

Semantics for core Concurrent ML using computation types

Alan Jeffrey

Abstract

This paper presents two typed higher-order concurrent functional programming languages, based on Reppy's Concurrent ML. The first is a simplified, monomorphic variant of CML, which allows reduction of terms of any type. The second uses an explicit type constructor for computation, in the style of Moggi's monadic metalanguage. Each of these languages is given an operational semantics, which can be used as the basis of bisimulation equivalence. We show how Moggi's translation of the call-by-value lambda-calculus into the monadic metalanguage can be extended to these concurrent languages, and that this translation is correct up to weak bisimulation.

1 Introduction

Reppy's (1991, 1992) Concurrent ML is an extension of New Jersey ML with features for spawning threads, which can communicate by one-to-one synchronous handshake in the style of Milner's (1989) CCS.

There are (at least) two approaches to giving the operational semantics to CML. The 'functional language definition' tradition (Milner, Tofte, and Harper 1990, for example) is to define unlabelled reductions between entire programs, and to use this semantics to prove properties such as type-safety. Reppy uses this approach to give a reduction semantics to CML based on *evaluation contexts* $E[_]$, for example giving the semantics of if-expressions as:

$$\overline{E[\text{if true then } e \text{ else } f]} \longrightarrow \overline{E[e]} \quad \overline{E[\text{if true then } e \text{ else } f]} \longrightarrow \overline{E[f]}$$

The 'concurrency semantics' tradition (Milner 1989, for example) is to define labelled reductions between program fragments, and to use this semantics as the basis of equivalences (such as bisimulation) between program fragments. Ferreira, Hennessy and Jeffrey (1995) use this approach to give a labelled transition system semantics to CML including *silent transitions* $\xrightarrow{\tau}$ and *value transitions* $\xrightarrow{\check{v}}$, for example giving the semantics of if-expressions as:

$$\frac{\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{true}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{false}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel g}}{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{if } e' \text{ then } f \text{ else } g}$$

The resulting labelled transition system can be used as the basis of an equational theory of CML expressions, using *bisimulation* as equivalence.

Unfortunately, there are some problems with this semantics:

- It is complex, due to having to allow expressions in any evaluation context to reduce (for example requiring three rules for if-expressions rather than Reppy’s two axiom schemas).
- It produces very long reductions, due to large numbers of ‘book-keeping’ steps (for example the long reduction in Table 9).
- The resulting equational theory does not have pleasant mathematical properties (for example neither β - nor η -conversion hold for the language).

In this paper we present a variant of CML using *computation types*. These provide an explicit type constructor `_comp` for computation, which means that the type system can distinguish between expressions which can perform computation (those of type $A\text{comp}$) and those which are guaranteed to be in normal form (anything else). Differentiating by type between expressions which can and cannot perform reductions makes the operational semantics much simpler, for example the much shorter reduction in Table 16 and the simpler operational rules for if-expressions:

$$\frac{}{\text{if true then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} f} \quad \frac{}{\text{if false then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} g}$$

Computation types were originally proposed by Moggi (1991) in a denotational setting to provide models of non-trivial computation (such as CML communication) without losing pleasant mathematical properties (such as β - and η -reduction). Moggi provided a translation from the call-by-value λ -calculus into the language with computation types, which we can adapt for CML and prove to be correct up to weak bisimulation.

We can also use equational reasoning to transform inefficient programs (such as the translation of the long reduction in Table 9) into efficient ones (such as the short reduction in Table 16). We conjecture that such optimizations may make languages with explicit computation types simpler to optimize.

In section 2 we present a cut-down version of the operational semantics for CML presented in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995), including a suitable definition of bisimulation for CML programs.

In section 3 we present the variant of CML with explicit computation types, and show that the resulting equational theory of bisimulation has better mathematical properties than that of CML.

In section 4 we provide a translation from the first language into the second, and show that it is correct up to bisimulation.

2 Concurrent ML

In this section, we introduce a subset of Concurrent ML (CML), and provide a labelled transition system semantics for it. This provides weak bisimulation as an equivalence on programs.

This section is based on joint work with Ferreira and Hennessy, and is discussed in more detail in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995).

2.1 Syntax

Concurrent ML (CML) is an extension to New Jersey ML which allows for the implementation of concurrent programs. Communication takes place along channels, and is a one-to-one handshake similar to Milner's (1989) CCS. For example, the process which transmits value v of type A along channel a and then returns the canonical value $()$ of type `unit` is:

$$\text{send}_A(a, v)$$

In this paper, we are using a simplified notion of channel, where channels are untyped, and so send_A has type:

$$\text{send}_A : (\text{chan} * A) \rightarrow \text{unit}$$

The process which accepts value v of type A along channel a and returns v is:

$$\text{accept}_A a$$

This has type:

$$\text{accept}_A : \text{chan} \rightarrow A$$

The fragment of CML we are considering is monomorphic, which is why `send` and `accept` have to be type-indexed. We shall often elide these indices.

Evaluation proceeds as in ML, with left-to-right call-by-value evaluation, so a process which accepts values v then w along channel a and returns the pair (v, w) is:

$$(\text{accept } a, \text{accept } a)$$

We can define the sequential composition of e and f to be a term which evaluates e , discards the result, then evaluates f to be (for fresh x):

$$e; f = \text{let } x = e \text{ in } f$$

A thunked process can be forked off for concurrent evaluation using `spawn`, for example the concurrent passing of v along a can be given:

$$\text{spawn } (\text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{send } (a, v)); \text{accept } a$$

This spawns `send (a, v)` off for concurrent execution, then evaluates `accept a`. These two processes can then communicate. In this paper, we are ignoring CML's *threads* so `spawn` has type:

$$\text{spawn} : (\text{unit} \rightarrow A) \rightarrow \text{unit}$$

CML does *not* provide a general ‘external choice’ operator such as CCS $+$. Instead, guarded choice is provided, and the type mechanism is used to ensure that choice is only ever used on guarded computation. The type A event is used as the type of guarded processes of type A , and CML allows for the creation of guarded input and output:

$$\text{transmit}_A : (\text{chan} * A) \rightarrow \text{unit event} \quad \text{receive}_A : \text{chan} \rightarrow A \text{ event}$$

and for guarded sequential computation:

$$\text{wrap} : (A \text{ event} * (A \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow B \text{ event}$$

For example the guarded process which inputs a value on `a` and outputs it on `b` is given:

$$\text{wrap} (\text{receive}_A a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{send} (b, x)) : \text{unit event}$$

CML provides choice between guarded processes using `choose`. In CML this is defined on lists, but for simplicity we shall give it only for pairs:

$$\text{choose} : (A \text{ event} * A \text{ event}) \rightarrow A \text{ event}$$

For example the guarded process which chooses between receiving a signal on `a` or `b` is:

$$\text{choose} (\text{receive}_A a, \text{receive}_A b) : A \text{ event}$$

Guarded processes can be treated as any other process, using the function `sync`:

$$\text{sync} : A \text{ event} \rightarrow A$$

For example, we can execute the above guarded process by saying:

$$\text{sync} (\text{choose} (\text{receive}_A a, \text{receive}_A b)) : A$$

In fact, `accept` and `send` are not primitives in CML, and are defined:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{accept}_A &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{sync} (\text{receive}_A x) \\ \text{send}_A &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{sync} (\text{transmit}_A x) \end{aligned}$$

This paper cannot provide a full introduction to CML, and the interested reader is referred to Reppy's papers (Reppy 1991; Reppy 1992) for further explanation.

The fragment of CML we will consider here is missing much of CML's functionality, notably polymorphism, guards and thread identifiers. It is similar to the

fragment of CML considered in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995) except that for simplicity we do not consider the `always` command. We will call this subset ‘core τ -free CML’, or μ CML for short.

For simplicity, we will only use `unit`, `bool`, `int` and `chan` as base types, although other types such as lists could easily be added.

The *integer values* are given by the grammar:

$$n ::= \dots \mid -1 \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \dots$$

The *channel values* are given by the grammar:

$$k ::= a \mid b \mid \dots$$

The *values* are given by the grammar:

$$v ::= \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid n \mid k \mid () \mid \text{rec } x = \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e \mid x$$

The *expressions* are given by the grammar:

$$e ::= v \mid ce \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } e \text{ else } e \mid (e, e) \mid \text{let } x = e \text{ in } e \mid ee$$

Finally, the *basic functions* are given by the grammar:

$$c ::= \text{fst} \mid \text{snd} \mid \text{add} \mid \text{mul} \mid \text{leq} \mid \text{transmit}_A \mid \text{receive}_A \\ \mid \text{choose} \mid \text{spawn} \mid \text{sync} \mid \text{wrap} \mid \text{never}$$

μ CML is a typed language, with a type system given by the grammar:

$$A ::= \text{unit} \mid \text{bool} \mid \text{int} \mid \text{chan} \mid A * A \mid A \rightarrow A \mid A \text{ event}$$

The type judgements for expressions are given as judgements $\Gamma \vdash e : A$, where Γ ranges over contexts of the form $x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_n : A_n$. The type system is in Tables 1 and 2.

