

Session Types as a Descriptive Tool for Distributed Protocols

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Scribble

- ▶ A practical toolchain based on asynchronous MPST
 - ▶ Specify real-world application protocols
 - ▶ Implement interoperable endpoint programs in mainstream languages
- ▶ Homepage and tutorial: <http://www.scribble.org/>
- ▶ Scribble-Java source: <https://github.com/scribble/scribble-java>

Hello, world: HTTP (GET)

- ▶ Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 - ▶ e.g. Web browser (Firefox) fetching a page from a Web server (Apache)
 - ▶ Client-server request-response “methods”
 - ▶ HTTP/1.1 RFCs 7230–7235 [\[HTTP\]](#)
 - ▶ <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7230#section-2.1>

[\[HTTP1.1\]](#) <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7230>, etc.

Protocol specification in Scribble

- ▶ Protocol = messages + interactions

```
// Message types
```

```
sig <java> "demo.betty16.lec1.httpshort.message.client.Request"  
  from "demo/betty16/httpshort/message/Request.java"  
  as Request;
```

```
sig <java> "demo.betty16.lec1.httpshort.message.server.Response"  
  from "demo/betty16/shortvers/message/Response.java"  
  as Response;
```

```
global protocol Http(role C, role S) {  
  // Interaction structure  
  Request from C to S;  
  Response from S to C;  
}
```

Client implementation in Java

- ▶ For now, assume a basic fluent (call-chaining) Java API over TCP sockets

```
String host = "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"; int port = 80;  
Buf<Response> buf = new Buf<>();
```

```
c.send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
  .receive(S, Response, buf); // Received message read into buf
```

```
c.send(S, new Response("1.1", "..body.."))  
  .receive(S, Response, buf);
```

```
c.send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
  .send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
  .receive(S, Response, buf);
```

- ▶ So.. is that it? To implement a good HTTP client program


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```

```
c.send(S, new Response("1.1", "..body.."))  
  .receive(S, Response, buf);
```

 The method send(S, Request) ... for the arguments (S, Response)

```
c.send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
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```
c.send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
  .send(S, new Request("/~rhu/", "1.1", host))  
  .receive(S, Response, buf);
```

 The method send(S, Request) is undefined for the type Http_C_2

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```

- ▶ So.. is that it? To implement a good HTTP client program

Message types vs. interaction structure

- ▶ Simple interaction structure..
 - ▶ ..means more work is done in message serialization/deserialization
 - ▶ <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7230#section-3>
 - ▶ The call-response pattern and top-level data types are checked..
how about serialization/deserializaton?
- ▶ Practical protocol specifications:
Interplay between data types and interaction structure
 - ▶ E.g., can leverage session types to also capture the data protocol
 - ▶ *From Data Types to Session Types:*
A Basis for Concurrency and Distribution (ABCD)
University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, Imperial College London
<https://groups.inf.ed.ac.uk/abcd/>

HTTP client-server conversation

▶ telnet www.doc.ic.ac.uk 80

```
GET /~rhu/ HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: www.doc.ic.ac.uk
```

```
User-Agent: User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.3; WOW64; rv:47.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/47.0
```

```
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
```

```
Accept-Language: en-GB,en;q=0.5
```

```
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
```

```
DNT: 1
```

```
Connection: keep-alive
```

```
:
```

HTTP client-server conversation

▶ telnet www.doc.ic.ac.uk 80

⋮

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Date: Mon, 13 Jun 2016 19:42:34 GMT

Server: Apache

Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; preload; includeSubDomains

Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; preload; includeSubDomains

Last-Modified: Thu, 14 Apr 2016 12:46:24 GMT

ETag: "74a-53071482f6e0f"

Accept-Ranges: bytes

Content-Length: 1866

Vary: Accept-Encoding

Content-Type: text/html

Via: 1.1 www.doc.ic.ac.uk

Decomposing message structures..

