The Fusion Machine

(extended abstract)

Philippa Gardner Cosimo Laneve Lucian Wischik March 27, 2002

Abstract. We present a new model for the distributed implementation of pilike calculi. This model is a close match to a variety of calculi, and so permits strong correctness results that are easy to prove. In particular, we describe a distributed abstract machine called the *fusion machine*. In it, only channels exist at runtime. It uses a form of concurrent constraints called *fusions*—equations on channel names—which it stores as trees of forwarders between channels. We implement in the fusion machine a solos calculus with explicit fusions. There are encodings into this calculus from the pi calculus and the explicit fusion calculus. We quantify the efficiency of the latter by means of (co-)locations.

1 Introduction

The pi calculus has become a dominant calculus in the field of concurrency, with many variants. Despite this, there have been only two distributed implementations of it: Facile [7] which integrates it with the lambda calculus; and an encoding into the join calculus [4] which is then implemented on Jocaml [3]. Other implementations [20, 5] have not used the pi calculus for distributed interaction, for two reasons. First, synchronous rendezvous (as found in the pi calculus) seemed awkward to implement. Second, the pi calculus has no built-in notation for locations. Behind both objections there is the implicit assumption of a particular implementation model: that groups of programs exist at runtime at locations, and interact with each other.

However, there is a different implementation model for process calculi which seems to avoid the objections, and which leads to a much closer connection between implementation and calculi. In this paper we describe the model by presenting the *fusion machine*, a distributed abstract machine. We substantiate the claim of 'closeness' with two proofs of barbed bisimulation congruence, between calculi and the abstract machine, which are stronger than equivalent results for other implementations. Our motivation is that pi-like calculi seem so easy to use for concurrent and distributed programming that they are worth implementing directly.

In the fusion machine, only *channels* exist at runtime. Channels may be remote, or co-located with other channels. Each channel may contain fragments of code—either waiting to be executed, or waiting to rendezvous at the channel. Execution amounts to the *heating* of a term (a directed implementation of structural congruence). In this respect, the fusion machine is like a distributed

version of the channel machine first described by Cardelli [2] and later used in Pict [13, 16]. In the fusion machine, rendezvous can result in *explicit fusions*, namely equational concurrent constraints on names. Upon heating, these give rise to forwarders between channels.

The fusion machine differs from the Facile and Jocaml machines. Facile uses two classes of distributed entities: (co-)located programs which execute, and channel-managers which mediate interaction. This forces it to use a hand-shake discipline for rendezvous. Jocaml simplifies the model by combining programs with channel-managers. However, it uses a quite different form of interaction, not so closely related to pi calculus rendezvous. It also forces a coarser granularity of distribution in which each distributed entity must manage several channels. Like Jocaml, the fusion machine combines programs with channel-managers. Unlike it, the fusion machine has finer granularity and uses the same form of interaction as the pi calculus.

The fusion machine is a flexible machine able to implement directly—without encoding—several pi-like calculi and (following [17]) some concurrent constraint calculi. In particular, it implements the synchronous and asynchronous pi calculus, and the explicit fusion calculus [6]. Because the fusion machine is so close to the calculi, strong congruence results are possible and easy to prove. We believe that the machine can be adapted to provide a distributed implementation model for other pi-like calculi as well, and to evaluate the efficiency of encodings and highlight problems. For instance, we find that the fusion calculus [11] and the solos calculus [9] are difficult to implement because they only allow reaction after a global search for restricted names. They can be seen as 'lazy' models for the fusion machine. Using the machine as an implementation model, it should also be possible to see how a variety of run-time failures can be represented as transitions in a calculus.

In the fusion machine, continuation-closures are an issue. To understand why, consider first the single-processor machine used by Cardelli and in Pict. In this machine, after a program is involved in rendezvous, a pointer to its continuation-closure is sent on to another channel for subsequent rendezvous. But the fusion machine, because it is distributed, would require the entire continuation closure to be sent between channel-managers (rather than just a pointer). However, we wish to keep messages short. Therefore, we focus on a sub-calculus with limited continuations—the explicit solos calculus. Nevertheless, we demonstrate that the explicit solos calculus is as expressive as the full calculus with continuations. This is provided by an encoding which is uniform and strongly barbed congruent. The encoding has been inspired by earlier works in [12, 9].

We also introduce a formal technique to argue about efficiency in the machine, in terms of the number of network messages required to execute a program. As an example, we quantify the efficiency impact of our encoding into explicit solos: it does no worse than doubling the total message count.

We have built a prototype implementation of the fusion machine [19], and we are currently working on a full distributed implementation. We also plan to build richer programming languages based on the machine, possibly incorporating transactions, failures and migration.

The structure of the paper is as follows. Section 2 describes a distributed version of the channel-machine, closely connected to the pi calculus. Section 3 presents the fusion machine, which is closer to the explicit fusion calculus and solos

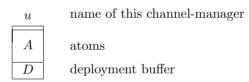
calculus. Section 4 gives it a formal theory, and includes full abstraction results. Section 5 adds a model of co-location to the machine, and uses this in a proof of efficiency.

2 The distributed channel machine

Cardelli described an abstract machine for synchronous rendezvous which runs in a single thread of execution, in a shared address space. It contains *channel-managers*, each of which contains pointers to programs; these programs are waiting to rendezvous on the channel. It also contains a *deployment buffer* of pointers to programs ready to be executed. The mode of operation of the machine is to move pointers between the channels and the deployment buffer.

