

HOARE LOGIC

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INTRODUCTION

- Since finding the exact wp or sp for while-loops is difficult, we will use an over-approximation in the form of an **inductive invariant** which preserves soundness.
- Much of the rest of the course (and majority of research in verification) deals with how to handle the verification problem for loops/loop-like constructs.
- Hoare Logic is a program logic/verification strategy which can be directly used to prove the validity of Hoare Triples.
- Also provides a framework for specifying and verifying Inductive Loop Invariants.

DEFINITION

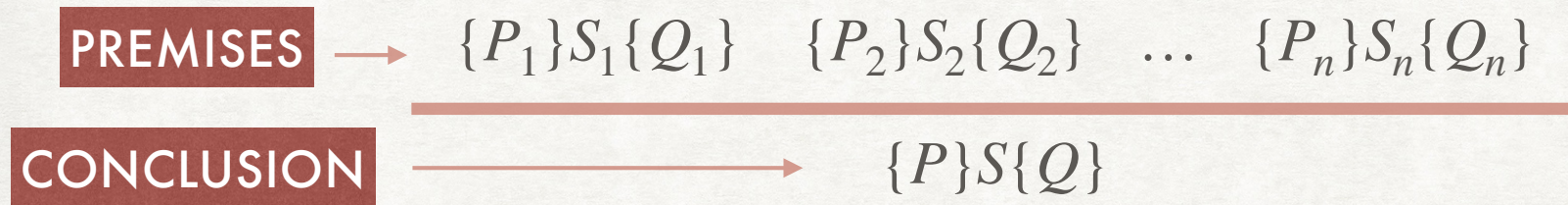
- Given sets of states P and Q , a program c satisfies the specification $\{P\}c\{Q\}$ if:
 - $\forall \sigma, \sigma'. \sigma \in P \wedge (\sigma, c) \hookrightarrow^* (\sigma', \text{skip}) \Rightarrow \sigma' \in Q$
- Using FOL formulae P and Q to express sets of states, we can now use the symbolic semantics $\rho(c)$:
 - $\forall V, V'. P \wedge \rho(c) \rightarrow Q[V'/V]$
- Hoare Logic is a program logic/proof system to directly prove the validity of Hoare Triples.
- We will study it in two forms:
 - A set of inference rules
 - A procedure to generate verification conditions (VCs) in FOL

RELATION WITH WP AND SP

- How are Hoare Triples, Weakest Pre-condition and Strongest Post-condition related with each other?
 - $\{wp(P, c)\} \subseteq \{P\}$
 - $\{P\} \subseteq \{sp(P, c)\}$
- **Homework:** Prove this formally using the definitions!

INFERENCE RULES

FORMAT



Key Idea: Use the validity of Hoare triples for smaller statements to establish validity for compound statements

INFERENCE RULES

PRIMITIVE STATEMENTS

$$\{P[e/x]\} x := e \{P\}$$

[R-ASSIGN]

$$\{\forall x. P\} x := \text{havoc} \{P\}$$

[R-HAVOC]

$$\{Q \rightarrow P\} \text{assume}(Q) \{P\}$$

[R-ASSUME]

$$\{Q \wedge P\} \text{assert}(Q) \{P\}$$

[R-ASSERT]

EXAMPLES

- Which of the following are true?
 - $\{y = 10\} \ x := 10 \ \{y = x\}$
 - $\{x = n - 1\} \ x := x + 1 \ \{x = n\}$
 - $\{y = x\} \ y := 2 \ \{y = x\}$
 - $\{z = 10\} \ y := 2 \ \{z = 10\}$
 - $\{y = 10\} \ y := x \ \{y = x\}$
- The last Hoare triple is valid, but we cannot prove it using [R-ASSIGN].
 - According to [R-ASSIGN], we have $\{y = x[x/y]\} \ y := x \ \{y = x\}$. Hence, $\{x = x\} \ y := x \ \{y = x\}$, which simplifies to $\{ \top \} \ y := x \ \{y = x\}$.
 - Notice that $y = 10 \Rightarrow \top$.

