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# Inductive Theorem Proving for Design Specifications

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We present a number of new results on inductive theorem proving for design specifications based on Horn logic with equality. Induction is explicit here because induction orderings are supposed to be part of the specification. We show how the automatic support for program verification is enhanced if the specification satisfies a bunch of rewrite properties, summarized under the notion of canonicity. The enhancement is due to inference rules and corresponding strategies whose soundness is implied by the specification's canonicity. The second main result of the paper provides a method for proving canonicity by using the same rules, which are applied in proofs of conjectures about the specification and the functional-logic programs it contains.

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## 1. Introduction

This paper presents a summary as well as extensions of the main results of our monograph *Deduction and Declarative Programming* Padawitz (1992), which deals with a number of program and proof issues centering around the following paradigmatic equations of functional-logic programming:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{programs} &= \text{axioms} = \text{Horn clauses} \\ \text{requirements} &= \text{theorems} = \text{Gentzen clauses.} \end{aligned}$$

Not only functional-logic programs, but also imperative ones are amenable to logic-oriented design methods, provided that the programming language has a kind of declarative semantics. Of course, Horn clauses  $g \Leftarrow h$  are not sufficient as a formal setting for all requirements to a program. Hence we admit *Gentzen clauses*, which generalize Horn clauses in that a conclusion of a Gentzen clause has the form

$$\exists X_1 g_1 \vee \dots \vee \exists X_n g_n$$

with  $X_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , being a set of variables occurring in the goal (= set of atoms)  $g_i$ <sup>‡</sup>. The use of Horn clauses for programs and Gentzen clauses for requirements complies well with the *initial semantics* that implicitly underlie any design specification.

It is well known that conjunctions of Horn clauses are the most general first-order

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<sup>‡</sup> If the existentially quantified variables of a Gentzen clause are known from the context, we sometimes denote  $\exists X_1 g_1 \vee \dots \vee \exists X_n g_n$  by the *goal set*  $gs = \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$  (cf. Section 2).

formulas for which an initial model always exists. This is not just *a* model, it is *the* model, which the programmer, more or less consciously, has in mind when designing a data type. Since the initial model is a single model (up to isomorphism) and not a class of models, we need not restrict ourselves to Horn clauses when defining the theory of a design specification. On the contrary, many non-Horn Gentzen clauses are direct consequences of the *closed world assumption* of initial semantics (cf. Reiter 1978; Padawitz 1992, Section 1.5). These clauses often provide crucial lemmas used in program verification.

### 1.1. EXPANDER

Some of the results presented in this paper yield the theoretical foundation of several inference rules implemented in Expander (cf. Padawitz 1994), which is mainly a proof checker tailored to abstract data types and declarative programs. Using Expander, a proof of a Gentzen clause,  $gs \Leftarrow hs^\dagger$ , is carried out interactively. One starts with singleton lists,  $front = [gs]$  and  $rear = [hs]$ , and extends them stepwise into lists

$$front = [gs, gs_1, \dots, gs_k] \quad \text{and} \quad rear = [hs, hs_1, \dots, hs_n],$$

consisting of successively inferred goal sets.  $front$  is a backward proof of the clause  $gs \Leftarrow gs_k$ , while  $rear$  is a forward proof of  $hs_n \Leftarrow hs$ . The proof of  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  is complete if there are  $k, n \geq 1$  such that  $hs_n$  *subsumes*  $gs_k$ . This syntactical condition implies that  $gs_k \Leftarrow hs_n$  is inductively valid (cf. Padawitz 1994, Section 3.5). From the validity of  $gs \Leftarrow gs_k$ ,  $gs_k \Leftarrow hs_n$  and  $hs_n \Leftarrow hs$  one concludes that the original conjecture  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  holds true. Some of the inference rules used for building up  $front$  and  $rear$  are sound only if the underlying specification is *canonical* (cf. Section 1.4).

### 1.2. PROOF BY TERM REWRITING

If we forget the *non-equality* predicates that a Horn clause specification  $SP$  may include,  $SP$  can be regarded as a *conditional term rewriting system* (a CTRS for short; cf. e.g. Kaplan 1984, Zhang and Remy 1985, Dershowitz and Jouannaud 1990). In fact, fundamental notions and results from CTRS theory have been integrated into our approach to inductive theorem proving. Since our application area is not classical algebra, but the verification of declarative programs on constructor-based data types, we had to generalize the notions and results used in the CTRS community. These generalizations have been worked out in Padawitz (1992), Chapters 6 and 7. In particular, Sections 7.4 and 7.5 of Padawitz 1992) are devoted to a detailed comparison between *inductive completion* or *proof by consistency* (cf. Kapur and Musser 1987; Dershowitz and Jouannaud 1990, Section 8.5; Duffy 1991, Section 7.3) and our method of inductive expansion. Given a CTRS  $R$ , inductive completion mixes the derivation of theorems from  $R$  with a proof that  $R$  is ground confluent. Inductive expansion separates both proof obligations from each other, which makes the proofs more transparent and allows us to drop certain serious restrictions of inductive completion. We discuss this matter in more detail at the end of Section 7.

For readers familiar with CTRS theory, we sketch the main generalizations introduced in Padawitz (1992), Sections 6.1–6.3. First, a set of Horn clauses viewed as a CTRS

<sup>†</sup>  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  is an abbreviation of the conjunction over all  $gs \Leftarrow h$  with  $h \in hs$ .

may introduce *fresh* or *extra variables* (cf. Hanus 1994, Section 2.4). Fresh variables are indispensable when term rewriting systems shall represent non-trivial declarative programs. Second, a set of Horn clauses may be strongly terminating in the sense of Padawitz (1992) even if it is neither reductive (cf. Jouannaud and Waldmann 1986) nor simplifying (cf. Kaplan 1987) nor decreasing (cf. Dershowitz, Okada and Sivakumar 1988) nor quasi-reductive (cf. Bertling and Ganzinger 1989). For a Horn clause  $p \Leftarrow g$  to be strongly terminating in the sense of Padawitz (1992) it is sufficient that only those ground instances  $g\sigma$  of  $g$  are smaller than  $p\sigma$ , which are *convergent* or joinable (cf. Dershowitz, Okada and Sivakumar 1988). Third, a CTRS may be ground confluent even if it generates critical pairs, which are neither feasible (cf. Kaplan 1987) nor joinable. What we may really assume about each ground instance  $g$  of the premise of a critical pair is that  $g$  is not only convergent, but *strongly* convergent, i.e. that all reducts of  $g$  are convergent.

Examples taken from typical design specifications have motivated these generalizations. At the end of Padawitz (1992), Section 6.2, we claimed that only a strongly terminating CTRS can be proved ground confluent because only a reduction ordering allows us to induce from the premise to the conclusion of a conditional rule. In contrast to this conjecture, Dershowitz, Okada and Sivakumar (1987), Theorem 4, tells us that the well-foundedness of the rewrite relation is sufficient for confluence provided that all feasible critical pairs are *convergent overlays*. Fortunately, a feasible critical pair  $cp$  generated by a design specification is almost always an overlay. However, the proof of  $cp$ 's convergence often depends on the assumption that the ground instances of  $cp$ 's premise are strongly convergent (cf. Padawitz 1992, Example 6.11).

### 1.3. PROOF BY EXPANSION

In Padawitz (1992), Sections 5.4 and 6.4, we have shown the soundness of two calculi, **inductive expansion** for proving inductive theorems and **subreductive expansion** for proving ground confluence. A second view on both calculi and their soundness proofs reveals their strong similarity. Each calculus is hierarchical in the sense that its rules apply Gentzen clauses, which are already known to be valid with respect to the same theory for which the calculus is sound. The main difference between inductive expansion and subreductive expansion is the set  $TH$  of ground goals, where the respective validity notion is based upon: in the first case,  $TH$  is given by *all* valid ground goals, whereas in the second case,  $TH$  consists of all strongly convergent ground goals (see above). But the set  $Gen(TH, GS)$  of Gentzen clauses for which inductive (respectively subreductive) expansion is sound, is defined the same in both cases:  $gs \Leftarrow h \in Gen(TH, GS)$  iff for all ground substitutions  $\sigma$ ,  $h\sigma \in TH$  implies  $g\tau \in TH$  for some  $g \in gs$  and a ground substitution  $\tau$ , which agrees with  $\sigma$  on all universally quantified variables of  $gs \Leftarrow h$ . Besides  $TH$ , we must also parametrize the set of ground substitutions from which  $\sigma$  is taken. In the case of inductive expansion  $\sigma$  is arbitrary, but in the case of subreductive expansion,  $\sigma$  is taken from a proper subset of the set of all ground substitutions.

To sum up, inductive and subreductive expansion are two instances of a **generic expansion calculus** we introduce and prove sound with respect to  $Gen(TH, GS)$  in Section 3. Section 4 presents inductive expansion as an instance of the generic calculus. Section 6 does the same for subreductive expansion.

The generic calculus has a number of advantages. Firstly, one gains more insight into the exact applicability conditions of expansion rules. Secondly, we mentioned that Expander (cf. Section 1.1) realizes inductive expansion. If the derived subgoals are *bounded*

(cf. Section 6), an inductive expansion is also a subreductive expansion. Hence Expander is also a tool for proving ground confluence. Thirdly, the subreductive instance of the generic calculus is even more powerful than the corresponding calculus defined in Padawitz (1992). Here it includes inductive rules and thus we may prove ground confluence by induction. In CTRS terms, this means that we may use a critical pair as an induction hypothesis when proving that this critical pair is convergent. This is *not* inductive completion (cf. Section 1.2) where the subreductive expansion given by the process of joining a critical pair  $cp$  may not employ  $cp$  as an induction hypothesis. Theorem 6.6 justifies the method for proving ground confluence by building subreductive expansions of critical clauses.

#### 1.4. CANONICAL SPECIFICATIONS

What do we gain from a design specification  $SP$  with ground confluent axioms? Life becomes easier because of the following proof-theoretical implications of ground confluence.

1. **Base consistency.** If  $SP$  is built up in a hierarchical manner, we must ensure consistency with respect to the base specifications of  $SP$ , i.e. each ground goal over the base signature should follow from  $SP$ -axioms only if it already follows from base axioms. An almost syntactical consistency criterion is obtained if  $SP$  is ground confluent and strongly terminating (cf. Padawitz 1992, Corollary 6.19). Base consistency is crucial for proving program equivalence (cf. Padawitz 1992, Theorem 3.17) or the correctness of specification refinements (cf. Padawitz 1992, Section 7.6).
2. **Constructors.** Certain inference rules rely on the distinction of the set of operations of  $SP$  into a set of *constructors* and a set of *defined functions*. Terms built up of constructors are called *normal forms*. Ground normal forms yield the actual representations of data specified by  $SP$ .  $SP$  has *free constructors* if these representations are unique (cf. Definition 5.2). The generalization of CTRS to include fresh variables (cf. Section 1.2) leads to reduction and narrowing calculi where fresh variables are only replaced by normal forms (cf. Section 5). If  $SP$  has free constructors, then the goals of a derivation can be simplified more efficiently, which results in shorter and more understandable proofs (cf. Section 1.5).
3. **Refutation.** Testing a declarative program means solving a goal  $g$  with respect to  $SP$ . Moreover, a negative answer to the question “Is  $g$  solvable?” is an affirmative answer to the question “Is  $\neg g$  valid?”. The *narrowing calculus* (cf. Section 8) mostly gives us an answer, provided that  $SP$  is ground confluent.
4. **Proof by narrowing.** For the topic of this paper the most important consequence of ground confluence is the soundness of *narrowing-strategy-controlled goal generation* as an inference rule used in proofs of Gentzen clauses (cf. Section 8). We mentioned that Expander proves a Gentzen clause  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  by stepwise transforming  $gs$  and  $hs$  until  $hs$  subsumes  $gs$  (cf. Section 1.1). Narrowing steps are always sound in the backward transformation of  $gs$ , but  $SP$  must be ground confluent if they are used in the forward transformation of  $hs$ . Indeed, this part of the proof is often facilitated considerably by narrowing steps because they produce case analyses automatically.

Ground confluence is related to strong termination because the method of proving ground confluence by subreductive expansion (cf. Section 1.3) is correct only if  $SP$  is strongly terminating (cf. Section 6). Hence Section 7 recapitulates the *path calculus* for proving strong termination, which was introduced in Padawitz (1992), Section 6.2. This calculus generates a reduction ordering both from a syntactical signature ordering and from well-founded semantic relations of  $SP$ .

A specification  $SP$  is called *canonical* if it is ground confluent, strongly terminating and *normal form complete*, i.e. if all ground terms have normal forms. The precise definitions are given in Section 5.

### 1.5. SIMPLIFICATION

Sections 8 to 10 review and extend results of Padawitz (1988, 1991a), which deal with narrowing, narrowing strategies and *simplification*. Simplification steps are automatically performed equivalence transformations, which make expansion proofs more transparent and more efficient. Moreover, they are combined with narrowing without losing the completeness properties of narrowing, provided that the underlying simplifier is *reductive*, i.e. monotonic with respect to the reduction ordering that makes the specification strongly terminating (cf. Section 1.4). Theorem 10.6 which generalizes all previous results on reduced or normalizing narrowing (cf. Fay 1979; Réty 1987; Padawitz 1988, Section 8.7; Hölldobler 1989, Section 6.5.2; Geser 1991, Chapter 5; Hanus 1994) where simplification is confined to rewriting terms into reduced ones. For instance, the simplifier of Expander (cf. Section 1.1) realizes goal set normalization, the partial evaluation of standard functions and predicates,  $\beta$ -reduction of  $\lambda$ -expressions and continuation passing (cf. Padawitz 1994, Section 4). The simplifier may carry out various program transformations and thus control tests or proofs of a program in a similar way a compiler controls its execution.

Although Expander simplifies the reduct of each derivation step, we do not attach simplification to the inference rules themselves such as in, e.g., *rewriting modulo* a theory (cf. Jouannaud and Kirchner 1986) or an algebra (cf. Avenhaus and Becker 1992). A deduction step may properly weaken or strengthen a formula, while a simplifier always transforms formulas into (inductively) equivalent ones. Hence, by simplifying the reduct of an inference step, the soundness of the applied inference rule is not affected. For the sake of flexibility and transparent theorem proving we clearly separate deduction rules, which are fixed, but applied through user interaction, from the simplifier, which is applied automatically, but amenable to modifications due to particular base theories. This differs from *theory resolution* (cf. Stickel 1985) and *rewriting modulo* where theories or models are “built into” inference rules. The theory that is built into *our* rules is always the inductive theory, i.e. the theory of the initial model of the specification we actually deal with. This means that we may apply lemmas as in “natural proofs”, but this has nothing to do with built-in normalization or simplification.

Simplifiers and the (weak) conditions they must satisfy in order to comply with inference rules, especially with strategy-controlled goal generation (cf. Section 1.4), are treated in Section 10.

Figure 1 summarizes the rules of inductive and subreductive expansion and the numbers of the results showing their soundness.

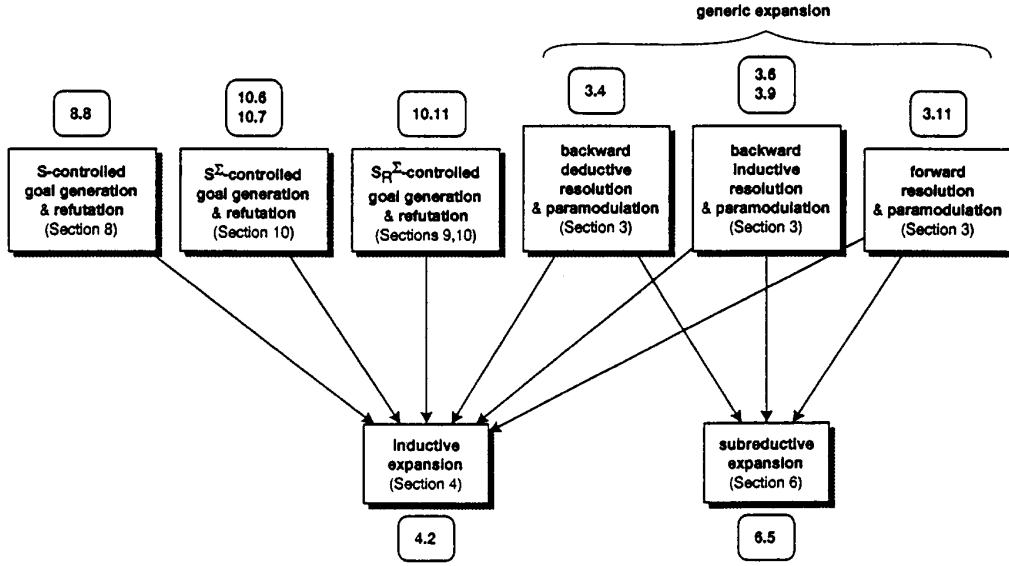


Figure 1. Generic, inductive and subreductive expansion.

## 2. Preliminaries

We assume some familiarity with the basic notions of algebraic specification and Horn logic (cf., e.g., Goguen, Thatcher and Wagner 1978, Ehrig and Mahr 1985, Padawitz 1988, Wirsing 1990, or Padawitz 1992) and briefly recapitulate basic notations used in this paper.

We fix a set  $S$  of sorts, an infinite  $S$ -sorted set  $X$  of variables and an  $S$ -sorted signature  $SIG = (S, OP, PR)$  with a set  $OP$  of operation or function symbols and a set  $PR$  of predicate symbols. For each sort  $s$ , an **equality predicate**, denoted by  $\equiv$ , implicitly belongs to  $SIG$ . All other predicates of  $SIG$  are called **logical predicates**.  $T_{SIG}(X)(T_{SIG})$  denotes the  $S$ -sorted set of (ground)  $SIG$ -terms over  $X$ .  $SIG$  is assumed to be **inhabited**, i.e. for all sorts  $s$  there is a ground term of sort  $s$ . Atom(ic formula)s over  $SIG$  and  $X$  are defined as usual. Equations  $t \equiv u$  between terms  $t$  and  $u$  are particular atoms. A binary relation  $R$  on  $T \subseteq T_{SIG}(X)$  is  **$SIG$ -compatible** if for all  $t = F(t_1, \dots, t_n), u = F(u_1, \dots, u_n) \in T$ ,  $(t_1, u_1), \dots, (t_n, u_n) \in R$  implies  $(t, u) \in R$ . A  **$SIG$ -congruence** is a  $SIG$ -compatible equivalence relation.

$Sub$  ( $GSub$ ) denotes the set of (ground) substitutions over  $SIG$ , i.e.  $S$ -sorted functions from  $X$  to  $T_{SIG}(X)(T_{SIG})$ . As usual, we write  $x\sigma$  for  $\sigma(x)$ . For all  $\sigma \in Sub$ ,  $dom(\sigma) =_{def} \{x \in X \mid x\sigma \neq x\}$ .  $[t/x]$  denotes the substitution  $\sigma$  defined by  $x\sigma = t$  and  $dom(\sigma) = \{x\}$ . Let  $\sigma, \tau \in Sub$  such that for all  $x \in dom(\sigma) \cap dom(\tau)$ ,  $x\sigma = x\tau$ . Then  $x(\sigma + \tau) =_{def} x\sigma$  for all  $x \in dom(\sigma)$  and  $x(\sigma + \tau) =_{def} x\tau$  for all  $x \in X \setminus dom(\sigma)$ . **id** denotes the substitution  $\sigma$  with  $dom(\sigma) = \emptyset$ .

Let  $V, Z \subseteq X$  and  $\sigma, \tau \in Sub$ . Then  $V\sigma =_{def} \{x\sigma \mid x \in V\}$  and

$$EQ(\sigma) =_{def} \{x \equiv x\sigma \mid x \in dom(\sigma)\}.$$

$\sigma$  is a **renaming of  $V$  away from  $Z$**  if  $V\sigma \subseteq X$ ,  $|V\sigma| = |V|$  and  $V\sigma \cap Z = \emptyset$ .  $\sigma =_V \tau$  means  $\sigma(x) = \tau(x)$  for all  $x \in V$ . The substitution  $\sigma_V$  is defined by  $dom(\sigma_V) \subseteq V$  and  $\sigma_V =_V \sigma$ . We also write  $\sigma$  for the unique  $SIG$ -homomorphic extension  $\sigma^*$  of  $\sigma$  to  $T_{SIG}$ .

Hence for all  $x \in X$ ,  $x\sigma\tau = \tau^*(x\sigma)$ . A term  $t$  **matches** or **subsumes** a term  $u$ , written  $t \leq u$ , if  $t\sigma = u$  for some  $\sigma \in Sub$ . Then  $u$  is the **instance of  $t$  by  $\sigma$** .  $\sigma$  subsumes  $\tau$ , written as  $\sigma \leq \tau$ , if  $\sigma\rho = \tau$  for some  $\rho \in Sub$ .  $\sigma$  **unifies** the terms  $t$  and  $u$  if  $t\sigma = u\sigma$ .  $\sigma$  is a **minimal** or **most general unifier** of  $t$  and  $u$  if  $\sigma$  unifies  $t$  and  $u$  and subsumes all unifiers of  $t$  and  $u$ .

A **goal** over  $SIG$  is a set of atoms over  $SIG$ , which stands for the conjunction of its elements, or the **contradictory goal** FALSE. A goal without variables is **ground**. Given  $V \subseteq X$  and a goal  $g$ , the expression  $\exists Vg$  is called an **existential goal**. The elements of  $V$  resp.  $X \setminus V$  are called **existential** resp. **universal variables of  $g$** . For a substitution  $\sigma$ , the goal  $(\exists Vg)\sigma$  is defined as  $\exists Vg\sigma_{X \setminus V}$ .

Given  $V \subseteq X$  and a goal  $g$ , the expression  $\forall Vg$  is called a **universal goal**, which is just an abbreviation of the (infinite) goal  $\cup\{g\sigma \mid \sigma \text{ is a ground substitution over } SIG \text{ such that } dom(\sigma) = V\}$ . Actually, the variables of  $V$  in  $\forall Vg$  do not exist. Hence they are regarded neither as existential nor as universal variables of  $g$ .

A **goal set** is a non-empty set of existential goals, which stands for the disjunction of its elements. The goal set  $gs \cup \{\text{FALSE}\}$  is identified with  $gs$ .

Given a goal set  $gs$  and a universal goal  $h$ , an expression  $gs \Leftarrow h$  is called a **Gentzen clause** over  $SIG$ . If  $h = \emptyset$ , we write  $gs$  instead of  $gs \Leftarrow h$ . If  $gs$  consists of a single non-empty universal goal  $g$ , then  $gs \Leftarrow h$  is a **Horn clause** and we write  $g \Leftarrow h$  instead of  $gs \Leftarrow h$ .  $g \Leftarrow h$  is a **conditional equation** if  $g = \{t \equiv t'\}$  for some terms  $t, t'$ . Otherwise  $g \Leftarrow h$  is called a **non-equational Horn clause**. Given a further goal set  $hs$ , the clause  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  is an abbreviation of the set  $\{gs \Leftarrow h \mid h \in hs\}$  of Gentzen clauses.

The set of variables occurring in a Gentzen clause  $c$  is denoted by  $var(c)$ . If  $c$  is a conditional equation, say  $c = t \equiv u \Leftarrow h$ ,  $x \in var(c)$  is called a **fresh** or **extra variable** of  $c$  if  $x$  occurs in  $u$  or  $h$ , but not in  $t$ . If  $c$  is a non-equational Horn clause, say  $c = g \Leftarrow h$ ,  $x \in var(c)$  is a fresh variable of  $c$  if  $x$  occurs in  $h$ , but not in  $g$ .  $fresh(c)$  denotes the set of fresh variables of  $c$ .

A **specification** is a pair  $(SIG, AX)$  consisting of a signature  $SIG$  and a set  $AX$  of Horn clauses. A specification  $SP$  to be processed by Expander (cf. Section 1.1) may also include a **theorems** section containing Gentzen clauses representing lemmas or constraints used in proofs of those Gentzen clauses, which are listed in a **conjectures** section of  $SP$  (cf. Examples 4.2, 4.3 and 7.4).

### 3. Generic Expansion

In the sequel, we separate a finite set  $X_{in}$  of **input variables** from a finite set  $X_{out}$  of **output variables**. Given a proof of a Gentzen clause  $c$ , input variables are the universally quantified variables of  $c$ , output variables are the existentially quantified variables of  $c$  and all variables, which stem from an axiom or lemma used in the proof of  $c$ . These imported variables are automatically existentially quantified. For all  $\sigma \in Sub$ , let  $\sigma_{in} = \sigma_{X_{in}}$  and  $\sigma_{out} = \sigma_{X_{out}}$ . For a clause  $c$ ,  $in(c)$  denotes the set of input variables of  $c$ .