- ▶ <https://github.com/rhu1/scribble-java/tree/rhu1-research/modules/core/src/test/scrib/demo/betty16/lec1/httpplong>

- ▶ Client messages

```
sig <java> "...message.client.RequestLine" from "...message/RequestLine.java"
  as RequestLine; // GET /~rhu/ HTTP/1.1
sig <java> "...message.client.Host" from "...message/Host.java"
  as Host; // host: www.doc.ic.ac.uk
sig <java> "...message.client.UserAgent" from "...message/UserAgent.java"
  as UserAgent; // User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 ... Firefox/38.0
...
```

- ▶ Server messages

```
sig <java> "...message.server.HttpVersion" from "...message/HttpVersion.java"
  as HTTPV; // HTTP/1.1
sig <java> "...message.server._200" from "...message/_200.java"
  as 200; // 200 OK
sig <java> "...message.server._404" from "...message/_404.java"
  as 404; // 404 Not found
...
```

..promotes more fine-grained interaction structures

```
global protocol Http(role C, role S) {
  do Request(C, S);
  do Response(C, S);
}

global protocol Request(role C, role S) {
  RequestLine from C to S; // GET /~rhu/ HTTP/1.1
  rec X {
    choice at C {
      Host from C to S; // Host: www.doc.ic.ac.uk
      continue X;
    } or {
      UserAgent from C to S; // User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 ...
      continue X;
    } or {
      ...
    } or {
      Body from C to S;
    }
  }
}
```

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      continue X;
    } or {
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    } or {
      Body from C to S;
    }
  }
}
```

..promotes more fine-grained interaction structures

```
global protocol Reponse(role C, role S) {
  HttpVers from S to C; // HTTP/1.1
  choice at S {
    200 from S to C; // 200 OK
  } or {
    404 from S to C; // 404 Not found
  } or {
    ...
  }

  rec Y {
    choice at S {
      Date from S to C; // Date: Sun, 24 May 2015 21:04:36 GMT
      continue Y;
    } or {
      Server from S to C; // Server: Apache
      continue Y;
    } or {
      ...
    } or {
      Body from S to C; // <html>...</html>
    }
  }
}
```

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    } or {
      Server from S to C; // Server: Apache
      continue Y;
    } or {
      ...
    } or {
      Body from S to C; // <html>...</html>
    }
  }
}
```

Revised client code

```
response(request(new Http_C_1(client), "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"));
```

```
Http_C_3 request(Http_C_1 c1, String host) throws ... {  
    return  
        c1.send(S, new RequestLine("/~rhu/", "1.1"))  
            .send(S, new Host(host))  
            .send(S, new Body(""));  
}
```

- ✓ Formatting of request message (request line, fields) is now checked

Revised client code

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response(request(new Http_C_1(client), "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"));
```

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Http_C_3 request(Http_C_1 c1, String host) throws ... {  
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          .send(S, new Body(""));  
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- ✓ Formatting of request message (request line, fields) is now checked

Revised client code

```
response(request(new Http_C_1(client), "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"));
```

```
void response(Http_C_3 c3) throws ... {  
    Http_C_4_Cases status = c3.async(S, HTTPV).branch(S);  
    switch (status.op) {  
        case _200: responseAux(status.receive(_200)); break;  
        case _404: responseAux(status.receive(_404)); break;  
        default: throw new RuntimeException("[TODO]: " + status.op);  
    } }  
}
```

```
void responseAux(Http_C_5 c5) throws ... {  
    Http_C_5_Cases cases = c5.branch(S);  
    switch (cases.op) {  
        case DATE: responseAux(cases.receive(DATE)); break;  
        case SERVER: responseAux(cases.receive(SERVER)); break;  
        ...  
        case BODY: { Buf<Body> buf_body = new Buf<>();  
                    cases.receive(BODY, buf_body);  
                    System.out.println(buf_body.val.getBody());  
                    return; }  
        default: throw new RuntimeException("[TODO]: " + cases.op);  
    } }  
}
```

Revised client code

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response(request(new Http_C_1(client), "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"));
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void response(Http_C_3 c3) throws ... {
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}
```