PRE-CONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\{P'\} \text{ c } \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'$$

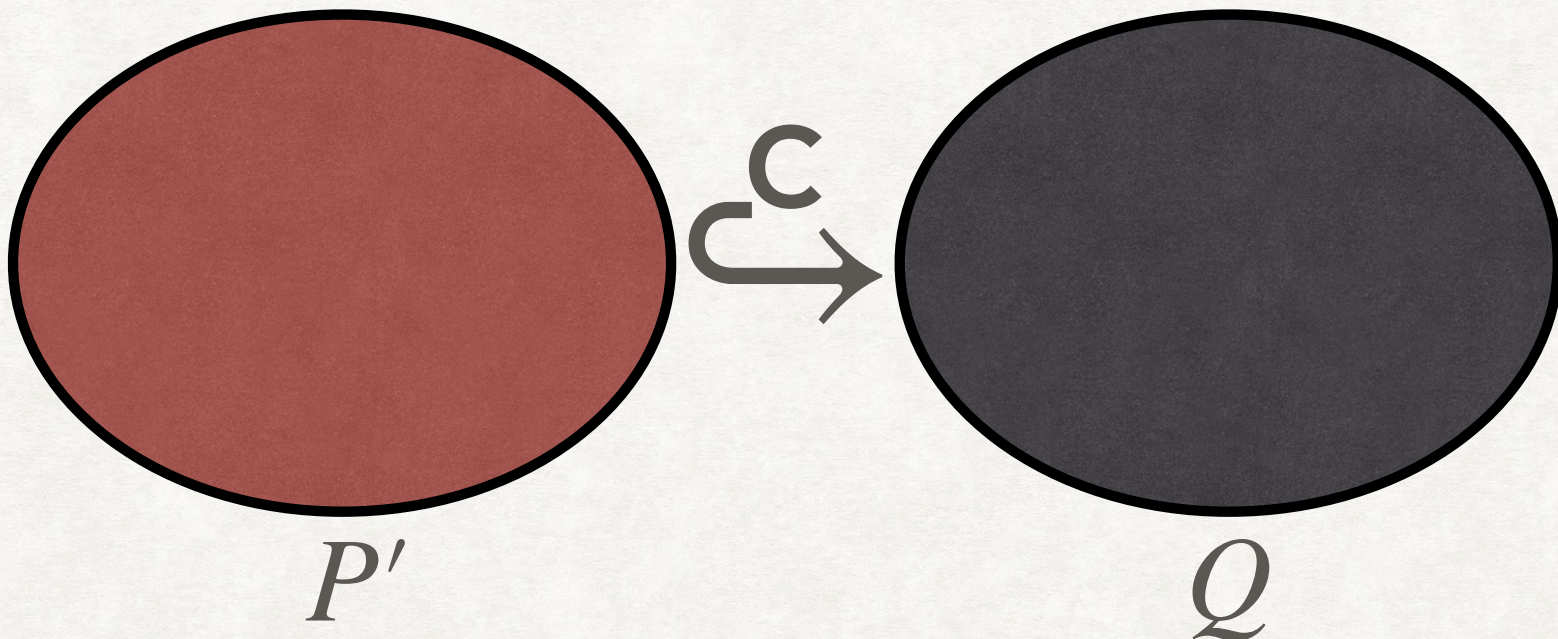
$$\{P\} \text{ c } \{Q\}$$

[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]

PRE-CONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\frac{\{P'\} \subset \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'}{\{P\} \subset \{Q\}}$$

