

Introduction to Program Verification

Laura Kovács

Program Verification: Programs and Specifications

Example – Maximum of Two Natural Numbers

Given two natural numbers x and y .
Compute the maximum value of x and y .

The maximum of x and y is x iff $x \geq y$.
Otherwise, the maximum of x and y is y .

Computing the maximum (max) of x and y :

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if ( $x \geq y$ )  
  then  $max := x$   
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**REQUIREMENT ON
PROGRAM'S INPUT**

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**REQUIREMENT ON
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PROGRAM

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PROGRAM'S INPUT**

PRECONDITION

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POSTCONDITION

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PROGRAM

Program Verification. Programs and Specifications

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Given two natural numbers x and y .

$$(x \geq 0 \wedge y \geq 0)$$

The maximum of x and y is x iff $x \geq y$.

Otherwise, the maximum of x and y is y .

$$(max \geq x) \wedge (max \geq y) \wedge (max = x \vee max = y)$$

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PROGRAM

Program Verification. Programs and Specifications

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Given two natural numbers x and y .

$$P : (x \geq 0 \wedge y \geq 0)$$

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$$Q : (max \geq x) \wedge (max \geq y) \wedge (max = x \vee max = y)$$

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Program Verification: Programs and Specifications

Program Verification:

program satisfies its requirements (specification P, Q) (Vorbedingung P , Endbedingung Q)

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Precondition P : $(x \geq 0) \wedge (y \geq 0)$

INITIAL STATE

Postcondition Q : $(max \geq x) \wedge (max \geq y) \wedge (max = x \vee max = y)$

FINAL STATE

Program (code) S :
if $(x \geq y)$
then $max := x$
else $max := y$

How?

Hoare triple (correctness formula): $\{P\} S \{Q\}$

T. Hoare (1969)

Program Verification: Programs and Specifications

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PROGRAM CORRECTNESS

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PROGRAM CORRECTNESS

Program ... HOW to compute
using program statements S

Specifications ... WHAT to compute
using predicate logic formulas P, Q (assertions, Zusicherungen)

Program state ... every program variable has a value

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Programs

Program statements and their meaning (semantics):

(Zuweisung, Sequenz, Konditional, Schleife)

- **Assignments:** $var := A$, where var is a program variable (scalar x or array $a[x]$), and A is an **arithmetic expression**;
variable var receives (is updated by) the value A

$A \stackrel{def}{=} n \mid x \mid a[n] \mid a[x] \mid A_1 + A_2 \mid A_1 - A_2 \mid A_1 * A_2$, where $n \in \mathbb{N}$; x is a scalar variable with values from \mathbb{N} ;
 a is an array variable; A_1, A_2 are arithmetic expressions

- **Sequencing:** $s_1; s_2$, where s_1 and s_2 are program statements;

execution of statement s_1 is followed by execution of statement s_2

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Program S is a finite sequence of statements:

$$S = s_1; s_2; \dots; s_{n-1}; s_n$$

NOTE: LOOPS MAY NOT TERMINATE! (infinite loop)

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Example: Integer Division

Example.

Given two natural numbers x and y , with y being non zero.

Compute:

the quotient (quo) and the remainder (rem) of the integer division of x by y .

Precondition P : $(x \geq 0) \wedge (y > 0)$

Postcondition Q : $(quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem < y)$

Program (code) S :
 $quo := 0; rem := x;$
while $y \leq rem$ do
 $rem := rem - y; quo := quo + 1$
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Hoare triple (correctness formula): $\{P\} S \{Q\}$

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Program Correctness

Partial correctness (partiell/teilweise korrekt) of $\{P\} S \{Q\}$:

Every execution of S that:

