
CSE 331

Software Design & Implementation

Fall 2020

Section 2 – Code Reasoning

Administrivia

- HW1 due tonight.
- Any questions before we dive in?
 - What are the most interesting/confusing/puzzling things so far in the course?

Agenda

- Review logical reasoning about code with Hoare Logic
- Practice both forward and backward modes
 - Just assignment, conditional (“if-then-else”), and sequence
 - Logical rules from yesterday’s lecture/notes
- Review logical strength of assertions (weaker vs. stronger)
- Practice determining stronger/weaker assertions
- Practice checking correctness of loops.
- Practice writing loops (if time allows)

Why reason about code?

- Prove that code is correct
- Understand *why* code is correct
- Diagnose why/how code is *not* correct
- Specify code behavior

Logical reasoning about code

- Determine facts that hold of program state between statements
 - “Fact” ~ assertion (logical formula over program state, informally “value(s) of some/all program variables)
 - Driven by assumption (precondition) or goal (postcondition)
- Forward reasoning
 - What facts follow from initial assumptions?
 - Go from precondition to postcondition
- Backward reasoning
 - What facts need to be true to reach a goal?
 - Go from postcondition to precondition

Hoare Logic: Validity by Reasoning

- Checking validity of $\{P\} S \{Q\}$
 - Valid iff, starting from any state satisfying P , executing S results in a state satisfying Q
- Forward reasoning:
 - Reason from P to strongest postcondition $\{P\} S \{R\}$
 - Check that R implies Q (i.e., Q is weaker)
- Backward reasoning:
 - Reason from Q to get weakest precondition $\{R\} S \{Q\}$
 - Check that P implies R (i.e., P is stronger)

Implication (\Rightarrow)

- Logic formulas with *and* (&, &&, or \wedge), *or* (|, ||, or \vee) and *not* (! or \neg) have the same meaning they do in programs
- Implication might be a bit new, but the basic idea is pretty simple. Implication $p \Rightarrow q$ is true as long as q is always true whenever p is

p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Assignment Statements

- Reasoning about $x = y$;
- Forward reasoning:
 - add “ $x = y$ ” as a new fact
 - (also rewrite any existing references to “ x ” to use new value)
- Backward reasoning:
 - replace all instances of “ x ” in the postcondition with “ y ”

Conditionals, more closely

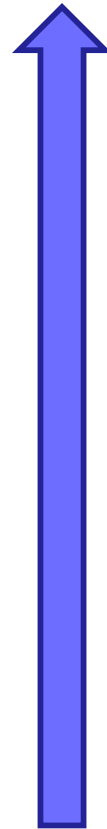
Forward reasoning

```
{P}
if (b)
    {P ∧ b}
    S1
    {Q1}
else
    {P ∧ !b}
    S2
    {Q2}
{Q1 ∨ Q2}
```



Backward reasoning

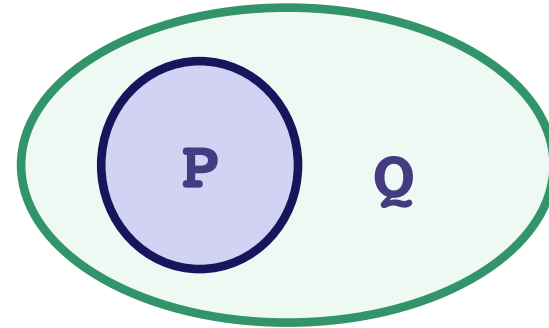
```
{ (b ∧ P1) ∨ (!b ∧ P2) }
if (b)
    {P1}
    S1
    {Q}
else
    {P2}
    S2
    {Q}
{Q}
```



Weaker vs. stronger

Formal definition:

- If $P \Rightarrow Q$, then
 - Q is weaker than P
 - P is stronger than Q



Intuitive definition:

- “Weak” means unrestrictive; a weaker assertion has a larger set of possible program states (e.g., $\mathbf{x} \neq 0$)
- “Strong” means restrictive; a stronger assertion has a smaller set of possible program states (e.g., $\mathbf{x} = 1$ or $\mathbf{x} > 0$ are both stronger than $\mathbf{x} \neq 0$).