We can define syntactic sugar for μ CML definitions, writing $\text{fn } x \Rightarrow e$ for $\text{rec } y = \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e$ when y is not free in e , using pattern-matching on pairs as shorthand for projections, and using $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ as shorthand for recursive function declaration. For example, a one-place buffer can be defined:

$$\text{cell}_A : \text{chan} * \text{chan} \rightarrow B \\ \text{cell}_A(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{cell}_A(\text{snd}(\text{send}_A(y, \text{accept}_A x), (x, y)))$$

2.2 Operational semantics

The semantics we will use here is based on the ‘semantics of concurrency’ tradition: we extend the programming language with enough syntactic constructs that it is possible to give a transition system semantics between program fragments.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A}{\Gamma \vdash ce : B} [c : A \rightarrow B] \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A \quad \Gamma \vdash g : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g : A} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \quad \Gamma \vdash f : B}{\Gamma \vdash (e, f) : A * B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash f : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = e \text{ in } f : B} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A}{\Gamma \vdash ef : B} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash x : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash x : A}{\Gamma, y : B \vdash x : A} [x \neq y] \\
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{true} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{false} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash n : \text{int}} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash k : \text{chan}} \\
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash () : \text{unit}} \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A \rightarrow B, y : A \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e : A \rightarrow B}
\end{array}$$

Table 1: Types for μ CML expressions

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{fst} : A * B \rightarrow A \\
\text{snd} : A * B \rightarrow B \\
\text{add} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \\
\text{mul} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \\
\text{leq} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool} \\
\text{transmit}_A : \text{chan} * A \rightarrow \text{unit event} \\
\text{receive}_A : \text{chan} \rightarrow A \text{ event} \\
\text{choose} : A \text{ event} * A \text{ event} \rightarrow A \text{ event} \\
\text{spawn} : \text{unit} \rightarrow \text{unit} \rightarrow \text{unit} \\
\text{sync} : A \text{ event} \rightarrow A \\
\text{wrap} : A \text{ event} * (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B \text{ event} \\
\text{never} : \text{unit} \rightarrow A \text{ event}
\end{array}$$

Table 2: Types for μ CML basic functions

A comparison of this semantics with Reppy's (1992) reduction semantics is given in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995).

The semantics we provide has four transitions: reduction (τ), returning a value ($\checkmark v$), input on a channel ($k?x$), and output on a channel ($k!v$).

A transition $e \xrightarrow{\tau} e'$ represents a single-step reduction, for example¹:

$$\text{if true then } 0 \text{ else } 1 \xrightarrow{\tau} 0$$

¹In this example, and in others, we have 'garbage collected' some empty processes by treating \parallel as an associative operation with left unit δ . These equivalences are correct up to strong bisimulation.

We will often write $e \Longrightarrow e'$ for $e \xrightarrow{\tau} \dots \xrightarrow{\tau} e'$, for example:

if true then add(1, -1) else 1 \Longrightarrow 0

A transition $e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'$ represents a process returning a value v , for example:

0 $\xrightarrow{\check{0}}$ δ

We will often write $e \xRightarrow{l} e'$ for $e \Longrightarrow \xrightarrow{l} e'$, for example:

if true then add(1, -1) else 1 $\xRightarrow{\check{0}}$ δ

In this case the computation is sequential, so the remaining computation after returning the value ‘0’ is the empty computation ‘ δ ’. CML allows processes to spawn threads which can continue after their parent has terminated, so there are cases when the remaining computation is non-trivial, such as:

spawn (fn () => send (a, 0)) $\xRightarrow{\check{()}}$ send (a, 0) || δ

Here ‘||’ represents the parallel composition of two processes, with the rightmost process being the main thread of computation, for example:

spawn (fn () => send (a, 0)); accept a \Longrightarrow send (a, 0) || accept a

A transition $e \xrightarrow{k?x} e'$ represents an input on channel k , where e' has a free variable x , for example:

accept a $\xRightarrow{a?x}$ x

Similarly, a transition $e \xrightarrow{k!v} e'$ represents an output of value v on channel k , for example:

send (a, 0) $\xRightarrow{a!0}$ $()$

Input and output transitions can be synchronized to produce reductions, for example:

send (a, 0) || accept a \Longrightarrow $()$ || 0

In μ CML there are no normal forms for pairs—such a normal form is needed for the operational semantics, so we will extend the language of values with pairs $\langle v, w \rangle$. This allows pairs of values to be communicated, for example since:

$(1, -1) \xRightarrow{\check{\langle 1, -1 \rangle}}$ δ

we have:

send (b, (1, -1)) $\xRightarrow{b!\langle 1, -1 \rangle}$ $()$

and so we have the communication:

send (b, (1, -1)) || add (accept b) \Longrightarrow $()$ || add $\langle -1, 1 \rangle$

So far we have only considered first-order processes, but CML is a higher-order language which can communicate values of any type, for example since:

$$\text{send} \xrightarrow{\checkmark \text{send}} \delta$$

we have:

$$\text{send}(\text{b}, \text{send}) \xrightarrow{\text{b!send}} ()$$

and so we have the higher-order communication:

$$\text{send}(\text{b}, \text{send}) \parallel \text{accept b}(a, 0) \implies () \parallel \text{send}(a, 0)$$

CML also allows communications of events, so we need to extend the language in a similar fashion to Reppy (1992) to include values of event type. These values are of the form $[ge]$ where ge is a CCS-style *guarded sum*, for example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{transmit}(a, 0) &\implies [a!0] \\ \text{receive } a &\implies [a?] \\ \text{choose}(\text{transmit}(a, 0), \text{receive } a) &\implies [a!0 \oplus a?] \\ \text{wrap}(\text{receive } a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e) &\implies [a? \Rightarrow \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e] \end{aligned}$$

This syntax is based on Reppy's, and is slightly different from that normally associated with process calculi, for example:

- we write $a!0 \oplus a?$ rather than $a!0 + a?$, and
- we write $a? \Rightarrow \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e$ rather than $a?x.e$.

By extending the syntax of μCML expressions to include guarded expressions, we get a particularly simple semantics for sync as just removing the outermost level of $[_]$, for example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{send}(a, 0) &\implies \text{sync}(\text{transmit}(a, 0)) \\ &\implies \text{sync}[a!0] \\ &\implies a!0 \\ &\xrightarrow{a!0} () \end{aligned}$$

In summary, we give the operational semantics for μCML by first extending it to μCML^+ by adding expressions:

$$e ::= \dots \mid e \parallel e \mid ge$$

adding values:

$$v ::= \dots \mid \langle v, v \rangle \mid [ge]$$

and adding guarded expressions:

$$ge ::= k?_A \mid k!_A v \mid \delta \mid ge \oplus ge \mid ge \Rightarrow v$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \quad \Gamma \vdash f : B}{\Gamma \vdash e \parallel f : B} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \delta : A} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash v : A \quad \Gamma \vdash w : B}{\Gamma \vdash \langle v, w \rangle : A * B} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash [e] : A \text{ event}} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash v : \text{chan} \quad \Gamma \vdash w : A}{\Gamma \vdash v!_A w : \text{unit}} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash v?_A : A} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash ge_1 : A \quad \Gamma \vdash ge_2 : A}{\Gamma \vdash ge_1 \oplus ge_2 : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash ge : A \quad \Gamma \vdash v : A \rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash ge \Rightarrow v : B}
\end{array}$$

Table 3: Types for μCML^+ expressions

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{ce \xrightarrow{\alpha} ce'} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e' \quad \text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{if } e' \text{ then } f \text{ else } g}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{if } e' \text{ then } f \text{ else } g} \\
\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{(e, f) \xrightarrow{\alpha} (e', f)} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e' \quad \text{let } x = e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{let } x = e' \text{ in } f}{\text{let } x = e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{let } x = e' \text{ in } f} \\
\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{ef \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'f} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e' \quad f \xrightarrow{l} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\alpha} e' \parallel f} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{l} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{l} e \parallel f'}
\end{array}$$

Table 4: CML operational semantics: static rules

The typing for μCML^+ extends that of μCML with the rules in Table 3.

