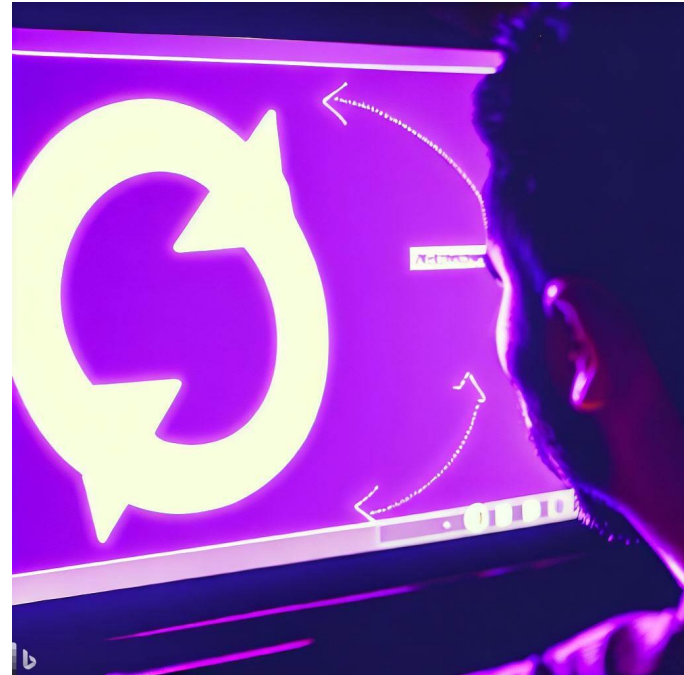


**CSE 331**

**Loops in Floyd Logic**

**Kevin Zatloukal**



# Recall: Hoare Triples

---

- A **Hoare triple** has two assertions and some code

$\{ \{ P \} \}$

$S$

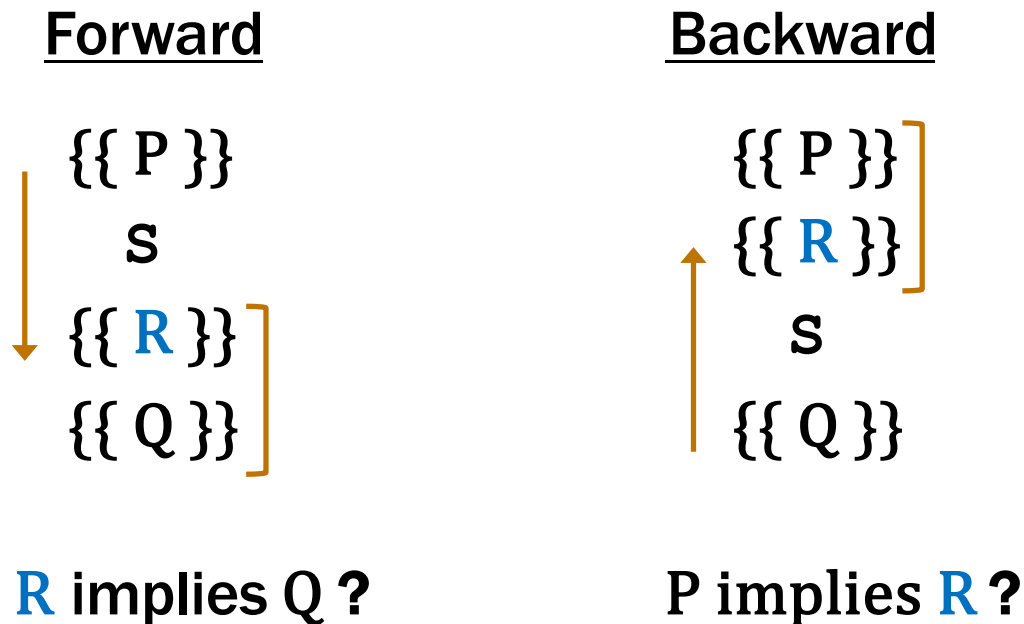
$\{ \{ Q \} \}$

- $P$  is the precondition,  $Q$  is the postcondition
  - $S$  is the code
- 
- Triple is “**valid**” if the code is correct:
    - $S$  takes *any* state satisfying  $P$  into a state satisfying  $Q$   
does not matter what the code does if  $P$  does not hold initially
    - otherwise, the triple is invalid

# Recall: Correctness via Forward / Backward Reasoning

---

- Turn correctness into checking an implication



- Check the implication by calculation (as before)

