

# Circular Coinduction

## –A Proof Theoretical Foundation–

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**Abstract.** Several algorithmic variants of circular coinduction have been proposed and implemented during the last decade, but a proof theoretical foundation of circular coinduction in its full generality is still missing. This paper gives a three-rule proof system that can be used to formally derive circular coinductive proofs. This three-rule system is proved behaviorally sound and is exemplified by proving several properties of infinite streams. Algorithmic variants of circular coinduction now become heuristics to search for proof derivations using the three rules.

## 1 Introduction

Circular coinduction is a generic name associated to a series of algorithmic techniques to prove behavioral equivalence mechanically. A variant of circular coinduction was published for the first time in [12] in March 2000, and then other more general or more operational variants not too long afterwards first in [13] and then in [4, 5]; the system BOBJ had implemented an earlier variant of circular coinduction back in 1998. The name “circular coinduction” was inspired from how it operates: it systematically searches for circular behaviors of the terms to prove equivalent. More specifically, it derives the behavioral equational task until one obtains, on every derived path, either a truth or a cycle. Its correctness can be informally argued in several ways: (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives, so they must be behaviorally equivalent; (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms, rolling it until it becomes a visible equality, so the graph is a witness that the two terms are “indistinguishable under experiments”; and (3) when/if it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations, which includes the original task, is included in the behavioral equivalence (because the latter is the largest with that property).

At our knowledge, variants of circular coinduction have been implemented in three systems so far: in a behavioral extension of OBJ called BOBJ [13] (not maintained anymore), in Isabelle/HOL for CoCasl [7], and in CIRC [9]. The

latter implements a more general circular reasoning principle that will be discussed elsewhere in its full generality; the coinductive projection of this general principle is the subject of this paper and will be discussed in detail in the sequel.

The definition and proof of correctness of the original circular coinduction variant in [12, 13] were rather complex. Moreover, the setting in those and other papers on circular coinduction was model theoretical, with hidden algebras as models, making one naturally wonder whether the applicability of circular coinduction was limited to hidden algebra models or not. In this paper we adopt a general proof theoretical approach, without fixing any particular models (and implicitly any particular model based notions of behavioral equivalence) and any particular base deductive system. Instead, our approach here is parametric in a given base *entailment relation*  $\vdash$ , which one can use to discard “obvious” proof tasks, and in a set of *derivatives*  $\Delta$ , which are special terms with a hole (i.e., contexts) allowing us to define a syntactic notion of *behavioral equivalence* on terms without referring to any model but only to  $\vdash$ . This syntactic notion of behavioral equivalence is so natural that it is straightforwardly sound in all models that we are aware of. More importantly, it allows for more succinct and clean definitions and proofs for circular coinduction, independent of the underlying models.

Figure 1 shows our novel formulation of circular coinduction as a three-rule proof system deriving pairs of the form  $\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}$ , where  $\mathcal{H}$  (*hypotheses*) and  $\mathcal{G}$  (*goals*) are sets of equations. Some equations can be *frozen* and written in a box (e.g.,  $\boxed{e}$ ), with the intuition that those equations cannot be used in contextual reasoning (i.e., the congruence rule of equational logic cannot be applied on them), but only at the top; this is easily achieved by defining the box as a wrapper operator of a fresh sort result, say *Frozen*.  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only frozen equations, while  $\mathcal{H}$  can contain both frozen and normal (or “unfrozen”) equations. The first rule says that we are done when there are no goals left. The second rule discards those goals which can be proved with the base entailment system. The third rule is the distinguished rule of circular coinduction that enables circular reasoning and it essentially says the following, where the involved equations are all frozen:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \emptyset} \\ \frac{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H} \vdash \boxed{e}}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \{\boxed{e}\}} \\ \frac{\mathcal{H} \cup \{\boxed{e}\} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \boxed{\Delta[e]}}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \{\boxed{e}\}}, e \text{ hidden} \end{array}}$$

**Fig. 1.** Circular coinduction

*To prove behavioral property  $e$ , assume it and prove its derivatives  $\Delta[e]$ ;  
or, metaphorically, “if one cannot show it wrong then it is right”.*

Without freezing, the above would hold vacuously by the congruence rule of equational reasoning; freezing inhibits the applications of congruence, so one needs to find other means to eliminate the derivative operations. We prove this circular coinductive proof system sound when  $\mathcal{H}$  is a proper behavioral specification (has only unfrozen equations): if  $\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}$  is provable then  $\mathcal{H}$  behaviorally satisfies all the unfrozen variants of the equations in  $\mathcal{G}$  (see Theorem 3).

Circular coinduction has been implemented and extensively evaluated in CIRC [9], a behavioral extension of Maude [2] optimized for automated inductive

and coinductive proving. Even though versions of CIRC have been available for download and online experimentation at <http://fsl.cs.uiuc.edu/circ> for more than 3 years, this is the first paper about its foundations from a proof theoretical rather than algorithmic perspective, explaining how its automated coinductive proving technique works and why it is sound. Since CIRC can automatically prove using the discussed technique all the behavioral properties in this paper (see Appendix A) and since its syntax minimally extends that of Maude, which we assume known, we give our running specification, that of streams, using CIRC. Consider streams of 0/1 bits defined using head/tail:

```
op hd : Stream -> Bit .      derivative hd(*:Stream) .
op tl : Stream -> Stream .   derivative tl(*:Stream) .
```

Declaring `hd` and `tl` as *derivatives* tells CIRC that one can use them to derive (or observe, or destruct) the task to prove. One can define several operations on streams. For example, `not(S)` reverses each bit in stream `S` and is trivial to define; `odd`, `even` and `zip` are standard and can be defined as follows:

```
ops odd even : Stream -> Stream .   op zip : Stream Stream -> Stream .
eq hd(odd(S)) = hd(S) .              eq hd(zip(S,S')) = hd(S) .
eq tl(odd(S)) = even(tl(S)) .        eq tl(zip(S,S')) = zip(S',tl(S)) .
eq even(S) = odd(tl(S)) .
```

One can now ask CIRC to prove `zip(odd(S),even(S)) = S`. Using the circular coinductive proof system, CIRC proves it automatically and here are the steps: (1) assume `zip(odd(S),even(S)) = S` as frozen hypothesis; (2) add its derivatives `hd(zip(odd(S),even(S))) = hd(S)` and `tl(zip(odd(S),even(S))) = tl(S)` as new proof tasks; (3) prove first derivative using the stream equations; (4) prove the second derivative by first reducing it to `zip(odd(tl(S)),even(tl(S))) = tl(S)` using the stream equations, and then using the frozen hypothesis (1) at its top with substitution  $S \mapsto tl(S)$ .

Sometimes it is easier to prove more tasks at the same time than each task separately, because they can help each other. Here is an example. The famous Thue-Morse sequence (see, e.g., [1]) has several interesting properties and can be defined as a stream in several ways (we give one definition below). Interestingly, `morse` is a fixed point of the operation `f` also defined below:

```
--- Thue-Morse sequence:                --- morse is a fixed point of f
op morse : -> Stream .                  op f : Stream -> Stream .
eq hd(morse) = 0 . eq hd(tl(morse)) = 1 . eq hd(f(S)) = hd(S) .
eq tl(tl(morse))   eq hd(tl(f(S))) = not(hd(S)) .
  = zip(tl(morse), not(tl(morse))) .    eq tl(tl(f(S))) = f(tl(S)) .
```

If we try to prove `f(morse) = morse` (either manually or using CIRC), then we see that larger and larger frozen equations are derived and the process does not terminate. Analyzing the new equations (as humans), we see that the source of problems is the lack of an equation `f(S) = zip(S,not(S))`. We can then either prove it first as a lemma, or simply add it to the set of goals and then restart the coinductive proving process with the goal `{f(morse) = morse, f(S) = zip(S,not(S))}`, this time succeeding in ten steps (see Example 4 in Section 5).

