Program Verification with Dafny (Part I + III + III)

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Dafny

- Programming language and tool for developing verified programs
- Developed by Microsoft Research
- Multi-paradigm language (imperative, functional, object-oriented)
- Two main components:
 - Specifications (verified statically)
 - Implementations (compiles into C#)

Dafny Specifications

- Specifications are declarative, either logic or functional programming
- Immutable instances (value types, in contrast to reference types)
- Constructs include
 - Preconditions (requires) and postconditions (ensures)
 - Loop variants (decreases) and invariants (invariant)
 - Assertions (assert)
 - Lemmas (lemma)
 - Functions (function) and predicates (predicate)
 - Ghost (ghost) variables and methods

Dafny Implementations

- Implementations are mostly imperative (but functional can be used)
- Composed of procedures (method)
- Strongly typed (often inferred)
- Some object-oriented features (classes, inheritance, ...)
- Supports reference types (arrays, classes, ...), mutable instances

Dafny Verification

- Methods are annotated with specifications
- Specifications continuously verified statically (compilation-time)
 - Automates part of the tableau proof method
 - Invalid specifications are errors: does not compile
- Uses solvers underneath, shows counter-examples to violations
- Not fully automatic (undecidable): may require additional annotations
- Compiles implementations into executable code
- Specifications are not part of the executable code

Dafny Examples

- Consider only value types
- No aliasing, assignment is copy
- No arrays, no class objects, no side-effects

- Methods are executable code
- No annotations, but already errors flagged
- Dafny verifies total correctness
 - correctness + termination
- Cannot prove termination without restrictions on input

```
method div(n:nat, d:nat) returns (q:nat, r:nat)
{
    r := n;
    q := 0;
    while (r >= d)
    {
        q := q + 1;
        r := r - d;
    }
}

method Main()
{
    var x,y := div(15,4);
}
```

Return values part of state, may return multiple. Variables declared with var, type (often) inferred.

- With the requires precondition already proves termination
- Loop variant automatically inferred
- Can be made explicit with decreases
- Information from types (nat, ≥0) also used

```
method div(n:nat, d:nat) returns (q:nat, r:nat)
requires d > 0
{
    decreases r - d Resolver
    No quick fixes available
    while (r >= d)
        q := q + 1;
        r := r - d;
}
method Main()
{
    var x,y := div(15,4);
}
```

Blue annotations are informative.

Code can be executed when there are no errors.

- Can define basic tests as assertions
- These are not checked in runtime as in other languages
- Verified during compilation
- Invalid: methods are black-box for proofs
- Only the pre and postconditions are known

```
method div(n:nat, d:nat) returns (q:nat, r:nat)
requires d > 0
{
    r := n;
    q := 0;
    while (r >= d)
    {
        q := q + 1;
        r := r - d;
    }
}
Ghost statement
meth
assertion might not hold Verifier
{
    View Problem No quick fixes available
assert x == 3 && y == 3;
}
```

Counter-examples can be shown (not always helpful).

- Postcondition added
- Assertion is now valid: consistent with postcondition
- But still not proved that code satisfied postcondition
- Loops require additional annotations

```
method div(n:nat, d:nat) returns (q:nat, r:nat)
requires d > 0
ensures q*d + r == n \& r < d
    r := n;
    q := 0;
    while (r >= d)
        q := q + 1;
        r := r - d;
method Main()
    var x, y := div(15,4);
    assert x == 3 \&\& y == 3;
```

- Loop invariant: must hold before, in all iterations, and after
- Must imply the postcondition
- Usually also states the range of iterator
- Creative step, cannot be automated by tools
- Variants often automatically detected, but not always

```
method div(n:nat, d:nat) returns (q:nat, r:nat)
requires d > 0
ensures q*d + r == n \&\& r < d
    r := n;
    q := 0;
    while (r >= d)
    invariant q*d + r == n
        r := r - d;
method Main()
    var x, y := div(15,4);
    assert x == 3 \&\& y == 3;
```

- Iterative, inefficient version (linear)
- How to specify the postcondition declaratively?
- Side-effect free functions

```
method powerIte(b:real, e:nat) returns (x:real)
{
    x := 1.0;
    var i := 0;
    while (i < e)
    {
        x := x * b;
        i := i + 1;
    }
}</pre>
```

Real constants require decimal part.

