



Semantics and Verification of Software

Summer Semester 2019

Lecture 11: Axiomatic Semantics of WHILE III
(Completeness & Total Correctness)

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Recap: Hoare Logic

Hoare Logic

Goal: syntactic derivation of valid partial correctness properties.

Here $A[x \mapsto a]$ denotes the syntactic replacement of every occurrence of x by a in A .



Tony Hoare (* 1934)

Definition (Hoare Logic)

The **Hoare rules** are given by

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(skip)} \frac{}{\{A\} \text{ skip } \{A\}} \\ \text{(seq)} \frac{\{A\} c_1 \{C\} \quad \{C\} c_2 \{B\}}{\{A\} c_1 ; c_2 \{B\}} \\ \text{(while)} \frac{\{A \wedge b\} c \{A\}}{\{A\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end } \{A \wedge \neg b\}} \\ \text{(asgn)} \frac{}{\{A[x \mapsto a]\} x := a \{A\}} \\ \text{(if)} \frac{\{A \wedge b\} c_1 \{B\} \quad \{A \wedge \neg b\} c_2 \{B\}}{\{A\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ end } \{B\}} \\ \text{(cons)} \frac{\models (A \Rightarrow A') \quad \{A'\} c \{B'\} \quad \models (B' \Rightarrow B)}{\{A\} c \{B\}} \end{array}$$

A partial correctness property is **provable** (notation: $\vdash \{A\} c \{B\}$) if it is derivable by the Hoare rules. In (while), A is called a **(loop) invariant**.

Recap: Hoare Logic

Soundness of Hoare Logic

Theorem (Soundness of Hoare Logic)

For every partial correctness property $\{A\} c \{B\}$,

$$\vdash \{A\} c \{B\} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \models \{A\} c \{B\}.$$

Proof.

Let $\vdash \{A\} c \{B\}$. By induction over the structure of the corresponding proof tree we show that, for every $\sigma \in \Sigma$ and $l \in \text{Int}$ such that $\sigma \models^l A$, $\mathcal{C}[[c]]\sigma = \perp$ or $\mathcal{C}[[c]]\sigma \models^l B$ (on the board). \square

Incompleteness of Hoare Logic

Incompleteness of Hoare Logic I

Soundness: only valid partial correctness properties are provable ✓

Completeness: all valid partial correctness properties are systematically derivable ⚡

Theorem 11.1 (Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem)

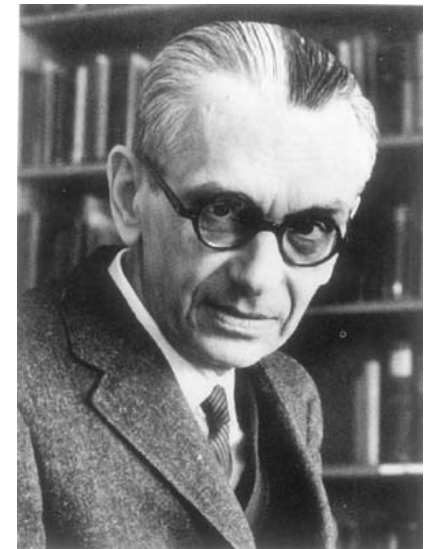
The set of all valid assertions

$$\{A \in Assn \mid \models A\}$$

is not recursively enumerable, i.e., there exists no proof system for $Assn$ in which all valid assertions are systematically derivable.

Proof.

see [Winskel 1996, p. 110 ff] □



Kurt Gödel
(1906–1978)

Incompleteness of Hoare Logic

Incompleteness of Hoare Logic II

Corollary 11.2

There is no proof system in which all valid partial correctness properties can be enumerated.

Proof.

Given $A \in \text{Assn}$, $\models A$ is obviously equivalent to $\{\text{true}\} \text{skip} \{A\}$. Thus the enumerability of all valid partial correctness properties would imply the enumerability of all valid assertions. □

Remark: alternative proof (using computability theory):

$\{\text{true}\} c \{\text{false}\}$ is valid iff c does not terminate on any input state. But the set of all non-terminating WHILE statements is not enumerable.

