

# Ultrametric Semantics of Reactive Programs

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**Abstract**—We describe a denotational model of higher-order functional reactive programming using ultrametric spaces and nonexpansive maps, which provide a natural Cartesian closed generalization of causal stream functions and guarded recursive definitions. We define a type theory corresponding to this semantics and show that it satisfies normalization. Finally, we show how to efficiently implement reactive programs written in this language using an imperatively updated dataflow graph, and give a separation logic proof that this low-level implementation is correct with respect to the high-level semantics.

## I. INTRODUCTION

There is a broad spectrum of models for reactive programming. Functional reactive programming (FRP), as introduced by Elliott and Hudak [1], is highly expressive and typically shallowly embedded in powerful general-purpose languages. At the other end, synchronous dataflow languages such as Esterel [2], Lustre [3] and Lucid Sychrone [4] provide a restricted, domain-specific model of computation supporting specialized compilation strategies and analysis techniques. Synchronous languages have been highly successful in applications such as hardware synthesis and embedded control software, and provide strong guarantees about bounded usage of space and time. FRP is usefully less constrained than the synchronous languages, supporting higher-order abstraction and time-varying values of arbitrary types. But even in its intended application domain — dynamic interactive applications running in resource-rich environments, such as desktop GUIs, games and web applications — naive FRP seems *too* expressive. Despite clever implementations, it is all too easy to introduce significant space and time leaks in FRP programs, and one can even write programs that are unimplementable, e.g. because they violate causality. Some recent variants of FRP [5], [6] restrict the model to rule out non-causal functions and ill-formed feedback.

In practice, of course, interactive GUIs and the like are usually implemented in general-purpose languages in a very imperative style. A program implements dynamic behavior by modifying state, and accepting callbacks to modify its own state. These programs exhibit complex aliasing, tricky control flow through callback functions living in the heap, and in general are difficult to reason about. Part of the difficulty is the inherent complexity of verifying programs using such powerful features, but an even more fundamental problem is that it is not immediately clear even what the semantics of such programs should be; even the most powerful verification techniques are useless without a specification to meet.

The goal of the work described here is to get the best of both the synchronous and FRP worlds, without exposing the programmer to the horror of higher-order imperative code. We want to write complex dynamic reactive applications in an FRP-like, higher-order declarative style, without abandoning the efficient stateful execution model that synchronous languages provide, at least for the first-order parts of our programs. To this end, we first present a new semantic model for reactive programs in terms of ultrametric spaces, generalizing previous models based on causal stream functions. Our model is Cartesian closed and so yields a mathematically natural semantics for higher-order reactive programs.

Working with (ultra)metric spaces lets us use Banach’s contraction map theorem to interpret feedback. Unlike earlier semantics based on domain models of streams, we can thus restrict our semantics to *total*, *well-founded* stream programs. Furthermore, by using an abstract notion of contractiveness instead of an explicit notion of guardedness, our semantics lifts easily to model higher-type streams (e.g., streams of streams) and recursion at higher type.

Next, we give a domain specific language (DSL) for writing reactive programs. The key idea is to introduce a type constructor for delays, interpreted as an endofunctor that shrinks distances by a factor of one-half. This lets us track contractiveness by types, in much the same spirit as Nakano’s calculus for guarded recursion [7].

In the second part of the paper, we give a reasonably efficient implementation of our language in terms of imperative dataflow graphs and prove the correctness of the implementation with respect to the semantics. The correctness proof uses a non-trivial Kripke logical relation, built using ideas from separation logic, rely-guarantee reasoning and step-indexed models, but ensures that clients can reason about programs as well-behaved mathematical objects, satisfying the full range of  $\beta$ ,  $\eta$  and fixpoint equations, with all the complexities of the higher-order imperative implementation hidden behind an abstraction barrier.

## II. ULTRAMETRIC SEMANTICS

### A. Reactive Programs and Stream Transformers

Reactive programs are usually interpreted as *stream transformers*. A time-varying value of type  $A$  can be viewed as a stream of  $A$ s, and so a program that takes a time-varying  $A$  and produces a time-varying  $B$  is then a function that takes a stream of  $A$ s and produces a stream of  $B$ s.

However, the full function space on streams is too generous: many functions on streams do not have sensible interpretations as reactive processes. For example, a stock trading program receives a stream of prices and emits a stream of orders, but the type  $\text{Price}^\omega \rightarrow \text{Order}^\omega$  includes functions that produce orders today that are a function of the price tomorrow; such functions are (much to our regret) unrealizable.

The semantic condition that expresses which functions do correspond to implementable processes is *causality*: the  $n^{\text{th}}$  output should depend only on the first  $n$  inputs. More formally, writing  $[xs]_n$  for the  $n$ -element prefix of the stream  $xs$ :

*Definition 1:* (Causality) A stream function  $f : A^\omega \rightarrow B^\omega$  is *causal* when, for all  $n$  and streams  $as$  and  $as'$ , if  $[as]_n = [as']_n$  then  $[f(as)]_n = [f(as')]_n$ .

This definition rules out, for example, the tail function, for which the first  $n$  outputs depend upon the first  $n + 1$  inputs.

Causality is an intuitive and appealing definition for streams of base types but it is not immediately clear how to generalize it. What might causality mean over a stream of *streams*, or even a stream of stream functions?

We also want to define streams by feedback or recursion, as in this definition of the increasing sequence of naturals:

$$\text{nats} = \text{fix}(\lambda xs. 0 :: \text{map succ } xs)$$

Thinking operationally about when such fixed points are well-defined, observe that the function  $\lambda xs. 0 :: \text{map succ } xs$  can produce its first output without looking at its input. We imagine implementing the fixed point by feeding the output at time  $n$  back in as the input at time  $n + 1$ , exploiting the fact that at time 0 the input value does not matter. This leads us to define:

*Definition 2:* (Guardedness) A function  $f : A^\omega \rightarrow B^\omega$  is *guarded* if there exists a  $k > 0$  such that for all  $n$ ,  $as$  and  $as'$ , if  $[as]_n = [as']_n$  then  $[f(as)]_{n+k} = [f(as')]_{n+k}$ .

*Proposition 1:* (Fixed Points of Guarded Functions) Every guarded endofunction  $f : A^\omega \rightarrow A^\omega$  (where  $A$  is a nonempty set) has a unique fixed point.

As with causality, guardedness is intuitive and natural, but generalizations to higher types seem both useful and unobvious. For example, we may want to write a recursive *function*:

$$\text{fib} = \text{fix}(\lambda f. \lambda(j, k). j :: f(k, j + k))$$

What does guardedness mean, and how can we interpret fixed points, at higher types? We will answer these questions by moving to metric spaces.

### B. An Ultrametric Model of Reactive Programs

A *complete 1-bounded ultrametric space* is a pair  $(A, d_A)$ , where  $A$  is a set and  $d_A \in A \times A \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a distance function, satisfying the following axioms:

- $d_A(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$
- $d_A(x, x') = d_A(x', x)$
- $d_A(x, x') \leq \max(d_A(x, y), d_A(y, x'))$
- Every Cauchy sequence in  $A$  has a limit

A sequence  $\langle x_i \rangle$  is Cauchy if for any  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ , there is an  $n$  such that for all  $i > n, j > n, d(x_i, x_j) \leq \epsilon$ . A limit is

an  $x$  such that for all  $\epsilon$ , there is an  $n$  such that for all  $i > n, d(x, x_i) \leq \epsilon$ . Ultrametric spaces satisfy a stronger version of the triangle inequality than ordinary metric spaces, which only ask that  $d(x, x')$  be less than or equal to  $d_A(x, y) + d_A(y, x')$ , rather than  $\max(d_A(x, y), d_A(y, x'))$ . We often just write  $A$  for  $(A, d_A)$ . All the metric spaces we consider are *bisected*, meaning that the distance between any two points is  $2^{-n}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

A map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  between ultrametric spaces is *nonexpansive* when it is non-distance-increasing:

$$\forall x x', d_B(f x, f x') \leq d_A(x, x')$$

A map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  between ultrametric spaces is *(strictly) contractive* when it shrinks the distance between any two points by a non-unit factor:

$$\exists q \in [0, 1), \forall x x', d_B(f x, f x') \leq q \cdot d_A(x, x')$$

Complete 1-bounded ultrametric spaces and nonexpansive maps form a Cartesian closed category. The product is given by equipping the set product with the pointwise sup-metric:

$$d_{A \times B}((a, b), (a', b')) = \max\{d_A(a, a'), d_B(b, b')\}$$

Exponentials give the set of nonexpansive maps a sup-metric over all inputs (exploiting the *ultrametric*):

$$d_{A \Rightarrow B}(f, f') = \sup\{d_B(f a, f' a) \mid a \in A\}$$

The discrete ultrametric space  $D(X)$  on a set  $X$  is given by defining  $d(x, x')$  to be 0 if  $x = x'$  and 1 otherwise. The category also has coproducts, with  $(A, d_A) + (B, d_B)$  being defined as  $(A + B, d_{A+B})$ , where

$$d_{A+B}(x, y) = \begin{cases} d_A(a, a') & \text{if } x = \text{inl } a, y = \text{inl } a' \\ d_B(b, b') & \text{if } x = \text{inr } b, y = \text{inr } b' \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The shrinking functor  $\frac{1}{2}(A, d_A) = (A, d_{\frac{1}{2}A})$  halves all distances:

$$d_{\frac{1}{2}A}(a, a') = \frac{1}{2}d_A(a, a')$$

The  $\frac{1}{2}$  functor is Cartesian closed: there are natural isomorphisms  $\text{unzip}_{\frac{1}{2}}, \text{zip}_{\frac{1}{2}} : \frac{1}{2}(A \times B) \simeq \frac{1}{2}A \times \frac{1}{2}B$  and  $\epsilon, \epsilon^{-1} : \frac{1}{2}(A \rightarrow B) \simeq \frac{1}{2}A \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}B$ . There is also a natural transformation  $\delta_A : A \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}A$  (pronounced “delay”), all of which are implemented with the obvious identity embedding on points. In general, however,  $\frac{1}{2}(A + B) \not\simeq \frac{1}{2}A + \frac{1}{2}B$ .

For a space  $A$ , the ultrametric space  $S(A)$  of streams on  $A$  is defined by equipping  $A^\omega$  with the *causal metric of streams*:

$$d_{S(A)}(as, as') = \sup\{2^{-n} \cdot d_A(as_n, as'_n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

This is functorial: for  $f : A \rightarrow B, S(f) : S(A) \rightarrow S(B)$  maps  $f$  over the input, which preserves identity and composition.

