

# 1 Predicate Logic & Correctness

- Propositional operators
  - not ( $\neg$ ), and ( $\wedge$ ), or ( $\vee$ )
  - implication ( $\Rightarrow$ ) –  $P \Rightarrow Q \equiv \neg P \vee Q$
  - equivalence ( $\Leftrightarrow$ ) –  $P \Leftrightarrow Q \equiv (P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \Rightarrow P)$
- Operator precedence (tightest-binding first):  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow$
- Quantifiers
  - for all ( $\forall$ )
  - there exists ( $\exists$ )
  - Example:  $\forall x \in \mathbb{N} \cdot x \geq 0$
  - The type of the bound variable may be implicit, e.g.  $\forall x \cdot x \geq 0$
- Entailment
  - If  $P \Rightarrow Q$  is a tautology (always true) then  $P$  is stronger than  $Q$
  - Equivalently:  $P$  entails  $Q$  ( $P \Rightarrow Q$ )
- Substitution
  - $P[x \backslash a]$  – Substitute all occurrences of  $x$  by  $a$  in  $P$
  - $P[x, y \backslash a, b]$  – Substitute  $a$  and  $b$  for  $x$  and  $y$  **simultaneously**
- Hoare triples –  $\{P\} S \{Q\}$ 
  - $P$  is the precondition,  $S$  is the program and  $Q$  is the postcondition
  - If  $P$  is true before  $S$  executes, then  $S$  will terminate and  $Q$  will be true when it does
  - The program must terminate if started in States <sub>$p$</sub>  (total correctness)
- Weakest preconditions
  - For a program  $S$  and postcondition  $Q$ ,  $wp(S, Q)$  is the unique weakest possible precondition such that the triple  $\{P\} S \{Q\}$  will be true
  - $\forall P \cdot (\{P\} S \{Q\}) \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow wp(S, Q))$

## 2 Guarded Command Language

- **skip** – Empty Command
  - $wp(\mathbf{skip}, Q) \equiv Q$
  - Hence  $\{Q\} \mathbf{skip} \{Q\} \equiv \text{true}$  for any  $Q$
  - $\{P\} \mathbf{skip} \{Q\}$  is false if and only if  $P$  is strictly weaker than  $Q$
- **abort** – Chaotic Command
  - $wp(\mathbf{abort}, Q) \equiv \text{false}$
  - No precondition can guarantee a postcondition
  - Represents ‘chaotic/undefined behaviour’
- **:=** – Assignment
  - $wp(x := E, Q) \equiv Q[x \setminus E]$
  - So  $\{Q[x \setminus E]\} x := E \{Q\}$  is true
  - Generalises to multiple assignment:  $wp((x, y := E, F), Q) \equiv Q[x, y \setminus E, F]$
- **;** – Composition/Concatenation
  - $wp(S_1; S_2, Q) \equiv wp(S_1, wp(S_2, Q))$
  - There exists some ‘middle’ predicate true after  $S_1$  and before  $S_2$
  - If  $\{P\} S_1 \{M\} \wedge \{M\} S_2 \{Q\}$  then  $\{P\} S_1; S_2 \{Q\}$
- **if** – Selection
  - **if**  $G_1 \rightarrow S_1$   
    $\parallel G_2 \rightarrow S_2$   
    $\dots$   
    $\parallel G_n \rightarrow S_n$   
   **fi**
  - Evaluate all guards  $G_1 \dots G_n$ , choose a true guard  $G_i$  nondeterministically, and execute  $S_i$
  - if all guards evaluate to false then **abort** is executed
  - $wp(\mathbf{if}, Q) \equiv \bigvee_{i=1}^n G_i \wedge \bigwedge_{i=1}^n (G_i \Rightarrow wp(S_i), Q)$
  - The disjunction of the guards *must* be true
- **do** – Repetition
  - **do**  $G_1 \rightarrow S_1$   
    $\parallel G_2 \rightarrow S_2$   
    $\dots$   
    $\parallel G_n \rightarrow S_n$   
   **od**
  - Evaluate all guards, choose a true guard nondeterministically, execute  $S_i$  and repeat
  - If all  $G_i$  are false, the loop ends and the program continues
  - Weakest precondition rule is complex, so *loop invariants* are used instead
  - Predicate  $I$  is a loop invariant if  $\{I \wedge G_i\} S_i \{I\}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$
  - There are usually many possible invariants for a loop

