



Universidade de Brasília

Instituto de Ciências Exatas  
Departamento de Ciência da Computação

# Mechanization and Overhaul of Feature Featherweight Java

Pedro da C. Abreu Jr.

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Orientador  
Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Bonifácio de Almeida

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Coordenador: Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Bonifácio de Almeida

Banca examinadora composta por:

Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Bonifácio de Almeida (Orientador) — CIC/UnB  
Prof. Dr. Rodrigo B. de Almeida — CIC/UnB  
Prof. Dr. Flávio L. C Moura — CIC/UnB

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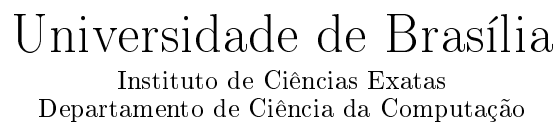
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CEP 70910-900  
Brasília-DF — Brasil



## Pedro da C. Abreu Jr.

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# Abstract

Specifying a language using an **Interactive Theorem Prover (ITP)** is seldom faithful to its original pen-and-paper specification. However, the process of mechanizing a language and type safety proofs might also unearth insights for improving the original specification. In this paper, we detail some design decisions related to our process of first specifying *Featherweight Java (FJ)* in **Coq** and thus evolving such a specification to prove the type system properties of an overhaul version *Feature Featherweight Java (FFJ)*—a core-calculus for a family of languages that address variability management in highly configurable systems, such as software product lines (SPLs); which we name as *Overhaul Feature Featherweight Java (FFJ $\star$ )*. Indeed, **FFJ $\star$**  is the first mechanization of **FFJ**, and as such it might also help researchers to derive proofs about software product line refinements without considering several assumptions about the underlining SPL assets. We believe that the whole process led us to a clearer, unambiguous, and equivalent syntax and semantics of **FFJ**, while keeping the proofs as well as our **FJ** extensions as simple as possible.

**Keywords:** Language Design, Language Semantics, Java, FOP, Coq

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# Glossary

**CA** Core Assets. 4

**CK** Configuration Knowledge. 4

**FFJ** Feature Featherweight Java. iii, iv, vii, 1, 2, 7, 8, 10–13

**FFJ $\star$**  Overhaul Feature Featherweight Java. iii, iv, vi, vii, 2, 7–13, 16–18

**FJ** Featherweight Java. iii, 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16–18

**FM** Feature Model. 4

**FOP** Feature Oriented Programming. iv, 1–3, 5, 7, 10

**ITP** Interactive Theorem Prover. iii

**SPL** Software Product Line. 1, 3, 4



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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

**FOP** [21] is a design methodology and tools for program synthesis [9]. It aims at the modularization of software systems in terms of features. A *feature* implements a stakeholder's requirement and is typically an increment in program functionality. When added to a software system, a feature introduces new structures, such as classes and methods, and refines existing ones, such as extending methods bodies.

There are several **FOP** languages and tools that provide varying mechanisms that support the specification and composition of features properly, such as AHEAD [6], FSTComposer [4], FeatureC++ [3], and more recently Delta-Oriented Programming [23]. **FOP** has mostly been used to develop *product-lines* in disparate domains, including compilers for extensible Java dialects [7], fire support simulators for U.S. Army [10], high-performance network [11], and program verification tools [17].

Since **FOP** provides such a powerful mechanism to deal with software variance, **Software Product Lines (SPLs)** have made great use of its concepts. Just like the Ford's product lines in the domain of automobile aims to provide customized automobiles at reasonable price by providing the means for cheap customization. **SPL** aims to provide customized software at a reasonable price by providing the means for cheap customization using **FOP** concepts. At the section 2.3 we shall use **SPL** to explain the main **FOP** concepts.

Several attempts to formalize the type system of **FOP** languages have been made. For instance, **FFJ** [2] is a proposed type system for **FOP** languages and tools, which is developed on top of **FJ** [15] to provide a simple syntax and semantics conforming with common **FOP** languages, incorporating constructs for feature composition.

Nevertheless, very few effort was made to mechanize a **FOP** language. In matter of fact, only one **FOP** language was implemented with a proof assistant to date, it is known as LFJ [13]. Mechanizing a language is interesting because it makes the proofs even more reliable than peer review. Take for an instance the Perko Pairs [19]. They were listed by C.N Little as different knots in 1885, and only almost a century latter, in 1974 Ken Perko discovered [22] them to actually be the same knot!

The idea behind mechanization is to check these proofs with the aid of a computer, reducing significantly the risk of errors, while taking full use of automation for the tedious or straightforward steps of the proof. As the system may grow, the mechanization makes the proof a lot more reliable.

And also, mechanized proofs leads a better organization when the system grows larger. Better organization of the proof process allows to build teams for these proofs. This allows to mechanize correctness properties of big, real world implementations, e.g. compilers [18], file systems [1, 5] and languages [14, 16].

The process of scrutinizing **FFJ** and defining *unambiguously* its semantics in **Coq** lead us to some language specification and implementation improvements. The biggest change was to review and simplify the lookup functions of the refinement table. The implementations of **FJ** and **FFJ** can both be found at github<sup>12</sup>. Henceforth, we refer this proposed calculus as **FFJ**★ to distinguish it when comparing our implementation to the original **FFJ** design. Altogether the improvements proposed in **FFJ**★ makes the transition more natural between **FJ** and **FFJ**, simplifying the auxiliary functions used in the language specification as well as the type safety proofs and lemmas. This allows defining **FFJ**★ with incremental changes to **FJ** syntax and semantics, and consequently, incremental changes to proofs, leading to a clearer and simpler specification of **FFJ**.

The main goal of this paper is to present a novel mechanization of a **FOP** language. In particular, the mechanization of **FFJ**★. Hence we can summarize the main contribution of this paper as follows:

1. The first mechanization of the **FFJ** type system
2. An improved specification of **FFJ**, which may help other researchers to reason about software product lines properties.
3. A report about the benefits of using a proof assistant to revamp an existing specification of a non-mechanized language type system.