The generic expansion calculus depends on two parameters: a set  $TH$  of ground atoms and a set  $GS$  of ground substitutions such that

- $TH$  is symmetric, i.e. for all ground terms  $t$  and  $u$ ,  $t \equiv u \in TH$  implies  $u \equiv t \in TH$ ,
- for all  $\sigma \in GS$  and  $\tau \in GSub$ ,  $\sigma_{in} + \tau_{out} \in GS$ .

**DEFINITION 3.1.** A Gentzen clause  $c = gs \Leftarrow h$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on

$GS$  is for all  $\sigma \in GS$ ,  $h\sigma \subseteq TH$  implies  $g\tau \subseteq TH$  for some  $g \in gs$  and  $\tau \in GSub$  with  $\tau =_{in(c)} \sigma$ .  $Gen(TH, GS)$  denotes the set of all Gentzen clauses that follow from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .

Note that  $TH$  is always a subset of  $Gen(TH, GS)$ .

**DEFINITION 3.2.** A goal  $g[t/x]$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible if for all terms  $u$ , the clause

$$g[u/x] \Leftarrow g[t/x] \cup \{t \equiv u\}$$

follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$  and the goal  $g[t/x]\sigma$  be  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible. Then

$$g[t/x]\sigma_{out} \Leftarrow g[u/x]\sigma \cup \{t\sigma \equiv u\sigma\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})$$

follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .

Given  $TH$  and  $GS$  as above, the two non-inductive rules of the generic calculus are defined as follows. Both rules transform goal sets and thus perform steps in the backward part of a proof of a Gentzen clause (cf. Section 1.1).

**Backward deductive resolution.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$  and  $\{\exists X_1 h_1 \sigma, \dots, \exists X_n h_n \sigma\} \Leftarrow h \in Gen(TH, GS)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $h_i \sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible and  $X_i \cap var(g_i \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ .

$$\frac{\{g_1 \cup h_1, \dots, g_n \cup h_n\}}{\{g_1 \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n \sigma \cup h \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}$$

**Backward deductive paramodulation.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$ ,  $\{\exists X_1 (t \equiv t_1) \sigma, \dots, \exists X_n (t \equiv t_n) \sigma\} \Leftarrow h \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and  $x \in var(g_1 \cap \dots \cap g_n)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $X_i \cap var(g_i[t/x]\sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ .

$$\frac{\{g_1[t_1/x], \dots, g_n[t_n/x]\}}{\{g_1[t/x]\sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n[t/x]\sigma \cup h \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}$$

**THEOREM 3.4.** (BACKWARD DEDUCTIVE RULES ARE SOUND) *Let the goal set  $hs$  be obtained from the goal set  $gs = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$  by a single deductive resolution or paramodulation step such that  $gs$  and  $hs$  consist of  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible goals. Then the clause  $gs \Leftarrow hs$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .*

**PROOF.** W.l.o.g. suppose that  $hs$  is a singleton, say  $hs = \{h\}$ . Let  $\tau \in GS$  such that  $h\tau \subseteq TH$ . We must infer

$$g_i(\tau_{in} + \xi_{out}) \subseteq TH \text{ for some } 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } \xi \in GSub. \quad (1)$$

We consider both rules separately.

**CASE 1.**  $h$  is obtained from  $gs$  by a resolution step. Then

$$gs = \{(g'_1 \cup h_1), \dots, (g'_n \cup h_n)\}$$

and

$$h = g'_1 \sigma \cup \dots \cup g'_n \sigma \cup f \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})$$



such that  $\sigma \in Sub$  and  $\{\exists X_1 h_1 \sigma, \dots, \exists X_n h_n \sigma\} \Leftarrow f \in Gen(TH, GS)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $h_i \sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible and  $X_i \cap var(g'_i \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ . Since  $f\tau \subseteq h\tau \subseteq TH$ , there are  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $\xi \in GSub$  such that  $h_i \sigma \xi \subseteq TH$  and  $\xi =_{X \setminus X_i} \tau$ .

$X_i \cap var(g'_i \sigma) = \emptyset$  implies  $g'_i \sigma \xi = g'_i \sigma \tau \subseteq h\tau \subseteq TH$ , while  $X_i \cap var(X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies  $\xi_{in} = \tau_{in}$  and  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\xi = EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau$ . Hence  $\xi \in GS$ . Since  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau \subseteq h\tau \subseteq TH$ , we conclude

$$(g'_i \cup h_i)(\tau_{in} + (\sigma\xi)_{out}) = (g'_i \cup h_i)(\xi_{in} + (\sigma\xi)_{out}) = (g'_i \cup h_i)\sigma_{out}\xi \subseteq TH$$

from  $(g'_i \cup h_i)\sigma\xi \subseteq TH$  and Proposition 3.3 because  $g'_i \sigma$  and  $h_i \sigma$  are  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible. This implies (1).

CASE 2.  $h$  is obtained from  $gs$  by a paramodulation step. Then

$$gs = \{g'_1[t_1/x], \dots, g'_n[t_n/x]\}$$

and

$$h = g'_1[t/x]\sigma \cup \dots \cup g'_n[t/x]\sigma \cup f \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})$$

such that  $\sigma \in Sub$ ,  $\{\exists X_1(t \equiv t_1)\sigma, \dots, \exists X_n(t \equiv t_n)\sigma\} \Leftarrow f \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and  $x \in var(g'_1 \cap \dots \cap g'_n)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $X_i \cap var(g'_i[t/x]\sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ . Since  $f\tau \subseteq g\tau \subseteq TH$ , there are  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $\xi \in GSub$  such that  $(t_i \equiv t)\sigma\xi \subseteq TH$  and  $\xi =_{X \setminus X_i} \tau$ .

$X_i \cap var(g'_i[t/x]\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies  $g'_i[t/x]\sigma\xi = g'_i[t/x]\sigma\tau \subseteq h\tau \subseteq TH$  and  $\xi_{in} = \tau_{in}$ . Hence  $\xi \in GS$ .  $X_i \cap var(X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\xi = EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau \subseteq h\tau \subseteq TH$ , and we conclude

$$g'_i[t_i/x](\tau_{in} + (\sigma\xi)_{out}) = g'_i[t_i/x](\xi_{in} + (\sigma\xi)_{out}) = g'_i[t_i/x]\sigma_{out}\xi \subseteq TH$$

from  $(g'_i[t/x] \cup \{t_i \equiv t\})\sigma\xi \subseteq TH$  and Proposition 3.3 because  $g'_i[t/x]\sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible. Again, this implies (1).  $\square$

Induction hypotheses are also applied by resolution or paramodulation. In this case the resolvent or paramodulant is extended by a **descent condition** of the form  $t \gg t'$  (cf. Padawitz 1992, Section 5.2). Given  $w \in S^+$  and a tuple  $x_{in} \in X_w$  consisting of all actual input variables,  $SIG$  is supposed to include a **descent function**  $\gg : w \times w \rightarrow bool$ , which induces the following **induction ordering**  $\gg_{TH}$  on  $T_{SIG,w}$ :

$$t \gg_{TH} t' \iff_{def} t \gg t' \equiv true \in TH.$$

$\gg_{TH}$  is assumed to be well-founded. If  $TH$  is the ground theory of a set  $AX$  of Horn clauses (cf. Section 4), then  $\gg_{TH}$  is well-founded iff the interpretation of  $\gg$  in the initial  $AX$ -model has this property. This is equivalent to the condition that *some* model of  $AX$  interprets  $\gg$  as a well-founded relation. The well-foundedness of  $\gg$  is a semantical assumption needed for the soundness of inductive resolution and paramodulation w.r.t. the initial model. A proof of this condition is not part of the inductive proof. The latter, however, includes a proof of the descent condition generated by an inductive step. For this purpose,  $\gg$  must be defined by suitable axioms upon which the descent conditions can be resolved or paramodulated (cf. Examples 4.3 to 4.5).  $\gg$  is a Boolean function and not a predicate because *forward* resolution and paramodulation will produce negative descent conditions (cf. Definition 3.10).

As there are infinitely many induction orderings, the set of inductive proofs w.r.t.  $AX$

is not enumerable. Hence no restriction of inductive rules to specific induction orderings or schemas can be expected to capture the whole inductive theory of  $AX$ . The range of conjectures, which express the correctness of programs specified by  $AX$  and which are provable with the same induction ordering, is just too limited.

**DEFINITION 3.5.** *Let  $TH$  and  $GS$  be as above,  $CS$  be a set of Gentzen clauses and  $\rho : X \rightarrow X$  be a renaming of  $X_{in}$  away from  $X_{in}$ . The **generic expansion calculus upon  $(TH, GS)$  with induction hypotheses from  $CS$**  consists of deductive resolution and paramodulation (see above) and the following two rules:*

**Backward inductive resolution.** *Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$  and  $\sigma \in Sub$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $var(c)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $f_i \sigma = h_i \rho \sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible and  $Z \sigma \cap var(g_i \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\tau \in GS$ ,  $\rho \sigma \tau \in GS$ .*

$$\frac{\{g_1 \cup f_1, \dots, g_n \cup f_n\}}{\{g_1 \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n \sigma \cup h \rho \sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in} \rho \sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

**Backward inductive paramodulation.** *Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1(u \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n(u \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$ ,  $x \in var(g_1 \cap \dots \cap g_n)$  and  $\sigma \in Sub$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $var(c)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $u_i \sigma = t_i \rho \sigma$  and  $Z \sigma \cap var(g_i[u \rho/x] \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\tau \in GS$ ,  $\rho \sigma \tau \in GS$ .*

$$\frac{\{g_1[u_1/x], \dots, g_n[u_n/x]\}}{\{g_1[u \rho/x] \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n[u \rho/x] \sigma \cup h \rho \sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in} \rho \sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

A sequence  $gs_1, \dots, gs_n$  of goal sets is called an **expansion of  $gs_1$  into  $gs_n$  upon  $(TH, GS)$  with induction hypotheses from  $CS$**  if

- for all  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $gs_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $gs_i$  by a single deductive or inductive resolution or paramodulation step,
- for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $gs_i$  consists of  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible goals.

The corresponding inference relation is denoted by  $\vdash_{CS}$ .

**THEOREM 3.6. (GENERIC EXPANSIONS ARE SOUND)** *Let  $c = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \Leftarrow h$  be a Gentzen clause and*

$$CS = \{gs_1 \Leftarrow h_1, \dots, gs_n \Leftarrow h_n\}$$

*be a set of Gentzen clauses such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $h \Leftarrow h_j \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and*

- (1)  $gs_j \Leftarrow g_i \in Gen(TH, GS)$  or
- (2) for all  $\tau \in GSub$ ,  $gs_j \Leftarrow g_i \tau_{out} \cup h_j \in Gen(TH, GS)$ .

*Then  $\{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \vdash_{CS} \{h\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup CS \subseteq Gen(TH, GS)$ .*

For an inductive proof of  $c$  one may use *consequences* of  $c$  as induction hypotheses  $CS$ . (1) admits hypotheses of the form  $\{g'_1, \dots, g'_m\} \Leftarrow h'$  with  $g'_i \subseteq g_i$ . (2) is a generalization of (1) that is applicable if for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , the “subcase”  $gs' \Leftarrow g_i \tau_{out} \cup h'$  of  $gs' \Leftarrow h'$  is already known to be valid.

PROOF. (Theorem 3.6.) Let  $\{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \vdash_{CS} \{h\}$ . Since (2) follows from (1), it is sufficient to show  $\{c\} \cup CS \subseteq Gen(TH, GS)$  under Assumption (2). There is an expansion  $gs_1, \dots, gs_k$  such that  $gs_1 = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$  and  $gs_k = \{h\}$ .  $CS \subseteq Gen(TH, GS)$  holds true if  $c \in Gen(TH, GS)$ , and this agrees with the case  $j = k$  of the following condition:

$$(3) \quad gs_1 \Leftarrow gs_j \in Gen(TH, GS).$$

By the definition of  $Gen(TH, GS)$ , (3) is equivalent to (4):

$$(4) \quad \text{For all } \tau \in GS, 1 < j \leq k \text{ and } g \in gs_j, g\tau \subseteq TH \text{ implies } g_i(\tau_{in} + \xi_{out}) \subseteq TH \text{ for some } 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } \xi \in GSub.$$

Hence it remains to show (4), which will be done by induction on  $(\tau_{in}, j)$  along  $(\gg_{TH}, >)$ .

Let  $\tau \in GS, 1 < j \leq k$  and  $g \in gs_j$  such that  $g\tau \subseteq TH$ . If the expansion  $gs_1, \dots, gs_j$  does not include inductive steps, then, by Theorem 3.4,  $g_i(\tau_{in} + \xi_{out}) \subseteq TH$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $\xi \in GSub$ . Otherwise there are  $1 < l \leq j$  and a goal set  $gs$  such that  $gs_{l-1} = \{g'_1, \dots, g'_n\} \cup gs$  and  $gs_l = \{g'\} \cup gs$ ,  $\{g'_1, \dots, g'_n\}$  is transformed into  $\{g'\}$  by an inductive step and there is an inductionless expansion of  $gs_l$  into  $gs_j$  such that, by Theorem 3.4,  $g'(\tau_{in} + \xi_{out}) \subseteq TH$  for some  $\xi \in GSub$ . Assume that

$$(5) \quad g'_i(\tau_{in} + \delta_{out}) \subseteq TH \text{ holds true for some } 1 \leq i \leq n \text{ and } \delta \in GSub.$$

Since  $gs_1, \dots, gs_{l-1}$  is a proper subexpansion of  $gs_1, \dots, gs_j$ , the induction hypothesis and  $\tau_{in} + \delta_{out} \in GS$  imply  $g_i(\tau_{in} + \eta_{out}) \in TH$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $\eta \in GSub$ , and the proof is complete. Hence it remains to show (5).

Let  $\tau' = \tau_{in} + \xi_{out}$ . Then  $\tau' \in GS$  and  $g'\tau' \in TH$ .

CASE 1.  $\{g'\}$  is obtained from  $\{g'_1, \dots, g'_n\}$  by an inductive resolution step. Then for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $g'_i = g''_i \cup f_i$  and

$$g' = g''_1\sigma \cup \dots \cup g''_n\sigma \cup h'\rho\sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})$$

such that  $c' = (\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow h') \in CS$ ,  $\sigma$  is a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n = var(c') \cap X_{out}$  away from  $var(c')$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $f_i\sigma = h_i\rho\sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible and  $Z\sigma \cap var(g''_i\sigma \cup X_{in}\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\theta \in GS$ ,  $\rho\sigma\theta \in GS$ . From

$$(\{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in}))\tau' \subseteq g''\tau' \subseteq TH$$

we conclude

$$(6) \quad x_{in}\tau' \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma\tau' \equiv true \in TH.$$

Since  $\tau' \in GS$ ,  $\rho\sigma\tau' \in GS$ . Since  $h'\rho\sigma\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$  and since by (2),  $h \Leftarrow h' \in Gen(TH, GS)$ , we have  $h\rho\sigma\tau' \in TH$ . Since  $\{h\} = gs_k$ , the induction hypothesis implies

$$g_i((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \lambda_{out}) \subseteq TH$$

for some  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $\lambda \in GSub$ . Since  $h'\rho\sigma\tau' \subseteq TH$  and since by (2), the clause  $\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow g_i\lambda_{out} \cup h'$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ , we obtain

$$(7) \quad h_i((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_{out}) \subseteq TH$$

for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\delta \in GSub$ . Since  $\sigma$  is a renaming of  $Z = var(c') \cap X_{out}$  away from  $var(c')$ ,  $\sigma^{-1}$  is defined on  $Z\sigma$ . Hence  $Z\sigma \cap var(X_{in}\sigma) = \emptyset = dom(\rho) \cap X_{out}$  and  $h_i\rho\sigma = f_i\sigma$  imply

(8)

$$\begin{aligned}
h_i((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_{out}) &= h_i\rho((\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_{out}) \\
&= h_i\rho((\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_Z) \\
&= h_i\rho((\sigma\tau')_{in} + (\sigma\sigma^{-1}\delta)_Z) \\
&= h_i\rho\sigma(\tau'_{var(X_{in}\sigma)} + (\sigma^{-1}\delta)_{Z\sigma}) \\
&= h_i\rho\sigma(\tau'_{var(X_{in}\sigma)} + (\sigma^{-1}\delta)_{Z\sigma} + \tau'_Q) \\
&= f_i\sigma(\tau'_{var(X_{in}\sigma)} + (\sigma^{-1}\delta)_{Z\sigma} + \tau'_Q) \\
&= f_i\sigma\eta
\end{aligned}$$

where  $Q = var(X_{out}\sigma) \setminus Z\sigma$  and  $\eta = \tau'_{var(X_{in}\sigma)} + (\sigma^{-1}\delta)_{Z\sigma} + \tau'_Q$ . By (7) and (8),  $f_i\sigma\eta \subseteq TH$ .  $Z\sigma \cap var(g'_i\sigma) = \emptyset$  implies  $g'_i\sigma\eta = g'_i\sigma\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$ . Hence  $g'_i\sigma\eta \subseteq TH$ .

$Z\sigma \cap var(X_{in}\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies  $\eta_{in} = \tau'_{in}$  and  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\eta = EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau'$ . Hence  $\eta \in GS$ . Since  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$  and  $g'_i\sigma$  and  $f_i\sigma$  are  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible, Proposition 3.3 implies  $g'_i\sigma_{out}\eta = (g'_i \cup f_i)\sigma_{out}\eta \subseteq TH$ . Hence

$$g'_i(\tau_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) = g'_i(\tau'_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) = g'_i(\eta_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) = g'_i\sigma_{out}\eta \subseteq TH,$$

and the proof of (5) is complete.

CASE 2.  $\{g'\}$  is obtained from  $\{g'_1, \dots, g'_n\}$  by an inductive paramodulation step. Then for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $g'_i = g''_i[u_i/x]$  and

$$g' = g''_1[u\rho/x]\sigma \cup \dots \cup g''_n[u\rho/x]\sigma \cup h'\rho\sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})$$

such that  $c' = (\{\exists X_1(u \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n(u \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h') \in CS$ ,  $\sigma$  is a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n = var(c') \cap X_{out}$  away from  $var(c')$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $u_i\sigma = t_i\rho\sigma$  and  $Z\sigma \cap var(g''_i[u\rho/x]\sigma X_{in}\sigma X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\theta \in GS$ ,  $\rho\sigma\theta \in GS$ . As in Case 1 (cf. (6)) we conclude

$$(9) \quad x_{in}\tau' \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma\tau' \equiv true \in TH$$

and thus

$$g_i((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \lambda_{out}) \subseteq TH$$

for some  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $\lambda \in GSub$  by induction hypothesis. Since  $h'\rho\sigma\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$  and since by (2), the clause  $\{\exists X_1(t_1 \equiv u), \dots, \exists X_n(t_n \equiv u)\} \Leftarrow g_i\lambda_{out} \cup h'$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ , we obtain

$$(10) \quad (t_i \equiv u)((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_{out}) \in TH$$

for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\delta \in GSub$ . Since  $\sigma$  is a renaming of  $Z = var(c') \cap X_{out}$  away from  $var(c')$ ,  $\sigma^{-1}$  is defined on  $Z\sigma$ . Hence, analogously to (8),  $t_i\rho\sigma = u_i\sigma$  implies

$$(11) \quad (t_i \equiv u)((\rho\sigma\tau')_{in} + \delta_{out}) = (u_i \equiv u\rho)\sigma\eta$$

where  $Q = \text{var}(X_{out}\sigma) \setminus Z\sigma$  and  $\eta = \tau'_{\text{var}(X_{in}\sigma)} + (\sigma^{-1}\delta)_{Z\sigma} + \tau'_Q$ . By (10) and (11),  $(u_i \equiv u\rho)\sigma\eta \in TH$ .  $Z\sigma \cap \text{var}(g''_i[u\rho/x]\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies

$$g''_i[u\rho/x]\sigma\eta = g''_i[u\rho/x]\sigma\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$$

and  $\eta_{in} = \tau'_{in}$ . Hence  $\eta \in GS$ .  $Z\sigma \cap \text{var}(X_{in}\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  implies  $EQ(\sigma_{in})\eta = EQ(\sigma_{in})\tau' \subseteq g'\tau' \subseteq TH$ . We conclude

$$\begin{aligned} g'_i(\tau_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) &= g'_i(\tau'_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) = g''_i[u_i/x](\tau'_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) = g''_i[u_i/x](\eta_{in} + (\sigma\eta)_{out}) \\ &= g''_i[u_i/x]\sigma_{out}\eta \subseteq TH \end{aligned}$$

from  $(g''_i[u\rho/x] \cup \{u_i \equiv u\rho\})\sigma\eta \subseteq TH$  and Proposition 3.3 because  $g''_i[u\rho/x]\sigma$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible. Hence the proof of (5) is complete.  $\square$

Theorem 3.6(2) includes the case of  $n$  Horn clauses  $g_1 \Leftarrow h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow h_n$  with a common *guard*  $g$  and the rest of  $h_1, \dots, h_n$  being a  *$g$ -minimal goal set* (cf. Padawitz 1992, Chapter 2):

**DEFINITION 3.7.** A Horn clause  $c = g \Leftarrow g' \cup h$ , written as  $g \Leftarrow g' : h$ , is a **guarded clause** if  $\text{fresh}(c) \subseteq \text{var}(h)$ .  $g'$  is the **guard** of  $c$ ,  $h$  is the **body** of  $c$ . Given a goal  $g$ , a goal set  $gs$  is  **$g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH, GS)$**  if for all  $h, h' \in gs$  and  $\sigma, \tau \in GS$  with  $\sigma =_{\text{var}(g)} \tau$ ,

$$g\sigma \cup h\sigma \cup h'\tau \subseteq TH \quad \text{implies} \quad h = h' \quad \text{and} \quad \{x\sigma \equiv x\tau \mid x \in \text{var}(h)\} \subseteq TH.$$

A  $g$ -minimal goal set  $gs$  yields a minimal case analysis insofar as two ground instances of two different goals  $h, h' \in gs$  by the same substitution  $\sigma$  do not exist if  $g\sigma \subseteq TH$ . For instance, with respect to a usual specification of integers,  $\{\{f(x) \equiv 0\}, \{f(x) \equiv \text{succ}(y)\}\}$  is an  $\{f(x) \geq 0\}$ -minimal goal set.

The notation  $g \Leftarrow g' : h$  stems from concurrent logic programming (cf. Shapiro 1989) where the guard  $g'$  on the one hand and the body  $h$  on the other hand are evaluated in different ways. Semantically,  $g \Leftarrow g' : h$  agrees with the Horn clause  $g \Leftarrow g' \cup h$ . A set  $HS$  of guarded clauses with the same guard  $g$  is equivalent to a single Gentzen clause, provided that the bodies of  $HS$  constitute a  $g$ -minimal goal set:

**LEMMA 3.8.** (GUARDED CLAUSES AND GENTZEN CLAUSES) Let  $HS = \{g_1 \Leftarrow g : h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow g : h_n\}$  be a set of guarded clauses such that  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH, GS)$  and for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $g_i$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible,  $X_i =_{\text{def}} \text{fresh}(g_i \Leftarrow g : h_i)$  and  $h_i = h_j$  implies  $g_i = g_j$ . Let

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \Leftarrow g \quad \text{and} \quad c' = \{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow g.$$

- (1) For all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  and  $\tau \in GSub$ ,  $g_j \Leftarrow (g_i \cup h_i)\tau_{X_i} \cup g \cup h_j$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .
- (2)  $c \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  implies  $HS \subseteq \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ .
- (3)  $HS \cup \{c'\} \subseteq \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  implies  $c \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ .

**PROOF.**

- (1) Let  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $\tau \in GSub$  and  $\sigma \in GS$  such that  $(g_i \cup h_i)(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i}) \cup g\sigma \cup h_j\sigma \subseteq TH$ . Since  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH, GS)$ , we conclude

$h_i = h_j$  and  $x\sigma \equiv x\tau \in TH$  for all  $x \in \text{var}(h_i)$ . Hence  $g_i = g_j$ ,  $X_i = X_j$  and thus  $g_j(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i}) \subseteq TH$ . This implies  $g_j\sigma \subseteq TH$  because  $X_i \subseteq \text{var}(h_i)$  and  $g_j$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible.

(2) immediately follows from (1).

