Type-Based Analysis of Deadlock for a Concurrent Calculus with Interrupts

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Abstract. The goal of our research project is to establish a type-based method for verification of certain critical properties (such as deadlock- and race-freedom) of operating system kernels. As operating system kernels make heavy use of threads and interrupts, it is important that the method can properly deal with both of the two features. As a first step towards the goal, we formalize a concurrent calculus equipped with primitives for threads and interrupts handling. We also propose a type system that guarantees deadlock-freedom in the presence of interrupts. To our knowledge, ours is the first type system for deadlock-freedom that can deal with both thread and interrupt primitives.

1 Introduction

The goal of our research project is to establish a type-based method for verification of certain critical properties (such as deadlock- and race-freedom) of operating system kernels. As operating system kernels make heavy use of threads and interrupts, it is important that the method can properly deal with both of the two features. Though several calculi that deal with either interrupts [3,14] or concurrency [12,13] have been proposed, none of them deal with both.

Combination of those two features can actually cause errors which are very difficult to find manually. For example, consider the program in Figure 1. The example is taken from an implementation of a protocol stack used in an ongoing research project on cluster computing [11]. Though the original source code is written in C, the example is shown in an ML-style language. The function `flush_buffer` flushes the local buffer and sends pending packets to appropriate destinations. The function `receive_data` is called when a packet arrives. That function works as an interrupt handler (as specified in the main expression) and is asynchronously called whenever a packet arrives. Since `receive_data` calls `flush_buffer` in order for the local buffer to be flushed as soon as the function knows there is a room in the remote buffer (a similar mechanism called *congestion control* is used in TCP), the following control flow causes deadlock:

Call to `flush_buffer` → `lock(devlock)`
→ an interrupt (call to `receive_data`)
→ call to `flush_buffer` → `lock(devlock)`

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```
let flush_buffer devlock =
  let data = dequeue () in
  while !data != NULL do
    (* Interrupts should be forbidden before this lock operation *)
    lock(devlock);
    ... (* send data to the device *) ...
    unlock(devlock);
    data := dequeue ()
  done

(* interrupt handler *)
let receive_data packettype data devlock =
  ...
  (* If there is room in the remote buffer, flush the local buffer *)
  if packettype = RoomInBuffer then
    flush_buffer devlock
  ...

(* main *)
let _ =
  (* set receive_data as an interrupt handler *)
  request_irq(receive_data);
  flush_buffer (get_devlock ())
```

Fig. 1. An example of program which cause deadlock

Note that an interrupt handler does not voluntarily yield. To prevent the deadlock, `flush_buffer` has to forbid interrupts before it acquires the device lock as shown in Figure 2.

In order to statically detect such a deadlock, we propose (1) a calculus which is equipped with both interrupts and concurrency and (2) a type system for verifying deadlock-freedom. To our knowledge, ours is the first type system for deadlock-freedom that can deal with both thread and interrupt primitives.

Our type system associates a totally-ordered *lock level* to each lock and guarantees that locks are acquired in an increasing order of the levels even if interrupts occur. To achieve this, the type system tracks (1) a lower bound of the levels of locks acquired during evaluation and (2) an upper bound of the levels of locks acquired while interrupts are enabled. With our type system, the example in Figure 1 is rejected. On the other hand, if `flush_buffer` forbids interrupts before it acquires the device lock (as in Figure 2), our type system accepts the program.

The outline of this paper is as follows. Section 2 introduces the syntax and the semantics of our calculus. Section 3 shows our type system and states the type soundness theorem. After discussing related work in Section 4, we conclude in Section 5.

```
let flush_buffer devlock =
  let data = dequeue () in
  while !data != NULL do
    disable_interrupt(); lock(devlock);
    ... (* send data to the device *) ...
    unlock(devlock); enable_interrupt(); data := dequeue ()
  done
```

Fig. 2. A correct version of `flush_buffer`

2 Target Language

2.1 Syntax

The syntax of our target language is defined in Figure 3. Our language is an imperative language which is equipped with concurrency and interrupt handling.

A program P consists of a sequence of function definitions $\widetilde{D}$ and a main expression M. A function definition is constructed from a function name x, a sequence of formal arguments $\widetilde{y}$ and a function body. Function definitions can be mutually recursive. Note that a function name belongs to the class of variables, so that one can use a function name as a first-class value.

Expressions are ranged over by a meta-variable M. $\triangleright$ and $\blacktriangleleft$ are left-associative. For the sake of simplicity, we have only block-structured primitives (**sync** x **in** M and **disable_int** M) for acquiring/releasing locks and disabling/enabling interrupts. We explain intuition of several non-standard primitives below.