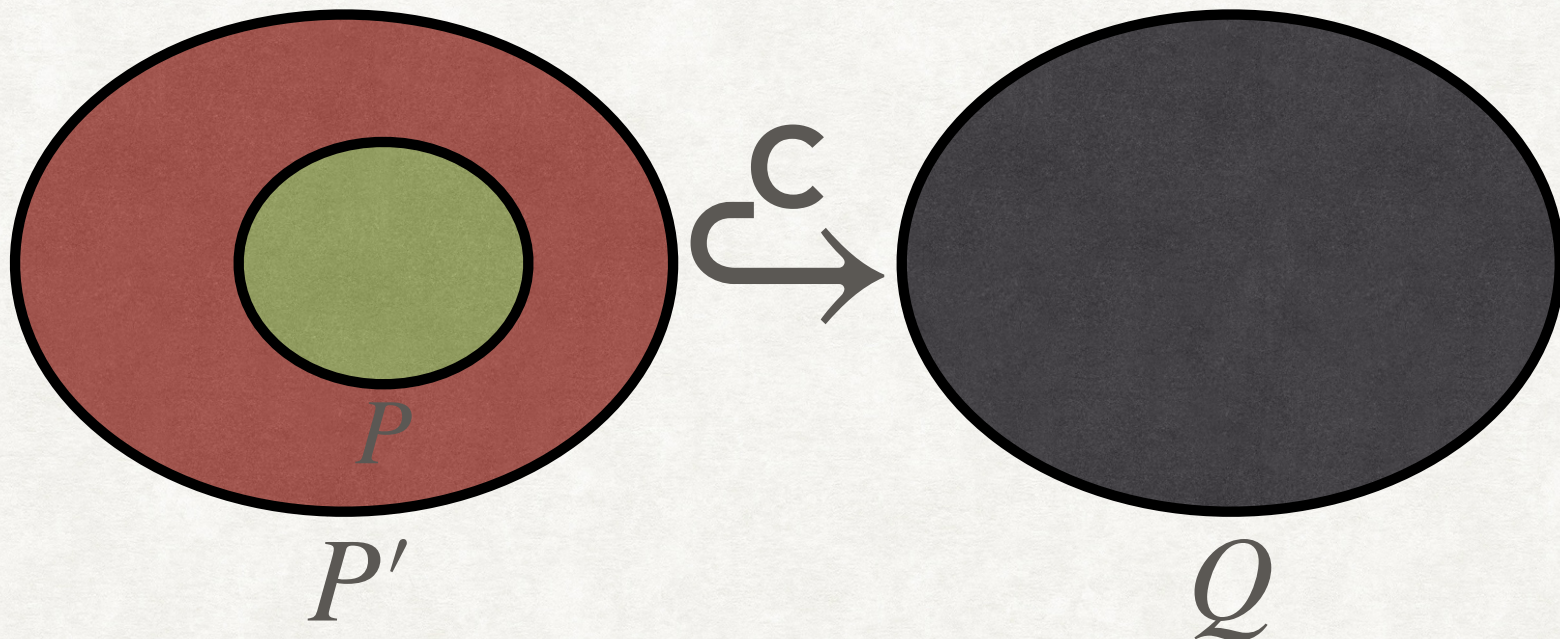
[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]



PRE-CONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\frac{\{P'\} \subset \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'}{\{P\} \subset \{Q\}}$$

[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]

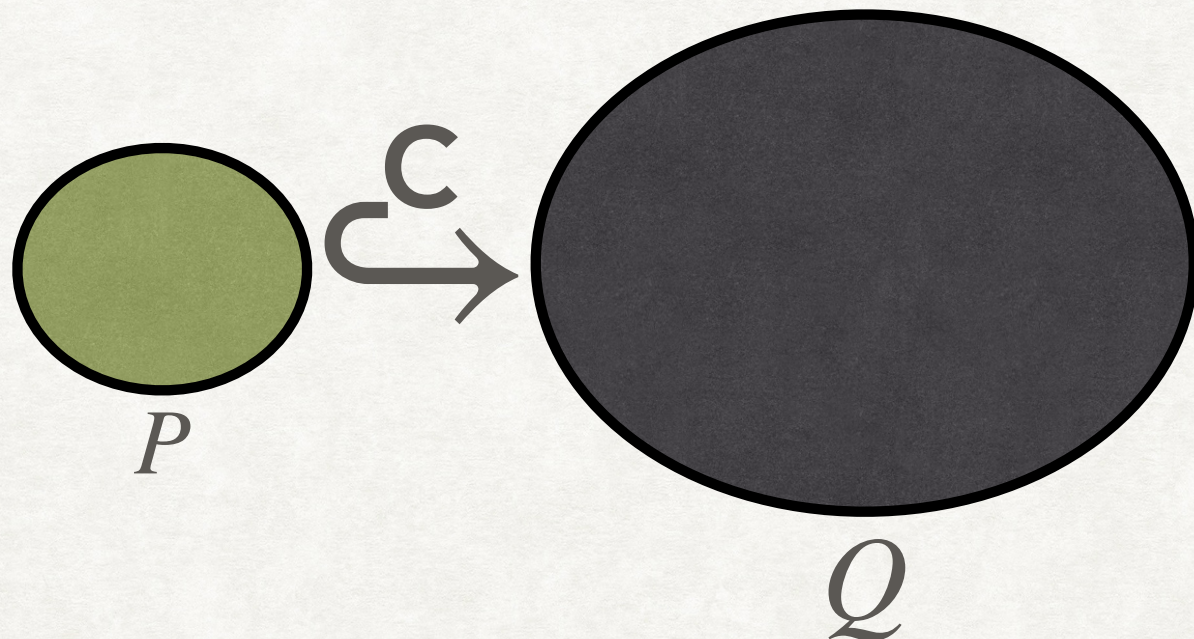


PRE-CONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\{P'\} \subset \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'$$