# Recall: Forward and Backward Reasoning

---

- Imperative code made up of
  - assignments
  - conditionals
  - loops
- Anything can be rewritten with just these
- We will learn forward / backward rules to handle them
  - will also learn a rule for function calls
  - once we have those, we are done

# Assignments

# Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

---

$\{\{ w > 0 \}\}$   
 $x = 17;$   
 $\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \}\}$   
 $y = 42;$   
 $\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \text{ and } y = 42 \}\}$   
 $z = w + x + y;$   
 $\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \text{ and } y = 42 \text{ and } z = w + x + y \}\}$

- With no mutation, rule is  $\{\{ P \}\} x = y; \{\{ P \text{ and } x = y \}\}$
- That rule does not work if P refers to “x”
  - need to invent a new name,  $x_0$ , to refer to x’s old value
  - change the “x”s in P into “ $x_0$ ”s since they mean the old value

# Forward Reasoning through Assignments

---

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = y; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = y[x \mapsto x_0] \}\} \end{array}$$

- replace all “x”s in P and y with “x<sub>0</sub>”s (or any *new name*)

# Correctness Example by Forward Reasoning

---

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with n >= 1
 * @returns an integer m with m >= 10
 */
const f = (n: number): number =? {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  n = n + 3;
  {{ n2 ≥ 10 }}
  return n * n;
};
```

- Code is correct if this triple is valid...



# Correctness Example by Forward Reasoning

---

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with n >= 1
 * @returns an integer m with m >= 10
 */
const f = (n: number): number =? {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  n = n + 3;
  {{ n0 ≥ 1 and n = n0 + 3 }}
  {{ n2 ≥ 10 }}
  return n * n;
};
```

check this implication

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &= (n_0 + 3)^2 && \text{since } n = n_0 + 3 \\ &\geq 4^2 && \text{since } n_0 \geq 1 \\ &= 16 \\ &\geq 10 \end{aligned}$$

# Forward Reasoning through Assignments

---

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = y; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = y[x \mapsto x_0] \}\} \end{array}$$

- replace all “x”s in  $P$  and  $y$  with “ $x_0$ ”s (or any *new* name)
- This process can be **simplified** in many cases
  - no need for  $x_0$  if we can write old value in terms of new value
  - e.g., if “ $x = x_0 + 1$ ”, then “ $x_0 = x - 1$ ”
  - assertions will be easier to read without old values  
(Technically, this is weakening, but it’s usually fine  
Postconditions usually do not refer to old values of variables.)

# Forward Reasoning through Assignments

---

- For assignments, forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = y; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = y[x \mapsto x_0] \}\} \end{array} \quad x_0 \text{ is any new variable name}$$

- If we can write  $x_0 = f(x)$ , then we can simplify this to

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = \dots x \dots; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto f(x)] \}\} \end{array} \quad \text{no need for, e.g., "and } x = x_0 + 1\text{"}$$

- if assignment is “ $x = x_0 + 1$ ”, then “ $x_0 = x - 1$ ”
- if assignment is “ $x = 2x_0$ ”, then “ $x_0 = x/2$ ”
- does not work for integer division (an un-invertible operation)

# Correctness Example by Forward Reasoning

---

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with n >= 1
 * @returns an integer m with m >= 10
 */
const f = (n: number): number =? {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  n = n + 3;
  {{ n - 3 ≥ 1 }}
  {{ n² ≥ 10 }}
  return n * n;
};
```

$n = n_0 + 3$  means  $n - 3 = n_0$

check this implication

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &\geq 4^2 && \text{since } n - 3 \geq 1 \text{ (i.e., } n \geq 4\text{)} \\ &= 16 \\ &> 10 \end{aligned}$$

This is the preferred approach.  
Avoid subscripts when possible.

# Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

---

{{ \_\_\_\_\_ }}

x = 17;

{{ \_\_\_\_\_ }}

y = 42;

{{ \_\_\_\_\_ }}

z = w + x + y;

{{ z < 0 }}

- **What must be true before  $z = w + x + y$  so  $z < 0$  ?**
  - want the weakest postcondition (most allowed states)

# Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

---

