# **ACSL** By Example

Towards a Verified C Standard Library

Version 15.1.0 for Frama-C 15 (Phosphorus) June 2017

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Project duration: 2009–2012

# **Changes**

This release is intended for Frama-C 15 (*Phosphorus*), issued in May 2017.<sup>4</sup> For changes in previous versions we refer to the Appendix B on Page 187.

## New in Version 15.1.0 (Phosphorus, June 2017)

- The verification results are now part of the appendix.
- Fix an error in the specification of the well-definition of stack\_size.
- This release of Frama-C/WP could not discharge some of our assertions of push\_heap. We therefore have completely rewritten the annotations and also tweaked the implementation of push\_heap. We also added some new predicates and lemmas to maintain a concise specification that can easily be verified by automatic provers.
  - add predicate MultisetAdd and lemma MultisetAddDistinct
  - add predicate MultisetMinus and lemma MultisetMinusDistinct
  - add predicate MultisetRetain and lemma MultisetPushHeapRetain
  - provide an additional version of predicate MultisetRetainRest
  - and lemma MultisetPushHeapClosure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See https://frama-c.com/download.html

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# 1. Introduction

This report provides various examples for the formal specification, implementation, and deductive verification of C programs using the ANSI/ISO-C Specification Language (ACSL [1]) and the Frama-C/WP plug-in [2] of Frama-C [3] (Framework for Modular Analysis of C programs).

We have chosen our examples from the C++ standard library whose initial version is still known as the *Standard Template Library* (STL).<sup>5</sup> The STL contains a broad collection of *generic* algorithms that work not only on C arrays but also on more elaborate container data structures. For the purposes of this document we have selected representative algorithms, and converted their implementation from C++ function templates to C functions that work on arrays of type int.<sup>6</sup>

We will continue to extend and refine this report by describing additional STL algorithms and data structures. Thus, step by step, this document will evolve from an ACSL tutorial to a report on a formally specified and deductively verified standard library for ANSI/ISO-C. Moreover, as ACSL is extended to a C++ specification language, our work may be extended to a deductively verified C++ Standard Library.

You may email suggestions, errors or greetings(!) to

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In particular, we encourage you to check vigilantly whether our formal specifications capture the essence of the informal description of the STL algorithms.

We appreciate your feedback and hope that this document helps foster the adoption of deductive verification techniques.

# **Acknowledgement**

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We also like to express our gratitude to Claude Marché (LRI/INRIA)<sup>9</sup> and Yannick Moy (AdaCore)<sup>10</sup> for their helpful comments and detailed suggestions for improvement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> We are not directly using **int** in the source code but rather value\_type which is a **typedef** for **int**.

<sup>7</sup> http://www-list.cea.fr/en

<sup>8</sup> http://trust-in-soft.com

<sup>9</sup> https://www.lri.fr/index\_en.php?lang=EN

<sup>10</sup> http://www.adacore.com

#### 1.1. Frama-C

The Framework for Modular Analyses of C, Frama-C [3], is a suite of software tools dedicated to the analysis of C source code. Its development efforts are conducted and coordinated at two French public institutions: CEA LIST [4], a laboratory of applied research on software-intensive technologies, and INRIA Saclay[5], the French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control in collaboration with LRI [6], the Laboratory for Computer Science at Université Paris-Sud.

ACSL (ANSI/ISO-C Specification Language) [1] is a formal language to express behavioral properties of C programs. This language can specify a wide range of functional properties by adding annotations to the code. It allows to create function contracts containing preconditions and postconditions. It is possible to define type and global invariants as well as logic specifications, such as predicates, lemmas, axioms or logic functions. Furthermore, ACSL allows statement annotations such as assertions or loop annotations.

Within Frama-C, the Frama-C/WP plug-in [2] enables deductive verification of C programs that have been annotated with ACSL. The Frama-C/WP plug-in uses Hoare-style weakest precondition computations to formally prove ACSL properties of C code. Verification conditions are generated and submitted to external automatic theorem provers or interactive proof assistants.

The Verification Group at Fraunhofer FOKUS[7] see the great potential for deductive verification using ACSL. However, we recognize that for a novice there are challenges to overcome in order to effectively use the Frama-C/WP plug-in for deductive verification. In order to help users gain confidence, we have written this tutorial that demonstrates how to write annotations for existing C programs. This document provides several examples featuring a variety of annotated functions using ACSL. For an in-depth understanding of ACSL, we strongly recommend users to read the official Frama-C introductory tutorial [8] first. The principles presented in this paper are also documented in the ACSL reference document [9].

#### 1.2. Structure of this document

The functions presented in this document were selected from the C++ standard library. The original C++ implementation was stripped from its generic implementation and mapped to C arrays of type value\_type.

Chapter 2 provides a short introduction into the Hoare Calculus.

We have grouped various standard algorithms in chapters as follows:

- non-mutating algorithms (Chapter 3)
- maximum/minimum algorithms (Chapter 4)
- binary search algorithms (Chapter 5)
- mutating algorithms (Chapter 6)
- numeric algorithms (Chapter 7)
- heap algorithms (Chapter 8)

The order of these chapters reflects their increasing complexity.

Using the example of a stack, we tackle in Chapter 9 the problem of how a data type and its associated C functions can be specified with ACSL and automatically verified with Frama-C.

Finally, Chapter A lists for each example the results of verification with Frama-C.

# 1.3. Types, arrays, ranges and valid indices

In order to keep algorithms and specifications as general as possible, we use abstract type names on almost all occasions. We currently defined the following types:

```
typedef int value_type;
typedef unsigned int size_type;
typedef int bool;
```

Programmers who know the types associated with C++ standard library containers will not be surprised that value\_type refers to the type of values in an array whereas size\_type will be used for the indices of an array.

This approach allows one to modify e.g. an algorithm working on an **int** array to work on a **char** array by changing only one line of code, viz. the **typedef** of value\_type. Moreover, we believe in better readability as it becomes clear whether a variable is used as an index or as a memory for a copy of an array element, just by looking at its type.

The latter reason also applies to the use of **bool**. To denote values of that type, we #defined the identifiers **false** and **true** to be 0 and 1, respectively. While any non-zero value is accepted to denote **true** in ACSL like in C the algorithms shown in this tutorial will always produce 1 for **true**. Due to the above definitions, the ACSL truth-value constant \false and \true can be used interchangeably with our **false** and **true**, respectively, in ACSL clauses, but not in C code.

#### 1.3.1. Array and ranges

The C Standard describes an array as a "contiguously allocated nonempty set of objects" [10, §6.2.5.20]. If n is a constant integer expression with a value greater than zero, then

```
int a[n];
```

describes an array of type **int**. In particular, for each i that is greater than or equal to 0 and less than n, we can dereference the pointer a+i.

Let the following prototype represent a function, whose first argument is the address to a range and whose second argument is the length of this range.

```
void example(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

To be very precise, we have to use the term range instead of array. This is due to the fact, that functions may be called with empty ranges, i.e., with n = 0. Empty arrays, however, are not permitted according to the definition stated above. Nevertheless, we often use the term array and range interchangeably.

## 1.3.2. Specification of valid ranges in ACSL

The following ACSL fragment expresses the precondition that the function example expects that for each i, such that  $0 \le i \le n$ , the pointer a+i may be safely dereferenced.

```
/*@
    requires 0 <= n;
    requires \valid(a + (0.. n-1));
*/
void example(value_type* a, size_type n);</pre>
```

In this case we refer to each index i with  $0 \le i \le n$  as a valid index of a.

ACSL's built-in predicates  $\valid(a + (0.. n))$  and  $\valid_read(a + (0.. n))$  refer to all addresses a+i where  $0 \le i \le n$ . However, the array notation int a[n] of the C programming language refers only to the elements a+i where i satisfies  $0 \le i \le n$ . Users of ACSL must therefore use the range notation a+(0.. n-1) in order to express a valid array of length n.

# 2. The Hoare calculus

In 1969, C.A.R. Hoare introduced a calculus for formal reasoning about properties of imperative programs [11], which became known as "Hoare Calculus".

The basic notion is

```
//@ assert P;
Q;
//@ assert R;
```

where P and R denote logical expressions and Q denotes a source-code fragment. Informally, this means

*If* P *holds before the execution of* Q, *then* R *will hold after the execution.* 

Usually, P and R are called *precondition* and *postcondition* of Q, respectively. The syntax for logical expressions is described in  $[9, \S 2.2]$  in full detail. For the purposes of this tutorial, the notions shown in Table 2.1 are sufficient. Note that they closely resemble the logical and relational operators in C.

ACSL syntax	Name	Reading			
!P	negation	P is not true			
P && Q	conjunction	P is true and Q is true			
P    Q	disjunction	P is true or Q is true			
P ==> Q	implication if $P$ is true, then $Q$ is true				
P <==> Q	equivalence if, and only if, P is true, then Q is				
x < y == z	relation chain x is less than y and y is equal				
\forall int x; P(x)	universal quantifier	P(x) is true for every <b>int</b> value of x			
\exists int x; P(x)	existential quantifier	P(x) is true for some int value of			

Table 2.1.: Some ACSL formula syntax

Here we show three example source-code fragments and annotations.

```
//@ assert x \% 2 == 1;

++x;

//@ assert x \% 2 == 0;

If x has an odd value before execution of the code ++x then x has an even value thereafter.
```

```
//@ assert 0 <= x <= y;

++x;

//@ assert 0 <= x <= y + 1;

If the value of x is in the range \{0, ..., y\} before execution of the same code, then x's value is in the range \{0, ..., y + 1\} after execution.
```

```
//@ assert true;
while (--x != 0)
    sum += a[x];
//@ assert x == 0;
Under any circumstances, the value of x is zero after execution of the loop code.
```

Any C programmer will confirm that these properties are valid. <sup>11</sup> The examples were chosen to demonstrate also the following issues:

- For a given code fragment, there does not exist one fixed pre- or postcondition. Rather, the choice of formulas depends on the actual property to be verified, which comes from the application context. The first two examples share the same code fragment, but have different pre- and postconditions.
- The postcondition need not be the most restricting possible formula that can be derived. In the second example, it is not an error that we stated only that 0 <= x although we know that even 1 <= x.
- In particular, pre- and postconditions need not contain all variables appearing in the code fragment. Neither sum nor a [] is referenced in the formulas of the loop example.
- We can use the predicate **true** to denote the absence of a properly restricting precondition, as we did before the **while** loop.
- It is not possible to express by pre- and postconditions that a given piece of code will always terminate. The loop example only states that *if* the loop terminates, then x == 0 will hold. In fact, if x has a negative value on entry, the loop will run forever. However, if the loop terminates, x == 0 will hold, and that is what the loop example claims.

Usually, termination issues are dealt with separately from correctness issues. Termination proofs may, however, refer to properties stated (and verified) using the Hoare Calculus.

Hoare provided the rules shown in Listing 2.2 to 2.12 in order to reason about programs. We will comment on them in the following sections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> We leave the important issues of overflow aside for a moment.

# 2.1. The assignment rule

We start with the rule that is probably the least intuitive of all Hoare-Calculus rules, viz. the assignment rule. It is depicted in Listing 2.2, where

$$P\{x \mapsto e\}$$

denotes the result of substituting each occurrence of the variable x in the predicate P by the expression e.

```
//@ assert P {x |--> e};
x = e;
//@ assert P;
```

Listing 2.2: The assignment rule

For example, if P is the predicate

```
x > 0 \&\& a[2*x] == 0
```

then  $P\{x \mapsto y + 1\}$  is the predicate

```
y+1 > 0 && a[2*(y+1)] == 0
```

Hence, we get Listing 2.3 as an example instance of the assignment rule. Note that parentheses are required in the index expression to get the correct 2\*(y+1) rather than the faulty 2\*y+1.

```
//@ assert y+1 > 0 && a[2*(y+1)] == 0;
x = y+1;
//@ assert x > 0 && a[2*x] == 0;
```

Listing 2.3: An assignment rule example instance

Note that after a substitution several different predicates P may result in the same predicate  $P\{x \mapsto e\}$ . For example, after applying the substitution  $P\{x \mapsto y + 1\}$  each of the following four predicates

```
x > 0 \&\& a[2*x] == 0

x > 0 \&\& a[2*(y+1)] == 0

y+1 > 0 \&\& a[2*x] == 0

y+1 > 0 \&\& a[2*(y+1)] == 0
```

turns into

```
y+1 > 0 \&\& a[2*(y+1)] == 0
```

For this reason, the same precondition and statement may result in several different postconditions (All four above expressions are valid postconditions in Listing 2.3, for example). However, given a postcondition and a statement, there is only one precondition that corresponds.

When first confronted with Hoare's assignment rule, most people are tempted to think of a simpler and more intuitive alternative, shown in Listing 2.4.

```
//@ assert P;
x = e;
//@ assert P && x == e;
```

Listing 2.4: Simpler, but faulty assignment rule

Listings 2.5–2.7 show some example instances of this faulty rule.

```
//@ assert y > 0;
x = y+1;
//@ assert y > 0 && x == y+1;
```

Listing 2.5: An example instance of the faulty rule from Listing 2.4

While Listing 2.5 happens to be ok, Listing 2.6 and 2.7 lead to postconditions that are obviously nonsensical formulas.

```
//@ assert true;
x = x+1;
//@ assert x == x+1;
```

Listing 2.6: An example instance of the faulty rule from Listing 2.4

The reason is that in the assignment in Listing 2.6 the left-hand side variable  $\times$  also appears in the right-hand side expression  $\oplus$ , while the assignment in Listing 2.7 just destroys the property from its precondition.

```
//@ assert x < 0;
x = 5;
//@ assert x < 0 && x == 5;
```

Listing 2.7: An example instance of the faulty rule from Listing 2.4

Note that the correct example Listing 2.5 can as well be obtained as an instance of the correct rule from Listing 2.2, since replacing x by y+1 in its postcondition yields y > 0 && y+1 == y+1 as precondition, which is logically equivalent to just y > 0.

# 2.2. The sequence rule

The sequence rule, shown in Listing 2.8, combines two code fragments Q and S into a single one Q; S. Note that the postcondition for Q must be identical to the precondition of S. This just reflects the sequential execution ("first do Q, then do S") on a formal level. Thanks to this rule, we may "annotate" a program with interspersed formulas, as it is done in Frama-C.

```
//@ assert P;
Q;
//@ assert R;

and
//@ assert R;

//@ assert P;
Q; S;
//@ assert T;

//@ assert P;
Q; S;
//@ assert T;
```

Listing 2.8: The sequence rule

# 2.3. The implication rule

The implication rule, shown in Listing 2.9, allows us at any time to sharpen a precondition P and to weaken a postcondition P. More precisely, if we know that P' ==> P and P ==> P then the we can replace the left contract in of Listing 2.9 by the right one.

```
//@ assert P;
Q;
//@ assert R;

//@ assert P';
Q;
//@ assert R';
```

Listing 2.9: The implication rule

#### 2.4. The choice rule

The choice rule, depicted in Listing 2.10, is needed to verify conditional statements of the form

```
if (C) X;
else Y;
```

Both the then and else branch must establish the same postcondition, viz. S. The implication rule can be used to weaken differing postconditions S1 of a then-branch and S2 of an else-branch into a unified postcondition S1  $\mid \mid$  S2, if necessary. In each branch, we may use what we know about the condition C, e.g. in the else-branch, that it is false. If the else-branch is missing, it can be considered as consisting of an empty sequence, having the postcondition P && !C.

```
//@ assert P && C;
X;
//@ assert P && !C;
Y;
//@ assert S;

//@ assert P;
if (C) X;
else Y;
//@ assert S;
```

Listing 2.10: The choice rule

Listing 2.11 shows an example application of the choice rule.

```
//@ assert 0 <= i < n;
                                // given precondition
if (i < n-1) {
 //@ assert 0 <= i < n - 1;
                                // using that i < n-1 holds in this branch
                                // by the implication rule
 //@ assert 1 <= i+1 < n;
 i = i+1;
                                // by the assignment rule
 //@ assert 1 <= i < n;
                                // weakened by the implication rule
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n;
} else {
 //@ assert 0 <= i == n-1 < n; // using that !(i < n-1) holds in else part
 //@ assert 0 == 0 && 0 < n;
                                // weakened by the implication rule
 i = 0;
 //@ assert i == 0 && 0 < n;
                                // by the assignment rule
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n;
                                // weakened by the implication rule
                                // by the choice rule from both branches
//@ assert 0 <= i < n;
```

Listing 2.11: An example application of the choice rule

The variable i may be used as an index into a ring buffer **int** a[n]. The shown code fragment just advances the index i appropriately. We verified that i remains a valid index into a[] provided it was valid before. Note the use of the implication rule to establish preconditions for the assignment rule as needed, and to unify the postconditions of the then and else branches, as required by the choice rule.

# 2.5. The loop rule

The loop rule, shown in Listing 2.12, is used to verify a **while** loop. This requires to find an appropriate formula, P, which is preserved by each execution of the loop body. P is also called a loop invariant.

```
//@ assert P;
//@ assert P;
while (B) {
    S;
//@ assert P;
    while (B) {
        S;
        //@ assert !B && P;
        //@ assert !B && P;
```

Listing 2.12: The loop rule

To find it requires some intuition in many cases; for this reason, automatic theorem provers usually have problems with this task.

As said above, the loop rule does not guarantee that the loop will always eventually terminate. It merely assures us that, if the loop has terminated, the postcondition holds. To emphasis this, the properties verifiable with the Hoare Calculus are usually called "partial correctness" properties, while properties that include program termination are called "total correctness" properties.

As an example application, let us consider an abstract ring-buffer. Listing 2.13 shows a verification proof for the index i lying always within the valid range [0..n-1] during, and after, the loop. It uses the proof from Listing 2.11 as a sub-part.

```
//@ assert 0 < n;
                                    // given precondition
int i = 0;
//@ assert 0 <= i < n;
                                    // by the assignment rule
while (!done) {
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n && !done;
                                    // may be assumed by the loop rule
  a[i] = getchar();
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n && !done;
                                    // required property of getchar
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n;
                                    // weakened by the implication rule
  i = (i < n-1) ? i+1 : 0;
                                    // follows by the choice rule
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n;
  process(a, i, &done);
                                    // required property of process
  //@ assert 0 <= i < n;
//@ assert 0 <= i < n;
                                    // by the loop rule
```

Listing 2.13: An abstract ring buffer loop

To reuse the proof from Listing 2.11, we had to drop the conjunct !done, since we didn't consider it in Listing 2.11. In general, we may *not* infer

```
//@ assert P && S;
Q;
//@ assert R && S;

from
//@ assert P;
Q;
//@ assert R;
```

since the code fragment Q may just destroy the property S.

This is obvious for Q being the fragment from Listing 2.11, and S being e.g. i != 0.

Suppose for a moment that process had been implemented in a way such that it refuses to set done to **true** unless it is **false** at entry. In this case, we would really need that !done still holds after execution of Listing 2.11. We would have to do the proof again, looping-through an additional conjunct !done.

We have similar problems to carry the property  $0 \le i \le n$  && !done and  $0 \le i \le n$  over the statement a[i] = getchar() and process(a, i, &done), respectively. We need to specify that neither getchar nor process is allowed to alter the value of i or n. In ACSL, there is a particular language construct assigns for that purpose, which is introduced in Section 6.4 on Page 79.

In our example, the loop invariant can be established between any two statements of the loop body. However, this need not be the case in general. The loop rule only requires the invariant holds before the loop and at the end of the loop body. For example, process could well change the value of  $i^{12}$  and even n intermediately, as long as it re-establishes the property 0 <= i < n immediately prior to returning.

The loop invariant, 0 <= i < n, is established by the proof in Listing 2.11 also after termination of the loop. Thus, e.g., a final a  $[i] = ' \setminus 0'$  after the loop would be guaranteed not to lead to a bounds violation.

Even if we would need the property  $0 \le i \le n$  to hold only immediately before the assignment a [i] = getchar(), since, e.g., process's body didn't use a or i, we would still have to establish  $0 \le i \le n$  as a loop invariant by the loop rule, since there is no other way to obtain any property inside a loop body. Apart from this formal reason it is obvious that  $0 \le i \le n$  wouldn't hold during the second loop iteration unless we re-established it at the end of the first one, and that is just what the while rule requires.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>We would have to change the call to process (a, &i, &done) and the implementation of process appropriately. In this case we couldn't rely on the above-mentioned assigns clause for process.

#### 2.6. Derived rules

The above rules do not cover all kinds of statements allowed in C. However, missing C-statements can be rewritten into a form that is semantically equivalent and covered by the Hoare rules.

For example, if the expression E doesn't have side-effects, then

```
switch (E) {
    case E1: Q1; break; ...
    case En: Qn; break;
    default: Q0; break;
}
```

is semantically equivalent to

```
if (E == E1) {
    Q1;
} else ... if (E == En) {
    Qn;
} else {
    Q0;
}
```

While the **if-else** form is usually slower in terms of execution speed on a real computer, this doesn't matter for verification purposes, which are separate from execution issues.

Similarly, a loop statement of the form

```
for (P; Q; R) {
   S;
}
```

can be re-expressed as

```
P;
while (Q) {
    S;
    R;
}
```

and so on.

It is then possible to derive a Hoare rule for each kind of statement not previously discussed, by applying the classical rules to the corresponding re-expressed code fragment. However, we do not present these derived rules here

Although procedures cannot be re-expressed in the above way if they are (directly or mutually) recursive, it is still possible to derive Hoare rules for them. This requires the finding of appropriate "procedure invariants" similar to loop invariants. Non-recursive procedures can, of course, just be inlined to make the classical Hoare rules applicable.

Note that **goto** cannot be rewritten in the above way; in fact, programs containing **goto** statements cannot be verified with the Hoare Calculus. See [12] for a similar calculus that can deal with arbitrary flowcharts, and hence arbitrary jumps. In fact, Hoare's work was based on that calculus. Later calculi inspired from Hoare's work have been designed to re-integrate support for arbitrary jumps. However, in this tutorial, we will not discuss example programs containing a **goto**.

# 3. Non-mutating algorithms

In this chapter, we consider *non-mutating* algorithms, i.e., algorithms that change neither their arguments nor any objects outside their scope. This requirement can be formally expressed with the following *assigns* clause:

```
assigns \nothing;
```

Each algorithm in this chapter therefore uses this assigns clause in its specification.

The specifications of these algorithms are not very complex. Nevertheless, we have tried to arrange them so that the earlier examples are simpler than the later ones. Each algorithm works on one-dimensional arrays.

- find (Section 3.1 on Page 26) provides *sequential* or *linear search* and returns the smallest index at which a given value occurs in a given range. In Section 3.2, on Page 28, a predicate is introduced in order to simplify the specification.
- find\_first\_of (Section 3.3, on Page 30) provides similar to find a *sequential search*, but unlike find it does not search for a particular value, but for an arbitrary member of a set.
- adjacent\_find (Section 3.4 on Page 32) can be used to find equal neighbors in an array.
- equal and mismatch (Section 3.5 on Page 34) are useful for comparing two ranges element-byelement and identifying where they differ.
- search and search\_n (Sections 3.6 and 3.7) find a subsequence that is identical to a given sequence when compared element-by-element and returns the position of the first occurrence.
- count (Section 3.9, on Page 46) returns the number of occurrences of a given value in a range. Here we will employ some user-defined axioms to formally specify count.

# 3.1. The find algorithm

The find algorithm in the C++ standard library implements *sequential search* for general sequences.<sup>13</sup> We have modified the generic implementation, which relies heavily on C++ templates, to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
size_type find(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

The function find returns the least *valid* index i of a where the condition a[i] == val holds. If no such index exists then find returns the length n of the array.

As an example, we consider in Figure 3.1 an array. The arrows indicate which indices will be returned by find for a given value. Note that the index 9 points *one past end* of the array. Values that are not contained in the array are colored in gray.

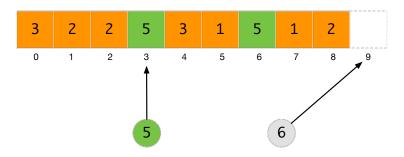


Figure 3.1.: A simple example for find

### 3.1.1. Formal specification of find

The formal specification of find in ACSL is shown in Listing 3.2.

```
/*@
  requires \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior some:
  assumes \exists integer i; 0 <= i < n && a[i] == val;
  ensures 0 <= \result < n;
  ensures a[\result] == val;
  ensures \( \frac{1}{2} \) integer i; 0 <= i < \result ==> a[i] != val;

behavior none:
  assumes \( \frac{1}{2} \) integer i; 0 <= i < n ==> a[i] != val;
  ensures \( \result == n; \)

complete behaviors;
disjoint behaviors;
*/
size_type find(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Listing 3.2: Formal specification of find

<sup>13</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/find.html

The requires-clause indicates that n is non-negative and that the pointer a points to n contiguously allocated objects of type value\_type (see Section 1.3). The assigns-clause indicates that find (as a non-mutating algorithm), does not modify any memory location outside its scope (see Page 25).

We have subdivided the specification of find into two behaviors (named some and none).

- The behavior some applies if the sought-after value is contained in the array. We express this condition by using the assumes-clause. The next line expresses that if the assumptions of the behavior are satisfied then find will return a valid index. The algorithm also ensures that the returned (valid) index i, a[i] == val holds. Therefore we define this property in the second postcondition of behavior some. Finally, it is important to express that find return the smallest index i for which a[i] == val holds (see last postcondition of behavior some).
- The behavior none covers the case that the sought-after value is *not* contained in the array (see assumes-clause of behavior none in Listing 3.2). In this case, find must return the length n of the range a.

Note that the formula in the assumes-clause of the behavior some is the negation of the assumes-clause of the behavior none. Therefore, we can express that these two behaviors are *complete* and *disjoint*.

#### 3.1.2. Implementation of find

Listing 3.3 shows a straightforward implementation of find. The only noteworthy elements of this implementation are the *loop annotations*.

```
size_type find(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant 0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant \forall integer k; 0 <= k < i ==> a[k] != val;
    loop assigns i;
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        if (a[i] == val) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return n;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3.3: Implementation of find

The first loop *invariant* is needed to prove that accesses to a only occur with valid indices. The second loop *invariant* is needed for the proof of the postconditions of the behavior some (see Listing 3.2). It expresses that for each iteration the sought-after value is not yet found up to that iteration step.

Finally, the loop *variant* n-i is needed to generate correct verification conditions for the termination of the loop.

# 3.2. The find algorithm reconsidered

In this section we specify the find algorithm in a slightly different way when compared to Section 3.1. Our approach is motivated by a considerable number of closely related formulas. We have in Listings 3.2 and 3.3 the following formulas

\exists	integer	i;	0	<=	i	<	n	& &	a[i]	==	val;
\forall	integer	i;	0	<=	i	<	\result	==>	a[i]	! =	val;
\forall	integer	i;	0	<=	i	<	n	==>	a[i]	! =	val;
\forall	integer	k;	0	<=	k	<	i	==>	a[k]	! =	val;

Note that the first formula is the negation of the third one.

## 3.2.1. The predicate HasValue

In order to be more explicit about the commonalities of these formulas we define a predicate, called HasValue (see Listing 3.4), which describes the situation that there is a valid index i where a[i] equals val.

```
/*@
  predicate
   HasValue{A} (value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type v) =
      \exists integer i; m <= i < n && a[i] == v;

predicate
   HasValue{A} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
      HasValue(a, 0, n, v);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 3.4: The predicate HasValue

Note that we needed to provide a label, viz. A, to the predicate, since the evaluation the predicate depends on a memory state, viz. the contents of a [0.n-1]. In general, we have to write

```
\exists integer i; 0 <= i < n && \at(a[i],A) == v;
```

in order to express that we refer to the value a[i] in the program state A. However, ACSL allows to abbreviate  $\hat{a[i]}$ , A) by a[i] if, as in HasValue, the label A is the only available label.

With this predicate we can encapsulate all uses of the universal and existential quantifiers in both the function contract of find and in its loop annotations. The result is shown in Listings 3.5 and 3.6.

#### 3.2.2. Formal specification of find

Th revised contract for find in Listing 3.5 is more concise than the previous one in Listing 3.2. In particular, it can be seen immediately that the conditions in the assumes clauses of the two behaviors some and none are mutually exclusive since one is the literal negation of the other. Moreover, the requirement that find returns the smallest index can also be expressed using the HasValue predicate, as depicted with the last postcondition of behavior some shown in Listing 3.5.

```
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior some:
    assumes HasValue(a, n, val);
    ensures bound: 0 <= \result < n;
    ensures result: a[\result] == val;
    ensures first: !HasValue(a, \result, val);

behavior none:
    assumes !HasValue(a, n, val);
    ensures result: \result == n;

complete behaviors;
disjoint behaviors;
*/
size_type find(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 3.5: Formal specification of find using the HasValue predicate

We also enriched the specification of find by user-defined names (sometimes called *labels*, too, the distinction to program state identifiers being obvious) to refer to the requires and ensures clauses. We highly recommend this practice in particular for more complex annotations. For example, Frama-C can be instructed to verify only clauses with a given name.

#### 3.2.3. Implementation of find

The predicate HasValue is also used in the loop annotation inside the implementation of find. Note that, as in the case of the specification, we use labels to name individual annotations.

```
size_type find(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant bound:    0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant not_found: !HasValue(a, i, val);
    loop assigns i;
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        if (a[i] == val) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return n;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3.6: Implementation of find with loop annotations based on HasValue

# 3.3. The find\_first\_of algorithm

The find\_first\_of algorithm<sup>14</sup> is closely related to find (see Sections 3.1 and 3.2).

Like find, it performs a sequential search. However, while find searches for a particular value, find\_first\_of returns the least index i such that a [i] is equal to one of the values b [0..n-1].

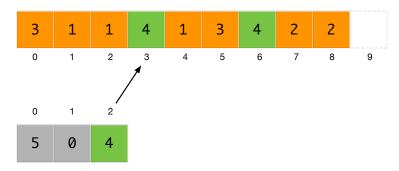


Figure 3.7.: A simple example for find\_first\_of

As an example, we consider in Figure 3.7 two arrays. The arrow indicates the smallest index where one of the elements of the three-element array occurs.

# 3.3.1. The predicate HasValueOf

Similar to our approach in Section 3.2, we define a predicate HasValueOf that formalizes the fact that there are valid indices i and j of the respective arrays a and b such that a[i] == b[j] holds. We have chosen to reuse the predicate HasValueOf (Listing 3.4) to define HasValueOf (Listing 3.8).

```
/*@
  predicate
  HasValueOf{A}(value_type* a, integer m, value_type* b, integer n) =
    \exists integer i; 0 <= i < m && HasValue{A}(b, n, a[i]);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 3.8: The predicate HasValueOf

### 3.3.2. Formal specification of find\_first\_of

The formal specification of find\_first\_of is shown Listing 3.9. The function contract uses the predicates HasValueOf and HasValue thereby making it very similar the specification find (Listing 3.5).

<sup>14</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/find\_first\_of.html

```
/ * @
 requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..m-1));
 requires valid: \valid_read(b + (0..n-1));
 assigns \nothing;
 behavior found:
    assumes HasValueOf(a, m, b, n);
    ensures bound: 0 <= \result < m;</pre>
    ensures result: HasValue(b, n, a[\result]);
    ensures first: !HasValueOf(a, \result, b, n);
 behavior not_found:
    assumes !HasValueOf(a, m, b, n);
    ensures result: \result == m;
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
size_type find_first_of(const value_type* a, size_type m,
                        const value_type* b, size_type n);
```

Listing 3.9: Formal specification of find\_first\_of

#### 3.3.3. Implementation of find\_first\_of

Our implementation of find\_first\_of is shown in Listing 3.10.

Listing 3.10: Implementation of find\_first\_of

Note the call of the find function. In the original implementation<sup>15</sup>, find\_first\_of does not call find but rather inlines it. The reason for this were probably efficiency considerations. We opted for an implementation of find\_first\_of that emphasizes reuse. Besides, leading to a more concise implementation, we also have to write fewer loop annotations.

<sup>15</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/stl\_algo.h

# 3.4. The adjacent\_find algorithm

The adjacent\_find algorithm 16 size\_type adjacent\_find(const value\_type\* a, size\_type n);

returns the smallest valid index i, such that i+1 is also a valid index and such that

```
a[i] == a[i+1]
```

holds. The adjacent\_find algorithm returns n if no such index exists.

The arrow in Figure 3.11 indicates the smallest index where two adjacent elements are equal.

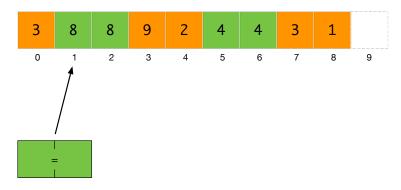


Figure 3.11.: A simple example for adjacent\_find

## 3.4.1. The predicate HasEqualNeighbors

As in the case of other search algorithms, we first define a predicate HasEqualNeighbors (see Listing 3.12) that captures the essence of finding two adjacent indices at which the array holds equal values.

