

# FORMAL VERIFICATION OF PROGRAMS

## SLIDES BLOCK 3

ADA 2024/25  
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# REFERENCES

The main reference for this part of the course is the text:

- Mike Gordon: Specification and Verification I, lecture notes

# BACK TO OUR INITIAL PLAN

FOR THE “ALGORITHMS DEVELOPMENT” WE MATHEMATICALLY FORMULATE:

- what is a **programming language**
- what is a **program**
- how to **interpret programs**

**Formal Semantics of programs**

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## Formal Semantics of programs

TO MAKE ITS “ANALYSIS”, WE MATHEMATICALLY FORMALISE:

- the notions of **property** and **behaviour**
- the notions of **specification** and **algorithm correctness**
- the notion of **correctness proof**

## Formal Verification of programs

# FORMAL DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAMS/ALGORITHMS

- **Formal Specification:** precise (mathematical) description of what a program should do
- **Formal Verification:** (mathematical) proof that a program satisfies a given specification
- **Formal Development:** development of programs/algorithms following a systematic procedure that (mathematically) assures the satisfaction of specification

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*Correctness – by – construction*

# OUTLINE

- ① ON PROGRAM VERIFICATION
- ② HOARE TRIPLES
- ③ FLOYD-HOARE CALCULUS
- ④ VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

# PROGRAM SPECIFICATION

Pre-condition  $\xrightarrow{\text{Program Execution}}$  Post-condition

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Pre-condition  $\xrightarrow{\text{Program Execution}}$  Post-condition

“ $x$  greater than  $y$ ”  $\xrightarrow{\text{Program Execution}}$  “ $z$  is the difference between  $x$  and  $y$ ”

“ $x$  greater than 0”  $\xrightarrow{\text{Program Execution}}$  “ $z$  is the square root of  $x$ ”

# PARTIAL CORRECTNESS SPECIFICATION

HOARE TRIPLES  
are expressions

$$\{P\} \ C \ \{Q\}$$

where

- $C$  is a **program**
- $P$  and  $Q$  are **conditions** on program variables used in  $C$

# PARTIAL CORRECTNESS

$\{P\} C \{Q\}$  IS TRUE IF

whenever  $C$  is executed in a state satisfying  $P$

and if  $C$  terminates

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## EXAMPLES

$\{x = 1\} \quad x := x + 1 \quad \{x = 2\}$

from any state where  $x = 1$ ,

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- $\{x = 1\} \ x := x + 1 \{x = 2\}$  holds
- $\{x = 1\} \ x := x + 1 \{x = 1\}$  does not holds

# HOARE TRIPLES

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*Discuss the validity of the following Hoare triples:*

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# FOUNDATIONS FOR A DESIGN-BY-CONTRACT METHODOLOGY?

A PROGRAM TO SWAP THE VALUES OF VARIABLES  $x$  AND  $y$

$$\{x = a \wedge y = b\} \ C \ \{x = b \wedge y = a\}$$

Development process: to determine a program  $C$  that satisfies the triple.

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Development process: to determine a program  $C$  that satisfies the triple.  
The program

$$C \equiv (r := x; x := y; y := r)$$

is a possible implementation, since

$$\{x = a \wedge y = b\} \ r := x; x := y; y := r \ \{x = b \wedge y = a\}$$

holds!

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**Total correctness = termination + partial correctness**

To prove that  $[P] C [Q]$  is true:

- prove that  $C$  terminates
- prove  $\{P\} C \{Q\}$

## TOTAL CORRECTNESS

## EXERCISE 2

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## EXAMPLE

## A CONCRETE EXAMPLE

{true}

 $r := x;$  $q := 0;$  $\text{while } y \leq r \text{ do } r := r - y; q := q + 1$ { $r < y \wedge x = r + (y \times q)$ }

This triple is true if whenever the execution of the program halts, then  $q$  is the quotient and  $r$  is the remainder of the division of  $y$  by  $x$

# EXERCISES

## EXERCISE 3

- ① *Write a partial correctness specification which is true if and only if the program  $C$  has the effect of multiplying the values of  $x$  and  $y$  and storing the result in  $x$ .*
- ② *Write a specification which is true if the execution of  $C$  always halts when execution is started in a state satisfying  $P$ .*

## THE RELEVANCE TO PROPERLY SPECIFY

“The program  $C$  must set  $y$  to the maximum of  $x$  and  $y$ ”

First attempt:

[true]  $C$  [ $y = \max(x, y)$ ]

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Therefore the specification is wrong for our purposes!

