



University  
of Glasgow | School of  
Computing Science

**EPSRC**

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

# A New Linear Logic for Deadlock-Free Session-Typed Processes

**Ornela Dardha**

(joint work with Simon Gay)

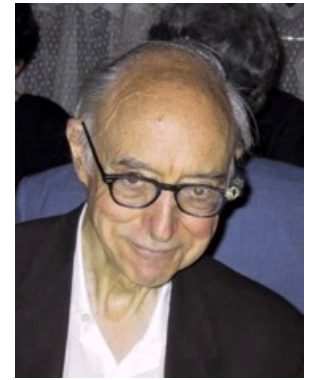
University of Leicester  
23 November 2018

The deep correspondence between **types** and **logic**:  
*foundation of functional programming.*



Haskell Curry

**types**  $\approx$  **propositions**  
**programs**  $\approx$  **proofs**  
**evaluation**  $\approx$  **proof normalisation**  
(**cut elimination**)



William Howard

## Example:

a function of type  $A \rightarrow B$  corresponds to a proof of **A implies B**;  
computationally, it constructs a proof of B (the result)  
from a proof of A (the parameter).

In 1987, Girard speculated that linear logic could form the basis of a Curry-Howard correspondence for concurrent computation.

Connections between **linear logic** and the **pi-calculus** were developed [Abramsky 1990, 1994; Bellin & Scott 1994], but did not become *foundation of concurrent programming*.



Jean-Yves Girard



Samson Abramsky



Gianluigi Bellin



Phil Scott



**Session types** were introduced by Honda *et al.* [1993, 1994, 1998] as type-theoretic specifications of communication protocols.

**?A . B**    receive a message of type A, then continue protocol B.  
**!A . B**    send a message of type A, then continue protocol B.

Duality: **A** and **A<sup>⊥</sup>** are complementary views of a protocol.

During the subsequent 20+ years, session types developed into a large and active research area.



Kohei Honda



Caires and Pfenning [2010] discovered a correspondence between **session types** for pi-calculus and dual intuitionistic **linear logic**.

The logical approach to session types has been extended: dependent types, failures, sharing and races,...

Proof normalisation (**cut elimination**) corresponds to **communication**.



Luís Caires



Frank Pfenning



Phil Wadler

Further work by  
Caires *et al.* [2010 -];  
Wadler [2012 -] ...

session types  $\approx$  propositions

pi-calculus processes  $\approx$  proofs

communication  $\approx$  proof normalisation  
(cut elimination)

- $?A . B$  corresponds to  $A \wp B$
- $!A . B$  corresponds to  $A \otimes B$
- Branch  $\&\{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I}$  and
- Select  $\oplus\{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I}$  are the same...

**Input** corresponds to **par**

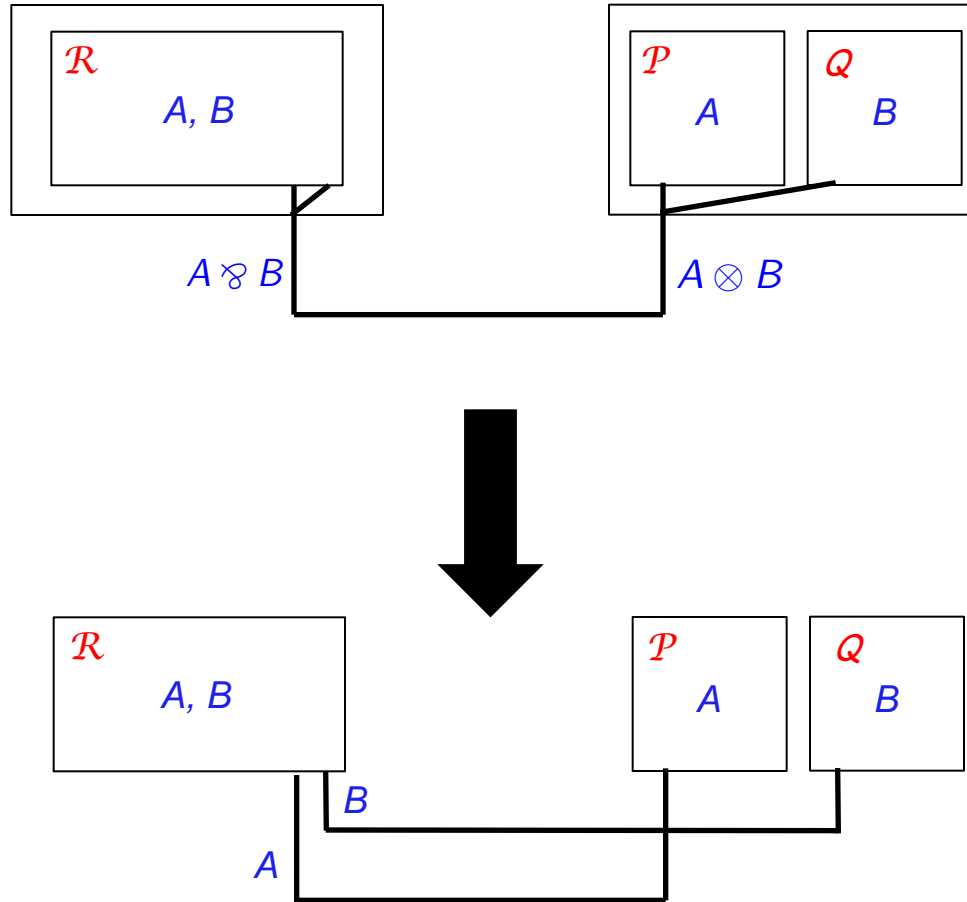
$$\frac{R \vdash \Theta, y : A, x : B}{x(y).R \vdash \Theta, x : A \wp B} \wp$$

