Two-Level Game Semantics, Intersection Types, and Recursion Schemes*

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Abstract. We introduce a new cartesian closed category of *two-level* arenas and innocent strategies to model intersection types that are refinements of simple types. Intuitively a property (respectively computation) on the upper level refines that on the lower level. We prove *Subject Expansion*—any lower-level computation is closely and canonically tracked by the upper-level computation that lies over it—which is a measure of the robustness of the two-level semantics. The game semantics of the type system is *fully complete*: every winning strategy is the denotation of some derivation. To demonstrate the relevance of the game model, we use it to construct new semantic proofs of non-trivial algorithmic results in higher-order model checking.

1 Introduction

The recent development of *higher-order model checking*—the model checking of trees generated by higher-order recursion schemes (HORS) against (alternating parity) tree automata—has benefitted much from ideas and methods in semantics. Ong's proof [1] of the decidability of the monadic second-order (MSO) theories of trees generated by HORS was based on game semantics [2]. Using HORS as an intermediate model of higher-order computation, Kobayashi [3] showed that safety properties of functional programs can be verified by reduction to the model checking of HORS against trivial automata (i.e. Büchi tree automata with a trivial acceptance condition). His model checking algorithm is based on an intersection-type-theoretic characterisation of the trivial automata acceptance problem of trees generated by HORS.¹ This type-theoretic approach was subsequently refined and extended to characterise alternating parity tree automata [5], thus yielding a new proof of Ong's MSO decidability result. (Several other proofs [6,7] of the result have since been published.)

This paper was motivated by a desire to understand the connexions between the game-semantic proof [1] and the type-based proof [3,5] of the MSO decidability result. As a first step in clarifying their relationship, we construct a *two-level game semantics* to model intersection types that are refinements of simple types. Given a set Q of

^{*} A full version with proofs is available at http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/people/luke.ong/personal/publications/icalp12.pdf.

¹ Independently, Salvati [4] has proposed essentially the same intersection type system for the simply-typed λ -calculus without recursion from a different perspective.

A. Czumaj et al. (Eds.): ICALP 2012, Part II, LNCS 7392, pp. 325-336, 2012.

colours (modelling the states of an automaton), we introduce a cartesian closed category whose objects are triples (A,U,K) called *two-level arenas*, where A is a Q-coloured arena (modelling intersection types), K is a standard arena (modelling simple types), and U is a colour-forgetting function from A-moves to K-moves which preserves the justification relation. A map of the category from (A,U,K) to (A',U',K') is a pair of innocent and colour-reflecting strategies, $\sigma:A\longrightarrow A'$ and $\bar{\sigma}:K\longrightarrow K'$, such that the induced colour-forgetting function maps plays of σ to plays of $\bar{\sigma}$. This captures the intuition that the upper-level computation represented by σ refines (or is more constrained than) the lower-level computation represented by $\bar{\sigma}$, a semantic framework reminiscent of two-level denotational semantics in abstract interpretation as studied by Nielson [8]. Given triples $A_1=(A_1,U_1,K)$ and $A_2=(A_2,U_2,K)$ that have the same base arena K, their intersection $A_1 \wedge A_2$ is $(A_1 \times A_2, [U_1,U_2],K)$. Building on the two-level game semantics, we make the following contributions.

- (i) How good is the two-level game semantics? Our answer is *Subject Expansion* (Theorem 3), which says intuitively that any computation (reduction) on the lower level can be closely and canonically tracked by the higher-level computation that lies over it. Subject Expansion clarifies the relationship between the two levels; we think it is an important measure of the robustness (and, as we shall see, the reason for the usefulness) of the game semantics.
- (ii) We put the two-level game model to use by modelling Kobayashi's intersection type system [3]. Derivations of intersection-type judgements, which we represent by the terms of a new proof calculus, are interpreted by *winning strategies* i.e. compact and total (in addition to innocent and colour-reflecting). We prove that the interpretation is *fully complete* (Theorem 5): every winning strategy is the denotation of some derivation.
- (iii) Finally, to demonstrate the usefulness and relevance of the two-level game semantics, we apply it to construct new semantic proofs of three non-trivial *algorithmic* results in higher-order model checking: (a) characterisation of trivial automata acceptance (existence of an accepting run-tree) by a notion of typability [3], (b) minimality of the type environment induced by traversal tree [1], and (c) completeness of GTRecS, a game-semantics based practical algorithm for model checking HORS against trivial automata [9].

Outline. In Section 2, the idea of two-level structure is explained informally. We present coloured arenas, two-level arenas, innocent strategies and related game-semantic notions in Section 3, culminating in the Subject Expansion Theorem. In Section 4 we construct a fully complete two-level game model of Kobayashi's intersection type system. Finally, Section 5 applies the game model to reason about algorithmic problems in higher-order model checking.

2 Two Structures of Intersection Type System

This section presents the intuitions behind the two levels. We explain that two different structures are naturally extracted from a derivation in an intersection type system. Here we use term representation for explanation. Two-level game semantics will be developed in the following sections based on this idea.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} g:\tau & \frac{x:\sigma}{x:p_1} \frac{x:\sigma}{x:p_3} & g:\tau & x:\sigma \\ \hline g:p_1 \wedge p_3 \rightarrow q_1 & x:p_1 \wedge p_3 & g:\tau & x:\sigma \\ \hline gx:q_1 & gx:q_2 & \\ \hline & gx:q_1 \wedge q_2 & \end{array}$$

