

Sessions and Separation

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Combining

Combining *Session* Types

Combining *Session Types* with *Separation Logic*

Combining
Session Types with *Separation Logic*
to ensure correctness

Combining
Session Types with *Separation Logic*
to ensure correctness
of concurrent programs

Combining *Session Types* with *Separation Logic* to ensure correctness of concurrent programs

(that use message passing with other concurrency mechanisms)

Key observation:
Concurrency is important

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Concurrency: Working together to complete a shared task

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- ▶ A way of increasing productivity

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- ▶ Real world: Cooks in a kitchen

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- ▶ Between computers: Server farms

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Concurrent programs: Instructions on how the cores should work together

Problem:
Concurrency is difficult

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Coordinating a concurrent effort is notoriously difficult

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- ▶ Real world: “Too many cooks spoil the broth”

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- ▶ Between computers: Miscommunication

Problem: Concurrency is difficult

Coordinating a concurrent effort is notoriously difficult

- ▶ Real world: “Too many cooks spoil the broth”
- ▶ Between computers: Miscommunication
- ▶ Within computers: Data races

A problem has been detected and Windows has been shut down to prevent damage to your computer.

PFN_LIST_CORRUPT

If this is the first time you've seen this Stop error screen, restart your computer. If this screen appears again, follow these steps:

Check to make sure any new hardware or software is properly installed. If this is a new installation, ask your hardware or software manufacturer for any Windows updates you might need.

If problems continue, disable or remove any newly installed hardware or software. Disable BIOS memory options such as caching or shadowing. If you need to use Safe Mode to remove or disable components, restart your computer, press F8 to select Advanced Startup Options, and then select Safe Mode.

Technical information:

*** STOP: 0x0000004e (0x00000099, 0x00900009, 0x00000900, 0x00000900)

Your computer restarted because of a problem. Press a key or wait a few seconds to continue starting up.

Votre ordinateur a redémarré en raison d'un problème. Pour poursuivre le redémarrage, appuyez sur une touche ou patientez quelques secondes.

El ordenador se ha reiniciado debido a un problema. Para continuar con el arranque, pulse cualquier tecla o espere unos segundos.

Ihr Computer wurde aufgrund eines Problems neu gestartet. Drücken Sie zum Fortfahren eine Taste oder warten Sie einige Sekunden.

問題が起きたためコンピュータを再起動しました。このまま起動する場合は、いずれかのキーを押すか、数秒間そのままお待ちください。

电脑因出现问题而重新启动。请按一下按键，或等几秒钟以继续启动。

Goal:
Ensure Correctness
of Concurrent Programs

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(*i.e.*, That they do not crash, and produce the expected results)

Goal: Ensure Correctness of Concurrent Programs

Program testing

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Program testing

- ▶ Running the program with various input, and checking the output

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- ▶ Problem: Hard to guarantee full code coverage

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 - ▶ One chef adds soy sauce, then another salts to taste 

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Formal verification

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Formal verification

- ▶ Prove that *any* execution of the program is correct

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 - ▶ Also for concurrent programs

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Formal verification

- ▶ Prove that *any* execution of the program is correct
 - ▶ Guarantees full code coverage
 - ▶ Also for concurrent programs
- ▶ Statically: Without running the program

Math!

Math!

(Board Games!)

Define a mathematical model

Formal Verification

Define a mathematical model (e.g., separation logic)

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- ▶ Like designing a board game!



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Specify programs and expected results

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Specify programs and expected results (e.g., $\{\text{True}\} \text{ sort } \vec{v} \{ \vec{w}. \text{sorted_of } \vec{w} \vec{v} \}$)

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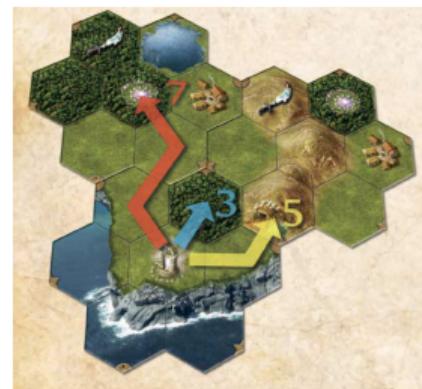
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Carry out derivations

- ▶ Playing the board game, one rule at a time



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Adequacy

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- ▶ Winning the board game ensures certain properties (such as correctness)

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Just create and play a board game!

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Just create and play a board game!