```
/ * @
 predicate
   HasEqualNeighbors{L} (value_type* a, integer n) =
      \exists integer i; 1 <= i < n && a[i] == a[i-1];
```

Listing 3.12: The predicate HasEqualNeighbors

## 3.4.2. Formal specification of adjacent\_find

We use the predicate HasEqualNeighbors to define the formal specification of adjacent\_find (see Listing 3.13).

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/adjacent\_find.html

```
/ * @
 requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
 assigns \nothing;
 ensures bound: 0 <= \result <= n;</pre>
 behavior some:
   assumes HasEqualNeighbors(a, n);
    ensures bound: 0 <= \result < n-1;</pre>
    ensures adjacent: a[\result] == a[\result+1];
    ensures first: !HasEqualNeighbors(a, \result);
 behavior none:
    assumes !HasEqualNeighbors(a, n);
    ensures bound:
                      \result == n;
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
size_type adjacent_find(const value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 3.13: Formal specification of adjacent\_find

#### 3.4.3. Implementation of adjacent\_find

The implementation of adjacent\_find, including loop annotations is shown in Listing 3.14. At the beginning we check whether the array contains at least two elements. Otherwise, there is no point in looking for adjacent neighbors ...

```
size_type
adjacent_find(const value_type* a, size_type n)
{
   if (n <= 1) {
      return n;
   }

   /*@
   loop invariant bound:   1 <= i <= n;
   loop invariant not_yet: !HasEqualNeighbors(a, i);
   loop assigns i;
   loop variant n-i;
   */
   for (size_type i = 1; i < n ; i++) {
      if (a[i] == a[i - 1]) {
          return i - 1;
      }
   }
   return n;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3.14: Implementation of adjacent\_find

Note the use of the predicate <code>HasEqualNeighbors</code> in the loop invariant to match the similar postcondition of behavior <code>some</code>.

# 3.5. The equal and mismatch algorithms

The equal<sup>17</sup> and mismatch<sup>18</sup> algorithms in the C++ Standard Library compare two generic sequences. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation to that of an array of type value\_type. The signatures read

The function equal returns true if and only if a[i] == b[i] holds for each 0 <= i < n. Otherwise, equal returns false.

The mismatch algorithm is slightly more general than the negation of equal: it returns the smallest index where the two ranges a and b differ. If no such index exists, that is, if both ranges are equal, then mismatch returns the (common) length n of the two ranges.

## 3.5.1. The EqualRanges predicate

The fact that two arrays a[0] ... a[n-1] and b[0] ... b[n-1] are equal when compared element by element, is a property we might need again in other specifications, as it describes a very basic property.

The motto *don't repeat yourself* is not just good programming practice.<sup>19</sup> It is also true for concise and easy to understand specifications. We will therefore introduce specification elements that we can apply to the equal algorithm as well as to other specifications and implementations with the described property.

We start with introducing in Listing 3.15 several overloaded versions of the predicate EqualRanges.

Listing 3.15: Overloaded versions of predicate EqualRanges

The letters K and L in the definition of EqualRanges are so-called  $labels^{20}$  that refer to program states in which the ranges a [...] and b [...] are evaluated. Frama-C defines several standard labels, e.g. Old

<sup>17</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/equal.html

<sup>18</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/mismatch.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Compare http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don't\_repeat\_yourself

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Labels are used in C to name the target of the *goto* jump statement.

and Post, a programmer can use to refer to the pre-state or post-state, respectively, of a function. For more details on labels we refer to the ACSL specification [9, §2.6.9].

#### 3.5.2. Formal specification of equal and mismatch

Using predicate equal\_range we can formulate the specification of equal in Listing 3.16, using the predefined label Here. When used in an ensures clause, the label Here refers to the post-state of a function. Note that the equivalence is needed in the ensures clause. Putting an equality instead is not legal in ACSL, because EqualRanges is a predicate, not a function.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid_read(b + (0..n-1));

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: \result <==> EqualRanges{Here, Here}(a, n, b);
  */
bool equal(const value_type* a, size_type n, const value_type* b);
```

Listing 3.16: Formal specification of equal

```
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
requires valid: \valid_read(b + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior all_equal:
    assumes EqualRanges{Here, Here} (a, n, b);
    ensures result: \result == n;

behavior some_not_equal:
    assumes !EqualRanges{Here, Here} (a, n, b);
    ensures bound: 0 <= \result < n;
    ensures result: a[\result] != b[\result];
    ensures first: EqualRanges{Here, Here} (a, \result, b);

complete behaviors;
disjoint behaviors;
*/
size_type
mismatch(const value_type* a, size_type n, const value_type* b);</pre>
```

Listing 3.17: Formal specification of mismatch

The formal specification of mismatch in Listing 3.17 is more complex than that of equal because the return value of mismatch provides more information than just reporting whether the two arrays are equal. On the other, the specification is conceptually quite similar to that of find (Listing 3.5). While find returns the smallest index i where a[i] = val holds, mismatch finds the smallest index a[i] != b[i].

Note in particular the use of EqualRanges in the specification of mismatch. As in the specification of find the completeness and disjointness of mismatch's behaviors is quite obvious, because the assumes clauses of all\_equal and some\_not\_equal are negations of each other.

### 3.5.3. Implementation of equal and mismatch

Listing 3.18 shows an implementation of the equal algorithm by a simple call of mismatch.  $^{21}$ 

```
bool equal(const value_type* a, size_type n, const value_type* b)
{
   return mismatch(a, n, b) == n;
}
```

Listing 3.18: Implementation of equal with mismatch

Listing 3.19 shows an implementation of mismatch that we have enriched with some loop annotations to support the deductive verification.

```
size_type
mismatch(const value_type* a, size_type n, const value_type* b)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant equal: EqualRanges{Here, Here}(a, i, b);
    loop assigns i;
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        if (a[i] != b[i]) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return n;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3.19: Implementation of mismatch

We use the predicate EqualRanges in order to express that all indices k that are less than the current index i satisfy the condition a[k] == b[k]. This is necessary to prove that mismatch indeed returns the smallest index where the two ranges differ.

 $<sup>^{21} \</sup> See \ also \ the \ note \ on \ the \ relationship \ of \ \texttt{equal} \ and \ \texttt{mismatch} \ on \ \texttt{http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/equal.html}$ 

# 3.6. The search algorithm

The search algorithm in the C++ standard library finds a subsequence that is identical to a given sequence when compared element-by-element. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation to that of an array of type value\_type.<sup>22</sup> The signature now reads:

The function search returns the first index s of the array a where the condition a[s+k] ==b[k] holds for each index k with 0 <= k < n (see Figure 3.20). If no such index exists, then search returns the length m of the array a.

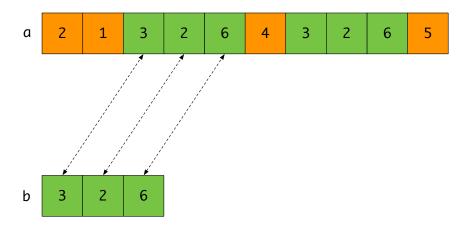


Figure 3.20.: Searching the first occurrence of b [0..n-1] in a [0..m-1]

#### 3.6.1. The predicate HasSubRange

Our specification of search starts with introducing the predicate HasSubRange in Listing 3.21. This predicate formalizes, using the predicate EqualRanges defined in Listing 3.15, that the sequence a contains a subsequence which equal the sequence b. Of course, in order to contain a subsequence of length n, a must be at least that large; this is expressed by lemma HasSubRangeSizes.

```
/*@
  predicate
  HasSubRange{A} (value_type* a, integer f, integer l, value_type* b, integer n) =
    \exists integer k; (f <= k <= l-n) && EqualRanges{A,A} (a+k, n, b);

predicate
  HasSubRange{A} (value_type* a, integer m, value_type* b, integer n) =
    HasSubRange{A} (a, 0, m, b, n);

lemma HasSubRangeSizes:
  \forall value_type *a, *b, integer f, t, n;
    HasSubRange(a, f, t, b, n) ==> n <= t - f;
*/</pre>
```

Listing 3.21: The predicate HasSubRange

 $<sup>^{22}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/search.html

## 3.6.2. Formal specification of search

The ACSL specification of search is shown in Listing 3.22. Conceptually, the specification of search is very similar to that of find (Section 3.1). We therefore use again two behaviors to capture the essential aspects of search. The behavior has\_match applies if the sequence a contains a subsequence identical to b. We express this condition with assumes using the predicate HasSubRange.

Listing 3.22: Formal specification of search

The first ensures clause bound indicates that the return value must be in the range 0..m-n. The clause result of behavior has\_match expresses that search returns the smallest index where b can be found in a. Clause first indicates that the sequence a contains a subsequence (starting from the position \result) identical to b.

The behavior no\_match covers the case that there is no subsequence a that equals b. In this case, search must return the length m of the range a.

If the ranges a or b are empty then the return value will be 0.

The formula in the assumes clause of the behavior has\_match is the negation of the assumes clause of the behavior no\_match. Therefore, we can express that these two behaviors are *complete* and *disjoint*.

## 3.6.3. Implementation of search

Our implementation of search is shown in Listing 3.23. It follows the C++ standard library implementation in being easy to understand, but needing an order of magnitude of m\*n operations. In contrast, the sophisticated algorithm from [13] needs only m+n operations.<sup>23</sup>

```
size type search(const value type* a, size type m,
                 const value_type* b, size_type n)
 if (m < n) {
   return m;
  / * a
    loop invariant bound:
                           i \le m-n+1;
    loop invariant not_found: !HasSubRange(a, 0, n+i-1, b, n);
    loop assigns i;
   loop variant m-i;
 for (size_type i = 0; i <= m - n; ++i) {</pre>
   if (equal(a + i, n, b)) {
      //@ assert has_match: HasSubRange(a, 0, m, b, n);
     return i;
  }
  //@ assert no_match: !HasSubRange(a, 0, m, b, n);
 return m;
```

Listing 3.23: Implementation of search

The loop invariant not\_found is needed for the proof of the postconditions of the behavior has\_match (see Listing 3.22). It expresses that the subsequence b has not been found up to the current iteration step.

The trivial case m < n is caught separately in order to prevent an overflow in computation of m-n in the loop. Neither n=0 nor m=0 need to be handled separately, not even for efficiency reasons: in the former case, equal (a+i, n, b) will succeed in the first iteration, while in the latter, n > m will apply.

 $<sup>^{23}</sup>$  The efficiency question has been also discussed by the C++ standardization committee, see <code>http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2014/n3905.html</code>

## 3.7. The search\_n algorithm

The search\_n algorithm in the C++ standard library finds the first place where a given value starts to occur a given number of times in a given sequence. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation to that of an array of type value\_type.<sup>24</sup> The signature now reads:

Note the similarity to the signature of search (Sect. 3.6). The only difference is that b now is a single value rather than an array.<sup>25</sup>

The function search\_n returns the first index s of the array a where the condition a[s+k] == b holds for each index k with  $0 \le k \le n$  (see Figure 3.24). If no such index exists, then search\_n returns the length m of the array a.

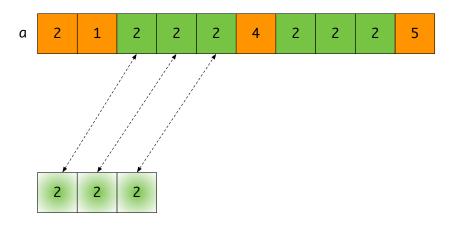


Figure 3.24.: Searching the first occurrence a given constant sequence in a [0..m-1]

#### 3.7.1. The predicates ConstantRange and HasConstantSubRange

Our specification of search\_n starts with introducing the predicate ConstantRange in Listing 3.25, which expresses that each member a[first..last-1] has the value val.

```
/*@
   predicate
    ConstantRange(value_type* a, integer first, integer last, value_type val) =
    \forall integer i; first <= i < last ==> a[i] == val;
*/
```

Listing 3.25: The predicate ConstantRange

Based on that, the predicate <code>HasConstantSubRange</code> in Listing 3.26 formalizes that the sequence a of length <code>m</code> contains a subsequence of <code>n</code> times the value <code>b</code>. Similar to <code>HasSubRange</code>, in order to contain <code>n</code> repetitions, a must be at least that large; this is what lemma <code>HasConstantSubRange\_fit\_size</code> says.

<sup>24</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/search\_n.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> For some reason, the C++ standard library has swapped the b and n parameter; we followed that order.

```
/*@
predicate
  HasConstantSubRange{A}(value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type b) =
    \exists integer i; 0 <= i <= m-n && ConstantRange(a, i, i+n, b);

lemma HasConstantSubRangeSizes:
  \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
    HasConstantSubRange(a, m, n, v) ==> n <= m;
*/</pre>
```

Listing 3.26: The predicate HasConstantSubRange

## 3.7.2. Formal specification of search\_n

The ACSL specification of search\_n is shown in Listing 3.27. Like for search, the specification of search\_n is very similar to that of find. We again use two behaviors to capture the essential aspects of search\_n. The behavior has\_match applies if the sequence a contains an n-fold repetition of b. We express this condition with assumes by using the predicate HasConstantSubRange.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..m-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior has_match:
  assumes HasConstantSubRange(a, m, n, b);
  ensures result: 0 <= \result <= m-n;
  ensures match: ConstantRange(a, \result, \result+n, b);
  ensures first: !HasConstantSubRange(a, \result+n-1, n, b);

behavior no_match:
  assumes !HasConstantSubRange(a, m, n, b);
  ensures result: \result == m;

complete behaviors;
  disjoint behaviors;
  */
size_type
search_n(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n, value_type b);</pre>
```

Listing 3.27: Formal specification of search\_n

The result ensures clause of behavior has\_match indicates that the return value must be in the range [0..m-n]. The match ensures clause expresses that the return value of search\_n actually points to an index where b can be found n or more times in a. The first ensures clause expresses that the minimal index with this property is returned.

The behavior no\_match covers the case that there is no matching subsequence in sequence a. In this case, search\_n must return the length m of the range a.

The formula in the assumes clause of the behavior has\_match is the negation of the assumes clause of the behavior no\_match. Therefore, we can express that these two behaviors are *complete* and *disjoint*.

## 3.7.3. Implementation of search\_n

Although the specification of search\_n strongly resembles that of search, their implementations in the C++ standard library are significantly different. The former has a time complexity of O(m), whereas the latter employs an easy, but a non-optimal algorithm needing  $O(m \cdot n)$  time, cf. Sect. 3.6.3. Despite its linear complexity, the standard library search\_n implementation uses two nested loops which is somewhat hard to understand; in Listing 3.28, we give an equally efficient implementation with only one loop.

```
size_type
search_n(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n, value_type b)
 if (n <= 0) {
   return 0;
 if (m < n) {
   return m;
 size_type start = 0;
   loop invariant constant: ConstantRange(a, start, i, b);
   loop invariant not_found: !HasConstantSubRange(a, i, n, b);
   loop assigns i, start;
   loop variant m - i;
 for (size_type i = 0; i < m; ++i) {</pre>
   if (a[i] != b) {
     start = i + 1;
   } else if (n == i + 1 - start) {
     return start;
 }
 return m;
```

Listing 3.28: Implementation of search\_n

Our implementation maintains in the variable start the beginning of the most recent consecutive range of values b. This property is expressed by three loop invariants:

- constant states that a [start..i-1] is always a sequence of bs only;
- start states that it cannot be left-extended, i.e. a [start-1] (if defined) is not a b;
- bound states that the sequence's bounds are actually given left to right.

The loop invariant not\_found states that we didn't find an n-fold repetition of b up to now; if we find one, we terminate the loop, returning start.

We handle the trivial case m < n separately before entering the loop, thus avoiding unnecessary work. The other trivial case n <= 0 is caught since our loop relies on the range searched for being non-empty. Only in this case checking a [i] != b makes sense in the very first iteration.

# 3.8. The find\_end algorithm

The find\_end algorithm in the C++ standard library searches for the last subsequence that is identical to a given sequence when compared element-by-element. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation to that of an array of type value\_type.<sup>26</sup> The signature now reads:

The function find\_end returns the greatest index s of the array a where the condition a[s+k] ==b[k] holds for each index k with  $0 \le k \le n$  (see Figure 3.29). If no such index exists, then find\_end returns the length m of the array a. One has to remark the special case n == 0. In this case the last position of the empty string is found (the length m) and returned.

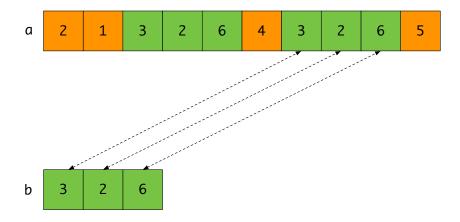


Figure 3.29.: Finding the last occurrence b[0..n-1] in a[0..m-1]

 $<sup>^{26}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/find\_end.html

## 3.8.1. Formal specification of find\_end

The ACSL specification of find\_end is shown in Listing 3.30. Conceptually, the specification of find\_end is very similar to that of find in Section 3.2. We therefore use again behaviors to capture the essential aspects of find\_end.

```
/ * @
 requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..m-1));
 requires valid: \valid_read(b + (0..n-1));
 assigns \nothing;
 behavior has_match:
   assumes HasSubRange(a, 0, m, b, n);
   ensures bound: 0 <= \result <= m-n;</pre>
   ensures result: EqualRanges{Here, Here} (a + \result, n, b);
   ensures last: !HasSubRange(a, \result + 1, m, b, n);
 behavior no_match:
   assumes !HasSubRange(a, 0, m, b, n);
   ensures result: \result == m;
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
size_type find_end(const value_type* a, size_type m,
                   const value_type* b, size_type n);
```

Listing 3.30: Formal specification of find\_end

The behavior has\_match applies if the sequence a contains a subsequence identical to b. We express this condition with assumes using the predicate HasSubRange. The ensures clause bound indicates that the return value must be in the range 0..m-n. The clause result of behavior has\_match expresses that find\_end returns an index where b can be found in a. Finally, the clause last indicates that the sequence a does not contain b beginning at a position larger than \result.

The behavior no\_match covers the case that there is no subsequence of a that equals b. In this case, find\_end must return the length m of the range a.

It is quite clear that these behaviors are *complete* and *disjoint*.

## 3.8.2. Implementation of find\_end

Our implementation of find\_end is shown in Listing 3.31. Similar to our search implementation (Section 3.6), it follows the C++ standard library implementation in being easy to understand, but needing an order of magnitude of  $m \times n$  rather than only m + n operations.

```
size type find end(const value type* a, size type m,
                   const value_type* b, size_type n)
 if (n == 0) {
   return m;
 if (n > m) {
   return m;
  size_type ret = m;
    loop invariant bound: ret <= m - n || ret == m;</pre>
    loop invariant result: ret == m ==> !HasSubRange(a, n+i-1, b, n);
    loop invariant result: ret < m ==> EqualRanges{Here,Here} (a + ret, n, b);
    loop invariant last: ret < m ==> !HasSubRange(a, ret+1, i+n-1, b, n);
    loop assigns i, ret;
    loop variant m - i;
 for (size_type i = 0; i <= m - n; ++i) {</pre>
    if (equal(a + i, n, b)) {
      ret = i;
  }
 return ret;
```

Listing 3.31: Implementation of find\_end

We maintain in the variable ret the prospective value to be returned, according to the current knowledge. Initially, it is set to m, meaning "no occurrence of b found yet". Whenever an occurrence is found, ret is updated to its starting position.

Invariant bound states that ret either still has the value m or has a value up to m-n. For the former case, invariant result1 indicates that no occurrence of b has been found. For the latter case, invariant result2 indicates that an occurrence at ret has been found, and invariant last states that none was found so far after ret.

## 3.9. The count algorithm

The count algorithm in the C++ standard library counts the frequency of occurrences for a particular element in a sequence. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>27</sup> to that of arrays of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
size_type count(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Informally, the function returns the number of occurrences of val in the array a.

#### 3.9.1. An axiomatic definition of counting on array sections

When trying to specify count we are faced with the situation that ACSL does not provide a definition of counting a value in an array.<sup>28</sup> We therefore start with an axiomatic definition of *logic function* Count that captures the basic intuitive features of counting on an array section. The expression Count Section (a, m, n, v) returns the number of occurrences of v in a [m], ..., a [n-1].

The specification of count will then be fairly short because it employs our *logic function* Count whose (considerably) longer definition is given in Listing 3.32.<sup>29</sup>

```
axiomatic Count
 logic integer
   Count{L}(value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type v) reads a[m..n-1];
 axiom CountSectionEmpty:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
     n \ll m \gg Count(a, m, n, v) == 0;
 axiom Count Section Hit:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n, m;
     m \ll n => a[n] == v
             ==> Count(a, m, n + 1, v) == Count(a, m, n, v) + 1;
 axiom CountSectionMiss:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n, m;
     m \ll n => a[n] != v
              ==> Count(a, m, n + 1, v) == Count(a, m, n, v);
 axiom CountSectionRead{L1,L2}:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
     Unchanged\{L1,L2\}(a, m, n) ==>
        Count\{L1\}(a, m, n, v) == Count\{L2\}(a, m, n, v);
```

Listing 3.32: The logic function Count

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/count.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> This statement is not quite true because the ACSL documentation lists numof as one of several *higher order logic constructions* [9, §2.6.7]. However, these *extended quantifiers* are mentioned only as experimental features.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> This definition of Count is a generalization of the *logic function* nb\_occ of the ACSL specification [9, p. 55].

- The ACSL keyword axiomatic is used to gather the logic function Count and its defining axioms. Note that the interval bounds m and n and the return value for Count are of type integer.
- Axiom CountSectionEmpty covers the case of an empty range.
- Axioms CountSectionOneHit and CountSectionOneMiss reduce counting of a range of length n + 1 to a range of length n.
- The reads clause in the axiomatic definition of Count specifies the set of memory locations on which Count depends.

Axiom CountSectionRead makes this claim explicit by ensuring that Count produces the same result if the values a [0..n-1] do not change between two program states indicated by the labels L1 and L2. We use predicate Unchanged (Listing 6.1 in Section 6.1) to express the premise of Axiom CountSectionRead. Axiom CountSectionRead is helpful if one has to verify *mutating* algorithms that rely on Count, e.g., remove\_copy in Section 6.14. It is an inductive consequence of axioms CountSectionEmpty, CountSectionOneHit, and CountSectionOneMiss, but we don't prove it here.

Listing 3.33 shows some additional properties of Count.

```
/*@
lemma CountSectionOne:
  \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
  m <= n ==>
      Count(a, m, n+1, v) == Count(a, m, n, v) + Count(a, n, n+1, v);

lemma CountSectionUnion:
  \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
  0 <= m <= n ==>
      Count(a, 0, n, v) == Count(a, 0, m, v) + Count(a, m, n, v);

*/
```

Listing 3.33: Some lemmas for Count

## 3.9.2. Counting on a whole array

We also provide in Listing 3.34 an overloaded version of the logic function Count that only takes the starting address and the size of an array. This is just a convenience function for the use in specifications that do not need to consider array sections. Note how the accompanying lemmas in Listing 3.34 correspond to the axioms in Listing 3.32.

```
logic integer
   Count{L}(value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) = Count{L}(a, 0, n, v);

lemma CountEmpty:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
        n <= 0 ==> Count(a, n, v) == 0;

lemma CountHit:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
        0 <= n ==> a[n] == v ==> Count(a, n + 1, v) == Count(a, n, v) + 1;

lemma CountMiss:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
        0 <= n ==> a[n] != v ==> Count(a, n + 1, v) == Count(a, n, v);

lemma CountRead{L1, L2}:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
        Unchanged{L1, L2}(a, n) ==> Count{L1}(a, n, v) == Count{L2}(a, n, v);
*/
```

Listing 3.34: The logic function Count

The lemmas for Count in Listing 3.35 are just reformulated versions of those in Listing 3.33.

```
/*@
    lemma CountOne:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
    0 <= n ==>
        Count(a, n+1, v) == Count(a, n, v) + Count(a, n, n+1, v);

lemma CountUnion:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
    0 <= m <= n ==>
        Count(a, n, v) == Count(a, 0, m, v) + Count(a, m, n, v);

*/
```

Listing 3.35: Some lemmas for Count

## 3.9.3. Formal specification of count

Listing 3.36 shows how we use the logic function Count from Listing 3.34 to specify count in ACSL. Note that our specification also states that the result of count is non-negative and less than or equal the size of the array.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures bound: 0 <= \result <= n;
  ensures count: \result == Count(a, n, val);

*/
size_type count(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 3.36: Formal specification of count

## 3.9.4. Implementation of count

Listing 3.37 shows a possible implementation of count. Note that we refer to the logic function Count in one of the loop invariants.

```
size_type
count(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
    size_type counted = 0;

    /*@
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= counted <= i;
    loop invariant count: counted == Count(a, i, val);
    loop assigns i, counted;
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        if (a[i] == val) {
            counted++;
        }
    }
    return counted;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3.37: Implementation of count

# 4. Maximum and minimum algorithms

In this chapter we discuss the formal specification of algorithms that compute the maximum or minimum values of their arguments. As the algorithms in Chapter 3, they also do not modify any memory locations outside their scope. The most important new feature of the algorithms in this chapter is that they compare values using binary operators such as <.

We consider in this chapter the following algorithms.

- max\_element returns an index to a maximum element in a range. Similar to find it also returns the smallest of all possible indices. It is discussed in Section 4.2, on Page 53. In Section 4.3, on Page 55, we will introduce an alternative specification which relies on user-defined predicates.
- max\_seq (Section 4.4, on Page 57) is very similar to max\_element and will serve as an example of *modular verification*. It returns the maximum value itself rather than an index to it.
- min\_element can be used to find the smallest element in an array (Section 4.5).

First, however, we discuss in Section 4.1 general properties that must be satisfied by the relational operators.

## 4.1. A note on relational operators

Note that in order to compare values, the algorithms in the C++ standard library usually rely solely on the *less than* operator < or special function objects.<sup>30</sup> To be precise, the operator < must be a *partial order*,<sup>31</sup> which means that the following rules must hold.

irreflexivity 
$$\forall x : \neg(x < x)$$
  
asymmetry  $\forall x, y : x < y \implies \neg(y < x)$   
transitivity  $\forall x, y, z : x < y \land y < z \implies x < z$ 

If you wish to check that the operator < of our value\_type $^{32}$  satisfies these properties you can formulate lemmas in ACSL and verify them with Frama-C (see Listing 4.1).

 $<sup>^{30}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/LessThanComparable.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially\_ordered\_set

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> See Section 1.3

```
/*@
  lemma LessIrreflexivity:
    \forall value_type a; !(a < a);

lemma LessAntisymmetry:
    \forall value_type a, b; (a < b) ==> !(b < a);

lemma LessTransitivity:
    \forall value_type a, b, c; (a < b) && (b < c) ==> (a < c);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.1: Requirements for a partial order on value\_type

It is of course possible to specify and implement the algorithms of this chapter by only using operator <. For example, a <= b can be written as  $a < b \mid \mid a == b$ , or, for our particular ordering on value\_type, as ! (b < a).

Listing 4.2 formulates conditions on the semantics of the derived operator >, <=, and >=.

```
/*@
lemma Greater:
  \forall value_type a, b; (a > b) <==> (b < a);
lemma LessOrEqual:
  \forall value_type a, b; (a <= b) <==> !(b < a);
lemma GreaterOrEqual:
  \forall value_type a, b; (a >= b) <==> !(a < b);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.2: Semantics of derived comparison operators

We also introduce in this chapter the predicates

- UpperBound in Listing 4.5
- StrictUpperBound in Listing 4.6
- LowerBound in Listing 4.12
- StrictLowerBound in Listing 4.13

These overloaded predicates concisely express the comparison of the elements in an array (segment) with a given value. We will heavily rely on these predicates both in this chapter and in Chapter 5.

## 4.2. The max\_element algorithm

The max\_element algorithm in the C++ Standard Template Library<sup>33</sup> searches the maximum of a general sequence. The signature of our version of max\_element reads:

```
size_type max_element(const value_type* a, size_type n);
```

The function finds the largest element in the range a[0, n). More precisely, it returns the unique valid index i such that

- 1. for each index k with  $0 \le k \le n$  the condition  $a[k] \le a[i]$  holds and
- 2. for each index k with  $0 \le k \le i$  the condition  $a[k] \le a[i]$  holds.

The return value of  $max\_$ element is n if and only if there is no maximum, which can only occur if n == 0.

## 4.2.1. Formal specification of max\_element

A formal specification of max\_element in ACSL is shown in Listing 4.3.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior empty:
  assumes n == 0;
  ensures result: \result == 0;

behavior not_empty:
  assumes 0 < n;
  ensures result: 0 <= \result < n;
  ensures result: 0 <= \result < n;
  ensures upper: \forall integer i; 0 <= i < n ==> a[i] <= a[\result];
  ensures strict: \forall integer i; 0 <= i < \result ==> a[i] < a[\result];

complete behaviors;
  disjoint behaviors;

*/
size_type max_element(const value_type* a, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 4.3: Formal specification of max\_element

Note that we have subdivided the specification of max\_element into the two behaviors empty and not\_empty. The behavior empty contains the specification for the case that the range contains no elements. The behavior not\_empty applies if the range has a positive length.

The second ensures clause of behavior not\_empty indicates that the returned valid index k refers to a maximum value of the array. The third one expresses that k is indeed the *first* occurrence of a maximum value in the array.

 $<sup>^{33}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/max\_element.html

## 4.2.2. Implementation of max\_element

Listing 4.4 shows an implementation of max\_element. In our description, we concentrate on the *loop* annotations.

```
size_type max_element(const value_type* a, size_type n)
  if (n == 0)
    return 0;
  size_type max = 0;
  / * @
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= n;</pre>
    loop invariant max: 0 <= max < n;</pre>
    loop invariant upper: \forall integer k; 0 <= k < i ==> a[k] <= a[max];</pre>
   loop invariant strict: \forall integer k; 0 <= k < max ==> a[k] < a[max];</pre>
    loop assigns max, i;
   loop variant n-i;
  for (size_type i = 1; i < n; i++) {</pre>
    if (a[max] < a[i]) {
     max = i;
    }
  }
 return max;
```

Listing 4.4: Implementation of max\_element

Loop invariant max is needed to prove postcondition result of behavior not\_empty in Listing 4.3. Using loop invariant upper we prove postcondition upper of behavior not\_empty in Listing 4.3. Finally, postcondition strict of this behavior can be proved with loop invariant strict.

## 4.3. The max\_element algorithm with predicates

In this section we present another specification of the max\_element algorithm. The main difference is that we employ several user-defined predicates. First, we define in Listing 4.5 the overloaded predicate UpperBound which basically expresses that a given value is greater or equal than all elements of a given array (section).

Listing 4.5: Definition of the UpperBound predicate

Closely related to the predicate UpperBound is the overloaded predicate StrictUpperBound from Listing 4.6.

```
/*@
  predicate
   StrictUpperBound{L} (value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type v) =
    \forall integer i; m <= i < n ==> a[i] < v;

predicate
  StrictUpperBound{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
   StrictUpperBound{L} (a, 0, n, v);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.6: Definition of the StrictUpperBound predicate

We then define in Listing 4.7 the predicate MaxElement by stating that the element at a given index max is an *upper bound* of the sequence a [0..n-1], and, by construction, a member of that sequence.

```
/*@
  predicate
    MaxElement{L}(value_type* a, integer n, integer max) =
    0 <= max < n && UpperBound(a, n, a[max]);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.7: Definition of the MaxElement predicate

## 4.3.1. Formal specification of max\_element

The new formal specification of  $max\_element$  in ACSL is shown in Listing 4.8. Note that we also use the predicate StrictUpperBound from Listing 4.6 in order to express that  $max\_element$  returns the first maximum position in a [0..n-1].