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A **proper specification**:

$[x = a \wedge y = b] \ C [y = \max(a, b)]$

# LANGUAGE TO EXPRESS SPECIFICATION

## THE PREDICATE STATEMENTS

$\text{Pred} \ni P ::= t \mid a = a \mid a > a \mid \neg P \mid P \wedge P \mid P \vee P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid \forall x. P \mid \exists x. P$

for  $t \in \mathbb{B}$ ,  $a \in \text{AExp}$ ,  $x \in \text{Var}$

Usually, we use the usual notations (e.g.  $\text{Odd}(x)$ ,  $\text{Even}(x)$ ,  $\text{Prime}(x)$ ) for the well known predicates

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# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: ASSIGNMENT

## SUBSTITUTION

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- $(x = y)[z/x] \Leftrightarrow z = y$
- $(x = y)[1/y] \Leftrightarrow x = 1$
- $(x = y)[x + 1/x] \Leftrightarrow x + 1 = y$

## FLOYD-HOARE RULES: ASSIGNMENT

SKIP RULE

$$\overline{\{P\} \text{ skip } \{P\}}^{(sk)}$$

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$$\frac{}{\{P[a/x]\} \ x := a \ \{P\}} (\textit{Assign})$$

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## EXAMPLE 1

$\{y = 2\} \ x := 2 \ \{y = x\}$  holds, since  $(y = 2)[x/y] \Leftrightarrow (y = 2)$

## EXERCISE 4

Verify:

- $\{x + 1 = n + 1\} \ x := x + 1 \ \{x = n + 1\}$
- $\{a = a\} \ x := a \ \{x = a\}$

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: ASSIGNMENT

## EXERCISE 5

*Other **WRONG** attempts on defining a rule for assignments are:*

- $\{P\} \ x := a \ \{P[a/x]\}$  and
- $\{P\} \ x := a \ \overline{\{P[x/a]\}}$

*Show that these rules are not sound.*

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: ASSIGNMENT

ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT RULE (BY FLOYD)

$$\frac{}{\{P\} \ x := a \ \{\exists v. (x = (a[v/x]) \wedge P[v/x])\}} (\text{Ass}')$$

Actually we can prove that  $(\text{Ass})$  and  $(\text{Ass}')$ .

EXERCISE 6

*Use it to show that  $\{x = 1\} \ x := x + 1 \ \{x = 2\}$*

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: STRENGTHENING AND WEAKENING

## PRECONDITION STRENGTHENING

$$\frac{P \Rightarrow P' \quad \{P'\} C \{Q\}}{\{P\} C \{Q\}}$$

## POST-CONDITION WEAKENING

$$\frac{\{P\} C \{Q'\} \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} C \{Q\}}$$

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: STRENGTHENING AND WEAKENING

## EXERCISE 7

*Show that:*

- $\{x = n\} \ x := x + 1 \ {x = n + 1}$

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: STRENGTHENING AND WEAKENING

## EXERCISE 7

*Show that:*

- $\{x = n\} \ x := x + 1 \ {x = n + 1}$
- $\{\text{true}\} \ x := a \ {x = a}$
- $\{r = a\} \ q := 0 \ {r = a + (y \times q)}$

## FLOYD-HOARE RULES: SEQUENTIAL COMPOSITION

## SEQUENTIAL COMPOSITION

$$\frac{\{P\} \ C_1 \ \{Q'\} \quad \{Q'\} \ C_2 \ \{Q\}}{\{P\} \ C_1; C_2 \ \{Q\}}$$

## EXERCISE 8

- ① *Write a program to swap the values of the variables x and y and verify its correctness.*

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## EXERCISE 8

- ① *Write a program to swap the values of the variables  $x$  and  $y$  and verify its correctness.*
- ② *Prove that the program*

$$x := x + y; \ y := x - y; \ x := x - y$$

*does the same.*

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- ② Prove that the program

$$x := x + y; \ y := x - y; \ x := x - y$$

does the same.

