Abstract

ML-style modules are valuable in the development and maintenance of large software systems, unfortunately, none of the existing languages support them in a fully satisfactory manner. The official SML'97 definition does not allow higher-order functors, so a module that refers to externally defined functors cannot accurately describe its import interface. MacQueen and Tofte [26] extended SML'97 with fully transparent higher-order functors, but their system does not have a type-theoretic semantics thus fails to support fully syntactic signatures. The systems of manifest types [19, 20] and translucent sums [12] support fully syntactic signatures but they may propagate fewer type equalities than fully transparent functors. This paper presents a module calculus that supports both fully transparent higher-order functors and fully syntactic signatures (and thus true separate compilation). We give a simple type-theoretic semantics to our calculus and show how to compile it into an $\lambda$-calculus extended with existential types.

1 Introduction

Modular programming is one of the most commonly used techniques in the development and maintenance of large software systems. Using modularization, we can decompose a large software project into smaller pieces (modules) and then develop and understand each of them in isolation. The key ingredients in modularization are the explicit interfaces used to model inter-module dependencies. Good interfaces not only make separate compilation type-safe but also allow us to think about large systems without holding the whole system in our head at once. A powerful module language must support equally expressive interface specifications in order to achieve the optimal results.

1.1 Why higher-order functors?

Standard ML [27, 28] provides a powerful module system. The main innovation of the ML module language is its support of parameterized modules, also known as functors. Unlike Modula-3 generics [31] or C++ templates [37], ML functors can be type-checked and compiled independently at its definition site; further-

more, different applications of the same functor can share a single copy of the implementation (i.e., object code), even though each application may produce modules with different interfaces.

Functors have proven to be valuable in the modeling and organization of extensible systems [1, 10, 6, 32]. The Fox project at CMU [1] uses ML functors to represent the TCP/IP protocol layers; through functor applications, different protocol layers can be mixed and matched to generate new protocol stacks with application-specific requirements. Also, a standard C++ template library written using the ML functors would not require nasty cascading recompilations when the library is updated, simply because ML functors can be compiled separately before even being applied.

Unfortunately, any use of functors and nested modules also implies that the underlying module language must support higher-order functors (i.e., functors passed as arguments or returned as results by other functors), because otherwise, there is no way to accurately specify the import signature of a module that refers to externally defined functors. For example, if we decompose the following ML program into two smaller pieces, one for $\text{FOO}$ and another for $\text{BAR}$:

```ml
functor FOO (A : SIG) = ...
......
structure BAR = struct
  structure B = ...
  structure C = FOO(B)
end
```

the fragment for $\text{BAR}$ must treat $\text{FOO}$ as its import argument. This essentially turns $\text{BAR}$ into a higher-order functor since it must take another functor as its argument. Without higher-order functors, we cannot fully specify the interfaces of arbitrary ML programs. The lack of fully syntactic (i.e., explicit) signatures also violates the fundamental principles of modularization and makes it impossible to support Modula-2 style true separate compilation [19].

1.2 Main challenges

Supporting higher-order functors with fully syntactic signatures turns out to be a very hard problem. Standard ML (SML) [28] only supports first-order functors. MacQueen and Tofte [26, 38] extended SML with fully transparent higher-order functors but their scheme does not provide fully syntactic signatures. Independently, Harper and Lillibridge [12] and Leroy [19] proposed to use translucent sums and manifest types to model type sharing; their scheme

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1 We only need to write the signatures for first-order functors if we use a special “compilation unit” construct with import and export statements, but reasoning such construct would likely require similar formalism as reasoning higher-order modules.
**Abstract**

ML-style modules are valuable in the development and maintenance of large software systems, unfortunately, none of the existing languages support them in a fully satisfactory manner. The official SML’97 Definition does not allow higher-order functors, so a module that refers to externally defined functors cannot accurately describe its import interface. MacQueen and Tofte [26] extended SML’97 with fully transparent higher-order functors, but their system does not have a type-theoretic semantics thus fails to support fully syntactic signatures. The systems of manifest types [19, 20] and translucent sums [12] support fully syntactic signatures but they may propagate fewer type equalities than fully transparent functors. This paper presents a module calculus that supports both fully transparent higher-order functors and fully syntactic signatures (and thus true separate compilation). We give a simple type-theoretic semantics to our calculus and show how to compile it into an Fw -like calculus extended with existential types.
supports fully syntactic signatures but fails to propagate as much sharing as in the MacQueen-Tofte system. Leroy [20] proposed to use applicative semantics to model full transparency, but his signature calculus is not fully syntactic since it only handles limited forms of functor expressions; this limitation was lifted in Courant’s recent proposal [7], but only at the expense of putting arbitrary module implementation code into the interfaces, which in turn compromises the very benefits of modularization and makes interface checking much harder.

The main challenge is thus to design a module language that satisfies all of the following properties:

- It must have fully syntactic signatures: if we split a program at an arbitrary point, the corresponding interface must be expressible using the underlying signature calculus.
- It must have simple type-theoretical semantics: a clean semantics makes formal reasoning easier; it is also a prerequisite for a simple signature calculus.
- It should support fully transparent higher-order functors: higher-order functors should be a natural extension of first-order ones; simple ML functors can propagate type sharing from the argument to the result; higher-order functors should propagate sharing in the same way.
- It should support opaque types and signatures: type abstraction is the standard method of hiding implementation details from the clients of a module; the same mechanism should be applicable to higher-order functors as well.
- It should support efficient elaboration and implementation: a module system will not be practical if it cannot be type-checked and compiled efficiently; compilation of module programs should also be compatible with the standard type-directed compilation techniques [18, 15, 35, 36].

1.3 Our contributions

This paper presents a higher-order module calculus that satisfies all of the above properties. We show that fully transparent higher-order functors can also have simple type-theoretic semantics so they can be added into ML-like languages while still supporting true separate compilation. Our key idea is to adapt and incorporate the phase-splitting interpretation of higher-order modules [14, 36] into a surface module calculus—the result is a new method that propagates more sharing information (across functor application) than the system based on translucent sums [12] and manifest types [19]. More specifically, given a signature or a functor signature $S$, we extract all the flexible components in $S$ into a single higher-order “type-constructor” variable $u$; here, by flexible, we mean those undefined type or module components inside $S$. We call such $u$ as the flowroot constructor of signature $S$. We use $K$ to denote the kind of $u$ and $S'$ to denote the instantiation of $S$ whose flexible components are redirected to the corresponding entries in $u$. An opaque view of signature $S$ can be modeled as an existential type $\exists u: K.S'$. A transparent view of $S$ can be obtained by substituting the flowroot of $S$ with the actual constructor information. Full transparency is then achieved by propagating the flowroot information through functor application.

Our new phase-splitting interpretation also leads to a simpler type theory for the system based on translucent sums and manifest types. Recent work on phase-splitting transformation [14, 36, 8] has shown that ML-like module languages are better understood by translating them into an $F\omega$-like polymorphic $\lambda$-calculus. These translations, however, do not support opaque modules very well because abstract types must be made concrete during the translation. The translation of translucent sums is even more problematic: Crary et al [8] have to extend $F\omega$ with singleton and dependent kinds to capture the sharing information in the surface language. The translation based on our new interpretation rightly turns opaque modules and abstract types into simple existential types. Furthermore, it does not need to use singleton and dependent kinds. This is significant because typechecking singleton and dependent kinds is notoriously difficult [8].

In the rest of this paper, we first use a series of examples to informally explain the main ideas. We then present our new Extended Module Calculus (EMC) which supports both fully transparent higher-order functors and fully syntactic signatures. We demonstrate the expressiveness of EMC by translating a version of the Abstract Module Calculus (AMC) and a version of the Transparent Module Calculus (TMC) into the EMC calculus. Finally, to support type-directed compilation [18, 15, 35, 36], we show how EMC can be translated into a Kernel Module Calculus (KMC) and then to a $F\omega$-like Target Calculus (FTC). The relationship among these five calculi is depicted in Figure 1.

2 Informal Development

2.1 Fully transparent higher-order functors

We first use a series of examples to show how the MacQueen-Tofte system [26] supports fully transparent higher-order functors. We start by defining a signature $SIG$ and a functor signature $FSIG$:

\[
\text{signature} \ SIG = \text{sig \ type \ t \ val \ x : t \ end} \\
\text{funsig} \ FSIG = \text{fsg (X: \ SIG): \ SIG}
\]

MacQueen and Tofte use strong sum $\Sigma$ to express the module type, so signature $SIG$ is equivalent to a dependent sum type $SIG = \Sigma.t$.t and signature $FSIG$ is same as the dependent product type $\Pi.X:SIG.SIG$. We also define a structure $S$ with signature $SIG$, and two functors $F1$ and $F2$, both with signature $FSIG$:

\[
\text{structure} \ S = \text{struct \ type \ t=int \ val \ x=1 \ end} \\
\text{functor} F1 (X: \ SIG) = \text{struct \ type \ t=X.t \ val \ x=X.x \ end} \\
\text{functor} F2 (X: \ SIG) = \text{struct \ type \ t=int \ val \ x=1 \ end}
\]

Although $SIG$ does not define the actual type for $t$, functor applications such as $F1(S)$ will always re-elaborate the body of $F1$ with $X$ bound to $S$, so the type identity of $X.t$ (which is $\text{int}$) is faithfully propagated into the result $F1(S)$, Now suppose we define the following higher-order functor which takes a functor $F$ as argument and applies it to the previously defined structure $S$:

\[
\text{functor APPS (F: \ FSIG) = \ F(S)}
\]

We can then apply APPS to functors $F1$ and $F2$: 
In the MacQueen-Tofte system, both `APPS(F1)` and `APPS(F2)` will re-elaborate the body of `APPS` which in turn re-elaborates the functor body in `F1` and `F2`; it successfully infers that `R1.x` and `R2.x` all have type `int`, so the equality test `(R1.x = R2.x)` will typecheck.

MacQueen and Tofte [26] call functors such as `APPS` as **fully transparent** modules since they faithfully propagate all sharing information in the actual argument (e.g., `F1` and `F2`) into the result (e.g., `R1` and `R2`). Unfortunately, their scheme does not support fully syntactic signatures. If we want to turn module `R` into a separate compilation unit, we have no way to completely specify its import interface. More specifically, we cannot write a signature for `APPS` so that all sharing information in the argument is propagated into the result. The closest we get is to assign `APPS` with signature:

```
functor BADSIG =
  fsig (F: FSIG): sig type t=int val x : t end
```

But this would not work if `R` also contains the following code:

```
functor F3(X: SIG) =
  struct type t=real val x=3.0 end
structure R3 = APPS(F3)
```

Signature `BADSIG` clearly does not capture the sharing information propagated during the application of `APPS(F3)`. The actual implementation of the MacQueen-Tofte system [36] memoizes a “skeleton” for each functor body to support re-elaboration, but this is clearly too complex to be used in a surface signature calculus.

### 2.2 Translucent sums and manifest types

A more severe problem of the MacQueen-Tofte system is that it lacks a clean type-theoretic semantics: its typechecker must use an operational stamp generator to model abstract types; this makes it impossible to express the typing property in the surface signature calculus. In 1994, Harper and Lillibridge [12] and Leroy [19] proposed (independently) to use translucent sums and manifest types to model ML modules; the resulting framework—which we call it the **abstract approach**—has a clean type-theoretic equational theory on types; furthermore, both systems support fully syntactic signatures. Leroy [21] and Harper [16] have also shown that their systems are sufficiently expressive that they can type the entire module language in the official SML’97 Definition [28].

Unfortunately, in the case of higher-order functors, the abstract approach does not propagate as much sharing as one would normally expect in the MacQueen-Tofte system. For example, the previous equality test `(R1.x = R2.x)` would not typecheck in Harper and Leroy’s systems [12, 19]. In fact, the abstract approach treats the signature `SIG` as an existential type `SIG = #t` and the signature `FSIG` as a dependend product `ΠX : SIG.SIG`. The functor `APPS` is assigned with the following signature type:

```
II : (ΠX : SIG.SIG).SIG
```

Applying `APPS` to `F1` or `F2` always yields a new existential package `#t` so `R1.x` and `R2.x` are two distinct abstract types.

The abstract approach relies on signature subsumption and strengthening [12, 19] to propagate sharing information from the functor argument to the result. But the subsumption rules are not powerful enough to support fully transparent higher-order functors. Nevertheless, the abstract approach does have fully syntactic signatures; and having a functor parameter returning an abstract result is sometimes useful. Take the functor `APPS` as an example; sometimes we indeed want the parameter `F` to be a functor that always generate new types at each application.

### 2.3 Transparent modules with syntactic signatures

We would like to extend the abstract approach to support fully transparent higher-order functors. Our key idea is to adapt and incorporate the phase-splitting interpretation of higher-order modules [14, 36] into a surface module calculus; the result is a new method that propagates more sharing information (across functor application) than the system based on translucent sums and manifest types. Given a signature or a functor signature `S`, we extract all the **flexible** components in `S` into a single higher-order “type-constructor” variable `u`; here, by flexible, we mean those undefined type or module components inside `S`. We call such `u` as the **flexroot** constructor of signature `S`. We use `K` to denote the kind of `u` and `S'` to denote the instantiation of `S` with all of its flexible components referring to the corresponding entries in `u`. An opaque view of signature `S` can be modeled as an existential type `∃u : K.S'`; a transparent view of `S` can be obtained by substituting all occurrences of `u` in `S'` by an actual flexroot constructor. For example, the previous signature declaration:

```
signature SIG = sig type t val x : t end
```

can be viewed as a template of form:

```
SIG = λu:(SIG).sig type t = #t(u) val x : t end
```

where kind `K.SIG` is equal to `{t:Ω}`. We use `#t(u)` to denote the `t`-component from a constructor record `u`—this is to emphasize its difference from the module access paths in ML (e.g., `X.t`).

