs\} 	ext{} \{res = 	ext{None} \land a_s = xs = 	ext{nil} 	ext{} \lor \exists x \ xs'. \ res = 	ext{Some} \ x \land  	ext{} xs = x :: xs' \land a_s = xs'\}
```

Suitable for sequential case, but useless in concurrency Need PCM for stack effects









Histories = Heaps as PCM



$$Hist = (timestamps \rightarrow_{fin} AbsOp, +, \varnothing)$$

$$\mathbb{H}_{eap} = (pointers \rightarrow_{fin} Values, +, \emptyset)$$



Separation logic = type theory of time as well

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Method specs

$$ST \; \{\; a_s = \varnothing \; \wedge \; \textcolor{red}{a_o} = k \} \\ \; \{\; \exists t \; xs. \; \textcolor{red}{a_s} = t \mapsto (xs, \; x \text{::} xs) \; \wedge \\ \; \qquad \qquad t > last \; k \}$$

Non-local condition

Similar to linearizability, but at user level

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Method specs

push(x):
$$ST \; \{ \; a_s = \varnothing \}$$
 $\{ \; \exists t \; xs. \; a_s = t \mapsto (xs, \; x \!\!:\! xs) \; \}$

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Method specs

```
\begin{array}{ll} \texttt{pop} \ : & [k]. \ ST \ \{a_s = \varnothing \ \land \ \textcolor{red}{a_o} = k\} \\ & \{ \texttt{if} \ res \ \texttt{is} \ Some \ x \ \texttt{then} \\ & \exists t \ xs. \ a_s = t \mapsto (x :: xs, \ xs) \ \land \ t > last \ k \\ & \texttt{else} \ a_s = \varnothing \land \exists g. \ k \subseteq g \subseteq \textcolor{red}{a_o} \land \ empty \ g \} \end{array}
```

Recording unsuccessful pop is optional

 specifying histories at user level may be useful for relaxing linearizability and implementing other correctness conditions

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Example: spin locks

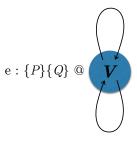
```
Program lock := do  x \leftarrow CAS (r, U, L)  while \neg x
```

```
Program unlock := r := U
```

How to specify lock-free programs?

Owicki-Gries = Resource Invariant (i.e., set of states)

- must lock whole stack before modification



For lock-free programs, add transitions:

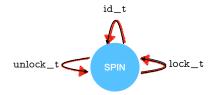
- atomic moves allowed to the programs
- variant of Rely-Guarantee [Jones 83, Dinsdale-Young et al. 2010]
- only programs of equal resource type compose

Also relevant:

- Abadi+Lamport's refinement mappings
- Lamport's TLA

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SPIN resource and ghost histories



State space (aka. invariant)

 $egin{aligned} r = \mathit{last_op} \; (\mathit{a_s} + \mathbf{a_o}) \; \land \ \mathit{alternate} \; (\mathit{a_s} + \mathbf{a_o}) \end{aligned}$

Transitions:

lock_tr:
$$\neg locked(a_s + a_o) \land a_s' = a_s + fresh(a_s + a_o) \mapsto L$$
unlock_tr: $locked(a_s + a_o) \land a_s' = a_s + fresh(a_s + a_o) \mapsto U$

Ghost code chooses transitions

```
Program lock := do  x \leftarrow CAS (r, U, L)  while \neg x
```

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Ghost code chooses transitions

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```
Program unlock :=
r := U
```

Ghost code chooses transitions

```
Program lock :=

do

⟨x ← CAS (r, U, L);

if x then lock_tr else id_tr⟩

while ¬x

log successful locking to history
```

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Ghost code chooses transitions

