

Mechanising Hoare Logic

Given a Hoare triple $(\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\})$ rules are applied from the conclusion, assuming that the side conditions hold.

- If all side conditions hold, a proof can be build;
- If some side condition does not hold, the derivation tree is not a valid deduction, but is there an alternative derivation?

There is a strategy to build the derivation trees such that we can conclude (if some side conditions does not hold) that there is no derivation for the given Hoare triple.

Tableaux

- The tableaux system allows to obtain the derivation of a Hoare triple, that is the conclusion.
- The derivation is valid if the verification conditions are satisfiable.
- But if they are not, how to ensure that there is no other derivation?
- If there is no determinism one cannot mechanise the Hoare logic.
- We will see that the tableaux ensure that if the verification conditions are not satisfiable *no other* derivation exists.
- and the tableaux can be automated.

Subformula property and Ambiguity

Most rules of Hoare logic have the *subformula property*:

all the assertions that occur in the premises of a rule also occur in its conclusion.

The exceptions are:

- The rule *comp*, which requires an intermediate condition;
- The rule *cons*, where the precondition and the postcondition must be guessed.

Other property that we want is that the choice of the rules is non ambiguous, but:

- The rule *cons*, can be applied to any Hoare triple. Thus it should be removed.

Hoare logic without the rule *cons*: system \mathcal{H}_g

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\{\varphi\} \text{skip} \{\psi\}} \text{if } \models \varphi \implies \psi \\
\\
\frac{}{\{\varphi\} x \leftarrow E \{\psi\}} \text{if } \models \varphi \implies \psi[E/x] \\
\\
\frac{\{\varphi\} C_1 \{\eta\} \quad \{\eta\} C_2 \{\psi\}}{\{\varphi\} C_1; C_2 \{\psi\}} \\
\\
\frac{\{\varphi \wedge B\} C_1 \{\psi\} \quad \{\varphi \wedge \neg B\} C_2 \{\psi\}}{\{\varphi\} \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2 \{\psi\}} \\
\\
\frac{\{\eta \wedge B\} C \{\eta\}}{\{\varphi\} \text{while } B \text{ do } \{\eta\} C \{\psi\}} \text{if } \models \varphi \implies \eta \text{ and } \models \eta \wedge \neg B \implies \psi
\end{array}$$

In the *while_p* rule the loop is annotated with the invariant η , to keep the subformula property. .

We can show that the *cons* is derivable in \mathcal{H}_g . Let Γ be a set of assertions.

Lema 7.1. *If $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\} C \{\psi\}$ and $\models \varphi' \implies \varphi, \models \psi \implies \psi'$, then $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi'\} C \{\psi'\}$.*

Proof: By induction on the derivation of $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\psi\} C \{\varphi\}$. We consider the case *skip* and sequence.

- For $C \equiv \text{skip}$, we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\} \text{skip} \{\psi\}$, if $\models \varphi \implies \psi$. We have $\models \varphi' \implies \varphi, \models \varphi \implies \psi$ and $\models \psi \implies \psi'$, thus $\models \varphi' \implies \psi'$, what means that $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi'\} \text{skip} \{\psi'\}$.
- For $C \equiv C_1; C_2$, we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\} C_1; C_2 \{\psi\}$, if $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\} C_1 \{\eta\}$ and $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta\} C_2 \{\psi\}$.

By induction we have

$$\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi'\} C_1 \{\eta\} \text{ as } \models \varphi' \implies \varphi \text{ and } \models \eta \implies \eta, \\
\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta\} C_2 \{\psi'\} \text{ as } \models \eta \implies \eta \text{ and } \models \psi \implies \psi',
\end{array}$$

thus $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi'\} C_1; C_2 \{\psi'\}$.

Exerc. 7.1. *Complete the previous proof.*

Equivalence between \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{H}_g

Lema 7.2. $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$ iff $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$

Proof:

(\Rightarrow) By induction on the derivation of $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$, using the lemma. We consider the case of assignment and consequence.

- we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi[E/x]\}x \leftarrow E\{\varphi\}$ and $\models \varphi[E/x] \implies \varphi[E/x]$, thus $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi[E/x]\}x \leftarrow E\{\varphi\}$
- By the rule of consequence we have

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\},$$

if $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi'\}C\{\psi'\}$ and $\models \varphi \implies \varphi', \models \psi' \implies \psi$.

By induction we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi'\}C\{\psi'\}$, thus by the previous lemma we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$.

(\Leftarrow) By induction on the derivation of $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$. We consider the case of assignment and conditional.