Instantiating the flexroot of `SIG` with constructor `{t = int}` yields a signature of form:

```
signature SIG = sig type t = int val x : t end
```

Meanwhile, the following SML code:

```
structure X > SIG =
  struct type t=int val x = 1 end
```

creates an opaque view of `SIG` so module `X` has type `∃u : K.SIG.(SIG[u])`, or expanded to:

```
∃u : K.SIG.(sig type t = #t(u) val x : t end).
```

In the rest of this paper, we follow the abstract approach to treat signature matching as opaque by default. Given a module identifier `X` and a signature `S`, we say that `X` has signature `S` if `X` has type `∃u : K.SSIG(S[SIG])`. The abstract flexroot constructor in `X` can be retrieved using dot notation on existentials [5]—such notation is usually written as `X.typ`, but in this paper we use a more concise notation; we will use the overlined identifier `X` to represent the flexroot of `X`.

It is informative to compare flexroot with the notion of access paths in the abstract approach [12, 19]. A type path `X.t` in the
system based on translucent sums and manifest types may denote an abstract type (as in dot notation). Under the flexroot notation, \( X.t \) always refers to an actual type definition—the \( t \) component of module \( X \)—which in turn is defined as type \(#(X)\); in other words, all the flexible components in \( X \) are now redirected to the abstract flexroot constructor \( X \).

Combining all the flexible components into a single flexroot constructor makes it easier to propagate sharing information through functor application. For example, the earlier ML code:

```ml
functor F1(X: SIG) =
  struct type t = X.t val x = X.x end
```

creates a functor with type:

\[
\text{Fsig } (X: \text{SIG}): \text{sig type } t = X.t \text{ val } x : t \text{ end}
\]
or written as signature:

\[
\text{fsig } (X: \text{SIG}): \text{sig type } t = X.t \text{ val } x : t \text{ end}
\]

Here, the type path \( X.t \) in the result signature really refers to type \(#(X)\). During functor application, we create a transparent view of the actual argument following signature \( \text{SIG} \); we instantiate the flexroot \( X \) into an actual constructor and then propagate this information into the result signature.

The idea gets more interesting in the higher-order case. Because all functors are abstract under the abstract approach, we first need to find a way to introduce transparent higher-order functors. SML'97 uses the “::” and “->” notation to distinguish between transparent and opaque signature matching; we borrow the same notation and use it to specify the abstract and transparent functors. In the following example,

```ml
fun sig NFSIG = fsig (X: SIG) => SIG
fun sig TFSIG = fsig (X: SIG) => SIG
```

Signature \( \text{NFSIG} \) represents an abstract functor that always creates fresh new types at each application. Signature \( \text{TFSIG} \) represents a fully transparent functor that always propagates the sharing information from the abstract argument (i.e., \( X \)) into the result.

The definition of \( \text{NFSIG} \) introduces a template of form:

\[
\text{NFSIG} = \lambda u_1 : \text{K}_{\text{NFSIG}}.\Pi X: (\exists u_2. \text{SIG}[u_2]).(\exists u_3. \text{SIG}[u_3])
\]

where kind \( \text{K}_{\text{NFSIG}} \) is just \( \text{K}_{\text{SIG}} \rightarrow \{\} \). Notice \( \text{NFSIG} \) does not propagate any sharing information \( u_1 \) into the result signature; instead, each functor application always returns an existential package. For example, the abstract version of functor \( \text{APPS} \):

```ml
functor APPS (F: NFSIG) = F(S)
```

is assigned with the following interface type:

\[
\text{IF} : (\exists u_1. \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}}.\Pi X: (\exists u_2. \text{SIG}[u_2]).(\exists u_3. \text{SIG}[u_3]))
\]

or written as signature:

\[
\text{fsig } (F: \text{NFSIG}) => \text{SIG}
\]

On the other hand, the definition of \( \text{TFSIG} \) introduces a template of form:

\[
\text{TFSIG} = \lambda u_1 : \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}}.\Pi X: (\exists u_2. \text{SIG}[u_2]).(\text{SIG}[u_1 X])
\]

where kind \( \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}} \) is equal to \( \text{K}_{\text{SIG}} \rightarrow \text{K}_{\text{SIG}} \) (the algorithm calculating such kind is given later in Section 3.2). The flexroot of \( \text{TFSIG} \) has a different kind from that of \( \text{NFSIG} \) because functors with signature \( \text{TFSIG} \) propagate more sharing information (e.g., constructor of kind \( \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}} \)) than those with signature \( \text{NFSIG} \). Notice how functor application propagates sharing into the return result: the flexroot of the result is \( u_1 X \) where \( u_1 \) is the flexroot of the functor itself and \( X \) is the flexroot of the actual argument.

We can now write the fully transparent version of \( \text{APPS} \) as:

```ml
functor APPS (F: TFSIG) = F(S)
```

and we can assign it with the following interface type:

\[
\text{IF} : (\exists u_1. \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}}.\Pi X: (\exists u_2. \text{SIG}[u_2]).(\text{SIG}[\{t = S.t\}]))
\]

or if we write it in an extended signature calculus:

```ml
fun sig (F: TFSIG): sig type t = #t(\{t = S.t\}) val x: t end
```

With proper syntactic hacks, this signature can even be written as:

```ml
fun sig (F: TFSIG): sig type t = #t(F(S)) val x: t end
```

as long as we assume that all module identifiers (e.g., \( F \) and \( S \)) referred inside the constructor context \( t.(\cdot) \) are always referring to their constructor counterparts.

Getting back to the earlier example in Section 2.1 where we apply \( \text{APPS} \) to functors \( \text{F1} \) and \( \text{F2} \), we see why both \( R1.t \) and \( R2.t \) are now equivalent to \( \text{int} \). To apply \( \text{APPS} \) to \( \text{F1} \) (or \( \text{F2} \)), we match \( \text{F1} \) (or \( \text{F2} \)) against \( \text{TFSIG} \) and calculate the flexroot \( T \) of the actual argument; \( T \) is equal to \( \lambda u. \{ t = \#(u) \} \) for \( \text{F1} \) or \( \lambda u. \{ t = \text{int} \} \) for \( \text{F2} \); in both cases, the \( t \) component of the result is \( \#(\text{F}[[t = \text{int}]]) \) which ends up as \( \text{int} \).

### 2.4 Relationship with Leroy’s applicative functors

Our syntactic signature looks similar to Leroy’s applicative-functor approach [20] where he can also assign \( \text{APPS} \) with a signature:

```ml
fun sig (F: FSIG): sig type t = F(S).t val x: t end
```

This similarity, however, stays only at the surface; the underlying interpretations of the two are completely different. Under the applicative approach, a functor with signature \( \text{FSIG} \) will always generate the same abstract type if applied to the same argument. Under our scheme, an abstract functor (with signature \( \text{NFSIG} \)) always generates a new type at each application while a transparent functor (with signature \( \text{TFSIG} \)) does not. We can simulate applicative functors by opaquely matching a functor against a transparent functor signature. For example,

```ml
functor F3 :> TFSIG = F1
```

Functor \( \text{F3} \) would have type:

\[
\exists u_1 : \text{K}_{\text{TFSIG}}.\Pi X: (\exists u_2. \text{SIG}[u_2]).(\text{SIG}[u_1 X])
\]
In this section we present an Extended Module Calculus (EMC) formalization transparent functor.

Abstract module calculus [19, 21, 12] but with support for fully transparent higher-order functors and fully equivalent constructors will still result in equivalent types (e.g., 

Notice we use transparent functors. To make the presentation easier to follow, we allowed to contain arbitrary module expressions (doing otherwise making the module language impractical to program with.

Our approach uses the flexroot constructor to propagate sharing. Because access paths are not allowed to contain arbitrary module expressions (doing otherwise may break abstraction), the applicative approach cannot give an accurate signature to the following functor:

\[
\text{functor PAPP (F : FSIG) (X : SIG) =}
\]

\[
\text{let structure Y =}
\]

\[
\text{struct type t = X.t * X.t}
\]

\[
\text{val x = X.x * X.x}
\]

\[
\text{end}
\]

\[
\text{in F(Y)}
\]

Leroy [20] did propose to type PAPP by “lambda-lifting” module Y out of PAPP, but this dramatically alters the program structure, making the module language impractical to program with.

Our approach uses the flexroot constructor to propagate sharing. We can easily give PAPP an accurate signature:

\[
\text{fsig (F : TFSIG) (X : SIG) :}
\]

\[
\text{sig type t = \#t (F(\{t = \#t(X) * \#t(X)\}))}
\]

\[
\text{val x : t}
\]

\[
\text{end}
\]

Notice we use TFSIG rather than NFSIG to emphasize that F is a transparent functor.

3 Formalization

In this section we present an Extended Module Calculus (EMC) that supports both fully transparent higher-order functors and fully syntactic signatures. EMC is an extension of Leroy and Harper’s abstract module calculus [19, 21, 12] but with support for fully transparent functors. To make the presentation easier to follow, we first define an abstract module calculus that reviews the main ideas behind translucent sums and manifest types. We then present our new EMC calculus and show how it propagates more sharing than the abstract approach.

3.1 The abstract module calculus AMC

We use the Abstract Module Calculus (AMC) [19] as a representative of the system based on translucent sums [12] and manifest types [19, 21]. The syntax of AMC is given in Figure 2. The static semantics for AMC is summarized in Figure 3. The complete typing rules are given in Figures 4 to 6 and in Appendix A.

AMC is a typical ML-style module calculus containing constructs such as module expressions (mexp), module declarations (mdec), module access paths (path), signatures (sig), specifications (spec), core-language types (ctyp) and expressions (exp).

Following Leroy [21], we use \(x_i\), \(t_i\), and \(v_i\) to denote module, type, and value identifiers, and \(x\), \(t\), and \(v\) for module, type, and value labels. We assume that each declaration or specification in AMC simultaneously defines an internal name (e.g., \(i\)) and an external label (e.g., \(x\), \(t\), \(v\)). Given a structure \(\text{struct } d_1, \ldots, d_n \text{ end}\) or a signature \(\text{sig } H_1, \ldots, H_n \text{ end}\), declarations and specifications defined later can refer to those defined earlier using the internal names. However, to access the module components from outside, we must use the access paths such as \(p.x\), \(p.v\), and \(p.t\) where \(p\) is another path and \(x, v, t\) are external labels.

Signatures are used to type module expressions. An AMC signature can be either a functor signature or a regular signature that contains an ordered list of module, type, and value specifications. A functor signature is written as \(\text{fsig}(x_i : S') > S\) where \(S\) denotes the argument signature and \(S'\) the results signature. We borrow the SML’97 notation “:” and “->” for signature matching and use it to specify the abstract and transparent functors. Because AMC only
specification (ening and functor application. Signature strengthening, which is
™¢œ¾TU…
AMC allo ws tw o kinds of type specifications: signature subsumption rules are only used at functor application
™¢œ¤–
œ™Ÿž¡ ›…i†3½¼™
str end
™6›ƒ–
œ¿”
™ŸœÇ
™6›A…
end
™¢œ¾TU”iV@¨ÂTU”†H”
V
™¢œ£”1§”
Figure 6: Signature subsumption in AMC
3V h‰Ž
V
™¢œ¾TU…‡†¡’‰ÍV”
TU…i†{3V
TM HA …
CTP
cotyp 
™¢œ¾TU…‡†¡’‰ÍV”
TU…i†{3V
™¢œ¾TU”iV@¨ÂTU”†H”
V
™¢œ£”1§”

Figure 5: Selected typing rules for AMC: \( \Gamma \vdash m : S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash d : H \)

Rules for reflexivity and transativity are omitted:

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash x = x & \quad \Gamma \vdash H_1 \leq H_2 & \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{sig } X \text{ end} \leq \text{sig } X' \text{ end} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash \text{sig } H_1, X \text{ end} \leq \text{sig } H_1', X' \text{ end} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
X = H_1, \ldots, H_n & \quad X' = H_1', \ldots, H_m' \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{sig } X \text{ end} \leq \text{sig } X' \text{ end} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash \text{sig } H_0, X \text{ end} \leq \text{sig } X' \text{ end} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash S_i \leq S' & \quad \Gamma \vdash x_i : S_i \vdash S_i' \leq S'_i \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash (x_i : S) \leq (x_i : S') \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash (t_i = \tau) \leq (t_i = \tau') & \quad \Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau' \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash (v_i : \tau) \leq (v_i : \tau') & \quad \Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau' \\
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 6: Signature subsumption in AMC

supports abstract functors, a functor signature in AMC always uses \( \vdash \) to specify its result. Later in Section 3.2, we’ll extend AMC with transparent functor signatures in the form of \( \text{fsig}(x_i : S) : S' \).

AMC allows two kinds of type specifications: flexible type specification \( (t_i \vdash \tau) \) and manifest type specification \( (t_i = \tau) \). Figure 6 lists the standard signature subsumption rules. Manifest types can be made opaque when matched against flexible specifications. Subsumption on functor signatures is contra-variant on the argument but covariant on the result.

Figure 5 lists the formation rules for the AMC module expressions and declarations. AMC supports the usual set of module constructs such as module access path \( (p) \), structure definition \( \text{str } d_1, \ldots, d_n \text{ end} \), functor definition \( \text{fct}(x_i : S) : m \), functor application \( (p_1(p_2)) \), signature matching \( (p : S) \), and the let expression. Most of the typing rules for AMC are straightforward: signature matching in AMC is done opaque; to type a let expression, the result signature must not contain any references to locally defined module variables (i.e., \( S \) is well formed in context \( \Gamma \) but not \( \Gamma ; H \); see Figure 5).