[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]

$$\{P\} \subset \{Q\}$$



PRE-CONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\{P'\} \text{ c } \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'$$

[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]

$$\{P\} \text{ c } \{Q\}$$

$$\{true\} \ y := x \ \{y = x\} \quad y = 10 \Rightarrow true$$

$$\{y = 10\} \ y := x \ \{y = x\}$$

POST-CONDITION WEAKENING

$$\{P\} \text{ c } \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q$$

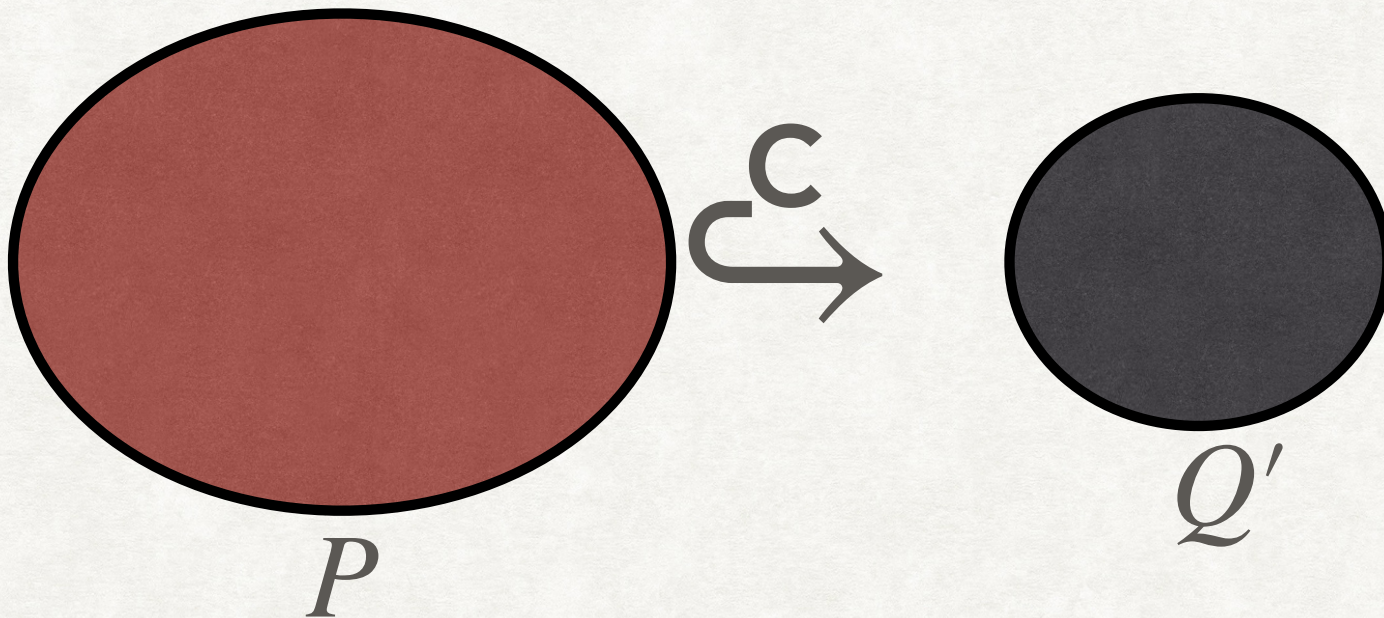
$$\{P\} \text{ c } \{Q\}$$

[R-WEAKEN-POST]

POST-CONDITION WEAKENING

$$\frac{\{P\} \subset \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \subset \{Q\}}$$

