SECTION 1: CODE REASONING + VERSION CONTROL

CSE 331 – Summer 2018

slides borrowed and adapted from Alex Mariakis and CSE 390a, CSE 331 lecture slides, and Justin Bare and Deric Pang Section 1 slides.

REASONING ABOUT CODE

- Two purposes
 - Prove our code is correct
 - Understand why code is correct
- Forward reasoning: determine what follows from initial conditions
- Backward reasoning: determine sufficient conditions to obtain a certain result

OUTLINE

- Introductions
- Code Reasoning
 - Forward Reasoning
 - Backward Reasoning
 - Weaker vs. Stronger statements
- Version control

TERMINOLOGY

- The program state is the values of all the (relevant) variables
- An assertion is a logical formula referring to the program state (e.g., contents of variables) at a given point
- An assertion holds for a program state if the formula is true when those values are substituted for the variables

TERMINOLOGY

- An assertion before the code is a precondition - these represent assumptions about when that code is used
- An assertion after the code is a postcondition - these represent what we want the code to accomplish

FORWARD REASONING

- Given: Precondition
- Finds: postcondition for given precondition.
 - Aka Finds program state after executing code, when using given assumptions of program state before execution.

FORWARD REASONING

// {x >= 0, y >= 0} y = 16; // x = x + y // x = sqrt(x) // y = y - x //

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FORWARD REASONING

// {x >= 0, y >= 0} y = 16; // {x >= 0, y = 16} x = x + y // {x >= 16, y = 16} x = sqrt(x) // {x >= 4, y = 16} y = y - x //

FORWARD REASONING

// {x >= 0, y >= 0} y = 16; // {x >= 0, y = 16} x = x + y // {x >= 16, y = 16} x = sqrt(x) // {x >= 4, y = 16} y = y - x // {x >= 4, y <= 12}</pre>

FORWARD REASONING



FORWARD REASONING

// {true} if (x>0) { $// \{x > 0\}$ abs = x11 } else { $// \{x \le 0\}$ abs = -x11 } 11 11

FORWARD REASONING

```
// {true}
if (x>0) {
     // \{x > 0\}
      abs = x
   // \{x > 0, abs = x\}
}
else {
     // \{x \le 0\}
     abs = -x
    // \{x \le 0, abs = -x\}
}
// \{x > 0, abs = x OR x \le 0, abs = -x\}
11
```

FORWARD REASONING

```
// {true}
if (x>0) {
   // \{x > 0\}
     abs = x
     // \{x > 0, abs = x\}
}
else {
     // \{x \le 0\}
     abs = -x
     // \{x \le 0, abs = -x\}
}
11
11
```

FORWARD

}

}

```
REASONING
// {true}
if (x>0) {
     // \{x > 0\}
     abs = x
    // \{x > 0, abs = x\}
else {
     // \{x \le 0\}
      abs = -x
     // \{x \le 0, abs = -x\}
// \{x > 0, abs = x OR x \le 0, abs = -x\}
// \{abs = |x|\}
```

BACKWARD REASONING

- Given: Postcondition
- Finds: The weakest precondition for given postcondition.

BACKWARD REASONING

- Given: Postcondition
- Finds: The weakest precondition for given postcondition.
- So, finds most general assumption code will use to get given postcondition.

BACKWARD REASONING

//
a = x + b;
//
c = 2b - 4
//
x = a + c
// {x > 0}

BACKWARD REASONING

//
a = x + b;
//
c = 2b - 4
// {a + c > 0}
x = a + c
// {x > 0}

BACKWARD REASONING

11

a = x + b;// {a + 2b - 4 > 0} c = 2b - 4 // {a + c > 0} x = a + c // {x > 0}

BACKWARD REASONING

// Backward reasoning is used to determine the
// weakest precondition
// {x + 3b - 4 > 0}
a = x + b;
// {a + 2b - 4 > 0}
c = 2b - 4
// {a + c > 0}
x = a + c
// {x > 0}

ASIDE: WEAKEST PRECONDTION?

- What is weakest precondition?
- Well, precondition is just a statement, so...Better ask what makes a statement weaker vs. Stronger?