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}
x, y, z, f \ldots & \in & \mathit{Var} \\
\mathit{lck} & ::= & \mathbf{acquired} \mid \mathbf{released} \\
P & ::= & \widetilde{D} M \\
D & ::= & x(\widetilde{y}) = M \\
M & ::= & () \mid n \mid x \mid \mathbf{true} \mid \mathbf{false} \\
& \mid & x(\widetilde{v}) \mid \mathbf{let}\ x = M_1\ \mathbf{in}\ M_2 \mid \mathbf{if}\ v\ \mathbf{then}\ M_1\ \mathbf{else}\ M_2 \\
& \mid & \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{ref}\ v\ \mathbf{in}\ M \mid x := v \mid !v \\
& \mid & (M_1 \mid M_2) \mid \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{newlock}\ ()\ \mathbf{in}\ M \\
& \mid & \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M \mid \mathbf{in\_sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M \\
& \mid & M_1 \triangleright M_2 \mid M_1 \blacktriangleleft_M M_2 \mid \mathbf{disable\_int}\ M \mid \mathbf{in\_disable\_int}\ M \\
v & ::= & () \mid \mathbf{true} \mid \mathbf{false} \mid n \mid x \\
E & ::= & [\,] \mid \mathbf{let}\ x = E\ \mathbf{in}\ M \\
& \mid & (E \mid M) \mid (M \mid E) \\
& \mid & \mathbf{in\_sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ E \mid \mathbf{in\_disable\_int}\ E \\
& \mid & E \triangleright M \mid M_1 \blacktriangleleft_M E \\
I & ::= & \mathbf{enabled} \mid \mathbf{disabled}
\end{array}
$$

Fig. 3. The Syntax of Our Language

```
flush_buffer_iter(devlock, data) =
if !data = Null then () else
(sync devlock in ()); flush_buffer_iter(devlock, dequeue())
flush_buffer(devlock) = flush_buffer_iter(devlock, dequeue())
receive_data(packettype, data, devlock) =
if packettype = Room then flush_buffer(devlock) else ()
(* Main expression *)
let devlock = newlock() in
let data = ref Null in
flush_buffer(devlock) ▷ receive_data(Room, data, devlock)
```

Fig. 4. An Encoding of the Program in Figure 1

- **let** $x =$ **ref** v **in** M creates a fresh reference to v, binds x to the reference and evaluates M.
- $M_1 \mid M_2$ is concurrent evaluation of M_1 and M_2. Both of M_1 and M_2 should evaluate to ().
- **let** $x =$ **newlock** () **in** M generates a new lock, binds x to the lock and evaluates M.
- **sync** x **in** M attempts to acquire the lock x and evaluates M after the lock is acquired. After M is evaluated to a value, the lock x is released.
- $M_1 \rhd M_2$ installs an interrupt handler M_2 and evaluates M_1. Once an interrupt occurs, M_1 is suspended until M_2 evaluates to a value. When M_1 evaluates to a value v, $M_1 \rhd M_2$ evaluates to v.
- **disable_int** M disables interrupts during an evaluation of M.

The following three primitives only occur during evaluation and should not be included in programs.

- **in_sync** x **in** M represents the state in which M is being evaluated with the lock x acquired. After M evaluates to a value, the lock x is released.
- $M_1 \blacktriangleleft_M M_2$ represents the state in which the interrupt handler M_2 is being evaluated. After M_2 evaluates to a value, the interrupted expression M_1 and the initial state of interrupt handler M are recovered.
- **in_disable_int** M represents the state in which M is being evaluated with interrupts disabled. After M evaluates to a value, interrupts are enabled.

We write $M_1; M_2$ for **let** $x = M_1$ **in** M_2 where x is not free in M_2.

Figure 4 shows how the example in Figure 1 is encoded in our language. Though that encoding does not strictly conform to the syntax of our language (e.g., *flush_buffer_iter* is applied to an expression *dequeue*(), not to a value), one can easily translate the program into one that respects our syntax.

Our interrupt calculus is very expressive and can model various interrupt mechanisms, as discussed in Examples 1–4 below.

Example 1. In various kinds of CPUs, there is a priority among interrupts. In such a situation, if an interrupt with a higher priority occurs, interrupts with

lower priorities do not occur. We can express such priorities by connecting several expressions with $\triangleright$ as follows.

$$do\_something(\ldots) \triangleright interrupt\_low(\ldots) \triangleright interrupt\_high(\ldots)$$

If an interrupt occurs in $do\_something(\ldots) \triangleright interrupt\_low(\ldots)$ (note that $\triangleright$ is left-associative), the example above is reduced to

$$(do\_something(\ldots) \blacktriangleleft_{interrupt\_low(\ldots)} interrupt\_low(\ldots)) \triangleright interrupt\_high(\ldots).$$

That state represents that *interrupt_low* interrupted *do_something*. From that state, *interrupt_high* can still interrupt.

$$(do\_something(\ldots) \blacktriangleleft_{interrupt\_low(\ldots)} interrupt\_low(\ldots)) \blacktriangleleft_{interrupt\_high(\ldots)} interrupt\_high(\ldots).$$

interrupt_high can interrupt also from the initial state.

$$(do\_something(\ldots) \triangleright interrupt\_low(\ldots)) \blacktriangleleft_{interrupt\_high(\ldots)} interrupt\_high(\ldots)$$

From the state above, *interrupt_low* cannot interrupt until $interrupt\_high(\ldots)$ evaluates to a value.

Example 2. In our calculus, we can locally install interrupt handlers. Thus, we can express a multi-threaded program in which an interrupt handler is installed on each thread.

$$(thread1(\ldots) \triangleright handler1(\ldots)) \mid (thread2(\ldots) \triangleright handler2(\ldots)) \ldots$$

This feature is useful for modeling a multi-CPU system in which even if an interrupt occurs in one CPU, the other CPUs continue to work in non-interrupt mode.

Example 3. In the example in Figure 4, we assume that no interrupt occur in the body of *receive_data*. One can express that an interrupt may occur during an execution of *receive_data* by re-installing an interrupt handler as follows.