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void responseAux(Http_C_5 c5) throws ... {
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    switch (cases.op) {
        case DATE: responseAux(cases.receive(DATE)); break;
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        ...
        case BODY: { Buf<Body> buf_body = new Buf<>();
                    cases.receive(BODY, buf_body);
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void responseAux(Http_C_5 c5) throws ... {  
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    switch (cases.op) {  
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        case SERVER: responseAux(cases.receive(SERVER)); break;  
        ...  
        case BODY: { Buf<Body> buf_body = new Buf<>();  
                    cases.receive(BODY, buf_body);  
                    System.out.println(buf_body.val.getBody());  
                    return; }  
        default: throw new RuntimeException("[TODO]: " + cases.op);  
    } }  
}
```

Revised client code

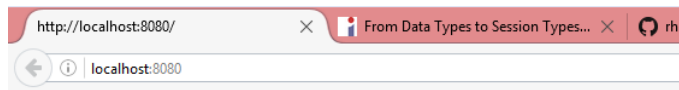
```
response(request(new Http_C_1(client), "www.doc.ic.ac.uk"));
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```

Hello, world: HTTP (GET)

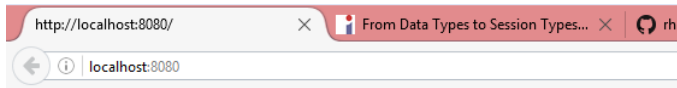
- ▶ Rigorous specification and verification of protocols is important (Even for a “simple” two-party call-return)
- ▶ Further alternative specifications?
 - ▶ Most simplified?
 - ▶ Most detailed?
- ▶ Similarly for the server
 - ▶ Each Scribble client/server is interoperable with (compliant) real-world implementations..
 - ▶ ..and with each other



Hello, World!

Hello, world: HTTP (GET)

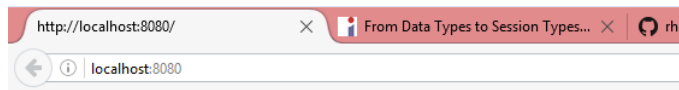
- ▶ Rigorous specification and verification of protocols is important (Even for a “simple” two-party call-return)
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Hello, World!

Hello, world: HTTP (GET)

- ▶ Rigorous specification and verification of protocols is important (Even for a “simple” two-party call-return)
- ▶ Further alternative specifications?
 - ▶ Most simplified? call-return of monolithic ASCII strings
 - ▶ Most detailed? towards “character-perfect” I/O?
- ▶ Similarly for the server
 - ▶ Each Scribble client/server is interoperable with (compliant) real-world implementations..
 - ▶ ..and with each other



Hello, World!

The Scribble toolchain

- ▶ MPST-based protocol verification
 - ▶ Leverage syntactic characteristics of MPST for explicit verification of distributed protocols
 - ▶ More expressive protocol language (required for practical applications)
 - ▶ Uniform method for integrating MPST features for implementation
- ▶ Type-driven code generation (“State Channel” APIs)
 - ▶ Type generation: static typing of protocol- and role- specific types
 - ▶ Code generation: safety mechanisms and correctness by construction

[Home] Homepage and tutorials. <http://www.scribble.org/>

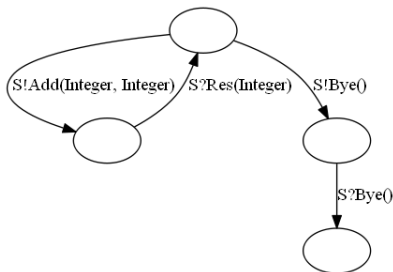
[GitHub] Scribble-Java source code. <https://github.com/scribble/scribble-java>

[FASE16] *Hybrid Session Verification through Endpoint API Generation*. Hu and Yoshida.

[FASE17] *Explicit Connection Actions in Multiparty Session Types*. Hu and Yoshida.

MPST-based protocol verification

```
global protocol Adder(role C, role S) {  
  choice at C {  
    Add(Integer, Integer) from C to S;  
    Res(Integer) from S to C;  
    do Adder(C, S);  
  } or {  
    Bye() from C to S;  
    Bye() from S to C;  
  }  
}
```



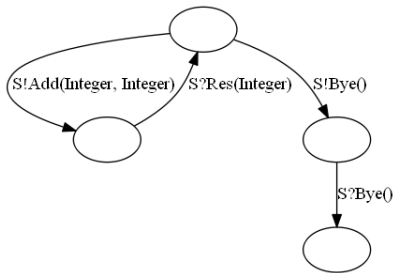
- ▶ “Endpoint FSM” characteristics derived from syntactic MPST:
 - ▶ “Well-formed” global protocol: type syntax and projection
 - ▶ “Consistent” and deterministic MP choices, no mixed states, ...
- ▶ (1-)bounded verification of CFSM system: MPST safety and progress
 - ▶ Reception errors, deadlocks, orphan messages, role progress, ...

