

# Destination calculus

A linear  $\lambda$ -calculus for pure, functional memory updates

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Destination-passing—aka out-parameters—is taking a parameter to fill rather than returning a result from a function. Due to its apparent imperative nature, destination passing has struggled to find its way to pure functional programming. In this paper, we present a pure core calculus with destinations. Our calculus subsumes all the existing systems, and can be used to reason about their correctness or extension. In addition, our calculus can express programs that were previously not known to be expressible in a pure language. This is guaranteed by a modal type system where modes are used to represent both linear types and a system of ages to manage scopes. Type safety of our core calculus was largely proved formally with the Coq proof assistant.

CCS Concepts: • **Theory of computation** → **Type structures**; • **Software and its engineering** → **Formal language definitions**; **Functional languages**; **Data types and structures**.

Additional Key Words and Phrases: destination, functional programming, linear types, pure language

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

In destination-passing style a function doesn't return a value: it takes as an argument a location where the value ought to be returned. In our notation, a function of type  $T \rightarrow U$  would, in destination-passing style, have type  $T \rightarrow [U] \rightarrow 1$  instead. This style is common in systems programming, where destinations  $[U]$  are more commonly known as “out parameters”. In C,  $[U]$  would typically be a pointer of type  $U^*$ .

The reason why system programs rely on destinations so much is that using destinations can save calls to the memory allocator. If a function returns a  $U$ , it has to allocate the space for a  $U$ . But with destinations, the caller is responsible for finding space for a  $U$ . The caller may simply ask for the space to the memory allocator, in which case we've saved nothing; but it can also reuse the space of an existing  $U$  which it doesn't need anymore, or it could use a space in an array, or it could allocate the space in a region of memory that the memory allocator doesn't have access to, like a memory-mapped file.

This does all sound quite imperative, but we argue that the same considerations are relevant for functional programming, albeit to a lesser extent. In fact [Shaikhha et al. 2017] has demonstrated that using destination passing in the intermediate language of a functional array-programming language allowed for some significant optimizations. Where destinations truly shine in functional programming, however, is that they increase the expressiveness of the language; destinations as first-class values allow for meaningfully new programs to be written. This point was first explored in [Bagrel 2024].

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The trouble, of course, is that destinations are imperative; we wouldn't want to sacrifice the immutability of our linked data structure (we'll usually just say "structure") for the sake of the more situational destinations. The goal is to extend functional programming just enough to be able to build immutable structures by destination passing without endangering purity and memory safety. This is precisely what [Bagrel 2024] does, using a linear type system to restrict mutation. Destinations become write-once references into an immutable structure with holes. In that we follow their leads, but we refine the type system further to allow for even more programs, as we discuss in Section 3.

There are two key elements to the expressiveness of destination- passing:

- structures can be built in any order. Not only from the leaves to the root, like in ordinary functional programming, but also from the root to the leaves, or any combination thereof. This can be done in ordinary functional program using function composition in a form of continuation-passing, destinations act as an optimization. This line of work was pioneered by [Minamide 1998]. While this only increases expressiveness when combined with the next point, the optimization is significant enough that destination passing has been implemented in the Ocaml optimizer to support tail modulo constructor [Bour et al. 2021];
- destinations are first-class values, which can be passed and stored like ordinary values. This is the innovation of [Bagrel 2024] upon which we build. The consequence is that not only the order in which a structure is built is arbitrary, this order can be determined dynamically during the runtime of the program.

To support this programming style, we introduce  $\lambda_d$ . We intend  $\lambda_d$  to serve as a core calculus to reason about safe destinations. Indeed  $\lambda_d$  subsumes all the systems that we've discussed in this section: they can all be encoded in  $\lambda_d$  via simple macro expansion. As such we expect that potential extensions to these systems can be justified by giving their semantics as an expansion in  $\lambda_d$ .

Our contributions are as follows:

- $\lambda_d$ , a linear and modal simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with destinations (Sections 5 and 6).  $\lambda_d$  is expressive enough so that previous calculi for destinations can be encoded in  $\lambda_d$  (see Section 9);
- a demonstration that  $\lambda_d$  is more expressive than previous calculi with destinations (Sections 3 and 4), namely that destinations can be stored in structures with holes. We show how we can improve, in particular, on the breadth-first traversal example of [Bagrel 2024];
- an implementation strategy for  $\lambda_d$  which uses mutation without compromising the purity of  $\lambda_d$  (Section 8);
- formally-verified proofs, with the Coq proof assistant, of the main safety lemmas (Section 7).

## 2 WORKING WITH DESTINATIONS

Let's introduce and get familiar with  $\lambda_d$ , our simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with destination. The syntax is standard, except that we use linear logic's  $\mathsf{T} \oplus \mathsf{U}$  and  $\mathsf{T} \otimes \mathsf{U}$  for sums and products, since  $\lambda_d$  is linearly typed, even though it isn't a focus in this section.

### 2.1 Building up a vocabulary

In its simplest form, destination passing, much like continuation passing, is using a location, received as an argument, to return a value. Instead of a function with signature  $\mathsf{T} \rightarrow \mathsf{U}$ , in  $\lambda_d$  you would have  $\mathsf{T} \rightarrow [\mathsf{U}] \rightarrow \mathsf{1}$ , where  $[\mathsf{U}]$  is read "destination for type  $\mathsf{U}$ ". For instance, here is a destination-passing version of the identity function:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dId} &: \mathsf{T} \rightarrow [\mathsf{T}] \rightarrow \mathsf{1} \\ \text{dId } x \ d &\triangleq d \blacktriangleleft x \end{aligned}$$

We think of a destination as a reference to an uninitialized memory location, and  $d \blacktriangleleft x$  (read “fill  $d$  with  $x$ ”) as writing  $x$  to the memory location.

The form  $d \blacktriangleleft x$  is the simplest way to use a destination. But we don’t have to fill a destination with a complete value in a single step. Destinations can be filled piecemeal.

**fillWithInlCtor** :  $[T \oplus U] \rightarrow [T]$   
**fillWithInlCtor**  $d \triangleq d \blacktriangleleft \text{Inl}$

In this example, we’re filling a destination for type  $T \oplus U$  by setting the outermost constructor to left variant **Inl**. We think of  $d \blacktriangleleft \text{Inl}$  (read “fill  $d$  with **Inl**”) as allocating memory to store a block of the form **Inl**  $\square$ , write the address of that block to the location that  $d$  points to, and return a new destination of type  $[T]$  pointing to the uninitialized argument of **Inl**. Uninitialized memory, when part of a structure or value, like  $\square$  in **Inl**  $\square$ , is called a *hole*.

Notice that with **fillWithInlCtor** we are constructing the structure from the outermost constructor inward: we’ve written a value of the form **Inl**  $\square$  into a hole, but we have yet to describe what goes in the new hole  $\square$ . Such data constructors with uninitialized arguments are called *hollow constructors*. This is opposite to how functional programming usually works, where values are built from the innermost constructors outward: first we make a value  $v$  and only then can we use **Inl** to make an **Inl**  $v$ . This will turn out to be a key ingredient in the expressiveness of destination passing.

Yet, everything we’ve shown so far could have been done with continuations. So it’s worth asking: how are destination different from continuations? Part of the answer lies in our intention to effectively implement destinations as pointers to uninitialized memory (see Section 8). But where destinations really differ from continuations is when one has several destinations at hand. Then they have to fill *all* the destinations; whereas when one has multiple continuations, they can only return to one of them. Multiple destination arises when a destination of pair gets filled with a hollow pair constructor:

**fillWithPairCtor** :  $[T \otimes U] \rightarrow [T] \otimes [U]$   
**fillWithPairCtor**  $d \triangleq d \blacktriangleleft (,)$

After using **fillWithPairCtor**, the user must fill both the first field *and* the second field, using the destinations of type  $[T]$  and  $[U]$  respectively. In plain English, it sounds obvious, but the key remark is that **fillWithPairCtor** doesn’t exist on continuations.

*Structures with holes.* It is crucial to note that while a destination is used to build a structure, the type of the structure being built might be different from the type of the destination that is being filled. A destination of type  $[T]$  is a pointer to a yet-undefined part of a bigger structure. We say that such a structure has a hole of type  $T$ ; but the type of the structure itself isn’t specified (and never appears in the signature of destination-filling functions). For instance, using **fillWithPairCtor** only indicates that the structure being operated on has a hole of type  $T \otimes U$  that is being written to.

Thus, we still need a type to tie the structure under construction — left implicit by destination-filling primitives — with the destinations representing its holes. To represent this,  $\lambda_d$  introduces a type  $S \ltimes [T]$  for a structure of type  $S$  missing a value of type  $T$  to be complete. There can be several holes in  $S$ , resulting in several destinations on the right hand side: for example,  $S \ltimes ([T] \otimes [U])$  represents a  $S$  that misses both a  $T$  and a  $U$  to be complete.

The general form  $S \ltimes T$  is read “ $S$  ampar  $T$ ”. The name “ampar” stands for “asymmetric memory par”; we will explain why it is asymmetric in Section 5.2. For now, it’s sufficient to observe that  $S \ltimes [T]$  is akin to a “par” type  $S \wp T^\perp$  in linear logic; you can think of  $S \ltimes [T]$  as a (linear) function from  $T$  to  $S$ . That structures with holes could be seen as linear functions was first observed in [Minamide 1998], we elaborate on the value of having a par type rather than a function type in Section 4. A similar connective is called **Incomplete** in [Bagrel 2024].

Destinations always exist within the context of a structure with holes. A destination is both a witness of a hole present in the structure, and a handle to write to it. Crucially, destinations are otherwise ordinary values. To access the destinations of an ampar,  $\lambda_d$  provides a **map** construction, which lets us apply a function to the right-hand side of the ampar. It is in the body of the **map** construction that functions operating on destinations can be called:

```

fillWithInlCtor' : S × [T ⊕ U] → S × [T]
fillWithInlCtor' x ≜ map x with d ↦ fillWithInlCtor d
fillWithPairCtor' : S × [T ⊗ U] → S × ([T] ⊗ [U])
fillWithPairCtor' x ≜ map x with d ↦ fillWithPairCtor d

```

To tie this up, we need a way to introduce and to eliminate structures with holes. Structures with holes are introduced with **alloc** which creates a value of type  $T \times [T]$ . **alloc** is a bit like the identity function: it is a hole (of type  $T$ ) that needs a value of type  $T$  to be a complete value of type  $T$ . Memory-wise, it is an uninitialized block large enough to host a value of type  $T$ , and a destination pointing to it. Conversely, structures with holes are eliminated with<sup>1</sup> **from<sub>K</sub>** :  $S \times 1 \rightarrow S$ : if all the destinations have been consumed and only unit remains on the right side, then  $S$  no longer has holes and thus is just a normal, complete structure.

Equipped with these, we can, for instance, derive traditional constructors from piecemeal filling. In fact,  $\lambda_d$  doesn't have primitive constructor forms, constructors in  $\lambda_d$  are syntactic sugar. We show here the definition of **Inl** and **(,)**, but the other constructors are derived similarly.

```

Inl : T → T ⊕ U
Inl x ≜ from'_K (map alloc with d ↦ d ◁ Inl ◁ x)

(,) : T → U → T ⊗ U
(x, y) ≜ from'_K (map alloc with d ↦ case (d ◁ (,)) of (d1, d2) ↦ d1 ◁ x ; d2 ◁ y)

```

*Memory safety and purity.* At this point, the reader may be forgiven for feeling distressed at all the talk of mutations and uninitialized memory. How is it consistent with our claim to be building a pure and memory-safe language? The answer is that it wouldn't be if we'd allow unrestricted use of destination. Instead  $\lambda_d$  uses a linear type system to ensure that:

- destination are written at least once, preventing examples like:

```

forget : T
forget ≜ from'_K (map alloc with d ↦ ())

```

where reading the result of **forget** would result in reading the location pointed to by a destination that we never used, in other words, reading uninitialized memory;

- destination are written at most once, preventing examples like:

```

ambiguous1 : Bool
ambiguous1 ≜ from'_K (map alloc with d ↦ d ◁ true ; d ◁ false)

ambiguous2 : Bool
ambiguous2 ≜ from'_K (map alloc with d ↦ let x := (d ◁ false) in d ◁ true ; x)

```

where **ambiguous1** returns false and **ambiguous2** returns true due to evaluation order, even though let-expansion should be valid in a pure language.

<sup>1</sup>As the name suggest, there is a more general elimination **from<sub>K</sub>**. It will be discussed in Section 5.

## 2.2 Functional queues, with destinations

Now that we have an intuition of how destinations work, let's see how they can be used to build usual data structures. For that section, we suppose that  $\lambda_d$  is equipped with equirecursive types and a fixed-point operator, that isn't part of our formally proven fragment.