Fig. 1. A type derivation of the intersection type system. Here type environment $\Gamma = \{g : ((p_1 \land p_3) \to q_1) \land (p_2 \to q_2), \ x : p_1 \land p_2 \land p_3\}$ is omitted.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} g:\tau' & \overline{p_1(x):p_1} & \underline{x:\sigma} \\ \hline p_1(g):p_1 \times p_3 \to q_1 & \langle \mathsf{p}_1(x),\mathsf{p}_2(x) \rangle : p_1 \times p_3 & g:\tau & \underline{x:\sigma} \\ \hline p_1(g) & \langle \mathsf{p}_1(x),\mathsf{p}_2(x) \rangle : q_1 \times p_3 & \overline{\mathsf{p}_2(g):p_2 \to q_2} & \overline{\mathsf{p}_2(x):p_2} \\ \hline & p_1(g) & \langle \mathsf{p}_1(x),\mathsf{p}_2(x) \rangle : q_1 & \overline{\mathsf{p}_2(g)\;\mathsf{p}_2(x):q_2} \\ \hline & & \langle \mathsf{p}_1(g) & \langle \mathsf{p}_1(x),\mathsf{p}_2(x) \rangle, \; \mathsf{p}_2(g) \; \mathsf{p}_2(x) \rangle : q_1 \times q_2 \end{array}$$

Fig. 2. A type derivation of the product type system, which corresponds to Fig. 1. Here $\Gamma' = \{g : ((p_1 \times p_3) \to q_1) \times (p_2 \to q_2), \ x : p_1 \times p_2 \times p_3\}$ is omitted.

The intersection type constructor \wedge of an intersection type system is characterised by the following typing rules.²

$$\frac{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \qquad \varGamma \vdash t : \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \land \tau_2} \qquad \frac{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \land \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1} \qquad \frac{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \land \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_2}$$

At first glance, they resemble the rules for products. Let $\langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$ be a pair of t_1 and t_2 and p_i be the projection to the *i*th element (for $i \in \{1, 2\}$).

$$\frac{\varGamma \vdash t_1 : \tau_1 \qquad \varGamma \vdash t_2 : \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash \langle t_1, t_2 \rangle : \tau_1 \times \tau_2} \qquad \frac{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash \mathsf{p}_1(t) : \tau_1} \qquad \frac{\varGamma \vdash t : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\varGamma \vdash \mathsf{p}_2(t) : \tau_2}$$

When we ignore terms and replace \times by \wedge , the rules in the two groups coincide. In fact, they are so similar that a derivation of the intersection type system can be transformed to a derivation of the product type system by replacing \wedge by \times and adjusting terms to the rules for product. See Figures 1 and 2 for example. This is the first structure behind an intersection-type derivation, which we call the *upper-level structure*.

However the upper-level structure alone does not capture all features of the intersection type system: specifically some derivations of the product type system have no corresponding derivation in the intersection type system. For example, while the type judgement $x: p_1, y: p_2 \vdash \langle x, y \rangle : p_1 \times p_2$ is derivable, no term inhabits the judgement $x: p_1, y: p_2 \vdash ?: p_1 \land p_2$.

Terms in the rules explain this gap. We call them *lower-level structures*. To construct a term of type $\tau_1 \times \tau_2$, it suffices to find *any* two terms t_1 of type τ_1 and t_2 of type τ_2 . However to construct a term of type $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$, we need to find a term t that has both type τ_1 and type τ_2 . Thus a product type derivation has a corresponding intersection

² In the type system in Section 4, these rules are no longer to be independent rules, but a similar argument stands.

type derivation only if for all pairs $\langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$ appearing at the derivation, the respective structures of t_1 and t_2 are "coherent".

For example, let us examine the derivation in Figure 2, which contains two pair constructors. One appears at $\langle \mathsf{p}_1(x), \mathsf{p}_3(x) \rangle : p_1 \times p_3$. Here the left argument $\mathsf{p}_1(x) : p_1$ and the right argument $\mathsf{p}_3(x) : p_3$ are "coherent" in the sense that they are the same except for details such as types and indexes of projections. In other words, by forgetting such details, $\mathsf{p}_1(x) : p_1$ and $\mathsf{p}_3(x) : p_3$ become the same term x. The other pair appears at the root and the "forgetful" map maps both the left and right arguments to g(x).

This interpretation decomposes an intersection type derivation into three components: a derivation in the simple type system with product (the upper-level structure), a term (the lower-level structure) and a "forgetful" map from the upper-level structure to the lower-level structure. Since recursion schemes are simply typed, we can assume a term to also be simply typed for our purpose. Hence the resulting two-level structure consists of two derivations in the simple type system with a map on nodes from one to the other.

3 Two-Level Game Semantics

For sets A and B, we write A + B for disjoint union and $A \times B$ for cartesian product. We first introduce some basic notions in game semantics [2].

We introduce Q-coloured arenas and innocent strategies, which are models of the simply-typed λ -calculus with multiple base types ranging over Q.

Definition 1 (Coloured Arena). For a set Q of symbols, a Q-coloured arena A is a quadruple $(M_A, \vdash_A, \lambda_A, c_A)$, where (i) M_A is a set of moves, (ii) $\vdash_A \subseteq M_A + (M_A \times M_A)$ is a justification relation, (iii) $\lambda_A : M_A \to \{P, O\}$, and (iv) $c_A : M_A \to Q$ is a colouring. We write $\vdash_A m$ for $m \in (\vdash_A)$ and $m \vdash_A m'$ for $(m, m') \in (\vdash_A)$. The justification relation must satisfy the conditions:

- For each $m \in M_A$, either $\vdash_A m$ or $m' \vdash_A m$ for a unique $m' \in M_A$.
- If $\vdash_A m$, then $\lambda_A(m) = O$. If $m \vdash_A m'$, then $\lambda_A(m) \neq \lambda(m')$.

Fer a Q-coloured arena A, the set $Init_A \subseteq M_A$ of initial moves of A is $\{m \in M_A \mid \vdash_A m\}$. A move $m \in M_A$ is called an O-move if $\lambda_A(m) = O$ and a P-move if $\lambda_A(m) = P$.