**Output** corresponds to **tensor**

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, y : A \quad Q \vdash \Delta, x : B}{x[y].(P \mid Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, x : A \otimes B} \otimes$$

Notice the threading of the continuation channel through the rules.





$P, Q ::=$	$x[y].P$	(output)
	$x(y).P$	(input)
	$x \triangleleft l_j.P$	(selection)
	$x \triangleright \{l_i : P_i\}_{i \in I}$	(branching)
	$\mathbf{0}$	(inaction)
	$P \mid Q$	(composition)
	$(\nu x^A y)P$	(session restriction)

Deadlock arises from **cyclic** dependency between communication operations when two processes share at least two channels.

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_1[42].y_2[\text{true}].0]$  **OK**

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_2[\text{true}].y_1[42].0]$  **STUCK**

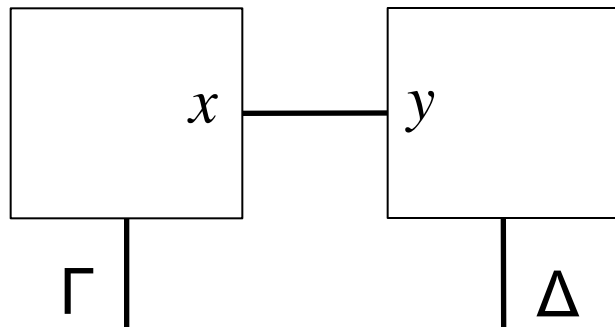


Deadlock arises from **cyclic** dependency between communication operations when two processes share at least two channels.

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_1[42].y_2[\text{true}].0]$  **OK**

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_2[\text{true}].y_1[42].0]$  **STUCK**

The linear logic type system guarantees deadlock-freedom because *two processes can only be connected by a **single** channel.*



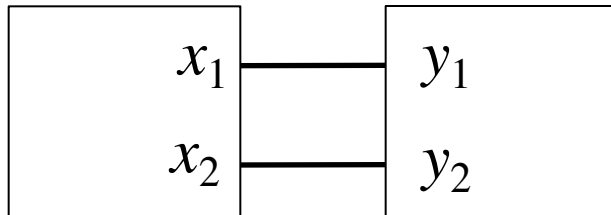
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(cut)} \\
 \frac{P \vdash \Gamma, x:A \quad Q \vdash \Delta, y:A^\perp}{(\nu x^A y)(P \mid Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta}
 \end{array}$$

Deadlock arises from **cyclic** dependency between communication operations when two processes share at least two channels.

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_1[42].y_2[\text{true}].0]$  **OK**

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_2[\text{true}].y_1[42].0]$  **STUCK**

The linear logic type system **rejects** both the processes above because *they are connected by **two** channels*.



Kobayashi [1997 -]; Padovani [2013, 2014] developed type systems for deadlock-free pi-calculus processes based on **priorities**.

