

CSE 331

Floyd Logic

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Reasoning So Far

- **Code so far made up of three elements**
 - straight-line code
 - conditionals
 - recursion

- **All code without mutation looks like this**

Recall: Finding Facts at a Return Statement

- Consider this code

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

find facts by reading along path
from top to return statement

- Known facts include “ $a \geq 0$ ”, “ $b \geq 0$ ”, and “ $L = \text{cons}(\dots)$ ”
- Prove that postcondition holds: “ $\text{sum}(L) \geq 0$ ”

Finding Facts at a Return Statement

- Consider this code

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
const f = (a: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {
    a = a - 1n;
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    return sum(L);
  }
  ...
}
```

The diagram illustrates the flow of a fact. An orange arrow points from the condition `a >= 0n` in the `if` statement to the `return` statement. A second orange arrow points from the `return` statement to the text `a >= 0? No!`, indicating that the fact `a >= 0` is no longer true after the subtraction `a = a - 1n`.

- Facts no longer hold throughout the function
- When we state a fact, we have to say where it holds

Correctness Levels

Description	Testing	Tools	Reasoning
no mutation	coverage	type checking	calculation induction
local variable mutation	“	“	Floyd logic
array mutation	“	“	for-any facts
heap state mutation	“	“	rep invariants

Finding Facts at a Return Statement

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
const f = (a: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {
    {{a ≥ 0}}
    a = a - 1n;
    {{a ≥ -1}}
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    return sum(L);
  }
}
```

- When we state a fact, we have to say where it holds
- `{{ .. }}` notation indicates facts true at that point
 - cannot assume those are true anywhere else

Finding Facts at a Return Statement

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
const f = (a: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {
    {{a ≥ 0}}
    a = a - 1n;
    {{a ≥ -1}}
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    return sum(L);
  }
}
```

- There are mechanical tools for moving facts around
 - “forward reasoning” says how they change as we move down
 - “backward reasoning” says how they change as we move up

Finding Facts at a Return Statement

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
const f = (a: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {
    {{a ≥ 0}}
    a = a - 1n;
    {{a ≥ -1}}
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    return sum(L);
  }
}
```

- Professionals are *insanely* good at forward reasoning
 - “programmers are the Olympic athletes of forward reasoning”
 - you’ll have an edge by learning backward reasoning too

Floyd Logic

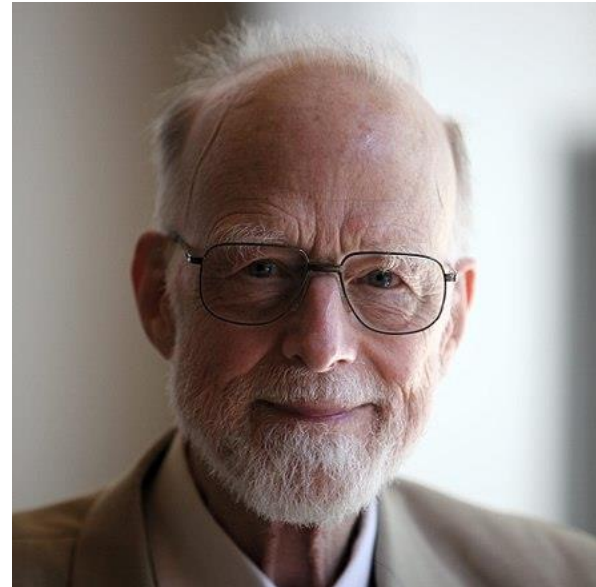
Floyd Logic

- **Invented by Robert Floyd and Sir Anthony Hoare**
 - Floyd won the Turing award in 1978
 - Hoare won the Turing award in 1980



Robert Floyd

picture from [Wikipedia](#)



Tony Hoare

Floyd Logic Terminology

- The **program state** is the values of the variables
- An **assertion** (in $\{\{ .. \}\}$) is a T/F claim about the state
 - an assertion “holds” if the claim is true
 - assertions are *math* not code
(we do our reasoning in math)
- Most important assertions:
 - **precondition**: claim about the state when the function starts
 - **postcondition**: claim about the state when the function ends

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

Correctness Example

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

- Check that value returned, $m = n^2$, satisfies $m \geq 10$

Correctness Example

```
/**
 * @param n an integer with  $n \geq 1$ 
 * @returns an integer m with  $m \geq 10$ 
 */
const f = (n: bigint): bigint => {
  {{  $n \geq 1$  }}
  n = n + 3n;
  {{  $n^2 \geq 10$  }}
  return n * n;
};
```

- Precondition and postcondition come from spec
- Remains to check that the triple is valid

Hoare Triples with No Code

- Code could be empty:

$\{ \{ P \} \}$

$\{ \{ Q \} \}$

- When is such a triple valid?
 - valid iff P implies Q
 - we already know how to check validity in this case:
prove each fact in Q by calculation, using facts from P

Hoare Triples with No Code

- Code could be empty:

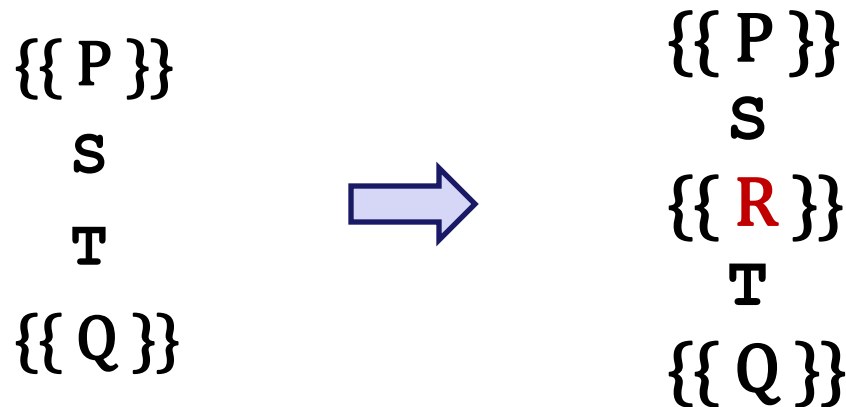
$$\{\{ a \geq 0, b \geq 0, L = \text{cons}(a, \text{cons}(b, \text{nil})) \}\}$$
$$\{\{ \text{sum}(L) \geq 0 \}\}$$

- Check that P implies Q by calculation

$\text{sum}(L)$	$= \text{sum}(\text{cons}(a, \text{cons}(b, \text{nil})))$	since $L = \dots$
	$= a + \text{sum}(\text{cons}(b, \text{nil}))$	def of sum
	$= a + b + \text{sum}(\text{nil})$	def of sum
	$= a + b$	def of sum
	$\geq 0 + b$	since $a \geq 0$
	$\geq 0 + 0$	since $b \geq 0$
	$= 0$	

Hoare Triples with Multiple Lines of Code

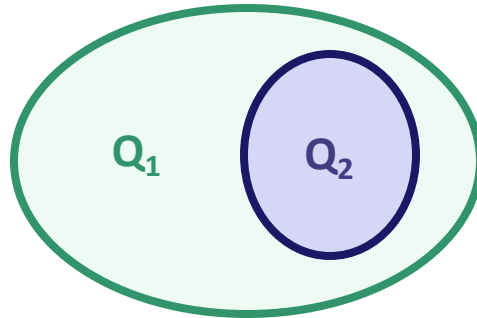
- Code with multiple lines:



- Valid iff there exists an **R** making both triples valid
 - i.e., $\{\{ P \}\} S \{\{ R \}\}$ is valid and $\{\{ R \}\} T \{\{ Q \}\}$ is valid
- Will see next how to put these to good use...