Worksheet

- Take ~10 minutes to get where you can
- Find a partner and work with them
- Let me know if you feel stuck
- We'll walk through some solutions afterwards

Worksheet – problem 2

```
{ true }
if (x>0) {
  { x > 0 }
  y = 2*x;
  { x > 0  $\wedge$  y = 2x }
} else {
  { x <= 0 }
  y = -2*x;
  { x <= 0  $\wedge$  y = -2x }
}
{ (x > 0  $\wedge$  y = 2x)  $\vee$  (x <= 0  $\wedge$  y = -2x) }
 $\Rightarrow$  { y = 2|x| }
```

Worksheet – problem 4

```
{ y > 15 ∨ (y ≤ 5 ∧ y + z > 17) }  
if (y > 5) {  
    { y > 15 }  
    x = y + 2  
    { x > 17 }  
} else {  
    { y + z > 17 }  
    x = y + z;  
    { x > 17 }  
}  
{ x > 17 }
```

Worksheet – problem 6 (forward)

```
{ true }
if (x < y) {
  { true ∧ x < y }
  m = x;
  { x < y ∧ m = x }
} else {
  { true ∧ x ≥ y }
  m = y;
  { x ≥ y ∧ m = y }
}
{ (x < y ∧ m = x) ∨ (x ≥ y ∧ m = y) }
⇒ { m = min(x, y) }
```

Worksheet – problem 6 (backward)

```
{ true } ⇔
{ (x ≤ y ∧ x < y) ∨ (y ≤ x ∧ x ≥ y) }
if (x < y) {
    { x = min(x, y) } ⇔ { x ≤ y }
    m = x;
    { m = min(x, y) }
} else {
    { y = min(x, y) } ⇔ { x ≥ y }
    m = y;
    { m = min(x, y) }
}
{ m = min(x, y) }
```

Worksheet – problem 7

`{ y > 23 }`

`{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y = 23 }`

`{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y < 0.23 }`

`{ y < 0.00023 }`

`{ x = y * z }`

`{ y = x / z }`

`{ is_prime(y) }`

`{ is_odd(y) }`

Worksheet – problem 7

`{ y > 23 }`

is stronger than

`{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y = 23 }`

`{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y < 0.23 }`

`{ y < 0.00023 }`

`{ x = y * z }`

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Worksheet – problem 7

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`{ y >= 23 }`

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`{ y >= 23 }`

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is weaker than

`{ y < 0.00023 }`

`{ x = y * z }`

`{ y = x / z }`

`{ is_prime(y) }`

`{ is_odd(y) }`

Worksheet – problem 7

`{ y > 23 }` is stronger than `{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y = 23 }` is stronger than `{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y < 0.23 }` is weaker than `{ y < 0.00023 }`

`{ x = y * z }` is **incomparable** with `{ y = x / z }`

`{ is_prime(y) }` `{ is_odd(y) }`

Worksheet – problem 7

`{ y > 23 }` is stronger than `{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y = 23 }` is stronger than `{ y >= 23 }`

`{ y < 0.23 }` is weaker than `{ y < 0.00023 }`

`{ x = y * z }` is **incomparable** with `{ y = x / z }`

`{ is_prime(y) }` is **incomparable** with `{ is_odd(y) }`

Questions?

- What is the most surprising thing about this?
- What is the most confusing thing?
- What will need a bit more thinking to digest?

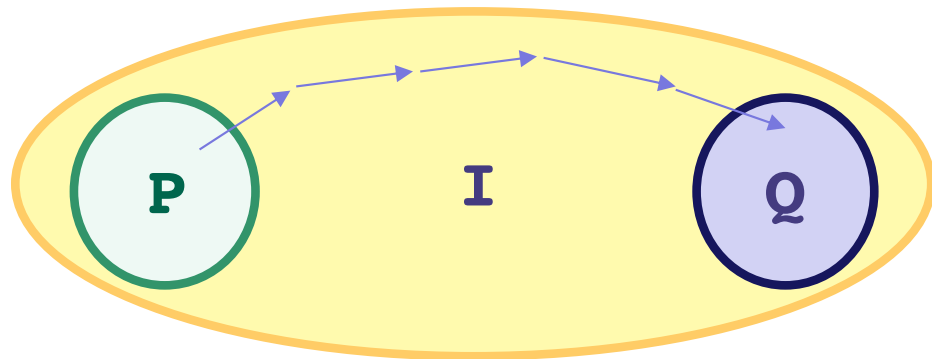
Previously on CSE 331...

