# Weakest Preconditions pt. 1

CS 536: Science of Programming, Fall 2019

#### 9/20

#### A. Why

Weakest liberal preconditions (wlp) and weakest preconditions (wp) are the most general requirements that a
program must meet to be correct

# B. Objectives

At the end of today you should understand

• What wlp and wp are and how they are related to preconditions in general.

#### C. Weaker and Weaker Preconditions?

- Say we have a triple ⊨ {p<sub>0</sub>} S {q}. There may or may not be a strictly weaker precondition we can use instead of p<sub>0</sub>. I.e., some p<sub>1</sub> where ⊨ {p<sub>1</sub>} S {q} with p<sub>1</sub> strictly weaker than p<sub>0</sub>? (I.e, p<sub>1</sub> → p<sub>0</sub>, but not vice versa). Similarly, there might be an even strictly weaker p<sub>2</sub> that's valid as a precondition and so on.
  - (Note there's always a not-strictly weaker precondition: For an easy example, take  $p_1 \equiv p_0 \wedge T$ ,  $p_2 \equiv p_1 \wedge T$ , etc.)
- So does the sequence ...,  $p_2$ ,  $p_1$ ,  $p_0$  have to have a beginning? (Or reading the sequence backwards, is there a limit?) If if  $\models \{T\}$   $S\{q\}$ , then the sequence stops, since there's no predicate strictly weaker than true.
- In general, it turns out that there's always a limit to the sequence ...,  $p_2$ ,  $p_1$ ,  $p_0$ . We call this limit the **weakest liberal precondition** (wlp) of S and q, written wlp(S, q). This limit is useful because it describes the largest set of states that gives us partial correctness.
- The key here is "largest set". If w is the weakest liberal precondition for S and q, then no p' strictly weaker than w is a valid precondition for S and q.
- wlp is for partial correctness; for  $\vDash_{tot}$  the notion is wp(S, q), the weakest precondition of S and q.
- Example: If  $x \in \{y \in \mathbb{Z} \mid y \ge 0\}$  then  $\{2 \le x \le 6\}$   $x := x * x \{x \ge 4\}$  is valid, and we can form the sequence  $2 \le x, ..., 2 \le x \le 8, 2 \le x \le 7, 2 \le x \le 6$ . Nothing weaker than  $2 \le x$  is a precondition, so it's the  $wp(x := x * x, x \ge 4)$ .

#### D. Notation

- **Notation**: Sat(p) is the set of states that satisfy p:  $Sat(p) = {\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma \models p}$ .
  - (Note some people write [p] for Sat(p).)
- Using this notation, we can say
  - $\sigma \vDash_{tot} \{p\} \ S \{q\} \ \text{iff} \ M(S, \sigma) \subseteq Sat(q).$ 
    - Since  $\bot \nvDash q$ , we can't have  $M(S, \sigma) \subseteq Sat(q)$  if  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$ , so this guarantees termination of S.
  - $\sigma \vDash \{p\} S \{q\} \text{ iff } M(S, \sigma) \{\bot\} \subseteq Sat(q).$ 
    - The original phrasing was  $\sigma \vDash \{p\}$   $S\{q\}$  iff  $\sigma \vDash p$  implies  $M(S, \sigma) \{\bot\}$  is  $\emptyset$  or  $\vDash q$ .

• Using  $\subseteq$  covers the case where  $M(S, \sigma) = \{\bot\}$  without having to name it explicitly