- we have

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}x \leftarrow E\{\psi\} \text{ if } \models \varphi \implies \psi[E/x].$$

As

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\psi[E/x]\}x \leftarrow E\{\psi\} \text{ and } \models \varphi \implies \psi[E/x]$$

and $\models \psi \implies \psi$, by *cons_p* rule, we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi\}x \leftarrow E\{\psi\}$.

- we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}\text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2\{\psi\}$, if

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi \wedge B\}C_1\{\psi\} \text{ and } \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi \wedge \neg B\}C_2\{\psi\}.$$

By induction $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi \wedge B\}C_1\{\psi\}$ and $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi \wedge \neg B\}C_2\{\psi\}$, thus $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \{\varphi\}\text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2\{\psi\}$

Exerc. 7.2. Complete the previous proof.

Pro and Cons

Advantages of \mathcal{H}_g :

- The ambiguity of rule *cons* was eliminated.

Drawbacks of \mathcal{H}_g :

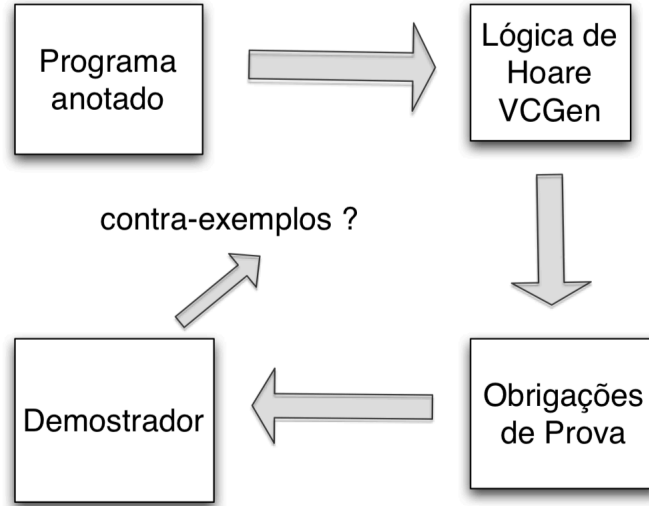
- Is still necessary to guess the intermediate preconditions in *comp*.

The weakest precondition strategy:tableaux

We already saw that for building a derivation for $\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$, where φ can or not be known (we write $\{?\}C\{\psi\}$).

1. if φ is known, we apply the unique rule of \mathcal{H}_g . if C is $C_1; C_2$, we build a subproof of the form $\{?\}C_2\{\psi\}$. when the proof terminates we can go on with $\{\varphi\}C_1\{\theta\}$, with θ obtained in the previous sub-derivation.
2. if φ is unknown, the construction proceeds as before, except that, in the rules for **skip**, assignment and loops, with a side condition $\varphi \rightarrow \theta$, we take the precondition φ to be θ (which is exactly the $wp(C, \psi)$).

Two phases verification



Verification condition generator, VCG

Given $\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$ to compute $VC(C, \psi)$ we have to:

- Compute the weakest precondition $wp(C, \psi)$
- we have that $\varphi \implies wp(C, \psi)$ is a verification condition (VC)
- The remaining VC are collected from the conditions introduced in the loops **while**.

Computation of the weakest preconditions (wp)

Given a program C and a postcondition ψ , we can compute $wp(C, \psi)$ such that $\{wp(C, \psi)\}C\{\psi\}$ is valid and if $\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$ is valid for any φ then $\varphi \implies wp(C, \psi)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
wp(\mathbf{skip}, \psi) &= \psi \\
wp(x \leftarrow E, \psi) &= \psi[E/x] \\
wp(C_1; C_2, \psi) &= wp(C_1, wp(C_2, \psi)) \\
wp(\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2, \psi) &= (B \implies wp(C_1, \psi)) \\
&\quad \wedge (\neg B \implies wp(C_2, \psi)) \\
wp(\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\}C, \psi) &= \eta
\end{aligned}$$

Properties of wp and VCG

Given a program C and an assertion ψ if $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$, for any precondition φ , then

Lema 7.3.

1. $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{wp(C, \psi)\}C\{\psi\}$
2. $\Gamma \models \varphi \rightarrow wp(C, \psi)$

Proof: By induction on C . We consider the cases of **skip** and **while**.

