

# Week 7 Discussion

Liu Yang  
lyang422@wisc.edu

# This week's topic

- **Program correctness**
- **Loop invariant**

# This week's topic

- **Program correctness**

1. Partial correctness: For all valid input, if the program terminates on the input, then the program produces the **correct** output for that input.
2. Termination: for all valid input, the program **terminates**.

# This week's topic

- **Loop invariant**

- Statement that holds each time the loop condition is about to be tested.
- Proving loop invariant:
  - proposed invariants will be given. Generally have (at least) two loop invariants
    - one related to the looping conditions (invariant (i) )
    - one related to desired output & values computed/changed in loop body (invariant (ii))
  - prove by induction (choose one you think reasonable)
    - *either* on # times loop test is done - base case is  $P(1)$
    - *or* on # of iterations of loop (# times loop body has executed) - base case is  $P(0)$
  - use subscripting on variables to track changes as loop body is executed

# Discussion Handout

- Give the link ...

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Definition: The *greatest common divisor* of integers  $a$  and  $b$ , denoted  $\gcd(a, b)$ , is the largest integer  $d$  such that  $d$  divides both  $a$  and  $b$ . Furthermore, if  $c$  divides both  $a$  and  $b$ , then  $c$  also divides  $\gcd(a, b)$ .
- If  $a, b > 0$ ,  $\gcd(a, 0) = a$ ,  $\gcd(0, b) = b$ ,  $\gcd(0, 0)$  is undefined.
- Example:
  - $\gcd(15, 32) = 1$
  - $\gcd(26, 18) = 2$
  - $\gcd(15, 30) = 15$

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Properties:

- If  $a = b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b) = a = b$
- If  $a < b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a, b - a)$
- If  $a > b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a - b, a)$

- Example:

- If  $\gcd(26, 18) = 2$ , then  $\gcd(26-18, 18) = 2$   
8

# It\_GCD

- It\_GCD Algorithm (GCD Algorithm in DvM):

<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>it_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
$(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x \neq y$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
<b><i>if</i></b> $x < y$ <b><i>then</i></b> $y \leftarrow y - x$	4
<b><i>else</i></b> $x \leftarrow x - y$	5
<b><i>end</i></b>	6
<b><i>return</i></b> $x$	7



# It\_GCD ( Example: gcd(26, 18) )

<b>procedure</b> <i>it_GCD</i> ( $a, b$ )			
$(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$	$(x, y) = (26, 18)$	$(x, y) = (8, 18)$	$(x, y) = (8, 10)$
<b>while</b> $x \neq y$ <b>do</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>if</b> $x < y$ <b>then</b> $y \leftarrow y - x$	No	$y = 18 - 8 = 10$	$y = 10 - 8 = 2$
<b>else</b> $x \leftarrow x - y$	$x = 26 - 18 = 8$		
<b>end</b>			
<b>return</b> $x$			

# It\_GCD ( Example: gcd(26, 18) )

<b>procedure</b> <i>it_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	(con't)		
$(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$	$(x, y) = (8, 2)$	$(x, y) = (6, 2)$	$(x, y) = (4, 2)$
<b>while</b> $x \neq y$ <b>do</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>if</b> $x < y$ <b>then</b> $y \leftarrow y - x$	No	No	No
<b>else</b> $x \leftarrow x - y$	$x = 8 - 2 = 6$	$x = 6 - 2 = 4$	$x = 4 - 2 = 2$
<b>end</b>			
<b>return</b> $x$			

# It\_GCD ( Example: gcd(26, 18) )

<b>procedure</b> <i>it_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	(con't)		
$(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$	$(x, y) = (2, 2)$		
<b>while</b> $x \neq y$ <b>do</b>	No		
<b>if</b> $x < y$ <b>then</b> $y \leftarrow y - x$			
<b>else</b> $x \leftarrow x - y$			
<b>end</b>			
<b>return</b> $x$	<b>return</b> 2		

# It\_GCD - 0 case

- Example:  $\text{gcd}(15, 0)$

<b>procedure</b> <i>it_GCD</i> ( $a, b$ )			
$(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$	$(x, y) = (15, 0)$	$(x, y) = (15, 0)$	...
<b>while</b> $x \neq y$ <b>do</b>	Yes	Yes	
<b>if</b> $x < y$ <b>then</b> $y \leftarrow y - x$	No	No	
<b>else</b> $x \leftarrow x - y$	$x = 15 - 0 = 15$	$x = 15 - 0 = 15$	
<b>end</b>			
<b>return</b> $x$			

# euclid\_GCD (at least one of a, b is nonzero)

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> $y$	8

## Part a

- If  $x$  and  $y$  are both positive integers, what are the possible values that  $x \bmod y$  can have?

