

# Mechanically Proving Hoare Formulae

Hoare 75 talk (revised)

Additional material

$P\{Q\}R$  \*\*\*\*\* Happy 40th Birthday Hoare Logic! \*\*\*\*\*  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$

## An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming

C. A. R. Hoare, 1969

# Mechanically Proving Hoare Formulae

(Joint work with H el ene Collavizza)

- ▶ Hoare's Axiomatic Basis was originally both
  - ▶ an axiomatic language definition method and
  - ▶ a proof theory for program verification
- ▶ Will focus on the verification role today
  - ▶ after 40 years it is still a key idea in program correctness

- ▶ However, instead of

*“... accepting the axioms and rules of inference as the ultimately definitive specification of the meaning of the language.”*

can derive axioms and rules from language semantics

- ▶ parametrizes verification technology on semantics
- ▶ semantic approach effective with current theorem provers

# Range of methods for proving $\{P\}C\{Q\}$

- ▶ Bounded model checking (BMC)
  - ▶ unwind loops a finite number of times
  - ▶ then symbolically execute
  - ▶ check states reached satisfy properties
- ▶ Full verification
  - ▶ handle unbounded loops and recursion
  - ▶ invariants, induction etc.
  - ▶ needs undecidable logics and user guided proof
- ▶ Goal: unifying framework for a spectrum of methods



*decidable checking*

*proof of correctness*

# Standard backwards method of proving $\{P\}C\{Q\}$

- ▶ A common approach is to use weakest preconditions
  - ▶ precondition  $WP\ C\ Q$  ensures  $Q$  holds after  $C$  terminates
  - ▶  $WP\ C\ Q$  is Dijkstra's 'weakest liberal precondition' (i.e. partial correctness:  $wlp.C.Q$  from Dijkstra & Scholten)
  - ▶ easy to compute  $WP\ C\ Q$  ..... if  $C$  has no loops
- ▶ Precondition calculation works backwards from  $Q$ 
  - ▶ nice Hoare assignment calculation rule for  $WP$   
 $WP\ (V := E)\ Q = Q[V \leftarrow E]$
  - ▶ pulls postcondition  $Q$  back through program  
 $WP\ (C_1; C_2)\ Q = WP\ C_1\ (WP\ C_2\ Q)$
  - ▶ can't dynamically prune unreachable conditional branches  
 $WP\ (IF\ B\ THEN\ C_1\ ELSE\ C_2)\ Q =$   
 $(B \wedge WP\ C_1\ Q) \vee (\neg B \wedge WP\ C_2\ Q)$
  - ▶  $\{P\}C\{Q\} \equiv P \Rightarrow WP\ C\ Q$
  - ▶  $wlp.C.Q$  is weakest solution of  $P : (\{P\}C\{Q\})$   
(*Predicate Calculus & Program Semantics*, Dijkstra & Scholten, 1990)

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## Proving $\{P\}C\{Q\}$ forwards

- ▶ Less used alternative is strongest postconditions
  - ▶  $SP\ P\ C$  holds after  $C$  terminates if started when  $P$  holds
  - ▶  $SP\ Q\ C$  is 'strongest postcondition'  
( $sp.C.Q$  in Dijkstra & Scholten, Ch.12 – not  $stp.C.Q$ )
- ▶ Postcondition calculation works forwards from  $P$ 
  - ▶ nasty Floyd assignment rule introduces  $\exists$ -quantification  
 $SP\ P\ (V := E) = \exists v. V = E[V \leftarrow v] \wedge P[V \leftarrow v]$   
*"The problem with this rule is the accumulation of quantifiers."* [Reynolds]    *"... a semantic theory based on weakest preconditions turned out to be simpler than one based on strongest postconditions."* [Dijkstra]
  - ▶ compute by symbolic execution + building up constraints  
 $SP\ P\ (C_1 ; C_2) = SP\ (SP\ P\ C_1)\ C_2$
  - ▶ can prune branches with symbolic state and constraints  
 $SP\ P\ (IF\ B\ THEN\ C_1\ ELSE\ C_2) =$   
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  - ▶  $\{P\}C\{Q\} \equiv SP\ P\ C \Rightarrow Q$
  - ▶  $sp.C.P$  is strongest solution of  $Q : (\{P\}C\{Q\})$

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## Backwards or forwards?