- ▶ That ensures correctness of concurrent programs

Goal:
Board game

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Board game
that ensures correctness

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Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify (Syntax and semantics)

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

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- ▶ Like the theme of the board game

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify (Syntax and semantics)

- ▶ Like the theme of the board game
- ▶ Settle on concurrency mechanisms

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify (Syntax and semantics)

- ▶ Like the theme of the board game
- ▶ Settle on concurrency mechanisms: Tools to describe collaboration

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify (Syntax and semantics)

- ▶ Like the theme of the board game
- ▶ Settle on concurrency mechanisms: Tools to describe collaboration
 - ▶ Shared memory

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

First: Settle on the programming language to verify (Syntax and semantics)

- ▶ Like the theme of the board game
- ▶ Settle on concurrency mechanisms: Tools to describe collaboration
 - ▶ Shared memory
 - ▶ Cooks collaborate on a shared dish

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 - ▶ Cooks work separately on different parts of the dish

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- ▶ It is common to combine multiple concurrency mechanisms

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Then: Settle on the properties to guarantee

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Then: Settle on the properties to guarantee

- ▶ Crash-freedom (safety)

Goal: Board game that ensures correctness of concurrent programs

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Then: Settle on the properties to guarantee

- ▶ Crash-freedom (safety)
- ▶ Terminating programs produce the expected results (functional correctness)

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Then: Settle on the properties to guarantee

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- ▶ Terminating programs produce the expected results (functional correctness)

Finally: Settle on the rules, and prove adequacy

Two existing solutions:
Session Types and Separation Logic

Existing solution: Separation Logic

Mathematical model for analysing programs with shared memory

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- ▶ Actively being researched since year 2000

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Guarantees crash-freedom and functional correctness

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Guarantees crash-freedom and functional correctness

Complicated board game

Existing solution: Separation Logic

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- ▶ Not automatically solvable by a computer

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- ▶ Not automatically solvable by a computer
- ▶ Playing and winning requires interactive help

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- ▶ Important to have simple rules

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The Iris separation logic



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- ▶ Simple rules for shared memory, and other concurrency mechanisms

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The Iris separation logic



- ▶ Simple rules for shared memory, and other concurrency mechanisms
- ▶ Problem: Lack of simple rules for message passing

Existing solution: Session types

Mathematical model for analysing message-passing programs

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Guarantees that programs are crash-free (and deadlock-free)

Existing solution: Session types

Mathematical model for analysing message-passing programs

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Guarantees that programs are crash-free (and deadlock-free)

- ▶ Problem: Does not generally guarantee functional correctness

Existing solution: Session types

Mathematical model for analysing message-passing programs

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Guarantees that programs are crash-free (and deadlock-free)

- ▶ Problem: Does not generally guarantee functional correctness

Less complicated board game

Existing solution: Session types

Mathematical model for analysing message-passing programs

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Guarantees that programs are crash-free (and deadlock-free)

- ▶ Problem: Does not generally guarantee functional correctness

Less complicated board game

- ▶ Automatically solvable by a computer

Existing solution: Session types

Mathematical model for analysing message-passing programs

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Guarantees that programs are crash-free (and deadlock-free)

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Less complicated board game

- ▶ Automatically solvable by a computer
- ▶ Intuitive rules for message passing

Existing solution: Session types

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Many variants of session types exists

Existing solution: Session types

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Many variants of session types exists

- ▶ We consider: Binary session types

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Many variants of session types exists

- ▶ We consider: Binary session types
 - ▶ Binary: Communication is between two parties

Key idea:
Combine
(Binary) **Session Types** and
(the Iris) **Separation Logic**

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of concurrent programs
(that use message passing with other concurrency mechanisms)

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:
Actris

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Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs

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Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

- ▶ Built on top of Iris



Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

- ▶ Built on top of Iris

	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓



Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

- ▶ Built on top of Iris



	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓
Other concurrency	✗	✓	✓

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

- ▶ Built on top of Iris



	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓
Other concurrency	✗	✓	✓
Crash-freedom	✓	✓	✓

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

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Crash-freedom	✓	✓	✓
Functional correctness	✗	✓	✓

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

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Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

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	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓
Other concurrency	✗	✓	✓
Crash-freedom	✓	✓	✓
Functional correctness	✗	✓	✓
Message passing	✓	✗	✓

Contribution 1 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

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	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓
Other concurrency	✗	✓	✓
Crash-freedom	✓	✓	✓
Functional correctness	✗	✓	✓
Message passing	✓	✗	✓
Deadlock-freedom	✓	✗	✗

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	Session Types	Iris	Actris
Shared memory	✗	✓	✓
Other concurrency	✗	✓	✓
Crash-freedom	✓	✓	✓
Functional correctness	✗	✓	✓
Message passing	✓	✗	✓
Deadlock-freedom	✓	✗	✗
Automatically solvable	✓	✗	✗

Problem:

Bugs and cheating in the board game

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules
 - ▶ Like drawing infinite cards

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules
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Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules
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Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

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Bugs or cheating = All bets are off

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules
 - ▶ Like drawing infinite cards (or obtaining a paradox)
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Bugs or cheating = All bets are off

- ▶ No guaranteed properties from winning

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These are complicated board games

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

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 - ▶ Like drawing infinite cards (or obtaining a paradox)
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Bugs or cheating = All bets are off

- ▶ No guaranteed properties from winning

These are complicated board games

- ▶ Difficult to avoid bugs

Problem: Bugs and cheating in the board game

Bugs and Cheating

- ▶ Bugs: Contradictory rules
 - ▶ Like drawing infinite cards (or obtaining a paradox)
- ▶ Cheating: Not following the rules of the board game

Bugs or cheating = All bets are off

- ▶ No guaranteed properties from winning

These are complicated board games

- ▶ Difficult to avoid bugs
- ▶ Cheating can happen by accident

Solution:
Mechanisation!