Specs for lock and unlock

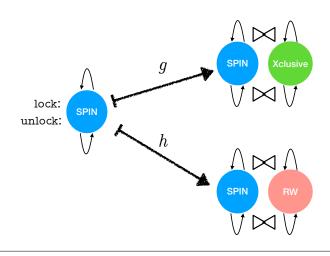
lock :
$$[k]$$
. ST $\{a_s=arnothing \land a_o=k \}$ $\{\exists t. \ a_s=t \mapsto L \land t> last \ k\}$ @SPIN

unlock : [k].
$$ST$$
 $\{a_s = \varnothing \land a_o = k\}$

$$\{\exists t. \ a_s = t \mapsto U \land t > last \ k \lor a_s = \varnothing \land \exists g. \ k \subseteq g \subseteq a_o \land locked \ g\} @SPIN$$

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Extending SPIN with new ghost state/ code

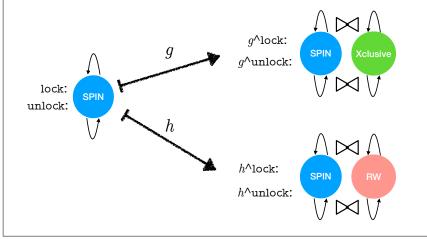


Outline

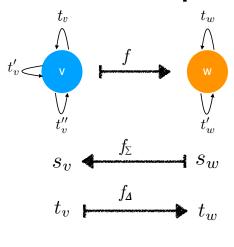
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Need functions to coerce programs between resources



Resource morphism

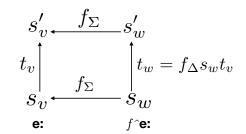


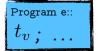
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Need invariant for the morphing loop

$$\begin{array}{c|c} s'_v & f_{\Sigma} & s'_w \\ \hline t_v & f_{\Sigma} & t_w = f_{\Delta} s_w t_v \\ s_v & g_w & s_w \end{array}$$

Action of morphism f on program e







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Need invariant for the morphing loop

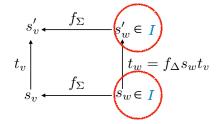
$$s'_{v} \leftarrow f_{\Sigma} \quad s'_{w} \in \mathbf{I}$$

$$t_{v} \mid \qquad \uparrow_{t_{w}} \quad \uparrow_{t_{w}} = f_{\Delta} s_{w} t_{v}$$

$$s_{v} \leftarrow S_{w} \in \mathbf{I}$$

• I is a simulation.

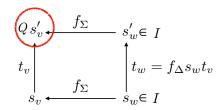
Inference Rule



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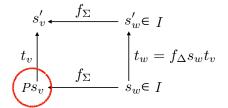
Inference Rule

$$\underbrace{ \text{ e: } \{P\} \ \{Q\} \, @\, \mathsf{V} }_{f \, \hat{} \text{ e: } \{I \wedge f_{\Sigma}^{-1} \, P\,\} \ \{I \wedge \ldots\} \, @\, \mathsf{W} }$$



Inference Rule

e:
$$\{P\}$$
 $\{Q\}$ @ V f ^e: $\{I \land ...\}$ $\{I \land ...\}$ @ W



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Inference Rule

$$f^e: \frac{\mathsf{e} \colon \{P\} \ \{Q\} @ \mathsf{V}}{\{I \land f_\Sigma^{-1} \, P\,\} \ \{I \land f_\Sigma^{-1} \, Q\}} @ \mathsf{W}$$

$$s'_{v} \leftarrow f_{\Sigma} \qquad s'_{w} \in I$$

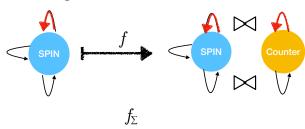
$$t_{v} \qquad f_{\Sigma} \qquad t_{w} = f_{\Delta} s_{w} t_{v}$$

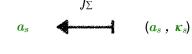
$$s_{v} \leftarrow f_{\Sigma} \qquad s_{w} \in I$$

Morphing example

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Morphism definition

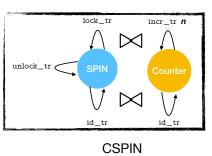




lock_tr
$$f_{\Delta}$$
 lock_tr \bowtie incr_tr n unlock_tr \bowtie id_tr

Attaching behaviours to spin locks

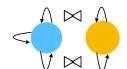
• Add *n* to a counter simultaneously with each locking.



