

# Modal FRP For All: Functional Reactive Programming Without Space Leaks in Haskell

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## Abstract

Functional reactive programming (FRP) provides a high-level interface for implementing reactive systems in a declarative manner. However, this high-level interface has to be carefully reigned in to ensure that programs can in fact be executed in practice. Specifically, one must ensure that FRP programs are productive, causal, and can be implemented without introducing space leaks. In recent years, modal types have been demonstrated to be an effective tool to ensure these operational properties.

In this paper, we present Rattus, a modal FRP language that extends and simplifies previous modal FRP calculi while still maintaining the operational guarantees for productivity, causality, and space leaks. The simplified type system makes Rattus a practical programming language that can be integrated with existing functional programming languages. To demonstrate this, we have implemented a shallow embedding of Rattus in Haskell that allows the programmer to write Rattus code in familiar Haskell syntax and seamlessly integrate it with regular Haskell code. Thus Rattus combines the benefits enjoyed by FRP libraries such as Yampa, namely access to a rich library ecosystem (e.g. for graphics programming), with the strong operational guarantees offered by a bespoke type system.

To establish the productivity, causality, and memory properties of the language, we prove type soundness using a logical relations argument fully mechanised in the Coq proof assistant.

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## 1 Introduction

Reactive systems perform an ongoing interaction with their environment, receiving inputs from the outside, changing their internal state, and producing output. Examples of such systems include GUIs, web applications, video games, and robots. Programming such systems with traditional general-purpose imperative languages can be challenging: The components of the reactive system are put together via a complex and often confusing web of callbacks and shared mutable state. As a consequence, individual components cannot be easily understood in isolation, which makes building and maintaining reactive systems in this manner difficult and error-prone (Parent, 2006; Järvi *et al.*, 2008).

Functional reactive programming (FRP), introduced by Elliott & Hudak (1997), tries to remedy this problem by introducing time-varying values (called *behaviours* or *signals*) and *events* as a means of communication between components in a reactive system instead of shared mutable state and callbacks. Crucially, signals and events are first-class values in FRP and can be freely combined and manipulated. These high-level abstractions not only

provide a rich and expressive programming model. They also make it possible for us to reason about FRP programs by simple equational methods.

Elliott and Hudak’s original conception of FRP is an elegant idea that allows for direct manipulation of time-dependent data but also immediately raises the question of what the interface for signals and events should be. A naive approach would be to model discrete signals as streams defined by the following Haskell data type:<sup>1</sup>

```
data Str a = a ::: (Str a)
```

A stream of type *Str a* thus consists of a head of type *a* and a tail of type *Str a*. The type *Str a* encodes a discrete signal of type *a*, where each element of a stream represents the value of that signal at a particular time.

Combined with the power of higher-order functional programming we can easily manipulate and compose such signals. For example, we may apply a function to the values of a signal:

```
map :: (a → b) → Str a → Str b
map f (x ::: xs) = f x ::: map f xs
```

However, this representation is too permissive and allows the programmer to write *non-causal* programs, i.e. programs where the present output depends on future input such as the following:

```
tomorrow :: Str Int → Str Int
tomorrow (x ::: xs) = xs
```

At each time step, this function takes the input of the *next* time step and returns it in the *current* time step. In practical terms, this reactive program cannot be effectively executed since we cannot compute the current value of the signal that it defines.

Much of the research in FRP has been dedicated to addressing this problem by adequately restricting the interface that the programmer can use to manipulate signals. This can be achieved by exposing only a carefully selected set of combinators to the programmer or by using a more sophisticated type system. The former approach has been very successful in practice, not least because it can be readily implemented as a library in existing languages. This library approach also immediately integrates the FRP language with a rich ecosystem of existing libraries and inherits the host language’s compiler and tools. The most prominent example of this approach is Arrowised FRP (Nilsson *et al.*, 2002), as implemented in the Yampa library for Haskell (Hudak *et al.*, 2004), which takes signal functions as primitive rather than signals themselves. However, this library approach forfeits some of the simplicity and elegance of the original FRP model as it disallows direct manipulation of signals.

More recently, an alternative to this library approach has been developed (Jeffrey, 2014; Krishnaswami & Benton, 2011; Krishnaswami *et al.*, 2012; Krishnaswami, 2013; Jeltsch, 2013; Bahr *et al.*, 2019, 2021) that uses a *modal* type operator  $\bigcirc$ , which captures the notion of time. Following this idea, an element of type  $\bigcirc a$  represents data of type *a* arriving in the next time step. Signals are then modelled by the type of streams defined instead as follows:

<sup>1</sup> Here `:::` is a data constructor written as a binary infix operator.

**data**  $Str\ a = a ::: (\bigcirc(Str\ a))$

That is, a stream of type  $Str\ a$  is an element of type  $a$  now and a stream of type  $Str\ a$  later, thus separating consecutive elements of the stream by one time step. Combining this modal type with guarded recursion (Nakano, 2000) in the form of a fixed point operator of type  $(\bigcirc a \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a$  gives a powerful type system for reactive programming that guarantees not only causality, but also *productivity*, i.e. the property that each element of a stream can be computed in finite time.

Causality and productivity of an FRP program means that it can be effectively implemented and executed. However, for practical purposes it is also important whether it can be implemented with given finite resources. If a reactive program requires an increasing amount of memory or computation time, it will eventually run out of resources to make progress or take too long to react to input. It will grind to a halt. Since FRP programs operate on a high level of abstraction, it is typically quite difficult to reason about their space and time cost. A reactive program that exhibits a gradually slower response time, i.e. its computations take longer and longer as time progresses, is said to have a *time leak*. Similarly, we say that a reactive program has a *space leak*, if its memory use is gradually increasing as time progresses, e.g. if it holds on to memory while continually allocating more.

Within both lines of work – the library approach and the modal types approach – there has been an effort to devise FRP languages that avoid *implicit* space leaks. We say that a space leak is implicit if it is caused not by explicit memory allocations intended by the programmer but rather by the implementation of the FRP language holding on to old data. This is difficult to prevent in a higher-order language as closures may capture references to old data, which consequently must remain in memory for as long as the closure might be invoked. In addition, the language has to carefully balance eager and lazy evaluation: While some computations must necessarily be delayed to wait for input to arrive, we run the risk of needing to keep intermediate values in memory for too long unless we perform computations as soon as all required data has arrived. To avoid implicit space leaks, Ploeg & Claessen (2015) devised an FRP library for Haskell that avoids implicit space leaks by carefully restricting the API to manipulate events and signals. Based on the modal operator  $\bigcirc$  described above, Krishnaswami (2013) has devised a *modal* FRP calculus that permit an aggressive garbage collection strategy that rules out implicit space leaks.

**Contributions.** In this paper, we present Rattus, a practical modal FRP language that takes its ideas from the modal FRP calculi of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) but with a simpler and less restrictive type system that makes it attractive to use in practice. Like the Simply RaTT calculus of Bahr *et al.*, we use a Fitch-style type system (Clouston, 2018), which extends typing contexts with *tokens* to avoid the syntactic overhead of the dual-context-style type system of Krishnaswami (2013). In addition, we further simplify the typing system by (1) only requiring one kind of *token* instead of two, (2) allowing tokens to be introduced without any restrictions, and (3) generalising the guarded recursion scheme. The resulting calculus is simpler and more expressive, yet still retains the operational guarantees of the earlier calculi, namely productivity, causality, and admissibility of an aggressive garbage collection strategy that prevents implicit space leaks. We

139 have proved these properties by a logical relations argument formalised using the Coq  
140 theorem prover (see supplementary material).

141 To demonstrate its use as a practical programming language, we have implemented  
142 Rattus as an embedded language in Haskell. This implementation consists of a library  
143 that implements the primitives of the language along with a plugin for the GHC Haskell  
144 compiler. The latter is necessary to check the more restrictive variable scope rules of Rattus  
145 and to ensure the eager evaluation strategy that is necessary to obtain the operational prop-  
146 erties. Both components are bundled in a single Haskell library that allows the programmer  
147 to seamlessly write Rattus code alongside Haskell code. We further demonstrate the use-  
148 fulness of the language with a number of case studies, including an FRP library based on  
149 streams and events as well as an arrowized FRP library in the style of Yampa. We then  
150 use both FRP libraries to implement a primitive game. The two libraries implemented in  
151 Rattus also demonstrate different approaches to FRP libraries: discrete time (streams) vs.  
152 continuous time (Yampa); and first-class signals (streams) vs. signal functions (Yampa).  
153 The Rattus Haskell library and all examples are included in the supplementary material.

154 **Overview of Paper.** [Section 2](#) gives an overview of the Rattus language introducing the  
155 main concepts and their intuitions. [Section 3](#) presents a case study of a simple FRP library  
156 based on streams and events, as well as an arrowized FRP library. [Section 4](#) presents the  
157 underlying core calculus of Rattus including its type system, its operational semantics,  
158 and our main metatheoretical results: productivity, causality, and absence of implicit space  
159 leaks. We then reflect on these results and discuss the language design of Rattus. [Section 5](#)  
160 gives an overview of the proof of our metatheoretical results. [Section 6](#) describes how  
161 Rattus has been implemented as an embedded language in Haskell. [Section 7](#) reviews  
162 related work and [Section 8](#) discusses future work.

## 166 2 Introduction to Rattus

167 To illustrate Rattus we will use example programs written in the embedding of the  
168 language in Haskell. The type of streams is at the centre of these example programs:

```
169 data Str a = !a ::: !(⊙(Str a))
```

170 The annotation with bangs (!) ensures that the constructor ::: is strict in both its arguments.  
171 We will have a closer look at the evaluation strategy of Rattus in [Section 2.2](#).

172 The simplest stream one can define just repeats the same value indefinitely. Such a  
173 stream is constructed by the *constInt* function below, which takes an integer and produces  
174 a constant stream that repeats that integer at every step:

```
175 constInt :: Int → Str Int  
176 constInt x = x ::: delay (constInt x)
```

177 Because the tail of a stream of integers must be of type  $\odot(\text{Str Int})$ , we have to use *delay*,  
178 which is the introduction form for the type modality  $\odot$ . Intuitively speaking, *delay* moves  
179 a computation one time step into the future. We could think of *delay* having type  $a \rightarrow \odot a$ ,  
180 but this type is too permissive as it can cause space leaks. It would allow us to move  
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arbitrary computations – and the data they depend on – into the future. Instead, the typing rule for delay is formulated as follows:

$$\frac{\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash t :: A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{delay } t :: \bigcirc A}$$

This is a characteristic example of a Fitch-style typing rule (Clouston, 2018): It introduces the *token*  $\checkmark$  (pronounced “tick”) in the typing context  $\Gamma$ . A typing context consists of type assignments of the form  $x :: A$ , but it can also contain several occurrences of  $\checkmark$ . We can think of  $\checkmark$  as denoting the passage of one time step, i.e. all variables to the left of  $\checkmark$  are one time step older than those to the right. In the above typing rule, the term  $t$  does not have access to these “old” variables in  $\Gamma$ . There is, however, an exception: If a variable in the typing context is of a type that is time-independent, we still allow  $t$  to access them – even if the variable is one time step old. We call these time-independent types *stable* types, and in particular all base types such as *Int* and *Bool* are stable. We will discuss stable types in more detail in [Section 2.1](#).

Formally, the variable introduction rule of Rattus reads as follows:

$$\frac{\Gamma' \text{ tick-free or } A \text{ stable}}{\Gamma, x :: A, \Gamma' \vdash x :: A}$$

That is, if  $x$  is not of a stable type and appears to the left of a  $\checkmark$ , then it is no longer in scope.

Turning back to our definition of the *constInt* function, we can see that the recursive call *constInt*  $x$  must be of type *Str Int* in the context  $\Gamma, \checkmark$ , where  $\Gamma$  contains  $x :: \text{Int}$ . So  $x$  remains in scope because it is of type *Int*, which is a stable type. This would not be the case if we were to generalise *constInt* to arbitrary types:

*leakyConst*  $:: a \rightarrow \text{Str } a$

*leakyConst*  $x = x :: \text{delay } (\text{leakyConst } x)$  -- the rightmost occurrence of  $x$  is out of scope

In this example,  $x$  is of type  $a$  and therefore goes out of scope under delay: Since  $a$  is not necessarily stable,  $x :: a$  is blocked by the  $\checkmark$  introduced by delay. We can see that *leakyConst* would indeed cause a space leak by instantiating it to the type *leakyConst*  $:: \text{Str Int} \rightarrow \text{Str } (\text{Str Int})$ : At each time step  $n$  it would have to store all previously observed input values from time step 0 to  $n - 1$ , thus making its memory usage grow linearly with time. To illustrate this on a concrete example, assume that *leakyConst* is fed the stream of numbers 0, 1, 2, . . . as input. Then the resulting stream of type *Str (Str Int)* contains at each time step  $n$  the same stream 0, 1, 2, . . . . However, the input stream arrives one integer at a time. So at time  $n$ , the input stream would have advanced to  $n, n + 1, n + 2, \dots$ , i.e. the next input to arrive is  $n$ . Consequently, the implementation of *leakyConst* would need to have stored the previous values 0, 1, . . .  $n - 1$  of the input stream.

The definition of *constInt* also illustrates the *guarded* recursion principle used in Rattus. For a recursive definition to be well-typed, all recursive calls have to occur in the presence of a  $\checkmark$  – in other words, recursive calls have to be guarded by delay. This restriction ensures that all recursive functions are productive, which means that each element of a stream can be computed in finite time. If we did not have this restriction, we could write the following obviously unproductive function:

231  $loop :: Str Int$

232  $loop = loop$  -- unguarded recursive call to loop is not allowed

233 The recursive call to  $loop$  does not occur under a delay, and is thus rejected by the type  
234 checker.

235 Let's consider an example program that transforms streams. The function  $inc$  below  
236 takes a stream of integers as input and increments each integer by 1:

237  $inc :: Str Int \rightarrow Str Int$

238  $inc (x :: xs) = (x + 1) :: delay (inc (adv xs))$

239 Here we have to use  $adv$ , the elimination form for  $\bigcirc$ , to convert the tail of the input stream  
240 from type  $\bigcirc(Str Int)$  into type  $Str Int$ . Again we could think of  $adv$  having type  $\bigcirc a \rightarrow a$ ,  
241 but this general type would allow us to write non-causal functions such as the *tomorrow*  
242 function we have seen in the introduction:  
243

244  $tomorrow :: Str Int \rightarrow Str Int$

245  $tomorrow (x :: xs) = adv xs$  --  $adv$  is not allowed here

246 This function looks one time step ahead so that the output at time  $n$  depends on the input  
247 at time  $n + 1$ .

248 To ensure causality,  $adv$  is restricted to contexts with a  $\checkmark$ :

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t :: \bigcirc A \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free}}{\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash adv t :: A}$$

249 Not only does  $adv$  require a  $\checkmark$ , it also causes all bound variables to the right of  $\checkmark$  to go  
250 out of scope. Intuitively speaking delay looks ahead one time step and  $adv$  then allows us  
251 to go back to the present. Variable bindings made in the future are therefore not accessible  
252 once we returned to the present.

253 Note that  $adv$  causes the variables to the right of  $\checkmark$  to go out of scope *forever*, whereas it  
254 brings variables back into scope that were previously blocked by the  $\checkmark$ . That is, variables  
255 that go out of scope due to delay can be brought back into scope by  $adv$ .  
256

## 2.1 Stable types

257 We haven't yet made precise what stable types are. To a first approximation, types are  
258 stable if they do not contain  $\bigcirc$  or function types. Intuitively speaking,  $\bigcirc$  expresses a  
259 temporal aspect and thus types containing  $\bigcirc$  are not time-invariant. Moreover, functions  
260 can implicitly have temporal values in their closure and are therefore also excluded from  
261 stable types.  
262

263 However, as a consequence, we cannot implement the  $map$  function that takes a function  
264  $f :: a \rightarrow b$  and applies it to each element of a stream of type  $Str a$ , because it would require  
265 us to apply the function  $f$  at any time in the future. We cannot do this because  $a \rightarrow b$  is not  
266 a stable type (even if  $a$  and  $b$  were stable) and therefore  $f$  cannot be transported into the  
267 future. However, Rattus has the type modality  $\square$ , pronounced "box", that turns any type  $A$   
268 into a stable type  $\square A$ . Using the  $\square$  modality we can implement  $map$  as follows:  
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270  
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276

277  $map :: \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$   
 278  $map\ f\ (x :: xs) = unbox\ f\ x :: delay\ (map\ f\ (adv\ xs))$

279 Instead of a function of type  $a \rightarrow b$ ,  $map$  takes a *boxed* function  $f$  of type  $\Box(a \rightarrow b)$  as its  
 280 argument. That means,  $f$  is still in scope under the delay because it is of a stable type. To  
 281 use  $f$ , it has to be unboxed using  $unbox$ , which is the elimination form for the  $\Box$  modality  
 282 and simply has type  $\Box a \rightarrow a$ , without any restrictions.

