

# Semantics and Verification of Software

## Lecture 14: Axiomatic Semantics of WHILE V (Total Correctness and Semantic Equivalence)

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- ① Repetition: Total Correctness Properties
- ② Soundness and Completeness of Total Correctness
- ③ Equivalence of Axiomatic and Operational/Denotational Semantics
- ④ Summary: Axiomatic Semantics

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

# Proving Total Correctness

**Goal:** syntactic derivation of valid total correctness properties

Definition (Hoare Logic for total correctness)

The **Hoare rules** for total correctness are given by

$$(\text{skip}) \frac{}{\{A\} \text{ skip } \{\Downarrow A\}}$$

$$(\text{asgn}) \frac{}{\{A[x \mapsto a]\} x := a \{\Downarrow A\}}$$

$$(\text{seq}) \frac{\{A\} c_1 \{\Downarrow C\} \{C\} c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}}{\{A\} c_1; c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}}$$

$$(\text{if}) \frac{\{A \wedge b\} c_1 \{\Downarrow B\} \{A \wedge \neg b\} c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}}{\{A\} \text{ if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \{\Downarrow B\}}$$

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

$$(\text{cons}) \frac{\models (A \implies A') \{A'\} c \{\Downarrow B'\} \models (B' \implies B)}{\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}}$$

where  $i \in LVar$ ,  $\models (i \geq 0 \wedge A(i+1) \implies b)$ , and  $\models (A(0) \implies \neg b)$ .

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**.

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In analogy to Theorem 12.2 we can show that the Hoare Logic for total correctness properties is also sound:

Theorem 14.1 (Soundness)

*For every total correctness property  $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ ,*

$$\vdash \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\} \implies \models \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}.$$

Proof.

again by structural induction over the derivation tree of  $\vdash \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$   
(only (while) case; on the board) □

Also the counterpart to Cook's Completeness Theorem 13.1 applies:

## Theorem 14.2 (Completeness)

*The Hoare Logic for total correctness properties is **relatively complete**, i.e., for every  $\{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}$ :*

$$\models \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\} \implies \vdash \{A\} c \{\Downarrow B\}.$$

Proof.

omitted



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Def. 4.1:  $\mathfrak{O}[\![\cdot]\!]: Cmd \rightarrow (\Sigma \dashrightarrow \Sigma)$  given by

$$\mathfrak{O}[\![c]\!](\sigma) = \sigma' \iff \langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'$$

Def. 4.2: Two statements  $c_1, c_2 \in Cmd$  are called **operationally equivalent** (notation:  $c_1 \sim c_2$ ) if

$$\mathfrak{O}[\![c_1]\!] = \mathfrak{O}[\![c_2]\!].$$

Theorem 9.1: For every  $c \in Cmd$ ,

$$\mathfrak{O}[\![c]\!] = \mathfrak{C}[\![c]\!],$$

i.e.,  $\mathfrak{O}[\![\cdot]\!] = \mathfrak{C}[\![\cdot]\!]$ .

In the axiomatic semantics, two statements have to be considered equivalent if they are **indistinguishable** w.r.t. partial correctness properties:

## Definition 14.3 (Axiomatic equivalence)

Two statements  $c_1, c_2 \in Cmd$  are called **axiomatically equivalent** (notation:  $c_1 \approx c_2$ ) if, for all assertions  $A, B \in Assn$ ,

$$\models \{A\} c_1 \{B\} \iff \models \{A\} c_2 \{B\}.$$

## Example 14.4

We show that

$\text{while } b \text{ do } c \approx \text{if } b \text{ then } (c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ else skip}$

(cf. Lemma 5.1). Let  $A, B \in \text{Assn}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \models \{A\} \text{while } b \text{ do } c \{B\} \\ \iff & \vdash \{A\} \text{while } b \text{ do } c \{B\} \quad (\text{Theorem 12.2, 13.1}) \\ \iff & \text{ex. } C \in \text{Assn} \text{ such that } \models (A \implies C), \models (C \wedge \neg b \implies B), \\ & \quad \vdash \{C\} \text{while } b \text{ do } c \{C \wedge \neg b\} \quad (\text{rule (cons)}) \\ \iff & \text{ex. } C \in \text{Assn} \text{ such that } \models (A \implies C), \models (C \wedge \neg b \implies B), \\ & \quad \vdash \{C \wedge b\} c \{C\} \quad (\text{rule (while)}) \\ \iff & \text{ex. } C \in \text{Assn} \text{ such that } \models (A \implies C), \models (C \wedge \neg b \implies B), \\ & \quad \vdash \{C \wedge b\} c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c \{C \wedge \neg b\} \quad (\text{rule (seq)}), \\ & \quad \vdash \{C \wedge \neg b\} \text{skip} \{C \wedge \neg b\} \quad (\text{rule (skip)}) \\ \iff & \text{ex. } C \in \text{Assn} \text{ such that } \models (A \implies C), \models (C \wedge \neg b \implies B), \\ & \quad \vdash \{C\} \text{if } b \text{ then } (c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ else skip} \{C \wedge \neg b\} \quad (\text{rule (if)}) \\ \iff & \vdash \{A\} \text{if } b \text{ then } (c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ else skip} \{B\} \quad (\text{rule (cons)}) \\ \iff & \models \{A\} \text{if } b \text{ then } (c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ else skip} \{B\} \\ & \quad (\text{Theorem 12.2, 13.1}) \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem 14.5

*Axiomatic and denotational/operational equivalence coincide, i.e., for all  $c_1, c_2 \in Cmd$ ,*

$$c_1 \approx c_2 \iff c_1 \sim c_2.$$

Proof.

on the board



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- Formalized by **partial/total correctness** properties
- Inductively defined by **Hoare Logic** proof rules
- Technically involved (especially loop invariants)  
     $\Rightarrow$  machine support (**proof assistants**) indispensable for larger programs
- **Equivalence** of axiomatic and operational/denotational semantics
- **Software engineering** aspect: integrated development of program and proof (cf. assertions in Java)