

Relational Semantics of Linear Logic and Higher-order Model Checking

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Abstract

In this article, we develop a new and somewhat unexpected connection between higher-order model-checking and linear logic. Our starting point is the observation that once embedded in the relational semantics of linear logic, the Church encoding of a higher-order recursion scheme (HORS) comes together with a dual Church encoding of an alternating tree automata (ATA) of the same signature. Moreover, the interaction between the relational interpretations of the HORS and of the ATA identifies the set of initial states of the tree automaton from which the infinite tree generated by the recursion scheme is accepted. We show how to extend this result to alternating parity automata (APT) by introducing a parametric version of the exponential modality of linear logic, capturing the formal properties of colors (or priorities) in higher-order model-checking. We show in particular how to reunderstand in this way the type-theoretic approach to higher-order model-checking developed by Kobayashi and Ong. We briefly explain in the end of the paper how this analysis driven by linear logic results in a new and purely semantic proof of decidability of the formulas of the monadic second-order logic for higher-order recursion schemes.

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1 Introduction

Thanks to the seminal works by Girard and Reynolds on polymorphism and parametricity in the 1970s, it has been recognized that every finite tree t on a given signature Σ can be seen alternatively as a simply-typed λ -term of an appropriate type depending on Σ . This correspondence between trees and λ -terms is even bijective if one considers λ -terms up to $\beta\eta$ -equivalence, see for instance Girard [8]. Typically, a finite tree t on the signature

$$\Sigma = \{a : 2, b : 1, c : 0\} \tag{1}$$

is the same thing under this Church encoding as a simply-typed λ -term t of type

$$(o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o) \rightarrow (o \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o \rightarrow o \tag{2}$$

modulo $\beta\eta$ -equivalence. The idea underlying the correspondence is that every constructor a, b, c of the signature Σ should be treated as a variable

$$a : o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o \quad b : o \rightarrow o \quad c : o \tag{3}$$



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where the number of inputs o in the type $o \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow o \rightarrow o$ of the variable a, b, c indicates the arity of the combinator. An equally well-known fact is that this translation extends to infinite trees generated by higher-order recursion schemes on the signature Σ if one extends the simply-typed λ -calculus with a fixpoint operator Y . For example, the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} on the signature Σ

$$\mathcal{G} = \begin{cases} S & \mapsto F a b c \\ F x y z & \mapsto x (y z) (F x y (y z)) \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

constructs the infinite tree

$$[[\mathcal{G}]] = \begin{array}{c} a \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ b \quad a \\ | \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ c \quad b \quad a \quad \dots \\ | \quad | \quad | \\ b \quad b \quad b \\ | \quad | \quad | \\ c \quad c \quad c \end{array} \quad (5)$$

and can be formulated as a λ -term of the same type (3) as previously but defined in the simply-typed λ -calculus extended with the fixpoint operator Y :

$$\lambda abc. ((Y (\lambda F. (\lambda xyz. x (y z) (F x y (y z)))))) a b c \quad (6)$$

A natural temptation is to study the correspondence between higher-order recursion schemes (4) and simply-typed λ -terms with fixpoints (6) from the resource-aware point of view of linear logic. Recall that the intuitionistic type (2) is traditionally translated in linear logic as the formula

$$A = !(!o \multimap !o \multimap o) \multimap !(!o \multimap o) \multimap !o \multimap o.$$

As expected, the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} in (4) can be translated as a proof t_A of this formula A in linear logic extended with a fixpoint operator Y . An amusing and slightly puzzling observation is that the scheme \mathcal{G} can be alternatively translated as a proof t_B of the formula B below:

$$B = !(o \multimap o \multimap o) \multimap !(o \multimap o) \multimap !o \multimap o$$

with the same underlying simply-typed λ -term with fixpoint operator Y . The difference between the terms t_A and t_B is not syntactic, but type-theoretic: in the case of the term t_A , the type A indicates that each tree-constructor a, b and c of the signature Σ is allowed to call its hypothesis as many times as desired:

$$a : !o \multimap !o \multimap o \quad b : !o \multimap o \quad c : o$$

whereas in the case of the term t_B , the type B indicates that each variable a, b, c calls each of its hypothesis exactly once:

$$a : o \multimap o \multimap o \quad b : o \multimap o \quad c : o$$

As a matter of fact, it appears that the proof t_B is the image of the proof t_A along a canonical coercion of linear logic

$$\vdash \iota : A \multimap B.$$

The status of this program transformation ι is difficult to understand unless one recalls that linear logic is based on the existence of a perfect duality between the programs of a given type A and their environments or counter-programs which are typed by the linear negation A^\perp of the original type A . Accordingly, since the two terms t_A and $t_B = \iota \circ t_A$ are syntactically equal, their difference should lie in the class of counter-programs of type A^\perp or B^\perp which are allowed to interact with them. This idea takes its full flavour in the context of model-checking, when one realizes that every tree automaton \mathcal{A} on the signature Σ may be seen as a counter-program whose purpose is indeed to interact with t_A or t_B in order to check whether a specific property of interest is satisfied by the infinite tree $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ generated by the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} . This leads to the tentative duality principle:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{higher-order} & & \\ \text{recursion schemes } \mathcal{G} & \rightsquigarrow & \text{tree automata } \mathcal{A} \end{array}$$

where a tree automaton \mathcal{A} on the signature Σ is thus seen as a counter-program of type A^\perp or B^\perp interacting with the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} seen as a program of type A or B . An apparent obstruction to this duality principle is that, in contrast to what happens with recursion schemes \mathcal{G} , it is in general impossible to translate a tree automaton \mathcal{A} as a proof of linear logic — in particular because linear logic lacks non-determinism. However, one neat way to resolve this matter and to extend linear logic with non-determinism is to embed the logic in its relational semantics, based on the monoidal category Rel of sets and relations. The relational semantics of linear logic is indeed entitled to be seen as a non-deterministic extension of linear logic where every nondeterministic tree automaton $\mathcal{A} = \langle \Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0 \rangle$ may be “implemented” by interpreting the base type o as the set Q of states of the automaton, and by interpreting each variable a, b, c as the following relations

$$a : Q \multimap Q \multimap Q \quad b : Q \multimap Q \quad c : Q$$

deduced from the transition function δ of the automaton:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \{(q_1, q_2, q) \in Q \times Q \times Q \mid (1, q_1) \wedge (2, q_2) \in \delta(q, a)\} \\ b &= \{(q_1, q) \in Q \times Q \mid (1, q_1) \in \delta(q, b)\} \\ c &= \{q \in Q \mid \delta(q, c) = \text{true}\} \end{aligned}$$