- For $C \equiv \mathbf{skip}$, we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}\mathbf{skip}\{\psi\}$ if $\models \varphi \implies \psi$. Note that $wp(\mathbf{skip}, \psi) = \psi$.
 1. Trivially we have $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\psi\}\mathbf{skip}\{\psi\}$, as $\models \psi \implies \psi$.
 2. By hypothesis we have $\Gamma \models \varphi \rightarrow \psi = wp(\mathbf{skip}, \psi)$.
- $C \equiv \mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } C$, we have

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\}C\{\psi\} \text{ if } \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta \wedge B\}C\{\eta\}$$

$$\text{and } \models \varphi \implies \eta, \models \eta \wedge \neg B \implies \psi.$$

$$\text{Note that } wp(\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\}C, \psi) = \eta$$

1. As $\models \eta \implies \eta$, and by hypothesis $\models \eta \wedge \neg B \implies \psi$ and $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta \wedge B\}C\{\eta\}$, then

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta\}\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\}C\{\psi\}$$

2. by hypothesis we have $\Gamma \models \varphi \rightarrow \eta = wp(\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\}C, \psi)$.

Exerc. 7.3. Complete the previous proof.

Algorithm *VCG*

First one computes $VC(C, \psi)$ without consider the preconditions

$$\begin{aligned} VC(\mathbf{skip}, \psi) &= \emptyset \\ VC(x \leftarrow E, \psi) &= \emptyset \\ VC(C_1; C_2, \psi) &= VC(C_1, wp(C_2, \psi)) \cup VC(C_2, \psi) \\ VC(\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2, \psi) &= VC(C_1, \psi) \cup VC(C_2, \psi) \\ VC(\mathbf{while } B \mathbf{ do } \{\eta\} C, \psi) &= \{(\eta \wedge B) \implies wp(C, \eta)\} \cup \\ &\quad \{(\eta \wedge \neg B) \implies \psi\} \cup VC(C, \eta) \end{aligned}$$

Next one considers the precondition:

$$VCG(\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}) = \{\varphi \implies wp(C, \psi)\} \cup VC(C, \psi)$$

Example

let **fact** be the program:

```
f ← 1; i ← 1;
while i ≤ n do
  {f = (i - 1)! ∧ i ≤ n + 1}           ▷ Invariante
  f ← f * i;
  i ← i + 1;
```

We compute

$$VCG(\{n \geq 0\}\mathbf{fact}\{f = n!\})$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= f = (i - 1)! \wedge i \leq n + 1 \\ C_w &= f \leftarrow f * i; i \leftarrow i + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& VC(\mathbf{fact}, f = n!) \\
= & VC(f \leftarrow 1; i \leftarrow 1, wp(\mathbf{while} \ i \leq n \ \mathbf{do}\{\theta\} C_w, f = n!)) \\
& \cup VC(\mathbf{while} \ i \leq n \ \mathbf{do}\{\theta\} C_w, f = n!) \\
= & VC(f \leftarrow 1; i \leftarrow 1, \theta) \cup \{\theta \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow wp(C_w, \theta)\} \\
& \cup \{\theta \wedge i > n \rightarrow f = n!\} \cup VC(C_w, \theta) \\
= & VC(f \leftarrow 1, wp(i \leftarrow 1, \theta)) \cup VC(i \leftarrow 1, \theta) \\
& \cup \{f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow wp(f \leftarrow f * i; i \leftarrow i+1, \theta)\} \\
& \cup \{f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i > n \rightarrow f = n!\} \\
& \cup VC(f = f * i, wp(i \leftarrow i+1, \theta)) \cup VC(i \leftarrow i+1, \theta) \\
= & \emptyset \cup \emptyset \cup \{f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \\
& \quad \rightarrow wp(f \leftarrow f * i, f = (i+1-1)! \wedge i+1 \leq n+1)\} \\
& \cup \{f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f = n!\} \cup \emptyset \cup \emptyset \\
= & \{f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f * i = (i+1-1)! \\
& \wedge i+1 \leq n+1, f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f = n!\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& VCG(\{n \geq 0\} \mathbf{fact}\{f = n!\}) \\
= & \{n \geq 0 \rightarrow wp(\mathbf{fact}, f = n!)\} \cup VC(\mathbf{fact}, f = n!) \\
= & \{n \geq 0 \rightarrow wp(f \leftarrow 1; i \leftarrow 1; wp(\mathbf{while} \ i \leq n \ \mathbf{do}\{\theta\} C_w, f = n!), \\
& f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f * i = (i+1-1)! \\
& \wedge i+1 \leq n+1, f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f = n!)\} \\
= & \{n \geq 0 \rightarrow wp(f \leftarrow 1; i \leftarrow 1; \theta), \\
& f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f * i = (i+1-1)! \\
& \wedge i+1 \leq n+1, f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f = n!\}
\end{aligned}$$

