Temporal Logic, μ Kanren, and a Time-Traveling RDF Database

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By adding a temporal primitive to the μ Kanren language and adapting its interleaving search strategy to preserve simultaneity in linear time, we show how a system of temporal relational programming can be implemented. This system is then applied to a practical problem in distributed systems and linked data.

Additional Key Words and Phrases: miniKanren, relational programming, temporal logic, RDF, microservices

1 INTRODUCTION

 When using logical programming to model or interact with stateful resources, it is convenient to have a way to reason about time. To this end, temporal logic, and in particular linear temporal logic, has been formalized as a modal extension to predicate logic, and a number of implementations have been proposed as extensions to logical languages such as Prolog. For an good review of this work, see [Orgun and Ma 1994].

The same thing can be achieved in the miniKanren family of relational (logic) programming languages. Adding a temporal primitive and adapting the interleaving search strategy to account for the concepts of 'now' (simultaneity) and 'later' allows us to build tools for temporal reasoning that turn out to integrate quite well with the basic methods of relational programming. In addition to providing a way of controlling simultaneity and goal construction in miniKanren programs, they can be used to construct time-aware accessors to stateful data structures leveraging miniKanren's interleaving search.

In the first two sections we show how such a system can be implemented, and sketch out some ideas on how it might be extended to support a more complete linear temporal logic. In the final section, we turn to a real-world application in the domain of distributed systems and linked data. For clarity, we use the minimalist μ Kanren language described in [Hemann and Friedman 2013] and in particular the original implementation [Hemann and Friedman 2014] which has the advantage of using procedures to represent immature streams, leaving us free to use Scheme promises for time.¹

2 BASIC DEFINITIONS

We begin by briefly reviewing the definitions of μ Kanren as described in [Hemann and Friedman 2013], deferring to that article for discussion and motivations. Readers familiar with its implementation may wish to skip to the next section.

 μ Kanren is a minimalist implementation of the core ideas from miniKanren as described in [Byrd 2009] and [Friedman et al. 2005]. A μ Kanren program operates by applying a *goal*, analogous to a predicate in logic programming, to a *state*, defined as a substitution (an association list of variables and their values) paired with a variable counter. The program can succeed or fail, and when it

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¹The full code for this paper is available at https://github.com/nathanielrb/temporal-microKanren.

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(define empty-state '(() . 0))

succeeds returns a sequence of new states, called a *stream*, each one extending the original state by new variable substitutions that make the goal succeed.

Goals are built with four basic goal constructors, ==, call/fresh, disj and conj, to be defined below. In the following example, applying a goal made of the disjunction of two == goals to the empty state returns a stream of two states, each corresponding to one branch of the disjunction.

```
((call/fresh (lambda (q) (disj (== q 4) (== q 5)))) empty-state);; => '(((#(0) . 4)) . 1) (((#(0) . 5)) . 1))
```

Variables are defined as vectors containing their variable index. The walk operator searches for a variable's value in a substitution, while substitutions are extended (without checking for circularities) by ext-s. mzero is the empty stream, and the unit operator returns a stream containing its argument as the only state.

```
(define (var c) (vector c))
(define (var? x) (vector? x))
(define (var=? x1 x2) (= (vector-ref x1 0) (vector-ref x2 0)))

(define (walk u s)
  (let ((pr (and (var? u) (assp (lambda (v) (var=? u v)) s))))
      (if pr (walk (cdr pr) s) u)))

(define (ext-s x v s) `((,x . ,v) . ,s))

(define (unit s/c) (cons s/c mzero))
(define mzero '())
```

The goal constructor == builds a goal that succeeds if its two arguments can be unified in the current state, and otherwise returns mzero. It depends on the unify operator, which defines the basic terms of µKanren as being variables, objects equivalent under eqv?, and pairs of such terms.

```
(define (== u v)
  (lambda (s/c)
      (let ((s (unify u v (car s/c))))
        (if s (unit `(,s . ,(cdr s/c))) mzero))))

(define (unify u v s)
  (let ((u (walk u s)) (v (walk v s)))
      (cond
            ((and (var? u) (var? v) (var=? u v)) s)
            ((var? u) (ext-s u v s))
            ((var? v) (ext-s v u s))
            ((and (pair? u) (pair? v))
            (let ((s (unify (car u) (car v) s)))
            (and s (unify (cdr u) (cdr v) s))))
            (else (and (eqv? u v) s)))))
```

The goal constructor call/fresh allows us to bind a new logic variable and increment the variable counter.

```
(define (call/fresh f)
```

```
(lambda (s/c)
(let ((c (cdr s/c)))
((f (var c)) `(,(car s/c) . ,(+ c 1))))))
```

Finally, the conj and disj goal constructors return that goals that succeed if respectively both or either of the goals passed as arguments succeed. They are defined in terms of mplus and bind, which implements μ Kanren's interleaving search strategy.