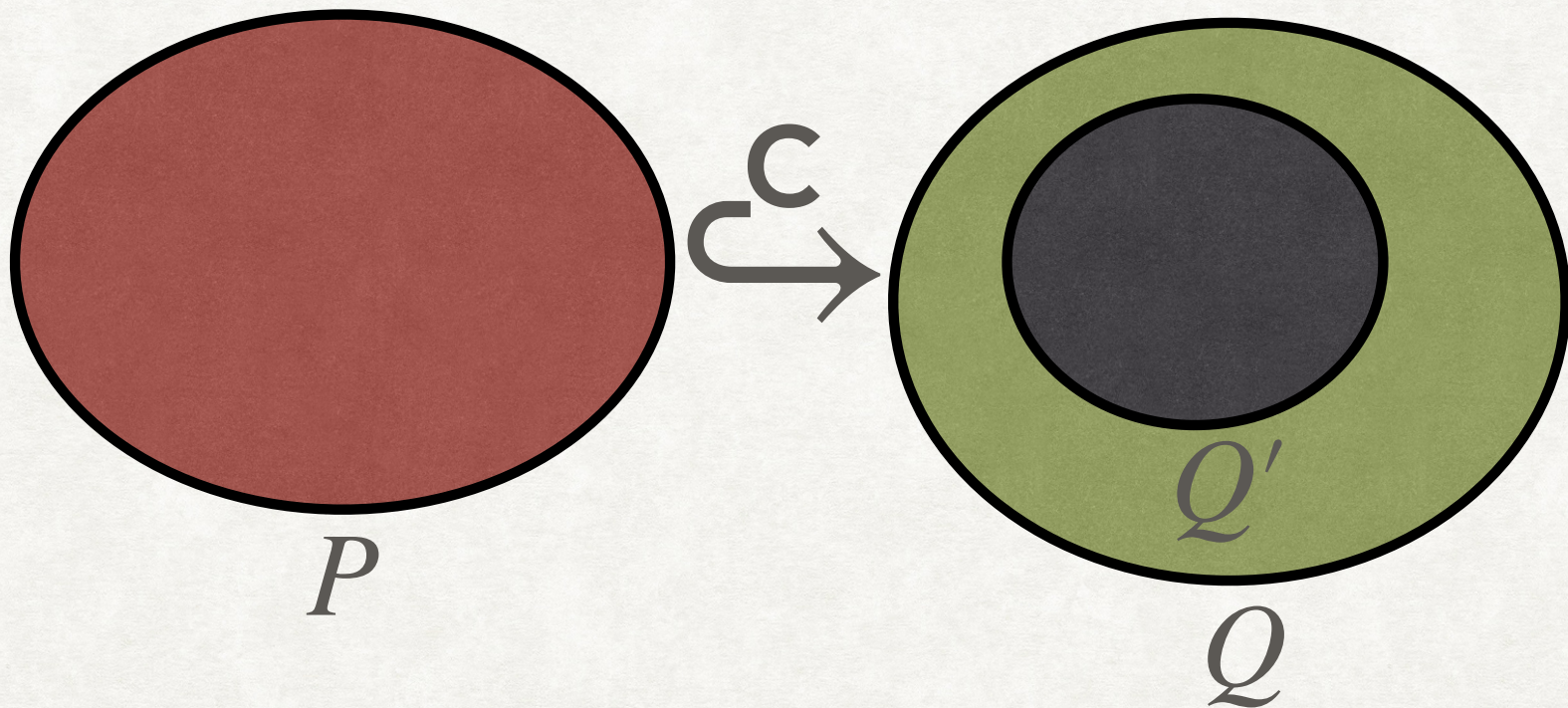
[R-WEAKEN-POST]



POST-CONDITION WEAKENING

$$\frac{\{P\} \subset \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \subset \{Q\}}$$

[R-WEAKEN-POST]



INFERENCE RULES

COMPOUND STATEMENTS

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1 \{R\} \quad \{R\} \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1; \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-SEQ]

INFERENCE RULES

COMPOUND STATEMENTS

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1 \{R\} \quad \{R\} \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1; \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-SEQ]

$$\{P \wedge F\} \text{ c}_1 \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg F\} \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{P\} \text{ if } (F) \text{ then c}_1 \text{ else c}_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-IF-THEN-ELSE]

INFERENCE RULES

COMPOUND STATEMENTS

$$\{P\} c_1 \{R\} \quad \{R\} c_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-SEQ]

$$\{P\} c_1; c_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{P \wedge F\} c_1 \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg F\} c_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-IF-THEN-ELSE]

$$\{P\} \text{ if } (F) \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \{Q\}$$

Prove This!