- ▶ Calculating  $WP\ C\ Q$  is easy but leads to big formulae
  - ▶ can't prune case splits 'on-the-fly'
- ▶ Calculating  $SP\ P\ C$  generates  $\exists$  at assignments
  - ▶ at branches state+constraint can reject infeasible paths
- ▶ Consider  $\{P\}C_1; (IF\ B\ THEN\ C_2\ ELSE\ C_3); C_4\{Q\}$ 
  - ▶ going forwards  $P$  and effect of  $C_1$  might determine  $B$
  - ▶ if  $P$  specifies a unique state, computing  $SP$  is execution
- ▶ Forwards methods meshes better with BMC
- ▶ Example

$\{J \leq I\}$

$K := 0;$

$IF\ I < J\ THEN\ K := K + 1\ ELSE\ SKIP;$

$IF\ K = 1 \wedge \neg(I = J)\ THEN\ R := J - I\ ELSE\ R := I - J$

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# Can't compute finite WP or SP for loops

- ▶ Loop-free: symbolic evaluation is just calculating SP
- ▶ Loops: no finite formula for WP or SP in general
  - ▶  $WP \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } C) Q = (B \wedge WP C (WP \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } C) Q)) \vee (\neg B \wedge Q)$
  - ▶  $SP P \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } C) = (SP (SP (P \wedge B) C) \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } C)) \vee (P \wedge \neg B)$

- ▶ Solution: Hoare logic rule with an invariant  $R$

$$\frac{\vdash P \Rightarrow R \quad \vdash \{R \wedge B\} C \{R\} \quad \vdash R \wedge \neg B \Rightarrow Q}{\vdash \{P\} \text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } C \{Q\}}$$

- ▶ Use approximate WP or SP plus verification conditions

# Method of verification conditions (VCs)

- ▶ Define **AWP** and **ASP** (“A” for “approximate”)
  - ▶ like **WP**, **SP** for skip, assignment, sequencing, conditional
  - ▶ for while-loops assume invariant **R** magically supplied

$$\text{AWP (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) Q = R$$

$$\text{ASP } P \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) = R \wedge \neg B$$

- ▶ Define **WVC** **C Q** and **SVC** **P C** to generate VCs (more details on next slide)
- ▶ Prove  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  using theorems

$$\text{WVC } C Q \Rightarrow \{\text{AWP } C Q\}C\{Q\}$$

$$\text{SVC } P C \Rightarrow \{P\}C\{\text{ASP } P C\}$$

# Calculating verification conditions (VCs)

- ▶ VCs to augment approximate weakest preconditions

$$\text{WVC}(\text{SKIP}) Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC}(V := E) Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC}(C_1; C_2) Q = \text{WVC } C_1 (\text{AWP } C_2 Q) \wedge \text{WVC } C_2 Q$$

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$$\text{WVC}(\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) Q = \\ (R \wedge B \Rightarrow \text{AWP } C R) \wedge (R \wedge \neg B \Rightarrow Q) \wedge \text{WVC } C R$$

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$$\text{SVC } P (\text{SKIP}) = T$$

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# Symbolic execution as postcondition calculation

▶ Recall  $SP P (V := E) = \exists v. V = E[V \leftarrow v] \wedge P[V \leftarrow v]$

▶ Suppose  $P$  has form

$$\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. \underbrace{S}_{\text{constraint}} \wedge \underbrace{X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n}_{\text{symbolic state}}$$

where

- ▶  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are program variables (e.g. string constants)
- ▶  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are logic variables (i.e. symbolic values)
- ▶  $S, e_1, \dots, e_n$  only contain variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and constants

▶ Abbreviating notation:  $[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{e}]$  for  $[X_1 \leftarrow e_1, \dots, X_n \leftarrow e_n]$

▶ It follows that  $SP P (X_i := E_i)$  is then

$$\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_i = E_i[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{e}] \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n$$