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic I

- We will see: actual reason of incompleteness is rule

$$\text{(cons)} \frac{\models (A \Rightarrow A') \quad \{A'\} c \{B'\} \quad \models (B' \Rightarrow B)}{\{A\} c \{B\}}$$

since it is based on the **validity of implications** within *Assn*

- The other language constructs are “enumerable”
 - Therefore: **separation** of proof system (Hoare Logic) and assertion language (*Assn*)
 - One can show: if an “oracle” is available which decides whether a given assertion is valid, then all valid partial correctness properties can be systematically derived
- ⇒ **“Relative completeness”**

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic II

Theorem 11.3 (Cook's Completeness Theorem)

Hoare Logic is *relatively complete*, i.e., for every partial correctness property $\{A\} c \{B\}$:

$$\models \{A\} c \{B\} \Rightarrow \vdash \{A\} c \{B\}.$$



Stephen A. Cook (* 1939)

Thus: if we know that a partial correctness property is valid, then we know that there is a corresponding proof.

The proof uses the following concept: assume that, e.g., $\{A\} c_1 ; c_2 \{B\}$ has to be derived. This requires an *intermediate assertion* $C \in Assn$ such that $\{A\} c_1 \{C\}$ and $\{C\} c_2 \{B\}$. How to find it?

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Weakest Liberal Preconditions I

Definition 11.4 (Weakest liberal precondition)

Given $c \in \text{Cmd}$ and $S \subseteq \Sigma$, the **weakest (liberal) precondition** of S with respect to c collects all states σ such that running c in σ does not terminate or yields a state in S :

$$\text{wlp}[c]S := \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \mathcal{E}[c]\sigma \in S \cup \{\perp\}\}.$$

Corollary 11.5

For every $c \in \text{Cmd}$, $A, B \in \text{Assn}$, and $I \in \text{Int}$:

1. $\models' \{A\} c \{B\} \iff A' \subseteq \text{wlp}[c]B'$
2. If $A_0 \in \text{Assn}$ such that $A'_0 = \text{wlp}[c]B'$ for every $I \in \text{Int}$, then $\models \{A\} c \{B\} \iff \models (A \Rightarrow A_0)$

Remarks:

- Corollary 11.5 justifies the notion of **weakest** precondition: it is entailed by every precondition A that makes $\{A\} c \{B\}$ valid.
- In the following, we do not distinguish between sets of program states (such as S or A') and predicates on program states (such as $\mathfrak{B}[b]$).

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Weakest Liberal Preconditions II

Lemma 11.6 (Weakest liberal precondition transformer)

Weakest liberal preconditions $wlp[\cdot]. : Cmd \times 2^\Sigma \rightarrow 2^\Sigma$ can be computed as follows:

$$wlp[\text{skip}] S = S$$

$$wlp[x := a] S = \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma[x \mapsto \mathcal{A}[a]\sigma] \in S\}$$

$$wlp[c_1; c_2] S = wlp[c_1](wlp[c_2] S)$$

$$wlp[\text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ end}] S = (\mathfrak{B}[b] \cap wlp[c_1] S) \cup (\mathfrak{B}[\neg b] \cap wlp[c_2] S)$$

$$wlp[\text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end}] S = \text{FIX}(\Psi)$$

where $\text{FIX}(\Psi)$ denotes the greatest fixpoint (w.r.t. $(2^\Sigma, \subseteq)$) of

$$\Psi : 2^\Sigma \rightarrow 2^\Sigma : T \mapsto (\mathfrak{B}[b] \cap wlp[c] T) \cup (\mathfrak{B}[\neg b] \cap S)$$

Remark: $\text{FIX}(\Psi)$ of a continuous function Ψ on lattice $(2^\Sigma, \subseteq)$ can be computed by fixpoint iteration (see following slide)

Proof.

omitted □

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Weakest Liberal Preconditions III

Example 11.7

Using Lemma 11.6, we want to determine the weakest liberal precondition for

$$\{?\} \underbrace{\text{while } x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 1 \text{ do } \overbrace{x := x-2}^{c_0} \text{ end}}_c \{x = 1\}$$

i.e., $wlp[[c]]S$ for $S := \mathcal{B}[[x = 1]]$.

- $wlp[[c]]S = \text{FIX}(\Psi)$ for $\Psi(T) = (\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 1]] \cap wlp[[c_0]]T) \cup \underbrace{(\mathcal{B}[[x \in \{0, 1\}]] \cap S)}_{=S}$
- $wlp[[c_0]]T = \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma[x \mapsto \sigma(x) - 2] \in T\}$
- Fixpoint iteration (with initial value $\sqcap \emptyset = \Sigma$):

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi(\Sigma) &= (\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 1]] \cap wlp[[c_0]]\Sigma) \cup S = \mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0]] \\ \Psi^2(\Sigma) &= (\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 1]] \cap wlp[[c_0]](\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0]])) \cup S = \mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 2]] \\ \Psi^3(\Sigma) &= (\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 1]] \cap wlp[[c_0]](\mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 2]])) \cup S = \mathcal{B}[[x \neq 0 \wedge x \neq 2 \wedge x \neq 4]] \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{FIX}(\Psi) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Psi^n(\Sigma) = \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma(x) \in \mathbb{Z}_{<0} \cup \{1, 3, 5, \dots\}\}$$