- ③ Prove that

$$\{x = r + (y \times q)\} \ r := r - y; \ q := q + 1 \ \{x = r + (y \times q)\}$$

## FLOYD-HOARE RULES: CONDITIONALS

## CONDITIONAL

$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} \ C_1 \ \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg b\} \ C_2 \ \{Q\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2 \ \{Q\}}$$

## EXERCISE 9

*Prove that*

$\{\text{true}\}$

*if*  $x \geq y$  *then*  $\text{MAX} := x$  *else*  $\text{MAX} := y$

$\{\text{MAX} = \max(x, y)\}$

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: CONDITIONALS

## EXERCISE 10

*Suppose that While language is now enriched with the command*

*if  $b$  then  $c$*

*Introduce a suitable rule for the Floyd-Hoare Calculus and comment the sentence: "this command is just an abbreviation of a While command.*

## EXERCISE 11

*Prove that if  $\{P \wedge b\} c_1 \{Q\}$  and  $\{P \wedge \neg b\} c_2 \{Q\}$  then*

*$\{P\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } (\text{if } \neg b \text{ then } c_2) \{Q\}$*

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: CONJUNCTION AND DISJUNCTION

## SPECIFICATION CONJUNCTION

$$\frac{\{P_1\} \ C \ \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} \ C \ \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 \wedge P_2\} \ C \ \{Q_1 \wedge Q_2\}}$$

## SPECIFICATION DISJUNCTION

$$\frac{\{P_1\} \ C \ \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} \ C \ \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 \vee P_2\} \ C \ \{Q_1 \vee Q_2\}}$$

# FLOYD-HOARE RULES: WHILE RULE

## INVARIANTS

$P$  is said to be invariant of  $C$  whenever  $b$  holds

$$\{P \wedge b\} \ C \ \{P\}$$

## OBSERVE:

- if executing  $C$  once preserves the truth of  $P$
- then, executing  $C$  any number of times also preserves the truth of  $P$

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## WHILE RULE

$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} \ C \ \{P\}}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } C \ \{P \wedge \neg b\}}$$

## FLOYD-HOARE RULES: WHILE RULE

## EXERCISE 12

$$\{x \leq n\} \text{ while } x < n \text{ do } x := x + 1 \quad \{x \geq n\}$$

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$$\{x \leq n\} \text{ while } x < n \text{ do } x := x + 1 \quad \{x \geq n\}$$

## EXERCISE 13

For  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$ , show that

$$\{\text{true}\}$$

$$r := x;$$

$$q := 0;$$

$$\text{while } y \leq r \text{ do } (r := r - y; q := q + 1)$$

$$\{x = r + (y \times q) \wedge \neg(y \leq r)\}$$

Hint: invariant suggestion  $x = r + (y \times q)$

# NON TERMINATION PROGRAMS

As observed before, `while b do c` is the unique command of While that potentially causes non-termination

## EXERCISE 14

*Comment the statement:*

$\{ \text{true} \} \text{ while true do } x := 0 \text{ } \{ \text{false} \}$

# FINDING INVARIANTS

INVARIANTS SHALL REFLECT

- what has been done and what remains to be done
- hold at each iteration of the cycle
- shall give the intended result when the cycle terminates

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## EXAMPLE

$\{x = n \wedge y = 1\}$

while  $x \neq 0$  do  $y := y \times x$ ;  $x := x - 1$

$\{x = 0 \wedge y = n!\}$

- “what was already calculated”:  $y$
- “what remains to be done”:  $x!$
- “final result”:  $n!$

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EXAMPLE

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$\{x = 0 \wedge y = n!\}$

- “what was already calculated”:  $y$
- “what remains to be done”:  $x!$
- “final result”:  $n!$

$$x! \times y = n!$$

# EXERCISES

## EXERCISE 15

*Prove*

$$\{x = n \wedge y = 1\}$$

*while*  $x \neq 0$  *do*  $y := y \times x$ ;  $x := x - 1$

$$\{x = 0 \wedge y = n!\}$$

# EXERCISES

## EXERCISE 15

*Prove*

$$\{x = n \wedge y = 1\}$$

*while*  $x \neq 0$  *do*  $y := y \times x$ ;  $x := x - 1$

$$\{x = 0 \wedge y = n!\}$$

## EXERCISE 16

*Prove*

$$\{x = 0 \wedge y = 1\}$$

*while*  $x < N$  *do*  $x := x + 1$ ;  $y := y \times x$

$$\{y = n!\}$$

# EXERCISES

## EXERCISE 17

*Determine a program  $c$  such that, for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$\{x = a \wedge y = b\} \ c \ \{z = a^b\}$$