▶ Computing  $SP$  is now symbolic execution

- ▶ no new existential quantifiers generated by assignments!
- ▶  $SP P (\text{SKIP}) = P$
- ▶  $SP P (C_1 ; C_2) = SP (SP P C_1) C_2$



# Symbolic execution of conditional branches

- ▶ Recall

$$SP\ P\ (\text{IF } B\ \text{THEN } C_1\ \text{ELSE } C_2) = \\ SP\ (P \wedge B)\ C_1 \vee SP\ (P \wedge \neg B)\ C_2$$

- ▶ Hence

$$SP\ (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n) \\ (\text{IF } B\ \text{THEN } C_1\ \text{ELSE } C_2) \\ = SP\ (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. (S \wedge B[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n)\ C_1 \\ \vee \\ SP\ (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. (S \wedge \neg B[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n)\ C_2$$

- ▶ Prune paths by checking  $S \wedge B[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{e}]$  with a solver

- ▶  $F \vee P = P \vee F = P$

# Approximate symbolic execution of while-loops

- ▶ Symbolically execute straight line code as before

- ▶ For while-loops, recall from previous slide

$$\text{ASP } P (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) = R \wedge \neg B$$

- ▶ Hence execute while-loops as follows

$$\text{ASP } (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n) \\ (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C)$$

$$= (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. (R \wedge \neg B[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{x}]) \wedge X_1=x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=x_n)$$

- ▶ constraint  $S$  computed up to loop is discarded
- ▶ create new state satisfying invariant and loop exit condition
- ▶ link between pre and post loop states provided by VCs

$$((\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n) \Rightarrow R)$$

$\wedge$

$$(\text{ASP } (\exists x_1 \cdots x_n. (R \wedge B[\bar{X} \leftarrow \bar{x}]) \wedge X_1=x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=x_n) C \Rightarrow R)$$

# Combining BMC and full verification

- ▶ BMC unrolls programs and symbolically executes them
  - ▶ paths dynamically pruned via accumulated properties
- ▶ Traditional full verification generates **WP** + VCs for loops
  - ▶ working backwards precludes BMC-style forwards pruning
- ▶ Computing postconditions unifies BMC and full verification
  - ▶ symbolic execution is **SP** calculation
  - ▶ add forward VCs for verification of loops

# Overview of the implementation

- ▶ Everything is programmed deduction in a theorem prover
  - ▶ semantic embedding plus custom theorem proving tools
  - ▶ for efficiency external oracles used to prune paths
  - ▶ oracle provenance tracking via theorem tags
- ▶ HOL4 used for implementation of theorem proving
  - ▶ provides higher order logic for representing semantics
  - ▶ LCF-style proof tools (deriving Hoare logic, solving VCs)
  - ▶ ML for proof scripting and general programming
- ▶ YICES used as oracle
  - ▶ SMT solver from SRI International
  - ▶ used to quickly check conditional branch feasibility
  - ▶ 'blow away' easy VCs (hard ones by HOL4 interactive proof)





*Happy 75th for Hoare!*



*Happy 75th for Hoare! ..... Happy 40th for Hoare Logic!*

Happy 75 Tony!



*Happy 75th for Hoare! ..... Happy 40th for Hoare Logic!*

*Tony has many years ahead*





*Happy 75th for Hoare! ..... Happy 40th for Hoare Logic!*

*Tony has many years ahead ..... and so does Hoare Logic!*



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**THE END**



*Happy 75th for Hoare! ..... Happy 40th for Hoare Logic!*

*Tony has many years ahead ..... and so does Hoare Logic!*

**THE END**

only of the main talk



*Happy 75th for Hoare! ..... Happy 40th for Hoare Logic!*

*Tony has many years ahead ..... and so does Hoare Logic!*

**THE END**

only of the main talk ... actually there are lots more slides!