To make it distributed, we instead assume a collection of located channel-managers which run in parallel and which interact. Each channel-manager has its own thread of execution, its own address space and its own deployment buffer. The mode of operation of a channel-manager is either to send some fragments across the network to other channel-managers, or to execute other fragments locally.

Assume a set of channel names ranged over by u, v, w, x, y, z. These might be Internet Protocol numbers and port numbers. At each location there is a channel-manager for exactly one channel name. We therefore identify locations, channels and names. Each channel-manager is made from two parts: atoms (A) which are waiting to rendezvous on the channel, and a deployment buffer (D) of terms ready to be executed. We picture it as follows:



The *atoms* are a collection of output atoms $\operatorname{out} x.P$ and a separate collection of input atoms $\operatorname{in}(x).P$. In general they may be polyadic (communicating several names); but in this section we stick to monadic (single names) atoms for simplicity. The *deployment buffer* is a collection of terms (in this section, terms in the pi calculus).

As an example, the following machine is one representation of the pi calculus program $\overline{u}x.P \mid u(y).Q \mid \overline{v}x.R \mid v(y).S$. Observe that each action $\overline{u}x.P$ is represented either as an atom at location u, or in the deployment buffer of any location.

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\hline u & v \\ \hline \hline \text{out} x.P \\ \hline \text{in}(y).Q \\ \hline \overline{v} \, x.R \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}\hline \text{in}(y).S \\ \hline - \\ \hline \end{array}$$

There are two kinds of transition for each channel-manager. First, two matching atoms at the same location can *react*:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} u & u \\ \hline \text{out} x.P \\ \text{in}(y).Q;A \\ \hline D & D; P; Q\{x\!/\!y\} \end{array}$$
 (react)

(If a replicated input or output atom were involved in the reaction, then a copy of it would be left behind.) Second, program fragments from the deployment buffer might be deployed. This is also called *heating* in the process calculus literature.

These heating transitions are all straightforward. They take a program fragment from the deployment buffer, and either break it down further or send it to the correct place on the network. Cardelli's non-distributed machine uses similar rules with minor differences: it uses just a single deployment buffer shared by all channel-managers; and because it uses a shared address space, it merely moves pointers rather than entire program fragments.

As for the restriction operator (z)P, it has three roles. First, it is a command which creates a new, globally unique channel—a fresh name. Second, through rules for alpha-renaming and scope extrusion, it indicates that an existing name should be understood to be globally unique, even though it might be syntactically written with a non-unique symbol. This second role is not relevant to an implementation. Third, it indicates that an existing channel is private, so that a separately-compiled program cannot refer to it by name. For example, it might mean that a machine is not listed in the Internet's Domain Name Service. We will write (z) to indicate a channel z that is not listed. The deployment of restrictions is as follows:

Theorem 1 (Full abstraction) Two programs are (strongly barbed) congruent in the pi calculus if and only if they are (strongly barbed) congruent in the distributed channel machine.

This straightforward theorem holds for both the single-processor channel machine and the distributed channel-machine, but as far as we know it has not been given before in the literature. (Cardelli's description of the channel machine anticipated the pi calculus by several years.) We provide the proof in the appendix. Sewell has given a weaker result for the version of the machine used in Pict [14].

We remark that the full abstraction result for the join calculus is weaker than Theorem 1. This is because the join calculus encodes each pi channel with two join calculus channels that obey a particular protocol. Without a firewall, an encoded program would be vulnerable to any context which violates the protocol. Technically, the join calculus encoding is non-uniform as defined by Palamidessi [10]. As for the channel machine, we encode a pi-calculus term P by deploying it in a dummy machine x[P]. Strictly speaking this is also a non-uniform encoding—but we could make it uniform by adding a structural rule $x[P], x[Q] \equiv x[P;Q]$. Such a rule would be usual in a calculus, but is not relevant in an implementation where different machines have different names by construction. Therefore we do not use it.

Efficiency of continuations

This distributed version of the channel machine suffers from an efficiency problem. Consider for example the program $\overline{u}.\overline{v}.\overline{x}.\overline{y} \mid u.v.x.y.P$. In the machine, the continuation P would be transported first to u, then v, then v, then v. This is undesirable if the continuation P is large.

There have been two encodings of the pi calculus into a limited calculus without nested continuations. These might solve the efficiency problem. The first encoding, by Parrow [12], uses a sub-calculus of the pi calculus which uses only $trios\ u(\widetilde{x}).v(y).\overline{w}\,y\widetilde{x}$ and $u(\widetilde{x}).\overline{v}\,y.\overline{w}\,\widetilde{x}$. An encoded term could then be executed directly on the distributed channel machine. Note that this encoding amounts to transporting the entire environment to every continuation.

The second encoding is based upon the fusion calculus of Parrow and Victor [11], a calculus in which the input command $u\tilde{y}.P$ is not binding. The encoding [9] uses the sub-calculus with only solos $\overline{u}\tilde{x}$ and $u\tilde{x}$. It uses the reaction relation

$$(\widetilde{z})(\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}\mid u\widetilde{y}\mid R) \rightarrow R\sigma$$

where every equivalence class generated by $\tilde{x} = \tilde{y}$ has exactly one element not in \tilde{z} , and the substitution σ collapses each equivalence class to its one element.

