

Brackets and blast

Kyndylan

March 5, 2015

Contents

Some dummy definitions.

```
definition foo :: bool where  
  foo = True
```

```
definition bar :: bool where  
  bar = foo
```

```
definition baz :: bool where  
  baz = bar
```

A conventional elim rule for bar.

```
lemma barE:  
  assumes bar  
  obtains foo  
using assms  
unfolding bar-def  
by auto
```

Version 1 of an elim rule for baz.

```
lemma bazE1:  
  assumes baz  
  obtains bar  $\wedge$  True  $\wedge$  ( $\forall x. True$ )  
using assms  
unfolding baz-def  
by auto
```

Blast is not able to use that version.

```
lemma  
  assumes baz  
  shows foo  
using assms  
— apply (blast elim: bazE1 barE) fails  
oops
```

Version 2. Note that the brackets are the only difference with version 1.

```
lemma bazE2:  
  assumes baz  
  obtains (bar  $\wedge$  True)  $\wedge$  ( $\forall x.$  True)  
using assms  
unfolding baz-def  
by auto
```

Now blast is able to prove the lemma.

```
lemma  
  assumes baz  
  shows foo  
using assms  
by (blast elim: bazE2 barE)
```

If the quantifier is removed, then the version without the brackets can be used by blast to prove the lemma.

```
lemma bazE3:  
  assumes baz  
  obtains bar  $\wedge$  True  $\wedge$  True  
using assms  
unfolding baz-def  
by auto
```

```
lemma  
  assumes baz  
  shows foo  
using assms  
by (blast elim: bazE3 barE)
```

Also, if there is only one layer of definitions (baz - bar), instead of two (baz - bar - foo), then the version without the brackets works as well.

```
lemma bazE4:  
  assumes baz  
  obtains bar  $\wedge$  True  $\wedge$  ( $\forall x.$  True)  
using assms  
unfolding baz-def  
by auto
```

```
lemma  
  assumes baz  
  shows bar  
using assms  
by (blast elim: bazE4)
```

Why is the combination of no brackets, the quantifier, and the extra layer of definitions preventing blast from finding a proof?