

# WEAKEST-PRECONDITION

## SYMBOLIC EXECUTION IN THE BACKWARD DIRECTION

- Given an error condition or a post-condition, propagate the condition backwards through the program.
- Given a set of states  $S$  and a command  $c$ , the weakest pre-condition operator  $wp(S, c)$  consists of all states that would always lead to a state in  $S$  after executing  $c$ .

$$wp(S, c) \triangleq \{\sigma \mid \forall \sigma'. (\sigma, c) \hookrightarrow^* (\sigma', \text{skip}) \rightarrow \sigma' \in S\}$$

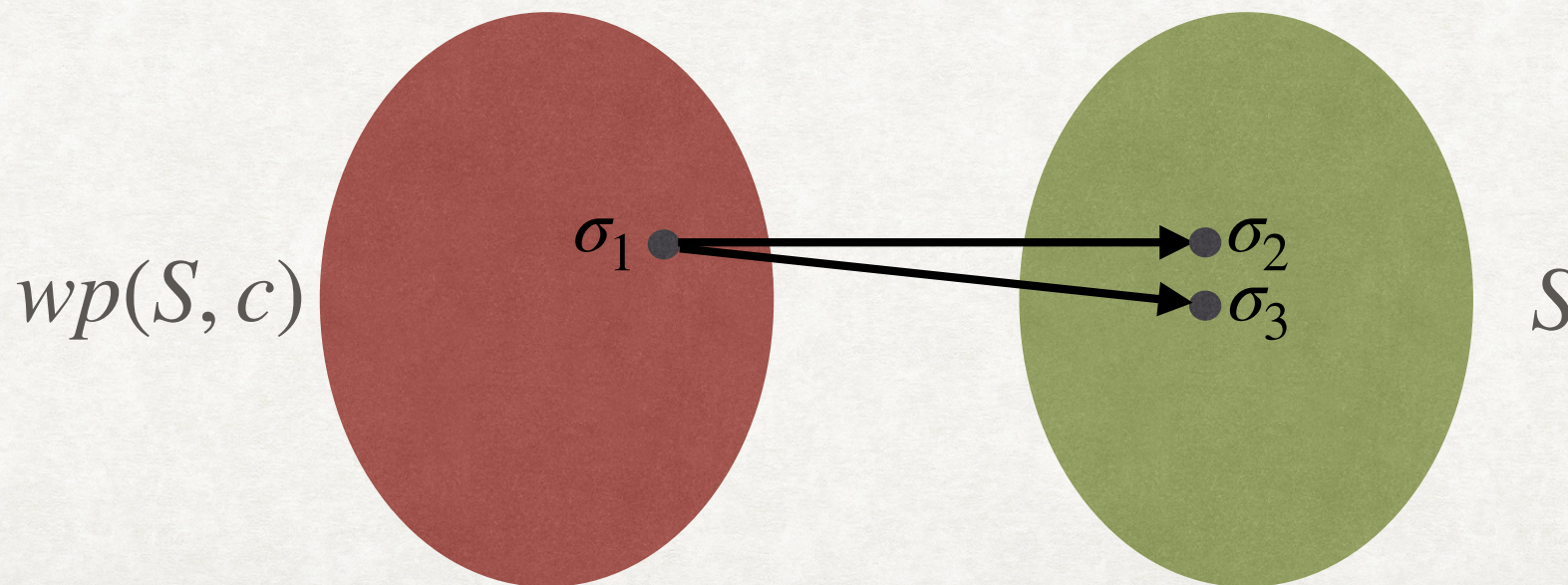


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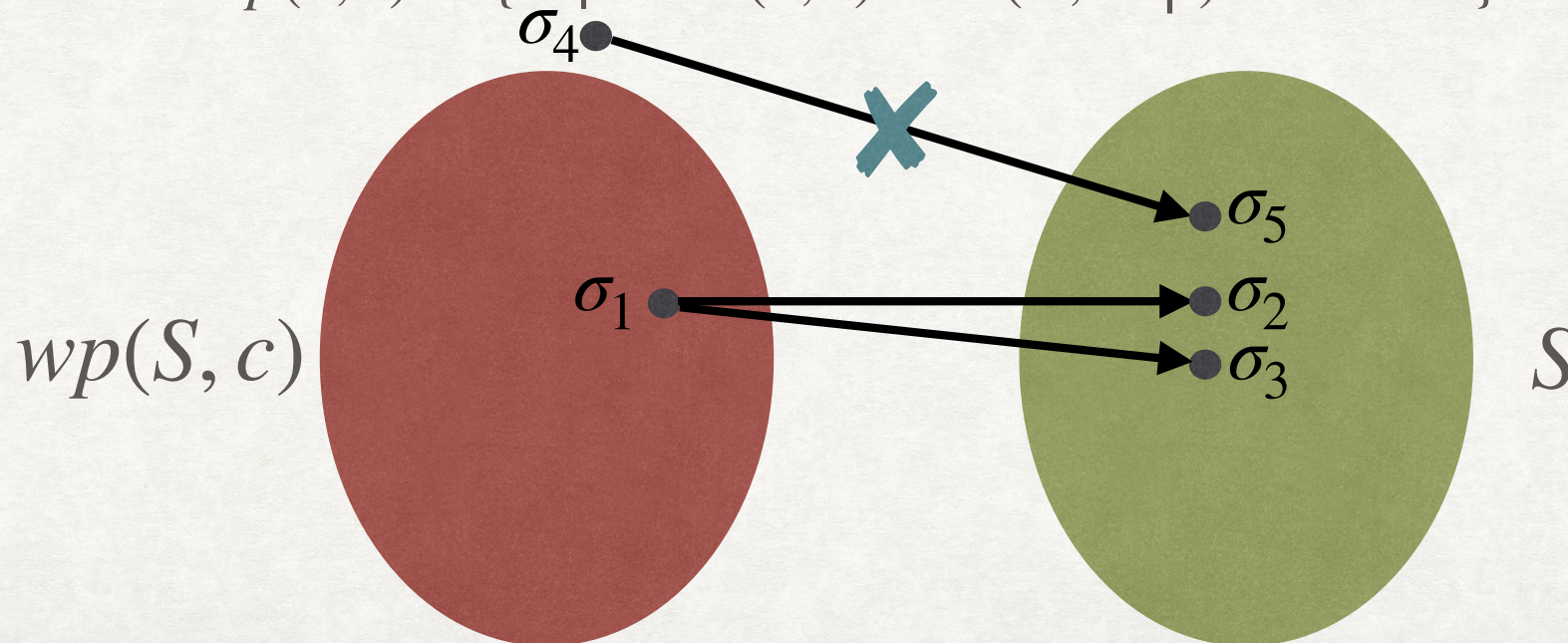