A single-processor implementation of solos has been described [8]. However, it seems difficult to make a distributed implementation. This is because its reaction is not local: the channel-manager at u must look in the global environment to find sufficient names (\tilde{z}) before it can allow reaction. Instead, we implement the solos calculus with the *explicit fusions* of Gardner and Wischik [6]. This allows local reaction as follows:

$$\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}\mid u\,\widetilde{y}\mid R \ \to \ \widetilde{x}\text{-}\widetilde{y}\mid R.$$

The term \widetilde{x} - \widetilde{y} is called an explicit fusion. It has delayed substitutive effect on the rest of the term R. In this respect it is similar to explicit *substitutions* [1]. As an example, in $\overline{u}x \mid vy \mid u$ -v, the atom on u may be renamed to v. This yields

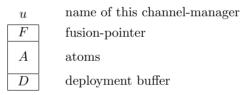
 $\overline{v} x \mid v y \mid u = v$. In contrast to Parrow's trios (which send the entire environment to every continuation), explicit fusions amount to a shared environment.

In fact, we prefer to use terms $\overline{u}\widetilde{x}.\phi$ and $u\widetilde{x}.\phi$ where ϕ is an explicit fusion continuation—instead of the arbitrary continuations of the channel machine, or the triple continuations of trios, or the empty continuations of the solos calculus. Technically, these fusion continuations allow for an encoding of arbitrary continuations that is uniform and a strong bisimulation congruence (Section 5).

3 Fusion machine

In general, explicit fusions generate an equivalence relation on names such that any related names may react together. However, in our distributed setting, different names correspond to channel managers at different locations. If two (remote) atoms are related by the equivalence relation, we must send them to a common location in the network so they can react together. The decision as to where to send them must be taken locally. The problem is to find a data structure and algorithm that allows such local decisions.

The data structure we use to represent each equivalence class is a directed tree. Then each channel can send its atoms to its parent, and related atoms are guaranteed to arrive eventually at a common ancestor. To store this tree, let each channel-manager contain a fusion pointer to its parent:



The rule for sending an atom to a parent is called *migration*. (We write m to stand for either in or out).

To update the tree (i.e. to deploy a fusion term), we use a distributed version of Tarjan's *union find* algorithm [15]. This assumes a total order on names, perhaps arising from their Internet Protocol number and port number. The algorithm is implemented with just a single heating rule:

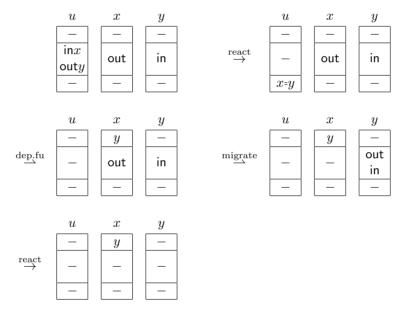
where x < y and, if x had no fusion pointer z originally, then we omit y=z from the result. This rule amounts to u sending to x the message "fuse yourself to y". To understand this rule, note that it preserves the invariant that the tree

of names respects the total order on names, with greater names closer to the root. Therefore, each (dep.fu) transition takes a fusion progressively closer to the root, and the algorithm necessarily terminates. The effect is a distributed, concurrent algorithm for merging two trees.

Finally, we give the modified reaction rule which works with non-binding input and output.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} u & u \\ \hline F \\ \hline \text{out} x.\phi \\ \text{in} y.\psi; \ A \\ \hline D & \hline \\ \hline x=y; \phi; \psi, D \\ \hline \end{array}$$
 (react)

The following worked example illustrates $\overline{u}x \mid uy \mid \overline{x} \mid y \rightarrow^* x - y$.



Replication

We ultimately imagine a hybrid machine which uses both continuations (as in the previous section) and fusions (as in this section). It will use continuations for guarded replication, and perhaps also when the continuations are small enough to be efficient; at other times it will use fusions. The two areas are largely unrelated. Therefore, for simplicity, our formal treatment of the machine (next section) omits replication and continuations. A formal account of the full hybrid machine may be found in [18]. Also, the efficiency results in Section 5 refer to the hybrid machine.

It is possible to implement replication without continuations, as shown in [9]. First, encode the guarded replication !u(x).P as $!(\widetilde{z})(u\,\widetilde{x}\mid P')$, where $u\,\widetilde{x}$ is the only unrestricted solo. Then remove the structural rule $!P\equiv P|!P$ and deal with reaction by means of ad-hoc rules—for instance, $\overline{u}\,y\mid !(x)(u\,x\mid P)$ reduces to $P\{y\!/x\}\mid !(x)(u\,x\mid P)$. In the machine, this would require a new form of atom $!(\operatorname{in} x|P)$. Its implementation would be substantially the same as those for guarded replication $!\operatorname{in} x.P$.

Parrow's trios show how the size of a guarded replication $\ln x.P$ can be kept small [12]. A similar result [8] applies to solo replication $\ln x.P$.

4 Fusion machine theory

We now develop a formalism for the fusion machine. We use this to prove that it is a fully abstract implementation of the *explicit solos calculus* (Table 1). For simplicity, we consider the calculus without replication.

We assume a countably infinite set \mathcal{N} of names with a total order, ranged over by u,v,w,x,y,z. Let p range over $\{-\}\cup\mathcal{N}$, denoting pointers which may be nil. We use the abbreviation \widetilde{x} for tuples x_1,\dots,x_n , and $\widetilde{x}=\widetilde{y}$ for $x_1=y_1|\dots|x_n=y_n$. Let ϕ,ψ range over explicit fusions $\widetilde{x}=\widetilde{y}$, and let m range over $\{\text{out}, \text{in}\}$.