A justified sequence of a Q-coloured arena A is a sequence of moves such that each element except the first is equipped with a justification pointer to some previous move. A play of an arena A is a justified sequence s that satisfies: (i) Well-openness, (ii) Alternation, (iii) Justification, (iv) Visibility. A P-strategy (or a strategy) σ of an arena A is a prefix-closed subset of plays of A that satisfies Determinacy, Contingent Completeness, and

Colour Reflection. Only the opponent can change the colour i.e. for every O-move m and P-move m', if $s \cdot m \cdot m' \in \sigma$, then c(m) = c(m').

A strategy σ is *innocent* just if for every pair of plays $s \cdot m$, $s' \cdot m' \in \sigma$ ending with P-moves m and m', $\lceil s \rceil = \lceil s' \rceil$ implies $\lceil s \cdot m \rceil = \lceil s' \cdot m' \rceil$, writing $\lceil s \rceil$ to mean the *P-view* of s. Further σ is *winning* just if the following hold:

Compact. The domain $dom(f_{\sigma})$ of the view function of σ is a finite set. **Total.** If $s \cdot m \in \sigma$ for an O-move m, then $s \cdot m \cdot m' \in \sigma$ for some P-move m'.

Given Q-coloured arenas A and B, the product $A \times B$ and function space arena $A \Rightarrow B$ are standard. We define a category whose objects are Q-coloured arenas; maps from A to B are innocent strategies of the arena $A \Rightarrow B$. The category is cartesian closed, and is thus a model of the simply-typed lambda calculus with (indexed) products.

Theorem 1. For every set Q, the category of Q-coloured arenas and innocent strategies is cartesian closed with the product $A \times B$ and function space $A \Rightarrow B$.

Definition 2 (Two-Level Arenas). An *two-level arena* based on Q is a triple $\mathcal{A} = (A, U, K)$, where A is a Q-colored arena, K is a $\{o\}$ -colored arena (i.e. an ordinary arena, which we call the *base arena* of A) and U is a map from M_A to M_K that satisfies: (i) $\lambda_A(m) = \lambda_K(U(m))$ (ii) If $m \vdash_A m'$ then $U(m) \vdash_K U(m')$; and if $\vdash_A m$ then $\vdash_K U(m)$.

For a justified sequence $s=m_1\cdot m_2\cdots m_k$, we write U(s) to mean the justified sequence $U(m_1)\cdot U(m_2)\cdots U(m_k)$ whose justification pointers are induced by those of s. Let $\mathcal{A}=(A,U,K)$ be a two-level arena. It is easy to see that if s is a play of A, then U(s) is a play of K.

For a strategy σ of A, $U(\sigma) := \{U(s) \mid s \in \sigma\}$ is a set of plays of K, which is not necessarily a strategy, since U(s) may not satisfy determinacy. (Recall that some upper-level structure has no corresponding lower-level structure.)

Definition 3 (Strategies). A *strategy* of a two-level arena (A, U, K) is a pair $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ of strategies of A and K respectively such that $U(\sigma) \subseteq \bar{\sigma}$; it is *innocent* just if σ and $\bar{\sigma}$ are innocent as strategies of A and K respectively.

Let $A_i = (A_i, U_i, K_i)$ where i = 1, 2 be two-level arenas. We define product, function space and intersection constructions as follows.

Product. $A_1 \times A_2 := (A_1 \times A_2, U, K_1 \times K_2)$, where $U : (M_{A_1} + M_{A_2}) \to (M_{K_1} + M_{K_2})$ is defined as $U_1 + U_2$.

Function Space. $A_1 \Rightarrow A_2 := (A_1 \Rightarrow A_2, U, K_1 \Rightarrow K_2)$, where $U : ((M_{A_1} \times Init_{A_2}) + M_{A_2}) \rightarrow ((M_{K_1} \times Init_{K_2}) + M_{K_2})$ is defined as $U_1 \times U_2 + U_2$.

Intersection. Provided $K_1 = K_2 = K$, define $A_1 \wedge A_2 := (A_1 \times A_2, U, K)$, where $U : (M_{A_1} + M_{A_2}) \to M_K$ is defined as $[U_1, U_2]$.

We can now define a category whose objects are two-level arenas, and maps $\mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ are innocent strategies of $\mathcal{A}_1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_2$. The composite of $(\sigma_1, \bar{\sigma}_1) : \mathcal{A}_1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_2$ and $(\sigma_2, \bar{\sigma}_2) : \mathcal{A}_2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_3$ is defined as $(\sigma_1; \sigma_2, \bar{\sigma}_1; \bar{\sigma}_2) : \mathcal{A}_1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_3$. Let \top be the terminal object in the category of Q-coloured arenas.

Theorem 2. (i) Let $A_i = (A_i, U_i, K)$. Then $A_1 \wedge A_2$ is the pullback of $A_1 \xrightarrow{(!_{A_1}, \mathrm{id}_K)} (\top, \emptyset, K) \xleftarrow{(!_{A_2}, \mathrm{id}_K)} A_2$. (ii) The category of two-level arenas and innocent strategies is cartesian closed.

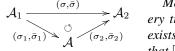
Finally we introduce Subject Expansion which is a property that relates the two levels of game semantics. The name originates from a characteristic property of (intersection) type systems, which states that for any terms t and t', type environment Γ and type τ , if $t \longrightarrow t'$ and $\Gamma \vdash t' : \tau$, then $\Gamma \vdash t : \tau$. Subject expansion plays a central rôle in completeness of intersection type systems.

In two-level game semantics, it seems best to formulate Subject Expansion as a kind of factorisation theorem, stated as follows.