## Part a

- If  $x$  and  $y$  are both positive integers, what are the possible values that  $x \bmod y$  can have?

$$0, 1, 2, \dots (y - 1)$$

# euclid\_GCD ( Example: gcd(26, 18) )

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )		
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	$(x, y) = (18, 26)$	$(x, y) = (8, 18)$
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	Yes	Yes
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	$r = 8$	$r = 2$
$y \leftarrow x$	$y = 18$	$y = 8$
$x \leftarrow r$	$x = 8$	$x = 2$
<b>End</b>		
<b>return</b> $y$		



# euclid\_GCD ( Example: gcd(26, 18) )

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )		
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	$(x, y) = (2, 8)$	$(x, y) = (0, 2)$
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	Yes	No
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	$r = 0$	
$y \leftarrow x$	$y = 2$	
$x \leftarrow r$	$x = 0$	
<b>End</b>		
<b>return</b> $y$		<b>return</b> 2

# euclid\_GCD - 0 case

<b>procedure</b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( $a, b$ )		
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	$(x, y) = (0, 15)$	
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	No	
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$		
$y \leftarrow x$		
$x \leftarrow r$		
<b>End</b>		
<b>return</b> $y$	<b>return</b> 15	

## Part c

- Use induction to establish the following loop invariant:
- Each time we reach the test of the *while* loop on line (3),  
(i)  $0 \leq x \leq y$       and      (ii)  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(a, b)$ .

# euclid\_GCD




<b><i>procedure</i></b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> $y$	8

# euclid\_GCD



<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> <i>y</i>	8

# euclid\_GCD

<b><i>procedure</i></b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
 $r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> $y$	8

# euclid\_GCD

<b><i>procedure</i></b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> $y$	8



# euclid\_GCD

<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> <i>y</i>	8





# euclid\_GCD

<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> <i>y</i>	8



# euclid\_GCD



<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> <i>y</i>	8

# Group Discussion !

Try with `euclid_GCD(15, 32)`

## Part c

- Use induction to establish the following loop invariant:
- Each time we reach the test of the *while* loop on line (3),  
(i)  $0 \leq x \leq y$       and      (ii)  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(a, b)$ .

## Part c

- Use induction to establish the following loop invariant:
- Each time we reach the test of the *while* loop on line (3),  
(i)  $0 \leq x \leq y$       and      (ii)  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(a, b)$ .
- Let  $x_n, y_n, r_n$  be the value of  $x, y, r$  the  $n$ -th time we reach the test of the while loop.
- $P(n): 0 \leq x_n \leq y_n$  and  $\gcd(x_n, y_n) = \gcd(a, b)$ .

## Part c - Base Case: $k=1$



<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> $y$	8

- Prove by cases:
  - $a \leq b$ : The condition on the first line is true.
    - $0 \leq x \leq y$ : We set  $x_1 = a$  and  $y_1 = b$ . Then  $x_1 \leq y_1$ . Since the specification says  $a$  and  $b$  are non-negative,  $x_1 \geq 0$  holds too.
    - $\text{gcd}(x_1, y_1) = \text{gcd}(a, b)$  by initialization.
  - $b < a$ : The condition on the first line is false.
    - $0 \leq x \leq y$ : We set  $x_1 = b$  and  $y_1 = a$ . Then  $x_1 \leq y_1$ . Since the specification says  $a$  and  $b$  are non-negative,  $x_1 \geq 0$  holds too.
    - $\text{gcd}(x_1, y_1) = \text{gcd}(b, a) = \text{gcd}(a, b)$  by initialization.

## Part c - Inductive Step

- Induction Hypothesis:  $0 \leq x_k \leq y_k$  and  $\gcd(x_k, y_k) = \gcd(a, b)$ .

# euclid\_GCD



<b><i>procedure</i></b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> <i>y</i>	8




# euclid\_GCD



<b>procedure</b> <i>euclid_GCD</i> ( <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	$0 \leq x_k \leq y_k$ and $\gcd(x_k, y_k) = \gcd(a, b)$ .
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> <i>y</i>	8

# euclid\_GCD

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	3
 $r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	$r_{k+1} \leftarrow y_k \bmod x_k$
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> $y$	8

# euclid\_GCD

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	$y_{k+1} \leftarrow x_k$
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> $y$	8



# euclid\_GCD

<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	$x_{k+1} \leftarrow r_{k+1}$
<b>End</b>	7
<b>return</b> $y$	8