$$receive\_data(packettype, data, devlock) = \\ (\textbf{if } packettype = Room \textbf{ then } flush\_buffer(devlock) \textbf{ else } ()) \triangleright \\ receive\_data(Room, data, devlock)$$

Example 4. Since many operating system kernels are written in C, we make design decisions of our language based on that of C. For example, names of functions are first-class values in our language because C allows one to use a function name as a function pointer and because operating system kernels heavily use function pointers. With this feature, we can express a runtime change of interrupt handler as follows:

$$\textbf{let } x = \textbf{ref } f \textbf{ in } ((\ldots; x := g; \ldots) \triangleright (!x)())$$

Until g is assigned to the reference x, the installed interrupt handler is f. After the assignment, the interrupt handler is g. This characteristic is useful for modeling operating system kernels in which interrupt handlers are changed when, for example, device drivers are installed.

$$\frac{x(\widetilde{y}) = M' \in \widetilde{D}}{(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[x(\widetilde{v})]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[[\widetilde{v}/\widetilde{y}]M'])} \text{(E-App)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{let } x = v \textbf{ in } M]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[[v/x]M]) \quad \text{(E-Let)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{if true then } M_1 \textbf{ else } M_2]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[M_1]) \quad \text{(E-IfTrue)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{if false then } M_1 \textbf{ else } M_2]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[M_2]) \quad \text{(E-IfFalse)}$$

$$\frac{x' \text{ is fresh}}{(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{let } x = \textbf{ref } v \textbf{ in } M]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H[x' \mapsto v], L, I, E[[x'/x]M])} \text{(E-Ref)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H[x \mapsto v'], L, I, E[x := v]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H[x \mapsto v], L, I, E[()]) \quad \text{(E-Assign)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H[x \mapsto v], L, I, E[!x]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H[x \mapsto v], L, I, E[v]) \quad \text{(E-Deref)}$$

$$\frac{x' \text{ is fresh}}{\begin{array}{c}(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{let } x = \textbf{newlock } () \textbf{ in } M]) \to \\ (\widetilde{D}, H, L[x' \mapsto \textbf{released}], I, E[[x'/x]M])\end{array}} \text{(E-LetNewlock)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[() \mid ()]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[()]) \quad \text{(E-ParEnd)}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}(\widetilde{D}, H, L[x \mapsto \textbf{released}], I, E[\textbf{sync } x \textbf{ in } M]) \to \\ (\widetilde{D}, H, L[x \mapsto \textbf{acquired}], I, E[\textbf{in\_sync } x \textbf{ in } M])\end{array} \quad \text{(E-Lock)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L[x \mapsto \textbf{acquired}], I, E[\textbf{in\_sync } x \textbf{ in } v]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L[x \mapsto \textbf{released}], I, E[v]) \quad \text{(E-Unlock)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{enabled}, E[M_1 \rhd M_2]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{enabled}, E[M_1 \blacktriangleleft_{M_2} M_2]) \quad \text{(E-Interrupt)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[M_1 \blacktriangleleft_{M_2} v]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[M_1 \rhd M_2]) \quad \text{(E-ExitInterrupt)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[v \rhd M]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[v]) \quad \text{(E-NoInterruptValue)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{enabled}, E[\textbf{disable\_int } M]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{disabled}, E[\textbf{in\_disable\_int } M]) \quad \text{(E-DisableInterrupt1)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{disabled}, E[\textbf{disable\_int } M]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{disabled}, E[M]) \quad \text{(E-DisableInterrupt2)}$$

$$(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, E[\textbf{in\_disable\_int } v]) \to (\widetilde{D}, H, L, \textbf{enabled}, E[v]) \quad \text{(E-EnableInterrupt)}$$

Fig. 5. The Operational Semantics of Our Language

2.2 Operational Semantics

The semantics is defined as rewriting of a configuration $(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M)$. H is a heap, which is a map from variables to values. (Note that references are represented by variables.) L is a map from variables to $\{\textbf{acquired}, \textbf{released}\}$. I is an interrupt flag, which is either **enabled** or **disabled**.[1]

[1] We do not assign an interrupt flag to each interrupt handler in order to keep the semantics simple. Even if we do so, the type system introduced in Section 3 can be used with only small changes.

Figure 5 shows the operational semantics of our language. We explain several important rules.

- In (E-Ref) and (E-LetNewLock), newly generated references and locks are represented by fresh variables.
- Reduction with the rule (E-Lock) succeeds only if the lock being acquired is not held. (E-Unlock) is similar.
- **disable_int** changes the interrupt flag only when the flag was **enabled** (rule (E-DisableInterrupt1)). Otherwise, **disable_int** does nothing (rule (E-DisableInterrupt2)).
- If the interrupt flag is **enabled**, then a handler M_2 can interrupt M_1 anytime with the rule (E-Interrupt). When the interrupt occurs, the initial expression of interrupt handler M_2 is saved. After the handler terminates, the saved expression is recovered with (E-ExitInterrupt).