Theorem 3 (Subject Expansion). Let $A_i = (A_i, U_i, K_i)$ be a two-level arena for i = 1, 2 and K be a base arena. If

$$A_1 \xrightarrow{(\sigma,\bar{\sigma})} A_2$$
 and $K_1 \xrightarrow{\bar{\sigma}} K_2$ $(a map of two-level arenas)$ (maps of base arenas)

then there are a two-level arena A whose base arena is K and strategies $\sigma_1: A_1 \to A$ and $\sigma_2: A \to A_2$ such that



 $\mathcal{A}_1 \xrightarrow{(\sigma,\bar{\sigma})} \mathcal{A}_2 \qquad \qquad \text{Moreover, there is a canonical triple } (\sigma_1,\mathcal{A},\sigma_2) \text{: for every triple } (\sigma_1,\mathcal{A}',\sigma_2') \text{ that satisfies the requirement, there exists a mapping } \varphi \text{ from moves of } \mathcal{A} \text{ to moves of } \mathcal{A}' \text{ such that } [\mathrm{id}_{\mathcal{A}_1},\varphi](\sigma_1) \subseteq \sigma_1' \text{ and } [\varphi,\mathrm{id}_{\mathcal{A}_2}](\sigma_2) \subseteq \sigma_2'.$

As an application, we shall use Subject Expansion to prove the completeness of the intersection type system for recursion scheme model checking (Theorem 6).

Interpretation of Intersection Types

In this section, we interpret Kobayashi's intersection type system [3] in the two-level game model, and show that the interpretation is fully complete i.e. every winning strategy is the denotation of some derivation.

We consider the standard Church-style simply-typed lambda calculus. However, to avoid confusion with intersection types, we henceforth refer to simple types as kinds, defined by $\kappa ::= o \mid \kappa_1 \to \kappa_2$. Let Δ be a kind environment i.e. a set of variable-kind bindings, $x:\kappa$. We write $\Delta \vdash t::\kappa$ to mean t has kind κ under the environment Δ . Fix a set Q of symbols, ranged over by q. Intersection pre-types are defined by $\tau, \sigma ::= q \mid \tau \to \sigma \mid \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i$. The well-kindedness relation $\tau :: \kappa$ is defined by the following rules.

$$\frac{q :: o}{q :: o} \qquad \frac{\tau_i :: \kappa \quad \text{(for all } i \in I) \qquad \sigma :: \kappa'}{\left(\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i\right) \to \sigma :: \kappa \to \kappa'}$$

An *intersection type* is an intersection pre-type τ such that $\tau :: \kappa$ for some κ .

An (intersection) type environment Γ is a set of variable-type bindings, $x: \bigwedge_{i\in I} \tau_i$. We write $\Gamma :: \Delta$ just if $x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i \in \Gamma$ implies that for some $\kappa, x : \kappa \in \Delta$ and $\tau_i :: \kappa$ for all $i \in I$. Valid typing sequents are defined by induction over the following rules.

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i \vdash t : \sigma \qquad \tau_i :: \kappa \quad \text{(for all } i \in I)}{\Gamma, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i \vdash x : \tau_i} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i \vdash t : \sigma \qquad \tau_i :: \kappa \quad \text{(for all } i \in I)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x^{\kappa}.t : (\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i) \to \sigma}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : (\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i) \to \sigma \qquad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : \tau_i \quad \text{(for all } i \in I)}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 \ t_2 : \sigma}$$

Lemma 1. If $\Delta \vdash t :: \kappa$ and $\Gamma :: \Delta$ and $\Gamma \vdash t : \tau$, then $\tau :: \kappa$.

For notational convenience, we use a Church-style simply-kinded lambda calculus with (indexed) product as a term representation of derivations. The raw terms are defined as follows.

$$M ::= \mathsf{p}_i(x) \mid \lambda x^{\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i} . M \mid M_1 M_2 \mid \prod_{i \in I} M_i$$

where I is a finite indexing set. We omit I and simply write $\lambda x^{\bigwedge_i \tau_i}$ and so on if I is clear from the context or unimportant. We say a term M is well-formed just if for every application subterm $M_1 M_2$ of M, M_2 has the form $\prod_{i \in I} N_i$. We consider only well-formed terms. By abuse of notation, we write \top for $\prod \emptyset$.

We give a type system for terms of the calculus, which ressemble the intersection type system, but is syntax directed, i.e., a term completely determines the structure of a derivation.

$$\frac{\Gamma \Vdash M_i : \tau_i \qquad \tau_i :: \kappa \qquad \text{(for all } i)}{\Gamma, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i \Vdash \mathsf{p}_i(x) : \tau_i} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \Vdash M_i : \tau_i \qquad \tau_i :: \kappa \qquad \text{(for all } i)}{\Gamma \Vdash \prod_i M_i : \bigwedge_i \tau_i} \\ \frac{\Gamma \Vdash M_1 : (\bigwedge_i \tau_i) \to \sigma \qquad \Gamma \Vdash M_2 : \bigwedge_i \tau_i}{\Gamma \Vdash M_1 M_2 : \sigma} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau \Vdash M : \sigma}{\Gamma \Vdash \lambda x^{\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i} M : (\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i) \to \sigma}$$

We call a term-in-context $\Gamma \Vdash M : \tau$ a *proof term*. Observe that a proof term is essentially a typed lambda term with (indexed) product. Here an intersection type $\tau_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \tau_n$ is interpreted as a product type $\tau_1 \times \cdots \times \tau_n$ and a proof term $M_1 \sqcap \cdots \sqcap M_n$ is a tuple $\langle M_1, \ldots, M_n \rangle$. Then all variables are bound to tuples and a proof term $\mathsf{p}_i(x)$ is a projection into the ith element.

Unfortunately, not all the proof terms correspond to a derivation of the intersection type system. For example, $\lambda f^{(q_1 \wedge q_2) \to p}.\lambda x^{q_1}.\lambda y^{q_2}.f(\mathsf{p}(x) \sqcap \mathsf{p}(y))$ is a proof term of the type $((q_1 \wedge q_2) \to p) \to q_1 \to q_2 \to p$, but there is no inhabitant of that type. In the intersection type system, $t: \tau \wedge \sigma$ only if $t: \tau$ and $t: \sigma$ for the same term t, but the proof term $\mathsf{p}(x) \sqcap \mathsf{p}(y)$ violates the requirement.