The nondeterministic tree automaton \mathcal{A} is then interpreted as the counter-program $\mathcal{A}_B = !a \otimes !b \otimes !c \otimes d$ of type

$$B^\perp = !(Q \multimap Q \multimap Q) \otimes !(Q \multimap Q) \otimes !Q \otimes Q^\perp.$$

obtained by tensoring the three relations a, b, c lifted with by the exponential modality $!$ together with the singleton $d = \{q_0\}$ consisting of the initial state of the automaton, and understood as a counter-program of type Q^\perp . Note that by composition with the contraoposite $\iota^\perp : B^\perp \multimap A^\perp$ of the coercion ι , one gets a counter-program $\mathcal{A}_A = \iota^\perp \circ \mathcal{A}_B$ of type

$$A^\perp = !(!Q \multimap !Q \multimap Q) \otimes !(!Q \multimap Q) \otimes !Q \otimes Q^\perp.$$

Note also that when the type o is interpreted as Q in the relational model, the counter-programs of type B^\perp of the form $!a \otimes !b \otimes !c \otimes d$ with $d = \{q_0\}$ correspond exactly to the non-deterministic tree automata on the signature Σ with set of states Q and initial state q_0 . The difference between the two types A and B becomes very clear and meaningful at this stage: shifting to the type A^\perp enables one to extend the class of nondeterministic

tree automata to nondeterministic *alternating* tree automata \mathcal{A} with typical transitions of the form

$$\delta(q, a) = (1, q_1) \wedge (1, q_2) \quad (7)$$

meaning that the tree automaton \mathcal{A} meeting the tree $a(t_1, t_2)$ at state q explores the left subtree t_1 *twice* with states q_1 and q_2 and does not explore *at all* the right subtree t_2 . Such a transition $\delta(q, a)$ is typically represented in the relational semantics of linear logic by the singleton relation

$$a = \{ (\{q_1, q_2\}, \emptyset, q) \} : !Q \multimap !Q \multimap Q \quad (8)$$

where one uses the set $!Q$ of finite multisets of Q to encode the transition (7) with the finite multiset $\{q_1, q_2\}$ consisting of the two states $q_1, q_2 \in Q$ and the empty multiset \emptyset of states. It should be stressed that a tree automaton \mathcal{A} admitting such an “alternating” transition $\delta(q, a)$ *cannot* be encoded as a counter-program of type B^\perp because the transitions of the tree automaton \mathcal{A} are *linear* in that type and thus explore *exactly* once each subtree t_1 and t_2 of the tree $a(t_1, t_2)$. Summarizing the current discussion, we are entitled to consider that each linear type A^\perp and B^\perp reflects a specific class of tree automata on the signature Σ :

$$\begin{aligned} B^\perp &\leftrightarrow \text{non-deterministic tree automata} \\ A^\perp &\leftrightarrow \text{non-deterministic alternating tree automata} \end{aligned}$$

Accordingly, the purpose of the coercion ι from t_A to t_B is to restrict the power of the class of alternating non-deterministic tree automata allowed to explore the infinite tree $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ generated by the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} of signature Σ .

Description of the paper. The purpose of this paper is to show that this duality between recursion schemes and tree automata underlies several of the recent developments in the field of higher-order model-checking. To that purpose, after recalling in §2 the notion of alternating parity tree automaton and of monadic second-order logic over trees, we start by establishing in §3 an equivalence between the intersection type system introduced by Kobayashi to describe infinitary coinductive proofs, and an infinitary variant of the traditional relational semantics of linear logic developed in [10]. This correspondence between an intersection type system and a relational semantics of linear logic adapts to the field of higher-order model-checking ideas dating back to Coppo, Dezani, Honsell and Longo [4] and recently revisited by Terui [27] and independently by de Carvalho [5] in order to establish complexity properties of evaluation in the simply-typed λ -calculus. It may be also seen as an account based on linear logic of the semantic approach to higher-order model-checking developed by Aehlig in the early days of the field [1]. The main contribution of the paper is the observation developed in §4 that this correspondence between intersection type systems and the relational semantics of linear logic extends to alternating parity games, and thus to the full hierarchy of the modal μ -calculus. This extension relies on the construction of a *parametric comonad* in the sense of [18] defined as a family of modalities \Box_m indexed by colors (or priorities) $m \in \mathbb{N}$, equipped with a series of structural morphisms satisfying suitable coherence properties. The resulting intersection type system provides a clean and conceptual explanation for the type system designed by Kobayashi and Ong [17] in order to accommodate the hierarchy of colors. In particular, we show that a simpler but equivalent treatment of colors is possible. Finally, we explain in §4 in what sense the parametric comonad exhibited at the level of intersection types corresponds to a traditional notion of exponential modality at the level of the relational semantics of linear logic. We obtain in this way a semantic reformulation of alternating

parity games in an infinitary and colored variant of the relational semantics of linear logic. In particular, just as for finitary tree automata, there exists an accepting run-tree from an initial state $q \in Q$ of the alternating parity automaton if and only if the state q is an element of the composite (in the relational semantics) of the recursion scheme with the tree automaton.

2 Logical specification and automata theory

2.1 Monadic second-order logic and modal μ -calculus

The purpose of higher-order model-checking is to abstract the behavior of a functional program with recursion as a tree approximating the set of its potential executions, and then to specify a logical property to check over this tree. The tradition in higher-order model-checking is to consider monadic second-order logic, a well-balanced choice between expressivity – it contains most other usual logics over trees – and complexity: the satisfiability of a formula is decidable for infinite structures of interest – as infinite trees (Rabin 1969). Higher-order verification has a different approach: the question is whether a *given tree* satisfies the formula – or whether an equivalent automaton accepts it. A key step towards an automata-theoretic approach to MSO comes from the work by Janin and Walukiewicz[15]:

► **Theorem.** *MSO is equi-expressive to modal μ -calculus over trees.*

Recall that modal μ -calculus formulas are defined by the grammar

$$\phi ::= X \mid \underline{f} \mid \phi \vee \phi \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid \Box \phi \mid \diamond_i \phi \mid \mu X. \phi \mid \nu X. \phi$$

for $f \in \Sigma$. Given a ranked tree, the semantics of a formula is the set of nodes where it holds. The predicate \underline{f} is true on f -labelled nodes, $\Box \phi$ is true on nodes whose successors all satisfy ϕ , $\diamond_i \phi$ is true on nodes whose i^{th} successor satisfies ϕ , and the μ and ν are two fixpoints operators which can be understood in two different manners. Semantically, they are dual operators, μ and ν being respectively the least and greatest fixpoint on the semantics of formulas.

