

# Towards reversible languages and systems

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From JSR 220 v3.0 “EJB Core Contracts and Requirements” (May 2006), pp 353:

*The Bean Provider and Application Assembler must avoid creating applications that would result in inconsistent caching of data in the same transaction by multiple session objects.*

*Cf nested transactions [Moss 85], multithreaded transactions [Kienzle 01]*

From JSR 220 v3.0 “EJB Core Contracts and Requirements”, pp 357:

*The Bean Provider must do one of the following to ensure data integrity before throwing an application exception from an enterprise bean instance:*

- *Ensure that the instance is in a state such that a clients attempt to continue and/or commit the transaction does not result in loss of data integrity. For example, the instance throws an application exception indicating that the value of an input parameter was invalid before the instance performed any database updates.*
- *If the application exception is not specified to cause transaction rollback, mark the transaction for rollback using the `EJBContext.setRollbackOnly` method before throwing the application exception. Marking the transaction for rollback will ensure that the transaction can never commit.*

*Cf atomic exception handling [Fetzer07], failboxes [Jacobs 09]*

We do not understand if/how the following compose

Exception handling

Concurrency

Transactions

Compensations

Groups, Replicas

Checkpoints, Rollback

Objects, Actors, Components

# Enlarging/formalizing the bag of tricks

- Exception handling [Collet 07][Fetzer 07]
- Failboxes [Jacobs 09]
- Transactors [Field 05]
- Transactional Events [Fluet 06][Grossman 08]
- Transactional memory [Grossman 08][Abadi10]
- Transactional calculi [Acciai 07][deVries 10]
- Compensations [Bruni 05][Lanese10]
- Logs and conclaves [Chothia 04]
- Stabilizers and checkpoints [Ziarek10]

## Semantical and Operational Foundations for Fault-Tolerant Programming

# Roadmap

- 1 The case for reversibility
- 2 A small reversible concurrent language
- 3 Adding rollback and compensations
- 4 An abstract machine for a reversible concurrent language
- 5 Perspectives

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# Undo in fault-tolerant constructs

- Application undo
- System undo (ROC)
- Checkpoint/Rollback schemes
- Transaction rollback

## What if we could **undo** every action ?

Language support for Recovery Oriented Computing (ROC)

R. Landauer

## Irreversibility and Heat Generation in the Computing Process

**Abstract:** It is argued that computing machines inevitably involve devices which perform logical functions that do not have a single-valued inverse. This logical irreversibility is associated with physical irreversibility and requires a minimal heat generation, per machine cycle, typically of the order of  $kT$  for each irreversible function. This dissipation serves the purpose of standardizing signals and making them independent of their exact logical history. Two simple, but representative, models of bistable devices are subjected to a more detailed analysis of switching kinetics to yield the relationship between speed and energy dissipation, and to estimate the effects of errors induced by thermal fluctuations.

## Enabling defeasible partial agreements

- Systematic rollback-recovery
- Operational primitive for transaction models
  - all or nothing execution
  - complement with isolation, compensation

## Enabling causality tracking

- Debugging
- Diagnosis
- Simulation
- Fault isolation

- Reversible distributed programming model
  - reversible substrate, controlling reversibility
  - primitives, operational semantics, behavioral theory
- Composable FT abstractions
  - benchmarks: transaction, checkpoint/rollback, exception handling schemes
  - combination with modularity features
- Prototype
  - implementation costs / tradeoffs for distributed reversibility
  - language experiments

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## Higher-order $\pi$ -calculus substrate

- Concurrency, functional and imperative features in a simple setting
- Formal (small-step) operational semantics
- Behavioral theory (program equivalence)