Definition 2 (Fusion machine) Fusion machines M, bodies B, and terms P are defined by the following grammar:

The basic channel-manager x[p:B] denotes a channel-manager at channel x containing a fusion pointer to p and a body B. This body is an unordered collection of atoms $m\widetilde{x}.\phi$ and terms P; it combines the atoms and deployment buffer of the previous section. The local channel-manager (x)[p:B] denotes a channel-manager where the name x is not visible outside the machine. When not relevant, we omit parentheses (\cdot) to address generically channel managers which may be local or global. We also omit the fusion-pointer x[B] to stand for a machine with some unspecified fusion pointer. We write chan M to denote the set of names of all channel-managers in the machine, and lchan M for the names of only the local channel-managers. We write x[] for x[0]. In terms, the restriction operator (x)P binds x in P; x is free in a term if it occurs unbound. We write fn P to denote the set of free names in P.

There are two well-formedness conditions on machines. First, recall from the previous section that there is exactly one channel-manager per channel. In the calculus, we say that a machine $x_1[B_1], \cdots, x_n[B_n]$ is singly-defined when $i \neq j$ implies $x_i \neq x_j$. Second, it does not make sense to write a program that refers to a machine which does not exist. We say that a machine is complete when it has no such 'dangling pointers'. Formally, define ptr M to be the smallest set containing all free names in all terms in the machine, and all non-nil fusion pointers, and all names occurring in any atom $m\tilde{x}.\phi$. Then a machine M is complete if $ptr M \subseteq chan M$. A machine is well-formed when it is both singly-defined and complete. In the following, we consider only well-formed machines. In particular, when we write x[P] it is shorthand for the (well-formed) machine $x[-:P], y_1[], \cdots y_n[]$ where $\{y_1, \cdots, y_n\} = fn(P) \setminus x$. Here, x stands for an arbitrary location where the user of the machine first deploys the program P.

Definition 3 (Structural congruence) The structural congruence between machines and $atoms \equiv is$ the least congruence and equivalence satisfying

1. Abelian monoid laws with
$$\mathbf{0}$$
 as unit $M, \mathbf{0} \equiv M$ $M_1, M_2 \equiv M_2, M_1$ $M_1, (M_2, M_3) \equiv (M_1, M_2), M_3$ $B; \mathbf{0} \equiv B$ $B_1; B_2 \equiv B_2; B_1$ $B_1; (B_2; B_3) \equiv (B_1; B_2); B_3$

Terms P and contexts E in the explicit solos calculus are given by

Structural congruence on terms \equiv is the smallest congruence satisfying the following:

$$\begin{split} P|\mathbf{0} &\equiv \mathbf{0} \quad P|Q \equiv Q|P \quad P|(Q|R) \equiv (P|Q)|R \\ x = x \equiv \mathbf{0} \quad x = y \equiv y = x \quad x = y \mid y = z \equiv x = z \mid y = z \quad (x)(x = y) \equiv \mathbf{0} \\ (x)(y)P &\equiv (y)(x)P \quad (x)(P|Q) \equiv (x)P \mid Q \text{ if } x \not\in \text{fn}(Q) \\ x = y \mid P \equiv x = y \mid P\{y \mid x\} \end{split}$$

Reaction relation is the smallest relation \rightarrow satisfying the following, and which is closed with respect to \equiv and contexts:

$$\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.\phi \mid u\,\widetilde{y}.\psi \rightarrow \widetilde{x}=\widetilde{y} \mid \phi \mid \psi$$

Observation $P \downarrow u$ is the smallest relation satisfying

$$\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.\phi\downarrow u \qquad \qquad P\mid Q\downarrow u \quad \text{if } P\downarrow u \\ u\,\widetilde{x}.\phi\downarrow u \qquad \qquad (x)P\downarrow u \quad \text{if } P\downarrow u \text{ and } u\neq x \\ Q\downarrow u \quad \text{if } Q\equiv P\downarrow u$$

The explicit fusion calculus is obtained by allowing arbitrary continuations and replication, with $!P \equiv P|!P$.

Bisimulation is as usual. A relation $\mathcal S$ is a strong barbed bisimulation if whenever $P \ \mathcal S \ Q$ then

- $P \downarrow u$ if and only if $Q \downarrow u$
- if $P \to P'$ then $Q \to Q'$ such that $P' \mathcal{S} Q'$
- if $Q \to Q'$ then $P \to P'$ such that $P' \mathcal{S} Q'$

Barbed congruence $P \sim Q$ holds whenever, for all contexts $E, E[P] \sim E[Q]$, where \sim is the largest bisimulation.

Table 1: The explicit solos calculus

2. Fusion laws
$$x=x \equiv \mathbf{0}$$
 $x=y \equiv y=x$

The fusion laws are a syntactic convenience, allowing us to write a fusion x=y without explicitly stating that x and y are distinct names in a particular order. To the same end, we also let x= stand for $\mathbf{0}$. There is no need to incorporate the calculus congruence $P \equiv Q$ into the machine congruence: the heating of a term is already implemented by the machine transitions.

It is easy to show that all rules in the structural congruence preserve well-formedness.

Definition 4 (Transitions) The reduction transition \rightarrow and the heating transition \rightarrow are the smallest relations satisfying the rules below, and closed with respect to structural congruence. Each rule addresses generically both free and local channel-managers.

$$u[\mathsf{out}\widetilde{x}.\phi;\mathsf{in}\widetilde{y}.\psi;B] \rightarrow u[\widetilde{x}\widetilde{-}\widetilde{y};\phi;\psi;B]$$
 (react)

For every transition rule above, we close it under contexts:

$$\frac{M \to M', \quad \operatorname{chan} M' \cap \operatorname{chan} N = \emptyset}{M, N \to M', N} \qquad \frac{M \rightharpoonup M', \quad \operatorname{chan} M' \cap \operatorname{chan} N = \emptyset}{M, N \rightharpoonup M', N}$$

It is easy to show that all transition rules preserve well-formedness. In respect of this, note that (dep.new) generates a fresh name so as to preserve single-definition, and the context closure rule forces this name to be globally fresh.