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. Section 2 introduces basic notions and notations. A key notion is that of a  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system; one such system is assumed given and acts as a parameter of our generic techniques developed in the rest of the paper. Section 3 recasts behavioral satisfaction in our generic setting and shows it a contextual entailment relation extending the original one. Section 4 is dedicated to defining behavioral equivalence and coinduction in our generic setting, showing that behavioral equivalence remains the largest relation closed under derivatives. Our novel circular coinductive proof system is presented in Section 5, together with its behavioral soundness result.

## 2 Preliminaries

We assume the reader familiar with basics of many sorted algebraic specifications and only briefly recall our notation. An algebraic specification, or simply a *specification*, is a triple  $(S, \Sigma, E)$ , where  $S$  is a set of *sorts*,  $\Sigma$  is a  $(S^* \times S)$ -*signature* and  $E$  is a set of  $\Sigma$ -*equations* of the form  $(\forall X) t = t' \text{ if } \bigwedge_{i \in I} u_i = v_i$  with  $t, t', u_i$ , and  $v_i$   $\Sigma$ -terms with variables in  $X$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ; the two terms appearing in any equality in an equation, that is the terms  $t, t'$  and each pair  $u_i, v_i$  for each  $i \in I$ , have, respectively, the same sort. If the sort of  $t$  and  $t'$  is  $s$  we may say that the sort of the equation is also  $s$ . When  $i = 0$  we call the equation unconditional and omit the condition (i.e., write it  $(\forall X) t = t'$ ). When  $X = \emptyset$  we drop the quantifier and call the equation *ground*.

If  $\Sigma$  is a many sorted signature, then a  $\Sigma$ -*context*  $C$  is a  $\Sigma$ -term which has one occurrence of a distinguished variable  $*:s$  of sort  $s$ ; to make this precise, we may write  $C[*:s]$  instead of just  $C$ . When  $\Sigma$  is understood, a  $\Sigma$ -context may be called just a *context*. When the sort  $s$  of  $*$  is important, we may call  $C[*:s]$  a *context for sort  $s$* ; also, when the sort of a context  $C$  (regarded as a term), say  $s'$ , is important,  $C$  may be called a *context of sort  $s'$* . If  $C[*:s]$  is a context for sort  $s$  of sort  $s'$  and  $t$  is a term of sort  $s$ , then  $C[t]$  is the term of sort  $s'$  obtained by replacing  $t$  for  $*:s$  in  $C$ . A  $\Sigma$ -context  $C[*:s]$  induces a partially defined *equation transformer*  $e \mapsto C[e]$ : if  $e$  is an equation  $(\forall X) t = t' \text{ if } c$  of sort  $s$ , then  $C[e]$  is the equation  $(\forall X \cup Y) C[t] = C[t'] \text{ if } c$ , where  $Y$  is the set of non-star variables occurring in  $C[*:s]$ . Moreover, if  $\mathbf{C}$  is a set of contexts and  $E$  a set of equations, then  $\mathbf{C}[e] = \{C[e] \mid C \in \mathbf{C}\}$ ,  $\mathbf{C}[E] = \{C[e] \mid e \in E\}$  and  $\mathbf{C}[E] = \bigcup_{e \in E} \mathbf{C}[e]$ .

The theoretical results in this paper will be parametric in a given entailment relation  $\vdash$  on many sorted equational specifications, which may, but is not enforced to, be the usual equational deduction relation [6]. For instance, it can also be the “rewriting” entailment relation ( $E \vdash t = t'$  iff  $t$  and  $t'$  rewrite to the same term using  $E$  as a rewrite system), or some behavioral entailment system, etc. We need though some properties of  $\vdash$ , which we axiomatize here by adapting to our context the general definition of entailments system as given in [10]. Fix a signature  $\Sigma$  (in a broader setting,  $\vdash$  could be regarded as a set  $\{\vdash_\Sigma \mid \Sigma \text{ signature}\}$  indexed by the signature; however, since we work with only one signature in this paper and that signature is understood, for simplicity we fix the signature).

**Definition 1.** If  $\Delta$  is a set of  $\Sigma$ -contexts, then a  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system is an (infix) relation  $\vdash$  between sets of equations and equations, with:

1. (*reflexivity*)  $\{e\} \vdash e$ ;
2. (*monotonicity*) If  $E_1 \supseteq E_2$  and  $E_2 \vdash e$  then  $E_1 \vdash e$ ;
3. (*transitivity*) If  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  and  $E_2 \vdash e$  then  $E_1 \vdash e$ ;
4. ( $\Delta$ -congruence) If  $E \vdash e$  then  $E \vdash \Delta[e]$ .

In the above,  $E, E_1, E_2$  range over sets of equations and  $e$  over equations; also, we tacitly extended  $\vdash$  to relate two sets of equations as expected:  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  iff  $E_1 \vdash e$  for any  $e \in E_2$ . We let  $E^\bullet$  denote the set of equations  $\{e \mid E \vdash e\}$ .

One can use the above to prove many properties of  $\vdash$  on sets of equations. Here are some of them used later in the paper (their proofs are simple exercises):  $E \vdash \emptyset$ ,  $E \vdash E$ , if  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  and  $E_2 \vdash E_3$  then  $E_1 \vdash E_3$ , if  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  then  $E \cup E_1 \vdash E \cup E_2$ , if  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  then  $E_1 \vdash \Delta[E_2]$ , if  $E_1 \vdash E_2$  then  $E_1 \vdash E_1 \cup E_2$ , if  $E_1 \supseteq E_2$  then  $E_1 \vdash E_2$ , if  $E \vdash E_1$  and  $E \vdash E_2$  then  $E \vdash E_1 \cup E_2$ .

We take the liberty to slightly abuse the syntax of entailment and allow one to write a specification instead of a set of equations, with the obvious meaning: if  $\mathcal{B} = (S, \Sigma, E)$  is a specification and  $e$  is a  $\Sigma$ -equation, then  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  iff  $E \vdash e$ . Also, if  $\mathcal{B} = (S, \Sigma, E)$  then we may write  $\mathcal{B}^\bullet$  instead of  $E^\bullet$ .

### 3 Behavioral Specification and Satisfaction

Our approach in this paper is purely proof theoretical, that is, there are no models involved. We prefer this approach because we think that it is the most general one for our purpose in this paper. As pointed out in [13], there is a plethora of model theoretical variants of behavioral logics, some with models with fixed data others with loose data, some which are co-algebraic (i.e., isomorphic to a category of coalgebras) others which are not (e.g., some do not even admit final models), some which come with a behavioral equality others whose behavioral equality can be computed, etc. However, the proof theoretical behavioral entailment relation defined in this section is sound for all these different variants of behavioral logics. On the other hand, as shown in [13, 11], neither of the behavioral logics is complete. Therefore, one loses nothing by working with a proof theoretical instead of a model theoretical notion of behavioral entailment. On the contrary, this allows us to define behavioral equivalence and coinduction in a more general way, independent upon the particular (ad hoc) choice for models.

A *behavioral specification* is a pair  $(\mathcal{B}, \Delta)$ , where  $\mathcal{B} = (S, \Sigma, E)$  is a many sorted algebraic specification and  $\Delta$  is a set of  $\Sigma$ -contexts, called *derivatives*. We let  $\Delta_s$  denote all the derivatives of sort  $s$  in  $\Delta$ . If  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta$  is a derivative, then the sort  $h$  is called a *hidden sort*; we let  $H \subseteq S$  denote the set of all hidden sorts of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Remaining sorts are called *data*, or *visible*, *sorts* and we let  $V = S - H$  denote their set. A *data operator* is an operator in  $\Sigma$  taking and returning only visible sorts; a *data term* is a term built with only data operators and variables of data sorts; a *data equation* is an equation built with only data terms.