# OUTLINE

- ① ON PROGRAM VERIFICATION
- ② HOARE TRIPLES
- ③ FLOYD-HOARE CALCULUS
- ④ VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

# THE VERIFICATION OF PROGRAMS

THREE WAYS TO VERIFY THE VAILIDY OF  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$

- Using the **Floyd-Hoare calculus** (as did in the previous section)
- By calculating and proving the **generated verification conditions**
- By using **weakest pre-conditions/strongest post-conditions**

# THE VERIFICATION OF PROGRAMS

## VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

Use an algorithm to extract the “**proof obligations**” of  $\{P\} \leftarrow \{Q\}$ , i.e. a set of logic statements  $V = VC(\{P\} \leftarrow \{Q\})$  such that,

**if  $V$  is true, then  $\{P\} \leftarrow \{Q\}$  holds**

# THE VERIFICATION OF PROGRAMS

## VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

Use an algorithm to extract the “**proof obligations**” of  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$ , i.e. a set of logic statements  $V = VC(\{P\} c \{Q\})$  such that,

**if  $V$  is true, then  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  holds**

---

## WEAKEST PRE-CONDITIONS (DIJKSTRA PREDICATE TRANSFORMERS)

Use an algorithm to extract the “**weakest precondition of  $c$  wrt  $Q$** ”, i.e. the weakest condition  $wpc(c, Q)$  that makes the triple  $\{wpc(c, Q)\} c \{Q\}$  valid. Hence,

**$P \rightarrow wpc(c, Q)$  is true iff  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  holds**

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

TO VERIFY THE TRIPLE  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$

- ① annotate programs
- ② calculate  $VC(\{P\} c \{Q\})$  (recursive process)
- ③ if the (first-order) formulas of  $VC(\{P\} c \{Q\})$  are proved, the triple  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  is valid

MORE OPERATIONALLY:

- ① Input: a Hoare triple annotated with mathematical statements
- ② An algorithm generates the set of verification conditions
- ③ The verification conditions are passed to a theorem prover which attempts to prove them automatically. Often it requires human aid.
- ④ if the verification conditions are proved the triple  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  is valid

# PROGRAM ANNOTATIONS

a) Program $C_{\text{Fib}}$	b) Annotated program $C_{\text{Fib}}^A$
$x := 1;$ $y := 0;$ $i := 1;$ <b>while</b> $i < n$ <b>do</b> $\{$ $aux := y;$ $y := x;$ $x := x + aux;$ $i := i + 1$ $\}$	$x := 1;$ $\{x == 1\}$ $y := 0;$ $\{x == 1 \& y == 0\}$ $i := 1;$ $\{x == 1 \& y == 0 \& i == 1\}$ <b>while</b> $i < n$ <b>do</b> $\{i \leq n \& x == \text{Fib}(i) \& y == \text{Fib}(i - 1)\}$ $\{$ $aux := y;$ $\{i \leq n \& x == \text{Fib}(i) \& aux == \text{Fib}(i - 1)\}$ $y := x;$ $\{i < n \& x == \text{Fib}(i) \& y == \text{Fib}(i) \& aux == \text{Fib}(i - 1)\}$ $x := x + aux;$ $\{i \leq n \& x == \text{Fib}(i) + \text{Fib}(i - 1) \& y == \text{Fib}(i)\}$ $i := i + 1;$ $\}$

# PROGRAM ANNOTATIONS

A PROGRAM IS PROPERLY ANNOTATED (TO THE VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION) IF:

statements have been inserted at the following places:

- before  $c_2$  in  $c_1$ ;  $c_2$  and  $c_2$  is not an assignment
- after the “do” in whiles cycle `while b do {I}c1`

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## ASSIGNMENTS

$$VC(\{P\} \ x := a \ \{Q\}) = \{P \rightarrow Q[a/x]\}$$

## EXAMPLE

$$\begin{aligned} VC(\{x = 0\} \ x := x + 1 \ \{x = 1\}) &= \{x = 0 \rightarrow (x = 1)[x + 1/x]\} \\ &= \{x = 0 \rightarrow x = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