Stronger Assertions vs Specifications

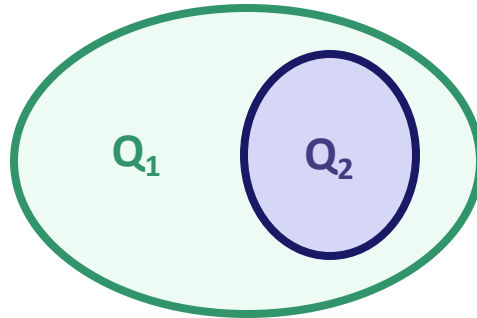
- **Assertion** is **stronger** iff it holds in a subset of states



- **Stronger** assertion implies the **weaker** one
 - stronger is a synonym for “implies”
 - weaker is a synonym for “is implied by”

Stronger Assertions vs Specifications

- **Assertion** is **stronger** iff it holds in a subset of states



- **Weakest** possible assertion is “true” (all states)
 - an empty assertion (“”) also means “true”
- **Strongest** possible assertion is “false” (no states!)

Mechanical Reasoning Tools

- Forward / backward reasoning fill in assertions
 - mechanically create valid triples

- **Forward** reasoning fills in postcondition

$$\{\{ P \}\} s \{\{ _ \}\}$$

- gives *strongest* postcondition making the triple valid

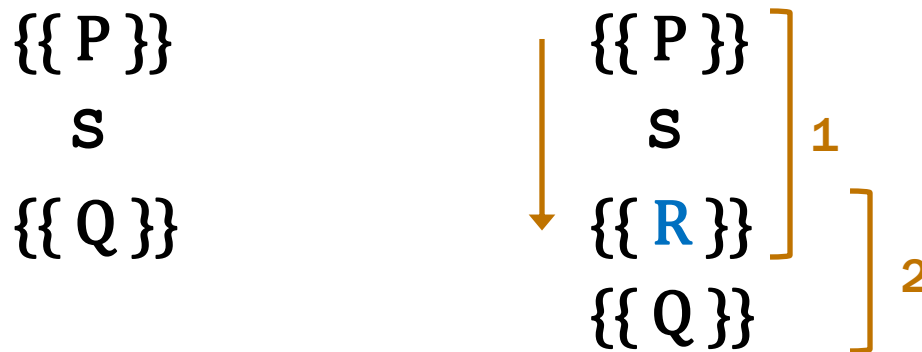
- **Backward** reasoning fills in precondition

$$\{\{ _ \}\} s \{\{ Q \}\}$$

- gives *weakest* precondition making the triple valid

Correctness via Forward Reasoning

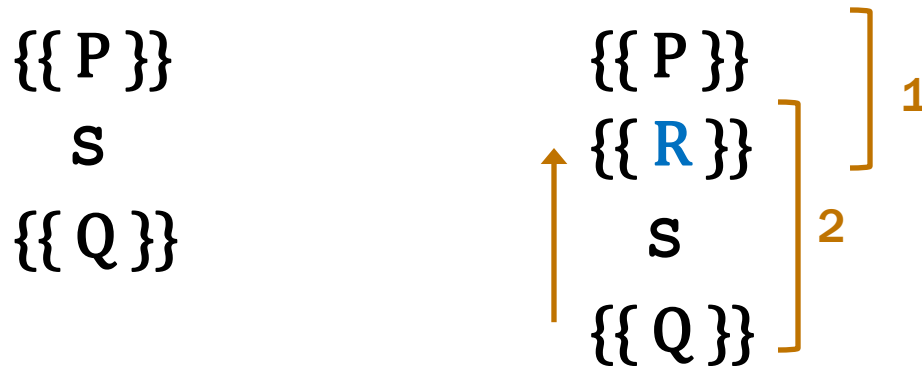
- Apply forward reasoning



- first triple is always valid
- only need to check second triple
 - just requires proving an implication (since no code is present)
- If second triple is invalid, the code is **incorrect**
 - true because R is the strongest assertion possible here

Correctness via Backward Reasoning

- Apply backward reasoning



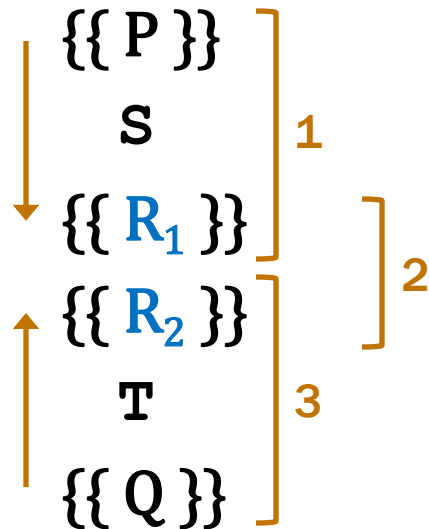
- second triple is always valid
- only need to check first triple
 - just requires proving an implication (since no code is present)
- If first triple is invalid, the code is **incorrect**
 - true because **R** is the weakest assertion possible here

Mechanical Reasoning Tools

- **Forward / backward reasoning fill in assertions**
 - mechanically create valid triples
- **Reduce correctness to proving implications**
 - this was already true for functional code
 - will soon have the same for imperative code
- **Implication will be false if the code is **incorrect****
 - reasoning can verify correct code
 - reasoning will never accept incorrect code

Correctness via Forward & Backward

- Can use both types of reasoning on longer code



- first and third triples is always valid
- only need to check second triple
verify that R_1 implies R_2

Forward & Backward Reasoning

Forward and Backward Reasoning

- Imperative code made up of
 - assignments (mutation)
 - 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

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

$\{\{ w > 0 \}\}$

$x = 17n;$

$\{\{ \text{_____} \}\}$

$y = 42n;$

$\{\{ \text{_____} \}\}$

$z = w + x + y;$

$\{\{ \text{_____} \}\}$

- **What do we know is true after $x = 17$?**
 - want the strongest postcondition (most precise)

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

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

- **What do we know is true after $x = 17$?**
 - w was not changed, so $w > 0$ is still true
 - x is now 17
- **What do we know is true after $y = 42$?**

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

$\{\{ w > 0 \}\}$

$x = 17n;$

$\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \}\}$

$y = 42n;$

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

$z = w + x + y;$

$\{\{ \text{_____} \}\}$

- **What do we know is true after $y = 42$?**
 - w and x were not changed, so previous facts still true
 - y is now 42
- **What do we know is true after $z = w + x + y$?**

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

$\{\{ w > 0 \}\}$


$x = 17n;$

$\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \}\}$

$y = 42n;$

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

$z = w + x + y;$

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

- **What do we know is true after $z = w + x + y$?**
 - w , x , and y were not changed, so previous facts still true
 - z is now $w + x + y$
- **Could also write $z = w + 59$ (since $x = 17$ and $y = 42$)**

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

$\{\{ w > 0 \}\}$

$x = 17n;$

$\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \}\}$

$y = 42n;$

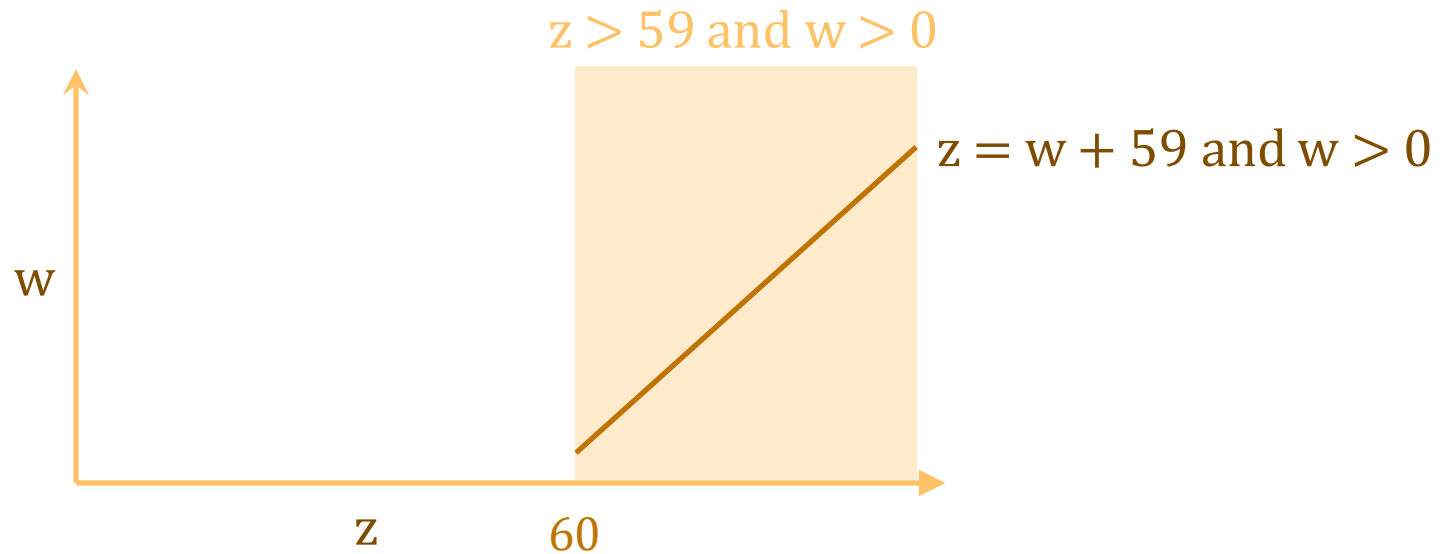
$\{\{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \text{ and } y = 42 \}\}$

