Cours MALG & MOVEX

Vérification mécanisée de contrats (II) (The ANSI/ISO C Specification Language (ACSL))

Dominique Méry
Telecom Nancy, Université de Lorraine

Année universitaire 2025-2026 (5 février 2026 9:20 A.M.)

Plan

Sommaire

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

2 Annotations

3 Contracts
  Extending C programming language by contracts
  Playing with variables
  Ghost Variables

Sommaire

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

**2** Annotations

3 Contracts
　　　Extending C programming language by contracts
　　　Playing with variables
　　　Ghost Variables

Current Summary

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

2 Annotations

3 Contracts
   Extending C programming language by contracts
   Playing with variables
   Ghost Variables

{P} S {Q}

$$\{P\}\ S\ \{Q\}$$

$$P \Rightarrow WLP(S)(Q)$$

Vérification mécanisée de contrats (II)
(The ANSI/ISO C Specification Language (ACSL)) **(5 février 2026)** (Dominique Méry)

MALG & MOVEX 6/40

{P} S {Q}

S

$P \Rightarrow WLP(S)(\mathrm{Q})$

Computing WLP(S)(Q) ?

Current Summary

1. Programs as Predicate Transformers

2. **Annotations**

3. Contracts
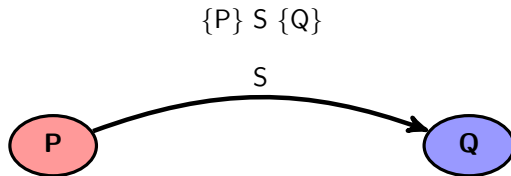   Extending C programming language by contracts
   Playing with variables
   Ghost Variables

Writing a simple contract
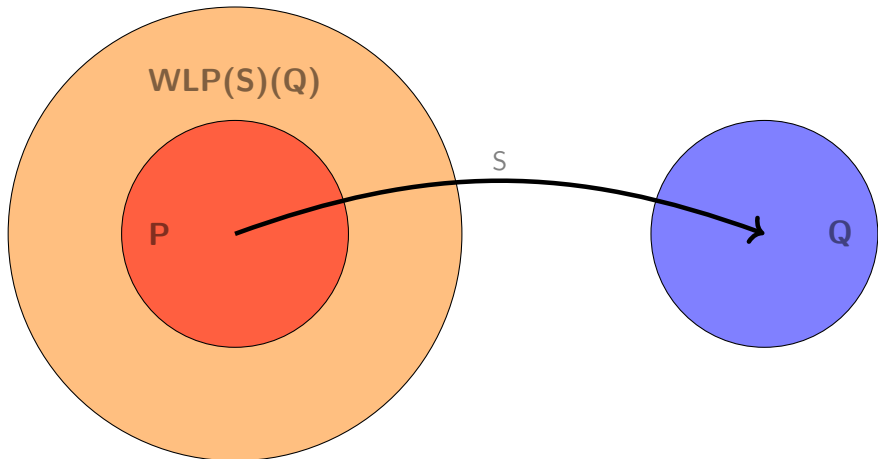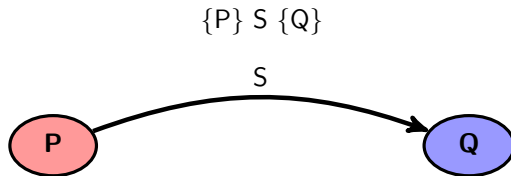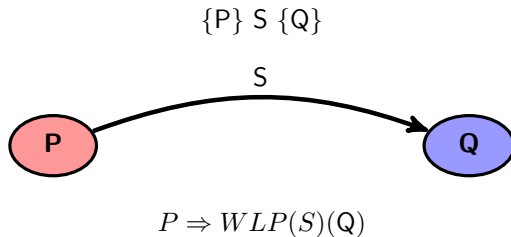
variables x
requires $x0 >= 0 \wedge x0 <= 10;$
ensures
$\begin{cases} x0\%2 = 0 \implies 2 \cdot \text{result} = x0; \\ x0\%2 \neq 0 \implies 2 \cdot \text{result} = x0-1; \\ x = x0 \end{cases}$

$\begin{bmatrix} begin \\ int\ y; \\ y = x/2; \\ return(y); \\ end \end{bmatrix}$

▶ result is the value returned by the command `return(y)`.

▶ `return(y)` is equivalent to `result:= y`.

(Writing a simple contract.)