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Expected morphed spec

f $\{\kappa_s = 0\}$ $\{\kappa_s = n\}$ @ CSPIN

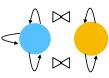


f lock : $\{I \land f_{\Sigma}^{-1}P\} \{I \land f_{\Sigma}^{-1}Q\}$ @CSPIN

$$egin{aligned} \mathsf{lock}: \{a_s = arnothing \wedge oldsymbol{a_o} = oldsymbol{h}\} \ & \{\exists oldsymbol{t}. \ a_s = oldsymbol{t} oldsymbol{h} \perp oldsymbol{h} \setminus oldsymbol{h} \geq oldsymbol{last} \ oldsymbol{h}\} \end{aligned}$$
 @ SPIN

Expected morphed spec

$$f \hat{\ } \mathrm{lock} : \{\mathit{I} \wedge f_{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathit{P}\} \, \{\mathit{I} \wedge f_{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathit{Q}\} \, @\mathrm{CSPIN}$$

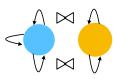


$$ext{lock}: \{a_s = \varnothing\} \ \{\exists t. \ a_s = t
ightarrow \mathbf{L} \ \}$$
 @ SPIN

$$I \triangleq \kappa_s = n \ (\sharp_L a_s)$$

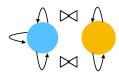
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Expected morphed spec



$$f$$
 $\{\kappa_s=n\ (\sharp_{\mathbf{L}}\ a_s)\ \land a_s=\varnothing\}$
 $\{\kappa_s=n\ (\sharp_{\mathbf{L}}\ a_s)\ \land \exists t.\ a_s=t
ightarrow \mathbf{L} \}$ @CSPIN

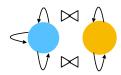
Expected morphed spec



$$f$$
 ^lock : { $\kappa_s=n\ (\sharp_{\mathbf{L}}\ a_s)\ \wedge f_{\Sigma}^{-1}(a_s=arnothing)}$ { $\kappa_s=n\ (\sharp_{\mathbf{L}}\ a_s)\ \wedge f_{\Sigma}^{-1}(\exists t.\ a_s=t
ightarrow\mathbf{L}\)}$ @CSPIN

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Expected morphed spec



$$f$$
 ^lock : { $oldsymbol{\kappa}_s = oldsymbol{0}$ } $\{ \, oldsymbol{\kappa}_s = oldsymbol{n} \, \}$ @CSPIN

Conclusions

- 1. Type theory very suitable for modelling concurrency
- 2. New foundations for concurrent reasoning
 - · new abstractions for type/code/specs, new rules for proofs
- 3. Many well-known concepts receive type-inspired modification
 - similar to how structured programming changed programming
- 4. Separation logic = dependent type theory
 - · arises directly from Owicki-Gries approach via types
- 5. Hoare triples = dependent monads

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Implementation

- 1. Implementation as minimalistic system
 - 9 Hoare-style rules + Coq (shallow embedding)
- 2. Verified number of benchmark programs
 - · locks, stacks, snapshots, flat combiner, graph marking,...

Important technical ideas

- 1. Subjective variables (a_s and a_o)
 - · local access to global state and global invariants
 - · give rise to novel algebra of PCMs (POPL20)
- 2. Subjective histories
 - · separation logic = temporal+spatial reasoning
 - · user-level encoding of linearizability
- 3. Algebra of resources and morphisms
 - · type-level ~ Abadi-Lamport refinements
 - · novel reasoning rule for morphism application

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Q&A slides

Differences with separation logic

In separation logic In our system $x \mapsto 3 * y \mapsto 42 \qquad a_s = x \mapsto 3 + y \mapsto 42$ $[x \mapsto 3]^{\text{heap}} * [1]^{\text{ghost}} \qquad a_s = (x \mapsto 3, 1)$ $\text{fst } a_s = x \mapsto 3 \land \text{snd } a_s = 1$ (leads to theory of PCM functions and relations) $\exists n. \ [x \mapsto n+2]^{\text{heap}} * [n]^{\text{ghost}} \qquad \text{fst } a_s = x \mapsto (\text{snd } a_s + 2)$ $x \mapsto 3 * y \mapsto 42 \qquad \times \qquad a_s = x \mapsto 3 \land a_o = y \mapsto 42$