This paper is organized as follows: in the Section ?? we give a brief introduction to **Coq** Section 2.1 briefly introduces software product lines, **FOP** and **FFJ**★, Section 3 gives a brief introduction of **FFJ**★ and explains the main differences with **FJ** Section 4 formally describes our revamped **FFJ** and states the lemmas needed to preserve **FJ** increment to **FFJ** type safety, Section 6 discuss the implications of these results to the product line research, Section 5 discuss related works and Section 7 is the conclusion and shows possible future works.

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<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/hephaestus-pl/coqfj>

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/hephaestus-pl/coqffj>

# Chapter 2

## Theory Fundamentals

Under the context of software engineering, a lot of effort have been spent in the scope of *reuse*. However most of the effort have been made code reuse, and not that much into software reuse as a whole.

In this chapter we provide the necessary definitions to understand **FOP**, and how this paradigm copes with software reuse. To simplify the understanding we will take the examples under software product lines. This will also make clear how mechanizing a **FOP** language shall benefit real world applications.

### 2.1 Feature Oriented Programming

Feature-oriented programming (FOP) is a development approach that supports the *stepwise refinement strategy* for software constructions [8]. Using FOP, a system is typically decomposed in (somewhat new) modular unities (named features) that resemble mixing layers [12], and thus are orthogonal to the typical object-oriented decomposition in terms of class hierarchies. Successful FOP usage scenarios have been reported in the literature for the domains of highly configurable systems and software product lines [1]. FOP has been implemented using both programming language extensions and tooling support, such as Java AHEAD Tool Suite [6] and FEATUREC++ [3].

### 2.2 Software Product Line

In the 70's the concept of software families was introduced by Parnas [20]. It's main goal was to enhance the versatility to the development of the artefact's non-functional requirements. Upon this, the concept of **SPL** was formalized with the purpose of projecting several softwares with similar characteristics under a single domain.

Sommerville [24] defines **SPL** as one of the most effective approaches to reuse. And defines it as a set of applications with a common architecture and shared components.

As the name suggest, **SPL** idea comes from Ford's product lines. With a product line it is possible to build several different specializations of the same product, while improving efficiency and reducing cost. This allow mass individualization of the products, i.e. even though the industry is still delivering products in mass scale, it still provides somewhat individualized products for different kinds of clients. The analogue still holds for **SPL**, it

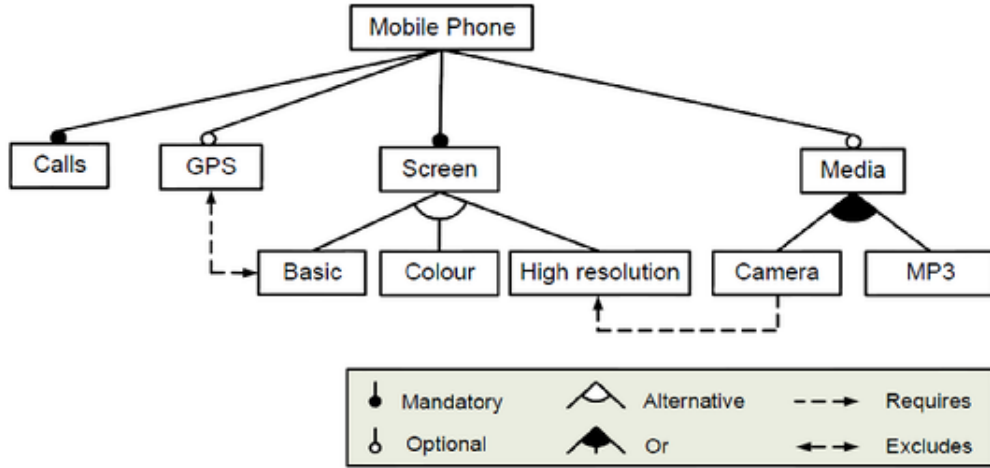


Figure 1: A sample feature model

Figure 2.1: Cellphone OS feature model

proposes a framework which allows to build several different specializations of the software, while reducing delivery time which by its turn reduces cost.

Take for example a **SPL** illustrated in 2.1 for a mobile phone operational system. Every cellphone must be able to make calls and receive calls and having a screen. But there are optional features, such as having a GPS, being able to reproduce media, etc.

Formally a **SPL** is defined by a triple: the **Feature Model (FM)**, **Core Assets (CA)**, and the **Configuration Knowledge (CK)**.

The **FM** is the set of all features. They may be: *obligatory*, *optional*, *alternative*, and *or*.

The **CA** is everything useful in the process of development, such as documentation, test cases, code, and so on.

The **CK** is a mapping between features to assets, driving product generation.

With that in hand it is possible to compose the assets in order to provide a new product. However, it is not guaranteed that this composition process is safe, i.e. that every asset selected copes well with each other. This leads us to the safe composition problem.

In order to tackle this safe composition problem, one could manually inspect **FM**, **CK** and implementation to understand the dependencies between assets for all products. However, since **SPLs** can quickly scale to hundreds of products, this is often impractical.

Another approach would be to generate every single product, compile and test them. While this is an useful and safe approach, it does not scale given the exponential factor in every feature introduction.

This is where formal methods shines. With formal methods it is possible to study how features interact with each other, postulate properties and provide safety theorems for **SPLs** without having to generate every single product.

## 2.3 A Running Example: The Expression Product Line in FOP

In this section we illustrate the use of FOP through an AHEAD implementation of a slight adaptation of the Expression Product Line (EPL) []—Figure 2.3 shows the EPL feature model. Regarding our design decisions, in this case we implemented the mandatory features using a BASE AHEAD package (Figure 2.3), which declares a class hierarchy involving an interface (`Expression`) and several classes (`Value`, `BinaryExpression`, `AddExpression`, and `SubExpression`), and one AHEAD package for each non-mandatory feature (see Figure 2.4). Note that an AHEAD package contains either (a) plain Java entities (class or interface) declarations or (b) Java entities refinements. A refinement might override methods declared in other packages or introduce new attributes or methods in existing classes or interfaces. In this simple example, we do not implement any method overriding through class refinements—the refinements only introduce new elements to the BASE AHEAD package of Figure 2.3.

