

# A Generic Type System for Higher-Order $\Psi$ -calculi

Alex R. Bendixen, Bjarke B. Bojesen, Hans Hüttel, Stian Lybech

Aalborg University, University of Copenhagen, Reykjavík University

- There is an abundance of variants of the  $\pi$ -calculus

- There is an abundance of variants of the  $\pi$ -calculus
- There is also an abundance of *type systems* for these variants for ensuring correct name usage

- There is an abundance of variants of the  $\pi$ -calculus
- There is also an abundance of *type systems* for these variants for ensuring correct name usage
- But they have something in common:

- There is an abundance of variants of the  $\pi$ -calculus
- There is also an abundance of *type systems* for these variants for ensuring correct name usage
- But they have something in common:
  - Judgments for processes  $P$  have the form  $\Gamma \vdash P$

- There is an abundance of variants of the  $\pi$ -calculus
- There is also an abundance of *type systems* for these variants for ensuring correct name usage
- But they have something in common:
  - Judgments for processes  $P$  have the form  $\Gamma \vdash P$
  - Judgements for terms  $M$  have the form  $\Gamma \vdash M : T$

- Bengtson et al. (2009, 2011) created (first order)  $\Psi$ -calculi

- Bengtson et al. (2009, 2011) created (first order)  $\Psi$ -calculi
- Huttel (2011) created a **generic type system** for  $\Psi$ -calculi



- Bengtson et al. (2009, 2011) created (first order)  $\Psi$ -calculi
- Huttel (2011) created a generic type system for  $\Psi$ -calculi
- Parrow et al. (2014) created **Higher-Order**  $\Psi$ -calculi (HO $\Psi$ ) ...

# Motivation

- A type system for the  $\rho$ -calculus?

# Motivation

- A type system for the  $\rho$ -calculus?  
Maybe encode  $\rho \rightarrow \pi$  and type the result (like HO $\pi$ )?

# Motivation

- A type system for the  $\rho$ -calculus?  
Maybe encode  $\rho \rightarrow \pi$  and type the result (like HO $\pi$ )?
- But the  $\pi$ -calculus cannot encode the  $\rho$ -calculus!

# Motivation

- A type system for the  $\rho$ -calculus?  
Maybe encode  $\rho \rightarrow \pi$  and type the result (like HO $\pi$ )?
- But the  $\pi$ -calculus cannot encode the  $\rho$ -calculus!
- But maybe HO $\Psi$  can? (Yes!)

Solution:

*Extend the generic type system to the higher-order setting!*

# The HO $\Psi$ -calculus

# Parameters

3 nominal sets:

$M \in \mathbb{T}$  terms

$\varphi \in \mathbb{C}$  conditions

$\Psi \in \mathbb{A}$  assertions

# Parameters

3 nominal sets:

$M \in \mathbb{T}$  terms

$\varphi \in \mathbb{C}$  conditions

$\Psi \in \mathbb{A}$  assertions

4 equivariant operations:

$\leftrightarrow : \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  channel equivalence

$\otimes : \mathbb{A} \times \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$  assertion composition

$\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{A}$  assertion unit

$\Vdash \subseteq \mathbb{A} \times \mathbb{C}$  entailment relation



# Syntax

$P ::= \mathbf{0}$	Nil
$P_1 \mid P_2$	Parallel
$\overline{MN}.P$	Output
$\underline{M}(\lambda\tilde{x} : \tilde{T})N.P$	Input
<b>run</b> $M$	Invocation
<b>case</b> $\varphi_1 : P_1 \square \dots \square \varphi_n : P_n$	Selection
$(\mathbf{v}x : T)P$	Restriction
$!P$	Replication
$(\Psi)$	Assertion

# Syntax

$P ::= \mathbf{0}$	Nil
$P_1 \mid P_2$	Parallel
$\overline{MN}.P$	Output
$\underline{M}(\lambda \tilde{x} : \tilde{T})N.P$	Input
<b>run</b> $M$	Invocation
<b>case</b> $\varphi_1 : P_1 \square \dots \square \varphi_n : P_n$	Selection
$(\mathbf{v}x : T)P$	Restriction
$!P$	Replication
$(\Psi)$	Assertion

