

Software Verification
Partial and Total Correctness (II)

Ahmed Rezine

IDA, Linköpings Universitet

Spring 2021

Outline

Hoare Triples

Weakest preconditions

Hoare Triples for Loops

Further readings

Outline

Hoare Triples

Weakest preconditions

Hoare Triples for Loops

Further readings

Function Specifications and Correctness

- ▶ Contract between the caller and the implementation. **Total Correctness** requires that:
 - ▶ if the pre-condition ($0 < x \ \&\& \ 0 < y$) holds
 - ▶ then the implementation terminates,
 - ▶ after termination, the following post-condition holds
($x < \text{sum} \ \&\& \ y < \text{sum}$)
- ▶ **Partial Correctness** does not require termination

```
method add(x: int, y: int) returns (sum: int)
  requires 0 < x && 0 < y
  ensures  x < sum && y < sum
{
  sum := x + y;
}
```

Hoare Triples and Partial Correctness

- ▶ a Hoare triple $\{P\} \textit{stmt} \{R\}$ consists in:
 - ▶ a predicate pre-condition P
 - ▶ an program \textit{stmt} ,
 - ▶ a predicate post-condition R
- ▶ intuitively, $\{P\} \textit{stmt} \{R\}$ holds if whenever P holds and \textit{stmt} is executed and terminates (**partial correctness**), then R holds after \textit{stmt} terminates.
- ▶ examples:
 - ▶ $\{true\} x := y \{x = y\}$
 - ▶ $\{x = 1 \wedge y = 2\} x := y \{x = 2\}$
 - ▶ $\{x \geq 1\} y := 2 \{x = 0 \vee y \leq 10\}$
 - ▶ $\{x \geq 1\} \textit{if}(y = 2) \textit{then } x := 0 \{x \geq 0\}$
 - ▶ $\{false\} x := 1 \{x = 2\}$
 - ▶ $\{true\} \textit{abort} \{false\}$
 - ▶ $\{x = 10\} \textit{skip} \{x = 10\}$

Hoare Triples and Partial Correctness

$$\overline{\{true\} \text{ abort } \{false\}}$$
$$\frac{P' \implies P \quad \{P\} \text{ stmt } \{Q\} \quad Q \implies Q'}{\{P'\} \text{ stmt } \{Q'\}}$$
$$\overline{\{P\} \text{ skip } \{P\}}$$
$$\frac{\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{Q\} \quad \{Q\} \text{ stmt}' \{R\}}{\{P\} \text{ stmt}; \text{ stmt}' \{R\}}$$
$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} \text{ stmt } \{Q\} \quad \{P \wedge \neg B\} \text{ stmt}' \{Q\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } B \text{ then } \text{ stmt } \text{ else } \text{ stmt}' \{Q\}}$$
$$\overline{\{P[e/x]\} x := e \{P\}}$$
$$\frac{\{P \wedge B\} \text{ stmt } \{P\}}{\{P\} \text{ (while } (B) \{ \text{stmt} \}) \{P \wedge \neg B\}}$$

Outline

Hoare Triples

Weakest preconditions

Hoare Triples for Loops

Further readings

Weakest precondition

- ▶ if $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$ and $P' \Rightarrow P$ for any P' s.t. $\{P'\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$, then P is the **weakest precondition** of R wrt. stmt , written $\mathbf{wp}(\text{stmt}, R)$. It is unique.
- ▶ $\mathbf{wp}(\text{stmt}, R)$ transforms predicate R wrt. stmt . It is said to be a **predicate transformer**.
- ▶ $\mathbf{wp}(x := x + 1, x \geq 1) = (x \geq 0)$. Observe $(x \geq 5)$, $(x = 6)$, $(x \geq 0 \wedge y = 8)$ are all valid preconditions, but they are not weaker than $x \geq 0$.
- ▶ Intuitively $\mathbf{wp}(\text{stmt}, R)$ is the weakest predicate P for which $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$ holds

Weakest precondition of assignments

- ▶ **wp** ($x := e, R$) = $R[e/x]$ replaces occurrences of x in R by e .
- ▶ examples:
 - ▶ **wp** ($x := 3, x = 5$) = $(x = 5)[x/3] = (3 = 5) = \textit{false}$
 - ▶ **wp** ($x := 3, x \geq 0$) = $(x \geq 0)[x/3] = (3 \geq 0) = \textit{true}$
 - ▶ **wp** ($x := y + 5, x \geq 0$) = $(x \geq 0)[x/y + 5] = (y + 5 \geq 0)$
 - ▶ **wp** ($x := 5 * y + 2 * z, x + y \geq 0$) = $(x + y \geq 0)[x/5 * y + 2 * z] = (6 * y + 2 * z \geq 0)$