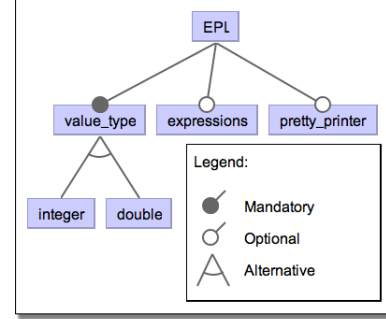


Figure 2.2: EPL feature model

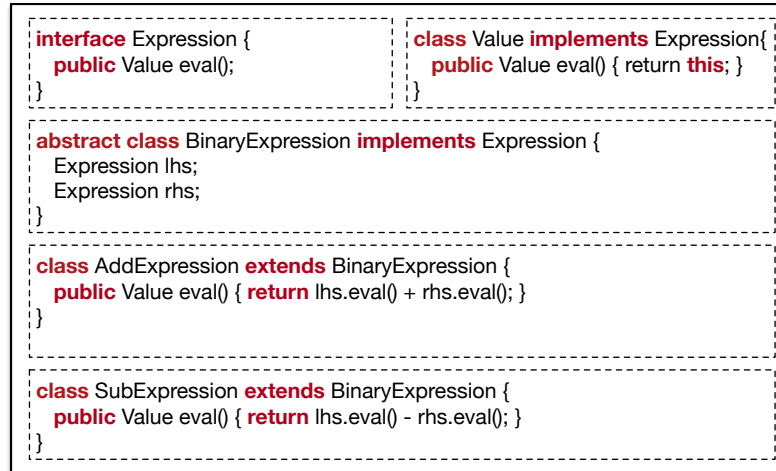


Figure 2.3: The BASE package of the Expression Product Line

The details of the EPL AHEAD non-mandatory feature packages are as follows.

- Features `integer` and `double` refine the `Value` class of the BASE package by introducing a new attribute named `value`, either with type `int` or `double`. According to the EPL feature model, only one of these features might be selected for a given product.
- The `expressions` feature introduces two new expressions to those declared in the BASE package, one for multiplication and another for division. This particular feature does not refine existing classes, only introduces new ones.

- The `pretty_printer` feature introduces the support for *pretty printing* expressions. It refines the `Expression` interface and the `BinaryExpression` and `Value` classes, introducing a new method `print()` and also a new attribute (`operator`) for the `BinaryExpression` class.

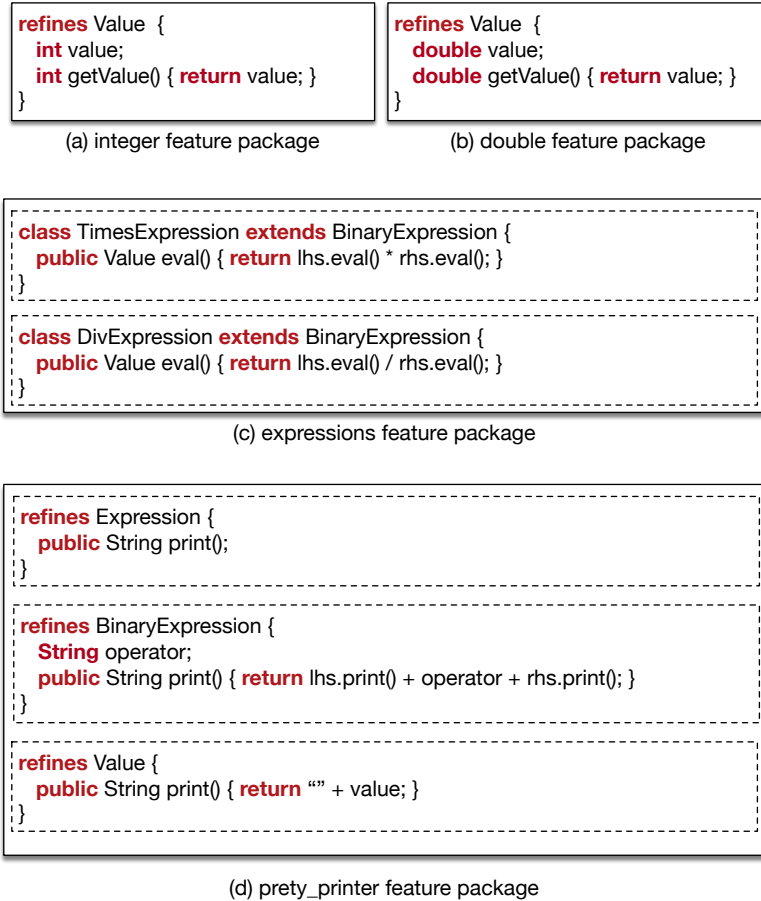


Figure 2.4: Non-mandatory feature implementations of the Expression Product Line

In the case we generate a product with a feature selection consisting of `EPL`, `value_type(double)`, and `pretty_printer`, we will get a product as shown in Figure ??.



# Chapter 3

## Overview of **FFJ** and **FFJ★**

**FFJ** is a core calculus for **FOP**, which was built upon an extension of **FJ**—a minimal subset of Java. In **FFJ**, classes can be added and modified by the introduction of a new feature, that is, an existing class can be extended by a class refinement. A class refinement is declared like a conventional class, though preceded by the keyword **refines**. For example, **refines class C {...}** refers to a class refinement that *refines* the class **C**. The same can be achieved for method introduction and modification. Methods refinement, however, override a previous definition of the corresponding method.

