

142 (square) Let s and n be natural variables. Find a specification P such that both the following hold:

$$s' = n^2 \iff s := n. P$$

$$P \iff \text{if } n=0 \text{ then ok else } n:=n-1. s:=s+n+n. P \text{ fi}$$

This program squares using only addition, subtraction, and test for zero.

§ Looking at the last refinement, I see that it's a loop, and n gets decreased each iteration, until it is 0. Also, s gets increased each iteration. So P should have the form

$$s' = s + \text{something}$$

In other words, P says that the final value of s is the current value plus something more. When I am proving the first refinement,

$$s' = n^2 \iff s := n. s' = s + \text{something}$$

I will use the Substitution Law, making it

$$s' = n^2 \iff s' = n + \text{something}$$

Now I see that “something” has to get rid of n and supply n^2 . So I'll try

$$P = s' = s + n^2 - n$$

Proof of first refinement, starting with its right side:

$$\begin{aligned} & s := n. P && \text{replace } P \\ = & s := n. s' = s + n^2 - n && \text{substitution law} \\ = & s' = n + n^2 - n && \text{arithmetic} \\ = & s' = n^2 \end{aligned}$$

Proof of last refinement, starting with its right side:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{if } n=0 \text{ then ok else } n:=n-1. s:=s+n+n. P \text{ fi} && \text{replace } P \text{ and } ok \\ = & \text{if } n=0 \text{ then } s'=s \text{ else } n:=n-1. s:=s+n+n. s' = s + n^2 - n \text{ fi} && \text{substitution law} \\ = & \text{if } n=0 \text{ then } s'=s \wedge n'=n \text{ else } n:=n-1. s' = s + n^2 + n \text{ fi} && \text{substitution law} \\ = & \text{if } n=0 \text{ then } s'=s \wedge n'=n \text{ else } s' = s + (n-1)^2 + n - 1 \text{ fi} && \text{arithmetic} \\ = & \text{if } n=0 \text{ then } s'=s \wedge n'=n \text{ else } s' = s + n^2 - n \text{ fi} && \text{context in then-part} \\ \Rightarrow & s' = s + n^2 - n \\ = & P \end{aligned}$$

I could have used Refinement by Cases to prove the last refinement.