Bisimulation

We now define barbed bisimulation on machines.

Definition 5 (Observation) The internal observation $M \downarrow u$ is the smallest relation closed with respect to structural congruence and satisfying

$$u[\mathsf{m}\widetilde{x}.\phi;B]\downarrow u$$

 $u[v:B],M\downarrow u\quad if\ M\downarrow v$
 $M_1,M_2\downarrow u\quad if\ M_1\downarrow u\ or\ M_2\downarrow u$

The external observation $M \Downarrow u$ holds if $M \rightharpoonup^* M'$ such that $M' \downarrow u$ and $u \notin \operatorname{lchan} M'$.

This is standard apart from the middle rule. To understand it, consider the example $u[v:], v[\mathsf{out} x]$. This corresponds to the calculus term $u=v \mid \overline{v} x$, which has an observation on u because of the explicit fusion. So too we wish the machine to have an observation on u. As for the reverse case, of $u[v:\mathsf{out} x], v[]$ being observable on v, this is observable after a single heating transition.

The symbol \downarrow is generally used for *weak* observation, which is blind to internal reactions. Note however that our external observation \downarrow is *strong* with respect to reactions, but weak with respect to heating. Similarly, we write \Rightarrow for $\rightharpoonup^* \rightarrow \rightharpoonup^*$.

Definition 6 (Bisimulation) A (strong) barbed bisimulation S between machines is a relation such that if M S N then

- 1. $M \Downarrow u$ if and only if $N \Downarrow u$
- 2. $M \Rightarrow M'$ implies there exists N' such that $N \Rightarrow N'$ and $M' \otimes N'$
- 3. $N \Rightarrow N'$ implies there exists M' such that $M \Rightarrow M'$ and $M' \mathcal{S} N'$

Let \sim , called barbed bisimilarity, be the largest barbed bisimulation.

Theorem 7 (Correctness)

- 1. For programs P and Q in the explicit solos calculus, $P \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} Q$ if and only if $x[P] \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} x[Q]$.
- 2. There is a translation $(\cdot)^*$ from the pi calculus into the explicit solos calculus such that, for programs P and Q in the pi calculus without replication, $P \stackrel{.}{\sim} Q$ if and only if $x[P^*] \stackrel{.}{\sim} x[Q^*]$.

Sketch Proof. Consider the translation $\operatorname{\mathsf{calc}} M$ from machines to terms in the explicit solos calculus, defined by $\operatorname{\mathsf{calc}} M = (\operatorname{\mathsf{Ichan}} M)[\![M]\!]$ where

It is straightforward to show that machine heating transitions imply structural congruence in the calculus, and that machine barbs and reactions imply barbs and reactions in the calculus.

The proof of the reverse direction is more difficult. Given $\operatorname{calc} M \downarrow u$, then there is also a machine M' in which all the deployable terms in M have been deployed such that $\operatorname{calc} M' \downarrow u$. We now consider the fusion pointers in M'. Let us write $u \leadsto v$ if there is a sequence of fusion pointers from u to v. Note that all transitions preserve the following properties of this relation: it is anti-reflexive, anti-symmetric and transitive, it respects the order on names $(x \leadsto y \text{ implies } x < y)$ and it is confluent $(x \leadsto y \text{ and } x \leadsto z \text{ implies } y \leadsto z \text{ or } z \leadsto y \text{ or } y = z)$. We are therefore justified in talking about a tree of fusion pointers. With this tree it is easy to prove that if $\operatorname{calc} M' \downarrow u$, then also $M' \downarrow u$. It is a similar matter to show that the machine preserves calculus reactions.

Therefore, the translation calc preserves observation and reaction, and so calc $M \sim \operatorname{calc} N$ if and only if $M \sim N$. The first part of the theorem is just a special case of this, since $\operatorname{calc} x[P] \equiv P$.

As for the pi calculus result, we refer to Corollary 66 and Proposition 101 of [18]. Together these provide a translation from the pi calculus into the explicit solos calculus which preserves strong barbed bisimulation.

We now consider behavioural congruence. In this paper, our goal is that the fusion machine should provide an operational semantics for calculus programs: i.e. we wish to study how programs behave when placed in a machine. To this end, we define contexts E_m for the machine where holes are filled with terms.

Definition 8 (Contexts) Machine contexts E_m are given by

$$E_m ::= x[p:E_b] \mid (x)[p:E_b] \mid E_m, M \mid M, E_m$$

$$E_b ::= \mid B; E_b \mid E_b; B$$

When we write $E_m[P]$, we implicitly assume it to be well-formed. The machine equivalence is defined as follows:

Definition 9 (Equivalence) Two terms are judged equivalent by the machine, $P \sim_m Q$, if and only if for every context E_m , $E_m[P] \stackrel{.}{\sim} E_m[Q]$.

Theorem 10 (Full abstraction) For terms P and Q in the explicit solos calculus, $P \sim Q$ if and only if $P \sim_m Q$.