Introduction  
○○

The HO $\Psi$ -calculus  
○○●○○

The generic type system  
○○○○

So how does it actually work?  
○○○○○○○○○○

Conclusions  
○○

# Semantics

# Semantics

... are complicated

$$\Psi \triangleright P \rightarrow P'$$

# Example (generic)

Assume  $\mathbb{A} \triangleq \dots \cup \{M \leftarrow P \mid M \in \mathbb{T} \wedge P \in \mathcal{P}\}$

# Example (generic)

Assume  $\mathbb{A} \triangleq \dots \cup \{ M \Leftarrow P \mid M \in \mathbb{T} \wedge P \in \mathcal{P} \}$

$\Psi \triangleright \underline{M}(\lambda x)x.\text{run } x \mid \overline{MN}.\{\{ N \Leftarrow P \}\}$

# Example (generic)

Assume  $\mathbb{A} \triangleq \dots \cup \{ M \leftarrow P \mid M \in \mathbb{T} \wedge P \in \mathcal{P} \}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Psi \triangleright \underline{M}(\lambda x)x.\mathbf{run} \ x \mid \overline{MN}.\{\{ N \leftarrow P \}\} \\ \rightarrow & \Psi \triangleright \mathbf{run} \ N \mid \{\{ N \leftarrow P \}\} \end{aligned}$$

# Example (generic)

Assume  $\mathbb{A} \triangleq \dots \cup \{ M \leftarrow P \mid M \in \mathbb{T} \wedge P \in \mathcal{P} \}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Psi \triangleright \underline{M}(\lambda x)x.\mathbf{run} \ x \mid \overline{MN}.\{\{ N \leftarrow P \}\} \\ \rightarrow & \Psi \triangleright \mathbf{run} \ N \mid \{\{ N \leftarrow P \}\} \\ \rightarrow & \Psi \otimes \{ N \leftarrow P \} \triangleright P \mid \{\{ N \leftarrow P \}\} \end{aligned}$$



# Example ( $\pi$ -calculus)

Let

$$\mathbb{T} \triangleq \mathcal{N}$$

$$\mathbb{C} \triangleq \{x \leftrightarrow y \mid x, y \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{\top\}$$

$$\Vdash \triangleq \{(\mathbf{1}, x \leftrightarrow x) \mid x \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{(\mathbf{1}, \top)\}$$

$$\mathbb{A} \triangleq \{\emptyset\}$$

$$\otimes \triangleq \cup$$

$$\mathbf{1} \triangleq \emptyset$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{0} \rrbracket = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\llbracket P_1 \mid P_2 \rrbracket = \llbracket P_1 \rrbracket \mid \llbracket P_2 \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket x(y).P \rrbracket = \underline{x}(\lambda y)y.\llbracket P \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket P_1 + P_2 \rrbracket = \mathbf{case} \top : P_1 \square \top : P_2$$

$$\vdots$$

... then you have the  $\pi$ -calculus!

# Example (HO $\pi$ )

Tweak the parameters a little:

$$\mathbb{T} \triangleq \mathcal{N} \cup \mathcal{P}$$

$$\mathbb{C} \triangleq \{x \leftrightarrow y \mid x, y \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{P \Leftarrow Q \mid P, Q \in \mathcal{P}\} \cup \{\top\}$$

$$\mathbb{H} \triangleq \{(\mathbf{1}, x \leftrightarrow x) \mid x \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{(\mathbf{1}, P \Leftarrow P) \mid P \in \mathcal{P}\} \cup \{(\mathbf{1}, \top)\}$$

and with  $\llbracket X \rrbracket = \mathbf{run} \ x$

... then you get HO $\pi$ !

# The generic type system

# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?
- What safety-predicate?
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?
- What form of type judgments?
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?

# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?  
*Assume **Types** is a nominal datatype!*
- What safety-predicate?
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?
- What form of type judgments?
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?

# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?  
*Assume **Types** is a nominal datatype!*
- What safety-predicate?  
*We only show subject reduction!*
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?
- What form of type judgments?
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?

# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?  
*Assume **Types** is a nominal datatype!*
- What safety-predicate?  
*We only show subject reduction!*
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?  
*Impose some restrictions and assume type rules are given as parameters!*
- What form of type judgments?
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?

# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?  
*Assume **Types** is a nominal datatype!*
- What safety-predicate?  
*We only show subject reduction!*
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?  
*Impose some restrictions and assume type rules are given as parameters!*
- What form of type judgments?  
 $\Psi, \Gamma \vdash P$  and  $\Psi, \Gamma \vdash \mathcal{J}$  where  $\mathcal{J} ::= M : T \mid \varphi \mid \Psi$
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?



# Challenges

- What language of types **Types**?  
*Assume **Types** is a nominal datatype!*
- What safety-predicate?  
*We only show subject reduction!*
- How do we type the parameters  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{A}$ ?  
*Impose some restrictions and assume type rules are given as parameters!*
- What form of type judgments?  
 $\Psi, \Gamma \vdash P$  and  $\Psi, \Gamma \vdash \mathcal{J}$  where  $\mathcal{J} ::= M : T \mid \varphi \mid \Psi$
- What  $\Gamma$  should higher-order processes be typed relative to?  
*It must be derivable from the handle!*

# The two relations

# The two relations

- If a term of type  $T_1$  can carry a term of type  $T_2$  then  $T_1 \leftarrow^p T_2$

# The two relations

- If a term of type  $T_1$  can carry a term of type  $T_2$  then  $T_1 \leftarrow^p T_2$   
Example:  $\text{ch}(T) \leftarrow^p T$

# The two relations

- If a term of type  $T_1$  can carry a term of type  $T_2$  then  $T_1 \leftarrow^p T_2$   
Example:  $\text{ch}(T) \leftarrow^p T$
- If  $M \leftarrow P$  and  $M : T$  then  $T \curvearrowright \Gamma$  (such that  $\Gamma \vdash P$ )

# The two relations

- If a term of type  $T_1$  can carry a term of type  $T_2$  then  $T_1 \leftarrow^p T_2$   
Example:  $\text{ch}(T) \leftarrow^p T$
- If  $M \Leftarrow P$  and  $M : T$  then  $T \curvearrowright \Gamma$  (such that  $\Gamma \vdash P$ )  
Example:  $\langle T, \Gamma \rangle \curvearrowright \Gamma$

# Instance assumptions for $\mathbb{T}$ , $\mathbb{C}$ , $\mathbb{A}$ and **Types**

# Instance assumptions for $\mathbb{T}$ , $\mathbb{C}$ , $\mathbb{A}$ and **Types**

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-ENV-WEAK}] \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J} \implies \Gamma, x : T, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J}$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-ENV-STRENGTH}] \Gamma, x : T, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J} \wedge x \notin n(\mathcal{J}) \implies \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J}$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-COMP-TERM}] \Gamma, \Psi \vdash M[\tilde{x} := \tilde{L}] : F(\tilde{T}) \implies \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \tilde{L} : \tilde{T}$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-ASS-WEAK}] \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J} \wedge \Psi \leq \Psi' \wedge n(\Psi') \subseteq \text{dom}(\Gamma) \implies \Gamma, \Psi' \vdash \mathcal{J}$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-WEAK-CHANEQ}] \Psi \Vdash M_1 \leftrightarrow M_2 \implies \Psi \otimes \Psi' \Vdash M_1 \leftrightarrow M_2$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-SUBS}] \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \tilde{L} : \tilde{T} \wedge \Gamma, \tilde{x} : \tilde{T}, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J} \implies \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \mathcal{J}[\tilde{x} := \tilde{L}]$$

$$[\mathbb{T}\text{-EQUAL}] \Gamma, \Psi \vdash M : T \wedge \Psi \Vdash M \leftrightarrow N \implies \Gamma, \Psi \vdash N : T$$

$$\vdots$$



# Main result

## Theorem (Subject reduction)

*If  $\Gamma, \Psi \vdash P \wedge \Psi \triangleright P \rightarrow P'$  then  $\Gamma, \Psi \vdash P'$*

... and all the assumptions are satisfied ...

So how does it actually work?

# How to get a type system for calculus $\chi$

# How to get a type system for calculus $\chi$

- ① Instantiate  $\chi$  as a HO $\Psi$ -calculus (define  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{A}$  etc.)

# How to get a type system for calculus $\chi$

- 1 Instantiate  $\chi$  as a HO $\Psi$ -calculus (define  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{A}$  etc.)
- 2 Instantiate the type system (define **Types**,  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $\leftarrow^p$ ,  $\curvearrowright$ )

# How to get a type system for calculus $\chi$

- 1 Instantiate  $\chi$  as a HO $\Psi$ -calculus (define  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{A}$  etc.)
- 2 Instantiate the type system (define **Types**,  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $\leftarrow^p$ ,  $\curvearrowright$ )
- 3 Prove safety and get subject reduction for free!