$\{\{ P \}\}$ while (cond) S $\{\{ Q \}\}$

This triple is valid iff

$\{\{ P \}\}$
 $\{\{ \text{Inv: } I \}\}$
while (cond)
 S
 $\{\{ Q \}\}$

- I holds initially
- I holds each time we execute S
- Q holds when I holds and cond is false



Worksheet – problem 8

Need to check each of these parts:

- code before the loop
- body of the loop
- exit of the loop gives claimed assert
- postcondition holds when returning true
- postcondition holds when returning false

We'll go through these in that order...

Worksheet – problem 8

`{{ Precondition: $x \geq 1$ }}`

`int k = 0;`

`int y = 1;`



`{{ k = 0 and y = 1 }}`

`{{ Inv: $y = 2^k$ and $y/2 < x$ }}`

When $k = 0$, we have $y = 2^k = 2^0 = 1$, which is true.

We also have $y/2 = 1/2 < 1 \leq x$, so that part is also true

Worksheet – problem 8

$\{\{ \text{Inv: } y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \}\}$

while ($y < x$) {

$y = y * 2;$

$k = k + 1;$

}

$\{\{ 2y = 2^{k+1} \text{ and } 2y/2 < x \}\}$ or equiv $\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y < x \}\}$
 $\{\{ y = 2^{k+1} \text{ and } y/2 < x \}\}$
 $\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \}\}$

Inv and loop condition ($y < x$) include both of the two facts we need for correctness.

Worksheet – problem 8

$\{\{ \text{Inv: } y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \}\}$

while ($y < x$) {

$y = y * 2;$

$k = k + 1;$

}

$\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \leq y \}\}$



$\{\{y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \text{ and not } (y < x) \}\}$

Last fact is $y \geq x$,
so we have $y/2 < x \leq y$ as required.

Worksheet – problem 8

$\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \leq y \}\}$

if (y == x) {

$\{\{ \text{Postcondition: } x \text{ is a power of } 2 \}\}$

 return true;

} else {

 ...

}



$\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y = x \}\}$

y is a power of 2 and y = x,
so x is a power of 2

Worksheet – problem 8

$\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \leq y \}\}$

if (y == x) {

...

} else {

$\{\{ y = 2^k \text{ and } y/2 < x \leq y \text{ and } y \neq x \}\}$

$\{\{ \text{Postcondition: } x \text{ is not a power of } 2 \}\}$

return false;

}

$y \neq x$ tells us we have $y/2 < x < y$

So x lies strictly between two subsequent powers of 2, which means it is not a power of 2.

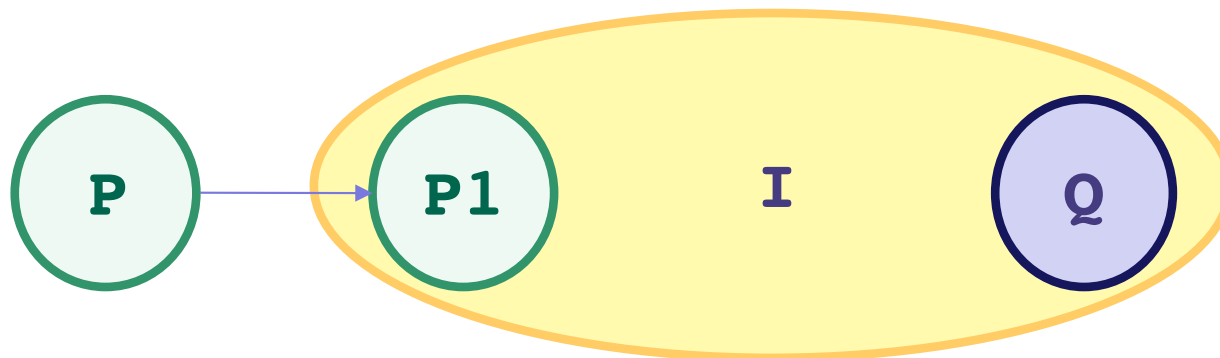
Loop Invariants

- Loop invariant comes out of the algorithm idea
 - describes partial progress toward the goal
 - how you will get from start to end
- Essence of the algorithm idea is:
 - invariant
 - how you make progress on each step (e.g., $i = i + 1$)
- Code is *ideally* just details that follow from that idea...