```
requires \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior empty:
    assumes n == 0;
    ensures result: \result == 0;

behavior not_empty:
    assumes 0 < n;
    ensures result: 0 <= \result < n;
    ensures max: MaxElement(a, n, \result);
    ensures strict: StrictUpperBound(a, \result, a[\result]);

complete behaviors;
    disjoint behaviors;
*/
size_type max_element(const value_type* a, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 4.8: Formal specification of max\_element

## 4.3.2. Implementation of max\_element

Listing 4.9 shows implementation of max\_element with only the loop invariants changed.

Listing 4.9: Implementation of max\_element

# 4.4. The max\_seq algorithm

In this section we consider the function max\_seq (see Chapter 3, [8]) which is very similar to the max\_element function of Section 4.2. The main difference between max\_seq and max\_element is that max\_seq returns the maximum value (not just the index of it). Therefore, it requires a *non-empty* range as an argument.

Of course, max\_seq can easily be implemented using max\_element (see Listing 4.11). Moreover, using only the formal specification of max\_element in Listing 4.8 we are also able to deductively verify the correctness of this implementation. Thus, we have a simple example of *modular verification* in the following sense:

Any implementation of max\_element that is separately proven to implement the contract in Listing 4.8 makes max\_seq behave correctly. Once the contracts have been defined, the function max\_element could be implemented in parallel, or just after max\_seq, without affecting the verification of max\_seq.

## 4.4.1. Formal specification of max\_seq

A formal specification of max\_seq in ACSL is shown in Listing 4.10.

```
/*@
  requires n > 0;
  requires \valid_read(p + (0..n-1));

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures \forall integer i; 0 <= i <= n-1 ==> \result >= p[i];
  ensures \exists integer e; 0 <= e <= n-1 && \result == p[e];

*/
value_type max_seq(const value_type* p, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 4.10: Formal specification of max\_seq

Using the first requires-clause we express that max\_seq needs a *non-empty* range as input. Our post-conditions formalize that max\_seq indeed returns the maximum value of the range.

## 4.4.2. Implementation of max\_seq

Listing 4.11 shows the trivial implementation of max\_seq using max\_element. Since max\_seq requires a non-empty range the call of max\_element returns an index to a maximum value in the range. The fact that max\_element returns the smallest index is of no importance in this context.

```
value_type max_seq(const value_type* p, size_type n)
{
   return p[max_element(p, n)];
}
```

Listing 4.11: Implementation of max\_seq

# 4.5. The min\_element algorithm

The min\_element algorithm in the C++ standard library<sup>34</sup> searches the minimum in a general sequence. The signature of our version of min\_element reads:

```
size_type min_element(const value_type* a, size_type n);
```

The function  $min_element$  finds the smallest element in the range a[0..n-1]. More precisely, it returns the unique valid index i such that a[i] is minimal among the values a[0], ..., a[n-1], and i is the first position with that property. The return value of  $min_element$  is n if and only if n == 0.

First we define in Listing 4.12 the overloaded predicate LowerBound that basically expresses that a given value is less or equal than all elements of a given array (section).

```
/*@
   predicate
   LowerBound{L} (value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type v) =
    \forall integer i; m <= i < n ==> v <= a[i];

predicate
   LowerBound{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
        LowerBound{L} (a, 0, n, v);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.12: Definition of the LowerBound predicate

Closely related to the predicate LowerBound is the overloaded predicate StrictLowerBound from Listing 4.13.

```
/*@
  predicate
   StrictLowerBound{L} (value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type v) =
    \forall integer i; m <= i < n ==> v < a[i];

predicate
  StrictLowerBound{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
   StrictLowerBound{L} (a, 0, n, v);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.13: Definition of the StrictLowerBound predicate

We then define in Listing 4.14 the predicate MinElement by stating that the element at a given index min is a *lower bound* of the sequence a [0..n-1], and, by construction, a member of that sequence.

```
/*@
predicate
   MinElement{L} (value_type* a, integer n, integer min) =
      0 <= min < n && LowerBound(a, n, a[min]);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 4.14: Definition of the MinElement predicate

<sup>34</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/min\_element.html

## 4.5.1. Formal specification of min\_element

The ACSL specification of min\_element is shown in Listing 4.15. Note that we also use the predicate StrictLowerBound from Listing 4.13 in order to express that min\_element returns the *first* minimum position in a [0..n-1].

```
/*@
  requires \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));

assigns \nothing;

behavior empty:
  assumes n == 0;
  ensures result: \result == 0;

behavior not_empty:
  assumes 0 < n;
  ensures result: 0 <= \result < n;
  ensures min: MinElement(a, n, \result);
  ensures strict: StrictLowerBound(a, \result, a[\result]);

complete behaviors;
  disjoint behaviors;

*/
size_type min_element(const value_type* a, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 4.15: Formal specification of min\_element

## 4.5.2. Implementation of min\_element

Listing 4.16 shows implementation of min\_element with loop invariants where we also employ the predicates LowerBound and StrictLowerBound.

```
size_type min_element(const value_type* a, size_type n)
{
   if (n == 0) { return n; }

    size_type min = 0;
    /*@
     loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= n;
     loop invariant min: 0 <= min < n;
     loop invariant lower: LowerBound(a, i, a[min]);
     loop invariant first: StrictLowerBound(a, min, a[min]);
     loop assigns min, i;
     loop variant n-i;
    */
   for (size_type i = 0; i < n; i++) {
      if (a[i] < a[min]) {
         min = i;
      }
   }
   return min;
}</pre>
```

Listing 4.16: Implementation of min\_element

# 5. Binary search algorithms

In this chapter, we consider the four binary search algorithms of the C++ standard library, namely

- lower\_bound in Section 5.1
- upper\_bound in Section 5.2
- two variants for the implementation of equal\_range in Section 5.3
- two variants for the formal specification of binary\_search in Section 5.4

All binary search algorithms require that their input array is sorted in ascending order. There are two versions of predicate Sorted in Listing 5.1. The first one defines when a section of an array is sorted in ascending order. The second version uses the first one to express that the whole array is sorted.

```
/*@
predicate
Sorted{L}(value_type* a, integer m, integer n) =
     \forall integer i, j; m <= i < j < n ==> a[i] <= a[j];

predicate
Sorted{L}(value_type* a, integer n) = Sorted{L}(a, 0, n);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 5.1: The predicate Sorted

As in the case of the of maximum/minimum algorithms from Chapter 4 the binary search algorithms primarily use the less-than operator < (and the derived operators <=, > and >=) to determine whether a particular value is contained in a sorted range. Thus, different to the find algorithm in Section 3.1, the equality operator == will play only a supporting part in the specification of binary search.

In order to make the specifications of the binary search algorithms more compact and (arguably) more readable we re-use the the following predicates

- UpperBound in Listing 4.5
- StrictUpperBound in Listing 4.6
- LowerBound in Listing 4.12
- StrictLowerBound in Listing 4.13

## 5.1. The lower\_bound algorithm

The lower\_bound algorithm is one of the four binary search algorithms of the C++ standard library. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation $^{35}$  to that of an array of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
size_type lower_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

As with the other binary search algorithms lower\_bound requires that its input array is sorted in ascending order. The index lb, that lower\_bound returns satisfies the inequality

$$0 \le 1b \le n \tag{5.1}$$

and has the following properties for a valid index k of the array under consideration

$$0 \le k < 1b \implies a[k] < val$$
 (5.2)

$$1b \le k < n \implies val \le a[k]$$
 (5.3)

Conditions (5.2) and (5.3) imply that val can only occur in the array section a [lb..n-1]. In this sense lower\_bound returns a *lower bound* for the potential indices.

As an example, we consider in Figure 5.2 a sorted array. The arrows indicate which indices will be returned by lower\_bound for a given value. Note that the index 9 points *one past end* of the array. Values that are not contained in the array are colored in gray.

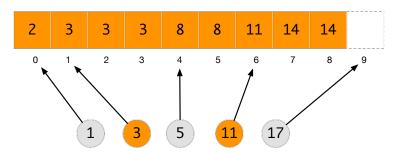


Figure 5.2.: Some examples for lower\_bound

Figure 5.2 also clarifies that care must be taken when interpreting the return value of lower\_bound. An important difference to the algorithms in Chapter 3 is that a return value of lower\_bound that is less than n does not necessarily implies a [lb] == val. We can only be sure that val <= a [lb] holds.

#### 5.1.1. Formal specification of lower\_bound

The ACSL specification of lower\_bound is shown in Listing 5.3. The preconditions sorted expresses that the values in the (valid) array need to be sorted in ascending order. The postconditions reflect the conditions listed above and can be expressed using predicates LowerBound from Listing 4.12 and StrictLowerBound from Listing 4.13, namely,

 $<sup>^{35}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/lower\_bound.html

- Condition (5.1) becomes postcondition result
- Condition (5.2) becomes postcondition left
- Condition (5.3) postcondition property right

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires sorted: Sorted(a, n);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: 0 <= \result <= n;
  ensures left: StrictUpperBound(a, 0, \result, val);
  ensures right: LowerBound(a, \result, n, val);
  */
  size_type lower_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 5.3: Formal specification of lower\_bound

#### 5.1.2. Implementation of lower\_bound

Our implementation of lower\_bound is shown in Listing 5.4. Each iteration step narrows down the range that contains the sought-after result. The loop invariants express that in each iteration step all indices less than the temporary left bound left contain values that are less than val and all indices not less than the temporary right bound right contain values that are greater or equal than val. The expression to compute of middle is slightly more complex than the naïve (left+right)/2, but it avoids potential overflows.

```
size_type lower_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
 size_type left = 0;
 size_type right = n;
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= left <= right <= n;</pre>
    loop invariant left: StrictUpperBound(a, 0, left, val);
   loop invariant right: LowerBound(a, right, n, val);
    loop assigns left, right;
    loop variant right - left;
 while (left < right) {</pre>
   const size_type middle = left + (right - left) / 2;
    if (a[middle] < val) {</pre>
      left = middle + 1;
    } else {
      right = middle;
  }
 return left;
```

Listing 5.4: Implementation of lower\_bound

## 5.2. The upper\_bound algorithm

The upper\_bound<sup>36</sup> algorithm is a variant of binary search and closely related to lower\_bound of Section 5.1. The signature reads:

```
size_type upper_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
```

As with the other binary search algorithms, upper\_bound requires that its input array is sorted in ascending order. The index ub returned by upper\_bound satisfies the inequality

$$0 \le \mathsf{ub} \le n \tag{5.4}$$

and is involved in the following implications for a valid index k of the array under consideration

$$0 \le k < \text{ub} \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad a[k] \le \text{val}$$
 (5.5)

$$ub \le k < n \implies val < a[k]$$
 (5.6)

Conditions (5.5) and (5.6) imply that val can only occur in the array section a [0..ub-1]. In this sense upper\_bound returns a *upper bound* for the potential indices where val can occur. It also means that the searched-for value val can *never* be located at the index ub.

Figure 5.5 is a variant of Figure 5.2 for the case of upper\_bound and the same example array. The arrows indicate which indices will be returned by upper\_bound for a given value. Note how, compared to Figure 5.2, only the arrows from values that *are present* in the array change there target index.

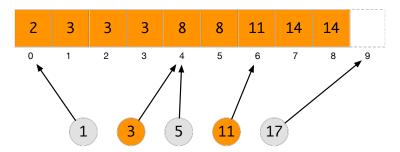


Figure 5.5.: Some examples for upper\_bound

## 5.2.1. Formal specification of upper\_bound

The ACSL specification of upper\_bound is shown in Listing 5.6. The specification is quite similar to the specification of lower\_bound (see Listing 5.3). The preconditions sorted expresses that the values in the (valid) array need to be sorted in ascending order.

The postconditions reflect the conditions listed above and can be expressed using predicates UpperBound from Listing 4.5 and StrictUpperBound from Listing 4.6, namely,

- Condition (5.4) becomes postcondition result
- Condition (5.5) becomes postcondition left
- Condition (5.6) postcondition property right

<sup>36</sup> See http://www.sqi.com/tech/stl/upper\_bound.html

```
/*@
  requires \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires Sorted(a, n);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: 0 <= \result <= n;
  ensures left: UpperBound(a, 0, \result, val);
  ensures right: StrictLowerBound(a, \result, n, val);

*/
size_type
upper_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 5.6: Formal specification of upper\_bound

## 5.2.2. Implementation of upper\_bound

Our implementation of upper\_bound is shown in Listing 5.7.

The loop invariants express that for each iteration step all indices less than the temporary left bound left contain values not greater than val and all indices not less than the temporary right bound right contain values greater than val.

```
size_type
upper_bound(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
 size_type left = 0;
 size_type right = n;
  / * @
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= left <= right <= n;</pre>
   loop invariant left: UpperBound(a, 0, left, val);
    loop invariant right: StrictLowerBound(a, right, n, val);
    loop assigns left, right;
   loop variant right - left;
 while (left < right) {</pre>
   const size_type middle = left + (right - left) / 2;
   if (a[middle] <= val) {</pre>
      left = middle + 1;
    } else {
      right = middle;
  }
 return right;
```

Listing 5.7: Implementation of upper\_bound

# 5.3. The equal\_range algorithm

The equal\_range algorithm is one of the four binary search algorithms of the C++ standard library. As with the other binary search algorithms equal\_range requires that its input array is sorted in ascending order. The specification of equal\_range states that it *combines* the results of the algorithms lower\_bound (Section 5.1) and upper\_bound (Section 5.2).

For our purposes we have modified equal\_range<sup>37</sup> to take an array of type value\_type. Moreover, instead of a pair of iterators, our version returns a pair of indices. To be more precise, the return type of equal\_range is the struct size\_type\_pair from Listing 5.9. Thus, the signature of equal\_range now reads:

```
size_type_pair equal_range(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Figure 5.8 combines Figure 5.2 with Figure 5.5 in order visualize the behavior of equal\_range for select test cases. The two types of arrows  $\rightarrow$  and  $\rightarrow$  represent the respective fields first and second of the return value. For values that are not contained in the array, the two arrows point to the same index. More generally, if equal\_range returns the pair (1b, ub), then the difference ub – 1b is equal to the number of occurrences of the argument val in the array.

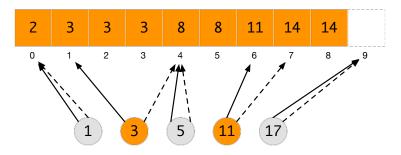


Figure 5.8.: Some examples for equal\_range

We will provide two implementations of equal\_range and verify both of them. The first implementation just straightforwardly calls lower\_bound and upper\_bound and simply returns their results (see Listing 5.11). The second, more elaborate, implementation follows the original STL code by attempting to minimize duplicate computations (see Listing 5.12).

Let (1b, ub) be the return value equal\_range, then the conditions (5.1)–(5.6) can be merged into the inequality

$$0 \le 1b \le ub \le n \tag{5.7}$$

and the following three implications for a valid index k of the array under consideration

$$0 \le k < 1b \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad a[k] < \text{val} \tag{5.8}$$

$$1b \le k < ub \implies a[k] = val$$
 (5.9)

$$ub \le k < n \implies a[k] > val$$
 (5.10)

Here are some justifications for these conditions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup>See http://www.sqi.com/tech/stl/equal\_range.html.

- Conditions (5.8) and (5.10) are just the Conditions (5.2) and (5.6), respectively.
- The Inequality (5.7) follows from the Inequalities (5.1) and (5.4) and the following considerations: If ub were less than 1b, then according to (5.8) we would have a[ub] < val. One the other hand, we know from (5.10) that opposite inequality val < a[ub] holds. Therefore, we have  $1b \le ub$ .
- Condition (5.9) follows from the combination of (5.3) and (5.5) and the fact that ≤ is a total order on the integers.

## 5.3.1. The auxiliary function make\_pair

The type size\_type\_pair and the make\_pair function in Listing 5.9 are used both for the first and second implementation of equal\_range. The specification and implementation of this simple function is shown in Listing 5.9.

```
struct size_type_pair {
    size_type first;
    size_type second;
};

typedef struct size_type_pair size_type_pair;

/*@
    assigns \nothing;
    ensures \result.first == first;
    ensures \result.second == second;

*/
static inline
size_type_pair make_pair(size_type first, size_type second)
{
    size_type_pair pair;
    pair.first = first;
    pair.second = second;
    return pair;
}
```

Listing 5.9: The type size\_pair\_type and the function make\_pair

## 5.3.2. Formal specification of equal\_range

The ACSL specification of equal\_range is shown in Listing 5.10.

```
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
requires sorted: Sorted(a, n);

assigns \nothing;

ensures result: 0 <= \result.first <= \result.second <= n;
ensures left: StrictUpperBound(a, 0, \result.first, val);
ensures middle: ConstantRange(a, \result.first, \result.second, val);
ensures right: StrictLowerBound(a, \result.second, n, val);

*/
size_type_pair
equal_range(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 5.10: Formal specification of equal\_range

The ACSL specification of equal\_range is shown in Listing 5.10. The preconditions sorted expresses that the values in the (valid) array need to be sorted in ascending order. The postconditions reflect the conditions listed above and can be expressed using the well-known predicates ConstantRange (Listing 3.25), StrictUpperBound (Listing 4.6) and StrictLowerBound (Listing 4.13), namely,

- Condition (5.7) becomes postcondition result
- Condition (5.8) becomes postcondition left
- Condition (5.9) becomes postcondition middle
- Condition (5.10) postcondition property right

The preconditions express that the values in the (valid) array need to be sorted in ascending order.

## 5.3.3. First implementation of equal\_range

Our first implementation of equal\_range is shown in Listing 5.11. We call the two functions lower\_bound and upper\_bound and return their respective results as a pair.

```
size_type_pair
equal_range(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
    size_type first = lower_bound(a, n, val);
    size_type second = upper_bound(a, n, val);
    //@ assert aux: second < n ==> val < a[second];
    return make_pair(first, second);
}</pre>
```

Listing 5.11: First implementation of equal\_range

In an earlier version of this document we had proven the similar assertion first <= second with the interactive theorem prover Coq. After reviewing this proof we formulated the new assertion aux that uses a fact from the postcondition of upper\_bound (Listing 5.6). The benefit of this reformulation is that both the assertion aux and the postcondition first <= second can now be verified automatically.

## 5.3.4. Second implementation of equal\_range

The first implementation of equal\_range does more work than needed. STL uses a slightly more complicated implementation of equal\_range that performs as much range reduction as possible before calling upper\_bound and lower\_bound on the reduced ranges. In Listing 5.12 we translated the STL implementation to C code and verified it. It is a drop-in replacement for the first implementation and implements the same formal specification, provided in Listing 5.10.

```
size_type_pair
equal_range(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
 size_type first = 0;
 size_type middle = 0;
 size_type last
                 = n;
   loop invariant bounds: 0 <= first <= last <= n;</pre>
   loop invariant left: StrictUpperBound(a, 0, first, val);
   loop invariant right: StrictLowerBound(a, last, n, val);
   loop assigns first, last, middle;
   loop variant last - first;
 while (last > first) {
   middle = first + (last - first) / 2;
   if (a[middle] < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
    } else if (val < a[middle]) {</pre>
     last = middle;
    } else {
     break;
 }
 if (first < last) {</pre>
   //@ assert sorted: Sorted(a, first, middle);
   size_type left = first + lower_bound(a + first, middle - first, val);
   //@ assert constant: LowerBound(a, left, middle, val);
    //@ assert strict: StrictUpperBound(a, first, left, val);
   ++middle;
   //@ assert sorted: Sorted(a, middle, last);
   size_type right = middle + upper_bound(a + middle, last - middle, val);
    //@ assert constant: UpperBound(a, middle, right, val);
    //@ assert strict: StrictLowerBound(a, right, last, val);
   return make_pair(left, right);
 } else {
   return make_pair(first, first);
```

Listing 5.12: Second implementation of equal\_range

Due to the higher complexity of the second implementation, additional assertions had to be added to ensure that Frama-C is able to verify the correctness of the code. All of these are related to pointer arithmetic and shifting base pointers. They fall into three groups and are briefly discussed below. In order to enable the automatic verification of these properties we added the ACSL lemmas in Listing 5.13.

```
/ * @
 lemma SortedShift{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, integer 1, r;
     0 \le 1 \le r => Sorted\{L\}(a, 1, r) => Sorted\{L\}(a+1, r-1);
 lemma LowerBoundShift{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, val, integer b, c, d;
     LowerBound(L)(a + b, c, d, val) ==>
     LowerBound(L)(a, c + b, d + b, val);
 lemma StrictLowerBoundShift{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, val, integer b, c, d;
     StrictLowerBound{L}(a + b, c, d, val) ==>
     StrictLowerBound{L}(a,
                              c + b, d + b, val);
 lemma UpperBoundShift{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, val, integer b, c;
     UpperBound{L} (a+b, 0, c-b, val)
     UpperBound{L} (a,
                        b, c,
 lemma StrictUpperBoundShift{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, val, integer b, c;
     StrictUpperBound{L} (a+b, 0, c-b, val)
     StrictUpperBound(L)(a,
                            b, c,
                                    val);
*/
```

Listing 5.13: Lemmas to aid the verification of the second equal\_range implementation

#### The sorted properties

Both upper\_bound and lower\_bound require that they operate on sorted data. This is also true for equal\_range, however, inside our second implementation we need a more specific formulation, namely,

```
Sorted(a + middle, last - middle)
```

A three-argument form of the Sorted predicate from Listing 5.1 was added so we can spell out an intermediate step. This enables the provers to verify the preconditions of the call to lower\_bound automatically. A similar assertion is present before the call to upper\_bound.

#### The strict and constant properties

Part of the post conditions of equal\_range is that val is both a strict upper and a strict lower bound. However, the calls to upper\_bound and lower\_bound only give us

```
StrictUpperBound(a + first, 0, left - first, val)
StrictLowerBound(a + middle, right - middle, last - middle, val)
```

which is not enough to reach the desired post conditions automatically. One intermediate step for each of the assertions was sufficient to guide the prover to the desired result.

Conceptually similar to the strict properties the constant properties guide the prover towards

```
LowerBound(a, left, n, val)
UpperBound(a, 0, right, val)
```

Combining these properties allow the postcondition middle to be derived automatically.

# 5.4. The binary\_search algorithm

The binary\_search algorithm is one of the four binary search algorithms of the C++ standard library. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>38</sup> to that of an array of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
bool binary_search(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Again, binary\_search requires that its input array is sorted in ascending order. It will return **true** if there exists an index i in a such that a[i] == val holds.<sup>39</sup>

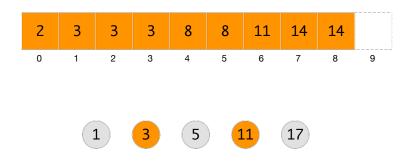


Figure 5.14.: Some examples for binary\_search

In Figure 5.14 we do not need to use arrows to visualize the effects of binary\_search. The colors orange and grey of the sought-after values indicate whether the algorithm returns true or false, respectively.

## 5.4.1. Formal specification of binary\_search

The ACSL specification of binary\_search is shown in Listing 5.15.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires sorted: Sorted(a, n);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: \result <==> \exists integer i; 0 <= i < n && a[i] == val;
  */
bool binary_search(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 5.15: Formal specification of binary\_search

Note that instead of the somewhat lengthy existential quantification in Listing 5.15 we can use our previously introduced predicate HasValue (see Listing 3.4) in to achieve the more concise formal specification in Listing 5.16.

 $<sup>^{38}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/binary\_search.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup>To be more precise: The C++ standard library requires that  $(a[i] \le val) \&\& (val \le a[i])$  holds. For our definition of value\_type (see Section 1.3) this means that val equals a[i].

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires sorted: Sorted(a, n);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: \result <==> HasValue(a, n, val);
  */
bool binary_search(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Listing 5.16: Formal specification of binary\_search using the HasValue predicate

It is interesting to compare this specification with that of find in Listing 3.5. Both find and binary\_search allow to determine whether a value is contained in an array. The fact that the C++ standard library requires that find has *linear* complexity whereas binary\_search must have a *logarithmic* complexity can currently not be expressed with ACSL.

#### 5.4.2. Implementation of binary\_search

Our implementation of binary\_search is shown in Listing 5.17.

```
bool binary_search(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
   const size_type i = lower_bound(a, n, val);
   return i < n && a[i] <= val;
}</pre>
```

Listing 5.17: Implementation of binary\_search

The function binary\_search first calls lower\_bound from Section 5.1. Remember that if lower\_bound returns an index  $0 \le i \le n$  then we can be sure that val  $\le a[i]$  holds.

# 6. Mutating algorithms

Let us now turn our attention to another class of algorithms, viz. *mutating* algorithms, i.e., algorithms that change one or more ranges. In Frama-C, you can explicitly specify that, e.g., entries in an array a may be modified by a function f, by including the following *assigns clause* into the f's specification:

```
assigns a [0..length-1];
```

The expression length-1 refers to the value of length when f is entered, see [9, §2.3.2]. Below are the algorithms we will discuss in this chapter. First, however, we introduce in Sections 6.1 and 6.2 the auxiliary predicates Unchanged and MultisetUnchanged, respectively.

- fill in Section 6.3 initializes each element of an array by a given fixed value.
- swap in Section 6.4 exchanges two values.
- swap\_ranges in Section 6.5 exchanges the contents of the arrays of equal length, element by element. We use this example to present "modular verification", as swap\_ranges reuses the verified properties of swap.
- copy in Section 6.6 copies a source array to a destination array.
- copy\_backward in Section 6.7 also copies a source array to a destination array. This version, however, uses another separation condition than copy.
- reverse\_copy and reverse in Sections 6.8 and 6.9, respectively, reverse an array. Whereas reverse\_copy copies the result to a separate destination array, the reverse algorithm works in place.
- rotate\_copy in Section 6.10 rotates a source array by m positions and copies the results to a destination array.
- rotate in Section 6.11 rotates in place a source array by m positions.
- replace\_copy and replace in Sections 6.12 and 6.13, respectively, substitute each occurrence of a value by a given new value. Whereas replace\_copy copies the result to a separate array, the replace algorithm works in place.
- remove\_copy in Section 6.14 copies a source array to a destination array, but omits each occurrence of a given value. Whereas remove\_copy copies the result to a separate array, the remove in Section 6.15 algorithm works in place.
  - Section 6.16 describes a more precise specification of remove\_copy. The extended function contract also captures the *stability* of remove\_copy.
- random\_shuffle Section 6.17 re-arranges the elements of an array in a random way.

# 6.1. The predicate Unchanged

Many of the algorithms in this section iterate sequentially over one or several sequences. For the verification of such algorithms it is often important to express that a section of an array, or the complete array, have remained *unchanged*; this cannot always be expressed by an assigns clause. In Listing 6.1 we therefore introduce the overloaded predicate Unchanged together with some simple lemmas. The expression Unchanged {K, L} (a, f, l) is true if the range a [f..l-l] in state K is element-wise equal to that range in state L.

```
/*@
    predicate
    Unchanged{K,L}(value_type* a, integer m, integer n) =
        \forall integer i; m <= i < n ==> \at(a[i],K) == \at(a[i],L);

predicate
    Unchanged{K,L}(value_type* a, integer n) =
        Unchanged{K,L}(a, 0, n);
*/
```

Listing 6.1: The predicate Unchanged

We also provide a few lemmas for Unchanged that we need for the verification of some algorithms.

Lemma UnchangedSection in Listing 6.2 states that if the range a[0..n-1] does not change when going from state K to state L, then the subrange a[0..m-1] does not change either.

Listing 6.2: The lemma Unchanged Section

Lemma UnchangedStep in Listing 6.3 expresses the simple fact that "unchangedness" is an inductive property.

Listing 6.3: The lemma UnchangedStep

Lemma UnchangedTransitive in Listing 6.4 expresses the transitivity of Unchanged with respect to program states.

```
/*@
  lemma UnchangedTransitive{K,L,M}:
    \forall value_type *a, integer n;
    Unchanged{K,L}(a, n) ==>
    Unchanged{L,M}(a, n) ==>
    Unchanged{K,M}(a, n);
*/
```

Listing 6.4: The lemma UnchangedTransitive

# 6.2. The predicate MultisetUnchanged

Various algorithms in this document *rearrange* or *reorder* the elements of a given range such that the number of each element remains unchanged. In other words, reordering leaves the  $multiset^{40}$  of elements in the range unchanged.

We use the predicate MultisetUnchanged, defined in Listing 6.5, to formally describe this property. This predicate, which is given in two overloaded versions, relies on the logic function Count that is defined in Listing 3.34.

```
/*@
    predicate
    MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(value_type* a, integer first, integer last) =
        \forall value_type v;
        Count{L1}(a, first, last, v) == Count{L2}(a, first, last, v);

predicate
    MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(value_type* a, integer n) =
        MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(a, 0, n);
*/
```

Listing 6.5: The predicate MultisetUnchanged

 $<sup>^{40}</sup>$  See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiset

# 6.3. The fill algorithm

The fill algorithm in the C++ Standard Library initializes general sequences with a particular value. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>41</sup> to that of an array of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void fill(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

#### 6.3.1. Formal specification of fill

Listing 6.6 shows the formal specification of fill in ACSL. We can express the postcondition of fill simply by using the predicate ConstantRange from Listing 3.25.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));

  assigns a[0..n-1];

  ensures constant: ConstantRange(a, 0, n, val);
  */
  void fill(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Listing 6.6: Formal specification of fill

The assigns-clauses formalize that fill modifies only the entries of the range a [0..n-1]. In general, when more than one *assigns clause* appears in a function's specification, it is permitted to modify any of the referenced memory locations. However, if no *assigns clause* appears at all, the function is free to modify any memory location, see [9, §2.3.2]. To forbid a function to do any modifications outside its scope, a clause assigns \nothing; must be used, as we practised in the example specifications in Chapter 3.

#### 6.3.2. Implementation of fill

Listing 6.7 shows an implementation of fill.

```
void fill(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant bound:    0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant constant: ConstantRange(a, 0, i, val);
    loop assigns i, a[0..n-1];
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        a[i] = val;
    }
}</pre>
```

Listing 6.7: Implementation of fill

The loop invariant constant expresses that for each iteration the array is filled with the value of val up to the index i of the iteration. Note that we use here again the predicate ConstantRange from Listing 3.25.

<sup>41</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/fill.html

# 6.4. The swap algorithm

The swap algorithm<sup>42</sup> in the C++ standard library exchanges the contents of two variables. Similarly, the iter\_swap algorithm<sup>43</sup> exchanges the contents referenced by two pointers. Since C and hence ACSL, does not support an & type constructor ("declarator"), we will present an algorithm that processes pointers and refer to it as swap.

#### 6.4.1. Formal specification of swap

The ACSL specification for the swap function is shown in Listing 6.8. The preconditions are formalized by the requires-clauses which state that both pointer arguments of the swap function must be dereferenceable.

```
/*@
  requires \valid(p);
  requires \valid(q);

  assigns *p;
  assigns *q;

  ensures *p == \old(*q);
  ensures *q == \old(*p);
  */
  void swap(value_type* p, value_type* q);
```

Listing 6.8: Formal specification of swap

Upon termination of swap the entries must be mutually exchanged. We can express those postconditions by using the ensures-clause. The expression  $\old(*p)$  refers to the pre-state of the function contract, whereas by default, a postcondition refers the values after the functions has been terminated.

#### 6.4.2. Implementation of swap

Listing 6.9 shows the usual straight-forward implementation of swap. No interspersed ACSL is needed to get it verified by Frama-C.

```
void swap(value_type* p, value_type* q)
{
  value_type save = *p;
  *p = *q;
  *q = save;
}
```

Listing 6.9: Implementation of swap

<sup>42</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/swap.html

<sup>43</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/iter\_swap.html

# 6.5. The swap\_ranges algorithm

The swap\_ranges algorithm<sup>44</sup> in the C++ standard library exchanges the contents of two expressed ranges element-wise. After translating C++ reference types and iterators to C, our version of the original signature reads:

```
void swap_ranges(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

We do not return a value since it would equal n, anyway.

This function refers to the previously discussed algorithm swap. Thus, swap\_ranges serves as another example for "modular verification". The specification of swap will be automatically integrated into the proof of swap\_ranges.

### 6.5.1. Formal specification of swap\_ranges

Listing 6.10 shows an ACSL specification for the swap\_ranges algorithm.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep: \separated(a+(0..n-1), b+(0..n-1));

  assigns a[0..n-1];
  assigns b[0..n-1];

  ensures equal: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(a, n, b);
  ensures equal: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(b, n, a);
  */
  void swap_ranges(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Listing 6.10: Formal specification of swap\_ranges

The swap\_ranges algorithm works correctly only if a and b do not overlap. Because of that fact we use the separated-clause to tell Frama-C that a and b must not overlap.