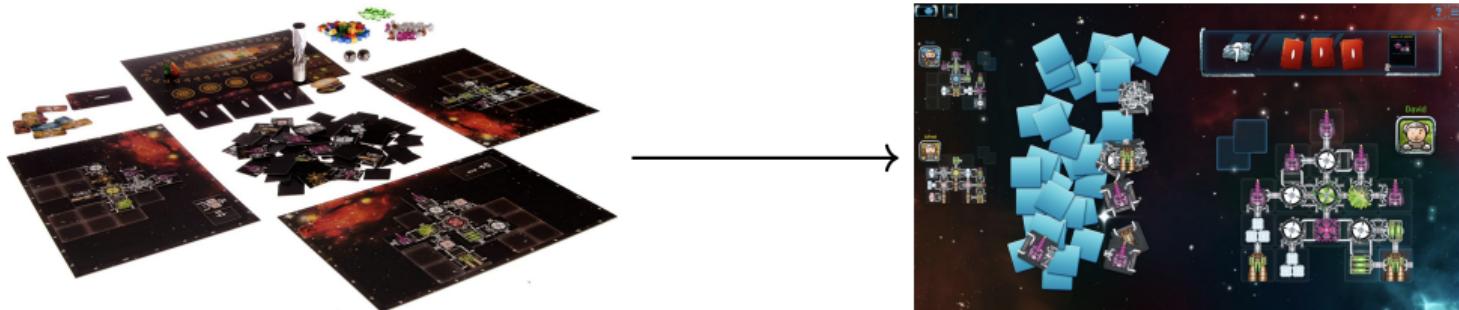
Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game



Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!



Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment = Less chance of contradictory rules

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment = Less chance of contradictory rules
 - ▶ Interactive theorem prover

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment = Less chance of contradictory rules
 - ▶ Interactive theorem prover (Coq)



Coq image: <https://ilyasergey.net/pnp/>

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment = Less chance of contradictory rules
 - ▶ Interactive theorem prover (Coq)
 - ▶ Like a very strict game engine



Coq image: <https://ilyasergey.net/pnp/>

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

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Coq image: <https://ilyasergey.net/pnp/>

Solution: Mechanisation!

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Mechanisation takes time

Coq image: <https://ilyasergey.net/pnp/>

Solution: Mechanisation!

Turning the board game into a video game!

- ▶ More restrictive design environment = Less chance of contradictory rules
 - ▶ Interactive theorem prover (Coq)
 - ▶ Like a very strict game engine
 - ▶ Strict referee
 - ▶ No accidental cheating



Mechanisation takes time

- ▶ Iris has already been fully mechanised in Coq

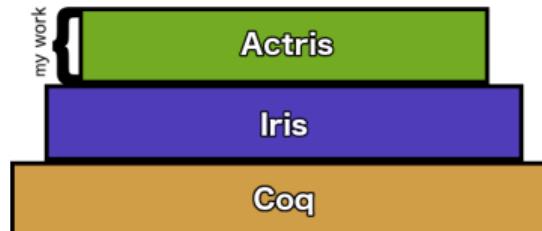


Coq image: <https://ilyasergey.net/pnp/>

Contribution 2 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 2:

Full mechanisation of Actris on top of Iris in Coq

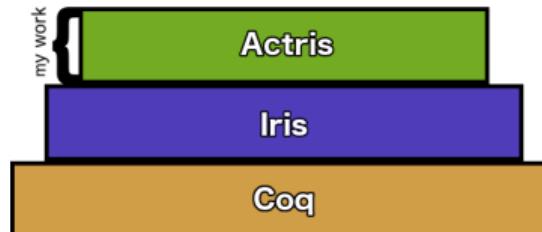


Contribution 2 of my Ph.D. thesis

Contribution 2:

Full mechanisation of Actris on top of Iris in Coq

- ▶ With verified program examples (e.g., a variant of the map-reduce algorithm)



Observation:
Ongoing effort on
mechanising Session Types

Problem:

No mechanisation of session type
systems that combine advanced features

Problem:

No mechanisation of session type
systems that combine advanced features
(That we know of)

Solution:

Semantic Typing

Solution:

Semantic Typing

(Board game inception)

Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio



Pacman image: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VR_b9YwqH8

Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio

Defining a session type system within Actris

Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio

Defining a session type system within Actris

- ▶ Using the session-type based mechanism to model session types

Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

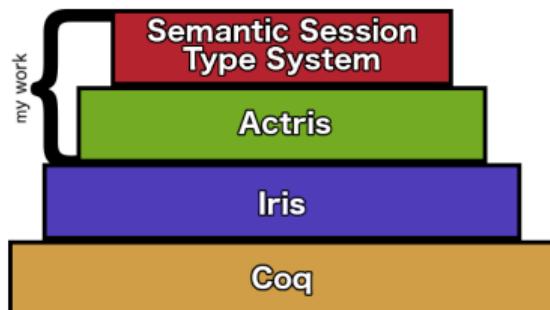
Playing a board game inside another board game

- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio

Defining a session type system within Actris

- ▶ Using the session-type based mechanism to model session types

Inherit the properties of Actris



Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

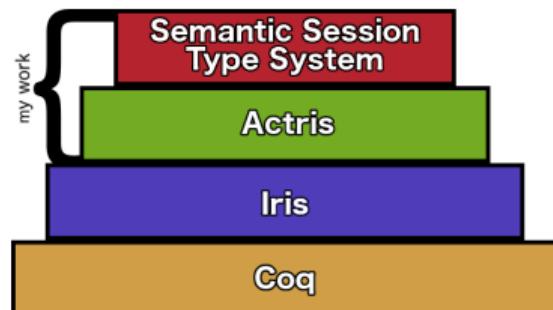
- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio

Defining a session type system within Actris

- ▶ Using the session-type based mechanism to model session types

Inherit the properties of Actris

- ▶ The mechanisation of Actris



Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

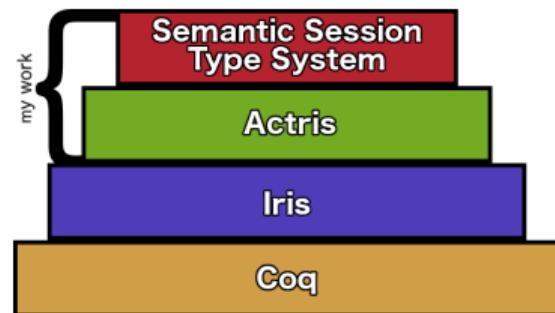
- ▶ Like Pacman in Factorio

Defining a session type system within Actris

- ▶ Using the session-type based mechanism to model session types

Inherit the properties of Actris

- ▶ The mechanisation of Actris
- ▶ The session type-based features of Actris



Solution: Semantic Typing (Board game inception)

Playing a board game inside another board game

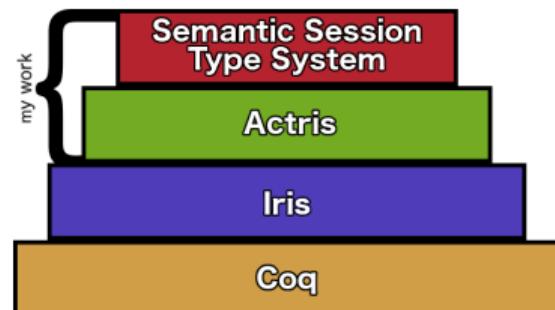
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Defining a session type system within Actris

- ▶ Using the session-type based mechanism to model session types

Inherit the properties of Actris

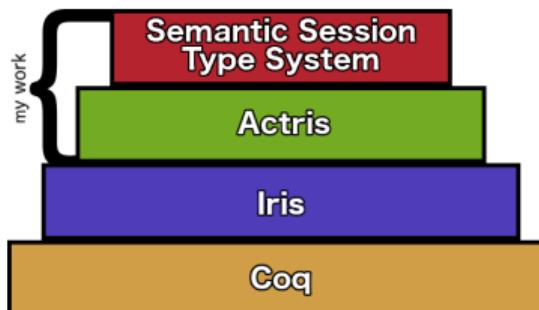
- ▶ The mechanisation of Actris
- ▶ The session type-based features of Actris
- ▶ The other concurrency mechanisms of Iris



Contribution 3 of my PhD thesis

Contribution 3:

Defining and mechanising a Semantic Session Type System on top of Actris on top of Iris in Coq

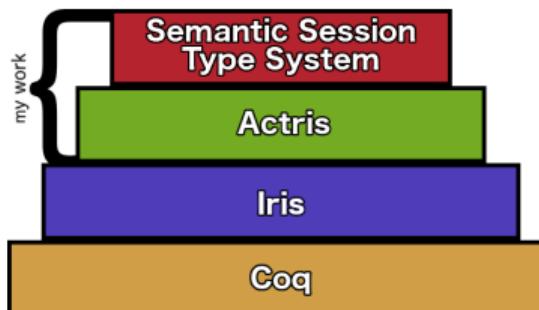


Contribution 3 of my PhD thesis

Contribution 3:

Defining and mechanising a Semantic Session Type System on top of Actris on top of Iris in Coq

- ▶ With verified program examples (e.g., a message-passing-based producer-consumer)



Contributions of my PhD thesis

Contribution 1:

Actris: A separation logic with a session type-based mechanism for ensuring correctness of concurrent programs that combine binary message passing with other concurrency mechanisms

- ▶ Built on top of Iris

Contribution 2:

Full mechanisation of Actris in Coq

- ▶ With verified program examples (e.g., a variant of the map-reduce algorithm)

Contribution 3:

Defining and mechanising a Semantic Session Type System on top of Actris

- ▶ With verified program examples (e.g., a message-passing-based producer-consumer)

Publications

Actris: Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic

- ▶ ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages 2020 [POPL'20]

Actris: Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic

JONAS KASTBERG HINRICHSEN, IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark

JESPER BENGTSON, IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark

ROBERT KREBBERS, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

Message passing is a useful abstraction to implement concurrent programs. For real-world systems, however, it is often combined with other programming and concurrency paradigms, such as higher-order functions, mutable state, shared-memory concurrency, and locks. We present *Actris*, a logic for proving functional correctness of programs that use a combination of the aforementioned features. *Actris* combines the power of separation logic with session types, and provides a general mechanism for reasoning about message passing in the presence of other concurrency paradigms. We show that *Actris* provides a suitable level of abstraction by proving functional correctness of a variety of examples, including a distributed merge sort, a distributed load-balancing mapper, and a variant of the map-reduce model, using relatively simple specifications. Soundness of *Actris* is proved using a model of its protocol mechanism in the Iris framework. We mechanised the theory of *Actris*, together with tactics for symbolic execution of programs, as well as all examples in the paper, in the Coq proof assistant.