Sorts are therefore split into hidden and visible, so that one can derive terms of hidden sort until they possibly become visible. Formally, a  $\Delta$ -*experiment* is

a  $\Delta$ -context of visible sort, that is: (1) each  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta_v$  with  $v \in V$  is an experiment, and (2) if  $C[*:h']$  is an experiment and  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta_{h'}$ , then so is  $C[\delta[*:h]]$ . An equation  $(\forall X) t = t'$  **if**  $c$  is called a *hidden equation* iff the common sort of  $t$  and  $t'$  is hidden, and it is called a *data, or visible, equation* iff the common sort of  $t$  and  $t'$  is visible. In this paper we consider only equations whose conditions are conjunctions of visible equalities. If  $\Delta$  is understood, then we may write experiment for  $\Delta$ -experiment and context for  $\Delta$ -context; also, we may write only  $\mathcal{B}$  instead of  $(\mathcal{B}, \Delta)$  and, via previous conventions, identify  $\mathcal{B}$  with its set of equations. If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a set of  $\Sigma$ -equations, we let  $visible(\mathcal{G})$  and  $hidden(\mathcal{G})$  denote the sets of  $\mathcal{G}$ 's visible and hidden equations, respectively.

From here on in the paper we fix a signature  $\Sigma$ , a set of  $\Sigma$ -contexts  $\Delta$ , and a generic  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system,  $\vdash$ . For the sake of concreteness, one may think of  $\vdash$  as the ordinary equational entailment relation; however, the proofs in the sequel rely only on the axioms in Definition 1. Unless otherwise specified, we also assume a fixed behavioral specification  $(\mathcal{B}, \Delta)$ .

*Example 1.* Let **STREAM** be the behavioral specification of streams discussed in Section 1, with the conventional equational reasoning as basic entailment relation; in other words,  $\mathbf{STREAM} \vdash e$  iff  $e$  is derivable using equational reasoning from the equations in **STREAM**. The experiments one can perform on streams are therefore contexts of the form  $\mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(*:\mathbf{Stream}))$ , where  $i \geq 0$ .

**Definition 2.**  $\mathcal{B}$  *behaviorally satisfies* equation  $e$ , written  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ , iff:  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  if  $e$  is visible, and  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$  for each appropriate experiment  $C$  if  $e$  is hidden.

*Example 2.* In the case of streams, we have that  $\mathbf{STREAM} \Vdash \mathbf{str} = \mathbf{str}'$  iff  $\mathbf{STREAM} \vdash \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{str})) = \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{str}'))$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . For example, one can directly show that  $\mathbf{STREAM} \Vdash \mathbf{zip}(\mathbf{odd}(\mathbf{S}), \mathbf{even}(\mathbf{S})) = \mathbf{S}$  by showing by induction on  $i$  that  $\mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{zip}(\mathbf{odd}(\mathbf{S}), \mathbf{even}(\mathbf{S})))) = \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{S}))$ . Also, one can show that  $\mathbf{STREAM} \Vdash \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{not}(\mathbf{S})) = \mathbf{not}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{S}))$ , by showing that  $\mathbf{STREAM} \vdash \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{not}(\mathbf{S})))) = \mathbf{g}(i, \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{S}))$  and  $\mathbf{STREAM} \vdash \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{tl}^i(\mathbf{not}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{S})))) = \mathbf{g}(i, \mathbf{hd}(\mathbf{S}))$  for all  $i \geq 0$ , where  $\mathbf{g}(i, \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{not}(\mathbf{B})$  if  $i$  is even, and  $\mathbf{g}(i, \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B}$  if  $i$  is odd. Such direct proofs based on direct exhaustive analysis of experiments are essentially proofs by context induction [8], known to be problematic in practice due to the large number of lemmas needed (see [3] for an early reference to this aspect) and difficult to mechanize. We are going to give more elegant behavioral proofs of these properties, first by coinduction and then by circular coinduction.

**Proposition 1.**  $\Vdash$  is a  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system extending  $\vdash$ . In other words,  $\Vdash$  satisfies the axioms in Definition 1 and if  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ .

*Proof.* To make  $\Vdash$  a  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment relation, we need to first extend it to sets of equations. Since we fixed  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta$ , then we can define  $E_1 \Vdash E_2$  iff the behavioral specification containing the equations  $E_1$  and the derivatives  $\Delta$  behaviorally satisfies each equation in  $E_2$ . It is then easy to check that the properties of entailment relations in Definition 1 hold. Let us now show that if  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  for some specification  $\mathcal{B}$  and equation  $e$ , then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ . If  $e$  is visible then

it holds by the extension of the definition of  $\Vdash$  above. If  $e$  is hidden, then by the  $\Delta$ -congruence property of  $\vdash$  in Definition 1, it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$  for any appropriate  $\Delta$ -context  $C$ , in particular for any  $\Delta$ -experiment. Hence,  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ .

To avoid confusion, we continue to use the notation  $\mathcal{B}^\bullet$  for the entailment closure of  $\mathcal{B}$  under the original entailment relation  $\vdash$ , that is,  $\mathcal{B}^\bullet = \{e \mid \mathcal{B} \vdash e\}$ .

## 4 Behavioral Equivalence and Coinduction

**Definition 3.** *The behavioral equivalence of  $\mathcal{B}$  is the set  $\equiv_{\mathcal{B}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{e \mid \mathcal{B} \Vdash e\}$ .*

Thus, the behavioral equivalence of  $\mathcal{B}$  is the set of equations behaviorally satisfied by  $\mathcal{B}$ . When  $\mathcal{B}$  is clear, we may write  $\equiv$  instead of  $\equiv_{\mathcal{B}}$ . Note that  $\equiv$  may contain also conditional equations with visible conditions. However, the visible conditions can be regarded as data side conditions, so we took the liberty to make the slight abuse of terminology above and called  $\equiv_{\mathcal{B}}$  an equivalence.

A major result of any behavioral logic, making proofs by coinduction sound, is that behavioral equivalence is the largest relation that is consistent with the data and is compatible with the behavioral operations, or the observers. In what follows we capture this same result in our proof theoretical setting. To do that, we first need to formally define what is meant here by “consistent with data and compatible with behavioral operators”.

**Definition 4.** *A set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed iff  $\mathcal{B} \vdash \text{visible}(\mathcal{G})$  and  $\Delta(\mathcal{G} - \mathcal{B}^\bullet) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ .*

In other words, a set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed iff for any  $e \in \mathcal{G}$ , we have that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  or otherwise  $e$  is hidden and  $\Delta[e] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{G}$  can contain as many equations entailed by  $\mathcal{B}$  as needed, both visible and hidden, even all of them. The first condition says that if  $\mathcal{G}$  contains any visible equation at all, then that equation must be entailed by  $\mathcal{B}$ . The second condition says that if a hidden equation  $e \in \mathcal{G}$  is not entailed by  $\mathcal{B}$  then it must be the case that its derivatives are also in  $\mathcal{G}$ . A degenerate case is when  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{B}$ , in which case the second condition is superfluous. In other words,  $\mathcal{G}$  is closed under, or compatible with, the derivatives and the only way to “escape” this derivative closing process is by a direct proof using  $\mathcal{B}$  and the original entailment system.