Listing 1 – project-divers/annotation.c

```
/*@ requires  x >=  0 && x <= 10;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*\result == x;
  @ ensures  x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*\result == x-1;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
  int y;
  y  = x / 2;
  return(y);
}
```

Writing a simple contract

Listing 2 – project-divers/annotationwp.c

```
/*@ requires  0 <= x  && x <= 10;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*\result == x;
  @ ensures  x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*\result == x-1;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
/*@ assert x % 2 == 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x; */
/*@ assert   x % 2 != 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x-1; */
  int y;
/*@ assert x % 2 == 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x; */
/*@ assert   x % 2 != 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x-1; */
  y = x / 2;
/*@ assert x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*y == x; */
/*@ assert   x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*y == x-1; */
  return(y);
/*@ assert x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*y == x; */
/*@ assert   x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*y == x-1; */

  }
```

Property to check

$$x \geq 0 \wedge x \leq 10 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x\%2 \neq 0 \Rightarrow 2\cdot(x/2) = x-1 \\ x\%2 = 0 \Rightarrow 2\cdot(x/2) = x \end{cases}$$

Writing a simple contract

(Checking the precondition.)

Listing 3 – project-divers/annotation0.c

```
/*@ requires x >= 0 && x <  0;
   @ assigns \nothing;
   @ ensures \result == 0;
   @*/
int annotation0(int x)
{
   int y;
   y = y / (x-x);
   return(y);
   }
```

Writing a simple contract

Listing 4 – project-divers/annotation0wp.c

```
/*@ requires x >= 0 && x <  0;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures \result == 0;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
   /*@ assert y / (x-x) == 0; */
   int y;
   /*@ assert y / (x-x) == 0; */
   y = y / (x-x);
   /*@ assert y == 0; */
   return(y);
   /*@ assert y == 0; */
}
```

Property to check

$x \geq 0 \wedge\ < 0 \Rightarrow y/(x-x) = 0$

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
$S1;$
//@ assert $wp(S2)(Q(v0, v))$:
$S2;$
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
$S1; S2$
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

► Applying the property :
$wp(S1; S2)(A) =$
$wp(S1)(wp(S2)(A))$

►

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
//@ assert $xp(S1)(wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)))$:
$S1;$
//@ assert $wp(S2)(Q(v0, v))$:
$S2;$
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
ELSE
    S2
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
ELSE
    S2
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

► Applying the property :
$wp(if(B, S1, S2)(A) = b \land wp(S1)(A) \lor \neg B \land wp(S2)(A)$.

►

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

Transformations of annotated programs (2)

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

Transformations of annotated programs (2)

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
//@ assert B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
//@ assert ¬B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

Transformations of annotated programs (2)

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
  S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
  S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
//@ assert b ∧ wp(S1)(Q(v0, v)) :
  S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
//@ assert ¬b ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
  S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
//@ assert B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
  S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
//@ assert ¬B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
  S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

Transformations of annotated programs (2)

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
//@ assert b ∧ wp(S1)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
//@ assert ¬b ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
FI
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
IF B THEN
//@ assert B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S1
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
ELSE
//@ assert ¬B ∧ wp(S2)(Q(v0, v)) :
    S2
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

▶ $b \wedge P(v0, v) \Rightarrow$
  $b \wedge wp(S1)(Q(v0, v))$

▶ $\neg b \wedge P(v0, v) \Rightarrow$
  $\neg b \wedge wp(S2)(Q(v0, v))$

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
//@ loop invariant $I(v0, v)$:
WHILE B THEN
  S
OD
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

▶ Applying the iteration
  rule of Hoare Logic :

Transformations of annotated programs (3)

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
//@ loop invariant $I(v0, v)$:
WHILE B THEN
  S
OD
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

//@ assert $P(v0, v)$:
//@ loop invariant $I(v0, v)$:
//@ assert $I(v0, v)$:
WHILE B THEN
//@ assert $b \wedge I(v0, v)$:
  S
//@ assert $I(v0, v)$:
OD
//@ assert $Q(v0, v)$:

▶ Applying the iteration
  rule of Hoare Logic :

Transformations of annotated programs (3)

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
//@ loop invariant I(v0, v) :
WHILE B THEN
    S
OD
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

```
//@ assert P(v0, v) :
//@ loop invariant I(v0, v) :
//@ assert I(v0, v) :
WHILE B THEN
//@ assert b ∧ I(v0, v) :
    S
//@ assert I(v0, v) :
OD
//@ assert Q(v0, v) :
```

► Applying the iteration rule of Hoare Logic :

► $b \land I(v0, v) \Rightarrow wp(S)(I(v0, v))$

► $P(v0, v) \Rightarrow I(v0, v))$

► $\neg b \land I(v0, v) \Rightarrow Q(v0, v)$

▶ Checking the preservation of invariant.