# Mechanically Proving Hoare Formulae

Hoare 75 talk (revised)

Additional material

# Semantic embedding

- ▶ Semantics of commands  $C$  given by  $\text{SEM } C \ s \ s'$ 
  - ▶  $\text{SEM } C \ s \ s'$  is an inductively defined relation
  - ▶ if  $C$  run in state  $s$  then it will terminate in state  $s'$
  - ▶ commands assumed deterministic – at most one final state (“Formalizing Dijkstra” by J. Harrison for non-determinism)
- ▶ Notation: abbreviate  $\text{SEM } C \ s \ s'$  to  $\llbracket C \rrbracket(s, s')$
- ▶  $\{P\}C\{Q\} =_{\text{def}} \forall s \ s'. P \ s \wedge \llbracket C \rrbracket(s, s') \Rightarrow Q \ s'$
- ▶  $\text{WP } C \ Q =_{\text{def}} \lambda s. \forall s'. \llbracket C \rrbracket(s, s') \Rightarrow Q \ s'$
- ▶  $\vdash \{P\}C\{Q\} = \forall s. P \ s \Rightarrow \text{WP } C \ Q \ s$
- ▶  $\text{SP } P \ C =_{\text{def}} \lambda s'. \exists s. P \ s \wedge \llbracket C \rrbracket(s, s')$
- ▶  $\vdash \{P\}C\{Q\} = \forall s. \text{SP } P \ C \ s \Rightarrow Q \ s$

## Details and notations

- ▶  $\{P\}C\{Q\} =_{def} \forall s s'. P s \wedge \llbracket C \rrbracket(s, s') \Rightarrow Q s'$ 
  - ▶  $P, Q : state \rightarrow bool$
  - ▶  $state = string \mapsto value$  (finite map)
  - ▶  $s[x \mapsto v]$  is the state mapping  $x$  to  $v$  and like  $s$  elsewhere
  - ▶  $[x_1 \mapsto v_1; \dots, x_n \mapsto v_n]$  has domain  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ; maps  $x_i$  to  $v_i$
  - ▶  $\llbracket C \rrbracket : state \times state \rightarrow bool$
  - ▶  $\llbracket B \rrbracket : state \rightarrow bool$  ( $\llbracket B \rrbracket$  short for **BVAL B**)
  - ▶  $\llbracket E \rrbracket : state \rightarrow value$  ( $\llbracket E \rrbracket$  short for **NVAL B**)
  - ▶  $WP C Q : state \rightarrow bool$
  - ▶  $SP P C : state \rightarrow bool$
- ▶ Overload  $\wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow, \neg$  to pointwise operations on predicates
  - ▶  $(P_1 \wedge P_2) s = P_1 s \wedge P_2 s$
  - ▶  $(P_1 \vee P_2) s = P_1 s \vee P_2 s$
  - ▶  $(P_1 \Rightarrow P_2) s = P_1 s \Rightarrow P_2 s$
  - ▶  $(\neg P) s = \neg(P s)$
- ▶ Define:  $\models P =_{def} \forall s. P s$

# Proving $\{P\}C\{Q\}$ by calculating $WP\ C\ Q$

- ▶ Easy consequences of definition of **WP**

- ▶  $WP\ (\text{SKIP})\ Q = Q$

- ▶  $WP\ (V := E)\ Q = \lambda s. Q(s[V \rightarrow \llbracket E \rrbracket s])$

- ▶  $WP\ (C_1 ; C_2)\ Q = WP\ C_1\ (WP\ C_2\ Q)$

- ▶  $WP\ (\text{IF } B\ \text{THEN } C_1\ \text{ELSE } C_2)\ Q =$   
 $(\llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow WP\ C_1\ Q) \wedge (\neg \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow WP\ C_2\ Q)$

- ▶  $WP\ (\text{WHILE } B\ \text{DO } C)\ Q =$   
 $(\llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow WP\ C\ (WP\ (\text{WHILE } B\ \text{DO } C)\ Q)) \wedge (\neg \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow Q)$

- ▶ To prove  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  for straight line code

- ▶ calculate  $WP\ C\ Q$  ..... back substitution + case splits

- ▶ prove  $\models P \Rightarrow WP\ C\ Q$  ..... use a theorem prover



# Proving $\{P\}C\{Q\}$ by calculating $SP P C$

- ▶ Easy consequences of definition of  $SP$

- ▶  $SP P (\text{SKIP}) = P$
- ▶  $SP P (V := E) = \lambda s'. \exists s. P s \wedge (s' = s[V \rightarrow \llbracket E \rrbracket s])$
- ▶  $SP P (C_1 ; C_2) = SP (SP P C_1) C_2$
- ▶  $SP P (\text{IF } B \text{ THEN } C_1 \text{ ELSE } C_2) =$   
 $SP (P \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) C_1 \vee SP (P \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket) C_2$
- ▶  $SP P (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } C) =$   
 $SP (SP (P \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) C) (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } C) \vee (P \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket)$