### 3 Refinement & Verification

- Specification statement:  $w : [P, Q]$
- $P$  is the precondition,  $Q$  is the postcondition,  $w$  is the ‘frame’ of variables that may be modified
- A program  $C$  satisfies  $w : [P, Q]$  if and only if
  - $\{P\} C \{Q\}$
  - $C$  only changes variables in  $w$
- If  $P$  is not true when  $C$  is executed it may do anything, and it need not terminate
- Mixing specification statements with GCL forms a ‘wide-spectrum language’
- Refinement ( $\sqsubseteq$ ) – a partial ordering on programs (similar to  $\leq$  for reals)
  - $S \sqsubseteq S'$  means a user expecting program  $S$  would be satisfied with  $S'$
  - $S \sqsubseteq S' \Leftrightarrow \forall Q \cdot wp(S, Q) \Rightarrow wp(S', Q)$
  - For a specification:  $wp(x : [P, Q], Q') \triangleq P \wedge (\forall x \cdot Q \Rightarrow Q')[v_0 \setminus v]$
- General approach to refining a program
  - Start with a specification  $S = w : [P, Q]$
  - Use rules to replace  $S$  with  $S'$  mixing specifications with GCL
  - Each rule must preserve correctness – i.e. every program  $C$  that satisfies  $S'$  must satisfy  $S$
  - Eventually arrive at a pure GCL program  $C$  such that  $\{P\} C \{Q\} \equiv \text{true}$

### 3.1 Refinement Rules

- Rule 1: **Strengthen Postcondition**
  - If  $P[w \setminus w_0] \wedge Q' \Rightarrow Q$  then  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq w : [P, Q']$  ( $P[w \setminus w_0]$  usually not needed)
- Rule 2: **Weaken Precondition**
  - If  $P \Rightarrow P'$  then  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq w : [P', Q]$
- Rule 3: **Skip**
  - If  $P \Rightarrow Q$  then  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq \text{skip}$
- Rule 4: **Assignment**
  - If  $P \Rightarrow Q[x \setminus E]$  then  $x : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq x := E$
- Rule 5: **Composition**
  - $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq w : [P, M]; w : [M, Q]$  (no side condition)
- Rule 6: **Following Assignment** (combined assignment and composition)
  - $w, x : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq w, x : [P, Q[x \setminus E]]; x := E$
- Rule 7: **Selection**
  - If  $P \Rightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^n G_i$  then  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq$   
   **if**  $G_1 \rightarrow w : [G_1 \wedge P, Q]$   
    $\dots$   
   **||**  $G_n \rightarrow w : [G_n \wedge P, Q]$   
   **fi**
- Rule 8: **Repetition**
  - For repetition, a loop invariant  $I$  and loop variant (an integer expression)  $V$  are required
    - \* Let  $V_0$  be the value of  $V$  at the start of each iteration
    - \* Then  $0 \leq V < V_0$  is true at the end of each iteration
    - \* (i.e.  $V$  is *strictly decreasing* on every iteration, and won't be negative before loop termination)
  - To apply the repetition rule
    1. Strengthen postcondition to  $I \wedge \neg G$  (side condition:  $I \wedge \neg G \Rightarrow Q$ )
    2. Use composition to perform  $w : [P, I \wedge \neg G] \sqsubseteq w : [P, I]; w : [I, I \wedge \neg G]$
    3. Refine the first half into initialisation (e.g. an assignment)
    4. Refine the second half using the repetition rule (no side conditions!)
  - Rule: Let  $G \triangleq \bigvee_{i=1}^n G_i$ , then  $w : [I, I \wedge \neg G] \sqsubseteq$   
   **do**  $G_1 \rightarrow w : [I \wedge G_1, I \wedge (0 \leq V < V_0)]$   
    $\dots$   
   **||**  $G_n \rightarrow w : [I \wedge G_n, I \wedge (0 \leq V < V_0)]$   
   **od**
- Rule 9: **Contract frame**
  - $w, x : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq w : [P, Q[x_0 \setminus x]]$
- Rule 10: **Remove invariant**
  - If  $w$  does not occur in  $I$  then  $w : [P \wedge I, Q \wedge I] \sqsubseteq w : [P, Q]$