We have the following proof obligations:

1. $n \geq 0 \rightarrow 1 = (1-1)! \wedge 1 \leq n+1$
2. $f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f * i = (i+1-1)! \wedge i+1 \leq n+1$
3. $f = (i-1)! \wedge i \leq n+1 \wedge i \leq n \rightarrow f = n!$

Teorema 7.1 (Adequacy of VCG). *Let $\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$ a Hoare triple and Γ a set of assertions.*

$$\Gamma \models VCG(\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}) \text{ iff } \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}.$$

Proof:

(\Rightarrow) By induction on the derivation of C . We consider the case of assignment and sequence

- For $C \equiv x \leftarrow E$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} VCG(\{\varphi\}X \leftarrow E\{\psi\}) &= \{\varphi \implies wp(X \leftarrow E, \psi)\} \cup VC(x \leftarrow E, \psi) \\ &= \{\varphi \implies \psi[E/x]\}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\Gamma \models \varphi \implies \psi[E/x]$, then by the assignment rule

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}.$$

- For $C \equiv C_1; C_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} VCG(\{\varphi\}C_1; C_2\{\psi\}) &= \{\varphi \implies wp(C_1; C_2, \psi)\} \cup VC(C_1; C_2, \psi) \\ &= \{\varphi \implies wp(C_1, wp(C_2, \psi))\} \\ &\quad \cup VC(C_1, wp(C_2, \psi)) \cup VC(C_2, \psi). \end{aligned}$$

Let $\eta = wp(C_2, \psi)$. As

$$\Gamma \models \varphi \implies wp(C_1, \eta) \cup VC(C_1, \eta) = VCG(\{\varphi\}C_1\{\eta\}),$$

by induction $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C_1\{\eta\}$.

Also $\Gamma \models \eta \implies \eta \cup VC(C_2, \psi) = VCG(\{\eta\}C_2\{\psi\})$, by induction $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\eta\}C_2\{\psi\}$, thus $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}C_1; C_2\{\psi\}$.

(\Leftarrow) By induction on the derivation of $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\psi\}C\{\varphi\}$. We consider the case **skip** and conditional.

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}\mathbf{skip}\{\psi\}$, if $\Gamma \models \varphi \implies \psi = VCG(\{\varphi\}\mathbf{skip}\{\psi\})$.

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi\}\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2 \{\psi\}$ if $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi \wedge B\}C_1\{\psi\}$ e $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_g} \{\varphi \wedge \neg B\}C_2\{\psi\}$. By induction

$$\Gamma \models VCG(\{\varphi \wedge B\}C_1\{\psi\}) = \{(\varphi \wedge B) \implies wp(C_1, \psi)\} \cup VC(C_1, \psi)$$

and

$$\Gamma \models VCG(\{\varphi \wedge \neg B\}C_2\{\psi\}) = \{(\varphi \wedge \neg B) \implies wp(C_2, \psi)\} \cup VC(C_2, \psi).$$

Note that,

$$wp(\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2, \psi) = B \implies wp(C_1, \psi) \wedge \neg B \implies wp(C_2, \psi),$$

thus,

$$\Gamma \models \{\varphi \implies wp(\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2, \psi)\}.$$

Thus, $\Gamma \models \{\varphi \implies wp(\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2, \psi)\} \cup VC(C_1, \psi) \cup VC(C_2, \psi) = VCG(\{\varphi\}\mathbf{if } B \mathbf{ then } C_1 \mathbf{ else } C_2\{\psi\})$.

Exerc. 7.4. Complete the previous proof.

Verification Conditions for programs with arrays

Let `maxarray` be the following program:

```

max ← 0;
i ← 1;
while i < size do
  if u[i] > u[max] then
    max ← i
  else
    skip;
  i ← i + 1

```

We want to check that

$\{size \geq 1\}$ `maxarray` $\{0 \leq max < size \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < size \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]\}$

Which is the invariant?