$z = w + x + y;$

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

- **Could write $z = w + 59$, but do not write $z > 59$!**
 - that is true since $w > 0$, but...

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments



- **Could write $z = w + 59$, but do not write $z > 59$!**
 - that is true since $w > 0$, but...

Example Forward Reasoning through Assignments

$\{ \{ w > 0 \} \}$

$x = 17n;$

$\{ \{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 17 \} \}$

$y = 42n;$

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

$z = w + x + y;$

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

- **Could write $z = w + 59$, but do not write $z > 59$!**
 - that is true since $w > 0$, but...
 - that is not the **strongest** postcondition
 - correctness check could now fail even if the code is right

Code Example of Forward Reasoning

```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  return z;
};
```

- Let's check correctness using Floyd logic...


Code Example of Forward Reasoning

```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  {{ w > 0 }}
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  {{ z > 59 }}
  return z;
};
```

- Reason forward...

Code Example of Forward Reasoning

```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  {{ w > 0 }}
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  {{ w > 0 and x = 17 and y = 42 and z = w + x + y }}
  {{ z > 59 }}
  return z;
};
```



- Check implication:

$$\begin{aligned} z &= w + x + y \\ &= w + 17 + y \\ &= w + 59 \\ &> 59 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{since } x = 17 \\ &\text{since } y = 42 \\ &\text{since } w > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Code Example of Forward Reasoning

```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  return z;
};
```

find facts by reading along path
from top to return statement

- How about if we use our old approach?
- **Known facts:** $w > 0$, $x = 17$, $y = 42$, and $z = w + x + y$
- **Prove that postcondition holds:** $z > 59$


Code Example of Forward Reasoning

```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  return z;
};
```

- We've been doing forward reasoning already!
 - forward reasoning is (only) “and” with *no mutation*
- Line-by-line facts are for “**let**” (not “**const**”)

Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- **Forward reasoning is trickier with mutation**
 - gets harder if we mutate a variable

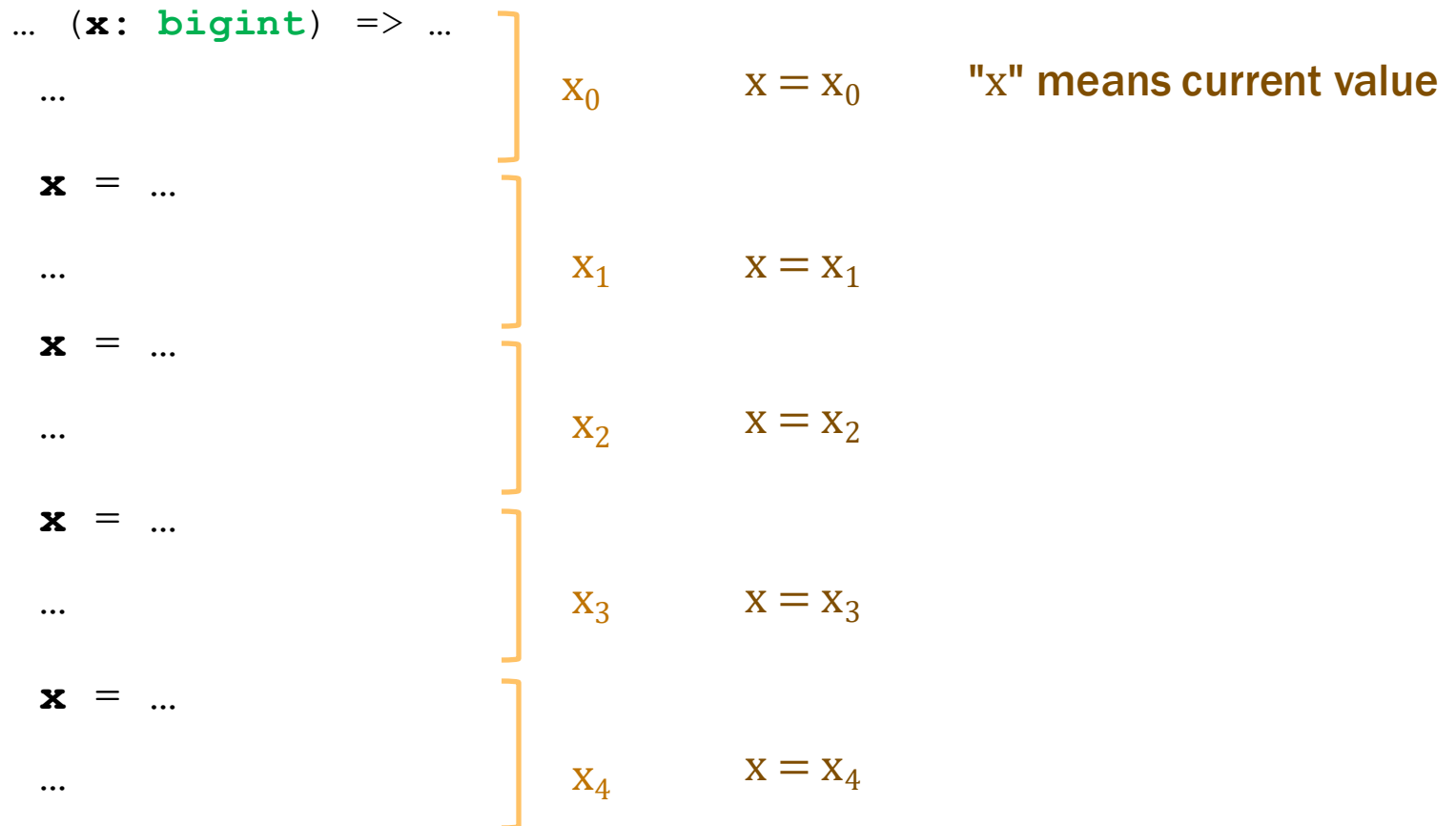


$w = x + y;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \}\}$
 $x = 4n;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \text{ and } x = 4 \}\}$
 $y = 3n;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \text{ and } x = 4 \text{ and } y = 3 \}\}$

- **Final assertion is not necessarily true**
 - $w = x + y$ is true with their old values, not the new ones
 - changing the value of “x” can invalidate facts about x
 - facts refer to the old value, not the new value
 - avoid this by using different names for old and new values


Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- Can use subscripts to refer to values at different times



Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- Rewrite existing facts to use names of earlier values
 - will use “x” and “y” to refer to current values
 - can use “x₀” and “y₀” (or other subscripts) for earlier values

 $\{\{ w = x + y \}\}$
 $x = 4n;$
 $\{\{ w = x_0 + y \text{ and } x = 4 \}\}$
 $y = 3n;$
 $\{\{ w = x_0 + y_0 \text{ and } x = 4 \text{ and } y = 3 \}\}$

- **Final assertion is now accurate**
 - w is equal to the sum of the initial values of x and y

Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

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

- replace all “x”s in P and y with “x_k”s
- This process can be simplified in many cases
 - no need for x₀ if we can write it in terms of new value
 - e.g., if “x = x₀ + 1”, then “x₀ = 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, general forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = y; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto x_k] \text{ and } x = y[x \mapsto x_k] \}\} \end{array} \quad x_k \text{ is name of previous value}$$

- If $x_0 = f(x)$, 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: bigint): bigint => {
  {{ n ≥ 1 }}
  n = n + 3n;
  {{ 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.

Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments


- Each assignment just adds one new fact ("and")



$\{ \{ w > 0 \} \}$
 $x = 4n;$
 $\{ \{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 4 \} \}$
 $y = 3n;$
 $\{ \{ w > 0 \text{ and } x = 4 \text{ and } y = 3 \} \}$

Recall: Code Example of Forward Reasoning


```
// @param w an integer > 0
// @returns an integer z > 59
const f = (w: bigint): bigint => {
  {{ w > 0 }}
  const x = 17n;
  const y = 42n;
  const z = w + x + y;
  {{ w > 0 and x = 17 and y = 42 and z = w + x + y }}
  {{ z > 59 }}
  return z;
};
```



- "Collecting the facts" was forward reasoning
 - only this simple because there was *no mutation*

Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- Forward reasoning is trickier with mutation
 - gets harder if we mutate a variable

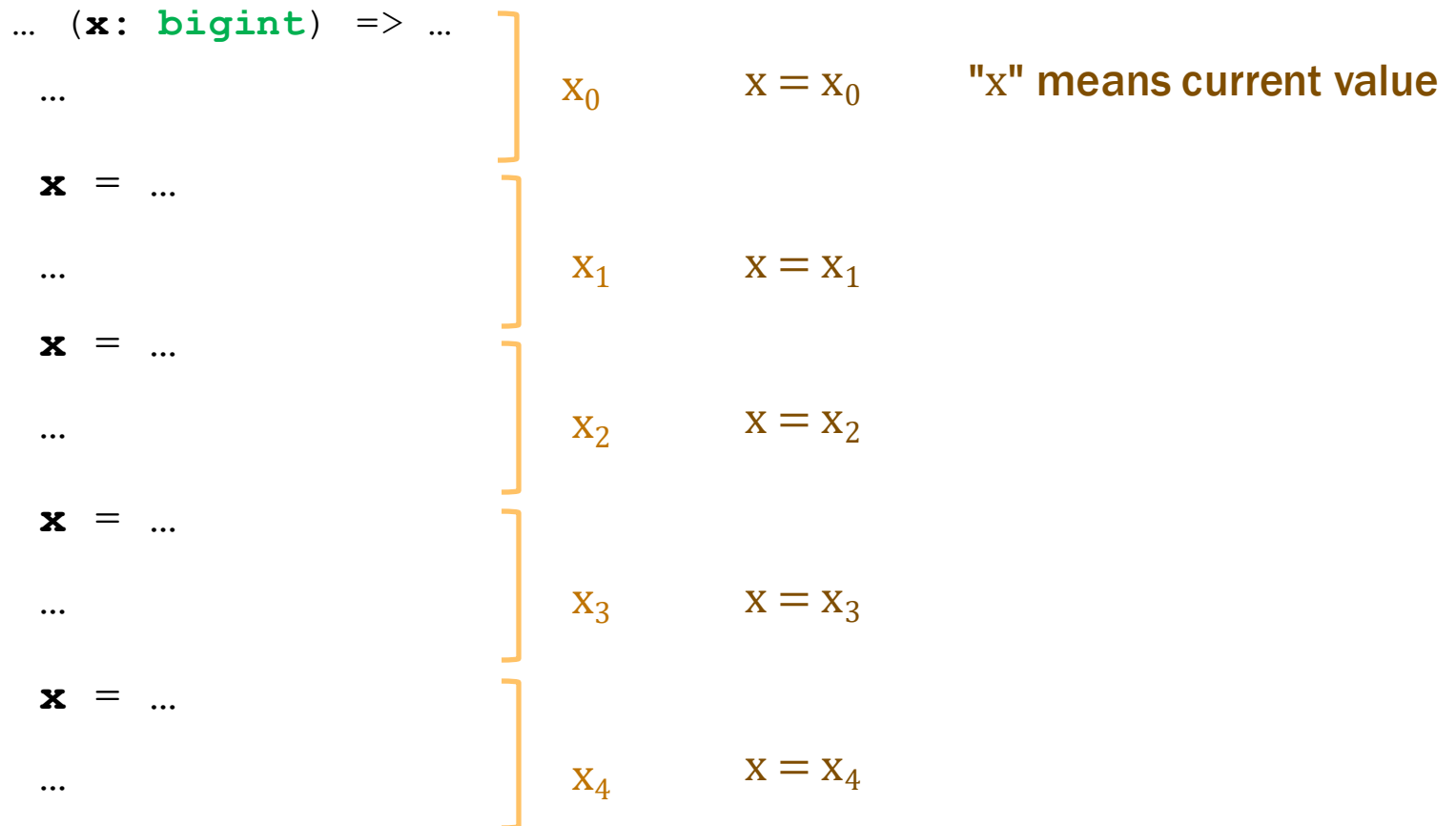


$w = x + y;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \}\}$
 $x = 4n;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \text{ and } x = 4 \}\}$
 $y = 3n;$
 $\{\{ w = x + y \text{ and } x = 4 \text{ and } y = 3 \}\}$

- Final assertion is not necessarily true!
 - fact $w = x + y$ was about the *old values* of x and y
 - still true if we clarify which value of x and y we mean


Unique Names for Different Values

- Can use subscripts to refer to values at different times



Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- **Rewrite existing facts to use names of earlier values**
 - will use “x” and “y” to refer to current values
 - can use “x₀” and “y₀” (or other subscripts) for earlier values



$\{\{ w = x + y \}\}$
 $x = 4n;$
 $\{\{ w = \mathbf{x_0} + y \text{ and } \mathbf{x} = 4 \}\}$
 $y = 3n;$
 $\{\{ w = \mathbf{x_0} + \mathbf{y_0} \text{ and } \mathbf{x} = 4 \text{ and } \mathbf{y} = 3 \}\}$

- **Final assertion is now accurate**
 - w is equal to the sum of the initial values of x and y

Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

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

– replace all “x”s in P and y with “x_k”s

- This process can be simplified in many cases...

Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = x + 1; \\ \{\{ P \text{ and } x = x_0 + 1 \}\} \end{array}$$

- Can express the old value x_0 in terms of new value
 - if assignment is “ $x = x_0 + 1$ ”, then “ $x_0 = x - 1$ ”
 - if assignment is “ $x = 2x_0$ ”, then “ $x_0 = x/2$ ”

Recall: Forward Reasoning through Assignments

- For assignments, general forward reasoning rule is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{\{ P \}\} \\ \downarrow \\ x = y; \\ \{\{ P[x \mapsto x_k] \text{ and } x = y[x \mapsto x_k] \}\} \end{array} \quad x_k \text{ is name of previous value}$$

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

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

- easier to read without subscripts, so this is preferred

Recall: Correctness by Forward Reasoning

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

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

check this implication

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &\geq 4^2 \\ &= 16 \\ &> 10 \end{aligned}$$

since $n - 3 \geq 1$ (i.e., $n \geq 4$)

This is the preferred approach.
Avoid subscripts when possible.