*Linked lists.* We define lists as the fixpoint of the functor  $X \mapsto 1 \oplus (T \otimes X)$ . For convenience, we also define synthetic filling operators  $\triangleleft[]$  and  $\triangleleft(::)$ :

$$\begin{array}{l|l} \text{List } T \stackrel{\text{rec}}{=} 1 \oplus (T \otimes (\text{List } T)) & \\ \triangleleft[] : [\text{List } T] \rightarrow 1 & \triangleleft(::) : [\text{List } T] \rightarrow [T] \otimes [\text{List } T] \\ d \triangleleft[] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d \triangleleft \text{Inl } \triangleleft() & d \triangleleft(::) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d \triangleleft \text{Inr } \triangleleft() \end{array}$$

Just like we did in Section 2.1 we can recover traditional constructors from filling operators:

$$\begin{array}{l} (::) : T \otimes (\text{List } T) \rightarrow \text{List } T \\ x :: xs \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{from}'_K(\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto \text{case } (d \triangleleft (::)) \text{ of } (dx, dxs) \mapsto dx \triangleleft x \ ; \ dxs \triangleleft xs) \end{array}$$

*Difference lists.* Just like in any language, iterated concatenation of lists  $((xs_1 ++ xs_2) ++ \dots) ++ xs_n$  is quadratic in  $\lambda_d$ . The usual solution to this is difference lists. The name difference lists covers many related implementation, but in pure functional languages, a difference list is usually represented as a function [Hughes 1986]. A singleton difference list is  $\lambda ys \mapsto x :: ys$ , and concatenation of difference lists is function composition. Difference lists are turned into a list by applying it to the empty list. The consequence is that no matter how many compositions we have, each cons cell will be allocated a single time, making the iterated concatenation linear indeed.

However, each concatenation allocates a closure. If we're building a difference list from singletons and composition, there's roughly one composition per cons cell, so iterated composition effectively performs two traversals of the list. We can do better!

In  $\lambda_d$  we can represent a difference list as a list with a hole. A singleton difference list is  $x :: \square$ . Concatenation is filling the hole with another difference list, using "fillComp" operator  $\triangleleft\circ$ . The details are on the left of Figure 1. This encoding makes no superfluous traversal; in fact, concatenation is an  $O(1)$  in-place update.

*Efficient queue using previously defined structures.* A simple implementation of a queue in a purely functional language is as a pair of lists (*front*, *back*) [Hood and Melville 1981]. Such queues are called *Hood-Melville queues*. Elements are popped from *front* and are enqueued in *back*. When we need to pop an element and *front* is empty, then we set the queue to (**reverse** *back*,  $[]$ ), and pop from the new front.

For such a simple implementation, Hood-Melville queues are surprisingly efficient: the cost of the reverse operation is  $O(1)$  amortized for a single-threaded use of the queue. Still, it would be better to get rid of this full traversal of the back list.

Taking a step back, this *back* list that has to be reversed before it is accessed is really merely a representation of a list that can be extended from the back. And we already know an efficient implementation of lists that can be extended from the back but only accessed in a single-threaded fashion: difference lists.

So we can give an improved version of the simple functional queue using destinations. This implementation is presented on the right-hand side of Figure 1. Note that contrary to an imperative programming language, we can't implement the queue as a single difference list: our type system prevents us from reading the front elements of difference lists. Just like for the simple functional queue, we need a pair of one list that we can read from, and one that we can extend. Nevertheless

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <pre> 246   DList T <math>\triangleq</math> (List T) <math>\ltimes</math> [List T] 247   append : DList T <math>\rightarrow</math> T <math>\rightarrow</math> DList T 248   ys append y <math>\triangleq</math> 249     map ys with dys <math>\mapsto</math> case (dys <math>\triangleleft</math> (::)) of 250       (dy, dys') <math>\mapsto</math> dy <math>\blacktriangleleft</math> y <math>\circ</math> dys' 251 252   concat : DList T <math>\rightarrow</math> DList T <math>\rightarrow</math> DList T 253   ys concat ys' <math>\triangleq</math> map ys with d <math>\mapsto</math> d <math>\circ</math> ys' 254   toList : DList T <math>\rightarrow</math> List T 255   toList ys <math>\triangleq</math> from'_{\ltimes} (map ys with d <math>\mapsto</math> d <math>\triangleleft</math> []) </pre> | <pre> Queue T <math>\triangleq</math> (List T) <math>\otimes</math> (DList T) singleton : T <math>\rightarrow</math> Queue T singleton x <math>\triangleq</math> (Inr (x :: []), alloc) enqueue : Queue T <math>\rightarrow</math> T <math>\rightarrow</math> Queue T q enqueue y <math>\triangleq</math>   case q of (xs, ys) <math>\mapsto</math> (xs, ys append y) dequeue : Queue T <math>\rightarrow</math> 1 <math>\oplus</math> (T <math>\otimes</math> (Queue T)) dequeue q <math>\triangleq</math>   case q of {     ((x :: xs), ys) <math>\mapsto</math> Inr (x, (xs, ys)),     ([], ys) <math>\mapsto</math> case (toList ys) of {       [] <math>\mapsto</math> Inl (),       x :: xs <math>\mapsto</math> Inr (x, (xs, alloc))     }   } </pre> |
|---|--|

Fig. 1. Difference list and queue implementation in equirecursive  $\lambda_d$ 

this implementation of queues is both pure, as guaranteed by the  $\lambda_d$  type system, and nearly as efficient as what an imperative programming language would afford.

### 3 SCOPE ESCAPE OF DESTINATIONS

In Section 2, we've silently been making an assumption: establishing a linear discipline on destinations ensures that all destinations will eventually find their way to the left of a fill operator  $\blacktriangleleft$  or  $\triangleleft$ , so that the associated holes get written to. This turns out to be more subtle than it may first appear.

To see why, let's consider the type  $[[T]]$ : the type of a destination pointing to a hole where a destination is expected. Think of it as an equivalent of the pointer type  $T **$  in the C language. Destinations are indeed ordinary values, so they can be stored in data structures, and before they get effectively stored, holes stand in their places in the structure. In particular if we have  $d : [T]$  and  $dd : [[T]]$ , we can form  $dd \blacktriangleleft d$ .

This, by itself, is fine: we're building a linear data structure containing a destination; the destination  $d$  is used linearly as it will eventually be consumed when that structure is consumed. However, as we explained in Section 2.1, destinations always exist within the scope of a structure with holes, and they witness how incomplete the structure is. As a result, to make a structure readable, it is not enough to know that all its remaining destinations will end up on the left of a fill operator *eventually*; they must do so *now*, before the scope they belong to ends. Otherwise some holes might not have been written to *yet* when the structure is made readable.

The problem is, with a malicious use of  $dd \blacktriangleleft d$ , we can store away  $d$  in a parent scope, so  $d$  might not end up on the left of a fill operator before the scope it originates from is complete. And still, that would be accepted by the linear type system.

To visualize the problem, let's consider simple linear store semantics. We'll need the **alloc'** operator<sup>2</sup>

```

289   alloc' : ([T]  $\rightarrow$  1)  $\rightarrow$  T
290   alloc' f  $\triangleq$  from'_{\ltimes} (map alloc with d  $\mapsto$  f d)

```

<sup>2</sup>The actual semantics that we'll develop in Section 6 is more refined and can give a semantics to the more flexible **from'**<sub>\ltimes</sub>  $t$  and **alloc** operators directly, but for now, this simpler semantic will suffice for **alloc'**.



The semantics of **alloc'** is: allocate a hole in the store, call the function with the corresponding destination; when the function has returned, dereference the destination to obtain a **T**. Which we can visualize as:

$$\mathcal{S} \mid \mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda d \mapsto t) \longrightarrow \mathcal{S} \sqcup \{h := \square\} \mid (t[d := \rightarrow h] \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow h)$$

For instance:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\} \mid \mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda d \mapsto d \triangleleft \text{Inl} \triangleleft ()) \\ \longrightarrow & \{h := \square\} \mid \rightarrow h \triangleleft \text{Inl} \triangleleft () \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow h \\ \longrightarrow & \{h := \text{Inl} ()\} \mid \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow h \\ \longrightarrow & \{\} \mid \text{Inl} () \end{aligned}$$

Now, we are ready to see a counterexample and how it goes wrong:

$$\mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda dd \mapsto \mathbf{case} (\mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda d \mapsto dd \triangleleft d)) \text{ of } \{\text{true} \mapsto (), \text{false} \mapsto ()\})$$

Here  $dd : [\![\text{Bool}]\!]$  and  $d : [\![\text{Bool}]\!]$ . The problem with this example stems from the fact that  $d$  is fed to  $dd$ , instead of being filled, in the scope of  $d$ . Let's look at the problem in action:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\} \mid \mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda dd \mapsto \mathbf{case} (\mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda d \mapsto dd \triangleleft d)) \text{ of } \{\text{true} \mapsto (), \text{false} \mapsto ()\}) \\ \longrightarrow & \{hd := \square\} \mid \mathbf{case} (\mathbf{alloc}' (\lambda d \mapsto \rightarrow hd \triangleleft d)) \text{ of } \{\text{true} \mapsto (), \text{false} \mapsto ()\} \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow hd \\ \longrightarrow & \{hd := \square, h := \square\} \mid \mathbf{case} (\rightarrow hd \triangleleft \rightarrow h \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow h) \text{ of } \{\text{true} \mapsto (), \text{false} \mapsto ()\} \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow hd \\ \longrightarrow & \{hd := \rightarrow h, h := \square\} \mid \mathbf{case} (\mathbf{deref} \rightarrow h) \text{ of } \{\text{true} \mapsto (), \text{false} \mapsto ()\} \ ; \ \mathbf{deref} \rightarrow hd \end{aligned}$$

Because of  $d$  escaping its scope, we end up reading uninitialized memory.

This example must be rejected by our type system. As demonstrated by [Bagrel 2024], it's possible to reject this example using purely a linear type system: they make it so that, in  $d \triangleleft t$ ,  $t$  can't be linear. Since all destinations are linear,  $t$  can't be, or contain, a destination. This is a rather blunt restriction! Indeed, it makes the type  $[\![\text{T}]\!]$  practically useless: we can form destinations with type  $[\![\text{T}]\!]$  but they can never be filled. More concretely, this means that destination can never be stored in data structures with holes, such as the difference list or queues of Section 2.2.

But we really want to be able to store destinations in data structures with holes, in fact, we'll use this capability to our advantage in Figure 2. So we want  $t$  in  $d \triangleleft t$  to be allowed to be linear. Without further restriction, the counterexample would be well-typed. To address this  $\lambda_d$  uses a system of ages to represent scope. Ages are described in Section 5.

#### 4 BREADTH-FIRST TREE TRAVERSAL

As a more full-fledged example, which uses the full expressive power of  $\lambda_d$ , we borrow and improve on an example from [Bagrel 2024], breadth-first tree relabeling:

Given a tree, create a new one of the same shape, but with the values at the nodes replaced by the numbers  $1 \dots |T|$  in breadth-first order.

This example cannot be implemented using [Minamide 1998] system where structures with holes are represented as linear functions. Destinations as first-class values are very much required. Indeed, breadth-first traversal implies that the order in which the structure must be populated (left-to-right, top-to-bottom) is not the same as the structural order of a functional binary tree, that is, building the leaves first and going up to the root. This isn't very natural in functional programming, which is why a lot has been written on purely functional breadth-first traversals [Gibbons 1993; Gibbons et al. 2023; Okasaki 2000].

On the other hand, as demonstrated in [Bagrel 2024], first-class destination passing lets us use the familiar algorithm with queues that is taught in classroom. Specifically, the algorithm keeps a queue of pairs (*input subtree*, *destination to output subtree*).

Figure 2 presents the  $\lambda_d$  implementation of the breadth-first tree traversal. There, **Tree T** is defined unsurprisingly as  $\mathbf{Tree\ T} \triangleq 1 \oplus (\mathbf{T} \otimes ((\mathbf{Tree\ T}) \otimes (\mathbf{Tree\ T})))$ ; we refer to the synthetic constructors of

I used the phrase "synthetic" constructor a couple of times, not a lot, so maybe delete. Otherwise de-

```

344 go : ( $S_{\omega\infty} \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow (!_{\omega\infty} S) \otimes T_2$ )  $\omega\infty \rightarrow S_{\omega\infty} \rightarrow \text{Queue } (\text{Tree } T_1 \otimes [\text{Tree } T_2]) \rightarrow 1$ 
345 go  $f$   $st$   $q \triangleq_{\text{rec}}$  case (dequeue  $q$ ) of {
346    $\text{Inl } () \mapsto ()$  ,
347    $\text{Inr } ((\text{tree}, \text{dtree}), q') \mapsto \text{case } \text{tree} \text{ of } \{$ 
348      $\text{Nil} \mapsto \text{dtree} \triangleleft \text{Nil} \ ; \ \text{go } f \ st \ q'$  ,
349      $\text{Node } x \ \text{tl} \ \text{tr} \mapsto \text{case } (\text{dtree} \triangleleft \text{Node}) \text{ of}$ 
350        $(dy, (\text{dtl}, \text{dtr})) \mapsto \text{case } (f \ st \ x) \text{ of}$ 
351          $(E_{\omega\infty} \ st', y) \mapsto$ 
352            $dy \blacktriangleleft y \ ;$ 
353           go  $f \ st' \ (q' \text{ enqueue } (\text{tl}, \text{dtl}) \text{ enqueue } (\text{tr}, \text{dtr}))$ 
354       }
355   }
356 mapAccumBFS : ( $S_{\omega\infty} \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow (!_{\omega\infty} S) \otimes T_2$ )  $\omega\infty \rightarrow S_{\omega\infty} \rightarrow \text{Tree } T_1 \ 1_{\infty} \rightarrow \text{Tree } T_2$ 
357 mapAccumBFS  $f \ st \ \text{tree} \triangleq \text{from}'_{\kappa} (\text{map } \text{alloc with } \text{dtree} \mapsto \text{go } f \ st \ (\text{singleton } (\text{tree}, \text{dtree})))$ 
358 relabelDPS :  $\text{Tree } 1_{\infty} \rightarrow \text{Tree } \text{Nat}$ 
359 relabelDPS  $\text{tree} \triangleq \text{mapAccumBFS } (\lambda st \ \omega\infty \mapsto \lambda un \mapsto un \ ; \ (E_{\omega\infty} (\text{succ } st), st)) \ 1 \ \text{tree}$ 

```

Fig. 2. Breadth-first tree traversal in destination-passing style

**Tree**  $T$  as **Nil** and **Node**. We also assume some encoding of the type **Nat** of natural number. **Queue**  $T$  is the efficient queue type from Section 2.2.