For discrete  $A$ , the stream metric on  $S(A)$  says that two streams are closer, the later the time at which they first disagree. So two streams which have differing values at time 0 are at a distance of 1, whereas two streams which never disagree will have a distance of 0, and will thus be equal. The

stream type can also be understood as  $\mu\alpha. A \times \frac{1}{2}\alpha$ , but we do not develop the general theory of recursive types here.

*Proposition 2:* (Banach’s Contraction Map Theorem) If  $A$  is a nonempty, complete (ultra)metric space, any contractive  $f : A \rightarrow A$  has a unique fixed point. Equivalently (as strict contractiveness is uniform), any nonexpansive map  $g : \frac{1}{2}A \rightarrow A$  has a unique fixed point.

### C. From Ultrametrics to Functional Reactive Programs

For streams of base type, the properties of maps in the category of ultrametric spaces correspond exactly to the properties of first-order reactive programs discussed previously.

*Theorem 1:* (Causality is Nonexpansiveness) For sets  $A$  and  $B$ , a function  $f : A^\omega \rightarrow B^\omega$  is causal if and only if it is nonexpansive when considered as a function from  $S(D(A))$  to  $S(D(B))$ .

*Theorem 2:* (Guardedness is Contractiveness) For sets  $A$  and  $B$ , a function  $f : A^\omega \rightarrow B^\omega$  is guarded if and only if it is strictly contractive as a function from  $S(D(A))$  to  $S(D(B))$ .

The proofs of these two theorems are merely the unwinding of a few definitions. But the consequences of moving to ultrametric spaces are quite dramatic:

- 1) Cartesian closure means we can interpret tuples and functions (with full  $\beta$  and  $\eta$  laws); we also have sums, which let clients implement the “switching” combinators of FRP.
- 2) Since streams are functorial, we can interpret streams of streams.
- 3) Contractiveness and Banach’s theorem generalize the stream-centric notions of guardedness and guarded recursion to give a notion of well-founded recursion that also works at higher types. Further, the explicit delay functor lets us express contractiveness via types, rather than making it a property of functions.

In an abstract sense, this semantics fulfill the original promise of FRP in a ‘no-compromise’ way: one can freely and naturally write higher-order programs with stream values, and the properties of ultrametric spaces ensure that all functions are causal and all recursions well-founded.

## III. A LANGUAGE FOR STREAM PROGRAMS

We now need a term calculus in which to write reactive programs. Our semantic category is not inherently tailored to reactivity, but the language (building in streams with the causal metric and making particular use of the delay modality) does reflect the synchronous operational semantics and implementation techniques we have in mind. Birkedal *et al.* [8] have recently given an ultrametric model of the calculus for guarded recursion due to Nakano [7], and we use the same semantics for types. Our term calculus is different, however, being more in the spirit of ‘standard’ natural deduction and Curry-Howard. Nakano’s calculus includes both subtyping and rules (such as  $(\bullet)$ ) whose application does not affect the subject term, but which we wish to record for operational reasons. By contrast with the impressively sophisticated metatheory of Nakano, we have a straightforward normalization proof and an

algorithmic presentation of the system. We discuss the relation with Nakano’s system further in the full version of the paper.

### A. Syntax and Type Theory

Figure 1 gives the syntax and typing rules for our calculus. The types are functions, streams, and delays, with sums and products omitted for space reasons. Each of the types appearing in a judgement is annotated with a ‘time’. Intuitively, time 0 means ‘now’, whilst time  $k$  means ‘ $k$  steps into the future’. Time indices are used in typing stream terms. The introduction form  $\text{cons}(e, e')$  takes a head of type  $A$  at time  $i$ , and a tail of type  $S(A)$  at time  $i + 1$ . The two elimination forms  $\text{hd } e$  and  $\text{tl } e$  take a stream at  $i$ , and return the head and tail of a stream, with the head coming at  $i$  and the tail one step later, at  $i + 1$ .

The HYP rule for variables includes subsumption: a hypothesis  $x : A_i$  can be used to conclude  $x : A_j$  for any time  $j \geq i$ . The intuition is that values can be maintained for use at later times. The ‘later’ modality  $\bullet A$  partly internalizes this notion of time. The introduction rule  $\bullet I$  produces a term of type  $\bullet A$  at time  $i$ , given a premise of type  $A$  at time  $i + 1$ , and dually the elimination rule  $\bullet E$  yields a term of type  $A$  at time  $i + 1$  from a term of type  $\bullet A$  at time  $i$ .

We remark that the calculus only deals with relative times, and there is no way to define a type valid only at a single moment in time (as might be possible in a hybrid logic [9]). For example, the type of values  $A$ ,  $k$  steps in the future, would be  $\bullet^k(A)$ , but there is no type corresponding to being valid exactly at time  $k = 17$ . This property can be formalized in the following theorem, where the notation  $\Gamma_{+n}$  means that we add  $n$  to the time index of every hypothesis in  $\Gamma$ .

*Lemma 1:* (Time Adjustment) If  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash e : A_i$ , then  $\Gamma, \Gamma'_{+n} \vdash e : A_{i+n}$ . As a partial converse, if  $\Gamma_{+n} \vdash e : A_{i+n}$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash e : A_i$ .

*Theorem 3:* (Normalization) If  $\Gamma \vdash e : A_i$ , then there exists a long  $\beta$ - $\eta$  normal form  $n$  (orienting equations left to right as in Figure 1) such that  $e \stackrel{\beta, \eta}{=} n$  and  $\Gamma \vdash n : A_i$ .

The normalization proof is presented in the full version of the paper. We give a bidirectional (algorithmic) type system in canonical forms style, which types only normal forms our calculus, and then define a hereditary substitution [10] which preserves typing and is compatible with the equational theory.

### B. Denotational Semantics

Figure 2 gives the semantics of our DSL, interpreting types as ultrametric spaces and terms as non-expansive maps.

The  $\bullet A$  type is interpreted as  $\frac{1}{2}[[A]]$ , and a type indexed with a time index  $A_i$  is interpreted as  $\frac{1}{2}^i[[A]]$ . As a result,  $[[A_{i+1}]] = [[\bullet A_i]]$ , and the interpretation of the rules for  $\bullet A$  are identities. The real action of the  $\frac{1}{2}(A)$  functor occurs in the interpretation of the hypothesis rule HYP, in which values are moved from  $\frac{1}{2}^i[[A]]$  to  $\frac{1}{2}^j[[A]]$  by iterating the delay natural transformation  $j - i$  times.

The interpretations of other types, such as functions, look entirely standard, with occasional appearances of the isomorphisms mediating between  $\frac{1}{2}^n A \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^n B$  and  $\frac{1}{2}^n(A \rightarrow B)$ .

$A ::= P \mid A \rightarrow B \mid \bullet A \mid S(A)$	Types
$\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x : A_i$	Contexts
$e ::= \lambda x : A. e \mid \bullet e \mid \text{cons}(e, e)$	Terms
$\mid x \mid e e \mid \text{await}(e) \mid \text{hd } e \mid \text{tl } e$	

$$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e : A_i}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash e : B_i}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e : A \rightarrow B_i} \rightarrow I \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A_{i+1}}{\Gamma \vdash \bullet e : \bullet A_i} \bullet I$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A_i \quad \Gamma \vdash e' : S(A)_{i+1}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{cons}(e, e') : S(A)_i} SI \quad \frac{x : A_i \in \Gamma \quad i \leq j}{\Gamma \vdash x : A_j} HYP$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : (A \rightarrow B)_i \quad \Gamma \vdash e : A_i}{\Gamma \vdash t e : B_i} \rightarrow E \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \bullet A_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{await}(t) : A_{i+1}} \bullet E$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : S(A)_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{hd } t : A_i} \text{Shd} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : S(A)_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{tl } t : S(A)_{i+1}} \text{Stl}$$

$A \rightarrow B$	$(\lambda x : A. e) e' \stackrel{\beta}{=} [e'/x]e$	$e \stackrel{\eta}{=} \lambda x : A. e x$
$\bullet A$	$\text{await}(\bullet e) \stackrel{\beta}{=} e$	$e \stackrel{\eta}{=} \bullet(\text{await}(e))$
$S(A)$	$\text{hd}(\text{cons}(e, e')) \stackrel{\beta}{=} e$	$e \stackrel{\eta}{=} \text{cons}(\text{hd } e, \text{tl } e)$
	$\text{tl}(\text{cons}(e, e')) \stackrel{\beta}{=} e'$	

Fig. 1. Syntax, Typing and Equations for the DSL

#### Theorem 4: (Soundness)

- If we have  $\Gamma \vdash e : A_i$  and  $\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash e' : B_n$  then we know  $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash [e/x]e' : B_n \rrbracket = \llbracket \Gamma, x : A_i \vdash e' : B_n \rrbracket \circ \langle id_\Gamma, \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket \rangle$ .
- If  $\Gamma \vdash e : A_i$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e' : A_i$  and  $e =^{\beta\eta} e'$ , then  $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket = \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e' : A_i \rrbracket$ .

#### C. Fixed Points

Normalization establishes a sense in which the core of our language has a well-behaved proof theory and is here proved for the language without recursion. We then add well-founded recursion to the language simply by adding constants  $\text{fix} : (\bullet A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A$  for each non-empty type  $A$ , interpreted using Prop. 2 (Banach's theorem).<sup>1</sup>

#### D. Examples

Some reactive languages make everything a stream (or stream transformer), implicitly lifting other constructs so that, for example, a syntactic application is semantically a map operation. Primitives are carefully chosen to preserve causality (so head and 'followed by' are OK, but tail is not). We program more explicitly with streams and can implement higher-order operations such as mapping straightforwardly:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ map} &= \lambda f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}. \text{fix} (\lambda g : \bullet(S(\mathbb{N})) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{N})). \\ 2 &\quad \lambda xs : S(\mathbb{N}). \\ 3 &\quad \text{let } g' = \text{await}(g) \text{ in} \end{aligned}$$

<sup>1</sup>Subsequent to the present work, we have used a time-stratified notion of normal form to show normalization for a closely-related language that includes, amongst other things, a recursion construct.

$$\begin{aligned} 4 &\quad \text{let } t' = \text{tl}(xs) \text{ in} \\ 5 &\quad \text{cons}(f(\text{hd } xs), g' t') \end{aligned}$$

The justification that the recursion is well-founded is that the function being defined is only needed at the next time step. This is made explicit in the types, but the definition is otherwise essentially the familiar one. Having defined *map* (and the usual *zip*), we can program the stream of Fibonacci numbers neatly as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ fibs} &= \text{fix} (\lambda xs' : \bullet(S(\mathbb{N})). \\ 2 &\quad \text{let } xs = \text{await}(xs') \text{ in} \\ 3 &\quad \text{let } ys = \text{tl}(xs) \text{ in} \\ 4 &\quad \text{cons}(1, \text{cons}(1, \text{map } (+) (\text{zip } (xs, ys)))) \end{aligned}$$

There is some further subtlety here: in the subexpression *zip* (*xs*, *ys*), we zip together *xs* and *ys*, which are streams at *different* times. So *xs* needs to be "pushed into the future" in order to be used at the same time as *ys*. If we think of streams as sequences of events emitted over time, this means that we need to buffer *xs* in order to be able to use it with *ys*.

