

# Métodos Formais em Engenharia de Software

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## Proof of theorems

- ◆ A formal logical system consists of:
  - Notation (syntax).
  - A set of axioms.
  - A set of inference rules.
  - A formal proof is a sequence of statements. Each statement is built from the application of one or more rules of inference to the precedent statement(s).
  - A purely syntactic mechanism that does not worry about the meaning of the claims but only to their construction.

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## Proof of theorems

- ◆ Prove that an implementation (I) satisfies the specification (S) by mathematical reasoning.
$$I \rightarrow S$$
$$I \equiv S$$
- ◆ The implementation and specification are expressed by logical formulas.
- ◆ The (logical equivalence / logical implication) required is described as a theorem that has to be proven.
- ◆ A proof system provides a set of axioms and inference rules (simplification, rewriting, induction, etc.)

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## Hoare logic

- ◆ Simple logic to describe (and prove) programs. Set of axioms and inference rules that define the semantics of programs.
- ◆ What we want to prove is a Hoare triple:
$$\{P\} S \{Q\}$$
  - P - pre-condition
  - S - program
  - Q - post-condition
- ◆ It is a logical expression that says: If the program runs S from an initial state satisfying the precondition P, then, on completion of the final state satisfies the postcondition Q
- ◆ Simply put: the program S establishes the postcondition Q from the precondition P
- ◆ Relates program with specification
- ◆ The specifications of the types of data input and output should be viewed also as pre-and post-conditions relevant to the test!

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## Examples

$\{ \text{true} \} x := 12 \{ x = 12 \}$

$\{ x < 40 \} x := 12 \{ 10 \leq x \}$

$\{ x < 40 \} x := x+1 \{ x \leq 40 \}$

True for integers but not for reals

$\{ m \leq n \} j := (m+n)/2 \{ m \leq j \leq n \}$

$\{ 0 \leq m < n \leq a.\text{length} \wedge a[m] = x \} r := \text{Find}(a, m, n, x) \{ m \leq r \}$

$\{ \text{false} \} S \{ Q \}$

True, for any program S and post-condition Q, since false implies anything but useless

$\{ P \} S \{ \text{false} \}$

false if there is at least an initial state where P is true, but unrealizable

## Triple accurate

- ◆ There are many Hoare triple  $\{ P \} S \{ Q \}$  true for the same program, normally interest us the most accurate that is, those that use the weakest precondition or strongest postcondition
- ◆  $\text{wp}(S, Q)$  - Weakest precondition of S related with Q
  - It is the more general condition such that  $\{ P \} S \{ Q \}$
  - $\{ P \} S \{ Q \}$  iff  $P \text{ wp}(S, Q)$
  - Suggested method of proof of  $\{ P \} S \{ Q \}$  in the opposite direction:  
(1) calculate  $\text{wp}(S, Q)$  and (2) prove that  $P \Rightarrow \text{wp}(S, Q)$
  - Example:  $\text{wp}(x := x+1, x > 10) = x > 9$   
 $\{ x=20 \} x := x+1 \{ x > 10 \}$  is true for  $x = 20 \Rightarrow x > 9$
- ◆  $\text{sp}(P, S)$  - Strongest postcondition of S in relation to P
  - $\{ P \} S \{ Q \}$  sse  $\text{sp}(P, S) \Rightarrow Q$
  - Less used than the weakest precondition

## Total and partial correction

- ◆ **Partial correctness:** if the program ends, the final state satisfies the postcondition
- ◆ **The total correction:** the program ends in a final state satisfying the postcondition
- ◆ What interests us is the total correction
- ◆ Non-termination problem can arise with cycles

## Rules of the Hoare logic

- ◆ And now, how do we prove?
- ◆ Using the axioms and inference rules of Hoare logic, which describe the semantics of the instructions used and other useful properties in proofs
- ◆ Inference rules are presented as  
$$\frac{\text{premises}}{\text{conclusions}}$$
- ◆ Axioms are rules without premises (even if true)

## Regras de inferência básicas

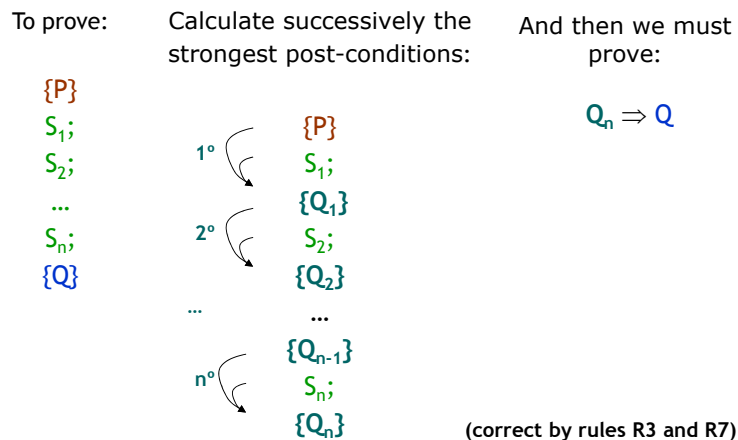
Nº	Instruction	Rule	Notes
R1	skip	$\{P\} \text{ skip } \{P\}$	
R2	Assignment	$\{P[x:=E]\} x := E \{P\}$	(a)
R3	Sequence	$\frac{\{P\} S \{Q\}, \{Q\} T \{R\}}{\{P\} S; T \{R\}}$	
R4	If	$\frac{\{P \wedge C\} S \{Q\}, \{P \wedge \neg C\} T \{Q\}}{\{P\} \text{ if } C \text{ then } S \text{ else } T \{Q\}}$	
R5	Cycle	$\frac{I \wedge C \Rightarrow v \in \mathbb{N}, \{I \wedge C \wedge v = V\} S \{I \wedge v < V\}}{\{I\} \text{ while } C \text{ do } S \{I \wedge \neg C\}}$	(b) (c)