The extended language μCML^+ has a semantics as a labelled transition system with labels:

$$\mu ::= k!_A v \mid k?_A x \quad \alpha ::= \tau \mid \mu \quad l ::= \alpha \mid \surd v$$

The operational semantics is given in Tables 4–8.

This operational semantics is very fine-grained, and is designed to mimic the execution of a CML program very closely. As a result, derivations of fairly simple computations can be surprisingly long. For example, one reduction of $\text{cell}_A \langle i, o \rangle$ is given in Table 9.

2.3 Bisimulation

As we mentioned above, one reason for choosing a labelled transition system semantics over a reduction semantics is that we can define *bisimulation* as an equivalence on programs. This is discussed at length in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995), and is summarized here. We will use notation adapted from Gordon’s (1995) presentation of Howe’s (1989) proof technique.

Let an *open type-indexed* relation \mathcal{R} be a family of relations $\mathcal{R}_{\Gamma, A}$ such that if $e \mathcal{R}_{\Gamma, A} f$ then $\Gamma \vdash e : A$ and $\Gamma \vdash f : A$. We will often elide the subscripts from

$$\frac{ge_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} e}{ge_1 \oplus ge_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} e} \quad \frac{ge_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} e}{ge_1 \oplus ge_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha} e} \quad \frac{ge \xrightarrow{\alpha} e}{ge \Rightarrow v \xrightarrow{\alpha} ve}$$

Table 5: CML operational semantics: dynamic rules

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'}{ef \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel \text{let } y = f \text{ in } g[v/x]} [v = \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow g]$$

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'}{ce \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel \delta(c, v)}$$

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{true}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{false}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel g}$$

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'}{(e, f) \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel \text{let } x = f \text{ in } \langle v, x \rangle} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'}{\text{let } x = e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f[v/x]}$$

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{k!_A v} e' \quad f \xrightarrow{k?_A x} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f'[v/x]} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{k?_A x} e' \quad f \xrightarrow{k!_A v} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f'[v/x]}$$

Table 6: CML operational semantics: silent reductions

relations, for example writing $e \mathcal{R} f$ for $e \mathcal{R}_{\Gamma, A} f$ when context makes the type obvious.

Let a *closed type-indexed* relation \mathcal{R} be an open type-indexed relation where Γ is everywhere the empty context, and can therefore be elided.

For any closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} , let its *open extension* \mathcal{R}° be defined as:

$$e \mathcal{R}_{\vec{x}: \vec{A}, B}^\circ f \text{ iff } e[\vec{v}/\vec{x}] \mathcal{R}_B f[\vec{v}/\vec{x}] \text{ for all } \vdash \vec{v} : \vec{A}.$$

A closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} is *structure preserving* iff:

- if $v \mathcal{R}_A w$ and A is a base type then $v = w$,
- if $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \mathcal{R}_{A_1 * A_2} \langle w_1, w_2 \rangle$ then $v_i \mathcal{R}_{A_i} w_i$,
- if $[ge_1] \mathcal{R}_{\text{event}} [ge_2]$ then $ge_1 \mathcal{R}_A ge_2$, and
- if $v \mathcal{R}_{A \rightarrow B} v'$ then for all $\vdash w : A$ we have $vw \mathcal{R}_B v'w$.

A closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} is a *first-order strong simulation* iff it is structure-preserving and the following diagram can be completed:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l & & \downarrow l \\ e'_1 & & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{as} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l & & \downarrow l \\ e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^\circ & e'_2 \end{array}$$

$$\overline{v \xrightarrow{\sqrt{v}} \delta} \quad \overline{k!_A v \xrightarrow{k!_A v} ()} \quad \overline{k?_A \xrightarrow{k?_A x} x}$$

Table 7: CML operational semantics: axioms

$$\begin{array}{ll} \delta(\text{fst}, \langle v, w \rangle) = v & \delta(\text{transmit}_A, \langle k, v \rangle) = [k!_A v] \\ \delta(\text{snd}, \langle v, w \rangle) = w & \delta(\text{receive}_A, k) = [k?_A] \\ \delta(\text{add}, \langle m, n \rangle) = m + n & \delta(\text{choose}, \langle [ge_1], [ge_2] \rangle) = [ge_1 \oplus ge_2] \\ \delta(\text{mul}, \langle m, n \rangle) = m \times n & \delta(\text{wrap}, \langle [ge], v \rangle) = [ge \Rightarrow v] \\ \delta(\text{leq}, \langle m, n \rangle) = m \leq n & \delta(\text{spawn}, v) = v() \parallel () \\ \delta(\text{sync}, [ge]) = ge & \delta(\text{never}, ()) = [\delta] \end{array}$$

Table 8: CML operational semantics: basic functions

Note the use of the open extension \mathcal{R}° . This means, for example, that if $e_1 \mathcal{R} e_2$ we require that the move $e_1 \xrightarrow{k?_B x} f_1$ be matched by a move $e_2 \xrightarrow{k?_B x} f_2$ where f_2 is such that for all values $\vdash v : B$ we have $f_1[v/x] \mathcal{R} f_2[v/x]$. Thus in the terminology of (Milner, Parrow, and Walker 1992) our definition corresponds to the *late* version of bisimulation.

\mathcal{R} is a *first-order strong bisimulation* iff \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{R}^{-1} are first-order strong simulations. Let \sim^1 be the largest first-order strong bisimulation.

Proposition 1 \sim^1 is an equivalence.

Proof Use diagram chases to show that if \mathcal{R} is a first-order strong simulation then so are I and $\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}$. The result follows. \square

Unfortunately, \sim^1 is not a congruence for μCML^+ , since we have:

$$\text{add}(1, -1) \sim^1 \text{add}(-1, 1)$$

however, sending the thunked expressions on channel a we get:

$$\text{transmit}(a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(1, -1)) \not\sim^1 \text{transmit}(a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(-1, 1))$$

since the lhs can perform the move:

$$\text{transmit}(a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(1, -1)) \xrightarrow{a! \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(1, -1)} ()$$

but this can only be matched by the rhs up to strong bisimulation:

$$\text{transmit}(a, \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(-1, 1)) \xrightarrow{a! \text{fn } x \Rightarrow \text{add}(-1, 1)} ()$$

The problem is that the definition of strong bisimulation demands that the actions performed by expressions match up to syntactic identity, rather than up to strong

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{cell}_A \langle i, o \rangle \\
\begin{array}{l}
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \langle i, o \rangle \text{ in cell}_A (\text{snd}(\text{send}_A(\text{snd } x, \text{accept}_A(\text{fst } x)), x)) \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{cell}_A (\text{snd}(\text{send}_A(\text{snd} \langle i, o \rangle, \text{accept}_A(\text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle)), \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{send}_A(\text{snd} \langle i, o \rangle, \text{accept}_A(\text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle)), \langle i, o \rangle) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = (\text{snd} \langle i, o \rangle, \text{accept}_A(\text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = (o, \text{accept}_A(\text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = \text{accept}_A(\text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = \text{let } x' = \text{fst} \langle i, o \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{receive}_A x') \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = \text{let } x' = i \text{ in sync}(\text{receive}_A x') \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = \text{sync}(\text{receive}_A i) \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \\
\text{in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y \\
, \langle i, o \rangle)) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = \text{sync}[i?_A] \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y), \langle i, o \rangle) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = i?_A \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y), \langle i, o \rangle) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{i?v} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \text{let } z = v \text{ in } \langle o, z \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y), \langle i, o \rangle) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \langle o, v \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit}_A y), \langle i, o \rangle) \\
\text{in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{sync}(\text{transmit}_A \langle o, v \rangle), \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{sync}[o!_A v], \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(o!_A v, \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{o!v} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\langle \rangle, \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\text{let } y = \langle i, o \rangle \text{ in } \langle \rangle, y) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \text{snd}(\langle \rangle, \langle i, o \rangle) \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = \langle i, o \rangle \text{ in cell}_A x \\
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{cell}_A \langle i, o \rangle
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

Table 9: CML operational semantics: example reduction

bisimulation. In fact, it is easy to verify that the only first-order strong bisimulation which is a congruence for μCML is the identity relation.

