

Proof of Horner's Rule Correctness

■ Loop Invariant

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-(i+1)} a_{k+i+1} x^k$$

■ **Initialization** Before the loop $y = 0$. At initialization, $i = n$.

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-(n+1)} a_{k+i+1} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{-1} a_{k+i+1} x^k = 0$$

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- **Maintenance** At iteration j of the loop, $i' = n - j + 1$ and $y' = \sum_{k=0}^{n-(i'+1)} a_{k+i'+1} x^k$. At iteration $j + 1$, $i = n - j$ and $y = a_i + xy'$. Need to show

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-i} a_{k+i} x^k$$

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■ Maintenance Need to show

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-i} a_{k+i} x^k$$

$$y = a_i + x \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-(i+1)} a_{k+i+1} x^k \right) \quad (1)$$

$$= a_i + x \left(a_{0+i+1} x^0 + \dots + a_{(n-i)+i} x^{n-(i+1)} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$= a_i + (a_{0+i+1} x^1 + \dots + a_{(n-i)+i} x^{n-i}) \quad (3)$$

$$= a_i + \sum_{k=1}^{n-i} a_{k+i} x^k \quad (4)$$

$$= a_{i+0} x^0 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-i} a_{k+i} x^k \quad (5)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n-i} a_{k+i} x^k \quad (6)$$

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$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-(i+1)} a_{k+i+1} x^k$$

■ **Termination** At the end of the loop, $i = -1$. Therefore

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{n-(i+1)} a_{k+i+1} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k$$