We implement the actual breadth-first relabeling **relabelDPS** as an instance of a more general breadth-first traversal function **mapAccumBFS**, which applies any state-passing style transformation of labels in breadth-first order. A similar traversal function can be found in [Bagrel 2024]. The difference is that, because they can't store destinations in structures with holes (see the discussion in Section 3), their implementation can't use the efficient queue implementation from Section 2.2. So they have to revert to using a Hood-Melville queue for breadth-first traversal.

In **mapAccumBFS**, we create a new destination  $\text{dtree}$  into which we will write the result of the traversal, then call the main loop **go**. The **go** function is in destination-passing style, but what's remarkable is that **go** takes an unbounded number of destinations as arguments, since there are as many destinations as items in the queue. This is where we actually use the fact that destinations are ordinary values.

New in Figure 2 are the **fuchsia** annotations: these are *modes*. We'll describe modes in detail in Section 5. In the meantime,  $1$  and  $\omega$  control linearity: we use  $\omega$  to mean that the state and function  $f$  can be used many times. On the other hand,  $\infty$  is an *age* annotation; in particular, the associated argument cannot carry destinations. Without these modes, our type system presented in Section 5.3 would reject the example. Arguments with no modes are otherwise linear and can capture destinations. We introduce the exponential modality  $!_m T$  to reify mode  $m$  in a type; this is useful to return several values having different modes from a function, like in  $f$ . An exponential is rarely needed in an argument position, as we have  $(!_m T) \rightarrow U \simeq T_m \rightarrow U$ .

## 5 TYPE SYSTEM

$\lambda_d$  is a simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with unit ( $1$ ), product ( $\otimes$ ) and sum ( $\oplus$ ) types. Its most salient features are the destination  $[_m T]$  and ampar  $S \ltimes T$  types which we've introduced in Sections 2 to 4. Just as important are *modes* and the associated exponential modality  $!_m$ . The grammar of  $\lambda_d$  is presented in Figure 3. Some of the constructions that we've been using in Sections 2 to 4 are syntactic sugar for more fundamental forms, we give their definitions in Figure 4.



```

393  $t, u ::= x \mid t' t \mid t \circ t'$ 
394  $\mid \text{case}_m t \text{ of } \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\} \mid \text{case}_m t \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u \mid \text{case}_m t \text{ of } E_n x \mapsto u$ 
395  $\mid \text{map } t \text{ with } x \mapsto t' \mid \text{to}_\times t \mid \text{from}_\times t \mid \text{alloc}$ 
396  $\mid t \triangleleft () \mid t \triangleleft \text{Inl} \mid t \triangleleft \text{Inr} \mid t \triangleleft (,) \mid t \triangleleft E_m \mid t \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u) \mid t \triangleleft \circ t'$ 
397
398  $T, U, S ::= [{}_n T] \quad (\text{destination})$ 
399  $\mid S \times T \quad (\text{ampar})$ 
400  $\mid 1 \mid T_1 \oplus T_2 \mid T_1 \otimes T_2 \mid !_m T \mid T_m \rightarrow U$ 
401
402  $m, n ::= pa \quad (\text{pair of multiplicity and age})$ 
403  $p ::= 1 \mid \omega$ 
404  $a ::= \uparrow^n \mid \infty$ 
405
406  $\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid x :_m T \mid \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \mid \Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \mid m\Gamma$ 

```

Fig. 3. Grammar of  $\lambda_d$ 

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <pre> 409 <math>t \triangleleft t' \triangleq t \triangleleft (\text{to}_\times t')</math> 410 <math>() \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto d \triangleleft ())</math> 411 412 <math>\text{Inl } t \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto</math> 413 <math>\quad d \triangleleft \text{Inl} \triangleleft t</math> 414 <math>\quad)</math> 415 416 <math>\text{Inr } t \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto</math> 417 <math>\quad d \triangleleft \text{Inr} \triangleleft t</math> 418 <math>\quad)</math> 419 420 <math>E_m t \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto</math> 421 <math>\quad d \triangleleft E_m \triangleleft t</math> 422 <math>\quad)</math> </pre> | <pre> 410 <math>\text{from}'_\times t \triangleq</math> 411 <math>\quad \text{case } (\text{from}_\times (\text{map } t \text{ with } un \mapsto un \circ E_{1\infty} ())) \text{ of}</math> 412 <math>\quad (st, ex) \mapsto \text{case } ex \text{ of}</math> 413 <math>\quad \quad E_{1\infty} un \mapsto un \circ st</math> 414 415 <math>\lambda x_m \mapsto u \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto</math> 416 <math>\quad d \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)</math> 417 <math>\quad)</math> 418 419 <math>(t_1, t_2) \triangleq \text{from}'_\times (\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto</math> 420 <math>\quad \text{case } (d \triangleleft (,)) \text{ of}</math> 421 <math>\quad \quad (d_1, d_2) \mapsto d_1 \triangleleft t_1 \circ d_2 \triangleleft t_2</math> 422 <math>\quad)</math> </pre> |
|---|---|

Fig. 4. Syntactic sugar for terms

Following a common trend (e.g. [Abel and Bernardy 2020; Atkey 2018; Bernardy et al. 2018; Orchard et al. 2019]), our modes form a semiring<sup>3</sup>. In  $\lambda_d$  the mode semiring is the product of a *multiplicity* semiring for linearity, as in [Bernardy et al. 2018], and of an *age* semiring (see Section 5.1) to prevent the scoping issues discussed in Section 3.

We usually omit mode annotations when the mode is the unit element  $1v$ . In particular, a function arrow without annotation, or with multiplicity annotation  $1$ , is linear; it is equivalent to the linear arrow  $\multimap$  from [Girard 1995].

### 5.1 The age semiring

In order to prevent destination from escaping their scope, as discussed in Section 3, we track the *age* of destinations. Specifically we track, with a de-Brujin-index-like discipline, what scope a destination originates from. We'll see in 5.3 that scopes are introduced by  $\text{map } t \text{ with } x \mapsto t'$ . If

<sup>3</sup>Technically, our semirings are commutative but don't have a zero. The terminology "ringoid" has been sometimes used for semiring without neutral elements (neither zero nor unit), for instance [Abel and Bernardy 2020]. So maybe a more accurate terminology would be commutative ringoids with units. We'll stick to "semiring" from now on.

|              |  |          |              |                  |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|--------------|--|----------|--------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| $+$          | $\uparrow^n$                               | $\infty$ | $\cdot$      | $\uparrow^n$     | $\infty$ | $+$      | $1$      | $\omega$ | $\cdot$  | $1$      | $\omega$ |
| $\uparrow^m$ | if $n = m$ then $\uparrow^n$ else $\infty$ | $\infty$ | $\uparrow^m$ | $\uparrow^{n+m}$ | $\infty$ | $1$      | $\omega$ | $\omega$ | $1$      | $1$      | $\infty$ |
| $\infty$     | $\infty$                                   | $\infty$ | $\infty$     | $\infty$         | $\infty$ | $\omega$ | $\omega$ | $\omega$ | $\omega$ | $\infty$ | $\infty$ |

$$v \triangleq \uparrow^0$$

Fig. 5. Operation tables for age and multiplicity semirings

we have a term **map**  $t_1$  **with**  $x_1 \mapsto$  **map**  $t_2$  **with**  $x_2 \mapsto$  **map**  $t_3$  **with**  $x_3 \mapsto x_1$ , then the innermost occurrence of  $x_1$  has age  $\uparrow^2$  because two nested **map** separates the definition and use site of  $x_1$ .

We also have an age  $\infty$  for values which don't originate from the scope of a **map**  $t$  **with**  $x \mapsto t'$  and can be freely used in and returned by any scope. In particular, destinations can never have age  $\infty$ ; the main role of age  $\infty$  is thus to act as a guarantee that a value doesn't contain destinations. Finally, we will write  $v \triangleq \uparrow^0$  for the age of destination that originate from the current scope.

This description is reflected by the semiring operations. Multiplication  $\cdot$  is used when nesting a term inside another: then ages, as indices, are summed. Addition  $+$  is used to share a variable between two subterms, it ought to be read as giving the variable the same age on both sides. Tables for the  $+$  and  $\cdot$  operations are presented in Figure 5.

## 5.2 Design motivation behind the ampar and destination types

Minamide's work [Minamide 1998] is the earliest record we could find of a functional calculus in which incomplete data structures can exist as first class values, and be composed. Crucially, such structures don't have to be completed immediately, and can act as actual containers, e.g. to implement different lists as in Section 2.2.

In [Minamide 1998], a structure with a hole is named *hole abstraction*. In the body of a hole abstraction, the bound *hole variable* should be used linearly (exactly once), and must only be used as a parameter of a data constructor (it cannot be pattern-matched on). A hole abstraction of type  $(T, S)\text{hfun}$  is thus a weak form of linear lambda abstraction  $T \multimap S$ , which just moves a piece of data into a bigger data structure.

Now, in classical linear logic (CLL), we know we can transform linear implication  $T \multimap S$  into  $S \wp T^\perp$ . Doing so for the type  $(T, S)\text{hfun}$  gives  $S \wp [T]$ , where  $[\cdot]$  is a form of dualisation. We use a slightly abusive notation here; this is not exactly the same *par* connective as in CLL, because *hfun* is not as powerful as  $\multimap$ .

Transforming the hole abstraction from its original implication form to a *par* form let us consider the dualized type  $[T]$  — that we call *destination type* — as a first-class component of our calculus. We also get to see the hole abstraction as a pair-like structure (like it is implemented in practice), where the two sides might be coupled together in a way that prevent using both of them simultaneously.

*From par  $\wp$  to ampar  $\ltimes$ .* In CLL, thanks to the cut rule, any of the sides  $S$  or  $T$  of a *par*  $S \wp T$  can be eliminated, by interaction with the opposite type  ${}^\perp$ , which then frees up the other side. But in  $\lambda_d$ , we have two types of interaction to consider: interaction between  $T$  and  $[T]$ , and interaction between  $T$  and  $T \multimap \cdot$ . The structure containing holes,  $S$ , can safely interact with  $[S]$  (merge it into another structure with holes), but not with  $T \multimap \cdot$ , as it would let us read an incomplete structure!

On the other hand, a complete value of type  $T = (\dots [T'] \dots)$  containing destinations (but no holes) can safely interact with a function  $T \multimap 1$ : in particular, the function can pattern-match on the value of type  $T$  to access destination  $[T']$ . However, it might not be safe to fill the  $T = (\dots [T'] \dots)$  into a  $[T]$  as that might allow scope escape of the destination  $[T']$  as we've just seen in Section 3.

As a result, we cannot adopt rules from CLL blindly. We must be even more cautious since the destination type is not an involutive dualisation, unlike CLL one.

To recover sensible rules for the connective, we decided to make it asymmetric, hence  $\text{ampar } (S \ltimes T)$  for *asymmetrical memory par*:

- the left side  $S$  can contain holes, and can be only be eliminated by interaction with  $\lfloor S \rfloor$  using “fillComp” ( $\llcorner$ ) to free up the right side  $T$ ;
- the right side  $T$  cannot contain holes (it might contain destinations), and can be eliminated by interaction with  $T \rightarrow 1$  to free up the left side  $S$ . At term level, this is done using  $\text{from}'_{\mathbf{x}}$  and  $\text{map}$ .

### 5.3 Typing rules

The typing rules for  $\lambda_d$  are highly inspired from [Abel and Bernardy 2020] and Linear Haskell [Bernardy et al. 2018], and are detailed in Figure 6. In particular, we use the same additive/multiplicative approach on contexts for linearity and age enforcement. We also lift mode multiplication to typing contexts as a pointwise operation on bindings; we pose  $\mathbf{n}' \cdot (x : \mathbf{m} T) \triangleq x : \mathbf{n}' \cdot \mathbf{m} T$ .

**TODO: Introduce context addition**

Figure 6 presents the typing rules for terms, and rules for syntactic sugar forms that have been derived from term rules and proven formally too. Figure 9 presents the typing rules for values of the language. We'll now walk through the few peculiarities of the type system for terms.

The predicate  $\text{DisposableOnly } \Gamma$  in rules  $\text{TY-TERM-VAR}$ ,  $\text{TY-TERM-ALLOC}$  and  $\text{TY-STERM-UNIT}$  says that  $\Gamma$  can only contain bindings with multiplicity  $\omega$ , for which weakening is allowed in linear logic. It is enough to allow weakening at the leaves of the typing tree, *i.e.* in the three aforementioned rules.

Rule  $\text{TY-TERM-VAR}$ , in addition to weakening, allows for dereliction of the mode for the variable used, with subtyping constraint  $\mathbf{1}_v <: \mathbf{m}$  defined as  $\mathbf{p} \mathbf{a} <: \mathbf{p}' \mathbf{a}' \iff \mathbf{p} <: \mathbf{p}' \wedge \mathbf{a} <: \mathbf{a}'$  where:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{1} <: \mathbf{p} \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{p} <: \mathbf{p} \omega \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \uparrow^m <: \mathbf{a} \uparrow^n \iff m = n \quad (\text{no finite age dereliction ; recall that } \uparrow^0 = \mathbf{v}) \\ \mathbf{a} <: \mathbf{a} \infty \end{cases}$$

Rule  $\text{TY-TERM-PATU}$  is elimination (or pattern-matching) for unit, and is also used to chain destination-filling operations.