With the assigns-clause we postulate that the swap\_ranges algorithm alters the elements contained in two distinct ranges, modifying the corresponding elements and nothing else.

The postconditions of swap\_ranges specify that the content of each element in its post-state must equal the pre-state of its counterpart. We can use the predicate EqualRanges (see Listing 3.15) together with the label Old and Here to express the postcondition of swap\_ranges. In our specification in Listing 6.10, for example, we specify that the array a in the memory state that corresponds to the label Here is equal to the array b at the label Old. Since we are specifying a postcondition Here refers to the post-state of swap\_ranges whereas Old refers to the pre-state.

<sup>44</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/swap\_ranges.html

#### 6.5.2. Implementation of swap\_ranges

Listing 6.11 shows an implementation of swap\_ranges together with the necessary loop annotations.

```
void swap_ranges(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant equal: EqualRanges{Here,Pre}(a, i, b);
    loop invariant equal: EqualRanges{Here,Pre}(b, i, a);

    loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Here,Pre}(a, i, n);
    loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Here,Pre}(b, i, n);

    loop assigns i, a[0..n-1], b[0..n-1];
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        swap(a + i, b + i);
    }
}</pre>
```

Listing 6.11: Implementation of swap\_ranges

For the postcondition of the specification in Listing 6.10 to hold, our loop invariants must ensure that at each iteration all of the corresponding elements that have already been visited are swapped.

Note that there are two additional loop invariants which claim that all the elements that have not visited yet equal their original values. This a workaround that allows us to prove the postconditions of swap\_ranges despite the fact that the loop assigns is coarser than it should be. The predicate Unchanged from Listing 6.1 is used to express this property.

# 6.6. The copy algorithm

The copy algorithm in the C++ Standard Library implements a duplication algorithm for general sequences. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>45</sup> to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Informally, the function copies every element from the source range a [0..n-1] to the destination range b [0..n-1], as shown in Figure 6.12.

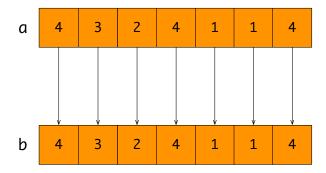


Figure 6.12.: Effects of copy

### 6.6.1. Formal specification of copy

Figure 6.12 might suggest that the ranges a [0..n-1] and b [0..n-1] must not overlap. However, since the informal specification requires that elements are copied in the order of increasing indices only a weaker condition is necessary. To be more specific, it is required that the pointer b does not refer to elements of a [0..n-1] as shown in the example in Figure 6.13.

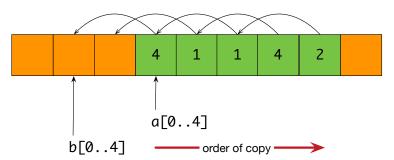


Figure 6.13.: Possible overlap of copy ranges

The ACSL specification of copy is shown in Listing 6.14. The copy algorithm expects that the ranges a and b are valid for reading and writing, respectively. Note the precondition sep that expresses the previously discussed non-overlapping property.

<sup>45</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/copy.html

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b);

  assigns b[0..n-1];

  ensures equal: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(b, n, a);

*/
void copy(const value_type* a, const size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Listing 6.14: Formal specification of copy

Again, we can use the EqualRanges predicate from Section 3.5 to express that the array a equals b after copy has been called. Nothing else must be altered. To state this we use the assigns-clause.

#### 6.6.2. Implementation of copy

Listing 6.15 shows an implementation of the copy function.

Listing 6.15: Implementation of copy

For the postcondition equal to be true, we must ensure that for every index i, the value a[i] must not yet have been changed before it is copied to b[i]. We express this by using the Unchanged predicate.<sup>46</sup>

The assigns clause ensures that nothing but the range b[0..n-1] and the loop variable i is modified. Keep in mind, however, that parts of the source range a[0..n-1] might change due to its potential overlap with the destination range.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Alternatively, this could also be expressed by changing the loop assigns clause to i, b[0..i-1]; however, Frama-C doesn't yet support loop assigns clauses containing the loop variable.

# 6.7. The copy\_backward algorithm

The copy\_backward algorithm in the C++ Standard Library implements another duplication algorithm for general sequences. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>47</sup> to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void copy_backward(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

The main reason for the existence of copy\_backward is to allow copying when the start of the destination range a [0..n-1] is contained in the source range b [0..n-1]. In this case, copy can't be employed since its precondition sep is violated, as can be see in Listing 6.14.

The informal specification of <code>copy\_backward</code> states that copying starts at the end of the source range. For this to work, however, the pointer <code>b+n</code> must not be contained in the source range. Note that the order of operation (or procedure) calls cannot be specified in ACSL.<sup>48</sup> A similar remark about order of operations tacitly applied to earlier functions as well, e.g. to <code>copy</code>, where the C++ order was prescribed by confining the signature to a <code>ForwardIterator</code>.

Figure 6.16 gives an example where copy\_backward, but not copy, can be applied.

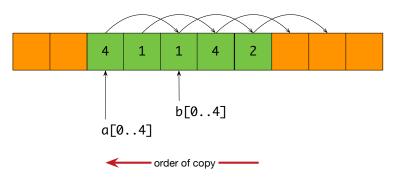


Figure 6.16.: Possible overlap of copy\_backward ranges

Note that in the original signature the argument b refers to one past the end of the destination range. Here, however, it refers to its start. The reason for this change is that in C++ copy\_backward is defined for bidirectional iterators which do not provide random access operations such as adding or subtracting an index. Since our C version works on pointers we do not consider it as necessary to use the one past the end pointer.

#### 6.7.1. Formal specification of copy\_backward

The ACSL specification of copy\_backward is shown in Listing 6.17. The copy\_backward algorithm expects that the ranges a [0..n-1] and b [0..n-1] are valid for reading and writing, respectively. Precondition sep formalizes the constraints on the overlap of the source and destination ranges as discussed at the beginning of this section.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/copy\_backward.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> The Aoraï specification language and the corresponding Frama-C plugin are provided to specify and verify temporal properties of code; however, they are beyond the scope of this tutorial.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b + n);

  assigns b[0..n-1];

  ensures equal: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(b, n, a);
  */
void copy_backward(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Listing 6.17: Formal specification of copy\_backward

The function copy\_backward assigns the elements from the source range a to the destination range b, modifying the memory of the elements pointed to by b. Again, we can use the EqualRanges predicate from Section 3.5 to express that the array a equals b after copy\_backward has been called.

#### 6.7.2. Implementation of copy\_backward

Listing 6.18 shows an implementation of the copy\_backward function.

Listing 6.18: Implementation of copy\_backward

We have loop invariants similar to copy, stating the loop variable's range (bound) and the area that has already been copied in each cycle (equal).

## 6.8. The reverse\_copy algorithm

The reverse\_copy<sup>49</sup> algorithm of the C++ Standard Library inverts the order of elements in a sequence. reverse\_copy does not change the input sequence, and copies its result to the output sequence. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void reverse_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

#### 6.8.1. The predicate Reverse

Informally, reverse\_copy copies the elements from the array a into array b such that the copy is a reverse of the original array. In order to concisely formalize these conditions we define in Listing 6.19 the predicate Reverse (see also Figure 6.20). We also define several overloaded variants of Reverse that provide default values for some of the parameters. These overloaded versions enable us to write more concise ACSL annotations.

```
/ * @
 predicate
    Reverse(K,L)(value_type* a, integer n, value_type* b) =
      \forall integer i; 0 \le i < n \Longrightarrow \lambda(a[i],K) \Longrightarrow \lambda(b[n-1-i],L);
 predicate
    Reverse{K,L}(value_type* a, integer m, integer n,
                  value_type* b, integer p) = Reverse(K,L)(a + m, n - m, b + p);
 predicate
    Reverse{K,L} (value_type* a, integer m, integer n, value_type* b) =
      Reverse { K, L } (a, m, n, b, m);
 predicate
   Reverse(K,L)(value_type* a, integer m, integer p) =
      Reverse\{K,L\} (a, m, n, a, p);
 predicate
   Reverse(K, L) (value_type* a, integer m, integer n) =
      Reverse { K, L } (a, m, n, m);
    Reverse(K,L)(value_type* a, integer n) = Reverse(K,L)(a, 0, n);
```

Listing 6.19: The predicate Reverse

<sup>49</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/reverse\_copy.html

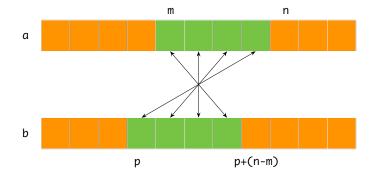


Figure 6.20.: Sketch of predicate Reverse

### 6.8.2. Formal specification of reverse\_copy

The ACSL specification of reverse\_copy is shown in Listing 6.21. We use the second version of predicate Reverse from Listing 6.19 in order to formulate the postcondition of reverse\_copy.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b + (0..n-1));

  assigns b[0..(n-1)];

  ensures reverse: Reverse{Here,Old}(b, n, a);
  ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Here,Old}(a, n);
  */
  void reverse_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Listing 6.21: Formal specification of reverse\_copy

#### 6.8.3. Implementation of reverse\_copy

Listing 6.22 shows an implementation of the reverse\_copy function. For the postcondition to be true, we must ensure that for every element i, the comparison b[i] == a[n-1-i] holds. This is formalized by the loop invariant reverse where we employ the first version of Reverse from Listing 6.19.

```
void reverse_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b)
{
    /*@
    loop invariant bound:    0 <= i <= n;
    loop invariant reverse: Reverse{Here,Pre}(b, 0, i, a, n-i);
    loop assigns i, b[0..n-1];
    loop variant n-i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        b[i] = a[n - 1 - i];
    }
}</pre>
```

Listing 6.22: Implementation of reverse\_copy

# 6.9. The reverse algorithm

The reverse<sup>50</sup> algorithm of the C++ Standard Library inverts the order of elements in a sequence. Note that reverse works *in place*, meaning that it modifies its input sequence. Our modified signature reads:

```
void reverse(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

#### 6.9.1. Formal specification of reverse

The ACSL specification for the reverse function is shown in listing 6.23.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));

  assigns a[0..n-1];

  ensures reverse: Reverse{Here,Old}(a, n);
  */
  void reverse(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 6.23: Formal specification of reverse

#### 6.9.2. Implementation of reverse

Listing 6.24 shows an implementation of the reverse function. Since the reverse algorithm operates *in place* we use the swap function from Section 6.4 in order to exchange the elements of the first half of the array with the corresponding elements of the second half. We reuse the predicates Reverse (Listing 6.19) and Unchanged (Listing 6.1) in order to write concise loop invariants.

```
void reverse(value_type* a, size_type n)
{
    const size_type half = n/2;
    /*@
    loop invariant bound: 0 <= i <= half;

    loop invariant left: Reverse{Here,Pre}(a, 0, i, n-i);
    loop invariant middle: Unchanged{Here,Pre}(a, i, n-i);
    loop invariant right: Reverse{Here,Pre}(a, n-i, n, 0);

    loop assigns i, a[0..n-1];
    loop variant half - i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 0; i < half; ++i) {
        swap(&a[i], &a[n - 1 - i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

Listing 6.24: Implementation of reverse

<sup>50</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/reverse.html

# 6.10. The rotate\_copy algorithm

The rotate\_copy algorithm of the  $C^{++}$  Standard Library copies, in a particular way, the elements of one sequence of length n into a separate sequence. More precisely,

- the first m elements of the first sequence become the last m elements of the second sequence, and
- the last n-m elements of the first sequence become the first n-m elements of the second sequence.

Figure 6.25 illustrates the effects of rotate\_copy by highlighting how the initial and final segments of the array a [0..n-1] are mapped to corresponding subranges of the array b [0..n-1].

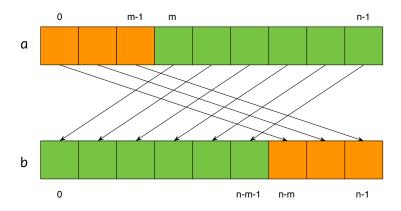


Figure 6.25.: Effects of rotate\_copy

For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation  $^{51}$  to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void rotate_copy(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

#### 6.10.1. Formal specification of rotate\_copy

The ACSL specification of rotate\_copy is shown in Listing 6.26. Note that we require explicitly that both ranges do not overlap and that we are only able to *read* from the range a [0..n-1].

```
requires bound: 0 <= m <= n;
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
requires sep: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b + (0..n-1));

assigns b[0..(n-1)];

ensures left: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(b, 0, n-m, a, m);
ensures right: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(b, n-m, n, a, 0);
ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Here,Old}(a, n);

*/
void rotate_copy(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n, value_type* b);</pre>
```

Listing 6.26: Formal specification of rotate\_copy

<sup>51</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/rotate\_copy.html

#### 6.10.2. Implementation of rotate\_copy

Listing 6.27 shows an implementation of the rotate\_copy function. The implementation simply calls the function copy twice.

```
void
rotate_copy(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n, value_type* b)
{
   copy(a, m, b + (n - m));
   copy(a + m, n - m, b);
}
```

Listing 6.27: Implementation of rotate\_copy

# 6.11. The rotate algorithm

The algorithm rotate is an *in-place* variant of the algorithm rotate\_copy of Section 6.10. We have modified the generic specification of rotate<sup>52</sup> such that it refers to a range of objects of value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
size_type rotate(const value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n);
```

#### 6.11.1. Formal specification of rotate

Figure 6.28 shows informally the behavior of rotate. The figure is of course very similar to the one for rotate\_copy (see Figure 6.25). The notable difference is that rotate operates *in place* of the array a[0..n-1].

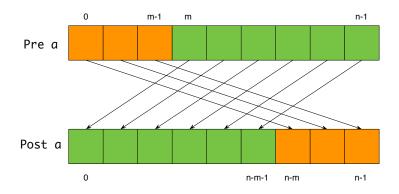


Figure 6.28.: Effects of rotate

The ACSL specification of rotate is shown in Listing 6.29.

 $<sup>^{52}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/rotate.html

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
  requires bound: m <= n;

  assigns a[0..n-1];

  ensures result: \result == n-m;
  ensures left: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(a, 0, n-m, m);
  ensures right: EqualRanges{Here,Old}(a, n-m, n, 0);
  */
  size_type rotate(value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 6.29: Formal specification of rotate

#### 6.11.2. Implementation of rotate

Listing 6.30 shows an implementation of the rotate function together with several ACSL annotations. Actually, there are several ways to implement rotate. We have chosen a particularly simple one that is derived from an implementation of std::rotate for *bidirectional iterators*<sup>53</sup> and which essentially consists of several calls to the algorithm reverse of Section 6.9.

Note the statement contract of the final call of reverse Listing 6.30. Here we use both the labels Pre and Old which refer to the pre-states of reverse and the function rotate itself, respectively.

```
size_type rotate(value_type* a, size_type m, size_type n)
 // if one subrange is empty, then nothings needs to be done
 if (0 < m && m < n) {
   reverse(a, m);
   reverse(a + m, n - m);
     requires left:
                       Reverse{Here, Pre} (a, 0, m, 0);
     requires right: Reverse{Here, Pre} (a, m, n, m);
     assigns
                       a[0..n-1];
     ensures left:
                      Reverse{Here,Old}(a, 0, n-m, m);
     ensures right:
                       Reverse{Here,Old}(a, n-m, n, 0);
    reverse(a, n);
                       EqualRanges{Here, Pre} (a, 0, n-m, m);
    //@ assert left:
    //@ assert right: EqualRanges{Here,Pre}(a, n-m, n, 0);
 return n - m;
```

Listing 6.30: Implementation of rotate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> See https://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/BidirectionalIterator.html

# 6.12. The replace\_copy algorithm

The replace\_copy algorithm of the C++ Standard Library substitutes specific elements from general sequences. Here, the general implementation<sup>54</sup> has been altered to process value\_type ranges. The new signature reads:

The replace\_copy algorithm copies the elements from the range a [0..n] to range b [0..n], substituting every occurrence of v by w. The return value is the length of the range. As the length of the range is already a parameter of the function this return value does not contain new information.

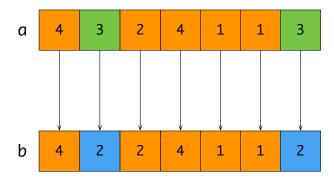


Figure 6.31.: Effects of replace

Figure 6.31 shows the behavior of replace\_copy at hand of an example where all occurrences of the value 3 in a [0..n-1] are replaced with the value 2 in b [0..n-1].

#### 6.12.1. The predicate Replace

We start with defining in Listing 6.32 the predicate Replace that describes the intended relationship between the input array a [0..n-1] and the output array b [0..n-1]. Note the introduction of *local bindings* \let ai = ... and \let bi = ... in the definition of Replace (see  $[9, \S 2.2]$ ).

Listing 6.32: The predicate Replace

Listing 6.32 also contains a second, overloaded version of Replace which we will use for the specification of the related in-place algorithm replace in Section 6.13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/replace\_copy.html

#### 6.12.2. Formal specification of replace\_copy

Using predicate Replace the ACSL specification of replace\_copy is as simple as in Listing 6.33. Note that we require that the pointer b does not refer to elements of the source range a [0.n-1] (see also Section 6.6).

Listing 6.33: Formal specification of the replace\_copy

#### 6.12.3. Implementation of replace\_copy

An implementation (including loop annotations) of replace\_copy is shown in Listing 6.34. Note how the structure of the loop annotations resembles the specification of Listing 6.33.

Listing 6.34: Implementation of the replace\_copy algorithm

# 6.13. The replace algorithm

The replace algorithm of the C++ Standard Library substitutes specific values in a general sequence. Here, the general implementation<sup>55</sup> has been altered to process value\_type ranges. The new signature reads

```
void replace(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type v, value_type w);
```

The replace algorithm substitutes all elements from the range a [0..n-1] that equal v by w.

#### 6.13.1. Formal specification of replace

Using the second predicate Replace from Listing 6.32 the ACSL specification of replace can be expressed as in Listing 6.35.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));

  assigns a[0..n-1];

  ensures replace: Replace{Old, Here}(a, n, v, w);
  */
  void replace(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type v, value_type w);
```

Listing 6.35: Formal specification of the replace

#### 6.13.2. Implementation of replace

An implementation of replace is shown in Listing 6.36. The loop invariant unchanged expresses that when entering iteration i the elements a [i..n-1] have not yet changed.

Listing 6.36: Implementation of the replace algorithm

 $<sup>^{55}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/replace.html

# 6.14. The remove\_copy algorithm

The remove\_copy algorithm of the C++ Standard Library copies all elements of a sequence other than a given value. Here, the general implementation has been altered to process value\_type ranges.<sup>56</sup> The new signature reads:

```
size_type
remove_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b, value_type v);
```

The most important facts of this algorithms are:

- 1. The return value is the length of the resulting range.
- 2. The remove\_copy algorithm copies elements that are not equal to v from range a [0..n-1] to the range b  $[0..\rdot{result}-1]$ .
- 3. The algorithm is stable, that is, the relative order of the elements in b is the same as in a.

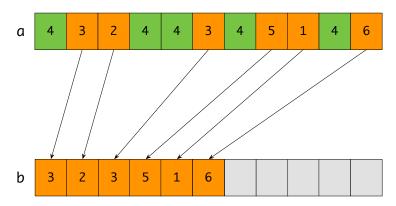


Figure 6.37.: Effects of remove\_copy

Figure 6.37 shows how remove\_copy is supposed to copy elements that differ from v from range a to b.

#### 6.14.1. The predicate MultisetRetainRest

In order to achieve a concise specification we introduce the auxiliary predicate MultisetRetainRest (see Listing 6.38). The expression MultisetRetainRest {A,B} (a, m, b, n, v) is true if the range a [0..n-1] at time A contains the same elements as b [0..m-1] at time B, except possibly for occurrences of v; the elements' order may differ in a and b.

Listing 6.38: The predicate MultisetRetainRest

<sup>56</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/remove\_copy.html

#### 6.14.2. Formal specification of remove\_copy

Listing 6.39 now shows our first attempt to specify remove\_copy.

```
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
requires sep: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b);

assigns b[0..n-1];

ensures bound: 0 <= \result <= n;
ensures size: \result == n - Count{Old}(a, n, v);
ensures retain: MultisetRetainRest{Old, Here}(a, n, b, \result, v);
ensures discard: !HasValue(b, \result, v);
ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here}(b, \result, n);

*/
size_type
remove_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b, value_type v);</pre>
```

Listing 6.39: Formal specification of remove\_copy

- The informal specification of remove\_copy states that the pointer b does not reference the range a [0..n-1]. This is expressed by demanding \separated(a + (0..n-1), b).
- We use the predicate MultisetRetainRest to express that the number of elements different from v is the same in the source and target range.

Note that this property does not guarantee the stability of  $remove\_copy$  because given e.g. a range  $\{1,0,5,2,0,5\}$  and the value v=0 the expected result of  $remove\_copy$  is the range  $\{1,5,2,5\}$ . However, since Count is invariant under permutations the specification in Listing 6.39 would also allow e.g. the result  $\{5,5,1,2\}$ . In Section 6.16 we will discuss how the stability of  $remove\_copy$  can be captured in an ACSL specification.

- The predicate Unchanged from Listing 6.1 is used to express that remove\_copy does not change b[\result..n-1].
- Note the re-use of predicate HasValue (Listing 3.4) to express that the target range does not contain the value v.

### 6.14.3. Implementation of remove\_copy

An implementation of remove\_copy is shown in Listing 6.40.

```
size_type
remove_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b, value_type v)
 size_type j = 0;
 /*@
   loop invariant size: j == j - ?-
loop invariant size: j == j - ?-
                            j == i - Count{Pre}(a, i, v);
   loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Pre,Here}(a, i, n);
   loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Pre,Here}(b, j, n);
   loop assigns i, j, b[0..n-1];
   loop variant n-i;
 for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {</pre>
   if (a[i] != v) {
     b[j++] = a[i];
     //@ assert retain_pre: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, i, b, j-1, v);
     //@ assert retain_now: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, i+1, b, j, v);
 }
 return j;
```

Listing 6.40: Implementation of remove\_copy

Not surprisingly, the logical function <code>Count</code> as well as the predicates <code>HasValue</code>, <code>Unchanged</code>, and <code>MultisetRetainRest</code> also appear in the loop invariants of <code>remove\_copy</code>. In a previous release of this manual, a series of complex assertions was necessary in order to guide the provers towards the loop invariant <code>retain</code>. In this version we still need the assertions <code>retain\_pre</code> and <code>retain\_now</code> to automatically verify the said loop invariant in a reasonable time.

Since the precondition sep does not guarantee that the range a[0..n-1] remains unchanged we have to refer to the pre-state of the array a[0..n-1] by using the logic label Pre instead of Here for all references of a where possible. This is necessary despite a[i] retaining its original value until the i-th iteration—a fact that is quickly verified through the loop invariant unchanged.

# 6.15. The remove algorithm

Besides the remove\_copy function, the C++ Standard Library also contains a function remove performing the same operation as remove\_copy, but in place. Its signature is very similar to that of remove\_copy, except that the b is missing since a is modified in place:

```
size_type remove(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type v);
```

Figure 6.41 shows how remove is supposed to remove all occurrences of a given value from a range.

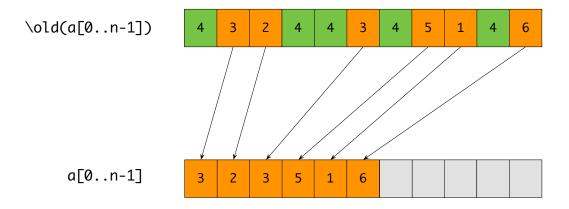


Figure 6.41.: Effects of remove

As it turns out, we can reuse the function remove\_copy to implement remove.

#### 6.15.1. Formal specification of remove

Listing 6.42 shows the formal specification of remove. It is very similar to the specification of remove\_copy (see Listing 6.39) except all references to b have been turned into references to the pre-state of a and the unchangedness of a being no longer asserted.

Listing 6.42: Formal specification of remove

#### Informal verification of an implementation of remove

Our implementation of remove closely follows those of the original STL implementation<sup>57</sup> by calling the algorithms find and remove\_copy. Without additional assertions that simplify the formal verification the code looks likes shown here.

```
size_type remove(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type v)
{
    size_type first = find(a, n, v);

    if (first == n) {
        return n;
    } else {
        return first + remove_copy(a + first + 1, n - first - 1, a + first, v);
    }
}
```

Informally, the implementation starts with a call to the function find (Listing 3.5) to check whether the range a [0..n-1] contains the value v.

- 1. If v does not occur in the range, then nothing needs to be removed and the algorithms terminates.
- 2. Otherwise find returns the first occurrence of v in a [0..n-1]. We then call remove\_copy (cf. Listing 6.39) on the (possibly empty) subrange a [first+1..n-1] and write its output to the subrange that starts at a [first]. Note that the starting address a + first of the output range of remove\_copy does not point into the input range a [first+1..n-1] and therefore preserves the precondition sep of remove\_copy.

Considering the return value m of remove\_copy, we know the following facts.

- a) The resulting subrange a [0..first-1] remains unchanged and does not contain v.
- b) The occurrence of v at \old(a[first]) is overwritten by remove\_copy with a different value. In fact, remove\_copy will remove all occurrences of v from \old(a[first+1..n-1) and put its output into the range a[first..m-1].
- c) Thus, the range a [0..m-1], which is the concatenation of the ranges of a [0..first-1] and a [first..m-1], contains the desired result.

<sup>57</sup> See https://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/stl\_algo.h

#### 6.15.2. Implementation of remove

Listing 6.43 shows our implementation of remove together with additional assertions whose purpose is to guide the automatic provers to a formal proof of the informal discussion above. Note that we have added more assertions so that we can explain some particular points of the verification more easily.

```
size_type remove(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type v)
 const size_type f = find(a, n, v);
 if (f == n) {
   //@ assert discard_nothing: !HasValue(a, n, v);
   //@ assert size_zero: Count{Pre}(a, n, v) == 0;
   return n:
 } else {
   const size_type m = remove_copy(a + f + 1, n - f - 1, a + f, v);
   //@ assert discard_first: !HasValue(a, 0, f, v);
   //@ assert discard_remove: !HasValue(a+f, 0, m, v);
   //@ assert discard_remove: !HasValue(a, f, f+m, v);
   //@ assert discard_union: !HasValue(a, f+m, v);
   //@ assert size_first: 1 == Count{Pre}(a, 0, f+1, v);
   //@ assert size_remove: m == n-f-1 - Count{Pre}(a, f+1, n, v);
   //@ assert size_union: f+m == n - Count{Pre}(a, 0, n, v);
   //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here} (a, f, a, f, v);
   //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a+f+1, n-f-1, a+f, m, v);
   //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here}(a, n, a, f+m, v);
   //@ assert unchanged: Unchanged{Pre, Here} (a+f, m, n-f);
   //@ assert unchanged: Unchanged{Pre, Here}(a, f+m, n);
   return f + m;
 }
```

Listing 6.43: Implementation of remove

We now have a closer look at those assertions for whose verification we wrote additional ACSL lemmas.

#### The assertion size\_zero

The assertion discard\_nothing in the then-part of our if-statement is a direct consequence of the call of find. In order to verify the postcondition size, however, the assertion count\_zero is more helpful. It is fairly easy for a human being to understand the following fact:

If the range a [0..n-1] does not contain the value v, then the number of occurrences of v in the range is zero.

However, in order to enable Frama-C/WP that it can derive the property size\_zero from the property discard\_nothing we had to

- 1. formalize the above implication as the ACSL lemma HasValueCountInversion (shown in Listing 6.44
- 2. provide a proof of the lemma through induction on the length of the range.

```
/*@
  lemma HasValueCountInversion{L}:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
    !HasValue(a, m, n, v) ==> Count(a, m, n, v) == 0;
*/
```

Listing 6.44: The lemma HasValueCountInversion

#### The assertions discard\_remove

There are two assertions named discard\_remove in Listing 6.43. The first one is a direct consequence of the postcondition discard of remove\_copy (cf. Listing 6.39). The second assertion can be derived form the first one using the lemma HasValueShiftInversion in Listing 6.45.

```
/*@
lemma HasValueShiftInversion{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
   !HasValue(a + m, 0, n, v) ==> !HasValue(a, m, m + n, v);
*/
```

Listing 6.45: The lemma HasValueShiftInversion

#### The assertion size\_remove

The postcondition size of the call to remove\_copy in the else-branch of our implementation reads as follows.

```
n - Count{Old}(a + first + 1, n - first - 1, v)
```

For the purpose of our verification it is, however, the assertion size\_remove is more useful. We added the lemma CountShift from Listing 6.46 to guide the derivation of the assertion size\_remove.

```
/*@
  lemma CountShift{L}:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
    0 <= m ==> 0 <= n ==>
    Count(a + m, 0, n, v) == Count(a, m, m + n, v);
*/
```

Listing 6.46: The lemma CountShift

#### 6.15.2.1. The assertions unchanged

The first assertion unchanged follows from the postcondition of the call to remove. Using lemma UnchangedShift from Listing 6.47 then enables automatic provers to verify the second assertion.

```
/*@
  lemma UnchangedShift{K,L}:
   \forall value_type *a, integer p, q, r;
      Unchanged{K,L}(a + p, q, r) ==>
      Unchanged{K,L}(a, p + q, p + r);
*/
```

Listing 6.47: The lemma UnchangedShift

# 6.16. Capturing the stability of remove\_copy

In this section, we have a closer look at the *stability* of remove\_copy and its expression in the ACSL language.

Figure 6.48 shows, with respect to array indices, how the elements different from v "slide" to smaller or equal positions. The main observation here is that an element slides as many positions *down* as there are occurrences of v *below* it.

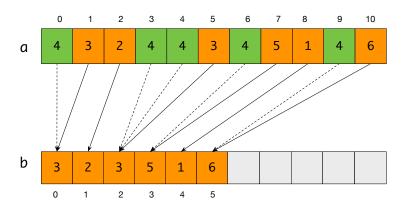


Figure 6.48.: Stability of remove\_copy with respect to indices

As it turns out, it is relatively easy to express this property using the previously introduced logic function Count (see Listing 3.34 in Section 3.9). We simply define in Listing 6.49 a logic function RemoveCount which subtracts from every position i the number of occurrences of v below i. In addition, we provide four lemmas that easily follow from corresponding properties of Count, but are needed for the verification.

```
/ * @
 logic
   integer RemoveCount{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
     n - Count{L}(a, n, v);
 lemma RemoveCountEmpty:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
       n \ll 0 \implies RemoveCount(a, n, v) == n;
 lemma RemoveCountHit:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
      0 <= n => a[n] == v ==>
      RemoveCount(a, n+1, v) == RemoveCount(a, n, v);
 lemma RemoveCountMiss:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
      0 <= n ==> a[n] != v
      RemoveCount(a, n+1, v) == RemoveCount(a, n, v) + 1;
 lemma RemoveCountRead{L1,L2}:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
      Unchanged{L1,L2}(a, n) ==>
        RemoveCount{L1}(a, n, v) == RemoveCount{L2}(a, n, v);
*/
```

Listing 6.49: The logic function RemoveCount

The value RemoveCount (a, v, i) equals the number of elements of a [0..i-1] that are copied to the destination range b [0..n-1] by remove\_copy.

Also, note that RemoveCount is defined for all integers, including those indices i where a[i] equals v (see the dashed lines in Figure 6.48). In the specification of remove\_copy we will, however, only use RemoveCount for indices where a[i] is different from v. This can be seen in the definition of predicate RemoveMapping (Listing 6.50) that uses RemoveCount to formally capture the stability with respect to corresponding elements of the source and target ranges.

```
/*@
   predicate
   RemoveMapping{K,L}(value_type* a, integer n, value_type* b, value_type v) =
     \forall integer i; 0 <= i < n ==>
     \at(a[i],K) != v ==> \at(b[RemoveCount{K}(a, i, v)],L) == \at(a[i],K);
*/
```

Listing 6.50: The predicate RemoveMapping

### 6.16.1. Formal specification of remove\_copy

Listing 6.51 shows an improved specification of remove\_copy that also captures the required stability.

```
requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid: \valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep:
                   \separated(a + (0..n-1), b+(0..n-1));
  assigns b[0..(n-1)];
  ensures bound:
                       0 <= \result <= n;
 ensures size:
ensures retain:
ensures discard:
                       \result == RemoveCount(a, n, v);
                       MultisetRetainRest{Here, Here} (a, n, b, \result, v);
                      !HasValue(b, \result, v);
  ensures mapping: RemoveMapping{Here, Here}(a, n, b, v);
  ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here}(b, \result, n);
  ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here} (a, n);
size_type
remove_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b, value_type v);
```

Listing 6.51: Improved formal specification of remove\_copy

This specification of RemoveCount differs from the one in Listing 6.39 in the following points.