Mutation in Straight-Line Code

- Alternative ways of writing this code:

```
n = n + 3n;          const n1 = n + 3n;
return n * n;       return n1 * n1;
```

- Mutation in *straight-line* code is unnecessary
 - can always use different names for each value
- Why would we prefer the former?
 - seems like it might save memory...
 - but it doesn't!
 - most compilers will turn the left into the right on their own (SSA form)
 - it's better at saving memory than you are, so it does it itself

Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

{{ _____ }}

x = 17n;

{{ _____ }}

y = 42n;

{{ _____ }}

z = w + x + y;

{{ z < 0 }}

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

Example Backward Reasoning with Assignments

{{ _____ }}

$x = 17n;$

{{ _____ }}

$y = 42n;$

{{ $w + x + y < 0$ }}


$z = w + x + y;$

{{ $z < 0$ }}



- **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

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

- **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

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

- **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

↑
{{ $Q[x \mapsto y]$ }}
 $x = y;$
{{ 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 Backward Reasoning

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

↑] check this implication

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

Correctness Example by Forward Reasoning

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

check this implication

$$\begin{aligned}n^2 &\geq 4^2 \\ &= 16 \\ &> 10\end{aligned}$$

since $n - 3 \geq 1$ (i.e., $n \geq 4$)

Forward reasoning produces known facts.
Backward reasoning produces fact to prove.

Conditionals


Conditionals in Functional Programming

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.  
// Returns a non-negative integer.  
const f = (a: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {  
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {  
    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: bigint, b: bigint): bigint => {  
  {}  
  if (a >= 0n && b >= 0n) {  
    {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” since nothing is mutated

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

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

A diagram consisting of a vertical orange line on the left side of the code block. It starts at the level of the opening curly brace of the function body, goes down, then turns right to point at the opening curly brace of the 'if' statement. It then goes down again, then turns right to point at the opening curly brace of the 'else' block. Finally, it goes down and ends with an arrowhead pointing at the closing curly brace of the 'if' statement.

- Check correctness path through “then” branch


Conditionals in Floyd Logic

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



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

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



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

// Returns an integer m with $m > n$

```
const g = (n: bigint): bigint => {
```

```
  {{}}
```

```
  let m;
```

```
  if (n >= 0n) {
```

```
    {{  $n \geq 0$  }}
```

```
    m = 2n * n + 1n;
```

```
    {{  $n \geq 0$  and  $m = 2n + 1$  }}
```

```
  } else {
```

```
    m = 0n;
```

```
  }
```

```
  {{  $n \geq 0$  and  $m = 2n + 1$  }}
```

```
  {{  $m > n$  }}
```

```
  return m;
```

```
}
```

$$m = 2n + 1$$

$$> 2n$$

$$\geq n$$

since $1 > 0$

since $n \geq 0$

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

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

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

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m with m > n
const g = (n: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0n) {
    m = 2n * n + 1n;
    {{ n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1 }}
  } else {
    m = 0n;
    {{ n < 0 and m = 0 }}
  }
  {{ _____ }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

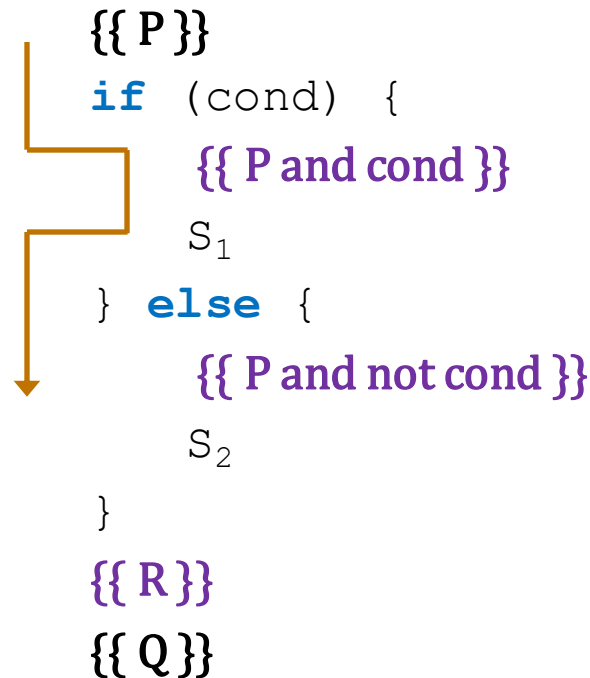
What do we know is true
even if we don't know
which branch was taken?

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m with m > n
const g = (n: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0n) {
    m = 2n * n + 1n;
  } else {
    m = 0n;
  }
  {{ (n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1) or (n < 0 and m = 0) }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

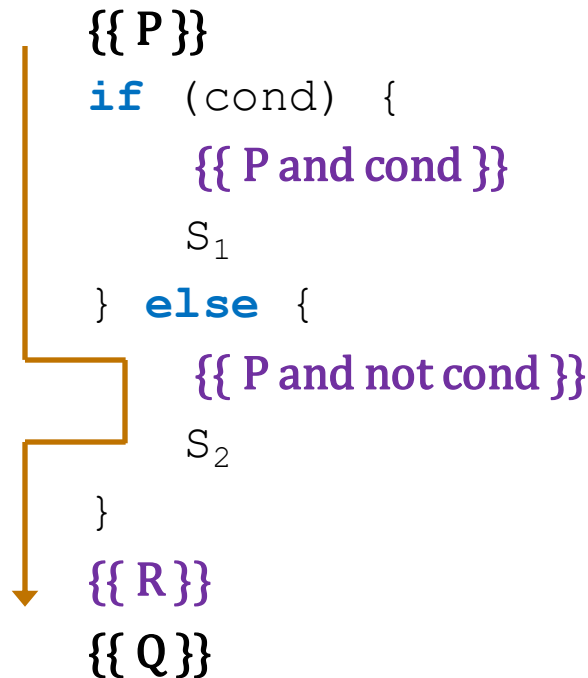
- The “or” means we must reason by cases anyway!

Conditionals in Functional Programming



- 2 possible paths to execute
- `R` is in the form of `{{A or B}}`
 - `A` being what we know if we had taken the `if` branch

Conditionals in Functional Programming



- 2 possible paths to execute
- **R** is in the form of `{{A or B}}`
 - **A** being what we know if we had taken the `if` branch
 - **B** being what we know if we had taken the `else`

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m with m > n
const g = (n: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0n) {
    m = 2n * n + 1n;
  } else {
    return 0n;
  }
  {{ (n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1) or (n < 0 and ??) }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

- What is the state after a “**return**”?

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m with m > n
const g = (n: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m;
  if (n >= 0n) {
    m = 2n * n + 1n;
  } else {
    return 0n;
  }
  {{ (n ≥ 0 and m = 2n + 1) or (n < 0 and false) }}
  {{ m > n }}
  return m;
}
```

simplifies to just $n \geq 0$ and $m = 2n + 1$

- State after a “**return**” is false (no states)

Conditionals With Returns

- Latter rule for "if .. return" is useful:

```
  {{ P }}  
  if (cond)  
    return something;  
  {{ P and not cond }}  
  ...  
  return something else;
```

- Only reach the line after the "if" if `cond` was false
- Only one path to each "return" statement
 - forward reason to the "return" inside the "if"
 - forward reason to the "return" after the "if"

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m = x;
  if (x < 0n) {
    m = m * -1n;
  } else if (x === 0n) {
    return 1n;
  }
  {{ _____ }}
  m = m + 1n;
  {{ m > 0 }}
  return m;
}
```

How many paths can
the code take?