Pattern-matching with rules  $\text{TY-TERM-APP}$ ,  $\text{TY-TERM-PATS}$ ,  $\text{TY-TERM-PATP}$  and  $\text{TY-TERM-PATE}$  is parametrized by a mode  $\mathbf{m}$  by which the typing context  $\Gamma_1$  of the scrutinee is multiplied. The variables which bind the subcomponents of the scrutinee then inherit this mode. In particular, this choice enforces the equivalence  $\mathbf{!}_{\omega \mathbf{a}} (T_1 \otimes T_2) \simeq (\mathbf{!}_{\omega \mathbf{a}} T_1) \otimes (\mathbf{!}_{\omega \mathbf{a}} T_2)$ , which is not part of intuitionistic linear logic, but valid in Linear Haskell [Bernardy et al. 2018].

The Rule  $\text{TY-TERM-MAP}$  is the key to the safety of  $\lambda_d$ , and it introduces the idea of scopes. The  $\text{map}$  operator let us access the insides of an  $\text{ampar } t$ : it binds its right side — containing destinations, among potentially other things — to variable  $x$  and then execute body  $t'$ . We say the  $\text{ampar}$  is temporarily *open*. While the  $\text{ampar}$  is open, the structure with holes is being mutated behind the scenes when destination-filling operations inside  $t'$  are evaluated. Type safety for  $\text{map}$  is based on the idea that a new scope is created for  $x$  and  $t'$ , so anything already present in the scope where  $\text{map}$  takes place (represented by  $\Gamma_2$  in the conclusion) appears older when we see it from  $t'$  scope. Indeed, when entering a new scope, the age of every remaining binding from the previous scopes is incremented by  $\uparrow$ . That way we can distinguish  $x$  from anything else that was already bound using the age of bindings alone. That's why  $t'$  types in  $\uparrow \Gamma_2$ ,  $x : \mathbf{1}_v T$  while the global term  $\text{map } t \text{ with } x \mapsto t'$  types in  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2$  (notice the absence of shift on  $\Gamma_2$ ). A schematic explanation of the scope rules is given in Figure 7.

All the bit about mode ordering should move in the section about modes

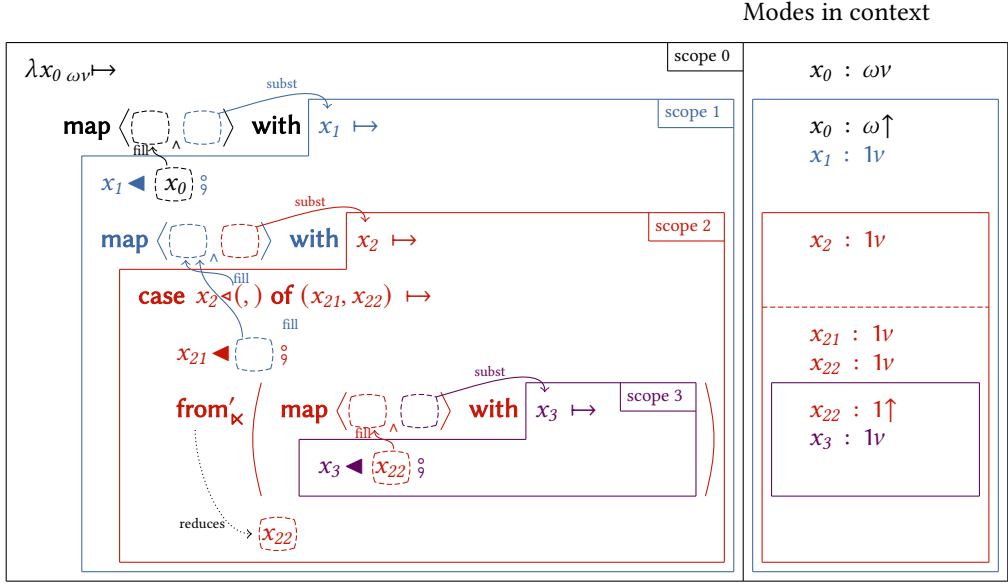
explain it earlier?

We see in the figure that the left of an ampar (the structure being built) “takes place” in the ambient scope. The right side however, where destinations are, has its own new, scope that is only expanded when **m**apped over. When filling a destination (e.g.  $x_1 \blacktriangleleft x_0$  in the figure), the value on the right must be from a scope  $\uparrow$  older than the destination on the left. Indeed, this value will eventually be written to a hole on the left of the ampar, which is in a scope  $\uparrow$  older than the destination.

Arnaud didn't understand this paragraph?

|     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 547 | $\boxed{\Gamma \vdash t : T}$   | <i>(Typing judgment for terms)</i>   |
| 548 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-VAR} \quad \text{DisposableOnly } \Gamma \quad \text{iv} <: m}{\Gamma, x : mT \vdash x : T}$   | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-APP} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : T \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t' : T_m \rightarrow U}{m\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash t' t : U}$   |
| 549 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-PATU} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : 1 \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash u : U}{\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash t \S u : U}$   |  |
| 550 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-PATS} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : T_1 \oplus T_2 \quad \Gamma_2, x_1 : mT_1 \vdash u_1 : U \quad \Gamma_2, x_2 : mT_2 \vdash u_2 : U}{m\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash \text{case}_m t \text{ of } \{ \text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2 \} : U}$ | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-PATP} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : T_1 \otimes T_2 \quad \Gamma_2, x_1 : mT_1, x_2 : mT_2 \vdash u : U}{m\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash \text{case}_m t \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u : U}$ |
| 551 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-PATE} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : !_n T \quad \Gamma_2, x : m_n T \vdash u : U}{m\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash \text{case}_m t \text{ of } E_n x \mapsto u : U}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-MAP} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : U \times T \quad \uparrow \Gamma_2, x : ivT \vdash t' : T'}{\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \vdash \text{map } t \text{ with } x \mapsto t' : U \times T'}$          |
| 552 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-TOA} \quad \Gamma \vdash u : U}{\Gamma \vdash \text{to}_\times u : U \times 1}$  |  |
| 553 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FROMA} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : U \times (!_{\infty} T)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{from}_\times t : U \otimes (!_{\infty} T)}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-ALLOC} \quad \text{DisposableOnly } \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash \text{alloc} : T \times [T]}$   |
| 554 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLU} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : [{}_n 1]}{\Gamma \vdash t \triangleleft () : 1}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLL} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : [{}_n T_1 \oplus T_2]}{\Gamma \vdash t \triangleleft \text{Inl} : [{}_n T_1]}$   |
| 555 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLR} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : [{}_n T_1 \oplus T_2]}{\Gamma \vdash t \triangleleft \text{Inr} : [{}_n T_2]}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLP} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : [{}_n T_1 \otimes T_2]}{\Gamma \vdash t \triangleleft (,) : [{}_n T_1] \otimes [{}_n T_2]}$  |
| 556 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLE} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : [{}_n !_{n'} T]}{\Gamma \vdash t \triangleleft E_{n'} : [{}_n !_{n'} T]}$   |  |
| 557 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLF} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : [{}_n T_m \rightarrow U] \quad \Gamma_2, x : mT \vdash u : U}{\Gamma_1 + (\uparrow n) \cdot \Gamma_2 \vdash t \triangleleft (\lambda x. m \mapsto u) : 1}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-FILLCOMP} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : [{}_n U] \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t' : U \times T}{\Gamma_1 + (\uparrow n) \cdot \Gamma_2 \vdash t \triangleleft t' : T}$                              |
| 558 | $\boxed{\Gamma \vdash t : T}$   | <i>(Derived typing judgment for syntactic sugar forms)</i>   |
| 559 | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-FROMA}' \quad \Gamma \vdash t : T \times 1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{from}'_\times t : T}$   | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-FILLLEAF} \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash t : [{}_n T] \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t' : T}{\Gamma_1 + (\uparrow n) \cdot \Gamma_2 \vdash t \blacktriangleleft t' : 1}$                                 |
| 560 | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-UNIT} \quad \text{DisposableOnly } \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash () : 1}$   |  |
| 561 | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-FUN} \quad \Gamma_2, x : mT \vdash u : U}{\Gamma_2 \vdash \lambda x. m \mapsto u : T_m \rightarrow U}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-LEFT} \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t : T_1}{\Gamma_2 \vdash \text{Inl } t : T_1 \oplus T_2}$  |
| 562 | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-RIGHT} \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t : T_2}{\Gamma_2 \vdash \text{Inr } t : T_1 \oplus T_2}$  | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-EXP} \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash t : T}{m\Gamma_2 \vdash E_m t : !_m T}$   |
| 563 | $\frac{\text{TY-STERM-PROD} \quad \Gamma_{21} \vdash t_1 : T_1 \quad \Gamma_{22} \vdash t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma_{21} + \Gamma_{22} \vdash (t_1, t_2) : T_1 \otimes T_2}$  |  |

Fig. 6. Typing rules for terms and syntactic sugar

Fig. 7. Scope rules for **map** in  $\lambda_d$ 

The rule **TY-TERM-FILLCOMP**, or its simpler variant, **TY-STERM-FILLLEAF** from Figure 6 enforces the age restriction we just mentioned. The left operand of these operators must be a destination that types in the ambient scope (both  $\Gamma_1$  unchanged in the premise and conclusion of the rules). The right operand, however, is a value that types in a context  $\Gamma_2$  in the premise, but requires  $1\uparrow\Gamma_2$  in the conclusion. This is the opposite of the shift that **map** does: while **map** opens a newer scope for its body, operators “fillComp” ( $\llcorner$ ) and “fillLeaf” ( $\blacktriangleleft$ ) transfers their right operand to the parent scope, as seen in the schema. In **TY-TERM-FILLF**, we observe the same age restriction on captured resources  $\Gamma_2$ . We chose a destination-filling form for function creation because of that similarity, and so that any data can be built through piecemeal destination filling.

In **TY-TERM-TOA**, the operator **to $\kappa$**  embeds an already completed structure in an ampar whose left side is the structure, and right side is unit.

When using **from'** <sub>$\kappa$</sub>  (rule **TY-STERM-FROMA'**), the left of an ampar is extracted to the ambient scope (as seen at the bottom of Figure 7 with  $x_{22}$ ): this is the fundamental reason why the left of an ampar has to “take place” in the ambient scope. We know the structure is complete and can be extracted because the right side is of type unit ( $1$ ), and thus no destination on the right side means no hole can remain on the left. **from'** <sub>$\kappa$</sub>  is implemented in terms of **from $\kappa$**  in Figure 4 to keep the core calculus tidier (and limit the number of typing rules, evaluation contexts, etc), but it can be implemented much more efficiently in a real-world implementation.

When an ampar is complete and disposed of with the more general **from $\kappa$**  in rule **TY-TERM-FROMA** however, we extract both sides of the ampar to the ambient scope, even though the right side is normally in a different scope. This is only safe to do because the right side is required to have type  $!_{\text{loc}}T$ , which means it is scope-insensitive: it cannot contain any scope-controlled resource. In particular this ensures that the right side cannot contain destinations, meaning that the structure on the left is complete and ready to be read.

638  $t, u ::= \dots \mid v$   
 639  
 640  $v ::= \boxed{h} \quad (\text{hole})$   
 641  $\mid \rightarrow h \quad (\text{destination})$   
 642  $\mid H\langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle \quad (\text{ampar value form})$   
 643  $\mid () \mid \forall x. m \mapsto u \mid \text{Inl } v \mid \text{Inr } v \mid E_m v \mid (v_1, v_2)$   
 644  
 645  $\Delta ::= \cdot \mid \rightarrow h :_m \lfloor n \rfloor T \mid \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \mid \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 \mid m \Delta$   
 646  $\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \rightarrow h :_m \lfloor n \rfloor T \mid x :_m T \mid \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \mid \Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2 \mid m \Gamma$   
 647  $\Theta ::= \cdot \mid \rightarrow h :_m \lfloor n \rfloor T \mid \boxed{h} :_n T \mid \rightarrow^{-i} \Delta \mid \Theta_1, \Theta_2 \mid \Theta_1 + \Theta_2 \mid m \Theta$

Fig. 8. Extended terms and runtime values

The remaining operators  $\triangleleft()$ ,  $\triangleleft\text{Inl}$ ,  $\triangleleft\text{Inr}$ ,  $\triangleleft E_m$ ,  $\triangleleft()$  from rules TY-TERM-FILL\* are the destination-filling primitives. They write a hollow constructor to the hole pointed by the destination operand, and return the potential new destinations that are created in the process (or unit if there is none).

## 6 OPERATIONAL SEMANTICS

The semantics of  $\lambda_d$  is given using small-step reductions on a pair  $C[t]$  of an evaluation context  $C$  (represented by a stack) determining a focusing path, and a term  $t$  under focus. Such a pair  $C[t]$  is called a *command*, and represents a running program. We think that our semantics makes it easier to reason about types and linearity of a running program with holes than a store-based approach such as the one previewed in Section 3.

### 6.1 Runtime values and extended terms

The class of values  $v$  is purely a denotation for runtime data structures.