- **starts** in a state satisfying P and
- is **terminating**,

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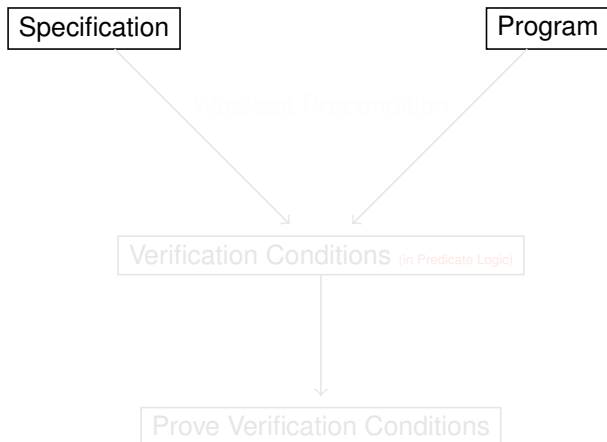
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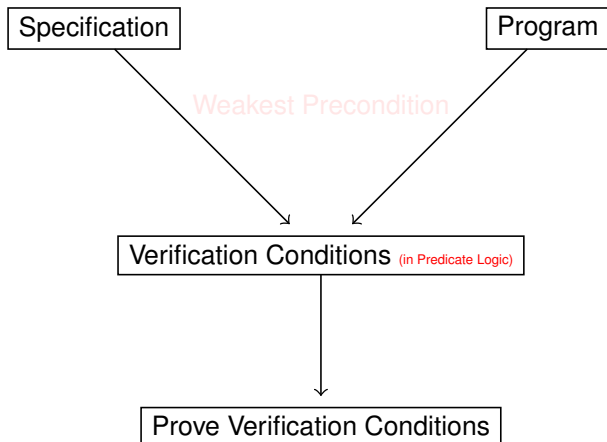
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Verifying Program Correctness – the Process of Program Verification



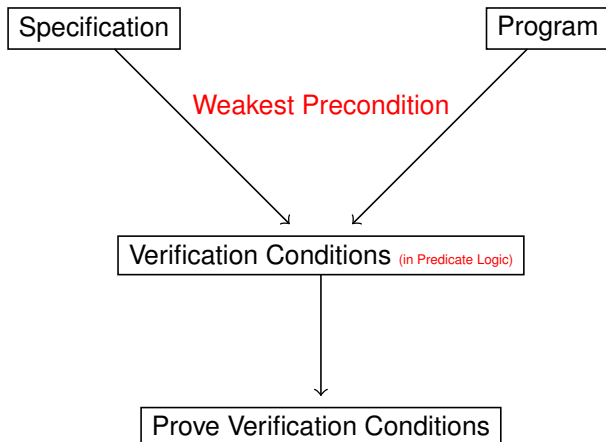
E. W. Dijkstra (1975)

Verifying Program Correctness – the Process of Program Verification



E. W. Dijkstra (1975)

Verifying Program Correctness – the Process of Program Verification



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Weakest Precondition (WP) Strategy

Formula P is **weaker** (schwächer) than formula R iff $R \implies P$.

Weakest Precondition $wp(S, Q)$ (schwächste Vorbedingung) for S with Q :

for any $\{R\} S \{Q\}$ we have $R \implies wp(S, Q)$.

Note: $\{wp(S, Q)\} S \{Q\}$.

VERIFICATION OF $\{P\} S \{Q\}$:

$S = s_1; \dots; s_{n-1}; s_n$

1. Compute $wp(S, Q)$;
2. Prove $P \implies wp(S, Q)$

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$s_1;$

\vdots

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s_n

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$s_{n-1};$

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s_n

$\{Q\}$

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$\{P\}$

$s_1;$

\vdots

$\leftarrow \text{wp}(s_{n-1}, \text{wp}(s_n, Q))$

$s_{n-1};$

$\leftarrow \text{wp}(s_n, Q)$

s_n

$\{Q\}$

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Note: $\{\text{wp}(S, Q)\} S \{Q\}$.

VERIFICATION OF $\{P\} S \{Q\}$:

$S = s_1; \dots; s_{n-1}; s_n$

1. Compute $\text{wp}(S, Q)$;
2. Prove $P \implies \text{wp}(S, Q)$

$\{P\}$	
	$\leftarrow \underbrace{\text{wp}(s_1, \text{wp}(\dots, \text{wp}(s_n, Q)))}_{\text{wp}(S, Q)}$
$s_1;$	
\vdots	
	$\leftarrow \text{wp}(s_{n-1}, \text{wp}(s_n, Q))$
$s_{n-1};$	
	$\leftarrow \text{wp}(s_n, Q)$
s_n	
$\{Q\}$	