- Functions: more abstract and declarative definition of behaviour
- Can be recursive (but no iteration)
- Pure, side-effect free, more prone to automatic analysis
 - Don't need postconditions
- Performance doesn't matter: will not compile
- Needs variant to prove termination, but often automatically inferred

```
method powerIte(b:real, e:nat) returns (x:real)
{
    x := 1.0;
    var i := 0;
    while (i < e)
    {
        x := x * h:
        i auto-accumulator tail recursive Resolver
    }
    decreases b, e Resolver
    No quick fixes available

function pow(b:real, e:nat): real {
    if (e == 0) then 1.0 else b * pow(b,e-1)
}</pre>
```

 Proved that the imperative implementation conforms to the functional specification

```
method powerIte(b:real, e:nat) returns (x:real)
ensures x == pow(b,e)
{
    x := 1.0;
    var i := 0;
    while (i < e)
    invariant x == pow(b,i) && 0 <= i <= e
    {
        x := x * b;
        i := i + 1;
    }
}

function pow(b:real, e:nat): real {
    if (e == 0) then 1.0 else b * pow(b,e-1)
}</pre>
```

- What if we want a more efficient implementation?
- Recursive version, but could be iterative
- Logarithmic, based on $a^n \times a^m = a^{n+m}$
- Solvers don't know all theorems!
- Requires user input
- Not trivial to identify what lemma is needed (solving process is black box)

```
method powerRec(b:real, e:nat) returns (x:real)
ensures x == pow(b,e)
{
    if (e == 0) {
        return 1.0;
    }
    else if (e % 2 == 0) {
        var r := powerRec(b,e/2);
        return r * r;
    } else {
        var r := powerRec(b,(e-1)/2);
        return r * r * b;
    }
}
```

- Sometimes hints can be provided as assertions
- Force the solver to calculate intermediary results
- In more complex cases, we need to define auxiliary lemmas
- The lemmas themselves must be proved correct: not always trivial!
- Here, instructed to prove with induction

```
lemma {:induction e1} powDist(b:real, e1:nat, e2: nat)
ensures pow(b,e1+e2) == pow(b,e1)*pow(b,e2)
method powerRec(b:real, e:nat) returns (x:real)
ensures x == pow(b,e)
    if (e == 0) {
        return 1.0;
    else if (e % 2 == 0) {
        powDist(b,e/2,e/2);
        var r := powerRec(b,e/2);
        return r * r;
    } else {
       powDist(b, (e-1)/2, (e-1)/2);
       var r := powerRec(b,(e-1)/2);
        return r * r * b;
```

- Proofs in Dafny are done by showing intermediate steps using asserts
- Often by induction, base and inductive case

```
lemma {:induction false} distributiveProperty(x: real, a: nat, b: nat)
ensures power(x, a) * power(x, b) == power(x, a + b)
  if a == 0 {
    assert
      power(x, a) * power(x, b) ==
      1.0 * power(x, b) ==
      power(x, b) ==
      power(x, a+ b);
  else {
    // inductive hypothesis
    distributiveProperty(x, a-1, b);
    assert
        power(x, a) * power(x, b) ==
        (x * power(x, a-1)) * power(x, b) ==
        x * (power(x, a-1) * power(x, b)) ==
        x * power(x, a-1 + b) ==
        power(x, a + b);
```

{:induction false} turns off automatic proofs by induction.