The typing of runtime values, given in Figure 9 is where hole and destination bindings appears. Values can have holes and destinations inside, but a value used as a term must not have any hole<sup>4</sup>. Also, variables cannot mention free variables; that makes it easier to prove substitution properties (as we will see in Section 6.4, we perform substitutions not only in terms, but also in evaluation contexts sometimes).

We extend mode action on typing contexts to work with the new bindings forms:

$$\begin{cases} n'(x :_m T) &= x :_{n'.m} T \\ n'(\boxed{h} :_n T) &= \boxed{h} :_{n'.n} T \\ n'(\rightarrow h :_m \lfloor n \rfloor T) &= \rightarrow h :_{n'.m} \lfloor n \rfloor T \end{cases}$$

Hole bindings and destination bindings of the same hole name  $h$  are meant to annihilate each other in the typing context given they have a matching base type and mode. That way, the typing context of a term can stay constant during reduction:

- when destination-filling primitives are evaluated to build up data structures, they linearly consume a destination and write to a hole at the same time which makes both disappear, thus the typing context stays balanced;
- when a new hole is created, a matching destination is returned too, so the typing context stays balanced too.

However, the annihilation between a destination and a hole binding having the same name in the typing tree is only allowed to happen around an ampar, as it is the ampar connective that bind

<sup>4</sup>see TY-TERM-VAL: the value must type in a context  $\Delta$  which means “destination only” by convention

We need to explain that despite borrowing the notation, this ought to be thought of not as a term, but as a proper part of a context and a term

I don't think “represented” is the right word here

We need to explain why. This has something to do with the scopeness of the state or something or other.

“Annihilate” isn't an example of a definition that is underused. It's used only quite locally, but it's actually relied on. That being said, I still think it has to go because it's underdefined and will probably raise more question that it will answer.

Can we kill all the occurrences of the word “consume”?



|     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 687 | $\boxed{\Gamma \vdash t : T}$  | (Extended terms)   |
| 688 | $\frac{\text{TY-TERM-VAL} \quad \text{DisposableOnly } \Gamma \quad \Delta \vdash v : T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash v : T}$   |  |
| 689 |  |  |
| 690 |  |  |
| 691 |  |  |
| 692 |  |  |
| 693 | $\boxed{\Theta \vdash v : T}$  | (Typing judgment for values)   |
| 694 |  |  |
| 695 | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-HOLE}}{\boxed{h} :_{1V} T \vdash \boxed{h} : T}$   | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-DEST}}{\rightarrow h :_{1V} [n] T \vdash \rightarrow h : [n] T}$   |
| 696 |  | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-UNIT}}{\bullet \vdash () : 1}$   |
| 697 |  | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-FUN}}{\Delta \vdash x :_{mT} \vdash u : U \quad \Delta \vdash \lambda x :_{mT} \mapsto u : T \rightarrow U}$ |
| 698 |  |  |
| 699 | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-LEFT}}{\Theta \vdash v_1 : T_1}$   | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-RIGHT}}{\Theta \vdash v_2 : T_2}$  |
| 700 |  | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-PROD}}{\Theta_1 \vdash v_1 : T_1 \quad \Theta_2 \vdash v_2 : T_2}$   |
| 701 | $\Theta \vdash \text{Inl } v_1 : T_1 \oplus T_2$   | $\Theta \vdash \text{Inr } v_2 : T_1 \oplus T_2$   |
| 702 |  | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-EXP}}{n \cdot \Theta \vdash E_n v' : !_n T}$   |
| 703 |  |  |
| 704 | $\frac{\text{TY-VAL-AMPAR} \quad \text{LinOnly } \Delta_3 \quad \text{FinAgeOnly } \Delta_3 \quad \uparrow \Delta_1, \Delta_3 \vdash v_1 : T \quad \Delta_2, (\rightarrow \Delta_3) \vdash v_2 : U}{\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash \text{hnames}(\Delta_3) \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle : U \ltimes T}$ |  |
| 705 |  |  |
| 706 |  |  |
| 707 |  |  |
| 708 |  |  |

Fig. 9. Typing rules for extended terms and runtime values

the name across the two sides (the names bound are actually stored in a set  $H$  on the ampar value  $H \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle$ ). In fact, an ampar can be seen as a sort of lambda-abstraction, whose body (containing holes instead of variables) and input sink (destinations) are split across two sides, and magically interconnected through the ampar connective.

In most rules, we use a sum  $\Theta_1 + \Theta_2$  for typing contexts (or the disjoint variant  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$ ). This sum doesn't not allow for annihilation of bindings with the same name; the operation is partial, and in particular it isn't defined if a same hole name is present in the operands in the two different forms (hole binding and destination binding). In particular, a pair  $(\boxed{h}, \rightarrow h)$  is not well-typed. A single typing context  $\Theta$  is not allowed either to contain both a hole binding and a destination binding for the same hole name.

6.1.1 *To reintegrate.* In every figure,

- $\Theta$  denotes a typing context made only of hole and destination bindings;
- $\Gamma$  denotes a typing context made only of destination and variable bindings;
- $\Delta$  denotes a typing context made only of destination bindings.

Destinations and holes are two faces of the same coin, as seen in Section 2.1, and must always be in 1:1 correspondence. Thus, the new idea of our type system is to feature *hole bindings*  $\boxed{h} :_n T$  and *destination bindings*  $\rightarrow h :_{mT} [n] T$  in addition to the variable bindings  $x :_{mT}$  that usually populates typing contexts.

Such bindings mention two distinct classes of names: regular variable names  $x, y$ , and *hole names*  $h, h_1, h_2$  which are identifiers for a memory cell that hasn't been written to yet. Hole names are represented by natural numbers under the hood, so they are equipped with addition  $h+h'$  and can act both as relative offsets or absolute positions in memory. Typically, when a structure is effectively

Do not forget this

There's something jarring about this list. Not completely sure what yet. Probably explain why we need these conventions in the first place.

I only know what you mean by "must always be in 1:1 correspondence" because I already know what it's supposed to mean. Rephrase.

allocated, its hole (and destination) names are shifted by the maximum hole name encountered so far in the program (denoted  $\max(\text{hnames}(C))$ ); this corresponds to finding the next unused memory cell in which to write new data.

The mode  $n$  of a hole binding  $[h] :_n T$  (also present in the corresponding destination type  $[_n T]$ ) indicates the mode a value must have to be written to it (that is to say, the mode of bindings that the value depends on to type correctly). We see the mode of a hole coming into play when a hole is located behind an exponential constructor: we should only write a non-linear value to the hole  $[h]$  in  $E_{\omega v} [h]$ . In particular, we should not store a destination into this hole, otherwise it could later be extracted and used in a non-linear fashion.

A destination binding  $\rightarrow h :_m [_n T]$  mentions two modes,  $m$  and  $n$ ;  $m$  is the mode of the binding (in particular, it informs on the age of the destination itself). Whereas  $n$  is part of the destination's type  $[_n T]$  and corresponds to the mode a value has to have to be written to the corresponding hole. In a well-typed closed program the mode  $m$  of a destination binding can never be of multiplicity  $\omega$  or age  $\infty$  in the typing tree; it is always linear and of finite age.

*Typing of ampars.* As stated above, the core idea of TY-VAL-AMPAR is to act as a binding connective for holes and destinations.

We define a new operator  $\rightarrow^{\cdot}$  to represent the matching hole bindings for a set of destination bindings. It is a partial, point-wise operation on typing bindings of a context where:

$$\rightarrow^{\cdot} (\rightarrow h :_{1v} [_n T]) = [h] :_n T$$

Only an input context  $\Delta$  made only of destination bindings, with mode  $1v$ , results in a valid output context (which is then only composed of hole bindings).

Equipped with this operator, we introduce the annihilation of bindings using  $\Delta_3$  to represent destinations on the right side  $v_1$ , and  $\rightarrow^{\cdot} \Delta_3$  to represent the matching hole bindings on the left side  $v_2$  (the structure under construction). Those bindings are only present in the premises of the rule but get removed in the conclusion. Those hole names are only local, bound to that ampar and don't affect the outside world nor can be referenced from the outside.

Both sides of the ampar may also contain stored destinations from other scopes, represented by  $\uparrow \Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$  in the respective typing contexts of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . All holes introduced by this ampar have to be annihilated by matching destinations; following our naming convention, no hole binding can appear in  $\Delta_1$ ,  $\Delta_2$  in the conclusion.

The properties  $\text{LinOnly } \Delta_3$  and  $\text{FinAgeOnly } \Delta_3$  are true given that  $\rightarrow^{\cdot} \Delta_3$  is a valid typing context, so are not really a new restriction on  $\Delta_3$ . They are mostly used to ease the mechanical proof of type safety for the system.

*Other notable typing rules for values.* Rules TY-VAL-HOLE and TY-VAL-DEST indicates that a hole or destination must have mode  $1v$  in the typing context to be used (except when a destination is stored away, as we have seen).

Rules for unit, left and right variants, and product are straightforward.

Rule TY-VAL-EXP is rather classic too: we multiply the dependencies  $\Theta$  of the value by the mode  $n$  of the exponential. The intuition is that if  $v$  uses a resource  $v'$  twice, then  $E_2 v$ , that corresponds to two uses of  $v$  (in a system with such a mode), will use  $v'$  four times.

Rule TY-VAL-FUN indicates that (value level) lambda abstractions cannot have holes inside. In other terms, a function value cannot be built piecemeal like other data structures, its whole body must be a complete term right from the beginning. It cannot contain free variables either, as the body of the function must type in context  $\Delta$ ,  $x :_m T$  where  $\Delta$  is made only of destination bindings. One might wonder, how can we represent a curried function  $\lambda x \mapsto \lambda y \mapsto x \text{ concat } y$  as the value

This parenthetic remark doesn't read very well. I think that part of the problem is that the explanation of what ages mean is a little hand-wavy and it's difficult to refer to it

(Yann) I know it's just a phrasing, but as it is it sounds to naively contradict the intro of the section which says explicitly that modes aren't part of types, which got me a bit surprised in the first read

I don't know what a "binding connective" is

Not sure whether we should explain why  $\Delta_1$  is offset by  $\uparrow$  in the premise but not in conclusion. It's hard to come up with an intuitive narrative.

revisit this if we allow weakening for dests

```

785  c ::= t' [] | [] v | [] ; u
786      | casem [] of {lnl x1 ↦ u1, lnr x2 ↦ u2} | casem [] of (x1, x2) ↦ u | casem [] of En x ↦ u
787      | map [] of x ↦ t' | tok [] | fromk []
788      | [] < () | [] < lnl | [] < lnr | [] < (.) | [] < Em | [] < (λxm ↦ u) | [] < t' | v < []
789      | opH(v2 ∧ []) (open ampar focus component)
790
791  C ::= [] | C ∘ c | C (h :=H v)

```

Fig. 10. Grammar for evaluation contexts

level, as the inner abstraction captures the free variable  $x$ ? The answer is that such a function, at value level, is encoded as  $\forall \lambda x \mapsto \text{from}'_{\mathbf{k}}(\text{map alloc with } d \mapsto d \triangleleft (\lambda y \mapsto x \text{ concat } y))$ , where the inner closure is not yet in value form, but pending to be built into a value. As the form  $d \triangleleft (\lambda y \mapsto t)$  is part of term syntax, and not value syntax, we allow free variable captures in it.

## 6.2 Evaluation contexts forms

The grammar of evaluation contexts is given in Figure 10. An evaluation context  $C$  is the composition of an arbitrary number of focusing components  $c_1, c_2, \dots$ . We chose to represent this composition explicitly using a stack, instead of a meta-operation that would only let us access its final result. As a result, focusing and defocusing operations are made explicit in the semantics, resulting in a more verbose but simpler proof. It is also easier to imagine how to build a stack-based interpreter for such a language.

Focusing components are all directly derived from the term syntax, except for the “open ampar” focus component  $\text{op}_H^{\text{op}}(v_2 \wedge [])$ . This focus component indicates that an ampar is currently being mapped on, with its left-hand side  $v_2$  (the structure being built) being attached to the “open ampar” focus component, while its right-hand side (containing destinations) is either in subsequent focus components, or in the term under focus.

We introduce a special substitution  $C(h :=_H v)$  that is used to update structures under construction that are attached to open ampar focus components in the stack. Such a substitution is triggered when a destination  $\rightarrow h$  is filled in the term under focus, and results in the value  $v$  (that may contain holes itself, e.g. if it is a hollow constructor  $(\boxed{h_1}, \boxed{h_2})$ ) being written to the hole  $\boxed{h}$  (that must appear somewhere on an open ampar payload). The set  $H$  tracks the potential hole names introduced by value  $v$ .

## 6.3 Typing of evaluation contexts and commands

Evaluation contexts are typed in a context  $\Delta$  that can only contains destination bindings.  $\Delta$  represents the typing context available for the term that will be put in the box  $[]$  of the evaluation context. In other terms, while the typing context of a term is a list of requirements so that it can be typed, the typing context of an evaluation context is the set of bindings that it makes available to the term under focus. As a result, while the typing of a term  $\Gamma \vdash t : T$  is additive (the typing requirements for a function application is the sum of the requirements for the function itself and for its argument), the typing of an evaluation context  $\Delta \dashv C : T \rightarrow U_0$  is subtractive : adding the focus component  $t' []$  to the stack  $C$  will remove whatever is needed to type  $t'$  from the typing context provided by  $C$ . The whole typing rules for evaluation contexts  $C$  as well as commands  $C[t]$  are presented in Figure 11.