The annotated program is:

```

Require: {size ≥ 1}
max ← 0;
i ← 1;
while i < size do {θ}
  if u[i] > u[max] then
    max ← i
  else
    skip;
  i ← i + 1
Ensure: {0 ≤ max < size ∧ ∀a. 0 ≤ a < size → u[a] ≤ u[max]}

```

where the invariant is

$$\theta = 1 \leq i \leq size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]$$

Exerc. 7.5. Using the system \mathcal{H}_g build a tableaux for

$\{size \geq 1\}$ `maxarray` $\{0 \leq max < size \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < size \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]\}$

◇

The verification conditions can be calculated by applying the VCG for

$\{size \geq 1\}$ `maxarray` $\{0 \leq max < size \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < size \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]\}$

We assume

$$\begin{aligned}
\theta &= 1 \leq i \leq size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max] \\
C &= \text{if } u[i] > u[max] \text{ then } max \leftarrow i \text{ else skip}; i \leftarrow i + 1; \\
\psi &= 0 \leq max < size \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < size \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]
\end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} VCG(\{size \geq 1\} \text{maxarray}\{\psi\}) &= \{size \geq 1 \implies wp(\text{maxarray}, \psi)\} \\ &\cup VC(\text{maxarray}, \psi). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} wp(C, \theta) &= (u[i] > u[max] \implies (1 \leq i + 1 \leq size \\ &\wedge 0 \leq i < i + 1 \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i + 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[i]) \\ &\wedge (u[i] \leq u[max] \implies (1 \leq i + 1 \leq size \\ &\wedge 0 \leq max < i + 1 \\ &\wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i + 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]))) \\ wp(\text{maxarray}, \theta) &= (1 \leq 1 \leq size \\ &\wedge 0 \leq 0 < 1 \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[0]) \\ VC(\text{maxarray}, \psi) &= \{\theta \wedge i < size \implies wp(C, \theta), \theta \wedge i \geq size \implies \psi\} \\ &= \{(1 \leq i < size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \\ &\quad \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]) \implies wp(C, \theta), \\ &\quad 1 \leq i = size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \\ &\quad \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]) \implies \psi\} \end{aligned}$$

Extension of VCG for arrays

We add the following rule to \mathcal{H}_g :

$$\frac{}{\{\varphi\} u[E] \leftarrow E' \{\psi\}} \text{ if } \models \varphi \implies \psi[u[E \triangleright E'] / u]$$

we expand wp and VC in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} wp(u[E] \leftarrow E', \psi) &= \psi[u[E \triangleright E'] / u] \\ VC(u[E] \leftarrow E', \psi) &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

For instance:

$$\begin{aligned} wp(u[i] \leftarrow 10, u[j] > 100) &= u[i \triangleright 10][j] > 100 \\ VC(u[i] \leftarrow 10, u[j] > 100) &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

Exerc. 7.6. Using the VCG algorithm calculate:

1. $VCG(\{u[j] > 100\} u[i] \leftarrow 10 \{u[j] > 100\})$
2. $VCG(\{i \neq j \wedge u[j] > 100\} u[i] \leftarrow 10 \{u[j] > 100\})$
3. $VCG(\{i = 70\} u[i] \leftarrow 10 \{u[i] = 10\})$

◇

Safety Properties

In the operational semantics we considered, every expression evaluates to a value and command execution would not produce any error.

We now consider some modifications that approximate the language to a real programming language:

- incorporating in the language semantics a special **error** value;
- modifying the evaluation relation to admit evaluation of commands to a special **error** state;

Error semantics for arithmetic expressions

$\mathcal{A} : \mathbf{Aexp} \rightarrow (\mathbf{State} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z} \cup \{\text{error}\}))$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A}[n]s &= n \\
\mathcal{A}[x]s &= s(x) \\
\mathcal{A}[E_1 \odot E_2]s &= \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \odot \mathcal{A}[E_2]s & \text{if } \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \neq \text{error} \neq \mathcal{A}[E_2]s \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
&\quad \text{para } \odot \in \{+, -, \times\} \\
\mathcal{A}[E_1 \div E_2]s &= \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \div \mathcal{A}[E_2]s & \text{if } \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \neq \text{error} \neq \mathcal{A}[E_2]s \\ & \text{and } \mathcal{A}[E_2]s \neq 0 \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Error semantics for Boolean expressions

$\mathbf{T} = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}, \mathcal{B} : \mathbf{Bexp} \rightarrow (\mathbf{State} \rightarrow (\mathbf{T} \cup \{\text{error}\}))$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{B}[\text{true}]s &= \text{true} \\
\mathcal{B}[\text{false}]s &= \text{false} \\
\mathcal{B}[\neg b]s &= \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}[b]s = \text{false} \\ \text{false} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}[b]s = \text{true} \\ \text{error} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}[b]s = \text{error} \end{cases} \\
\mathcal{B}[E_1 \odot E_2]s &= \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \odot \mathcal{A}[E_2]s & \text{if } \mathcal{A}[E_1]s \neq \text{error} \neq \mathcal{A}[E_2]s \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
&\quad \text{for } \odot \in \{=, <, \leq\}. \\
\mathcal{B}[b_1 \wedge b_2]s &= \begin{cases} \text{false} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}[b_1]s = \text{false} \\ \text{error} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}[b_1]s = \text{error} \\ \mathcal{B}[b_1]s & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Natural semantics with errors (*big-step*)