```


  {{ _____ }}
  x = 17;
  {{ _____ }}
  y = 42;
  {{ w + x + y < 0 }}
  ↑
  z = w + x + y;
  {{ z < 0 }}

```

- **What must be true before  $z = w + x + y$  so  $z < 0$  ?**
  - must have  $w + x + y < 0$  beforehand
- **What must be true before  $y = 42$  for  $w + x + y < 0$  ?**

# Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

---

$\{\{ \text{_____} \}\}$   
 $x = 17;$   
  $\{\{ w + x + 42 < 0 \}\}$   
 $y = 42;$   
 $\{\{ w + x + y < 0 \}\}$   
 $z = w + x + y;$   
 $\{\{ z < 0 \}\}$

- **What must be true before  $y = 42$  for  $w + x + y < 0$  ?**
  - must have  $w + x + 42 < 0$  beforehand
- **What must be true before  $x = 17$  for  $w + x + 42 < 0$  ?**

# Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

---

↑  
{{  $w + 17 + 42 < 0$  }}  
   $x = 17;$   
{{  $w + x + 42 < 0$  }}  
   $y = 42;$   
{{  $w + x + y < 0$  }}  
   $z = w + x + y;$   
{{  $z < 0$  }}

- **What must be true before  $x = 17$  for  $w + x + 42 < 0$  ?**
  - must have  $w + 59 < 0$  beforehand
- **All we did was substitute right side for the left side**
  - e.g., substitute “ $w + x + y$ ” for “ $z$ ” in “ $z < 0$ ”
  - e.g., substitute “42” for “ $y$ ” in “ $w + x + y < 0$ ”
  - e.g., substitute “17” for “ $x$ ” in “ $w + x + 42 < 0$ ”



# Backward Reasoning through Assignments

---

- For assignments, backward reasoning is substitution

↑  
{{ Q[x ↦ y] }}  
x = y;  
{{ Q }}

- just replace all the “x”s with “y”s
- we will denote this substitution by  $Q[x \mapsto y]$
- Mechanically simpler than forward reasoning
  - no need for subscripts

# Correctness Example by Forward Reasoning

---

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with n >= 1
 * @returns an integer m with m >= 10
 */
const f = (n: number): number =? {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  n = n + 3;
  {{ n2 ≥ 10 }}
  return n * n;
};
```

- Code is correct if this triple is valid...

# Correctness Example by Backward Reasoning

---

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with n >= 1
 * @returns an integer m with m >= 10
 */
const f = (n: number): number => {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  {{ (n + 3)2 ≥ 10 }}
  ↑
  n = n + 3;
  {{ n2 ≥ 10 }}
  return n * n;
};
```

check this implication

$$\begin{aligned}(n+3)^2 &\geq (1+3)^2 && \text{since } n \geq 1 \\ &= 16 \\ &> 10\end{aligned}$$

# Conditionals

# Conditionals in Functional Programming

---


```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.  
// Returns a non-negative integer.  
const f = (a: number, b: number): number => {  
  if (a >= 0 && b >= 0) {  
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));  
    return sum(L);  
  }  
  ...  
}
```

- **Prior reasoning also included *conditionals***
  - what does that look like in Floyd logic?

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
const f = (a: number, b: number): number => {
  {}
  if (a >= 0 && b >= 0) {
    {a ≥ 0 and b ≥ 0}
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    return sum(L);
  }
  ...
}
```



- **Conditionals introduce extra facts in forward reasoning**
  - simple “and” case since nothing is mutated

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  return m;
}
```

- Code like this was impossible without mutation
  - cannot write to a “`const`” after its declaration
- How do we handle it now?

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  return m;
}
```

- Reason *separately* about each **path** to a **return**
  - handle each path the same as before
  - but now there can be multiple paths to one **return**



# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---


```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {} m > n {}
  return m;
}
```

- Check correctness path through “then” branch

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---


```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    {{ n ≥ 0 }}
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```



# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    {{ n ≥ 0 }}
    m = 2*n + 1;
    {{ n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1 }}
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

A diagram consisting of a vertical line on the left side of the code block, starting from the level of the 'if' statement and extending down to the level of the 'else' block. A horizontal line branches off from the vertical line to the right, pointing towards the 'else' block, indicating the flow of execution when the 'if' condition is false.

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---


```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    {{ n ≥ 0 }}
    m = 2*n + 1;
    {{ n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1 }}
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {{ n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1 }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

$m = 2n + 1$   
 $> 2n$       since  $1 > 0$   
 $\geq n$       since  $n \geq 0$

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {{ n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1 }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```



- Note: **no mutation**, so we can do this in our head
  - read along the **path**, and collect all the facts

# Conditionals in Floyd Logic

---

```
// Returns a number m with m > n
const g = (n: number): number => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0) {
    m = 2*n + 1;
  } else {
    m = 0;
  }
  {{ n < 0 and m = 0 }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

$m = 0$   
 $> n$       since  $0 > n$

- Check correctness path through “else” branch
  - note: **no mutation**, so we can do this in our head

# Function Calls

# Reasoning about Function Calls

---