An evaluation context has a pseudo-type  $T \rightarrow U_0$ , where  $T$  denotes the type of the focus (i.e. the

“Box” is a very atypical term for this. Usually it’s a “hole” but we’ve been using it for something else. Can we find a better way to say this sentence? Below we use “focus” for it, it’s not a completely orthodox use of the term either, but it’s better.

It’s hard to understand

|     |   |  |   |
|-----|---|--|---|
| 834 | $\boxed{\Delta \vdash C : T \rightarrow U_0}$   |  | (Typing judgment for evaluation contexts)   |
| 835 |   | TY-ECTXS-APP1  | TY-ECTXS-APP2   |
| 836 |   | $m\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$   | $m\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 837 | TY-ECTXS-ID   | $\Delta_2 \vdash t' : T_m \rightarrow U$   | $\Delta_1 \vdash v : T$   |
| 838 | $\vdash [] : U_0 \rightarrow U_0$   | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ t' [] : T \rightarrow U_0$  | $\Delta_2 \vdash C \circ [] v : (T_m \rightarrow U) \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 839 |   | TY-ECTXS-PATS  |   |
| 840 | TY-ECTXS-PATU   |  | $m\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 841 | $\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$   |  | $\Delta_2, x_1 : mT_1 \vdash u_1 : U$   |
| 842 | $\Delta_2 \vdash u : U$   |  | $\Delta_2, x_2 : mT_2 \vdash u_2 : U$   |
| 843 | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ [] \circ u : 1 \rightarrow U_0$  | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } \{ \text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2 \} : (T_1 \oplus T_2) \rightarrow U_0$ |   |
| 844 |   |  |   |
| 845 | TY-ECTXS-PATP   |  | TY-ECTXS-PATE   |
| 846 | $m\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$  |  | $m\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 847 | $\Delta_2, x_1 : mT_1, x_2 : mT_2 \vdash u : U$   |  | $\Delta_2, x : m-m' T \vdash u : U$   |
| 848 | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u : (T_1 \otimes T_2) \rightarrow U_0$ |  | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } E_{m'} x \mapsto u : !m' T \rightarrow U_0$                                   |
| 849 |   |  |   |
| 850 | TY-ECTXS-MAP  |  | TY-ECTXS-TOA  |
| 851 | $\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : U \times T' \rightarrow U_0$   |  | $\Delta \vdash C : (U \times 1) \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 852 | $\uparrow \Delta_2, x : !_{\text{iv}} T \vdash t' : T'$   |  | $\Delta \vdash C \circ \text{to}_K [] : U \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 853 | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ \text{map} [] \text{ of } x \mapsto t' : (U \times T) \rightarrow U_0$                 |  |   |
| 854 |   |  |   |
| 855 | TY-ECTXS-FROMA  |  | TY-ECTXS-FILLU  |
| 856 | $\Delta \vdash C : (U \otimes (!_{\text{ioo}} T)) \rightarrow U_0$  |  | $\Delta \vdash C : 1 \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 857 | $\Delta \vdash C \circ \text{from}_K [] : (U \times (!_{\text{ioo}} T)) \rightarrow U_0$                        |  | $\Delta \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft () : [n] 1 \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 858 |   |  |   |
| 859 | TY-ECTXS-FILLL  |  | TY-ECTXS-FILLR  |
| 860 | $\Delta \vdash C : [n] T_1 \rightarrow U_0$   |  | $\Delta \vdash C : [n] T_2 \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 861 | $\Delta \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inl} : [n] T_1 \oplus T_2 \rightarrow U_0$                        |  | $\Delta \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inr} : [n] T_1 \oplus T_2 \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 862 |   |  |   |
| 863 | TY-ECTXS-FILLP  |  | TY-ECTXS-FILLE  |
| 864 | $\Delta \vdash C : ([n] T_1 \otimes [n] T_2) \rightarrow U_0$   |  | $\Delta \vdash C : [m-n] T \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 865 | $\Delta \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft (.) : [n] T_1 \otimes T_2 \rightarrow U_0$                              |  | $\Delta \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft E_m : [n] !m T \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 866 |   |  |   |
| 867 | TY-ECTXS-FILLF  |  | TY-ECTXS-FILLCOMP1  |
| 868 | $\Delta_1, (\uparrow n) \Delta_2 \vdash C : 1 \rightarrow U_0$  |  | $\Delta_1, (\uparrow n) \Delta_2 \vdash C : T \rightarrow U_0$  |
| 869 | $\Delta_2, x : m T \vdash u : U$  |  | $\Delta_2 \vdash t' : U \times T$   |
| 870 | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u) : [n] T_m \rightarrow U \rightarrow U_0$      |  | $\Delta_1 \vdash C \circ [] \triangleleft t' : [n] U \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 871 |   |  |   |
| 872 | TY-ECTXS-FILLCOMP2  |  | TY-ECTXS-OPENAMPAR  |
| 873 | $\Delta_1, (\uparrow n) \Delta_2 \vdash C : T \rightarrow U_0$  |  | $\text{LinOnly } \Delta_3 \quad \text{FinAgeOnly } \Delta_3$  |
| 874 | $\Delta_1 \vdash v : [n] U$   |  | $\text{hnames}(C) \quad \# \# \quad \text{hnames}(\Delta_3)$  |
| 875 | $\Delta_2 \vdash C \circ v \triangleleft [] : U \times T \rightarrow U_0$                                       |  | $\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \vdash C : (U \times T') \rightarrow U_0$   |
| 876 |   |  | $\Delta_2, \rightarrow^i \Delta_3 \quad \forall \vdash v_2 : U$   |
| 877 | $\boxed{\vdash C[t] : T}$   |  | $\uparrow \Delta_1, \Delta_3 \vdash C \circ \text{op}_{\text{hnames}(\Delta_3)} \langle v_2 \wedge [] \rangle : T' \rightarrow U_0$ |
| 878 |   |  | (Typing judgment for commands)  |
| 879 |   | TY-CMD   |   |
| 880 |   | $\Delta \vdash C : T \rightarrow U_0 \quad \Delta \vdash t : T$  |   |
| 881 |   | $\vdash C[t] : U_0$  |   |
| 882 |   |  |   |

Fig. 11. Typing rules for evaluation contexts and commands

type of the term that can be put in the box of the evaluation context) while  $U_0$  denotes the type of the resulting command (when the box of the evaluation context is filled with a term).

Composing an evaluation context of pseudo-type  $T \rightarrow U_0$  with a new focus component never affects the type  $U_0$  of the future command; only the type  $T$  of what can be put in the box is altered.

All typing rules for evaluation contexts can be derived from the ones for the corresponding term (except for the rule TY-ECTXS-OPENAMPAR that is the truly new form). Let's take the rule TY-ECTXS-PATP as an example:

- the typing context  $m \cdot \Delta_1 + \Delta_2$  in the premise for C corresponds to  $m \cdot \Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2$  in the conclusion of TY-TERM-PATP in Figure 6;
- the typing context  $\Delta_2, x_1 : m \cdot T_1, x_2 : m \cdot T_2$  in the premise for term  $u$  corresponds to the typing context  $\Gamma_2, x_1 : m \cdot T_1, x_2 : m \cdot T_2$  for the same term in TY-TERM-PATP;
- the typing context  $\Delta_1$  in the conclusion for  $C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u$  corresponds to the typing context  $\Gamma_1$  in the premise for  $t$  in TY-TERM-PATP (the term  $t$  is located where the box  $[]$  is in TY-ECTXS-OPENAMPAR).

In a way, the typing rule for an evaluation context is a “rotation” of the typing rule for the associated term, where the typing contexts of one premise and the conclusion are swapped, and the typing context of the other potential premise is kept unchanged (with the added difference that free variables cannot appear in typing contexts of evaluation contexts, so any  $\Gamma$  becomes a  $\Delta$ ).

As we see at the bottom of the figure, a command  $C[t]$  (i.e. a pair of an evaluation context and a term) is well typed when the evaluation context  $C$  provides a typing context  $\Delta$  that is exactly one in which  $t$  is well typed. We can always embed a well-typed, closed term  $\bullet \vdash t : T$  as a well-typed command using the identity evaluation context:  $t \approx [][t]$  and we thus have  $\bullet \vdash [][t] : T$  where  $\Delta = \bullet$  (the empty context).

## 6.4 Small-step semantics

We equip  $\lambda_d$  with small-step semantics. There are three types of semantic rules:

- focus rules, where we remove a layer from non-value term  $t$  and push a corresponding focus component on the stack  $C$ ;
- unfocus rules, where  $t$  is a value and thus we pop a focus component from the stack  $C$  and transform it back to a term, so that a redex appears (or so that another focus/unfocus rule can be triggered);
- reduction rules, where the actual computation logic takes place.

Here is the whole set of rules for PATP, in the previously announced order:

$$\begin{aligned} C[\text{case}_m t \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] &\longrightarrow (C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u)[t] \quad \text{when } \text{NotVal } t \\ (C \circ \text{case}_m [] \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u)[v] &\longrightarrow C[\text{case}_m v \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] \\ C[\text{case}_m (v_1, v_2) \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] &\longrightarrow C[u[x_1 := v_1][x_2 := v_2]] \end{aligned}$$

Rules are triggered in a purely deterministic fashion; once a subterm is a value, it cannot be focused again. As focusing and defocusing rules are entirely mechanical (they are just a matter of pushing and popping a focus component on the stack), we only present the set of reduction rules for the system in Figure 12, but the whole system is included in the annex (see Figures 13 and 14).

Reduction rules for function application, pattern-matching,  $\text{to}_\times$  and  $\text{from}_\times$  are straightforward.

All reduction rules for destination-filling primitives trigger a substitution  $C(h :=_H v)$  on the evaluation context  $C$  that corresponds to a memory update of a hole  $[h]$ . RED-FILLU and RED-FILLF do not create any new hole; they only write a value to an existing one. On the other hand, rules RED-FILLL, RED-FILLR, RED-FILLE and RED-FILLP all write a hollow constructor to the hole  $h$ , that is

“resulting”  
from what?

“in a way”  
AND “rotation”  
between  
quotes. This  
is a little too  
much analog-  
ogy for a  
text like this.  
Let's keep  
at some-  
thing like  
“The typing  
rule for an  
evaluation  
context can  
be derived  
systemati-  
cally from  
the typing  
rules of the  
correspond-  
ing term  
form”

This para-  
graph is  
difficult to  
understand

I'm not sure  
“layer” is the  
appropriate  
term here

For some  
reason I'm  
only notic-  
ing the  
name “focus  
component”  
now. There's  
nothing re-  
ally wrong  
with it, but  
I'm not fully  
convinced  
either.

The “pre-  
viously an-  
nounced  
order”?  
Did we an-  
nounce an  
order previ-  
ously?

For substitu-  
tion to “cor-  
rect” it

|     |  |                                     |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|
| 932 | $C[t] \longrightarrow C'[t']$  | (Small-step evaluation of commands) |
| 933 | $C[(\lambda x_m \mapsto u) v] \longrightarrow C[u[x := v]]$  | RED-APP                             |
| 934 | $C[(\circledast u)] \longrightarrow C[u]$  | RED-PATU                            |
| 935 | $C[\text{case}_m (\text{Inl } v_1) \text{ of } \{ \text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2 \}] \longrightarrow C[u_1[x_1 := v_1]]$   | RED-PATL                            |
| 936 | $C[\text{case}_m (\text{Inr } v_2) \text{ of } \{ \text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2 \}] \longrightarrow C[u_2[x_2 := v_2]]$   | RED-PATR                            |
| 937 | $C[\text{case}_m (v_1, v_2) \text{ of } (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] \longrightarrow C[u[x_1 := v_1][x_2 := v_2]]$  | RED-PATP                            |
| 938 | $C[\text{case}_m E_n v' \text{ of } E_n x \mapsto u] \longrightarrow C[u[x := v']]$  | RED-PATE                            |
| 939 | $C[\text{to}_K v_2] \longrightarrow C[\{\}_{\langle v_2 \wedge () \rangle}]$   | RED-TOA                             |
| 940 | $C[\text{from}_K \{ \} \langle v_2 \wedge E_{100} v_1 \rangle] \longrightarrow C[(v_2, E_{100} v_1)]$  | RED-FROMA                           |
| 941 | $C[\text{alloc}] \longrightarrow C[\{\}_1 \langle \boxed{1} \wedge \rightarrow 1 \rangle]$   | RED-ALLOC                           |
| 942 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft ()] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{\}_{\langle \rangle} () \rangle [ () ]]$   | RED-FILLU                           |
| 943 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{\}_{\langle \rangle} \lambda x_m \mapsto u \rangle [ () ]]$   | RED-FILLF                           |
| 944 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft \text{Inl}] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{h'+1\} \text{Inl } \boxed{h'+1} \rangle [ \rightarrow h'+1 ]]$   | RED-FILLL                           |
| 945 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft \text{Inr}] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{h'+1\} \text{Inr } \boxed{h'+1} \rangle [ \rightarrow h'+1 ]]$   | RED-FILLR                           |
| 946 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft E_m] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{h'+1\} E_m \boxed{h'+1} \rangle [ \rightarrow h'+1 ]]$  | RED-FILLE                           |
| 947 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft (.)] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := \{h'+1, h'+2\} (\boxed{h'+1}, \boxed{h'+2}) \rangle [ (\rightarrow h'+1, \rightarrow h'+2) ]]$  | RED-FILLP                           |
| 948 | $C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft H \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle] \longrightarrow C[\langle h := (H \pm h') v_2 [H \pm h'] \rangle [ v_1 [H \pm h'] ]]$   | RED-FILLCOMP                        |
| 949 | $C[\text{map}_H \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle \text{ with } x \mapsto t'] \longrightarrow (C \circ \overset{\text{op}}{H \pm h''} \langle v_2 [H \pm h'] \wedge [] \rangle) [ t' [x := v_1 [H \pm h']] ]$ | OPEN-AMPAR                          |
| 950 | $(C \circ \overset{\text{op}}{H} \langle v_2 \wedge [] \rangle) [ v_1 ] \longrightarrow C[\boxed{H} \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle]$   | CLOSE-AMPAR                         |
| 951 | $\text{where } \begin{cases} h' &= \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1 \\ h'' &= \max(\text{hnames}(C)) + 1 \end{cases}$   |                                     |

Fig. 12. Small-step semantics

to say a value containing holes itself. Thus, we need to generate fresh names for these new holes, and also return a destination for each new hole with a matching name.

