



COMP4161: Advanced Topics in Software Verification

$\{P\} \dots \{Q\}$

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S2/2018

Last Time



- Syntax of a simple imperative language
- Operational semantics
- Program proof on operational semantics
- Hoare logic rules
- Soundness of Hoare logic

Content



- Intro & motivation, getting started [1]

- Foundations & Principles
 - Lambda Calculus, natural deduction [1,2]
 - Higher Order Logic [3^a]
 - Term rewriting [4]

- Proof & Specification Techniques
 - Inductively defined sets, rule induction [5]
 - Datatypes, recursion, induction [6, 7]
 - Hoare logic, proofs about programs, invariants [8^b,9]
 - (mid-semester break)
 - C verification [10]
 - CakeML, Isar [11^c]
 - Concurrency [12]

^aa1 due; ^ba2 due; ^ca3 due

Automation?



Last time: Hoare rule application is nicer than using operational semantic.

BUT:

- it's still kind of tedious
- it seems boring & mechanical

Automation?

Invariant



Invariant



Problem: While – need creativity to find right (invariant) P

Invariant



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Solution:

→ annotate program with invariants

Invariant



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Invariant



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Example:

$$\begin{array}{l} \{M = 0 \wedge N = 0\} \\ \text{WHILE } M \neq a \text{ INV } \{N = M * b\} \text{ DO } N := N + b; M := M + 1 \text{ OD} \\ \{N = a * b\} \end{array}$$

Weakest Preconditions



pre c Q = weakest P such that $\{P\} c \{Q\}$

With annotated invariants, easy to get:

pre SKIP Q =

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pre $(x := a)$ Q	=	

Weakest Preconditions



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With annotated invariants, easy to get:

pre SKIP Q	=	Q
pre $(x := a)$ Q	=	$\lambda\sigma. Q(\sigma(x := a\sigma))$
pre $(c_1; c_2)$ Q	=	

Weakest Preconditions



pre c Q = **weakest** P **such that** $\{P\} c \{Q\}$

With annotated invariants, easy to get:

pre SKIP Q	=	Q
pre $(x := a)$ Q	=	$\lambda\sigma. Q(\sigma(x := a\sigma))$
pre $(c_1; c_2)$ Q	=	pre c_1 (pre c_2 Q)
pre (IF b THEN c_1 ELSE c_2) Q	=	

Weakest Preconditions



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With annotated invariants, easy to get:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pre SKIP } Q &= Q \\ \text{pre } (x := a) Q &= \lambda\sigma. Q(\sigma(x := a\sigma)) \\ \text{pre } (c_1; c_2) Q &= \text{pre } c_1 (\text{pre } c_2 Q) \\ \text{pre } (\text{IF } b \text{ THEN } c_1 \text{ ELSE } c_2) Q &= \lambda\sigma. (b \longrightarrow \text{pre } c_1 Q \sigma) \wedge \\ &\quad (\neg b \longrightarrow \text{pre } c_2 Q \sigma) \\ \text{pre } (\text{WHILE } b \text{ INV } I \text{ DO } c \text{ OD}) Q &= \end{aligned}$$

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Verification Conditions



$\{\text{pre } c \ Q\} \ c \ \{Q\}$ **only true under certain conditions**

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These are called **verification conditions** $vc \ c \ Q$:

$vc \ \text{SKIP} \ Q \quad = \quad \text{True}$

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$\text{vc } (c_1; c_2) \ Q$	=	$\text{vc } c_2 \ Q \wedge (\text{vc } c_1 \ (\text{pre } c_2 \ Q))$
$\text{vc } (\text{IF } b \ \text{THEN } c_1 \ \text{ELSE } c_2) \ Q$	=	$\text{vc } c_1 \ Q \wedge \text{vc } c_2 \ Q$

Verification Conditions



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$$\text{vc } c \ Q \wedge (P \Longrightarrow \text{pre } c \ Q) \Longrightarrow \{P\} \ c \ \{Q\}$$