▶ Applying the wps on assertions according to startements.

Assertions

▶ Assertions at a control point of the program

```
/*@  assert pred; */

//@  assert pred;
```

▶ Assertions at a control point of the program components.

```
/*@  for id1,id2, ..., idn: assert pred; */
```

Verification using WLP

(Incrementing a number)

Listing 5 – project-divers/compwp0.c

```
#define x0 5
/*@ assigns \nothing;*/
int  exemple() {
  int x=x0;
  //@ assert x == x0;
  x = x + 1;
//@ assert  x== x0+1;
return x;
}
```

(Incrementing a number)

Listing 6 – project-divers/compwp0wp.c

```
#define x0 5
/*@ assigns \nothing; */
int  exemple() {
  //@ assert x0 == x0;
//@ assert  x0+1 == x0+1;
  int x=x0;
  //@ assert x == x0;
//@ assert  x+1 == x0+1;
  x = x + 1;
//@ assert  x== x0+1;
return x;
}
```

Summary on annotations and assertions

- requires
- assigns
- ensures
- decreases
- predicate
- logic
- lemma

Current Summary

Current Subsection Summary

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

2 Annotations

3 Contracts
   Extending C programming language by contracts
   Playing with variables
   Ghost Variables

Programming by contract

- The calling function should garantee the required condition or precondition introduced by the clauses requires $P1 \wedge \ldots \wedge Pn$ at the calling point.

- The called function returns results that are ensured by the clause ensures $E1 \wedge \ldots \wedge Em$; ensures clause exporess a relationship between the initial values of variables and the final values.

- initial values of a variable v is denoted $\backslash old(v)$

- The variables which are not in the set $L1 \cup \ldots \cup Lp$ are not modified.

Listing 7 – contrat

```
/*@ requires P1 ;...; requires Pn;
  @ assigns L1 ;...; assigns Lm;
  @ ensures E1 ;...; ensures Ep;
  @*/
```

Examples of contract (1)

Listing 8 – project-divers/annotation.c

```
/*@ requires x >= 0 && x <= 10;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*\result == x;
  @ ensures  x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*\result == x-1;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
  int y;
  y  = x / 2;
  return(y);
  }
```

Examples of contract (1)

Listing 9 – project-divers/annotationwp.c

```c
/*@ requires  0 <= x  && x <=  10;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures   x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*\result == x;
  @ ensures   x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*\result == x-1;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
/*@ assert  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x; */
/*@ assert    x % 2 != 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x-1; */
  int y;
/*@ assert  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x; */
/*@ assert    x % 2 != 0 ==> 2* (x / 2) == x-1; */
  y = x / 2;
/*@ assert  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*y == x; */
/*@ assert    x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*y == x-1; */
  return(y);
/*@ assert  x % 2 == 0 ==> 2*y == x; */
/*@ assert    x % 2 != 0 ==> 2*y == x-1; */

  }
```

Property to check
$$x \geq 0 \wedge x < 0; \Rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{rcl} x \ \% \ 2 & = & 0 \Rightarrow 2 \cdot (x/2) = x \\ x \ \% \ 2 & \neq & 0 \Rightarrow 2 \cdot (x/2) = x-1 \end{array} \right)$$

(Precondition)

Listing 10 – project-divers/annotation0.c

```
/*@ requires x >= 0 && x < 0;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures \result == 0;
  @*/
int annotation0(int x)
{
  int y;
  y = y / (x-x);
  return(y);
}
```

(Precondition)

Listing 11 – project-divers/annotation0wp.c

```c
/*@ requires x >= 0 && x < 0;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures \result == 0;
  @*/
int annotation(int x)
{
   /*@ assert y / (x-x) == 0; */
   int y;
   /*@ assert y / (x-x) == 0; */
   y = y / (x-x);
   /*@ assert y == 0; */
   return(y);
   /*@ assert y == 0; */
   }
```

Property to check
$0 \leq x \wedge x \leq 10 \Rightarrow y/(x-x) = 0$

Definition of a contract (specification)

▶ Define the mathematical fucntion to compute (what to compute ?)

▶ Define an inductive method for computing the mathematical function and using axioms.