Obtaining a fresh name is represented by the statement  $h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1$  in the premises of these rules. One invariant of the system is that an ampar must have fresh names to be opened, so we always rename local hole names bound by an ampar to fresh names just when that ampar is mapped on, as these local names – represented by the set of hole names  $H$  that the ampar carries – could otherwise shadow already existing names in evaluation context  $C$ . This invariant is materialized by premise  $\text{hnames}(C) \## \text{hnames}(\Delta_3)$  in rule TY-ECTXS-OPENAMPAR for the open ampar focus component that is created during reduction of a **map**.

We use hole name shifting as a strategy to obtain fresh names. Shifting all hole names in a set  $H$  by a given offset  $h'$  is denoted  $H \pm h'$ . We extend this notation to define a conditional shift operation  $[H \pm h']$  which shifts each hole name appearing in the operand to the left of the brackets by  $h'$  if this hole name is also member of  $H$ . This conditional shift can be used on a single hole name, a value, or a typing context.

In rule RED-FILLCOMP, we write the left-hand side  $v_2$  of a closed ampar  $H \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle$  to a hole  $\boxed{h}$  that is part of some focus fragment  $\overset{\text{op}}{H \pm h''} \langle v'_2 \wedge [] \rangle$  in the evaluation context  $C$ . That fragment is not mentioned explicitly in the rule, as the destination  $\rightarrow h$  is enough to target it. This results in the

I assume this is meant as a definition of shifting. Make it clear.

Are there non-conditional shift? If not, you can drop the useless adjective.



composition of two structures with holes  $v'_2$  and  $v_2$  through filling of  $\rightarrow h$ . Because we split open the ampar  $H\langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle$  (its left-hand side gets written to a hole, while its right hand side is returned), we need to rename any hole name that it contains to a fresh one, as we do when an ampar is opened in the **map** rule. The renaming is carried out by the conditional shift  $v_2[H \pm h']$  and  $v_1[H \pm h']$  (only hole names local to the ampar, represented by the set  $H$ , gets renamed).

Last but not least, rules OPEN-AMPAR and CLOSE-AMPAR dictates how and when a closed ampar (a term) is converted to an open ampar (a focusing fragment) and vice-versa. With OPEN-AMPAR, the local hole names of the ampar gets renamed to fresh ones, and the left-hand side gets attached to the focusing fragment  $\text{op}_{H \pm h'}\langle v_2[H \pm h'] \wedge [] \rangle$  while the right-hand side (containing destinations) is substituted in the body of the **map** statement (which becomes the new term under focus). This effectively allows the right-hand side of an ampar to be a term instead of a value for a limited time.

The rule CLOSE-AMPAR triggers when the body of a **map** statement has reduced to a value. In that case, we can close the ampar, by popping the focus fragment from the stack  $C$  and merging back with  $v_2$  to reform a closed ampar.

*Type safety.* With the semantics now defined, we can state the usual type safety theorems:

THEOREM 6.1 (TYPE PRESERVATION). *If  $\vdash C[t] : T$  and  $C[t] \rightarrow C'[t']$  then  $\vdash C'[t'] : T$ .*

THEOREM 6.2 (PROGRESS). *If  $\vdash C[t] : T$  and  $\forall v, C[t] \neq [][v]$  then  $\exists C', t'. C[t] \rightarrow C'[t']$ .*

A command of the form  $[][v]$  cannot be reduced further, as it only contains a fully determined value, and no pending computation. This is the stopping point of the reduction, and any well-typed command eventually reaches this form.

## 7 FORMAL PROOF OF TYPE SAFETY

We've proved type preservation and progress theorems with the Coq proof assistant. At time of writing, we have assumed, rather than proved, the substitution lemmas. Turning to a proof assistant was a pragmatic choice: the context handling in  $\lambda_d$  can be quite finicky, and it was hard, without computer assistance, to make sure that we hadn't made mistakes in our proofs. The version of  $\lambda_d$  that we've proved is written in Ott [Sewell et al. 2007], the same Ott file is used as a source for this article, making sure that we've proved the same system as we're presenting; though some visual simplification is applied by a script to produce the version in the article.

Most of the proof was done by an author with little prior experience with Coq. This goes to show that Coq is reasonably approachable even for non-trivial development. The proof is about 6000 lines long, and contains nearly 350 lemmas. Many of the cases of the type preservation and progress lemmas are similar. To handle such repetitive cases, the use of a large-language-model based autocompletion system has proven quite effective.

Binders are the biggest problem. We've largely managed to make the proof to be only about closed terms, to avoid any complication with binders. This worked up until the substitution lemmas, which is the reason why we haven't proved them in Coq yet (that and the fact that it's much easier to be confident in our pen-and-paper proofs for those).

The proofs aren't particularly elegant. For instance, we don't have any abstract formalization of semirings: it was more expedient to brute-force the properties we needed by hand. We've observed up to 232 simultaneous goals, but a computer makes short work of this: it was solved by a single call to the congruence tactic. Nevertheless there are a few points of interest:

- We represent context as finite-domain functions, rather than as syntactic lists. This works much better when defining sums of context. There are a handful of finite-function libraries in the ecosystem, but we needed finite dependent functions (because the type of binders

depend on whether we're binding a variable name or a hole name). This didn't exist, but for our limited purpose, it ended up not being too costly rolling our own. About 1000 lines of proofs. The underlying data type is actual functions, this was simpler to develop, but equality is more complex than with a bespoke data type.

- Addition of context is partial since we can only add two binding of the same name if they also have the same type. Instead of representing addition as a binary function to an optional context, we represent addition as a total function to contexts, but we change contexts to have faulty bindings on some names. This simplifies reasoning about properties like commutativity and associativity, at the cost of having well-formedness preconditions in the premises of typing rules as well as some lemmas.

Mostly to simplify equalities, we assumed a few axioms: functional extensionality, classical logic, and indefinite description:

Axiom `constructive_indefinite_description` :

`forall (A : Type) (P : A → Prop), (exists x, P x) → { x : A | P x }.`

Again this isn't particularly elegant, we could have avoided some of these axioms at the price of more complex development. But for the sake of this article, we decided to favor expediency over elegance.

## 8 IMPLEMENTATION OF $\lambda_d$ USING IN-PLACE MEMORY MUTATIONS

The formal language presented in Sections 5 and 6 is not meant to be implemented as-is.

First,  $\lambda_d$  misses a form of recursion, but we believe that adding equirecursive types and a fix-point operator wouldn't compromise the safety of the system.

Secondly, ampars are not managed linearly in  $\lambda_d$ ; only destinations are. That is to say that an ampar can be wrapped in an exponential, e.g.  $E_{\omega v} \{h\} \langle 0 :: \boxed{h} \rightarrow h \rangle$  (representing a non-linear difference list  $0 :: \boxed{\phantom{h}}$ ), and then used twice, each time in a different way:

```
case  $E_{\omega v} \{h\} \langle 0 :: \boxed{h} \rightarrow h \rangle$  of  $E_{\omega v} x \mapsto$ 
  let  $x_1 := x$  append 1 in
  let  $x_2 := x$  append 2 in
  toList ( $x_1$  concat  $x_2$ )
→* 0 :: 1 :: 0 :: 2 :: []
```

It may seem counter-intuitive at first, but this program is valid and safe in  $\lambda_d$ . Thanks to the renaming discipline we detailed in Section 6.4, every time an ampar is **mapped** over, its hole names are renamed to fresh ones. So when we call **append** to build  $x_1$  (which is implemented in terms of **map**), we sort of allocate a new copy of the ampar before mutating it, effectively achieving a copy-on-write memory scheme. Thus it is safe to operate on  $x$  again to build  $x_2$ .

In the introduction of the article, we announced a safe framework for in-place memory mutation, so we will uphold this promise now. The key to go from a copy-on-write scheme to an in-place mutation scheme is to force ampars to be linearly managed too. For that we introduce a new type **Token**, together with primitives **dup** and **drop** (remember that unqualified arrows have mode **1v**, so are linear):

```
dup : Token → Token ⊗ Token
drop : Token → 1
allocip : Token → T × [T]
alloccow : T × [T]
```

We now have two possible allocation primitives: the new one with an in-place mutation memory model (**ip**), that has to be managed linearly, and the old one that doesn't have to be used linearly, and features a copy-on-write (cow) memory model.

In the system featuring tokens and **alloc<sub>ip</sub>**, we use the **Token** type as an intrinsic source of linearity that infects ampars. Tokens are not forgeable by the user, but instead, “closed” programs now typecheck in the non-empty context  $\{tok_0 :_{100} \text{Token}\}$ , featuring a single initial, linear token. The user is free to **duplicate** (or **drop**) the variable  $tok_0$  to give birth to an arbitrary number of tokens  $tok_k$ , and then to an arbitrary number of ampars through **alloc<sub>ip</sub>**  $tok_k$ .

However, each ampar produced like so will have a linear dependency on a  $tok_k$  variable, that itself will have a chain of linear dependencies up to  $tok_0$ , because all the function arrows in the code excerpt above are linear. If an ampar produced by **alloc<sub>ip</sub>**  $tok_k$  were to be used twice in a block  $t$ , then  $t$  would require a typing context  $\{tok_k :_{\omega} \text{Token}\}$ , that itself would require  $tok_0$  to have multiplicity  $\omega$  too. Thus the program would be rejected.

Having closed programs to typecheck in non-empty context  $\{tok_0 :_{100} \text{Token}\}$  is a slightly more ergonomic solution than adding a primitive function **withToken** :  $(\text{Token} \rightarrow_{100} !_{\omega} T) \rightarrow !_{\omega} T$  as it is done in [Bagrel 2024].

In  $\lambda_d$  with **Tokens** and **alloc<sub>ip</sub>**, as ampars are managed linearly, we can change the allocation and renaming mechanisms:

- the hole name for a new ampar is chosen fresh right from the start (this corresponds to a new heap allocation);
- adding a new hollow constructor still require freshness for its hole names (this corresponds to a new heap allocation too);
- **mapping** over an ampar and filling destinations or composing two ampars using “fillComp” ( $\Leftarrow$ ) no longer require any renaming: we have the guarantee that all the names involved are globally fresh, and can only be used once, so we can do in-place memory updates.

We decided to omit the linearity aspect of ampars in  $\lambda_d$  as it clearly obfuscate the presentation of the system without adding much to the understanding of the latter. We believe that the system is still sound with this linearity aspect, and articles such as [Spiwack et al. 2022] gives a pretty clear view on how to implement the linearity requirement for ampars in practice without too much noise for the user.

## 9 RELATED WORK

### 9.1 Destination-passing style for efficient memory management

In [Shaikhha et al. 2017], the authors present a destination-based intermediate language for a functional array programming language. They develop a system of destination-specific optimizations and boast near-C performance.

This is the most comprehensive evidence to date of the benefit of destination-passing style for performance in functional programming languages. Although their work is on array programming, while this article focuses on linked data structure. They can therefore benefit of optimizations that are perhaps less valuable for us, such as allocating one contiguous memory chunk for several arrays.

The main difference between their work and ours is that their language is solely an intermediate language: it would be unsound to program in it manually. We, on the other hand, are proposing a type system to make it sound for the programmer to program directly with destinations.

Subsection for each work seems a little heavy-weight. On the other hand the italic paragraphs seem too light-weight. I'm longing for the days of paragraph heading in bold.

(Yann) This could be nuanced: allocating deeply nested trees like ASTs with a bump allocator so that they are packed in memory can also be benefi-

We consider that these two aspects complement each other: good compiler optimization are important to alleviate the burden from the programmer and allowing high-level abstraction; having the possibility to use destinations in code affords the programmer more control would they need it.

## 9.2 Tail modulo constructor

Another example of destinations in a compiler's optimizer is [Bour et al. 2021]. It's meant to address the perennial problem that the map function on linked lists isn't tail-recursive, hence consumes stack space. The observation is that there's a systematic transformation of functions where the only recursive call is under a constructor to a destination-passing tail-recursive implementation.

Here again, there's no destination in user land, only in the intermediate representation. However, there is a programmatic interface: the programmer annotates a function like

```
let[@tail_mod_cons] rec map =
```

to ask the compiler to perform the translation. The compiler will then throw an error if it can't. This way, contrary to the optimizations in [Shaikhha et al. 2017], this optimization is entirely predictable.

This has been available in OCaml since version 4.14. This is the one example we know of of destinations built in a production-grade compiler. Our  $\lambda_d$  makes it possible to express the result tail-modulo-constructor in a typed language. It can be used to write programs directly in that style, or it could serve as a typed target language for and automatic transformation. On the flip-side, tail modulo constructor is too weak to handle our difference lists or breadth-first traversal examples.