Type sharing in AMC is propagated through signature strengthening and functor application. Signature strengthening, which is defined in Figure 4, is a variation of dot notation \([4]\); a module

identifiers \( x_i \) of signature \( S \) is strengthened to have signature \( S / x_i \). Functor application (e.g., \( p_1(p_2) \)) can propagate the sharing information in the argument \( p_2 \) into the result signature—this is achieved by substituting the formal parameter \( x_i \) with the actual argument \( p_2 \) (see Figure 5).

Unfortunately, this strengthening procedure has no effect on its functor components. In the higher-order case, functor application in AMC does not propagate as much sharing as one would normally expect in the MacQueen-Tofte system. In the following, we show how to extend AMC to support fully transparent functors.

### 3.2 The extended module calculus EMC

The extended module calculus EMC contains the same set of module expressions and declarations as those in AMC. However, EMC uses a different method to propagate sharing information; this allows EMC to support fully transparent higher-order functors. EMC also has a more expressive signature calculus so that all functors in EMC have fully syntactic signatures.

The syntax of EMC is given in Figure 7. The static semantics for EMC is summarized in Figure 8. The complete typing rules are given in Figures 9 to 15 and in Appendix B. Our typing rules can be directly turned into a type-checking algorithm because the signature subsumption rules are only used at functor application and opaque signature matching (the same is true for AMC).
Similar forms as those for AMC (Figure 3) plus:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{mcon formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash C : K \\
\text{mcld formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash F : Q \\
\text{mcon equivalence} & \quad \Gamma \vdash C \equiv C' : K \\
\text{mcld equivalence} & \quad \Gamma \vdash F \equiv F' : Q \\
\text{mknd subsumption} & \quad \Gamma \vdash K \subseteq K' \\
\text{mkfd subsumption} & \quad \Gamma \vdash Q \subseteq Q'
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 8: Static semantics for EMC: a summary

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash \text{ok} & \quad u : K \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma \vdash u : K \\
\Gamma \vdash x : S \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{kn}d(S)
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash F_j : Q_j & \quad j = 1, \ldots, n \\
\Gamma \vdash \{F_1, \ldots, F_n\} : \{Q_1, \ldots, Q_n\} \\
\Gamma \vdash C : K' & \quad K' = \{\ldots, x : K, \ldots\} \\
\Gamma \vdash \#x(C) : K \\
\Gamma ; u : K \vdash C : K' \\
\Gamma \vdash \lambda u : K. C : K \to K' \\
\Gamma \vdash C_1 : K \to K' \\
\Gamma \vdash C_2 : K \\
\Gamma \vdash C_1[C_2] : K'
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 9: EMC constructor formation

The EMC signature calculus contains two new features that are not present in AMC: one is the new functor signature \( \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S' \) used to specify \textit{transparent} higher-order functors; another is a simple constructor calculus that captures the sharing information (using constructor \( C \) and kind \( K \)) and a new type expression \( \#t(C) \) that selects the type field \( t \) from constructor \( C \).

Transparent functors can propagate more sharing than abstract functors. For example, suppose \( S \) is defined as \( \text{sig } t_1, x_1 : t_1 \text{ end} \), a functor with signature \( \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S' \) corresponds to an \textit{abstract} functor whose application always produces a module with a new abstract type component \( t \). On the other hand, a functor with signature \( \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S \) corresponds to a \textit{fully transparent} functor whose application always propagates the type information from its argument into its result.

The constructor calculus itself (see Figure 7) is similar to those used in the \( \mathcal{F}_\omega \)-like polymorphic \( \lambda \)-calculi. In this paper, we assume all types in the core language have kind \( \Omega \); we use \( u \) to denote constructor variables; and we use the record kind \( \{Q_1, \ldots, Q_n\} \) and function kind \( K_1 \to K_2 \) to type module constructors. A record constructor consists of a sequence of core-language types (marked by label \( t \)) and module constructors (marked by label \( x \)). Given a record constructor \( C \), the selection form \( \#x(C) \) is a module constructor equivalent to the \( x \) field of \( C \) while \( \#t(C) \) is a core-language type expression equivalent to the \( t \) field of \( C \). Figure 9 gives the formation rules for the constructor calculus; other typing rules summarized in Figure 8 are given in Appendix B.

The constructor calculus is designed to faithfully capture the sharing information inside all EMC module constructs. More specifically, given a signature (or a functor signature) \( S \), we extract all the \textit{flexible} components in \( S \) into a single constructor variable \( u \); we call such \( u \) as the \textit{flexroot} constructor of signature \( S \). We use \( K \) to denote the kind of \( u \) and \( S' \) to denote the instantiation of \( S \) whose flexible components are redirected to the corresponding entries in \( u \). An opaque view of signature \( S \) can be modeled as an existential type \( \exists u : K. S' \). A transparent view of \( S \) can be obtained by substituting the flexroot of \( S \) with the actual constructor information. Full transparency is then achieved by propagating the flexroot information through functor application.

Both \( K \) and \( S' \) can be calculated easily. Figure 10 shows how to deduce \( \text{kn}d(S) \)—the kind of the flexroot constructor of a module with signature \( S \). Here, \( \text{kn}d(S) \Rightarrow K \) means that the flexible constructor part of signature \( S \) is of kind \( K \) and \( \text{kn}d(\text{sig } H_1 \ldots H_n \text{ end}) \Rightarrow Q' \) means that the flexible part in specification \( H \) is of kind field \( Q' \) (which denotes either \( Q \) or empty field \( \epsilon \)). Notice in addition to the flexible type specifications \((t_1)/(C : \{\ldots, t : K, \ldots\}) \Rightarrow (t_1 = \#t(C))\), functor specifications are also considered as the flexible components. A \textit{transparent} functor with signature \( \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S' \) is treated as a higher-order constructor of kind \( K \to K' \) where \( K \) and \( K' \) are the kinds for \( S \) and \( S' \). An \textit{abstract} functor with signature \( \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S \) is treated as a dummy constructor that returns an empty record kind.

Signature \( S' \) is calculated using a procedure similar to the idea of signature strengthening, but signature strengthening in EMC is very different from that in AMC: instead of relying on the access path \( p \) to propagate sharing, EMC uses the flexroot constructor to
Only two of these rules—module identifier and functor application—are different from those for AMC (Figure 5):

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash & \text{ok } \quad x_i : S \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma \vdash & \text{let } \text{in } m : S \\
\Gamma \vdash & \text{str end } : \text{sig end} \\
\Gamma \vdash & d : H \\
\Gamma \vdash & m : S \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash p : \text{sig } H_1 \ldots H_k, x_i' : S' \ldots & \text{ end } \\
\rho = \{ t_i \mapsto p.t, x_i \mapsto p.x \mid t_i, x_i \in \text{Dom}(H_1 \ldots H_k) \} \\
\Gamma \vdash p.x' : \rho(S') \\
\Gamma \vdash p_1 : \text{fsig}(x_i : S) : S' \Gamma \vdash p_2 : S'' \Gamma \vdash S' \leq S \Gamma \vdash S'' \downarrow \text{snd}(S) \Rightarrow C \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{let } \{ x_i = t_i \} : \rho(S') \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash d & : H \\
\Gamma \vdash m & : S \\
\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \\
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 12: Selected typing rules for EMC: \( \Gamma \vdash m : S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash d : H \)

All subsumption rules in AMC (Figure 6) plus:

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash S^j_1 \leq S_1 & \quad \Gamma ; x_i : S_1 \vdash S_2 \leq S_2' \\
\Gamma \vdash (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2) \leq (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2') \\
\Gamma \vdash (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2) \leq (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2) \\
S_2 & \text{ is an instantiated signature} \\
\Gamma \vdash (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2) \leq (\text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2) \\
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 13: Signature subsumption in EMC

strengthen a signature. Given a signature \( S \) and a constructor \( C \) of kind \( \text{kind}(S) \), signature strengthening \( S/C \) returns the result of substituting the flexroot constructor in \( S \) with \( C \). We use the auxiliary procedures given in Figure 11 to deduce \( S/C \). Here, \( S/C : K \Rightarrow S' \) means that instantiating \( S \) by constructor \( C \) of kind \( K \) yields signature \( S' \), and \( H/C : K \Rightarrow H' \) means that strengthening specification \( H \) by constructor \( C \) of kind \( K \) yields specification \( H' \). The additional kind parameter is used to identify the flexible components in a signature.

Signature strengthening produces a special form of signature whose type components are fully defined and whose functor components have abstract result signatures. This special form, which we call it instantiated signature, can be accurately defined using the following grammar:

\[
\begin{align*}
S'^j & ::= \text{sig } H'_1 \ldots H'_k \ldots \text{end} \\
& | \text{fsig}(x_i : S) : S' \\
H'^j & ::= x_i : S'^j \mid t_i = \tau \mid v_i : \tau
\end{align*}
\]

Notice under this special form, the argument of a functor signature could still be an arbitrary EMC signature, but the result must always be abstract. The following lemma can be proved by structural induction on the EMC signatures:

**Lemma 3.1** Given an EMC context \( \Gamma \), a signature \( S \), a kind \( K \), and a constructor \( C \), if \( \Gamma \vdash S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash C : K \) and \( \Gamma \vdash K \leq \text{kind}(S) \) then \( S/C \) is an instantiated signature and \( \Gamma \vdash S/C \).

Figure 12 gives the typing rules for the EMC module expressions and declarations. Intuitively, we say a module expression \( m \) has signature \( S \) if \( m \) has type equal to \( \exists w : \text{kind}(S) \cdot (S/w) \). Given

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash & H_j \downarrow K \Rightarrow F^*_j, j = 1, \ldots, n \\
\Gamma \vdash & \{ \text{sig } H_1 \ldots H_n \end{\downarrow} \text{K} \Rightarrow \{ F^*_1 \ldots F^*_n \} \\
\Gamma \vdash & K \leq \text{kind}(S) \\
\Gamma ; x_i : S \vdash S' \downarrow K' \Rightarrow C' \\
C = \lambda u : K.\{ x_i \mapsto u \}(C') \Gamma \vdash C : K \Rightarrow K' \\
\Gamma \vdash (\text{fsig}(x_i : S) : S') \downarrow (K \Rightarrow K') \Rightarrow C \\
\Gamma \vdash S \downarrow K \Rightarrow C \\
\Gamma \vdash (x_i : S) \downarrow \{ \ldots, x_i : K, \ldots \} \Rightarrow (x = C) \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{let } \{ \{ x_i = t_i \} \downarrow (\ldots, t_i : \Omega, \ldots) \Rightarrow (t_i = \tau) \\
\end{align*}
\]

For all other cases, \( \Gamma \vdash H \downarrow K \Rightarrow \varepsilon \)

Figure 14: Narrowing instantiated signatures in EMC

a module \( x_i \) of signature \( S \), we use the overlined identifier \( \overline{x_i} \) to refer to the flexroot constructor hidden inside \( x_i \). This is a form of dot notation \([5]\) where \( \overline{x_i} \) represents the abstract type defined by the existential package \( x_i \). In AMC, signature strengthening is applied to the access identifier \( (x_i) \) itself and hidden type components are represented using access paths \( (p) \). EMC generalizes this idea so it can propagate more sharing than AMC does.

Figure 13 gives the additional signature subsumption rules for the EMC signatures. Subsumption on transparent functor signatures is also contra-variant on the argument and covariant on the result. More interestingly, a transparent signature \( \text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2 \) is a subtype of its abstract counterpart \( \text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2 \); this is because we can always coerce a transparent functor into an abstract one by blocking all of its sharing information. Finally, an abstract signature \( \text{fsig}(x_i : S_1) : S_2 \) is a subtype of its transparent counterpart if the result \( S_2 \) is an instantiated signature; this corresponds to the special case where the abstract version only hides a dummy constructor so it should be equivalent to the transparent version.

More specifically, a kind \( K \) is a dummy kind if it is \{ \}, or \( K_1 \rightarrow K_2 \) where \( K_2 \) is a dummy kind, or \( \{ Q_1, \ldots, Q_n \} \) where all fields \( Q_i \) have dummy kinds. Given a context \( \Gamma \) and a constructor \( C \), we say \( C \) is a dummy constructor if \( \Gamma \vdash C : K \) and \( K \) is a dummy kind. A dummy constructor conveys no useful information thus it can be safely eliminated. It is easy to show that if \( S \) is an instantiated signature then \( \text{kind}(S) \) is a dummy kind.
\[
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma \vdash S \subseteq S' \Rightarrow C : K \\
\Gamma \vdash (x : S) \downarrow (x : S') \Rightarrow (x = C) : (x : K)
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma \vdash (t_i = \tau) \downarrow (t_i = \tau') \Rightarrow \varepsilon : \varepsilon \\
\Gamma \vdash (v_j : \tau) \downarrow (v_j : \tau') \Rightarrow \varepsilon : \varepsilon
\end{array}
\]

Only two of the typing rules in Figure 12 are different from those for AMC (in Figure 5): one for module identifier and another for functor application. To access a module identifier \(x_i\), we always strengthen it with its flexroot constructor \(\pi_i\). To type functor application \(p_1(p_2)\), we first notice that the typing rules for access paths (in Figure 12) satisfies the following property: if \(\Gamma \vdash p : S\), then \(S\) is an instantiated signature. This observation can be easily established via Lemma 3.1. So we can assume \(p_1\) has signature \(\ell_1(x_i : S) : S'\) and \(p_2\) has signature \(S''\). Furthermore, \(S''\) is an instantiated signature. Typing \(p_1(p_2)\) then involves checking if \(S''\) is a sub-signature of \(S\), extracting the type components in \(p_2\)’s (not counting \(\pi_i\)) with access path \(p_2\). Here, the substitution on \(\pi_i\) is the key on why we can propagate more sharing and support fully transparent higher-order constructors.