The second case in each of the two preceding definitions implements *immature streams* as lambda expressions, allowing programs to return infinite streams of results. In μ Kanren it is the user's responsibility to correctly handle immature streams, invoking them if necessary. A regular stream, namely a pair of a state and a stream, is correspondingly termed a *mature stream*.

3 TIME IN µKANREN

 To model linear time in μ Kanren we begin by introducing a third type of stream, *delayed streams*, to represent goals that are delayed until a later point in time. We can represent delayed streams by promises, and construct them using a single temporal primitive next.

```
(define-syntax next
  (syntax-rules ()
      ((_ g) (lambda (s/c) (delay (g s/c))))))
```

A complex goal might have many levels of delays representing different future points in time. It is important that the temporal order of these subsidiary goals be preserved during interleaving search, both with regards to the ordering of solutions and also to guaranty that a goal (which might refer to a stateful resource) is constructed at the right time. We accomplish this by adapting the interleaving search so that promises are shunted right and all promises at the same nested level are recombined together. This is done by adding two cases to the definition of mplus.

```
(define (mplus $1 $2)
  (cond
      ((null? $1) $2)
      ((procedure? $1) (lambda () (mplus $2 ($1))))
      ((and (promise? $1) (promise? $2)) ; recombine
      (delay (mplus (force $1) (force $2))))
      ((promise? $1) (mplus $2 $1)) ; shunt right
      (else (cons (car $1) (mplus (cdr $1) $2)))))
```

(define (forward g)

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bind also needs to be modified by adding an additional case to delay the binding of delayed streams with a goal. The utility function forward is used to 'fast-forward' through the enclosing delayed stream.

```
152
        (lambda (s/c)
153
          (let rec ((\$ (\$ s/c)))
             (cond ((null? $) '())
                   ((promise? $) (force $))
                   ((procedure? $) (lambda () (rec ($))))
157
                   (else (cons (car $) (rec (cdr $)))))))
159
      (define (bind $ g)
         (cond
161
           ((null? $) mzero)
           ((procedure? $) (lambda () (bind ($) g)))
163
           ((promise? $) (delay (bind (force $) (forward g))))
           (else (mplus (g (car $)) (bind (cdr $) g)))))
165
        The resulting 53 lines of code make up the functional core of our temporal µKanren. To keep
     the subsequent code simple, we also introduce a few convenience functions for accessing delayed
167
     streams, here defined with the help of take-right and drop-right from SRFI-1.
168
      (define (promised $)
169
        (take-right $ 0))
170
171
      (define (current $)
172
        (drop-right $ 0))
173
174
      (define (advance $)
175
176
        (let ((p (promised $)))
          (and p (force p))))
177
178
        We are ready for a simple example that demonstrates its basic operation.
179
      (define *db* 1)
180
181
      (define r
182
       ((call/fresh
183
        (lambda (q)
184
         (disj (== q *db*)
185
                (next (== q *db*))))
186
        empty-state))
187
      ;; => ((((#(0) . 1)) . 1) . #<promise>)
188
189
      (set! *db* 2)
190
191
     (advance r)
192
      ;; => ((((#(0) . 2)) . 1))
193
        The shunt-right mechanism turns out to have interesting properties for interleaving search even
194
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```

without referring to a stateful resource, for instance in ordering and grouping solutions, as the

following contrived example shows. Here and in what follows, will use the miniKanren wrappers from the original paper, likewise extended to handle delayed streams (the code is presented in Appendix A).

