

# Total Correctness Specification

- So far our discussion has been concerned with partial correctness
  - what about termination
- A total correctness specification  $[P] C [Q]$  is true if and only if
  - whenever  $C$  is executed in a state satisfying  $P$ , then the execution of  $C$  terminates
  - after  $C$  terminates  $Q$  holds
- Except for the WHILE-rule, all the axioms and rules described so far are sound for total correctness as well as partial correctness

## Termination of WHILE-Commands

- WHILE-commands are the only commands that might not terminate
- Consider now the following proof

1.  $\vdash \{T\} X := X \{T\}$  (assignment axiom)

2.  $\vdash \{T \wedge T\} X := X \{T\}$  (precondition strengthening)

3.  $\vdash \{T\} \text{WHILE } T \text{ DO } X := X \{T \wedge \neg T\}$  (2 and the WHILE-rule)

- If the WHILE-rule worked for total correctness, then this would show:

$$\vdash [T] \text{WHILE } T \text{ DO } X := X [T \wedge \neg T]$$

- Thus the WHILE-rule is unsound for total correctness

# Rules for Non-Looping Commands

- Replace { and } by [ and ], respectively, in:
  - Assignment axiom (see next slide for discussion)
  - Consequence rules
  - Conditional rule
  - Sequencing rule
- The following is a valid derived rule

$$\frac{\vdash \{P\} C \{Q\}}{\vdash [P] C [Q]}$$

if  $C$  contains no WHILE-commands

## Total Correctness Assignment Axiom

- Assignment axiom for total correctness

$$\vdash [P[E/V]] V := E [P]$$

- Note that the assignment axiom for total correctness states that assignment commands *always* terminate
- So all function applications in expressions must terminate
- This might not be the case if functions could be defined recursively
- Consider  $X := fact(-1)$ , where  $fact(n)$  is defined recursively:

$$fact(n) = \text{if } n = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } n \times fact(n-1)$$

## Error Termination

- We assume erroneous expressions like  $1/0$  don't cause problems
- Most programming languages will raise an error on division by zero
- In our logic it follows that

$$\vdash [T] X := 1/0 [X = 1/0]$$

- The assignment  $X := 1/0$  halts in a state in which  $X = 1/0$  holds
- This assumes that  $1/0$  denotes some value that  $X$  can have

## Two Possibilities

- There are two possibilities
  - (i)  $1/0$  denotes some number;
  - (ii)  $1/0$  denotes some kind of ‘error value’.
- It seems at first sight that adopting (ii) is the most natural choice
  - this makes it tricky to see what arithmetical laws should hold
  - is  $(1/0) \times 0$  equal to 0 or to some ‘error value’?
  - if the latter, then it is no longer the case that  $\forall n. n \times 0 = 0$  is valid
- It is possible to make everything work with undefined and/or error values, but the resultant theory is a bit messy

## WHILE-rule for Total Correctness (i)

- WHILE-commands are the only commands in our little language that can cause non-termination
  - they are thus the only kind of command with a non-trivial termination rule
- The idea behind the WHILE-rule for total correctness is
  - to prove  $\text{WHILE } S \text{ DO } C$  terminates
  - show that some non-negative quantity decreases on each iteration of  $C$
  - this decreasing quantity is called a **variant**

## WHILE-Rule for Total Correctness (ii)

- In the rule below, the variant is  $E$ , and the fact that it decreases is specified with an auxiliary variable  $n$
- The hypothesis  $\vdash P \wedge S \Rightarrow E \geq 0$  ensures the variant is non-negative

WHILE-rule for total correctness

$$\frac{\vdash [P \wedge S \wedge (E = n)] \ C \ [P \wedge (E < n)], \quad \vdash P \wedge S \Rightarrow E \geq 0}{\vdash [P] \ \text{WHILE } S \ \text{DO } C \ [P \wedge \neg S]}$$

where  $E$  is an integer-valued expression  
and  $n$  is an identifier not occurring in  $P$ ,  $C$ ,  $S$  or  $E$ .