The following example shows how the program in Figure 4 leads to a deadlocked state. We write L_u for $\{\mathit{devlock}' \mapsto \mathbf{released}\}$ and L_l for $\{\mathit{devlock}' \mapsto \mathbf{acquired}\}$. We omit $\widetilde{D}, H$ and I components of configurations.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (L_u, \mathit{flush\_buffer}(\mathit{devlock}') \rhd \mathit{receive\_data}(\mathit{Room}, \mathit{data}, \mathit{devlock}')) \\
\to^* & (L_u, \mathbf{sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ () \rhd \mathit{receive\_data}(\mathit{Room}, \mathit{data}, \mathit{devlock})) \\
\to & (L_l, \mathbf{in\_sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ () \rhd \mathit{receive\_data}(\mathit{Room}, \mathit{data}, \mathit{devlock})) \\
\to & (L_l, \mathbf{in\_sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ () \blacktriangleleft_{\mathit{receive\_data}(\ldots)} \mathit{receive\_data}(\mathit{Room}, \mathit{data}, \mathit{devlock})) \\
\to^* & (L_l, \mathbf{in\_sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ () \blacktriangleleft_{\mathit{receive\_data}(\ldots)} \mathit{flush\_buffer}(\mathit{devlock}')) \\
\to^* & (L_l, \mathbf{in\_sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ () \blacktriangleleft_{\mathit{receive\_data}(\ldots)} \mathbf{sync}\ \mathit{devlock}'\ \mathbf{in}\ ())
\end{aligned}
$$

The last configuration is in a deadlock because the attempt to acquire $\mathit{devlock}'$, which is already acquired in L_l, never succeeds and because the interrupt handler **sync** $\mathit{devlock}'$ **in** () does not voluntarily yield.

3 Type System

3.1 Lock Levels

In our type system, every lock type is associated with a *lock level*, which is represented by a meta-variable lev. The set of lock levels is $\{-\infty, \infty\} \cup \mathbb{N}$, where $\mathbb{N}$ is the set of natural numbers. We extend the standard partial order $\leq$ on $\mathbb{N}$ to that on $\{-\infty, \infty\} \cup \mathbb{N}$ by $\forall \mathit{lev} \in \{-\infty, \infty\} \cup \mathbb{N}. -\infty \leq \mathit{lev} \leq \infty$. We write $\mathit{lev}_1 < \mathit{lev}_2$ for $\mathit{lev}_1 \leq \mathit{lev}_2 \wedge \mathit{lev}_1 \neq \mathit{lev}_2$.

3.2 Effects

Our type system guarantees that a program acquires locks in a strict increasing order of lock levels. To achieve this, we introduce *effects* which describe how a program acquires locks during evaluation.

An effect, represented by a meta-variable φ, is a pair of lock levels $(\mathit{lev}_1, \mathit{lev}_2)$. The meaning of each component is as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &::= \mathbf{unit} \mid \mathbf{int} \mid \mathbf{bool} \mid \widetilde{\tau}_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} \tau_2 \mid \tau\ \mathbf{ref} \mid \mathbf{lock}(lev) \\ lev &\in \{-\infty, \infty\} \cup \mathbb{N} \\ \varphi &::= (lev_1, lev_2) \end{aligned}$$

Fig. 6. Syntax of types

- lev_1 is a lower bound of the lock levels of locks that may be acquired.
- lev_2 is an upper bound of the lock levels of locks that may be acquired or have been acquired while interrupts are enabled.

For example, an effect $(0, -\infty)$ means that locks whose levels are more than or equal to 0 may be acquired and that no locks are acquired while interrupts are enabled. An effect $(0, 1)$ means that locks whose levels are more than or equal to 0 may be acquired and that a lock of level 1 may be acquired or has already been acquired while interrupts are enabled. We write $\emptyset$ for $(\infty, -\infty)$.

We define the subeffect relation and the join operator for effects as follows.

Definition 1 (Subeffect Relation). $(lev_1, lev_2) \leq (lev'_1, lev'_2)$ *holds if and only if* $lev'_1 \leq lev_1$ *and* $lev_2 \leq lev'_2$.

$(lev_1, lev_2) \leq (lev'_1, lev'_2)$ means that an expression that acquires locks according to the effect (lev_1, lev_2) can be seen as an expression with the effect (lev'_1, lev'_2). For example, $(1, 2) \leq (0, 3)$ holds. $\emptyset$ is the bottom of $\leq$.

Definition 2 (Join). $(lev_1, lev_2) \sqcup (lev'_1, lev'_2) = (min(lev_1, lev'_1), max(lev_2, lev'_2))$

For example, $(1, 2) \sqcup (0, 1) = (0, 2)$ and $(0, -\infty) \sqcup (1, 2) = (0, 2)$ hold. $\emptyset$ is an identity of $\sqcup$.

3.3 Syntax of Types

Figure 6 shows the syntax of types and effects. A type, represented by a meta-variable τ, is either **unit**, **int**, **bool**, $\widetilde{\tau}_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} \tau_2$, τ **ref** or **lock**(lev). We write $\widetilde{\tau}$ for a sequence of types. τ **ref** is the type of a reference to a value of type τ. $\widetilde{\tau}_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} \tau_2$ is the type of functions which take a tuple of values of type $\widetilde{\tau}_1$ and return a value of type τ_2. φ is the latent effect of the functions.

3.4 Type Judgment

The type judgment form of our type system is $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \ \& \ \varphi$ where Γ is a map from variables to types. The judgment means that the resulting value of the evaluation of M has type τ if an evaluation of M under an environment described by Γ terminates, and that locks are acquired in a strict increasing order of lock levels during the evaluation. The minimum and maximum lock levels acquired are constrained by φ. For example, $x : \mathbf{lock}(0), y : \mathbf{lock}(1) \vdash \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ \mathbf{sync}\ y\ \mathbf{in}\ () : \mathbf{unit}\ \&\ (0, 1)$ and $x : \mathbf{lock}(0), y : \mathbf{lock}(1) \vdash \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ (\mathbf{disable\_int}\ \mathbf{sync}\ y\ \mathbf{in}\ ()) : \mathbf{unit}\ \&\ (0, 0)$ hold.