On the other hand, the typing rules block an ill-founded definition such as:

$$\text{BAD} = \text{fix}(\lambda xs : \bullet S(A). \text{await}(xs))$$

Here, the *await*(*xs*) term gives a term one step in the future of the expected time, which means that the program fails to type check.

Stream processors are often conveniently specified as finite state machines. One can easily program the translation from one representation to another using higher-order functions:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ unfold} &= \lambda f : T \rightarrow A \times \bullet(T). \text{fix} ( \\ 2 &\quad \lambda \text{loop} : \bullet(T \rightarrow S(A)). \lambda t : T. \\ 3 &\quad \text{let } (a, t') = f t \\ 4 &\quad \text{in } \text{cons}(a, (\text{await}(\text{loop}) \text{await } (t'))) \end{aligned}$$

Here *unfold* : ( $T \rightarrow A \times \bullet T$ )  $\rightarrow T \rightarrow S(A)$  takes a transition function mapping a state (of type  $T$ ) to an output (of type  $A$ ) and and a next state, together with an initial state, and produces the resulting stream of outputs.

Making well-foundedness a semantic property that can be verified using typechecking contrasts with the work on synchronous dataflow languages [4], in which guardedness is established via syntactic checks, and gives us a stronger equational theory. These syntactic checks can use dataflow analysis to allow some definitions we do not, but on the other hand our approach scales more naturally to higher-order programs.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION

### A. Idealized ML and Program Logic

**Implementation Language.** The programming language in which we implement our domain-specific language is a polymorphic lambda calculus with monadically typed side-effects. The types are the unit type  $1$ , the function space  $\tau \rightarrow \sigma$ , sums  $\tau + \sigma$ , products  $\tau \star \sigma$ , inductive types like the natural number type  $\mathbb{N}$ , the general reference type  $\text{ref } \tau$ , as well as (higher-kinded but still predicative) universal and existential types  $\forall \alpha : \kappa. \tau$  and  $\exists \alpha : \kappa. \tau$ . In addition, we have the monadic

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket &= \llbracket [A] \Rightarrow [B] \rrbracket & \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket &= 1 \\
\llbracket \bullet A \rrbracket &= \frac{1}{2} \llbracket [A] \rrbracket & \llbracket \Gamma, x : A_i \rrbracket &= \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \times \llbracket A_i \rrbracket \\
\llbracket S(A) \rrbracket &= \tilde{S}(\llbracket [A] \rrbracket) & \delta_A^n &\in A \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^n A \\
\llbracket A_i \rrbracket &= \frac{1}{2}^i \llbracket [A] \rrbracket & \delta_A^0 &= id_A \\
& & \delta_A^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{2}(\delta_A^n) \circ \delta_A
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^i &\in \frac{1}{2}^i A \times \frac{1}{2}^i B \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^i (A \times B) \\
zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{2}(zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^n) \circ zip_{\frac{1}{2}} \\
zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^0 &= id_{A \times B} \\
\epsilon^i &\in (\frac{1}{2}^i A \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^i B) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^i (A \Rightarrow B) \\
\epsilon^0 &= id_{A \Rightarrow B} \\
\epsilon^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{2}(\epsilon^n) \circ \epsilon \\
\epsilon_i^{-1} &\in \frac{1}{2}^i (A \Rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\frac{1}{2}^i A \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^i B) \\
\epsilon_n^{-1} &= id \\
\epsilon_{n+1}^{-1} &= \epsilon_n^{-1} \circ \epsilon^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^i \llbracket [A] \rrbracket}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \bullet e : \bullet A_i \rrbracket &= \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_{i+1} \rrbracket \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{cons}(e, e') : S(A)_i \rrbracket &= \text{let } h = \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket \text{ in} \\
&\quad \text{let } t = \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e' : S(A)_{i+1} \rrbracket \text{ in} \\
&\quad \frac{1}{2}^i (\text{cons}) \circ zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^i \circ \langle h, t \rangle \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e : A \rightarrow B_i \rrbracket &= \epsilon^i \circ \lambda(\llbracket \Gamma, x : A_i \vdash e : B_i \rrbracket) \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash x_n : A_j \rrbracket &= \delta_A^{j-i} \circ \pi_n, \text{ if } x_n : A_i \in \Gamma \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{await}(e) : A_{i+1} \rrbracket &= \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : \bullet A_i \rrbracket \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{hd } e : A_i \rrbracket &= \frac{1}{2}^i (\text{hd}) \circ \llbracket \Gamma \vdash t : S(A)_i \rrbracket \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{tl } e : S(A)_{i+1} \rrbracket &= \frac{1}{2}^i (\text{tl}) \circ \llbracket \Gamma \vdash t : S(A)_i \rrbracket \\
\llbracket \Gamma \vdash e e' : B_i \rrbracket &= \text{let } f = \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A \rightarrow B_i \rrbracket \text{ in} \\
&\quad \text{let } v = \llbracket \Gamma \vdash e' : A_i \rrbracket \text{ in} \\
&\quad \frac{1}{2}^i (\text{eval}) \circ zip_{\frac{1}{2}}^i \circ \langle f, v \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 2. Denotational Semantics

type  $\circ\tau$  for side-effecting computations producing values of type  $\tau$ . The side effects we consider are heap effects (such as reading, writing, or allocating references) and nontermination. The implementation language is standard, and we omit the details for reasons of space.

**Program Logic.** We reason about programs in the implementation language in the program logic whose syntax is shown in Figure 3. The Hoare triple  $\{p\}c\{a : \tau. q\}$  is used to specify computations, and is satisfied when running the computation  $c$  in any heap satisfying the predicate  $p$  either diverges or yields a heap satisfying  $q$ ; note that the value returned by terminating executions of  $c$  is bound (by  $a : \tau$ ) in the postcondition. These atomic specifications can then be combined with the usual logical connectives of intuitionistic logic including quantifiers ranging over the sorts in  $\omega$ . This permits us to give abstract specifications to modules using existential quantifiers to hide program implementations and predicates.

The assertions in the pre- and post-conditions are drawn from higher-order separation logic [11], including spatial connectives like the separating conjunction  $p * q$ . The universal

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Assertion Sorts } \omega &::= \tau \mid \kappa \mid \omega \Rightarrow \omega \mid \text{prop} \\
\text{Assertion } p &::= e \mid \tau \mid x \mid \lambda x : \omega. p \mid p q \\
\text{Constructors } & \mid \top \mid p \wedge q \mid p \Rightarrow q \mid \perp \mid p \vee q \\
& \mid \text{emp} \mid p * q \mid e \mapsto e' \\
& \mid \forall x : \omega. p \mid \exists x : \omega. p \mid S \\
\text{Specifications } S &::= \{p\}c\{a : \tau. q\} \mid \{p\} \\
& \mid S \text{ and } S' \mid S \Longrightarrow S' \mid S \text{ or } S' \\
& \mid \forall x : \omega. S \mid \exists x : \omega. S
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 3. Specification Language

and existential quantifiers  $\forall x : \omega. p$  and  $\exists x : \omega. p$  are higher-order quantifiers ranging over all sorts  $\omega$ . The sorts include the language types  $\tau$ , kinds  $\kappa$ , the sort of propositions  $\text{prop}$ , and function spaces over sorts  $\omega \Rightarrow \omega'$ . For the function space, we include lambda-abstraction and application. Because our assertion language contains within it the classical higher-order logic of sets, we will freely make use of features like subsets, indexed sums, and indexed products, exploiting their definability. Further details of this logic are given in the first author’s dissertation [12].

### B. The Implementation and its Correctness Proof

The basic idea underlying our implementation is the idea of representing a collection of streams with a dataflow graph. Instead of representing streams as (possibly-lazy) sequences of elements, we use mutable data structures, which enumerate the values of the stream as they evolve over time. We implement reactive programs with a dataflow graph, which runs inside an event loop. The event loop updates a clock cell to notify the cells in the graph that they may need to recompute themselves, and then it reads the cells it is interested in, doing (hopefully) the minimal amount of computation needed at each time step. We describe our program invariant precisely, illustrating it with extracts from the implementation, full details of which are given in the full version of the paper.

**Dataflow Graphs.** An imperative dataflow network is rather like a generalized spreadsheet. It has a collection of cells, each containing some code whose evaluation may read other cells. When a cell is read, the expression within the cell is evaluated, recursively triggering the evaluation of other cells as they are read by the program expression. Furthermore, each cell memoizes its expression, so that repeated reads of the same cell will not trigger re-evaluation.

We give the interface to a dataflow library in Figure 4. We have implemented and given a correctness proof of this library in prior work [13], [12], but briefly describe the specification here, since we use it as a component of the present work.

The interface features two abstract data types, cell and code. Values of type cell  $\alpha$  are dataflow graph nodes that compute a value of type  $\alpha$ . The expressions within each cell are of the monadic type code  $\alpha$ , computing both a value of type  $\alpha$  and the set of cells that were read during that computation.

Since the dataflow graph maintains many internal invariants, we give a “domain-specific separation logic” as an abstract

interface to the graph’s state, with library-specific formulas  $\theta$  indexing the dataflow predicate  $H(\theta)$ .  $I$  and  $\phi \otimes \psi$  correspond to the emp and separating conjunction of separation logic, denoting empty graphs and two disjoint collections of cells. In addition to the  $\text{ref}(r, v)$  predicate (which corresponds to points-to in separation logic), we include a pair of predicates describing cells. The predicate  $\text{cell}^-(c, e)$  means that  $c$  is a cell in the dataflow graph containing code  $e$ , and that it is not ready — i.e., it needs to be evaluated before producing a value. The predicate  $\text{cell}^+(c, e, v, rs)$  almost means the opposite: it means that  $c$  is ready (i.e., has a memoized value), *conditional* on all its dependencies in  $rs$  being ready themselves, which we describe with two relations  $\text{unready}(\theta, c)$ , and  $\text{ready}(\theta, c, v)$ . These establish respectively that the cell  $c$  is unready — either it or one of its ancestors are a negative cell — or that  $c$  and all of its ancestors are positive cells and it contains  $v$ .