We introduce a judgement M :: t that means the structure of M coincides with the structure of t. By definition, $\top :: t$ for every term t.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \mathsf{p}_i(x) :: x & \lambda x^{\bigwedge_i \tau_i}.M :: \lambda x^{\kappa}.t \ := \ M :: t \ \wedge \ \forall i \ .\tau_i :: \kappa \\ \prod_i M_i :: t \ := \ \forall i \ .M_i :: t & M_1 \ M_2 :: t_1 \ t_2 \ := \ M_1 :: t_1 \ \wedge \ M_2 :: t_2 \end{array}$$

We write $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ just if $\Gamma :: \Delta$, M :: t, $\tau :: \kappa$, $\Delta \vdash t :: \kappa$ and $\Gamma \Vdash M : \tau$. Let t be a term such that $\Delta \vdash t :: \kappa$. It is easy to see that there is a one-to-one correspondence between a derivation of $\Gamma \vdash t : \tau$ and a proof term M such that $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$.

Example 1. Let $Q=\{q_1,q_2\}$ and take $\theta \to (q_1 \land q_2) \to q_1 :: (o \to o) \to o \to o$ where $\theta=(q_1 \to q_1) \land (q_2 \to q_1) \land (q_1 \land q_2 \to q_1)$ and terminal $f:q_1 \to q_2$. Set $M:=\lambda x^\theta \, y^{q_1 \land q_2}.\mathsf{p}_2(x)(f^{q_1 \to q_2}(\mathsf{p}_1(x)(\mathsf{p}_3(x)(\mathsf{p}_1(y) \sqcap \mathsf{p}_2(y)))))$. Then we have $M:=\lambda xy.x(f(x(xy)).$

A two-level arena represents a proof of well-kindedness, $\tau :: \kappa$. The interpretation is straightforward since we have arena constructors \Rightarrow and \wedge :

$$\llbracket q :: o \rrbracket := (\llbracket q \rrbracket, U, \llbracket o \rrbracket) \qquad \llbracket (\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i) \to \sigma :: \kappa \to \kappa' \rrbracket := (\bigwedge_{i \in I} \llbracket \tau_i :: \kappa \rrbracket) \Rightarrow \llbracket \sigma :: \kappa' \rrbracket$$

where $[\![q]\!]$ is a Q-coloured arena with a single move of the colour q, $[\![o]\!]$ is a $\{o\}$ -coloured arena with a single move, and U maps the unique move of $[\![q]\!]$ to the unique move of $[\![o]\!]$. Let $\Gamma = x_1 : \bigwedge_{i \in I_1} \tau_i^1, \ldots, x_n : \bigwedge_{i \in I_n} \tau_i^n$ be a type environment with $\Gamma :: \Delta$ where $\Delta = x_1 : \kappa_1, \ldots, x_n : \kappa_n$. Then $[\![\Gamma :: \Delta]\!] := \prod_{j < n} (\bigwedge_{i \in I_i} [\![\tau_i^j :: \kappa_i]\!])$.

A proof $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$, which is equivalent to a derivation of $\Gamma \vdash t : \tau$, is interpreted as a strategy of the two-level arena $[\![\Gamma :: \Delta]\!] \Rightarrow [\![\tau :: \kappa]\!]$, defined by the following rules (for simplicity, we write $[\![M :: t]\!]$ instead of $[\![\Gamma :: \Delta]\!] \vdash [M :: t]\!] : [\tau :: \kappa]\!]$):

where π_x is the projection $\llbracket (\varGamma, x: \bigwedge_i \tau_i) :: (\varDelta, x: \kappa) \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \bigwedge_i \tau_i :: \kappa \rrbracket$ and for strategies $\sigma_i : \llbracket \varGamma :: \varDelta \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \tau_i :: \kappa \rrbracket$ indexed by i, the strategy $\bigcap_i \sigma_i : \llbracket \varGamma :: \varDelta \rrbracket \longrightarrow \bigwedge_i \llbracket \tau_i :: \kappa \rrbracket$ is the canonical map of the pullback.

Lemma 2 (Componentwise Interpretation). Let $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ be a derivation. Then [M :: t] = ([M], [t]).

Theorem 4 (Adequacy). Let $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M_1 :: t_1] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ and $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M_2 :: t_2] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ be two proofs such that $[M_1 :: t_1] =_{\beta\eta} [M_2 :: t_2]$. Then $[M_1 :: t_1] = [M_2 :: t_2]$.

Theorem 5 (Definability). Let $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma}) : \llbracket \Gamma :: \Delta \rrbracket \to \llbracket \tau :: \kappa \rrbracket$ be a winning strategy. There is a derivation $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ such that $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma}) = \llbracket M :: t \rrbracket$.

Proof. (Sketch) By the standard argument of definability [2], we have a proof term M and a simply-typed lambda term t such that $\llbracket M \rrbracket = \sigma : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket t \rrbracket = \bar{\sigma} : \llbracket \Delta \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \kappa \rrbracket$, where $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ is the standard interpretation of typed lambda terms (here intersection \wedge in Γ and τ is interpreted as a product). If $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ is a valid derivation, by Lemma 2, we have $\llbracket M :: t \rrbracket = (\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ as required. Thus it suffices to show that M :: t, which can be shown by an easy induction.