To find a satisfactory treatment of bisimulation for μCML , we need to look to *higher-order bisimulation*, where the structure of the labels is accounted for. To this end, given a closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} , define its *extension to labels* \mathcal{R}^l as:

$$\frac{}{\tau \mathcal{R}_A^l \tau} \quad \frac{v \mathcal{R}_A w}{\check{v} \mathcal{R}_A^l \check{w}} \quad \frac{}{k?_{B X} \mathcal{R}_A^l k?_{B X}} \quad \frac{v \mathcal{R}_B w}{k!_B v \mathcal{R}_A^l k!_B w}$$

Then \mathcal{R} is a *higher-order strong simulation* iff it is structure-preserving and the following diagram can be completed:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \\ e'_1 & & \end{array} \quad \text{as} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \downarrow l_2 \\ e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^\circ & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

Let \sim^h be the largest higher-order strong bisimulation.

Proposition 2 \sim^h is a congruence.

Proof Use a similar technique to the proof of Proposition 1 to show that \sim^h is an equivalence. To show that \sim^h is a congruence, define \mathcal{R} as:

$$\mathcal{R} = \{(C[e], C[f]) \mid e \sim^h f\}$$

and then show by induction on C that \mathcal{R} is a simulation. The result follows. \square

For many purposes, strong bisimulation is too fine an equivalence as it is sensitive to the number of reductions performed by expressions. This means it will not even validate elementary properties such as β -reduction. We require the looser *weak bisimulation* which allows τ reductions to be ignored.

Let $\xRightarrow{\hat{l}}$ be \Longrightarrow if $l = \tau$ and \xRightarrow{l} otherwise. Then \mathcal{R} is a *higher-order weak simulation* iff it is structure-preserving and the following diagram can be completed:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \\ e'_1 & & \end{array} \quad \text{as} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \Downarrow \hat{l}_2 \\ e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^\circ & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

Let \approx^h be the largest higher-order weak bisimulation.

Proposition 3 \approx^h is a congruence.

Proof Given in (Ferreira, Hennessy, and Jeffrey 1995), using techniques taken from Gordon's (1995) presentation Howe's (1989) proof technique. Note that this proof relies on the fact that we are considering the subset of μCML without `always`, and hence do not have to consider initial τ -actions in summations, which present the same problems as in the first-order case (Milner 1989). \square

Unfortunately, this equivalence does not have many pleasant mathematical properties. For example none of the usual equations for products are true:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fst}(e, f) &\not\approx^h e \\ \text{snd}(e, f) &\not\approx^h f \\ (\text{fst } e, \text{snd } e) &\not\approx^h e \end{aligned}$$

(For each counter-example consider an expression with side-effects, such as `cell`.)

In the next section we shall consider a variant of μCML which uses a restrictive type system to provide more pleasant mathematical properties of programs. We shall then show a translation from μCML into the restricted language, which is correct up to weak bisimulation.

3 Concurrent monadic ML

In the previous section, we showed how to define an operational semantics for CML which can be used as the basis of a bisimulation equivalence between programs. Unfortunately, this equivalence does not have pleasant mathematical properties. For example β -conversion does not hold:

$$(\text{fn } x \Rightarrow (x, x))(\text{cell}(a, b)) \not\approx^h (\text{cell}(a, b), \text{cell}(a, b))$$

Because CML computations are non-trivial (CML processes may diverge, and can have side-effects) we cannot use the standard mathematical models of typed λ -calculi such as cartesian closed categories (Lambek and Scott 1986).

In this section, we present a *Concurrent Monadic ML (CMML)* a variant of CML with a type system based on Moggi's (1991) computation types. Such type systems have proved popular in giving an elegant treatment to functional languages with non-trivial computation, such as the Haskell I/O system (Gordon et al. 1994).

CMML can be provided with an operational semantics similar to that given to CML in the previous section, although the semantics is much simpler, and has pleasant properties such as forming a category with finite products and a restricted class of exponentials.

The language presented here (μCMML) is a subset of the language presented in (Jeffrey 1995a).

3.1 Syntax

The main difference between CMML and CML is that the distinction between values and expressions is handled by the CMML type system rather than as a separate syntactic category. For example, in CML we have:

$$\vdash 0 : \text{int (a value)} \quad \vdash \text{add}(-1, 1) : \text{int (an expression)}$$

whereas in CMML we have:

$$\vdash 0 : \text{int (an expression)} \quad \vdash \text{add}\langle -1, 1 \rangle : \text{int comp (an expression)}$$

This uses an explicit type constructor $A \text{ comp}$ to represent computations which return results of type A . For example $\text{add}\langle -1, 1 \rangle$ returns the result 0, so it has the type int comp .

Moggi (1991) proposed two syntactic constructions for manipulating computation types:

- the expression $[e]$ which immediately returns e , and
- the expression $\text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } f$ which evaluates e , binds the result to x and then evaluates f .

For example $(1 + 1) + (1 + 1)$ can be calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{let } x \Leftarrow [1] \\ & \text{in let } y \Leftarrow \text{add}\langle x, x \rangle \\ & \text{in add}\langle y, y \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Note that expressions written in μCMML tend to be more long-winded than their μCML equivalents: this is because the flow of execution through a μCMML program is made explicit by the use of let -expressions. Such an explicit language may seem overly verbose to functional programmers used to programming in the SML style, where execution order is implicit in the left-to-right evaluation order. However, as we shall see, making execution order explicit has the benefit of a simpler semantics and better equational properties.

Using an explicit type constructor for computation has the advantage that the only terms which perform computation are those of type $A \text{ comp}$, and that an expression of any other type is guaranteed to be in normal form. This gives us the normal form results (Proposition 4 below):

- the only closed term of type unit is $()$,
- the only closed terms of type bool are true and false ,
- the only closed terms of type int are $\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots$,

- the only closed terms of type chan are a, b, \dots ,
- the only closed terms of type $A * B$ are of the form $\langle e, f \rangle$, and
- the only closed terms of type $A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$ are of the form $\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e$.

These results make the operational semantics much simpler to define, for example rather than two rules for function application:

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{ef \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'f} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{v}} e'}{ef \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel \text{let } y = f \text{ in } g[v/x]} [v = \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow g]$$

we only need one simple β -reduction rule:

$$\frac{}{ef \xrightarrow{\tau} g[f/y][e/x]} [e = (\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow g)]$$

The simplicity of the operational semantics rests on the normal form result described above, but this requires a somewhat non-standard treatment of projections on pairs. In μCML projections are given using fst and snd , for example a function to swap a pair is:

$$\vdash \text{fn } x \Rightarrow (\text{snd } x, \text{fst } x) : A * B \rightarrow B * A$$

If we were to allow fst and snd in CMML we would no longer have the normal form result described above. However, projections on pairs are useful both practically and as the categorical basis of products. In CMML we use a restricted form of projections which maintains the normal form result: we use Pascal-style record field selection on *lvalues* rather than ML-style selection functions. If x is a variable of type $A * B$ then $x.l$ is an expression of type A , and $x.r$ is an expression of type B . For example a CMML function to swap a pair is:

$$\vdash \text{fn } x \Rightarrow [\langle x.r, x.l \rangle] : A * B \rightarrow (B * A) \text{ comp}$$

Similarly, we need to use a restricted form of function space, since the result of any function application should be a computation. This means that rather than the CML function type:

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \rightarrow B, y : A \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e : A \rightarrow B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A}{\Gamma \vdash ef : B}$$

we have the restricted CMML function type:

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}, y : A \vdash e : B \text{ comp}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp} \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A}{\Gamma \vdash ef : B \text{ comp}}$$

For example there is no CMML projection function with type $A * B \rightarrow A$, instead we have:

$$\vdash \text{fn } x \Rightarrow [x.l] : A * B \rightarrow A \text{ comp}$$

The concurrent features of μCMML are similar to those of μCML^+ , for example a concurrent communication is given by:

$$k!0 \parallel k? \xrightarrow{\tau} [()] \parallel [0]$$

We will now give the grammar and type system for μCMML .

Integers and channels are given as for μCML :

$$\begin{aligned} n &::= \dots \mid -1 \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \dots \\ k &::= a \mid b \mid \dots \end{aligned}$$

Basic functions are given by the grammar:

$$c ::= \text{add} \mid \text{mul} \mid \text{leq}$$

Expressions are given by the grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} e &::= \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid n \mid k \mid () \mid \text{rec } x = \text{fn } x \Rightarrow e \mid c e \\ &\quad \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } e \text{ else } e \mid \text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } e \mid e e \mid l v \mid [e] \mid \langle e, e \rangle \\ &\quad \mid \delta \mid e \parallel e \mid e \square e \mid e!_A e \mid e?_A \end{aligned}$$

Lvalues are given by the grammar:

$$l v ::= x \mid l v.l \mid l v.r$$

Types are given by the grammar:

$$A ::= \text{unit} \mid \text{bool} \mid \text{int} \mid \text{chan} \mid A * A \mid A \rightarrow A \text{ comp} \mid A \text{ comp}$$

Typing is given by Tables 10 and 11.