- (a)  $P[x:=E]$  -  $P$  with  $x$  replaced by  $E$   
 (b)  $I$  - invariant of the cycle (actually before and after each iteration)  
 (c)  $v$  - function variant, non-negative integer strictly decreasing, to ensure termination

## Regras de inferência adicionais

Nº	Description	Rule	Notes
R6	Strengthening the precondition	$\frac{P' \Rightarrow P, \{P\} S \{Q\}}{\{P'\} S \{Q\}}$	Limit case: $P = \text{wp}(S, Q)$ (weakest precondition)
R7	Weakening the postcondition	$\frac{\{P\} S \{Q\}, Q \Rightarrow Q'}{\{P\} S \{Q'\}}$	Limit case: $Q = \text{sp}(P, S)$ (strongest postcondition)
R8	Intermediate assertions	$\{P \wedge A\} \text{ assert } A \{P\}$	$\text{wp}(\text{assert } A, P) = P \wedge A$

## Proof of precondition to the postcondition



## Reasoning to discover the strongest postcondition

$\{P\} S \{?\}$

If  $P$  is true before executing  $S$ , what can we say that is true after executing  $S$ ?

Example:

$\{x > y\} x := x+1 \{?\} \rightarrow \{x > y\} x := x+1 \{x-1 > y\}$

(se  $x > y$  before executing  $x := x+1$ , then, after executing  $x := x+1$ , we can state that  $x-1 > y$ )

Intuition can be confirmed with the rules of Hoare logic

Example:

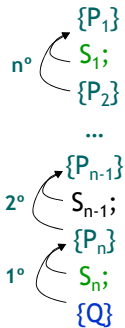
$\{?\} x := x+1 \{x-1 > y\}$   
 $\Rightarrow \{(x+1)-1 > y\} x := x+1 \{x-1 > y\}$  (by rule R2)  
 $\Leftrightarrow \{x > y\} x := x+1 \{x-1 > y\}$

## Proof of postcondition to a precondition

To prove:

$\{P\}$   
 $S_1;$   
 $\dots$   
 $S_{n-1};$   
 $S_n;$   
 $\{Q\}$

Calculate successively the weakest preconditions:



And then we must prove:

$$P \Rightarrow P_1$$

It may be easier because some rules of Hoare logic work in this direction!

## Reasoning to find the weakest precondition

$$\{?\} S \{Q\}$$

Q to be true after executing S (and to finish S) what must be true before executing S?

Example:

```
while k < N do s := s + a[k]; k := k + 1 end
{s = (Σ i | 0 <= i < N · a[i])}
```

◆ You can also use the Dijkstra rules in the following slides

## Rules for calculating the weakest precondition (Dijkstra)

Nº	Instrução	Regra
R1'	skip	$wp(\text{skip}, P) = P$
R2'	Assignment	$wp(x := E, Q) = Q[x := E]$
R3'	Sequence	$wp(S; T, Q) = wp(S, wp(T, Q))$
R4'	If	$wp(\text{if } C \text{ then } S \text{ else } T, Q) = C \wedge wp(S, Q) \vee \neg C \wedge wp(T, Q)$
R5'	Cycle	$wp(\text{while } C \text{ do } S, Q) = P_0 \vee P_1 \vee \dots$ , com $P_0 = \neg C \wedge Q, P_k = C \wedge wp(S, P_{k-1}), k > 0$
R8'	Assertion	$wp(\text{assert } A, Q) = A \wedge Q$

(Exercise: figure out the rules to calculate the strongest postcondition)

## Verification of intermediate assertions

To prove

$\{P\} \text{ assert } A \{Q\}$   
 prove that  
 $P \Rightarrow A$   
 and  
 $P \Rightarrow Q$   
 (by rule 8)

Since  $wp(\text{assert } A; Q) = A \wedge Q$

prove that  $P \Rightarrow A \wedge Q$

## Verification of conditional statements

To prove

$\{P\}$  if  $C$  then  $S$  else  $T$   $\{Q\}$   
it is sufficient to prove that  
 $\{P \wedge C\} S \{Q\}$  (when  $C$  is true)  
and  
 $\{P \wedge \neg C\} T \{Q\}$  (when  $C$  is false)  
(by rule 4)

Schematically

if  $C$  then  
 $\{P \wedge C\} S \{Q\}$   
else  
 $\{P \wedge \neg C\} T \{Q\}$

## Examples

Sequence:  $\{\?\?\} x = z+1; y = x+y; \{y > 5\}$

$wp(y = x+y; y > 5) = x+y > 5$   
 $wp(x = z+1; x+y > 5) = z+1+y > 5$   
 $\?\?$  é  
 $z+1+y > 5$

If without else:  $\{\?\?\} \text{if}(x > y) y = x; \{y = \max(x, y)\}$

$[x > y \wedge wp(y=x, y=\max(x,y))] \vee [x \leq y \wedge y=\max(x,y)]$   
 $x > y \wedge x=\max(x,x) \vee \text{True}$   
True