#### E. The Weakest Liberal Precondition (wlp) and Weakest Precondition (wp)

- Formally, we can define wlp and wp using states:
- **Definition**: wlp(S, q), the **weakest liberal precondition** of statement S with respect to a postcondition q, is the set of all states that satisfy  $\{p\}$  S  $\{q\}$  for partial correctness. wlp(S, q) =  $\{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma \models \{p\} \mid S \mid \{q\}\}\}$
- **Definition**: wp(S, q), the **weakest precondition** of statement *S* with respect to a postcondition *q*, is the set of all states that satisfy  $\{p\}$  S  $\{q\}$  for total correctness:  $wp(S, q) = \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma \models_{tot} \{p\} \ S \{q\}\}$ 
  - Note  $wp(S, q) \to wlp(S, q)$ . If  $wlp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, q)$  is satisfiable iff running S under  $\sigma$  might not terminate.
- The important property of wlp and wp is that any start state outside of them does not satisfy  $\{p\}$  S  $\{q\}$  (under partial correctness for wlp and total correctness for wp).
- We can treat wlp and wp as yielding a predicate
  - w is a wlp(S, q) iff Sat(w) = wlp(S, q)
  - w is a wp(S, q) iff Sat(w) = wp(S, q)
- Note: w is "a" wlp/wp because as any predicate  $\Leftrightarrow w$  is also a wlp/wp. (Trivial examples are  $w \land T$ ,  $w \land T \land T$ , etc.) We say that w is determined "up to" logical equivalence, so "Let w be the wlp/wp of S and q" really means "Let w be any predicate  $\Leftrightarrow wlp/wp$  of S and q."
- Now we can rephrase the definitions of wlp/wp using predicates:
  - $\models \{p\} S \{q\} \text{ iff } \models p \rightarrow wlp(S, q))$
  - $\vDash_{tot} \{p\} \ S \{q\} \ \text{iff} \vDash p \rightarrow wp(S, q)).$
- Equivalent phrasings
  - $\models \{wlp(S, q)\} S \{q\} \text{ and } \models \{p\} S \{q\} \text{ iff } \models p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)).$
  - If  $\vDash p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)$ ) then  $\vDash \{p\} S \{q\}$ , but if  $\nvDash p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)$ ) then  $\nvDash \{p\} S \{q\}$ .
- For total correctness,
  - If  $\vDash p \rightarrow wp(S, q)$ ) then  $\vDash_{tot} \{p\} S \{q\}$ , but if  $\nvDash p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)$ ) then  $\nvDash \{p\} S \{q\}$ .
  - $\models_{tot} \{ wp(S, q) \} S \{ q \}$  and  $\models \{ p \} S \{ q \} \models_{tot} p \rightarrow wp(S, q) )$ .

### F. wp and wlp for Deterministic Programs

- If S is deterministic, then S leads to a unique result:  $M(S, \sigma) = {\tau}$  for some  $\tau \in \Sigma_{\perp}$ .
- If S terminates normally  $(\tau \in \Sigma)$ , then the start state  $\sigma$  is part of either wlp/wp(S, q) or  $wlp/wp(S, \neg q)$ , depending on whether  $\tau$  satisfies q or  $\neg q$ .
- Since wp(S, q) is the set of states that lead to satisfaction of q,  $\neg wp(S, q)$  is the set of states that lead to an error or to satisfaction of  $\neg q$ . Similarly,  $\neg wp(S, \neg q)$  is the set of states that lead to an error or to satisfaction of q. The intersection of these two sets,  $\neg wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q)$ , is the set of states that lead to an error.
- Since  $\sigma$  must lead S either to termination satisfying q, termination satisfying  $\neg q$ , or nontermination, every state satisfies exactly one of wp(S, q),  $wp(S, \neg q)$ , and  $\neg wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q)$ .
- Let  $E \equiv \neg wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q)$ , then we get the identities

