

# Circular Coinduction

## –A Proof Theoretical Foundation–

Grigore Roşu<sup>1</sup>    Dorel Lucanu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA  
grosu@illinois.edu

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Computer Science  
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iaşi, Romania  
dlucanu@info.uaic.ro

08/09/2009, CALCO 2009, Udine



- 1 Introduction
  - CC History
  - Behavioral Equivalence, intuitively
  - Behavioral Specifications, intuitively
  - Circular Coinduction, intuitively
- 2 Circular Coinduction Proof System
  - Formal Framework
  - Coinductive Circularity Principle
  - The Proof System
- 3 Conclusion



# Plan

## 1 Introduction

- CC History
- Behavioral Equivalence, intuitively
- Behavioral Specifications, intuitively
- Circular Coinduction, intuitively

## 2 Circular Coinduction Proof System

- Formal Framework
- Coinductive Circularity Principle
- The Proof System

## 3 Conclusion



# Circular Coinduction: History

- 1998 first implementation of CC in **BOBJ** system [J. Goguen & K. Lin & G. Roşu, ASE 2000]
- 2000 CC formalized as a inference rule enriching **hidden logic** [G. Roşu & J. Goguen, written in 1999]
- 2002 CC described as a more complex algorithm [J. Goguen & K. Lin & G. Roşu, WADT 2002]  
(a first version for special contexts, case analysis)
- 2005 CC implemented in **CoCASL** [D. Hausmann & T. Mossakowski & L. Schröder, FASE 2005]
- 2006 CC implemented in Maude (first version of CIRC) [D. Lucanu & A. Popescu & G. Roşu]
- 2007 first major refactoring of CIRC [CALCO Tools, 2007]  
(Maude meta-language application, regular strategies as proof tactics, simplification rules)
- 2009 CC formalized as a proof system [**CALCO 2009, this paper**]  
– second major refactoring of CIRC [CALCO Tools, 2009]



# Behavioral Equivalence: Intuition 1/2

Behavioral equivalence is the **non-distinguishability** under experiments

Example of **streams**:

- a stream (of bits)  $S$  is an infinite sequence  $b_1 : b_2 : b_3 : \dots$   
 the **head** of  $S$ :  $hd(S) = b_1$   
 the **tail** of  $S$ :  $tl(S) = b_2 : b_3 : \dots$
- **experiments**:  
 $hd(*:Stream), hd(tl(*:Stream)), hd(tl(tl(*:Stream))), \dots$
- the basic elements upon on the experiments are built (here  $hd(*)$  and  $tl(*)$ ) are called **derivatives**
- application of an experiment over a stream:  $C[S] = C[S/*]$
- two streams  $S$  and  $S'$  are **behavioral equivalent** ( $S \equiv S'$ ) iff  $C[S] = C[S']$  for each exp.  $C$
- for this particular case, beh. equiv. is the same with the equality of streams
- showing beh. equiv. is  $\Pi_2^0$ -hard (S. Buss, G. Roşu, 2000, 2006)



# Behavioral Equivalence: Intuition 2/2

(not in this paper)

Example of **infinite binary trees** (over bits):

- a infinite binary tree over  $D$  is a function  $T : \{L, R\}^* \rightarrow D$   
 the **root** of  $T$ :  $T(\varepsilon)$   
 the **left subtree**  $T_\ell$ :  $T_\ell(w) = T(Lw)$  for all  $w$   
 the **right subtree**  $T_r$ :  $T_r(w) = T(Rw)$  for all  $w$
- knowing the root  $d$ ,  $T_\ell$  and  $T_r$ , then  $T$  can be written as  $d/T_\ell, T_r \setminus$ .
- the **derivatives**:  $root(*:Tree)$ ,  $left(*:Tree)$ , and  $right(*:Tree)$
- the experiments:  $root(*:Tree)$ ,  $root(left(*:Tree))$ ,  $root(right(*:Tree))$  and so on
- two trees  $T$  and  $T'$  are **beh. equiv.** ( $T \equiv T'$ ) iff  $C[T] = C[T']$  for each exp.  $C$