Weakest precondition of sequences

- ▶ Assume a sequence of two instructions $stmt; stmt'$, for example $x := 2 * y; y := x + 3 * y$;

- ▶ the weakest precondition is given by:

$$\mathbf{wp}(stmt; stmt', R) = \mathbf{wp}(stmt, \mathbf{wp}(stmt', R)),$$

$$\mathbf{wp}(x = 2 * y; y = x + 3 * y, y > 10)$$

$$= \mathbf{wp}(x = 2 * y, \mathbf{wp}(y = x + 3 * y, y > 10))$$

$$= \mathbf{wp}(x = 2 * y, (y > 10)[y/x + 3 * y])$$

- ▶ $= \mathbf{wp}(x = 2 * y, x + 3 * y > 10)$

$$= (x + 3 * y > 10)[x/2 * y]$$

$$= (2 * y + 3 * y > 10)$$

$$= y > 2$$

Weakest precondition of conditionals

- ▶ Assume a conditional ($\text{if}(B) \text{ then } stmt \text{ else } stmt'$), for example ($\text{if}(x > y) \text{ then } z := x \text{ else } z := y$)

- ▶ The weakest precondition is given by:

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{wp}((\text{if}(B) \text{ then } stmt \text{ else } stmt'), R) \\ = (B \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(stmt, R)) \wedge (\neg B \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(stmt', R)) \end{array} \right)$$

- ▶ For example,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{wp}((\text{if}(x > y) \text{ then } z := x \text{ else } z := y), z \leq 10) \\ &= (x > y \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(z := x, z \leq 10)) \wedge (x \leq y \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(z := y, z \leq 10)) \\ &= (x > y \Rightarrow x \leq 10) \wedge (x \leq y \Rightarrow y \leq 10) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ More general:

$$\mathbf{wp} \left(\left(\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{if} \quad B_1 \quad \rightarrow \quad stmt_1 \\ \quad \square \quad B_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad stmt_2 \\ \mathbf{fi} \end{array} \right), R \right)$$

=

$$(B_1 \vee B_2) \wedge (B_1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(stmt_1, R)) \wedge (B_2 \Rightarrow \mathbf{wp}(stmt_2, R))$$

Outline

Hoare Triples

Weakest preconditions

Hoare Triples for Loops

Further readings

Hoare Triples for Loops, Partial Correctness

- ▶ In order to establish $\{P\} (\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\}) \{R\}$, you will need to find an invariant Inv such that:
 - ▶ $P \Rightarrow Inv$
 - ▶ $\{Inv \wedge B\} stmt \{Inv\}$
 - ▶ $(Inv \wedge \neg B) \Rightarrow R$

Hoare Triples for Loops, Example

Show:

```
{Q : true}
i := 0;
j := 0;
{P : i = j = 0}
while(i < 10)do
{
  i := i + 1;
  j := j + 1;
}
{R : j = 10}
```

- ▶ First, we show $\{Q : \text{true}\} i := 0; j := 0 \{P : i = j = 0\}$
- ▶ Then for the loop:
 1. $P \Rightarrow \text{Inv}$
 2. $\{\text{Inv} \wedge B\} \text{stmt} \{\text{Inv}\}$
 3. $(\text{Inv} \wedge \neg B) \Rightarrow R$

Hoare Triples for Loops, Example

- ▶ To show $\{Q : true\} i := 0; j := 0 \{P : i = j = 0\}$:
 - ▶ compute $\mathbf{wp}(i := 0; j := 0, i = j = 0)$
 - ▶ show $true \implies \mathbf{wp}(i := 0; j := 0, i = j = 0)$
- ▶ Then for the loop you can use $Inv : i = j \wedge i \leq 10$ and prove each one of
 1. $P \implies Inv$ is shown by proving $(i = j = 0) \implies (i = j \wedge j \leq 10)$
 2. $\{Inv \wedge B\} stmt \{Inv\}$ is shown by proving $(i = j \wedge i \leq 10 \wedge i < 10)$ implies $\mathbf{wp}(i := i + 1; j := j + 1, i = j \leq 10)$
 3. $(Inv \wedge \neg B) \implies R$ is shown by proving that $(i = j \wedge j \leq 10 \wedge \neg(i < 10)) \implies (j = 10)$