Definition 3. *The relation* $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \ \& \ \varphi$ *is the smallest relation closed under the rules in Figures 7 and 8. The predicate* $noIntermediate(M)$ *in Figure 8 holds if and only if* M *does not contain* **in_sync** x **in** M', **in_disable_int** M' *or* $M_1 \blacktriangleleft_{M'} M_2$ *as subterms.*

We explain several important rules.

- (T-Sync): If the level of x is lev, then M can acquire only locks whose levels are more than lev. That is guaranteed by the condition $lev < lev_1$ where lev_1 is a lower bound of the levels of locks that may be acquired by M.
- (T-DisableInterrupt): The second component of the effect of **disable_int** M is changed to $-\infty$ because no interrupt occurs in M, so that no locks are acquired by interrupt handlers.
- (T-InstHandler): The second component of the effect of M_1 should be less than the first component of the effect of M_2 because M_2 can interrupt M_1 at any time. This is why we need to include the maximum level in effects.
- (T-Fundef): The condition $\varphi' \leq \varphi_i$ guarantees that the latent effect of the type of the function being defined soundly approximates the runtime locking behavior.

We show how the program in Figure 4 is rejected in our type system. From the derivation tree in Figure 9, *flush_buffer_iter* has a type $(\mathbf{lock}(1), \tau_d \ \mathbf{ref}) \stackrel{(1,1)}{\to} \mathbf{unit}$, where τ_d is the type of the contents of the reference *data*. Thus, *flush_buffer* has a type $\mathbf{lock}(1) \stackrel{(1,1)}{\to} \mathbf{unit}$ and *receive_data* has a type $(\tau_p, \tau_d, \mathbf{lock}(1)) \stackrel{(1,1)}{\to} \mathbf{unit}$, where τ_p is the type of *packettype*.

Consider the main expression of the example. Let Γ be *devlock* : $\mathbf{lock}(1)$, *data* : τ_d **ref**. Then, we have

- $\Gamma \vdash flush\_buffer(devlock) : \mathbf{unit} \ \& \ (1, 1)$ and
- $\Gamma \vdash receive\_data(Room, data, devlock) : \mathbf{unit} \ \& \ (1, 1)$.

However, the condition $lev_2 < lev_1'$ of the rule (T-InstHandler) prevents the main expression to be well-typed ($1 < 1$ does not hold).

Suppose that **sync** *devlock* **in** () in the body of *flush_buffer_iter* is replaced by **disable_int sync** *devlock* **in** (). Then, *flush_buffer_iter* has a type $(\mathbf{lock}(1), \tau_d \ \mathbf{ref}) \stackrel{(1,-\infty)}{\to} \mathbf{unit}$ Thus, because $\Gamma \vdash flush\_buffer(devlock) : \mathbf{unit} \ \& \ (1, -\infty)$ and $-\infty < 1$ hold, the program is well-typed.

3.5 Type Soundness

We prove the soundness of our type system. Here, type soundness means that a well-typed program does not get deadlocked if one begins an evaluation of the program under an initial configuration (i.e., under an empty heap, an empty lock environment and enabled interrupt flag).

We first define deadlock. The predicate $deadlocked(L, M)$ defined below means that M is in a deadlocked state under L.

$$\Gamma \vdash () : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \text{(T-Unit)} \qquad \Gamma \vdash n : \mathbf{int} \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \text{(T-Int)}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{true} : \mathbf{bool} \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \text{(T-True)} \qquad \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{false} : \mathbf{bool} \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \text{(T-False)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(x) = \tau}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau \;\&\; \emptyset} \quad \text{(T-Var)} \qquad \frac{x : (\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_n) \xrightarrow{\varphi'} \tau \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash v_i : \tau_i \;\&\; \emptyset \quad (i = 1, \ldots, n)}{\Gamma \vdash x(v_1, \ldots, v_n) : \tau \;\&\; \varphi'} \quad \text{(T-App)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \tau_1 \;\&\; \varphi_1 \quad \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi_2}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{let}\ x = M_1\ \mathbf{in}\ M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi_1 \sqcup \varphi_2} \quad \text{(T-Let)} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash v : \mathbf{bool} \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi_2}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{if}\ v\ \mathbf{then}\ M_1\ \mathbf{else}\ M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi_1 \sqcup \varphi_2} \quad \text{(T-If)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash v : \tau \;\&\; \emptyset \quad x : \tau\ \mathbf{ref}, \Gamma \vdash M : \tau' \;\&\; \varphi}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{ref}\ v\ \mathbf{in}\ M : \tau' \;\&\; \varphi} \quad \text{(T-Ref)} \qquad \frac{x : \tau\ \mathbf{ref} \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash v : \tau \;\&\; \emptyset}{\Gamma \vdash x := v : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; \emptyset} \quad \text{(T-Assign)}$$

$$x : \tau\ \mathbf{ref}, \Gamma \vdash\, !x : \tau \;\&\; \emptyset \quad \text{(T-Deref)} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; \varphi_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; \varphi_2}{\Gamma \vdash M_1 \mid M_2 : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; \varphi_1 \sqcup \varphi_2} \quad \text{(T-Par)}$$

$$\frac{x : \mathbf{lock}(lev), \Gamma \vdash M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{newlock}\ ()\ \mathbf{in}\ M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2)} \quad \text{(T-Newlock)}$$