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Weakest Liberal Preconditions IV

Definition 11.8 (Expressivity of assertion languages)

An assertion language $Assn$ is called **expressive** if it allows to “syntactify” weakest preconditions, that is, for every $c \in Cmd$ and $B \in Assn$, there exists $A_{c,B} \in Assn$ such that $A'_{c,B} = wlp[[c]]B'$ for every $I \in Int$.

Theorem 11.9 (Expressivity of $Assn$)

$Assn$ is expressive.

Proof (idea; see (Winskel 1996, p. 103 ff) for details).

Given $c \in Cmd$ and $B \in Assn$, construct $A_{c,B} \in Assn$ with $\sigma \models' A_{c,B} \iff \mathcal{C}[[c]]\sigma \models' B$ (for every $\sigma \in \Sigma$, $I \in Int$). For example:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\text{skip},B} &:= B & A_{x:=a,B} &:= B[x \mapsto a] \\ A_{c_1;c_2,B} &:= A_{c_1,A_{c_2,B}} & & \dots \end{aligned}$$

(for `while`: “Gödelisation” of sequences of intermediate states) □

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic

Relative Completeness of Hoare Logic III

The following lemma shows that syntactic weakest preconditions are “provable”:

Lemma 11.10

For every $c \in \text{Cmd}$ and $B \in \text{Assn}$: $\vdash \{A_{c,B}\} c \{B\}$

Proof.

by structural induction over c (omitted) □

Proof (Cook’s Completeness Theorem 11.3).

We have to show that Hoare Logic is relatively complete, i.e., that

$$\models \{A\} c \{B\} \Rightarrow \vdash \{A\} c \{B\}.$$

- Lemma 11.10: $\vdash \{A_{c,B}\} c \{B\}$
- Corollary 11.5: $\models \{A\} c \{B\} \Rightarrow \vdash (A \Rightarrow A_{c,B})$
 $\vdash (A \Rightarrow A_{c,B}) \quad \{A_{c,B}\} c \{B\} \quad \vdash (B \Rightarrow B)$
- (cons) $\frac{\vdash (A \Rightarrow A_{c,B}) \quad \{A_{c,B}\} c \{B\} \quad \vdash (B \Rightarrow B)}{\vdash \{A\} c \{B\}}$ □

Total Correctness

Total Correctness

- **Observation:** partial correctness properties only speak about **terminating** computations of a given program
- **Total correctness** additionally requires the proof that the program indeed stops (on the input states admitted by the precondition)
- Consider **total correctness properties** of the form

$$\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$$

where $c \in \text{Cmd}$ and $A, B \in \text{Assn}$

- Interpretation:

Validity of property $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$

For all states $\sigma \in \Sigma$ which satisfy A :

the execution of c in σ **terminates** and yields a state which satisfies B .

Total Correctness

Semantics of Total Correctness Properties

Definition 11.11 (Semantics of total correctness properties)

Let $A, B \in Assn$ and $c \in Cmd$.

- $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ is called **valid in** $\sigma \in \Sigma$ and $I \in Int$ (notation: $\sigma \models' \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$) if $\sigma \models' A$ implies that $\mathcal{C}[[c]]\sigma \models' B$.
- $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ is called **valid in** $I \in Int$ (notation: $\models' \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$) if $\sigma \models' \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ for every $\sigma \in \Sigma$.
- $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ is called **valid** (notation: $\models \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$) if $\models' \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ for every $I \in Int$.

Obviously, total implies partial correctness (but not vice versa):

Corollary 11.12

For all $A, B \in Assn$ and $c \in Cmd$,

$$\models \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\} \Rightarrow \models \{A\} c \{B\}.$$

Total Correctness

Proving Total Correctness I

Definition 11.13 (Hoare Logic for total correctness)

The **Hoare rules for total correctness** are given by (where $i \in LVar$)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(skip)} \frac{}{\{A\} \text{ skip } \{\Downarrow A\}} \\ \text{(seq)} \frac{\{A\} c_1 \{\Downarrow C\} \quad \{C\} c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}}{\{A\} c_1 ; c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}} \\ \text{(while)} \frac{\vdash (i \geq 0 \wedge A(i+1) \Rightarrow b) \quad \{i \geq 0 \wedge A(i+1)\} c \{\Downarrow A(i)\} \quad \vdash (A(0) \Rightarrow \neg b)}{\{\exists i. i \geq 0 \wedge A(i)\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end } \{\Downarrow A(0)\}} \\ \text{(cons)} \frac{\vdash (A \Rightarrow A') \quad \{A'\} c \{\Downarrow B'\} \quad \vdash (B' \Rightarrow B)}{\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}} \end{array}$$

A total correctness property is **provable** (notation: $\vdash \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$) if it is derivable by the Hoare rules. In case of (while), $A(i)$ is called a **(loop) invariant**.