Priorities  $\circ, \circ'$ ... are natural numbers and annotate **types**.

Priorities must obey the following laws:

- (i) an action (input/output) of priority  $\circ$  must be prefixed only by actions of priorities *strictly smaller* than  $\circ$ .
- (ii) communication requires *equal* priorities of dual actions.

Priority-based type systems *type more processes* than linear logic, as they allow processes to share more than a single channel.



**Exercise:** are the following processes typable?

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_1[42].y_2[\text{true}].0]$

**OK**  
**typable**

(i)  $\text{pr}(x_1) < \text{pr}(x_2)$      $\text{pr}(y_1) < \text{pr}(y_2)$

(ii)  $\text{pr}(x_1) = \text{pr}(y_1)$      $\text{pr}(x_2) = \text{pr}(y_2)$

$(\nu x_1 y_1)(\nu x_2 y_2) [x_1(z).x_2(w).0 \mid y_2[\text{true}].y_1[42].0]$

**STUCK**  
**untypable**

(i)  $\text{pr}(x_1) < \text{pr}(x_2)$      $\text{pr}(y_2) < \text{pr}(y_1)$

(ii)  $\text{pr}(x_1) = \text{pr}(y_1)$      $\text{pr}(x_2) = \text{pr}(y_2)$

We combine classical **linear logic** with **priorities** for a more expressive session type system for deadlock-free processes.

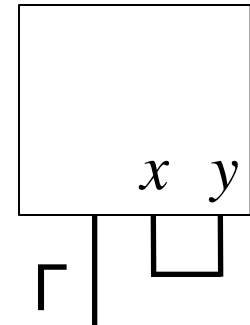
Replace the cut rule with mix and cycle.

(mix)

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma \quad Q \vdash \Delta}{P \mid Q \vdash \Gamma, \Delta}$$

(cycle)

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, x:A, y:A^\perp}{(\nu x^A y)P \vdash \Gamma}$$



With these rules, multicut is derivable.

(multicut)

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, x_1:A_1, \dots, x_n:A_n \quad Q \vdash \Delta, y_1:A_1^\perp, \dots, y_n:A_n^\perp}{(\nu x_1^{A_1} y_1 \dots x_n^{A_n} y_n)(P \mid Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta}$$

Propositions are annotated with **priorities**.

$$A, B ::= \perp^\circ \mid \mathbf{1}^\circ \mid A \otimes^\circ B \mid A \wp^\circ B \mid \oplus^\circ \{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I} \mid \&^\circ \{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I} \mid ?^\circ A \mid !^\circ A$$

Proofs must obey laws (i) and (ii) on **priorities**.

$\circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)$  satisfies law (i) on *strictly smaller*.

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, y : A, x : B \quad \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{x(y).P \vdash \Gamma, x : A \wp^\circ B} \quad (\wp)$$

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, y : A, x : B \quad \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{x[y].P \vdash \Gamma, x : A \otimes^\circ B} \quad (\otimes)$$

$$\frac{P \vdash ?\Gamma, y : A \quad \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{!x(y).P \vdash ?\Gamma, x : !^\circ A} \quad (!)$$

$$\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, y : A \quad \circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{?x[y].P \vdash \Gamma, x : ?^\circ A} \quad (?)$$

When forming a cycle, the priorities of the connected types must be *equal*, to satisfy (ii):

$$\frac{\text{(cycle)} \quad P \vdash \Gamma, x:A, y:A^\perp}{(\nu x^A y)P \vdash \Gamma}$$

Meaning: eventually  $x$  and  $y$  will be ready to communicate at the same time/step, allowing a reduction step and a proof rewrite.