## Reversible actions

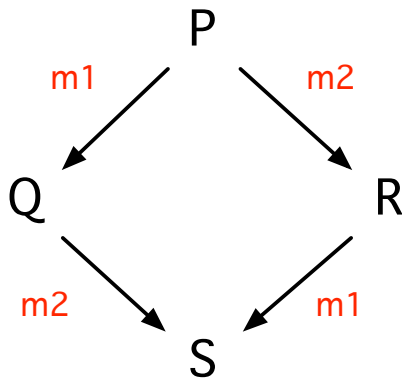
If program  $M$  can evolve into  $M'$ , then  $M'$  can evolve back into  $M$ :

$$M \rightarrow M' \text{ implies } M' \rightarrow M$$

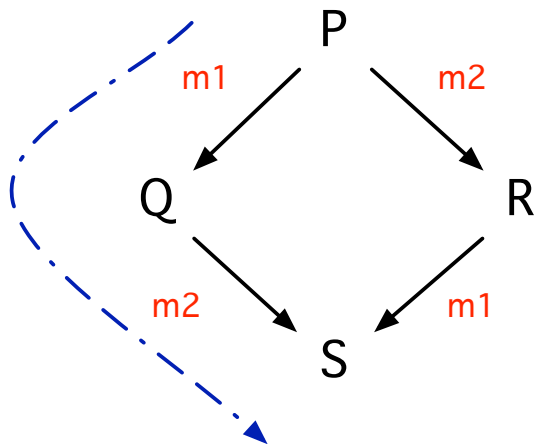
## Causal consistency

Any program state reached by reversal could have been reached during the past computation (just by exchanging the order of concurrent actions)

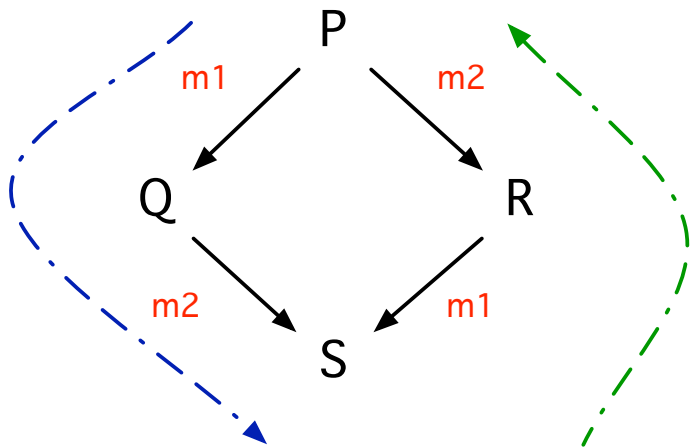
Determinism in a distributed setting



# Causal Consistency



# Causal Consistency



## Syntax

$P, Q ::= \mathbf{0}$	<i>null process</i>
$X$	<i>variable</i>
$\nu a. P$	<i>new name</i>
$(P \mid Q)$	<i>parallel composition</i>
$a\langle P \rangle$	<i>message</i>
$(a(X) \triangleright P)$	<i>trigger</i>

$$a \in \mathcal{N}$$

## Operational semantics

Defined by means of a binary relation  $\rightarrow$  between programs:  $\rightarrow \subseteq \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$

$P \rightarrow Q$  reads “ $P$  reduces (or evolves into)  $Q$ ”

## Reduction rules

$$a\langle Q \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright P) \rightarrow P\{Q/X\}$$

$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{\mathbb{E}[P] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[Q]}$$

$$\mathbb{E} ::= \bullet \mid \nu a. \mathbb{E} \mid (P \mid \mathbb{E}) \mid (\mathbb{E} \mid P) \quad \textit{evaluation context}$$



$$a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$$

$$a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright X \mid X) \rightarrow P \mid P$$

$$Q \mid a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0}) \rightarrow Q \mid \mathbf{0}$$

## Syntactical equivalence

Given by relation  $\equiv \subseteq \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$

$\equiv$  is the smallest congruence that obeys the rules:

$$\begin{aligned} A \mid B &\equiv B \mid A & A \mid (B \mid C) &\equiv (A \mid B) \mid C & A \mid \mathbf{0} &\equiv A & \nu a. \mathbf{0} &\equiv \mathbf{0} \\ \nu a. \nu b. A &\equiv \nu b. \nu a. A & (\nu a. A) \mid B &\equiv \nu a. (A \mid B) \end{aligned}$$

$$Q \mid a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0}) \rightarrow Q$$

$$a\langle P \rangle \mid Q \mid (a(X) \triangleright X \mid X) \rightarrow P \mid Q \mid P$$

$$B = (a(X) \triangleright X \mid a\langle X \rangle)$$

$$\text{Bang}(P) = \nu a. a\langle P \mid B \rangle \mid B$$

$$P = c(Y) \triangleright Y \mid Y$$

$$c\langle Q \rangle \mid \text{Bang}(P) \rightarrow c\langle Q \rangle \mid P \mid \text{Bang}(P) \rightarrow Q \mid Q \mid \text{Bang}(P)$$