## 4 Arrays

- If  $A$  is an array, then  $A.\text{len}$  is the number of elements in  $A$
- $A_i$  is the zero-indexed  $i^{\text{th}}$  element of  $A$  if  $0 \leq i < A.\text{len}$ 
  - If  $i$  is outside of  $[0, A.\text{len})$  then  $A_i$  is undefined
- $A_{[i,j)}$  is the subarray from containing the elements from  $A_i$  to  $A_{j-1}$ 
  - $A_{[i,i)}$  is the empty array  $[]$
  - If  $i > j$  or  $i < 0$  or  $j > A.\text{len}$  then the subarray is undefined

## 5 Derivation

- Deriving a loop based program: follow the strategy for repetition
  - Strengthen postcondition, use composition, assignment rule for initialisation, repetition rule
- Patterns for finding an invariant when deriving a loop-based program
  - **Pattern 1:** Given postcondition  $Q \hat{=} Q_1 \wedge Q_2$ , let  $Q_1$  be the invariant and  $Q_2$  be the negation of the guard
    - \* Use this pattern if the postcondition consists of conjunct conditions and one looks like a useful negation of the guard
    - \* If there is only one condition, remember the invariant could always just be true
  - **Pattern 2:** Given postcondition  $Q$  which uses some constant  $N$ , replace  $N$  with a variable  $x$ , and let the negation of the guard be  $x = N$ 
    - \* Use this pattern to create an iterator variable  $x$  when there is something clear to iterate over
    - \* This is commonly used for array-based programs
    - \* In an array-based program with no obvious constants, remember that  $A = A_{[0, A.\text{len})}$
  - Note that often these will just be ‘starting’ invariants that may require strengthening

## 6 Procedures

- A procedure is a named block of code used for structure and to enable reuse
- Given **procedure**  $R() \hat{=} S$  and  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq S$ , we have that  $w : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq R$
- The *formal* parameter is used in the function and the *actual* parameter is what's passed in
- Parameter types
  - **value**
    - \* Sets the formal parameter to the value of a variable or expression when the procedure runs
    - \* Modifying the formal parameter in the procedure doesn't affect the actual parameter
    - \* Given **procedure**  $R(\text{value } z) \hat{=} S$  and  $w, z : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq S$ :  
 $w : [P[z \setminus a], Q[z_0 \setminus a_0]] \sqsubseteq R(a)$  where  $a_0 = a[w \setminus w_0]$
    - \* The postcondition  $Q$  should not contain  $z$  since it is local to  $R$
  - **result**
    - \* The actual parameter takes the value of the formal parameter when the procedure terminates
    - \* The actual parameter must be a variable, not an expression and its initial value is not defined
    - \* Given **procedure**  $R(\text{result } z) \hat{=} S$  and  $w, z : \sqsubseteq S$ :  
 $w : [P, Q[z \setminus a]] \sqsubseteq R(a)$
    - \* The precondition  $P$  should not contain  $z$ , and the postcondition  $Q$  should not contain  $z_0$
  - **value result**
    - \* The formal parameter takes the value of the actual parameter when the procedure starts
    - \* The actual parameter takes the value of the formal parameter when the procedure terminates
    - \* Given **procedure**  $R(\text{value result } z) \hat{=} S$  and  $w, z : [P, Q] \sqsubseteq S$ :  
 $w, a : [P[z \setminus a], Q[z_0, z \setminus a_0, a]] \sqsubseteq R(a)$
    - \* There are no constraints on how  $z$  and  $z_0$  may appear in  $P$  and  $Q$
- A procedure may have multiple parameters of different types
  - \* e.g. **procedure**  $R(\text{result } x, y; \text{value } z) \hat{=} x, y := 0, z + 1$
- Introducing procedures when refining
  1. Identify a suitable specification  $x, y, z : [P, Q]$  and choose a name  $R$
  2. Identify parameters and their types
    - \* Variables in  $P$  only are likely **value** parameters
    - \* Variables in  $Q$  only are likely **result** parameters
    - \* Variables in both are likely **value result** parameters

**procedure**  $R(\text{value } x; \text{result } y; \text{value result } z) \hat{=} x, y, z : [P, Q]$
  3. If the formal parameter appears only in the precondition, use a **value** parameter
  4. Refine the body of  $R$  to code
  5. Refine the main program with variables  $a, b, c$  to the specification:  
 $b, c : [P[x, z \setminus a, c], Q[x_0, y, z_0, z \setminus a_0, b, c_0, c]]$
  6. Replace the above specification with  $R(a, b, c)$

## 7 Recursion

## 8 Modules