

Programming Languages and Compilers (CS 421)



William Mansky

<http://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs421/>

Based in part on slides by Mattox Beckman, as updated by Vikram Adve, Gul Agha, Elsa Gunter, and Dennis Griffith



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- A kind of axiomatic semantics
- Based on predicate logic
- A logical system built from *axioms* and *inference rules*
- Mainly suited to simple imperative programming languages



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- Used to formally prove a property (*post-condition*) of the *state* after the execution of a program, assuming some property (*pre-condition*) of the state holds before execution



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- Goal: Derive statements of form
$$\{P\} C \{Q\}$$
 - P, Q logical statements about state,
P precondition, Q postcondition,
C program
- Example: $\{x = 1\} x := x + 1 \{x = 2\}$



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- *Approach*: For each kind of language statement, give an axiom or inference rule stating how to derive assertions of form
$$\{P\} C \{Q\}$$
where C is a statement of that kind
- Compose axioms and inference rules to build proofs for complex programs



Floyd-Hoare Logic

- An expression $\{P\} C \{Q\}$ is a *partial correctness* statement
- For *total correctness* ($[P] C [Q]$) must also prove that C terminates (i.e. doesn't run forever)
- We'll only consider partial correctness



Language

- We will give rules for our simple imperative language SIMPL

$$C ::= I := E \mid C; C \mid \text{if } B \text{ then } C \text{ else } C \\ \mid \text{while } B \text{ do } C$$

- Could add more features, like for-loops



The Assignment Rule

$$\frac{}{\{P [e/x] \} x := e \{P\}}$$

Example:

$$\frac{}{\{ \quad ? \quad \} x := y \{x = 2\}}$$



The Assignment Rule

$$\frac{}{\{P [e/x] \} x := e \{P\}}$$

Example:

$$\frac{}{\{\boxed{_} = 2 \} x := y \{\boxed{x} = 2\}}$$



The Assignment Rule

$$\frac{}{\{P [e/x] \} x := e \{P\}}$$

Example:

$$\frac{}{\{ \boxed{y} = 2 \} x := y \{ \boxed{x} = 2 \}}$$



The Assignment Rule

$$\overline{\{P [e/x] \} x := e \{P\}}$$

Examples:

$$\overline{\{y = 2\} x := y \{x = 2\}}$$

$$\overline{\{y = 2\} x := 2 \{y = x\}}$$

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

$$\overline{\{2 = 2\} x := 2 \{x = 2\}}$$



The Assignment Rule – Your Turn

- What precondition should we use for

$$x := x + y \{x + y = w - x\}?$$

{ ? }

$$x := x + y$$

$$\{x + y = w - x\}$$



The Assignment Rule – Your Turn

- What precondition should we use for

$$x := x + y \{x + y = w - x\}?$$

$$\{(x + y) + y = w - (x + y)\}$$

$$x := x + y$$

$$\{x + y = w - x\}$$



Precondition Strengthening

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

- If we can show that P implies P' and $\{P'\} C \{Q\}$, then we know that $\{P\} C \{Q\}$
- P is *stronger* than P' means $P \rightarrow P'$



Example

How do we prove

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

given

$$\{P [e/x]\} x := e \{P\}$$



Example

How do we prove

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

We have

$$\{P [e/x]\} x := e \{P\}$$

but $(x = n + 1) [x + 1 / x]$ isn't $x = n$



Example

$$\frac{x=n \rightarrow x+1=n+1 \quad \{x+1=n+1\} x := x+1 \{x=n+1\}}{\{x = n\} x := x+1 \{x = n+1\}}$$



Precondition Strengthening

$$\frac{x=3 \rightarrow x+3<10 \{x+3<10\} \ x := x + 3 \ \{x < 10\}}{\{x = 3\} \ x := x + 3 \ \{x < 10\}}$$

$$\frac{\text{True} \rightarrow 2 = 2 \ \{2 = 2\} \ x := 2 \ \{x = 2\}}{\{\text{True}\} \ x := 2 \ \{x = 2\}}$$

$$\frac{x=n \rightarrow x+1=n+1 \ \{x+1=n+1\} \ x := x+1 \ \{x=n+1\}}{\{x = n\} \ x := x+1 \ \{x = n+1\}}$$



Which Inferences Are Correct?

$$\frac{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x = 3\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$

$$\frac{\{x = 3\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$

$$\frac{\{x * x < 25\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$

Which Inferences Are Correct?

$$\frac{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x = 3\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$

~~$$\frac{\{x = 3\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$~~

$$\frac{\{x * x < 25\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}{\{x > 0 \wedge x < 5\} x := x * x \{x < 25\}}$$