## Observables

An event on channel  $a$  is observable from process  $P$ , notation  $P \downarrow_a$  if

$$P \equiv \nu \vec{e}. a \langle Q \rangle \mid R \quad \text{and} \quad a \notin \vec{e}$$

## Semantical equivalence

Two programs  $P, Q$  are (weakly) barbed bisimilar, notation  $P \approx Q$ , if the following conditions hold

- if  $P \downarrow_a$ , then  $Q \rightarrow^* Q'$  and  $Q' \downarrow_a$
- if  $P \rightarrow P'$ , then  $Q \rightarrow^* Q'$  and  $P' \approx Q'$
- and the converse for  $Q$  and  $P$ .

$\rightarrow^*$  is the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$

$P \equiv Q$  implies  $P \approx Q$

$$\nu a. a\langle P \rangle \approx \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nu a. a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0}) \approx \mathbf{0}$$

To make  $\text{HO}\pi$  reversible:

- Log each action (message receipt)
- Uniquely identify action participants (thread tags)

## Syntax

$$P, Q ::= \mathbf{0} \mid X \mid \nu a. P \mid (P \mid Q) \mid a\langle P \rangle \mid (a(X) \triangleright P)$$

$M, N ::=$	<i>configurations</i>
$\mathbf{0}$	<i>null configuration</i>
$\mid \nu u. M$	<i>restriction</i>
$\mid (M \mid N)$	<i>parallel</i>
$\mid \kappa : P$	<i>thread</i>
$\mid [m; k]$	<i>memory</i>

$$a \in \mathcal{N}, k \in \mathcal{T}, u \in \mathcal{N} \cup \mathcal{T}$$



Intuitions:

- $\kappa : P$  thread of computation (process)  $P$  uniquely identified by tag  $\kappa$
- $[m; k]$  log of occurrence  $\kappa$  of action  $m$  (message receipt)

## Syntax

$$\kappa ::= k \mid \langle h, \tilde{h} \rangle \cdot k \quad \text{tags}$$
$$m ::= ((\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright Q)) \quad \text{action record}$$

## Operational semantics

Defined by means of a binary relation  $\rightarrow \subseteq \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$ , which is the union of a forward reduction relation  $\rightarrow$  and of a backward one  $\rightsquigarrow$ .

## Reduction rules

$$\frac{m = (\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright Q)}{(\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright Q) \rightarrow \nu k. (k : Q\{P/X\}) \mid [m; k]}$$

$$(k : P) \mid [m; k] \rightsquigarrow m$$

$$k_1 : a\langle P \rangle \mid k_2 : a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0} \rightarrow \nu k. k : \mathbf{0} \mid [k_1 : a\langle P \rangle \mid k_2 : a(X) \triangleright \mathbf{0}; k]$$

$$k : R \mid [k_1 : a\langle Q \rangle \mid k_2 : a(X) \triangleright P ; k] \rightarrow k_1 : a\langle Q \rangle \mid k_2 : a(X) \triangleright P$$

## Syntactical equivalence: building unique tags

$$\kappa : \nu a. P \equiv \nu a. \kappa : P$$

$$k : \prod_{i=1}^n \tau_i \equiv \nu \tilde{h}. \prod_{i=1}^n (\langle h_i, \tilde{h} \rangle \cdot k : \tau_i) \quad \tilde{h} = \{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$$

$\tau_i$  are non-null threads (ie messages or triggers)

## Theorem (Loop Lemma)

$M \rightarrow^* N$  if and only if  $N \rightarrow^* M$

## Theorem (Causal consistency)

Let  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  be two coinital traces. Then  $\sigma_1 \approx \sigma_2$  if and only if  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are cofinal.