WEAKER VS. STRONGER

- Weaker statements = more general
- Stronger statements = more specific aka more informational
- Stronger statements are more restrictive
 - Ex: x = 16 is stronger than x > 0
 - Ex: "Alex is an awesome TA" is stronger than "Alex is a TA"
- If A implies B, A is stronger and B is weaker.
- If B implies A, B is stronger and A is weaker.
- If neither, then A and B not comparable.

HOARE TRIPLES

- Hoare triples are just an extension of logical implication
 - Hoare triple: {P} S {Q}
 - \circ P = precondition
 - \circ S = single line of code
 - Q = postcondition
- A Hoare triple can be valid or invalid
 - Valid if for all states for which P holds, executing S always produces a state for which Q holds
 - Invalid otherwise

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #1

- {x != 0} y = x*x; {y > 0}
- Is this valid?

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #1

- ${x != 0} y = x^*x; {y > 0}$
- Is this valid?
 - Yes

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #2

• Is {false} S {Q} a valid Hoare triple?

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #2

- Is {false} S {Q} a valid Hoare triple?
 - Yes. Because P is false, there are no conditions when P holds
 - Therefore, for all states where P holds (i.e. none) executing S will produce a state in which Q holds

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #3

• Is {P} S {true} a valid Hoare triple?

HOARE TRIPLE EXAMPLE #3

- Is {P} S {true} a valid Hoare triple?
 - Yes. Any state for which P holds that is followed by the execution of S will produce some state
 - For any state, true always holds (i.e. true is true)

VERSION CONTROL

WHAT IS VERSION CONTROL?

- Also known as source control/revision control
- System for tracking changes to code
 - Software for developing software
- Essential for managing projects
 - \circ $\,$ See a history of changes $\,$
 - \circ $\;$ Revert back to an older version
 - Merge changes from multiple sources
- We'll be talking about git/GitLab, but there are alternatives
 - \circ Subversion, Mercurial, CVS
 - \circ $\;$ Email, Dropbox, USB sticks (don't even think of doing this)

VERSION CONTROL ORGANIZATION

- A *repository* stores the master copy of the project
 - Someone creates the repo for a new project
 - \circ $\;$ Then nobody touches this copy directly
 - \circ $\;$ Lives on a server everyone can access

Each person clones her own working copy

- Makes a local copy of the repo
- You'll always work off of this copy
- The version control system syncs the repo and working copy (with your help)



REPOSITORY

- Can create the repository anywhere
 - Can be on the same computer that you're going to work on, which might be ok for a personal project where you just want rollback protection
- But, usually you want the repository to be robust:
 - $\circ~$ On a computer that's up and running 24/7
 - Everyone always has access to the project
 - $\circ~$ On a computer that has a redundant file system
 - No more worries about that hard disk crash wiping away your project!
- We'll use CSE GitLab very similar to GitHub but tied to CSE accounts and authentication

VERSION CONTROL COMMON ACTIONS

Most common commands:

- commit / push
 - integrate changes *from* your working copy *into* the repository
- pull
 - integrate changes *into* your working copy *from* the repository



VERSION CONTROL UPDATING FILES

In a bit more detail:

- You make some local changes, test them, etc., then...
- git add tell git which changed files you want to save in repo
- git commit save all files you've "add"ed in the local repo copy as an identifiable update
- git push synchronize with the GitLab repo by pushing local committed changes



VERSION CONTROL COMMON ACTIONS (CONT.)

Other common commands:

- add, rm
 - \circ $\;$ add or delete a file in the working copy
 - just putting a new file in your working copy does not add it to the repo!
 - still need to commit to make permanent



THIS QUARTER

- We distribute starter code by adding it to your GitLab repo. You retrieve it with git clone the first time then git pull for later assignments
- You will write code using Eclipse
- You turn in your files by adding them to the repo, committing your changes, and eventually pushing accumulated changes to GitLab
- You "turn in" an assignment by tagging your repo and pushing the tag to GitLab
- You will validate your homework by SSHing onto attu, cloning your repo, and running an Ant build file

331 VERSION CONTROL



AVOIDING GIT PROBLEMS

- For the projects in this class, you should never have to merge
 - Except when the staff pushes out a new assignment
- Rules of thumb for working in multiple places:
 - Each time before you start working on your assignment, git pull to get the latest code
 - Each time after you are done working for a while, git add/commit/push in order to update the repository with the latest code