

Chapter 25 : Slope search.

In which we make use of a nice mathematical property called monotonicity.

Given $f[0..M,0..N]$ of int where $\{0 \leq M \wedge 0 \leq N\}$. We are told that f is ascending in both of its arguments.

The problem specification is as follows

$$\{\langle \exists i,j : 0 \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq N : f.i.j = X \rangle\}$$

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$$\{ 0 \leq a \leq M \wedge 0 \leq b \leq N \wedge f.a.b = X \}$$

Domain modelling.

We make a model of our problem domain.

$$* (0) C.m.n \quad = \quad \langle \exists i,j : m \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq n : f.i.j = X \rangle$$

From this we can derive the following theorems

$$- (1) C.0.N \quad \equiv \quad \text{true}^1$$

We observe

$$\begin{aligned} & C.m.n \\ = & \\ & \langle \exists i,j : m \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq n : f.i.j = X \rangle \\ = & \quad \{ \text{Split off } i = m \text{ term} \} \\ & \langle \exists i,j : m+1 \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq n : f.i.j = X \rangle \vee \langle \exists j : 0 \leq j \leq n : f.m.j = X \rangle \\ = & \quad \{ (0), (3) \} \\ & C.(m+1).n \vee D.n \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$- (2) C.m.n \quad \equiv \quad C.(m+1).n \vee D.n \quad , 0 \leq m < M$$

$$* (3) D.n \quad \equiv \quad \langle \exists j : 0 \leq j \leq n : f.m.j = X \rangle$$

¹ This is simply what is given in the Precondition.

Similarly, we observe

$$\begin{aligned}
& C.m.n \\
= & \langle \exists i,j : m \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq n : f.i.j = X \rangle \\
= & \quad \{ \text{Split off } j = n \text{ term} \} \\
& \langle \exists i,j : m \leq i \leq M \wedge 0 \leq j \leq n-1 : f.i.j = X \rangle \vee \langle \exists i : m \leq i \leq M : f.i.n = X \rangle \\
= & \quad \{ (0), (5) \} \\
& C.m.(n-1) \vee E.m
\end{aligned}$$

$$- (4) C.m.n \equiv C.m.(n-1) \vee E.m, 0 < n \leq N$$

$$* (5) E.m \equiv \langle \exists i : m \leq i \leq M : f.i.n = X \rangle$$

Now let us consider D.n and E.m in turn.

$$- (6) D.n \equiv \text{false} \Leftarrow f.m.n < X$$

$$- (7) D.n \equiv \text{true} \Leftarrow f.m.n = X$$

$$- (8) D.n \equiv ? \Leftarrow f.m.n > X$$

$$- (9) E.m \equiv ? \Leftarrow f.m.n < X$$

$$- (10) E.m \equiv \text{true} \Leftarrow f.m.n = X$$

$$- (11) E.m \equiv \text{false} \Leftarrow f.m.n > X$$

Choose invariants.

For our invariants we choose the following

$$P0 : C.a.b$$

$$P1 : 0 \leq a \leq M \wedge 0 \leq b \leq N$$

Guard.

We choose as our guard

$$f.a.b \neq X$$

Establish Invariant.

$$a, b := 0, N$$

Termination.

Upon termination of the loop we note

$$P0 \wedge P1 \wedge f.a.b = X \Rightarrow \text{Post}$$

Loop Body.

We now calculate the loop body.

$$\begin{aligned} & P0 \\ = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } P0 \} \\ & C.a.b \\ = & \quad \{ (2) \} \\ & C.(a+1).b \vee D.b \\ = & \quad \{ \text{case analysis } f.a.b < X \text{ (6)} \} \\ & C.(a+1).b \vee \text{false} \\ = & \quad \{ ID \vee \} \\ & C.(a+1).b \\ = & \quad \{ WP \} \\ & (a := a+1).P0 \end{aligned}$$

Which gives us the program fragment

$$\text{if } f.a.b < X \rightarrow a := a+1$$

Because of the guard we do not consider the case $f.a.b = X$.

Now we seek to exploit E. We observe

$$\begin{aligned} & P0 \\ = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } P0 \} \\ & C.a.b \\ = & \quad \{ (4) \} \\ & C.a.(b-1) \vee E.a \\ = & \quad \{ \text{case analysis } f.a.b > X \text{ (11)} \} \\ & C.a.(b-1) \vee \text{false} \\ = & \quad \{ ID \vee \} \\ & C.a.(b-1) \\ = & \quad \{ WP \} \\ & (b := b-1).P0 \end{aligned}$$

This gives us the program fragment

$$\text{if } f.a.b > X \rightarrow b := b-1$$

Because of the guard we do not need to consider the case $f.a.b = X$.

Finished Program.

Putting this together we arrive at our finished program

```
a, b := 0, N {P0 ∧ P1}
;do f.a.b ≠ X →      {P0 ∧ P1 ∧ f.a.b ≠ X}

    if f.a.b < X → a := a+1
    [] f.a.b > X → b := b-1
    fi

    {P0 ∧ P1}
od
{Post}
```

This has temporal complexity $O(M+N)$.