**Theorem 1. (Coinduction)** *For any behavioral specification, the behavioral equivalence  $\equiv$  is the largest behaviorally closed set of equations.*

*Proof.* Let  $(\mathcal{B}, \Delta)$  be a behavioral specification and let  $\equiv$  be its behavioral equivalence. It is easy to see that  $\equiv$  is behaviorally closed. Consider now some behaviorally closed set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$ . First, note that each equation  $e$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  of visible sort is also in  $\equiv$ : indeed,  $\mathcal{G}$  behaviorally closed implies  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$ , which by the extended definition of  $\equiv$  to visible equations implies  $e \in \equiv$ . To show that each hidden equation in  $\mathcal{G}$  is also in  $\equiv$ , it suffices to prove by induction on experiments  $C[*;h]$  that the property “ $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$  for any hidden equation  $e$  of sort  $h$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ ”, say  $P(C)$ , holds:

*The basis step.* Let  $C$  be a derivative of visible sort, that is,  $C \in \Delta_v$  for some

$v \in V$ , and let  $e \in \mathcal{G}$  be some equation of sort  $h$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed, it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  or  $C[e] \in \mathcal{G}$ ; any of these implies that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$ .

*The inductive step.* Suppose now that  $C = D[\delta[*:h]]$  for some derivative  $\delta \in \Delta_{h'}$  of hidden sort  $h'$  and some experiment  $D$  for  $h'$ , and let  $e \in \mathcal{G}$  be an equation of hidden sort  $h$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed, it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  or  $\delta[e] \in \mathcal{G}$ . If  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  then, since  $\vdash$  is  $\Delta$ -congruent (Definition 1), it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash D[\delta[e]]$ . On the other hand, if  $\delta[e] \in \mathcal{G}$  then by the induction hypothesis it follows that  $P(D)$  holds, which in particular means that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash D[\delta[e]]$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$ .

Theorem 1 justifies the correctness of behavioral proofs by coinduction. Indeed, in order to prove that  $\mathcal{B}$  behaviorally satisfies an equation  $e$ , all we need to do is to find some behaviorally closed set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $e \in \mathcal{G}$ . Then by Theorem 1 we have  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash \mathcal{G}$ , and since  $\Vdash$  is an entailment system (Proposition 1) we conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ . More generally, to prove that  $\mathcal{B}$  behaviorally satisfies a set of conditional equations  $G$ , one can find some behaviorally closed set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{G} \vdash G$ : indeed, if that is the case then since  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash \mathcal{G}$  (Theorem 1), we get by Proposition 1 and the axioms in Definition 1 that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{G}$ ; also by Proposition 1,  $\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{G} \vdash G$  implies  $\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{G} \Vdash G$ , so by the transitivity of  $\Vdash$  as an entailment system it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ . In practice it is often the case that  $G \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , in which case the condition  $\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{G} \vdash G$  is superfluous.

Experience with many coinductive proofs suggests that the following simple proving technique works in most practical cases of interest:

*(Coinductive proving technique)* Goal is to prove  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ .

1. If one can show  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  then stop with **success**, otherwise continue;
2. If  $e$  is visible then stop with **failure**;
3. Find some (typically finite) set of hidden equations  $G$  with  $e \in G$ ;
4. Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the closure of  $G \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet$  under substitution, symmetry, and transitivity;
5. Show  $\Delta[G] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ ;

The most difficult part is to find the right  $G$  at step 3. If  $G$  is too small, in particular if one picks  $G = \{e\}$ , then  $\mathcal{G}$  may be too small and thus one may not be able to show step 5 because it may be the case for some  $f \in G$  and appropriate  $\delta \in \Delta$  that  $\delta[f] \notin \mathcal{G}$  and one cannot show  $\mathcal{B} \vdash \delta[f]$ . If  $G$  is too large, then the number of proof tasks at step 5 may be prohibitive. Finding a good  $G$  at step 3 is the most human-intensive part (the rest is, to a large extent, mechanizable). The correctness of the technique above follows from the following proposition:

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $G$  be a set of hidden equations such that  $\Delta[G] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , where  $\mathcal{G}$  is the closure of  $G \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet$  under substitution, symmetry, and transitivity. Then  $\Delta[\mathcal{G}] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a set of equations, let  $\overline{\mathcal{E}}$  be the closure of  $\mathcal{E}$  under substitution, symmetry, and transitivity, and note that  $\Delta[\overline{\mathcal{E}}] = \overline{\Delta[\mathcal{E}]}$ . Taking  $\mathcal{E} = G \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet$ , we get  $\Delta[\mathcal{G}] = \Delta[\overline{G \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet}] = \overline{\Delta[G \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet]} = \overline{\Delta[G] \cup \Delta[\mathcal{B}^\bullet]} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{G} \cup \mathcal{B}^\bullet} = \overline{\mathcal{G}} = \mathcal{G}$ . Since  $G$  contains only hidden equations and since substitution, symmetry and transitivity are sort preserving, we conclude that  $\text{visible}(\mathcal{G}) = \text{visible}(\mathcal{B}^\bullet)$ . It is now clear that  $\mathcal{G}$  is behaviorally closed (both conditions in Definition 4 hold).



Proposition 2 therefore implies that the  $\mathcal{G}$  in the coinductive proving technique above is behaviorally closed. Since  $e \in G \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , Theorem 1 implies that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ , so our coinductive proving technique is indeed sound.

*Example 3.* Let us prove by coinduction the two stream properties in Example 2,  $\text{STREAM} \Vdash \text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S$  and  $\text{STREAM} \Vdash f(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(f(S))$ .

For the first property, let  $G$  be the set  $\{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S\}$  containing only the equation to prove, and let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the closure of  $G \cup \text{STREAM}^\bullet$  under substitution, symmetry and transitivity. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) &= \text{hd}(S) \\ \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) &= \text{zip}(\text{odd}(\text{tl}(S)), \text{even}(\text{tl}(S))) \end{aligned}$$

are in  $\text{STREAM}^\bullet$  (and hence in  $\mathcal{G}$ ), the following equations are in  $\mathcal{G}$  as well:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{zip}(\text{odd}(\text{tl}(S)), \text{even}(\text{tl}(S))) &= \text{tl}(S) && \text{(substitution)} \\ \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) &= \text{tl}(S) && \text{(transitivity)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\Delta(G) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , so we are done.

For the second property,  $f(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(f(S))$ , let  $G$  be the two equation set  $\{f(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(f(S)), \text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))\}$ , which includes the equation to prove, and let  $\mathcal{G}$  the closure under substitution, symmetry and transitivity of  $G \cup \text{STREAM}^\bullet$ . Since the following equations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{hd}(f(\text{not}(S))) &= \text{not}(\text{hd}(S)) && \text{hd}(\text{not}(f(S))) &= \text{not}(\text{hd}(S)) \\ & && \text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S))) &= \text{not}(\text{tl}(f(S))) \\ \text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S)))) &= \text{hd}(S) && \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))) &= \text{hd}(S) \\ \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S)))) &= f(\text{not}(\text{tl}(S))) && \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))) &= \text{not}(f(\text{tl}(S))) \end{aligned}$$

are all in  $\text{STREAM}^\bullet$  (and hence in  $\mathcal{G}$ ), the following equations are in  $\mathcal{G}$  as well:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{hd}(f(\text{not}(S))) &= \text{hd}(\text{not}(f(S))) && \text{(symm. \& trans.)} \\ \text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S)))) &= \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))) && \text{(symm. \& trans.)} \\ \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S)))) &= \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))) && \text{(subst. \& symm. \& trans.)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\Delta(G) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , so we are done with the second proof as well.

The set  $G$  was straightforward to choose in the first proof in the example above, but it was not that easy in the second one. If we take  $G$  in the second proof to consist only of the initial goal like in the first proof, then we fail to prove that  $\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))$  is in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

Unfortunately, there is no magic recipe to choose good sets  $G$ , which is what makes coinduction hard to automate. In fact, a naive enumeration of all sets  $G$  followed by an attempt to prove  $\Delta(G) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$  leads to a  $\Pi_2^0$  algorithm, which matches the worst case complexity of the behavioral satisfaction problem even for streams [11]. In practice, however, we can do better than enumerating all  $G$ . For example, after failing to prove  $\text{tl}(f(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(f(S)))$  in the second example above when one naively chooses  $G = \{f(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(f(S))\}$ , then one can add the failed task to  $G$  and resume the task of proving that  $\Delta(G) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , this time successfully. We will see in the next section that this way of searching for a suitable  $G$  is the basis on which the circular coinductive reasoning is developed.