- $\neg wp(S, q) \Leftrightarrow E \lor wp(S, \neg q)$ . The negation of "S terminates with q true" is "S doesn't terminate or it terminates with q false".
- $\neg wp(S, \neg q) \Leftrightarrow E \lor wp(S, q)$  is symmetric: The negation of "S terminates with q false" is "S doesn't terminate or it terminates with q true".
- If S contains a loop and  $M(S, \sigma)$  diverges (and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ), then  $\sigma \models \neg wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q)$ . (See Figure 3.)
- On the left of Figure 3 is the set of all states  $\Sigma$  broken up into three partitions
  - The states that establish q form  $wp(S, q) = \{ \sigma \in \Sigma \mid M(S, \sigma) = \{ \tau \} \text{ and } \tau \models q \}$
  - The states that establish  $\neg q$  form  $wp(S, \neg q) = \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid M(S, \sigma) = \{\tau\} \text{ and } \tau \vDash \neg q\}$
  - The states that lead to  $\bot$  form  $\neg wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q) = \{ \sigma \in \Sigma \mid M(S, \sigma) = \{ \bot \} \}$
- The arrows indicate that starting from wp(S, q) or  $wp(S, \neg q)$  yields a state that satisfies q or  $\neg q$  respectively. Starting from a state outside both weakest preconditions leads to an error.

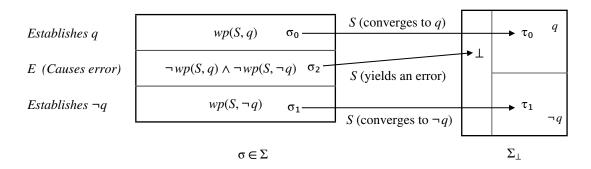


Figure 3: The Weakest Precondition for Deterministic S

$$M(S, \sigma_0) = {\tau_0} \vDash q$$

$$M(S, \sigma_1) = {\tau_1} \vDash \neg q$$

$$M(S, \sigma_2) = {\bot} \nvDash q \text{ and } \nvDash \neg q$$

- Figure 4 shows how that with deterministic programs, the wlp(S, q) combines wp(S, q) with the states that cause errors; similarly, the  $wlp(S, \neg q)$  combines  $wp(S, \neg q)$  with the states that cause errors.
- I.e.,  $\sigma \vDash wlp(S, q)$  when  $M(S, \sigma) \{\bot\} \subseteq Sat(q)$ ,  $\sigma \vDash wlp(S, \neg q)$  when  $M(S, \sigma) \{\bot\} \subseteq Sat(\neg q)$ . (Note this allows for  $M(S, \sigma) = \{\bot\}$  without naming it as a special case.)

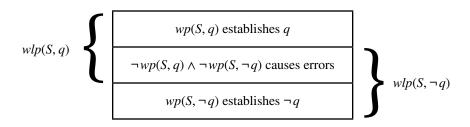


Figure 4: The Weakest Liberal Precondition for Deterministic S

 $\perp$ 

#### G. wp and wlp for Nondeterministic Programs

- If S is nondeterministic, then  $M(S, \sigma)$  is a nonempty subset of  $\Sigma_{\perp}$  that can contain more than one member. To satisfy q or  $\neg q$ , all the states in then  $M(S, \sigma)$  must satisfy q or  $\neg q$  respectively.
- Figure 5 shows the possible situations:
  - $\sigma \vDash wp(S, q)$  when everything in  $M(S, \sigma)$  satisfies q.
  - $\sigma \vDash wp(S, \neg q)$  if everything in  $M(S, \sigma)$  satisfies  $\neg q$ ,
  - $\sigma \vDash \neg wp(S, q)$  when  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$  and/or  $\tau \vDash \neg q$  for some  $\tau \in M(S, \sigma)$ .
  - $\sigma \vDash \neg wp(S, \neg q)$  when  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$  and/or  $\tau \vDash q$  for some  $\tau \in M(S, \sigma)$ .
  - $\sigma \vDash wp(S, q) \land \neg wp(S, \neg q)$  when  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$  and/or  $\tau_1 \vDash q$  and  $\tau_2 \vDash \neg q$  for some  $\{\tau_1, \tau_2\} \subseteq M(S, \sigma)$ .