Sequencing

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

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

- Example:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \{z = z \wedge z = z\} x := z \{x = z \wedge z = z\} \\ \{x = z \wedge z = z\} y := z \{x = z \wedge y = z\} \end{array}}{\{z = z \wedge z = z\} x := z; y := z \{x = z \wedge y = z\}}$$

- Note: $C_1; C_2; C_3$ can be $(C_1; C_2); C_3$ or $C_1; (C_2; C_3)$



Postcondition Weakening

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

Example:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \{z = z \wedge z = z\} x := z; y := z \{x = z \wedge y = z\} \\ x = z \wedge y = z \rightarrow x = y \end{array}}{\{z = z \wedge z = z\} x := z; y := z \{x = y\}}$$

- Lets us summarize the goal of a program



Rule of Consequence

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

- Combination of Precondition Strengthening and Postcondition Weakening
- Note the direction of the implications!



If Then Else

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

- Example: Want

$\{y = a\}$
if $x < 0$ then $y := y - x$ else $y := y + x$
 $\{y = a + |x|\}$



If Then Else Example

- Example: Want

$$\{y = a\}$$

if $x < 0$ then $y := y - x$ else $y := y + x$

$$\{y = a + |x|\}$$

Suffices to show:

(1) $\{y = a \wedge x < 0\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}$ and

(4) $\{y = a \wedge x \geq 0\} y := y + x \{y = a + |x|\}$



If Then Else Example

$$(3) \quad y = a \wedge x < 0 \Rightarrow ?$$

$$(2) \quad \{?\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}$$

$$(1) \quad \frac{\{?\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}}{\{y = a \wedge x < 0\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}}$$

(1) Reduces to (2) and (3) by
Precondition Strengthening



If Then Else Example

$$\begin{array}{l} (3) \quad y = a \wedge x \geq 0 \rightarrow y - x = a + |x| \\ (2) \quad \frac{\{y - x = a + |x|\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}}{\{y = a \wedge x < 0\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}} \\ (1) \end{array}$$

- (1) Reduces to (2) and (3) by
Precondition Strengthening
- (2) Follows from assignment axiom
- (3) Because $x < 0 \rightarrow |x| = -x$



If Then Else Example

$$(6) \quad y = a \wedge x \geq 0 \rightarrow y + x = a + |x|$$

$$(5) \quad \frac{\{y + x = a + |x|\} y := y + x \{y = a + |x|\}}{\quad}$$

$$(4) \quad \{y = a \wedge x \geq 0\} y := y + x \{y = a + |x|\}$$

(4) Reduces to (5) and (6) by
Precondition Strengthening

(5) Follows from assignment axiom

(6) Because $x \geq 0 \rightarrow |x| = x$



Example

(1) $\{y = a \wedge x < 0\} y := y - x \{y = a + |x|\}$

(4) $\{y = a \wedge x \geq 0\} y := y + x \{y = a + |x|\}$

$$\{y = a\}$$

if $x < 0$ then $y := y - x$ else $y := y + x$
 $\{y = a + |x|\}$

By the if_then_else rule

While

- We need a rule to be able to make assertions about **while** loops
 - Premise must involve the body
 - Let's start with:

$$\frac{\{ \quad ? \quad \} \quad C \quad \{ \quad ? \quad \}}{\{ \quad ? \quad \} \quad \mathbf{while} \quad B \quad \mathbf{do} \quad C \quad \{ P \}}$$



While

- The loop may never be executed, so let's try:

{	?	}	C	{	?	}
<hr/>						
{	P	}	while	B	do	C { P }



While

- If all we know is P when we enter the **while** loop, then we all we know when we enter the body is $(P \text{ and } B)$
- P must hold when we finish the loop body:

$$\frac{\{ P \wedge B \} C \{ P \}}{\{ P \} \text{ while } B \text{ do } C \{ P \}}$$



While

- When the loop is finished, **not B** also holds
- Final **while** rule:

$$\frac{\{ P \wedge B \} C \{ P \}}{\{ P \} \textbf{while } B \textbf{ do } C \{ P \wedge \neg B \}}$$



While

$$\frac{\{ P \wedge B \} C \{ P \}}{\{ P \} \textbf{while } B \textbf{ do } C \{ P \wedge \neg B \}}$$

- P satisfying this rule is called a *loop invariant* because it must hold before and after the each iteration of the loop



While

- **While** rule generally needs to be used together with precondition strengthening and postcondition weakening
- There is NO algorithm for computing the correct P ; it requires intuition and an understanding of why the program works



