



BITS Pilani
Pilani Campus



CS/IS F214 Logic in Computer Science

MODULE: TEMPORAL LOGICS

Formal (Program / System) Verification: Introduction Approaches

What is Formal Verification?

- Formal Verification is often done to verify (and therefore ensure) correctness of a program (or a computing system):
 - the goal is to provide a guarantee that the system is correct as stated formally.
- The word **Formal** here refers to systematically constructed (i.e. formed) verification
 - e.g. a proof (using axioms and rules) is constructed to verify a statement (specified in a logic)



Formal Verification vs. Testing

- Contrast this with testing:
 - Testing cannot be exhaustive always!
 - Why?
 - Example(s)?
 - So it is an empirical approach to providing a guarantee.
 - In practice, it is often quantified as a probabilistic guarantee.
 - i.e.
 - Testing a program with a certain number and kinds of test cases

is translated to

 - a probable correctness measure



Formal Verification of Systems

- **Formal Verification** relates to proving properties of systems such as
 - *hardware, communication protocols, software, or a combination of these.*
- Formal Verification frameworks typically include:
 1. a modeling language
for describing a system
examples?
 2. a specification language
for describing properties of a system
examples?
 3. a verification method
for establishing whether the system (as defined by a model) satisfies the specification





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MODULE: **PROGRAM VERIFICATION**

Program Verification – Floyd-Hoare Logic

Program Correctness

- Correctness Arguments (for a given sequential program **A**):
 - a) Does **A** compute what it is expected (or required) to?*
Assumption: ?
 - b) Does **A** terminate?*



Program Correctness

- Correctness Arguments (for a given program A):
 - a) Does A compute what it is expected (or required) to?*
Assumption: ?
 - b) Does A terminate?*
- Partial Correctness vs. Total Correctness
 - **Partial Correctness** refers to correctness argument stated in (a) above, assuming that the program terminates.
 - **Total Correctness** refers to correctness arguments stated in (a) and (b) above.



Partial Correctness

- Statement of (Partial) Correctness is a contract:
/* **Pre-condition:** Input **x** satisfies some properties */
A(x)
/* **Post-condition:** Running **A** on **x** results in ... */

i.e. *if the state before executing A satisfies the **pre-condition** (on input x)
then the state after executing A would satisfy the **post-condition** (on the results)*



Partial Correctness - Examples

- Contracts: Examples

/* Pre-condition: $x \geq 0$ */

F(x) { ... }

/* Post-condition: $F(x) = x!$ */

/* Pre-condition: $N > 0$ */

F(Ls, N) { ... }

/* Post-condition: $\forall X \ (0 \leq X) \wedge (X < N-1) \rightarrow Ls[X] \leq Ls[X+1]$ */



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- A logic system for proving correctness of “**imperative**” programs:
 - **Imperative programming** is a style of programming that is based on **state transformations**: i.e.
 - a program is specified as a sequence of statements
 - each statement is a transformation on the state (i.e. data stored in memory)
- Examples of imperative programming:
 - Programming at assembly/machine level (e.g. using x86 Instruction set)
 - Programming using C (or similar languages)



Imperative Programming

- Imperative programs are usually constructed out of the following types of statements:

1. Assignment statement

Change the state *by changing the contents of one variable*

2. Sequencing

Control the order of execution of statements

3. Conditional Statement

Choose one of two *sequences of statements to execute*

4. Iterative Statement

Repeat *a sequence of statements*



Partial Correctness - Examples (Revisited)

- Contracts: Examples

/* Pre-condition: $x \geq 0$ */

S1

...

Sn

/* Post-condition: $F(x) = x!$ */

/* Pre-condition: $N > 0$ */

S1

...

Sn

/* Post-condition: $\forall X (0 \leq X) \wedge (X < N-1) \rightarrow Ls[X] \leq Ls[X+1]$ */



Floyd-Hoare Logic (a.k.a. Hoare Logic)

- Hoare Logic reduces the correctness argument for a program

/* Pre-condition: Input x satisfies some properties */

S1

...