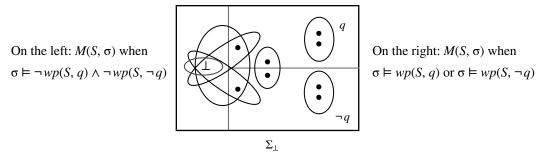


Figure 5: Weakest Precondition  $M(S, \sigma)$  for Non-Deterministic S

• For non-deterministic programs, the situation for wlp(S, q) is similar to the situation for deterministic programs in that  $\sigma \vDash wlp(S, q)$  when  $M(S, \sigma) - \{\bot\} \subseteq Sat(q)$ . In Figure 6, the wlp(S, q) is satisfied by  $\sigma$  that lead to the top or middle sets, and the the  $wlp(S, \neg q)$  is satisfied by  $\sigma$  that lead to the middle or bottom sets.

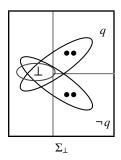


Figure 6: Weakest Liberal Preconditions  $M(S, \sigma)$  for Non-Deterministic S

- Finally, Figure 7 shows how with nondeterministic programs, starting S outside the weakest precondition for q can still terminate in a state satisfying q: Even for  $\sigma \nvDash wp(S, q)$  where  $\bot \notin M(S, \sigma)$ , it's possible for  $M(S, \sigma) \cap Sat(q) \neq \emptyset$  because  $M(S, \sigma) \cap Sat(\neg q)$  also  $\neq \emptyset$ .
- Example 9: Let  $S \equiv \mathbf{if} \ \mathbf{x} \ge 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{x} := 10 \ \Box \ \mathbf{x} \le 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{x} := 20 \ \mathbf{fi}$ , and let  $\Sigma_0 = M(S, \{\mathbf{x} = 0\})$  be the set with two states  $\{\{\mathbf{x} = 10\}, \{\mathbf{x} = 20\}\}$ . Then  $\Sigma_0 \nvDash \mathbf{x} = 10, \mathbf{x} \ne 10, \mathbf{x} = 20$ , and  $\mathbf{x} \ne 20$ . (We do have  $\Sigma_0 \vDash \mathbf{x} = 10 \lor \mathbf{x} = 20$ .)

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#### H. Disjunctive Postconditions