Complex Types

- Up until now, we've dealt with atomic values
- To handle more complex structures, we need reference types
- Pointers to memory sections, may be shared
- Values are no longer immutable, may have side effects

Arrays

- Typical concept in programming languages, used at implementation level
- Are typed, can be generic or concrete
- Declared with array<T>, creates object in memory, returns a pointer
- Instances created with new T[n], initialised as new T[n][a₁,..., a_n]
- Library of operations (see reference material)
- Calls are always tested to be within bounds and no null points
- By default, non-null arrays (use array? to allow nulls)

Collections

- Specifications can't handle arrays
- Need more abstract types, mathematical, higher-level
- Back to value types: immutable, comparison is content, assignment is copy
- Efficiency of data structures irrelevant, not executed
- Available collections (see reference material for operations):
 - Sequence
 - Set
 - Multiset
 - Map
 - String

Annotating Code over Arrays

- We cannot reason about arrays, must convert to a collection
- E.g., array to sequence through slices a[m..n]
- Can use forall/exists quantifications to iterate over structures
- Variables must be bounded (e.g., indices of an array)

Annotating Code with Side-effects

- Dafny may need the frames of certain procedures
- A method must declare the shared memory it modifies (can read everything)
- A function must declare what it reads (cannot modify anything)
- Postconditions may refer to the memory state before execution (old(..))
- Loop invariants can also refer to the state in the previous iteration

- Implementation of bubble sort, auxiliary function finds minimum in segment
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selection_sort
- Without any spec, already errors thrown: index out of range
- If array had type array?, additional error: may be null
- Also says the array cannot be updated by selectionSort (frame conditions)

```
// Sorts array 'a' using the selection sort algorithm.
method selectionSort(a: array<real>) {
    var i := 0;
    while i < a.Length - 1 {</pre>
        var j := findMin(a, i, a.Length);
        a[i], a[j] := a[j], a[i];
        i := i + 1;
// Finds the position of a miminum value in a non-empty subarray 'a'
// between positions 'from' (inclusive) and 'to' (exclusive)
method findMin(a: array<real>, from: nat, to: nat) returns(index: nat) {
    var i := from + 1;
    index := from;
    while i < to {
        if a[i] < a[index] {</pre>
            index := i;
        i := i + 1;
```

- Pre-condition: guarantee that accesses to array are valid
- How to encode postcondition of findMin?
- Value at found index less than all all the others
- Universal quantification forall, must be bounded in range
- No need to specify the content to the array: cannot be changed unless stated in modifies
- Assert in the test needed to guide the solver: not always trivial to identify

```
Finds the position of a miminum value in a non-empty subarray 'a'
// between positions 'from' (inclusive) and 'to' (exclusive)
method findMin(a: array<real>, from: nat, to: nat) returns(index: nat)
  requires from < to && to <= a.Length
  ensures from <= index < to</pre>
  ensures forall i :: from <= i < to ==> a[index] <= a[i]</pre>
   var i := from + 1;
   index := from;
   while i < to {
        if a[i] < a[index] {</pre>
            index := i;
        i := i + 1;
method testFindMin() {
  var a := new real[5] [9.0, 5.0, 6.0, 4.0, 8.0];
  assert a[..] == [9.0, 5.0, 6.0, 4.0, 8.0];
  var m := findMin(a, 0, 5);
  assert a[3] == a[m] == 4.0;
  assert m == 3;
```

Multiple ensures / requires are conjuncted.

- Same quantifications can be used in loop invariants
- Loop variant automatically detected
- Again, must lead into postcondition

```
// Finds the position of a miminum value in a non-empty subarray 'a'
// between positions 'from' (inclusive) and 'to' (exclusive)
method findMin(a: array<real>, from: nat, to: nat) returns(index: nat)
  requires from < to && to <= a.Length
  ensures from <= index < to
  ensures forall i :: from <= i < to ==> a[index] <= a[i]</pre>
    var i := from + 1;
    index := from;
    while i < to
    invariant from <= i <= to && from <= index < i
    invariant forall j :: from <= j < i ==> a[index] <= a[j]</pre>
        if a[i] < a[index] {</pre>
            index := i;
        i := i + 1;
```