- 1. We now use RemoveCount in order to specify the expected return value in postcondition result.
- 2. We use the predicate RemoveMapping in the new postcondition mapping. Here we exactly specify to which element in the output range an element of the input range, that is different from v, is copied.

#### 6.16.2. The auxiliary function remove\_copy\_aux

When trying to verify the extended contract of Listing 6.51 we had to add more assertions than those of Listing 6.40. In order to better manage the annotations related to the if-statement inside the implementation

of remove\_copy we created an auxiliary function remove\_copy\_aux (Listing 6.52) with a proper function contract.

```
/*@
  requires valid:
                       \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires valid:
                       \vert valid(b + (0..n-1));
  requires sep:
                       \separated(a + (0..n-1), b+(0..n-1));
  requires bound: 0 <= i < n;
 requires bound: 0 <= j < n;
requires size: j == Remove
                     j == RemoveCount(a, i, v);
 requires discard: !HasValue(b, j, v);
  requires retain: MultisetRetainRest{Here, Here} (a, i, b, j, v);
  requires mapping: RemoveMapping{Here, Here} (a, i, b, v);
  assigns b[j];
 ensures bound: 0 <= \result <= n;
ensures size: \result == RemoveC</pre>
                      \result == RemoveCount(a, i+1, v);
  ensures discard: !HasValue(b, \result, v);
 ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here} (b, \result, n);
  behavior active:
    assumes a[i] != v;
    assigns b[j];
    ensures retain: b[\old(j)] == a[i];
 behavior passive:
    assumes a[i] == v;
    assigns \nothing;
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
static inline size_type
remove_copy_aux(const value_type* a, size_type n, size_type i,
                 value_type* b, size_type j, value_type v)
  //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here} (a, i, b, j, v);
 if (a[i] != v) {
   b[j] = a[i];
    //@ assert size: j+1 == RemoveCount(a, i+1, v);
//@ assert mapping: RemoveMapping{Pre, Here}(a, i+1, b, v);
//@ assert retain_pre: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here}(a, i, b, j, v);
//@ assert retain_now: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here}(a, i+1, b, j+1, v);
    return j + 1;
  } else {
    //@ assert size: j == RemoveCount(a, i+1, v);
    //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre, Here} (a, i+1, b, j, v);
    //@ assert mapping: RemoveMapping{Pre,Here}(a, i+1, b, v);
    return j;
  }
```

Listing 6.52: Auxiliary function remove\_copy\_aux

Despite the elaborate specification of remove\_copy\_aux we had to add assertions to the (modified) ifstatement. In particular, we encounter here again the pair of assertions retain\_pre and retain\_now that we have already seen in the first implementation of remove\_copy (cf. Listing 6.40). Moreover, to ensure the verify the retain properties of remove\_copy\_aux we formulated the lemma MultisetRetainRestMiss which is shown in Listing 6.53.

```
/ * @
  lemma MultisetRetainRestMiss{K,L}:
    \forall value_type *a, *b, v, integer m, n;
       0 <= m => 0 <= n
       n == RemoveCount(K)(a, m, v)
       MultisetRetainRest(K,K)(a, m, b, n, v) ==>
       \at(a[m], K) != v
                                                    ==>
       \operatorname{at}(a[m], L) == \operatorname{at}(b[n], L)
       Unchanged(K,L)(a,m+1)
                                                    ==>
       Unchanged(K, L) (b, n)
                                                    ==>
       n+1 == RemoveCount\{L\} (a, m+1, v)
                                                    ==>
       MultisetRetainRest(K,L)(a, m+1, b, n+1, v);
*/
```

Listing 6.53: The lemma MultisetRetainRestMiss

#### 6.16.3. Implementation of remove\_copy

Listing 6.54 shows an implementation of remove\_copy that calls the helper function remove\_copy\_aux from Listing 6.52. The use of this helper function simplifies the verification of this more precise specification of remove\_copy.

```
size_type
remove_copy(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b, value_type v)
 size_type j = 0;
  loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Pre, Here} (b, j, n);
   loop assigns i, j, b[0..n-1];
  loop variant n-i;
 for (size_type i = 0; i < n; ++i) {</pre>
   j = remove_copy_aux(a, n, i, b, j, v);
 }
                j == RemoveCount{Pre}(a, n, v);
 //@ assert size:
 //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, n, b, j, v);
 //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Here, Here} (a, n, b, j, v);
 return ;
```

Listing 6.54: Implementation of remove\_copy with additional loop invariants

#### 6.16.4. Additional lemmas for remove\_copy

In order to prove the loop invariant mapping we rely also on monotonicity properties of Count and RemoveCount that are shown in Listings 6.55 and 6.56, respectively. Listing 6.57 shows another lemma that we formulated in order to completely verify the retain properties in Listing 6.54.

```
/*@
lemma CountSectionBounds:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
   0 <= m <= n ==> 0 <= Count (a, m, n, v) <= n-m;
lemma CountBounds:
   \forall value_type *a, v, integer n;
   0 <= n ==> 0 <= Count (a, n, v) <= n;
*/</pre>
```

```
/*@
lemma CountSectionMonotonic:
  \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n, p;
  0 <= m <= n <= p ==>
        Count(a, m, n, v) <= Count(a, m, p, v);

lemma CountMonotonic:
  \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n;
  0 <= m <= n ==>
        Count(a, m, v) <= Count(a, n, v);

*/</pre>
```

Listing 6.55: Bounds and monotonicity properties for Count

```
/*@
  lemma RemoveCountMonotonic:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n; 0 <= m <= n ==>
        RemoveCount(a, m, v) <= RemoveCount(a, n, v);

lemma RemoveCountStrictlyMonotonic:
    \forall value_type *a, v, integer m, n; 0 <= m < n ==>
        a[m] != v ==> RemoveCount(a, m, v) < RemoveCount(a, n, v);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 6.56: Monotonicity properties of RemoveCount

Listing 6.57: The lemma MultisetRetainRestUnchanged

# 6.17. The random\_shuffle algorithm

The random\_shuffle algorithm in the C++ Standard Library randomly rearranges the elements of a given range, that is, it randomly picks one of its possible orderings. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>58</sup> to that of a range of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
void random_shuffle(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Figure 6.58 illustrates an example run of random\_shuffle. In this figure, the values 1, 2, 3, and 4 occur twice, once, once, and three times, respectively, both before and after the random\_shuffle run. This expresses that the range has been reordered.

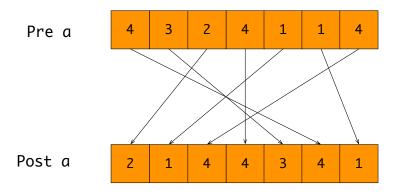


Figure 6.58.: Effects of random\_shuffle

#### 6.17.1. Formal specification of random\_shuffle

The ACSL specification of random\_shuffle is shown in Listing 6.59. The random\_shuffle algorithm expects that the range a is valid for reading and writing. We use the predicate MultisetUnchanged defined in Listing 6.5 to express that the contents of a[0..n-1] is just permuted, i.e., the number of occurrences of each of its members remains unchanged. The array random\_seed contains a seed for the random number generator used to randomize the shuffle. By specifying that the function assigns to random\_seed we capture that the function may return a different permutation every time.

```
extern unsigned short random_seed[3];

/*@
  requires \valid(a + (0..n-1));

  assigns a[0..n-1];
  assigns random_seed[0..2];

  ensures MultisetUnchanged{Here,Old}(a,n);

*/
void random_shuffle(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 6.59: Formal specification of random\_shuffle

Note that our specification only states that the resulting range is a reordering of the input range; nothing more and nothing less. Ideally, we would also specify that sequence of reorderings obtained by repeated

 $<sup>^{58}</sup>$  See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/random\_shuffle.html

calls of random\_shuffle is required to be random. However, ACSL does currently not support the specification of temporal properties related to repeated call results.

More generally speaking, it is not trivial to capture the notion of randomness in a mathematically precise way. As a typical example, one of the papers cited by SGI's description web page of random\_shuffle, viz. [14, p.6–8], just gives four statistical tests indicating the randomness of the permutations computed with their algorithm. From a theoretical point of view, a sequence of permutations can be called "random" if its Kolmogorov complexity exceeds a certain measure, however, this property is undecidable [15].

#### 6.17.2. Implementation of random\_shuffle

Listing 6.60 shows an implementation of the random\_shuffle function. It repeatedly calls the function swap from Section 6.4 to *transpose* (randomly) selected elements. The loop invariants reorder and unchanged of random\_shuffle are necessary for the verification of the postcondition reorder: in the ith loop cycle, the subrange a[0..i-1] has been reordered, while the remaining subrange a[i..n-1] is yet unchanged. We also formulate two auxiliary assertions reorder which use the *ghost label* Before, to guide the automatic verification the loop invariant reorder.

```
void random_shuffle(value_type* a, size_type n)
 if (n > 0) {
    / * a
                                1 <= i <= n;
      loop invariant bounds:
      loop invariant reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Here,Pre}(a,0,i);
      loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Here, Pre}(a, i, n);
      loop assigns i, a[0..n-1], random_seed[0..2];
      loop variant n - i;
    for (size_type i = 1; i < n; ++i) {</pre>
      const size_type j = random_number(i) + 1;
      //@ ghost Before:
      swap(&a[j], &a[i]);
      //@ assert reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Here, Before}(a, 0, j);
      //@ assert reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Here, Before} (a, j+1, i);
  }
```

Listing 6.60: Implementation of random\_shuffle

## 6.17.3. Specifying a random number generator

Our implementation presupposes a random-number generator named random\_number which is specified in Listing 6.61. As in the case of random\_shuffle itself, we do not formulate specific properties of randomness and only require its result to be in the specified range [0..n-1]. Again, the assigns clause to the array random\_seed models the dependency on an external state.

```
extern unsigned short random_seed[3];

/*@
  requires 0 < n;
  assigns random_seed[0..2];
  ensures 0 <= \result < n;
  */
  size_type random_number(size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 6.61: Formal specification of random\_number

Internally, the random\_number uses a custom implementation of the POSIX.1 random number generator lrand48 (). <sup>59</sup> This random number generator is a linear congruence generator with a 48 bit state and the iteration procedure

 $x_{n+1} = ax_n + c \bmod 2^{48}$ 

where a = 25214903917 and c = 11 (note that a can be divided e.g. by 7, but not by 11).

For sake of completeness, we have included our implementation of lrand48() (see Listing 6.62). As a part of the iteration procedure, unsigned overflow may occur. This does not affect the result as we are only interested in its lowest 48 bits. However, as one of the options we use, -warn-unsigned-overflow, causes Frama-C/WP assert the absence of unsigned overflow this algorithm does not verify under the same options used for the other algorithms. As an exception, we have decided to disable -warn-unsigned -overflow for this function as the unsigned overflow is both benign and well-defined (cf. [10, §6.2.5, 9]).

```
unsigned short random_seed[3] = { 0x243f, 0x6a88, 0x85a3 };
/* see IEEE 1003.1-2008, 2016 Edition for specification */
  assigns random_seed[0..2];
  ensures 0 <= \result <= 0x7fffffff;</pre>
static long my_lrand48(void)
 unsigned long long state = (unsigned long long) random_seed[0] << 32</pre>
          | (unsigned long long) random_seed[1] << 16</pre>
          | (unsigned long long) random_seed[2];
  state = (0x5deece66dull * state + 0xbull) % (1ull << 48);</pre>
  long result = state / (1ull << 17);</pre>
 random_seed[0] = state >> 32 & 0xffff;
  random_seed[1] = state >> 16 & 0xffff;
  random_seed[2] = state >> 8 & 0xffff;
  return result;
size_type random_number(size_type n)
 return my_lrand48() % n;
```

Listing 6.62: Implementation of random\_number

 $<sup>^{59}</sup>$  See http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/functions/lrand48.html

# 7. Numeric algorithms

The algorithms that we considered so far only *compared*, *read* or *copied* values in sequences. In this chapter, we consider so-called *numeric* algorithms of the C++ standard library that use arithmetic operations on value type to combine the elements of sequences.

In order to refer to potential arithmetic overflows we introduce the two constants

```
#define VALUE_TYPE_MAX INT_MAX
#define VALUE_TYPE_MIN INT_MIN
```

Listing 7.1: Limits of value\_type

which refer to the numeric limits of value\_type (see also Section 1.3).

We consider the following algorithms.

- iota writes sequentially increasing values into a range (Section 7.1 on Page 112)
- accumulate computes the sum of the elements in a range (Section 7.2 on Page 114)
- inner\_product computes the inner product of two ranges (Section 7.3 on Page 118)
- partial\_sum computes the sequence of partial sums of a range (Section 7.4 on Page 121)
- adjacent\_difference computes the differences of adjacent elements in a range (Section 7.5 on Page 125)

The formal specifications of these algorithms raise new questions. In particular, we now have to deal with arithmetic overflows in value\_type.

# 7.1. The iota algorithm

The iota algorithm in the C++ standard library assigns sequentially increasing values to a range, where the initial value is user-defined. Our version of the original signature  $^{60}$  reads:

```
void iota(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);
```

Starting at val, the function assigns consecutive integers to the elements of the range a. When specifying iota we must be careful to deal with possible overflows of the argument val.

## 7.1.1. Formal specification of iota

The specification of iota relies on the logic function Iota that is defined in Listing 7.2.

```
/*@
  predicate
  Iota(value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
     \forall integer i; 0 <= i < n ==> a[i] == v + i;
*/
```

Listing 7.2: Logic function Iota

The ACSL specification of iota is shown in Listing 7.3. It uses the logic function Iota in order to express the postcondition increment.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
  requires limit: val + n <= VALUE_TYPE_MAX;

  assigns a[0..n-1];

  ensures increment: Iota(a, n, val);
  */
  void iota(value_type* a, size_type n, value_type val);</pre>
```

Listing 7.3: Formal specification of iota

The specification of iota refers to VALUE\_TYPE\_MAX which is the maximum value of the underlying integer type (see Listing 7.1). In order to avoid integer overflows the sum val+n must not be greater than the constant VALUE\_TYPE\_MAX.

<sup>60</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/iota.html

### 7.1.2. Implementation of iota

Listing 7.4 shows an implementation of the iota function.

Listing 7.4: Implementation of iota

The loop invariant increment describes that in each iteration of the loop the current value val is equal to the sum of the value val in state of function entry and the loop index i. We have to refer here to \at (val, Pre) which is the value on entering iota.

# 7.2. The accumulate algorithm

The accumulate algorithm in the C++ standard library computes the sum of an given initial value and the elements in a range. Our version of the original signature<sup>61</sup> reads:

```
value_type
accumulate(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type init);
```

The result of accumulate shall equal the value

$$init + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a[i]$$

This implies that accumulate will return init for an empty range.

#### 7.2.1. Axiomatic definition of accumulating over an array

As in the case of count (see Section 3.9) we specify accumulate by first defining a *logic function* Accumulate that formally defines the summation of elements in an array.

Listing 7.5: The logic function Accumulate

With this definition the following equation holds

$$Accumulate(a, n + 1, init) = init + \sum_{i=0}^{n} a[i]$$
 (7.1)

Both the reads clause and the axiom AccumulateRead in Listing 7.5 express that the result of Accumulate only depends on the values of a [0..n-1].

<sup>61</sup> See http://www.sqi.com/tech/stl/accumulate.html

Listing 7.6 shows an overloaded version of Accumulate that uses 0 as default value of init. Included in this listing is also a property corresponding to axiom AccumulateNext from Listing 7.5, here given as a lemma. We will use this version for the specification of the algorithm partial\_sum (see Section 7.4).

Thus, for the overloaded version of Accumulate we have

$$Accumulate(a, n + 1) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} a[i]$$
 (7.2)

```
/ * @
 logic value_type Accumulate{L} (value_type* a, integer n) =
   Accumulate{L}(a, n, (value_type) 0);
 lemma AccumulateDefault0{L}:
   \forall value_type* a;
     Accumulate(a, 0) == 0;
 lemma AccumulateDefault1{L}:
   \forall value_type* a;
     Accumulate(a, 1) == a[0];
 lemma AccumulateDefaultNext{L}:
   \forall value_type* a, integer n;
     n \ge 0 = \infty Accumulate(a, n+1) == Accumulate(a, n) + a[n];
 lemma AccumulateDefaultRead{L1,L2}:
   \forall value_type *a, integer n;
     Unchanged\{L1,L2\}(a, n) ==>
     Accumulate(L1)(a, n) == Accumulate(L2)(a, n);
```

Listing 7.6: An overloaded version of Accumulate

### 7.2.2. Preventing numeric overflows for accumulate

Before we present our formal specification of accumulate we introduce in Listing 7.7 a predicate AccumulateBounds that we will subsequently use in order to compactly express requirements that exclude numeric overflows while accumulating value.

```
/*@
predicate
  AccumulateBounds{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type init) =
    \forall integer i; 0 <= i <= n ==>
        VALUE_TYPE_MIN <= Accumulate(a, i, init) <= VALUE_TYPE_MAX;

predicate
  AccumulateBounds{L} (value_type* a, integer n) =
    AccumulateBounds{L} (a, n, (value_type) 0);
*/</pre>
```

Listing 7.7: The overloaded predicate AccumulateBounds

Predicate AccumulateBounds expresses that for  $0 \le i < n$  the partial sums

$$init + \sum_{k=0}^{i} a[k] \tag{7.3}$$

do not overflow. If one of them did, one couldn't guarantee that the result of accumulate equals the mathematical description of Accumulate.

Note that we also provide a second (overloaded) version of AccumulateBounds which uses a default value 0 for init.

### 7.2.3. Formal specification of accumulate

Using the logic function Accumulate and the predicate AccumulateBounds, the ACSL specification of accumulate is then as simple as shown in Listing 7.8.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
  requires bounds: AccumulateBounds(a, n, init);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures result: \result == Accumulate(a, n, init);

*/
value_type
accumulate(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type init);
```

Listing 7.8: Formal specification of accumulate

#### 7.2.4. Implementation of accumulate

Listing 7.9 shows an implementation of the accumulate function with corresponding loop annotations.

Listing 7.9: Implementation of accumulate

Note that loop invariant partial claims that in the *i*-th iteration step result equals the accumulated value of Equation (7.3). This depends on the property bounds in Listing 7.8 which expresses that there is no numeric overflow when updating the variable init.

# 7.3. The inner\_product algorithm

The inner\_product algorithm in the C++ standard library computes the *inner product*<sup>62</sup> of two ranges. Our version of the original signature<sup>63</sup> reads:

The result of inner\_product equals the value

$$init + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a[i] \cdot b[i]$$

thus, inner\_product will return init for empty ranges.

## 7.3.1. The logic function InnerProduct

As in the case of accumulate (see Section 7.2) we specify inner\_product by first defining a *logic* function InnerProduct that formally defines the summation of the element-wise product of two arrays.

```
/ * @
   axiomatic InnerProductAxiomatic
    logic integer
      InnerProduct {L} (value_type* a, value_type* b, integer n,
                       value_type init) reads a[0..n-1], b[0..n-1];
    axiom InnerProductEmpty:
       \forall value_type *a, *b, init, integer n;
         n <= 0 ==> InnerProduct(a, b, n, init) == init;
    axiom InnerProductNext:
       \forall value_type *a, *b, init, integer n;
        n >= 0 ==> InnerProduct(a, b, n + 1, init) ==
                    InnerProduct(a, b, n, init) + (a[n] * b[n]);
    axiom InnerProductRead{L1,L2}:
       \forall value_type *a, *b, init, integer n;
         Unchanged\{L1,L2\}(a, n) \&\& Unchanged\{L1,L2\}(b, n) ==>
           InnerProduct{L1}(a, b, n, init) ==
           InnerProduct{L2}(a, b, n, init);
*/
```

Listing 7.10: The logic function InnerProduct

Both Axiom InnerProductRead and the reads clause serve the same purpose in that they express that the result of the InnerProduct only depends on the values of a[0..n-1] and b[0..n-1].

<sup>62</sup> Also referred to as dot product, see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dot\_product

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/inner\_product.html

## 7.3.2. Preventing numeric overflows for inner\_product

Before we present our formal specification of inner\_product we introduce in Listing 7.11 two predicates that we will use subsequently in order to compactly express requirements that exclude numeric overflows while computing the inner product.

Listing 7.11: The predicates ProductBounds and InnerProductBounds

Predicate ProductBounds expresses that for  $0 \le i < n$  the products

$$a[i] \cdot b[i] \tag{7.4}$$

do not overflow. Predicate InnerProductBounds, on the other hand, states that for  $0 \le i < n$  the partial sums

$$init + \sum_{k=0}^{i} a[k] \cdot b[k]$$
 (7.5)

do not overflow.

Otherwise, one cannot guarantee that the result of inner\_product equals the mathematical description of InnerProduct.

#### 7.3.3. Formal specification of inner\_product

Using the logic function InnerProduct, we specify inner\_product as shown in Listing 7.12. Note that we needn't require that a and b are separated.

Listing 7.12: Formal specification of inner\_product

#### 7.3.4. Implementation of inner\_product

Listing 7.13 shows an implementation of inner\_product with corresponding loop annotations.

Listing 7.13: Implementation of inner\_product

Note that the loop invariant inner claims that in the *i*-th iteration step the current value of init equals the accumulated value of Equation (7.5). This depends of course on the properties bounds in Listing 7.12, which express that there is no arithmetic overflow when computing the updates of the variable init.

# 7.4. The partial\_sum algorithm

The partial\_sum algorithm in the C++ standard library computes the sum of a given initial value and the elements in a range. Our version of the original signature<sup>64</sup> reads:

```
size_type
partial_sum(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

After executing the function partial\_sum the array b[0..n-1] holds the following values

$$b[0] = a[0]$$

$$b[1] = a[0] + a[1]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b[n-1] = a[0] + a[1] + ... + a[n-1]$$

More concisely, for  $0 \le i < n$  holds

$$b[i] = \sum_{k=0}^{i} a[k]$$
 (7.6)

## 7.4.1. The predicate PartialSum

Equations (7.6) and (7.2) suggest that we define the ACSL predicate PartialSum in Listing 7.14 by using the logic function Accumulate from Listing 7.6. Listing 7.14.

```
/*@
  predicate
  PartialSum{L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type* b) =
    \forall integer i; 0 <= i < n ==> Accumulate(a, i+1) == b[i];
*/
```

Listing 7.14: The predicate PartialSum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/partial\_sum.html

### 7.4.2. Formal specification of partial\_sum

Using the predicates PartialSum and AccumulateBounds, we specify partial\_sum as shown in Listing 7.15.

Listing 7.15: Formal specification of partial\_sum

Our specification requires that the arrays a[0.n-1] and b[0.n-1] are separated, that is, they do not overlap. Note that is a stricter requirement than in the case of the original C++ version of partial\_sum, which allows that a equals b, thus allowing the computation of partial sums in place.<sup>65</sup>

 $<sup>^{65}</sup>$  See Note [1] at  $\label{eq:seenormal} \begin{subarray}{l} \end{subarray} is subarray at the convergence of the converg$ 

## 7.4.3. Implementation of partial\_sum

Listing 7.16 shows an implementation of partial\_sum with corresponding loop annotations.

```
size_type
partial_sum(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b)
 if (n > 0) {
   b[0] = a[0];
       loop invariant bound:
                                 1 <= i <= n;
       loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Here,Pre}(a, n);
       loop invariant accumulate: b[i-1] == Accumulate(a, i);
      loop invariant partialsum: PartialSum(a, i, b);
       loop assigns i, b[1..n-1];
       loop variant n - i;
    */
   for (size_type i = 1u; i < n; ++i) {</pre>
      //@ ghost Enter:
     b[i] = b[i - 1u] + a[i];
      //@ assert unchanged: a[i] == \at(a[i],Enter);
      //@ assert unchanged: Unchanged(Enter, Here)(a, i);
      //@ assert unchanged: Unchanged{Enter, Here}(b, i);
  }
 return n;
```

Listing 7.16: Implementation of partial\_sum

In order to facilitate the automatic verification of partial\_sum, we had to add the assertions unchanged and provide the lemmas of Listing 7.17.

#### 7.4.4. Additional lemmas

The lemmas shown in Listing 7.17 are needed for the verification of partial\_sum and the algorithms in Sections 7.6 and 7.7.

```
/ * @
 lemma PartialSumSection(K):
   \forall value_type *a, *b, integer m, n;
     0 <= m <= n
     PartialSum{K}(a, n, b) ==>
     PartialSum{K}(a, m, b);
 lemma PartialSumUnchanged{K,L}:
   \forall value_type *a, *b, integer n;
     0 <= n ==>
     PartialSum{K}(a, n, b) ==>
     Unchanged(K, L)(a, n) ==>
     Unchanged(K, L)(b, n) ==>
     PartialSum{L}(a, n, b);
 lemma PartialSumStep{L}:
   \forall value_type *a, *b, integer n;
     1 <= n
     PartialSum(a, n, b)
                                ==>
     b[n] == Accumulate(a, n+1) ==>
     PartialSum(a, n+1, b);
 lemma PartialSumStep2{K,L}:
   \forall value_type *a, *b, integer n;
     1 <= n
     PartialSum{K}(a, n, b)
     Unchanged(K,L)(a, n+1)
     Unchanged(K,L)(b, n)
     \at(b[n] == Accumulate(a, n+1),L) ==>
     PartialSum{L}(a, n+1, b);
*/
```

Listing 7.17: The lemma PartialSumStep

# 7.5. The adjacent\_difference algorithm

The adjacent\_difference algorithm in the C++ standard library computes the differences of adjacent elements in a range. Our version of the original signature<sup>66</sup> reads:

```
size_type
adjacent_difference(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

After executing the function adjacent\_difference the array b [0..n-1] holds the following values

$$b[0] = a[0]$$

$$b[1] = a[1] - a[0]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b[n-1] = a[n-1] - a[n-2]$$

If we form the partial sums of the sequence b we find that

$$a[0] = b[0]$$

$$a[1] = b[0] + b[1]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a[n-1] = b[0] + b[1] + ... + b[n-1]$$

Thus, we have for  $0 \le i < n$ 

$$a[i] = \sum_{k=0}^{i} b[k]$$
 (7.7)

which means that applying partial\_sum on the output of adjacent\_difference produces the original input of adjacent\_difference.

Conversely, if a [0..n-1] and b [0..n-1] are the input and output of partial\_sum, then we have

$$b[0] = a[0]$$

$$b[1] = a[0] + a[1]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b[n-1] = a[0] + b[1] + ... + b[n-1]$$

from which we can conclude

$$a[0] = b[0]$$

$$a[1] = b[1] - b[0]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a[n-1] = b[n-1] - b[n-2]$$
(7.8)

We will verify these claims in Sections 7.6 and 7.7.

<sup>66</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/adjacent\_difference.html

#### 7.5.1. The predicate AdjacentDifference

We define the predicate AdjacentDifference in Listing 7.19 by first introducing the logic function Difference (Listing 7.18).

Listing 7.18: The logic function Difference

```
/*@
   predicate
   AdjacentDifference{L}(value_type* a, integer n, value_type* b) =
     \forall integer i; 0 <= i < n ==> b[i] == Difference(a, i);
*/
```

Listing 7.19: The predicate AdjacentDifference

### 7.5.2. Formal specification of adjacent\_difference

We introduce here the predicate AdjacentDifferenceBounds (Listing 7.20) that captures conditions that prevent numeric overflows while computing difference of the form a [i] - a[i-1].

```
/*@
    predicate
    AdjacentDifferenceBounds(value_type* a, integer n) =
        \forall integer i; 1 <= i < n ==>
        VALUE_TYPE_MIN <= Difference(a, i) <= VALUE_TYPE_MAX;
*/</pre>
```

Listing 7.20: The predicate AdjacentDifferenceBounds

Using the predicates AdjacentDifference and AdjacentDifferenceBounds we can provide a concise formal specification of adjacent\_difference (Listing 7.21). As in the case of the specification of partial\_sum we require that the arrays a[0..n-1] and b[0..n-1] are separated.

```
/ * @
   requires valid:
                        \valid_read(a + (0..n-1));
   requires valid:
                        \forall alid(b + (0..n-1));
   requires separated: \separated(a + (0..n-1), b + (0..n-1));
   requires bounds:
                        AdjacentDifferenceBounds(a, n);
   assigns b[0..n-1];
   ensures result:
                        \result == n;
   ensures difference: AdjacentDifference(a, n, b);
                        Unchanged{Here,Old}(a, n);
   ensures unchanged:
size_type
adjacent_difference(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b);
```

Listing 7.21: Formal specification of adjacent\_difference

#### 7.5.3. Implementation of adjacent\_difference

 $Listing \ 7.22 \ shows \ an \ implementation \ of \ \verb"adjacent_difference" \ with \ corresponding \ loop \ annotations.$ 

In order to achieve the verification of the loop invariant difference we added

- the assertions bound and difference
- the lemmas AdjacentDifferenceStep and AdjacentDifferenceSection from Listing 7.23
- a statement contract with the two postconditions labeled as step

```
size_type
adjacent_difference(const value_type* a, size_type n, value_type* b)
 if (n > 0) {
   b[0] = a[0];
       loop invariant index:
                                   1 \le i \le n;
       loop invariant unchanged: Unchanged{Here, Pre} (a, n);
       loop invariant difference: AdjacentDifference(a, i, b);
       loop assigns i, b[1..n-1];
       loop variant n - i;
    */
    for (size_type i = 1u; i < n; ++i) {</pre>
      //@ assert bound: VALUE_TYPE_MIN <= Difference(a, i) <= VALUE_TYPE_MAX;</pre>
      / * a
        assigns b[i];
        ensures step: Unchanged{Old, Here} (b, i);
        ensures step: b[i] == Difference(a, i);
      b[i] = a[i] - a[i - 1u];
      //@ assert difference: AdjacentDifference{Here}(a, i+1, b);
  }
 return n;
```

Listing 7.22: Implementation of adjacent\_difference

### 7.5.4. Additional Lemmas

The lemmas shown in Listing 7.23 are also needed for the verification of the algorithm in Section 7.7.