CCS Concepts • Theory of computation → Separation logic, Program verification, Programming logic.

Additional Key Words and Phrases: Message passing, actor model, concurrency, session types, Iris

ACM Reference Format:

Jonas Kastberg Hinrichsen, Jesper Bengtson, and Robert Kreibers. 2020. Actris: Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic. *Proc. ACM Program. Lang.*, 4, POPL, Article 6 (January 2020), 35 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3371074>

1 INTRODUCTION

Message-passing programs are ubiquitous in modern computer systems, emphasising the importance of their functional correctness. Protocols such as Iris, Erlang, Elixir, and Go, have

Publications

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- ▶ ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages 2020 [POPL'20]

Actris 2.0: Asynchronous Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic

- ▶ Journal of Logical Methods in Computer Science [LMCS] (Conditionally accepted)

Actris: Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic

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ACTRIS 2.0: ASYNCHRONOUS SESSION-TYPE BASED REASONING IN SEPARATION LOGIC

JONAS KASTBERG HINRICHSEN, JESPER BENGTSON, AND ROBBERT KREBBERS

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Radboud University and Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

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Abstract. Message passing is a useful abstraction for implementing concurrent programs. For real-world systems, however, it is often combined with other programming and concurrency paradigms, such as higher-order functions, mutable state, shared-memory concurrency, and locks. We present *Actris* 2.0, a logic for proving functional correctness of programs that use a combination of the aforementioned features. *Actris* 2.0 combines the power of separation logic with session types. It provides a suitable level of abstraction for reasoning about message passing in the presence of other concurrency paradigms. We show that *Actris* 2.0 provides a suitable level of abstraction by proving functional correctness of a variety of examples, including a distributed merge sort, a distributed load-balancing mapper, and a variant of the map-reduce model, using relatively simple specifications. Soundness of *Actris* 2.0 is proved using a model of its protocol mechanism in the Iris framework. We mechanised the theory of *Actris* 2.0, together with tactics for symbolic execution of programs, as well as all examples in the paper, in the Coq proof assistant.

While *Actris* was already presented in a conference paper [POPL'20], this paper expands the prior presentation significantly. Moreover, it extends *Actris* to *Actris* 2.0 with a notion of asynchronous session types—*Actris* 2.0 thus gains additional flexibility when compared to its original synchronous counterpart. All of the experiments and evaluations of message passing in *Actris*. Soundness of *Actris* 2.0 is proved using a model of its protocol mechanism in the Iris framework. We have mechanised the theory of *Actris*, together with tactics as well as all examples in the paper, in the Coq proof assistant.

Publications

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- ▶ ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages 2020 [POPL'20]

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- ▶ Journal of Logical Methods in Computer Science [LMCS] (Conditionally accepted)

Machine-Checked Semantic Session Typing

- ▶ Certified Programs and Proofs Conference 2021 [CPP'21] (Distinguished Paper Award)

Actris: Session-Type Based Reasoning in Separation Logic

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ACTRIS 2.0: ASYNCHRONOUS SESSION-TYPE BASED REASONING IN SEPARATION LOGIC

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Abstract. Message passing is a useful abstraction for implementing concurrent programs. For real-world systems, however, it is often combined with other programming and concurrency paradigms, such as higher-order functions, mutable state, shared-memory concurrency, and locks. We present *Actris*, a logic for proving functional correctness of programs that use a combination of the aforementioned features. *Actris* combines the power of readers–writer access control with message-passing mechanisms – thus generalising existing work on reasoning about message passing in the presence of other concurrency paradigms. We show that *Actris* provides a suitable level of abstraction by proving functional correctness of a variety of examples, including a distributed merge sort, a distributed load-balancing mapper, and a variant of the map-reduce model, using relatively simple specifications. Soundness of *Actris* 2.0 is proved using a model of its protocol mechanism in the Iris framework. We mechanised the theory of *Actris*, together with tactics for symbolic execution of programs, as well as all examples in the paper, in the Coq proof assistant.

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Machine-Checked Semantic Session Typing

JONAS KASTBERG HINRICHSEN

IT University of Copenhagen

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Robbert Krebbers

Radboud University and Delft University of Technology

The Netherlands

Daniel Leuenwink

University of Amsterdam

The Netherlands

Jesper Bengtson

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Denmark

We believe the following challenges have not received the attention they deserve:

1. There are many extensions of session types with e.g., polymorphism [11], asynchronous subtyping [23], and sharing via locks [25]. While type safety has been proven for each extension in isolation, existing proofs cannot be readily composed with each other, nor can they be used to prove properties of the whole system. We propose a new approach to developing session types from polymorphism and restriction, asynchronous subtyping, references, and locklessness. As an additional benefit of the semantic approach, we demonstrate how to naturally prove properties of session types by showing that certain session types do not obey the ownership discipline, even if they are safe.
2. Session types use substructural types to enforce a strict discipline of channel ownership. While conventional assumptions about substructural types are sound, they inherently exclude some functions that do not obey the ownership discipline, even if they are safe.
3. Only few session-type systems and their safety proofs have been mechanised. This makes it difficult to reason about them, and to compare them with one another, making their correctness less trustworthy.