Loop Invariant \rightarrow Code

In fact, can usually deduce the code from the invariant:

- When does loop invariant satisfy the postcondition?
 - gives you the termination condition
- What is the easiest way to satisfy the loop invariant?
 - gives you the initialization code
- How does the invariant change as you make progress?
 - gives you the rest of the loop body



Another Example

Example: quotient and remainder

Problem: Set q to be the quotient of x/y and r to be the remainder

Precondition: $x \geq 0$ and $y > 0$

Postcondition: $q*y + r = x$ and $0 \leq r < y$

- i.e., y doesn't go into x any more times

Example: quotient and remainder

Problem: Set q to be the quotient of x/y and r to be the remainder

Precondition: $x \geq 0$ and $y > 0$

Postcondition: $q*y + r = x$ and $0 \leq r < y$

- i.e., y doesn't go into x any more times

Loop invariant: $q*y + r = x$ and $0 \leq r$

- postcondition is special case when we also have $r < y$
- this suggests a loop condition...

This is (again) just a weakening of the postcondition.
(We just drop $r < y$.)

Example: quotient and remainder

We want “ $r < y$ ” when the conditions fails

- so the condition is $r \geq y$
- can see immediately that the postcondition holds on loop exit

```
{{ Inv:  $q \cdot y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  }}
```

```
while (  $r \geq y$  ) {
```

```
}
```

```
{{  $q \cdot y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r < y$  }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

Need to make the invariant hold initially...

- search for an easy way to satisfy $q*y + r = x$ and $0 \leq r$

```
{{ Inv:  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  }}
```

```
while (  $r \geq y$  ) {
```

```
}
```

```
{{  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r < y$  }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

Need to make the invariant hold initially...

- search for an easy way to satisfy $q*y + r = x$ and $0 \leq r$
- how about $q = 0$?
 - then we need $r = x$... and that is okay since $0 \leq x$

```
{{ Inv:  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  }}
```

```
while (  $r \geq y$  ) {
```

```
}
```

```
{{  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r < y$  }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

Need to make the invariant hold initially...

- search for the simplest way that works

```
int q = 0;
int r = x;
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
while (r >= y) {

}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

```
int q = 0;
int r = x;
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
while (r >= y) {
    r = r - y;
}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

```
int q = 0;
int r = x;
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
while (r >= y) {
    r = r - y;
}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

↓ {{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r and y <= r }}

↑ {{ q*y + r-y = x and 0 <= r-y }}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

```
int q = 0;
```

```
int r = x;
```

add and subtract y

```
{{ Inv:  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  }}
```

```
{{  $q*y+y + r-y = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  and  $y \leq r$  }}
```

```
while (r >= y) {
```

```
↓ {{  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  and  $y \leq r$  }}
```

```
    r = r - y;
```

```
↑ {{  $q*y + r-y = x$  and  $0 \leq r-y$  }}  
   {{  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r$  }}
```

```
}
```

```
{{  $q*y + r = x$  and  $0 \leq r < y$  }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

top has $q+1$ where bottom has q , so we need code that changes q to $q+1$

```
int q = 0;
```

```
int r = x;
```

```
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
```

```
while (r >= y) {
```

```
    r = r - y;
```

```
}
```

```
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

```
{{ (q+1)*y + r-y = x and 0 <= r and y <= r }}
```

```
{{ q*y+y + r-y = x and 0 <= r and y <= r }}
```

```
↓ {{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r and y <= r }}
```

```
↑ {{ q*y + r-y = x and 0 <= r-y }}
```

```
↑ {{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
```

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

```
int q = 0;
int r = x;
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
while (r >= y) {
    q = q + 1;
    r = r - y;
}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

let's double-check this, just to be sure...

Example: quotient and remainder

We have r large initially.

Need to shrink r on each iteration in order to terminate...

- if $r \geq y$, then y goes into x at least one more time

```
int q = 0;
int r = x;
{{ Inv: q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
while (r >= y) {
    q = q + 1;
    r = r - y;
}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r < y }}
```

+y and -y cancel to give exactly Inv

↑

←

```
{{ (q+1)*y + r-y = x and y <= r }}
{{ q*y + r-y = x and 0 <= r-y }}
{{ q*y + r = x and 0 <= r }}
```

Aside on Efficiency

- This is not an efficient algorithm
 - runs in $O(x/y)$ time, which could be huge (e.g. $x/y = 2^{63}$)
 - but it is correct
- Grade school “long division“ is much more efficient
 - runs in $O((\log x)^2)$ time
 - makes progress in larger steps
 - (needs a more complex invariant)