We can use Church-style type-annotated terms in β -normal η -long form, called *canonical terms*, to represent winning strategies, which are terms-in-context of the form: $\Gamma \Vdash \mathsf{p}_i(x)\,M_1\cdots M_n: q$ where $\Gamma = \cdots, x: \bigwedge_i \alpha_i, \cdots$ and $\alpha_i = \tau_1 \to \cdots \to \tau_n \to q$, and for each $k \in \{1,\ldots,n\}$,

$$M_k = \prod_{j \in J_k} \lambda y_{kj1}^{\tau_{kj1}} \dots y_{kjr}^{\tau_{kjr}} . N_{kj} : \bigwedge_{j \in J_k} \beta_{kj} = \tau_k$$

such that for each $j \in J_k$, $\beta_{kj} = \tau_{kj1} \to \cdots \to \tau_{kjr} \to q_{kj}$ with $r = r_{kj}$ and $\Gamma, y_{kj1} : \tau_{kj1}, \cdots, y_{kjr} : \tau_{kjr} \Vdash N_{kj} : q_{kj}$ is a canonical term. (We assume that canonical terms are proof terms that represent derivations.)

By definition, canonical terms are not λ -abstractions. We call terms-in-context such as M_k above canonical terms in (partially) *curried form*; they have the shape $\Gamma \Vdash \lambda \overline{x}.M: \tau_1 \to \cdots \to \tau_n \to q$. Note that in case n=0, the curried form retains an outermost "dummy lambda" $\Gamma \Vdash \lambda.M: q$. With this syntactic convention, we obtain a tight correspondence between syntax and semantics.

Lemma 3. Let τ :: κ . There is a one-to-one correspondence between winning strategies over the two-level arena $\llbracket \tau :: \kappa \rrbracket$ and canonical terms in curried form of the shape $\emptyset \Vdash M : \tau$ (with η -long β -normal simply-typed term t such that M :: t).

A strategy $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ of $\mathcal{A} = (A, U, K)$ is P-full (respectively O-full) just if every P-move (respectively O-move) of A occurs in σ . Suppose $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ is a winning strategy of $[\![\tau :: \kappa]\!]$. Then: (i) If $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ is P-full, then it is also O-full. (ii) There is a subtype $\tau' :: \kappa$ of τ such that $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ is winning and P-full over $[\![\tau' :: \kappa]\!]$.

A derivation $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t]$: $[\tau :: \kappa]$ is *relevant* just if for each abstraction subterm $\lambda x^{\bigwedge_{i \in I} \tau_i} M'$ of M and $i \in I$, M' has a free occurrence of $p_i(x)$.

Lemma 4. $[\Gamma :: \Delta] \vdash [M :: t] : [\tau :: \kappa]$ is relevant iff [M :: t] is P-full.

5 Applications to HORS Model-Checking

Fix a ranked alphabet Σ and a HORS $G = \langle \Sigma, \mathcal{N}, S, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ we first give the game semantics $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ of G (see [1] for a definition of HORS). Let $\mathcal{N} = \{F_1 : \kappa_1, \ldots, F_n : \kappa_n\}$ with $F_1 = S$ (start symbol), and $\Sigma = \{a_1 : r_1, \ldots, a_m : r_m\}$ where each $r_i = ar(a_i)$, the arity of a_i . Writing $\llbracket \Sigma \rrbracket := \prod_{i=1}^m \llbracket o^{r_i} \to o \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket := \prod_{i=1}^n \llbracket \kappa_i \rrbracket$, the game semantics of G, $\llbracket G \rrbracket : \llbracket \Sigma \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket o \rrbracket$, is the composite

$$\llbracket \varSigma \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\varLambda(\mathbf{g})} (\llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket) \xrightarrow{Y} \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\{S::o\}} \llbracket o \rrbracket$$

in the cartesian closed category of o-coloured arenas and innocent strategies, where $\mathbf{g} = \langle g_1, \dots, g_n \rangle : \llbracket \mathcal{D} \rrbracket \times \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket$ with $g_i = \llbracket \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{N} \vdash \mathcal{R}(F_i) :: \kappa_i \rrbracket$ and $\Lambda(\text{-})$ is currying; Y is the standard fixpoint strategy (see [2, §7.2]); and $\{S :: o\} = \pi_1 : \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket o \rrbracket$ is the projection map.

Remark 1. Since the set of P-views of $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ coincide with the branch language³ of the value tree of G (i.e. the Σ -labelled tree generated by G; see [1]) and an innocent strategy is determined by its P-views, we identify the map $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ with the value tree of G.

Now fix a trivial automaton $\mathcal{B} = \langle Q, \Sigma, q_I, \delta \rangle$. We extend the game-semantic account to express the run tree of \mathcal{B} over the value tree $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ in the category of Q-based two-level arenas and innocent strategies. First set

$$\llbracket \delta :: \varSigma \rrbracket := \prod_{a \in \varSigma} \bigwedge_{(q, a, \overline{q}) \in \delta} \llbracket q_1 \to \ldots \to q_{ar(a)} \to q :: o^{ar(a)} \to o \rrbracket = (\llbracket \delta \rrbracket, U, \llbracket \varSigma \rrbracket)$$

³ Let m be the maximum arity of the symbols in Σ , and write $[m] = \{1, \cdots, m\}$. The *branch language* of $t: dom(t) \longrightarrow \Sigma$ consists of (i) $(f_1, d_1)(f_2, d_2) \cdots$ if there exists $d_1 d_2 \cdots \in [m]^{\omega}$ s.t. $t(d_1 \cdots d_i) = f_{i+1}$ for every $i \in \omega$; and (ii) $(f_1, d_1) \cdots (f_n, d_n) f_{n+1}$ if there exists $d_1 \cdots d_n \in [m]^*$ s.t. $t(d_1 \cdots d_i) = f_{i+1}$ for $0 \le i \le n$, and the arity of f_{n+1} is 0.

where $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket$ is the Q-coloured arena $\prod_{a \in \Sigma} \prod_{(q,a,\overline{q}) \in \delta} \llbracket q_1 \to \ldots \to q_{ar(a)} \to q \rrbracket$ and $\overline{q} = q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_{ar(a)}$.