283 The corresponding introduction form for  $\Box$  does come with some restrictions. It has to  
 284 make sure that boxed values only refer to variables of a stable type:

$$\frac{\Gamma^\Box \vdash t :: A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{box } t :: \Box A}$$

288 Here,  $\Gamma^\Box$  denotes the typing context that is obtained from  $\Gamma$  by removing all variables of  
 289 non-stable types and all  $\checkmark$  tokens:

$$\cdot^\Box = \cdot \quad (\Gamma, x :: A)^\Box = \begin{cases} \Gamma^\Box, x :: A & \text{if } A \text{ stable} \\ \Gamma^\Box & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (\Gamma, \checkmark)^\Box = \Gamma^\Box$$

293 Thus, for a well-typed term  $\text{box } t$ , we know that  $t$  only accesses variables of stable type.

294 For example, we can implement the *inc* function using  $map$  as follows:

295  $inc :: Str\ Int \rightarrow Str\ Int$   
 296  $inc = map\ (\text{box } (+1))$

298 Using the  $\Box$  modality we can also generalise the constant stream function to arbitrary  
 299 boxed types:

300  $constBox :: \Box a \rightarrow Str\ a$   
 301  $constBox\ a = unbox\ a :: delay\ (constBox\ a)$

303 Alternatively, we can make use of the *Stable* type class, to constrain type variables to stable  
 304 types:

305  $const :: Stable\ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow Str\ a$   
 306  $const\ x = x :: delay\ (const\ x)$

308 Since the type of streams is not stable, the restriction to stable types disallows the instan-  
 309 tiation of the  $const$  function to the type  $Str\ Int \rightarrow Str\ (Str\ Int)$ , which as we have seen  
 310 earlier would cause a memory leak. By contrast  $constBox$  can be instantiated to the type  
 311  $\Box(Str\ Int) \rightarrow Str\ (Str\ Int)$ . This is unproblematic since a value of type  $\Box(Str\ Int)$  is a sus-  
 312 pended, time-invariant computation that produces an integer stream. In other words, this  
 313 computation is independent of any external input and can thus be executed at any time in  
 314 the future without keeping old temporal values in memory.

315 So far, we have only looked at recursive definitions at the top level. Recursive definitions  
 316 can also be nested, but we have to be careful how such nested recursion interacts with the  
 317 typing environment. Below is an alternative definition of  $map$  that takes the boxed function  
 318  $f$  as an argument and then calls the  $run$  function that recurses over the stream:

319  $map :: \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$   
 320  $map\ f = run$

323 **where**  $run :: Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$

324  $run\ (x :: xs) = unbox\ f\ x :: delay\ (run\ (adv\ xs))$

325 Here  $run$  is type checked in a typing environment  $\Gamma$  that contains  $f :: \square(a \rightarrow b)$ . Since  
 326  $run$  is defined by guarded recursion, we require that its definition must type check in the  
 327 typing context  $\Gamma^\square$ . Because  $f$  is of a stable type, it remains in  $\Gamma^\square$  and is thus in scope in the  
 328 definition of  $run$ . That is, guarded recursive definitions interact with the typing environment  
 329 in the same way as  $box$ , which ensures that such recursive definitions are stable and can  
 330 thus safely be executed at any time in the future. As a consequence, the type checker will  
 331 prevent us from writing the following leaky version of  $map$ .

332  $leakyMap :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$

333  $leakyMap\ f = run$

334 **where**  $run :: Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$

335  $run\ (x :: xs) = f\ x :: delay\ (run\ (adv\ xs))$  --  $f$  is no longer in scope here  
 336

337 The type of  $f$  is not stable, and thus it is not in scope in the definition of  $run$ .

338 Note that top-level defined identifiers such as  $map$  and  $const$  are in scope in any context  
 339 after they are defined regardless of whether there is a  $\surd$  or whether they are of a stable  
 340 type. One can think of top-level definitions being implicitly boxed when they are defined  
 341 and implicitly unboxed when they are used later on.  
 342

## 343 2.2 Operational Semantics

344  
 345 As we have seen in the examples above, the purpose of the type modalities  $\bigcirc$  and  $\square$  is  
 346 to ensure that Rattus programs are causal, productive, and have no implicit space leaks.  
 347 In simple terms, the latter means that temporal values, i.e. values of type  $\bigcirc A$ , are safe to  
 348 be garbage collected after two time steps. In particular, input from a stream can be safely  
 349 garbage collected one time step after it has arrived. This memory property is made precise  
 350 later in [Section 4](#) along with a precise definition of the operational semantics of Rattus.

351 To obtain this memory property, Rattus uses an eager evaluation strategy except for  
 352  $delay$  and  $box$ . That is, arguments are evaluated to values before they are passed on to  
 353 functions, but special rules apply to  $delay$  and  $box$ . In addition, we only allow strict data  
 354 types in Rattus, which explains the use of strictness annotations in the definition of  $Str$ .  
 355 This eager evaluation strategy ensures that we do not have to keep intermediate values in  
 356 memory for longer than one time step.

357 Following the temporal interpretation of the  $\bigcirc$  modality, its introduction form  $delay$   
 358 does not eagerly evaluate its argument since we may have to wait until input data arrives.  
 359 For example, in the following function, we cannot evaluate  $adv\ x + 1$  until the integer value  
 360 of  $x :: \bigcirc Int$  arrives, which is one time step from now:

361  $delayInc :: \bigcirc Int \rightarrow \bigcirc Int$

362  $delayInc\ x = delay\ (adv\ x + 1)$   
 363

364 However, evaluation is only delayed by one time step, and this delay is reversed by  $adv$ .  
 365 For example,  $adv\ (delay\ (1 + 1))$  evaluates immediately to 2.  
 366  
 367  
 368

Turning to `box`, we can see that it needs to lazily evaluate its argument in order to maintain the memory property of `Rattus`: In the expression `box (delay 1)` of type  $\square(\bigcirc Int)$ , we should not evaluate `delay 1` right away. As mention above, values of type  $\bigcirc Int$  should be garbage collected after two time steps. However, boxed types are stable and can thus be moved arbitrarily into the future. Hence, by the time this boxed value is unboxed in the future, we might have already garbage collected the value of type  $\bigcirc Int$  it contains.

The modal FRP calculi of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) have a similar operational semantics to achieve same memory property that `Rattus` has. However, `Rattus` uses a slightly more eager evaluation strategy for `delay`: Recall that `delay t` delays the computation `t` by one time step and that `adv` reverses such a delay. The operational semantics of `Rattus` reflects this intuition by first evaluating every term `t` that occurs as `delay (... adv t ...)` before evaluating `delay`. In other words, `delay (... adv t ...)` is equivalent to

$$\text{let } x = t \text{ in } \text{delay} (... \text{adv } x ...)$$

This adjustment of the operational semantics of `delay` is important, as it allows us to lift the restrictions present in previous calculi (Krishnaswami, 2013; Bahr *et al.*, 2019, 2021) that disallow guarded recursive definitions to “look ahead” more than one time step. In the Fitch-style calculi of Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) this can be seen in the restriction to allow at most one  $\checkmark$  in the typing context. For the same reason these two calculi also disallow function definitions in the context of a  $\checkmark$ . As a consequence, terms like `delay(delay 0)` and `delay( $\lambda x.x$ )` do not type check in the calculi of Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021).

The extension in expressive power afforded by `Rattus`’s slightly more eager evaluation strategy has immediate practical benefits: Most importantly, there are no restrictions on where one can define functions. Secondly, we can write recursive functions that look several steps into the future:

```
stutter :: Int → Str Int
stutter n = n ::: delay (n ::: delay (stutter (n + 1)))
```

Applying `stutter` to 0 would construct a stream of numbers 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2, ... In order to implement `stutter` in the more restrictive language of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) we would need to decompose it into two mutually recursive functions (Bahr *et al.*, 2021). A more detailed comparison of the expressive power of these calculi can be found in [Section 4.5](#)

At first glance one might think that allowing multiple ticks could be accommodated without changing the evaluation of `delay` and instead extending the time one has to keep temporal values in memory accordingly, i.e. we may safely garbage collect temporal values after  $n + 1$  time steps, if we allow at most  $n$  ticks. However, as we will demonstrate in [Section 4.3.3](#) this is not enough. Even allowing just two ticks would require us to keep temporal values in memory indefinitely, i.e. it would permit implicit space leaks. On the other hand, given the more eager evaluation strategy for `delay`, we can still garbage collect all temporal values after two time steps, no matter how many ticks were involved in type checking the program.

### 3 Reactive Programming in Rattus

In this section we showcase how Rattus can be used for reactive programming. To this end, we implement a small library of combinators for programming with streams and events. We then use this library to implement a simple game. Finally, we implement a Yampa-style library and re-implement the game using that library instead. The full sources of both implementations of the game are included in the supplementary material along with a third variant that uses a combinator library based on monadic streams (Perez *et al.*, 2016).

#### 3.1 Programming with streams and events

To illustrate how Rattus facilitates working with streams and events, we have implemented a small set of combinators, shown in Figure 1. The *map* function should be familiar by now. The *zip* and *zipWith* functions combine two streams similarly to Haskell’s *zip* and *zipWith* functions defined on lists. Note however that instead of the normal pair type, we use a strict pair type:

**data**  $a \otimes b = !a \otimes !b$

It is like the normal pair type  $(a, b)$ , but when constructing a strict pair  $s \otimes t$ , the two components  $s$  and  $t$  are evaluated to weak head normal form.

The *scan* function is similar to Haskell’s *scanl* function on lists: given a stream of values  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots$ , the expression *scan* ( $\text{box}f$ )  $v$  computes the stream

$$f \ v \ v_0, \quad f \ (f \ v \ v_0) \ v_1, \quad f \ (f \ (f \ v \ v_0) \ v_1) \ v_2, \quad \dots$$

If one would want a variant of *scan* that is closer to Haskell’s *scanl*, i.e. the result starts with the value  $v$  instead of  $f \ v \ v_0$ , one can simply replace the first occurrence of *acc'* in the definition of *scan* with *acc*. Note that the type  $b$  has to be stable in the definition of *scan* so that  $\text{acc}' :: b$  is still in scope under delay.

A central component of functional reactive programming is that it must provide a way to react to events. In particular, it must support the ability to *switch* behaviour in response to the occurrence of an event. There are different ways to represent events. The simplest representation defines events of type  $a$  as streams of type *Maybe*  $a$ . However, we will use the strict variant of the *Maybe* type:

**data** *Maybe'*  $a = \text{Just}' \ !a \mid \text{Nothing}'$

We can then devise a simple *switch* combinator that reacts to events. Given an initial stream  $xs$  and an event  $e$  that may produce a stream, *switch*  $xs \ e$  initially behaves as  $xs$  but changes to the new stream provided by the occurrence of an event. In this implementation, the behaviour changes *every time* an event occurs, not only the first time. For a one-shot variant of *switch*, we would just have to change the second equation to

$$\text{switch } \_ \ (\text{Just}' \ as :: \_) = as$$

In the definition of *switch* we use the applicative operator  $\otimes$  defined as follows

$$\begin{aligned} (\otimes) &:: \bigcirc(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow \bigcirc a \rightarrow \bigcirc b \\ f \ \otimes \ x &= \text{delay} \ ((\text{adv } f) \ (\text{adv } x)) \end{aligned}$$

```

461 data Str a = !a ::: !(⊙(Str a))
462 map :: □(a → b) → Str a → Str b
463 map f (x ::: xs) = unbox f x ::: delay (map f (adv xs))
464 zip :: Str a → Str b → Str (a ⊗ b)
465 zip (a ::: as) (b ::: bs) = (a ⊗ b) ::: delay (zip (adv as) (adv bs))
466 zipWith :: □(a → b → c) → Str a → Str b → Str c
467 zipWith f (a ::: as) (b ::: bs) = unbox f a b ::: delay (zipWith f (adv as) (adv bs))
468 scan :: Stable b ⇒ □(b → a → b) → b → Str a → Str b
469 scan f acc (a ::: as) = acc' ::: delay (scan f acc' (adv as))
470 where acc' = unbox f acc a
471 type Event a = Str (Maybe' a)
472 switch :: Str a → Event (Str a) → Str a
473 switch (x ::: xs) (Nothing'      ::: fas) = x ::: (delay switch ⊗ xs ⊗ fas)
474 switch _          (Just' (a ::: as) ::: fas) = a ::: (delay switch ⊗ as ⊗ fas)
475 switchTrans :: (Str a → Str b) → Event (Str a → Str b) → (Str a → Str b)
476 switchTrans f es as = switchTrans' (f as) es as
477 switchTrans' :: Str b → Event (Str a → Str b) → Str a → Str b
478 switchTrans' (b ::: bs) (Nothing' ::: fs) as = b ::: (delay switchTrans' ⊗ bs ⊗ fs ⊗ tail as)
479 switchTrans' _          (Just' f    ::: fs) as = b' ::: (delay switchTrans' ⊗ bs' ⊗ fs ⊗ tail as)
480 where (b' ::: bs') = f as
481 combine :: □(a → a → a) → Str a → Event (Str a) → Str a
482 combine f (x ::: xs) (Nothing' ::: fas) = x ::: delay (combine f (adv xs) (adv fas))
483 combine f xs          (Just' as ::: fas) = x' ::: delay (combine f (adv xs') (adv fas))
484 where (x' ::: xs') = zipWith f xs as

```

Fig. 1. Small library for streams and events.

Instead of using  $\otimes$ , we could have also written  $\text{delay } (\text{switch } (\text{adv } xs) (\text{adv } fas))$  instead.

Finally, we include two further variants of *switch* to demonstrate that Rattus can also accommodate more comprehensive and dynamic manipulation of dataflow networks: *switchTrans* switches to a new stream function rather than just a stream; and *combine* combines any new stream with the existing one (using *zipWith*) instead of just replacing it. The latter shows that the dataflow network can dynamically grow and – by combining it with *switch* – shrink.

### 3.2 A simple reactive program

To put our bare-bones FRP library to use, let's implement a simple single player variant of the classic game Pong: The player has to move a paddle at the bottom of the screen to

bounce a ball and prevent it from falling.<sup>2</sup> The core behaviour is described by the following stream function:

507

508

509 *pong* :: *Str Input* → *Str (Pos ⊗ Float)*510 *pong inp* = *zip ball pad* **where**511 *pad* :: *Str Float*512 *pad* = *padPos inp*513 *ball* :: *Str Pos*514 *ball* = *ballPos (zip pad inp)*

515

516

517

518

519

520

It receives a stream of inputs (button presses and how much time has passed since the last input) and produces a stream of pairs consisting of the 2D position of the ball and the  $x$  coordinate of the paddle. Its implementation uses two helper functions to compute these two components. The position of the paddle only depends on the input whereas the position of the ball also depends on the position of the paddle (since it may bounce off it):

521

521 *padPos* :: *Str (Input)* → *Str Float*

522

522 *padPos* = *map (box fst')* ∘ *scan (box padStep) (0 ⊗ 0)*

523

523 *padStep* :: *(Float ⊗ Float)* → *Input* → *(Float ⊗ Float)*

524

524 *padStep (pos ⊗ vel) inp* = ...

525

525 *ballPos* :: *Str (Float ⊗ Input)* → *Str Pos*

526

526 *ballPos* = *map (box fst')* ∘ *scan (box ballStep) ((0 ⊗ 0) ⊗ (20 ⊗ 50))*

527

527 *ballStep* :: *(Pos ⊗ Vel)* → *(Float ⊗ Input)* → *(Pos ⊗ Vel)*

528

528 *ballStep (pos ⊗ vel) (pad ⊗ inp)* = ...

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

Both auxiliary functions follow the same structure. They use a *scan* to compute the position and the velocity of the object, while consuming the input stream. The velocity is only needed to compute the position and is therefore projected away afterwards using *map*. Here *fst'* is the first projection for the strict pair type. We can see that the ball starts at the centre of the screen (at coordinates (0, 0)) and moves towards the upper right corner (with velocity (20, 50)).

536

Let's change the implementation of *pong* so that it allows the player to reset the game, e.g. after ball has fallen off the screen:

538

538 *pong'* :: *Str Input* → *Str (Pos ⊗ Float)*

539

539 *pong' inp* = *zip ball pad* **where**

540

540 *pad* = *padPos inp*

541

541 *ball* = *switchTrans ballPos*

-- starting ball behaviour

542

542 (*map (box ballTrig) inp*)

-- trigger restart on pressing reset button

543

543 (*zip pad inp*)

-- input to the switch

544

544 *ballTrig* :: *Input* → *Maybe' (Str (Float ⊗ Input) → Str Pos)*

545

545 *ballTrig inp* = **if** *reset inp* **then** *Just' ballPos* **else** *Nothing'*

546

547

548

549

550

551

<sup>2</sup> So it is rather like Breakout, but without the bricks.

552

To achieve this behaviour we use the *switchTrans* combinator, which we initialise with the original behaviour of the ball. The event that will trigger the switch is constructed by mapping *ballTrig* over the input stream, which will create an event of type *Event (Str (Float  $\otimes$  Input)  $\rightarrow$  Str Pos)*, which will be triggered every time the player hits the reset button.