Given a Σ -labelled ranked tree whose set of nodes is N , whose branching structure is given by a finite family of successor functions $\text{succ}_i : N \rightarrow N$, and whose labelling is described by a function $\text{label} : N \rightarrow \Sigma$, the semantics of a closed modal μ -calculus formula ϕ is defined as $\|\phi\|_{\emptyset}$ where \emptyset denotes the unique function $\emptyset \rightarrow N$, and for a function $\mathcal{V} : \text{Var} \rightarrow N$ and a modal μ -calculus formula ψ , the semantics $\|\psi\|_{\mathcal{V}}$ are defined inductively:

- $\|a\|_{\mathcal{V}} = \{n \in N \mid \text{label}(n) = a\}$
- $\|X\|_{\mathcal{V}} = \mathcal{V}(X)$
- $\|\neg\phi\|_{\mathcal{V}} = N \setminus \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{V}}$
- $\|\phi \vee \psi\|_{\mathcal{V}} = \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{V}} \cup \|\psi\|_{\mathcal{V}}$
- $\|\diamond_i \phi\|_{\mathcal{V}} = \{n \in N \mid \text{ar}(n) \geq i \text{ and } \text{succ}_i(n) \in \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{V}}\}$
- $\|\mu X. \phi(X)\|_{\mathcal{V}} = \bigcap \{M \subseteq N \mid \|\phi(X)\|_{\mathcal{V}[X \leftarrow M]} \subseteq M\}$

where $\mathcal{V}[X \leftarrow M]$ coincides with \mathcal{V} except on X which it maps to M . The semantics of \wedge , \Box and ν are defined using de Morgan duality.

Another understanding of μ and ν is syntactic and closer to automata theory: both allow the unfolding of formulas

$$\mu X. \phi[X] \rightarrow_{\mu} \phi[\mu X. \phi[X]] \text{ and } \nu X. \phi[X] \rightarrow_{\nu} \phi[\nu X. \phi[X]]$$

but \rightarrow_μ may only be expanded finitely, while \rightarrow_ν is unconstrained. The semantics of a formula may then be understood as the set of positions from which it admits unfoldings which are logically true and which do not use \rightarrow_μ infinitely.

2.2 Alternating parity tree automata

From this syntactic interpretation of fixpoints over formulas, we can define a class of automata corresponding to modal μ -calculus, namely *alternating parity tree automata* (APT), whose purpose is to synchronise the unraveling of formulas with symbols of the tree. These automata are top-down tree automata, with two additional features:

- *alternation*: they have the power to duplicate or drop subtrees, and to run with a different state on every copy,
- and *parity conditions*: since run-trees are infinitary by nature, these automata discriminate *a posteriori* the run-tree unfolding \rightarrow_μ infinitely.

The transition function takes values in positive Boolean formulas over couples of states and directions, its generic shape being

$$\delta(q, a) = \bigvee_{i \in I} \bigwedge_{j \in J_i} (d_{i,j}, q_{i,j}) \quad (9)$$

which consists of a non-deterministic choice of i followed by the execution of $|J_i|$ copies of the automaton, each on the successor in direction $d_{i,j}$ of the current node, with state $q_{i,j}$.

When for every $i \in I$ and every direction d there is a unique $j \in J_i$ such that $d_{i,j} = d$, we recover the usual notion of *non-deterministic* parity automaton. States of an APT may be understood as subformulas of the formula of interest, so that some correspond to subformulas $\mu X. \phi$ and others to subformulas $\nu X. \phi$. To exclude infinite unfoldings of μ , every state q is attributed a *color* $\Omega(q) \in \mathbb{N}$. States in the immediate scope of a μ receive an odd color, and the others an even one. If q corresponds to a subformula of q' , then the coloring will satisfy $\Omega(q) \leq \Omega(q')$. The construction of Ω is such that the greatest color among the ones seen infinitely often in an infinite branch informs the automaton about which fixpoint operator was unfolded infinitely along it.

A branch of a run-tree is *winning* when the greatest color seen infinitely often along it is even. A run-tree is declared *winning* when all its infinite branches are. Emerson and Jutla [7] prove that every modal μ -calculus formula ϕ can be translated to an equivalent APT \mathcal{A}_ϕ , in the sense that

► **Theorem.** *Given a Σ -labelled ranked tree T , ϕ holds at the root of T if and only if \mathcal{A}_ϕ has a winning run-tree over T .*

3 The type-theoretic approach to higher-order model-checking

Developing an idea by Hosoya, Pierce and Vouillon [14], Kobayashi designed in [16] a type-theoretic account of higher-order model-checking in the particular case of an alternating tree automata (ATA) testing for coinductive properties — and thus *without* parity conditions. In this section, we briefly recall his terminology and results, and explain the hidden connection with relational semantics.

3.1 Recursion schemes and simply-typed λ -terms with fixpoint

Given a ranked alphabet Σ , we will consider in this paper two kinds of Σ -labelled trees of finite or countable depth:

- *ranked* trees, typically generated by higher-order recursion schemes, in which the number of children of a node labelled with $f \in \Sigma$ is equal to the arity $\text{ar}(f)$ of its label,
- *unranked* trees, typically used to describe run-trees of alternating automata, and where the previous arity constraint is relaxed.

Given a base type o , we will consider the set \mathcal{K} of simple types, generated by the grammar

$$\kappa ::= o \mid \kappa \rightarrow \kappa$$

modulo associativity of the arrow to the right. Every simple type has a unique decomposition

$$\kappa = \kappa_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \kappa_n \rightarrow o$$

where n is the *arity* of κ , denoted $\text{ar}(\kappa)$. The complexity of κ is typically measured by its *order*, defined inductively by $\text{order}(\kappa) = 0$ if $n = 0$ and

$$\text{order}(\kappa) = 1 + \max(\text{order}(\kappa_1), \dots, \text{order}(\kappa_n))$$

In the sequel, following Kobayashi [16], we shall refer to simple types as *kinds*, to prevent confusions with intersection types. We write $f :: \kappa$ or $t :: \kappa$ when a symbol f or a term t has kind κ . The formalism of *higher-order recursion schemes* (HORS) on a given ranked signature Σ may be seen as equivalent to simply-typed λ -calculus with a recursion operator Y and free variables $f \in \Sigma$ of order at most 1. Consequently, every free variable $f \in \Sigma$ of the λY -term corresponding to the recursion scheme has kind

$$\underbrace{o \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow o}_{\text{ar}(f)} \rightarrow o. \quad (10)$$

where $\text{ar}(f)$ denotes the arity of the terminal $f \in \Sigma$. The normalization of the λY -term associated to the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} produces a potentially infinite ranked tree, labelled by its free variables. As we explained in the introduction, this translation of higher-order recursion schemes into λY -terms may be seen as an instance of the Church encoding of ranked trees over the signature Σ .