- Sort must be allowed to modify the array
- Sorting guarantees:
 - Elements are ordered
 - Elements are the same (permutation)

```
// Sorts array 'a' using the selection sort algorithm.
method selectionSort(a: array<real>)
modifies a
    var i := 0;
    while i < a.Length - 1 {
        var j := findMin(a, i, a.Length);
        a[i], a[j] := a[j], a[i];
        i := i + 1;
method testSelectionSort() {
  var a := new real[5] [9.0, 4.0, 6.0, 3.0, 8.0];
  assert a[..] == [9.0, 4.0, 6.0, 3.0, 8.0];
  selectionSort(a);
  assert a[..] == [3.0, 4.0, 6.0, 8.0, 9.0];
```

- We can use auxiliary predicates (similar to functions, by return Booleans)
- Functions/methods must also declare what the read

```
predicate isSorted(a: array<real>, from: nat, to: nat)
  requires 0 <= from <= to <= a.Length
  reads a
{
    forall i, j :: from <= i < j < to ==> a[i] <= a[j]
}</pre>
```

- To define the permutation, we have to refer to the *initial* value of the array
- The multiset collection tests if the same values appear in the same quantity
- First convert to sequence with [..] slice
- They can be compared directly: value types, compares content, not pointer

```
// Sorts array 'a' using the selection sort algorithm.
method selectionSort(a: array<real>)
modifies a
ensures isSorted(a, 0, a.Length)
ensures multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
{
    var i := 0;
    while i < a.Length - 1 {
        var j := findMin(a, i, a.Length);
        a[i], a[j] := a[j], a[i];
        i := i + 1;
    }
}</pre>
```

- Invariants can use the same operators as postconditions
- Describe changes in array at each iteration

```
// Sorts array 'a' using the selection sort algorithm.
method selectionSort(a: array<real>)
modifies a
ensures isSorted(a, 0, a.Length)
ensures multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
{
    var i := 0;
    while i < a.Length - 1
    invariant 0 <= i <= a.Length
    invariant isSorted(a, 0, i)
    invariant forall l, r :: 0 <= l < i <= r < a.Length ==> a[l] <= a[r]
    invariant multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
    {
        var j := findMin(a, i, a.Length);
        a[i], a[j] := a[j], a[i];
        i := i + 1;
    }
}</pre>
```

Example: Bubble Sort

- Same precondition and postcondition (does the same!)
- However, now we have two nested loops
- The outer loop must guarantee into postcondition
- The inner loop must lead guarantee outer loop's invariant
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bubble_sort

```
method bubbleSort(a: array<real>)
 modifies a
 ensures isSorted(a,0,a.Length)
 ensures multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
   var n := a.Length;
   while n > 1 {
     var newn := 0;
     var i := 1;
     while i < n {
         if (a[i-1] > a[i]) {
              a[i-1], a[i] := a[i], a[i-1];
             newn := i;
         i := i+1;
     n := newn;
```

Example: Bubble Sort

- To verify complex algorithms, one fully understand its behaviour
- Outer loop: keeps pushing larger values up to an already ordered segment
- This right segment is ordered, and any value in the unordered left segment is smaller

```
method bubbleSort(a: array<real>)
  modifies a
  ensures isSorted(a,0,a.Length)
  ensures multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
    var n := a.Length;
    while n > 1
    invariant 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
    invariant isSorted(a, n, a.Length) && leg(a, 0, n, n, a.Length)
    invariant multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
      var newn := 0;
     var i := 1;
      while i < n
          if (a[i-1] > a[i]) {
              a[i-1], a[i] := a[i], a[i-1];
              newn := i;
          i := i+1;
      n := newn;
```

Example: Bubble Sort

- Inner loop: goes through the left segment and swaps
- Registers last swapped position
- Three segments in left segment: before last swap, between last swap and current position, beyond current position
- Important: doesn't break the restrictions between left and right segment required by outer loop

```
method bubbleSort(a: array<real>)
 modifies a
 ensures isSorted(a,0,a.Length)
 ensures multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
    var n := a.Length;
   while n > 1
    invariant 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
    invariant isSorted(a, n, a.Length) && leq(a, 0, n, n, a.Length)
    invariant multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
     var newn := 0;
     var i := 1;
     while i < n
     invariant 0 <= newn < i <= n
     invariant isSorted(a, n, a.Length) && leq(a, 0, n, n, a.Length)
     invariant isSorted(a, newn, i) && leq(a, 0, newn, newn, i)
     invariant multiset(a[..]) == multiset(old(a[..]))
         if (a[i-1] > a[i]) {
             a[i-1], a[i] := a[i], a[i-1];
             newn := i;
         i := i+1;
     n := newn;
```

