

135 Let x and n be natural variables. Find a specification P such that both the following refinements can be proven:

$$x = x' \times 2^{n'} \Leftarrow n := 0. P$$

$$P \Leftarrow \mathbf{if\ even\ } x \mathbf{\ then\ } x := x/2. \ n := n+1. \ P \mathbf{\ else\ ok\ fi}$$

After trying the question, scroll down to the solution.

§ The main specification $x = x' \times 2^{n'}$ looks a bit funny. Usually we write $x' = \text{something}$. So we can rewrite it as $x' = x/2^{n'}$. This looks reasonable because we see that x is repeatedly divided by 2. But it's still a bit funny because the number of times x is divided by 2 is n' , which is the final value of n . What we want for P is like the main specification, but it's what remains to be done. Variable n is counting how many times x is divided by 2. The remaining computation is to divide x by 2 another $n'-n$ times.

$$P = x' = x/2^{n'-n}$$

Or, to write it like the main specification,

$$P = x = x' \times 2^{n'-n}$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} n:=0. x = x' \times 2^{n'-n} & \qquad \text{Substitution Law} \\ = x = x' \times 2^{n'} \end{aligned}$$

The second one is proven by cases. First,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{even } x \wedge (x := x/2. n := n+1. x = x' \times 2^{n'-n}) & \text{use Substitution Law twice} \\ = & \text{even } x \wedge x/2 = x' \times 2^{n'-(n+1)} & \text{number theory} \\ = & \text{even } x \wedge x = x' \times 2^{n'-n} & \text{specialization} \\ \Rightarrow & P \end{aligned}$$

Now the other case:

$$\begin{aligned} & (x = x' \times 2^{n'-n} \Leftarrow \neg \text{even } x \wedge \text{ok}) & \text{expand } \text{ok} \\ = & (x = x' \times 2^{n'-n} \Leftarrow \neg \text{even } x \wedge x'=x \wedge n'=n) & \text{use antecedent as context in consequent} \\ = & (x = x \times 2^{n'-n} \Leftarrow \neg \text{even } x \wedge x'=x \wedge n'=n) & \text{number theory} \\ = & (\top \Leftarrow \neg \text{even } x \wedge x'=x \wedge n'=n) & \text{base law for } \Leftarrow \\ = & \top \end{aligned}$$