- There are some relationships that hold between the wp of a predicate and the wp's of its subpredicates.
- E.g., if you start in a state that is guaranteed to lead to a result that satisfies  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  separately, then the result will also satisfy  $q_1 \wedge q_2$ , and vice versa. In symbols,  $wp(S, q_1) \wedge wp(S, q_2) \Leftrightarrow wp(S, q_1 \wedge q_2)$ .
  - This relationship holds for both deterministic and nondeterministic *S*.
  - The relationship between  $wp(q_1 \lor q_2)$  and  $wp(q_1)$  and  $wp(q_2)$  differs for deterministic and nondeterministic S.
- Deterministic S: For all S,  $wp(S, q_1) \lor wp(S, q_2) \Leftrightarrow wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$ 
  - Nondeterministic S: For all S,  $wp(S, q_1) \lor wp(S, q_2) \Rightarrow wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$ , but  $\Leftarrow$  doesn't hold for some S.
  - For deterministic S,  $M(S, \sigma) = {\tau}$  for some  $\tau \in \Sigma_{\perp}$ . If  $\tau \vDash q_1 \lor q_2$  then either  $\tau \vDash q_1$  or  $\tau \vDash q_2$  (or both).
- So if  $M(S, \sigma) \neq \{\bot\}$ , then  $M(S, \sigma) \models q_1 \lor q_2$  iff  $M(S, \sigma) \models q_1$  or  $M(S, \sigma) \models q_2$ .
  - Because of this,  $wp(S, q_1) \lor wp(S, q_2) \Leftrightarrow wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$ .
  - For nondeterministic S, we still have  $wp(S, q_1) \lor wp(S, q_2) \Rightarrow wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$ . I.e., if you start in a state that's guaranteed to terminate satisfying  $q_1$ , or guaranteed to terminate satisfying  $q_2$ , then that state is guaranteed to terminate satisfying  $q_1 \lor q_2$ .
- For nondeterministic S, the other direction,  $wp(S, q_1) \lor wp(S, q_2) \Leftarrow wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$ , doesn't always hold: S can guarantee establishing  $q_1 \lor q_2$  without leaving any way to guarantee satisfaction of just  $q_1$  or just  $q_2$ .
- Example 10: Let  $CoinFlip \equiv if T \rightarrow x := 0 \square T \rightarrow x := 1 fi$ .
  - For all  $\sigma$ ,  $M(CoinFlip, \sigma) = \{\{x = 0, x = 1\}\}$ , which  $\vDash x = 0 \lor x = 1$  but  $\nvDash x = 0$  and  $\nvDash x = 1$ .
  - Let  $Heads \Leftrightarrow wp(CoinFlip, \mathbf{x} = 0)$ ,  $Tails = wp(CoinFlip, \mathbf{x} = 1)$ , and  $Heads\_or\_Tails = wp(CoinFlip, \mathbf{x} = 0 \lor \mathbf{x} = 1)$ . We find  $Heads \Leftrightarrow Tails \Leftrightarrow F$  but  $Heads\_or\_Tails \Leftrightarrow T$ .
  - Altogether,  $(Heads \lor Tails) \Rightarrow (but not \Leftarrow) Heads\_or\_Tails$ .
- So for nondeterministic S, even though  $\vDash_{tot} \{wp(S, q)\} S \{q\}$ , if q is disjunctive, it's possible for you to run S in a state  $\sigma \vDash \neg wp(S, q)$  but still terminate without error in a state satisfying q. (For deterministic S, this won't happen.) E.g., if  $S \equiv \mathbf{if} B \mathbf{then} \mathbf{x} := 0 \mathbf{else} \mathbf{x} := 1 \mathbf{fi}$ , then  $M(S, \sigma) \vDash \mathbf{x} = 0$  or  $M(S, \sigma) \vDash \mathbf{x} = 1$  (tails),  $wp(S, \mathbf{x} = 0) \Leftrightarrow B$  and  $wp(S, \mathbf{x} = 1) \Leftrightarrow \neg B$ .

### I. The Weakest Liberal Precondition (wlp)

- The relationship between the **weakest precondition** (*wp*) and the **weakest liberal precondition** (*wlp*) is the same as total vs partial correctness.
  - wp(S, q) is the set of start states that guarantee termination establishing q.
  - wlp(S, q) is the set of start states that guarantee (causing an error or termination establishing q).
- **Definition**: The **weakest liberal precondition** of *S* and *q*, written wlp(S, q), is the predicate *w* such that  $\models \{w\} S \{q\}$  and for every  $\sigma \models \neg w, \bot \notin M(S, \sigma)$  and  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash q$ .