Proposition 4 *We have the following normal form results:*

1. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{unit}$ then e is an lvalue or $e = ()$.*
2. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{bool}$ then e is an lvalue or $e = \text{true}$ or $e = \text{false}$.*
3. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{int}$ then e is an lvalue or $e = n$.*
4. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{chan}$ then e is an lvalue or $e = k$.*
5. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : A * B$ then e is an lvalue or $e = \langle f, g \rangle$.*
6. *If $\Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$ then e is an lvalue or $e = (\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow f)$.*

Proof A case analysis on the proof of $\Gamma \vdash e : A$.

□

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \text{true} : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{false} : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash n : \text{int} \quad \Gamma \vdash k : \text{chan} \quad \Gamma \vdash () : \text{unit}}{\Gamma \vdash c e : B \text{ comp}} [c : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}] \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}, y : A \vdash e : B \text{ comp}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A \text{ comp} \quad \Gamma \vdash g : A \text{ comp}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g : A \text{ comp}} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \text{ comp} \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash f : B \text{ comp}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } f : B \text{ comp}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp} \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A}{\Gamma \vdash e f : B \text{ comp}} \\
\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash x : A}{\Gamma, y : B \vdash x : A} [x \neq y] \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash x : A}{\Gamma \vdash lv.l : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash lv : A * B}{\Gamma \vdash lv.r : B} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A}{\Gamma \vdash [e] : A \text{ comp}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \quad \Gamma \vdash f : B}{\Gamma \vdash \langle e, f \rangle : A * B} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \delta : A \text{ comp} \quad \Gamma \vdash e \parallel f : B \text{ comp}}{\Gamma \vdash e \square f : A \text{ comp}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{chan} \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A}{\Gamma \vdash e!_A f : \text{unit comp}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{chan}}{\Gamma \vdash e?_A : A \text{ comp}}
\end{array}$$

Table 10: Types for μ CMML expressions

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{add} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int comp} \\
\text{mul} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int comp} \\
\text{leq} : \text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool comp}
\end{array}$$

Table 11: Types for μ CMML basic functions

When $\Gamma \vdash e : A$ and $\Gamma, x : A \vdash f : B$, define the substitution $\Gamma \vdash f[e/x] : B$ as normal, except that:

$$lv.l[e/x] = \pi(lv[e/x]) \quad lv.r[e/x] = \pi'(lv[e/x])$$

where:

$$\pi\langle e, f \rangle = e \quad \pi lv = lv.l \quad \pi'\langle e, f \rangle = f \quad \pi'lv = lv.r$$

Note that this is well-defined because of Proposition 4.5.

As an example μ CMML program, consider a one-place buffer:

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{cell}_A : \text{chan} * \text{chan} \rightarrow B \text{ comp} \\
\text{cell}_A\langle i, o \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } x \Leftarrow i?_A \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow o!_A x \text{ in cell}_A\langle i, o \rangle
\end{array}$$

Comparing this definition with its μ CML equivalent is instructive, so we shall repeat the definition here:

$$\text{cell}_A : \text{chan} * \text{chan} \rightarrow B$$

$$\text{cell}_A(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{cell}_A(\text{snd}(\text{send}_A(y, \text{accept}_A x), (x, y)))$$

Writing programs in μCMML can be repetitive, because of the number of let-expressions required. However, the let-expressions are precisely what controls the flow of execution through a μCMML program, so it is easier to recognize the behaviour of a μCMML program. In the above example, it requires some thought to realize that $\text{cell}_A(a, b)$ will input on a before outputting the result on b , and that the process does not just simply diverge, whereas the execution of the μCMML equivalent is much more obvious.

In Section 4 we shall see that μCML programs can be translated into μCMML , and that in particular we can perform some simple equational reasoning to transform cell into cell .

3.2 Operational semantics

The operational semantics for μCMML is given in Tables 12–15. It is similar to that of μCML , except that it is simpler, due to the normal form results in Proposition 4. For example, since any closed term of type bool must be either true or false , the only two rules required for if-statements in μCMML are:

$$\frac{}{\text{if true then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} f} \quad \frac{}{\text{if false then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} g}$$

This can be compared with the more complex three rules required for μCML :

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{true}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{\text{false}}} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel g}$$

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{\text{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{if } e' \text{ then } f \text{ else } g}$$

In the operational semantics of μCML , terms in many contexts can reduce, whereas there are far fewer reduction contexts in μCMML . In fact, looking at the sequential sub-language of μCMML (without \parallel or \square) the only reduction context is let:

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{\text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{let } x \Leftarrow e' \text{ in } f}$$

Many of the operational rules in μCML require spawning off concurrent processes, whereas in μCMML the main rule which produces extra concurrent processes is β -reduction for let-expressions:

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{g}} e'}{\text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f[g/x]}$$

The other significant difference between the operational semantics for μCML and μCMML is the treatment of summation. In μCML choice is only allowed between guarded expressions $ge_1 \oplus ge_2$, whereas in μCMML choice is allowed between

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{\text{let } x \leftarrow e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{let } x \leftarrow e' \text{ in } f} \\
\frac{e \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\alpha} e' \parallel f} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{l} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{l} e \parallel f'} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{\tau} e'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \square f} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{\tau} f'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e \square f'}
\end{array}$$

Table 12: CMML operational semantics: static rules

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\mu} e'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\mu} e'} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{\mu} f'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\mu} f'}$$

Table 13: CMML operational semantics: dynamic rules

arbitrary expressions $e \square f$. In particular, this means we need operational rules for when processes in a choice can perform silent reductions:

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\tau} e'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \square f} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{\tau} f'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e \square f'}$$

and when processes in a choice can return a value:

$$\frac{e \xrightarrow{\check{g}} e'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel [g]} \quad \frac{f \xrightarrow{\check{g}} f'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} f' \parallel [g]}$$

Note that we are using rules for choice based on CSP (Hoare 1985) external choice rather than CCS (Milner 1989) summation. This is because we will be using \approx^h as our equivalence on programs, and CCS summation does not preserve weak bisimulation. We have used slightly different termination rules for choice from CSP, in order to ensure *forward commutativity* of the resulting transition system (see Section 3.3 below for why this is important).

As an example of an μ CMML program execution, one possible run of the one-place buffer is given in Table 16, which can be compared to the equivalent μ CML execution in Table 9. The extra complexity of the μ CML execution is due to the book-keeping work that μ CML has to do because an expression of any type has the capability of computation, so the operational semantics has to allow computation at any point in evaluation. For example, in the evaluation of $\text{send}(e, f)$, both e and f have to terminate before the communication can happen, so if $e \xrightarrow{\check{k}} \delta$ and $f \xrightarrow{\check{v}} \delta$ then:

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{send}(e, f) \\
\begin{array}{l}
\xrightarrow{\tau} \text{let } x = (e, f) \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit } x) \\
\Rightarrow \text{let } x = \text{let } y = f \text{ in } \langle k, y \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit } x) \\
\Rightarrow \text{let } x = \langle k, v \rangle \text{ in sync}(\text{transmit } x) \\
\rightarrow \text{sync}(\text{transmit} \langle k, v \rangle)
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{e f \xrightarrow{\tau} g[f/y][e/x]} [e = (\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow g)] \quad \frac{}{c e \xrightarrow{\tau} [\delta(c, e)]} \\
\frac{\frac{\text{if true then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} f \quad \text{if false then } f \text{ else } g \xrightarrow{\tau} g}{e \xrightarrow{\check{g}} e'}}{\frac{\text{let } x \leftarrow e \text{ in } f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f[g/x]}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel f[g/x]} \quad \frac{e \xrightarrow{k!_A \check{g}} e' \quad f \xrightarrow{k?_A \check{g}} f'}{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e'[g/x] \parallel f'}}{\frac{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel [g]}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel [g]} \quad \frac{e \parallel f \xrightarrow{\tau} e' \parallel [g] \quad f \xrightarrow{\check{g}} f'}{e \square f \xrightarrow{\tau} f' \parallel [g]}}
\end{array}$$

Table 14: CMML operational semantics: silent reductions

$$\frac{}{[e] \xrightarrow{\check{e}} \delta} \quad \frac{}{k!_A e \xrightarrow{k!_A \check{e}} [()]} \quad \frac{}{k?_A \xrightarrow{k?_A \check{x}} [x]}$$

Table 15: CMML operational semantics: axioms

$$\begin{array}{l}
\longrightarrow \text{sync } [k!v] \\
\longrightarrow k!v \\
\frac{}{k!v} \quad ()
\end{array}$$

whereas the type system for μCMML ensures that e and f do not have to be evaluated before $e!f$ can communicate.