Design by Contract

- Approach proposed by Bertrand Meyer for the Eiffel language
- Inspired by Hoare logic, adapted to object-oriented paradigm
- A contract is an agreement between a client and a supplier, obligations and benefits
- The client is the caller: obliged to respect preconditions (benefit of supplier)
- The supplier is the method: obliged to respect postconditions (benefit of client)
- Applied to object-oriented programming: class invariant must also be preserved



"Correctness is clearly the prime quality. If a system does not do what it is supposed to do, then everything else about it matters little."

Bertrand Meyer, ACM Software System Award of the ACM for "impact on software quality"

Class Invariants

- Class invariants define the integrity of the state of class instances
- Must hold at all times
- Methods must preserve: assume at entry, guarantee after execution
- Constructor must guarantee after execution
- May be broken during execution

Design by Contract in Dafny

- Dafny has typical features from object-oriented paradigm
- Classes are reference types: methods must declare frame conditions
- Frame conditions at the object level, not fields
- Class methods are annotated with preconditions and postconditions
- Besides input and output, may refer to the class fields
- Postcondition can use old for state before execution

Class Invariants in Dafny

- Class invariant is special predicate Valid()
- All methods require Valid() and ensure Valid()
- Constructor must ensure Valid()
- { :autocontract } annotation injects these annotations (and frame conditions) automatically

- Classes are typical object-oriented:
 - constructors
 - fields (var), can be constants
 - methods (or function methods)
 - abstract classes (trait)
 - inheritance (extends)
- Classes are reference types, need frame conditions

```
class BankAccount {
    var balance: real;
    constructor (initialBalance: real)
       balance := initialBalance; }
    function method getBalance() : real
     balance }
   method deposit(amount : real)
       balance := balance + amount; }
   method withdraw(amount : real)
       balance := balance - amount; }
   method transfer(amount : real, destination: BankAccount)
        this.balance := this.balance - amount;
       destination.balance:= destination.balance + amount; }
```

- Frame conditions at the level of the object, not its variables
 - this for parent object
- Functions must declare reads and methods modifies
- Constructor doesn't need frame conditions

```
constructor (initialBalance: real)
   balance := initialBalance; }
function method getBalance() : real
reads this
 balance }
method deposit(amount : real)
modifies this
   balance := balance + amount; }
method withdraw(amount : real)
modifies this
   balance := balance - amount; }
method transfer(amount : real, destination: BankAccount)
modifies this
modifies destination
    this.balance := this.balance - amount;
   destination.balance:= destination.balance + amount; }
```

- Code of constructors and methods is still opaque to verification
- Must declare postconditions, even if apparently trivial

```
constructor (initialBalance: real)
ensures balance == initialBalance
    balance := initialBalance; }
function method getBalance() : real
reads this
  balance }
method deposit(amount : real)
modifies this
ensures balance == old(balance) + amount
    balance := balance + amount; }
method withdraw(amount : real)
modifies this
requires amount < balance
ensures balance == old(balance) - amount
    balance := balance - amount; }
method transfer(amount : real, destination: BankAccount)
requires this != destination
modifies this
modifies destination
requires amount < this.balance
ensures this.balance == old(this.balance) - amount
ensures destination.balance == old(destination.balance) + amount
    this.balance := this.balance - amount;
    destination.balance:= destination.balance + amount; }
```

- Class invariant defined as a special predicate Valid()
- All methods assume invariant holds and preserve it
- Constructors only have to ensure
- Function methods do not need to ensure it (state not updated)

```
predicate Valid()
reads this
    balance >= 0.0 }
constructor (initialBalance: real)
ensures balance == initialBalance
ensures Valid()
    balance := initialBalance; }
function method getBalance() : real
reads this
requires Valid()
  balance }
method deposit(amount : real)
requires Valid()
modifies this
ensures Valid()
ensures balance == old(balance) + amount
    balance := balance + amount; }
```