# Behavioral Specifications: Intuition 1/2

Streams:

- derivatives:  $hd(* : Stream)$  and  $tl(* : Stream)$
- beh specs are derivative-based specs

STREAM:

Corecursive spec	Behavioral spec
$zeroes = 0 : zeroes$	$hd(zeroes) = 0$ $tl(zeroes) = zeroes$
$ones = 1 : ones$	$hd(ones) = 1$ $tl(ones) = ones$
$blink = 0 : 1 : blink$	$hd(blink) = 0$ $tl(blink) = 1 : blink$
$zip(B : S, S') = B : zip(S', S)$	$hd(zip(S, S')) = hd(S)$ $tl(S, S') = zip(S', S)$

- for streams, this can be done with STR tool (see H. Zantema's tool paper)



# Behavioral Specifications: Intuition 2/2

Infinite binary trees (TREE):

- derivatives:  $root(*:Tree)$ ,  $left(*:Tree)$ , and  $right(*:Tree)$
- beh specs are derivative-based specs

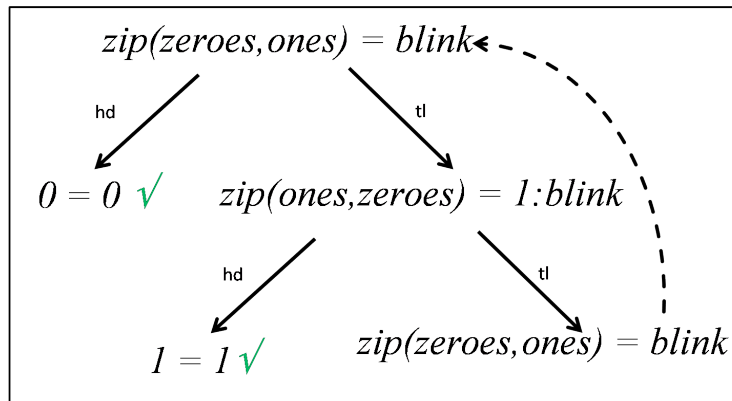
Corecursive spec	Behavioral spec
$ones = 1/ones, ones \setminus$	$root(ones) = 1$ $left(ones) = ones$ $right(ones) = ones$
$b/T_\ell, T_r \setminus + b'/T'_\ell, T'_r \setminus =$ $b \vee b' / T_\ell + T'_\ell, T_r + T'_r \setminus$	$root(T + T') = root(T) \vee root(T')$ $left(T + T') = left(T) + left(T')$ $right(T + T') = right(T) + right(T')$
$thue = 0/thue, thue + one \setminus$	$root(thue) = 0$ $left(thue) = thue$ $right(thue) = thue + one$





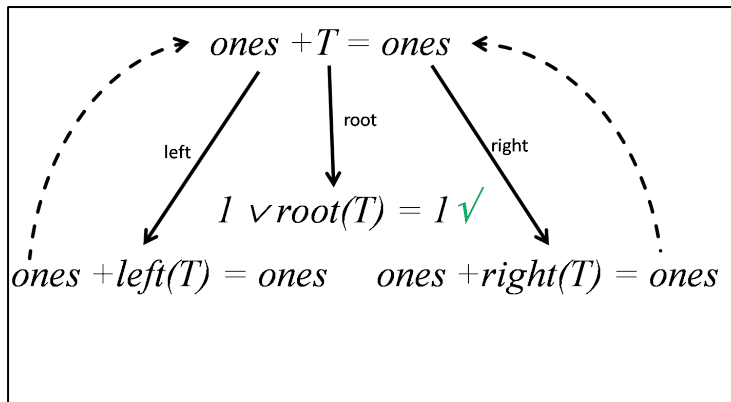
## Circular Coinduction: Intuition 1/2

- the goal is to prove that  $\text{zip}(\text{zeroes}, \text{ones}) \equiv \text{blink}$  holds in STREAM