# Example: The $\rho$ -calculus (parameters)

Let

$$\mathbb{T} \triangleq \mathcal{N} \cup \{ \ulcorner P \urcorner \mid P \in \mathcal{P} \} \cup \{ \langle \ulcorner P \urcorner \rangle \mid P \in \mathcal{P} \}$$

$$\mathbb{C} \triangleq \{ M \leftrightarrow N \mid M, N \in \mathbb{T} \} \cup \{ P_1 \equiv P_2 \mid P_1, P_2 \in \mathcal{P} \} \\ \cup \{ M \leftarrow P \mid M \in \mathbb{T} \wedge P \in \mathcal{P} \}$$

$$\mathbb{A} \triangleq \{ \emptyset \}$$

$$\otimes \triangleq \cup$$

$$\mathbf{1} \triangleq \emptyset$$

... and postpone  $\Vdash$  and  $\leftrightarrow$  a little.

# Example: The $\rho$ -calculus (translation)

Assume *bound names* are implemented as atomic names  $x$ , and then define

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \llbracket \mathbf{0} \rrbracket = \mathbf{0} & \llbracket \ulcorner x \urcorner \rrbracket = \mathbf{run} \ x \\
 \llbracket P_1 \mid P_2 \rrbracket = \llbracket P_1 \rrbracket \mid \llbracket P_2 \rrbracket & \llbracket \ulcorner P \urcorner \rrbracket = \mathbf{0} \\
 \llbracket n(x).P \rrbracket = \llbracket n \rrbracket (\lambda x) \langle x \rangle . \llbracket P \rrbracket & \llbracket \ulcorner P \urcorner \rrbracket = \ulcorner \mathcal{N} \llbracket P \rrbracket \urcorner \\
 \llbracket n \langle P \rangle \rrbracket = \overline{\llbracket n \rrbracket} \langle \ulcorner \llbracket P \rrbracket \urcorner \rangle . \mathbf{0} & \llbracket x \rrbracket = x
 \end{array}$$

where  $n ::= x \mid \ulcorner P \urcorner$

and  $\mathcal{N} \llbracket P \rrbracket$  is similar to  $\llbracket P \rrbracket$  *except* that  $\mathcal{N} \llbracket \ulcorner P \urcorner \rrbracket = \mathbf{run} \ \ulcorner \mathcal{N} \llbracket P \rrbracket \urcorner$ .



# Example: The $\rho$ -calculus (entailment of $\dot{\leftrightarrow}$ )

$$[\text{CHANEQ}_1] \frac{\Psi \Vdash M_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} M_2}{\Psi \Vdash \text{run } M_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} M_2}$$

$$[\text{CHANEQ}_2] \frac{\Psi \Vdash P_1 \equiv P_2}{\Psi \Vdash \text{run } P_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} \text{run } P_2}$$

and reflexive and transitive closure of  $\dot{\leftrightarrow}$

# Example: The $\rho$ -calculus (entailment of $\equiv$ )

$$[\text{PAR}] \frac{\Psi \Vdash P_1 \equiv P_2}{\Psi \Vdash P_1 \mid R \equiv P_2 \mid R}$$

$$[\text{IN}] \frac{\Psi \Vdash M_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} M_2 \quad \Psi \Vdash P_1 \equiv P_2}{\Psi \Vdash \underline{M_1}(\lambda x_1) \langle x_1 \rangle . P_1 \equiv \underline{M_2}(\lambda x_2) \langle x_2 \rangle . P_2}$$

$$[\text{RUN}] \frac{\Psi \Vdash M_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} M_2}{\Psi \Vdash \mathbf{run} M_1 \equiv \mathbf{run} M_2}$$

$$[\text{OUT}] \frac{\Psi \Vdash M_1 \dot{\leftrightarrow} M_2 \quad \Psi \Vdash P_1 \equiv P_2}{\Psi \Vdash \overline{M_1} \langle \ulcorner P_1 \urcorner \rangle \equiv \overline{M_2} \langle \ulcorner P_2 \urcorner \rangle}$$

and  $\equiv_\alpha \subseteq \equiv$  and  $(\mathcal{P}_{/\equiv}, \mid, \mathbf{0})$  an abelian monoid

# Challenges for a type system for the $\rho$ -calculus

- 1 All names are global, so we cannot get a type from  $(\nu x : T)P$
- 2 New names can be constructed at runtime, so what type should they get?