Constructor \(C\) can be extracted from the actual argument signature \(S''\) of \(p_2\) using the signature-narrowing procedure defined in Figure 14. This procedure is initially invoked upon instantiated signatures only. Given a context \(\Gamma\), the deduction \(\Gamma \vdash S \downarrow K \Rightarrow C\) extracts the type components from an instantiated signature \(S\) and produces a constructor \(C\) of kind \(K\); the specification counterpart \(\Gamma \vdash H \downarrow K \Rightarrow C\) extracts the type components in \(H\) and produces either \(F\) or empty field \(\varepsilon\). The side conditions \(\Gamma \vdash C : K\) ensures that \(C\) only contains identifiers defined in \(\Gamma\). We can prove the following lemma using structural induction on the EMC signatures:

**Lemma 3.2** Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), a signature \(S\), and an instantiated signature \(S''\), let \(K = \text{knbd}(S)\), if \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \subseteq S\) and \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \downarrow K \Rightarrow C\), then \(\Gamma \vdash C : K\).

**Figure 15** gives an alternative signature narrowing procedure. This procedure is defined over arbitrary signatures, but it is initially invoked upon a instantiated signature only. Given a context \(\Gamma\), the deduction \(\Gamma \vdash S \downarrow K \Rightarrow C\) extracts the type components from an instantiated signature \(S\) and produces a flexroot constructor \(C\) of kind \(K\) (for signature \(S''\)); the specification counterpart \(\Gamma \vdash H \downarrow H' \Rightarrow C\) extracts the type components in \(H\) and produces either \(F\) or empty field \(\varepsilon\). We use \(F\) and \(Q\) to denote a sequence of constructor fields and kind fields. The side conditions \(\Gamma \vdash C : K\) and \(\Gamma \vdash \{F\} : \{Q\}\) ensures that \(C\) and \(F\) only contain identifiers defined in \(\Gamma\). It is easy to show that two signature narrowing procedures produce equivalent results.

This alternative signature narrowing procedure can also be used to verify the signature subsumption relation defined in Figure 13. To check if a functor signature \(S\) is a sub-type of another signature \(S'\), we first compare their corresponding argument signatures, then compare their result signatures, and finally in the case that \(S\) is abstract and \(S'\) is transparent, we invoke the signature narrowing procedure in Figure 15. If this algorithm does not get stuck, then \(S\) is a sub-signature of \(S'\).

**Lemma 3.3** Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), a signature \(S\), and an instantiated signature \(S''\), if \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\) then \(\Gamma \vdash C \equiv \text{knbd}(S)\) and \(\Gamma \vdash C : K\).

**Lemma 3.4** Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), a signature \(S\), and a constructor \(C\), if \(\Gamma \vdash C : \text{knbd}(S)\) then \(\Gamma \vdash S/C \subseteq S\).

**Lemma 3.5** Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), two signatures \(S\) and \(S'\), and an instantiated signature \(S''\), if \(\Gamma \vdash S \subseteq S''\) and \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\) then \(\Gamma \vdash S' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\).

**Lemma 3.6** Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), a signature \(S\), and an instantiated signature \(S''\), then \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \subseteq S\) is true if and only if only if \(\Gamma \vdash S' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\) succeeds.

**Proof:** For the “if” part: assuming \(\Gamma \vdash S' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\), we use structural induction on \(S''\); along the process, we create a bridging signature \(S' = S' \downarrow S / C\) and also show \(\Gamma \vdash S' \subseteq S'\); this bridge and the fact \(\Gamma \vdash S' \subseteq S'\) (via Lemma 3.4) are used to connect a transparent functor signature to its abstract counterpart. For the “only if” part: we use structural induction on the size of the instantiated signature \(S''\) and show that if \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \subseteq S\) is true then \(\Gamma \vdash S' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\) will not get stuck. The only nontrivial case is when \(S''\) is an abstract functor signature \(\ell_1(x_i : S') : S''\), while \(S'\) is a transparent signature \(\ell_1(x_i : S') : S''\), then \(\Gamma \vdash S'' \subseteq S\) must exist an instantiated bridging signature \(S''\) such that \(\Gamma \vdash S_i : S' \subseteq S''\) and \(\Gamma \vdash x_i : S_i : S'' \subseteq S''\), because \(S''\) is instantiated, we have \(\Gamma \vdash S_i \downarrow S_i \Rightarrow C : K\) from the induction hypothesis and \(\Gamma \vdash S' \downarrow S \Rightarrow C : K\) from Lemma 3.5. □

Given an EMC context \(\Gamma\), we say two signatures \(S\) and \(S'\) are equivalent, denoted as \(\Gamma \vdash S \equiv S'\), if and only if both \(\Gamma \vdash S \subseteq S'\) and \(\Gamma \vdash S' \subseteq S\) are true. The following propositions show why the typing rules for EMC can hold together:
Lemma 3.7 Given an EMC context \( \Gamma \), a signature \( S \), and an instantiated signature \( S' \), assume \( \Gamma \vdash S' \leq S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash p : S' \) and \( \Gamma \vdash \text{kn}(S) \Rightarrow C \), and let \( \rho = \{ [\xi_1] \mapsto C; x_1 \mapsto p \} \), then (1) given two type expressions \( \tau_1 \) and \( \tau_2 \), if \( \Gamma; x_1 : S \vdash \tau_1 \) and \( \Gamma; x_1 : S \vdash \tau_2 \) then \( \Gamma \vdash \rho(\tau_1) \equiv \rho(\tau_2) \); (2) given two instantiated signatures \( S'_1 \) and \( S'_2 \), if \( \Gamma; x_1 : S \vdash S'_1 \) and \( \Gamma; x_1 : S \vdash S'_2 \) then \( \Gamma \vdash \rho(S'_1) \equiv \rho(S'_2) \).

Theorem 3.8 (unique typing) Given an EMC context \( \Gamma \), two signatures \( S \) and \( S' \), and a module expression \( m \), if \( \Gamma \vdash m : S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash m : S' \) then \( \Gamma \vdash S \equiv S' \).

Proof: Expand this theorem to cover module declarations and core language expressions; the generalized version of this theorem can be proved by structural induction on the derivation tree. \( \Box \)

3.3 Discussions and extensions

The EMC calculus given so far only allows abstract or fully transparent result signatures. We could extend the EMC signature calculus further to support truly abstract or partially transparent functors:

\[
sig S ::= \ldots | f : \text{sig}(x_1 : S) : \text{pv}(S', K)
\]

Here, \( \text{pv} \) is a modifier that indicates the result signature is partially transparent, and the kind \( K \) is used to fine tune the amount of sharing being propagated through functor application; a well-formed signature must have \( \Gamma \vdash \text{kn}(S') \leq K \) so that the kind annotation actually makes sense.

More aggressively, we could instead extend EMC with an abstract module specification of form:

\[
spec H ::= \ldots | x_1 : \text{S}
\]

This seems to be less adhoc than the \( \text{pv} \) keyword but it makes it harder to reuse large signatures with small changes in transparency notations.

EMC can also be extended to support other forms of module expressions in SML97. For example, in SML97, the \text{let} expression (at the module level) allows its body type to refer to the new type stamps generated in the \text{let} declarations. Also, SML97 supports transparent signature matching such as:

\[
\text{structure A : sig type t val f : t end =}
\]
\[
\text{struct abstype s = \ldots}
\]
\[
\text{type t = s \rightarrow s}
\]
\[
\text{fun f (x : s) = x}
\]

Here, type \( t \) is equivalent to \( s \rightarrow s \), but the new type \( s \) is not exported. Both of these features involve exporting values and types that make use of hidden abstract types. While it is doubtful that such extension is really useful in practice, we can support it easily by extending the EMC signature calculus with the following new form of type specifications:

\[
spec H ::= \ldots | t_i \text{ hidden}
\]

We can then write down the interface \( S_A \) for \( A \) as:

\[
sig type s is hidden
\]
\[
type t = s \rightarrow s
\]
\[
val f : t
\]

which in turn is equivalent to:

\[
\exists u : K_A (\text{sig type } t = \#_s(u \rightarrow \#_s(u) \text{ val } f : t)\]

where kind \( K_A \) is just \( \{ s : \Omega \} \). In other words, if we write each signature \( S \) as a template of \( \lambda A : K, S' \), the hidden type specifications will be present in the kind \( K \) but not in the body signature \( S' \). Notice before this extension, \( K \) is always equivalent to \( \text{kn}(S) \), so all components in \( K \) are always present in \( S' \).

4 Expressiveness

In this section, we show that both the translucent-sum-based calculus and the strong-sum-based calculus can be embedded into our EMC calculus. We also compare EMC with the stamp-based semantics of the MacQueen-Tofte system [26, 36].

4.1 The abstract module calculus AMC

We use the AMC calculus presented in Section 3.1 as a representative for the system based on translucent sums [12] and manifest types [19]. Because AMC is a subset of EMC, the translation from AMC to EMC (denoted as \([\cdot]_A \) ) is just an identity function. We can show that this translation \([\cdot]_A \) maps all well typed AMC programs into well-typed EMC programs.

Theorem 4.1 Given an AMC context \( \Gamma \), we have

\begin{itemize}
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \text{ is a valid AMC deduction then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_A \text{ ok } \text{ is valid in EMC; similarly,}
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [\tau]_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash e : \tau \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [e]_A : [\tau]_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash S \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [S]_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash m : S \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [m]_A : [S]_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash d : H \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [d]_A : [H]_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau' \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [\tau]_A \equiv [\tau']_A \)
  \item if \( \Gamma \vdash S \leq S' \text{ then } [\Gamma]_A \vdash [S]_A \leq [S']_A \)
\end{itemize}

Proof: By structural induction on the derivation tree. The main difference between EMC and AMC is the way how module identifiers and functor applications are typed. For the case of module identifiers, we use the following lemma (Lemma 4.2); for the case of functor application, notice the result of any AMC functor signature does not contain any reference to the flexroot constructor \( \exists f \) so the typing rules for AMC and EMC have the same behavior. \( \Box \)

Lemma 4.2 Given an AMC context \( \Gamma \), suppose \( S \) is an AMC signature and \( x_1 : S \in \Gamma \), then \( [\Gamma]_A \vdash [S/x_1]_A \equiv [S]_A / \exists f \) is a valid deduction in EMC.

Proof: Notice \( S/x_1 \) refers to the strengthening operation for AMC (as in Figure 4) while \( [S]_A / \exists f \) refers to the strengthening operation for EMC (as in Figure 11). To prove this lemma, we need to show the following: given an EMC type path \( p.t \), let \( x_1 \) be the root identifier in \( p \), and \( F(p) \) denotes the EMC constructor \( \exists f \) if \( p = x_1 \), and \( \#(F(p)) \) if \( p = p'.x \), then the judgement \( \Gamma \vdash p.t \equiv \#(F(p)) \) is valid in EMC. \( \Box \)
\[\begin{aligned}
\text{path} & \quad p \ ::= \ x \mid \tau_1(p) \mid \tau_2(p) \\
\text{mexp} & \quad m \ ::= \ p \mid \tau(e) \mid \tau(\mu) \mid (x = m_1, m_2) \\
\text{sig} & \quad S \ ::= \ \forall (\mu) \mid \text{TYP} \mid \Sigma x : S_1.S_2 \mid \Pi x : S_1.S_2 \\
\text{ctxp} & \quad \mu \ ::= \ \pi(p) \mid \ldots \\
\text{ctxp} & \quad e \ ::= \ \pi_0(p) \mid \ldots \\
\text{mtyp} & \quad M \ ::= \ \forall (\tau) \mid \exists Q(\tau) \mid \Sigma x : M_1.M_2 \mid \Pi x : L_1.L_2 \\
\text{ctxp} & \quad \tau \ ::= \ \pi_0(m) \mid \ldots \\
\text{cmte} & \quad m' \ ::= \ x \mid (\mu(e) \mid \text{TYP}) \mid \Sigma x : L_1.L_2 \\
\text{ctxp} & \quad e' \ ::= \ \pi_0(m') \mid \ldots \\
\text{ctx} & \quad \Gamma \ ::= \ e \mid \Gamma ; x : M \mid \Gamma ; x : L \\
\end{aligned}\]

Figure 16: Syntax of the transparent module calculus TMC

\[\begin{aligned}
\text{ctxp formation} & \quad \vdash \Gamma \ ok \\
\text{mtyp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash M \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash L \\
\text{ctxp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\text{cmte formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash m' : M \\
\text{ctxp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash e' : \tau \\
\text{ctxp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash e : \tau \\
\text{mexp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash m : M \\
\text{sig formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash S \\
\text{ctxp formation} & \quad \Gamma \vdash \mu \\
\text{ctxp equivalence} & \quad \Gamma \vdash \tau_1 \equiv \tau_2 \\
\text{mtyp equivalence} & \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 \equiv M_2 \text{ or } \Gamma \vdash L_1 \equiv L_2 \\
\text{ctxp substitution} & \quad \Gamma \vdash M \leq L \\
\text{mtyp strengthening} & \quad L/m' \Rightarrow M \\
\end{aligned}\]

Figure 17: Static semantics for TMC: a summary

4.2 The transparent module calculus TMC

We use the Transparent Module Calculus (TMC) as a representative of the strong-sum-based approach. The syntax of TMC is given in Figure 16; the static semantics is summarized in Figure 17; the complete typing rules are given in Appendix C.

Following other strong-sum-based module systems [26, 28, 36], we distinguish module signatures (S) from module types (M and L); module signatures are source-level specifications while module types are semantic objects used for typechecking.