## 5 Circular Coinduction

A key notion in our formalization and even implementation of circular coinduction is that of a “frozen” equation. The motivation underlying frozen equations is that they structurally inhibit their use underneath proper contexts; because of that, they will allow us to capture the informal notion of “circular behavior” elegantly, rigorously, and generally (modulo a restricted form of equational reasoning). Formally, let  $(\mathcal{B}, \Delta)$  be a behavioral specification and let us extend its signature  $\Sigma$  with a new sort *Frozen* and a new operation  $\boxed{\_} : s \rightarrow \textit{Frozen}$  for each sort  $s$ . If  $t$  is a term, then we call  $\boxed{t}$  the *frozen (form of) t*. Note that freezing only acts on the original sorts in  $\Sigma$ , so double freezing, e.g.,  $\boxed{\boxed{t}}$ , is not allowed. If  $e$  is an equation  $(\forall X) t = t' \text{ if } c$ , then we let  $\boxed{e}$  be the *frozen equation*  $(\forall X) \boxed{t} = \boxed{t'} \text{ if } c$ ; note that the condition  $c$  stays unfrozen, but recall that we only assume visible conditions. By analogy, we call the equations over the original signature  $\Sigma$  *unfrozen equations*. If  $e$  is an (unfrozen) visible equation then  $\boxed{e}$  is called a *frozen visible equation*; similarly when  $e$  is hidden. If  $C$  is a context for  $e$ , then we take the freedom to write  $C[\boxed{e}]$  as a shortcut for  $\boxed{C[e]}$ . It is important to note here that if  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \mathcal{G}$  for some unfrozen equation set  $E$  and frozen equation sets  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ , then it is not necessarily the case that  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash C[\mathcal{G}]$  for a context  $C$ . Freezing therefore inhibits the free application of the congruence deduction rule of equational reasoning.

Recall that, for generality, we work with an arbitrary entailment system in this paper, which may or may not necessarily be the entailment relation of equational deduction. We next add two more axioms:

**Definition 5.** *A  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system with freezing is a  $\Delta$ -contextual entailment system extended as above such that:*

- (A1)  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \boxed{e}$  iff  $E \vdash e$ ;
- (A2)  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \mathcal{G}$  implies  $E \cup \delta[\mathcal{F}] \vdash \delta[\mathcal{G}]$  for each  $\delta \in \Delta$ , equivalent to saying that for any  $\Delta$ -context  $C$ ,  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \mathcal{G}$  implies  $E \cup C[\mathcal{F}] \vdash C[\mathcal{G}]$ .

Above,  $E$  ranges over unfrozen equations,  $e$  over visible unfrozen equations, and  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  over frozen hidden equations.

The first axiom says that frozen hidden equations do not interfere with the entailment of frozen or unfrozen visible equations. The second equation says that if some frozen hidden equations  $\mathcal{F}$  can be used to derive some other frozen hidden equations  $\mathcal{G}$ , then one can also use the frozen equations  $\delta[\mathcal{F}]$  to derive  $\delta[\mathcal{G}]$ . Freezing acts as a protective shell that inhibits applications of the congruence rule on frozen equations but instead allows the application of derivatives both onto the hypothesis and the conclusion of an entailment pair at the same time.

Therefore, our working entailment system  $\vdash$  is now defined over both unfrozen and frozen equations. Note, however, that this extension is conservative, in that one cannot infer any new entailments of unfrozen equations that were not possible before; because of that, we take the liberty to use the same symbol,  $\vdash$ , for the extended entailment system. It is easy to check these additional axioms for concrete entailment relations. Consider, for example, the equational

deduction entailment: (A1) follows by first noticing that  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \boxed{e}$  iff  $E \vdash \boxed{e}$  (because there is no way to make use of the equations in  $\mathcal{F}$  in any derivation of  $\boxed{e}$ ) and then that  $E \vdash \boxed{e}$  iff  $E \vdash e$  (because  $E$  contains no frozen equations); and (A2) holds because any proof  $\pi$  of a frozen hidden equation  $\boxed{e_{\mathcal{G}}}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  from  $E \cup \mathcal{F}$  can use the frozen equations in  $\mathcal{F}$  only “at the top”, that is, not underneath operators via an equational congruence deduction step, so one can simply replace any frozen term  $\boxed{t}$  in  $\pi$  by  $\boxed{\delta[t]}$  and thus get a proof for  $\boxed{e_{\mathcal{G}}}$ .

**Theorem 2. (coinductive circularity principle)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $F$  is a set of hidden equations with  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{\Delta[F]}$  then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash F$ .*

*Proof.* We first prove by well-founded induction on the depth of  $C$  that the hypothesis of the theorem implies  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C[F]}$  for any  $\Delta$ -context  $C$ . If  $C$  is a degenerated context  $*:h$  then  $C[F]$  is a subset of  $F$  (its equations of sort  $h$ ), so the result follows by the fact that  $\vdash$  is an entailment system. The case  $C \in \Delta$  follows from the theorem hypothesis. If  $C[*:h] = C_1[C_2[*:h]]$  for some proper contexts  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  strictly smaller in depth than  $C$ , then we have by the induction hypothesis that  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C_1[F]}$  and  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C_2[F]}$ . Since  $\vdash$  is an entailment system with freezing, by (A2) it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{C_1[F]} \vdash \boxed{C_1[C_2[F]]}$ . Now, since  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C_1[F]}$  implies  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{C_1[F]}$ , by the transitivity of  $\vdash$  (both of these properties of entailment systems), we get  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C[F]}$ .

Therefore,  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C[F]}$  for any  $\Delta$ -context  $C$ , in particular  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{C[F]}$  for any  $\Delta$ -experiment  $C$ . Then by axiom (A1) of entailment systems with freezing we obtain that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$  for any  $e \in F$  and any  $\Delta$ -experiment  $C$  for which  $C[e]$  is defined. Therefore,  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash F$ .

Theorem 2 serves as the foundation of circular coinduction, because what circular coinduction essentially does is to iteratively attempt to complete a set of hidden equations that it starts with until it becomes a set  $F$  that satisfies the hypothesis of Theorem 2. Interestingly, Theorem 1 becomes now a simple corollary of Theorem 2: given a behaviorally closed  $\mathcal{G}$  like in the hypothesis of Theorem 1, take  $F$  to be the set of all hidden equations in  $\mathcal{G}$ ; then for an  $e \in F$  of sort  $h$  and a  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta$ ,  $\delta[e]$  either is visible and so  $\mathcal{B} \vdash \delta[e]$  or is in  $F$ , so the hypothesis of Theorem 2 holds vacuously; therefore,  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash \mathcal{G}$ . This is not entirely unexpected, because the  $F$  in Theorem 2 is stated to be a fixed point w.r.t.  $\Delta$ -derivability; what may be slightly unexpected is that such fixed points can be safely calculated modulo reasoning into an entailment system with freezing, in particular modulo equational deduction with inhibited congruence.