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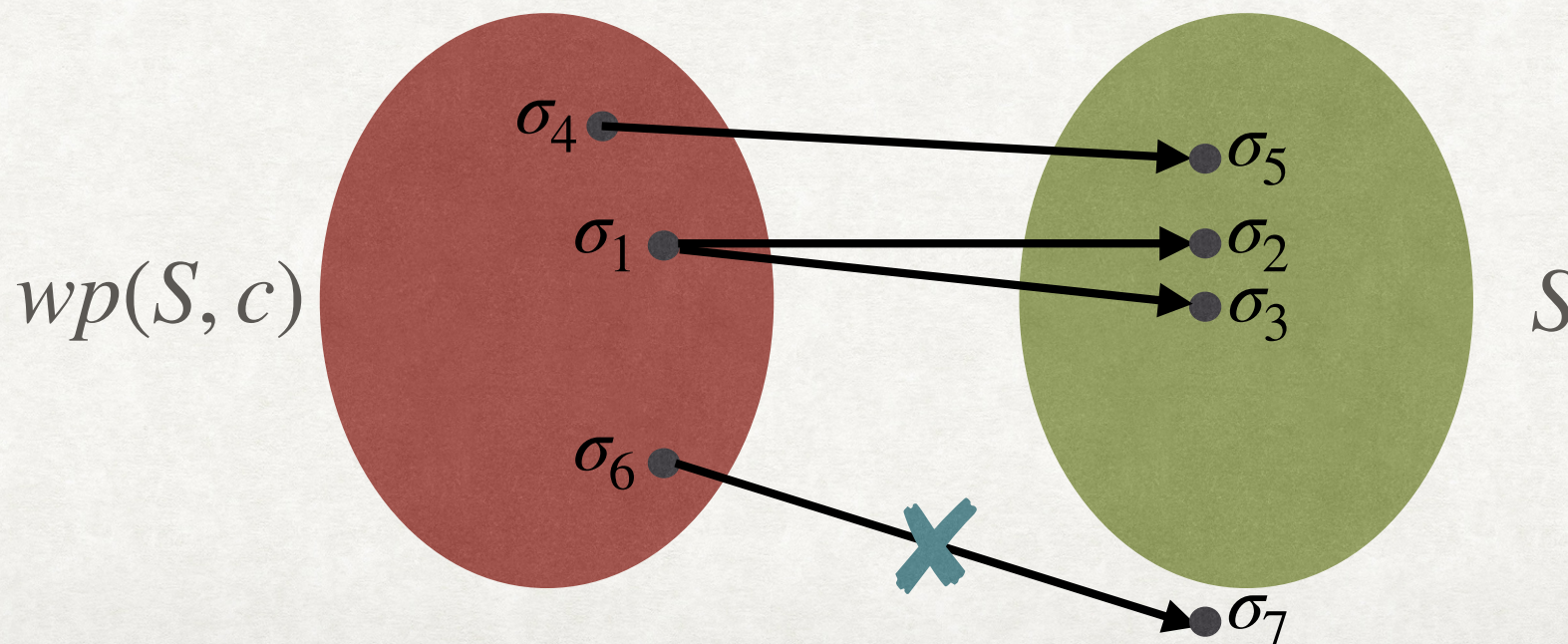


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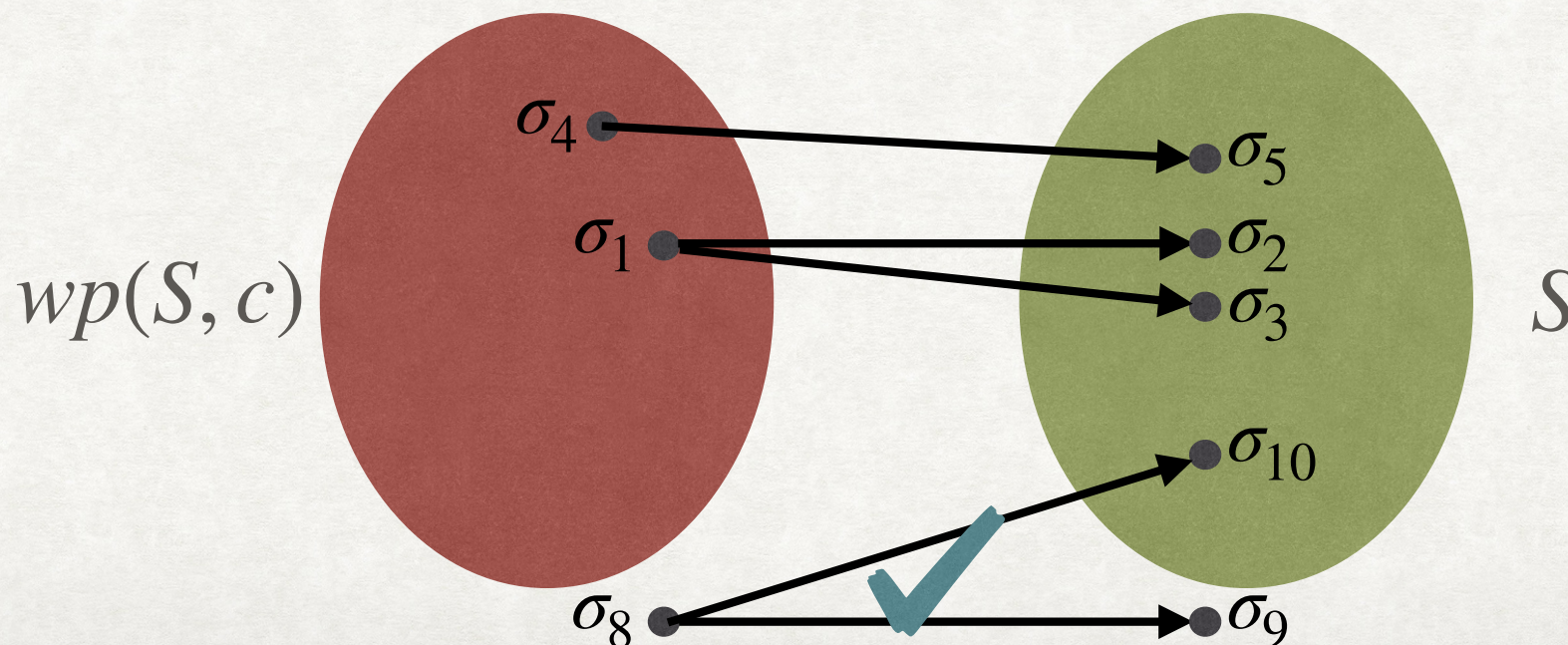