WP Rules

- **Scalar Assignments** (x is a scalar variable, A is arithmetic expression):

$$\text{wp}(x := A, Q) = Q_{x \leftarrow A}$$

formula $Q_{x \leftarrow A}$ results from Q by substituting every occurrence of x by A

$$\text{wp}(x := \underline{5}, \underline{x} + y = 6) = \underline{5} + y = 6$$

$$\text{wp}(x := \underline{x + 1}, \underline{x} + y = 6) = \underline{x + 1} + y = 6$$

- **Array Assignments** (a is an array variable, x is a scalar variable, A is arithmetic expression):

$$\text{wp}(a[x] := A, Q) = Q_{a \leftarrow a'}$$

formula $Q_{a \leftarrow a'}$ results from Q by substituting every occurrence of a by array a' ,

where a' results from a by replacing the x th element by A

$$\text{wp}(a[1] := \underline{x + 1}, a[1] = a[2]) = a[1] = a[2]$$

where a' results from a by replacing the 1st element by $x + 1$

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WP Rules

- Sequencing:

$$\text{wp}(s_1; s_2, Q) = \text{wp}(s_1, \text{wp}(s_2, Q))$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{wp}(x := x + 1; y := y + x, y > 10) &= \text{wp}(x := x + 1, \text{wp}(y := \underline{y + x}, \underline{y} > 10)) \\ &= \text{wp}(x := \underline{x + 1}, y + \underline{x} > 10) \\ &= y + x + 1 > 10\end{aligned}$$

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- Conditionals:

$$\text{wp}(\text{if } (B) \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, Q) = (B \implies \text{wp}(s_1, Q)) \wedge (\neg B \implies \text{wp}(s_2, Q))$$

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Special Case:

$$\text{wp}(\text{if } (B) \text{ then } s_1, Q) = (B \implies \text{wp}(s_1, Q)) \wedge (\neg B \implies Q)$$

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Example revisited: Maximum of Two Natural Numbers

Postcondition Q : $(\text{max} \geq x) \wedge (\text{max} \geq y) \wedge (\text{max} = x \vee \text{max} = y)$

$$\text{wp}(\text{if } x \geq y \text{ then } \text{max} := x \text{ else } \text{max} := y, Q) =$$

$$(x \geq y \implies \text{wp}(\text{max} := x, Q)) \wedge (x < y \implies \text{wp}(\text{max} := y, Q)) =$$

$$(x \geq y \implies Q_{\text{max} \leftarrow x}) \wedge (x < y \implies Q_{\text{max} \leftarrow y}) =$$

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WP Rules

- **Loops** $L \equiv \underline{\text{while}}(B) \underline{\text{do}} s \underline{\text{end while}}$:

$$\text{wp}(\underline{\text{while}}(B) \underline{\text{do}} s \underline{\text{end while}}, Q) = I$$

where I is a **loop invariant** (I is invariant/remains unchanged) (Schlaufen-

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use conditional together with loop: \parallel instead of a single loop:

$\{\text{wp}(L, Q)\}$

if (B) then s ;

while (B) do s end while

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- $I \wedge B \implies I'$, where $I' = \text{wp}(S, I)$;
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LOOP INVARIANTS (INDUCTIVE ASSERTIONS):

evaluate to true **before** and **after** each loop iteration

I is an **invariant** for $\{P\} \underline{\text{while}}(B) \underline{\text{do}} s \underline{\text{end while}} \{Q\}$ iff:

- initial condition: $P \implies I$;
- iterative (inductive) condition: $\{I \wedge B\} s \{I\}$;
- final condition: $I \wedge \neg B \implies Q$

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- Compute $\text{wp}(\underline{\text{while}}(B) \underline{\text{do}} s \underline{\text{end while}}, Q) = I$;
- Prove **VERIFICATION CONDITIONS**:
 - $P \implies I$;
 - $I \wedge B \implies I'$, where $I' = \text{wp}(s, I)$;
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Example revisited: Integer Division ANNOTATED with invariant

Precondition P : $(x \geq 0) \wedge (y > 0)$

Postcondition Q : $(quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem < y)$

Loop $DivLoop$:

Invariant I : $(quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem) \wedge (0 < y) \wedge (x \geq 0)$

while $(y \leq rem)$ do

$rem := rem - y$; $quo := quo + 1$

end while

$$\mathbf{wp}(DivLoop, Q) = \underbrace{(quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem) \wedge (0 < y) \wedge (x \geq 0)}_I$$