SEQUENCING

EXAMPLE

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1 \{R\} \quad \{R\} \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-SEQ]

$$\{P\} \text{ c}_1; \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{true\} \text{ x} := 2; \text{ y} := \text{x} \{ \text{y} = 2 \wedge \text{x} = 2 \}$$

SEQUENCING

EXAMPLE

$$\{P\} c_1 \{R\} \quad \{R\} c_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-SEQ]

$$\{P\} c_1; c_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{true\} x := 2 \{x = 2\}$$

$$\{x = 2\} y := x \{y = 2 \wedge x = 2\}$$

$$\{true\} x := 2; y := x \{y = 2 \wedge x = 2\}$$

IF-THEN-ELSE

EXAMPLE

$$\{P \wedge F\} \text{ c}_1 \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg F\} \text{ c}_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-IF-THEN-ELSE]

$$\{P\} \text{ if } (F) \text{ then c}_1 \text{ else c}_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{true\} \text{ if } (x > 0) \text{ then } y := x \text{ else } y := -x \{y \geq 0\}$$

IF-THEN-ELSE

EXAMPLE

$$\{P \wedge F\} c_1 \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg F\} c_2 \{Q\}$$

[R-IF-THEN-ELSE]

$$\{P\} \text{ if } (F) \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \{Q\}$$

$$\{x \geq 0\} y := x \{y \geq 0\} \quad x > 0 \Rightarrow x \geq 0$$

$$\{x > 0\} y := x \{y \geq 0\}$$

$$\{x \leq 0\} y := -x \{y \geq 0\}$$

$$\{true\} \text{ if } (x > 0) \text{ then } y := x \text{ else } y := -x \{y \geq 0\}$$

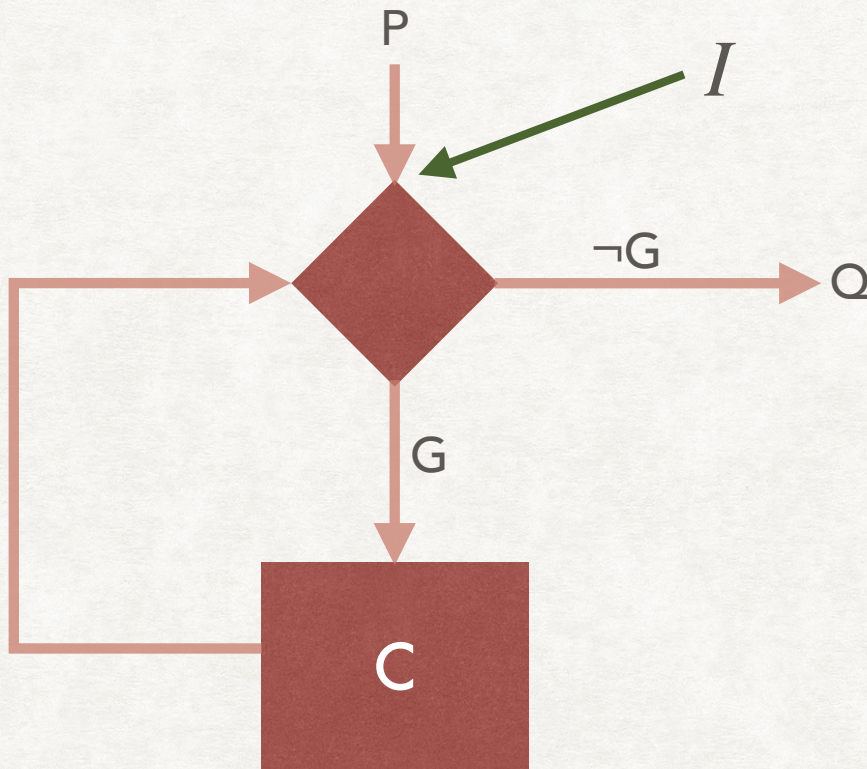
WHILE LOOPS

LOOP INVARIANTS

- Our goal is to prove the validity of $\{P\} \text{ while}(G) \text{ do } c \{Q\}$
 - Both sp and wp lead to non-terminating procedures.
- We will instead assume a loop invariant I which is an over-approximation of the states possible during execution of the loop, but is sufficient enough to prove the Hoare Triple.
 - I is assumed to be provided by the programmer.
- Hoare Logic provides inference rules to prove that I is indeed a loop invariant.

WHILE LOOPS

LOOP INVARIANTS



- I needs to satisfy three properties:
- I must hold initially at the start of the loop.
- I must hold at the end of every iteration of the loop.
- After exiting from the loop, I must imply the post-condition.