# Example: The type system (types)

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
 T \in \mathbf{Types} &::= \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \\
 \alpha &::= \text{ch}(T) \mid \text{nil} \\
 \beta &::= \Gamma \mid \text{nil}
 \end{aligned}$$

and redefine

$$\mathbb{A} \triangleq \wp(\{\ulcorner P \urcorner : T \mid P \in \mathcal{P} \wedge T \in \mathbf{Types}\} \cup \{\llcorner P \lrcorner \urcorner : T \mid P \in \mathcal{P} \wedge T \in \mathbf{Types}\})$$

to give us a place to record the types of the names-to-be.

# Example: The type system (type environment)

Append assertions to input and output:

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \ulcorner R \urcorner \langle P \rangle \rrbracket &\triangleq \overline{\llbracket R \rrbracket} \langle \llbracket P \rrbracket \rangle . \mathbf{0} \mid \{\llbracket R \rrbracket : T, \langle \llbracket P \rrbracket \rangle : T'\} \\ \llbracket \ulcorner R \urcorner (x) . P \rrbracket &\triangleq \overline{\llbracket R \rrbracket} (\lambda x) \langle x \rangle . \llbracket P \rrbracket \mid \{\llbracket R \rrbracket : T\} \end{aligned}$$

to use  $\Psi$  as a ‘type environment’ for *processes*.

# Example: The type system (parameters)

$$[\text{T-COMP}] \quad \langle \text{ch}(T), \beta \rangle \leftrightarrow^{\rho} T$$

$$[\text{T-ENV}] \quad \langle \alpha, \Gamma \rangle \curvearrowright \Gamma$$

$$[\text{TERM-1}] \quad \frac{\ulcorner P \urcorner : \langle \alpha, \Gamma' \rangle \in \Psi \quad \Gamma', \Psi \vdash P}{\Gamma, \Psi \vdash \ulcorner P \urcorner : \langle \alpha, \Gamma' \rangle}$$

$$[\text{TERM-2}] \quad \frac{\langle \ulcorner P \urcorner \rangle : \langle \alpha, \Gamma' \rangle \in \Psi \quad \Gamma', \Psi \vdash P}{\Gamma, \Psi \vdash \langle \ulcorner P \urcorner \rangle : \langle \alpha, \Gamma' \rangle}$$

$$[\text{T-ASS}] \quad \frac{P : T \in \Psi' \implies T \curvearrowright \Gamma}{\Gamma, \Psi \vdash (\Psi')}$$

$$[\text{TERM-3}] \quad \frac{\Gamma(x) = T}{\Gamma, \Psi \vdash x : T}$$

# An unavoidable limitation

We must also redefine

$$[\text{CHANEQ}_2] \frac{\Gamma, \Psi \Vdash P_1 \equiv P_2 \quad \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \ulcorner P_1 \urcorner : T \iff \Gamma, \Psi \vdash \ulcorner P_2 \urcorner : T}{\Gamma, \Psi \Vdash \ulcorner P_1 \urcorner \dot{\leftrightarrow} \ulcorner P_2 \urcorner}$$

Channel equivalent terms must have the same type!

# Conclusions



# Conclusions

- HO $\Psi$  is useful to experiment with a *family* of languages.

# Conclusions

- HO $\Psi$  is useful to experiment with a *family* of languages.
- The generic type system is useful to experiment with a *family* of type systems.

# Conclusions

- HO $\Psi$  is useful to experiment with a *family* of languages.
- The generic type system is useful to experiment with a *family* of type systems.
- The instance assumptions give insights into *minimal requirements* for a type system for HO $\Psi$ -instances.

# Conclusions

- HO $\Psi$  is useful to experiment with a *family* of languages.
- The generic type system is useful to experiment with a *family* of type systems.
- The instance assumptions give insights into *minimal requirements* for a type system for HO $\Psi$ -instances.
- The  $\rho$ -calculus *is* such an instance.  
(But typing reflection is still a mess)