```
lemma AdjacentDifferenceStep{K,L}:
    \forall value_type *a, *b, integer n;
    AdjacentDifference{K}(a, n, b) ==>
        Unchanged{K,L}(b, n) ==>
        Unchanged{K,L}(a, n+1) ==>
        \at(b[n],L) == Difference{L}(a, n) ==>
        AdjacentDifference{L}(a, 1+n, b);

lemma AdjacentDifferenceSection{K}:
    \forall value_type *a, *b, integer m, n;
    0 <= m <= n ==>
        AdjacentDifference{K}(a, n, b) ==>
        AdjacentDifference{K}(a, m, b);
*/
```

Listing 7.23: The lemma AdjacentDifferenceStep

# 7.6. Inverting partial\_sum with adjacent\_difference

In Section 7.5 we had informally argued that partial\_sum and adjacent\_difference are inverse to each other (see Equations (7.7) and (7.8)). In the current section, we are going to verify the second of these claims with the help of Frama-C, viz. that applying adjacent\_difference to the output of partial\_sum produces the original array. In Section 7.7, we will verify the converse first claim.

Listing 7.24 expresses the property from Equation (7.8) as lemma, on the ACSL logical level. This lemma is verified by Frama-C with the help of automatic theorem provers.

Listing 7.24: The lemma PartialSumInverse

Since the lemma does not deal with arithmetic overflows or potential aliasing of data, we give a corresponding auxiliary C function which takes these issues into account.

Function partial\_sum\_inverse, shown in Listing 7.25, calls first partial\_sum and then adjacent\_difference. The contract of this function formulates preconditions that shall guarantee that during the computation neither arithmetic overflows (property bound) nor unintended aliasing of arrays (property separated) occur. Under these precondition, Frama-C automatically verifies that the final adjacent\_difference call just restores the original contents of a used for the initial partial\_sum call.

Listing 7.25: partial\_sum and then adjacent\_difference

# 7.7. Inverting adjacent\_difference with partial\_sum

In this section, we prove the converse property, viz. that applying adjacent\_difference, and thereafter partial\_sum, restores the original data array. Listing 7.26 expresses this property as a lemma on the level of ACSL predicates. It had to be proven interactively with Coq, by induction on n.

Listing 7.26: The lemma AdjacentDifferenceInverse

As in the case discussed in Section 7.6, we give a corresponding C function in order to account for possible arithmetic overflows and potential aliasing of data. Function adjacent\_difference\_inverse, shown in Listing 7.27, calls first adjacent\_difference and then partial\_sum. The contract of this function formulates preconditions that shall guarantee that during the computation neither arithmetic overflows (property bound) nor unintended aliasing of arrays (property separated) occur.

Listing 7.27: adjacent\_difference and then partial\_sum

In order to improve the automatic verification rate of the function adjacent\_difference\_inverse we also use lemma UnchangedTransitive from Listing 6.4. Both lemmas itself and (with its additional help) the contract of adjacent\_difference\_inverse are proven by Frama-C without further manual intervention. This finishes the formal proof of our inversity claims from Section 7.5.

# 8. Heap Operations

Heap algorithms were already part of *ACSL by Example* from 2010–2012. In this chapter we re-introduce them and discuss—based on the bachelor thesis of one of the authors—the verification efforts in some detail [16].

The C++ standard<sup>67</sup> introduces the concept of a *heap* as follows:

- 1. A *heap* is a particular organization of elements in a range between two random access iterators [a,b). Its two key properties are:
  - a) There is no element greater than \*a in the range and
  - b) \*a may be removed by pop\_heap(), or a new element added by push\_heap(), in  $O(\log(N))$  time.
- 2. These properties make heaps useful as priority queues.
- make\_heap() converts a range into a heap and sort\_heap() turns a heap into a sorted sequence.

Figure 8.1 gives an overview on the five heap algorithms by means of an example. Algorithms, which in a typical implementation are in a caller-callee relation, have the same color.

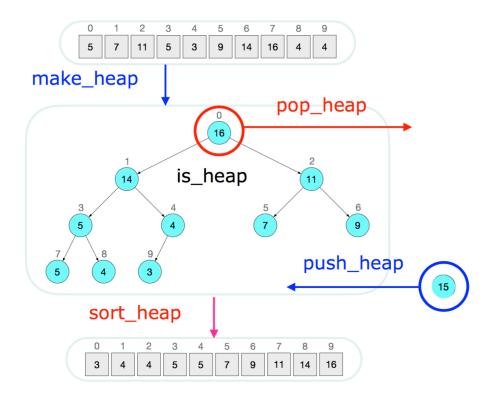


Figure 8.1.: Overview on heap algorithms

 $<sup>^{67}</sup>$  See http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2011/n3242.pdf

Roughly speaking, the algorithms from Figure 8.1 have the following behavior.

- is\_heap from Section 8.3 allows to test at run time whether a given array is arranged as a heap
- push\_heap from Section 8.4 adds an element to a given heap in such a way that resulting array is again a heap
- pop\_heap, which is currently not included in this document, *removes* an element from a given heap in such a way that the resulting array is again a heap
- make\_heap from Section 8.5 turns a given array into a heap.
- sort\_heap from Section 8.6 transforms a given heap into a sorted range.

# 8.1. Basic heap concepts

The description of heaps at the beginning of this chapter is of course fairly vague. It outlines only the most important properties of various operations but does not clearly state what specific and verifiable properties a range must satisfy such that it may be called a heap.

A more detailed description can be found in the Apache C++ Standard Library User's Guide: 68

A heap is a binary tree in which every node is larger than the values associated with either child. A heap and a binary tree, for that matter, can be very efficiently stored in a vector, by placing the children of node i at positions 2i + 1 and 2i + 2.

We have, in other words, the following basic relations between indices of a heap:

left child for index 
$$i$$
 child<sub>1</sub>:  $i \mapsto 2i + 1$  (8.1)

right child for index 
$$i$$
 child<sub>r</sub>:  $i \mapsto 2i + 2$  (8.2)

and

parent index for index 
$$i$$
 parent :  $i \mapsto \frac{i-1}{2}$  (8.3)

These function are related through the following two equations that hold for all integers *i*. Note that in ACSL integer division rounds towards zero (cf. [9, §2.2.4]).

$$parent(child_1(i)) = i$$
 (8.4)

$$parent(child_r(i)) = i$$
 (8.5)

<sup>68</sup> See http://stdcxx.apache.org/doc/stdlibug/14-7.html

At various places in this chapter we will consider the following multiset of integers.

$$X = \{2, 3, 3, 3, 6, 7, 8, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14\}$$
(8.6)

Figure 8.2 shows how the multiset *X* of Equation (8.6) is represented as a tree.

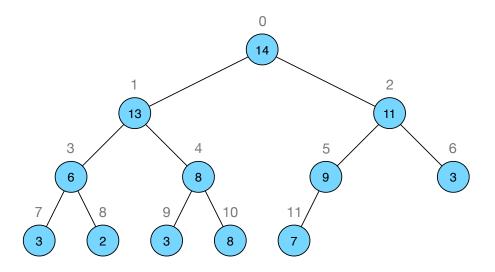


Figure 8.2.: Tree representation of the multiset X

The numbers outside the nodes in Figure 8.2 are the indices at which the respective node value is stored in the underlying array of a heap (cf. Figure 8.3).

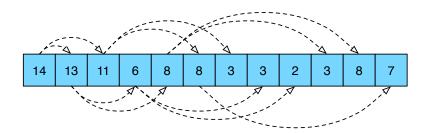


Figure 8.3.: Underlying array of a heap

The ACSL logic functions and predicate that formalize the basic properties of heaps are introduced in Section 8.2. The various heap algorithms are discussed in detail in the following sections.

# 8.2. ACSL presentation of heap concepts

Listing 8.4 shows three logic functions HeapLeft, HeapRight and HeapParent that correspond to the definitions (8.1), (8.2) and (8.3), respectively.

```
/*@
logic integer HeapLeft(integer i) = 2*i + 1;
logic integer HeapRight(integer i) = 2*i + 2;
logic integer HeapParent(integer i) = (i - 1) / 2;

lemma HeapParentOfLeft:
   \forall integer i; 0 <= i ==> HeapParent(HeapLeft(i)) == i;

lemma HeapParentOfRight:
   \forall integer i; 0 <= i ==> HeapParent(HeapRight(i)) == i;

lemma HeapBounds:
   \forall integer a; 0 <= a ==> 0 <= a/2 <= a;
*/</pre>
```

Listing 8.4: Logic functions for heap definition

Listing 8.4 also contains some ACSL lemma that state that the HeapParent function that correspond the equations (8.4) and (8.5). The lemmas express that the function HeapParent is the *left inverse* to the HeapLeft and HeapRight functions.<sup>69</sup> We also have the lemma HeapBounds that is facilitated in the proof of lemma HeapMaximum (Listing 8.6) by expressing a simple property of integer division.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> See Section Left and right inverses at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverse\_function

On top of these basic definitions we introduce in Listing 8.5 the predicate IsHeap.

```
/*@
  predicate
  IsHeap{L}(value_type* a, integer n) =
    \forall integer i; 0 < i < n ==> a[i] <= a[HeapParent(i)];
*/</pre>
```

Listing 8.5: The predicate IsHeap

The root of a heap, that is the element at index 0, is always the largest element of the heap. Lemma HeapMaximum in Listing 8.6 expresses this property using the MaxElement predicate from Listing 4.7.

```
/*@
  lemma HeapMaximum{L} :
    \forall value_type* a, integer n;
    1 <= n ==> IsHeap(a, n) ==> MaxElement(a, n, 0);
*/
```

Listing 8.6: The lemma HeapMaximum

# 8.3. The is\_heap algorithm

The is\_heap algorithm of the STL in the Library works on generic sequences. For our purposes we have modified the generic implementation<sup>70</sup> to that of an array of type value\_type. The signature now reads:

```
bool is_heap(const value_type* a, int n);
```

The algorithm <code>is\_heap</code> checks whether a given array satisfies the heap properties we have semi-formally described in the beginning of this chapter. In particular, <code>is\_heap</code> will return <code>true</code> called with the array argument from Figure 8.3.

## 8.3.1. Formal specification of is\_heap

The ACSL specification of is\_heap is shown in Listing 8.7. The function returns **true** if and only if its arguments satisfy the predicate IsHeap introduced in Section 8.2.

```
/*@
   requires valid: \valid_read(a +(0..n-1));

   assigns \nothing;

   ensures heap: \result <==> IsHeap(a, n);

*/
bool is_heap(const value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 8.7: Function Contract of is\_heap

<sup>70</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/is\_heap.html.

## 8.3.2. Implementation of is\_heap

Listing 8.8 shows one way to implement the function is\_heap. The algorithms starts at the index 1, which is the smallest index, where a child node of the heap might reside. The algorithms checks for each (child) index whether the value at the corresponding parent index is greater than or equal to the value at the child index.

```
bool is_heap(const value_type* a, size_type n)
{
    size_type parent = 0;

    /*@
        loop invariant bound: 0 <= parent < child <= n+1;
        loop invariant parent: parent == HeapParent(child);
        loop invariant heap: IsHeap(a, child);

        loop assigns child, parent;
        loop variant n - child;
        */
    for (size_type child = 1u; child < n; ++child) {
        if (a[parent] < a[child]) {
            return false;
        }

        if ((child % 2u) == 0) {
            parent++;
        }
    }
    return true;
}</pre>
```

Listing 8.8: Implementation of is\_heap

# 8.4. The push\_heap algorithm

Whereas in the STL push\_heap works on a range of random access iterators<sup>71</sup>, our version operates on an array of value\_type. We therefore use the following signature for push\_heap

```
void push_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

The push\_heap algorithm expects that the first n-1 elements of the array form a heap. The last element of the array (whose index is n-1) is added to (i.e. *pushed* on) that heap. Thus, in the end all n elements of the array form a heap.

## 8.4.1. Formal Specification of push\_heap

Listing 8.9 shows our ACSL specification of push\_heap. Note that the post condition reorder states that push\_heap is not allowed to change the number of occurrences of an array element. Without this post condition, an implementation that assigns 0 to each array element would satisfy the post condition heap—surely not what the user of the algorithm has in mind.

```
1
2
      requires nonempty: 0 < n;
3
      requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
4
      requires heap:
                        IsHeap(a, n-1);
5
6
      assigns a[0..n-1];
7
8
                         IsHeap(a, n);
      ensures heap:
9
      ensures reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Old, Here} (a, n);
10
   void push_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 8.9: Formal specification of push\_heap

Pushing an element on a heap usually *rearranges* several elements of the array (cf. Figures 8.10 and 8.11). We therefore must be able express that push\_heap only *reorders* the elements of the array. We re-use the predicate MultisetUnchanged, defined in Listing 6.5, to formally describe this property.

<sup>71</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/push\_heap.html

## 8.4.2. Implementation of push\_heap

The following two figures illustrate how push\_heap affects an array, which is shown as a tree with blue and grey nodes, representing heap and non-heap nodes, respectively. Figure 8.10 shows the heap from Figure 8.2 together with the additional element 12 that is to be on the heap. To be quite clear about it: the new element 12 is the last element of the array and not yet part of the heap.

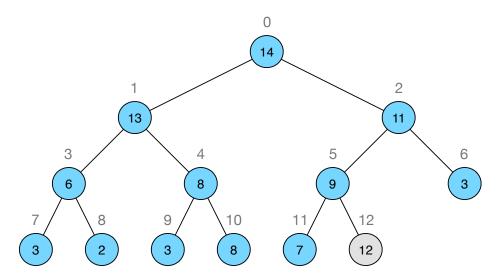


Figure 8.10.: Heap before the call of push\_heap

Figure 8.11 shows the array after the call of push\_heap. We can see that now all nodes are colored in blue, i.e., they are part of the heap. The dashed nodes changed their contents during the function call. The pushed element 12 is now at its correct position in the heap.

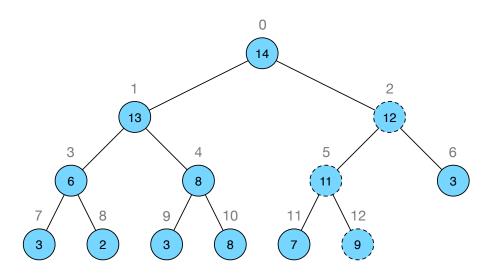


Figure 8.11.: Heap after the call of push\_heap

#### 8.4.2.1. Challenges during the verification

In order to properly describe different stages of push\_heap and to accommodate the sheer size of our implementation we split the source code into three separate parts, to which we refer as

- prologue (see Section 8.4.2.2)
- main act (see Section 8.4.2.3)
- epilogue (see Section 8.4.2.4)

We will illustrate the changes to the array after each stage by figures of the array in tree form, based on the push\_heap example from Figure 8.10.

Verifying push\_heap is a non-trivial undertaking, and we will proceed, roughly speaking, as follows:

We can establish the heap property of Listing 8.9 already in the prologue. However, the reorder property only holds at the function boundaries but is violated while push\_heap manipulates the array. To be more precise: We loose the reorder property in the prologue and formally capture and maintain a slightly more general property in the main act. From this we will recover the reorder property in the epilogue.

#### 8.4.2.2. Prologue

Our prologue initializes some important variables, checks whether the initial heap is nonempty, *and* also tries to move the new element upwards within the heap. In other implementations, the latter step is usually performed as part of push\_heap's main loop. In order to better understand our implementation decision we can look at Figure 8.12 which shows exemplarily its effects.

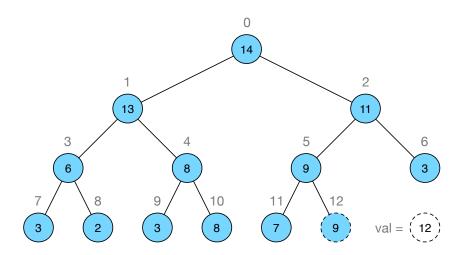


Figure 8.12.: Heap after the prologue of push\_heap

If we compare this tree to the tree in Figure 8.10 we notice that the element in the node with the dashed outlining changed its value. The number of occurrences of 9 increased by one during the prologue, while the number of occurrences of 12 decreased by one. The number of occurrences for all other elements is maintained. We store the element 12 in the variable val so we can write it back into the array later. The increased number of occurrences of 9 and the decreased number of elements 12 means that at this stage the postcondition reorder is violated. On the other hand, the modified array is now a heap. We express this by coloring all elements blue (cf. Figure 8.10).

More generally speaking, the following properties hold after the prologue:

- 1. The modified array is now a heap.
- 2. The "parent value" a [(n-2)/2] now occurs one time more often.
- 3. The value a[n-1], on the other hand, now occurs one time fewer.
- 4. No other value changed its number of occurrences.

Listing 8.13 shows the implementation of the prologue. At the end of the listing we have added four assertions that formally express the properties just mentioned. As we will see (in Listing 8.18), these properties will occur as loop invariants in the main act. Adding these assertions makes the purpose of the prologue more explicit and thus supports the long-term maintenance of the annotated code.

```
void push_heap(value_type* a, size_type n)
  // start of prologue
  if (1u < n) { // otherwise nothings needs to be done</pre>
    size_type hole = n - 1u;
    const value_type v = a[hole];
    size_type parent = (hole - 1u) / 2u;
    if (a[parent] < v) {</pre>
      / * @
         requires hole:
                                  hole == n-1;
                                  a[hole] == v;
         requires value:
                                  hole, a[hole];
         assigns
         ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here}(a, 0, n-1);
ensures decrease: hole < \old(hole);
ensures changed: a[\old(hole)] == a[parent];</pre>
         ensures changed: a[\otd(\note;)] -
ensures changed: hole == parent;
       \star /
         a[hole] = a[parent];
         hole = parent;
       //@ assert heap: IsHeap(a, n);
       //@ assert add: MultisetAdd{Pre, Here}(a, n, a[hole]);
       //@ assert minus: MultisetMinus{Pre, Here}(a, n, v);
       //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, n, v, a[hole]);
       // end of prologue
```

Listing 8.13: Prologue of push\_heap implementation

The auxiliary predicates that are used in the assertions are:

- predicate MultisetAdd (Listing 8.14)
- predicate MultisetMinus (Listing 8.15)
- and an overloaded version of predicate MultisetRetainRest (Listing 8.16)

We will now explain them in more detail.

### The predicates MultisetAdd and MultisetMinus

The predicate MultisetAdd in Listing 8.14 expresses that the number of occurrences of a specific element in an array has increased by one between between two program points K and L.

```
/*@
   predicate
   MultisetAdd{K,L}(value_type* a, integer n, value_type val) =
        Count{L}(a, n, val) == Count{K}(a, n, val) + 1;
*/
```

Listing 8.14: The predicate MultisetAdd

The predicate MultisetMinus in Listing 8.15, on the other hand, expresses that the number of occurrences of a specific element in an array has decreased by one between two program points K and L.

```
/*@
  predicate
    MultisetMinus{K,L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type val) =
        Count{L} (a, n, val) == Count{K} (a, n, val) - 1;
*/
```

Listing 8.15: The predicate MultisetMinus

Note that we could have defined MultisetMinus also by calling MultisetAdd with the labels reversed.

```
predicate
   MultisetMinus{K,L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type val) =
        MultisetAdd{L,K} (a, n, val);
```

It is a often only a matter of taste how to decide which of several ways to define a predicate is more appropriate. However, one also has to take into account which definition can be handled more easily by Frama-C/WP and its associated theorem provers.

#### Overloading predicate MultisetRetainRest

The predicate MultisetRetainRest (Listing 8.16) overloads the predicate from Listing 6.38. The new version holds if the number of occurrences for all elements, except the two given ones, remains unchanged between two program points.

Listing 8.16: An overloaded version of predicate MultisetRetainRest

The definition of this new version of MultisetRetainRest uses the simpler predicate MultisetRetain shown in Listing 8.17. This predicate holds if the number of occurrences of a given value in an array does not change between two program points. We will later also directly employ MultisetRetain to succinctly formulate additional assertions in push\_heap.

```
/*@
  predicate
   MultisetRetain{K,L} (value_type* a, integer n, value_type v) =
        Count{K} (a, n, v) == Count{L} (a, n, v);
*/
```

Listing 8.17: The predicate MultisetRetain

#### 8.4.2.3. Main act

The goal of the main act is to locate the array index to which the new element can be assigned. Listing 8.18 shows its implementation.

```
// start of main act
 loop invariant bound: 0 <= hole < n-1;</pre>
 loop invariant heap: IsHeap(a, n);
 loop invariant less: a[hole] < v;</pre>
 loop invariant add: MultisetAdd{Pre, Here}(a, n, a[hole]);
 loop invariant minus: MultisetMinus{Pre, Here}(a, n, v);
 loop invariant retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, n, v, a[hole]);
 loop assigns hole, a[0..n-1];
 loop variant
                        hole;
while (hole > 0u) {
 //@ ghost Loop: // LoopEntry not yet supported!
 //@ ghost const value_type old_a = a[hole];
 //@ assert reorder: old_a == \at(a[hole],Loop);
 const size_type parent = (hole - 1u) / 2u;
 if (a[parent] < v) {</pre>
   if (a[hole] < a[parent]) {</pre>
      a[hole] = a[parent];
      //@ assert less: old_a
                        a[hole] < v;
      //@ assert less:
      //@ assert retain: MultisetUnchanged{Loop, Here}(a, 0, hole);
      //@ assert retain: MultisetUnchanged{Loop, Here} (a, hole + 1, n);
      //@ assert minus: MultisetMinus{Loop, Here}(a, n, old_a);
      //@ assert add: MultisetAdd{Loop, Here}(a, n, a[hole]);
      //@ assert retain: MultisetRetain{Loop, Here} (a, n, v);
      //@ assert retain: MultisetRetain{Pre,Here}(a, n, old_a);
      //@ assert retain: MultisetRetainRest{Pre,Here}(a, n, v, a[hole]);
    }
   hole = parent;
  } else {
   break;
// end of main act
```

Listing 8.18: Main act of push\_heap implementation

The loop invariant heap expresses that the predicate IsHeap is true for the array throughout the main act. Instead of an invariant reorder that reflects the postcondition with the same name, we now consider the invariants add, minus, and retain.

It is important to understand the use of the variable hole in these loop invariants. Before each loop iteration, hole stores the index of the node whose value was assigned to one of its children in the previous iteration or in the prologue (for the first loop run). Therefore, the value a [hole] appears in the loop invariants add and retain.

Verifying the various loop invariants and assertions has been far from being straightforward, and required additional assertions and the *ghost* label Loop. The following remarks highlight some of the issues.

- 1. The heap property implies that a [hole] <= a [parent] always holds. Thus, the assignment a [hole] = a [parent] might be redundant. We have not check whether guarding this assignment with the condition a [hole] < a [parent] is more efficient. Important for us is the following: the guard allows us to put additional assertions where they really matter and where they can more easily be verified.
- 2. We also had to provide the lemmas MultisetAddDistinct (Listing 8.19), MultisetMinusDistinct (Listing 8.20), and MultisetPushHeapRetain (Listing 8.21). These lemmas formalize conditions under which the respective predicates MultisetAdd, MultisetMinus, and MultisetRetain apply and guide the automatic verification of push\_heap.

Listing 8.19: The lemma MultisetAddDistinct

Listing 8.20: The lemma MultisetMinusDistinct

```
/ * @
lemma MultisetPushHeapRetain{K, L, M}:
  \forall value_type *a, ap, ah, v,
           integer h, p, n;
     0 \le p \le h \le n-1
                                               ==>
     ah < ap < v
      \at(a[h],L)
                   == ah
                   == ap
      \at(a[p],L)
      \operatorname{at}(a[h], M) == ap
                                               ==>
                                               ==>
     MultisetMinus(K,L)(a, n, v)
     MultisetAdd(K,L)(a, n, ah)
                                               ==>
     MultisetRetainRest(K,L)(a, n, v, ah)
                                               ==>
     MultisetUnchanged(L,M)(a, 0, h)
                                                ==>
     MultisetUnchanged\{L,M\} (a, h + 1, n)
     MultisetRetainRest(K,M)(a, n, v, ap);
```

Listing 8.21: The lemma MultisetPushHeapRetain

Figure 8.22 shows the array after the main act. The contents of the dashed nodes have been overwritten with the values of their parents until hole reached a node to which val can be assigned, whilst maintaining the heap property.

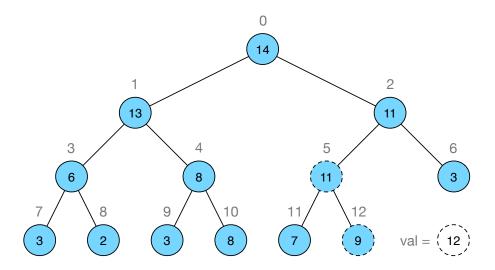


Figure 8.22.: Heap after the main act of push\_heap

In our example, the loop performs just one assignment, viz. a[5] = a[2], and then stops with hole being 2. At this point, the new element 12 can be assigned to the node with the index 2 and the heap property stays intact. This assignment takes place in the epilogue.

#### 8.4.2.4. Epilogue

The last part of the implementation is the epilogue, shown in Listing 8.23. It consists of exactly one assignment which re-establishes the reorder property while maintaining the heap property already established.

```
// start of epilogue
   //@ ghost Epi:
   a[hole] = v;
   //@ assert value:
                           \at(a[hole],Epi)
   //@ assert value:
                           \at(a[hole], Here) == v;
   //@ assert unchanged: MultisetUnchanged{Epi,Here}(a, 0, hole);
   //@ assert unchanged: MultisetUnchanged{Epi,Here}(a, hole+1, n);
                           MultisetAdd{Epi, Here}(a, n, v);
   //@ assert add:
                           MultisetMinus{Epi, Here}(a, n, \at(a[hole], Epi));
   //@ assert minus:
   //@ assert reorder:
                           MultisetUnchanged{Pre, Here} (a, n);
// end of epilogue
```

Listing 8.23: Epilogue of push\_heap implementation

The ghost label Epi, together with a couple of assertions and the lemma MultisetPushHeapClosure are necessary to help the automatic theorem provers to prove the final assertion reorder.

```
/ * @
lemma MultisetPushHeapClosure{K,L,M}:
   \forall value_type *a, u, v, integer i, n;
      0 \le i \le n-1
      u != v
      \hat{at}(a[i],M)
                  == v
     MultisetAdd{K,L}(a, n, u)
     MultisetMinus{K,L}(a, n, v)
     MultisetRetainRest(K,L)(a, n, v, u)
                                             ==>
     MultisetUnchanged(L,M)(a, 0, i)
                                             ==>
     MultisetUnchanged(L,M)(a, i+1, n)
     MultisetAdd{L,M}(a, n, v)
                                             ==>
     MultisetMinus{L,M}(a, n, u)
     MultisetUnchanged(K,M)(a, n);
```

Listing 8.24: The lemma MultisetPushHeapClosure

Concerning the reorder property, the main act finished with an increased count of nodes with the value 11 and a decreased count of nodes with the value 12 (cf. Figure 8.22). The heap in Figure 8.25, on the other hand, shows the tree after the epilogue has assigned the value 12 to the node with the index 2, which contained the value 11. Hence the reorder property is re-established and the function can return.

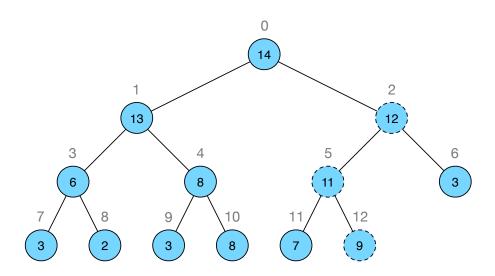


Figure 8.25.: Heap after the epilogue of push\_heap

Moreover, since the heap property has been inferred, all nodes are now colored blue.

# 8.5. The make\_heap algorithm

Whereas in the STL make\_heap works on a pair of generic random access iterators, <sup>72</sup> our version operators on a range of value type. Thus the signature of make heap reads

```
void make_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

The function  $make\_heap$  rearranges the elements of the given array a[0..n-1] such that they form a heap. Figure 8.26 shows an array of the length 12 with elements in no particular order in them. Most notably the elements of the array do not form a heap, as indicated by the grey colouring.

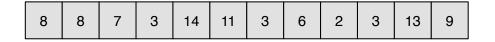


Figure 8.26.: Array before the call of make\_heap

Executing the make\_heap algorithm on this array results in the array in Figure 8.3. The elements have been rearranged to ensure the right order between each element and its child elements.

#### 8.5.1. Formal Specification of make\_heap

Listing 8.27 shows the ACSL specification of make\_heap. Like with push\_heap the formal specification of make\_heap must ensure that the resulting array is a heap of size n and contains the same multiset of elements as in the pre-state of the function. These properties are expressed by the heap and reorder postconditions respectively. The reorder postcondition uses the predicate MultisetUnchanged (see Listing 6.5) to ensure a reordering of the array elements.

```
/*@
    requires limit: n < UINT_MAX;
    requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));

    assigns a[0..n-1];

    ensures heap: IsHeap(a, n);
    ensures max: n > 0 ==> MaxElement(a, n, 0);
    ensures reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Old, Here}(a, n);
*/
void make_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 8.27: The Specification of make\_heap

The max property is an additional postcondition which can be derived directly from the heap property, see lemma HeapMaximum in Listing 8.6. The MaxElement predicate itself is introduced in Listing 4.7.

<sup>72</sup>See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/make\_heap.html

### 8.5.2. Implementation of make\_heap

The implementation of make\_heap, shown in Listing 8.28, is straightforward. From low to high the array's elements are pushed to the growing heap. The iteration starts with two, because an array with length one is a heap already.

Listing 8.28: The Implementation of make heap

Since the loop statement consists just of a call to push\_heap we obtain the both loop invariants heap and reorder by simply lifting them from the contract of push\_heap (see Section 8.4.1).

The postcondition of push\_heap only specifies the multiset of elements from index 0 to i-1. We therefore also have to specify that the elements from index i to n-1 are only reordered. This property can be derived from the unchanged property of push\_heap.

# 8.6. The sort\_heap algorithm

Whereas in the STL sort\_heap works on a range of random access iterators<sup>73</sup>, our version operates on an array of value type. We therefore use the following signature for sort heap

```
void sort_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

The function sort\_heap rearranges the elements of a given heap a [0..n-1] into an array that is sorted in increasing order. Thus, applying sort\_heap to the heap in Figure 8.3 produces the sorted array in Figure 8.29.

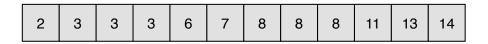


Figure 8.29.: Array after the call of sort\_heap

#### 8.6.1. Formal Specification of sort\_heap

Listing 8.30 shows our ACSL specification of sort\_heap. The formal specification of sort\_heap must ensure that the resulting array is sorted. Furthermore the multiset contained by the array must be the same as in the pre-state of the function. The postconditions sorted and reorder express these properties, respectively. The specification effort is relatively simple because we can reuse the previously defined predicates MultisetUnchanged (Listing 6.5) and Sorted (Listing 5.1).

```
1
   / * @
2
      requires limit: 0 < n < (INT_MAX-2)/2;</pre>
3
      requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
4
      requires heap:
                       IsHeap(a, n);
5
6
      assigns a[0..n-1];
7
8
      ensures sorted:
                         Sorted(a, n);
9
      ensures reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Old, Here}(a, n);
10
   void sort_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);
```

Listing 8.30: Formal specification of sort\_heap

#### 8.6.2. Implementation of sort\_heap

The implementation of sort\_heap (Listing 8.32) is relatively simple because it relies on the pop\_heap algorithm performing essential work. The pop\_heap algorithm, whose formal specification is shown in Listing 8.31, rearranges the elements of an array that is a heap of size n. After calling pop\_heap, the previously first element is transferred to the back of the array, while the remaining n-1 elements still form a heap.

Note that in this version of the document we do *not* provide a verified implementation of pop\_heap. This, however, does not prevent us to verify sort\_heap because we only need for this task the function contract of pop\_heap.

<sup>73</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/sort\_heap.html

```
requires limits: 1 <= n < (UINT_MAX-2)/2;
requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
requires heap: IsHeap(a, n);
requires max: MaxElement(a, n, 0);

assigns a[0..n-1];

ensures heap: IsHeap(a, n-1);
ensures result: a[n-1] == \old(a[0]);
ensures max: MaxElement(a, n, n-1);
ensures reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Old, Here}(a, n);

*/
void pop_heap(value_type* a, size_type n);</pre>
```

Listing 8.31: Formal specification of pop\_heap

Our implementation of sort\_heap repeatedly calls pop\_heap to extract the maximum of the shrinking heap and adding it to the sorted part of the array.

```
void sort_heap(value_type* a, size_type n)
 /*@
    loop invariant bound:
                            0 \le i \le n;
    loop invariant heap:
                            IsHeap(a, i);
    loop invariant sorted: Sorted(a, i, n);
    loop invariant lower:
                             LowerBound(a, i, n, a[0]);
    loop invariant reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Pre, Here} (a, 0, n);
     loop assigns i, a[0..n-1];
    loop variant i;
 for (size_type i = n; i > 1; --i) {
    / * @
       requires heap:
                          IsHeap(a, i);
       assigns a[0..i-1];
       ensures heap:
                         IsHeap(a, i-1);
       ensures max:
                          a[i-1] == \old(a[0]);
                         MaxElement(a, i, i-1);
       ensures max:
       ensures reorder: MultisetUnchanged{Old, Here} (a, 0, i);
       ensures reorder: Unchanged{Old, Here} (a, i, n);
   pop_heap(a, i);
    //@ assert lower: LowerBound(a, i, n, a[i-1]);
  }
```

Listing 8.32: The Implementation of sort\_heap

The loop invariants of sort\_heap describe the content of the array in two parts. The first i elements form a heap and are described by the heap invariant. The last n-i elements are already sorted.

In order to facilitate the automatic verification of the property sorted we rely among others on the properties lower and max and the lemma SortedUp from Listing 8.33.