(3) Let  $HS \cup \{c'\} \subseteq \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  and  $\sigma \in GS$  such that  $g\sigma \subseteq TH$ . Since  $c' \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ , there are  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\tau \in GSub$  such that  $h_i(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i}) \subseteq TH$ .  $\text{var}(g) \cap X_i = \emptyset$  implies  $g\sigma = g(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i})$ . Hence  $(g \cup h_i)(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i}) \subseteq TH$  and thus  $g_i(\sigma_{X \setminus X_i} + \tau_{X_i}) \subseteq TH$  because  $HS \subseteq \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ .  $\square$

Hence a proof of the above Gentzen clause  $c$  may use guarded clauses from  $HS$  as induction hypotheses:

**COROLLARY 3.9.** (GENERIC EXPANSIONS WITH GUARDED CLAUSE HYPOTHESES ARE SOUND) *Let  $HS = \{g_1 \Leftarrow g : h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow g : h_n\}$  be a set of guarded clauses such that  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH, GS)$  and for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $g_i$  is  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible,  $X_i =_{def} \text{fresh}(g_i \Leftarrow g : h_i)$  and  $h_i = h_j$  implies  $g_i = g_j$ .*

Let  $c$  be as in 3.8.  $\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \vdash_{HS} \{g\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup HS \subseteq \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ .

**PROOF.** Lemma 3.8(1) and Theorem 3.6(2).  $\square$

For applications of this result, cf. Padawitz (1992), Chapter 2, Section 5.5 and Chapter 8. The original motivation for the step from  $CS$  to  $c$ , is to simplify the premises of  $CS$ . The smaller the premise is, the greater the chance is that the clause can be proved backward by transforming the conclusion into the premise (cf. Section 1.1). The next section deals with the case where  $TH$  is given by all ground atoms that are valid w.r.t. a set of Horn clause axioms. Example 4.4 presents two proofs of a guarded Horn clause. One of them consists of backward as well as forward steps. The other one uses Corollary 3.9 for a completely backward expansion.

The above inference rules can only be used in a backward proof. The redex of a rule in the actual goal set is unified with the conclusion (or left-hand side) of a clause  $c \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ , while the reduct obtained by applying the rule is an instance of the premise (or right-hand side) of the applied clause. With slight modifications, resolution and paramodulation can also be applied conversely and thus be used in a forward proof. Then no substitution  $\sigma$  is to be generated by the rule application and  $EQ(\sigma_{in})$  is empty. Moreover, if an inductive rule is inverted, the descent condition  $b \equiv true$  becomes part of the rule antecedent. Such a rule would be applicable only in a few cases. However, a simple propositional law allows us to move the descent condition from the antecedent to the succedent. Roughly said, each application of an inductive rule of Definition 3.5 establishes a theorem of the form

$$\{g\} \cup gs \Leftarrow \{h \cup \{b \equiv true\}\} \cup gs,$$

while the corresponding application of a forward inductive rule establishes the equivalent theorem

$$\{h\} \cup gs \Rightarrow \{g\} \cup \{h \cup \{b \equiv false\}\} \cup gs.$$

The following inference rules are added to the generic expansion calculus (cf. Definition 3.5):

DEFINITION 3.10. (GENERIC FORWARD RULES) Let  $CS$  be a set of Gentzen clauses and  $\rho : X \rightarrow X$  be a renaming of  $X_{in}$  away from  $X_{in}$ .

**Forward deductive resolution** Let  $\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow h \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $X_i \cap \text{var}(g \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ .

$$\frac{\{g \cup h\}}{\{g \cup h_1, \dots, g \cup h_n\}}.$$

**Forward deductive paramodulation** Let  $\{\exists X_1(t \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n(t \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  and  $x \in \text{var}(g)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $X_i \cap \text{var}(g[t/x] \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ .

$$\frac{\{g[t/x] \cup h\}}{\{(g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[t_1/x], \dots, (g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[t_n/x]\}}.$$

**Forward inductive resolution** Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$  and  $\sigma \in \text{Sub}$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $\text{var}(c)$  such that  $f = h\rho\sigma$ ,  $Z\sigma \cap \text{var}(g \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  and for all  $\tau \in GS$ ,  $\rho\sigma\tau \in GS$ .

$$\frac{\{g \cup f\}}{\{g \cup h_1\rho\sigma, \dots, g \cup h_n\rho\sigma, g \cup f \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv \text{false}\}\}}.$$

**Forward inductive paramodulation** Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1(u \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n(u \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$ ,  $x \in \text{var}(g) \setminus \text{var}(f)$  and  $\sigma \in \text{Sub}$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $\text{var}(c)$  such that  $f = h\rho\sigma$ ,  $t = u\rho\sigma$ ,  $Z\sigma \cap \text{var}(g[t/x] \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$  and for all  $\tau \in GS$ ,  $\rho\sigma\tau \in GS$ .

$$\frac{\{g[t/x] \cup f\}}{\{(g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[t_1\rho\sigma/x], \dots, (g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[t_n\rho\sigma/x], g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv \text{false}\}\}}.$$

The equation  $\dots \equiv \text{false}$  in the succedent of the above inductive rules is redundant for their soundness. However, with  $\dots \equiv \text{false}$  the succedent is stronger than without this equation. Succedents of rules applied in a forward proof should be as strong as possible, otherwise the given conclusion might not be achieved.

THEOREM 3.11. (FORWARD RULES ARE SOUND) Suppose that  $x \equiv x \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  and, for descent functions  $\gg$ ,  $\{\{x \gg y \equiv \text{true}\}, \{x \gg y \equiv \text{false}\}\} \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$ . Let  $CS$  be a set of Gentzen clauses,  $\rho : X \rightarrow X$  be a renaming of  $X_{in}$  away from  $X_{in}$  and the goal set  $gs$  be obtained from the goal set  $hs$  by a single forward resolution or paramodulation step such that  $gs$  and  $hs$  consist of  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible goals. Then  $hs \vdash_{CS} gs$  and thus, by Theorem 3.6(1),  $hs \Leftarrow g \in \text{Gen}(TH, GS)$  for all  $g \in gs$ .

PROOF. Deductive forward resolution is the inverse of deductive resolution with  $\sigma = id$  and  $g_1 = \dots = g_n = g$ . Deductive forward paramodulation is the inverse of deductive paramodulation with  $\sigma = id$  and  $g_1 = \dots = g_n = g \cup \{t \equiv x\}$ , followed by deductive resolution upon  $x \equiv x$ . Hence  $hs \vdash_{CS} gs$  if the step from  $gs$  to  $hs$  is performed by deductive forward resolution or paramodulation.

Let  $b = (x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma)$ .

If the step from  $gs$  to  $hs$  is performed by inductive forward resolution, we have

$$hs = \{g \cup f_1, \dots, g \cup f_n, g \cup f \cup \{b \equiv \text{false}\}\},$$

$gs = \{g \cup f\}$ ,  $f = h\rho\sigma$  and  $f_i = h_i\rho\sigma$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and some  $c = (\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\}$

$\Leftarrow h) \in CS$ . Inductive resolution upon  $c$  with  $\sigma =_{X \setminus X_{in\rho}} id$  and  $g_1 = \dots = g_n = g$  reads as follows:

$$\frac{\{g \cup f_1, \dots, g \cup f_n\}}{\{g \cup f \cup \{b \equiv true\}\}}$$

By applying this rule to  $hs$  we obtain

$$hs \vdash_{CS} gs' =_{def} \{g \cup f \cup \{b \equiv true\}, g \cup f \cup \{b \equiv false\}\}.$$

By assumption,  $\{\{b \equiv true\}, \{b \equiv false\}\} \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and thus  $gs' \vdash_{CS} gs$  by deductive resolution. Hence  $hs \vdash_{CS} gs$ .

If the step from  $gs$  to  $hs$  is performed by inductive forward paramodulation, we have

$$hs = \{(g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[u_1/x], \dots, (g \cup \{t \equiv x\})[u_n/x], g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{b \equiv false\}\},$$

$gs = \{g[t/x] \cup f\}$ ,  $f = h\rho\sigma$ ,  $t = u\rho\sigma$  and  $u_i = t_i\rho\sigma$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and some  $c = (\{\exists X_1(u \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n(u \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$ . Inductive paramodulation with  $\sigma =_{X \setminus X_{in\rho}} id$  and  $g_1 = \dots = g_n = g \cup f \cup \{t \equiv x\}$  reads as follows:

$$\frac{\{(g \cup f \cup \{t \equiv x\})[u_1/x], \dots, (g \cup f \cup \{t \equiv x\})[u_n/x]\}}{\{g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{t \equiv t, b \equiv true\}\}}.$$

By applying this rule to  $hs$  we obtain

$$hs \vdash_{CS} gs' =_{def} \{g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{t \equiv t, b \equiv true\}, g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{b \equiv false\}\}.$$

By deductive resolution upon  $x \equiv x$ ,

$$gs' \vdash_{CS} gs'' =_{def} \{g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{b \equiv true\}, g[t/x] \cup f \cup \{b \equiv false\}\}.$$

By assumption,  $\{\{b \equiv true\}, \{b \equiv false\}\} \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and thus  $gs'' \vdash_{CS} gs$  by deductive resolution. Hence  $hs \vdash_{CS} gs$ .  $\square$

Implementations of forward paramodulation should admit the simultaneous replacement of several occurrences of the same term because the sequential replacement performed by several applications of the rule might result in a weaker succedent, which cannot be transformed via further forward steps into the given conclusion.

#### 4. Inductive Expansion

The inductive expansion calculus defined in Padawitz (1991), Padawitz (1992) is an instance of the generic expansion calculus. The set  $GS$  of ground substitutions is defined as  $GSub$ , the set of all ground substitutions, and, given a set  $AX$  of Horn clauses over  $SIG$ , the set  $TH$  of ground atoms is the **ground theory of  $AX$** ,  $TH(AX)$ , which consists of all ground atoms that are derivable by the **cut calculus** for the **specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$** . This calculus consists of the following two inference rules for deriving Horn clauses from  $AX$  and congruence axioms for equality predicates of  $SIG$ :

**Cut**

$$\frac{g \Leftarrow d \cup g', g' \Leftarrow d'}{g \Leftarrow d \cup d'}$$

**Substitution** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$ .

$$\frac{g \Leftarrow d}{g\sigma \Leftarrow d\sigma}$$



We write  $SP \vdash_{cut} g \Leftarrow h$  if  $g \Leftarrow h$  is derivable from  $AX$  and congruence axioms by applying the above rules.

**DEFINITION 4.1. (INDUCTIVE THEORY)** *Given a specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$ , the set of derivable equations induces a  $SIG$ -congruence relation  $\equiv_{SP}$  on  $T_{SIG}(X)$ , called  **$SP$ -equivalence**.*

$$t \equiv_{SP} t' \iff SP \vdash_{cut} t \equiv t'.$$

$ITh(SP) = Gen(TH(AX), GSub)$  is called the **inductive theory** of  $SP$ . Inductive validity coincides with validity in the **initial  $SP$ -structure**  $Ini(SP)$  (cf. Padawitz (1992), Section 3.1).  $\sigma \in GSub$  is an  $SP$ -solution of a goal  $g$  if  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$ . Then  $g$  is called  **$SP$ -solvable**. If  $SP$  contains the constants *true* and *false* and  $true \equiv false$  is not an inductive theorem of  $SP$ , then we call  $SP$  **Boole-consistent**.

An expansion  $E = (gs_1, \dots, gs_n)$  upon  $(TH(AX), GSub)$  (cf. Definition 3.5) is called an **inductive expansion upon  $SP$** . If  $E$  uses induction hypotheses from a set,  $CS$ , of Gentzen clauses, we write  $gs_1 \vdash_{SP,CS} gs_n$ .

Since  $SP \vdash_{cut} c$  for all congruence axioms  $c$  for equality predicates of  $SIG$ , all goals over  $SIG$  are  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible (cf. Definition 3.2). Hence the goal sets of an inductive expansion are automatically  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible (cf. Definition 3.5).

Descent functions  $\gg$  (cf. Section 3) are well-founded iff the interpretation of  $\gg$  in some  $SP$ -model  $A$  is well-founded (cf. Padawitz 1992, Proposition 5.3). Practically,  $A$  is the original—often informal—model of the data type to be specified by  $SP$ .

The soundness of inductive expansions, previously proved directly (cf. Padawitz 1992, Theorem 5.5), is a special case of Theorem 3.6(1) and Corollary 3.9, respectively:

**THEOREM 4.2. (INDUCTIVE EXPANSIONS ARE SOUND)** (1) *Let  $c = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \Leftarrow h$  be a Gentzen clause and  $CS = \{gs_1 \Leftarrow h_1, \dots, gs_n \Leftarrow h_n\}$  be a set of Gentzen clauses such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $h \Leftarrow h_j, gs_j \Leftarrow g_i \in ITh(SP)$ . Then  $\{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \vdash_{SP,CS} \{h\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup CS \subseteq ITh(SP)$ .*

(2) *Let  $HS = \{g_1 \Leftarrow g : h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow g : h_n\}$  be a set of guarded clauses such that  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH(AX), GSub)$  and for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $X_i =_{def}$   $fresh(g_i \Leftarrow g \cup h_i)$  and  $h_i = h_j$  implies  $g_i = g_j$ . Let*

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \Leftarrow g.$$

*Then  $\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \vdash_{SP,HS} \{g\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup HS \subseteq ITh(SP)$ .*

Since for all goals  $g, h$  and atoms  $p$ , the clauses  $\{g, h\} \Leftarrow g$  and  $p \Leftarrow p$  are inductive  $SP$ -theorems, the following **backward** rules are special cases of deductive resolution or paramodulation:

**Goal elimination.**

$$\frac{\{g, h\}}{\{g\}}.$$

**Atom factoring.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$  such that  $p\sigma = q\sigma$

$$\frac{\{g \cup \{p, q\}\}}{\{g\sigma \cup \{q\sigma\}\}}.$$

**Term unification.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$  such that  $t\sigma = u\sigma$

$$\frac{\{g \cup \{t \equiv u\}\}}{\{g\sigma\}}.$$

**Term replacement.** Let  $x \in var(g)$

$$\frac{\{g[t/x] \cup \{t \equiv u\}\}}{\{g[u/x] \cup \{t \equiv u\}\}}.$$

**Instantiation.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$

$$\frac{\{\exists V g\}}{\{g\sigma \cup EQ(\sigma_{var(g) \setminus V})\}}.$$

$\Sigma$ -**Simplification.** Let  $\Sigma$  be an *SP-compatible simplifier*, i.e. a function on the set of all goal sets such that  $gs \Leftrightarrow \Sigma(gs) \in ITh(SP)$  (cf. Definition 10.1)

$$\frac{gs}{\Sigma(gs)}.$$

Since for all goals  $g, h$  and unsolvable goals  $g'$ , the clauses  $g \Leftarrow g \cup h$  and  $FALSE \Leftarrow g'$  are inductive *SP*-theorems, the following rules are special cases of deductive forward resolution:

**Forward goal elimination.**

$$\frac{\{g \cup h\}}{\{g\}}.$$

**Goal refutation.** Let  $g$  be *SP*-unsolvable

$$\frac{\{g\}}{\{FALSE\}}.$$

Goal refutation can also be applied in a backward proof where it is a special case of goal elimination (see above). By Theorem 3.11, inductive *forward* resolution and paramodulation are sound w.r.t.  $\vdash_{SP,CS}$  if for descent functions  $\gg$ ,  $\{\{x \gg y \equiv true\}, \{x \gg y \equiv false\}\} \in ITh(SP)$ . This condition implies that the initial *SP*-structure interprets  $\gg$  as a total function. The dual condition is Boole-consistency:  $(FALSE \Leftarrow true \equiv false) \in ITh(SP)$  (cf. Definition 4.1). In fact, inductive *backward* resolution and paramodulation are sound w.r.t.  $\vdash_{SP,CS}$  only if *SP* is Boole-consistent. Otherwise  $\gg$  were not well-founded.

EXAMPLE 4.3. (GREATER) *Using Expander syntax (cf. Section 1.1) we specify the greater relation on natural numbers and prove its transitivity.*

GREATER

```

functs†   true 0 s >> 3
preds     > 1 2
infixes   > >>
vars      x x' y y' z z' ex
axioms    (1) {s(x)>0}
          (2) {s(x)>s(y)} <== {x>y}

```

<sup>†</sup> Non-zero numbers following a function or predicate symbol  $F$  denote the axioms that specify  $F$ .

|          |   |
|----------|---|
|          | (3) $\{(s(x),z) \gg (x,z') = \text{true}\}$             |
| theorems | (1) $\{x = 0\} \setminus \{x = s(\text{ex!})\}^\dagger$ |
|          | (2) $\text{FALSE} \leq \{0 > x\}$                       |
|          | (3) $\{x > y\} \leq \{s(x) > s(y)\}$                    |
| conjects | (1) $\{x > z\} \leq \{x > y, y > z\}$                   |

Axiom 3 specifies the descent function  $\gg$  used in the inductive expansion of Conjecture 1 given below. This proof consists of backward and forward deductive resolution steps and a single backward inductive resolution step with Conjecture 1 as induction hypothesis and the descent function as specified by Axiom 3 (cf. (\*) below).

Backward steps always modify the actual conclusion, while forward steps are applied to the actual premise. In terms of Section 1.1, the lists *front* and *rear* have been merged. Each goal set of *front* (the backward part of the proof) is preceded by *conclusion*, each goal set of *rear* (the forward part of the proof) is preceded by *premise*. The goals of a goal set are numbered and listed sequentially. Remember that a goal set represents a *disjunction*, while a goal represents a *conjunction*. Theorems 1 to 3 of GREATER are used as lemmas.

initial conclusion:

(1)  $\{x > z\}$

initial premise:

(1)  $\{x > y, y > z\}$

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER1

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER2

conclusion:

(1)  $\{x=s(x1), z=s(y1), x1 > y1\}$

(2)  $\{x=s(x1), z=0\}$

atom 3 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with conjecture 1 (\*)

conclusion:

(1)  $\{(x,z) \gg (x1,y1) = \text{true}, x1 > y2, y2 > y1, x=s(x1), z=s(y1)\}$

(2)  $\{x=s(x1), z=0\}$

term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER3

conclusion:

(1)  $\{x=s(x1), x1 > y2, y2 > y1, z=s(y1)\}$

(2)  $\{x=s(x1), z=0\}$

premise:

(1)  $\{x > y, y > z\}$

term at position 1 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 1

premise:

(1)  $\{x=0, 0 > y, x > z\}$

(2)  $\{x=s(\text{ex}), s(\text{ex}) > y, y > z\}$

atom 2 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 2

premise:

(1)  $\{x=s(\text{ex}), s(\text{ex}) > y, y > z\}$

terms at positions 2 2, 3 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 1

$\dagger$  A goal set  $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$  is denoted by  $g_1 \vee \dots \vee g_n$ . The exclamation mark identifies *ex* as an existentially quantified variable.

premise:

- (1)  $\{y=0, s(ex)>0, 0>z, x=s(ex)\}$
- (2)  $\{y=s(ex1), s(ex)>s(ex1), s(ex1)>z, x=s(ex)\}$

atom 3 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 2

premise:

- (1)  $\{y=s(ex1), s(ex)>s(ex1), s(ex1)>z, x=s(ex)\}$

atom 2 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 3

premise:

- (1)  $\{ex>ex1, y=s(ex1), s(ex1)>z, x=s(ex)\}$

term at position 3 2 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 1

premise:

- (1)  $\{z=0, s(ex1)>0, ex>ex1, y=s(ex1), x=s(ex)\}$
- (2)  $\{z=s(ex2), s(ex1)>s(ex2), ex>ex1, y=s(ex1), x=s(ex)\}$

atom 2 in premise goal 2 replaced with theorem 3

premise:

- (1)  $\{z=0, s(ex1)>0, ex>ex1, y=s(ex1), x=s(ex)\}$
- (2)  $\{ex1>ex2, z=s(ex2), ex>ex1, y=s(ex1), x=s(ex)\}$

conjecture 1 has been proved.

The message `conjecture 1 has been proved` responds to the syntactic check whether or not the actual premise *hs* subsumes the actual conclusion *gs*. Subsumption extends matching from terms to goal sets such that, if *hs* subsumes *gs*, then  $gs \leftarrow hs$  is valid. For the details, cf. Padawitz (1994), Section 3.5.

We conclude from Theorem 4.2(1) that Conjecture 1 is an inductive **GREATER**-theorem. A more straightforward proof relying on the fact that **GREATER** is *ground confluent* (cf. Definition 5.5) is given by Example 10.12.

EXAMPLE 4.4. (DIVISION) *Using Expander syntax we specify the division-and-remainder function on natural numbers and prove its correctness:*

DIVISION

```

functs   true 0 s no_pair + - * 1 2 div 3 4 5 >> 6
preds    < < => >=
infixes  * div >>
vars     x y z q r
axioms   (1) {0* x=0}
          (2) {s(x)*y=(x*y)+y}
          (3) {x div y=(0,x)} <== {x<y}
          (4) {x div y=(s(q),r)} <== {x>=y,y>0,(x-y) div y=(q,r)}
          (5) {x div 0=no_pair}
          (6) {(y,x,q,r) >> (y',x-y,q',r')=true} <== {x>=y,y>0}
theorems (1) {(z+y)+r=x} <== {z+r=x-y,x>=y}
          (2) {x<y} <== {y>x}
          (3) {x=q,y=r} <== {(x,y)=(q,r)}
          (4) FALSE <== {(x,y)=no_pair}
          (5) {z=no_pair} \/\ {z=(0,x),x<y} \/\
              {z=(s(q!),r!),x>=y,y>0,(x-y) div y=(q!,r!)}
          <== {x div y=z}

```

conjectures (1)  $\{x=(q*y)+r, r<y\} \leq \{y>0, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)\}$ .

An inductive expansion of Conjecture 1 upon DIVISION is given below. It consists of deductive backward and forward resolution and paramodulation steps as well as an inductive backward resolution step with Conjecture 1 as induction hypothesis and the descent function specified by Axiom 6 (cf. (\*) below).

initial conclusion:

(1)  $\{x=(q*y)+r, r<y\}$

initial premise:

(1)  $\{0<y, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)\}$

term at position 1 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom

DIVISION1

term at position 1 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom

DIVISION2

conclusion:

(1)  $\{q=s(x1), ((x1*y)+y)+r=x, r<y\}$

(2)  $\{q=0, r=x, r<y\}$

atom 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 1

conclusion:

(1)  $\{(x1*y)+r=x-y, x>y, q=s(x1), r<y\}$

(2)  $\{q=0, r=x, r<y\}$

atoms 1 4 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with conjecture 1 (\*)

conclusion:

(1)  $\{(y,x,q,r) \gg (y,x-y,x1,r)=\text{true}, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(x1,r), y<x, q=s(x1)\}$

(2)  $\{q=0, r=x, r<y\}$

term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom

DIVISION6

conclusion:

(1)  $\{y<x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(x1,r), q=s(x1)\}$

(2)  $\{q=0, r=x, r<y\}$

premise:

(1)  $\{0<y, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)\}$

atom 2 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 5

premise:

(1)  $\{(q,r)=\text{no\_pair}, 0<y\}$

(2)  $\{(q,r)=(0,x), x<y, 0<y\}$

(3)  $\{(q,r)=(s(q1),r1), x>y, y>0, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q1,r1), 0<y\}$

atom 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 4

premise:

(1)  $\{(q,r)=(0,x), x<y, 0<y\}$

(2)  $\{(q,r)=(s(q1),r1), x>y, y>0, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q1,r1), 0<y\}$

atom 3 in premise goal 2 replaced with theorem 2

premise:

(1)  $\{(q,r)=(0,x), x<y, 0<y\}$

(2)  $\{(q,r)=(s(q1),r1), x>y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q1,r1), 0<y\}$

atom 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with theorem 3

atom 1 in premise goal 2 replaced with theorem 3

premise:

- (1)  $\{q=0, r=x, x<y, 0<y\}$
- (2)  $\{q=s(q1), x>=y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q1, r), 0<y\}$

conclusion:

- (1)  $\{y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(x1, r), q=s(x1)\}$
- (2)  $\{q=0, r=x, r<y\}$

term at position 3 1 replaced with equation 2 in conclusion goal 2

conclusion:

- (1)  $\{y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(x1, r), q=s(x1)\}$
- (2)  $\{q=0, r=x, x<y\}$

conjecture 1 has been proved.