# The Derived While Rule

- Derived WHILE-rule needs to handle the variant

Derived WHILE-rule for total correctness

$$\vdash P \Rightarrow R$$

$$\vdash R \wedge S \Rightarrow E \geq 0$$

$$\vdash R \wedge \neg S \Rightarrow Q$$

$$\vdash [R \wedge S \wedge (E = n)] C [R \wedge (E < n)]$$

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$$\vdash [P] \text{ WHILE } S \text{ DO } C [Q]$$

## VCs for Termination

- Verification conditions are easily extended to total correctness
- To generate total correctness verification conditions for WHILE-commands, it is necessary to **add a variant as an annotation** in addition to an invariant
- Variant added directly after the invariant, in square brackets
- No other extra annotations are needed for total correctness
- VCs for WHILE-free code same as for partial correctness

## WHILE Annotation

- A correctly annotated total correctness specification of a WHILE-command thus has the form

$$[P] \text{ WHILE } S \text{ DO } \{R\}[E] C [Q]$$

where  $R$  is the invariant and  $E$  the variant

- Note that the variant is intended to be a **non-negative** expression that **decreases** each time around the WHILE loop
- The other annotations, which are enclosed in curly brackets, are meant to be conditions that are true whenever control reaches them (as before)

- A correctly annotated specification of a WHILE-command has the form

$$[P] \text{ WHILE } S \text{ DO } \{R\}[E] C [Q]$$

## WHILE-commands

The verification conditions generated from

$$[P] \text{ WHILE } S \text{ DO } \{R\}[E] C [Q]$$

are

- (i)  $P \Rightarrow R$
- (ii)  $R \wedge \neg S \Rightarrow Q$
- (iii)  $R \wedge S \Rightarrow E \geq 0$
- (iv) the verification conditions generated by

$$[R \wedge S \wedge (E = n)] C [R \wedge (E < n)]$$

where  $n$  is a variable not occurring in  $P, R, E, C, S$  or  $Q$ .

## Summary

- We have given rules for total correctness
- They are similar to those for partial correctness
- The main difference is in the WHILE-rule
  - because WHILE commands are the only ones that can fail to terminate
- Must prove a non-negative expression is decreased by the loop body
- Derived rules and VC generation rules for partial correctness easily extended to total correctness
- Interesting stuff on the web
  - <http://www.crunchgear.com/2008/12/31/zune-bug-explained-in-detail>
  - <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/t2/>

# Soundness and completeness of Hoare logic

- Review of first-order logic
  - syntax: languages, function symbols, predicate symbols, terms, formulae
  - semantics: interpretations, valuations
  - soundness and completeness
- Formal semantics of Hoare triples
  - preconditions and postconditions as terms
  - semantics of commands
  - soundness of Hoare axioms and rules
  - completeness and relative completeness

## Semantics: terms and formulae

- Assume: language  $\mathcal{L}$ , interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (D, I)$ , valuation  $s \in \text{Var} \rightarrow D$
- Define  $\text{Esem } E \ s \in D$  by:
  - if  $E \in \text{Var}$  then  $\text{Esem } E \ s = s(E)$
  - if  $E = f$ , where  $f$  a function symbol of arity 0, then  $\text{Esem } E \ s = I[f]$
  - if  $E = f(E_1, \dots, E_n)$ , then  $\text{Esem } E \ s = I[f](\text{Esem } E_1 \ s, \dots, \text{Esem } E_n \ s)$
- Define  $\text{Ssem } S \ s \in \text{Bool}$  by:
  - if  $S = p$ , where  $p$  a predicate symbol of arity 0, then  $\text{Ssem } S \ s = I[p]$
  - if  $S = p(E_1, \dots, E_n)$ , then  $\text{Ssem } S \ s = I[p](\text{Esem } E_1 \ s, \dots, \text{Esem } E_n \ s)$
  - $\text{Ssem } (\neg S) \ s = \neg(\text{Ssem } S \ s)$
  - $\text{Ssem } (S_1 \wedge S_2) \ s = (\text{Ssem } S_1 \ s) \wedge (\text{Ssem } S_2 \ s)$
  - $\text{Ssem } (S_1 \vee S_2) \ s = (\text{Ssem } S_1 \ s) \vee (\text{Ssem } S_2 \ s)$
  - $\text{Ssem } (S_1 \Rightarrow S_2) \ s = (\text{Ssem } S_1 \ s) \Rightarrow (\text{Ssem } S_2 \ s)$
  - $\text{Ssem } (\forall v. S) \ s = \mathbf{if\ (for\ all\ } d \in D : \text{Ssem } S \ (s[d/v]) = \mathbf{true}) \ \mathbf{then\ true\ else\ false}$
  - $\text{Ssem } (\exists v. S) \ s = \mathbf{if\ (for\ some\ } d \in D : \text{Ssem } S \ (s[d/v]) = \mathbf{true}) \ \mathbf{then\ true\ else\ false}$
- Note: will just say “ $\text{Ssem } S \ s$ ” to mean that “ $\text{Ssem } S \ s = \text{true}$ ”