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m = x;
  if (x < 0n) {
    m = m * -1n;
  } else if (x === 0n) {
    return 1n;
  } else {
    // do nothing
  }
  {{ _____ or _____ or _____ }}
  m = m + 1n;
  {{ m > 0 }}
  return m;
}
```

3 paths! **else** branch is not written out, but it's there implicitly

After the conditional, there are 3 sets of facts that could be true

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
```

```
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
```

```
  {{}}
```

```
  let m = x;
```

```
  if (x < 0n) {
```

```
    {{_____}}
```

```
    m = m * -1n;
```

```
    {{_____}}
```

```
  } else if (x === 0n) {
```

```
    return 1n;
```

```
  } // else: do nothing
```

```
  {{_____or_____or_____}}
```

```
  m = m + 1n;
```

```
  {{ m > 0 }}
```

```
  return m;
```

```
}
```



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m = x;
  if (x < 0n) {
    {{ m = x and x < 0 }}
    m = m * -1n;
    {{ _____ }}
  } else if (x === 0n) {
    return 1n;
  } // else: do nothing
  {{ _____ or _____ or _____ }}
  m = m + 1n;
  {{ m > 0 }}
  return m;
}
```

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

// Returns an integer m, with $m > 0$

const h = (x: **bigint**): **bigint** => {

{{}}

let m = x;

if (x < 0n) {

{{ m = x and $x < 0$ }}

m = m * -1n;

{{ m = -x and $x < 0$ }}

} **else if** (x === 0n) {

return 1n;

} **// else: do nothing**

{{ (m = -x and $x < 0$) or _____ or _____ }}

m = m + 1n;

{{ m > 0 }}

return m;

}



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

// Returns an integer m, with $m > 0$

const h = (x: **bigint**): **bigint** => {

{{}}

let m = x;

if (x < 0n) {

m = m * -1n;

} **else if** (x === 0n) {

{{ _____ }}

return 1n;

} **// else: do nothing**

{{ (m = -x and x < 0) or _____ or _____ }}

m = m + 1n;

{{ m > 0 }}

return m;

}



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

// Returns an integer m, with $m > 0$

const h = (x: **bigint**): **bigint** => {

{{}}

let m = x;

if (x < 0n) {

m = m * -1n;

} **else if** (x === 0n) {

{{ x = 0 and m = x }}

return 1n;

} **// else: do nothing**

{{ (m = -x and x < 0) or _____ or _____ }}

m = m + 1n;

{{ m > 0 }}

return m;

}



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

// Returns an integer m, with $m > 0$

```
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
```

```
  {{}}
```

```
  let m = x;
```

```
  if (x < 0n) {
```

```
    m = m * -1n;
```

```
  } else if (x === 0n) {
```

```
    {{ x = 0 and m = x }}
```

```
    return 1n;
```

```
  } else {
```

```
    //
```

```
  }
```

```
  {{ (m = -x and x < 0) or (x = 0 and m = x and false) or _____ }}
```

```
  m = m + 1n;
```

```
  {{ m > 0 }}
```

```
  return m;
```

```
}
```

Must prove that post condition holds here

false: no states can reach beyond return

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
```

```
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
```

```
  {{}}
```

```
  let m = x;
```

```
  if (x < 0n) {
```

```
    m = m * -1n;
```

```
  } else if (x === 0n) {
```

```
    return 1n;
```

```
  } // else: do nothing
```

```
  {{ (m = -x and x < 0) or _____ }}
```

```
  m = m + 1n;
```

```
  {{ m > 0 }}
```

```
  return m;
```

```
}
```

What do we know in
implicit else case?
When *neither* of the then
cases were entered

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
```

```
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
```

```
  {{}}
```

```
  let m = x;
```

```
  if (x < 0n) {
```

```
    m = m * -1n;
```

```
  } else if (x === 0n) {
```

```
    return 1n;
```

```
  } // else: do nothing
```

```
  {{ (m = -x and x < 0) or (x > 0 and m = x) }}
```

```
  m = m + 1n;
```

```
  {{ m > 0 }}
```

```
  return m;
```

```
}
```



Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m = x;
  if (x < 0n) {
    m = m * -1n;
  } else if (x === 0n) {
    return 1n;
  } // else: do nothing
  {{ (m = -x and x < 0) or (x > 0 and m = x) }}
  {{ _____ }}
  m = m + 1n;
  {{ m > 0 }}
  return m;
}
```

Can reason backward and forward
and meet in the middle

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

```
// Returns an integer m, with m > 0
const h = (x: bigint): bigint => {
  {}
  let m = x;
  if (x < 0n) {
    m = m * -1n;
  } else if (x === 0n) {
    return 1n;
  } // else: do nothing
  {(m = -x and x < 0) or (x > 0 and m = x)} }
  {m + 1 > 0}
  m = m + 1n;
  {m > 0}
  return m;
}
```

↑

check this implication

Does the set of facts we know at this point in the program satisfy what must be true to reach our post condition

Conditionals in Floyd Logic

- Prove by cases

$\{ \{ (m = -x \text{ and } x < 0) \text{ or } (x > 0 \text{ and } m = x) \} \}$

$\{ \{ m + 1 > 0 \} \}$

Case 1: $m = -x \text{ and } x < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} m + 1 &= -x + 1 && \text{since } m = -x \\ &> 1 && \text{since } x < 0 \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: $x > 0 \text{ and } m = x$

$$\begin{aligned} m + 1 &= x + 1 && \text{since } m = x \\ &> 1 && \text{since } x > 0 \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Already proved for the branch with the return, so proved the postcondition holds, in general

Function Calls


Reasoning about Function Calls

- Causes no extra difficulties if...


1. defined for all inputs
2. no inputs are mutated

(much, much harder with mutation)

- Forward reasoning rule is

 $\{\{ P \}\}$
`x = Math.sin(a);`
 $\{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = \sin(a) \}\}$

- Backward reasoning rule is

 $\{\{ Q[x \mapsto \sin(a)] \}\}$
`x = Math.sin(a);`
 $\{\{ Q \}\}$

Reasoning about Function Calls

- Preconditions must be checked
 - not valid to call the function on disallowed inputs
- Forward reasoning rule is

$\{\{ P \}\}$
 $x = \text{Math.log}(a);$
 $\{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = \log(a) \}\}$

Must also check $a \geq 0$

- Backward reasoning rule is

$\{\{ Q[x \mapsto \log(a)] \text{ and } a \geq 0 \}\}$
 $x = \text{Math.log}(a);$
 $\{\{ Q \}\}$

Function Calls with Imperative Specs

- Applies to functions we define with imperative specs

```
// @param n a non-negative integer
// @returns square(n), where
//     square(0) := 0
//     square(n+1) := square(n) + 2n + 1
const square = (n: bigint): bigint => {..}
```

- Reasoning is the same. E.g., forward rule is

$\{\{ P \}\}$
↓
 $x = \text{square}(n);$
↓
 $\{\{ P[x \mapsto x_0] \text{ and } x = \text{square}(n) \}\}$

Must also check that n is non-negative

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Forward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
```

```
// @param x a non-negative integer
```

```
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
```

```
  let r = x + 2;
```

```
  {{ _____ }}
```

```
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
```

```
  {{ _____ }}
```

```
  r = r + 1;
```

```
  {{ _____ }}
```

```
  {{ r =  $\sqrt{x + 2} + 1$  }}
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

check this implication

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Forward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = x + 2 }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{ _____ }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{ _____ }}
  {{ r = √(x + 2) + 1 }}
  return r;
}
```

x: “A number greater than or equal to 0.”

Returns \sqrt{x} , a unique $y \geq 0, y^2 = x$

$r = x + 2$
 $\geq 0 + 2$ since $x \geq 0$
 $= 2$

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Forward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = x + 2 }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = √x + 2 }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{ _____ }}
  {{ r = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  return r;
}
```

x: “A number greater than or equal to 0.”

Returns \sqrt{x} , a unique $y \geq 0, y^2 = x$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= x + 2 \\ &\geq 0 + 2 \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

since $x \geq 0$

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Forward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
```

```
// @param x a non-negative integer
```

```
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
```

```
  let r = x + 2;
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = x + 2 }}
```

```
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r =  $\sqrt{x + 2}$  }}
```

```
  r = r + 1;
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r - 1 =  $\sqrt{x + 2}$  }}
```

```
  {{ r =  $\sqrt{x + 2} + 1$  }}
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

check this implication

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Forward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = x + 2 }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = √x + 2 }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{ x ≥ 0 and r = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  {{ r = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  return r;
}
```

holds!


Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
```

```
// @param x a non-negative integer
```


```
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {  
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}  
  {{ _____ }}  
  let r = x + 2;  
  {{ _____ }}  
  r = Math.sqrt(r);  
  {{ _____ }}  
  r = r + 1;  
  {{ r = √x + 2 + 1 }}  
  return r;  
}
```



Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  {{ _____ }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{ _____ }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{ r + 1 = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{ r = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  return r;
}
```



Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  {{ _____ }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{ _____ }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{ r + 1 = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{ r = √x + 2 + 1 }}
  return r;
}
```

x: “A number greater than or equal to 0.”