We now explain the specifications of the code expressions in Figure 4. First, all of these specifications are parameterized by an extra quantifier  $\forall \psi. \dots$ , letting us manually build in a kind of frame rule into this specification — any formula we derive will also be quantified, and hence works in larger dataflow graphs. One oddity of these rules is that the framed formula  $\psi$  is asymmetric; in the postcondition, we frame on a formula like  $\mathfrak{R}(u, \psi)$ . This is a “ramification operator”, whose purpose is to look at the dependencies of cells in  $\psi$  and ensure that they are not falsely marked as ready due to the elements of the set of cells  $u$  changing from un-ready to ready.

On lines 1-8 of Figure 4, we see the specifications for the return and bind operation of this monad. On lines 9-12, we give specifications for creating, reading and writing local state, as well as (on line 9) creating a new cell with code in it. On lines 13-14, we give the specification for reading from a ready cell, which merely returns the value in the cell without modifying the heap. On lines 15-22, we specify the behavior of reading an unready cell — if we know that executing its body takes us from  $\theta$  to  $\theta'$ , then reading the cell will do the same, as well as setting the cell to a positive state.

**The Implementation.** The ML interpretations  $\llbracket A \rrbracket$  of DSL types  $A$  are given in Figure 5. Finite products are implemented with ML units and pairs. Streams of type  $A$  are implemented with type  $\text{cell} \llbracket A \rrbracket$ , the type of imperative nodes in our dataflow graph library. The ‘next’ modality  $\bullet A$  is realized by code  $\llbracket A \rrbracket$ . Unlike our denotational semantics, in which  $A$  and  $\frac{1}{2}A$  share the same underlying set, an implementation  $c$  for a next value  $v$  is a computation yielding  $v$ , when run from any memory one step in the future.

The function space  $A \rightarrow B$  is interpreted by an ML existential type, which explicitly represents a closure. This closure contains a field  $\text{env}$  holding free variables and a function,  $\text{hom}$ , taking the environment and an argument to compute a value of type  $\llbracket B \rrbracket$ , possibly reading and creating cells as part of its execution. The delay field contains code to delay the closed-over value, which lets us implement the delay action  $\delta_{A \rightarrow B}$  at function type.

To relate the high-level semantic view of programs with the low-level implementation in terms of mutable dataflow

```

1  $\forall \psi. \{H(\psi)\} \text{return}(v) \{(a, \emptyset). H(\psi) \wedge a = v\}$ 
2  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta \otimes \psi)\} e \{(a, r). H(\theta' \otimes \mathfrak{R}(u, \psi)) \wedge (a, r) = (v, r_1)\}$ 
3 and
4  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta' \otimes \psi)\} f v \{(a, r). H(\theta'' \otimes \mathfrak{R}(u', \psi)) \wedge$ 
5  $(a, r) = (v', r_2)\}$ 
6  $\implies$ 
7  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta \otimes \psi)\} \text{bind } e f \{(a, r). H(\theta'' \otimes \mathfrak{R}(u \cup u', \psi))$ 
8  $\wedge (a, r) = (v', r_1 \cup r_2)\}$ 
9  $\forall \psi. \{H(\psi)\} \text{newref}(v) \{(a, \emptyset). H(\psi \otimes \text{ref}(a, v))\}$ 
10  $\forall \psi. \{H(\text{ref}(r, v) \otimes \psi)\} \text{get}(r) \{(a, \emptyset). H(\text{ref}(r, v) \otimes \psi) \wedge a = v\}$ 
11  $\forall \psi. \{H(\text{ref}(r, -) \otimes \psi)\} \text{set}(r, v) \{(a, \emptyset). H(\text{ref}(r, v) \otimes \psi)\}$ 
12  $\forall \psi. \{H(\psi)\} \text{cell}(\text{code}) \{(a, \emptyset). H(\text{cell}^-(a, \text{code}) \otimes \psi)\}$ 
13  $\text{ready}(\theta, c, v) \implies$ 
14  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta \otimes \psi)\} \text{read}(c) \{(a, r). H(\theta \otimes \psi) \wedge (a, r) = (v, \{c\})\}$ 
15  $\text{unready}(\theta \otimes \text{cell}^\pm(c, e), c)$ 
16 and
17  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta \otimes \psi)\} e \{(a, r). H(\theta' \otimes \mathfrak{R}(u, \psi)) \wedge (a, r) = (v, rs)\}$ 
18  $\implies$ 
19  $\forall \psi. \{H(\theta \otimes \psi)\}$ 
20  $\text{read}(c)$ 
21  $\{(a, \{c\}). H(\mathfrak{R}(\{c\}, \theta') \otimes \mathfrak{R}(u \cup \{c\}, \psi) \otimes \text{cell}^+(c, e, v, rs))$ 
22  $\wedge a = v\}$ 

```

Fig. 4. Dataflow Library Specification

graphs, we use a *step-indexed Kripke logical relation* [14]. The relation is parameterized by types,  $A$ , step-indices,  $k$ , and ‘abstract memories’,  $M$ . Step-indexing is necessary because this program uses higher-order store, and so induction on types is not possible. Abstract memories are our possible worlds, abstracting the current state of the dataflow graph. The permissible evolutions of the dataflow graph as the program executes induce three preorder structures on abstract memories. First, states change as a single timestep proceeds, for which we use the preorder  $M' \prec M$ . Within the scope of a single computation, we may also need to locally perform updates which do not directly correspond to transitions in the global order, which we write  $M' \sqsubseteq M$  (c.f. “private transitions” in [15]). Finally, the global clock can advance, and so the ordering  $M' \ll_n M$  asserts that  $M'$  is a state which can occur  $n$  steps in the future of  $M$ .

The logical relation, which we write  $V_A^k(M)$ , does not simply relate pairs of semantic and implementation values. Instead, the relation at type  $A$  is a predicate on functions  $\text{ar}(M) \rightarrow \llbracket A \rrbracket \times \llbracket A \rrbracket$ . Here,  $\text{ar}$  is a functor from the  $\sqsubseteq$  partial order on memories (viewed as a posetal category) into  $\text{Set}$ , and so  $V_A^k(M) \subseteq \text{Set}(\text{ar}(M), \llbracket A \rrbracket \times \llbracket A \rrbracket)$ . The inspiration for this move comes from functor category semantics of local state. A  $U \in V_A^k(M)$  can be thought of as a heap-varying pair of semantic and implementation values, and the naturality condition of the poset enforces the parametricity of computations with respect to the local state given by  $\text{ar}(M)$ .

The relation is defined in Figure 6. Pairs are related if their components are related, and a stream  $vs$  is realized by a dataflow cell  $v$ , when it is in the abstract memory  $M$ , and the memory asserts that this cell yields the elements  $vs$ . Delayed

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle 1 \rangle &= \text{unit} \\
\langle A \times B \rangle &= \langle A \rangle \star \langle B \rangle \\
\langle A \rightarrow B \rangle &= \exists \tau. \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{env} : \tau; \\ \text{hom} : \tau \star \langle A \rangle \rightarrow \text{code} \langle B \rangle \\ \text{delay} : \tau \rightarrow \text{code} \text{code} \tau \end{array} \right\} \\
\langle S(A) \rangle &= \text{cell} \langle A \rangle \\
\langle \mathbb{N} \rangle &= \text{int} \\
\langle \bullet A \rangle &= \text{code} \langle A \rangle \\
\langle \text{Hom}(A, B) \rangle &= \langle A \rangle \rightarrow \text{code} \langle B \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 5. ML Implementation of DSL Types

values are thunks, which when run one step in the future, yield an appropriate value. At function type, our relation states that functions must work properly with both the evaluation map and the delay operation at function type. The computation relation  $T_A^k(M)$  says that if we run a term  $c$  in any concrete heap realizing the memory  $M$ , it computes a value realizing  $v$ , taking us to a future memory state in the same time step. We also reduce the step count to ensure the well-foundedness of the relation. Note that we allow local extension  $M_1 \sqsubseteq M$  before executing the code, and the postcondition requires that  $c$  does not alter these extensions.

Finally, we give the relation for hom-sets, which relates particular semantic values and terms. It says that in any memory, applying a heap-indexed value to the term, should yield the result of applying the map to the value in that heap.

**Abstract Memory.** An abstract memory  $M \in Mem$  is a tuple describing a dataflow graph, defined in Figure 7. The five components  $S, D, I$  and  $(E, \alpha)$  categorize the four uses of state in our implementation. The set  $S$  is the set of dataflow cells representing stream values. Its associated function  $\sigma$  sends each cell  $c \in S$  to the pair of the stream  $c$  realizes, and the  $c$ 's current implementation state.

The second component,  $D$ , is a set of references used to forward values across time steps. Since our semantics is pure, but represents values with mutable data structures, we need to fix up cross-temporal values whenever the clock advances. Each  $r \in D$  stores a computation, which is either a delayed thunk scheduled to run on the next time step, or a thunk received from the previous time step, ready to run now to yield a value. The function  $\rho^D$  sends each reference to a pair of the stream of values it yields, and the current computation value it holds.