Hoare Triples for Loops, Total Correctness

- ▶ $\{P\} (\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\}) \{R\}$
- ▶ Partial correctness: if we start from P and $(\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\})$ terminates, then R terminates.
 - ▶ $P \Rightarrow Inv$
 - ▶ $\{Inv \wedge B\} stmt \{Inv\}$
 - ▶ $(Inv \wedge \neg B) \Rightarrow R$
- ▶ Total correctness: the loop does terminate: find a **variant function** v such that:
 - ▶ $(Inv \wedge B) \Rightarrow (v > 0)$
 - ▶ $\{Inv \wedge B \wedge v = v_0\} stmt \{v < v_0\}$

Hoare Triples for Loops, Example

Show termination of the loop:

```
{Q : true}
i := 0; j := 0;
{P : i = j = 0}
while(i < 10)do{
  i := i + 1;
  j := j + 1;
}
{R : j = 10}
```

- ▶ we can use the invariant used for the first three rules (partial correctness) ($i = j \leq 10$) and the variant ($v = 10 - i$)
- ▶ $(Inv \wedge B) \Rightarrow (v > 0)$ is established by proving $(i = j \leq 10 \wedge i < 10)$ implies $10 - i > 0$
- ▶ $\{Inv \wedge B \wedge v = v_0\} stmt \{v < v_0\}$ is shown by proving $(i = j \leq 10 \wedge i < 10 \wedge 10 - i = v_0)$ implies **wp** $(i := i + 1; j := j + 1, 10 - i < v_0)$

Dutch national flag

Show:

$$\{P : \forall i. 0 \leq i < a.Length : (a[i] = red \vee a[i] = white \vee a[i] = blue)\}$$
$$r := 0; w := 0; b := a.Length;$$
$$\mathbf{while}(w \leq b)\mathbf{do}\{$$
$$\quad \mathbf{if}(a[w] = blue)\mathbf{then}\{$$
$$\quad \quad a[w], a[b - 1] := a[b - 1], a[w]; b := b - 1;$$
$$\quad \mathbf{else\ if}(a[w] = red)\mathbf{then}\{$$
$$\quad \quad a[w], a[r] := a[r], a[w]; w, r := w + 1, r + 1;$$
$$\quad \mathbf{else\ if}(a[w] = white)\mathbf{then}\{$$
$$\quad \quad w := w + 1;$$
$$\quad \mathbf{\}}$$
$$\mathbf{\}}$$
$$\{R : \left(\begin{array}{l} (\forall i. 0 \leq i < r : a[i] = red) \\ \wedge (\forall i. r \leq i < w : a[i] = white) \\ \wedge (\forall i. w \leq i < a.Length : a[i] = blue) \end{array} \right)$$

Examples: Invariants

Show:

```
{Q : a ≥ 0 ∧ b ≥ 0}
z := 0; x := a; y := b
{P : (x ≥ 0) ∧ (z + x * y = a * b)}
  do x ≥ 1 → if odd(x) → z := z + y
           □ even(x) → skip
  fi;
  x := x/2;
  y := 2 * y
od
{R : z = a * b}
```

Examples: Termination

Show:

$$\{Q : a \geq 0 \wedge b \geq 0\}$$
$$z := 0; x := a; y := b$$
$$\{invP : (x \geq 0) \wedge (z + x * y = a * b)\}$$
$$\{boundt : x\}$$

do $x \geq 1 \rightarrow$ **if** $odd(x) \rightarrow z := z + y$

\square $even(x) \rightarrow skip$

fi;

$$x := x/2;$$
$$y := 2 * y$$

od

$$\{R : z = a * b\}$$

Outline

Hoare Triples

Weakest preconditions

Hoare Triples for Loops

Further readings

Further readings



A. R. Bradley and Z. Manna.

(chap 5-6) *The calculus of computation: decision procedures with applications to verification.*

Springer Science & Business Media, 2007.



R. Leino. et al. <https://github.com/dafny-lang/dafny>.

Dafny. Dafny is a verification-aware programming language., Accessed December 4, 2020.



K. R. M. Leino.

Dafny: An automatic program verifier for functional correctness.

In *International Conference on Logic for Programming Artificial Intelligence and Reasoning*, pages 348–370. Springer, 2010.