```
// @requires P2           -- preconditions a, b
// @returns x such that R -- conditions on a, b, x
const f = (a: number, b: number): number => {..}
```

- Forward reasoning rule is

↓

```
{ { P } }
  x = f(a, b);
{ { P[x ↦ x0] and R } }
```

Must also check that P implies P<sub>2</sub>

- Backward reasoning rule is

↑

```
{ { Q1 and P2 } }
  x = f(a, b);
{ { Q1 and Q2 } }
```

Must also check that R implies Q<sub>2</sub>

Q<sub>2</sub> is the part of postcondition using “x”



# Loops

# Correctness of Loops

---

- **Assignment and condition reasoning is mechanical**
- **Loop reasoning cannot be made mechanical**
  - no way around this  
(311 alert: this follows from Rice's Theorem)
- **Thankfully, one *extra* bit of information fixes this**
  - need to provide a “loop invariant”
  - with the invariant, reasoning is again mechanical

# Loop Invariants

---

- Loop invariant is true every time at the top of the loop

```
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    S  
  }
```

- must be true when we get to the top the first time
  - must remain true each time execute S and loop back up
- Use “Inv:” to indicate a loop invariant  
 otherwise, this only claims to be true the first time at the loop

# Loop Invariants

---

- Loop invariant is true every time at the top of the loop

```
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    S  
  }
```

- must be true 0 times through the loop (at top the first time)
  - if true n times through, must be true n+1 times through
- Why do these imply it is always true?
    - follows by structural induction (on  $\mathbb{N}$ )

# Checking Correctness with Loop Invariants

---

```
  {{ P }}  
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    S  
  }  
  {{ Q }}
```

- How do we check validity with a loop invariant?
  - intermediate assertion splits into *three* triples to check

# Checking Correctness with Loop Invariants

---

```
  {{ P }}  
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    S  
  }  
  {{ Q }}
```

1. I holds initially

**Splits correctness into three parts**

- 1. I holds initially**
- 2. S preserves I**
- 3. Q holds when loop exits**

# Checking Correctness with Loop Invariants

---

```
  {{ P }}  
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    {{ I and cond }}  
    S  
    {{ I }}  
  }  
  {{ Q }}
```

1. I holds initially

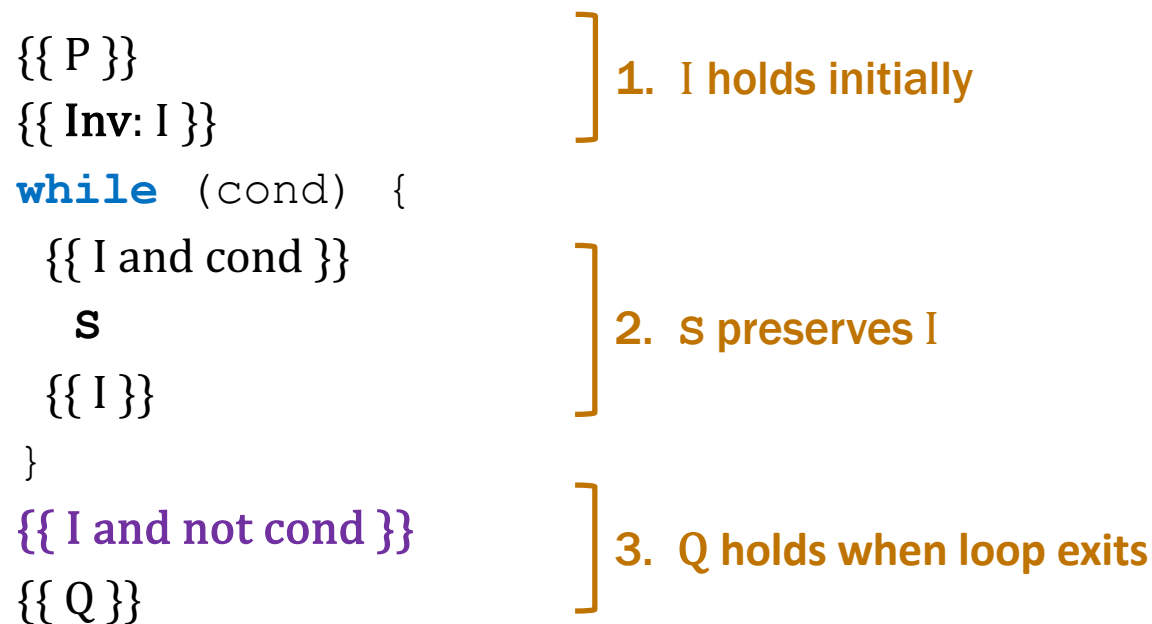
2. S preserves I

**Splits correctness into three parts**

- 1. I holds initially**
- 2. S preserves I**
- 3. Q holds when loop exits**

# Checking Correctness with Loop Invariants

---



## Splits correctness into three parts

- |                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>1. I holds initially</b>       | implication                   |
| <b>2. S preserves I</b>           | forward/back then implication |
| <b>3. Q holds when loop exits</b> | implication                   |



# Checking Correctness with Loop Invariants

---