The component  $I$  gives the references used to implement cons. Its type  $A \times \bullet S(A) \rightarrow S(A)$  tells us it takes a value and a thunk, and returning a cell yielding the cons'd stream.<sup>2</sup>

```

1 cons : Hom(A × •S(A), S(A))
2 cons (x, dxs) =
3   do r ← newref (Init x);
4   ys ← cell (do () ← read(clock));
5   x' ← get r;

```

<sup>2</sup>The notation  $f : \text{Hom}(A, B)$ , where  $f$  is the name of a categorical combinator  $f$ , means that  $f$  and  $f$  lie in the Hom relation — that is,  $(f, f) \in \text{Hom}(A, B)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
1 \quad V_1^k(M)(U) &= \top \\
2 \quad V_{A \times B}^k(M)(U) &= \\
3 \quad &V_A^k(M)(Fst(U)) \wedge V_B^k(M)(Snd(U)) \\
4 \quad V_{S(A)}^k(M)(U) &= \\
5 \quad &\forall j \leq k, n \leq j, M' \ll_n M. T_A^{j-n}(M')(Head(U)) \\
6 \quad V_{\bullet A}^k(M)(U) &= \\
7 \quad &\forall j \leq k, M' \ll_1 M. T_A^{j-1}(M')(U) \\
8 \quad V_{A \rightarrow B}^k(M)(U) &= \\
9 \quad &\forall j \leq k, M' \prec M, U' \in V_A^j(M'). \\
10 \quad &T_B^j(M')(Eval(U, U')) \text{ and } T_{\bullet(A \rightarrow B)}^j(M')(Delay(U)) \\
11 \quad T_A^k(M)(U) &= \\
12 \quad &\forall j < k, M_1 \sqsubseteq M, e_1 \in \text{ar}(M_1), \psi. \\
13 \quad &\text{let } (v, c) = U(e_1) \text{ in} \\
14 \quad &\{Heap_j(M_1, e_1, \psi)\} \\
15 \quad &c \\
16 \quad &\{(a, rs). \exists M_2 \prec M_1, e_2 \in \text{ar}(M_2), U_2 \in V_A^j(M_2). \\
17 \quad &Heap_j(M_2, e_2, \mathfrak{R}(U, \psi)) \wedge e_2 = e_1 \wedge \\
18 \quad &(v, a) = U'(e_2) \wedge rs \subseteq S_{M_2}\} \\
19 \quad Eval(U, U') &= \lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). \text{let } (f, f) = U(e) \text{ in} \\
20 \quad &\text{let } (v, v) = U'(e) \text{ in} \\
21 \quad &(f v, \text{eval}(f, v)) \\
22 \quad Delay_A(U) &= \lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). \text{let } (v, v) = U(e) \text{ in} \\
23 \quad &(v, \text{delay}_A(v)) \\
24 \quad Fst(U) &= \lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). \text{let } ((a, b), (a, b)) = U(e) \text{ in } (a, a) \\
25 \quad Snd(U) &= \lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). \text{let } ((a, b), (a, b)) = U(e) \text{ in } (b, b) \\
26 \quad Head(U) &= \lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). \text{let } (vs, vs) = U(e) \text{ in } (vs_0, \text{hd}(vs)) \\
27 \quad \text{Hom}(A, B)(f, f) &= \\
28 \quad &\forall k, M \prec M_\perp, U' \in V_A^k(M). \\
29 \quad &(\lambda e \in \text{ar}(M). (f, f(U' e))) \in T_B^k(M)
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 6. The Logical Relation

```

6   case x' of
7     Init x → do set r Make(dxs); return x
8     Make d → do xs ← d; set r Done(xs); hd(xs)
9     Done xs → hd(xs);
10  register(ys)

```

The implementation first stores a reference to the head value. After the cons cell returns the head, it saves the thunk to compute the tail. On the step after that, it uses the thunk to build the tail stream, which it uses to generate all subsequent values. For each reference  $r$  in  $I$ , the function  $\rho^I$  says which semantic stream  $r$  represents, and which of the three possible states the reference is in. (*register* marks cells using state.)

The fourth and fifth components  $E$  and  $\alpha$  track the references used to implement the distributivity of functions and the next modality  $\epsilon : (\bullet A \rightarrow \bullet B) \rightarrow \bullet(A \rightarrow B)$ . The set  $E$  is the set of all of the references, and  $\alpha$  is the subset of  $E$  denoting the active references. To see how they are used, consider the implementation of  $\epsilon$ :

```

1 epsilon : Hom(•A → •B, •(A → B))
2 epsilon f =
3   do t ← newref None;
4   a' ← return (do v ← get r; return (valOf v));
5   b' ← eval(f, a');

```

```

6   return (return (pack(A, {env=b';
7     delay = delay $\bullet$ B;
8     hom =  $\lambda(b', a)$ .
9       do old  $\leftarrow$  get  $t$ ;
10      set  $t$  (Some  $a$ );
11       $b \leftarrow b'$ ;
12      set  $t$  old;
13      return  $b$ }))

```

In this function, we call the argument function right away, using a dummy computation  $a'$  that dereferences a forwarding pointer  $t$ . This call is safe since  $t$  will not be dereferenced until the next time step. Then, on the following time step, we construct a function which computes a value by first setting  $t$  to its argument, and then evaluating the thunk from the previous time step. Since  $t$  changes at each call of the returned function, there is no fixed value it always contains, which is why elements of the relation are parameterized by  $\alpha$ -values. Modifications to  $t$  are only in the local relation  $\sqsubseteq$ , which is why we unset it before returning. The reference  $t$  is always in  $E$ , but is in  $\alpha$  only when the thunk  $b'$  executes.

Cells maintain a dynamic dependency graph to memoize their computations, and so we also specify how dependencies evolve over time. The  $Deps$  component is an irreflexive partial order overapproximating the true dependency graph (called  $R$ ) — one cell may read another only if it is below the other in this ordering, ensuring that all dependencies are acyclic.

These dataflow cells use auxiliary state. To specify how to use that state, we use the components  $reader : L \rightarrow S$  and  $writer : L \rightarrow S$  (here  $L = I \cup D$ ) to specify the ownership of the references in  $L$ .  $reader$  tells us the unique reading cell in  $S$  for each reference, and  $writer$  identifies the unique writing cell in  $S$ . To ensure writers do not trample readers, we require each location's reader to be a dependency of its writer. Finally,  $writer$  is a partial function, which lets us defer defining a location's writer. Consider the fixed point for streams:

```

1  fix : Hom( $A \times \bullet S(B)$ ,  $S(B)$ )  $\rightarrow$  Hom( $A$ ,  $S(B)$ )
2  fix  $f = \lambda a$ . do  $r \leftarrow$  newref None;
3     preinput  $\leftarrow$  cell (get  $r$ );
4     // preinput is  $r$ 's reader, but  $r$  has no writer
5     input  $\leftarrow$  return (do  $vs' \leftarrow$  preinput;
6       cell (do  $v' \leftarrow$  head( $vs'$ );
7         valOf  $v'$ ));
8     // call  $f$ , using preinput
9     preoutput  $\leftarrow$   $f(a, input)$ ;
10    // out is  $r$ 's writer, but can only be defined
11    // after the call to  $f$ 
12    out  $\leftarrow$  cell (do ()  $\leftarrow$  read(clock);
13      _  $\leftarrow$  hd(preinput);
14       $v \leftarrow$  hd(preoutput);
15       $d \leftarrow$  delay $_B(v)$ ;
16      set  $r$   $d$ ;
17      return  $v$ )
18    register (out)

```

We call a function  $f$  in a memory state where  $r$  has no defined writer, in order to create the cell whose outputs become inputs.

**The Heap Relation.** The definition in Figure 7 makes no reference to the logical relation, and does not relate any semantic values to implementation values. The heap relation  $Heap_k(M, e, \psi)$ , defined in Figure 8, does this. Lines 2-4

```

1  Mem =
2   $\Sigma S \in Cell, D, I, (E, \alpha) \in Loc$ .
3  let  $L = I \cup D$  and  $C = S \cup \{clock\}$  in
4   $\sigma : \Pi(A, c) \in S. S(\llbracket A \rrbracket) \times \text{code}(\llbracket A \rrbracket) \times (1 + (\llbracket A \rrbracket) \times \mathcal{P}(C))$ ,
5   $\rho^D : \Pi(A, r) \in D. S(\frac{1}{2}\llbracket A \rrbracket) \times (\bullet A)$ ,
6   $\rho^I : \Pi(A, r) \in I. \llbracket S(A) \rrbracket \times ((\llbracket A \rrbracket) + (\bullet S(A)) + (\llbracket S(A) \rrbracket))$ ,
7   $Deps \subseteq C \times C$ ,
8   $reader : L \rightarrow S$ ,
9   $writer : L \rightarrow S$ ,
10  $I, D, E, \{i\}$  are mutually disjoint and  $\alpha \subseteq E$  and  $clock \notin S$ 
11  $reader, writer$  are injective
12  $Deps$  strict partial order
13 let  $ready = \lambda c \in S. \sigma(c) = (\_, \text{inr}(\_, \_))$  in
14 let  $V = \{c \in S \mid ready(c)\}$  in
15 let  $R = \{(c, d) \in C \times C \mid d \in \sigma(c)\}$ 
16  $\forall c \in V \cap writer(L). (c, clock) \in R^+$ 
17  $\forall c \in V \cap writer(L). (c, reader(L)) \in R^*$ 
18  $R^+ \subseteq Deps|_{V \times V}$ 

```

Fig. 7. Abstract Memories

translate the mathematical assertions in  $M$  into the assertions of the domain-specific logic used to specify the dataflow library. The extra argument  $\psi$  names the cells not in  $M$ , and we also explicitly require the existence of a cell for the  $clock$ , and a registry  $i$  of all the cells that need to write state. For each cell in  $S, D, I$ , and  $E$ , we assert that there is a cell or reference containing the implementation value promised in  $\sigma, \rho^D, \rho^I$ , and  $e$  using the  $cells()$ ,  $refs()$ , and  $eps()$  auxiliary functions (defined on lines 23-29). The map  $e$ , which assigns values to each of the elements of  $\alpha_M$ , is not part of  $M$  but rather is a parameter of the heap relation.

On lines 5-8, we relate the implementation of the graph with its specification. On line 5, each stream cell  $c \in S$  must satisfy the *Stream* predicate (lines 9-10), which asserts that reading it for the next  $n$  time steps will yield the first  $n$  elements of the stream. On line 6, we use the *Delay* predicate (lines 11-14) to assert every reference  $r \in D$  is a computation either scheduled to run tomorrow (if its writer has already run and updated it), or is good to run today (in case its writer is not ready, and has not yet used its contents). On line 7, we use *Consref* (lines 15-22) to assert each element of  $I$  is in an appropriate state depending on how the cons cell has been used. On line 7, we use *Eps* (line 23) to assert that all of the elements of  $\alpha_M$  contain the values  $e$  gives.

**Memory Orderings.** As mentioned earlier, there are three ways in which the abstract memory may evolve, which we describe in Figure 9. The order  $M' \sqsubseteq M$  describes how  $M$  can become  $M'$  within a single time step.

Under  $M' \sqsubseteq M$ , the respective  $S, D, I, E$  and  $\alpha$  sets may grow, reflecting new allocation and activation, as can the allowed dependency graph  $Deps$  and actual dependency graph  $R$ . Both the  $reader$  and  $writer$  partial functions can be extended, to reflect the readers and writers of newly-allocated cells (or in the case or writers, to reflect a cell taking on the responsibility of updating a reference). Each of  $\sigma, \rho^D, \rho^I$  can also be extended, but has its own preorder, to reflect their differing state update protocols.