We can further refine this behaviour of the game so that it automatically resets once the ball has fallen off the screen. This requires a feedback loop since the behaviour of the ball depends on the current position of the ball. Such a feedback loop can be constructed using a variant of the *switchTrans* combinator that takes a delayed event as argument:

```
dswitchTrans :: (Str a  $\rightarrow$  Str b)  $\rightarrow$   $\bigcirc$ (Event (Str a  $\rightarrow$  Str b))  $\rightarrow$  (Str a  $\rightarrow$  Str b)
```

Thus the event we pass on to *dswitchTrans* can be constructed from the output of *dswitchTrans* by using guarded recursion, which closes the feedback loop:

```
pong'' :: Str Input  $\rightarrow$  Str (Pos  $\otimes$  Float)
```

```
pong'' inp = zip ball pad where
```

```
    pad = padPos inp
```

```
    ball = dswitchTrans ballPos
```

```
        (delay (map (box ballTrig') (pong'' (adv (tl inp)))))
        (zip pad inp)
```

```
ballTrig' :: Pos  $\otimes$  Float  $\rightarrow$  Maybe' (Str (Float  $\otimes$  Input)  $\rightarrow$  Str Pos)
```

```
ballTrig' ((_  $\otimes$  y)  $\otimes$  _) = if y < bottomScreenEdge then Just' ballPos else Nothing'
```

### 3.3 Arrowized FRP

The benefit of a modal FRP language is that we can directly interact with signals and events in a way that guarantees causality. A popular alternative to ensure causality is arrowized FRP (Nilsson *et al.*, 2002), which takes *signal functions* as primitive and uses Haskell's arrow notation (Paterson, 2001) to construct them. By implementing an arrowized FRP library in Rattus instead of plain Haskell, we can not only guarantee causality but also productivity and the absence of implicit space leaks. As we will see, this forces us to slightly restrict the API of arrowized FRP compared to Yampa. Furthermore, this exercise demonstrates that Rattus can also be used to implement a continuous-time FRP library, in contrast to the discrete-time FRP library from Section 3.1.

At the centre of arrowized FRP is the *Arrow* type class shown in Figure 2. If we can implement a signal function type *SF a b* that implements the *Arrow* class, we can benefit from the convenient notation Haskell provides for it. For example, assuming we have signal functions *ballPos* :: *SF (Float  $\otimes$  Input) Pos* and *padPos* :: *SF Input Float* describing the positions of the ball and the paddle from our game in Section 3.2, we can combine these as follows:

```
pong :: SF Input (Pos  $\otimes$  Float)
```

```
pong = proc inp  $\rightarrow$  do pad  $\leftarrow$  padPos  $\multimap$  inp
```

```
    ball  $\leftarrow$  ballPos  $\multimap$  (pad  $\otimes$  inp)
```

```
    returnA  $\multimap$  (ball  $\otimes$  pad)
```

```

599 class Category a ⇒ Arrow a where
600   arr    :: (b → c) → a b c
601   first  :: a b c → a (b, d) (c, d)
602   second :: a b c → a (d, b) (d, c)
603   (***)  :: a b c → a b' c' → a (b, b') (c, c')
604   (&&&)   :: a b c → a b c' → a b (c, c')
605
606 class Category cat where
607   id     :: cat a a
608   (◦)    :: cat b c → cat a b → cat a c
609
610 class Arrow a ⇒ ArrowLoop a where
611   loop :: a (b, d) (c, d) → a b c

```

Fig. 2. Arrow type class.

The Rattus definition of  $SF$  is almost identical to the original Haskell definition from Nilsson *et al.* (2002). The only difference is the use of strict types and the insertion of the  $\bigcirc$  modality to make it a guarded recursive type:

```
data SF a b = SF ! (Float → a → (◦(SF a b) ⊗ b))
```

This implements a continuous-time signal function using sampling, where the additional argument of type  $Float$  indicates the time passed since the previous sample.

Implementing the methods of the  $Arrow$  type class is straightforward with the exception of the  $arr$  method. In fact, we cannot implement  $arr$  in Rattus at all. Because the first argument is not stable, it falls out of scope in the recursive call:

```
arr :: (a → b) → SF a b
arr f = SF (λ _ a → (delay (arr f), f a))  -- f is not in scope under delay
```

The situation is similar to the  $map$  function, and we must box the function argument so that it remains available at all times in the future:

```
arrBox :: □(a → b) → SF a b
arrBox f = SF (λ _ a → (delay (arrBox f), unbox f a))
```

That is, the  $arr$  method could be a potential source for space leaks. However, in practice  $arr$  does not seem to cause space leaks and thus its use in conventional arrowized FRP libraries should be safe. Nonetheless, in Rattus we have to replace  $arr$  with the more restrictive variant  $arrBox$ . But fortunately, this does not prevent us from using the arrow notation: Rattus treats  $arr f$  as a short hand for  $arrBox$  ( $\text{box } f$ ), which allows us to use the arrow notation while making sure that  $\text{box } f$  is well-typed, i.e.  $f$  only refers to variables of stable type.

The  $Arrow$  type class only provides a basic interface for constructing *static* signal functions. To permit dynamic behaviour we need to provide additional combinators, e.g. for switching signals and for recursive definitions. The  $rSwitch$  combinator corresponds to the  $switchTrans$  combinator from Figure 1:

```
rSwitch :: SF a b → SF (a ⊗ Maybe' (SF a b)) b
```

This combinator allows us to implement our game so that it resets to its start position if we hit the reset button:

```
pong' :: SF Input (Pos ⊗ Float)
pong' = proc inp → do pad ← padPos ↯ inp
```

```

645 let event = if reset inp then Just' ballPos else Nothing'
646 ball ← rSwitch ballPos ↯((pad ⊗ inp) ⊗ event)
647 returnA ↯(ball ⊗ pad)

```

Arrows can be endowed with a very general recursion principle by instantiating the *loop* method in the *ArrowLoop* type class shown in Figure 2. However, *loop* cannot be implemented in Rattus as it would break the productivity property. Moreover, *loop* depends crucially on lazy evaluation, and is thus a source for space leaks.

Instead of *loop*, we implement a different recursion principle that corresponds to guarded recursion:

```

654 loopPre :: d → SF (b ⊗ d) (c ⊗ ○d) → SF b c
655

```

Intuitively speaking, this combinator constructs a signal function from  $b$  to  $c$  with the help of an internal state of type  $d$ . The first argument initialises the state, and the second argument is a signal function that turns input of type  $b$  into output of type  $c$  while also updating the internal state. Apart from the addition of the  $\bigcirc$  modality and strict pair types, this definition has the same type as Yampa's *loopPre*. Alternatively, we could drop the  $\bigcirc$  modality and constrain  $d$  to be stable. The use of *loopPre* instead of *loop* introduces a delay by one sampling step (as indicated by the  $\bigcirc$  modality) and thus ensures productivity. However, in practice such a delay can be avoided by refactoring the underlying signal function.

Using the *loopPre* combinator we can implement the signal function of the ball:

```

666 ballPos :: SF (Float ⊗ Input) Pos
667 ballPos = loopPre (20 ⊗ 50) run where
668   run :: SF ((Float ⊗ Input) ⊗ Vel) (Pos ⊗ ○Vel)
669   run = proc ((pad ⊗ inp) ⊗ v) → do p ← integral (0 ⊗ 0) ↯ v
670       returnA ↯(p ⊗ delay (calcNewVelocity pad p v))
671

```

Here we also use the *integral* combinator that computes the integral of a signal using a simple approximation that sums up rectangles under the curve:

```

674 integral :: (Stable a, VectorSpace a s) ⇒ a → SF a a
675

```

The signal function for the paddle can be implemented in a similar fashion. The complete code of the case studies presented in this section can be found in the supplementary material.

## 4 Core Calculus

In this section we present the core calculus of Rattus, which we call  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ . The purpose of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  is to formally present the language's Fitch-style typing rules, its operational semantics, and to formally prove the central operational properties, i.e. productivity, causality, and absence of implicit space leaks. To this end, the calculus is stripped down to its essence: a simply typed lambda calculus extended with guarded recursive types  $\text{Fix } \alpha.A$ , a guarded fixed point combinator, and the two type modalities  $\square$  and  $\bigcirc$ . Since general inductive types

and polymorphic types are orthogonal to the issue of operational properties in reactive programming, we have omitted these for the sake of clarity.

#### 4.1 Type System

Figure 3 defines the syntax of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ . Besides guarded recursive types, guarded fixed points, and the two type modalities, we include standard sum and product types along with unit and integer types. The type  $Str A$  of streams of type  $A$  is represented as the guarded recursive type  $Fix \alpha.A \times \alpha$ . Note the absence of  $\bigcirc$  in this type. When unfolding guarded recursive types such as  $Fix \alpha.A \times \alpha$ , the  $\bigcirc$  modality is inserted implicitly:  $Fix \alpha.A \times \alpha \cong A \times \bigcirc(Fix \alpha.A \times \alpha)$ . This ensures that guarded recursive types are by construction always guarded by the  $\bigcirc$  modality.

For the sake of the operational semantics, the syntax also includes heap locations  $l$ . However, as we shall see, heap locations cannot be used by the programmer directly, because there is no typing rule for them. Instead, heap locations are allocated and returned by delay in the operational semantics. This is a standard approach for languages with references (see e.g. Abramsky *et al.* (1998); Krishnaswami (2013)).

Typing contexts, defined in Figure 4, consist of variable typings  $x : A$  and  $\checkmark$  tokens. If a typing context contains no  $\checkmark$ , we call it *tick-free*. The complete set of typing rules for  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  is given in Figure 5. The typing rules for Rattus presented in Section 2 appear in the same form also here, except for replacing Haskell's  $::$  operator with the more standard notation. The remaining typing rules are entirely standard, except for the typing rule for the guarded fixed point combinator  $fix$ .

The typing rule for  $fix$  follows Nakano's fixed point combinator and ensures that the calculus is productive. In addition, following Krishnaswami (2013), the rule enforces the body  $t$  of the fixed point to be stable by strengthening the typing context to  $\Gamma^{\square}$ . Moreover, we follow Bahr *et al.* (2021) and assume  $x$  to be of type  $\square(\bigcirc A)$  instead of  $\bigcirc A$ . As a consequence, recursive calls may occur at any time in the future, i.e. not necessarily in the very next time step. In conjunction with the more general typing rule for delay, this allows us to write recursive function definitions that, like *stutter* in Section 2.2, look several steps into the future.

To see how the recursion syntax of Rattus translates into the fixed point combinator of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ , let us reconsider the *constInt* function:

```
constInt :: Int → Str Int
constInt x = x :: delay (constInt x)
```

For readability of the corresponding  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term, we use the shorthand  $s :: t$  for the  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term into  $\langle s, t \rangle$ . Recall that  $Str A$  is represented as  $Fix \alpha.A \times \alpha$  in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ . That is, given  $s : A$  and  $t : \bigcirc(Str A)$ , we have that  $s :: t$  is of type  $Str A$ . Using this notation, the above definition translates into the following  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term:

$$constInt = fix r.\lambda x.x :: delay(adv (unbox r) x)$$

The recursive notation is simply translated into a fixed point  $fix r.t$  where the recursive occurrence of *constInt* is replaced by  $adv (unbox r)$ . The variable  $r$  is of type  $\square(\bigcirc(Int \rightarrow Str Int))$  and applying  $unbox$  followed by  $adv$  turns it into type  $Int \rightarrow Str Int$ . Moreover,

737	Types	$A, B ::= \alpha \mid 1 \mid \text{Int} \mid A \times B \mid A + B \mid A \rightarrow B \mid \square A \mid \bigcirc A \mid \text{Fix } \alpha.A$
738	Stable Types	$S, S' ::= 1 \mid \text{Int} \mid \square A \mid S \times S' \mid S + S'$
739	Values	$v, w ::= \langle \rangle \mid \bar{n} \mid \lambda x.t \mid \langle v, w \rangle \mid \text{in}_i v \mid \text{box } t \mid \text{into } v \mid \text{fix } x.t \mid l$
740	Terms	$s, t ::= \langle \rangle \mid \bar{n} \mid \lambda x.t \mid \langle s, t \rangle \mid \text{in}_i t \mid \text{box } t \mid \text{into } t \mid \text{fix } x.t \mid l$
741		$\mid x \mid t_1 t_2 \mid t_1 + t_2 \mid \text{adv } t \mid \text{delay } t \mid \text{unbox } t \mid \text{out } t$
742		$\mid \pi_i \mid \text{case } t \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x.t_1; \text{in}_2 x.t_2 \mid \text{let } x = s \text{ in } t$
743		

Fig. 3. Syntax of (stable) types, terms, and values. In typing rules, only closed types are considered (i.e. each occurrence of a type variable  $\alpha$  is in the scope of a  $\text{Fix } \alpha$ ).

$$\frac{}{\emptyset \vdash_{\checkmark}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark}}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark}}{\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark}}$$

Fig. 4. Well-formed contexts

the restriction that recursive calls must occur in a context with  $\checkmark$  makes sure that this transformation from recursion notation to fixed point combinator results in a well-typed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term.

The typing rule for  $\text{fix } x.t$  also explains the treatment of recursive definitions that are nested inside a top-level definition. The typing context  $\Gamma$  is turned into  $\Gamma^{\square}$  when type checking the body  $t$  of the fixed point.

For example, reconsider the following ill-typed definition of *leakyMap*:

```

761 leakyMap :: (a → b) → Str a → Str b
762 leakyMap f = run
763   where run :: Str a → Str b
764         run (x :: xs) = f x :: delay (leakyMap (adv xs))

```

Translated into  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ , the definition looks like this:

$$\text{leakyMap} = \lambda f. \text{fix } r. \lambda s. \text{let } x = \text{head } s \text{ in let } xs = \text{tail } s$$

$$\text{in } f x :: \text{delay}((\text{adv } (\text{unbox } r)) (\text{adv } xs))$$

The pattern matching syntax is translated into projection functions *head* and *tail* that decompose a stream into its head and tail, respectively, i.e.

$$\text{head} = \lambda x. \pi_1 (\text{out } x) \qquad \text{tail} = \lambda x. \pi_2 (\text{out } x)$$

More importantly, the variable  $f$  bound by the outer lambda abstraction is of a function type and thus not stable. Therefore, it is not in scope in the body of the fixed point.

## 4.2 Operational Semantics

The operational semantics is given in two steps: To execute a  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  program, it is first translated into a more restrictive variant of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ , which we call  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . The resulting  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  program is then executed using an abstract machine that ensures the absence of implicit space leaks

$$\begin{array}{c}
783 \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free or } A \text{ stable}}{\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} x : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \langle \rangle : 1} \quad \frac{n \in \mathbb{Z}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \bar{n} : \text{Int}} \\
784 \\
785 \\
786 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : \text{Int} \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \text{Int}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s + t : \text{Int}} \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } x = s \text{ in } t : B} \\
787 \\
788 \\
789 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t' : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t t' : B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t' : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \langle t, t' \rangle : A \times B} \\
790 \\
791 \\
792 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A_1 \times A_2 \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \pi_i t : A_i} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A_i \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{in}_i t : A_1 + A_2} \\
793 \\
794 \\
795 \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t_i : B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A_1 + A_2 \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{case } t \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x.t_1 ; \text{in}_2 x.t_2 : B} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A} \\
796 \\
797 \\
798 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc A \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free}}{\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \square A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{unbox } t : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma^{\square} \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{box } t : \square A} \\
799 \\
800 \\
801 \\
802 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A[\bigcirc(\text{Fix } \alpha.A)/\alpha]}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{into } t : \text{Fix } \alpha.A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \text{Fix } \alpha.A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{out } t : A[\bigcirc(\text{Fix } \alpha.A)/\alpha]} \\
803 \\
804 \\
805 \quad \frac{\Gamma^{\square}, x : \square(\bigcirc A) \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{fix } x.t : A} \\
806 \\
807 \\
808 \\
809 \\
810
\end{array}$$

Fig. 5. Typing rules.

by construction. By presenting the operational semantics in two stages, we avoid the more complicated setup of an abstract machine that is capable of directly executing  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  programs. As we show in the example in Section 4.3.3, such a machine would need to perform some restricted form of partial evaluation under delay and under lambda abstractions.

#### 4.2.1 Translation to $\lambda_{\checkmark}$

The  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  calculus has the same syntax as  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ , but the former has a more restrictive type system. It restricts typing contexts to contain at most one  $\checkmark$  and restricts the typing rules for lambda abstraction and delay as follows:

$$\begin{array}{c}
821 \quad \frac{|\Gamma|, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B} \quad \frac{|\Gamma|, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A} \quad \begin{array}{l} |\Gamma| = \Gamma \quad \text{if } \Gamma \text{ is tick-free} \\ |\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma'| = \Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma' \end{array} \\
822 \\
823
\end{array}$$

The construction  $|\Gamma|$  turns  $\Gamma$  into a tick-free context, which ensures that we have at most one  $\checkmark$  – even for nested occurrences of delay – and that the body of a lambda abstraction is not in the scope of a  $\checkmark$ . All other typing rules are the same as for  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ . The  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  calculus is a fragment of the  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  calculus in the sense that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$  implies  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ .

Any closed  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term can be translated into a corresponding  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  term by exhaustively applying the following rewrite rules:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } t]) &\longrightarrow \text{let } x = t \text{ in } \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } x]) \quad \text{if } t \text{ is not a variable} \\ \lambda x. K[\text{adv } t] &\longrightarrow \text{let } y = \text{adv } t \text{ in } \lambda x. (K[y]) \end{aligned}$$

where  $K$  is a term with a single hole that does not occur in the scope of  $\text{delay}$ ,  $\text{adv}$ ,  $\text{box}$ ,  $\text{fix}$ , or  $\lambda$  abstraction; and  $K[t]$  is the term obtained from  $K$  by replacing its hole with the term  $t$ .

For example, consider the closed  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term  $\lambda f. \text{delay}(\lambda x. \text{adv}(\text{unbox } f)(x + 1))$  of type  $\square \circ (\text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}) \rightarrow \circ (\text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int})$ . Applying the second rewrite rule followed by the first rewrite rule, this term rewrites to a  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  term of the same type as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &\lambda f. \text{delay}(\lambda x. \text{adv}(\text{unbox } f)(x + 1)) \\ &\longrightarrow \lambda f. \text{delay}(\text{let } y = \text{adv}(\text{unbox } f) \text{ in } \lambda x. y(x + 1)) \\ &\longrightarrow \lambda f. \text{let } z = \text{unbox } f \text{ in } \text{delay}(\text{let } y = \text{adv } z \text{ in } \lambda x. y(x + 1)) \end{aligned}$$

In a well-typed  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term, each subterm  $\text{adv } t$  must occur in the scope of a corresponding  $\text{delay}$ . The above rewrite rules make sure that the subterm  $t$  is evaluated before the  $\text{delay}$ . This corresponds to the intuition that  $\text{delay}$  moves ahead in time and  $\text{adv}$  moves back in time – thus the two cancel out one another.

One can show that the rewrite rules are strongly normalising and type-preserving (in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ ). Moreover, any closed term in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  that cannot be further rewritten is also well-typed in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$ . As a consequence, we can exhaustively apply the rewrite rules to a closed term of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  to transform it into a closed term of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$ :

**Theorem 4.1.** For each  $\vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ , we can effectively construct a term  $t'$  with  $t \longrightarrow^* t'$  and  $\vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t' : A$ .

Below we give a brief overview of the three components of the proof of Theorem 4.1. For the full proof, we refer the reader to the appendix.

**Strong normalisation.** To show that  $\longrightarrow$  is strongly normalising, we define for each term  $t$  a natural number  $d(t)$  such that, whenever  $t \longrightarrow t'$ , then  $d(t) > d(t')$ . We define  $d(t)$  to be the sum of the depth of all redex occurrences in  $t$  (i.e. subterms that match the left-hand side of a rewrite rule). Since each rewrite step  $t \longrightarrow t'$  removes a redex or replaces a redex with a new redex at a strictly smaller depth, we have that  $d(t) > d(t')$ .

**Subject reduction.** We want to prove that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A$  and  $s \longrightarrow t$  implies  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ . To this end we proceed by induction on  $s \longrightarrow t$ . In case the reduction  $s \longrightarrow t$  is due to congruence closure,  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$  follows immediately by the induction hypothesis. Otherwise,  $s$  matches the left-hand side of one of the rewrite rules. Each of these two cases follows from the induction hypothesis and one of the following two properties:

- (1) If  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$  and  $\Gamma'$  tick-free, then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \circ B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \circ B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } x] : A$  for some  $B$ .

(2) If  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$  and  $\Gamma'$  tick-free, then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : B$  and  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[x] : A$  for some  $B$ .

Both properties can be proved by a straightforward induction on  $K$ . The proofs rely on the fact that due to the typing rule for  $\text{adv}$ , we know that if  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$  for a tick-free  $\Gamma'$ , then all of  $t$ 's free variables must be in  $\Gamma$ .

**Exhaustiveness.** Finally, we need to show that  $\vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$  with  $t \not\rightarrow$  implies  $\vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t : A$ , i.e. if we cannot rewrite  $t$  any further it must be typable in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  as well. In order to prove this property by induction we must generalise it to open terms: If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$  for a context  $\Gamma$  with at most one tick and  $t \not\rightarrow$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t : A$ . We prove this implication by induction on  $t$  and a case distinction on the last typing rule in the derivation of  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ . For almost all cases,  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t : A$  follows from the induction hypothesis since we find a corresponding typing rule in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  that is either the same as in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  or has a side condition is satisfied by our assumption that  $\Gamma$  have at most one tick. We are thus left with two interesting cases: the typing rules for delay and lambda abstraction, given that  $\Gamma$  contains exactly one tick (the zero-tick cases are trivial). Each of these two cases follows from the induction hypothesis and one of the following two properties:

- (1) If  $\Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ ,  $\Gamma_2$  contains a tick, and  $\text{delay } t \not\rightarrow$ , then  $\Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ .
- (2) If  $\Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t : A$  and  $\lambda x.t \not\rightarrow$ , then  $\Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t : A$ .

Both properties can be proved by a straightforward induction on the typing derivation. The proof of (1) uses the fact that  $t$  cannot have nested occurrences of  $\text{adv}$  and thus any occurrence of  $\text{adv}$  only needs the tick that is already present in  $\Gamma_2$ . In turn, (2) holds due to the fact that all occurrences of  $\text{adv}$  in  $t$  must be guarded by an occurrence of  $\text{delay}$  in  $t$  itself, and thus the tick between  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  is not needed. Note that (2) is about  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  as we first apply the induction hypothesis and then apply (2).

#### 4.2.2 Abstract machine for $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$

To prove the absence of implicit space leaks, we devise an abstract machine that after each time step deletes all data from the previous time step. That means, the operational semantics is *by construction* free of implicit space leaks. This approach, pioneered by Krishnaswami (2013), allows us to reduce the proof of no implicit space leaks to a proof of type soundness.

At the centre of this approach is the idea to execute programs in a machine that has access to a store consisting of up to two separate heaps: a ‘now’ heap from which we can retrieve delayed computations, and a ‘later’ heap where we must store computations that should be performed in the next time step. Once the machine advances to the next time step, it will delete the ‘now’ heap and the ‘later’ heap will become the new ‘now’ heap.

The machine consists of two components: the *evaluation semantics*, presented in Figure 6, which describes the operational behaviour of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{V}}$  within a single time step; and the *step semantics*, presented in Figure 7, which describes the behaviour of a program over time, e.g. how it consumes and constructs streams.

$$\begin{array}{c}
921 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \bar{m}; \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t'; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \bar{n}; \sigma'' \rangle}{\langle v; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t + t'; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \bar{m} + \bar{n}; \sigma'' \rangle}{\langle t + t'; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \bar{m} + \bar{n}; \sigma'' \rangle} \\
922 \\
923 \\
924 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle u; \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t'; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle u'; \sigma'' \rangle}{\langle \langle t, t' \rangle; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \langle u, u' \rangle; \sigma'' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle; \sigma' \rangle \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\langle \pi_i(t); \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v_i; \sigma' \rangle} \\
925 \\
926 \\
927 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\langle \text{in}_i(t); \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{in}_i(v); \sigma' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle s; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t[v/x]; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle v'; \sigma'' \rangle}{\langle \text{let } x = s \text{ in } t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v'; \sigma'' \rangle} \\
928 \\
929 \\
930 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{in}_i(u); \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t_i[v/x]; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle u_i; \sigma'' \rangle \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\langle \text{case } t \text{ of in}_1 x.t_1; \text{in}_2 x.t_2; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle u_i; \sigma'' \rangle} \\
931 \\
932 \\
933 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \lambda x.s; \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t'; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma'' \rangle \quad \langle s[v/x]; \sigma'' \rangle \Downarrow \langle v'; \sigma''' \rangle}{\langle t t'; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v'; \sigma''' \rangle} \\
934 \\
935 \\
936 \\
937 \quad \frac{l = \text{alloc } (\sigma)}{\langle \text{delay } t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle l; \sigma, l \mapsto t \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t; \eta_N \rangle \Downarrow \langle l; \eta'_N \rangle \quad \langle \eta'_N(l); \eta'_N \checkmark \eta_L \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{adv } t; \eta_N \checkmark \eta_L \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle} \\
938 \\
939 \\
940 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{box } t'; \sigma' \rangle \quad \langle t'; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma'' \rangle}{\langle \text{unbox } t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma'' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{into } t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{into } v; \sigma' \rangle} \\
941 \\
942 \\
943 \quad \frac{\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{into } v; \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{out } t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t[\text{box } (\text{delay } (\text{fix } x.t))/x]; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{fix } x.t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle} \\
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\end{array}$$

Fig. 6. Evaluation semantics.

$$\begin{array}{c}
950 \\
951 \quad \frac{\langle t; \eta \checkmark \rangle \Downarrow \langle v \text{ :: } l; \eta_N \checkmark \eta_L \rangle}{\langle t; \eta \rangle \xrightarrow{v} \langle \text{adv } l; \eta_L \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle t; \eta, l^* \mapsto v \text{ :: } l^* \checkmark l^* \mapsto \langle \rangle \rangle \Downarrow \langle v' \text{ :: } l; \eta_N \checkmark \eta_L, l^* \mapsto \langle \rangle \rangle}{\langle t; \eta \rangle \xrightarrow{v/v'} \langle \text{adv } l; \eta_L \rangle} \\
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\end{array}$$

Fig. 7. Step semantics for streams.

The evaluation semantics is given as a deterministic big-step operational semantics, where we write  $\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle$  to indicate that starting with the store  $\sigma$ , the term  $t$  evaluates to the value  $v$  and the new store  $\sigma'$ . A store  $\sigma$  can be of one of two forms: Either it consists of a single heap  $\eta_L$ , i.e.  $\sigma = \eta_L$ , or it consists of two heaps  $\eta_N$  and  $\eta_L$ , written  $\sigma = \eta_N \checkmark \eta_L$ . The ‘later’ heap  $\eta_L$  contains delayed computations that may be retrieved and executed in the next time step, whereas the ‘now’ heap  $\eta_N$  contains delayed computations from the previous time step that can be retrieved and executed now. We can only write to  $\eta_L$  and only read from  $\eta_N$ . However, when one time step passes, the ‘now’ heap  $\eta_N$  is

deleted and the ‘later’ heap  $\eta_L$  becomes the new ‘now’ heap. This shifting of time is part of the step semantics in Figure 7, which we turn to shortly.

Heaps are simply finite mappings from *heap locations* to terms. To allocate fresh heap locations, we assume a function  $\text{alloc}(\cdot)$  that takes a store  $\sigma$  of the form  $\eta_L$  or  $\eta_N \checkmark \eta_L$  and returns a heap location  $l$  that is not in the domain of  $\eta_L$ . Given such a fresh heap location  $l$  and a term  $t$ , we write  $\sigma, l \mapsto t$  to denote the store  $\eta'_L$  or  $\eta_N \checkmark \eta'_L$ , respectively, where  $\eta'_L = \eta_L, l \mapsto t$ , i.e.  $\eta'_L$  is obtained from  $\eta_L$  by extending it with a new mapping  $l \mapsto t$ .

Applying  $\text{delay}$  to a term  $t$  stores  $t$  in a fresh location  $l$  on the ‘later’ heap and then returns  $l$ . Conversely, if we apply  $\text{adv}$  to such a delayed computation, we retrieve the term from the ‘now’ heap and evaluate it.

### 4.3 Main results

In this section, we present the main metatheoretical results. Namely that the core calculus  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  enjoys the desired productivity, causality, and memory properties (see Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.3 below). The proof of these results is sketched in Section 5 and is fully mechanised in the accompanying Coq proofs. In order to formulate and prove these metatheoretical results, we devise a step semantics that describes the behaviour of reactive programs. Here we consider two kinds of reactive programs: terms of type  $\text{Str } A$  and terms of type  $\text{Str } A \rightarrow \text{Str } B$ . The former just produce infinite streams of values of type  $A$ , whereas the latter are reactive processes that produce a value of type  $B$  for each input value of type  $A$ . The purpose of the step semantics is to formulate clear metatheoretical properties and to subsequently prove them using the fundamental property of our logical relation (Theorem 5.1). In principle, we could formulate similar step semantics for the Yampa-style signal functions from Section 3.3 or other basic FRP types such as resumptions (Krishnaswami, 2013), and then derive similar metatheoretical results.

#### 4.3.1 Productivity of streams

The step semantics  $\xRightarrow{v}$  from Figure 7 describes the unfolding of streams of type  $\text{Str } A$ . Given a closed term  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t : \text{Str } A$ , it produces an infinite reduction sequence

$$\langle t; \emptyset \rangle \xRightarrow{v_0} \langle t_1; \eta_1 \rangle \xRightarrow{v_1} \langle t_2; \eta_2 \rangle \xRightarrow{v_2} \dots$$

where  $\emptyset$  denotes the empty heap and each  $v_i$  has type  $A$ . In each step we have a term  $t_i$  and the corresponding heap  $\eta_i$  of delayed computations. According to the definition of the step semantics, we evaluate  $\langle t_i; \eta_i \checkmark \rangle \Downarrow \langle v_i :: l; \eta'_i \checkmark \eta_{i+1} \rangle$ , where  $\eta'_i$  is  $\eta_i$  but possibly extended with some additional delayed computations and  $\eta_{i+1}$  is the new heap with delayed computations for the next time step. Crucially, the old heap  $\eta'_i$  is thrown away. That is, by construction, old data is not implicitly retained but garbage collected immediately after we completed the current time step.

To see this garbage collection strategy in action, consider the following definition of the stream of consecutive numbers starting from some given number:

```
from :: Int → Str Int
from n = n :: delay (from (n + 1))
```

This definition translates to the  $\lambda_{\mathcal{M}}$  term  $\text{fix } r.\lambda n.n :: \text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{unbox } r)(n + \bar{1}))$ , which, in turn, rewrites into the following  $\lambda_{\mathcal{M}}$  term:

$$\text{from} = \text{fix } r.\lambda n.n :: \text{let } r' = \text{unbox } r \text{ in } \text{delay}(\text{adv } r' (n + \bar{1}))$$

Let's see how the term  $\text{from } \bar{0}$  of type  $\text{Str Int}$  is executed on the machine:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{from } \bar{0}; \emptyset \rangle &\xrightarrow{\bar{0}} \langle \text{adv } l'_1; l_1 \mapsto \text{from}, l'_1 \mapsto \text{adv } l_1 (\bar{0} + \bar{1}) \rangle \\ &\xrightarrow{\bar{1}} \langle \text{adv } l'_2; l_2 \mapsto \text{from}, l'_2 \mapsto \text{adv } l_2 (\bar{1} + \bar{1}) \rangle \\ &\xrightarrow{\bar{2}} \langle \text{adv } l'_3; l_3 \mapsto \text{from}, l'_3 \mapsto \text{adv } l_3 (\bar{2} + \bar{1}) \rangle \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

In each step, the heap contains at location  $l_i$  the fixed point  $\text{from}$  and at location  $l'_i$  the delayed computation produced by the occurrence of  $\text{delay}$  in the body of the fixed point. The old versions of the delayed computations are garbage collected after each step and only the most recent version survives.

Our main result is that the execution of  $\lambda_{\mathcal{M}}$  terms by the machine described in [Figure 6](#) and [7](#) is safe. To describe the type of the produced values precisely, we need to restrict ourselves to streams over types whose evaluation is not suspended, which excludes function and modal types. This idea is expressed in the notion of *value types*, defined by the following grammar:

$$\text{Value Types } V, W ::= 1 \mid \text{Int} \mid U \times W \mid U + W$$

We can then prove the following theorem, which both expresses the fact that the aggressive garbage collection strategy of Rattus is safe, and that stream programs are productive:

**Theorem 4.2** (productivity of streams). Given a term  $\vdash_{\mathcal{M}} t : \text{Str } A$  with  $A$  a value type, there is an infinite reduction sequence

$$\langle t; \emptyset \rangle \xrightarrow{v_0} \langle t_1; \eta_1 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_1} \langle t_2; \eta_2 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_2} \dots \quad \text{such that } \vdash_{\mathcal{M}} v_i : A \text{ for all } i \geq 0.$$

The restriction to value types is only necessary for showing that each output value  $v_i$  has the correct type.

#### 4.3.2 Productivity and causality of stream transducers

The step semantics  $\xrightarrow{v/v'}$  from [Figure 7](#) describes how a term of type  $\text{Str } A \rightarrow \text{Str } B$  transforms a stream of inputs into a stream of outputs in a step-by-step fashion. Given a closed term  $\vdash_{\mathcal{M}} t : \text{Str } A \rightarrow \text{Str } B$ , and an infinite stream of input values  $\vdash_{\mathcal{M}} v_i : A$ , it produces an infinite reduction sequence

$$\langle t(\text{adv } l^*); \emptyset \rangle \xrightarrow{v_0/v'_0} \langle t_1; \eta_1 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_1/v'_1} \langle t_2; \eta_2 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_2/v'_2} \dots$$

where each output value  $v'_i$  has type  $B$ .