(facctorial what)

Listing 12 – project-factorial/factorial.h

```
#ifndef _A_H
#define _A_H
/*@ axiomatic mathfact {
  @ logic integer mathfact(integer n);
  @ axiom mathfact_1: mathfact(1) == 1;
  @ axiom mathfact_rec: \forall integer n; n > 1
  ==> mathfact(n) == n * mathfact(n-1);
  @ } */

/*@ requires n > 0;
  decreases n;
  ensures \result == mathfact(n);
  assigns \nothing;
*/
int codefact(int n);
#endif
```

Definition of a contract (programming)

▶ Define the program codefact for computing mathfact (How to compute ?)

▶ Define the algorithm computing the function mathfact

```
(facctorial how )

                    Listing 13 – project-factorial/factorial.c
#include "factorial.h"

int codefact(int n) {
    int y = 1;
    int x = n;
    /*@ loop invariant x >= 1 && x <= n && mathfact(n) == y * mathfact(x);
      loop assigns x, y;
      loop variant x;
    */
    while (x != 1) {
        y = y * x;
        x = x - 1;
    };
    return y;

}
```

▶ The specification of a function (mathfact) to compute requires to
  define it mathematically.

▶ The definition is stated in an axtiomatic framework and is preferably
  inductive (mathfact) which is used in assrtions or theorems or
  lemmas.

▶ The relationship between the ciomputed value (\result) and the
  mathematical value (mathfact(n)) is stated in the ensures clause :

$$\result == mathfact(n)$$

▶ The main property to prove is codefact(n)==mathfact(n) : Calling
  codefact for n returns a value equal to mathfact(n).

Contracts with named behaviours
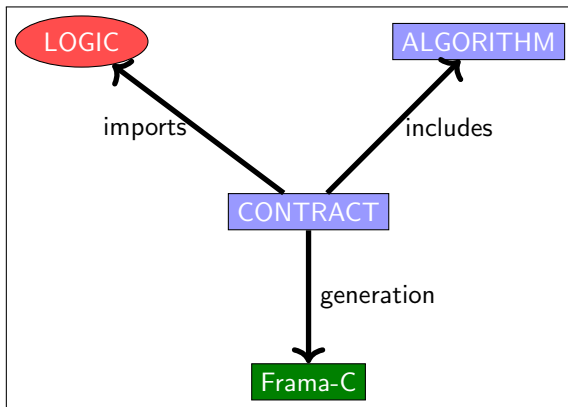
Listing 14 – contrat

```
/*@ requires P;
@ behavior b1:
  @ assumes A1;
  @ requires R1 ;
  @ assigns L1;
  @ ensures E1;
@ behavior b2:
  @ assumes A2;
  @ requires R2;
  @ assigns L2;
  @ ensures E2;
@*/
```

(Pairs of integers)

Listing 15 – project-divers/structures.h

```
#ifndef _STRUCTURE_H

struct s {
    int q;
    int r;
};

#endif
```

Division shpuld not return silly expressions !

(Specification)

Listing 16 – project-divers/division.h

```
#ifndef _A_H
#define _A_H
#include "structures.h"
/*@ requires a >= 0 && b >= 0;
@ behavior b :
  @ assumes b == 0;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures \result.q == -1 && \result.r == -1 ;
@ behavior B2:
  @ assumes b != 0;
  @ assigns \nothing;
  @ ensures 0 <= \result.r;
  @ ensures \result.r < b;
  @ ensures a == b * \result.q + \result.r;
*/
struct s division(int a, int b);
#endif
```

Division shpuld not return silly expressions !

(Algorithm)

Listing 17 – project-divers/division.c

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "division.h"

struct s division(int a, int b)
{   int rr = a;
    int qq = 0;
    struct s   silly = {−1,−1};
    struct s resu;
    if (b == 0) {
        return silly;
    }
    else
        {
    /*@
       loop invariant
       ( a == b*qq + rr ) &&
       rr >= 0;
       loop assigns rr,qq;
       loop variant rr;
    */
    while ( rr >= b) { rr = rr − b; qq=qq+1;};
    resu.q= qq;
    resu.r = rr;
    return resu;
}
}
```

Iteration Rule for PC

If $\{P \wedge B\}\mathbf{S}\{P\}$, then $\{P\}$**while B do S od**$\{P \wedge \neg B\}$.

▶ Prove $\{P \wedge B\}\mathbf{S}\{P\}$ or $P \wedge B \Rightarrow \{\mathbf{S}\}(P)$.

▶ By the iteration rule, we conclude that
   $\{P\}$**while B do S od**$\{P \wedge \neg B\}$ without using WLP.

▶ Introduction of LOOP INVARIANTS in the notation.

Listing 18 – loop.c

```
/*@ loop invariant I1;
    loop invariant I2;
    ...
    loop invariant In;
    loop assigns X;
    loop variant E;
  */
```

(Invariant de boucle)

Listing 19 – project-divers/anno6.c