On lines 6 and 7, we see that  $\sigma_{M'}$  extends  $\sigma_M$  just in case that all ready cells in  $M$  are still ready. This allows the future state to evaluate unready cells. On lines 8-10, we describe how the  $\rho^I$  can change. If a reference's writer has not run, then the state must not have changed. On lines 11-14, we see how  $\rho^D$  can evolve. As before, states cannot change before a write. However, in this case, if there is a write, the expected semantic value must become the tail of the stream, since a new value has been written for use in the next time step.

The  $M' \prec M$  preorder (lines 15-17) is a restriction of  $M' \sqsubseteq M$  to disallow local extensions. It adds the conditions that cells without writers cannot change, nor can the active set  $\alpha_M$ .

The  $M'' \ll_n M$  preorder says  $M''$  is  $n$  steps in the future of  $M$ . This is defined inductively on lines 18-19, making use of two auxiliary relations. If  $M''$  is zero steps in the future, then this is just the same as saying  $M'' \prec M$ . If it is  $n + 1$  steps in the future, then there is some intermediate state  $M'$  which is within the timestep ordering of  $M$  and *complete*. That is, all references in  $I_{M'}$  and  $D_{M'}$  have writers, all of which have performed their writes, and every reference in  $B_{M'}$  has been set, and  $\alpha_{M'}$  is empty. Then,  $M''$  must be  $n$  steps in the future of the next state  $Next(M')$  of  $M'$ . The function  $Next(M')$ , defined on lines 23-35, describes what happens when the clock ticks. All clock-dependent cells become unready, and we take the tails of the streams in  $S$  (and the references in  $I$ ).

On lines 36-37, we give the explicit definitions of the arity functor. Its action on objects gives assignments of values to  $\alpha$ , and its action on the order is simply restriction. The empty memory  $M_\perp$  is a minimal element for all three preorders.

**Adequacy.** Since we can implement and prove correct an implementation of each combinator used in the denotational semantics in Figure 2, we can prove correctness by replacing square brackets  $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket$  with banana brackets  $(\Gamma \vdash e : A_i)$  to swap semantic combinators with the implementation combinators.

*Theorem 5:* If  $\cdot \vdash e : A_i$ , then  $(\llbracket \cdot \vdash e : A_i \rrbracket, (\cdot \vdash e : A_i)) \in \text{Hom}(1, \bullet^i A)$

*Theorem 6:* (Ticking the Clock) Suppose  $M \prec M_\perp$ , and let step be the expression:

do  $ws \leftarrow !i$ ; *iter* read  $ws$ ; *update clock* ();  $\_ \leftarrow$  read *clock*  
Then for all  $k$ , we can show the following Hoare triple:

- 1  $\{Heap_{k+1}(M, \emptyset, I)\}$
- 2 *step*
- 3  $\{\exists M' \ll_1 M. Heap_k(M', \emptyset, I)\}$

By reading all of the cells with writers, we ensure that the state is complete, which makes it safe to update the clock and invalidate every cell dependent on it.

*Theorem 7:* (Adequacy) Now choose  $\cdot \vdash vs : S(\mathbb{N})_0$ , and let  $cmd = (\cdot \vdash vs : S(\mathbb{N})_0)$ . For all  $k$  and  $i \leq k$ ,

- 1  $\{Heap_k(M_\perp, \emptyset, I)\}$
- 2 do  $vs \leftarrow cmd$ ;
- 3 repeat *step*  $i$ ;
- 4  $hd(vs)$
- 5  $\{(a, \_). \exists M' \ll_i M. Heap_{k-i}(M', \emptyset, I) \wedge a = vs_i\}$

Here, we first show that step advances the clock (thus showing how to implement the event loops), and then show

- 1  $Heap_k(M, e, \psi) =$
- 2  $H(\psi \otimes \text{cell}^+(\text{clock}, (), \text{return}(), \emptyset) \otimes \text{ref}(i, \text{dom}(\text{writer})) \otimes$
- 3  $\text{cells}(\sigma_M) \otimes \text{refs}(\rho_M^I) \otimes \text{refs}(\rho_M^D) \otimes \text{refs}(\rho_M^B) \otimes$
- 4  $\text{eps}(E_M, \alpha_M, e) \wedge$
- 5  $\forall(A, c) \in S_M. Stream_A^k(M)(\pi_1(\sigma_M(c)), c) \wedge$
- 6  $\forall(A, r) \in D_M. Delay_A^k(M)(r, \text{head}(\pi_1(\rho_M^I(r))), \pi_2(\rho^I(r))) \wedge$
- 7  $\forall(A, r) \in I_M. Consref_A^k(M)(\pi_1(\rho_M^I(r)), \pi_2(\rho^I(r))) \wedge$
- 8  $\forall(A, r) \in \alpha_M. Eps_A^k(M)(r, e(r))$
- 9  $Stream_A^k(M)(vs, c) =$
- 10  $\forall j \leq k, n \leq j, M' \ll_n M. T_A^{j-n}(M')(\lambda e. (vs_n, hd\ c))$
- 11  $Delay_A^k(M)(r, v, c) =$
- 12 if  $r \in \text{dom}(\text{writer}_M) \wedge \text{ready}_M(\text{writer}_M(r))$
- 13 then  $\forall j \leq k. V_{A}^j(M)(\lambda e. (v, c))$
- 14 else  $\forall j \leq k. T_A^j(M)(\lambda e. (v, c))$
- 15  $Consref_A^k(M)(r, xs, \text{Init}(v)) =$
- 16  $\forall j \leq k. V_{A}^j(M)(\lambda e. (\text{head}(xs), v))$
- 17  $Consref_A^k(r, xs, \text{Make}(c), M) =$
- 18 if  $r \in \text{dom}(\text{writer}_M) \wedge \text{ready}_M(\text{writer}_M(r))$
- 19 then  $\forall j \leq k. V_{S(A)}^j(M)(\lambda e. (\text{tail}(xs), c))$
- 20 else  $\forall j \leq k. T_{S(A)}^j(M)(\lambda e. (xs, c))$
- 21  $Consref_A^k(M)(r, xs, \text{Done}(xs)) =$
- 22  $\forall j \leq k. V_{S(A)}^j(M)(\lambda e. (xs, xs))$
- 23  $Eps_A^k(M)(r, v, v) = V_A^k(M)(\lambda e. (v, v))$
- 24  $\text{cells}(\sigma_M) = \bigotimes_{c \in S_M} \text{cell}(c, \sigma_M(c))$
- 25  $\text{cell}((A, c), (\_, \text{code}, \text{Some}(v, ds))) = \text{cell}^+(c, \text{code}, v, ds)$
- 26  $\text{cell}((A, c), (\_, \text{code}, \text{None})) = \text{cell}^-(c, \text{code})$
- 27  $\text{refs}(\rho) = \bigotimes_{r \in \text{dom}(\rho)} \text{ref}(r, \pi_2(\rho(r)))$
- 28  $\text{eps}(E, \alpha, e) =$
- 29  $\bigotimes_{r \in E} \text{if } r \in \alpha \text{ then } \text{ref}(r, \pi_2(e(r))) \text{ else } \text{ref}(r, \text{None})$

Fig. 8. Heap Relation

that if  $vs$  is a closed term of type  $S(\mathbb{N})$ , then building the stream it computes and advancing the event loop  $i$  steps will give us the  $i$ -th element of the stream.

## V. DISCUSSION

We presented a model for reactive programs based on ultrametric spaces, a domain-specific language corresponding to that model, an implementation of the language in terms of dataflow graphs and a proof that the implementation is correct with respect to the semantics. A OCaml implementation of the DSL, extended with a monadic treatment of GUI operations, is available from our websites; we will describe the use of our model for GUI programming in a subsequent publication.

(Ultra)metric spaces have appeared before in semantics, notably in concurrency [16] and in connection with the solution of domain equations [17]. Escardo [18] gives a ultrametric space semantics of PCF. His lift monad construction translates quite naturally to our setting, with  $A_\perp = (A \times \mathbb{N}) + 1$ , with a metric resembling the recursive type  $\mu\alpha. 1 + \bullet\alpha$ . This has obvious applications for modelling features of interactive programs such as timeouts, which we plan to investigate in the future. Birkedal et al. [19] have recently used ultrametric spaces to solve recursive equations arising from modelling

- 1  $M' \sqsubseteq M =$
- 2  $S_{M'} \supseteq S_M \wedge I_{M'} \supseteq I_M \wedge D_{M'} \supseteq D_M \wedge B_{M'} \supseteq B_M \wedge$
- 3  $reader_{M'} \supseteq reader_M \wedge writer_{M'} \supseteq writer_M \wedge$
- 4  $Deps_{M'} \supseteq Deps_M \wedge R_{M'} \supseteq R_M \wedge$
- 5  $\rho_{M'}^I \supseteq \rho_M^I \wedge \rho_{M'}^D \supseteq \rho_M^D \wedge \rho_{M'}^B \supseteq \rho_M^B \wedge \sigma_{M'} \supseteq \sigma_M$
- 6  $\sigma_{M'} \supseteq \sigma_M =$
- 7  $\forall c \in S_M. ready_M(c) \Rightarrow \sigma_M(c) = \sigma_{M'}(c)$
- 8  $\rho_{M'}^I \supseteq \rho_M^I =$
- 9  $\forall r \in I_M, c \in writer_M(c).$
- 10  $ready_M(c) \vee \neg ready_{M'}(c) \Rightarrow \rho_M^I(r) = \rho_{M'}^I(r)$
- 11  $\rho_{M'}^D \supseteq \rho_M^D =$
- 12  $\forall r \in D_M, c \in writer_M(c).$
- 13  $ready_M(c) \vee \neg ready_{M'}(c) \Rightarrow \rho_M^D(r) = \rho_{M'}^D(r) \wedge$
- 14  $\neg ready_M(c) \wedge ready_{M'}(c) \Rightarrow \pi_1(\rho_{M'}^D) = tail((\pi_1(\rho_M^D)))$
- 15  $M' \prec M$
- 16  $M' \sqsubseteq M \wedge \alpha_{M'} = \alpha_M \wedge$
- 17  $[(L_{M'} - \text{dom}(writer_{M'})) = (L_M - \text{dom}(writer_M))]$
- 18  $M' \ll_0 M = M' \prec M$
- 19  $M'' \ll_{n+1} M =$
- 20  $\exists M'. M' \prec M \wedge \text{complete}(M') \wedge M'' \ll_n Next(M')$
- 21  $\text{complete}(M) =$
- 22  $\forall r \in L. r \in \text{dom}(writer) \wedge ready_M(writer(c)) \wedge \alpha_M = \emptyset$
- 23  $Next(M \in Mem) = M' \in Mem, \text{ where}$
- 24  $S_{M'} = S_M,$
- 25  $D_{M'} = D_M,$
- 26  $I_{M'} = I_M,$
- 27  $B_{M'} = B_M,$
- 28  $Deps_{M'} = Deps_M,$
- 29  $reader_{M'} = writer_M,$
- 30  $reader_{M'} = writer_M,$
- 31  $\sigma_{M'} = \lambda c \in S_{M'}. (tail(\pi_1(\sigma_M(c))), \pi_2(\sigma_M(c)), update_M(c))$
- 32  $\rho_{M'}^D = \rho_M^D$
- 33  $\rho_{M'}^I = \lambda c \in S_{M'}. (tail(\pi_1(\rho_M^I(c))), \pi_2(\rho_M^I(c)))$
- 34  $\rho_{M'}^B = \rho_M^B$
- 35  $update_M(c) = \text{if } (clock, c) \in R_M \text{ then None else } \pi_3(\sigma_M(c))$
- 36  $\text{ar}(M) = \Pi(A, r) \in \alpha_M. ([A] \times \{A\})$
- 37  $\text{ar}(M_2 \sqsubseteq M_1) = \lambda e_2. \lambda r \in \alpha_{M_1}. e_2(r)$

Fig. 9. Orderings on Memories

stateful programs in both operational and domain-theoretic settings.