- ▶ To prove  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  for straight line code

- ▶ calculate  $SP P C$  ..... calculating with  $\exists$  a problem
- ▶ prove  $\models WP P C \Rightarrow Q$  ..... use a theorem prover

# Computing assignment postconditions

▶  $\vdash \text{SP } P (V := E) = \lambda s'. \exists s. P s \wedge (s' = s[V \rightarrow \llbracket E \rrbracket s])$

▶ Consider  $P$  of form

$$\lambda s. \exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])$$

where

- ▶  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are distinct program variables (string constants)
- ▶  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are logic variables (i.e. symbolic values)
- ▶  $S, e_1, \dots, e_n$  only contain variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and constants
- ▶  $[\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]$  abbreviates  $[X_1 \rightarrow e_1, \dots, X_n \rightarrow e_n]$

▶ It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \vdash \text{SP } & (\lambda s. \exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])) \\ & (X_i := E_i) \\ & = \lambda s. \exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}][X_i \rightarrow (\llbracket E_i \rrbracket [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])]) \end{aligned}$$

where

- ▶  $[\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}][X_i \rightarrow (\llbracket E_i \rrbracket [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])]$   
 $= [X_1 \rightarrow e_1, \dots, X_i \rightarrow (\llbracket E_i \rrbracket [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]), \dots, X_n \rightarrow e_n]$

# Symbolic state notation for predicates

- ▶ Abbreviate

$$\lambda s. \exists x_1 \cdots x_n. S \ s \ \wedge \ (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])$$

as

$$\langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n \rangle$$

then it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} SP \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n \rangle (X_j := E_j) \\ = \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_j = \llbracket E_j \rrbracket [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}] \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Computing **SP** is now symbolic execution

- ▶ symbolic state term:  $\langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1 = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = e_n \rangle$
- ▶ no new existential quantifiers generated by assignments!
- ▶  $SP \ P \ (SKIP) = P$
- ▶  $SP \ P \ (C_1 ; C_2) = SP \ (SP \ P \ C_1) \ C_2$

- ▶ Simpler symbolic state representation OK for loop-free code

# Symbolic state notation for predicates

- ▶ Abbreviate

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- ▶ Computing **SP** is now symbolic execution

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- ▶  $SP P (SKIP) = P$
- ▶  $SP P (C_1 ; C_2) = SP (SP P C_1) C_2$

- ▶ Simpler symbolic state representation OK for loop-free code

# Symbolic execution of conditional branches

## ► Recall

$$\begin{aligned} & SP\ P\ (\text{IF } B\ \text{THEN } C_1\ \text{ELSE } C_2) \\ &= SP\ (P \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket)\ C_1 \vee SP\ (P \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket)\ C_2 \end{aligned}$$

## ► Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \\ &= (\lambda s. \exists x_1 \dots x_n. S\ s \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])) \wedge BVAL\ B \\ &= \lambda s. (\exists x_1 \dots x_n. S\ s \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])) \wedge BVAL\ B\ s \\ &= \lambda s. \exists x_1 \dots x_n. S\ s \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge BVAL\ B\ s \\ &= \lambda s. \exists x_1 \dots x_n. (S\ s \wedge BVAL\ B\ s) \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \\ &= \lambda s. \exists x_1 \dots x_n. (S \wedge BVAL\ B\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])\ s \wedge (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \\ &= \langle \exists \bar{x}. (S \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

## ► Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & SP\ \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle\ (\text{IF } B\ \text{THEN } C_1\ \text{ELSE } C_2) \\ &= SP\ \langle \exists \bar{x}. (S \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle\ C_1 \\ &\quad \vee \\ &\quad SP\ \langle \exists \bar{x}. (S \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]) \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle\ C_2 \end{aligned}$$