## Theorem (Faithful encoding)

There exists a compositional encoding  $(\bullet) : \mathcal{P}_{rho-\pi} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{HO\pi}$  such that for all configurations  $M$ :

$$M \approx (\bullet M)$$

## A small formal model for reversible concurrent computation

“Ballistic” programs that non-deterministically explore their state space



# What we have obtained

- A model with fine-grained logs for action reversal
- A model with explicit causal information on computations
  - Cf causal logging in distributed checkpoint/rollback schemes
- A form of causal semantics for  $HO\pi$

# What is missing ?

- Controlling reversibility
- Dealing with irreversible actions
  - eg, what about I/O ?

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- Asynchronous, higher-order  $\pi$ 
  - only **forward** reduction: receiving a process on a channel
- Explicit rollback instruction
  - **backward** reduction triggered by **roll**

- Tagged processes:  $\kappa : P$
- Message receipts create memories :  $[m; k]$ 
  - with  $m = \kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle \mid \kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma Q$
- Unicity of tags ensured by structural congruence law :

$$k : \prod_{i=1}^n \tau_i \equiv \nu \tilde{h}. \prod_{i=1}^n \langle h_i, \tilde{h} \rangle \cdot k : \tau_i$$

with  $\tilde{h} = \{h_1, \dots, h_n\} \quad n > 1$

## Syntax

$$P, Q ::= \mathbf{0} \mid \dots \mid a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} P \mid \text{roll } k \mid \text{roll } \gamma$$
$$M, N ::= \mathbf{0} \mid \nu u. M \mid (M \mid N) \mid \kappa : P \mid [m; k]$$
$$\kappa ::= k \mid \langle h, \tilde{h} \rangle \cdot k \quad m ::= (\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} Q)$$
$$a, b, c \in \mathcal{N} \quad X \in \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{P}} \quad \gamma \in \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{K}} \quad u \in \mathcal{N} \cup \mathcal{K} \quad h, k \in \mathcal{K}$$

## Reduction rules

$$\frac{m = (\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma Q_2)}{(\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma Q_2) \rightarrow \nu k. (k : Q_2\{P, k / X, \gamma\}) \mid [m; k]}$$

$$\frac{N \blacktriangleright k \quad \text{complete}(N \mid [m; k] \mid (\kappa : \text{roll } k))}{N \mid [m; k] \mid (\kappa : \text{roll } k) \rightarrow m \mid N \not\downarrow k}$$

# Rollback example

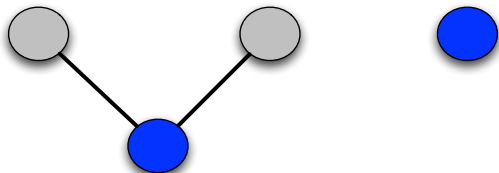
$k_1 : a\langle 0 \rangle$      $(k_2 : a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} b\langle roll \ \gamma \rangle)$      $(k_3 : b(X) \triangleright c\langle 0 \rangle | X)$





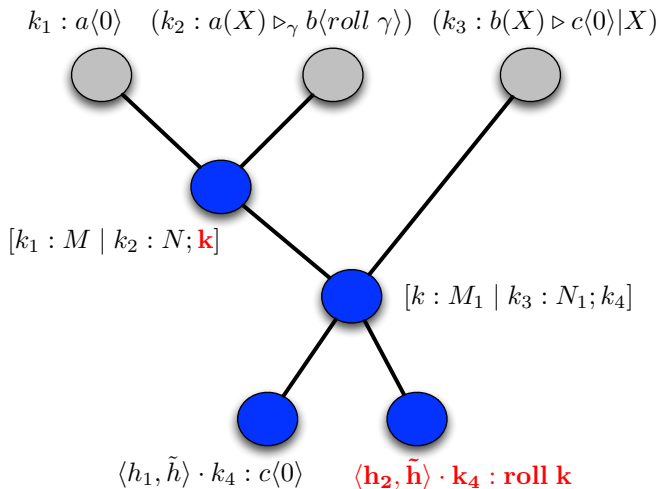
# Rollback example

$k_1 : a\langle 0 \rangle$     $(k_2 : a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} b\langle \text{roll } \gamma \rangle)$     $(k_3 : b(X) \triangleright c\langle 0 \rangle | X)$



