

306 (nondeterministic assignment) Generalize the assignment notation  $x := e$  to allow the expression  $e$  to be a bunch, with the meaning that  $x$  is assigned an arbitrary element of the bunch. For example,  $x := \text{nat}$  assigns  $x$  an arbitrary natural number. Show the standard binary notation for this form of assignment. Show what happens to the Substitution Law.

After trying the question, scroll down to the solution.

$$\S \quad x := e \equiv x' : e \wedge y' = y \wedge \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} & x := e. P \\ \equiv & \exists x'', y'', \dots : (x'' : e \wedge y'' = y \wedge \dots) \wedge (\text{substitute } x'', y'', \dots \text{ for } x, y, \dots \text{ in } P) \\ \equiv & \exists x'' : x'' : e \wedge (\text{substitute } x'' \text{ for } x \text{ in } P) \end{aligned}$$

but the one-point law does not allow us to get rid of  $\exists x''$ . For example, in one variable,

$$\begin{aligned} & x := 0, 1. x' = x + x \\ \equiv & \exists x'' : x'' : 0, 1 \wedge (\text{substitute } x'' \text{ for } x \text{ in } x' = x + x) \\ \equiv & \exists x'' : x'' : 0, 1 \wedge x' = x'' + x'' \\ \equiv & x' = 0 + 0 \vee x' = 1 + 1 \\ \equiv & x' : 0, 2 \end{aligned}$$

but the Substitution Law would give

$$\begin{aligned} \equiv & x' = (0, 1) + (0, 1) \\ \equiv & x' = 0, 1, 2 \end{aligned}$$