3.3 Bisimulation

We can define ‘structure-preserving’ and ‘bisimulation’ for μCMML in the same way as for μCML .

Proposition 5 \approx^h is a congruence for μCMML .

Proof Similar to the proof of Proposition 3. □

In comparison to μCML , this equivalence has some pleasant mathematical properties. In particular we can define a category of μCML terms, where:

- objects are μCML types,
- morphisms from A to B are expressions with one free variable $x : A \vdash e : B$ viewed up to higher-order weak bisimulation \approx^{h° ,
- the identity morphism is $x : A \vdash x : A$, and

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{cell}\langle i, o \rangle \\
\begin{array}{l}
\frac{\tau}{\text{let } x \Leftarrow i? \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow o!x \text{ in cell}\langle i, o \rangle} \\
\frac{i?e}{\text{let } x \Leftarrow [e] \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow o!x \text{ in cell}\langle i, o \rangle} \\
\frac{\tau}{\text{let } y \Leftarrow o!e \text{ in cell}\langle i, o \rangle} \\
\frac{o!e}{\text{let } y \Leftarrow [()] \text{ in cell}\langle i, o \rangle} \\
\frac{\tau}{\text{cell}\langle i, o \rangle}
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

Table 16: CMML operational semantics: example reduction

- morphism composition is substitution: $(x : A \vdash e : B); (y : B \vdash f : C)$ is $x : A \vdash f[e/y] : C$.

This category has binary products $A * B$ with projections:

$$x : A * B \vdash x.l : A \quad x : A * B \vdash x.r : B$$

and mediating morphism:

$$\frac{x : A \vdash e : B \quad x : A \vdash f : C}{x : A \vdash \langle e, f \rangle : B * C}$$

To verify that these satisfy the defining property for products we have to show that (whenever $\Gamma \vdash g : A * B$):

$$\begin{array}{l}
\pi \langle e, f \rangle \approx^h e \\
\pi' \langle e, f \rangle \approx^h f \\
g \approx^h \langle \pi g, \pi' g \rangle
\end{array}$$

The category has an initial object unit with mediating morphism:

$$x : A \vdash () : \text{unit}$$

since (whenever $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{unit}$):

$$e \approx^h ()$$

The category has monad given by the `_comp` type constructor with action on morphisms given by:

$$\frac{x : A \vdash e : B}{y : A \text{ comp} \vdash \text{let } x \Leftarrow y \text{ in } [e] : B \text{ comp}}$$

and strict monadic structure given by natural transformations:

$$\begin{array}{l}
x : A \vdash [x] : A \text{ comp} \\
x : A \text{ comp} \text{ comp} \vdash \text{let } y \Leftarrow x \text{ in } y : A \text{ comp} \\
x : A * (B \text{ comp}) \vdash \text{let } y \Leftarrow x.r \text{ in } [\langle x.l, y \rangle] : (A * B) \text{ comp}
\end{array}$$

since (whenever $\Gamma \vdash e : A \text{ comp}$, $\Gamma, x : A \vdash f : B \text{ comp}$, $\Gamma, y : B \vdash g : C \text{ comp}$ and $x, y \notin \Gamma$):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{let } x \Leftarrow [e] \text{ in } f &\approx^h f[e/x] \\ \text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } [x] &\approx^h e \\ \text{let } y \Leftarrow \text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in } f \text{ in } g &\approx^h \text{let } x \Leftarrow e \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow f \text{ in } g \end{aligned}$$

This category has all $_ \text{comp}$ exponentials given by $A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$ with the currying adjunction given by:

$$\frac{x : A * B \vdash e : C \text{ comp}}{y : A \vdash \text{fn } z \Rightarrow \text{let } x \Leftarrow [(y, z)] \text{ in } e : B \rightarrow C \text{ comp}} \quad \frac{x : A \vdash e : B \rightarrow C \text{ comp}}{y : A * B \vdash \text{let } x \Leftarrow [y.l] \text{ in } e(y.r) : C}$$

since (whenever $\Gamma, x : A \vdash e : B \text{ comp}$, $\Gamma \vdash f : A$ and $\Gamma \vdash g : A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$):

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{fn } x \Rightarrow e) f &\approx^h e[x/f] \\ \text{fn } x \Rightarrow (g x) &\approx^h g \end{aligned}$$

The categorical structure of μCMML is based on Moggi's (1991) general theory of computation types, and is discussed further in (Jeffrey 1995a; Jeffrey 1995b).

In order to prove the above bisimulations, we need to show some properties about the labelled transition systems produced by μCMML programs. In particular we require the lts to be *value deterministic*:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & e \xrightarrow{\check{f}} e' & \\ \text{if } \check{g} \downarrow & & \text{then } f = g \text{ and } e' = e'' \\ & e'' & \end{array}$$

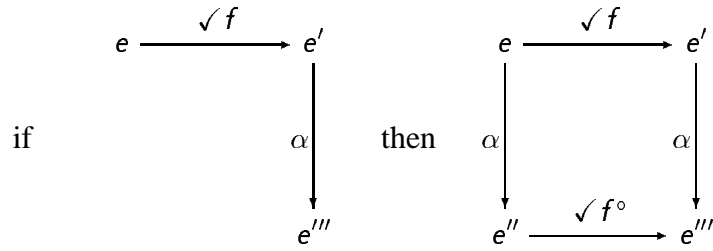
single-valued:

$$\text{if } e \xrightarrow{\check{f}} e' \xrightarrow{l} e'' \text{ then } l \neq \check{g}$$

forward commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{if } \begin{array}{ccc} e & \xrightarrow{\check{f}} & e' \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \\ e'' & & \end{array} & \text{then} & \begin{array}{ccc} e & \xrightarrow{\check{f}} & e' \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \alpha \downarrow \\ e'' & \xrightarrow{\check{f}^\circ} & e''' \end{array} \end{array}$$

and *backward commutative*:



From these properties we can show that:

$$\text{if } e \xrightarrow{\surd f} e' \text{ then } e \approx^h e' \parallel [f]$$

which is used in proving the above bisimulations.

4 Translating CML to CMML

As we have seen, the operational semantics for μCML is more complex than that of μCMML , since terms of any type can reduce. However, in this section we shall show that there is a translation from μCML^+ into μCMML , and that the translation is correct up to weak bisimulation.

4.1 The translation

This translation is based on Moggi's (1991) translation of the call-by-value λ -calculus into the computational λ -calculus.

First, we translate each μCML^+ type A into an μCMML type $T[A]$. The only tricky question is how to translate the function space $A \rightarrow B$. Moggi has proposed $A \text{ comp} \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$ for the *call-by-name* translation (where functions take computations as arguments) and $A \rightarrow B \text{ comp}$ for the *call-by-value* translation (where functions take canonical forms as arguments). Since μCML is a call-by-value language, we shall use the latter translation. This is given in Table 17, and can be extended to contexts:

$$T[\mathbf{x}_1 : A_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n : A_n] = \mathbf{x}_1 : T[A_1], \dots, \mathbf{x}_n : T[A_n]$$

The trick for translating μCML^+ terms into μCMML terms is to provide two translations:

- translate μCML^+ values $\Gamma \vdash v : A$ into μCMML expressions $T[\Gamma] \vdash V[v] : T[A]$, and
- translate μCML^+ expressions $\Gamma \vdash e : A$ into μCMML computations $T[\Gamma] \vdash E[e] : T[A] \text{ comp}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
T[\text{bool}] &= \text{bool} \\
T[\text{chan}] &= \text{chan} \\
T[\text{int}] &= \text{int} \\
T[\text{unit}] &= \text{unit} \\
T[A * B] &= T[A] * T[B] \\
T[A \rightarrow B] &= T[A] \rightarrow T[B] \text{ comp} \\
T[A \text{ event}] &= T[A] \text{ comp}
\end{aligned}$$

Table 17: Translation of μCML^+ types into μCML

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\text{true}] &= \text{true} \\
V[\text{false}] &= \text{false} \\
V[n] &= n \\
V[k] &= k \\
V[()] &= () \\
V[\langle v, w \rangle] &= \langle V[v], V[w] \rangle \\
V[\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow e] &= \text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow E[e] \\
V[x] &= x \\
V[[ge]] &= E[ge]
\end{aligned}$$

Table 18: Translation of μCML^+ values into μCML

This reflects the intuition that any expression in μCML^+ can perform computation, whereas in μCML only terms of type $A \text{ comp}$ can compute. The two translations are given in Tables 18 and 19.