WHILE LOOPS

LOOP INVARIANTS

- Consider the code
 - `i:=0; j:=0; while(i<n) do i:=i+1; j:=i+j;`
- Which of the following are loop invariants?
 - $i \leq n$
 - $i < n$
 - $i \geq 0$

WHILE LOOP INFERENCE RULE

$$\{I \wedge F\} \text{ c } \{I\}$$

$$\{I\} \text{ while}(F) \text{ do c; } \{I \wedge \neg F\}$$

[R-WHILE-1]

WHILE LOOP INFERENCE RULE

$$\{I \wedge F\} \text{ c } \{I\}$$

[R-WHILE-1]

$$\{I\} \text{ while}(F) \text{ do c; } \{I \wedge \neg F\}$$

$$P \Rightarrow I \quad \{I \wedge F\} \text{ c } \{I\} \quad I \wedge \neg F \Rightarrow Q$$

[R-WHILE-2]

$$\{P\} \text{ while}(F) \text{ do c; } \{Q\}$$

WHILE LOOP

INFERENCE RULE - EXAMPLE

Prove $\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\}$ while($i < n$) do $i := i+1$; $\{i = n\}$

Loop Invariants: $i \geq 0$, $i \leq n$, $n > 0$...

Which loop invariant is useful for proving the Hoare Triple?

$$I \triangleq i \leq n$$

WHILE LOOP

INFERENCE RULE - EXAMPLE

Prove $\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\}$ while($i < n$) do $i := i+1$; $\{i = n\}$

Loop Invariants: $i \geq 0$, $i \leq n$, $n > 0 \dots$

Which loop invariant is useful for proving the Hoare Triple?

$$I \triangleq i \leq n$$

$\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\}$ while($i < n$) do $i := i+1$; $\{i = n\}$

WHILE LOOP

INFERENCE RULE - EXAMPLE

Prove $\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\} \text{ while}(i < n) \text{ do } i := i+1; \{i = n\}$

Loop Invariants: $i \geq 0, i \leq n, n > 0 \dots$

Which loop invariant is useful for proving the Hoare Triple?

$$I \triangleq i \leq n$$

$$\{i \leq n \wedge i < n\} i := i+1; \{i \leq n\}$$

$$\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\} \Rightarrow i \leq n \quad \{i \leq n \wedge i < n\} i := i+1; \{i \leq n\} \quad i \leq n \wedge i \geq n \Rightarrow i = n$$

$$\{i = 0 \wedge n > 0\} \text{ while}(i < n) \text{ do } i := i+1; \{i = n\}$$

LOOP INVARIANT VS INDUCTIVE LOOP INVARIANT

- Consider again the code
 - $i := 0; j := 0; \text{ while}(i < n) \text{ do } i := i + 1; j := i + j;$
- Is $j \geq 0$ a loop invariant?
 - Yes, it does hold at the beginning and at the end of every iteration.
- Does $\{j \geq 0 \wedge i < n\} i := i + 1; j := i + j; \{j \geq 0\}$ hold?
 - NO! $j \geq 0$ is not an inductive loop invariant.
 - The inference rule admits only inductive loop invariants.
- How to strengthen the invariant to make it inductive?
 - $j \geq 0 \wedge i \geq 0$ is an inductive loop invariant.

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

```
{n > 0}  
i := 0;  
j := 0;  
while(i < n) do  
    i := i + 1;  
    j := i + j;  
{2j = n(n+1)}
```


COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{P_3\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{P_4\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{P_5\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{P_6\}$

$\{P_7\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

Loop Invariant:
???

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{P_3\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{P_4\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{P_5\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{P_6\}$

$\{P_7\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

Loop Invariant:

$$2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n$$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{P_5\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge \neg(i < n)\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$\{I \wedge F\} \mathbf{c} \{I\}$

$\{I\}$ while(F) do c ; $\{I \wedge \neg F\}$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{P_5\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge \neg(i < n)\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$\{P\} \subset \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q$

$\{P\} \subset \{Q\}$

[R-WEAKEN-POST]

$2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge \neg(i < n)$
 $\Rightarrow 2j = n(n+1)$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{P_5\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$\{P\} \subset \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q$

$\{P\} \subset \{Q\}$

[R-WEAKEN-POST]

$2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge \neg(i < n)$
 $\Rightarrow 2j = n(n+1)$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$$\{P[e/x]\} \ x := e \ \{P\}$$

[R-ASSIGN]

$$\begin{aligned} & (2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n)[i + j/j] \\ & \equiv 2(i + j) = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \\ & \equiv 2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \end{aligned}$$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i + 1 \leq n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$$\{P[e/x]\} \ x := e \ \{P\}$$