# euclid\_GCD

<b><i>procedure</i></b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
<b><i>if</i></b> $a \leq b$ , <b><i>then</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b><i>else</i></b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
<b><i>while</i></b> $x > 0$ <b><i>do</i></b>	3
$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
$y \leftarrow x$	5
$x \leftarrow r$	6
<b><i>End</i></b>	7
<b><i>return</i></b> $y$	8



# euclid\_GCD

	<b>procedure</b> euclid_GCD( $a, b$ )	1
	<b>if</b> $a \leq b$ , <b>then</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (a, b)$ , <b>else</b> $(x, y) \leftarrow (b, a)$	2
	<b>while</b> $x > 0$ <b>do</b> $0 \leq x_{k+1} \leq y_{k+1}$ and $\text{gcd}(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}) = \text{gcd}(a, b)?$	
	$r \leftarrow y \bmod x$	4
	$y \leftarrow x$	5
	$x \leftarrow r$	6
	<b>End</b>	7
	<b>return</b> $y$	8

## Part c - Inductive Step

- Induction Hypothesis:  $0 \leq x_k \leq y_k$  and  $\gcd(x_k, y_k) = \gcd(a, b)$ .

- Since  $x_k$  and  $y_k$  are both non-negative, we know

$$0 \leq y_k \bmod x_k \leq x_k - 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{WHY? Remainder range}$$

- Since  $r_{k+1} \leftarrow y_k \bmod x_k$  and  $x_{k+1} \leftarrow r_{k+1}$ , we have that

$$0 \leq x_{k+1} \leq x_k - 1 \leq x_k$$

- And since  $y_{k+1} \leftarrow x_k$ , therefore we have

$$0 \leq x_{k+1} \leq y_{k+1}$$

which establish the first part of the invariant.

## Part c - Inductive Step

- Induction Hypothesis:  $0 \leq x_k \leq y_k$  and  **$\gcd(x_k, y_k) = \gcd(a, b)$** .
- For  $\gcd(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})$ , since
  - $y_{k+1} \leftarrow x_k$
  - $r_{k+1} \leftarrow y_k \bmod x_k$  and  $x_{k+1} \leftarrow r_{k+1}$
- We know that

$$\gcd(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}) = \gcd(y_k \bmod x_k, x_k)$$



## Part c - Inductive Step

- Induction Hypothesis:  $0 \leq x_k \leq y_k$  and  $\mathbf{gcd}(x_k, y_k) = \mathbf{gcd}(a, b)$ .
- By theorem “Let  $x$  and  $y$  be two positive integers. Then  $\mathbf{gcd}(x, y) = \mathbf{gcd}(y \bmod x, x)$ ”, we know that

$$\mathbf{gcd}(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}) = \mathbf{gcd}(y_k \bmod x_k, x_k) = \mathbf{gcd}(x_k, y_k)$$

- Thus by induction hypothesis we know that

$$\mathbf{gcd}(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}) = \mathbf{gcd}(y_k \bmod x_k, x_k) = \mathbf{gcd}(x_k, y_k) = \mathbf{gcd}(a, b)$$

- which establish the second part of the invariant.
- Thus the inductive step holds.

## Part c - Conclusion

- Therefore, by induction our loop invariants hold each time we test the while loop on line (3).

## Part d – Program Correctness

- Partial Correctness:
- Since the loop invariant (i) tells us that  $x \geq 0$ , and the loop terminates only if  $x \leq 0$ , we see that when the loop terminates,  $x = 0$ . In that case  $\text{gcd}(x, y) = y$  because  $\text{gcd}(0, y) = y$ .
- Also by loop invariant (ii),  $\text{gcd}(x, y) = \text{gcd}(a, b)$  at that point, which gives us partial correctness of the algorithm.

## Part d – Program Correctness

- Termination:
- Now we show that the algorithm terminates. Consider the situation the  $k$ -th time we reach the test of the while loop.
- If  $x_k \leq 0$ , the loop terminates and the algorithm returns result.
- If  $x_k > 0$ , we observe that  $x_{k+1} < x_k$  (proved in part c). Thus,  $x$  is a non-negative integer which decreases by at least 1 in each iteration of the loop unless it's zero already. Since  $x$  is initialized to be  $\min(a, b)$ , after at most  $\min(a, b)$  iterations of the loop,  $x = 0$ , the loop terminates, and the program returns.

# Discussion Participation

- Sec #
- How did the exam go/ how was your experience?

**Me during exam: I know this answer.**

**My remaining 2 brain cells:**



# Reference

- Properties and Definitions:

[https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/212414/pages/properties-and-definitions?module\\_item\\_id=3020063](https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/212414/pages/properties-and-definitions?module_item_id=3020063)

- Week 7 information page:

• <https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/212414/pages/week-7-discussion-info-mpmfe>