**Equality** of priorities is captured by the **duality** definition:

$$\begin{aligned} (A \wp^\circ B)^\perp &= A^\perp \otimes^\circ B^\perp & (\perp^\circ)^\perp &= \mathbf{1}^\circ \\ (A \otimes^\circ B)^\perp &= A^\perp \wp^\circ B^\perp & (\mathbf{1}^\circ)^\perp &= \perp^\circ \\ (\&^\circ \{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I})^\perp &= \oplus^\circ \{l_i : A_i^\perp\}_{i \in I} & ?^\circ A^\perp &= !^\circ A^\perp \\ (\oplus^\circ \{l_i : A_i\}_{i \in I})^\perp &= \&^\circ \{l_i : A_i^\perp\}_{i \in I} & !^\circ A^\perp &= ?^\circ A^\perp \end{aligned}$$

## Beta-reduction for **tensor/output** and **par/input**: derivation

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{\circ < \text{pr}(\Gamma)}{P \vdash \Gamma, v:A, x:B} \quad (\otimes) \quad \frac{\frac{\circ < \text{pr}(\Delta)}{Q \vdash \Delta, w:A^\perp, y:B^\perp} \quad (\wp)}{y(w).Q \vdash \Delta, y:A^\perp \wp^\circ B^\perp} \quad (\wp)}{x[v].P \mid y(w).Q \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, x:A \otimes^\circ B, y:A^\perp \wp^\circ B^\perp} \quad (\text{mix})}{(\nu x^A \otimes^\circ B y)(x[v].P \mid y(w).Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \quad (\text{cycle})} \\
 \implies \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{P \vdash \Gamma, v:A, x:B \quad Q \vdash \Delta, w:A^\perp, y:B^\perp}{P \mid Q \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, v:A, x:B, w:A^\perp, y:B^\perp} \quad (\text{mix})}{(\nu x^B y)(P \mid Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, v:A, w:A^\perp} \quad (\text{cycle})}{(\nu v^A w)(\nu x^B y)(P \mid Q) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \quad (\text{cycle})}
 \end{array}$$

## Beta-reduction for other connectives: summary

$$(\nu y^A z)(x \rightarrow y^A \mid P) \vdash \Gamma, x:A^\perp \implies P[x/z] \vdash \Gamma, x:A^\perp$$

$$(\nu x^A y)(x[.] \cdot \mathbf{0} \mid y().P) \vdash \Gamma \implies P \vdash \Gamma$$

$$(\nu x^{\oplus \{l_i : B_i\}_{i \in I}} y)(x \triangleleft l_j . P \mid y \triangleright \{l_i : Q_i\}_{i \in I}) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta \implies (\nu x^{B_j} y)(P \mid Q_j) \vdash \Gamma, \Delta$$

$$(\nu x^{!^\circ A} y)(!x(v).P \mid ?y[w].Q) \vdash ?\Gamma, \Delta \implies (\nu v^A w)(P \mid Q) \vdash ?\Gamma, \Delta$$

**Theorem (cycle elimination).** Given a proof of a sequent, we can construct a *cycle-free* proof for it.

**Proof:** (following cut elimination proof) a cycle is eliminated by either:

- i) replacing it with another cycle on smaller propositions;
- ii) pushing it further up the proof tree.

*Since we are allowing cyclic structures,  
how do we make sure we capture only the good ones?*

A concurrent system is a collection of parallel processes, each with a top-level input or output action (prefix).

Pick a top-level prefix with *smallest* priority  $\circ$ :  $x(z)$ , say.

Somewhere there is the co-action  $y[42]$  with *equal* priority  $\circ$ .

$y[42]$  must be in a **different parallel component**, otherwise it would be guarded by  $x(z)$ , requiring  $\circ < \circ$ .

$y[42]$  must be a **top-level prefix**, otherwise it is guarded by a prefix with priority  $\circ' < \circ$ , contradicting the dominance of  $\circ$ .

Communication on endpoints  $x$  and  $y$  is possible immediately.



**Cycle elimination** corresponds to **communication**.

**Theorem (subject reduction).** Well-typed processes reduce to well-typed processes.

**Proof:** beta-reductions and commuting conversions.

**Theorem (top-level deadlock freedom).** If process  $P$  is well typed and it is a cycle, then there is some  $Q$ , such that  $P$  reduces to  $Q$  and  $Q$  is not a cycle.

**Proof:** follows from cycle elimination.

- Presented a new **priority-based linear logic** combining mix and cycle rules with Kobayashi's **priorities**.
- Used it as a basis for a Curry-Howard isomorphism with session typed pi-calculus, allowing “good” cyclic processes.
- We prove the cycle elimination theorem, obtaining as a result deadlock freedom for session typed processes.
- Future work:
  - i) develop a type system for a functional language, GV with cycle and translate it to our system.
  - ii) extend our priority-based logic to allow recursion and sharing.



**Thank you!**

**Questions?**