The definition of  $\xrightarrow{v/v'}$  assumes that we have some fixed heap location  $l^*$ , which acts both as interface to the currently available input value and as a stand-in for future inputs that are not yet available. As we can see above, this stand-in value  $l^*$  is passed on to the stream

function in the form of the argument  $\text{adv } l^*$ . Then, in each step, we evaluate the current term  $t_i$  in the current heap  $\eta_i$

$$\langle t_i; \eta_i, l^* \mapsto v_i :: l^* \checkmark l^* \mapsto \langle \rangle \rangle \Downarrow \langle v'_i :: l; \eta'_i \checkmark \eta_{i+1}, l^* \mapsto \langle \rangle \rangle$$

which produces the output  $v'_i$  and the new heap  $\eta_{i+1}$ . Again the old heap  $\eta'_i$  is simply dropped. In the ‘later’ heap, the operational semantics maps  $l^*$  to the placeholder value  $\langle \rangle$ , which is safe since the machine never reads from the ‘later’ heap. Then in the next reduction step, we replace that placeholder value with  $v_{i+1} :: l^*$  which contains the newly received input value  $v_{i+1}$ .

For an example, consider the following function that takes a stream of integers and produces the stream of prefix sums:

$sum :: Str\ Int \rightarrow Str\ Int$

$sum = run\ 0\ \mathbf{where}$

$run :: Int \rightarrow Str\ Int \rightarrow Str\ Int$

$run\ acc\ (x :: xs) = \mathbf{let}\ acc' = acc + x$

$\mathbf{in}\ acc' :: \text{delay}\ (run\ acc'\ (\text{adv}\ xs))$

This function definition translates to the following term  $sum$  in the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  calculus:

$$run = \text{fix } r.\lambda acc.\lambda s.\text{let } x = \text{head } s \text{ in let } xs = \text{tail } s \text{ in let } acc' = acc + x \text{ in} \\ \text{let } r' = \text{unbox } r \text{ in } acc' :: \text{delay}(\text{adv } r' acc' (\text{adv } xs))$$

$$sum = run\ \bar{0}$$

Let’s look at the first three steps of executing the  $sum$  function with 2, 11, and 5 as its first three input values:

$$\langle sum\ (\text{adv } l^*); \emptyset \rangle$$

$$\xrightarrow{\bar{2}/\bar{2}} \langle \text{adv } l'_1; l_1 \mapsto run, l'_1 \mapsto \text{adv } l_1\ \bar{2}\ (\text{adv } l^*) \rangle$$

$$\xrightarrow{\bar{11}/\bar{13}} \langle \text{adv } l'_2; l_2 \mapsto run, l'_2 \mapsto \text{adv } l_2\ \bar{13}\ (\text{adv } l^*) \rangle$$

$$\xrightarrow{\bar{5}/\bar{18}} \langle \text{adv } l'_3; l_3 \mapsto run, l'_3 \mapsto \text{adv } l_3\ \bar{18}\ (\text{adv } l^*) \rangle$$

$\vdots$

In each step of the computation,  $l_i$  stores the fixed point  $run$  and  $l'_i$  stores the computation that calls that fixed point with the new accumulator value (2, 13, and 18, respectively) and the tail of the current input stream.

We can prove the following theorem, which again expresses the fact that the garbage collection strategy of Rattus is safe, and that stream processing functions are both productive and causal:

**Theorem 4.3** (causality and productivity of stream transducers). Given a term  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t : Str\ A \rightarrow Str\ B$  with  $B$  a value type, and an infinite sequence of values  $\vdash_{\checkmark} v_i : A$ , there is an infinite reduction sequence

$$\langle t\ (\text{adv } l^*); \emptyset \rangle \xrightarrow{v_0/v'_0} \langle t_1; \eta_1 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_1/v'_1} \langle t_2; \eta_2 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_2/v'_2} \dots \quad \text{such that } \vdash_{\checkmark} v'_i : B \text{ for all } i \geq 0.$$

Since the operational semantics is deterministic, in each step  $\langle t_i; \eta_i \rangle \xrightarrow{v_i/v'_i} \langle t_{i+1}; \eta_{i+1} \rangle$  the resulting output  $v'_{i+1}$  and new state of the computation  $\langle t_{i+1}; \eta_{i+1} \rangle$  are uniquely determined by the previous state  $\langle t_i; \eta_i \rangle$  and the input  $v_i$ . Thus,  $v'_i$  and  $\langle t_{i+1}; \eta_{i+1} \rangle$  are independent of future inputs  $v_j$  with  $j > i$ .

### 4.3.3 Space leak in the naive operational semantics

Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.3 show that  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  terms can be executed without implicit space leaks after they have been translated into  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  terms. To demonstrate the need of the translation step, we give an example that illustrates what would happen if we would skip it.

Since both  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  and  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  share the same syntax, the abstract machine from Section 4.2.2 could in principle be used for  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  terms directly, without transforming them to  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  first. However, we can construct a well-typed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term for which the machine will try to dereference a heap location that has previously been garbage collected. We might conjecture that we could accommodate direct execution of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  by increasing the number of available heaps in the abstract machine so that it matches the number of ticks that were necessary to type check the term we wish to execute. But this is not the case: We can construct a  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term that can be type checked with only two ticks but requires an unbounded number of heaps to safely execute directly. In other words, programs in  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  may exhibit implicit space leaks, if we just run them using the evaluation strategy of the abstract machine from Section 4.2.2.

Such implicit space leaks can occur in  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  for two reasons: (1) a lambda abstraction that appears in the scope of a  $\checkmark$ , and (2) a term that requires more than one  $\checkmark$  to type check. Bahr *et al.* (2019) give an example of (1), which translates to  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . The following term of type  $\bigcirc(\text{Str Int}) \rightarrow \bigcirc(\text{Str Int})$  is an example of (2):

$$t = \text{fix } r. \lambda x. \text{delay}(\text{head}(\text{adv } x) :: \text{adv}(\text{unbox } r)(\text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } x))))))$$

The abstract machine would get stuck trying to dereference a heap location that was previously garbage collected. The problem is that the second occurrence of  $x$  is nested below two occurrences of  $\text{delay}$ . As a consequence, when  $\text{adv } x$  is evaluated, the heap location bound to  $x$  is two time steps old and has been garbage collected already.

To see this behaviour on a concrete example, recall the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term  $\text{from} : \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Str Int}$  from Section 4.3.1, which produces a stream of consecutive integers. Using  $t$  and  $\text{from}$  we can construct the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term  $\bar{0} :: t (\text{delay} (\text{from } \bar{1}))$  of type  $\text{Str Int}$ , which we can run on the abstract machine:<sup>3</sup>

$$\langle \bar{0} :: t (\text{delay} (\text{from } \bar{1})); \emptyset \rangle \xrightarrow{\bar{0}} \langle \text{adv } l_2; \eta_1 \rangle \xrightarrow{\bar{1}} \langle \text{adv } l_4; \eta_2 \rangle \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{where } \eta_1 = l_1 \mapsto \text{from } \bar{1},$$

$$l_2 \mapsto \text{head}(\text{adv } l_1) :: \text{adv}(\text{unbox}(\text{box}(\text{delay } t)))(\text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_1))))$$

$$\eta_2 = l_3 \mapsto \text{adv} (\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_1)),$$

$$l_4 \mapsto \text{head}(\text{adv } l_3) :: \text{adv}(\text{unbox}(\text{box}(\text{delay } t)))(\text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_3))))$$

<sup>3</sup> To help make the examples in this section more readable, we elide heap locations if they are not referenced anywhere in the term or other parts of the heap.

In the last step, the machine would get stuck trying to evaluate  $\text{adv } l_4$ , since this in turn requires evaluating  $\text{head}(\text{adv } l_3)$  and  $\text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_1))$ , which would require looking up  $l_1$  in  $\eta_1$ , which has already been garbage collected. Assuming we modified the machine so that it does not perform garbage collection, but instead holds on to the previous heaps  $\eta_1, \eta_2$ , it would continue as follows:

$$\langle \text{adv } l_2; \eta_1 \rangle \xRightarrow{\bar{1}} \langle \text{adv } l_4; \eta_1 \checkmark \eta_2 \rangle \xRightarrow{\bar{2}} \langle \text{adv } l_6; \eta_1 \checkmark \eta_2 \checkmark \eta_3 \rangle$$

where  $\eta_3 = l_5 \mapsto \text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_3))$ ,

$$l_6 \mapsto \text{head}(\text{adv } l_5) ::: \text{adv}(\text{unbox}(\text{box}(\text{delay } t)))(\text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{tail}(\text{adv } l_5))))$$

The next execution step would require the machine to look up  $l_6$ , which in turn requires  $l_5$ ,  $l_3$ , and eventually  $l_1$ . We could continue this arbitrarily far into the future, and in each step the machine would need to look up  $l_1$  in the very first heap  $\eta_1$ .

This examples suggests that the cause of this space leak is the fact that the machine leaves the nested terms  $\text{adv } l_1, \text{adv } l_3$  etc. unevaluated on the heap. As our metatheoretical results in this section show, the translation into  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  avoids this problem. Indeed, if we apply the rewrite rules from [Section 4.2.1](#) to  $t$ , we obtain the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term  $\bar{0} ::: t'(\text{delay}(\text{from } \bar{1}))$ , where

$$t' = \text{fix } r. \lambda x. \text{let } r' = \text{unbox } r$$

$$\text{in } \text{delay}(\text{head}(\text{adv } x) ::: \text{adv } r'(\text{let } y = \text{tail}(\text{adv } x) \text{ in } \text{delay}(\text{adv } y)))$$

This term can then be safely executed on the abstract machine:

$$\langle \bar{0} ::: t'(\text{delay}(\text{from } \bar{1})); \emptyset \rangle \xRightarrow{\bar{0}} \langle \text{adv } l_3; \eta_1 \rangle \xRightarrow{\bar{1}} \langle \text{adv } l_8; \eta_2 \rangle \xRightarrow{\bar{2}} \dots$$

where  $\eta_1 = l_1 \mapsto \text{from } \bar{1}, l_2 \mapsto t'$

$$l_3 \mapsto \text{head}(\text{adv } l_1) ::: \text{adv } l_2(\text{let } y = \text{tail}(\text{adv } l_1) \text{ in } \text{delay}(\text{adv } y))$$

$$\eta_2 = l_4 \mapsto \text{from}, l_5 \mapsto \text{adv } l_4(\bar{1} + \bar{1}), l_6 \mapsto \text{adv } l_5, l_7 \mapsto t'$$

$$l_8 \mapsto \text{head}(\text{adv } l_6) ::: \text{adv } l_7(\text{let } y = \text{tail}(\text{adv } l_6) \text{ in } \text{delay}(\text{adv } y))$$

#### 4.4 Limitations

Now that we have formally precise statements about the operational properties of Rattus' core calculus, we should make sure that we understand what they mean in practice and what their limitations are. In simple terms, the productivity and causality properties established by [Theorem 4.2](#) and [Theorem 4.3](#) state that reactive programs in Rattus can be executed effectively – they always make progress and never depend on data that is not yet available. However, Rattus allows calling general Haskell functions, for which we can make no such operational guarantees. This trade-off is intentional as we wish to make Haskell's rich library ecosystem available to Rattus. Similar trade-offs are common in foreign function interfaces that allow function calls into another language. For instance Haskell code may call C functions.

In addition, by virtue of the operational semantics, Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.3 also imply that programs can be executed without implicitly retaining memory – thus avoiding *implicit space leaks*. This follows from the fact that in each step the step semantics (cf. Figure 7) discards the ‘now’ heap and only retains the ‘later’ heap for the next step. However, similarly to the calculi of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2021, 2019), Rattus still allows *explicit space leaks* (we may still construct data structures to hold on to an increasing amount of memory) as well as *time leaks* (computations may take an increasing amount of time). Below we give some examples of these behaviours.

Given a strict list type

```
data List a = Nil | !a :!(List a)
```

we can construct a function that buffers the entire history of its input stream:

```
buffer :: Stable a => Str a -> Str (List a)
buffer = scan (box (\xs x -> x :! xs)) Nil
```

Given that we have a function  $sum :: List Int \rightarrow Int$  that computes the sum of a list of numbers, we can write the following alternative implementation of the *sums* function using *buffer*:

```
leakySums1 :: Str Int -> Str Int
leakySums1 = map (box sum) o buffer
```

At each time step this function adds the current input integer to the buffer of type *List Int* and then computes the sum of the current value of that buffer. This function exhibits both a space leak (buffering a steadily growing list of numbers) and a time leak (the time to compute each element of the resulting stream increases at each step). However, these leaks are explicit in the program.

An example of a time leak is found in the following alternative implementation of the *sums* function:

```
leakySums2 :: Str Int -> Str Int
leakySums2 (x :: xs) = x :: delay (map (box (+x)) (leakySums2 (adv xs)))
```

In each step we add the current input value  $x$  to each future output. The closure  $(+x)$ , which is Haskell shorthand notation for  $\lambda y \rightarrow y + x$ , stores each input value  $x$ .

None of the above space and time leaks are prevented by Rattus. The space leaks in *buffer* and *leakySums1* are explicit since the desire to buffer the input is explicitly stated in the program. That is, while Rattus prevents implicit space leaks, it still allows programmers to allocate memory as they see fit. The other example is more subtle as the leaky behaviour is rooted in a time leak as the program constructs an increasing computation in each step. This shows that the programmer still has to be careful about time leaks. Note that these leaky functions can also be implemented in the calculi of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021), although some reformulation is necessary for the Simply RaTT calculus of Bahr *et al.* (2019).

$$\begin{array}{c}
1243 \quad \frac{\Gamma, \sharp, x : \bigcirc A \vdash t : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fix } x.t : \square A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \square A \quad \Gamma' \text{ token-free}}{\Gamma, \sharp, \Gamma' \vdash \text{unbox } t : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash t : B \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B} \\
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\end{array}$$

Fig. 8. Selected typing rules from Bahr *et al.* (2019).

#### 4.5 Language Design Considerations

The design of Rattus and its core calculus is derived from the calculi of Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021), which are the only other modal FRP calculi with a garbage collection result similar to ours. In the following we review the differences of Rattus compared to these calculi with the aim of illustrating how the design of Rattus follows from our goal to simplify previous calculi while still maintaining their strong operational properties.

Like the present work, the Simply RaTT calculus of Bahr *et al.* (2019) uses a Fitch-style type system, which provides lighter syntax to interact with the  $\square$  and  $\bigcirc$  modality compared to Krishnaswami's use of qualifiers in his calculus. In addition, Simply RaTT also dispenses with the allocation tokens of Krishnaswami's calculus by making the box primitive call-by-name. By contrast Krishnaswami's calculus is closely related to dual context systems and requires the use of pattern matching as elimination forms of the modalities. The Lively RaTT calculus of Bahr *et al.* (2021) extends Simply RaTT with temporal inductive types to express liveness properties. But otherwise Lively RaTT is similar to Simply RaTT and the discussion below equally applies to Lively RaTT as well.

As discussed in Section 2.2, Simply RaTT restricts where ticks may occur, which disallows terms like  $\text{delay}(\text{delay } 0)$  and  $\text{delay}(\lambda x.x)$ . In addition, Simply RaTT has a more complicated typing rule for guarded fixed points (cf. Figure 8). In addition to  $\checkmark$ , Simply RaTT uses the token  $\sharp$  to serve the role that stabilisation of a context  $\Gamma$  to  $\Gamma^\square$  serves in Rattus. But Simply RaTT only allows one such  $\sharp$  token, and  $\checkmark$  may only appear to the right of  $\sharp$ . Moreover, fixed points in Simply RaTT produce terms of type  $\square A$  rather than just  $A$ . Taken together, this makes the syntax and typing for guarded recursive function definitions more complicated and less intuitive. For example, the *map* function would be defined as follows in Simply RaTT:

$$\begin{array}{c}
1277 \quad \text{map} : \square(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow \square(\text{Str } a \rightarrow \text{Str } b) \\
1278 \quad \text{map } f \# (a :: as) = \text{unbox } f a :: (\text{map } f \otimes as) \\
1279
\end{array}$$

Here,  $\#$  is used to indicate that the argument  $f$  is to the left of the  $\sharp$  token and only because of the presence of this token can we use the unbox combinator on  $f$  (cf. Figure 8). Additionally, the typing of recursive definitions is somewhat confusing: *map* has return type  $\square(\text{Str } a \rightarrow \text{Str } b)$  but when used in a recursive call as seen above, *map*  $f$  is of type  $\bigcirc(\text{Str } a \rightarrow \text{Str } b)$  instead. Moreover, we cannot call *map* recursively on its own. All recursive calls must be of the form *map*  $f$ , the exact pattern that appears to the left of the  $\#$ . This last restriction rules out the following variant of *map* that is meant to take two functions and alternately apply them to a stream:

1289  $alterMap : \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow \Box(Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b)$   
 1290  $alterMap\ f\ g\ \#(a :: as) = unbox\ f\ a :: (alterMap\ g\ f\ \# as)$

1291 Only  $alterMap\ f\ g$  is allowed as recursive call, but not  $alterMap\ g\ f$ . By contrast,  $alterMap$   
 1292 can be implemented in Rattus without problems:

1293  $alterMap : \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow \Box(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$   
 1294  $alterMap\ f\ g\ (a :: as) = f\ a :: (delay\ (alterMap\ g\ f)\ \# as)$   
 1295

1296 In addition, because guarded recursive functions always have a boxed return type, def-  
 1297 initions in Simply RaTT are often littered with calls to `unbox`. For example, the function  
 1298  $pong'$  from Section 3.2 would be implemented as follows in Simply RaTT:

1299  $pong' :: \Box(Str\ Input \rightarrow Str\ (Pos \otimes Float))$   
 1300  $pong'\ \#\ inp = unbox\ zip\ ball\ pad\ \mathbf{where}$   
 1301  $\quad pad = unbox\ padPos\ inp$   
 1302  $\quad ball = unbox\ switchTrans\ (unbox\ ballPos\ inp)$   
 1303  $\quad\quad (unbox\ (triggerMap\ ballTrig)\ inp)$   
 1304  $\quad\quad (unbox\ zip\ pad\ inp)$   
 1305

1306 By making the type of guarded fixed points  $A$  rather than  $\Box A$ , we avoid all of the above  
 1307 issues related to guarded recursive definitions. Moreover, the unrestricted `unbox` combina-  
 1308 tor found in Rattus follows directly from this change in the guarded fixed point typing. If  
 1309 we were to change the typing rule for `fix` in Simply RaTT so that `fix` has type  $A$  instead of  
 1310  $\Box A$ , we would be able to define an unrestricted `unbox` combinator  $\lambda x. fix\ y. unbox\ x$  of type  
 1311  $\Box A \rightarrow A$ .