Syntax Tricks



- $x := \lambda\sigma. 1$ instead of $x := 1$ sucks
- $\{\lambda\sigma. \sigma x = n\}$ instead of $\{x = n\}$ sucks as well

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Choices:

- declare program variables with each Hoare triple

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- declare program variables with each Hoare triple
 - nice, usual syntax
 - works well if you state full program and only use vcg

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- separate program variables from Hoare triple (use extensible records), indicate usage as function syntactically

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Solution: distinguish program variables syntactically

Choices:

- declare program variables with each Hoare triple
 - nice, usual syntax
 - works well if you state full program and only use `vsg`
- separate program variables from Hoare triple (use extensible records), indicate usage as function syntactically
 - more syntactic overhead
 - program pieces compose nicely



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Demo

Arrays



Depending on language, model arrays as functions:

→ Array access = function application:

$$a[i] = a\ i$$

→ Array update = function update:

$$a[i] := v = a := a(i := v)$$

Arrays



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- Array access = function application:
 $a[i] = a \ i$
- Array update = function update:
 $a[i] := v = a := a(i := v)$

Use lists to express length:

- Array access = nth:
 $a[i] = a \ ! \ i$
- Array update = list update:
 $a[i] := v = a := a[i := v]$
- Array length = list length:
 $a.length = \text{length } a$

Pointers



Choice 1

datatype	ref	= Ref int Null
types	heap	= int \Rightarrow val
datatype	val	= Int int Bool bool Struct_x int int bool ...

Pointers



Choice 1

datatype ref = Ref int | Null

types heap = int \Rightarrow val

datatype val = Int int | Bool bool | Struct_x int int bool | ...

→ hp :: heap, p :: ref

→ Pointer access: *p = the_Int (hp (the_addr p))

→ Pointer update: *p ::= v = hp ::= hp ((the_addr p) ::= v)

Pointers



Choice 1

datatype ref = Ref int | Null

types heap = int \Rightarrow val

datatype val = Int int | Bool bool | Struct_x int int bool | ...

→ hp :: heap, p :: ref

→ Pointer access: *p = the_Int (hp (the_addr p))

→ Pointer update: *p ::= v = hp ::= hp ((the_addr p) := v)

→ a bit klunky

→ gets even worse with structs

→ lots of value extraction (the_Int) in spec and program

Pointers



Choice 2 (Burstall '72, Bornat '00)

Example: struct with next pointer and element

datatype	ref	= Ref int Null
types	next_hp	= int \Rightarrow ref
types	elem_hp	= int \Rightarrow int

Pointers



Choice 2 (Burstall '72, Bornat '00)

Example: struct with next pointer and element

```
datatype  ref          = Ref int | Null
types     next_hp     = int  $\Rightarrow$  ref
types     elem_hp    = int  $\Rightarrow$  int
```

- next :: next_hp, elem :: elem_hp, p :: ref
- Pointer access: $p \rightarrow \text{next} = \text{next } (\text{the_addr } p)$
- Pointer update: $p \rightarrow \text{next} ::= v = \text{next} ::= \text{next } ((\text{the_addr } p) ::= v)$

Pointers



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Example: struct with next pointer and element

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types	next_hp	= int \Rightarrow ref
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- next :: next_hp, elem :: elem_hp, p :: ref
- Pointer access: $p \rightarrow \text{next} = \text{next } (\text{the_addr } p)$
- Pointer update: $p \rightarrow \text{next} ::= v = \text{next} ::= \text{next } ((\text{the_addr } p) ::= v)$

In general:

- a separate heap for each struct field
- buys you $p \rightarrow \text{next} \neq p \rightarrow \text{elem}$ automatically (aliasing)
- still assumes type safe language

A background pattern of white hexagons on a dark teal background, arranged in a staggered grid.

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Demo

We have seen today ...



- Weakest precondition
- Verification conditions
- Example program proofs
- Arrays, pointers