- If we start in a state  $\sigma$  satisfying wlp(S, q) then either some execution path for S in  $\sigma$  causes an error or else all execution paths for S in  $\sigma$  lead to final states that  $\vDash q$ . If we start in a  $\sigma$  satisfying  $\neg wlp(S, q)$ , then every execution path for S in  $\sigma$  leads to a final state and at least one of the final states  $\vDash \neg q$ .
- We always have  $wp(S, q) \Rightarrow wlp(S, q)$ ; the other direction,  $wp(S, q) \Leftarrow wlp(S, q)$ , only holds if S never causes an error.
- Example 11: Let  $W \equiv \text{while } x \neq 0 \text{ do } x := x-1$ ; y := 0 od, then for  $M(W, \sigma)$ ,
  - If  $\sigma \vDash x = 0$  then  $M(W, \sigma) = {\sigma}$ . Note if  $\sigma \vDash x = 0 \land y = 0$  then  $M(W, \sigma) = {\sigma}$
  - If  $\sigma \models x > 0$  then  $M(W, \sigma) = {\sigma[x \mapsto 0][y \mapsto 0]}$ 
    - Note the only way W terminates with  $y \neq 0$  is if we run it in  $x = 0 \land y \neq 0$ .
  - If  $\sigma \models \mathbf{x} < 0$  then  $M(W, \sigma) = \{\bot\}$  so for any postcondition  $q, \mathbf{x} < 0 \rightarrow wlp(W, r)$  and  $\mathbf{x} < 0 \rightarrow wp(W, q)$ .
  - If we look at a particular postcondition, say  $q \equiv \mathbf{x} = 0 \land \mathbf{y} = 0$ , we find  $wlp(W, q) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} > 0 \lor \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = 0$  $\lor \mathbf{x} < 0$  and  $wp(W, q) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} > 0 \lor \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = 0$ . For  $\neg q \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} \neq 0 \lor \mathbf{y} \neq 0$ , since W can never terminate with  $\mathbf{x} \neq 0$ , we find  $wlp(W, \neg q) \Leftrightarrow wp(W, \mathbf{y} \neq 0) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = 0 \land \mathbf{y} \neq 0 \lor \mathbf{x} < 0$  and  $wp(W, \neg q) \Leftrightarrow wp(W, \mathbf{y} \neq 0) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = 0 \land \mathbf{y} \neq 0$ .
- The "being weakest" property of wlp is similar to that for wp, but for partial correctness:  $\models \{wlp(S, q)\}\ S\{q\}$  and for all  $p, \models \{p\}\ S\{q\}$  iff  $\models p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)$ .

## J. Calculating wlp for Loop-Free Programs

- It's easy to calculate the *wlp* of a loop-free program.
  - If a loop-free program cannot cause a runtime error then its wp and wlp are the same, which is also nice.
- The following algorithm takes S and q where S has no loops and syntactically calculates a particular predicate for wlp(S, q), which is why it's described using  $wlp(S, q) \equiv \dots$  instead of  $wp(S, q) \Leftrightarrow \dots$ 
  - $wlp(\mathbf{skip}, q) \equiv q$
  - $wlp(v := e, Q(v)) \equiv Q(e)$  where Q is a predicate function over one variable
    - The operation that takes us from Q(v) to Q(e) is called **syntactic substitution**; we'll look at it in more detail soon, but in the simple case, we simply inspect the definition of Q, searching its text for occurrences of the variable v and replacing them with copies of e.
  - $wlp(S_1; S_2, q) \equiv wlp(S_1, wlp(S_2, q))$
  - $wlp(\mathbf{if}\ B\ \mathbf{then}\ S_1\ \mathbf{else}\ S_2\ \mathbf{fi}, q) \equiv (B \to w_1) \land (\neg B \to w_2)$  where  $w_1 \equiv wlp(S_1, q)$  and  $w_2 \equiv wlp(S_2, q)$ . If you want, you can write  $(B \land w_1) \lor (\neg B \land w_2)$ , which is equivalent.
  - $wlp(\mathbf{if} B_1 \to S_1 \square B_2 \to S_2 \mathbf{fi} \equiv (B_1 \to w_1) \land (B_2 \to w_2)$  where  $w_1 \equiv wlp(S_1, q)$  and  $w_2 \equiv wlp(S_2, q)$ .
    - For the nondeterministic **if**, don't write  $(B_1 \wedge w_1) \vee (B_2 \wedge w_2)$  instead of  $(B_1 \rightarrow w_1) \wedge (B_2 \rightarrow w_2)$ ; they aren't logically equivalent. When  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are both true, either  $S_1$  or  $S_2$  can run, so we need  $B_1 \wedge B_2 \rightarrow w_1 \wedge w_2$ .
    - Using  $(B_1 \wedge w_1) \vee (B_2 \wedge w_2)$  fails because it allows for the possibility that  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are both true but one of  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  is not true. This isn't a problem when  $B_2 \Leftrightarrow \neg B_1$ , which is why we can use  $(B \wedge w_1) \vee (\neg B \wedge w_2)$  with deterministic **if** statements.