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \text{skip}, s \rangle &\longrightarrow s \\
\langle x \leftarrow E, s \rangle &\longrightarrow \begin{cases} s[\mathcal{A}[\![E]\!]s/x] & \text{if } \mathcal{A}[\![E]\!]s \neq \text{error} \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
\frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow \text{error}}{\langle C_1; C_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow \text{error}} \\
\frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow s', \langle C_2, s' \rangle \longrightarrow s''}{\langle C_1; C_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow s''} &\text{ if } s' \neq \text{error} \\
\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle &\longrightarrow \text{error if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{error} \\
\frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow s'}{\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow s'} &\text{ if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{true} \\
\frac{\langle C_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow s'}{\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow s'} &\text{ if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{false} \\
\langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle &\longrightarrow \text{error if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{error} \\
\frac{\langle C, s \rangle \longrightarrow \text{error}}{\langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle \longrightarrow \text{error}} &\text{ if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{true} \\
\frac{\langle C, s \rangle \longrightarrow s', \langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s' \rangle \longrightarrow s''}{\langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle \longrightarrow s''} &\text{ if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{true}, s' \neq \text{error} \\
\langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle &\longrightarrow s \text{ if } \mathcal{B}[\![B]\!]s = \text{F}
\end{aligned}$$

Hoare logic safety-sensitive

To extend the deductive systems of Hoare logic

- consider the structure of each command
- consider the possible values of the expressions that occur
- associate *safety side conditions* to each expression E which we denote by $\text{safe}(E)$ (which is an assertion).

Hoare logic with safety conditions: system \mathcal{H}_s

$$\frac{}{\{\varphi\} \text{skip} \{\psi\}} \text{ if } \varphi \implies \psi$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\{\varphi\} x \leftarrow E \{\psi\}} \text{ if } \varphi \implies \text{safe}(E) \text{ and } \varphi \implies \psi[E/x] \\
\\
\frac{\{\varphi\} C_1 \{\eta\} \quad \{\eta\} C_2 \{\psi\}}{\{\varphi\} C_1; C_2 \{\psi\}} \\
\\
\frac{\{\varphi \wedge B\} C_1 \{\psi\} \quad \{\varphi \wedge \neg B\} C_2 \{\psi\}}{\{\varphi\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2 \{\psi\}} \text{ if } \varphi \implies \text{safe}(B) \\
\\
\frac{\{\eta \wedge B\} C \{\eta\}}{\{\psi\} \text{ while } B \text{ do } \{\eta\} C \{\varphi\}} \text{ if } \psi \implies \eta, \eta \implies \text{safe}(B) \text{ and } \eta \wedge \neg B \implies \varphi
\end{array}$$

VCG algorithm: calculation of the weakest preconditions (wp^s)

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{wp}^s(\text{skip}, \psi) &= \psi \\
\text{wp}^s(x \leftarrow E, \psi) &= \text{safe}(E) \wedge \psi[E/x] \\
\text{wp}^s(C_1; C_2, \psi) &= \text{wp}^s(C_1, \text{wp}^s(C_2, \psi)) \\
\text{wp}^s(\text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, \psi) &= \text{safe}(B) \wedge (B \implies \text{wp}^s(C_1, \psi)) \\
&\quad \wedge (\neg B \implies \text{wp}^s(C_2, \psi)) \\
\text{wp}^s(\text{while } B \text{ do } \{\eta\} C, \psi) &= \eta
\end{aligned}$$

VCG algorithm: Compute VC without preconditions

$$\begin{aligned}
VC^s(\text{skip}, \psi) &= \emptyset \\
VC^s(x \leftarrow E, \psi) &= \emptyset \\
VC^s(C_1; C_2, \psi) &= VC^s(C_1, \text{wp}^s(C_2, \psi)) \cup \\
&\quad VC^s(C_2, \psi) \\
VC^s(\text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, \psi) &= VC^s(C_1, \psi) \cup VC^s(C_2, \psi) \\
VC^s(\text{while } B \text{ do } \{\eta\} C, \psi) &= \{\eta \implies \text{safe}(B)\} \cup \\
&\quad \{(\eta \wedge B) \implies \text{wp}^s(C, \eta)\} \cup \\
&\quad \{(\eta \wedge \neg B) \implies \psi\} \cup VC^s(C, \eta)
\end{aligned}$$