To fully mechanize **FFJ**, we had to disambiguate and enhance the language to some extent that it deserves the attention of formally documenting these changes. Even though these changes are significant, as discussed in Section 4, the philosophy of **FFJ**, **FOP**, and Stepwise Refinement are maintained. In **FFJ**, as well as in **FFJ★**, classes can be added and modified by the introduction of a new feature (as discussed in the previous section). An existing class can be extended by a class refinement. A class refinement is declared like a class but preceded by the keyword **refines**. For example, **refines class C@feat {...}** refers to a class refinement that refines the class **C**. This way, a refinement may add new fields, and methods to the class and override existing methods.

A syntactical difference between **FFJ** and **FFJ★** is that, in **FFJ★**, the feature notion appears in the abstract syntax tree (AST) of the language. While the designers of **FFJ** argue that the programmer does not have to explicitly state which feature a class or method belongs to, we favored the approach of stating the feature in the name of every refinement. This greatly simplifies the structure of the formalism of the language and can be seen as an information gathered by the parser to build the AST, and thus the actual code expressed using the concrete syntax of this language might not have these annotations.

In addition, an **FFJ★** program has a table with every class declaration (CT) and another table with every class refinement (RT). We make this distinction to simplify the extension from **FJ** in **Coq**, since with this decision we eliminate the need to match whether a class in the table is a refinement or a declaration. From this RT we can retrieve the composition order of the refinements and build the refinement chain of the program, which is used to check if features were composed correctly and does not references features that have not been introduced yet. We redefine the denotation of RT from **FFJ**. In the original version, it was used to retrieve the refinement name given a refinement declaration. This is no longer necessary in **FFJ★**, since that information is already encoded in the syntax.

Finally, in the original definition of **FFJ**, the lookup functions are somewhat circumvented. Accordingly, we propose a very different approach for them, with the aim as been not only as formal and simple as possible, but also easy to evolve from our mechanized version of **FJ**. To this end, we eliminate the need for reverse field lookup, reverse method lookup, and the refinement relation. A formal description with all these changes is given in Section 4.2. Note that, we were only able to conceive these improvements while formalizing **FFJ** in **Coq**.

In Listings 3.1 and 3.2 we revisit the EPL example from Section 2.3 this time using **FFJ** instead of AHEAD.

Listing 3.1: EPL Class Table

```

1 class Expr extends Object {
2   Expr() { super(); }
3 }
4
5 class Add extends Expr {
6   Expr a; Expr b;
7   Add(Expr a, Expr b) {super(); this.a=a; this.b=b;}
8 }
9
10 class Sub extends Expr {
11   Expr a; Expr b;
12   Sub(Expr a, Expr b) {super(); this.a=a; this.b=b;}
13 }

```

Listing 3.2: EPL Refinement Table

```

1 refines class Expr@Eval {
2   refines Expr() { original(); }
3   int eval() {return 0;}
4 }
5
6 refines class Add@Eval {
7   refines Add(Expr a, Expr b){original(a,b);}
8   refines int eval() {return this.a.eval() + this.b.eval();}
9 }
10
11
12 refines class Sub@Eval {
13   refines Add(Expr a, Expr b){original(a,b);}
14   refines int eval() {return this.a.eval() - this.b.eval();}
15 }

```

Typically, a programmer applies multiple refinements to a class by composing a sequence of features. The ordered list of refinements is called a *refinement chain*. The order in which a refinement introduced matters, and a refinement that is introduced right before another is called *predecessor*.

As class inheritance, refinements cannot introduce a field with the same name already declared before. Methods, in the other hand, may overload an already introduced class, this can be seen in **Sub@Eval** **eval** and **Add@Eval** **eval**. Overloading, in the other hand, is not allowed, i.e. if the programmer wants to introduce the same method, it must have the same number of arguments, the same argument types and the same return type as the previous function definition.

The distinction between method introduction and overriding allows the type system to check if an introduced method inadvertently replaces an existing one with the same name. The distinction also allows the type system to check if there is proper a method to be overridden.

In order to retrieve the correct fields or the correct method of a class, it is necessarily to walk in the subclass refinement correctly. As shown in Figure 3.1 first start from the last refinement of a class, walk through every predecessor, and when you get to the last refinement, you go to the class, and finally to the superclass last refinement. And so on until you reach the Object.

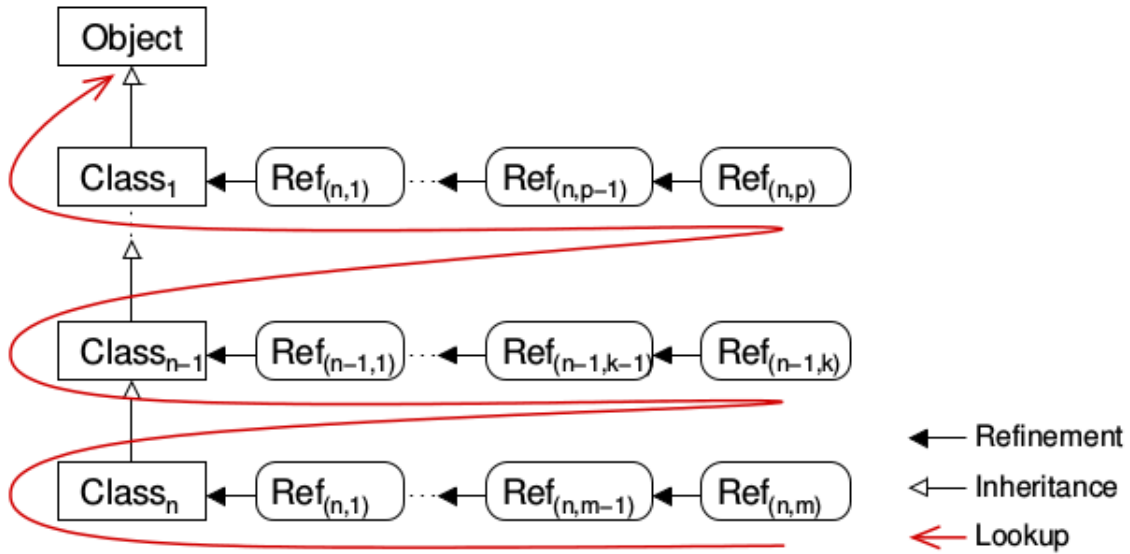


Figure 3.1: Order of lookup in FFJ★

# Chapter 4

## Overhaul Feature Featherweight Java

### 4.1 Syntax

The Syntax of **FFJ** is a straightforward **FOP** extension of **FJ**. Due to the lack of space we do not present the formal definition **FJ** nor **FFJ**, but instead we follow the same scheme of the **FFJ** original definition in [2] and present the modified rules from **FFJ** to **FFJ $\star$**  highlighted with **shaded yellow boxes** and new rules highlighted by **shaded purple boxes**. Also notice that the successor and the refinement relations were simply dropped for being unnecessary by now.