## Satisfiability, validity and completeness

- Recall that a language  $\mathcal{L}$  specifies predicate and function symbols
- $S$  is *satisfiable* iff for some interpretation of  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $s$ :  $S \text{ sem } s = \text{true}$
- $S$  is *valid* iff for all interpretations of  $\mathcal{L}$  and all  $s$ :  $S \text{ sem } s = \text{true}$
- Notation:  $\models S$  means  $S$  is valid
- Deductive system for first-order logic specifies  $\vdash S$  – i.e.  $S$  is provable
- Soundness:      if  $\vdash S$  then  $\models S$  (easy induction on length of proof)
- Completeness:   if  $\models S$  then  $\vdash S$  (Gödel 1929)



# Sentences, Theories

- A *sentence* is a statement with *no free variables*
  - truth or falsity of sentences solely determined by interpretation
  - if  $S$  is a sentence then  $S \text{ sem } s_1 = S \text{ sem } s_2$  for all  $s_1, s_2$
- A *theory* is a set of sentences
  - $\Gamma$  will range over sets of sentences
- $\Gamma \vdash S$  means  $S$  can be deduced from  $\Gamma$  using first-order logic
- $\Gamma$  is *consistent* iff there is no  $S$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash S$  and  $\Gamma \vdash \neg S$
- $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{I}} S$  means  $S$  true if  $\mathcal{I}$  makes all of  $\Gamma$  true
- $\Gamma \models S$  means  $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{I}} S$  true for all  $\mathcal{I}$
- **Soundness and Completeness:**  $\Gamma \models S$  iff  $\Gamma \vdash S$

# Gödel's incompleteness theorem

- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PA}}$  is the language of Peano Arithmetic
- $\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}$  is the *standard interpretation* of arithmetic
- $\models_{\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}} S$  means  $S$  is true in  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}$
- PA is the first-order theory of Peano Arithmetic
- There exists a sentence  $G$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PA}}$  and neither  $\text{PA} \vdash G$  nor  $\text{PA} \vdash \neg G$ 
  - Gödel's first incompleteness theorem (1930)
  - as  $G$  is a sentence either  $\models_{\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}} G$  or  $\models_{\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}} \neg G$
  - so there is a sentence,  $G_T$  say, true in  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}$  but can't be proved from PA
  - i.e.  $\models_{\mathcal{I}_{\text{PA}}} G_T$  but not  $\text{PA} \vdash G_T$

# Semantics of Hoare triples

- Recall that  $\{P\} C \{Q\}$  is true if
  - whenever  $C$  is executed in a state satisfying  $P$
  - and *if* the execution of  $C$  terminates
  - then  $C$  terminates in a state satisfying  $Q$
- $P$  and  $Q$  are first-order statements
- Will formalise semantics of  $\{P\} C \{Q\}$  to express:
  - whenever  $C$  is executed in a state  $s_1$  such that  $\text{Ssem } P \ s_1$
  - and *if* the execution of  $C$  starting in  $s_1$  terminates
  - then  $C$  terminates in a state  $s_2$  such that  $\text{Ssem } Q \ s_2 = \text{true}$
- Need to define “ $C$  starts in  $s_1$  and terminates in  $s_2$ ”
  - this is the semantics of commands
  - will define  $\text{Csem } C \ s_1 \ s_2$  to mean if  $C$  starts in  $s_1$  then it can terminate in  $s_2$
- Semantics of  $\{P\} C \{Q\}$  is  $\text{Hsem } P \ C \ Q$  where:  
$$\text{Hsem } P \ C \ Q = \forall s_1 \ s_2. \text{Ssem } P \ s_1 \wedge \text{Csem } C \ s_1 \ s_2 \Rightarrow \text{Ssem } Q \ s_2$$
- Sometimes write  $\models \{P\} C \{Q\}$  to mean  $\text{Hsem } P \ C \ Q$