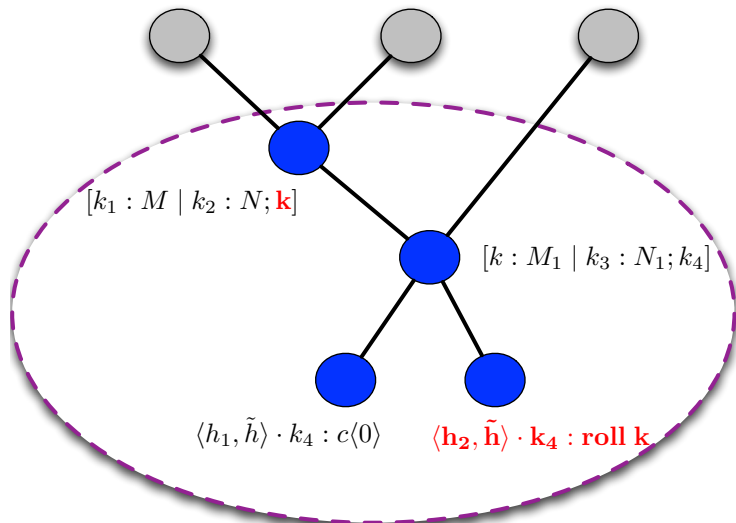
$[k_1 : M \mid k_2 : N; \mathbf{k}] \mid k : b\langle \text{roll } k \rangle$

# Rollback example



# Rollback example

$k_1 : a\langle 0 \rangle$     $(k_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma b\langle \text{roll } \gamma \rangle)$     $(k_3 : b(X) \triangleright c\langle 0 \rangle | X)$

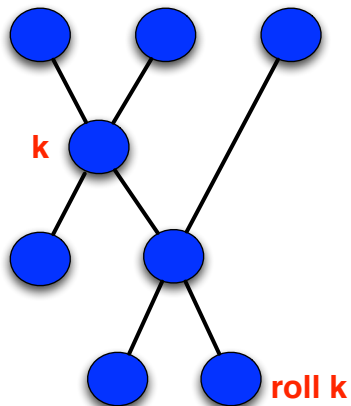


# Rollback example

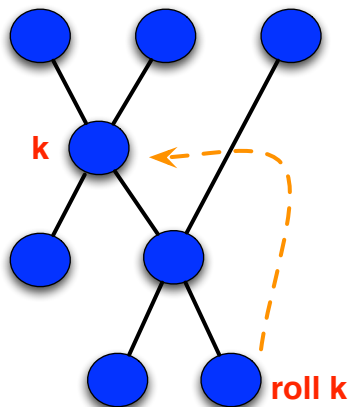
$k_1 : a\langle 0 \rangle$      $(k_2 : a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} b\langle roll \ \gamma \rangle)$      $(k_3 : b(X) \triangleright c\langle 0 \rangle | X)$



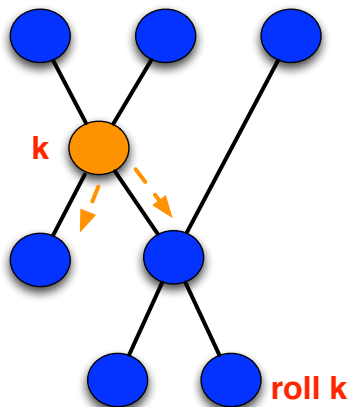
# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint



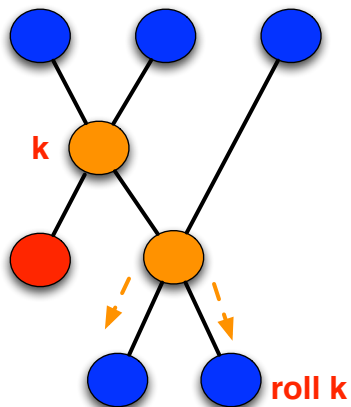
# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint



# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint

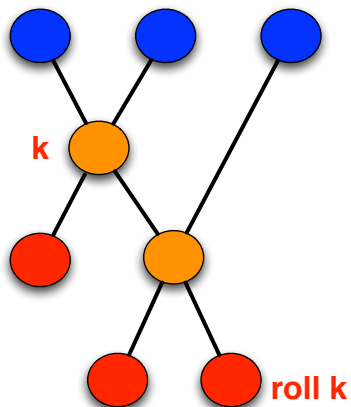


# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint

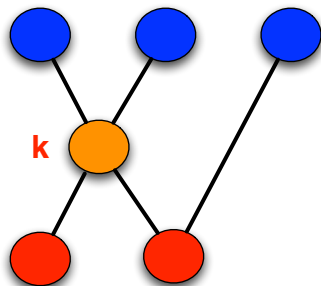




# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint



# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint



# Concurrent non-atomic rollback:hint



## Theorem (Correspondence HL - LL)

*For all configurations  $M$ :*

$$M_{HL} \approx_{LL} M$$

# Adding compensations to roll- $\pi$ : croll- $\pi$

- New construct added: message with compensation:  $a\langle P \rangle \div b\langle Q \rangle$
- Modified reduction rules:

$$\frac{m = (\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle \div C) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma Q_2)}{(\kappa_1 : a\langle P \rangle \div C) \mid (\kappa_2 : a(X) \triangleright_\gamma Q_2) \rightarrow \nu k. (k : Q_2\{^{P,k}/X,\gamma\}) \mid [m; k]}$$

$$\frac{N \blacktriangleright k \quad \text{complete}(N \mid [m; k] \mid (\kappa : \text{roll } k)) \quad m' = \text{xtr}(m)}{N \mid [m; k] \mid (\kappa : \text{roll } k) \rightarrow m' \mid N \not\downarrow_k}$$

$$\text{xtr}(a\langle P \rangle \div c\langle Q \rangle) = c\langle Q \rangle$$

$$\text{xtr}(a\langle P \rangle) = a\langle P \rangle$$

# Message compensations are *not* elementary

- Can trigger arbitrary compensation **processes**
- Can encode different compensation **strategies**

$$\langle a\langle P \rangle \div \star \rangle_{er} = \nu t. Y \mid a\langle P \rangle \div t\langle Y \rangle$$

$$Y = t\langle Z \rangle \triangleright Z \mid a\langle P \rangle \div t\langle Z \rangle$$

$$\langle\langle a\langle P \rangle \div_{(n)} c\langle Q \rangle \rangle\rangle_{br} = \nu t. (t\langle Z \rangle \triangleright Z) \mid a\langle P \rangle \div t\langle \phi^n(c\langle Q \rangle) \rangle$$

$$\phi^0(c\langle Q \rangle) = c\langle Q \rangle$$

$$\phi^{n+1}(c\langle Q \rangle) = (t\langle Z \rangle \triangleright Z) \mid a\langle P \rangle \div t\langle \phi^n(c\langle Q \rangle) \rangle$$



# Trigger compensations

$$\langle a(X) \triangleright_{\gamma} P \div b\langle Q \rangle \rangle_{ct} = \nu c, d. \bar{c} \div \bar{d} \mid (c \triangleright_{\gamma} a(X) \triangleright P) \mid (d \triangleright b\langle Q \rangle)$$

## All-or-nothing processes can be encoded

- **All-or-nothing**: either complete execution or none at all
- **Processes**: no restriction on the form of transactional processes

$$[P, Q] = \nu a, c. \bar{a} \div \bar{c} \mid (a \triangleright_{\gamma} \nu t. P \mid t\langle \text{roll } \gamma \rangle \mid (t(X) \triangleright X)) \mid (c \triangleright Q)$$

- *Committing* is consuming  $t\langle \text{roll } \gamma \rangle$
- *Aborting* is releasing  $\text{roll } \gamma$
- $P$  executes till it commits or aborts
- On abort, the compensation process  $Q$  is released

## Theorem

$[ \bullet, \bullet ]$  is an all-or-nothing atomic construct with compensation

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- How efficiently can we implement reversibility ?
- What are the time/space complexity lower bounds ?