A module signature can either contain a single value specification (\(\forall (\mu)\)), a single type specification (\(\text{TYP}\)), or a pair of two other module components (\(\Sigma x : S_1.S_2\)); it can also be a functor signature (\(\Pi x : S_1.S_2\)). Only simple access paths (\(\pi(p)\)) are allowed in a specification. An \(L\)-shaped module type is like a module signature except that in its value specification \(\forall (\tau)\), core type \(\tau\) can contain arbitrary module expressions (\(m'\)). \(M\)-shaped module types are slightly different from \(L\)-shaped ones: they allow \textit{manifest types} (or type abbreviations) of form \(\exists Q(\tau)\) but no flexible type specification of form \(\text{TYP}\). The module expression \(m'\) inside the core type \(\tau\) helps achieve the fully transparent propagation of the sharing information in TMC.

\[\text{ctxp formation} \vdash \Gamma \ ok \]

A module expression in TMC can either be an access path (\(p\)), a single-value-component module (\(\lambda x.(\mu)\)), a single-type-component module (\(\lambda x.(\text{TYP})\)), a strong sum of two module components (\(x = m_1, m_2\)), a function (\(\lambda x : S \mapsto m\)), a function application (\(p_1(p_2)\)), or a local expression.

To simplify the presentation, we restrict the TMC functor application to work on simple access paths only (i.e., \(p_1(p_2)\)). Arbitrary function applications (e.g., \(m_1(m_2)\)) can just be A-normalized into the restricted form using \(\lambda x\) expressions. We also do not support type abbreviations in signatures. We insist that \(M\) be a subtype of \(L\) if they have same number of components (see the subtyping rules \(\Gamma \vdash M \leq L\) in Appendix C). These restrictions do not affect the main result because it is easy (but tedious) to extend TMC and the TMC-to-EMC translation to support the additional features.

Figure 18 summarizes the translation from TMC to EMC; the actual definition is given in Appendix D. Here, \(\vdash \Gamma\) maps TMC contexts, core types (in signatures), signatures, core expressions, access paths, and module expressions into their EMC counterparts; \(\vdash \Gamma\) maps TMC module types into EMC kinds. The translation from TMC types to EMC types is based on the type formation rules, so the judgement \(\Gamma \vdash \tau \rightarrow \tau'\) maps the TMC core type \(\tau\) into an EMC core type \(\tau'\); the judgements \(\Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow S\) and \(\Gamma \vdash L \rightarrow S\) map the TMC module types \(M\) or \(L\) into an EMC signature \(S\). We also use judgements \(\Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow C\) and \(\Gamma \vdash M' : M \rightarrow C\) to map TMC module types and expressions (embedded inside core types) into EMC constructors. We can prove the following type preservation theorem for the TMC-to-EMC translation:

\[\text{Theorem 4.3: Given a TMC context } \Gamma, \text{ we have:}\]

\[\begin{array}{l}
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash \mu \text{ is a valid deduction in TMC, then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \ \text{ok is valid in EMC; similarly,}\n\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash \mu \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash [\mu]_n; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash S \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash [S]_n; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash e : \tau \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash \tau \rightarrow \tau' \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash [e]_n : \tau'; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash p : M \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow S \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash [p]_n : S; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash m : M \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow S \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash [m]_n : S; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash \tau \rightarrow \tau' \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash \tau'; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow S \text{ or } \Gamma \vdash L \rightarrow S \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash S; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow S \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash L \rightarrow S \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M \leq L \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash S \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash L \downarrow [L]_c \Rightarrow C \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash [\Gamma]_n \vdash S \leq [S]_C; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash M_1 \equiv M_2 \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rightarrow C_1 \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M_2 \rightarrow C_2 \text{ then } [M_1]_c \equiv [M_2]_c \text{ and } [\Gamma]_n \vdash C_1 \equiv C_2 : [M]_c; \\
\quad \text{if } \Gamma \vdash m' : M \rightarrow C_1 \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash M \rightarrow C_2 \text{ then } [\Gamma]_n \vdash C_1 \equiv C_2 : [M]_c. \\
\end{array}\]
Proof: By structural induction on the derivation tree; along the process, we need to follow the two following lemmas. □

Lemma 4.4 Given a TMC context Γ, suppose Γ ⊢ m₁ : M₁, let p = {x → m₁}, then

- if Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ M₂ then Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ ρ(M₂) ⪜ M₂.
- if Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ L₂ then Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ ρ(L₂) ⪜ L₂.
- if Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ τ then Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ ρ(τ) ⪜ τ.
- if Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ m₁ : M₂ then Γ; x : M₁ ⊢ ρ(m₁) ⪜ M₂.

Lemma 4.5 Given a TMC context Γ, a TMC module type M, an EMC constructor C, and an EMC kind K, if [Γ; x : M]ₚ ⊢ C : K is valid in EMC then [Γ],ₚ ⊢ C : K is valid in EMC as well.

4.3 Comparison with the stamp-based semantics

Compilers for the strong-sum-based calculus [26, 36] use stamps to support type generativity and abstract types (TMC did not include these features). There are still higher-order module programs that are supported by the stamp-based semantics but not by our type-theoretic semantics. Take the higher-order functor APPS as an example and consider applying it to the following functors:

```plaintext
functor G1(X: SIG) = X
functor G2(X: SIG) = struct
  abstype t = A
  with val x = A
end
```

Both applications are legal under the stamp-based semantics; applying APPS to G1 results in a module whose t component is equal to int while applying APPS to G2 creates a module whose t component is a new abstract type. Under our scheme, the transparent version of APPS cannot be applied to G2; the abstract version works for both but it does not propagate sharing when applied to G1. We believe this lack of expressiveness is not a problem in practice.

5 Implementation

A module system will not be practical if it cannot be type-checked and compiled efficiently. Our EMC calculus can be checked efficiently following the typing rules given in Section 3.2; the only nontrivial aspect of the elaboration is on how to efficiently test the equivalence between two arbitrary EMC types; we plan to use the realization-based approach used in the SML/NJ compiler [36] to propagate type definitions.

EMC is also compatible with the standard type-directed compilation techniques [18, 15, 35, 36]. Most of these techniques are developed in the context of Fω-like polymorphic lambda calculi [11, 33]. In this section, we define a Kernel Module Calculus (KMC) and show how to translate EMC into KMC and then translate KMC into an Fω-like Target Calculus (FTC).

5.1 The kernel module calculus KMC

Unlike EMC which is based on the ML syntax, the Kernel Module Calculus (KMC) uses only well-known typing constructs such as universal quantification (∀), existential quantification (∃), dependent product (Π), and transparent record (⟨·⟩) to model higher-order modules. The syntax of KMC is given in Figure 19. The static semantics for KMC is summarized in Figure 20. The complete typing rules are given in Figure 21 and in Appendix E. The EMC-to-KMC translation is summarized in Figure 22 and its complete definition is given in Appendix F.

Like other module calculi KMC supports a form of simple modules that consists of an ordered list of type, module, and value declarations—in KMC we use a record syntax (⟨·⟩) rather than str...end to represent such simple modules. Following AMC and EMC, we assume that each declaration in KMC simultaneously defines an internal name (e.g., i) and external label (e.g., x, t, v). Given a module record m = ⟨d₁, ..., dₙ⟩ (or type M = ⟨D₁, ..., Dₙ⟩, declarations (or specifications) defined later can refer to those defined earlier using the internal names.

The type structure of KMC resembles a typical predicative polymorphic λ-calculus. The constructor calculus of KMC is almost identical to that of EMC. Module kind (mkind) K characterizes module constructor (mcon) C; module type (mtyp) M models module expressions (mexp) m. An elaboration context Γ for KMC contains bindings for core variables (v), core type variables (t), module variables (x), and module type variables (u).

Opaque modules are modeled with existential types [30] and dot notation [5, 4]. Given a module path p of type ∃u : K ; M, we use πᵥ(p) to denote p’s constructor component (which should have kind K), and πᵥ(p) to denote the module component (which should have type [πᵥ(p)/u]/M). To construct an opaque module, we use the module expression of form (u : K = C ; m : M) where constructor C must be of kind K, module m must have type [C/u]/M, and the resulting module has type ∃u : K ; M.杯
KMC supports two forms of parameterized modules: one abstracted over module values (of type \( M \)); another over module constructors (of kind \( K \)). A module function \( \lambda x_i : M.m \) has the dependent product type \( \Pi x_i : M. M' \). Dependent product is necessary because we use dot notation to access opaque modules so the return type of a function might refer to the actual argument. Dot notation also allows functions in KMC to be applied to constructor access paths only, as in \( m(p) \). This is not a problem because we can always use \( \lambda \) to introduce local declarations.

Polymorphic modules in KMC are parameterized over module constructors. A module expression \( \Lambda u : K.m \) has the quantified type \( \forall u : K. M \). It can be applied to constructor \( C \) if \( C \) has kind \( K \), the result has type \( [C/u]M \).

Typing module identifier and function application in KMC (see Figure 21) is much simpler than those in AMC and EMC. First, there is no implicit “strengthening” when we access a module identifier. Second, KMC does not have any form of subtyping: to type a functor application, we must make sure that the type of the actual argument is exactly same as that of the functor’s formal argument.

**Theorem 5.1 (unique typing)** Given a KMC context \( \Gamma \) suppose \( m \) is a KMC module expression, \( M \) and \( M' \) are KMC module types, if \( \Gamma \vdash m : M \) and \( \Gamma \vdash m : M' \) then \( \Gamma \vdash M \equiv M' \).

**Proof:** Expand this theorem to cover module declarations and core language expressions; the generalized version of this theorem can be proved by structural induction on the derivation tree. 

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**Figure 20:** Static semantics for KMC: a summary

**Figure 21:** Selected typing rules for KMC: \( \Gamma \vdash m : M \) and \( \Gamma \vdash d : D \)

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**Figure 22:** Translation from EMC to KMC: a summary

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**Theorem 5.2** Given an EMC context \( \Gamma \), we have

- if \( \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \) is a valid EMC deduction then \( \vdash [\Gamma]_n \text{ok} \) is valid in KMC as well; similarly,
- if \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [\tau]_n \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash \epsilon : \tau \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [\epsilon]_n : [\tau]_n \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash C : K \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [C]_n : [K]_n \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash F : Q \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [F]_n : [Q]_n \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash H^l \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [H^l]_n \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash S^l \) then \( [\Gamma], \vdash [S^l]_n \);
kind \( K \) ::= \( \Omega \mid K_1 \to K_2 \mid \{ \lambda : K_1, \ldots, t_n : K_n \} \)

con \( C \) ::= \ldots \mid \omega : \xi ; K.C \mid \{ \lambda : C_1, \ldots, t_n : C_n \} \mid \#(C) \mid \pi_p(p)

type \( M \) ::= \( \mathbf{T}(C) \mid \{ \lambda : M_1, \ldots, t_n : M_n \} \mid \Pi \lambda : M. M' \mid \kappa : K. M \mid \exists \lambda : K. M

path \( p \) ::= x \mid p.1 \mid \pi(p)

exp \( m \) ::= \ldots \mid \lambda \omega : M.m \mid m \mid \kappa : K.m \mid [u : K = C, m : M] \mid \exists \omega : \forall \omega : L. \alpha \mid \exists \lambda : \forall \lambda : L. \alpha

cxt \( \Gamma \) ::= \epsilon \mid \Gamma ; x : M \mid \Gamma ; u : K

Figure 23: Syntax of the \( F_\omega \)-based target calculus FTC

context formation \( \vdash \Gamma \text{ ok} \)

constructor formation \( \Gamma \vdash C :: K \)

type formation \( \Gamma \vdash M \)

exp formation \( \Gamma \vdash m : M \)

constructor equivalence \( \Gamma \vdash C \equiv C' :: K \)

type equivalence \( \Gamma \vdash M \equiv M' \)

Figure 24: Static semantics for FTC: a summary

- if \( \Gamma \vdash S \) then \( [\Gamma], s \vdash [S]_s \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash p : S \) then \( [\Gamma], [p] \vdash [S]_s \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash m : S \to m' \) then \( [\Gamma], [\Gamma]_m \vdash [S]_s \);  
- if \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau' \) then \( [\Gamma], [\Gamma]_\tau \vdash [\tau]_s \equiv [\tau']_s \);  
- if \( \Gamma \vdash C \equiv C' : K \) then \( [\Gamma], [\Gamma]_C \vdash [C]_s \equiv [C']_s : K \);
- if \( \Gamma \vdash F \equiv F' \) : Q then \( [\Gamma], [\Gamma]_F \vdash [F]_s \equiv [F']_s : Q \);

Proof: By structural induction on the derivation tree; along the process, we need to use the following lemma. \( \square \)

Lemma 5.3 Given an EMC context \( \Gamma \), suppose \( S \) and \( S' \) are two instantiated EMC signatures and \( p \) is a KMC access path, if \( \Gamma \vdash S \leq S' \) is valid in EMC, and \( [\Gamma], [p] \vdash [S]_s \), is valid in KMC, and \( \Gamma \vdash S \downarrow S' \) : \( p \to m' \to m' \) coerces \( p \) into \( m' \), then \( [\Gamma], [\Gamma]_m \vdash [S]_s \), is valid in KMC.

5.2 The \( F_\omega \)-like target calculus FTC

KMC can then be easily translated into an \( F_\omega \)-like polymorphic \( \lambda \)-calculus by simply dropping all the type components in the KMC transparent records (after we inline all type definitions of course) and by merging the module constructor and the core type expressions. The result is an \( F_\omega \)-based Target Calculus (FTC) as defined in Figure 23. FTC is essentially the standard predicative variant of the FTC calculus extended with dot notation (i.e., \( \pi_p(p) \) and \( \pi_p(p) \)), existential types (3), and dependent products (\( \Pi \)). Figure 24 and Appendix G gives the typing rules for FTC. The translation from KMC to FTC is omitted since it is rather trivial.

The fact that all the module languages given in this paper can be compiled into an \( F_\omega \)-based calculus is important because immediately all important type-based compilation techniques [18, 29, 15, 29, 39] become applicable to these module languages as well. In a previous paper [36], we presented a type-preserving translation from the MacQueen-Tofte higher-order modules [25] into an \( F_\omega \)-based calculus, however, that algorithm turns all abstract types into concrete ones; this makes it hard to reason about type-directed operations on values with abstract types. The translation given in this paper rightly maps all opaque modules into abstract types, so two different types in the source calculus would not be considered as equivalent in the target calculus.