In order to check whether a given monadic second-order formula holds at the root of the infinite tree generated by a HORS, a traditional procedure is to explore it using an *alternating parity automaton* (APT). Every exploration of the APT produces a run-tree labelled by the same signature, but unranked because of the alternating nature of the automaton. The subclass of APT in which every state of the automaton is assigned color 0 (the least coinductive priority) defines the class of *alternating tree automata* (ATA), which can test coinductive properties like safety, but cannot test inductive properties like reachability. The definitions of HORS and APT, as well as the correspondence between APT and monadic second-order logic, are recalled in the Appendix. In the sequel, S denotes the start symbol of a recursion scheme \mathcal{G} , \mathcal{N} its set of non-terminals, and $\mathcal{R}(F)$ denotes, for every non-terminal $F \in \mathcal{N}$, the simply-typed λ -term it rewrites to as $F \rightarrow_{\mathcal{G}} \mathcal{R}(F)$ in the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} .

3.2 From kinds to intersection types

In his original work, Kobayashi reduces the study of coinductive properties of higher-order recursion schemes to the definition of an intersection type system. The general idea is that every transition of an alternating tree automaton of the form

$$\delta(q_0, \text{if}) = (2, q_0) \wedge (2, q_1) \quad (11)$$

may be understood type-theoretically as a refinement of the simple type

$$\mathbf{if} :: o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o$$

and reformulated as an *intersection type*

$$\emptyset \rightarrow (q_0 \wedge q_1) \rightarrow q_0.$$

This intersection type expresses the fact that, given any tree T_1 and a tree T_2 accepted from both states q_0 and q_1 , the composed tree $\mathbf{if} T_1 T_2$ is accepted from the state q_0 . Following this connection, Kobayashi defines for every HORS \mathcal{G} and every alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} *without parity condition* a type system $Kob(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ satisfying the following property:

► **Theorem 1** (Kobayashi [16]). *The sequent*

$$\vdash_{\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A}} S : q :: o$$

is provable in $Kob(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ if and only if there is a run-tree of \mathcal{A} over $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ with initial state q .

Note that the intersection type system $Kob(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ is somewhat ad hoc since it depends on \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{A} , in contrast to the approach developed in the present paper, based on a Church encoding of \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{A} in a single intersection type system formulated in §4 and §5.

3.3 Intersection types and the relational semantics of linear logic

As a warm-up to the next two sections §4 and §5, and to the modal treatment of colors in alternating parity tree automata (APT), we explain here in the simpler coinductive case, how to relate Kobayashi’s intersection type system for alternating tree automata (ATA) to an infinitary variant of the relational semantics of linear logic. As already explained, the Church encoding of a ranked tree over the signature $\Sigma = \{f_i : ar_i \mid i \in I\}$ defines a λY -term t of simple type o with free variables f_i of kind (10), translated as the following formula of linear logic:

$$f_i \quad : \quad \underbrace{!o \multimap \dots \multimap !o \multimap o}_{ar_i} \quad \text{for } i \in I.$$

The λY -term t itself is thus typed by the following sequent of linear logic:

$$\dots, f_i \quad : \quad ! \left(\underbrace{!o \multimap \dots \multimap !o \multimap o}_{a_i} \right), \dots \vdash t \quad : \quad o$$

From this follows that its interpretation $\llbracket t \rrbracket$ in the relational semantics of linear logic defines a subset of the following set of “higher-order states”

$$\llbracket t \rrbracket \subseteq \left[\left[\bigotimes_{i \in I} ! \left(\underbrace{!o \multimap \dots \multimap !o \multimap o}_{ar_i} \right) \multimap o \right] \right]$$

where the return type o is naturally interpreted as the set of states $\llbracket o \rrbracket = Q$ of the alternating tree automaton. As explained in the introduction, the transition function δ of the alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} is itself interpreted as a subset

$$\llbracket \delta \rrbracket \subseteq \left[\left[\big\& \left(\underbrace{!o \multimap \dots \multimap !o \multimap o}_{ar_i} \right) \right] \right]$$

which may be “strengthened” in the categorical sense as a subset

$$\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket \subseteq \left[\left[\bigotimes_{i \in I} \left(! \left(\underbrace{!o \multimap \dots \multimap !o}_{ar_i} \multimap o \right) \right) \right] \right]$$

where we turn to our advantage the well-known isomorphism of linear logic:

$$!(A \& B) \cong !A \otimes !B.$$

As explained in the introduction, a first contribution of the article is to establish the following result in the case of the traditional relational semantics of linear logic, extended here with a fixpoint operator Y :

► **Theorem 2.** *An alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} with a set of states Q has a finite accepting run-tree with initial state q_0 over the possibly infinite tree generated by a λY -term t if and only if there exists $u \in \llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket$ such that $(u, q_0) \in \llbracket t \rrbracket$, where $\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket = \mathcal{M}_{fin}(\llbracket \delta \rrbracket)$ denotes the set of finite multisets of elements of $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket$.*

Another equivalent way to state the theorem is that the set of initial states from which there exists a finite run-tree of the alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} coincides with the result of composing $\llbracket t \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket$ in the relational semantics. At this point, it appears that the only hurdle towards an extension of this theorem to the alternating tree automata with coinductive (rather than inductive) acceptance condition is the *finiteness* of multiplicities in the traditional relational interpretation of the exponential modality. For this reason, the authors developed in a companion paper [10] an *infinitary* variant \underline{Rel} of the relational model of linear logic, where the exponential modality noted there $\llbracket \! \! \! \zeta \! \! \! \rrbracket$ in order to distinguish it from the traditional $\llbracket ! \rrbracket$ transports every set A (of cardinality required to be smaller than the reals) to the set

$$\! \! \! \zeta A = \mathcal{M}_{count}(A)$$

of *finite-or-countable* multisets of elements of A . In this alternative relational semantics, there is a *coinductive* fixpoint operator Y satisfying the equations of a Conway operator, and thus providing an interpretation of the λY -calculus. The infinitary interpretation of a λY -term is denoted $\llbracket t \rrbracket_\zeta$ in order to distinguish it from the traditional finitary interpretation. Note that the interpretation $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_\zeta = \llbracket \delta \rrbracket$ is unchanged, and that its strengthening to $\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket_\zeta$ reflects now the infinitary principles of the model. In particular, it is possible to detect whether a transition has been called a countable number of times. This brings us to the second main contribution of this article, which is to adapt the previous theorem for finite accepting run-trees to the general case of possibly infinite accepting run-trees:

► **Theorem 3.** *An alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} with a set of states Q has a possibly infinite accepting run-tree with initial state q_0 over the possibly infinite tree generated by a λY -term t if and only if there exists $u \in \llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket_\zeta$ such that $(u, q_0) \in \llbracket t \rrbracket_\zeta$, where $\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket_\zeta = \mathcal{M}_{count}(\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_\zeta)$ denotes the set of finite-or-countable multisets of elements of $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_\zeta$.*

This theorem should be understood as a purely semantic counterpart to Theorem 1. The connection is provided by the foundational and elegant work by Bucciarelli and Ehrhard [2, 3] on indexed linear logic, which establishes a nice correspondence between the elements of the relational semantics and a finitary variant of intersection types. By shifting from finite to finite-or-countable multisets and intersection types, we are able to recover here the discriminating power of general alternating tree automata. In particular, the set of

initial states of the alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} from which there exists a (finite or infinite) accepting run-tree is equal to the composition of $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\xi}$ and of $\llbracket \delta^{\dagger} \rrbracket_{\xi}$ in our infinitary variant of the relational semantics.

We should mention however that there is a minor difference between our semantic result and the original Theorem 1, related to the fact that Kobayashi chose to work in a type system where intersection is understood as an idempotent operation. This choice is motivated in his work by the desire to keep the type system finitary, and thus to obtain decidability results. We prefer to work here with an infinitary relational semantics, corresponding to an infinitary and non-idempotent variant of Kobayashi's intersection type system. The reason is that shifting from an infinitary to an idempotent intersection type system corresponds from a semantic point of view to shifting from an infinitary relational semantics to its extensional collapse. Ehrhard [6] has recently established that the extensional collapse of the relational semantics is provided by a lattice model, where the formulas of linear logic are interpreted as partially ordered sets. This means that the corresponding intersection type systems should include a subtyping relation, as well-understood for instance by Terui in [27]. This subtyping relation is not mentioned in the original work by Kobayashi [16] nor in the later work by Kobayashi and Ong [17] and although their final result is certainly valid, this omission has lead to much confusion.

4 A type-theoretic account of alternating parity automata

4.1 Colored intersection types

After designing in [16] the type-theoretic approach to alternating tree automata recalled in the previous section, Kobayashi carried on in this direction and generalized it with Ong [17] to the larger class of alternating *parity* automata. The basic idea of this work is to incorporate coloring annotations in the intersection types, in order to reflect in the type system the parity conditions of the tree automata. Suppose for instance that a binary terminal $a \in \Sigma$ induces a transition $\delta(q, a) = (1, q_1) \wedge (2, q_2)$ in an alternating parity tree automaton with coloring function $\Omega : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. In that case, the terminal a is assigned in [17] the intersection type

$$a \quad : \quad (q_1, m_1) \rightarrow (q_2, m_2) \rightarrow q \quad (12)$$

where $m_1 = \max(\Omega(q_1), \Omega(q))$ and $m_2 = \max(\Omega(q_2), \Omega(q))$ are colors indicating to the type system the colors of the states q, q_1, q_2 of the parity tree automaton. In order to prepare the later development of paper, we find useful to simplify the colored intersection type system originally formulated by Kobayashi and Ong, and to stress at the same time the modal nature of colors (or priorities) in higher-order model-checking. So, given a set of states Q and a coloring function $\Omega : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, we define the set of colors

$$Col = \{ \Omega(q) \mid q \in Q \} \uplus \{ \epsilon \}$$

which contains the colors used by Ω , together with an additional color ϵ which will play the role of neutral element. The intersection types are then generated by the grammar

$$\begin{aligned} \theta & ::= q \mid \tau \rightarrow \theta & (q \in Q) \\ \tau & ::= \bigwedge_{i \in I} \boxplus_{m_i} \theta_i & (I \text{ finite, } m_i \in Col) \end{aligned}$$

The refinement relation between intersection types and kinds is defined by the inductive rules below:

$$\frac{q \in Q}{q :: o} \qquad \frac{\tau :: \kappa_1 \quad \theta :: \kappa_2}{\tau \rightarrow \theta :: \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2} \qquad \frac{\forall i \in I \quad \theta_i :: \kappa}{\bigwedge_{i \in I} \boxplus_{m_i} \theta_i :: \kappa}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{Axiom} \quad \frac{}{x : \bigwedge_{\{i\}} \boxplus_{\epsilon} \theta_i :: \kappa \vdash x : \theta_i :: \kappa} \quad (x \in \mathcal{V} \cup \mathcal{N}) \\
\\
\delta \quad \frac{\{(i, q_{ij}) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq k_i\} \text{ satisfies } \delta_{\mathcal{A}}(q, a)}{\emptyset \vdash a : \bigwedge_{j=1}^{k_1} \boxplus_{\Omega(q_{1j})} q_{1j} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \bigwedge_{j=1}^{k_n} \boxplus_{\Omega(q_{nj})} q_{nj} \rightarrow q :: o \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow o \rightarrow o} \quad a \in \Sigma \\
\\
\text{App} \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash t : (\boxplus_{m_1} \theta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \boxplus_{m_k} \theta_k) \rightarrow \theta :: \kappa \rightarrow \kappa' \quad \Delta_1 \vdash u : \theta_1 :: \kappa \dots \Delta_k \vdash u : \theta_k :: \kappa}{\Delta + \boxplus_{m_1} \Delta_1 + \dots + \boxplus_{m_k} \Delta_k \vdash tu : \theta :: \kappa'} \\
\\
\lambda \quad \frac{\Delta, x : \bigwedge_{i \in I} \boxplus_{m_i} \theta_i :: \kappa \vdash t : \theta :: \kappa' \quad I \subseteq J}{\Delta \vdash \lambda x. t : \left(\bigwedge_{j \in J} \boxplus_{m_j} \theta_j \right) \rightarrow \theta :: \kappa \rightarrow \kappa'}
\end{array}$$

■ **Figure 1** The type system $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$ associated to the alternating parity tree automaton \mathcal{A} .