⁷³

Definitions

Definition 3.9. A **resource morphism** $f: V \to W$ consists of two partial functions $f_{\Sigma}: \Sigma(W) \to \Sigma(V)$ (note the contravariance), and $f_{\Delta}: \Sigma(W) \to \Delta(V) \to \Delta(W)$, such that:

- (1) (locality of f_{Σ}) there exists a function $\phi: M(W) \to M(V)$ such that if $f_{\Sigma}(s_w \rhd p) = s_v$, then there exists s_v' such that $s_v = s_v' \rhd \phi(p)$, and $f_{\Sigma}(s_w \lhd p) = s_v' \lhd \phi(p)$.
- (2) (locality of f_{Δ}) if $f_{\Delta}(s_w \rhd p)(t_v) = t_w$, then $f_{\Delta}(s_w \lhd p)(t_v) = t_w$.
- (3) (other-fixity) if $a_o(s_w) = a_o(s_w')$ and $f_{\Sigma}(s_w)$, $f_{\Sigma}(s_w')$ exist, then $a_o(f_{\Sigma}(s_w)) = a_o(f_{\Sigma}(s_w'))$.

Rules

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Definitions

Definition 3.11. Given a morphism $f: V \to W$, an f-simulation is a predicate I on W-states such that:

- (1) if Is_w , and $s_v = f_\Sigma(s_w)$ exists, and $t_v s_v s_v'$, then there exist $t_w = f_\Delta s_w t_v$ and s_w' such that Is_w' and $s_v' = f_\Sigma(s_w')$, and $t_w s_w s_w'$.
- (2) if Is_w , and $s_v = f_{\Sigma}(s_w)$ exists, and $s_w \xrightarrow{W} s_w'$, then Is_w' , and $s_v' = f_{\Sigma}(s_w')$ exists, and $s_v \xrightarrow{W} s_v'$. Here, the relation $s \xrightarrow{W} s'$ denotes that s other-steps by W to s', i.e., that there exists a transition $t \in \Delta(W)$ such that $t s^{\mathsf{T}} s'^{\mathsf{T}}$. The **transposition** $s^{\mathsf{T}} = (a_o s, a_j s, a_s s)$ swaps the subjective components of s, to obtain the view of other threads. The relation \xrightarrow{W} is the reflexive-transitive closure of \xrightarrow{W} , allowing for an arbitrary number of steps.

Definitions

Definition B.2. A **PCM morphism** $\phi:A\to B$ with a compatibility relation \bot_{ϕ} is a partial function from A to B such that:

- (1) $\phi \, \mathbb{1}_A = \mathbb{1}_B$
- (2) if $x \perp_{\phi} y$, then ϕx , ϕy exist, and $\phi x \perp_{B} \phi y$, and $\phi (x \bullet y) = \phi x \bullet \phi y$

The morphism ϕ is *total* if \perp_{ϕ} equals \perp_{A} .

Definition B.3. PCM A is a \mathbf{sub} - \mathbf{PCM} of a PCM B if there exists a total PCM morphism $\iota: A \to B$ (injection) and a morphism $\rho: B \to A$ (retraction), such that:

- (1) $\rho(\iota a) = a$
- (2) if $b \perp_{\rho} \mathbb{1}_{B}$ then $\iota(\rho b) = b$
- (3) if $(\rho x) \perp_A (\rho y)$ then $x \perp_{\rho} y$

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Definitions

Definition B.5. Let R be an invariant compatibility relation on M(V). The **sub-resource** V/R is defined with the same type, transitions and erasure as V, but with the PCM and the state space defined as

- (1) M(V/R) = M(V)/R
- (2) $s \in \Sigma(V/R)$ iff $s \in \Sigma(V) \land (a_s s) R(a_o s)$

There is a generic resource morphism $\iota:V\to V/R$ that is inclusion on states and identity on transitions.