SKIP

$$VC(\{P\} \text{ skip } \{Q\}) = \{P \rightarrow Q\}$$

EXAMPLE

+++

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## CONDITIONALS

$$VC(\{P\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \{Q\}) = VC(\{P \wedge b\} c_1 \{Q\}) \cup VC(\{P \wedge \neg b\} c_2 \{Q\})$$

## EXERCISE 18

- ① Suggest a rule for the command *if b then c* with the expected semantics (*if b then c*  $\equiv$  *if b then c else skip*). Calculate  $VC(\{\text{true}\} \text{ if } x < 0 \text{ then } x := -x \{x \geq 0\})$
- ② Calculate

$$VC(\{\text{true}\} \text{ if } x \geq y \text{ then } M := x \text{ else } M := y \{M = \max(x, y)\})$$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## SEQUENTIAL COMPOSITIONS

① If  $c_n$  is not an assignment,

$$VC(\{P\} c_1; \dots; c_{n-1}\{R\} c_n \{Q\}) = VC(\{P\} c_1; \dots; c_{n-1}\{R\}) \cup VC(\{R\} c_n \{Q\})$$

② and

$$VC(\{P\} c_1; \dots; c_{n-1}; x := a \{Q\}) = VC(\{P\} c_1; \dots; c_{n-1} \{Q[a/x]\})$$

## EXERCISE 19

*Calculate:*

$$VC(\{x = a \wedge y = b\} \ r := x; x := y; y := r \{x = b \wedge y = a\})$$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

WHILE

$$\begin{aligned}VC(\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } \{I\} c \{Q\}) &= \{P \rightarrow I\} \\&\cup \\&\{(I \wedge \neg b) \rightarrow Q\} \\&\cup \\&VC(\{I \wedge b\} c \{I\})\end{aligned}$$

---

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

WHILE

$$\begin{aligned}VC(\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } \{I\} c \{Q\}) &= \{P \rightarrow I\} \\&\cup \\&\{(I \wedge \neg b) \rightarrow Q\} \\&\cup \\&VC(\{I \wedge b\} c \{I\})\end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE 20

① Calculate  $VC(\{s = 2^i\} \text{ while } i < n \text{ do } i := i + 1; s := s \times 2 \{s = 2^i\})$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

WHILE

$$\begin{aligned}
 VC(\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } \{I\} c \{Q\}) &= \{P \rightarrow I\} \\
 &\cup \\
 &\{(I \wedge \neg b) \rightarrow Q\} \\
 &\cup \\
 &VC(\{I \wedge b\} c \{I\})
 \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE 20

① Calculate  $VC(\{s = 2^i\} \text{ while } i < n \text{ do } i := i + 1; s := s \times 2 \{s = 2^i\})$

② Verify

$\{true\}$

$r := x;$

$q := 0;$

$\text{while } y \leq r \text{ do } r := r - y; q := q + 1$

$\{x = r + (y \times q) \wedge \neg(y \leq r)\}$  using verification conditions. Hint: invariant suggestion  $x = r + (y \times q)$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## EXERCISE 21

*Using verification conditions generator, prove that, for  $x, y$  naturals*

$$\{x = a \wedge y = b\}$$

$z := 1;$

*while*  $y \geq 1$  *do* ( $z := x \times z$ ;  $y := y - 1$ )

$$\{z = a^b\}$$

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## THEOREM 1

*If the statements  $VC(\{P\} \subset \{Q\})$  are true, then  $\{P\} \subset \{Q\}$  holds*

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## THEOREM 1

*If the statements  $VC(\{P\} c \{Q\})$  are true, then  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  holds*

AND THE CONVERSE IMPLICATION?

Consider the annotated triple

$$\{\text{true}\} \text{ while false do } \{\text{false}\} \ x := 0 \ \{\text{true}\}$$

Try to prove it

- using Floyd-Hoare Logic (forget the annotations)
- using the verification conditions generations

what do you conclude?

# VERIFICATION CONDITIONS GENERATION

## THEOREM 1

*If the statements  $VC(\{P\} c \{Q\})$  are true, then  $\{P\} c \{Q\}$  holds*

AND THE CONVERSE IMPLICATION?

Consider the annotated triple

$$\{\text{true}\} \text{ while false do } \{\text{false}\} \ x := 0 \ \{\text{true}\}$$

Try to prove it

- using Floyd-Hoare Logic (forget the annotations)
- using the verification conditions generations

what do you conclude?