We conclude from Theorem 4.2(1) that Conjecture 1 is an inductive DIVISION-theorem. The proof uses Theorems 1 to 5 as lemmas. Parts 1 to 4 are obvious. Part 5 is the *only-if-completion* of `div`, i.e. the inverse of Axioms 3, 4 and 5, which specify `div` (cf. Definition 5.6). Only-if-completions are inductive theorems if the specification is *normal form complete* (cf. Definition 5.5). A more straightforward proof relying on the fact that DIVISION is ground confluent will be given by Example 10.13.

EXAMPLE 4.5. (DIVISION) *A further proof of Conjecture 1 is obtained with the help of Theorem 4.2(2) if the premise of Conjecture 1 is split into the guard  $g = \{y > 0, x \equiv x\}$  and the  $g$ -minimal goal set  $\{\{x \text{ div } y = (q, r)\}\}^\dagger$ . Instead of expanding Conjecture 1, we expand the Gentzen clause*

$$c = \exists\{q, r\}\{x \equiv (q * y) + r, r < y, x \text{ div } y \equiv (q, r)\} \Leftarrow \{y > 0\}$$

and use Conjecture 1 as induction hypothesis. By Theorem 4.2(2), this expansion implies that both  $c$  and Conjecture 1 are DIVISION-theorems. Actually, DIVISION is modified as follows.

DIVISION'

```

functs  true 0 s no_pair + - * 1 2 div 3 4 5 >> 6
preds   < <=> >=
infixes + - * div >>
vars    x y z q r
axioms  (1) {0*x=0}
        (2) {s(x)*y=(x*y)+y}
        (3) {x div y=(0,x)} <== {x<y}
        (4) {x div y=(s(q),r)} <== {x>=y,y>0,(x-y) div y=(q,r)}
        (5) {x div 0=no_pair}
        (6) {(x,y) >> (x,y-z)=true} <== {y>=z,z>0}
theorems (1) {(z+y)+r=x} <== {z+r=x-y,x>=y}
        (2) {x>=y} <== {y<=x}
        (3) {x div y=(q!,r!)} <== {y>0}
        (4) {x>y} <== {y<x}
        (5) {x<y} \ / {y<=x}
conject (1) {x=(q*y)+r,r<y} <== {y>0,x div y=(q,r)}

```

<sup>†</sup> The tautology  $x \equiv x$  is used only for fixing  $y$  and  $x$  as input variables.

$$(2) \{x=(q*y)+r, r<y, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)\} \leq \{y>0\}.$$

Conjecture 2 agrees with  $c$ . Theorems 1 to 5 are used as lemmas in the—completely backward—proof of  $c$  given below. Since  $c$  has only two input variables, we also obtain a new descent function when applying Conjecture 1 as induction hypothesis (cf. (\*) below).

initial conclusion:

$$(1) \{x=(q*y)+r, r<y, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)\}$$

initial premise:

$$(1) \{0<y\}$$

term at position 3 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION'3

term at position 3 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION'4

conclusion:

$$(1) \{y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), x=(s(q_1)*y)+r, r<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y, x=(0*y)+x\}$$

term at position 4 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION'2

conclusion:

$$(1) \{((q_1*y)+y)+r=x, y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), r<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y, x=(0*y)+x\}$$

term at position 2 2 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with axiom DIVISION'1

conclusion:

$$(1) \{((q_1*y)+y)+r=x, y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), r<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 1

conclusion:

$$(1) \{(q_1*y)+r=x-y, x>=y, y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), r<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

atom 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 2

conclusion:

$$(1) \{(q_1*y)+r=x-y, y<=x, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), r<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

atoms 1 5 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with conjecture 1 (\*)

conclusion:

$$(1) \{(y,x)>>(y,x-y)=\text{true}, 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r), y<=x\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION'6

conclusion:

$$(1) \{y<=x; 0<y, (x-y) \text{ div } y=(q_1,r)\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

atom 3 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 3

conclusion:

$$(1) \{y>0, y<=x, 0<y\}$$

$$(2) \{x<y\}$$

```

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 4
conclusion:
(1) {0<y,y<=x}
(2) {x<y}
atoms 1 2 in conclusion goals 2 1 replaced with theorem 5
conclusion:
(1) {0<y}
conjecture 1 has been proved.

```

On the one hand, this proof does not use the only-if-completion  $ONLY(div)$  of  $div$  as the proof of Example 4.4 does. On the other hand, here we use the fact that  $\{\{x \mathit{div} y = (q, r)\}\}$  is  $g$ -minimal, i.e., that the clause

$$\{q \equiv q', r \equiv r'\} \Leftarrow \{x \mathit{div} y \equiv (q, r), x \mathit{div} y \equiv (q', r')\}$$

is an inductive theorem. Intuitively, this clause says that  $div$  has been specified consistently, i.e., as a function with unique values, while both the normal form completeness of  $DIVISION$  (cf. Example 4.4) and Theorem 3 of  $DIVISION'$ —together with Axiom 5—express that  $div$  has been specified completely, i.e., as a total function.

## 5. Canonical Specifications

Canonicity summarizes three requirements to a Horn clause specification  $SP$ : *normal form completeness*, *strong termination* and, most crucial, *ground confluence*. Ground confluence and normal form completeness are discussed in this and the following chapter. Strong termination is the topic of Section 7. Some of the material presented in Sections 5 to 7 was introduced and thoroughly motivated in Padawitz (1988), Padawitz (1991a) and Padawitz (1992), especially certain deviations from CTRS theory (cf. Sections 1.2 and 1.4).

One important deviation from other rewriting approaches is that we parametrize the reduction calculus by a set  $NF$  of *normal forms*, which depends on the underlying specification  $SP$ .  $NF$  is not *a priori* the set of non-rewritable terms. This would entail a circular definition because the reduction calculus is defined *with respect to*  $NF$ : normal forms are the (only) terms to be substituted for fresh variables in a rewriting step (cf. Section 2). Normal forms are built up of variables and *constructors* and lead us to *constructor-based* specifications and then to canonical specifications.

**ASSUMPTION 5.1.** *For notational convenience, we regard in the sequel each logical predicate  $P$  as a Boolean function and each logical atom  $P(t)$  as the equation  $P(t) \equiv true$ . Thus logical predicates become partial Boolean functions, and each Horn clause axiom becomes a conditional equation. Conversely, a Boolean function that stems from a predicate only occurs at the outermost term position of an equation  $t \equiv true$ . Normal form completeness takes this restriction into account: Boolean terms  $P(t)$  where  $P$  stems from a predicate need not have a normal form. We call a term  $t$  an **atomic** term if  $t = P(u)$  for some predicate  $P$ .*

**DEFINITION 5.2.** (CONSTRUCTOR-BASED SPECIFICATION) *A Horn clause specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  is **constructor-based** if each operation of  $SIG$  is either a **constructor** or a **defined function**. In accordance with Assumption 5.1 we regard all logical*



predicates of SIG as defined functions. A SIG-term over  $X$  consisting of constructors and variables is called a **SIG-normal form** over  $X$ . The  $S$ -sorted sets of all SIG-normal forms over  $X$  and ground SIG-normal forms, are denoted by  $NF_{SIG}(X)$  and  $NF_{SIG}$ , respectively.

$SP$  is **free-constructor-based** if for each  $c = (l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$ ,  $l$  contains a defined function.

**DEFINITION 5.3. (REDUCTION CALCULUS)** Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a constructor-based specification. The **reduction calculus for  $SP$**  consists of the following inference rules each of which transforms a goal into a goal:

**rewriting**  $\frac{g[l\sigma/z]}{g[r\sigma/z] \cup h\sigma}$  if  $z \in \text{var}(g), c = (l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$  and  $\text{fresh}(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)$ ,

**reflection**  $\frac{g \cup \{t \equiv t\}}{g}$ .

A sequence  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  of goals is called a **goal reduction of  $g_1$  into  $g_n$  upon  $SP$**  if for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $g_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $g_i$  by a single rewriting or reflection step. The corresponding inference relation is denoted by  $\vdash_{SP}$ .  $g$  is **SP-convergent** if  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ .

Note that  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $g\sigma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{Sub}$ . However, for a non-empty goal  $h$ ,  $g \vdash_{SP} h$  implies  $g\sigma \vdash_{SP} h\sigma$  only if  $\sigma$  assigns normal forms to all goals of a goal reduction of  $g$  into  $h$ .

**DEFINITION 5.4. (REDUCTION RELATION)** Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a constructor-based specification. The **SP-reduction relation**  $\rightarrow_{SP}$  is a binary relation both on  $T_{SIG}(X)$  and on the set of goals over SIG defined as follows:

- $g \rightarrow_{SP} g' \Leftrightarrow_{\text{def}} g = t[l\sigma/x]$  and  $g' = t[r\sigma/x]$  for some term (goal)  $t$ ,  $x \in \text{var}(t)$ ,  $c = (l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$  and  $\sigma \in \text{Sub}$  such that  $h\sigma$  is SP-convergent and  $\text{fresh}(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)$ .

$g'$  is an **SP-reduct** of a term or goal  $g$  if  $g \rightarrow_{SP}^* g'$ . A substitution  $\tau$  is an **SP-reduct** of a substitution  $\sigma$  if  $x\sigma \rightarrow_{SP}^* x\tau$  for all  $x \in X$ . In this case we write  $\sigma \rightarrow_{SP}^* \tau$ .  $g$  and  $g'$  are **SP-joinable**, written:  $g \downarrow_{SP} g'$ , if  $g$  and  $g'$  have a common SP-reduct.  $g$  is **SP-reducible into** each SP-reduct of  $g$ . If  $g$  is the only SP-reduct of  $g$ , then  $g$  is **SP-reduced**. A goal  $g$  is **strongly SP-convergent** if all SP-reducts of  $g$  are SP-convergent.

Note that two terms  $t$  and  $t'$  are SP-joinable if and only if the equation  $t \equiv t'$  is SP-convergent:

$$t \downarrow_{SP} t' \iff t \equiv t' \vdash_{SP} \emptyset.$$

**DEFINITION 5.5. (NORMAL FORM COMPLETENESS, GROUND CONFLUENCE)** Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a constructor-based specification.  $SP$  is **normal form complete** if each non-atomic ground SIG-term is SP-reducible into a SIG-normal form (cf. Assumption 5.1).  $SP$  is **ground confluent** if SP-convergence is closed under  $\rightarrow_{SP}$ , i.e., if all SP-convergent ground goals are strongly SP-convergent.

$SP$  is normal form complete if and only if for all terms  $F(t)$  where  $F$  is a defined function and  $t$  is a ground normal form there is an axiom  $c = (F(u) \equiv v \leftarrow h)$  such that  $t$  matches  $u$ , say  $t = u\sigma$ , and  $h\sigma\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent for some ground normal form substitution  $\tau$  (which instantiates the fresh variables of  $c$ ). On the one hand, this complies with constructor-basedness, on the other, partially specified functions must be totalized by adding to the signature of  $SP$  constructor constants for expressing undefinedness such as `no_pair` of `DIVISION` (cf. Example 4.4) and axioms that define operations on these constants. Consistency problems arising from the addition of undefinedness constants vanish if  $SP$  is ground confluent because two different ground normal forms are joinable only if they are joinable by applying only constructor axioms. Since, by Theorem 5.8 below, ground confluence implies that two ground terms are  $SP$ -equivalent only if they are joinable, it is quite easy to avoid inconsistencies such as  $\text{succ}(t) \equiv_{SP} \perp$  or  $\text{true} \equiv_{SP} \text{false}$ .

An important consequence of normal form completeness is the validity of the *only-if-completions* of defined functions:

**DEFINITION 5.6.** (ONLY-IF-COMPLETION OF A DEFINED FUNCTION) *Let  $SP$  be a constructor-based specification,  $F : w \rightarrow s$  be a defined function of  $SP$  and*

$$\{c_1, \dots, c_n\} = \{F(t_1) \equiv u_1 \leftarrow g_1, \dots, F(t_n) \equiv u_n \leftarrow g_n\}$$

*be the set of all axioms of  $SP$  with leading function symbol  $F$ . For all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $X_i = \text{var}(c_i)$ ,  $x \in X_w$  and  $y \in X_s$  such that  $X_i$  does neither contain  $y$  nor components of  $x$ . The Gentzen clause*

$$\{\exists X_1(\{x \equiv t_1, u_1 \equiv y\} \cup g_1), \dots, \exists X_n(\{x \equiv t_n, u_n \equiv y\} \cup g_n)\} \leftarrow F(x) \equiv y$$

*is called the **only-if-completion**  $ONLY(F)$  of  $F$ .*

**LEMMA 5.7.** *The inductive theory of a normal form complete specification  $SP$  includes the only-if-completion  $ONLY(F)$  of each defined function  $F$  of  $SP$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$ ,  $F : w \rightarrow s$  be a defined function of  $SP$  and

$$\{c_1, \dots, c_n\} = \{F(t_1) \equiv u_1 \leftarrow g_1, \dots, F(t_n) \equiv u_n \leftarrow g_n\}$$

be the set of all axioms of  $SP$  with leading function symbol  $F$ . For all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $X_i$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  be as in Definition 5.6.

Let  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $SP \vdash_{cut} F(x\sigma) \equiv y\sigma$ . Since  $SP$  is normal form complete, there are ground normal forms  $t, u$  with  $x\sigma \rightarrow_{SP}^* t$  and  $F(t) \rightarrow_{SP} u$ . Hence  $t = t_i\tau$ ,  $u = u_i\tau$ ,  $g_i\tau \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  and  $\text{fresh}(c_i)\tau \subseteq NF_{SIG}$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\tau \in GSub$ .  $g_i\tau \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $SP \vdash_{cut} g_i\tau$ . W.l.o.g.  $\tau =_{\{x,y\}} \sigma$  because  $X_i$  does not contain neither  $y$  nor components of  $x$ . Hence  $SP \vdash_{cut} x\tau = x\sigma \equiv t = t_i\tau$ ,  $SP \vdash_{cut} y\tau = y\sigma \equiv F(x\sigma) \equiv F(t) \equiv u = u_i\tau$  and thus  $\sigma$  solves the conclusion of  $ONLY(F)$ .  $\square$

$\vdash_{SP}$  is sound w.r.t. the cut calculus for  $SP$  (cf. Section 4), i.e. for all goals  $g$  over  $SIG$ ,  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $SP \vdash_{cut} g$  (cf. Padawitz 1992, Proposition 6.1). The converse coincides with ground confluence:

**THEOREM 5.8.** (CHURCH-ROSSER THEOREM I) *A normal form complete specification*

$SP = (SIG, AX)$  is ground confluent iff for all ground (!) goals  $g$ ,  $SP \vdash_{cut} g$  implies  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ .

PROOF. Padawitz (1992), Theorem 6.5 (2).  $\square$

In Section 1.4 we have listed four proof-theoretical consequences of ground confluence. The first two, *Base consistency* and *Constructors*, reflect the uniqueness of function values that is guaranteed if the specification is ground confluent. The proofs of Examples 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 already indicate this relationship. If  $SP$  is not ground confluent, proofs often depend on particular lemmas that express the uniqueness of function values. If, however,  $SP$  is ground confluent, *narrowing-strategy-controlled goal generation* (cf. Section 8) becomes applicable and those lemmas need no longer be used. Section 6 will tell us how ground confluence is proved. In Sections 8 to 10 we discuss the benefits of ground confluence for expansion proofs.

Most design specifications are ground confluent because, in the course of their development, one has certain “canonical” models in mind, with normal forms as the data and with all operations defined uniquely on normal forms. The uniqueness of function values is the informal meaning of ground confluence. Formally, suppose that a ground term  $Ft$  has two normal forms, say  $Ft \equiv_{SP} u$  and  $Ft \equiv_{SP} v$ . Then  $u \equiv_{SP} v$ , ground confluence implies that  $u$  and  $v$  are  $SP$ -joinable and thus, if  $SP$  is free-constructor-based,  $u$  and  $v$  are the same normal forms.

The method for proving ground confluence, which we propagate in the sequel, is different from *completing*  $SP$  into a confluent specification (cf. Section 1.2). We claim that most design specifications are either already confluent or the conditions imposed on them by completion methods are too restrictive. Here the goal is to prove and maintain ground confluence and not to enforce this property.

For this purpose, the *subreductive expansion calculus* was introduced in Padawitz (1992), Section 6.4. Let us reformulate this calculus as a further instance of the generic expansion calculus defined in Section 3.

The first question is: which Gentzen clauses must be *subreductively* valid in order to ensure ground confluence?

DEFINITION 5.9. (CRITICAL CLAUSE) Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a specification,

$$l \equiv r \Leftarrow g, \quad l' \equiv r' \Leftarrow h \in AX,$$

$t \in T_{SIG}(X)$ ,  $x \in \text{var}(t)$  and  $\sigma, \tau$  be minimal substitutions w.r.t.  $\geq$  (cf. Section 2) such that  $l\sigma = t[l'\tau/x]$  and a function symbol occurs in  $l$  at the position of  $x$  in  $t$ . Then  $l\sigma$  is an  $SP$ -redex overlay and the clause

$$cc = l\sigma \equiv r\sigma \equiv t[r'\tau/x] \Leftarrow g\sigma \cup h\tau$$

is an  $SP$ -critical clause induced at  $l\sigma$ .

The redex overlay  $l\sigma$  is made part of  $cc$  only for technical reasons. In this way the redex overlay can be derived from the critical clause. Moreover, the variables of  $l\sigma$  become input variables of  $cc$ , which is crucial for defining the parameter  $GS$  when, in the next section, generic expansions are specialized to subreductive expansions. Adding  $l\sigma$  to  $cc$  does not affect the theory of  $SP$ :  $cc \in ITh(SP)$  iff  $r\sigma \equiv t[r'\tau/x] \Leftarrow g\sigma \cup h\tau \in ITh(SP)$ .

In terms of CTRS theory (cf. Section 1.2), ground confluence follows from the convergence of all *feasible critical pairs*, which are the critical clauses with convergent premises, provided that  $SP$  is strongly terminating:

DEFINITION 5.10. (STRONG TERMINATION) *A constructor-based specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  is **strongly terminating** if there is a transitive and well-founded relation  $>_{SP}$  on  $T_{SIG}$  such that the constant *true* is minimal w.r.t.  $>_{SP}$  (cf. Assumption 5.1) and the following two conditions hold true:*

**rewrite compatibility** *For all  $c = (l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$ ,  $t \in T_{SIG}(\{x\})$  and  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $\text{fresh}(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}$ ,  $h\sigma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $t[l\sigma/x] >_{SP} t[r\sigma/x]$  and  $l\sigma >_{SP} h\sigma^\dagger$ .*

**subterm compatibility** *For all  $t \in T_{SIG}$  and all proper subterms  $u$  of  $t$ ,  $t >_{SP} u$ .*

Then  $>_{SP}$  is a **reduction ordering for  $SP$** .

DEFINITION 5.11. (CANONICAL SPECIFICATION) *A specification  $SP$  is **canonical** if  $SP$  is ground confluent, strongly terminating and normal form complete.*

Besides that fresh variables are admitted, rewriting compatibility is weaker here than in other CTRS approaches insofar as only *convergent* premise instances  $h\sigma$  are considered here. This is sufficient for  $\rightarrow_{SP}^\dagger$  (but not  $\vdash_{SP}$ ) to be a subrelation of  $>_{SP}$ . The reduction ordering is a means for deriving ground confluence from convergence of critical clauses. The proof of this result is carried out by induction along  $>_{SP}$ .

The weakest notion of validity required for critical clauses is defined as follows.

DEFINITION 5.12. (SUBREDUCTIVE AND REDUCTIVE VALIDITY) *Given a specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$ , a reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$  for  $SP$  and a  $SIG$ -term  $t$ , a Gentzen clause  $c = gs \Leftarrow h$  is **sub- $t$ -reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$**  if for all  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent and all  $SP$ -convergent ground goals  $g <_{SP} t\sigma$  are strongly  $SP$ -convergent,  $g'\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent<sup>‡</sup> for some  $g' \in gs$  and  $\tau \in GSub$  with  $\tau \vdash_{in(c)} \sigma$ .*

*$c$  is **reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$**  if for all  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $h\sigma$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent,  $g\tau$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent for some  $g \in gs$  and  $\tau \in GSub$  with  $\tau =_{in(c)} \sigma$ .*

THEOREM 5.13. (CHURCH–ROSSER THEOREM II) *(cf. Theorem 5.8) A normal form complete specification  $SP$  is ground confluent iff all inductive theorems of  $SP$  (cf. Definition 4.1) are reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ .*

PROOF. Padawitz (1992), Theorem 6.5(3).  $\square$

THEOREM 5.14. (SUPERPOSITION THEOREM) *Let  $SP$  be a strongly terminating and normal form complete specification.  $SP$  is ground confluent iff for all  $SP$ -critical clauses  $t \equiv u \equiv v \Leftarrow h$ ,  $u \equiv v \Leftarrow h$  is sub- $t$ -reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ .*

<sup>†</sup> By Assumption 5.1,  $h$  is a set of equations, say  $h = \{t_1 \equiv u_1, \dots, t_n \equiv u_n\}$ . Hence  $t\sigma >_{SP} h\sigma$  means  $t\sigma >_{SP} t_i$  and  $t\sigma >_{SP} u_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

<sup>‡</sup> Padawitz (1992) requires *strong* convergence, but a short glance at the proof of Padawitz (1992), Theorem 6.10, reveals that convergence is sufficient.

PROOF. Padawitz (1992), Theorem 6.10 and Lemma 6.13.  $\square$

Theorem 5.14 generalizes the *Buchberger–Newman Lemma* and the *Knuth–Bendix Lemma* for the *ground case* (cf. Küchlin 1989, Lemmas 7 and 8) from unconditional rewrite systems to Horn clauses. These central results of rewrite theory comprise the three-step reduction of each proof of (ground) confluence that uses a reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$ : (1) from confluence to *local* confluence, (2) from local confluence to the convergence of *critical pairs*, (3) from the convergence of a critical pair  $cp$  to an equational proof  $EP$  of  $(u, v)$  such that  $EP$  is *smaller* than the *rewriting ambiguity*  $u \leftarrow t \rightarrow v$  that induces  $(u, v)$ . Actually, this means that all terms of  $EP$  are smaller w.r.t.  $>_{SP}$  than the redex overlay  $t$  (cf. Definition 5.9), i.e.  $EP$  consists of  $t$ -bounded terms. In the general case treated here we have critical clauses instead of critical pairs and expansions consisting of  $t$ -bounded goals instead of equational proofs consisting of  $t$ -bounded terms.

## 6. Subreductive Expansion

Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a specification. The parameters  $TH = GTh(AX)$  and  $GS = GSub$  provided the first instance of the generic expansion calculus defined in Section 3. It led to inductive expansions, which were treated in Section 4. The previous section motivates a second instance of the generic expansion calculus. Here the parameters  $TH$  and  $GS$  depend on a given **input term**, i.e. a  $SIG$ -term  $t$  with  $var(t) \subseteq X_{in}$ .

Let  $>_{SP}$  be a reduction ordering for  $SP$  and  $t$  be an input term.  $RTh(SP)$  denotes the set of all  $SP$ -convergent ground goals and  $GSub(>_{SP}, t)$  stands for the set of all ground substitutions  $\sigma$  such that all  $SP$ -convergent ground goals  $g <_{SP} t\sigma$  are strongly  $SP$ -convergent.

Let  $TH = RTh(SP)$  and  $GS = GSub(>_{SP}, t)$ . Then the conditions on  $TH$  and  $GS$  given in Section 3 hold true because  $t$  is an input term. Moreover, a Gentzen clause  $c$  is sub- $t$ -reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$  iff  $c$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$  (cf. Definition 3.1).

DEFINITION 6.1. A goal  $g$  is  **$t$ -bounded** if for all  $\sigma \in GSub$ ,  $g\sigma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $t\sigma >_{SP} g\sigma$ .

PROPOSITION 6.2.  $t$ -bounded goals are  $(TH, GS)$ -equivalence compatible (cf. Definition 3.2).