Note that the color modality acts on intersection types and contexts by

$$\boxplus_m \left(\bigwedge_{i \in I} \boxplus_{m_i} \theta_i \right) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \boxplus_{\max(m, m_i)} \theta_i \quad \boxplus_m (x : \tau, \Delta) = x : \boxplus_m \tau, \boxplus_m \Delta$$

Note also that the neutral color ϵ is only introduced here to allow a uniform definition of types and contexts. It does not affect the coloring of types, and should be understood as the *absence* of a coloring annotation. From this, one obtains an intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$ parametrized by the alternating tree automaton \mathcal{A} , whose rules are given in Figure 1. Here we use the Hebrew letter \mathfrak{P} which should be read “tsadi”. The resulting type system $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$ enables us to type the rewriting rules of a higher-order recursion scheme

$$\Delta \vdash \mathcal{R}(F) : \sigma :: \kappa \tag{13}$$

where the non-terminals occurring in the λ -term $\mathcal{R}(F)$ appear as variables in the context Δ of the typing judgement. On the other hand, the intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$ does not include a fixpoint operator Y and for that reason does not accomodate recursion.

4.2 Interpretation of recursion

In order to accomodate recursion in the intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$, we need to extend it with a rule *fix* whose purpose is to expand the non-terminals $F \in \mathcal{N}$ of the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} in order to obtain possibly infinitary derivation trees. So, given a higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} and an alternating parity automaton \mathcal{A} , we define the intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ as $\mathfrak{P}(\mathcal{A})$ where we add the recursion rule

$$\text{fix} \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash \mathcal{R}(F) : \theta :: \kappa}{F : \boxplus_{\epsilon} \theta :: \kappa \vdash F : \theta :: \kappa} \quad \text{dom}(\Gamma) \subseteq \mathcal{N}$$

and at the same time restrict the Axiom rule to variables $x \in \mathcal{V}$, and in particular do not allow the Axiom rule to be applied on non-terminals any more. Note that the context Δ does not appear in the conclusion of the rule *fix*, but only in its premise. The *fix* rule is thus akin to an axiom rule adapted to handle the non-terminals of the higher-order recursion scheme.

An important aspect of the resulting intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ is that its derivation trees may be of countable depth. As in Kobayashi’s original type system, this infinitary nature of the intersection type system enables one to reflect the existence of infinitary runs

in the alternating parity automaton \mathcal{A} . In order to articulate the parity condition of the automaton with the typing derivations, a color is assigned to each node of the derivation tree, in the following way:

- the node $\Delta_i \vdash u : \theta_i :: \kappa$ is assigned the color m_i in every Application rule

$$\frac{\Delta \vdash t : (\boxplus_{m_1} \theta_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \boxplus_{m_k} \theta_k) \rightarrow \theta :: \kappa \rightarrow \kappa' \quad \cdots \quad \Delta_i \vdash u : \theta_i :: \kappa \quad \cdots}{\Delta + \boxplus_{m_1} \Delta_1 + \cdots + \boxplus_{m_k} \Delta_k \vdash tu : \theta :: \kappa'}$$

of the derivation tree,

- all the other nodes of the derivation tree are assigned the neutral color ϵ , which means in some sense that they are not colored by the typing system.

A nice aspect of our approach compared to the original formulation in [17] is that the parity condition traditionally applied to the alternating parity automaton \mathcal{A} extends to a very simple parity condition on the derivation trees of $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$. Indeed, the color of an infinite branch of a given derivation tree can be defined as

- the neutral color ϵ if no other color $m \in Col$ occurs infinitely often in the branch,
- otherwise, the maximal non-neutral color $m \in Col \setminus \{\epsilon\}$ seen infinitely often.

Then, an infinite branch of the derivation tree is declared *winning* precisely when its color is an even integer (and in particular different from the neutral color). A winning derivation tree is then defined as a derivation tree whose infinite branches are all winning in the sense just explained.

4.3 Soundness and completeness

Once the notion of infinite winning derivation tree explicated, as we have just done in the previous section, there remains to relate this winning condition to the acceptance condition of alternating parity automata. To that purpose, and for the sake of the presentation, we choose to restrict ourself to *productive* recursion schemes, as it is also done in [17]. Note that it is only a very mild restriction, since every recursion scheme \mathcal{G} can be transformed in to a productive recursion scheme \mathcal{G}' which outputs a special leaf symbol Ω whenever the Böhm evaluation of the original scheme \mathcal{G} would have infinitely looped. The following theorem establishes a soundness and completeness theorem which relates the winning condition on the infinite derivation trees of $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ to the parity acceptance condition of the automaton \mathcal{A} during its exploration of the infinite tree $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ generated by the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} :

► **Theorem 4** (soundness and completeness). *Suppose given a productive recursion scheme \mathcal{G} and an alternating parity automaton \mathcal{A} . There exists a winning run-tree of \mathcal{A} over $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ with initial state q if and only if the sequent*

$$S : \boxplus_{\epsilon} q :: o \vdash S : q :: o \tag{14}$$

has a winning derivation tree in the type system $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$.

There are several ways to establish the theorem. One possible way is to establish an equivalence with the original soundness and completeness by Kobayashi and Ong [17]. One should be careful however that the original proof in [17] was incomplete, and has been corrected in the (unpublished) journal version of the paper. In order to establish the equivalence, one shows that the existence of a winning derivation tree of the sequent (14) in the intersection type system $\mathfrak{P}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ is equivalent to the existence of a winning strategy for Eve in the parity game defined in [17]. Another more direct proof is possible, based on the reformulation by Haddad [12] of Kobayashi and Ong's treatment of infinitary (rather than

simply finitary) sequences of rewrites on higher-order recursion schemes. It is in particular important to observe that the infinitary nature of computations requires to extend the usual soundness and completeness arguments based on Böhm trees, finite rewriting sequences and continuity. This point was apparently forgotten in [17] and corrected in the journal version of the paper.