# A simple higher-order concurrent language: $\mu\text{Oz}$

$S ::=$		Statements
	<b>skip</b>	Empty statement
	$S_1 S_2$	Sequential composition
	<b>let</b> $x = v$ <b>in</b> $S$ <b>end</b>	Variable declaration
	<b>if</b> $x$ <b>then</b> $S_1$ <b>else</b> $S_2$ <b>end</b>	Conditional statements
	<b>thread</b> $S$ <b>end</b>	Thread creation
	<b>let</b> $x = c$ <b>in</b> $S$ <b>end</b>	Procedure declaration
	$\{ x x_1 \dots x_n \}$	Procedure call
	<b>let</b> $x = \text{NewPort}$ <b>in</b> $S$ <b>end</b>	Port creation
	$\{ \text{Send } x y \}$	Send on a port
	<b>let</b> $x = \{ \text{Receive } y \}$ <b>in</b> $S$ <b>end</b>	Receive from a port
$v ::=$	<b>true</b>   <b>false</b>	Simple values
$c ::=$	<b>proc</b> $\{ x_1 \dots x_n \} S$ <b>end</b>	Procedure

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\langle \mathbf{skip} \ T \rangle \parallel T}{0 \parallel 0} \\
\frac{\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = v \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle \parallel \langle S\{x'/x\} \ T \rangle}{0 \parallel x' = v} \text{ if } x' \text{ fresh} \\
\frac{\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = c \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle \parallel \langle S\{x'/x\} \ T \rangle}{0 \parallel x' = \xi \parallel \xi : c} \text{ if } x', \xi \text{ fresh} \\
\frac{\langle \mathbf{if} \ x \ \mathbf{then} \ S_1 \ \mathbf{else} \ S_2 \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle \parallel \langle S_1 \ T \rangle}{x = \mathbf{true} \parallel x = \mathbf{true}} \\
\frac{\langle \mathbf{if} \ x \ \mathbf{then} \ S_1 \ \mathbf{else} \ S_2 \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle \parallel \langle S_2 \ T \rangle}{x = \mathbf{false} \parallel x = \mathbf{false}}
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = \mathbf{NewPort} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{\langle S\{x'/x\} \ T \rangle}{x' = \xi \parallel \xi : \perp} \quad \text{if } x', \xi \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{thread} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{T \parallel \langle S \ \langle \rangle \rangle}{0}$$

$$\frac{\langle \{ x \ x_1 \dots x_n \} \ T \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : \mathbf{proc} \ \{ y_1 \dots y_n \} \ S \ \mathbf{end}} \parallel \frac{\langle S\{x_1/y_1\} \dots \{x_n/y_n\} \ T \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : \mathbf{proc} \ \{ y_1 \dots y_n \} \ S \ \mathbf{end}}$$

$$\frac{\langle \{ \mathbf{Send} \ x \ y \} \ T \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : Q} \parallel \frac{T}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : y; Q}$$

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = \{ \mathbf{Receive} \ y \} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle}{y = \xi \parallel \xi : Q; z \parallel z = w} \parallel \frac{\langle S\{x'/x\} \ T \rangle}{y = \xi \parallel \xi : Q \parallel z = w \parallel x' = w} \quad \text{if } x' \text{ fresh}$$