```
200
      (define (inco x)
201
        (let r ((n 0))
202
           (disj (== x n) (next (r (+ n 1)))))
203
204
      (define s
205
        (run* (q)
206
           (fresh (a b)
207
             (== q (list a b))
208
             (conj (inco a) (inco b)))))
209
210
      (current s)
211
      ;; => ((0 0)))
212
213
      (current (advance s))
214
      ;; => ((0 1) (1 0) (1 1)))
215
216
      (current (advance (advance s)))
217
      ;; \Rightarrow ((1 \ 2) \ (2 \ 0) \ (2 \ 1) \ (2 \ 2) \ (0 \ 2)))
218
219
      (current (advance (advance s))))
220
      ;; \Rightarrow ((0 3) (2 3) (3 0) (3 1) (3 2) (3 3) (1 3)))
221
```

4 TOWARDS A TEMPORAL RELATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Linear temporal logic extends predicate logic with temporal modal operators referring to linear time. Two operators, Next (X) and Until (U), are generally defined as primitives and then used to construct a larger set of operators for conveniently reasoning about time. Several of these operators can be usefully recovered in temporal $\mu Kanren$ using the next primitive. We will not develop a formally complete system here, but rather provide some heuristic examples to suggest how such a system might developed.

Most temporal operators need to be defined recursively. When doing this, it is essential to control when the goal is constructed, since the goal might refer to a stateful resource. For temporal μ Kanren we can do this by wrapping goals in a lambda expression which are evaluated at the appropriate time. The definition of precedes, modeled on Weak Until (W) and which stipulates that a goal g holds at least until a second goal h holds, shows how this is done.

```
(define (precedes* g* h*)
  (let ((g (g*)) (h (h*)))
     (disj h (conj g (next (precedes* g* h*)))))

(define-syntax precedes
  (syntax-rules ()
        ((_ g h) (precedes* (lambda () g) (lambda () h)))))
```

Translating another basic operator, Always (G), reveals one of the pitfalls of mapping temporal logic to relational programming. Our first impulse is to define it analogously to until.

```
(define (always* g*)
```

```
(let ((g (g*)))
      (conj g (next (always* g*)))))

(define-syntax always
      (syntax-rules ()
       ((_ g) (always* (lambda () g)))))
```

A little experimentation, however, shows how this definition is problematic. A goal constructed with always will return a promise so long as the goal it encloses holds, and the empty stream as soon as it fails. While this behavior can be useful for a program that only wants to verify whether a state still holds, always will never construct a mature stream of solutions, since clearly the goal will never have been true *forever*, at least not in linear time.

There are two ways of getting around this problem. One is to modify the definition of next in such a way as to allow for an eot (end-of-time) accessor that would essentially cut off the forward recursion of delayed promises. Another approach is to define the weaker and impure as-long-as, which constructs a stream of solutions to the goal h that continues as long as the goal g still holds. This technique of writing 'guarded' goal constructors is reminiscent of the implementation of cuts in miniKanren.

The Eventually (F) operator also has many useful applications, but presents a similar caveat regarding infinite time. Depending on the application, a guarded definition might be more appropriate, but the following definition will still be useful in many contexts.

```
(define (eventually* g*)
  (let ((g (g*)))
      (disj g (next (eventually* g*))))

(define-syntax eventually
  (syntax-rules ()
       ((_ g) (eventually* (lambda () g)))))
  We can use it to define a strong Until.
(define-syntax until
  (syntax-rules ()
       ((_ g h) (conj (precedes g h) (eventually h)))))
```

Clearly this is only a beginning, and as the above examples suggest, what constitutes a *useful* temporal relational programming language will be determined in part by the application domain. Developing a complete version of such a system would be an obvious next step. Another direction to pursue would be recovering temporal μ Kanren's functionality in a version of miniKanren with constraints, namely cKanren [Alvis et al. 2011] or the extended μ Kanren described in [Hemann

and Friedman 2015]. It would also be interesting to explore the integration of temporal logic with different representations of negation in miniKanren.

5 CALCULATING DELTAS WITH INCREMENTAL SEARCH

Now we turn to a practical application, and see how temporal μ Kanren can be used to implement a simple data store with temporally-aware incremental search. We proceed by describing the implementation first, and then presenting the full code at the end of the section.

The motivation is as follows. In distributed systems such as a microservice architecture (for the specific context, see [Versteden and Pauwels 2016] and [Versteden and Pauwels 2018]) we often want to send push updates based on *deltas*, or entries that have been added to or removed from the database. In practice, this often means having a service that indiscriminately pushes all deltas to interested subscribers; it is then the responsibility of each subscriber to filter the deltas and determine which, if any, are relevant to its own operations.

If we can calculate deltas to specific queries, however, this whole process can be greatly refined. Here we describe how an RDF database (triple store) can be implemented using temporal μ Kanren as its query language, that calculates deltas. By using the next constructor and a simple system of incremental indexes, we can store the final search positions for a query. Running a query will return both the current results and a delayed stream that when advanced will continue searching at the previous search-tree's leaves. Therefore, advancing the delayed stream after the database has been updated will return solutions that have been added to, or subtracted from the solution set.

An RDF database [Manola and Miller 2004] stores semantic facts, or triples,² made up of a *subject* (a URI), a *predicate* (a URI), and an *object* (a URI or a string, boolean or numeric literal).