[FASE17] *Explicit Connection Actions in Multiparty Session Types*. Hu and Yoshida.

[CONCUR15] *Meeting Deadlines Together*. Bocchi, Lange and Yoshida.

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  } or {  
    Bye() from C to S;  
    Bye() from S to C;  
  }  
}
```



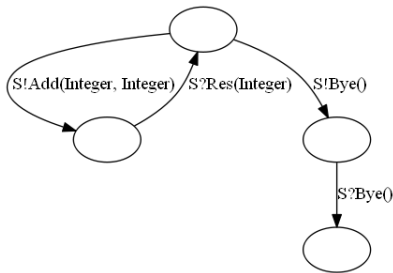
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[CONCUR15] *Meeting Deadlines Together*. Bocchi, Lange and Yoshida.

MPST-based protocol verification

```
global protocol Adder(role C, role S) {  
  choice at C {  
    Add(Integer, Integer) from C to S;  
    Res(Integer) from S to C;  
    do Adder(C, S);  
  } or {  
    Bye() from C to S;  
    Bye() from S to C;  
  }  
}
```



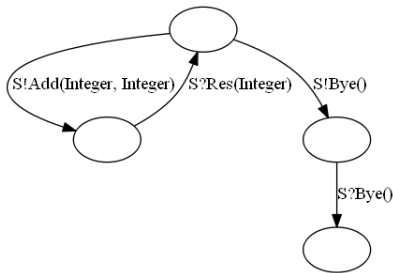
- ▶ “Endpoint FSM” characteristics derived from syntactic MPST:
 - ▶ “Well-formed” global protocol: type syntax and projection
 - ▶ “Consistent” and deterministic MP choices, no mixed states, ...
- ▶ (1-)bounded verification of CFSM system: MPST safety and progress
 - ▶ Reception errors, deadlocks, orphan messages, role progress, ...

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    Bye() from S to C;  
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```

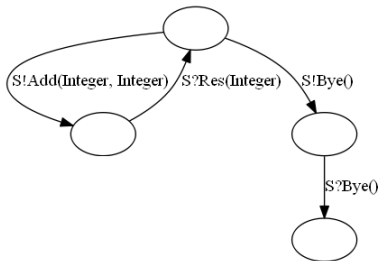


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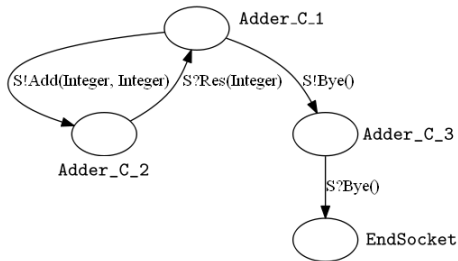
“State Channel” API generation



- ▶ Protocol states as *state-specific* channel types
 - ▶ Java nominal types: state enumeration as default
 - ▶ Generated *state channel* offers exactly the valid I/O operations for the corresponding protocol state
 - ▶ Three kinds: output, unary input, non-unary input
 - ▶ Fluent interface for chaining channel operations through successive states
 - ▶ Only the initial state channel class has a public constructor

[FASE16] *Hybrid Session Verification through Endpoint API Generation*. Hu and Yoshida.

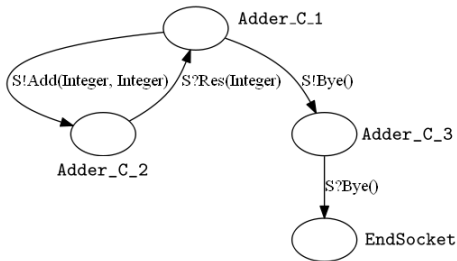
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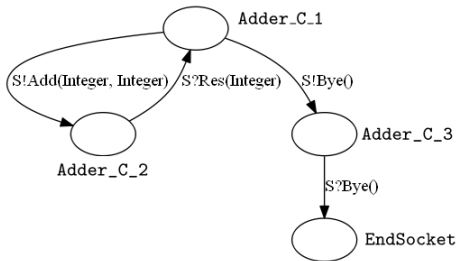
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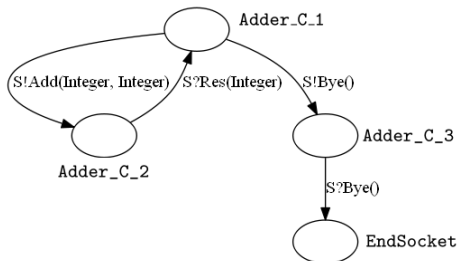
Example: Adder

- ▶ Reify session type names as Java singleton types
- ▶ Main “Session” class