We address these challenges by embracing the traditional semantic approach to type safety (using progress and preservation) and instead embrace the research approach to type safety (using a model of the semantics) in terms of a program logic [13, 15, 16].

The semantic approach addresses the challenges above as follows: (1) type judgements are made in the program logic, and (2) the semantics of the logic is used to reason about the system.

ACM Reference Format:

Jonas Kastberg Hinrichsen, Daniel Leuenwink, Robbert Krebbers, and Jesper Bengtson. 2021. Machine-Checked Semantic Session Typing. *LMCS* 17, 1 (2021), 30 pages. [https://doi.org/10.23638/LMCS-17\(1\)1](https://doi.org/10.23638/LMCS-17(1)1)

Actris and Actris 2.0

Papers: POPL'20 and LMCS

Thesis: Chapter 3

joint work with

Jesper Bengtson, IT University of Copenhagen

Robbert Krebbers, Radboud University

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

- ▶ Higher-order functions

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

- ▶ Higher-order functions
- ▶ Higher-order mutable references

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

- ▶ Higher-order functions
- ▶ Higher-order mutable references
- ▶ Fork-based concurrency

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

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$$v \in \text{Val} ::= () \mid i \mid b \mid \ell \mid \text{rec } f \ x := e \mid \dots \quad (i \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{B}, \ell \in \text{Loc})$$

$$e \in \text{Expr} ::= v \mid x \mid e_1(e_2) \mid \text{ref } (e) \mid !e \mid e_1 \leftarrow e_2 \mid \text{fork } \{e\} \mid \dots$$

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

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HeapLang: Language shipped with Iris

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

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HeapLang: Language shipped with Iris

- ▶ Includes many state-of-the-art features

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

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$$v \in \text{Val} ::= () \mid i \mid b \mid \ell \mid \text{rec } f \ x := e \mid \dots \quad (i \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{B}, \ell \in \text{Loc})$$
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HeapLang: Language shipped with Iris

- ▶ Includes many state-of-the-art features
- ▶ Integrated with the Iris separation logic

Operational Semantics

Operational semantics: A mathematical model of a programming language

Programming Language: Representative language with

- ▶ Higher-order functions
- ▶ Higher-order mutable references
- ▶ Fork-based concurrency

$$v \in \text{Val} ::= () \mid i \mid b \mid \ell \mid \text{rec } f \ x := e \mid \dots \quad (i \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{B}, \ell \in \text{Loc})$$

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HeapLang: Language shipped with Iris

- ▶ Includes many state-of-the-art features
- ▶ Integrated with the Iris separation logic
- ▶ Already mechanised, with tactic support

Implementation of message-passing primitives

Extend HeapLang with message passing

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- ▶ As a straightforward implementation using lock-protected buffers

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Message-passing primitives

`new_chan ()`: Allocate channel and return two channel endpoints

`send c v` : Send the value v over the channel endpoint c

`recv c` : Await and return the first value over channel endpoint c

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`fork {let x := recv c' in send c' (x + 2)}; // Service thread`
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Many variants of message passing exist

Ours is: binary, asynchronous, order-preserving and reliable

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Many variants of message passing exist

Ours is: binary, asynchronous, order-preserving and reliable

To simulate state-of-the-art message passing (like in the Go language)

Goal

Example program:

```
let (c, c') := new_chan () in
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Goal

Example program:

```
let (c, c') := new_chan () in
  fork {let x := recv c' in send c' (x + 2)}; // Service thread
  send c 40; recv c // Client thread
```

Show that:

Program does not crash

Program is correct (returns 42)

Session types (recap)

Symbols

$$A ::= Z \mid B \mid 1 \mid \\ \text{chan } S \mid \dots$$

Session types (recap)

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$$A ::= \text{Z} \mid \text{B} \mid \text{l} \mid \text{chan } S \mid \dots$$
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Session types (recap)

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Example

$!Z. ?Z. \text{end}$

Session types (recap)

Symbols

$A ::= Z \mid B \mid 1 \mid$
chan $S \mid \dots$

$S ::= !A. S \quad |$
 $\quad ?A. S \quad |$
end $\quad | \dots$

Duality

$\overline{!A. S} = ?A. \overline{S}$
 $\overline{?A. S} = !A. \overline{S}$
 $\overline{\text{end}} = \text{end}$

Example

$!Z. ?Z. \text{end}$

Session types (recap)

Symbols

$$A ::= Z \mid B \mid 1 \mid \\ \text{chan } S \mid \dots$$
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Duality

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{!A. S} &= ?A. \overline{S} \\ \overline{?A. S} &= !A. \overline{S} \\ \overline{\text{end}} &= \text{end}\end{aligned}$$

Usage

 $c : \text{chan } S$

Example

$$!Z. ?Z. \text{end}$$

Session types (recap)

Symbols

$$A ::= Z \mid B \mid 1 \mid \\ \text{chan } S \mid \dots$$
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Usage

 $c : \text{chan } S$

Example

 $!Z. ?Z. \text{end}$

Rules

`new_chan` : $1 \multimap \text{chan } S \times \text{chan } \overline{S}$

`send` : $(\text{chan } (!A. S) \times A) \multimap \text{chan } S$

`recv` : $\text{chan } (?A. S) \multimap (A \times \text{chan } S)$

Example program - via session types

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```
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Properties obtained:

- Program does not crash
- Program is correct (returns 42)

Actris

Actris:

Dependent separation protocols

Actris:

Dependent separation protocols

(Like logical session types)

Dependent separation protocols - Definitions

	<u>Dependent separation protocols</u>	<u>Session types</u>
Symbols	$prot ::= !\vec{x}:\vec{\tau}\langle v \rangle \{P\}. prot \quad $ $? \vec{x}:\vec{\tau}\langle v \rangle \{P\}. prot \quad $ end	$S ::= !A. S \quad $ $?A. S \quad $ end ...

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Example	$! (x:\mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ?(y:\mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. end$	$!Z. ?Z. end$

Dependent separation protocols - Definitions

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Usage	$c \rightarrowtail prot$	$c : \text{chan } S$

Dependent separation protocols - Rules

New

Dependent separation protocols

{True}

`new_chan ()`

$\{(c, c'). c \rightarrowtail prot * c' \rightarrowtail \overline{prot}\}$

Session types

`new_chan` : $1 \multimap \text{chan } S \times \text{chan } \overline{S}$

Dependent separation protocols - Rules

	Dependent separation protocols	Session types
New	$\{\text{True}\}$ $\text{new_chan}()$ $\{(c, c'). c \rightarrowtail \text{prot} * c' \rightarrowtail \overline{\text{prot}}\}$	$\text{new_chan} : 1 \multimap \text{chan } S \times \text{chan } \overline{S}$
Send	$\{c \rightarrowtail !\vec{x}:\vec{\tau} \langle v \rangle \{P\}. \text{prot} * P[\vec{t}/\vec{x}]\}$ $\text{send } c (v[\vec{t}/\vec{x}])$ $\{c \rightarrowtail \text{prot}[\vec{t}/\vec{x}]\}$	$\text{send} : (\text{chan } (!A. S) \times A) \multimap \text{chan } S$

Dependent separation protocols - Rules

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Recv	$\{c \rightarrow ?\vec{x}:\vec{\tau} \langle v \rangle \{P\}. \text{prot}\}$ $\text{recv } c$ $\{w. \exists(\vec{y} : \vec{\tau}). (w = v[\vec{y}/\vec{x}]) * P[\vec{y}/\vec{x}] * c \rightarrow \text{prot}[\vec{y}/\vec{x}]\}$	$\text{recv} : \text{chan } (?A. S) \multimap (A \times \text{chan } S)$

Example program - via dependent separation protocols

Example program:

```
let (c, c') := new_chan () in
  fork {let x := recv c' in send c' (x + 2)}; // Service thread
  send c 40; recv c // Client thread
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Properties obtained:

- Program does not crash (safety)
- Program is correct (returns 42)

Example program - References

Example program:

```
let (c, c') := new_chan () in
  fork {let ℓ := recv c' in ℓ ← (!ℓ + 2); send c' ()}; // Service thread
  let ℓ := ref 40 in send c ℓ; recv c; !ℓ                // Client thread
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$$c \rightarrowtail !(\ell : \text{Loc}) (x : \mathbb{Z}) \langle \ell \rangle \{\ell \mapsto x\}. ?\langle () \rangle \{\ell \mapsto (x + 2)\}. \text{end} \quad \text{and}$$
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{True} **ref** $\vee \{\ell. \ell \mapsto v\}$

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{True} ref v {ℓ. ℓ ↦ v}

{ℓ ↦ v} !ℓ {w. w = v ∧ ℓ ↦ v}

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Example program - Recursion

Example program:

```
let (c, c') := new_chan () in
  fork {loop {let x := recv c' in send c' (x + 2)}}; // Service thread
  send c 18; let x := recv c in                      // Client thread
  send c 20; let y := recv c in x + y
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Example program - Recursion

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$$c \rightarrow \mu rec. ! (x: \mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y: \mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. rec \quad \text{and}$$
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Proof:

- ▶ Client thread: follows immediately from Actris's rules
- ▶ Service thread: follows immediately using Löb induction

Example program - Subprotocols (Actris 2.0)

Example program:

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Subprotocol relation (\sqsubseteq)

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Subprotocol relation (\sqsubseteq) (Inspired by asynchronous session subtyping)

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$$\begin{array}{l} \mu rec. ! (x: \mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y: \mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. rec \\ \sqsubseteq \mu rec. ! (x: \mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y: \mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. rec \end{array}$$