Returns \sqrt{x} , a unique $y \geq 0$, $y^2 = x$

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
```

```
// @param x a non-negative integer
```

```
// @returns  $\sqrt{x + 2} + 1$ 
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
```

```
  {{  $x \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  {{ _____ }}
```

```
  let r = x + 2;
```

```
  {{  $\sqrt{r} + 1 = \sqrt{x + 2} + 1$  and  $r \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
```

```
  {{  $r + 1 = \sqrt{x + 2} + 1$  }}
```

```
  r = r + 1;
```


```
  {{  $r = \sqrt{x + 2} + 1$  }}
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
// @param x a non-negative integer
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
const f = (x: number): number => {
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
  {{  $\sqrt{x+2} + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  and  $x + 2 \geq 0$  }}
  let r = x + 2;
  {{  $\sqrt{r} + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  and  $r \geq 0$  }}
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
  {{  $r + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  }}
  r = r + 1;
  {{  $r = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  }}
  return r;
}
```



Function Calls with Imperative Specs: Backward

```
// Evaluates polynomial with given input
```

```
// @param x a non-negative integer
```

```
// @returns sqrt(x + 2) + 1
```

```
const f = (x: number): number => {
```

```
  {{ x ≥ 0 }}
```

```
  {{  $\sqrt{x+2} + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  and  $x + 2 \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  let r = x + 2;
```

```
  {{  $\sqrt{r} + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  and  $r \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  {{ true and  $x + 2 \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  r = Math.sqrt(r);
```

```
  {{  $x + 2 \geq 0$  }}
```

```
  {{  $r + 1 = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  }}
```

```
   $x \geq 0$  implies  $x + 2 \geq 0$ 
```

```
  r = r + 1;
```

```
  {{  $r = \sqrt{x+2} + 1$  }}
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

Function Calls with Declarative Specs

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

- Forward reasoning rule is

↓

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

Must also check that P implies P₂

- Backward reasoning rule is

↑

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

Must also check that R implies Q₂

Q₂ 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

```

{{ P }}
{{ Inv: I }}
while (cond) {
  {{ I and cond }}
  S
  {{ I }}
}
{{ I and not cond }}
{{ Q }}

```

1. I holds initially

2. S preserves I

3. Q holds when loop exits

Splits correctness into three parts

1. I holds initially implication
2. S preserves I forward/back then implication
3. Q holds when loop exits 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**

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```
{{ }}
let j: bigint = 0n;
let s: bigint = 0n;
{{ Inv: s = j2 }}
while (j != n) {
  j = j + 1n;
  s = s + j + j - 1;
}
{{ s = n2 }}
```

Easy to get this wrong!

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

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

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```
{{ }}
let j: bigint = 0n;
let s: bigint = 0n;
{{ Inv: s = j2 }}
while (j != n) {
  j = j + 1n;
  s = s + j + j - 1;
}
{{ s = n2 }}
```

Loop Idea

- move j from 0 to n
- keep track of j^2 in s

j	s
0	0
1	1
2	4
3	9
4	16
...	...

Loop Invariant formalizes the Loop Idea

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```

  {{ }}
  let j: number = 0n;
  let s: number = 0n;
  {{ j = 0 and s = 0 }}
  {{ Inv: s = j2 }}
  while (j !== n) {
    j = j + 1n;
    s = s + j + j - 1;
  }
  {{ s = n2 }}

```

]

$s = 0$
 $= 0^2$
 $= j^2$

since $j = 0$

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```
  {{ Inv:  $s = j^2$  }}  
  while (j != n) {  
    j = j + 1;  
    s = s + j + j - 1;  
  }
```

```
  {{  $s = j^2$  and  $j = n$  }}  
  {{  $s = n^2$  }} ]  $s = j^2$   
                   =  $n^2$       since  $j = n$ 
```

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```
  {{ Inv:  $s = j^2$  }}  
  while (j  $\leq$  n) {  
    {{  $s = j^2$  and  $j \neq n$  }}  
    j = j + 1;  
    s = s + j + j - 1;  
    {{  $s = j^2$  }}  
  }  
  {{  $s = n^2$  }}
```

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

```
{{ Inv:  $s = j^2$  }}
```

```
while ( $j \neq n$ ) {
```

```
  {{  $s = j^2$  and  $j \neq n$  }}
```



```
   $j = j + 1$ ;
```

```
  {{  $s = (j - 1)^2$  and  $j - 1 \neq n$  }}
```

```
   $s = s + j + j - 1$ ;
```

```
  {{  $s = j^2$  }}
```

```
}
```

```
{{  $s = n^2$  }}
```

$j = j_0 + 1$ means $j_0 = j - 1$

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

$\{\{ \text{Inv: } s = j^2 \}\}$

while ($j \neq n$) {

$\{\{ s = j^2 \text{ and } j \neq n \}\}$

$j = j + 1;$

$\{\{ s = (j - 1)^2 \text{ and } j - 1 \neq n \}\}$

$s = s + j + j - 1;$

$s = s_0 + 2j - 1$ means $s_0 = s - 2j + 1$

$\{\{ s - 2j + 1 = (j - 1)^2 \text{ and } j - 1 \neq n \}\}$

$\{\{ s = j^2 \}\}$

}

$\{\{ s = n^2 \}\}$

Loop Correctness Example 1

- This loop claims to calculate n^2

$\{\{ \text{Inv: } s = j^2 \}\}$

while ($j \neq n$) {

$\{\{ s = j^2 \text{ and } j \neq n \}\}$

$j = j + 1;$

$\{\{ s = (j - 1)^2 \text{ and } j - 1 \neq n \}\}$

$s = s + j + j - 1;$

$\{\{ s - 2j + 1 = (j - 1)^2 \text{ and } j - 1 \neq n \}\}$

$\{\{ s = j^2 \}\}$

}

$\{\{ s = n^2 \}\}$

$$\begin{aligned} s &= 2j - 1 + (j - 1)^2 \\ &= 2j - 1 + j^2 - 2j + 1 \\ &= j^2 \end{aligned}$$

since $s - 2j + 1 = (j - 1)^2$

Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well:

```
{{ L = L0 }}
let s: bigint = 0n;
{{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  s = s + L.hd;
  L = L.tl;
}
{{ s = sum(L0) }}
```

Loop Idea

- move through L front-to-back
- keep sum of *prior* part in s

Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the invariant holds initially

```

  {{ L = L0 }}
  let s: number = 0n;
  {{ L = L0 and s = 0 }}
  {{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
  while (L.kind != "nil") {
    ...

```

↓

```

sum(L0)
= sum(L)           since L = L0
= 0 + sum(L)
= s + sum(L)       since s = 0

```


Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the postcondition holds at loop exit

```
{ { Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) } }
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  s = s + L.hd;
  L = L.tl;
}
```

```
{ { sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L = nil } }
```

```
{ { s = sum(L0) } }
```

sum(L₀)

= s + sum(L)

= s + sum(nil)

= s

since L = nil
def of sum

Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the loop body preserves the invariant

```
{{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L ≠ nil }}
  s = s + L.hd;
  L = L.tl;
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
}
```

L ≠ nil means L = L.hd :: L.tl

Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the loop body preserves the invariant

```
{{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
  s = s + L.hd;
  L = L.tl;
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
}
```


Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the loop body preserves the invariant

```
  {{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
  while (L.kind !== "nil") {
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
    s = s + L.hd;
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L.tl) }}
    L = L.tl;
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
  }
```




Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the loop body preserves the invariant

```
  {{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
  while (L.kind !== "nil") {
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
    {{ sum(L0) = s + L.hd + sum(L.tl) }}
    s = s + L.hd;
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L.tl) }}
    L = L.tl;
    {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
  }
```



Loop Correctness Example 2

- Recursive function to calculate sum of list