```
/*@ requires a >= 0 && b >= 0;
  ensures 0 <= \result;
  ensures \result < b;
  ensures \exists integer k; a == k * b + \result;
*/
int rem(int a, int b) {
  int r = a;
  /*@
    loop invariant
    (\exists integer i; a == i * b + r) &&
    r >= 0;
    loop assigns r;
   */
  while (r >= b) { r = r - b; };
  return r;
}
```

Current Subsection Summary

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

2 Annotations

3 Contracts

    Extending C programming language by contracts

    Playing with variables

    Ghost Variables

- $\backslash old(x)$ is the value of the variable when the function is called.
- It can be used in the postcondition of the *ensures* clause.

(Modifying variables while calling)

Listing 20 – project-divers/old1.c

```c
/*@ requires \valid(a) && \valid(b);
  @ assigns *a,*b;
    @ ensures   *a == \at(*a,Pre) +2;
    @ ensures   *b == \at(*b,Pre)+\at(*a,Pre)+2;

       @ ensures   \result == 0;
*/
int old(int *a, int *b) {
  int x,y;
  x = *a;
  y = *b;
  x=x+2;
   y = y +x;

  *a = x;
  *b = y;
  return 0 ;
}
```

- $\backslash at(e, id)$ is the value of e at the control point id.
- id should occur before $\backslash at(e, id)$
- id is one of the possible expressions : Pre, Here, Old, Post, LoopEntry, LoopCurrent, Init
- $\backslash old(e)$ is equivalent to $\backslash at(e, Old)$

Exemple pour $\backslash at(e, id)$

Listing 21 – project-divers/at1.c

```c
/*@
  requires \valid(a) && \valid(b);
  assigns *a,*b;
  ensures  *a == \old(*a)+2;
  ensures  *b == \old(*b)+\old(*a)+2;
*/
int at1(int *a, int *b) {
//@ assert *a == \at(*a,Pre);
  *a = *a +1;
//@ assert *a == \at(*a,Pre)+1;
  *a = *a +1;
//@ assert *a == \at(*a,Pre)+2;
  *b = *b +*a;
//@ assert *a == \at(*a,Pre)+2 && *b == \at(*b,Pre)+\at(*a,Pre)+2;
  return 0;
}
```

–

(autre label)

Listing 22 – project-divers/at2.c

```c
void f (int n) {
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
/*@ assert \at(i, LoopEntry) == 0; */
int j=0;
while (j++ < i) {
/*@ assert \at(j, LoopEntry) == 0; */
/*@ assert \at(j, LoopCurrent) + 1 == j; */
} }
}
```

Example for $\at(e, id)$

Listing 23 – project-divers/change1.c

```c
/*@ requires \valid(a) && *a >= 0;
  @ assigns *a;
  @ ensures  *a == \old(*a)+2 && \result == 0;
*/
int  change1(int *a)
{  int x = *a;
   x = x + 2;
   *a = x;
   return 0;
}
```

Current Subsection Summary

1 Programs as Predicate Transformers

2 Annotations

3 Contracts

Extending C programming language by contracts

Playing with variables

Ghost Variables

▶ A variable called *ghost* allows to model a computed value useful for stating a model property : the ghost variable is hidden for the computer but not for the model.

▶ It should not change the semantics of others variables and should not change the effective variables.

Wrong use of ghost variable

(Bug)

Listing 24 – project-divers/ghost2.c

```
int f (int x, int y) {
   //@ghost int z=x+y;
switch (x) {
case 0: return y;
//@ ghost case 1: z=y;
// above statement is correct.
//@ ghost case 2: { z++; break; }
// invalid, would bypass the non-ghost default
default: y++; }
return y; }

int g(int x) { //@ ghost int z=x;
if (x>0){return x;}
//@ ghost else { z++; return x; }
// invalid, would bypass the non-ghost return
return x+1; }
```

Programmation par contrat

(Ghost variable)

Listing 25 – project-divers/ghost1.c

```c
/*@ requires a >= 0 && b >= 0;
  ensures 0 <= \result;
  ensures \result < b;
  ensures \exists integer k; a == k * b + \result; */
int rem(int a, int b) {
  int r = a;
 /*@ ghost    int q=0;    */
  /*@
    loop invariant
    a == q * b + r &&
    r >= 0 &&   r <= a;
    loop assigns r;
    loop assigns q;
// loop variant r;
*/
  while (r >= b) {
    r = r - b;
/*@ ghost     q = q+1;     */
  };
  return r;
}
```