<b>R ::=</b>	<i>refinement names:</i>	
<b>C@feat</b>		
<b>CD ::=</b>	<i>class declarations:</i>	<b>MR ::=</b> <i>method refinements:</i>
class C extends D { <b><math>\bar{C}</math> <math>\bar{f}</math></b> ; K <b><math>\bar{M}</math></b> }		refines C m ( <b><math>\bar{R}</math> <math>\bar{x}</math></b> ) {return e;}
<b>CR ::=</b>	<i>class refinements:</i>	<b>e ::=</b> <i>expressions:</i>
<b>refines class R {<math>\bar{C}</math> <math>\bar{f}</math>; KD <math>\bar{M}</math> <b><math>\bar{M}R</math></b>}</b>		<b>x</b> <i>variable</i>
<b>K ::=</b> <i>constructor declarations:</i>		<b>e.f</b> <i>field access</i>
C( <b><math>\bar{C}</math> <math>\bar{f}</math></b> ){super( $\bar{f}$ ); this. $\bar{f}$ = $\bar{f}$ ;}}		<b>e.m(<math>\bar{e}</math>)</b> <i>method invocation</i>
<b>KD ::=</b> <i>constructor refinements:</i>		<b>new C(<math>\bar{e}</math>)</b> <i>object creation</i>
refines C( $\bar{E}$ $\bar{h}$ , $\bar{C}$ $\bar{f}$ ){original( $\bar{f}$ ); this. $\bar{f}$ = $\bar{f}$ ;}}		<b>(C)e</b> <i>cast</i>
<b>M ::=</b> <i>method declarations:</i>		<b>v ::=</b> <i>values:</i>
C m ( <b><math>\bar{C}</math> <math>\bar{x}</math></b> ) {return e;}		<b>new C(<math>\bar{e}</math>)</b> <i>object creation</i>

Table 4.1: **FFJ** Syntax

The syntax of **FFJ $\star$**  constructs is given at table 4.1. The metavariables **A**, **B**, **C**, **D** and **E** ranges over class names, **f** and **g** range over field names; **m** ranges method name; **x** ranges over variable, **v** ranges over values, **feat** ranges over feature names. We assume that the set of variables includes the special variable **this**, which cannot be used as the name of an argument of a method.

We write  $\bar{f}$  as a shorthand for a possible empty sequence  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  and similarly for  $\bar{C}$ ,  $\bar{x}$ ,  $\bar{e}$ , etc. We abbreviate the operations on pairs of sequences “ $\bar{C} \bar{f}$ ” for “ $C_1 f_1, \dots, C_n f_n$ ” and “ $\text{this}.\bar{f}=\bar{f};$ ” as a shorthand for “ $\text{this}.\bar{f}_1=\bar{f}_1; \dots, \text{this}.\bar{f}_n=\bar{f}_n;$ ”. We write empty sequence as  $\bullet$ .

A class declaration `class C extends D { $\bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M}$ }` introduces a class  $C$  with superclass  $D$ . This class has fields  $\bar{f}$  of type  $\bar{C}$ , a constructor  $K$  and methods  $\bar{M}$ . The fields of the class  $C$  is  $\bar{f}$  added to the fields of its superclass  $D$ , all of them must have distinct names. Methods, on the other hand, may override another superclass method with the same name. Method override **FFJ** $\star$  is basically method rewriting. Methods are uniquely identified by its name, i.e. overloading is not supported.

A class refinement `refines class C@feat { $\bar{C} \bar{f}; KD \bar{M} \bar{MR}$ }` introduces a refinement of the class  $C$  and belongs to the feature `feat`. This refinement contains the fields  $\bar{f}$  of type  $\bar{C}$ , a constructor refinement  $KR$ , methods declarations  $\bar{M}$  and method refinements  $\bar{MR}$ . Like class declarations, the fields of a class refinement  $R$  are added to the fields of its predecessor, which is explained in more detail in Section 4.2.

Constructor declaration `C( $\bar{C} \bar{f}$ ) {super( $\bar{f}$ ); this. $\bar{f}=\bar{f};$ }` and a constructor refinement `refines C( $\bar{E} \bar{h}, \bar{C} \bar{f}$ ) {original( $\bar{f}$ ); this. $\bar{f}=\bar{f};$ }` introduce a constructor for the class  $C$  with fields  $\bar{f}$  of type  $\bar{C}$ . The constructor declaration body is simply a list of assignment of the arguments with its correspondent field preceded by calling its superclass constructor with the correspondent arguments. The constructor refinement only differs from constructor declaration that instead of calling the superclass constructor it will call its predecessor constructor (denoted by `original`).

Method declaration `C m ( $\bar{C} \bar{x}$ ) {return e;}` and method refinement `refines C m ( $\bar{C} \bar{x}$ ) {return e;}` introduce a method  $m$  of return type  $C$  with arguments  $\bar{C} \bar{x}$  and body  $e$ . Method declarations can only appear inside a class declarations or refinement, whereas method refinement should only appear inside a class refinement. There is such a distinction between method declaration and method refinement for allowing the type checker to recognize the difference between method refinement and inadvertent overriding/replacement.