6 Related Work

Module systems have been an active research area in the past decade. The ML module system was first proposed by MacQueen [24] and later incorporated into Standard ML [27]. Harper and Mitchell [13] show that the SML’90 module language can be translated into a typed lambda calculus (XML) with dependent types. Together with Moggi, they later show that even in the presence of dependent types, type-checking of XML is still decidable [14], thanks to the phase-distinction property of ML-style modules. The SML’90 module language, however, contains several major problems; for example, type abbreviations are not allowed in signatures, opaque signature matching is not supported, and modules are first-order only. These problems were heavily researched [12, 19, 20, 23, 38, 26, 17] and mostly resolved in SML’97 [28]. The main remaining issue is to design a higher-order module calculus that satisfies all of the properties mentioned in the beginning of this paper (see Section 1.2).

Supporting higher-order functors with fully syntactic signatures turns out to be a very hard problem. In addition to the work discussed at the beginning of Section 1.2, Biswas [2] gives a semantics for the MacQueen-Tofte modules based on simple polymorphic types. His formulation differs from the phase-splitting semantics [14, 36] in that he does not treat functors as higher-order type constructors. As a result, his scheme requires encoding certain type components of kind \( \Omega \) using higher-order types—this significantly complicates the type-checking algorithm. Russo [34]’s recent work is an extension of Biswas’s semantics to support higher-order modules; he uses the existentials to model type generativity, but his type-checking algorithm still relies on the use of higher-order matching as in Biswas [2].

Our kernel module calculus (KMC) is partly inspired by the work on parameterized signatures of Mark Jones [17]. Both of our approaches use higher-order type constructors to propagate sharing information. However, our notion of signatures differ from his in that we allow type components inside the module record. In fact, our module record is a transparent sum and it can contain an ordered list of type, value, and module declarations; parameterized signatures in Jones [17] only allow value components.

7 Conclusions

A long-standing open problem on ML-style module systems is to design a calculus that supports both fully transparent higher-order functors and fully syntactic signatures. In his Ph.D. thesis [23, page 310] Mark Lillibridge made the following assessment on the difficulty of this problem:

In principle it should be possible to build a system with a rich enough type system so that both separate compilation and full transparency can be achieved at the same time. Because separate compilation requires that all information needed for type checking the uses of a functor be expressible in that functor’s interface, this goal will require functor interfaces to (optionally) contain an idealized copy of the code for the functor whose behavior
they specify, I expect such a system to be highly complicated and hard to reason about.

This paper shows that fully transparent higher-order functions can also have simple type-theoretic semantics, so they can be added to ML-like languages while still supporting true separate compilation. Our solution only involves a conservative extension over the system based on translucent sums and manifest types: modules that do not use transparent higher order functions can still have the same signature as before.

The new insight on full transparency also improves our understanding about other module constructs. Harper et al [14] and Shao [36] have given a type-preserving translation from ML-like module languages to polymorphic A-calculus $F_{\omega}$. Their phase-splitting translations, however, do not handle opaque modules well—abstract types must be made concrete during the translation. Our new translation rightly turns opaque modules and abstract types into simple existential types.

Higher-order functions and fully syntactic signatures allow us to accurately express the linking process of ML module programs inside the module language itself. In the future we plan to use the module calculus presented in this paper to formalize the configuration [22] and mutually recursive compilation units [9, 8].

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References


A.1 ctxt formation: \[ \Gamma \vdash \] ok

\[ \varepsilon \vdash \] ok

\[ \Gamma \vdash \] H

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{sig end} \] (7)

\[ \Gamma; H_1; \ldots; H_{k-1} \vdash H_k \quad k = 1, \ldots, n \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{sig H}_1; \ldots; H_n \text{ end} \] (8)

\[ \Gamma \vdash S \quad \Gamma; x_i : S \vdash S' \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{f sig}(x_i : S) : > S' \] (9)

A.2 ctyp formation: \[ \Gamma \vdash \tau \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ t_i \in \Gamma \text{ or } t_i = \tau \in \Gamma \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_i \] (3)

\[ \Gamma \vdash p : S \quad S = \{ \ldots, t_i = \tau, \ldots \} \text{ or } \{ \ldots, t_i, \ldots \} \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash p.t \] (4)

A.3 cexp formation: \[ \Gamma \vdash \] e : \tau

\[ \varepsilon \vdash \] ok

\[ \Gamma \vdash \] H

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ v_i : \tau \in \Gamma \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash v_i : \tau \] (5)

\[ \Gamma \vdash p : \text{sig H}_1, \ldots, H_{k-1}, H_n \text{ end} \]

\[ \rho \equiv \{ t_i \mapsto p.t, x_i \mapsto p.x \mid t_i, x_i \in \text{Dom}(X) \} \]

\[ \text{where } X = H_1, \ldots, H_{k-1} \text{ and } H_k = (t_i : \tau) \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash p.v : \rho(\tau) \] (6)

A.4 sig formation: \[ \Gamma \vdash S \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \] ok

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{sig end} \]

\[ \Gamma; H_1; \ldots; H_{k-1} \vdash H_k \quad k = 1, \ldots, n \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{sig H}_1; \ldots; H_n \text{ end} \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash S \quad \Gamma; x_i : S \vdash S' \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{f sig}(x_i : S) : > S' \]

A.5 spec formation: \[ \Gamma \vdash H \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ t_i \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma) \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash x_i : S \] (10)

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_i \] (11)

\[ \Gamma \vdash \tau \]

\[ t_i \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma) \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_i = \tau \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \tau \]

\[ v_i : \tau \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash v_i : \tau \] (13)

A.6 ctyp equivalence: \[ \Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau' \]

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ t_i \equiv \tau \in \Gamma \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_i \] (14)

\[ \Gamma \vdash p : \text{sig H}_1, \ldots, H_{k-1}, H_n \text{ end} \]

\[ \rho \equiv \{ t_i \mapsto p.t, x_i \mapsto p.x \mid t_i, x_i \in \text{Dom}(X) \} \]

\[ \text{where } X = H_1, \ldots, H_{k-1} \text{ and } H_k = (t_i : \tau) \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash p.t \equiv \rho(\tau) \] (15)

B Static Semantics for EMC

This appendix gives the rest of the typing rules for the external module calculus EMC. The formation rules for module expressions (\[ \Gamma \vdash m : S \]) and module declarations (\[ \Gamma \vdash d : H \]) are given in Figure 5 in Section 3.1. The subsumption rules for signatures (\[ \Gamma \vdash S \subseteq S' \]), and specifications (\[ \Gamma \vdash H \leq H' \]) are given in Figure 6 in Section 3.1.

B.1 ctxt formation: \[ \vdash \Gamma \] ok

\[ \varepsilon \vdash \] ok

\[ \Gamma \vdash \] H

\[ \Gamma \vdash \text{ok} \]

\[ u \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma) \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash u : K \] (18)
The side condition on H_k in this rule is not absolutely necessary. If we remove this requirement, we essentially allow free flexroot references such as \( \overline{x_i} \) even when \( x_i \) is a locally declared structure component. To make this work, we need revise the EMC signature-strengthening operation so that all references to \( \overline{x_i} \) are substituted by equivalent constructors that have no such references. The new routine is shown in Figure 25 where \( S/C \) is now implemented as \( S/(C : \text{knf}(S)) ; \emptyset \) with \( \emptyset \) denoting the identity substitution. The auxiliary procedures \( S/(C : K) ; \rho \Rightarrow S' \) means that instantiating \( S \) by constructor \( C \) of kind \( K \) under substitution \( \rho \) yields signature \( S' \), and \( H/(C : K) ; \rho \Rightarrow H' ; \rho' \) means that strengthening specification \( H \) by constructor \( C \) of kind \( K \) under substitution \( \rho \) yields specification \( H' \) and new substitution \( \rho' \).

\[
\begin{align*}
S/C & \text{ is a shorthand of } S/(C : \text{knf}(S)) ; \emptyset \\
p_0 = p & \quad H_j/(C : K) ; \rho_{j-1} \Rightarrow H'_j ; \rho_j \quad j = 1, \ldots, n \\
(\text{sig } H_1 \ldots H_n \text{ end})/(C : K) ; \rho & \Rightarrow \text{sig } H'_1 \ldots H'_n \text{ end} \\
(f \text{sig}(x_i) ; \rho) & \Rightarrow f \text{sig}(x_i) ; S' \\
K = K' & \Rightarrow K'' \\
S/(C[K'']) ; \rho & \Rightarrow S'' \\
(f \text{sig}(x_i) ; S')/(C[K]; \rho) & \Rightarrow f \text{sig}(x_i) ; S' \\
K = K' & \Rightarrow K'' \\
S/(C[K'']) ; \rho & \Rightarrow S'' \\
(f \text{sig}(x_i) ; S')/(C[K]; \rho) & \Rightarrow f \text{sig}(x_i) ; S'
\end{align*}
\]

B.2 ctyp formation: \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma & \vdash ok \quad t_i \in \Gamma \text{ or } t_i = \tau \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma & \vdash t_i
\end{align*}
\]

B.3 cexp formation: \( \Gamma \vdash e : \tau \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma & \vdash ok \quad v_i : \tau \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma & \vdash v_i : \tau
\end{align*}
\]

B.4 sig formation: \( \Gamma \vdash S \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma & \vdash ok \\
\Gamma & \vdash \text{sig end}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\forall x_i \in \text{Dom}(H_1 \ldots H_{k-1}) & \text{, } \overline{x_i} \text{ is not free in } H_k \\
\Gamma & ; H_1 \ldots H_{k-1} \vdash H_k & \quad k = 1, \ldots, n \\
\Gamma & \vdash \text{sig } H_1 \ldots H_n \text{ end}
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 25: Signature strengthening in EMC (revised)
\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash C : K' \\
\Gamma \vdash (\lambda u. C[u]) \equiv C : K \rightarrow K'
\end{align*}
\]
(36)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash C \equiv \{\ldots, x = C', \ldots\} : \{\ldots, x : K', \ldots\} \\
\Gamma \vdash \#x(C) \equiv C' : K'
\end{align*}
\]
(37)

\[
\begin{align*}
K = \{Q_1, \ldots, Q_n\} & \quad \Gamma \vdash C : K \\
\Gamma \vdash E_j \equiv (l\neq \#l(C)) : Q_j & \quad j = 1, \ldots, n, l = x, t;
\end{align*}
\]
(38)

B.8 mcfd equivalence: \(\Gamma \vdash F \equiv F' : Q\)

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

B.9 mknd subsumption: \(\vdash K \leq K'\)

Rules for reflexivity and transitivity are omitted.

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma : \{1, \ldots, m\} & \rightarrow \{1, \ldots, n\} \\
\vdash Q_{\sigma(j)} \leq Q'_j & \quad j = 1, \ldots, m \\
\vdash [Q_1, \ldots, Q_n] & \leq [Q'_1, \ldots, Q'_n] \\
\vdash K'_1 \leq K_1 & \quad \vdash K_2 \leq K'_2 \\
\vdash K_1 \rightarrow K_2 & \leq K'_1 \rightarrow K'_2
\end{align*}
\]
(39)

B.10 mkfd subsumption: \(\vdash Q \leq Q'\)

Rules for reflexivity and transitivity are omitted.

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash K \leq K' \\
\vdash x : K \leq x : K'
\end{align*}
\]
(40)

C Static Semantics for TMC

This appendix gives the complete typing rules for the transparent module calculus TMC.

C.1 ctxt formation: \(\vdash \Gamma \ \text{ok}\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \varepsilon : \text{ok}
\end{align*}
\]
(42)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash M & \quad x \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma) \\
\vdash \Gamma ; x : M \ \text{ok}
\end{align*}
\]
(43)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash L & \quad x \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma) \\
\vdash \Gamma ; x : L \ \text{ok}
\end{align*}
\]
(44)

C.2 ctyp formation: \(\Gamma \vdash \tau\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash m' : EQ(\tau) \\
\Gamma \vdash m(m')
\end{align*}
\]
(45)

C.3 ctme formation: \(\Gamma \vdash m' : M\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \ \text{ok} & \quad x : L \in \Gamma \\
\vdash L / x \Rightarrow M \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash x : M
\end{align*}
\]
(46)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \ \text{ok} & \quad x : M \in \Gamma \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash x : M
\end{align*}
\]
(47)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash e' : \tau \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash t_\ast(e') : \forall(\tau)
\end{align*}
\]
(48)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \mu(\tau) : EQ(\tau)
\end{align*}
\]
(49)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash m' : \Sigma x : M_1, M_2 \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \pi(m') : M_1
\end{align*}
\]
(50)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash m' : \Sigma x : M_1, M_2 & \quad \rho = \{x \mapsto \pi_1(m')\} \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \pi_2(m') : \rho(M_2)
\end{align*}
\]
(51)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash m'_1 : M_1 & \quad \Gamma ; x : M_1 \vdash m'_2 : M_2 \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash (x : m'_1, m'_2) : \Sigma x : M_1. M_2
\end{align*}
\]
(52)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma ; x : L \vdash m' : M \\
\vdash \lambda x : L.m' : \Pi x : L. M
\end{align*}
\]
(53)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash m'_1 : M_1 & \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 \leq L_1 \\
\vdash \Gamma ; x : M_1 \vdash m'_2 : M_2 \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \text{let} x = m'_1 \ in \ m'_2 : M_2
\end{align*}
\]
(54)

C.4 ctce formation: \(\Gamma \vdash e' : \tau\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash e' : \forall(\tau) \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \pi_\ast(m') : \tau
\end{align*}
\]
(56)