Figure 2 defines circular coinduction as a proof system for deriving pairs of the form  $\mathcal{H} \Vdash^{\circ} \mathcal{G}$ , where  $\mathcal{H}$ , the *hypotheses*, can contain both frozen and unfrozen equations, and where  $\mathcal{G}$ , the *goals*, contains only frozen equations. Initially,  $\mathcal{H}$  is the original behavioral specification  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  is the frozen version  $\boxed{G}$  of the original goals  $G$  to prove. The circular coinductive proving process proceeds as follows. At each moment when  $\mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$ , a frozen equation  $\boxed{e}$  is picked from  $\mathcal{G}$ . If  $\mathcal{H} \vdash \boxed{e}$  holds, then  $\boxed{e}$  may be discarded via a [Reduce] step. The core rule of circular coinduction is [Derive], which allows one to assume  $\boxed{e}$  as hypothesis

and generate  $\boxed{\Delta[e]}$  as new proof obligations. This rule gives the user of our proof system the impression of circular reasoning, because one appears to assume what one wants to prove and go on. The key observation here is that the equation  $\boxed{e}$  is assumed as hypothesis in its frozen form, which means that it cannot be freely used to prove its derivatives; otherwise, those would follow immediately by applying the congruence rule of equational deduction. One is done when the set of goals becomes empty. When that happens, one can conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .

The soundness of the circular coinductive proof system in Figure 2, which is proved below, is a monolithic result depending upon a derivation of the complete proof for a task of the form  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^\circ \boxed{G}$ . We have failed to find any way to decompose the proof of soundness by proving the soundness of each derivation rule, as it is commonly done in soundness proofs. For example, one may

$\frac{\cdot}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \emptyset}$	[Done]
$\frac{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H} \vdash \boxed{e}}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \{\boxed{e}\}}$	[Reduce]
$\frac{\mathcal{H} \cup \{\boxed{e}\} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \boxed{\Delta[e]}}{\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G} \cup \{\boxed{e}\}}$ , if $e$ hidden	[Derive]

**Fig. 2.** Circular coinduction as a proof system: If  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^\circ \boxed{G}$  is derivable then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$

be tempted to attempt to show that  $\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}$  derivable implies  $\mathcal{H}^\circ \Vdash \mathcal{G}^\circ$ , where  $\mathcal{H}^\circ$  unfreezes all the frozen equations in  $\mathcal{H}$  (and similarly for  $\mathcal{G}^\circ$ ). Unfortunately, this simplistic approach cannot be used to show the [Derive] rule “sound”, as it is *not* sound in this sense: indeed,  $\mathcal{H}^\circ \cup \{e\} \Vdash \mathcal{G}^\circ \cup \Delta[e]$  is equivalent to  $\mathcal{H}^\circ \cup \{e\} \Vdash \mathcal{G}^\circ$  because  $\{e\} \Vdash \Delta[e]$ , and there is no way to show from these that  $\mathcal{H}^\circ \Vdash \mathcal{G}^\circ \cup \{e\}$ . The soundness arguments of circular coinduction can be found in the complete proof, not in each particular derivation rule, which is what makes the theorem below unexpectedly hard to prove (note it also uses Theorem 2).

**Theorem 3. (soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^\circ \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the proof system in Figure 2, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

*Proof.* Any derivation of  $\mathcal{H} \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}$  using the proof system in Figure 2 yields a sequence of pairs  $\mathcal{H}_0 \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}_0, \mathcal{H}_1 \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{H}_n \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}_n$ , where  $\mathcal{H}_0 = \mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_0 = \boxed{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_n = \emptyset$ , and for every  $0 \leq i < n$ , there is some  $\boxed{e} \in \mathcal{G}_i$  such that one of the following holds, each corresponding to one of the rules [Reduce] or [Derive]:

- [Reduce]  $\mathcal{H}_i \vdash \boxed{e}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{i+1} = \mathcal{G}_i - \{\boxed{e}\}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{i+1} = \mathcal{H}_i$ ; or
- [Derive]  $e$  is hidden and  $\mathcal{G}_{i+1} = (\mathcal{G}_i - \{\boxed{e}\}) \cup \boxed{\Delta[e]}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{i+1} = \mathcal{H}_i \cup \boxed{e}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{G} = \bigcup_{i=0}^n \mathcal{G}_i$ , let  $\mathcal{G}^\circ = \{e \mid \boxed{e} \in \mathcal{G}\}$ , and let  $F = \text{hidden}(\mathcal{G}^\circ)$ . Note that for each  $0 \leq i < n$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_i = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{F}_i$  for some set of frozen hidden equations  $\mathcal{F}_i$  with  $\mathcal{F}_i \cup \Delta[\mathcal{F}_i] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ : indeed, only frozen hidden equations are added to  $\mathcal{H}$  and only by the rule [Derive], which also adds at the same time the derivatives of those equations to  $\mathcal{G}$ . This implies that if  $i$  corresponds to a [Reduce] step with  $\mathcal{H}_i \vdash \boxed{e}$  for some  $\boxed{e} \in \mathcal{G}$ , then either  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$  by (A1) when  $e$  is visible, or  $\mathcal{B} \cup \Delta[\mathcal{F}_i] \vdash \boxed{\Delta[e]}$  by (A2) when  $e \in F$ .

If  $e \in \mathcal{G}^\circ$  visible, then there must be some  $0 \leq i < n$  such that  $\mathcal{H}_i \vdash \boxed{e}$ , so  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$ . Since  $\Delta[\mathcal{F}_i] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , equations  $\boxed{f} \in \Delta[\mathcal{F}_i]$  either are visible and so  $\mathcal{B} \vdash f$ , or are hidden and  $\boxed{f} \in \boxed{F}$ ; in either case, we conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \Delta[\mathcal{F}_i]$  for any  $0 \leq i < n$ , so  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{\Delta[e]}$  for any  $e \in F$  such that  $\mathcal{H}_i \vdash \boxed{e}$  in some [Reduce] rule applied at step  $0 \leq i < n$ . If  $e \in F$  such that a  $\boxed{\delta[e]}$  for each appropriate  $\delta \in \Delta$  is added to  $\mathcal{G}$  via a [Derive] rule, then it is either that  $\delta[e] \in \mathcal{G}^\circ$  and so  $\mathcal{B} \vdash \delta[e]$ , or that  $\delta[e] \in F$ ; in either case, for such  $e \in F$  we conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{\Delta[e]}$ . We covered all cases for  $e \in F$ , so  $\mathcal{B} \cup \boxed{F} \vdash \boxed{\Delta[F]}$ ; then Theorem 2 implies that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash F$ . Since  $F$  contains all the hidden equations of  $\mathcal{G}^\circ$  and since we already proved that  $\mathcal{B} \vdash e$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$ , for all  $e \in \mathcal{G}^\circ$  visible, we conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash \mathcal{G}^\circ$ . Since  $G \subseteq \mathcal{G}^\circ$ , it follows that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .

*Example 4.* Let us now derive by circular coinduction the two stream properties proved manually by coinduction in Example 3, as well as the fixed point property of the *morse* stream defined in Section 1.

The table below summarizes the derivation steps for the first property. Each row comprises a derived pair  $\mathcal{H}_i \Vdash^\circ \mathcal{G}_i$ , using the notation in the proof of Theorem 3: first column is the proof step index  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , second column is the rule applied, third column is the unfrozen set of current goals, and fourth column is the set of additional hypotheses (besides  $\mathcal{B}$ ) in  $\mathcal{H}_i$ , also shown in unfrozen form.

Rule	$\mathcal{G}_i^\circ$	$\mathcal{F}_i^\circ$
0	$\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S$	
1 [Derive]	$\text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) = \text{hd}(S)$ $\text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) = \text{tl}(S)$	$\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S$
2 [Reduce]	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))) = \text{tl}(S)$	$\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S$
3 [Reduce]		$\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)) = S$

The first [Reduce] step follows by equational reasoning using only the equations of *STREAM*. The second [Reduce] uses the frozen hypothesis: the goal is reduced first to  $\text{zip}(\text{odd}(\text{tl}(S)), \text{odd}(\text{even}(S)))$  using the equations of *STREAM* and then to  $\text{tl}(S) = \text{tl}(S)$  using the frozen hypothesis in  $\mathcal{F}_2$ .