```
/*@
  lemma SortedUp{L}:
    \forall value_type *a, integer n;
    Sorted(a, n) ==>
        UpperBound(a, 0, n, a[n]) ==>
        Sorted(a, n+1);
*/
```

Listing 8.33: The lemma SortedUp

In order to verify the property reorder we formulate in Listing 8.34 several lemmas that express that the properties

- MultisetUnchanged(K,L)(a, 0, i) and
- Unchanged {Old, Here} (a, i, n)

imply the desired loop invariant MultisetUnchanged(K, L) (a, 0, n).

```
/ * @
 lemma
   UnchangedImpliesMultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}:
      \forall value_type *a, integer k, n;
        Unchanged\{L1,L2\}(a, k, n) ==>
        MultisetUnchanged {L1, L2} (a, k, n);
 lemma
   MultisetUnchangedUnion{L1,L2}:
      \forall value_type *a, integer k, n;
       0 <= k <= n
       MultisetUnchanged(L1,L2)(a, 0, k)
       MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(a, k, n) ==>
        MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(a, 0, n);
 lemma
   MultisetUnchangedTransitive{L1,L2,L3}:
      \forall value_type *a, integer n;
       MultisetUnchanged{L1,L2}(a, n)
       MultisetUnchanged{L2,L3}(a, n)
       MultisetUnchanged{L1,L3}(a, n);
*/
```

Listing 8.34: Lemmas for MultisetUnchanged

# 9. The Stack data type

Originally, ACSL is tailored to the task of specifying and verifying one single C function at a time. However, in practice we are also faced with the task to implement a family of functions, usually around some sophisticated data structure, which have to obey certain rules of interdependence. In this kind of task, we are not interested in the properties of a single function (usually called "implementation details"), but in properties describing how several function play together (usually called "abstract interface description", or "abstract data type properties").

This chapter introduces a methodology to formally denote and verify the latter property sets using ACSL. For a more detailed discussion of our approach to the formal verification of Stack we refer to this thesis [17].

A *stack* is a data type that can hold objects and has the property that, if an object *a* is *pushed* on a stack *before* object *b*, then *a* can only be removed (*popped*) after *b*. A stack is, in other words, a *first-in*, *last-out* data type (see Figure 9.1). The *top* function of a stack returns the last element that has been pushed on a stack.

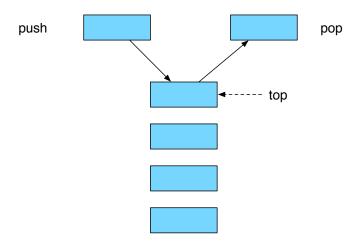


Figure 9.1.: Push and pop on a stack

We consider only stacks that have a finite capacity, that is, that can only hold a maximum number c of elements that is constant throughout their lifetime. This restriction allows us to define a stack without relying on dynamic memory allocation. When a stack is created or initialized, it contains no elements, i.e., its size is 0. The function push and pop increases and decreases the size of a stack by at most one, respectively.

# 9.1. Methodology overview

Figure 9.2 gives an overview of our methodology to specify and verify abstract data types (verification of one axiom shown only).

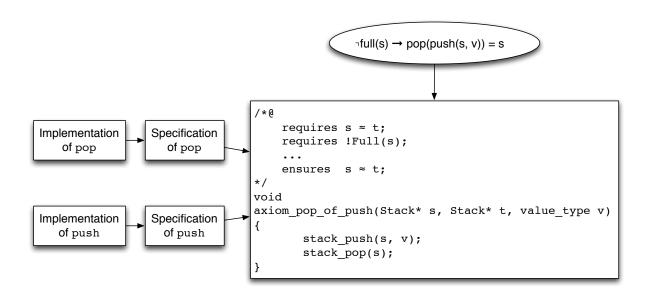


Figure 9.2.: Methodology Overview

What we will basically do is:

- 1. specify axioms about how the stack functions should interact with each other (Section 9.2),
- define a basic implementation of C data structures (only one in our example, viz.
   struct Stack; see Section 9.3) and some invariants the instances of them have to obey (Section 9.4),
- 3. provide for each stack function an ACSL contract and a C implementation (Section 9.7),
- 4. verify each function against its contract (Section 9.7),
- 5. transform the axioms into ACSL-annotated C code (Section 9.8), and
- 6. verify that code, using access function contracts and data-type invariants as necessary (Section 9.8).

Section 9.5 provides an ACSL-predicate deciding whether two instances of a **struct** Stack are considered to be equal (indication by " $\approx$ " in Figure 9.2), while Section 9.6 gives a corresponding C implementation. The issue of an appropriate definition of equality of data instances is familiar to any C programmer who had to replace a faulty comparison **if** (s1 == s2) by the correct **if** (strcmp(s1, s2) == 0) to compare two strings **char** \*s1, \*s2 for equality.

#### 9.2. Stack axioms

To specify the interplay of the stack access functions, we use a set of axioms<sup>74</sup>, all but one of them having the form of a conditional equation.

Let V denote an arbitrary type. We denote by  $S_c$  the type of stacks with capacity c > 0 of elements of type V. The aforementioned functions then have the following signatures.

init: 
$$S_c \to S_c$$
,  
push:  $S_c \times V \to S_c$ ,  
pop:  $S_c \to S_c$ ,  
top:  $S_c \to V$ ,  
size:  $S_c \to \mathbb{N}$ .

With  $\mathbb{B}$  denoting the *boolean* type we will also define two auxiliary functions

empty : 
$$S_c \to \mathbb{B}$$
,  
full :  $S_c \to \mathbb{B}$ .

To qualify as a stack these functions must satisfy the following rules which are also referred to as *stack axioms*.

#### 9.2.1. Stack initialization

After a stack has been initialized its size is 0.

$$size(init(s)) = 0. (9.1)$$

The auxiliary functions empty and full are defined as follows

$$empty(s)$$
, iff  $size(s) = 0$ , (9.2)

$$full(s)$$
, iff  $size(s) = c$ . (9.3)

We expect that for every stack s the following condition holds

$$0 \le \operatorname{size}(s) \le c. \tag{9.4}$$

## 9.2.2. Adding an element to a stack

To push an element v on a stack the stack must not be full. If an element has been pushed on an eligible stack, its size increases by 1

$$\operatorname{size}(\operatorname{push}(s, v)) = \operatorname{size}(s) + 1,$$
 if  $\neg \operatorname{full}(s)$ . (9.5)

Moreover, the element pushed on a stack is the top element of the resulting stack

$$top(push(s, v)) = v, if \neg full(s). (9.6)$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> There is an analogy in geometry: Euclid (e.g. [18]) invented the use of axioms there, but still kept definitions of *point*, *line*, *plane*, etc. Hilbert [19] recognized that the latter are not only unformalizable, but also unnecessary, and dropped them, keeping only the formal descriptions of relations between them.

#### 9.2.3. Removing an element from a stack

An element can only be removed from a non-empty stack. If an element has been removed from an eligible stack the stack size decreases by 1

$$\operatorname{size}(\operatorname{pop}(s)) = \operatorname{size}(s) - 1,$$
 if  $\neg \operatorname{empty}(s)$ . (9.7)

If an element is pushed on a stack and immediately afterwards an element is removed from the resulting stack then the final stack is equal to the original stack

$$pop(push(s, v)) = s, if \neg full(s). (9.8)$$

Conversely, if an element is removed from a non-empty stack and if afterwards the top element of the original stack is pushed on the new stack then the resulting stack is equal to the original stack.

$$push(pop(s), top(s)) = s, if \neg empty(s). (9.9)$$

# 9.2.4. A note on exception handling

We don't impose a requirement on push (s, v) if s is a full stack, nor on pop(s) or top(s) if s is an empty stack. Specifying the behavior in such *exceptional* situations is a problem by its own; a variety of approaches is discussed in the literature. We won't elaborate further on this issue, but only give an example to warn about "innocent-looking" exception specifications that may lead to undesired results.

If we'd introduce an additional error value err in the element type V and require top(s) = err if s is empty, we'd be faced with the problem of specifying the behavior of push(s, err). At first glance, it would seem a good idea to have err just been ignored by push, i.e. to require

$$push(s, err) = s. (9.10)$$

However, we then could derive for any non-full and non-empty stack s, that

$$size(s) = size(pop(push(s, err)))$$
 by 9.8  
 $= size(pop(s))$  as assumed in 9.10  
 $= size(s) - 1$  by 9.7

i.e. no such stacks could exist, or all int values would be equal.

# 9.3. The structure Stack and its associated functions

We now introduce one possible C implementation of the above axioms. It is centred around the C structure Stack shown in Listing 9.3.

```
struct Stack
{
  value_type* obj;

  size_type capacity;

  size_type size;
};

typedef struct Stack Stack;
```

Listing 9.3: Definition of type Stack

This struct holds an array obj of positive length called capacity. The capacity of a stack is the maximum number of elements this stack can hold. The field size indicates the number elements that are currently in the stack. See also Figure 9.4 which attempts to interpret this definition according to Figure 9.1.

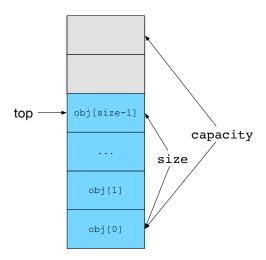


Figure 9.4.: Interpreting the data structure Stack

Based on the stack functions from Section 9.2, we declare in Listing 9.5 the following functions as part of our Stack data type.

Listing 9.5: Declaration of functions of type Stack

Most of these functions directly correspond to methods of the C++ std::stack template class.<sup>75</sup> The function stack\_equal corresponds to the comparison operator ==, whereas one use of stack\_init is to bring a stack into a well-defined initial state. The function stack\_full has no counterpart in std::stack. This reflects the fact that we avoid dynamic memory allocation, while std::stack does not.

#### 9.4. Stack invariants

Not every possible instance of type Stack is considered a valid one, e.g., with our definition of Stack in Listing 9.3, Stack  $s = \{\{0,0,0,0\},4,5\}$  is not. Below, we will define an ACSL-predicate Invariant that discriminates valid and invalid instances.

Before, we introduce in Listing 9.6 the auxiliary logical function Capacity and Size which we can use in specifications to refer to the fields capacity and size of Stack, respectively. This listing also contains the logical function Top which defines the array element with index size-1 as the top place of a stack. The reader can consider this as an attempt to hide implementation details from the specification.

```
/*@
  logic size_type Capacity{L} (Stack* s) = s->capacity;

logic size_type Size{L} (Stack* s) = s->size;

logic value_type* Storage{L} (Stack* s) = s->obj;

logic value_type Top{L} (Stack* s) = s->obj[s->size-1];
*/
```

Listing 9.6: The logical functions Capacity, Size and Top

We also introduce in Listing 9.7 two predicates that express the concepts of empty and full stacks by referring to a stack's size and capacity (see Equations (9.2) and (9.3)).

There are some obvious invariants that must be fulfilled by every valid object of type Stack:

<sup>75</sup> See http://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/stack.html

```
/*@
  predicate
    Empty{L}(Stack* s) = Size(s) == 0;

predicate
  Full{L}(Stack* s) = Size(s) == Capacity(s);
*/
```

Listing 9.7: Predicates for empty an full stacks

- The stack capacity shall be strictly greater than zero (an empty stack is ok but a stack that cannot hold anything is not useful).
- The pointer obj shall refer to an array of length capacity.
- The number of elements size of a stack the must be non-negative and not greater than its capacity.

These invariants are formalized in the predicate Invariant of Listing 9.8.

```
/*@
    predicate
    Invariant{L}(Stack* s) =
        0 < Capacity(s) &&
        0 <= Size(s) <= Capacity(s) &&
        \valid(Storage(s) + (0..Capacity(s)-1)) &&
        \separated(s, Storage(s) + (0..Capacity(s)-1));
*/</pre>
```

Listing 9.8: The predicate Invariant

Note how the use of the previously defined logical functions and predicates allows us to define the stack invariant without directly referring to the fields of Stack.

# 9.5. Equality of stacks

Defining equality of instances of non-trivial data types, in particular in object-oriented languages, is not an easy task. The book *Programming in Scala*[20, Chapter 28] devotes to this topic a whole chapter of more than twenty pages. In the following two sections we give a few hints how ACSL and Frama-C can help to correctly define equality for a simple data type.

We consider two stacks as equal if they have the same size and if they contain the same objects. To be more precise, let s and t two pointers of type Stack, then we define the predicate Equal as in Listing 9.9.

```
/*@
    predicate
        Equal{S,T}(Stack* s, Stack* t) =
            Size{S}(s) == Size{T}(t) &&
            EqualRanges{S,T}(Storage{S}(s), Size{S}(s), Storage{T}(t));
*/
```

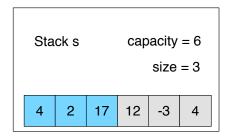
Listing 9.9: Equality of stacks

Our use of labels in Listing 9.9 makes the specification somewhat hard to read (in particular in the last line where we reuse the predicate EqualRanges from Page 34). However, this definition of Equal will allow us later to compare the same stack object at different points of a program. The logical expression Equal  $\{A,B\}$  (s,t) reads informally as: The stack object \*s at program point A equals the stack object \*t at program point B.

The reader might wonder why we exclude the capacity of a stack into the definition of stack equality. This approach can be motivated with the behavior of the method capacity of the class std::vector<T>. There, equal instances of type std::vector<T> may very well have different capacities.<sup>76</sup>

If equal stacks can have different capacities then, according to our definition of the predicate Full in Listing 9.7, we can have to equal stacks where one is full and the other one is not.

A finer, but very important point in our specification of equality of stacks is that the elements of the arrays  $s \rightarrow obj$  and  $t \rightarrow obj$  are compared only up to  $s \rightarrow size$  and not up to  $s \rightarrow capacity$ . Thus the two stacks s and t in Figure 9.10 are considered equal although there is are obvious differences in their internal arrays.



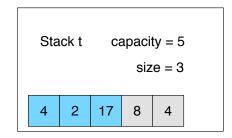


Figure 9.10.: Example of two equal stacks

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> See http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/vector/vector/capacity

If we define an equality relation (=) of objects for a data type such as Stack, we have to make sure that the following rules hold.

reflexivity 
$$\forall s \in S : s = s,$$
 (9.11a)

symmetry 
$$\forall s, t \in S : s = t \implies t = s,$$
 (9.11b)

transitivity 
$$\forall s, t, u \in S : s = t \land t = u \implies s = u.$$
 (9.11c)

Any relation that satisfies the conditions (9.11) is referred to as an *equivalence relation*. The mathematical set of all instances that are considered equal to some given instance s is called the equivalence class of s with respect to that relation.

Listing 9.11 shows a formalization of these three rules for the relation Equal; it can be automatically verified that they are a consequence of the definition of Equal in Listing 9.9.

```
/*@
lemma StackEqualReflexive{S} :
   \forall Stack* s; Equal{S,S}(s, s);

lemma StackEqualSymmetric{S,T} :
   \forall Stack *s, *t;
      Equal{S,T}(s, t) ==> Equal{T,S}(t, s);

lemma StackEqualTransitive{S,T,U}:
   \forall Stack *s, *t, *u;
      Equal{S,T}(s, t) && Equal{T,U}(t, u) ==> Equal{S,U}(s, u);
*/
```

Listing 9.11: Equality of stacks is an equivalence relation

The two stacks in Figure 9.10 show that an equivalence class of Equal can contain more than one element. The stacks s and t in Figure 9.10 are also referred to as two *representatives* of the same equivalence class. In such a situation, the question arises whether a function that is defined on a set with an equivalence relation can be defined in such a way that its definition is *independent of the chosen representatives*. We ask, in other words, whether the function is *well-defined* on the set of all equivalence classes of the relation Equal. The question of well-definition will play an important role when verifying the functions of the Stack (see Section 9.7).

This is a common situation in mathematics. For example, the equivalence class of the rational number  $\frac{1}{2}$  contains infinitely many elements, viz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{2}{4}$ ,  $\frac{7}{14}$ , ....

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> This is why mathematicians know that  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{5}$  equals  $\frac{7}{14} + \frac{3}{5}$ .

<sup>79</sup> See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Well-definition.

# 9.6. Runtime equality of stacks

The function stack\_equal is the C equivalent for the Equal predicate. The specification of stack\_equal is shown in Listing 9.12. Note that this specifications explicitly refers to valid stacks.

```
/*@
    requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
    requires valid: \valid(t) && Invariant(t);

    assigns \nothing;

    ensures equal: \result == 1 <==> Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);
    ensures not_equal: \result == 0 <==> !Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);

*/
bool stack_equal(const Stack* s, const Stack* t);
```

Listing 9.12: Specification of stack\_equal

The implementation of stack\_equal in Listing 9.13 compares two stacks according to the same rules of predicate Equal.

```
bool stack_equal(const Stack* s, const Stack* t)
{
   return (s->size == t->size) && equal(s->obj, s->size, t->obj);
}
```

Listing 9.13: Implementation of stack\_equal

#### 9.7. Verification of stack functions

In this section we verify the functions stack\_init (Section 9.7.1), stack\_size (Section 9.7.2), stack\_empty (Section 9.7.3), stack\_full (Section 9.7.4), stack\_top (Section 9.7.5), and stack\_push (Section 9.7.6) stack\_pop (Section 9.7.7), of the data type Stack. To be more precise, we provide for each of function stack\_foo:

- an ACSL specification of stack\_foo
- a C implementation of stack\_foo
- a C function stack\_foo\_wd<sup>80</sup> accompanied by a an ACSL contract that expresses that the implementation of stack\_foo is well-defined. Figure 9.14 shows our methodology for the verification of well-definition in the pop example, (≈) again indicating the user-defined Stack equality.

```
/*@
    requires s ≈ t;
    requires !Empty(s);
    ...
    ensures s ≈ t;
    */
    void stack_pop_wd(Stack *s, Stack *t)
    {
        stack_pop(s);
        stack_pop(t);
    }
}
```

Figure 9.14.: Methodology for the verification of well-definition

Note that the specifications of the various functions will explicitly refer to the *internal state* of Stack. In Section 9.8 we will show that the *interplay* of these functions satisfy the stack axioms from Section 9.2.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> The suffix \_wd stands for well definition

#### 9.7.1. The function stack\_init

Listing 9.15 shows the ACSL specification of stack\_init. Note that our specification of the post-conditions contains a redundancy because a stack is empty if and only if its size is zero.

```
requires valid: \valid(s);
requires capacity: 0 < capacity;
requires storage: \valid(storage + (0..capacity-1));
requires sep: \separated(s, storage + (0..capacity-1));

assigns s->obj, s->capacity, s->size;

ensures valid: \valid(s);
ensures invariant: Invariant(s);
ensures capacity: Capacity(s) == capacity;
ensures empty: Empty(s);
ensures storage: Storage(s) == storage;
*/
void stack_init(Stack* s, value_type* storage, size_type capacity);
```

Listing 9.15: Specification of stack\_init

Listing 9.15 shows the implementation of stack\_init. It simply initializes obj and capacity with the respective value of the array and sets the field size to zero.

Listing 9.16: Implementation of stack\_init

#### 9.7.2. The function stack size

The function stack\_size is the runtime version of the logical function Size from Listing 9.6 on Page 158. The specification of stack\_size in Listing 9.17 simply states that stack\_size produces the same result as Size.

```
/*@
    requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);

    assigns \nothing;

    ensures size: \result == Size(s);

*/
size_type stack_size(const Stack* s);
```

Listing 9.17: Specification of stack\_size

As in the definition of the logical function Size the implementation of  $stack\_size$  in Figure 9.18 simply returns the field size.

```
size_type stack_size(const Stack* s)
{
   return s->size;
}
```

Listing 9.18: Implementation of stack\_size

Listing 9.19 shows our check whether stack\_size is well-defined. Since stack\_size neither modifies the state of its Stack argument nor that of any global variable we only check whether it produces the same result for equal stacks. Note that we simply may use operator == to compare integers since we didn't introduce a nontrivial equivalence relation on that data type.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
  requires valid: \valid(t) && Invariant(t);
  requires equal: Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures equal: \result;
  */
bool stack_size_wd(const Stack* s, const Stack* t)
{
   return stack_size(s) == stack_size(t);
}
```

Listing 9.19: Well-definition of stack\_size

# 9.7.3. The function stack\_empty

The function stack\_empty is the runtime version of the predicate Empty from Listing 9.7 on Page 159.

```
/*@
    requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);

    assigns \nothing;

    ensures empty: \result == 1 <==> Empty(s);
    ensures not_empty: \result == 0 <==> !Empty(s);

*/
bool stack_empty(const Stack* s);
```

Listing 9.20: Specification of stack\_empty

As in the definition of the predicate Empty the implementation of stack\_empty in Figure 9.21 simply checks whether the size of the stack is zero.

```
bool stack_empty(const Stack* s)
{
   return stack_size(s) == 0;
}
```

Listing 9.21: Implementation of stack\_empty

Listing 9.22 shows our check whether stack\_empty is well-defined.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
  requires valid: \valid(t) && Invariant(t);
  requires equal: Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);

  assigns \nothing;

  ensures equal: \result;
*/
bool stack_empty_wd(const Stack* s, const Stack* t)
{
  return stack_empty(s) == stack_empty(t);
}
```

Listing 9.22: Well-definition of stack\_empty

## 9.7.4. The function stack\_full

The function stack\_full is the runtime version of the predicate Full from Listing 9.7 on Page 159.

```
/*@
    requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);

    assigns \nothing;

    ensures full: \result == 1 <==> Full(s);
    ensures not_full: \result == 0 <==> !Full(s);

*/
bool stack_full(const Stack* s);
```

Listing 9.23: Specification of stack\_full

As in the definition of the predicate Full the implementation of stack\_full in Figure 9.24 simply checks whether the size of the stack equals its capacity.

```
bool stack_full(const Stack* s)
{
   return stack_size(s) == s->capacity;
}
```

Listing 9.24: Implementation of stack\_full

Note that with our definition of stack equality (Section 9.5) there can be equal stack with different capacities. As a consequence, there can are equal stacks where one is full while the other is not. In other words, Full is not well-defined.

#### 9.7.5. The function stack\_top

The function stack\_top is the runtime version of the logical function Top from Listing 9.6 on Page 158. The specification of stack\_top in Listing 9.25 simply states that for non-empty stacks stack\_top produces the same result as Top which in turn just returns the element obj[size-1] of Stack.

```
/*@
    requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);

    assigns \nothing;

    ensures top: !Empty(s) ==> \result == Top(s);

*/
value_type stack_top(const Stack* s);
```

Listing 9.25: Specification of stack\_top

For a non-empty stack the implementation of stack\_top in Figure 9.26 simply returns the element obj [size-1]. Note that our implementation of stack\_top does not crash when it is applied to an empty stack. In this case we return the first element of the internal, non-empty array obj. This is consistent with our specification of stack\_top which only refers to non-empty stacks.

```
value_type stack_top(const Stack* s)
{
   if (!stack_empty(s)) {
      return s->obj[s->size - 1];
   } else {
      return s->obj[0];
   }
}
```

Listing 9.26: Implementation of stack\_top

Listing 9.27 shows our check whether stack\_top well-defined for non-empty stacks.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s) && !Empty(s);
  requires valid: \valid(t) && Invariant(t) && !Empty(t);
  requires equal: Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);

  assigns \nothing;
  ensures equal: \result;
*/
bool stack_top_wd(const Stack* s, const Stack* t)
{
   return stack_top(s) == stack_top(t);
}
```

Listing 9.27: Well-definition of stack\_top

Since our axioms in Section 9.2 did not impose any behavior on the behavior of stack\_top for empty stacks, we prove the well-definition of stack\_top only for nonempty stacks.

#### 9.7.6. The function stack\_push

Listing 9.28 shows the ACSL specification of the function stack\_push. In accordance with Axiom (9.5), stack\_push is supposed to increase the number of elements of a non-full stack by one. The specification also demands that the value that is pushed on a non-full stack becomes the top element of the resulting stack (see Axiom (9.6)).

```
requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
 assigns s->size;
 assigns s->obj[s->size];
 behavior not_full:
   assumes !Full(s);
   assigns s->size;
   assigns s->obj[s->size];
   ensures valid:
                      \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
   ensures size: Size(s) == Size(Old)(s) + 1;
   ensures top:
                     Top(s) == v;
   ensures not_empty: !Empty(s);
   ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old,Here}(Storage(s), Size{Old}(s));
   ensures storage: Storage(s) == Storage{Old}(s);
   ensures capacity: Capacity(s) == Capacity(Old)(s);
 behavior full:
    assumes Full(s);
   assigns \nothing;
                      \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
   ensures valid:
   ensures full: Full(s);
   ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here} (Storage(s), Size(s));
   ensures size: Size(s) == Size(Old)(s);
   ensures storage: Storage(s) == Storage(Old)(s);
   ensures capacity: Capacity(s) == Capacity(Old)(s);
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
void stack_push(Stack* s, value_type v);
```

Listing 9.28: Specification of stack\_push

The implementation of stack\_push is shown in Listing 9.29. It checks whether its argument is a non-full stack in which case it increases the field size by one but only after it has assigned the function argument to the element obj[size].

```
void stack_push(Stack* s, value_type v)
{
  if (!stack_full(s)) {
    s->obj[s->size++] = v;
  }
}
```

Listing 9.29: Implementation of stack\_push

The function <code>stack\_push</code> does not return a value but rather modifies its argument. For the well-definition of <code>stack\_push</code> we therefore check whether it turns equal stacks into equal stacks. However, equality of the stack arguments is not sufficient for a proof that <code>stack\_push</code> is well-defined. We must also ensure that there is no aliasing between the two stacks. Otherwise modifying one stack could modify the other stack in unexpected ways. In order to express that there is no aliasing between two stacks, we define in Listing 9.30 the predicate <code>Separated</code>.

Listing 9.30: The predicate Separated

Listing 9.31 shows our formalization of the well-definition for stack\_push.

```
requires valid:
                    \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
 \valid(t) && Invariant(t);
 requires not_full: !Full(s) && !Full(t);
 requires separated: Separated(s, t);
 assigns s->size, s->obj[s->size];
 assigns t->size, t->obj[t->size];
 ensures valid:
                    Invariant(s) && Invariant(t);
 ensures equal:
                    Equal{Here, Here}(s, t);
void stack_push_wd(Stack* s, Stack* t, value_type v)
 stack_push(s, v);
 stack_push(t, v);
 //@ assert top: Top(s) == v;
 //@ assert top: Top(t) == v;
 //@ assert equal: EqualRanges{Here, Here} (Storage(s), Size{Pre}(s), Storage(t));
```

Listing 9.31: Well-definition of stack\_push

In order to achieve an automatic verification of the well-definition of stack\_push we added in Listing 9.31 the assertions top and equal and introduced the lemma StackPushEqual from Listing 9.32.

Listing 9.32: The lemma StackPushEqual

#### 9.7.7. The function stack\_pop

Listing 9.33 shows the ACSL specification of the function stack\_pop. In accordance with Axiom (9.7) stack\_pop is supposed to reduce the number of elements in a non-empty stack by one. In addition to the requirements imposed by the axioms, our specification demands that stack\_pop changes no memory location if it is applied to an empty stack.

```
requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
 assigns s->size;
 ensures valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
 behavior not_empty:
   assumes !Empty(s);
   assigns s->size;
                  Size(s) == Size{Old}(s) - 1;
!Full(s);
   ensures size:
   ensures full:
   ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here} (Storage(s), Size(s));
   ensures storage: Storage(s) == Storage(Old)(s);
   ensures capacity: Capacity(s) == Capacity(Old)(s);
 behavior empty:
   assumes Empty(s);
   assigns \nothing;
   ensures empty: Empty(s);
   ensures unchanged: Unchanged{Old, Here} (Storage(s), Size(s));
   ensures size: Size(s) == Size{Old}(s);
   ensures storage: Storage(s) == Storage(Old)(s);
   ensures capacity: Capacity(s) == Capacity(Old)(s);
 complete behaviors;
 disjoint behaviors;
void stack_pop(Stack* s);
```

Listing 9.33: Specification of stack\_pop

The implementation of stack\_pop is shown in Listing 9.34. It checks whether its argument is a non-empty stack in which case it decreases the field size by one.

```
void stack_pop(Stack* s)
{
   if (!stack_empty(s)) {
      --s->size;
   }
}
```

Listing 9.34: Implementation of stack\_pop

Listing 9.35 shows our check whether  $stack\_pop$  is well-defined. As in the case of  $stack\_push$  we use the predicate Separated (Listing 9.30) in order to express that there is no aliasing between the two stack arguments.

Listing 9.35: Well-definition of stack\_pop

#### 9.8. Verification of stack axioms

In this section we show that the stack functions defined in Section 9.7 satisfy the stack Axioms of Section 9.2.

The annotated code has been obtained from the axioms in a fully systematical way. In order to transform a condition equation  $p \rightarrow s = t$ :

- Generate a clause requires p.
- Generate a clause requires  $x1 == \dots == xn$  for each variable x with n occurrences in s and t.
- Change the *i*-th occurrence of x to xi in s and t.
- Translate both terms *s* and *t* to reversed polish notation.
- Generate a clause ensures y1 == y2, where y1 and y2 denote the value corresponding to the translated s and t, respectively.

This makes it easy to implement a tool that does the translation automatically, but yields a slightly longer contract in our example.

## 9.8.1. Resetting a stack

Our formulation in ACSL/C of the Axiom in Equation (9.1) on Page 155 is shown in Listing 9.36.

```
requires valid: \valid(s);
requires size: 0 < n;
requires valid: \valid(a + (0..n-1));
requires separated: \separated(s, a + (0..n-1));

assigns s->obj, s->capacity, s->size;

ensures valid: Invariant(s);
ensures size: \result == 0;

*/
size_type axiom_size_of_init(Stack* s, value_type* a, size_type n)
{
   stack_init(s, a, n);
   return stack_size(s);
}
```

Listing 9.36: Specification of Axiom (9.1)

#### 9.8.2. Adding an element to a stack

Axioms (9.5) and (9.6) describe the behavior of a stack when an element is added.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
  requires not_full: !Full(s);

  assigns s->size;
  assigns s->obj[s->size];

  ensures valid: Invariant(s);
  ensures size: \result == Size{Old}(s) + 1;

*/
size_type axiom_size_of_push(Stack* s, value_type v)
{
  stack_push(s, v);
  return stack_size(s);
}
```

Listing 9.37: Specification of Axiom (9.5)

Except for the assigns clauses, the ACSL-specification refers only to encapsulating logical functions and predicates defined in Section 9.4. If ACSL would provide a means to define encapsulating logical functions returning also sets of memory locations, the expressions in assigns clauses would not need to refer to the details of our Stack implementation.<sup>81</sup> As an alternative, assigns clauses could be omitted, as long as the proofs are only used to convince a human reader.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
  requires not_full: !Full(s);

  assigns s->size;
  assigns s->obj[s->size];

  ensures top: \result == v;
*/
value_type axiom_top_of_push(Stack* s, value_type v)
{
   stack_push(s, v);
  return stack_top(s);
}
```

Listing 9.38: Specification of Axiom (9.6)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> In [9, §2.3.4], a powerful sublanguage to build memory location set expressions is defined. We will explore its capabilities in a later version.

#### 9.8.3. Removing an element from a stack

This section shows the Listings for Axioms 9.7, 9.8 and 9.9 which describe the behavior of a stack when an element is removed.

```
/*@
  requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
  requires empty: !Empty(s);

  assigns s->size;

  ensures size: \result == Size{Old}(s) - 1;

*/
size_type axiom_size_of_pop(Stack* s)
{
  stack_pop(s);
  return stack_size(s);
}
```

Listing 9.39: Specification of Axiom (9.7)

```
requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
requires not_full: !Full(s);

assigns s->size;
assigns s->obj[s->size];

ensures equal: Equal{Pre, Here}(s, s);
*/
void axiom_pop_of_push(Stack* s, value_type v)
{
   stack_push(s, v);
   stack_pop(s);
}
```

Listing 9.40: Specification of Axiom (9.8)

```
requires valid: \valid(s) && Invariant(s);
requires not_empty: !Empty(s);

assigns s->size;
assigns s->obj[s->size-1];

ensures equal: Equal{Here,Old}(s, s);
*/
void axiom_push_of_pop_top(Stack* s)
{
    const value_type val = stack_top(s);
    stack_pop(s);
    stack_push(s, val);
}
```

Listing 9.41: Specification of Axiom (9.9)

# A. Results of formal verification with Frama-C

In this chapter we introduce the formal verification tools used in this tutorial. We will afterwards present to what extent the examples from Chapters 3–9 could be deductively verified.