C.5 mtyp formation: \(\Gamma \vdash M\) and \(\Gamma \vdash L\)

Rules for module types of form \(M:\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \forall(\tau)
\end{align*}
\]
(57)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\vdash \Gamma \vdash EQ(\tau)
\end{align*}
\]
(58)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma ; x : M_1 \vdash M_2 \\
\vdash \Sigma x : M_1. M_2
\end{align*}
\]
(59)
\[
\Gamma; x : L \vdash M \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x : L \; M
\] (60)

Rules for module types of form \( L \):

\[
\Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\Gamma \vdash V(\tau)
\] (61)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{TYP}
\] (62)

\[
\Gamma; x : L_1 \vdash L_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Sigma x : L_1. L_2
\] (63)

\[
\Gamma; x : L_1 \vdash L_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x : L_1. L_2
\] (64)

\section*{C.6 cexp formation: \( \Gamma \vdash e : \tau \)}

\[
\Gamma \vdash \mu \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{V}(\mu)
\] (65)

\section*{C.7 ctsp formation: \( \Gamma \vdash \mu \)}

\[
\Gamma \vdash p : \text{V}(\tau) \\
\Gamma \vdash \pi_n(p) : \tau
\] (66)

\section*{C.8 sig formation: \( \Gamma \vdash S \)}

Adding bindings such as “\( x : S \)” to the context \( \Gamma \) is fine because each signature \( S \) is also a module type of form \( L \).

\[
\Gamma \vdash \nu \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{V}(\nu)
\] (67)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{TYP}
\] (68)

\[
\Gamma; x : S_1 \vdash S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Sigma x : S_1. S_2
\] (69)

\[
\Gamma; x : S_1 \vdash S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x : S_1. S_2
\] (70)

\section*{C.9 mexp formation: \( \Gamma \vdash m : M \)}

\[
\vdash \Gamma \; \text{ok} \\
x : L \in \Gamma \\
L/x \Rightarrow M \\
\Gamma \vdash x : M
\] (71)

\[
\vdash \Gamma \; \text{ok} \\
x : M \in \Gamma \\
\Gamma \vdash x : M
\] (72)

\[
\Gamma \vdash p : \Sigma x : M_1. M_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \pi_n(p) : M_1
\] (73)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \rho : \Sigma x : M_1. M_2 \\
\rho = \{x \mapsto \pi_n(p)\} \\
\Gamma \vdash \pi_n(p) : \rho(M_2)
\] (74)

\[
\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \\
\Gamma \vdash \lambda e : \text{V}(\tau)
\] (75)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \tau \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{V}(\tau)
\] (76)

\[
\Gamma \vdash m_1 : M_1 \\
\Gamma; x : M_1 \vdash m_2 : M_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \langle x = m_1, m_2 \rangle : \Sigma x : M_1. M_2
\] (77)

\[
L = S \\
\Gamma; x : L \vdash m : M \\
\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : S. m : \Pi x : L. M
\] (78)

\[
\Gamma \vdash p_1 : \Pi x : L_1. M_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash p_2 : M_1 \\
\Gamma \vdash M_1 \leq L_1 \\
\rho = \{x \mapsto p_2\} \\
\Gamma \vdash p_1(p_2) : \rho(M_2)
\] (79)

\[
\Gamma \vdash m_1 : M_1 \\
\Gamma \vdash m_2 : M_2 \\
\Gamma; x : M_1 \vdash m_2 : M_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = m_1 \text{ in } m_2 : M_2
\] (80)

\section*{C.10 ctyp equivalence: \( \Gamma \vdash \tau_1 \equiv \tau_2 \)}

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

\[
\Gamma \vdash m' : \text{EQ}(\tau) \\
\Gamma \vdash \pi_n(m') \equiv \tau
\] (81)

\section*{C.11 mtyp equivalence: \( \Gamma \vdash M_1 \equiv M_2 \) and \( \Gamma \vdash L_1 \equiv L_2 \)}

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

\section*{C.12 mtyp subsumption: \( \Gamma \vdash M \leq L \)}

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{EQ}(\tau) \leq \text{TYP}
\] (82)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \tau_1 \equiv \tau_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \nu(\tau_1) \leq \nu(\tau_2)
\] (83)

\[
\Gamma \vdash M_1 \leq L_1 \\
\Gamma; x : M_1 \vdash M_2 \leq L_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Sigma x : M_1. M_2 \leq \Sigma x : L_1. L_2
\] (84)

\[
\Gamma \vdash M_1 \leq L_1 \\
\Gamma; x : M_1 \vdash M_2 \leq L_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x : L_1. M_2 \leq \Pi x : L_1. L_2
\] (85)

19
C.13  mtyp strengthening: \( L/m' \Rightarrow M \)

\[
\forall(\tau)/m' \Rightarrow \forall(\tau)
\]

(86)

\[
\text{TYP/m'} \Rightarrow \text{EQ}(\pi(m'))
\]

(87)

\[
L_1/\pi(m') \Rightarrow M_1 \quad L_2/\pi(m') \Rightarrow M_2 \\
\Sigma x: L_1.L_2/m' \Rightarrow \Sigma x: M_1.M_2
\]

(88)

\[
\frac{L_2/m'(x) \Rightarrow M_2}{L_1.L_2/m' \Rightarrow L_1.L_2/m'}
\]

(89)

D  Translation from TMC to EMC

This appendix gives the complete translation algorithm from TMC to EMC; the main translation is denoted by \( \cdot \); the auxiliary function that maps from \( M \) or \( L \) to EMC kind \( K \) is denoted by \( \cdot \); the translation from \( M \) or \( L \) to EMC signature \( S \) is represented as \( \Gamma \vdash M \leadsto S \) and \( \Gamma \vdash L \leadsto S \); the translation from \( M \) or \( m' \) to EMC constructor \( C \) is represented as \( \Gamma \vdash M \leadsto C \) and \( \Gamma \vdash m' : M \leadsto C \); the translation from \( \tau \) to EMC core type expression \( \tau' \) is represented by \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \leadsto \tau' \).

Throughout the translation, we use \( \text{fst} \) and \( \text{snd} \) to denote EMC module labels, \( \text{ops} \) for an EMC value label, and \( \text{typ} \) for an EMC type label. A TMC module identifier \( x \) is translated to an EMC identifier \( \text{fst} \) where \( \text{fst} \) is an EMC module label and \( x \) denotes the stamp.

D.1  ctxt-to-ctxt translation: \([\Gamma]_n \Rightarrow \Gamma\)

\[
[x]_n = x \\
[\Gamma; x: L]_n = [\Gamma]_n; \text{fst}: S
\]

\[
[\Gamma; x: M]_n = [\Gamma]_n; \text{fst}: S
\]

D.2  ctp-to-ctyp translation: \([\mu]_n \Rightarrow \tau\)

\[
[\pi(p)]_n = [p]_n; \text{ops}
\]

D.3  sig-to-sig translation: \([S]_n \Rightarrow S\)

\[
[\forall(\mu)]_n = \text{sig ops}:[\mu]_n \text{ end} \\
[\text{TYP}]_n = \text{sig typ} \text{ end} \\
[Sx: S_1.S_2]_n = \text{sig fst} \text{ x}[S_1]_n; \\
\quad \text{snd} : [S_2]_n \text{ end} \\
[\Pi x: S_1.S_2]_n = \text{fsig}(\text{fst} \text{ x}[S_1]_n): [S_2]_n
\]

D.4  cexp-to-cexp translation: \([e]_n \Rightarrow e\)

\[
[\pi(e)]_n = [e]_n; \text{ops}
\]

D.5  path-to-path translation: \([p]_n \Rightarrow p\)

\[
[x]_n = \text{fst} \\
[\pi(p)]_n = [p]_n; \text{fst} \\
[\pi\pi(p)]_n = [p]_n; \text{snd}
\]

D.6  mexp-to-mexp translation: \([m]_n \Rightarrow m\)

\[
[\mu]_n = [\mu]_n \\
[\nu(e)]_n = \text{str ops} = [e]_n \text{ end} \\
[{\nu}(\mu)]_n = \text{str typ} = [\mu]_n \text{ end} \\
[\{x = m_1, m_2\}]_n = \text{str fst} = [m_1]_n; \\
\quad \text{snd} = [m_2]_n \text{ end} \\
[\lambda x: S.n]_n = \text{fct}(\text{fst} \text{ x}[S]_n)[m]_n \\
[\pi1(p_2)]_n = [\pi1(n)[p_2]_n] \\
[\text{let } x = m_1 \text{ in } m_2]_n = \text{let } \text{fst} = [m_1]_n \text{ in } [m_2]_n
\]

D.7  ctyp-to-ctyp translation: \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \Rightarrow \tau' \)

The translation of a core type in TMC is based on its formation rules. Given a well-formed core type \( \tau \) in context \( \Gamma \), it is translated into EMC type \( \tau' \) if and only if the judgement \( \Gamma \vdash \tau \Rightarrow \tau' \) is valid.

\[
\Gamma \vdash m': M \leadsto C \\
\Gamma \vdash \pi1(m') \leadsto \#\text{typ}(C)
\]

D.8  mtyp-to-sig translation: \( \Gamma \vdash M \Rightarrow S\)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \forall(\tau) \Rightarrow \text{sig ops}; \tau' \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{EQ}(\tau) \Rightarrow \text{sig typ}; \tau' \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash M_1 \Rightarrow S_1 \quad \Gamma; x: M_1 \Rightarrow M_2 \Rightarrow S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Sigma x: M_1.M_2 \Rightarrow \text{sig fst} \text{ x}: S_1; \\
\quad \text{snd} : S_2 \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash L_1 \Rightarrow S_1 \quad \Gamma; x: L_1 \Rightarrow L_2 \Rightarrow S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x: L_1.L_2 \Rightarrow \text{fsig}(\text{fst} \text{ x}: S_1): S_2
\]

D.9  mtyp-to-sig translation: \( \Gamma \vdash L \Rightarrow S\)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \forall(\tau) \Rightarrow \text{sig ops}; \tau' \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{TYP} \Rightarrow \text{sig typ} \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash L_1 \Rightarrow S_1 \quad \Gamma; x: L_1 \Rightarrow L_2 \Rightarrow S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Sigma x: L_1.L_2 \Rightarrow \text{sig fst} \text{ x} : S_1; \\
\quad \text{snd} : S_2 \text{ end} \\
\Gamma \vdash L_1 \Rightarrow S_1 \quad \Gamma; x: L_1 \Rightarrow L_2 \Rightarrow S_2 \\
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x: L_1.L_2 \Rightarrow \text{fsig}(\text{fst} \text{ x}: S_1): S_2
\]
D.10 mtyp-to-kind translation: \([M]_c \mapsto K\)

\[
\begin{align*}
[\forall \tau]_c & = \{\} \\
[\forall \tau]_c & = \{\text{typ} : \Omega\} \\
[\Sigma x : M_1. M_2]_c & = \{\text{fst} : [M_1]_c, \text{snd} : [M_2]_c\} \\
[\Pi x : L. M]_c & = [L]_c \rightarrow [M]_c
\end{align*}
\]

D.11 mtyp-to-kind translation: \([L]_c \mapsto K\)

\[
\begin{align*}
[\forall \tau]_c & = \{\} \\
[\forall \tau]_c & = \{\text{typ} : \Omega\} \\
[\Sigma x : L_1. L_2]_c & = \{\text{fst} : [L_1]_c, \text{snd} : [L_2]_c\} \\
[\Pi x : L_1. L_2]_c & = [L_1]_c \rightarrow [L_2]_c
\end{align*}
\]

D.12 mtyp-to-mcon translation: \(\Gamma \vdash M \leadsto C\)

\(M\)-shaped TMC module types can be translated into EMC module constructors. The translation is based on the type formation rules for \(M\).

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma & \vdash \forall \tau \leadsto \{\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash \forall \tau \leadsto \tau' \\
\Gamma & \vdash \exists \tau \leadsto \{\text{typ} = \tau'\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash M_1 \leadsto C_1 \\
\Gamma & \vdash M_1 \leadsto M_2 \\
\Gamma & \vdash \Sigma x : M_1. M_2 \leadsto \{\text{fst} = C_1, \text{snd} = C_2\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash \Pi x : L_1. M_2 \leadsto \lambda u : [L_1]_c. \rho(C) \\
\Gamma & \vdash x : L \vdash m' : M \leadsto C \\
\Gamma & \vdash \lambda x : L. m' : \Pi x : L. M \leadsto \lambda u : [L]_c. \rho(C)
\end{align*}
\]

D.13 ntm-to-mcon translation: \(\Gamma \vdash m' : M \leadsto C\)

All TMC module expressions \((m')\) embedded inside the core types can be translated into EMC module constructors. The translation is based on the formation rules for \(m'\).

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma & \vdash \forall \tau \leadsto \{\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash \forall \tau \leadsto \tau' \\
\Gamma & \vdash \exists \tau \leadsto \{\text{typ} = \tau'\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash M_1 \leadsto C_1 \\
\Gamma & \vdash M_1 \leadsto M_2 \\
\Gamma & \vdash \Sigma x : M_1. M_2 \leadsto \{\text{fst} = C_1, \text{snd} = C_2\} \\
\Gamma & \vdash \Pi x : L_1. M_2 \leadsto \lambda u : [L_1]_c. \rho(C) \\
\Gamma & \vdash x : L \vdash m' : M \leadsto C \\
\Gamma & \vdash \lambda x : L. m' : \Pi x : L. M \leadsto \lambda u : [L]_c. \rho(C)
\end{align*}
\]

E Static Semantics for KMC

This appendix gives the rest of the typing rules for the kernel module calculus KMC. The formation rules for module expressions \((\Gamma \vdash m : M)\) and module declarations \((\Gamma \vdash d : D)\) are given in Figure 21 in Section 5.1.