## ► Prune paths by checking $S \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]$ and $S \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket\ [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}]$

# Summary so far

- ▶ All one needs
  - ▶ semantics of commands ( $\llbracket C \rrbracket$ )
  - ▶ suitable theorem prover
- ▶ Define  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  and  $SP P C$  from semantics
- ▶ Prove rules for calculating  $SP P C$  (one-off proof)
- ▶ For particular  $P, C, Q$  prove  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  by
  - ▶ calculating  $SP P C$  using rules and a theorem prover
  - ▶ prove  $\models SP P C \Rightarrow Q$  using theorem prover
- ▶ Next: what about loops?

## Method of verification conditions (VCs)

- ▶ Define **AWP** and **ASP** (“A” for “approximate”)
  - ▶ like **WP**, **SP** for skip, assignment, sequencing, conditional
  - ▶ for while-loops assume invariant **R** magically supplied

$$\text{AWP } (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) Q = R$$

$$\text{ASP } P (\text{WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) = R \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket$$

- ▶ Define **WVC** **C Q** and **SVC** **P C** to generate VCs (more details on next slide)
- ▶ Prove  $\{P\}C\{Q\}$  using theorems

$$\text{WVC } C Q \Rightarrow \{ \text{AWP } C Q \} C \{ Q \}$$

$$\text{SVC } P C \Rightarrow \{ P \} C \{ \text{ASP } P C \}$$

# Calculating verification conditions

- ▶ **WVC C Q** is a standard 'backwards' calculation

$$\text{WVC (SKIP) } Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC (V := E) } Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC (C}_1 ; \text{C}_2) Q = \text{WVC C}_1 (\text{AWP C}_2 Q) \wedge \text{WVC C}_2 Q$$

$$\text{WVC (IF B THEN C}_1 \text{ ELSE C}_2) Q = \text{WVC C}_1 Q \wedge \text{WVC C}_2 Q$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{WVC (WHILE B DO \{ R \} C) } Q = \\ (\models R \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow \text{AWP C R}) \wedge (\models R \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow Q) \wedge \text{WVC C R} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **SVC P C** is a 'forwards' calculation

$$\text{SVC P (SKIP) } = T$$

$$\text{SVC P (V := E) } = T$$

$$\text{SVC P (C}_1 ; \text{C}_2) = \text{SVC P C}_1 \wedge \text{SVC (ASP P C}_1) \text{C}_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC P (IF B THEN C}_1 \text{ ELSE C}_2) = \\ \text{SVC (P} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C}_1 \wedge \text{SVC (P} \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C}_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC P (WHILE B DO \{ R \} C) } = \\ (\models P \Rightarrow R) \wedge (\models \text{ASP (R} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C} \Rightarrow R) \wedge \text{SVC (R} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C} \end{aligned}$$



# Calculating verification conditions

- ▶ **WVC**  $C$   $Q$  is a standard 'backwards' calculation

$$\text{WVC (SKIP) } Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC (} V := E \text{) } Q = T$$

$$\text{WVC (} C_1 ; C_2 \text{) } Q = \text{WVC } C_1 \text{ (AWP } C_2 \text{ } Q) \wedge \text{WVC } C_2 \text{ } Q$$

$$\text{WVC (IF } B \text{ THEN } C_1 \text{ ELSE } C_2 \text{) } Q = \text{WVC } C_1 \text{ } Q \wedge \text{WVC } C_2 \text{ } Q$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{WVC (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{ R \} \text{ } C) \text{ } Q = \\ (\models R \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow \text{AWP } C \text{ } R) \wedge (\models R \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket \Rightarrow Q) \wedge \text{WVC } C \text{ } R \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **SVC**  $P$   $C$  is a 'forwards' calculation

$$\text{SVC } P \text{ (SKIP) } = T$$

$$\text{SVC } P \text{ (} V := E \text{) } = T$$

$$\text{SVC } P \text{ (} C_1 ; C_2 \text{) } = \text{SVC } P \text{ } C_1 \wedge \text{SVC (ASP } P \text{ } C_1) \text{ } C_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC } P \text{ (IF } B \text{ THEN } C_1 \text{ ELSE } C_2) = \\ \text{SVC (} P \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \text{) } C_1 \wedge \text{SVC (} P \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket \text{) } C_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC } P \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{ R \} \text{ } C) = \\ (\models P \Rightarrow R) \wedge (\models \text{ASP (} R \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \text{) } C \Rightarrow R) \wedge \text{SVC (} R \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket \text{) } C \end{aligned}$$