```
public final class Adder extends Session {  
    public static final C C = C.C;  
    public static final S S = S.S;  
    public static final Add Add = Add.Add;  
    public static final Bye Bye = Bye.Bye;  
    public static final Res Res = Res.Res;  
    ...  
}
```

- ▶ Instances represent run-time sessions of this (initial) type in execution
 - ▶ Encapsulates source protocol info, run-time session ID, etc.

Adder: State Channel API for C



▶ Adder_C_1

- ▶ Output state channel: (overloaded) `send` methods

Adder_C_2 `send(S role, Add op, Integer arg0, Integer arg1) throws ...`

Adder_C_3 `send(S role, Bye op) throws ...`

- ▶ Parameter types: message recipient, operator and payload
- ▶ Return type: successor state

Adder: State Channel API for C

Class Adder_C_1

```
java.lang.Object
  org.scribble.net.scribsock.ScribSocket<S,R>
    org.scribble.net.scribsock.LinearSocket<S,R>
      org.scribble.net.scribsock.SendSocket<Adder,C>
        demo.fase.adder.Adder.Adder.channels.C.Adder_C_1
```

All Implemented Interfaces:

```
Out_S_Add_Integer_Integer<Adder_C_2>, Out_S_Bye<Adder_C_3>, Select_C_S_Add_Integer_Integer<Adder_C_2>,
Select_C_S_Add_Integer_Integer__S_Bye<Adder_C_2,Adder_C_3>, Select_C_S_Bye<Adder_C_3>, Succ_In_S_Res_Integer
```

Method Summary

All Methods

Instance Methods

Concrete Methods

Modifier and Type

Method and Description

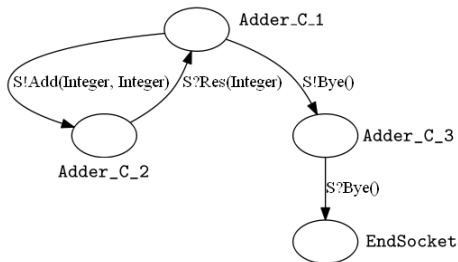
Adder_C_2

send(S role, Add op, java.lang.Integer arg0, java.lang.Integer arg1)

Adder_C_3

send(S role, Bye op)

Adder: State Channel API for C



▶ Adder_C_2

Adder_C_1 **receive**(*S* role, *Res* op, Buf<? **super** Integer> arg1) **throws** ...

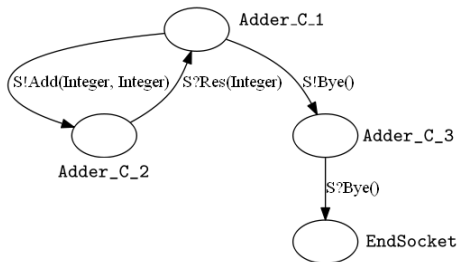
- ▶ Unary input state channel: a **receive** method
- ▶ (Received payload written to a parameterised buffer arg)
- ▶ Recursion: return new instance of a “previous” channel type

▶ Adder_C_3

EndSocket **receive**(*S* role, *Bye* op) **throws** ...

- ▶ EndSocket for terminal state

Adder: endpoint implementation for C