We define VCG^s as:

$$VCG^s(\{\varphi\} C \{\psi\}) = \{\varphi \implies \text{wp}^s(C, \psi)\} \cup VC^s(C, \psi)$$

The function **safe** for the **While^{int}** language

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{safe}(n) &= \text{true} \\
\text{safe}(x) &= \text{true} \\
\text{safe}(\neg E) &= \text{safe}(E) \\
\text{safe}(E_1 \odot E_2) &= \text{safe}(E_1) \wedge \text{safe}(E_2) \\
&\quad \text{with } \odot \in \{+, -, \times, =, <, \leq\} \\
\text{safe}(E_1 \div E_2) &= \text{safe}(E_1) \wedge \text{safe}(E_2) \wedge E_2 \neq 0 \\
\text{safe}(\neg B) &= \text{safe}(B) \\
\text{safe}(B_1 \wedge B_2) &= \text{safe}(B_1) \wedge (B_1 \implies \text{safe}(B_2)) \\
\text{safe}(B_1 \vee B_2) &= \text{safe}(B_1) \wedge (\neg B_1 \implies \text{safe}(B_2))
\end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\mathcal{A}[\![E]\!]s \neq \text{error} \text{ iff } \llbracket \text{safe}(E) \rrbracket s = \text{true}.$$

Exerc. 7.7. *Prove the previous proposition.* \diamond

Adequacy of VCG^s

Let $\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$ be a Hoare triple and Γ a set of assertions. Then

$$\Gamma \models \text{VCG}^s(\{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}) \text{ iff } \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_s} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}.$$

Proof. (\Rightarrow) By induction on the structure of C .

(\Leftarrow) By induction on the derivation of $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{H}_s} \{\varphi\}C\{\psi\}$.

□

Exerc. 7.8. *Prove the previous result.* \diamond

Ex. 7.1.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{safe}((x \div y) > 2) &= \text{safe}(x) \wedge \text{safe}(y) \wedge y \neq 0 \wedge \text{safe}(2) \\
&= \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge y \neq 0 \wedge \text{true} \\
&\equiv y \neq 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{safe}(7 > x \wedge (x \div y) > 2) &= \text{safe}(7 > x) \wedge \\
&\quad ((7 > x) \rightarrow \text{safe}((x \div y) > 2)) \\
&= \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge (7 > x \rightarrow (y \neq 0)) \\
&\equiv 7 > x \rightarrow y \neq 0
\end{aligned}$$

Bounded Arrays: $\mathbf{While}^{\mathbf{array}[N]}$

- The notion of array introduced before is unrealistic since arrays are virtually infinite.
- we will consider expressions of the for $\mathbf{array}[N]$, representing arrays of size N , that admit as valid indexes nonnegative integers below N .
- What to do if the operations refer indexes out of the array limits?
- We consider as error situations.
- We introduce $\mathbf{len}(A)$ that given a array A returns its length.

Syntax of language $\mathbf{While}^{\mathbf{array}[N]}$

For $n \in \mathbf{Num}, x \in \mathbf{Var}, u \in \mathbf{Array}$

$$Exp_{\mathbf{array}[N]} \quad A ::= u \mid A[E \triangleright E]$$

$$Exp_{\mathbf{int}} \quad E ::= n \mid x \mid -E \mid E + E \mid E - E \\ \mid E \times E \mid E \div E \\ \mid A[E] \mid \mathbf{len}(A)$$

$$Exp_{\mathbf{bool}} \quad B ::= \mathbf{true} \mid \mathbf{false} \mid \neg B \mid E = E \\ \mid B < E \mid B \leq E \mid B \wedge B \mid B \vee B$$

Semantics of the arithmetic expressions for $\mathbf{While}^{\mathbf{array}[N]}$

We only need to define the semantics for $Exp_{\mathbf{array}[N]}$.

$$\mathcal{A}[[u]]s = s(u)$$

$$\mathcal{A}[[A[E \triangleright E']]]s = \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}[[A]]s[\mathcal{A}[[E']]s / \mathcal{A}[[E]]s] & \text{if} \\ \quad \mathcal{A}[[A]]s \neq \mathbf{error} \\ \quad \mathcal{A}[[E]]s \neq \mathbf{error} \\ \quad 0 \leq \mathcal{A}[[E]]s < \mathcal{A}[[\mathbf{len}(A)]]s \\ \quad \mathcal{A}[[E']]s \neq \mathbf{error} \\ \mathbf{error} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

e

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}[\text{len}(A)]s &= N \\ \mathcal{A}[A[E]]s &= \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}[A]s(\mathcal{A}[E]s) & \text{if } \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{A}[A]s \neq \text{error} \\ \mathcal{A}[E]s \neq \text{error} \\ 0 \leq \mathcal{A}[E]s < \mathcal{A}[\text{len}(A)]s \end{array} \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Extension of VCG for array[N]