Uustalu and Vene [20] observed that streams have a comonad structure whose co-Kleisli category is Cartesian closed, elegantly extending implicit lifting from the first-order setting to the higher-order case. Unfortunately, it is difficult to interpret fixed points in this category. The category of free coalgebras has too few global points (maps  $S(1) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{N})$ ) to denote very many streams, including such basic ones such as  $(0, 1, 4, 9, \dots)$ .

The original work on FRP [1] was based on unrestricted stream programs. Variations such as *arrowized FRP* [21] were introduced to give combinators restricting the definable stream transformers to the causal ones, corresponding roughly to the first-order stream programs, with some special operators for dynamic behavior.

Cooper and Krishnamurthi [22] describe FrTime, a dataflow-based FRP system for PLT Scheme (now Racket).

They carefully restrict higher-order features to a set of primitives to simplify implementation and block memory leaks.

A notable feature of traditional FRP, which we have so far ignored, is that it deals with *continuous* time. On the semantic side, it looks straightforward to model continuous behaviors as functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow A$ , but relating that to an implementation delivering time deltas (instead of ticks, as presently) will be more challenging. We hope our proof framework can extend to proving a sampling theorem, as in Wan and Hudak [23].

There has been much recent work on the foundations of step-indexed logical relations [14]. Our relation demonstrates a very intricate use of higher-order state, and it would be particularly interesting to see whether it has a natural expression in Dreyer *et al.*'s [15] transition-system indexed relations.

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**Relation to Nakano's Calculus.**

Recently, Birkedal *et al.* [8] gave a metric model of Nakano's calculus of guarded recursion [7], using a model very similar to ours — in fact, once we learned of this, we chose our syntax of types to be identical. Below, we give a semantics-preserving interderivability theorem for the fragments of the two systems without recursive types.

Since Nakano gave a general syntax for contractive, equirecursive types, we will follow the syntax in Birkedal *et al.* [8], which is the fragment of Nakano's calculus corresponding more closely to our language. We will write  $\Delta$  for a sequence of hypotheses  $x : A, \dots, x' : A'$ , and write  $\bullet^n \Delta$  for  $x : \bullet^n A, \dots, x' : \bullet^n A'$ . We can send these contexts to our annotated contexts by  $\langle x : A, \dots, x' : A' \rangle^{+n} = x : A_n, \dots, x' : A'_n$ . Then the following two theorems hold for the  $1, \times, \rightarrow, \bullet$  fragment of the two systems.

**Lemma 2:** (Derivability of Subtyping) If  $A \leq B$  in Nakano's calculus, then there exists a term  $e$  such that  $\cdot \vdash e : A \rightarrow B$  in our calculus. Furthermore, their denotational interpretation of the coercion equals our interpretation of  $e$ .

**Theorem 8:** (Interderivability) If  $\bullet^n \Delta \vdash t : \bullet^n A$  in Nakano's calculus, then there exists a term  $e$  such that  $\langle \Delta \rangle^{+n} \vdash e : A_n$ , such that  $\llbracket \bullet^n \Delta \vdash t : \bullet^n A \rrbracket$  under Birkedal *et al.*'s semantics equals  $\llbracket \langle \Delta \rangle^{+n} \vdash e : A_n \rrbracket$  under our semantics. Furthermore, the converse also holds.

The proof is a routine structural induction, which makes use of the time adjustment lemma.

Unfortunately, this correspondence does not extend to recursive types, as Nakano's rules for recursive types (and hence Birkedal *et al.*'s semantics) differ from ours.

They interpret recursive types so that  $\llbracket \mu\alpha. \tau(\alpha) \rrbracket \simeq \frac{1}{2} \llbracket \tau(\mu\alpha. \tau(\alpha)) \rrbracket$ . This means that under their interpretation of streams  $\mu\alpha. A \times \alpha$ , the first element of the stream is an element of  $\frac{1}{2}(A)$ , whereas in our semantics the head is an element of  $A$ .

This difference arises from the differing operational idea underlying each semantics. The intuition for guarded recursion is that  $\frac{1}{2}$  corresponds to a value lying underneath a constructor, whereas we interpret it as a computation scheduled to run on a future trip through an event loop. Both of these give rise to perfectly sensible metric structures, though ultrametric spaces are more abstract than either operational model.

It would be interesting to look for models which reflect more of the operational content, though of course part of the purpose of abstraction is to suppress such details!

**Normalization Proof.** We prove normalization giving a bidirectional type system for the normal forms, and then defining a hereditary substitution operation for it.

In Figure 10, we give the syntax and typing of normal forms, with two judgments  $\Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_i$  for checking that  $n$  is a normal term with type  $A$ , and a judgment  $\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow A_i$ , which takes an atomic form and synthesizes a type  $A$  for it. Note that beta-redexes are not typeable in this type system — applications and projections are always to a head variable.

$n ::= \lambda x : A. n \mid \bullet n \mid \text{cons}(n, n) \mid t$  Normal  
 $t ::= x \mid t n \mid \text{await}(t) \mid \text{hd } t \mid \text{tl } t$  Atomic

$$\begin{array}{c}
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_i} \qquad \boxed{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow A_i} \\
\frac{\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash n \Leftarrow B_i}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. n \Leftarrow A \rightarrow B_i} \rightarrow I \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_{i+1}}{\Gamma \vdash \bullet n \Leftarrow \bullet A_i} \bullet I \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_i \quad \Gamma \vdash e' \Leftarrow S(A)_{i+1}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{cons}(n, e') \Leftarrow S(A)_i} SI \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow A_i}{\Gamma \vdash t \Leftarrow A_i} \text{SHIFT} \qquad \frac{x : A_i \in \Gamma \quad i \leq j}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow A_j} \text{HYP} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B_i \quad \Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_i}{\Gamma \vdash t n \Rightarrow B_i} \rightarrow E \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow \bullet A_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{await}(t) \Rightarrow A_{i+1}} \bullet E \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow S(A)_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{hd } t \Rightarrow A_i} \text{Shd} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow S(A)_i}{\Gamma \vdash \text{tl } t \Rightarrow S(A)_{i+1}} \text{Stl}
\end{array}$$

Fig. 10. Syntax and Typing

Also note that by changing the arrow  $\Rightarrow$  or  $\Leftarrow$  into a colon  $:$ , we have a derivation in our original type system.

As a result, the ordinary substitution theorem does not go through, since that can introduce redexes. Instead, in Figure 11, we define a pair of mutually-recursive procedures for substituting a normal form  $n$  for a variable  $x$ . The procedure  $\langle n/x \rangle_A n'$  substitutes the normal form  $n$  (of type  $A$ ) for the free variable  $x$  in  $n'$ . The procedure  $\langle n/x \rangle_A t$  performs the same substitution, only into an atomic term. This procedure can return either a normal form or an atomic term, and in the case that it returns an atomic term, it also computes the type of the expression  $t$ .

**Theorem 9:** (Hereditary Substitution) Suppose  $\Gamma \vdash n \Leftarrow A_i$ . Then

- If  $\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash n' \Leftarrow C_n$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash \langle n/x \rangle_A n' \Leftarrow C_n$
- If  $\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash t \Rightarrow C_n$ , then either
  - $\langle n/x \rangle_A t = (n', C)$  and  $C$  is a subterm of  $A$  and  $\Gamma \vdash n' \Leftarrow C_n$ , or
  - $\langle n/x \rangle_A t = (t', \perp)$  and  $\Gamma \vdash t' \Rightarrow C_n$

Furthermore, in all cases the result of the substitution is  $\beta\eta$  equal to  $[n/x]n'$ .

The proof of this theorem relies on an induction on the size of  $A$  and the derivations of the two subterms. It is lexicographic between  $A$  and the unordered pair of the sizes of the derivations of the subterms. This establishes a weak normalization result for our calculus, in a very simple way.