PROOF. Let  $g[u/x]$  be a  $t$ -bounded goal and  $v$  be a  $SIG$ -term. The clause

$$c = g[v/x] \Leftarrow g[u/x] \cup \{u \equiv v\}$$

must follow from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ . Hence suppose that  $(g[u/x] \cup \{u \equiv v\})\sigma \in TH$  for some  $\sigma \in GS$ , i.e.  $g[u/x]\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent,  $u$  and  $v$  are  $SP$ -joinable and all  $SP$ -convergent ground goals  $h <_{SP} t\sigma$  are strongly  $SP$ -convergent. This implies  $g[v/x]\sigma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  because  $g[u/x]$  is  $t$ -bounded. We conclude that  $c$  follows from  $TH$  by induction on  $GS$ .  $\square$

Axioms with  $t$ -bounded premises are sub- $t$ -reductively valid if  $SP$  is strongly terminating and normal form complete:

PROPOSITION 6.3. *Suppose that  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  is strongly terminating and normal form complete.  $c = (l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$  is sub- $t$ -reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$  if  $h$  is  $t$ -bounded.*

PROOF. Let  $\sigma \in GS$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Since  $h$  is  $t$ -bounded,  $t\sigma >_{SP} h\sigma$ . Hence  $h\sigma$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent because  $\sigma \in GS$ . Since  $SP$  be normal form complete, there is  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $x\sigma \rightarrow_{SP}^* x\tau$  for all  $x \in var(c)$ . Hence  $h\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent because  $h\sigma$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent. This implies  $l\tau \rightarrow_{SP} r\tau$  by the definition of  $\rightarrow_{SP}$ . Hence  $l\sigma \equiv r\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. We conclude that  $c$  is sub- $t$ -reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ .  $\square$

In particular, all unconditional axioms are sub- $t$ -reductively valid.

Since  $GS$  is a proper subset of  $GSub$ , the condition

$$\tau \in GS \quad \text{implies} \quad \rho\sigma\tau \in GS$$

of inductive resolution and paramodulation (cf. Definition 3.5) does not hold trivially as in the case of inductive expansions (cf. Section 4). But it is easy to see that this implication holds true whenever  $t\tau >_{SP} t\rho\sigma\tau$ . This condition complies well with the descent condition

$$x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true$$

generated by inductive resolution and paramodulation. Also taking into account Proposition 6.2, the rules of sub- $t$ -reductive expansion are thus simplified as follows (cf. Section 3): Let  $CS$  be a set of Gentzen clauses and  $\rho : X \rightarrow X$  be a renaming of  $X_{in}$  away from  $X_{in}$ .

**Backward deductive resolution.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$  and  $\{\exists X_1 h_1 \sigma, \dots, \exists X_n h_n \sigma\} \Leftarrow h \in Gen(TH, GS)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $h_i \sigma$  is  $t$ -bounded and  $X_i \cap var(g_i \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$

$$\frac{\{g_1 \cup h_1, \dots, g_n \cup h_n\}}{\{g_1 \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n \sigma \cup h \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

**Backward deductive paramodulation.** Let  $\sigma \in Sub$ ,  $\{\exists X_1 (u \equiv t_1) \sigma, \dots, \exists X_n (u \equiv t_n) \sigma\} \Leftarrow h \in Gen(TH, GS)$  and  $x \in var(g_1 \cap \dots \cap g_n)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $X_i \cap var(g_i[u/x] \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$

$$\frac{\{g_1[t_1/x], \dots, g_n[t_n/x]\}}{\{g_1[u/x] \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n[u/x] \sigma \cup h \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

**Backward inductive resolution.** Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1 h_1, \dots, \exists X_n h_n\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$  and  $\sigma \in Sub$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $var(c)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $f_i \sigma = h_i \rho \sigma$  is  $t$ -bounded and  $Z \sigma \cap var(g_i \sigma \cup X_{in} \sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\tau \in GSub$ ,  $t\tau >_{SP} t\rho\sigma\tau$

$$\frac{\{g_1 \cup f_1, \dots, g_n \cup f_n\}}{\{g_1 \sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n \sigma \cup h \rho \sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in} \rho \sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

**Backward inductive paramodulation.** Let  $c = (\{\exists X_1 (u \equiv t_1), \dots, \exists X_n (u \equiv t_n)\} \Leftarrow h) \in CS$ ,  $x \in var(g_1 \cap \dots \cap g_n)$  and  $\sigma \in Sub$  be a renaming of  $Z = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_n$  away from  $var(c)$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $u_i \sigma = t_i \rho \sigma$  and  $Z \sigma \cap var(g_i[u\rho/x] \sigma \cup$

$X_{in}\sigma \cup X_{in}) = \emptyset$ , and for all  $\tau \in GSub$ ,  $t\tau >_{SP} t\rho\sigma\tau$

$$\frac{\{g_1[u_1/x], \dots, g_n[u_n/x]\}}{\{g_1[u\rho/x]\sigma \cup \dots \cup g_n[u\rho/x]\sigma \cup h\rho\sigma \cup \{x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true\} \cup EQ(\sigma_{in})\}}.$$

$t$ -boundedness also replaces equivalence compatibility in the definition of sub- $t$ -reductive expansion:

**DEFINITION 6.4.** *A sequence  $E = (gs_1, \dots, gs_n)$  of goal sets is called a **sub- $t$ -reductive expansion upon  $SP$**  if*

- for all  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $gs_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $gs_i$  by a single deductive or inductive resolution or paramodulation step as defined above,
- for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $gs_i$  consists of  $t$ -bounded goals.

If  $E$  uses induction hypotheses from a set,  $CS$ , of Gentzen clauses, we write  $gs_1 \vdash_{SP,CS}^t gs_n$ .

Analogously to Theorem 4.2, we obtain a special case of Theorem 3.6(1) and Corollary 3.9, respectively:

**THEOREM 6.5.** (SUBREDUCTIVE EXPANSIONS ARE SOUND)

- (1) Let  $c = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \Leftarrow h$  be a Gentzen clause and  $CS = \{gs_1 \Leftarrow h_1, \dots, gs_n \Leftarrow h_n\}$  be a set of Gentzen clauses such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $h \Leftarrow h_j$ ,  $gs_j \Leftarrow g_i \in Gen(TH, GS)$ . Then  $\{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \vdash_{SP,CS}^t \{h\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup CS \subseteq Gen(TH, GS)$ .
- (2) Let  $HS = \{g_1 \Leftarrow g : h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow g : h_n\}$  be a set of guarded clauses such that  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH, GS)$  and for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $X_i =_{def} fresh(g_i \Leftarrow g \cup h_i)$  and  $h_i = h_j$  implies  $g_i = g_j$ . Let

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \Leftarrow g.$$

Then  $\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \vdash_{SP,HS}^t \{g\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup HS \subseteq Gen(TH, GS)$ .

Theorems 5.14 and 6.5 justify the method for proving ground confluence by subreductive expansion:

**THEOREM 6.6.** (CRITERION FOR GROUND CONFLUENCE) *Suppose that  $SP$  is strongly terminating and normal form complete. If for all  $SP$ -critical clauses  $t \equiv u \equiv v \Leftarrow h$ ,*

$$\{u \equiv v\} \vdash_{SP, \{u \equiv v \Leftarrow h\}}^t h,$$

*then  $SP$  is ground confluent.*

Theorem 6.6 allows us to apply the critical clause  $c$  as an induction hypothesis when proving that  $c$  is subreductively valid. Moreover,  $\Sigma$ -simplification (cf. Section 4) can be applied to a goal set  $gs$  of a sub- $t$ -reductive expansion without violating its soundness if  $gs \Leftrightarrow \Sigma(gs)$  is sub- $t$ -reductively valid.

In closing this section, we stress the point that, for proving ground confluence, the subreductive validity of a critical clause  $c$  or of a lemma used in an expansion of  $c$  cannot

be concluded from its inductive validity with the help of Theorem 5.13. This theorem *assumes* that  $SP$  is ground confluent, while a subreductive expansion is a part of the *proof* that  $SP$  is ground confluent.

## 7. Strong Termination and $t$ -boundedness

Theorem 6.6 provides a method for showing ground confluence: construct subreductive expansions of critical clauses. Yet it lacks criteria for the strong termination of  $SP$  and the  $t$ -boundedness of the goals of a sub- $t$ -reductive expansion (cf. Definition 6.4). Sufficient conditions for both properties are obtained on the basis of a systematic construction of reduction orderings. To this end we have introduced the *path calculus* for deriving valid pairs  $t >_{SP} u$  where  $t$  and  $u$  are terms, equations or multisets of terms and equations (cf. Padawitz (1992), Section 6.2). A reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$  extends to multisets of terms and equations as follows:

- $M >_{SP} N \iff M \neq N$  and for all  $u \in N \setminus M$  there is  $t \in M \setminus N$  such that  $t >_{SP} u$ ,
- $M >_{SP} (t \equiv t') \iff M >_{SP} \{t, t'\}$ ,
- $(t \equiv t') >_{SP} M \iff \{t, t'\} >_{SP} M$ .

We remind the reader of Assumption 5.1, that all logical predicates of  $SIG$  are regarded as operations and, consequently, the logical atom  $P(t)$  is actually an abbreviation of the equation  $P(t) \equiv true$ .

DEFINITION 7.1. (PATH CALCULUS) *Suppose that*

- $\geq_{SIG}$  is a reflexive and transitive relation on the set of operations and logical predicates of  $SIG$ ,
- $\succ$  is a set of predicates of  $SIG$  with transitive and well-founded interpretations in  $Ini(SP)$  (cf. Definition 4.1).

The  $(\geq_{SIG}, \succ)$ -**path calculus for  $SP$**  consists of the following inference rules for deriving goal sets where the atoms are  $SIG$ -atoms and expressions of the form  $t \gg u$  such that  $t$  and  $u$  are terms, equations or multisets of terms and equations.

**Multiset rules.** Let  $true \neq t \neq \emptyset$ ,  $t' \neq \emptyset \neq u \cup u'$  and  $t \cup u \neq t' \cup u'$ .

$$\frac{\{(t \cup u) \gg (t' \cup u')\}^\dagger}{\{t \gg t', (t \cup u) \gg u'\}} \quad \frac{\{(t \cup u) \gg u\}}{TRUE} \quad \frac{\{t \gg u \equiv u'\}}{\{t \gg \{u, u'\}\}} \quad \frac{\{u \equiv u' \gg t'\}}{\{\{u, u'\} \gg t'\}} \quad \frac{\{t \gg true\}}{TRUE}.$$

**Subterm rules.** Let  $F(t_1, \dots, t_k)$  be a term and  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .

$$\frac{\{F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg t\}}{\{t_i \gg t\}} \quad \frac{\{F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg t_i\}}{TRUE}.$$

**$SIG$ -rules.** Let  $t$  and  $F(t_1, \dots, t_k)$  be terms such that  $F \geq_{SIG} G$ , but not  $G \geq_{SIG} F$ .

$$\frac{\{t \gg F(t_1, \dots, t_k)\}}{\{t \gg \{t_1, \dots, t_k\}\}}.$$

† Where  $\cup$  denotes multiset union.



Let  $F(t_1, \dots, t_k)$  and  $G(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  be terms such that  $F \geq_{SIG} G$  and  $G \geq_{SIG} F$ .

$$\frac{\{F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg G(u_1, \dots, u_n)\}}{\{(t_1, \dots, t_k) \succ (u_1, \dots, u_n), F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}\} \vee \{(t_1, \dots, t_k) \equiv (u_1, \dots, u_n), \{t_1, \dots, t_k\} \gg \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}\}} \quad \text{if } k = n$$

$$\frac{\{F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg G(u_1, \dots, u_n)\}}{\{(t_1, \dots, t_k) \succ (u_1, \dots, u_n), F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \gg \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}\}} \quad \text{if } k \neq n.$$

The corresponding inference relation is denoted by  $\vdash^{path}$ .

Given a set  $Sol$  of ground substitutions, we add a further rule to the  $(\geq_{SIG}, \succ)$ -path calculus:

$$\text{Sol-rule} \quad \frac{t \gg x}{\{t \gg x \sigma \mid \sigma \in Sol\}} \quad \text{if } x \in X \setminus var(t).$$

The inference relation of the path calculus for  $(\geq_{SIG}, \succ)$  extended by the Sol-rule is denoted by  $\vdash_{Sol}^{path}$ .

A path calculus for  $SP$  does not only depend on the syntax of  $SP$  via the signature ordering  $\geq_{SIG}$  and binary predicates  $\succ$ , but also takes into account the semantics of  $SP$  by the requirement that  $\succ$  is interpreted in  $Ini(SP)$  as a set of well-founded relations. This is the same condition a descent function has to satisfy (cf. Section 3). If  $\succ$  stems from descent functions, we might say that the *reduction* ordering  $>_{SP}$  defined below is based on *induction* orderings. Indeed, for applying inductive rules in subreductive expansions, the descent function must be included into  $\succ$  (see below).

**THEOREM 7.2. (REDUCTION ORDERING DEFINED BY A PATH CALCULUS)** *Given a path calculus for  $SP$ , define a binary relation  $>_{SP}$  on  $T_{SIG}$  as follows: For all ground terms  $t, u$ ,*

$t >_{SP} u \iff \{t \gg u\} \vdash^{path} gs$  for a goal set  $gs$  such that  $SP \vdash_{cut} g$  for some  $g \in gs$  (cf. Section 4).  $>_{SP}$  is a reduction ordering for  $SP$  (cf. Definition 5.10) if for all  $c = (l \equiv r \leftarrow h) \in AX$  the following condition holds true:

(1)  $l\sigma >_{SP} \{r\sigma\} \cup h\sigma$  for all  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent and  $fresh(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)^\dagger$

**PROOF.** Padawitz (1992), Theorem 6.7.  $\square$

Condition 7.2(1) can also be proved with the given path calculus for  $SP$ , extended by the Sol-rule where  $Sol$  is the set of ground solutions of  $h$ :

**COROLLARY 7.3. (CRITERION FOR STRONG TERMINATION)** *Let  $>_{SP}$  be defined as in Theorem 7.2 and*

$$Sol =_{def} \{\sigma \in GSub \mid SP \vdash_{cut} h\sigma, \quad fresh(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)\}.$$

$\dagger$  The extension of  $>_{SP}$  to multisets is defined as above.

$>_{SP}$  is a reduction ordering for  $SP$  if all  $(l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$  are  **$SP$ -decreasing**, i.e. there is a goal set  $gs$  such that

$$\{l \gg \{r\} \cup h\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs$$

and  $gs \Leftarrow h$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem (cf. Definition 4.1).

PROOF. Let  $(l \equiv r \Leftarrow h) \in AX$  and  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent and  $fresh(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)$ . Hence  $SP \vdash_{cut} h\sigma$  and thus  $\sigma \in Sol$ . Let  $\{l \gg \{r\} \cup h\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs$  such that  $gs \Leftarrow h \in ITh(SP)$ . Then  $\{l\sigma \gg \{r\sigma\} \cup h\sigma\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs\sigma$  and  $SP \vdash_{cut} gs\sigma$ . The definition of  $>_{SP}$  implies  $l\sigma >_{SP} \{r\sigma\} \cup h\sigma$ . Hence 7.2(1) holds true and we conclude that  $>_{SP}$  is a reduction ordering for  $SP$ .  $\square$

With regard to the axiom  $l \equiv r \Leftarrow h$ , Corollary 7.3 yields a criterion for the  $l$ -boundedness of  $h$ . The general  $t$ -boundedness criterion reads as follows:

LEMMA 7.4. (CRITERION FOR  $t$ -BOUNDEDNESS) Let  $>_{SP}$  be defined as in Theorem 7.2,  $t$  be an input term (cf. Section 6),  $g$  be a goal and

$$Sol =_{def} \{\sigma \in GSub \mid SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma\}.$$

$g$  is  $t$ -bounded (cf. Definition 6.1) if there is a goal set  $gs$  such that

$$\{t \gg g\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs$$

and  $gs \Leftarrow g$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem.

PROOF. Let  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $g\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Hence  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  and thus  $\sigma \in Sol$ . Let  $\{t \gg g\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs$  such that  $gs \Leftarrow g \in ITh(SP)$ . Then  $\{t\sigma \gg g\sigma\} \vdash_{Sol}^{path} gs\sigma$  and  $SP \vdash_{cut} gs\sigma$ . The definition of  $>_{SP}$  implies  $t\sigma >_{SP} g\sigma$ .  $\square$

The path calculus defining  $>_{SP}$  can also be used to show the condition

$$(1) \quad t\tau >_{SP} t\rho\sigma\tau$$

on inductive steps of subreductive expansions (cf. Definition 6.4). Since (1) comes together with the descent condition  $x_{in} \gg x_{in}\rho\sigma \equiv true$ , (1) can be guaranteed if  $\gg$  is included in the parameter  $\succ$  of the path calculus defining  $>_{SP}$ . Both  $\gg$  and  $\succ$  are required to have well-founded interpretations in  $Ini(SP)$ . If, in addition,  $F >_{SIG} G$  for the leftmost symbol  $F$  of  $t$  and all operations  $G$  of  $x_{in}\rho\sigma$ , then, indeed, (1) can be derived by applying  $SIG$ -rules (cf. Definition 7.1).  $F >_{SIG} G$  holds true if  $F$  is a defined function,  $G$  is a constructor (cf. Definition 5.2) and, as usual, defined functions dominate constructors with respect to the symbol ordering  $\geq_{SIG}$  of the path calculus.

EXAMPLE 7.5. (STACK\_AS\_MAP) Using Expander syntax (cf. Section 1.1) we specify finite stacks, finite maps (arrays, RAMs) and an implementation of stacks by pairs of a map and a top index. This example is a popular “benchmark” for formal refinement approaches (cf. e.g. Guttag, Horowitz and Musser 1976, Section 4.4; Padawitz 1992, Example 7.20; Malcolm and Goguen 1994, Section 4.1). As constructor-based specifications, **STACK** and **MAP** have separate lists for constructors (**consts**) and defined functions (**defs**) (cf. Definition 5.2).

## STACK

```

consts    0 empty push
defs      pop 1 2 top 3 4
vars      x st
axioms    (1) {pop(empty)=empty}
          (2) {pop(push(x,st))=st}
          (3) {top(empty)=0}
          (4) {top(push(x,st))=x}

```

## MAP

```

consts    0 new put >
defs      <> get 3 4 5
vars      i j x y f
axioms    (1) {put(i,x,put(i,y,f))=put(i,x,f)}
          (2) {put(i,x,put(j,y,f))=put(j,y,put(i,x,f))} <== {j>i}
          (3) {get(new,i)=0}
          (4) {get(put(i,x,f),i)=x}
          (5) {get(put(i,x,f),j)=get(f,j)} <== {i<j}

```

The implementation is given by an extension of MAP:

## STACK\_AS\_MAP

```

base      MAP
consts    s mkStack
defs      empty 1 push 2 pop 3 4 top 5
vars      st
axioms    (1) {empty=mkStack(new,0)}
          (2) {push(x,mkStack(f,i))=mkStack(put(s(i),x,f),s(i))}
          (3) {pop(mkStack(f,0))=mkStack(f,0)}
          (4) {pop(mkStack(f,s(i)))=mkStack(f,i)}
          (5) {top(mkStack(f,i))=get(f,i)}
          (6) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),j)=mkStack(f,j)} <== {i>j}.

```

Axioms 1 to 5 realize the operations of STACK in terms of MAP. `mkStack` is the *abstraction function* from pairs of a map and an index to stacks. Axiom 6 defines the equivalence relation on stacks induced by `mkStack`. It says that all updates of  $f$  at indices  $i$  greater than the stacktop index  $j$  do not change the stack implemented by  $f$ . Without going into the discussion of what makes an implementation correct in general we claim that the following three conditions are reasonable requirements for calling `STACK_AS_MAP` a correct implementation of STACK by MAP.

- (1) The union  $SP$  of STACK and STACK\_AS\_MAP is ground confluent.
- (2) The axioms of STACK are inductive STACK\_AS\_MAP-theorems.
- (3) Axiom 6 of STACK\_AS\_MAP is an inductive  $SP'$ -theorem where  $SP' = SP \setminus \{\text{Axiom 6}\}$ .

*Proof of (1).* In order to apply Theorem 6.6 we first note that  $SP$  is constructor-based (cf. Definition 5.2). It might look strange to regard the predicate  $>$  as a constructor of the subspecification MAP of  $SP$ . But we are forced to do so because  $>$  occurs in a constructor

axiom of MAP.  $SP$  is also normal form complete and strongly terminating. For proving the latter we refer to Corollary 7.3. The signature ordering  $\geq_{SIG}$  of a suitable path calculus for  $SP$  can be defined as the transitive closure of

$$\begin{aligned} \{pop, top\} \geq_{SIG} \{empty, push\} \geq_{SIG} \{mkStack\} \geq_{SIG} \{get\} \geq_{SIG} \{new, put\} \\ \geq_{SIG} \{0, s, >, <>\}. \end{aligned}$$

For ensuring that Axiom 2 of MAP is  $SP$ -decreasing (cf. Corollary 7.3),  $SP$  must be extended by predicates  $>_3$  and  $>_{map}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} (i, x, f) >_3 (j, y, f) &<== i > j \\ (i, x, f) >_3 (j, y, g) &<== f >_{map} g \\ put(i, x, f) >_{map} put(j, y, g) &<== (i, x, f) >_3 (j, y, g) \\ \{put(i, x, f) >_{map} f\} \setminus \{put(i, x, f) = f\} \end{aligned}$$

are inductive  $SP$ -theorems. The predicate  $>$  of MAP,  $>_3$  and  $>_{map}$  are included in the path calculus parameter  $\succ$  (cf. Definition 7.1). Under these assumptions we obtain the following proof that Axiom 2 of MAP is  $SP$ -decreasing. It involves applications of both the  $(\geq_{SIG}, \succ)$ -path calculus and the inductive expansion calculus (cf. Definition 4.1).

$$\begin{aligned} &\{put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg \{put(j, y, put(i, x, f)), j > i\}\} \\ \vdash_{path} &\{put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg put(j, y, put(i, x, f))\} \\ \vdash_{path} &\{\{(i, x, put(j, y, f)) >_3 (j, y, put(i, x, f)), put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg \{j, y, put(i, x, f)\}\}, \\ &\{(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \equiv (j, y, put(i, x, f)), \{i, x, put(j, y, f)\} \gg \{j, y, put(i, x, f)\}\}\} \\ \vdash_{SP, \emptyset} &\{(i, x, put(j, y, f)) >_3 (j, y, put(i, x, f)), put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg \{j, y, put(i, x, f)\}\} \\ \vdash_{SP, \emptyset} &\{put(j, y, f) >_{map} put(i, x, f), put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg put(i, x, f)\} \\ \vdash_{SP, \emptyset} &\{j > i, put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg put(i, x, f)\} \\ \vdash_{path} &\{\{j > i, (i, x, put(j, y, f)) >_3 (i, x, f), put(i, x, put(j, y, f)) \gg \{i, x, f\}\}, \\ &\{j > i, (i, x, put(j, y, f)) \equiv (i, x, f), \{i, x, put(j, y, f)\} \gg \{i, x, f\}\}\} \\ \vdash_{path} &\{\{j > i, (i, x, put(j, y, f)) >_3 (i, x, f)\}, \\ &\{j > i, (i, x, put(j, y, f)) \equiv (i, x, f)\}\} \\ \vdash_{SP, \emptyset} &\{\{j > i, put(j, y, f) >_{map} f\}, \\ &\{j > i, put(j, y, f) \equiv f\}\} \\ \vdash_{SP, \emptyset} &\{j > i\}. \end{aligned}$$

Next we must find out the set  $CC$  of  $SP$ -critical clauses (cf. Definition 5.9, Theorem 6.6). We leave it to the reader to construct (the 8 elements of) the set  $CC(\text{MAP})$  of MAP-critical clauses. The rest of  $CC$  is given by the following clauses:

- (1)  $pop(empty) = empty = pop(mkStack(new, 0))$
- (2)  $pop(push(x, mkStack(f, i))) = mkStack(f, i) = pop(mkStack(put(s(i), x, f), s(i)))$
- (3)  $top(empty) = 0 = top(mkStack(new, 0))$
- (4)  $top(push(x, mkStack(f, i))) = x = top(mkStack(put(s(i), x, f), s(i)))$
- (5)  $push(x, mkStack(put(i, y, f), j)) = mkStack(put(s(j), x, put(i, y, f)), n, x), s(j) = push(x, mkStack(f, j)) <== i > j$
- (6)  $pop(mkStack(put(i, x, f), 0)) = mkStack(put(i, x, f), 0) = pop(mkStack(f, 0)) <== i > 0$

- 
- (7)  $\text{pop}(\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,f),s(j)))=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,f),j)$   
 $=\text{pop}(\text{mkStack}(f,s(j))) \leq i>s(j)$
- (8)  $\text{top}(\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,f),j))=\text{get}(\text{put}(i,x,f),j)=\text{top}(\text{mkStack}(f,j))$   
 $\leq i>j$
- (9)  $\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,\text{put}(i,y,f)),k)=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,y,f),k)$   
 $=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,f),k) \leq i>k$
- (10)  $\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(i,x,\text{put}(j,y,f)),k)=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(j,y,f),k)$   
 $=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(j,y,\text{put}(i,x,f)),k) \leq j>i>k.$