Sketch Proof. In the forward direction, we extend the translation calc to contexts in the obvious way. Then, given a machine context E_m , we can construct a calculus context $E = \operatorname{calc} E_m$ such that, for every P, $\operatorname{calc}(E_m[P]) \equiv E[P]$.

The reverse direction is not so straightforward. Consider for example the context $E=\overline{u}\,x\mid(x)$. This has no direct equivalent in the machine: it is impossible in the machine for x to be a local channel-manager whose scope includes a hole, and also at the same time a free name. Instead, given a context E which can discriminate between P and Q, we will construct another context $E'=\overline{u}\,x'\mid(x)$ which also discriminates them, and which has no clash of names; therefore it can be represented in the machine.

Technically, we will define a translation $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\widetilde{y}}$ from calculus contexts E to triples $(\sigma, \widetilde{z}, R)$. This translation pushes out the bindings that surround the hole in E. In order to accomplish this structurally, we keep all the binders in \widetilde{z} (suitably renamed to avoid clashes), and collect the necessary renamings of free names in σ . The intention is that for any terms P and Q, then $E[P] \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} E[Q]$ if and only if $(\widetilde{z})(R|P) \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} (\widetilde{z})(R|Q)$, where $\llbracket E \rrbracket_{\widetilde{y}} = (\sigma, \widetilde{z}, R)$ and \widetilde{y} contains all the names occurring in E, P, and Q. The translation is defined as follows:

$$\begin{split} & \mathbb{L} \mathbb{J}_{\widetilde{y}} = (\emptyset, \emptyset, \mathbf{0}) \\ & \mathbb{E}[S]_{\widetilde{y}} = (\sigma, \widetilde{z}, S\sigma | R) & \text{where } \mathbb{E}[E]_{\widetilde{y}} = (\sigma, \widetilde{z}, R) \\ & \mathbb{I}(x)E \mathbb{J}_{\widetilde{y}} = \begin{cases} (\sigma[x \mapsto x'], \widetilde{z}x, R) & \text{if } x \not\in \widetilde{z} \\ (\sigma[x \mapsto x'], (\widetilde{z}, \sigma(x)), R) & \text{if } x \in \widetilde{z} \end{cases} & \text{where } \mathbb{E}[E]_{\widetilde{y}} = (\sigma, \widetilde{z}, R) \\ & \text{and } x' \not\in \{\widetilde{y}, \widetilde{z}, \operatorname{ran} \sigma\} \end{split}$$

We can prove that the contexts E and $(\widetilde{z})(R|_{-})$ are equivalent up to renaming by σ . Since σ is by definition injective, the contexts have the same discriminating power. Hence, so does the machine context $E_m = (z_1)[], \ldots (z_n)[], x[R;_{-}].$

Unsurprisingly, full abstraction does not also hold for the pi calculus: it is known that pi calculus congruence is not closed with respect to substitution, whereas explicit fusion contexts always allow substitution.

5 Co-location

We now refine the abstract machine with (co-)locations, to allow practical reasoning about efficiency. When two machines are running at the same physical location, and share an address space, we draw their diagrams as physically adjacent:

u	$\boldsymbol{\upsilon}$			
F	F'			
A	A'			
D	D'			

Some optimisations are possible in this case. First, it is possible to migrate or deploy an arbitrarily large number of terms to an adjacent machine, in constant time and without requiring any inter-location messages. Second, we can use just a single thread to handle both channels. In the degenerate case, where all a machine's channels are at the same location and handled by just a single thread, the machine is essentially the same as Cardelli's single-processor machine.

Co-location might be programmed with a located restriction command in the calculus, written (x@y)P, to indicate that the new channel x should be created physically adjacent to y. The deployment transition is

u	y		u	(x')	y	
F	F'		F	_	F'	
A	A'	\rightarrow	A	_	A'	(dep.new.at)
(x@y)P;D	D'		$P\{x'/x\};D$	_	D'	

(To implement this efficiently, without sending any inter-location messages, we assume that u is able to generate the fresh channel name x' locally—even though that x' will reside outwith u. We could implement this by letting each channel name incorporate a Globally Unique Identifier.)

Note that bound input, as found in the distributed version of the channel machine, allows new names to be created at a location chosen at runtime. For instance, $\mathsf{in}(x).(y@x)P$ will create the name y at the location of whichever name substitutes x. By contrast, a fusion machine without bound input has no way to chose locations at runtime. Therefore we should extend the machine with bound input.

Co-location used in encoding continuations

As discussed in Section 3, we ultimately imagine a machine which uses both continuations and fusions, and which uses them to implement the full pi calculus and explicit fusion calculus with nested continuations. To avoid the cost of repeatedly transporting continuations, an optimising compiler can encode a term with nested continuations into one without. This section describes our encoding and discusses its efficiency.

Two different encodings have been given previously [12, 9]. The distinguishing features of ours are that it is a strong congruence rather than just preserving weak congruence, it is uniform, and it uses co-location for increased efficiency. As an example, we encode the term $\overline{u}.(\overline{v} \mid v)$ as

$$(v'@v, v''@v)(\overline{u}.(v=v'=v'') \mid \overline{v}' \mid v'').$$

Note that the commands \overline{v}' and v'' will necessarily remain idle until after \overline{u} has reacted. Then, since v' and v'' are co-located with v, it will take no inter-location messages to migrate them to v.

Technically, we will relate terms P to triples of the form (\tilde{x}, ϕ, P') . This triple should be understood as the term $(\tilde{x})(\phi|P')$ in which P' contains no nested actions or unguarded explicit fusions, and the located restrictions \tilde{x} are alpha-renamable.