## 9.3 A functional representation of data structures with a hole

The idea of using linear types to let the user manipulate structures with holes safely dates back to [Minamide 1998]. Our system is strongly inspired by theirs. In their system, we can only compose functions that represent data structures with holes, but we can't pattern-match on the result; just like in our system we cannot act on the left-hand side of  $S \times T$ , only the right hand part.

In [Minamide 1998], it's only ever possible to represent structures with a single hole. But this is a rather superficial restriction. The author doesn't comment on this, but we believe that this restriction only exists for convenience of the exposition: the language is lowered to a language without function abstraction and where composition is performed by combinators. While it's easy to write a combinator for single-argument-function composition, it's cumbersome to write combinators for functions with multiple arguments. But having multiple-hole data structures wouldn't have changed their system in any profound way.

The more important difference is that while their system is based on a type of linear functions, our is based on the linear logic's par combinator. This, in turns, lets us define a type of destinations which are representations of holes in values, which [Minamide 1998] doesn't have. This means that using [Minamide 1998] — or the more recent but similarly expressive system from [Lorenzen et al. 2024] — one can implement the examples with difference lists and queues from Section 2.2, but they can't do our breadth-first traversal example from Section 4, since storing destinations in a data structure is the essential ingredient of this example.

This ability to store destination does come at a cost though: the system needs this additional notion of ages to ensure that destinations are use soundly. On the other hand, our system is strictly more general, in that the system from [Minamide 1998] can be embedded in  $\lambda_d$ , and if one stays in this fragment, we're never confronted with ages. Ages only show up when writing programs that go beyond Minamide's system.

## 9.4 Destination-passing style programming: a Haskell implementation

In [Bagrel 2024], the author proposes a system much like ours: it has a destination type, and a par-like construct (that they call `Incomplete`), where only the right-hand side can be modified; together these two elements give extra expressiveness to the language compared to [Minamide 1998].

In their system,  $d \blacktriangleleft t$  requires  $t$  to be unrestricted, while in  $\lambda_d$ ,  $t$  can be linear. One consequence is that in [Bagrel 2024], destinations can be stored in data structures but not in data structures with holes; so in order to do a breadth-first search algorithm like in Section 4, they can't use improved queues like we do. The other consequence is that their system require both primitive constructors and destination-filling primitives; it cannot be bootstrapped with the later alone, as we do in the current article.

However, [Bagrel 2024] is implemented in Haskell, which just features linear types. Our system subsumes theirs; but it requires the age system that is more than what Haskell provides. Encoding their system in ours will unfortunately make ages appear in the typing rules.

## 9.5 Semi-axiomatic sequent calculus

In [DeYoung et al. 2020], the author develop a system where constructors return to a destination rather than allocating memory. It is very unlike the other systems described in this section in that it's completely founded in the Curry-Howard isomorphism. Specifically it gives an interpretation of a sequent calculus which mixes Gentzen-style deduction rules and Hilbert-style axioms. As a consequence, the par connective is completely symmetric, and, unlike our `[T]` type, their dualization connective is involutive.

The cost of this elegance is that computations may try to pattern-match on a hole, in which case they must wait for the hole to be filled. So the semantic of holes is that of a future or a promise. In turns this requires the semantic of their calculus to be fully concurrent. Which is a very different point in the design space.

## 10 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

Using a system of ages in addition to linearity,  $\lambda_d$  is a purely functional calculus which supports destinations in a very flexible way. It subsumes existing calculi from the literature for destination passing, allowing both composition of data structures with holes and storing destinations in data structures. Data structures are allowed to have multiple holes, and destinations can be stored in data structures that, themselves, have holes. The latter is the main reason to introduce ages and is key to  $\lambda_d$ 's flexibility.

We don't anticipate that a system of ages like  $\lambda_d$  will actually be used in a programming language: it's unlikely that destination are so central to the design of a programming language that it's worth baking them so deeply in the type system. Perhaps a compiler that makes heavy use of destinations in its optimizer could use  $\lambda_d$  as a typed intermediate representation. But, more realistically, our expectation is that  $\lambda_d$  can be used as a theoretical framework to analyze destination-passing systems: if an API can be defined in  $\lambda_d$  then it's sound.

In fact, we plan to use this very strategy to design an API for destination passing in Haskell, leveraging only the existing linear types, but retaining the possibility of storing destinations in data structures with holes.

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## A FULL REDUCTION RULES FOR $\lambda_d$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[t' \ t] \rightarrow (C \circ t' \ [])[t] \quad \text{Focus-App1} \qquad \qquad \qquad (C \circ t' \ [])[v] \rightarrow C[t' \ v] \quad \text{Unfocus-App1} \\
\\
\text{NotVal } t' \\
\hline
C[t' \ v] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \ v)[t'] \quad \text{Focus-App2} \qquad \qquad \qquad (C \circ [] \ v)[v'] \rightarrow C[v' \ v] \quad \text{Unfocus-App2} \\
\\
\hline
C[(\lambda x_{\text{m}} \mapsto u) \ v] \rightarrow C[u[x := v]] \quad \text{Red-App} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[t \ \& \ u] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \ \& \ u)[t] \quad \text{Focus-PatU} \\
\\
(C \circ [] \ \& \ u)[v] \rightarrow C[v \ \& \ u] \quad \text{Unfocus-PatU} \qquad \qquad \qquad C[(\ ) \ \& \ u] \rightarrow C[u] \quad \text{Red-PatU} \\
\\
\text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ t \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\}] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\})[t] \quad \text{Focus-PatS} \\
\\
(C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\})[v] \rightarrow C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ v \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\}] \quad \text{Unfocus-PatS} \\
\\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ (\text{Inl } v_1) \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\}] \rightarrow C[u_1[x_1 := v_1]] \quad \text{Red-PatL} \\
\\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ (\text{Inr } v_2) \ \text{of} \ \{\text{Inl } x_1 \mapsto u_1, \text{Inr } x_2 \mapsto u_2\}] \rightarrow C[u_2[x_2 := v_2]] \quad \text{Red-PatR} \\
\\
\text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ t \ \text{of} \ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u)[t] \quad \text{Focus-PatP} \\
\\
(C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u)[v] \rightarrow C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ v \ \text{of} \ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] \quad \text{Unfocus-PatP} \\
\\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ (v_1, v_2) \ \text{of} \ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto u] \rightarrow C[u[x_1 := v_1][x_2 := v_2]] \quad \text{Red-PatP} \\
\\
\text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ t \ \text{of} \ E_{\text{n}} \ x \mapsto u] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ E_{\text{n}} \ x \mapsto u)[t] \quad \text{Focus-PatE} \\
\\
(C \circ \text{case}_{\text{m}} \ [] \ \text{of} \ E_{\text{n}} \ x \mapsto u)[v] \rightarrow C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ v \ \text{of} \ E_{\text{n}} \ x \mapsto u] \quad \text{Unfocus-PatE} \\
\\
\hline
C[\text{case}_{\text{m}} \ E_{\text{n}} \ v' \ \text{of} \ E_{\text{n}} \ x \mapsto u] \rightarrow C[u[x := v']] \quad \text{Red-PatE} \\
\\
\text{NotVal } t \\
\hline
C[\text{map } t \ \text{with } x \mapsto t'] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{map } [] \ \text{of } x \mapsto t')[t] \quad \text{Focus-Map} \\
\\
(C \circ \text{map } [] \ \text{of } x \mapsto t')[v] \rightarrow C[\text{map } v \ \text{with } x \mapsto t'] \quad \text{Unfocus-Map} \\
\\
\hline
h'' = \max(\text{hnames}(C)) + 1 \\
\hline
C[\text{map}_{\text{H}} \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle \ \text{with } x \mapsto t'] \rightarrow (C \circ \overset{\text{op}}{\text{H}}_{\text{H} \vdash h''} \langle v_2 [H \vdash h''] \wedge [] \rangle)[t' [x := v_1 [H \vdash h'']]] \quad \text{Open-AMPAR} \\
\\
\hline
(C \circ \overset{\text{op}}{\text{H}} \langle v_2 \wedge [] \rangle)[v_1] \rightarrow C[\langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle] \quad \text{Close-AMPAR}
\end{array}$$

Fig. 13. Full reduction rules for  $\lambda_d$  (part 1)

|      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| 1324 | $\frac{\text{NotVal } u}{C[\text{to}_\mathbf{x} u] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{to}_\mathbf{x} [])[u]} \text{Focus-ToA}$   | $\frac{}{(C \circ \text{to}_\mathbf{x} [])[v_2] \rightarrow C[\text{to}_\mathbf{x} v_2]} \text{Unfocus-ToA}$                      |
| 1325 |  |   |
| 1326 |  |   |
| 1327 | $\frac{}{C[\text{to}_\mathbf{x} v_2] \rightarrow C[\{\} \langle v_2 \wedge () \rangle]} \text{Red-ToA}$  | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[\text{from}_\mathbf{x} t] \rightarrow (C \circ \text{from}_\mathbf{x} [])[t]} \text{Focus-FromA}$      |
| 1328 |  |   |
| 1329 |  |   |
| 1330 | $\frac{}{(C \circ \text{from}_\mathbf{x} [])[v] \rightarrow C[\text{from}_\mathbf{x} v]} \text{Unfocus-FromA}$   |   |
| 1331 |  |   |
| 1332 | $\frac{}{C[\text{from}_\mathbf{x} \{\} \langle v_2 \wedge E_{\text{too}} v_1 \rangle] \rightarrow C[(v_2, E_{\text{too}} v_1)]} \text{Red-FromA}$  | $\frac{}{C[\text{alloc}] \rightarrow C[\{\} \langle \boxed{1} \wedge \rightarrow 1 \rangle]} \text{Red-Alloc}$                    |
| 1333 |  |   |
| 1334 | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft ()] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft ()) [t]} \text{Focus-FillU}$  | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft ()) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft ()]} \text{Unfocus-FillU}$                               |
| 1335 |  |   |
| 1336 |  |   |
| 1337 | $\frac{}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft ()] \rightarrow C[h := \{\} ()] [()]} \text{Red-FillU}$   | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft \text{Inl}] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inl}) [t]} \text{Focus-FillL}$ |
| 1338 |  |   |
| 1339 | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inl}) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft \text{Inl}]} \text{Unfocus-FillL}$  |   |
| 1340 |  |   |
| 1341 | $\frac{h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft \text{Inl}] \rightarrow C[h := \{h'+1\} \text{Inl} [\boxed{h'+1}]] [\rightarrow h'+1]} \text{Red-FillL}$                    | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft \text{Inr}] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inr}) [t]} \text{Focus-FillR}$ |
| 1342 |  |   |
| 1343 |  |   |
| 1344 | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft \text{Inr}) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft \text{Inr}]} \text{Unfocus-FillR}$  |   |
| 1345 |  |   |
| 1346 | $\frac{h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft \text{Inr}] \rightarrow C[h := \{h'+1\} \text{Inr} [\boxed{h'+1}]] [\rightarrow h'+1]} \text{Red-FillR}$                    | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft E_m] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft E_m) [t]} \text{Focus-FillE}$               |
| 1347 |  |   |
| 1348 |  |   |
| 1349 | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft E_m) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft E_m]} \text{Unfocus-FillE}$  |   |
| 1350 |  |   |
| 1351 | $\frac{h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft E_m] \rightarrow C[h := \{h'+1\} E_m [\boxed{h'+1}]] [\rightarrow h'+1]} \text{Red-FillE}$                                  | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft ()] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft ()) [t]} \text{Focus-FillP}$                 |
| 1352 |  |   |
| 1353 |  |   |
| 1354 | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft ()) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft ()]} \text{Unfocus-FillP}$  |   |
| 1355 |  |   |
| 1356 | $\frac{h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft ()] \rightarrow C[h := \{h'+1, h'+2\} (\boxed{h'+1}, \boxed{h'+2})] [\rightarrow h'+1, \rightarrow h'+2]} \text{Red-FillP}$ |   |
| 1357 |  |   |
| 1358 |  |   |
| 1359 | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)) [t]} \text{Focus-FillF}$  |   |
| 1360 |  |   |
| 1361 | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)) [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)]} \text{Unfocus-FillF}$  |   |
| 1362 |  |   |
| 1363 | $\frac{}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft (\lambda x_m \mapsto u)] \rightarrow C[h := \{\} \lambda x_m \mapsto u] [()]} \text{Red-FillF}$   |   |
| 1364 |  |   |
| 1365 |  |   |
| 1366 | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t}{C[t \triangleleft t'] \rightarrow (C \circ [] \triangleleft t') [t]} \text{Focus-FillComp1}$  | $\frac{}{(C \circ [] \triangleleft t') [v] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft t']} \text{Unfocus-FillComp1}$                           |
| 1367 |  |   |
| 1368 | $\frac{\text{NotVal } t'}{C[v \triangleleft t'] \rightarrow (C \circ v \triangleleft []) [t']} \text{Focus-FillComp2}$   | $\frac{}{(C \circ v \triangleleft []) [v'] \rightarrow C[v \triangleleft v']} \text{Unfocus-FillComp2}$                           |
| 1369 |  |   |
| 1370 |  |   |
| 1371 | $\frac{h' = \max(\text{hnames}(C) \cup \{h\}) + 1}{C[\rightarrow h \triangleleft \langle v_2 \wedge v_1 \rangle] \rightarrow C[h := (H \pm h') v_2 [H \pm h']] [v_1 [H \pm h']]} \text{Red-FillComp}$        |   |
| 1372 |  |   |