By Theorem 6.6, it remains to show  $\{u \equiv v\} \vdash_{SP, \{u \equiv v \Leftarrow h\}}^t h$ , for all  $\{t \equiv u \equiv v\} \Leftarrow h \in CC$ . We present subreductive expansions for the above 10 clauses, corresponding ones for  $CC(\text{MAP})$  are left to the reader. That each goal of these expansions is  $t$ -bounded can be shown easily with the help of Lemma 7.4 based on the above-sketched path calculus.

initial conclusion:

(1)  $\{\text{empty}=\text{pop}(\text{mkStack}(\text{new},0))\}$

term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom  
 STACK\_AS\_MAP3

conclusion:

(1)  $\{\text{empty}=\text{mkStack}(\text{new},0)\}$

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK\_AS\_MAP1

conclusion:

(1) TRUE

initial conclusion:

(1)  $\{\text{mkStack}(f,i)=\text{pop}(\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(s(i),x,f),s(i)))\}$

term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom  
 STACK\_AS\_MAP3

conclusion:

(1)  $\{\text{mkStack}(f,i)=\text{mkStack}(\text{put}(s(i),x,f),i)\}$

term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom  
 STACK\_AS\_MAP6

conclusion:

(1)  $\{s(i)>i\}$

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem  $s(i)>i$

conclusion:

(1) TRUE

initial conclusion:

(1)  $\{0=\text{top}(\text{mkStack}(\text{new},0))\}$

term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom  
 STACK\_AS\_MAP5

conclusion:

(1)  $\{0=\text{get}(\text{new},0)\}$

term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom MAP3

conclusion:

(1) TRUE

initial conclusion:

---

```

(1) {x=top(mkStack(put(s(i),x,f),s(i)))}
term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
  STACK_AS_MAP5
conclusion:
(1) {x=get(put(s(i),x,f),s(i))}
term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 with axiom MAP4
conclusion:
(1) TRUE

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(s(j),x,put(i,y,f)),s(j))=push(x,mkStack(f,j))}
initial premise:
(1) {i>j}
term at position 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
  STACK_AS_MAP2
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(s(j),x,put(i,y,f)),s(j))=mkStack(put(s(j),x,f),
  s(j))}
term at position 1 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom MAP1
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(s(j),x,f),s(j))=mkStack(put(s(j),x,f),s(j)),i=s(j)}
(2) {mkStack(put(s(j),x,put(i,y,f)),s(j))=mkStack(put(s(j),x,f),
  s(j))}
term at position 1 1 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with axiom MAP2
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j)}
(2) {mkStack(put(i,y,put(s(j),x,f)),s(j))=mkStack(put(s(j),x,f),
s(j)),i>s(j)}
atom 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j)}
(2) {i>s(j)}
atoms 1 1 in conclusion goals 1 2 replaced with theorem i=s(j) \ /
  i>s(j) <== i>j
conclusion:
(1) {i>j}

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),0)=pop(mkStack(f,0))}
initial premise:
(1) {i>0}
term at position 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
  STACK_AS_MAP3
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),0)=mkStack(f,0)}
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {i>0}

```

```

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),j)=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
initial premise:
(1) {i>s(j)}
term at position 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
    ARRAY2STACK4
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),j)=mkStack(f,j)}
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {i>j}
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem i>j <== i>s(j)
conclusion:
(1) {i>s(j)}

initial conclusion:
(1) {get(put(i,x,f),j)=top(mkStack(f,j))}
initial premise:
(1) {i>j}
term 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom MAP5
conclusion:
(1) {get(f,j)=top(mkStack(f,j)),i<>j}
term 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP5
conclusion:
(1) {i<>j}

atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem i<> <== i>j
conclusion:
(1) {i>j}

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,y,f),k)=mkStack(put(i,x,f),k)}
initial premise:
(1) {i>k}
term 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(f,k)=mkStack(put(i,x,f),k),i>k}
term 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {i>k}

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(j,y,f),k)=mkStack(put(j,y,put(i,x,f)),k)}
initial premise:
(1) {j>i,i>k}
term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
    STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(f,k)=mkStack(put(j,y,put(i,x,f)),k),j>k}
term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom

```

```

STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(f,k)=mkStack(put(i,x,f),k),j>k}
term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
STACK_AS_MAP6
conclusion:
(1) {j>k,i>k}
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem j>k <== j>i>k
conclusion:
(1) {j>i,i>k}.

```

*Proof of (2).* All axioms of STACK are ground reducible w.r.t. STACK\_AS\_MAP.

DEFINITION. (GROUND REDUCIBILITY) *Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a Horn clause specification,  $C$  be a set of Horn clauses over  $SIG$  and  $SP' = (SIG, AX \cup C)$ .  $C$  is ground reducible w.r.t.  $SP$  if for all  $t \equiv u \leftarrow h \in C$  and  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP'$ -convergent,  $t\sigma$  is not  $SP$ -reduced.*

Since by (1), the union of STACK and STACK\_AS\_MAP is ground confluent, the following result implies immediately that all axioms of STACK are inductive STACK\_AS\_MAP-theorems.

LEMMA. (GROUND REPRODUCIBILITY LEMMA) (*Padawitz 1992, Lemma 7.11(1)*)<sup>†</sup>. *Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a Horn clause specification,  $C$  be a set of Horn clauses over  $SIG$  and  $SP' = (SIG, AX \cup C)$ . If  $SP'$  is ground confluent and strongly terminating and  $C$  is ground reducible w.r.t.  $SP$ , then  $C \subseteq ITh(SP)$ .*

*Proof of (3).* We extend  $SP \setminus \{\text{Axiom 6}\}$  with a descent function  $\gg$  used in the inductive expansion of Axiom 6 given below.

```

SP'
base      STACK STACK_AS_MAP-{\text{Axiom 6}}
defs      >> 1
infixes   >>
vars      i j x f
axioms    (1) {(i,x,f,j) >> (i,x,f,s(j))=true} <== {i>s(j)}
conjects  (1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),j)=mkStack(f,j)} <== {i>j}

initial conclusion:
(1) {mkStack(put(i,x,f),j)=mkStack(f,j)}
initial premise:
(1) {i>j}
term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
STACK_AS_MAP4
conclusion:
(1) {pop(mkStack(put(i,x,f),s(j)))=mkStack(f,j)}
term at position 1 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom

```

<sup>†</sup> This result generalizes Jouannaud and Kounalis (1986), Theorem 1, from unconditional equational specifications to Horn clause specifications.



```

STACK_AS_MAP4
conclusion:
(1) {pop(mkStack(put(i,x,f),s(j)))=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
term at position 1 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
STACK_AS_MAP2
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j),pop(push(x,mkStack(f,j)))=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
(2) {pop(mkStack(put(i,x,f),s(j)))=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
term at position 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom STACK1
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j),mkStack(f,j)=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
(2) {pop(mkStack(put(i,x,f),s(j)))=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
term at position 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom
STACK_AS_MAP4
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j)}
(2) {pop(mkStack(put(i,x,f),s(j)))=pop(mkStack(f,s(j)))}
term at position 1 1 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with
conjecture 1
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j)}
(2) {(i,x,f,j) >> (i,x,f,s(j))=true,i>s(j)}
term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with axiom SP'1
conclusion:
(1) {i=s(j)}
(2) {i>s(j)}
atoms 1 1 in conclusion goals 1 2 replaced with theorem i=s(j) \ /
i>s(j) <== i>j
conclusion:
(1) {i>j}.

```

One important benefit from proving ground confluence by subreductive expansion instead of *inductive completion* (cf. Section 1.2) is the fact that the lemmas applied in a subreductive expansion are not added to the axioms of the specification, and thus need neither be decreasing nor checked for redex overlays among themselves or with the original axioms. By the definition of a sub- $t$ -reductive expansion (6.4), we must only check that all proof goals are  $t$ -bounded.

In Padawitz (1992), Section 7.4, we have generalized inductive completion from unconditional equations to Horn clauses. Actually, a proof of  $C$  by inductive completion is a set of subreductive expansions upon  $SP \cup C$  of *proper reducts* of  $C$ . In Padawitz (1992), such a proof of  $C$  is called a *reductive expansion of  $C$* . In the case of unconditional axioms reductive expansion essentially agrees with *term rewriting induction for orientable equations* (cf. Reddy 1990, Proposition 13). Here the conjectures of  $C$  are not used as induction hypotheses, but as additional axioms. This sounds more liberal, but is in fact more restrictive, because the method requires  $SP \cup C$  to be strongly terminating so that in fact only  $SP$ -decreasing conjectures can be proved (cf. Corollary 7.3).

The confinement to  $t$ -bounded proof goals and decreasing conjectures remains even if

we exploit the Ground Reducibility Lemma (cf. Example 7.5) to its full extent. Firstly, this lemma has an inverse: if

- (1)  $SP$  is canonical (cf. Definition 5.11),
- (2)  $SP' = SP \cup C$  is strongly terminating

and  $C \subseteq ITh(SP)$ , then  $C$  is ground reducible w.r.t.  $C$ . Secondly, if (1) and (2) hold true and  $C$  is ground reducible, then, for proving that  $SP'$  is ground confluent, one need not check all  $SP'$ -critical clauses, but only those induced by  $C$  on  $SP$ , and even the condition of subreductive validity these clauses must satisfy can be weakened considerably. Without going into the details of this approach<sup>†</sup> we call the pair  $(SP, C)$  *inductively convergent* if these conditions, which are weaker than critical clause convergence of  $SP'$ , are fulfilled. The underlying weaker notion of subreductive validity reads as follows (cf. Definition 5.12):

**DEFINITION 7.6.** (SUBREDUCTIVE VALIDITY W.R.T.  $(SP, C)$ ) *Given a specification  $SP = (SIG, AX)$ , a set  $C$  of Horn clauses over  $SIG$ , a reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$  for  $SP$  and a  $SIG$ -equation (!)  $e$ , a Gentzen clause  $c = gs \Leftarrow h$  is **sub-e-reductively valid w.r.t.  $(SP, C)$**  if for all  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $h\sigma$  is  $SP'$ -convergent and all  $SP'$ -convergent ground goals  $g <_{SP} e\sigma$  are strongly  $SP'$ -convergent and  $SP$ -convergent,  $g'\tau$  is  $SP'$ -convergent for some  $g' \in gs$  and  $\tau \in GSub$  with  $\tau =_{in(c)} \sigma$ .*

This definition gives rise to a further instance of generic expansion: let  $TH = RTh(SP')$  as in Section 6 and define  $GS$  as the set of all ground substitutions  $\sigma$  such that all  $SP'$ -convergent ground goals  $g < \tau\sigma$  are strongly  $SP'$ -convergent and  $SP$ -convergent. Section 6 then provides a method for proving inductive convergence, which is even more general than the two criteria for the  $(SP, C)$ -subreductive validity of critical clauses given in Padawitz (1995).

Inductive convergence generalizes term rewriting induction somewhat further than reductive expansion, although the basic assumption that there is a reduction ordering for  $SP'$  and  $C$  is  $SP$ -decreasing w.r.t. that ordering is the same. The attractiveness of rewriting induction comes from the above-mentioned invertibility of the underlying results. For instance, if (1) holds true, then  $C$  consists of inductive theorems of  $SP$  *only if*  $(SP, C)$  is inductively convergent (cf. Padawitz 1995). Hence inductive convergence *characterizes* inductive validity under Assumptions (1) and (2). Since a proof of  $C$  by inductive convergence reduces  $C$  to  $SP'$ -critical clauses, it often goes through without explicit induction steps. These two properties of inductive convergence and other variants of rewrite induction or inductive completion cause some people to call them “automatic” or even “inductionless”.

Since, roughly said, the reduction ordering for  $SP'$  takes over the role of induction orderings, it has also been claimed that rewriting induction avoids hierarchical proofs where lemmas need other induction orderings than the actual conjectures and thus cannot be proved “in the same run” (cf. Reddy 1990, Example 15). We claim that this depends on the range of induction orderings the proof system allows us to use. If the lemmas are specializations of the conjectures, then there is, of course, an induction ordering which both can be based upon so that they can be proved simultaneously. If, however, some

<sup>†</sup> Which are given in Padawitz (1995).

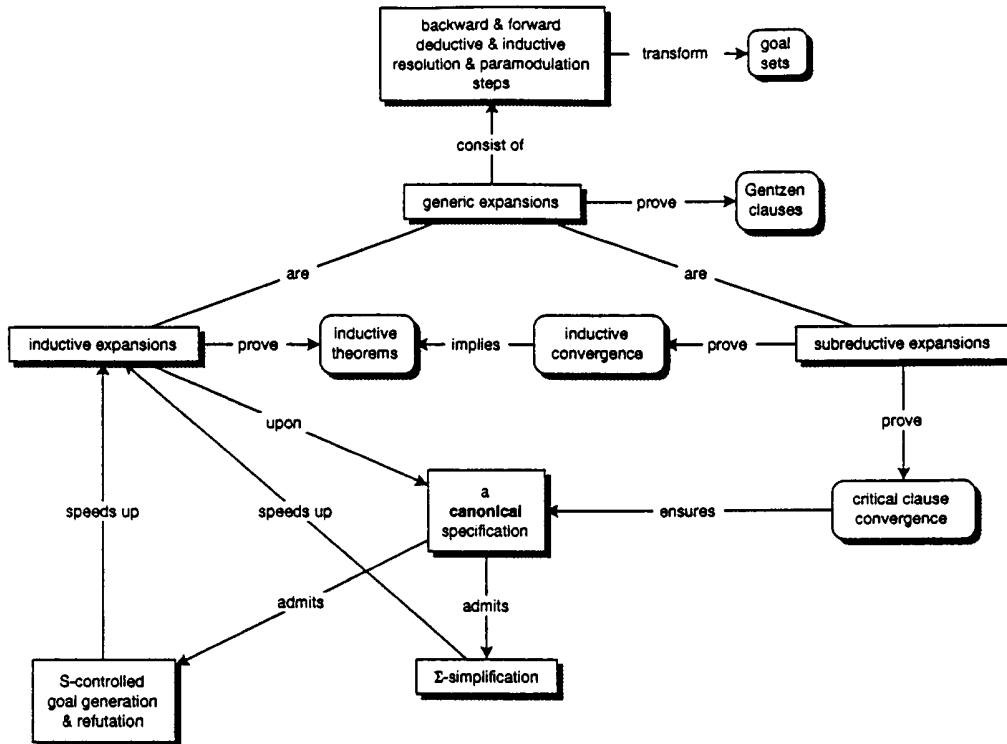


Figure 2. The impact of canonicity.

lemma properly generalizes some conjecture, rewriting induction will need a separate proof of this lemma as well, as explicit induction will do. For instance, in Reddy's example (Reddy 1990, Example 15), in the proof of  $x + y \equiv y + x$ , the lemmas are specializations and thus need not be proved separately if one uses the following induction ordering (cf. Section 3):

$$(x, y) \gg (x', y') \iff x + y > x' + y'.$$

$x + y \equiv y + x$  is not decreasing and thus cannot be proved by rewriting induction. For such cases Reddy proposed *SP*-rewriting *modulo*  $C$  instead of *SP'*-rewriting (cf. Reddy 1990, Remark 14). We mentioned rewriting modulo a theory in Section 1.5 as a kind of "built-in" simplification. Rewriting modulo works well only for theories that are represented by very simple unconditional axioms such as commutativity, associativity or idempotency of a binary function. The equation  $x + y \equiv y + x$  falls into this class, but program correctness conditions rarely have such a simple structure. Hence rewriting modulo conjectures of this kind cannot lead to a fairly general proof method.

Another approach to circumvent the requirement that conjectures be decreasing is taken by Kounalis and Rusinowitch (1990), and Bouhoula, Kounalis and Rusinowitch (1992). Essentially, their method is a proof that  $C$  is reductively valid w.r.t. *SP* (cf. Definition 5.12), carried out by *explicit* induction along a reduction ordering for *SP*. They induce on *test set* instances of  $C$ . Roughly said, a test set  $TS(c)$  for  $c \in C$ , is a set of substitutions that subsumes all ground solutions of the premise of  $c$ .  $TS(c)$

corresponds to the set of critical clauses of  $c$  on axioms of  $SP$  if  $C$  were proved by inductive convergence. Padawitz (1995) shows that if the minimal substitutions obtained from the critical clauses of  $C$  on  $SP$  (cf. Definition 5.9) form test sets for  $C$ , then Assumption (2) can indeed be dropped from the above-mentioned characterization of inductive validity by inductive convergence. Only (1) is left, which is also the main assumption to ensure that  $S$ -controlled goal generation and refutation are sound deduction rules (cf. Section 8).

Both results also yield methods to *refute* inductive theorems: if  $c = g \Leftarrow h$  is not provable by inductive convergence, then  $c$  is invalid; if  $S(g) = \emptyset$ , then  $c$  is invalid either (cf. Lemma 8.5(2)). The following lemma provides another criterion for invalidity under Assumption (1) and thus confirms the thesis of Section 1.4 that ground confluence is crucial for refutation procedures (cf. Bouhoula, Kounalis, and Rusinowitch (1992), Theorem 18<sup>†</sup>).

**LEMMA 7.7. (REDUCED THEOREMS ARE INVALID)** *Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a canonical specification and  $c = t \equiv u \Leftarrow g$  be a Horn clause over  $SIG$ , with  $t \neq u$ .  $c \notin ITh(SP)$  if there is  $\sigma \in GSub$  such that  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  and*

- both  $t\sigma$  and  $u\sigma$  are  $SP$ -reduced, or
- $t\sigma$  is  $SP$ -reduced and  $t\sigma >_{SP} u\sigma$ , or
- $u\sigma$  is  $SP$ -reduced and  $u\sigma >_{SP} t\sigma$ .

**PROOF.** Assume that  $c \in ITh(SP)$ . Then  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  implies  $SP \vdash_{cut} t\sigma \equiv u\sigma$ . By Theorem 5.8,  $t\sigma \downarrow_{SP} u\sigma$ . Since  $t \neq u$ ,  $t\sigma$  or  $u\sigma$  is  $SP$ -reducible. W.l.o.g. suppose that  $t\sigma$  is  $SP$ -reducible. Then, by assumption,  $u\sigma$  is  $SP$ -reduced and  $u\sigma >_{SP} t\sigma$ . By Theorem 5.8,  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  implies that  $g\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Hence  $t\sigma \rightarrow_{SP} u\sigma$  and thus  $t\sigma >_{SP} u\sigma$  because  $>_{SP}$  is a reduction ordering for  $SP$ . Since  $u\sigma >_{SP} t\sigma$ , the last conclusion contradicts the well foundedness of  $>_{SP}$ .  $\square$

At least if the critical clauses of  $C$  on  $SP$  do not form a test set or if  $C$  includes non-Horn clauses, an explicit proof by inductive expansion still seems to be the most direct way to show  $C$ . Reasonable examples of  $C$ , which express correctness conditions on functional-logic programs, are not hard to find.

Inductive convergence, rewrite induction and inductive completion are proof methods that are tailored to Assumption (1). The proof-theoretical implications of ground confluence listed in Section 1.4 do not include these methods because here we are mainly interested in the method of inductive expansion and how we can improve it by taking advantage of a ground confluent specification. To this end, Assumption (1) brings forth additional inference rules, which significantly reduce the number of lemmas to be applied in expansions, and thus enhance the “automation degree” of proofs in a way other than by a tailor-made proof method. Such rules are developed in the following sections.

## 8. Narrowing

In contrast to the expansion rules, the rules of the reduction calculus (cf. Definition 5.3) never instantiate the variables of the goal set to be expanded when applying a theorem.

<sup>†</sup> Bouhoula, Kounalis, and Rusinowitch (1992) show a variant of Lemma 7.7 based on a test set and with a very complicated proof. The version given here gets to the point faster.

If instantiation is admitted, rewriting becomes narrowing and reflection becomes unification. The original version of the narrowing rule stems from Slagle (1974). Further, basic as well as surveying work on narrowing can be found in, e.g., Hullot (1980), Kaplan (1987), Padawitz (1988) and Hanus (1994). Narrowing has also been called *oriented* or *directed* paramodulation because—as in the case of rewriting—equations are always applied in the same direction. Padawitz (1988) and Padawitz (1992) deal with narrowing and its completeness properties from this point of view.

**DEFINITION 8.1. (NARROWING CALCULUS)** *Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a constructor-based specification (cf. Definition 5.2). A pair  $\langle g, \tau \rangle$  consisting of a goal  $g$  over  $SIG$  and a substitution  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$  such that  $var(g) \cap dom(\tau) = \emptyset$  is called an **SP-narrowing pair**. The **narrowing calculus for  $SP$**  consists of the following inference rules each of which transforms an SP-narrowing pair into an SP-narrowing pair. Let  $\sigma \in Sub$ :*

$$\text{**narrowing rule** } \frac{\langle g[F(t)/z], \tau \rangle}{\langle g[v/z]\sigma \cup h\sigma, \tau\sigma' \rangle}$$

*if  $z \in var(g)$ ,  $t\sigma = u\sigma$ ,  $c = (F(u) \equiv v \Leftarrow h) \in AX$ ,  $fresh(c)\sigma \subseteq NF_{SIG}(X)$ ,  $\sigma' = \sigma_{var(g[F(t)/z])}$  and  $\langle g[v/z]\sigma \cup h\sigma, \tau\sigma' \rangle$  is an SP-narrowing pair*

$$\text{**unification rule** } \frac{\langle g \cup \{t \equiv u\}, \tau \rangle}{\langle g\sigma\tau\sigma \rangle} \text{ if } t\sigma = u\sigma \text{ and } \langle g\sigma, \tau\sigma \rangle \text{ is an SP-narrowing pair.}$$

*A sequence  $np_1, \dots, np_n$  of SP-narrowing pairs is called a **narrowing expansion of  $np_1$  into  $np_n$  upon  $SP$**  if for all  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $np_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $np_i$  by a single narrowing or unification step. The corresponding inference relation is denoted by  $\vdash \sqrt{SP}$ .*

*Let  $np = \langle g, \tau \rangle$  be an SP-narrowing pair.  $g$  is **SP-narrowable** if  $g$  is empty or  $np \vdash \sqrt{SP} np'$  for some  $np'$ . Otherwise  $g$  is **SP-narrowed**.*

For ground goals, SP-narrowability coincides with SP-convergence. If the substitution  $\sigma$  in the above rules were confined to the identity substitution  $id$ , then the narrowing calculus would agree with the reduction calculus. Conversely,  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$ . More generally:

**LEMMA 8.2. (LIFTING GOAL REDUCTIONS TO NARROWING EXPANSIONS)** *Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a free-constructor-based specification (cf. 5.2) and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$ . Then*

$$g\tau \vdash_{SP} \emptyset \text{ implies } \langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle.$$

By induction on the length of the shortest narrowing expansion of a narrowing pair  $np_1$  into a narrowing pair  $np_2$  one obtains:

**LEMMA 8.3. (FLATTENING NARROWING EXPANSIONS TO GOAL REDUCTIONS)**

$$\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle g_2, \sigma_2 \rangle \text{ implies } g_1\xi \vdash_{SP} g_2 \text{ for } \xi \text{ with } \sigma_1\xi = \sigma_2.$$

*In particular,*

$$\langle g_1, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle g_2, \sigma_2 \rangle \text{ implies } g_1\sigma_2 \vdash_{SP} g_2$$

*and*

$$\langle g_1, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \sigma_2 \rangle \text{ implies } g_1\sigma_2 \vdash_{SP} \emptyset.$$

The search space induced by all expansions of a narrowing pair is not tractable. We must look for strategies, which cover all narrowing expansions into narrowed or empty goals.

**DEFINITION 8.4. (NARROWING STRATEGY)** *Let  $S$  be a function from narrowing pairs to sets of narrowing pairs. A sequence  $np_1, \dots, np_k$  of goals is an  $S$ -**expansion of  $np_1$  into  $np_k$**  if for all  $1 \leq i < k$ ,  $np_{i+1} \in S(np_i)$ . Then we write  $np_1 \vdash^S np_k$ .*

*$S$  is a **narrowing strategy** if for all narrowing pairs  $np$  and  $np' \in S(np)$  there is a narrowing expansion of  $np$  into  $np'$  upon  $SP$ .  $S$  is **narrowing complete** if for all goals  $g$  and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  there is a substitution  $\rho \leq \tau$  (cf. Section 2) such that*

$$\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle \quad \text{implies} \quad \langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle.$$

Note that a narrowing complete function  $S$  need not be a narrowing strategy. In Section 10 we introduce  $\Sigma$ -narrowing strategies, which may be narrowing complete, but which usually are not narrowing strategies.