5 An indexed tensorial logic with colors

The notation $\boxplus_m \theta$ is used in our intersection type system $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ as a way to stress the modal nature of colors, and it replaces for the better the notation (θ, m) used by Kobayashi and Ong in [17]. As we will see, the discovery of the modal nature of colors is fundamental, and is not just a matter of using the appropriate notation. In particular, it enables us to simplify both technically and conceptually the original intersection type system in [17]. By way of illustration, the original intersection type (12) of the binary terminal $a \in \Sigma$ considered in §4.1 is replaced by the simpler intersection type:

$$a \quad : \quad \boxplus_{n_1} q_1 \rightarrow \boxplus_{n_2} q_2 \rightarrow q \quad (15)$$

where $n_1 = \Omega(q_1)$ and $n_2 = \Omega(q_2)$. Interestingly, the color of the state q is not mentioned in the type anymore. The reason is that this alternative account of colors achieved in our type system is not just “simpler” than the original one: it also reveals a deep and somewhat unexpected connection with linear logic, since as we will see, this “disappearance” of the color $\Omega(q)$ in (15) is related to the well-known linear decomposition $A \Rightarrow B = !A \multimap B$ of the intuitionistic implication in linear logic. One essential difference however is that the exponential modality « ! » of linear logic is replaced by a family of modal boxes $\Omega(m)$ which formally defines what Melliès calls a *parametric comonad* in [21][19].

This key observation enables us to translate the intersection type system $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ into an infinitary variant of linear logic equipped with a family of color modalities noted \square_m for $m \in \mathbb{N}$. A nice feature of the translation is that it transports the intersection type system $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ which depends on \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{A} into an intersection type system which does not depend on them anymore — although it still depends on the set Q of states of the automaton. The infinitary variant of linear logic which we use for the translation is

- *indexed* in the sense of Bucciarelli and Ehrhard [2, 3]. In particular, the finite or countable intersection types $\bigwedge_{i \in I} \theta_i$ of $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ are translated as finite or countable indexed families $\{\theta_i \mid i \in I\}$ of formulas of the logic,
- *tensorial* in the sense of Melliès [22, 20, 21]. In this specific case, every negated formula of the logic is negated with respect to a specific state $q \in Q$ of the automaton, and is thus of the form $\sigma \multimap q$, which may be alternatively written as $\neg_q \sigma$ or even as $\overset{q}{\neg} \sigma$.

In this way, one obtains an indexed and colored variant of tensorial logic, called $LT(Q)$ in the sequel, and whose formulas are inductively generated by the following grammar:

$$A, B ::= 1 \mid A \otimes B \mid \neg_q A \mid \square_m A \mid [A_j \mid j \in J] \quad (m \in Col, q \in Q)$$

As already mentioned, following the philosophy in [3], the finite or countable indexed set $[\sigma_j \mid j \in J]$ internalizes the intersection operator of $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ in our indexed tensorial logic, see our companion paper [9] for details. Importantly, the resulting indexed logic $TL(Q)$ can be used as an intersection type system refining the simply-typed λ -calculus in just the same way as $\mathfrak{r}_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$, see the Appendix . In particular, the fact that \square defines a parametric monoidal comonad in the logic means that the sequents

$$\begin{array}{c} \Box_\epsilon A \quad \vdash \quad A \\ \Box_{\max(m_1, m_2)} A \quad \vdash \quad \Box_{m_1} \Box_{m_2} A \\ \Box_m A \otimes \Box_m B \quad \vdash \quad \Box_m (A \otimes B) \end{array}$$

are provable for all colors $m, m_1, m_2 \in \mathbb{N}$, and all formulas A, B . In order to deal with recursion schemes, we admit derivation trees with finite or countable depth in the logical system $TL(Q)$. The nodes of the derivation trees of $TL(Q)$ are then colored in the following way:

- every node $\Gamma \vdash M : A :: \kappa$ in a Right introduction of the modality \Box_m :

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : A :: \kappa}{\Box_m \Gamma \vdash M : \Box_m A :: \kappa} \quad \text{Right } \Box_m$$

is assigned the color m of the modality,

- all the other nodes of the derivation tree are assigned the neutral color ϵ .

The winning condition on an infinite derivation tree of $TL(Q)$ is then directly adapted from the similar condition in $\Upsilon_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$. Thanks to this condition, we are ready to state a useful correspondence theorem between $\Upsilon_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ and $TL(Q)$ for any (productive) recursion scheme \mathcal{G} . Suppose that for each $F \in \mathcal{N}$ of kind $\kappa(F)$ of the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} , we introduce a new free variable $freeze(F)$ of kind $\kappa(F) \rightarrow \kappa(F)$; that we replace each λ -term $\mathcal{R}(F)$ by its $\beta\eta$ -long normal form; and finally, that we substitute each occurrence of F appearing in any $\beta\eta$ -long normal form $\mathcal{R}(G)$ of the recursion scheme \mathcal{G} with the λ -term $freeze(F)$ of the same kind $\kappa(F)$. This transformation induces a context-free grammar of « blocks » consisting of the $\beta\eta$ -long $\mathcal{R}(G)$'s, which generates an infinite λ -term in $\beta\eta$ -long normal form, noted $term(\mathcal{G})$, with free variables of the form $freeze(F)$. Moreover, this infinite λ -term $term(\mathcal{G})$ is coinductively typed in the simply-typed λ -calculus by the typing judgment:

$$\dots, freeze(F) : \kappa(F) \rightarrow \kappa(F), \dots \vdash term(\mathcal{G}) : o \quad (16)$$

where F runs over all the non-terminals $F \in \mathcal{N}$ of the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} . At this point, we are ready to recast our Theorem 4 in the proof-theoretic language of indexed tensorial logic:

- **Theorem 5.** *There exists a winning derivation tree in $\Upsilon_{fix}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{A})$ of the sequent*

$$S : \Box_\epsilon q_0 :: o \vdash S : q_0 :: o \quad (17)$$

if and only if there exists a winning derivation tree in $TL(Q)$ of a sequent

$$\Gamma \vdash term(\mathcal{G}) : q_0 :: o \quad (18)$$

refining the typing judgment (16).

