

Data Structures & Algorithms

Subodh Kumar

(subodh@iitd.ac.in, Bharti 422)

Dept of Computer Sc. & Engg.



Program Correctness

- Starts with a correct specification of the requirements
 - Correctness only with respect to the spec
 - If program A sends data D to program B, B will eventually get D
 - There is no deadlock or livelock
 - For all $n \geq 0$, $f(n) = k$
- Correct design
 - Algorithmically correct
- Correct implementation
 - Re-use of already correct code helps



Programming

- **Understand specification**
 - Formulate as formally as you can
- **Devise the test plan**
- **Algorithmic design**
 - Mind the performance
- **Refine the test plan**
- **Implement incrementally**
 - Test each time
 - Error debugging + performance debugging





Proving Correctness

- What is correct?
 - Program? Or entire running environment?
 - System
- What is a proof?
 - Not: *system meets requirement*
 - But: *system cannot fail requirement*
 - Challenging



Testing is Important

Bill Gates:

“When you look at a big commercial software company like Microsoft, there's actually as much testing that goes in as development. **We have as many testers as we have developers.** Testers basically test all the time, and **developers basically are involved in the testing process about half the time...**

... We've probably changed the industry we're in. We're not in the software industry; **we're in the testing industry**, and writing the software is the thing that keeps us busy doing all that testing...

...The test cases are unbelievably expensive; in fact, **there's more lines of code in the test harness than there is in the program itself.** Often that's a ratio of about three to one.”



Proof?

Dijkstra: “Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence”

“One can never guarantee that a proof is correct, the best one can say is: ‘I have not discovered any mistakes’”

- **Automated proof?**
 - Impossible in the general case
- **Mechanical verification is possible in some cases**



Format: d

Select one option

- Choose the best response. Which of the following situations can cause deadlock in case of synchronized methods:
 - I. The same object's or class's lock is required
 - II. Multiple threads are employed
 - III. The same object's or class's lock is required by two or more threads
 - IV. More than one object's or class's locks are required
 - V. More than one object's or class's locks are required and they are acquired in the same order by different threads
- a) All of the above
- b) II and IV
- c) III
- d) III and IV
- e) II, III, and V
- f) II



Program Correctness

To prove: If precondition is met, postcondition is met

Precondition \Rightarrow Postcondition

Finite #steps

```
int multiply(int X, int Y)
```

```
{
```

```
    int product = 0;
```

```
    while( X > 0) {
```

```
        product += Y;
```

```
        X--;
```

```
    }
```

```
    return product;
```

```
}
```

pre: $X \geq 0$

post: $\text{product} = X * Y$

For each program statement



Pre and Post Conditions

pre: $x=1, y=2, z=\wedge$

$z = x+y;$

post: $x=1, y=2, z=3$

Compose: $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$
 $\Rightarrow A \rightarrow C$

pre: $x=a, y=b, t=\wedge$
 $t = x; x = y; y = t;$
post: $x=b, y=a, t=a$

Conditions and Loops

pre:

if(t) S1 else S2;

post: $\text{pre} \ \& \ S1\text{-post} \mid \neg \text{pre} \ \& \ S2\text{-post}$

Loop Invariants



Pseudo-code

- **Program-like statements**
 - Generally no specific syntax
- **Assignments, Functions, Conditions, Loops**
 - Should be clear to a COL100 graduate how to implement in her favorite language
 - Each statement should easily map to a known language or architecture

Merge-Sort Pseudocode



Merge-Sort(A, lo, hi): // Merge-Sort A [lo:hi]

if (lo < hi)

 mid = $\lfloor (lo + hi)/2 \rfloor$

 Merge-Sort(A, lo, mid) // Merge-Sort A from lo to mid

 Merge-Sort(A, mid+1, hi) // Merge-Sort A from mid+1 to hi

 Merge(A, lo, mid, hi) // Merge A[lo:mid] and A[mid+1:hi]



Merge Pseudocode

```
Merge(A, lo, mid, hi):           // Merge A with two sorted parts
                                // resp. [low:mid] and [mid+1:high]

L[0:mid-lo] = A[lo:mid]          // Copy A[low:mid] to L
R[0:hi-mid-1] = A[mid+1:hi]      // Copy A[mid+1:high] to R
i=0                               // Initialize i and j to 0
j=0

for k = lo to hi                 // Iterate with k in [low:high]
    if L[i] < R[j]:              // Copy min of L[i] and R[j] to A[k]
        A[k] = L[i]             // Advance corresponding index
        i=i+1
    else
        A[k] = R[j]
        j=j+1
```