We add the following rule to \mathcal{H}_g :

$$\frac{}{\{\varphi\} u[E] \leftarrow E' \{\psi\}} \text{ if } \varphi \implies \text{safe}(u[E \triangleright E']) \text{ and } \varphi \implies \psi[u[E \triangleright E']/u]$$

we extend wp^s and VC^s and safe as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}wp^s(u[E] \leftarrow E', \psi) &= \text{safe}(u[E \triangleright E']) \wedge \psi[u[E \triangleright E']/u] \\ VC^s(u[E] \leftarrow E', \psi) &= \emptyset\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{safe}(u) &= \text{true} \\ \text{safe}(\text{len}(A)) &= \text{true} \\ \text{safe}(A[E]) &= \text{safe}(A) \wedge \text{safe}(E) \wedge 0 \leq E \leq \text{len}(A) \\ \text{safe}(A[E \triangleright E']) &= \text{safe}(A) \wedge \text{safe}(E) \wedge \\ &\quad 0 \leq E \leq \text{len}(A) \wedge \text{safe}(E')\end{aligned}$$

Ex. 7.2.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{safe}(u[x \div 2]) &= \text{safe}(u) \wedge \text{safe}(x \div 2) \wedge 0 \leq x \div 2 < \text{len}(u) \\ &= \text{true} \wedge \text{safe}(x) \wedge \text{safe}(2) \wedge 2 \neq 0 \\ &\quad \wedge 0 \leq x \div 2 < \text{len}(u) \\ &= \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge 2 \neq 0 \wedge 0 \leq x \div 2 < \text{len}(u) \\ &\equiv 2 \neq 0 \wedge 0 \leq x \div 2 < \text{len}(u)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{safe}(u[3 \triangleright 10]) &= \text{safe}(u) \wedge \text{safe}(3) \wedge 0 \leq 3 < \text{len}(u) \wedge \text{safe}(10) \\ &= \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge 0 \leq 3 < \text{len}(u) \wedge \text{true} \\ &\equiv 0 \leq 3 < \text{len}(u)\end{aligned}$$

maxarray

Now one needs consider the range of valid indexes of an array u

$$\text{valid_range}(u, i, j) = 0 \leq i \leq j < \text{len}(u) \vee i > j$$

Require: $\{size \geq 1 \wedge valid_range(u, 0, size - 1)\}$
 $max \leftarrow 0;$
 $i \leftarrow 0;$
while $i < size$ **do** $\{\theta\}$
 if $u[i] > u[max]$ **then**
 $max \leftarrow i$
 else
 skip;
 $i \leftarrow i + 1$
Ensure: $\{0 \leq max < size \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < size \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
wp^s(C, \theta) = & \text{safe}(u[i] > u[max]) \\
& \wedge (u[i] > u[max] \implies (\text{safe}(i) \wedge \text{safe}(i + 1) \\
& \wedge 1 \leq i + 1 \leq size \wedge 0 \leq i < i + 1 \\
& \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i + 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[i])) \\
& \wedge (\neg(u[i] \leq u[max]) \implies (\text{safe}(i + 1) \\
& \wedge 1 \leq i + 1 \leq size \wedge 0 \leq max < i + 1 \\
& \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < i + 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max])) \\
wp^s(\text{maxarray}, \theta) = & (\text{safe}(0) \wedge \text{safe}(1) \wedge 1 \leq 1 \leq size \\
& \wedge 0 \leq 0 < 1 \wedge \forall a. 0 \leq a < 1 \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[0]) \\
VC^s(\text{maxarray}, \psi) = & \{\theta \implies \text{safe}(i < size), \\
& (1 \leq i < size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \\
& \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]) \implies wp^s(C, \theta), \\
& (1 \leq i = size \wedge 0 \leq max < i \wedge \\
& \forall a. 0 \leq a < i \rightarrow u[a] \leq u[max]) \implies \psi\}
\end{aligned}$$

See [AFPMdS11] Chap. 6.5, 7.

References

- [AFPMdS11] José Bacelar Almeida, Maria João Frade, Jorge Sousa Pinto, and Simão Melo de Sousa. *Rigorous Software Development: An Introduction to Program Verification*. Springer, 2011.