Example

- Let us prove

$\{x \geq 0 \wedge x = a\}$

fact := 1;

while $x > 0$ do (fact := fact * x; $x := x - 1$)

{fact = a!}



Example

- We need to find a condition P that is true both before and after the loop is executed, and such that

$$P \wedge \neg(x > 0) \Rightarrow \text{fact} = a!$$



Example

- First attempt:

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!)\}$$

- Motivation:
- What we want to compute: **a!**
- What we have computed: **fact**
which is the sequential product of **a** down
through **(x + 1)**
- What we still need to compute: **x!**



Example

By post-condition strengthening suffices to show

1. $\{x \geq 0 \wedge x = a\}$

fact := 1;

while $x > 0$ do (fact := fact * x; $x := x - 1$)

$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge \neg(x > 0)\}$

and

2. $a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge \neg(x > 0) \Rightarrow \text{fact} = a!$



Problem

2. $a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge \neg(x > 0) \Rightarrow ? \text{fact} = a!$

- Not true if $x < 0$
- Need to know that $x = 0$ when loop terminates
- Loop invariant must include info about x
- If we add $x \geq 0$, then we'll have $x = 0$ when loop exits



Example

Second try, combine the two:

$$P = \{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

Again, suffices to show

1. $\{x \geq 0 \wedge x = a\}$

fact := 1;

while $x > 0$ do (fact := fact * x; $x := x - 1$)

$\{P \wedge \neg(x > 0)\}$

and

2. $P \wedge \neg(x > 0) \rightarrow \text{fact} = a!$



Example

- For 2, we need

$$a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge \neg(x > 0) \rightarrow \text{fact} = a!$$

- But $x \geq 0 \wedge \neg(x > 0) \rightarrow x = 0$ so

$$\text{fact} * (x!) = \text{fact} * (0!) = \text{fact}$$

- Therefore

$$a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge \neg(x > 0) \rightarrow \text{fact} = a!$$



Example

- For 1, by the sequencing rule it suffices to show

3. $\{x \geq 0 \wedge x = a\}$
 $\text{fact} := 1$
 $\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$

And

4. $\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$
 while $x > 0$ do
 $(\text{fact} := \text{fact} * x; x := x - 1)$
 $\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge \neg(x > 0)\}$



Example

- Suffices to show that

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

holds before the while loop is entered and that if

$$\{(a! = \text{fact} * (x!)) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0\}$$

holds before we execute the body of the loop, then

$$\{(a! = \text{fact} * (x!)) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

holds after we execute the body



Example

By the assignment rule, we have

$$\{a! = 1 * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

$$\text{fact} := 1$$

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

Therefore, to show (3), by precondition strengthening, it suffices to show

$$x \geq 0 \wedge x = a \rightarrow \\ a! = 1 * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0$$



Example

$$x \geq 0 \wedge x = a \rightarrow$$

$$a! = 1 * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0$$

holds because $x = a \rightarrow x! = a!$

Have that $\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$
holds at the start of the while loop



Example

To show (4):

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

while $x > 0$ do

$$(\text{fact} := \text{fact} * x; x := x - 1)$$
$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge \neg(x > 0)\}$$

we need to show that

$$a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0$$

is a loop invariant



Example

We need to show:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0\} \\ & \quad (\text{fact} = \text{fact} * x; x := x - 1) \\ & \quad \{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\} \end{aligned}$$

We will use assignment rule,
sequencing rule and precondition
strengthening



Example

By the assignment rule, we have

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * ((x-1)!) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0\}$$

$$x := x - 1$$

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0\}$$

By the sequencing rule, it suffices to show

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0\}$$

$$\text{fact} = \text{fact} * x$$

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * ((x-1)!) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0\}$$



Example

By the assignment rule, we have that

$$\{a! = (\text{fact} * x) * ((x-1)!) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0\}$$

$$\text{fact} = \text{fact} * x$$

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * ((x-1)!) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0\}$$

By Precondition strengthening, it suffices to show that

$$a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0 \rightarrow$$

$$a! = (\text{fact} * x) * ((x - 1)!) \text{ and } x - 1 \geq 0$$



Example

However

$$\text{fact} * x * (x - 1)! = \text{fact} * x$$

and $(x > 0) \rightarrow x - 1 \geq 0$

since x is an integer, so

$$a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0 \rightarrow$$

$$a! = (\text{fact} * x) * ((x - 1)!)) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0$$



Example

Therefore, by precondition strengthening

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * (x!) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x > 0\}$$

$$\text{fact} = \text{fact} * x$$

$$\{a! = \text{fact} * ((x - 1)!) \wedge x - 1 \geq 0\}$$

QED!