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- We can use a FOL formula  $F$  to represent a set of states.
- The symbolic weakest precondition operator can be defined as:

$$\sigma \models wp(F, c) \Leftrightarrow \forall \sigma'. (\sigma, c) \hookrightarrow^* (\sigma', \text{skip}) \rightarrow \sigma' \models F$$

- We now use the symbolic FOL semantics ( $\rho$ ) for individual commands:

$$wp(F, c) \triangleq \forall V'. \rho(c) \rightarrow F[V'/V]$$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## EXAMPLES

$$\begin{aligned} wp(x > 10, x := x + 1) &\triangleq \forall x'. x' = x + 1 \rightarrow x' > 10 \\ &\equiv x + 1 > 10 \equiv x > 9 \end{aligned}$$



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## EXAMPLES

$$\begin{aligned} wp(x > 10, x := x + 1) &\triangleq \forall x'. x' = x + 1 \rightarrow x' > 10 \\ &\equiv x + 1 > 10 \equiv x > 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$wp(true, c) \equiv ???$$



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## EXAMPLES

$$\begin{aligned} wp(x > 10, x := x + 1) &\triangleq \forall x'. x' = x + 1 \rightarrow x' > 10 \\ &\equiv x + 1 > 10 \equiv x > 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$wp(\text{true}, c) \equiv \text{true}$$



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$$wp(\text{true}, c) \equiv \text{true}$$

$$wp(\text{false}, c) \equiv ???$$



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$$wp(\text{true}, c) \equiv \text{true}$$

$$wp(\text{false}, c) \equiv \text{All states for which } c \text{ does not terminate}$$



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$$wp(\text{true}, c) \equiv \text{true}$$

$$wp(\text{false}, c) \equiv \text{All states for which } c \text{ does not terminate}$$

$$wp(\text{false}, \text{assume}(x > 0)) \equiv ???$$



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$$wp(\text{false}, c) \equiv \text{All states for which } c \text{ does not terminate}$$

$$\begin{aligned}wp(\text{false}, \text{assume}(x > 0)) &\equiv \forall x'. x > 0 \wedge x' = x \rightarrow \text{false} \\ &\equiv x \leq 0\end{aligned}$$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## ASSIGNMENT STATEMENT

- $wp(F, x:=e) \triangleq F[e/x]$



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$$wp(F, x:=e) \triangleq \forall V'. \rho(x:=e) \rightarrow F[V'/V]$$

$$\equiv \forall V'. x' = e \wedge \text{frame}(x') \rightarrow F[V'/V]$$

$$\equiv F[e/x]$$



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$$\equiv F[e/x]$$

### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv ???$



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### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv false$