```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);
Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);
while (i.val < N)
  c1 = c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val).receive(S, Res, i);
c1.send(S, Bye).receive(S, Bye);
```

● EndSocket Adder_C_3.receive(S role, Bye op) throws ScribbleRuntimeException, IOException, ClassNotFoundException

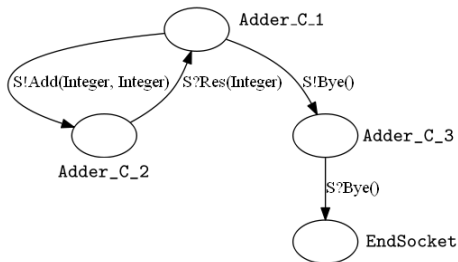
► Implicit API usage contract:

- Use each state channel instance exactly once

- “Hybrid” enforcement of session types:

Linear usage of channel instances checked at run-time by generated API

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 - “Hybrid” enforcement of session types:
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“Hybrid” enforcement of session types

```
Adder adder = new Adder();
try (SessionEndpoint<Adder, C> client
    = new SessionEndpoint<>(adder, C, ...)) {
    client.connect(S, SocketChannelEndpoint::new, host, port);
    Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(client);
    Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);
    while (i.val < N)
        c1 = c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val).receive(S, Res, i);
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```

- ▶ Static typing: session I/O actions as State Channel API methods
- ▶ Run-time checks: *linear* usage of state channel instances

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- ▶ Static typing: session I/O actions as State Channel API methods
- ▶ Run-time checks: *linear* usage of state channel instances
 - ▶ At most once
 - ▶ “Used” flag per *channel* instance checked and set by I/O actions
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 - ▶ Checked via `try` on `AutoCloseable SessionEndpoint`

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```

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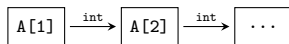
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    c1.send(S, Bye).receive(S, Bye);
}
```

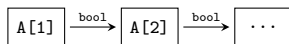
- ▶ Static typing: session I/O actions as State Channel API methods
- ▶ Run-time checks: *linear* usage of state channel instances
- ▶ API generation safety properties:
 - ▶ If state channel linearity respected:
Communication safety (e.g. [JACM16](#) Error-freedom) satisfied
 - ▶ Regardless of linearity: non-compliant I/O actions *never* executed
(up to premature termination)

Extensions: parameterised role structures

```
global protocol Ring(role W(k)) {  
  choice at W[1] {  
    Next dot W[1..k-1] to W[2..k];  
    Res from W[k] to W[1];  
  } or {  
    Done dot W[1..k-1] to W[2..k];  
  }  
}
```



or



$W[1..k-1] \Rightarrow W[2..k] : \{\text{Next} . \tilde{G}_1, \text{Done}\}$

- ▶ Challenge: distribution – i.e., well-formedness and projection
- ▶ Target language: Go
 - ▶ “Heterogeneous” communications: first class shared mem. channels and traditional distributed programming libraries

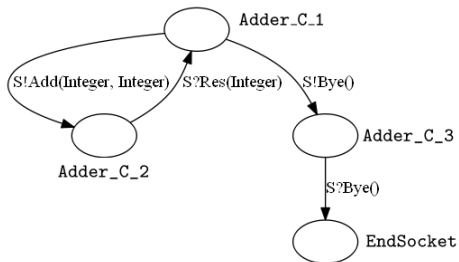
$$\tilde{G} \upharpoonright W\{1, 1..k-1\} = \text{rec } X \ ! \langle W[\text{id}+1], \{\text{Res} . ?\langle W[k], \text{Res} \rangle ; X, \text{done} . \mathbf{0}\} \rangle$$
$$\tilde{G} \upharpoonright W\{1..k-1, 2..k\} = \text{rec } X \ ? \langle W[\text{id}-1], \{\text{Res} . !\langle W[\text{id}+1], \text{Res} \rangle ; X, \text{done} . !\langle W[\text{id}+1], \text{done} \rangle \} \rangle$$
$$\tilde{G} \upharpoonright W\{2..k, 2\} = \text{rec } X \ ? \langle W[\text{id}-1], \{\text{Res} . !\langle W[1], \text{Res} \rangle ; X, \text{done} . \mathbf{0}\} \rangle$$

Extensions: “interaction refinements”