Note that most of the μCML^+ expressions have the same form, which is to evaluate their argument in a let-expression before continuing. This corresponds to the notion that μCML^+ is a call-by-value language, where expressions are evaluated to canonical form before being manipulated.

For example, the translation of `cell` is given in Table 20, where to save space we have used the fact that:

$$\begin{aligned}
E[\text{send}_A e] &\approx^h \text{let } x \leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } x.!!x.r \\
E[\text{accept}_A e] &\approx^h \text{let } x \leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } x?
\end{aligned}$$

This translation is almost unreadable, and very inefficient, but we can use β -

$E[\mathbf{v}]$	$= [V[\mathbf{v}]]$
$E[\mathbf{fst } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [x.l]$
$E[\mathbf{snd } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [x.r]$
$E[\mathbf{add } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in add } x$
$E[\mathbf{mul } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in mul } x$
$E[\mathbf{leq } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in leq } x$
$E[\mathbf{transmit}_A e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [x.!_{T[A]}x.r]$
$E[\mathbf{receive}_A e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [x?_{T[A]}]$
$E[\mathbf{choose } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [x.l \square x.r]$
$E[\mathbf{spawn } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } x () \parallel [()]$
$E[\mathbf{sync } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } x$
$E[\mathbf{wrap } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [\text{let } y \Leftarrow x.l \text{ in } x.r y]$
$E[\mathbf{never } e]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } [\delta]$
$E[\mathbf{if } e \text{ then } f \text{ else } g]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in if } x \text{ then } E[f] \text{ else } E[g]$
$E[(e, f)]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow E[f] \text{ in } [\langle x, y \rangle]$
$E[\mathbf{let } x = e \text{ in } f]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in } E[f]$
$E[ef]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e] \text{ in let } y \Leftarrow E[f] \text{ in } x y$
$E[e \parallel f]$	$= E[e] \parallel E[f]$
$E[\mathbf{v?}_A]$	$= V[\mathbf{v}]?_{T[A]}$
$E[\mathbf{v!}_A w]$	$= V[\mathbf{v}]!_{T[A]}V[w]$
$E[\delta]$	$= \delta$
$E[\mathbf{ge}_1 \oplus \mathbf{ge}_2]$	$= E[\mathbf{ge}_1] \square E[\mathbf{ge}_2]$
$E[\mathbf{ge} \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}]$	$= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[\mathbf{ge}] \text{ in } V[\mathbf{v}]x$

Table 19: Translation of μCML^+ expressions into μCML

reduction to remove some extraneous lets:

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\mathbf{cell}] &\approx^h \text{rec } x_1 = \text{fn } x_2 \Rightarrow \\
&\text{let } x_4 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_5 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_6 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_8 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_{10} \Leftarrow x_2.l? \text{ in } [\langle x_2.r, x_{10} \rangle] \\
&\quad \text{in } x_8.!x_8.r \\
&\quad \text{in } [\langle x_6, x_2 \rangle] \\
&\quad \text{in } [x_5.r] \\
&\text{in } x_1 x_4
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\text{cell}] \approx^h \text{rec } x_1 = \text{fn } x_2 \Rightarrow & \\
\text{let } x_3 \Leftarrow [x_1] & \\
\text{in let } x_4 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_5 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_6 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_8 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_9 \Leftarrow \text{let } x_{11} \Leftarrow [x_2] & \\
& \text{in } [x_{11}.r] & \\
& \text{in let } x_{10} \Leftarrow \text{let } x_{12} \Leftarrow \text{let } x_{13} \Leftarrow [x_2] & \\
& \text{in } [x_{13}.l] & \\
& \text{in } x_{12}? & \\
& \text{in } [\langle x_9, x_{10} \rangle] & \\
& \text{in } x_8.!x_8.r & \\
& \text{in let } x_7 \Leftarrow [x_2] & \\
& \text{in } [\langle x_6, x_7 \rangle] & \\
& \text{in } [x_5.r] & \\
\text{in } x_3 x_4 &
\end{aligned}$$

Table 20: Example translation of μCML^+ into μCMML

Then associativity gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\text{cell}] \approx^h \text{rec } x_1 = \text{fn } x_2 \Rightarrow & \\
\text{let } x_{10} \Leftarrow x_2.l? & \\
\text{in let } x_8 \Leftarrow [\langle x_2.r, x_{10} \rangle] & \\
\text{in let } x_6 \Leftarrow x_8.!x_8.r & \\
\text{in let } x_5 \Leftarrow [\langle x_6, x_2 \rangle] & \\
\text{in let } x_4 \Leftarrow [x_5.r] \text{ in } x_1 x_4 &
\end{aligned}$$

So further use of β -reduction gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\text{cell}] \approx^h \text{rec } x_1 = \text{fn } x_2 \Rightarrow & \\
\text{let } x_{10} \Leftarrow x_2.l? & \\
\text{in let } x_6 \Leftarrow x_2.r!x_{10} & \\
\text{in } x_1 x_2 &
\end{aligned}$$

and since (up to α -conversion) this is the definition of cell, we have:

$$V[\text{cell}] \approx^h \text{cell}$$

This example shows that it is easy to perform syntactic manipulations on μCMML expressions to drastically reduce them in size, and improve their efficiency. This suggests that μCMML may be a suitable virtual machine language for a μCML compiler, where verifiable peephole optimizations can be performed.

4.2 Correctness of the translation

We will now show that the translation of μCML^+ into μCMML is correct up to bisimulation. We will do this by defining an appropriate notion of weak bisimu-

lation between μCML and μCMML programs. This proof uses Milner and Sangiorgi's (1992) technique of 'bisimulation up to'.

A *closed type-indexed relation between μCML and μCMML* is a family of relations:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_A^e &\subseteq \{(e, e) \mid \vdash e : A, \vdash e : T[[A]] \text{ comp}\} \\ \mathcal{R}_A^v &\subseteq \{(v, e) \mid \vdash v : A, \vdash e : T[[A]]\}\end{aligned}$$

For any closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} , let its *open extension* \mathcal{R}^{eo} be defined as:

$$e \mathcal{R}_{\vec{x}:\vec{A}, B}^{\text{eo}} e \text{ iff } e[V[\vec{v}]/\vec{x}] \mathcal{R}_B^e e[V[\vec{v}]/\vec{x}] \text{ for all } \vdash \vec{v} : \vec{A}.$$

A closed type-indexed relation \mathcal{R} is *structure-preserving* iff:

- if $v \mathcal{R}_A^v e$ and A is a base type then $v = e$,
- if $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \mathcal{R}_{A_1 * A_2}^v \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$ then $v_i \mathcal{R}_{A_i}^v e_i$,
- if $[ge] \mathcal{R}_A^v e$ then $ge \mathcal{R}_A^e e$, and
- if $v \mathcal{R}_{A \rightarrow B}^v e$ then for all $\vdash w : A$ we have $vw \mathcal{R}_B^e e(V[[w]])$.