## Calculating verification conditions

- ▶ **WVC**  $C$   $Q$  is a standard 'backwards' calculation

$$\text{WVC (SKIP) } Q = T$$

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- ▶ **SVC**  $P$   $C$  is a 'forwards' calculation

$$\text{SVC P (SKIP) } = T$$

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$$\text{SVC P (C}_1 ; \text{C}_2) = \text{SVC P C}_1 \wedge \text{SVC (ASP P C}_1) \text{C}_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC P (IF B THEN C}_1 \text{ ELSE C}_2) = \\ \text{SVC (P} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C}_1 \wedge \text{SVC (P} \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C}_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SVC P (WHILE B DO \{ R \} C) } = \\ (\models P \Rightarrow R) \wedge (\models \text{ASP (R} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C} \Rightarrow R) \wedge \text{SVC (R} \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \text{C} \end{aligned}$$

## Approximate symbolic execution of while-loops

- ▶ Symbolically execute straight line code as before
- ▶ For while-loops, recall from previous slide

$$\text{ASP } P \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) = R \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket$$

- ▶ Hence execute while-loops as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ASP } \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle \text{ (WHILE } B \text{ DO } \{R\} C) \\ = \langle \exists \bar{x}. (R \wedge \neg \llbracket B \rrbracket) [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{x}] \wedge X_1=x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=x_n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ constraint  $S$  computed up to loop is discarded
- ▶ create new state satisfying invariant and loop exit condition
- ▶ link between pre and post loop states provided by VCs

$$\models \langle S \wedge X_1=e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=e_n \rangle \Rightarrow R$$

$\wedge$

$$\models \text{ASP } \langle (R \wedge \llbracket B \rrbracket) \wedge X_1=x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n=x_n \rangle C \Rightarrow R$$

## Pretty slides hide messy HOL details!

- ▶ Term  $\lambda s. \exists x_1 \dots x_n. S \ s \ \wedge \ (s = [\bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e}])$  is for a given  $\bar{X}$

- ▶ The rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SP } \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \ \wedge \ X_1 = e_1 \ \wedge \ \dots \ \wedge \ X_n = e_n \rangle \ (X_i := E_i) \\ = \langle \exists \bar{x}. S \ \wedge \ X_1 = e_1 \ \wedge \ \dots \ \wedge \ X_i = \llbracket E_i \rrbracket \llbracket \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{e} \rrbracket \ \wedge \ \dots \ \wedge \ X_n = e_n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

is also for a given  $X_1, \dots, X_n$

- ▶ HOL theorem generating specific assignment rule is:

```
| -  $\forall x1 \ f \ P \ v \ e.$   
  ALL_DISTINCT x1  $\Rightarrow$   
  ( $\forall l. \text{ (MAP FST } l = x1) \Rightarrow \text{ (MAP FST } (f \ l) = x1)$ )  $\Rightarrow$   
  (LP  
    x1  
    ( $\lambda s. \exists l. \text{ (MAP FST } l = x1) \ \wedge \ P \ l \ \wedge \ (s = \text{FEMPTY } |++ \ f \ l)$ )  
    ( $v ::= e$ ) =  
    ( $\lambda s.$   
       $\exists l.$   
        ( $\text{MAP FST } l = x1$ )  $\wedge \ P \ l \ \wedge$   
        ( $s = \text{FEMPTY } |++ \ (\text{ASSIGN\_FUN } v \ e \ o \ f) \ l$ )))
```

- ▶ Won't reexplain this here beyond:

- ▶ LP represents SP
- ▶  $\exists l$  instantiated to  $\exists x_1 \dots x_n$  for a specific program



**THE END**



**THE END**

Really!