Within Frama-C, the Frama-C/WP plug-in [2] enables deductive verification of C programs that have been annotated with the ANSI/ISO-C Specification Language (ACSL)[1]. The Frama-C/WP plug-in uses weakest precondition computations to generate proof obligations. To formally prove the ACSL properties, these proof obligations can be submitted to external automatic theorem provers or interactive proof assistants. For the precise settings for Frama-C/WP and the associated provers that we used in this release we refer to Section A.1.

In Sections A.2 and A.3 we show detailed verification results for different scenarios how the provers are called.

# A.1. Verification settings

This section gives all settings that depend on the software release of Frama-C, Why3, or one if its employed provers. For our experiments we used the Frama-C/WP plugin-in of the Phosphorus-20170501 release of Frama-C and version 0.87.3 of the Why3 platform.<sup>82</sup>

Here are the most important options of Frama-C that we used in for almost all functions.<sup>83</sup>

```
-pp-annot
-no-unicode
-wp
-wp-rte
-wp-model Typed+ref
-warn-unsigned-overflow
-warn-unsigned-downcast
-wp-timeout 10
-wp-steps 1000
-wp-coq-timeout 10
```

The individual provers and their versions are listed in the following Table A.1.

Prover	ID	Version	Reference
Qed	QD		simplifier that is integrated into Frama-C/WP
CVC4	C4	1.4	https://cvc4.cs.nyu.edu/web
Z3	Z3	4.5.1	https://github.com/Z3Prover/z3
Alt-Ergo	AE	1.30	http://alt-ergo.lri.fr
CVC3	C3	2.4.1	https://www.cs.nyu.edu/acsys/cvc3/
Е	EP	1.9.1	https://www.eprover.org
Coq	CQ	8.5.3	https://coq.inria.fr

Table A.1.: Information of automatic and interactive theorem provers

All provers except Coq are automatic.

<sup>82</sup> See http://why3.lri.fr

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> For the my\_lrand48() function in random\_shuffle, the option -warn-unsigned-overflow is disabled as explained in Section 6.17.3.

# A.2. Verification results (sequential)

In the *sequential verification scenario* each proof obligation is processed by a set of automatic and interactive theorem provers that are arranged as a *pipe*.<sup>84</sup> This means that each prover passes on to the next prover only those proof obligations that it could not verify. This *verification pipeline* is shown in Figure A.2.

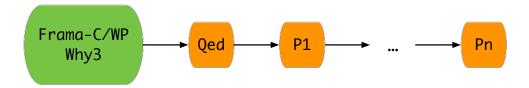


Figure A.2.: Verification pipeline of automatic and interactive theorem provers

For each algorithm we list in the following tables the number of generated verification conditions (VC), the percentage of proven verification conditions, and the number of VC proven by each prover. The value zero is indicated by an empty cell. The tables show that all verification conditions could be verified. Please note that the number of proven verification conditions do *not* reflect on the quality/strength of the individual provers. The reason for that is that we "pipe" each verification condition sequentially through a list of provers (see Figure A.2).

The tables show that the majority of verification conditions could be verified by automatic provers. There are, however, some verification conditions (all related to ACSL lemmas) that could only be verified with the interactive theorem prover Coq. In Table A.3 we explicitly list these lemmas and indicate for the verification of which algorithm the respective lemma was necessary.

ACSL Lemma	Listing	equal_range (2)	remove	remove_copy(2)	random_shuffle	push_heap	make_heap	sort_heap
LowerBoundShift	5.13	*						
StrictLowerBoundShift	5.13	*						
CountShift	6.46		*					
UnchangedShift	6.45		*					
HasValueCountInversion	6.44		*					
CountSectionUnion	3.33		*	*	*	*		*
CountSectionBounds	6.55			*				
CountSectionMonotonic	6.55			*				
HeapMaximum	8.6						*	*

Table A.3.: ACSL lemmas that were proved with Coq

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Sequential processing is achieved by passing the option -wp-par 1 to Frama-C/WP.

Algorithm		Verification Conditions		Individual Provers							
				QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ	
find	§3.1	18/18	(100%)	9	9				•		
find(2)	§3.2	18/18	(100%)	9	9	•	•	•	•	•	
find_first_of	§3.3	24/24	(100%)	15	9	•	•		•		
adjacent_find	§3.4	23/23	(100%)	12	11	•	•	•	•	•	
mismatch	§3.5	19/19	(100%)	9	10	•	•	•	•	•	
equal	§3.5	7/ 7	(100%)	6	1	•	•	•	•	•	
search	§3.6	30/30	(100%)	17	13	•	•	•	•	•	
search_n	§3.7	29/29	(100%)	12	17	•	•		•		
find_end	§3.8	30/30	(100%)	18	12	•	•		•		
count	§3.9	19/19	(100%)	7	12	•	•	•			

Table A.4.: Results for non-mutating algorithms

Algorithm		Verification Conditions		Individual Provers						
Algorithm	QD			AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ	
properties of operator <	§4.1	6/ 6	(100%)	4	2	•	•	•	•	•
max_element	§4.2	23/23	(100%)	11	12	•	•	•	•	•
<pre>max_element (2)</pre>	§4.3	23/23	(100%)	10	13					•
max_seq	§4.4	8/8	(100%)	5	3	•	•			•
min_element	§4.5	23/23	(100%)	10	13	•	•	•		•

Table A.5.: Results for maximum and minimum algorithms

Algorithm		Verification Conditions		Individual Provers								
				QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ		
lower_bound	§5.1	19/19	(100%)	5	14							
upper_bound	§5.2	19/19	(100%)	7	12	•	•	•	•			
equal_range	§5.3	20/20	(100%)	17	3	•	•	•				
equal_range(2)	§5.3	64/64	(100%)	24	36	2	•	•	•	2		
binary_search	§5.4	10/10	(100%)	8	2	•	•	•	•			
binary_search(2)	§5.4	15/15	(100%)	12	3	•	•	•	•			

Table A.6.: Results for binary search algorithms

Algorithm	Verifi									
Algorium		Conditions		QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ
fill	§6.3	13/13	(100%)	4	9		•	•	•	
swap	§6.4	7/ 7	(100%)	7	•	•	•	•	•	
swap_ranges	§6.5	23/23	(100%)	5	18	•	•	•	•	
сору	§6.6	16/16	(100%)	4	12	•	•	•	•	
copy_backward	§6.7	18/18	(100%)	6	12	•	•	•	•	
reverse_copy	§6.8	18/18	(100%)	3	15	•	•	•	•	•
reverse	§6.9	23/23	(100%)	3	18	•	2	•	•	•
rotate_copy	§6.10	17/17	(100%)	3	14	•	•	•	•	
rotate	§6.11	24/24	(100%)	5	19	•	•	•	•	
replace_copy	§6.12	20/20	(100%)	6	14	•	•	•	•	•
replace	§6.13	16/16	(100%)	4	12	•	•	•	•	•
remove_copy	§6.14	35/35	(100%)	10	25	•	•	•	•	
remove	§6.15	50/50	(100%)	9	35	1	1	•	•	4
${\tt remove\_copy}2$	§6.16	91/91	(100%)	27	54	6	1	•	•	3
random_shuffle	§6.17	45/45	(100%)	18	24	1	•	1	•	1

Table A.7.: Results for mutating algorithms

Algorithm		Verifi	Individual Provers							
Algorithm		Cond	ditions	QD	AE	Z3	C4	C3	EP	CQ
iota	§7.1	17/17	(100%)	7	10				•	•
accumulate	§7.2	13/13	(100%)	5	8	•	•	•	•	•
inner_product	§7.3	18/18	(100%)	5	13	•	•	•	•	•
partial_sum	§7.4	38/38	(100%)	7	31	•	•	•	•	•
adjacent_difference	§7.5	32/32	(100%)	9	21	•	2	•	•	
partial_sum_inverse	§7.6	18/18	(100%)	4	14	•		•	•	
adjacent_difference_inverse	§7.7	26/26	(100%)	3	19	•	2	•	2	

Table A.8.: Results for numeric algorithms

Algorithm		Verification		Individual Provers								
Algorium		Conditions		QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ		
is_heap	§8.3	20/20	(100%)	6	14							
push_heap	§8.4	83/83	(100%)	23	53	1	1	4	•	1		
make_heap	§8.5	32/32	(100%)	6	25		•	•	•	1		
sort_heap	§8.6	49/49	(100%)	11	35	•	1	•	•	2		

Table A.9.: Results for heap algorithms

A lagguithm		Verification			Indi	vers				
Algorithm		Cond	litions	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ
stack_init	§9.7.1	14/14	(100%)	4	10	•	•	•	•	•
stack_equal	§9.6	18/18	(100%)	7	11	•	•	•	•	
stack_size	§9.7.2	6/ 6	(100%)	1	5	•	•	•	•	
stack_empty	§9.7.3	10/10	(100%)	5	5	•	•	•	•	
stack_full	§9.7.4	11/11	(100%)	5	6	•	•	•	•	
stack_top	§9.7.5	16/16	(100%)	6	10	•	•	•	•	
stack_push	§9.7.6	43/43	(100%)	28	15	•	•	•	•	
stack_pop	§9.7.7	32/32	(100%)	20	12	•	•	•	•	

Table A.10.: Results for Stack functions

Algorithm		Verifi	Individual Provers							
Algorium ————————————————————————————————————		Conditions		QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	CQ
stack_size_wd	§9.7.2	12/12	(100%)	8	4	•	•	•	•	•
stack_empty_wd	§9.7.3	12/12	(100%)	8	4	•	•	•	•	•
stack_top_wd	§9.7.5	12/12	(100%)	8	4	•	•	•	•	•
stack_push_wd	§9.7.6	15/15	(100%)	3	8	2	2	•	•	•
stack_pop_wd	§9.7.7	12/12	(100%)	6	6		•	•		

Table A.11.: Results for the well-definition of the Stack functions

Algorithm		Verifi	Individual Provers								
Aigoriuiii		Cond	litions	QD	AE	Z3	C4	C3	EP	CQ	
axiom_size_of_pop	§9.8.3	11/11	(100%)	8	3						
axiom_size_of_push	§9.8.2	12/12	(100%)	9	3	•	•		•	•	
axiom_top_of_push	§9.8.2	11/11	(100%)	8	3	•	•		•	•	
axiom_pop_of_push	§9.8.3	10/10	(100%)	6	4		•		•	•	
<pre>axiom_push_of_pop_top</pre>	§9.8.3	15/15	(100%)	9	6		•		•	•	
<pre>axiom_size_of_init</pre>	§9.8.1	15/15	(100%)	11	4		•		•	•	

Table A.12.: Results for Stack axioms

## A.3. Verification results (parallel)

In the *parallel verification scenario* each proof obligation is first passed to Frama-C/WP's built-in simplifier Qed. If Qed cannot discharge a proof obligation it is submitted in parallel to *all* the other automatic provers from Table A.1.<sup>85</sup> Figure A.13 depicts this arrangement of provers. This arrangement of automatic theorem provers makes it a little bit easier to quantify their strength.

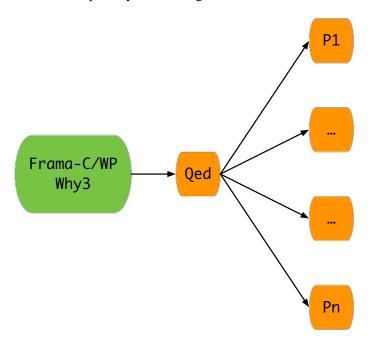


Figure A.13.: Parallel execution of automatic theorem provers

Note that in this scenario we used Frama-C/WP only for the generation and simplification of the proof obligations. For the parallel execution we developed our own (shell) scripts that pass the proof obligations directly through Why3 to the individual provers. This also means that there is a slight difference to how Alt-Ergo is used in the sequential scenario: There Frama-C/WP directly generates (without going through Why3) the proof obligations for Alt-Ergo.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> We did not include the interactive theorem prover Coq in this setting.

Alaawithm	Verifi	Individual Provers							
Algorithm		Conc	litions	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP
find	§3.1	18/18	(100%)	9	9	9	9	9	7
find(2)	§3.2	18/18	(100%)	9	9	8	9	9	4
find_first_of	§3.3	24/24	(100%)	15 ¦	9	5	9	9	3
adjacent_find	§3.4	23/23	(100%)	12 ¦	11	7	9	11	2
mismatch	§3.5	19/19	(100%)	9 1	10	9	10	10	4
equal	§3.5	7/7	(100%)	6	1	•	1	1	1
search	§3.6	30/30	(100%)	17 !	13	9	13	13	5
search_n	§3.7	27/29	(93%)	12	15	11	12	12	2
find_end	§3.8	30/30	(100%)	18	12	6	12	12	2
count	§3.9	19/19	(100%)	7	12	11	11	12	5

Table A.14.: Results for non-mutating algorithms

Algorithm	Verifi	Individual Provers							
Algorithm		Cond	litions	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP
properties of operator <	§4.1	6/ 6	(100%)	4	2	2	2	2	2
max_element	§4.2	23/23	(100%)	11	12	12	11	12	7
<pre>max_element (2)</pre>	§4.3	23/23	(100%)	10	13	10	12	13	6
max_seq	§4.4	8/8	(100%)	5 ¦	3	3	3	3	1
min_element	§4.5	23/23	(100%)	10	13	11	12	13	6

Table A.15.: Results for maximum and minimum algorithms

Algorithm	Verifi	Individual Provers							
Algorithm		Cond	litions	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP
lower_bound	§5.1	19/19	(100%)	5	14	12	14	12	4
upper_bound	§5.2	19/19	(100%)	7	12	10	12	10	2
equal_range	§5.3	20/20	(100%)	17	3	2	3	3	•
equal_range(2)	§5.3	62/64	(96%)	24	36	25	36	33	4
binary_search	§5.4	10/10	(100%)	8	2	1	2	2	•
binary_search(2)	§5.4	15/15	(100%)	12	3	1	3	3	•

Table A.16.: Results for binary search algorithms

Algorithm	Verifi	Individual Provers							
Aigorium		Conc	Conditions		AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP
fill	§6.3	13/13	(100%)	4	9	8	9	9	4
swap	§6.4	7/7	(100%)	7		•	•	•	•
swap_ranges	§6.5	23/23	(100%)	5	18	14	18	18	7
сору	§6.6	16/16	(100%)	4	12	10	12	12	5
copy_backward	§6.7	18/18	(100%)	6	12	10	12	12	5
reverse_copy	§6.8	18/18	(100%)	3	15	13	15	15	6
reverse	§6.9	23/23	(100%)	3	18	16	20	18	6
rotate_copy	§6.10	17/17	(100%)	3	14	14	14	14	2
rotate	§6.11	24/24	(100%)	5	19	14	19	19	5
replace_copy	§6.12	20/20	(100%)	6	14	12	14	14	5
replace	§6.13	16/16	(100%)	4	12	11	12	12	6
remove_copy	§6.14	35/35	(100%)	10	24	20	21	24	8
remove	§6.15	45/50	(90%)	9	34	24	30	33	13
${\tt remove\_copy}\ 2$	§6.16	85/91	(93%)	27	54	47	51	50	17
random_shuffle	§6.17	44/45	(97%)	18	22	19	22	23	9

Table A.17.: Results for mutating algorithms

Algorithm		Verifi	ication	<b>Individual Provers</b>						
Algoriumi		Conc	litions	QD	AE	Z3	C4	C3	EP	
iota	§7.1	17/17	(100%)	7	10	9	10	10	3	
accumulate	§7.2	13/13	(100%)	5	8	8	8	8	3	
inner_product	§7.3	18/18	(100%)	5	13	13	13	13	5	
partial_sum	§7.4	38/38	(100%)	7	29	26	27	27	31	
adjacent_difference	§7.5	32/32	(100%)	9	22	21	23	22	23	
partial_sum_inverse	§7.6	18/18	(100%)	4	14	10	13	13	14	
adjacent_difference_inverse	§7.7	26/26	(100%)	3	20	14	18	17	23	

Table A.18.: Results for numeric algorithms

Algorithm		Verifi	Verification			vidua	ıl Pro	vers	
Algorium		Cond	litions	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP
is_heap	§8.3	20/20	(100%)	6	14	14	14	14	3
push_heap	§8.4	80/83	(96%)	23	52	30	46	49	13
make_heap	§8.5	31/32	(96%)	6	25	21	22	25	12
sort_heap	§8.6	47/49	(95%)	11	35	24	32	35	13

Table A.19.: Results for heap algorithms

Algorithm		Verification		Individual Provers						
		Conditions		QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	
stack_init	§9.7.1	14/14	(100%)	4	10	9	10	10	10	
stack_equal	§9.6	18/18	(100%)	7	11	8	11	11	11	
stack_size	§9.7.2	6/ 6	(100%)	1	5	4	5	5	5	
stack_empty	§9.7.3	10/10	(100%)	5	5	4	5	5	5	
stack_full	§9.7.4	11/11	(100%)	5	6	5	6	6	6	
stack_top	§9.7.5	16/16	(100%)	6	10	9	10	10	10	
stack_push	§9.7.6	43/43	(100%)	28	15	14	15	15	15	
stack_pop	§9.7.7	32/32	(100%)	20	12	11	12	12	12	

Table A.20.: Results for Stack functions

Algorithm		Verifi	Individual Provers						
		Cond	QD	AE	<b>Z</b> 3	C4	C3	EP	
stack_size_wd	§9.7.2	12/12	(100%)	8	4	3	4	4	4
stack_empty_wd	§9.7.3	12/12	(100%)	8	4	3	4	4	4
stack_top_wd	§9.7.5	12/12	(100%)	8	4	2	4	4	4
stack_push_wd	§9.7.6	15/15	(100%)	3	12	8	11	11	12
stack_pop_wd	§9.7.7	12/12	(100%)	6	6	4	6	6	6

Table A.21.: Results for the well-definition of the Stack functions

Individual Provers					
EP					
3					
3					
3					
4					
6					
4					

Table A.22.: Results for Stack axioms

# **B.** Changes in previous releases

This chapter describes the changes in previous versions of this document. For the most recent changes see Page 3.

The version numbers of this document are related to the versioning of Frama-C [3]. The versions of Frama-C are named consecutively after the elements of the periodic table. Therefore, our version numbering (X.Y.Z) are constructed as follows:

- **X** the major number of our tutorial is the atomic number<sup>86</sup> of the chemical element after which Frama-C is named.
- Y the Frama-C subrelease number
- **Z** the subrelease number of this tutorial

#### New in Version 14.1.1 (Silicon, April 2017)

- changes in verification infrastructure
  - add verification results for the case where each proof obligation is submitted to all automatic theorem provers (see Section A.3)
- changes in algorithms
  - simplify loop invariants of search\_n and improve description
  - rename predicate CountOneHit to CountHit
  - rename predicate CountOneMiss to CountMiss
  - rewrite predicates EqualRanges and Reverse in order to simplify the task for automatic theorem provers
  - remove lemmas on Reverse that were necessary for rotate but are not needed anymore
  - rename predicate Valid(Stack\*) to Invariant(Stack\*) and remove \valid from Invariant(Stack\*)
  - add a simple random number generator to random\_shuffle and verify it
- fix an inconsistency in the axioms for Count (thanks to Denis Efremov for reporting this issue)
  - add more guards to axioms CountSectionHit and CountSectionMiss
  - add corresponding guards to lemmas
    - \* CountSectionOne, CountHit, CountMiss and CountOne
    - \* RemoveCountHit and RemoveCountMiss

 $<sup>^{86}\</sup>mathbf{See}$  http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic\_number

 add lemma UnchangedShift and add more assertions to remove in order to simplify the task for automatic theorem provers

### B.1. New in Version 14.1.0 (Silicon, January 2017)

- use label Old instead of Pre in function contracts
- add algorithm rotate
- rewrite definition of predicates EqualRanges and Reverse and provide more overloaded versions
- add figures for algorithms rotate and replace\_copy
- update figure for predicate Reverse
- update Coq proofs and add Table A.3 with more information on the ACSL lemmas that had to be verified with Coq

#### **B.2.** New in Version 13.1.1 (Aluminium, November 2016)

- improve layout of tables of verification results
- use two additional automatic theorem provers (CVC3 and E)
- non-mutating algorithms
  - add algorithm find\_end
  - add definition of predicate HasSubRange on subranges
  - add definition of predicate EqualRanges on subranges
  - rename lemma HasSubRange\_fit\_size to HasSubRangeSize
  - rename lemma HasConstantSubRange\_fit\_size to HasSubRangeSize
  - rename logic function CountSection to Count (using overloading in ACSL)
  - add lemma HasValueCountInversion
  - add lemma HasValueShiftInversion
  - add lemma CountShift
- mutating algorithms
  - add algorithm copy\_backward
  - relax precondition on separation of copy, replace\_copy and remove\_copy
  - provide a more sophisticated implementation of remove
  - re-introduce a second version of remove\_copy that also specifies the *stability* of the algorithm
  - add algorithm random\_shuffle

#### B.3. New in Version 13.1.0 (Aluminium, August 2016)

The most notable changes of this version are the re-introduction of heap algorithms in Chapter 8. This new description of heap algorithms is based to a large extend on the bachelor thesis of one of the authors [16].

- provide names ("labels") for more ACSL annotations
- non-mutating algorithms
  - reorder and improve description in chapter on non-mutating algorithms
  - add more figures to describe algorithms
  - add non-mutating algorithm search\_n
  - rewrite logic function Count with new logic function CountSection
  - move lemmas CountBounds and CountMonotonic to separate files
  - use integer instead of size\_type in HasSubRange
  - change index computation in HasEqualNeighbors
- maximum and minimum algorithms
  - isolate predicate ConstantRange from predicates on lower and upper bounds
  - fix typo in precondition of first version of max\_element
- binary search algorithms
  - add version Sorted for subranges
  - add second (more efficient) version of equal\_range
    - \* add lemmas SortedShift, LowerBoundShift, StrictLowerBoundShift, UpperBoundShift and StrictUpperBoundShift to support the automatic verification of this version of equal\_range
  - add figures to binary search algorithms and improve description
- mutating algorithms
  - greatly reduce the number of assertions needed to verify the first version remove\_copy
  - temporarily remove the second version of remove\_copy which also specified the stability of the algorithm
  - add remove, an in-place variant of remove\_copy
  - rename predicate RetainAllButOne to MultisetRetainRest
- re-introduce chapter on heap algorithms
  - includes the heap algorithms is\_heap, push\_heap, make\_heap and sort\_heap
  - for pop\_heap only a function contract is provided in this version
  - add lemma SortedUp to support verification of sort\_heap
  - add several lemmas to combine the predicates Unchanged and MultisetUnchanged

#### B.4. New in Version 12.1.0 (Magnesium, February 2016)

A main goal of this release is to reduce the number of proof obligations that cannot be verified automatically and therefore must be tackled by an interactive theorem prover such as Coq. To this end, we analyzed the proof obligations (often using Coq) and devised additional assertions or ACSL lemmas to guide the automatic provers. Often we succeeded in enabling automatic provers to discharge the concerned obligations. Specifically, whereas the previous version 11.1.1 of *ACSL by Example* listed *nine* proof obligations that could only be discharged with Coq, the document at hand (version 12.1.0) only counts *five* such obligations. Moreover, all these remaining proof obligations are associated to ACSL lemmas, which are usually easier to tackle with Coq than proof obligations directly related to the C code. The reason for this is that ACSL lemmas usually have a much smaller set of hypotheses.

Adding assertions and lemmas also helps to alleviate a problem in Frama-C/WP Magnesium and Sodium where prover processes are not properly terminated.<sup>87</sup> Left-over "zombie processes" lead to a deterioration of machine performance which sometimes results in unpredictable verification results.

#### • mutating algorithms

- simplify annotations of replace\_copy and add new algorithm replace
  - \* add predicate Replace to write more compact post conditions and loops invariants
- add several lemmas for predicate Unchanged and use predicate Unchanged in postconditions of mutating and numeric algorithms
- simplify annotations of reverse
  - \* rename Reversed to Reverse (again) and provide another overloaded version
  - \* add figure to support description of the Reverse predicate
- changes regarding remove\_copy
  - \* rename PreserveCount to RetainAllButOne
  - \* rename StableRemove to RemoveMapping
  - \* add statement contracts for both versions of remove\_copy such that only ACSL lemmas require Coq proofs

#### • numeric algorithms

- define limits VALUE TYPE MIN and VALUE TYPE MAX
- simplify specification of iota by using new logic function Iota
- simplify implementation of accumulate
  - \* add overloaded predicates AccumulateBounds
  - \* add lemmas AccumulateDefault0, AccumulateDefault1, AccumulateDefaultNext, and AccumulateDefaultRead
- simplify implementation of inner\_product
  - \* add predicates ProductBounds and InnerProductBounds
- enable automatic verification of partial\_sum

<sup>87</sup> See https://bts.frama-c.com/view.php?id=2154

- \* add lemmas PartialSumSection, PartialSumUnchanged, PartialSumStep, and PartialSumStep2 to automatically discharge loop invariants
- enable automatic verification of adjacent\_difference
  - \* add logic function Difference and predicate AdjacentDifference
  - \* add predicate AdjacentDifferenceBounds
  - \* add lemmas AdjacentDifferenceStep and AdjacentDifferenceSection to automatically discharge proof obligation
- add two auxiliary functions partial\_sum\_inverse and adjacent\_difference\_inverse in order to verify that partial\_sum and adjacent\_difference are inverse to each other
  - \* add lemmas PartialSumInverse and AdjacentDifferenceInverse to support the automatic verification of the auxiliary functions
- stack functions
  - add lemma StackPushEqual to enable the automatic verification of the well-definition of stack\_push

#### **B.5.** New in Version 11.1.1 (Sodium, June 2015)

- add Chapter on numeric algorithms
  - move iota algorithm to numeric algorithms (Section 7.1)
  - add accumulate algorithm (Section 7.2)
  - add inner\_product algorithm (Section 7.3)
  - add partial\_sum algorithm (Section 7.4)
  - add adjacent\_difference algorithm (Section 7.5)

## B.6. New in Version 11.1.0 (Sodium, March 2015)

- Use built-in predicates \valid and \valid\_read instead of valid\_range.
- Simplify loop invariants of find\_first\_of.
- Replace two loop invariants of remove\_copy by ACSL lemmas.
- Rename several predicates
  - IsEqual  $\mapsto$  EqualRanges.
  - IsMaximum → MaxElement.
  - IsMinimum → MinElement.
  - Reverse  $\mapsto$  Reversed.
  - IsSorted  $\mapsto$  Sorted.
- Several changes for Stack:

- Rename Stack functions from foo\_stack to stack\_foo.
- Equality of stacks now ignores the capacity field. This is similar to how equality for objects
  of type std::vector<T> is defined. As a consequence stack\_full is not well-defined
  any more. Other stack functions are not effected.
- Remove all assertions from stack functions (including in axioms).
- Describe predicate Separated in text.

## **B.7.** New in Version 10.1.1 (Neon, January 2015)

- use option -wp-split to create simpler (but more) proof obligations
- simplify definition of predicate Count
- add new predicates for lower and upper bounds of ranges and use it in
  - max\_element
  - min\_element
  - lower\_bound
  - upper\_bound
  - equal\_range
  - fill
- use a new auxiliary assertion in equal\_range to enable the complete *automatic* verification of this algorithm
- add predicate Unchanged and use it to simplify the specification of several algorithms
  - swap\_ranges
  - reverse
  - remove\_copy
  - stack\_push and stack\_push\_wd
  - stack\_pop and stack\_pop\_wd
- add predicate Reverse and use it for more concise specifications of
  - reverse\_copy
  - reverse
- several changes in the two versions of remove\_copy
  - use predicate HasValue instead of logic function Count
  - add predicate PreserveCount
  - reformulate logic function RemoveCount
  - add predicate StableRemove
  - add predicate RemoveCountMonotonic

- add predicate RemoveCountJump
- use overloading in ACSL to create shorter logic names for Stack
- remove unnecessary labels in several Stack functions

#### B.8. New in Version 10.1.0 (Neon, September 2014)

- remove additional labels in the assumes clauses of some stack function that were necessary due to an error in Oxygen
- provide a second version of remove\_copy in order to explain the specification of the *stability* of the algorithms
- coarsen loop assigns of mutating algorithms
- temporarily remove the unique\_copy algorithm

#### B.9. New in Version 9.3.1 (Fluorine, not published)

- specify bounds of the return value of count and fix reads clause of Count predicate
- use an auxiliary function make\_pair in the implementation of equal\_range
- provide more precise loop assigns clauses for the mutating algorithms
  - simplify implementation of fill
  - removed the ensures \valid(p) clause in specification of swap
  - simplify implementation of swap\_ranges
  - simplify implementation of copy
  - fix implementation of reverse\_copy after discovering an undefined behavior
  - new implementation of reverse that uses a simple for-loop
  - simplify implementation of replace\_copy
  - refactor specification and simplify implementation of remove\_copy
- remove work-around with Pre-label in assumes clauses of stack\_push and stack\_pop

## B.10. New in Version 9.3.0 (Fluorine, December 2013)

- adjustments for *Fluorine* release of Frama-C
- swap now ensures that its pointer arguments are valid after the function has been called
- change definition of size\_type to unsigned int
- change implementation of the iota algorithm. The content of the field a is calculated by increasing the value val instead of sum val+i.
- change implementation of fill.

• The specification/implementation of Stack has been revised by Kim Völlinger [17] and now has a much better verification rate.

#### B.11. New in Version 8.1.0 (Oxygen, not published)

- simplified specification and loop annotations of replace\_copy
- add binary search variant equal\_range
- greatly simplified specification of remove\_copy by using the logic function Count
- remove chapter on heap operations

#### B.12. New in Version 7.1.1 (Nitrogen, August 2012)

- improvements with respect to several suggestions and comments of Yannick Moy, e.g., specification refinements of remove\_copy, reverse\_copy and iota
- restricted verification of algorithms to Frama-C/WP with Alt-Ergo
- replaced deprecated \valid\_range by \valid
- fixed inconsistencies in the description of the Stack data type
- binary search algorithms can now be proven without additional axioms for integer division
- changed axioms into lemmas to document that provability is expected, even if not currently granted
- adopted new Fraunhofer logo and contact email

### B.13. New in Version 7.1.0 (Nitrogen, December 2011)

- changed to Frama-C Nitrogen
- changed to Why 2.30
- discussed both plug-ins Frama-C/WP and Jessie
- removed swap\_values algorithm

### **B.14.** New in Version 6.1.0 (Carbon, not published)

- changed definition of Stack
- renamed reset\_stack to init\_stack

## B.15. New in Version 5.1.1 (Boron, February 2011)

- prepared algorithms for checking by the new Frama-C/WP plug-in of Frama-C
- changed to Alt-Ergo Version 0.92, Z3 Version 2.11 and Why 2.27

- added List of user-defined predicates and logic functions
- added remarks on the relation of logical values in C and ACSL
- rewrote section on equal and mismatch
- used a simpler logical function to count elements in an array
- added search algorithm
- added chapter to unite the maximum/minimum algorithms
- added chapter for the new lower\_bound, upper\_bound and binary\_search algorithms
- added swap\_values algorithm
- used IsEqual predicate for swap\_ranges and copy
- added reverse\_copy and reverse algorithms
- added rotate\_copy algorithm
- added unique\_copy algorithm
- added chapter on specification of the data type Stack

#### B.16. New in Version 5.1.0 (Boron, May 2010)

- adaption to Frama-C Boron and Why 2.26 releases
- changed from the -jessie-no-regions command-line option to using the pragma SeparationPolicy (value)

## B.17. New in Version 4.2.2 (Beryllium, May 2010)

- changed to latest version of CVC3 2.2
- added additional remarks to our implementation of find\_first\_of
- changed size\_type (int) to integer in all specifications
- removed casts in fill and iota
- renamed is\_valid\_range as IsValidRange
- renamed has\_value as HasValue
- renamed predicate all\_equal as IsEqual
- extended timeout to 30 sec.

## B.18. New in Version 4.2.1 (Beryllium, April 2010)

- added alternative specification of remove\_copy algorithm that uses ghost variables
- added Chapter on heap operations

- added mismatch algorithm
- moved algorithms adjacent\_find and min\_element from the appendix to chapter on non-mutating algorithms
- added typedefs size\_type and value\_type and used them in all algorithms
- renamed is\_valid\_int\_range as is\_valid\_range

## B.19. New in Version 4.2.0 (Beryllium, January 2010)

- complete rewrite of pre-release
- adaption to Frama-C Beryllium 2 release

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