Definition 11 The function flat \cdot from terms in the explicit fusion calculus to terms in the explicit solos calculus is as follows. It makes use of an auxiliary translation $[\cdot]$ from terms in the explicit fusion calculus to triples (\tilde{x}, ϕ, P') , where \tilde{x} ranges over located restrictions and normal restrictions.

Theorem 12 For any term P in the explicit fusion calculus, $P \sim \text{flat } P$.

This encoding is only defined on terms without replication. However, the encoding is a congruence even within replicated contexts. For instance, $!\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.P \sim !\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.(\mathsf{flat}\,P)$. Therefore, an optimising compiler can locally encode any part of a program, without needing to encode it all. The proof is substantial; it may be found in [18].

Theorem 13 If x[P] takes n inter-location messages to evolve to M' in the fusion machine with continuations, then $x[\mathsf{flat}\,P]$ need take no more than 2n inter-location messages in the machine without continuations to evolve to N', such that $M' \stackrel{.}{\sim} N'$.

Sketch Proof. First, annotate the machine transitions from Definition 4 with 0 or 1 to indicate their cost. For instance, migration $u[v:\mathsf{out}x]$, $v[] \rightharpoonup^0 u[v:]$, $v[\mathsf{out}x]$ takes no messages if u and v are co-located, and one message \rightharpoonup^1 otherwise. Then, define an costed simulation relation where P S Q implies that transitions $P \to^i P'$ or $P \rightharpoonup^i P'$ can be matched by transitions in Q of cost no greater than 2i. Construct $S = \{(M, N)\}$ where for each term P contained in a channel-manager in M, then N contains flat P in any channel-manager. Then S is a costed simulation.

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Appendix. The distributed channel machine

Definition 14 (Distributed channel machine) Machines C are defined by

Contexts E_c are defined by

$$\begin{array}{lll} E_c & ::= & x[E_b] \mid (x)[E_b] \mid E_c, C \mid C, E_c \\ E_b & ::= & \operatorname{out} \widetilde{x}.E_p \mid !\operatorname{out} \widetilde{x}.E_p \mid \operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).E_p \mid !\operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).E_p \mid E_p \mid B; E_b \mid E_b; B \\ E_p & ::= & _ \mid \overline{u} \, \widetilde{x}.E_p \mid !\overline{u} \, \widetilde{x}.E_p \mid u(\widetilde{x}).E_p \mid !u(\widetilde{x}).E_p \mid (x)E_p \mid E_p | P \mid P | E_p \end{array}$$

The structural congruence \equiv between machines and atoms is the least congruence and equivalence satisfying the Abelian monoid laws with $\mathbf{0}$ as unit:

$$M, \mathbf{0} \equiv M$$
 $M_1, M_2 \equiv M_2, M_1$ $M_1, (M_2, M_3) \equiv (M_1, M_2), M_3$ $B; \mathbf{0} \equiv B$ $B_1; B_2 \equiv B_2; B_1$ $B_1; (B_2; B_3) \equiv (B_1; B_2); B_3$

The channels and local channels of a machine are defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{chan} \mathbf{0} &= \emptyset & \operatorname{lchan} \mathbf{0} &= \emptyset \\ \operatorname{chan} x[B] &= \{x\} & \operatorname{lchan} x[B] &= \emptyset \\ \operatorname{chan}(x)[B] &= \{x\} & \operatorname{lchan}(x)[B] &= \{x\} \\ \operatorname{chan} C_1, C_2 &= \operatorname{chan} C_1 \cup \operatorname{chan} C_2 & \operatorname{lchan} C_1, C_2 &= \operatorname{lchan} C_1 \cup \operatorname{lchan} C_2 \end{aligned}$$

The pointers of a machine are defined by:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \operatorname{ptr} \mathbf{0} = \emptyset & \operatorname{ptr} \operatorname{out} \widetilde{x}.P = \operatorname{ptr} \operatorname{!out} \widetilde{x}.P = \{\widetilde{x}\} \cup \operatorname{fn} P \\ \operatorname{ptr} x[B] = \operatorname{ptr} B & \operatorname{ptr} \operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).P = \operatorname{ptr} \operatorname{!in}(\widetilde{x}).P = \operatorname{fn} P \backslash \{\widetilde{x}\} \\ \operatorname{ptr}(x)[B] = \operatorname{ptr} B & \operatorname{ptr} P = \operatorname{fn} P \\ \operatorname{ptr} C_1, C_2 = \operatorname{ptr} C_1 \cup \operatorname{ptr} C_2 & \operatorname{ptr} B_1; B_2 = \operatorname{ptr} B_1 \cup \operatorname{ptr} B_2 \end{array}$$

The transition relation \rightarrow and the heating relation \rightarrow are the smallest relations satisfying the rules below, and closed with respect to structural congruence.

$$u[\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.P;B] \rightharpoonup u[\operatorname{out}\widetilde{x}.P;B] \qquad (\operatorname{dep.out}')$$

$$u[!u(\widetilde{x}).P;B] \rightharpoonup u[!\operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).P;B] \qquad (\operatorname{dep.rin}')$$

$$u[!\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.P;B] \rightharpoonup u[!\operatorname{out}\widetilde{x}.P;B] \qquad (\operatorname{dep.rout}')$$

$$u[(x)P;B] \rightharpoonup u[P\{x'/x\};B], (x')[], x' \text{ fresh} \qquad (\operatorname{dep.new})$$

$$u[P|Q;B] \rightharpoonup u[P;Q;B] \qquad (\operatorname{dep.par})$$

$$u[\mathbf{0};B] \rightharpoonup u[B] \qquad (\operatorname{dep.nil})$$

For every transition rule above, we close it under contexts:

$$\frac{M \to M', \quad \operatorname{chan} M' \cap \operatorname{chan} N = \emptyset}{M, N \to M', N} \qquad \frac{M \rightharpoonup M', \quad \operatorname{chan} M' \cap \operatorname{chan} N = \emptyset}{M, N \rightharpoonup M', N}$$