```
sum(nil)    := 0
sum(x :: L) := x + sum(L)
```

- Check that the loop body preserves the invariant

```
{{ Inv: sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
  {{ sum(L0) = s + L.hd + sum(L.tl) }}
  s = s + L.hd;
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L.tl) }}
  L = L.tl;
  {{ sum(L0) = s + sum(L) }}
}
```

$\text{sum}(L_0)$
= $s + \text{sum}(L)$
= $s + \text{sum}(L.\text{hd} :: L.\text{tl})$ since $L = L.\text{hd} :: L.\text{tl}$
= $s + L.\text{hd} + \text{sum}(L.\text{tl})$ def of sum

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Recursive function to check if y appears in list L

```
contains(y, nil)    := false
contains(y, x :: L) := true           if  $x = y$ 
contains(y, x :: L) := contains(y, L) if  $x \neq y$ 
```

- This loop claims to calculate it as well:

```
{ { Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) } }
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  if (L.hd === y)
    return true;
  L = L.tl;
}
return false;
```

Loop Idea

- move through L front-to-back
- answer remains the same as on the original list L_0
- can only do that if y is *not* found

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the invariant holds initially

```
  {{ L0 = L }}  
  {{ Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }} ]  
  while (L.kind !== "nil") {  
    if (L.hd === y)  
      return true;           contains(y, L0)  
    L = L.tl;                = contains(y, L)       since L0 = L  
  }  
  return false;
```

```
contains(y, nil)    := false  
contains(y, x :: L) := true      if x = y  
contains(y, x :: L) := contains(y, L)  if x ≠ y
```


Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the invariant implies the postcondition

```
{{ Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
```

```
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
```

```
  if (L.hd === y)
```

```
    return true;
```

```
  L = L.tl;
```

```
}
```

```
{{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = nil }}
```

```
{{ contains(y, L0) = false }}
```

```
return false;
```

contains(y, L₀)

= contains(y, L)

= contains(y, nil)

= false

since L = nil

def of contains

contains(y, nil) := false

contains(y, x :: L) := true if x = y

contains(y, x :: L) := contains(y, L) if x ≠ y

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the body preserves the invariant

```
{ { Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) } }  
while (L.kind !== "nil") {  
  { { contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L ≠ nil } }  
  if (L.hd === y)  
    return true; L ≠ nil means L = L.hd :: L.tl  
  L = L.tl;  
  { { contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) } }  
}  
return false;
```

<code>contains(y, nil)</code>	<code>:= false</code>	
<code>contains(y, x :: L)</code>	<code>:= true</code>	<code>if x = y</code>
<code>contains(y, x :: L)</code>	<code>:= contains(y, L)</code>	<code>if x ≠ y</code>

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the body preserves the invariant

```

{{ Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
  if (L.hd === y)
    {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl and L.hd = y }}
    {{ contains(y, L0) = true }}
    return true;
  L = L.tl;
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
}
return false;

```

contains(y, L₀)
= contains(y, L)
= contains(y, L.hd :: L.tl) **since L = L.hd :: L.tl**
= true **since y = L.hd**

contains(y, nil) := false

contains(y, x :: L) := true

contains(y, x :: L) := contains(y, L)

if x = y

if x ≠ y

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the body preserves the invariant

```

{{ Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
  if (L.hd === y)
    {{ contains(y, L0) = true }}
    return true;
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl and L.hd ≠ y }}
  L = L.tl;
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
}
return false;

```

```

contains(y, nil)    := false
contains(y, x :: L) := true           if x = y
contains(y, x :: L) := contains(y, L) if x ≠ y

```

Loop Correctness Example 3

- Check that the body preserves the invariant

```

{{ Inv: contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
while (L.kind !== "nil") {
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl }}
  if (L.hd === y)
    {{ contains(y, L0) = true }}
    return true;
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) and L = L.hd :: L.tl and L.hd ≠ y }}
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L.tl) }}
  L = L.tl;
  {{ contains(y, L0) = contains(y, L) }}
}
return false;

```

$\text{contains}(y, \text{nil}) \quad := \text{false}$

$\text{contains}(y, x :: L) \quad := \text{true} \quad \text{if } x = y$

$\text{contains}(y, x :: L) \quad := \text{contains}(y, L) \quad \text{if } x \neq y$

$\text{contains}(y, L_0)$
 $= \text{contains}(y, L)$
 $= \text{contains}(y, L.\text{hd} :: L.\text{tl}) \quad \text{since } L = L.\text{hd} :: L.\text{tl}$
 $= \text{contains}(y, L.\text{tl}) \quad \text{since } y \neq L.\text{hd}$

Loop Correctness Example 4

- **Declarative spec of $\text{sqrt}(x)$**

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- precondition that x is positive: $0 < x$
- precondition that x is not too large: $x < 10^{12} = (10^6)^2$

Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- This loop claims to calculate it:

```
let a: bigint = 0;
let b: bigint = 1000000;
{{ Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
while (a !== b - 1) {
  const m = (a + b) / 2n;
  if (m*m < x) {
    a = m;
  } else {
    b = m;
  }
}
return b;
```

Loop Idea

- maintain a range $a \dots b$
with x in the range $a^2 \dots b^2$

Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- Check that the invariant holds initially:

```
  {{ Pre:  $0 < x \leq 10^{12}$  }}  
  let a: bigint = 0;  
  let b: bigint = 1000000;  
  {{ Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}  
  while (a !== b - 1) {  
    ...  
  }  
  return b;
```


Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- Check that the invariant holds initially:

```
{{ Pre:  $0 < x \leq 10^{12}$  }}
```

```
let a: bigint = 0;
```

```
let b: bigint = 10000000;
```

```
{{  $0 < x \leq 10^{12}$  and  $a = 0$  and  $b = 10^6$  }}
```

```
{{ Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
```

```
while (a !== b - 1) {
```

```
  ...
```

```
}
```

```
return b;
```

```
   $a^2 = 0^2$     since  $a = 0$   
     $= 0$   
     $< x$ 
```

```
   $x < 10^{12}$   
     $= (10^6)^2$   
     $= b^2$ 
```

```
    since  $b = 10^6$ 
```

Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- Check that the postcondition hold after exit

```
{ { Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  } }  
while (a  $\neq$  b - 1) {  
    ...  
}  
{ {  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  and  $a = b - 1$  } }  
{ {  $(b - 1)^2 < x \leq b^2$  } }  
return b;
```

Does $(y - 1)^2 < x < y^2$ hold with $y = b$?

$$\begin{aligned} &(b - 1)^2 \\ &= a^2 \quad \text{since } a = b - 1 \\ &< x \end{aligned}$$

Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- Check that the body preserves the invariant:

```

{{ Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
while (a  $\neq$  b - 1) {
  {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  and  $a \neq b - 1$  }}
  const m = (a + b) / 2;
  if (m*m < x) {
    a = m;
  } else {
    b = m;
  }
  {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
}

```

Loop Correctness Example 4

return $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(y - 1)^2 < x \leq y^2$

- Check that the body preserves the invariant:

```
{{ Inv:  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
while (a  $\neq$  b - 1) {
  {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  and  $a \neq b - 1$  }}
  const m = (a + b) / 2;
  if (m*m < x) {
    {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  and  $a \neq b - 1$  and  $m^2 < x$  }}
    a = m;
  } else {
    {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  and  $a \neq b - 1$  and  $x \leq m^2$  }}
    b = m;
  }
  {{  $a^2 < x \leq b^2$  }}
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Immediate!

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```

Immediate!

Correctness of binary search is pretty easy
once you have the invariant clear!

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**

Correctness of Loops

- With straight-line code and conditionals, if the triple is not valid...
 - the code is **wrong**
 - there is *some* test case that will prove it
(doesn't mean we found that case in our tests, but it exists)
- With loops, if the triples are not valid...
 - the code is **wrong** *with that invariant*
 - there may **not** be any test case that proves it
the code may behave correctly on all inputs
 - the code could be right but with a *different* invariant
- Loops are inherently more complicated