**Implementation.**

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle n/x \rangle_A \lambda y. e' &= \lambda y. \langle n/x \rangle_A e' \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A \bullet e' &= \bullet \langle n/x \rangle_A e' \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A \text{cons}(n_1, n_2) &= \text{cons}(\langle n/x \rangle_A n_1, \langle n/x \rangle_A n_2) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A t &= \text{let } (e', \_ ) = \langle n/x \rangle_A t \text{ in } e' \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A y &= (y, \perp) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A x &= (n, A) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A t_1 n_2 &= \text{let } e'_2 = \langle n/x \rangle_A n_2 \text{ in} \\
&\quad \text{case } \langle n/x \rangle_A t_1 \text{ of} \\
&\quad (\lambda y. e'_1, B \rightarrow C) \Rightarrow \langle e'_2/y \rangle_B e'_1 \\
&\quad (t'_1, \_ ) \Rightarrow (t'_1 e'_2, \perp) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A \text{await}(t) &= \text{case } \langle n/x \rangle_A t \text{ of} \\
&\quad (\bullet e', \bullet A') \Rightarrow (e', A') \\
&\quad (t', \_ ) \Rightarrow (\text{await}(t'), \perp) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A \text{hd } t &= \text{case } \langle n/x \rangle_A t \text{ of} \\
&\quad (\text{cons}(e', e''), S(A')) \Rightarrow (e', A') \\
&\quad (t', \_ ) \Rightarrow (\text{hd } t', \perp) \\
\langle n/x \rangle_A \text{tl } t &= \text{case } \langle n/x \rangle_A t \text{ of} \\
&\quad (\text{cons}(e', e''), S(A')) \Rightarrow (e'', S(A')) \\
&\quad (t', \_ ) \Rightarrow (\text{tl } t', \perp)
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 11. Hereditary Substitution

In what follows, the general pattern is that when we give a type  $\text{foo} : \text{Hom}(A, B)$ , where  $\text{foo}$  is the name of a categorical combinator  $\text{foo}$ , we mean the following code satisfies the spec  $(\text{foo}, \text{foo}) \in \text{Hom}(A, B)$ . Some operations (such as pairing and currying) are higher-order, and we give their specifications more explicitly.

```

1 // Basic operations on categories
2 id : Hom(A, A)
3 id x = return x
4
5 compose : Hom(A, B) → Hom(B, C) → Hom(A, C)
6 compose f g = λ a. do b ← f a;
7                 g b
8
9 //
10 // Units and pairs
11 //
12
13 one : Hom(A, 1)
14 one x = return ()
15
16 fst : Hom(A × B, A)
17 fst (a,b) = return a
18
19 snd : Hom(A × B, B)
20 snd (a,b) = return b
21
22 // The spec of pairing is:
23 // ∀ (f, f') ∈ Hom(A, B), (g, g') ∈ Hom(A, C).
24 // ((f, g), pair f g') in Hom(A, B × C)
25 //
26 pair : Hom(A, B) → Hom(A, C) → Hom(A, B × C)
27 pair f g = λ a. do b ← f a;
28                 c ← g a;
29                 return (b,c)
30
31 //

```

```

32 // Sums
33 //
34
35 inl : Hom(A, A + B)
36 inl x = return (inl x)
37
38 inr : Hom(B, A + B)
39 inr x = return (inr x)
40
41 // The spec of sum is:
42 // ∀ (f, f') ∈ Hom(A, C), (g, g') ∈ Hom(B, C).
43 // ([f, g], sum f g') in Hom(A + B, C)
44 //
45 sum : Hom(A, C) → Hom(B, C) → Hom(A + B, C)
46 sum f g =
47   λ v. case v of
48     Inl x → f x
49     Inr y → g y
50
51 //
52 // Stream operations
53 //
54
55 // The spec of mapS is:
56 // ∀ (f, f') ∈ Hom(A, B),
57 // (S(f), mapS f) in Hom(S(A), S(B))
58
59 mapS : Hom(A, B) → Hom(S(A), S(B))
60 mapS f = λ xs. cell (do x ← hd(xs); f x)
61
62 hd : Hom(S(A), A)
63 hd xs = read xs
64
65 tl : Hom(S(A), •S(A))
66 tl xs = return (return xs)
67
68 zip : Hom(S(A) × S(B), S(A × B))
69 zip (xs, ys) = cell (do x ← hd(xs);
70                       y ← hd(ys);
71                       return (x,y))
72
73 cons : Hom(A × •S(A), S(A))
74 cons (x, dxs) = do r ← ref (Init x);
75                  ys ← cell (do () ← read(clock);
76                             x' ← !r;
77                             case x' of
78                               Init xs →
79                                 do r := Make(dxs); hd(xs)
80                               Make dxs →
81                                 do xs ← dxs;
82                                   r := Done xs;
83                                   hd(xs)
84                               Done xs →
85                                   hd(xs));
86                  register(ys)
87
88 tails : Hom(S(A), S(S(A)))
89 tails xs = cell (return xs)
90
91 unzip : Hom(S(A × B), S(A) × S(B))
92 unzip = pair (mapS fst) (mapS snd)
93
94 //
95 // Operations for the later modality
96 //
97
98 // The spec of mapS is:

```

```

99 //  $\forall (f, f) \in \text{Hom}(A, B)$ ,
100 //  $(\frac{1}{2}(f), \text{mapN } f)$  in  $\text{Hom}(\bullet A, \bullet B)$ 
101 //
102
103 mapN :  $\text{Hom}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\bullet A, \bullet B)$ 
104 mapN  $f = \lambda d. \text{return } (\text{do } a \leftarrow d; f a)$ 
105
106 // We define  $\text{delay}_A$  as an inductive family
107 // following the type structure. In ML this
108 // would be written as a collection of
109 // combinators
110
111 delayN :  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{N}, \bullet \mathbb{N})$ 
112 delay  $n = \text{return } (\text{return } n)$ 
113
114
115 delay1 :  $\text{Hom}(1, \bullet 1)$ 
116 delay () = return (return ())
117
118 delayA→B :  $\text{Hom}(A \rightarrow B, \bullet(A \rightarrow B))$ 
119 delay pack(A, cl) =
120   do  $c' \leftarrow \text{cl.delay } (\text{cl.env})$ ;
121   return (do  $c \leftarrow c'$ ;
122         pack(A, {env = c;
123               hom = cl.hom;
124               delay = cl.delay}))
125
126 delayA×B :  $\text{Hom}(A \times B, \bullet(A \times B))$ 
127 delay (a, b) = do  $d \leftarrow \text{delay}_A(a)$ ;
128                  $e \leftarrow \text{delay}_B(b)$ ;
129                 return (do  $a \leftarrow d$ ;
130                          $b \leftarrow e$ ;
131                         return (d, e))
132
133 delay•A :  $\text{Hom}(\bullet A, \bullet(\bullet A))$ 
134 delay  $d = \text{return } (\text{do } a \leftarrow d; \quad // \text{ at the following}$ 
135                 delayA(a)) // step get a and delay it
136
137 delayS(A) :  $\text{Hom}(S(A), \bullet(S(A)))$ 
138 delay  $xs = \text{do } x \leftarrow \text{hd}(xs)$ ;
139          $xt \leftarrow \text{delay}_A(xs)$ ;
140         return
141         (do  $r \leftarrow \text{ref } xt$ ;
142            $c \leftarrow \text{cell } (\text{do } () \leftarrow \text{read}(clock))$ ;
143            $oldt \leftarrow !r$ ;
144            $old \leftarrow oldt$ ;
145            $new \leftarrow \text{hd}(xs)$ ;
146            $newt \leftarrow \text{delay}_A(new)$ ;
147            $r := newt$ ;
148           return old);
149         register(c)
150
151 // Now we give the Cartesian closed structure for delays
152
153 ziphalf :  $\text{Hom}(\bullet A \times \bullet B, \bullet(A \times B))$ 
154 ziphalf (da, db) = return (do  $a \leftarrow da$ ;
155                              $b \leftarrow db$ ;
156                             return (a, b))
157
158 unziphalf :  $\text{Hom}(\bullet(A \times B), \bullet A \times \bullet B)$ 
159 unziphalf dab = do  $da \leftarrow \text{return } (\text{do } (a, b) \leftarrow dab$ ;
160                  return a);
161                   $db \leftarrow \text{return } (\text{do } (a, b) \leftarrow dab$ ;
162                  return b);
163                  return (da, db)
164

```

```

165 onehalf :  $\text{Hom}(1, \bullet 1)$ 
166 onehalf () = return (return ())
167
168 epsilon_inv :  $\text{Hom}(\bullet(A \rightarrow B), \bullet A \rightarrow \bullet B)$ 
169 epsilon_inv  $d = \text{return } (\lambda e. \text{return } (\text{do } f \leftarrow d$ ;
170                                      $v \leftarrow e$ ;
171                                      $f(v)))$ 
172
173 epsilon :  $\text{Hom}(\bullet A \rightarrow \bullet B, \bullet(A \rightarrow B))$ 
174 epsilon  $f =$ 
175   do  $t \leftarrow \text{ref None}$ ;
176      $a' \leftarrow \text{return } (\text{do } v \leftarrow \text{get } r; \text{return } (\text{valOf } v))$ ;
177      $b' \leftarrow \text{eval}(f, a')$ ;
178     return (return (pack(A, {env=b';
179                       delay = delay_{•B};
180                       hom =  $\lambda(b', a)$ .
181                         do  $old \leftarrow \text{get } t$ ;
182                           set  $t$  (Some a);
183                            $b \leftarrow b'$ ;
184                           set  $t$  old;
185                           return b}))
186
187 //
188 // Exponentials
189 //
190 // To implement currying, we need to use the delay operator
191
192
193 apply :  $\text{Hom}((A \rightarrow B) \times A, B)$ 
194 apply (pack(C, cl), v) = do  $c \leftarrow \text{cl.env}$ ;
195                              $f \leftarrow \text{cl.hom}$ ;
196                              $f(c, v)$ 
197
198 curry :  $\text{Hom}(A \times B, C) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A, B \rightarrow C)$ 
199 curry( $f$ ) =  $\lambda a. \text{return } (\text{pack}(A, \{\text{env} = a$ ;
200                             hom =  $f$ ;
201                             delay = delayA}))
202
203 // Fixed points
204 //
205 // These are morally trace operators rather than fixed points,
206 // which are nicer when translating a lambda calculus into
207 // categorical operations
208
209 fix :  $\text{Hom}(A \times \bullet S(B), S(B)) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A, S(B))$ 
210 fix  $f = \lambda a. \text{do } r \leftarrow \text{ref None}$ ;
211         preinput  $\leftarrow \text{cell } (!r)$ ;
212         // None, Some fix(f)_0, ...
213         input  $\leftarrow \text{return } (\text{do } vs' \leftarrow \text{preinput}$ ;
214                             cell (do  $v' \leftarrow \text{head}(vs')$ ;
215                                     valOf  $v'$ ));
216         preoutput  $\leftarrow f(a, \text{input})$ ;
217         out  $\leftarrow \text{cell } (\text{do } () \leftarrow \text{read}(clock)$ ;
218                  $_ \leftarrow \text{head}(preinput)$ ;
219                  $v \leftarrow \text{head}(preoutput)$ ;
220                  $d \leftarrow \text{delay}_B(v)$ ;
221                  $r := d$ ;
222                 return v)
223         register(out)
224
225 // Utilities
226 valOf  $x' = \text{case } x'$  of
227   Some  $x \rightarrow \text{return } x$ 
228   None  $\rightarrow \text{bottom}$ 
229
230 register(c) = do  $i := c :: xs$ ;
231                return c
232

```