A class table  $CT$  is a mapping from class names  $C$  to class declarations  $CD$ . A refinement table  $RT$  is a mapping from refinement name  $C@feat$  to refinement declarations. An **FFJ** program consists of a triple  $(CT, RT, e)$  of a class table, a refinement table and an expression. Throughout the rest of the paper the  $CT$  and the  $RT$  are assumed to be always fixed to lighten the notation.

## 4.2 Lookup Functions

In **FFJ** as well as in **FJ** types are classes and classes have a subclass relation defined by the syntax of class declaration. To navigate this subclass relation in the  $CT$ , the auxiliary operator  $<:$  is given in Table 4.2, this operator is the reflexive and transitive closure of the subclass relation.

The  $CT$  is expected to satisfy some sanity conditions:

- $CT(C) = \text{class } C \dots$  for every  $C \in \text{dom}(CT)$
- `Object`  $\notin \text{dom}(CT)$

- for every class name  $C$  (except `Object`) appearing anywhere in  $CT$ , we have  $C \in \text{dom}(CT)$
- there are no cycles in the subtype relation induced by  $CT$ , i.e., the relation  $<:$  is antisymmetric

*Subtyping*

$$\frac{}{C <: C} \quad \frac{C <: D \quad C <: E}{C <: E} \quad \frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \dots \}}{C <: D}$$

Table 4.2: Subtype Relation

In **FFJ**★ we fetch the refinement precedence via its position in the RT, i.e. if a refinement of a class appears first in the RT it will be applied first. These functions to navigate the RT are all defined in Table 4.3

First we have the function *class\_name* which retrieves the name of a class refinement.

Next we define the function *refinements\_of*  $C$  to retrieve the refinements of a given class in the same order as they were introduced in the RT.

To navigate the precedence we define the *pred* and the *last* functions. The *pred* function will get a class refinement as an argument, filter refinements of the same class of  $R$  as  $\bar{R}$ , fetch the *index*  $n$  of  $R$  in  $\bar{R}$  and return the element  $P$  at the position  $n - 1$  in  $\bar{R}$  (denoted by the *get* function). Notice that *pred* is a partial function because it is not defined if the a refinement is the first refinement.

The *last* function retrieves the last refinement of a given class  $C$ . This is needed because in **FFJ**★ we navigate the refinement chain backwards, from the last refinement to the first, looking for a given method or field.

*Class Name*

$$\frac{R = C@feat}{class\_name R = C}$$

*Refinements of a class*

$$\frac{filter (\lambda R \cdot class\_name R == C) RT = \bar{R}}{refinements\_of C = \bar{R}}$$

*Predecessor*

$$\frac{refinements\_of (class\_name R) = \bar{R} \quad index R \bar{R} = n \quad get (n - 1) \bar{R} = P}{pred R = P}$$

*Last*

$$\frac{refinements\_of C = \bar{R} \quad tail \bar{R} = R}{last C = R}$$

Table 4.3: Refinement Relations

With this in hand we can define the actual lookup functions *fields*, *mtypes* and *mbody*. They are taken directly from **FFJ** definition, with a new hypothesis and an extra rule.

The extra rule and hypothesis makes reference to dealing with the refinements. This is necessary to make the proofs easier to maintain, since all we need to do is to provide a few acceptance lemmas about these new lookup functions which we name  $fields_R$ ,  $mtype_R$  and  $mbody_R$ .

$fields_R$  simply retrieves the fields of all refinements up to that point in the refinement chain.

$mtype_R$  and  $mbody_R$  tries to find the last introduction to a method, and retrieves its type or body. These two definitions greatly differs from **FFJ** to **FFJ★**. In **FFJ**  $mtype$  would retrieve the typing of the first method introduction, whereas in **FFJ★** it will retrieve the type of the last method refinement, and only later we define the rules for guarantying that the refinement always has the same type of the method declaration. This was made to greatly simplify the proof that states that if a method has  $mtype$  then it also has a  $mbody$ , since both functions follows the same structure the proof is straightforward.

$\frac{\text{refines } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad \neg pred R}{fields_R R = \bar{C} \bar{f}}$
$\frac{\text{refines } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad pred R = P}{fields_R C = fields_R P, \bar{C} \bar{f}}$
$fields \text{ Object} = \bullet$
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad \neg last C}{fields C = fields D, \bar{C} \bar{f}}$
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad last C = R}{fields C = fields D, \bar{C} \bar{f}, fields_R R}$

Table 4.4: Field lookup

Override function in Table 4.7 inductively guaranties that a method or method refinement respects the type of the method was introduced for the first time, which can be in a super class or in a previous refinement.

Introduce in Table 4.8 function checks if a method was not yet declared earlier in the refinement chain.

Every class and refinement of a **FFJ★** program is assumed to respect the well-formedness rules defined in Table 4.10. A well formed class have only well formed methods. And a well formed class refinement only have well formed methods and well formed method refinements. A well formed method and method refinement must has a closed expression  $e$  under the variables of the function parameters.  $e$  must a subtype of the return type of the function. And if a function with the same name was declared before, it must have the same name. If a method refinement is declared in a method refinement, this rule guarantess that it will override the superclass accordingly.