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Subprotocol relation (\sqsubseteq) (Inspired by asynchronous session subtyping):

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu rec. ! (x : \mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y : \mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. rec \\
\sqsubseteq & \quad ! (x_1 : \mathbb{Z}) \langle x_1 \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y_1 : \mathbb{Z}) \langle y_1 \rangle \{ y_1 = (x_1 + 2) \}. \\
& \quad \mu rec. ! (x : \mathbb{Z}) \langle x \rangle \{ \text{True} \}. ? (y : \mathbb{Z}) \langle y \rangle \{ y = (x + 2) \}. rec \end{aligned}$$

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Subprotocol relation (\sqsubseteq) (Inspired by asynchronous session subtyping):

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Adequacy and implementation of Actris

Adequacy of Actris

If $\{\text{True}\} e \{v. \varphi\ v\}$ is provable in Actris then:

- Safety:** e will not crash
- Functional correctness:** If e terminates with v , the postcondition $\varphi\ v$ holds

Implementation and model of Actris in Iris

Approach:

- ▶ Define the type of *prot* using the Iris recursive domain equation solver

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- Small Coq development (~ 5000 lines in total)

More on Actris

Features:

- ▶ **Higher-order:** sending function closures
- ▶ **Delegation:** sending channels over channels
- ▶ **Branching:** protocols with choice
- ▶ Integration with other concurrency mechanisms of Iris

Case Studies:

- ▶ Various channel-based merge sort variants
- ▶ Channel-based load-balancing mapper
- ▶ A variant of map-reduce

Model:

- ▶ **Dependent separation protocols:** $prot$
- ▶ **Channel endpoint ownership:** $c \rightarrowtail prot$
- ▶ **Subprotocol relation:** $prot_1 \sqsubseteq prot_2$

In the thesis and associated papers!

Semantic Session Typing

Paper: CPP'21

Thesis: Chapter 4

joint work with

Daniël Louwink, University of Amsterdam

Jesper Bengtson, IT University of Copenhagen

Robbert Krebbers, Radboud University

Problem

No formal connection between dependent separation protocols and session types

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Ongoing effort of mechanising adequacy proofs for session type systems

- ▶ Results exist for simpler systems
- ▶ None exist for more expressive systems

Key idea

Semantic Typing

Semantic Typing [Milner, Princeton Proof-Carrying Code project, RustBelt Project]

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- ▶ Semantic type system for HeapLang
- ▶ Mechanised in Coq

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Semantic Typing using Iris and Actris

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Actris [Hinrichsen et al., POPL'20]

- ▶ **Dependent separation protocols:** Session type-style logical protocols
- ▶ Mechanised in **Coq**

Semantic Session Types

Semantic session types are defined as dependent separation protocols:

$$\begin{aligned} !A. S &\triangleq !\left(v : \text{Val}\right) \langle v \rangle \{ A v \}. S & \text{chan } S &\triangleq \lambda w. w \rightarrowtail S \\ ?A. S &\triangleq ?\left(v : \text{Val}\right) \langle v \rangle \{ A v \}. S \\ \text{end} &\triangleq \text{end} \end{aligned}$$

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Session typing rules are proven using the rules for dependent separation protocols

$$\begin{array}{lll} \Gamma \models \text{new_chan} () : \text{chan } S \times \text{chan } \overline{S} & \dashv \Gamma & \\ \Gamma, c : \text{chan } (!A. S), x : A \models \text{send } c x : 1 & & \dashv \Gamma, c : \text{chan } S \\ \Gamma, c : \text{chan } (?A. S) \models \text{recv } c : A & & \dashv \Gamma, c : \text{chan } S \end{array}$$

Manual typing proofs of racy yet safe programs

Consider the following program and typing judgement:

$$\lambda c. (\text{recv } c \parallel \text{recv } c) : \text{chan } (?Z. ?Z. \text{end}) \multimap (Z \times Z)$$

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Using Iris's ghost state machinery!

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Using Iris's ghost state machinery! Beyond the scope of this presentation

More on the semantic session type system

Features:

- ▶ Term and session type equi-recursion
- ▶ Term and session type polymorphism
- ▶ Term and (asynchronous) session type subtyping
- ▶ Unique and shared reference types, copyable types, lock types
- ▶ Integration of racy yet safe programs

Case Study:

- ▶ Racy yet safe message-passing-based producer-consumer

In the thesis and associated paper!

Future work

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- ▶ Multi-party communication via multi-party dependent separation protocols (based on [[Honda et al., POPL'08](#)])
- ▶ Deadlock and resource-leak-freedom (based on ongoing work by [Jules Jacobs](#))
- ▶ Proof automation via refinedC-style semantic refinement session types [[Sammler et al., PLDI'21](#)]
- ▶ Specifications for TCP-based communication in distributed systems based on dependent separation protocols

$\mathbf{!} \langle \text{"Thank you"} \rangle \{\text{ActrisKnowledge}\}.$
 $\mu \text{rec. } ?(q : \text{Question}) \langle q \rangle \{\text{AboutActris } q\}.$
 $\mathbf{!} (a : \text{Answer}) \langle a \rangle \{\text{Insightful } q \ a\}. \text{rec}$