**the converse implication does not hold!**

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMER

Goal: find the weakest pre-condition  $wpc(c, Q)$  for which the triple

$$\{wpc(c, Q)\} \subset \{Q\}$$

Then

$$\{P\} \subset \{Q\} \text{ iff } P \rightarrow wpc(c, Q)$$

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMER

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$$\{wpc(c, Q)\} \subset \{Q\}$$

Then

$$\{P\} \subset \{Q\} \text{ iff } P \rightarrow wpc(c, Q)$$

A program is understood as a “predicates transformer”, that transforms post-conditions and programs into “weakest pre-conditions”

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMERS

## ASSIGNMENT

$$wpc(x := a, Q) = Q[a/x]$$

## EXERCISE 22

*Calculate*

- $wpc(x := x + y, y > x)$
- $wpc(y := 2 \times y, y < 5)$
- $wpc(y := 2 \times y, even(y))$

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMERS

## SEQUENTIAL COMPOSITION

$$wpc(c_1; c_2, Q) = wpc(c_1, wpc(c_2, Q))$$

### EXERCISE 23

*Calculate*

- $wpc(x := z + 1; y := x + y, y > 5)$
- $wpc(r := x; x := y; y := r, x = b \wedge y = a)$

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMERS

## CONDITIONALS

$$wpc(\text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, Q) = (b \rightarrow wpc(c_1, Q)) \wedge (\neg b \rightarrow wpc(c_2, Q))$$

## EXERCISE 24

*Calculate*

- $wpc(\text{if } x \leq y \text{ then } m := x \text{ else } m := y, m = \min(x, y))$

# EXERCISE

## EXERCISE 25

*Prove*

$$\{x \leq 7\} \ x := 5; \text{if } x \leq 7 \text{ then } x := x + 2 \text{ else skip } \{x = 7\}$$

*using:*

- ① *Weakest pre-conditions*
- ② *Verification conditions*
- ③ *Hoare Logic*

# PREDICATE TRANSFORMERS

## WHILE

can not in general compute a finite formula, other techniques shall be considered (not in this course). A sound rule:

$$wpc(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, Q) = \text{if } b \text{ then } wpc(c, wpc(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, Q)) \text{ else } Q$$

# DIJKSTRA'S GUARDED COMMAND LANGUAGE (GCL)

## GUARDED COMMAND LANGUAGE (GCL)

$c := \text{skip} \mid x := a \mid c_1; c_2 \mid \text{assert } \alpha \mid \text{assume } \alpha \mid \text{havoc } x \mid c \parallel c$

## HOARE LOGIC RULES FOR GCL

semantics of `skip` and `x := a` define as for While language

(assert)  $\frac{P \rightarrow \alpha}{\{P\} \text{ assert } \alpha \ \{P \wedge \alpha\}}$

(assume)  $\frac{}{\{P\} \text{ assume } \alpha \ \{P \wedge \alpha\}}$

(choice)  $\frac{\{P\} \ c_1 \ \{Q\} \quad \{P\} \ c_2 \ \{Q\}}{\{P\} \ c_1 \parallel c_2 \ \{Q\}}$

# DIJKSTRA'S GUARDED COMMAND LANGUAGE (GCL)

## EXERCISE 26

- ① *What is*
  - $wpc(\text{assert } P, C)$
  - $wpc(\text{assume } P, C)$
- ② *Given conditions  $P$  and  $Q$  and a program  $C$ , determine a program  $C'$  in the Dijkstra's guarded language such that  $\{P\} C \{Q\}$  iff  $\{\text{true}\} C' \{\text{true}\}$ . Prove it!*

# DIJKSTRA'S GUARDED COMMAND LANGUAGE (GCL)

GCL CAPTURES CONDITIONALS:

For instance,

$\{P\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \{Q\}$  iff  $\{P\} \text{ assert } b ; c_1 || \text{assert } \neg b ; c_2 \{Q\}$

WE CAN INTEGRATE SPECIFICATION IN THE CODE:

$\{P\} \ c \ \{Q\}$

iff

$\{\text{true}\} \text{ assume } P ; c ; \text{assert } Q \ \{\text{true}\}$

EXERCISE 27

*Prove the previous observations!*

# THIS WAS JUST AN APPETIZER...