```
<http://ex.org/people/1> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/name> "John"
```

A minimalist triple store can be implemented using three indexes, allowing for the retrieval of groups of triples matching a given query pattern: spo, pos, and osp, where s is the subject, p the predicate, and o the object. Here, however, we want to know *incremental indexes*: for a given s, we need the indexed p's in a form that can be easily compared to future p's to determine whether new keys have been added. We keep separate incremental indexes for each index level, storing the incrementals as a simple cons list along with a map for quick existence checking. For each index we use a hash array mapped trie³ that allows for persistently storing successive states of the database through path copying.

Our database is therefore defined as a set of seven incremental indexes (null, s, sp, p, po, o, os) plus the spo index for full triples. Adding a triple to the database is a matter of consing each element to the appropriate incrementals lists and adding a truthy value (here #t, though this could also be a more meaningful identifier or timestamp) to the full spo index. When deleting a triple, we leave the indexes, but update the triple's value in spo to #f. Here are the incremental indexes after adding the triple <A> <C>.

```
<ø [ #f => (<A> ...) ] >
<s [ <A> => (<B> ...) ] >
<sp [ (<A> <B>) => (<C> ...) ] >
 => (<C> ...) ] >
<po [ (<B> <C>) => (<A> ...) ] >
<o [ <C> => (<A> ...) ] >
<os [ (<C> <A>) => (<B> ...) ] >
```

²Here we will only consider triples, though triple stores actually store quads, with the addition of the *graph* element.

³In the Chicken implementation presented here, we use Persistent Hash Maps [Heidkamp 2013], derived from Ian Price's Hash Array Mapped Tries [Price 2014].

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387 388 389

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```
<spo [ (<A> <B> <C>) => #t ] >
```

The main accessor is the goal constructor triple-nolo ('triple now or later') that descends recursively through the incremental indexes one level at a time, constructing a stream with the current indexes and saving the last search positions in a delayed stream. A dynamic parameter is used to specify the current database state.

To see our data store in action, we consider the following query written in SPARQL 1.1 [Harris and Seaborne 2013], the standard query language for RDF data stores. This query will be translated into temporal µKanren and run against successive states of the database.

```
SELECT ?o
WHERE {
  \langle S \rangle \langle P \rangle ?o.
  <0> <R> ?o.
  First, however, we define an empty database.
(define db0 (empty-db))
```

The SPARQL query is translated into the temporal µKanren goal r using triple-nolo. To make it clear what is going on, we keep track of the individual delta flags for each triple goal, though in practice we usually want to know only if the solution was added (all +s) or removed (at least one -). Since there are no solutions to our query, the program returns a delayed stream.

```
(define r
365
        (parameterize ((latest-db db0))
366
          (run* (q)
367
            (fresh (o deltas d1 d2)
368
              (== q `(,deltas ,o))
369
              (== deltas `(,d1,d2))
370
              (triple-nolo d1 '<S> '<P> o)
371
              (triple-nolo d2 '<Q> '<R> o)))))
372
      ;; => #<promise>
373
       Now we can add some triples and advance the delayed stream.
374
```

```
(define db1
  (add-triples db0
                         '((<S> <P> <01>)
                            (<S> <P> <02>)
                            (<Q> <R> <01>)
                            (\langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \langle C \rangle)))
(parameterize ((latest-db db1))
  (advance r))
;; => (((+ +) <01>) . #<promise>)
```

If we delete a triple that contributed to one of our solutions, that solution will be returned with a negative delta flag in the next iteration.

```
(define db2
  (delete-triples db1 '((<S> <P> <01>))))
(parameterize ((latest-db db2))
  (advance (advance r)))
;; => (((+ -)) <01>) . #<promise>)
```