$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M}}{mtype_R(m, R) = \bar{B} \rightarrow B}$	
$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad \text{refines } B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{MR}}{mtype_R(m, R) = \bar{B} \rightarrow B}$	$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad m \notin \bar{MR} \quad pred \ R = P}{mtype_R(m, R) = mtype_R(m, P)}$
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M} \quad last \ C = R \quad \neg mtype_R(m, R)}{mtype(m, C) = \bar{B} \rightarrow B}$	
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad last \ C = R \quad \neg mtype_R(m, R)}{mtype(m, C) = mtype(m, D)}$	
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad last \ C = R}{mtype(m, C) = mtype_R(m, R)}$	

Table 4.5: Method type lookup

$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M}}{mbody_R(m, R) = \bar{x}.e}$	
$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad \text{refines } B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{MR}}{mbody_R(m, R) = \bar{x}.e}$	$\frac{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; KR \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad m \notin \bar{MR} \quad pred \ R = P}{mbody_R(m, R) = mbody_R(m, P)}$
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad B \ m \ (\bar{B} \ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M} \quad last \ C = R \quad \neg mbody_R(m, R)}{mbody(m, C) = \bar{x}.e}$	
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad last \ C = R \quad \neg mbody_R(m, R)}{mbody(m, C) = mbody(m, D)}$	
$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \quad last \ C = R}{mbody(m, C) = mbody_R(m, R)}$	

Table 4.6: Method Body lookup

### 4.3 Typing and Reduction

The typing and computation rules for expressions are listed in table 4.11 and table 4.12 respectively. They are the same as FJ. An environment  $\Gamma$  is a finite mapping from variables to types, written  $\bar{c} : \bar{C}$ . The typing judgment for expressions has the form  $\Gamma \vdash e : C$ , read “in the environment  $\Gamma$ , expression  $e$  has type  $C$ ”.



$$\frac{mtype(m, D) = \bar{D} \rightarrow D \text{ implies } \bar{C} = \bar{D} \text{ and } C_0 = D}{override\ m\ D\ \bar{C}\ C_0}$$

$$\frac{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \ \{\bar{C}\ \bar{f}; K\ \bar{M}\} \quad C_0\ m\ (\bar{C}\ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M} \quad \neg pred\ R \quad R = C@feat}{override_R\ m\ R\ \bar{C}\ C_0}$$

$$\frac{\text{refines class } P \ \{\bar{C}\ \bar{f}; KR\ \bar{M}\ \bar{M}R\} \quad C_0\ m\ (\bar{C}\ \bar{x}) \ \{\text{return } e;\} \in \bar{M} \quad pred\ R = P}{override_R\ m\ R\ \bar{C}\ C_0}$$

$$\frac{\text{refines class } P \ \{\bar{C}\ \bar{f}; KR\ \bar{M}\ \bar{M}R\} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad pred\ R = P \quad override_R\ m\ P\ \bar{C}\ C_0}{override_R\ m\ R\ \bar{C}\ C_0}$$

Table 4.7: Override Function

$$\frac{pred\ R = S \quad \neg mtype_R(m, S)}{introduce\ m\ R}$$

$$\frac{\neg pred\ R \quad R = C@feat \quad \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \ \{\bar{C}\ \bar{f}; K\ \bar{M}\} \quad m \notin \bar{M}}{introduce\ m\ R}$$

Table 4.8: Introduce Function

$\frac{\bar{x} : \bar{C}, \text{this} : C \vdash t_0 : E_0 \quad E_0 <: C_0 \quad \text{CT}(C) = \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \dots \} \quad \text{override}(m, D, \bar{C} \rightarrow C)}{C_0 \text{ m } (\bar{C} \bar{x}) \{ \text{return } t_0; \} \text{ OK in } C}$
$\frac{\bar{x} : \bar{C}, \text{this} : C \vdash t_0 : E_0 \quad E_0 <: C_0 \quad R = C@feat \quad \text{CT}(C) = \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \dots \} \quad \text{RT}(R) = \text{refines } R \{ \dots \bar{M} \dots \} \quad \text{override}(m, D, \bar{C} \rightarrow C) \quad \text{introduce } m \ R \quad m \in \bar{M}}{C_0 \text{ m } (\bar{C} \bar{x}) \{ \text{return } t_0; \} \text{ OK in } R}$
$\frac{\bar{x} : \bar{C}, \text{this} : C \vdash t_0 : E_0 \quad E_0 <: C_0 \quad R = C@feat \quad \text{RT}(R) = \text{refines } R \{ \dots \bar{M}, \bar{MR} \dots \} \quad m \notin \bar{M} \quad m \in \bar{MR} \quad \text{override}_R(m, R, \bar{C} \rightarrow C)}{\text{refines } C_0 \text{ m } (\bar{C} \bar{x}) \{ \text{return } t_0; \} \text{ OK in } R}$

Table 4.9: Method typing in **FFJ**★

$\frac{K = C(\bar{D} \bar{g}, \bar{C} \bar{f}) \{ \text{super}(\bar{g}); \text{this}.\bar{f} = \bar{f} \} \quad \text{fields}(D) = \bar{D} \bar{g} \quad \bar{M} \text{ OK in } C}{\text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{M} \} \text{ OK}}$
$\frac{\bar{M} \text{ OK in } R \quad \bar{MR} \text{ OK in } R}{\text{refines class } R \{ \bar{C} \bar{f}; K \bar{R} \bar{M} \bar{MR} \} \text{ OK}}$

Table 4.10: Class and refinement typing in **FFJ**★

The reduction relation is of the form  $e \rightarrow e'$ , read “expression  $e$  reduces to expression  $e'$  in one step”. We write  $\rightarrow^*$  for the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$ .

There are three reduction rules, one for field access, one for method invocation, and one for casting. We write  $[\bar{d} = \bar{x}, e = y]e_0$  for the result of replacing  $x_1$  by  $d_1$ ,  $x_2$  by  $d_2, \dots, x_n$  by  $d_n$ , and  $y$  by  $e$  in the expression  $e_0$ .

With the absence of side effects, there is no need of stack or heap for variable binding.

In Table 4.13 we define the evaluation context. The idea of an evaluation context is to represent where the next reduction will be applied. This makes easy the job to represent which kinds of expressions are expected to be stuck and which are not in our progress theorem. That being said, evaluation contexts roughly follows the same syntax as the syntax of the expressions, taking the necessary care to preserve the order of evaluation of the language. Since **FJ** and **FFJ**★ are non-deterministic, no much care is needed.