1312 Conversely, if we keep the `unbox` combinator of Simply RaTT but lift some of the  
 1313 restrictions regarding the  $\#$  token such as allowing  $\checkmark$  not only to the right of a  $\#$  or allow-  
 1314 ing more than one  $\#$  token, then we would break the garbage collection property and thus  
 1315 permit leaky programs. In such a modified version of Simply RaTT, we would be able to  
 1316 type check the following term:

1317 
$$\Gamma \vdash (\lambda x. delay(fix\ y. unbox(adv\ x) :: y))(delay(box\ 0)) : \bigcirc(\Box StrNat)$$

1318 where  $\Gamma = \#$  if we were to allow two  $\#$  tokens or  $\Gamma$  empty, if we were to allow the  $\checkmark$  to  
 1319 occur left of the  $\#$ . The above term stores the value `box 0` on the heap and then constructs a  
 1320 stream, which at each step tries to read this value from the heap location. Hence, in order  
 1321 to maintain the garbage collection property in Rattus we had to change the typing rule for  
 1322 `unbox`.  
 1323

1324 In addition, Rattus permits recursive functions that look more than one time step into  
 1325 the future (e.g.  $stutter$  from Section 2.2), which is not possible in Krishnaswami (2013)  
 1326 and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021). However, we conjecture that Krishnaswami's calculus can  
 1327 be adapted to allow this by changing the typing rule for `fix` in a similar way as we did for  
 1328 Rattus.

1329 We should note that that the  $\#$  token found in Simply RaTT has some benefit over  
 1330 the  $\Gamma^\Box$  construction. It allows the calculus to reject some programs with time leaks,  
 1331 e.g.  $leakySums2$  from Section 4.4, because of the condition in the rule for `unbox` requir-  
 1332 ing that  $\Gamma'$  be token-free. However, we can easily write a program that is equivalent to  
 1333  
 1334

1335 *leakySums2*, that is well-typed in Simply RaTT using tupling, which corresponds to defin-  
 1336 ing *leakySums2* mutually recursively with *map*. Moreover, this side condition for unbox  
 1337 was dropped in Lively RaTT as it is incompatible with the extension by temporal inductive  
 1338 types.

1339 Finally, there is an interesting trade-off in all four calculi in terms of their syntactic prop-  
 1340 erties such as eta-expansion and local soundness/completeness. The potential lack of these  
 1341 syntactic properties has no bearing on the semantic soundness results for these calculi, but  
 1342 it may be counterintuitive to a programmer using the language.

1343 For example, typing in Simply RaTT is closed under certain eta-expansions involving  $\square$ ,  
 1344 which are no longer well-typed in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  because of the typing rule for unbox. For example,  
 1345 we have

$$1346 \quad f : A \rightarrow \square B \vdash \lambda x. \text{box}(\text{unbox}(f x)) : A \rightarrow \square B$$

1347 in Simply RaTT but not in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ . However,  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  has a slightly different eta-expansion for this  
 1348 type instead:

$$1349 \quad f : A \rightarrow \square B \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \lambda x. \text{let } x' = \text{unbox}(f x) \text{ in } \text{box } x' : A \rightarrow \square B$$

1351 which matches the eta-expansion in [Krishnaswami](#)'s calculus:

$$1352 \quad f : A \rightarrow \square B \text{ now} \vdash \lambda x. \text{let } \text{stable}(x') = f x \text{ in } \text{stable } x' : A \rightarrow \square B$$

1354 On the other hand, because  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  lifts Simply RaTT's restrictions on tokens,  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  is closed  
 1355 under several types of eta-expansions that are not well-typed in Simply RaTT. For example,

$$1356 \quad x : \square(\square A) \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{box}(\text{box}(\text{unbox}(\text{unbox } x))) : \square(\square A)$$

$$1357 \quad x : \circ(\circ A) \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay}(\text{delay}(\text{adv}(\text{adv } x))) : \circ(\circ A)$$

$$1358 \quad f : \circ(A \rightarrow B) \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay}(\lambda x. \text{adv } f x) : \circ(A \rightarrow B)$$

1360 In return, both [Krishnaswami](#)'s calculus and  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  lack local soundness and complete-  
 1361 ness for the  $\square$  type. For instance, from  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \square A$  we can obtain  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{unbox } t : A$  in  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$ ,  
 1362 but from  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ , we cannot construct a term  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t' : \square A$ . By contrast, the use of the  $\sharp$   
 1363 token ensures that Simply RaTT enjoys these local soundness and completeness prop-  
 1364 erties. However, Simply RaTT can only allow one such token and must thus trade off  
 1365 eta-expansion as show above, in order to avoid space leaks (cf. the example term above).

1366 In summary, we argue that our typing system and syntax is simpler than both the work  
 1367 of [Krishnaswami \(2013\)](#) and [Bahr et al. \(2019, 2021\)](#). These simplifications are meant to  
 1368 make the language easier to use and integrate more easily with mainstream languages like  
 1369 Haskell, while still maintaining the strong memory guarantees of the earlier calculi.

## 1373 5 Meta Theory

1374 In the previous section we have presented Rattus's core calculus and stated its three cen-  
 1375 tral operational properties in [Theorem 4.2](#) and [Theorem 4.3](#): productivity, causality, and  
 1376 absence of implicit space leaks. Note that the absence of space leaks follows from these the-  
 1377 orems because the operational semantics already ensures this memory property by means  
 1378 of garbage collecting the 'now' heap after each step. Since the proof of [Theorem 4.2](#) and  
 1379

Theorem 4.3 is fully formalised in the accompanying Coq proofs, we only give a high-level overview of the underlying proof technique here.

We prove the abovementioned theorems by establishing a semantic soundness property. For productivity, our soundness property must imply that the evaluation semantics  $\langle t; \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma' \rangle$  converges for each well-typed term  $t$ , and for causality, the soundness property must imply that this is also the case if  $t$  contains references to heap locations in  $\sigma$ .

To obtain such a soundness result, we construct a *Kripke logical relation* that incorporates these properties. Generally speaking a Kripke logical relation constructs for each type  $A$  a relation  $\llbracket A \rrbracket_w$  indexed over some world  $w$  with some closure conditions when the index  $w$  changes. In our case,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket_w$  is a set of terms. Moreover, the index  $w$  consists of three components: a number  $v$  to act as a step index (Appel & McAllester, 2001), a store  $\sigma$  to establish the safety of garbage collection, and an infinite sequence  $\bar{\eta}$  of future heaps in order to capture the causality property.

A crucial ingredient of a Kripke logical relation is the ordering on the indices. The ordering on the number  $v$  is the standard ordering on numbers. For heaps we use the standard ordering on partial maps:  $\eta \sqsubseteq \eta'$  iff  $\eta(l) = \eta'(l)$  for all  $l \in \text{dom}(\eta)$ . Infinite sequences of heaps are ordered pointwise according to  $\sqsubseteq$ . Moreover, we extend the ordering to stores in two different ways:

$$\frac{\eta_N \sqsubseteq \eta'_N \quad \eta_L \sqsubseteq \eta'_L}{\eta_N \checkmark \eta_L \sqsubseteq \eta'_N \checkmark \eta'_L} \quad \frac{\sigma \sqsubseteq \sigma'}{\sigma \sqsubseteq_{\checkmark} \sigma'} \quad \frac{\eta \sqsubseteq \eta'}{\eta \sqsubseteq_{\checkmark} \eta'' \checkmark \eta'}$$

That is,  $\sqsubseteq$  is the pointwise extension of the order on heaps to stores, whereas  $\sqsubseteq_{\checkmark}$  is more general and permits introducing an arbitrary ‘now’ heap if none is present.

Given these orderings we define two logical relations, the value relation  $\mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}$  and the term relation  $\mathcal{T}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}$ . Both are defined in Figure 9 by well-founded recursion according to the lexicographic ordering on the triple  $(v, |A|, e)$ , where  $|A|$  is the size of  $A$  defined below, and  $e = 1$  for the term relation and  $e = 0$  for the value relation.

$$\begin{aligned} |\alpha| &= |\bigcirc A| = |\text{Int}| = |1| = 1 \\ |A \times B| &= |A + B| = |A \rightarrow B| = 1 + |A| + |B| \\ |\square A| &= |\text{Fix } \alpha.A| = 1 + |A| \end{aligned}$$

In the definition of the logical relation, we use the notation  $\eta; \bar{\eta}$  to denote an infinite sequence of heaps that starts with the heap  $\eta$  and then continues as the sequence  $\bar{\eta}$ . Moreover, we use the notation  $\sigma(l)$  to denote  $\eta_L(l)$  if  $\sigma$  is of the form  $\eta_L$  or  $\eta_N \checkmark \eta_L$ .

The crucial part of the logical relation that ensures both causality and the absence of space leaks is the case for  $\bigcirc A$ . The value relation of  $\bigcirc A$  at store index  $\sigma$  is defined as all heap locations that map to computations in the term relation of  $A$  but at the store index  $\text{gc}(\sigma) \checkmark \eta$ . Here  $\text{gc}(\sigma)$  denotes the garbage collection of the store  $\sigma$  as defined in Figure 9. It simply drops the ‘now’ heap if present. To see how this definition captures causality we have to look at the index  $\eta; \bar{\eta}$  of future heaps. It changes to the index  $\bar{\eta}$ , i.e. all future heaps are one time step closer, and the very first future heap  $\eta$  becomes the new ‘later’ heap in the store index  $\text{gc}(\sigma) \checkmark \eta$ , whereas the old ‘later’ heap in  $\sigma$  becomes the new ‘now’ heap.

The central theorem that establishes type soundness is the so-called *fundamental property* of the logical relation. It states that well-typed terms are in the term relation. For the

$$\begin{aligned}
1427 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket \text{Int} \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\bar{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}, \\
1428 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket 1 \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\langle \rangle\}, \\
1429 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \times B \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \mid v_1 \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} \wedge v_2 \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket B \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}\}, \\
1430 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A + B \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\text{in}_1 v \mid v \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}\} \cup \{\text{in}_2 v \mid v \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket B \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}\}, \\
1431 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \left\{ \lambda x.t \mid \forall v' \leq v, \sigma' \sqsupseteq \text{gc}(\sigma), \bar{\eta}' \sqsupseteq \bar{\eta}. \forall u \in \mathcal{V}_{v'} \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma'}^{\bar{\eta}'}. t[u/x] \in \mathcal{T}_{v'} \llbracket B \rrbracket_{\sigma'}^{\bar{\eta}'} \right\}, \\
1432 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket \Box A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\text{box } t \mid \forall \bar{\eta}' . t \in \mathcal{T}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}'}\}, \\
1433 \quad & \mathcal{V}_0 \llbracket \text{OA} \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{l \mid l \in \text{Loc}\} \\
1434 \quad & \mathcal{V}_{v+1} \llbracket \text{OA} \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{l \mid \sigma(l) \in \mathcal{T}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\text{gc}(\sigma)\checkmark\eta}^{\bar{\eta}}\}, \\
1435 \quad & \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket \text{Fix } \alpha.A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \left\{ \text{into}(v) \mid v \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A[\text{O}(\text{Fix } \alpha.A)/\alpha] \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} \right\} \\
1436 \quad & \mathcal{T}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \left\{ t \mid \forall \sigma' \sqsupseteq \checkmark \sigma. \exists \sigma'', v. \langle t; \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \langle v; \sigma'' \rangle \wedge v \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma''}^{\bar{\eta}} \right\} \\
1437 \quad & \mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \{\star\} \\
1438 \quad & \mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \Gamma, x : A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} = \left\{ \gamma[x \mapsto v] \mid \gamma \in \mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}, v \in \mathcal{V}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}} \right\} \\
1439 \quad & \mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \Gamma, \checkmark \rrbracket_{\eta_N \checkmark \eta_L}^{\bar{\eta}} = \mathcal{C}_{v+1} \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket_{\eta_N}^{\eta_L; \bar{\eta}} \\
1440 \quad & \text{GARBAGE COLLECTION:} \\
1441 \quad & \text{gc}(\eta_L) = \eta_L \\
1442 \quad & \text{gc}(\eta_N \checkmark \eta_L) = \eta_L
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 9. Logical relation.

induction proof of this property we also need to consider open terms and to this end, we also need a corresponding context relation  $\mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}$ , which is given in Figure 9.

**Theorem 5.1** (Fundamental Property). If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , and  $\gamma \in \mathcal{C}_v \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}$ , then  $t\gamma \in \mathcal{T}_v \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\sigma}^{\bar{\eta}}$ .

The proof of the fundamental property is a lengthy but entirely standard induction on the typing relation  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Both Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.3 are then proved using the above theorem.

## 6 Embedding Rattus in Haskell

Our goal with Rattus is to combine the operational guarantees provided by modal FRP with the practical benefits of FRP libraries. Because of its Fitch-style typing rules, we cannot implement Rattus as just a library of combinators. Instead we rely on a combination of a very simple library that implements the primitives of the language together with a compiler plugin that performs additional checks. In addition, we also have to implement the operational semantics of Rattus, which is by default call-by-value and thus different from Haskell's. This discrepancy in the operational semantics suggest a deep embedding of the language. However, in order to minimize syntactic overhead and to seamlessly integrate Rattus with its host language, we chose a shallow embedding and instead rely on the

1473 compiler plugin to perform the necessary transformations to ensure the correct operational  
1474 behaviour of Rattus programs.

1475 We start with a description of the implementation followed by an illustration of how the  
1476 implementation is used in practice.

### 1477 **6.1 Implementation of Rattus**

1478 At its core, our implementation consists of a very simple library that implements the prim-  
1479 itives of Rattus (delay, adv, box, and unbox) so that they can be readily used in Haskell  
1480 code. The library is given in its entirety in [Figure 10](#). Both  $\bigcirc$  and  $\square$  are simple wrapper  
1481 types, each with their own wrap and unwrap function. The constructors *Delay* and *Box* are  
1482 not exported by the library, i.e.  $\bigcirc$  and  $\square$  are treated as abstract types.

1483 If we were to use these primitives as provided by the library we would end up with the  
1484 problems illustrated in [Section 2](#). Such an implementation of Rattus would enjoy none of  
1485 the operational properties we have proved. To make sure that programs use these primitives  
1486 according to the typing rules of Rattus, our implementation has a second component: a  
1487 plugin for the GHC Haskell compiler that enforces the typing rules of Rattus.

1488 The design of this plugin follows the simple observation that any Rattus program is  
1489 also a Haskell program but with more restrictive rules for variable scope and for where  
1490 Rattus’s primitives may be used. So type checking a Rattus program boils down to first  
1491 type checking it as a Haskell program and then checking that it follows the stricter variable  
1492 scope rules. That means, we must keep track of when variables fall out of scope due to the  
1493 use of delay, adv and box, but also due to guarded recursion. Additionally, we must make  
1494 sure that both guarded recursive calls and adv only appear in a context where  $\checkmark$  is present.

1495 To enforce these additional simple scope rules we make use of GHC’s plugin API which  
1496 allows us to customise part of GHC’s compilation pipeline. The different phases of GHC  
1497 are illustrated in [Figure 11](#) with the additional passes performed by the Rattus plugin  
1498 highlighted in bold.