A run tree of B over $[\![G]\!]$ is just an innocent strategy $(\rho, [\![G]\!])$ of the arena $[\![\delta::\mathcal{D}]\!] \Rightarrow [\![q_I::o]\!] = ([\![\delta]\!] \Rightarrow [\![q_I]\!], V, [\![\mathcal{D}]\!] \Rightarrow [\![o]\!])$. Every P-view $\bar{p} \in [\![G]\!]$ has a unique "colouring" i.e. a P-view $p \in \rho$ such that $V(p) = \bar{p}$. This associates a colour (state) with each node of the value tree, which corresponds to a run tree in the concrete presentation.

Characterisation by Complete Type Environment. Using G and \mathcal{B} as before, Kobayashi [3] showed that $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ is accepted by \mathcal{B} if, and only if, there is a complete type environment Γ , meaning that (i) $S:q_I \in \Gamma$, (ii) $\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{R}(F):\theta$ for each $F:\theta \in \Gamma$. As a first application of two-level arena games, we give a semantic counterpart of the characterisation. Let $\Gamma = \{F_1: \bigwedge_{j \in I_1} \tau_{1j} :: \kappa_1, \ldots, F_n: \bigwedge_{j \in I_n} \tau_{nj} :: \kappa_n\}$ be a type environment of G. Set $\llbracket \Gamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket := \prod_{i=1}^n \bigwedge_{j \in I_i} \llbracket \tau_{ij} :: \kappa_i \rrbracket = (\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket, U_1, \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket)$ where $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket := \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{j \in I_i} \llbracket \tau_{ij} \rrbracket$.

Theorem 6. Using Σ , G and \mathcal{B} as before, $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ is accepted by \mathcal{B} if, and only if, there exists Γ such that (i) $S:q_I \in \Gamma$, and (ii) there exists a strategy σ (say) of the Q-coloured arena $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket \times \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ such that (σ, \mathbf{g}) defines a winning strategy of the two-level arena $(\llbracket \delta :: \Sigma \rrbracket \times \llbracket \Gamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket) \Rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket$. (Thanks to Theorem 5, (ii) is equivalent to: $\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{R}(F) : \theta$ for each $F:\theta$ in Γ ; hence Γ is complete.)

Proof. (Sketch) We use Subject Expansion (Theorem 3) to prove the left-to-right direction. To prove the right-to-left, consider the composite

$$\llbracket \delta :: \varSigma \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\Lambda(\sigma, \mathbf{g})} (\llbracket \varGamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \varGamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket) \xrightarrow{(Y, Y)} \llbracket \varGamma :: \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \xrightarrow{(\{S:q_I\}, \{S::o\})} \llbracket q_I :: o \rrbracket. \quad \Box$$

Minimality of Traversals-induced Typing Using the same notation as before, interaction sequences from $\mathbf{Int}(\Lambda(\mathbf{g}),\mathbf{fix})\subseteq \mathrm{Int}(\llbracket\Sigma\rrbracket,\llbracket\mathcal{N}\rrbracket\Rightarrow\llbracket\mathcal{N}\rrbracket,\llbracket\varrho\rrbracket)$ form a tree, which is (in essence) the *traversal tree* in the sense of Ong [1].

Prime types, which are intersection types of the form $\theta = \bigwedge_{i \in I_1} \theta_{1i} \to \cdots \to \bigwedge_{i \in I_n} \theta_{ni} \to q$, are equivalent to variable profiles (or simply profiles) [1]. Precisely θ corresponds to profile $\widehat{\theta} := (\{\widehat{\theta_{1i}} \mid i \in I_1\}, \cdots, \{\widehat{\theta_{ni}} \mid i \in I_n\}, q)$. We write profiles of ground kind as q, rather than (q). Henceforth, we shall use prime types and profiles interchangeably.

Tsukada and Kobayashi [10] introduced (a kind-indexed family of) binary relations \leq_{κ} between profiles of kind κ , and between sets of profiles of kind κ , by induction over the following rules.

- (i) If for all $\theta \in A$ there exists $\theta' \in A'$ such that $\theta \leq_{\kappa} \theta'$ then $A \leq_{\kappa} A'$.
- (ii) If $A_i \leq_{\kappa_i} A_i'$ for each i then $(A_1, \ldots, A_n; q) \leq_{\kappa_1 \to \cdots \to \kappa_n \to o} (A_1', \ldots, A_n', q)$.

A profile annotation (or simply annotation) of the traversal tree $\mathbf{Int}(\Lambda(\mathbf{g}),\mathbf{fix})$ is a map of the nodes (which are move-occurrences of $M_{\llbracket \varSigma \rrbracket} + M_{\llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{N} \rrbracket} + M_{\llbracket o \rrbracket}$) of the tree to profiles. We say that an annotation of the traversal tree is *consistent* just if whenever a move m, of kind $\kappa_1 \to \cdots \to \kappa_n \to o$ and simulates q, is annotated with profile (A_1, \cdots, A_n, q') , then (i) q' = q, (ii) for each i, A_i is a set of profiles of kind κ_i , (iii) if m' is annotated with θ and i-points to m, then $\theta \in A_i$. Now consider annotated

moves, which are moves paired with their annotations, written (m, θ) . We say that a profile annotation is *innocent* just if whenever $u_1 \cdot (m_1, \theta_1)$ and $u_2 \cdot (m_2, \theta_2)$ are evenlength paths in the annotated traversal tree such that $\lceil u_1 \rceil = \lceil u_2 \rceil$, then $m_1 = m_2$ and $\theta_1 = \theta_2$.

Every consistent (and innocent) annotation α of an (accepting) traversal tree gives rise to a typing environment, written Γ_{α} , which is the set of bindings $F_i:\theta$ where $i\in\{1,\ldots,n\}$ and θ is the profile that annotates an occurrence of an initial move of $\llbracket\kappa_i\rrbracket$. Note that Γ_{α} is finite because there are only finitely many types of a given kind. We define a relation between annotations: $\alpha_1\leq\alpha_2$ just if for each occurrence m of a move of kind κ in the traversal tree, $\alpha_1(m)\leq_{\kappa}\alpha_2(m)$.