E.1 ctxt formation: \(\vdash \Gamma \text{ ok}\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (90) \\
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (91) \\
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (92)
\end{align*}
\]

E.2 ctyp formation: \(\Gamma \vdash \tau\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (93) \\
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (94) \\
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (95)
\end{align*}
\]

E.3 cexp formation: \(\Gamma \vdash e : \tau\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (96) \\
\vdash \epsilon \in \tau & \quad (97)
\end{align*}
\]
E.4 mcon formation: $\Gamma \vdash C : K$

\[
\vdash \Gamma \vdash o_k : u : K \in \Gamma \quad \vdash \Gamma \vdash u : K
\]

(98)

\[
\Gamma \vdash p : \exists u : K.M
\]

(99)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \pi_e(p) : K
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash F_j : Q_j\quad \Gamma \vdash \{F_1, \ldots, F_n\} : \{Q_1, \ldots, Q_n\}
\]

(100)

\[
\Gamma \vdash C : K'\quad K' = \{\ldots, x : K, \ldots\}
\]

(101)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \#x(C) : K
\]

\[
\Gamma ; u : K \vdash C : K'
\]

(102)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \lambda u : K.C : K \rightarrow K'
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash C_1 : K \rightarrow K'\quad \Gamma \vdash C_2 : K
\]

(103)

\[
\Gamma \vdash C_1 | C_2 : K'
\]

E.5 mcfield formation: $\Gamma \vdash F : Q$

\[
\Gamma \vdash \tau
\]

(104)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \pi_e(t) : \{t : \Omega\}
\]

(105)

\[
\Gamma \vdash C : K
\]

(106)

\[
\Gamma \vdash x = C : (x : K)
\]

E.6 mtyp formation: $\Gamma \vdash M$

\[
\vdash \Gamma \vdash o_k
\]

(107)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \{D_2, \ldots, D_n\}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \{D_1, \ldots, D_n\}
\end{array}
\]

(108)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma ; x : M \vdash M'
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \Pi x_i : M.M'
\end{array}
\]

(109)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma ; u : K \vdash M
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \forall u : K.M
\end{array}
\]

(110)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma ; u : K \vdash M
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \exists u : K.M
\end{array}
\]

E.7 mtfd formation: $\Gamma \vdash D$

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash M \quad x_i \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma)
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash x_i : M
\end{array}
\]

(111)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash \tau \quad t_i \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma)
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash t_i = \tau
\end{array}
\]

(112)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \tau
\]

(113)

E.8 ctyp equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash \tau \equiv \tau'$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash o_k \quad t_i = \tau \in \Gamma
\end{array}
\]

(114)

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\vdash \Gamma \vdash t_i = \tau
\end{array}
\]

(115)

\[
\Gamma \vdash p : \{D_1, \ldots, D_n\}
\]

\[
\rho = \{t_i \mapsto p.t, x_i \mapsto p.x \mid t_i, x_i \in \text{Dom}(X)\}
\]

where $X = D_1, \ldots, D_{n-1}$ and $D_k = t_i = \tau$

\[
\Gamma \vdash p.t' = \rho(\tau)
\]

(116)

E.9 mcon equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash C \equiv C' : K$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

\[
\rho = \{u \mapsto C'\}
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash C : K\quad \Gamma \vdash C : K'
\]

(117)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \lambda u : K.C[C'] = \rho(C) : K'
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash C : K'\quad \Gamma \vdash C : K
\]

(118)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \lambda u : K.C[u]) = \rho(C) : K'
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash C \equiv \{\ldots, x = C', \ldots\} \vdash \{\ldots, x : K', \ldots\}
\]

(119)

\[
\Gamma \vdash \#x(C) \equiv C' : K'
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash \#x(C) \equiv C' : K'
\]

(120)

E.10 mcfd equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash F \equiv F' : Q$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

E.11 mtyp equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash M \equiv M'$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

E.12 mtfd equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash D \equiv D'$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.
This appendix gives a type-preserving translation algorithm from EMC to KMC. To make the presentation easier, we first modify the EMC syntax to distinguish different uses of module access paths:

\[
\text{path} \quad p \quad ::= \quad x_i \mid p.x \quad \text{mexp} \quad m \quad ::= \quad \text{fct}(x_i : S)m \mid p_1(p_2) \quad (p : \triangleright S) \mid \text{let } d \in m
\]

Here, we use (p) to denote the places where a module path p is used as a stand-alone module expression. We then separate the formation rules for module paths from regular module expressions:

\[
\text{path formation} \quad \Gamma \vdash p : S \quad \text{mexp formation} \quad \Gamma \vdash m : S
\]

As a result of this reorganization, we add the following rule to the mexp formation:

\[
\Gamma \vdash (p) : S
\]

The EMC-to-KMC translation is denoted as [\cdot]_s. A special auxiliary function that translates EMC signature S into KMC existential module type M is denoted as [\cdot]_b.

F.1 ctxt-to-ctxt translation: [\Gamma]_s \mapsto \Gamma

\[
[x]_s = \epsilon \\
[\Gamma; t_1 = r]_s = [\Gamma]_s ; t_1 = [r]_s \\
[\Gamma; v_i : \tau]_s = [\Gamma]_s ; v_i : [\tau]_s \\
[\Gamma; x_i : S]_s = [\Gamma]_s ; x_i : [S]_b \\
[\Gamma; u : K]_s = [\Gamma]_s ; u : K
\]

F.2 ctyp-to-ctyp translation: [\tau]_s \mapsto \tau

\[
[t_i]_s = t_i \\
[p.t]_s = [p]_s ; t \\
[#t(C)]_s = #t([C]_s)
\]

F.3 cexp-to-cexp translation: [e]_s \mapsto e

\[
[v_i]_s = v_i \\
[p.v]_s = [p]_s ; v
\]

F.4 mcdf-to-mcdf translation: [F]_s \mapsto F

\[
[(t = r)]_s = (t = [r]_s) \\
[(x = C)]_s = (x = [C]_s)
\]

F.5 mcon-to-mcon translation: [C]_s \mapsto C

The case for \(\overline{f}\) cannot occur since all of their free references have been replaced by a new constructor variable in KMC.

\[
\{F_1, \ldots, F_n\}_s = \{[F_1]_s, \ldots, [F_n]_s\} \\
[#x(C)]_s = #x([C]_s) \\
[\lambda u : M.C]_s = \lambda u : [C]_s \\
[C_1[C_2]_s] = [C_1]_s[[C_2]_s] \\
[C]_s = C \\
[\overline{f}]_s = \pi_2(x_1)
\]

F.6 path-to-path translation: [p]_s \mapsto p

\[
[x]_s = \pi_v(x_1) \\
[p.x]_s = [p]_s . x
\]

F.7 sig-to-mtyp translation: [S]_b \mapsto M \text{ and } [S]_s \mapsto M

The translation from EMC signature to KMC module type is defined as:

\[
[S]_b = \exists u : \text{kn}(S) \cdot [S/u]_s
\]

Here the internal translation [\cdot]_s is applied to instantiated signatures only:

\[
[s ig \ H[1, \ldots, H_n]_s] = \{[H_1]_s, \ldots, [H_n]_s\} \\
[f sig(x_1:S) : S']_s = \forall u : \text{kn}(S) \cdot \Pi x_1 : [S/u]_s \\
\pi_v(x_1) \mapsto u, \pi_v(x_1) \mapsto x_1 \cdot [S'_b] \\
\}

F.8 mexp-to-mexp translation: \Gamma \vdash m : S \leadsto m'

The translation from EMC mexp to KMC mexp is conducted along the EMC typing rules. Given a context \(\Gamma\), an EMC module expression m is translated into a KMC expression m’ if and only if \(\Gamma \vdash m : S \leadsto m'\).

In the following, we use \(\oplus m\) to denote a KMC module expression “let \(x_i = m' \in m[x_i]\)’ where \(x_i\) is a module identifier that does not occur free in m.

\[
\Gamma \vdash p : S \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{kn}(S) \Rightarrow C \quad M = [S/u]_s \\
\Gamma \vdash (p) : S \leadsto (u : \text{kn}(S) = [C]_s, [p]_s : M)
\]

Note: according to Lemma 3.1, S is an instantiated signature, so \(\text{kn}(S)\) is always an empty kind \{\} and C is an empty constructor \{\}. We always pack each structure expression this way so that we can uniformly translate each structure identifier \(x_i\) in EMC into \(\pi_v(x_i)\) in KMC.

\[
\Gamma; x_1 : S \vdash m : S' \leadsto m' \quad \rho = \pi_v(x_1) \leadsto u, \pi_v(x_1) \mapsto x_1 \cdot m'' = \Lambda u : \text{kn}(S) \cdot \pi_v : [S/u]_s, \rho(m')
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{fct}(x_1 : S)m : \text{fsig}(x_1 ; S) : S' \leadsto m''
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{fsig}(x_1 : S) : S' \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{kn}(S) \Rightarrow C \\
\Gamma \vdash S'' \downarrow (S/C) : [p_2]_s \Rightarrow M \quad \rho = \overline{f} (u \mapsto C, x_i : p) \\
\Gamma \vdash p_1(p_2) : \rho(S') \leadsto \bigoplus [p_1]_s[[C]_s]_s m
\]

\[
\vdash \Gamma ak \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{str end}; \text{sig end} \leadsto \langle u : \{\} = \{\}, \{\} = \{\} \rangle
\]
### F.9 memexp translation with coercion: \( \Gamma \vdash S \downarrow S' : p \leadsto m' \)

Given two instantiated EMC signatures \( S \) and \( S' \), suppose \( \Gamma \vdash S \leq S' \), the coercion transformation \( \Gamma \vdash S \downarrow S' : p \leadsto m' \) turns the KMC path \( p \) with type \( |S'| \), into a KMC expression \( m' \) with type \( |S| \). Note the deduction rules given below only work when \( S \) and \( S' \) are instantiated signatures.

To simplify the presentation, we use \( X \) to represent an ordered list of EMC specifications; this can either be an empty list (\( \varepsilon \)) or a specification followed by another list (\( H, X \)). Similarly, we use \( ds \) to represent an ordered list of KMC module fields.

\[
\Gamma \vdash \text{sig} X \text{ end} \downarrow \text{sig} X' \text{ end} : p \leadsto \{ds\}
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash \varepsilon \vdash \varepsilon : p \leadsto \varepsilon
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash H_1 \downarrow H'_1 : p \leadsto d_1 \quad \Gamma ; H_1 \vdash X \downarrow X' : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma ; H \vdash X \downarrow X' : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash (H_1, X) \downarrow (H'_1, X') : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma ; \text{sig} X \text{ end} \downarrow \text{sig} X' \text{ end} : p \leadsto \{ds\}
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash \varepsilon \vdash \varepsilon : p \leadsto \varepsilon
\]

\[
\Gamma \vdash H_1 \downarrow H'_1 : p \leadsto d_1 \quad \Gamma ; H_1 \vdash X \downarrow X' : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma ; H \vdash X \downarrow X' : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma ; (H, X) \downarrow (H', X') : p \leadsto ds
\]

\[
\Gamma ; \text{sig} X \text{ end} \downarrow \text{sig} X' \text{ end} : p \leadsto \{ds\}
\]
G.4 expression: $\Gamma \vdash m : M$

$$\frac{\vdash \Gamma \text{ ok } \quad x : M \in \Gamma}{\vdash \Gamma \vdash x : M} \tag{136}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash p : \{\ldots, l : M, \ldots\} \quad \Gamma \vdash \ l : M \tag{137}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p : \exists u : K.M \quad \rho = \{u \mapsto \pi_v(p)\}}{\vdash \Gamma \vdash \pi_v(p) : \rho(M)} \tag{138}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash m_k : M_k \quad k = 1, \ldots, n}{\Gamma \vdash \{h = m_1, \ldots, l_n = m_n\} : \{l_1 : M_1, \ldots, l_n : M_n\}} \tag{139}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \ x : M \vdash m : M'}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : M.m : \Pi x : M. M'} \tag{140}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash m : \Pi x : M. M' \quad \Gamma \vdash p : M}{\Gamma \vdash m(p) : \{x \mapsto p\}(M')} \tag{141}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; u : K \vdash m : M}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda u : K.m : \forall u : K. M} \tag{142}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash m : \forall u : K. M \quad \Gamma \vdash C : K}{\Gamma \vdash m[C] : \{u \mapsto C\}(M)} \tag{143}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash C : K \quad \Gamma \vdash m : \{u \mapsto C\}(M)}{\Gamma \vdash \{u : K = C, m : M\} : \exists u : K. M} \tag{144}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash m_1 : M_1 \quad \Gamma; x : M_1 \vdash m_2 : M_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{ let } x = m_1 \text{ in } m_2 : M_2} \tag{145}$$

G.5 constructor equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash C \equiv C' : K$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.

$$\frac{\rho = \{u \mapsto C'\} \quad \Gamma \vdash C' : K \quad \Gamma; u : K \vdash C : K'}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda u : K.C)[C'] \equiv \rho(C) : K'} \tag{146}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash C : K'}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda u : K.C[u]) \equiv C : K \rightarrow K'} \tag{147}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash C \equiv \{\ldots, l = C', \ldots\} : \{\ldots, l : K', \ldots\}}{\Gamma \vdash \#(C) \equiv C' : K'} \tag{148}$$

$$\frac{K = \{l_1 : K_1, \ldots, l_n : K_n\} \quad \Gamma \vdash C_l \equiv \#(C) : K_i \quad i = 1, \ldots, n}{\Gamma \vdash \{l_1 = C_1, \ldots, l_n = C_n\} \equiv C : K} \tag{149}$$

G.6 type equivalence: $\Gamma \vdash M \equiv M'$

Rules for congruence, reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are omitted.