1499 After type checking the Haskell abstract syntax tree (AST), GHC passes the result-  
1500 ing typed AST on to the scope checking component of the Rattus plugin, which checks  
1501 the abovementioned stricter scoping rules. GHC then desugars the typed AST into the  
1502 intermediate language *Core*. GHC then performs a number of transformation passes on  
1503 this intermediate representation, the first two of these are provided by the Rattus plu-  
1504 gin: First, we exhaustively apply the two rewrite rules from [Section 4.2.1](#) to transform the  
1505 program into a single-tick form according to the typing rules of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . Then we transform  
1506 the resulting code so that Rattus programs adhere to the call-by-value semantics. To this  
1507 end, the plugin’s *strictness* pass transforms all lambda abstractions so that they evaluate  
1508 their arguments to weak head normal form, and all let bindings so that they evaluate the  
1509 bound expression into weak head normal form. This is achieved by transforming lambda  
1510 abstractions and let bindings as follows:

1511  $\lambda x.t$  is replaced by  $\lambda x.\mathbf{case\ }x\ \mathbf{of\ }_-\ \rightarrow t$ , and

1512  $\mathbf{let\ }x = s\ \mathbf{in\ }t$  is replaced by  $\mathbf{case\ }s\ \mathbf{of\ }x \rightarrow t$

1513 In Haskell Core, case expressions always evaluate the scrutinee to weak head normal form  
1514 even if there is only a default clause. Hence, this transformation will force the evaluation  
1515  
1516  
1517  
1518

```

1519 data  $\bigcirc a = \text{Delay } a$       data  $\square a = \text{Box } a$       class StableInternal a where
1520 delay ::  $a \rightarrow \bigcirc a$       box ::  $a \rightarrow \square a$       class StableInternal a  $\Rightarrow$  Stable a where
1521 delay x = Delay x      box x = Box x
1522 adv ::  $\bigcirc a \rightarrow a$       unbox ::  $\square a \rightarrow a$ 
1523 adv (Delay x) = x      unbox (Box d) = d
1524
1525
1526
1527
1528

```

Fig. 10. Implementation of Rattus primitives.

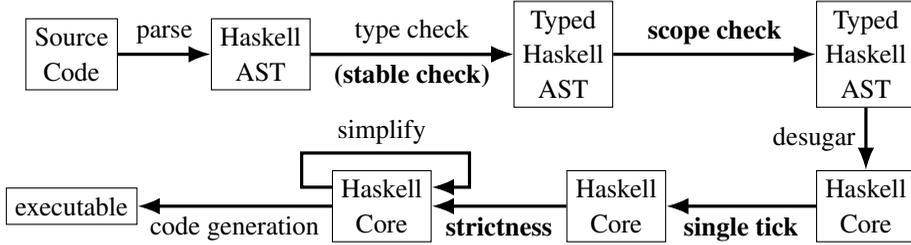


Fig. 11. Compiler phases of GHC (simplified) extended with Rattus plugin (highlighted in bold).

of  $x$  in the lambda abstraction  $\lambda x.t$ , and the evaluation of  $s$  in the let binding **let**  $x = s$  **in**  $t$ . In addition, this *strictness* pass also checks that Rattus code only uses strict data types and issues a warning if lazy data types are used, e.g. Haskell's standard list and pair types. Taken together, the transformations and checks performed by the *strictness* pass ensure that lambda abstractions, let bindings, and data constructors follow the operational semantics of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . The remaining components of the language are either implemented directly as Haskell functions (*delay*, *adv*, *box*, and *unbox*) and thus require no transformation, or use Haskell's recursion syntax that matches the semantics of the corresponding fixed point combinator in  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ .

However, the Haskell implementation of *delay* and *adv* do not match the operational semantics of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  exactly. Instead of explicit allocation of delayed computations on a heap that then enables the eager garbage collection strategy of the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  operational semantics, we rely on Haskell's lazy evaluation for *delay* and GHC's standard garbage collection implementation. Since our metatheoretical results show that old temporal data is no longer referenced after each time step, such data will indeed be garbage collected by the GHC runtime system.

Not pictured in Figure 11 is a second scope checking pass that is performed after the *strictness* pass. After the *single tick* pass and thus also after the *strictness* pass, we expect that the code is typable according to the more restrictive typing rules of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . This second scope checking pass checks this invariant for the purpose of catching implementation bugs in the Rattus plugin. The Core intermediate language is *much* simpler than the full Haskell language, so this second scope checking pass is much easier to implement and much less likely to contain bugs. In principle, we could have saved ourselves the trouble of implementing the much more complicated scope checking at the level of the typed Haskell AST.

However, by checking at this earlier stage of the compilation pipeline, we can provide much more helpful type error messages.

One important component of checking variable scope is checking whether types are stable. This is a simple syntactic check: a type  $\tau$  is stable if all occurrences of  $\bigcirc$  or function types in  $\tau$  are nested under a  $\square$ . However, Rattus also supports polymorphic types with type constraints such as in the *const* function:

```
const :: Stable a => a -> Str a
const x = x :: delay (const x)
```

The *Stable* type class is defined as a primitive in the Rattus library (see [Figure 10](#)). The library does not export the underlying *StableInternal* type class so that the user cannot declare any instances for *Stable*. Our library does not declare instances of the *Stable* class either. Instead, such instances are derived by the Rattus plugin that uses GHC's type checker plugin API, which allows us to provide limited customisation to GHC's type checking phase (see [Figure 11](#)). Using this API one can give GHC a custom procedure for resolving type constraints. Whenever GHC's type checker finds a constraint of the form *Stable*  $\tau$ , it will send it to the Rattus plugin, which will resolve it by performing the abovementioned syntactic check on  $\tau$ .

## 6.2 Using Rattus

To write Rattus code inside Haskell one must use GHC with the flag `-fplugin=Rattus.Plugin`, which enables the Rattus plugin described above. [Figure 12](#) shows a complete program that illustrates the interaction between Haskell and Rattus. The language is imported via the *Rattus* module, with the *Rattus.Stream* module providing a stream library (of which we have seen an excerpt in [Figure 1](#)). The program contains only one Rattus function, *summing*, which is indicated by an annotation. This function uses the *scan* combinator to define a stream transducer that sums up its input stream. Finally, we use the *runTransducer* function that is provided by the *Rattus.ToHaskell* module. It turns a stream function of type  $Str\ a \rightarrow Str\ b$  into a Haskell value of type  $Trans\ a\ b$  defined as follows:

```
data Trans a b = Trans (a -> (b, Trans a b))
```

This allows us to run the stream function step by step as illustrated in the main function: It reads an integer from the console passes it on to the stream function, prints out the response, and then repeats the process.

Alternatively, if a module contains only Rattus definitions we can use the annotation

```
{-# ANN module Rattus #-}
```

to declare that all definitions in a module are to be interpreted as Rattus code.

```

1611 {-# OPTIONS -fplugin=Rattus.Plugin #-}
1612 import Rattus                               main = loop (runTransducer sums)
1613 import Rattus.Stream                         where loop (Trans t) = do
1614 import Rattus.ToHaskell                     input ← readLn
1615 {-# ANN sums Rattus #-}                    let (result, next) = t input
1616 sums :: Str Int → Str Int                  print result
1617 sums = scan (box (+)) 0                     loop next
1618

```

Fig. 12. Complete Rattus program.

## 7 Related Work

**Embedded FRP languages.** The central ideas of functional reactive programming were originally developed for the language Fran (Elliott & Hudak, 1997) for reactive animation. These ideas have since been developed into general purpose libraries for reactive programming, most prominently the Yampa library (Nilsson *et al.*, 2002) for Haskell, which has been used in a variety of applications including games, robotics, vision, GUIs, and sound synthesis.

More recently Ploeg & Claessen (2015) have developed the *FRPNow!* library for Haskell, which – like Fran – uses behaviours and events as FRP primitives (as opposed to signal functions), but carefully restricts the API to guarantee causality and the absence of implicit space leaks. To argue for the latter, the authors construct a denotational model and show using a logical relation that their combinators are not “inherently leaky”. The latter does not imply the absence of space leaks, but rather that in principle it can be implemented without space leaks.

While these FRP libraries do not allow direct manipulation of signals since they lack a bespoke type system to make that safe, they do have a practical advantage: Their reliance on the host language’s type system makes their implementation and maintenance markedly easier. Moreover, by embedding FRP libraries in host languages with a richer type system, such as full dependent types, one can still obtain some operational guarantees, including productivity (Sculthorpe & Nilsson, 2009).

**Modal FRP calculi.** The idea of using modal type operators for reactive programming goes back to Jeffrey (2012), Krishnaswami & Benton (2011), and Jeltsch (2013). One of the inspirations for Jeffrey (2012) was to use linear temporal logic (Pnueli, 1977) as a programming language through the Curry-Howard isomorphism. The work of Jeffrey and Jeltsch has mostly been based on denotational semantics, and to our knowledge Krishnaswami & Benton (2011); Krishnaswami *et al.* (2012); Krishnaswami (2013); Cave *et al.* (2014); Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) are the only works giving operational guarantees. In addition, the calculi of Cave *et al.* (2014) and Bahr *et al.* (2021) can encode liveness properties in types by distinguishing between data (least fixed points, e.g. events that must happen within a finite number of steps) and codata (greatest fixed points, e.g. streams). With the help of both greatest and least fixed points one can express liveness properties of programs in their types (e.g. a server that will always respond within a finite number of time steps). Temporal

1657 logic has also been used directly as a specification language for property-based testing and  
1658 runtime verification of FRP programs (Perez & Nilsson, 2020).

1659 Guarded recursive types and the guarded fixed point combinator originate with Nakano  
1660 (2000), but have since been used for constructing logics for reasoning about advanced pro-  
1661 gramming languages (Birkedal *et al.*, 2011) using an abstract form of step-indexing (Appel  
1662 & McAllester, 2001). The Fitch-style approach to modal types (Fitch, 1952; Clouston,  
1663 2018) has been used for guarded recursion in Clocked Type Theory (Bahr *et al.*, 2017),  
1664 where contexts can contain multiple, named ticks. Ticks can be used for reasoning about  
1665 guarded recursive programs. The denotational semantics of Clocked Type Theory (Mannaa  
1666 & Møgelberg, 2018) reveals the difference from the more standard dual context approaches  
1667 to modal logics, such as Dual Intuitionistic Linear Logic (Barber, 1996): In the latter, the  
1668 modal operator is implicitly applied to the type of all variables in one context, in the Fitch-  
1669 style, placing a tick in a context corresponds to applying a *left adjoint* to the modal operator  
1670 to the context. Guatto (2018) introduced the notion of time warp and the warping modality,  
1671 generalising the delay modality in guarded recursion, to allow for a more direct style of  
1672 programming for programs with complex input-output dependencies.

1673 **Space leaks.** The work by Krishnaswami (2013) and Bahr *et al.* (2019, 2021) is the clos-  
1674 est to the present work. Both present a modal FRP language with a garbage collection  
1675 result similar to ours. Krishnaswami (2013) pioneered this approach to prove the absence  
1676 of implicit space leaks, but also implemented a compiler for his language, which trans-  
1677 lates FRP programs into JavaScript. For a more detailed comparison with these calculi see  
1678 [Section 4.5](#).

1679 Krishnaswami *et al.* (2012) approached the problem of space leaks with an affine type  
1680 system that keeps track of permission tokens for allocating a stream cons cell. This typ-  
1681 ing discipline ensures that space usage is bounded by the number of provided permission  
1682 tokens and thus provides more granular static checks of space usage.

1683 Synchronous dataflow languages, such as Esterel (Berry & Cosserat, 1985), Lustre (Caspi  
1684 *et al.*, 1987), and Lucid Synchrone (Pouzet, 2006), provide even stronger static guarantees  
1685 – not only on space usage but also on time usage. This feature has made these languages  
1686 attractive in resource constrained environments such as hardware synthesis and embed-  
1687 ded control software. Their computational model is based on a fixed network of stream  
1688 processing nodes where each node consumes and produces a statically known number of  
1689 primitive values at each discrete time step. As a trade-off for these static guarantees, syn-  
1690 chronous dataflow languages support neither time-varying values of arbitrary types nor  
1691 dynamic switching.

## 1692 8 Discussion and Future Work

1696 We have shown that modal FRP with strong operational guarantees can be seamlessly  
1697 integrated into the Haskell programming language. Two main ingredients are central to  
1698 achieving this integration: (1) the use of Fitch-style typing to simplify the syntax for inter-  
1699 acting with the two modalities and (2) lifting some of the restrictions found in previous  
1700 work on Fitch-style typing systems.  
1701  
1702

This paper opens up several avenues for future work both on the implementation side and the underlying theory. We chose Haskell as our host language as it has a compiler extension API that makes it easy for us to implement Rattus and convenient for programmers to start using Rattus with little friction. However, we think that implementing Rattus in call-by-value languages like OCaml or F# should be easily achieved by a simple post-processing step that checks the Fitch-style variable scope. This can be done by an external tool (not unlike a linter) that does not need to be integrated into the compiler. Moreover, while the use of the type class *Stable* is convenient, it is not necessary as we can always use the  $\square$  modality instead (cf. *const* vs. *constBox*). When a program transformation approach is not feasible or not desirable, one can also use  $\lambda_{\surd}$  rather than  $\lambda_{\surd}$  as the underlying calculus. We suspect that most function definitions do not need the flexibility of  $\lambda_{\surd}$  and those that do can be transformed by the programmer with only little syntactic clutter. One could imagine that the type checker could suggest these transformations to the programmer rather than silently performing them itself.

FRP is not the only possible application of Fitch-style type systems. However, most of the interest in Fitch-style system has been in logics and dependent type theory (Clouston, 2018; Birkedal *et al.*, 2018; Bahr *et al.*, 2017; Borghuis, 1994) as opposed to programming languages. Rattus is to our knowledge the first implementation of a Fitch-style programming language. We would expect that programming languages for information control flow (Kavvos, 2019) and recent work on modalities for pure computations Chaudhury & Krishnaswami (2020) admit a Fitch-style presentation and could be implemented similarly to Rattus.

We have looked at only a small fragment of Yampa’s comprehensive arrowized FRP library. A thorough re-implementation of Yampa in Rattus could provide a systematic comparison of their relative expressiveness. For such an effort, we expect that the signal function type be refined to include the  $\square$  modality:

**data**  $SF\ a\ b = SF\ !\ (\square(Float \rightarrow a \rightarrow (\circ(SF\ a\ b) \otimes b)))$

This enables the implementation of Yampa’s powerful switch combinators in Rattus, which among other things can be used to stop a signal function and then resume it (with all its internal state) at a later point. By contrast, it is not clear how such a switch combinator can be provided in an FRP library with first class streams as presented in Section 3.1.

Part of the success of FRP libraries such as Yampa and FRPNow! is due to the fact that they provide a rich and highly optimised API that integrates well with its host language. In this paper, we have shown that Rattus can be seamlessly embedded in Haskell, but more work is required to design a comprehensive library and to perform the low-level optimisations that are often necessary to obtain good real-world performance. For example, our definition of signal functions in Section 3.3 resembles the semantics of Yampa’s signal functions, but Yampa’s signal functions are implemented as GADTs that can handle some special cases much more efficiently and enable dynamic optimisations.

In order to devise sound optimisations for Rattus, we also require suitable coinductive reasoning principles. For example, we might want to make use of Haskell’s rewrite rules to perform optimisations such as map fusion as expressed in the following equation:

$$map\ f\ (map\ g\ xs) = map\ (\text{box}\ (\text{unbox}\ f \circ \text{unbox}\ g))\ xs$$

Such an equation could be proved sound using step-indexed logical relations, not unlike the one we presented in [Section 5](#). For this to scale, however, we need more high-level reasoning principles such as a sound coinductive axiomatisation of bisimilarity or more generally a suitable theory with guarded recursion (Møgelberg & Veltri, 2019).

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## A Multi-tick calculus

In this appendix, we give the proof of Theorem 4.1, i.e. we show that the program transformation described in Section 4.2.1 indeed transforms any closed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term into a closed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term.

Figure 13 gives the context formation rules of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ ; the only difference compared to  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  is the rule for adding ticks, which has a side condition so that there may be no more than one tick. Figure 14 lists the full set of typing rules of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ . Compared to  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  (cf. Figure 5), the only rules that have changed are the rule for lambda abstraction, and the rule for delay. Both rules transform the context  $\Gamma$  to  $|\Gamma|$ , which removes the  $\checkmark$  in  $\Gamma$  if it has one:

$$\begin{aligned} |\Gamma| &= \Gamma \quad \text{if } \Gamma \text{ is tick-free} \\ |\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma'| &= \Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma' \end{aligned}$$

We define the rewrite relation  $\longrightarrow$  as the least relation that is closed under congruence and the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } t]) &\longrightarrow \text{let } x = t \text{ in delay}(K[\text{adv } x]) \quad \text{if } t \text{ is not a variable} \\ \lambda x.K[\text{adv } t] &\longrightarrow \text{let } y = \text{adv } t \text{ in } \lambda x.(K[y]) \end{aligned}$$

where  $K$  is a term with a single occurrence of a hole  $\square$  that is not in the scope of  $\text{delay}$ ,  $\text{adv}$ ,  $\text{box}$ ,  $\text{fix}$ , or a lambda abstraction. Formally,  $K$  is generated by the following grammar.

$$\begin{aligned} K ::= & \square \mid K t \mid t K \mid \text{let } x = K \text{ in } t \mid \text{let } x = t \text{ in } K \mid \langle K, t \rangle \mid \langle t, K \rangle \mid \text{in}_1 K \mid \text{in}_2 K \mid \pi_1 K \mid \pi_2 K \\ & \mid \text{case } K \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x.s; \text{in}_2 x.t \mid \text{case } s \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x.K; \text{in}_2 x.t \mid \text{case } s \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x.t; \text{in}_2 x.K \\ & \mid K + t \mid t + K \mid \text{into } K \mid \text{out } K \mid \text{unbox } K \end{aligned}$$

We write  $K[t]$  to substitute the unique hole  $\square$  in  $K$  with the term  $t$ .