```
  {{ P }}  
  {{ Inv: I }}  
  while (cond) {  
    S  
  }  
  {{ Q }}
```

**Formally, invariant split this into three Hoare triples:**

1.  $\{\{ P \}\} \{\{ I \}\}$       **I holds initially**
2.  $\{\{ I \text{ and } \text{cond} \}\} S \{\{ I \}\}$       **S preserves I**
3.  $\{\{ I \text{ and not cond} \}\} \{\{ Q \}\}$       **Q holds when loop exits**

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := sum-to(n) + (n+1)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
{{ }}
let i: number = 0;
let s: number = 0;
{{ Inv: s = sum-to(i) }}
while (i != n) {
  i = i + 1;
  s = s + i;
}
{{ s = sum-to(n) }}
```

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := sum-to(n) + (n+1)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
{{ }}
let i: number = 0;
let s: number = 0;
{{ Inv: s = sum-to(i) }}
while (i != n) {
  i = i + 1;
  s = s + i;
}
{{ s = sum-to(n) }}
```

Easy to get this wrong!

- might be initializing "i" wrong ( $i = 1$ ?)
- might be exiting at the wrong time ( $i \neq n-1$ ?)
- might have the assignments in wrong order
- ...

Fact that we need to check 3 implications is a strong indication that more bugs are possible.

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := (n+1) + sum-to(n)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
  {{ }}
  let i: number = 0;
  let s: number = 0;
  ↓ {{ i = 0 and s = 0 }}
  {{ Inv: s = sum-to(i) }}
  while (i != n) {
    ...
  }
```

]

sum-to(i)  
= sum-to(0)  
= 0  
= s

since  $i = 0$   
def of sum-to

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := (n+1) + sum-to(n)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
{ { Inv:  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  } }
while (i != n) {
  { {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  and  $i \neq n$  } }
  i = i + 1;
  s = s + i;
  { {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  } }
}
```

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := (n+1) + sum-to(n)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
{ { Inv:  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  } }
while (i != n) {
  { {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  and  $i \neq n$  } }
  i = i + 1;
  { {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i-1)$  and  $i-1 \neq n$  } }
  s = s + i;
  { {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  } }
}
```

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := (n+1) + sum-to(n)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```

{{ Inv:  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  }}
while (i != n) {
  {{  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  and  $i \neq n$  }}
  i = i + 1;
  {{  $s = \text{sum-to}(i-1)$  and  $i-1 \neq n$  }}
  s = s + i;
  {{  $s - i = \text{sum-to}(i-1)$  and  $i-1 \neq n$  }}
  {{  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  }}
}

```

$s = i + \text{sum-to}(i-1)$   
 $= \text{sum-to}(i)$

since  $s - i = \text{sum-to}(i-1)$   
def of sum-to

# Example Loop Correctness

---

- Recursive function to calculate  $1 + 2 + \dots + n$

```
func sum-to(0) := 0
sum-to(n+1) := (n+1) + sum-to(n)    for any  $n : \mathbb{N}$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well

```
{ { Inv:  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  } }
while (i != n) {
  i = i + 1;
  s = s + i;
}
```

```
{ {  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$  and  $i = n$  } } ] sum-to(n)
{ {  $s = \text{sum-to}(n)$  } } ] = sum-to(i)    since  $i = n$ 
                                = s        since  $s = \text{sum-to}(i)$ 
```



# Termination

---

- **This analysis does not check that the code terminates**
  - it shows that the postcondition holds if the loop exits
  - but we never showed that the loop does exit
- **Termination follows from the running time analysis**
  - e.g., if the code runs in  $O(n^2)$  time, then it terminates
  - an infinite loop would be  $O(\text{infinity})$
  - any finite bound on the running time proves it terminates
- **Normal to also analyze the running time of our code, and we get termination already from that analysis**