$$\frac{x : \mathbf{lock}(lev) \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2) \quad lev < lev_1 \quad \varphi = (lev, lev) \sqcup (lev_1, lev_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M : \tau \;\&\; \varphi} \quad \text{(T-Sync)}$$

$$\frac{x : \mathbf{lock}(lev) \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2) \quad lev < lev_1 \quad \varphi = (\infty, lev) \sqcup (lev_1, lev_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{in\_sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M : \tau \;\&\; \varphi} \quad \text{(T-InSync)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{disable\_int}\ M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, -\infty)} \quad \text{(T-DisableInterrupt)} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{in\_disable\_int}\ M : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, -\infty)} \quad \text{(T-InDisableInterrupt)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2) \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; (lev_1', lev_2') \quad lev_2 < lev_1' \quad \varphi = (lev_1, lev_2) \sqcup (lev_1', lev_2')}{\Gamma \vdash M_1 \rhd M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi} \quad \text{(T-InstHandler)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \tau \;\&\; (lev_1, lev_2) \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; (lev_1', lev_2') \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \mathbf{unit} \;\&\; (lev_1'', lev_2'') \quad lev_2 < lev_1' \quad lev_2 < lev_1'' \quad \varphi' = \varphi \sqcup (lev_1, lev_2) \sqcup (lev_1', lev_2')}{\Gamma \vdash M_1 \blacktriangleleft_M M_2 : \tau \;\&\; \varphi'} \quad \text{(T-InInterrupt)}$$

Fig. 7. Typing rules

Definition 4 (Deadlock). *The predicate deadlocked*(L, M) *holds if and only if for all* E *and* i, $M = E[i]$ *implies that there exist* x *and* M' *such that* $i = \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M' \wedge L(x) = \mathbf{acquired}$. *Here,* i *is defined by the following syntax.*

$$\frac{\Gamma \supseteq f_1 : (\tau_{1,1}, \ldots, \tau_{1,m_1}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} \tau_1, \ldots, f_n : (\tau_{n,1}, \ldots, \tau_{n,m_n}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_n} \tau_n \quad \Gamma, x_{i,1} : \tau_{i,1}, \ldots, x_{i,m_i} : \tau_{i,m_i} \vdash M_i : \tau_i \ \&\ \varphi' \quad \varphi' \leq \varphi_i \quad \mathit{noIntermediate}(M_i)}{\Gamma \vdash_D f_i(x_{i,1}, \ldots, x_{i,m_i}) = M_i : (\tau_{i,1}, \ldots, \tau_{i,m_i}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_i} \tau_i} \quad \text{(T-Fundef)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c}\{f_1, \ldots, f_n\} \text{ is the set of names of functions declared in } \widetilde{D} \\ \Gamma \supseteq \{f_1 : (\tau_{1,1}, \ldots, \tau_{1,m_1}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} \tau_1, \ldots, f_n : (\tau_{n,1}, \ldots, \tau_{n,m_n}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_n} \tau_n\} \\ \Gamma \vdash_D D_i : (\tau_{i,1}, \ldots, \tau_{i,m_i}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_i} \tau_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \\ \Gamma \vdash M : \mathbf{unit}\ \&\ \varphi \quad \mathit{noIntermediate}(M)\end{array}}{\vdash_P \widetilde{D} M} \quad \text{(T-Prog)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c}\widetilde{D} = \{f_1(x_{1,1}, \ldots, x_{1,m_1}) = M_1, \ldots, f_l(x_{l,1}, \ldots, x_{l,m_l}) = M_l\} \\ H = \{y_1 \mapsto v_1, \ldots, y_k \mapsto v_k\} \\ L = \{z_1 \mapsto \mathit{lck}_1, \ldots, z_n \mapsto \mathit{lck}_n\} \\ \Gamma \vdash_D (f_i(x_{i,1}, \ldots, x_{i,m_i}) = M_i) : (\tau_{i,1}, \ldots, \tau_{i,m_i}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_i} \tau_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq l) \\ \Gamma \vdash v_i : \tau_i' \ \&\ \emptyset \quad (1 \leq i \leq k) \\ \Gamma = f_1 : (\tau_{1,1}, \ldots, \tau_{1,m_1}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} \tau_1, \ldots, f_l : (\tau_{l,1}, \ldots, \tau_{l,m_l}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_l} \tau_l, \\ y_1 : \tau_1' \ \mathbf{ref}, \ldots, y_k : \tau_k' \ \mathbf{ref}, \\ z_1 : \mathbf{lock}(\mathit{lev}_1), \ldots, z_n : \mathbf{lock}(\mathit{lev}_n)\end{array}}{\vdash_{Env} (\widetilde{D}, H, L) : \Gamma} \quad \text{(T-Env)}$$

$$\frac{\vdash_{Env} (\widetilde{D}, H, L) : \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \tau\ \&\ (\mathit{lev}_1, \mathit{lev}_2)}{\vdash_C (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M) : \tau} \quad \text{(T-Config)}$$

Fig. 8. Typing Rules for Program and Configuration

$$\begin{array}{rl} i ::= & x(\widetilde{v}) \mid \mathbf{let}\ x = v\ \mathbf{in}\ M \\ \mid & \mathbf{if\ true\ then}\ M_1\ \mathbf{else}\ M_2 \mid \mathbf{if\ false\ then}\ M_1\ \mathbf{else}\ M_2 \\ \mid & \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{ref}\ v\ \mathbf{in}\ M \mid x := v \mid !x \\ \mid & \mathbf{let}\ x = \mathbf{newlock}\ ()\ \mathbf{in}\ M \mid (()|()) \mid \mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ M \mid \mathbf{in\_sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ v \\ \mid & M_1 \blacktriangleleft_{M_2} v \mid v \rhd M \mid \mathbf{disable\_int}\ M \mid \mathbf{in\_disable\_int}\ v \end{array}$$

In the definition above, i is a term that can be reduced by the rules in Figure 5. Thus, $\mathit{deadlocked}(L, M)$ means that every reducible subterm in M is a blocked lock-acquiring instruction. For example,

$$\mathit{deadlocked}(L, (\mathbf{in\_sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ (\mathbf{sync}\ y\ \mathbf{in}\ 0)) \mid (\mathbf{in\_sync}\ y\ \mathbf{in}\ (\mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ 0)))$$

holds where $L = \{x \mapsto \mathbf{acquired}, y \mapsto \mathbf{acquired}\}$.