Theorem 7. (i) Let α be a consistent and innocent annotation of a traversal tree. Then Γ_{α} is a complete type environment.

- (ii) There is \leq -minimal consistent and innocent annotation, written α_{\min} . Then $\Gamma_{\alpha_{\min}} \leq \Gamma_{\alpha}$ meaning that for all $F: \theta \in \Gamma_{\alpha_{\min}}$ there exists $F: \theta' \in \Gamma_{\alpha}$ such that $\theta < \theta'$.
- (iii) Every complete type environment Γ determines a consistent and innocent annotation α_{Γ} of the traversal tree.

Game-Semantic Proof of Completeness of GTRecS. GTRecS [9] is a higher-order model checker proposed by Kobayashi. Although GTRecS is inspired by game-semantics, the formal development of the algorithm is purely type-theoretical and no concrete relationship to game semantics is known. Here we give a game-semantic proof of completeness of GTRecS based on two-level arena games.

The novelty of GTRecS lies in a function on type bindings, named **Expand**. For a set Γ of nonterminal-type bindings, **Expand**(Γ) is defined as

$$\Gamma \cup \{ f' \cup \{F_i : \tau'\} \mid \Gamma \leq_P \Gamma' \wedge \Gamma' \vdash \mathcal{R}(F_i) : \tau' \wedge \Gamma \leq_O \{F_i : \tau'\} \},$$

where $\Gamma' \vdash \mathcal{R}(F_i) : \tau'$ is relevant. Here for types τ_1 and τ_2 , $\tau_1 \preceq_P \tau_2$ if the arena $\llbracket \tau_2 \rrbracket$ is obtained by adding only proponent moves to $\llbracket \tau_1 \rrbracket$. For example, $(\bigwedge \emptyset) \to q \preceq_P ((\bigwedge \emptyset) \to q') \to q$ but $(\bigwedge \emptyset) \to q \not \preceq_P (q'' \to q') \to q$, since q' is at the proponent position and q'' at the opponent position. $\Gamma \preceq_P \Gamma'$ is defined as $\forall F : \tau' \in \Gamma'$. $\exists F : \tau \in \Gamma$. $\tau \preceq_P \tau'$. Similarly, $\tau \preceq_O \tau'$ and $\Gamma \preceq_O \Gamma'$ are defined.

Our goal is to analyse **Expand** game theoretically. The result is Lemma 5, which states that **Expand** overapproximates one step interaction of two strategies, σ and fix. Completeness of GTRecS is a corollary of Lemma 5.

Assume that G is typable and fix a type environment $\Gamma = \{F_i : \bigwedge_j \tau_{i,j} \mid F_i \in \mathcal{N}\}$ such that $\vdash G : \Gamma$. Let $\sigma : \llbracket \delta \rrbracket \longrightarrow (\Gamma^1 \Rightarrow \Gamma^2)$ (here we use superscripts to distinguish occurrences of Γ) be the winning strategy that is induced from the derivation of $\vdash G : \Gamma$. The strategy $\operatorname{fix} : (\llbracket \Gamma^1 \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma^2 \rrbracket) \longrightarrow \llbracket q_I \rrbracket$ is defined as the composite of $(\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket^1 \Rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket^2) \xrightarrow{Y} \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\{S:q_I\}} \llbracket q_I \rrbracket$. For $n \in \{1,2,\dots\}$, the *nth approximation of* fix is defined by $\lfloor \operatorname{fix} \rfloor_n = \{s \in \operatorname{fix} \mid |s| \leq 2n+1\}$. Thus $\lfloor \operatorname{fix} \rfloor_n$ is a strategy that behaves like fix until the nth interaction, but stops after that.

Let $n\in\{0,1,2,\ldots\}$. The n-th approximation of fix induces approximation of arenas and type environments. An arena $\lfloor \varGamma^1\Rightarrow \varGamma^2\rfloor_n$ is defined as the restriction of

 $\Gamma^1\Rightarrow \Gamma^2$ that consists of only moves appearing at $\mathbf{Int}(\sigma, \lfloor\mathbf{fix}\rfloor_n)$. The arena $\lfloor\Gamma^1\Rightarrow \Gamma^2\rfloor_n$ is decomposed as $\prod_{i,j}(\lfloor\Gamma^1\rfloor_{n,i,j}\Rightarrow \lfloor\tau_{i,j}\rfloor_n)$. Let $\lfloor\Gamma^1\rfloor_n$ be the union of variable-type bindings corresponding to $\bigcup_{i,j}\lfloor\Gamma^1\rfloor_{n,i,j}$ and $\lfloor\Gamma^2\rfloor_n$ be the set of type bindings $\{F_i:\lfloor\tau_{i,j}\rfloor_n\}_{i,j}$.

Lemma 5.
$$\lfloor \Gamma^1 \rfloor_n \cup \lfloor \Gamma^2 \rfloor_n \subseteq \mathbf{Expand}^n(\{S:q_0\}).$$

Conclusions and Further Directions. Two-level arena games are an accurate model of intersection types. Thanks to Subject Expansion, they are a useful semantic framework for reasoning about higher-order model checking.

For future work, we aim to (i) consider properties that are closed under disjunction and quantifications, and (ii) study a call-by-value version of intersection games. In orthogonal directions, it would be interesting to (iii) construct an intersection game model for untyped recursion schemes [10], and (iv) build a CCC of intersection games parameterised by an alternating parity tree automaton, thus extending our semantic framework to mu-calculus properties.

Acknowledgement. This work is partially supported by Kakenhi $22 \cdot 3842$ and EPSRC EP/F036361/1. We thank Naoki Kobayashi for encouraging us to think about game-semantic proofs and for insightful discussions.

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