In the following, we show that for each  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , if we exhaustively apply the above rewrite rules to  $t$ , we obtain a term  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t' : A$ . We prove this by proving each of the following properties in turn:

- (1) Subject reduction: If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} s : A$  and  $s \longrightarrow t$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .
- (2) Exhaustiveness: If  $t$  is a normal form for  $\longrightarrow$ , then  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$  implies  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t' : A$ .
- (3) Strong normalisation: There is no infinite  $\longrightarrow$ -reduction sequence.

### A.1 Subject reduction

We first show subject reduction (cf. Proposition A.4 below). To this end, we need a number of lemmas:

**Lemma A.1** (weakening). *Let  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$  and  $\Gamma$  tick-free. Then  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .*

**Proof** By straightforward induction on  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . ■

**Lemma A.2.** *Given  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } t] : A$  with  $\Gamma'$  tick-free, then there is some type  $B$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } x] : A$ .*

$$\frac{}{\emptyset \vdash_{\checkmark}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark}}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \quad \Gamma \text{ tick-free}}{\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark}}$$

Fig. 13. Well-formed contexts of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ .

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free or } A \text{ stable}}{\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \langle \rangle : 1} \quad \frac{n \in \mathbb{Z}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \bar{n} : \text{Int}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} s : \text{Int} \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \text{Int}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} s + t : \text{Int}} \quad \frac{|\Gamma|, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x. t : A \rightarrow B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} s : A \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{let } x = s \text{ in } t : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t' : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t t' : B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t' : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \langle t, t' \rangle : A \times B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A_1 \times A_2 \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \pi_i t : A_i} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A_i \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{in}_i t : A_1 + A_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A_i \vdash_{\checkmark} t_i : B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A_1 + A_2 \quad i \in \{1, 2\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{case } t \text{ of } \text{in}_1 x. t_1 ; \text{in}_2 x. t_2 : B} \quad \frac{|\Gamma|, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \bigcirc A \quad \Gamma' \text{ tick-free}}{\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{adv } t : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \square A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{unbox } t : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma^{\square} \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{box } t : \square A}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A[\bigcirc(\text{Fix } \alpha. A)/\alpha]}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{into } t : \text{Fix } \alpha. A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \text{Fix } \alpha. A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{out } t : A[\bigcirc(\text{Fix } \alpha. A)/\alpha]} \quad \frac{\Gamma^{\square}, x : \square(\bigcirc A) \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{fix } x. t : A}$$

Fig. 14. Typing rules of  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ .

**Proof** We proceed by induction on the structure of  $K$ .

- $\square$ :  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{adv } t : A$  and  $\Gamma'$  tick-free implies that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \bigcirc A$ . Moreover, given a fresh variable  $x$ , we have that  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc A \vdash_{\checkmark} x : \bigcirc A$ , and thus  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc A, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{adv } x : A$  and  $\Gamma'$ .
- $Ks$ :  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } t] s : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$  with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : A'$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } t] : A' \rightarrow A$ . By induction hypothesis, the latter implies that there is some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } x] : A' \rightarrow A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : A'$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } x] s : A$ .
- $sK$ :  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[s \text{ adv } t] : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$  with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : A' \rightarrow A$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } t] : A'$ . By induction hypothesis, the latter implies that there is some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} K[\text{adv } x] : A'$ . Hence,  $\Gamma, x :$

1933  $\bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A' \rightarrow A$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s K[\text{adv } x] :$   
 1934  $A$ .

- 1935 • let  $y = s$  in  $K$ :  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = s \text{ in } K[\text{adv } t] : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$   
 1936 with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A'$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma', y : A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$ . By induction hypothesis,  
 1937 the latter implies that there is some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma', y :$   
 1938  $A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } x] : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A'$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x :$   
 1939  $\bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = s \text{ in } K[\text{adv } x] : A$ .
- 1940 • let  $y = K$  in  $s$ :  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = K[\text{adv } t] \text{ in } s : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$   
 1941 with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma', y : A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A'$ . By induction hypothesis,  
 1942 the latter implies that there is some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}}$   
 1943  $K[\text{adv } x] : A'$ . Hence,  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma', y : A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x :$   
 1944  $\bigcirc B, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = K[\text{adv } x] \text{ in } s : A$ .

1945 The remaining cases follow by induction hypothesis and Lemma A.1 in a manner similar  
 1946 to the cases above. ■

1947  
 1948 **Lemma A.3.** *Let  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$  and  $\Gamma'$  tick-free. Then there is some type  $B$  such that*  
 1949  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : B$  and  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[x] : A$ .

1950  
 1951 **Proof** We proceed by induction on the structure of  $K$ :

- 1952 •  $\square$ :  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : A$  and  $\Gamma'$  tick-free implies that there must be  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  such  
 1953 that  $\Gamma_2$  is tick-free,  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2$ , and  $\Gamma_1 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : A$ .  
 1954 Moreover,  $\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} x : A$  follows immediately by the variable introduction rule.
- 1955 •  $\underline{K} s$ :  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] s : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$  with  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A'$  and  
 1956  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A' \rightarrow A$ . By induction hypothesis, the latter implies that there is  
 1957 some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : B$  and  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[x] : A' \rightarrow A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s :$   
 1958  $A'$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[x] s : A$ .
- 1959 • let  $y = s$  in  $K$ :  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = s \text{ in } K[\text{adv } t] : A$  implies that there is some  $A'$  with  
 1960  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A'$  and  $\Gamma, \Gamma', y : A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A$ . By induction hypothesis, the latter  
 1961 implies that there is some  $B$  with  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : B$  and  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma', y : A' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[x] : A$ . Hence,  
 1962  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A'$ , by Lemma A.1, and thus  $\Gamma, x : B, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = s \text{ in } K[\text{adv } x] : A$ .  
 1963  
 1964  
 1965

1966 The remaining cases follow by induction hypothesis and Lemma A.1 in a manner similar  
 1967 to the cases above. ■

1968  
 1969 **Proposition A.4** (subject reduction). *If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s : A$  and  $s \longrightarrow t$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ .*

1970  
 1971 **Proof** We proceed by induction on  $s \longrightarrow t$ .

- 1972 • Let  $s \longrightarrow t$  be due to congruence closure. Then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$  follows by the induction  
 1973 hypothesis. For example, if  $s = s_1 s_2, t = t_1 s_2$  and  $s_1 \longrightarrow t_1$ , then we know that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}}$   
 1974  $s_1 : B \rightarrow A$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} s_2 : B$  for some type  $B$ . By induction hypothesis, we then have  
 1975 that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t_1 : B \rightarrow A$  and thus  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ .  
 1976  
 1977  
 1978

- Let  $\text{delay}(K[\text{adv } t]) \longrightarrow \text{let } x = t \text{ in } \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } x])$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } t]) : A$ . That is,  $A = \bigcirc A'$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A'$ . Then by Lemma A.2, we obtain some type  $B$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc B$  and  $\Gamma, x : \bigcirc B, \checkmark \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } x] : A'$ . Hence,  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } x = t \text{ in } \text{delay}(K[\text{adv } x]) : A$ .
- Let  $\lambda x. K[\text{adv } t] \longrightarrow \text{let } y = \text{adv } t \text{ in } \lambda x. (K[y])$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \lambda x. K[\text{adv } t] : A$ . Hence,  $A = A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  and  $\Gamma, x : A_1 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[\text{adv } t] : A_2$ . Then, by Lemma A.3, there is some type  $B$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : B$  and  $\Gamma, y : B, x : A_1 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} K[y] : A_2$ . Hence,  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{let } y = \text{adv } t \text{ in } \lambda x. (K[y]) : A$ .

■

## A.2 Exhaustiveness

Secondly, we show that any closed  $\lambda_{\mathcal{W}}$  term that cannot be rewritten any further is also a closed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  term (cf. Proposition A.9 below).

### Definition A.5.

- (i) We say that a term  $t$  is *weakly adv-free* iff whenever  $t = K[\text{adv } s]$  for some  $K$  and  $s$ , then  $s$  is a variable.
- (ii) We say that a term  $t$  is *strictly adv-free* iff there are no  $K$  and  $s$  such that  $t = K[\text{adv } s]$ .

Clearly, any strictly adv-free term is also weakly adv-free.

In the following we use the notation  $t \dashrightarrow$  to denote the fact that there is no term  $t'$  with  $t \longrightarrow t'$ ; in other words,  $t$  is a normal form.

### Lemma A.6.

- (i) If  $\text{delay } t \dashrightarrow$ , then  $t$  is weakly adv-free.
- (ii) If  $\lambda x. t \dashrightarrow$ , then  $t$  is strictly adv-free.

**Proof** Immediate, by the definition of weakly/strictly adv-free and  $\longrightarrow$ . ■

**Lemma A.7.** Let  $\Gamma'$  contain at least one tick,  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A, t \dashrightarrow$ , and  $t$  weakly adv-free. Then  $\Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$

**Proof** We proceed by induction on  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ :

- $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : A$ : Then there are  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2$  such that  $\Gamma_2$  tick-free,  $\Gamma' = \Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2$ , and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma_1 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc A$ . Since  $\text{adv } t$  is by assumption weakly adv-free, we know that  $t$  is some variable  $x$ . Since  $\bigcirc A$  is not stable we thus know that  $x : \bigcirc A \in \Gamma_1$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma_1 \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : \bigcirc A$ , and therefore  $\Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{adv } t : A$ .
- $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A$ : Hence,  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma', \checkmark \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ . Moreover, since  $\text{delay } t \dashrightarrow$ , we have by Lemma A.6 that  $t$  is weakly adv-free. We may thus apply the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma', \checkmark \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\square}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\mathcal{W}} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A$ .

- 2025 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{box } t : \Box A$ : Hence,  $(\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma')^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , which is the same as  
2026  $(\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma')^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{box } t : \Box A$ .
- 2027 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ : That is,  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma', x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Since, by assumption  
2028  $\lambda x.t \rightarrow$ , we know by Lemma A.6 that  $t$  is strictly adv-free, and thus also weakly  
2029 adv-free. Hence, we may apply the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma', x :$   
2030  $A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ , which in turn implies  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ .
- 2031 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{fix } x.t : A$ : Hence,  $(\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma')^{\Box}, x : \Box \circ A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , which is the same as  
2032  $(\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma')^{\Box}, x : \Box \circ A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{fix } x.t : A$ .
- 2033 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$ : Then, either  $\Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$  or  $\Gamma^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$ . In either case,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x :$   
2034  $A$  follows.
- 2035 • The remaining cases follow by the induction hypothesis in a straightforward manner.  
2036 For example, if  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} st : A$ , then there is some type  $B$  with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : B \rightarrow$   
2037  $A$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Since  $st$  is weakly adv-free, so are  $s$  and  $t$ , and we may  
2038 apply the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : B \rightarrow A$  and  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ .  
2039 Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} st : A$ .

■

2042 **Lemma A.8.** *Let  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A, t \rightarrow$  and  $t$  strictly adv-free. Then  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .*  
2043 *(Note that this Lemma is about  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$ .)*

2045 **Proof** We proceed by induction on  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .

- 2047 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{adv } t : A$ : Impossible since  $\text{adv } t$  is not strictly adv-free.
- 2048 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \circ A$ : Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma', \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , which in turn implies that  
2049  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \circ A$ .
- 2050 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{box } t : \Box A$ : Hence,  $(\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma')^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , which is the same as  
2051  $(\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma')^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{box } t : \Box A$ .
- 2052 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ : That is,  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma', x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Since, by assumption  
2053  $\lambda x.t \rightarrow$ , we know by Lemma A.6 that  $t$  is strictly adv-free. Hence, we may apply  
2054 the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma', x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ , which in turn implies  
2055  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ .
- 2056 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{fix } x.t : A$ : Hence,  $(\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma')^{\Box}, x : \Box \circ A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , which is the same as  
2057  $(\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma')^{\Box}, x : \Box \circ A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{fix } x.t : A$ .
- 2058 •  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$ : Then, either  $\Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$  or  $\Gamma^{\Box} \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$ . In either case,  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} x : A$   
2059 follows.
- 2060 • The remaining cases follow by the induction hypothesis in a straightforward manner.  
2061 For example, if  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} st : A$ , then there is some type  $B$  with  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : B \rightarrow$   
2062  $A$  and  $\Gamma, \checkmark, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Since  $st$  is strictly adv-free, so are  $s$  and  $t$ , and we may apply  
2063 the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} s : B \rightarrow A$  and  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Hence,  
2064  $\Gamma^{\Box}, \Gamma' \vdash_{\checkmark} st : A$ .

■

2067 In order for the induction argument to go through we generalise the exhaustiveness  
2068 property from closed  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  terms to open  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  terms in a context with at most one tick.

**Proposition A.9** (exhaustiveness). *Let  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark}, \Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$  and  $t \dashrightarrow$ . Then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .*

**Proof** We proceed by induction on the structure of  $t$  and by case distinction on the last typing rule in the derivation of  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ .

$$\frac{\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A}$$

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A$  :

We consider two cases:

- $\Gamma$  is tick-free: Hence,  $\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark}$  and thus  $\Gamma, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$  by induction hypothesis. Since  $|\Gamma| = \Gamma$ , we thus have that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A$ .
- $\Gamma = \Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2$  and  $\Gamma_2$  tick-free: By definition,  $t \dashrightarrow$  and, by Lemma A.6,  $t$  is weakly adv-free. Hence, by Lemma A.7, we have that  $\Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . We can thus apply the induction hypothesis to obtain that  $\Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2, \checkmark \vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ . Since  $|\Gamma| = \Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2$ , we thus have that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \text{delay } t : \bigcirc A$ .

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B}$$

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$  :

By induction hypothesis, we have that  $\Gamma, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . There are two cases to consider:

- $\Gamma$  is tick-free: Then  $|\Gamma| = \Gamma$  and we thus obtain that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ .
- $\Gamma = \Gamma_1, \checkmark, \Gamma_2$  with  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2$  tick-free: Since  $t \dashrightarrow$  by definition and  $t$  strictly adv-free by Lemma A.6, we may apply Lemma A.8 to obtain that  $\Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2, x : A \vdash_{\checkmark} t : B$ . Since  $|\Gamma| = \Gamma_1^{\square}, \Gamma_2$ , we thus have that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\checkmark} \lambda x.t : A \rightarrow B$ .
- All remaining cases follow immediately from the induction hypothesis, because all other rules are either the same for both calculi or the  $\lambda_{\checkmark}$  typing rule has an additional side condition that  $\Gamma$  have at most one tick, which holds by assumption.

■

### A.3 Strong Normalisation

**Proposition A.10** (strong normalisation). *The rewrite relation  $\dashrightarrow$  is strongly normalising.*

**Proof** To show that  $\dashrightarrow$  is strongly normalising, we define for each term  $t$  a natural number  $d(t)$  such that, whenever  $t \dashrightarrow t'$ , then  $d(t) > d(t')$ . A *redex* is a term of the form  $\text{delay } K[\text{adv } t]$  with  $t$  not a variable, or a term of the form  $\lambda x.K[\text{adv } s]$ . For each redex occurrence in a term  $t$ , we can calculate its *depth* as the length of the unique path that goes from the root of the abstract syntax tree of  $t$  to the occurrence of the redex. Define  $d(t)$  as the sum of the depth of all redex occurrences in  $t$ . Since each rewrite step  $t \dashrightarrow t'$  removes a redex or replaces a redex with a new redex at a strictly smaller depth, we have that  $d(t) > d(t')$ . ■

**Theorem A.11.** For each  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t : A$ , we can effectively construct a term  $t'$  with  $t \dashrightarrow^* t'$  and  $\vdash_{\checkmark} t' : A$ .

2117 **Proof** We construct  $t'$  from  $t$  by repeatedly applying the rewrite rules of  $\longrightarrow$ . By  
2118 Proposition A.10 this procedure will terminate and we obtain a term  $t'$  with  $t \longrightarrow^* t'$  and  
2119  $t' \not\rightarrow$ . According to Proposition A.4, this means that  $\vdash_{\mathcal{W}} t' : A$ , which in turn implies by  
2120 Proposition A.9 that  $\vdash_{\mathcal{V}} t' : A$ . ■

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