Note that $M_1 \rhd M_2$ is not included in the definition of i because, in the real world, whether $M_1 \rhd M_2$ is reducible or not depends on the external environment which is not modeled in our calculus. For example, $(\mathbf{sync}\ x\ \mathbf{in}\ ()) \rhd ()$ is deadlocked under the environment in which x is acquired.

Theorem 1 (Type Soundness). *If* $\vdash_P \widetilde{D} M$ *and* $(\widetilde{D}, \emptyset, \emptyset, \mathbf{enabled}, M) \rightarrow^* (\widetilde{D}', H', L', I', M')$, *then* $\neg \mathit{deadlocked}(L', M')$.

$$\dfrac{\dfrac{\vdots \quad \mathcal{T}_1 \quad \mathcal{T}_2}{\Gamma \vdash \textbf{if } \ldots \textbf{ then } () \textbf{ else } (\textbf{sync } \mathit{devlock} \textbf{ in } ()); \mathit{flush\_buffer\_iter}(\ldots) : \textbf{unit } \& \ (1,1)}}{\vdots}$$

where

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \dfrac{\Gamma \vdash () : \textbf{unit } \& \ \emptyset \quad 1 < \infty}{\Gamma \vdash \textbf{sync } \mathit{devlock} \textbf{ in } () : \textbf{unit } \& \ (1,1)}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_2 = \dfrac{\Gamma \vdash \mathit{flush\_buffer\_iter} : (\textbf{lock}(1), \tau_d) \overset{(1,1)}{\rightarrow} \textbf{unit } \& \ \emptyset \quad \vdots}{\Gamma \vdash \mathit{flush\_buffer\_iter}(\mathit{devlock}, \mathit{dequeue}()) : \textbf{unit } \& \ (1,1)}$$

Fig. 9. Derivation Tree of the body of *flush_buffer_iter*. $\Gamma = \mathit{flush\_buffer\_iter} : (\textbf{lock}(1), \tau_d \textbf{ ref}) \overset{(1,1)}{\rightarrow} \textbf{unit}, \mathit{flush\_buffer} : \textbf{lock}(1) \overset{(1,1)}{\rightarrow} \textbf{unit}, \mathit{receive\_data} : (\tau_p, \tau_d \textbf{ ref}, \textbf{lock}(1)) \overset{(1,1)}{\rightarrow} \textbf{unit}, \mathit{devlock} : \textbf{lock}(1), \mathit{data} : \tau_d$.

The theorem above follows from Lemmas 1–4 below. In those lemmas, we use a predicate $\mathit{wellformed}(L, I, M)$ which means that L, I and the shape of M are consistent.

Definition 5. *$\mathit{wellformed}(L, I, M)$ holds if and only if*

- $L(x) = \textbf{released}$ *or* $x \notin \textbf{Dom}(L)$ *implies that* M *does not contain* $\textbf{in\_sync } x$,
- $L(x) = \textbf{acquired}$ *implies* $\mathit{AckIn}(x, M)$,
- $I = \textbf{enabled}$ *implies that* M *does not contain* **in_disable_int**.
- $I = \textbf{disabled}$ *implies that there exist* E *and* M' *such that* $M = E[\textbf{in\_disable\_int } M']$ *and both* E *and* M' *do not contain* **in_disable_int**.

Here, $\mathit{AckIn}(x, M)$ is the least predicate that satisfies the following rules.

$$\dfrac{E \text{ and } M' \text{ do not contain } \textbf{in\_sync } x \textbf{ in}}{\mathit{AckIn}(x, E[\textbf{in\_sync } x \textbf{ in } M'])} \ (\textsc{AckIn-Base}) \qquad \dfrac{\mathit{AckIn}(x, M_1) \quad E, M' \text{ and } M_2 \text{ do not contain } \textbf{in\_sync } x \textbf{ in}}{\mathit{AckIn}(x, E[M_1 \blacktriangleleft_{M'} M_2])} \ (\textsc{AckIn-Interrupt})$$

Lemma 1. *If* $\vdash_P \widetilde{D}M$, *then* $\mathit{wellformed}(\emptyset, \textbf{enabled}, M)$ *and* $\vdash_C (D, \emptyset, \emptyset, \textbf{enabled}, M)$.