Sn

/* Post-condition: Running A on x results in ... */

- to each statement in the program:

/* p_0 */

such that

S1

p_N is the required post-condition (for the entire program)

/* p_1 */

S2

p_0 is the given pre-condition (for the program)

/* p_2 */

...

/* p_N */

p_i is the post-condition and p_{i-1} is the pre-condition for each S_i , for i from 1 to N



Floyd-Hoare Logic (a.k.a. Hoare Logic)

- We refer to
 $\langle \underline{\text{PRE}}, S, \underline{\text{POST}} \rangle$
as a *Hoare-triple*
 - where S is a statement
 - $\underline{\text{PRE}}$ is the pre-condition and
 - $\underline{\text{POST}}$ is the post-condition
- What does this mean?
 - If $\underline{\text{PRE}}$ is *satisfied by a state*,
 - then *executing statement S on that state*
 - would *result in a state that satisfies $\underline{\text{POST}}$*





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MODULE: **PROGRAM VERIFICATION**

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Correctness of Assignment Statements

Assignment Statements

- Assignment statements change the **state** of a program:
 - Typically, an assignment statement changes the value of one variable.
 - e.g. $v = v + 5$
 - e.g. $z = x * y$
 - e.g. $y = \text{sqrt}(x)$



Correctness of Assignment Statements

- How do we argue the correctness of an assignment statement?
 - e.g. $v = v + 5$
 - e.g. $z = x * y$
 - e.g. $a = \text{gcd}(x, y)$
- We try to relate *a desired post-condition* with *a required pre-condition*.



Assignment Statements: Pre-conditions and Post-conditions

- Example:
 - What would be the pre-condition for the following assignment statement for (each of) the given post-condition(s)?
 - $v = v + 5$
 - i. /* Post-condition: $v > 0$ */
 - ii. /* Post-condition: $v < 10$ */
 - iii. /* Post-condition: $v * v < 100$ */



Floyd-Hoare Logic: Assignment Statements

- Rule for Assignment Statements:

/ Pre: ϕ [e / v] */*

v = e */* e is any expression */*

/ Post: ϕ with v as free variable */*

$\langle \phi [e/v], v=e, \phi \rangle$

Assignment

Note on Notation:

We specify rules in Hoare logic in two forms:

(i) in programming style syntax, with *pre-condition* and *post-condition* expressed *inside comments*.

(ii) in proof-rules style syntax using a Hoare-triple in angle brackets.

End of Note.

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Examples

- Exercise 1:

`/* ? */ mid = (x + y)/2; /*mid is the average of x and y*/`

- Exercise 2:

`/* ? */ mid = x + (y-x)/2; /*mid is the average of x and y*/`





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MODULE: **PROGRAM VERIFICATION**

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Correctness of Sequencing

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Sequencing (or Composition)

- Rule for Sequencing

$/* \varphi_1 */$

S1

$/* \varphi_2 */$

S2

$/* \varphi_3 */$

Post-condition for **S1**
and
Pre-condition for **S2**

Sequence

$\langle \varphi_1, S1, \varphi_2 \rangle \langle \varphi_2, S2, \varphi_3 \rangle$

$\langle \varphi_1, S1; S2, \varphi_3 \rangle$

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Sequencing (or Composition)

- Rule for Sequencing

/ φ_1 */*

S1

/ φ_2 */*

S2

/ φ_3 */*

Post-condition for S1
and
Pre-condition for S2

Sequence

$\langle \varphi_1, S1, \varphi_2 \rangle \langle \varphi_2, S2, \varphi_3 \rangle$

$\langle \varphi_1, S1; S2, \varphi_3 \rangle$

- What does this mean?

- If statement **S1** transforms a state satisfying φ_1 to a state satisfying φ_2 and
- if statement **S2** transforms a state satisfying φ_2 to a state satisfying φ_3 then
- then the sequence **S1; S2** transforms a state satisfying φ_1 to a state satisfying φ_3

Floyd-Hoare Logic: Examples

- Exercise S1:

- $/* \ ? \ */ \quad t=x; x=y; y=t \quad /* \ x = A \wedge y = B \ */$

- Exercise S2:

- $/* \ ? \ */ \quad x = x+y; y=x-y; x=x-y \quad /* \ x = A \wedge y = B \ */$