Here our evaluation context denotes a reduction happening:

- "right here", represented by  $\square$ ;
- in the expression of a field access;
- in the object of a method invocation;
- in *some* of the arguments of a method invocation;
- in the expression being cast;

$\Gamma \vdash x : \Gamma(x)$	(T-Var)
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_0 : C_0 \quad fields(C_0) = \bar{C} \bar{f}}{\Gamma \vdash e_0.f_i : C_i}$	(T-Field)
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_0 : C_0 \quad mtypes(m, C_0) = \bar{D} \rightarrow C \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{e} : \bar{C} \quad \bar{C} <: \bar{D}}{\Gamma \vdash e_0.m(\bar{e}) : C}$	(T-Invk)
$\frac{fields(C) = \bar{D} \bar{f} \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{e} : \bar{C} \quad \bar{C} <: \bar{D}}{\Gamma \vdash new C(\bar{e}) : C}$	(T-New)
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_0 : D \quad D <: C}{\Gamma \vdash (C) e_0 : C}$	(T-UCast)
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_0 : D \quad C <: D \quad C \neq D}{\Gamma \vdash (C) e_0 : C}$	(T-DCast)
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_0 : D \quad C \not<: D \quad D \not<: C \quad stupid\ warning}{\Gamma \vdash (C) e_0 : C}$	(T-SCast)

Table 4.11: Expression typing

$\frac{fields(C) = \bar{C} \bar{f}}{(new C(\bar{e})).f_i \rightarrow e_i}$	(R-Field)
$\frac{mbody(m, C) = \bar{x}.e_0}{(new C(\bar{e})).m(\bar{d}) \rightarrow [\bar{d}/\bar{x}, new C(\bar{e})/this]e_0}$	(R-Invk)
$\frac{C <: D}{(D)(new C(\bar{e})) \rightarrow new C(\bar{e})}$	(R-Cast)

Table 4.12: Expression computation

- in *some* of the arguments of an object creation.

$$E ::= \square \mid E.f_i \mid E.m(\bar{e}) \mid e.m(\bar{e}_l, E, \bar{e}_r) \mid (C) E \mid new C(\bar{e}_l, E, \bar{e}_r)$$

Table 4.13: Evaluation context

## 4.4 Properties

In this transition from **FJ** to **FFJ★** a few additional lemmas were needed. They are only related to the lookup functions, since **FFJ★** does not alter the typing rules or the

reduction rules. This means that the main safety theorems presented by Igarashi et al [15] goes perfectly unchanged.

Below we list a few of the most important lemmas. The definition **FFJ $\star$**  was well thought so they are all straightforward. And finally the progress and preservation theorems.

These lemmas follows the idea of extending the original lemmas stated for **FJ** with the **FFJ $\star$**  definitions, specially for the lookup functions.

**Lemma 4.1** (Typed method has body). If  $mtype(m, C) = B \rightarrow \bar{B}$  then  $\exists \bar{x} \exists e$  such that  $mbody(m, C) = \bar{x}.e$

Firstly, in **FJ** we had lemma 4.1, which states that it is possible to fetch the body of a function given the  $mtype$  function. Since  $mtype$  and  $mbody$  are symmetrical on their definition, this is straightforward.

Now it is needed to extend that lemma with  $mtype_R$  and  $mbody_R$ , and since they were also implemented to be symmetrical this is also straightforward. However it is also necessary to prove its converse, i.e.  $mbody_R$  implies  $mtype_R$  since it is used the negation  $mtype_R$  on the definitions.

**Lemma 4.2** (Typed method has body - Refinement). If  $mtype_R(m, R) = B \rightarrow Bs$  then  $\exists \bar{x} \exists e$  such that  $mbody_R(m, R) = \bar{x}.e$

**Lemma 4.3** (Body method has type - Refinement). If  $mbody_R(m, R) = \bar{x}.e$  then  $\exists \bar{B} \exists B$  such that  $mtype_R(m, R) = B \rightarrow Bs$

Next it is needed to show that method signatures respects the signatures at the superclasses. Which is also straightforward by the definition of *override* and *override<sub>R</sub>*. In the case of lemma 4.5 it is also necessary an inner induction on *override<sub>R</sub>*.

**Lemma 4.4** (Subtype respects method types). If `class C extends D { $\bar{C} \bar{f}$ ; K  $\bar{M}$ }` then  $mtype(m, C) = mtype(m, D)$

**Lemma 4.5** (Refinement respects method types). If `class C extends D { $\bar{C} \bar{f}$ ; K  $\bar{M}$ }` then  $\forall feat, mtype_R(m, C@feat) = mtype(m, D)$

The last two lemmas are about type checking the body of a function given the return of  $mtype$  or  $mtype_R$  and  $mbody$  or  $mbody_R$ .

**Lemma 4.6** (A1.4 - Method body is typable). If  $mtype(m, C) = \bar{D} \rightarrow D$  and  $mbody(m, C) = \bar{x}.e$ , then  $\exists C <: D, \exists C_0 <: D_0, this : D, \bar{x} : \bar{D} \vdash e : C_0$

**Lemma 4.7** (Method body is typable - Refinement). If  $mtype_R(m, C@feat) = \bar{D} \rightarrow D$  and  $mbody_R(m, C@feat) = \bar{x}.e$ , then  $\exists C <: D, \exists C_0 <: D_0, this : D, \bar{x} : \bar{D} \vdash e : C_0$

And finally we state The Progress and Preservation theorems.

**Theorem 4.1** (Preservation). If  $\Gamma \vdash e : C$  and  $e \rightarrow e'$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash e' : C'$  for some  $C' <: C$ .

For the proof Refer to [15].

**Theorem 4.2** (Progress). Suppose  $e$  is closed, well-typed normal form.

Then either (1)  $e$  is a value, or (2) for some evaluation context  $E$ , we can express  $e$  as  $e = E[(C)(newD(\bar{e}))]$ , with  $D \not<: C$ .

Straightforward by induction on type derivation.

## Chapter 5

### Related Work

## Chapter 6

### Implications

## Chapter 7

## Conclusion

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