VERIFICATION CONDITIONS:

$$P \implies I$$

$$I \wedge (y \leq rem) \implies ((quo + 1) * y + (rem - y) = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem - y) \wedge (0 < y) \wedge (x \geq 0)$$

$$I \wedge (y > rem) \implies Q$$

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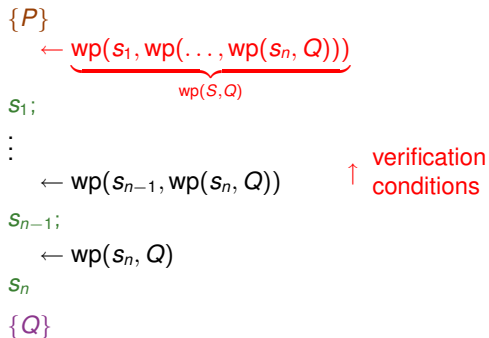
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Weakest Precondition Strategy – Revised Summary

VERIFICATION OF $\{P\} S \{Q\}$:

$S = s_1; \dots; s_{n-1}; s_n$

1. Compute $wp(S, Q)$;
2. Prove:
 - $P \implies wp(S, Q)$;
 - **additional verification conditions**



Example

Example (Integer Division.)

Verify the partial correctness of the *annotated* $\{P\} S \{Q\}$, where:

$$P: (x \geq 0) \wedge (y > 0)$$

$$Q: (quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem < y)$$

Annotated S (*S* annotated with *invariant*):

quo := 0; *rem* := *x*;

invariant (*quo* * *y* + *rem* = *x*) \wedge ($0 \leq rem$) \wedge ($0 < y$) \wedge ($x \geq 0$)

while (*y* $\leq rem$) do

rem := *rem* - *y*; *quo* := *quo* + 1

end while

Verification Conditions:

$$(x \geq 0) \wedge (y > 0) \implies$$

$$(x = x) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge y > 0$$

$$(x = rem + y * quo) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge rem \geq 0 \wedge y > 0 \wedge y \leq rem \implies$$

$$(x = (rem - y) + y * (quo + 1)) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge rem - y \geq 0 \wedge y > 0$$

$$(x = rem + y * quo) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge rem \geq 0 \wedge y > 0 \wedge y > rem \implies$$

$$(x = rem + y * quo) \wedge 0 \leq rem < y$$

Example

Example (Integer Division.)

Verify the partial correctness of the annotated $\{P\} S \{Q\}$, where:

$$P: (x \geq 0) \wedge (y > 0)$$

$$Q: (quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem < y)$$

Annotated S (S annotated with *invariant*):

$quo := 0; rem := x;$

invariant $(quo * y + rem = x) \wedge (0 \leq rem) \wedge (0 < y) \wedge (x \geq 0)$

while $(y \leq rem)$ do

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Verification Conditions:

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$$(x = (rem - y) + y * (quo + 1)) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge rem - y \geq 0 \wedge y > 0$$

$$(x = rem + y * quo) \wedge x \geq 0 \wedge rem \geq 0 \wedge y > 0 \wedge y > rem \implies$$

$$(x = rem + y * quo) \wedge 0 \leq rem < y$$

Exercise (1)

Is the Hoare triple $\{x := 1\} x := x + 1; y := x + 1 \{y \geq 2\}$ correct?

Exercise (2)

Compute: $wp(t := x; x := y; y := t, x = Y \wedge y = X)$.

Exercise (3)

Verify the *partial correctness* of the annotated $\{P\} S \{Q\}$, where:

$P: x = 0 \wedge y = 0$

$Q: x = 10 \wedge y = 10$

Annotated S : invariant $(x = y) \wedge (x \leq 10)$

while $(x < 10)$ do $x := x + 1; y := y + 1$ end while

Exercise (4)

Consider the Hoare triple $\{P\} S \{Q\}$, where:

$P: x = 0$

$Q: x = 5$

$S: \underline{\text{while}} (x < 5) \underline{\text{do}} x := x + 1 \underline{\text{end while}}$

- Is $x \leq 5$ an invariant?
- Is $x < 5$ an invariant?
- Is $x = 5$ an invariant?