- Preconditions were too weak to preserve invariant
- Recall we don't need the weakest precondition
 - New accounts need positive balance

```
constructor (initialBalance: real)
requires initialBalance > 0.0
ensures balance == initialBalance
ensures Valid()
    balance := initialBalance; }
function method getBalance() : real
reads this
requires Valid()
  balance }
method deposit(amount : real)
requires Valid()
requires amount >= 0.0
modifies this
ensures Valid()
ensures balance == old(balance) + amount
    balance := balance + amount; }
```

- Autocontracts option generates contracts from Valid() invariant
 - Remove a needed precondition to check
- Also detects frame conditions
- Other postconditions must still be defined

```
class {:autocontracts} BankAccount {
    var balance: real;
    predicate Valid()
        balance >= 0.0 }
    constructor (initialBalance: real)
    requires initialBalance > 0.0
    ensures balance == initialBalance
    function method getBalance() : real
    method deposit(amount : real)
    requires amount >= 0.0
    modifies this
    ensures balance == old(balance) + amount
    method withdraw(amount : real)
    modifies this
    requires amount < balance</pre>
    ensures balance == old(balance) - amount
    method transfer(amount : real, destination: BankAccount)
    requires this != destination
    modifies this
    modifies destination
    requires amount < this.balance
    ensures this.balance == old(this.balance) - amount
    ensures destination.balance == old(destination.balance) + amount
```

Inheritance

- Based on the concept of behavioural subtyping
- Stronger than method subtyping (generalize inputs, restrict outputs)
- Takes into consideration specifications, the contract
 - Preconditions can be weakened
 - Postconditions can be strengthened
 - Invariants must be preserved

Inheritance in Dafny

- Classes can extend abstract classes (traits)
- Subclasses must have:
 - Preconditions that are entailed by the precondition of the superclass
 - Postconditions that entail the postcondition of the superclass
- Subclasses do not inherit parent's annotations (if same, must be rewritten)

Example: Figures

```
trait Figure {
    var center: (real, real);
    function method getSizeX(): real
       reads this
    function method getSizeY(): real
       reads this
    method resize(factor: real)
      requires factor > 0.0
      modifies this
      ensures getSizeX() == factor * old(getSizeX())
      ensures getSizeY() == factor * old(getSizeY())
      ensures center == old(center)
```

 Methods and functions can have undefined bodies in traits

```
class Circle extends Figure {
    var radius: real;
    constructor Circle(center: (real, real), radius: real)
        this.center := center;
        this.radius := radius; }
    function method getSizeX(): real
    reads this
        radius }
    function method getSizeY(): real
    reads t the method must provide an equal or more detailed
            the method must provide an equal or more detailed
            View Problem No quick fixes available
    method resize(factor: real)
    modifies this
       radius := abs(factor) * radius; }
    function method abs(x: real): real
        if x \ge 0.0 then x else -x }
```

Example: Figures

```
trait Figure {
    var center: (real, real);
    function method getSizeX(): real
       reads this
    function method getSizeY(): real
       reads this
    method resize(factor: real)
      requires factor > 0.0
      modifies this
      ensures getSizeX() == factor * old(getSizeX())
      ensures getSizeY() == factor * old(getSizeY())
      ensures center == old(center)
```

- Methods in subclasses must have stronger postconditions
- Preconditions cannot be stronger (can be weaker)

```
class Circle extends Figure {
    var radius: real;
    constructor Circle(center: (real, real), radius: real)
        this.center := center;
        this.radius := radius; }
    function method getSizeX(): real
    reads this
        radius }
    function method getSizeY(): real
    reads this
        radius }
    method resize(factor: real)
    modifies this
    requires factor != 0.0
    ensures center == old(center)
                                                   modifies this
    ensures radius == abs(factor) * old(radius)
       radius := abs(factor) * radius; }
    function method abs(x: real): real
        if x \ge 0.0 then x else -x }
```