[R-ASSIGN]

$$\begin{aligned} & (2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n)[(i+1)/i] \\ & \equiv 2(i+1) + 2j = (i+1)(i+2) \wedge i+1 \leq n \\ & \equiv 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i+1 \leq n \end{aligned}$$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i + 1 \leq n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n$

$\Rightarrow 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i + 1 \leq n$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{P_2\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n$

$\Rightarrow 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i+1 \leq n$

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{P_1\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{i(i+1) = 0 \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$\{P[e/x]\} \ x := e \ \{P\}$

[R-ASSIGN]

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

$\{n > 0\}$

$\{n \geq 0\}$

$i := 0;$

$\{i(i+1) = 0 \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := 0;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

while($i < n$) do

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n \wedge i < n\}$

$i := i + 1;$

$\{2i + 2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$j := i + j;$

$\{2j = i(i+1) \wedge i \leq n\}$

$\{2j = n(n+1)\}$

$\{P[e/x]\} x := e \{P\}$

[R-ASSIGN]

COMPLETE EXAMPLE

```
{n > 0}
i := 0;
{i(i+1) = 0 ∧ i ≤ n}
j := 0;
{2j = i(i+1) ∧ i ≤ n}
while(i < n) do
    {2j = i(i+1) ∧ i ≤ n ∧ i < n}
    i := i + 1;
    {2i + 2j = i(i+1) ∧ i ≤ n}
    j := i + j;
    {2j = i(i+1) ∧ i ≤ n}
{2j = n(n+1)}
```

$$\frac{\{P'\} \subset \{Q\} \quad P \Rightarrow P'}{\{P\} \subset \{Q\}}$$

[R-STRENGTHEN-PRE]

SOUNDNESS AND COMPLETENESS

- All the inference rules together provide a procedure for establishing a Hoare triple $\{P\}c\{Q\}$.
- **Soundness:** If we can establish $\{P\}c\{Q\}$ using the inference rules, then is $\{P\}c\{Q\}$ a valid Hoare Triple?
 - **Yes.**
- **Completeness:** If $\{P\}c\{Q\}$ is a valid Hoare Triple, then can we always use the inference rules to establish it?
 - **Relatively Complete.**
 - If the underlying FOL theory is complete, then Hoare Logic is complete.

HOARE LOGIC

VERIFICATION CONDITION GENERATION

- We have already seen that the weakest pre-condition operator can be used to prove Hoare Triples:
 - $\{P\}c\{Q\}$ iff $P \Rightarrow wp(Q, c)$
- Finding exact wp for loops is hard. We will instead use the loop invariant as an approximate wp .
 - $awp(Q, \text{while}(F)@I \text{ do } c) = I$
 - Does this always hold?
- Also need to show that following side-conditions hold:
 - $\{I \wedge F\}c\{I\}$
 - $I \wedge \neg F \Rightarrow Q$

RELATION BETWEEN AWP AND WP

- Let us formally define *awp*:
 - $\forall \sigma \in \text{awp}(Q, c). \forall \sigma'. (\sigma, c) \hookrightarrow^* (\sigma', \text{skip}) \rightarrow \sigma' \in Q$
 - Homework: Prove that this holds for $\text{awp}(Q, \text{while}(F)@I \text{ do } c) = I$, when the side-conditions hold.
- We defined $\text{wp}(Q, c) \triangleq \{\sigma \mid \forall \sigma'. (\sigma, c) \hookrightarrow^* (\sigma', \text{skip}) \rightarrow \sigma' \in Q\}$
 - $\text{awp}(Q, c) \subseteq \text{wp}(Q, c)$
- We can then use *awp* for verifying the validity of Hoare Triples:
 - If $P \Rightarrow \text{awp}(Q, c)$ then $\{P\}c\{Q\}$.

RELATION BETWEEN AWP AND WP

EXAMPLES

- $awp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = ???$

RELATION BETWEEN AWP AND WP

EXAMPLES

- $awp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = i \geq 0$

RELATION BETWEEN AWP AND WP

EXAMPLES

- $awp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = i \geq 0$
- $wp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = ???$

RELATION BETWEEN AWP AND WP

EXAMPLES

- $awp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = i \geq 0$
- $wp(i \geq 0, \text{while}(i < n)@(i \geq 0) \text{ do } i := i+1;)) = n \geq 0 \vee i \geq 0$