$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{skip} \ C \rangle}{0} \quad \parallel \quad \frac{t[H \ \mathbf{skip}]C}{0}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = v \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{0} \quad \parallel \quad \frac{t[H \ * \ x']\langle S\{x'/x\} \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x' = v} \quad \text{if } x' \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = c \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{0} \quad \parallel \quad \frac{t[H \ * \ x']\langle S\{x'/x\} \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x' = \xi \ \parallel \ \xi : c} \quad \text{if } x', \xi \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{if} \ x \ \mathbf{then} \ S_1 \ \mathbf{else} \ S_2 \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{x = \mathbf{true}} \quad \parallel \quad \frac{t[H \ \mathbf{if}(x)S_2]\langle S_1 \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x = \mathbf{true}}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{if} \ x \ \mathbf{then} \ S_1 \ \mathbf{else} \ S_2 \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{x = \mathbf{false}} \quad \parallel \quad \frac{t[H \ \mathbf{if}(x)S_1]\langle S_2 \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x = \mathbf{false}}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = \mathbf{NewPort} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{t[H \ * \ x']\langle S\{x'/x\} \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x' = \xi \parallel \xi : \perp \mid \perp} \quad \text{if } x', \xi \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{thread} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{t[H \ * \ t']C \parallel t'[\perp]\langle S \ \langle \rangle \rangle}{0} \quad \text{if } t' \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \{ x \ (x_i)_1^n \} C \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : \mathbf{proc} \ \{ (y_i)_1^n \} \ S \ \mathbf{end}} \parallel \frac{t[H \ \{ x \ (x_i)_1^n \}]\langle S(\{x_i/y_i\})_1^n \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : \mathbf{proc} \ \{ (y_i)_1^n \} \ S \ \mathbf{end}}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \{ \mathbf{Send} \ x \ y \} C \rangle}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : K \mid K_h} \parallel \frac{t[H \ \uparrow x]C}{x = \xi \parallel \xi : t : y ; K \mid K_h}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{let} \ y = \{ \mathbf{Receive} \ x \} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{\theta \parallel \xi : K ; t' : z \mid K_h} \parallel \frac{t[H \ \downarrow x(y')]\langle S\{y'/y\} \ \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{\theta \parallel \xi : K \mid t' : z, t ; K_h \parallel y' = w}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{t[H \ \mathbf{esc}]C}{0}$$

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{thread} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle \quad || \quad T \quad || \quad \langle S \ \langle \rangle \rangle}{0 \quad || \quad 0}$$

$$\frac{t[H] \langle \mathbf{thread} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle \quad || \quad t[H * t']C \quad || \quad t'[\perp] \langle S \ \langle \rangle \rangle}{0 \quad || \quad 0} \text{ if } t' \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = \mathbf{NewPort} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ T \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{\langle S\{x'/x\} T \rangle}{x' = \xi \parallel \xi : \perp} \text{ if } x', \xi \text{ fresh}$$

$$\frac{t[H]\langle \mathbf{let} \ x = \mathbf{NewPort} \ \mathbf{in} \ S \ \mathbf{end} \ C \rangle}{0} \parallel \frac{t[H \ * \ x']\langle S\{x'/x\} \langle \mathbf{esc} \ C \rangle \rangle}{x' = \xi \parallel \xi : \perp | \perp} \text{ if } x', \xi \text{ fresh}$$

## Theorem (Linear overhead for reversibility)

Assume  $(t[\perp]\langle S \rangle, 0) \rightarrow_{vm}^n (M, \theta)$ , where  $\rightarrow_{vm}^n$  denotes  $n \rightarrow_{vm}$  steps.  
Then

$$\mathbf{overhead}(M, \theta) \leq n \cdot \mathbf{stsize}(S)$$

## Theorem (Linear space lower bound for reversibility)

*The amount of information to be stored to ensure causally consistent reversibility of  $\mu\text{Oz}$  programs is at least linear in the number of execution steps.*

## Example

```
let a = NewPort in
let x = true in
let y = false in
let p1 = proc{} {Send a x} {p1} end in
let p2 = proc{} {Send a y} {p2} end in
let p3 = proc{} let z = {Receive a} in {p3} end in
  thread {p1} end
  thread {p2} end
  thread {p3} end
```

- Inherent linear overhead to reversibility in a concurrent setting
  - Tied to non-determinism
- Scope for exploiting determinism
  - towards classical tradeoff: granularity of rollback / space overhead

# Roadmap

- 1 The case for reversibility
- 2 A small reversible concurrent language
- 3 Adding rollback and compensations
- 4 An abstract machine for a reversible concurrent language
- 5 Perspectives**



# Much work remains

- Behavioral theory for  $\text{croll-}\pi$ 
  - contextual equivalence, bisimulation proof techniques, etc
- Primitives for reversibility control and compensation
  - e.g. encoding BPM compensation schemes in variants of  $\text{croll-}\pi$
- Primitives for general transactional constructs
  - what about isolation ?
- Taking localities into account
  - modularity constructs (components), distribution
- Reversible language design and implementation
  - exception handling as rollback/compensation, contracts for reversible components, etc
  - garbage collection and debugging in a reversible language
  - multicore reversible virtual machine, associated algorithms, etc

Thank you for your attention

Questions ?