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```
Finally we can add that triple back along with some new solutions, to get some positive deltas.
393
394
      (define db3
395
        (add-triples db2 '((<S> <P> <01>)
396
                              (<S> <P> <03>)
397
                              (<Q> <R> <03>)
398
                              (<S> <P> <M>)
                              (<Q> <R> <M>))))
400
401
      (parameterize ((latest-db db3))
402
        (advance (advance r))))
403
      ;; \Rightarrow (((+ +) <01>) ((+ +) <M>) ((+ +) <03>) . #<promise>)
404
        Here we have been proceeding linearly, but since the database states are persistent we can
405
     calculate deltas over any two states. Keeping track of a stream of states and indexing them on time
406
     will therefore give us a truly time-traveling data store.
407
        Finally, here is the full code for the data store.
408
      (define-syntax project
409
        (syntax-rules ()
410
          ((_{-}(x ...) g)
           (lambda (s/c)
412
              (let ((x (walk x (car s/c))) ...)
414
                (g s/c)))))
415
416
     (define-record db s sp p po o os spo)
417
      (define-record incrementals map list)
418
419
      (define (empty-incrementals)
420
        (make-incrementals (persistent-map) '()))
421
422
      (define (empty-db)
423
        (apply make-db
424
                (make-list 8 (persistent-map))))
425
426
      (define latest-db (make-parameter (empty-db)))
427
428
      (define (latest-incrementals accessor key)
429
        (incrementals-list
430
         (map-ref (accessor (latest-db)) key (empty-incrementals))))
431
432
      (define (latest-triple s p o)
433
        (map-ref (db-spo (latest-db))
434
                  (list s p o))
435
436
      (define (update-incrementals table key val)
437
        (let ((incrementals (map-ref table key (empty-incrementals))))
438
          (map-add table key
439
                    (if (map-ref (incrementals-map incrementals) val)
440
```

441

```
incrementals
443
                        (make-incrementals
                         (map-add (incrementals-map incrementals) val #t)
445
                         (cons val (incrementals-list incrementals)))))))
446
447
     (define (update-triple table triple val)
       (map-add table triple val))
449
     (define (update-triples DB triples val)
450
       (let loop ((triples triples)
451
                   (i/null (db-null DB))
                   (i/s (db-s DB))
                   (i/sp (db-sp DB))
                   (i/p (db-p DB))
455
                   (i/po (db-po DB))
                   (i/o (db-o DB))
457
                   (i/os (db-os DB))
459
                   (i/spo (db-spo DB)))
          (if (null? triples)
              (make-db i/null i/s i/sp i/p i/po i/o i/os i/spo)
461
              (match (car triples)
463
                ((s p o)
464
                 (loop (cdr triples)
465
                        (update-incrementals i/null #f s)
466
                        (update-incrementals i/s s p)
467
                        (update-incrementals i/sp (list s p) o)
468
                        (update-incrementals i/p p o)
469
                        (update-incrementals i/po (list p o) s)
470
                        (update-incrementals i/o o s)
                        (update-incrementals i/os (list o s) p)
471
472
                        (update-triple i/spo (list s p o) val))))))
473
474
     (define (add-triples DB triples) (update-triples DB triples #t))
475
     (define (delete-triples DB triples) (update-triples DB triples #f))
476
477
     (define (add-triple s p o)
478
       (add-triples `((,s ,p ,o))))
479
480
     (define (delete-triple s p o)
481
482
       (delete-triples `((,s ,p ,o))))
483
     (define (triple-nolo delta s p o)
484
485
       (let ((mkstrm (lambda (var accessor key)
                         (let* ((get-incrementals (lambda ()
486
                                                    (latest-incrementals accessor key)))
487
488
                               (initial-indexes (get-incrementals)))
489
                           (let stream ((indexes initial-indexes)
```

```
(ref '()) (next-ref initial-indexes))
                            (if (equal? indexes ref)
492
                                 (next
                                  (let ((vals (get-incrementals)))
                                    (stream vals next-ref vals)))
                                 (disj
                                  (conj (== var (car indexes))
498
                                     (project (delta s p o) (triple-nolo delta s p o)))
                                  (stream (cdr indexes) ref next-ref))))))))
          (cond ((and (var? s) (var? p) (var? o)) (mkstrm s db-null #f))
                ((and (var? s) (var? p))
                                                    (mkstrm s db-o o))
                ((and (var? s) (var? o))
                                                    (mkstrm o db-p p))
502
                ((and (var? p) (var? o))
                                                    (mkstrm p db-s s))
                ((var? s)
                                                    (mkstrm s db-po (list p o)))
504
                ((var? p)
                                                    (mkstrm p db-os (list o s)))
                ((var? o)
                                                    (mkstrm o db-sp (list s p)))
506
                (else
508
                 (let leaf ((ref #f))
                   (let ((v (latest-triple s p o)))
509
                     (cond ((eq? v ref) (next (leaf v)))
510
                                         (disj (== delta '+) (next (leaf v))))
                           (v
511
                                         (disj (== delta '-) (next (leaf v)))))))))
512
                           (else
513
```

Though this reduced example is clearly far from a production-ready system, we hope we have demonstrated the one of the practical uses of temporal relational programming. Indeed, we intend to pursue these tools in an industrial setting, and the full implementation will be a laboratory for other practical applications of miniKanren, such as drawing on [Byrd et al. 2012] to compile SPARQL to miniKanren and using search ordering as explored in [Swords and Friedman 2013] to aid with query optimization.

A APPENDIX: MINIKANREN WRAPPERS

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538 539 Here we adapt the miniKanren control operators described in [Hemann and Friedman 2013] for delayed streams. Unlike the original paper, we do not use Zzz to wrap goals in conj+ and disj+ since this makes it difficult of control the goal construction time at different levels of nested delays, a problem when referring to stateful resources. This difficulty should be addressed in future implementations of temporal µKanren.