Similarly, next table shows a derivation of  $\text{STREAM} \Vdash^\circ \text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$ :

Rule	$\mathcal{G}_i^\circ$	$\mathcal{F}_i^\circ$
0	$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$	
1 [Derive]	$\text{hd}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{hd}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$ $\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$	$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$
2 [Reduce]	$\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$	$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$
3 [Derive]	$\text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S)))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S))))$ $\text{tl}^2(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}^2(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$	$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$
4 [Reduce]	$\text{tl}^2(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}^2(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$	$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$
5 [Reduce]		$\text{f}(\text{not}(S)) = \text{not}(\text{f}(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{f}(\text{not}(S))) = \text{tl}(\text{not}(\text{f}(S)))$

The first two [Reduce] steps follow by equational reasoning using only the equations of *STREAM*. The last [Reduce] uses a frozen hypothesis from  $\mathcal{F}_4$ . The last

goal is reduced to  $f(\text{not}(\text{tl}(S))) = \text{not}(f(\text{tl}(S)))$  by equational reasoning using only the equations of **STREAM**, and then to  $\text{not}(f(\text{tl}(S))) = \text{not}(f(\text{tl}(S)))$  using the first frozen hypothesis from  $\mathcal{F}_4$ . Note that circular coinduction has therefore “discovered” automatically the second equation that was necessary to prove the property by plain coinduction in Example 3.

Finally, next table shows a circular coinductive proof that, with the streams defined in Section 1, **morse** is a fixed point of **f**. Note that one cannot prove directly the fixed point property (see Appendix A for how CIRC fails to prove it); instead, we prove  $G = \{f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}, (\forall S) \text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)\}$ .

Step	Rule	$\mathcal{G}_i^\circ$	$\mathcal{F}_i^\circ$
0		$f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$	
1	Derive	$\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$	$f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
2	Derive	$\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{hd}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{hd}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$	$\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
3	Reduce	$\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{hd}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{hd}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$	$\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
4	Derive	$\text{hd}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{hd}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$	$\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
5	Reduce	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$	$\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
6	Derive	$\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$ $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
7	Reduce	$\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$ $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
8	Reduce	$\text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$ $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
9	Reduce	$\text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S)))$	$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$
10	Reduce		$\text{tl}(\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S)) = \text{tl}(f(S))$ $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$ $\text{zip}(S, \text{not } S) = f(S)$ $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$

## 6 Conclusion

Previous formalizations of circular coinduction were either algorithmic in nature, or limited. For example, [4] introduces circular coinductive rewriting as an operational technique to extend rewriting with coinductive steps. On the other hand, [5] attempts to capture circular coinduction as a proof rule, but, unfortunately, it only works with properties that need at most one derivation step and it is melted away within a particular entailment system for hidden algebra, making it hard to understand what circular coinduction really is.

This paper presented circular coinduction as a sound, generic, self-contained and easy to understand proof system. We believe that this result will enhance understanding of circular coinduction, will allow it to be applicable to various coalgebraic settings, and will lead to improved implementations and extensions.

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*This appendix is for reviewers' convenience, to see how the circular coinductive proof system in the paper works in CIRC. If this paper is accepted then the appendix will be removed and the reader will be referred to CIRC's website at <http://fsl.cs.uiuc.edu/circ>, where these examples and many others can be executed online.*

## A CIRC Proofs

Here we show the behavioral specification of streams discussed in Section 1 formalized in CIRC, the proof scripts of all the properties mentioned in the paper, as well as CIRC's output. The input file is called `stream.maude`. Note that CIRC is instructed to output all the proof details with the command “`set show details on .`”. One can add multiple goals and then attempt to prove all of them at the same time, as described in Section 5 (the advantage being that they can help each other). The command “`coinduction .`” attempts to prove all the existing goals. Once a goal is proved, it is automatically made available in any subsequent proof. One can start it over using the command “`quit proof .`”, which is what we do before the last proof task. The last proof task shows that one cannot prove the fixed point property in isolation; we have to quit the existing proof to make sure that the previously proved properties, including the fixed point itself, are discarded. We also set the maximum number of steps to 100, which is sufficient to see the problem. The number of steps made by the CIRC tool is bigger than the number of circularities (how many times the rule [Derive] is applied), because the implementation includes some additional rules. Note also that the real run time is that written in parentheses and NOT the CPU time.

### A.1 Input

```
loop init .

(set show details on .)

(theory BIT is
  sort Bit .      var B : Bit .
  ops 0 1 : -> Bit .

  op not : Bit -> Bit .
  eq not(0) = 1 .   eq not(1) = 0 .   eq not(not(B)) = B .
endtheory)

(theory EQ-STREAM is including BIT .
  sort Stream .   vars S S' : Stream .

  --- these will be derivatives; here they are just ordinary operations
  op hd : Stream -> Bit .           op tl : Stream -> Stream .
```



```

--- odd and even streams          --- zip of streams
ops odd even : Stream -> Stream . op zip : Stream Stream -> Stream .
eq hd(odd(S)) = hd(S) .           eq hd(zip(S,S')) = hd(S) .
eq tl(odd(S)) = even(tl(S)) .     eq tl(zip(S,S')) = zip(S',tl(S)) .
eq even(S) = odd(tl(S)) .

--- complements a Bit stream      --- alternative function
op not : Stream -> Stream .       op f : Stream -> Stream .
eq hd(not(S)) = not(hd(S)) .     eq hd(f(S)) = hd(S) .
eq tl(not(S)) = not(tl(S)) .     eq hd(tl(f(S))) = not(hd(S)) .
                                   eq tl(tl(f(S))) = f(tl(S)) .

--- Thue-Morse sequence M = 0:zip(inv(M),tail(M))
op morse : -> Stream .
eq hd(morse) = 0 .
eq hd(tl(morse)) = 1 .
eq tl(tl(morse)) = zip(tl(morse), not(tl(morse))) .
endtheory

(cttheory STREAM is
  including EQ-STREAM .
  derivative hd(*:Stream) .
  derivative tl(*:Stream) .
endcttheory)

```

```

---> STREAM |||- zip(odd(S), even(S)) = S

(add goal zip(odd(S:Stream), even(S:Stream)) = S:Stream .)

(coinduction .)

---> STREAM |||- f(not(S)) = not(f(S))

(add goal f(not(S:Stream)) = not(f(S:Stream)) .)

(coinduction .)

---> STREAM |||- { f(S) = zip(S, not(S)), f(morse) = morse }

(add goal f(S:Stream) = zip(S:Stream, not(S:Stream)) .)

(add goal f(morse) = morse .)

(coinduction .)

```

```
---> STREAM |||- f(morse) = morse does not terminate
```

```
(quit proof .)
```

```
(set max no steps 100 .)
```

```
(add goal f(morse) = morse .)
```

```
(coinduction .)
```

## A.2 Output

```
> in stream.maude
```

```
rewrites: 6 in 783421600ms cpu (4ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

CIRC 1.4 (May 19th, 2008)

```
rewrites: 20 in 6094666579ms cpu (39ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
Details will be shown.
```

```
rewrites: 805 in 6094666579ms cpu (13ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
Introduced theory BIT
```

```
rewrites: 3499 in 6094666579ms cpu (59ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
Introduced theory EQ-STREAM
```

```
rewrites: 862 in 6094666579ms cpu (18ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
.....  
-----
```

```
Introduced ctheory STREAM
```

```
=====  
---> STREAM |||- zip(odd(S), even(S)) = S
```

```
rewrites: 359 in 6094666579ms cpu (11ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
Goal added: zip(odd(S:Stream),even(S:Stream)) = S:Stream
```

```
rewrites: 2425 in 6094666579ms cpu (90ms real) (0 rewrites/second)
```

```
Goal zip(odd(S:Stream),even(S:Stream)) = S:Stream reduced to  
zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream))) = S:Stream
```

```
Hypo zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream))) = S:Stream added and coexpanded to
```

```
1. hd(zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream)))) = hd(S:Stream)
```

```
2. tl(zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream)))) = tl(S:Stream)
```

```

Goal hd(zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream)))) = hd(S:Stream) reduced to
  hd(S:Stream) = hd(S:Stream)
Goal hd(S:Stream) = hd(S:Stream) proved by reduction.
Goal tl(zip(odd(S:Stream),odd(tl(S:Stream)))) = tl(S:Stream) reduced to
  tl(S:Stream) = tl(S:Stream)
Goal tl(S:Stream) = tl(S:Stream) proved by reduction.

```

Proof succeeded.