Lemma 2. *If* $\mathit{wellformed}(L, I, M)$ *and* $(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M) \rightarrow (\widetilde{D}', H', L', I', M')$, *then* $\mathit{wellformed}(L', I', M')$.

Lemma 3 (Preservation). *If* $\vdash_C (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M) : \tau$ *and* $(\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M) \rightarrow (\widetilde{D}', H', L', I', M')$, *then* $\vdash_C (\widetilde{D}', H', L', I', M') : \tau$.

Lemma 4 (Deadlock-Freedom). *If* $\vdash_C (\widetilde{D}, H, L, I, M) : \tau$ *and wellformed (L,I,M), then* $\neg \mathit{deadlocked}(L, M)$.

Proofs of those lemmas are in the full version of this paper.

3.6 Type Inference

We can construct a standard constraint-based type inference algorithm as follows. The algorithm takes a program as an input, prepares variables for unknown types and lock levels, and extracts constraints on them based on the typing rules. By the standard unification algorithm and the definition of the subeffect relation, the extracted constraints can then be reduced to a set of constraints of the form $\{\rho_1 \geq \xi_1, \ldots, \rho_n \geq \xi_n\}$ where the grammar for $\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_n$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \xi ::= {} & \rho \text{ (lock level variables)} \\ & \mid \ -\infty \mid \infty \mid \mathit{min}(\xi_1, \xi_2) \mid \mathit{max}(\xi_1, \xi_2) \mid \xi + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\mathit{lev} < \mathit{lev}_1$ in (T-Sync) can be replaced by $\mathit{lev} + 1 \leq \mathit{lev}_1$. The constraints above can be solved as in Kobayashi's type-based deadlock analysis for the π-calculus [7]. We will formalize the algorithm in the full version of the current paper.

4 Related Work

Chatterjee et al. have proposed a calculus that is equipped with interrupts [3,14]. They also proposed a static analysis of stack boundedness (i.e., interrupt chains cannot be infinite) of programs. The main differences between our calculus and their calculus are as follows. (1) Their calculus is not equipped with concurrency primitives. (2) Each handler has its own interrupt flag in their calculus. (3) Our calculus can express an install, a change and a detach of interrupt handlers. Due to (1), we cannot use their calculus to discuss deadlock-freedom analysis. As for (2), their calculus has an interrupt mask register (imr) to control which handlers are allowed to interrupt and which are not. This feature is indispensable in the verification of operating system kernels. We can extend our calculus to incorporate this feature by adding a tag to each interrupt handler ($M \rhd \{t_1 : M_1, \ldots, t_n : M_n\}$) and by specifying a tag on interrupt disabling primitives (**disable_int** t **in** M). A handler with tag t cannot interrupt inside **disable_int** t **in**. We also extend effects like $(\mathit{lev}, \mathit{taglevel})$, where *taglevel* is a map from tags to lock levels. $\mathit{taglevel}(t)$ is an upper bound of the lock levels of locks that may be acquired or have been acquired while interrupts specified by t is enabled. Typing rules need to be modified accordingly. Concerning (3), our calculus can express a change of interrupt handlers as shown in Section 2.

Much work [2,7,8,9] on deadlock-freedom analysis of concurrent programs has been done. However, none of them deal with interrupts. Kobayashi et al. [7,8,9] have proposed type systems for deadlock-freedom of π-calculus processes. Their idea is (1) to express how each channel is used as a *usage expression* and (2) to add *capability levels* and *obligation levels* to the inferred usage expression in order to detect circular dependency among input/output operations to channels. Their capability/obligation levels correspond to our lock levels. Their usage expressions are unnecessary in the present framework because our synchronization primitive is block-structured. That notion would be useful if we allow non-block-structured

lock primitives. Flanagan and Abadi [1,4] have proposed a type-based deadlock-freedom and race-freedom analysis for a Java-like language. Though their type system also uses lock levels, they need to track only a lower bound of acquired level as an effect because they do not deal with interrupts. In our type system, we need to track lower and upper bounds of levels as an effect in order to guarantee deadlock-freedom in the presence of interrupts.

Asynchronous exceptions [5,10] in Java and Haskell are similar to interrupts in that both cause an asynchronous jump to an exception/interrupt handler. Asynchronous exceptions are the exceptions that may be unexpectedly thrown during an execution of a program as a result of some events such as timeouts or stack overflows. Marlow et al. [10] extended Concurrent Haskell [6] with support for handling asynchronous exceptions. However, an asynchronous exception does not require the context in which the exception is thrown to be resumed after an exception handler returns, while an interrupt requires the context to be resumed.

5 Conclusion

We have proposed a calculus which is equipped with concurrency and interrupts. We have also proposed a type system for verification of deadlock-freedom for the calculus.

There remain much work to be done to make our framework applicable to verification of real operating system kernels. Since many operating system kernels are written in C, we need to include records, arrays and pointer arithmetics in our calculus. For those extensions, we may also need to refine the type system. In the current lock-level-based approach, a lock level is statically assigned to each *syntactic* occurence of a lock, so that the same lock level may be assigned to different locks. To prevent that problem, we may need to introduce lock-level polymorphism and run-time ordering of lock levels as proposed in [2].

We also plan to develop type systems for verifying other crucial safety properties such as race-freedom and atomicity.

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