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### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv false$
- $wp(x = 5, x:=5) \equiv ???$



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### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv false$
- $wp(x = 5, x:=5) \equiv true$



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### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv false$
- $wp(x = 5, x:=5) \equiv true$
- $wp(x > 5, x:=y+1) \equiv ???$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## ASSIGNMENT STATEMENT

- $wp(F, x:=e) \triangleq F[e/x]$

$$\begin{aligned} wp(F, x:=e) &\triangleq \forall V'. \rho(x:=e) \rightarrow F[V'/V] \\ &\equiv \forall V'. x' = e \wedge frame(x') \rightarrow F[V'/V] \\ &\equiv F[e/x] \end{aligned}$$

### EXAMPLES:

- $wp(x = 5, x:=6) \equiv false$
- $wp(x = 5, x:=5) \equiv true$
- $wp(x > 5, x:=y+1) \equiv x > 5[(y+1)/x] \equiv y > 4$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME

- $wp(F, x:=havoc) \equiv \forall x. F$

$$\begin{aligned} wp(F, x:=havoc) &\triangleq \forall V'. frame(x) \rightarrow F[V'/V] \\ &\equiv \forall x'. F[x'/x] \equiv \forall x. F \end{aligned}$$

- $wp(F, assume(G)) \equiv ???$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME

- $wp(F, x:=havoc) \equiv \forall x. F$

$$\begin{aligned} wp(F, x:=havoc) &\triangleq \forall V'. frame(x) \rightarrow F[V'/V] \\ &\equiv \forall x'. F[x'/x] \equiv \forall x. F \end{aligned}$$

- $wp(F, assume(G)) \equiv G \rightarrow F$

$$\begin{aligned} wp(F, assume(G)) &\triangleq \forall V'. G \wedge frame(\emptyset) \rightarrow F[V'/V] \\ &\equiv \forall V'. G \rightarrow F \equiv G \rightarrow F \end{aligned}$$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv ???$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x > 0 \equiv \text{false}$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x > 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x + i \leq 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv ???$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x > 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x + i \leq 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x + i \leq 0 \equiv \text{false}$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x > 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x + i \leq 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x + i \leq 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x \geq 0, \text{assume}(x=1)) \equiv ???$



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- $wp(x \geq 0, \text{assume}(x=1)) \equiv x=1 \rightarrow x \geq 0 \equiv \text{true}$



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- $wp(x \geq 0, \text{assume}(x=1)) \equiv x=1 \rightarrow x \geq 0 \equiv \text{true}$
- $wp(x > 0, \text{assume}(x < 0)) \equiv ???$



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- $wp(x \geq 0, \text{assume}(x=1)) \equiv x=1 \rightarrow x \geq 0 \equiv \text{true}$
- $wp(x > 0, \text{assume}(x < 0)) \equiv x < 0 \rightarrow x > 0 \equiv x \geq 0$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## HAVOC, ASSUME - EXAMPLES

- $wp(x > 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x > 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x + i \leq 0, x := \text{havoc}) \equiv \forall x. x + i \leq 0 \equiv \text{false}$
- $wp(x \geq 0, \text{assume}(x=1)) \equiv x=1 \rightarrow x \geq 0 \equiv \text{true}$
- $wp(x > 0, \text{assume}(x < 0)) \equiv x < 0 \rightarrow x > 0 \equiv x \geq 0$
- Does there exist F and G such that  $wp(F, \text{assume}(G)) \equiv \text{false}$ ?



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION ASSERT

- $wp(F, \text{assert}(G)) \equiv ???$



# WEAKEST PRE-CONDITION

## ASSERT

- $wp(F, \text{assert}(G)) \equiv F \wedge G$ 
  - Assume that  $F \neq \text{true}$ .
  - Assumption makes sense because we do not want error = 1 after assert.