Proofs of Correctness

To prove: If precondition is met, postcondition is met

Precondition \Rightarrow Postcondition

Finite #steps

■ Contrapositive:

- ! Postcondition \Rightarrow ! Precondition

■ Contradiction

- Assume !Postcondition
- \Rightarrow "X" \Rightarrow "Y" \Rightarrow "Z" \Rightarrow FALSE
 - Work backwards until a fallacy is implied

Contra proof



Contra Example

$$x^2 - 6x + 5 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow x \text{ is odd}$$

$$x \text{ is even} \Rightarrow x^2 - 6x + 5 \text{ is odd}$$

$$\sqrt{2} \text{ is irrational}$$

$$\text{Assume } \sqrt{2} \text{ is rational} \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y}$$

Contradiction!

$$\sqrt{2} \text{ is rational} \quad \text{Lowest form} \Rightarrow \text{both cannot be even}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = 2y^2$$

$$x^2 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow x \text{ is } 2k \Rightarrow x^2 \text{ is } 4k^2$$

$$4k^2 = 2y^2 \Rightarrow y^2 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow y \text{ is even}$$



Proofs of Correctness

To prove: If precondition is met, postcondition is met

Precondition \Rightarrow Postcondition

Finite #steps

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Induction



Induction

- $2n = 0$, if n is a whole numbers

Base case: $n = 0$

Inductive Hypothesis: True for all $n \leq k$

Show

Base case

Show: True for $n = \text{some initial value}$

Let n

Inductive Step [Clear Hypothesis statement]

Assume: True for all $n \leq k$

Show: True for $n = k+1$

$2n =$



```
1 interface GradeInfo_ {
2   enum LetterGrade {
3     A, Aminus, B, Bminus, C, Cminus, D, E, F, I;
4   }
5   public static int gradepoint(GradeInfo_.LetterGrade grade)
6     { return 0; } // Rest skipped here
7   public default LetterGrade grade()
8     { return I; }
9 }
10 class GradeInfo implements GradeInfo_ {
11   LetterGrade grade;
12   GradeInfo(LetterGrade grade) { this.grade = grade; }
13   public LetterGrade grade() { return grade; }
14 }
15 class Main {
16   public static void main(String args[]) {
17     GradeInfo_ gradeinfo = new GradeInfo(LetterGrade.A);
18     System.out.println(gradeinfo.grade());
19   }
20 }
```

What's the error(s)?

- a) Undefined I: line 8
- b) Undefined LetterGrade.A: line 17
- c) gradeinfo must be declared of type GradeInfo: line 17
- d) Cannot print gradeinfo.grade: line 18
- e) a) and b)
- f) All of the above
- g) There is no error



Loop Invariant

- **Initialization**
 - Invariant is true before the first iteration
- **Maintenance**
 - Invariant true for iteration $n \Rightarrow$
true for iteration $n+1$
- **Termination**
 - Invariant is true for 'all n ' at the end of the loop



Loop Invariant

- Invariant at the start of each iteration:
 - $(k - lo)$ elements starting at $A[lo]$ are the smallest elements of $A[lo:hi]$, and in increasing order with A 's index
- Beginning: $k = lo$
 - $k - lo = 0$
 - L and R are sorted
- Maintenance:
 - $L[i]$ is the min of values in L , $R[j]$ is the min in R
 - The smaller of the two is the smallest in the $L \cup R$, for indexes $\geq i$ and $\geq j$, respectively
 - $\Rightarrow A[k]$ gets the smallest remaining element: $A[i:mid]$, $A[j:hi]$
- Termination: $k = hi+1$
 - $hi+1-lo$ elements starting at $A[lo:]$ are sorted
 - $A[lo:hi]$ is sorted

$L = A[left], R = A[right]$

$i=j=0$

for $k = lo$ to hi

$A[k] = L[i] < R[j] ?$

$A[k] = L[i++] :$

$A[k] = R[j++]$

$$l > m \Rightarrow A[l] \geq A[m]$$