**LEMMA 8.5. (SOUNDNESS AND COMPLETENESS OF NARROWING STRATEGIES)** *Let  $S$  be a function from narrowing pairs to sets of narrowing pairs.*

- (1) *Suppose that  $S$  is a narrowing strategy. If  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$  for some  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$ , then  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$ . Hence, conversely, if  $g$  is not  $SP$ -solvable (cf. Definition 4.1), then for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $\langle h, \sigma \rangle \in S^n(\{\langle g, id \rangle\})$ ,  $h \neq \emptyset$ .*
- (2) *Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent and  $S$  is narrowing complete. Then  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  for some  $\sigma \in GSub$  implies  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  for some  $\rho : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$ . Hence, conversely, if for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $\langle h, \sigma \rangle \in S^n(\{\langle g, id \rangle\})$ ,  $h \neq \emptyset$ , then  $g$  is not  $SP$ -solvable.*

**PROOF.**

- (1)  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$  implies  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$ . Hence by Lemma 8.3,  $g\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent and thus  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$ .
- (2) Let  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma$  for some  $\sigma \in GSub$ . Since  $SP$  is normal form complete,  $g\sigma \rightarrow_{SP}^* g\tau$  for some  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$ . Since  $SP$  is ground confluent,  $g\sigma$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent and thus  $g\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Hence by Lemma 8.2,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$  and thus  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  for some  $\rho \leq \tau$  because  $S$  is narrowing complete.  $\square$

The following lemma is the key result of this section. In the subsequent theorem we use it for augmenting the inductive expansion calculus with a forward rule, which is sound if the assumptions of Lemma 8.6 on  $S$  and  $SP$  hold true. It is also a generalization of Lemma 5.7.

**LEMMA 8.6. (NARROWING GENERATES CASE ANALYSES)** *Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent and  $S$  is a narrowing complete narrowing strategy. Let  $g$  be a goal,  $S(\langle g, id \rangle) = \{\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle g_k, \sigma_k \rangle\}$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $X_i =_{def} var(dom(\sigma_i)\sigma_i)$  such that  $(var(g) \cup dom(\sigma_i)) \cap X_i = \emptyset$ . Then*

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup EQ(\sigma_1)), \dots, \exists X_k(g_k \cup EQ(\sigma_k))\} \Leftrightarrow g$$

*is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem.*

PROOF. By Theorem 5.13, it is sufficient to show that  $c$  is reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ . So let  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $g\tau$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent. Hence by Lemma 8.2,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$  and thus  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $\rho \leq \tau$  because  $S$  is narrowing complete. Since  $S$  is a narrowing strategy,  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  implies  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  and thus  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ . Since  $\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$  is a narrowing pair, Lemma 8.3 implies  $g_i \xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  for  $\xi$  such that  $\sigma_i \xi = \tau$ . Since  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle$  is a narrowing pair,  $var(g_i) \cap dom(\sigma_i) = \emptyset$ . Hence  $x\tau = x\sigma_i \xi = x\xi$  for all  $x \in var(g_i)$ , and thus  $g_i \xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $g_i \tau_i \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  where  $\tau_i = \tau_{X \setminus X_i} + \xi_{X_i}$ . Since  $dom(\sigma_i) \cap X_i = \emptyset$ ,  $x\tau_i = x\tau = x\sigma_i \xi = x\sigma_i \tau_i$  for all  $x \in dom(\sigma_i)$ . Hence  $EQ(\sigma_i)\tau_i$  consists of reflexive equations so that, trivially  $EQ(\sigma_i)\tau_i$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Since  $SP$  is ground confluent, we conclude that  $(g_i \cup EQ(\sigma_i))\tau_i$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent and thus the  $\Leftarrow$ -part of  $c$  is reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ .

Let  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_\Sigma$  such that  $g_i\tau$  and  $EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$  are strongly  $SP$ -convergent for some  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . By Lemma 8.2,  $\langle g_i, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$  and thus  $\langle g_i, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$  for some  $\sigma \leq \tau$  because  $S$  is narrowing complete. Hence  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^S \langle g_i \sigma_i \rangle \vdash^S \langle \emptyset, \sigma_i \sigma \rangle$  and  $\sigma_i \sigma \leq \sigma_i \tau$ . By Lemma 8.3,  $g\sigma_i \sigma$  and thus  $g\sigma_i \tau$  are  $SP$ -convergent. Since  $EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent, for all  $x \in dom(\sigma_i)$ ,  $x\tau$  and  $x\sigma_i \tau$  are  $SP$ -joinable. Moreover,  $g\sigma_i \tau$  is strongly  $SP$ -convergent because  $SP$  is ground confluent. Hence  $g\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent and thus strongly  $SP$ -convergent as well, and we conclude that the  $\Rightarrow$ -part of  $c$  is reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ .  $\square$

Intuitively, Lemma 8.6 says that the set  $S(\langle g, id \rangle) = \{\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle g_k, \sigma_k \rangle\}$  of narrowing pairs provides a complete case analysis of  $g$ . This gives rise to a general forward rule, which splits a goal into subgoals and thus divides a proof into subproofs. In contrast to the forward rules of Definition 3.10, this rule, called  $S$ -controlled goal generation, does not apply “user defined” lemmas at “user defined” goal positions, but derives the respective case analysis automatically. If  $S$  selects a single redex position (cf. Section 9), then performing an  $S$ -controlled goal generation step means applying the only-if-completion of a defined function (cf. Definition 5.6).

DEFINITION 8.7. ( $S$ -CONTROLLED RULES) *Let  $S$  be a function from narrowing pairs to sets of narrowing pairs.*

**Backward  $S$ -controlled goal generation.** *Let  $S$  be a narrowing strategy,  $S(\langle g, id \rangle) = \{\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle g_k, \sigma_k \rangle\}$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $X_i = var(dom(\sigma_i)\sigma_i)$  such that  $(var(g) \cup dom(\sigma_i)) \cap X_i = \emptyset$*

$$\frac{\{g\}}{\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup EQ(\sigma_1)), \dots, \exists X_k(g_k \cup EQ(\sigma_k))\}}.$$

*Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent and  $S$  is narrowing complete.*

**Forward  $S$ -controlled goal generation.** *Let  $S$  be a narrowing strategy,  $S(\langle g, id \rangle) = \{\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle g_k, \sigma_k \rangle\}$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $X_i = var(dom(\sigma_i)\sigma_i)$  such that  $(var(g) \cup dom(\sigma_i)) \cap X_i = \emptyset$*

$$\frac{\{g\}}{\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup EQ(\sigma_1)), \dots, \exists X_k(g_k \cup EQ(\sigma_k))\}}.$$

**$S$ -controlled goal refutation.** Suppose that for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $\langle h, \sigma \rangle \in S^n(\{\langle g, id \rangle\})$ ,  $h \neq \emptyset$

$$\frac{\{g\}}{\{\text{FALSE}\}}$$

**THEOREM 8.8.** ( $S$ -CONTROLLED RULES ARE SOUND) Let a goal set  $hs$  be obtained from a goal set  $gs$  by a single  $S$ -controlled rule step such that the respective assumptions of Definition 8.7 hold true. If a backward rule is applied, then  $gs \Leftarrow h \in ITh(SP)$  for all  $h \in hs$ . If a forward rule is applied, then  $hs \Leftarrow g \in ITh(SP)$  for all  $g \in gs$ .

**PROOF.** In the case of backward goal generation we have to show that for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , the clause  $g \Leftarrow g_i \cup EQ(\sigma_i)$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since  $S$  is a narrowing strategy,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle$ . By Lemma 8.3,  $g\sigma_i \vdash_{SP} g_i$ . Let  $\tau \in GSub$  such that  $SP \vdash_{cut} g_i\tau \cup EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$ . Hence  $g\sigma_i \vdash_{SP} g_i$  implies  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma_i\tau$  and thus  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\tau$  because  $SP \vdash_{cut} EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$ .

The correctness of forward goal generation follows directly from Lemma 8.6. For (backward as well as forward) goal refutation we have to show that  $\text{FALSE} \Leftarrow g$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $\langle h, \sigma \rangle \in S^n(\{\langle g, id \rangle\})$ ,  $h \neq \emptyset$ , Lemma 8.5(2) implies that  $g$  is not  $SP$ -solvable. Hence  $\text{FALSE} \Leftarrow g \in ITh(SP)$ .  $\square$

## 9. Redex Selection

Which narrowing strategies are ground complete (cf. Definition 8.4)? General conditions for ensuring this property are given in Padawitz (1987), Echahed (1988), Padawitz (1988), Padawitz (1991a) and Echahed (1992). In particular, Padawitz (1987) introduced the criterion of *uniformity*, which roughly says that, given a goal  $g$  and a normal form substitution  $\sigma$ , the selected *redex* of  $g\sigma$  agrees with the  $\sigma$ -instance of the selected redex of  $g$ .

**DEFINITION 9.1.** Given a term or equation  $t$  and a goal  $g$  with a unique occurrence of the variable  $z^\dagger$ , the expression  $g \bullet t$  is called a **term position** of the goal  $g[t/z]$ . If  $t \in X$ , then  $g \bullet t$  is a **variable position** of  $g$ . For substitutions  $\sigma$ ,  $(g \bullet t)\sigma =_{def} g\sigma_{X \setminus \{z\}} \bullet t\sigma$ .

Let  $SP = (SIG, AX)$  be a constructor-based specification,  $g \bullet t$  be a non-variable term position and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$ .

- If there are  $u \equiv v \Leftarrow h \in AX$  and  $u' \leq u$  such that  $t\sigma = u'\sigma$ ,  $h\sigma$  is  $SP$ -narrowable and  $\text{var}(g(v)\sigma \cup h\sigma) \cap \text{dom}(\sigma_{\text{var}(g[t/z])}) = \emptyset$ , then  $g \bullet t$  is a **partial redex** of  $g$  with **unifier**  $\sigma$  and  **$\sigma$ -reduct**  $g(v)\sigma \cup h\sigma$ . If  $u' = u$ , then  $g \bullet t$  is called a **total redex**.
- If  $t = (u \equiv u')$  such that  $u\sigma = u'\sigma$  and  $\text{var}(g\sigma) \cap \text{dom}(\sigma) = \emptyset$ , then  $g \bullet t$  is a **total redex** of  $g$  with **unifier**  $\sigma$  and  **$\sigma$ -reduct**  $g\sigma$ .

**DEFINITION 9.2.** A **redex selector**  $R$  is a function from goals to sets of term positions such that for all  $SP$ -narrowable non-empty goals  $g$ ,  $R(g)$  is a non-empty set of total redices.  $R$  is **uniform** if for all  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$ ,  $g\sigma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $R(g\sigma) \subseteq R(g)\sigma$ .

$\dagger$   $z$  stands for a term or an atom.



We investigate three redex selectors. Let  $g$  be a narrowable goal.  $IN(g)$  is the leftmost–innermost<sup>‡</sup> total redex of  $g$ ,  $OUT(g)$  is the leftmost–outermost total redex of  $g$ , and

$$NEED(g) =_{def} \{h \bullet t \mid (h \bullet t)\sigma = OUT(g\sigma) \text{ for some ground unifier } \sigma \text{ of } POUT(g)\}$$

where  $POUT(g)$  is the leftmost–outermost partial redex of  $g$ <sup>§</sup>.

$IN$  is not always uniform. For instance, let  $SP$  be a specification of natural numbers with constructors  $0$  and  $succ$ , a unary operation  $f$  and axioms  $x * 0 \equiv 0$  and  $f(succ(x)) \equiv f(x)$ . Let  $e = (f(x) * y \equiv 0)$ . Then

$$IN(e) = (z * y \equiv 0) \bullet f(x),$$

but

$$IN(e[0/x]) = IN(f(0) * y \equiv 0) = (z \equiv 0) \bullet (f(0) * y).$$

The reason for non-uniformity is the fact that  $f(0)$  is not reducible and thus  $SP$  is not normal form complete.

LEMMA 9.3. *If  $SP$  is free-constructor-based and normal form complete, then  $IN$  is a uniform redex selector.*

PROOF. Let  $g$  be an  $SP$ -narrowable goal and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $g\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Let  $h \bullet t = IN(g\sigma)$ , i.e.  $h \bullet t$  is the leftmost–innermost total redex of  $g\sigma$ . Since  $SP$  is free-constructor-based,  $\sigma$  assigns only  $SP$ -reduced terms to the variables of  $g$ . Hence  $h[t/z] = g\sigma$  implies  $h \bullet t = (h' \bullet t')\sigma$  for some term position  $h' \bullet t'$  of  $g$ , and  $h' \bullet t'$  is a total redex of  $g$ . But is it a *leftmost–innermost* one? Let  $h'' \bullet t''$  be the leftmost–innermost total redex of  $g$ , i.e.  $IN(g) = h'' \bullet t''$ . Then there are  $u \equiv v \Leftarrow h \in AX$  and  $\tau \in Sub$  such that  $u\tau = t''\tau$ . Since  $SP$  is constructor-based,  $u$  contains a defined function  $F$ . Since  $SP$  is normal form complete and  $h'' \bullet t''$  is a leftmost–innermost redex,  $F$  is the root of  $u$  and thus of  $t''$  because  $t'' \notin X$ . Hence  $t''\sigma \rightarrow_{SP} u'$  for some  $u'$  because  $SP$  is normal form complete. Hence  $(h'' \bullet t'')\sigma$  is a total redex of  $g\sigma$ , which must agree with  $h \bullet t$  because  $h \bullet t$  is the leftmost–innermost total redex of  $g\sigma$ . This implies uniformity:  $IN(g\sigma) = h \bullet t = (h'' \bullet t'')\sigma = IN(g)\sigma$ .  $\square$

$OUT$  is not always uniform either, even if—in contrast to the previous example— $SP$  is normal form complete. For instance, let  $SP$  be a specification of natural numbers with constructors  $0$  and  $succ$ , a binary operation  $g$  and axioms  $g(0, 0) \equiv 0$ ,  $g(succ(x), 0) \equiv 1$  and  $g(x, succ(y)) \equiv 2$ <sup>¶</sup>. Let  $e = (g(g(x, x'), y) \equiv 0)$ . Then

$$OUT(e) = (z \equiv 0) \bullet g(g(x, x'), y),$$

but

$$OUT(e[0/y]) = OUT(g(g(x, x'), 0) \equiv 0) = (g(z, 0) \equiv 0) \bullet f(x, x').$$

In fact, the solution  $[0/x, 0/x', 0/y]$  of the equation  $e$  cannot be achieved by  $OUT$  because  $y\sigma \neq 0$  for all unifiers  $\sigma$  of  $OUT(e)$ . However,  $OUT(e)$  agrees with  $POUT(e)$  and thus

$$NEED(g) = \{(z \equiv 0) \bullet g(g(x, x'), y), (g(z, y) \equiv 0) \bullet g(x, x')\}.$$

<sup>‡</sup> With respect to the root position of  $t$  within  $g$  (cf. Definition 9.1)

<sup>§</sup>  $NEED$  generalizes the redex selector that underlies the *needed narrowing strategy* of Echahed (1988) and Padawitz (1994).

<sup>¶</sup> Echahed (1988), Example 1.

LEMMA 9.4. *If  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, then  $NEED$  is a uniform redex selector.*

PROOF. Let  $g$  be an  $SP$ -narrowable goal and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $g\sigma$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Let  $h \bullet t \in NEED(g\sigma)$ . Since  $\sigma$  is ground,  $h \bullet t = OUT(g\sigma)$ . Since  $SP$  is free-constructor-based,  $\sigma$  assigns only  $SP$ -reduced terms to the variables of  $g$ . Hence  $h[t/z] = g\sigma$  implies  $h \bullet t = (h' \bullet t')\sigma$  for some term position  $h' \bullet t'$  of  $g$ , and  $h' \bullet t'$  is a total redex of  $g$ . Since  $SP$  is constructor-based,  $\sigma$  is a unifier of  $POUT(g)$ . Hence  $h' \bullet t' \in NEED(g)$  and thus  $h \bullet t = (h' \bullet t')\sigma \in NEED(g)\sigma$ .  $\square$

For implementing  $NEED(g)$  one may replace the set  $Uni(g)$  of all ground unifiers of  $POUT(g)$  by a finite set  $\Phi$  of unifiers of  $POUT(g)$  such that each  $\sigma \in Uni(g)$  is subsumed by some  $\tau \in \Phi$ , say  $\tau\rho = \sigma$ , and  $OUT(g\tau)\rho = OUT(g\sigma)$ . Then

$$NEED(g) = \{h \bullet t \mid (h \bullet t)\tau = OUT(g\tau) \text{ for some } \tau \in \Phi\}.$$

Expander (cf. Section 1.1) constructs the reducts of  $NEED(g)$  in several steps. In general,  $\Phi$  includes unifiers of total as well as only partial redices of  $g$ . For the first ones reducts according to Definition 9.1 can be derived directly. For a unifier  $\tau$  of a properly partial redex  $h \bullet t$ , however, only the instance  $g\tau$  is returned at first, while the reduct of  $OUT(g\tau)$  will be obtained automatically by a subsequent outermost narrowing step. In effect, properly partial redices induce applications of the instantiation rule (cf. Section 4), total redices induce applications of the narrowing rule, and in both cases the leftmost–outermost redex is selected

In general, the narrowing strategy (cf. Section 8) induced by a redex selector is defined as follows.

DEFINITION 9.5. *Let  $R$  be a redex selector. Then the **narrowing strategy**  $S_R$  induced by  $R$  is defined as follows. Let  $\langle g, \tau \rangle$  be an  $SP$ -narrowing pair such that  $g$  is  $SP$ -narrowable.*

$$S_R(\langle g, \tau \rangle) =_{def} \{ \langle h, \tau\sigma_{var(g)} \rangle \mid \sigma \text{ is a minimal unifier of a total redex in } R(g) \\ \text{with } \sigma\text{-reduct } h \}.$$

Of course,  $S_R$  is a narrowing strategy. Hence for all ground goals  $g$ ,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash_R^S \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$  and thus by Lemma 8.3,  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ . Conversely, we have:

LEMMA 9.6. (COMPLETENESS OF  $S_R$ -EXPANSIONS W.R.T. GOAL REDUCTIONS) *Suppose that  $SP$  is ground confluent and strongly terminating and  $R$  is a redex selector. Then for all ground goals  $g$ ,*

$$g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset \text{ implies } \langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{S_R} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle.$$

PROOF. Let  $g$  be  $SP$ -convergent. We show  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{S_R} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$  by Noetherian induction on  $g$  along the reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$ , which exists by assumption. If  $g$  is  $SP$ -reduced, then  $g = \emptyset$  because  $g \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ . So let  $g$  be non-empty. Since  $g$  is  $SP$ -convergent,  $g$  is  $SP$ -narrowable. Hence  $R(g)$  is defined, i.e. there is a total redex  $h \bullet t \in R(g)$ . Since  $g$  is ground,  $t$  is ground and thus there are  $(u \equiv v \Leftarrow d) \in AX$  and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $t = u\sigma$ ,  $d\sigma$  is  $SP$ -narrowable and  $\langle h[v\sigma/z] \cup d\sigma, id \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$ . Hence  $d\sigma$  is ground and thus  $SP$ -convergent so that  $g \rightarrow_{SP} h[v\sigma/x]$ . Since  $SP$  is ground confluent and  $g$  is  $SP$ -convergent,  $h[v\sigma/x]$  is also  $SP$ -convergent. Since  $>_{SP}$  is a reduction ordering for

$SP$ , we have  $g >_{SP} h[v\sigma/x]$  and  $g \geq_{SP} t = u\sigma >_{SP} d\sigma$ .  $g' =_{def} h[v\sigma/z] \cup d\sigma$  is an  $SP$ -convergent ground goal with  $g >_{SP} g'$ . Hence by induction hypothesis,  $\langle g', id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$ . Since  $\langle g', id \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$  implies  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle g', id \rangle$ , we conclude  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$ .  $\square$

LEMMA 9.7. (LIFTING  $S_R$ -EXPANSIONS) *Let  $R$  be a uniform redex selector. Then for all goals  $g$  and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NFSIG$ ,*

$$\langle g\tau, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle \quad \text{implies} \quad \langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$$

for some  $\rho \leq \tau$ .

PROOF. By induction on the length  $n$  of a shortest  $S_R$ -expansion of  $\langle g\tau, id \rangle$  into  $\langle \emptyset, id \rangle$ . If  $n = 1$ , then  $g\tau$  and thus  $g$  are empty. Hence we obtain the result for  $\rho = id$ . So let  $g$  be non-empty.  $\langle g\tau, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, id \rangle$  implies  $g\tau \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ . Hence  $g\tau$  is  $SP$ -narrowable and thus  $R(g\tau)$  is non-empty. Let  $h' \bullet t' \in R(g\tau)$ . Since  $R$  is uniform,  $h' \bullet t' = (h \bullet t)\tau$  for some  $h \bullet t \in R(g)$ . Hence there are  $(u \equiv v \Leftarrow d) \in AX$  and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NFSIG$  such that  $t\tau = u\sigma$ ,  $d\sigma$  is  $SP$ -narrowable,  $\langle h[v\sigma/z] \cup d\sigma, \sigma_{var(g)} \rangle \in S_R(g)$  and there is a shorter  $S_R$ -expansion from  $\langle h[v\sigma/z] \cup d\sigma, id \rangle$  into  $\langle \emptyset, id \rangle$  than from  $\langle g\tau, id \rangle$  into  $\langle \emptyset, id \rangle$ .

W.l.o.g.  $var(c) \cap var(g) = \emptyset$  and  $var(g) = dom(\tau)$ . Hence  $t$  and  $u$  have a most general unifier  $\rho \leq \sigma + \tau$  such that  $\rho$  is a minimal unifier of  $h \bullet t$  and  $\langle h[v\rho/z] \cup d\rho, \rho_{var(g)} \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$ . Let  $\xi$  be the ground substitution with  $\rho_{dom(\tau)}\xi = \tau$ . Let  $g' = h[v\rho/z] \cup d\rho$ . Since  $g'\xi = h[v\sigma/z] \cup d\sigma$ , the induction hypothesis implies  $\langle g', id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, \phi \rangle$  for some  $\emptyset \leq \xi$ .  $\langle g', \rho_{var(g)} \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$  implies  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle g', \rho_{var(g)} \rangle$ , and we conclude  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash^{SR} \langle \emptyset, \rho_{var(g)}\phi \rangle$ . The proof is complete because  $\rho_{var(g)}\phi \leq \rho_{var(g)}\xi = \rho_{dom(\tau)}\xi = \tau$ .  $\square$

## 10. Simplification

The narrowing strategy induced by a redex selector combines redex selection with most general unification. Yet each expansion step is a single application of a rule of the narrowing calculus. Narrowing expansions can be “sped up” significantly if each reduct is simplified by equivalence transformations before it is subjected to further narrowing steps.

DEFINITION 10.1. *An  $SP$ -compatible simplifier  $\Sigma$  is a function on goals such that for each goal  $g$ ,  $g \Leftrightarrow \Sigma(g)$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem<sup>†</sup>.  $\Sigma$  is extended to goal sets  $gs$  as follows*

$$\Sigma(gs) =_{def} \{\Sigma(g) \mid g \in gs\}.$$

$SP$ -compatible simplifiers often occur implicitly as refinements of the narrowing rule, such as *reduced* or *normalizing* and *optimized narrowing* (cf. Padawitz 1988, Sections 8.7–8.10; Hanus 1994, Sections 2.2 and 2.3). Normalizing narrowing combines the narrowing rule with a particular simplifier that assigns to each goal  $g$  a reduced reduct of  $g$ . Optimized narrowing simplifies equations by applying particular lemmas, which hold true whenever  $SP$  is canonical and free-constructor-based (cf. Definition 5.2). Further rule-based simplifications are given by theory resolution (cf. Stickel 1985), rewriting modulo equational theories (cf. Jouannaud and Kirchner 1986) and rewriting modulo algebras

<sup>†</sup> This includes the case that  $g$  is not  $SP$ -solvable (cf. Definition 4.1) and  $\Sigma(g) = \text{FALSE}$ .