6 Putting all together: relational semantics of linear logic and higher-model model-checking

Once the connection between higher-order model-checking and indexed tensorial logic established in §5, there remains to exhibit the associated relational semantics of linear logic, following the ideas of Bucciarelli and Ehrhard [2, 3]. This trail leads us to an infinitary and colored variant of the usual relational semantics of linear logic, developed in our companion paper [10]. The key observation guiding the construction is that the functor

$$\Box : A \mapsto Col \times A : Rel \rightarrow Rel$$

equipped with the coercion maps

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
\{((m, a), (m, b)), (m, (a, b)) \mid a \in A, b \in B, m \in Col\} & : & \Box A \otimes \Box B \rightarrow \Box (A \otimes B) \\
\{(\star, (m, \star)) \mid m \in Col\} & : & 1 \rightarrow \Box 1 \\
\{((\max(m_1, m_2), a), (m_1, (m_2, a))) \mid a \in A\} & : & \Box A \rightarrow \Box \Box A \\
\{((\epsilon, a), a) \mid a \in A\} & : & \Box A \rightarrow A
\end{array}$$

defines a lax monoidal comonad $\Box : Rel \rightarrow Rel$ on the category Rel of sets and relations. Moreover, the comonad distributes (or better: commutes) with the exponential modality ζ , in such a way that these two comonads compose into a new exponential modality of linear logic $\zeta\Box$ defined by the equation $\zeta\Box A = \zeta\Box A$. A Conway operator Y can be then defined in order to reflect in the relational semantics the definition of the winning condition on the infinite derivations of $TL(Q)$. This fixpoint operator can be seen as a combination of the inductive and coinductive fixpoints of the model, where the color of an input indicates whether the fixpoint operator should be defined inductively (when the color is odd or neutral) or coinductively (when the color is even). The relational interpretation of a λY -term t in this infinitary model is denoted as $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}$. The interpretation $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_{\zeta}$ of the transition function δ is defined similarly as for $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_{\zeta}$, except that the color information is incorporated in the semantics following the comonadic principles underlying the translation (15) in §5. Typically, the transition (11) is interpreted in the colored relational semantics as

$$([\], ((\Omega(q_0), q_0), (\Omega(q_1), q_1)), q_0)) \in \llbracket \delta \rrbracket_{\zeta}$$

The last contribution of this paper, which underlies our companion paper [10] but is not stated there, establishes a clean correspondence between the relational semantics of a higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} (seen below as a λY -term $t_{\mathcal{G}}$) and the exploration of the associated ranked tree $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ by an alternating *parity* automaton \mathcal{A} :

► **Theorem 6.** *An alternating parity tree automaton \mathcal{A} with a set of states Q has a winning run-tree with initial state q_0 over the ranked tree $\llbracket \mathcal{G} \rrbracket$ generated by the λY -term $t_{\mathcal{G}}$ if and only if there exists $u \in \llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket_{\zeta}$ such that $(u, q_0) \in \llbracket t_{\mathcal{G}} \rrbracket_{\zeta}$, where $\llbracket \delta^\dagger \rrbracket_{\zeta} = \mathcal{M}_{count}(Col \times \llbracket \delta \rrbracket_{\zeta})$ denotes the set of finite-or-countable colored multisets of elements of $\llbracket \delta \rrbracket_{\zeta}$.*

7 Related works

The field of higher-order model-checking was to a large extent started at the turn of the century by Knapik, Niwinski, Urzyczyn, who established that for every $n \geq 0$, Σ -labelled trees generated by order- n safe recursion schemes are exactly those that are generated by order- n pushdown automata, and further, that they have decidable MSO theories. The safety condition was relaxed a few years later by Ong, who established the MSO decidability for general order- n recursion schemes, using ideas imported from game semantics. Unfortunately, Ong's proof was intricate and somewhat difficult to understand. Much work was thus devoted to establish the decidability result by other means. Besides the type-theoretic approach initiated by Kobayashi [16, 17], Hague, Murawski, Ong, Serre [13] developed an automata-theoretic approach based on the translation of the higher-order recursion scheme \mathcal{G} into a collapsible pushdown automaton (CPDA), which led the four authors to another proof of MSO decidability for order- n recursion schemes. A clarifying connection was then made by Salvati and Walukiewicz between this translation of higher-order recursion schemes into CPDAs and the traditional evaluation mechanism of the environment Krivine machine [24]. Following this discovery, Salvati and Walukiewicz are currently developing a semantic approach to higher-order model checking, based on the interpretation in finite models of the λ -calculus with fixpoint operators, see [26, 25] for details. The idea of connecting linear logic to automata theory is a longstanding dream which has been nurtured by a number of important

contributions. Among them, we would like to mention the clever work by Terui [27] who developed a semantic and type-theoretic approach based on linear logic, intersection types and automata theory in order to characterize the complexity of evaluation in the simply-typed λ -calculus. In a different but related line of work, explicitly inspired by Bucciarelli and Ehrhard's indexed linear logic [2, 3], de Carvalho [5] establishes an interesting correspondence between intersection types and the length of evaluation in a Krivine machine.

8 Conclusions and perspectives

The purpose of the present paper is to connect higher-order model-checking to a series of advanced ideas in contemporary semantics, like linear logic and its relational semantics, indexed linear logic, distributive laws and parametric comonads. All these ingredients meet and combine surprisingly well. The approach reveals in particular that the traditional treatment of inductive-coinductive reasoning based on colors (or priorities) is secretly based on the same comonadic principles as the exponential modality of linear logic.

Besides the conceptual promises offered by these connections, we would like to conclude the paper by mentioning that this stream of ideas leads us to an alternative and purely semantic proof of MSO decidability for higher-order recursion schemes, after [23, 17, 13]. The basic idea is to replace the infinitary colored relational semantics constructed in §6 by a finitary variant based on the prime-algebraic lattice semantics of linear logic. From a type-theoretic point of view, this lattice semantics corresponds to an intersection type system with subtyping for linear logic recently formulated by Terui [27]. We have shown in a companion paper [11] how to recover the MSO decidability result for order- n recursion schemes by adapting to this finitary semantics of linear logic the constructions performed here for its relational semantics. One interesting feature of the resulting model of the λY -calculus is that a morphism $D \rightarrow E$ in the Kleisli category consists in a continuous function

$$f : \underbrace{D \times \dots \times D}_n \longrightarrow E$$

where n is the number of colors considered in the semantics ; and that the fixpoint Yf of a morphism $f : D \rightarrow D$ is defined in that case by the alternating formula

$$Yf = \nu x_n \cdot \mu x_{n-1} \dots \nu x_2 \cdot \mu x_1 \cdot \nu x_0 \cdot f(x_0, \dots, x_n)$$

where we suppose (without loss of generality) that n is even, where μ and ν denote the least and greatest fixpoint operators, respectively. We believe that the apparition of this simple formula and the fact that it defines a Conway operator Y and thus a model of the λY -calculus is a key contribution to the construction of a semantic and purely compositional account of higher-order model-checking.

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