Total Correctness

Proving Total Correctness II

- In rule

$$\frac{\models (i \geq 0 \wedge A(i+1) \Rightarrow b) \quad \{i \geq 0 \wedge A(i+1)\} c \{\Downarrow A(i)\} \quad \models (A(0) \Rightarrow \neg b)}{\text{(while)} \quad \frac{\quad}{\{\exists i. i \geq 0 \wedge A(i)\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end } \{\Downarrow A(0)\}}}$$

the notation $A(i)$ indicates that assertion A **parametrically depends** on the value of the logical variable $i \in LVar$.

- Idea: i represents the **remaining number of loop iterations**
- Loop to be traversed $i + 1$ times ($i \geq 0$)
 - $\Rightarrow A(i + 1)$ holds
 - \Rightarrow execution condition b satisfied

Thus: $\models (i \geq 0 \wedge A(i + 1) \Rightarrow b)$, and $i + 1$ decreased to i after execution of c

- Execution terminated
 - $\Rightarrow A(0)$ holds
 - \Rightarrow execution condition b violated

Thus: $\models (A(0) \Rightarrow \neg b)$

Total Correctness

Total Correctness of Factorial Program I

Example 11.14

Proof of $\{A\} y:=1; c \{\Downarrow B\}$ where

$$A := (x > 0 \wedge x = i)$$

$$c := \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } y:=y*x; x:=x-1 \text{ end}$$

$$B := (y = i!)$$

First we show that the assertion $C(j) = (x > 0 \wedge y * x! = i! \wedge x = j + 1)$ is an invariant of c . Applying (asgn) twice yields

$$\vdash \{j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[x \mapsto x-1]\} x:=x-1 \{\Downarrow j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\vdash \{j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[x \mapsto x-1][y \mapsto y*x]\} y:=y*x \{\Downarrow j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[x \mapsto x-1]\}$$

such that (seq) implies

$$\vdash \{j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[x \mapsto x-1][y \mapsto y*x]\} y:=y*x; x:=x-1 \{\Downarrow j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)\}.$$

Now $C(j+1) = (x > 0 \wedge y*x! = i! \wedge x = j+2)$ and

$$C(j)[x \mapsto x-1][y \mapsto y*x] = (x-1 > 0 \wedge y * x * (x-1)! = i! \wedge x-1 = j+1)$$

such that

$$\models ((j \geq 0 \wedge C(j+1)) \Rightarrow (j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[x \mapsto x-1][y \mapsto y*x])) \text{ and}$$

$$\models ((j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)) \Rightarrow C(j)).$$

Total Correctness

Total Correctness of Factorial Program II

Example 11.14 (continued; $C(j) = (x > 0 \wedge y * x! = i! \wedge x = j + 1)$)

Hence (cons) implies

$$\vdash \{j \geq 0 \wedge C(j + 1)\} y := y * x; x := x - 1 \{\Downarrow C(j)\}.$$

Moreover we have

$$\models ((j \geq 0 \wedge C(j + 1)) \Rightarrow \neg(x = 1)) \text{ and } \models (C(0) \Rightarrow \neg(\neg(x = 1)))$$

such that (while) yields

$$\vdash \{\exists j. j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)\} c \{\Downarrow C(0)\}.$$

For the initializing assignment, (asgn) implies

$$\vdash \{\exists j. j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[y \mapsto 1]\} y := 1 \{\Downarrow \exists j. j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)\},$$

such that (seq) allows to conclude

$$\vdash \{\exists j. j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[y \mapsto 1]\} y := 1; c \{\Downarrow C(0)\}.$$

On the other hand we have (choose $j := i - 1$):

$$\models ((x > 0 \wedge x = i) \Rightarrow (\exists j. j \geq 0 \wedge C(j)[y \mapsto 1])) \text{ and } \models (C(0) \Rightarrow y = i!)$$

such that (cons) yields the desired result:

$$\vdash \{x > 0 \wedge x = i\} y := 1; c \{\Downarrow y = i!\}.$$