# Strength; Weakest Preconditions, pt. 1

CS 536: Science of Programming

### A. Why

 The weakest precondition and weakest liberal preconditions are the most general preconditions that a program needs in order to run correctly.

# B. Objectives

At the end of this activity you should be able to

- Define what a weakest liberal precondition (wlp) and weakest precondition (wp) is and how it's related to (and different from) preconditions in general
- Be able to calculate the *wlp* of a simple loop-free program.

#### C. Problems

- 1. Let  $w \Leftrightarrow wp(S, q)$  and let S be deterministic.
  - a. For which  $\sigma \vDash w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash_{tot} \{w\} S \{q\}$ ?
  - b. For which  $\sigma \vDash \neg w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash \{\neg w\} S \{q\}$ ?
  - c. For which  $\sigma \vDash w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash_{tot} \{w\} \ S \{\neg q\}$ ?
  - d. For which  $\sigma \vDash \neg w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash \{\neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$ ?
  - e. If S is nondeterministic, how do we have to modify the statement in part (d)?
- 2. If  $\sigma \vDash w$  and  $\sigma \vDash \{w\} S \{q\}$  and  $\sigma \nvDash_{tot} \{w\} S \{q\}$ ,
  - a. What can we conclude about  $M(S, \sigma)$ ?
  - b. If in addition, S is deterministic, what more can we conclude about  $M(S, \sigma)$ ?
- 3. For an arbitrary p (not necessarily one that implies w), what  $\models$  and  $\models_{tot}$  properties relationships do the triples
  - a.  $\{p \land w\} S \{q\}$  and  $\{\neg p \land w\} S \{q\}$  have?
  - b.  $\{p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$  and  $\{\neg p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$  have, if S is deterministic?
  - c.  $\{p \land \neg w\} S \{q\}$  and  $\{\neg p \land \neg w\} S \{q\}$  have, if S is nondeterministic?
- 4. How are  $wp(S, q_1 \lor q_2)$  and  $wp(S, q_1) \cup wp(S, q_2)$ , related if S is deterministic? If S is nondeterministic?

- 5. Which of the following statements are correct?
  - a. For all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,  $\sigma \models wp(S, q)$  iff  $M(S, \sigma) \models q$
  - b. For all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,  $\sigma \vDash wlp(S, q)$  iff  $M(S, \sigma) \cup \Sigma \vDash q$
  - c.  $\models_{tot} \{wp(S, q)\} S \{q\}$
  - d.  $\models \{wlp(S, q)\} S \{q\}$
  - e.  $\models_{tot} \{p\} \ S \{q\} \ \text{iff} \models p \rightarrow wp(S, q)$
  - f.  $\models \{p\} S \{q\} \text{ iff } \models p \rightarrow wlp(S, q)$
  - g.  $\models \{\neg wp(S, q)\} S \{\neg q\}$
  - h.  $\vDash_{tot} \{ \neg wlp(S, q) \} S \{ \neg q \}$
  - i.  $wlp(S, q) \wedge wlp(S, \neg q)$  is not satisfiable
  - j.  $\not\vdash p \rightarrow wp(S, q) \text{ iff } \not\vdash_{tot} \{p\} S \{q\}$
  - k.  $\not\models p \rightarrow wlp(S, q) \text{ iff } \not\models \{p\} S \{q\}$