The external observation $M \downarrow u$ holds when $u \notin \mathsf{lchan}\, M$ and

$$\begin{split} u[B_1 \mid \mathsf{out} \widetilde{x}.\phi \mid B_2] \downarrow u \\ u[B_1 \mid \mathsf{in}(\widetilde{x}).\phi \mid B_2] \downarrow u \\ u[B_1 \mid !\mathsf{out} \widetilde{x}.\phi \mid B_2] \downarrow u \\ u[B_1 \mid !\mathsf{in}(\widetilde{x}).\phi \mid B_2] \downarrow u \\ M_1, M_2 \downarrow u \quad \textit{if } M_1 \downarrow u \; \textit{or } M_2 \downarrow u \end{split}$$

We write \Rightarrow for $\rightharpoonup^* \rightarrow \rightharpoonup^*$, and $M \downarrow u$ for $M \rightharpoonup^* \downarrow u$.

A machine $M=x_1[B_1],\cdots,x_n[B_n]$ is singly-defined when $i\neq j$ implies $x_i\neq x_j$, it is complete when $\operatorname{ptr} M\subseteq\operatorname{chan} M$, and it is well-formed when it is both singly-defined and complete. In the following, we consider only well-formed machines.

Barbed bisimulation and congruence are defined in the usual way:

Definition 15 A (strong) barbed bisimulation S between machines is a relation such that if M S N then

- 1. $M \Downarrow u$ if and only if $N \Downarrow u$
- 2. $M \Rightarrow M'$ implies there exists N' such that $N \Rightarrow N'$ and $M' \in S$ N'
- 3. $N \Rightarrow N'$ implies there exists M' such that $M \Rightarrow M'$ and M' S N'

Let \sim , called barbed bisimilarity, be the largest barbed bisimulation. Machine congruence $P \sim_c Q$ is defined by $\forall E_c : E_c[P] \sim E_c[Q]$.

Theorem 16

- $P \stackrel{.}{\sim} Q$ if and only if $x[P] \stackrel{.}{\sim} x[Q]$.
- $P \sim Q$ if and only if $P \sim_c Q$, where \sim is strong barbed congruence.

Sketch Proof. For the first part, we define a translation calc C from machines to pi calculus terms as calc $C = (\operatorname{lchan} C) \llbracket C \rrbracket$, where $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ is as follows.

The following three properties follow directly:

- 1. $C \rightharpoonup C'$ implies calc $C \equiv \operatorname{calc} C'$
- 2. $C \to C'$ implies calc $C \setminus \operatorname{calc} C'$
- 3. $C \downarrow u$ implies calc $C \downarrow u$

The following two properties are easy to prove using *full deployment*: given a machine C, construct a machine C' by performing heating transitions until no more are possible. By the first property above, if $\operatorname{calc} C$ has an observation or reaction, then so does $\operatorname{calc} C'$.

- 4. calc $C \downarrow u$ implies $C \rightharpoonup^* \downarrow u$
- 5. calc $C \setminus P'$ implies $C \Rightarrow C'$ such that calc $C' \equiv P'$

All the above properties together imply that $C_1 \stackrel{.}{\sim} C_2$ if and only if calc $C_1 \stackrel{.}{\sim}$ calc C_2 . The first part of the theorem is just a special case of this, since calc $x[P] \equiv P$.

For the congruence result, we will translate contexts as follows. Let calc $E_c = (\operatorname{lchan} E_c) \llbracket E_c \rrbracket$, where $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ is extended with the following.

$$\begin{split} \llbracket u[E_b] \rrbracket &= \llbracket E_b \rrbracket_u & \llbracket \operatorname{out} \widetilde{x}.E_p \rrbracket_u &= \overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.E_p \\ \llbracket (u)[E_b] \rrbracket &= \llbracket E_b \rrbracket_u & \llbracket \operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).E_p \rrbracket_u &= u(\widetilde{x}).E_p \\ \llbracket E_c,C \rrbracket &= \llbracket E_c \rrbracket \mid \llbracket C \rrbracket & \llbracket \operatorname{lout} \widetilde{x}.E_p \rrbracket_u &= \operatorname{!}\overline{u}\,\widetilde{x}.E_p \\ \llbracket C,E_c \rrbracket &= \llbracket C \rrbracket \mid \llbracket E_c \rrbracket & \llbracket (\operatorname{in}(\widetilde{x}).E_p \rrbracket_u &= \operatorname{!}u(\widetilde{x}).E_p \\ \llbracket (x)E_p \rrbracket_u &= (x)E_p \\ \llbracket B;E_p \rrbracket_u &= \llbracket B \rrbracket_u \mid E_p \\ \llbracket E_p;B \rrbracket_u &= E_p \mid \llbracket B \rrbracket_u \end{aligned}$$

Then for all E_c there exists $E_p = \operatorname{calc} E_c$ such that for all P, $\operatorname{calc}(E_c[P]) \equiv E_p[P]$. And in the reverse direction, for all E_p there exists $E_c = x[E_p]$ such that the same.