## Circular Coinduction: Intuition 2/2

- the goal is to prove that  $ones + T \equiv ones$  holds in TREE



- a more challenging property:  $thue + one = not(thue)$



# Plan

- 1 Introduction
  - CC History
  - Behavioral Equivalence, intuitively
  - Behavioral Specifications, intuitively
  - Circular Coinduction, intuitively
- 2 **Circular Coinduction Proof System**
  - Formal Framework
  - Coinductive Circularity Principle
  - The Proof System
- 3 Conclusion



# Formal Framework 1/2

A **behavioral specification** consists of:

- a many-sorted algebraic spec  $\mathcal{B} = (S, \Sigma, E)$   
 ( $S$  = set of sorts,  $\Sigma$  = set of opns,  $E$  = set of eqns)
- a set of **derivatives**  $\Delta = \{\delta[*:h]\}$   
 $\delta[*:h]$  is a context  
 the sort  $h$  of the special variable  $*$  occurring in a derivative  $\delta$  is called **hidden**; the other sorts are called **visible**
- each derivative can be seen as an equation transformer:  
 if  $e$  is  $t = t'$  *if cond*, then  $\delta[e]$  is  $\delta[t] = \delta[t']$  *if cond*  
 $\Delta[e] = \{\delta[e] \mid \delta \in \Delta\}$
- an entailment relation  $\vdash$ , which is reflexive, transitive, monotonic, and  $\Delta$ -congruent ( $E \vdash e$  implies  $E \vdash \Delta[e]$ )



# Formal Framework 2x/2

## Experiment:

each visible  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta$  is an experiment, and  
 if  $C[*:h']$  is an experiment and  $\delta[*:h] \in \Delta$ , then so is  $C[\delta[*:h]]$

**Behavioral satisfaction:**  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash e$  iff:

$\mathcal{B} \vdash e$ , if  $e$  is visible, and  $\mathcal{B} \vdash C[e]$  for each experiment  $C$ , if  $e$  is hidden

**Behavioral equivalence** of  $\mathcal{B}$ :  $\equiv_{\mathcal{B}} \stackrel{def}{=} \{e \mid \mathcal{B} \Vdash e\}$

A set of equations  $\mathcal{G}$  is **behaviorally closed** iff

$\mathcal{B} \vdash \text{visible}(\mathcal{G})$  and  $\Delta(\mathcal{G} - \mathcal{B}^\bullet) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ ,

where  $\mathcal{B}^\bullet = \{e \mid \mathcal{B} \vdash e\}$

## Theorem

**(coinduction)** *The behavioral equivalence  $\equiv$  is the largest behaviorally closed set of equations.*

# The Freezing Operator

- is the most important ingredient of CC
- it inhibits the use of the coinductive hypothesis underneath proper contexts;
- if  $e$  is  $t = t'$  if  $cond$ , then its **frozen form** is  $\boxed{t} = \boxed{t'}$  if  $cond$   
( $\boxed{-} : s \rightarrow Frozen$ )
- $\vdash$  is extended for frozen equations s.t.
  - (A1)  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \boxed{e}$  iff  $E \vdash e$ , for each visible eqn  $e$ ;
  - (A2)  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \mathcal{G}$  implies  $E \cup \delta[\mathcal{F}] \vdash \delta[\mathcal{G}]$  for each  $\delta \in \Delta$ , equivalent to saying that for any  $\Delta$ -context  $C$ ,  $E \cup \mathcal{F} \vdash \mathcal{G}$  implies  $E \cup C[\mathcal{F}] \vdash C[\mathcal{G}]$

## Theorem

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

## Circular Coinduction Proof System

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\cdot}{B \cup F \Vdash^{\circ} \emptyset} \quad \text{[Done]} \\
 \\
 \frac{B \cup F \Vdash^{\circ} G, B \cup F \vdash \boxed{e}}{B \cup F \Vdash^{\circ} G \cup \{\boxed{e}\}} \quad \text{[Reduce]} \\
 \\
 \frac{B \cup F \cup \{\boxed{e}\} \Vdash^{\circ} G \cup \boxed{\Delta[e]}}{B \cup F \Vdash^{\circ} G \cup \{\boxed{e}\}}, \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{[Derive]} \\ \text{if } e \text{ hidden} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$



# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation relation on terms





# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that **there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different** by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation relation on terms



# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained **circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment** applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation relation on terms



# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as **nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas** inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation relation on terms



# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it **“discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data**, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation relation on terms



# Soundness

## Theorem

**(soundness of circular coinduction)** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a behavioral specification and  $G$  is a set of equations such that  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash^{\circ} \boxed{G}$  is derivable using the Circular Coinduction Proof System, then  $\mathcal{B} \Vdash G$ .*

The proof is **monolithic** and, intuitively, the correctness can be explained in different ways:

- (1) since each derived path ends up in a cycle, it means that there is no way to show the two original terms behaviorally different by applications of derivatives;
- (2) the obtained circular graph structure can be used as a backbone to “consume” any possible experiment applied on the two original terms;
- (3) the equalities that appear as nodes in the obtained graph can be regarded as lemmas inferred in order to prove the original task;
- (4) when it stabilizes, it “discovers” a relation which is compatible with the derivatives and is the identity on data, so the stabilized set of equations is included in the behavioral equivalence;
- (5) **it incrementally completes a given equality into a bisimulation** relation on terms



## Example

$$\text{STREAM} \cup \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \Vdash^{\circ} \emptyset \quad \text{[Done]}$$

$$\text{STREAM} \cup \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \vdash \boxed{\text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)))} = \boxed{\text{hd}(S)}$$

$$\text{STREAM} \cup \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \Vdash^{\circ} \left\{ \boxed{\text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)))} = \boxed{\text{hd}(S)} \right\} \quad \text{[Reduce]}$$

$$\text{STREAM} \cup \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \vdash \boxed{\text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)))} = \boxed{\text{tl}(S)}$$

$$\text{STREAM} \cup \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \Vdash^{\circ} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \boxed{\text{hd}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)))} = \boxed{\text{hd}(S)}, \\ \boxed{\text{tl}(\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S)))} = \boxed{\text{tl}(S)} \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{[Reduce]}$$

$$\text{STREAM} \Vdash^{\circ} \left\{ \boxed{\text{zip}(\text{odd}(S), \text{even}(S))} = \boxed{S} \right\} \quad \text{[Derive]}$$



# Plan

- 1 Introduction
  - CC History
  - Behavioral Equivalence, intuitively
  - Behavioral Specifications, intuitively
  - Circular Coinduction, intuitively
- 2 Circular Coinduction Proof System
  - Formal Framework
  - Coinductive Circularity Principle
  - The Proof System
- 3 Conclusion



## Related Approaches

**Context induction** [R. Hennicker, 1990]

- exploits the inductive definition of the experiments [used also here in CCP]
- requires human guidance, generalization of the induction assertions

**Observational Logic** [M. Bidoit, R. Hennicker, and Al. Kurz, 2002]

- model based (organized as an institution)
- there is a strong similarity between our beh equiv  $\equiv$  and their infinitary proof system

**Coalgebra**[e.g., J. Adamek 2005, B. Jacobs and J. Rutten 1997] – used to study the states and their operations and their properties

- final coalgebras use to give (behavioral) semantics for processes
- when coalgebra specs are expressed as beh. specs, CC Proof System builds a bisimulation

**Observational proofs by rewriting** [A. Bouhoula and M. Rusinowitch, 2002]

- based on *critical contexts*, which allow to prove or disprove conjectures

**A coinductive calculus of streams** [Jan Rutten, 2005]

- almost all properties proved with CIRC
- extended to **infinite binary trees** [joint work with Al. Silva]





## Future Work

Theoretical aspects:

- in some cases the freezing operator is too restrictive  $\Rightarrow$  extend the proof system with new capabilities (special contexts, generalizations, simplifications etc)
- productivity of the behavioral specs vs. well-definedness
- (full) behavioral specification of the non-deterministic processes (behavioral TRS?)
- complexity of the related problems

CIRC Tool:

- automated case analysis
- more case studies (e.g., behavioral semantics of the functors)
- the use of CC as a framework (its use in other applications)
- its use in program verification and analysis



Thanks!