A closed type-indexed relation can be extended to labels as:

$$\frac{}{\tau \mathcal{R}_A^l \tau} \quad \frac{v \mathcal{R}_A^v e}{\check{v} \mathcal{R}_A^l \check{e}} \quad \frac{}{k?_{B X} \mathcal{R}_A^l k?_{T[[B]] X}} \quad \frac{v \mathcal{R}_B^v e}{k!_{B V} \mathcal{R}_A^l k!_{T[[B]] e}}$$

A closed type-indexed relation between μCML and μCMML is a *higher-order weak bisimulation* iff it is structure preserving and we can complete the following diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \\ e'_1 & & \end{array} \quad \text{as} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\ \downarrow l_1 & & \hat{l}_2 \Downarrow \\ e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^{\text{eo}} & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

and:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\ & & \downarrow l_2 \\ & & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{as} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\ \hat{l}_1 \Downarrow & & \downarrow l_2 \\ e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^{\text{eo}} & e'_2 \end{array} \quad \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

A closed type-indexed relation between μCML and μCMML is a *higher-order strong bisimulation up to* (\leq, \sqsubseteq) iff it is structure preserving and we can complete the following diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\
 \downarrow l_1 & & \\
 e'_1 & &
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{as}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\
 \downarrow l_1 & & \downarrow l_2 \\
 e'_1 & \leq \mathcal{R}^{e\circ} \sqsubseteq & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

and:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\
 & & \downarrow l_2 \\
 & & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{as}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R}^e & e_2 \\
 \downarrow l_1 & & \downarrow l_2 \\
 e'_1 & \leq \mathcal{R}^{e\circ} \sqsubseteq & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

An *expansion* on μCMML (and similarly on μCML) is a weak bisimulation \mathcal{R} such that the following diagrams can be completed:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\
 \downarrow l_1 & & \\
 e'_1 & &
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{as}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\
 \downarrow l_1 & & \Downarrow l_2 \\
 e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^\circ & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

and:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\
 & & \downarrow l_2 \\
 & & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{as}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 e_1 & \mathcal{R} & e_2 \\
 \downarrow \hat{l}_1 & & \downarrow l_2 \\
 e'_1 & \mathcal{R}^\circ & e'_2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{where } l_1 \mathcal{R}^l l_2$$

Let \lesssim be the largest expansion.

Proposition 6 \lesssim is a precongrence on μCML and μCMML .

Proof Similar to Proposition 3. □

For example, the preorder \leq_β given by β -reducing in all contexts is an expansion:

$$\frac{}{e f \geq_\beta g [f/y][e/x]} [e = (\text{rec } x = \text{fn } y \Rightarrow g)] \quad \frac{}{\text{let } x \Leftarrow [e] \text{ in } f \geq_\beta f[e/x]}$$

$$\frac{\text{if true then } f \text{ else } g \geq_\beta f \quad \text{if false then } f \text{ else } g \geq_\beta g}{e \geq_\beta e} \quad \frac{e \geq_\beta f \geq_\beta g}{e \geq_\beta g} \quad \frac{e \geq_\beta f}{C[e] \geq_\beta C[f]}$$

Proposition 7 If $e \leq_\beta f$ then $e \lesssim f$.

Proof Show that each of the axioms forms an expansion. The result then follows from Proposition 6. \square

We can use the proof technique of strong bisimulation up to (\leq, \sqsubseteq) to show that the translation from μCML to μCMML forms a weak bisimulation.

Proposition 8 Any strong bisimulation up to (\gtrsim, \lesssim) is a weak bisimulation.

Proof An adaptation of the results in (Sangiorgi and Milner 1992). \square

Proposition 9 The translation of μCML^+ into μCMML is a strong bisimulation up to (\geq_β, \leq_β) .

Proof Let \mathcal{R} be:

$$\mathcal{R}_A^e = \{(e, E[e]) \mid \vdash e : A\} \quad \mathcal{R}_A^v = \{(v, V[v]) \mid \vdash v : A\}$$

and let $L[l]$ be the extension of the translation to labels:

$$\begin{aligned} L[\tau] &= \tau & L[\surd v] &= \surd V[v] \\ L[k!_A v] &= k!_{T[A]} V[v] & L[k?_A x] &= k?_{T[A]} x \end{aligned}$$

First show that the translation respects substitution of values, that is:

$$E[(e[v/x])] = E[e][V[v]/x]$$

Next show by induction on ge that if $ge \xrightarrow{l} e$ then l is an input or output label.

Then show that for any $\vdash e : A$, if $e \xrightarrow{l} e'$ then $E[e] \xrightarrow{L[l]}_{\geq_\beta} E[e']$ and $e' \geq_\beta e'$. This is an induction on the proof of reduction, for example if:

$$\frac{ge \xrightarrow{\alpha} e'}{ge \Rightarrow v \xrightarrow{\alpha} ve'}$$

where $v = \text{rec } y = \text{fn } z \Rightarrow g$ then by induction:

$$E[ge] \xrightarrow{L[\alpha]}_{\geq_\beta} E[e'] \quad e' \geq_\beta e'$$

and so:

$$\begin{aligned} E[ge \Rightarrow v] &= \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[ge] \text{ in } V[v] x \\ &\xrightarrow{L[\alpha]}_{\geq_\beta} \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e'] \text{ in } V[v] x \\ &\geq_\beta \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e'] \text{ in } E[g][x/z][V[v]/y] \\ &= E[\text{let } z = e' \text{ in } g[v/y]] \end{aligned}$$

and:

$$\begin{array}{l} ve' \\ \geq_{\beta} vf' \\ \geq_{\beta} \text{let } z = f' \text{ in } g[v/y] \end{array}$$

The other cases are similar.

Then show that for any $\vdash e : A$, if $E[e] \xrightarrow{l_2} e'$ then $e \xrightarrow{l_1} \geq_{\beta} e'$, $L[l_1] = l_2$ and $e' \geq_{\beta} E[e']$. This is an induction on e , for example if:

$$\frac{E[ge] \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} e'}{E[ge \Rightarrow v] \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} \text{let } x \Leftarrow e' \text{ in } V[v] x}$$

where $v = \text{rec } y = \text{fn } z \Rightarrow g$ then by induction:

$$ge \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \geq_{\beta} e' \quad L[\alpha_1] = \alpha_2 \quad e' \geq_{\beta} E[e']$$

and so:

$$\begin{array}{l} ge \Rightarrow v \\ \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \geq_{\beta} ve' \\ \geq_{\beta} \text{let } z = e' \text{ in } g[v/y] \end{array}$$

and:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{let } x \Leftarrow e' \text{ in } V[v] x \\ \geq_{\beta} \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e'] \text{ in } V[v] x \\ \geq_{\beta} \text{let } x \Leftarrow E[e'] \text{ in } E[g][x/z][V[v]/y] \\ = E[\text{let } z = e' \text{ in } g[v/y]] \end{array}$$

The other cases are similar. □

Proposition 10 e is weakly bisimilar to $E[e]$.

Proof Follows from Propositions 7, 8 and 9. □

It follows from this that weak bisimulation for μCML is at least as fine as weak bisimulation for μCML^+ .

Proposition 11 If $E[e] \approx^h E[f]$ then $e \approx^h f$.

Proof Follows immediately from Proposition 10. □

However, note that the translation is *not* necessarily fully abstract, in that we have not shown that this implication is an ‘if and only if’. This is because the bisimulation is higher-order, and the clause for bisimulation between functions requires the functions to agree on all arguments, not just ones which are the image of $E[_]$.

References

- Ferreira, W., M. Hennessy, and A. Jeffrey (1995). A theory of weak bisimulation for core CML. COGS Comp. Sci. Tech. Report 05/95, Univ. Sussex.
- Gordon, A. (1995). Bisimilarity as a theory of functional programming. In *Proc. MFPS 95*, Number 1 in Electronic Notes in Comp. Sci. Springer-Verlag.
- Gordon, A. et al. (1994). A proposal for monadic I/O in Haskell 1.3. WWW document, Haskell 1.3 Committee, <http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/users/adg/io.html>.
- Hoare, C. A. R. (1985). *Communicating Sequential Processes*. Prentice-Hall.
- Howe, D. (1989). Equality in lazy computation systems. In *Proc. LICS 89*, pp. 198–203.
- Jeffrey, A. (1995a). A fully abstract semantics for a concurrent functional language with monadic types. In *Proc. LICS 95*, pp. 255–264.
- Jeffrey, A. (1995b). A fully abstract semantics for a nondeterministic functional language with monadic types. In *Proc. MFPS 95*, Electronic Notes in Comput. Sci. Elsevier.
- Lambek, J. and P. J. Scott (1986). *Introduction to Higher Order Categorical Logic*. Cambridge University Press.
- Milner, R. (1989). *Communication and Concurrency*. Prentice-Hall.
- Milner, R., J. Parrow, and D. Walker (1992). A calculus of mobile processes. *Inform. and Comput.* 100(1), 1–77.
- Milner, R., M. Tofte, and R. Harper (1990). *The Definition of Standard ML*. MIT Press.
- Moggi, E. (1991). Notions of computation and monad. *Inform. and Comput.* 93, 55–92.
- Reppy, J. (1991). A higher-order concurrent language. In *Proc. SIGPLAN 91*, pp. 294–305.
- Reppy, J. (1992). *Higher-Order Concurrency*. Ph.D thesis, Cornell Univ.
- Sangiorgi, D. and R. Milner (1992). Techniques of ‘weak bisimulation up to’. In *Proc. CONCUR 92*. Springer Verlag. LNCS 630.