#### Solution to Activity 10 (Weakest Preconditions, pt. 1)

- 1. (Properties of weakest preconditions)
  - a. For all  $\sigma \vDash w$ , we have  $\sigma \vDash_{tot} \{w\} S \{q\}$ , since w is a precondition for  $\vDash_{tot} \{...\} S \{q\}$ .
  - b. For no  $\sigma \vDash \neg w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash \{\neg w\}$   $S\{q\}$  because for w to be the weakest precondition for S and q, it cannot be that  $M(S, \sigma) \vDash q$ .
  - c. For no  $\sigma \vDash w$  do we have  $\sigma \vDash_{tot} \{w\} S \{\neg q\}$  because w is a precondition for  $\vDash_{tot} \{...\} S \{q\}$ .
  - d. For all  $\sigma \vDash \neg w$ , we have  $\sigma \vDash \{\neg w\}$  S  $\{\neg q\}$  because for w to be the weakest precondition for S and q,  $\sigma \vDash \neg w$  implies  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash q$ . Since S is deterministic, either  $M(S, \sigma) = \{\bot\}$  or  $M(S, \sigma) \vDash \neg q$ . Either way,  $\sigma \vDash \{\neg w\}$  S  $\{\neg q\}$ .
  - e. If *S* is nondeterministic and  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash q$ , then as in the deterministic case, nontermination is a possibility  $(\bot \in M(S, \sigma) \text{ can happen})$ . Regardless, we no longer know  $M(S, \sigma) \vDash \neg q$  because we can have  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash q$  and  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash \neg q$  simultaneously.
- 2. (Partial but not total correctness when the wp is satisfied)
  - a. If  $\sigma \vDash w$  and  $\sigma \vDash \{w\} S \{q\}$  then  $M(S, \sigma) \{\bot\} \vDash q$ . If  $\sigma \nvDash_{tot} \{w\} S \{q\}$  then  $M(S, \sigma) \nvDash q$ . This can only happen if  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$ . (I.e., S can diverge under  $\sigma$ .)
  - b. If in addition *S* is deterministic, then we don't just have  $\bot \in M(S, \sigma)$ , we have  $\{\bot\} = M(S, \sigma)$ . (I.e., S diverges under  $\sigma$ .)
- 3. (Intersection with *wp*)
  - a.  $\models_{tot} \{p \land w\} S \{q\}$  and  $\models_{tot} \{\neg p \land w\} S \{q\}$  follow from w being a precondition under  $\models_{tot}$ .
  - b. Because w is weakest, we have for all  $\sigma \vDash p \land \neg w$ , that  $\sigma \nvDash_{tot} \{p \land \neg w\} S \{q\}$ . If S is deterministic, this implies  $\sigma \vDash \{p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$ . Similarly, for all  $\sigma \vDash \neg p \land \neg w$ , we have  $\sigma \vDash \{p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$ .
  - c. If *S* is nondeterministic then if  $\sigma \vDash p \land \neg w$ , we still know  $\sigma \nvDash_{tot} \{p \land \neg w\} S \{q\}$  but both  $\sigma \vDash$  and  $\sigma \nvDash \{p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$  are possible. Similarly, if  $\sigma \vDash \neg p \land \neg w$ , we know  $\sigma \nvDash_{tot} \{\neg p \land \neg w\} S \{q\}$ , but both  $\sigma \vDash$  and  $\sigma \nvDash \{p \land \neg w\} S \{\neg q\}$  are possible.
- 4. For deterministic S,  $wp(S, q_1 \vee q_2) = wp(S, q_1) \cup wp(S, q_2)$ . For nondeterministic S, we have  $\supseteq$  instead of =.
- 5. (Properties of wp and wlp) The following properties are correct:
  - (a) and (b) are the basic definitions of wp and wlp
  - (c) and (d) say that wp and wlp are preconditions
  - (e) and (f) say that wp and wlp are weakest preconditions
  - (g) and (h) also say that wp and wlp are weakest
  - (j) and (k) are the contrapositives of (e) and (f).
  - However, (i) is incorrect: It claims that  $wlp(S, q) \land wlp(S, \neg q)$  is never satisfiable, but if  $M(S, \sigma) \subseteq \{\bot\}$ , then  $\sigma$  satisfies both wlp(S, q) and  $wlp(S, \neg q)$ .