```

=====
--> STREAM |||- f(not(S)) = not(f(S))
rewrites: 339 in 6094666579ms cpu (8ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

Goal added: f(not(S:Stream)) = not(f(S:Stream))

```

```

rewrites: 3738 in 6094666579ms cpu (157ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

```

```

Hypo f(not(S:Stream)) = not(f(S:Stream)) added and coexpanded to
1. hd(f(not(S:Stream))) = hd(not(f(S:Stream)))
2. tl(f(not(S:Stream))) = tl(not(f(S:Stream)))
Goal hd(f(not(S:Stream))) = hd(not(f(S:Stream))) reduced to
  not(hd(S:Stream)) = not(hd(S:Stream))
Goal not(hd(S:Stream)) = not(hd(S:Stream)) proved by reduction.
Goal tl(f(not(S:Stream))) = tl(not(f(S:Stream))) reduced to
  tl(f(not(S:Stream))) = not(tl(f(S:Stream)))

```

```

Hypo tl(f(not(S:Stream))) = not(tl(f(S:Stream))) added and coexpanded to
1. hd(tl(f(not(S:Stream)))) = hd(not(tl(f(S:Stream))))
2. tl(tl(f(not(S:Stream)))) = tl(not(tl(f(S:Stream))))
Goal hd(tl(f(not(S:Stream)))) = hd(not(tl(f(S:Stream)))) reduced to
  hd(S:Stream) = hd(S:Stream)
Goal hd(S:Stream) = hd(S:Stream) proved by reduction.
Goal tl(tl(f(not(S:Stream)))) = tl(not(tl(f(S:Stream)))) reduced to
  not(f(tl(S:Stream))) = not(f(tl(S:Stream)))
Goal not(f(tl(S:Stream))) = not(f(tl(S:Stream))) proved by reduction.

```

Proof succeeded.

```

=====
--> STREAM |||- { f(S) = zip(S, not(S)), f(morse) = morse }
rewrites: 365 in 6094666579ms cpu (9ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

Goal added: f(S:Stream) = zip(S:Stream,not(S:Stream))

```

```

rewrites: 261 in 6094666579ms cpu (7ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

```

Goal added:  $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$

rewrites: 6620 in 6094666579ms cpu (350ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

Hypo  $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$
2.  $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$

Hypo  $f(S:\text{Stream}) = \text{zip}(S:\text{Stream}, \text{not}(S:\text{Stream}))$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(S:\text{Stream}, \text{not}(S:\text{Stream})))$
2.  $\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(S:\text{Stream}, \text{not}(S:\text{Stream})))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$  reduced to

$$0 = 0$$

Goal  $0 = 0$  proved by reduction.

Hypo  $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$
2.  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(S:\text{Stream}, \text{not}(S:\text{Stream})))$  reduced to

$$\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream}) = \text{hd}(S:\text{Stream})$$

Goal  $\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream}) = \text{hd}(S:\text{Stream})$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(S:\text{Stream}, \text{not}(S:\text{Stream})))$  reduced to

$$\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream}))$$

Hypo  $\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream}))$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream}))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})))$
2.  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream}))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$  reduced to

$$1 = 1$$

Goal  $1 = 1$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$  reduced to

$$f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})) = f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$$

Goal  $f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})) = f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream}))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})))$  reduced to

$$\text{not}(\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{not}(\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream}))$$

Goal  $\text{not}(\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream})) = \text{not}(\text{hd}(S:\text{Stream}))$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(S:\text{Stream}))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(S:\text{Stream}), \text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})))$  reduced to

$$f(\text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})) = f(\text{tl}(S:\text{Stream}))$$

Goal  $f(\text{tl}(S:\text{Stream})) = f(\text{tl}(S:\text{Stream}))$  proved by reduction.

Proof succeeded.

=====

---> STREAM |||-  $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$  does not terminate

rewrites: 196 in 6094666579ms cpu (23ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

All hypotheses and lemmas gathered during previous proofs have been removed.

rewrites: 42 in 6094666579ms cpu (8ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

The maximum number of proving steps was set to 100 .

rewrites: 265 in 6094666579ms cpu (9ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

Goal added:  $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$

rewrites: 14137 in 6094666579ms cpu (734ms real) (0 rewrites/second)

Hypo  $f(\text{morse}) = \text{morse}$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$

2.  $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$

Goal  $\text{hd}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{hd}(\text{morse})$  reduced to

$0 = 0$

Goal  $0 = 0$  proved by reduction.

Hypo  $\text{tl}(f(\text{morse})) = \text{tl}(\text{morse})$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$

2.  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$  reduced to

$1 = 1$

Goal  $1 = 1$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))$  reduced to

$f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})) = \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))$

Hypo  $f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})) = \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

2.  $\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$  reduced to

$1 = 1$

Goal  $1 = 1$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$  reduced to

$\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

Hypo  $\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))) = \text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$  added and coexpanded to

1.  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

2.  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

Goal  $\text{hd}(\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))) = \text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$  reduced to

$0 = 0$

Goal  $0 = 0$  proved by reduction.

Goal  $\text{tl}(\text{tl}(f(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))) = \text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})), \text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$  reduced to

$f(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse})))) = \text{zip}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))), \text{not}(\text{zip}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}), \text{not}(\text{tl}(\text{morse}))))$

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Hypo f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))) =
  zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
added and coexpanded to
1. hd(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  hd(zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
2. tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
Goal hd(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) = hd(zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(
morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) reduced to
  1 = 1
Goal 1 = 1 proved by reduction.
Goal tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
reduced to
  tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  zip(not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))),
    zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))

Hypo tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) = zip(not(zip(tl(morse),
  not(tl(morse))),zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
added and coexpanded to
1. hd(tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  hd(zip(not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),zip(not(tl(morse)),
    zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
2. tl(tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
Goal hd(tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  hd(zip(not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
reduced to
  0 = 0
Goal 0 = 0 proved by reduction.
Goal tl(tl(f(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) reduced to
  f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))) =
  zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))

Hypo f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))) =
  zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
added and coexpanded to
1. hd(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  hd(zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
2. tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))

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Goal hd(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  hd(zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))))
reduced to
  0 = 0
Goal 0 = 0 proved by reduction.
Goal tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  tl(zip(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))),
    not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))))
reduced to
  tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  zip(not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))),
    zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))

Hypo tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))) =
  zip(not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))),
    zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))
added and coexpanded to
1. hd(tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))) =
  hd(zip(not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))),
    zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))))
2. tl(tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))) =
  tl(zip(not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))),
    zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))))
Goal hd(tl(f(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))))) =
  hd(zip(not(zip(not(tl(morse)),zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))))),
    zip(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse))),not(zip(tl(morse),not(tl(morse)))))))
reduced to
  1 = 1
Goal 1 = 1 proved by reduction.
Stopped: the number of prover steps was exceeded.
Maude>

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