```
global protocol MyProto(role A, role B, role C) {  
  1(x: int) from A to B; @x>0  
  2(x) from B to C;  
  choice at C {  
    3() from C to A; @x>5  
  } or {  
    4() from C to A; @x<=5  
  }  
}
```

- ▶ Aims: message type refinements, assertions on I/O action and session state, message value dependent control flow, ...
- ▶ Target language: F# (.NET) – type providers
- ▶ Approach: static verification by integrating Scribble with SMT solver, correctness-by-construction from code generation, and automated assertion inlining

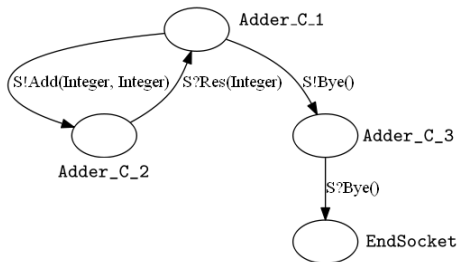
Adder: endpoint implementation for C



```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);
```

 The value of the local variable c1 is not used

Adder: endpoint implementation for C

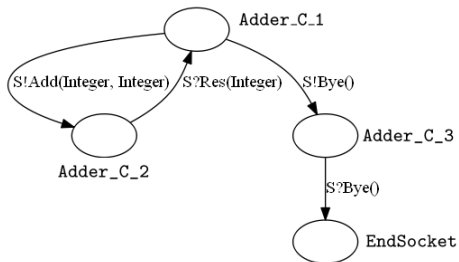


```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);
```

```
c1.
```

- send(S role, Bye op) : Adder_C_3 - Adder_C_1
- send(S role, Add op, Integer arg0, Integer arg1) : Adder_C_2 - Adder_C_1

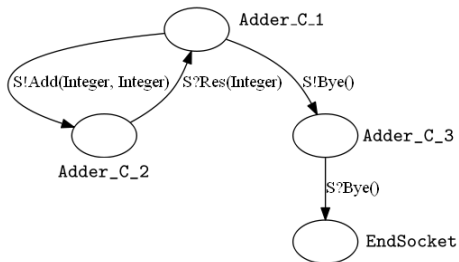
Adder: endpoint implementation for C



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Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);  
Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);  
c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val);
```

- **Adder_C_2** `Adder_C_1.send(S role, Add op, Integer arg0, Integer arg1)` throws `ScribbleRuntimeException`, `IOException`

Adder: endpoint implementation for C

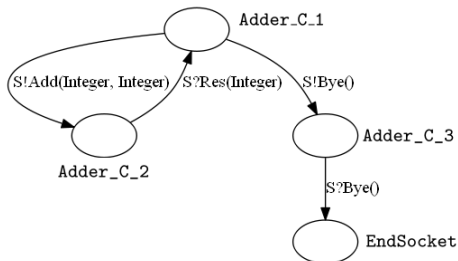


```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);  
Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);  
c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)
```



- receive(S role, Res op, Buf<? super Integer> arg1) : Adder_C_1 - Adder_C_2

Adder: endpoint implementation for C

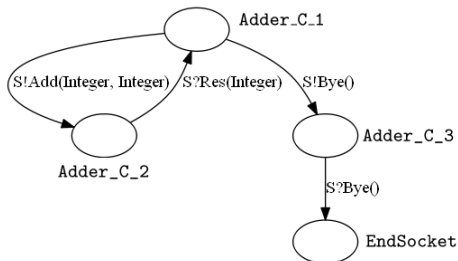


```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);  
Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);  
c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)  
  .receive(S, Res, i)  
  .send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)  
  .receive(S, Res, i)  
  .send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)  
  .receive(S, Res, i)
```




- send(S role, Bye op) : Adder_C_3 - Adder_C_1
- send(S role, Add op, Integer arg0, Integer arg1) : Adder_C_2 - Adder_C_1

Adder: endpoint implementation for C



```
Adder_C_1 c1 = new Adder_C_1(...);
Buf<Integer> i = new Buf<>(1);
c1.send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)
  .receive(S, Res, i)
  .send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)
  .receive(S, Res, i)
  // .send(S, Add, i.val, i.val)
  .receive(S, Res, i)
```

 The method `receive(S, Res, Buf<Integer>)` is undefined for the type `Adder_C_1`