(cf. Avenhaus and Becker 1992). In contrast to these approaches we distinguish between the rule of  $\Sigma$ -**simplification** (cf. Section 4) and more “sensitive” inferences such as induction steps, which produce descent conditions (cf. Section 3), or  $S$ -controlled goal generation, which produces a case analysis (cf. Section 8).  $\Sigma$ -simplification is an equivalence transformation and can thus be used in a forward as well as in a backward proof, while inductive rules and  $S$ -controlled goal generation only establish an implication, *either* from the antecedent to the succedent *or* from the succedent to the antecedent of the rule. Hence they can only be used either in a forward proof or in a backward proof (cf. Section 3).

$\Sigma$ -**simplification**. Let  $\Sigma$  be an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier

$$\frac{gs}{\Sigma(gs)}.$$

Goal refutations (cf. Section 4 and 8.7) are equivalence transformations and thus good candidates for a simplifier. But simplifications are supposed to be performed automatically on all goals of a proof. Hence goal refutation should be made into a simplification step only if certain unsolvability *criteria* hold true, which can be checked fast. For instance, checking the applicability condition of  $S$ -controlled goal refutation (cf. Definition 8.7) involves the detection of circular  $S$ -expansions, which is a rather time-consuming procedure. However, confined to the test of  $S(\{\langle g, id \rangle\})$  for emptiness, which obviously *implies* the applicability condition of  $S$ -controlled goal refutation, this rule does not slow down, but speed up expansions if it becomes part of  $\Sigma$ .

This instance of  $S$ -controlled goal refutation reduces solvability to narrowability. Remember that its soundness depends on properties of  $SP$  among which free-constructor-basedness is the most restrictive one (cf. Definition 8.7). If  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, then all normal forms are  $SP$ -reduced, and this condition is essential for lifting goal reductions to narrowing expansions (cf. Lemma 8.2). It is also crucial for the soundness of the following two equivalence rules, which provide almost indispensable simplifications:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{constructor decomposition} & \frac{\{\{F(t_1, \dots, t_k) \equiv F(u_1, \dots, u_k)\} \cup g\}}{\{\{t_1 \equiv u_1, \dots, t_k \equiv u_k\} \cup g\}} \quad \text{if } F \text{ is a constructor} \\ \text{constructor clash} & \frac{\{\{F(t) \equiv G(u)\} \cup g\}}{\{\text{FALSE}\}} \quad \text{if } F \text{ and } G \text{ are two different constructors.} \end{array}$$

The *rewriting modulo* approach (cf. Section 1.5) was introduced for dealing with specifications that are not free-constructor-based, such as sets, bags and maps. *Constructor axioms* define the equality predicate for all sorts  $s$  with non-free constructors. One may avoid constructor axioms by including an interpreter for  $s$ -equations into the simplifier. This is the way Expander (cf. Section 1.1) handles  $s$ -equations. A more general approach to get rid of constructor axioms is to present sets, bags, maps, etc. as *action types* with *terminal semantics* and transform these into their *Horn clause completions*, which are free-constructor-based (cf. Padawitz 1995).

Let us now combine simplification with narrowing.

**DEFINITION 10.2.** *Given an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier  $\Sigma$ , a sequence  $np_1, \dots, np_n$  of  $SP$ -narrowing pairs is called a  $\Sigma$ -**narrowing expansion of  $np_1$  into  $np_n$  upon  $SP$**  if for all  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $np_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $np_i$  by a single narrowing, unification or  $\Sigma$ -simplification step (cf. Definition 8.1). The corresponding inference relation is denoted by  $\vdash \sqrt{SP, \Sigma}$ .*

DEFINITION 10.3. Let  $\Sigma$  be an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier and  $S$  be a narrowing strategy (cf. Definition 8.4). Then for all narrowing pairs  $np$ ,

$$S^\Sigma(np) =_{def} \{\langle \Sigma(g), \tau \rangle \mid \langle g, \tau \rangle \in S(np)\}.$$

$S^\Sigma$  is called the  $\Sigma$ -narrowing strategy associated with  $S$ .

The question arises whether Lemma 8.6 remains valid for  $S^\Sigma$  instead of  $S$ . Let us inspect the proof of that lemma. The crucial step is where Lemma 8.3 is applied in order to conclude  $g_i\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  for  $\xi$  with  $\sigma_i\xi = \tau$  from  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP}\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ , which will now read as  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \sqrt{SP, \Sigma}\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ . In fact, Lemma 8.3 does not hold for  $\Sigma$ -narrowing expansions, at least not in its full generality. However, we use it in the proof of the following lemma, which justifies the step from  $\langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP, \Sigma}\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$  to  $g_i\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  under additional assumptions.

LEMMA 10.4. Suppose that  $SP$  is normal form complete and ground confluent and  $\Sigma$  is an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier. Let  $\langle g, \sigma \rangle$  be a narrowing pair and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}(X)$ . Then

$$\langle g, \sigma \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP, \Sigma}\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle \quad \text{implies} \quad g\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset \quad \text{for } \xi \text{ with } \sigma\xi = \tau.$$

PROOF. By induction on the length of a shortest  $\Sigma$ -narrowing expansion  $E$  of  $\langle g, \sigma \rangle$  into  $\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ . If  $E$  does not include simplification steps, then the result follows directly from Lemma 8.3. Otherwise  $E$  can be split into a narrowing expansion  $E_1$  of  $\langle g, \sigma \rangle$  into a narrowing pair  $np_1 =_{def} \langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle$ , a simplification step  $E_2$  from  $np_1$  to  $np_2 = \langle \Sigma(g_1), \sigma_1 \rangle$  and a  $\Sigma$ -narrowing expansion  $E_3$  of  $np_2$  into  $\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ .

Hence  $\langle g, \sigma \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP}np_1$  and  $np_2 \vdash \sqrt{SP, \Sigma}\langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $\Sigma(g_1)\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  for  $\xi$  with  $\sigma_1\xi = \tau$ . Since  $\Sigma$  is  $SP$ -compatible,  $g_1 \Leftarrow \Sigma(g_1)$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since  $SP$  is normal form complete and ground confluent, Theorem 5.13 implies that  $g_1 \Leftarrow \Sigma(g_1)$  is reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ . Hence  $\Sigma(g_1)\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $g_1\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ . By Lemma 8.3,  $\langle g, \sigma \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP}np_1$  implies  $g\phi \vdash_{SP} g_1$  for  $\phi$  with  $\sigma\phi = \sigma_1$ . Since  $\xi$  replaces all variables by normal forms,  $g\phi \vdash_{SP} g_1$  implies  $g\phi\xi \vdash_{SP} g_1\xi$  and thus  $g\phi\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  because  $g_1\xi$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Moreover,  $\sigma\phi\xi = \sigma_1\xi = \tau$ .  $\square$

Lemma 10.4 leads to the  $\Sigma$ -narrowing version of Lemma 8.6:

LEMMA 10.5. ( $\Sigma$ -NARROWING GENERATES CASE ANALYSES) Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent,  $\Sigma$  is an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier and  $S$  is a narrowing strategy such that  $S^\Sigma$  is narrowing complete. Let  $g$  be a goal,  $S^\Sigma(\langle g, id \rangle) = \{\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle g_k, \sigma_k \rangle\}$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $X_i =_{def} \text{var}(\text{dom}(\sigma_i)\sigma_i)$  such that  $(\text{var}(g) \cup \text{dom}(\sigma_i)) \cap X_i = \emptyset$ . Then

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup EQ(\sigma_1)), \dots, \exists X_k(g_k \cup EQ(\sigma_k))\} \Leftrightarrow g$$

is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem.

PROOF. The same as the proof of Lemma 8.6, except that  $S$  is replaced by  $S^\Sigma$  and thus we apply Lemma 10.4 instead of Lemma 8.3.  $\square$

Theorem 8.8 must be adapted to  $\Sigma$ -narrowing strategies:

**THEOREM 10.6.** ( $S^\Sigma$ -CONTROLLED RULES ARE SOUND) *Let a goal set  $hs$  be obtained from a goal set  $gs$  by a single  $S^\Sigma$ -controlled rule step such that the respective assumptions of Definition 8.7 hold true. If a backward rule is applied, then  $gs \Leftarrow h \in ITh(SP)$  for all  $h \in hs$ . If a forward rule is applied, then  $hs \Leftarrow g \in ITh(SP)$  for all  $g \in gs$ .*

**PROOF.** In the case of backward goal generation we have to show that for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , the clause  $g \Leftarrow g_i \cup EQ(\sigma_i)$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since  $S$  is a narrowing strategy,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP, \Sigma} \langle g_i, \sigma_i \rangle$ . By Lemma 10.4,  $g\sigma_i \vdash_{SP} g_i$ . Let  $\tau \in GSub$  such that  $SP \vdash_{cut} g_i\tau \cup EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$ . Hence  $g\sigma_i \vdash_{SP} g_i$  implies  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\sigma_i\tau$  and thus  $SP \vdash_{cut} g\tau$  because  $SP \vdash_{cut} EQ(\sigma_i)\tau$ .

The correctness of forward goal generation follows directly from Lemma 10.5. For (backward as well as forward) goal refutation we have to show that  $FALSE \Leftarrow g$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $\langle h, \sigma \rangle \in (S^\Sigma)^n(\langle g, id \rangle)$ ,  $h \neq \emptyset$ , Lemma 8.5(2) implies that  $g$  is not  $SP$ -solvable. Hence  $FALSE \Leftarrow g \in ITh(SP)$ .  $\square$

Consequently, we reformulate Theorem 4.2:

**THEOREM 10.7.** (INDUCTIVE EXPANSIONS WITH  $S^\Sigma$ -CONTROLLED GOAL GENERATION AND REFUTATION ARE SOUND) *Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent,  $\Sigma$  is an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier and  $S$  is a narrowing strategy such that  $S^\Sigma$  is narrowing complete.*

*Extend the inference relation  $\vdash_{SP, CS}$  (cf. Definition 4.1) by  $S^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation and refutation.*

- (1) *Let  $c = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \Leftarrow h$  be a Gentzen clause and  $CS = \{gs_1 \Leftarrow h_1, \dots, gs_n \Leftarrow h_n\}$  be a set of Gentzen clauses such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $h \Leftarrow h_j, gs_j \Leftarrow g_i \in ITh(SP)$ . Then  $\{g_1, \dots, g_m\} \vdash_{SP, CS} \{h\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup CS \subseteq ITh(SP)$ .*
- (2) *Let  $HS = \{g_1 \Leftarrow g : h_1, \dots, g_n \Leftarrow g : h_n\}$  be a set of guarded clauses such that  $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$  is  $g$ -minimal w.r.t.  $(TH(Ax), GSub)$  and for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ,  $X_i =_{def}$  fresh( $g_i \Leftarrow g \cup h_i$ ) and  $h_i = h_j$  implies  $g_i = g_j$ . Let*

$$c = \{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \Leftarrow g.$$

*Then  $\{\exists X_1(g_1 \cup h_1), \dots, \exists X_n(g_n \cup h_n)\} \vdash_{SP, HS} \{g\}$  implies  $\{c\} \cup HS \subseteq ITh(SP)$ .*

**PROOF.** Follows directly from Theorem 3.6(1) and Corollary 3.9 if, at the place where the proof of Theorem 3.6(1) refers to Theorem 3.4 (deductive resolution and paramodulation are sound), we also use Theorem 10.6, which implies that the additional rules are sound as well.  $\square$

**DEFINITION 10.8.** *Let  $>$  be a reduction ordering for  $SP$  (cf. Definition 5.10) and  $\Sigma$  be an  $SP$ -compatible simplifier. If for all goals  $g$  and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}, g\sigma \geq_{SP} \Sigma(g)\sigma$ , then  $\Sigma$  is  **$>$ -reductive** and the pair  $(SP, \Sigma)$  is **strongly terminating**.*

If  $(SP, \Sigma)$  is strongly terminating, the combination of Lemmata 9.6 and 9.7 can be generalized from  $S_R$ - to  $S_R^\Sigma$ -expansions (cf. Definitions 9.2 and 10.3):

**LEMMA 10.9.** (COMPLETENESS OF  $S_R^\Sigma$ -EXPANSIONS W.R.T. GOAL REDUCTIONS) *Suppose that  $SP$  is normal form complete and ground confluent,  $(SP, \Sigma)$  is strongly terminating*

and  $R$  is a uniform redex selector (cf. Definition 9.2). Then for all goals  $g$  and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$ ,

$$g\tau \vdash_{SP} \emptyset \quad \text{implies} \quad \langle g, id \rangle \vdash_{S_R^\Sigma} \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$$

for some  $\rho \leq \tau$  (cf. Definitions 9.5 and 10.3).

PROOF. By Noetherian induction on  $g\tau$  along the reduction ordering  $>_{SP}$ , which exists by assumption. By Lemmata 9.6 and 9.7, there is an  $S_R$ -expansion  $E$  of  $\langle g, id \rangle$  into a narrowing pair  $\langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$  such that  $\sigma \leq \tau$ . If  $g = \emptyset$ , then the proof is complete with  $\rho =_{def} id$ . Otherwise  $E$  can be split into a one-step expansion of  $\langle g, id \rangle$  into some  $\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$  and an expansion of  $\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle$  into  $\langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle$ . By Lemma 8.3,  $g\sigma_1 \vdash_{SP} g_1$  and  $g_1\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  for  $\xi$  with  $\sigma_1\xi = \sigma$ . Since  $\sigma \leq \tau$ , there is  $\gamma \in GSub$  with  $\sigma\gamma = \tau$ . Hence  $\gamma$  replaces all variables by normal forms and thus  $g_1\xi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $g_1\xi\gamma \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ . Let  $\phi = \xi\gamma$ . Then  $\phi \in GSub$  and  $\sigma_1\phi = \sigma_1\xi\gamma = \sigma\gamma = \tau$ .

Since  $\Sigma$  is  $SP$ -compatible,  $\Sigma(g_1) \Leftarrow g_1$  is an inductive  $SP$ -theorem. Since  $SP$  is normal form complete and ground confluent, Theorem 5.13 implies that  $\Sigma(g_1) \Leftarrow g_1$  is reductively valid w.r.t.  $SP$ . Hence  $g_1\phi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $\Sigma(g_1)\phi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$ .

Since  $\phi$  replaces all variables by normal forms,  $g\sigma_1 \vdash_{SP} g_1$  implies  $g\sigma_1\phi \vdash_{SP} g_1\phi$ . Since  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle$ ,  $g\sigma_1\phi \neq g_1\phi$ . Hence  $g\sigma_1\phi \vdash_{SP} g_1\phi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies  $g\sigma_1\phi >_{SP} g_1\phi$  and thus  $g\tau = g\sigma_1\phi >_{SP} g_1\phi \geq_{SP} \Sigma(g_1)\phi$  because  $\Sigma$  is  $>_{SP}$ -reductive. Since  $\phi$  is ground and replaces all variables by normal forms,  $\Sigma(g_1)\phi \vdash_{SP} \emptyset$  implies

$$\langle \Sigma(g_1), id \rangle \vdash_{S_R^\Sigma} \langle \emptyset, \psi \rangle$$

for some  $\psi \leq \phi$  by induction hypothesis. Hence by the definition of  $S_R$  (cf. 9.5),

$$\langle \Sigma(g_1), \sigma_1 \rangle \vdash_{S_R^\Sigma} \langle \emptyset, \sigma_1\psi \rangle$$

and thus  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash_{S_R^\Sigma} \langle \emptyset, \sigma_1\psi \rangle$  because  $\langle g_1, \sigma_1 \rangle \in S_R(\langle g, id \rangle)$ . Moreover,  $\sigma_1\psi \leq \sigma_1\phi = \tau$ . Hence the proof is complete with  $\rho =_{def} \sigma_1\psi$ .  $\square$

Given a uniform redex selector  $R$ , the following lemma extends our previous completeness result for  $S_R$ -expansions (Padawitz 1988, Theorem 8.4.9) to  $S_R^\Sigma$ -expansions. Since the only assumptions on  $\Sigma$  are  $SP$ -compatibility and  $>_{SP}$ -reductiveness, Lemma 10.10 also generalizes our completeness result for optimized narrowing (Padawitz 1988, Theorem 8.9.3) and those for normalizing narrowing (see above), even with “inductive consequences” (cf. Hanus 1994, Sections 2.2 and 2.3).

LEMMA 10.10. (UNIFORM REDEX SELECTORS INDUCE NARROWING COMPLETE  $\Sigma$ -NARROWING STRATEGIES) *Suppose that  $SP$  is normal form complete and ground confluent,  $(SP, \Sigma)$  is strongly terminating and  $R$  is a uniform redex selector. Then  $S_R^\Sigma$  is narrowing complete (cf. Definition 8.4).*

PROOF. Let  $g$  be a goal and  $\tau : X \rightarrow NF_{SIG}$  such that  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash \sqrt{SP} \langle \emptyset, \tau \rangle$ . By Lemma 8.3,  $g\tau$  is  $SP$ -convergent. Hence by Lemma 10.9,  $\langle g, id \rangle \vdash_{S_R^\Sigma} \langle \emptyset, \rho \rangle$  for some  $\rho \leq \tau$ .  $\square$

Lemma 10.10 immediately implies the following corollary of Theorem 10.7:

**COROLLARY 10.11.** (INDUCTIVE EXPANSIONS WITH  $S_R^\Sigma$ -CONTROLLED GOAL GENERATION AND REFUTATION ARE SOUND) *Suppose that  $SP$  is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent,  $(SP, \Sigma)$  is strongly terminating and  $R$  is a uniform redex selector. If the inference relation  $\vdash_{SP,CS}$  (cf. Theorem 4.2) is extended by  $S_R^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation and refutation, then Theorem 10.7 holds true.*

Expander (cf. Section 1.1) has a built-in reductive simplifier  $\Sigma$ , which partially evaluates equations and inequations and a number of functions and predicates on standard types such as natural numbers, lists, bags, sets and maps (cf. Padawitz 1994, Section 4). Higher-order transformations such as  $\beta$ -reduction of  $\lambda$ -expressions and continuation passing are also performed by  $\Sigma$ . Goals are simplified automatically at the beginning of a proof and after each deduction step<sup>†</sup>. Moreover, Expander provides a `Solve` command that performs a given number of  $S_R^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation steps where  $R$  is either *IN* or *NEED* (cf. Section 9). The combination of strategy-controlled goal generation and automatic simplification minimizes the number and the complexity of generated subgoals. Proving a conjecture  $g \Leftarrow h$  where  $h$  has only finite solutions amounts to applying `Solve` both to  $g$  and  $h$  and checking the solutions for subsumption (cf. Section 1.1). In other words, if induction steps are not needed, the proof goes through almost automatically.

More precisely, `Solve` tries to solve a goal  $g$  by starting out from the narrowing pair  $\langle g, id \rangle$  and performing a sequence of  $S_R^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation steps. `Solve` stops after a given number of steps with a set  $nps$  of narrowing pairs. If  $\langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle \in nps$ , then  $\sigma$  solves  $g$ . Narrowing pairs  $\langle h, \tau \rangle \in nps$  such that  $R(h) = \emptyset$  are unsolvable and are thus deleted, provided that the specification is free-constructor-based, normal form complete and ground confluent (cf. Lemma 8.5(2)). Then `Solve` replaces  $g$  by the goal set

$$gs = \{EQ(\sigma) \mid \langle \emptyset, \sigma \rangle \in nps\} \cup \{h \cup EQ(\sigma) \mid \langle h, \sigma \rangle \in nps, R(h) \neq \emptyset\}.$$

Hence the step from  $g$  to  $gs$  is a sequence of  $S_R^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation and refutation steps with a weakened applicability condition for goal refutation (cf. Definition 8.7). For getting closer to the full applicability condition, `Solve` may be called with an option to detect and eliminate cycles among the  $S_R^\Sigma$ -expansions produced by `Solve`.

**EXAMPLE 10.12.** (GREATER) *If  $\vdash_{SP,CS}$  is extended by  $S_{IN}^\Sigma$ -controlled goal generation, we obtain the following inductive expansion of  $CS = \{\text{Conjecture 1}\}$  upon  $SP = \text{GREATER}$  (cf. Example 4.3).*

```
initial conclusion:
(1) x>z
initial premise:
(1) x>y, Y>z
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER1
atom 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER2
conclusion:
(1) x=s(x1), z=s(y1), x1>y1
(2) x=s(x1), z=0
atom 3 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with conjecture 1
```

<sup>†</sup> Except when a lemma is applied because some lemmas are to establish a specific goal structure—e.g. for achieving an induction hypothesis—which might be changed by the simplifier.



conclusion:  
 (1)  $(x,z) \gg (x1,y1) = \text{true}, x1 > y2, y2 > y1, x = s(x1), z = s(y1)$   
 (2)  $x = s(x1), z = 0$   
 term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER3  
 conclusion:  
 (1)  $x = s(x1), x1 > y2, y2 > y1, z = s(y1)$   
 (2)  $x = s(x1), z = 0$   
 premise:  
 (1)  $x > y, y > z$   
 atom 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER1  
 atom 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER2  
 premise:  
 (1)  $x = s(x1), y = s(y1), x1 > y1, s(y1) > z$   
 (2)  $x = s(x1), y = 0, 0 > z$   
 atom 3 in premise goal 2 replaced with theorem 2  
 premise:  
 (1)  $x = s(x1), y = s(y1), x1 > y1, s(y1) > z$   
 atom 4 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER1  
 atom 4 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom GREATER2  
 premise:  
 (1)  $z = s(y2), y1 > y2, x = s(x1), y = s(y1), x1 > y1$   
 (2)  $z = 0, x = s(x1), y = s(y1), x1 > y1$   
 conjecture 1 has been proved.

In contrast to the proof given in Example 4.3, the above expansion contains only one application of a lemma (Theorem 2 of GREATER).

EXAMPLE 10.13. (DIVISION) *If  $\vdash_{SP,CS}$  is extended by  $S_{IN}^{\Sigma}$ -controlled goal generation, we obtain the following inductive expansion of  $CS = \{\text{Conjecture 1}\}$  upon  $SP = \text{DIVISION}$  (cf. Example 4.4).*

initial conclusion:  
 (1)  $x = (q*y) + r, r < y$   
 initial premise:  
 (1)  $0 < y, x \text{ div } y = (q,r)$   
 term at position 1 2 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION1  
 term at position 1 2 1 in conclusion goal 2 replaced with axiom DIVISION2  
 conclusion:  
 (1)  $q = s(x1), ((x1*y) + y) + r = x, r < y$   
 (2)  $q = 0, r = x, r < y$   
 atom 2 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with theorem 1  
 conclusion:  
 (1)  $(x1*y) + r = x - y, x > y, q = s(x1), r < y$   
 (2)  $q = 0, r = x, r < y$   
 atoms 1 4 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with conjecture 1  
 conclusion:

(1)  $\{(y,x,q,r) \gg (y,x-y,x1,r)=\text{true}, 0 < y, (x-y) \text{div } y=(x1,r), y \leq x, q=s(x1)\}$   
(2)  $q=0, r=x, r < y$   
term at position 1 1 in conclusion goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION6  
conclusion:  
(1)  $y \leq x, 0 < y, (x-y) \text{div } y=(x1,r), q=s(x1)$   
(2)  $q=0, r=x, r < y$   
premise:  
(1)  $0 < y, x \text{ div } y=(q,r)$   
term at position 2 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION3  
term at position 2 1 in premise goal 1 replaced with axiom DIVISION4  
premise:  
(1)  $y \leq x, 0 < y, (x-y) \text{div } y=(q1,r), s(q1)=q$   
(2)  $x < y, 0=q, x=r, 0 < y$   
term at position 1 1 replaced with equation 3 in premise goal 2  
premise:  
(1)  $y \leq x, 0 < y, (x-y) \text{div } y=(q1,r), s(q1)=q$   
(2)  $r < y, 0=q, x=r, 0 < y$   
conjecture 1 has been proved.

In contrast to the proof given in Example 4.4, the above expansion contains only one application of a lemma (Theorem 1 of DIVISION).

Inductive expansions of program correctness conditions, occurring in different application areas can be found in Padawitz (1994), Section 7. Even the simple ones given here reveal the power of simplification and strategy-controlled goal generation. Many lemmas, in particular those derived from only-if-completions (cf. Definition 5.6), are no longer needed. Proofs evolve more automatically. By Theorem 10.7, this effect is guaranteed if the underlying specification is free-constructor-based and canonical. We conclude that the proof-theoretical benefit from canonicity, which is well known in pure equational reasoning, is passed on to the higher level of inductive reasoning with Gentzen clauses.

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