```
(define-syntax Zzz
  (syntax-rules ()
        ((_ g) (lambda (s/c) (lambda () (g s/c))))))

(define-syntax conj+
        (syntax-rules ()
              ((_ g) g)
              ((_ g0 g ...) (conj g0 (conj+ g ...)))))

(define-syntax disj+
        (syntax-rules ()
              ((_ g) g)
```

```
((_ g0 g ...) (disj g0 (disj+ g ...)))))
540
541
542
     (define-syntax fresh
        (syntax-rules ()
543
          ((_ () g0 g ...) (conj+ g0 g ...))
544
545
          ((\_(x0 x ...) g0 g ...)
           (call/fresh
547
            (lambda (x0)
              (fresh (x ...) g0 g ...))))))
549
     (define-syntax conde
        (syntax-rules ()
551
552
          ((_ (g0 g ...) ...) (disj+ (conj+ g0 g ...) ...))))
553
     (define-syntax run
554
555
        (syntax-rules ()
          ((_n (x ...) g0 g ...)
557
           (let r ((k n) ($ (take n (call/goal (fresh (x ...) g0 g ...)))))
             (cond ((null? $) '())
559
               ((promise? $) (delay (r (- k 1) (take k (force $)))))
               (else (cons (reify-1st (car $))
561
                   (r (-k 1) (cdr \$)))))))))
562
563
     (define-syntax run*
564
        (syntax-rules ()
565
          ((_{x} (x ...) g0 g ...)
           (let r (($ (take-all (call/goal (fresh (x ...) g0 g ...)))))
566
567
             (cond ((null? $) '())
568
               ((promise? $) (delay (r (take-all (force $)))))
569
               (else (cons (reify-1st (car $))
                   (r (cdr $))))))))
570
571
572
     (define empty-state '(() . 0))
573
     (define (call/goal g) (g empty-state))
574
575
576
     (define (pull $)
577
        (cond ((procedure? $) (pull ($)))
578
          ((promise? $) $)
579
          (else $)))
580
     (define (take-all $)
581
        (let (($ (pull $)))
582
          (cond ((null? $) '())
583
584
            ((promise? $) $)
            (else (cons (car $) (take-all (cdr $))))))
585
586
     (define (take n $)
587
588
```

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```
(if (zero? n) '()
589
          (let (($ (pull $)))
            (cond ((null? $) '())
              ((promise? $) $)
              (else (cons (car $) (take (- n 1) (cdr $)))))))
594
     (define (reify-1st s/c)
595
596
        (let ((v (walk* (var 0) (car s/c))))
          (walk* v (reify-s v '()))))
598
     (define (walk* v s)
599
        (let ((v (walk v s)))
          (cond
602
            ((var? v) v)
            ((pair? v) (cons (walk* (car v) s)
604
                           (walk* (cdr v) s)))
            (else v))))
606
     (define (reify-s v s)
607
608
        (let ((v (walk v s)))
          (cond
609
610
            ((var? v)
611
             (let ((n (reify-name (length s))))
612
               (cons `(,v . ,n) s)))
            ((pair? v) (reify-s (cdr v) (reify-s (car v) s)))
613
614
            (else s))))
615
616
     (define (reify-name n)
617
        (string->symbol
          (string-append "_" "." (number->string n))))
618
619
     (define (fresh/nf n f)
620
621
        (letrec
622
          ((app-f/v*)
             (lambda (n v*)
623
624
               (cond
                  ((zero? n) (apply f (reverse v*)))
625
                  (else (call/fresh
626
627
                           (lambda (x)
                             (app-f/v* (- n 1) (cons x v*)))))))))
628
           (app-f/v* n '()))
629
630
```

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